

# 1 Snow heterogeneous reactivity of bromide with ozone lost during snow metamorphism.

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10 **Abstract.** Earth's snow cover is very dynamic on diurnal time scales. The changes to the snow structure during this  
11 metamorphism have wide ranging impacts such as on avalanche formation and on the capacity of surface snow to exchange  
12 trace gases with the atmosphere. Here, we investigate the influence of dry metamorphism, which involves fluxes of water  
13 vapor, on the chemical reactivity of bromide in the snow. For this, the heterogeneous reactive loss of ozone in the dark at a  
14 concentration of  $5\text{-}6 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  is investigated in artificial, shock-frozen snow samples doped with  $6.2 \mu\text{M}$  sodium  
15 bromide and with varying metamorphism history. The oxidation of bromide in snow is one reaction initiating polar bromine  
16 releases and ozone depletions. We find that the heterogeneous reactivity of bromide is completely absent from the air-ice  
17 interface in snow after 12 days of temperature gradient metamorphism and suggest that burial of non-volatile bromide salts  
18 occurs when the snow matrix is restructuring during metamorphism. Impacts on polar atmospheric chemistry are discussed.

## 19 1 Introduction

20 Snow on Earth hosts chemical reactions that impact the composition of the atmosphere (Dominé and Shepson, 2002; Grannas  
21 et al., 2013). One example is the oxidation of bromide and the subsequent release of bromine from arctic snow (Abbatt et al.,  
22 2010; Saiz-Lopez and von Glasow, 2012). This reactive halogen species participates in ozone destroying chemical cycles in  
23 the gas phase. Ozone is one of the main oxidants in the lower atmosphere with impact on atmospheric composition, health,  
24 and climate (Simpson et al., 2007). Recent improvement in global atmospheric chemistry models indicate that halogen  
25 chemistry accounts for about 14% of the global tropospheric ozone sinks (Schmidt et al., 2016). In addition, the reactive  
26 halogen species are potent oxidants for organics and, of particular interest, gas phase mercury (Simpson et al., 2007; Simpson  
27 et al., 2015). Oxidized mercury partitions readily into condensed phases from where it may enter the ocean and the food-web  
28 upon seasonal snow melt (Steffen et al., 2008).

29

30 Dominé et al. (2008) argued that the efficient chemical reactivity in snow is linked to its physical properties. Snow is a porous  
31 matrix that is dense enough to provide a large surface area for heterogeneous reactions, but not too dense to limit transport and  
32 light penetration as seen in soil, for example. The heterogeneous oxidation of bromide by ozone, a potential pathway for  
33 bromine release both in the dark and in sunlight (Abbatt et al., 2010), has been shown to be very efficient on ice and brine  
34 surfaces (Wren et al., 2010; Oldridge and Abbatt, 2011; Edebeli et al., 2019). The high rates on aqueous solutions have been  
35 linked to an ozonide intermediate and its stabilisation at the surface (Artiglia et al., 2017). Taken that the bromide needs to be  
36 accessible to gas-phase ozone for an efficient heterogenous oxidation, the location of these chemical reactant - its distribution  
37 between the air-ice interface and other reservoirs in the interior of the snow - is a key determinant for their chemical reactivity  
38 (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2014; Hullar and Anastasio, 2016; McFall et al., 2018). Field studies have revealed a high heterogeneity  
39 in bromine release and bromide concentration in snow and have attributed this heterogeneity to the initial source of bromide  
40 and to post-depositional changes of the location (Jacobi et al., 2012; Pratt et al., 2013).

41  
42 One prominent post-depositional mechanism is dry metamorphism shaping the structure and physical properties of snow with  
43 impact on heat transfer, albedo, and avalanche formation (Blackford, 2007; Dominé et al., 2008; Schweizer, 2014). Snow at  
44 Earth's surface that is exposed to varying temperature gradients with time undergoes continued sublimation and deposition  
45 during metamorphism with complete re-building of the entire snow matrix every few days (Pinzer et al., 2012). Earth's snow  
46 cover can be exposed to temperature gradients between  $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C m}^{-1}$  to  $100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C m}^{-1}$  (Birkeland et al., 1998). Dominé et al. (2015)  
47 showed that such temperature gradient conditions can prevail on a seasonal scale: in low-arctic tundra, snow is exposed to a  
48 temperature gradient mostly above  $20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C m}^{-1}$  between mid-November and early February. The consequences are changes in  
49 the isotopic composition of the snow with implications for ice core dating (Steen-Larsen et al., 2013; Steen-Larsen et al., 2014;  
50 Ebner et al., 2017). Further, Hagenmuller et al. (2019) observed dust particles being incorporated into the ice matrix of snow  
51 driven by the intensive water vapor fluxes during dry, temperature gradient metamorphism.

52  
53 With the turnover of snow grains and the movement of water vapor, contaminants may be redistributed between the surface  
54 and bulk of the snow grains: Studies investigating the adsorption and uptake of trace gases such as nitric acid and hydrochloric  
55 acid with growing ice have observed higher uptake than in ice at equilibrium (Kärcher and Basko, 2004; Ullerstam and Abbatt,  
56 2005; Kippenberger et al., 2019). Kippenberger et al. (2019) has shown that the burial of volatile acids is a strong function of  
57 acidity, growth rate, and temperature. At equilibrium, adsorption of acidic trace gases leads to the acids or their anions entering  
58 the ice phase at considerable concentration only within the interfacial region of a few nm depth, as recently observed for  
59 hydrochloric acid and volatile organic acids (Krepelova et al., 2013; Bartels-Rausch et al., 2017; Kong et al., 2017; Waldner  
60 et al., 2018).

61  
62 Therefore, recrystallization in snow might have a significant impact on the fraction of contaminants or reactants located at the  
63 air-ice interface of snow and thus on the heterogeneous chemistry of ions in snow. Laboratory studies investigating temperature

64 gradient metamorphism effects in natural and artificial snow have observed a strong influence of metamorphism on the elution  
65 behaviour of ions such as ammonium, fluoride, chloride, calcium and sulphate. Whereas calcium and sulphate were found to  
66 be enriched at the air-ice or ice-ice interface during snow metamorphism, ammonium, fluoride, and chloride were buried in  
67 the bulk of the snow (Hewitt et al., 1989, 1991; Cragin et al., 1996; Trachsel et al., 2019).

68  
69 Here, we study the effect of sublimation and growth of ice during snow metamorphism on bromide reactivity in well controlled  
70 laboratory experiments. The sodium bromide used in this study is non-volatile and field studies have related its mobility in the  
71 snowpack to its vivid photochemical transformation into volatile bromine. Bromine is released to the air and may re-deposit  
72 on the snow surface after formation of stickier bromine compounds (Toom-Sauntry and Barrie, 2002). The objective of this  
73 study is to investigate the heterogeneous reactivity of bromide oxidation by gas-phase ozone in the dark. To assess the surface  
74 concentration of bromide and its change during temperature gradient metamorphism the gas-phase ozone loss is monitored in  
75 this study. Bromide concentration in the doped snow samples ( $6.2 \mu\text{M}$ ) is typical for snow on Arctic sea ice (Pratt et al., 2013).

## 76 **Experimental**

77 Snow samples were prepared by shock-freezing aqueous solutions (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2004; Trachsel et al., 2019) and  
78 stored in a metamorphism box with a well-defined temperature gradient at the WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research  
79 SLF in Davos (Trachsel et al., 2019). After the exposure to the temperature gradient, the structurally intact individual samples  
80 were exposed to ozone in a packed-bed flow tube set-up to derive the impact on the reactivity with gas-phase ozone (Bartels-  
81 Rausch et al., 2004). The structure of snow samples before and after metamorphism was imaged by X-ray microtomography  
82 (Trachsel et al., 2019).

## 83 **Sample preparation**

84 Artificial snow was produced by spraying and shock freezing droplets of a sample solution in liquid nitrogen using a homebuilt  
85 sprayer (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2004; Trachsel et al., 2019). The samples were left overnight at  $-45^\circ\text{C}$  and then, stored  
86 isothermally at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$  for 7 days to anneal and to minimize internal grain-boundaries (Blackford, 2007; Riche et al., 2012). The  
87 samples were returned to  $-45^\circ\text{C}$  after this isothermal treatment to slow down further changes with time and stored up to 54  
88 days at  $-45^\circ\text{C}$  prior to the metamorphism experiments to reach a quasi-steady-state. The snow was sieved using pre-cleaned  
89 stainless-steel sieves (Retsch, Germany) in a  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  cold laboratory at the WSL Swiss Snow and Avalanche research Institute  
90 (SLF, Davos, Switzerland). Snow grains in the size range  $300 - 600 \mu\text{m}$  were packed into the  $12.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm}$  long glass reactor  
91 tubes with  $2.4 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm}$  internal diameter.

92  
93 The sample solution was either ultrapure water ( $18 \text{ M}\Omega$  quality, arium pro, Sartorius, Göttingen, Germany) (undoped snow)  
94 or an aqueous sodium bromide (NaBr, Sigma Aldrich,  $>99.0\%$ ) solution in ultrapure water (doped snow). The bromide

95 concentration in the sieved snow crystals was  $6.2 \pm 0.18 \mu\text{M}$  ( $498 \pm 14 \text{ ppbw}$ ) in the doped snow and  $<0.12 \mu\text{M}$  ( $<10 \text{ ppb}$ ) in  
96 the undoped snow as determined by ion chromatography (Metrohm (Herisau, Switzerland) 850 Professional IC, 872 Extension  
97 Module, 858 Professional Sample Processor autosampler). A Metrosep A Supp 10 column (Metrohm) was used and the eluents  
98 were a  $1.5 \text{ mM Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $0.3 \text{ mM NaHCO}_3$  in a 1:1 mixture followed by  $8 \text{ mM Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $1.7 \text{ mM NaHCO}_3$  in a 1:1  
99 mixture with a flow rate of  $0.9 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ min}^{-1}$ . Possible instrumental drifts were monitored by measuring a standard after every  
00 20<sup>th</sup> sample.

## 01 **Metamorphism**

02 For the temperature gradient metamorphism experiments, samples were exposed to a gradient of  $31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C m}^{-1}$  for 12 days in a  
03 snow metamorphism box mounted in a cold room at  $-8 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (at SLF, Davos, Switzerland). The metamorphism box was a heavily  
04 insulated box with a heating plate set to  $-4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  at the bottom. Over this plate, there was a  $\sim 2\text{-}3 \text{ cm}$  thick layer of ice from  
05 ultrapure water. The sample holders were mounted on a disk with a  $0.5 \text{ cm}$  layer of ice made with ultrapure water in contact  
06 with the snow grains to increase thermal contact (Pinzer and Schneebeli, 2009). The spaces between the sample tubes were  
07 filled by sieving in snow. The box was then covered with a thin plastic film in contact with the filled-in snow and caps of the  
08 samples to avoid losses due to sublimation. This set-up resulted in an effective temperature at the bottom and at the top of the  
09 snow samples of  $-4.4 \pm 0.1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  and  $-8.1 \pm 0.1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively.

10

11 After the temperature gradient metamorphism treatment, the samples were stored at  $-45^\circ\text{C}$ . For comparison, additional samples  
12 were stored isothermally at  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  at SLF, Davos, Switzerland for 12 days. In total, 12 samples were prepared from the  
13 homogenized snow batches: 2 undoped and 2 doped samples that experienced 12-days temperature gradient metamorphism, 2  
14 undoped and 2 doped samples without temperature gradient metamorphism, 2 undoped and 2 doped samples that experienced  
15 iso-thermal metamorphism. Two replica samples – those of the doped snow that was exposed to temperature metamorphism  
16 for 12 days and the replica of the undoped snow that was not exposed to temperature gradient metamorphism - could not be  
17 analysed due to technical failures during the experiments.

18

19 Structural changes in the samples were assessed using an X-ray computer micro-tomography scanner (Scanco micro-CT 40)  
20 with a resolution of  $10 \mu\text{m}$ . This microCT was operated at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ . Details of operations of the microCT scans have been  
21 described by Pinzer and Schneebeli (2009). The reconstructed microCT images were filtered with a Gaussian filter (support 2  
22 voxels, standard deviation 1 voxel) and the threshold for segmentation was applied according to Hagenmuller et al. (2014).  
23 Structural parameters of the segmented ice structure were extracted with the software tools of the microCT device (Image  
24 Processing Language, Scanco Medical) to calculate the porosity and specific surface area.

## 25 **Packed bed flow tube experiments**

26 Samples were exposed to ozone at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Before exposure, about 2 cm of the samples were scraped off from the top and  
27 bottom of the samples to avoid potential contamination from contact with the ice layer on the disk in the metamorphism box  
28 or the caps for the sample holder/reactor tubes. An exception to this is one of the 0-day doped samples where 3 cm were shaved  
29 off. Afterwards, the mass of each snow sample during the ozone exposure was determined based on the weight of the filled  
30 and empty sample tube. The sample tubes were placed in the reactor cell, an insulated cooling jacket, at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The sample  
31 was allowed to temperature equilibrate for an hour before exposure to gases. Humidified airflow of  $\sim 200\text{ cm}^3\text{ min}^{-1}\text{ O}_2$  and  
32  $\sim 200\text{ cm}^3\text{ min}^{-1}\text{ N}_2$  was delivered through the sample for 30 minutes to condition the sample. The total flow rate through the  
33 sample was set between  $339\text{ cm}^3\text{ min}^{-1}$  to  $352\text{ cm}^3\text{ min}^{-1}$  at norm temperature and pressure of 273.15 K and 1013.25 bar. This  
34 airflow was humidified to a water vapor pressure of ice at  $-15.0 \pm 0.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

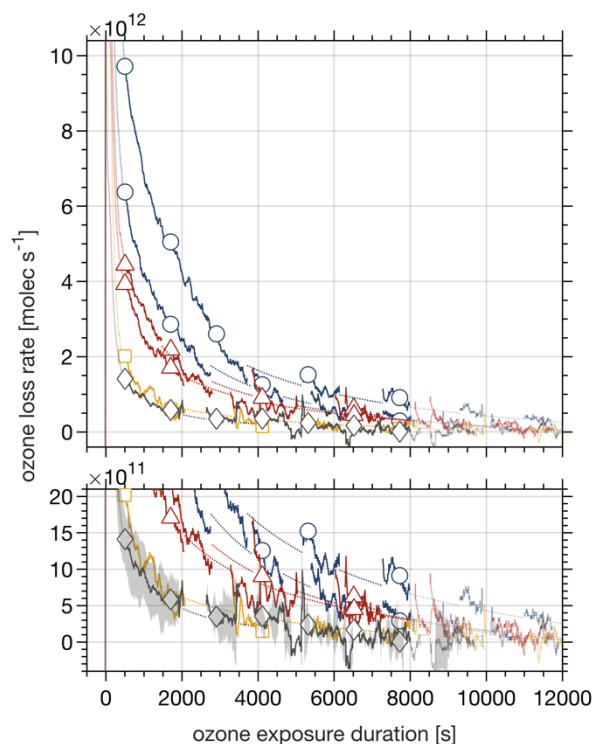
35

36 Ozone was generated by passing the  $\text{N}_2/\text{O}_2$  airflow through a pen ray Hg UV lamp. The ozone flow was also humidified before  
37 delivery to the sample. The ozone flow was alternated between a bypass and the sample to control for drifts in ozone  
38 concentration. Ozone concentration was monitored using a commercial analyser (Teledyne, model 400E). The average ozone  
39 concentration for each experiment was slightly different due to the day to day variability in the efficiency of the ozone  
40 generator. For all experiments, ozone concentrations varied from 163 to 212 ppb ( $4.7\text{-}6.2 \times 10^{12}\text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$ ). The maximum  
41 variability during any one experiment was less than 5 ppb after attaining initial stability at the start of the experiment. This  
42 drift was accounted for during analysis using fitting routines.

43

44 To confirm perfect flow conditions in the packed bed flow tubes, the chromatographic retention of acetone was determined  
45 for some samples at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Once the ozone experiment was finished, the samples were exposed to a flow of acetone in  
46 humidified  $\text{N}_2$  (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2004). The observed retention time of acetone at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  matched calculations based on  
47 the air-ice partitioning coefficient (Dominé and Rey-Hanot, 2002; Winkler et al., 2002; Peybernes et al., 2004; Bartels-Rausch  
48 et al., 2005; Crowley et al., 2010) and the specific surface area of the snow sample as derived by microCT measurements for  
49 the undoped and doped samples after temperature gradient metamorphism.

50



52

53 **Figure 1: Ozone loss rate with duration of exposure.** The snow samples with a bromide concentration of  $6.2 \mu\text{M}$  experienced  
 54 0 days (blue lines, open circles) and 12 days (yellow line, open squares) of metamorphism with a temperature gradient of  
 55  $31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C m}^{-1}$ . The lower panel is a zoom to the data. Ozone data were recorded continuously (lines), the markers are guides. The  
 56 dotted lines are guide to the eyes, for periods where ozone loss data are not available (see text for details). Also shown are the  
 57 ozone loss rates of snow samples after 12 days of isothermal metamorphism at  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (red lines, open triangles). The grey line  
 58 (open diamonds) denotes the average ozone loss rates of 5 samples with no bromide added and with and without exposure to  
 59 temperature gradient metamorphism. The shaded area in the lower panel shows the standard deviation. The gas phase mixing  
 60 ratio of ozone varied between  $4.7\text{-}6.2 \times 10^{12} \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$  for individual samples. Temperature during ozone exposure was  $-$   
 61  $15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . At time 0, ozone in the carrier gas was passed over the snow samples.

62

63 Figure 1 shows ozone loss rates for snow samples prior to and after exposure to dry metamorphism. The ozone loss rate was  
 64 derived based on observed changes in gas-phase ozone concentration downstream of the flow tube packed with the snow  
 65 sample. The ozone loss curves can be classified into three regions:

66

- 67 1. All samples show a high ( $> 9 \times 10^{12} \text{ molecule s}^{-1}$ ) loss rate during the initial period of ozone exposure up to 500 s.  
 68 This observed loss is attributed to the reaction of ozone with traces of impurities, to a delay by switching the gas  
 69 flows, and to the residence time of the ozone gas in the porous snow and is not further analysed.

- 70 2. In the intermediate time regime from about 500 s to 8000 s, the ozone loss rate is largest for the two samples doped  
71 with 6.2  $\mu\text{M}$  bromide prior to ageing under laboratory-controlled temperature gradient metamorphism with  
72  $4 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{s}^{-1}$  and  $7 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{s}^{-1}$  at 1000 s duration of ozone exposure (Fig. 1, blue lines, open circles).  
73 The loss rate was reduced by a factor of about 4 - 7 in the snow sample that experienced temperature gradient  
74 metamorphism with  $1 \times 10^{12}$  molecules  $\text{s}^{-1}$  at 1000 s duration of ozone exposure (Fig 1, yellow line, open square).  
75 This loss rate is indistinguishable from that in the samples without added bromide with a mean of  $1 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  
76  $\text{s}^{-1}$  and with a standard deviation of  $0.4 \times 10^{12}$  molecules  $\text{s}^{-1}$  at 1000 s for 5 samples (Fig. 1, grey line, open diamonds).  
77

78 Also shown is the loss rate from 2 samples that experienced isothermal metamorphism for 12 days at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  (Fig. 1,  
79 red lines, open triangles). The loss rate is only slightly reduced compared to the samples before exposure to  
80 metamorphism strongly supporting the driving role of the temperature gradient.

- 81 3. After about 8000 s ozone exposure, the ozone loss rates of all experiments approach zero loss of ozone. The raw data  
82 curves levelled off approaching a steady loss rate of  $1.1\text{-}1.9 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{s}^{-1}$ . This background loss rate may be  
83 attributed to the reactive uptake of ozone to ice driven by a self-reaction on the ice surface (Langenberg and Schurath,  
84 1999), which is the main phase in the frozen solution samples investigated here. Langenberg and Schurath (1999)  
85 described a reactive ozone uptake coefficient on ice of  $7.7\text{-}8.6 \times 10^{-9}$  at  $-15^\circ\text{C}$  and at ozone gas-phase concentrations  
86 similar to our work. The uptake coefficient normalizes the loss rate to the collision rate of ozone with the ice (or snow)  
87 surface. A loss rate of  $0.86\text{-}0.90 \times 10^{12}$  molecules  $\text{s}^{-1}$  can be derived based on the reported uptake coefficient for the  
88 experimental conditions of our doped samples prior to metamorphism, in good agreement with our observations.  
89 Because this loss rate is not related to the bromide in the samples, it has been subtracted from the data discussed and  
90 shown in Fig. 1.

### 91 **Ozone loss compared to previous work**

92 The reaction of gas-phase ozone with frozen solutions containing bromide has been studied in great detail previously (Wren  
93 et al., 2010; Oldridge and Abbatt, 2011; Abbatt et al., 2012; Wren et al., 2013). Oldridge and Abbatt (2011) described coated  
94 wall flow tube studies on frozen sodium bromide/sodium chloride/water mixtures at  $-15^\circ\text{C}$  and Wren et al. (2010) reported on  
95 a laser-induced fluorescence study with sodium bromide/water mixtures at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ . The studies by Wren et al. (2010) and by  
96 Oldridge and Abbatt (2011) were done with an initial sodium bromide concentration of 10 mM and a gas-phase ozone  
97 concentration of  $1 \times 10^{14}$  molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  and  $80 \times 10^{14}$  molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , respectively. Oldridge and Abbatt (2011) have argued  
98 that this multiphase reaction proceeds in the liquid fraction of sample containing bromide-brine that is in equilibrium with ice  
99 between  $0^\circ\text{C}$  and the eutectic temperature where the salt precipitates. The eutectic temperature of sodium bromide is at or  
00 below  $-28^\circ\text{C}$  (Stephen and Stephen, 1963).

01

02 The concentration of sodium bromide in the reactive solutions in equilibrium with ice is a sole function of temperature, and  
03 thus with a concentration of 3.4 M during the ozone exposure at  $-15^{\circ}$  similar even for our samples that were frozen from  
04 aqueous solutions with  $6.2 \mu\text{M}$  bromide. For this calculation, the freezing point depression data by Stephen and Stephen  
05 (1963); Rumble (2019) was used.

06  
07 Despite the differences in the concentration of bromide in the solutions used to freeze the films, the similar concentration of  
08 bromide in the brine during ozone exposure makes a comparison of the experimental results feasible. For the comparison, the  
09 reported uptake coefficients of  $1.5 \times 10^{-8}$  and  $4-2 \times 10^{-8}$ , respectively (Wren et al., 2010; Oldridge and Abbatt, 2011), were  
10 transferred into loss rates based on the specific surface area of the snow sample used in this work and an ozone concentration  
11 of  $4.7-6.2 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . The loss rate prior to temperature gradient metamorphism found in the work presented here  
12 agrees with loss rates of  $2-6 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{s}^{-1}$  as derived based on these earlier experimental works. Uncertainty in this  
13 comparison comes from the very low ozone concentration of  $5 \times 10^{12}$  molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  used in the study presented here. Based  
14 on the results by Oldridge and Abbatt (2011), one would expect increasing surface reaction rates with lower ozone  
15 concentrations. Further, the surface coverage and the volume of the reactive sodium bromide brine at the interface might vary  
16 significantly due to the differences in sample geometries and in sample preparation. Please note that in this work, we refrain  
17 from discussing the results as uptake coefficient, as generally only the specific surface area of the snow is known, but not that  
18 of the reactive brine.

## 19 **Location of impurities**

20 The striking loss of heterogeneous reactivity during temperature gradient metamorphism raises the question of the location of  
21 the reactive bromide in the shock-frozen, artificial snow samples before metamorphism. Snow can host impurities in several  
22 compartments (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2014): Chemical species, besides water, and ions can be molecularly embedded within  
23 the ice matrix (solid-solution), molecularly adsorbed at the air-ice interface, in liquid or solid patches at the air-ice interface,  
24 in micropockets within the ice matrix including the ice-ice interface (at grain boundaries). Clearly, only bromide in direct  
25 contact with the gas phase, that is located at the air-ice interface or within the bulk at a distance that allows sufficient diffusion  
26 to the interface, is accessible to gas-phase ozone and thus reactive. In the following, we elaborate on the feasibility of bromide  
27 being hosted in these distinct departments in the samples used here.

28  
29 Shock freezing aqueous solutions may preserve the homogeneous distribution of solutes also in the ice matrix from where the  
30 bromide might diffuse to the air-ice interface and heterogeneously react with the ozone. In the following, this reacto-diffusive  
31 loss is estimated. Due to lack of knowledge of the diffusion coefficient of bromide in ice, the diffusion coefficient of  $\text{HNO}_3$   
32 in crystalline ice at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  of  $100 \times 10^{-12}$   $\text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  (Thibert and Dominé, 1998) was used as upper limit and a diffusion coefficient  
33 of  $\text{HCl}$  at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  of  $3 \times 10^{-12}$   $\text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  as lower bound was used in this calculation. Further, the aqueous concentration of  $6.2 \mu\text{M}$   
34 and the specific surface area of each snow sample as derived by the microCT data (Table 1) was used. Based on these



35 assumptions, one may estimate that the total amount of bromide diffusing from the ice bulk to the surface is 0.2 -  
36  $1.6 \times 10^{10}$  molecules each second. This is much less than the ozone loss observed in our experiments, clearly showing that the  
37 bromide is not present homogeneously in the ice matrix of the snow samples after shock freezing.

38

39 Exclusion of bromide to the ice-air interface during freezing has been observed by others at higher concentration (Wren et al.,  
40 2010). We find exclusion of bromide from the rapidly growing ice during shock-freezing even though the aqueous  
41 concentration is significantly lower than the typical solubility limits for ions in ice (details below), which might also be related  
42 to kinetic effects during fast ice growth. Thibert and Dominé (1997, 1998) derived solubilities of up to 0.1 mM to 1 mM for  
43 HCl and up to 0.06 mM to 0.6 mM for HNO<sub>3</sub> in ice at -8 °C to -35 °C, respectively. These data describe the equilibrium  
44 between gas-phase acid and solid solution and may serve as estimate for the solubility limit of sodium bromide in ice. Even  
45 though it is thus very likely that the ice might hold 6.2 μM of bromide as solid solution (total amount of bromide divided by  
46 the total ice volume), the measured ozone loss rates indicate that sufficient amounts of bromide to form brine are excluded to  
47 the ice-air interface after shock freezing.

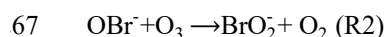
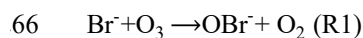
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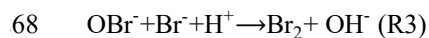
49 We propose that the brine forms liquid patches on the surface and filaments along the grain boundaries at the interface as  
50 observed for higher concentrated frozen salt solutions (Blackford et al., 2007). A homogenous film covering the total snow  
51 surface is unlikely: A back-of-the-envelope calculation with the total amount of bromide doped to the samples and with a  
52 concentration of 3.4 M gives a brine layer with a thickness of only ~0.1 nm at -15°C for the specific surface area of the doped  
53 snow samples. This is unfeasible, because the thickness of an ice monolayer is roughly 0.3 nm. Whether the unreactive fraction  
54 of the bromide is located in a solid solution or in micropockets within the ice matrix is beyond the scope of this work, both  
55 compartments explain its non-reactivity.

## 56 **Quantifying the bromide loss**

57 Generally, the products and reaction mechanism of the bromide oxidation by ozone in the aqueous phase strongly depend on  
58 reaction time, reactant concentration and pH (Haag and Hoigne, 1983; Heeb et al., 2014). For non-acidified conditions, as in  
59 our study, hypobromous acid (HOBr/OBr<sup>-</sup>) is the main product (R1) that may react further with ozone (R2) to form bromite  
60 (BrO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>), disproportionate to bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>) and bromate (BrO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), or self-react to dibromine monoxide (Br<sub>2</sub>O) (Heeb et al., 2014).  
61 Despite uncertainties in the precise product distribution in this study, ozone is lost in our study in the initial reaction with  
62 bromide and to some extent in the subsequent oxidation of hypobromous acid to bromite resulting in 1-2 ozone molecules lost  
63 per bromide ion. In particular at acidic conditions as relevant for atmospheric waters and ices (Abbatt et al., 2012; Bartels-  
64 Rausch et al., 2014); bromine is formed and released to the atmosphere in a sequence of reaction steps (R1 and R3).

65





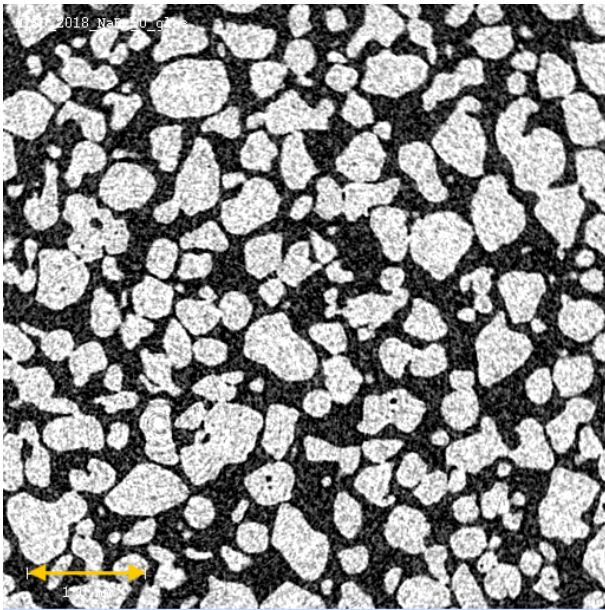
69

70 Thus, assuming a net loss of 1 ozone molecule per bromide molecule, one might estimate about  $0.9$  and  $1.7 \times 10^{16}$  molecules  
71 of bromide are available for the multiphase reaction with ozone in the two porous snow samples prior to metamorphism.  
72 Assuming a net loss of 2 ozone molecules,  $1.8$  and  $3.3 \times 10^{16}$  molecules of available bromide can be estimated for the two  
73 samples. The cumulative loss was derived by integrating the area below the loss rate curves in Fig. 1 between  $500$  and  $8000$  s  
74 and subtracting the cumulative loss of the undoped sample to account for the presence of impurities also in the samples doped  
75 with bromide. For this analysis, the missing data in periods where the carrier gas was bypassing the snow to monitor the ozone  
76 concentration delivered to the flow tube were estimated using a power fit to the data (Figure 1). The cumulated amount of  
77 reacted bromide can be compared to the total amount of bromide of  $4$  and  $6 \times 10^{16}$  molecules initially added to the snow sample.  
78 Apparently,  $22\%$  -  $26\%$  and  $44\%$  to  $52\%$  in maximum of the bromide was accessible to gas-phase ozone prior to  
79 metamorphism.

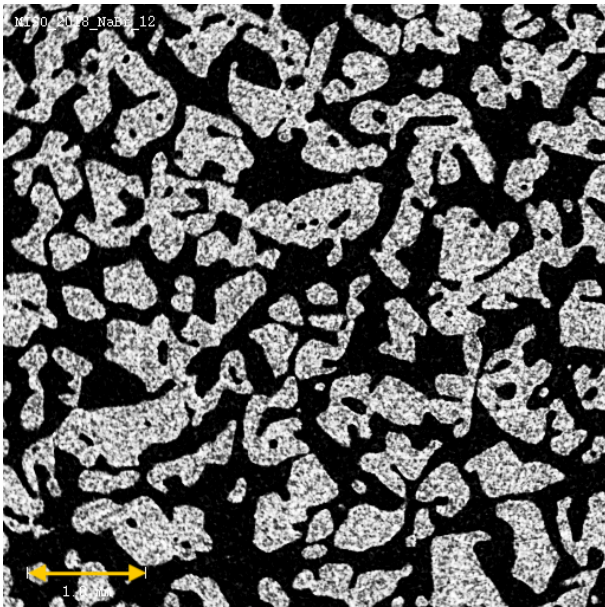
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83



84 **Figure 2: MicroCT images showing cross-sections of the doped snow samples after 0 days (upper) and 12 days (lower)**  
85 **exposure to temperature gradient metamorphism. White areas show the ice phase, black represents interstitial air. The**  
86 **scale bar (yellow arrow) denotes 1 mm.**

87 **Structural Changes to the snow.**

88 Table 1 lists the physical properties of the snow samples. The specific surface area (SSA) and the porosity are within the range  
89 observed for hard wind-packed snow and depth hoar in the field (Legagneux et al., 2002; Zermatten et al., 2011; Calonne et

90 al., 2012). The structural changes to the snow during the 12 days temperature gradient metamorphism are visualised by X-ray  
 91 microtomography (microCT) images in Fig. 2. In the microCT image of the snow sample prior to metamorphism individual  
 92 spheres with 300 – 600  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter are visible (Fig. 2, upper image). With developing snow metamorphism, the spheres get  
 93 increasingly bonded and a new porous snow structure forms, while the recognition of the individual snow particles is lost (Fig.  
 94 2, lower image). This reconstruction is a direct consequence of the temperature gradient in snow resulting in water vapour  
 95 pressure gradients which induce fluxes of water vapour from warmer to colder regions. In the experiments described here, the  
 96 locally and continuously sublimating and growing snow, with an ice growth rate of  $2 \text{ nm s}^{-1}$  (Trachsel et al., 2019), leads to  
 97 about 5 complete renewal cycles of the snow structure during the 12-days temperature gradient metamorphism (Pinzer et al.,  
 98 2012). That changes in SSA do not necessarily reflect water turn-over rates during metamorphism has been discussed before  
 99 (Pinzer et al., 2012). The samples that were stored isothermally at  $-5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 7 days and up to 54 days at  $-45 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  prior to the  
 00 metamorphism experiments (Fig. 2 upper image), show also facets, as is typical for isothermal snow (Kämpfer et al., 2005;  
 01 Löwe et al., 2011).

02  
03

04 **Table 1: Settings for the snow samples;** The number of days gives the duration of metamorphism. Br denotes the  
 05 concentration of bromide as derived by ion chromatography; SSA is the specific surface area as derived from the microCT  
 06 scans with an typical error of  $\pm 6\%$  (Kerbrat et al., 2008). The density was derived based on the weight of the snow sample  
 07 and the volume of the sample holder. The mass denotes the amount of snow during the ozone exposure experiments and the  
 08 surface area denotes the total surface area of the snow during the ozone exposure experiments. Each experiment with added  
 09 bromide and an average of the 5 experiments with no added bromide is shown in Figure 1 and discussed in this work.

	Br [ $\mu\text{M}$ ]	SSA [ $\text{cm g}^{-1}$ ]	density of snow [ $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ ]	mass [g]	Surface area [ $\text{cm}^2$ ]
0 days	6.2	183	0.33	17	3118
0 days	6.2	183	0.32	11	2018
12 days, $31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C cm}^{-1}$ gradient	6.2	162	0.41	14	2268
12 days, isothermal	6.2	143	0.45	16	2281
12 days, isothermal	6.2	143	0.35	14	1996
0 days	<0.12	195	0.35	13	2540
0 days	<0.12	195	0.3	10	1953
0 days	<0.12	176	0.3	12	2113
12 days, $31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C cm}^{-1}$ gradient	<0.12	167	0.371	14	2336

12 days, 31 °C cm <sup>-1</sup> gradient	<0.12	167	0.390	17	2836
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10

11

12 The observed burial of bromide during the temperature gradient metamorphism may be attributed to a combination of growing  
13 ice, covering the bromide present at the air-ice interface with neat ice, and diffusion of the bromide into the growing ice as  
14 described in our previous work (Trachsel et al., 2019). Whether the bromide remains agglomerated forming micropockets  
15 under the growing ice, or forms a solid-solution in the growing ice remains somehow speculative. A recent study by Wu et al.  
16 (2017) showed that bromide is likely to be incorporated in the ice with recrystallization especially at low concentration.  
17 Molecular dynamics simulations by Wu et al. (2017) showed that the charge density around a bromide ion does not result in  
18 very large disruptions of the local ice structure. Therefore, they concluded that incorporating bromide into the ice structure  
19 may be energetically feasible. Patches at the interface may also be covered by the growing ice in line with Nagashima et al.  
20 (2018), who observed preferential growth of ice onto brine droplets compared to the neat ice surface.

21

22 The results presented here show that after 5 complete recrystallisation cycles the bromide is absent from the air-ice interface.  
23 This depletion of bromide at the air-ice interface is in excellent agreement with previous observations of other ions in snow  
24 during metamorphism (Hewitt et al., 1991; Cragin et al., 1996; Trachsel et al., 2019). Elution profiles of shock-frozen snow  
25 doped with a mixture of ammonium, calcium, chloride, fluoride, sodium, and sulphate revealed decreasing amounts of all ions  
26 at the air-ice interface with duration of snow metamorphism up to 12 days (Trachsel et al., 2019). On longer time scales,  
27 calcium and sulphate showed increasing occurrence at the air-ice interface. A further finding from Trachsel (2019) is that the  
28 cation and anion tend to experience the same fate in shock-frozen snow. One might thus speculate, that the sodium in the  
29 experiments presented here is likewise depleted at the air-ice interface during metamorphism. A more detailed and quantitative  
30 comparison with the elution studies is hampered, as the elution studies generally lack a budget of ions and give no direct link  
31 to chemical reactivity. Further, meltwater or the eluent, induce changes to the snow structure (wet metamorphism) and might  
32 lead to relocation of impurities (Meyer and Wania, 2008; Grannas et al., 2013).

### 33 **1 Conclusion and Atmospheric Implication**

34 We have presented an assessment of the effects of metamorphism on the loss of gas-phase ozone in bromide doped snow.  
35 Probing the presence of bromide in snow by its reaction with ozone is an effective way to reveal its location that is not amenable  
36 with other methods that would offer more chemical selectivity or spatial resolution but do lack sensitivity for the low impurity  
37 concentrations found in the environment. Experiments were performed in the dark in snow doped with 6.2 µM sodium bromide.  
38 The artificial snow had physical properties and a bromide concentration typical for natural snow, making extrapolations to the  
39 environment feasible. While snow is not formed by shock freezing in the environment, riming might occur and lead to similar  
40 distribution of impurities as observed in our samples. Further, we suggest that the patches of bromide at the air-ice interface

41 represent bromide that is deposited with sea salt aerosol on surface snow. Our observation of the ozone consumption showed  
42 that the bromide-doped snow samples lost their chemical reactivity towards gas-phase ozone during 12-days of temperature  
43 gradient metamorphism. This loss occurred without photochemistry forming volatile products. Post-depositional changes to  
44 bromide in snow have been observed in the field and have so far been explained by vivid photochemical reaction into volatile  
45 bromine. Volatile bromine might then be re-deposited on the snow surface after formation of more oxidized species, such as  
46 HOBr (Jacobi et al., 2002; Toom-Sauntry and Barrie, 2002). The burial of volatile trace gases into growing ice has also been  
47 discussed for acidic trace gases with atmospheric relevance (Huthwelker et al., 2006). Kippenberger et al. (2019) has studied  
48 the uptake of HCl and of oxidised organic trace gases to growing ice in Knudsen cell experiments. They observed a continuous  
49 uptake of HCl that exceeded the equilibrium partitioning of HCl to ice (Zimmermann et al., 2016) scaling with ice growth rate  
50 and temperature. Growth rates were varied between  $2 \text{ nm s}^{-1}$  and  $110 \text{ nm s}^{-1}$ . In this study, we uniquely show that non-volatile  
51 bromide ions are effectively buried. Apparently, temperature gradient metamorphism appears to facilitate the formation of  
52 energetically most favourable impurity distributions in snow.

53  
54 Our findings directly imply that for the Earth surface snow, where temperature gradients are omnipresent, burial of non-volatile  
55 solutes during metamorphism can reduce their availability for heterogeneous reactions. That only a small fraction of impurities  
56 may be chemically active in surface snow has been discussed for nitrate by Thomas et al. (2011) and Wren and Donaldson  
57 (2011). Results from this study thus emphasize that the reactivity of impurities changes dramatically with time during  
58 temperature gradient metamorphism in the field, rather than being a result of the initial deposition process.

59  
60 Clearly, the tendency to be incorporated into the ice matrix is a strong function of the chemical properties and of concentration  
61 (Bartels-Rausch et al., 2014; Trachsel et al., 2019). As a consequence, chemical species that were initially deposited together  
62 to the snow might separate to different compartments during metamorphism. The fact that bromide, for example, is driven into  
63 the ice while other potential reaction partners might leave the ice may lead to switching off other reaction pathways. For  
64 instance, the oxidation by OH radicals that are produced from organics ending up outside, too far away for the OH to reach  
65 the bromide.

66  
67 We argued that the driving force for the relocation are temperature inhomogeneities and resulting water vapor fluxes, as  
68 frequently observed in surface snow. That ice is not in thermodynamic equilibrium is moreover a common situation for  
69 atmospheric ice particles as well with common sub- and super- saturation (Gao et al., 2004). Our results therefore suggest that  
70 similar re-distribution of ions might also occur prior to snowfall.

71  
72 In the case of bromide, the re-distribution away from the interface will suppress an initiation step in bromine explosion and  
73 ozone depletion events, both in light and in the dark, even for snow samples that show high bromide concentrations. We  
74 propose that this finding -at least partially - explains the varying reactivity of Arctic surface snow. Pratt et al. (2013) has

75 investigated production of bromine for a range of saline snow and sea ice samples in outdoor chamber experiments and found  
76 no correlation with total bromide concentration in the samples and bromine release. It appeared that pristine snow, where the  
77 exchange with the atmosphere dominates its chemical composition, is more productive than snow that is in contact with sea  
78 water. Pratt et al. (2013) argued that deposition of atmospheric acids to the unbuffered surface snow drives the observed  
79 reactivity. Based on our finding, another explanation would be a constant flux of bromide from the atmosphere refurbishing  
80 the bromide that is buried by temperature gradient metamorphism and thus providing reactive bromide at the air-ice interface.

81

82 This finding has significant environmental implications as it does not only stress the importance of the location of chemical  
83 species on their reactivity, but shows that this location is rapidly changing in surface snow. One should note that incorporation  
84 of solutes into the interior of ice and snow makes them not only resistant to multiphase chemistry, but further reduces their  
85 tendency to be washed away by melt- or rain water percolating the snow. The enrichment in the snow may thus contribute to  
86 later release of toxins to the marine food web upon the complete melting of the snow (Wania et al., 1998; Eichler et al., 2001;  
87 Steffen et al., 2008; Durnford and Dastoor, 2011; Grannas et al., 2013). Further, even under current warming conditions the  
88 buried species might be promising candidate for reconstructing past atmospheric composition from ice core records that have  
89 experienced melt effects (Eichler et al., 2001).

## 90 **1 Data availability**

91 Edebeli, Jacinta; Bartels-Rausch, Thorsten (2020). Data set on bromide oxidation by ozone in snow during metamorphism  
92 from laboratory study. EnviDat. [doi:10.16904/envodat.138](https://doi.org/10.16904/envodat.138).

## 93 **1 Author Contribution**

94 TB-R, AE, MS designed the MISO project that this study was part of. JE planned and performed the flow tube experiments  
95 with help and input from MA, AE, MS, SA, TB-R. JT and JE performed, analysed, and discussed the microCT measurements  
96 with input from MS. TB-R and JE analysed the ozone uptake data and wrote the manuscript with input from MA and all other  
97 authors. All authors approved the submitted version of the manuscript. This work is part of JE doctoral thesis at ETH Zürich.

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01 microCT data.

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