

# Arctic springtime observations of volatile organic compounds during the OASIS-2009 campaign

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## Key Points:

- Integrated Cl and Br atom concentrations calculated from NMHC are decoupled
- Strong positive correlation observed between ozone and aldehyde depletion events
- Alkane - Cl reactions play a key role in OVOC chemical fluxes in the Arctic

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## Abstract

Gas-phase volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were measured at three vertical levels between 0.6 m and 5.4 m in the Arctic boundary layer in Barrow, Alaska for the Ocean-Atmosphere-Sea Ice-Snowpack (OASIS)-2009 field campaign during March - April 2009. C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> nonmethane hydrocarbons (NMHCs) and oxygenated VOCs (OVOCs), including alcohols, aldehydes and ketones, were quantified multiple times per hour, day and night during the campaign using *in situ* fast gas chromatography-mass spectrometry. Three canister samples were also collected daily and subsequently analyzed for C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> NMHCs. The NMHCs and aldehydes demonstrated an overall decrease in mixing ratios during the experiment whereas acetone and 2-butanone showed increases. Calculations of time-integrated concentrations of Br atoms,  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$ , yielded values as high as  $(1.34 \pm 0.27) \times 10^{14}$  cm<sup>-3</sup> s during the longest observed ozone depletion event (ODE) of the campaign, and were correlated with the steady state Br calculated at the site during this time. Both chlorine and bromine chemistry contributed to the large perturbations on the production and losses of VOCs. Notably, acetaldehyde, propanal and butanal mixing ratios dropped below the detection limit of the instrument (3 parts per trillion by volume (pptv) for acetaldehyde and propanal, 2 pptv for butanal) during several ODEs due to Br chemistry. Chemical flux calculations of OVOC production and loss are consistent with localized high Cl-atom concentrations either regionally or within a very shallow surface layer, while the deeper Arctic boundary layer provides a continuous source of precursor alkanes to maintain the OVOC mixing ratios.

Index Terms: 9315 Arctic Region, 0365 Troposphere: composition and chemistry, 0368

Troposphere: constituent transport and chemistry, 3307 Boundary Layer Processes

Keywords: VOCs, hydrocarbons, OVOCs, Arctic chemistry, snow-air exchange, halogen atoms, ozone depletion events

## 1. Introduction

Since the earliest discovery of rapid ozone depletion events (ODEs) from the Arctic atmospheric boundary layer [Bottenheim *et al.*, 1986; Oltmans and Komhyr, 1986], much work has been done to better understand the chemical mechanisms involved and the overall impact on Arctic chemistry [Barrie *et al.*, 1988; Ramacher *et al.*, 2000; Simpson *et al.*, 2007; Tackett *et al.*, 2007; Thompson *et al.*, 2015; Toyota *et al.*, 2014]. Three major oxidants can be present in the Arctic boundary layer: hydroxyl radicals (OH), Cl atoms, and Br atoms. A number of studies have shown that bromine atom chemistry is primarily responsible for the ozone depletion [Barrie *et al.*, 1988; Fan and Jacob, 1992; Finlayson-Pitts *et al.*, 1990; McConnell *et al.*, 1992; Pratt *et al.*, 2013; Thompson *et al.*, 2015], while many nonmethane hydrocarbons (NMHCs) are concurrently depleted by Cl oxidation [Ariya *et al.*, 1998; Boudries and Bottenheim, 2000; Jobson *et al.*, 1994; Ramacher *et al.*, 1999; Rudolph *et al.*, 1999; Yokouchi *et al.*, 1994]. Jobson *et al.* [1994] observed that the decay of specific NMHCs during ODEs could not be explained by OH chemistry alone and took advantage of the fact that alkanes react with chlorine at a significant rate and ethyne reacts with both chlorine and bromine at significant rates to infer the exposure to Cl and Br atoms during the history of an air parcel. From a recent study, it was shown that the release of gas-phase bromine is most efficient from fresh snow over first-year sea ice [Pratt *et al.*, 2013]. The frequency of March ODEs is increasing and correlated with the decline in multiyear ice [Oltmans *et al.*, 2012],

which suggests that the impact of halogen chemistry and ODEs on Arctic chemistry may become more pronounced as climate change progresses.

Several studies have used measurements of oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) in addition to NMHCs to gain insight into oxidation pathways and their spatial extent occurring in the Arctic. *Guimbaud et al.* [2002] showed that inside an ODE at Alert, Nunavut, during the springtime ALERT2000 field campaign, a substantial loss of propane corresponded to a concomitant increase in acetone. From the same study, *Boudries et al.* [2002] observed that acetone, which ranged between 18-1470 pptv, was the only observed OVOC species that increased in mixing ratio during that time. The authors did not observe a seasonal trend in 2-butanone (methyl ethyl ketone; MEK), which is primarily a product of the oxidation of *n*-butane in the Arctic environment with a smaller contribution from 3-methylpentane oxidation and possibly some long-range transport of MEK to the region in the wintertime. *Tackett et al.* [2007] used the ratio of balloon observations of MEK and *n*-butane from Barrow to assess the impact of chlorine chemistry on a vertical scale. The authors reported that on a day when the ozone was only slightly depleted (i.e., to 27 parts per billion by volume, ppbv), *n*-butane was significantly lower at the surface than at a height of 20 m. At the same time, MEK concentrations were higher at the surface than aloft, leading the authors to conclude that the source of halogens that consumes ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) appears to originate from the snowpack, and that the chemistry occurs over a small vertical scale, likely within the first few 10s of meters.

The sunlit snowpack is highly photochemically active [*Galbavy et al.*, 2007; *Lee-Taylor and Madronich*, 2002] and has been shown to exchange reactive species with the atmosphere [*Anastasio and Robles*, 2007; *Beine et al.*, 2008; *Dominé and Shepson*, 2002]. Snow-air exchange of HCHO has been investigated at a number of high-latitude sites over the Arctic and Antarctic snowpack [*Barret et al.*, 2011; *Hutterli et al.*, 1999, 2002; *Preunkert et*

*al.*, 2015; *Salmon et al.*, 2008; *Sumner and Shepson*, 1999]. In addition to HCHO, several other chemically reactive species such as Br<sub>2</sub> [*Foster et al.*, 2001], hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>; NO + NO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrous acid (HONO) [*Beine et al.*, 2002; *Dibb et al.*, 2004; *Honrath et al.*, 1999, 2002; *Jacobi et al.*, 2002], as well as several other OVOCs have been reported to be emitted from the snowpack. The OVOCs include acetaldehyde and acetone [*Guimbaud et al.*, 2002; *Houdier et al.*, 2002], and formic and acetic acids [*Dibb and Arsenault*, 2002]. Modeling of the diurnal variations of low-molecular weight carbonyl data indicate a strong dependence on the photochemically-driven emissions and temperature-dependent uptake of the snowpack, an impact that could be tested through measurements in the lowest 100 m of the boundary layer [*Grannas et al.*, 2002]. *Grannas et al.* [2007] present an overview of this subject.

This study reports measurements during the months of March and April 2009 from a field site near Barrow, Alaska. A wide range of NMHCs and OVOCs were quantified using continuous diurnal *in situ* fast gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (fast-GC/MS) analyses and daily (2-3 per day) canister collection with subsequent analysis in the laboratory. Together, the two techniques cover C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> NMHCs, alcohols, aldehydes and ketones providing to date the most comprehensive Arctic VOC dataset in terms of species measured and temporal coverage. Goals of the study include the following: 1) obtaining high accuracy measurements of all species including the aldehydes for which few measurements exist in the literature; 2) gaining additional knowledge of seasonal VOC behavior driven by OH chemistry; 3) investigating in-depth the relationships between VOCs and halogen atoms before, during, and after low ozone events; and 4) using the VOC measurements in concert with the radical measurements at the site to gain a better understanding of the oxidation pathways occurring in the Arctic.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1 Measurement Site and Sampling

The primary gas-phase and pristine-snow measurement site for the OASIS-2009 field campaign was located approximately 150 m southeast of the Barrow Arctic Research Center, approximately 5.5 km northeast of the town of Barrow, Alaska (71.30°N, 156.77°W). The site included two custom-built instrumented trailers (Module 1 and Module 2) and two measurement towers (6.1-m Tower 1 and 10-m Tower 2), shown in Figure 1 (inset b) and described previously [Boylan *et al.*, 2013; Helmig *et al.*, 2012; Liao *et al.*, 2011; Villena *et al.*, 2011]. Non-radical gas-phase measurement instruments, including the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Trace Organic Gas Analyzer (TOGA), were housed in Module 1 and sampled from Tower 1.

Ambient air was continuously drawn with Gast diaphragm pumps at flow rates  $\geq 19$  standard liters per minute (slm) through each of three heated (35 °C) ½-in. O.D. electropolished stainless steel (SS) tubes with inlet heights at approximately 0.6 m, 1.5 m and 5.4 m above the clean snow surface, variable up to approximately  $\pm 0.3$  m due to drifting snow at the base of Tower 1. The sampling tower was located approximately 3.5 m north of the NE corner of Module 1. Residence time in the sample lines varied between 1.2 seconds for the 0.6-m tower inlet and 2.3 seconds for the 5.4-m inlet. Each sampling line was tested for NMHC and OVOC transmission efficiency by adding the OASIS calibration standard (see below) to the inlet of each sampling line, and in all cases the retrieved mixing ratio was within 3% of the input values. These sampling lines were shared with the NCAR Difference Frequency Generation Tunable Diode Laser Spectroscopy (DFGAS) instrument making HCHO measurements. The instruments had the capability of sampling from any one of the three heated lines at any time but were generally programmed to sequentially sample at various times as described below.

Sampling line selection was computer-controlled through a sampling manifold using pneumatic 2-way valves. The TOGA system sampled ambient air from the sample lines, prior to the air going through the Gast pumps, at a rate of 5 slm through a ¼-in. electropolished SS tube. Between 7 and 15 March, the TOGA sampling manifold cycled between the three heated lines on Tower 1 twice per hour, sampling at ten-minute intervals from each line. Between 15 March and 4 April, the manifold sampled from the three inlets on Tower 1 during the first half of each hour for ten minutes from each line. Between 4 April and the end of the campaign, the sampling cycle frequency was increased such that the manifold sampled from the three inlets on Tower 1 switching between inlets every five minutes.

## 2.2 *Measurements*

### 2.2.1 *The Trace Organic Gas Analyzer (TOGA)*

The TOGA was used to quantify mixing ratios of 18 VOCs during the OASIS-2009 field campaign. Integrated samples were obtained for 40 seconds and analyzed at a frequency of one sample every ten minutes for the first four weeks of the campaign beginning on 7 March, and one sample every five minutes from 4 April until the end of the campaign on 13 April. The major components of the TOGA system, described previously by *Apel et al.* [2010], include an electropolished stainless steel (SS) inlet, heated to ensure that the compounds of interest were quantitatively transferred from the inlet to our analytical system, cryogenic pre-concentrator, gas chromatograph (GC), mass spectrometer (MS), and zero air/calibration system. All processes and data acquisition were computer controlled. For the pre-concentrator, all tubing was Silcosteel™ (Restek Corporation, Bellefonte, PA). The water trap was made with 1/8-in. O.D. tubing, the enrichment trap was made of 1/16-in. O.D. tubing, and the cryofocussing trap was made of 0.029-in. O.D. tubing. The cryofocussing trap and water trap were open tubes and the enrichment trap contained glass wool for additional

surface area. For the enrichment cycle, the water trap and enrichment traps were cryogenically cooled using liquid-nitrogen cooled N<sub>2</sub> to -20 °C and -130 °C, respectively. The flow rate during sampling was 40 standard cubic centimeters per minute (sccm) and the sample collection time was 40 seconds, yielding a sample volume of 27 cm<sup>3</sup>. Following this, the enrichment trap was heated at 25 °C s<sup>-1</sup> from -130 °C to 100 °C and trapped VOCs were transferred with He carrier gas at 1 sccm to the cryofocussing trap cooled to -130 °C. The cryofocusing trap was then heated, also at 25 °C s<sup>-1</sup>, from the cold set-point to 100 °C in the presence of 1 sccm flow of He carrier gas, thereby injecting the sample onto the gas chromatograph (GC).

The GC is a custom-designed unit that is lightweight and temperature programmable, fitted with a Restek MXT-624 column (I.D. = 0.18 mm, film thickness = 1 μm, length = 8 m). Limits of detection (LODs) are compound specific and range from 1 pptv (parts per trillion by volume) to 100 pptv (Table 1). The system was calibrated several times during the field study using a mixture prepared gravimetrically in-house containing 15 of the 18 VOCs (see below for species quantified). The C<sub>8</sub>-aromatics *m*-xylene, *p*-xylene and *o*-xylene were not included in the OASIS standard. The calibration mixture containing the VOCs in the 200-500 ppbv mixing ratio range was dynamically diluted using a custom-built catalytic-clean air generator/dynamic dilution system (ZA/CS) [Apel *et al.*, 2003; Guenther and Hills, 1998]. The dilution system employs two calibrated mass flow controllers for the calibration mix (0-30 sccm) and the diluent gas (0-10 slm). The system was used to dilute the ppbv-level OASIS standard to ambient-level mixing ratios. This arrangement yields accurate (±1%) and precise (±1%) gas delivery. The diluent gas is generated via ambient air scrubbed via catalytic oxidation (platinum on alumina at 425 °C), providing diluent gas at ambient humidity levels and permanent gas mixing ratios of the air masses under investigation.



Before and after the OASIS experiment the TOGA instrument was calibrated in the laboratory with a number of different calibration mixtures, including standards containing the xylenes. NCAR ACOM (formerly ACD, the Atmospheric Chemistry Division) maintains a large set of NMHC and OVOC standards. Some of these have been used in national and international intercomparison experiments that have been run by our laboratory to help ensure that VOC datasets collected by various groups around the world are of high quality and comparable to one another. We have worked closely with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop a number of different NMHC standards in the ppbv range [Apel *et al.*, 1994; 1995; 1999; 2003; Volz-Thomas *et al.*, 2002]. We used diluted NIST Standard Reference Material (SRM) standards and NIST ppbv mixtures prepared specifically for our laboratory to calibrate TOGA before and after the experiment [Apel *et al.*, 2015]. We also referenced the NMHCs in our in-house prepared OASIS calibration mixture with the NIST standards. For the three compounds that were missing from our OASIS calibrated mixture, *m*-, *p*-, and *o*-xylene, we used a NIST 19-component standard specially prepared for our laboratory for the *o*-xylene calibration and in-house prepared mixtures of *m*-xylene and *p*-xylene that were cross-referenced to prepared mixtures from Scott-Marrin, Inc. and Environment Canada. The OVOCs were calibrated with our in-house standards. Our group has extensive experience in preparing these standards [Apel *et al.*, 1998a; 1998b] and in cross-comparing with other prepared mixtures from Scott-Marrin, Inc. and Scott Specialty Gases. OVOC standards prepared by our group have been used throughout the world for OVOC calibrations. We are also familiar with OVOC measurement challenges and techniques required for their successful measurement [Apel *et al.*, 2008]. Although ozone artifacts are believed to complicate measurements of carbonyl compounds, and in particular measurements of aldehydes, we know that ozone artifacts on TOGA observations are

minimal based on ozone interference tests performed on TOGA systems. These tests are described in Text S1 in the supporting information.

The VOCs quantified by TOGA during OASIS-2009 include NMHC (C<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>5</sub> alkanes, benzene, toluene, C<sub>8</sub>-aromatic hydrocarbons) and OVOCs (acetaldehyde (CH<sub>3</sub>CHO), propanal (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CHO), butanal (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>CHO), methanol (CH<sub>3</sub>OH), ethanol (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH), acetone (CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>), methyl ethyl ketone (MEK; C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>), and 2-pentanone (CH<sub>3</sub>COC<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)). The data range (minimum and maximum mixing ratios), mean and standard deviations for the TOGA-observed VOCs are summarized in Table 1. For TOGA data with minimum mixing ratios below detection limit (bdl), the mean and standard deviation are calculated using non-zero approximations for bdl data equal to the number of data points above the detection limit N (included in Table 1) divided by the total number of samples × the LOD for that VOC. I.e., for a VOC with 25% of samples below a detection limit 2 pptv, the data below the detection limit are replaced with 1.5 pptv for these statistics. For some VOCs, e.g., benzene and ethanol, the number of samples N is less than the total number of TOGA samples due to temporary chromatographic shifts, and not because the mixing ratios were bdl.

### 2.2.2 *Canister samples*

Whole air samples were collected in 2-L electropolished SS canisters at a frequency of approximately three per day, generally one each during the morning, midday and afternoon. The canisters were collected through the 5.4-m heated SS line on Tower 1. Sampling involved pulling air through the heated line into the SS canisters and pressurizing to 35 psig with a metal bellows pump (Senior Flexonics, MB 602). The canisters were shipped and subsequently analyzed at the University of New Hampshire by gas chromatography (GC) with flame ionization, electron capture, and mass spectrometric detection no later than two months after the end of the field campaign [e.g., Russo et al., 2010a, 2010b; Swarthout et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2008]. The GC analysis included trace

gases comprising selected C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> NMHCs including ethane, ethyne, propane, *n*-butane, isobutane, *n*-pentane and isopentane (Table 2). To ensure traceability to international NMHC standards, whole air and synthetic standards were routinely analyzed and calibration scales were cross referenced and validated. When conducting the canister sample analysis for this work, one of two whole air standards was analyzed after every eighth sample in order to monitor the detector sensitivity and measurement precision, and finally spurious data points were removed upon careful re-examination of the full data set. Details regarding calibrations and standard analysis can be found in Sive et al. [2005], Russo et al. [2010b] and Swarthout et al. [2013].

### 2.2.3 *Meteorological and turbulence data*

Meteorological data were obtained by several groups during the study, either at the field site or nearby. Participants from NCAR measured wind direction and wind speeds at 5.4 m agl on Tower 1 (Figure 1). NCAR meteorological data were obtained between 7 March and 8 April at 10:00 local time (AKST; Alaskan Standard Time). Environment Canada (EC) participants reported several meteorological parameters from Tower 2 (see Figure 1, inset b), including temperature and relative humidity at 2 m agl, wind direction at 3 m agl pointing towards 60° true, and wind speed at 10 m agl. EC meteorological data were obtained between 8 March and 6 April at 14:00 AKST. Finally, wind directions and wind speeds observed at the NOAA Barrow Observatory approximately 1 km NE of the sampling site (Figure 1, inset a) were available for the majority of the field study between 7 March and 14 April.

The 1-min average wind speeds and 1-min average wind directions were determined using the averaged data from all three wind measurement locations, i.e., Tower 1, Tower 2 and the NOAA Barrow Observatory. The reported NCAR wind directions were, on average, 20° greater than the other two measured wind directions, and so the NCAR wind directions were corrected by -20° for consistency. 1-min average wind directions are the mean of the

three wind direction measurements (NOAA, NCAR-corrected and EC), or of whichever measurements were available. Likewise, 1-min average wind speeds were determined as the mean of the three wind speed measurements, or of whichever measurements were available. Hereinafter, we refer to 1-min average wind speeds and 1-min average wind directions as wind speeds and wind directions, respectively.

#### 2.2.4 Other Measurements

O<sub>3</sub> and nitric oxide (NO) were measured on NCAR Tower 1 with an NCAR-built chemiluminescence (CL) instrument [Ridley and Grahek, 1990; Ridley *et al.*, 1992], also housed in Module 1. A sample flow of 3.5 L min<sup>-1</sup> was directed to the CL from a primary manifold sampling 10-min sequential periods at 5.8 L min<sup>-1</sup> through three ¼-in. O.D. PTFE tubes connected to three additional heated inlets at 0.6 m, 1.8 m and 5.4 m on Tower 1. Hourly *in situ* ozone mixing ratios were also measured at the NOAA Barrow Observatory [McClure-Begley *et al.*, 2014]. For this work, ozone observations from both the NCAR CL and the NOAA Observatory were merged into a 1-minute average O<sub>3</sub> data set such that the 1-min NCAR O<sub>3</sub> data are used where they exist, then a 20-min running average of the NCAR O<sub>3</sub> is used where it exists, then a 60-min running average of the NCAR O<sub>3</sub> is used where it exists, and where no NCAR O<sub>3</sub> data are available for > 60 min, the NOAA O<sub>3</sub> data are used. Between 7 March and 14 April, there were a total of 3.9 days during which no NCAR ozone measurements were available for > 60 min. Thus, the use of NOAA O<sub>3</sub> data is relatively minimal, and occurred primarily at the beginning of the study before the NCAR CL instrument was operational.

Hydroxyl radicals (OH) were measured every 30 seconds at a height of 1.5 m agl using a chemical ionization mass spectrometer (CIMS) [Mauldin *et al.*, 1999] housed inside Module 2, with the inlet aiming southeast, orthogonal to the prevailing winds to minimize wall effects by the exterior wall of the Module. A charged-coupled device Actinic Flux Spectroradiometer (CAFS) [Shetter and Muller, 1999] measured spectrally resolved downwelling actinic flux at 0.1 Hz. The upwelling flux was estimated as a function of solar zenith angle using the Tropospheric Ultraviolet and Visible (TUV) radiative transfer model [Madronich and Flocke, 1999] under clear sky conditions. The sum of up- and downwelling actinic fluxes was used to calculate total photolysis frequencies.

### **3. Results and discussion**

#### *3.1 Clean-air sector*

Based on the orientation of the field site, the clean-air sector for data sampled from Tower 1 is considered to be data collected when the winds originated from 10°-110° with wind speeds  $> 1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , comprising 61.8% of the sampling time. Times with wind speeds less than  $1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , considered to be “calm”, comprised 3.8% of the sampling period and are not included in the clean-sector data as local sources may have impacted the observations. As a further precaution, to avoid inclusion of air from the direction of the clean sector impacted by local vehicular traffic, samples with toluene mixing ratios exceeding 200 pptv, or demonstrating a significant increase ( $> 100 \text{ pptv}$ ) above the previous observations as well as samples taken at times when  $\text{NO} > 200 \text{ pptv}$  were eliminated from the clean-sector data. Data that meet the above criteria are considered to be clean-sector data, and are used in the remainder of this work. Overall, from the 3175 TOGA samples taken from Tower 1 during the study, 2106 are included in the clean-sector data, and from the 92 canisters sampled, 54

are included in the clean-sector data. Statistics (data range, mean, standard deviation) for the clean-sector data are summarized in Tables 1 and 2.

Figure 2a shows a time-series plot of the wind directions, colored by the wind speed. Figure 2b shows the daily maximum and daily minimum temperatures. Also included on Figure 2a and 2b are the 1-min O<sub>3</sub> data from the study, as described above. Several partial and near-complete ODEs occurred during the study, four of which occurred when the winds primarily originated from the clean sector. These four events are shaded and labeled in Figure 2a, and are referred to in this work as ODE 1 through ODE 4, and correspond to ODEs 1, 3, 4 and 7 in *Helmig et al.* [2012].

### 3.2 Comparisons of NMHC measurements

Four alkanes were co-measured by TOGA and from the whole air canisters: *n*-butane, isobutane, *n*-pentane and isopentane. To compare the measurements, a 10-minute merged data file was generated from all clean-sector data such that TOGA and canister samples taken within the same 10-minute time period are compared. Figure S2 shows these comparison plots for the TOGA vs. Canister NMHC measurements. For each comparison plot in Figure S2, an orthogonal distance regression (ODR) is shown, as well as the  $r^2$  value for the linear least-squares regression. All four comparisons indicate good agreement between the canister and the TOGA measurements, with ODR slopes ( $r^2$  values)  $1.04 \pm 0.02$  (0.986),  $0.96 \pm 0.02$  (0.986),  $1.04 \pm 0.03$  (0.978) and  $1.03 \pm 0.05$  (0.922) for the *n*-butane, *n*-pentane, isobutane and isopentane comparisons, respectively.

### 3.3 NMHC Observations

Figures 3-5 show full study time series of clean-sector NMHC data that are discussed throughout the paper. Figure 3 shows the canister measurements of ethane, ethyne and propane, colored by measured ozone mixing ratios. Mixing ratios of ethane and propane decreased throughout the measurement period. We know from annual polar observations that seasonal trends in NMHC tend to be sinusoidal [Gautrois *et al.*, 2003; Helmig *et al.*, 2014; Kramer *et al.*, 2015; Swanson *et al.*, 2003; Worton *et al.*, 2012], but during this limited spring study, the overall trends can be described sufficiently using a linear fit. The observed trends in all alkanes are consistent with previous observations of the seasonality of saturated NMHC in the Arctic during spring, primarily due to increasing OH radical oxidation throughout the spring and summer. An overall decrease in mixing ratios with time was also observed for ethyne, although the observed ethyne is also correlated with ozone ( $r^2 = 0.751$ ) as both are impacted by Br atom chemistry (at 248 K  $k_{\text{Br+ethyne}} = 3.74 \times 10^{-14} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; Table 3). The trend in the non-depleted ethyne is consistent with the seasonal trends in the above references, the majority of which report observations on the Greenland ice sheet, with little impact from coastal halogen chemistry, while the study from Alert [Gautrois *et al.*, 2003] selectively involved samples outside of ODEs.

Figure 4 shows measurements from TOGA and the canisters for the butanes and pentanes, with TOGA data points colored by the measured ozone mixing ratios. Mixing ratios of C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> NMHC were observed above the detection limit (3 pptv) during the entire campaign for both the canisters and TOGA. Similar to the C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkanes, isobutane, *n*-butane, isopentane and *n*-pentane mixing ratios decreased overall during the campaign, consistent with literature seasonal cycles described above (Figure 4; Table 1). Isobutane and *n*-butane mixing ratios were strongly correlated, both in the TOGA observations ( $r^2 = 0.993$ , ODR fit slope =  $0.550 \pm 0.001$ ) and the canisters ( $r^2 = 0.989$ , ODR fit slope =  $0.5551 \pm 0.008$ ) as

shown in Table 4. Likewise, isopentane and *n*-pentane mixing ratios were strongly correlated, both in the TOGA data ( $r^2 = 0.975$ , ODR fit slope =  $1.073 \pm 0.003$ ) and in the canisters with the omission of a single data point in the latter from 19 March at 15:00 AKST ( $r^2 = 0.965$ , ODR fit slope =  $1.01 \pm 0.03$ ; Table 4). Both the TOGA and canister data from that time observed a high *n*-pentane mixing ratio compared to the other alkanes (see Figure 4), suggesting that a very different emission source was briefly impacting the observations. Figure 5 shows time series of the benzene and toluene observations colored by the ozone mixing ratio. Both VOCs were observed at mixing ratios above their respective detection limits for the entire campaign (Table 1). In the TOGA analysis, ethylbenzene, *m*-xylene and *p*-xylene are chromatographically overlapped, and are thus reported as a sum, while *o*-xylene is reported separately. We report statistics on the sum of ethylbenzene, *m*-xylene and *p*-xylene (EMPX), *o*-xylene and the sum of C<sub>8</sub>-aromatics in Table 1, which includes *o*-xylene when it is above the detection limit (1 pptv), and a non-zero approximation for data bdl as described above. Clean-sector benzene mixing ratios were observed between 37 and 196 pptv, and toluene mixing ratios between 5 and 114 pptv (Figure 5; Table 1). The clean-sector benzene and toluene mixing ratios are lower than previous measurements made at the NOAA Observatory in Barrow [Doskey and Gaffney, 1992], some of which were noted to be impacted by the town of Barrow or Prudhoe Bay: (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation)  $340 \pm 80$  pptv for benzene and  $80 \pm 40$  pptv for toluene. The lower benzene mixing ratios observed in 2009 are consistent with the EPA findings that show a 45% decrease in benzene at 137 air quality monitoring sites in the United States between 2003 and 2013 [U.S. EPA, 2014a] and also with reductions in benzene emissions between 1990 and 2011 [U.S. EPA, 2014b]. Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes (BTEX) mixing ratios have been shown to be impacted by local sources in otherwise very clean Arctic environments [Reinmann *et al.*, 2009], but the



large differences between the statistics on the full data set and the clean-sector data for BTEX (Table 1) suggest that our strategy for eliminating local sources is reasonable.

Correlations between observations of several VOC pairs from both the TOGA and canister data were analyzed, and the results are summarized in Table 4. Where the coefficient of determination of the linear least-squares fit of VOC A vs. VOC B,  $r^2$ , is greater than 0.15, linear least-squares and ODR fit parameters are included in the table. The alkanes observed by TOGA and the canisters are all very well correlated, with most individual pairs of alkanes having  $r^2$  values  $> 0.95$ . Ethane and propane, with longer atmospheric lifetimes, are slightly less correlated with an  $r^2$  value of 0.858. The aromatic compounds, with more variable emissions and OH reactivities, are less correlated than the alkanes.

During the first week of the study, the observed alkanes varied considerably over relatively short time periods even for the clean-sector data. Strong emissions of highly correlated light alkanes are indicative of oil and natural gas (O&NG) extraction operations. HYSPLIT (HYbrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory Model) [Draxler *et al.*, 2015; Rolph, 2015] back trajectories for this time period (available at [http://www.oasishome.net/docs/OASIS\\_HYSPLIT\\_Back\\_Trajectories.zip](http://www.oasishome.net/docs/OASIS_HYSPLIT_Back_Trajectories.zip)) show air coming from the Beaufort Sea and passing in proximity (often close proximity) to Prudhoe Bay. Prudhoe Bay has the largest oil field in North America in terms of both extraction area and oil production and has been shown to have an impact on gas-phase measurements in Barrow [Doskey and Gaffney, 1992; Jaffe *et al.*, 1991]. Several natural gas extraction operations exist in the North Slope Borough within 15 km of the OASIS-2009 measurement site (Figure 1), both to the south (South Barrow Gas Pool) and southeast (East Barrow Gas Pool), but since air masses originating from these directions are not included in the clean-air sector, we do not expect to see emissions from these operations in the clean-sector data.

Nevertheless, considering these regional sources, it is likely that we sampled relatively unprocessed O&NG emissions during the first week of the campaign. Adding support to this, Figure 6 shows time-series plots of the isobutane/*n*-butane ( $iC_4/C_4$ ) and isopentane/*n*-pentane ( $iC_5/C_5$ ) ratios. Generally,  $iC_5/C_5$  ratios between 1.5 and 2.5 are indicative of urban and vehicular emissions, while  $iC_5/C_5$  ratios close to 1.0 are indicators of recent O&NG extraction emissions [Gilman *et al.*, 2013; Swarthout *et al.*, 2013; 2015]. In April 2008, as part of the Arctic Research of the Composition of the Troposphere from Aircraft and Satellites (ARCTAS) airborne field campaign on board the NASA DC-8 aircraft, our group made measurements using the TOGA [Hornbrook *et al.*, 2011] in the Arctic boundary layer near both Prudhoe Bay and Barrow during which several measurements with strongly enhanced alkane mixing ratios were sampled over both locations. From these data, the  $iC_4/C_4 \pm$  standard deviation (maximum *n*-butane) observed near Prudhoe Bay and Barrow were  $0.47 \pm 0.01$  (2000 pptv) and  $0.59 \pm 0.03$  (300 pptv), respectively. Likewise, the  $iC_5/C_5 \pm$  standard deviation (maximum *n*-pentane) were  $0.89 \pm 0.02$  (400 pptv) and  $1.3 \pm 0.3$  (23 pptv) from Prudhoe Bay and Barrow, respectively. (ARCTAS data are publicly available at <http://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/missions/arctas/arctas.html>.) Although absolute emission ratios vary somewhat between petroleum plays, the mixing ratios of butanes and pentanes and the ratios of the butanes and pentanes observed in Barrow during OASIS-2009, particularly during the first week of the study, point to a recent O&NG extraction emission source.

Finally, there is a general good correspondence of the TOGA data with the canister data, showing that our sampling frequency of three cans per day yielded useful and complementary results.

### 3.4 NMHCs as indicators for halogen chemistry

The primary oxidants of VOCs in the springtime Arctic environment include OH radicals, Cl atoms and Br atoms. *Jobson et al.* [1994] took advantage of the differing reactivities of NMHCs with OH, Cl and Br in the Arctic (Table 3) to determine the relative impact of the different oxidants. Note that the rate coefficients listed in Table 3 are for reactions at 248 K, the average temperature during the study (Figure 2b). For example, *n*-butane and isobutane have similar rate coefficients with OH, and thus the relative amounts of *n*-butane and isobutane are not expected to change significantly in air masses that experience solely OH oxidation, assuming the emission ratio of  $iC_4/C_4$  is constant. However, Cl atoms react with *n*-butane at a rate 1.5 times faster than Cl atoms with isobutane, so the impact of Cl-atom chemistry would result in higher  $iC_4/C_4$  ratios.

In Figure 6, the  $iC_4/C_4$  ratio 0.55 is shown to indicate the emission ratio from the “freshest” observed emissions from O&NG sources, which we assume to have little or no chlorine processing. There is a clear dependence of the butane ratio on the absolute mixing ratio of *n*-butane, as shown by the color-coded mixing ratios in Figure 6: as observed *n*-butane mixing ratio decreased,  $iC_4/C_4$  increased. As we know from Figure 4 (and Figure 6), both *n*-butane and isobutane decrease with time over the period of the study due to increased photochemistry. However, there is no *a priori* reason to assume that the emission ratio of isobutane to *n*-butane changes. Thus, when we observe changes in the  $iC_4/C_4$  ratio, it can tell us something about the photochemical processing of the two species. Only very modest changes in the ratio can occur due to OH photochemical processing because the OH rate constants are very similar (at 248 K  $k_{OH+isobutane} = 1.71 \times 10^{-12}$  and  $k_{OH+n-butane} = 1.72 \times 10^{-12}$ , both  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; Table 3). The lifetime with respect to OH for the butanes in the Arctic is approximately three weeks for  $[OH] = 3.2 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  (the average observed OH mixing ratio during first week of the study), and two weeks for  $[OH] = 4.5 \times$

$10^5$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  (the average mixing ratio during the last week of the study). During this lifetime, the ratio of  $i\text{C}_4/\text{C}_4$  can only change from 0.55 (assuming the emission ratio from data with no chlorine influence) to 0.56 due to OH processing. To our knowledge, the only emission sources with an  $i\text{C}_4/\text{C}_4$  emission ratio greater than 0.60 are pure natural gas extraction operations from select plays. Therefore, in the absence of emissions from this type of activity, any ratio greater than  $\approx 0.60$  must be due to Cl-atom processing. From Figure 6 it is clear that this ratio was generally greater than 0.6 during the study and that the ratio was often near or above 0.8 towards the end of the experiment and during partial or total ODEs. This implies that there was more active Cl chemistry as the study progressed which is consistent (more UV radiation as spring progresses) with the findings of *Liao et al.* [2014], who showed that light and ozone were necessary for  $\text{Cl}_2$  (and by implication Cl atoms) to be present. Although chlorine and bromine atoms were not measured directly at the site, steady state  $[\text{Cl}]_{\text{ss}}$  were determined from the measurements that were available [*Liao et al.*, 2014; *Stephens et al.*, 2012]. Typical midday  $[\text{Cl}]_{\text{ss}}$  was  $2 \times 10^5$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  and the average  $[\text{Cl}]_{\text{ss}}$  over the period 17 - 29 March was  $3.4 \times 10^4$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . A ratio of  $i\text{C}_4/\text{C}_4$  approaching 0.8 can be achieved by atmospheric processing for seven hours if  $[\text{Cl}] = 2.0 \times 10^5$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , or for two days at  $[\text{Cl}] = 3.4 \times 10^4$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . These data strongly imply a significant exposure to Cl atoms. It should be noted that measurements at the site do not necessarily reflect the actual exposure that the molecules encountered along their trajectory to Barrow from the northeast. This is discussed in more detail below.

Figure 6 also includes the observed ethyne mixing ratios from the canister measurements. As shown by the rate constants in Table 3, ethyne reacts not only with OH radicals and Cl atoms, but also with Br atoms. In normal background air, the impact of Br atom chemistry on ethyne is small, but in regions where Br atom concentrations are elevated, the loss of ethyne due to Br chemistry can be significant.

Due to differing reaction rates with halogen atoms, the ratios of alkane (RH) mixing ratios in non-halogen-impacted air ( $[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}}$ ) and in halogen-impacted air ( $[\text{RH}]_{\text{obs}}$ ) can be used to determine the time-integrated Cl-atom concentration  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  [Jobson *et al.*, 1994], which gives insight into the oxidation history of an air mass, according to:

$$[\text{RH}]_{\text{obs}} = [\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}} \exp(-k_{\text{Cl}} \int[\text{Cl}]dt), \quad (1)$$

where  $k_{\text{Cl}}$  is the rate coefficient for the reaction of Cl atoms with RH. Likewise, similar ratios of ethyne in background air masses and air impacted by bromine chemistry can be used to determine  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  using:

$$-k_{\text{Br}} \int[\text{Br}]dt = \ln([\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{bkg}}) - \ln([\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{bkg}})_{\text{Cl}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $k_{\text{Br}}$  is the rate coefficient of Br atoms with ethyne (Table 3).

As noted above, average observed NMHC mixing ratios decreased steadily during the study (e.g., *n*-butane mixing ratios in Figure 4). Thus, rather than assigning a single background mixing ratio (i.e., clean, halogen-chemistry free) to each NMHC for the entire study, time-dependent background VOC mixing ratios,  $[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg},t}$ , were estimated for TOGA C<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>5</sub> alkanes and canister C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkanes using the assumption that air masses with *i*C<sub>4</sub>/C<sub>4</sub> ratios less than 0.65 are less likely to be influenced by halogen chemistry. Using a ratio limit lower than 0.65 leaves too few data points for a good fit. Figure 7 shows time-series plots of the observed TOGA mixing ratios as well as daily averages of observed TOGA mixing ratios for all clean-sector data corresponding to *i*C<sub>4</sub>/C<sub>4</sub> ratios of 0.65 or less. Linear fits to the daily averages for each alkane are included on the plots in Figure 7, and are used in the following calculations using TOGA data to estimate  $[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}}$  values.

In a similar manner, time-dependent background hydrocarbon mixing ratios,  $[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg},t}$ , were estimated for the canister ethane, propane, *n*-butane, isobutane, *n*-pentane, and isopentane data. For these data, linear least-squares fits to the daily averages of canister alkanes were calculated, for data where  $i\text{C}_4/\text{C}_4 < 0.65$  (Figure S3). Because ethyne reacts rapidly with Br atoms, which are not always concomitant with active Cl chemistry, background ethyne mixing ratios were estimated using a slightly different methodology. Background time-dependent ethyne mixing ratios,  $[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{bkg},t}$ , were determined from a linear least-squares fit to the daily average  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  mixing ratios where  $\text{O}_3 > 25$  ppbv (Figure 8), as Br atom chemistry is minimal when  $\text{O}_3$  is not depleted [Thompson *et al.*, 2012].

Based on Eq. (1), for each TOGA observation, the slope of a linear fit to a plot of  $\ln([\text{RH}]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}})$  against  $k_{\text{Cl}}$  for each  $\text{C}_4$  and  $\text{C}_5$  NMHC (Table 3), is equal to  $-[\text{Cl}]dt$ . Likewise for each canister measurement,  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  was determined from the slope of a linear fit to  $\ln([\text{RH}]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}})$  against  $k_{\text{Cl}}$  (e.g., Figure 9 shows data sampled on 27 March between 08:56 and 09:00 AKST). The observed ethyne mixing ratios, together with the  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values determined using the canister data, were used to determine a value for  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  for each canister measurement based on Eq. (2).

Figure 10 shows a time-series plot of all the TOGA- and canister-derived  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values, the canister-derived  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  values and the locally-observed  $\text{O}_3$  mixing ratios. Error bars for the canister-derived  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  are included on the plot and were calculated from the standard error in the slope of the linear fit (e.g., as shown in Figure 9). Similarly, error bars for the canister-derived  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  calculated from the standard error in the slope of  $\ln([\text{RH}]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{RH}]_{\text{bkg}})$  against  $k_{\text{Cl}}$  and the uncertainty in  $\ln([\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{obs}}/[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2]_{\text{bkg}})$  are also shown on Figure 10. Error bars for the TOGA-derived  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values are not shown for clarity, but are similar in magnitude to those derived from the canisters. Slight differences existed between the  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values determined from the TOGA and canister data from the same time

period, primarily due to the differences in the estimated background mixing ratios for each alkane, although overall the results are very consistent between corresponding  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values calculated using the TOGA and canister data.

There is a clear correlation between the magnitude of the calculated  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  values and the timing of the ODEs (higher  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  during ODEs). The longest observed ODE during the study, ODE 3 between 26 and 29 March, saw a steady increase of corresponding  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  values, as well as the largest calculated  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  on 28 March at  $(1.34 \pm 0.27) \times 10^{14}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  s (Figure S4). Interestingly, during this time period, the corresponding  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  values were observed to peak early on 26 March and then decrease steadily throughout the duration of the ODE, demonstrating that the air mass exposures to Cl and Br are decoupled. The decrease in chlorine exposure can be understood through consideration of the  $\text{Cl}_2$  mixing ratio results and interpretation, by *Liao et al.* [2014], who observed that ozone and light are correlated with molecular chlorine observations. During the prolonged ODE during this time period (seen most clearly in Figure 2), the air mass had been depleted of ozone for some time precluding additional formation of  $\text{Cl}_2$  (and Cl atoms) as the air mass was transported to the site. We will discuss the evolution of Cl chemistry inside ODE 3 further in Section 3.7.

The relationship between the time-integrated halogen concentrations and local-observed ozone is shown in Figure 11, a plot of the calculated  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt_{\text{TOGA}}$ ,  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt_{\text{can}}$ , and  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  against the observed  $\text{O}_3$  mixing ratio. The relationships between the canister- and TOGA-derived  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  and the  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  values at  $> 5$  ppbv  $\text{O}_3$  can be described by linear relationships

$$\int[\text{Cl}]dt_{\text{TOGA}} = [(-8.9 \pm 0.2) \times 10^7] \times [\text{O}_3] + (2.87 \pm 0.04) \times 10^9, r^2 = 0.474 \quad (3)$$

$$\int[\text{Cl}]dt_{\text{can}} = [(-7 \pm 1) \times 10^7] \times [\text{O}_3] + (2.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^9, r^2 = 0.386 \quad (4)$$

$$\int[\text{Br}]dt_{\text{can}(\text{O}_3 > 5 \text{ ppbv})} = [(-3.1 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{11}] \times [\text{O}_3] + (1.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{13}, r^2 = 0.312. \quad (5)$$

While the integrated Cl-atom concentrations remain relatively linear with the locally-observed ozone where ozone < 5 ppbv, there is a sharp increase in the calculated  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  with decreasing ozone. This is because at very low  $\text{O}_3$ , the dominant sinks for Br atoms are gone, so Br increases rapidly.

Figure 11 suggests that as  $\text{O}_3$  is depleted in an air mass, the chemistry generating Cl atoms is uniform, such that the time-integrated Cl-atom exposure increases linearly, even at very low  $\text{O}_3$ , while the rapid increase of bromine atoms coinciding with the near-complete depletion of ozone is consistent with the loss of the primary Br atom sink, reaction with  $\text{O}_3$ . This is emphasized further by noting that at low  $\text{O}_3$  mixing ratios of 5 ppbv or less, Cl-atom exposures are in the range of  $2 \times 10^9$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  s and Br-atom exposures are  $10^{13}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  s or greater. Under these exposures, Br atoms destroy ozone at a rate 300 times faster than Cl atoms, clearly accounting for the majority of the  $\text{O}_3$  destruction. At the highest calculated  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  values ( $\sim 1 \times 10^{14}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  s), if the duration of the bromine explosion is estimated to be one day in length, these data indicate an average Br-atom concentration of up to  $1 \times 10^9$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . This is significantly higher than calculated in previous studies. *Jobson et al.*, [1994] calculated 20 times lower Br atoms during the largest exposure of three ODEs studied, while *Ariya et al.* [1998] and *Ramacher et al.* [1999] each calculated approximately 10 times lower Br atoms during the largest exposure of the respective ODEs studied. Steady state calculations based on the data at the site [*Stephens et al.*, 2012] show peak daily Br atoms  $\sim 1 \times 10^9$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  during the prolonged ODE 3, consistent with our integrated Br atom exposure calculations (Figure S4).



## 3.5 OVOCs

### 3.5.1 Ketone Observations

The clean-sector acetone observations during OASIS-2009 ranged between 364 and 1531 pptv, with a mean ( $\pm$  standard deviation) of  $800 \pm 300$  pptv (Table 1). There was a campaign-long increase in acetone of  $17.2 \pm 0.2$  pptv day<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 12, Table 1). A gradual increase of acetone was documented during the ALERT2000 field study [Boudries *et al.*, 2002] but an explanation was not found. The authors suggested increasing biogenic sources in the Arctic in the springtime or photochemical production from humic substances as possible, but not substantiated, explanations. We provide an interpretation of our results below.

For MEK, the clean-sector observations ranged between 59 and 296 pptv, with a mean of  $190 \pm 50$  pptv. Over the duration of the study, there was a modest overall increase in the observed clean-sector mixing ratio of MEK of  $1.30 \pm 0.07$  pptv day<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 12, Table 1). The 2-pentanone data are the first reported measurements of this species in the Arctic. The clean-sector observations of 2-pentanone data ranged from 3 pptv to 45 pptv (Figure 12, Table 1). Unlike acetone and MEK, the observed mixing ratios of 2-pentanone experienced an overall decrease during the study, averaging  $-0.23 \pm 0.01$  pptv day<sup>-1</sup>.

The observed acetone and MEK mixing ratios were moderately correlated during the study ( $r^2 = 0.438$ ), as shown in Table 4 and Figure 13. It is evident from Figure 13, in which the data is colored by the date of the observations, that the relationship between acetone and MEK changed over time: during the early part of the study (warm colors), the slope ([acetone]/[MEK]) was smaller than later in the study.

The ketone results generally contrast with previous observations by *Biesenthal* [1997] and *Boudries et al.* [2002], both reporting lower mixing ratios than we report here for MEK and little correlation between the acetone and MEK with  $r^2$  values of 0.17 and 0.13 respectively for the two studies. Both of those studies were based at Alert, however, and the proximity of Barrow to O&NG emissions may be the primary reason for the higher observed MEK values and the stronger correlation between MEK and acetone during this study.

Figure 12 reveals that acetone mixing ratios increase steadily throughout the study period from about 500 pptv to more than 1000 pptv, while MEK mixing ratios increase by only about 45 pptv over the study period. In the following sections, an explanation is explored based on the evolution of the production and loss rates of the two species during the transition from winter to spring. First we consider the production and loss of acetone.

#### 3.6.1.1 Acetone

In this environment, acetone is formed primarily from reactions of OH and Cl with propane, isobutane and isopentane and destroyed through photolysis and reactions with OH and Cl (see Table 3 for rate coefficients). *Cavender et al.* [2008] describe the details of OH radical and halogen atom reactions of NMHC and subsequent OVOC formations and loss reactions in the Arctic. Briefly, if sufficient  $\text{NO}_x$  is available (i.e.,  $> 50$  pptv), then the acetone yield from propane (the primary source) via the 2-propyl peroxy radical is high, approximately 80% from the OH reaction and 60% from reaction with Cl [*Calvert et al.*, 2011]. Under low  $\text{NO}_x$  ( $< 50$  pptv) conditions as can be typical of the Arctic, the chemistry is more complex as the 2-propyl peroxy radical may react to a more significant extent with  $\text{HO}_2$ , typically a few pptv, to form 2-propyl hydroperoxide. This species can react further with OH and Cl, eventually forming acetone as the major product.

Early in the study, from 7 - 15 March, the approximate mixing ratios of the species of interest are: acetone (500 pptv), propane (1300 pptv), isobutane (275 pptv), and isopentane (115 pptv). Using the 24-hour average observed  $J(\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_3)$  for this time period,  $\approx 3.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , the average of the clean-sector  $[\text{OH}]$  from this time,  $3.2 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  and assuming no chlorine chemistry, the net daytime average production for acetone in early to mid-March is calculated to be approximately  $1.4 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  and the corresponding propane loss rate is calculated to be approximately  $1.1 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  (see Table 5 for a summary of these calculations). Toward the end of the study, from 1 - 14 April, the approximate mixing ratios of the species of interest are: acetone (1000 pptv), propane (500 pptv), isobutane (100 pptv), and isopentane (50 pptv). Using the average  $J(\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_3)$  from this time period,  $\approx 2.2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and the average clean-sector observed  $[\text{OH}]$  for this time period,  $4.5 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$ , the average net daytime production for acetone is calculated to be  $0.53 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  in the absence of Cl chemistry. The corresponding propane loss rate is calculated to be  $0.58 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$ . The propane results are in general accord with the observations that show over the course of the study an average  $24 \text{ pptv day}^{-1}$  or  $1.0 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  net decrease (Figure 3). For acetone, an average net increase of acetone of  $17.2 \text{ pptv day}^{-1}$  or  $0.72 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  (Figure 12) was observed, showing the basic trend is predicted from OH chemistry alone but at period-dependent different rates. Of course, due to the long lifetimes of propane (many weeks) and acetone (months), transport plays a large role in determining the mixing ratios that are observed at the site. Below we will explore the ramifications on these trends if chlorine atoms are present.

At the beginning of the study, even at a very modest concentration of  $3.0 \times 10^3 \text{ Cl atoms cm}^{-3}$ , the net acetone production is calculated to more than double to  $2.9 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$ . The corresponding calculated propane loss rate is  $3.0 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  or  $72 \text{ pptv day}^{-1}$ , a rate significantly higher than we observed. At the end of the study, a modest concentration of  $3.0 \times 10^3 \text{ Cl atoms cm}^{-3}$  increases the net daytime production of acetone to  $1.1 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  (propane loss rate

= 1.3 pptv h<sup>-1</sup>), in relatively close agreement to the overall trend rates. Differences in potential production rates due to Cl radicals between the beginning and the end of the study are chiefly due to the much higher mixing ratios of propane in the beginning (1300 pptv) compared to the end (500 pptv). Propane is responsible for more than 80% of the acetone production from alkane + Cl reactions with isobutane and isopentane responsible for the remainder of the production.

As noted earlier, measurements at the site allowed for the calculation of [Cl]<sub>ss</sub>. The 24-hour average [Cl] calculated from the data at the site from 17 - 29 March is 3.4 × 10<sup>4</sup> atoms cm<sup>-3</sup>. Using this concentration in the calculations for acetone production and propane loss, net acetone production is 18.2 pptv h<sup>-1</sup> and net propane loss is 23.5 pptv h<sup>-1</sup>. The data shown in Figures 3 and 12 (showing ~ 1 pptv h<sup>-1</sup> production and loss for acetone and propane, respectively) do not support using the site-calculated [Cl]<sub>ss</sub> for the interpretation of our data and indicate that the chlorine exposures were typically less than the local [Cl] along the back trajectory of the air parcels arriving at the site. This is perhaps not surprising since a large altitude gradient is expected in the Cl-atom concentration. Longer-lived gases like propane and acetone experience less relative time exposed to chlorine atoms, which are concentrated near the surface, than shorter-lived compounds, especially those also produced at or near the snow surface. Examples are discussed below.

### 3.6.1.2 MEK

For MEK, the calculations are less certain because of uncertainty in the photolysis rates but in any case the production and losses are found to be in much closer balance than for acetone which experiences more production than loss throughout the study period. This helps to explain the very modest increase in [MEK] over the course of the study and hence the increase in the [acetone]/[MEK] ratio over time during the study (Figure 13). The main production pathways are via *n*-butane + OH and *n*-butane + Cl, which have yields of ≈ 0.8

and  $0.6 \text{ mole mole}^{-1}$  (248 K), respectively [Calvert *et al.*, 2011; Cavender *et al.*, 2008].

Similar to the propane example above, the yield of MEK from *n*-butane oxidation can be reduced under very low  $\text{NO}_x$  conditions where there is increased competition from the  $\text{HO}_2$  radical (vs.  $\text{NO}$ ) leading to hydroperoxides which can photolyze or react with  $\text{OH}$ , again eventually forming mostly MEK. MEK is lost via reactions with  $\text{OH}$  (or  $\text{Cl}$ ) and by photolysis. The rate coefficients for  $\text{OH}$  with MEK and *n*-butane are not too dissimilar (Table 3), differing by only  $\approx 50\%$  and leading to similar loss rates for *n*-butane and MEK. Where  $\text{Cl}$  chemistry is active, however, because  $k_{\text{Cl}}$  for *n*-butane is about 5 times greater than for MEK, production of MEK from *n*-butane oxidation can easily outpace MEK loss.

The *n*-butane mixing ratios in the first week and last two weeks of the experiment are approximately 400 pptv and 170 pptv, respectively (Table 5). Using the average clean-sector  $[\text{OH}]$  of  $3.2 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  from the beginning of the experiment and  $4.5 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  at the end of the experiment, the *n*-butane lifetimes with respect to  $\text{OH}$  are 21 and 15 days, respectively. The MEK lifetime with respect to  $[\text{OH}]$  under these same scenarios is 36 and 26 days respectively. Photolysis plays a large role in the MEK lifetime, becoming more important as the study progresses. In the first week of the study the lifetime of MEK with respect to the average photolysis rate ( $2.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) is  $\approx 48$  days, but is reduced to  $\approx 12$  days for the last two weeks of the study (24-hour average photolysis rate =  $9.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). Thus, the principle MEK precursor, *n*-butane, is reduced, and photolysis and hydroxyl reaction of MEK is increased as the study progresses which should lead to an overall decrease in MEK production and mixing ratios relative to the beginning of the study. Under the conditions at the beginning of the study and low  $[\text{Cl}]$ , a net MEK production rate is predicted to be  $0.40 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$ , somewhat higher than observed. Under the conditions at the end of the study and low  $[\text{Cl}]$ , a net loss rate of  $0.80 \text{ pptv h}^{-1}$  is predicted whereas the observations show continued low rate production. Interestingly, near the end of the study, in the absence of

a flux from the snowpack,  $[Cl] > 2.0 \times 10^4$  atoms  $cm^{-3}$  is required to result in a MEK production rate greater than the loss rate. The  $[Cl]_{ss}$  deduced from measurements at the site are consistent with the required amount (average  $[Cl]_{ss} = 3.5 \times 10^4$  atoms  $cm^{-3}$ ), but we have shown for the acetone and propane data that this amount of average sustained  $[Cl]$  is not consistent with the data. However acetone is long-lived (months) so the amount of contact during its lifetime with near-surface air where  $[Cl]$  is highest is relatively small. Conversely, the lifetime of MEK is considerably shorter and a substantial fraction of MEK is expected to be produced by Cl reactions with *n*-butane near the surface, so the relative amount of MEK exposure to Cl radicals during its lifetime should be considerably greater than that for acetone. Note also in Figure 6 that observed  $iC_4/C_4$  ratios are enhanced during the middle and latter parts of the study compared to the earlier parts in the study indicating increased impact by Cl chemistry. The  $Cl_2$  observations are in general accord with this assessment [*Liao et al.*, 2014]. Thus, Cl radical chemistry is needed to reconcile the MEK production rates in the latter part of the study and this is qualitatively consistent with NMHC results discussed above in Section 3.5.

### 3.5.2 Aldehyde Observations

Acetaldehyde, propanal and butanal observed during OASIS-2009 from the clean sector varied significantly during the field campaign, ranging from below their respective detection limits to 500 pptv, 61 pptv and 54 pptv for acetaldehyde, propanal and butanal, respectively (Table 1; Figure 14). The observed aldehydes exhibited moderate correlation to each other, as listed in Table 4. For acetaldehyde and propanal, the linear least-squares fit has an  $r^2$  value of 0.414, and the slope of an ODR fit is  $4.9 \pm 0.1$ . The ALERT2000 field study found only slight correlation between the two species ( $r^2 = 0.25$ , *Boudries et al.* [2002]). For butanal, abnormally high butanal mixing ratios were observed very early in the study, which could be due to instrument contamination at the site during the initial set-up, but for the

remainder of the study, the propanal and butanal were well-correlated with an overall  $r^2$  value of 0.770.

The primary precursor for acetaldehyde in this environment is ethane, with smaller contributions from higher molecular weight hydrocarbons such as butane, pentane, and isopentane. The lifetime of acetaldehyde is quite short, especially when [Br] is large. At the beginning of the experiment and assuming OH, at an average concentration of  $3.2 \times 10^5$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , is the primary oxidant, the lifetime is determined by reaction with OH and photolysis (average observed  $J(\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}) = 1.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; Table 5) and is on the order of 1.5 days. At the end of the experiment, with OH as the primary oxidant ( $[\text{OH}] = 4.5 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) and the average  $J(\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}) = 6.1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , the lifetime is reduced to  $\sim 1$  day due to increased OH reaction and photolysis. Under the early experiment scenario just described but with low [Cl] ( $< 10^2$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ) and [Br] ( $< 10^4$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ), a net chemical loss of acetaldehyde is predicted ( $-1.8$  pptv  $\text{h}^{-1}$ ). Under the late experiment scenario and the assumed low Cl and Br concentrations, a net chemical loss of acetaldehyde is also predicted ( $-2.1$  pptv  $\text{h}^{-1}$ ). Thus, if the situation were this simple, we would see essentially zero acetaldehyde coming from the clean sector.

We know, however, that large perturbations may occur in both the production of acetaldehyde from reactions of precursor NMHCs (chiefly ethane) and in the loss rates of acetaldehyde via reactions with Cl and Br atoms. This is in addition to any flux either to or from the snowpack [Boudries *et al.*, 2002; Guimbaud *et al.*, 2002]. As noted earlier, a wide range of halogen, radical and other measurements were made during the campaign, including chlorine molecules ( $\text{Cl}_2$ ) enabling the calculation of Cl atom concentrations at the site [Liao *et al.*, 2014, Stephens *et al.*, 2012]. At noon,  $[\text{Cl}]_{\text{ss}} = 2 \times 10^5$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  was predicted, which is a surprisingly high number. Average daytime molecular chlorine levels were correlated with ozone concentrations, suggesting that sunlight and ozone are required for molecular

chlorine formation in the ambient atmosphere. This has strong implications for the chemistry occurring at the site. Because Cl reacts efficiently with ethane which is always present in the Arctic atmosphere at high levels ( $\sim 2$  ppbv; Figure 3), the clean-sector aldehyde mixing ratios might be expected to follow the  $O_3$  mixing ratios and this is what is generally observed (Figure 14). It should be noted that testing of the TOGA instrument showed little indications of artifacts from ozone interferences (Text S1) and thus measurement issues and instrument artifacts can be ruled out as a major contributing cause of any observed correlation between aldehydes and ozone shown in Figure 14. At noontime with  $[Cl] = 2 \times 10^5$  atoms  $cm^{-3}$ , at 1.5 m above snow surface (the height of the halogen measurements) the net production of acetaldehyde from ethane minus the loss of acetaldehyde via reaction with Cl is predicted to be  $73$  pptv  $h^{-1}$ , a very large chemical flux ( $6.1 \times 10^5$  molecules  $cm^{-3} s^{-1}$ ). Using the average calculated Cl (over the period of 17 March – 1 April) the net acetaldehyde production at the site at 1.5 m is predicted to be  $11$  pptv  $h^{-1}$ .

It is known from the literature that Br atoms are largely responsible for ODEs widely observed in the Arctic including this experiment [Thompson *et al.*, 2015]. It is also known from laboratory kinetics studies that the aldehydes react more quickly with Br atoms than does ozone (Table 3). It is possible to calculate the net acetaldehyde chemical production or destruction at the site considering all three oxidants simultaneously: measured [OH] and calculated  $[Br]_{ss}$  and  $[Cl]_{ss}$ . During the extended ODE 3, the midday  $[Br]_{ss}$  levels are near  $1.0 \times 10^9$   $cm^{-3}$ . The aldehydes have little chance to survive under these conditions as destruction rates are very large ( $> 100$  pptv  $h^{-1}$  or  $8.84 \times 10^5$  molecules  $cm^{-3} s^{-1}$  for  $CH_3CHO$ ; assuming  $[CH_3CHO] = 10$  pptv; and even higher destruction rates for propanal and butanal). The lifetime of acetaldehyde under these conditions is only 340 seconds. In the relatively stable atmosphere at Barrow, an effective mixing height  $Z^*$  may be defined [Guimbaud *et al.*, 2002; Lenschow, 1995] as the vertical distance traveled during one lifetime,  $\tau$ :



$$Z^* = (K_c \tau)^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

where  $K_c$  is the regular, average eddy diffusivity. For this time period, 26 – 29 March,  $K(1.8 \text{ m}) \approx 1000 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , thus, for acetaldehyde, Eq. (6) yields  $Z^* \sim 6 \text{ m}$ . Extremely rapid chemistry is occurring within this mixing height when halogen atoms are present. Ethane is rapidly forming acetaldehyde from reaction with Cl and acetaldehyde is even more rapidly destroyed by Br atoms. Similarly, under these conditions, propanal and butanal are rapidly formed from reactions of propane and butane with Cl atoms, while being more rapidly destroyed via reactions with Cl and Br atoms.

The data in Figure 14 show that indeed during the ODEs, acetaldehyde and the other aldehyde mixing ratios approach or are equal to zero, such that all three aldehydes show significant correlations with  $\text{O}_3$  during the study ( $r^2$  values = 0.542, 0.563 and 0.533 for acetaldehyde, propanal and butanal, respectively; Figure S5). Although this complete or near-complete depletion of aldehydes has never been previously observed, this is what we expect based on the kinetic considerations above. Some effect of Br atom chemistry on aldehydes has been previously reported. During the ALERT2000 field campaign, acetaldehyde was measured within the snowpack interstitial air and in the boundary layer [Boudries *et al.*, 2002; Guimbaud *et al.*, 2002]. A correlation with ozone was observed and attributed to Br atom processing but the high loss rates that were calculated with the mixing ratios they observed were never reconciled despite their observation of a significant flux of acetaldehyde from the snowpack. In their study, three ODEs were observed during the light period and acetaldehyde reached only a minimum value of 26 pptv (well above the 8 pptv detection limit). Similarly, from a previous Alert campaign, Sumner and Shepson [1999] reported HCHO minimizing when  $\text{O}_3$  was near zero. The data we present are the first that definitively show aldehyde depletion coinciding with ODEs.

The snowpack has been shown to be an additional source of aldehydes in the Arctic [Boudries *et al.*, 2002; Grannas *et al.*, 2002; Guimbaud *et al.*, 2002]. As well, fluxes from the snow have been inferred from diel profiles of OVOC mixing ratios and the impact of snowpack source [Grannas *et al.*, 2002]. In our data we see very slight diel variations for the aldehydes, with maximum mixing ratios during the 12:00 – 15:00 AKST time period (Figure S6). Nevertheless, considering only the gas-phase chemistry, the chemical fluxes for aldehydes in the Arctic boundary layer are significant given the high Cl-atom concentrations (as calculated by Liao *et al.* [2014]). Distributing the acetaldehyde chemical flux determined above,  $6.1 \times 10^5$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ , into a layer with effective mixing height 6 m for the purpose of comparing with reported surface fluxes gives a value of  $3.6 \times 10^8$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , comparable in magnitude to the non-ODE acetaldehyde snow-air fluxes reported by Guimbaud *et al.* [2002] ( $4.2 \times 10^8$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and Boudries *et al.* [2002] ( $2.6 \times 10^9$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ).

#### 4. Conclusions

The VOC observations made using the TOGA at Barrow, Alaska during the OASIS-2009 field campaign contributed an extensive and unprecedented data set of both NMHC and OVOCs in the high Arctic, complemented by the inclusion of whole air canister measurements. Strong correlations exist between the NMHC observed at the site, which are influenced to varying degrees by regional O&NG extraction operations, in particular the large Prudhoe Bay oil field, approximately 300 km ESE of the field site. During the study, observed clean-sector NMHCs and aldehydes demonstrated an overall decrease in mixing ratios with time whereas acetone and MEK showed increases. The decrease in NMHCs is consistent with the Arctic seasonality and is primarily due to the increase in OH reactions during the study but with clear influences from halogen radical chemistry. The ratios of

isobutane/*n*-butane demonstrated that Cl chemistry played a significant role in processing the VOCs, including the NMHCs, and that the influence from Cl increased during the study. The increases and trends in acetone and MEK can be explained primarily from OH chemistry acting on precursors but with a contribution from Cl chemistry, particularly later in the study, which maintains the formation rate of the ketones despite the lower concentration of precursors.

Several ODEs were observed during the study, providing an opportunity to investigate the impact of halogen chemistry on NMHC ratios, and likewise, to use NMHC to investigate the integrated history of halogen chemistry of the air masses observed. From the longest-observed ODE of the campaign, the calculations of time-integrated concentrations of Br atoms,  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$ , yielded values greater than  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ s}$ , a higher value than ever previously observed. Extensive chemical and radical measurements at the site allowed for the calculation of steady-state concentrations of Br and Cl radicals. The  $[\text{Br}]_{\text{ss}}$  calculated at the site correlated well with  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  during the longest extended ODE with  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  levels virtually equivalent with  $[\text{Br}]_{\text{ss}}$  if a one-day exposure is assumed.

The chemistry of the C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> aldehydes (i.e., acetaldehyde, propanal and butanal) was explored. These very reactive, short-lived species have been the subject of a number of studies but none with the benefit of the wide array of measurements that were available for OASIS-2009. A kinetic analysis showed that the high radical concentrations ( $[\text{Br}]_{\text{ss}}$  and  $[\text{Cl}]_{\text{ss}}$ ) calculated from measurements at the site provide for extremely vigorous chemistry. High concentrations of calculated chlorine radicals ( $2 \times 10^5 \text{ atoms cm}^{-3}$  at midday) are responsible for a large chemical flux of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> aldehydes near the snow surface from reactions of NMHC precursors (primarily ethane, propane and *n*-butane), which could make it difficult to distinguish chemical fluxes from snow-air fluxes. However, during ODEs when Br atoms

reach  $\approx 2 \times 10^5$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , the aldehydes, being more reactive with Br than ozone, are quickly destroyed, resulting in aldehyde depletion events coinciding with ODEs.

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113, D08305, doi: 10.1029/2007JD009103.

**Table 1.** Summary of volatile organic compounds observed using the Trace Organic Gas Analyzer (TOGA) during OASIS-2009

VOC	LOD, pptv	Precision	Accuracy	All Tower Data			Clean-sector Tower Data			Change during campaign, pptv day <sup>-1</sup>
				Data Range (min - max), pptv	Mean $\pm$ 1 $\sigma$ Std. Dev., pptv	N <sup>a</sup>	Data Range (min - max), pptv	Mean $\pm$ 1 $\sigma$ Std. Dev., pptv	N <sup>a</sup>	
isobutane	3	$\pm$ 3%	15%	30 - 7959	200 $\pm$ 200	3175	50 - 437	200 $\pm$ 100	2035	-6.0 $\pm$ 0.1
<i>n</i> -butane	3	$\pm$ 3%	15%	25 - 17966	200 $\pm$ 400	3175	61 - 773	300 $\pm$ 200	2035	-10.7 $\pm$ 0.2
isopentane	3	$\pm$ 3%	15%	4 - 10448	70 $\pm$ 200	2955	5 - 208	70 $\pm$ 50	1920	-3.01 $\pm$ 0.06
<i>n</i> -pentane	3	$\pm$ 3%	15%	3 - 1960	50 $\pm$ 60	3170	8 - 222	50 $\pm$ 40	2106	-2.61 $\pm$ 0.05
benzene	25	$\pm$ 5%	25%	37 - 879	100 $\pm$ 50	3041	37 - 196	100 $\pm$ 20	1981	-1.35 $\pm$ 0.02
toluene	1	$\pm$ 3%	20%	3 - 11332	100 $\pm$ 500	3166	5 - 114	30 $\pm$ 20	2098	-1.60 $\pm$ 0.02
ethylbenzene + <i>m</i> -, <i>p</i> -xylene	1	$\pm$ 3%	20%	bdl - 1413	10 $\pm$ 60	1915	bdl - 30	3 $\pm$ 4	1154	-0.179 $\pm$ 0.005
<i>o</i> -xylene	1	$\pm$ 3%	20%	bdl - 347	3 $\pm$ 16	2966	bdl - 7	1 $\pm$ 1	555	-0.028 $\pm$ 0.001
sum of C <sub>8</sub> -aromatics	1	$\pm$ 3%	20%	bdl - 1761	20 $\pm$ 80	1915	bdl - 37	4 $\pm$ 4	1154	0.207 $\pm$ 0.006
acetaldehyde	3	$\pm$ 5%	25%	bdl - 9120	100 $\pm$ 200	2842	bdl - 500	70 $\pm$ 50	2106	-0.92 $\pm$ 0.09
propanal	3	$\pm$ 5%	25%	bdl - 527	20 $\pm$ 20	2677	bdl - 61	20 $\pm$ 10	2106	-0.64 $\pm$ 0.02
butanal	2	$\pm$ 5%	25%	bdl - 241	10 $\pm$ 10	2905	bdl - 54	8 $\pm$ 7	1597	-0.28 $\pm$ 0.01
acetone	100	$\pm$ 5%	25%	364 - 2210	900 $\pm$ 300	3175	364 - 1531	800 $\pm$ 300	2106	17.2 $\pm$ 0.2
MEK	3	$\pm$ 5%	20%	59 - 334	190 $\pm$ 50	3065	59 - 296	190 $\pm$ 50	2103	1.30 $\pm$ 0.07
2-pentanone	3	$\pm$ 5%	20%	3 - 315	20 $\pm$ 20	2634	3 - 45	20 $\pm$ 10	1753	-0.23 $\pm$ 0.01
methanol	50	$\pm$ 5%	25%	229 - 6617	700 $\pm$ 500	3174	299 - 2589	600 $\pm$ 200	2035	5.0 $\pm$ 0.2
ethanol	3	$\pm$ 5%	25%	9 - 9342	200 $\pm$ 400	2892	27 - 622	100 $\pm$ 50	1789	-1.39 $\pm$ 0.08

<sup>a</sup> Number of samples above limit of detection (LOD) and quantifiable in the chromatograms.

**Table 2.** Summary of selected volatile organic compounds observed in the canisters during OASIS-2009

VOC	LOD, pptv	Precision	Accuracy	All Data			Clean-Sector Data		
				Data Range (min - max), pptv	Mean $\pm$ 1 $\sigma$ Std. Dev., pptv	N	Data Range (min - max), pptv	Mean $\pm$ 1 $\sigma$ Std. Dev., pptv	N
				ethane	3	1.1%	5%	1133 – 3412	2100 $\pm$ 400
ethyne	3	1.3%	5%	bdl – 1182	300 $\pm$ 200	86	bdl – 593	200 $\pm$ 200	51
propane	3	1.7%	5%	390 – 3129	900 $\pm$ 400	92	398 – 1881	800 $\pm$ 300	54
isobutane	3	1.3%	5%	30 – 5432	200 $\pm$ 600	92	58 – 403	140 $\pm$ 80	54
<i>n</i> -butane	3	1.4%	5%	34 – 9447	300 $\pm$ 1000	92	77 – 711	200 $\pm$ 100	54
isopentane	3	2.7%	5%	4 – 5261	200 $\pm$ 600	92	15 – 175	60 $\pm$ 40	54
<i>n</i> -pentane	3	3.4%	5%	6 – 1095	70 $\pm$ 100	92	13 – 232	50 $\pm$ 40	54

**Table 3.** Rate constants ( $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) for the reactions of several species with OH radicals, Cl atoms and Br atoms at 248 K.

VOC	$k_{\text{OH}}^{\text{a}}$	$k_{\text{Cl}}^{\text{a}}$	$k_{\text{Br}}$
ethane	$1.26 \times 10^{-13}$	$5.55 \times 10^{-11}$	$< 10^{-19 \text{ b}}$
propane	$7.13 \times 10^{-13}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-10}$	$< 10^{-17 \text{ b}}$
isobutane	$1.71 \times 10^{-12}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-10}$	$< 10^{-17 \text{ b}}$
<i>n</i> -butane	$1.72 \times 10^{-12}$	$2.10 \times 10^{-10}$	$< 10^{-19 \text{ b}}$
isopentane	$3.06 \times 10^{-12}$	$2.10 \times 10^{-10}$	-
<i>n</i> -pentane	$2.93 \times 10^{-12}$	$2.70 \times 10^{-10}$	-
ethyne	$6.60 \times 10^{-13}$	$7.34 \times 10^{-11}$	$3.74 \times 10^{-14 \text{ c}}$
acetaldehyde	$1.67 \times 10^{-11}$	$8.00 \times 10^{-11}$	$2.82 \times 10^{-12 \text{ c}}$
propanal	$2.46 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.74 \times 10^{-10}$	$4.91 \times 10^{-12 \text{ d}}$
butanal	$3.13 \times 10^{-11}$	$2.30 \times 10^{-10}$	$6.52 \times 10^{-12 \text{ d}}$
acetone	$1.37 \times 10^{-13}$	$1.29 \times 10^{-12}$	-
MEK	$9.97 \times 10^{-13}$	$4.00 \times 10^{-11}$	-
O <sub>3</sub>	-	$1.02 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.76 \times 10^{-13 \text{ e}}$

<sup>a</sup> Calvert *et al.*, [2015].

<sup>b</sup> NIST Chemical database, <http://kinetics.nist.gov/kinetics/index.jsp>.

<sup>c</sup> Atkinson *et al.*, [2006].

<sup>d</sup> Ramacher *et al.*, [2000].

<sup>e</sup> Atkinson *et al.*, [2007].

**Table 4.** Summary of correlations between clean-sector VOCs observed by TOGA and in the canisters

TOGA VOCs	linear least-squares fit			ODR fit <sup>a</sup>	
	slope <sup>a</sup>	intercept <sup>a</sup>	$r^2$	slope	intercept
acetone vs. MEK	3.74 ± 0.09	140 ± 20	0.438	8.4 ± 0.2	-750 ± 40
acetone vs. 2-pentanone	-	-	0.034	-	-
MEK vs. 2-pentanone	-	-	0.208	-	-
acetaldehyde vs. acetone	-	-	0.146	-	-
acetaldehyde vs. propanal	2.14 ± 0.06	42 ± 2	0.414	4.9 ± 0.1	-12 ± 3
acetaldehyde vs. butanal	4.7 ± 0.1	38 ± 2	0.455	10.3 ± 0.3	-18 ± 3
propanal vs. butanal	1.87 ± 0.02	1.2 ± 0.3	0.770	2.32 ± 0.03	-3.3 ± 0.4
methanol vs. ethanol	-	-	0.054	-	-
methanol vs. acetone	-	-	0.187	-	-
MEK vs. <i>n</i> -butane	-	-	0.062	-	-
isobutane vs. <i>n</i> -butane	0.549 ± 0.001	25.3 ± 0.3	0.993	0.550 ± 0.001	25.0 ± 0.3
isopentane vs. <i>n</i> -pentane	1.059 ± 0.004	5.2 ± 0.3	0.975	1.073 ± 0.003	4.4 ± 0.3
<i>n</i> -butane vs. <i>n</i> -pentane	3.255 ± 0.009	37.9 ± 0.8	0.985	3.302 ± 0.009	34.8 ± 0.8
<i>n</i> -butane vs. benzene	7.23 ± 0.09	-486 ± 9	0.774	9.3 ± 0.1	-700 ± 10
<i>n</i> -butane vs. toluene	6.64 ± 0.06	40 ± 3	0.842	7.86 ± 0.08	1 ± 3
benzene vs. toluene	0.793 ± 0.008	76.9 ± 0.3	0.817	0.865 ± 0.009	76.6 ± 0.4
toluene vs. C <sub>8</sub> aromatics	3.08 ± 0.07	28.4 ± 0.6	0.603	5.0 ± 0.1	16.4 ± 0.9
<b>Canister VOCs</b>					
ethane vs. propane	1.02 ± 0.06	1300 ± 50	0.858	1.11 ± 0.06	1230 ± 50
<i>n</i> -butane vs. propane	0.410 ± 0.008	-109 ± 7	0.978	0.411 ± 0.009	-110 ± 7
<i>n</i> -pentane vs. propane <sup>b</sup>	0.107 ± 0.003	-37 ± 9	0.967	0.107 ± 0.003	-38 ± 2
isobutane vs. <i>n</i> -butane	0.549 ± 0.008	20 ± 2	0.989	0.551 ± 0.008	20 ± 2
isopentane vs. <i>n</i> -pentane <sup>b</sup>	0.99 ± 0.03	8 ± 2	0.965	1.01 ± 0.03	7 ± 2
<i>n</i> -butane vs. <i>n</i> -pentane <sup>b</sup>	3.79 ± 0.07	40 ± 4	0.981	3.86 ± 0.07	36 ± 4

<sup>a</sup> Where the coefficient of determination  $r^2 > 0.4$  (correlation coefficient  $r > 0.633$ ).

<sup>b</sup> With data from 19 March at 15:00 AKST with *n*-pentane = 232.4 pptv omitted.



**Table 5.** A comparison of concentrations and production/loss rates during the OASIS-2009 study

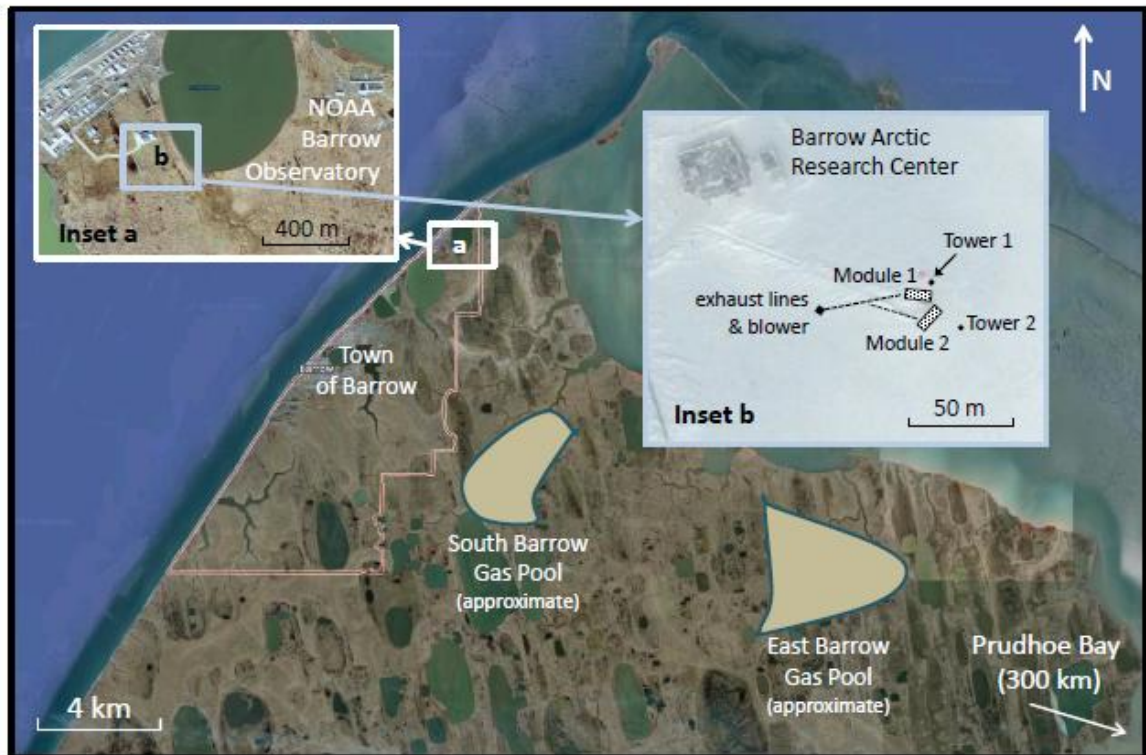
Parameter	Time Period		
	7-15 March	1-14 April	As noted
[OH], molecules cm <sup>-3</sup>	$3.2 \times 10^5$	$4.5 \times 10^5$	
[Cl] <sup>a</sup> , atoms cm <sup>-3</sup>	$3.0 \times 10^3$	$3.0 \times 10^3$	
[Cl] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>b</sup> , atoms cm <sup>-3</sup>			$3.4 \times 10^4$
Midday [Br] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>c</sup> , atoms cm <sup>-3</sup>			$1.0 \times 10^9$
[ethane], pptv	2500	1900	
[propane], pptv	1300	500	
[isobutane], pptv	275	100	
[ <i>n</i> -butane], pptv	400	170	
[isopentane], pptv	115	50	
[acetone], pptv	500	1000	
[MEK], pptv	180	230	
<i>J</i> (acetaldehyde), s <sup>-1</sup>	$1.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$6.1 \times 10^{-7}$	
<i>J</i> (acetone), s <sup>-1</sup>	$3.5 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.2 \times 10^{-8}$	
<i>J</i> (MEK), s <sup>-1</sup>	$2.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$9.3 \times 10^{-7}$	
Calculated propane loss rate			
OH chemistry only, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	1.1	0.58	
OH and Cl chemistry, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	3.0	1.3	
OH and [Cl] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>b</sup> chemistry, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			23.5
Observed propane loss rate <sup>d</sup> , pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			$1.0 \pm 0.2$
Calculated acetone formation rate			
OH chemistry only, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	1.4	0.53	
OH and Cl chemistry, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	2.9	1.1	
OH and [Cl] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>b</sup> chemistry, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			18.2
Observed acetone formation rate <sup>d</sup> , pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			$0.72 \pm 0.01$
Calculated MEK formation rate			
OH chemistry only, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	0.40	-0.80	
Observed MEK formation rate <sup>d</sup> , pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			$0.054 \pm 0.003$
Calculated acetaldehyde formation rate			
OH chemistry only, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>	-1.8	-2.1	
OH and [Cl] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>b</sup> chemistry, pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			11
OH, [Cl] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>b</sup> and [Br] <sub>ss</sub> <sup>c</sup> , pptv h <sup>-1</sup>			< -100

<sup>a</sup> Estimated “moderate” Cl-atom concentration.

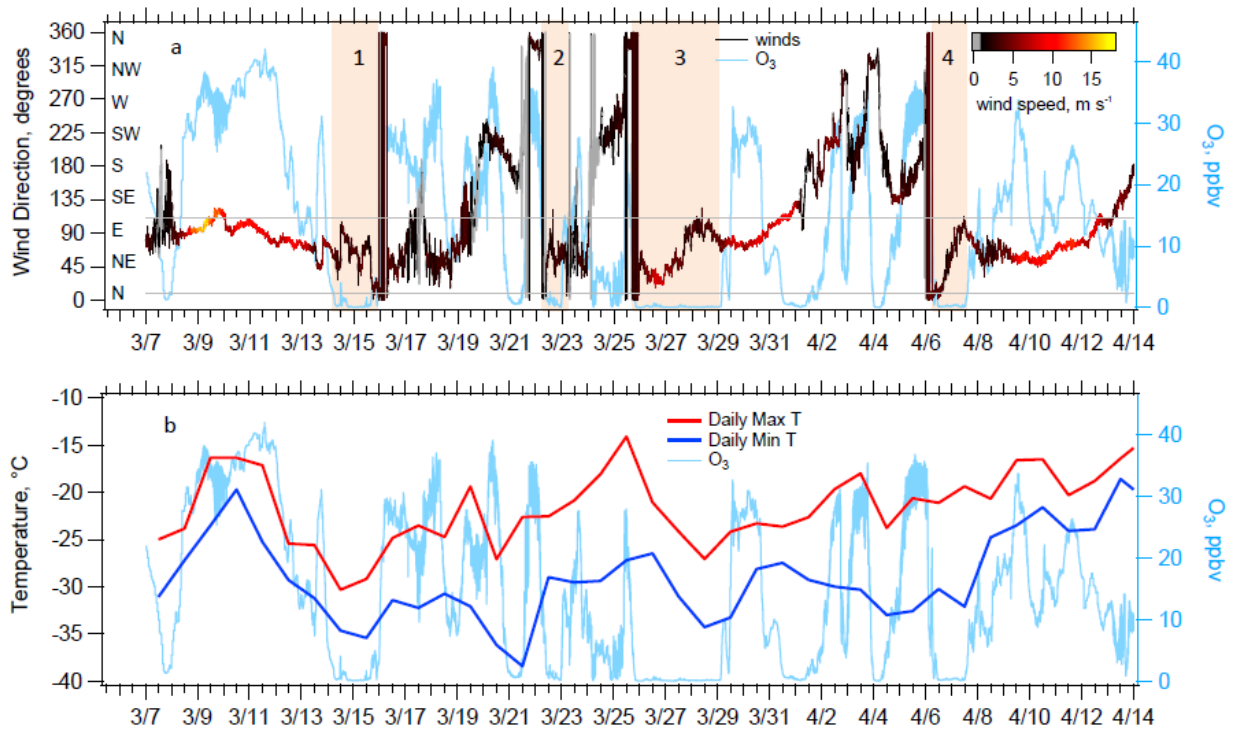
<sup>b</sup> Calculated steady state Cl-atom concentration at measurement site for 17-29 March.

<sup>c</sup> Calculated midday steady state Br-atom concentration during ODE 3: 26-29 March.

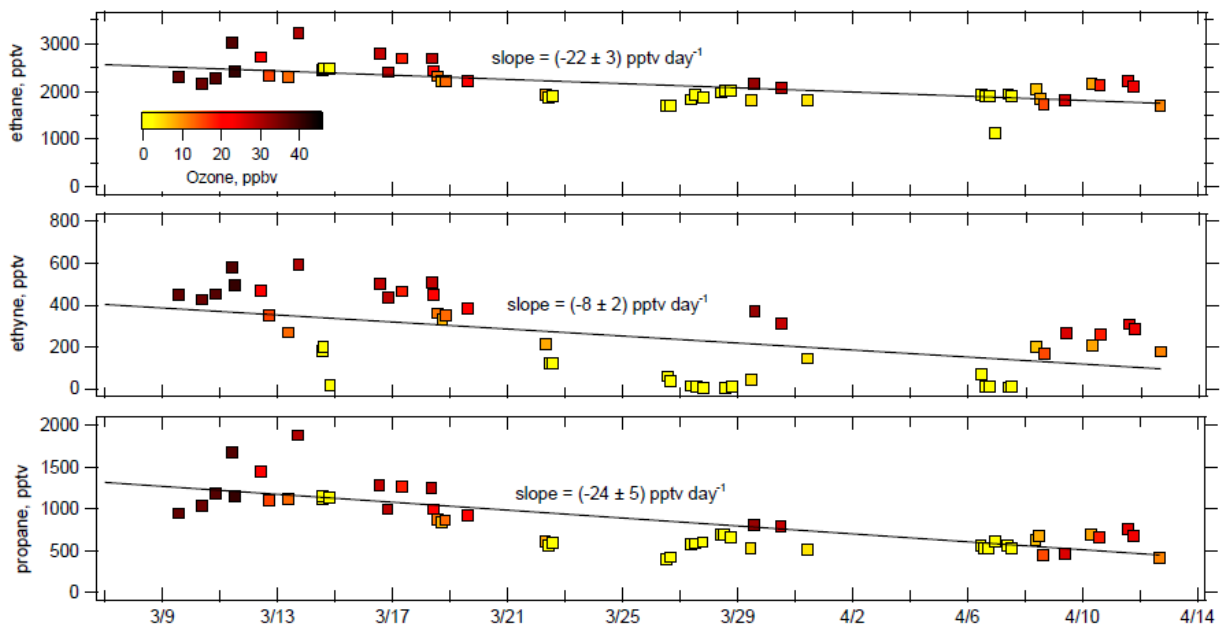
<sup>d</sup> Calculated using overall campaign changes in concentration.



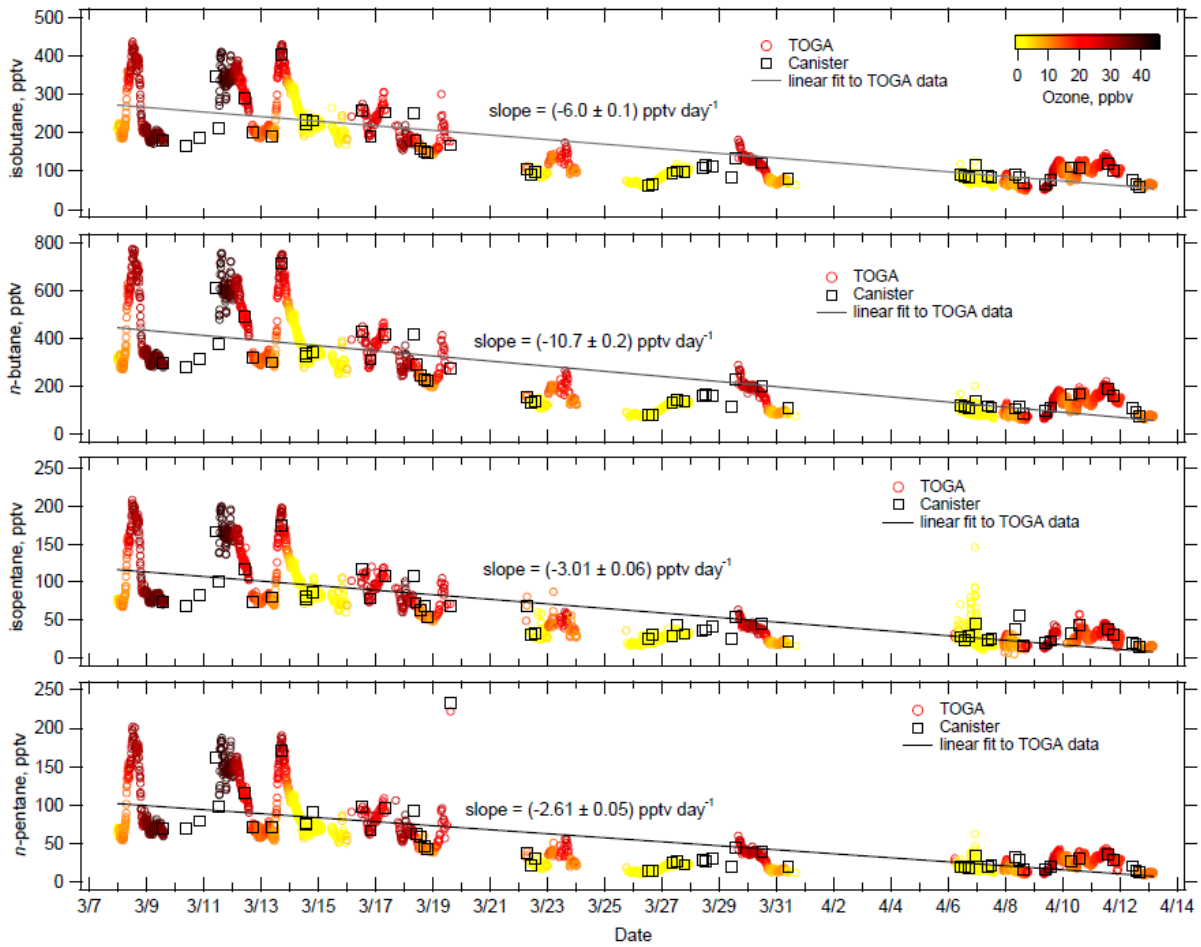
**Figure 1.** Map of Barrow region showing the proximity of the OASIS-2009 field site to the Town of Barrow, Regional Natural Gas Pools, and Prudhoe Bay region. Inset (a) shows the location of the field site relative to the NOAA Barrow Observatory. Inset (b) shows a schematic of the field site during the project, including the snow path from the Barrow Arctic Research Center to the modules.



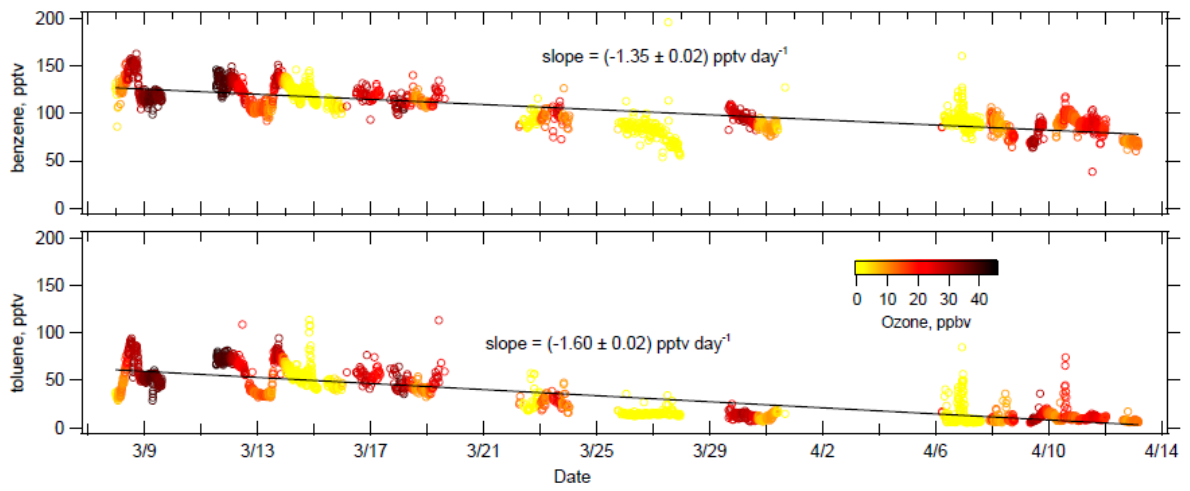
**Figure 2.** (a) Time series of wind directions and O<sub>3</sub> observations between 7 March and 14 April 2009. Wind data are colored according to the color scale on the plot, with wind speeds below 1 m s<sup>-1</sup> (i.e., calm) colored light grey. Data within the grey boundaries at 10° and 110° are considered as originating from the clean sector. Four ozone depletion events (ODEs) in which winds primarily originated from the clean sector are highlighted and numbered 1 through 4. (b) Daily maximum and minimum temperatures with the 1-min ozone trace superimposed in the background.



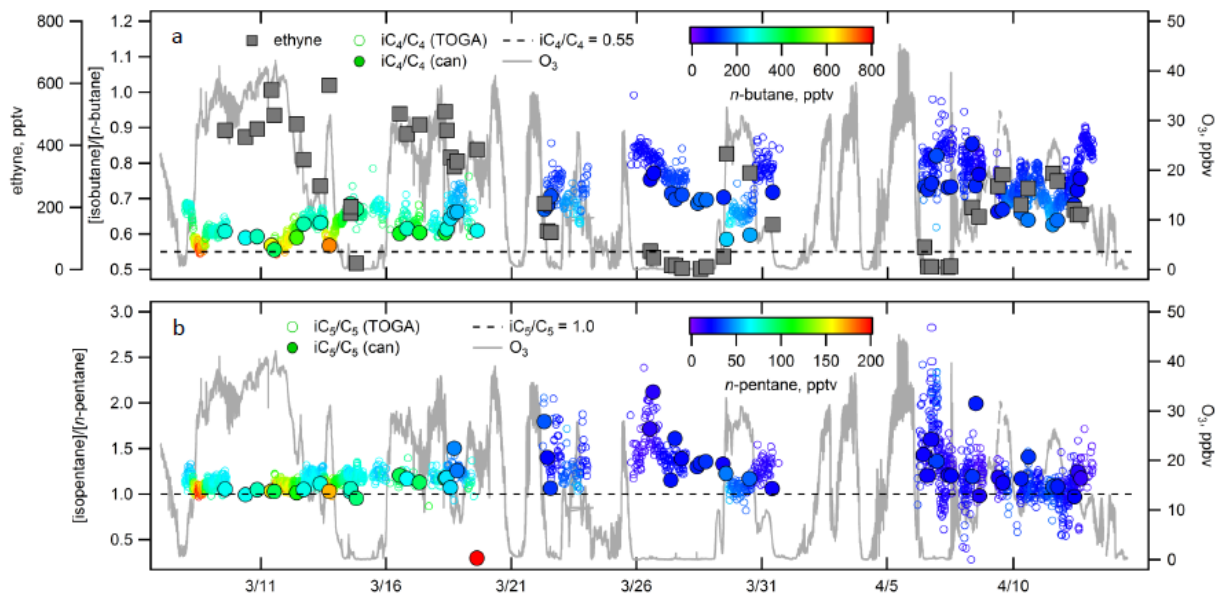
**Figure 3.** Time series of clean-sector canister ethane, ethyne and propane mixing ratios, colored by observed ozone mixing ratios. Also shown are campaign average linear fits to the data, with the slope in  $\text{pptv day}^{-1}$  indicated on each plot.



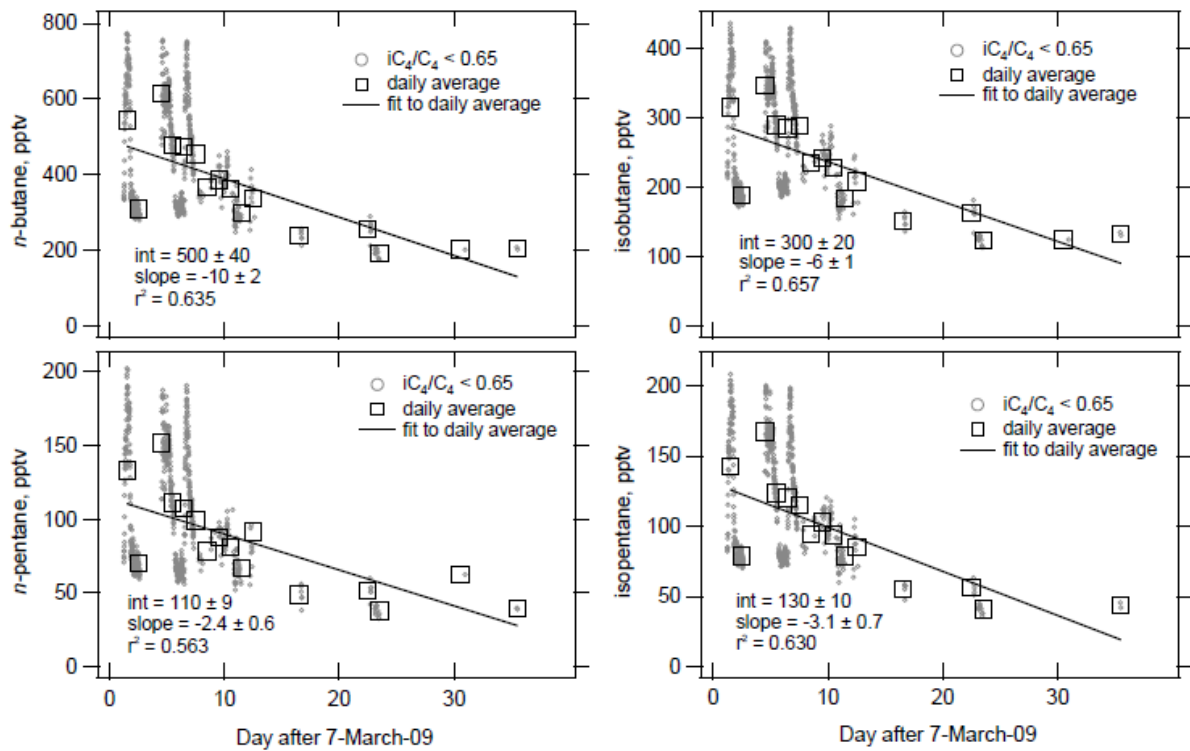
**Figure 4.** Time series of clean-sector TOGA and canister isobutane, *n*-butane, isopentane and *n*-pentane mixing ratios, with the TOGA data colored by observed ozone mixing ratios. Also shown are campaign average linear fits to the TOGA data, with the slope in pptv day<sup>-1</sup> indicated on each plot.



**Figure 5.** Time series of clean-sector benzene and toluene mixing ratios, as in Figure 4.

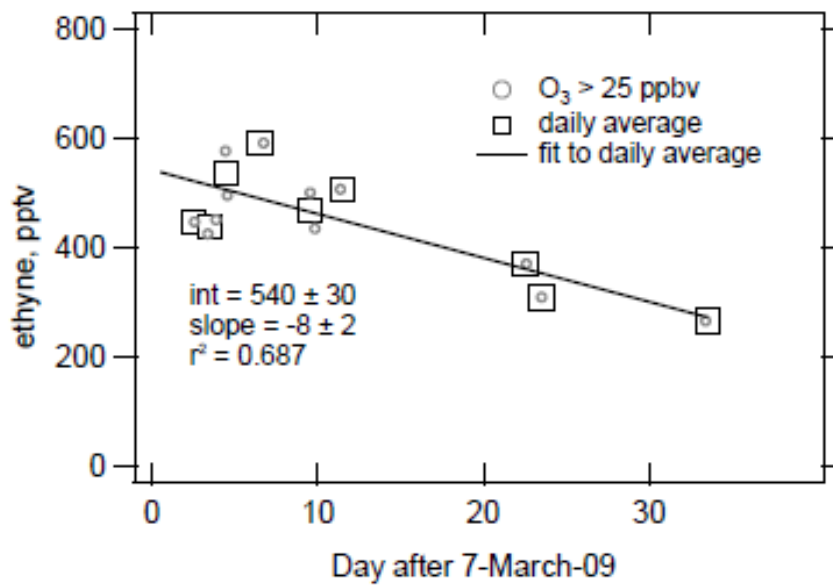


**Figure 6.** Time series of (a) isobutane/*n*-butane ( $iC_4/C_4$ ) ratios colored by *n*-butane mixing ratios and (b) isopentane/*n*-pentane ( $iC_5/C_5$ ) ratios colored by *n*-pentane mixing ratios.  $O_3$  mixing ratios are shown on both plots. Included on (a) are the observed ethyne mixing ratios. For comparison, estimated regional oil and gas emission ratios  $iC_4/C_4 = 0.55$  and  $iC_5/C_5 = 1.0$  are shown on (a) and (b), respectively.

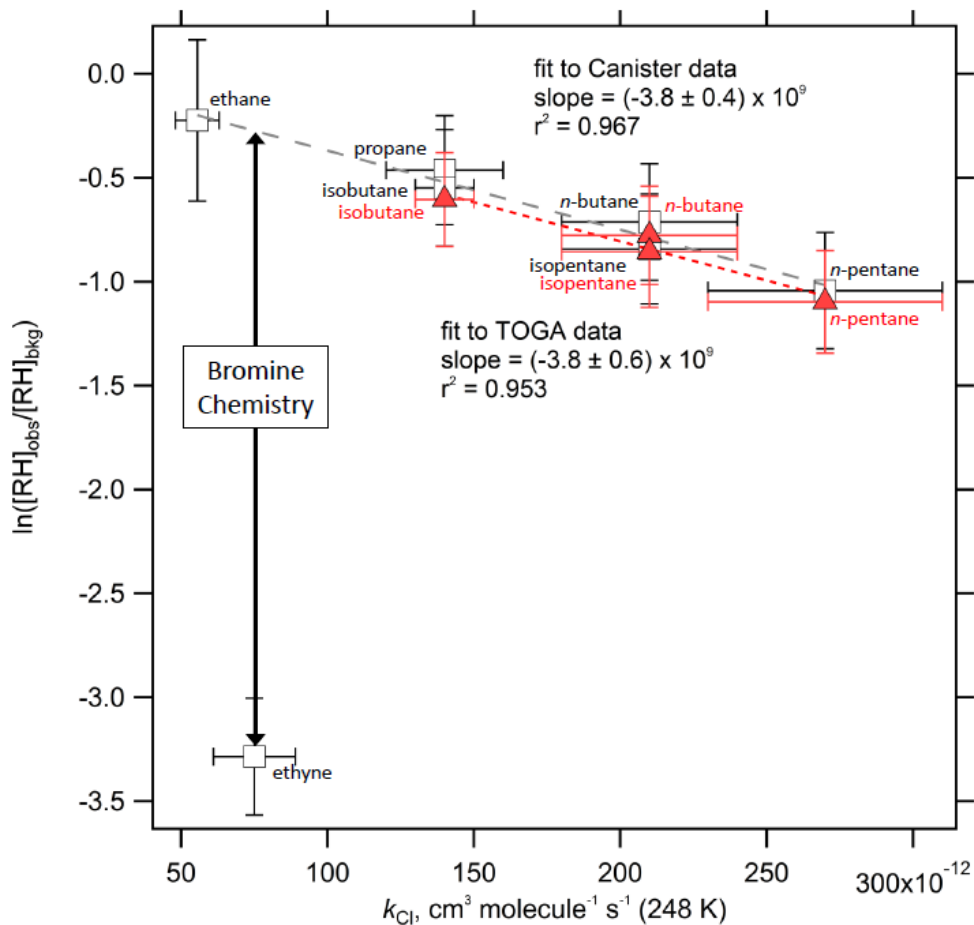


**Figure 7.** Time series of the TOGA-observed mixing ratios for C<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>5</sub> NMHC. Small grey circles are all the clean-sector data when  $iC_4/C_4 < 0.65$ , suggesting little impact from chlorine chemistry, and open squares are the daily averages of the above data. Linear least-squares fits to the daily averages with intercept,  $r^2$  value and slope used to estimate  $[RH]_{\text{bkg},t}$  are shown on each plot.

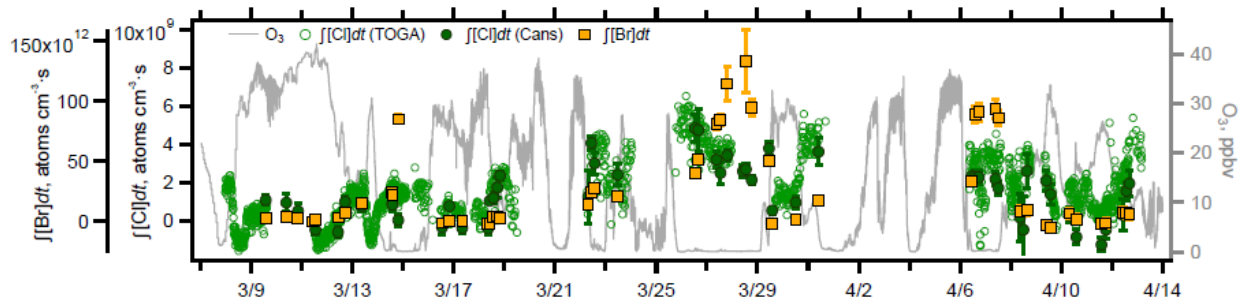




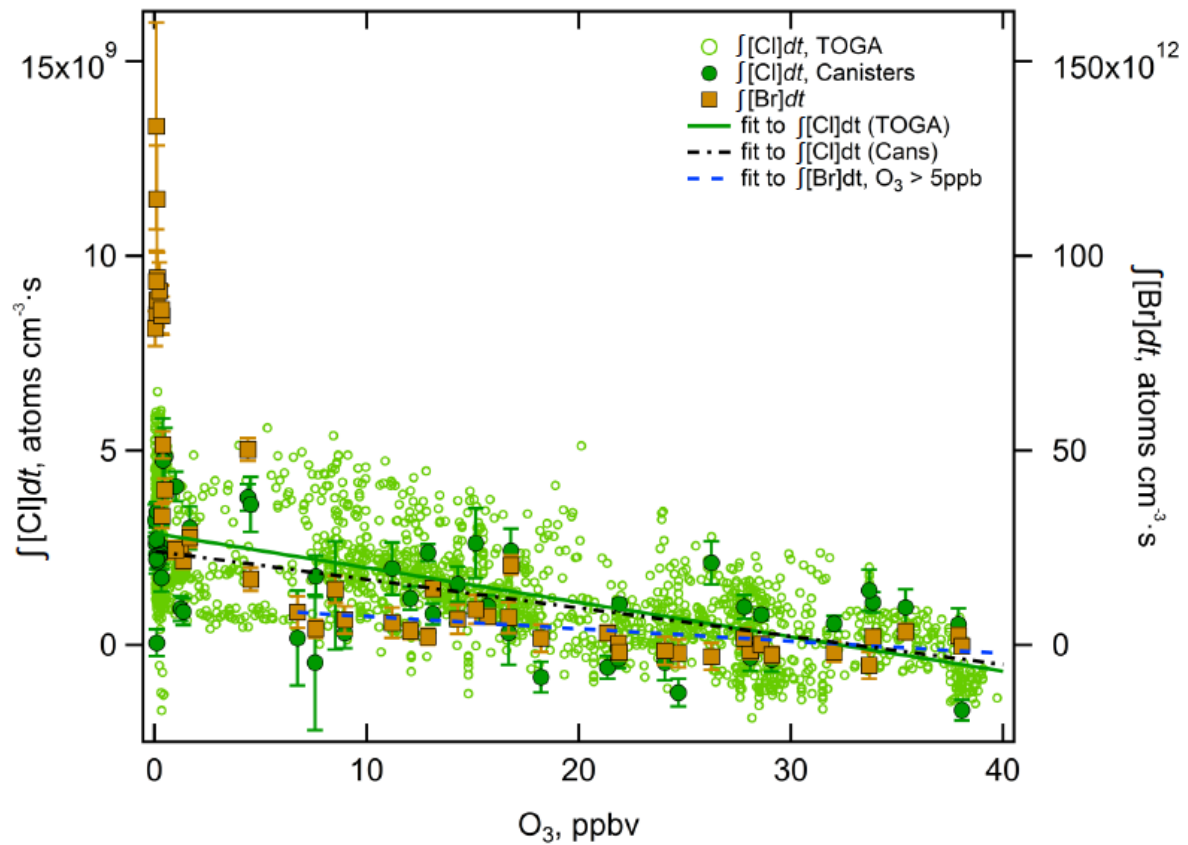
**Figure 8.** Time series of the ethyne mixing ratios. Small grey circles are all clean-sector data during times when  $O_3 > 25$  ppbv, indicating little impact of bromine chemistry, and open squares are the daily averages of the above data. A linear fit to the daily averages with intercept,  $r^2$  value and slope used to estimate  $[C_2H_2]_{bk,t}$  is shown.



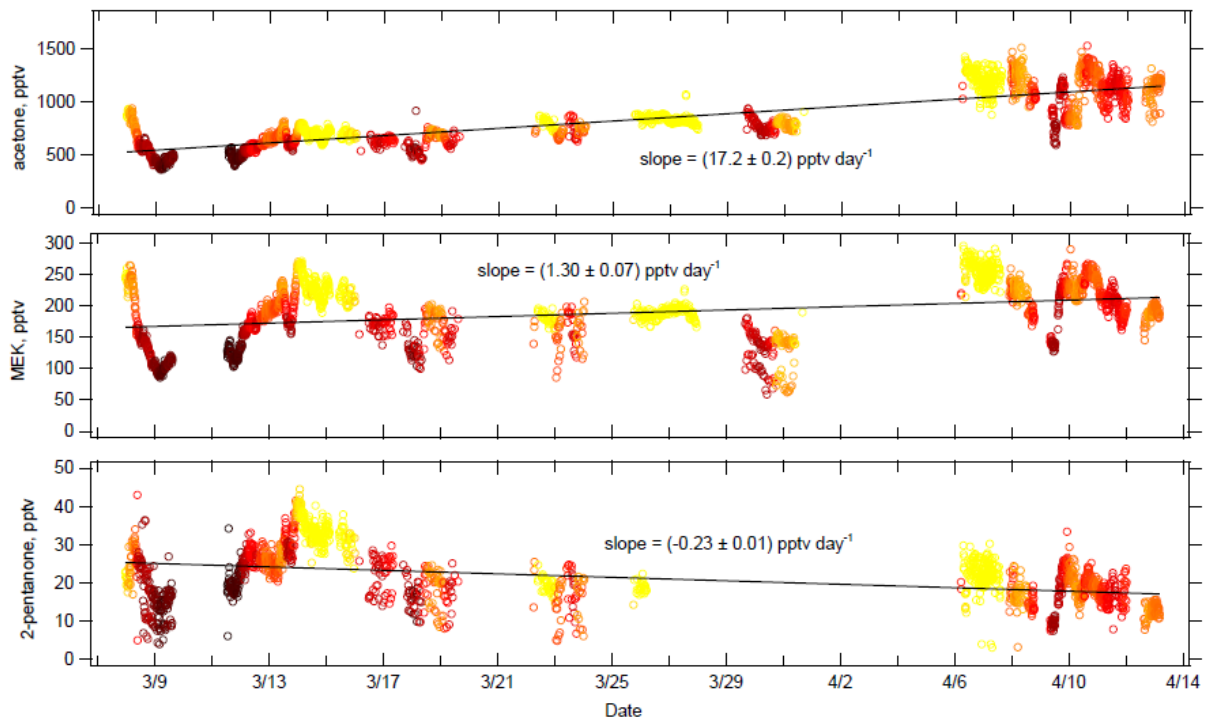
**Figure 9.** Correlation between the ratio of observed hydrocarbon concentrations and calculated background hydrocarbon levels against Cl-atom rate coefficients for TOGA (red triangles; red text labels) and canister data (open squares; black text labels) from 27 March between 08:56 and 09:00 AKST. Separate linear least-squares fits to the TOGA (red dotted) alkane and canister (grey dashed) data are shown. The impact of Br-atom chemistry can be seen in the difference between the fit to the canister alkane data and the ethyne data point. Error bars show the uncertainties in the Cl-atom rate coefficients (X-axis) and the uncertainties in the natural logarithm of the ratio (Y-axis) propagated from the uncertainties in the measurements  $[RH]_{\text{obs}}$  ( $\pm 10\%$ ) and in the  $[RH]_{\text{bkg},t}$  values from the linear fits shown in Figures 7, 8, and S2.



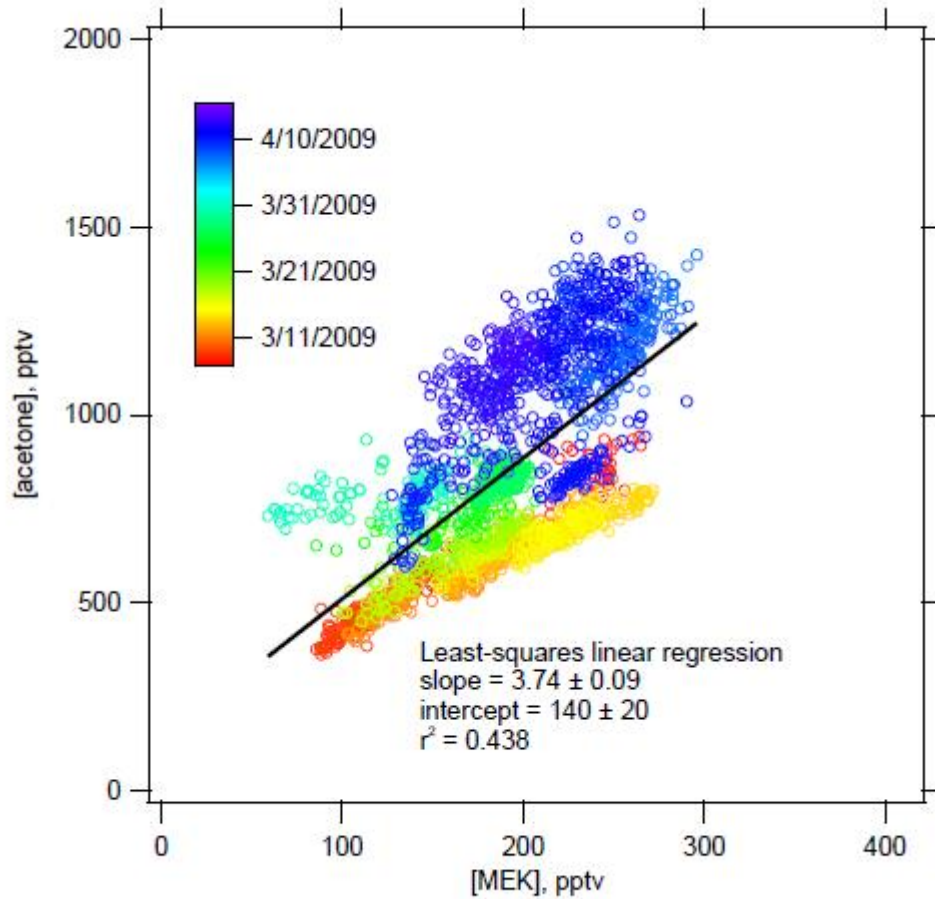
**Figure 10.** Time series of the calculated integrated halogen atom concentrations,  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  and  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$ , and the locally-observed  $\text{O}_3$  mixing ratios. Error bars for the canister-derived  $\int[\text{Cl}]dt$  and  $\int[\text{Br}]dt$  are as described in the text.



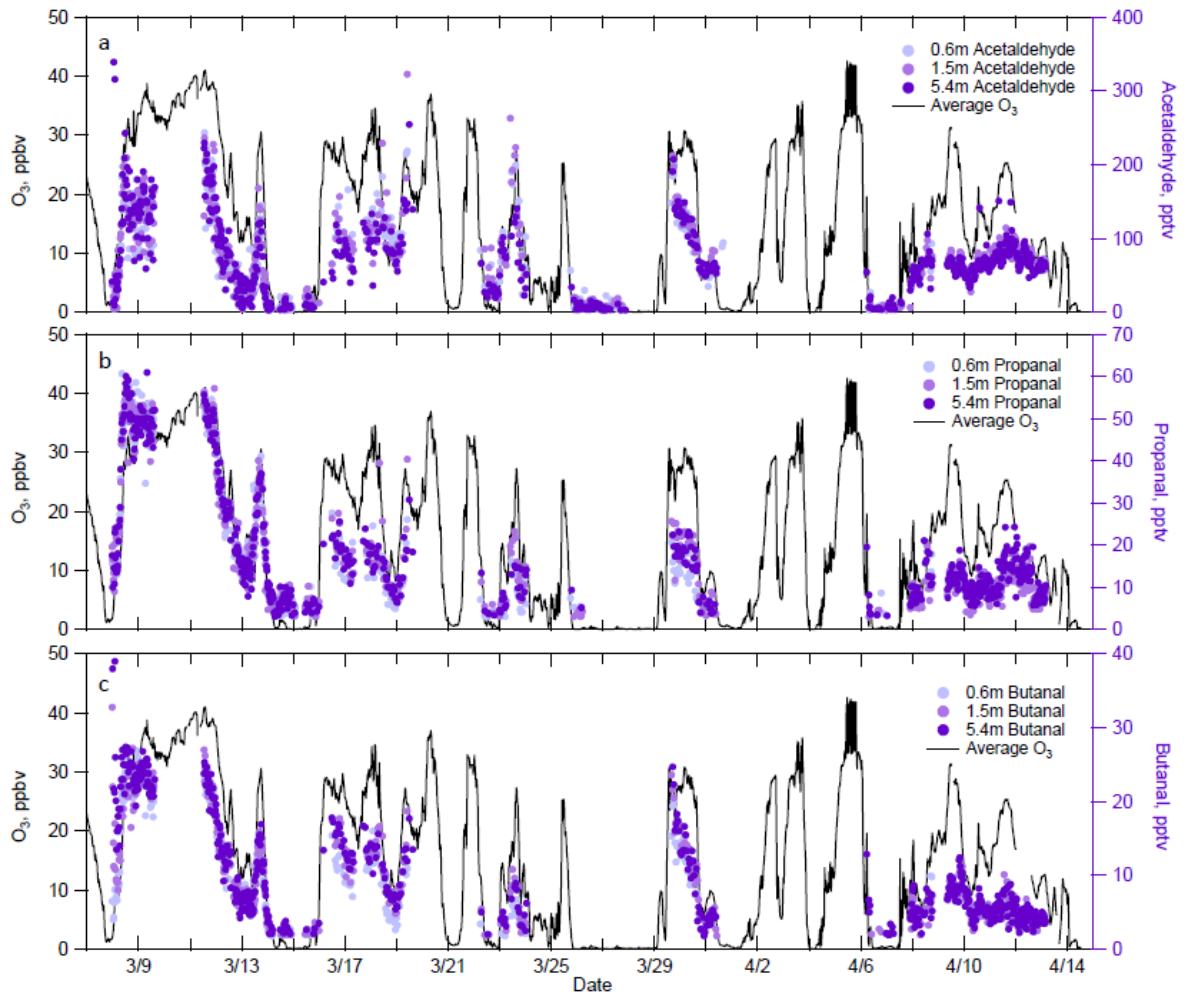
**Figure 11.** Plot of the  $O_3$  dependence of the calculated integrated halogen atom concentrations,  $\int[Br]dt$  and TOGA- and canister-derived  $\int[Cl]dt$ . Linear least-squares fits to all the TOGA-derived (solid green line) and canister-derived  $\int[Cl]dt$  data (dashed black line), and to the  $\int[Br]dt$  data for  $O_3 > 5$  ppbv (dashed blue line) are shown. Details for all fits are given in the text.



**Figure 12.** Time series of the observed clean-sector mixing ratios for acetone, MEK and 2-pentanone, as in Figures 4 and 5.



**Figure 13.** Correlation plot of clean-sector acetone and MEK observations colored by sample date. A linear least-squares fit to the data is shown.



**Figure 14.** Time series of average ozone mixing ratios and altitude-dependent clean-sector aldehyde mixing ratios.