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CINO₂ and nitrate (NO₃⁻) formation via N₂O₅ uptake to particles: Derivation of N₂O₅ uptake coefficients from ambient datasets

Gavin J. Phillips (1,2), Jim Thieser (1), Ming J. Tang (1), Nicolas Sobanski (1), Johannes Fachinger (3), Frank Drewnick (3), Jos Lelieveld (1), and John N. Crowley (1)

(1) Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Division of Atmospheric Chemistry, Mainz, Germany, (2) Department of Natural Sciences, University of Chester, Thornton Science Park, CH2 4NU, UK, (3) Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Division of Particle Chemistry, Mainz, Germany

We present estimates of the uptake coefficient of N_2O_5 , $\gamma(N_2O_5)$, using ambient measurements of the trace gases N_2O_5 and $ClNO_2$ and particle composition and surface area at the Kleiner Feldberg observatory, near Frankfurt, SW Germany, during the PARADE campaign (summer 2011). Three methods used to extract $\gamma(N_2O_5)$ from the datasets were found to be in reasonable agreement, generating values between 0.001 and 0.4. $\gamma(N_2O_5)$ displayed a significant dependence on relative humidity (RH), the largest values obtained, as expected, at high RH. No significant dependence of $\gamma(N_2O_5)$ on particle organic content or sulphate-to-organic ratio was observed. The variability in $\gamma(N_2O_5)$ is however large, indicating that humidity is not the sole factor determining the uptake coefficient. There is also an indication that the yield of $ClNO_2$ with respect to N_2O_5 uptake is larger with lower concentrations of PM1 total organics. Our results will be compared to existing uptake coefficients from laboratory studies and those derived from field-observations.