



## **Nighttime NO<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> measurements by cavity ringdown spectroscopy during the China-UK joint campaign.**

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Nitrate radicals, NO<sub>3</sub> and dinitrogen pentoxide, N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> are interesting trace gas constituents of the troposphere, which play an important role in nocturnal chemical processes including the removal process of VOCs to generate organic nitrate and the heterogeneous reactions to form aerosol nitrate as well as halogen activation. During the China-UK joint campaign, NO<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> were measured at the campus of Institute of Atmospheric Physics, located in the urban area of Beijing, China (39°58' [U+02B9] 28'' N, 116°22' [U+02B9] 16'' E) during the night from 3 to 22, June 2017. In this paper, an inexpensive, compact instrument for the sensitive measurement of the nocturnal nitrogen oxides NO<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> in ambient air at high time resolution was described. The minimum detection limit (1σ) for NO<sub>3</sub> radicals and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> were estimated to be 2.3 ppt and 3.1 ppt in a 2.5 s averaging time. The observed mean NO<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> were 36.2 ppt and 2.5 ppt, respectively. Based on the equilibrium between NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, a point-by-point comparison of the measured NO<sub>3</sub> mixing ratio with that calculated from the NO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> observations and the temperature was conducted for the night 12-13 June, 2017 and the result shows that NO<sub>3</sub>(calculated)=NO<sub>3</sub>(measured)\*0.9-0.25 ppt, with a correlation coefficient R=0.94. Under the assumption of steady state, the NO<sub>3</sub> production rates were calculated averaging at 0.73 ppt/s. The regression analysis implies that the calculated NO<sub>3</sub> production rate varied mainly with the ambient O<sub>3</sub> concentrations.