

Supplementary Information

Widespread detection of chlorine oxyacids in the Arctic atmosphere

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Text

S1. Calculation of gas-phase OCIO production rate. The production of OCIO is a key step in the gas-phase formation of HClO₃ and HClO₄, and ClO is an important precursor of OCIO. As shown in Fig.3, apart from the photolysis, the ClO can react with BrO and ClO to form OCIO, with HO₂ to produce HOCl, and with NO_x (NO and NO₂) to form Cl and ClONO₂, respectively. To evaluate the dominance of ClO reaction pathways, we calculate the reaction rate of ClO with BrO, ClO, HO₂, NO and NO₂ as in reactions (S1) to (S5). The reaction rate coefficient (*k*) is adopted from the IUPAC

kinetic database¹ with the reaction temperature set at 253 K, which is a typical Arctic temperature during spring (refer to Fig. 1).

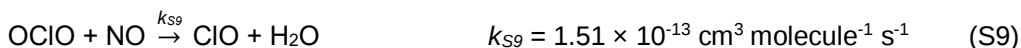
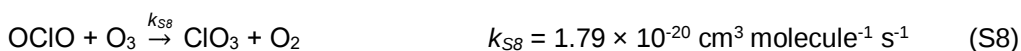
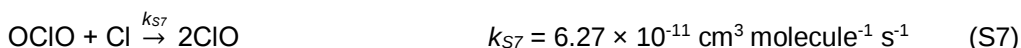
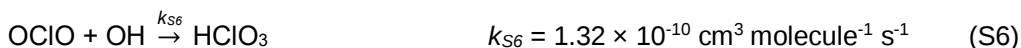


In this calculation, we used the BrO, ClO and HO₂ concentrations that have been previously observed in the Arctic during spring. Typically, the BrO concentrations were reported to peak in the range of about $1.5\text{--}10.2 \times 10^8$ molecules cm⁻³ (5–35 parts per trillion, ppt) during an Arctic ozone depletion event^{2–6} and MOSAiC campaign⁷. The daytime maximum ClO concentration was reported to be in the range of $1.5\text{--}11.6 \times 10^8$ molecules cm⁻³ (5–40 ppt) in previous field observations in the Arctic springtime^{5,8,9}. The HO₂ concentration was typically measured to peak at approximately $1.5\text{--}2.9 \times 10^8$ molecules cm⁻³ (5–10 ppt) in the springtime O₃ depletion events^{10,11}. NO_x data were obtained from the Atmospheric Tomography (ATom) aircraft measurements over the Arctic (70–90°N) marine boundary layer (altitude <1 km), using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) chemiluminescence instrument described in Bourgeois *et al.*¹². The NO and NO₂ concentrations ranging from $0.3\text{--}4.4 \times 10^8$ molecules cm⁻³ (1–15 ppt) and $0.6\text{--}11.6 \times 10^8$ molecules cm⁻³ (2–40 ppt), respectively¹³.

Supplementary Fig. S12 shows the range of ClO loss rates calculated with the above concentration ranges of BrO, ClO, HO₂, NO and NO₂. The ClO + BrO reaction channel is the dominant (rates up to 1.0×10^7 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹), followed by the ClO + HO₂ (rates up to 2.9×10^6 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹). The reaction of ClO + ClO is negligible as the rate (up to 2.1×10^3 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹) is several orders of magnitude lower than the former two reaction channels. Although the k_{S1} and k_{S3} are quite comparable, the BrO concentration during an Arctic ozone depletion event is usually several times higher than HO₂ concentrations^{8,11}, suggesting that the ClO + BrO channel can lead to the enhancement of OCIO, and contribute to the formation of HClO₃ and HClO₄. Furthermore, the fraction of ClO reacting with HO₂ to form HOCl can recycle to produce Cl atoms via direct photolysis or heterogeneous uptake on chloride aerosol, which can eventually form ClO. The calculated reaction rates of ClO + NO (up to 1.0×10^7 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹) and ClO + NO₂ (up to 9.6×10^6 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹) are comparable to the reaction rate of ClO + BrO (Fig. S3b), meaning that the typical levels of NO_x will compete with BrO in the reaction of ClO to form OCIO.

According to the Thompson *et al.*⁸, the ClO can also react with radicals such as OH, CH₃OO, and CH₃COOO. However, the reactions of ClO with OH, CH₃OO and CH₃COOO are very likely not important compared to the losses of ClO through HO₂ and BrO for two reasons. First, according to the reaction rate constants used in Thompson *et al.*⁸, the ClO + CH₃OO (2.08×10^{-12} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹) and ClO + CH₃COOO (2.03×10^{-12} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹) are about 4 times slower than the ClO + HO₂ (8.67×10^{-12} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹), while the reaction constant for ClO + OH (2.37×10^{-13} cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹) is an order of magnitude slower than the reaction constant for ClO + HO₂. Second, the concentrations of CH₃OO and CH₃COOO in the Arctic are likely smaller than concentration of HO₂ because their lifetime may be short as these RO₂ radicals typically react more rapidly with NO or HO₂⁸. Even if we assume that their concentration equals to the HO₂ concentration (i.e. 2.9×10^8 molecules cm⁻³), the loss rates of ClO (i.e., at a concentration of 5.8×10^8 molecules cm⁻³) by reacting with CH₃OO and CH₃COOO are 3.5×10^5 and 3.4×10^5 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹, respectively, which are much lower than the ClO + HO₂ pathway (refer to Supplementary Fig. S12). The loss rate of ClO (i.e., at a concentration of 5.8×10^8 molecules cm⁻³) by reacting with 5×10^6 molecules cm⁻³ of OH is negligible (rate is 6.9×10^2 molecules cm⁻³ s⁻¹).

S2. Estimating the loss of OCIO. The loss of OCIO is another important intermediate step for HClO₃ and HClO₄ formation. Here, we calculate the consumption rate of OCIO by OH, Cl, O₃ and NO, as shown in the reactions (S6) to (S9). The reaction rate coefficient (k) is adopted from the IUPAC kinetic database¹ and Zhu and Lin study¹⁴, with the reaction temperature set at 253 K.



Supplementary Table S1 shows the estimated consumption rate of OCIO by OH, Cl, O₃ and NO. When OH concentration is about 0.1–1.0 × 10⁶ molecules cm⁻³, a typical range of OH during O₃ depletion as reported in previous Arctic measurements^{8,15,16}, the $k_{\text{OCIO}+\text{OH}}[\text{OH}]$ is ≈10⁻⁴–10⁻⁵ s⁻¹. Cl atom was reported to be in the range of ≈10³–10⁶ molecules cm⁻³ in Arctic spring^{5,9,15,17}. The $k_{\text{OCIO}+\text{Cl}}[\text{Cl}]$ is calculated to be ≈6 × 10⁻⁵–10⁻⁸ s⁻¹. From Fig.1, the typical O₃ concentration during an O₃ depletion event falls within the range of 3 × 10⁸–6 × 10¹¹ molecule cm⁻³ (1–20 parts per billion, ppb), the $k_{\text{OCIO}+\text{O}_3}[\text{O}_3]$ are estimated to be in between ≈1 × 10⁻⁸–5 × 10⁻⁸ s⁻¹. From the ATom aircraft measurements over the Arctic in May 2018¹³, the mean concentration was 1.5×10⁸ molecules cm⁻³ (5 ppt) and the maximum concentration was 4.4×10⁸ molecules cm⁻³ (15 ppt). When NO concentration is 4.4 × 10⁸ molecules cm⁻³, $k_{\text{OCIO}+\text{NO}}$ is 6.6 × 10⁻⁵ s⁻¹, while the $k_{\text{OCIO}+\text{NO}}$ is 2.2 × 10⁻⁵ s⁻¹ when the NO concentration is 1.5 × 10⁸ molecules cm⁻³. Note that the reaction of OCIO + NO will produce ClO, which can recycle OCIO via reaction RS1. Supplementary Fig. S13 shows that there are significant levels of HClO₃ and HClO₄ during the measurement period with potential influence of ship pollution in the MOSAiC campaign, where a relatively high probably that NO_x levels were elevated during these periods. Therefore, among these reactions, OCIO + OH represents a significant fraction of OCIO loss (up to several orders of magnitude higher than other pathways), ultimately promoting the HClO₃ formation.

S3. Heterogeneous loss of HClO₃ and HClO₄ on aerosol. To estimate the potential removal of HClO₃ and HClO₄ through heterogeneous reaction with aerosol, we calculated the heterogeneous loss rate coefficient (K_{het}) of HClO₃ and HClO₄ based on the following equation (S10).

$$K_{\text{het}} = \frac{1}{4} \times S \times c \times \gamma \quad (\text{S10})$$

Where S is the aerosol surface area, c is the molecular speed of HOCl₃ and HOCl₄, respectively, and γ is the heterogeneous uptake coefficient, which was assumed to be 0.2 (similar to the γ of HCl when assuming the uptake is accommodation limited). The c of HOCl₃ and HOCl₄ were estimated by equation (S11)¹⁸.

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{8RT}{\pi(MW)}} \quad (\text{S11})$$

The R is the universal gas constant (8.314 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹), T is the temperature (253 K), and MW is the molecular weight of HOCl₃ (84.459 g mol⁻¹) and HOCl₄ (100.460 g mol⁻¹). Based on the typical aerosol surface area of 20 μm² cm⁻³ in MOSAiC, the K_{het} of HClO₃ and HClO₄ are estimated to be 2.7×10⁻⁴ and 2.5×10⁻⁴ s⁻¹, respectively. With the highest aerosol surface area of 100 μm² cm⁻³ observed in spring, for instance in April (see Supplementary Fig. S4 and S8), the calculated K_{het} of HClO₃ and HClO₄ are 1.4×10⁻³ and 1.3×10⁻³ s⁻¹, respectively. Note that the actual γ for both HOCl₃ and HOCl₄ are unknown, and a change in γ may affect the heterogeneous loss rate of HOCl₃ and HOCl₄. If we assume that the γ is in unity, the heterogeneous loss rate of HOCl₃ and HOCl₄ falls within 1.4–6.8 ×10⁻³ s⁻¹ and 1.3–6.3 × 10⁻³ s⁻¹, respectively (Supplementary Table S2). When the γ is assumed to be equal to a smaller γ (0.01), the rates are 1.4–6.8 ×10⁻⁵ s⁻¹ (for HClO₃) and 1.3–6.3 × 10⁻⁵ s⁻¹ (for HClO₄). These predicted K_{het} are much higher than those rates determined from the photolysis and radical attack for HClO₃ and HClO₄. The result suggests that the heterogeneous loss is an important loss pathway for HClO₃ and HOCl₄ in the Arctic.

S4. Quantum chemical calculations of binding energies. The cluster formation free energies of HClO₃, HClO₄ and nitrate ions were calculated using quantum chemical methods. Conformers were generated using the MMFF method in the Spartan '16 program¹⁹. The geometries were then

159 optimized using density functional theory (DFT) methods at the ω B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ level of
160 theory^{20,21}. The DFT calculations were carried out using the Gaussian 16 program²². A final coupled-
161 cluster single-point energy calculation on the lowest energy geometries was carried out with the
162 domain-based local pair natural orbital coupled-cluster singles, doubles and perturbative triples
163 (DLPNO-CCSD(T)) method and the def2-QZVPP basis set using the ORCA program^{23,24}.

164 **S5. Computation of HClO₃ and HClO₄ absorption cross-sections.** The UV-Vis electronic
165 absorption spectrum and cross-sections of HClO₃ and HClO₄ were obtained using a well-established
166 nuclear-ensemble approach previously applied to several systems of atmospheric interest²⁵⁻²⁹. This
167 computational strategy consists firstly of the generation of a representative ensemble of structures
168 for each system by sampling the ground-state equilibrium structure, optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G**
169 level of theory with the Gaussian 16 (revision C0.1) program²², according to a Wigner distribution at
170 0 K using the Newton-X 2.0 software package³⁰. Then, for each structure, vertical excitation energies
171 (ΔE) and oscillator strengths (f) are computed with state-average complete-active-space self-
172 consistent field/multi-state complete-active space second-order perturbation theory/spin-orbit
173 complete-active-space state interaction (SA-CASSCF/MS-CASPT2/SO-CASSI) scheme with the
174 third-order Douglas-Kroll and Hess (DKH3) Hamiltonian and the atomic natural orbital-relativistic
175 correlation consistent basis set of valence triple zeta accuracy with polarization functions (ANO-RCC-
176 VTZP) using the OpenMolcas software package^{31,32}. An active space of 12 electrons in 9 orbitals
177 and 16 electrons in 12 orbitals was considered for HClO₃ and HClO₄, respectively. Calculations were
178 carried out without symmetry restrictions (C_1 point group) and considering 8 and 7 roots for singlet
179 and triplet multiplicities, respectively (8 singlet states and 7 triplet states). The ionization potential
180 electron affinity (IPEA) parameter was set to the recommended value of 0.25 a.u to correct the errors
181 in energy differences between closed- and open-shell systems³³, and an imaginary level shift of 0.2
182 a.u. was applied to minimize the effect of weakly-interacting intruder states³⁴. Spin-orbit couplings
183 (SOCs) were computed with the complete-active-space state interaction (CASSI) method, and f
184 values were determined as described in previous works²⁵⁻²⁹. Finally, at each photon energy E , the
185 corresponding absorption cross-section $\sigma(E)$ are obtained by convoluting the calculated electronic
186 transitions using a Gaussian-type shape function centred at each vertical excitation energy,
187 accounting for the broadening of the resonant lines of the spectra through full width at half-maximum
188 (FWHM) set to 0.1 eV, obtaining in this way physically meaningful bandshapes without producing
189 any unphysical peaks.

190

191 **Supplementary Tables**

192 **Supplementary Table S1 | Loss of OCIO.** The calculated consumption rate of OCIO by OH, Cl, O₃
193 and NO. The reaction temperature is 253 K. Concentration is in molecules cm⁻³.

Reaction	OCIO + OH		OCIO + Cl		OCIO + O ₃		OCIO + NO	
[X]	[OH] = 5×10 ⁶	[OH] = 1×10 ⁵	[Cl] = 1×10 ⁶	[Cl] = 1×10 ³	[O ₃] = 6×10 ¹¹	[O ₃] = 3×10 ¹⁰	[NO] = 4.4×10 ⁸	[NO] = 1.5×10 ⁸
k _{OCIO+X} [X] (s ⁻¹)	6.6×10 ⁻⁴	1.3×10 ⁻⁵	6.3×10 ⁻⁵	6.3×10 ⁻⁸	1.0×10 ⁻⁸	5.2×10 ⁻¹⁰	6.6×10 ⁻⁵	2.2×10 ⁻⁵

194 Note: X = OH; Cl; O₃ or NO

195

196 **Supplementary Table S2 | Heterogeneous loss of HClO₃ and HClO₄ on aerosol.** The predicted
197 heterogeneous loss rate coefficient of HClO₃ and HClO₄ with various uptake coefficients and typical
198 aerosol surface area in the Arctic environment. The aerosol surface area is in μm cm⁻³.

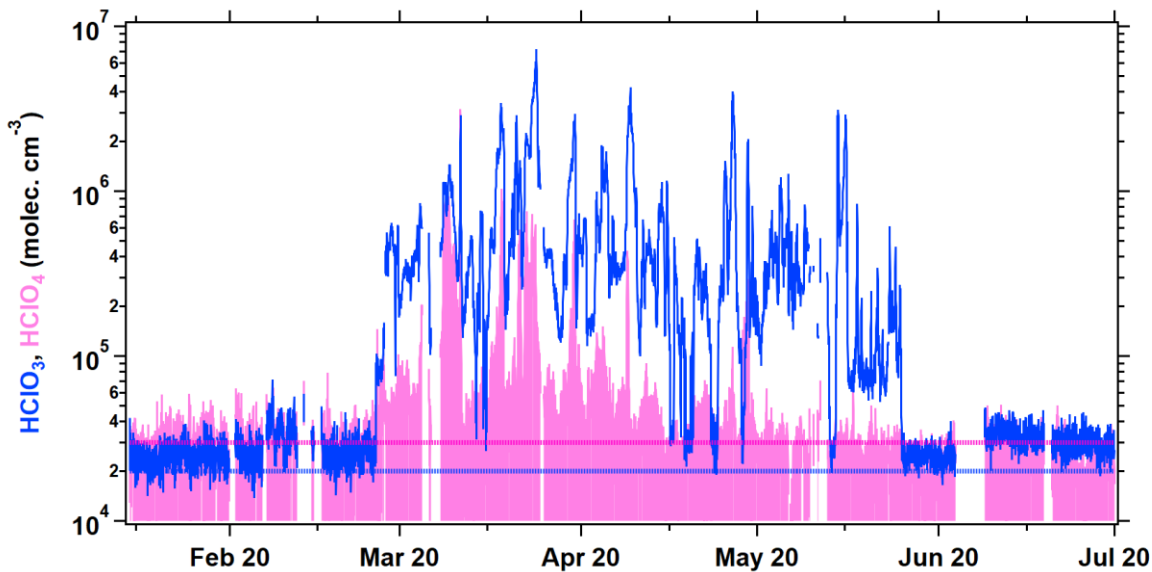
	γ = 0.2		γ = 0.01		γ = 1	
	Surf. area = 20	Surf. area = 100	Surf. area = 20	Surf. area = 100	Surf. area = 20	Surf. area = 100
HClO ₃ het. loss rate coefficient (s ⁻¹)	2.7 × 10 ⁻⁴	1.4 × 10 ⁻³	1.4 × 10 ⁻⁵	6.8 × 10 ⁻⁵	1.4 × 10 ⁻³	6.8 × 10 ⁻³
HClO ₄ het. loss rate coefficient (s ⁻¹)	2.5 × 10 ⁻⁴	1.3 × 10 ⁻³	1.3 × 10 ⁻⁵	6.3 × 10 ⁻⁵	1.3 × 10 ⁻³	6.3 × 10 ⁻³

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201 **Supplementary Figures**

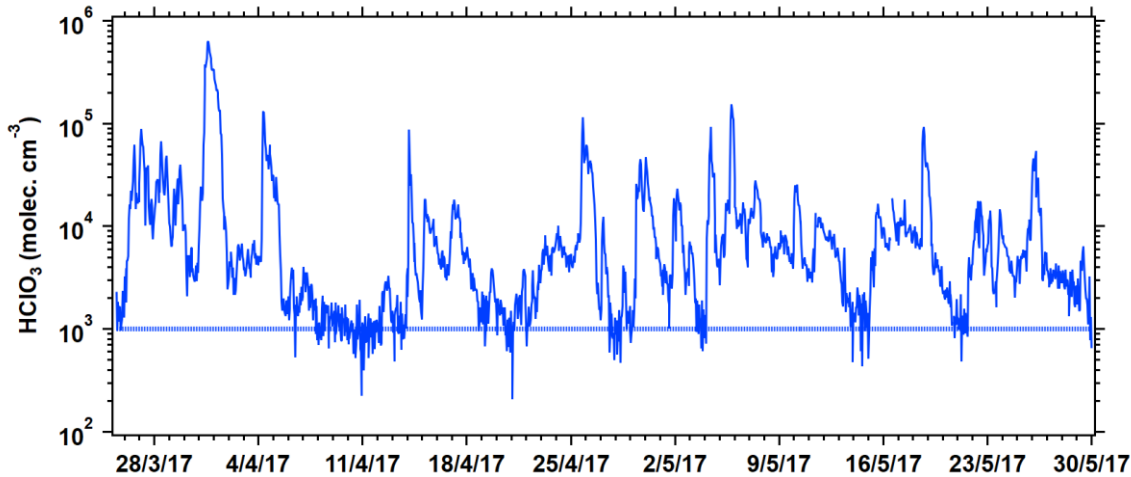
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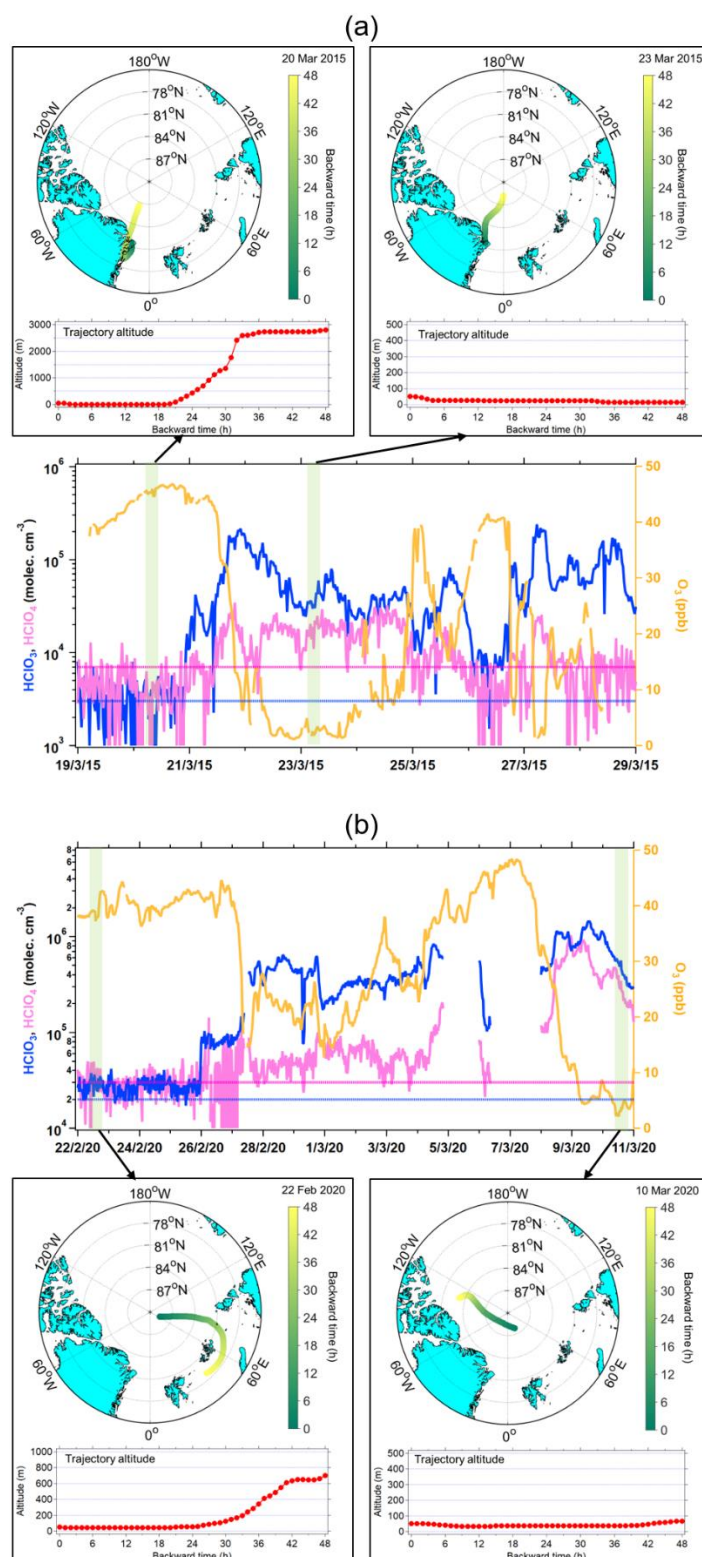
204 **Supplementary Fig. S1 | HClO_3 and HClO_4 measurements during the MOSAiC campaign.** The
205 variation in the HClO_3 (blue) and HClO_4 (red) concentrations observed from January to June 2020
206 during the MOSAiC campaign. This period covers the winter, spring and summer in the Arctic. The
207 dashed-line represents the detection limits for HClO_3 (blue) and HClO_4 (pink) measurements. The
208 uncertainty of HClO_3 and HClO_4 measurements was estimated to be at least a factor of two (see
209 Methods).

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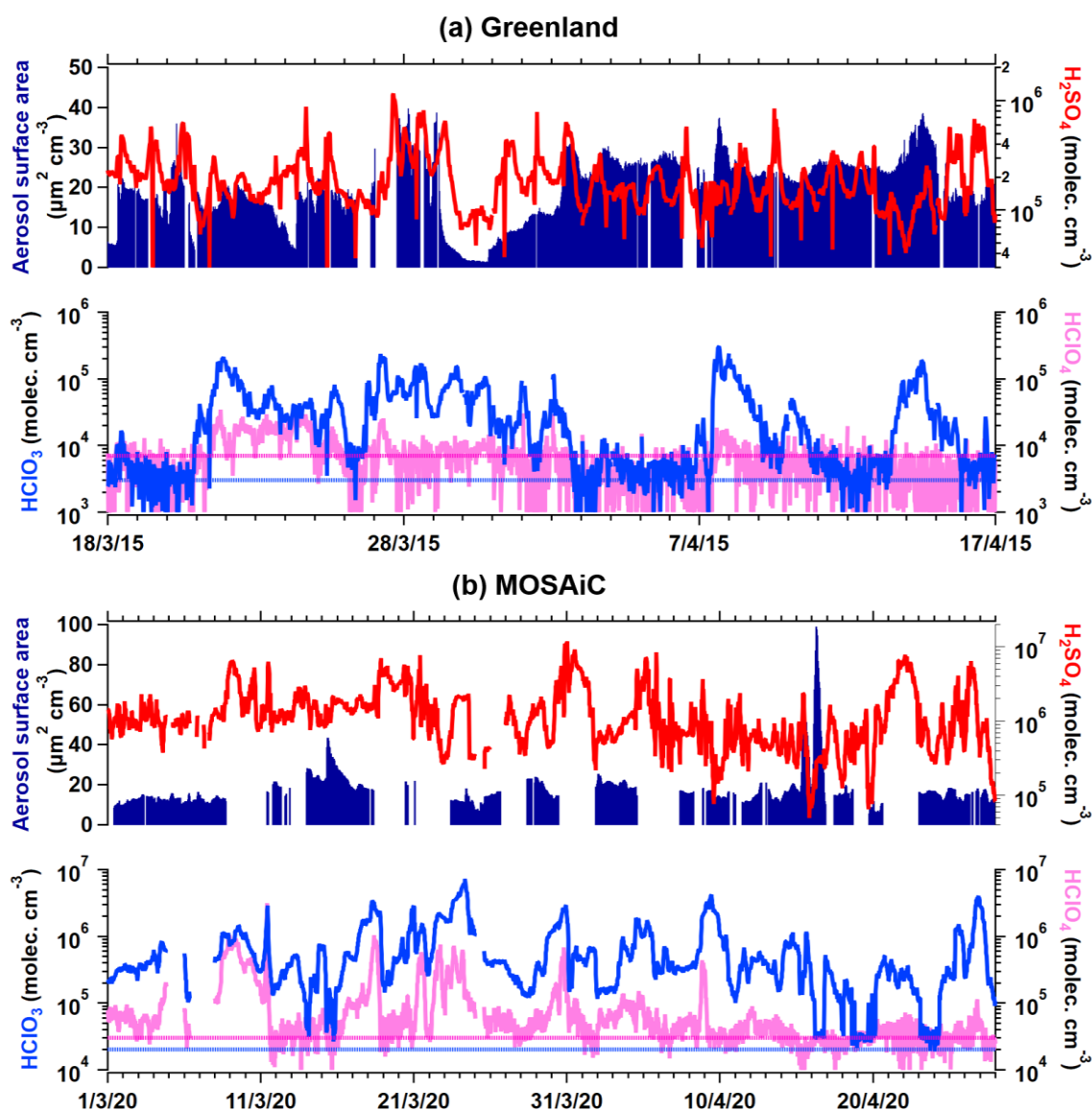
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212 **Supplementary Fig. S2 | Observation of HClO_3 at Ny-Ålesund.** Example of the HClO_3
213 concentration data measured with a nitrate-Cl-API-TOF instrument at Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard (78° 55'
214 N, 11° 56' E), from 28 March to 30 May 2017 (spring). The measurements occurred at the
215 atmospheric observatory, Gruvebadet, located 2 km southeast of Ny-Ålesund (refer to the map in
216 Fig. 1). The dashed-line represents the detection limit for HClO_3 measurement. The uncertainty of
217 HClO_3 and HClO_4 measurements was estimated to be at least a factor of two (see Methods). Details
218 on the site (description), instrumentation setup and calibration can be found in Beck *et al.*³⁵.



219

220 **Supplementary Fig. S3 | Air mass trajectories during non-O₃ depletion and O₃ depletion**
 221 **events.** Example cases (area shaded in light green) revealing the difference between the air mass
 222 origin and height during ozone depletion events and non-ozone depletion events at the (a) Villum
 223 Research Station, Greenland, and during the (b) MOSAiC campaign. The 48-hour backward air mass
 224 trajectory and altitude are calculated with the Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory
 225 (HYSPLIT) model, developed by the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory³⁶. The starting height of the
 226 trajectory was set at 50 m above ground level. Maps were created by the authors using MathWorks
 227 MATLAB (<https://www.mathworks.com/products/matlab.html>).

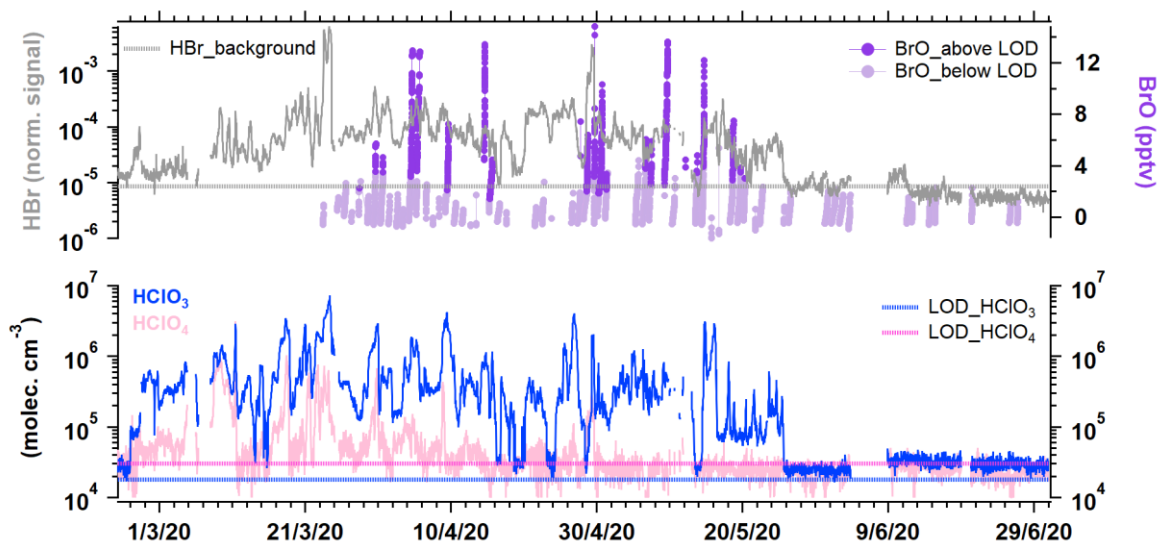


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230 **Supplementary Fig. S4 | HClO_3 , HClO_4 , H_2SO_4 and aerosol surface area.** Expanded view between
 231 HClO_3 , HClO_4 and the measured H_2SO_4 and aerosol surface area at (a) the Villum Research Station,
 232 Greenland (18 March to 17 April 2015) and (b) during the MOSAiC campaign (1 March to 28 April
 233 2020). The gap in the aerosol surface area in the data set is either due to the removal of invalid data
 234 (i.e., particle counts too low or due to local emissions), instrument maintenance or instrumentation
 235 offline events. The dashed-line represents the detection limits for HClO_3 (blue) and HClO_4 (pink)
 236 measurements. The uncertainty of HClO_3 and HClO_4 measurements was estimated to be at least a
 237 factor of two (see Methods).

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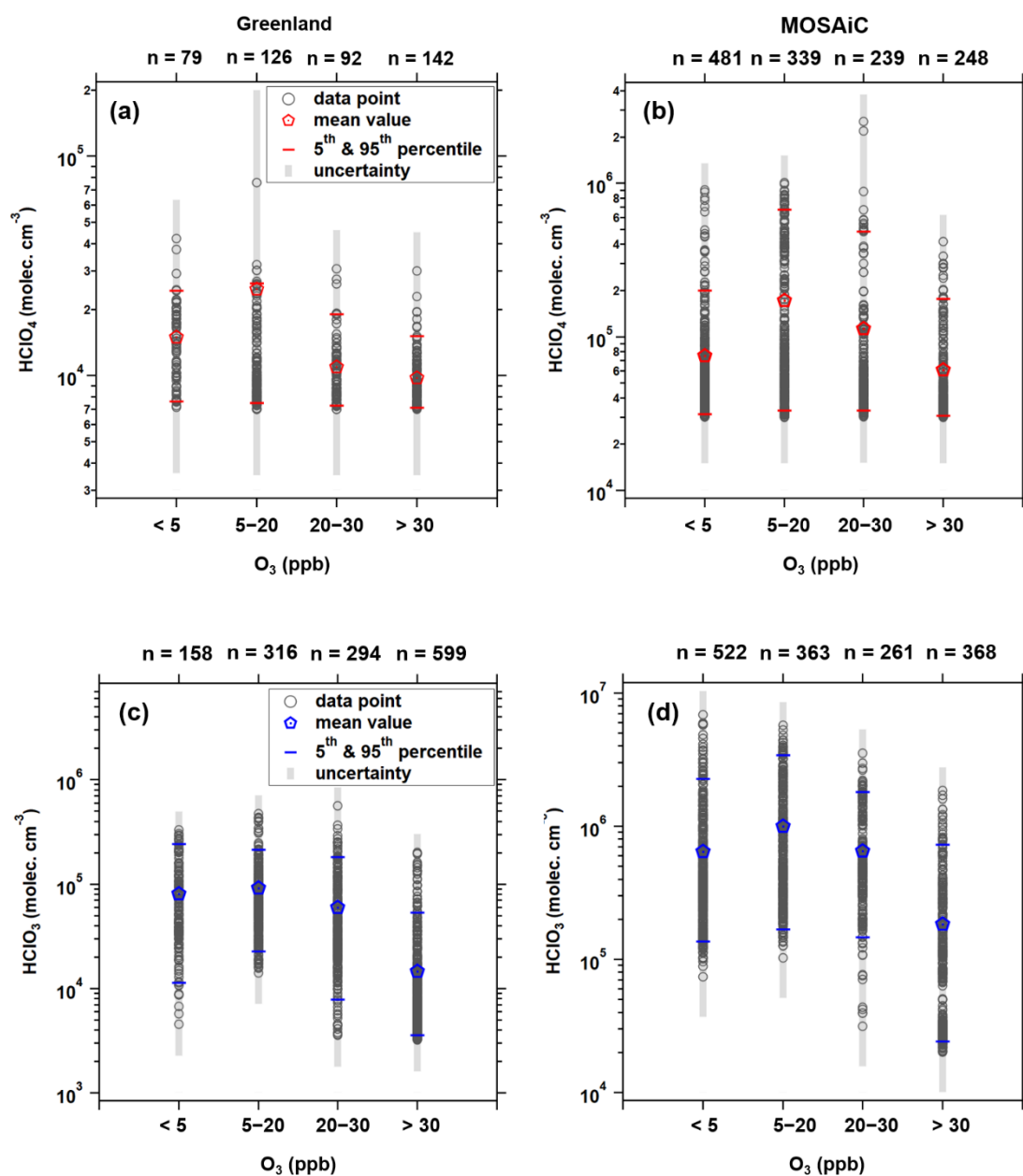
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241 **Supplementary Fig. S5 | HClO₃, HClO₄ and bromine observations during MOSAiC.** The time
 242 series for ground-based BrO, HBr (Br⁻ signal), corresponding to the HClO₃ and HClO₄ observations
 243 during the MOSAiC campaign. Details of the ground-based BrO measurement can be found in
 244 Benavent *et al.*⁷. The dashed-line represents the detection limits (LOD) for HClO₃ (blue) and HClO₄
 245 (pink). The grey dashed-line is the background signal obtained during the zero measurements of HBr
 246 (Br⁻ signal). Note that the uncertainty of HClO₃ and HClO₄ measurements was estimated to be at
 247 least a factor of two.

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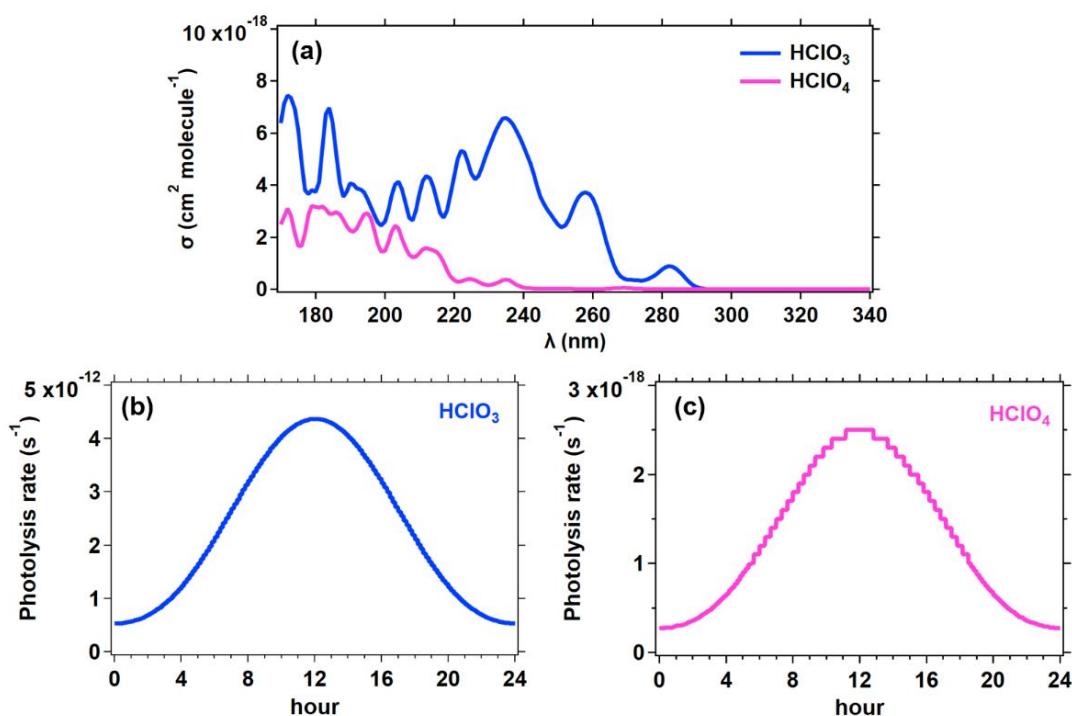
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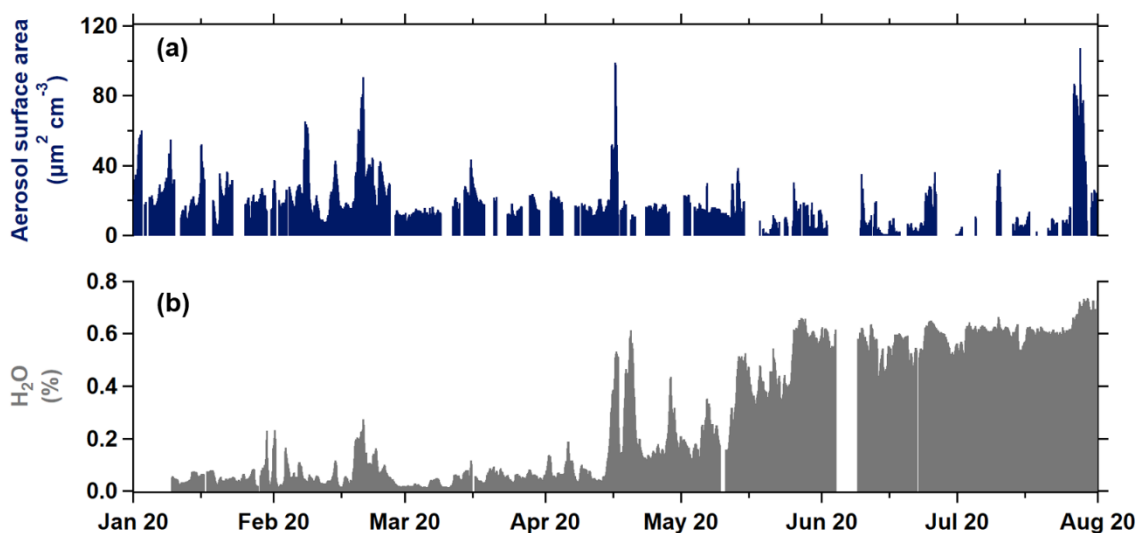
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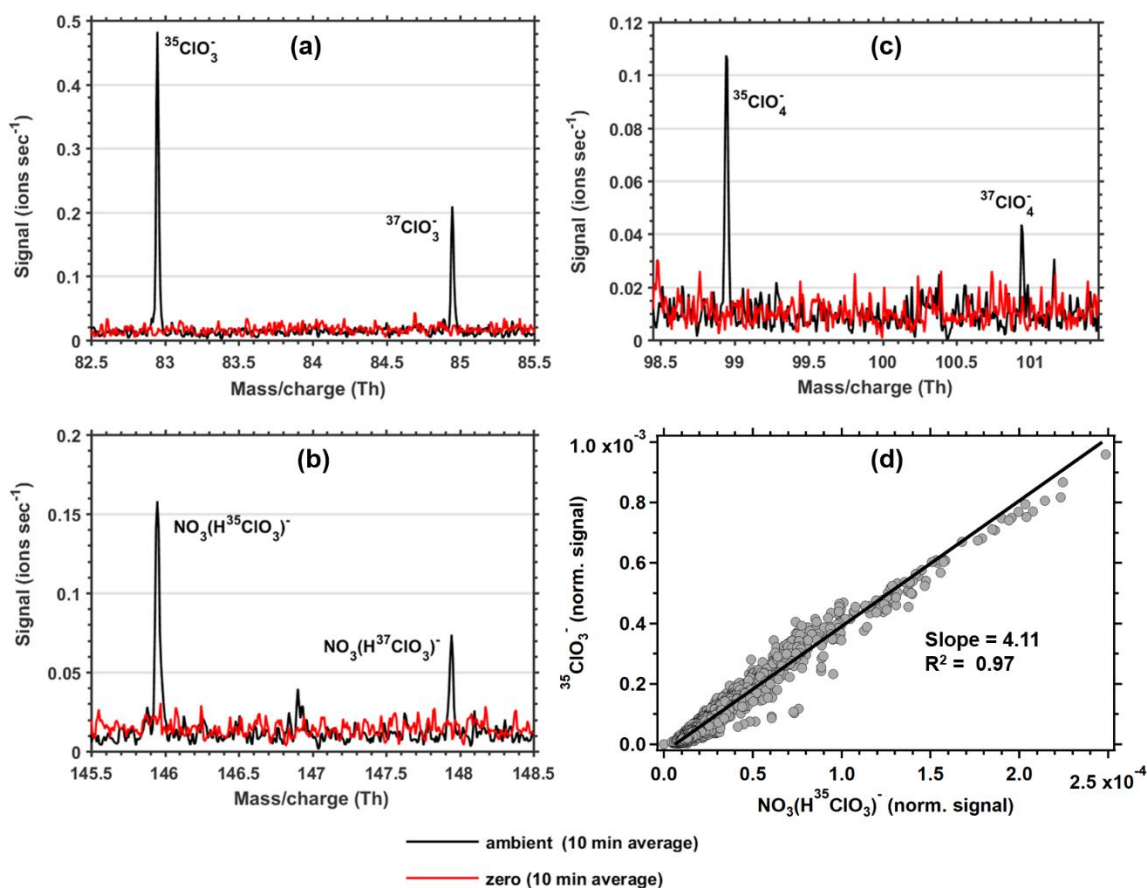
Supplementary Fig. S6 | HClO_4 and HClO_3 under different O_3 levels. Distribution of HClO_4 and HClO_3 under a different range of O_3 concentrations at **(a, b)** the Villum Research Station, Greenland; and **(c, d)** during the MOSAiC expedition from 22 February to 30 April 2020. Significant concentrations of HClO_3 and HClO_4 were frequently observed when the O_3 concentration was below 30 ppb (also refer to Fig.1 and Fig.2). Note that when O_3 is less than 5 ppb, we defined it as 'complete' depletion of O_3 . In this plot, all the data points below the detection limits were removed. The uncertainty of a factor of two for the HClO_4 measurements has been shown in the plot (grey shaded-area).



Supplementary Fig. S7 | Photolysis of HClO_3 and HClO_4 . (a) Modelled absorption cross-section (σ) of HClO_3 and HClO_4 . Photolysis rate calculated based on the absorption cross-section for (b) HClO_3 and (c) HClO_4 in the Arctic environment with a latitude of $81^\circ 21' \text{ N}$ (similar to the location of Villum Research Station, Greenland) on 1 May 2020.



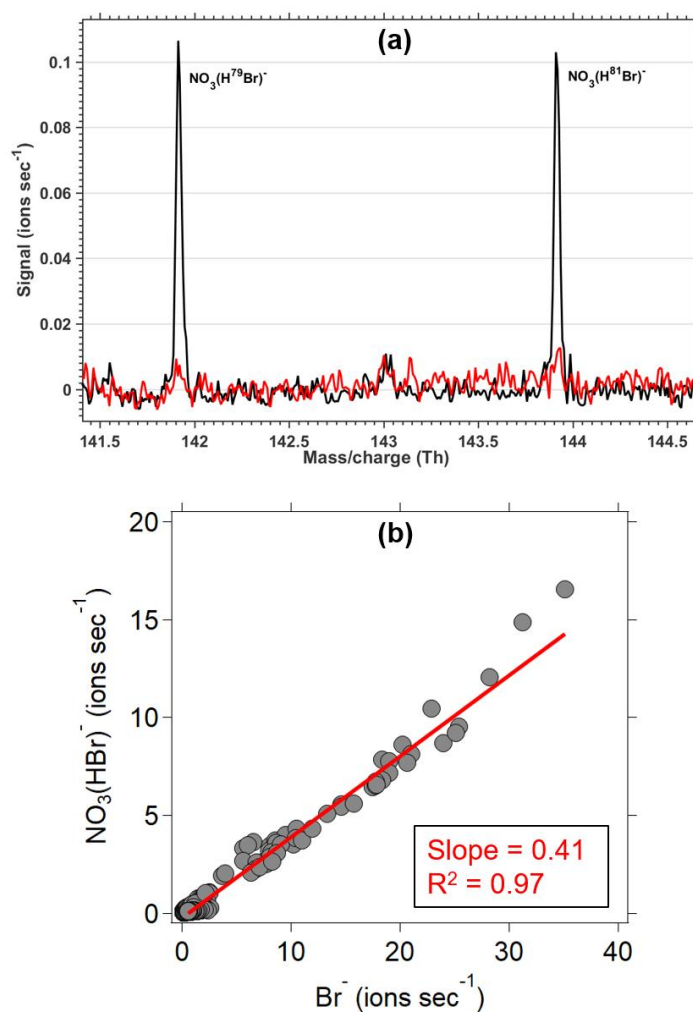
Supplementary Fig. S8 | Aerosol surface area and humidity during the MOSAiC campaign. (a) Aerosol surface area estimated according to the scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS) measurements and (b) H_2O measured throughout the MOSAiC campaign from January to July 2020. The data of the aerosol surface area and H_2O exhibit a 30-min average of time resolution.



274

275 **Supplementary Fig. S9 | Peak identification for HClO₃ and HClO₄.** The selected mass spectra
 276 reveal the corresponding peaks (black line) and mass spectrum of the zero measurements (red line)
 277 by the nitrate CI-APi-TOF for (a) deprotonated ions of HClO₃ and ClO₃⁻, (b) clusters of HClO₃•NO₃⁻
 278 and (c) deprotonated ions of HClO₄ and ClO₄⁻. Note that the HClO₄•NO₃⁻ cluster is not detected in
 279 the mass spectrum. There are absences of peaks for HClO₃ and HClO₄ during the zero measurement
 280 (also refer to Supplementary Fig. S14). (d) The scatter plot of $^{35}\text{ClO}_3^-$ versus $\text{NO}_3(\text{H}^{35}\text{ClO}_3)^-$
 281 normalized signal, obtained during the MOSAiC from 22 February to 30 April 2020. The slope is 4.11
 282 with R^2 of 0.97.

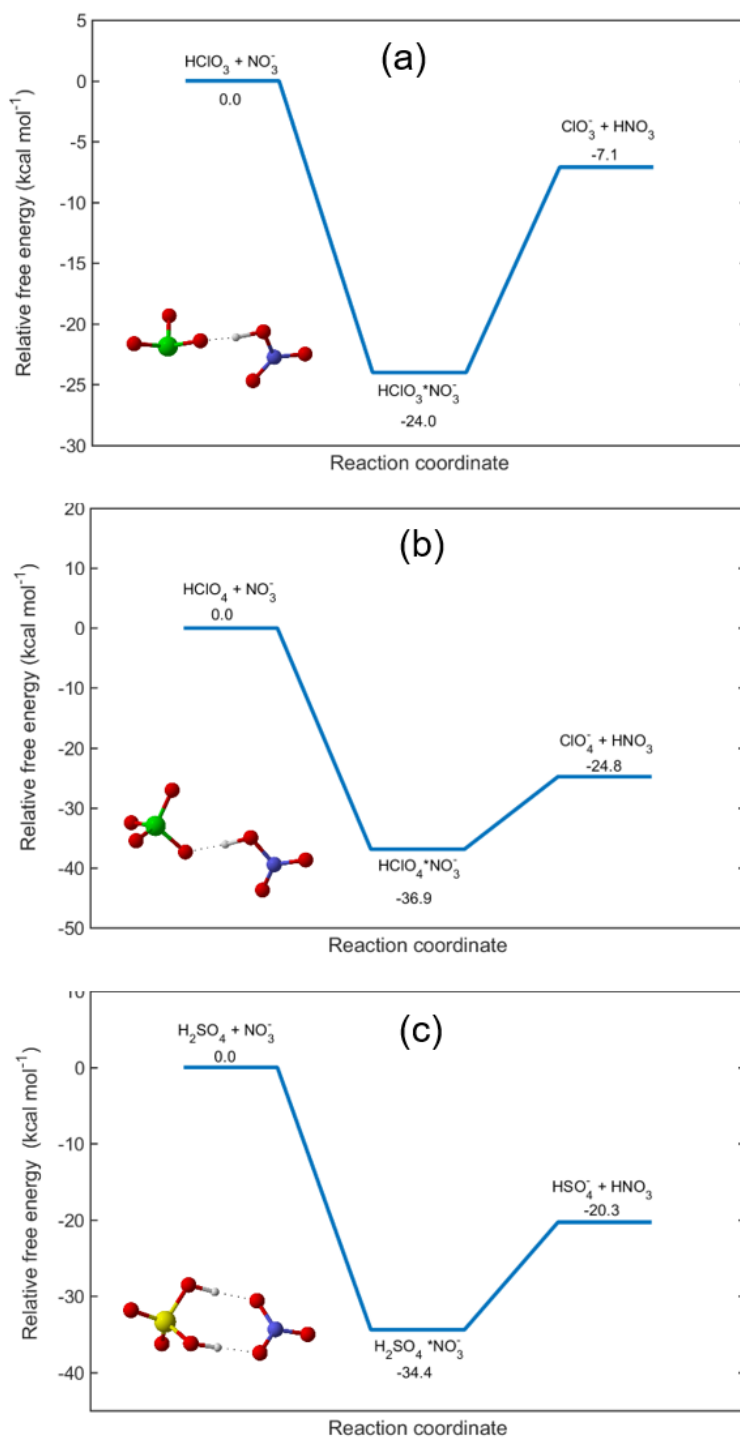
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285 **Supplementary Fig. S10 | Observation of $\text{NO}_3(\text{HBr})^-$ signal.** (a) The peak of $\text{NO}_3(\text{H}^{79}\text{Br})^-$ together
 286 with its isotope peak ($\text{NO}_3(\text{H}^{81}\text{Br})^-$), compared to the zero measurement (red line), detected by nitrate
 287 CI-API-TOF. (b) An example of the $\text{NO}_3(\text{HBr})^-$ versus Br^- data obtained during the MOSAiC from 18
 288 to 30 April 2020.

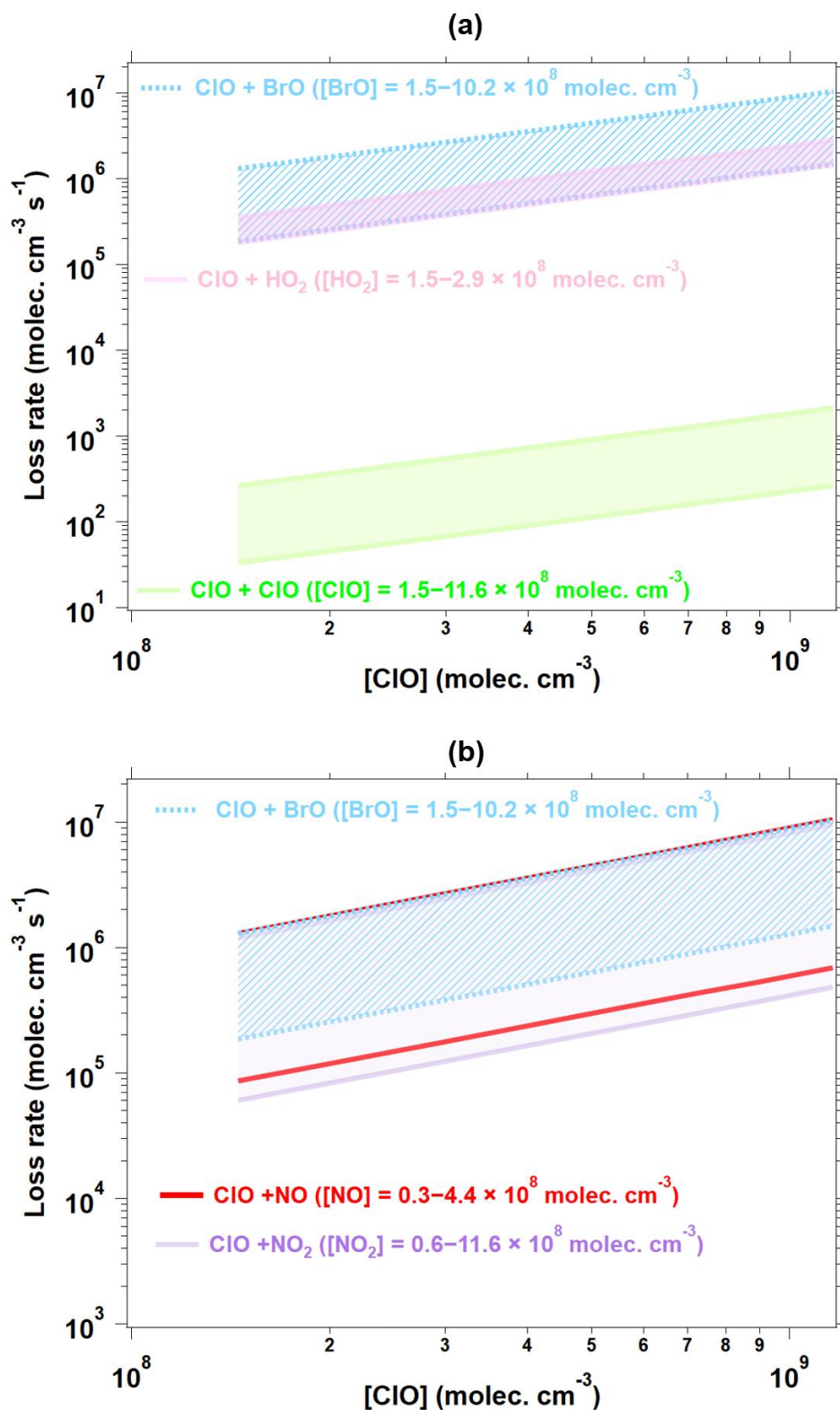
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291 **Supplementary Fig. S11 | Cluster formation free energy.** Potential energy surface (PES)
 292 indicating the cluster formation free energies for (a) NO₃⁻ clustering of HClO₃, (b) NO₃⁻ clustering of
 293 HClO₄, and (c) NO₃⁻ clustering of H₂SO₄. The cluster geometries are included: green = chlorine, red
 294 = oxygen, white = hydrogen, blue = nitrogen, and yellow = sulfur atoms.

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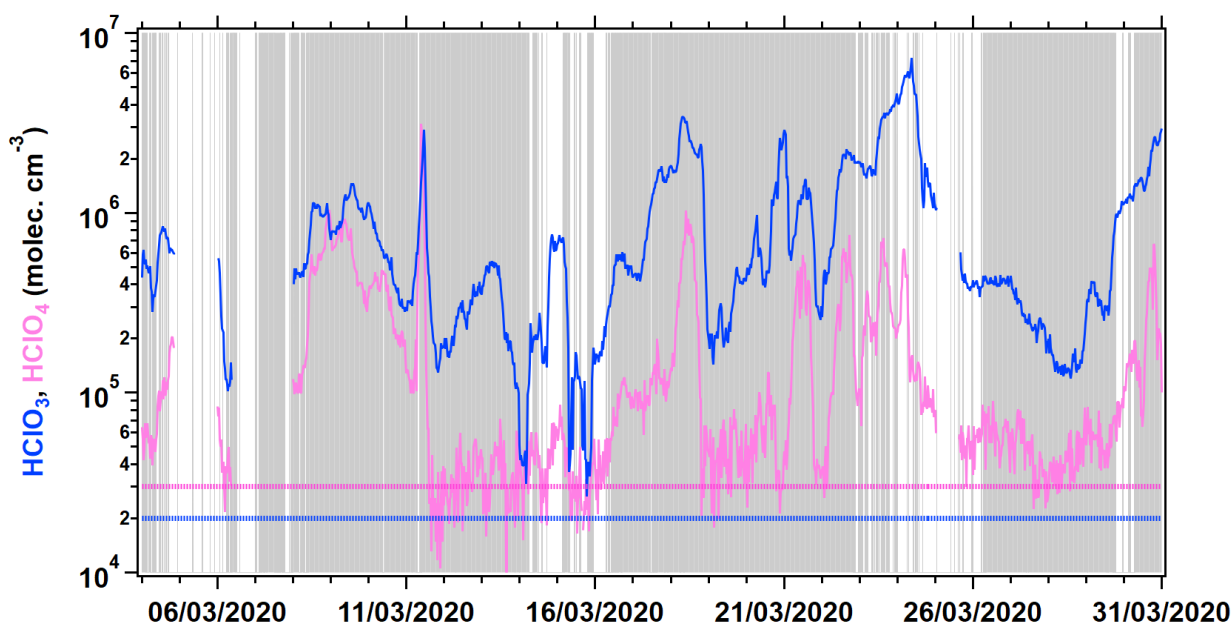


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298 **Supplementary Fig. S12 | Loss rates of ClO.** The calculated rates of (a) ClO consumed by BrO
 299 (blue dash line), HO₂ (pink) and ClO (green). (b) Comparison of the rates of ClO + BrO with rates of
 300 ClO + NO and ClO+NO₂. Note that the shaded area represents the range of loss rate calculated from
 301 different levels of BrO (5–35 ppt), HO₂ (5–10 ppt), and ClO (5–40 ppt) reported in the spring ozone
 302 depletion events in the Arctic^{2-6,8-11}. The concentrations of NO (1–15 ppt) and NO₂ (2–40 ppt) were
 adopted from the ATom flight measurements in the Arctic¹³.

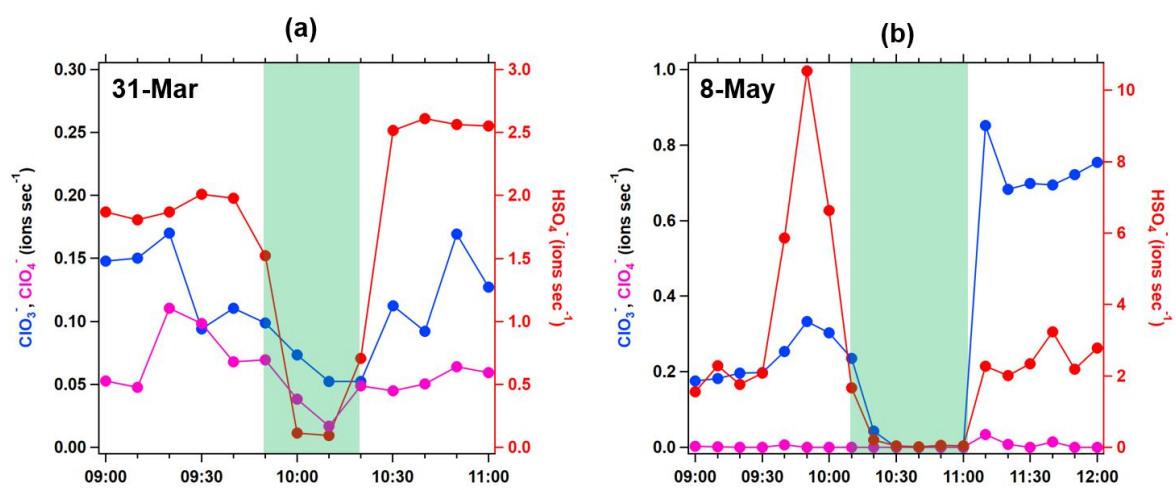
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306 **Supplementary Fig. S13 | Expanded view of HClO₃ and HClO₄ levels during the measurement period**
307 **with potential influence of ship pollution in the MOSAiC campaign.** The grey shaded area (with a time
308 resolution of 1 min) denotes the period where the particle number concentration measurements were impacted
309 by the ship pollution, as defined in Beck *et al.*³⁷. This figure is indicative only and does not necessarily reflect
310 the percentage of clean data points collected by other instruments during the expedition. There is, however, a
311 relatively high probability that NO_x levels were elevated during these periods. The dashed-line represents the
312 detection limits for HClO₃ (blue) and HClO₄ (pink) measurements. Note that the uncertainty of HClO₃ and HClO₄
313 measurements was estimated to be at least a factor of two.

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316 **Supplementary Fig. S14 | Zero measurements in Greenland.** Example of zero measurements in
317 Greenland conducted on (a) 31 March 2015 and (b) 8 May 2015. The shaded area (light green) is to
318 the zero measurement period. The ClO₃⁻, ClO₄⁻ and HSO₄⁻ signals correspond to HClO₃, HClO₄ and
319 H₂SO₄, respectively.

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