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Hohenpeissenberg Photochemical Experiment (HOPE 2000): Measurements and photostationary state calculations of OH and peroxy radicals

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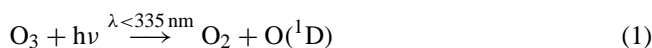
Abstract. Measurements of OH, total peroxy radicals, non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHCs) and various other trace gases were made at the Meteorological Observatory Hohenpeissenberg in June 2000. The data from an intensive measurement period characterised by high solar insolation (18–21 June) are analysed. The maximum mid-day OH concentration ranged between 4.5×10^6 molecules cm^{-3} and 7.4×10^6 molecules cm^{-3} . The maximum total RO_x ($\text{RO}_x = \text{OH} + \text{RO} + \text{HO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$) mixing ratio increased from about 55 pptv on 18 June to nearly 70 pptv on 20 and 21 June. A total of 64 NMHCs, including isoprene and monoterpenes, were measured every 1 to 6 hours. The oxidation rate of the NMHCs by OH was calculated and reached a total of over 14×10^6 molecules $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ on two days. A simple photostationary state balance model was used to simulate the ambient OH and peroxy radical concentrations with the measured data as input. This approach was able to reproduce the main features of the diurnal profiles of both OH and peroxy radicals. The balance equations were used to test the effect of the assumptions made in this model. The results proved to be most sensitive to assumptions about the impact of unmeasured volatile organic compounds (VOC), e.g. formaldehyde (HCHO), and about the partitioning between HO_2 and RO_2 . The measured OH concentration and peroxy radical mixing ratios were reproduced well by assuming the presence of 3 ppbv HCHO as a proxy for oxygenated hydrocarbons, and a HO_2/RO_2 ratio between 1:1 and 1:2. The most important source of OH, and conversely the greatest sink for peroxy radicals, was the recycling of HO_2 radicals to OH. This reaction was responsible for the recycling of more than 45×10^6 molecules $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ on two days. The most important sink for OH, and the largest source of peroxy radicals, was the oxidation of NMHCs, in particular, of isoprene and the monoterpenes.

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1 Introduction

Free radicals play an important role in the chemical self-cleansing of the atmosphere. The hydroxyl radical, OH, is the main oxidising agent during daytime for many volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and other trace gases. Peroxy radicals ($\text{RO}_2^* = \text{HO}_2$ and RO_2 , where R represents an organic group) are produced during many of these oxidation reactions. These peroxy radicals can react with NO to produce NO_2 , which leads to the production of ozone in the troposphere if the mixing ratio of NO exceeds 10–30 pptv (Atkinson, 2000).

The primary source of OH radicals in the troposphere is the photolysis of ozone and the subsequent reaction of the resulting $\text{O}(^1\text{D})$ with water vapour:



The OH radicals react with a large number of trace gases, including CH_4 , CO and non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHCs). These reactions typically result in the production of peroxy radicals:



Carbonyl compounds, e.g. HCHO and CH_3CHO , can be a significant source of peroxy radicals (e.g. Poppe et al., 1994; Carslaw et al., 2002) via photolysis and oxidation by OH, e.g. for HCHO:

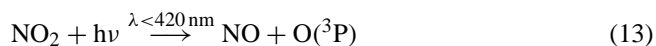




and by the conversion of the H atom generated in Reaction 7 following Reaction 4.

A further source of peroxy radicals is the oxidation of alkenes by the nitrate radical, NO_3 , and a small yield from the oxidation of alkenes by ozone. In the presence of high mixing ratios of biogenic alkenes, these reactions can be significant, although the reaction involving the NO_3 radical is only of importance at night, as NO_3 is rapidly photolysed during daytime.

The most important sink for RO_2^* radicals is the reaction with NO:



where $\text{R}'\text{O}$ in Reaction 11 is a carbonyl compound and R' is equal to R except for the loss of one H atom. Reaction 12 represents an important secondary source of OH via recycling.

A number of combined field and modelling investigations of the HO_x ($\text{HO}_x = \text{OH} + \text{HO}_2$) radical budget and of ozone formation have been undertaken to test our current understanding of photochemistry (e.g., Carslaw et al., 2001). In particular, concurrent measurements of both OH and HO_2 have been made by several groups using the LIF method (e.g., Creasey et al., 2002; Tan et al., 2001; Kanaya et al., 2001; Abram et al., 2000; George et al., 1999; Holland et al., 1998). However, only a few campaigns have been reported in which measurements of both OH and RO_x ($\text{RO}_x = \text{OH} + \text{RO} + \text{HO}_2 + \text{RO}_2^*$) radicals were made (e.g. Carslaw et al., 2002; Platt et al., 2002; Carslaw et al., 1999; Cantrell et al., 1996).

The Tropospheric OH Photochemistry Experiment (TOHPE) took place in the Rocky Mountains and included a broad range of measurement parameters, in particular OH (Tanner et al., 1997; Mount et al., 1997; Mather et al., 1997), HO_2 (Mather et al., 1997) and RO_x (Cantrell et al., 1997a). OH and HO_2 concentrations were overestimated using a photostationary state model by 50% and by a factor of about 4, respectively (McKeen et al., 1997). Model calculations were made in which the concentrations of selected hydrocarbons were varied. The best agreement between the model results and the measurements of OH and RO_2^* were obtained by assuming the presence of a missing compound with the same chemical behaviour as β -pinene and a concentration 5 times higher than β -pinene.

The Program for Research on Oxidants: Photochemistry, Emissions and Transport (PROPHET) took place at a forested site in northern Michigan (Carroll et al., 2001). OH and HO_2 measurements (Tan et al., 2001) were made in air characterised by high levels of isoprene and other biogenic hydrocarbons and low levels of NO and NO_2 . Model results using a tightly constrained photochemical point model underestimated OH by a factor of 2.7, but were in good agreement with measured HO_2 .

Model results have tended to overestimate the OH concentration (Carslaw et al., 2002, 1999; George et al., 1999), with the PROPHET campaign representing a significant exception. Constraining the HO_2 or RO_x concentration using measured values tends to result in much better agreement between model results and measurements (e.g. George et al., 1999).

The aim of the Hohenpeissenberg Photochemistry Experiment (HOPE 2000) was to test our current understanding of free radical photochemistry in a rural environment using a photostationary radical balance model on the basis of measurements of both OH and RO_x (RO_x is the sum of the peroxy radicals, OH and the organic oxy radicals, $\text{RO}_x = \text{OH} + \text{RO} + \text{HO}_2 + \text{RO}_2^*$). The contributions of OH and RO to total RO_x are sufficiently low that they can effectively be neglected, so that RO_x is effectively equivalent to RO_2^* . In the following paper this will be assumed to be the case and RO_x will be used to refer to both RO_x in the case of measurements and RO_2^* in the case of the model results. The short lifetimes of free radicals allow the use of a relatively simple box model, without having to consider transport processes. The model calculated the concentration of OH and of RO_2^* and was constrained in each case by the measured concentration of the other radical. The data set for the model consists of measurements of OH, the sum of peroxy radicals (RO_x), and with an extensive range of NMHCs and other trace gases relevant to OH and RO_x chemistry. These were contributed by the Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO/GAW) monitoring programme at Hohenpeissenberg. Measurements of carbonyl compounds were not made during the HOPE 2000 campaign. However, the contributions of carbonyl compounds were considered and taken into account during the radical balance calculations.

2 Experiment

The Hohenpeissenberg Photochemistry Experiment (HOPE 2000) was conducted between 18 June and 6 July, 2000 at the Meteorological Observatory Hohenpeissenberg (MOHp). The observatory is both a meteorological monitoring and a Global Atmosphere Watch site operated by the German Weather Service (DWD). It is located in a rural agricultural and forested area approximately 40 km from the northern rim of the Alps at 980 m a.s.l. (47°48' N, 11°02' E, see Fig. 1), and about 300–400 m above the surrounding countryside.

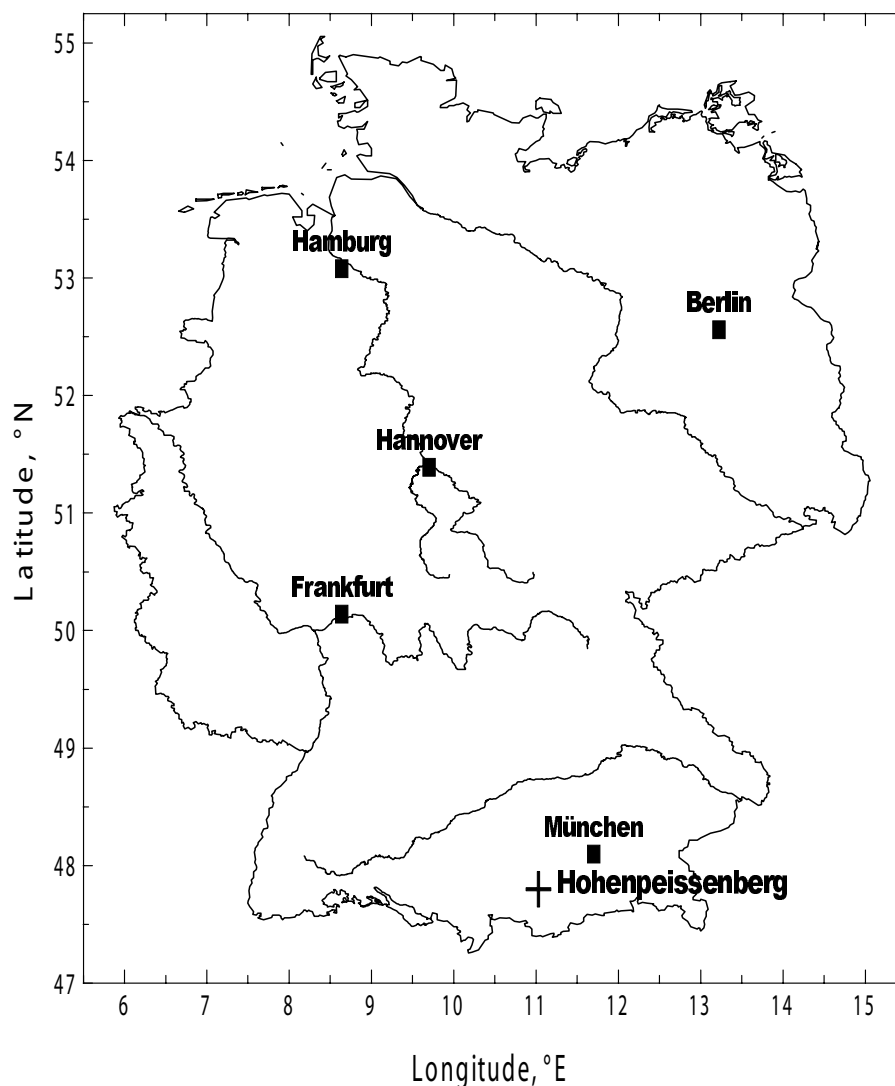


Fig. 1. Map of Germany showing the location of the Meteorological Observatory Hohenpeissenberg (975 m a.s.l.) in southern Bavaria.

Local noon occurs at 12:16 CET. There are no significant industrial sources in the vicinity. The nearest city, Munich, is approximately 70 km to the northeast of the site.

The initial four day period of the campaign (18 to 21 June) was characterised by fine weather conditions, relatively high daytime temperatures (up to 27°C) and intense photochemical activity associated with a high pressure system over central Europe. The wind was generally from the east during daytime, with relatively light winds of under 4 m s^{-1} . This episode was the focus of the intensive series of measurements presented here.

The inlets for all trace gas monitoring instruments were located within 7 m of each other on the roof of a container tower at approximately 10 m above ground level, which is the height of the nearby trees. Reagent gases such as NO, NO₂, CO, SO₂ and propane were exhausted through a tub-

ing line about 50 m south of the measurement site. The local wind direction during HOPE 2000 was only occasionally from this sector and the time series for these trace gases did not show any indications of exhaust contamination. Meteorological measurements were made at a horizontal distance of 50 m from the container tower. Wind measurements were made on top of a 40 m mast.

The instrumentation used during HOPE, with the exception of the standard meteorological instrumentation, is summarised in Table 1. The photolysis rates of NO₂ and ozone, j_{NO_2} and j_{O_3} , respectively, were both measured using two filter-radiometers (2π sr), facing up and down, and thus providing 4π sr photolysis rates. Nitrogen oxides were measured by NO-O₃ chemiluminescence analysers (2 systems, ECO Physics CLD 770 AL ppt). NO₂ and NO_y are converted into NO prior to measurement by a photolytic converter

Table 1. Summary of instrumentation used during HOPE, in June and July 2000

Component	Instrument	Measurement method	Signal Integration Period	Accuracy ^a
TRACE GASES				
OH	DWD-CIMS	Chemical ionisation mass spectrometry	5 min	see text
RO _x	IMG-CA	Chemical amplification	10 min.	see text
Ozone	Thermo Instr./Dasibi	UV absorption	1 min	4%, 0.5 ppbv
NO	EcoPhysics	Chemoluminescence Detector (CLD)	3 min	5%, 15 pptv
NO ₂	EcoPhysics	CLD with photolytic converter	3 min	6%, 30 pptv
NO _y	EcoPhysics	CLD with gold converter	4 min	9%, 50 pptv
SO ₂	Thermo Instruments	UV fluorescence	1 min	5%, 50 pptv
H ₂ O ₂ , ROOH	AeroLaser/Custom built	Enzyme Catalysed Fluorescence	1 min	9%, 100 pptv
CO	Thermo Instruments	IR absorption with gas filter correlation	20 min	5%, 5 ppbv
C ₂ -C ₈ HC	Varian/Custom built	GC/FID	15 min ^b	see text
C ₅ -C ₁₃	Varian/Custom built	GC/MS/FID	20 min ^c	see text
RADIATION				
Global radiation	Kipp & Zonen CM11	Moll thermopile	1 min	3%
j _O ^{1D}	MetCon, Glashütten	filter radiometer	1 min	25%
j _{NO₂}	MetCon, Glashütten	filter radiometer	1 min	15%

^a For each measurement the accuracy is determined by the larger of the two values.

^b Sample Frequency: every 75 min–6 h

^c Sample Frequency: every 60 min–6 h.

(ECO Physics PLC 760) and a gold converter with added CO built at MOHp, respectively. A high volume stainless steel inlet line is used for NO_x and a PFA inlet line for NO_y. Calibration and zero gas measurements are carried out every second day as part of a detailed QA/QC procedure. Between 1998 and 2002, the NO, NO₂ and NO_y measurements were checked in three informal intercomparison experiments (May 1998: NO, with Juelich Research Centre; December 1999 and August 2002: NO, NO₂, NO_y, with German National Aerospace Centre, DLR). The agreement between the participating instruments was found to be better than the corresponding accuracy range (S. Gilge, unpublished results). The accuracy estimates listed in Table 1 take into account uncertainties in the calibration gas standard concentration, the calibration gas dilution system, the efficiency of the converters, the reproducibility of the measurements, and inlet line losses of NO_y in the range of 5%. For individual measurements, this leads to an accuracy of 5.2% (or 15 pptv) for NO, 5.6% (or 30 pptv) for NO₂, and 9% (or 50 pptv) for NO_y. The lower detection limits are given in brackets. During the HOPE 2000 campaign, nighttime NO mixing ratios were below the detection limit of 15 pptv for individual measurements with a 3 min signal integration period (see Sect. 3). NO mixing ratios of 6±4 pptv were determined for integration periods of one hour. Since a small positive offset due to alkene-ozone reactions in the chemiluminescence detector (with pre-reaction chamber) cannot be excluded, an upper

limit for the nighttime NO mixing ratio of 6 pptv is assumed during HOPE 2000.

Atmospheric OH concentrations were measured using the selected ion/chemical ionisation mass spectrometry (SI/CIMS) technique as described by Berresheim et al. (2000). The measurement principle is based on three major steps:

1. Titration of the OH in the sample air by excess ³⁴SO₂ to produce the heavy isotope H₂³⁴SO₄,
2. Charge transfer of the H₂³⁴SO₄ with NO₃⁻ ions (which are selectively formed in a separate purified air flow by alpha bombardment from a radioactive ²⁴¹Am source) resulting in H³⁴SO₄⁻ product ions, and
3. Measurement of the H³⁴SO₄⁻/NO₃⁻ ion ratio by MS after transfer of the ions into the vacuum region. To measure the background signal, excess high purity propane is added to the sample air/SO₂ mixture to scavenge the OH radicals by reaction with the propane instead of SO₂. The OH concentration is determined from the H³⁴SO₄⁻/NO₃⁻ signal ratio using a calibration factor, F, which is determined each day. Calibration is based on UV-photolysis (λ=185 nm) of ambient air water vapour in front of the sample tube. This yields OH concentrations in the 10⁷–10⁸ molecule cm⁻³ range. The OH concentration is calculated based on the known H₂O absorption cross section (Cantrell et al., 1997b),

concurrent measurements of $[H_2O]$ using a chilled mirror dewpoint hygrometer (Michell Instruments), and the photon flux in the photolysis zone, which is measured using calibrated (solar-blind) phototubes (Hamamatsu).

The impact of OH losses on the surfaces of the containers can be considered to be negligible for the OH measurements presented here. This was tested by alternating the position of the OH intake above the roof surface between 40 and 160 cm (the position during measurement is 50 cm). The difference did not exceed the range of uncertainty of 10% for wind speeds varying between 0 and 6 m s^{-1} . OH concentrations measured during the HOPE campaign were corrected for errors resulting from chemical reactions within the measurement system. The correction followed an iterative chemical model previously described by Berresheim et al. (2000) and Tanner et al. (1997). Corresponding corrections were calculated for chemical reactions in both the sample inlet and the OH titration zone using measured ambient air concentrations of NO, NO₂, CO and NMHCs. Depending on the concentrations of these compounds, the resulting total corrections ranged from 15% to 35%. Taking these corrections into account, the overall 2σ precision, accuracy, and detection limit of the OH measurements with 5 min signal integration during the HOPE campaign were 31%, 39%, and $4 \times 10^5\text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$, respectively.

The mixing ratio of the peroxy radicals (RO_x) was measured using a peroxy radical chemical amplifier (CA) built by Handisides (2001). The peroxy radical chemical amplifier technique (Hastie et al., 1991; Cantrell et al., 1984) has been used in a large number of campaigns (e.g. Platt et al., 2002; Carslaw et al., 2002; Monks et al., 1996; Cantrell et al., 1996). In a recent field campaign (Platt et al., 2002), it was shown to compare well with direct RO_x measurements made using Matrix Isolation/Electron Spin Resonance (MIESR) (Mihelcic et al., 1990). The design of the instrument used in HOPE 2000 is essentially identical to that of the instrument described by Hastie et al. (1991). The technique relies on a chain reaction involving peroxy radicals, OH and added NO and CO, in which NO is oxidised to NO₂. The chain reaction results in the production of n molecules of NO₂ for each peroxy radical, where n is the length of the chain reaction and represents the signal amplification. During HOPE 2000, the value of n obtained by calibration in dry air exceeded 160. The reaction product NO₂ is subsequently detected via its reaction with luminol using a liquid phase chemiluminescence detector. The amplification is modulated to allow the effect of ambient NO₂ to be accounted for (see Hastie et al., 1991). PFA Teflon tubing with 6.35 mm (1/4") o.d. and 4.83 mm (0.190") i.d. was used for the intake and all subsequent tubing in contact with the air sample. The distance between the addition points for CO was 1.6 m (the reaction tube) and the length of tubing between the second downflow addition point and the NO₂ detector was 10 m. The flow rate of ambient air through the system was 1.61 l min^{-1} resulting in a total re-

action time in the reaction tube of 0.66 s. Radical calibration was performed using the photolysis of water at 185 nm generated by a PenRay mercury lamp (Schultz et al., 1995).

The CA technique has been found to be sensitive to the relative humidity in the sample air (Reichert et al., 2003; Reichert, 2000; Mihele and Hastie, 2000; Mihele et al., 1999; Mihele and Hastie, 1998). The CA measurements were corrected for this effect using a parametrisation of the data of Mihele and Hastie (2000), which were obtained using a CA with a Teflon inlet and similar operating parameters to that of the CA used here. Unpublished measurements made at the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in Mainz (Thomas Klüpfel, personal communication) using a Teflon inlet showed a nearly identical response of the chemical amplification factor with respect to water to that observed by Mihele and Hastie (2000). Investigations using a different experimental technique and with an inlet made from plexiglass by Reichert (2000) (see also Reichert et al., 2003) found a much greater sensitivity to water vapour. The interpretation of the various studies is complicated by the fact that Reichert used a different material for the inlet, and a different experimental technique to measure the water effect. Reichert et al. (2003) suggest that the water effect is not solely due to wall loss but is due to reactions involving water complexes and CO or NO. They use a model to reproduce both the measurements of Reichert et al. and of Mihele and Hastie (1998). The model results help to validate the data of Mihele and Hastie (2000) for a chemical amplifier with similar inlet parameters to the chemical amplifier used during HOPE. Further studies are definitely required to characterise the effect of moisture more accurately and to determine its cause, and further measurements using the chemical amplifier most definitely require the water dependency to be determined directly. The accuracy of the measurements is about $\pm 60\%$ at 50% relative humidity and is better when the air is drier. The data from the HOPE 2000 campaign presented here were measured at relative humidities between 25 and 50%. The average 2σ detection limit was about 6 pptv at nighttime and increased to 9 pptv during the day.

Ambient C₂–C₁₀ NMHC mixing ratios were measured online using two GC-systems operating simultaneously. During the period from 17 to 20 June, measurements of 64 species (see Table 3) were made every one to three hours during daytime. Both GCs share a common intake system in which ambient air is continuously flushed through a 10 m long, 4 cm i.d. glass tube (Duran, Schott Glasswerke, Mainz, Germany) at a flow rate of $1\text{ m}^3\text{ min}^{-1}$ using a fan installed at the downstream end of the tube. Samples were transferred to each GC system from the centre of the air inlet flow through a silica-lined stainless steel tube (1 m, 1/8" o.d., SILCOS-TEEL, Restek Corp., Bellefonte, PA, USA).

The first GC system (GC-1, Varian 3600 CX) is used to detect light NMHCs (C₂–C₈) and is described in detail in Plass-Dülmer et al. (2002). Ambient air samples (typically 750 cm^3) are passed through heated stainless steel tubes

erving as an effective ozone trap and a Nafion dryer for water vapour removal before the NMHC compounds are cryogenically trapped on glass beads cooled to 85 K. After cryotrapping, the sample is desorbed at 473 K onto an $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{KCl}$ GC column (50 m, 0.53 mm i.d.). Following chromatographic separation, the individual compounds are detected by a flame ionisation detector (FID).

The second system (GC-2, Varian 3400CX) is optimised for the detection of $\text{C}_5\text{--C}_{13}$ NMHCs including isoprene and monoterpenes, and is similar to systems that have been successfully used by other groups for measuring these compounds (Helmig et al., 1998; Goldan et al., 1995; Riemer et al., 1994). Its main components are an ozone scrubber, an adsorption trap, a cryo-focussing unit, a gas chromatograph and a FID/MS detector. An air sample is taken from the main intake line at a flow rate of $50\text{--}80\text{ ml min}^{-1}$ and passes through a glass fibre filter impregnated with $\text{Na}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}_2$ to remove ozone (Helmig et al., 1998). In a sample preconcentration trap (1/8" o.d. and 30 cm length, SPT, Varian Inc.) NMHCs are adsorbed onto Carboxen B (40/60 mesh, Supelco Inc.) at 303 K. The sample is desorbed at 503 K in a helium carrier gas flow of 30 ml min^{-1} , and re-focussed again at 77 K in a silcosteel capillary (0.28 mm i.d., 20 cm). After desorption at 453 K, NMHC are injected onto a BPX-5 column (50 m, 0.22 mm i.d.) in a helium carrier gas flow of 1.8 ml min^{-1} . All materials in contact with the sample gas flow have inert surfaces, e.g. silcosteel, fused silica, and PTFE, and the Valco multiport valves (423 K, VICI CH) are made of stainless steel and Valcon-E. Chromatographic separation is achieved by using a temperature programme with an initial isothermal phase (283 K, 10 min) followed by a temperature ramp of 6 K/min to 511 K. The column effluent is split to an FID and an ion trap mass spectrometer (ITMS, Varian) at a fixed ratio of approximately 4:1. Quantification is based on the integration of selected mass peaks of characteristic fragment ions such as $m/z=136$ for some of the terpene compounds, and measurements of different calibration gas mixtures on a regular basis. By using characteristic mass chromatograms for quantification, the technique is basically a two-dimensional GC technique with significantly improved compound identification and quantification capabilities compared to a conventional one-dimensional GC.

A detailed quality assurance and quality control procedure has been developed for GC-2 similar to that described by Plass-Dülmer et al. (2002) for the measurements of light NMHC. It includes a thorough characterisation and optimisation of the system combined with frequent checks of the system's performance by measurements of standards, reference gases and zero gas. The monoterpenes are the most difficult of the $\text{C}_5\text{--C}_{13}$ NMHCs to measure for the following reasons: (1) they are highly reactive towards other constituents of air, especially ozone, (2) they may be subject to rearrangement reactions during concentration and thermal desorption, and (3) compounds with relatively low vapour pressures, e.g. 1,8-cineol, may partially be lost by adsorption on surfaces. The

GC system used during the HOPE campaign has been thoroughly tested by direct measurements of individual monoterpenes and a terpene mixture (12 different monoterpenes at approximately 10 ppbv in N_2), and by standard addition measurements. The latter involved adding a small amount of an individual terpene or a terpene mixture to ambient air just in front of the silcosteel sample line. Artefacts arising from the various error sources outlined above were observed for several terpenes, however, they did not generally exceed 30% (see the corresponding accuracies in Table 3). Sabinene showed substantial decomposition and its measurement was estimated to have an uncertainty of 60%. Products of the decomposition of sabinene in the analytical system were identified as p-cymene, α - and γ -terpinene. For this reason, and due to their low concentrations, the measurements of ambient α - and γ -terpinene were considered to have an uncertainty of 100% and 50%, respectively. Consequently, α -terpinene data were discarded from the HOPE 2000 data set. Overall, the accuracies ($2\text{-}\sigma$) of most of the analysed NMHCs are better than 20% or a few pptv (Table 3). Detection limits are generally less than 10 pptv, and for the majority of compounds lie below 1–3 pptv.

$\text{C}_5\text{--C}_8$ hydrocarbons are measured by both GC systems. As part of the quality control procedure, the concentrations of several compounds measured by both systems, including isoprene, have been compared and the measurements agreed within the respective uncertainty ranges for both systems. The measurement results presented in this paper represent the $\text{C}_5\text{--C}_{13}$ mixing ratios measured by the GC-2 system and the corresponding mixing ratios for $\text{C}_2\text{--C}_4$ hydrocarbons from the GC-1 system interpolated temporally to the corresponding measurement times of the GC-2 measurements. This procedure was chosen since isoprene and monoterpenes (both measured by GC-2) had the largest influence on the concentrations of OH and RO_x .

3 Measurement Results

The results from the measurements during the intensive phase, 18 to 21 June, 2000, are presented in Figs. 2 to 4. The OH concentrations and the mixing ratios of RO_x , ozone, NO, NO_2 , H_2O_2 , ROOH, CO and SO_2 are shown in Fig. 2. Figure 3 shows the most important meteorological parameters for the same time interval. The mixing ratios of the most relevant NMHCs or groups of NMHCs are shown in Fig. 4. The maximum daily temperature exceeded 25°C on each day except for 18 June. Clear skies associated with synoptic high pressure conditions resulted in intense insolation and strong photochemical activity on each of the four days. Consequently, the profiles of O_3 , RO_x , OH, NO, isoprene and the terpenes all exhibit a strong diurnal behaviour. At nighttime, the station was situated above the boundary layer, so that ozone mixing ratios typically remained above 50 ppbv, and NO_2 mixing ratios below 2 ppbv.

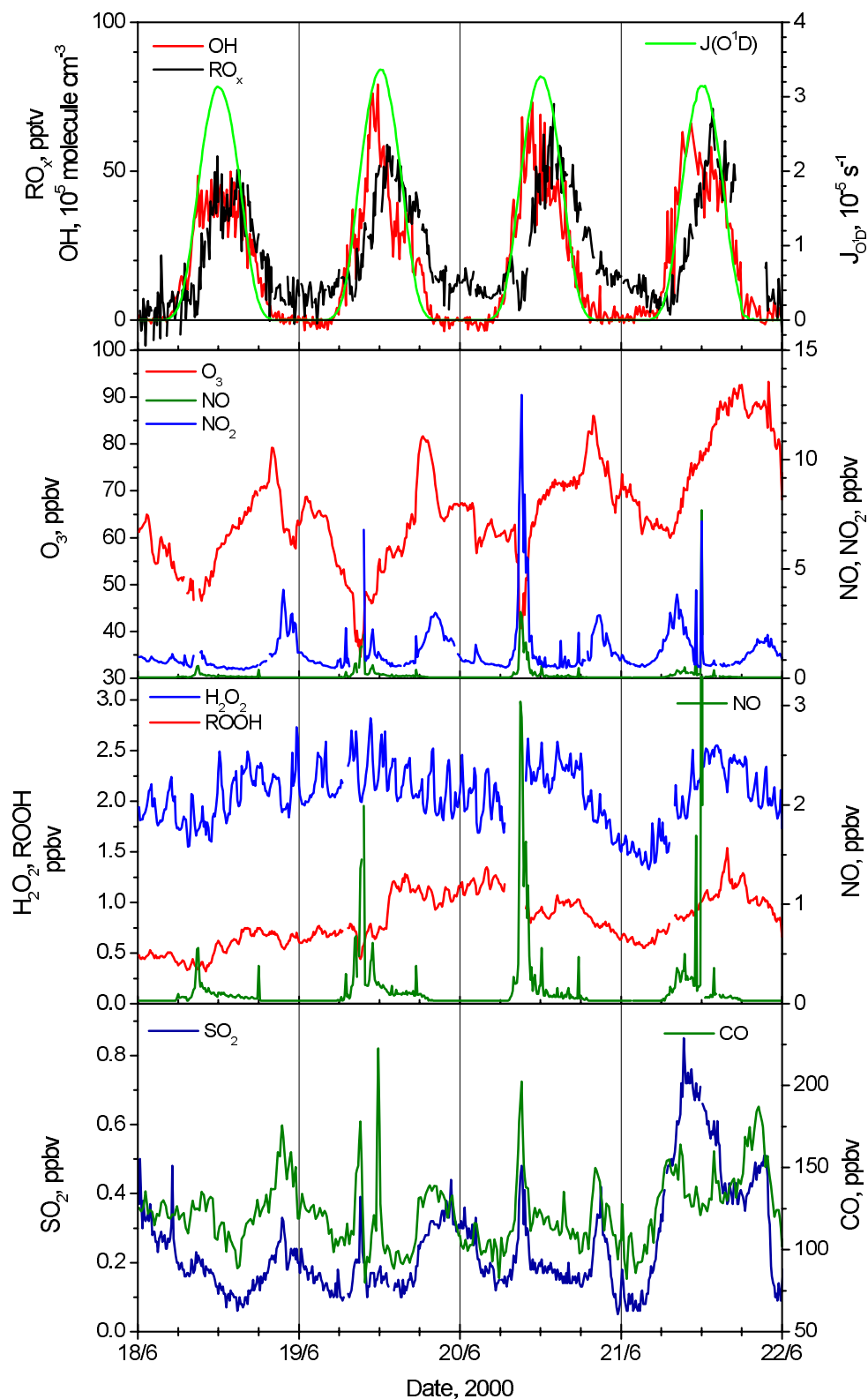


Fig. 2. Concentration of OH and mixing ratios of RO_x, ozone, NO, NO₂, H₂O₂, ROOH, CO and SO₂ measured at Hohenpeissenberg during the period 18 to 21 June, 2000. Data gaps are due to instrument calibration. The NO mixing ratio is included in two different panels at different scales (the peak NO mixing ratios are cut off in the lower panel).

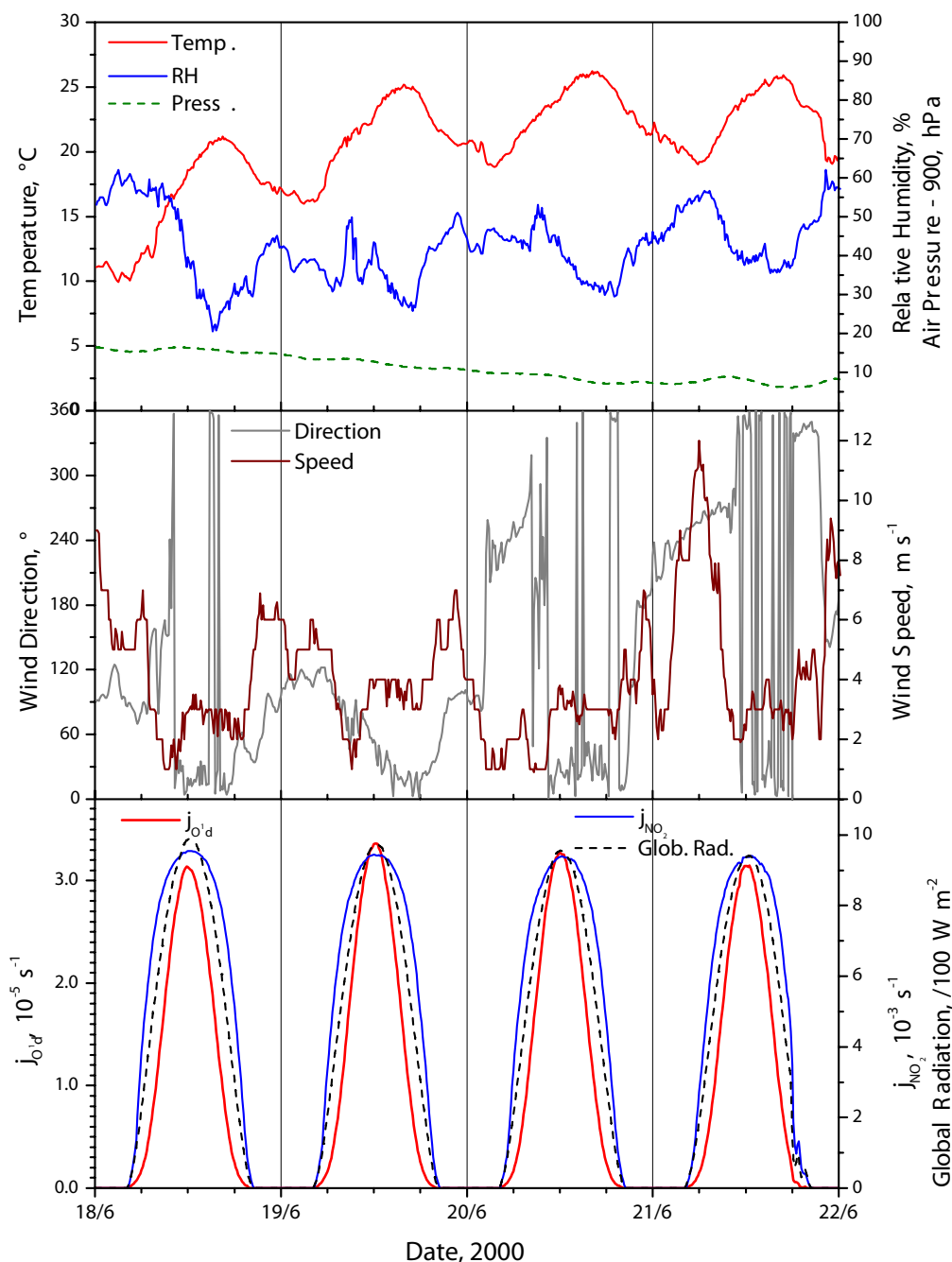


Fig. 3. Meteorological parameters at Hohenpeissenberg during the period 18 to 21 June, 2000.

The diurnal profiles of several trace gases provided evidence of significant vertical air mass transport between about 8:00 and 11:00 CET on each of the four days considered. During these events, air arriving at the measurement site due to convective lifting of the boundary layer was enriched in a number of trace gases with surface sources. This occurred most obviously on June 19 and 20, as shown by the corresponding mixing ratios of NO and NO₂, some of the NMHCs, especially the biogenic terpenes and isoprene, and

– to a lesser extent – of CO and SO₂. A corresponding dip in the O₃ mixing ratio can be attributed to titration of O₃ at the elevated NO mixing ratios and to O₃ deposition. This interpretation is further supported by a corresponding increase in relative humidity on most days and the minimum in horizontal wind velocities on all days except 21 June (see Fig. 3).

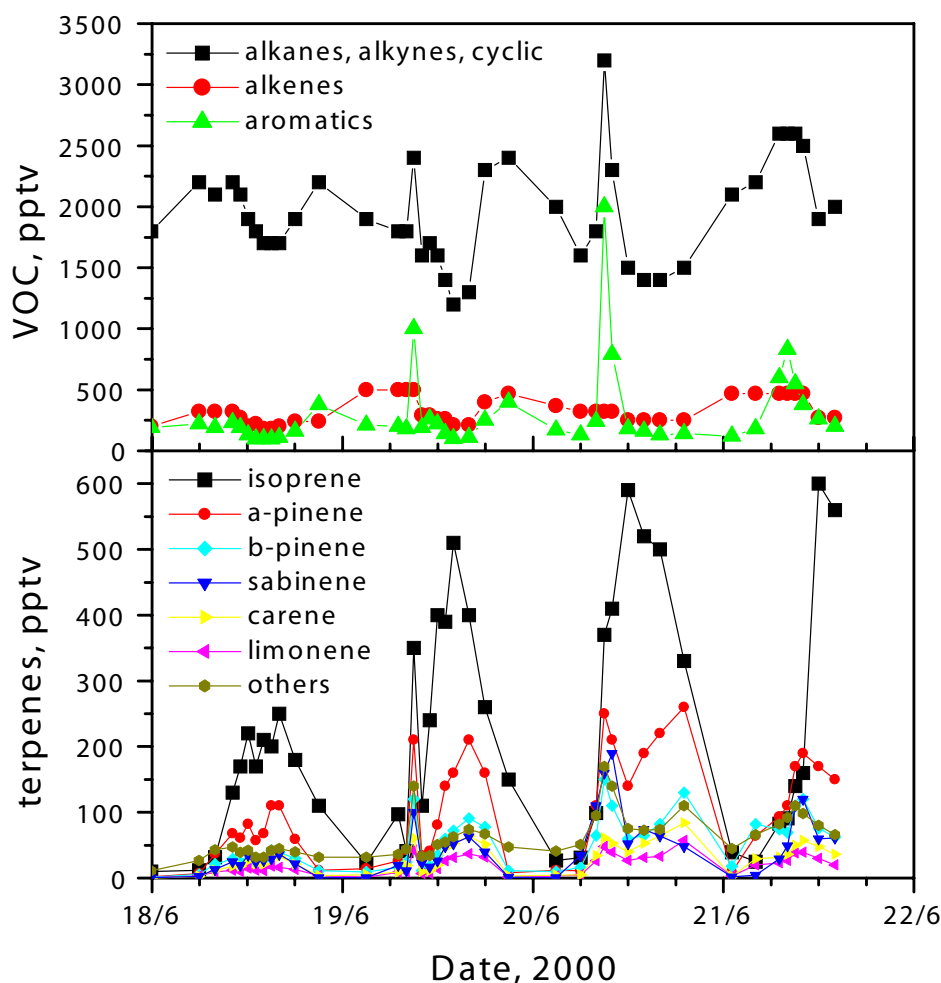


Fig. 4. Mixing ratios for various groups of NMHCs at Hohenpeissenberg during the period 18 to 21 June, 2000. The group labelled alkenes in the upper panel includes neither isoprene nor the terpenes.

During some evenings, peaks in the mixing ratios of several trace gases were observed in conjunction with changes in wind speed and direction. These represent a deviation from their respective diurnal profiles and suggest that large scale advection of polluted air masses occurred after sunset. The mixing ratios of O_3 , SO_2 , CO and NO_2 all showed pronounced peaks between about 18:00 and 22:00 CET. The O_3 mixing ratios always increased first, and later dropped again at the same time as the NO_2 mixing ratio increased.

The OH concentration reached a maximum between 09:00 and 12:00 CET (corresponds to 8:44 and 11:44 true local time, respectively) and generally dropped to below the detection limit of $4 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ after 19:00–20:00 CET in the evening. On 19 and 20 June, OH reached maximum daytime concentrations of $7 - 8 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$. As can be seen in the upper panel of Fig. 2, the shape of the diurnal profile of the OH concentration was similar to that of j_{O_1D} in the early morning and late afternoon on all days. However, the two profiles deviated considerably around local midday.

Maximum RO_x mixing ratios occurred at around 14:00 CET and rose from about 55 pptv on the 18th to around 70 pptv on both 20 and 21 June (Fig. 2). These levels are somewhat higher than some recent studies (e.g. Platt et al., 2002; Tan et al., 2001), however they lie within the range reported in the literature (e.g., 300 pptv reported by Cantrell et al., 1993). Most previously reported RO_x measurements made using the chemical amplifier were not corrected for the effect of water vapour, so that the actual mixing ratios would be higher than the reported values. Levels of up to 10 pptv RO_x were observed at night, and were probably caused by enhanced night-time oxidation of NMHC by the nitrate radical and by O_3 , and the slow loss rate of the peroxy radicals in the absence of NO. The reaction rate with NO_3 and O_3 is much faster for secondary alkenes, such as isoprene and the terpenes, than for other alkenes and other NMHCs (Atkinson, 1997). Although no NO_3 measurements were available, alkene measurements showed that concentrations of a few pptv to 150 pptv of individual biogenic NMHCs were present

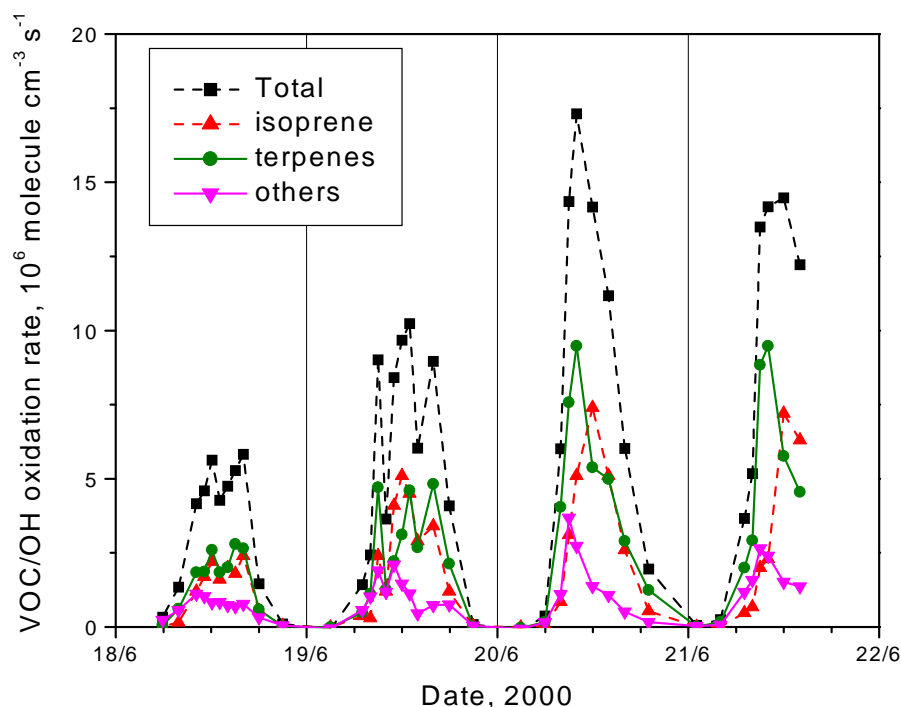


Fig. 5. Plot of the contributions of isoprene, terpenes, and the other NMHCs to the total oxidation rate of NMHC by OH.

at night, particularly of isoprene. Mixing ratios for the sum of all measured anthropogenic alkenes reached nearly 500 pptv during the early morning on 19 and 21 June. This may have allowed significant RO_x production by night-time oxidation.

The profiles of various groups of NMHCs are shown in Fig. 4. The upper panel shows the total concentrations for three groups of NMHCs which are predominantly anthropogenic in origin: alkenes (not including isoprene or terpenes), aromatic compounds, and a group including alkanes, alkynes and cyclic NMHCs. The profiles of isoprene and various measured terpenes are shown in the lower panel. These exhibit marked diurnal variations consistent with their strong biogenic emission sources. The biogenic emissions of isoprene increase with light intensity and temperature, whereas emissions of monoterpenes are only dependent on temperature (Guenther et al., 1993). This results in a maximum mixing ratio of up to 600 pptv around noon for isoprene, and a broad maximum in the afternoon for the monoterpenes, e.g. of up to 200 pptv for α -pinene. The nighttime mixing ratios of terpenes decreased to below 20 pptv because the nighttime biogenic emissions mostly took place within the boundary layer. The breakup of the nocturnal inversion layer in the morning led to a peak in the terpene mixing ratios between 8:00 and 11:00 CET.

OH oxidation rates (defined by $k_i \times [\text{NMHC}_i] \times [\text{OH}]$, where k_i is the rate constant, see Table 3) were calculated for individual NMHCs on the basis of the OH and NMHC measurements. The resulting total NMHC oxidation rate

due to OH is plotted in Fig. 5, along with the individual rates for isoprene and the terpenes. As is to be expected from the OH profile, the highest oxidation rate occurred during morning and around noon, between approximately 09:00 and 13:00 CET. The highest conversion rate for an individual compound was observed for isoprene, and reached over 7×10^6 molecules $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ on 20 June. The total oxidation rate of the sum of all monoterpenes was also relatively high, and was equal or greater than the total conversion rate of all other NMHCs taken together.

Although no NO_3 measurements were available, it can be assumed that NO_3 radical concentrations built up after sunset from the reaction of NO_2 with ozone. The NMHC data show evidence for the presence of NO_3 radicals, since the rapid decline after 18:00 CET of those biogenic VOC which are less reactive towards ozone, e.g. isoprene, β -pinene, camphene and 3-carene, cannot be explained by OH and ozone chemistry alone. Consequently, it is likely that RO_x production from NO_3 -alkene reactions contributed to the observed nighttime RO_x levels. Not all the peroxy radical products of NO_3 -alkene reactions will be detected by the chemical amplifier, as radical amplification is prevented by the thermal decomposition of the alkoxy radicals of certain β -nitrooxy peroxy radicals. Model results by Ashbourn et al. (1998) do indicate that 70–80% of ambient nighttime peroxy radicals would be detected by a chemical amplifier. Thus it is expected that these peroxy radicals will also contribute to the nighttime peroxy radical mixing ratio measured during

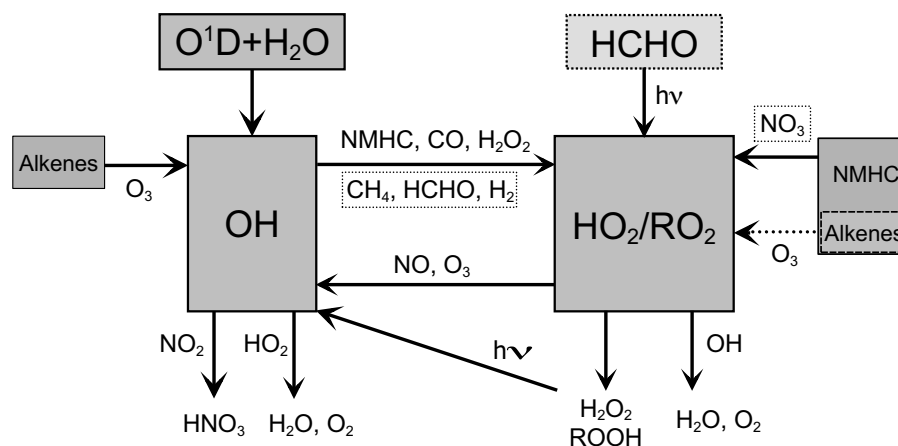


Fig. 6. Block diagram of the chemistry considered in the photostationary state calculations. Components whose concentrations were approximated are indicated by dashed boxes.

HOPE. This will be further discussed in the following section.

The time series for the mixing ratios of H_2O_2 and organic hydroperoxides show more or less regular variation, however no such variations were observed during concurrent calibration measurements. Thus, although the reason for these variations is not yet understood, we could find no evidence that the fluctuations were caused by instrumental artifacts. The impact of these compounds on the OH and RO_x radicals is nevertheless rather small.

4 Discussion

4.1 Photostationary state radical balance model

In order to investigate the consistency of the measurements and our current understanding of atmospheric radical chemistry, the concentrations of OH and total RO_x^* were calculated using simple uncoupled balance equations. The intention was not to run a full-scale model, but rather to perform a simple check of the consistency of our measurements and to investigate various features in the daily profiles of both OH and RO_x . With the limited number of compounds measured in the present study, a full model including biogenic VOC chemistry would require substantial assumptions and simplifications and would result in substantial uncertainties with respect to the calculated concentrations. The measured data from 18–21 June were used as input parameters for solving the balance equations.

Photostationary state conditions were assumed for each of the radical species under consideration, i.e. both OH and RO_x^* were assumed to be sufficiently short-lived that they remain in steady state with the ambient conditions. Under pho-

tostationary state conditions, the production and loss rates for each of the radicals are assumed to be equal.

$$\frac{d[\text{X}]}{dt} \approx 0 = P_{\text{X}} - L_{\text{X}} \quad (15)$$

where P_{X} represents the total production rate for radical X, and L_{X} is the corresponding loss rate. The balance equation for each radical can then be solved, and the concentration of that species can be calculated when the input parameters are known. The concentrations of all measured trace gases, including radicals other than the specific radical under consideration, were used as input for calculating each of the radicals. Thus, the measured OH concentration was used to calculate the RO_x^* mixing ratio, and the measured RO_x mixing ratio to calculate the OH concentration. As discussed above, RO_x is effectively equal to RO_x^* and will be used to refer to both measured RO_x and calculated RO_x^* . Figure 6 is a block diagram showing the chemical interactions included in this simple uncoupled balance-model. Heterogeneous loss was not considered in the balance since it was assumed to be negligible. In recent studies, heterogeneous loss was calculated to reduce the RO_x concentration by up to about 15% (Carslaw et al., 2002, 2001; Cantrell et al., 1997a).

The corresponding radical concentration was calculated for the times for which measured NMHC data were available. The results of the model calculations are compared with the measurements and discussed in the following section. The reactions and rate coefficients included in the radical balance calculations are listed in Table 2. The rate coefficients for the oxidation of individual hydrocarbon species by OH are listed in Table 3. The primary production rate of OH (denoted $P(\text{OH})$, No. 1 in Table 2) was calculated using measured ambient O_3 and H_2O concentrations and the measured photolysis rate of O_3 , $j_{\text{O}^1\text{D}}$. The photolysis rates for H_2O_2 and HCHO were calculated using the System for Transfer of Atmospheric Radiation (STAR) transfer model developed by

Table 2. Reactions and rate coefficients used in the photostationary state calculations of the radical concentrations. The role played by the relevant reaction in the respective radical cycle is denoted by P for Production and L for Loss. All rate coefficients have been calculated for a relevant average temperature of 293 K using the temperature dependent rate equations from Atkinson et al. (2001) (where available; otherwise $k(298)$ was used). Rates for termolecular reactions were calculated for P=908 hPa

No.	Reaction	Role in cycle for			$k(293\text{K})$ $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
		OH	HO ₂	RO ₂	
PHOTOLYSIS REACTIONS					
1.	$\text{O}_3 + h\nu \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2\text{O}} 2\text{OH} + \text{O}_2$	P			measured ^a
2.	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \longrightarrow 2\text{OH}$	P			$j_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}$, STAR Model
3.	$\text{HCHO} + h\nu \xrightarrow{\text{O}_2} 2\text{HO}_2 + \text{CO}$		P		j_{HCHO} , STAR Model
OH REACTIONS					
4.	$\text{OH} + \text{RH} \longrightarrow \text{R} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{O}_2} \text{RO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	L		P	various ^b
5.	$\text{OH} + \text{HCHO} \longrightarrow \text{HCO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{O}_2} \text{HO}_2 + \text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	L	P		9.2×10^{-12}
6.	$\text{OH} + \text{CO} \longrightarrow \text{H} + \text{CO}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{O}_2} \text{HO}_2 + \text{CO}_2$	L	P		2.0×10^{-13c}
7.	$\text{OH} + \text{NO}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{M}} \text{HNO}_3$	L			1.5×10^{-11}
8.	$\text{OH} + \text{H}_2 \longrightarrow \text{H} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{O}_2} \text{HO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	L	P		6.7×10^{-15}
9.	$\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{HO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	L	P		1.7×10^{-12}
10.	$\text{OH} + \text{HO}_2 \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$	L	L		1.1×10^{-10}
HO ₂ REACTIONS					
11.	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{NO} \longrightarrow \text{OH} + \text{NO}_2$	P	L		8.8×10^{-12}
12.	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{O}_3 \longrightarrow \text{OH} + 2\text{O}_2$	P	L		2.0×10^{-15}
13.	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{HO}_2 \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2$		L		5.0×10^{-12}
14.	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{RO}_2 \longrightarrow \text{ROOH} + \text{O}_2$		L	L	1.6×10^{-11d}
14a.	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{CH}_3\text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OOH} + \text{O}_2$		L	L	5.2×10^{-12}
RO ₂ REACTIONS					
15a.	$\text{RO}_2 + \text{NO} \longrightarrow \text{RO} + \text{NO}_2$			L	9.2×10^{-12e}
15a'.	$\text{CH}_3\text{O}_2 + \text{NO} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{O} + \text{NO}_2$			L	7.5×10^{-12}
15b.	$\text{RO}_2 + \text{NO} \longrightarrow \text{RONO}_2$			L	
16.	$\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2 \longrightarrow \text{ROOR}$			L	
16a.	$\text{CH}_3\text{O}_2 + \text{CH}_3\text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OOCH}_3$			L	3.7×10^{-13}
ALKENE REACTIONS					
17.	$\text{O}_3 + \text{Alkene} \longrightarrow \text{RO}_2 + \text{products}$			P	various
18.	$\text{NO}_3 + \text{Alkene} \longrightarrow \text{RO}_2 + \text{products}$			P	various

^a Primary production of OH calculated from measured values; denoted P(OH)

^b see Table 3

^c for P=908 hPa

^d for $\text{R} \geq \text{C}_2$; recommended value for $\text{R} \geq \text{C}_3$ from Atkinson (1997) was used in Scenario IV; the C_2 reaction rate was not considered.

^e for $\text{R} \geq \text{C}_2$; recommended value from Atkinson (1997) was used in Scenario IV.

Ruggaber et al. (1994) and further modified by Schwander et al. (2001). OH production due to the reaction of alkenes with ozone was calculated using the corresponding radical yields compiled by Atkinson (1997).

To solve the equations exactly, the identity and concentration of each of the various organic peroxy radicals present in the air sample would have to be known. Since such detailed measurements are not possible with currently available techniques, a set of assumptions about the chemical behaviour and composition of the peroxy radicals were made and a basic scenario for the calculations was established. The effects

of these assumptions on the model results will be discussed in Sect. 4.4.

In the base case scenario, the model was simplified by assuming that HO₂ and CH₃O₂ were the only peroxy radicals present, and that they were present in equal concentrations.

$$[\text{HO}_2]_{\text{model}} = [\text{RO}_2]_{\text{model}} = 0.5[\text{RO}_x]_{\text{measured}} \text{ for OH} \quad (16)$$

$$[\text{HO}_2]_{\text{model}} = [\text{RO}_2]_{\text{model}} = 0.5[\text{RO}_2^*]_{\text{model}} \text{ for RO}_2 \quad (17)$$

Measurements by Mihelcic et al. (1993) and Mihelcic et al. (2001) have shown that for daytime conditions, HO₂ and

Table 3. Daytime average hydrocarbon mixing ratios, measurement accuracies, and OH reaction rate constants used in the steady state model calculations

Substance Name	Average Mixing Ratio	Accuracy	$k_{\text{OH}}(293 \text{ K}^a, 908 \text{ hPa})$	Ref.
	07:00–17:00 CET			
	pptv	pptv	$\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	
methane	1.842 ppmv ^b		6.4×10^{-15}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
ethyne	202.1	31.5	7.8×10^{-13}	Atkinson (1994)
ethene	162.0	11.3	8.99×10^{-12}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
ethane	931.1	52.7	2.36×10^{-13}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
propyne	5.0	2.5	5.9×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1994)
propene	58.9	7.1	3.0×10^{-11}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
propane	193.0	11.2	1.07×10^{-12}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
1,3-butadiene	24.6	3.2	6.83×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
trans-2-butene	8.3	7.5	6.60×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
1-butene	2.8	4.2	3.22×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
2-methylpropene	23.3	22.0	5.28×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
cis-2-butene	5.2	5.0	5.79×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
2-methylpropane	50.3	3.2	2.15×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
isoprene	308.8	67.2	1.03×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
n-butane	86.0	5.0	2.34×10^{-12}	Atkinson et al. (1999)
cyclopentane	3.9	0.8	4.92×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
trans-2-pentene	0.8	1.6	6.7×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
1-pentene	6.2	3.0	3.14×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
cis-2-pentene	0.7	1.7	6.50×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
2-methylbutane	188.9	12.0	3.7×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1997)
n-pentane	67.5	5.1	3.91×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
benzene	69.0	6.0	1.17×10^{-12}	Semadeni et al. (1995)
methylcyclopentane	11.8	2.4	6.8×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
cyclohexane	13.3	2.1	7.10×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
1-hexene	3.4	1.2	3.70×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
n-hexane	15.3	1.4	5.40×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
2-methylpentane	37.3	2.8	5.30×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1997)
3-methylpentane	23.5	1.9	5.40×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1997)
2,3-dimethylbutane	4.8	1.7	5.75×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
toluene	106.6	7.1	6.4×10^{-12}	Semadeni et al. (1995)
methylcyclohexane	4.1	0.8	1.00×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
2-methylhexane	9.3	1.4	5.10×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
2,3-dimethylpentane	4.2	1.6	6.10×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
n-heptane	15.7	1.4	6.98×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
ethylbenzene	30.4	1.8	7.10×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1994)
m,p-xylene	68.8	8.0	1.90×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
o-xylene	29.9	2.1	1.37×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
n-octane	5.0	0.9	8.60×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
3-methylheptane	3.9	0.7	8.56×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
4-methylheptane	5.5	1.0	8.56×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)

^a A star denotes a rate coefficient for 298 K^b Average value for June 2002 measured at Schauinsland, see text

Table 3. continued

Substance Name	Average Mixing Ratio 07:00–17:00 CET pptv	Accuracy pptv	$k_{\text{OH}}(293 \text{ K}^a, 908 \text{ hPa})$ $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Ref.
n-propylbenzene	2.6	1.0	5.70×10^{-12} *	Atkinson (1994)
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	2.1	0.4	5.75×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	10.4	1.9	3.75×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
m-ethyltoluene	6.9	2.1	1.71×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
p-ethyltoluene	3.3	1.0	1.14×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1994)
n-nonane	9.6	2.9	9.91×10^{-12}	Atkinson (1997)
i-butylbenzene	0.6	0.6	8.17×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
sec-butylbenzene	2.7	1.1	8.17×10^{-12} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
p-cymene	11.5	3.5	1.51×10^{-11}	Corchnoy and Atkinson (1990)
1-methyl-3-propylbenzene	1.4	0.4	1.47×10^{-11} *	Kwok and Atkinson (1995)
α -pinene	131.3	39.5	5.51×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
β -pinene	62.0	19.2	8.05×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
camphene	22.7	7.4	5.3×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
sabinene	59.2	35.0	1.17×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
myrcene	15.9	5.7	2.15×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
3-carene	38.3	14.0	8.8×10^{-11}	Atkinson (1997)
α -terpinene ^c	2.7	2.7	3.63×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
terpinolene	2.9	1.7	2.25×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
γ -terpinene	5.4	2.7	1.77×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
limonene	23.9	7.5	1.71×10^{-10}	Atkinson (1997)
tricyclene	10.0	3.4	2.86×10^{-12} *	Atkinson and Aschmann (1992)
1,8-cineol	29.2	14.5	1.11×10^{-11} *	Corchnoy and Atkinson (1990)
n-undecane	6.1	2.4	1.29×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
n-dodecane	2.3	0.7	1.39×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)
n-tridecane	1.3	0.6	1.60×10^{-11} *	Atkinson (1997)

^a A star denotes a rate coefficient for 298 K

^c Due to its high inaccuracy, α -terpinene was excluded from the data set for the model calculations, see description of the NMHC system for discussion.

RO_2 are often present in nearly equal amounts in the continental atmosphere. As the concentration of OH is typically two orders of magnitude less than that of HO_2 , the contribution of OH to the measured RO_x concentration is negligible. It is to be expected that CH_3O_2 constitutes a significant fraction of the organic radicals, as it is a product of the oxidation chains for most hydrocarbon species. Consequently, the reaction rates for the methyl peroxy radical, CH_3O_2 (k_{14a} , k_{16a}) were used for reactions involving RO_2 .

The production of RO_x radicals via the oxidation of NMHCs by O_3 was not included in the base run. Ozonolysis of biogenic alkenes may lead to RO_x production (Atkinson, 1997), particularly at the high concentrations of both ozone and biogenic alkenes present during the day (see Figs. 2 and 4). However, the available kinetic data on NMHC ozonolysis does not readily allow the yields of HO_2 or RO_2 to be calculated. Using the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM), Carslaw et al. (2002) found that this source of RO_x made only a minor contribution to the total RO_x production (see also Sect. 4.4).

Measured concentrations were used for all trace gases in the model except for HCHO, CH_4 and H_2 , which were not measured. The concentration of CH_4 was approximated using the average value of 1.842 ppmv for June 2002 measured at the UBA station at Schauinsland in Southern Germany (Umweltbundesamt, 2001). An H_2 concentration of 500 ppbv, which is typical for the Northern Hemisphere (Novelli et al., 1999), was used to approximate the H_2 concentration. A constant mixing ratio of 3 ppbv was assumed for formaldehyde, HCHO, as a proxy for the oxygenated NMHCs. This assumption seems to be reasonable based on the concentrations of formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acetone, methylvinylketone, and methacrolein typically measured in rural environments under summertime conditions (e.g. Lamanna and Goldstein, 1999; Benning and Wahner, 1998; Goldan et al., 1997; Solberg et al., 1996; Montzka et al., 1995).

The uncertainties of radical concentrations calculated from numeric solutions of coupled balance equations have been estimated in previous studies using a Monte Carlo

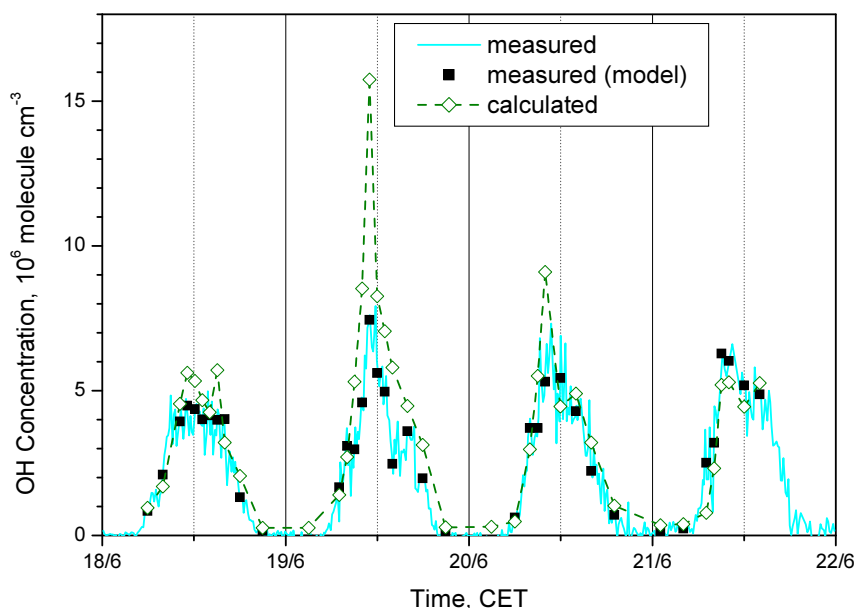


Fig. 7. Plot of the observed OH concentration and the concentration derived from photostationary state radical balance calculations for the period 18–21 June, 2000. The measured OH concentration is represented by the solid line. The OH concentration at the same time as the NMHC measurements are shown as solid squares.

approach (e.g. Thompson and Stewart, 1991). A simpler approach is used in the present study since the radical concentrations are calculated using uncoupled balance equations. This allows error propagation assuming independent error contributions to be applied. This includes the uncertainties of the trace gases measurements and the corresponding reaction rate constants, as well as errors due to the inherent model assumptions. During HOPE 2000, emissions from biogenic NMHC sources strongly influenced the local photochemistry. For this reason, substantial uncertainties in the calculations could have been produced due to (a) important NMHC compounds which were not included in the measurement programme, especially oxidation products of biogenic VOCs, and/or (b) the unknown speciation and chemistry of the peroxy radicals originating from the oxidation of biogenic VOCs. However, assessing the impact of these basically unknown parameters is highly uncertain and will be discussed in Sect. 4.4. As a first estimate, the uncertainty of the calculated radical concentrations are estimated here by assuming that the base case scenario is valid.

Major error contributions were due to (1) the uncertainty in the measured radical concentration used to constrain the balance equation, (2) the uncertainty in the turn-over-rate of the NMHC ($\sum k_i \times [\text{NMHC}_i]$) ($\sim 23\%$), and (3) the assumed HCHO concentration ($\sim 50\%$). The estimated nighttime concentration of NO (see Sect. 2) is uncertain by a factor of 2. The total uncertainties in the calculated concentrations of OH and RO_x are approximately 42% and 45% (2σ), respectively, calculated using the technique of error propagation. For nighttime conditions, the error in the calculated RO_x is

approximately 6 pptv. This is mainly due to the effect of OH concentrations below the detection limit.

The atmospheric lifetimes of OH and RO₂ were calculated on the basis of the respective modelled radical fluxes. The calculated lifetime of OH was ≤ 0.5 seconds throughout the four days considered using the model. The RO_x lifetime was much longer due to the lower reactivity of peroxy radicals. For daytime conditions, it was estimated to be less than 3 min, and for nighttime conditions (approximately 19:00 to 07:00 CET) the lifetime was less than 8 min for the base case. The RO₂ lifetime is expected to be even longer than this under real nighttime conditions, as HO₂ is removed more quickly than RO₂. HO₂ is the main nighttime sink of RO₂, so that following the drop in HO₂ mixing ratios RO₂ levels will drop much more slowly.

Modelling of the nighttime chemistry is complicated by the unknown production rate of RO_x via the oxidation of NMHCs by the nitrate radical (Reaction 18 in Table 2), and the production of OH from alkene-ozone reactions (Reaction 17 in Table 2). The nitrate radical was not measured during HOPE 2000. However, the production rate of NO₃ radicals can be calculated from the O₃ and NO₂ concentrations. During HOPE 2000, the lifetime of NO₃ radicals with respect to the reaction with NMHC was estimated to range from 25 s to 130 s at night, which is comparable or slightly longer than the lifetime of 20 s to 50 s estimated for the reaction of NO₃ with NO₂. The reaction of NO₃ with NO is of minor importance, since at 6 pptv NO the lifetime of NO₃ with regard to this reaction is more than 300 s. Since the nighttime temperature was about 20°C, N₂O₅ could not build up significantly

due to thermal decomposition. Consequently, heterogenous loss of N_2O_5 to aerosol particles was assumed to be a minor loss process for NO_3 compared to the reaction of NO_3 with NMHCs.

On the basis of these assumptions, the nighttime NO_3 mixing ratio is estimated to be in the range of 1–14 pptv with an average of 6 pptv. The upper limit for the RO_2 production rate due to reactions between NO_3 and NMHC was assumed to be equal to the NO_3 production rate. Nighttime RO_2 production rates were calculated to be on the order of $10^6 \text{ molecule cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$. During the early evening, the ratio between the amount of NO_3 lost due to the reaction with NO_2 and the amount lost due to the reaction with NMHC is highest, suggesting that RO_x production is most likely to be overestimated by the model at this time of the evening. This is also evident in Fig. 9. The NO_3 radical is quickly photolysed during daytime, so that the effect of RO_x production via NO_3 oxidation of NMHCs was only considered in the model for nighttime conditions.

4.2 OH balance

The measured OH concentrations are compared with the results of the photostationary state calculation for OH in Fig. 7. Considering the $2\text{-}\sigma$ accuracy of 39% in the OH measurements and the uncertainties in the model, the results agree well with measurements. While the agreement is good for 18, 20 and 21 June, the concentration of OH was overestimated on 19 June. During the late morning on the 19th, the difference between measured and modelled concentrations was relatively high: At 11:00 CET the measured OH concentration was $7.4 \times 10^6 \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$, and was overestimated by about 100% by the calculated concentration of $15.7 \times 10^6 \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$. The meteorological parameters, especially wind direction, and the measured chemical parameters do not suggest that there was any significant difference between the conditions on this specific day in comparison with the other three days. The OH balance as used here is most sensitive to the concentrations of NO and RO_x (see Fig. 8). Although the cause of the discrepancy on 19 June remains unclear, it is possible that an additional sink for OH was present during the late morning advection episode that is not accounted for in the model. On the other hand, the presence of a large unknown OH sink which was also a RO_x source could lead to an overestimate of the RO_x concentration.

The general shape of the OH diurnal profile, with a maximum in the late morning and lower concentrations in the afternoon, is well reproduced by the photostationary state calculations on all days. Both the calculated and the measured nighttime OH concentrations were always below the detection limit of $4 \times 10^5 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$. This is most likely due to the combined effect of a deviation of the HO_2/RO_2 partitioning ratio from 1:1 (as will be discussed in Sect. 4.4),

Table 4. Average contributions of individual source and sink reactions to the OH balance for the period 18–21 June 2000

	Daytime Average 7:00-17:00 CET $10^6 \text{ molec. cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Midday Average 12:00 CET $10^6 \text{ molec. cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$
SOURCES		
HO_2+NO	13.2	10.6
P(OH)	4.6	7.8
HO_2+O_3	0.95	1.3
P(H_2O_2)	0.5	0.7
$\text{O}_3+\text{Alkenes}$	1.1	1.1
Total Sources	20.2	21.4
SINKS		
NMHC	-7.4	-10.5
CO	-2.4	-2.9
CH_4 (1.842 ppmv)	-1.0	-1.2
HCHO (3 ppbv)	-2.6	-3.2
$\text{H}_2+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2+\text{HO}_2$	-0.8	-1.1
NO_2	-2.1	-1.2
Total Sinks	-16.2	-20.1

and of NO mixing ratios assumed to be at the detection limit of 6 pptv, which is probably too high.

In order to better understand the relative contributions of the individual sources and sinks to the diurnal profile of the OH concentration, their contributions were calculated using the measured trace gas concentrations (including RO_x) and are plotted in Fig. 8. The upper panel shows the contributions of the individual source terms to the total production rate; the lower panel shows the contributions of the sink terms. Table 4 gives the average daytime contribution of the source and sink reactions considered in the model, as well as the contribution at 12:00 CET averaged over the four days considered here.

The dominant source of OH radicals turned out to be the recycling of OH via the reaction of HO_2 radicals with NO. This was most pronounced during the late morning episodes of elevated NO_x mixing ratios, when over 50% of the OH radicals were produced by this pathway on average. During periods with relatively low NO mixing ratios below about 100 pptv (e.g., on 18 June and on the afternoons of 20 and 21 June) the primary production of OH via the photolysis of O_3 was comparable to the amount of OH recycled from HO_2 . Overall, other relevant reactions, e.g. the reaction between HO_2 and O_3 , alkenes and O_3 , and the photolysis of H_2O_2 , made only minor contributions to the OH concentration.

The main sink for OH was its reaction with NMHCs. This reaction accounted for an average of 46% of OH loss between 7:00 and 17:00 CET and for 53% loss at 12:00 CET. The loss of OH due to the oxidation of CO was nearly equal to the loss to be expected for an assumed 3 ppbv HCHO. The

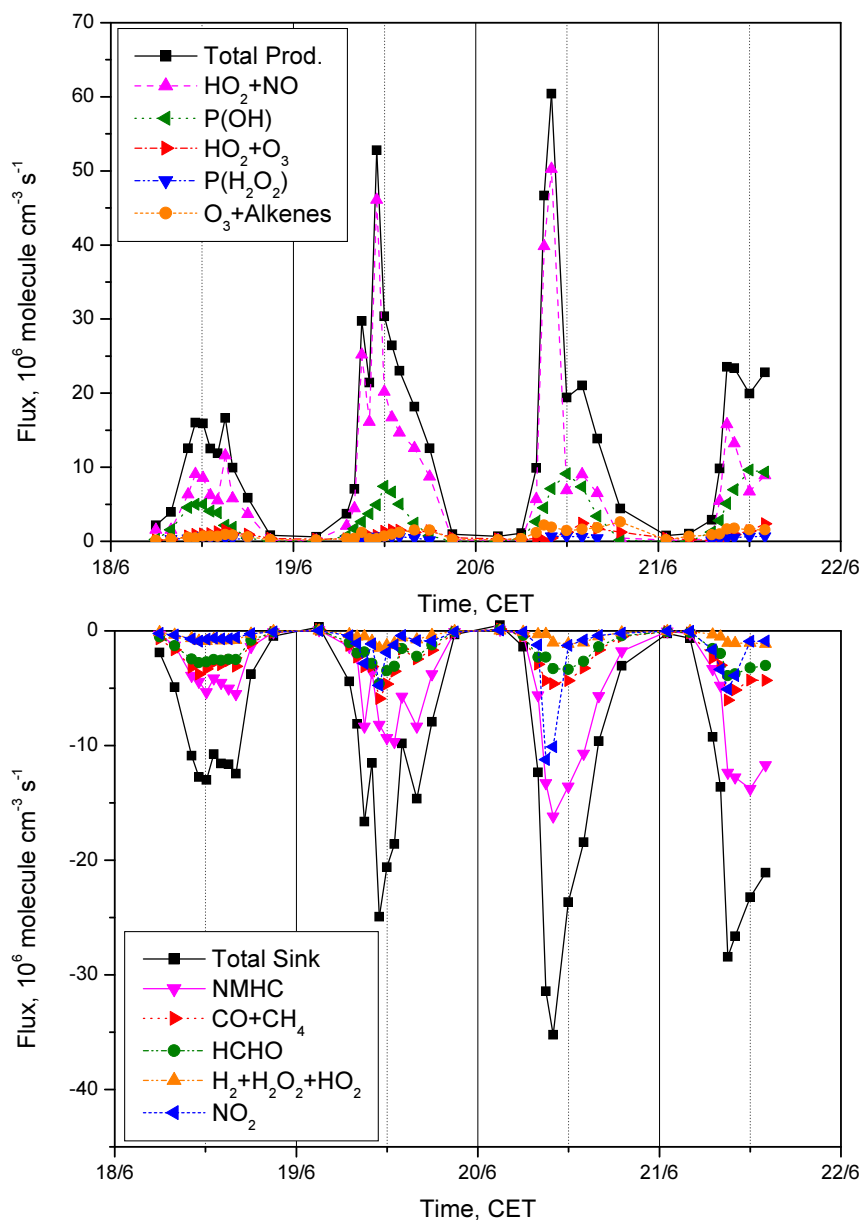


Fig. 8. Plot of the calculated contributions of various sources and sinks of OH for the period 18–21 June, 2000. The scales are different for the two panels.

loss of OH due to the oxidation of CH_4 was even less significant, as was the loss due to reactions with H_2 , H_2O_2 and HO_2 . The reaction of OH with NO_2 was generally only a minor sink, but during the mid-morning advection of polluted air to the measurement site it accounted for up to 25% of the OH loss.

The OH sources and sinks derived from measured concentrations shown in Fig. 8 were often not in balance. This imbalance is the origin of the deviations observed in Fig. 7 between the calculated and the measured OH concentrations. OH concentrations showed a net maximum in the late morn-

ing due to the presence of strongly enhanced levels of NO. This tends to shift radicals from RO_x to OH via reactions 11 and 15 in Table 2. In the afternoon hours, however, NO mixing ratios were much lower and the mixing ratios of biogenic hydrocarbons showed a broad maximum. Taken together, these factors caused an increasing shift from OH towards RO_x (see following section).

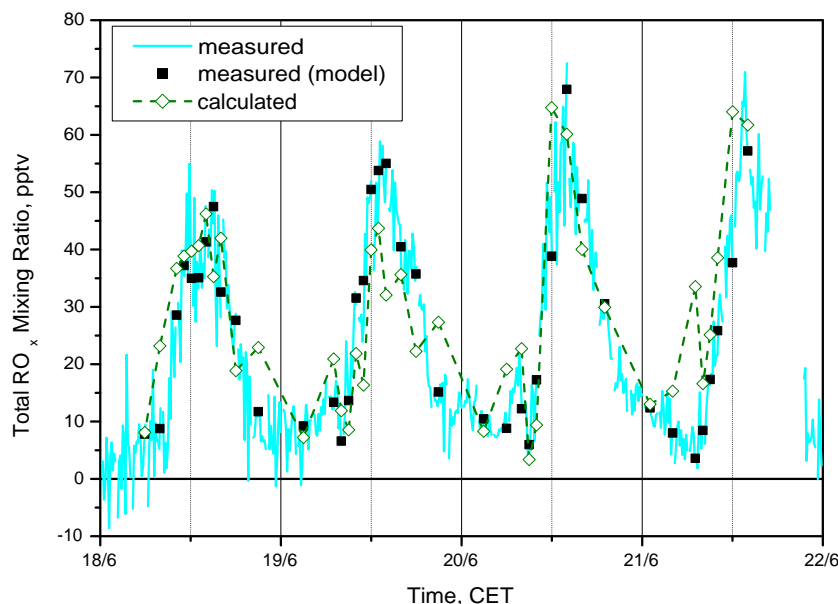


Fig. 9. Plot of the observed RO_x mixing ratio and the results of the photostationary state radical balance calculations for the period 18–22 June, 2000. Observations made at the time of the NMHC measurements are shown as solid squares.

4.3 RO_x balance

The results for the photostationary state model calculations of RO_x are compared with the measured RO_x mixing ratios in Fig. 9. The agreement between the measured and modelled RO_x mixing ratios was very good for all days except 19 June, considering the uncertainties in both the present simple model approach and the RO_x measurements. Most of the details in the measured RO_x profiles are well reproduced by the model. The dip in the mixing ratio for RO_x at about 8:00 CET is reproduced well on both 19 and 20 June. This dip in the RO_x mixing ratio coincided with a rapid increase in the OH concentration in conjunction with the advection of NO_x enriched boundary layer air from the valley to the measurement site.

The agreement between calculations and measurements for both OH and RO_x was not as good on 19 June as on the other days, with deviations for RO_x of up to 23 pptv. This discrepancy was not only observed during the late morning as on other days, but continued into the afternoon hours (Fig. 9). Changes in the composition of the air masses which were not accounted for by the model are probably responsible for this discrepancy.

In analogy to Fig. 8, individual source and sink strengths for RO_x are shown in Fig. 10. During daytime, RO_x results from the reactions of OH with NMHCs, CO, H_2 , and H_2O_2 . RO_x is also produced as a result of the photolysis of HCHO (Reaction 7; Reaction 3 in Table 2). The combined contribution of the oxidation and photolysis of carbonyl compounds turns out to be the second most important source of RO_x , and is equivalent to slightly more than half of the contribution from the oxidation of NMHCs by OH. The relative

Table 5. The average contribution of each individual source and sink to the RO_x balance for the period 18–21 June 2000

	Daytime Average 7:00–17:00 $10^6 \text{ molec. cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Midday Average $10^6 \text{ molec. cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$
SOURCES		
NMHC	7.4	10.5
CO	2.4	2.9
CH_4 (1.842 ppmv)	1.0	1.2
HCHO (3 ppbv)	5.2	6.5
$\text{H}_2+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$	0.6	0.8
Total Sources	16.5	22.0
SINKS		
HO_2+NO	-13.2	-10.6
HO_2+RO_2	-1.8	-2.3
HO_2+HO_2	-1.6	-2.1
HO_2+O_3	-0.9	-1.3
RO_2+RO_2	-0.1	-0.2
HO_2+OH	-0.2	-0.3
Total Sinks	-17.8	-16.7

magnitudes of the source reactions are equal to those of the corresponding OH sinks discussed in the last section.

By far the most dominant sink for RO_x was found to be the reaction of RO_2 radicals with NO. As previously discussed, this was most pronounced during the conversion of HO_2 to OH during the mid to late morning. By comparison, the relative importance of the other sink reactions was almost

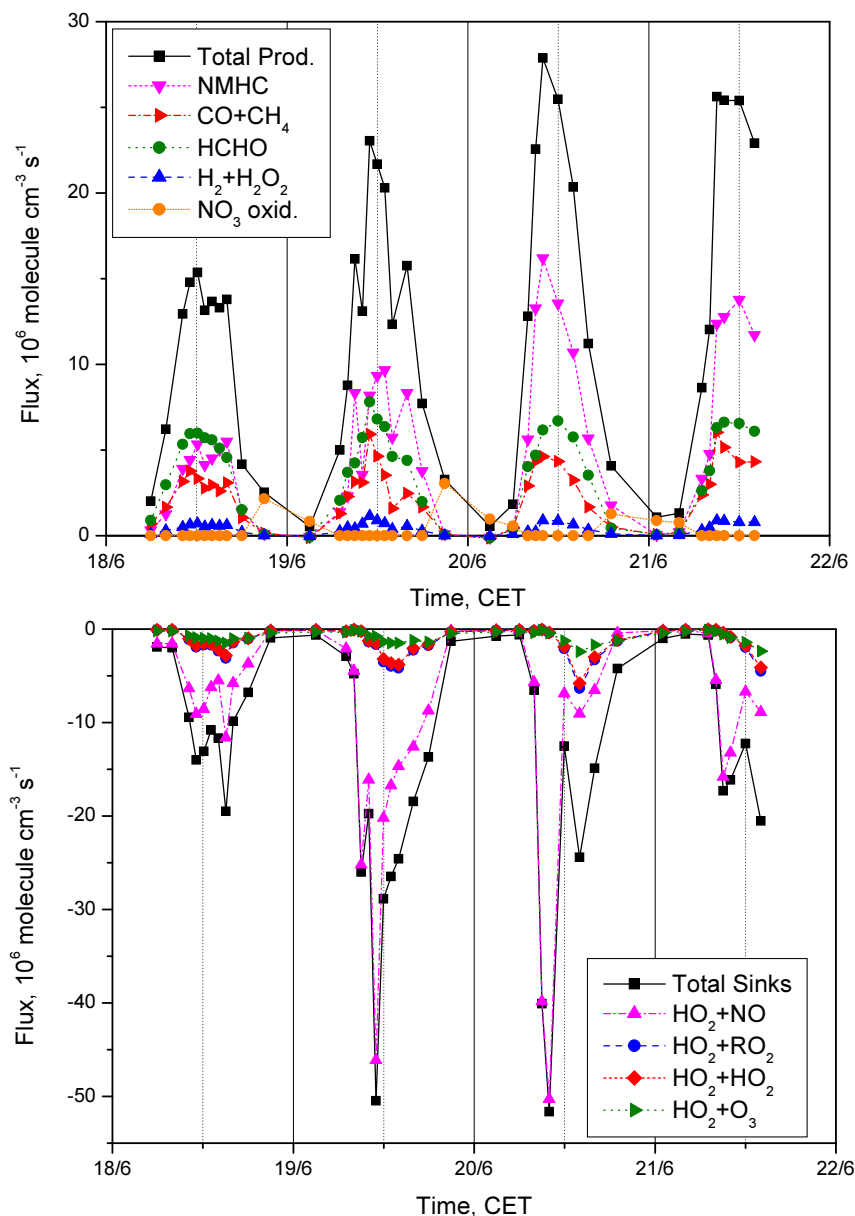


Fig. 10. Plot of the calculated contributions of various sources and sinks of RO_x for the period 18–21 June 2000. The scales are different for the two panels. Sinks were calculated using the measured RO_x mixing ratios.

negligible during these periods. The sink reaction of NO and RO_2 causes a slower build up of RO_x radicals relative to the diurnal increase of OH and radiation and a shift of the maximum RO_x mixing ratio to mid afternoon.

Following the drop in the NO concentration around midday on all days except 19 June, reactions between peroxy radicals and the reaction of HO_2 with O_3 become more important, so that eventually more RO_x radicals are lost due to these reactions than due to the loss reaction with NO . The self reaction of HO_2 , and the reactions between HO_2 and RO_2 (Reactions 13 and 14 in Table 2) are the dominant re-

actions between peroxy radicals. In the base case scenario, HO_2 and RO_2 were assumed to be present in equal amounts, so that the respective turnover rates are similar in magnitude.

4.4 Testing the model assumptions

The effects of the various assumptions made in the model were also investigated. This was done by running the model for various scenarios with different assumptions about the composition and chemistry of the RO_x radicals. The results for the different scenarios are shown in Fig. 11. Scenario I

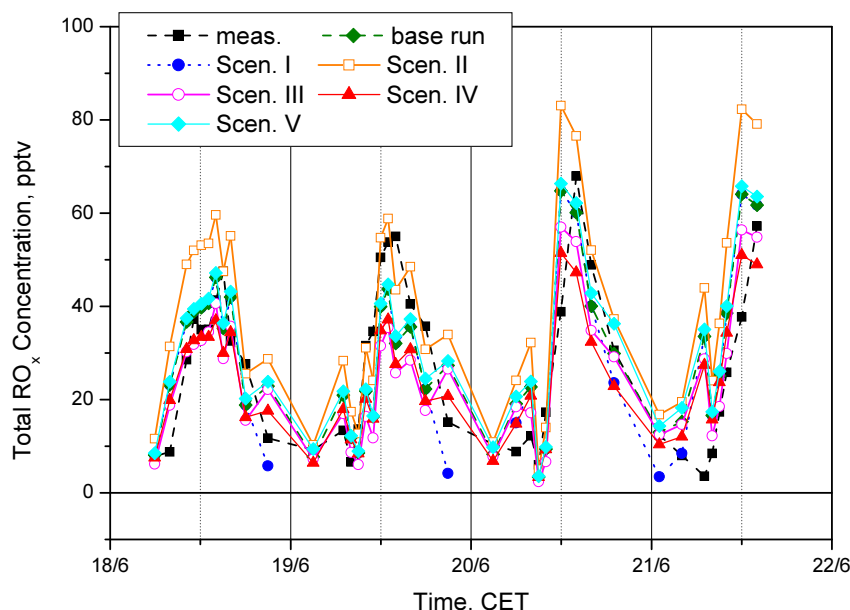


Fig. 11. Comparison of the RO_x mixing ratios obtained using the photostationary state radical model for the following scenarios. The scenarios are discussed in the text.

Base Run	As in Fig. 9 with HCHO and NO_3 oxidation
Scenario I	without NO_3 oxidation
Scenario II	with $[\text{HO}_2]=[\text{RO}_2]/2$
Scenario III	with only 50% conversion of RO_2 to HO_2
Scenario IV	with reaction coefficients for $R \geq C_2$
Scenario V	with 50% yield of RO_2 from ozonolysis of alkenes

ignored the production of RO_2 via the nighttime oxidation of alkenes by the NO_3 radical, and fails to produce the significant RO_x levels measured at night. The RO_x mixing ratios could not be calculated in two cases. This is a consequence of the occasionally slightly negative nighttime OH concentrations, which were nevertheless not significantly different from zero (see Sect. 3 and Fig. 2). Based on the OH detection limit of 4×10^5 molecules cm^{-3} , the corresponding uncertainty in the calculated RO_x mixing ratio was determined to be about 6 pptv. Thus, it is likely that the nighttime production of RO_x by the NO_3 radical cannot be ignored for the conditions prevailing during HOPE 2000. Although the nighttime NO_3 levels have only been estimated, the results indicate that nighttime oxidation of alkenes via NO_3 oxidation were most likely a substantial (probably even the dominant) source, of the observed nighttime RO_x radicals.

In Scenario II, the assumption was made that, due to the high concentrations of biogenic terpenes, the concentration of RO_2 was twice that of HO_2 . Measurements of this ratio during the BERLIOZ campaign by Platt et al. (2002) have shown that this ratio can vary considerably, both on a day-to-day basis and during the course of the same day. The assumption with respect to this ratio was found to have the largest impact on the calculated RO_x mixing ratios compared

to the other scenarios. This also demonstrates the limitations in the available data base and the need for further more detailed RO_x and HO_2 measurements.

OH concentrations calculated using scenario II are presented in Fig. 12. The results were systematically lower by an average of 30% than the base case scenario and were generally lower than or comparable to the corresponding measured data. Two exceptions occurred during daytime on 19 June, when the calculated OH concentrations exceeded measured concentrations by more than the uncertainty range for the measurements (39%). Nevertheless, Scenario II resulted in an improved agreement between modelled and measured OH concentrations in most cases, with the exception of 21 June.

The assumption of equal partitioning between HO_2 and RO_2 used in the model is not justified for nighttime conditions since the HO_2 radical is removed much more quickly from the atmosphere than RO_2 , due to the faster reaction of HO_2 with other peroxy radicals. This removes a major sink for RO_2 during the night. By assuming a 1:1 partitioning, the nighttime RO_x mixing ratio may be slightly underestimated, although NO_3 chemistry probably dominates the nighttime budget of RO_x . In contrast to the RO_x concentrations, OH concentrations calculated on the basis of the assumption of

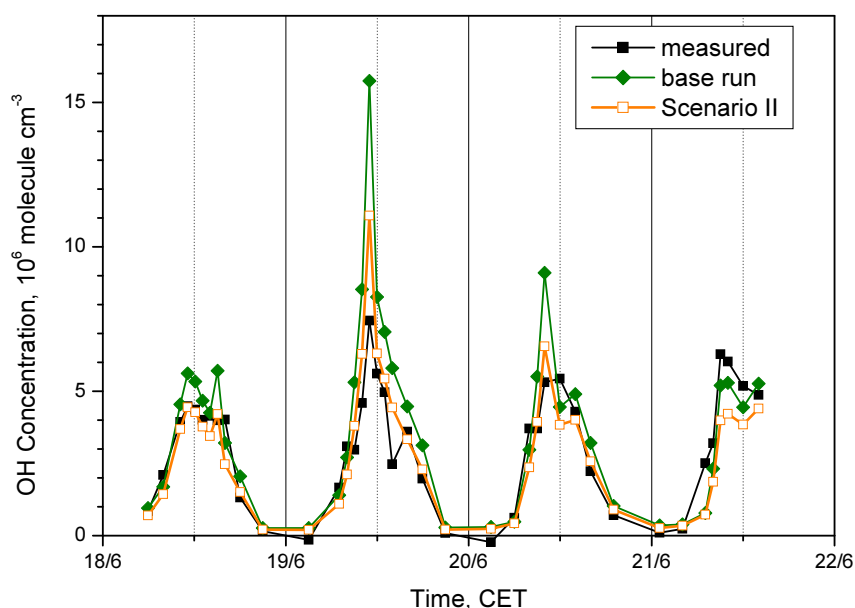


Fig. 12. Comparison of the OH concentration obtained using the photostationary state radical model for the base run and for Scenario II.

equal partitioning between HO_2 and RO_2 are overestimated. Since the dominant production of OH at nighttime proceeds via the reaction of HO_2 with NO and O_3 , a reduction in the concentration of HO_2 is directly linked to a reduction in the OH concentration. As a result, OH concentrations calculated using scenario 2 corresponded better to the measured concentrations at night.

The effect of a predominance of those RO_2 species whose reactions differ substantially from those of the CH_3O_2 radical was investigated using Scenarios III–V. Scenario III assumed that the reaction of RO_2 with NO (Reaction 10 in the introduction) and the subsequent Reaction 11 only resulted in a 50% net yield of HO_2 . A reduction in the HO_2 yield can occur for longer chain peroxy radicals due to a higher yield of RONO_2 via the reaction between RO_2 and NO, and for RO radicals which react relatively slowly, or not at all, with O_2 . In Scenario IV, reaction coefficients more typical of longer chain peroxy radicals were used for the RO_2 reactions, instead of the corresponding CH_3O_2 reaction coefficients. Each of these scenarios resulted in an average reduction of the RO_x concentrations by 10–20%. In Scenario V, the yield of RO_x from alkene ozonolysis was assumed to be 50%. The results from this scenario showed that this potential source of RO_x contributed to an increase of less than 5% for daytime RO_x mixing ratios. At night, alkene-ozone reactions potentially have a larger impact on RO_x production, however, their role is estimated to be smaller than that of NO_3 -alkene reactions. This finding differs from the results of Salisbury et al. (2001), which was obtained at a site on the west coast of Ireland. However, they encountered substantially lower NO_2 levels during their study, and correspondingly lower NO_3 production rates.

Further calculations were made to examine the effect of the species not measured during HOPE 2000, e.g. HCHO and oxygenated hydrocarbons. A total of 63 NMHC were measured during HOPE 2000, and these are thought to include most of the “pure” hydrocarbon compounds important for local photochemistry. However, other VOCs, especially the products and intermediates of the oxidation of hydrocarbons, also react rapidly with OH. In other studies (e.g. Goldan et al., 1997), up to about 50% of the VOC oxidation rate was found to be due to further reactions of oxygenated compounds. Thus, to account for the contributions of potentially important VOC compounds not measured in the present study the NMHC oxidation rate was doubled in the calculations. This resulted in an increase in the calculated RO_x mixing ratio of 50%, and a reduction in the OH concentration by 30%. Compared to the base case scenario, this assumption overpredicted RO_x and underpredicted OH during most of the period considered here. Even in the base case scenario, oxidation products are already partly accounted for by assuming the presence of an HCHO proxy with a mixing ratio of 3 ppbv, so that doubling the NMHC turnover rate is an extreme assumption. A similar effect is achieved by increasing the assumed mixing ratio of HCHO, although this results in an additional source of peroxy radicals due to the additional contribution of carbonyl photolysis.

5 Conclusions

The present measurements and model results demonstrate the potentially important role of HO_x recycling in determining the temporal profiles of both OH and RO_x at a rural

background station such as Hohenpeissenberg. Using a relatively simple photostationary state radical balance model constrained by measured data, it was possible to reproduce the main features of the diurnal profiles of both these radicals during the measurement period of 18–21 June 2000 considered here.

RO_x mixing ratios were observed to peak in the early afternoon. This is quite different to the maximum in the OH concentration which occurred during the late morning hours. This can be understood on the basis of the relative contributions of the dominant source and sink terms contributing to the HO_x cycle calculated using the model. It was found that RO_x accumulates over the course of the day as it is produced by NMHC oxidation, with maximum RO_x production occurring at the time of the maximum OH concentration. The presence of elevated NO levels (as observed in the late morning hours) suppresses RO_x levels due to their rapid reaction with NO, which produces NO₂. At the same time, this leads to rapid regeneration of OH and the observed peak concentrations of OH. During the HOPE 2000 campaign, the maximum mixing ratio of NO occurred during late morning and was associated with the transport of polluted air from the boundary layer.

Although the recycling of OH/HO₂ dominates both profiles, the OH concentration is also suppressed during the daylight hours due to its rapid reaction with NMHCs. The biogenic NMHCs, particularly isoprene, were present at quite high mixing ratios during the day, and were the main sink for the OH radical.

Under the conditions experienced during HOPE 2000, biogenic hydrocarbons were a major source of RO₂. Therefore, it seems reasonable to conclude that longer chain RO₂ may have made a significant contribution to the total RO_x mixing ratios. This may have resulted in higher RO₂/HO₂ ratios than used for the base run due to the slower reaction of these long chain RO₂ with other RO₂ and a faster reaction with HO₂. The yield of organic nitrates from the reaction with NO may also have been higher, slowing down the recycling of RO_x to OH. Thus, the conditions encountered during HOPE 2000 may be best approximated by a combination of scenarios II, III and V to describe the RO_x chemistry. However, the combined effects of these scenarios were relatively small and partially compensated one another. Thus, the base case scenario should still describe the situation well.

A previous campaign also conducted in a similar rural and forested environment to HOPE 2000 was the PROPHET campaign. High mixing levels of biogenic hydrocarbons and low NO levels of 40–100 pptv were reported (Tan et al., 2001). The NO levels were comparable to the afternoon mixing ratios during HOPE 2000. The PROPHET calculations using the Regional Atmospheric Chemistry Model (RACM) resulted in OH concentrations which were a factor of 2.7 lower than the measured values. This discrepancy was largest at low NO levels. Although various factors of potential importance were considered by Tan et al. (2001), they could

not adequately explain the large difference between modelled and measured OH concentrations.

Oxygenated NMHCs such as HCHO are an important group of trace gases which have a significant effect on the OH balance. The current study assumed the presence of 3 ppbv HCHO as a proxy for oxygenated NMHCs, which resulted in a 20–30% increase in calculated RO_x mixing ratios. While the assumption of 3 ppbv HCHO may be a good average approximation for summertime conditions, real mixing ratios may have varied significantly during the course of the HOPE 2000 campaign. The missing oxygenated NMHCs, especially HCHO, is a major deficit of HOPE 2000, and these compounds need to be taken into greater consideration in future campaigns.

Although a number of recent studies, including HOPE 2000, have attempted to achieve closure of the OH and RO_x budgets, the results show that this aim cannot currently be considered to have been achieved. In addition to the requirement of including additional components in the measurements, e.g. of aldehydes and ketones and potentially important photolysis frequencies in addition to j_{O^1D} and j_{NO_2} , the current study underlines the importance of constraining the HO₂/RO₂ partition ratio by RO_x radical measurements in future studies.

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