Response to anonymous referee #1

The authors thank the reviewer for their supportive feedback and constructive comments. We have responded to each comment below. The original comment is italicized and any additions or modifications to the manuscript are highlighted in red.

Line 145: What is the reaction time between the sample gas and the reagent ions inside the ion-sample reaction cell?

Response: The following sentence (revised manuscript line 152) has been added to help clarify the reaction cell mixing time.

The total flow through the reaction cell was fixed at 4.68 slpm (standard liters per minute; T = 273.15 K and P = 1013.25 hPa) and the mean transit time through the reaction cell was 17.8 ms (Heikes et al., 2017).

Line 153: “This pressure was stated to provide the maximum yield of cluster ions and peak sensitivity...” Just checking, was this stated by the RXN cell manufacturer?

Response: Yes it was stated by the instrument manufacturer THS.

The text (original manuscript line 151; revised manuscript line 157) has been modified to say: The RXN cell sample inlet and outlet critical orifices were of fixed diameter and optimized by THS to have a reaction cell pressure of 22 hPa, given the vacuum pumps and reagent gas system employed.

Line 165: Maybe mention the optimized mixing ratios of CO2 and pure air used for HP and MHP signals in addition to the reference to the O’Sullivan paper?

Response: The mixing ratios of CO2 and O2 change as a function of pressure (Table 3) and it is the 0.080 slpm flowrate that was selected by O’Sullivan.

The text (original manuscript line 165; revised manuscript line 171) has been improved to: The CO2 and air reagent gas flow rate was optimized for HP and MHP signal response (O’Sullivan et al., 2017).

Figure 2: The figure presently does not provide a lot of information. What was the averaging time used to obtain the spectrum? Would a longer averaging time provide a less noisy spectrum with the relevant peaks clearly defined? I suppose the log scale was used to show the lower signals of I-(HP), I-(HFO), and I-(MHP) in the same figure. Maybe having a linear scale (so the highest peaks can be clearly shown), and a zoomed-in inset of these lower signals would make a better figure?

Response: Thank you for the feedback and suggestions on how to improve Figure 2. The comments from both reviewers about Figure 2 were considered and a modified figure was
prepared. The figure now has a linear scale from 0 – 1000 counts and then logarithmic from 1000 to $10^9$.

The following are the added in line text (revised manuscript line 285) describing the figure and the updated figure caption.

For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds, the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm.

Figure 2: PCIMS laboratory standard-addition mass spectrum for the multi-reagent ion system showing the $\Gamma$ and O$_2$(CO$_2$) masses. For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds, the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm. The O$_2$(CO$_2$) masses of interest are marked by red vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 66 (O$_2$(HP)), m/z 78 (O$_2$(HFO)), m/z 80 (O$_2$(MHP)), m/z 92 (O$_2$(HAc)), and m/z 110 (O$_2$(CO$_2$(HP))). The $\Gamma$ masses of interest are marked by blue vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 127 ($\Gamma$), m/z 147 ($\Gamma$(H$_2$O)), m/z 161 ($\Gamma$(HP)), m/z 173 ($\Gamma$(HFO)), m/z 175 ($\Gamma$(MHP)), and m/z 187 ($\Gamma$(HAc)). Note the counts scale is linear up to 1000 and logarithmic above 1000.

Trivial comment: Figure 4 has no a) and b) labels although it is referenced as such in the text.

Updated

Paragraph starting from line 399: Do you see an increase in signals of (H$_2$O)$_n$I clusters (where n is 2,3,4...) at above 1000 ppm water vapor mixing ratio? It could be that, at higher degrees of hydration of the $\Gamma$- anion, (HAc)$\Gamma$- formation becomes unfavorable (probably due to a steric hindrance to (HAc)$\Gamma$- formation, i.e. the multiple water molecules attached to $\Gamma$- make the formation of $\Gamma$(HAc) difficult), causing a decrease in sensitivity. On the other hand, I-(HFO) formation might become more favorable when multiple water molecules are attached to $\Gamma$- (HFO being a smaller molecule might be additionally stabilized by a sequential evaporation of multiple water molecules), explaining the increase in I-(HFO) sensitivity at higher water vapor mixing ratios you report. In any case, the possible detection of water dimers, trimers, tetramers clustered to $\Gamma$- at high water vapor concentration should probably be commented upon.

Response: Thank you for the suggestion and insight. Heikes et al. found that our pressure and humidity trends seen in the laboratory and field work for HP, HFO, and HAc could not be replicated without the addition of $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_2$ chemistry; however, $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_2$ was not strong enough to survive declustering in the collision dissociation chamber. We do not generally record masses for $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_n$ but we do have scans from FRAPPE and the laboratory. There does not appear to be a response for $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_2$ and it is unlikely that an n greater than 2 would survive the declustering.

The following text (revised manuscript line 394) has been added: Heikes et al. found that the pressure and humidity trends seen in our PCIMS laboratory and field work for HP, HFO, and HAc could not be replicated without the addition of $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_2$ (3),
especially at the higher humidity values. However, $\Gamma$ (H$_2$O)$_2$ was not present in mass scans in FRAPPÉ or the laboratory and we inferred $\Gamma$(H$_2$O)$_2$ binding was not strong enough to survive declustering in the collision dissociation chamber.

Continuing on the same theme, I would think that the binding strength of (H$_2$O)$\Gamma$ cluster is weaker than the (HAc)$\Gamma$- cluster, so a ligand-exchange reaction between HAc and water, which is reaction 4 in your manuscript, is likely not the reason for the decrease in (HAc)I- signal at higher water vapor concentrations.

Response: You are correct if the system was flooded with $\Gamma$. Because we only add a small amount of $\Gamma$ to the system competition between the H$_2$O and HAc is more pronounced than if the system had excess $\Gamma$.

Line 402: “indicated the switching reaction equilibrium for HAc (4) behaved like that for HFo...” I might have misunderstood, but don’t you observe an increase in the sensitivity of (HFo)I- with an increase in water vapor mixing ratio? Does that then not imply that (HFo)I-, unlike HAc, is not affected by a possible ligand exchange reaction with water (reaction 4)?

Response: We do observe an increase in sensitivity of $\Gamma$(HFo) with the addition of water but based on the work of Lee et al. (2014) it was thought that we would see a decrease in sensitivity at the highest humidities. As discussed in the manuscript the difference in instrumental set-ups and amount of CH$_3$I present likely led to the difference in response.

To make this clearer for the HAc discussion the sentence (original manuscript line 401; revised manuscript line 419) has been altered to read:

Above 1000 ppm, $\Gamma$(HAc) sensitivity decreased with increasing reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio, indicated the switching reaction equilibrium for HAc (4) behaved like what was expected that for HFo, but not observed, and was shifting towards $\Gamma$(H$_2$O).
Response to anonymous referee #2

The authors thank the reviewer for their constructive comments and feedback. We have responded to each comment below. The original comment is italicized and any additions or modifications to the manuscript are highlighted in red.

**Major/broader comments:**

*Why use multiple ion chemistries? It is not clear until quite late in the paper why a mixture of primary ions is used in this work and not only I-. Especially the abstract says: the focus is on organic acids and hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide react with I as well. Later looking at Figure 3, one would pick O2- as the primary ion, because it has high sensitivity for all the compounds investigated here. Only on page 11 and 12 it becomes clear that O2- suffers from interferences and that methyl peroxide sensitivity is very low using I- only. This discussion needs to be moved to early in the paper to motivate the complicated ion chemistry setup.*

Response: The first two questions will be answered together as the authors believe the topic is linked.

The opportunity presented itself to investigate the sensitivity of HFo and HAc to multiple ions, I- and O2-, in the course of developing the PCIMS. HP and MHP were the primary targets during the development of the PCIMS instrument and HFo and HAc have been added during the modification post DC3. MHP was a critical species during the PCIMS development and it was important that we had sufficient sensitivity for it. A number of reagent ions were tested with HP and MHP and it was determined that O2-(CO2) and O2- were best for the two peroxides. While I- was effective in generating a cluster ion with HP, it yielded insufficient sensitivity towards MHP. A motivating factor for this work is the addition of HFo and HAc measurements to the DC3 campaign dataset, measurements which were not part of the original plan.

The following has been added to the introduction to provide some clarity and insight into why the multiple reagent ions are used and why it was important to maintain sufficient MHP sensitivity.

*(revised manuscript line 87)*

*In the course of developing the PCIMS instrument, the opportunity presented itself to investigate the sensitivity of HFo and HAc to multiple reagent ions, specifically I- and O2-.*

*(revised manuscript line 94)*
I, derived from CH$_3$I, proved to provide sufficient sensitivity for HP but not for MHP which was a critical species for the PCIMS, especially for the identification of deep convective storms during DC3 (O’Sullivan et al., 2017).

And to the abstract (revised manuscript line 18):
The CIMS also produced and detected I$^-$ clusters with hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide, I$^-$ (H$_2$O$_2$) and I$^-$ (CH$_3$OOH), though the sensitivity was lower than with the O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) and O$_2^-$ ion clusters, respectively. For that reason, while the I$^-$ peroxide clusters are presented, the focus is on the organic acids.

*What is different in this paper than Heikes and O’Sullivan 2017 papers? There seems to be significant overlap with the Heikes et al and O’Sullivan et al 2017 (although not available yet) papers. Explain in detail what is different and new in this paper compared to the two previous ones.*

Response: O’Sullivan et al. reported the O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) laboratory and field work for HP and MHP. They did not discuss the iodide cluster work in any detail. Heikes et al. presented an ion-neutral chemical kinetic model to simulate the negative-ion chemistry presented in this paper and O’Sullivan et al. The goal of Heikes et al. was to establish a “theoretical basis to understand ambient pressure…, water vapor, ozone and oxides of nitrogen” (Heikes et al. 2017) of the peroxides and organic acids.

The introduction has been modified as follows (original manuscript line 108; revised manuscript line 111):
Heikes et al. (2017) and O’Sullivan et al. (2017) presented the PCIMS methodology for HP and MHP using O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) and O$_2^-$, respectively. O’Sullivan et al. (2017) presented PCIMS measurements for HP and MHP using O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) and O$_2^-$, respectively. Heikes et al. (2017) presented an ion-neutral chemical kinetic model to simulate the ion chemistry presented here and in O’Sullivan et al..

*The ambient data need other results to strengthen the arguments. During field campaigns like DC3 or FRAPPE lots of additional data are available. These data should be used here to strengthen the arguments made about the vertical profiles, identifying the biomass burning plumes, and biogenic influence. For example, do other measurements show the same C-shaped altitude profiles as the small acids? What are the enhancements of CO in the plume that is shown.*

Response: The authors agree with this assessment. However, extensive characterization about the PCIMS data is outside the scope of this work. There will be subsequent publications (as part of Treadaway’s dissertation) that will discuss the organic acids during DC3 and FRAPPE in more detail. There will be a storm observation and modeling study published for DC3 and an organic acid source characterization study published for FRAPPE. Before these studies can proceed the authors feel it is necessary to publish the methodology behind collecting the organic acids with the PCIMS.
The authors concur that adding the CO enhancements in the plume are needed for identifying the biomass burning plume. The following has been added to the discussion:
(revised manuscript line 504)
Biomass burning was identified by a CO enhancement of 80 ppb and HCN enhancement of >200 ppt above background.

And for the storm outflow (original manuscript line 484; revised manuscript line 506): The storm outflow portion (identified by MHP>HP)…

GA calibration The weakest part of the paper is the order of magnitude uncertainty in the glycolaldehyde calibration. Glycolaldehyde is in most atmospheric environments only a minor contributor to the sum compared to acetic acid with biomass burning plumes being the notable exception, but nevertheless the glycolaldehyde sensitivity should be determined more accurately in this manuscript and not to only within a factor of ten. It is understood that producing a stable and accurate calibration source for glycolaldehyde is difficult, but a liquid calibration unit that completely nebulizes the GA/water solution (for example the LCU from Ionicon) or a catalytic conversion of GA to CO2 and subsequent CO2 detection (Veres et al 2010) would likely deliver much more accurate results than presented here. If no better calibration can be achieved, I would suggest to change the discussion in the manuscript such that an upper limit of the interference for acetic acid is used. In addition, the chapter of the GA calibration should be moved to the chapter 2.4: Calibration.

Response: The authors agree that the large uncertainty in the glycolaldehyde is an issue. However, we disagree with the assessment that glycolaldehyde is only a minor contributor compared to acetic acid. It is true that based on reported literature values that glycolaldehyde’s contribution could be smaller but there is very limited field observational data of glycolaldehyde. The authors do not feel comfortable treating the glycolaldehyde interference as an upper limit uncertainty for acetic acid with such limited observational data reported. The authors have included an additional table in the supplemental information (Table S1) and the text given with the Page 10 line 346-365 comment (below) showing the known list of surface and aircraft observations of gaseous glycolaldehyde. There has been more work done for biomass burning during laboratory work that is not included (e.g. Yokelson et al. 1997).

We appreciate the suggestions for determining a glycolaldehyde calibration source. We have been in contact with the Veres group but it seems unlikely that a catalytic conversion of glycolaldehyde to CO2 is possible at our concentration ranges. In addition, for both methods suggested there are issues with understanding the potential impurities and breakdown from the dimer into the monomer, trimer, etc in the aqueous phase as found by Petitjean et al. (2010) and Kua et al. (2013), respectively. Finally, it is unclear that a nebulizer would quantitatively generate GA gas or both GA gas and nanoaerosol (containing monomer GA and GA-hydrate, and the suite of dimer and trimer GA compounds identified in concentrated solutions).

We have moved the GA and alcohol calibration work into chapter 2.4.

Minor/detailed comments:
Abstract: line 19: Add the ions that are used for the detection of HP and MHP.

Response: Abstract (original manuscript line 19; revised manuscript line 18) was modified to: The CIMS also produced and detected I clusters with hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide, I(H₂O₂) and I(CH₃OOH), though the sensitivity was lower than with the O₂⁻(CO₂) and O₂⁻ ion clusters, respectively. For that reason, while the I peroxide clusters are presented the focus is on the organic acids. Although hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide also form cluster ions with I, the focus here is on the organic acids.

Abstract: line 20: Already add here, why you are looking at HP and MHP, even though the focus seems to be on the small organic acids.

See above for addition to the abstract.

Page 2 line 58: add the values of the Henry’s law constants to the text here.

Added

Page 3 line 95-100: Delete this sentence: it is not relevant to the readers how you found out about this interference. It was pretty well known from previous literature.

Response: The original sentence (original manuscript line 98; revised manuscript line 102) was deleted and the text has been modified to the following. However post FRAPPÉ, GA, a potential isobaric interference, was confirmed for I chemistry with a relative response of approximately 1:1 for HAc:GA.

Page 4 line 139: Please explain what “wetted” surfaces means.

Response: The authors apologize for the use of jargon. A wetted surface is any surface (such as tubing) that comes into contact with the gas or liquid sample stream (containing the chemical we are trying to measure).

The text (original manuscript line 138; revised manuscript line 142) has been modified to clarify this: The HIMIL and gas transfer lines were heated to 313 K in DC3 and 343 K in FRAPPÉ to minimize artifacts caused by the adsorption/release of the target gases onto/from the “wetted” inlet surfaces. Any other references to “wetted” have been removed as well.

Page 4 line 142: What is a “span check”?

Response: This refers to selecting set masses to sample instead of scanning through all the masses.

The sentence (original manuscript line 142; revised manuscript line 145) has been changed to: The PCIMS responded linearly to the analyte gases measured at a fixed sample pressure and
water vapor mixing ratio and species sensitivity was determined using a single calibration gas mixing ratio for each analyte.

Page 4 line 143: Please give more details on the organic acids and peroxide traps.

Response: The text (original manuscript line 142; revised manuscript line 147) has been modified.

Analytical blanks (Sect. 2.5) were determined by passing the sample air stream, with or without calibration gas, through serial NaOH traps. It was determined that the combination of the Carulite 200® and NaOH traps was best for scrubbing peroxides and organic acids.

Page 5 lines 157-163: Please show how much the sensitivity changed with the inlet pressure.

Response: The experimental set up did not allow for inlet pressure to be independently varied while keep the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio constant. Inlet pressure alters the sample flow rate and the reagent N2 flow rate and as a consequence O2, CO2, and water vapor mixing ratios. Hence, reagent ion sensitivity changes due to pressure alone could not be quantified. Field sensitivity determinations also involved a convolution of inlet pressure and water vapor effects.

Chapter 2.4: The uncertainty in the calibration should be added here somewhere.

Response: Information has been added about the error in the FRAPPE organic acid aqueous standard and laboratory error in the sensitives.

The following have been added to Chapter 2.4:
(revised manuscript line 182)
HFO and HAc standards (HCOOH, > 95% and CH3COOH, 99.9%, respectively) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich. The HP standard was obtained from Fisher-Scientific (H2O2, 30%), and the MHP standard was synthesized in-house. (Lee et al., 1995).

(revised manuscript line 194)
During FRAPPÉ the organic acid aqueous standards were verified by titration (Treadaway, 2015). The percent errors between the theoretical and titrated concentrations were 1.00% and 1.51% for HFO and HAc, respectively. The FRAPPÉ peroxide aqueous standards, which were also used in post-mission, were standardized by titration and or UV absorbance.

(revised line 202)
The average error in laboratory sensitivity for HFO and HAc was 26% and 31% respectively. This accounts for error in the PCIMS signal response and error in instrumental sources (e.g. mass flow controllers).

Page 6 line 203-215: Describe only the trap that you used for FRAPPE and not the ones that did not work.
Response: The discussion about traps used has been altered to remove superfluous information about traps not used.

The changes in chapter 2.5 are as follows:
Unfortunately, at low organic acid concentrations, there can be a positive trap response due to outgassing from the Carulite-200®. Therefore, three different traps were tested as organic acid blank substrates: Cu/NaHCO$_3$, Na$_2$CO$_3$, and NaOH. The Cu/NaHCO$_3$ trap scrubbed the organic acids and HP but generated a positive trap response at m/z 80; the identity of which was not determined. The Carulite 200® trap was added after the Cu/NaHCO$_3$ trap which successfully eliminated the positive trap response at m/z 80. While this trap configuration removed both peroxides and organic acids the time response of the blank process was ~90 seconds and was considered too long for in-flight blanks. It was determined that the NaOH (5%) trap was effective at removing organic acids but not peroxides. Running the air sample through the Carulite 200® and then the NaOH trap removed both peroxides and organic acids with minor outgassing. The blank equilibration time was much shorter (30-45 seconds) than with any of the other combinations tested (Treadaway, 2015). Unfortunately, there was an outgassing of compounds which interfered at the masses used to measure HAc and HP. We speculate contaminants were present in the glycerol or methanol used to prepare the trap or from in situ chemical reactions leading to HAc and/or HP production on the Na$_2$CO$_3$ trap. It was determined that the combination of the Carulite 200® and NaOH traps was best for scrubbing peroxides and organic acids.

Figure 2: Figure 2 needs some improvement. First of all, please give the conditions (RH, press, ...) that this mass spectrum was recorded with. I suggest showing the mass spectrum as a stick plot, where all the masses are color coded according to their respective ion chemistry (I- or O$_2$-). Then also label all the individual peaks with their mass and chemical composition.

Response: Thank you for the feedback and suggestions for Figure 2. The comments from both reviewers about Figure 2 were considered and a modified figure was prepared. The figure now has a linear scale from 0 – 1000 counts and then logarithmic from 1000 to $10^6$. The following are the added in line text (revised manuscript line 285) describing the figure and the updated figure caption.

For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds, the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm.

Figure 2: PCIMS laboratory standard-addition mass spectrum for the multi-reagent ion system showing the I$^-$ and O$_2$($\text{CO}_2$) masses. For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds, the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm. The O$_2$($\text{CO}_2$) masses of interest are marked by red vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 66 (O$_2$($\text{HP}$)), m/z 78 (O$_2$($\text{HFO}$)), m/z 80 (O$_2$($\text{MHP}$)), m/z 92 (O$_2$($\text{HAc}$)), and m/z 110 (O$_2$($\text{CO}_2$($\text{HP}$)).
The \( \Gamma \) masses of interest are marked by blue vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 127 (\( \Gamma \)), m/z 147 (\( \Gamma (\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}) \)), m/z 161 (\( \Gamma (\text{HP}) \)), m/z 173 (\( \Gamma (\text{HFo}) \)), m/z 175 (\( \Gamma (\text{MHP}) \)), and m/z 187 (\( \Gamma (\text{HAc}) \)). Note the counts scale is linear up to 1000 and logarithmic above 1000.

All Figures: please be consistent with cts/s/ppb or cps/ppb. Just use one or the other, but don’t mix them throughout the manuscript. There was also a switch to cps/ppt somewhere in the manuscript.

Response: Thank you for catching this. The figures and text have been corrected so that cps/ppb is used consistently.

*Figure S1 should be combined with Figure 3 in the main text. The FRAPPE results in Figure 3 are very difficult to distinguish from the rest of the data, please use a different symbol. Add the name of the compound or the ion to the y-axis label of each panel and not only give the mass. The same changes are needed for Figure 4. In general, for Figure 3 you are discussing the variation of the sensitivity caused by the flow of CH3I, so why is the flow not on the x-axis instead of the humidity. It would much easier to follow the discussion.*

Thank you for the suggestions on how to improve these figures and impact of iodide flow rate.

The FRAPPE data in Figures 3 and 4 were modified to be dashed blue lines which help to distinguish them from the laboratory work. The clusters are written on the y axis for Figures 3 and 4. Following the above suggestions additional supplemental figures have been added. The additions of the \( \Gamma \) clusters (Figure S1) and \( \text{O}_2 \) (MHP) (Figure S2) are given for the laboratory calibration sensitivities as a function of CH3I flow rate. However, since the focus of this paper is on the \( \Gamma \) clusters the original Figure S1 (now S3) has been kept in the supplemental section. The \( \text{O}_2 \) (MHP) cluster is only discussed in the reference of understanding the appropriate CH3I flow rate.

To help alleviate the confusion in the results section the text has been modified to discuss the CH3I flow rates and then the water dependencies.

The updated portion of the results section (original manuscript starting line 288; revised manuscript starting line 293) is as follows:

This blended reagent ion system hinges on a balance between the iodide and oxygen chemistry. In general, as the proportion of CH3I increased the sensitivity of the CO2 and O2 clusters decreased with the impact on MHP being greater than that for HP. The PCIMS is not as sensitive for HAc as for HFo (Figs. S1, 3, 4) and a sufficient amount of CH3I is needed to promote clustering. Therefore, finding a balance between the two reagent gases ultimately depends on a prioritization between MHP and HAc. For this reason, five CH3I flow rates (0.0005, 0.001, 0.0015, 0.002, and 0.0025 slpm) were evaluated. Figure S1 shows \( \Gamma \) cluster laboratory sensitivities for \( \Gamma (\text{HFo}), \Gamma (\text{HAc}), \Gamma (\text{HP}), \) and \( \Gamma (\text{MHP}) \) as a function of CH3I flow rate. Figure S2 shows the laboratory MHP sensitivity at m/z 80 (\( \text{O}_2 \) (MHP)) as a function of CH3I flow rate. All
of the pressure and water work is combined together which accounts for the large variance shown (1 standard deviation). The ion clusters’ water dependencies are discussed below. As the CH$_3$I flow rate increased, the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity decreased. As expected, the sensitivities of the \( \Gamma(\text{HFo}) \), \( \Gamma(\text{HAc}) \), \( \Gamma(\text{HP}) \), and \( \Gamma(\text{MHP}) \) clusters increased as the CH$_3$I flow rate increased with an approximate doubling in sensitivity for HFo and HP corresponding with a doubling in CH$_3$I flow rate. Overall an increase in CH$_3$I, and consequently \( \Gamma \), resulted in an increase in \( \Gamma(\text{HAc}) \) sensitivity but at the cost of decreasing the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity. It was fortuitous that there was enough CH$_3$I present during DC3 to promote organic acid clustering without impairing the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity. The data of Fig. S3, \( \Gamma(\text{HP}) \) in Fig. 3, and those for O$_2^-$ (HP), O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) (HP) (not shown) were used to identify the CH$_3$I flow rate of 0.0005 slpm as providing the best sensitivity matches to the DC3 calibration data for HP and MHP.

Figure S4 S3 shows the MHP calibrations at m/z 80 (O$_2^-$ (MHP)) from DC3 as a function of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. Laboratory derived MHP sensitivity at m/z 80 is also shown as a function of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio for 5 different CH$_3$I flow rates (discussed below). The data are binned by the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. The mean sensitivity for that bin is plotted and the horizontal bar represents the limits of the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. The length of the vertical bar from the mean represents one standard deviation and includes random errors associated with variations in pressure, ambient concentrations during the standard addition, and systematic variations due to water vapor in a bin, calibration gas precision, and instrumental precision. As the CH$_3$I flow rate increased, the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity decreased. The data of Fig. S1, \( \Gamma(\text{HP}) \) in Fig. 3, and those for O$_2^-$ (HP), O$_2^-$ (CO$_2$) (HP) (not shown) were used to identify the CH$_3$I flow rate of 0.0005 slpm as providing the best sensitivity matches to the DC3 calibration data for HP and MHP. It was fortuitous that there was enough CH$_3$I present during DC3 to promote organic acid clustering without impairing the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity. In future experiments, finding a balance between the two reagent gases ultimately depends on a prioritization between MHP and HAc. For this reason, five CH$_3$I flow rates (0.0005, 0.001, 0.0015, 0.002, and 0.0025 slpm) were evaluated. Figure 3 shows \( \Gamma \) cluster sensitivities for \( \Gamma(\text{HP}) \), \( \Gamma(\text{MHP}) \), \( \Gamma(\text{HFo}) \), and \( \Gamma(\text{HAc}) \) for the FRAPPÉ experiment and from the same CH$_3$I laboratory work as in Fig. S4 S3. The horizontal and vertical error bars represent the same information as in Fig. S4 S3. As expected, the sensitivities of the \( \Gamma(\text{HFo}) \), \( \Gamma(\text{HP}) \), and \( \Gamma(\text{MHP}) \) clusters increased as the CH$_3$I flow rate increased with an approximate doubling in sensitivity for HFo and HP with a doubling in CH$_3$I flow rate. Also as anticipated, the HAc sensitivity increased substantially from the lowest to the highest CH$_3$I flow rate though not always sequentially. Overall an increase in CH$_3$I, and consequently \( \Gamma \), resulted in an increase in \( \Gamma(\text{HAc}) \) sensitivity but at the cost of decreasing the O$_2^-$ (MHP) sensitivity.

Tables 5-7 are all very small and should be combined into one larger Table.

Response: Tables 5 and 6 were combined. Table 7 remains separate since it changed as a function of temperature to avoid confusion.
Page 8 line 299: How much CH3I was present and how different was it during DC3 and FRAPPE?

Response: A 5 ppm CH3I reagent gas was used with a 0.0005 slpm flow rate during FRAPPE. While CH3I was tried as a reagent gas in preparation of DC3 it was ultimately decided that it was not the best choice for a reagent ion for HP and MHP. However, we were fortuitous enough to detect I− in the system as CH3I bled off from the tube walls. We used laboratory calibrations to determine the amount of CH3I present during DC3 using Figures S3 (originally S1), and I−(HP) in Figure 3. This same amount of CH3I (0.0005 slpm) also provided a good balance between the O2− and I− clusters. Hopefully the addition of Figures S1 and S2 and restructuring of the results section helped to elucidate this.

Page 9 line 325-335: If there is a wide range of Henry’s law constants in the literature, why did you compare in detail to the Johnson et al values, which are picked because they are the closest to the current measurements. It would me more important to discuss why there is such a wide range in the literature and why you think yours should be used here.

Response: Johnson et al. data most closely compared to the Henry's Law values determined by us and provided the best connection between the microfluidic and coil laboratory work for the PCIMS. Further, the Johnson et al. values are also the only measured values reported in Sanders (2015) that experimentally determined the Henry’s Law constant at more than one temperature.

The following sentence (revised manuscript line 336) has been added to the section to elaborate on our choice for the comparison.

Of the measured values reported in Sander (2015), only Johnson et al. (1996) experimentally determined the Henry’s Law constants at multiple temperatures.

Page 10 line 343: The reasons for the lower sensitivity of the alcohols compared to the acids are very different for the PCIMS and the PTR-MS. I− does not cluster efficiently with alcohols whereas proton transfer from H3O+ causes fragmentation for the alcohols. This should be mentioned here, if you want to compare the two techniques. At this point I would also add that with a high resolution ToF, these compounds can be distinguished.

Response: We agree that there should be a clarification that the methods are different and the following text (revised manuscript line 355) has been added.

It should be acknowledged that these two techniques are different and some of the masses detected by the PTR-MS were fragments of the alcohols. While a time-of-flight CIMS can distinguish the alcohols from the organic acids (Yuan et al., 2016), there is a paucity of quadruple I− CIMS data available with which to compare our I− CIMS alcohol interference work.

Page 10 line 346-365: As mentioned above: it would be good to describe the interference as an upper limit here and show how bad the interference could potentially be. Only if you are much more confident with one of the calibration cases, you can describe the interference with that one. The same for the discussion on Page 12.
Response: Thank you for the suggestion but, as discussed above, the authors feel more comfortable using HAc and GA together as opposed to an upper limit interference for HAc. The following have been added to the manuscript to help clarify the need to report as AAES and not an upper limit for HAc.

Introduction (revised manuscript line 57): Table S1 provides a summary of literature surface and aircraft measurements for GA in urban, biomass burning, biogenic, and mixed environments.

Results (revised manuscript line 377): As GA atmospheric mixing ratios are non-negligible (Table S1), PCIMS data collected at m/z 187 are reported as the "acetic acid equivalent sum," or AAES, of HAc plus GA.


Response: Added the reference and updated the text (original manuscript line 452; revised manuscript line 470).

If the signal at m/z 187 were primarily HAc, the HAc:NH$_3$ ratio was 0.078 ppb/ppb which is within the range reported by Paulot et al. (2011) though larger than the enhancement ratio range of 0.02-0.04 ppb/ppb reported by Yuan et al. (2017).

**Figure 5:** The flight tracks should be on top of a proper map showing the potential sources of the small acids such as urban areas and feed lots, all of which are readily available from FRAPPE.

Response: Thank you for the suggestion. The figure was altered and the text was altered as well to remove references to city codes

**Figure 7:** indicate why there is such a large data gap in the HP data in the biomass burning plume?

Response: We know that there is the potential for interference at mass 80 (MHP(O$_2^-$)) due to interferences of CO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O) with an $^{18}$O and NO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O). For quality control we monitor mass 78 for CO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O) and mass 98 for NO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O)$_2$. If either 78 or 98 are high the MHP data is not reported. This is discussed in full in both in Heikes et al. (2017) and O'Sullivan et al. (2017). The following text was added in the text and the figure caption for Figure 7 to clarify why there is a data gap.

In text (revised manuscript line 504): There is no MHP reported during this period due to potential interferences at mass 80 from CO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O) with an $^{18}$O and/or NO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O) (Heikes et al., 2017).

**Figure 7:** MHP is not reported during the low altitude leg due to potential interferences at mass 80 from CO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O) with an $^{18}$O and/or NO$_3^-$ (H$_2$O).
Measurement of formic acid, acetic acid and hydroxyacetaldehyde, hydrogen peroxide, and methyl peroxide in air by chemical ionization mass spectrometry: airborne method development

Victoria Treadaway¹, Brian G. Heikes¹, Ashley S. McNeill¹,², Indira K.C. Silwal³,⁴ and Daniel W. O’Sullivan³

¹Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Narragansett, RI 02882, USA
²Department of Chemistry, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401, USA
³Chemistry Department, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402, USA
⁴Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469, USA

Correspondence to: Victoria Treadaway (vtreada@uri.edu)

Abstract. A chemical ionization mass spectrometry (CIMS) method utilizing a reagent gas mixture of O₂, CO₂, and CH₃I in N₂ is described and optimized for quantitative gas-phase measurements of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), methyl peroxide (CH₃OOH), formic acid (HCOOH), and the sum of acetic acid (CH₃COOH) and hydroxyacetaldehyde (HOCH₂CHO; also known as glycolaldehyde). The instrumentation and methodology were designed for airborne in situ field measurements. The CIMS quantification of formic acid, acetic acid, and hydroxyacetaldehyde used I⁻ cluster formation to produce and detect the ion clusters I⁻(HCOOH), I⁻(CH₃COOH), and I⁻(HOCH₂CHO) respectively. Although the CIMS also produced and detected I⁻ clusters with hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide—also form cluster ions with I⁻(H₂O₂) and I⁻(CH₃OOH), though the sensitivity was lower than with the O₂(known gas) and O₂⁻ ion clusters, respectively. For that reason, while the I⁻ peroxide clusters are presented, the focus here is on the organic acids. Acetic acid and hydroxyacetaldehyde were found to yield equivalent CIMS responses. They are exact isobaric compounds and indistinguishable in the CIMS used. Consequently, their combined signal is referred to as "the acetic acid equivalent sum." Within the resolution of the quadrupole used in the CIMS (1 m/z), ethanol and 1- and 2-propanol were potential isobaric interferences to the measurement of formic acid and the acetic acid equivalent sum, respectively. The CIMS response to ethanol was 3.3% that of formic acid and the response to either 1- or 2-propanol was 1% of the acetic acid response; therefore, the alcohols were not considered to be significant interferences to acetic acid or the acetic acid equivalent sum. The multi-reagent ion system was successfully deployed during the Front Range Air Pollution and Photochemistry Éxperiment (FRAPPÉ) in 2014. The combination of FRAPPÉ and laboratory calibrations allowed for the post-mission quantification of formic acid and the acetic acid equivalent sum observed during the Deep Convective Clouds and Chemistry Experiment in 2012.

Keywords: Chemical ionization mass spectrometry, multi-reagent ion, formic acid, acetic acid, hydrogen peroxide, methyl peroxide, hydroxyacetaldehyde, cluster-ion chemistry
1 Introduction

Formic acid (HCOOH, hereafter referred to as HFo), acetic acid (CH$_3$COOH, hereafter referred to as HAc) and hydroxyacetaldehyde (HOCH$_2$CHO, commonly referred to as glycolaldehyde, and hereafter abbreviated as GA) are oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) found in remote and urban environments in both gas and particle forms. Primary emissions for both acids include vegetation, agriculture, biomass burning and motor vehicle emissions (Khare et al., 1999; Paulot et al., 2011). Secondary sources also play a substantial role in the formation and distribution of HFo and HAc and include photochemical production from gaseous VOCs and OVOCs of biogenic and anthropogenic origin, biomass burning, and primary and secondary organic aerosols (Khare et al., 1999; Paulot et al., 2011). Both organic acids are photochemically long lived (>10 days with respect to oxidation by HO) and their removal is primarily by dry and wet deposition at the Earth’s surface (Paulot et al., 2011). Away from the earth’s surface, these acids represent a relatively long-lived intermediate product in the oxidation of organic matter. However, there is a scarcity of organic acid measurements in the upper troposphere with which to compare and assess photochemical and transport theory. Millet et al. (2015), Reiner et al. (1999), and Talbot et al. (1996) reported vertical profiles for HFo and HAc; however, only Reiner et al. and Talbot et al. sampled above 7 km. In remote environments, HFo and HAc are the primary acids establishing the pH of cloud water and precipitation (Galloway et al., 1982). HFo and HAc partitioning between gas and aqueous phases is pH dependent. In the aqueous phase, both HFo and HAc remain in the protonated form below their pKas of 3.75 and 4.76 (T=298.15 K), respectively (Johnson et al., 1996). As emission controls on anthropogenic NO$_x$ and SO$_2$ continue to decrease the contributions of these gases to precipitation acidity, the organic acids are expected to compose a larger fractional contribution to acidity in cloud water and precipitation.

Hydroxyacetaldehyde (or glycolaldehyde, GA) is formed by the HO oxidation of biogenic VOCs such as isoprene and methyl vinyl ketone (Lee et al., 1998; Tuazon and Atkinson, 1989) and by the HO oxidation of unsaturated anthropogenic VOCs like ethene (Niki et al., 1981). GA has also been measured in smoldering biomass burning plumes and can be up to 1% of the gaseous carbon detected in fire emissions (Johnson et al., 2013; Yokelson et al., 1997). Table S1 provides a summary of literature surface and aircraft measurements for GA in urban, biomass burning, biogenic, and mixed environments. GA’s primary loss is by HO oxidation and wet deposition (Bacher et al., 2001). The effective Henry’s Law constant for GA (70 M/hPa) is surprisingly large (Betterton and Hoffmann, 1988) and an order of magnitude larger than that for HAc (7.8 M/hPa) at a temperature of 288 K (Johnson et al., 1996; results below). GA is more likely than HAc to be removed by precipitation during transport through deep convection based upon model work by Barth et al. (2003) and Bela et al. (2016). Unpublished model results from Bela et al. showed a ten times greater removal of GA relative to HAc in a simulated DC3 deep convective storm.

There is a need to distinctly measure HAc and GA throughout the depth of the troposphere. They provide a test point for the processing of VOCs by different photochemical mechanisms. There are multiple precursors that, depending on the chemical mechanism, will lead to different portions of HAc and GA as second generation or later products. For example, while isoprene is an important precursor for GA it is thought to be insignificant for HAc (Lee et al., 1995b; Paulot et al., 2011). However, isoprene is also a significant source for peroxy acetyl radical, which reacts with HO$_2$ to form HAc (Khare et al., 1999; Paulot et al., 2011). In addition, GA is relevant to the tropospheric ozone budget (Lee et al., 1995b; Petitjean et al., 2010) and HAc directly effects precipitation acidity (Khare et al., 1999; Paulot et al., 2011). Finally, both GA and HAc are participants in the formation and growth of organic aerosols and in aerosol photochemical processing (Carlton et al., 2006; Fuzzi and Andreae, 2006; Lee et al., 2006; Perri et al., 2010; Yu, 2000). Airborne platforms provide one vehicle for instrumentation to measure these compounds throughout the depth of the troposphere (e.g., Le Breton et al., 2012; Lee et al., 1998; Millet et al., 2015; Talbot et
al., 1996) and this adds an additional need for “fast” instruments, especially for situations in which spatial-temporal scales are relatively small, such as in the boundary layer or near convective clouds.

In recent years there has been an increase in the number of atmospheric gas-phase species measured using chemical ionization mass spectrometry (CIMS) (Huey, 2007). The major advantages of CIMS include rapid response times with high sensitivity and selectivity (e.g., Bertram et al., 2011; Crounse et al., 2006). Previous studies have successfully measured gas-phase HFO and HAc via negative-ion mode CIMS using trifluoromethoxy anion (CF$_3$O$^-$), iodide (I$^-$) or acetate (CH$_3$COO$^-$) as the reagent ion (e.g., Amelynck et al., 2000; Le Breton et al., 2012; Brophy and Farmer, 2015; Veres et al., 2008). Yuan et al. (2016) reported HFO and HAC using a H$_2$O$^+$ ToF-CIMS. Brophy and Farmer (2015) developed a dual reagent ion system with I$^-$ used for HAc and CH$_3$COO$^-$ used for HFO, and in which the reagent gases are added in an alternating sequence. However, to our knowledge, to date only one group has reported results for both HFO and HAC using an I$^-$ CIMS (Lee et al., 2014). Proton-transfer-reaction mass spectrometry has been used to quantify HFO and HAC with H$_2$O$^+$ as the reagent ion (e.g. Müller et al. 2014), although, Wisthaler reports the sum of HAc and GA (Armin Wisthaler, pers. comm. 2015) using this methodology.

O’Sullivan et al. (2017) and Heikes et al. (2017) described a CIMS instrument for the airborne measurement of peroxides called PCIMS. The **PCIMS system was** developed for the Deep Convective Clouds and Chemistry (DC3) experiment (O’Sullivan et al., 2017; O’Sullivan et al., 2017) and modified in post-mission calibration work. This modified system was then used in the Front Range Air Pollution and Photochemistry Experiment (FRAPPÉ) experiment (Treadaway, 2015) and modified again post-mission. The reason behind the post-mission DC3 development involves serendipity and foresight. Prior to the DC3 mission, the PCIMS underwent optimization for the measurement of hydrogen peroxide and methyl peroxide and, before settling on a CO$_2$-in-air reagent gas for the peroxides, a CH$_3$I in N$_2$ reagent gas was tested (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). I$^-$ derived from CH$_3$I proved to provide sufficient sensitivity for HP but not for MHP which was a critical species for the PCIMS, especially for the identification of deep convective storms during DC3 (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). CH$_3$I is a “sticky” gas and, even though the reagent storage cylinder, regulator and transfer lines had been flushed, there remained a finite amount of CH$_3$I in the system, which bled off the reagent line’s interior surfaces. Evidence of this was observed at m/z ratios of 127 (I$^-$), 145 (I$^-$(H$_2$O$_2$)) and 147 (I$^-$(H$_2$^{18}O)). It was further noted that in addition to a m/z signal at 161 (I$^-$(H$_2$O$_2$)), there were m/z signals at 173 and 187, which were ascribed to HFO (I$^-$(HFO)) based on the work of Le Breton et al. (2012) and to HAC (I$^-$(HAC)), respectively. In DC3, the m/z signals at 173 and 187 were recorded with the expectation that post-mission laboratory calibration work would allow HFO and HAC to be quantified in the upper troposphere. This calibration work appeared to be successfully accomplished in the laboratory and validated in-flight during the FRAPPÉ mission in 2014. However, post FRAPPÉ, it was brought to our attention that GA was a potential exact isobaric interference in the measurement of HAC (Wisthaler, pers. comm. 2015) and we needed to evaluate this possibility for our I$^-$ CIMS chemistry. As presented below, this potential interference was subsequently confirmed for I$^-$ chemistry with a relative response of approximately 1:1 for HAC:GA. We necessarily report the m/z 187 signal as the “acetic acid equivalent sum” (AAES) of HAC and GA in our prior DC3 and FRAPPÉ datasets (data reporting in progress).

This study details the detection and quantification of HFO and AAES using a multi-reagent ion CIMS. The multi-reagent ion PCIMS is unique as it allows the detection of HFO and AAES, as well as, hydrogen peroxide (H$_2$O$_2$, hereafter referred to as HP) and methyl peroxide (CH$_3$OOH, hereafter referred to as MHP). The multi-reagent ion gas system blends a CO$_2$ in air mixture and a CH$_3$I in N$_2$ mixture with pure N$_2$. This is different from other multi-reagent ion systems such as Brophy and Farmer (2015) as the two reagent gases are added simultaneously and tuned such that I$^-$, O$_2$-, and O$_2$(CO$_2$) ion cluster chemistries are operable. Heikes et al. (2017) and O’Sullivan et al. (2017) presented the PCIMS methodology measurements for
HP and MHP using $O_2$($CO_2$) and $O_2^-$, respectively. Heikes et al. (2017) presented an ion-neutral chemical kinetic model to simulate the ion chemistry presented here and in O’Sullivan et al. Here, we report the results of the PCIMS calibration work with CH$_3$I for HP, MHP, HFo, and HAc and interference work with ethanol, propanol and GA to determine: 1) the nominal CH$_3$I concentration inadvertently used in DC3, 2) pressure and humidity dependent sensitivity factors for these analytes using I$^-$ cluster chemistry, 3) interference characterization of a few common trace atmospheric gases, and 4) initial DC3 and FRAPPÉ HFo and AAES observations by the PCIMS instrument. The I$^-$ molecule cluster kinetics were described in greater depth in Heikes et al. (2017).

2 Methods

2.1 Field Campaigns

The Deep Convective Clouds and Chemistry (DC3) field campaign was conducted in the central United States in May and June 2012. The PCIMS was on board the National Center for Atmospheric Research Gulfstream-V aircraft (HIAPER, UCAR, 2005), which flew 22 research flights ranging west to east from the Colorado Front Range to North Carolina, north to south from Nebraska to the Gulf of Mexico and from the boundary layer to 13 km. A description of the project, platforms, instrumentation, and measurements can be found in Barth et al. (2014).

The Front Range Air Pollution and Photochemistry Êxperiment (FRAPPÉ) consisted of 15 research flights in July and August 2014. The PCIMS was flown on the National Center for Atmospheric Research C-130 (UCAR, 1994) and primarily over the northern Colorado Front Range from the boundary layer to 8 km. FRAPPÉ was the first campaign using the two-syringe microfluidic calibration system (Sect. 2.4) and the three-mixture blended reagent ion scheme (Sect. 2.3). The project was a multi-agency, multi-investigator program and details of the experiment are available online (https://www.eol.ucar.edu/field_projects/frappe and http://discover-aq.larc.nasa.gov/).

2.2 Instrumental Configuration

Continuous gas analysis was performed using a CIMS (THS Instruments, Inc., Atlanta, GA) in negative ion mode. The sample and analytical systems were based on the Slusher et al. (2004) design. Our modified CIMS, referred to as PCIMS, is depicted schematically in Fig. 1a, and instrumental settings are listed in Table 1. PCIMS was specifically designed to meet engineering standards for use on HIAPER (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). Critical system elements include a gas sample delivery inlet with calibration system and the PCIMS, which is composed of a reagent gas blending system, ion generation and air sample reaction system, ion selection (declustering, ion guide, and quadrupole), multi-ion counting detector, and vacuum system.

Ambient or laboratory sample air entered the PCIMS system through a PFA Teflon® inlet and transfer line. In the laboratory, synthetic air mixtures were delivered to the inlet using PFA Teflon®. In airborne field work, a HIAPER Modular Inlet (HIMIL) was hard mounted on the fuselage and extended beyond the aircraft boundary layer. The HIMIL is aerodynamically designed to minimize the collection, volatilization, and subsequent analysis of large aerosol and cloud drop/ice material as an artifact in gas measurements. The HIMIL and gas transfer lines were heated to 313 K in DC3 and 343 K in FRAPPÉ to minimize artifacts caused by the adsorption/release of the target gases onto/from the “wetted” inlet surfaces. The HIMIL wetted inlet surfaces were lined with PFA Teflon® tubing. Field calibrations (Sect. 2.4) were performed by standard addition to the sample air stream. The PCIMS responded linearly to the analyte gases measured at a fixed sample pressure and water vapor mixing ratio, and a “span check” methodology was employed for determining using a single calibration gas mixing ratio for each analyte. Analytical blanks (Sect. 2.5) were determined by passing the sample air stream,
with or without calibration gas, through serial organic acid Carulite 200® and peroxide NaOH traps. As discussed below, PCIMS sensitivity varied with sample pressure and water vapor mixing ratio.

In PCIMS, the sample air passed through a series of chambers to form, select, and quantify the organic acid ion clusters. The first chamber was the ion-sample reaction cell, RXN in Fig. 1a. In the reaction cell, the sample air was mixed with a reagent ion stream (Sect. 2.3) of which the bulk was pure nitrogen and controlled by mass flow controllers (MFCs). The total flow through the reaction cell was fixed at 4.68 slpm (standard liters per minute; T = 273.15 K and P = 1013.25 hPa) and the mean transit time through the reaction cell was 17.8 ms (Heikes et al., 2017). The reagent gas mixture was passed through a commercial electrostatic eliminator (model P2031-1000, NRD, Inc., Grand Island, NY), which initially contained 20 mCi of \(^{210}\)Po, an alpha emitter, and thus developed the requisite reagent ion stream (e.g., Heikes et al., 2017). The electrostatic eliminator was pre-treated with sodium bicarbonate per THS recommendation (THS Instruments, Inc., Atlanta, GA) to trap emitted residual nitric acid vapor present in the ion source from its manufacture. The RXN cell sample inlet and outlet critical orifices were of fixed diameter and optimized by the manufacturer THS to have a reaction cell pressure of 22 hPa, given the vacuum pumps and reagent gas system employed. This pressure was stated to provide the maximum yield of cluster ions and peak sensitivity and was not further evaluated, although the work of Iyer et al. (2016) suggested a higher RXN cell pressure could lead to higher sensitivities for analyte molecules with 8 or fewer atoms. For laboratory work in Narraganset, RI, and Annapolis, MD, the reagent nitrogen and the sample flow rates were effectively constant at 2.0 and 2.68 slpm (standard liters per minute; T = 273.15 K and P = 1013.25 hPa) respectively. However, in airborne operations, the inlet pressure decreased with altitude, the sample flow decreased proportionately because of its fixed orifice area and the reagent \(\text{N}_2\) flow was necessarily increased to maintain a constant RXN cell pressure. Note: a variable critical orifice sample inlet was unavailable at the time of DC3 and, while available for FRAPPÉ, was not flown then to best evaluate the DC3 post-mission calibrations and their use in DC3 to recover HFo and HAc in that program. Consequently, instrument response in this work varied with sample inlet pressure or sample flow rate and was quantified in the laboratory and during FRAPPÉ (Treadaway, 2015; Heikes et al., 2017).

2.3 Reagent Gas

The reagent gas during DC3 was \(\text{CO}_2\) (400 ppm, 0.080 slpm) in ultrapure air blended with pure \(\text{N}_2\) (Scott-Marrin, Riverside, CA). The \(\text{CO}_2\) and air reagent gas flow rate was optimized for HP and MHP signal response (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). An iodide source gas (iodomethane, \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\)), was used during pre-DC3 experiments as a potential reagent gas and was found to effectively cluster with HP but not with MHP (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). A residual amount of \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) had adsorbed onto the reagent gas handling “wetted” interior surfaces and was found to bleed off this plumbing in DC3. Post-DC3, a laboratory \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) in ultrapure \(\text{N}_2\) mixture was developed which reproduced the \(\Gamma\) available during DC3. The \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) reagent gas was prepared similarly to Le Breton et al. (2011) but without the addition of water. Liquid \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO) was first evaporated into a gas cylinder and diluted with \(\text{N}_2\) gas (Scott-Marrin). This \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) mixture was further diluted with \(\text{N}_2\) to a 5 ppm \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}\) mixing ratio which was found to reproduce the field sensitivities of HP, MHP, and \(\text{H}_2\text{H}^{18}\text{O}\) observed in DC3 (Treadaway, 2015). The final reagent gas blend of \(\text{CH}_3\text{I}, \text{CO}_2, \text{O}_2,\) and \(\text{N}_2\) yielded responses for \(\Gamma, \text{O}_2^{-},\) and \(\text{O}_2(\text{CO}_2)\) cluster ions with organic acids, peroxides, hydroxyacetaldehyde, and water vapor.

2.4 Calibration Configuration

HFo and HAc standards (HCOOH, > 95% and \(\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}, 99.9\%\), respectively) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich. The HP standard was obtained from Fisher-Scientific (\(\text{H}_2\text{O}_2, 30\%)\), the MHP standard was synthesized and dilutions of both
were standardized by titration and or UV absorbance (Lee et al., 1995a). In-flight calibrations were performed by microfluidic injection. Two versions of the microfluidic system were used to inject the liquid standard into the PCIMS via a nitrogen gas line. For the first set-up, used during DC3, the standard was contained in a Hamilton glass syringe and injected using a single syringe pump (1 x 10^{-6} L/min aqueous flow rate, KD Scientific Inc., Holliston, MA). The liquid standard was vaporized in a heating block (328 K) into a gaseous N₂ stream (0.4 slpm). The disadvantage of this system is that it can only calibrate for peroxides or organic acids and was used exclusively for the peroxides, as they were the target analytes of interest. After DC3, a second microfluidic system was developed which allowed for calibration of peroxides and organic acids. Both peroxide and organic acid aqueous standards (in Hamilton glass syringes) were injected (5 x 10^{-7} L/min) and evaporated into a N₂ gas stream (0.4 slpm) via mixing-Ts and a ballast PFA-Teflon® mixing vessel. Both microfluidic standard addition systems were contained within the PCIMS instrument rack. In-flight calibrations were done as part of the FRAPPÉ program in the summer of 2014 with the second microfluidic set-up. During FRAPPÉ, the organic acid aqueous standards were verified by titration (Treadaway, 2015). The percent errors between the theoretical and titrated concentrations were 1.00% and 1.51% for HFo and HAc, respectively. The FRAPPÉ peroxide aqueous standards, which were also used in post-mission laboratory work, were standardized by titration and/or UV absorbance with an estimated accuracy of 5% and 10%, respectively.

Sensitivities were determined in-flight by standard addition. The ambient signal before and after the calibration gas addition was used to estimate the ambient signal at the time of calibration gas addition. The sensitivity was then determined by dividing the calibration gas mixing ratio in the reaction cell by the difference between the combined standard addition and ambient signal and the interpolated ambient signal. The sensitivity of each compound is reported as counts per second per ppb (cps/ppb). The average error in laboratory sensitivity for HFo and HAc was 26% and 31% respectively. This accounts for error in the PCIMS signal response and error in instrumental sources (e.g. mass flow controllers).

Henry’s Law constants were determined for HFo and HAc using a gas-aqueous coil equilibrium apparatus. HFo (0.3 mM) and HAc (0.9 mM), were acidified (0.02 N H₂SO₄) to keep each acid in its protonated form and thereby ensure partitioning into the gas phase according to each acid’s Henry’s Law constant. Henry's Law constants from Johnson et al. (1996) were used. Zero air (0.2 or 0.4 slpm) was passed through an equilibration coil in a water bath kept at 288 or 298 K along with the organic acid standard. The resulting calibration gas was added to the sample air stream after humidification (Sect. 2.6). For the work at 298 K, the laboratory room temperature was increased to 303 K to prevent water vapor from condensing on the transfer tubing walls. This same set-up was used for the GA Henry’s Law experiment and the alcohol interference work described below.

2.5 Blank Configuration

Carulite 200® (Carus Corporation, Peru, IL), a magnesium dioxide/copper oxide catalyst, is an effective ozone and peroxide destruction catalyst and was used during DC3 as an analytical blank substrate for the peroxides (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). It further proved to be effective in removing but not destroying the organic acids as well. Unfortunately, at low organic acid concentrations, there can be a positive trap response due to outgassing from the Carulite 200®. During FRAPPÉ, three different traps were tested as organic acid blank substrates: Cu/NaHCO₃, Na₂CO₃, and NaOH. The Cu/NaHCO₃ trap scrubbed the organic acids and HP but generated a positive trap response at m/z 80; the identity of which was not determined. The Carulite 200® trap was added after the Cu/NaHCO₃ trap which successfully eliminated the positive trap response at m/z 80. While this trap configuration removed both peroxides and organic acids the time response of the blank process was ∼90 seconds and was considered too long for in-flight blanks. The NaOH (5%) trap only removed organic acids. Running the air sample through the Carulite 200® and then the NaOH trap removed both peroxides and organic acids with minor
The blank equilibration time was much shorter (30-45 seconds) than with the Carulite 200® and Cu/NaHCO$_3$ trap. The Na$_2$CO$_3$ trap was a mixture of sodium carbonate (5 g), glycerol (5 g), water (250 mL), and methanol (250 mL) based on the EPA SOP (EPA, 2009). This trap was tested with and without the NaOH trap. Unfortunately, there was an outgassing of compounds which interfered at the masses used to measure HAc and HP. We speculate contaminants were present in the glycerol or methanol used to prepare the trap or from in situ chemical reactions leading to HAc and/or HP production on the Na$_2$CO$_3$ trap. It was determined that the combination of the Carulite 200® and NaOH traps was best for scrubbing peroxides and organic acids.

In flight, blanks were performed periodically. Field detection limits were determined from signal variability (3 times the standard deviation) during the trap-on cycle. The in flight detection limits were 16 ppt for HFo and 50 ppt for AAES. In laboratory work, detection limits were calculated as three times the standard deviation of the Aadco background and are reported in Table 2 as a function of inlet pressure.

In FRAPPE, the calibration and blank cycles were both 720 s in duration. The calibration gas was on for 75 s and off for 645 s. The calibration gas was turned on coincident with the blank traps being turned off. The 16 selected m/z signals were sampled in 3.5 s. The full response rise time and fall time for calibration gases on and off were 11 and 7 s, respectively for peroxides at m/z 80 and 110 and organic acids at m/z 172 and 187. The full response rise time for the traps on and off were 14 and 11 s, respectively.

### 2.6 Laboratory Set-Up

The laboratory set-up was described in detail in Treadaway (2015) and only briefly presented here. In the laboratory, different field conditions were simulated by varying the water vapor and/or the inlet pressure of the sample air stream as depicted in Fig. 1b. A zero-air generator (Aadco Instruments Inc., Cleves, OH) supplied the sample air stream to prevent the addition of organics and excess water into the system. This air stream was split between “dry” and humidified lines. The dry line came directly from the Aadco. The water concentration in the humidified line was controlled with two gas washing bottles and a gas-water equilibration coil immersed in a water bath kept at 288 K or 298 K. By changing the ratio of air flow through the dry and humidified lines, it was possible to alter the overall water vapor mixing ratio in the air stream entering the PCIMS. The inlet pressure was manually controlled after humidification with a needle valve (V, Fig. 1b) and a pressure transducer. The needle valve was able to approximate the atmospheric altitude/pressure conditions (sea level to 14 km, approximately 120 hPa) experienced in the field and inlet pressure change impacts on signal response or sensitivity were investigated (Treadaway, 2015).

The reaction cell water vapor range, reagent gas reaction cell mixing ratios, and sample pressures used in the laboratory are given in Table 3.

-PCIMS response and sensitivity to GA at m/z 92 (O$_2$(GA)) and m/z 187 (I(GA)) was determined using two different methods to generate known amounts of GA based upon the literature: 1) the Henry’s Law constants of Betterton and Hoffmann (1988) and 2) the GA vapor pressure determination over neat GA melt as a function of melt temperature by Petitjean et al. (2010) with a serial gas dilution system. GA dimer was used as purchased (Sigma-Aldrich, St Louis, MO).

For the Henry’s Law experiment, 3.689x10$^{-4}$ kg of GA dimer was dissolved into 1.00 x 10$^{-4}$ m$^3$ of pure water (18 Mohm), yielding a 0.0614 M solution of GA monomer. The same gas-aqueous equilibration coil apparatus was used as described above for the organic acid Henry’s Law work. From the data of Betterton and Hoffmann (1988), the GA Henry’s Law constant was predicted to equal 70 M hPa$^{-1}$ at 288 K. The direct application of this value to our experiments was referred to as Case 1. Betterton and Hoffmann noted their Henry’s Law constants for GA were significantly larger than expected. Implicit assumptions in their analysis were the GA solution was all monomer (GA and GA hydrate) and aqueous hydration/dehydration kinetics were
"fast" compared to the gas-aqueous equilibration time scale of their experimental system. However, Kua et al. (2013) reported that a 1 M GA monomer equivalent aqueous solution is a mixture of monomers and several dimer and trimer compounds. GA monomers were found to comprise approximately 55% of their solution with the monomer making up 3% and the monomer hydrate 52%. Using the experimental equilibrium constants determined from Kua et al. (2013) and our "as monomer" aqueous concentration, our aqueous solution was expected to be 91% monomer hydrate, 6% monomer with the remaining 3% nearly all dimer. Kua et al. also indicated the kinetics of the trimer and dimer equilibration was "slow," up to a few hours. Using these distributions and an assumption of "fast" monomer kinetics but "slow" kinetic exchange of trimer and dimer to monomer, the gas phase mixing ratio would be 97% of the reported Betterton and Hoffmann expected gas-phase mixing ratio at our aqueous equilibration concentration, referred to here as Case 2. Further, if the monomer hydration/dehydration kinetics were also "slow" such that the monomer hydrate does not have sufficient time in the equilibrator to convert to monomer (e.g., dehydration rates of Sørenson, 1972, are on the order of 0.01 to 0.1 s\(^{-1}\) depending upon solution pH), then we would observe as little as 6% of the GA gas as expected from the Betterton and Hoffmann (1988) Henry's Law constant and this situation was referred to as Case 3. The conditions of Case 2 and Case 3 would falsify the equilibrium assumption and cause the Betterton and Hoffmann Henry's Law constant to be too large as they noted. Table S1 in the supplemental information lists the expected reaction cell GA mixing ratio for these three cases at the five equilibration air flow rates used in the Henry's Law experiments. The GA sensitivity was determined at two reaction cell water vapor mixing ratios, 1700 and 7500 ppm.

In the melt "vapor pressure" GA source experiments, 1 x 10\(^{-4}\) kg of GA dimer was placed in a 1 x 10\(^{-3}\) m\(^3\) glass vessel and slowly heated in a stirred water bath until fully melted at 358 K. A 1 x 10\(^{-3}\) slpm flow of 532 ppm CO\(_2\) in pure air was passed through the 10 mL vessel holding the melted dimer and the outflow immediately mixed with an Aadco air stream flowing at 0.3 slpm to prevent deposition of the GA monomer gas onto the walls of the vessel and gas transfer lines. The residence time of air in the vessel was 10 minutes and sufficiently long to allow mixing of the air over the melt and for the melt to be in equilibrium with gas phase GA. The melt remained limpid as the bath temperature decreased to room temperature, nominally 295 K, and as the water bath was heated the next day up to a temperature of 358 K. The glass vessel and gas mixing-Ts were submerged in the water bath and the temperature was increased from 298 to 358 K in 20 K increments. The water bath temperature was monitored and this temperature was used to evaluate the partial pressure of GA above the melt. Table S2 shows the expected GA reaction cell mixing ratio at different melt temperatures using the data from Petitjean et al. (2010).

The potential exists for ethanol and 1-propanol or 2-propanol to be isobaric interferences in the measurement of HF\(_2\)O and HAc or GA, respectively, at the PCIMS m/z resolution of 1.0. The PCIMS sensitivity to these compounds was determined using their respective Henry's Law constants (Sander, 2015) and the gas-aqueous equilibration calibration apparatus described above. The alcohols were used as purchased (Sigma-Aldrich, St Louis, MO) and diluted with pure water to final concentrations of 1 x 10\(^{-4}\) M for ethanol, 1-propanol, and 2-propanol.

### 2.5 Blank Configuration

Carulite-200® (Carus Corporation, Peru, IL), a magnesium dioxide/copper oxide catalyst, is an effective ozone and peroxide destruction catalyst and was used during DC3 as an analytical blank substrate for the peroxides (O’Sullivan et al., 2017). It further proved to be effective in removing but not destroying the organic acids as well. Unfortunately, at low organic acid concentrations, there can be a positive trap response due to outgassing from the Carulite-200®. Therefore, three different traps were tested as organic acid blank substrates: Cu/NaHCO\(_3\), Na\(_2\)CO\(_3\), and NaOH. It was determined that the NaOH (5%) trap
was effective at removing organic acids but not peroxides. Running the air sample through the Carulite 200® and then the NaOH trap removed both peroxides and organic acids with minor outgassing.

In flight, blanks were performed periodically. Field detection limits were determined from signal variability (3 times the standard deviation) during the trap-on cycle. The in-flight detection limits were 16 ppt for HFo and 50 ppt for AAES. In laboratory work, detection limits were calculated as three times the standard deviation of the Aadco background and are reported in Table 2 as a function of inlet pressure.

In FRAPPÉ, the calibration and blank cycles were both 720 s in duration. The calibration gas was on for 75 s and off for 645 s. The calibration gas was turned on coincident with the blank traps being turned off. The 16 selected m/z signals were sampled in 3.5 s. The full-response rise time and fall time for calibration gases on and off were 11 and 7 s, respectively for peroxides at m/z 80 and 110 and organic acids at m/z 173 and 187. The full-response fall time and rise time for the traps on and off were 14 and 11 s, respectively.

2.6 Laboratory Set-Up

The laboratory set-up was described in detail in Treadaway (2015) and only briefly presented here. In the laboratory, different field conditions were simulated by varying the water vapor and/or the inlet pressure of the sample air stream as depicted in Fig. 1b. A zero-air generator (Aadco Instruments Inc., Cleves, OH) supplied the sample air stream to prevent the addition of organics and excess water into the system. This air stream was split between “dry” and humidified lines. The dry line came directly from the Aadco. The water concentration in the humidified line was controlled with two gas washing bottles and a gas-water equilibration coil immersed in a water bath kept at 288 K or 298 K. By changing the ratio of air flow through the dry and humidified lines, it was possible to alter the overall water vapor mixing ratio in the air stream entering the PCIMS. The inlet pressure was manually controlled after humidification with a needle valve (V, Fig. 1b) and a pressure transducer. The needle valve was able to approximate the atmospheric altitude/pressure conditions (sea level to 14 km, approximately 120 hPa) experienced in the field and inlet pressure change impacts on signal response or sensitivity were investigated (Treadaway, 2015). The reaction cell water vapor range, reagent gas reaction cell mixing ratios, and sample pressures used in the laboratory are given in Table 3.

3 Results

A laboratory calibration mass spectrum (Fig. 2) highlights the O₂⁻, O₂⁻(CO₂), and I⁻ cluster signal responses for HP, MHP, HFo, and HAc in the multi-reagent ion system. For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds and the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm. PCIMS signal responses for HP include m/z 66 (O₂⁻(HP)), m/z 110 (O₂⁻(CO₂)(HP)) and m/z 161 (I⁻(HP)). MHP is measured at m/z 80 (O₂⁻(MHP)) and m/z 175 (I⁻(MHP)). See O’Sullivan et al. (2017) and Heikes et al. (2017) for a more complete discussion of the ion cluster chemistry of HP and MHP. HFo responds at m/z 173 (I⁻(HFo)) and at m/z 78 (O₂⁻(HFo)) and HAc responds at m/z 92 (O₂⁻(HAc)) and m/z 187 (I⁻(HAc)) as does GA. The I⁻ concentration in the PCIMS is monitored with the I⁻(H₂¹⁸O) cluster (m/z 147). The I⁻ signal in the PCIMS (m/z 127) is marked as well for reference and under the reagent conditions saturates the detector; similarly the signal at 145 for I⁻(H₂O) was typically saturated as well.

This blended reagent ion system hinges on a balance between the iodide and oxygen chemistry. In general, as the proportion of CH₃I increased the sensitivity of the CO₂ and O₂ clusters decreased with the impact on MHP being greater than that for HP. The PCIMS is not as sensitive for HAc as for HFo (Figs. S1, 3, 4) and a sufficient amount of CH₃I is needed to promote
HAc clustering. Therefore, finding a balance between the two reagent gases ultimately depends on a prioritization between MHP and HAc. For this reason, five CH$_3$I flow rates (0.0005, 0.001, 0.0015, 0.002, and 0.0025 slpm) were evaluated. Figure S1 shows $\Gamma$ cluster laboratory sensitivities for $\Gamma$(HFo), $\Gamma$(HAc), $\Gamma$(HP), and $\Gamma$(MHP) as a function of CH$_3$I flowrate. Figure S2 shows the laboratory MHP sensitivity at m/z 80 (O$_2$(MHP)) as a function of CH$_3$I flowrate. All of the pressure and water work is combined together which accounts for the large variance shown (1 standard deviation). The ion clusters’ water dependencies are discussed below. As the CH$_3$I flowrate increased, the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity decreased. As expected, the sensitivities of the $\Gamma$(HFo), $\Gamma$(HAc), $\Gamma$(HP), and $\Gamma$(MHP) clusters increased as the CH$_3$I flowrate increased with an approximate doubling in sensitivity for HFo and HP corresponding with a doubling in CH$_3$I flowrate. Overall an increase in CH$_3$I, and consequently $\Gamma$, resulted in an increase in $\Gamma$(HAc) sensitivity but at the cost of decreasing the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity. It was fortuitous that there was enough CH$_3$I present during DC3 to promote organic acid clustering without impairing the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity. The data of Fig. S3, $\Gamma$(HP) in Fig. 3, and those for O$_2$(HP), O$_2$(CO$_2$)(HP) (not shown) were used to identify the CH$_3$I flow rate of 0.0005 slpm as providing the best sensitivity matches to the DC3 calibration data for HP and MHP.

Figure S3 shows the MHP calibrations at m/z 80 (O$_2$(MHP)) from DC3 as a function of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. Laboratory derived MHP sensitivity at m/z 80 is also shown as a function of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio for 5 different CH$_3$I flow rates (discussed below). The data are binned by the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. The mean sensitivity for that bin is plotted and the horizontal bar represents the limits of the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. The length of the vertical bar from the mean represents one standard deviation and includes random errors associated with variations in pressure, ambient concentrations during the standard addition, and systematic variations due to water vapor in a bin, calibration gas precision, and instrumental precision. As the CH$_3$I flowrate increased, the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity decreased. The data of Fig. S1, $\Gamma$(HP) in Fig. 3, and those for O$_2$(HP), O$_2$(CO$_2$)(HP) (not shown) were used to identify the CH$_3$I flow rate of 0.0005 slpm as providing the best sensitivity matches to the DC3 calibration data for HP and MHP. It was fortuitous that there was enough CH$_3$I present during DC3 to promote organic acid clustering without impairing the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity.

In future experiments, finding a balance between the two reagent gases ultimately depends on a prioritization between MHP and HAc. For this reason, five CH$_3$I flowrates (0.0005, 0.001, 0.0015, 0.002, and 0.0025 slpm) were evaluated. Figure 3 shows $\Gamma$ cluster sensitivities for $\Gamma$(HP), $\Gamma$(MHP), $\Gamma$(HFo), and $\Gamma$(HAc) for the FRAPPÉ experiment and from the same CH$_3$I laboratory work as in Fig. S1. The horizontal and vertical error bars represent the same information as in Fig. S1. As expected, the sensitivities of the $\Gamma$(HFo), $\Gamma$(HP), and $\Gamma$(MHP) clusters increased as the CH$_3$I flowrate increased with an approximate doubling in sensitivity for HFo and HP with a doubling in CH$_3$I flowrate. Also as anticipated, the HAc sensitivity increased substantially from the lowest to the highest CH$_3$I flowrate though not always sequentially. S3. The horizontal and vertical error bars represent the same information as in Fig. S3. Overall an increase in CH$_3$I, and consequently $\Gamma$, resulted in an increase in $\Gamma$(HAc) sensitivity but at the cost of decreasing the O$_2$(MHP) sensitivity.

The laboratory calibration technique was verified by comparison to in-flight calibrations from FRAPPÉ. The in-flight FRAPPÉ calibrations are included in Fig. 3. The first two FRAPPÉ flights are omitted due to in-flight vibrations (Heikes et al., 2017). HAc calibrations were not available for all flights due to contamination issues in the hanger (Heikes et al., 2017) and vibration. The vibration problem led to “chatter” in the mass flow controllers and their orientation and location within the instrument rack was modified between flights several times. The HFo and HAc laboratory sensitivities were similar to the FRAPPÉ in-flight calibrations. HAc sensitivity decreased with water above 1000 ppm. The HP and MHP FRAPPÉ sensitivity averages were higher than the 0.0005 slpm laboratory work but within the error. $\Gamma$(MHP) was independent of water but there appeared to be a water sensitivity maximum for $\Gamma$(HP) at about 1000 ppm reaction cell water vapor. There was a pressure
FRAPPÉ in-flight sensitivities as a function of reaction cell water vapor for PCIMS analyte clusters are shown in Fig. 4. The horizontal and vertical error bars represent the same information as in Figs. S1S3 and 3. Figure 4a contains the O$_2$ cluster calibration data for HP, MHP, HFo, and HAc. The O$_2$(CO$_2$)(HP) cluster is also included on Fig. 4a. O$_2$(HAc) sensitivity was independent of water vapor but the other four compound sensitivities decreased with increasing water vapor over the range of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratios observed in FRAPPÉ. Figure 4b shows the I$^-$ cluster sensitivities for HP, MHP, HFo, and HAc. As described above, the I$^-$(HP) and I$^-$(HAc) sensitivities decreased with water vapor mixing ratio whereas I$^-$(HFo) and I$^-$(MHP) increased with reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio.

Henry’s Law constants were determined for HFo and HAc at 288 and 298 K and are presented in Table 4 along with the reaction enthalpies. A wide range of Henry’s Law constants from 5.43 to 13.2 M/hPa and 5.43 to 9.18 M/hPa have been reported for HFo and HAc at 298 K, respectively. Of the measured values reported in Sander (2015), only Johnson et al. (1996) experimentally determined the Henry’s Law constants at multiple temperatures. Our Henry’s Law constants compared best to those given by Johnson et al. (1996), especially for HAc. The Henry’s Law constants for HFo were lower than the Johnson et al. (1996) values. The difference in Henry’s Law constants could be due to a higher gas-phase partitioning through the coil system than measured by Johnson et al. (1996). Our reaction enthalpies for HFo were higher than the Johnson values which also could be due to a higher gas-phase partitioning in our system. The HAc smaller reaction enthalpy, relative to Johnson’s value, was likely due to the higher Henry’s Law constant for HAc at 298 K. It is the only value in our work that is higher than Johnson. It is possible that at the higher temperature, and therefore higher water vapor mixing ratio in the reaction cell (Treadaway, 2015), we were actually seeing a decrease in HAc sensitivity not captured in the laboratory syringe calibrations that occurred at lower water vapor mixing ratios. This would have caused us to overestimate our Henry’s Law constant.

Ethanol (hereafter referred to as EtOH), 1- and 2-propanol (hereafter referred to as 1- and 2-PrOH), and glycolaldehyde (GA) are potential isobaric interferences for I$^-$(HFo) and I$^-$(HAc). The PCIMS sensitivity to I$^-$(EtOH), I$^-$(1-PrOH), and I$^-$(2-PrOH) was quantified using the Henry’s Law equilibration system. The PCIMS was substantially more sensitive to HFo and HAc compared to these alcohols. At the lowest tested reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio (~30 ppm), the PCIMS was 140 times more sensitive to HFo compared to EtOH and the ratio increased with increased water vapor mixing ratio. At the lowest reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio, the PCIMS HAc sensitivity was 140 and 90 times those for 1- and 2-PrOH, respectively. As with the EtOH measurements, the sensitivity to HAc relative to 1- and 2-PrOH increased with increasing reaction cell water vapor mixing. Bausandorj et al. (2015) performed a similar study for EtOH and 2-PrOH using a PTR-MS instrument and reaction cell water vapor range equivalent to 2500 – 15000 ppm. They found the HFo sensitivity to be 6 to 15 times higher than that for EtOH and their HAc sensitivity was 200 – 300 times higher than that for 2-PrOH over their experimental humidity range. Bausandorj et al. (2015) performed a similar study for EtOH and 2-PrOH using a PTR-MS instrument and reaction cell water vapor range equivalent to 2500 – 15000 ppm. They found the HFo sensitivity to be 6 to 15 times higher than that for EtOH and their HAc sensitivity was 200 – 300 times higher than that for 2-PrOH over their experimental humidity range. It should be acknowledged that these two techniques are different and some of the masses detected by the PTR-MS were fragments of the alcohols. While a time-of-flight CIMS can distinguish the alcohols from the organic acids (Yuan et al., 2016), there is a paucity of quadruple I$^-$CIMS data available with which to compare our I$^-$CIMS alcohol interference work.
The PCIMS sensitivity to GA was evaluated using a Henry's Law equilibration system and a vapor pressure melt system to generate gaseous GA and the results are presented in Tables 5 and 6, respectively. The sensitivities for the two GA generation systems were further compared to the HAc sensitivity (Table 25; comparison sensitivity was developed from Fig. 3 and Fig. 4). Case 1 and Case 2 are reported together because the sensitivities were indistinguishable for reportable significant digits; therefore, comparison to the melt method and HAc only considered Case 1 or 3. The GA sensitivities at m/z 92 (O_2°(GA)) and m/z 187 (I°(GA)) for the melt vapor pressure source of GA were between those from the Case 1 and Case 3 assumption sets for the Henry's Law generated GA sensitivities. The GA sensitivities using the Case 1 (or Case 2) assumptions were comparable to the HAc sensitivity at m/z 92 and m/z 187. The GA sensitivities determined using the melt vapor pressure source were a factor of 4 and a factor of 10 greater than the sensitivity of HAc at m/z 92 and m/z 187, respectively. Unlike Petitjean et al. (2010), we did not purify the GA dimer using a freeze-pump-thaw cycle. This could have led to potential impurities in the solid, one of which could be HAc, and possibly an overestimation of the vapor pressure. Magneron et al. (2005) also reported partial pressure ranges for GA at 298 and 333 K and the value at 298 K was 20 times higher than Petitjean et al. (2010). Our high sensitivities determined with the Petitjean et al. vapor pressures could be due to impurities in the sample. Regardless, these results imply GA or HAc were a significant interference in the measurement of the other using both O_2° and I° cluster formation. As GA atmospheric mixing ratios are non-negligible (Table S1), PCIMS data collected at m/z 187 are therefore reported as the "acetic acid equivalent sum," or AAES, of HAc plus GA.

4 Discussion

4.1 Ion Chemistry and Water Sensitivity Dependence

Jones et al. (2014), Le Breton et al. (2012), and Lee et al. (2014) observed an I°(HFO) sensitivity dependence on water vapor. Lee et al. (2014) has shown I°(HAc) sensitivity to vary with water vapor. O'Sullivan et al. (2017) and Heikes et al. (2017) discussed the water sensitivity of O_2°(CO_2)(HP) and O_2°(MHP) clusters. HFO and HAc sensitivities were the primary focus of this work and were examined over a range of water vapor mixing ratios from ~30 ppm to 20,000 ppm with a combination of laboratory and field measurements. I°(HP) sensitivity was also examined as it was used together with I°(H_2O), O_2°(CO_2)(HP), and O_2°(MHP) sensitivities to diagnose the PCIMS residual CH_3I mixing ratio present in DC3. In addition, a weak MHP calibration signal at m/z 175 was observed in FRAPPÉ. Heikes et al. (2017) used these data and developed a more detailed analysis of the I° chemistry of HFO, HAc, HP, and MHP, which is briefly presented below.

The following ion chemistry was invoked to account for an iodide cluster's observed sensitivity dependence on water vapor (Lee et al., 2014; Heikes et al., 2017)

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(1)} & \quad I^- + H_2O + M \rightarrow I^-(H_2O) + M \\
\text{(2)} & \quad I^- + X + M \rightarrow I^-{(X)} + M \\
\text{(3)} & \quad I^-(H_2O)_n + X \leftrightarrow I^-{(X)(H_2O)_{n-1}} + H_2O
\end{align*}
\]
\[ I^−(X) + H_2O \leftrightarrow I^−(H_2O) + X \]

where X represents HFo, HAc, HP, and MHP and M represents a third-body reactant (typically N₂, O₂, H₂O and CO₂). Heikes et al. found that the pressure and humidity trends seen in our PCIMS laboratory and field work for HP, HFo, and HAc could not be replicated without the addition of I(H₂O)₂ (3), especially at the higher humidity values. However, I(H₂O)₂ was not present in mass scans in FRAPPÉ or the laboratory and we inferred I(H₂O)₂ binding was not strong enough to survive declustering in the collision dissociation chamber.

Lee et al. (2014) found the I(HFo) sensitivity plateaus and declines when the reaction cell water was above 2200 ppm. The occurrence of a maximum sensitivity as a function of water vapor is two-fold. First, Iyer et al. (2016) and Heikes et al. (2017) have pointed out the rates of cluster forming reactions (2) are promoted by a third-body reactant which acts as an energy carrier and stabilizes the cluster. -H₂O is expected to be more efficient in this regard than the other molecules listed above. Second, H₂O competes with X for I (1) and can shift the switching reaction (4) equilibrium in favor of I(H₂O) thereby decreasing the yield of I(X) when H₂O is large. Unlike Lee et al. (2014), our HFo sensitivity did not decrease at the highest water mixing ratios tested, though it appeared to plateau - most notably in the ambient pressure (1013 hPa) laboratory work (Fig. 3). Possibly, our highest reaction cell water mixing ratios were insufficient to achieve a decline in sensitivity as observed by Lee et al. The maximum water mixing ratio in the reaction cell during laboratory experiments was 7800 ppm (Treadaway, 2015). However, the FRAPPÉ in-flight calibrations covered a larger water mixing ratio yet there was still no decline in sensitivity (Fig. 4). It is likely that instrumental differences between the two CIMS configurations led to a shift in the location of the water response peak in sensitivity. Lee et al. (2014) used a much higher CH₄ reagent gas mixing ratio and reaction cell pressure (90 hPa) or [M] which, as mentioned above, can impact the reaction velocity (1, 2). Jones et al. (2014) and Le Breton et al. (2012) intentionally added water to promote clustering. Jones et al. (2014) found a decrease in sensitivity at their lowest water mixing ratios as a result of an insufficient water source to promote clustering under the dry sampling conditions of the Arctic and upper troposphere. Under the Le Breton et al. sampling conditions near the surface they operated in a water vapor independent regime. Our in-flight observations and unpublished Heikes et al. (2017) model results with Le Breton’s CH₄ mixing ratio suggests that there is a water dependent regime between the altitudes sampled by Jones et al. and Le Breton et al.

Figures 3 and 4 show I(HAc) sensitivity was constant up to approximately 1000 ppm reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio, above which the sensitivity decreased. This suggested reaction (2) for HAc was likely able to dissipate the excess energy of reaction into the cluster ion without requiring an explicit third body molecule. Above 1000 ppm, I(HAc) sensitivity decreased with increasing reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio, indicated the switching reaction equilibrium for HAc (4) behaved like that what was expected for HFo, but not observed, and was shifting towards I(H₂O). By comparison, Lee et al. (2014) found a decrease in I(HAc) sensitivity with the addition of any water to their system.

Iyer et al. (2016) reported a binding enthalpy of -70.5 kJ/mol for I(HAc) and -106.8 kJ/mol for I(HFo). The binding enthalpies are reported here as negative values, indicating an exothermic process and opposite to the NIST nomenclature for ion-molecule reactions (Bartmess, 2017). They correlated the sensitivities of Lee et al. to binding energy and theorized the binding enthalpy for an analyte in an I⁻ cluster could be used to predict its sensitivity. Figures 3 and 4 suggested ambient water vapor also had a significant role to play in determining an analyte's sensitivity our I⁻ CIMS configuration.

4.3 Interferences

HFo, HAc, and GA were found to form cluster ions with both O₂⁻ and I⁻ ions. Figure 4, developed from FRAPPÉ data, demonstrated the O₂⁻ cluster sensitivity for each of the analytes was greater than its I⁻ counterpart. By itself this argued for the
use of $O_2$ over $\Gamma$. However, m/z 78 ($O_2$(HFO)) in our system may experience interference from cluster ions such as $CO_3^-(H_2O)$ and $^{18}O$ of $O_2$ (CO$_2$) also at m/z 78 (O'Sullivan et al. 2017; Heikes et al., 2017). Interference at m/z 92 ($O_2$(HAc)) included HAc interference by GA and vice versa and speculative cluster ions like CO$_3$(O$_2$) or NO$_2$(HFO). A second drawback to the use of $O_2$ as a cluster ion stems not from potential interferences but from the complex interplay between $O_2$, CO$_2$, and H$_2$O and the analytes HP, MHP, HFO, HAc and GA (Heikes et al., 2017). Calibration under variable water vapor conditions and variable trace species such as ozone or nitrogen oxides was challenging.

From the results, it was clear HAc and GA provided comparable response as $O_2$ clusters or $\Gamma$ clusters, even though the GA gas phase Henry's Law and melt vapor pressure systems used here were not ideal as outlined above. The HAc:GA relative sensitivity was between 1:1 to 1:1.10. We are most confident in our Case 1 and Case 2 Henry's Law work which presumed "fast" monomer hydration/dehydration (both Case 1 and 2) and "fast" monomer, dimer, and trimer equilibrations (Case 1). To rule out "slow" dehydration/hydration equilibration kinetics (Case 3) in the GA aqueous solution, multiple gas flow rates through the coil were used. A "slow" dehydration of monomer was expected to result in a reduction in sensitivity as the flow rate was increased and monomer was depleted before replacement could occur from the monomer-hydrate pool. This was not observed and the hydration/dehydration kinetics were taken to be "fast". A Case 1 (or Case 2) result interpretation yielded a 1:1 sensitivity ratio and implies reported AAES mixing ratios were close to the true sum of HAc and GA. If the melt vapor pressure source sensitivity was correct, then we observed approximately a factor of 10 higher sensitivity for GA than for HAc. This implies reported AAES mixing ratios represent an upper limit to the sum of HAc and GA and if in fact the AAES included only GA, the AAES indicates 10 times the amount of GA than actually present. Baasandorj et al. (2015)Baasandorj et al. (2015) also tested GA interference in their PTR-MS HAc measurements. They found a HAc:GA sensitivity ratio of 0.65 – 1.4 over their experimental humidity range and our Case 1 Henry's Law results using drastically different ion chemistry is consistent with their work. St. Clair et al. (2014) measured HAc and GA with both a single quadrupole and tandem CIMS with a CF$_3$O reagent ion. Their single quadrupole HAc:GA ratio was 2:3 to 3:2 for four flights during the California portion of the Arctic Research of the Composition of the Troposphere from Aircraft and Satellites (CARB-ARCTAS). These flights sampled biomass burning and high biogenic emissions with urban influence from Sacramento (St. Clair et al., 2014)St. Clair et al., 2014). St. Clair's single quadrupole CIMS is similar to ours, though with a different reagent ion, and they also found a HAc:GA ratio consistent with our Case 1 Henry’s Law results. As a caveat, the Petitjean et al. (2010) critique of prior work regarding GA absolute vapor pressure could apply to Baasandorj et al. (2015), St. Clair et al. (2014), as well as, our work and GA gas calibration is an unresolved issue.

4.4 FRAPPÉ Example flight

Figure 5 shows PCIMS HFO and AAES data from FRAPPÉ Research Flight 12 (RF 12) on August 12, 2014. The C130 flew a mountain-valley flight pattern to sample "upslope" flow over the Rocky Mountains. Part 1 of the flight was flown between Boulder and Greeley (GE) in a series of stacked legs. Part 2 (after refueling at 16:00 MDT) flew over Denver and then two legs over the Continental Divide (CD) with a low altitude "missed approach" at Granby (GN) airport on the western side of the divide. Both HFO and AAES mixing ratios were at least 1 ppb for the majority of the flight. The highest HFO was found west of Fort Collins (FC) near biogenic sources characterized by isoprene greater than 75 ppt, methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) greater than 100 ppt, and methacrolein (MACR) greater than 70 ppt (NCAR Trace Organic Gas Analyzer, Apel et al., 2015). Elevated HFO (>1.5 ppb) in Granby corresponded with elevated $O_2$ (+80 ppb, NCAR 1-channel chemiluminescence, Ridley et al., 1992) and a biogenic signature (~100 ppt MVK and ~80 ppt isoprene). This could be secondary production from an upslope flow event and subsequent spill over event (Pfister, 2015). There was high AAES (up to 14 ppb) below 0.5 km (AGL, above ground level) and high NH$_3$ (Aerodyne Research, Inc., Herndon et al., 2005) with a maximum mixing ratio of 180 ppb near Greeley which is an
area associated with a concentration of confined animal feedlot operations (Eilerman et al., 2016). If the signal at m/z 187 were primarily HAc, the HAc:NH$_3$ ratio was 0.078 which is within the range reported by Paulot et al. (2011). A maximum AAES of ~10 ppb was measured over the Denver Metropolitan area (D) in a series of stacked legs. Part 2 (after refueling at 16:00 MDT) flew over Denver and then two legs over the Continental Divide with a low altitude "missed approach" at Granby airport on the western side of the divide. Both HFo and AAES mixing ratios were at least 1 ppb for the majority of the flight. The highest HFo was found west of Fort Collins near biogenic sources characterized by isoprene greater than 75 ppt, methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) greater than 100 ppt, and methacrolein (MACR) greater than 70 ppt (NCAR Trace Organic Gas Analyzer, Apel et al., 2015). Elevated HFo (>1.5 ppb) in Granby corresponded with elevated O$_3$ (~80 ppb, NCAR 1-channel chemiluminescence, Ridley et al., 1992) and a biogenic signature (~100 ppt MVK and ~80 ppt isoprene). This could be secondary production from an upslope flow event, and subsequent spill over event (Pfister, 2015). There was high AAES (up to 14 ppb) below 0.5 km (AGL, above ground level) and high NH$_3$ (Aerodyne Research, Inc., Herndon et al., 2005) with a maximum mixing ratio of 180 ppb near Greeley which is an area associated with a concentration of confined animal feedlot operations (Eilerman et al., 2016; Yuan et al., 2017). If the signal at m/z 187 were primarily HAc, the HAc:NH$_3$ ratio was 0.078 ppb/ppb which is within the range reported by Paulot et al. (2011) though larger than the enhancement ratio range of 0.02-0.04 ppb/ppb reported by Yuan et al. (2017). A maximum AAES of ~10 ppb was measured over the Denver Metropolitan area when HFo was approximately 1 ppb.

4.5 DC3 Vertical Profiles and Test Case

The DC3 observations were divided into three study regions as indicated by the colored boxes in Fig. 6a and labelled Colorado-Nebraska, Oklahoma-Texas, and eastern region (states from Arkansas to the Carolinas). HFo and AAES data for the three sub-domains were composited as a function of altitude and the composite profiles are shown in Fig. 6b-6d. The measurements are binned in 1 km intervals, where the symbols denote the bin median value, the thicker lines indicate the bin inner-quartile range, and the thin lines show the 10$^{th}$ to 90$^{th}$ percentile range. Stratospherically influenced air was removed before bin statistics were computed by eliminating air samples with high ozone (> 150 ppb) and low carbon monoxide (< 70 ppb).

Each study region had lower HFo mixing ratios compared to AAES. Previous field measurements reported varied results about the proportion of HFo to HAc. Reiner et al. (1999) and Talbot et al. (1996) reported less HFo relative to HAc (by as much as a factor of 2 from 7-12 km). Millet et al. (2015) sampled HFo and HAc during the summer over the US Southeast and found the mean HFo to HAc ratio to be 1:1 at their maximum reported altitude (approximately 5 km) and 1.0:1.4 at the lowest near surface altitudes. Millet et al.’s HFo mixing ratios were an order of magnitude higher than reported here though our AAES mixing ratios were within Millet et al.’s reported HAc mean plus/minus standard deviation range. The high solubility of HFo and the large extent of vertical mixing characteristic of the stormy conditions sampled during DC3 likely led to a preferential sampling of conditions that diluted, and possibly wet-deposited, HFo. These same conditions would also lead to diluted and scavenged AAES measurements if AAES was mostly composed of GA.

In general, all three profiles had a decrease in HFo up to 6 km followed by an increase back to boundary layer mixing ratio values or higher. This profile was most pronounced in the Eastern DC3 region. The Eastern region also had the highest-altitude measurements and the HFo sensitivity started to decrease again above 12 km. The highest mixing ratios of both HFo and AAES in the Oklahoma-Texas region were measured at 2 km. The Colorado HFo profile has more HFo at the top of the profile than in the boundary layer. The AAES altitude trend was not as strong in any of the study regions though the mixing ratio decreased up to 6 km. The Eastern region had the biggest difference between both HFo and AAES at high altitude. The largest
range of mixing ratios (represented by the 10th-90th percentile) was in the Oklahoma-Texas region and was reflected in both the peroxyde (not shown) and HFo/AAES profiles.

Figure 7 shows HP, MHP, HFo and AAES mixing ratios during DC3 Research Flight 5. The HIAPER altitude is plotted as well for reference. The mission was to sample convective outflow from a Texas/Oklahoma storm the night before. During a low altitude leg, HFo was approximately 400 ppt and AAES was ~1400 ppt in a biogenically active area rich in isoprene, ~6 ppb (NCAR Trace Organic Gas Analyzer, Apel et al., 2015). AAES was greater than HFo during most of the flight. The HIAPER also sampled biomass burning during this flight (indicated on Fig. 7). AAES was >1 ppb during biomass burning sampling. The storm outflow portion Biomass burning was identified by a CO enhancement of 80 ppb and HCN enhancement of >200 ppt above background. There is no MHP reported during this period due to potential interferences at mass 80 from CO$_2$-(H$_2$O) with an $^{18}$O and/or NO$_3$-(H$_2$O) (Heikes et al., 2017). The storm outflow portion (identified by MHP>HP) had periods of elevated HFo (~400 ppt) similar to the low altitude measurements earlier in the flight. A comparable increase back to lower altitude mixing ratios was not seen in AAES. Based on effective Henry’s Law constants and retention factors (e.g. Barth et al., 2007), HAc is expected to be more efficiently transported through such storms relative to HFo and therefore expected to have a greater mixing ratio in the storm outflow. If AAES was dominated by GA, the expected outflow AAES would be lower than HFo given the higher Henry’s Law constant of GA. The AAES mixing ratio in the storm outflow was about 2-3 times lower than in the biomass burning plume; however, it was greater than the HFo which suggested AAES was likely a more balanced sum of HAc and GA and not dominated by GA.

We have attempted to examine our AAES data in light of prior measurements of GA and HAc in biogenic or isoprene rich air masses, biomass burning plumes, and urban areas. -Lee et al. (1995, 1995b, 1998) reported GA surface and aircraft measurements from the Southern Oxidation Study at a rural Georgia surface site in July and August 1991 and in June 1992 and from aircraft measurements from the Nashville/Middle Tennessee Ozone Study conducted in June and July 1995. They did not measure or report HAc. HAc aircraft data were compiled by Khare et al. (1999) and tower observations made by Talbot et al. (1995) at Shenandoah National Park, September 1990. Combining these datasets, a surface HAc:GA ratio ranged from 0.9 to 10 and the aircraft ratio, using HAc from remote regions, was from 1 to 14. Convolving our Case 1 HAc and GA relative sensitivities (1:1) and the synthetic ratios from these four data sources, an AAES value of 2 ppb would represent anywhere from 1 ppb of both HAc and GA to 1.9 ppb HAc and 0.13 ppb GA. Doing the same with our vapor pressure determined response ratio of 1:10, then the same AAES value of 2 ppb would represent HAc and GA mixing ratios from 0.17 and 0.18 ppb to 1.2 and 0.083 ppb, respectively. As seen above, in biogenically dominated areas it is possible to have 1:1 proportions of HAc to GA in the AAES measurements but HAc would dominate at the higher reported HAc mixing ratios.

GA, HAc, and HFo should be co-emitted in fires. Biomass burning is a primary emitter for GA and HAc and secondary for HFo (Khare et al., 1999; Yokelson et al., 1997, 2009). Using summary data from Akagi et al. (2011) and Stockwell et al. (2015) on emission ratios and retention factors, it is reasonable to expect enhancements of 20-30 ppt in HFo, 170-180 ppt in HAc, and potentially 30-40 ppt GA, for every 10 ppb enhancement in CO near the source for a North American biomass burning plume. St. Clair et al. (2014) found a higher average GA enhancement of 57 ppt for every 10 ppb enhancement in CO for both fresh and aged plumes. Performing the same analysis as above, we can estimate the proportion of HAc and GA from an AAES value of 2 ppb and a 10 ppb enhancement in CO. Based on the Case 1 Henry’s Law HAc to GA relative sensitivities (1:1) and the enhancements reported above, there would be 1.67 ppb HAc and 0.33 ppb GA or, for the work of St. Clair et al., 1.5 ppb HAc and 0.5 ppb GA. Using the vapor pressure response ratio of 1:10, the same AAES value of 2 ppb per 10 ppb of CO would result in HAc and GA mixing ratios of 0.67 and 0.133 ppb, or 0.46 and 0.15 ppb for GA enhancement found by St. Clair et al,
respectively. We would expect that most of the AAES emitted from biomass burning would be HAc even at the 1:10 response rate because 3-5 times more HAc relative to GA is released.

There are limited measurements for GA in urban environments. Spaulding et al. (2003) and St. Clair et al. (2014) measured GA at a tower near the Blodgett Research Station on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Spaulding et al. measurements were made in August and September 2000 and GA ranged from 0.092 – 1.7 ppb. St. Clair et al. measurements were made in June and July 2009 and they observed an average of 0.986 ppb and a maximum of about 4 ppb. This site is influenced by urban emissions from Sacramento and Spaulding et al. estimated 40% of the GA was attributable to anthropogenic origins. Therefore, we used 40% of the average GA reported by Spaulding et al. and St. Clair et al. for an urban estimate.

Kawamura et al. (2013) observed a maximum GA mixing ratio of 0.63 Okuzawa et al. (2007) observed a maximum GA mixing ratio of 1.77 ppb in Tokyo. This is compared to our urban estimate from the Blodgett Research Station. Grosjean (1990) measured HAc in Southern California where it ranged from 0.9-13.4 ppb. From these studies we inferred an urban HAc to GA ratio between 3:2 and 49:1. Again taking a representative AAES value of 2 ppb, for the Case 1 scenario (1:1) there could be HAc and GA values anywhere from 1.39 ppb HAc and 0.61 ppb GA to 1.96 ppb HAc and 0.04 ppb GA for the minimum and maximum reported HAc values, respectively. Using the maximum HAc and GA reported mixing ratios to determine their ratio, there would be 1.9477 ppb HAc and 0.4923 ppb GA for an AAES value of 2 ppb. However if we use our vapor pressure determined HAc to GA response ratio of 1:10 and an AAES signal of 2 ppb, the HAc and GA ranged from 1.66 and 0.034 ppb to 0.374 and 0.16 ppb, respectively, for the Sacramento conditions. For the urban maximum, HAc and GA would be 1.350.9 and 0.06511 ppb, respectively. Based on this analysis there would be at least twice as much HAc as GA measured as AAES in an urban air mass.

There is a continued need for simultaneous measurements of HAc and GA in urban to biomass burning to rural environments from the surface to upper troposphere. Baasandorj et al. (2015) developed a trap that removed HAc allowing GA to be measured by PTR-MS. We have not yet tested how effectively our current trap system removes GA and this also will need to be considered when reporting AAES results. We plan to develop a trap that will remove GA but leave HAc. With a dual trap system, it is conceivable HAc and GA can be determined sequentially and independently of each other using I’ CIMS or PTR-MS.

5 Conclusions

This study outlines the development of an airborne mixed reagent system to measure HP, MHP, HFo, and the acetic acid equivalent sum of HAc and GA. This is the first CIMS system to utilize simultaneous O₂, O₂(CO₂) and I’ ion chemistry and was initially deployed in the field during FRAPPÉ and unintentionally deployed in DC3 when the focus was on HP and MHP alone. Ethanol, propanol, and glycolaldehyde, three isobaric interferences, were evaluated. Ethanol and 1- and 2-propanol were found be insignificant in the measurement of HFo at m/z 173 and in the measurement of HAc at m/z 187, respectively, unless the alcohol mixing ratio greatly exceeds the acid mixing ratio by a factor of ~20 or more. On the other hand, we found the PCIMS response to GA to be comparable to or greater than the instrument response to HAc. Consequently, HAc and GA have the potential to significantly interfere in the measurement of one another at both m/z 92 and 187. Given this result, our work with the PCIMS must report data collected at m/z 92 or m/z 187 as the "acetic acid equivalent sum" of HAc and GA, which is referred to as AAES. The post DC3 laboratory calibrations and deployment during FRAPPÉ permitted the quantification of HFo and AAES measured during DC3. All three DC3 study regions were characterized by greater AAES relative to HFo throughout the altitude profile and both organic acids had a “C” shaped altitude profile for the majority of the flights consistent with the deep
convective transport of these species or their precursors. Future work will develop a new acid trap based on Baasandorj et al. (2015) that removes HAc while leaving GA and conversely developing a trap which removes GA while leaving HAc. This will make it possible to measure each independently of the other.

**Acknowledgements:** This research was supported through grants from the United States National Science Foundation: ATM-09222886 and ATM-1063467 (DWO) and ATM-1063463 (BGH) and a contract from the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (BGH). The authors thank D. Tanner, G. Huey, and R. Stickle (THS Instruments, LLC) for advice and support developing our CIMS techniques. We thank the members of the DC3/SEAC4RS and FRAPPÉ/DISCOVER-AQ science teams and thank the NCAR-EOL Research Aviation Facility flight crew and staff for the quality of their data and for making the flight programs successful. Disclaimer: The manuscript has not been reviewed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The scientific results and conclusions, as well as any views or opinions expressed herein, are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department or the State of Colorado.
References


EPA: EPA Standard Operating Procedure for Coating and Extracting Annular Denuders with Sodium Carbonate. Research


Table 1. PCIMS Instrument settings: voltages, pressures, temperatures, and MFCs set points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Set Point / Nominal Value</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mass Flow Controller (MFC)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{N}_2$ Reagent for P control (MFC 3)</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>~2 to 4.6 slpm$^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO$_2$ in Air$^3$ Reagent (MFC 2)</td>
<td>0.08 slpm$^3$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH$_3$I in N$_2$$^4$ Reagent (MFC 1)</td>
<td>0.0005 slpm</td>
<td>~0 to 0.01 slpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{N}_2$ Calibration Gas Carrier (MFC 4)</td>
<td>0.4 slpm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inlet Excess Sample Flow (MFC 6)</td>
<td>4.8 slpm</td>
<td>3.6 to 5 slpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawback Flow Calibration Gas (MFC 5)</td>
<td>1.2 slpm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pressure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RXN Cell</td>
<td>22 hPa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC Chamber</td>
<td>0.61 hPa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopole Chamber</td>
<td>0.0065 hPa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QMS Chamber</td>
<td>0.00011 hPa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temperature</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIML Inlet (FRAPPÉ / DC3)</td>
<td>35 °C / 70 °C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inlet Transfer Line (FRAPPÉ / DC3)</td>
<td>35 °C / 70 °C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid-to-Gas Tee (FRAPPÉ / DC3)</td>
<td>45 °C / 55 °C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIMS Instrument Voltages</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC Plate</td>
<td>7 V</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC DC Bias</td>
<td>20 V</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC RF</td>
<td>2.0 V</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopole DC Bias</td>
<td>-0.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopole RF</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Ion Detector HV1</td>
<td>3.43 kV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Ion Detector HV2</td>
<td>1.51 kV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^1$N$_2$ for RXN pressure control and calibration carrier gas was ultra-high purity nitrogen (Scott-Marrin) in FRAPPÉ and DC3 and liquid nitrogen boil off gas in the laboratory (Air Gas).

$^2$ slpm, standard liters per minute ($T_{\text{ref}} = 273.15$ K; $P_{\text{ref}} = 1013.25$ hPa).

$^3$CO$_2$ (400 ppm) in ultrapure air (Scott-Marrin).

$^4$CH$_3$I (5 ppm) in ultrahigh purity N$_2$ (Scott-Marrin)
Table 2: Laboratory detection limits (ppt) determined as three times the standard deviation of the blank using a pure air system as a function of sample inlet pressure (hPa)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pressure, hPa</th>
<th>HFo, ppt</th>
<th>HAc, ppt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>306</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1013</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3: Laboratory instrument calibration conditions: sample inlet pressure, reaction cell water vapor mixing ratios, and reagent gas reaction cell mixing ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Pressure, hPa</th>
<th>Reaction Cell Water Vapor Mixing Ratio(^1), ppm</th>
<th>Reaction Cell Reagent Gas Mixing Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>306</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>4400(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1013</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>7700(^2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)This work was performed with a water bath at 288 K

\(^2\)This includes work in a water bath at 298 K
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Temperature, °K</th>
<th>$K_H$ This Work, M/hPa</th>
<th>$K_H$ Johnson et al. (1996), M/hPa</th>
<th>$\Delta H_r$, This Work, kJ/mol</th>
<th>$\Delta H_r$, Johnson et al. (1996), kJ/mol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formic acid</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>-65</td>
<td>-51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>298</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acetic acid</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>-33</td>
<td>-52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>298</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5: Henry’s Law source experiment-glycolaldehyde and acetic acid PCIMS reaction cell sensitivities at T=288 K, cts/ppb (cps/ppb) for the 1700-7500 ppm reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio range. Glycolaldehyde sensitivities at m/z 92 ($O_2^-(GA)$) and m/z 187 ($I^-(GA)$) are for the Henry’s Law source experiment, T = 288 K. Acetic acid microfluidic sensitivity at m/z 92 ($O_2^-(HAc)$) and m/z 187 ($I^-(HAc)$) are based on laboratory and field data presented in Figures 3 and 4. All sensitivities are reported from low to high water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sensitivity, (cps/ppb) Glycolaldehyde</th>
<th>$O_2^-(GA)$ Sensitivity at m/z 92 (cps/ppb)</th>
<th>$I^-(GA)$ Sensitivity at m/z 187 (cps/ppb)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case 1 &amp; Case 2</td>
<td>8.20 x 10^3</td>
<td>8.10 x 10^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 3</td>
<td>10.30 x 10^4</td>
<td>10.20 x 10^3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Glycolaldehyde and acetic acid PCIMS reaction cell sensitivities (cps/ppb) for the 1700-7500 ppm reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio range. Glycolaldehyde sensitivities at m/z 92 ($O_2^-(GA)$) and m/z 187 ($I^-(GA)$) are for the Henry’s Law source experiment, T = 288 K. Acetic acid microfluidic sensitivity at m/z 92 ($O_2^-(HAc)$) and m/z 187 ($I^-(HAc)$) are based on laboratory and field data presented in Figures 3 and 4. All sensitivities are reported from low to high water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acetic Acid</th>
<th>Sensitivity at m/z 92 (cps/ppb)</th>
<th>Sensitivity at m/z 187 (cps/ppb)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure 3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.4 – 1 x 10^4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 4</td>
<td>1.4 – 1.6 x 10^4</td>
<td>1.4 – 1 x 10^4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6: Glycolaldehyde sensitivities for the melt vapor pressure source experiment, cts/cps/ppb

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature (K)</th>
<th>$O_2$(GA) at m/z 92</th>
<th>$I$(GA) at m/z 187</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>298</td>
<td>$6 \times 10^3$</td>
<td>$7 \times 10^3$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318</td>
<td>$7 \times 10^3$</td>
<td>$1 \times 10^4$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>338</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$1 \times 10^4$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nominal</td>
<td>$6.5 \times 10^4$</td>
<td>$9 \times 10^3$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1. (a) The peroxide chemical ionization mass spectrometer (PCIMS) instrument is diagramed in panel (a). The inlet samples either ambient air or laboratory generated pure air (Aadco Instruments Inc., Cleves, OH). “RXN” refers to the ion reaction cell. “CDC” refers to the octopole collision dissociation chamber and “MFC” indicates a mass flow controller and correspond to the numbers in Table 1. “CIMS” represents the quadrupole mass spectrometer. (b) Laboratory calibration instrumental set up. “MFC” indicates a mass flow controller. “Aadco” is a pure air generator. “CIMS in panel (b) represents the full PCIMS instrument illustrated in panel (a)
The PCIMS was operated at ambient pressure (1013 hPa) and a 370 ppm reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio. The mass dwell time was 50 milliseconds. The O$_2$(CO$_2$) masses of interest are marked by black vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 66 (O$_2$(HP)), m/z 78 (O$_2$(HFo)), m/z 80 (O$_2$(MHP)), m/z 92 (O$_2$(HAc)), m/z 110 (O$_2$(CO$_2$(HP))), and m/z 110 (O$_2$(CO$_2$(HP))). The I masses of interest are marked by blue vertical lines and listed in increasing numerical order. These masses, and the corresponding ion clusters, are m/z 127 (I), m/z 147 (I($^1$H$_{18}$O)), m/z 161 (I(HP)), m/z 173 (I(HFo)), m/z 175 (I(MHP)), and m/z 187 (I(HAc)). Note the counts scale is linear up to 1000 and logarithmic above 1000. For this scan, the dwell time at each mass was 50 milliseconds, the ambient pressure was 1013 hPa, and the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio was 370 ppm.
Figure 3: Laboratory calibration sensitivities (cts/s/ppb, cps/ppb) for five CH$_3$I flow rates (0.5 – 2.0 sccm) and FRAPPÉ in-flight calibration sensitivities as a function of reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio (ppm) for a) I($\text{HFo}$) at m/z 173, b) I$\text{HAc}$ at m/z 187, c) I($\text{HP}^+$) at m/z 161, and d) I($\text{MHP}^+$) at m/z 175. Note the scale difference for d. The horizontal bar represents the limits of the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio bin and the mean sensitivity of that bin is plotted. The length of the vertical bar represents one standard deviation and the variability represents random variations in pressure, ambient concentrations during the standard addition, and systematic variations due to water vapor in a bin, calibration gas precision, and instrumental precision.
Figure 4: FRAPPÉ in-flight sensitivities (cts/ppb, cps/ppb) as a function of reaction cell water vapor for all PCIMS clusters. The left panel contains all the $O_2^-$ clusters and the right panel contains all the $I^-$ clusters. The horizontal and vertical error bars represent the same information as in Figure 3.
Figure 5: Mixing ratios, as parts per billion (ppb), for a) formic acid (HFO), b) AAES (the sum of acetic acid and glycolaldehyde) for FRAPPÉ Research Flight 12 on August 12, 2014. City Key: GN (Granby), B (Broomfield), D (Denver), GE (Greeley), and FC (Fort Collins).
Figure 6: (a) Map of three DC3 flight domains: Colorado-Nebraska (red), Oklahoma-Texas (magenta), and Eastern region (green) along with the HIAPER flight tracks, (b) Profiles for the HFo and AAES mixing ratios as a function of altitude for the three DC3 study regions (Colorado-Nebraska (CO/NE), Oklahoma-Texas (OK/TX), and Eastern Region. The symbols represent the median value for each altitude bin, the thick lines the interquartiles, and the thin line is the 10th – 90th percentile.
Figure 7: PCIMS DC3 Research Flight 5 (May 26, 2012) sampling aged outflow from a Texas/Oklahoma storm. (top) Mixing ratios of HP (blue) and MHP (red) are shown in ppb as a function of flight time. (bottom) Mixing ratios of HFo (blue) and AAES (red) are shown in ppb as a function of flight time. The HIAPER altitude (green line) is in km (km/10 for the bottom figure). The periods of biomass burning and outflow are indicated. **MHP is not reported during the low altitude leg due to potential interferences at mass 80 from CO$_3$(H$_2$O) with an $^{18}$O and NO$_3$(H$_2$O).**
Supplementary Information: Measurement of formic acid, acetic acid, hydrogen peroxide, and methyl peroxide in air by chemical ionization mass spectrometry: airborne method development

Victoria Treadaway¹, Brian G. Heikes¹, Ashley S. McNeill¹,², Indira K.C. Silwal³,⁴ and Daniel W. O’Sullivan³

¹Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Narragansett, RI 02882, USA
²Department of Chemistry, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401, USA
³Chemistry Department, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402, USA
⁴Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469, USA

Correspondence to: Victoria Treadaway (vtreada@uri.edu)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Type</th>
<th>GA Range (ppb)</th>
<th>Study Location</th>
<th>Altitude</th>
<th>Measurements Collected</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban/Biogenic Mix</td>
<td>0.092 – 1.7</td>
<td>Blodgett Research Station, California, USA</td>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>August and September 2000</td>
<td>Spaulding et al. (2003)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban/Biogenic Mix</td>
<td>0.986 (average), 4 (max)</td>
<td>Blodgett Research Station, California, USA</td>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>June and July 2009</td>
<td>St. Clair et al. (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>0.14 – 1.77</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>July and August 2004</td>
<td>Okuzawa et al. (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass Burning/Biogenic Mix</td>
<td>0 – 0.336</td>
<td>Mt. Tai, China</td>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>June 2006</td>
<td>Kawamura et al. (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass Burning</td>
<td>0 – ~17</td>
<td>Fr. Jackson, South Carolina, USA</td>
<td>Aircraft (altitude unknown)</td>
<td>October and November 2011</td>
<td>Johnson et al. (2013), Akagi et al. (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass Burning</td>
<td>0 – ~15</td>
<td>California, USA</td>
<td>Aircraft (&lt;1500 m)</td>
<td>June 2008</td>
<td>St. Clair et al. (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogenic</td>
<td>0 – 1.91</td>
<td>George Smith State Park, Georgia, USA</td>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>July and August 1991, June 1992</td>
<td>Lee et al. (1995)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogenic</td>
<td>0 – 2.82</td>
<td>Tennessee, USA</td>
<td>Aircraft (&lt;1900 m)</td>
<td>June and July 1995</td>
<td>Lee et al. (1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogenic</td>
<td>0 – 0.58</td>
<td>Tennessee, USA</td>
<td>Aircraft (&gt;1900 m)</td>
<td>June and July 1995</td>
<td>Lee et al. (1998)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table S2: Reaction cell mixing ratios for glycolaldehyde based on Betterton and Hoffmann (1988) and Kua et al. (2010) in parts per billion (ppb) for the three experimental cases at the five tested equilibration air flow rates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aadco flowrate (sccm)</th>
<th>Glycolaldehyde Reaction Cell Mixing Ratio (ppb)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Case 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table S3-2 shows the expected GA reaction cell mixing ratio at different melt temperatures using the data from Petitjean et al. (2010).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature (K)</th>
<th>Glycolaldehyde Reaction Cell Mixing Ratio (ppb)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>298</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>338</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>358</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure S1: Laboratory calibration sensitivities (cps/ppb) as a function of CH₃I flow rate (slpm) for a) I(HFo) at m/z 173 b) I(HAc) at m/z 187, c) I(HP) at m/z 161, and d) I(MHP) at m/z 175. The error bars represent one standard deviation and the variability represents variations in pressure, reaction cell water vapor, calibration gas precision, and instrumental precision. Note the change in the y-axis scale for c and d.
Figure S2: Laboratory calibration sensitivity (cps/ppb) as a function of CH$_3$I flow rate (slpm) for O$_2$ (MHP) at m/z 80. The error bars are the same as in Fig. S1.
Figure S13: Calibration sensitivities (cts/ppb, cps/ppb of O₂\textsuperscript{(MHP)} at m/z 80 (O₂\textsuperscript{(MHP)}) from DC3 and laboratory work for five CH₃I flow rates (0.5 – 2.0 sccm). The horizontal bar represents the limits of the reaction cell water vapor mixing ratio bin and the mean sensitivity of that bin is plotted. The length of the vertical bar represents one standard deviation and the variability represents random variations in pressure, ambient concentrations during the standard addition, and systematic variations due to water vapor in a bin, calibration gas precision, and instrumental precision.
References


