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Convective transport and scavenging of peroxides by thunderstorms observed over the central U.S. during DC3

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Authors
Barth, MC
Bela, MM
Fried, A
et al.

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Convective transport and scavenging of peroxides by thunderstorms observed over the central U.S. during DC3


Abstract

One of the objectives of the Deep Convective Clouds and Chemistry (DC3) field experiment was to determine the scavenging of soluble trace gases by thunderstorms. We present an analysis of scavenging of hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) and methyl hydrogen peroxide (CH3OOH) from six DC3 cases that occurred in Oklahoma and northeast Colorado. Estimates of H2O2 scavenging efficiencies are comparable to previous studies ranging from 79 to 97% with relative uncertainties of 5–25%. CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies ranged from 12 to 84% with relative uncertainties of 18–558%. The wide range of CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies is surprising, as previous studies suggested that CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies would be <10%. Cloud chemistry model simulations of one DC3 storm produced CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies of 26–61% depending on the ice retention factor of CH3OOH during cloud drop freezing, suggesting ice physics impacts CH3OOH scavenging. The highest CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies occurred in two severe thunderstorms, but there is no obvious correlation between the CH3OOH scavenging efficiency and the storm thermodynamic environment. We found a moderate correlation between the estimated entrainment rates and CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies. Changes in gas-phase chemistry due to lightning production of nitric oxide and aqueous-phase chemistry have little effect on CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies. To determine why CH3OOH can be substantially removed from storms, future studies should examine effects of entrainment rate, retention of CH3OOH in frozen cloud particles during drop freezing, and lightning-NOX production.

1. Introduction

To understand the radiative impact of ozone in the upper troposphere (UT), ozone chemical sources in the UT must be quantified. Ozone (O3) is produced by the reactions between peroxy radicals (e.g., hydroperoxy and methylperoxy radicals, HO2 and CH3OO, respectively) and nitric oxide (NO) to form nitrogen dioxide (NO2), which subsequently photodissociates to form O3. Thus, odd hydrogen (HO = OH + HO2; OH is hydroxyl radical) and nitrogen oxides (NO = NO + NO2) are key precursors to O3. Although the primary formation of HOx radicals is from O3 photodissociation, oxidation of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), as well as their photodissociation, is also important. A source of these VOCs and NOx in the UT is in convective outflow regions, where VOCs are transported from the boundary layer (BL) to the UT and NOx is formed from lightning.
However, many key HOx precursors, including formaldehyde (CH₂O), hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), and methyl hydrogen peroxide (CH₃OOH), are soluble and can be partially removed from the atmosphere via dissolution into cloud drops that grow into rain, snow, graupel, and hail precipitating to the ground. Quantifying the fraction of HOx precursors that are scavenged (or conversely transported to the UT) improves the estimation of O₃ production in convective outflow regions. In this paper, we determine the scavenging efficiencies (SE) of H₂O₂ and CH₃OOH based on aircraft measurements obtained during the Deep Convective Cloud and Chemistry (DC3) field experiment [Barth et al., 2015]. A. Fried et al. (Convective transport of formaldehyde to the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere and associated scavenging in thunderstorms over the central United States during the 2012 DC3 study, submitted to Journal of Geophysical Research, 2016) perform a similar analysis for CH₂O, while Bela et al. [2016] evaluate the convective transport of nitric acid, H₂O₂, CH₂O, sulfur dioxide, and CH₃OOH in a three-dimensional cloud chemistry model with observations and calculate the fraction of these species removed for four DC3 thunderstorm cases.

Previous studies suggest convective transport of HOx precursors play an important role in controlling O₃ mixing ratios in the UT. Measurements of UT HOx during the NASA Stratospheric Tracers of Atmospheric Transport (STRAT) (1996) campaign occasionally exceeded theoretical estimates of HOx concentrations, suggesting an additional source of UT HOx that was proposed to be convective transport of CH₂O, H₂O₂, and CH₃OOH [Jaeglé et al., 1997; Prather and Jacob, 1997; Wennberg et al., 1998]. Measurements from the NASA Pacific Exploratory Mission (PEM)-Tropics (1999) campaign revealed an enhancement of CH₃OOH and a lack of enhancement of H₂O₂ in aged convective outflow over the tropical Pacific, supporting the importance of convective transport for sources of hydrogen oxide radicals in the upper troposphere [Ravetta et al., 2001]. Cohan et al. [1999] estimated that H₂O₂ had 55–70% scavenging efficiency based on measurements of tropical oceanic convection, while CH₃OOH showed no apparent scavenging. Peroxide measurements from the NASA Intercontinental Chemical Transport Experiment (INTEX-NA) field campaign revealed that H₂O₂ was depleted, while CH₃OOH was enhanced in convective outflow regions compared to the background UT [Snow et al., 2007]. These prior measurements in STRAT, PEM Tropics-B, and INTEX-A did not gather simultaneous inflow and outflow trace gas measurements of convection to allow for estimates of peroxide scavenging. An intercomparison study of cloud-scale chemistry models [Barth et al., 2007b] showed a large variation in predictions of CH₂O and H₂O₂ that depended on whether or not the trace gas was retained in frozen particles (snow, graupel, or hail).

Other previous studies have indicated an unexpected reduced amount of CH₃OOH in the marine boundary layer impacted by clouds compared to the reduction that would be expected due to gas-phase photochemistry. Fried et al. [2003] discuss conditions at very low NO mixing ratios (<5 parts per trillion by volume (pptv)) where box model calculations predicted CH₃OOH mixing ratios to be 2–3 times greater than nearby CH₃OOH observations. While we expect CH₃OOH to be higher at low NO mixing ratios than at high NO, the theoretical estimates are much greater than observed, suggesting that additional losses reduce CH₃OOH in reality. In the DC3 environment, NO mixing ratios were rarely (if at all) this low. However, the reverse situation could exist where increases in NO mixing ratios from lightning production enable peroxy radicals to react with NO instead of with each other, thereby preventing the formation of peroxides.

Although H₂O₂ is highly soluble, its partitioning between gas and aqueous phases, as well as that for CH₃OOH, should be in Henry’s law equilibrium based on theoretical calculations and analysis of field measurements [Barth et al., 1989; MacDonald et al., 1995]. Because the Henry’s law equilibrium coefficients for H₂O₂ are over 2 orders of magnitude higher than those of CH₃OOH, we expect that more H₂O₂ than CH₃OOH will be removed by cloud and precipitation than CH₃OOH. However, we will show that CH₃OOH is sometimes removed more than expected, even as much as H₂O₂.

In this paper we examine the behavior of CH₃OOH and H₂O₂ observed during DC3. The scavenging efficiencies of H₂O₂ and CH₃OOH are derived from measurements of these peroxides and tracers of transport that were collected during the DC3 field experiment. The DC3 campaign and the instrument techniques used in the analysis are described in the next section. We then present the analysis method for determining each storm’s entrainment rate and the peroxide scavenging efficiencies. We also use cloud-resolved three-dimensional and box model simulations to investigate physical and chemical processes affecting the peroxide scavenging. Results for six DC3 storm cases are presented. In addition to discussing the uncertainties of
the calculations, we show how the peroxide scavenging efficiencies vary with some key storm parameters, including the storm physics and chemistry.

2. Methods
2.1. Observations

The DC3 field experiment took place in May and June 2012, sampling thunderstorms in northeast Colorado, west Texas to central Oklahoma, and northern Alabama. Ground-based facilities documented the storm kinematics, physical structure, and lightning location. Three aircraft, the NASA DC-8, the NSF/NCAR Gulfstream V (GV), and the DLR Falcon 20, sampled the inflow and outflow regions of the storms to quantify the composition of these regions. Barth et al. [2015] present further details on the DC3 field experiment. Both the DC-8 and GV aircraft collected peroxide measurements. However, wingtip-to-wingtip intercomparisons showed that the peroxide measurements from the two instruments did not always agree. Because these differences were not constantly systematic, this paper uses measurements solely from the DC-8 aircraft since it flew in both inflow and outflow regions for each case analyzed (whereas the GV flew most often in outflow regions).

The DC-8 aircraft was extensively instrumented with trace gas and aerosol instruments [Barth et al., 2015]. A list of the data and instruments used in this study is given in Table 1. Horizontal winds, temperature, and pressure measurements on the DC-8 were obtained via the meteorological measurement system (MMS). Ice water content (IWC) was measured aboard the DC-8 aircraft by the SPEC two-dimensional Stereo (2DS) probe [Lawson et al., 2006]. On the DC-8 aircraft, H2O2 and CH3OOH were measured using time-of-flight (ToF-CIMS) mass filter and tandem quadrupole mass filter (T-CIMS) chemical ionization mass spectrometers (CIMS), respectively. The rapid-scan collection of the ToF-CIMS instrument provides high temporal resolution (1 Hz or faster) and simultaneous data products for all masses [Nguyen et al., 2015]. The ToF-CIMS instrument was built by upgrading the mass analyzer of the single quadrupole CIT-CIMS instrument [Crounse et al., 2006]. The T-CIMS provides parent-daughter mass analysis, enabling measurement of compounds precluded from quantification by a single mass analyzer CIMS due to mass interferences (e.g., CH3OOH) or the presence of isobaric compounds.

### Table 1. List of Data and Instruments Used in the Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species/Parameter</th>
<th>Instrumenta</th>
<th>Uncertainty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H2O2, CH3OOH</td>
<td>CIT-CIMS</td>
<td>H2O2 (pptv): 75 + 0.5 [H2O2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CH3OOH (pptv): 30 + 0.4(CH3OOH) at H2O vapor &lt; 230 ppmv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30 + (-9.1 + log10[H2O]) [CH3OOH] at H2O vapor &gt; 230 ppmv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n-butane, i-butane, n-pentane, i-pentane</td>
<td>WAS</td>
<td>5% or 3 pptv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, NO2b</td>
<td>CSD CL</td>
<td>NO (pptv): 10 + 0.04 [NO]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NO2 (pptv): 20 + 0.06 [NO2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO2, MPNc</td>
<td>TD-LIF</td>
<td>NO2: 5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MPN: 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH, HO2</td>
<td>ATHOS</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO2</td>
<td>GT-CIMS</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2O vapor</td>
<td>DLH</td>
<td>5% or 1 ppmv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure, temperature, 3-D winds</td>
<td>MMS</td>
<td>Pressure: 0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temperature: 0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Winds: 3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice water content</td>
<td>2DS</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

aCIT-CIMS is California Institute of Technology chemical ionization mass spectrometry; WAS is the Whole Air Sampler that uses gas chromatography; CSD CL is NOAA Chemical Science Division chemiluminescence; TD-LIF is thermal dissociation—laser-induced fluorescence; ATHOS is Airborne Tropospheric Hydroxides Sensor that uses laser-induced fluorescence; GT-CIMS is Georgia Institute of Technology chemical ionization mass spectrometry; DLH is diode laser hygrometer that uses differential absorption spectroscopy; MMS is Meteorological Measurement System; 2DS is two-dimensional stereo probe.
bThe NO2 measurement should be interpreted as the sum of NO2 and MPN based on the findings of Browne et al. [2011].
cMPN is methyl peroxy nitrate.
Aircraft measurements of OH, HO_2, sulfur dioxide (SO_2), NO, NO_2, and methyl peroxy nitrate (MPN) are used in analyzing gas-phase CH_3OOH production. The HO_2 radicals, OH and HO_2, were measured by the Pennsylvania State University Airborne Tropospheric Hydrogen Oxides Sensor (ATHOS), which is a laser-induced fluorescence technique. SO_2 is measured with the Georgia Institute of Technology CIMS (Kim et al., 2007). NO was measured by ozone-induced chemiluminescence, O_3 was measured by NO-induced chemiluminescence, and NO_2 was photolyzed to NO using ultraviolet photolysis prior to ozone chemiluminescence detection. The NO_2 data before 11 June 2012 are from the University of California-Berkeley thermal dissociation-laser-induced fluorescence (TD-LIF) instrument (Thornton et al., 2000; Nault et al., 2015). MPN mixing ratios were also measured with the TD-LIF instrument as described by Nault et al. (2015). Carbon monoxide (CO), used to identify biomass burning plumes and stratospheric air, was measured with a differential absorption mid-IR diode laser spectrometer (Sachse et al., 1991).

Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) program Weather Surveillance Radar, 1988 Doppler data (Crum and Alberty, 1993) are used to understand the storm structure and to estimate the distance of the DC-8 aircraft sampling the outflow from the nearest storm core. Data from multiple radars, which are S band (10 cm wavelength) radars, are processed to produce three-dimensional composites following the procedure described in Homeyer (2014) and updated in Homeyer and Kumjian (2015). Radiosonde data from soundings launched in the prestorm environment are used to determine the thermodynamic environment of the storm. Radiosondes in Colorado are from the NCAR Mobile Integrated Sounding System and those in Oklahoma from the National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL). The National Weather Service North Platte sounding was used for the 18 May storm observed in southwest Nebraska. The convective available potential energy (CAPE), 0–6 km vertical wind shear, depth from cloud base to the freezing level, and depth from the freezing level to the ~40°C isotherm were calculated from the soundings. The CAPE is determined using mixed layer mean temperature, where the mixed layer is defined between the surface and 100 hPa above the surface.

Six case studies were chosen from the DC-3 data set (Table 2) based on the availability of DC-8 inflow and outflow data and getting a variety of convection types. Four of these cases were in the northeast Colorado and southwest Nebraska region, and two were in Oklahoma. The cases are primarily severe convection, with CAPE ranging from 900 to 3100 J kg^{-1} and 0–6 km vertical wind shear range of 12–24 m s^{-1}. The depth of the cloud where T > 0°C (where only liquid water cloud physics occurs) varies substantially among storms. The Colorado convective storms have much shallower depths between cloud base and the freezing level than Oklahoma convection, but this depth increases from mid-May to late June. The depth from the freezing level...
to $T = -40^\circ$C, the temperature where cloud drops homogeneously freeze, is fairly consistent among storms with depths from 4900 to 5200 m for Colorado storms and ~5800 m for Oklahoma storms.

### 2.2. Analysis Method

Calculations of scavenging efficiencies from aircraft observations have been done previously by using a multicomponent mixture model. Cohan et al. [1999] considered two components, one being the inflow region and the second being the upper troposphere where the convective outflow resides. Borbon et al. [2012] used three components (BL, free troposphere, and UT), and Yang et al. [2015] used four components (BL, buffer layer, clean layer, and UT, where the buffer layer extends from the BL to 7 km altitude and the clean air layer extends from 7 km to 9.5 km where the UT layer begins), adding entrainment of free troposphere air. Luo et al. [2010] estimated entrainment in every 1 km layer of the deep convection. Here and as done by A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016), we combine the methods of these previous studies to determine the scavenging efficiencies of trace gases.

Measurements from the inflow and outflow regions of the storm, as well as the free troposphere, were used to compute the scavenging efficiencies. The DC-8 aircraft obtained these measurements by first sampling the inflow BL composition at several altitudes, including a flight leg above the BL top, and then spiraling up to the anvil outflow region where several across-anvil passes were made (Figure 1). The anvil passes were typically several kilometers downwind of the storm core tops in order to keep the aircraft a safe distance from damaging hail and turbulence. Thus, some degree of anvil dilution and chemistry is imparted on the trace gas mixing ratios before the DC-8 aircraft collects the measurements. To minimize the impact of dilution and chemistry, we use outflow data that are closest to the storm core tops. In section 4, we show that there is no correlation between the scavenging efficiencies and the estimated time for the air parcels to reach the aircraft from the storm core tops. A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) employed a similar data analysis but instead used 1 min averaged data in the outflow flight segments to extrapolate back to the storm core top.

### Table 2. DC3 Cases Investigated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>CAPE (J kg$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>0–6 km Vertical Wind Shear (m s$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>Cloud base to Freezing Level Depth (m)</th>
<th>Freezing Level to $-40^\circ$C Depth (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 May 2012</td>
<td>Southwest Nebraska</td>
<td>1144</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>4910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May 2012</td>
<td>Northern Oklahoma</td>
<td>3113</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>2505</td>
<td>5780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 June 2012</td>
<td>Northeast Colorado</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>5172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 June 2012</td>
<td>Northeast Colorado</td>
<td>2981</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>1157</td>
<td>5145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June 2012</td>
<td>Central Oklahoma</td>
<td>3049</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>2762</td>
<td>5803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June 2012</td>
<td>Southwest Nebraska</td>
<td>2563</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>5229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1.** Air motions associated with deep convection in an environment with high vertical wind shear. The schematic is annotated with locations of the measured trace gas mixing ratios in the boundary layer inflow, free troposphere background, anvil outflow, and storm core top. Also shown is a schematic of the DC-8 flight pattern for sampling clear air profiles near the thunderstorm.
Aircraft sampling of the inflow and outflow regions was determined by identifying flight segments where horizontal winds showed air flowing into the storm within the boundary layer and air flowing away from the storm cores in the anvil, respectively. Besides the physical location of the aircraft, the chemical signatures of CO, hydrocarbons, and IWC were used to identify these flight legs. Figure 2 illustrates the outflow legs used in the analysis for the six convection cases. For each case, 20 min of the DC-8 flight track is plotted over the column maximum radar reflectivity. The DC-8 flight track is colored by the magnitude of the CH$_3$OOH 30 s averaged mixing ratio. The wind vectors (data from the MMS) are plotted for the segment of the flight track used for the outflow analysis. The inflow and outflow times and their altitudes for each of the cases are listed in Table 3. The inflow flight legs were within 1 km of the ground (the surface elevation for 18 May, 2 June, 6 June, and 22 June is ~1.5 km, and for 29 May and 16 June is ~0.5 km), obtaining a representative composition.
of the boundary layer. The distance between the aircraft and storm cores varied among the different storm cases, with some cases (e.g., 29 May in Figure 2b) just a few kilometers from the cores developing in the anvil region and others (e.g., 22 June in Figure 2f) nearly 100 km from the storm core.

Once the inflow and outflow time periods were identified, the average mixing ratios for several trace gases were calculated. For the 18 May 2012 case, the inflow CH$_3$OOH mixing ratio was not available because of calibration or zeroing. The inflow value used for this case is taken from the lowest altitude (1.8 km) of the cloud-free data (discussed next). While not having the CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios during the inflow time period adds more uncertainty in the results for this case, we find for the other cases that the inflow CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios are within 20% of the lowest altitude cloud-free data average which is less than the uncertainties of the CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios.

To obtain information on air entraining into the storm, a vertical profile of cloud-free data from the storm region was obtained. Stratospheric air was emitted by removing times where the O$_3$ to carbon monoxide (CO) ratio was greater than 1.25 as was done by Hudman et al. [2007]. This method may not remove all of the data points with stratosphere influence because of mixing of air caused by the thunderstorms as described in recent studies [Schroeder et al., 2014; Huntrieser et al., 2016a, 2016b]. Also removed from these profiles were measurements of other unique features such as biomass burning plumes. These were removed by restricting the time frame for the profiles, which was determined from the high CO mixing ratios and the location of the aircraft to the smoke. Three flights had this restriction, described as follows. The 2 June cloud-free data were restricted to the 21:25 to 22:05 UTC time period when the aircraft spiraled up from the boundary layer to the upper troposphere. The 6 June cloud-free data were restricted to the 20:49 to 24:13 UTC time period in order to remove high concentrations from local emission sources in the Denver-Greeley area. The 22 June cloud-free data were restricted to the 22:00 to 25:40 UTC time period when the DC-8 aircraft was not intentionally sampling the High Park fire smoke plume. Most of the cloud-free profiles are based on the DC-8 spiral from the boundary layer to the upper troposphere and include the inflow data, but not the outflow data. The data were binned into 1 km altitude ranges. Missing data (because of in-flight calibrations or zeroing) were filled in by interpolating to the altitude of the missing data from the averages found above and below that altitude and extrapolating to the lowest or highest altitude, if needed.

Figure 3 shows cloud-free vertical profiles of H$_2$O$_2$, CH$_3$OOH, n-butane, i-butane, n-pentane, and i-pentane for the six cases.

Cloud-free profiles of n-butane, i-butane, n-pentane, and i-pentane were used to estimate the entrainment rate. These VOCs have chemical lifetimes (3–5 days) much longer than the time for convective transport from the BL to the UT (typically 10–15 min) [Skamarock et al., 2000] and transport downwind to the aircraft (typically 30–45 min). Long chemical lifetimes and very low solubility allow these VOCs to be markers of transport only. In addition, the butanes and pentanes generally have high mixing ratios in the BL and very low mixing ratios in the middle and upper troposphere. We will show that the contrast between the convective outflow region and the background UT for the butanes and pentanes is a factor of 3–12. On the other hand, the contrast of other candidate tracers is not quite as good. For example, CO varies between these regions by a factor of 1–1.35. While CO gives a much higher temporal resolution, the smaller contrast between outflow air and background UT makes it more difficult to use for entrainment rate calculations. The entrainment model follows an air parcel from just below cloud base (CB), where that air has a VOC mixing ratio representing the BL, to the location of the aircraft anvil measurements, where the VOC mixing ratio is a combination of the VOC from the BL and the cloud-free (CF)
VOC mixing ratios that are entrained into the storm. The entrainment rate $E$ (% km$^{-1}$) is found by calculating the VOC mixing ratio at 1 km altitude bins from just below cloud base to the height of the aircraft measurements. For example, the VOC mixing ratio at one kilometer above cloud base ($VOC(z_{CB} + 1)$) is a combination of the VOC mixing ratio at cloud base ($VOC(z_{CB})$) and the VOC in the cloud-free air at one km above cloud base ($VOC_{CF}(z_{CB})$) based on the fraction entrained. This equation can be generalized by the following equation:

$$VOC(z) = E \times VOC_{CF}(z) + \frac{1}{E} \times VOC(z - 1)$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $VOC(z)$ is the $n$-butane, $i$-butane, $n$-pentane, or $i$-pentane mixing ratio in the updraft at each 1 km altitude $z$ (km), $VOC(z - 1)$ is the VOC mixing ratio at 1 km below the altitude $z$, and $VOC_{CF}(z)$ is the average VOC mixing ratio in the cloud-free region at each 1 km altitude $z$. To determine $E$, equation (1) was iterated until the calculated VOC mixing ratio at the height of the aircraft outflow measurements and the measured VOC mixing ratio in the outflow region matched within 1–10%, which was determined based on a threshold mixing ratio connected to the measured outflow mixing ratio. This procedure was conducted for all four VOCs and the average entrainment rate was used to calculate the scavenging efficiency. The highest to lowest entrainment rates give the range of entrainment rates for each storm and are used in expressing the entrainment rate uncertainty. It is assumed that the entrainment rate is the same at every 1 km altitude; however, we estimate the impact of this assumption by utilizing variable entrainment rates determined in the WRF simulation for the 29 May DC3 case in section 3.

Figure 3. Cloud-free vertical profiles of $n$-butane (blue), $i$-butane (red), $n$-pentane (black), $i$-pentane (green), and $H_2O_2$ (blue) and $CH_3OOH$ (red) for the (a) 18 May, (b) 29 May, (c) 2 June, (d) 6 June, (e) 16 June, and (f) 22 June 2012 DC3 cases. For butanes and pentanes, values plotted are averages and standard deviations of the averages or uncertainties based on measurement precision values (see text for more information). For peroxides, values plotted are averages and uncertainties based on measurement precision values.
The first step in obtaining the scavenging efficiency of a soluble trace gas having mixing ratio $C_{\text{sol}}$ is to determine $C_{\text{sol}}$ at the height of the aircraft outflow measurements ($C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})$) if it were only transported (i.e., there is no dissolution into cloud particles and chemistry does not affect the mixing ratio of $C_{\text{sol}}$). $C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})$ is found by using equation (1) with H$_2$O$_2$ or CH$_3$OOH in place of the VOC and using the average entrainment rate. The scavenging efficiency SE (%) is found by calculating the difference between the soluble trace gas mixing ratio measured from the aircraft $C_{\text{sol}}(\text{outflow})$ and the estimated transported mixing ratio at the height of the aircraft $C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})$ using,

$$SE = 100 \frac{C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top}) - C_{\text{sol}}(\text{outflow})}{C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})} \quad (2)$$

The uncertainties in the scavenging efficiencies are found based on the uncertainties reported for the measurements in the aircraft data files and propagation of errors during the calculations of the estimated trace gas mixing ratio at storm top and the scavenging efficiency. The steps to getting the scavenging efficiency uncertainty are outlined here. The uncertainty $\delta$ for the inflow $\delta C_{\text{sol}}(\text{inflow})$ and outflow $\delta C_{\text{sol}}(\text{outflow})$ data as well as the 1 km binned cloud-free data $\delta C_{\text{sol}}(z)$, where $z$ is the altitude, are the averages of the individual 1 s data uncertainties. Four entrainment rates are determined during the analysis, and the uncertainty of the average entrainment rate is the maximum difference between the average and highest or lowest entrainment rate. The uncertainty of the peroxy at the top of the storm core $\delta C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})$ is found from the entrainment rate equation, where the derivatives of the entrainment rate equation with respect to entrainment rate, cloud-free mixing ratio, and in-cloud mixing ratio are found at each altitude bin and are propagated upward to storm top. Lastly, the scavenging efficiency uncertainty is found by taking the derivatives of the scavenging efficiency equation with respect to $C_{\text{sol}}(\text{outflow})$ and $C_{\text{sol}}(z = \text{top})$ and combining these derivatives via propagation of errors [Taylor, 1982].

While equation (2) defines the scavenging efficiency, which is viewed as the physical removal of a trace gas via dissolution and rainout, the equation actually encompasses all physical and chemical processes occurring between the inflow and outflow regions sampled by the aircraft. Thus, there can be physical removal, chemical destruction, or even a reduction in chemical production. An example of the last process, mentioned in section 1 and discussed in section 4, is the reduction in peroxy formation because the peroxy radicals react with NO to form NO$_2$ and CH$_3$O instead of reacting with each other to form the peroxides.

### 2.3. Description of Cloud-Resolving Scale Model Simulations

The 29 May 2012 northern Oklahoma storm has been simulated with the Weather Forecasting and Research model coupled with Chemistry (WRF-Chem) [Grell et al., 2005, Bela et al. [2016] give a full description of the model configuration and simulation results. Table 4 provides information on the WRF-Chem configuration. The model domain is centered on northern Oklahoma using 1 km horizontal grid spacing and 88 vertical levels to 50 hPa (~20 km). The cloud resolving grid spacing allows for explicit representation of transport and wet deposition in the deep convection. The wet deposition scheme [Neu and Prather, 2012] estimates wet removal of soluble trace gases from the gas phase. This scheme estimates trace gas removal by multiplying the effective Henry’s law equilibrium aqueous concentration by the net precipitation formation (conversion of cloud water to precipitation, minus evaporation of precipitation). In mixed-phase conditions (258 K < T < 273 K), the Neu and Prather [2012] scheme estimates a fraction of the dissolved gas to be retained in the frozen hydrometeors. The retention fraction of H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH is set to 0.64 and 0.01, respectively, in accordance with laboratory values compiled by Leriche et al. [2013]. Other soluble trace gases (CH$_3$O, HNO$_3$, and SO$_2$) also use retention factors recommended by Leriche et al. [2013], while all other trace gases are completely degassed from the condensed phase. Sensitivity simulations were conducted to explore the effect of the retention factor on trace gas scavenging.

In addition to the simulations that included wet deposition, a simulation without wet deposition was performed. The scavenging efficiencies (SE) are then calculated from these results using the following equation.

$$SE = 100 \frac{(C_{\text{noscav}} - C_{\text{scav}})}{C_{\text{noscav}}} \quad (3)$$

where $C_{\text{noscav}}$ and $C_{\text{scav}}$ are average model mixing ratios of soluble trace gas C near the storm core as defined by the eastern (i.e., downwind) 40 dBZ maximum reflectivity contour. This location was chosen based on the
analysis method of the observations outlined above. For the 29 May DC3 case, the DC-8 measurements were obtained near storm cores with reflectivity > 40 dBZ (Figure 2b). The mixing ratios of the trace gases were averaged in the convective outflow altitudes (9.43–11.59 km).

In another simulation, 20 tracers representing air in each 1 km altitude layer of the atmosphere from the surface to the top of the model (~20 km) are predicted. These layer tracers were set to a value of 1.0 in their respective layer for a 10 min time period (0010–0020 UTC 30 May 2012) and analyzed 2 h after the initialization of the tracer at 0200 UTC 30 May 2012 to allow time for boundary layer air to reach the outflow location.

The tracers were analyzed to determine their percent contribution to the modeled storm outflow as defined above. The percent contributions (Table 5) are obtained by first calculating the fractional contribution of each tracer at each grid point then obtaining the average contribution of each tracer to the outflow region. Because of the averaging over the outflow region, the sum of the tracer contributions listed in Table 5 does not necessarily add to 100%. These percent contributions from each layer were used as the entrainment rate for calculations of scavenging efficiency from the aircraft observations to compare results from an average entrainment rate with those from an altitude-varying entrainment rate in section 3.

### Table 4. Configuration of the WRF Simulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Parameterization</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meteorology initialization</td>
<td>North American Mesoscale Analysis</td>
<td>Fierro et al. [2012]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud microphysics</td>
<td>Morrison 2-moment</td>
<td>Morrison et al. [2009]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep/shallow convection</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Hong et al. [2006]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planetary boundary layer</td>
<td>YSU&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land surface</td>
<td>Noah</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short/longwave radiation</td>
<td>RRTMG&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Iacono et al. [2008]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry initialization</td>
<td>Combination of aircraft measurements and MOZART</td>
<td>Bela et al. [2016]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>global chemistry transport model</td>
<td>and Emmons et al. [2010]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropogenic emissions</td>
<td>EPA NEI 2011</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogenic emissions</td>
<td>MEGAN&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt; v2.04</td>
<td>Guenther et al. [2006]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass burning emissions</td>
<td>FINN&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wiedinmyer et al. [2011]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-phase chemistry mechanism</td>
<td>MOZART&lt;sup&gt;e&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Emmons et al. [2010]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerosol physics and chemistry</td>
<td>GOCART&lt;sup&gt;f&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Chin et al. [2002]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry deposition</td>
<td>Resistance method</td>
<td>Wesely [1989]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet deposition</td>
<td>Henry’s law equilibrium with net production of precipitation</td>
<td>Neu and Prather [2012]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup>YSU = Yonsei University scheme.
<sup>b</sup>RRTMG = Rapid Radiative Transfer Model for GCMs.
<sup>c</sup>MEGAN = Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature.
<sup>d</sup>FINN = Fire Inventory from NCAR.
<sup>e</sup>MOZART = Model for Ozone and Related Chemical Tracers.
<sup>f</sup>GOCART = Goddard Chemistry Aerosol Radiation and Transport model.

### Table 5. Average Percent Contributions of Each 1 km Altitude Layer to the Storm Core Top as Determined From the WRF-Chem Simulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer Bottom Altitude (km)</th>
<th>Layer Top Altitude (km)</th>
<th>Percent Contribution (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.4 ± 4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12.± 7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9.4 ± 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.0 ± 3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.8 ± 3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.5 ± 5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9.4 ± 6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.4 ± 5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8.3 ± 7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5.7 ± 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.26 ± 0.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.01 ± 0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average for 1–11 km altitudes</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.3 ± 3.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a severe thunderstorm. The box model has been modified to include the nonmethane hydrocarbon gas-phase chemistry described by Kim et al. [2012]. The aqueous-phase chemistry represents only S(IV), O3, H2O2, and CH2O chemistry [Barth et al., 2007a]. Other soluble VOC trace gases, e.g., organic aldehydes, peroxides, and nitrates, also partition into the aqueous phase following Henry’s law equilibrium but do not undergo aqueous-phase chemistry. The coefficients for Henry’s law are from Sander [2015] and Sander et al. [2011]. Photolysis rates are appropriate for 36°N beginning at 00 UTC (1900 local time), matching the time of the storm observations. The photolysis rates vary with altitude and are modified by cloud scattering assuming a cloud optical depth of 500, cloud base of 2 km, and cloud top of 15 km. The photolysis rates are less than their clear-sky values throughout the simulation as depicted by the cloudy to clear-sky H2O2 photolysis rate at 00 UTC is shown in dark green.

The box model has also been modified to have varying liquid water content, temperature, pressure, and altitude, which are prescribed using results from the WRF-Chem simulation during the mature phase of the simulated severe convective storm at 0000 UTC 30 May 2012. Values are averages at each model level within the 36°N–37°N and 99°W–97°W latitude and longitude region and where vertical velocity in the column exceeds 5 m s⁻¹. The resulting cloud hydrometeor vertical profiles are shown in Figure 4a. For the box model simulations we prescribe only the cloud liquid water content and exclude the water content from precipitation. From Figure 4, it is evident that much of the condensed water is in the precipitation, primarily as hail, for this updraft region. Because the box model calculations are a function of time, the prescribed time coordinate is converted to an altitude coordinate so that the chemistry of a hypothetical rising air parcel can be determined. The air parcel begins at the 1.16 km altitude (near cloud base), solves for only gas-phase chemistry for 10 min to allow the radicals to reach approximate photochemical equilibrium, then is lifted to higher altitudes assuming a 3 m s⁻¹ updraft. At ~14 km where the WRF-Chem updraft velocities are ~0 m s⁻¹, the artificial lifting of the box is stopped. The 14 km altitude is above the cloud water region of the storm (Figure 4); the top of the cloud water region is 10.9 km. Thus, the air parcel undergoes only gas-phase chemistry between 10.9 and 14 km.

To determine if H2O2 and CH3OOH would be depleted if only gas-phase chemistry were occurring, a box model simulation with no liquid water was performed. Figure 4 shows that H2O2 and CH3OOH have similar mixing ratios at cloud top and cloud base (~2.2 ppbv for H2O2 and ~1.46 ppbv for CH3OOH). Thus, for the conditions of the box model simulation, both peroxides are not produced by the gas-phase chemistry. A second simulation with the prescribed liquid water content shows that in the cloud water region (2–11 km altitude) gas-phase H2O2 is rapidly depleted, with mixing ratios reduced to <0.2 ppbv in the mixed cloud region (4–11 km altitude). Note that solubility constants increase as temperature decreases, allowing more of the
soluble trace gas to partition into the aqueous phase. Gas-phase CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios also decrease, but by <10% of the gas-phase only simulation. At the top of the cloud water region, the peroxides in the aqueous phase return to the gas phase because of the lack of liquid water. In an actual cloud the cloud water is more likely being collected by precipitating cloud particles and freezing. Thus, what is shown in Figure 4 is akin to the trace gases being degassed from all cloud particles. In summary, simple partition theory based on Henry’s law equilibria and gas- and aqueous-phase chemistry suggests substantial depletion of gas-phase H$_2$O$_2$ and small depletion of CH$_3$OOH. Gas-phase chemistry alone does not deplete either H$_2$O$_2$ or CH$_3$OOH appreciably during transit from cloud base to cloud top.

3. Results

Average mixing ratios for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH measured during the DC-8 flight inflow and outflow time periods are listed in Table 6. The mixing ratios in the inflow region are always higher than those in the outflow for both peroxide species, indicating that net chemical production of peroxides within the storm is not occurring at rates greater than the rate of dilution. The inflow mixing ratios vary from case to case, suggesting a dependence on vicinity to anthropogenic sources and time of year. The 18 May and 22 June storms, with lower H$_2$O$_2$ mixing ratios, both occurred near the Wyoming-Colorado-Nebraska border farther from the Front Range urban region than the 2 and 6 June Colorado cases. The outflow mixing ratios also have some variability among the different storm cases. Four of the cases have H$_2$O$_2$ outflow mixing ratios below 100 pptv, which is near the offset of the H$_2$O$_2$ uncertainty (=75 pptv), suggesting substantial scavenging of H$_2$O$_2$. Average H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios for the background UT region, which represent the highest altitude of the cloud-free vertical profile (Figure 3), are also listed in Table 6. A comparison of the outflow peroxide mixing ratios to the background UT shows that the outflow H$_2$O$_2$ is always less than the background UT, on average, while the outflow CH$_3$OOH is always greater than the background UT, on average. The uncertainties for the average values can be quite large, ranging from 50 to 60% and from 77 to 84% for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH, respectively, in the boundary layer inflow air, 80 to 175% and 49 to 70% for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH, respectively, in the outflow air, and 77 to 99% and 68 to 230% for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH, respectively, in the background UT.

The mixing ratios for the butanes and pentanes in the inflow air (Table 7) vary from storm to storm, where higher mixing ratios in both the inflow and outflow air occur over Oklahoma (29 May and 16 June cases) compared to those in Colorado, except for the 18 May case. The outflow mixing ratios are often much smaller than the inflow mixing ratios, except for the 22 June outflow where mixing ratios are only slightly less than those in the inflow suggesting less entrainment occurred during transport from the boundary layer to the location of the aircraft in the anvil in the 22 June storm. Note that the number of canisters varied from 1 to 4 for representing inflow and 1 to 2 for outflow air. While there is only one outflow sample for the 22 June case, its neighboring canister samples, taken in another part of the outflow region, had similar butane and pentane mixing ratios. The 6 June case uses butane and pentane mixing ratios extrapolated to the storm top as determined by A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) because the DC-8 mixing ratios from the outflow period listed in Table 5 have anomalously high butane and pentane mixing ratios that are greater than the inflow mixing ratios. Instead of using DC-8 data from outflow near the edge of the storm (and quite far from the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Inflow Time H$_2$O$_2$ (pptv)</th>
<th>Inflow Time CH$_3$OOH (pptv)</th>
<th>Outflow Time H$_2$O$_2$ (pptv)</th>
<th>Outflow Time CH$_3$OOH (pptv)</th>
<th>Background UT H$_2$O$_2$ (pptv)</th>
<th>Background UT CH$_3$OOH (pptv)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>665 ± 407</td>
<td>803 ± 628</td>
<td>87 ± 119</td>
<td>102 ± 71</td>
<td>221 ± 186</td>
<td>45 ± 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>2462 ± 1306</td>
<td>1522 ± 1276</td>
<td>169 ± 160</td>
<td>175 ± 104</td>
<td>210 ± 180</td>
<td>16 ± 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 June</td>
<td>2108 ± 1129</td>
<td>580 ± 459</td>
<td>60 ± 105</td>
<td>199 ± 109</td>
<td>277 ± 213</td>
<td>115 ± 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 June</td>
<td>4135 ± 2142</td>
<td>1148 ± 911</td>
<td>94 ± 122</td>
<td>126 ± 81</td>
<td>153 ± 151</td>
<td>48 ± 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>1777 ± 964</td>
<td>1655 ± 1381</td>
<td>90 ± 120</td>
<td>336 ± 164</td>
<td>189 ± 169</td>
<td>22 ± 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>1544 ± 847</td>
<td>647 ± 499</td>
<td>255 ± 203</td>
<td>276 ± 145</td>
<td>215 ± 183</td>
<td>43 ± 47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The uncertainties of the average values are included.

*This value is from the lowest level of the cloud-free data.
storm cores), we chose to use the mixing ratios determined from a combination of DC-8 and GV data (A. Fried et al., submitted manuscript, 2016). Average butane and pentane mixing ratios for the background UT region, which represent the highest altitude of the cloud-free vertical profile (Figure 3), are also listed in Table 7. A comparison of the outflow to the background UT mixing ratios shows that the background UT butanes and pentanes are 3–15 times less than the outflow region, on average.

The i-butane/n-butane and i-pentane/n-pentane ratios also provide evidence that the air measured by the DC-8 in the inflow region of the storms is connected to that sampled in the outflow region in the storm anvils. Gilman et al. [2013] and Swarthout et al. [2013] explain that these ratios are limited to a small range of values for a given source (e.g., cities, biomass burning emissions, and oil and gas emissions). However, the ratios from source to source vary, where the i-butane/n-butane ratio is found to be 0.48 for U.S. cities, 0.26–0.27 for biomass burning emissions, 0.36–0.69 for oil and gas emissions, and i-pentane/n-pentane ratio is 2.0 for U.S. cities, 0.31–0.37 for biomass burning emissions, and 1–1.4 for oil and gas emissions in the Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas region (N. J. Blake et al., Spatial distributions and source characterization of trace organic gases during SEAC4RS and comparison to DC3, in preparation, 2015; A. Fried et al., submitted manuscript, 2016). These ratios should be maintained for several hours because their rate constants with OH are within 10–15% for n-butane and i-butane oxidation and within 10% for n-pentane and i-pentane oxidation. The i-butane/n-butane and i-pentane/n-pentane ratios for the inflow regions of all the storms analyzed for this study lie within the range for oil and gas emissions as found by N. J. Blake et al. (in preparation, 2015) and Gilman et al. [2013] for the Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas region (Table 8). This is not a surprising result because both Oklahoma and northeast Colorado have active oil and gas operations.

### Table 7. Mixing Ratios of n-Butane, i-Butane, n-Pentane, i-Pentane (ppbv) Averaged for the Inflow and Outflow Regions and for the Cloud-Free Upper Troposphere Background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>n-butane</th>
<th>i-butane</th>
<th>Outflow Region</th>
<th>Background UT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>n-butane</td>
<td>i-butane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>1511 ± 75</td>
<td>537 ± 27</td>
<td>431 ± 65</td>
<td>164 ± 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>1548 ± 77</td>
<td>513 ± 26</td>
<td>763 ± 61</td>
<td>280 ± 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 June</td>
<td>262 ± 68</td>
<td>112 ± 20</td>
<td>108 ± 5</td>
<td>51 ± 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 June</td>
<td>312 ± 28</td>
<td>132 ± 10</td>
<td>224 ± 34</td>
<td>95 ± 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>1746 ± 54</td>
<td>678 ± 165</td>
<td>406 ± 39</td>
<td>169 ± 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>194 ± 25</td>
<td>70 ± 11</td>
<td>150 ± 8</td>
<td>52 ± 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 8. The i-Butane/n-Butane and i-Pentane/n-Pentane Ratios Averaged for the Inflow and Outflow Regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>i-Butane/n-Butane</th>
<th>i-Pentane/n-Pentane</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inflow</td>
<td>Outflow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 June</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 June</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values in the outflow region of 6 June storm are from A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) who used the outflow measurements from both the DC-8 and GV and extrapolated to the top of the storm core.
Entrainment rates, as calculated via the method described in section 2.2, range from 4.1% km$^{-1}$ to 17.2% km$^{-1}$ for the different storms analyzed (Table 9). The entrainment rate for 6 June was obtained from A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) because the VOCs measured by the DC-8 were anomalously high in the outflow region. The entrainment rates for three of the cases are similar to those found by Luo et al. (2010) who used moist static energy profiles to determine entrainment rates of <10% km$^{-1}$ for deep convective tropical, oceanic cumulus clouds. Moreover, the entrainment rate for the 29 May storm is identical to that found by A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016). The entrainment rate for the 22 June storm is within the mutual precision limits of A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) who estimated 3.1 ± 1.1% km$^{-1}$ compared to 4.8 ± 0.9% km$^{-1}$ in this study. The small difference for the 22 June storm is expected since A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016) extrapolate their outflow data to estimate mixing ratios at storm core top, which are generally higher than the average values closest to the storm core employed here. If the entrainment rates reported in Table 9 are integrated over a 9 km depth, the total storm entrainment rate range for the storms with high 0–6 km vertical wind shear and high CAPE (Table 2) is 40–68%, which is similar to entrainment rates of midlatitude, continental convection [Barth et al., 2007a; Thompson et al., 1994], and subtropical convection [Scala et al., 1990]. Both low-level vertical wind shear and entrainment rate contribute to the storm intensity and longevity, as they play a role in the strength of the cold pool and tilt of the updraft [Weisman et al., 1988; Lee et al., 2008]. The storms with higher entrainment rates per kilometer have integrated entrainment rates of >100%. By examining the cloud-free profiles, air ingested 1–2 km above the inflow flight leg is also in or just above the BL. Air from these regions have also been documented as being major sources of inflow air [Cotton et al., 1995; Scala et al., 1990].

The calculated scavenging efficiencies for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH for each storm analyzed range from 79% to 97% and 12% to 84%, respectively (Table 9). While there is some variability of scavenging efficiency among storms for H$_2$O$_2$, there is much more variability for CH$_3$OOH. The H$_2$O$_2$ scavenging efficiencies estimated from DC3 storms are somewhat greater than those previously found. Numerical modeling of a low-precipitation supercell observed in northeast Colorado yielded a 57% H$_2$O$_2$ scavenging efficiency [Barth et al., 2007a]. Wang [2005] estimated H$_2$O$_2$ scavenging efficiencies of 88–90% for tropical deep convection. Global chemistry transport model simulations estimated that a soluble species with a Henry’s law coefficient similar to H$_2$O$_2$ has a 90% scavenging efficiency in deep convection [Crutzen and Lawrence, 2000]. Estimated H$_2$O$_2$ scavenging efficiency, based on boundary layer, convective outflow, and UT background observations for an oceanic, tropical convective storm is 55–70% [Cohan et al., 1999]. CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies for DC3 storms are also greater than past results. Barth et al. [2007a] determined a 7% scavenging efficiency, while Cohan et al. [1999] found no significant scavenging of CH$_3$OOH.

It is important to realize that the uncertainty in the estimated scavenging efficiencies is large and is mostly a product of the uncertainties of the peroxide measurements. The peroxide uncertainties for low altitude are 52–61% for H$_2$O$_2$ and 77–84% for CH$_3$OOH and for high altitude are 80–175% for H$_2$O$_2$ and 49–70% for CH$_3$OOH (Table 6). Examining the impacts of the CH$_3$OOH uncertainties was done by testing lower BL CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios with higher outflow mixing ratios. Previous studies have found BL CH$_3$OOH to be 400–600 pptv [Snow et al., 2007; Barth et al., 2007a] over North America. When CH$_3$OOH = 500 pptv is the BL mixing ratio entering the cloud for the 6 June case (using the 4.1% km$^{-1}$ entrainment rate), the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency is 62% for the average CH$_3$OOH outflow mixing ratio of 126 pptv and 37% for the average + uncertainty CH$_3$OOH outflow mixing ratio of 207 pptv. These scavenging efficiencies extend...
beyond the reported 6 June uncertainty but are still much greater than the expected scavenging efficiency of <10% based on previous studies. The high uncertainties propagate to the scavenging efficiencies, manifesting into 5–25% relative uncertainty (= uncertainty/average) in the H2O2 scavenging efficiency and 18–558% relative uncertainty in the CH3OOH scavenging efficiency. For CH3OOH, there tends to be more uncertainty associated with the lower scavenging efficiencies.

In addition to the measurement uncertainties, there are uncertainties associated with the analysis method. While much care was invested in quantifying relevant values in inflow and outflow air, there exists the possibility that the times chosen include air that was not processed by the deep convection. However, by using the 1 s data, we expect air from outside the anvil to have very little influence on the calculated average outflow mixing ratios. Further, comparison of the i/n butane and i/n pentane ratios give good information on how well the boundary layer and outflow air are connected. A major assumption of the analysis is that the entrainment rate is constant for each kilometer layer from cloud base to the top of the storm cell. To test this assumption, the WRF-Chem model run using tracers described in section 2.3 was analyzed to provide an altitude-dependent entrainment rate (Table 5) for the 29 May severe convection case in Oklahoma. For this case, the entrainment rate based on the hydrocarbon analysis was estimated to be 7.6% km⁻¹, while the WRF-Chem model estimated an average percent contribution from each 1 km altitude layer over the 1–11 km altitude range to be 7.3%. Thus, the average entrainment rates based on these two methods are similar. However, the model results give a variation of contributions with height, with higher entrainments rates per km in the first 2 km (near cloud base) and near 7 km, and the lowest entrainment rates per kilometer between 3 and 5 km altitude and above 9 km altitude (Table 5). By using the altitude-dependent entrainment rates for estimating the scavenging efficiency, we obtain values of 89% and 80% scavenging for H2O2 and CH3OOH, respectively. These values are similar to the 88% and 77% estimated by the constant entrainment rate method and are well within the uncertainty.

The most surprising result is the substantial scavenging of CH3OOH for two of the storms (29 May and 6 June) of greater than 75%, which is much greater than what is expected based on Henry’s law equilibrium between the gas and aqueous phases (section 2.4), even when the uncertainties for these high scavenging efficiencies are considered (i.e., the average minus the uncertainty gives scavenging efficiencies much greater than expected). However, the cloud physics in deep convective clouds is much more complicated than the simple model of a liquid-only cumulus cloud. The ice phase in deep convection interacts with the cloud and rain drops through freezing and melting processes, and the fate of the dissolved trace gas is uncertain when freezing occurs [Barth et al., 2001, 2007a] but is related to the value of the trace gas Henry’s law and the time it takes a drop to freeze [Stuart and Jacobson, 2006]. Other storm characteristics (e.g., entrainment) can also affect the scavenging rate of the trace gas. Some of these effects will be discussed in the next section.

A comparison of WRF-Chem simulations with and without wet deposition was done to estimate scavenging efficiencies for the 29 May northern Oklahoma storm. Average H2O2 and CH3OOH mixing ratios at the eastern edge of the modeled storm core tops, which was defined in longitude-latitude space by the column maximum radar reflectivity of 40 dBZ, were found for each of the simulations. Bela et al. [2016] explore the sensitivity of the scavenging efficiency to the retention of the dissolved trace gas in freezing drops. They find the H2O2 scavenging efficiency to be 100% with retention fractions into ice of 0.25, 0.5, 0.64, and 1.0 and 78 ± 11% when there is no retention of dissolved trace gas in freezing drops. For CH3OOH, Bela et al. [2016] find the scavenging efficiency to be 26 ± 6%, 35 ± 7%, 39 ± 5%, 51 ± 4%, and 61 ± 3% for retention fractions of 0, 0.02, 0.25, 0.5, and 1.0, respectively. The model results with 100% retention for CH3OOH in ice give a CH3OOH scavenging efficiency (61%) most similar to the value calculated from observations (77%). In contrast, the simulation with 0% retention in ice produced CH3O mixing ratios in the convective outflow that best matched the observations (A. Fried et al., submitted manuscript, 2016). Further analysis is being done to investigate the potential role of aqueous-phase chemistry on peroxide mixing ratios. These results suggest the retention of H2O2 and CH3OOH in freezing drops is an important contribution to scavenging of peroxides.

4. Discussion

Here we seek to get an idea of what atmospheric processes contribute to the wide range of CH3OOH scavenging in order to guide future analyses. We first compare the 2 and 6 June cases because of their very different
CH₃OOH scavenging efficiencies for two storms that developed in northeast Colorado just a few days apart. To do a thorough study of each storm individually would mean diagnosing the cloud physics processes and chemical transformations within the storm. While some of the cloud physics characterization can be estimated from the polarimetric radar data, cloud chemistry modeling would provide more detailed analysis of the physical and chemical processes. Such modeling has begun with the 29 May Oklahoma storm [Bela et al., 2016]. Here we discuss the meteorological and chemical settings, in which the 2 and 6 June storms formed and discuss some differences between the storms that we determined using NEXRAD data. We then expand upon the discussion by examining correlations between different storm parameters and the CH₃OOH scavenging efficiencies for all six storms.

4.1. Comparison of the 2 and 6 June Storm Cases

The 2 and 6 June storms occurred in a very similar location, near the Wyoming-Wyoming-Nebraska border (Figures 2c and 2d). Both days had several storms occurring in the region, making it challenging to attribute the outflow sampling to one specific storm. However, the synoptic meteorological conditions differ between the cases. In response to an upper level wave, the 2 June storms began in the late morning over the higher mountainous terrain and propagated eastward over the High Plains of Colorado and Wyoming. The 6 June storms began as a result of the Denver cyclone, where southeasterly low-level flow meets northwesterly flow from the west of Denver. The first storm appeared at the apex of the cyclone, which was northeast of Denver. Subsequently, as a cold front entered northeastern Colorado, storms formed closer to the foothills of Colorado and Wyoming propagating eastward. At the time of outflow sampling, the storms for both 2 and 6 June were mature multicell lines of convection (Figure 2).

The thermodynamic environment is critical for determining storm morphology and intensity. Two important parameters of the thermodynamic environment are the convective available potential energy (CAPE) and the low-level vertical wind shear [Weisman and Klemp, 1982]. The storm environment is analyzed using the soundings from the NCAR Mobile GPS Advanced Upper-Air Sounding System. A comparison of the storm environment parameters derived from the soundings (Table 2) reveals that the CAPE was substantially different between the two days. Although the 2 June sounding is from 1700 UTC, more than 5 hours before the convective outflow was sampled, the cloud-free aircraft measurements show a similar temperature and dew point vertical profile, but with a deeper boundary layer (reaching 4 km mean sea level (msl), which is also the height of the cloud base according to the radiosonde). On 6 June, the cloud base height was ~3.5 km msl altitude (~2 km aboveground). The vertical profile of the water vapor mixing ratios measured by the DC-8 aircraft and radiosondes shows that there is more water in the lower atmosphere on 6 June that is capped by relatively drier air in the midtroposphere. In contrast, water vapor in the cloud-free upper troposphere (above 7 km) is greater on 2 June compared to 6 June. Because of the higher cloud base on 2 June, the depth of the liquid water region (cloud base to the freezing level and cloud base to T = –40°C) was shallower on 2 June compared to 6 June. The difference in the depth of the liquid water region may be important for CH₃OOH scavenging, especially in terms of collection of cloud drops by hail or graupel. That is, there may be more CH₃OOH scavenged because there is a bigger region for drop collection. If hail plays an important role in the scavenging of CH₃OOH, its recirculation up and down in the storm may be the reason more CH₃OOH is removed.

High radar reflectivity regions are associated with larger precipitation particles including rain, graupel, and hail. To examine the possible role of graupel and hail, the volume of the region exceeding 35 dBZ from the NEXRAD reflectivity was computed for each storm. These volumes were calculated for when the air parcel, which was sampled by the aircraft, exited the storm core top. For 2 June this time interval is 30 min; thus, 22:10 NEXRAD data were used. For 6 June the time interval is ~60 min; thus, 23:10 NEXRAD data were used. For both cases, between the time of the 35 dBZ volume calculation and the time of the outflow sample, new storm cores developed in the region complicating the analysis. The estimated 35 dBZ volumes for 2 June was 3652 km³ for three storm cores, while for 6 June it was 2474 km³ for two storm cores. Thus, the 2 June storm had a larger volume than the 6 June case, suggesting that there was more graupel and hail in the 2 June case. Although this result may seem counter to the hypothesis that more graupel or hail increases the scavenging of trace gases, the 35 dBZ volume per storm core was about the same. Further analysis of graupel and hail amounts using the polarimetric radar data can reveal whether wet growth riming forming hail is more important than dry growth riming forming graupel. This type of analysis is beyond the scope of this paper, which is to highlight the higher than expected CH₃OOH scavenging efficiencies and suggest possible causes.
The derived entrainment rate of 16.5 ± 4.6% km^{-1} for the 2 June and 4.1 ± 0.7% km^{-1} for the 6 June storms are very different (Table 9). Although CH3OOH mixing ratios in the lowest 4 km msl cloud-free air for the 6 June case are about twice those for the 2 June case (Figure 3), the 6 June case entrains substantially less CH3OOH from outside the storm. The lower entrainment rate allows more BL air to reach the top of the storm, creating a greater difference between the expected transported trace gas and the measured outflow trace gas mixing ratios. The entrainment of moister air into the storm on 2 June may also be affecting the cloud microphysical processes that subsequently affect CH3OOH scavenging.

Chemical transformations may also play a role, as will be discussed in more detail in the next section. The composition of the inflow regions for 2 and 6 June were fairly similar. On 2 June, O3, CO, and NOx in the inflow region were 54 ppbv, 110 ppbv, and 565 pptv, while on 6 June O3, CO, and NOx in the inflow region were 61 ppbv, 125 ppbv, and 435 pptv. The higher CO on 6 June was also in line with slightly higher CH2O on 6 June (1.61 ppbv) compared to 2 June (1.50 ppbv). However, inflow SO2 mixing ratios differed on the two days. On 2 June SO2 was 745 pptv in the inflow region, while on 6 June SO2 was 98 pptv. Since CH3OOH reacts with S(IV) in the aqueous phase, this difference in inflow SO2 may further impact CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies.

In summary, while the 2 and 6 June storm cases are similar in that they occur in the same region within a few days, the formation of the storms was different in that the 2 June storms began over the high terrain to the west, while the 6 June storms formed over the High Plains of Colorado. Differences between characteristics of the 2 and 6 June cases that may affect the CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies are the storm environment CAPE, the entrainment rate, the depth of the liquid water region, the amount of graupel and/or hail, and the inflow SO2 mixing ratio because of its reaction with CH3OOH in the aqueous phase. These parameters are examined further in the context of all six storms analyzed.

Figure 5. (a) Scavenging efficiencies of CH3OOH placed in the CAPE—low-level vertical wind shear parameter space. The size of the circles is scaled to the scavenging efficiency values. Blue circles denote Oklahoma storms, and red circles are Colorado storms. Correspondence of estimated CH3OOH scavenging efficiencies and (b) depth of the warm cloud defined as from cloud base to the freezing level, (c) volume of the 35 dBZ region normalized to the number of storm cores, and (d) storm entrainment rates. The gray line in each plot represents the regression line for the data shown.
4.2. Correlations of Parameters Among All Six Storm Cases

In this section, possible factors influencing the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies are studied further to see if differences highlighted by the 2 and 6 June storm comparison show a correspondence for all six storm cases. While the 2 and 6 June storms had very different CAPE, placing the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies in the context of the thermodynamic environment (Figure 5a) shows that there is no strong correlation of CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies with CAPE and the 0–6 km vertical wind shear, although the two highest CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies occur in severe storms with similar CAPE and vertical wind shear parameters.

In the previous section, we showed that the depth of the warm cloud (between cloud base and the freezing level) where only liquid water resides was shallower for the 2 June case, which had a 12% CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency, than for the 6 June case with an 84% scavenging efficiency. However, when all six cases are examined, we find no correlation between the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency and the depth of the warm cloud (Figure 5b), suggesting that the ice-liquid processes (e.g., retention of dissolved gases during cloud drop freezing) impacts the scavenging efficiency. Supercooled liquid water can exist at temperatures down to 233 K (~–40°C), and dissolution into the liquid from the gas phase occurs much more readily at colder temperatures. Nevertheless, the calculated CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies showed no correlation with the depth of cloud where cloud droplets exist. Thus, the size of the region for dissolution of trace gases and precipitation formation is not important for peroxide scavenging.

To further examine the connection between CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies and graupel and hail, we calculated the 35 dBZ volume from the NEXRAD data at the time estimated for when the air parcels exited the top of the storm cores. In some storm cases, more than one storm core contributed to the outflow region. Therefore, we have normalized the 35 dBZ volume by the number of storm cores. Figure 5c shows that there is some correspondence between the normalized 35 dBZ volumes and the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies with $r^2 = 0.24$. This result suggests that future studies examine further the role of the graupel and hail physics on CH$_3$OOH scavenging.

As shown in the comparison between the 2 and 6 June storms, the entrainment rates are very different and could explain why there are differences in scavenging efficiencies between storms. When examining all six storms, the increase in scavenging efficiency with a decrease in entrainment is still seen and has a moderate correlation (Figure 5d). As stated above, a lower entrainment rate allows more BL air to reach the top of the storm, creating a greater difference between the expected transported trace gas and the measured outflow trace gas mixing ratios when the trace gas has higher mixing ratios in the boundary layer compared to the middle and upper troposphere. The possible importance of entrainment on convective outflow mixing ratios suggests that the shape of the vertical profile of the peroxides may be important. For example, a rapid decrease in mixing ratio from the top of the boundary layer into the free troposphere would decrease CH$_3$OOH more than if the cloud-free mixing ratios remained elevated into the midtroposphere (e.g., 16 June, Figure 3).

Another factor to consider is the chemistry that the peroxides experience as they are transported from cloud base to the aircraft location in the anvil outflow region. Both H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH are primarily destroyed by photolysis ((R1) and (R2)) and oxidation by OH ((R3) and (R4)).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(R1)} & : & H_2O_2 + hv & \rightarrow 2OH \\
\text{(R2)} & : & CH_3OOH + hv & \rightarrow CH_3O + HO_2 + OH \\
\text{(R3)} & : & H_2O_2 + OH & \rightarrow HO_2 + H_2O \\
\text{(R4)} & : & CH_3OOH + OH & \rightarrow \text{products}
\end{align*}
\]

The rates of these reactions are altered by the presence of deep convection because the cloud particles scatter incoming solar radiation. When the cloud attenuates solar radiation causing reduced photolysis rates and OH concentrations [Chang et al., 1987; Brasseur et al., 2002], the photochemistry tends to proceed more slowly. However, near the top of cloud where it is much brighter, the chemistry is accelerated. Because H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH are both produced and destroyed by HO$_2$ and photolysis rates, their gas-phase photochemistry is less certain when clouds scatter radiation. Previous modeling studies showed a <5% effect on peroxide mixing ratios caused by cloud modified photolysis rates for boundary layer clouds in a marine setting [Barth et al., 2002]. However, Wang [2005] expected increases of H$_2$O$_2$ in the upper regions of deep convection due to the decreased photolysis rates and lack of water in which H$_2$O$_2$ dissolves and undergoes aqueous chemistry.
The production of H₂O₂ is primarily from the hydroperoxy radical self-reaction (R5). Similarly, CH₃OOH is produced from methylperoxy radical reaction with the hydroperoxy radical (R6). However, NO and NO₂ reaction with peroxy radicals ((R7)–(R10)) compete with the peroxide production, causing less peroxide production at higher NO concentrations.

\[
\text{HO}_2 + \text{HO}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2 \tag{R5}
\]

\[
\text{CH}_3\text{OO} + \text{HO}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OOH} + \text{O}_2 \tag{R6}
\]

\[
\text{HO}_2 + \text{NO} \rightarrow \text{NO}_2 + \text{OH} \tag{R7}
\]

\[
\text{CH}_3\text{OO} + \text{NO} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{NO}_2 + \text{CH}_2\text{O} + \text{HO}_2 \tag{R8}
\]

\[
\text{HO}_2 + \text{NO}_2 \rightarrow \text{HO}_2\text{NO}_2 \tag{R9}
\]

\[
\text{CH}_3\text{OO} + \text{NO}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OONO}_2 \tag{R10}
\]

In a thunderstorm, low NO conditions may exist in the inflow region of the storm, but as the air parcel rises generation of NO from lightning would create high NO conditions. While the peroxy radicals have other destruction reactions (e.g., HO₂ + OH and reaction with other organic peroxy radicals), their contribution to peroxy radical loss is much smaller than the reactions listed in (R7)–(R10). Comparing the loss of CH₃OO via reaction with HO₂ (R6) with those via reactions with NO (R8) and NO₂ (R10) can illuminate whether the NO conditions are affecting the estimate of the CH₃OOH scavenging efficiency. We can define the fraction of CH₃OO to produce CH₃OOH (\(F_{\text{Prod CH₃OOH}}\)) as

\[
F_{\text{Prod CH₃OOH}} = \frac{k_6[\text{HO}_2]}{k_6[\text{HO}_2] + k_8[\text{NO}] + k_{10}[\text{NO}_2]} \tag{4}
\]

Figure 6. Correspondence of CH₃OOH scavenging efficiency with estimated (a) fraction of CH₃OO producing CH₃OOH, (b) 60 s averaged methyl peroxy nitrate data in the outflow flight leg, (c) time traveled by sampled air from storm cell to the aircraft in the outflow region, and (d) average SO₂ mixing ratio in the inflow region of the storm. See text for details on how each parameter was estimated. The gray line in each plot represents the regression line for the data shown.
This fraction can be estimated using the DC-8 aircraft data for NO, NO$_2$, HO$_2$, and temperature. The calculated $F_{\text{Prod, CH}_3\text{OOH}}$ values are found to be <1% because of the high NO$_x$ mixing ratios, which ranged from 0.7 to 2.5 ppbv, and low HO$_2$ mixing ratios (0.3–3.9 pptv) measured in the outflow flight legs. Comparing $F_{\text{Prod, CH}_3\text{OOH}}$ to the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency (Figure 6a) shows a weak correlation between these two parameters, although five of the six storms analyzed have a strong correspondence with more CH$_3$OOH scavenged when its fraction produced is lower. Thus, it is uncertain whether increased NO$_x$ from lightning production has an important effect on CH$_3$OOH gas-phase production.

Reaction (R10) produces methyl peroxy nitrate (MPN), which was measured by the TD-LIF instrument on the DC-8. A comparison of average MPN data in the outflow region with the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies shows no correspondence between the two parameters when all the storms are included in the comparison, but a strong correspondence between the two parameters if the data from 18 May and 6 June Colorado storms are not included in the calculation (Figure 6b). Despite the lack of correlation between MPN in the outflow region and the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency shown here, the stronger correlation for four of the storms shows a potential correspondence between these two parameters. Thus, we encourage using MPN-CH$_3$OOH analysis in future efforts to understand CH$_3$OOH scavenging in thunderstorms.

To learn whether NO production from lightning could be a potential reason for CH$_3$OOH depletion in thunderstorm anvils, the gas-aqueous photochemical box model was used. The model began with the same conditions as described in section 2.4 but had a NO emission included representing lightning-NO$_x$ production. The NO source was set to 10 pptv per time step (10 s) from the altitude where $T = 285$ K to the altitude where $T = 223$ K. This profile is based on the WRF-Chem results of NO mixing ratio in the updraft region. In Figure 7a, the NO vertical profiles from the simulations with and without the “lightning-NO$_x$” source are shown. The source of NO causes an increase of NO mixing ratios from ~0.1 ppbv to ~1.2 ppbv. Even with the increase in NO mixing ratios, both gas-phase H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios are unchanged from the simulations without the lightning-NO$_x$ source (Figure 7b), although the change in CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios does show a <5 pptv decrease. Despite the null result from the parcel model calculations, the correlations shown above suggest that the chemistry with lightning-produced NO need to be further investigated with cloud-resolving chemistry models because of their ability to represent realistically the cloud dynamics and physics compared to a simple parcel model.

The results from the observational analyses do not depend on the time since the air parcel exited the storm core and was sampled by the DC-8 aircraft (Figure 6c), which was determined from the distance downwind of the storm core using Figure 2, divided by the horizontal wind speed measured aboard the aircraft. Indeed, the storms with the highest CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies, 6 June and 29 May, have very different estimated times since the air parcel exited the storm core of ~60 min and ~18 min, respectively.

Aqueous-phase chemistry can also affect CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios in a storm via in-cloud reaction between CH$_3$OOH and HSO$_3^-$ [Seinfeld and Pandis, 1998],

\[
\text{CH}_3\text{OOH} + \text{HSO}_3^- + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{SO}_4^{2-} + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{CH}_3\text{OH}
\]
The hydroxyl radical OH can also oxidize CH$_3$OOH in the aqueous phase forming either CH$_3$OO radicals or CH$_2$O.

(A2) \[ \text{CH}_3\text{OOH} + \text{OH} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \]

(A3) \[ \text{CH}_3\text{OOH} + \text{OH} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3(\text{OH})_2 + \text{HO}_2 \]

Barth et al. [2007a] included reactions (A2) and (A3) in their cloud chemistry modeling of thunderstorm chemistry and found essentially the same scavenging efficiency when aqueous chemistry was included in the simulation as when aqueous chemistry was excluded. However, Barth et al. [2007a] did not include reaction (A1). To learn whether reaction (A1) may be important, the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency is compared to the SO$_2$ inflow mixing ratios for each storm case. Unfortunately DC-8 SO$_2$ mixing ratios are not available for the 29 May storm, and the GV SO$_2$ measurements are likely not representative of inflow air because the GV low level sampling (2–3.5 km altitude) occurred just before storm initiation to the west of the DC-8 inflow legs. A comparison of the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies with inflow SO$_2$ for the other five storm cases shows a moderate anticorrelation, with more scavenging at low SO$_2$ conditions (Figure 6d). Intuitively, this anticorrelation seems to be the opposite of what is expected if aqueous-phase chemistry is reducing CH$_3$OOH. With a moderate anticorrelation between CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies and inflow SO$_2$, it is not obvious if SO$_2$ is affecting CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios in the storm outflow region. In contrast, H$_2$O$_2$ scavenging efficiencies do have a positive correspondence with the inflow SO$_2$ mixing ratio (not shown) but do not have a strong correlation because of the nearly complete removal of H$_2$O$_2$ in two cases. This is a result of H$_2$O$_2$ mixing ratios in the outflow region being near the uncertainty offset of the H$_2$O$_2$ measurement for the storms with scavenging efficiencies $\geq$89%.

5. Conclusion

We have analyzed DC3 observations of hydrogen peroxide and methyl hydrogen peroxide to determine their scavenging efficiencies in thunderstorms observed in the High Plains of northeast Colorado and Southern Great Plains of Oklahoma. The analysis method, which is similar to that described by A. Fried et al. (submitted manuscript, 2016), first finds an entrainment rate for each storm by using mixing ratios of n-butane, i-butane, n-pentane, and i-pentane, which are all sufficiently chemically long-lived and insoluble to be good tracers of transport, in the inflow and outflow regions, and clear-air vertical profiles. Once the entrainment rate is determined, the peroxide scavenging efficiencies are found from the measurements from the same inflow, outflow, and clear-sky regions. The calculated H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies are 79–97% and 12–84%, respectively, for six DC3 storms analyzed. The scavenging efficiency relative uncertainties (± uncertainty/average) are high, 5–25% and 15–55% for H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH, respectively, and are mostly from the uncertainties of the peroxide measurements. The cloud resolving modeling by Bela et al. [2016] predicts scavenging efficiencies similar to those observed for the 29 May 2012 DC3 storm when the retention efficiency of H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH dissolved in freezing drops was 25% or greater for H$_2$O$_2$ and 100% for CH$_3$OOH. These modeling results suggest that the degree of riming of cloud drops by snow and graupel could affect the amount of CH$_3$OOH scavenged by the storms.

We investigated several environmental, storm morphological, and chemical parameters that may contribute to the wide range of calculated CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies. While the thermodynamic environment (e.g., CAPE and 0–6 km vertical wind shear) plays a role in the degree of scavenging, it does not explain why CH$_3$OOH scavenging has such a large range for the six storms examined, although the volume of the 35 dBZ region is slightly correlated with CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies. The 35 dBZ region is often representative of regions where graupel and hail reside, suggesting cloud physical processes, e.g., riming, may be affecting the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies. We found that more CH$_3$OOH was scavenged at low entrainment rates and less CH$_3$OOH was scavenged at high entrainment rates in storms. This correlation may be connected with the shape of the CH$_3$OOH vertical profile in clear sky since the peroxide profiles usually did not decrease sharply with altitude like the butane and pentane vertical profiles, from which the entrainment rate was derived. Further, the variability of entrainment rate with height (as prescribed by the cloud resolving model simulation) does not significantly change the calculated scavenging efficiencies.
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The production of NO from lightning may influence CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios in the convective outflow by increasing the CH$_3$OO + NO and the CH$_3$OO + NO$_2$ reaction rates, which reduces the production of CH$_2$OOH via CH$_3$OO + H$_2$O. Correlations between the CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiency and the fraction of CH$_3$OO producing CH$_2$OOH and between the scavenging efficiency and methyl peroxy nitrate suggest such a connection for a few of the storm cases analyzed. We recommend future analyses of peroxy scavenging considering this possible reduced chemical production rate as a contribution to low CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios in convective outflows, although our gas-aqueous photochemical box model shows that gas-phase CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios are unchanged when a NO source is included in the simulation. CH$_3$OOH can also be destroyed in the aqueous phase via reaction with bisulfite ion (the dominant form of SO$_3$ in cloud droplets), suggesting a positive correlation between CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies and the inflow SO$_3$ mixing ratios. However, we found a moderate anticorrelation between these two quantities indicating that the aqueous-phase chemistry may not contribute to the wide range of scavenging efficiencies found.

The analysis done here, via correlations between measured variables and calculated scavenging efficiency and process-scale modeling, suggests that dynamical, physical, and chemical processes affect CH$_3$OOH in the outflow of thunderstorms. The amount of hail in the storm plays an important role in two ways. First, the production of hail involves substantial riming of cloud droplets by falling snow and graupel, especially as the graupel and hail are recirculated in the storms. A portion of a trace gas dissolved in the cloud droplets would be retained in the precipitating hail and subsequently removed from the atmosphere. Hail also plays a key role in triggering lightning. The NO produced from lightning reduces the production of gas-phase CH$_3$OOH because of NO and NO$_2$ reactions with CH$_3$OO (a key precursor of CH$_3$OOH) forming formaldehyde, NO$_2$, and methyl peroxy nitrate. However, photochemical box model simulations do not confirm that increased NO causes decreased CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios at the top of the storm core. This investigation provides guidance for future studies on understanding the complex interactions between storms and chemistry for peroxides. To more thoroughly understand these interactions, cloud chemistry modeling that explores the various effects of entrainment, hail (especially its role in scavenging soluble trace gases via the riming of cloud droplets), lightning-NO$_x$, and other chemistry precursors should be pursued.

Previous studies estimated CH$_2$O and CH$_3$OOH scavenging efficiencies to be $<10$%; thus, the high scavenging efficiencies found in this study are surprising and could have implications on the chemistry downwind of convection in the upper troposphere. The low CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios (100–350 pptv) in the convective outflow observed here would produce, via CH$_3$OOH photolysis and OH oxidation, less CH$_2$O and HO$_x$ radicals than if less CH$_3$OOH were scavenged. Thus, the high scavenging efficiencies of CH$_3$OOH may explain discrepancies between photochemical box model calculations and measurements of CH$_2$O in convective outflow plumes, similar to those described by Fried et al. [2003]. It is expected that the low H$_2$O$_2$ and CH$_3$OOH mixing ratios in the convective outflow would have a smaller contribution to downwind O$_3$ production compared to CH$_2$O, whose mixing ratios in the convective outflow ranged from 600 to 1500 pptv (A. Fried et al., submitted manuscript, 2016). The contribution of CH$_2$O and the peroxides to UT O$_3$ formation can be pursued further via model calculations.

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