

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Special Section:

Winter INvestigation of  
Transport, Emissions and  
Reactivity (WINTER)

## Key Points:

- NO<sub>x</sub> is long lived during winter, with a longer daytime lifetime (29 hr) than nighttime lifetime (6.3 hr)
- Wintertime NO<sub>x</sub> lifetime is controlled by the nighttime conversion of NO<sub>x</sub> to HNO<sub>3</sub> via N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> heterogeneous chemistry
- Fifteen percent of O<sub>3</sub> is removed at night via the dark reactions of N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

## Supporting Information:

- Supporting Information S1

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NO<sub>x</sub> Lifetime and NO<sub>y</sub> Partitioning During WINTER

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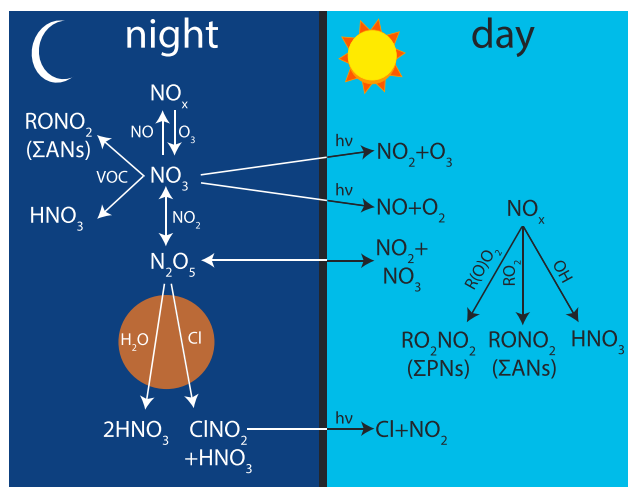
**Abstract** Although urban NO<sub>x</sub> lifetimes have been examined extensively during summertime conditions, wintertime NO<sub>x</sub> chemistry has been comparatively less studied. We use measurements of NO<sub>x</sub> and its oxidation products from the aircraft-based WINTER (Wintertime INvestigation of Transport, Emissions, and Reactivity) experiment over the northeastern United States during February–March 2015 to describe the NO<sub>x</sub> lifetime during conditions when days are shorter, actinic flux is reduced, and temperatures are colder. By analyzing regional outflow from the East Coast, we show that NO<sub>x</sub> is long lived during the winter, with a longer daytime lifetime (29 hr) than nighttime lifetime (6.3 hr). We demonstrate that wintertime NO<sub>x</sub> emissions have an overall lifetime controlled by the *nighttime* conversion of NO<sub>x</sub> to nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) via N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> heterogeneous chemistry, and we discuss constraints on the rates of NO<sub>x</sub> conversion to HNO<sub>3</sub>. Additionally, analysis of the nighttime O<sub>x</sub> budget suggests that approximately 15% of O<sub>3</sub> is lost overnight through N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> production and subsequent reaction with aerosol to form HNO<sub>3</sub>.

**Plain Language Summary** The atmospheric lifetime (how long something persists in the atmosphere) and fate of nitrogen oxides in urban areas during the summer has been studied extensively, but relatively few studies have looked at the lifetime of nitrogen oxides in the atmosphere during winter. We use aircraft data from the East Coast of the United States during February–March 2015 to characterize the wintertime lifetime of nitrogen oxides when days are shorter, sunlight is reduced, and temperatures are colder. We are able to measure the wintertime lifetime of nitrogen oxides and assess the relative roles of mixing, deposition, and chemistry on their fate. We determine that nitrogen oxide loss during winter is dominated by nighttime rather than daytime chemistry and that this nighttime chemistry effectively removes ozone from the atmosphere.

## 1. Introduction

Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub> = NO + NO<sub>2</sub>) influence both the gas and aerosol phases of tropospheric chemistry, with impacts on air quality, climate, and nutrient cycling in ecosystems. In the atmosphere, NO<sub>x</sub> regulates oxidants, such as nitrate radicals (NO<sub>3</sub>), hydroxyl radicals (OH), and ozone (O<sub>3</sub>). Ozone is both a respiratory irritant and a greenhouse gas, and its production is a nonlinear function of NO<sub>x</sub> concentration. Through its influence on the tropospheric oxidant budget, NO<sub>x</sub> also controls the lifetime of greenhouse gases such as methane. Moreover, NO<sub>x</sub> affects the formation of inorganic nitrate aerosol (e.g., Bian et al., 2017; Guo et al., 2016; Mezuman et al., 2016) and secondary organic aerosol through its impacts on tropospheric oxidation and through the formation of organic nitrates (e.g., Ayres et al., 2015; Fry et al., 2014; Rollins et al., 2012; Fisher et al., 2016; Kiendler-Scharr et al., 2016; Lee et al., 2016; L. Lee, Wooldridge, et al., 2014; Lee Ng et al., 2017).

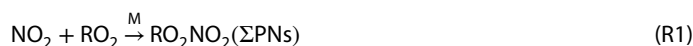
NO<sub>x</sub> is emitted to the atmosphere as NO both anthropogenically, through fossil fuel combustion, agriculture, and biomass burning (e.g., Dallmann & Harley, 2010; Mebust & Cohen, 2014), and naturally, from soil bacteria



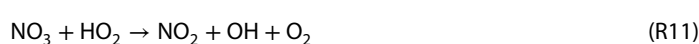
**Figure 1.** Schematic of  $\text{NO}_x$  oxidation reactions. The right panel contains daytime reactions, while the left panel contains nighttime reactions.

and lightning (e.g., Hudman et al., 2012; Schumann & Huntrieser, 2007). Once emitted,  $\text{NO}_x$  typically undergoes a series of oxidative transformations to higher oxides of nitrogen, some of which are then removed from the atmosphere via deposition.

In the presence of sunlight,  $\text{NO}_x$  is oxidized by  $\text{HO}_x$  radicals ( $\text{HO}_x = \text{HO}_2 + \text{RO}_2 + \text{OH}$ ), which are produced mainly through photolytic reactions. Oxidation reactions (R1), (R2), and (R3), as shown in Figure 1, are the primary daytime  $\text{NO}_x$  sinks with the products peroxy nitrates ( $\text{RO}_2\text{NO}_2$ , noted as a class as  $\Sigma\text{PNs}$ ), alkyl nitrates ( $\text{RONO}_2$ , noted as a class as  $\Sigma\text{ANs}$ ), and nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ), respectively. Depending on the conditions, these  $\text{NO}_x$  sinks may be temporary, allowing  $\text{NO}_x$  to be rereleased back to the atmosphere, or they may be permanent, with sink species eventually being deposited out of the atmosphere.



$\text{NO}_3$  is formed via reaction between  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{O}_3$  (R4) and is lost via photolysis, reaction with  $\text{NO}$ , and reaction with volatile organic compounds (VOCs; e.g., Aldener et al., 2006; Liebmann, Karu, et al., 2018; Liebmann, Muller, et al., 2018).  $\text{NO}_3$  can be an important  $\text{NO}_x$  intermediate at night when there is neither sunlight nor high concentrations of  $\text{NO}$  present to remove it. At night,  $\text{NO}_3$  can react with another  $\text{NO}_2$  molecule to form  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  (R5), as shown in Figure 1. Upon collision with aerosol,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  can hydrolyze to form nitric acid (R6) or, in the presence of aerosol-phase chloride, will react to form nitryl chloride and nitric acid (R7). Alternatively,  $\text{NO}_3$  reacts with alkenes at night (with branching ratio  $\alpha$ ) to generate alkyl nitrates (R8) and with VOCs to form nitric acid (R9).  $\text{NO}_3$  also reacts with  $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (R10) and (R11) to recycle  $\text{NO}_x$  (Stone et al., 2014).



The rate of (R6) depends on the heterogeneous uptake coefficient for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  ( $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$ ). The  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  represents the reaction probability of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  on aerosol and depends on both aerosol composition and ambient conditions. The rate of (R7) depends on the yield for  $\text{ClNO}_2$  formation, which depends on aerosol liquid water content and particulate chloride concentrations (Bertram & Thornton, 2009). At sunrise,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  will thermally dissociate and both  $\text{NO}_3$  and  $\text{ClNO}_2$  will photolyze, thereby rereleasing  $\text{NO}_x$ .

Urban  $\text{NO}_x$  chemistry and the reaction set above have been studied extensively during summertime conditions when typical daytime  $\text{NO}_x$  lifetimes are 2–11 hr (e.g., Alvarado et al., 2010; Dillon et al., 2002; Nunnermacker et al., 2000; Romer et al., 2016; Ryerson, 2003; Ryerson et al., 1998; Valin et al., 2013). In contrast, wintertime  $\text{NO}_x$  chemistry, which we expect to differ from summertime chemistry, has been studied considerably less. Evaporative and biogenic VOC emissions are much less important in winter than in summer. The colder temperatures of wintertime slow reactions with activation barriers and accelerate three-body

**Table 1**  
*Summary of Instrumentation From the WINTER Campaign Used in This Analysis*

Instrument/method	Species measured	Reference
TD-LIF <sup>a</sup>	NO <sub>2</sub> , Σ ANs, Σ PNs	Day et al. (2002)
HRTof-CIMS <sup>b</sup>	HNO <sub>3</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> , ClNO <sub>2</sub>	Kercher et al. (2009); B. H. Lee, Lopez-Hilfiker, et al. (2014)
CRDS <sup>c</sup>	NO, NO <sub>2</sub> , O <sub>3</sub>	Fuchs et al. (2009); Wagner et al. (2011)
	N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	Washenfelder et al. (2011); Wild et al. (2014)
		Dubé et al. (2006); Fuchs et al. (2008)
		Wagner et al. (2011)
CRDS with thermal dissociation	total NO <sub>y</sub>	Wild et al. (2014)
VUV resonance fluorescence	CO	Gerbig et al. (1999)
CL <sup>d</sup>	NO, O <sub>3</sub> , total NO <sub>y</sub>	Ridley et al. (1994)
TOGA <sup>e</sup>	Suite of VOCs	Apel et al. (2015)
PCASP <sup>f</sup>	Aerosol surface area	Strapp et al. (1992)
AMS <sup>g</sup>	Aerosol nitrate (PM <sub>1</sub> )	Canagaratna et al. (2007); DeCarlo et al. (2006)
		Dunlea et al. (2009); Schroder et al. (2018)
Filter with IC <sup>h</sup>	Aerosol nitrate (PM <sub>4</sub> )	Dibb et al. (1999); Dibb et al. (2000)

*Note.* WINTER = Wintertime INvestigation of Transport, Emissions, and Reactivity; VUV = vacuum ultraviolet; NCAR = National Center for Atmospheric Research. <sup>a</sup>Thermal dissociation laser-induced fluorescence (University of California, Berkeley). <sup>b</sup>Iodide-adduct high-resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization spectrometer (University of Washington). <sup>c</sup>Cavity ring down spectrometer (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). <sup>d</sup>Chemiluminescence detector (NCAR). <sup>e</sup>Trace organic gas analyzer (NCAR). <sup>f</sup>Passive cavity aerosol spectrometer probe (NCAR). <sup>g</sup>Aerosol mass spectrometer (University of Colorado, Boulder). <sup>h</sup>Filter-sampling system used to collect PM<sub>4</sub> with subsequent postflight ion chromatography (University of New Hampshire).

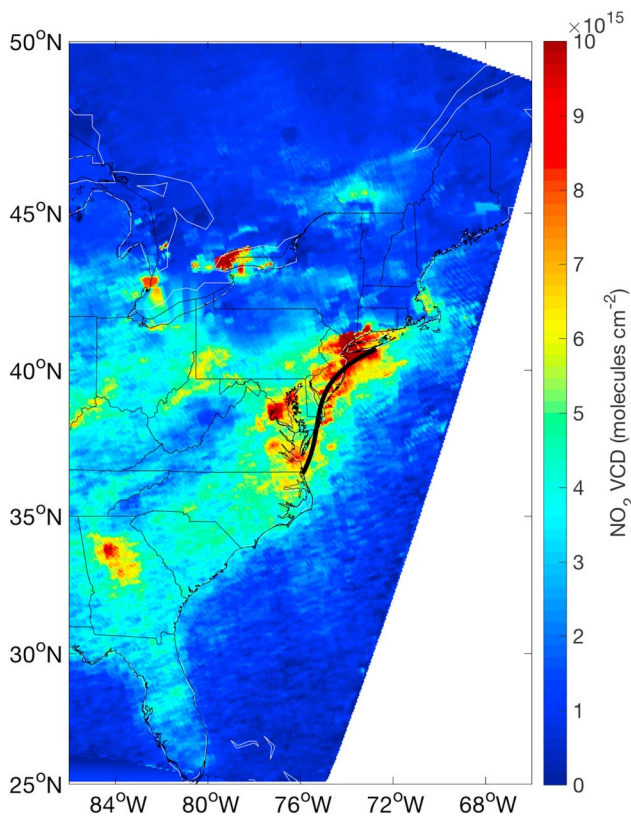
reactions (e.g., L. Lee, Wooldridge, et al., 2014). Moreover, winter is characterized by shorter days and reduced solar radiation, causing a decrease in the role of photolysis and shifting the balance of daytime oxidation and nighttime chemistry.

Previous model and observation-based studies of wintertime chemistry have shown that a large fraction of NO<sub>x</sub> loss occurs as a result of nighttime N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> chemistry (e.g., Alexander et al., 2009; Davis et al., 2008; Dentener & Crutzen, 1993; Evans & Jacob, 2005; Macintyre & Evans, 2010; Wagner et al., 2013; Wild et al., 2016) and that ClNO<sub>2</sub> can function as an important winter NO<sub>x</sub> reservoir at night (Riedel et al., 2013). Crowley et al. (2011) showed that during the late autumn in southern Spain, nocturnal NO<sub>x</sub> loss was dominated by the reaction of NO<sub>3</sub> with VOCs and that daytime and nighttime NO<sub>x</sub> losses were comparable. During a wintertime field campaign in the Uintah Basin in Utah, United States (a rural region with intensive oil and gas operations), L. Lee, Wooldridge, et al. (2014) observed that alkyl nitrate formation was accelerated at low temperatures and dominated chemical NO<sub>x</sub> loss during the snow-free winter of 2012 when there was little NO<sub>x</sub> oxidation. Wild et al. (2016) showed that HNO<sub>3</sub> production via heterogeneous chemistry of N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> dominated NO<sub>x</sub> loss during 2013 and 2014 winters when there was more NO<sub>x</sub> oxidation in the Uintah Basin.

These prior studies show that NO<sub>x</sub> lifetimes during winter vary and that key mechanisms depend on the interplay of emissions and meteorology. Here we explore that interplay in continental outflow to gain quantitative insights into processes and mechanisms. We use data from the 2015 aircraft-based WINTER (Wintertime INvestigation of Transport, Emissions, and Reactivity) campaign over the eastern United States to constrain the daytime and nighttime NO<sub>x</sub> lifetime under wintertime conditions in urban environments. We determine the most important wintertime sinks of NO<sub>x</sub> during both day and night, and we estimate wintertime rates of mixing between the boundary layer and the free troposphere and rates of HNO<sub>3</sub> deposition. Lastly, we investigate the impact of winter nighttime chemistry on the odd-oxygen budget.

## 2. Instrumentation/Measurements

The WINTER campaign took place aboard the National Science Foundation/National Center for Atmospheric Research C-130 aircraft during February and March 2015. It consisted of 13 research flights out of Norfolk, VA, which covered the eastern United States as well as the Atlantic Ocean during both day and night.



**Figure 2.** Ozone Monitoring Instrument satellite  $\text{NO}_2$  vertical column density (VCD) during the Wintertime INvestigation of Transport, Emissions, and Reactivity campaign. The corridor between Washington, D.C., and New York City, represented by the black line, has high  $\text{NO}_2$  concentrations. The outflow from this corridor moves out over the Atlantic Ocean since wind moves from west to east. For reference,  $1^\circ$  longitude corresponds to 85 km at  $40^\circ\text{N}$ .

The aircraft was outfitted with a suite of instruments measuring gas and aerosol composition. Those used in this analysis are detailed in Table 1. Additionally, the aircraft was outfitted with instrumentation measuring temperature, pressure, and wind speed. The GEOS-Chem chemical transport model ([www.geos-chem.org](http://www.geos-chem.org)) was run for each flight path. The WINTER campaign simulations used model version 10-01 driven by meteorological fields from NASA GMAO's GEOS-5 FP system. The model has been described in detail previously (Bey et al., 2001; Mao et al., 2010; Parrella et al., 2012; Travis et al., 2016).

### 3. Results and Analysis

Imagery of  $\text{NO}_2$  vertical column density from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument satellite during the period of the WINTER campaign in Figure 2 shows that the corridor between Washington, D.C., and New York City (DC-NYC corridor) has high  $\text{NO}_2$  concentrations relative to the surrounding regions. Here we analyze the regional outflow that moves east from the DC-NYC corridor over the Atlantic Ocean, since the average measured wind direction was  $274^\circ$  (i.e., from west to east), with a standard deviation of  $33^\circ$  (calculated using the Yamartino method; Yamartino, 1984). We then analyze the isolated outflow since there are no important sources of  $\text{NO}_x$  over the ocean aside from ship plumes, which were not sampled during the aircraft transects included in this analysis.

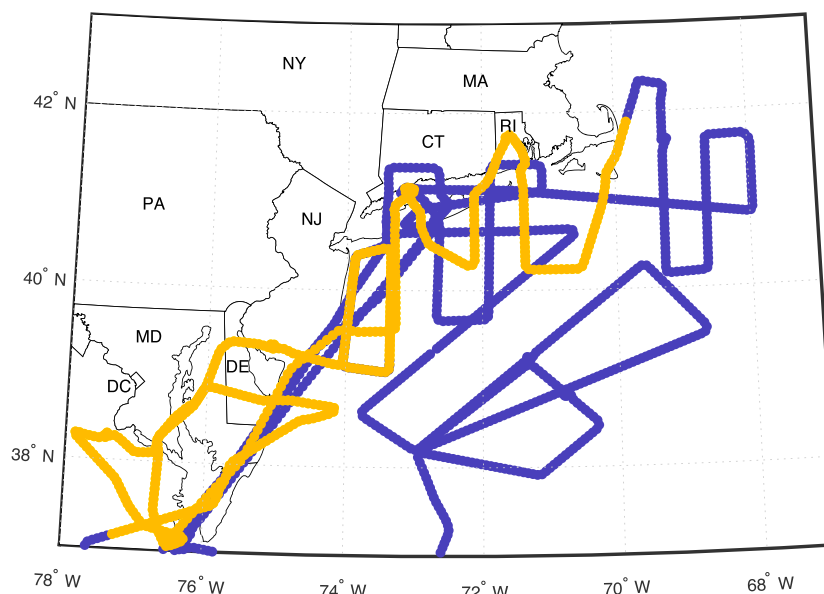
We parameterize the East Coast with a polynomial fit, as shown by the black line in Figure 2. We then calculate the distance of each measurement from the East Coast and use the average wind speed measured on each flight during either day or night (shown in Table 2) to calculate the time each measured air parcel originated on the East Coast. We consider coastal measurements (time 0) to be those within 25 km of the black line in Figure 2. We categorize data into day (using flights 1, 3, and 4) and night (using flights 1, 3, 4, and 6) periods, considering only points whose entire trajectory from the East Coast to location of measurement took place during daylight or darkness, respectively.

During WINTER, average sunrise occurred at 06:45 and sunset at 17:30. Although flights 5 and 8 measured nighttime outflow from the DC-NYC corridor, we omit these from our analysis due to anomalously high (flight 5, mean nighttime wind speed 16.1 m/s) and anomalously low (flight 8, mean nighttime wind speed 2.7 m/s) wind speeds, compared to the mean nighttime boundary layer wind speed over the ocean during the campaign of 8.1 m/s. Flight tracks used are shown in Figure 3, and the average wind speed, temperature, and altitude sampled during each flight are shown in Table 2.

We then analyze the average concentrations of components of  $\text{NO}_y$  ( $\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\Sigma\text{PNs}$ ,  $\Sigma\text{ANs}$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  $\text{ClNO}_2$ , and aerosol-phase  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ) as a function of time elapsed since leaving the East Coast, as shown in Figure 4. In this analysis, we use chemiluminescence measurements of NO and total  $\text{NO}_y$ ; thermal dissociation laser-induced fluorescence measurements of  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\Sigma\text{ANs}$ , and  $\Sigma\text{PNs}$ ; high-resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization spectrometer measurements of  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ , and  $\text{ClNO}_2$ ; and cavity ring down spectrometer measurements

**Table 2**  
Average ( $\pm 1\sigma$ ) Wind Speeds, Temperatures, and Altitudes Sampled Below 1,000 m Over the Ocean During Flights Used in Analysis

Flight Number	Day			Night		
	Wind speed (m/s)	Temperature (K)	Altitude (m)	Wind speed (m/s)	Temperature (K)	Altitude (m)
1	$6.28 \pm 1.81$	$267.7 \pm 1.3$	$219 \pm 142$	$7.79 \pm 1.44$	$267.1 \pm 2.4$	$303 \pm 216$
3	$9.10 \pm 1.64$	$272.5 \pm 2.2$	$318 \pm 117$	$9.79 \pm 2.20$	$271.8 \pm 2.4$	$386 \pm 182$
4	$4.14 \pm 3.31$	$270.7 \pm 1.7$	$436 \pm 199$	$3.75 \pm 1.22$	$276.1 \pm 2.3$	$416 \pm 126$
6	—	—	—	$8.96 \pm 1.32$	$277.1 \pm 2.1$	$350 \pm 192$



**Figure 3.** Map of flight tracks used in analysis of regional outflow. Blue tracks correspond to data taken at night (flights 1, 3, 4, and 6), whereas orange tracks correspond to data taken during the day (flights 1, 3, and 4). The parameterized coastline of the corridor between Washington, D.C., and New York City is shown in black. We consider coastal measurements (time 0) to be those within 25 km of this line.

of  $O_3$ . For aerosol-phase  $NO_3^-$ , we use the maximum of the aerosol mass spectrometer measurements of aerosol-phase inorganic  $NO_3^-$  and the filter-collected ion chromatography-analyzed  $NO_3^-$ . We include in Figure 4 only measurements taken in the boundary layer. We use GEOS-Chem estimates (Molod et al., 2012; Rienecker et al., 2008) of the boundary layer height (BLH) which agree with our aircraft observations of vertical profiles of relative humidity and ozone (not shown). Over the ocean during the day on flights 1, 3, and 4, the GEOS-Chem BLH was 780 m, and during the night on flights 1, 3, 4, and 6, the GEOS-Chem BLH was 610 m.

Our analysis assumes westerly winds that remain constant during a given flight but yields a regional average of the observations of the East Coast outflow. Of course, there are local variations in all of the parameters assessed hereafter, but we present an average case of the conditions during WINTER.

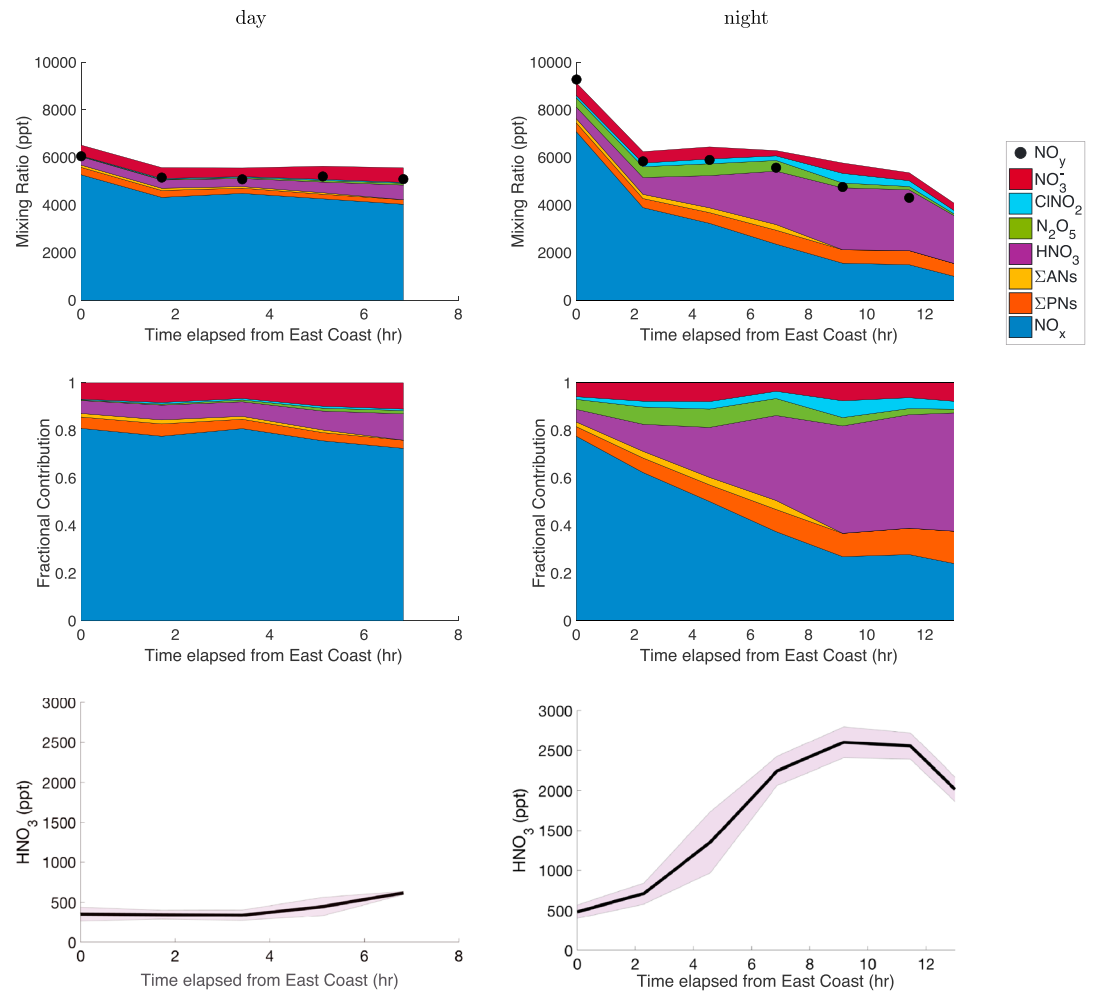
### 3.1. Daytime Chemistry

The daytime evolution of the East Coast outflow shown in Figure 4 suggests that  $NO_x$  has an *e*-folding lifetime well in excess of 10 hr during winter daytime. Within the first 7 hr of evolution, total  $NO_y$  decreases by 16% which corresponds to a cumulative loss of 1 ppb of  $NO_y$  to deposition and mixing with the free troposphere. After 7 hr of evolution,  $NO_x$  is still the dominant fraction of  $NO_y$  (80%). Fitting the decay of  $NO_x$  as a function of time elapsed since leaving the East Coast indicates that the *e*-folding lifetime for  $NO_x$  is 29 (−8, +16) hr (range of lifetime estimates described in Appendix C). This lifetime estimate accounts for  $NO_x$  loss due to chemistry, deposition, and mixing with the free troposphere. Of the  $NO_x$  sinks present in the daytime in Figure 4,  $HNO_3$  is present in the highest concentration, which suggests that it is the primary daytime chemical  $NO_x$  sink.

We then calculate the production rates of each daytime  $NO_x$  sink compound over the ocean, as described in Appendix A. We find that the average ( $\pm$  95% confidence interval)  $P(\Sigma ANs)$  is 0.39 ( $\pm$  0.07) ppt/hr, the average  $P(\Sigma PNs)$  is 5.1 ( $\pm$  0.4) ppt/hr, and the average  $P(HNO_3)$  is 50 ( $\pm$  4) ppt/hr, using GEOS-Chem estimates of OH concentrations (average 0.01 ppt in boundary layer). These production rates confirm that  $\Sigma ANs$  and  $\Sigma PNs$  are relatively unimportant daytime  $NO_x$  sinks, whereas  $HNO_3$  production is the dominant, albeit small, daytime  $NO_x$  sink reaction pathway.

### 3.2. Nighttime Chemistry

The nighttime outflow evolution shown in Figure 4 demonstrates that  $NO_x$  is shorter lived at night than during the day. Fitting the decay of  $NO_x$  as a function of time elapsed since leaving the East Coast yields an *e*-folding lifetime of 6.3 (−0.5, +0.6) hr, which takes into account both chemical and physical loss processes. Initially,  $NO_x$  is the dominant component (75%) of  $NO_y$ . Fifty percent (4.5 ppb) of  $NO_y$  is lost to deposition and mixing



**Figure 4.** Mixing ratios (top row) of species contributing to  $\text{NO}_y$ , fractional contribution (middle row) of species contributing to  $\text{NO}_y$ , and growth of  $\text{HNO}_3$  (bottom row) during daytime hours (left column) and nighttime hours (right column) shown as a function time elapsed from the East Coast. Time elapsed from the East Coast is calculated by dividing the distance of each measurement from the East Coast by the average wind speed measured on each flight. Data are then binned and averaged as a function of time elapsed (day bins = 1.7 hr; night bins = 2.3 hr). In the bottom row, shading represents a 95% confidence interval. Flights 1, 3, and 4 are used in daytime calculations, and flights 1, 3, 4, and 6 are used in nighttime calculations. Only boundary layer data are included (below 780 m during the day and below 610 m at night).

with the free troposphere during the first 9 hr of evolution, and after 9 hr of evolution,  $\text{HNO}_3$  is the dominant fraction (55%) of  $\text{NO}_y$ .

At night, there is evidence of  $\text{NO}_x$  conversion to  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  $\Sigma\text{ANs}$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ , and  $\text{ClNO}_2$ . Of these nighttime  $\text{NO}_x$  sinks, on average  $\text{HNO}_3$  is present in the highest concentration. There was significant variation observed during different flights in the ratio of  $\text{ClNO}_2$  to  $\text{HNO}_3$  (nighttime boundary layer outflow average = 0.26, standard deviation = 0.44), which is not captured in the averages shown in Figure 4. We calculate the average production rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  (equation (B1)) from  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  reactions on aerosol surfaces over the ocean at night, as described in Appendix B, assuming a constant  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield. We find the average  $P(\text{HNO}_3)$  at night to be  $350 (\pm 30)$  ppt/hr, 7 times the daytime  $P(\text{HNO}_3)$  of 50 ppt/hr (Table 3).

#### 4. Two-Box Model to Constrain Mixing and Deposition Rates

To understand if the chemistry described above is sufficient to describe the observations, we construct a two-box model with detailed chemistry and observationally constrained initial conditions and solve iteratively to estimate mixing rates between the boundary layer and the free troposphere ( $k_{\text{mix}}$ ), the heterogeneous

**Table 3**  
Summary of Calculated Parameters Related to  $\text{NO}_x$  Lifetime During the Daytime and Nighttime

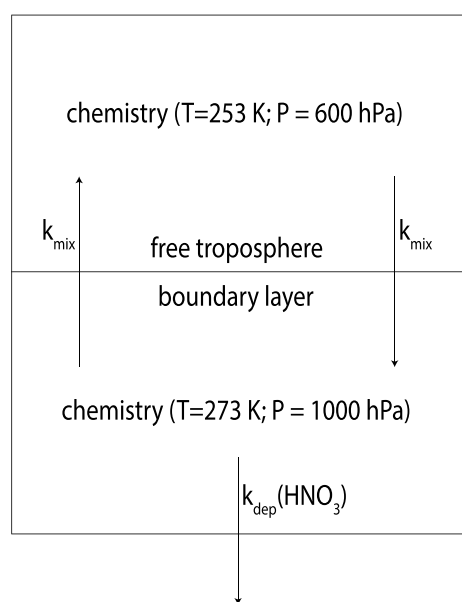
	Day	Night
$\text{NO}_x$ lifetime (hr)	29	6.3
$P(\text{HNO}_3)$ (ppt/hr)	50	350

Note. Production rates of sinks with only minor contributions to the  $\text{NO}_x$  lifetime are not shown.

uptake coefficient for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  ( $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$ ), and the rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  deposition ( $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$ ). The bottom of the two boxes represents the boundary layer, with chemistry occurring at 273 K and 1,000 hPa, and the top box represents the free troposphere, with chemistry occurring at 253 K and 600 hPa. These temperatures and pressures are representative of average conditions during WINTER and are shown schematically in Figure 5. During WINTER, the continental air advecting over the ocean is colder than the water at the ocean's surface. This generates a convective mixing process that leads to a relatively deep marine boundary layer, making a two-box model appropriate for this analysis.

Reaction rates used in the model are detailed in the supporting information and were obtained from Burkholder et al. (2015), Master Chemical Mechanism v. 3.3.1 (Bloss et al., 2005; Jenkin et al., 2015; Jenkin et al., 2003; Jenkin et al., 1997; Saunders et al., 2003), Wilson et al. (2006), Tyndall et al. (2001), and Atkinson et al. (2006). For model runs representing daytime conditions, the reaction of  $\text{NO}_2$  with OH (R3) is included and the model is run for 11 hr (average length of day during WINTER).  $\text{HNO}_3$  photolysis is neglected since the average  $\text{HNO}_3$  photolysis frequency measured during WINTER flights 1, 3, and 4 corresponds to a photolysis lifetime exceeding  $10^3$  hr. For model runs representing nighttime conditions, reactions (R4)–(R8) (with included alkenes: butene, isoprene,  $\alpha$ -pinene, and  $\beta$ -pinene), and (R9) (with included VOCs: methane, ethane, propane, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, propanal, butanal, methacrolein, ethyl benzene, o-xylene, m-xylene, p-xylene, 1,2,4-trimethyl benzene, 1,2,3-trimethyl benzene, and dimethyl sulfide) are included and the model is run for 13 hr (average length of night during WINTER).

Aerosol nitrate is not included in the box model analysis because there is no net partitioning of gas-phase nitric acid into aerosol nitrate observed during the evolution of the average outflow. Aerosol nitrate remains as 10% of total  $\text{NO}_y$  throughout the outflow, as seen in Figure 4. Because aerosol deposition is slow ( $\sim 1$  week) on the time scales of our model ( $\sim$  hours), the constant proportion of  $\text{NO}_y$  as aerosol nitrate indicates that any change in aerosol nitrate concentration is purely a product of dilution/mixing (i.e., not from net movement of gas phase nitric acid into aerosol). Nitric acid remains in the gas phase because of low aerosol pH (Guo et al., 2016). Consequently, aerosol nitrate does not affect the net  $\text{NO}_x$  loss on the time scales of our model.



**Figure 5.** Schematic of the overall processes represented in the two-box model.  $k_{\text{mix}}$  represents the mixing rate of air between the boundary layer and the free troposphere. Chemistry occurs in both the boundary layer and the free troposphere, at temperatures and pressures representative of average conditions.  $\text{HNO}_3$  has a deposition rate  $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$ .

Nighttime heterogeneous hydrolysis of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  (R6) is included with rate  $\frac{1}{4} \times \bar{c}_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times \text{SA} \times \gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times [\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]$  (see Appendix B). Aerosol surface area (SA) was held constant at the median wet aerosol SA measured over the ocean during WINTER ( $200 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{cm}^3$  in boundary layer,  $27 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{cm}^3$  in free troposphere), though there was significant variation in the observed aerosol SA. SA of sea salt aerosol (approximated as SA of supermicron aerosols) were estimated to be 3% of total aerosol SA in the DC-NYC outflow, so the heterogeneous reaction of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  with chloride-containing aerosol is represented by  $0.03 \times \frac{1}{4} \times \bar{c}_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times \text{SA} \times \gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times [\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]$ , ignoring chlorine displacement from sea spray and assuming that  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  does not vary significantly with sea salt content.

Initial conditions for all species in the model are set using the average measurements at the East Coast between Washington, D.C., and New York City. OH concentrations during the day are fixed to the average OH concentration estimated by GEOS-Chem (0.01 ppt in the boundary layer; 0.04 ppt in the free troposphere). Schroder et al. (2018) determined the GEOS-Chem estimates of OH to be reasonable in the NYC plume. Exchange of all species between boxes is allowed to represent mixing between the boundary layer and the free troposphere, and  $\text{HNO}_3$  is removed from the bottom box via deposition.

We estimate the mixing rate ( $k_{\text{mix}}$ ) by iteratively adjusting  $k_{\text{mix}}$  and solving the model until the model-to-observation percent root-mean-square deviation is minimized for CO. CO chemistry is negligible on the time scales included in our model, so it is only affected by mixing between the boundary layer and the free troposphere and by horizontal dispersion. Setting initial CO concentrations to the average measurements at the East Coast

(161 ppb in the boundary layer and 98 ppb in the free troposphere) and solving iteratively yields a daytime estimate of the mixing lifetime of 24 hr and a nighttime estimate of the mixing lifetime of 15 hr. We attribute the difference in mixing lifetimes between night and day to a difference in observed wind speed. The median horizontal wind speed in the DC-NYC outflow during the day was 6.5 m/s, whereas the median horizontal wind speed at night was 8.3 m/s. The average vertical gust component of the wind vector in the regional outflow was also larger at night (−0.14 m/s) than during the day (−0.082 m/s). A larger wind speed at night, which has been observed previously off the coast of the northeast United States (Archer et al., 2016), would generate more turbulence and decrease the mixing lifetime. Additionally, during winter, the ocean surface temperature is typically warmer than the cold air outflow. At night this temperature gradient is larger, generating vertical instability and convective mixing (Archer et al., 2016).

During nighttime model runs, the heterogeneous uptake coefficient of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  ( $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$ ) was then estimated by iteratively adjusting  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  while holding  $k_{\text{mix}}$  constant and solving the model until model-to-observation percent root-mean-square deviation is minimized for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ . This step was not done for the daytime version of the model since  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  chemistry is not relevant during the day. We estimate  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} = 0.013$ . This compares reasonably with the wintertime  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  uptake coefficients derived by McDuffie et al. (2018) for the entire WINTER campaign which ranged over 4 orders of magnitude with a median of 0.0143 and a most frequent value of 0.018. Over the ocean, McDuffie et al. (2018) derived a median  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  uptake coefficient of 0.017. McDuffie et al. (2018) also explore correlations between  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  and both aerosol composition and meteorological conditions and compare observed values of  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  during WINTER to available literature parameterizations. Fibiger et al. (2018) derived a very low uptake coefficient of  $7 \times 10^{-4}$  in a coal-fired power plant plume in Georgia during WINTER, but the low values observed in Georgia were not representative of the average values derived for flights over the ocean.

Finally, we estimate the deposition rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  ( $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$ ) by varying  $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$  iteratively while holding  $k_{\text{mix}}$  and (at night)  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  constant until the maximum  $\text{HNO}_3$  in the model matches the maximum observed  $\text{HNO}_3$ . Our model analysis constrains the deposition lifetime of  $\text{HNO}_3$  to 29 hr during the day and 20 hr at night. Like for the trend in  $k_{\text{mix}}$ , a larger wind speed at night generates more turbulence and increases the nighttime deposition rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$ .

Our estimation of the daytime deposition rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  is sensitive to model uncertainty in OH concentrations. Our estimation of the nighttime deposition rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  is linked to the yield of  $\text{ClNO}_2$  from  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  heterogeneous reactions. In our model, we use a constant sea salt aerosol fraction as an estimate of  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield and assume a constant  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  that does not vary with sea salt content. These constant parameters do not account for the observed variability in the  $\text{ClNO}_2/\text{HNO}_3$  ratio. Additionally, if the sea salt aerosol fraction underestimates (overestimates) the  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield or if a single  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  value underestimates (overestimates)  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  on chloride-containing aerosols,  $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$  will be overestimated (underestimated). Moreover, we do not include deposition of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  nor  $\text{ClNO}_2$  to the ocean in our model, which could lead to an overestimation of  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  and a slight overestimation of  $\text{HNO}_3$  production, resulting in an overestimation of  $k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$ .

We estimate the deposition velocity ( $v_{\text{dep}}$ ) of  $\text{HNO}_3$  as

$$v_{\text{dep}} = \text{BLH} \times k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3) \quad (1)$$

using GEOS-Chem estimates of the BLH. Over the ocean during the day on flights 1, 3, and 4, the GEOS-Chem BLH was 780 m, yielding a deposition velocity of 0.75 cm/s. Over the ocean during the night on flights 1, 3, 4, and 6, the GEOS-Chem BLH was 610 m, yielding a deposition velocity of 0.85 cm/s. Similarly, Brown et al. (2004) calculated a nitric acid deposition velocity of 1.2 cm/s off the East Coast of the United States during summer. However, despite similar deposition velocities during both seasons, more nitric acid is deposited in coastal marine environments during winter than during summer. In summer, warm continental air advects over cold water, which isolates the shallow marine boundary layer and allows for long-distance transport above the boundary layer where it is not subject to deposition near the coast (Neuman et al., 2006). In contrast, during winter, cold air advects over warmer water which generates mixing and leads to a deeper marine boundary layer (Seidel et al., 2012) that allows for significant coastal nitric acid deposition.

A summary of the parameters included in the final two-box model is shown in Table 4, and the outputs of the two-box model with these parameters along with average observations are shown in Figure 6. The output indicates that daytime chemistry can be described with reasonable accuracy by considering  $\text{HNO}_3$  as the only chemical sink of  $\text{NO}_x$ . The nighttime model captures the conversion of  $\text{NO}_x$  to  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  $\Sigma\text{ANs}$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,



**Table 4**  
Table of Parameters Included in Box Model

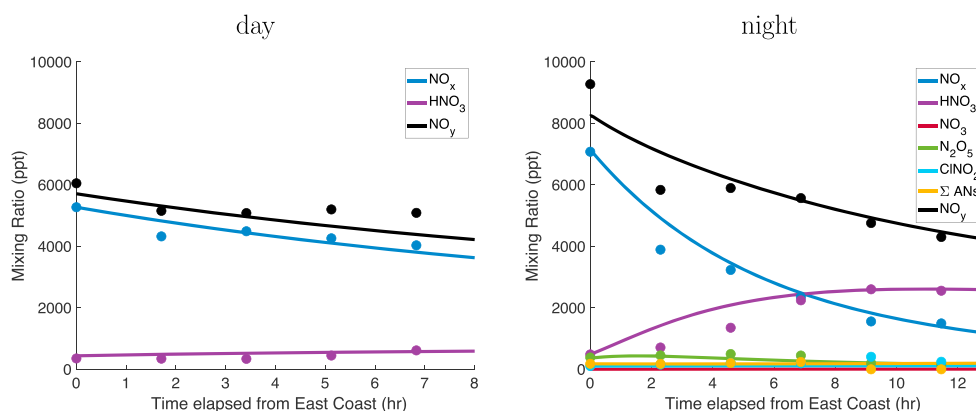
	Day		Night	
	Boundary layer	Free troposphere	Boundary layer	Free troposphere
[OH] (ppt)	0.01	0.04	—	—
SA ( $\mu\text{m}^2/\text{cm}^3$ )	—	—	200	27
T (K)	273	253	273	253
P (hPa)	1,000	600	1,000	600
$k_{\text{dep}}(\text{HNO}_3)$ ( $\text{hr}^{-1}$ )	1/29	—	1/20	—
$k_{\text{mix}}$ ( $\text{hr}^{-1}$ )	1/24	1/24	1/15	1/15
$\gamma(\text{N}_2\text{O}_5)$	—	—	0.013	0.013

and  $\text{ClNO}_2$ , with  $\text{HNO}_3$  as the major  $\text{NO}_x$  sink. During both day and night,  $\text{NO}_y$  loss in the boundary layer is dominated by mixing into the free troposphere rather than by deposition.

### 5. Integrated $\text{NO}_x$ Loss and Impacts on Odd-Oxygen Budget

We integrate the production rates of each  $\text{NO}_x$  sink in our two-box model over the course of 24 hr, with 11 hr of day and 13 hr of night, to calculate the integrated  $\text{NO}_x$  loss via each reaction.  $\text{HNO}_3$  has the largest integrated production and is thus the largest sink of  $\text{NO}_x$ . However, the nighttime multiphase  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  chemistry that converts  $\text{NO}_x$  to  $\text{HNO}_3$  has a more significant impact than the photochemical daytime reaction of  $\text{NO}_2$  with OH that leads to  $\text{HNO}_3$  production. During the day, 10% of initial  $\text{NO}_x$  (500 ppt) is lost to  $\text{HNO}_3$ , whereas 64% (4,500 ppt) of initial nighttime  $\text{NO}_x$  is converted to  $\text{HNO}_3$  overnight via  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  chemistry. At night, an additional 0.7% of initial  $\text{NO}_x$  (50 ppt) is lost to  $\text{HNO}_3$  from reaction of  $\text{NO}_3$  with VOCs and dimethyl sulfide, 0.9% of initial  $\text{NO}_x$  (60 ppt) is lost to alkyl nitrates produced via  $\text{NO}_3$  reaction with alkenes, and 1.2 % of initial  $\text{NO}_x$  (90 ppt) is converted to  $\text{ClNO}_2$  via heterogeneous chemistry of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  on sea salt aerosol (though  $\text{ClNO}_2$  concentrations did vary significantly between flights, indicating variation in  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield not accounted for in our analysis). In the summer marine boundary layer off the East Coast of the United States, only one third of  $\text{HNO}_3$  production occurs during the night (Brown et al., 2004), whereas during the East Coast outflow measured during WINTER, 90% of  $\text{HNO}_3$  production occurs at night. The boundary layer is ~ 25% shallower at night than during the day (610 m at night vs. 780 m during the day). This is not enough of a difference to perturb the balance of nighttime chemistry dominating  $\text{NO}_x$  loss even after accounting for the volume over which the processes occur. Thus, in contrast to summertime when  $\text{NO}_x$  chemistry is controlled by daytime photochemistry with OH serving as the primary oxidant, wintertime  $\text{NO}_x$  loss is dominated by nighttime multiphase oxidation with  $\text{O}_3$  as the primary oxidant.

Most wintertime oxidation of  $\text{NO}_x$  leads to the formation of  $\text{HNO}_3$ , which is then eventually deposited. Formation of peroxy nitrates is found to be negligible and have little effect in the near coastal region. However,



**Figure 6.** Concentrations in the boundary layer calculated in the two-box model (lines) and average concentrations measured in the Washington, D.C.-New York City outflow (points) during the day (left) and at night (right).

some of the nighttime  $\text{NO}_x$  sinks are temporary and rerelease  $\text{NO}_x$  when they are photolyzed or thermally dissociated at sunrise. The amount of  $\text{NO}_x$  rereleased in the morning corresponds to the amount of  $\text{NO}_x$  stored in  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ , and  $\text{ClNO}_2$  reservoirs. In our model, after one night of chemical evolution following emission, these  $\text{NO}_x$  reservoirs contain 400 ppt of  $\text{NO}_x$  (6% of  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration at East Coast), which is rereleased in the morning.

$\text{O}_3$  is lost overnight through conversion of  $\text{NO}_x$  to  $\text{HNO}_3$  via  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  dark reactions (R4), (R5), and (R6). When  $\text{HNO}_3$  is produced via heterogeneous hydrolysis of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  (R6), the dominant  $\text{NO}_x$  loss mechanism at night, each molecule of  $\text{HNO}_3$  generated corresponds to a loss of 1.5 molecules of  $\text{O}_3$  (Brown et al., 2006). In our two-box model, 4,400 ppt of  $\text{HNO}_3$  is produced overnight through  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  hydrolysis, implying a loss of 6,600 ppt of  $\text{O}_3$  overnight. The average nighttime  $\text{O}_3$  concentration in the DC-NYC outflow is 38 ppb, so approximately 15% of  $\text{O}_3$  is lost overnight through  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  dark reactions.  $\text{O}_3$  concentrations in the boundary layer remain relatively constant throughout the region at night. This is because chemical loss of  $\text{O}_3$  is roughly balanced by mixing down of higher  $\text{O}_3$  concentrations from the free troposphere (49 ppb at the East Coast). This balance was confirmed by our model runs.

Photochemical  $\text{O}_3$  production is reduced in the winter when compared to summer because of low sun angles and reduced daylight hours with precursor concentrations that are only slightly elevated. In addition to reduced  $\text{O}_3$  production, we infer significant boundary layer loss of  $\text{O}_3$  in the East Coast outflow resulting from nighttime  $\text{NO}_x$  chemistry during winter. The presence of VOCs influences the balance between daytime  $\text{O}_3$  production and nighttime  $\text{O}_3$  loss, as VOCs are required for photochemical  $\text{O}_3$  production and can also react with  $\text{NO}_3$  to destroy  $\text{O}_3$  at night. The extent of nocturnal  $\text{O}_3$  destruction is also dependent on the concentrations and composition of aerosol particles, since these affect the rate of heterogeneous reactions of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ .

## 6. Conclusions

Analysis of the DC-NYC marine outflow indicates that  $\text{NO}_x$  has a longer daytime lifetime (29 hr) than nighttime lifetime (6.3 hr) during winter. We constrain the rates of the chemical and physical loss processes that contribute to the overall  $\text{NO}_x$  lifetime during winter in urban areas. Chemically, we conclude that  $\text{HNO}_3$  is the primary  $\text{NO}_x$  sink during both day and night, whereas peroxy nitrates and alkyl nitrates are relatively small  $\text{NO}_x$  sinks since VOC reactivity is so low. Thus, the wintertime  $\text{NO}_x$  lifetime is controlled primarily by  $\text{HNO}_3$  production, and nighttime chemistry removes more  $\text{NO}_x$  than does daytime chemistry. The shorter days and reduced sunlight characteristic of winter slow daytime chemistry by reducing OH concentrations and, consequently, VOC reactivity. At night, a shallower planetary boundary layer increases  $\text{NO}_x$  concentrations, thereby increasing the importance of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  chemistry which scales with the square of  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration (R4) and (R5). Additionally, colder temperatures shift  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  equilibrium to the right, further increasing the importance of nighttime chemistry. Physically, we estimate a winter daytime mixing rate of 24 hr, a nighttime mixing rate of 15 hr, a daytime  $\text{HNO}_3$  deposition lifetime of 29 hr, and a nighttime  $\text{HNO}_3$  deposition lifetime of 20 hr. Lastly, we observe that approximately 15% of  $\text{O}_3$  is removed at night via the dark reactions of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ , demonstrating that urban  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions impact  $\text{O}_3$  concentrations differently in summer versus in winter.

## Appendix A: Daytime Production Rate Calculations

We calculate the daytime production of alkyl nitrates via reaction (R2) as

$$P(\Sigma\text{ANS}) = \sum_i \alpha_i f_{\text{NO}_i} k_{\text{OH}+\text{RH}_i} [\text{OH}] [\text{RH}_i] \quad (\text{A1})$$

where

$$f_{\text{NO}_i} = \frac{k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{NO}} [\text{NO}]}{k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{NO}} [\text{NO}] + k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{HO}_2} [\text{HO}_2] + k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{RO}_2} [\text{RO}_2]} \approx 1 \text{ during WINTER} \quad (\text{A2})$$

We approximate  $f_{\text{NO}_i} \approx 1$  since  $[\text{NO}] \gg [\text{HO}_2], [\text{RO}_2]$  during WINTER. We use the following VOCs: methane, ethane, propane, n-butane, n-pentane, i-butane, i-pentane, 2-methyl pentane, 3-methyl pentane, n-hexane, n-heptane, isoprene, methacrolein, methyl vinyl ketone,  $\alpha$ -pinene,  $\beta$ -pinene, butanal, 1-butene, benzene, toluene, o-xylene, m-xylene, p-xylene, ethyl benzene, 1,2,4-trimethyl benzene, and 1,2,3-trimethyl benzene

(Perring et al., 2013). All  $\alpha$  values were taken from Perring et al. (2013). We calculate the daytime production of peroxy nitrates as (LaFranchi et al., 2009)

$$P(\Sigma\text{PNs}) = \beta \times \alpha_{\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}} \times k_{\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}} \times [\text{OH}][\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}] \quad (\text{A3})$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{k_{\text{RC(O)O}_2+\text{NO}_2}[\text{NO}_2]}{k_{\text{RC(O)O}_2+\text{NO}_2}[\text{NO}_2] + k_{\text{RC(O)O}_2+\text{NO}}[\text{NO}] + k_{\text{RC(O)O}_2+\text{HO}_2}[\text{HO}_2] + k_{\text{RC(O)O}_2+\text{RO}_2}[\text{RO}_2]} \quad (\text{A4})$$

We estimate  $[\text{RO}_2]$  as (Browne et al., 2013)

$$[\text{RO}_2] = \frac{-k_{\text{HO}_2+\text{RO}_2}[\text{HO}_2] - k_{\text{NO}+\text{RO}_2}[\text{NO}] + \sqrt{(k_{\text{HO}_2+\text{RO}_2}[\text{HO}_2] + k_{\text{NO}+\text{RO}_2}[\text{NO}])^2 + 8 \times k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{RO}_2} \times P(\text{RO}_2)}}{4 \times k_{\text{RO}_2+\text{RO}_2}} \quad (\text{A5})$$

We calculate daytime production of nitric acid as

$$P(\text{HNO}_3) = k_{\text{OH}+\text{NO}_2}[\text{OH}][\text{NO}_2] \quad (\text{A6})$$

## Appendix B: Nighttime Production Rate Calculations

We calculate the average production rate of  $\text{HNO}_3$  (equation (B1)) from  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  reactions on aerosol surfaces at night as 2 times the rate of (R6) plus the rate of (R7) since (R6) produces two molecules of nitric acid for each molecule of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  consumed and (R7) produces one molecule of nitric acid for each molecule of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  consumed:

$$P(\text{HNO}_3) = \frac{1}{4} \times \bar{c}_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times \gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5} \times [\text{N}_2\text{O}_5] \times (2 \times \text{SA} + \text{SA}_{\text{sea salt}}) \quad (\text{B1})$$

Here  $\bar{c}_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  represents the mean molecular speed of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  and  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  represents the heterogeneous uptake coefficient for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ . The rate of (R6) is proportional to the wet SA of aerosol particles, and the rate of (R7) is proportional to the SA of chloride-containing aerosol particles ( $\text{SA}_{\text{sea salt}}$ ). This rate is valid for small values of  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  and small particles (i.e., not diffusion-limited regimes; Sutugin & Fuchs, 1970).

We estimate  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  using our two-box model described in Section 4. For simplicity, we use the same  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$  for all aerosols regardless of sea salt content, though this coefficient can vary.

Wet aerosol SA is calculated using the dry aerosol SA measured by the passive cavity aerosol spectrometer probe corrected for hygroscopic growth. We estimate the wet aerosol SA by applying growth factors as a function of the measured relative humidity. The growth factors are calculated with the E-AIM model (<http://www.aim.env.uea.ac.uk/aim/aim.php>) assuming that the submicron aerosol is composed of  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ . We use the median wet aerosol SA over the ocean for SA, though there was variation in the observed aerosol SA.

We use the average fraction of total aerosol SA that is attributable to sea salt aerosols as a simple proxy for  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield, though chlorine can be displaced from sea spray and repartitioned into smaller aerosol particles, and there are additional factors that contribute to  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield (e.g., Bertram & Thornton, 2009; Wagner et al., 2012; Riedel et al., 2013). To estimate the SA of sea salt aerosols ( $\text{SA}_{\text{sea salt}}$ ), we assume that sea salt mass is concentrated in the supermicron particle size range. Particles with diameter 1–10  $\mu\text{m}$  (supermicron) contribute an average of 3% ( $\pm 3\%$ , 1 standard deviation) to the total aerosol SA at night over the ocean during WINTER, so we define  $\text{SA}_{\text{sea salt}} = 0.03 \times \text{SA}$ . This approach does not account for any variation in the  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield and may underestimate  $\text{ClNO}_2$  yield because it ignores any contribution of submicron chloride-containing aerosols to  $\text{ClNO}_2$  formation. Submicron aerosols dominate urban aerosol SA and, consequently, dominate  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  uptake onto aerosols.

## Appendix C: Uncertainty Calculations

We estimate the range of  $\text{NO}_x$   $e$ -folding lifetimes ( $\tau_{\text{total}}$ , accounting for both physical and chemical loss processes) using the bivariate York fitting method (York et al., 2004) which accounts for variability in both the  $x$  and  $y$  variables. We assume variability in  $x$  (time elapsed from East Coast) is dominated by the variation in wind

speed during a given flight. The average fractional  $1\sigma$  variation in wind speed within each day or night subset of each flight used in this analysis was 30%, so we assign a fractional uncertainty of 30% in  $x$ . We estimate variability in  $y$  ( $[\text{NO}_x]$ ) as the  $1\sigma$  variation in the observed  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration in each time bin.

Since  $\text{HNO}_3$  is the dominant sink of  $\text{NO}_x$  during both day and night, we assume that variability in the chemical lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  ( $\tau_{\text{chem}}$ ) is dominated by variation in the rate of conversion of  $\text{NO}_x$  to  $\text{HNO}_3$ . We assume that the uncertainty in the daytime chemical lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  lost to  $\text{HNO}_3$  is dominated by uncertainty in modeled OH concentrations which we estimate as  $1\sigma$  variation in modeled [OH]. We estimate the variability in the nighttime chemical lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  from uncertainties in [NO],  $[\text{NO}_2]$ ,  $[\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]$ , aerosol SA, and  $\gamma_{\text{N}_2\text{O}_5}$ . We incorporate chemiluminescence instrument uncertainty for [NO] = 10% (Ridley et al., 1994), thermal dissociation laser-induced fluorescence instrument uncertainty for  $[\text{NO}_2]$  = 10% (Day et al., 2002), high-resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization spectrometer instrument uncertainty for  $[\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]$  = 30% (B. H. Lee, Lopez-Hilfiker, et al., 2014; Kercher et al., 2009), and passive cavity aerosol spectrometer probe uncertainty for aerosol SA = 41% (Strapp et al., 1992).

We have defined the  $e$ -folding lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  and the chemical lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  as first order with respect to the concentration of  $\text{NO}_x$ , but we have defined the mixing lifetime of  $\text{NO}_x$  as first order with respect to the concentration gradient of  $\text{NO}_x$  between the boundary layer (BL) and the free troposphere (FT). If we make the assumption that  $[\text{NO}_x]_{\text{FT}} \ll [\text{NO}_x]_{\text{BL}}$  such that  $[\text{NO}_x]_{\text{BL}} - [\text{NO}_x]_{\text{FT}} \approx [\text{NO}_x]_{\text{BL}}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{\text{total}}} = \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{chem}}} + \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{mix}}} \quad (\text{C1})$$

Accounting for the estimated variability in  $\tau_{\text{total}}$  and  $\tau_{\text{chem}}$ , we estimate the variability in  $\tau_{\text{mix}}$  to be 8.2 hr during the day and 10.7 hr at night.

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