

# Direct Detection of Atmospheric Atomic Bromine Leading to Mercury & Ozone Depletion

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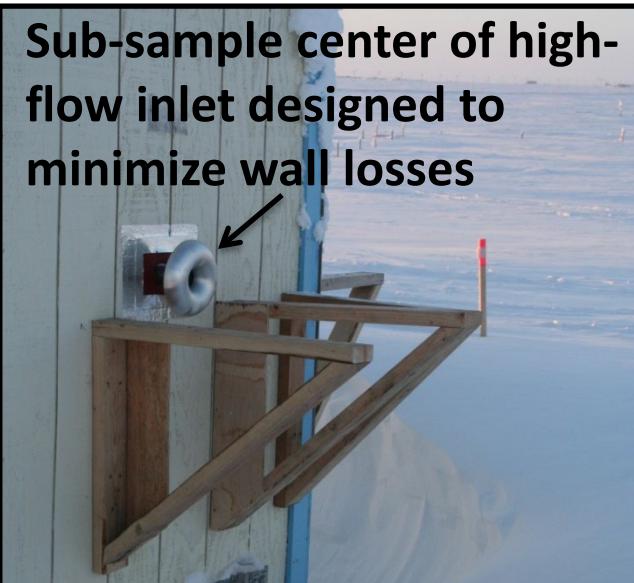
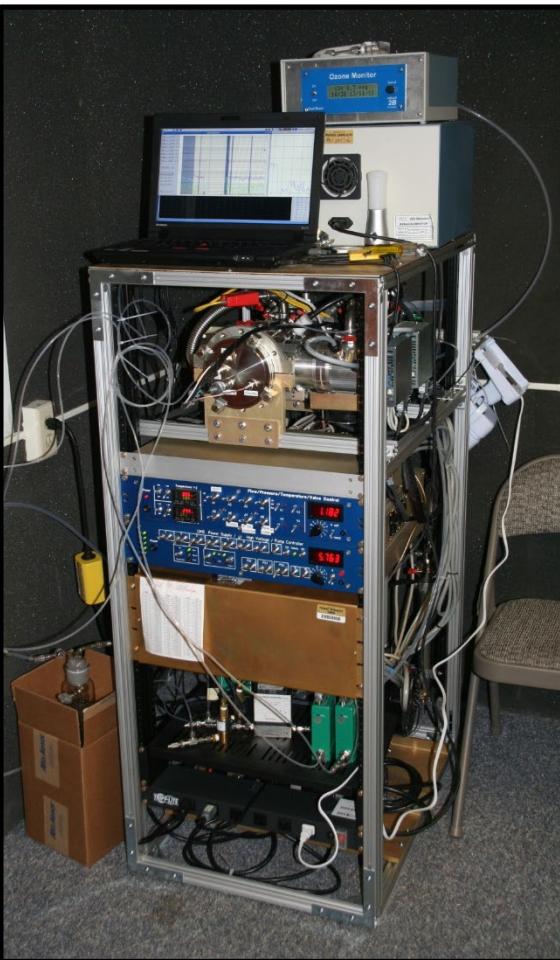


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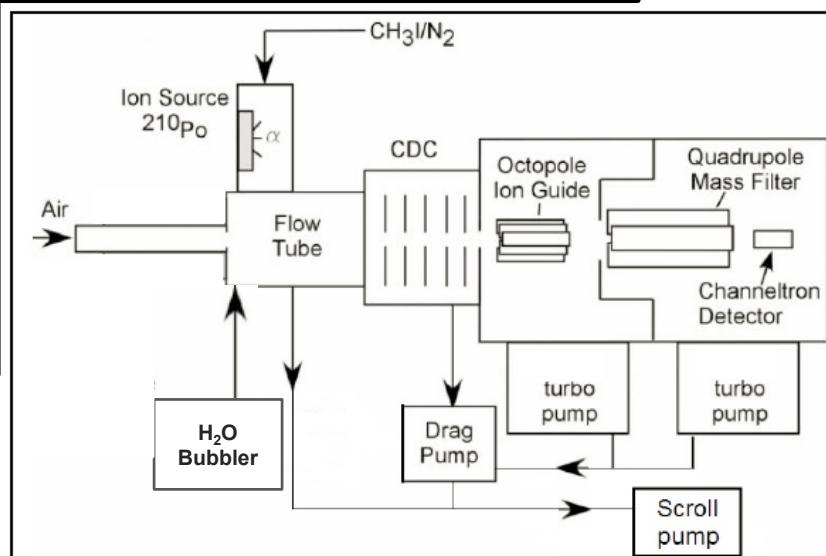
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# Chemical Ionization Mass Spectrometry (CIMS)



- <1 ppt limits of detection (LOD) for  $Br_2$ ,  $BrO\cdot$ ,  $HOBr$ ,  $Cl_2$ ,  $BrCl$ ,  $CINO_2$ ,  $N_2O_5$ ,  $HO_2NO_2$ ,  $ClO\cdot$ ,  $Br\cdot$
- <1 ppt LOD for  $I_2$  using  $SF_6^-$
- Isotope ratios used to confirm ion identity, when possible

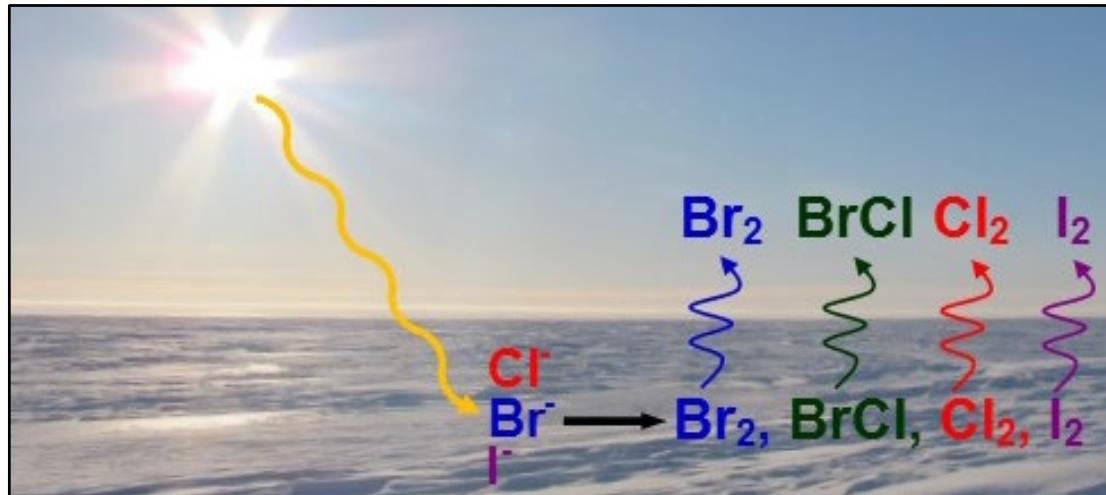


- Automated field calibration using  $Br_2$ ,  $Cl_2$ , and  $I_2$  permeation sources

# Arctic Measurements: Snowpack Photochemical Production of $\text{Br}_2$ , $\text{BrCl}$ , $\text{Cl}_2$ , & $\text{I}_2$

Both natural sunlight &  
artificial light (solar simulator)  
snowpack experiments

Utqiagvik, AK  
Feb. 2014



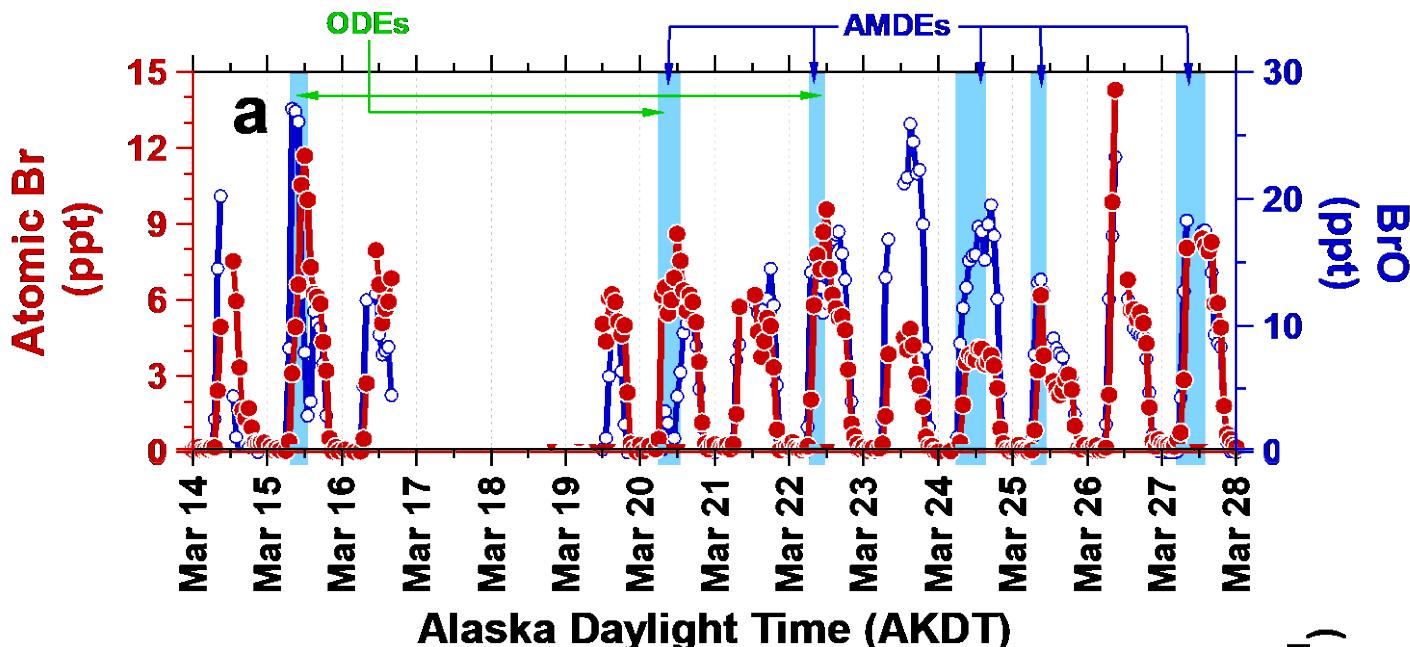
- Upon irradiation, Arctic snowpack produces molecular halogens ( $\text{Br}_2$ ,  $\text{BrCl}$ ,  $\text{Cl}_2$ , and  $\text{I}_2$ )
  - Consistent with previous  $\text{Br}_2$  observations (Pratt et al., 2013, *Nature Geosc.*) and lab-based ice flow tube experiments (Halfacre et al., 2019, *ACP*)
  - Quantitation of  $\text{Br}_2$  and  $\text{Cl}_2$  snowpack production rates (for model inputs) via above-snowpack, natural sunlight vertical profile measurements

Custard, Raso, Shepson, Staebler, & Pratt\*. 2017, *ACS Earth & Space Chem.*, 1(3), 142-151,  
<https://doi.org/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.7b00014>

Raso, Custard, May, Tanner, Newburn, Walker, Moore, Huey, Alexander, Shepson, & Pratt\*. 2017, *Proceed. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 114(38), 10053-10058, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1702803114>

# Direct Measurement of Ambient Atomic Br! M

Utqiagvik, AK, Mar. 2012



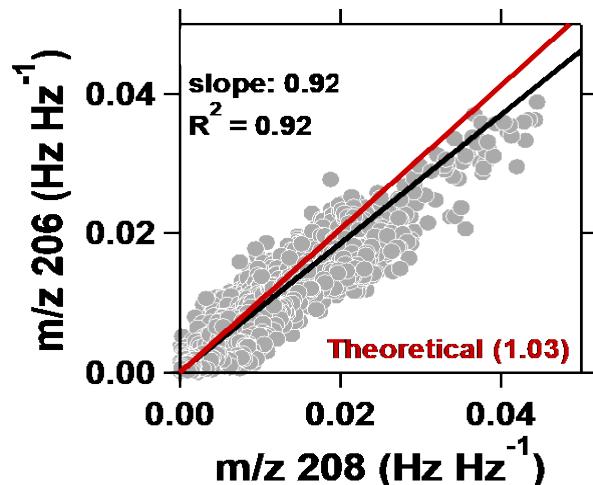
First CIMS measurement of Br,  
monitored at  $m/z$  206 ( $I^{79}Br^-$ ):

$3\sigma$  LOD 2.5 ppt (1 min), 0.8 ppt (10 min)

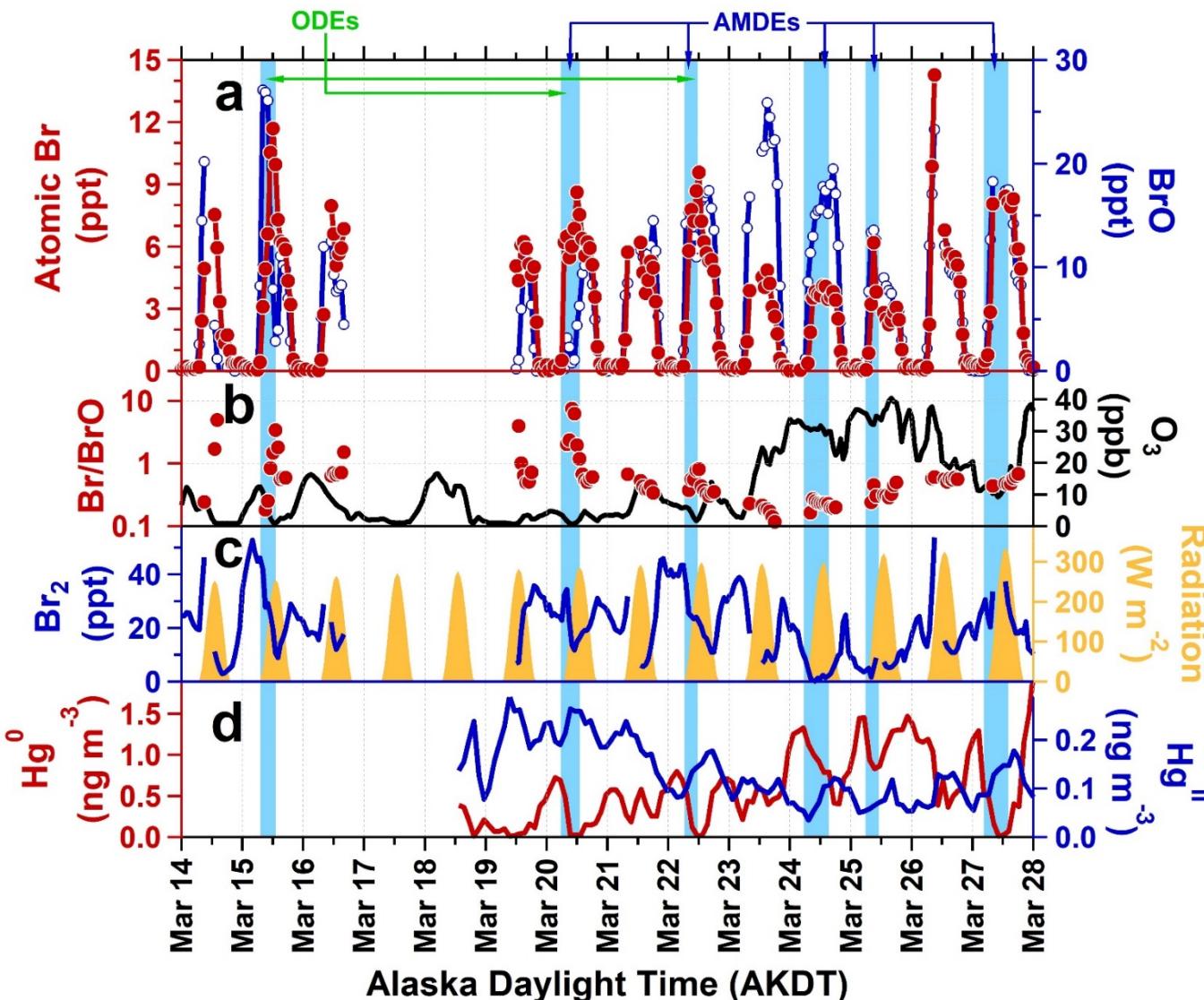


Siyuan  
Wang

Detailed calibrations  
& interference checks



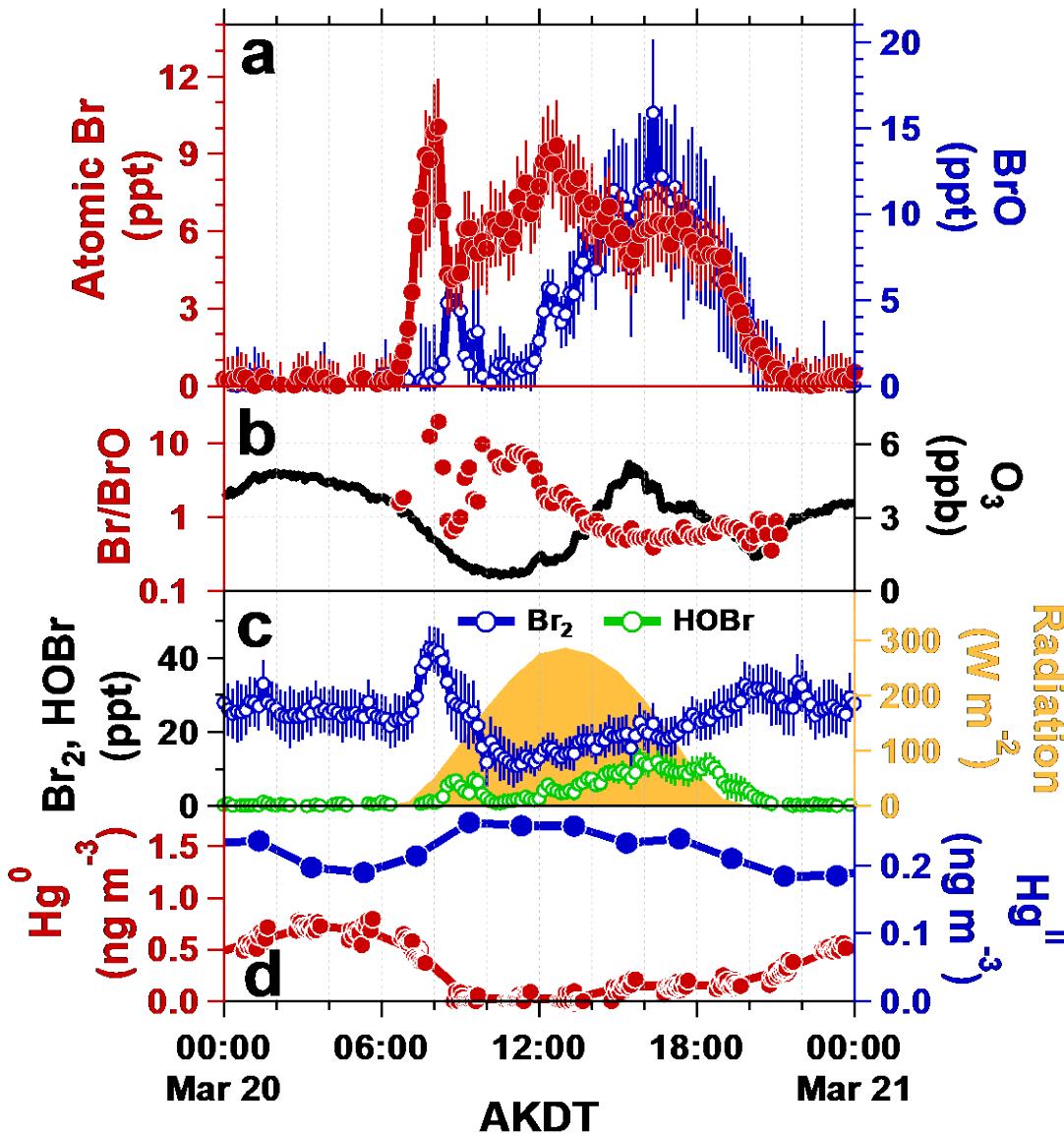
# Comprehensive Suite of Bromine Measurements with Mercury and Ozone



Br/BrO observed  
from 0.1-7.5,  
varying with [O<sub>3</sub>]

Hg<sup>0</sup> depletion  
coincident with  
Hg<sup>II</sup> production

# Transition from Br $\rightarrow$ BrO

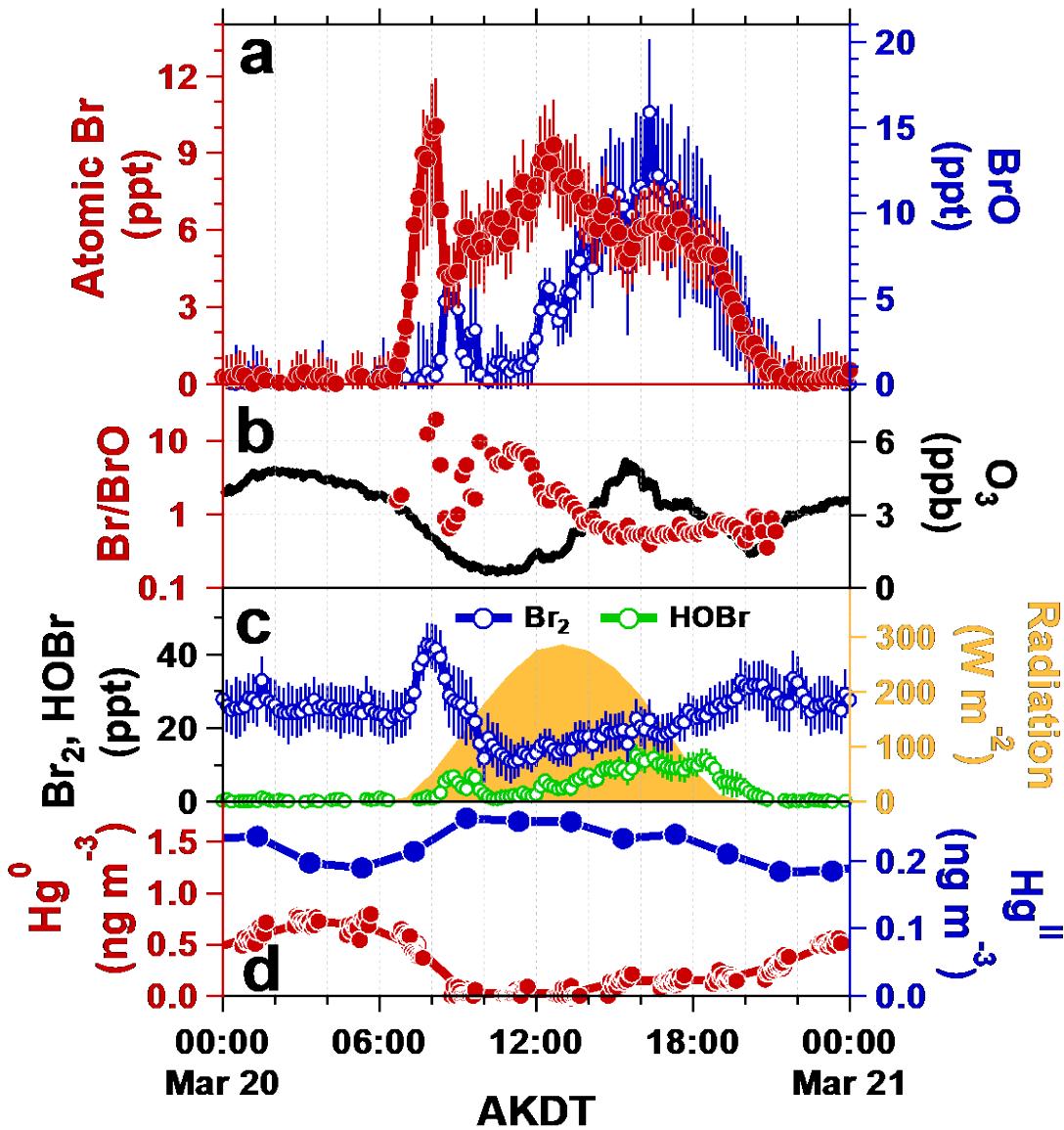


## Diurnal profile of bromine chemistry:

- Snowpack  $\text{Br}_2$  production upon sunrise
- $\text{Br}_2$  photolysis produces  $\text{Br}^\cdot$ , resulting in  $\downarrow \text{Hg}^0$  and  $\uparrow \text{Hg}^{II}$
- Increasing solar radiation reduces  $[\text{Br}_2]$  via photolysis, despite ongoing snowpack production
- Afternoon mixing event increases  $[\text{O}_3]$  and therefore  $\uparrow \text{BrO}$  and  $\uparrow \text{HOBr}$

# Transition from Br → BrO

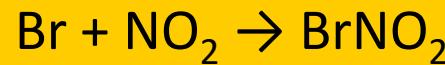
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Transition from Br → BrO  
with increase in O<sub>3</sub>, due to  
increased vertical mixing in  
afternoon

Explanation of previous  
observation of Hg<sup>0</sup> depletion  
without BrO:

**Br<sub>2</sub> recycling through BrNO<sub>2</sub>**  
(rather than BrO & HOBr) from  
snowpack NO<sub>2</sub> emissions:



# Quantitative Loss of O<sub>3</sub> and Hg<sup>0</sup>

M

- Measured O<sub>3</sub> loss rate and Hg<sup>0</sup> lifetime in agreement with calculations using measured [Br·], proving Br· as the main oxidant
- Snowpack Br<sub>2</sub> is needed for near-surface Br· production; Br· cannot be predicted based on BrO· alone.
- Provides support for current laboratory-based knowledge of Hg<sup>0</sup> oxidation kinetics and global Hg modeling

