

# Supplementary material

## A gas-to-particle conversion mechanism helps to explain atmospheric particle formation through clustering of iodine oxides

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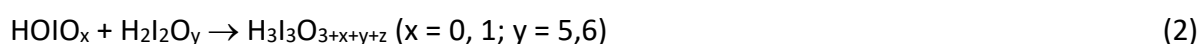
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### Supplementary Note 1. Competition between iodine oxide and oxyacid cluster formation

To explore the relative contribution of iodine oxides and oxyacids to the nucleation of IOPs, we have modelled a BBP flow tube experiments with longer residence time. The results shown in **Supplementary Figure 8** are for a flow tube residence time of 200 s. We have carried out two sets of simulations: one assuming that the source of HOIO<sub>2</sub> is the composite reaction I + H<sub>2</sub>O + O<sub>3</sub> and another assuming that the source of both HOIO and HOIO<sub>2</sub> is the I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O reaction, with the rate constants set at the upper limits determined experimentally (**Table 3**). The mechanism listed in **Supplementary Table 1** and **Table 1** is extended with HOIO and HOIO<sub>2</sub> aggregation reactions according to the scheme



No HOIO<sub>2</sub> addition and dehydration steps are considered because of the barrier in the HOIO<sub>2</sub> + HOIO<sub>2</sub> PES<sup>1,2</sup>. Calculated rate constants for the initial aggregation steps are listed in **Supplementary Table 4**. The HOIO self-reaction PES has a barrierless, exothermic pathway leading to the bimolecular product channel I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O (**Table 1**). It is therefore a possible path from oxyacids back to oxides and an alternative explanation of a growing CI-API-ToF-MS IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> signal with increasing H<sub>2</sub>O concentration<sup>3</sup>, since there is a likely contribution of I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> to this signal (see **Supplementary Note 2** and **Supplementary Table 3**). It can be seen that the formation of the HOIO...HOIO<sub>2</sub> aggregate is more favorable than the formation of the HOIO<sub>2</sub> dimer, while the following aggregation steps are assumed to proceed at the gas kinetics collisional rate constant. HOI is allowed to attach to hydroxide molecular clusters at 2 × 10<sup>-10</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup>. The oxide-oxyacid aggregation reactions forming I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>...HIO<sub>x</sub> (x = 1, 2) aggregates are also included, but these aggregates are not very stable. No other cross-over or hydrated clusters are considered.

The mixing ratio curves as a function of water concentration in **Supplementary Figure 8** correspond to major gas phase species. The total number density of molecular clusters with up to 9 iodine atoms descending from iodine oxides and oxyacids are displayed in the top panels to enable a comparison of the relative importance of oxides and oxyacids in the formation of clusters. The bottom panels show the iodine mass balance, i.e. the amount of

the initial atomic iodine in  $I_2$  molecules which ends up as  $I_xO_y$  or  $HIO_x$  clusters. Despite the many assumptions involved in this exercise, a conclusion that can be drawn is that molecular clusters descending directly from  $HOIO$  and  $HOIO_2$  can only become dominant at high water concentration ( $> 5 \times 10^{16}$  molecule  $cm^{-3}$ ) and if the direct precursor of these oxyacids is atomic iodine. If the precursor of oxyacids is an oxide, nucleation is started by iodine oxides. Simulations at lower  $I_2$  photolysis rates yield similar  $I_xO_y/HIO_x$  ratios, because the  $HOIO_2$  concentration depends on how much  $I_2O_4$  is formed. Interestingly, even if  $HOIO_2$  is not the species that drives nucleation, it is still a proxy for  $I_2O_4$  and the evolution of its concentration would track that of particle formation events.

### **Supplementary Note 2. Interpretation of previous laboratory results and field data**

Observation of  $HOIO_2$  by CI-API-ToF-MS was reported in laboratory experiments where a flow of synthetic air carrying  $I_2$ ,  $O_3$  and trace amounts of  $H_2O$  (i.e. no added water,  $RH < 1\%$  or equivalently  $x(H_2O) < 0.03\%$ ,  $[H_2O] < 7.7 \times 10^{15}$  molecule  $cm^{-3}$ ) was exposed to visible light<sup>3</sup>. No UV light was used, and therefore intervention of  $HO_x$  in the formation of  $HOIO_2$  (e.g. via  $OIO + OH^4$ ) can be discounted. The  $IO^-$ ,  $IO_2^-$  and  $IO_3^-$  signals with and without added water have been attributed to the chemical ionization by nitrate and acetate ions of the corresponding oxyacid neutral molecules  $HOI$ ,  $HOIO$  and  $HOIO_2$ <sup>3</sup>. We have shown that gas-phase reactions forming oxyacids from atomic iodine and iodine oxides are very slow ( $k \leq 5 \times 10^{-19}$   $cm^3 s^{-1}$  molecule<sup>-1</sup>). However, for reactor residence times of hundreds of seconds and sufficiently high water concentration, even these slow rate constants may result in  $HOIO_2$  concentrations detectable by the sensitive nitrate CI technique (**Supplementary Figure 8**). We have hypothesized that wall reactions of iodine oxides with adsorbed  $H_2O$  may be an additional source of oxyacids in long residence time experiments and field instruments with long inlets. Thus, we have performed BOMD simulations to probe bond-forming and bond-breaking events over a finite time scale for  $I_2O_y$  on the air-water interface. **Supplementary Movies 2-4** show that  $I_2O_y$  ( $y = 2, 3, 4$ ) do not react on time scales of tens of picoseconds, which indicates that  $HOIO$  and  $HOIO_2$  would not be made by reactions of  $I_2O_y$  with  $H_2O$  adsorbed on the walls of the CI-API-ToF-MS inlet or the reactor inner surfaces. However, the possibility of higher iodine oxides reacting on the air-water interface<sup>2</sup> is intriguing and could be a source of both oxide and oxyacid clusters.

Besides thermochemical and kinetic obstacles for  $HOIO_2$  formation, the interpretation of the

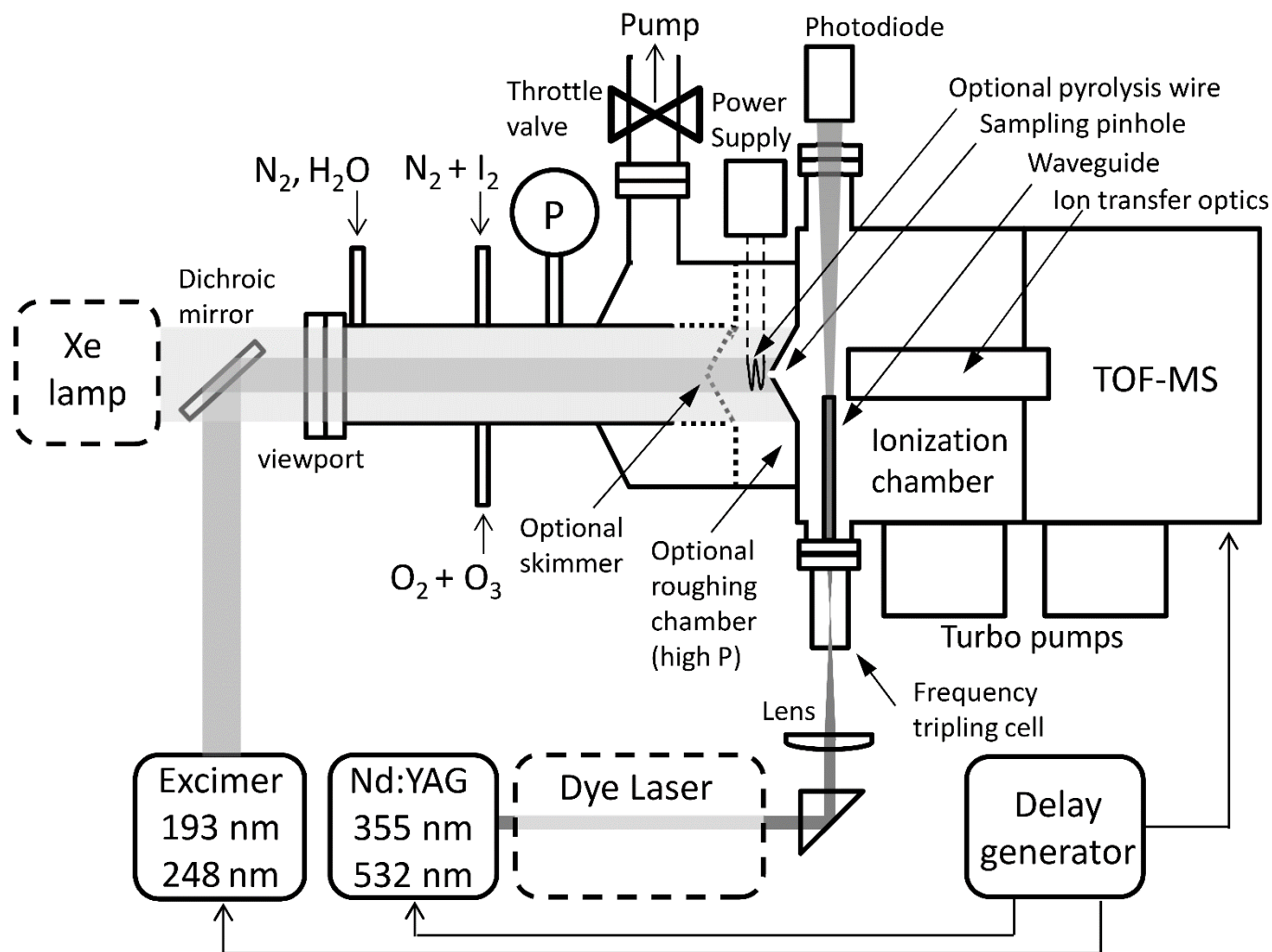
$\text{IO}^-$ ,  $\text{IO}_2^-$  and  $\text{IO}_3^-$  nitrate and acetate Cl signals as oxyacids is problematic. **Supplementary Table 3** lists reaction enthalpies obtained from evaluated thermochemical data<sup>5,6</sup> complemented with our own ab initio calculations, showing that generation of  $\text{IO}^-$  and  $\text{IO}_2^-$  from reactions between  $\text{HIO}_x$  or  $\text{I}_x\text{O}_y$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  are generally endothermic. In contrast, dissociative charge transfer between  $\text{HOIO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  is indeed exothermic. But  $\text{IO}_3^-$  can originate as well from dissociative charge transfer between  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_y$  ( $y=2, 3, 4$ ) and  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ . Although the  $\text{IO}_3^-$  Cl signal has been shown to increase (sub-linearly) with water<sup>3</sup>, which is an indication of  $\text{HOIO}_2$  formation from a  $\text{I}_x\text{O}_y + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  slow reaction, it is very likely that  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_y$  contributes to it significantly. Many of the nitrogen-containing clusters observed in the Cl-API-TOF-MS data can be identified as  $\text{I}_x\text{O}_y\cdot\text{NO}_3^-$  ( $x \leq 3, y \leq 7$ ), which would confirm the presence of  $\text{I}_x\text{O}_y$  in this system.

The O/I ratio of  $2.45 \pm 0.05$  of IOPs reported in our previous work under dry conditions<sup>7</sup> is consistent with clusters that start forming from molecules with  $\text{O/I} \leq 2$  and then grow at each step by  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_5$  units (**Figure 1**). Due to this progressive increase of the I/O ratio,  $\text{I}_5\text{O}_{12}$  already shows an O/I ratio within the uncertainty range of IOPs. Under humid conditions, a more variable O/I ratio has been reported ( $2.2 - 2.6^3$ ), which indicates contribution of oxides and oxyacids to particle composition. Several studies report mass spectroscopic evidence about the composition of particles formed under different water vapor concentrations. The mass spectra of nanometer-sized IOPs generated in smog chamber studies by irradiation of  $\text{CH}_2\text{I}_2/\text{Air}/\text{O}_3$  mixtures include the  $\text{HIO}_3^+$  (electron impact<sup>8</sup>) and  $\text{IO}_3^-$  peaks (atmospheric pressure ionization, API<sup>9</sup>). These ion signals are consistent with the presence of  $\text{HOIO}_2$  in IOPs. The use of the  $\text{CH}_2\text{I}_2$  precursor provides a source of  $\text{HO}_x$  via UV photolysis of formaldehyde<sup>10</sup> generated by Crigee-iodine chemistry<sup>11</sup>, which could result in the formation of  $\text{HOIO}_2$  under dry conditions. The API  $\text{IO}_3^-$  signal is also compatible with iodine oxides<sup>9</sup>. These factors possibly prevented a stronger contrast at  $m/z = 176$  between humid and dry runs. More importantly, the high temperature employed in these works to vaporize particles (823-873 K) was possibly too high to allow the survival of enough  $\text{HOIO}_2$ <sup>8</sup>.

The recent observation by Cl-API-ToF-MS of ion clusters compatible with oxyacid composition alongside signals attributed to  $\text{HOIO}_2$ , and the increase of these signals with water, have been interpreted as evidence of  $\text{HOIO}_2$  homogeneous nucleation. The composition of the particles, therefore, is proposed to be the same as that of the gas phase molecules. The PI positive ion

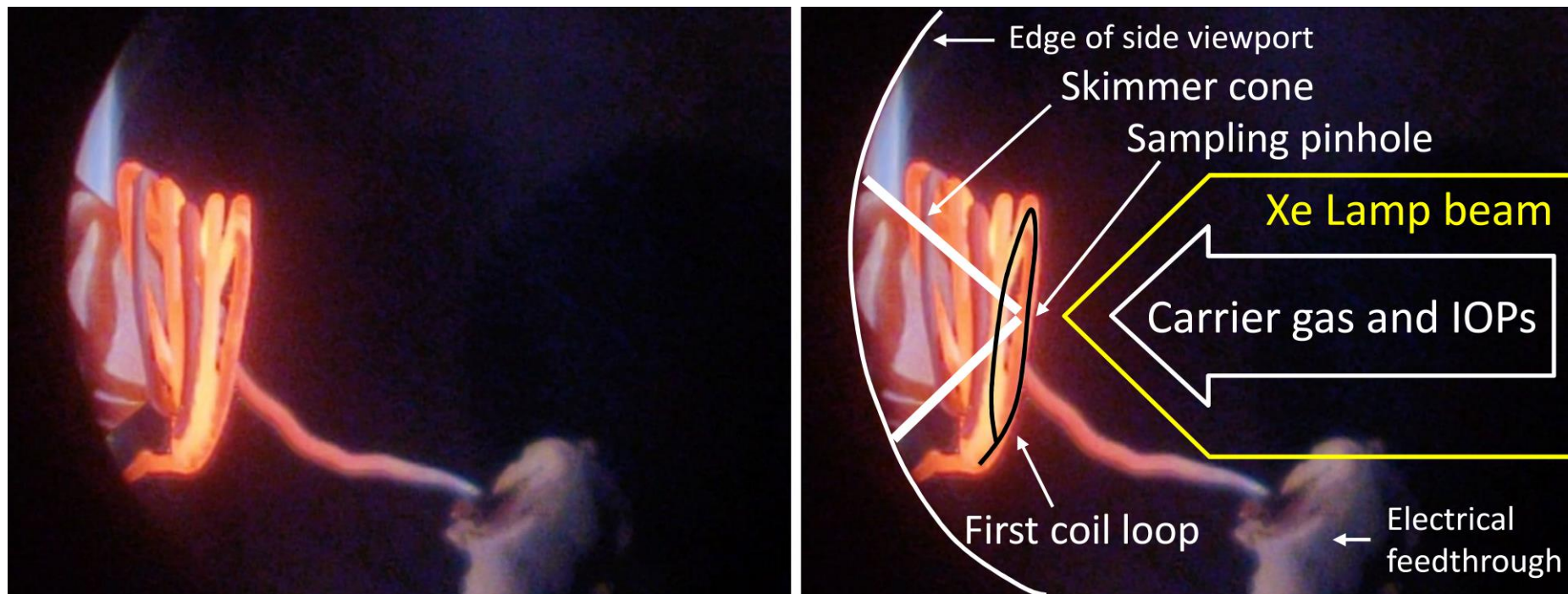
mass spectra recorded in the presence of water under a variety of conditions (**Figure 2**) appear to show a different picture, where the larger clusters are not grown by sequential addition of the smaller ones, and where water only reduces the signal without creating new peaks. Comparison between mass spectra obtained by different sampling and ionization techniques is not straightforward, but a plausible explanation is the much longer residence time and lower  $I_xO_y$  concentration in the CI experiments and field measurements, which may create a more favorable situation for slow water reactions. Reactions between  $I_xO_y$  and  $H_2O$  may be even slower than the upper limits presented here, but the much longer residence time in the CI experiments and field measurements may allow for attachment of water and oxyacids to pre-existing clusters. Moreover, fragmentation mechanisms of a completely different nature are at play in both systems. Collision-induced fragmentation has been identified as a problem obscuring the interpretation of API-MS data<sup>12</sup>. In fact, the CI mass spectra show a large number of peaks which are unassigned or do not fit into the proposed HOIO<sub>2</sub> nucleation scheme. A striking similarity between the PI and CI spectra is that the groups of peaks with even numbers of iodine atoms are separated by I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> units (334 Da), and so are the groups with odd numbers of iodine atoms, which once again shows that I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (or its hydrated form HOIO<sub>2</sub>) is the backbone composition of IOPs.

## Supplementary Figure 1



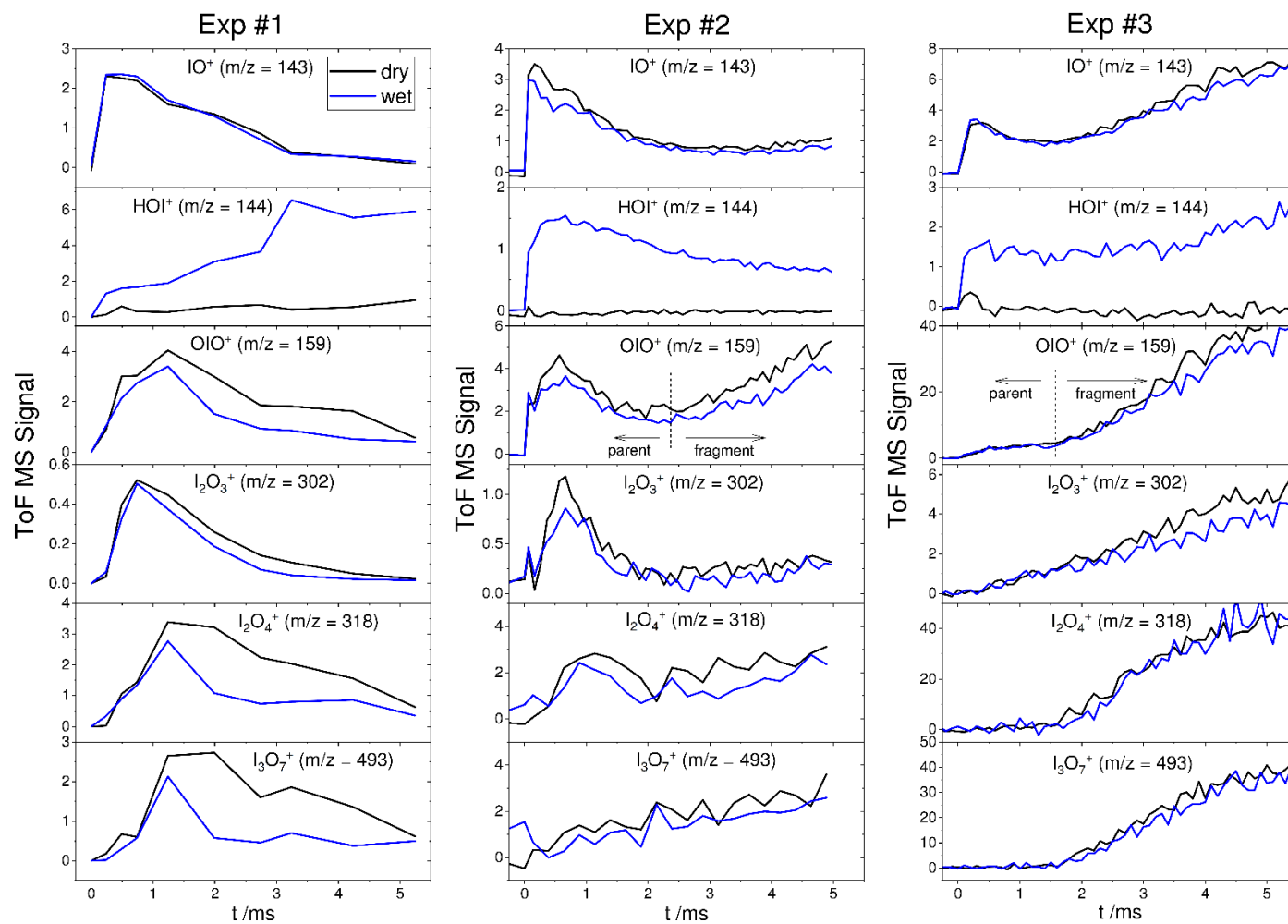
**Supplementary Figure 1. Experimental set up employed in this work.** *Pulsed Laser Photolysis (PLP) experiments:* A dichroic mirror is used to steer the excimer beam (193 nm or 248 nm) into the flow tube. *Broad Band Photolysis (BBP) experiments:* the dichroic mirror is removed and a xenon lamp is used instead. High pressure experiments: the tube is shortened and a differentially pumped roughing chamber (dotted lines) is inserted between the experiment and the ionization chamber. *Pyrolysis experiments:* a hot filament (thin dashed line) is exposed to the flow near the sampling point (see **Supplementary Figure 2**). Two ionisation energies are available: (a) tripling the third harmonic (354.7 nm) of the Nd:YAG laser in a rare gas (Xe), resulting in 118.2 nm photons (10.5 eV) and (b) using the second harmonic (532 nm) of the Nd:YAG laser to pump a dye laser running on a DCM special solution in ethanol, to obtain a 322.8 nm beam, which is then tripled to obtain 106.7 nm photons (11.6 eV).

## Supplementary Figure 2



**Supplementary Figure 2. Pyrolysis set-up.** Left: view of the resistively heated coil placed around the sampling point in the pyrolysis experiments. The picture was taken from a viewport perpendicular to the flow tube, situated where the power supply of the coil is depicted in **Supplementary Figure 1**. Right: same picture with annotations indicating different elements of the set up and the sampling geometry.

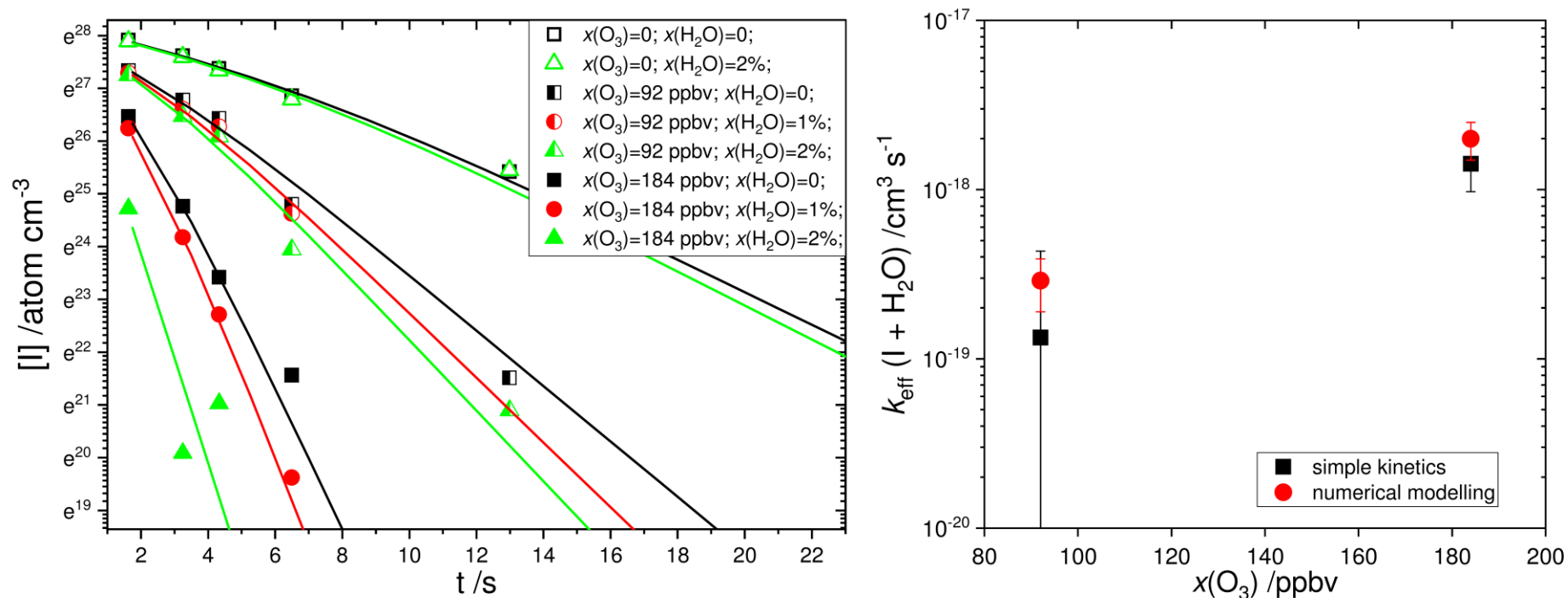
### Supplementary Figure 3



**Supplementary Figure 3. Kinetic traces.** Recorded from three different PLP experiments initiated by 248 nm photolysis of O<sub>3</sub> in the presence of I<sub>2</sub> at 10 Torr (PI 10.5 eV). The blue curves correspond to experiments where water was added actively to the flow (mixing ratio of 2%), while the black curves correspond to dry experiments. *Experiment #1*: digital model, manual PLP-PI delaying, weaker ionization. *Experiments #2 and #3*: analog mode, automatic PLP-PI delaying, higher I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> concentrations. The three experiments have a different PI beam delivery geometry and energy, resulting in different fragmentation of higher oxides. In experiment #3, with the highest concentration of I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>, the true signals are swamped by the fragmentation signal. The addition of water, besides the formation of HOI (second row), appears to reduce the extent of fragmentation rather than causing chemical removal, since new products are not observed.

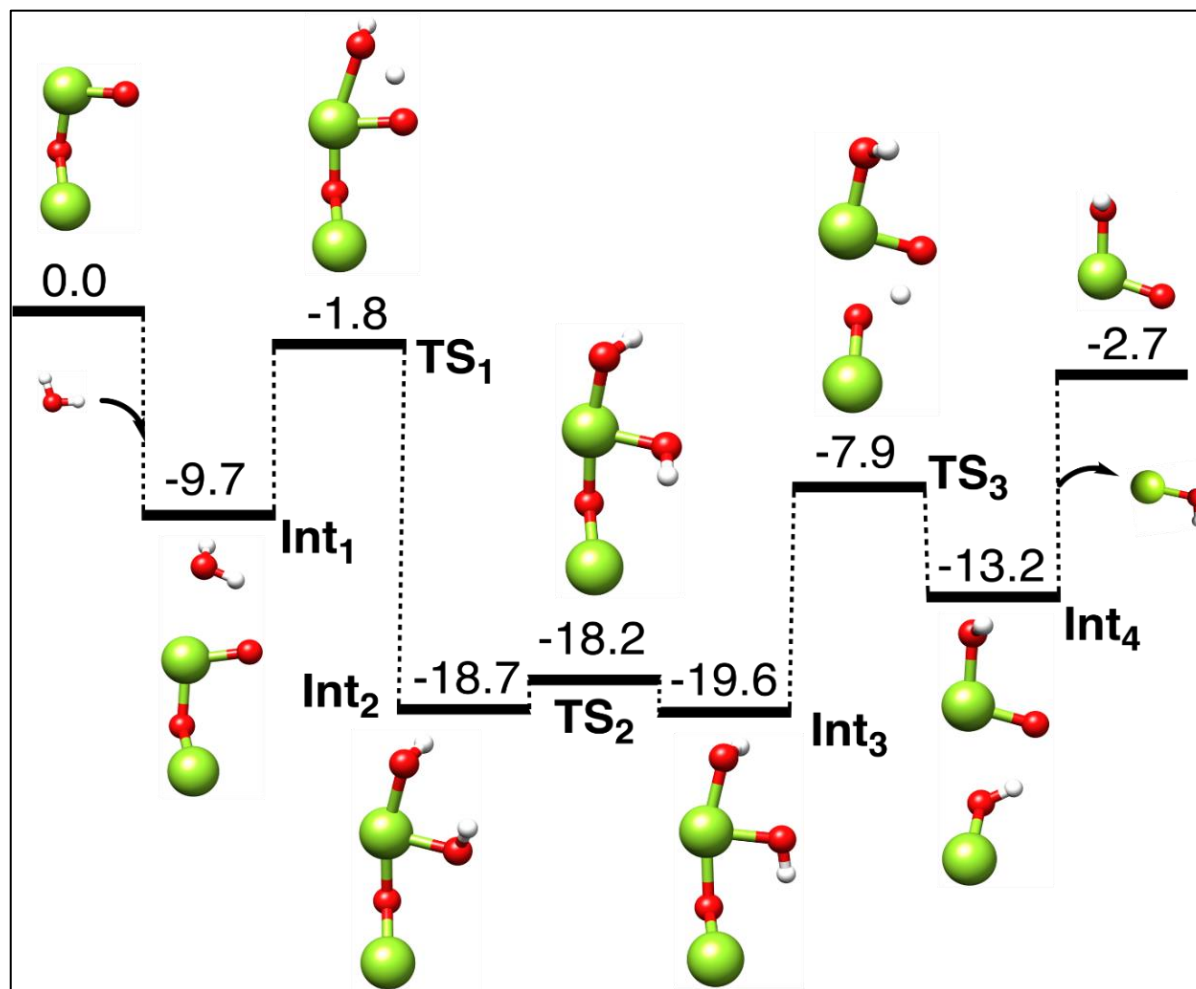


### Supplementary Figure 4



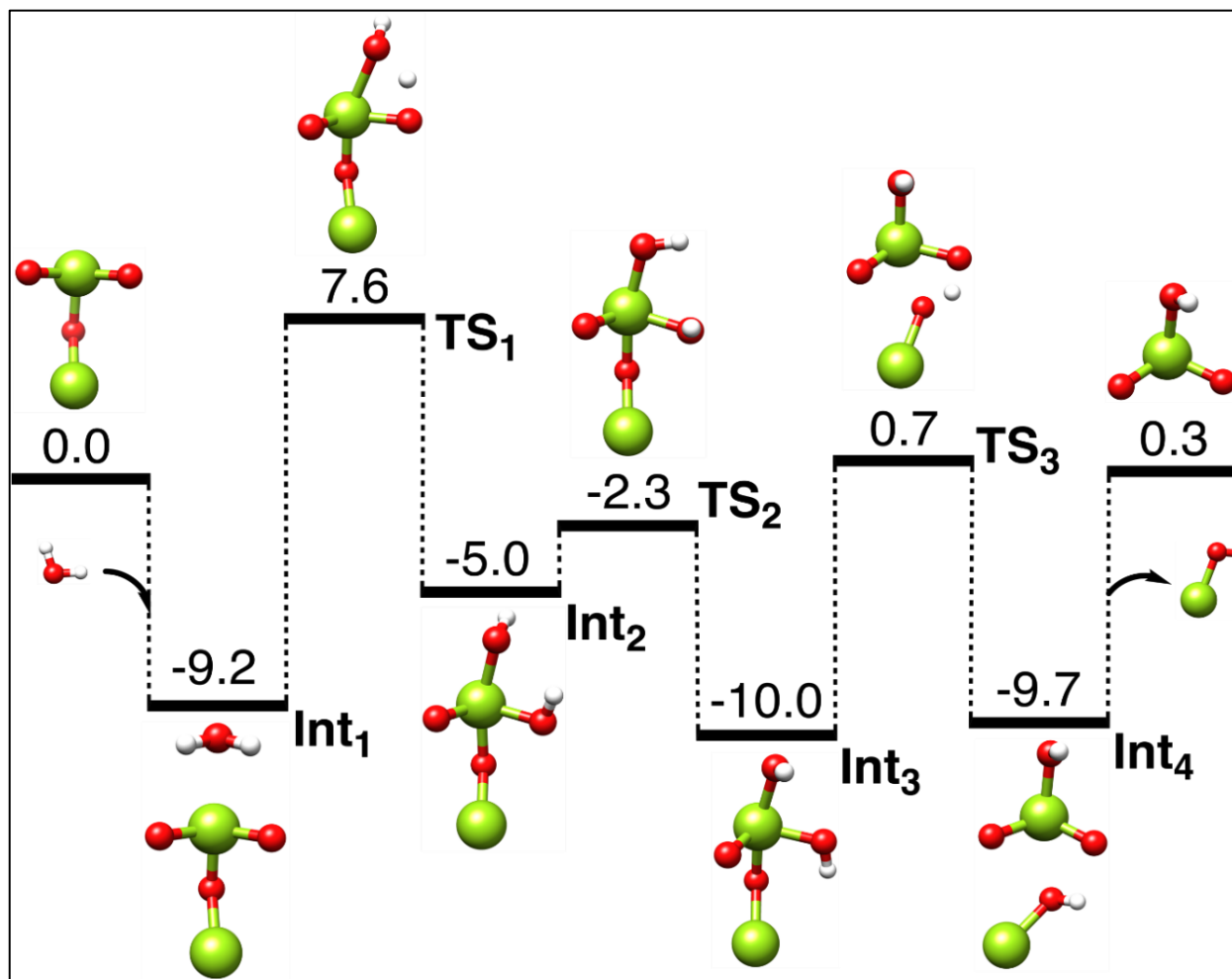
**Supplementary Figure 4. ROFLEX measurements.** Removal of atomic iodine in the presence of  $\text{O}_3$  and water vapor as observed in a BBP flow tube experiment at 760 Torr by atomic resonance fluorescence using the ROFLEX instrument. Left panel: concentration versus residence time traces and numerical fits to the data. The residence time is varied by changing the main carrier flow while keeping the ratio to the  $\text{I}_2$  carrier flow constant. Water concentrations were changed by passing the full carrier flow or just half of it through a water bubbler. Ozone concentrations (given as mixing ratios in parts per billion in volume, ppbv) were varied by changing the distance between a Hg pen-ray lamp and a flow of  $\text{O}_2$  through a small photolysis cell with quartz windows. Two types of kinetic analysis were performed: (i) simple exponential fits to the decay traces allow calculating the effective removal rate by water, by taking the differences between the rates with and without ozone and water and (b) numerical modelling and fitting of the data, which in addition enables estimating the ozone concentration. The resulting effective rate constants are plotted in the right panel. There appears to be a slight enhancement of the removal rate of iodine in the presence of water. However, the effective rate constant under typical ozone and water concentrations is very small, of the order of  $3 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ molecule}^{-1}$ .

## Supplementary Figure 5



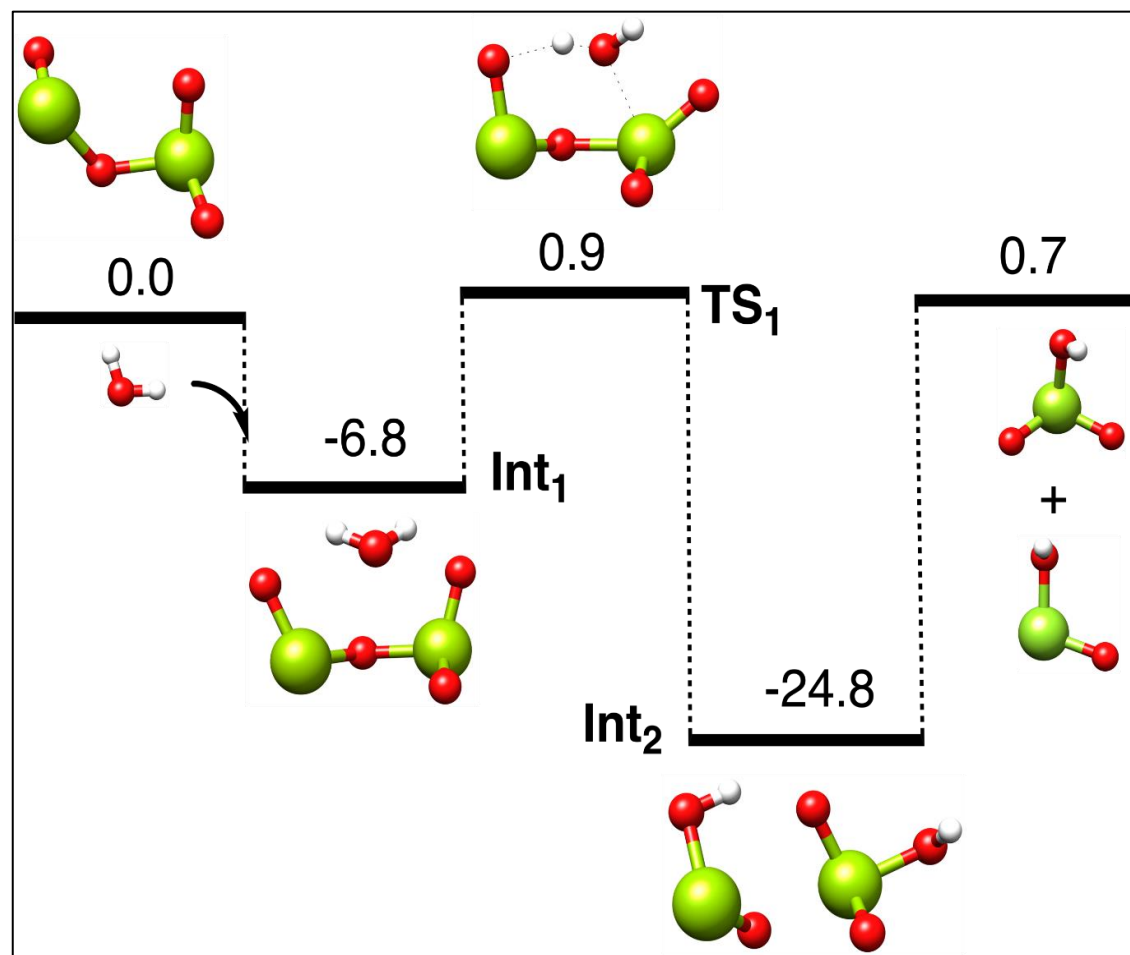
**Supplementary Figure 5.** Potential energy surface of the  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  reaction. CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+LANL2DZ//M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ calculated reaction profile for  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HOIO} + \text{HOI}$ . The zero-point-corrected electronic energies are relative to the separated constituents and are given in units of  $\text{kcal mol}^{-1}$ . The zero-point correction term was calculated at the M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ level of theory.

Supplementary Figure 6



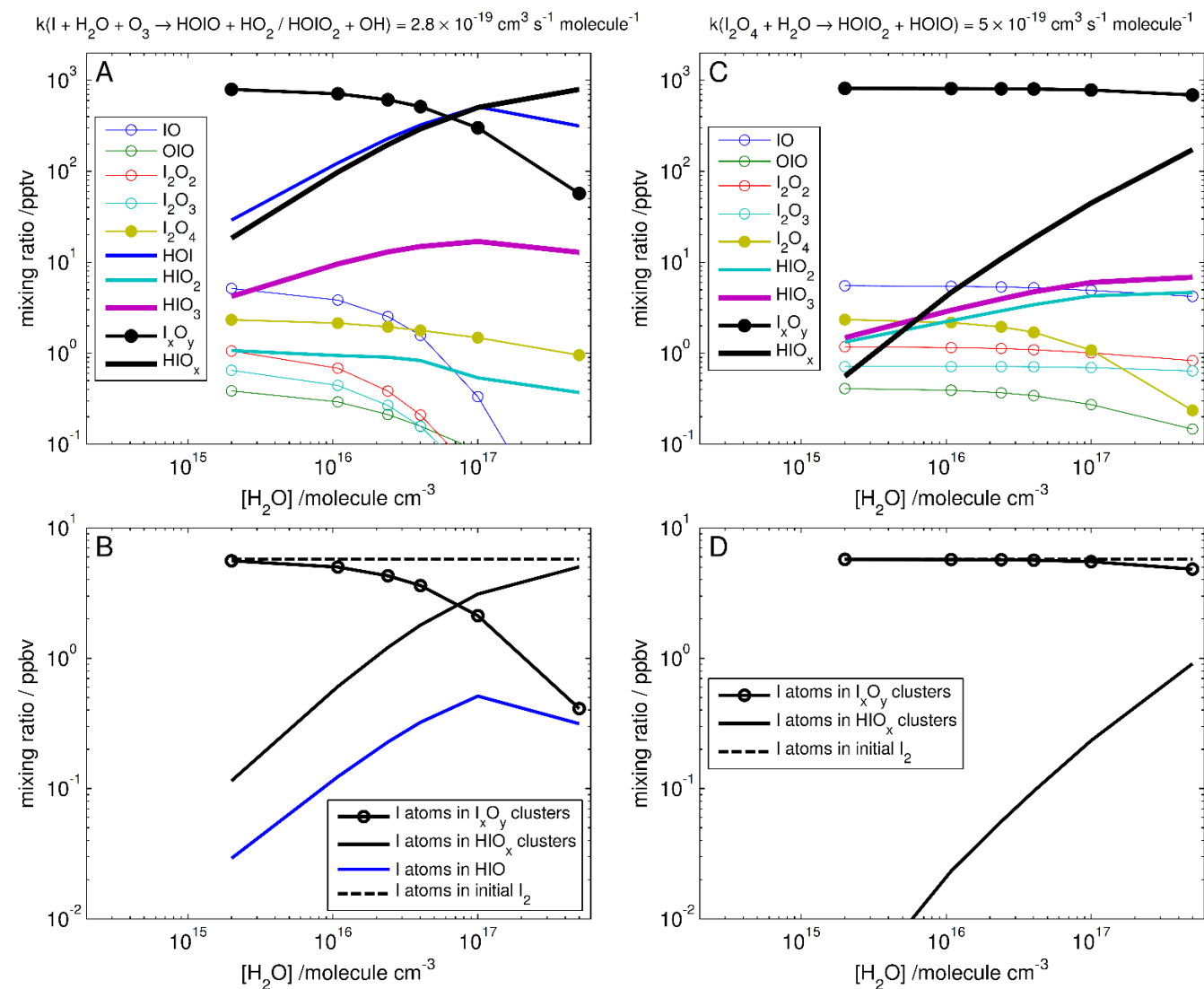
**Supplementary Figure 6.** Potential energy surface of the  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  reaction. CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+LANL2DZ//M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ calculated reaction profile for  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HOIO}_2 + \text{HOI}$ . The zero-point-corrected electronic energies are relative to the separated constituents and are given in units of  $\text{kcal mol}^{-1}$ . The zero-point correction term was calculated at the M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ level of theory.

Supplementary Figure 7



**Supplementary Figure 7.** Potential energy surface of the  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  reaction. CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+LANL2DZ//M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ calculated reaction profile for the *concerted*  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  reaction<sup>2</sup>, which results in the formation of  $\text{HOIO}_2$  and  $\text{HOIO}$ . The zero-point-corrected electronic energies are relative to the separated constituents and are given in units of  $\text{kcal mol}^{-1}$ . The zero-point correction term was calculated at the M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ+LANL2DZ level of theory.

## Supplementary Figure 8



**Supplementary Figure 8. Simulated mixing ratios as a function of water concentration for a flow tube BBP experiment.** Conditions: visible  $\text{I}_2$  photolysis,  $P = 760$  Torr, residence time = 200 s,  $[\text{I}_2]_0 = 7.2 \times 10^{10} \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$ ,  $[\text{O}_3]_0 = 1.5 \times 10^{12} \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$ . Symbols refer to oxides and solid lines to oxyacids. Black lines and symbols refer to the sum of clusters with more than 3 iodine atoms. The bottom panels show the iodine atom budget. The source of oxyacids is assumed to be the composite reaction  $\text{I} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{HOIO} + \text{HO}_2 / \text{HOIO}_2 + \text{OH}$  (panels a and b) or the reaction  $\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HOIO}_2 + \text{HOIO}$  (panels c and d). The rate constants of these reactions are set at the upper limits determined experimentally. The reactions compiled in **Supplementary Table 1** and **Table 2** are considered for iodine oxides. For oxyacids, a scheme of stepwise addition of HOIO and HOIO<sub>2</sub> is assumed ( $k = 2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ molecule cm}^{-3}$  for all reactions). No HOIO<sub>2</sub> addition and dehydration steps<sup>3</sup> are considered because of the barrier in the HOIO<sub>2</sub> + HOIO<sub>2</sub> PES<sup>1</sup>. The production of HO<sub>x</sub> in the  $\text{I} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_3$  results in high HOI concentration (green line in panel a).

## Supplementary Tables

**Supplementary Table 1. IOP-source chemical mechanism.**

Reaction	$k$ (295 K, 10 Torr) /cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	$k$ (295 K, 350 Torr) /cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Ref. <sup>a</sup>
$I_2 + h\nu_{193, VIS} \rightarrow I + I$ <sup>b</sup>			
$O_3 + h\nu_{248} \rightarrow O(^1D) + O_2(a^1\Delta)$			
$O(^1D) + N_2 \rightarrow O(^3P) + N_2$	$3.1 \times 10^{-10}$		5
$O(^3P) + I_2 \rightarrow IO + I$	$1.25 \times 10^{-10}$		13
$O(^3P) + IO \rightarrow I + O_2$	$1.4 \times 10^{-10}$		13
$I + O_3 \rightarrow IO + O_2$	$1.26 \times 10^{-12}$		13
$IO + IO \rightarrow OIO + I$	$7.6 \times 10^{-11}$	$4.3 \times 10^{-11}$	13
$IO + IO \rightarrow IOIO$	$2.4 \times 10^{-11}$	$5.7 \times 10^{-11}$	13
$IO + OIO \rightarrow I_2O_3$	$2 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.3 \times 10^{-10}$	13
$OIO + OIO \rightarrow I_2O_4$	$1 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.9 \times 10^{-11}$	13
$O(^1D) + H_2O \rightarrow OH + OH$	$2 \times 10^{-10}$		5
$OH + I_2 \rightarrow HOI + I$	$2.1 \times 10^{-10}$		13
$IO + h\nu_{VIS} \rightarrow I + O$			
$OIO + h\nu_{VIS} \rightarrow I + O_2$			

<sup>a</sup> Evaluated rate constants for atmospheric iodine chemistry modelling (see Saiz-Lopez et al. <sup>13</sup> and references therein). Reactions involving other species from the JPL-NASA evaluation<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>b</sup> PLP experiments use an excimer laser at 193 nm ( $I_2$  photolysis at the Cordes band system<sup>14</sup>) or 248 nm ( $O_3$  photolysis at the Hartley band). BBP experiments use a visible broad band source that mainly photolyzes  $I_2$  in its visible absorption spectrum around 500 nm ( $\sigma_{I_2}(500nm)=2.18 \times 10^{-18}$  cm<sup>2</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> <sup>15</sup>), while the photolysis of  $O_3$  at the Chappuis band is comparatively small (maximum:  $\sigma_{O_3}(600 nm)=5.2 \times 10^{-21}$  cm<sup>2</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> <sup>16</sup>).

**Supplementary Table 2. Calculated photoionization and photofragmentation energies of iodine oxides and oxyacids**

<b>Photo-ionization</b>	<b>IP / eV cal.</b>	<b>IP /eV cal. literature <sup>17</sup></b>	<b>IP /eV exp.</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
$\text{IO} \rightarrow \text{IO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.9	9.6	$9.745 \pm 0.017$	<sup>18</sup>
$\text{OIO} \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.3	9.7	$9.80 \pm 0.10$	<sup>19</sup>
$\text{IOI} \rightarrow \text{IOI}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.9	10.4	<9.3	<sup>19</sup>
$\text{IIO} \rightarrow \text{IIO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.0	9.0		
$\text{IOIO} \rightarrow \text{IOIO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.1	9.1		
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_3^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.2	10.0	$9.90 \pm 0.03$	<sup>19</sup>
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_4^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.4	9.3		
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_5 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_5^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.8	11.4		
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_6^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.0	9.1		
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_7^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.6	8.7		
$\text{HOI} \rightarrow \text{HOI}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.9		$9.81 \pm 0.02$	<sup>20</sup>
$\text{HOIO} \rightarrow \text{HOIO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	9.3			
$(\text{HO})_2\text{IO} \rightarrow (\text{HO})_2\text{IO}^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.1		<i>b</i>	
$\text{HOIO}_2 \rightarrow \text{HOIO}_2^+ + \text{e}^-$	11.1	11.3 <sup>a</sup>	<i>c</i>	
$\text{HI}_2\text{O}_5 \rightarrow \text{HI}_2\text{O}_5^+ + \text{e}^-$	10.6		<i>b</i>	
<b>Fragmentation</b>	<b><math>\Delta H_r</math> /eV cal.</b>	<b>Fragmentation</b>	<b><math>\Delta H_r</math> /eV cal</b>	
$\text{IOIO} \rightarrow \text{IOI}^+ + \text{O} + \text{e}^-$	11.9	$\text{I}_3\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_6^+ + \text{O} + \text{e}^-$	12.4	
$\text{IOIO} \rightarrow \text{IO}^+ + \text{IO} + \text{e}^-$	10.7	$\text{I}_3\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_4^+ + \text{IO}_3 + \text{e}^-$	10.8	
$\text{IOIO} \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{I} + \text{e}^-$	11.1	$\text{I}_3\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{e}^-$	10.7	
$\text{IOIO} \rightarrow \text{I}^+ + \text{OIO} + \text{e}^-$	11.5	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_6^+ + \text{I} + \text{e}^-$	11.6	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{IO} + \text{e}^-$	11.6	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_3^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{e}^-$	10.8	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{IO}^+ + \text{OIO} + \text{e}^-$	11.2	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_7^+ + \text{I} + \text{e}^-$	11.2	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{IOIO}^+ + \text{O} + \text{e}^-$	12.2	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_6^+ + \text{IO} + \text{e}^-$	11.9	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{OIO} + \text{e}^-$	11.1	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_3^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{e}^-$	10.9	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_4 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_3^+ + \text{O} + \text{e}^-$	12.1	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_7 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_4^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{e}^-$	10.1	
$\text{I}_2\text{O}_5 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{IO}_3 + \text{e}^-$	12.1	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_8 \rightarrow \text{I}_3\text{O}_7^+ + \text{IO} + \text{e}^-$	11.0	
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_3^+ + \text{IO}_3 + \text{e}^-$	11.0	$\text{I}_4\text{O}_8 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_4^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{e}^-$	9.8	
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{I}_2\text{O}_4^+ + \text{OIO} + \text{e}^-$	10.2	$\text{HOIO} \rightarrow \text{IO}^+ + \text{OH}$	11.4	
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{e}^-$	11.2	$\text{HOIO}_2 \rightarrow \text{OIO}^+ + \text{OH}$	12.45	
$\text{I}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \text{IO}^+ + \text{I}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{e}^-$	10.3			

<sup>a</sup> The ionization energy of HOIO<sub>2</sub> was determined by Gomez Martin et al.<sup>17</sup> at the CCSD(T)//MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ (AREP) level of theory<sup>21</sup>, but was not reported in Table 1 of that paper.

<sup>b</sup> Correspond to peaks seen in this work

<sup>c</sup> Has been detected by PI-ToF-AMS at 11 eV and higher ionization energies <sup>19</sup>.

Supplementary Table 3. Reaction enthalpies for iodine oxides and oxyacids for three common Cl sources (nitrate, bromide and acetate ions).

Analyte ↓	Ion source → Ion detection →	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>- 22</sup>			Br <sup>- 22,23</sup>			CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>- 24</sup>		
		IO <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IO <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IO <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
IO	evaluated	148 ± 3	86 ± 3	-31 ± 11	93 ± 2			82 ± 4		
OIO	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>a</sup>		131 ± 4	-85 ± 11 <i>12</i>		75 ± 3			64 ± 4	72 ± 11 <i>156</i>
I <sub>2</sub> O	evaluated		118 ± 10	4 ± 14						
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	evaluated		56 ± 15	-95 ± 19		-32 ± 15				
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>b</sup>			-32 ± 16 <i>109</i>		120 ± 11 <i>188</i>	-121 ± 14 <i>-101</i>		84	-112
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>b</sup>			2.1			-109 ± 18 <i>-76</i>			-101
HOI	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>c</sup>	132 ± 5 <b>124</b>			138 ± 4			35 ± 5		
HOIO	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>b,c</sup>		65 ± 3 <b>65 57</b>			70 ± 2 <i>67</i>			-32 ± 3 <i>-36</i>	
HOIO <sub>2</sub>	evaluated <i>ab initio</i> <sup>c</sup>			-35 ± 10 <b>-23</b>			-30 ± 10			-132 ± 11

<sup>a</sup> wB97xd/6-311+G(2df,2p) Sipilä et al.<sup>3</sup> (Italics)

<sup>b</sup> b3lyp/6-311+G(2d,p) with All electron iodine basis set<sup>25</sup> This work (normal typescript).

<sup>c</sup> CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pV5Z//PBE0/aug-cc-pVQZ with ECP28MDF effective core for iodine. Sipilä et al.<sup>3</sup> (bold)



**Supplementary Table 4. Calculated reaction enthalpies (i.e. bond energies), rate constants and dissociation rates of possible oxyacid and oxide-oxyacid-aggregation and dissociation reactions (T = 295 K, 760 torr)**

Reaction	$\Delta H_r$ (298 K)	k
HOIO + HOIO <sub>2</sub> → HOIO...HOIO <sub>2</sub>	-104 kJ mol <sup>-1 2</sup>	6.7 × 10 <sup>-11</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
HOIO...HOIO <sub>2</sub> → HOIO + HOIO <sub>2</sub>		0.8 s <sup>-1</sup>
HOIO <sub>2</sub> + HOIO <sub>2</sub> → HOIO...HOIO <sub>2</sub>	-84 kJ mol <sup>-1 1</sup>	1.1 × 10 <sup>-11</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
HOIO...HOIO <sub>2</sub> → HOIO + HOIO <sub>2</sub>		1388 s <sup>-1</sup>
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + HOIO → I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ...HOIO	-64 kJ mol <sup>-1 2</sup>	3.7 × 10 <sup>-12</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ...HOIO → I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + HOIO		1 × 10 <sup>6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + HOIO <sub>2</sub> → I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ...HOIO <sub>2</sub>	-94 kJ mol <sup>-1 2</sup>	1.0 × 10 <sup>-10</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ...HOIO <sub>2</sub> → I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + HOIO <sub>2</sub>		270 s <sup>-1</sup>

**Supplementary Table 5. Estimated atmospheric first order lifetimes of I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> by reaction with I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> and with H<sub>2</sub>O (lower limits), and of HIO<sub>x</sub> by reaction with HOIO<sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>.**

	I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + I <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub>				I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O			HOIO <sub>2</sub> + HIO <sub>x</sub>	
	T /K	P /hPa	x(I <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> ) /pptv <sup>b</sup>	τ /min	RH (%)	x (H <sub>2</sub> O) (%)	τ /min	x (HOIO <sub>2</sub> ) (%) <sup>c</sup>	τ /min
<b>Coastal MBL Mid-latitudes</b>	293	1013	10	0.3	100	2.3	> 0.1	10	0.3
			<i>20</i>	<i>0.2</i>					
	283	1013	10	0.3	80	1.0	> 0.1	10	0.3
			<i>20</i>	<i>0.2</i>					
<b>Polar MBL</b>	273	1013	0.5	6.2	100	0.6	> 0.2	0.1	31
			<i>5</i>	<i>0.6</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>3.1</i>
	253	1013	0.5	5.7	100	0.1	> 0.9	0.1	29
			<i>5</i>	<i>0.6</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>2.9</i>
<b>UT-LS</b>	273	500	0.02	314	8	0.1	> 2.5		
			<i>0.2</i>	<i>31</i>	8				
	233	250	0.02	536	13	0.01	> 43		
			<i>0.3</i>	<i>36</i>	13				
	213	125	0.02	981	7	0.001	> 784		
			<i>0.4</i>	<i>49</i>	7				

<sup>a</sup> The estimated effective rate constant for I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> based on its observed phenomenological loss in laboratory experiments at 350 Torr ( $k' \sim 2000 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), assuming that it reacts with I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> ( $[I_xO_y] \sim 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) according to **Table 2**.

The rate constant used for HOIO<sub>2</sub> + HIO<sub>x</sub> has been calculated with MESMER (**Supplementary Table 4**). The rate constants for water reactions are set at the upper limits determined in this work:  $k(I_2O_4 + H_2O) = 5 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ molecule}^{-1}$ , and  $k(I + H_2O + O_3) = 2.8 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ molecule}^{-1}$ .

<sup>b</sup> Mixing ratios of I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> estimated from atmospheric modelling of iodine chemistry in the polar and coastal MBL<sup>26,27</sup> and the tropical upper troposphere<sup>13</sup>. For the polar MBL and the Upper Troposphere-Lower Stratosphere, two scenarios x(I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>) scenarios are given for fast I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> photolysis (numbers in normal typescript) and no I<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub> photolysis (numbers in italics)<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>c</sup> Reported peak mixing ratios of HOIO<sub>2</sub><sup>3</sup> in Antarctica (normal typescript) and Greenland (italics).

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