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Interactive comment on "Brown carbon absorption linked to organic mass tracers in biomass burning particles" by D. A. Lack et al.

D. A. Lack et al.

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Reply to comment of M. Claeys

Thank you for your comment and valuable information on nitro-aromatic compounds. We will include reference to this, however due to the resolution of the aerosol mass spectrometer we cannot differentiate between nitrated aromatics and inorganic nitrates. 90% of the AMS-measured particle mass was organic matter, while 10% was estimated to be ammonium nitrate (Lack et al., 2012). Quantifying the nitrated aromatics would certainly be a valuable next step in assessing the contribution of specific compounds to brown carbon absorption however we cannot get to that point with the data we have.

Dan Lack



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Lack DA, et al. (2012) Brown carbon and internal mixing in biomass burning particles. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 10.1073/pnas.1206575109.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 12, 29129, 2012.

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