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Interactive comment on "Monitoring volcanic ash cloud top height through simultaneous retrieval of optical data from polar orbiting and geostationary satellites" *by* K. Zakšek et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper deals with a method for the estimation of ash cloud top heights using a combination of geostationary and polar-orbiting satellite data from optical wave lengths.

The technique is based on simple geometry and hence is not novel in itself but the results from combining two different data sources provide an interesting and novel assessment with reasonably accuracy.

There are several limitations to the method and these are described in detail in the paper. There is a range of Earth observing satellites that potentially can be used for ash cloud top height estimation, thus the paper is worth publication.

The paper can be accepted as is.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 12, 25617, 2012.