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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions

Interactive comment on "Carbonaceous aerosols on the south edge of the Tibetan Plateau: concentrations, seasonality and sources" *by* Z. Cong et al.

X. Xu (Editor)

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Dear authors,

While waiting for the comments from Referee #2, I asked another expert (Referee #3) for reviewing your paper. Below are comments from Referee #3. Please also address the issues raised by this referee in your response and revision.

Kind regards,

Xiaobin Xu

Comments from Referee #3:

Regarding the paper, I think that it merits publication. The followings are my major comments:

1. Among the arguments of this investigation is that the air pollutants from the south of Himalayas can be transported over to the north slope. However, this argument was supported only by the common seasonality of air pollution. I think more evidence is needed for such a key finding. I didn't see how the aerosols identified as coming from the south of Himalayas, nor how the air mass moved over the Everest. Could the common seasonal variations in aerosol mass loadings be a result of common seasonality of human activities in that region?

2. Levoglucosan was used as a marker of biomass burning throughout the paper. Thus, Levoglucosan should be included in the data summary table, and the correlation between key components (OC, EC, WSOC...) and Levoglucosan merits presentation as a figure.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 14, 25051, 2014.