Short comment by Dr. M. Long

This is an interesting paper and I look forward to the reviewer comments. My comment is brief: I'm curious, given evidence we found recently showing a diurnal signal in aerosol production (Long et al., 2014 GRL) if the authors would consider looking at these data for a similar signal. It seems that the dataset is sufficiently large for this.

Response

The weekly resolution of gradient samples did not allow consideration of a diurnal signal suggested by Long et al., but our results do not contradict it either. Short mention of the effect is now included in the seasonality chapter.