

## ***Interactive comment on “Noctilucent clouds and the mesospheric water vapour: the past decade” by U. von Zahn et al.***

**F. Lübken**

luebken@iap-kborn.de

Received and published: 29 June 2004

The authors state that an increase of water vapor should lead to an increase of NLC brightness. They claim that the water vapor abundance above ALOMAR has increased in the period 1996 to 2000 (their Figure 2). However, at the same station the RMR lidar has detected a decrease(!) of NLC brightness in the period 1997–2000 (see Fig 6a in Fiedler et al., J. Geophys. Res., Vol 108, No. D8, 2003). As is shown by Fiedler et al., the situation is more complicated if different brightness classes are considered (see their Figure 3b). Obviously, the term "brightness increase" must be defined and classified carefully to allow a comparison of models and observations. The authors (von Zahn et al.) should expand in their manuscript a discussion on this topic. Furthermore, they should include a detailed comparison of the NLC brightness change detected by their own RMR lidar.

Full Screen / Esc

Print Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

---

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 4, 3045, 2004.

**ACPD**

4, S1031–S1032, 2004

---

Interactive  
Comment

Full Screen / Esc

Print Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

S1032

© EGU 2004