

Interactive comment on “Spatial and temporal characterization of SCIAMACHY limb pointing errors during the first three years of the mission” by C. von Savigny et al.

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Mispointing due to the Envisat orbit and attitude control system problems has first been detected by MIPAS and are reported in von Clarmann et al, JGR 108 4736 doi:10.1029/2003JD003602, 2003. To put the SCIAMACHY work into its technical and scientific context, it would be appropriate to refer to this paper and to compare results.

On page 3707, line 22 the authors mention very good agreement with MIPAS pointing results but since a reference is missing, it is not even clear if the ESA near real time data are meant (which does not contain an absolute correction of tangent altitudes)

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or the dedicated pointing analysis by von Clarmann et al., who have detected related problems.

After these attitude bias and pitch jumps had been detected, a correction to the pointing engineering information has been implemented for MIPAS level-1 data in November 2002. Has such a correction also been applied to SCIAMACHY engineering pointing information? If so, this should be discussed in the paper. At least Figs. 1 and 2 suggest a local minimum of TH offset variances about this period, which would be in line with a temporarily more precise engineering pointing information then.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 5, 3701, 2005.

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