

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.

C. von Savigny et al.

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Reply to interactive comment by T. von Clarmann

Yes, the commenter is right, that a reference to the von Clarmann et al. paper should be included in the paper. This has been done. It is also correct that the Clarmann et al. paper is the first peer-reviewed paper that dealt with the Envisat pointing issue. This is now also stated explicitly. If the commenter suggests that Envisat mispointing was first detected by MIPAS and then the SCIA team reacted, we are not convinced this is correct. We started looking into the mispointing issue shortly after launch - however with much simpler tools than the ones used by von Clarmann - since we knew from

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experiences with OSIRIS on Odin, that pointing is a critical point. This was first done with a monochromatic knee-approach until TRUE was implemented. We don't want to argue about this point, we just don't want to include the statement in the manuscript, that the pointing errors were first detected by MIPAS, when are not convinced it is true.

We also clarified the point, what MIPAS pointing measurements we refer to on page 3702. The comparisons are summarized in an ESA tech note by Saavedra et al. [2005], which employed the weekly star measurements and correlated them to the Attitude Orbit Control System data as well as GOMOS and SCIAMACHY pointing retrievals.

In terms of a possible correction to the SCIAMACHY Level 1 pointing information: The only change for far was the December 2003 elimination of the coordinate system inconsistency. Apart from that no other corrections were done.

References:

Saavedra, L., Mantovani, R., and Dehn, A., Envisat restituted pitch assessment, Document-No. ENVI-SPPA-EOPG-TN-05-0011, 2005.

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

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