

## ***Interactive comment on “MIPAS database: Validation of HNO<sub>3</sub> line parameters using MIPAS satellite measurements” by J.-M. Flaud et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #3**

Received and published: 19 June 2006

The paper by J.-M. Flaud et al has two important aspects. The first (sec. 2,3,4) is the in depth critical review of knowledge of line parameters for HNO<sub>3</sub> in the 8.3 and 11.2 micrometers. The second is the demonstration of how measurements of atmospheric spectra can help to select among contradictory data the most reliable set. The only observation I can see is that the VMR adopted for the computation is the same for both the 'old' and 'new' spectroscopic line parameters (pag 4259-12), while the change in line strength is expected to alter the VMR in the retrieval process inversely to the change of line strength (rule of thumb estimate). A quick check on how this influences the fit residuals is probably worthwhile

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 6, 4251, 2006.