

## ***Interactive comment on* “Global contrail radiative forcing and the impact of diurnal variations of air traffic” by N. Stuber and P. Forster**

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We agree, contrails are highly inhomogeneously distributed, both in time and in space. Be that as it may, reams of studies in the established literature have reported results for the annual, global mean climate effect of contrails (see, e.g., Minnis et al., 1999; IPCC, 1999; Marquart et al., 2003; Sausen et al., 2005). Metrics used in climate policies also use global, annual mean values. Addressing and discussing the shortcomings of such a procedure is beyond the scope of our paper.

Our method of translating diurnal variations of air traffic into diurnal variations of contrail cover does the best job to date of taking into account the transient nature of contrails.

We are going to justify the choice of optical thickness (0.1) in the revised version.

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