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7, S2325-S2326, 2007

Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "Oxidative capacity of the Mexico City atmosphere – Part 1: A radical source perspective" by R. Volkamer et al.

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Received and published: 7 June 2007

The reviews from both anonymous referees note that this is an interesting and potentially valuable paper that addresses an important atmospheric chemistry topic. However, both referees also note that the material presented is often hard to follow and that the relatively novel approach taken needs to be more clearly outlined and presented more fully to be effectively communicated. Both referees make useful suggestions for improving the overall presentation well as listing a number of specific topics that need to be more clearly and/or fully addressed.

On the general presentation issue, since this manuscript is designed to be the first of two papers addressing the general topic of atmospheric oxidative capacity in Mexico City, the authors need to carefully distinguish the goals of the two papers and be sure

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that the focus of each manuscript is sufficiently different that information contained in the second manuscript is not required to understand the first manuscript. In addition, a better roadmap outlining the components of the work reported and explaining their logical connections needs to present early in this manuscript and then followed carefully throughout the text.

It appears that a fairly significant rewrite of the manuscript will be required to address the concerns raised by the referees. However, given the importance of the topic and the relative novelty of the approach the value of the improved presentation should be well worth the effort.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 7, 5365, 2007.

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