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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions

Interactive comment on "Spatiotemporal variations of NO_y species in the northern latitudes stratosphere measured with the balloon-borne MIPAS instrument" *by* A. Wiegele et al.

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1) I didn't really understand the argument about varying the azimuth angle to keep the sun-los geometry the same. If you're studying the time evolution of NOx wouldn't it be simpler to keep the same azimuth direction so that you're always looking at the same airmass?

2) I know that the IMK group retrieve all these species, using similar software, from the MIPAS satellite instrument, which was also operating on that day. Why no results from that? It would have given a useful overview of the global distribution as well as cross-validation.

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3) p4697 line 20 refers to "a priori" information, which might give the impression that this is an optimal estimation type of retrieval. Is that the case, or is it a regularised least squares fit? In any case, a sentence describing the type of retrieval that you use would be helpful.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 4693, 2008.