

Interactive comment on “Measurements of Pollution In The Troposphere (MOPITT) validation through 2006” by L. K. Emmons et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The purpose of this manuscript is to present an evaluation of recent MOPITT data with observations from several aircraft campaigns. The authors identify a significant bias associated with a drift of unknown origin. They speculate on potential causes of the drift, but offer no analysis. In general, this manuscript is clear and well written.

I believe that the evaluation of the data by itself is not appropriate for publication in a scientific journal. This evaluation strikes me as a technical document that should be posted on the MOPITT website. In fact, the major conclusions are: a) A bias has been identified; b) The V4 retrievals will likely be better; and c) The MOPITT data should not be used for long-term trend analysis until the source(s) of the bias has been identified and corrected.

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I recommend that the following significant limitations be addressed before acceptance of this manuscript by ACPD should be considered:

- 1) Complete the analysis of the possible sources of the drift. While making this bias known to the community is important, it should be done on the MOPITT website or via an email to end users of the data.
- 2) The manuscript currently presents no new science or technique. I suggest that the authors identify a science topic to address and present an analysis. The evaluation presented in the current manuscript can be included in this new article.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 18091, 2008.

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8, S8448–S8449, 2008

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