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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions

Interactive comment on "Detection of ship tracks in ATSR2 satellite imagery" *by* E. Campmany et al.

E. Campmany et al.

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To illustrate global ship traffic, the authors use a low-res figure (Fig. 6) taken from Eyring et al., 2005. Due to the low resolution, one striking feature of global ship traffic density is lost, i.e. the ship track between India and Indonesia. For better illustration, I recommend to use (alternatively or in addition) Fig. 2 from Endresen et al., Emission from international sea transportation and environmental impact, JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 108, NO. D17, 4560, doi:10.1029/2002JD002898, 2003. This figure has also the advantage that ship counts are shown directly (instead of NOx emissions).

Done.

Since all ships from the Suez channel or the Persian Gulf towards East Asia fol low the same route, emissions are that high for this particular track that they can even be detected in satellite measurements of NO2. It is quite astonishing that the ATSR2-

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algorithm presented in this study did not find a single track for this high-frequented ship track. I think this needs to be mentioned and to some extent discussed (meteorology? aerosol properties?) in this study.

We do not have a scientific explanation for the ship tracks not detected by the algorithm

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 14819, 2008.

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Interactive Comment