

Interactive comment on “The impact of biogenic carbon emissions on aerosol absorption in Mexico City” by N. A. Marley et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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There is growing amount experimental data that biomass burning aerosols have substantial impact on the environment of Mexico city. Analysis of the carbon isotopic ratios is therefore an important element in the understanding of complex carbonaceous particulate material. This manuscript presents results of experimental study applied for evaluation of the particle light absorption properties and their correlation to the modern-to-fossil partitioning of carbonaceous particle content. The obtained results are sound and of significant interest for atmospheric and environmental scientists. The data are of good relevance to climate modeling efforts aiming to understand the link between aerosol composition and particle optical properties. The manuscript is carefully written, adequately illustrated, and contains an appropriate reference list. The manuscript fits the scope of Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics and appropriate for publication with

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only minor revisions.

Here are few minor points that I would like to bring up to the authors:

1. Figs 2, 4-7 are not clearly illustrative for the reader. I recommend use of larger symbols for the all data sets, as well as use of symbols with different shapes (circles vs, squares etc) and strikingly different colors when needed.
2. Fig 3. lower panel. I recommend changing the x-scale to the range of 55-90 DOY to allow better visual comparison between different sets of the data presented in Fig. 1-4 and 6.
3. Figure captions of Figs. 4, 6, 7. year 2001; is erroneously mislabeled, the referenced year should be 2006

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 18499, 2008.

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