

Interactive comment on “Validation of meteorological analyses and trajectories in the Antarctic lower stratosphere using Concordiasi superpressure balloon observations” by Lars Hoffmann et al.

A. Stohl (Referee)

ast@nilu.no

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This comment is to support the suggestion of reviewer #3 that the manuscript needs to be rejected, unfortunately.

I already wrote in my original review: "Please confirm explicitly (both in your response and in the paper) that the Concordiasi balloon data was not assimilated in any of the data sets that you are using. I assume this is the case but if the data were assimilated, of course your study would not be very meaningful as the data could not be considered independent."

C1

As reviewer #3 reports in his review, Concordiasi data were in fact assimilated by the ECMWF data assimilation system. Thus, unless the authors can prove the opposite, I think there is no other choice than to reject the paper. It is of course a pity as the study is otherwise well designed, but the authors should have checked this very critical point more carefully.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., doi:10.5194/acp-2017-71, 2017.