Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 2, C1222-C1223, 2010

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2, C1222–C1223, 2010

Interactive Comment

# Interactive comment on "A liquid nitrogen-free preconcentration unit for measurements of ambient N<sub>2</sub>O isotopomers by QCLAS" by J. Mohn et al.

# Anonymous Referee #3

Received and published: 5 February 2010

# General

This paper reports a sophisticated N2O preconcentration device which is applicable to laser spectroscopy and other concentration/isotope analytical system for trace gases. Although it is developed using not brand-new techniques, it would be useful for many scientists and therefore worth publishing. I hope the authors also present supplemental information such as software codes together this paper or elsewhere, if they can.

# Detail

P3105: How did the authors remove less volatile components which could be trapped



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together with N2O? I think they could be retained on the adsorbent at -50C and interfere with quantitative trapping of N2O or QCLAS analysis of later runs.

P3106 L25-26: What kind of correction was applied?

P3114 L3-5 and Fig. 5: Are "preconcentrated ambient air" and "gas matrix after preconcentration" the same? If N2O in ambient air is concentrated by the preconcentration device, it should of course contain N2O. I am confused whether the black curve in Fig. 5a shows perfect recovery of N2O (thus no N2O in the residual matrix) or amount of N2O in the ambient air is very small even if it is concentrated by the device.

P3122 Fig. 1: What is the function of "nafion 2"? Is it necessary?

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 2, 3099, 2009.

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