

***Interactive comment on “Absolute accuracy and sensitivity analysis of OP-FTIR retrievals of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and CO over concentrations representative of clean air and polluted plumes” by T. E. L. Smith et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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The topic that this paper deals with is very interesting. The manuscript prepared by the authors is very well prepared in terms of structure, coherency, content and language use. The length of the manuscript is perhaps a bit long, but on the other hand, this was a very comprehensive study that was conducted. Authors in their methodology section could have included some more information on their rationale for selecting to perform a local sensitivity analysis (SA) and not one that is global/variance in their study. Similarly, in the discussion section, authors could have included some reference

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to the interpretation of their results addressing the limitations of the SA method they chose in their study in comparison to the case a variance-based method had such a method been selected to perform their SA study.

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