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Comment

Interactive comment on “A novel method for on-line analysis of gas and particle composition: description and evaluation of a Filter Inlet for Gases and AEROsols (FIGAERO)” by F. D. Lopez-Hilfiker et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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This paper by Lopez-Hilfiker et al. describes the FIGAERO system which is a automated filter inlet that allows for the online analysis of particles and gases, together with the possibility to record thermograms of the particulate substances that were deposited on the filter. Coupling of this inlet system to a high resolution ToF chemical ionization MS, as presented by the authors, is a very versatile tool for atmospheric measurements.

The paper is very well written and both the instrument and the results are presented

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clearly. I would almost have recommended the paper to be "published as is", but some minor comments that are mainly of technical nature are listed below, and the authors may want to consider them.

Minor/technical comments:

page 9356: Although SI units have to be used, please mention also the imperial units:
25 mm OD tube = 1" tube; 19 mm OD tube = 3/4" tube

page 9358: What exactly is the effect of heating the IMR?

page 9363: Is there a reference for the acetate Q-CIMS?

Figures:

Figure 6b is not mentioned in the text. But the figure caption is rather long, and some of the information would better be placed in the text in section 3.3.

Figure 7: Why are thermograms now plotted vs time and not vs temperature?

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 6, 9347, 2013.

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