

Interactive comment on “Suitability of high-volume aerosol samplers for ultra-trace aerosol iron measurements in pristine air masses: blanks, recoveries and bugs” by Holly Winton et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper shows that "always open" hivol aerosol samplers will pick up contamination from the ambient suspended material (dust, grass, leaves, insects, insect parts, etc.), especially under windy conditions. This contamination may be great enough to contaminate real aerosol samples when the deployment conditions are not appropriate. This paper shows very detailed evaluation of the blanks associated with aerosol trace element sampling, however because no actual sample data are shown, it is not possible from this paper to judge how significant the contamination might be. I recommend adding some real data to Table 2 and 3 and 4 so put these blank values into perspective. Additional comments are inserted into the manuscript (attached file).

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Please also note the supplement to this comment:
<http://www.atmos-meas-tech-discuss.net/amt-2016-12/amt-2016-12-RC1-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., doi:10.5194/amt-2016-12, 2016.

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