

Interactive comment on “The Moon as a photometric calibration standard for microwave sounders” by Martin Burgdorf et al.

Martin Burgdorf et al.

martin.joerg.burgdorf@uni-hamburg.de

Received and published: 26 April 2016

This is the author's reply on the comments by referee #2.

The comment on the value of the manuscript is greatly appreciated.

Concerning the first specific comment, I agree with the referee that there is a large error to the Moon's absolute brightness temperature in the microwave range. We know, however, that its emissivity does not change with time. Therefore it is not well suited as absolute flux standard and should rather be used to check the stability of the flux calibration or to perform inter-calibration. This cannot be done with the Cosmic Microwave Background alone. I realise that this point has to be made clearer in the manuscript and the discussion of the accuracy that can be achieved will be expanded. The suggestion by the referee to include more examples of the Moon in the DSV is very helpful

C1

in this respect and will be followed.

All other comments are gratefully noted and will be reflected in the next version of the manuscript.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., doi:10.5194/amt-2016-32, 2016.