

***Interactive comment on “The SPARC water vapour assessment II: Comparison of annual, semi-annual and quasi-biennial variations in stratospheric and lower mesospheric water vapour observed from satellites” by Stefan Lossow et al.***

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WAVAS II is an updated evaluation of the quality of available water vapor data sets for the middle atmosphere. I contributed the historic Nimbus 7 LIMS Version 5 data set to the first SPARC WAVAS report of 2000. After that time, a LIMS Version 6 data set was created and evaluated and made available for use by the research community, and this newer version has some subtle, but important improvements for the overall distributions of its stratospheric water vapor. Those improvements are reported in Remsberg et al. (2009), in addition to the initial findings from LIMS version 5 that you cite (Remsberg

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et al., 1984). Although you do not consider the LIMS data set for your current WAVAS II assessment, I respectfully request that you include the citation to Remsberg et al. (2009) on page 3, line 26 of your WAVAS II manuscript in place of Remsberg et al. (1984).

Remsberg, E. E., M. Natarajan, G. S. Lingenfelser, R. E. Thompson, B. T. Marshall, and L. L. Gordley, On the quality of the Nimbus 7 LIMS version 6 water vapor profiles and distributions, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 9, 9155-9167, doi:10.5194/acp-9-9155-2009, 2009.

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