

Interactive comment on “Soluble trace metals in aerosols over the tropical south east Pacific offshore of Peru” by A. R. Baker et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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Overall, this is a very nice paper, which should be published with only minor revisions.

The region sampled here is VERY poorly sampled, and yet is very important because of the smelters. We have long suspected higher values of these metals in this area, and yet didn't have good measurements. Thus this is an important study, and perhaps the authors could emphasize this a bit more (I'm not sure I have ever said that in a review previously!).

There was one section I didn't quite understand: “This shows that NO concentrations were approximately 2-fold higher in the on-shore samples (TM02, TM04 and TM06) north of 13° S than in the offshore samples at those latitudes or in any of the samples south of 13° S.” Do you mean samples with onshore back trajectories, versus offshore back trajectories? I didn't find this easy to understand, so maybe rewrite.

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