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Interactive comment on “Point observations of liquid water content in natural snow – investigating methodical, spatial and temporal aspects” by F. Techel and C. Pielmeier

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Received and published: 22 December 2010

We have not investigated the effect impurities, such as soot or dust, have on the measurement of the liquid water content. We are aware, however, that such impurities exist.

As our observations were conducted away from industrial areas we can only suspect that these effects will be relatively small. In the Swiss Alps, visual contamination of the snowpack is most frequently observed following strong southerly airstreams, when dust particles originating from the Sahara desert may color the snow surface reddish, or when snow algae is present.

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However, during the measurement campaign we could neither observe snow algae nor dust layers in the snowpack.

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 4, 1967, 2010.

TCD

4, C1391–C1392, 2010

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