Interactive comment on “Factor analytical modeling of C$_2$–C$_7$ hydrocarbon sources at an urban background site in Zurich (Switzerland): changes between 1993–1994 and 2005–2006” by V. A. Lanz et al.

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Received and published: 7 February 2008

Your paper is very interesting. I greatly appreciated the discussion concerning your methodological choices. You wrote in section 3.2 that the model results can explain on average more than 97% of the VOC concentrations. Regarding this excellent result, I wonder if you applied the method described by Hopke (2000) which consists in regressing the measured total mass concentration of VOC against the source contribution factors from PMF in order to determine scaling factors. In this case, don’t you think that the method redistributes the unexplained part of the model and artificially
improves the result? Best regards

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 907, 2008.