amt-2017-194 1 2 The CHRONOS mission: Capability for sub-hourly synoptic observations of carbon monoxide 3 and methane to quantify emissions and transport of air pollution 4 5 David P. Edwards, Helen M. Worden, Doreen Neil, Gene Francis, Tim Valle, and Avelino F. 6 Arellano Jr. 7 We thank the Editor for his comments, which have been addressed. Please see comments 8 embedded below. 9 10 Associate Editor Decision: Publish subject to technical corrections (03 Jan 2018) by Andre Butz Comments to the Author: 11 12 Dear Dr. Edwards, 13 14 thank you for carefully considering the reviewer comments and for revising the manuscript. 15 16 I accept the paper for publication in AMT but the figures require some technical corrections: 17 18 - Fig.1: Avoid PowerPoint-like style, ie. label panels a),b),c),... and explain in caption instead of 19 using arrows and in-figure text, avoid black background. 20 The Figure has been updated as suggested. 21 - Figs 2,3,4: Please enhance figure resolution. 22 23 Figures changed as requested. 24 25 - Fig. 12: Avoid PowerPoint-like style, use legends and panel explanations instead of in-figure 26 text, avoid black background. 27 The Figure has been updated as suggested. 28 29 For completeness, I would like to further comment on the aerosol and cloud contamination 30 issue. Scattering and absorption radiative transfer only decouple for absorption optical 31 thickness of less than ~0.01, i.e. your soundings are not in the regime where a simple 32 differential approach holds in general. However, your revision makes clear that soundings with 33 aerosol/cloud optical thickness greater than 0.2 will be screened. So, I would agree that the 34 wording in the manuscript with respect to aerosol and cloud contamination is acceptable. 35 Best regards, 36 André Butz. 37 38

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