

Interactive comment on “Validation of a modified AVHRR aerosol optical depth retrieval algorithm over Central Europe” by M. Riffler et al.

M. Riffler

riffler@giub.unibe.ch

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Anonymous Referee #1 is right by stating that the algorithm is not totally independent from AERONET, since we derive the aerosol properties from AERONET inversion products. The expression “independent from AERONET” in the paper is meant to express the difference between the original (Hauser et al. 2005a) and the proposed method. In the former approach, they established a relationship between AOD from AVHRR and AERONET to post-process the AVHRR AOD data, which resulted in an enhanced quality of the aerosol product. For various reasons (explained in the paper) we do not use such a procedure herein. We should probably state that more clearly.

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