

## ***Interactive comment on “Validating MODIS Above-cloud Aerosol Optical Depth Retrieved from “Color Ratio” Algorithm using Direct Measurements made by NASA’s Airborne AATS and 4STAR Sensors” by Hiren Jethva et al.***

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AR: Author’s response

AR: We concur with the comments made by Dr. Duli Chand. The validation of the above-cloud AOD is an essential step for understanding the strength and weakness of each independent method developed by different groups, i.e., Chand et al. [2008], Waquet et al. [2008,2013], Torres et al. [2012], Jethva et al. [2013], Meyer et al. [2015], and Sayer et al. [2016]. The validation study, such as presented in our paper, and the ones planned using ORACLES and CLARIFY-2016 field measurements, will provide

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much needed confidence and thus credibility for dissemination of such products to broader atmospheric science and climate modeling communities.

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