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Interactive comment on "Discriminating Between Clouds and Aerosols in the CALIOP Version 4.1 Data Products" *by* Zhaoyan Liu et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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The manuscript "Discriminating Between Clouds and Aerosols in the CALIOP Version 4.1 Data Products" by Zhaoyan Liu et al. provides a detailed overview of how the new CALIPSO data product release separates clouds and aerosols. The extensive update to the development of the PDF for separating features based on the specified parameters were motivated well with previous version problems and overall improved science understanding since the previous data product release. The changes to both upstream development (e.g., calibration changes from V3 to V4) and potential downstream science (e.g., impact to science-related analysis) were also presented in the context of the improved data product for determining and interpreting CAD scores. Overall, the scientific significance/quality seemed in good shape. However, precision of the language could use some work to improve clarity, in particular for figure caption.

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The attached PDF includes some technical comments.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:
https://www.atmos-meas-tech-discuss.net/amt-2018-190/amt-2018-190-RC1-supplement.pdf

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., doi:10.5194/amt-2018-190, 2018.