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Interactive comment on "Advancements in the Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET) Version 3 Database – Automated Near Real-Time Quality Control Algorithm with Improved Cloud Screening for Sun Photometer Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) Measurements" by David M. Giles et al.

E. Cuevas

ecuevasa@aemet.es

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Thank you for publishing this interesting paper on AERONET Version 3 database.

In page 4 lines 83-85 I miss the important following reference that is the first paper on the new AERONET standard Cimel photometer:

Barreto, Á., Cuevas, E., Granados-Muñoz, M.-J., Alados-Arboledas, L., Romero, P.

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M., Gröbner, J., Kouremeti, N., Almansa, A. F., Stone, T., Toledano, C., Román, R., Sorokin, M., Holben, B., Canini, M., and Yela, M.: The new sun-sky-lunar Cimel CE318-T multiband photometer – a comprehensive performance evaluation, Atmos. Meas. Tech., 9, 631-654, https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-9-631-2016, 2016.

In addition, this paper was co-authored by two members of the AERONET team (Brent and Mikhail)

As for antecedents on lunar AOD, I highlight the omission of the papers by Barreto et al.: the previous one, in which an extensive characterization of lunar AOD is performed with the new CE318-T, and the following, using the classical CE318 with some modifications to track the moon.

Barreto, A., Cuevas, E., Damiri, B., Guirado, C., Berkoff, T., Berjón, A. J., Hernández, Y., Almansa, F., and Gil, M.: A new method for nocturnal aerosol measurements with a lunar photometer prototype, Atmos. Meas. Tech., 6, 585–598, doi:10.5194/amt-6-585-2013, 2013.

At least one of them should be referenced.

Thank you in advance for considering these suggestions, Emilio Cuevas (ecuevasa@aemet.es)

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