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Interactive comment on "Aerosols optical and physical characteristics and direct radiative forcing during a "Shamal" dust storm, a case study" by T. M. Saeed et al.

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The reviewer's comments suggest the additional consideration of MISR data as a source of AOD/Angstrom exponent information. I would agree in suggesting that they look into this. MISR is quite a powerful tool for this purpose although compared to some other sensors, has the disadvantage of a narrower swath width, limiting the spatial completeness of sampling. However, happily, I believe MISR does provide some coverage over the authors' region of interest during this period.

The reviewer also refers to Ashpole and Washington and Ginoux et al, and several

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other papers later, for dust source maps. I concur that these are valuable studies, and also wish to thank the reviewer on a personal note, as I had been unaware of one or two which were mentioned.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 13, 23895, 2013.