

Interactive comment on “The effects of aerosols on precipitation and dimensions of subtropical clouds; a sensitivity study using a numerical cloud model” by A. Teller and Z. Levin

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In lines 22-24 the authors write: "A recent publication by Ayers (2005) disputed the conclusions of Rosenfeld (2000) and showed that on the day analyzed by the latter, air pollution could not have affected the rainfall."

However, a close comparison of Ayers' simulations of CN distribution at the time of the TRMM overpass, shown in his Fig. 7 of Ayers (2005), shows a remarkable agreement with the areas of reduced cloud top particle effective radius as shown in Fig. 2 of Rosenfeld (2000). Therefore, in fact, the simulations of Ayers (2005) support instead

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of disputing the conclusions of Rosenfeld (2000). This needs to be corrected in this otherwise excellent paper.

It should be noted that Ayers himself did not realize how closely his simulated fields resemble the observed ones, and came to the wrong conclusion, which is now cited by Teller and Levin. Ayers' paper is not a reviewed one, and this makes it easier to not accepting his own interpretation.

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