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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions



# *Interactive comment on* "Measurements of UV Aerosol Optical Depth in the French Southern Alps" *by* J. Lenoble et al.

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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The paper discuss measurements of UV aerosol optical depth in the French Southern Alps. The paper is well written, describe the method for retrival of AOD from the combination of global and diffuse spectral measurements. Uncertainties related to this method is also discussed. The annual variation of AOD for the location Briancon is well described. The "summer" conditions in 2003 seems to be different from the other years. It would have been interesting to have additional information if there where climatological reasons for this deviation, more than only a warm summer. Toms AEI (fig. 6) does not show the same. This could be commented, although it is claimed that a discussion would be risky.

Fig.7 shows the angstrom parameter for all data, also for low AOD. The average value for small AODs is 1.7 as stated, but a comment on the reason for the large variability

would be OK. One point is the large uncertainties for low AOD, but could there also be other reasons for the high and low values. Are there anything in the dataset which can give some explanation, except uncertainties. The wavelength range used to calculate alfpha should be stated.

I find the paper worth publishing, including the comments given the above.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 8, 161, 2008.



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Interactive Comment