

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “Comparison of aerosol optical depths from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) on Aura with results from airborne sunphotometry, other space and ground measurements during MILAGRO/INTEX-B” by J. M. Livingston et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper presents aircraft measurements which are used to validate aerosol retrievals from the OMI satellite. They mainly use the AATS which is known to provide good measurements. The paper is useful but not that scientifically important. Ground based measurements can serve the same purpose. In any case the paper should be published but after significant revisions.

My main problem with the paper is that the discussion on the aircraft measurements is

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way too long. The reader does not need the detail of each flight. Perhaps details on one example flight but not all of them. I felt like I was reading their flight notes. For a case like this one, where no new major science is occurring, they should condense the text and present the key findings such as they did for the SSFR instrument.

I was also very concerned that over land the plane flew 400-500 m above the ground and they claim there was no way to estimate the aerosol loading below the plane. Not very useful for satellite validation.

On all other areas I have no problem.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 9, 9961, 2009.

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