

## ***Interactive comment on “Aerosol optical, microphysical and radiative properties at three regional background insular sites in the western Mediterranean Basin” by M. Sicard et al.***

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After reading the comments of both referees, and also after stepping back during a few months, we, the authors, do recognize and admit, that the paper needs improvement in the quality of its presentation to better appreciate its content, but also in the way the results are put forward.

Our plans are to send a revised version of the paper and we have already started the revision of the manuscript. The paper structure will be quite different from the ACPD paper with a first section on the variability only in Ersa and Palma and a second on the possible south-north gradients in summer between Ersa-Palma-Alboran. We will improve the statistics at Ersa and Palma stations by including another year (2015). The

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representativity of the AERONET data will be checked against time series of satellite products. Finally, because of the poor representativity of the Alboran data due to the short period of data available (6 months, we agree on that point), Alboran will be used only in the second section to investigate the possible south-north gradients in summer.

We are working on the paper revision and hope we will be able to send a revised manuscript before the deadline of the author's final response.

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