

Interactive comment on “The impact of Pacific Decadal Oscillation on springtime dust activity in Syria” by Bing Pu and Paul Ginoux

Anonymous Referee #2

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This study examined the influences of the Pacific decadal oscillation (PDO) on dust activities in Syria using an innovative dust optical depth (DOD) dataset derived from Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Deep Blue aerosol products. In this paper the authors used both model and observations and it will be good if they can talk to how they both complement each other. what are the reasons for the discrepancies? are there any sensitivity tests?

Since the authors are attempting to study the impact of PDO on dust activities using mainly satellite data and PDO is tied to ENSO as mentioned by the authors, wont you think you have selected a quite short time period that is not good enough to establish the link raised by the authors? Why dust models are not used in this analysis to cover much longer time periods? Ex (Skiron, Dream and others?)

C1

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C2