

Response to Reviewers, Round 2
Investigating the Impact of Saharan Dust Aerosols on Analyses and Forecasts of African Easterly Waves by Constraining Aerosol Effects in Radiance Data Assimilation
by D. Grogan, C.-H. Lu, S.-W. Wei, and S.-P. Chen

Reviewer 1: We appreciate the Reviewer's careful reading of the manuscript.

Rev. 1 Summary: *The revisions have improved the manuscript considerably. I'm happy for the paper to be published after the following very minor comments have been addressed.*

Rev. 1 Grammar Comments: All minor comments pertaining to grammar/language have been fixed in the revision.

Rev. 1. Comment 1: *Dates: I would avoid using country specific date formats and use, for example, 1-28 August 2017 instead.* **Response:** We have changed the country specific date formats throughout the revised document.

Rev. 1 Comment 2: *Fig. 3: It is slightly confusing that the zero lines are slightly offset. Are the tick marks of set as well? The last sentence in the captions says: "mean statistics". This is a bite vague. Could you be more precise?* **Response:** In the revised figure, we have added separation between the plots to better distinguish them from each other. We also now mention in the figure caption, "The numbers in the legend are the mean values for the (top) RMS and (bottom) bias for each experiment."

Reviewer 2: We appreciate the Reviewer's careful reading of the manuscript.

Rev. 2 Summary: *The authors did a good job in revising the paper and all important points are now addressed. However, there are still a few technical corrections needed before this paper can be published in ACP. Details are given below.*

Rev. 2 Grammar Comments: All minor comments pertaining to grammar/language have been fixed in the revision.

Rev. 2 Comment 1: *L48: why not give the exact dates here?* **Response:** We included the year of the storm to distinguish the hurricanes from other named storms. But because the time period is mentioned above, we have removed the year declarations (i.e., "Harvey (2017)" now simply reads "Harvey"). The exact dates of the storms are excluded from the abstract because it is not critical information. They are, however, included within the body of the manuscript.