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Wednesday, October 10 Poster Session 3 16:00–18:00

Poster 222 MARITIME AEROSOL NETWORK AS A COMPONENT OF AERONET –CURRENT STATUS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

Maritime Aerosol Network (MAN) as a component of Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET) started collecting data on aerosol optical properties over World Ocean in October of 2006. Over the years more than 500 cruises were completed and data archive consists of over 6000 days of measurements. MAN deploys handheld sunphotometers and utilizes the calibration procedure and data processing traceable to AERONET. A public domain web-based data archive dedicated to MAN activity can be found at https://aeronet.gsfc.nasa. gov/new_web/maritime_aerosol_network.html. Within MAN framework data acquisition was extended to the areas that previously had very little or no coverage at all and thus provided an important reference point in aerosol optical studies. MAN represents an important strategic sampling initiative and data acquisition from ships of opportunity complements island-based AERONET measurements. The ship-borne aerosol optical depth (AOD) data offer an excellent opportunity for comparison with global aerosol transport models, satellite retrievals and provide useful information on aerosol distribution over the oceans. Data archive can help understanding discrepancies between measurements and/or simulations for particular areas of the World Ocean. The program exemplifies mutually beneficial international, multi-agency effort in atmospheric aerosol optical studies.

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