

Introductory Exercise for AERONET

Go to <http://aeronet.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Select “Data Display” under Aerosol Optical Depth in the left panel or click on the map in the center of the page.

Click on your year of interest.

Click on the map to zoom in on your area of interest.

If sites are missing from your area of interest select “Level 1.5” next to the AOD Level box above the map.

From the remaining sites in the table below the map click on your site of interest.

Use the yearly map graph on the left to find a month with some days of high AOD or look at your known month of interest.

Site name:

Month:

Find one day with very high AOD for your chosen site in this month then click on the date above the monthly graph to bring up a graph for that day. When possible select AOD level 2 data. If no data appears select level 1.5 data. To answer the following you will need to select different parameters from the AERONET data type box.

Record the following:

Date:

Total AOD at 500:

Fine AOD:

Coarse AOD:

Fine Mode Fraction:

Angstrom Exponent:

Use the “data display controls” to look at some of the additional information available for one of your sites for your chosen day

Is the AOD for this month mostly large particles (likely dust), mostly small particles (likely smoke) or a combination?

What parameter(s) did you use to make this determination?

Download the AOD data for this site.