

The Old Guard Rises Again—The AERONET Cassoulet is reviewed

Brent Holben

NASA GSFC, USA

*Corresponding author e-mail: brent.n.holben@nasa.gov

AERONET has provided relevant ground-based aerosol measurements for validation and research for over thirty years of observations. Emphasizing international collaboration owing to community necessity, a bit of luck and the right mix of what is now the old guard (many of whom are attending this meeting) we rose to the occasion. It will be my pleasure to discuss some of the early events and weave in the people critical to the development and growth of the AERONET program. The aerosol kettle of Saharan dust, climate change, Amazonian fires and AM-1 was stirred by Hansen, King, Tanre, Nakajima, Kaufman, Buis and boiled by NASA, CNRS, CNES and Univ of Lille into an AERONET cassoulet. As the chief chef, I acknowledge the ingredients cannot be fully revealed in this abbreviated recipe, but I'll give a shout out to a few of our many contributors who, over the years, made this five-star offering to the remote sensing community. We revel in the expectation that refined tastes will improve the cassoulet.