





# Intercomparison of absorption photometer Project No.: AP-2018-3-4

Basic informations:

Location of the quality assurance: TROPOS, Lab 121

Date: 22 October - 26 October 2018

Principal Investi-	Home Institution	Participant	Instrument
gator			
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	orological Science		

## 1 Intercomparison summary

#### Status on arrival

No issues due to transportation or other damages.

## Flow calibration

The flow meter of the instrument is set to report flow for conditions of  $20\,^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $1013.25\,\text{hPa}$ . The flow was  $1.3\,\%$  too high compared to reference flow meter (TSI 4100). Corrections for the flow deviation and the temperature and pressure (STP correction) were considered in the data evaluation.

#### **Noise**

The noise level of the instrument is out of the normal range. The average noise  $(1\sigma)$  for the all wavelengths was less equal  $67 \,\mathrm{ng}\,\mathrm{m}^{-3}$  for two minute averaging time. The background level was acceptable with deviations of less equal  $15 \,\mathrm{ng}\,\mathrm{m}^{-3}$  for all wavelengths.

#### Inspection

The measuring cell was slightly contaminated with dust and was cleaned.

## Comparison to reference MAAP

BC concentrations at 880 nm (BC6) of AE31 are  $14.8\,\%$  lower than BC concentrations from a reference MAAP.

## Comparison to reference AE33

The deviations of BC concentrations relative to the reference AE33 are in the range of -21.0 to -14.6 %.

## Comparison to reference absorption

The deviations of the absorption coefficients derived from AE31 relative to the absorption coefficients from the multi-wavelength absorption reference setup are in the range of -35.8 to -15.5%.

#### Recommendations

No recommendations.

#### Overall assessment

The instrument meets the requirements.

## 2 Details

## **Configuration parameters**

## Flow check

Table 1: Correction factors  $F_{flow}$  and  $F_{STP}$  for correcting eBC concentrations.  $F_{flow}$  corrects for inlet flow errors considering leakage.  $F_{STP}$  is used to adjust concentrations to STP conditions (0 °C, 1013.25 hPa).

System	flow and	reference	Measured	$F_{flow}$	$F_{STP}$
$Q_{AE42}$	$T_{0,AE42}$	$p_{0,AE42}$	flow $Q$		
[slpm]	$[^{\circ}C]$	[hPa]	[slpm]		
3	20	1013.25	3.05	0.987	1.073

## Spot size check

Table 2: Correction factor for spot sizes  $F_{spot}$ .

Nominal spot size [cm <sup>2</sup> ]	Measured spot size $[cm^2]$	$F_{spot}$
-	Well defined spot, spot size not measured	1.0

## **Instrumental Noise**

Table 3: Noise parameters of AE33 (1007:1004) measured with filtered air.

Wavelength [nm]	Number of data points	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Median} \\ {\rm [ngm^{-3}]} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 10 th \\ percentile \\ [ng m^{-3}] \end{array}$	90th percentile $[\text{ng m}^{-3}]$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Mean} \\ [\text{ng m}^{-3}] \end{array}$	Std. dev. $[ng m^{-3}]$	Error of mean $[ng m^{-3}]$
370	238	2	-36	33	0	27	2
470	238	-5	-50	48	-2	36	2
520	238	0	-70	57	-3	51	3
590	238	-1	-65	56	-4	49	3
660	238	-15	-79	67	-11	58	4
880	238	-10	-85	77	-7	65	4
950	238	-9	-100	75	-12	67	4

## Comparison to reference MAAP

Table 4: Correlation parameter of eBC coefficient (BC6) from AE33 (1007:1004) and reference MAAP.

Wavelength [nm]	Slope	Error	$R^2$
880	0.852	0.009	0.942

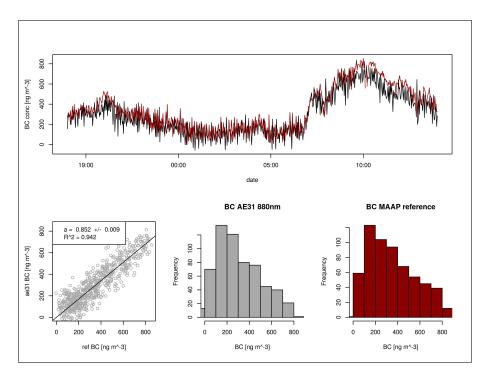


Figure 1: Correlation of eBC coefficient (BC6) from AE33 (1007:1004) and reference MAAP.

## Comparison to reference AE33

Table 5: Correlation parameter of eBC coefficients from AE33 (1007:1004) and reference AE33.

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Wavelength	Slope	Error	$R^2$
[nm]			
370	0.79	0.003	0.989
470	0.79	0.004	0.987
520	0.801	0.006	0.972
590	0.844	0.005	0.983
660	0.835	0.006	0.968
880	0.854	0.007	0.959
950	0.8	0.006	0.963

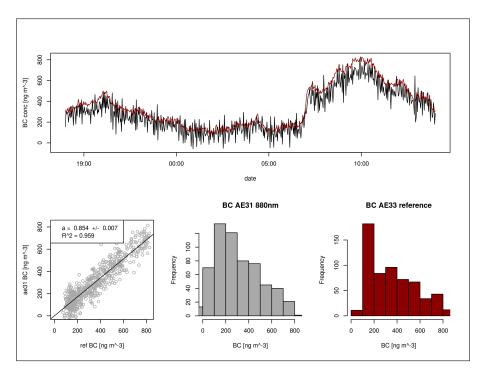


Figure 2: Correlation of eBC coefficient (BC6) from AE33 (1007:1004) and reference AE33.

## Comparison to multi-wavelength absorption

Table 6: Correlation parameter of absorption from AE33 (1007:1004) and the multi-wavelength absorption reference.

Wavelength [nm]	Slope	Error	$R^2$
470	0.642	0.006	0.944
520	0.757	0.011	0.893
660	0.845	0.027	0.628

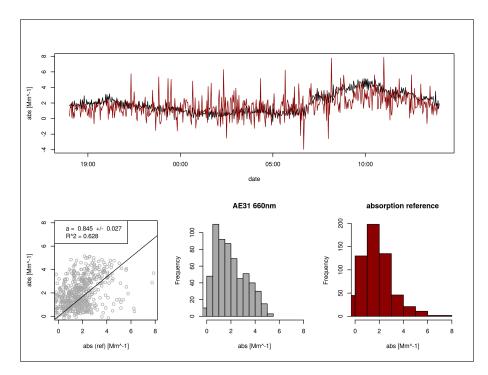


Figure 3: Correlation of absorption from AE33 (1007:1004) and the multi-wavelength absorption reference at  $660\,\mathrm{nm}$ .