
Recommendation: Acceptable after minor revisions

This paper describes the nature of the overall 2012 southwest monsoon biomass burning season, the findings of the research cruise and the aerosol meteorology of the convectively active region for the 2012 7SEAS southwest monsoon intensive study. The results presented are useful to the community and should be published. However, this paper is too long and kind of hard for me to finish reading it. For the sake of readability, the authors should consider to reduce the paper length dramatically. The following are some additional minor comments for the authors to consider.

(1) Line 417: Something is missing before ‘(2003)?
(2) Line 423: I would suggest to call it as ‘the real-time multivariate MJO (RMM) index. Also change ‘Henderson’ to ‘Hendon’.
(3) Line 457: I do not think it means below the significance level when RMM index magnitude is below 1, it may just mean the MJO is weak.
(4) Line 1183: change ‘6.0’ to ‘7.0’ and accordingly for section numbers on page 41.
(5) Figure 2: It is better to have lon and lat labels.
(6) Figure 3: See comments 2 and 3 above. Also please explain TS, C4, C1, etc.
(7) Figure 5: Why call 02:32 UTC as ‘nominal noon local time’? Should it be called morning according to the number (~9:32-10:32 LST) in the text?