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First look at NASA's 'Deep Blue' aerosol products from the NPP-VIIRS sensor

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The Deep Blue algorithm family has been used to determine spectral aerosol optical depth (AOD) from measurements made by the spaceborne Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS) and two Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometers (MODIS), providing a record from 1997 to the present. However, these sensors are now either ageing or no longer functional. The Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS), the first of which was launched on the Suomi-NPP satellite in late 2011, has similar capabilities to MODIS, and is expected to be able to continue the Deep Blue record. We present first results from the NASA VIIRS Deep Blue land aerosol data set, complemented by an over-ocean data set based on a different algorithm, and anticipate that a beta release of this data set should be available in the near future.