

# MODIS/AIRS Workshop

## MODIS Level 2 Aerosol Product



6 April 2006

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Cooperative Institute for Meteorological  
Satellite Studies

University of Wisconsin-Madison USA

# MODIS Standard Products

## Atmosphere

- *MOD 04 - Aerosol Product*
- *MOD 05 - Total Precipitable Water (Water Vapor)*
- *MOD 06 - Cloud Product \* (CTP & IRPHASE only)*
- *MOD 07 - Atmospheric Profiles*
- *MOD 08 - Gridded Atmospheric Product*
- *MOD 35 - Cloud Mask*

# Viewing Atmospheric Aerosols From the MODIS Satellite Sensor

Lorraine A. Remer

NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center

And the MODIS aerosol team: Y.J. Kaufman, D. Tanré  
D.A. Chu, C. Ichoku, R. Kleidman, I. Koren, R. Levy,  
R-R. Li, J.V. Martins, S. Mattoo

Definition: Aerosols are suspended droplets or particles that can scatter or absorb incoming sunlight

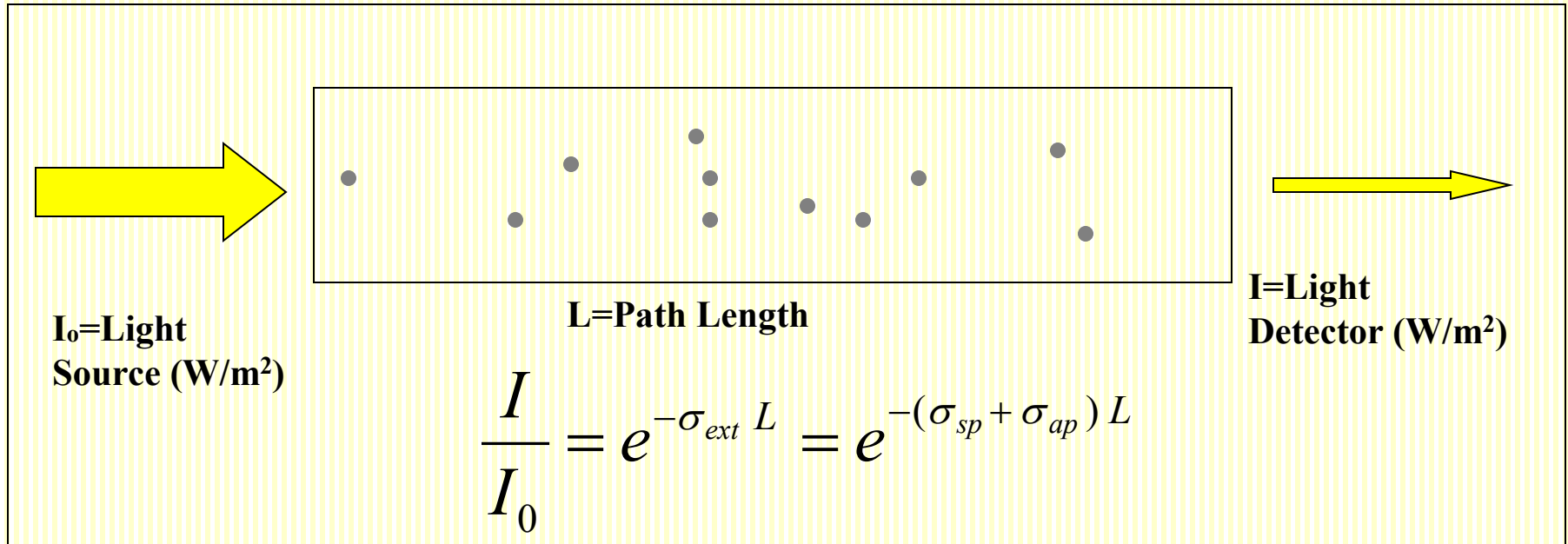
Theory

Deriving aerosol over land.

Problem: Land surface variability.

At the satellite, how do we separate signal originating from the atmosphere containing information about the aerosol from signal originating from the land surface?

# Scattering and Absorption of Light by Aerosols

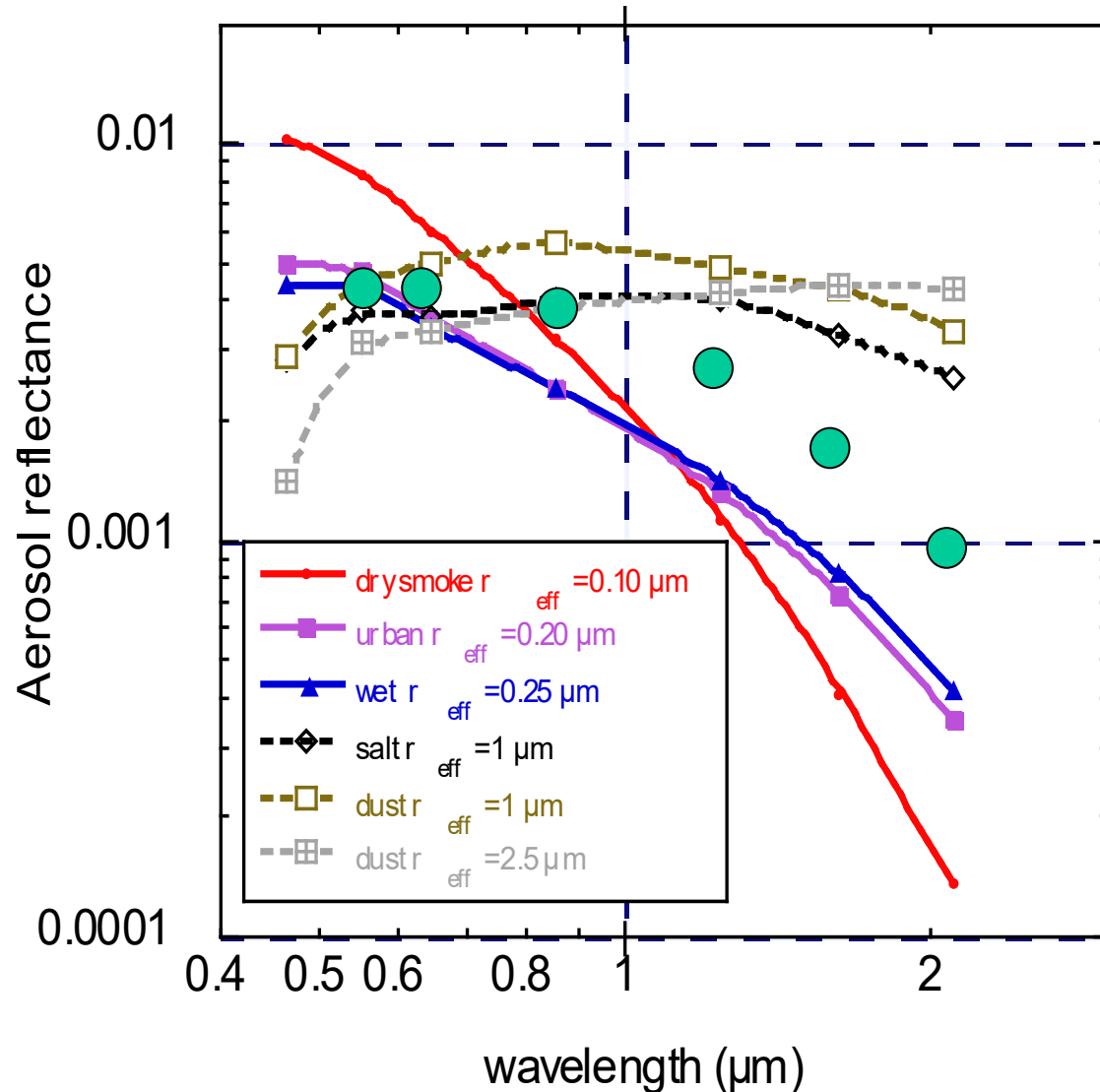


$$\tau = (\sigma_{sp} + \sigma_{ap}) * L \quad \omega = \sigma_{sp} / (\sigma_{sp} + \sigma_{ap})$$

The quantity  $L$  is called the density weighted path length.  $\sigma_{ext(\lambda)} L$  is a measure of the cumulative depletion that the beam of radiation has experienced as a result of its passage through the layer and is often called the optical depth  $\tau_\lambda$ .

# Getting A Best Fit for the Observations

## Match Theory and Observations



# Wide Spectral Range makes land retrieval possible

- Mid-IR is used to observe the surface brightness

- Then aerosol is derived from estimated surface reflectance in the visible and actual reflectance

$$\tau_{0.66} \sim [\rho_{0.66}^* - 0.5\rho_{2.1}^*]$$

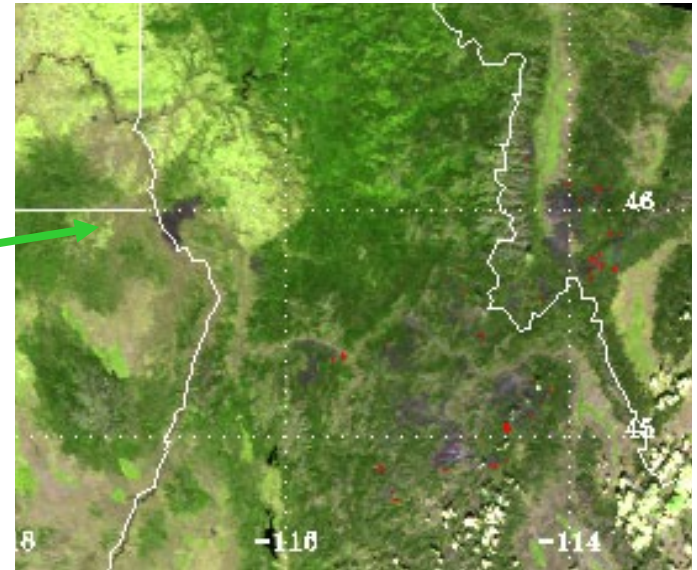
$$\tau_{0.47} \sim [\rho_{0.47}^* - 0.25\rho_{2.1}^*]$$

$\lambda(\mu\text{m})$

1.2

1.6

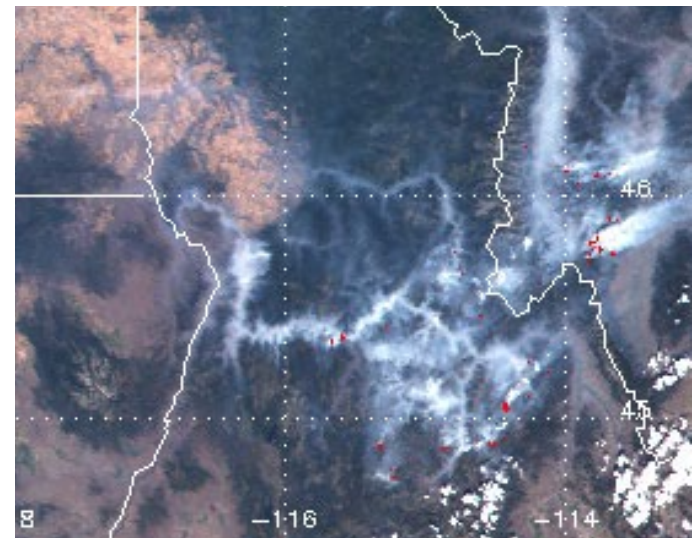
2.1



0.47

0.55

0.66

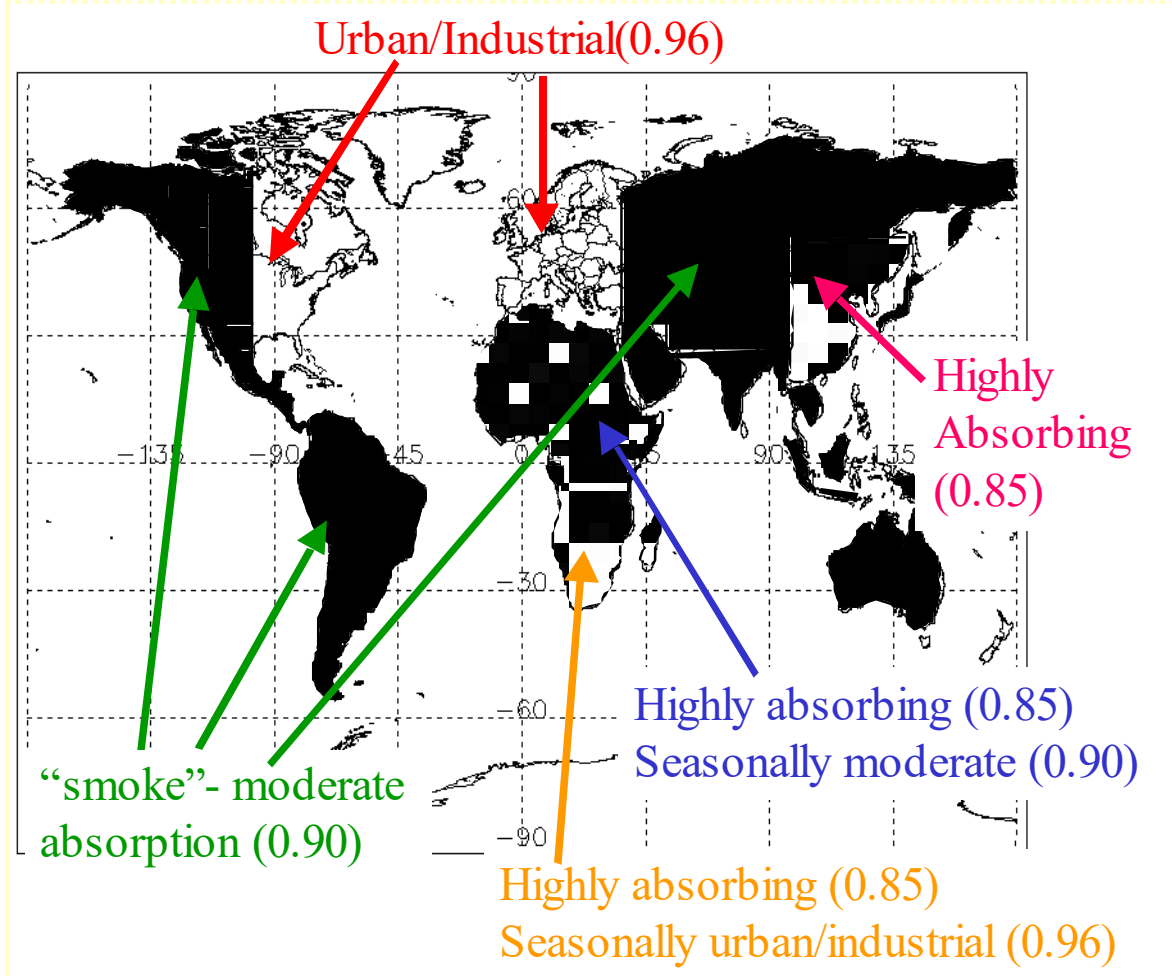


# 3 non-dust models

plus dust

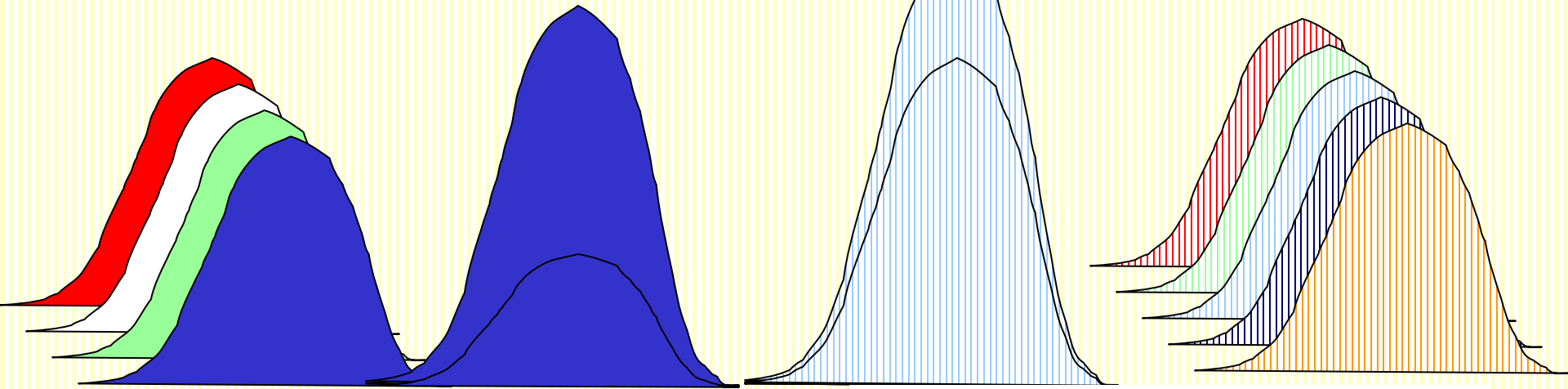
Set by geography and season

Models are dynamic  $f(\tau)$



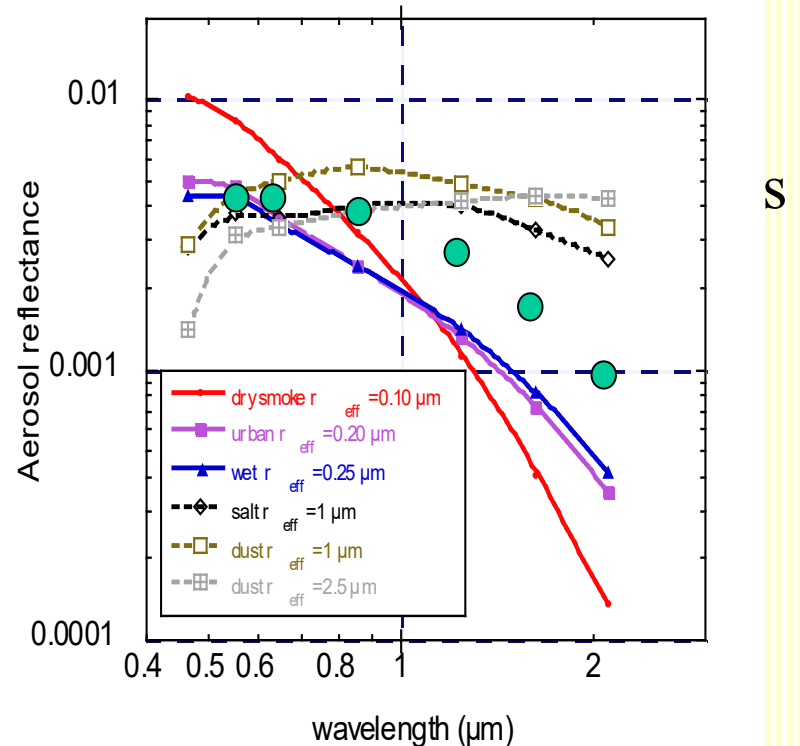


# The Ocean Algorithm



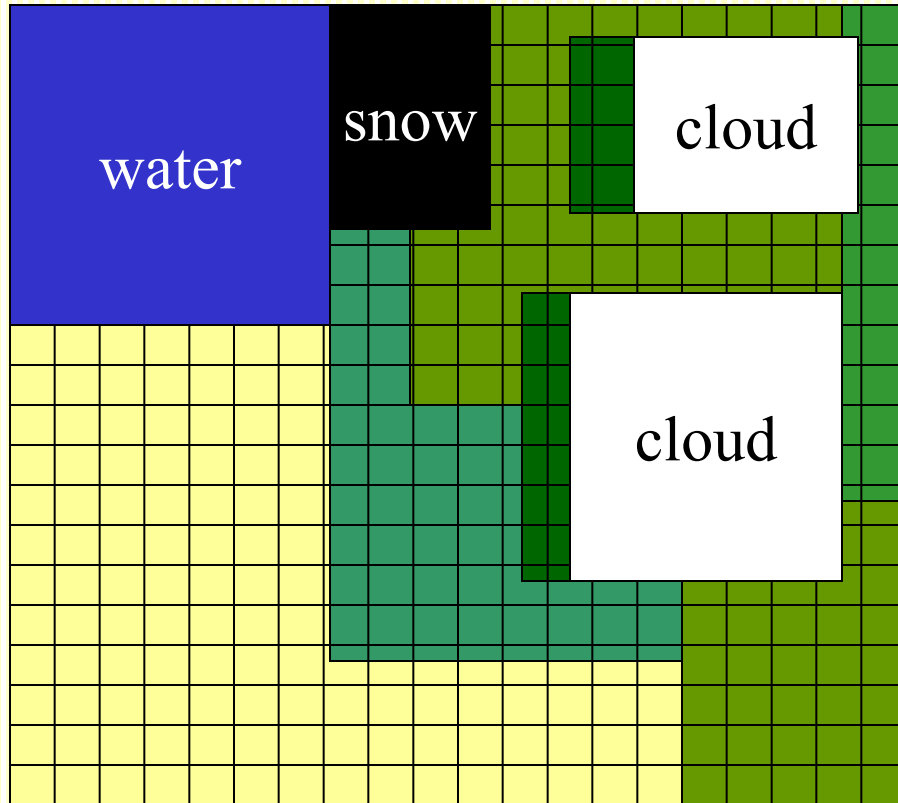
Choice of 4 fine modes  
and 5 coarse modes

In order to minimize  
( $\rho_{\text{meas}} - \rho_{\text{LUT}}$ ) over 6 wavelengths



# MODIS Over Land Algorithm

20 x 20 pixels at 500 m resolution  
(10 km at nadir)



← 10 km →

400 total  
- 56 water  
-----  
344  
- 24 snow  
-----  
320  
- 55 cloud  
-----  
265  
- 116 "bright"  
-----  
149 "good"

Discard brightest 50%  
and darkest 20% of the  
149 good pixels.

→ 44 pixels

# Non-static Inputs

- MODIS L1B (MOD021KM, MOD02HKM, MOD02QKM) and geolocation file (MOD03)
- MODIS Cloud Mask (MOD35)
- 6 hourly Global Data Assimilation System T126 resolution analysis from NCEP (Land Surface Temperature) Water vapor information (not mandatory)

**ex: gdas1.PGrbF00.020430.00z**

- Daily TOVS and SBUV/2 Total Ozone from NESDIS

1 x 1 degree resolution (not mandatory)

**ex: TOAST16\_050615.GRB**

- Latest 7 days ancillary data and documentation available from:

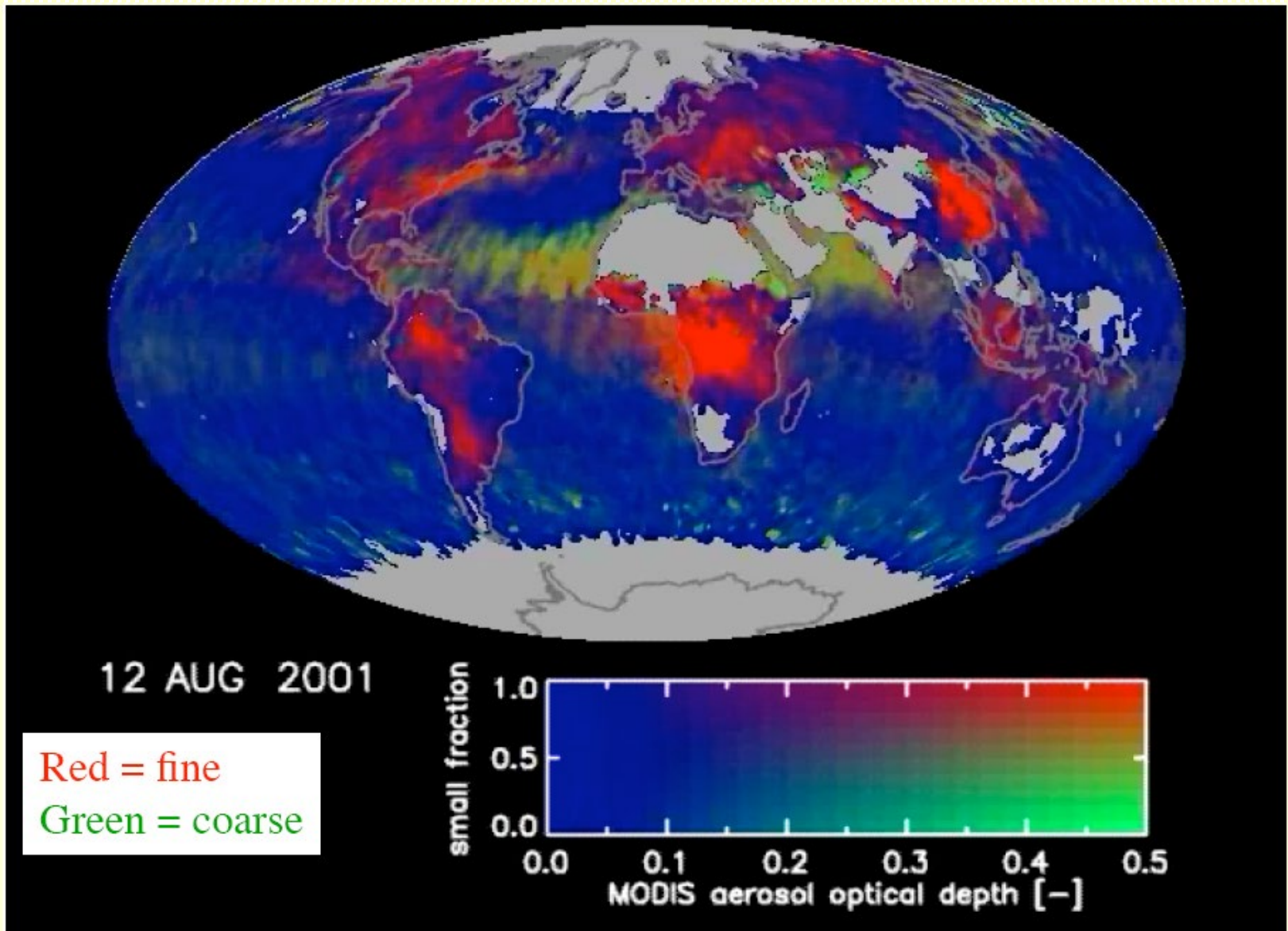
**<ftp://aqua.ssec.wisc.edu/pub/terra/ancillary>**

# Output Product Description

# MOD04 Key Output Parameters

10x10 pixel (1km) resolution

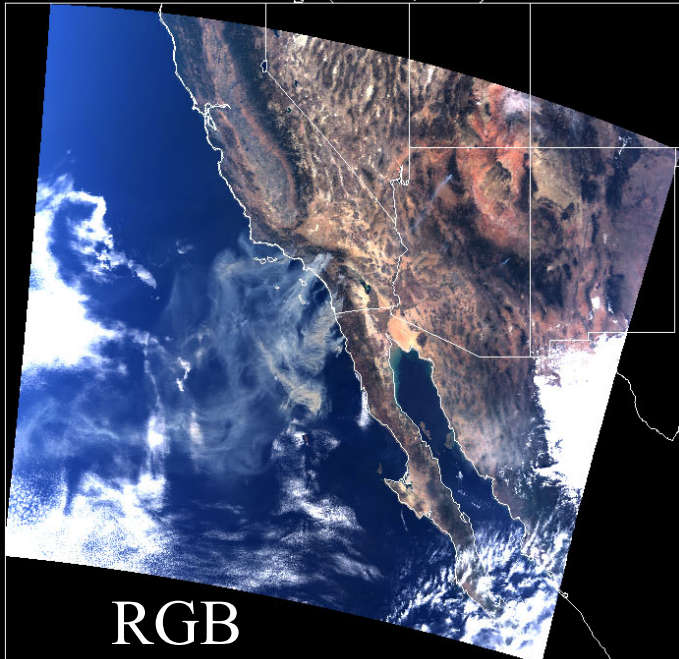
- Optical\_Depth\_Land\_And\_Ocean – Aerosol Optical Thickness (AOT) at 0.55 microns for both ocean (best) and land (corrected)
- Optical\_Depth\_Ratio\_Small\_Land\_And\_Ocean - Ratio of small mode optical depth to total at 0.55 microns
- Corrected\_Optical\_Depth\_Land (3 bands) - Corrected optical thickness at 0.47, 0.55, and 0.66 microns
- Effective\_Optical\_Depth\_Average\_Ocean (7 bands) - AOT at seven bands for average solution at .47, .55, .66, .86, 1.2, 1.6 and 2.1



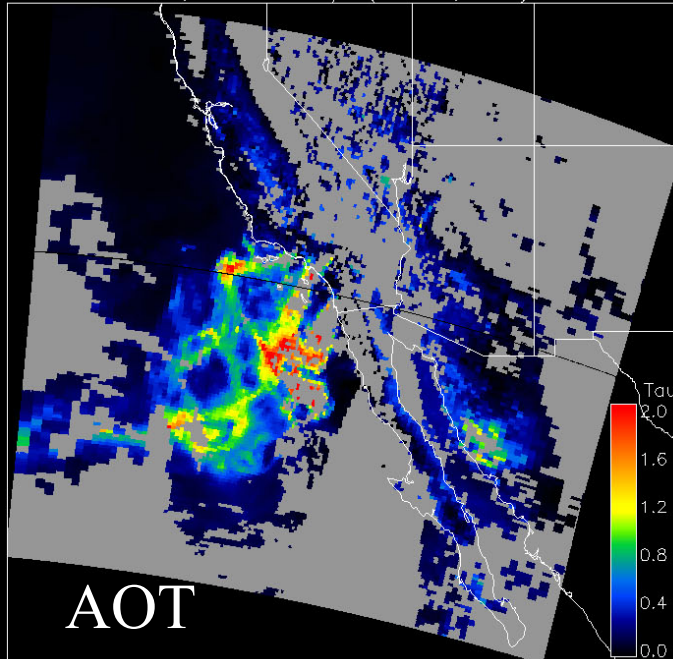
Separating fine mode from coarse mode aerosol



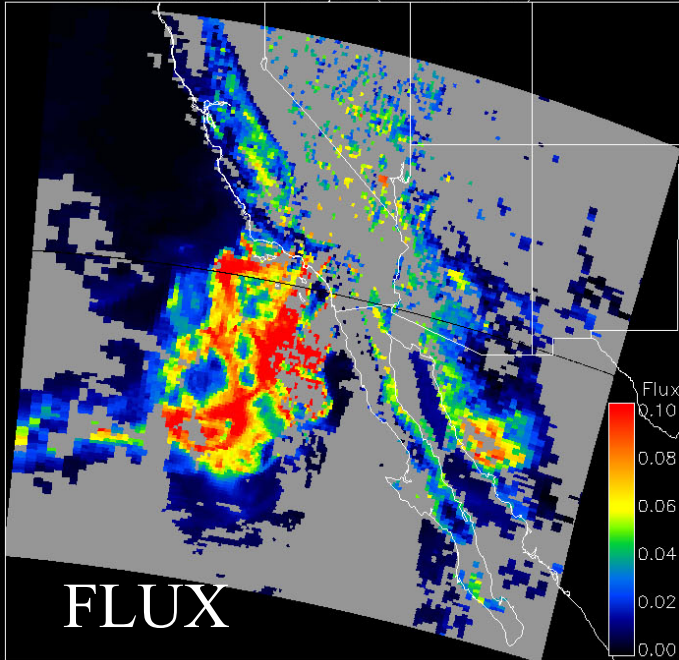
MOD RGB Image (Oct. 26, 2003)



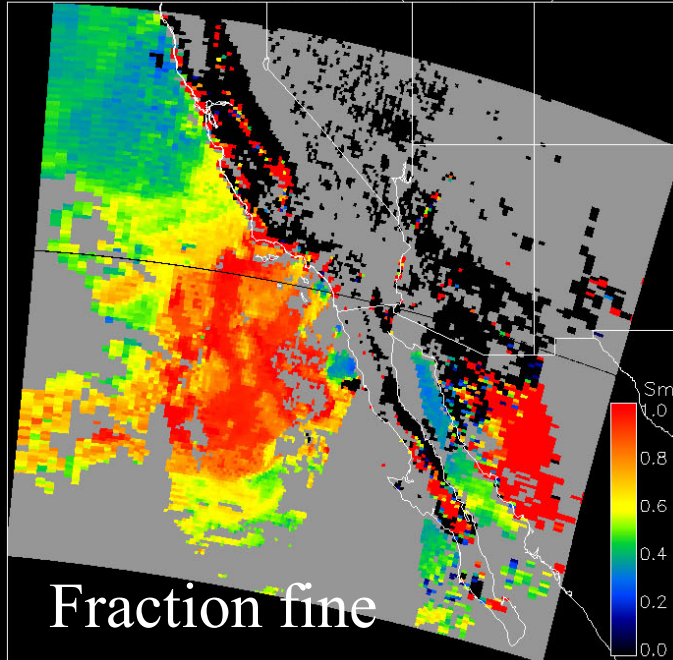
MOD L2, AOT at 0.55  $\mu\text{m}$ (Oct. 26, 2003)



MOD L2, Flux at 0.55  $\mu\text{m}$  (Oct. 26, 2003)

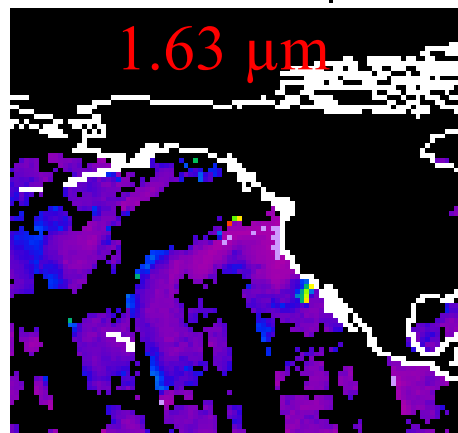
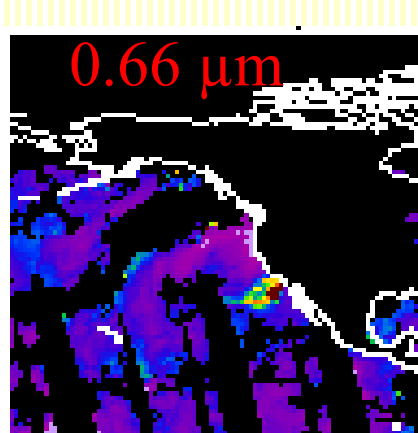
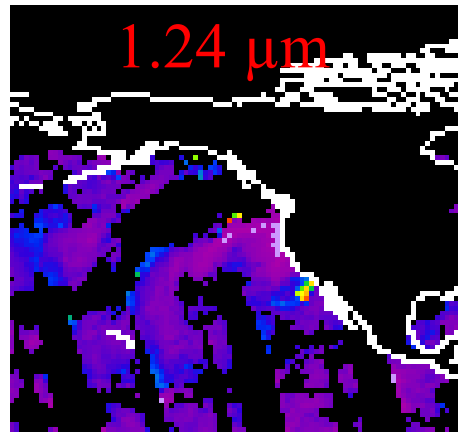
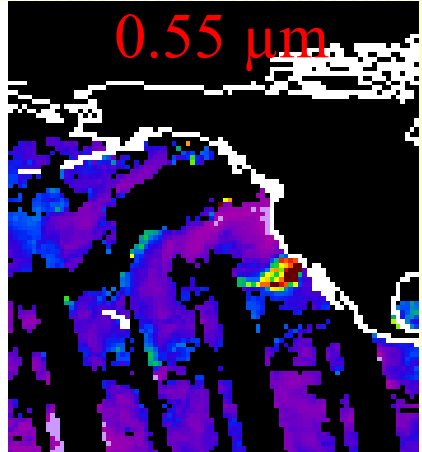
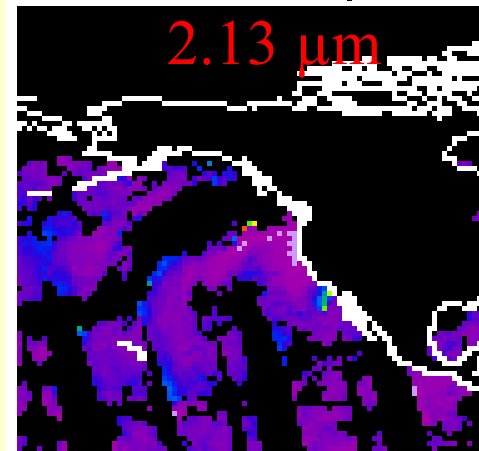
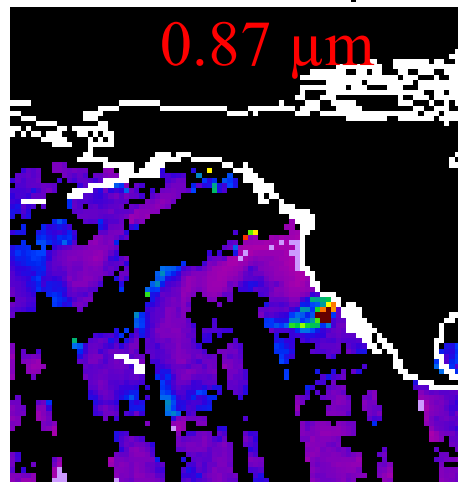
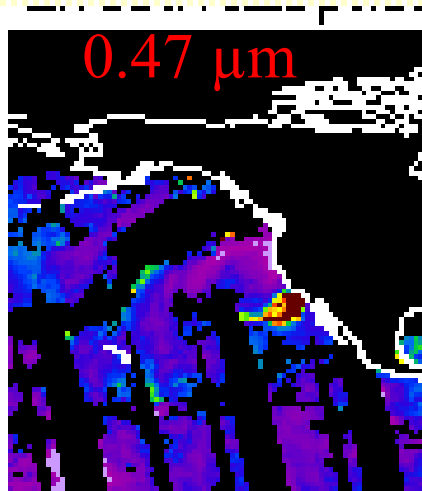


MOD L2, Small Mode Ratio (Oct. 26, 2003)



California  
Wildfires  
Oct. 26, 2003

From Terra-  
MODIS



Spectral Optical Thickness

7 wavelengths over ocean

3 wavelengths over land

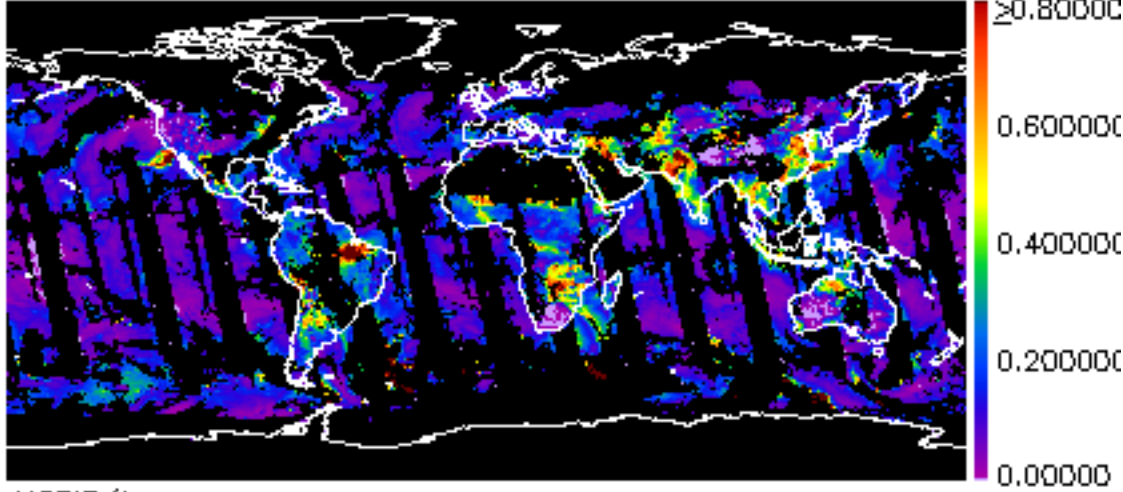
Cropped from images by  
Paul Hubanks



# Aerosol Optical Thickness

Optical\_Depth\_Land\_And\_Ocean\_Mean

26Oct2003



MODIS/Aqua MYD08\_D3.A2003299.003.2003302085710.hdf name

The global aerosol

MOD08\_D3

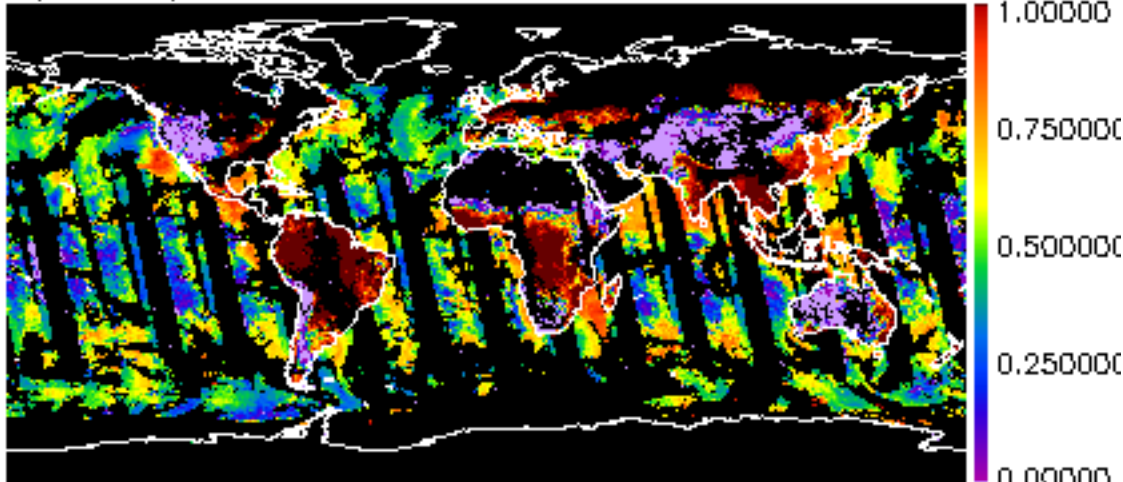
Daily Level 3  
1 degree data

October 26, 2003

## Fine mode fraction

Optical\_Depth\_Ratio\_Small\_Land\_And\_Ocean\_Mean

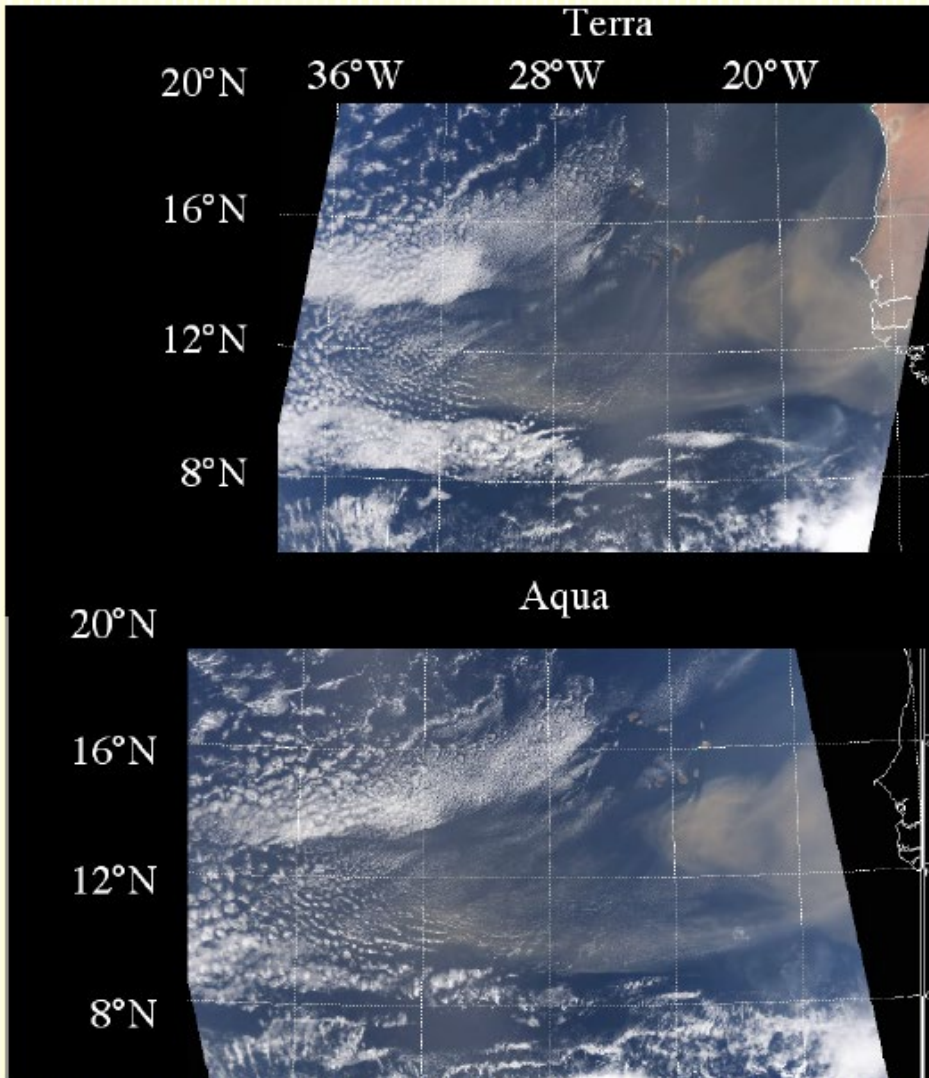
26Oct2003



MODIS/Aqua MYD08\_D3.A2003299.003.2003302085710.hdf name

<http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Paul Hubanks



Two MODIS instruments.

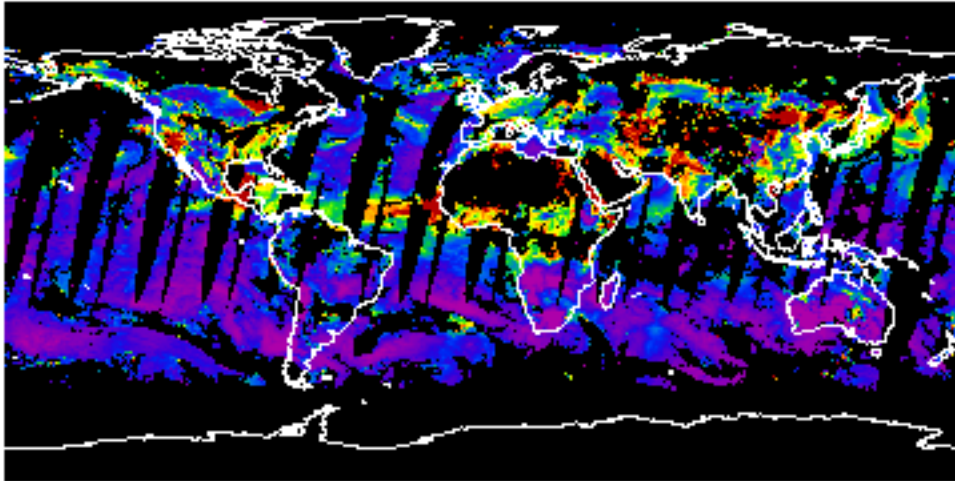
Terra (10:30 am local time)  
and Aqua (1:30pm local time)

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

The dust storm moved 120 km  
between the Terra and Aqua  
observations, corresponding to  
wind speed in the dust layer of 11m/s.

## Terra

Optical\_Depth\_Land\_And\_Ocean\_Mean



01May2003

0.80000

0.60000

0.40000

0.20000

0.00000

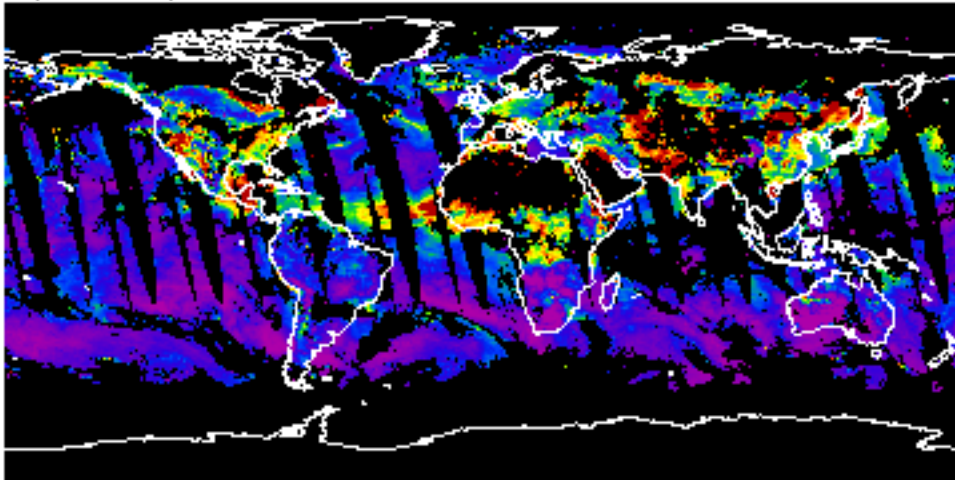
MODIS/Terra MOD08\_D3.A2003121.004.2003126220858.hdf \*name

MOD08\_D3

Daily Level 3 aerosol  
optical thickness on a  
1 degree global grid

## Aqua

Optical\_Depth\_Land\_And\_Ocean\_Mean



01May2003

0.80000

0.60000

0.40000

0.20000

0.00000

MODIS/Aqua MYD08\_D3.A2003121.003.2003125160919.hdf \*name

May 1, 2003

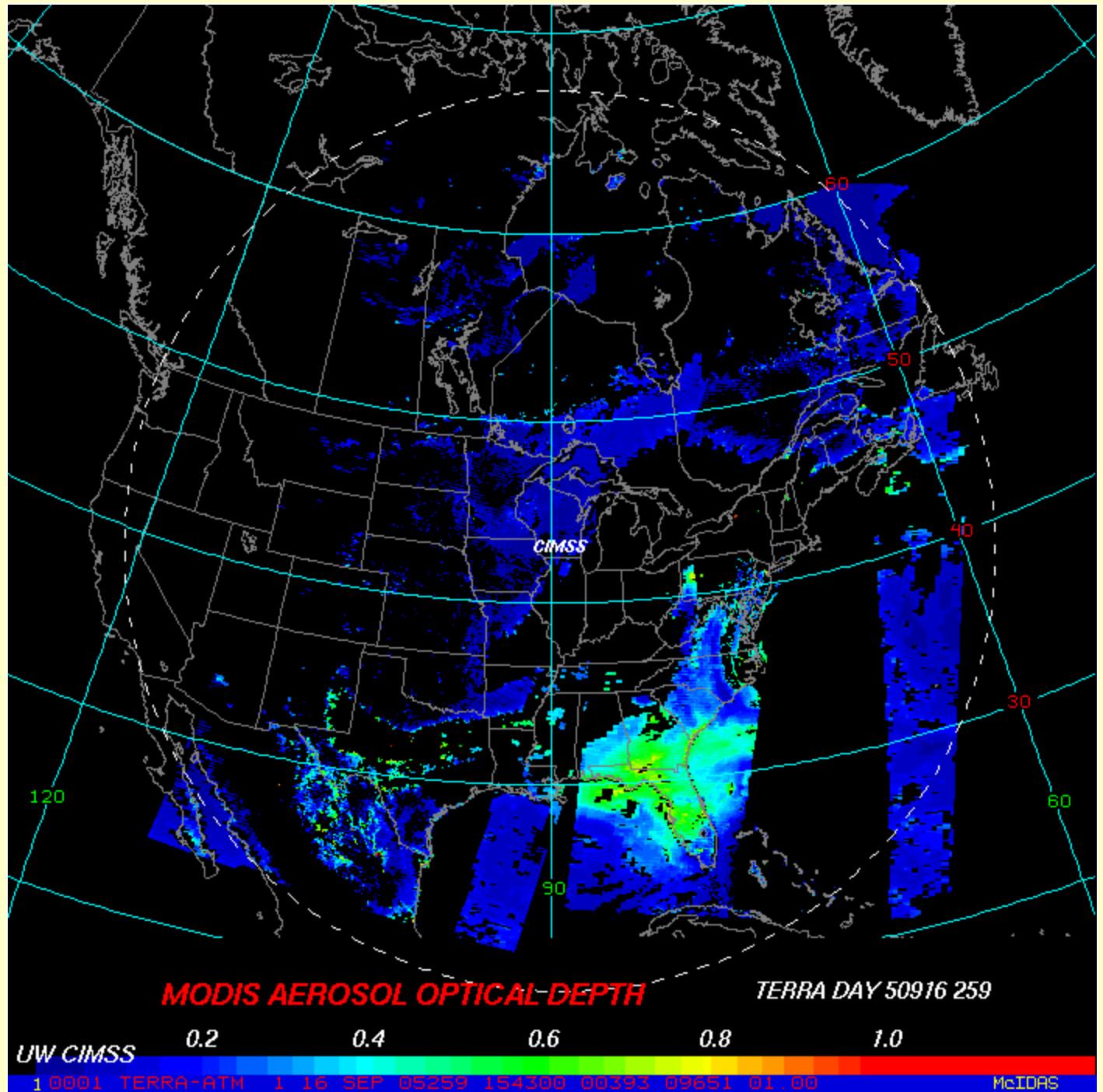
<http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Paul Hubanks

MODIS

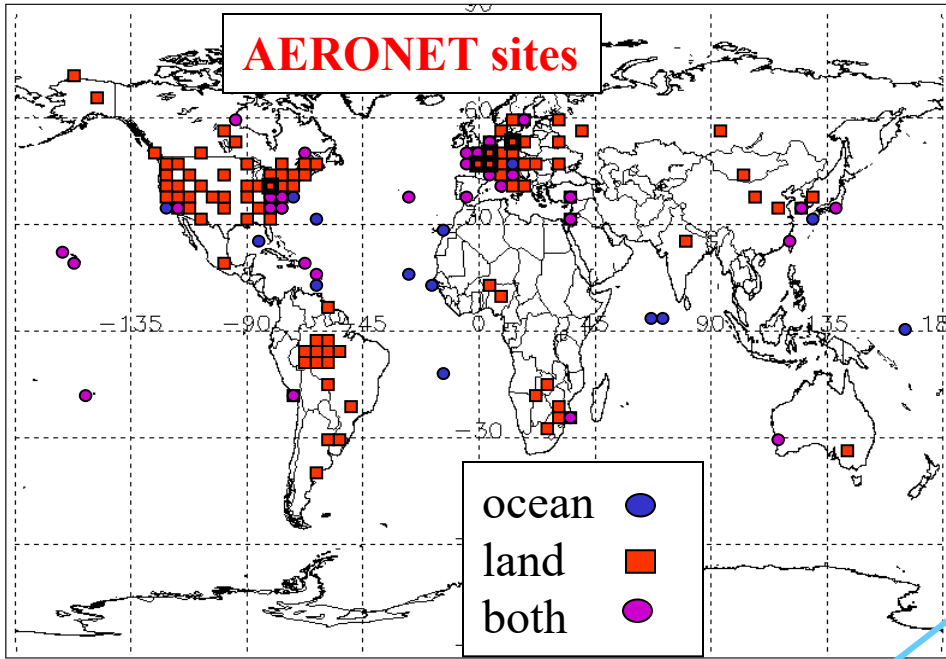
Aerosol  
Optical  
Thickness  
Product

University of  
Wisconsin –  
Madison  
Direct  
Broadcast



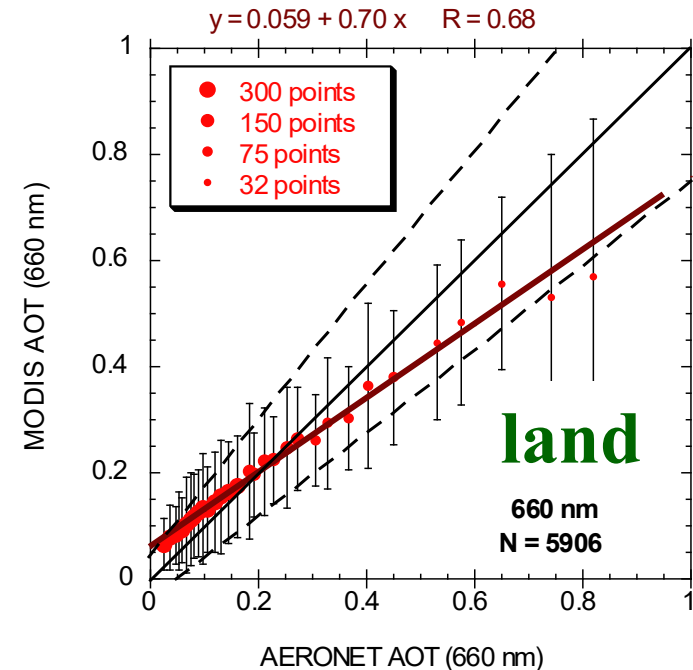
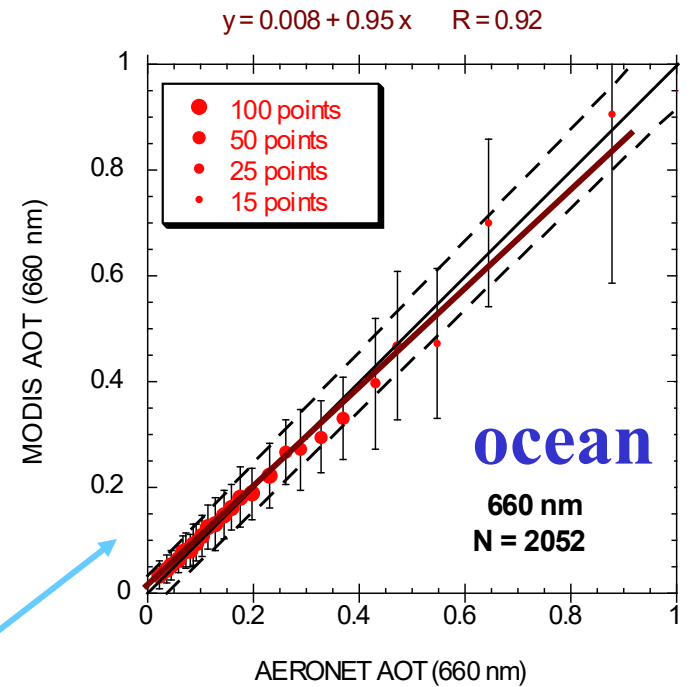


# MODIS aerosol validation 2000-2002



66% of MODIS aerosol retrievals over ocean fall within expected uncertainty

71% of MODIS aerosol retrievals over land fall within expected uncertainty



## Summary :

1. MODIS algorithms take advantage of instrument's wide spectral range (both land and ocean), excellent calibration (essential for size retrievals), 500 m spatial resolution (proximity to clouds).
2. MODIS products validated with AERONET and uncertainties are well-characterized. Known problems listed at the DAAC or at <http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov/validation.html>
3. Algorithm under constant review and modification. Track history of changes at [http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov/products\\_history.html](http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov/products_history.html)

## Applications:

1. Direct radiative forcing (different methods)
2. Indirect radiative forcing
3. Semi-direct forcing
4. Air Quality
5. Estimating biomass burning sources

# Acknowledgements

MODIS Aerosol Team: D.A. Chu, C. Ichoku, R. Kleidman, I. Koren, R. Levy,  
R-R. Li, J.V. Martins, S. Mattoo, Z. Ahmad

AERONET: B. Holben, O. Dubovik, T. Eck, I. Slutsker, A. Smirnov

AERONET PIs: (SIMBIOS) C. McLain, G. Fergion, C. Pietras

MODIS Atmospheres: M. King, P. Menzel , B-C. Gao, S. Ackerman, R. Frey , M. Gray,  
L. Gumley, P. Hubanks, R. Hucek, E. Moody, W. Ridgway, K. Strabala

MODIS Land/ Univ. of Maryland: E. Vermote

NOAA/NESDIS/ORR: A. Ignatov, X. Zhao

Climate and Radiation Branch (code 913): M-D. Chou, M. Suarez

Atmospheric Chemistry Branch (code 916): M. Chin, P. Ginoux, O. Torres

Univ. Alabama Huntsville: C. Sundar, J. Zhang





# IDEA

Infusing satellite  
Data into  
Environmental  
Applications



## ***MODIS Real Time Applications IDEA (Infusing Satellite Data into Environmental Applications)***

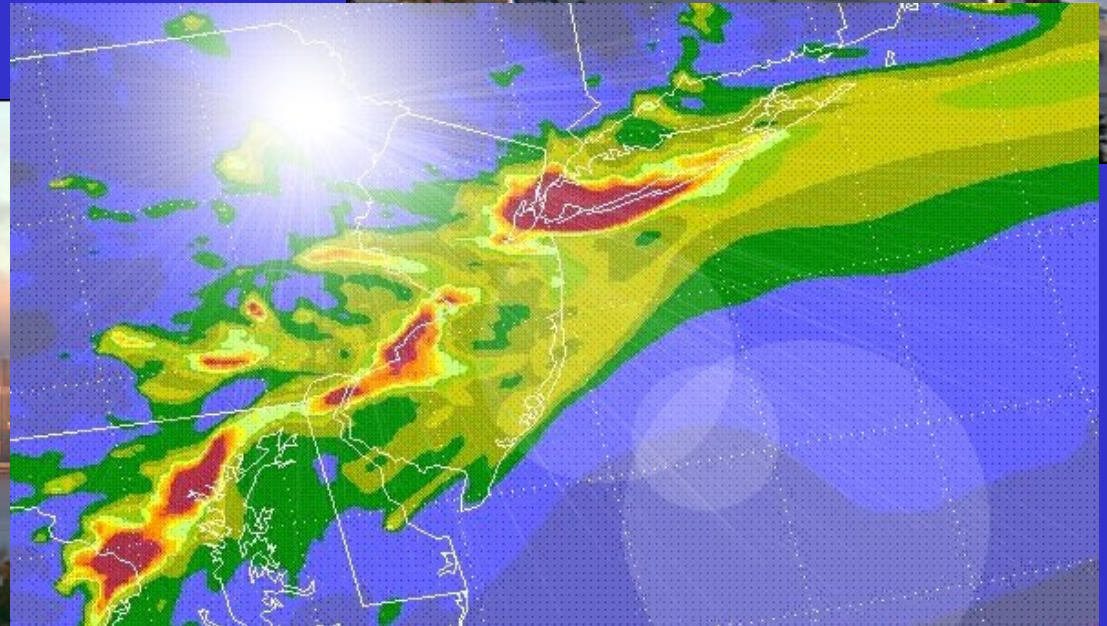
***<http://idea.ssec.wisc.edu>***

Kathleen Strabala  
Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies  
Space Science and Engineering Center  
University of Wisconsin - Madison

And a cast of thousands

Tony Wimmers, Steve Ackerman, Jerry Robaidek, Scott Bachmeier, James Szykman,  
John White, Brad Pierce, Jassim Al-Saadi, Doreen Neil,  
Chieko Kittaka, Allen Chu, Lorraine Remer, Liam Gumley, and Elaine Prins

IDEA: NASA-EPA-NOAA partnership to improve air quality assessment, management, and prediction by infusing (NASA) satellite measurements into (EPA, NOAA) analyses for public benefit.



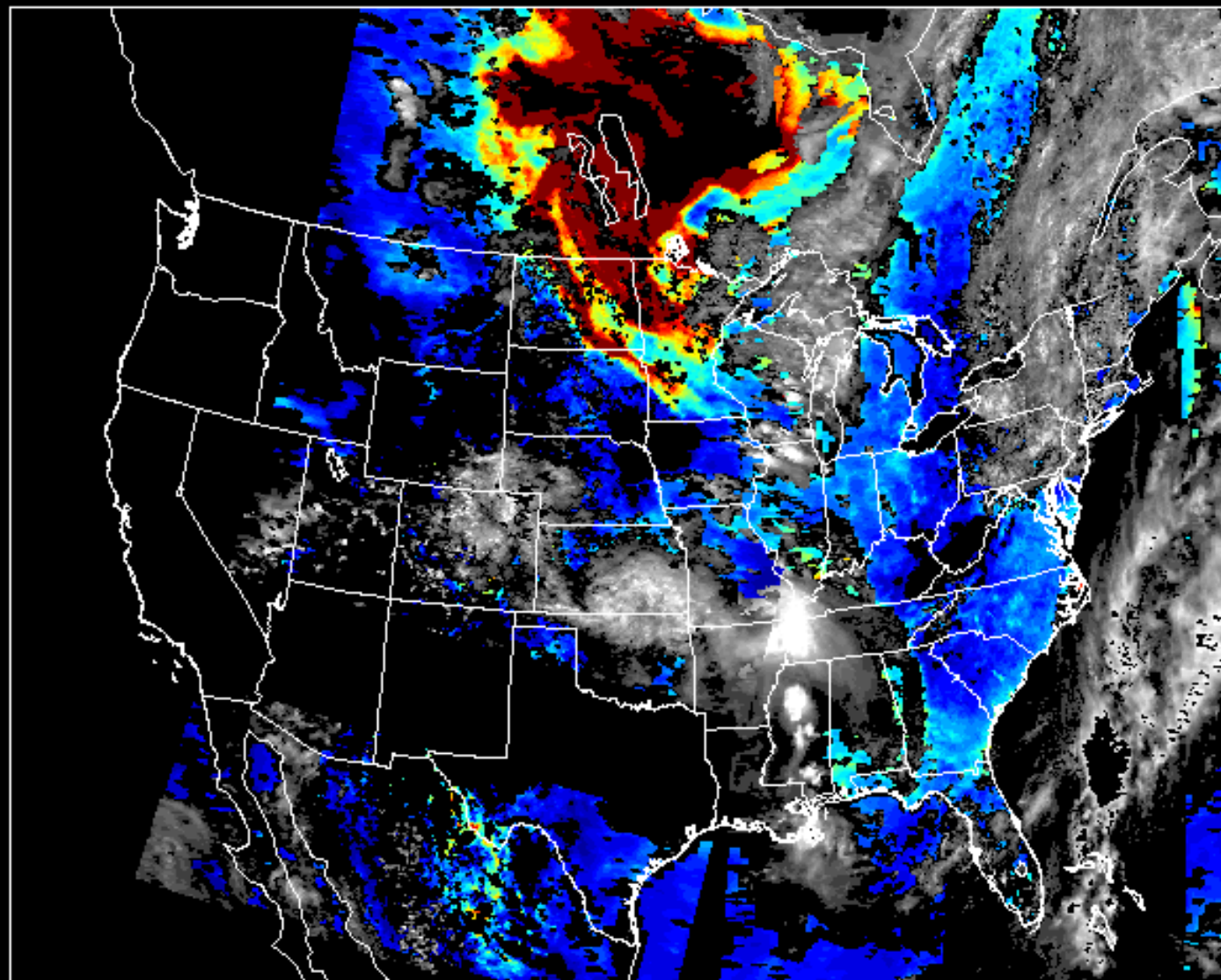
IDEA (Infusing satellite data into environmental air quality applications)

Part of NASA Earth Science Enterprise (ESE) Applications Program strategy to demonstrate practical uses of NASA sponsored observations from remote sensing systems and predictions from scientific research.





MODIS (Terra) 2004 07 16

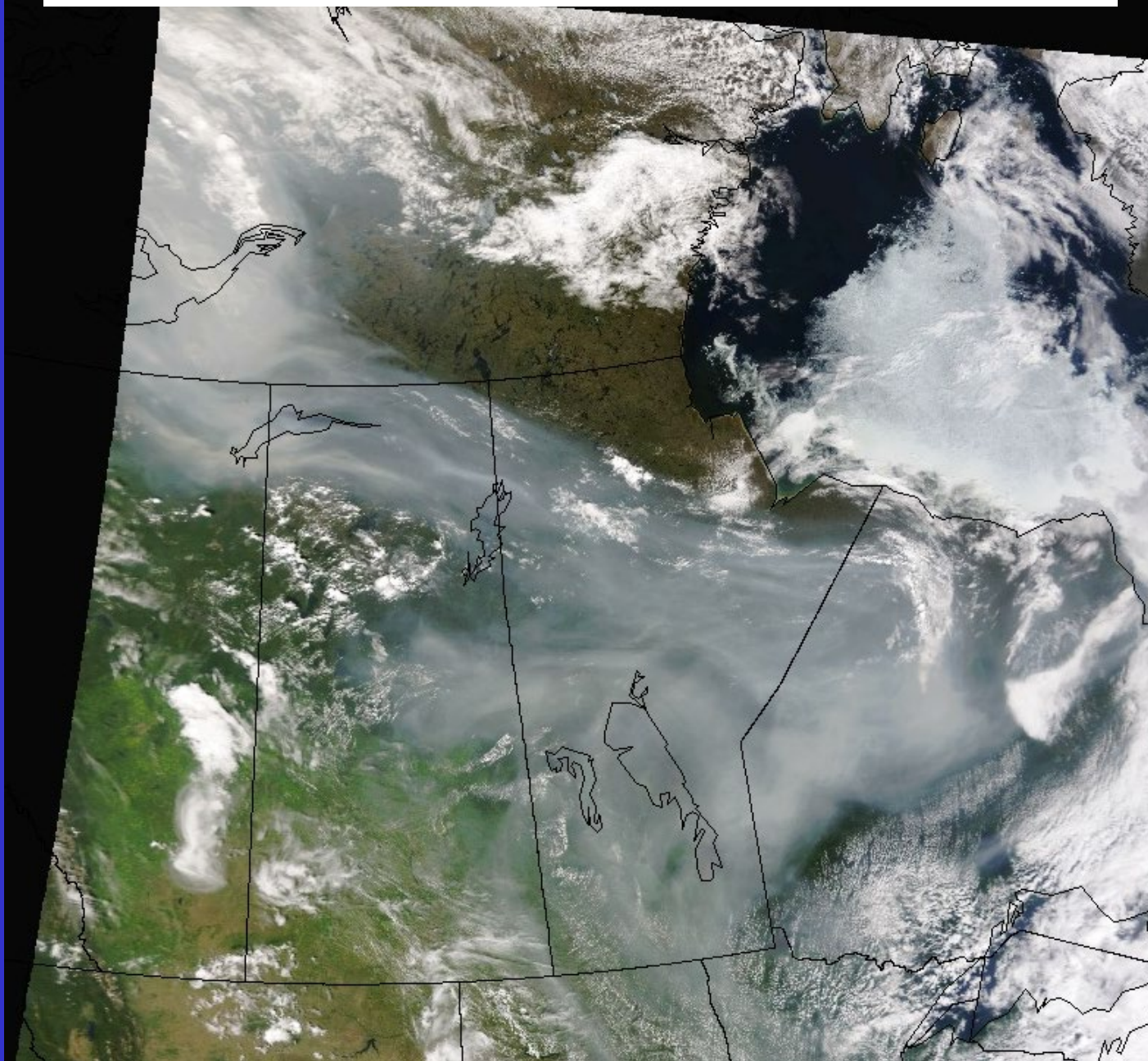


# Air Quality Index for Particles

Index Values	Category	Cautionary Statements	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (ug/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM <sub>10</sub> (ug/m <sup>3</sup> )
0-50	Good	None	0-15.4	0-54
51-100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion	15.5-40.4	55-154
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Sensitive groups should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion	40.5-65.4	155-254
151-200	Unhealthy	Sensitive groups should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion; everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion	65.5-150.4	255-354
201-300	Very Unhealthy	Sensitive groups should avoid all physical activity outdoors; everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion	150.5-250.4	355-424

Source: US EPA, 1997

Terra MODIS true color image 17 July 2004





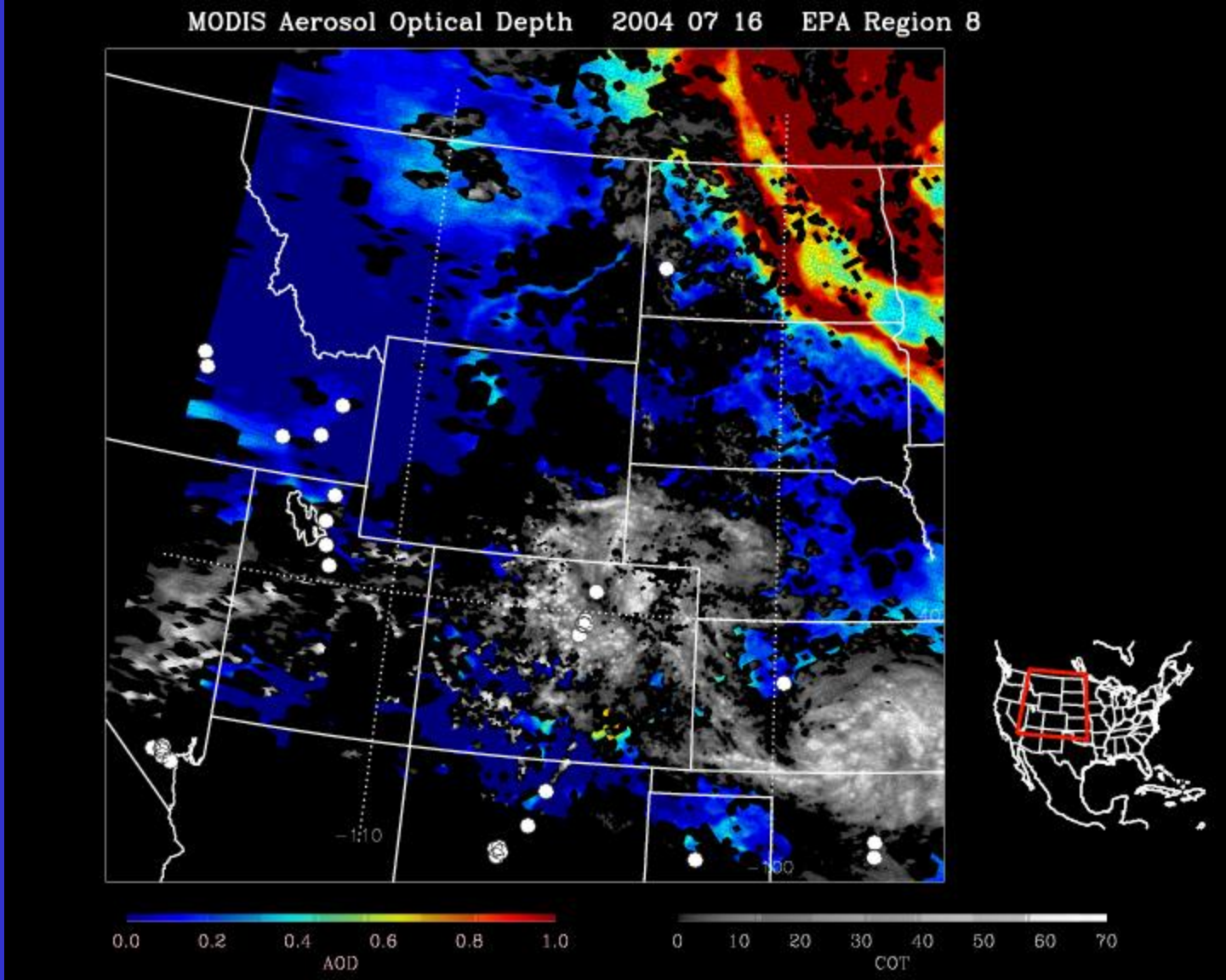
# IDEA

## Forecast Tool Products

(Example from July 2004 Aerosol Outbreak)

- Regional Summary Plots of MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and Cloud Optical Thickness
- MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth 48 hour Trajectories Forecast
- Composite PM<sub>2.5</sub>/MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth Data Fusion 3-day Animation
- Time-series between MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and PM<sub>2.5</sub> (1hr and 24hr) Mass Concentration
- National Correlation Map between PM<sub>2.5</sub> and MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth
- Daily Forecast Discussion and Blog

# Regional Summary Plots of MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and Cloud Optical Thickness





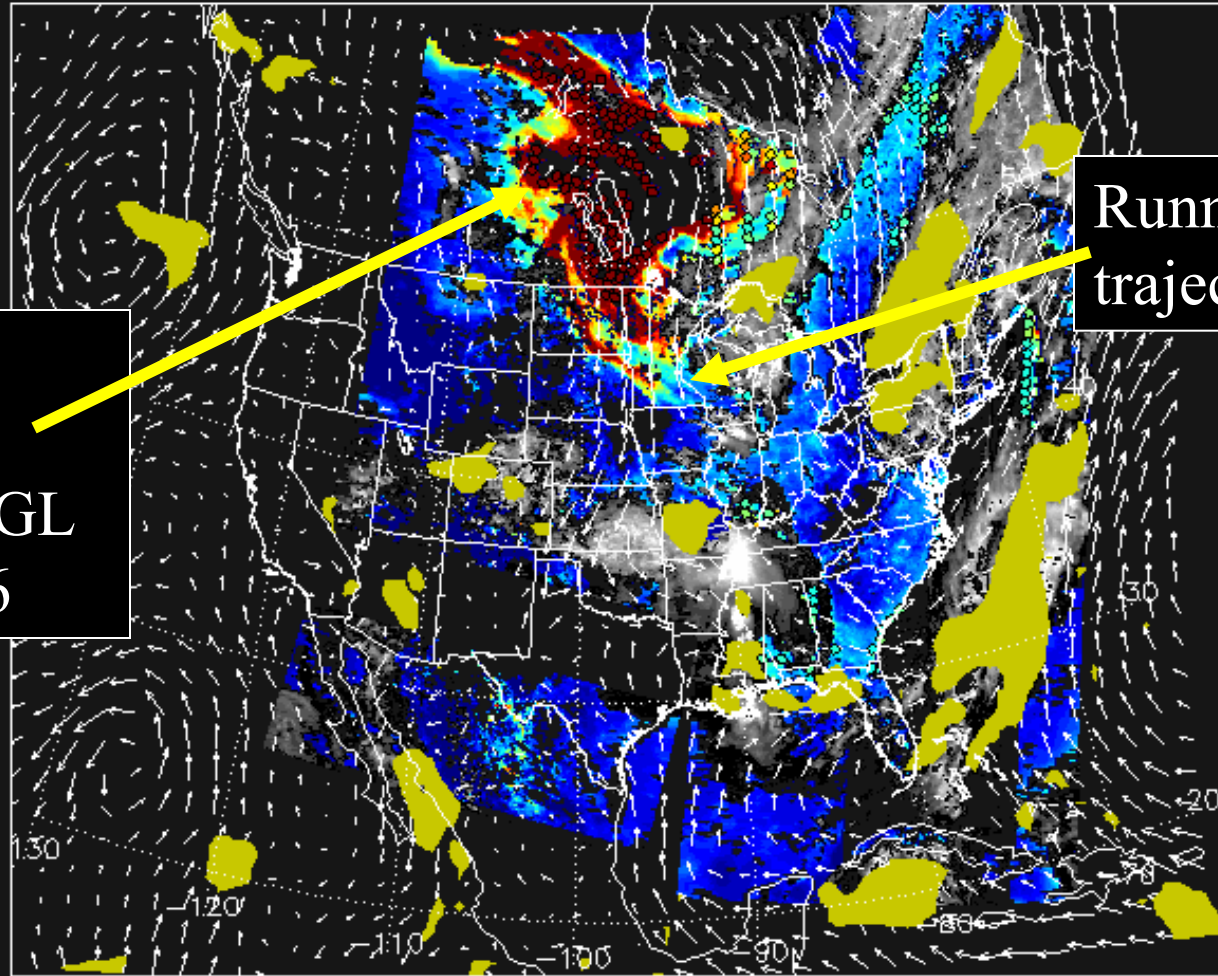
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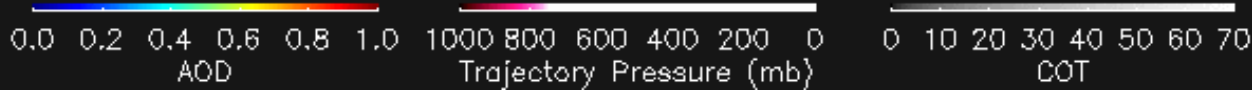
# MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth 48 hour Air Parcel Forecast Trajectories (16 July 2004)

MODIS 2004/07/16 AOD/COT & AOD Trajectories on 2004/07/16 15Z



Running 12-hour trajectory path

Trajectories initialized at 50-200 mb AGL for AOD >0.6



# IDEA

## Forecast Tool Products

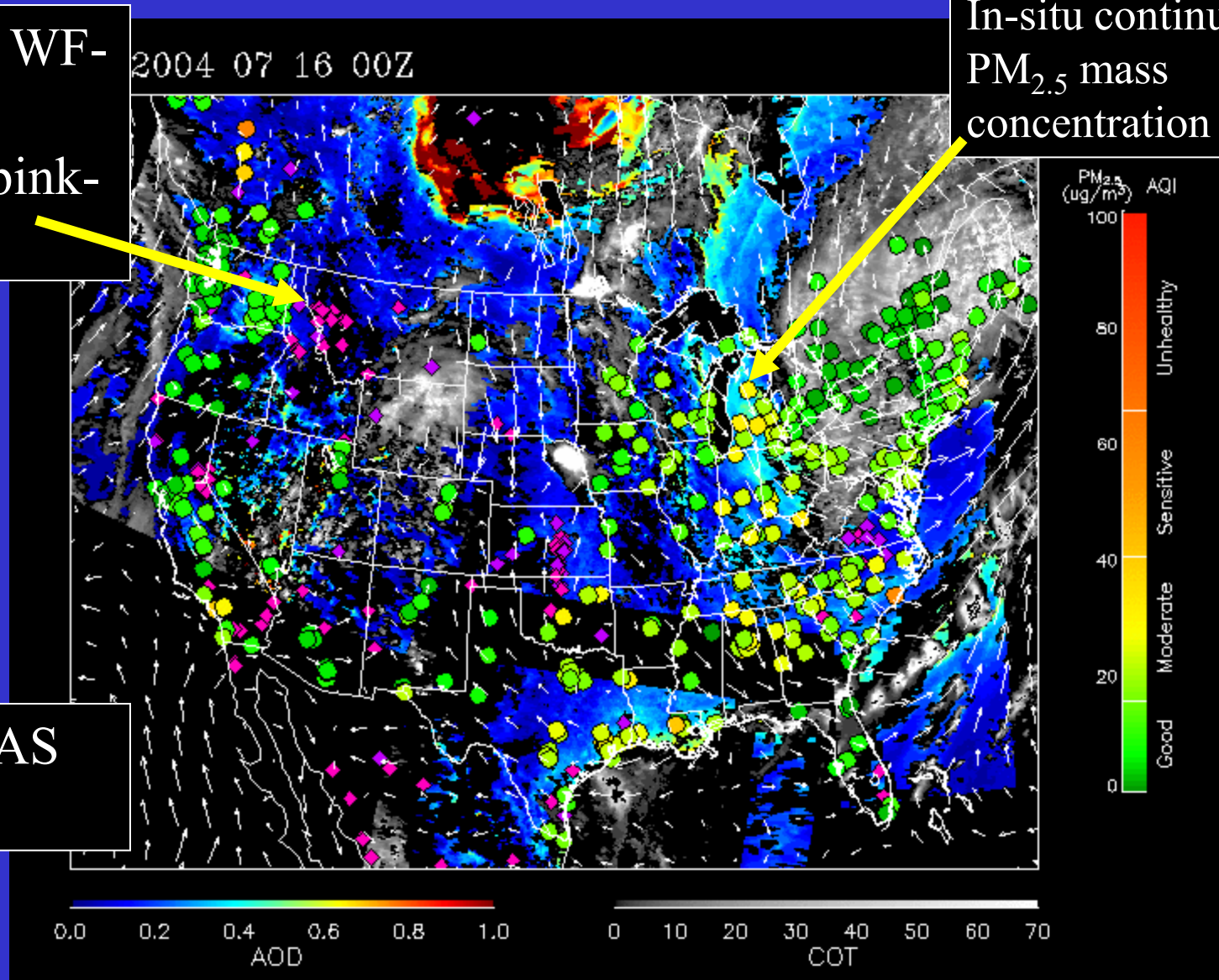
- Regional Summary Plots of MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and Cloud Optical Thickness
- MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth 48 hour Trajectories Forecast
- Composite PM2.5/MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth Data Fusion 3-day Animation
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- Daily Forecast Discussion and Blog

# Composite PM2.5/MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth Data Fusion 3-day Animation

Half-hourly WF-ABBA Fire Locations (pink-purple)

In-situ continuous PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentration data

850 mb EDAS wind fields



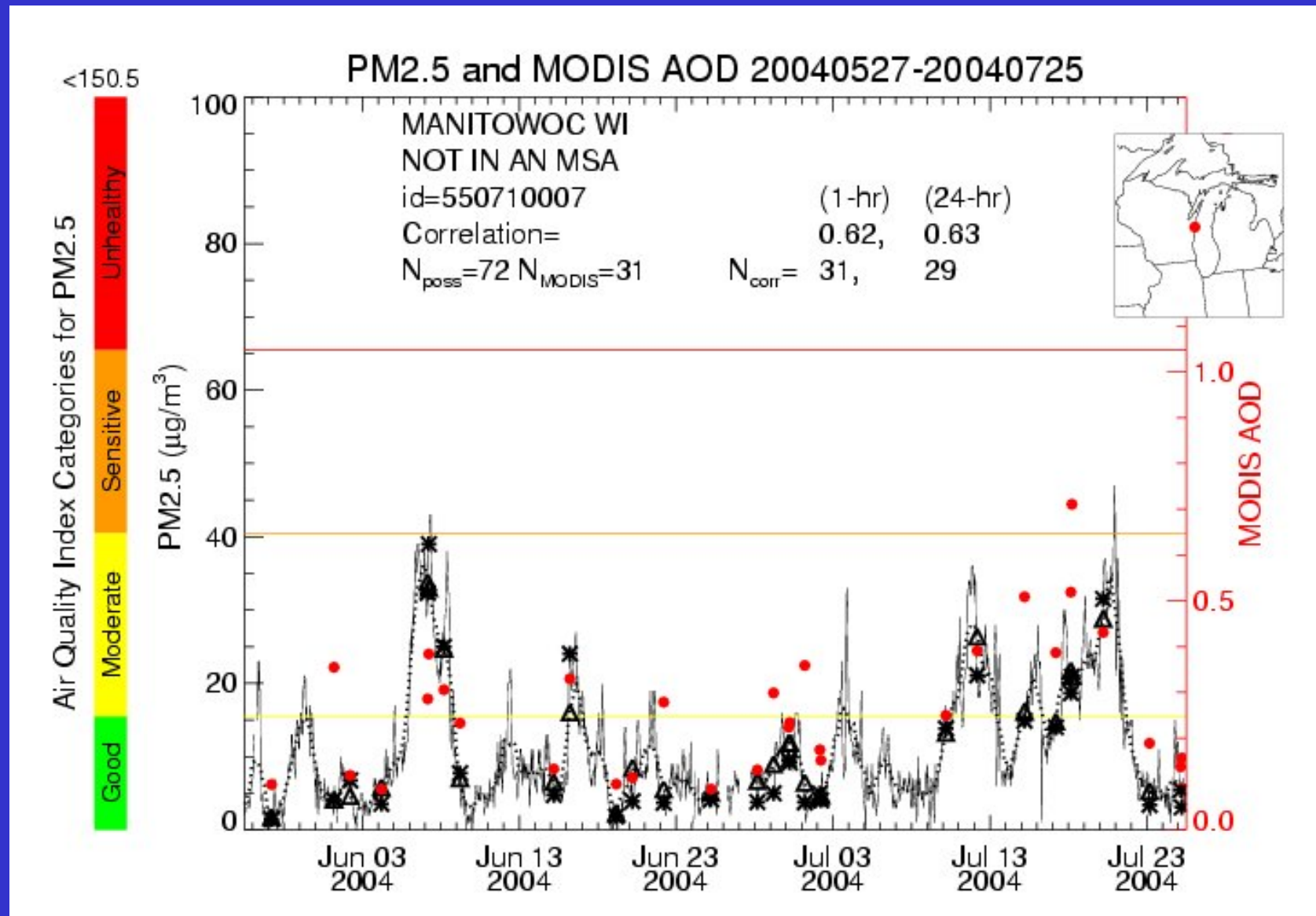
# IDEA

## Forecast Tool Products

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- National Correlation Map between PM2.5 and MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth
- Daily Forecast Discussion and Blog



# Time-series between MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and PM2.5 (1hr and 24hr) Concentrations

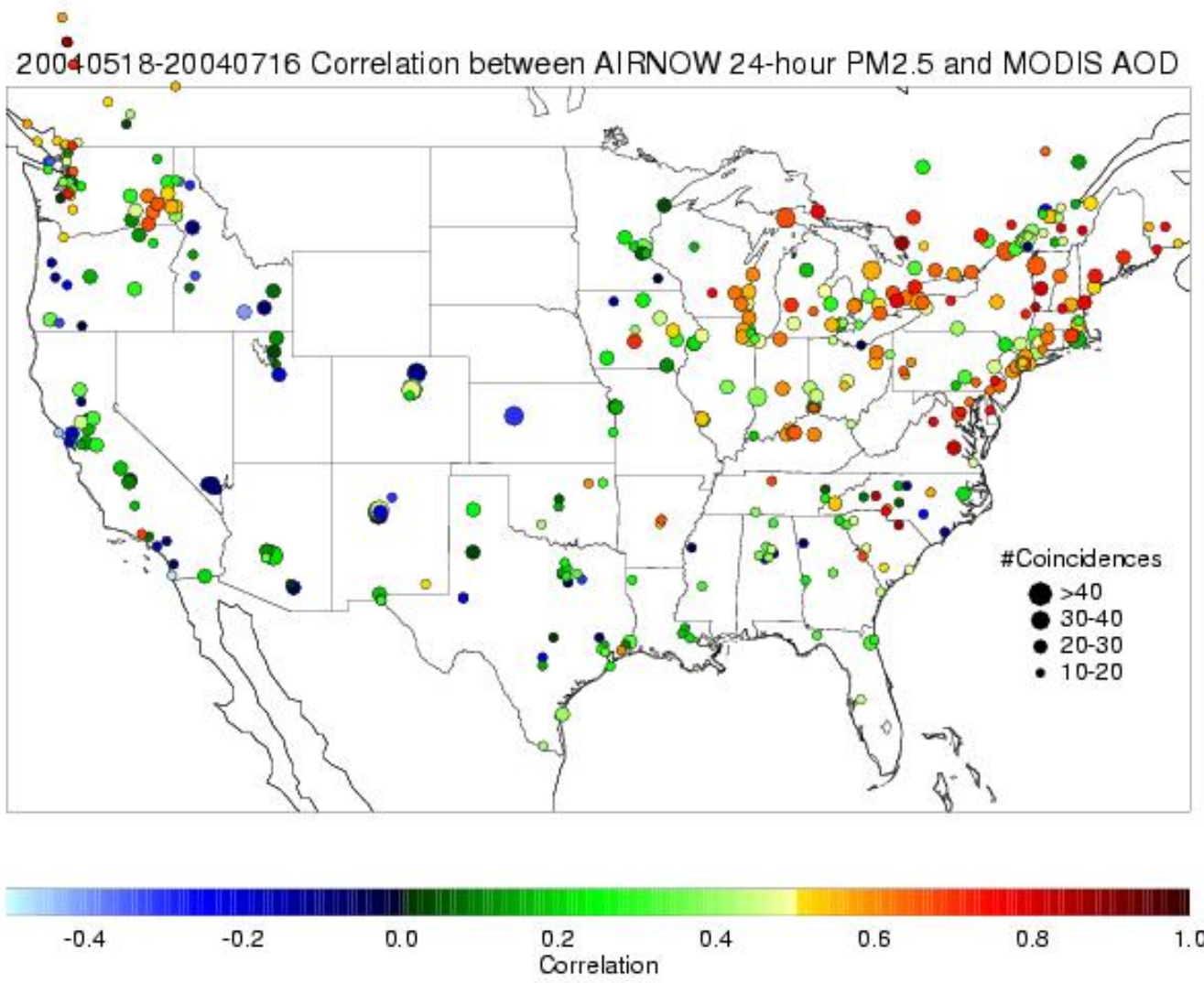


# IDEA

## Forecast Tool Products

- Regional Summary Plots of MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and Cloud Optical Thickness
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# National Correlation Map between PM<sub>2.5</sub> Mass Concentration and MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth










# IDEA

## Forecast Tool Products

- Regional Summary Plots of MODIS Aerosol Optical Depth and Cloud Optical Thickness
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# IDEA Forecast Discussions

 SELECT PLOT	 PREVIOUS FORECAST DAY	 NEXT FORECAST DAY	2004  July  17  <input type="button" value="Go"/>	Product Description
Valid date ranges (20030823 to 20050315)				

## Latest Forecast Discussion - July 17, 2004

9:44 PM EDT

MODIS AOD image shows extensive coverage of aloft smoke plume (AOD > 1 resulting from Alaska/Yukon fires) in the mid-western states from N. Dakota to the northern Oklahoma and reaching as far as northern Wisconsin, and northwestern Iowa. The trajectory model predicts that smoke plume in the boundary layer begins to move northeasternward, partly due to the developing low over mid-Atlantic states. The northern branch plumes moves to the east Canada but at higher altitude (500 mb).

Haze (AOD ~0.6) from the southeast moves out to the mid-Atlantic Ocean.

Elevated AOD is continuously seen in the eastern Washington state.

[More](#)

allenc 09:44 PM EDT | [Comments \(2\)](#)

7:22 AM EDT

MODIS continues to show elevated AOD (~0.5-0.6) in the mid-western states (Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois), as a result of smoke originated from Alaska/Yukon fires. AIRNow surface sights show moderate AQI associated with this smoke plume.

MODIS shows very high AOD from main smoke plume now entering North Dakota/South Dakota SE Minnesota. Trajectory initialization within the main smoke plume over central Canada assumes that the smoke is within the lowest 250mb (BL) which is likely not true for this region (plume more likely aloft based on rapid transport of plume around the southern edge of upper level trough.

Impact on midwestern and NE AQI dependent on whether plume remains aloft or gets entrained within BL. Smoke has been observed by UW Madison's lidar [Wisconsin Lidar](#), showing a layer around 3 km (~ 1 km thick) on 07/15.

[More](#)

bradp 07:22 AM EDT | [Comments \(4\)](#)

# IDEA Web Site Conclusions

## User Feedback

Successfully demonstrated the utility of producing and combining multi-source products for improving Air Quality forecasts.

*Comments compiled by John White (EPA) and Jim Szykman (LaRC):*

*"I try to check the IDEA web site daily as it is helpful for PM2.5 forecasting. I particularly use the animated 48-hour trajectory forecast. It would be nice if it were possible for the user to stop the animation at specific times since it runs continuously. Each morning I also read the forecast discussion that comes out the previous evening. It might be nice if the forecast discussion was moved to the morning since it would be timelier for forecasters. It is an excellent product."*

*I think we should make it a priority to migrate the IDEA graphical products into the AniS applet as soon as possible, to allow a higher level user control and interactivity -- it sounds like they (the users) would appreciate such an improvement. -Jim*

# **IDEA Real-time Web Site**

<http://idea.ssec.wisc.edu/>