

Long Term Land Data Record from AVHRR/MODIS/VIIRS

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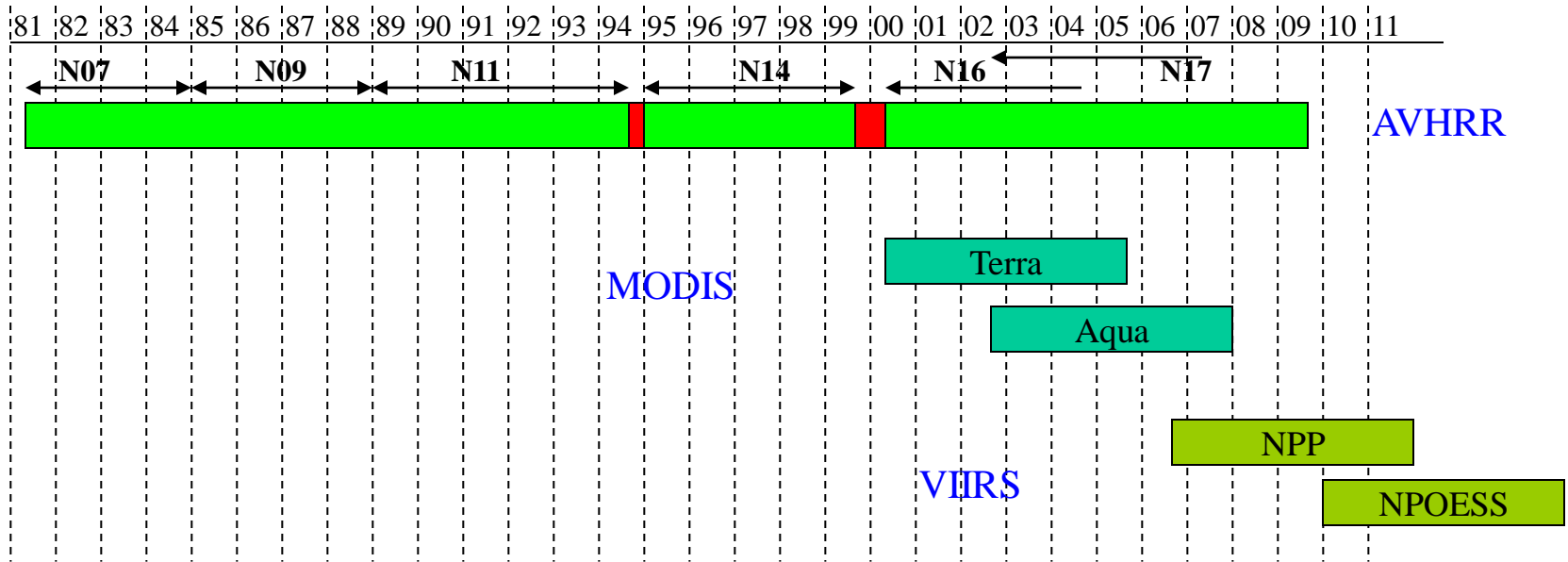
and

NASA/GSFC Code 922

Long Term Land Data Record Project

- Started in December of last year.
- Objective is to develop a coarse spatial resolution data set from AVHRR, MODIS and VIIRS for Land studies.
- Provides the link between AVHRR, MODIS and VIIRS.
- Team members:
 - NASA GSFC: Ed Masuoka, Nazmi Saleous, Jeff Privette, Jim Tucker, Jorge Pinzon.
 - UMD: Eric Vermote, David Roy, Steve Prince.
 - Collaborator: Chris Justice (UMD).

Data Sources



Proposed System

AVHRR GAC L1B
1981 - present

-Geolocation
-Calibration
-Atmospheric Correction
-Cloud/Shadow Screening

Land products

Gridding

AVHRR products

MODIS coarse resolution
surface reflectance
2000 - present

Land products

Gridding

MODIS products

MODIS full
resolution and
CMG products

List of potential products:

Surface Reflectance, VI,
Surface Temperature and emissivity,
Snow, LAI/FPAR, BRDF/Albedo,
Aerosols, Burned area

Format:

HDF
Geographic projection 1/20 deg resolution
Daily, multi-day, monthly

AVHRR data set

- AVHRR offers the longest record.
- Lacks onboard calibration.
- Limited set of spectral bands reduces the accuracy of atmospheric parameters retrieval and correction (water vapor and aerosols).
- Broad spectral bands lead to contamination by the atmosphere.
- Orbital drift leads to substantial variation in the solar geometry throughout the mission.

Significant Earth Science findings based on AVHRR

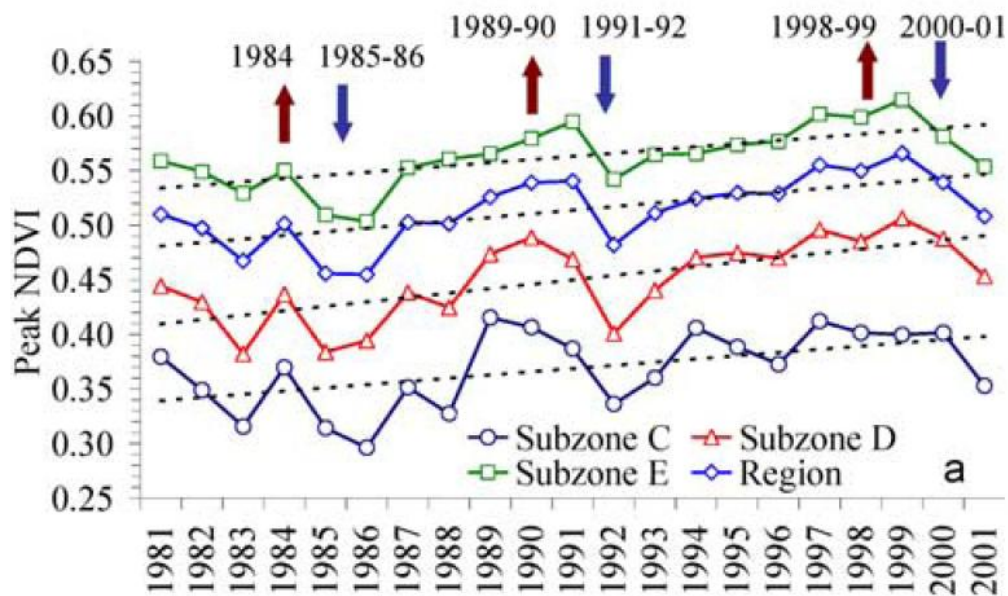
- Major science claims based on data
 - Phenology –lengthening snow-free season in arctic
 - Increased NPP in N America
 - Changing Fire frequencies
 - Land cover changes
- Widely-used information based on data
 - NDVI
 - NPP, agricultural yield
 - Phenology
 - Land cover NPP – carbon sequestration
 - Burned area

Are the AVHRR observations adequate to justify these Earth Science conclusions?

What accuracy and precision in the AVHRR data
is assumed by users when reporting
“significance” of results?

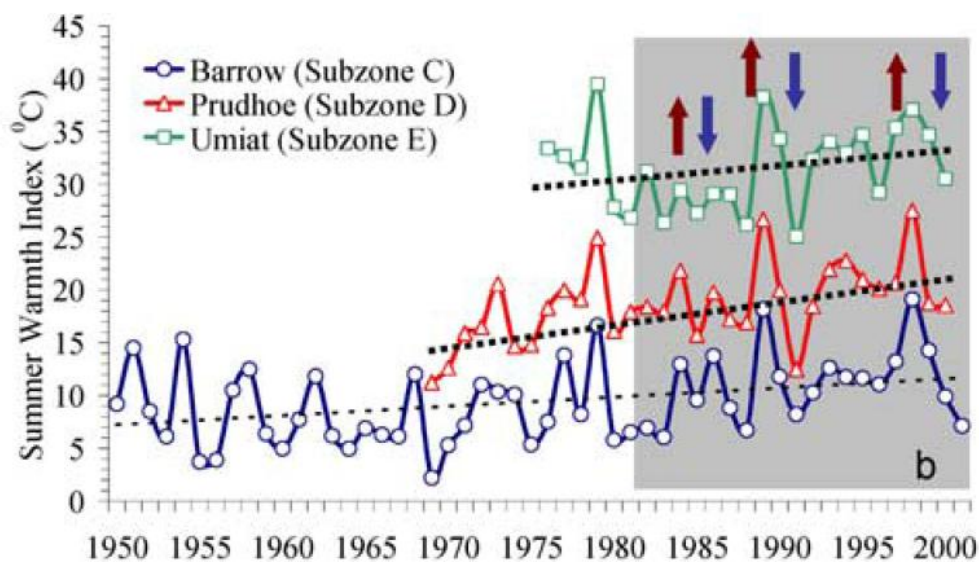
Any independent verification?

1. What are the data implications of the science conclusions?



Time series of peak NDVI derived from 8-km resolution AVHRR data from 1981 to 2001 (a) and SWI over the past 22–50 years (b) among bioclimate subzones.

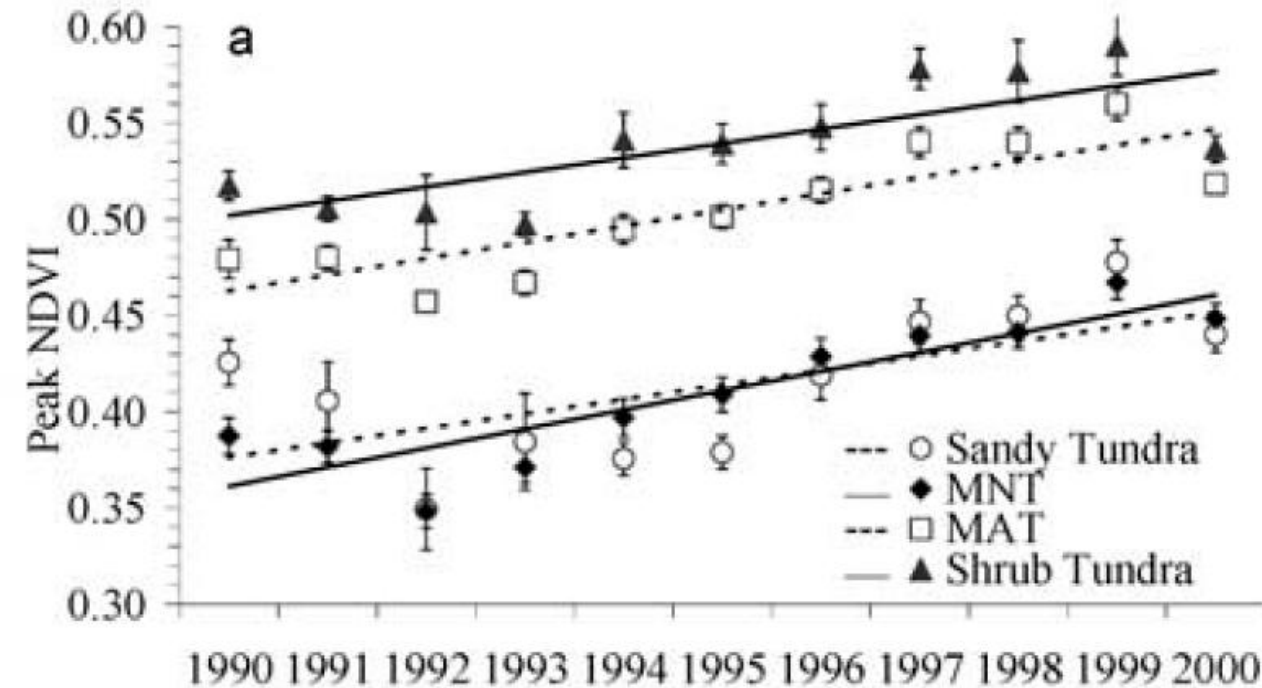
Dashed lines are linear regressions. The shaded area highlights the period of SWI covered by NDVI data



Significant Δ NDVI over 21 years
 $= 0.056 \pm 0.0032$ to 0.082 ± 0.028

From: Jia, G.J., Epstein, H.E. and Walker, D.A., 2003. Greening of arctic Alaska, 1981–2001. GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 30, NO. 20, 2067, doi:10.1029/2003GL018268.

1. What are the data implications of the science conclusions?



Time series of peak NDVI based on 1-km resolution AVHRR data among tundra vegetation types. Error bars represent plus/minus standard error.

Significant $\Delta\text{NDVI} = 0.061/11\text{yrs}$

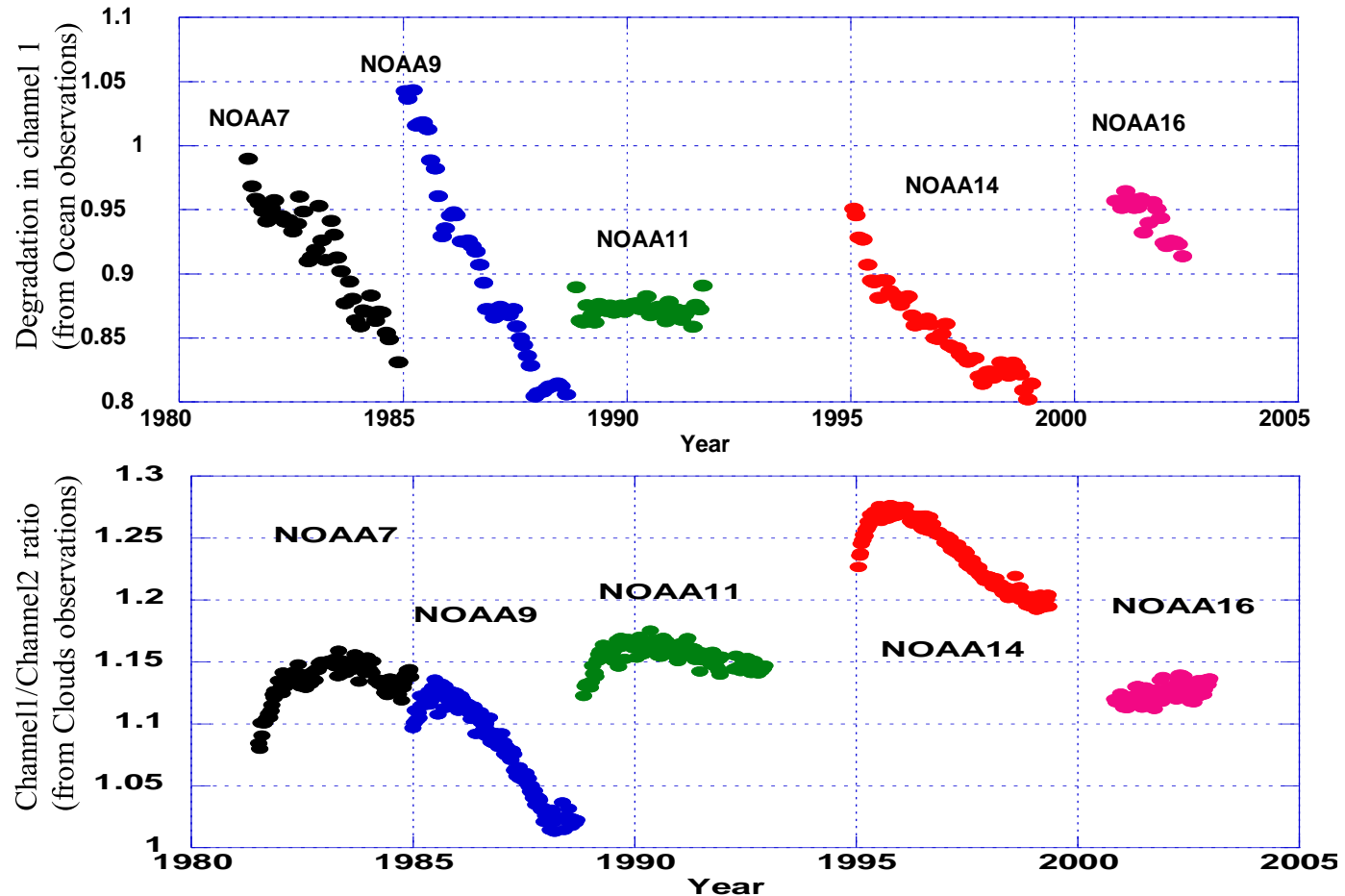
Generating Improved AVHRR products

Goal to make the AVHRR data set temporally consistent and consistent with MODIS by using:

- Reliable and consistent calibration across the different NOAA platforms.
- Apply MODIS algorithms to AVHRR where possible, e.g.: the MODIS aerosol retrieval and atmospheric correction approach.
- BRDF correction to address differences in the solar and viewing geometry.
- Coincident AVHRR/MODIS to evaluate and improve AVHRR products and quantify accuracy.

Consistent AVHRR calibration across platforms

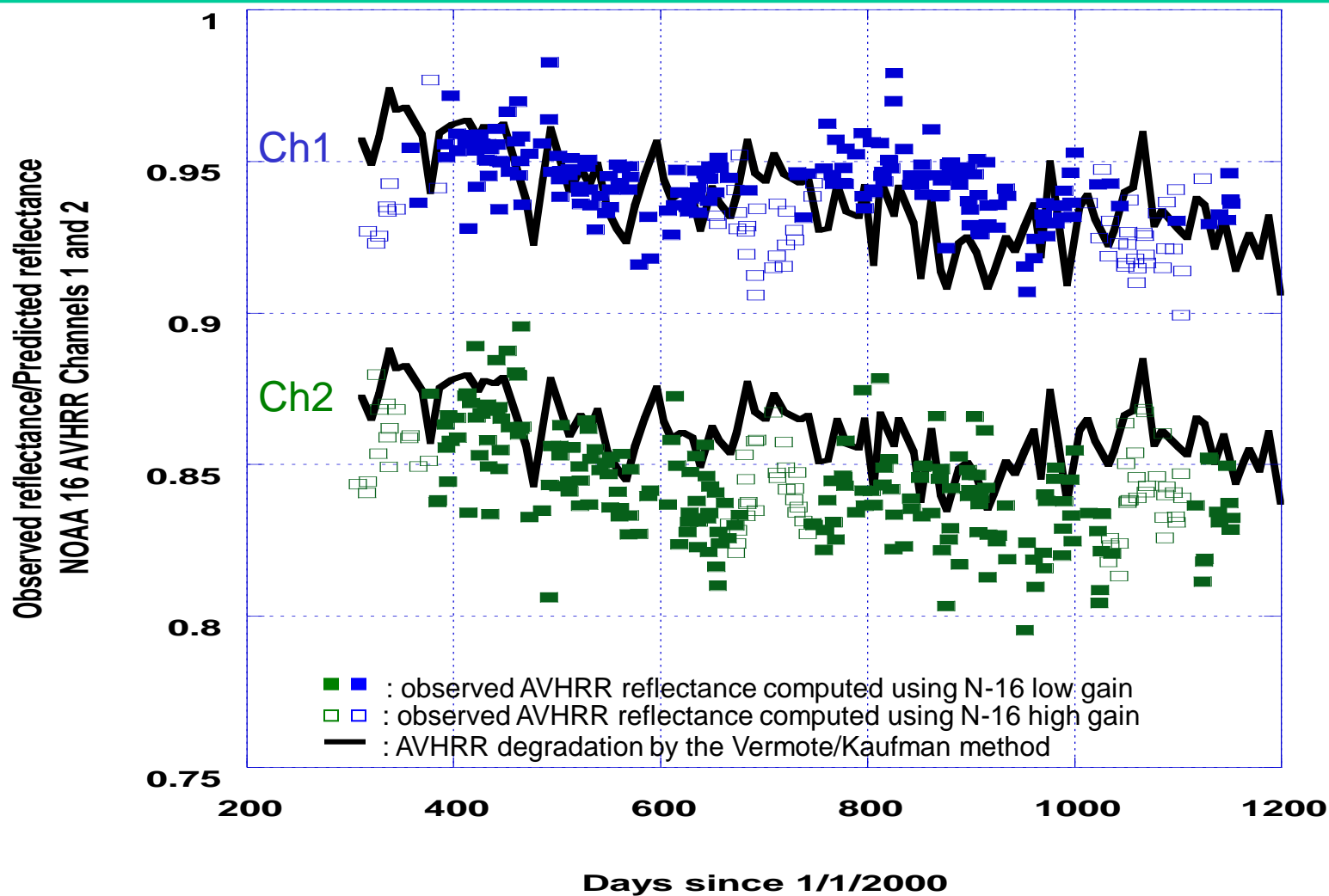
- Use the Vermote/Kaufman calibration approach (1995)



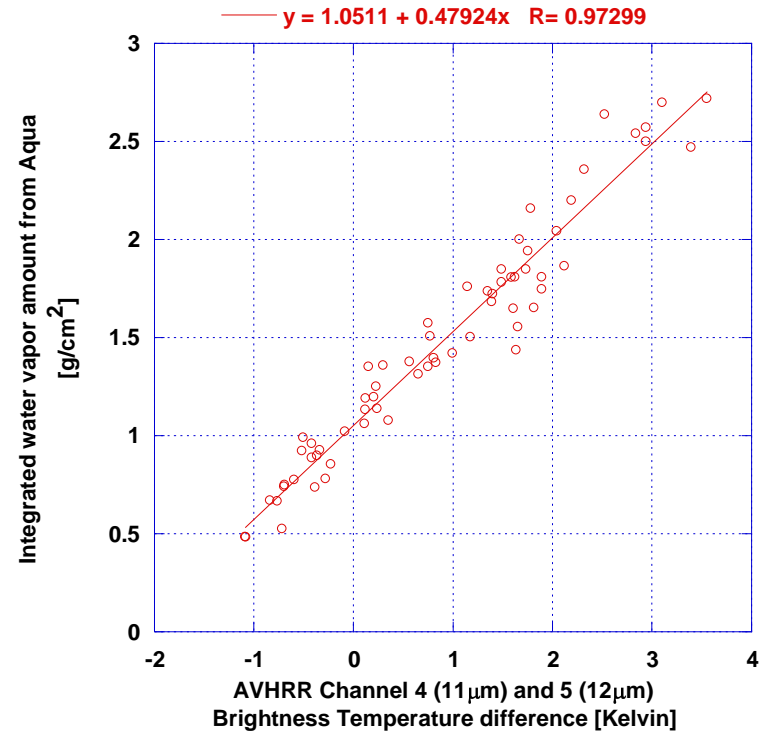
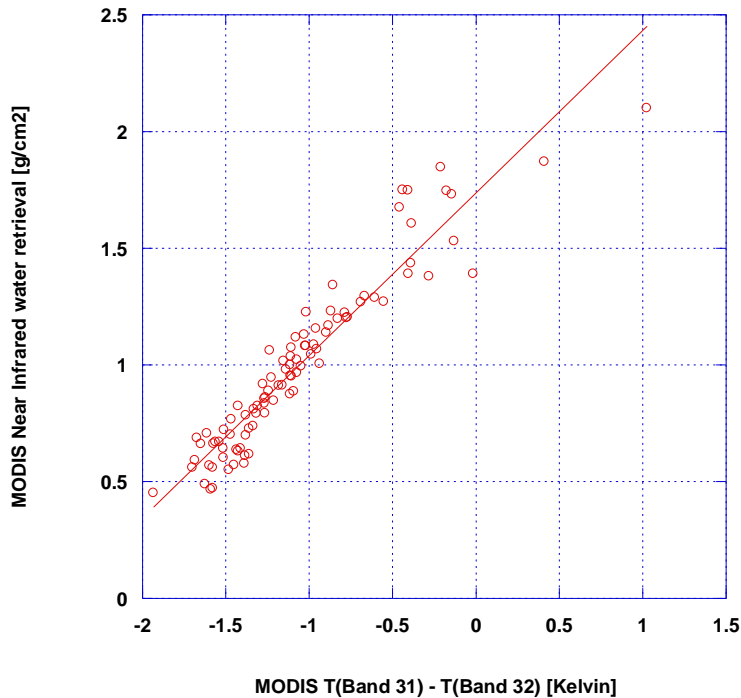
Use MODIS to validate N16 calibration / Approach

- Select a stable calibration site.
- Characterize the reflectance spectral variation using MODIS narrow bands.
- Use 2 years of data to characterize the site BRDF using the simple linear kernel model used in the MODIS BRDF product.
 - Rigorous cloud screening is applied to the data.
 - Exclude observations within 15deg of backscattering conditions to avoid the hot spot.
 - Exclude off-nadir observations (viewing zenith angle > 50 deg) where the pixel size variation makes it difficult to select coincident observations.

Evaluating AVHRR calibration using MODIS



Use of MODIS to improve AVHRR atmospheric corrections



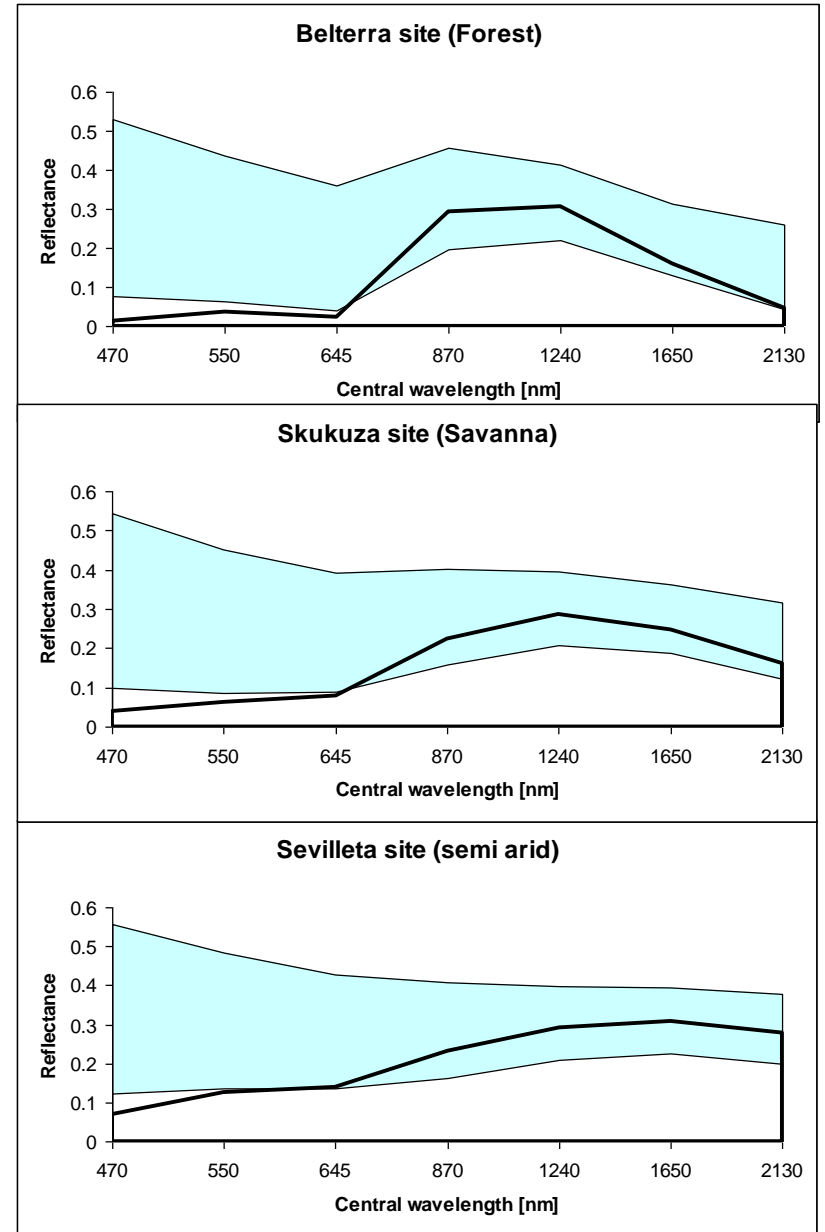
Use coincident MODIS/AVHRR data to develop an approach for water vapor retrieval from AVHRR.

MODIS atmospheric correction, theoretical uncertainties estimates

- Calibration: 2% absolute, 1% band to band
- Pressure: +/- 10mb
- Water vapor 0.2g/cm² (Differential absorption technique)
- Ozone 20 Dobsons (EP-TOMS)
- SWIR/ VIS relationship: +/- 0.005 reflectance unit
- Aerosol type: Smoke low/high absorption, Urban polluted

Top of the atmosphere simulations

Parameter	Values																																												
Geometrical conditions	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Solar Zenith</th> <th>View Zenith</th> <th>Relative Azimuth</th> <th>Case Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>30</td> <td>0</td> <td>B</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>30</td> <td>180</td> <td>C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>60</td> <td>0</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>60</td> <td>180</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>30</td> <td>0</td> <td>G</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>30</td> <td>180</td> <td>H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>60</td> <td>0</td> <td>I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>60</td> <td>180</td> <td>J</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Solar Zenith	View Zenith	Relative Azimuth	Case Name	30	0	0	A	30	30	0	B	30	30	180	C	30	60	0	D	30	60	180	E	60	0	0	F	60	30	0	G	60	30	180	H	60	60	0	I	60	60	180	J
	Solar Zenith	View Zenith	Relative Azimuth	Case Name																																									
	30	0	0	A																																									
	30	30	0	B																																									
	30	30	180	C																																									
	30	60	0	D																																									
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	60	30	0	G																																									
	60	30	180	H																																									
	60	60	0	I																																									
	60	60	180	J																																									
Aerosol optical depth	0.05 (clear) 0.30 (average) 0.50 (high)																																												
Aerosol model	urban clean,urban polluted, smoke low absorption smoke high absorption																																												
Water vapor content [g/cm²]	1.0, 3.0 and 5.0 uncertainties +/-0.2																																												
Ozone content [cm.atm]	0.25 , 0.3, 0.35 uncertainties +/- 0.02																																												
Pressure [mb]	1013mb, 930mb, 845mb uncertainties +/-10mb																																												



MODIS surface reflectance error budget: Calibration uncertainties

minimum error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000		
470	120	0001c	0000c	0001e	470	400	0003a	0003c	0003g	470	700	0005b	0006e	0006g
550	375	0005c	0003j	0001j	550	636	0004a	0002e	0001e	550	1246	0011j	0006j	0005g
645	240	0002c	0003c	0005c	645	800	0006a	0007a	0006a	645	1400	0016e	0011b	0003g
870	2931	0029a	0030a	0030c	870	2226	0019a	0019a	0019a	870	2324	0015b	0011b	0010b
1240	3083	0029f	0030c	0030c	1240	2880	0028a	0027b	0028a	1240	2929	0025b	0023b	0021b
1650	1591	0015c	0016c	0016c	1650	2483	0023a	0023b	0023a	1650	3085	0027b	0026b	0026b
2130	480	0007c	0005c	0006c	2130	1600	0013a	0014a	0013a	2130	2800	0024b	0024b	0023b
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
	849	0001c	0002c	0003c		471	0000a	0000a	0000a		248	0002b	0001a	0000a

maximum error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000		
470	120	0008j	0017i	0023d	470	400	0009j	0017i	0016d	470	700	0010f	0018i	0017c
550	375	0009i	0020i	0034i	550	636	0005b	0013i	0022d	550	1246	0020c	0018i	0023d
645	240	0011i	0036i	0065i	645	800	0013i	0028i	0050i	645	1400	0024c	0022i	0029i
870	2931	0038i	0057i	0081i	870	2226	0026i	0042i	0068i	870	2324	0026f	0022f	0035i
1240	3083	0040i	0052i	0072i	1240	2880	0038i	0043i	0059i	1240	2929	0040f	0036f	0044j
1650	1591	0036i	0045i	0070i	1650	2483	0038i	0038i	0051i	1650	3085	0044f	0039f	0048j
2130	480	0038i	0040i	0065i	2130	1600	0037i	0031i	0043i	2130	2800	0040f	0038j	0049j
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
	849	0006i	0019i	0034i		471	0003j	0007i	0013i		248	0003a	0003i	0003e

average error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000		
470	120	3	4	8	470	400	4	6	9	470	700	7	9	9
550	375	6	8	11	550	636	4	5	7	550	1246	15	12	11
645	240	5	10	18	645	800	8	11	15	645	1400	18	14	13
870	2931	30	34	40	870	2226	21	23	28	870	2324	19	16	17
1240	3083	32	34	39	1240	2880	30	30	34	1240	2929	30	28	29
1650	1591	21	22	28	1650	2483	27	26	29	1650	3085	33	32	32
2130	480	15	13	20	2130	1600	19	18	21	2130	2800	29	29	29
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
	849	2	5	9		471	1	1	2		248	2	1	1

MODIS surface reflectance error budget: Pressure,Ozone,Water Vapor

pressure average error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	0	0	0	470	400	0	0	0	470	700	1	0	0
550	375	2	1	1	550	636	0	0	0	550	1246	1	1	1
645	240	3	3	3	645	800	1	1	1	645	1400	1	1	0
870	2931	1	1	1	870	2226	2	1	1	870	2324	1	1	1
1240	3083	1	1	1	1240	2880	0	0	0	1240	2929	0	0	0
1650	1591	2	2	2	1650	2483	1	1	1	1650	3085	1	0	1
2130	480	2	2	2	2130	1600	1	1	1	2130	2800	2	1	1
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		3	3	2	471		0	1	0	248		0	0	0

ozone average error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	0	0	0	470	400	0	0	0	470	700	0	0	0
550	375	6	6	6	550	636	5	5	5	550	1246	6	6	7
645	240	3	3	3	645	800	4	4	3	645	1400	4	4	4
870	2931	3	3	3	870	2226	7	7	7	870	2324	11	11	11
1240	3083	2	2	2	1240	2880	3	3	3	1240	2929	5	5	5
1650	1591	3	3	3	1650	2483	3	3	3	1650	3085	4	4	4
2130	480	3	3	3	2130	1600	4	4	4	2130	2800	3	3	3
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		2	2	2	471		1	1	1	248		1	1	1

water vapor average error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	Clear	Average	Hazy
		$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$					$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	1	0	0	470	400	3	1	1	470	700	5	3	2
550	375	1	0	0	550	636	4	2	2	550	1246	8	5	3
645	240	2	1	1	645	800	7	4	3	645	1400	12	8	6
870	2931	5	4	3	870	2226	6	4	3	870	2324	10	6	4
1240	3083	2	2	1	1240	2880	3	2	1	1240	2929	4	2	2
1650	1591	0	0	0	1650	2483	1	0	0	1650	3085	2	1	0
2130	480	4	2	2	2130	1600	13	8	6	2130	2800	21	13	10
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		2	1	1	471		2	2	1	248		2	2	1

MODIS surface reflectance error budget: Empirical relationship SWIR-Visible

empirical relationship average error														
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta				
λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average $\Delta\rho$ x10000	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average $\Delta\rho$ x10000	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average $\Delta\rho$ x10000	Hazy
470	120	52	51	51	470	400	52	51	51	470	700	51	51	51
550	375	49	52	56	550	636	52	58	62	550	1246	47	59	63
645	240	52	57	58	645	800	52	60	62	645	1400	52	65	68
870	2931	10	9	10	870	2226	21	25	27	870	2324	29	37	39
1240	3083	11	6	6	1240	2880	16	10	10	1240	2929	29	17	18
1650	1591	17	13	13	1650	2483	19	10	10	1650	3085	41	13	12
2130	480	37	17	16	2130	1600	31	13	14	2130	2800	42	11	10
NDVIx1000			Δ NDVI x1000		NDVIx1000			Δ NDVI x1000		NDVIx1000			Δ NDVI x1000	
	849	30	33	34		471	22	25	25		248	11	14	15

MODIS surface reflectance error budget: Aerosol model

Aerosol model error : Smoke Low Absorption vs Urban Clean

		Belterra			Skukuza			Sevilleta						
		Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	2	4	8	470	400	1	5	9	470	700	1	8	10
550	375	4	9	19	550	636	2	2	10	550	1246	4	13	26
645	240	5	7	21	645	800	5	6	17	645	1400	6	10	17
870	2931	12	75	123	870	2226	10	50	86	870	2324	10	41	67
1240	3083	10	52	91	1240	2880	10	46	82	1240	2929	9	42	73
1650	1591	10	28	53	1650	2483	9	31	57	1650	3085	10	36	60
2130	480	13	16	30	2130	1600	11	17	32	2130	2800	10	25	40
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		2	3	15	471		1	5	11	248		0	5	8

Aerosol model error : Urban polluted vs Urban Clean

		Belterra			Skukuza			Sevilleta						
		Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	1	6	8	470	400	1	8	13	470	700	1	15	22
550	375	3	17	29	550	636	2	8	13	550	1246	9	41	60
645	240	3	15	28	645	800	4	15	20	645	1400	10	41	56
870	2931	27	166	272	870	2226	20	105	172	870	2324	20	94	153
1240	3083	21	118	194	1240	2880	19	102	168	1240	2929	20	97	158
1650	1591	11	42	73	1650	2483	14	62	102	1650	3085	17	82	131
2130	480	7	17	35	2130	1600	8	25	44	2130	2800	13	52	85
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		2	13	24	471		1	17	28	248		0	8	14

Aerosol model error : Smoke High Absorption vs Urban Clean

		Belterra			Skukuza			Sevilleta						
		Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy			Clear	Average	Hazy
λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$			λ [nm]	$\rho \times 10000$	$\Delta\rho \times 10000$		
470	120	2	8	12	470	400	2	13	18	470	700	2	20	31
550	375	5	22	37	550	636	3	11	17	550	1246	12	52	83
645	240	5	13	26	645	800	6	19	26	645	1400	13	48	77
870	2931	33	203	333	870	2226	24	136	220	870	2324	24	121	200
1240	3083	25	145	239	1240	2880	23	130	212	1240	2929	24	122	203
1650	1591	15	67	109	1650	2483	18	87	140	1650	3085	21	104	172
2130	480	11	24	35	2130	1600	12	40	63	2130	2800	16	72	118
NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
849		2	10	20	471		1	16	29	248		0	8	15

MODIS surface reflectance error budget: Summary

SUMMARY															
Belterra					Skukuza					Sevilleta					
λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	λ [nm]	ρ x10000	Clear	Average	Hazy	
			$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000					$\Delta\rho$ x10000		
470	120	52	51	52	470	400	52	52	53	470	700	51	53	55	
550	375	49	55	64	550	636	52	58	64	550	1246	51	70	85	
645	240	52	59	65	645	800	53	62	67	645	1400	57	74	85	
870	2931	40	152	246	870	2226	35	103	164	870	2324	41	95	146	
1240	3083	38	110	179	1240	2880	38	97	158	1240	2929	45	93	148	
1650	1591	29	52	84	1650	2483	35	66	104	1650	3085	55	81	125	
2130	480	41	28	42	2130	1600	40	36	53	2130	2800	56	60	87	
	NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000			NDVIx1000		Δ NDVI x1000		
	849	30	34	40		471	22	28	33		248	11	15	19	

AVHRR Pathfinder atmospheric correction, theoretical uncertainties estimates

- Calibration: 10% absolute, 4% band to band
- Water vapor 0.7g/cm² (NCEP or none)
- Ozone 30 Dobsons (London climatology)
- No aerosol correction

AVHRR Pathfinder Error budget summary

belterra	clear	avg	hazy	skukuza	clear	avg	hazy	clear	avg	hazy				
640	448	56	506	803	640	858	90	457	727	640	1427	149	396	628
846	2367	200	217	338	846	1964	164	225	370	846	2166	179	212	349
3750	448	20	26	31	3750	858	42	44	46	3750	1427	73	74	74
NDVI	682	33	195	266	NDVI	392	42	124	168	NDVI	206	46	68	90

AVHRR Long Term Data Record: Atmospheric correction, theoretical uncertainties estimates

- Calibration: 4% absolute, 2% band to band
- Water vapor 0.3g/cm² (Split window band 4-5)
- Ozone 10 Dobsons (EP-TOMS)
- Aerosol correction based on 3.75mic assumed (0.01 error on the empirical relationship)

LTDR planned : improved calibration, ozone, water vapor, aerosol correction

belterra	clear	avg	hazy	skukuza	clear	avg	hazy	sevilleta	clear	avg	hazy			
640	448	101	100	100	640	858	101	101	100	640	1427	106	104	104
846	2367	85	133	196	846	1964	75	101	141	846	2166	81	97	132
3750	448	14	15	25	3750	858	20	22	26	3750	1427	30	33	37
NDVI	682	56	58	64	NDVI	392	43	47	54	NDVI	206	30	33	38

Production and Distribution

- Use a MODAPS-like environment for production.
- Benefit from the MODIS production experience.
- Data products will be kept online and distributed by ftp and through a web page.
- Make intermediate data sets available for evaluators.
- Transition the data sets to the DAAC later in the project when the datasets are validated.

Community Outreach

- **Advisory panel: will include members from different disciplines and agencies (NOAA NESDIS, USDA, CRSC, ...).**
- **Workshops/Sessions held throughout the project to refine requirements and provide feedback on products.**
- **Publish team's evaluation of existing and intermediate datasets on the web and request input and comments from users.**
- **Participation in scientific conferences and peer reviewed publications.**

Summary

- The creation of a Long Term Land Surface Data record with documented and comparable accuracy across instruments is feasible.
- The long term trend observed with precursor AVHRR datasets needs to be verified.
- A beta version of the AVHRR data set will become available for evaluation in June 2005.
- The user community involved in the definition and evaluation of the data sets (Pathfinder approach).
- Incremental release of the products (Beta => Provisional => Validated) as they are generated (MODIS approach).