

# Long Term Land Data Records

NASA/GSFC: Ed Masuoka, Robert Wolfe, Jeff Pedelty,  
Nazmi Saleous, Sadashiva Devadiga, Compton  
Tucker and Jorge Pinzon

UMD: Eric Vermote, Chris Justice and Steve Prince

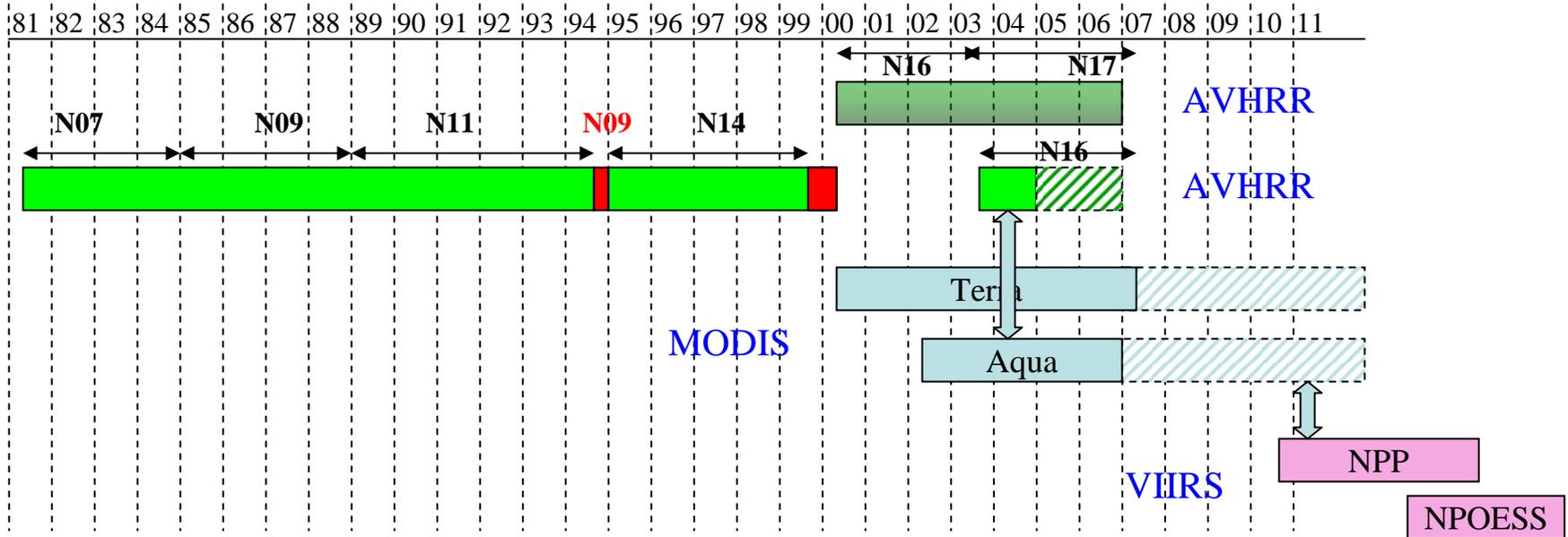
NOAA: Anna Pinheiro

South Dakota State: David Roy

Boston University: Crystal Schaff

LCLUC Meeting May, 2, 2008

# Data Sources - LTDR



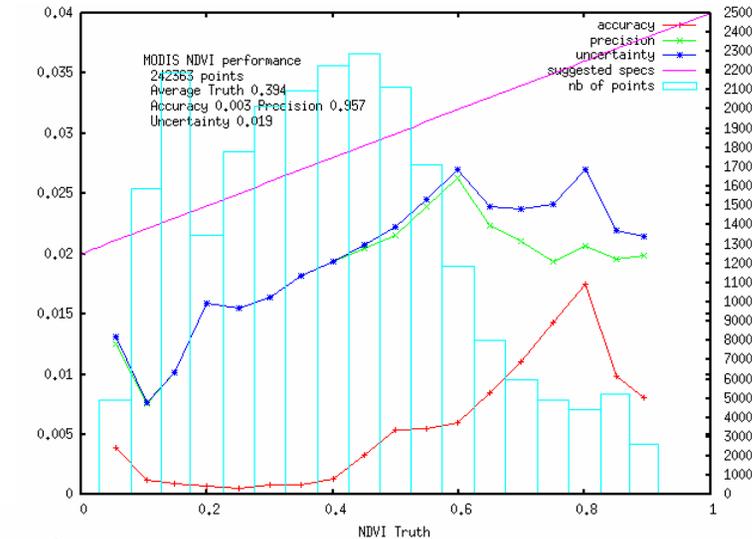
AVHRR (GAC) 1982-1999 + 2003-2006

MODIS (MO(Y)D09 CMG) 2000-present

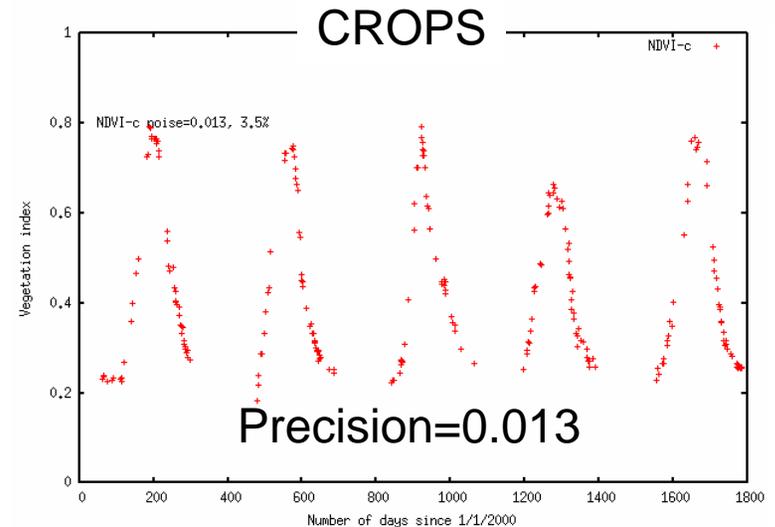
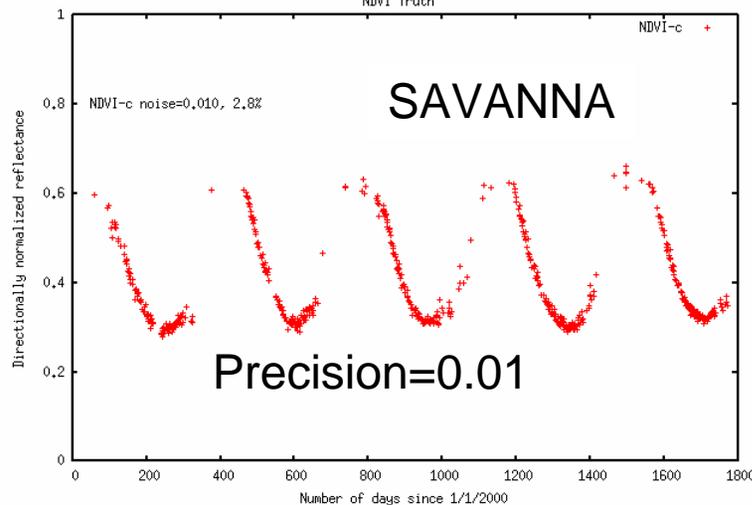
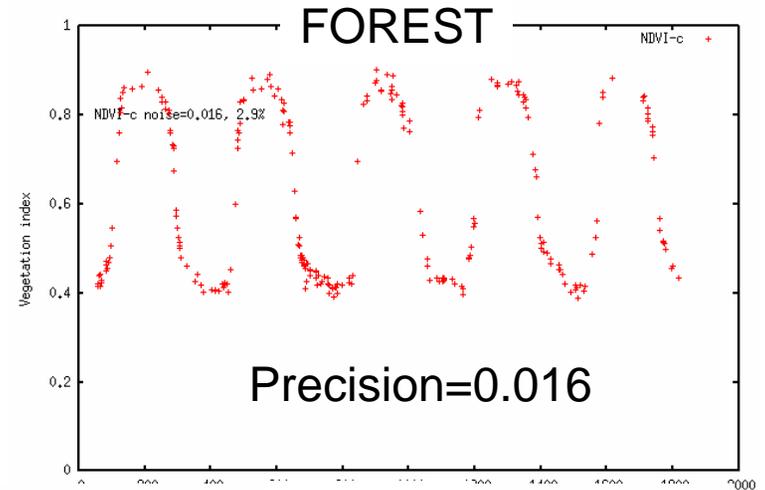
VIIRS 2010 – 2020 (global gridded comparison products)

# MODIS used as a reference for past and future land data record (example NDVI)

Evaluation over AERONET (2003)  
 $0.007 < \text{Precision} < 0.017$

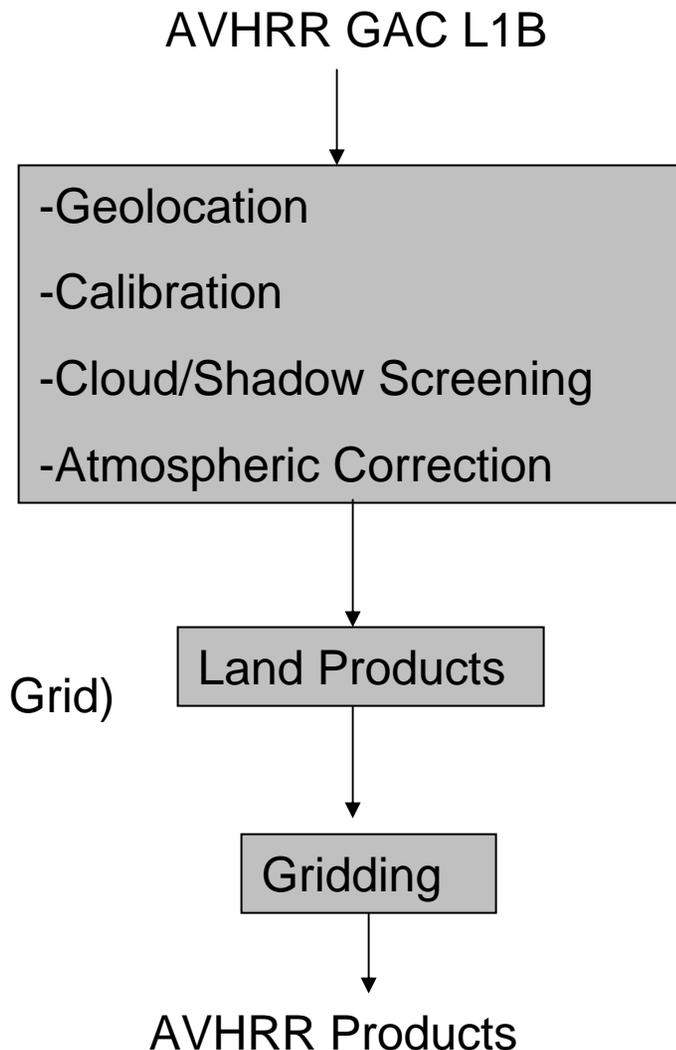


Independent evaluation of the precision  
 Over 2000-2004 CMG daily time series



# AVHRR Data Production and Status

- Algorithms:
  - Vicarious calibration (Vermote/Kaufman)
  - Cloud screening: CLAVR-1
  - Partial Atmospheric Correction:
    - Rayleigh (NCEP)
    - Ozone (TOMS)
    - Water Vapor (NCEP)
- Products:
  - Daily surface reflectance (AVH09C1)
  - Daily NDVI (AVH13C1)
- HDF-EOS Format:
  - Linear Lat/Lon projection
  - Spatial resolution:  $0.05^\circ$  (Climate Modeling Grid)
- Time Period:
  - 1981 – 2000 completed
- Distribution:
  - ftp and web



# LTDR Web Page

**LTDR**

Land Long Term Data Record

LTDR is a NASA-funded REASoN project to produce a global coarse AVHRR, MODIS and VIIRS for Land studies. The project will create reflectance and NDVI at a resolution of 0.05 degrees. Higher order LAI/FPAR, albedo will be created at a coarser temporal resolution. AVHRR data onboard NOAA satellites from 1981 - present.

- [Project Overview and Science Background](#)
- [Documents and Presentations](#)
- [AVHRR Vicarious Calibration](#)
- [Data Products](#)
- [Participants](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Updates/ Changes History](#)

**Index of ftp://ltdr.nascom.nasa.gov/p**

Up to higher level directory

- AVH09C1.A1983001.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983001.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983002.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983002.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983003.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983003.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983004.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983004.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983005.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983005.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983006.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983006.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983007.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983007.N07.001.200602
- AVH09C1.A1983008.N07.001.200602

**LTDR AVHRR Calibration**

AVHRR Calibration

Land Long Term Data Record

Consistent and accurate calibration is a pre-requisite to creating a long-term data record. The AVHRR instrument suffers from the lack of onboard calibration for its visible to short wave infrared channels. Various vicarious calibration approaches were employed by users to account for the sensor degradation. For the LTDR REASoN project, we adopted the approach developed by Vermote and Kaufman (1995) that relies on clear ocean and accurate Rayleigh scattering computations to derive the sensor degradation in the red bands. This approach uses high clouds to predict the variation in the NIR to Red ratio and transfer the calibration to the NIR channel. This approach does not require any in situ or aircraft measurements and is applied consistently across the AVHRR instruments onboard various NOAA satellites. Click on the satellite link to get the calibration coefficients for the corresponding AVHRR ([NOAA-7](#), [NOAA-9](#), [NOAA-11](#), [NOAA-14](#), [NOAA-16](#)).

Degradation in channel 1 (from Ocean observations)

Climate 1/Climate 2 ratio (from Cloud observations)

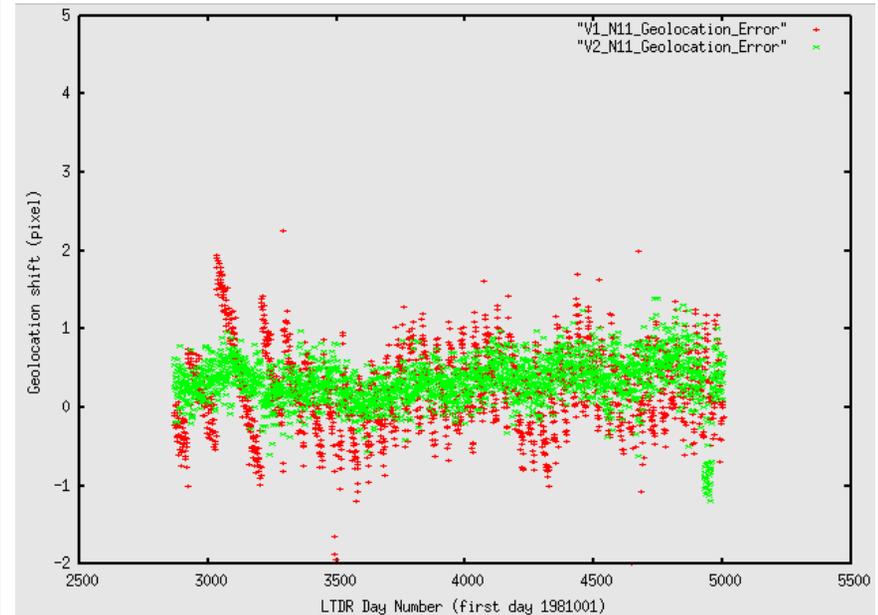
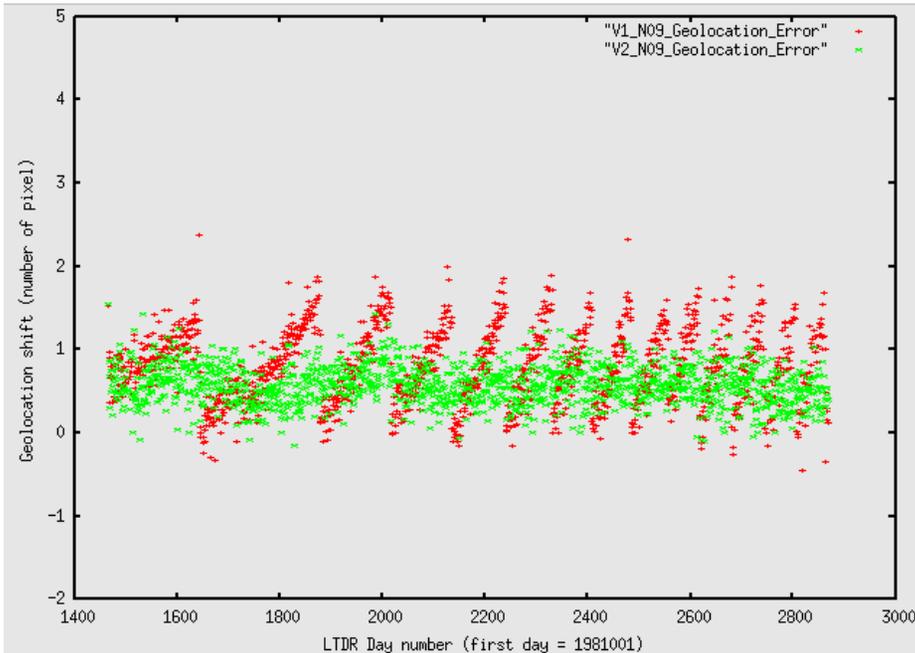
# Data Sets

- Beta Quality (Version 1)
  - Released in Summer 2006
  - Evaluation of data revealed following issues
    - Geolocation shift due to bad ephemeris
    - Calibration error
    - Cloud mask error
- Version 2
  - Released in Summer 2007
  - Improved geolocation, water vapor and calibration

# Geolocation Accuracy N09 and N11

**Red points:** Version 1.0 geolocation accuracy

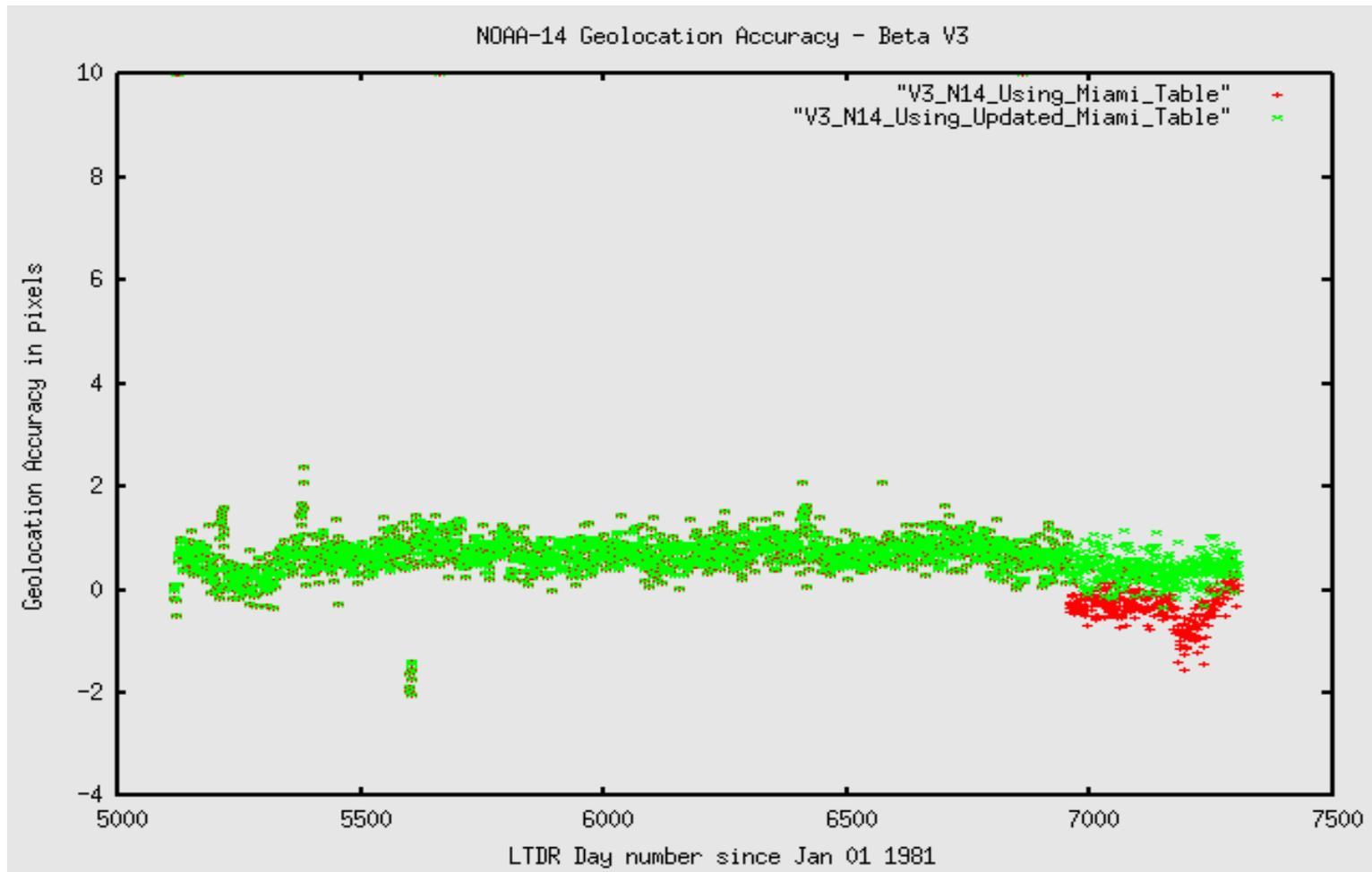
**Green points:** Version 2.0 geolocation accuracy



# Geolocation Accuracy N14

**Red points:** Version 2.0 geolocation accuracy (Miami Clock corrections)

**Green points:** Version 3.0 geolocation accuracy (adjusted clock corrections)



# Calibration of NOAA 16 AVHRR



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Remote Sensing of Environment 103 (2006) xxx–xxx

Remote Sensing  
of  
Environment

[www.elsevier.com/locate/rse](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rse)

## Calibration of NOAA16 AVHRR over a desert site using MODIS data

E.F. Vermote <sup>a,\*</sup>, N.Z. Saleous <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> University of Maryland, Department of geography and NASA GSFC, Code 614.5, United States  
<sup>b</sup> SAC and NASA GSFC Code 614.5, United States

Received 24 February 2006; received in revised form 16 June 2006; accepted 27 June 2006

### Abstract

This paper presents a new approach to AVHRR-sensors cross-calibration in the visible to shortwave-infrared spectral domain using an a-priori, well calibrated sensor (MODIS). The approach has been tested over a stable Sahara desert site and was initially applied to compare the absolute calibration coefficients of three different bands of the Terra and Aqua MODIS instruments. The observed agreement was better than 1% for bands 1 (0.67  $\mu\text{m}$ ), 2 (0.87  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and 7 (2.13  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The approach was then applied to cross-calibrate the AVHRR sensor onboard NOAA16. The absolute calibration coefficients derived for bands 1 and 2, using the Terra MODIS as a reference, were compared to the vicarious coefficients derived using the ocean and clouds method (Vermote E.F. and Kaufman Y.J. (1995). Absolute calibration of AVHRR visible and near-infrared channels using ocean and cloud views, International Journal of Remote Sensing, 16, 13, 2317–2340). The coefficients were consistent within less than 1%.

Keywords: Calibration; AVHRR; MODIS



Fig. 2. Location of the 20 km by 20 km calibration site (centered on the red square). The image represents an area of 1000 km by 1000 km.

The coefficients were consistent within less than 1%

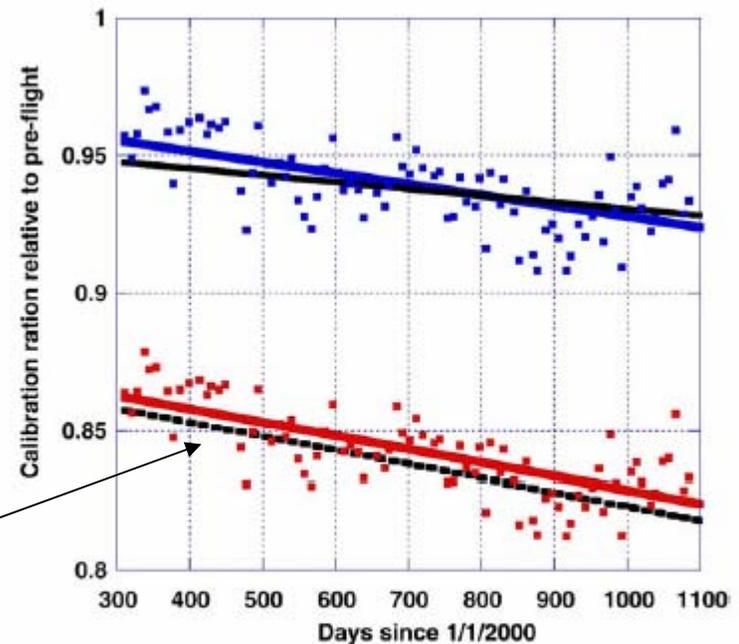
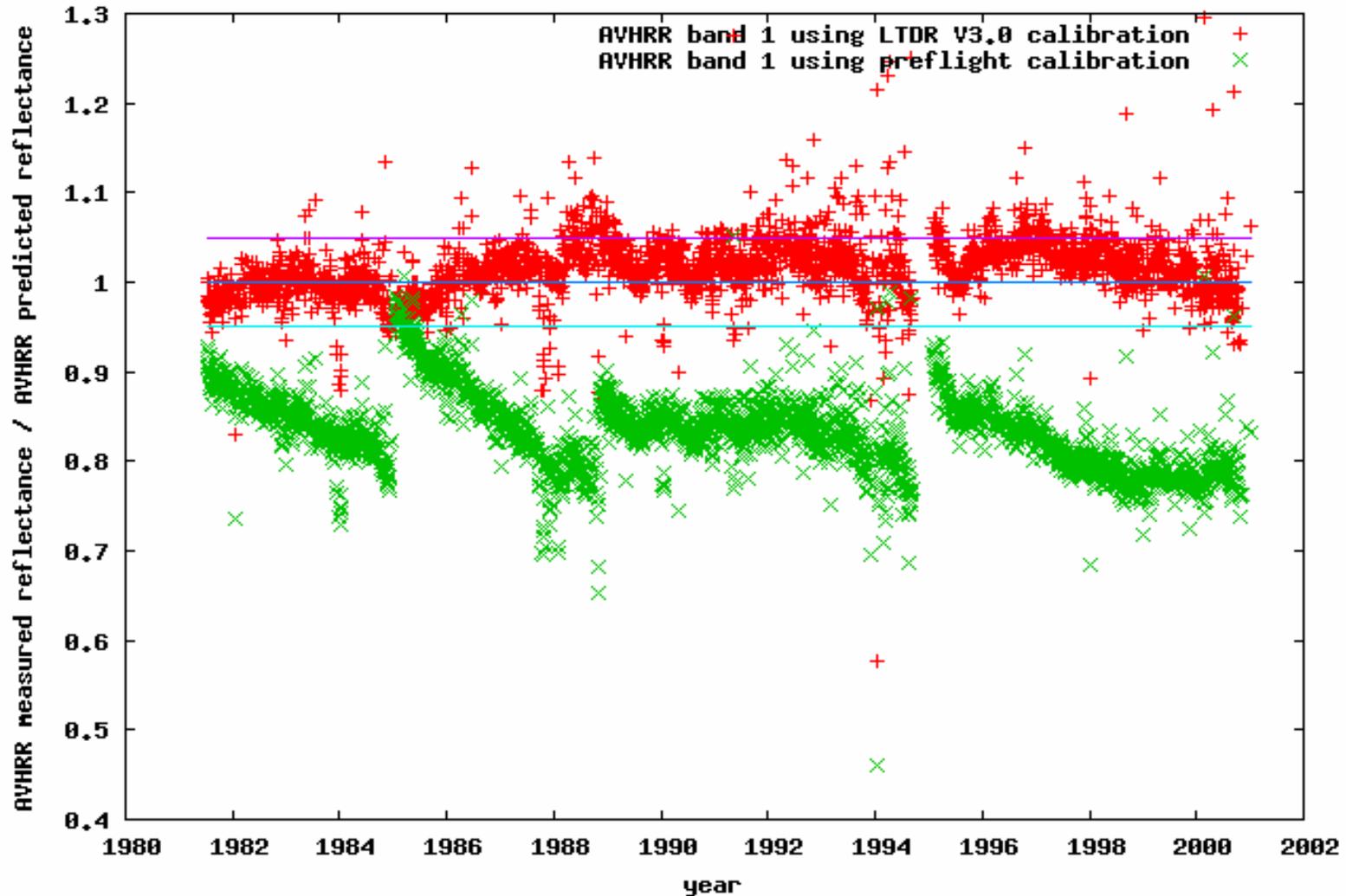


Fig. 11. Comparison of the desert calibration trends for band 1 (black solid line) and band 2 (black interrupted line), with the trends obtained using the Ocean and Clouds method (Vermote and Kaufman, 1995) for band 1 (blue line and square) and band 2 (red line and square).

# Extension of calibration evaluation to NOAA 7,9,11 and 14 (on-going)

V3.0 Calibration evaluation over Lybian desert



# AVHRR AND MODIS daily time series used to investigate vegetation onset in Europe

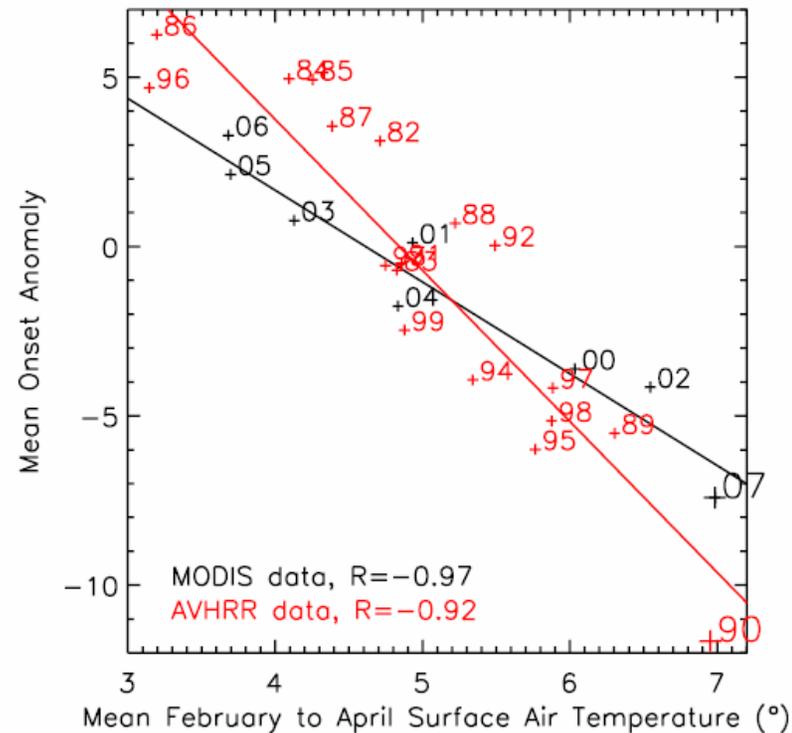
GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 35, L02404, doi:10.1029/2007GL032472, 2008



## Mild winter and spring 2007 over western Europe led to a widespread early vegetation onset

F. Maignan,<sup>1</sup> F. M. Bréon,<sup>1</sup> E. Vermote,<sup>2</sup> P. Ciais,<sup>1</sup> and N. Viovy<sup>1</sup>

Received 31 October 2007; revised 9 December 2007; accepted 18 December 2007; published 24 January 2008.

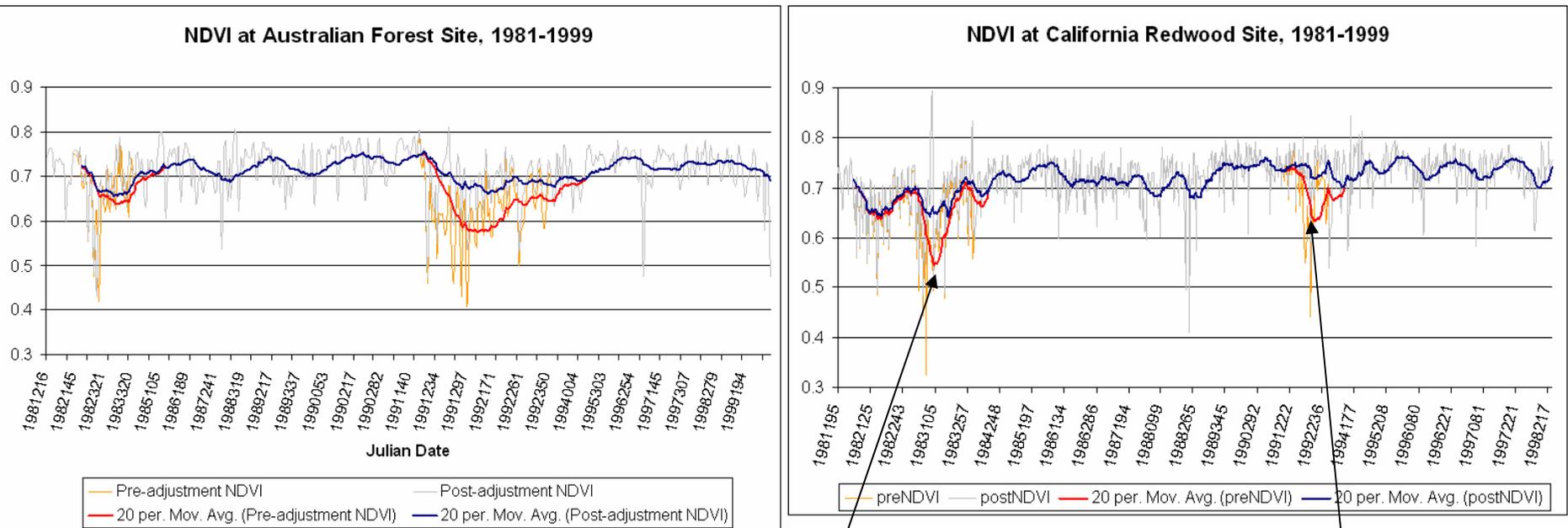


**Figure 2.** Scatterplot of the vegetation onset date anomaly against the February–April mean temperature. Both parameters have been averaged at the subcontinent scale. The phenology parameters have been derived from the MODIS data for the 2000–2007 period and AVHRR data for the 1982–1999 period. The temperatures are 2m air temperatures from the NCEP reanalysis [Kalnay *et al.*, 1996].

# Correction for stratospheric aerosol

**Red curve:** AVHRR NDVI not corrected for stratospheric aerosol

**Blue curve:** AVHRR NDVI corrected for stratospheric aerosol

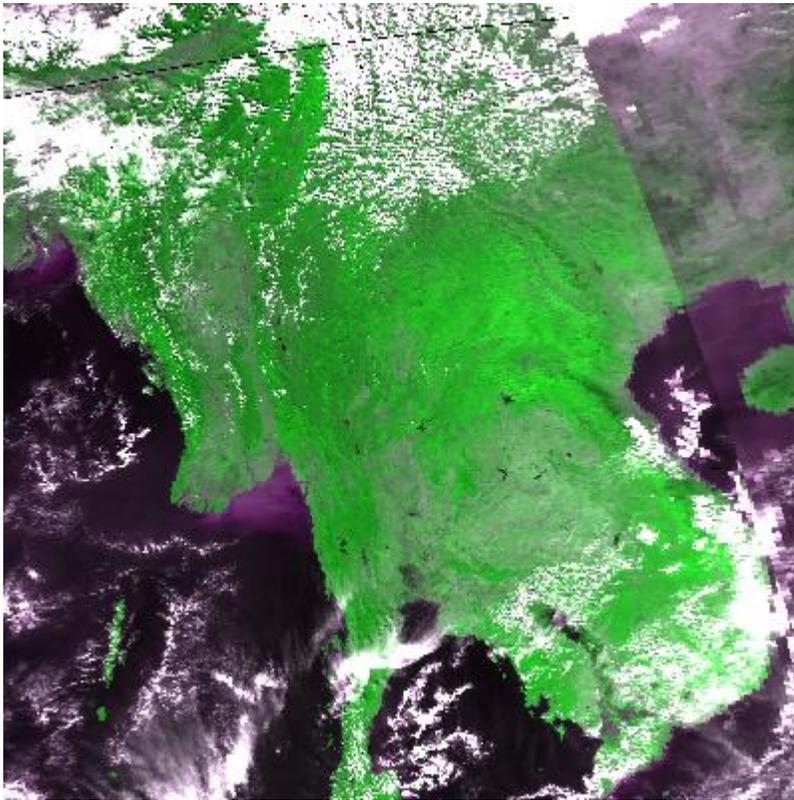


El Chichon

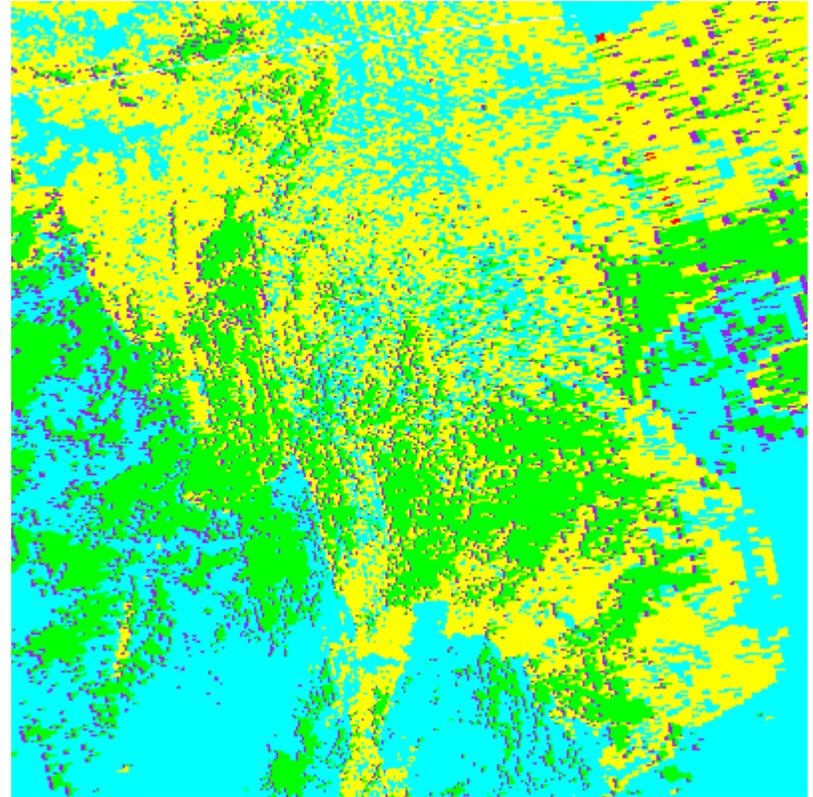
Pinatubo

# Cloud Mask Issue

AVH09C1.A1996001.N14.2007270140627.jpg

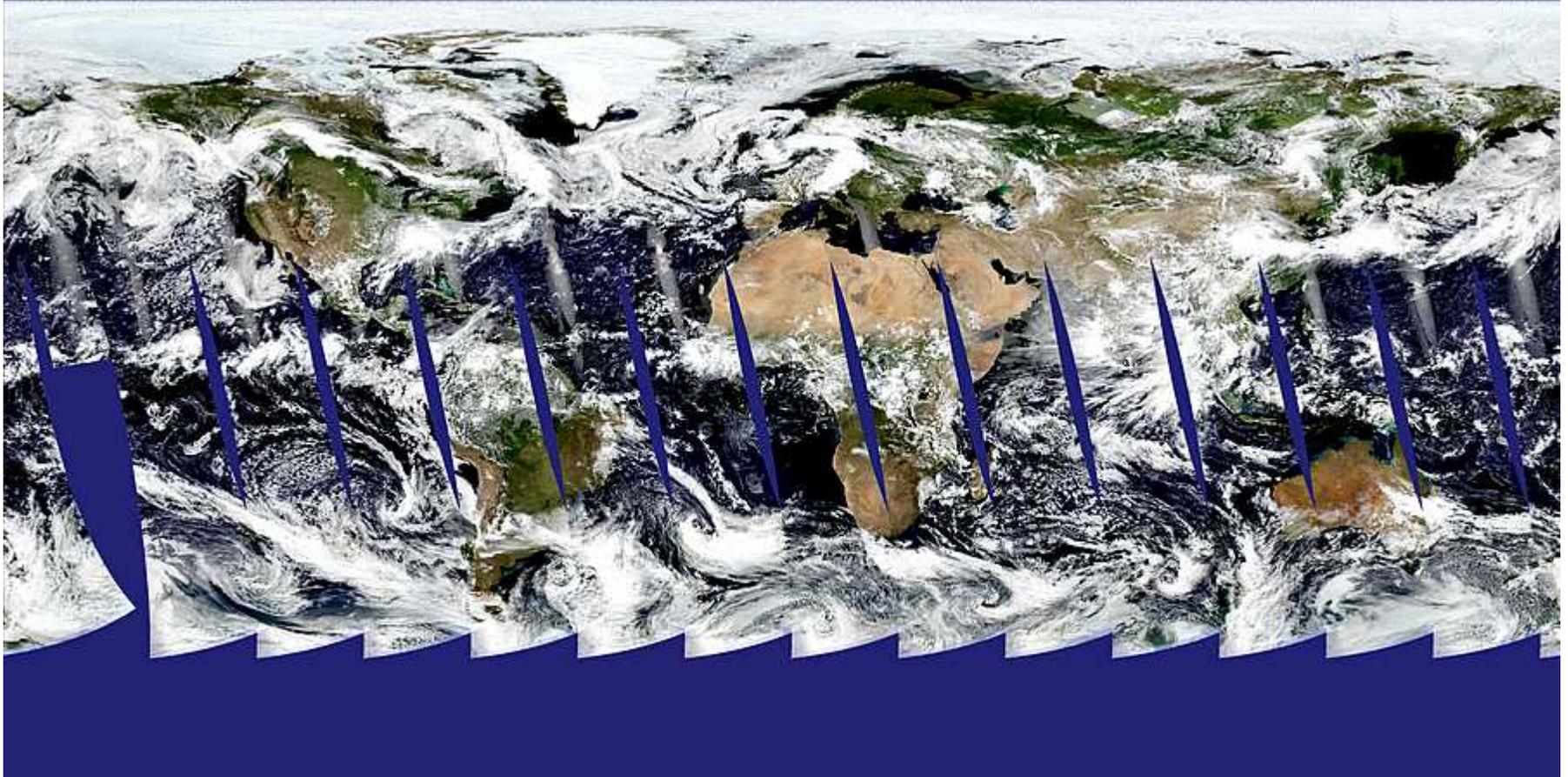


RGB composite of Surf Ref from  
Ch1,Ch2

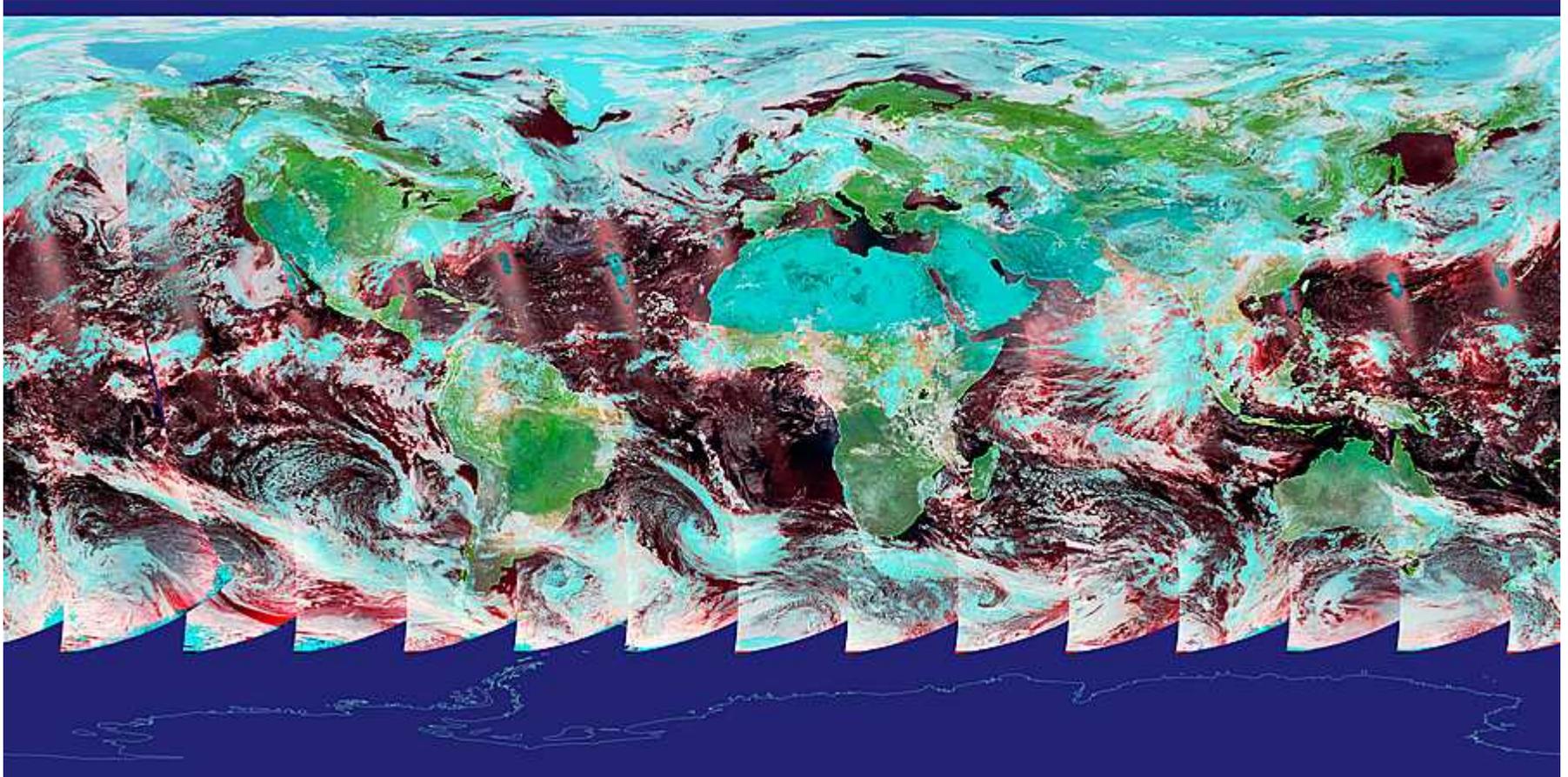


CLAVR-1 Cloud Mask: Green – Clear,  
Cyan – Cloud, Yellow – partial cloud

# MODIS-Aqua CMG 07/01/2003



# AVHRR CMG 07/01/2003



# Version 3 Data Set

- Improvements in cloud screening and correction for tropospheric aerosol
  - developed from near-coincident NOAA16-Aqua MODIS data
- Correction for stratospheric aerosol
- Covers: 1981-1999, 2003
- Available: Late 2008