

MODIS TECHNICAL TEAM MEETING

July 3, 1996

The MODIS Technical Team Meeting was chaired by Vince Salomonson. Present were Dorothy Hall, Bob Murphy, David Herring, Steve Ungar, Bruce Guenther, and Al Fleig.

1.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 9 - 10	EOS Calibration Panel at GSFC
July 11 - 12	MODLAND-SDST Meeting at GSFC
July 15	Semi-Annual Reports due to Barbara Conboy
July 17 - 18	Atmosphere Discipline Group Meeting in Chincoteague, VA
July 18	MCST Science Advisory Panel at GSFC
Aug. 16	Revised ATBDs due to the EOS Project Science Office
Oct. 8	MODIS Calibration Working Group at GSFC
Oct. 9 - 11	MODIS Science Team Meeting at GSFC

2.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

2.1 MCST Reports

Guenther announced that four MCST personnel will travel to SBRS next week to help write the MODIS testing software. Guenther feels that the help MCST is providing is having a much appreciated positive impact on SBRS's schedule. MCST is currently also helping with tests of the PFM, which will shorten the critical path of performance tests that are needed when the flight electronics are onboard.

2.1.1 Pointing Near the Sun

Guenther stated that he plans to request that MODIS be pointed near the sun at the upcoming MCST Advisory Panel meeting on July 18. He feels that maneuvering the spacecraft to view near the sun is safe, and would provide an additional calibration method. Salomonson questioned whether there is sufficient time and money to plan for such a maneuver.

2.1.2 Ordering Data in the Output Product

Guenther reported that personnel from MCST and SDST met to discuss how to order the data in the MODIS output product. He stated that it was agreed by both support teams that data should be oriented in the output product as if it were a continuous series of consecutive lines on the Earth's surface, rather than arranging them in ascending detector numbering sequence. The result will be that the Level 1B data will be ordered as they currently are in the synthetic data. Guenther also noted that unless the format for Level 1A data was changed, it

would not be in an apparent ground path sequence. Masuoka said that this was the case and that SDST appreciated Guenther's comment, and agreed to change the Level 1A output also so there would be no discrepancy. The end result is that the data will be arranged as people would expect them to be, so that processing and display will be simplified.

2.2 The MODIS Plan

Salomonson reported that Chris Scolese had met with Bill Barnes, Murphy and himself to discuss the MODIS Plan that is being prepared by SBRS. This plan will assure an ontime delivery of MODIS for AM-1 and cost containment for the remaining MODIS deliveries. The SBRS recommendation to delete the SRCA on PM-1 was not accepted. If they can demonstrate significant net cost savings, he will reconsider. Selected portions of the third MODIS instrument would be fabricated.

2.3 SDST Reports

Fleig noted that a discussion is beginning on the delivery of software for PM products. He noted that the original purpose of beta software deliveries (to learn about the DAAC and ECS, the ECS toolkit, data formats and such) is not needed for existing investigators whose PM products are similar to their AM products. However, beta deliveries should be made by new investigators and by existing investigators who will have new products for the PM instrument. Guenther asked about delivery schedules and processes for post launch AM products and Fleig responded that they are not well defined to date. This will be discussed further at the upcoming MODLAND Team meeting.

2.4 Ice Surface Temperature Algorithm

Hall reported that she and Jeff Key are making good progress on the ice surface temperature algorithm. She said their algorithm allows the calculation of ice surface temperature as long as there are no clouds overhead.

Hall said she plans to attend the Atmosphere Group's cloud mask meeting to be held July 19 at Wallops Flight Facility.

2.5 Blue Band Added to MAS

Ungar announced that a blue band was added to the MODIS Airborne Simulator (MAS). The band looks good in preliminary tests. Ungar told the Team that MAS will fly as part of the TARFOX campaign and then as part of BOREAS on July 29, which will be the first test of the new blue band.

Ungar said that Zhengming Wan will arrive in Canada on July 25 to participate in BOREAS.

2.6 Polarization Tests Waived

Murphy reported that SBRS was going to request a waiver on the requirement to conduct polarization sensitivity tests on bands 5 and 6 (all other bands on the

vis/nir focal planes will be tested). The tests would be waived to save time in the test set-up. He will recommend that the waiver be accepted unless one of the discipline leaders objects.

3.0 ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Action Items Carried Forward

1. *Herring*: Review the schedules for the MODLAND workshop in August and the ATBD reviews in November to ensure that there is adequate time to revise ATBDs after each event.
2. *Herring*: invite a representative from the VIRS Team to attend the next MODIS Science Team Meeting to present an overview of their instrument, explain their data processing chain, and discuss how they are gridding their data.
3. *Guenther*: Forward copies of the SBRS test schedule to the Science Team as soon as it is available.