

MODIS Technical Team Meeting
Thursday, April 7, 2005
Building 33, Room E125

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Natasha Vozza, Chris Justice, Dorothy Hall, Ed Masuoka, Eric Vermote, Steve Kempler, and Robert Wolfe, with Yolanda Harvey taking the minutes.

1.0 Upcoming Events

- IGARSS 2005, July 25-29, Seoul, South Korea. Abstracts deadline past (December 8, 2004). <http://www.igarss05.org/>

2.0 Meeting Minutes

2.1 General Discussion

Salomonson observed that the presentations at the March MODIS Science Team meeting were very well done, and all are on the MODIS website. The poster presentations should be up as well. There is also a CD of the posters and presentations in the works that will be distributed to program managers at NASA HQ.

Salomonson noted that Winnie Humberson has said that she is running out of the original "MODIS Multidisciplinary Data Set" CDs that were produced a few years ago. Justice said that we can't do another effort on that right now because the timing is off. Salomonson understood, and said that if we did do it, it would be an even bigger effort than last time. Perhaps each discipline would want to produce their own CD? Justice suggested packaging the CMGs, but that would still require a significant PR effort. Hall noted that it would also have to go through the official approval system if the data were going to go to schools. Salomonson noted that these were good points, and said that we'd leave it at that for now.

Salomonson said that the EOS Aqua AIRS Special Issue was discussed in the most recent Aqua Telecon. The special issue will cover their Collection 4 data set, representing their best work to date. He asked if anyone in MODIS was interested in publishing another special issue. Justice noted that he had been contacted about doing a book with MODIS data. Hall noted that a special issue for our Collection 5 data would be good timing and a good showcase of our products. Vermote agreed, adding that it would be possible once science testing finished. Salomonson said that AIRS's special issue will be in JGR. Hall suggested that a special issue were produced it might be nice to do a CD or have a website accompany it. Justice suggested a Fall start to this initiative, since it'll be near the three-year mark for this Science Team, and will be a good showcase of their work. Hall agreed, noting that we'll need updated user guides anyway.

Salomonson said that the Headquarters "Senior Review" Panel will be listening to the Terra case on April 27, 2005. The decision regarding Terra will come sometime in June of 2005

2.2 Instrument Status

Salomonson noted that the cross-track scanning CERES on Aqua has had an anomaly involving the shortwave band. The CERES team is maybe will shut it off, and substitute the FM3 instrument temporarily with FM4. Eventually the corrective action may require restarting the instrument.

2.2.1 Terra MODIS

No issues reported.

2.2.2 Aqua MODIS

Xiong reported that the MCST found a trend toward increased noise on the B27 detector yesterday. This is the same band as last time, and we're seeing three times more noise.

2.3 DAAC

Kempler reported that processing is going well. Synergy 4 functionality turn on did not go well, so the DAAC decided to remain at Synergy 3 functionality until the issues are resolved. Synergy 4 included increased distribution functionality. Going back to Synergy 3 isn't a bad thing, since we were already operating at that level.

Salomonson asked if the DAAC is working with CERES on an A-train subset, and Kempler said yes, they're a great team to work with.

2.4 SDST

Salomonson asked if the Atmosphere Collection 5 Land reprocessing will start in September, and Masuoka said that it would if deliveries of Land Surface Reflectance software occur on schedule. Justice noted that HQ ought to be quite happy about the progress MODIS has made.

Masuoka said that he has a spreadsheet of land product distribution numbers he will send to Salomonson and Justice. It shows volume, number of granules and number of distinct users who ordered a particular product.

As for the SST product, Salomonson noted that a decision from HQ/Eric Lindstrom is still needed. Until that decision is reached it is hard to make any firm decisions about where the processing of MODIS SST will be accomplished

Wolfe noted that the Science Team has approved the release of Collection 5 Level 1B and Geolocation products to the public. They're not quite ready to release the Collection 5 Cloud Mask and Atmospheric Profiles.

2.5 Land

Justice noted that Land reprocessing is being delayed in part due to the extent of testing. He said that the group as a whole is also doing a lot more testing than they've ever done before, so they're also finding more to change. Justice said that right now they're trying to get all the products to the "good enough" point for Collection 5. Wolfe said that the land group is working to find a better way to

communicate so that people know what to expect. The surface reflectance product, which is the upstream product for a number of products, is taking most time in terms of coding and testing and could warrant some additional manpower. The SR group is working hard to minimize the reprocessing slip. Vermote noted that there are substantial code changes necessary for Surface Reflectance (new look up tables, aerosol models, etc.) that will improve the product accuracy, particularly in arid and semi arid areas. Vermote has also recently spent time trying to understand the proposed alternative for the Surface Reflectance product that was selected during the last recompetete (in particular comparing 6S radiative code to other reference codes). Results were presented at the ST meeting showing severe limitations to the alternative approach.

2.6 Cryosphere

Hall reported that she thinks that she's going to have to pull the Snow Albedo product from the collection 5, as there's no funding for it to progress past beta status. She said she hates to pull it, but without funding, they can't improve or validate it.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 New Action Items

No new action items.

3.2 Old Action Items

3.2.1 Robert Wolfe will check on the status of the ephemeris problem on Aqua.
Status: Open.