

MODIS Technical Team Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2005
Building 33, Room E125

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Jack Xiong, Ed Masuoka, Dorothy Hall, Eric Vermote, Michael King, Steve Kempler, and Barbara Conboy, 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

Vermote asked about the Terra Senior Review. Salomonson said that it will happen on April 27th, and a decision will be made sometime in June of 2005. (Note: The review occurred on April 27. It seemed to go well. Jon Ranson, the Terra Project Scientist, gave a very good presentation. All the instrument P.I.s or Team Leaders were present).

Salomonson reported that after nearly 40 years of federal service he is formally retiring from NASA on June 3rd, 2005, and will go into Emeritus status at Goddard. He intends to continue working albeit on a little more flexible schedule. He hopes to continue a relationship with the MODIS Science (and Technical) Team, but must await some review by NASA authorities to see how close to his present role such a relationship can be. It is clear that that he won't be able to engage in civil service administrative functions related to procurement, etc., but a continuing role or association with the science and technical activities may be possible.

2.2 Instrument Status

Xiong reported that there are no new issues with performance. He reported getting an email and request from the people working on VIIRS, who wanted MCST offline data analysis tools (everyone can get L1B from DAAC). Xiong wanted to know if this is OK. Salomonson said that his opinion is this shouldn't be a problem except that help in implementing the offline data analysis tools will necessarily be limited. Xiong said that MCST would like to help them, but agreed that there are limits to what they can realistically do due to existing manpower and resources.

2.3 DAAC

Kempler reported that everything is fine at the Goddard DAAC, and reprocessing is going smoothly.

2.4 SDST

Masuoka noted a couple of items that came out of the last meeting of the EOSDIS Evolution Study Team. The first is an action coming to the team to look at products in the DAAC archives that the Team would like to remove. The MODIS Land products were used in an example analysis of how to identify candidate products for deletion from DAAC archives and 8 products were identified as potential "lemons" that the MODIS Team might consider for deletion. A review of the products by Robert Wolfe found that out of 8 products identified in the analysis, 2 products had been removed from the archives 2 years ago, 4 products were test products for Collection 5 and 2 products were indeed candidates for deletion (MOD43B2, the Terra and Aqua BRDF/Albedo model 2 products.) Masuoka sent a memo to Mary Ann Esfandiari regarding our findings with respect to the 8 products identified as candidates for removal from the archives. In the memo, Masuoka pointed out that the data collected by ESDIS should be filtered to remove products which have been deleted from the archive in the past, before a final version is sent to instrument teams for their use in identifying potential "lemons" among their products in the DAACs.

Masuoka said that Martha Maiden discussed the product reviews that NASA HQ is organizing through the program managers, Wickland, Bontempi, Lindstrom and others. She has identified a series of potential steps for the reviews and is in the process of discussing them with the program managers. Included in the criteria will be popularity of the product based on DAAC distribution metrics, particular need for the product within a focus area or science discipline and connection to long-term data record (will this product be part of an Earth Science Data Record).

Masuoka presented a series of plots generated based on the metrics provided by ESDIS via EDGARS. In the plots, which showed number of granules distributed for each product and the number of unique users for the product, the products were sorted so that the number of granules distributed decreased from left to right. Masuoka will distribute the charts to the team this week along with some caveats on how the data were collected.

Kempler noted that he has a list of products with the highest distribution levels at the GES DAAC.

Wolfe reported that they're still working on the Collection 5 Cloud Mask.

2.5 Land

Vermote noted that the Land Team is still working on Collection 5 testing.

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.