MODIS Science Team Meeting
Summary from Algorithm Developers Forum

Friday, May 16, 1997

Synopsis

* In general, we've made progress working as a team amongst ourselves and with our SDST contacts. Programmers encouraged to see reduction in SDST staff turnover, as this aids "institutional memory". We are disappointed that some long standing issues persist, e.g. frequent specification changes within a given development cycle); following are ideas how we can address some of these.

Issues and Concerns

--Better communication between algorithm developers (and between developers and SDST contacts) would be beneficial; interactions are still inordinately clumped around delivery dates and meetings. We recognize this is a two-way process and we're looking at the following specific ways to keep this strong within the last development periods coming up. Suggestions:
1) increase direct developer-to-developer contacts via telephone and/or email
2) increase telephone contacts from SDST or CM to developers.
3) start using M. Heney's Programmer BBS where appropriate.

Timing of Development Dependencies
--Currently, changes dribbled very frequently from SDST to developers; to the extent possible, we would prefer these collected and then released to us in widely separated, discrete points.

TLCF: needs to improve in terms of HW stability (e.g. availability and structure of major NFS file systems, schedule downtimes in advance and more cognizant of high use times).
TLCF: software environment needs to be better documented for all developers, e.g. MODIS_setup, aliases "n32_f77", requirement for use of C shell or tcsh, etc. (see Glassy's action item below), and made as stable and consistent as possible from all SGI servers.

Land-Sea Mask issue: agreed that this should be included in geolocation product.

SCF Facilities: poll taken among SCF's to assure at-launch readiness, revealed deficiencies in network connections: (Boston -pending VBNS but must share with MIT; Arizona, Montana, Wisconsin all have bandwidth concerns, will track these).

ACTION ITEMS

Mary Shugrue:
1) verify that programmers have read access to CM directory tree, and change as necessary.
2) provide a mapping of ESDT's to Product ID's and PSA's.
3) post a list of what will not be available (support, etc) in a fallback system scenario.

Liam Gumley:
1) will provide his WWW link for information for new programmers
(http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/modis/modis.html), to be added to Programmer's Forum Page
by MAST staff (Kevin Ward).

MAST:
1) Place an updated MODIS programmers membership list on MODIS-PROG

Joe Glassy:
1) will write up recommendations to Ed Masuoka/SDST on recommendations to enhance the
stability and reliability of the TLCF hardware environment.
2) will write up recommendations to SDST on preferences for TLCF software stability,
reliability, documentation where major SW packages, interfaces are.
3) will work with Science Team to clarify LDOPE facility design via several at-launch scenarios
to assure adequate sizing and deployment of resources.