MODIS Atmospheric Correction Performance: Initial Evaluation

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MODIS Atmospheric Correction Initial Evaluation

- MODIS/SeaWiFS Chl *a* at 36 km resolution
- Examine $nL_w(\lambda)$ for a Single Granual at Full Resolution
- Examine Retrieved Values for a Single AOI and Single Scan Line
- Review Atmospheric Correction Algorithm
- Evaluate Performance of Atmospheric Correction Bands 15 and 16
- Overall Evaluation







SeaWiFS - MODIS Chl a



- Difference ~ factor of 2
- Difference is equally likely to be positive or negative
- No obvious pattern
- MODIS **high** at high Southern latitudes
- MODIS **low** at high Northern latitudes















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Atmospheric Correction (Simplified)

$$\rho = \frac{\pi L}{F_0 \cos \theta_0}$$

$$\rho_{t}(\lambda) = \rho_{r}(\lambda) + \underbrace{\rho_{a}(\lambda) + \rho_{ra}(\lambda)}_{\rho_{A}(\lambda)} + t_{0}(\lambda)t_{v}(\lambda)n\rho_{w}(\lambda)$$

$$\varepsilon(\lambda,\lambda_0) \approx \frac{\rho_A(\lambda)}{\rho_A(\lambda_0)}$$

In NIR $n\rho_w=0$, so

$$\varepsilon(15,16) \approx \frac{\rho_A(15)}{\rho_A(16)}$$

Get $\varepsilon(\lambda, 16)$ from $\varepsilon(15, 16)$ using aerosol models. Then

$$n\rho_{w}(\lambda) = t_{0}^{-1}(\lambda)t_{v}^{-1}(\lambda)\{\rho_{t}(\lambda) - \rho_{r}(\lambda) - \varepsilon(\lambda, 16)[\rho_{t}(16) - \rho_{r}(16)]\}$$



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Characteristic Values (M80)

 $(\theta_0=0, \theta_v=45^\circ)$

Band	ρ_t	$ ho_r$	ρ_{a} + ρ_{ra}
15	0.017759	0.010964	0.006795
16	0.013219	0.006648	0.006574

 $\epsilon(15,16) = 0.006795/0.006574 = 1.0336$

Expected Noise in ρ_t

Band	SNR	$\Delta(\rho_t)$
15	800	2.22×10^{-5}
16	700	1.88×10^{-5}

Expected Noise in ε(15,16)

$$\varepsilon(15,16)^{+} = \frac{\rho_a(15) + \rho_{ra}(15) + \Delta\rho_t(15)}{\rho_a(16) + \rho_{ra}(16) - \Delta\rho_t(16)} = 1.0398$$

$$\varepsilon(15,16)^{-} = \frac{\rho_a(15) + \rho_{ra}(15) - \Delta\rho_t(15)}{\rho_a(16) + \rho_{ra}(16) + \Delta\rho_t(16)} = 1.0274$$









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Summary

- Examined MODIS/SeaWiFS Chl *a* at 36 km Resolution
 ⇒ Differences ± a factor of 2
- Examined $nL_w(\lambda)$ for a Single Granual at Full Resolution
 - \Rightarrow Severe Striping in $nL_w(443)$
 - \Rightarrow Severe Striping in $nL_w(551)$
 - $\Rightarrow nL_w(551)$ Is 50% Too High (March 17, Calibration used by MODAPS)
 - $\Rightarrow nL_w(551)$ Is Improved (April 20, "Research" Calibration)
 - $\Rightarrow nL_w(551) \text{ Striping Improved But Not Eliminated (R. Evans)}$

Summary (Continued)

- Examined Retrieved Values for a Single Scan Line
 - \Rightarrow $nL_w(\lambda)$ and Chl *a* Reasonably Clean
 - \Rightarrow $nL_w(\lambda)$ and Chl *a* May Show RSV Effect
 - \Rightarrow Strong Effect of Sun Glint in $\tau_a(869)$
 - ⇒ Sun Glint Will Destroy Eastern Half of Scan in Tropics
- Evaluated Performance of Bands 15 and 16
 - \Rightarrow Bands show excessive noise
 - $\Rightarrow \text{ Severe Striping in } nL_w(551) \text{ Likely Not} \\ \text{Due to Atmospheric Correction}$
 - \Rightarrow Some Striping in Bands 15 and 16
 - \Rightarrow Atmospheric Model Choices are Reasonable

Summary (Continued)

- Overall Evaluation
 - \Rightarrow MODIS Visible Bands Need Flat-Fielding
 - \Rightarrow NIR Bands Appear to be Noisy
 - \Rightarrow NIR Bands are Striped
 - $\Rightarrow \text{ Visible Bands Show Incorrect Overall } nL_w's$ (MODAPS Processing With March 17 Calibration, Improved With Later Calibration)
- Prognosis
 - ⇒ Usable Data Requires Incremental/Iterative Resolution of Remaining Problems
 - ⇒ Multiple Processing/Reprocessing Will Be Necessary