Terra and Aqua MODIS Instrument Status

Terra
14 Years
MODIS

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Contributions:
MODIS Characterization Support Team (MCST)

MODIS Science Team Meeting, Columbia, MD 21044 (April 29, 2014)
Outline

• Highlights (since last STM)
• Instrument Operations and Calibration Activities
• On-orbit Performance
• Collection 6 (C6) Status
• Challenging Issues and Future Efforts
• Summary
Highlights (since last STM) 1/2

• Both Terra MODIS (14 years) and Aqua MODIS (12 years) continue to operate and function normally
  – No configuration changes in recent years
  – 2 new noisy detectors since last STM (T-MODIS B30 D7 in 2013 and B30 D4 in 2014)

• L1B data processing
  – C6 L1B reprocessing completed in 2012 and data released to public; forward processing started in 2012 and is currently at leading edge
  – Forward processing of C6 and C5 is expected to continue for a year after completion of the C6 land and atmosphere reprocessing
  – Update for Terra L1B to address trending in Terra band 5

• L1B calibration LUT updates
  – C6 new RVS approach applied to more VIS/NIR spectral bands
  – A number of special C6 LUTs delivered to OBPG
Highlights (since last STM) 2/2

• Terra MODIS Polarization Correction Working Meeting on Feb. 28, 2014
  – 17 attendees all science discipline and MCST
  – 6 presentations on polarization correction and calibration improvement

• Aqua MODIS CFPA Performance and Operation Review on April 14, 2014
  – 1st: May 7, 2010
  – 2nd: April 24, 2012
  – 3rd: March 27, 2013
  – 4th: April 16, 2014

• MODIS Calibration Workshop on May 1, 2014
  – Bi-weekly MsWG meetings
  – Technical meetings on special topics with science discipline groups

• Steady Increase of MODIS Publications
  – Over 1200 new technical articles
  – Over 1100 new tech articles and proceedings combined
## Instrument Operations and Calibration Activities

### Terra MODIS
- **Launch:** Dec 18, 1999
- **First light:** Feb 24, 2000
- **A-side:** launch - Oct 30, 2000
- **B-side:** Oct 30, 2000 - June 15, 2001
- **A-side:** July 02, 2001 - Sept 17, 2002
- **A-side electronics & B-side formatter:** since Sept 17, 2002
- **BB** nominally set at 290 K
- **SD door** fixed at “open” since July 02, 2003
- **SRCA** operated with 2 10-W lamps since 2006
- **CFPA** controlled at 83 K (briefly at 85 K: 3-5 Aug 2000)

### Aqua MODIS
- **Launch:** May 04, 2002
- **First light:** June 24, 2002
- **B-side:** launch - present
- **BB** nominally operated at 285 K
- **SD calibration:** gradually reduced frequency
- **SRCA** operated with 2 10-W lamps since 2005
- **CFPA** controlled at 83 K (*small increase of CFPA temperatures since 2007*)

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**No Changes to Instrument Operation Configurations**
On-orbit Calibration and Characterization

Solar diffuser (SD) and solar diffuser stability monitor (SDSM) for reflective solar bands (RSB) calibration

Spectroradiometric Calibration Assembly (SRCA) for instrument spectral and spatial characterization

Calibration Maneuvers

Lunar views through SV port

Blackbody (BB) for thermal emissive bands (TEB) calibration
Calibration and Characterization Activities

Numbers of Calibration Events

Terra MODIS

Year


Lunar Roll
PV Ecal
SRCA
BB
SD/SDSM

Aqua MODIS

Year


Terra 136 116
Aqua 84 64
SRCA: 3 modes
BB WUCD: 270 - 315K
Others:
Maneuvers
Ground Targets
Inter-comparisons
Nighttime day mode ops

Details of Instrument Operation and Calibration: http://mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov/
On-orbit Performance

- Instrument Temperatures
- On-board Calibrators (OBC)
- Radiometric
  - Spectral band responses
  - Detector noise characterization
- Spectral and Spatial
  - Center wavelengths and bandwidths
  - Band-to-band registration (BBR)
- Geolocation
Instrument Temperatures

Terra MODIS: less than 3.5 K increase over 14 years

Aqua MODIS: less than 2.0 K increase over 12 years

VIS & NIR FPA temperatures: similar to instrument temperatures
Cold FPA Temperatures

Aqua MODIS CFPA temperatures increase in recent years (0.7 K)
Solar Diffuser (SD) Degradation

SD/SDSM calibration frequency has been gradually reduced in recent years.

- Terra MODIS
- Aqua MODIS

SD door fixed at “open”

Larger degradation at shorter λ
Blackbody Temperatures (nominal operation; long-term)

Terra MODIS: less than 30 mK increase over 14 years

Aqua MODIS: excellent stability over entire mission
Changes in RSB responses are wavelength, mirror side, and scan angle dependent
- Shorter wavelength VIS bands show larger degradation
- MS difference in Aqua MODIS is much smaller than Terra MODIS
- A few NIR bands show gain increases over time
- Changes in SWIR responses are very small (located on CFPA)

TEB responses are generally very stable
- Less than 2% changes over entire mission except for Terra LWIR PV bands
- Changes up to 15% in Terra LWIR PV bands (27-30)
- Small variations in Aqua LWIR PC bands (due to changes in CFPA temperatures)

Overall SNR and NEdT performance remains satisfactory
- Most post-launch noisy detectors have been in the LWIR PV bands (27-30)
- Only 3 new noisy detectors (Terra B30 D7 and D4; Aqua B29 D6) in last 5 years
Spectral Band Responses (VIS)
Band Averaged, Mirror Side 1

Larger changes at shorter wavelengths
Wavelength, AOI, and mirror side dependent (small MS diff. in A-MODIS)
Noticeable variations in Aqua MODIS LWIR response are due to variations in its CFPA temperatures (loss of cooler margin)
**Detector Noise Characterization**

- **36 Spectral Bands with 490 individual detectors**
  - 3 new noisy detectors since 2009 (Aqua B29 D6, Terra B30 D7 and D4)

- **Terra: 47 noisy detectors (30 from pre-launch: 35 at launch) and no inoperable detectors**
  - B30 D4 became noisy recently (2014)
  - B29 D6 set to inoperable (2016)

- **Aqua: 7 noisy detectors (2 from pre-launch: 3 at launch) and 15 inoperable detectors (13 in Band 6)**
CW and BW changes are within 0.5 nm and 1.0 nm, respectively, for most VIS/NIR bands. Relatively large changes are observed for bands with broad bandwidths (bands 1, 18, 19).
Spatial Characterization Performance

Terra BBR: within spec (±0.1 km) for all band pairs (except for along scan B30 and B32)
Aqua BBR: a known issue since pre-launch
Terra MODIS Geolocation Results (C6)

Robert Wolfe et al.  RMSE  Track: 43 m  Scan: 44 m
Northern/southern hemispherical differences seen in C5 are corrected in C6
Changes in VIS/NIR response versus scan-angle (RVS)
  - Band (detector) and mirror side dependent

Large SD degradation at shorter wavelengths, especially in Terra MODIS
  - Potential increase of calibration uncertainty due to correction for large SD degradation
  - SD degradation at SWIR wavelengths not directly tracked

Impart due to on-orbit changes in Terra VIS/NIR polarization sensitivity
  - Band (detector), mirror side, and AOI dependent
  - No noticeable changes in Aqua MODIS thus far

Aging instruments
  - Undesirable features and unpredictable changes
  - Gradual increase of Aqua MODIS CFPA temperatures (loss of cooler margin)
  - Calibration impact due to potential satellite MLT drift

Senior Review (early 2015)

Details to be discussed in MODIS Calibration Workshop (May 1, 2014)
Terra MODIS PC Working Meeting (Feb 28, 2014)

Coordinators: Steve Platnick and Jack Xiong

Presentations:

- MODIS Collection-6 RSB Calibration and Polarization Impact (MCST/Wu)
- Polarization Sensitivity and Corrections for the MODIS Terra Ocean Color products (OBPG/Meister)
- MODIS dark-target aerosol product: Issues related to calibration and polarization (Atmosphere/Levy)
- The Effects of Polarization Calibration Correction On Terra/MODIS Deep Blue Aerosol Retrievals (Atmosphere/Hsu)
- Science Impact of MODIS Terra Calibration Degradation/Polarization Sensitivity (Vegetation and Aerosol Data Products) (Land/Atmosphere/Lyapustin)
- MODIS Polarization Correction for Terra Bands 1-4 and 8 (Land/Vermote)
Summary

• Both Terra MODIS (14 years) and Aqua MODIS (12 years) and key on-board calibrators continue to operate and function normally
  – Only 2 new noisy detectors since last STM

• Extensive calibration effort by MCST in support of C6 (and C5) L1B data processing
  – Many regular and special LUTs (C5 and C6) derived and delivered for data production

• Future work to address existing and new challenging issues
  – VIS/NIR response versus scan-angle (RVS) and polarization sensitivities
  – Uncertainty due to correction for large SD degradation and SD degradation correction for SWIR bands
  – Undesirable features and unpredictable changes (aging instruments)

• Dedicated calibration and characterization effort and close interaction and communication with the science and user community
Blackbody Temperatures (nominal operation)

Terra MODIS: short-term

1-week trend

Days (2003)

Days (2014)

2-Orbits: 2003083

2-Orbits: 2014083

Scans
Blackbody Temperatures (nominal operation)

Aqua MODIS: short-term

1-week trend

2-Orbits: 2003083

2-Orbits: 2014083

Days (2003) 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

Days (2014) 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

Scans 0 4200 8400

Scans 0 4200 8400
Some NIR bands show gain increase over time
Collection 5 (C5) Forward Processing Status

- Forward processing (C5 Land and C51 Atmosphere) is typically 1-2 days behind real time.
- NRT processing is completed typically 2 hours after acquisition of data.
- The C4.1 LST (C4 code with C5 L1 input) is processed and archived at LAADS.
- C5/C5.1/C4.1 processing could be continued for a year after completion of C6 land and atmosphere reprocessing.
- Products from C5 processing is expected to be available from DAAC for a year after completion of the C6 reprocessing.
Collection 6 (C6) Reprocessing Status

- L1, Geolocation, and L1B
  - C6 reprocessing of Aqua and Terra completed in 2012.
  - Forward processing of Terra and Aqua L1B started in 2012 and is currently at leading edge.
  - C6 Products have been available to public since late 2012 from LAADS.
  - Forward processing of C6 and C5 is expected to continue for a year after completion of the C6 land and atmosphere reprocessing.
  - MCST continues to derive and deliver forward LUT updates for the two processing streams as needed
  - Update expected for Terra L1B to address trending in Band 5.
Collection 6 (C6) Reprocessing Status

- **Atmosphere Products**
  - C6 reprocessing of Cloud Mask and Atmospheric Profile completed and forward processing is at leading edge.
  - Reprocessing of other L2 products from Aqua MODIS started on 12-06-2013. Processing completed for the mission period 2002185 – 2013177.
  - Reprocessing of Terra is expected to start after completion of the Aqua.

- **Land Products**
  - Evaluation of C6 algorithm changes is in progress.
  - Reprocessing for the first tier of products expected to start in June 2014.
  - Reprocessing will use L1B with correction for the polarization in Terra and Aqua.

Details in Science Discipline Reports on Data Product & Algorithm Status