

# Aerosol Retrieved from MODIS: Algorithm, Products, Validation and the Future

Presented by: Rob Levy

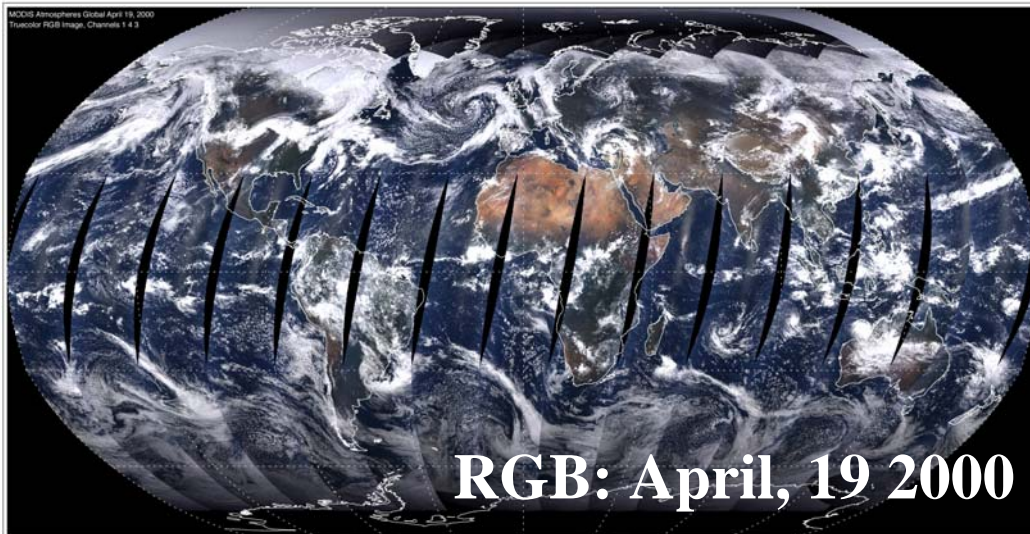
Re-presenting NASA-GSFC's  
MODIS aerosol team:

Y. Kaufman, L. Remer, A. Chu, C. Ichoku, R.  
Kleidman, I. Koren, R-R. Li, J.V. Martins, S.  
Mattoo, D. Tanre

# Outline

- MODIS:
  - Instrument and data
  - “level 1B/2/3,”
  - Collection 3/4
- MODIS aerosol algorithm over land, and over ocean
- Global “validation” of AOD and aerosol size (Level 2)
- Selected topics in aerosol retrieval issues (Level 2):
  - Dust over ocean
  - Single Scattering albedo in SAFARI
  - Surface reflectance over land
- Level 3: Daily vs. Monthly
- MODIS - GOCART “movie”
- New L3 “Tool”

# MODIS Quick Facts



## Instrument Specifications

**Orbit:** 705 km, 10:30AM ↓ (Terra) , 1:30 PM ↑  
(Aqua) sun-synchronous

Over same point every 16 days

**Swath:** 2330 km (55° cross track)

**Spectral Range:** 0.4 - 14.4μm (36 bands)

**Spatial Resolution:** 250m (2 bands)

500m (5 bands) 1000m (29 bands)

**Calibration:** On-board

**Data:** 5 minute - “Granules”

## Scientific Data

**Atmosphere:** Cloud and Aerosol  
**Ocean:** Color, Chlorophyll, Temp  
**Land:** Vegetation, Change, Fires

## Data Processing “Tree”

**L0:** Raw signal

**L1:** Uncalibrated “counts”

**L1B:** Calibrated radiances

**L2:** Retrieved Scientific Data

**L3:** “Gridded - Global”

(daily, 8-day, monthly)

## “Collection” Notation

**003:** Changing algorithms:

09/2000 - 12/2002

**004:** Fixed algorithm

Re-Process: 03/2000 - 12/2002

Forward Proc: 01/2003 ->

## Derived Aerosol Parameters:

### Over Land: (*Kaufman et al., 1997*)

- AOD at 3  $\lambda$
- AOD Small Mode Weighting (550 nm)
- Angstrom Exponent (470/660)
- Mass Concentration
- Reflected Flux (3  $\lambda$ )
- Transmitted Flux (2  $\lambda$ )

### Over Ocean: (*Tanre et al., 1997*)

- AOD at 7  $\lambda$
- AOD Small Mode Weighting (7  $\lambda$ ),
- Effective Radius
- Angstrom Exp (550/870; 870/2130)
- Cloud Condensation Nuclei
- Mass Concentration
- Reflected Flux (7  $\lambda$ )
- Transmitted Flux (7  $\lambda$ )
- Assymetry Factor (7  $\lambda$ )
- Backscattering Ratio (7  $\lambda$ )

Colored : Not yet “validated”

## MODIS Aerosol Algorithms

### Aerosol Retrieval Bands

Band	Wavelen (nm)	Resol.	Ocean	Land
1	620-670	250 m	X	X
2	841-876	250 m	X	
3	459-479	500 m	E	X
4	545-555	500 m	X	I
5	1230-1250	500 m	X	
6	1628-1652	500 m	X	
7	2105-2155	500 m	X	

Products at 10 km x 10 km

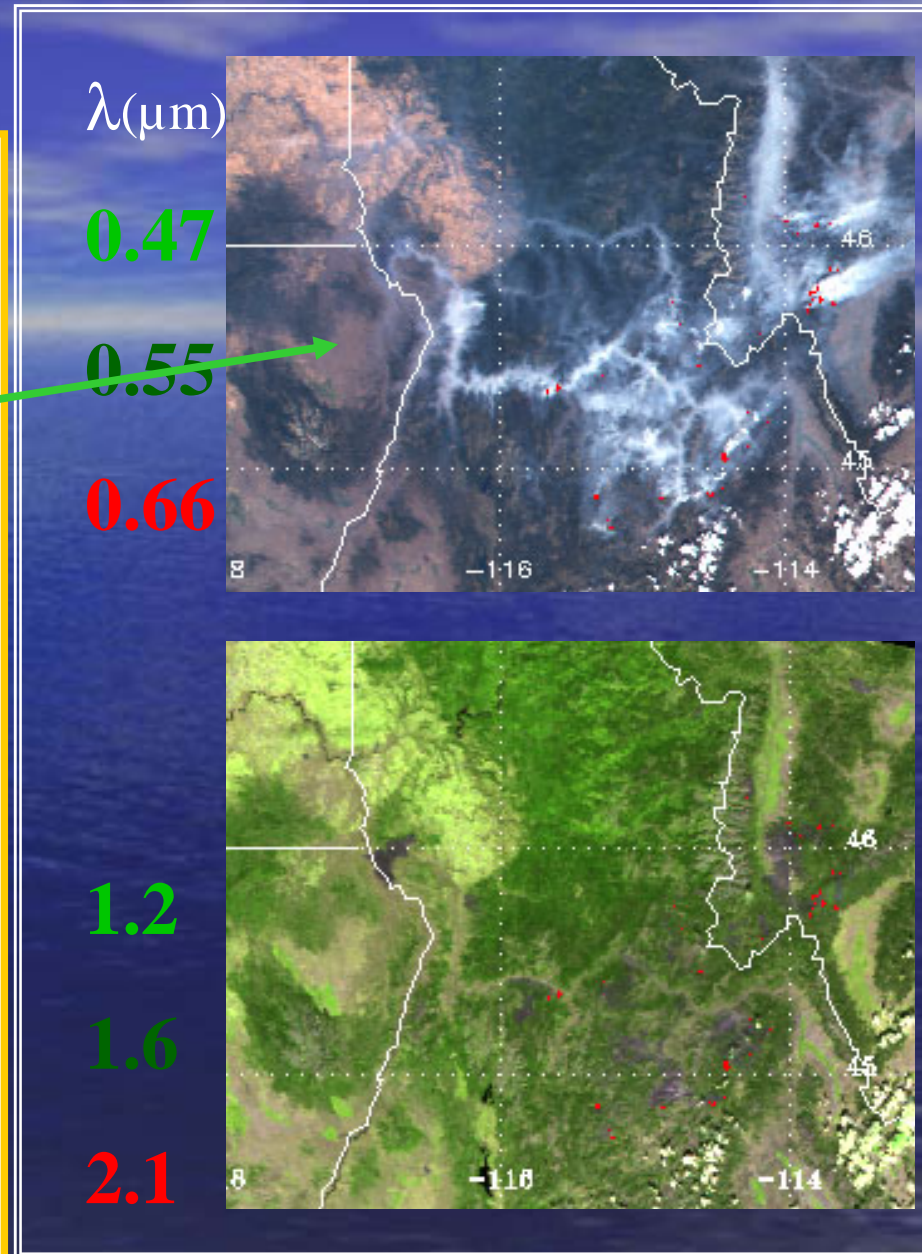
# Aerosol over Land

- Mid-IR is used to observe the surface brightness. Find “Dark” targets.
- Estimate surface reflectance in the visible from Mid-IR

$$\tau_{0.66} \sim [\rho_{0.66}^* - 0.5\rho_{2.1}^*]$$

$$\tau_{0.47} \sim [\rho_{0.47}^* - 0.25\rho_{2.1}^*]$$

- Estimate AOD in visible (using LUT)
- Correct for season and location.



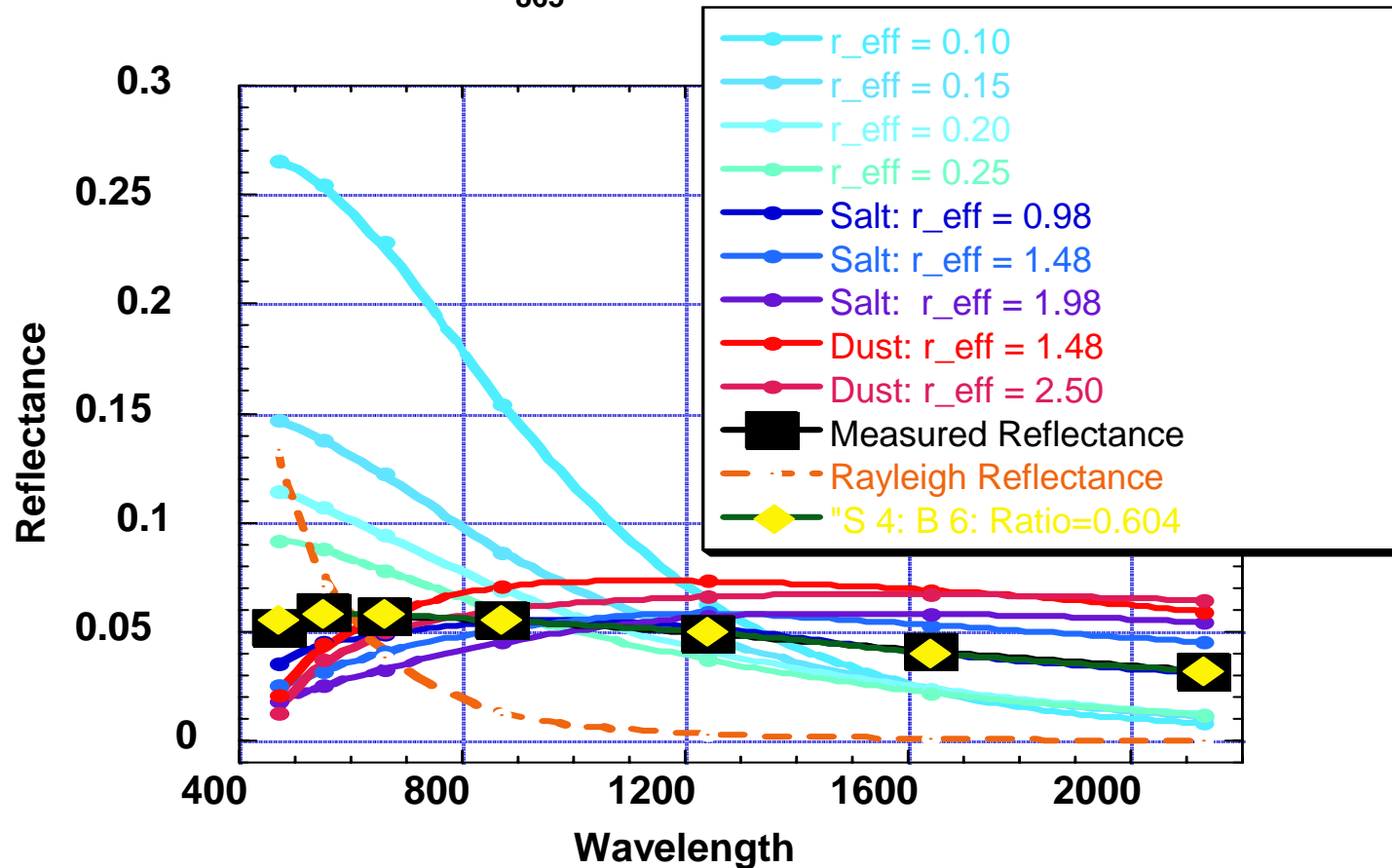
Y. J. Kaufman

# Aerosol Over Ocean

Modeled and Observed Reflectance from MODIS

July 21, 14:50:

$\tau_{865} = 0.48$

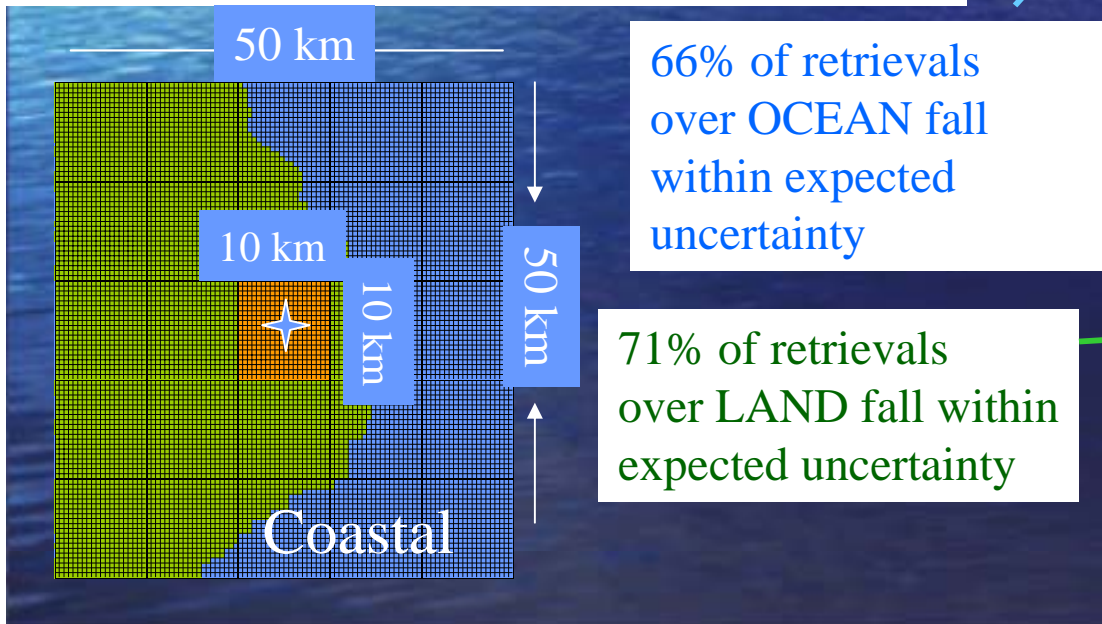
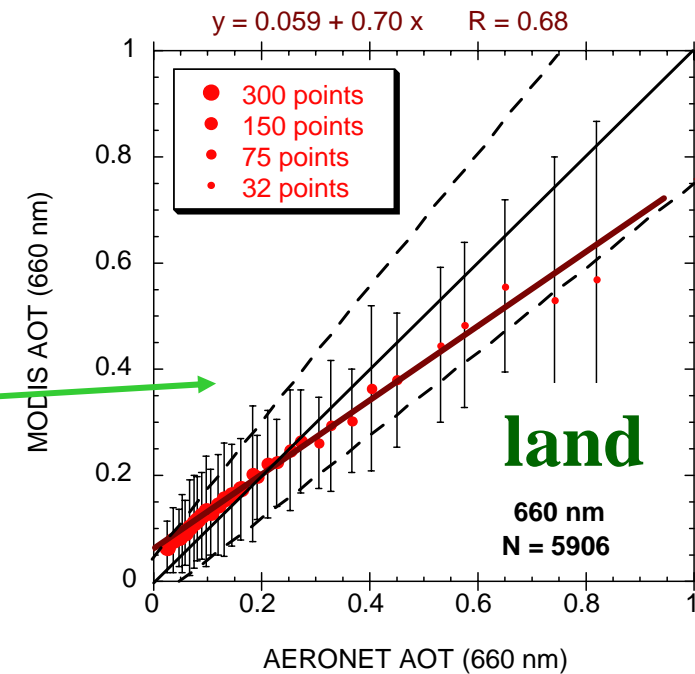
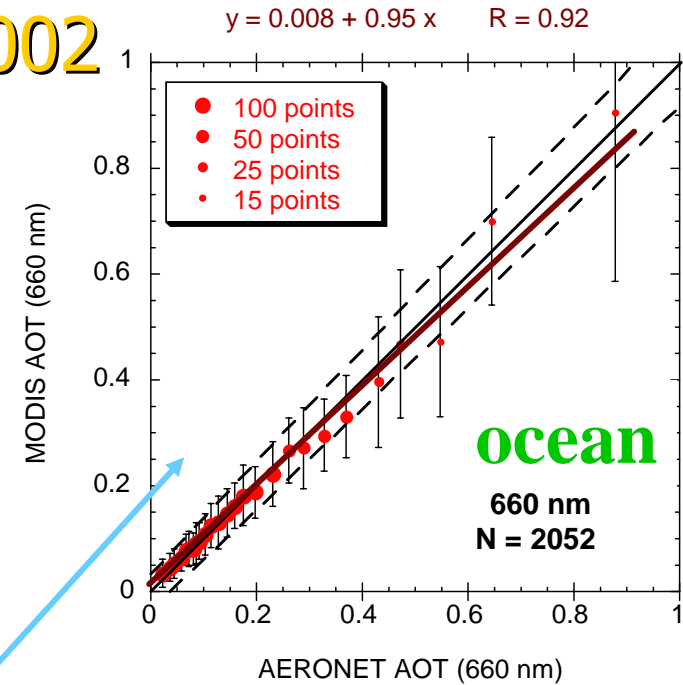
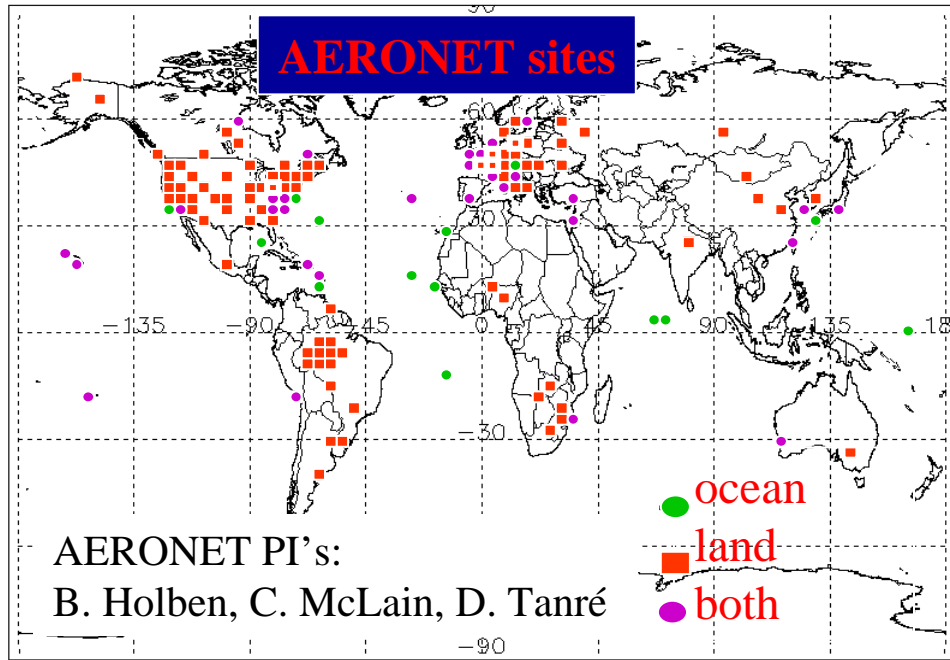


Use reflectance in 6 wavelengths to invert  $\tau^\lambda$

Constrained by 4 fine mode and 5 coarse mode aerosol models.

Inversion chooses 1 fine and 1 coarse mode, plus relative concentration

# Global AOD "Validation" : 2000-2002



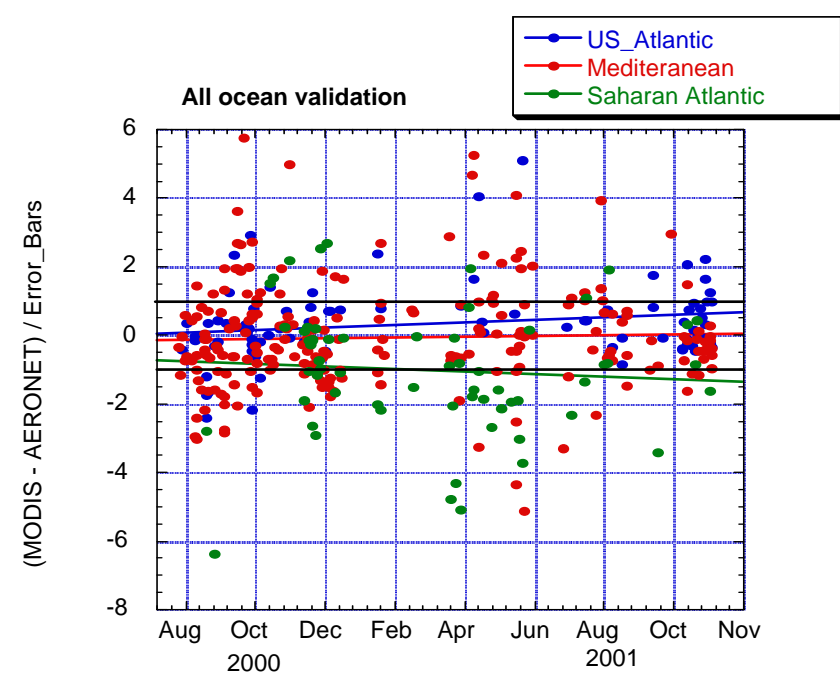
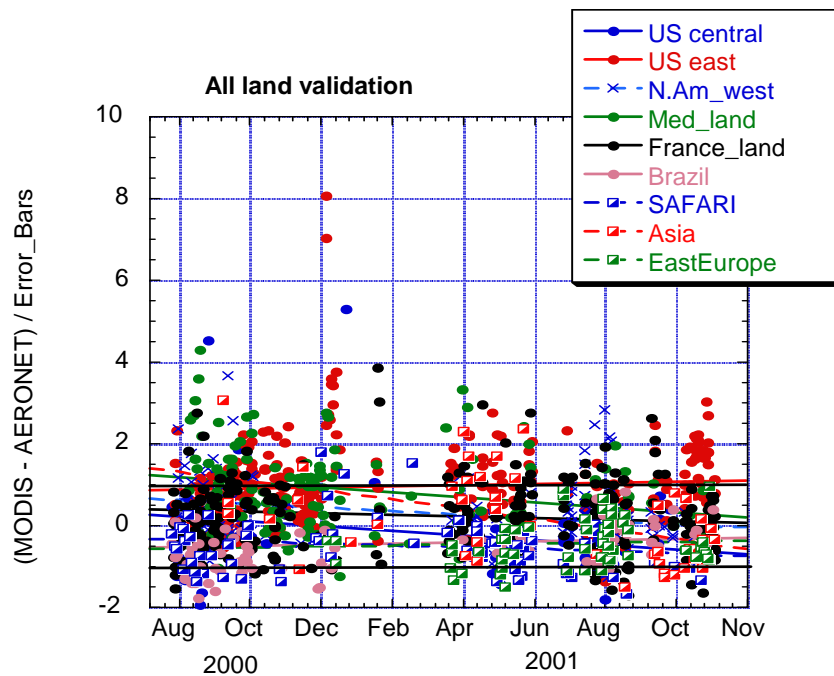
# Regional AOD "Time Series" 2000-2001

LAND location	N	% within error
---------------	---	----------------

France_land	332	77%
US east	282	56%
NA_west	168	85%
Med_land	139	60%
Brazil	102	82%
US central	100	72%
SAFARI	89	72%
East_Europe	58	84%
Asia	45	64%

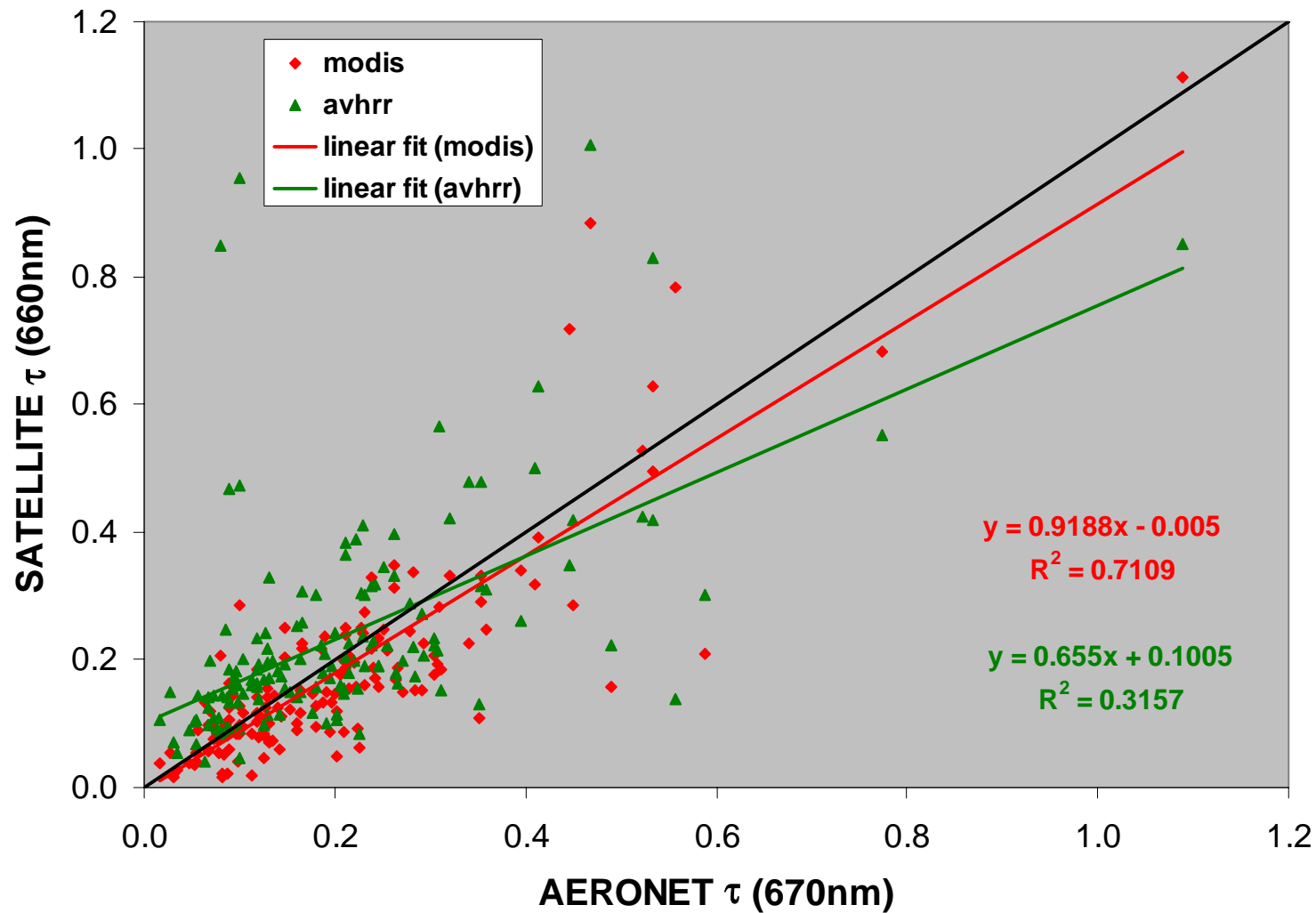
OCEAN location	N	within error
----------------	---	--------------

Med_ocean	222	59%
US_Atlantic	86	77%
Saharan	63	37%



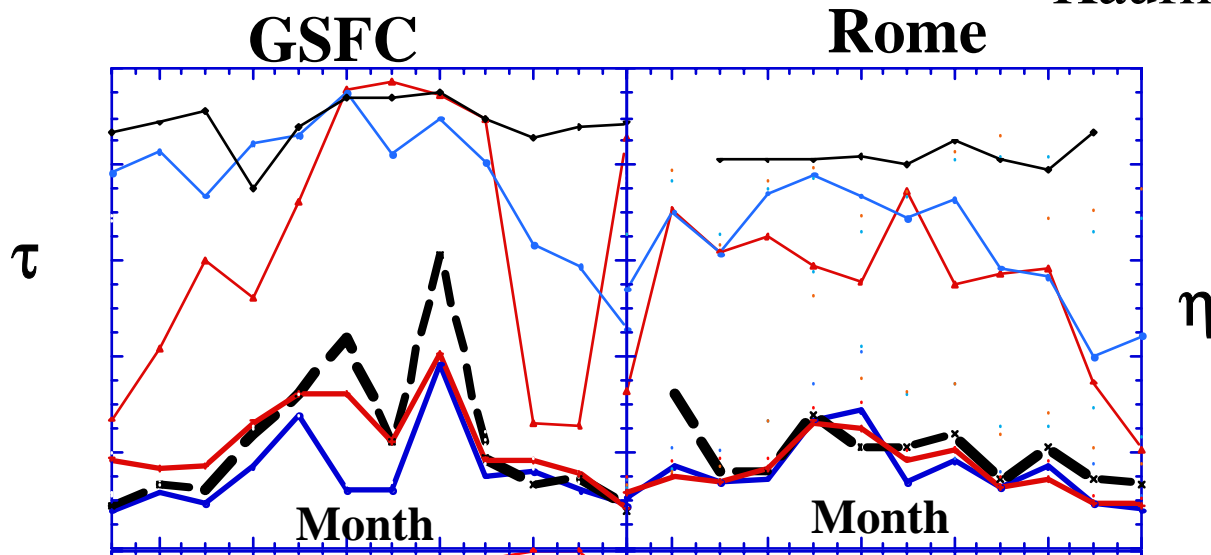


# MODIS vs AVHRR over Ocean



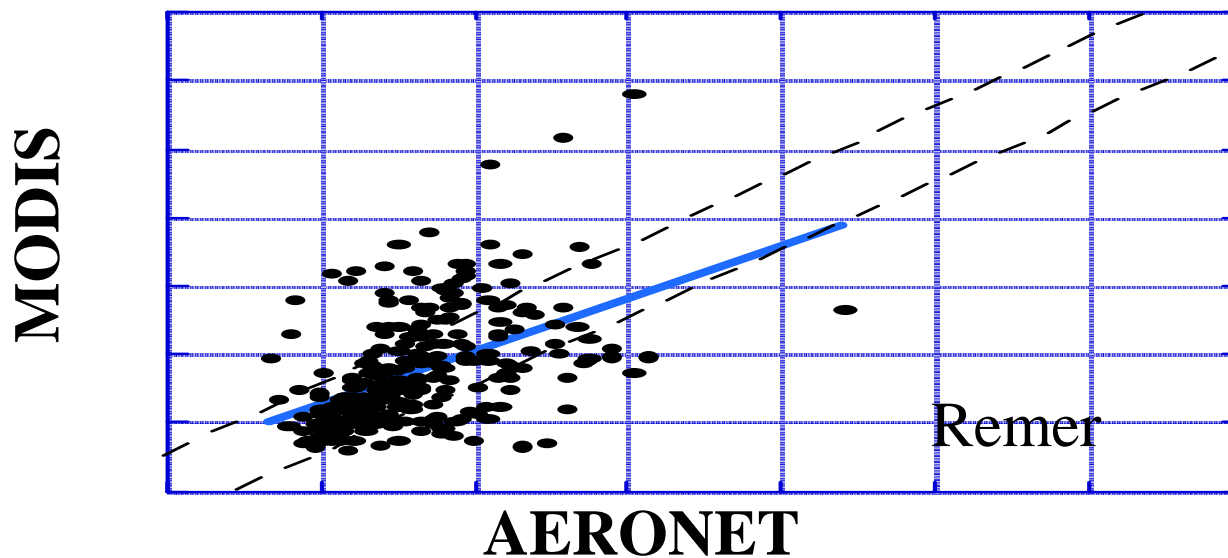
Courtesy of Xuepeng (Tom) Zhao, CIRA/NOAA

— Ocean    — Land    2001 Time Series    Kaufman

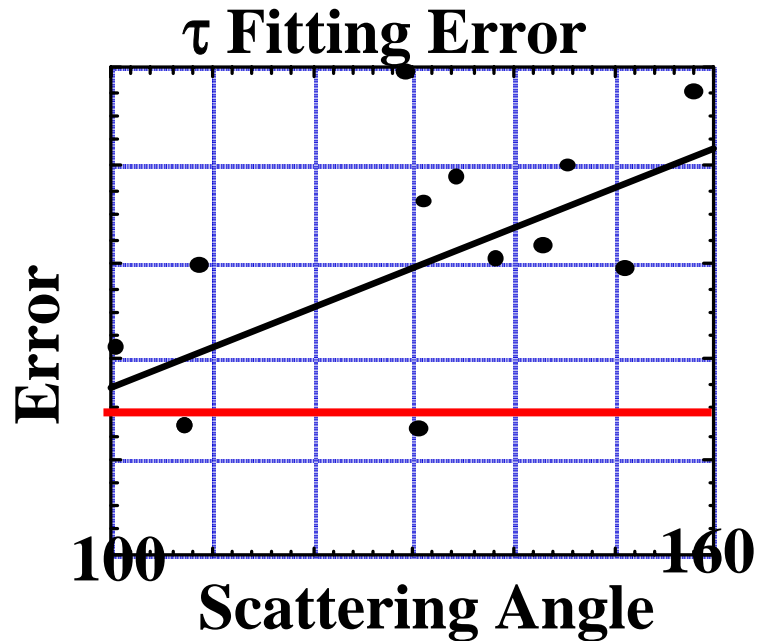
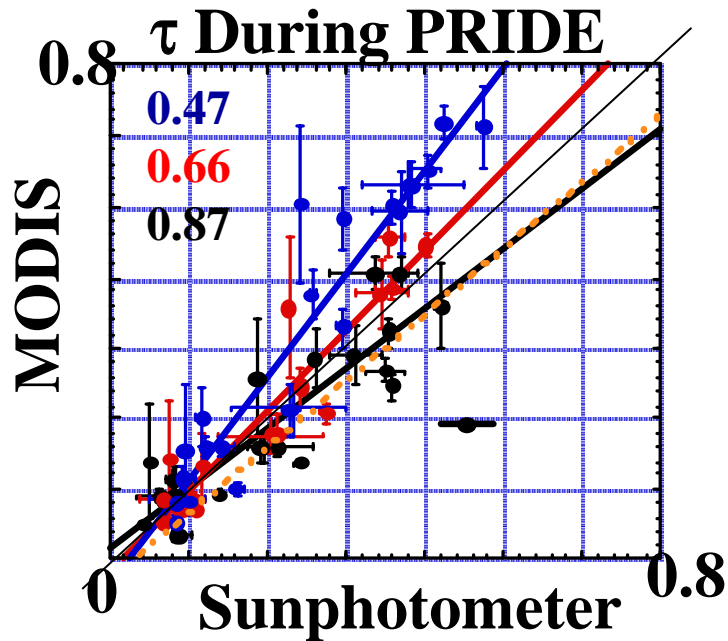


**Wide  
Spectral  
Range- $\rightarrow$   
Aerosol Size**

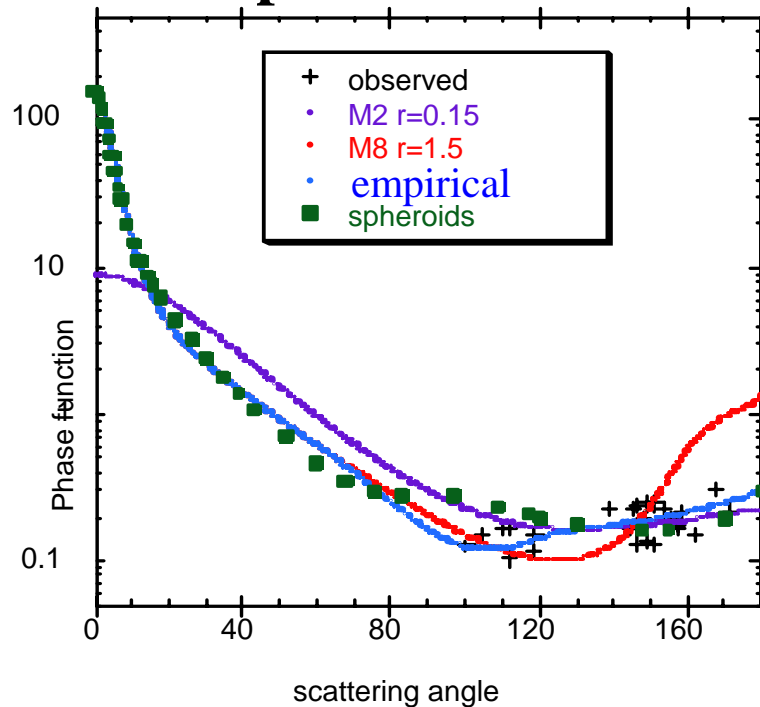
### Effective Radius



No filtering of dust.  
271 co-located points  
with  $\tau > 0.15$   
from ~500 points  
for all  $\tau$ .  
62% fall with  $\pm 0.10$   
 $\mu\text{m}$



PRIDE  
(Jul 2000)

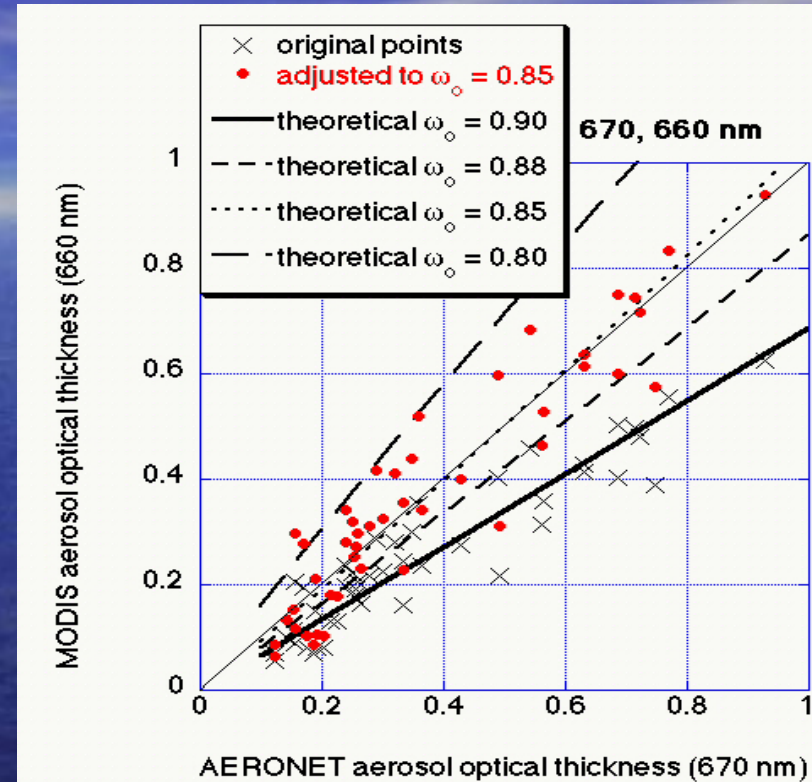
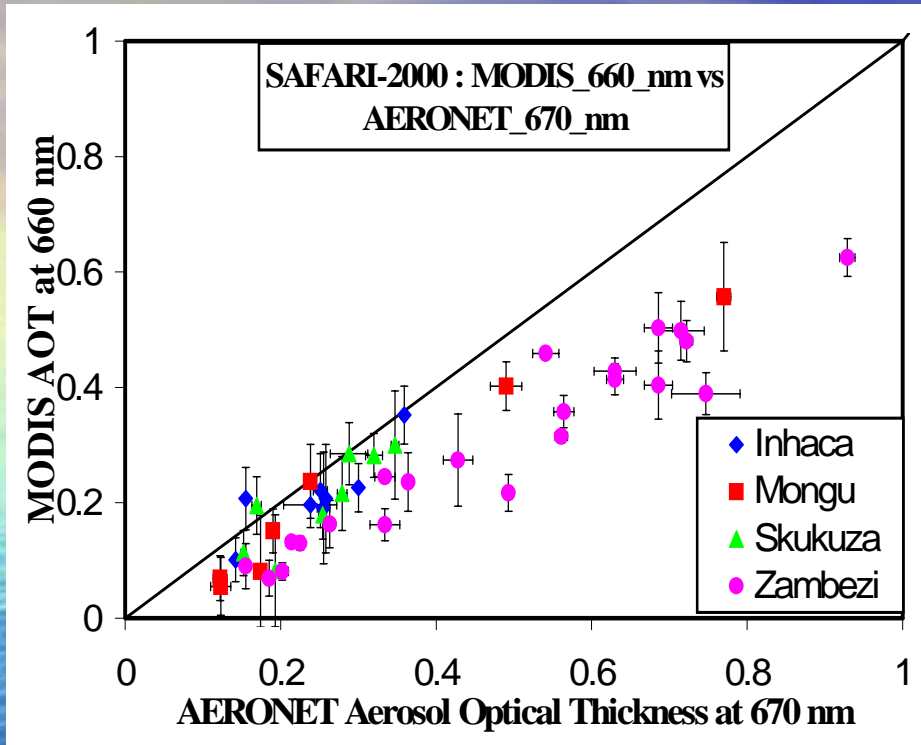


## Dust phase function

Currently MODIS systematically overpredicts spectral dependence (underpredicts size) without finding a good fit.

Empirical phase functions developed without any assumption of particle shape.

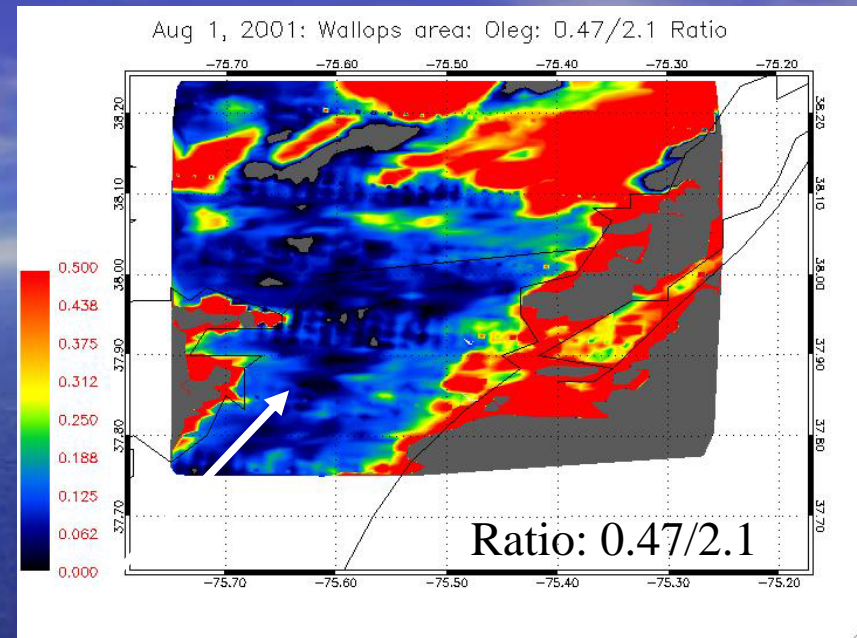
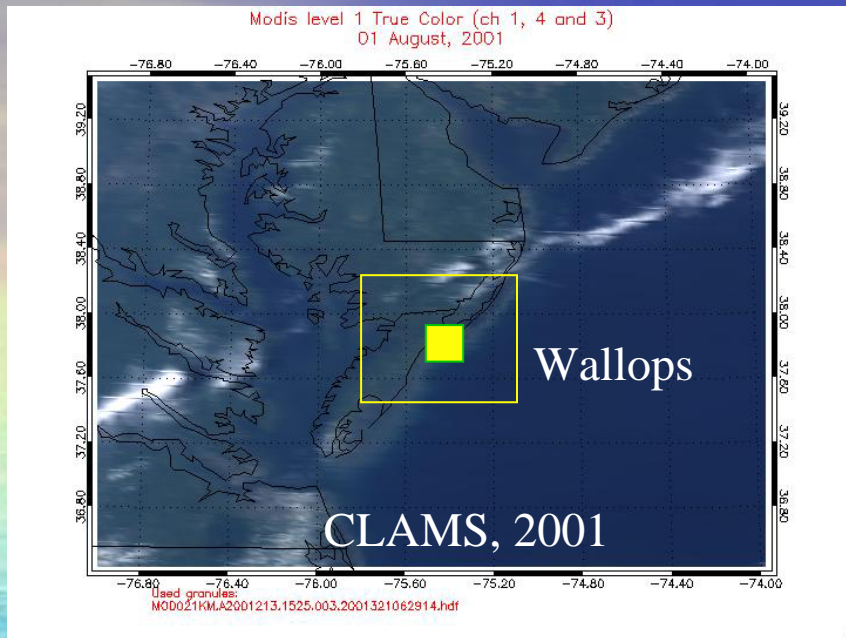
# Smoke SSA: SAFARI-2000



MODIS underestimates AOT during SAFARI-2000 especially in Zambia with heavy fresh smoke. SSA ( $\omega_0$ ) suspected. (Also 440 nm)

Problem solved by decreasing  $\omega_0$  in region. (Ichoku et al., 2002, submitted to JGR, SAFARI 2000 special issue.)

# Surface Reflectance Ratio (Land)

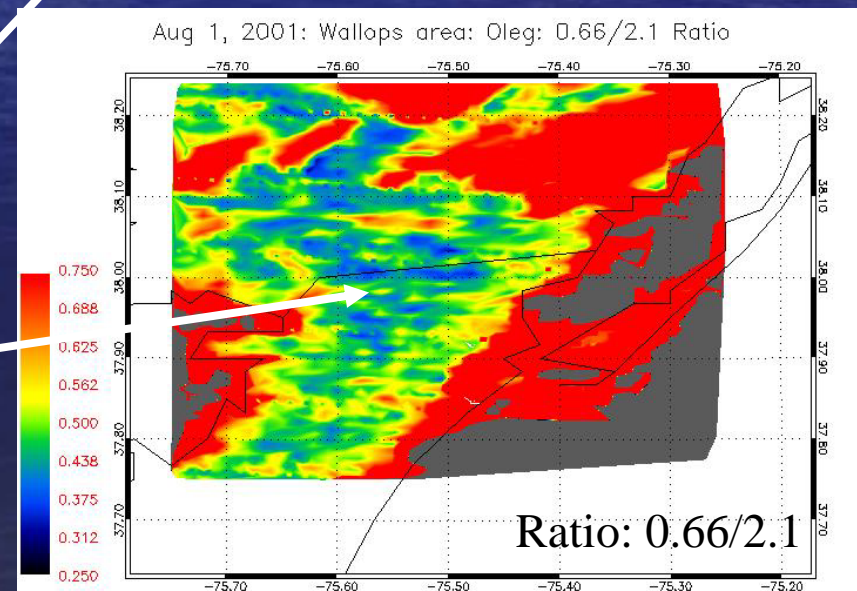


- Atmospheric correction with 6S
- Use AERONET from Wallops
- Examine surface reflectance ratios

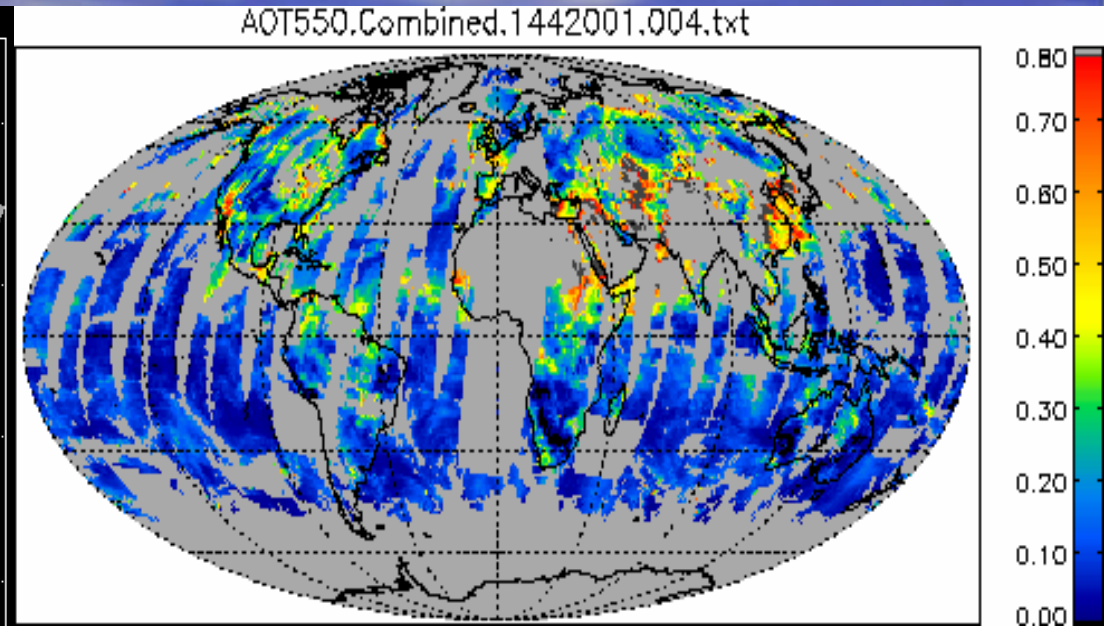
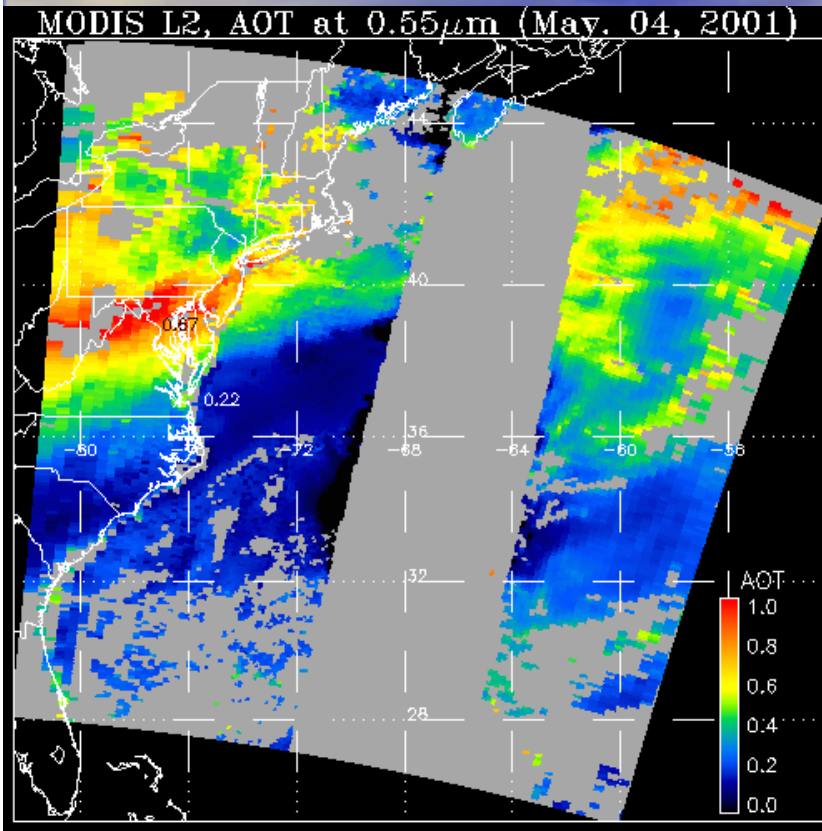
•  $0.47/2.1 = 0.15?$

•  $0.66/2.1 = 0.5?$

• Over-estimating  
AOD in blue!!!



# Level 2 -----> Level 3 (daily)



## Level 2

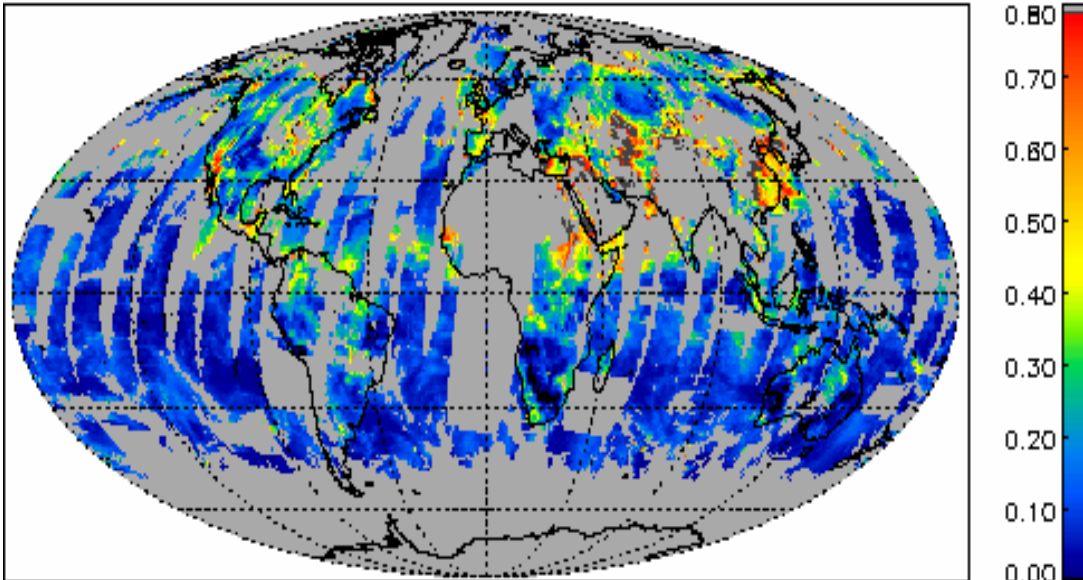
- 10 x 10 km retrievals (irregular lat/long)
- 5 minute “granules”

## Level 3 (daily)

- 1° x 1° (regular lat/long)
- 5 minute granules “tiled”
- Statistics are produced
  - Mean, Stddev, Pixel Count, Histo
  - Quality Control / Confidence

# Level 3 Daily -----> Level 3 Monthly

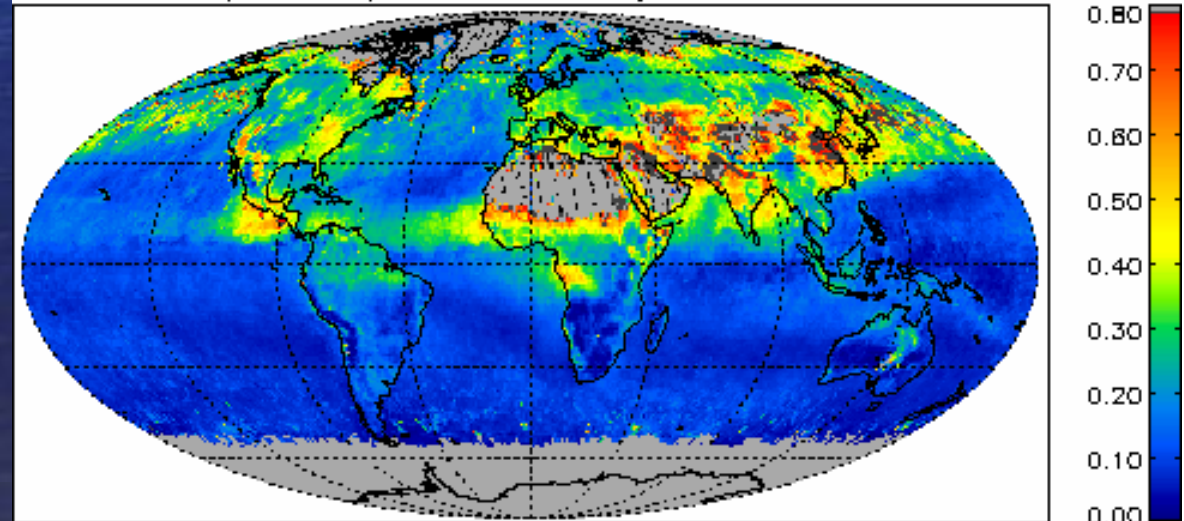
AOT550.Combined.1442001.004.txt



Level 3 (monthly)

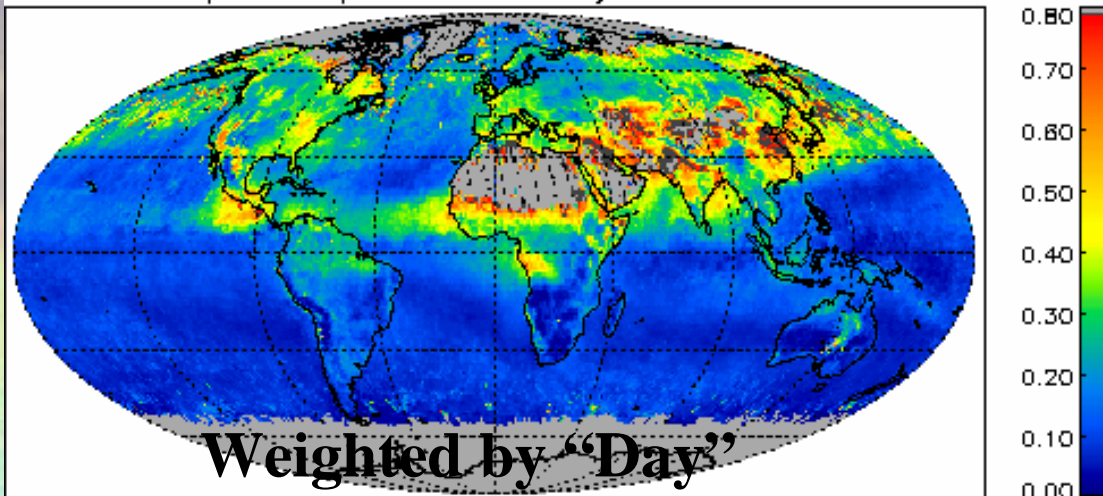
- 1° x 1° (regular lat/long)
- Daily values are “averaged”
- Statistics are produced
  - Mean, Stddev, Pixel Count, His
  - Quality Control / Confidence

Optical\_Depth\_Combined.May2001.004.txt

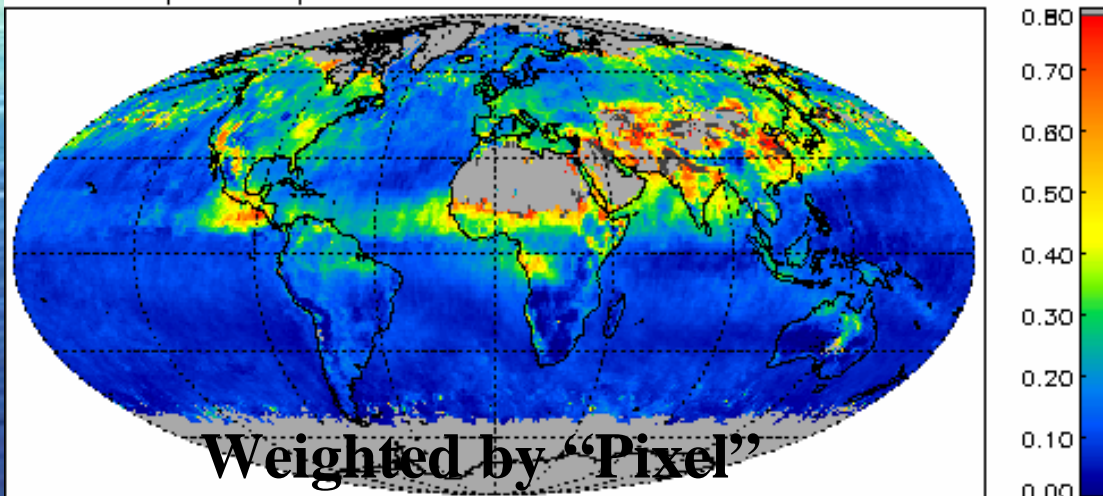


# Level 3 Monthly ISSUES

Optical\_Depth\_Combined.May2001.004.txt



Optical\_Depth\_Land\_And\_Ocean.200105.004.txt



- What is the high AOD in the North Pacific? Asian dust? Cloud contamination?

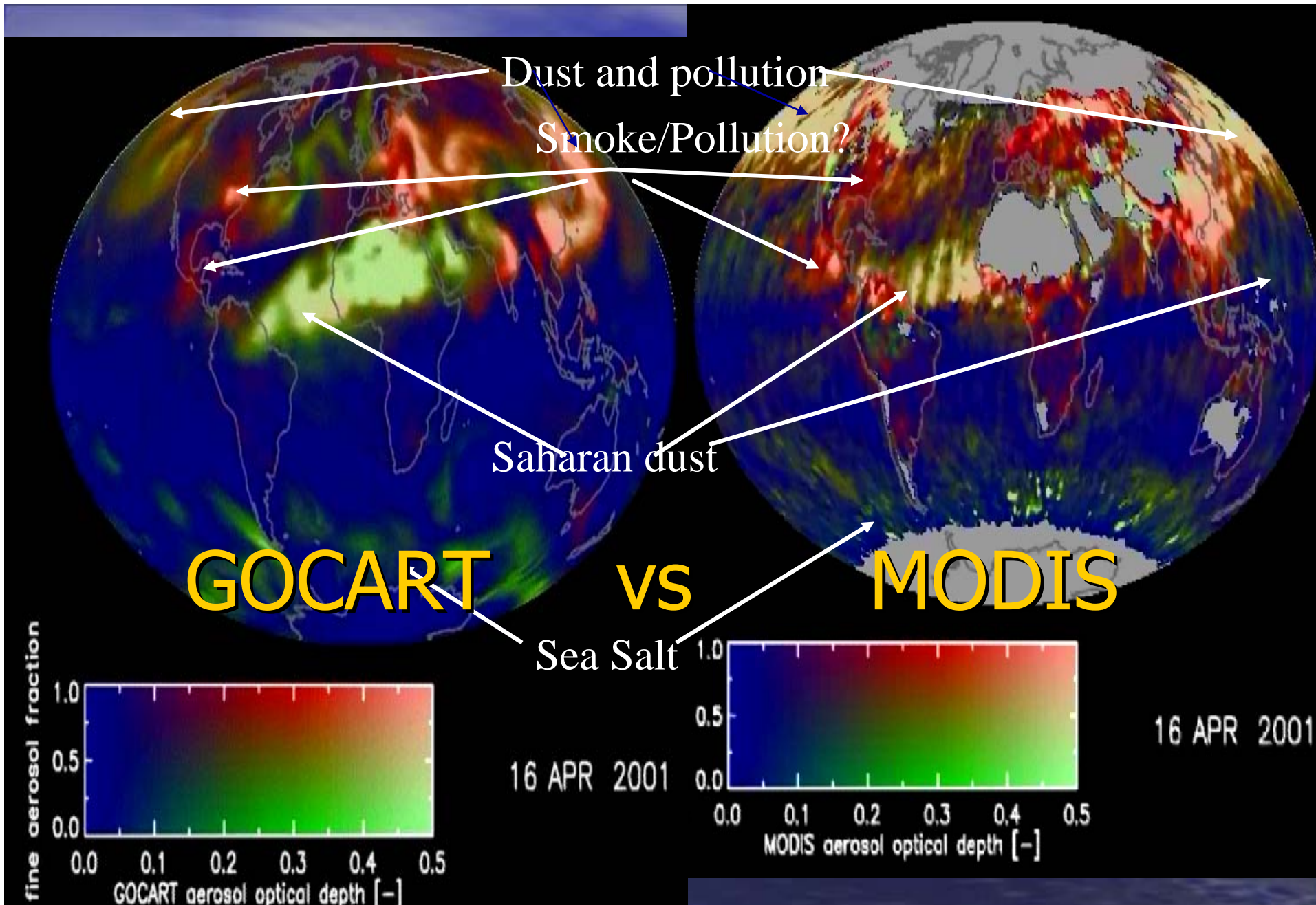
- Is the "average" of "daily" values a meaningful value?

- What happens when there is only one 10 x 10 km "pixel" in a 1° x 1° box? (Red spots in Southern Oceans)

Pixel Weighted Average = 
$$\bar{\tau}_m = 1/n_t \sum_d^{\#days} \tau_d n_d$$

- Reduces global AOD by 0.02
- Removes red "spots"
- Can put minimum on  $n_d$

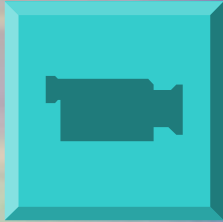




Comparisons by Y. Kaufman and M. Chin

# MODIS and GOCART L3 Movie

Imagery by Reto Stockli



# New MODIS Daily L3 Tool (Area Plot)

## MODIS/Terra Aerosol Cloud Water Vapor Ozone Online Visualization and Analysis

This interface is designed for visualization and analysis of the MODIS Level-3 atmosphere monthly global product (MOD08\_M3). Users can plot area average (area plot) and time series (time plot) or generate ASCII output for selected area and time period.

**Spatial coverage:** 90°S - 90°N

**Spatial resolution:** 1° x 1°

**Temporal resolution:** Monthly

**Documentation:** [MODIS/Terra Aerosol Cloud Water Vapor Ozone README](#)

**Data Access:** [Search and order the original data files](#)

[FTP download the GrADS data files](#)

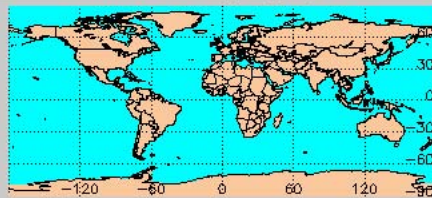
For other MODIS products, please visit <http://daac.gsfc.nasa.gov/MODIS/products.shtml>.

Continued funding for improvement of this online tool and production and dissemination of these data sets depends on you, our users, to let us know how you have used this tool and these data, and what are their value to your research. Please send your comments to the MODIS Data Support Team ([modis-dst@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:modis-dst@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov)).

Click and drag to select area; maximum area is 90°S ~ 90°N and 180°W ~ 180°E;

or input latitudes (-90.0 ~ 90.0) and longitudes (-180.0 ~ 180.0).

Please do not use "Shift" button in the Java Applet yet (Related function is being implemented.).



Shift Map

Clear

West Longitude

North Latitude

East Longitude

South Latitude

[Click for non Java/JavaScript version](#)

Parameter:

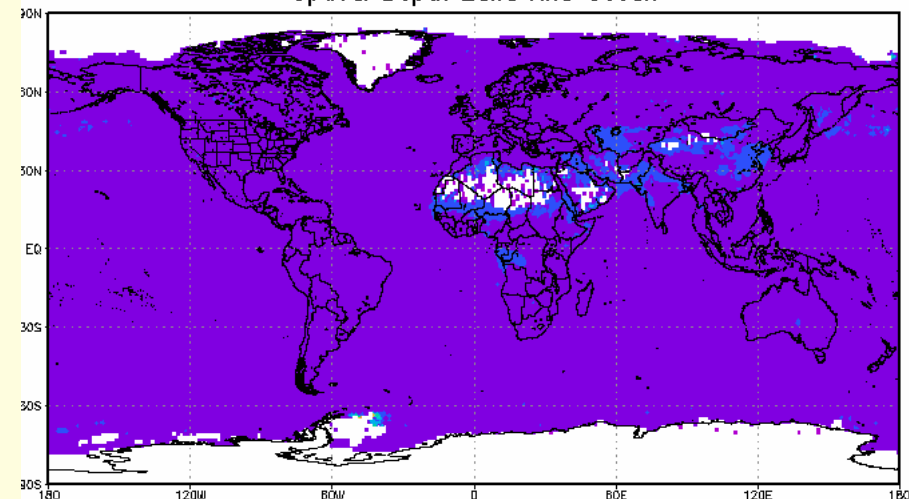
Plot type:

Year Month Data Available

Begin date   (Begin: 2000/04)

End date   (End: 2003/03)

[unitless] (Apr 2000–Aug 2001)  
Optical Depth Land And Ocean



ADS: CDL/ICES

2003-05-29-18:30

# New MODIS Daily L3 Tool (Time Plot)

## MODIS/Terra Aerosol Cloud Water Vapor Ozone Online Visualization and Analysis

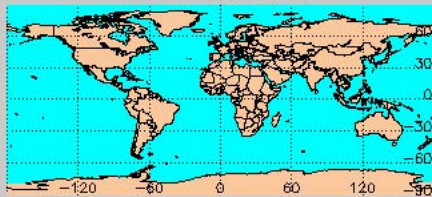
This interface is designed for visualization and analysis of the MODIS Level-3 atmosphere monthly global product (MOD08\_M3). Users can plot area average (area plot) and time series (time plot) or generate ASCII output for selected area and time period.

**Spatial coverage:** 90°S - 90°N  
**Spatial resolution:** 1° x 1°  
**Temporal resolution:** Monthly  
**Documentation:** [MODIS/Terra Aerosol Cloud Water Vapor Ozone README](#)  
**Data Access:** [Search and order the original data files](#)  
[FTP download the GrADS data files](#)

For other MODIS products, please visit <http://daac.gsfc.nasa.gov/MODIS/products.shtml>.

Continued funding for improvement of this online tool and production and dissemination of these data used this tool and these data, and what are their value to your research. Please send your comments to t

Click and drag to select area; maximum area is 90°S ~ 90°N and 180°W ~ 180°E; or input latitudes (-90.0 ~ 90.0) and longitudes (-180.0 ~ 180.0). Please do not use "Shift" button in the Java Applet yet (Related function is being implemented.).



[Click for non Java/JavaScript version](#)

Parameter:

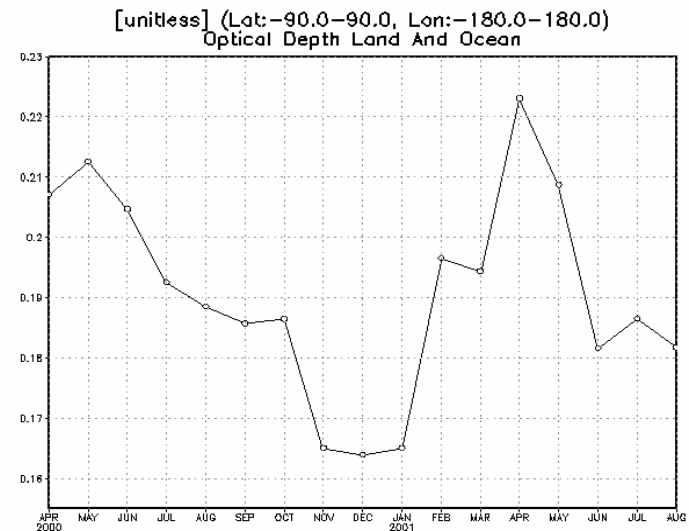
Plot type:  →

Year Month Data Available

Begin date:   (Begin: 2000/04)

End date:   (End: 2003/03)

## Online Analysis Output Image



DS: CDLA/IGES

2003-05-29-18.35



Goddard DAAC Help Desk: 301-614-5224 or 1-877-422-1222 -- [help@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:help@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov)  
 Webmaster: Zhong Liu -- [zliu@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:zliu@daac.gsfc.nasa.gov)  
 NASA Official: Steve Kempler, DAAC Manager -- [Steven.J.Kempler@nasa.gov](mailto:Steven.J.Kempler@nasa.gov)  
 Last updated: Mon Mar 24 12:29:05 EST 2003

# Conclusions

1. MODIS provides accurate  $\tau$  retrievals over ocean (error cut in half)
2. One of the first attempts at **operational  $\tau$  retrievals over land**
3. Both land/ocean  $\tau$  retrievals are meeting expectations
4. Retrieval of **quantitative size** information over ocean
5. However there are “issues we are working on including:
  - Creating improved dust models (phase functions)
  - Examining Single Scattering Albedo
  - Evaluating surface reflectance assumptions
6. Level 2 “granules” are being made into meaningful Level 3 “daily” products. Nice web tool in the future
7. Level 3 “monthly” data products are being evaluated

# Web Sites

Links to Data, Publications and other goodies

- Aerocenter Web Site: <http://aerocenter.gsfc.nasa.gov>

## **AEROCENTER**

*The center for aerosol research at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center*

[Home](#) | [Aerocenter Mission](#) | [Visiting Scientist Program](#) | [Data Tools](#) | [Data Sets](#)

[Seminar Series](#) | [MODIS Aerosols Research Group](#) | [Links](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[Group Mission](#) | [Group Members](#) | [Publication and Image Archive](#) | [Research](#) | [Links](#)

- MODIS web site: <http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov>

- MODIS atmosphere : <http://modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov>



The screenshot shows the navigation menu for the MODIS Atmosphere website. The title "MODIS Atmosphere" is displayed at the top. Below it is a horizontal menu with the following items: HOME, PRODUCTS, IMAGES, VALIDATION, NEWS, STAFF, FORUM, REFERENCE, TOOLS, and HELP. Underneath this menu, there are two rows of sub-links. The first row contains: AEROSOL, H<sub>2</sub>O VAPOR, CLOUD, PROFILE, CLD. MASK, and [Level-2 Products]. The second row contains: DAILY, EIGHT DAY, MONTHLY, and [Level-3 Products].