Deep Blue Retrievals of Aerosol Properties over Bright-Reflecting Source Regions from MODIS and SeaWiFS

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## Aerosol Remote Sensing & Retrieval

#### The early days of AVHRR, since 1983: Geogdzhayev, Mishchenko, et al., J. Atmos. Sci., 2002.



#### The current days of MODIS, since 2000: Remer, Kaufman, Tanré, et al., J. Atmos. Sci., 2004.



## Why Do We Study Aerosols?

- Climate Forcing: requires <u>aerosol properties near</u> <u>source regions</u> to achieve a complete picture of aerosol information from source to sink;
- **Carbon Cycle**: tracks **iron sources** from windblown dust for stimulating **plankton** growth in the open ocean;
- Aerosol Transport Modeling: needs accurate and realistic <u>dust source</u> locations; and
- Visibility and Adverse Health Effects: demands timely atmospheric turbidity information over affected regions.

## MODIS Visible & NIR Bands: superimposed on the GOME spectral reflectance taken over the Sahara



## Flowchart for Deep Blue Algorithm



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#### Aerosol Optical Thickness Retrieved from Deep Blue Algorithm: Dust plumes in Africa



Wavelength (nm)

## Satellite Near Real Time Support for NASA AMMA Experiment



- Intensive dust activities over North Africa in the summer 2006
- Saharan dust particles found convoluted with cyclones in the Atlantic



#### **Tracking Movements and Evolutions of Aerosol Plumes**





#### **Deep Blue Algorithm**

↓ The dust (coarse particles) front pushes the polluted air mass (fine particles) over both water and land on this day.

✓ Compared reasonably well with AERONET retrievals 09/12/04 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 SeaWiFS Aerosol Optical Depth



-0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 SeaWiFS Angstrom Exponent



Comparisons With AERONET Sun Photometer Measurements (August - September 2004)





## <u>6 April 2001</u>

MODIS *Red-Green-Blue* with Rayleigh scattering removed

Current MODIS retrievals: Aerosol Optical Thickness







#### Perfect Dust Storm 7 April 2001

Urban haze (blue)



### SeaWiFS RGB - Rayleigh Asian Dust Outbreak 6 April 2001

#### Deep Blue Algorithm:

- Cloud mask works very well
- Aerosol retrievals indicate dust storms originated from Gobi and Inner Mongolia regions
- Single scattering albedos are quite different between these two regions



# Summary

### • It works!

- Deep-Blue Algorithm well for SeaWiFS and MODIS measurements (... as well as future MODIS-like sensors);
- Compared well with surface/aircraft products;
- Separate dust *well* from other anthropogenic sources.

## • We expect:

- Implement Deep-Blue Algorithm for MODIS underway;
- Produce MODIS Deep-Blue products over brightreflecting surfaces, and to be integrated into operational MODIS product stream;
- Deep-Blue products will be part of MODIS collection 5 for Aqua and scheduled to be released to the public in January 2007.