

# Aerosol Products from NOAA Operational Satellites

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Presented by R. B. Pierce

NOAA/NESDIS Center for Satellite  
Applications and Research

**NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)** provides timely access to global environmental data from satellites and other sources to promote, protect, & enhance the Nation's economy, security, environment, & quality of life.

## **NESDIS Responsibilities**

- Acquire and manage the Nation's operational environmental satellites
- Operate the NOAA National Data Centers
- Provide data and information services including Earth system monitoring
- Perform official assessments of the environment
- Conduct related research



# Overview

## Currently Operational:

- GOES Aerosol Optical Depth Product
- AVHRR Aerosol Optical Depth Product
- Hazard Mapping System (HMS)
  - Wildfire Automated Biomass Burning Algorithm (WF\_ABBA)
  - Fire Identification Mapping and Monitoring Algorithm (FIMMA)
  - MODIS Fire Detects
- Automated Smoke Detection and Tracking Algorithm (ASDTA)
- GOES Biomass Burning Emissions Product (GBBEP)

## Future Sensors:

- GOES-R Advanced Baseline Imager
- Joint Polar Satellite Systems (JPSS) VIIRS

## NESDIS Aerosol Data Policy and Applications

# GOES Aerosol Optical Depth Product

## Status: Operational

- Quantitative measure of atmospheric aerosol loading that has been shown to be a proxy for surface particulate matter pollution, PM<sub>2.5</sub> (aerosol mass in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ).
  - *Single channel retrieval using measured visible channel reflectances from GOES Imager.*
  - *IR channels used in identifying clouds.*
  - *Physical retrieval that separates contribution of surface from aerosols.*
  - *Retrievals over clear sky and dark vegetative pixels only.*
- Product specifications
  - *Name: GOES Aerosol and Smoke Product (GASP)*
  - *Satellites: GOES-East (15°N – 66°N & 151°W – 52°W)  
GOES-West (14°N – 75°N & 180°W – 50°W)*
  - *Accuracy: 0.04 (GOES-E) ; 0.06 (GOES-W)*
  - *Spatial resolution: 4 km at nadir*
  - *Temporal resolution: 30 minutes (sunlit portion of the day)*
  - *Latency: within one hour of data capture*
  - *Data format: binary file and JPEG imagery*
  - *Data availability: 2003 - present*
  - *Imagery/Data link:*

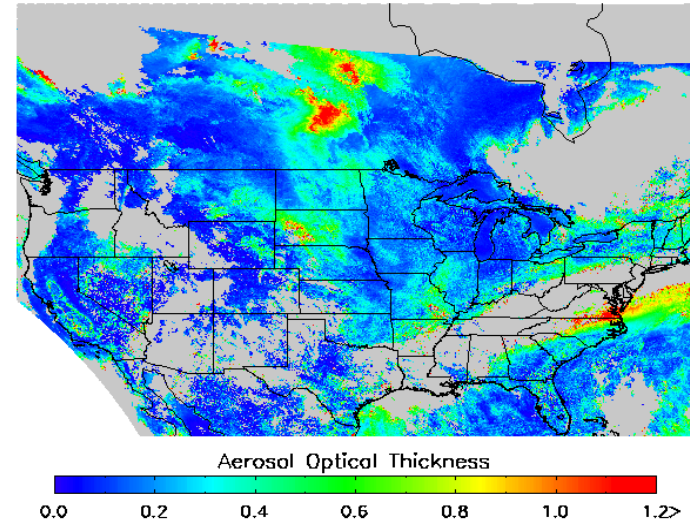
<http://www.ssd.noaa.gov/PS/FIRE/GASP/gasp.html>

<http://www.ssd.noaa.gov/PS/FIRE/GASP/gasp-west.html>

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/GASP/AOD-WEST/>

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/GASP/AOD/>

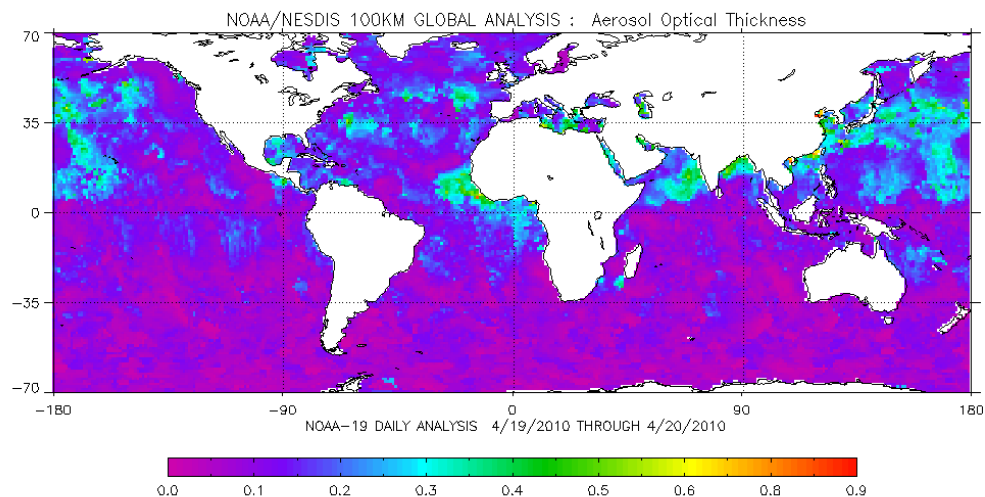
GOES-12 Composite 2006 07 05



Knapp, JGR, 2002, 2005 ; Knapp et al., IJRS, 2006; Prados et al., JGR, 2007; Kondragunta et al., JAMC, 2008

# AVHRR Aerosol Optical Depth Product Status: Operational

- Quantitative measure of atmospheric aerosol loading:
  - *Single channel retrieval using measured visible channel reflectances from AVHRR Imager.*
  - *IR channels used in identifying clouds.*
  - *Ocean reflectance computed.*
  - *Retrievals over Ocean only.*
- Product specifications
  - *Name: AVHRR Aerosol Optical Thickness*
  - *Satellites: NOAA-19, NOAA-18, NOAA-17, NOAA-16, MetOP-1*
  - *Accuracy: 37%*
  - *Spatial resolution: 8 km/daily, 100 km analysis weekly/monthly*
  - *Temporal resolution: daily, weekly, monthly*
  - *Latency: daily*
  - *Data format: binary file and JPEG imagery*
  - *Data availability: 2003 - present*
  - *Data link:*



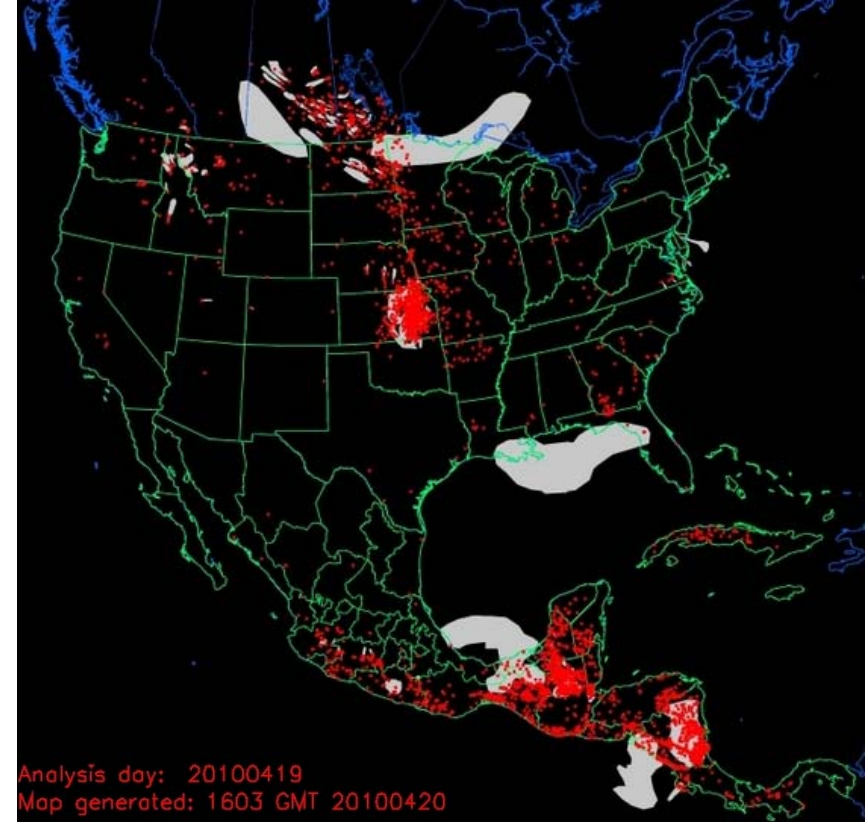
Ignatov et al, "Operational Aerosol Observations (AEROBS) from AVHRR/3 On Board NOAA-KLM Satellites" J. Atmos and Ocean Tech, Vol 21, pg 3-26, 2004

<http://www.osdpd.noaa.gov/ml/air/aeroproduct.html>

# Hazard Mapping System (HMS)

## *Operational daily fire and smoke analysis for North America using seven geostationary (GOES) and polar orbiting (POES and MODIS) satellites*

- The HMS integrates satellite data from different platforms with the output from automated fire detection algorithms for the different instruments as well as various ancillary data layers that aid analysts in their decision making process.
- Analysts review fire detects from the algorithms and either retain them in the analysis or delete them if they feel they are false detects. Analysts also scan the satellite imagery and add hotspots that the algorithms have not detected.



Satellite Sensor	SWIR nominal resolution	Refresh Rate	Geographic coverage	Automated detection algorithm
<b>GEOSTATIONARY</b> GOES-East GOES-West	4km	15 minutes	CONUS/Canada/ Central America	WFABBA
			Western half of CONUS/Alaska/Hawaii	
<b>POLAR</b> NOAA-15/17/18 MODIS Terra MODIS Aqua	1km	Twice/day low/mid latitudes More frequent at high latitudes	Most of North/Central America except NOAA-15 which does not cover Western US	FIMMA  MODIS

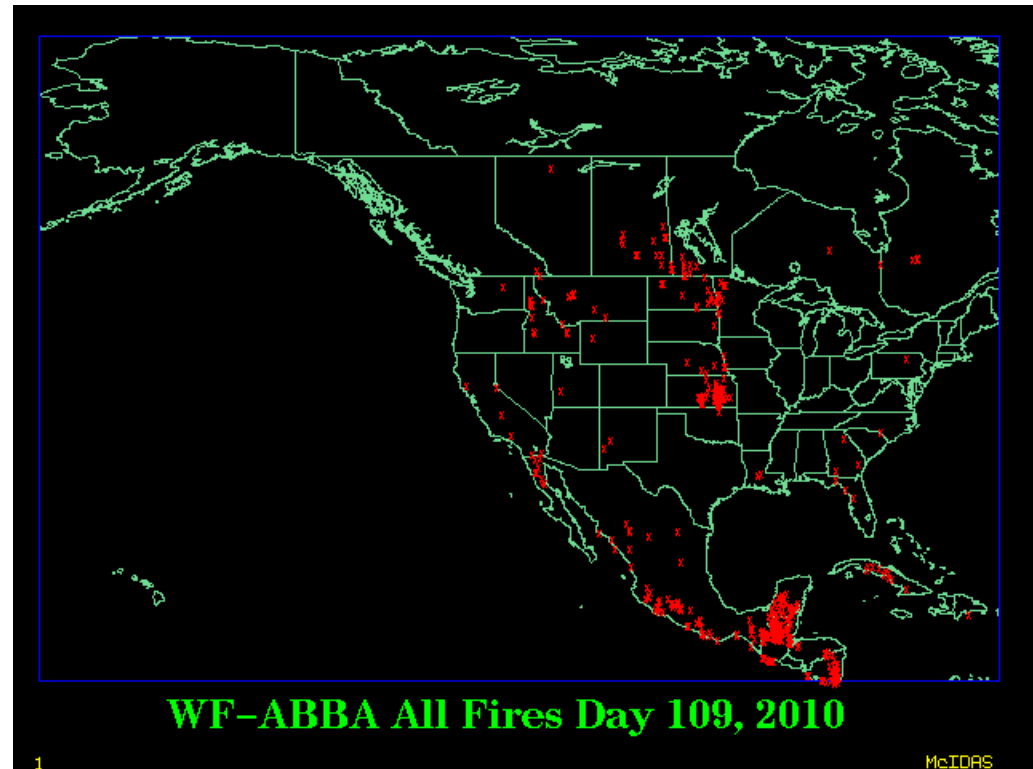
# Wildfire Automated Biomass Burning Algorithm (WF\_ABBA)

*Product developed by the biomass burning monitoring team at CIMSS using the GOES Imager, Meteosat SEVIRI, and MTSAT JAMI to detect and monitor fires (wildfires, prescribed burns and agricultural burns) globally. The WF-ABBA runs all available imagery data from supported geostationary satellites.*

The WF\_ABBA fire product includes: fire location (lat./lon.), estimates of instantaneous fire size, temperature, and radiative power, ~4 and ~11 micron observed brightness temperatures, background brightness temperatures, albedo statistics, ecosystem type, and a detection classification flag. The product also produces a mask identifying on a per-pixel basis whether the pixel has a fire, does not have a fire, or no determination could be made due to clouds, solar block-out zones, ecosystem type, etc...

Binary Data:

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/FIRE/ABBA/>



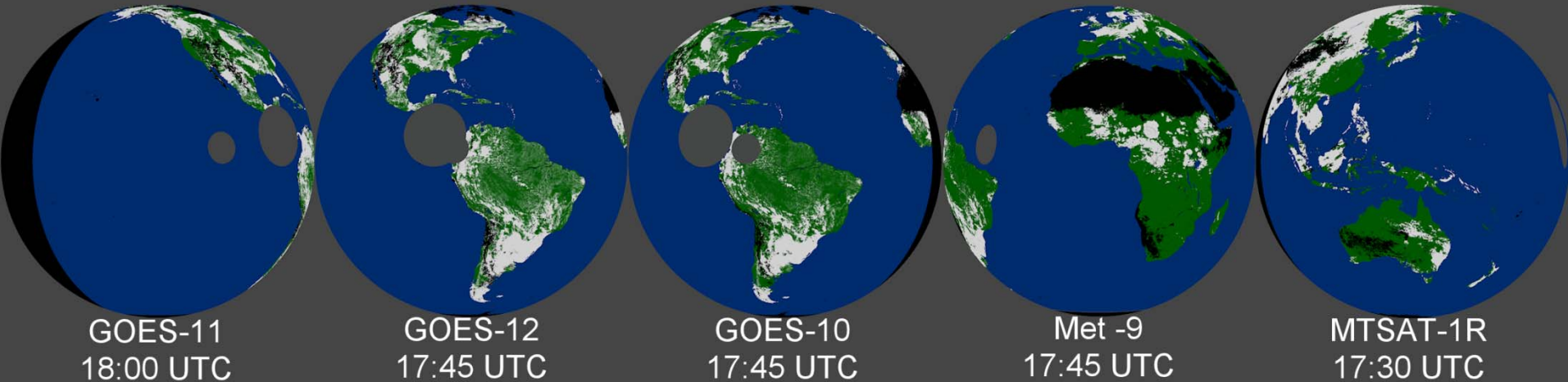
WF\_ABBA daily fires summary from NESDIS Operations

**Prins, E. M. and W. P. Menzel, 1994: Trends in South American biomass burning detected with the GOES visible infrared spin scan radiometer atmospheric sounder from 1983 to 1991, *Jour. Geo. Res.*, 99, 16719-16735.**

**Prins, E. M. and W. P. Menzel, 1992: Geostationary Satellite detection of biomass burning in South America, *Int. J. of Remote Sensing*, 13, 2783-2799.**

# Examples of Global WF\_ABBA

Global WF\_ABBA Fire and Metadata Mask on 3 September 2009 at ~17:45 UTC

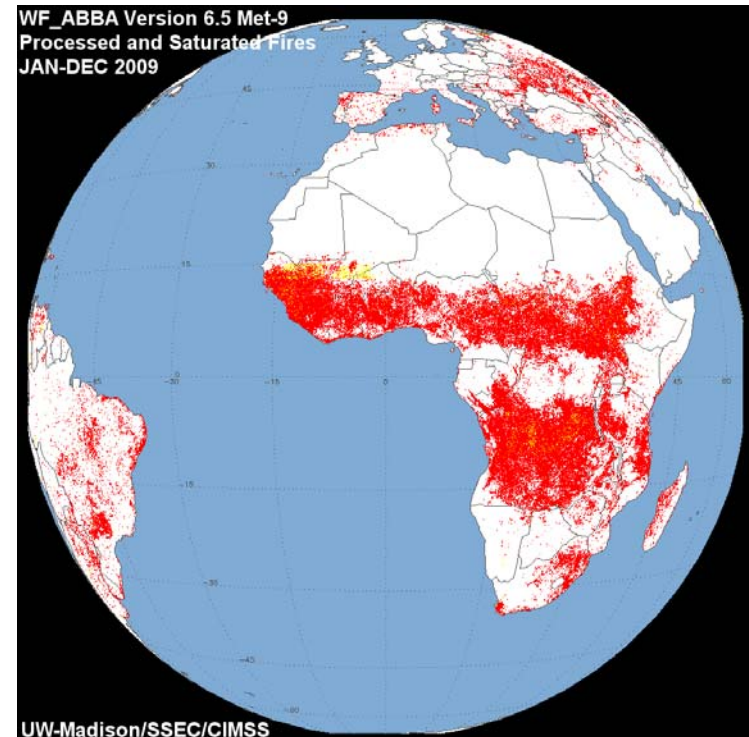


Above: Examples of WF\_ABBA mask for all supported satellites on 3 September 2009. Green indicates fire-free land, light gray indicates opaque clouds, dark gray indicates solar block-out zones, and black indicates other regions excluded from fire detection.

Right: Summary of WF\_ABBA processed (red) and saturated (yellow) fires detected with Meteosat-9 SEVIRI in 2009. Processed fires have estimated fire properties (size, temperature, and radiative power).

Binary Data:

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/FIRE/forPo/>





# Fire Identification Mapping and Monitoring Algorithm (FIMMA)

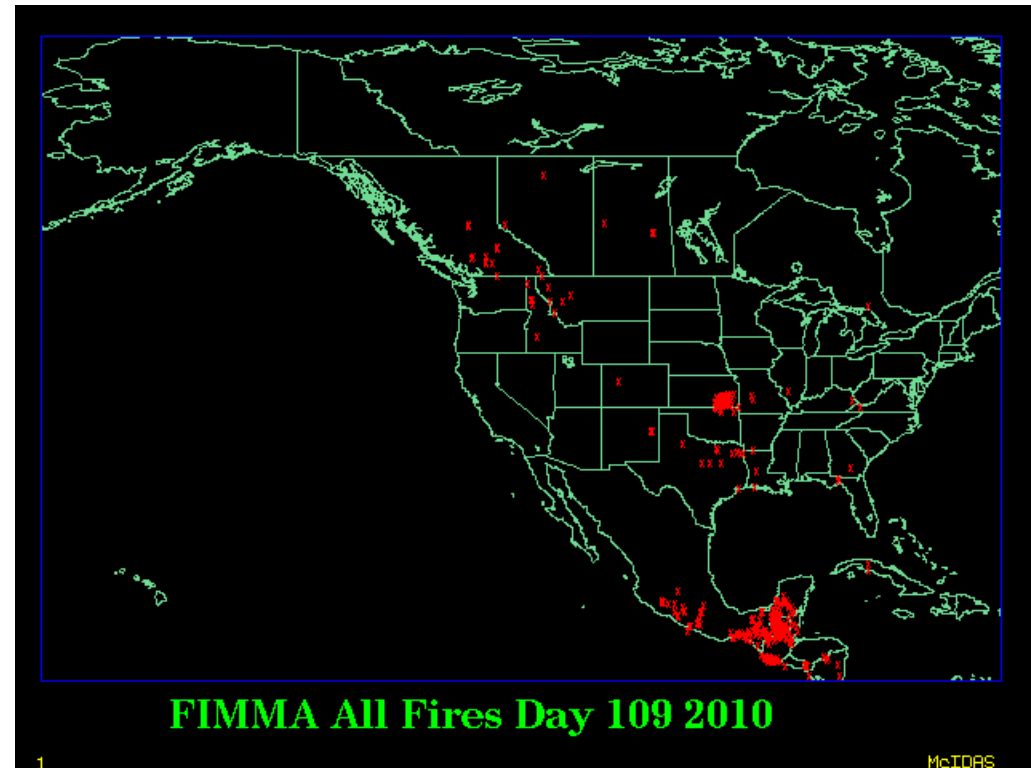
*The FIMMA is an automated algorithm to detect fires from Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) data from NOAA polar-orbiting satellites. The FIMMA product was developed by CIRA by modifying an algorithm developed at the University of Maryland. The current version uses geo-corrected High Resolution Picture Transmission (HRPT) AVHRR data over the US (including Alaska and Hawaii).*

Files are available in comma delimited format (Lon, Lat, Channel 3b, 4, 5 brightness temperatures, and Landcover) covering North America.

This product occasionally suffers from false detects due to satellite noise, high surface temperatures, or strong solar reflectivity. Attempts to eliminate this noise in this automated algorithm may have filtered true fires. Users are advised to use the HMS fire product for better accuracy.

Binary Data:

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/FIRE/FIMMA>



FIMMA daily fires summary from NESDIS Operations

Li, Z., R. Fraser, J. Jin, A. A. Abuelgasim, I. Csiszar, P. Gong, R. Pu, and W. Hao, Evaluation of algorithms for fire detection and mapping across North America from satellite, J. Geophys. Res., 108(D2), 4076, doi:10.1029/2001JD001377, 2003.

# MODIS Fire Detects

OSDPD produces TERRA & AQUA MODIS fire products using data from the near real-time NASA [MODIS Rapid Response System](#). The fire algorithm was developed by the [MODIS Fire and Thermal Anomalies team](#).

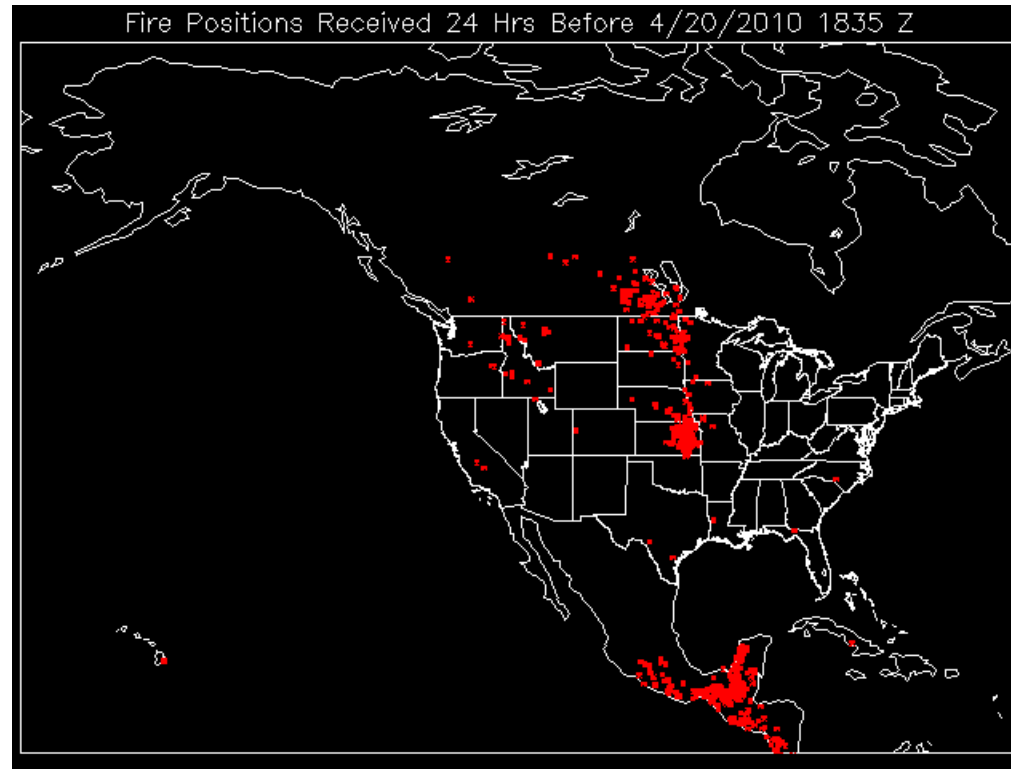
OSDPD extracts the fire positions and confidence values from NASA HDF files and place them into comma-delimited ascii files.

Fire locations represent the approximate location of the fire pixel and do not represent the actual fire size.

The Near Real Time Processing System is not considered operational. We do not guarantee 24/7 access to this data at this time.

Binary Data:

<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/FIRE/MODIS>



MODIS daily fires summary from NESDIS Operations

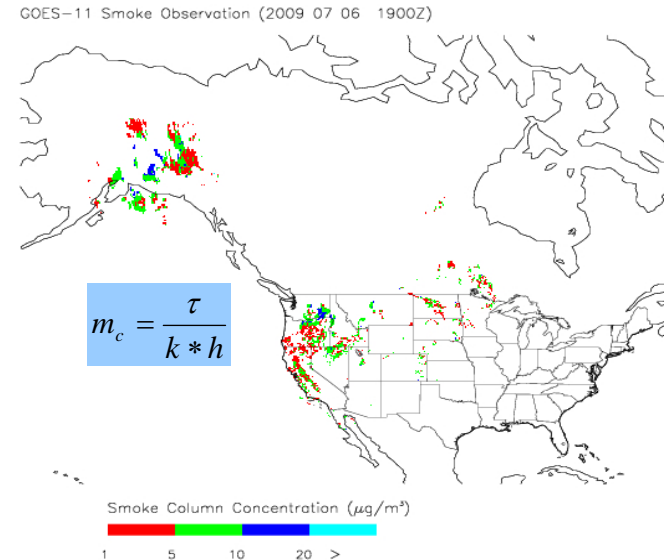
Giglio, L., Csiszar, I., Justice, C.O. 2006. Global distribution and seasonality of active fires as observed with the Terra and Aqua MODIS sensors. *Journal of Geophysical Research - Biogeosciences*, Vol 111, G02016, doi:10.1029/2005JG000142.

Schroeder, W., Prins, E., Giglio, L., Csiszar, I., Schimdt, C., Morisette, J., Morton, D. 2008. Validation of GOES and MODIS active fire detection products using ASTER and ETM+ data. *Remote Sensing of Environment* 112 (2008) 2711–2726.

# Automated Smoke Detection and Tracking Algorithm (ASDTA)

## Status: Operational

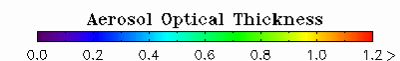
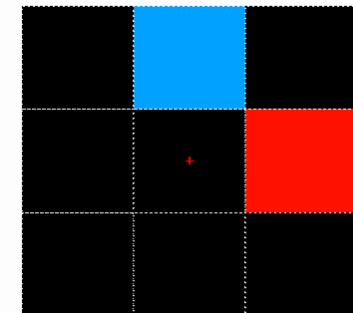
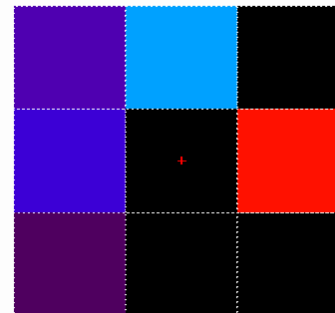
- Semi-quantitative retrieval of column average smoke concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) using AOD and fire hot spots from GOES
  - Uses source apportionment and pattern recognition techniques to isolate smoke aerosols from other type of aerosols
  - Smoke mass concentration ( $m_c$ ) is obtained using AOD ( $\tau$ ), mass extinction efficiency ( $k$ ), and aerosol height ( $h$ )
- Product specifications
  - *Name:* ASDTA
  - *Satellites:* GOES-East and GOES-West (includes Alaska and Hawaii)
  - *Accuracy:* 40%
  - *Spatial resolution:*  $0.15^\circ$
  - *Temporal resolution:* hourly
  - *Latency:* one day
  - *Data format:* binary file, GRIB file, JPEG imagery
  - *Data availability:* 2007 - present
  - *Data link:*  
<ftp://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/FIRE/HMS/S/ MOKE>



### Animation of Smoke Plume Detection

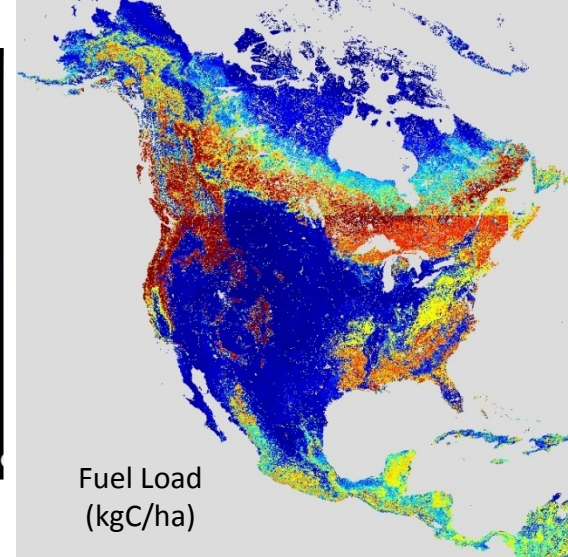
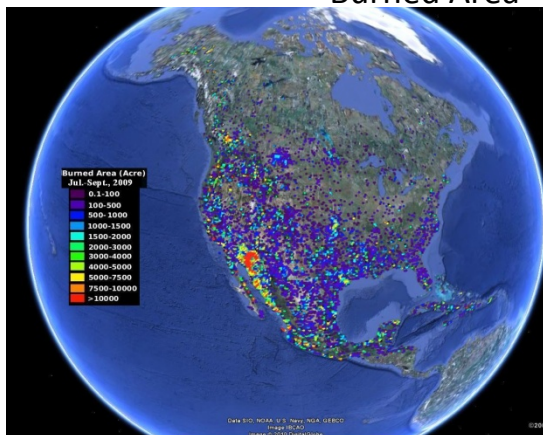
Original AOD Image

Smoke AOD Image



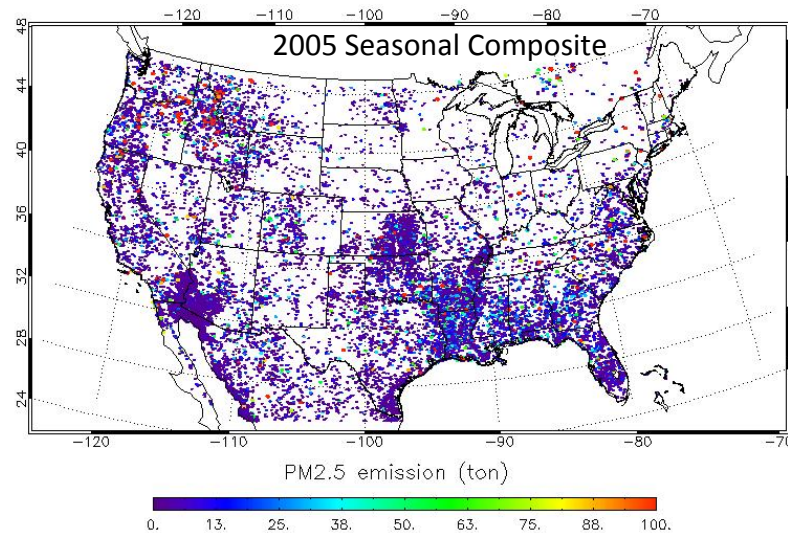
# GOES Biomass Burning Emissions Status: Operational

- Conventional approach uses fuel load, burned area, fraction of fuel consumed, and emissions factors to determine emissions.



- Product specifications

- *Name: GBBEP*
- *Satellites: GOES-East and GOES-West (includes Alaska)*
- *Accuracy: 30%*
- *Spatial resolution: 4 km at nadir*
- *Temporal resolution: hourly*
- *Latency: one day*
- *Data format: binary file, JPEG imagery*
- *Data availability: 2002 - present*
- *Data link:*  
<http://satepsanone.nesdis.noaa.gov/pub/EPA/GBBEP/>

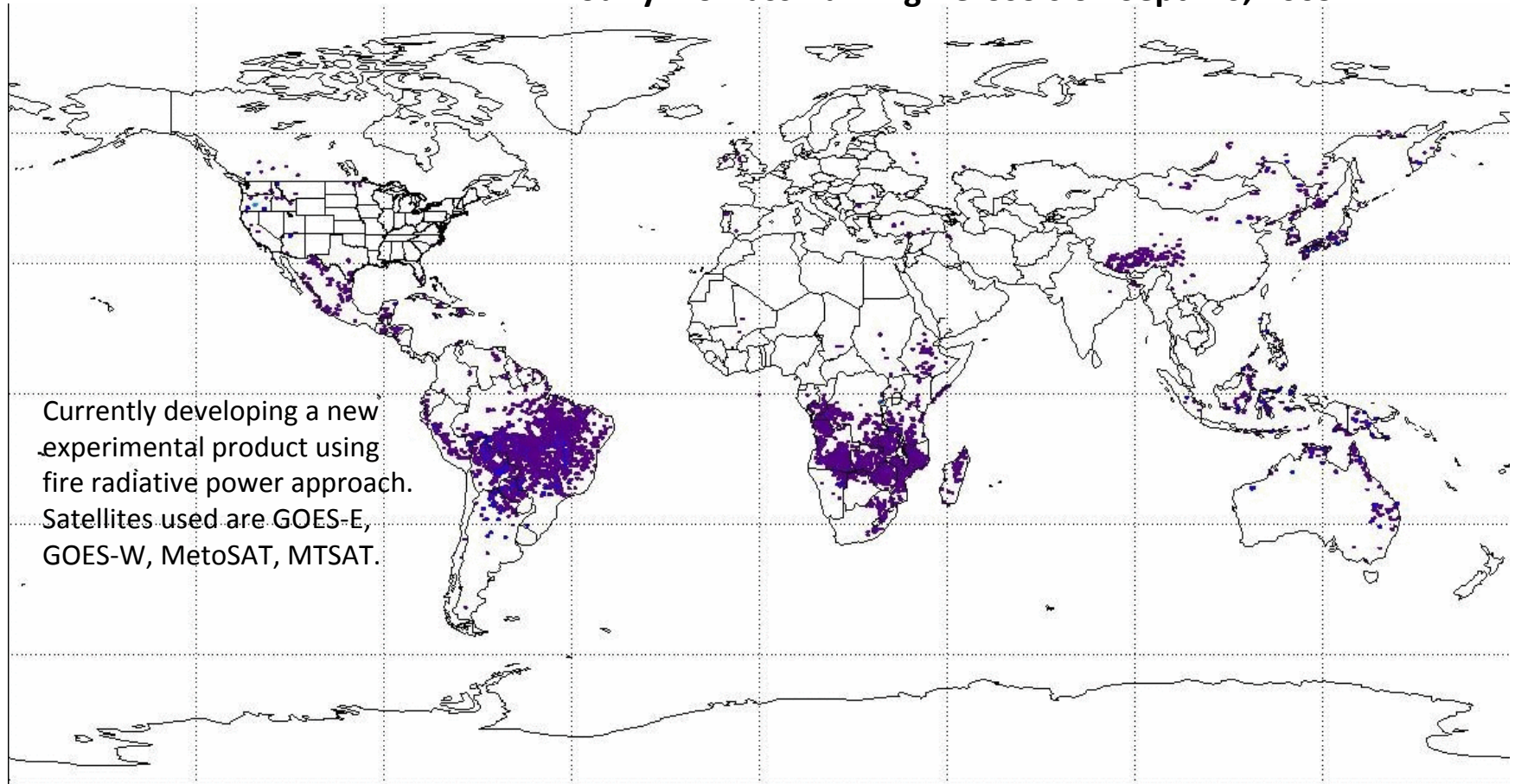


Zhang et al., Near real time monitoring of biomass burning particulate emissions (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) across contiguous United States using multiple satellite instruments, Atmospheric Environment 42 (2008) 6959–6972

# Global Biomass Burning Emissions Product from a Constellation of Geostationary Satellites

## Status: Experimental

Hourly Biomass Burning Aerosols on Sept. 16, 2009

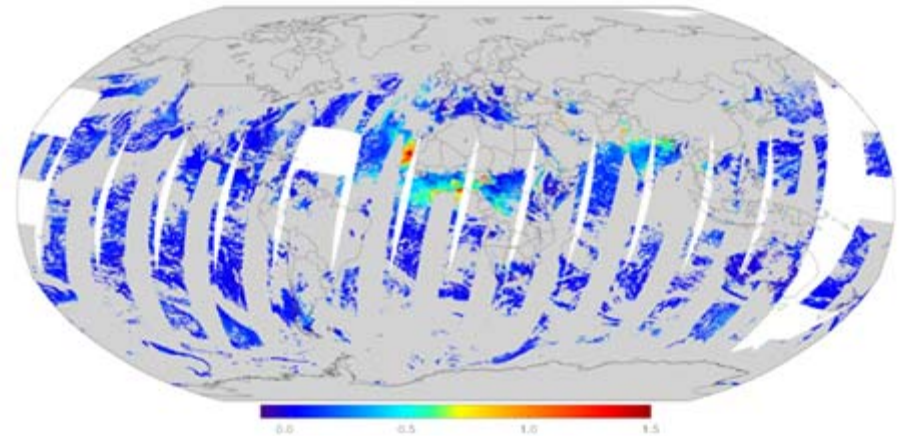


Currently developing a new experimental product using fire radiative power approach. Satellites used are GOES-E, GOES-W, MetoSAT, MTSAT.

# Aerosol Products from Next Generation NOAA Satellite Sensors

## GOES-R Advanced Baseline Imager

### GOES-R ABI AOD (1/28/2008)



- ABI is a multi-channel Imager that will provide Suspended Matter/Aerosol Optical Depth
  - MODIS/VIIRS algorithms have been adapted for ABI
  - Algorithm tested using seven years of MODIS radiances as proxy data

Range	Land		Water	
	AOD	Accuracy	AOD	Accuracy
Low	<0.04	0.06	<0.4	0.02
Medium	0.04-0.8	0.04		
High	>0.8	0.12	>0.4	0.10

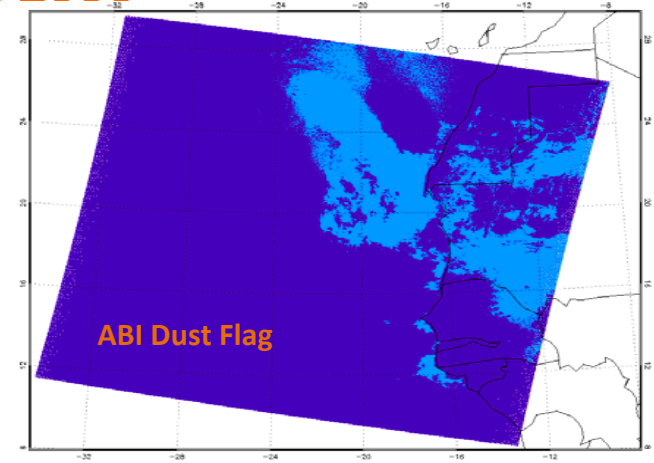
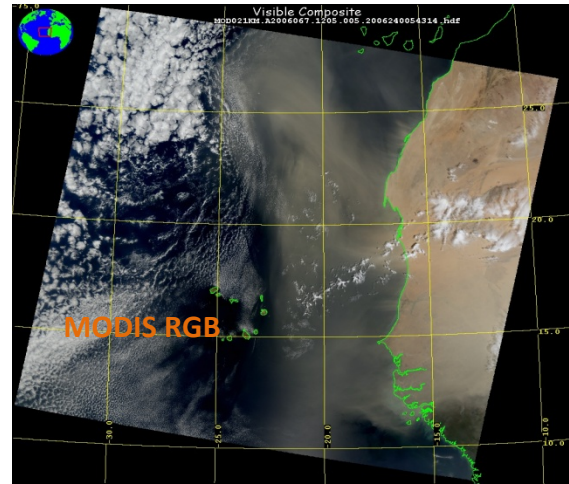
Laszlo I., P. Ciren, H. Liu, S. Kondragunta, J. D. Tarpley and M. D. Goldberg, 2008: Remote sensing of aerosol and radiation from geostationary satellites, *Adv. Space Res.*, 41, 11, 1882-1893, doi: 10.1016/j.asr.2007.06.047

# Aerosol Products from Next Generation NOAA Satellite Sensors

## GOES-R Advanced Baseline Imager

March 6, 2006

- ABI is a multi-channel imager that will provide Aerosol Dust/Smoke detection (imagery products)
  - MODIS/AVHRR dust/smoke detection algorithm adapted for ABI
  - Algorithm tested using MODIS RGB imagery and CALIPSO data for 36 case studies

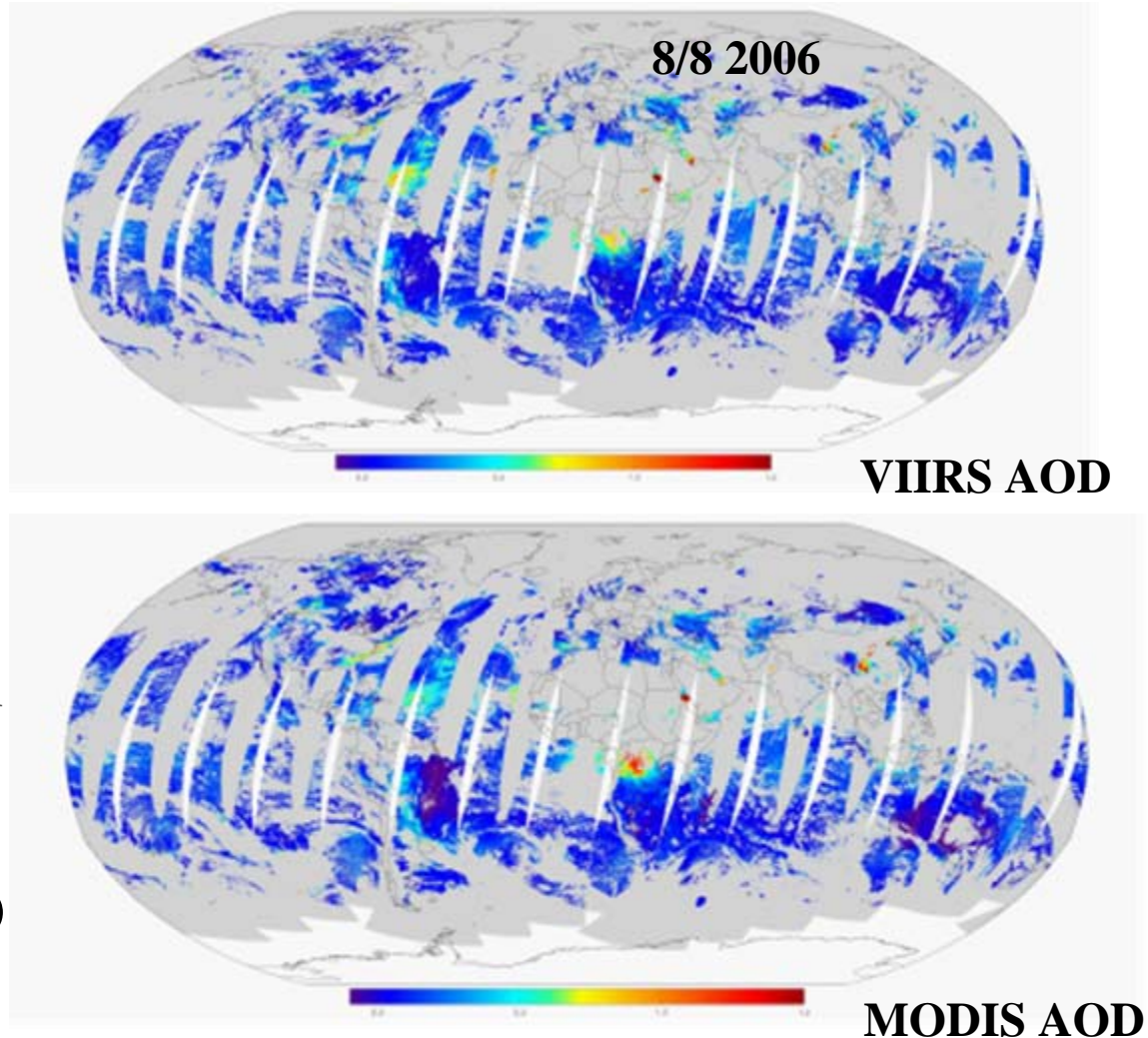


Product	Accuracy (vs. MODIS)		Accuracy (vs. CALIPSO)
	Land	Water	Land/Water
Dust	6.4%	1.9%	19%
Smoke	12.1%	16.3%	25%

# Aerosol Products from Next Generation NOAA Satellite Sensors

## Joint Polar Satellite Systems (JPSS) VIIRS

- VIIRS is a multi-channel Imager that will provide Aerosol Optical Depth, Aerosol Particle Size, Suspended Matter (smoke/dust classification products
  - NESDIS is validating the algorithm/product. Official product will be available through system prime. Additional improved products through NESDIS (JPSS data exploitation project) are anticipated.





# NESDIS Aerosol Data Policy and Applications

- All products, *if operational*, are available for public use on public domain (DDS, Data Distribution System) from OSDPD (Office of Satellite Data Production and Distribution). They have 24-hr/7-day technical support.
  - NOAA is not responsible for products developed by non-NOAA personnel using NOAA satellite data.
  - All NOAA products have PALs (Product Area Leads) who receive feedback from users and who provide product upgrades/outage etc. information to the users. PALs get science guidance from algorithm developers at STAR (Center for Satellite Applications and Research).
  - Users interested in these products should contact the PALs
  - Requests for new products must come through submission of a user request from at <http://projects.osd.noaa.gov/spsrb/>
- All products, *if experimental*, are available for testing and potential applications through STAR PIs. They do not have 24-hr/7-day technical support.
- List of OSDPD PALs:
  - GOES AOD ([Matthew.Seybold@noaa.gov](mailto:Matthew.Seybold@noaa.gov))
  - HMS ([Mark.Ruminski@noaa.gov](mailto:Mark.Ruminski@noaa.gov))
  - Fires ([Gilberto.Vicente@noaa.gov](mailto:Gilberto.Vicente@noaa.gov))
  - Emissions ([Gilberto.Vicente@noaa.gov](mailto:Gilberto.Vicente@noaa.gov))
  - GOES ASDTA ([Matthew.Seybold@noaa.gov](mailto:Matthew.Seybold@noaa.gov))
  - MODIS and AVHRR AOD ([Hangjun.Ding@noaa.gov](mailto:Hangjun.Ding@noaa.gov))
- Science support from STAR:
  - GOES AOD ([Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov](mailto:Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov))
  - Fires ([Chris.Schmidt@ssec.wisc.edu](mailto:Chris.Schmidt@ssec.wisc.edu), [Ivan.Csiszar@noaa.gov](mailto:Ivan.Csiszar@noaa.gov))
  - Emissions ([Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov](mailto:Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov))
  - GOES ASDTA ([Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov](mailto:Shobha.Kondragunta@noaa.gov))
  - AVHRR AOD ([Istvan.Laszlo@noaa.gov](mailto:Istvan.Laszlo@noaa.gov))

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