

# Low and medium resolution imagery



## Low/medium res. imagery

- Affordable, accessible
- Large ground coverage
- Decades of historical imagery
- Low level of detail

## High Res. Imagery

- High level of detail
- On demand coverage
- Expensive, inaccessible
- Small ground coverage

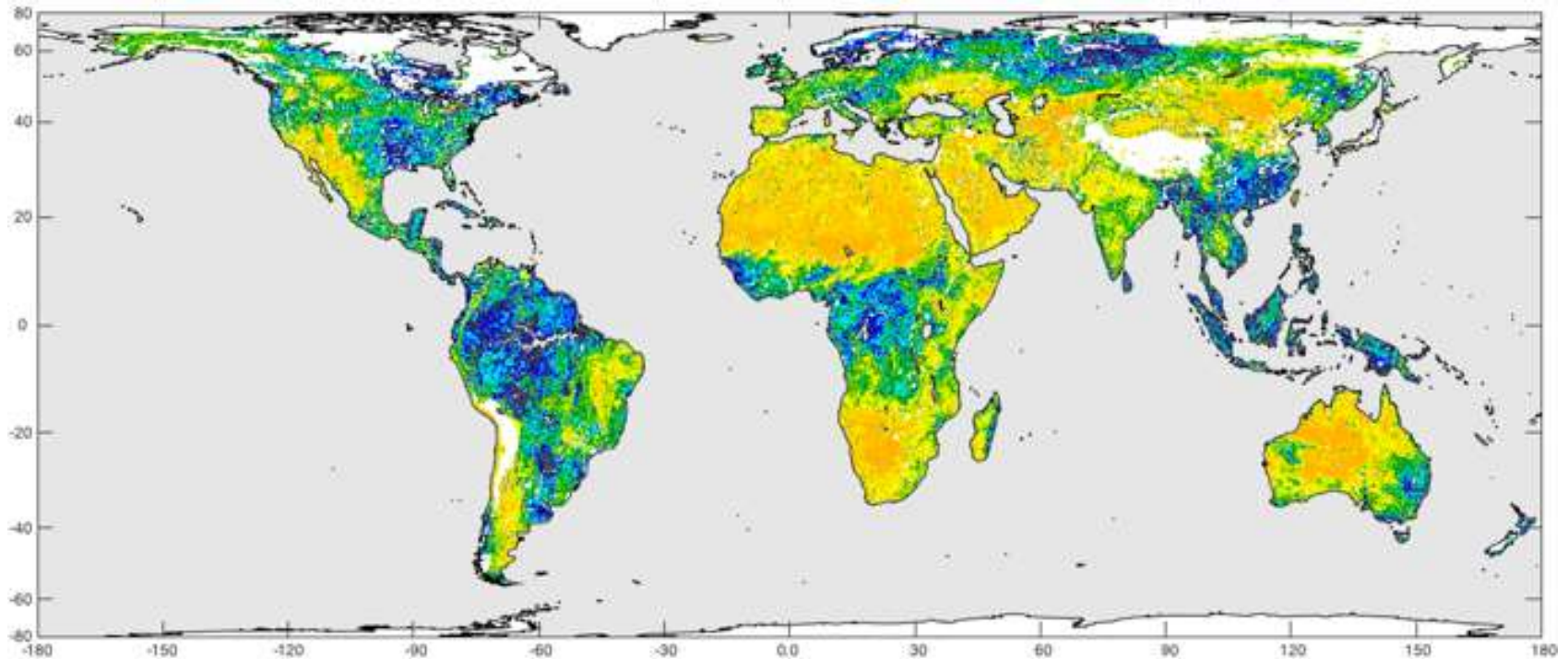
# Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) mission, 2015

Active: RADAR;

Passive Microwave : Radiometer (9km)

SMAP is designed to measure soil moisture, every 2-3 days.

RADAR portion failed quickly, replaced by Sentinel-1 (radar)

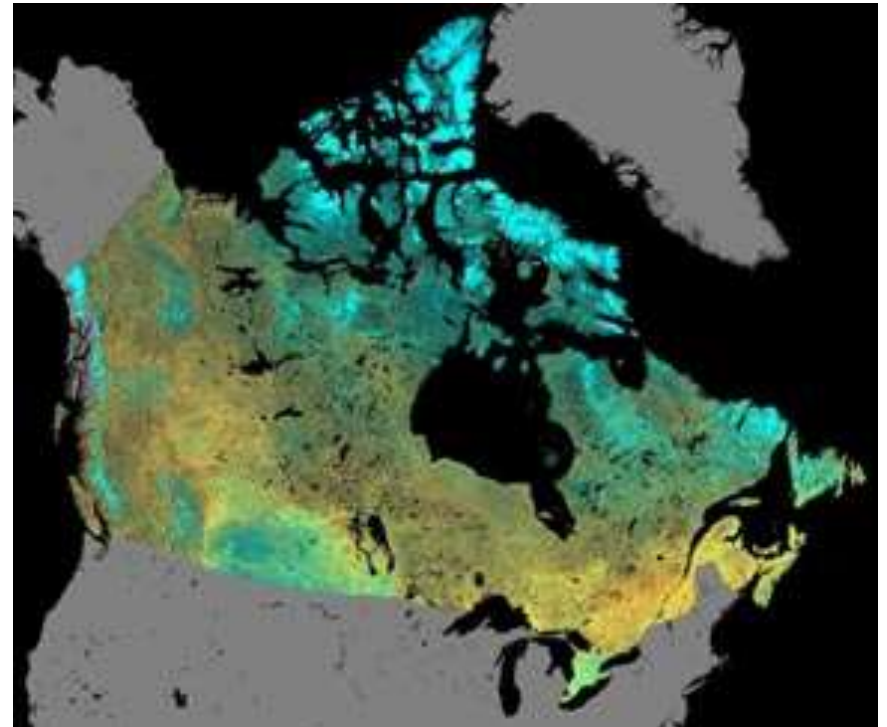
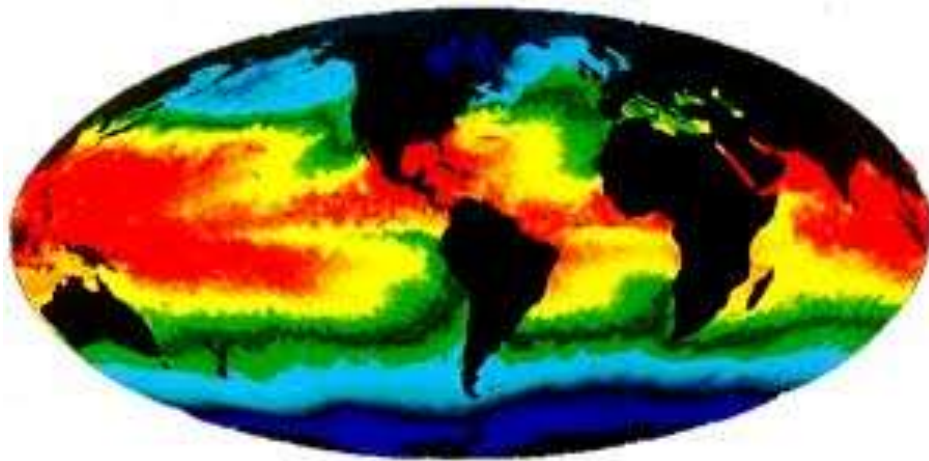


Retrieved soil moisture based on the SMAP “active” and “passive” radiometer data. SMAP Active-Passive Soil Moisture Product (9 km). Three Days Composite May 21- 23, 2015

# Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR), 1978->

## NOAA AVHRR Bands

Band	Wavelength Range ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Spatial Resolution	Application
1	0.58 - 0.68 (red)	1.1 km	cloud, snow, and ice monitoring
2	0.725 - 1.1 (near IR)	1.1 km	water, vegetation, and agriculture surveys
3	3.55 - 3.93 (mid IR)	1.1 km	sea surface temperature, volcanoes, and forest fire activity
4	10.3 - 11.3 (thermal IR)	1.1 km	sea surface temperature, soil moisture
5	11.5 - 12.5 (thermal IR)	1.1 km	sea surface temperature, soil moisture





# NOAA satellites: Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR)

‘High resolution’ refers to temporal coverage not spatial size (1.1km)

NOAA-1	1970-71	NOAA-2 1972-75	These carried the VHRR mostly experimental for weather
NOAA-3	1973-76	NOAA-4 1974-78	
NOAA-5	1976-79		

TIROS: Television Infrared Observation Satellites (since 1960)

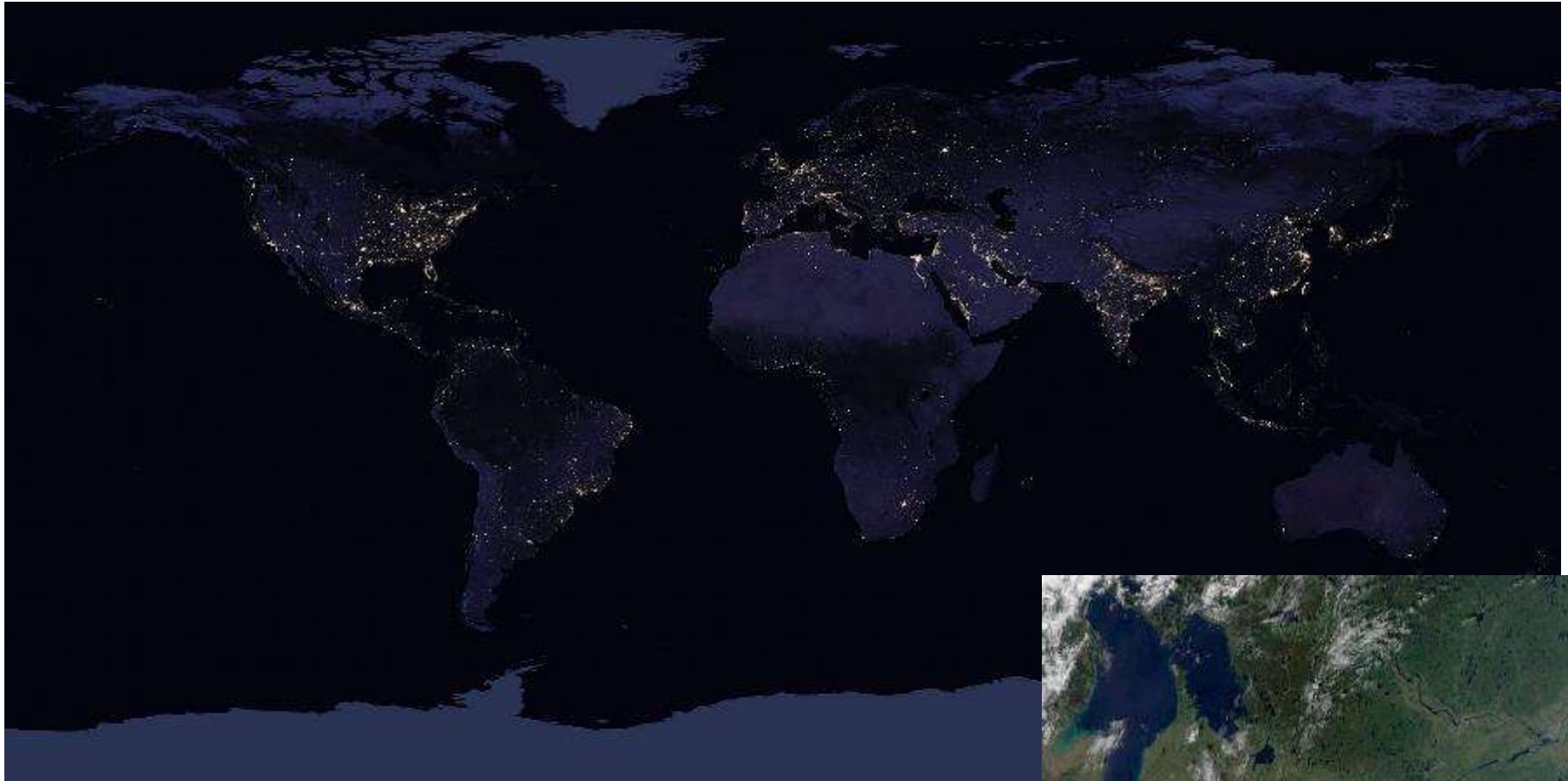
Satellite	Equator Crossing Times		Service
	Ascending	Descending	
TIROS-N	1500	0300	10/19/78 - 01/30/80
NOAA-6	1930	0730	06/27/79 - 11/16/86
NOAA-7	1430	0230	08/24/81 - 06/07/86
NOAA-8	1930	0730	05/03/83 - 10/31/85
NOAA-9	1420	0220	02/25/85 - Present
NOAA-10	1930	0730	11/17/86 - Present
NOAA-11	1340	0140	11/08/88 - 09/13/94
NOAA-12	1930	0730	05/14/91 - stand by
NOAA-14	1340	0140	12/30/94 - Present
NOAA-15	1930	0730	05/13/98 - Present
<a href="#">NOAA-16</a>	1400	0200	21/09/00 - Present
NOAA-17	2200	1000	24/06/02 - Present
NOAA-18	1400	0200	20/05/05 - Present

NOAA-19	1400	2009->
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NOAA-20	<b>VIIRS (SUOMI)</b>	2017 ->
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# Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS)

22 bands (superspectral) – 16 have 750m resolution, Blue->Thermal  
Higher resolution than AVHRR, modelled on MODIS

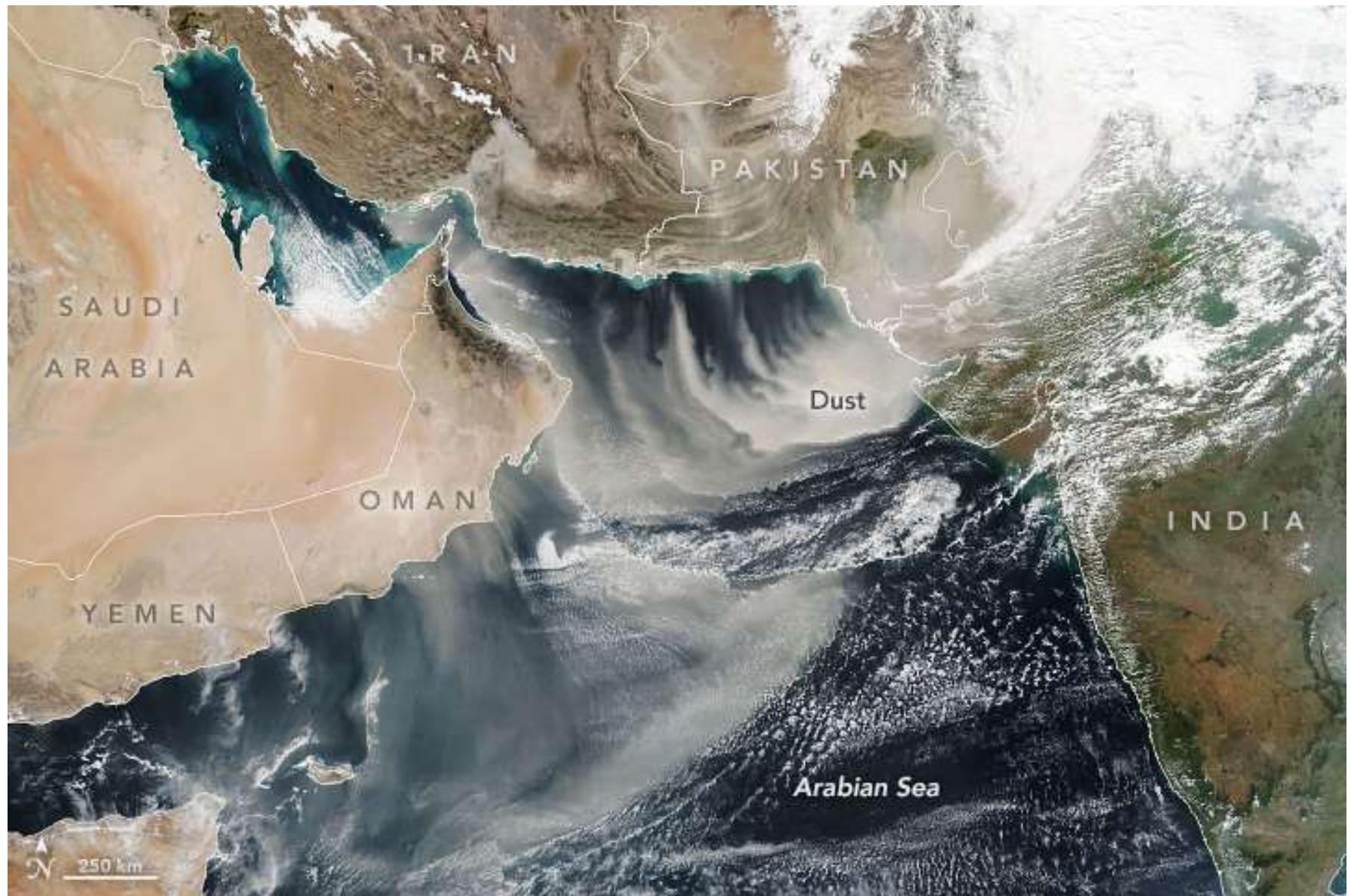


Canada's human footprint reveals large intact areas juxtaposed against areas under immense anthropogenic pressure (2021) DOI:[10.1101/2021.06.11.447577](https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.06.11.447577)



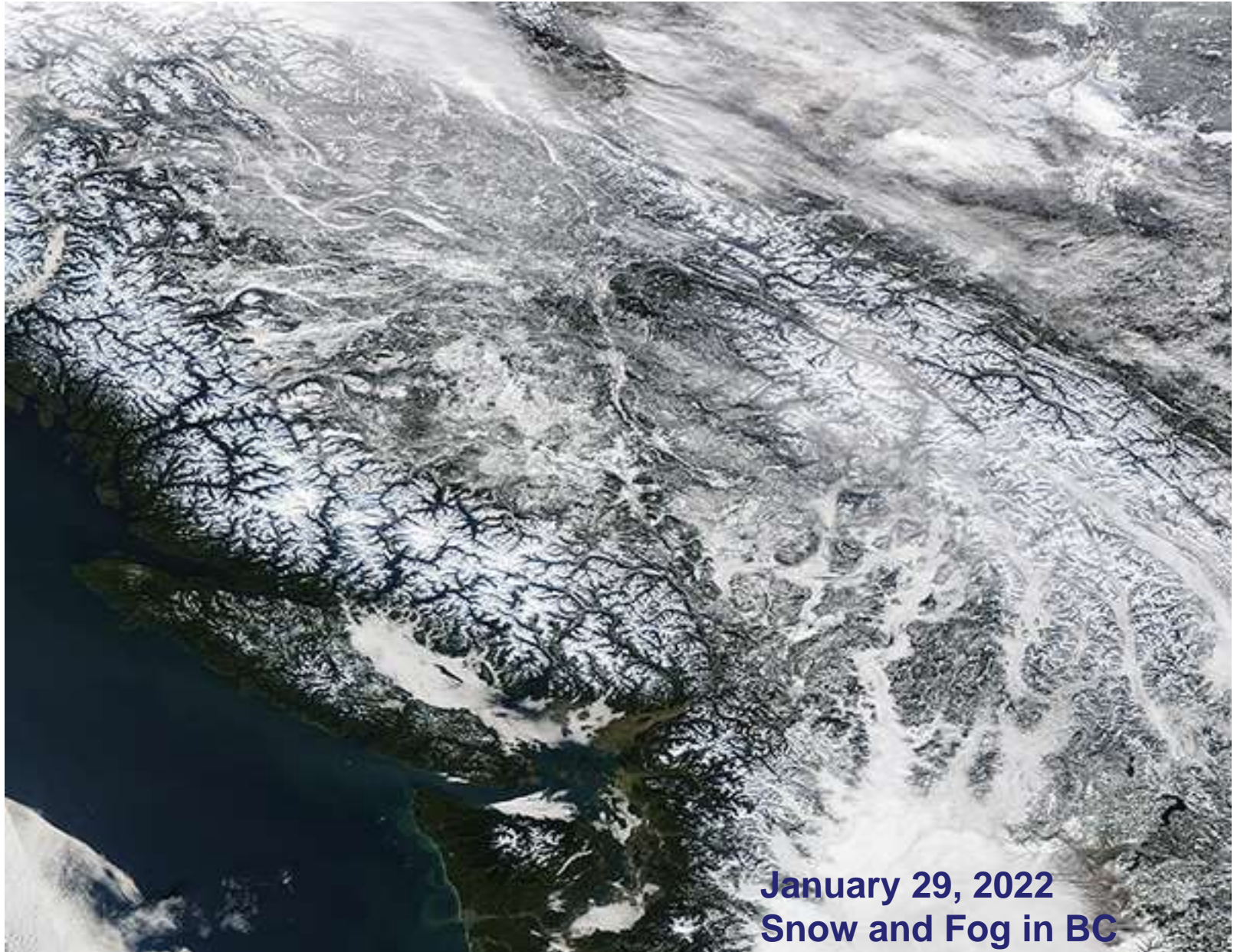


# Dust Storm VIIRS, January 22, 2022





# MODIS (Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer)

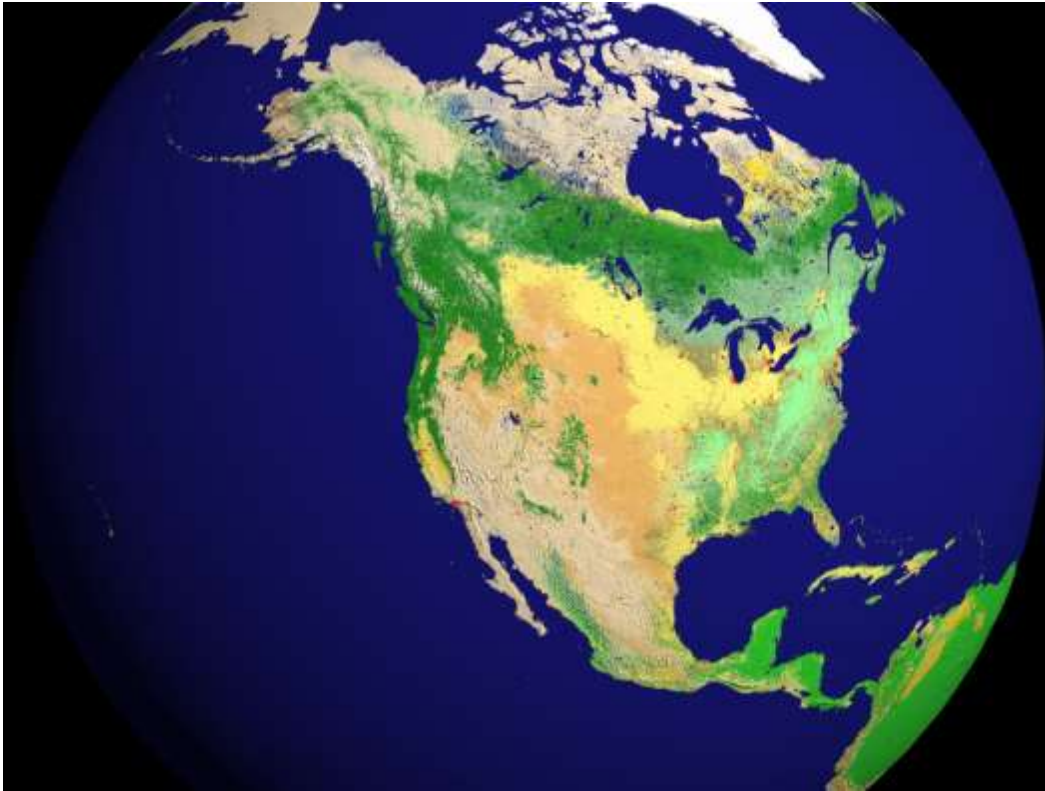


January 29, 2022  
Snow and Fog in BC

Launched by NASA in Dec. 1999 on the [Terra](#) (EOS AM) satellite, and in May 2002 on the [Aqua](#) (EOS PM) satellite.

Designed to combine some characteristics of AVHRR (1978-> ) and Landsat TM (1982-> ) plus atmospheric /cloud parameters

It is the predominant global medium scale sensor





# **MODIS** (Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer)

- 36 spectral bands range in wavelength: 0.4 to 14.4  $\mu\text{m}$
- spatial resolutions: 250m to 1km
- Terra: 10.30am descending
- Aqua: 1.30pm ascending
- Swath: 2330 km; Earth covered in 1-2 days
- Data: 12-bit; design life 6 years (going on 22 ...)

# MODIS superspectral bands, wavelengths

Reflected Solar Bands			Emissive Bands
<i>Aggregated 250 m</i>	<i>Aggregated 500 m</i>	<i>1 km</i>	<i>1 km</i>
Band 1 (620-670 nm)	Band 3 (459-479 nm)	Band 8 (405-420 nm)	Band 20 (3.660-3.840 $\mu\text{m}$ )
Band 2 (841-876 nm)	Band 4 (545-565 nm)	Band 9 (438-448 nm)	Band 21 (3.929-3.989 $\mu\text{m}$ )
	Band 5 (1230-1250 nm)	Band 10 (483-493 nm)	Band 22 (3.939-3.989 $\mu\text{m}$ )
	Band 6 (1628-1652 nm)	Band 11 (526-536 nm)	Band 23 (4.020-4.080 $\mu\text{m}$ )
	Band 7 (2105-2155 nm)	Band 12 (546-556 nm)	Band 24 (4.433-4.498 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 13L (662-672 nm)	Band 25 (4.482-4.549 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 13H (662-672 nm)	Band 27 (6.535-6.895 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 14L (673-683 nm)	Band 28 (7.175-7.475 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 14H (673-683 nm)	Band 29 (8.400-8.700 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 15 (743-753 nm)	Band 30 (9.580-9.880 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 16 (862-877 nm)	Band 31 (10.780-11.280 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 17 (890-920 nm)	Band 32 (11.770-12.270 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 18 (931-941 nm)	Band 33 (13.185-13.485 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 19 (915-965 nm)	Band 34 (13.485-13.785 $\mu\text{m}$ )
		Band 26 (1.360-1.390 $\mu\text{m}$ )	Band 35 (13.785-14.085 $\mu\text{m}$ )
			Band 36 (14.085-14.385 $\mu\text{m}$ )



**MODIS BANDS and their PRINCIPAL AREAS OF APPLICATION**

Primary Use	Band	Bandwidth (nm)	Central Wavelength (nm)	Pixel Size (m)
<b>Land/Cloud /Aerosols</b>	1	620 - 670	645.5	250
	2	841 - 876	856.5	250
<b>Land/Cloud /Aerosols</b> <b>Properties</b>	3	459 - 479	465.6	500
	4	545 - 565	553.6	500
	5	1230 - 1250	1241.6	500
	6	1628 - 1652	1629.1	500
	7	2105 - 2155	2114.1	500
<b>Ocean Color/</b> <b>Phytoplankton/</b> <b>Biogeochemistry</b>	8	405 - 420	411.3	1000
	9	438 - 448	442.0	1000
	10	483 - 493	486.9	1000
	11	526 - 536	529.6	1000
	12	546 - 556	546.8	1000
	13	662 - 672	665.5	1000
	14	673 - 683	676.8	1000
	15	743 - 753	746.4	1000
	16	862 - 877	866.2	1000
<b>Atmospheric</b> <b>Water Vapor</b>	17	890 - 920	904.0	1000
	18	931 - 941	935.5	1000
	19	915 - 965	935.2	1000

<b>Surface/Cloud</b> <b>Temperature</b>	20	3.660 - 3.840	3.785	1000
	21	3.930 - 3.989	3.960	1000
	22*	3.930 - 3.989	3.960	1000
	23	4.020 - 4.080	4.056	1000
<b>Atmospheric</b> <b>Temperature</b>	24	4.433 - 4.498	4.472	1000
	25	4.482 - 4.549	4.545	1000
<b>Cirrus Clouds</b>	26	1.360 - 1.390	1.383	1000
<b>Water Vapor</b>	27	6.535 - 6.895	6.752	1000
	28	7.175 - 7.475	7.334	1000
<b>Cloud Properties</b>	29	8.400 - 8.700	8.518	1000
<b>Ozone</b>	30	9.580 - 9.880	9.737	1000
<b>Surface/Cloud</b> <b>Temperature</b>	31	10.780 - 11.280	11.017	1000
	32	11.770 - 12.270	12.032	1000
<b>Cloud Top</b> <b>Altitude</b>	33	13.185 - 13.485	13.359	1000
	34	13.485 - 13.785	13.675	1000
	35	13.785 - 14.085	13.907	1000
	36	14.085 - 14.385	14.192	1000

**The moderate resolution imaging spectroradiometer (MODIS): Land remote sensing for global change research. 1998. *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 36(4), 1228-1249. <https://doi.org/10.1109/36.701075>**

## MODIS SPECIAL THEMES

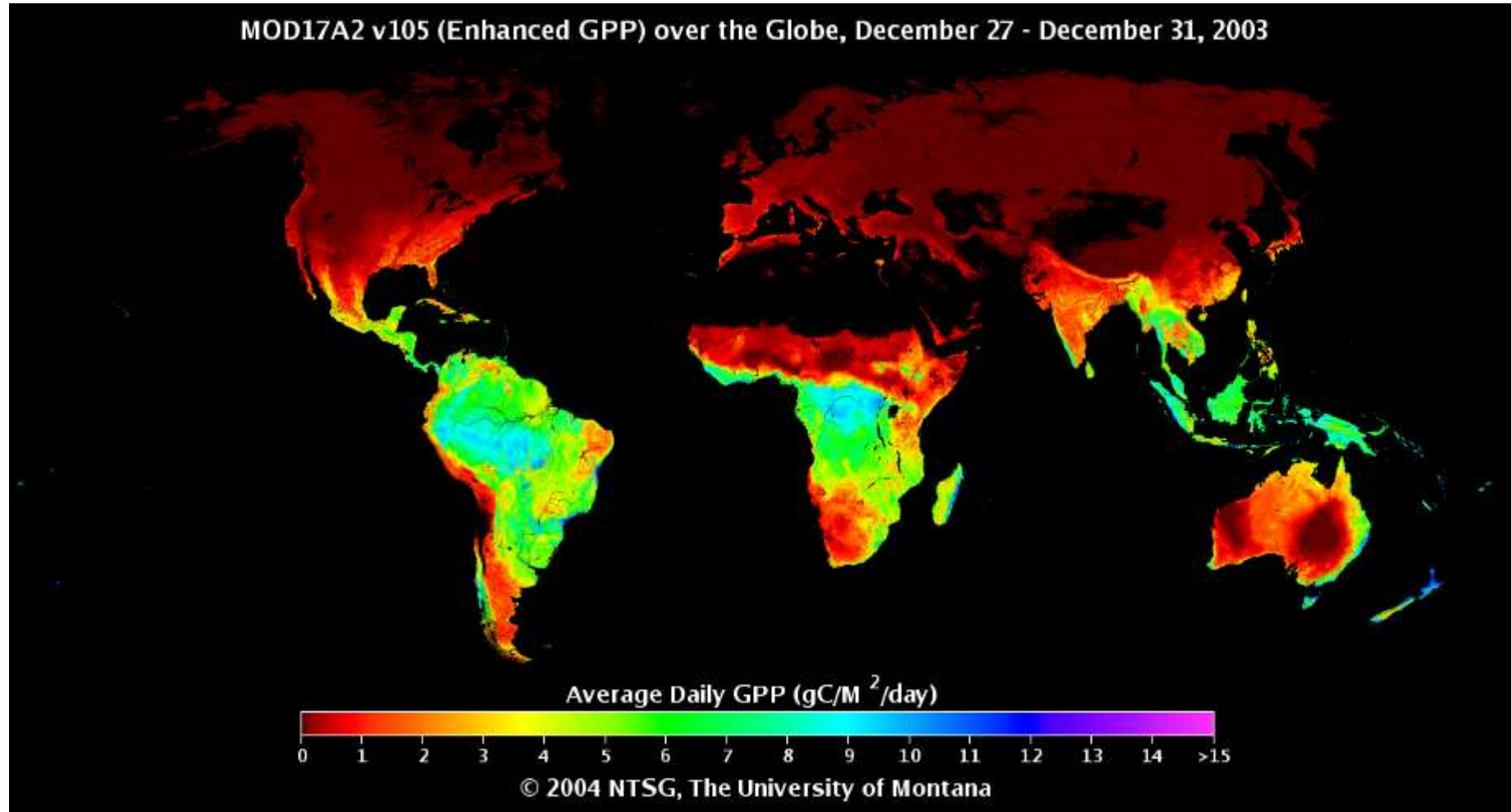
MODIS Team Member	MODIS Product
E. Vermote	Surface Reflectance
Z. Wan	Land Surface Temperature
A. Strahler/J.-P. Muller	BRDF/Albedo
A. R. Huete/C. O. Justice	Vegetation Indexes
R. B. Myneni/S. W. Running	LAI/FPAR 1
C. O. Justice/Y. J. Kaufman	Fires/Burned Area
D. Hall	Snow/Ice/Sea Ice
J. R. G. Townshend/A. Strahler	Land Cover/Land Cover Change
S. W. Running	PSN/NPP 2

1. Leaf Area Index /  
fraction of photosynthetically  
active radiation

2. Net Photosynthesis/  
Net Primary Productivity



GPP: The rate at which light energy is converted to plant biomass ...  
The sum total of the energy is called gross primary productivity



# MODIS Land Products / Research Themes

- *Energy Balance Product*

- Surface Reflectance
- Land Surface Temperature
- Albedo
- Snow Cover

**Global Water Cycle and Energy Balance**

- *Vegetation Parameters*

- Vegetation Indices
- LAI/FPAR
- NPP/PSN

**Biology and Biogeochemistry of  
Ecosystems and Global Carbon Cycle**

- *Land Cover Land Use*

- Land Cover
- Vegetation Continuous Fields
- Vegetation Cover Change
- Fire and Burned Area

**Land Cover and Land Use Change**

**Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols**





# MODIS

# Web

+ ABOUT MODIS

+ NEWS

+ DATA

+ IMAGES

+ SCIENCE TEAM

+ RELATED SITES

+ SEARCH

+ MODARCH

## DATA

The MODIS Data section contains everything from ATBDs to Product Descriptions to tutorials on ordering MODIS data from the various DAACs. [Peruse the Data section](#) today.

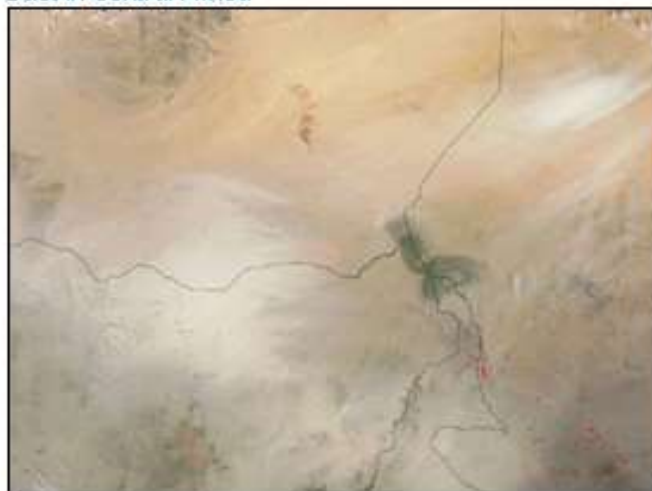
## NEWS

The MODIS news section details all the developing news surrounding the MODIS project.

MODIS Atmosphere Team  
Releases New Data Products  
Calendar

## IMAGES

### Dust in Central Africa



This image of dust over central Africa was captured by the MODIS on the Terra satellite on February 11, 2009. Shown are Niger (upper left half of image), Chad (right side), Nigeria (lower left), Cameroon (bottom center), and the...

<http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

## DISCIPLINES



Atmosphere



Land



Ocean



Calibration

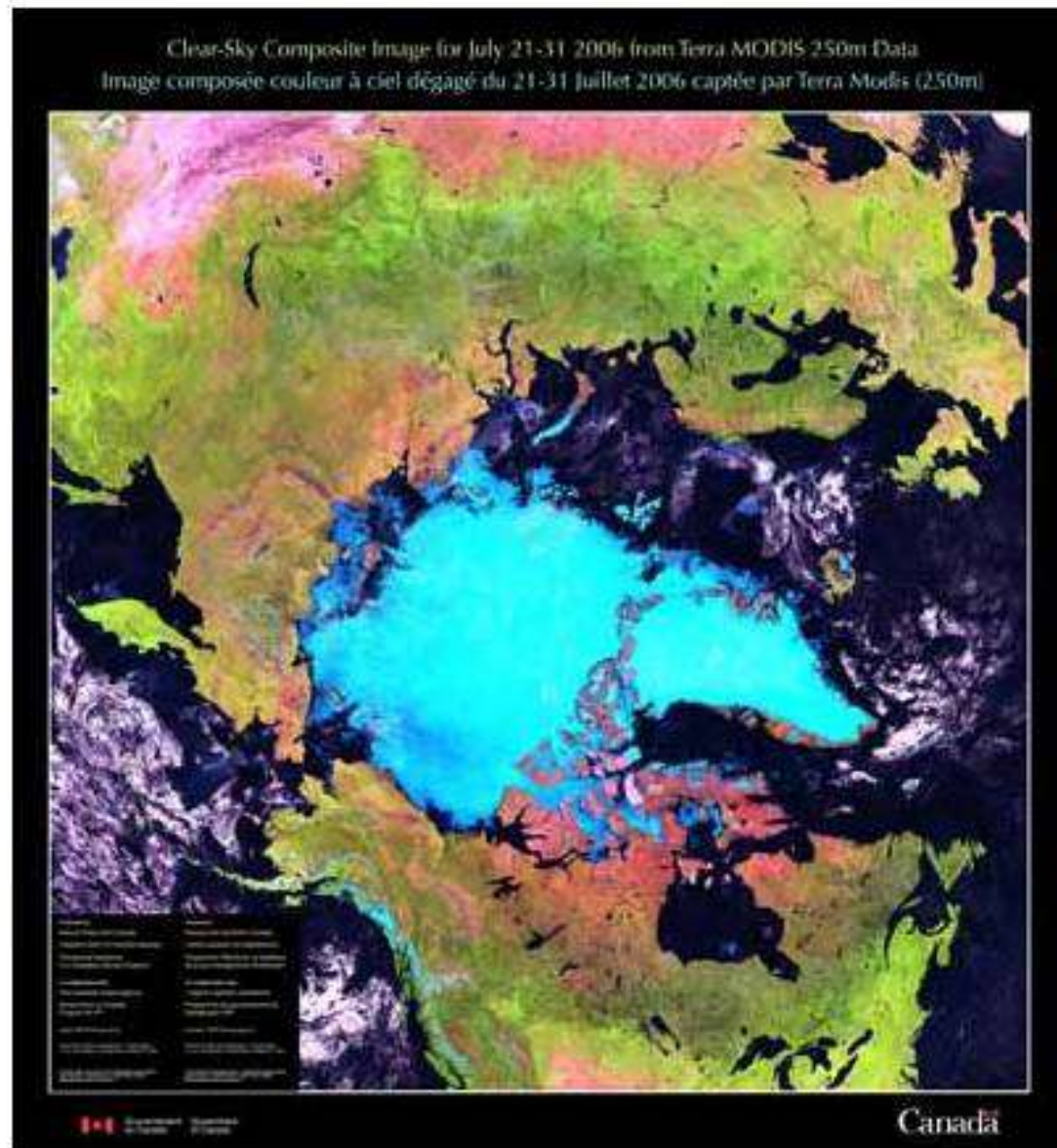
# MODIS : available data

Product	Acronym	Spatial Resolution	Temporal Frequency	Terra V005 SIN	Aqua V005 SIN	Terra/Aqua Combined V005 SIN
Surface Reflectance	SREF	500 m	8 day composites	<a href="#">MOD09A1</a>	<a href="#">MYD09A1</a>	-----
Land Surface Temperature and Emissivity	TEMP	1 km	8 day composites	<a href="#">MOD11A2</a>	<a href="#">MYD11A2</a>	-----
Land Cover	LC	500m	annual	-----	-----	<a href="#">MCD12Q1</a>
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index and Enhanced Vegetation Index	NDVI EVI	250 m	16 day composites	<a href="#">MOD13Q1</a>	<a href="#">MYD13Q1</a>	-----
Leaf Area Index and Fraction of Photosynthetically Absorbed Radiation	LAI FPAR	1 km	8 day composites	<a href="#">MOD15A2</a>	<a href="#">MYD15A2</a>	-----
Gross Primary Productivity	GPP	1 km	8 day composites	<a href="#">MOD17A2</a> <a href="#">MOD17A2_51</a>	<a href="#">MYD17A2</a>	-----
Net Primary Productivity	NPP	1 km	Annual	<a href="#">MOD17A3</a>	-----	-----
Reflectance Nadir BRDF-Adjusted (NBAR)	NBAR	500 m	16 day composites	-----	-----	<a href="#">MCD43A1</a>
Calculated Albedo		500 m	16 day composites	-----	-----	<a href="#">MCD43A</a>
Reflectance Nadir BRDF-Adjusted (NBAR)	NBAR	500 m	16 day composites	-----	-----	<a href="#">MCD43A4</a>
MODIS/Terra+Aqua BRDF/Model Quality		500 m	16 day composites	-----	-----	<a href="#">MCD43A2</a>

<https://earthdata.nasa.gov/http%3A/earthdata.nasa.gov/about-eosdis/system-description/lance/modaps/about-modaps/data-products>

CCRS produced the first-ever, high-medium resolution, circumpolar satellite image by compositing cloud-free images from the MODIS sensor

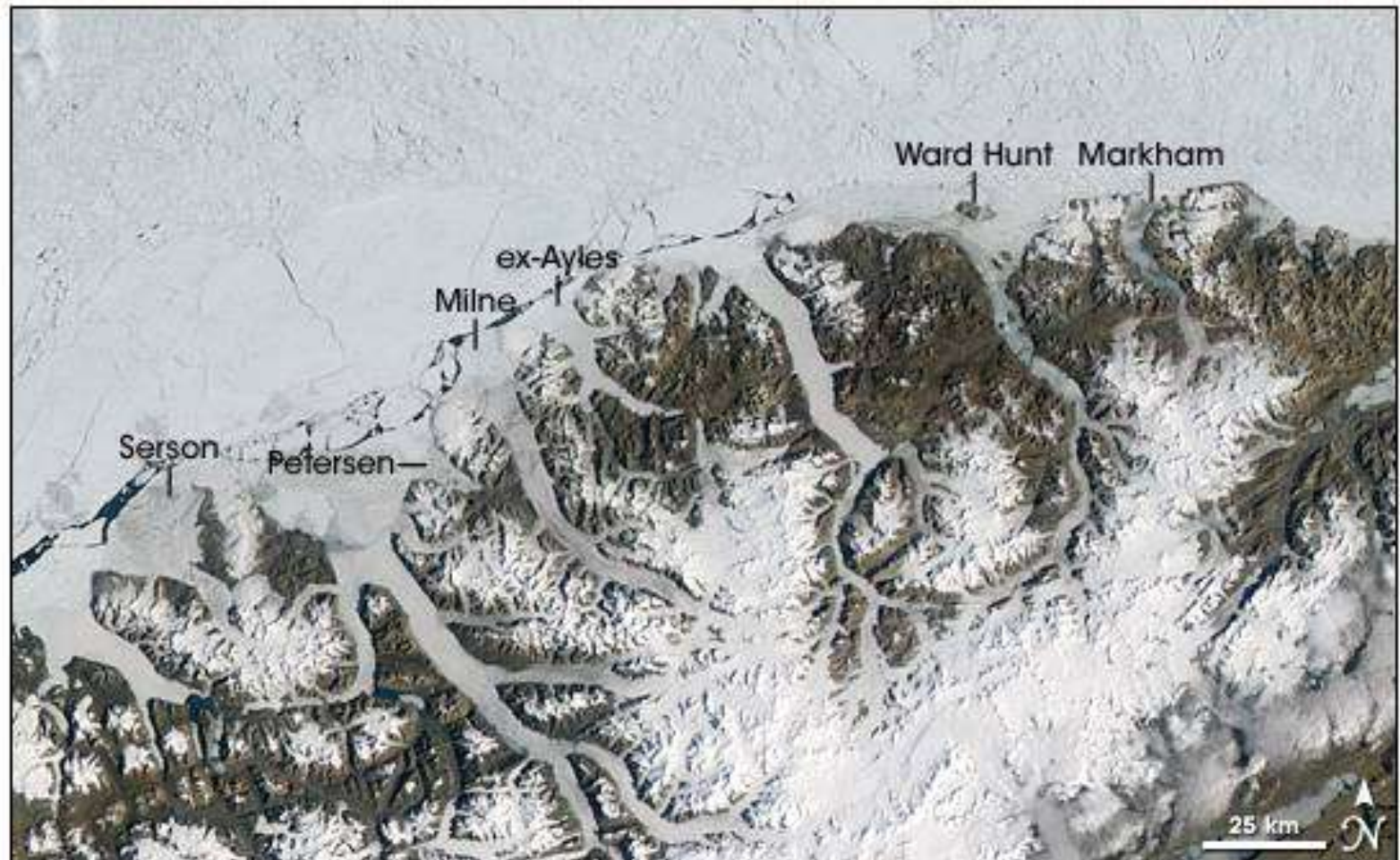
<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/earth-sciences/land-surface-vegetation/land-cover/north-american-landcover/9144>





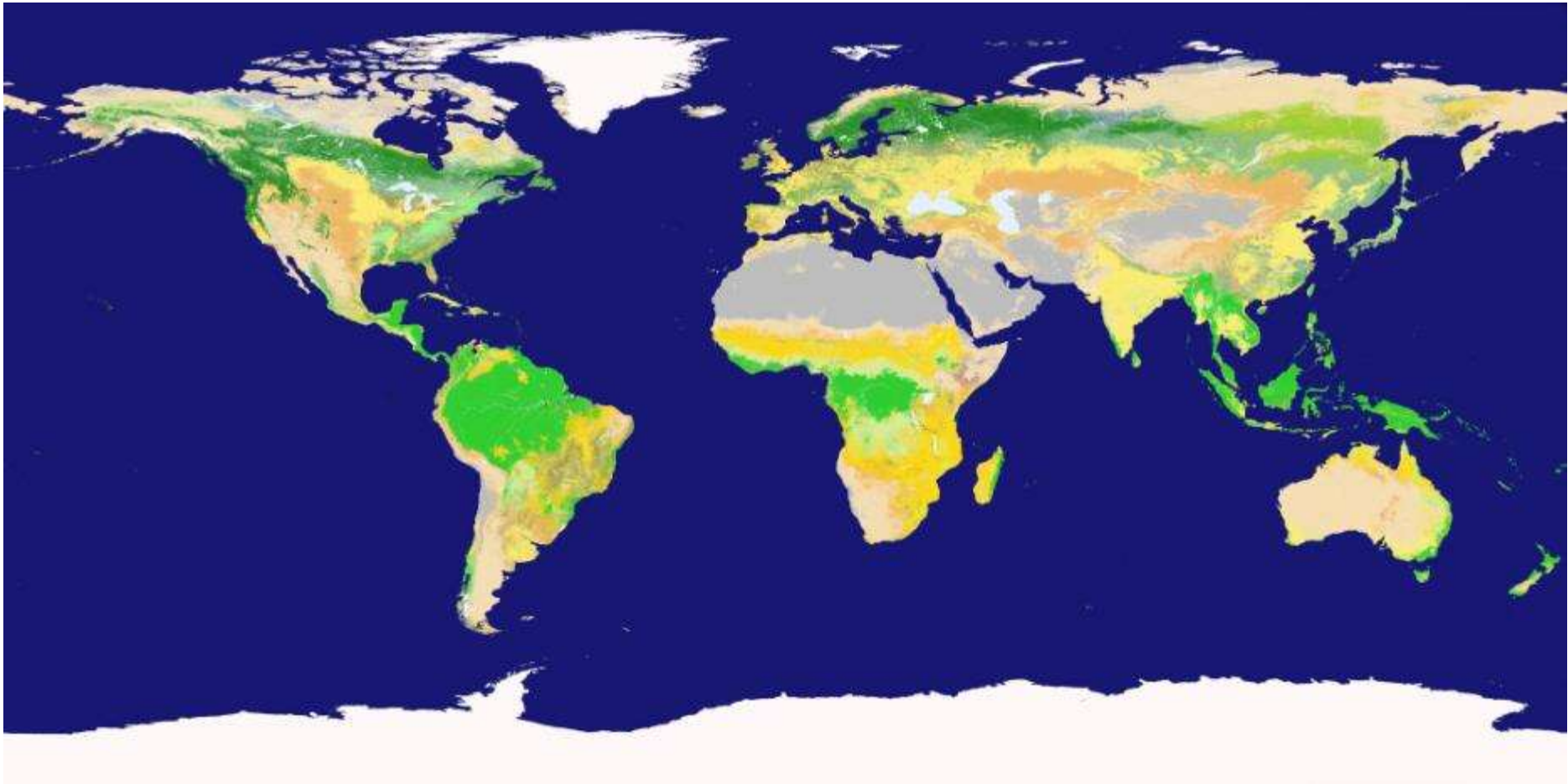
# Retreat of the Ellesmere Island Ice shelf

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/Ellesmere>



July 22, 2008 (Aqua)

# Land cover



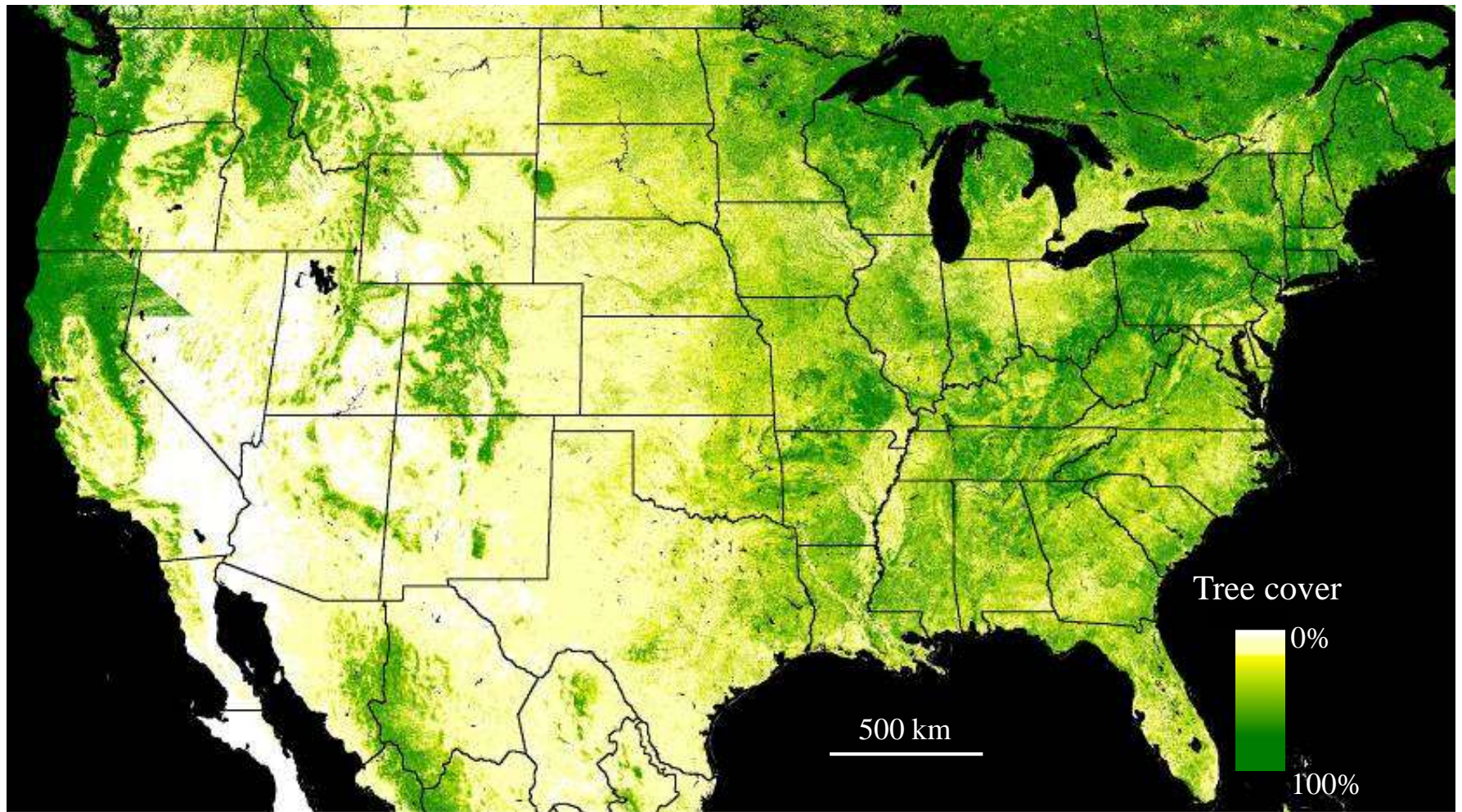
<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/view.php?id=22585>

Vegetation - see also <http://glcf.umd.edu/data/modis/index.shtml>









Percent tree cover map of the U. S. from 250 meter MODIS data using maximum NDVI composite for summer 2000 acquisitions

MODLAND/Townshend et al

32 day composite: bands 1-7, 700mb (August):



<http://glcf.umd.edu/data/modis/index.shtml>



Feb-March



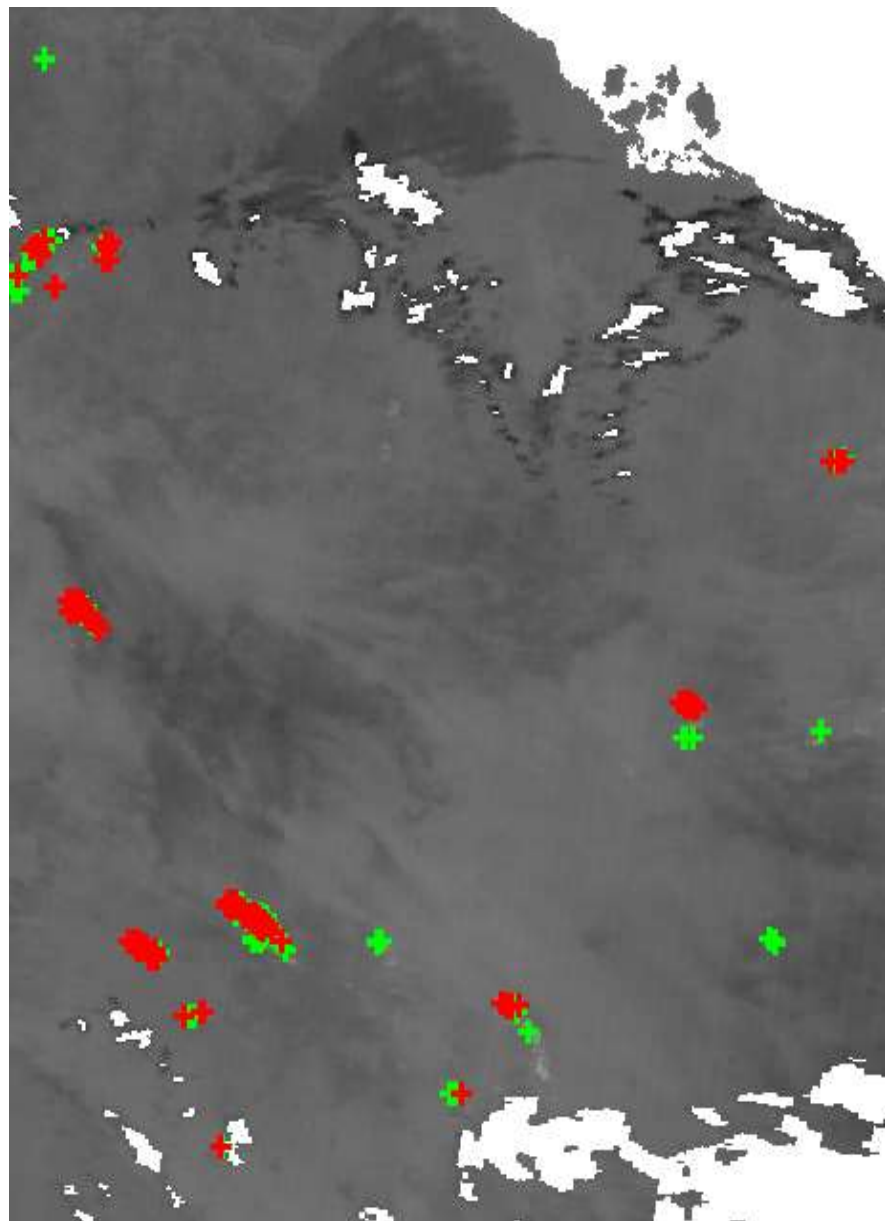


# MODIS Fires, NW Australia, Oct 2, 2000





AVHRR (3.45am)

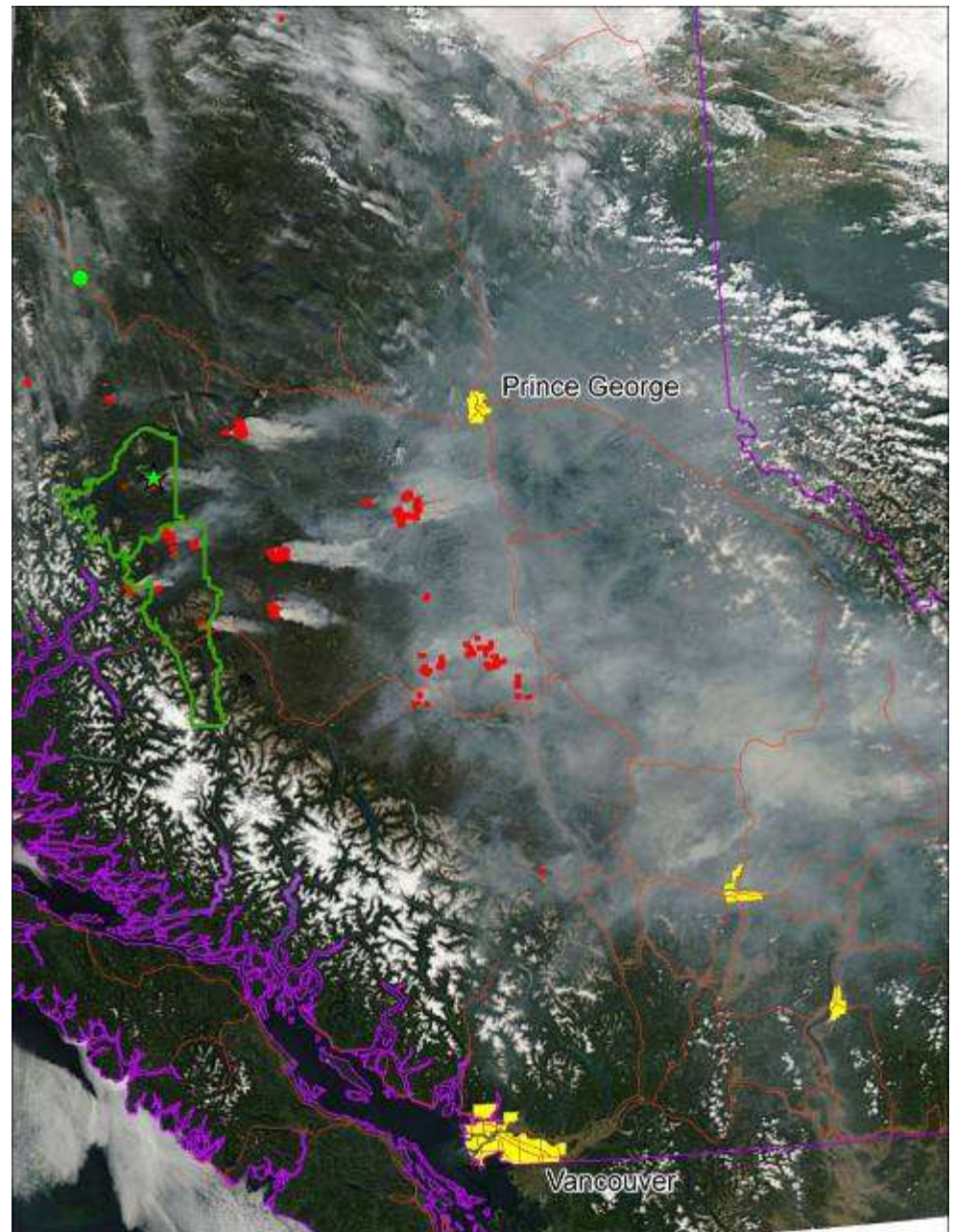


MODIS (10.30am)

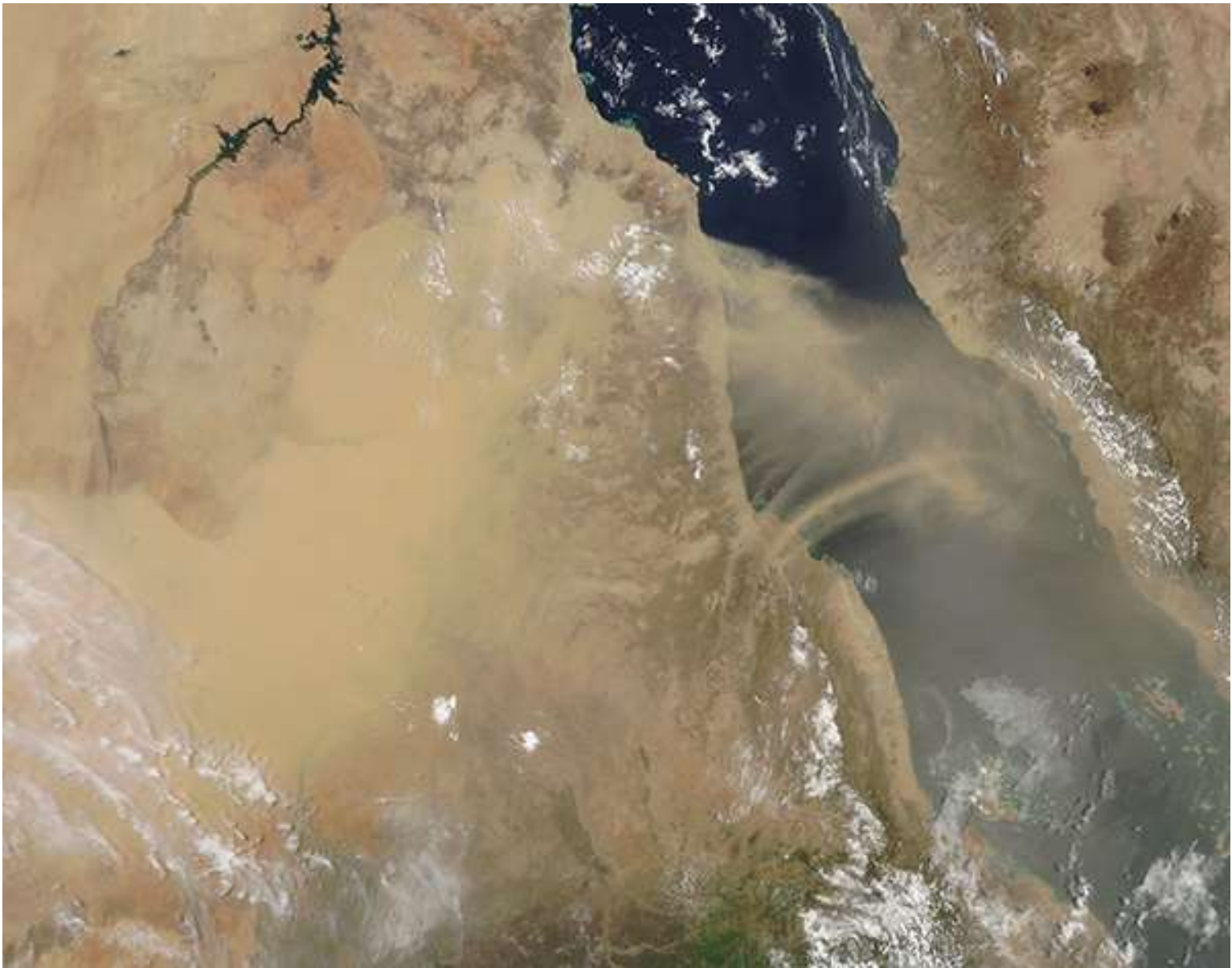




# BC fires, August 2010

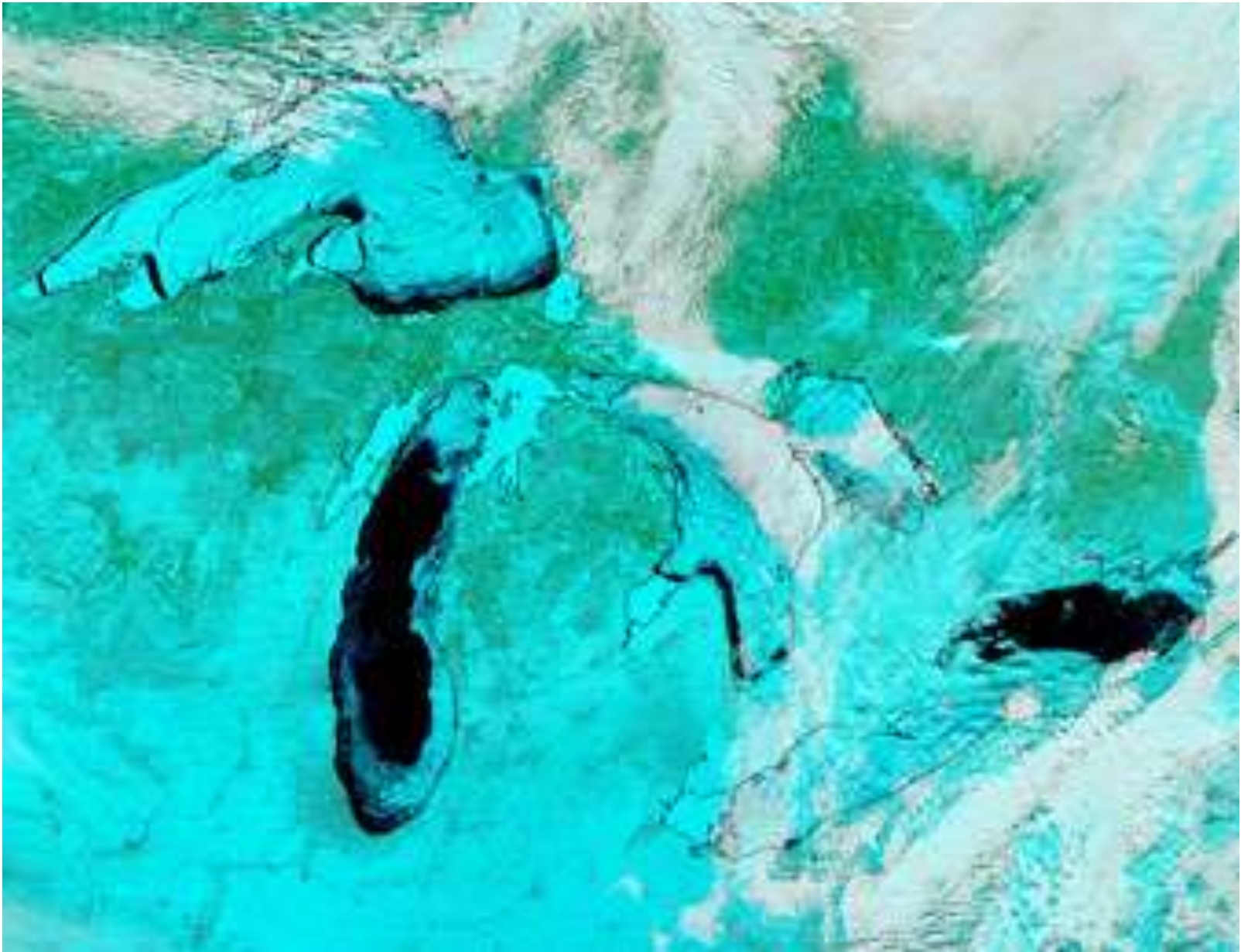






August 12, 2017, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) aboard NASA's Terra satellite acquired a true-color image of a massive dust storm over Sudan.

# Great Lakes: Feb 29 2014: record ice cover ? – 92.5%





Thunder Bay

Wawa

## Great Lakes Ice Cover

AS OF SUNDAY

Sunday 9 March 2014

95 %

Sault Ste Marie

Parry Sound

Kingston

89 %

96 %

36 %

Muskegon

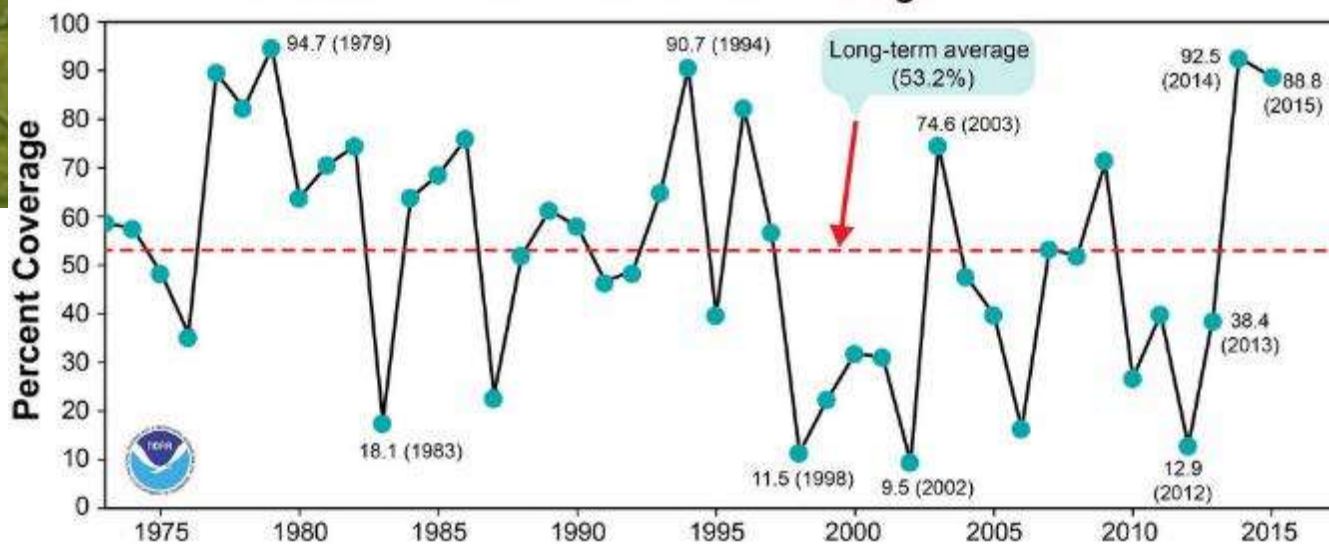
Toronto

Chicago

Windsor

95 %

### Great Lakes Annual Maximum Ice Coverage 1973-2015





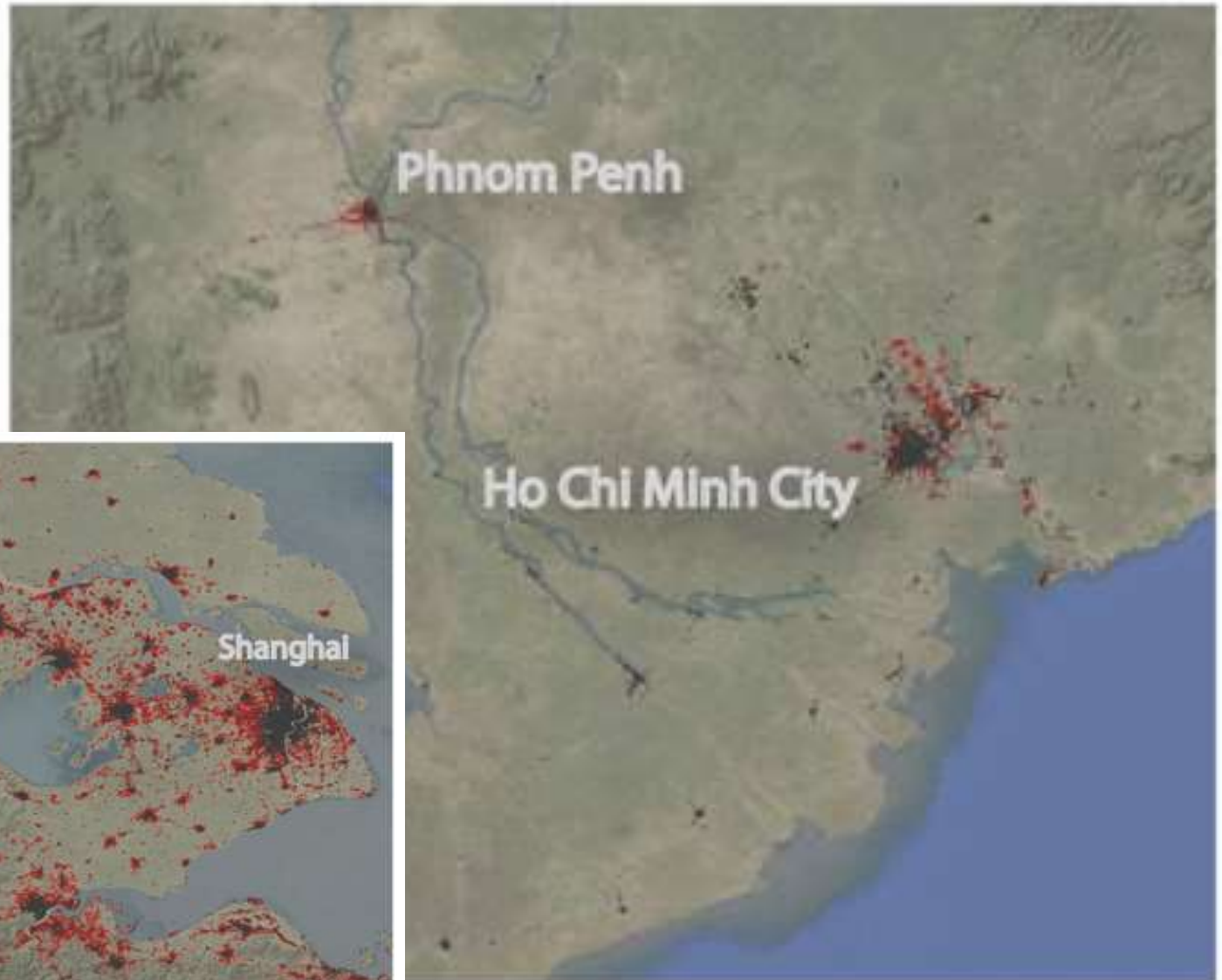
## MODIS - snow cover - volume estimate / runoff



# MODIS

## Urban applications

■ Urban land, 2000 ■ Urban expansion, 2000-2010



c)

# MODIS themes for next Monday's class talks

3 minutes each as for the High Res. Talks

request/suggest your topic this week

*send to me by Sunday evening - ppt?*

*4 Slides: background- importance - bands used;  
examples and special websites / application references*

## **Land**

Fire detection / areas burned  
NDVI / vegetation  
Land cover / change – urban/rural  
Vulcanology  
LAI / Evapotranspiration  
Land surface temperature  
GPP / NPP

## **Cryosphere**

Snow cover  
Lake ice / sea ice  
Glacier albedo

## **Ocean**

Oil spills  
Pollution  
Sea surface temperatures  
Ocean colour - bacteria

## **Atmosphere**

Ozone layer - aerosols  
Pollution  
Dust storms  
Water vapour

Other .....

<https://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/dataproduct>



# MODIS and applications in harmful algal blooms (HABs)

*Sample class talk from a previous year*

- Algal blooms can be bad:
  - Some contain toxins
  - Decreases dissolved oxygen potentially killing aquatic species
- Can be caused by increased concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus
- Bands typically used: visible, NIR and SWIR
  - Cui: used red (620-670nm), NIR (841-876nm)
  - Hu: used red, NIR, SWIR

The Oyashio algal bloom off the coast of Japan

(<http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/FEATURE/IMAGE/S/A2009141033700.OyashioKuroshio.quarter.jpg>)



- Algal bloom in the Yellow Sea shown in Natural colour (above) and false colour (below)
- False colour makes algae show up better due to high reflection in NIR bands (just like plants)
- Algal blooms are widely studied due to impact on humans and animals



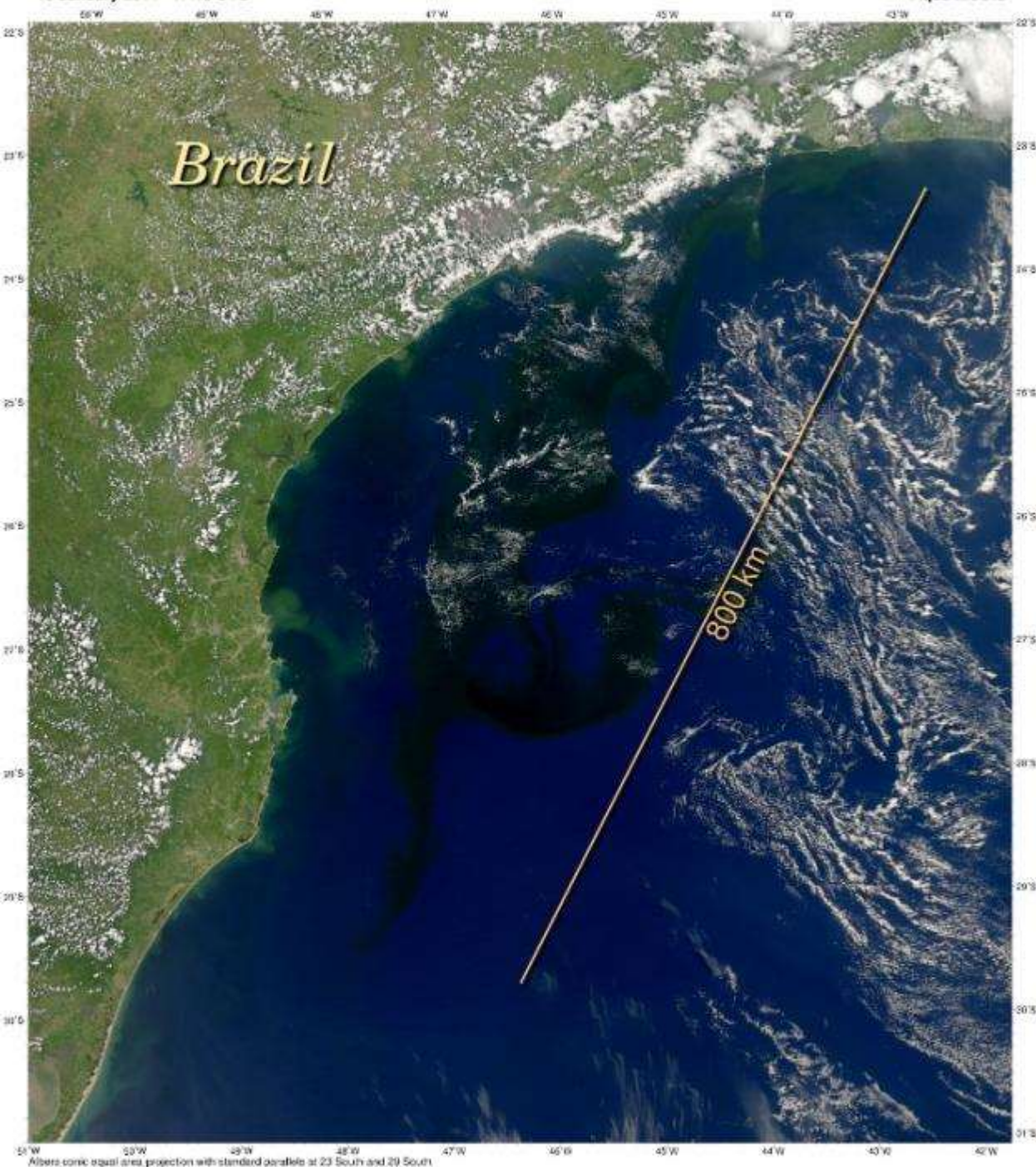
Natural Color



False Color (Shortwave, Near-Infrared, and Red)

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=8897>





- NDVI is also used (Cui's paper)
- Develop a FAI: Floating Algal Index (Hu's paper) to quantify algal blooms

Algal bloom stretching 800km off the coast of Brazil (Jan. 2014)

[http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/FEATURE/Brazil\\_plume.html](http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/FEATURE/Brazil_plume.html)



# Websites:

- Algal blooms: [http://www.sciencedaily.com/articles/a/algal\\_bloom.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/articles/a/algal_bloom.htm)
- MODIS: <http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

# Scientific Papers:

- Cui, T. *et al.* "Satellite monitoring of massive green macroalgae bloom (GMB):," *International Journal of Remote Sensing* **33**(10), Sept. 2012, pp. 5513 – 5527.
- Hu, C. "A novel colour ocean index to detect floating algae in global oceans," *Remote Sensing of Environment* **113**, 2009, pp. 2118 – 2129.
- Siswanto, E *et al.* "Detection of harmful algal blooms of *Karenia mikimotoi* using MODIS measurements: A case study of Seto-Inland Sea, Japan," *Remote Sensing of Environment* **129**, 2013, pp. 185 – 196.