VIIRS SURFACE TYPE

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Outline

• VIIRS Surface Type Product Team Members
• Surface type algorithm overview
• S-NPP Surface Type Product Overview
• JPSS-1 Readiness for Surface Type products
• Summary and Path Forward
## VIIRS Surface Type Team Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Member</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Roles and Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xiwu Zhan</td>
<td>NESDIS-STAR</td>
<td>PI of VIIRS Surface Type Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chengquan Huang</td>
<td>UMD Geography</td>
<td>Lead of UMD team members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rui Zhang</td>
<td>UMD Geography</td>
<td>Algorithm, validation and production lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huiran Jin</td>
<td>UMD Geography</td>
<td>Validation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivan Csiszar</td>
<td>NESDIS-STAR</td>
<td>VIIRS Land Team Lead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surface Type Products Overview

- Impact of Surface Type to NWP model performance:

From Chris Hain
## Surface Type Products Overview

### ST-EDR/AST Requirements from JPSS L1RD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geographic coverage</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Coverage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Cell Size</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Cell Size</td>
<td>1 km at nadir</td>
<td>1 km at edge of scan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping Uncertainty</td>
<td>5 km</td>
<td>1 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement Range</td>
<td>17 IGBP classes</td>
<td>17 IGBP classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement Accuracy</td>
<td>70% correct for 17 types</td>
<td>~78% for 17 types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement Precision</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement Uncertainty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surface Type Products Overview

- Surface Type products include Surface Type EDR (ST EDR) and Global Annual Surface Type Maps (AST).
- Global Annual Surface Type Maps provide static labels for each 1km land grid for NWP models and other users.
- Surface Type EDR is to provide current day surface type status for LST EDR and other users.
- AST offline generation is the main task of the VIIRS ST team.
- AST is generated using Decision Tree or Support Vector Machine algorithm based on global training polygons database and dozens of classification metrics that are computed from daily surface reflectance and brightness temperature observations from VIIRS.
Surface Type Algorithm Overview

**VIIRS surface reflectance data (swath)**

**Gridding**

**Training samples**

**Support vector machines (SVM)**

**Decision Tree**

**Compositing**

**Global composite surface reflectance (daily)**

**Compositing**

**Global composite surface reflectance (monthly)**

**Metrics generation**

**Global annual metrics**

**Post-processing**

**Ancillary data**

**Ancillary data source**
- Land cover agreement map
- Urban mask
- Land/water mask
- Ecoregion map
- Crop probability map
- Google Map/Earth data
- Local Landsat data

**Band number**
(comparable in MODIS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band number</th>
<th>VIIRS wavelength (µm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1 (8)</td>
<td>0.412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2 (9)</td>
<td>0.445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M3 (3 or 10)</td>
<td>0.488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M4 (4 or 12)</td>
<td>0.555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I1 (1)</td>
<td>0.640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M5 (13 or 14)</td>
<td>0.672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M6 (15)</td>
<td>0.746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2 (2)</td>
<td>0.865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M7 (16 or 2)</td>
<td>0.865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNB</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M8 (5)</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M9 (26)</td>
<td>1.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M10 (6)</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I3 (6)</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M11 (7)</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M12 (20)</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I4 (20)</td>
<td>3.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M13 (21 or 22)</td>
<td>4.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M14 (29)</td>
<td>8.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M15 (31)</td>
<td>10.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I5 (31 or 32)</td>
<td>11.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M16 (32)</td>
<td>12.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Metrics**

- Maximum NDVI value
- Minimum NDVI value of 8 greenest months
- Mean NDVI value of 8 greenest months
- Amplitude of NDVI over 8 greenest months
- Mean NDVI value of 4 warmest months
- NDVI value of warmest month
- Maximum band x value of 8 greenest months.
- Minimum band x value of 8 greenest months.
- Mean band x value of 8 greenest months.
- Amplitude of band x value over 8 greenest months.
- Band x value from month of maximum NDVI.
- Mean band x value of 4 warmest months.
- Band x value of warmest month.
Surface Type Products Overview

- New global surface type map using 2014 VIIRS data was generated.

While the overall classification accuracy (~78%) of the new map is similar to 2012 delivery, some accuracy improvements are observed, such as croplands. The images shown left demonstrate two examples of the improved cropland mapping results, where the old version presented wrong type labels. Google images verified the mapping results.
New global surface type map in biome classification types to support LAI/FPAR and other studies

The biome scheme surface type map was generated using an IGBP-biome LUT plus a second SVM classification to further separate cereal crops and broadleaf crops. Validation in progress. The two images shown left is an example of crop mapping result in IGBP and biome legends. Cereal and broadleaf croplands are further separated in biome ST map.
## Surface Type Products Overview

Error matrix of estimated area proportions (in percentage). Overall accuracy is **78.5 ± 0.6%**.

Note: the error matrix was created using area proportion of each class in the classification map, which could avoid estimation bias observed in simple pixel count based error matrices, in which the estimated overall classification accuracy is 74.7%.
Reprocessing Plan

• The generation of surface type map depends on data availability of surface reflectance data. If surface reflectance reprocessing data is produced, the surface type products could benefit from improved data quality of the surface reflectance data.

• The generation of surface type requires at least one whole year multiple bands surface reflectance data inputs, and the sophisticated classification algorithm usually takes significant amount of time to classify composited metrics, so extra computing resources are needed if reprocessing is planned.
Long Term Monitoring

- [http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov.jpss/EDRs/products_surfaceType.php](http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov.jpss/EDRs/products_surfaceType.php)
• Annual surface type map is produced offline, but it required VIIRS surface reflectance data input, which could be produced by the enterprise environment.

• Because surface type team needs a whole year observation to start processes, the production schedule for ST is at least one year delayed. For example, 2015 annual ST map will be delivered at the end of 2016.

• The surface type team has coordinated with other enterprise algorithm teams about all aspects of technical details of the enterprise data products, such as data format, and output projections.
User Feedback

• User list
  – Modeling studies
    • Land surface parameterization for GCMs
    • Biogeochemical cycles
    • Hydrological processes
  – Carbon and ecosystem studies
    • Carbon stock, fluxes
    • Biodiversity

• Feedback from users \( \textit{Primary user: NCEP land team led by M. Ek} \)
  – 2014 annual surface type map with three tundra types was delivered to NCEP earlier this year.

• Downstream product list
  – Land surface temperature (direct, could change)
  – Cloud mask, aerosol products, other products require global land/water location information (indirect)
• Rapid surface changes can be caused by many events:
  – Flooding, severe drought, snow storm, fire, large scale deforestation

• These changes cannot be captured by the annual GST product

• A suite of daily products or change indicator products are needed to capture such rapid changes
  – Can build on the original ST-EDR concept
  – Where available, use existing VIIRS products (e.g., Snow, Fire, vegetation cover)
    • Better temporal consistency needed to allow change detection
    • For fire, post fire surface type information needs to be derived
  – Some changes require new products, e.g.:
    • Daily surface inundation needed to capture surface changes due to flooding and flood receding
    • Sub-annual tree cover data needed to capture deforestation
• Significant Algorithm changes from S-NPP to JPSS-1
  – Metrics and post-processing could be improved. No significant algorithm changes planned for J-1.

• Pre-launch Characterization: None.

• Post-Launch Cal/Val Plans
  – Dataset: Validation sites database. Collecting new sites. No field campaigns planned.
  – Schedule and Milestones: First J-1 based surface type map with validation should be generated in 18 months after JPSS-1 launch (Need one year to collect J-1 data, and 6 months for processes). **2017 J-1 surface type map will be delivered in year 2018.**

• Risks/issues/challenges: None.

• Collaboration with stakeholders/users: In progress.
• 2014 VIIRS annual surface type (AST) classification map was generated, validated and distributed through STAR-JPSS and other websites. 2015 VIIRS AST product is to be delivered and distributed from Sept/Oct.

• Validation results on 2014 surface type map suggest the new product meets the JPSS L1RD.

• Global surface type map with tundra types has been delivered to NCEP for evaluation.

• First global biome type map based on VIIRS observations is generated and being validated for scientific users such as NASA VIIRS LAI team.
Path Forward

• 2017 Milestones:
  – Delivery 2016 Global Annual Surface Type (AST) classification map
  – Develop and validate biome legend surface type map for science and other users (e.g. NASA VIIRS LAI team)

• Alternate algorithms and future improvements:
  – Keep using SVM, improve metrics and post-processing steps
  – Keep collecting new training and validation datasets

• J2 and Beyond:
  – Refine the algorithm details while keeping the overall data processing framework and continue the offline production of the AST product
Thanks!