



PACE Project Science aerosol status and updates

P. Jeremy Werdell (Project Scientist),
Andrew M. Sayer, Kirk D. Knobelspiesse, Meng Gao,
and many more ... including L. Remer, O. Torres, R. Levy, C. Hsu,
O. Hasekamp, A. Lyapustin ... and more

NASA Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission

PACE will extend **key systematic ocean color, aerosol, & cloud climate data records**.

PACE will reveal the **diversity of organisms fueling marine food webs** & how ecosystems respond to change.

Looking at the ocean, clouds, and aerosols together will improve knowledge of the roles each plays in our planet.

Mission update:

- *Observatory fully assembled & integrated*
- Mechanical (acoustics, vibration) testing complete
- Thermal vacuum / thermal balance testing complete
- Orbit(s)-in-the-life data flow testing in progress
- Delivery to Kennedy Space Center in November 2023
- 60-day in-orbit commissioning to follow launch

Key characteristics:

- *January 2024 launch*
HARP-2
- 676.5 km altitude
- Polar, ascending, 98°
- Sun synchronous
- 13:00 Equatorial crossing



The PACE Ocean Color Instrument (OCI):

- 340-890 nm @ 5 nm resolution in 2.5 nm spectral steps
- Plus 940, 1038, 1250, 1378, 1615, 2130, & 2250 nm
- 2-day global coverage; 1-km² @ nadir; ±20° fore/aft tilt
- *Performance driven by ocean color science requirements*

2 contributed multi-angle polarimeters:

- **HARP-2 (UMBC)**
4 visible-NIR bands
Wide swath; 2.5 km @ nadir
Hyper-angular
Cloud capabilities beyond OCI
- **SPEXone (SRON/Airbus)**
Hyperspectral UV-NIR
Narrow swath; 3 km @ nadir
5 angles
Aerosol capabilities beyond OCI

At-launch OCI aerosol algorithms include heritage Deep Blue and Dark Target

- **Deep Blue (DB) and Dark Target (DT) implemented**

- Based on VIIRS versions of code
- Output at full (~1 km) resolution
- Available with <1 day latency from spring 2024

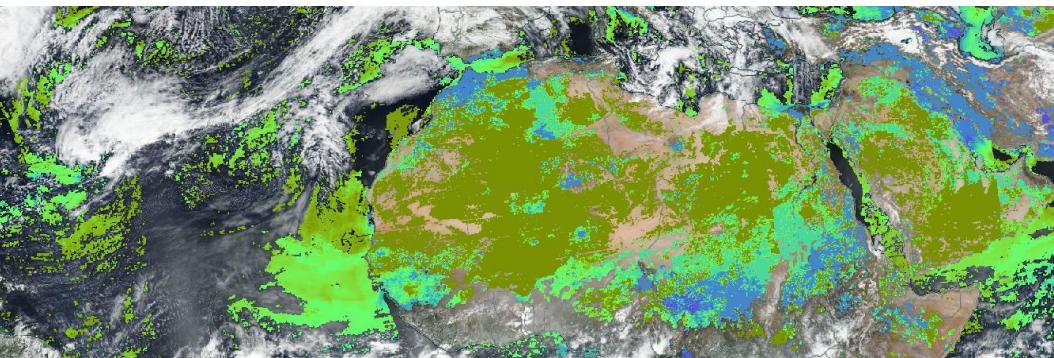
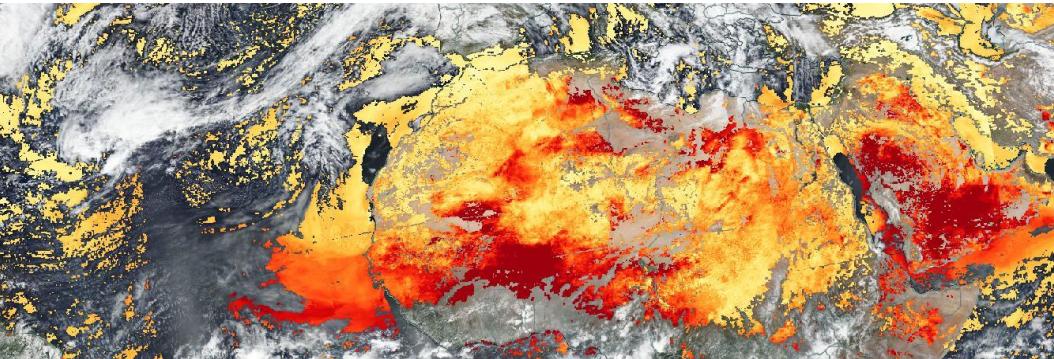
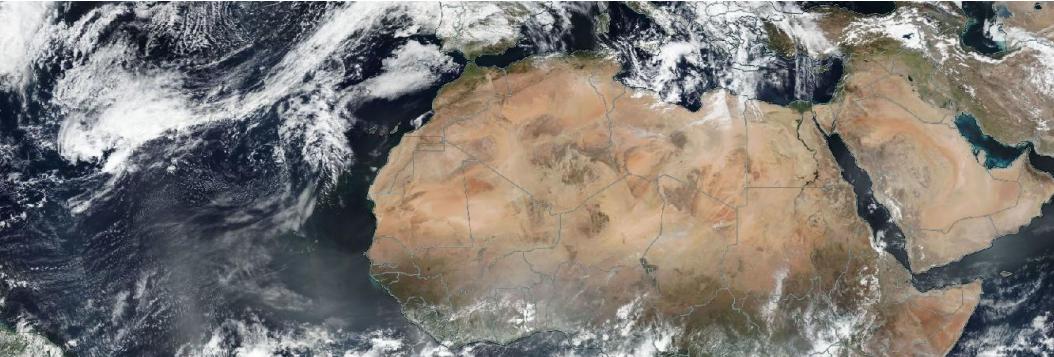
- Post-launch candidates:

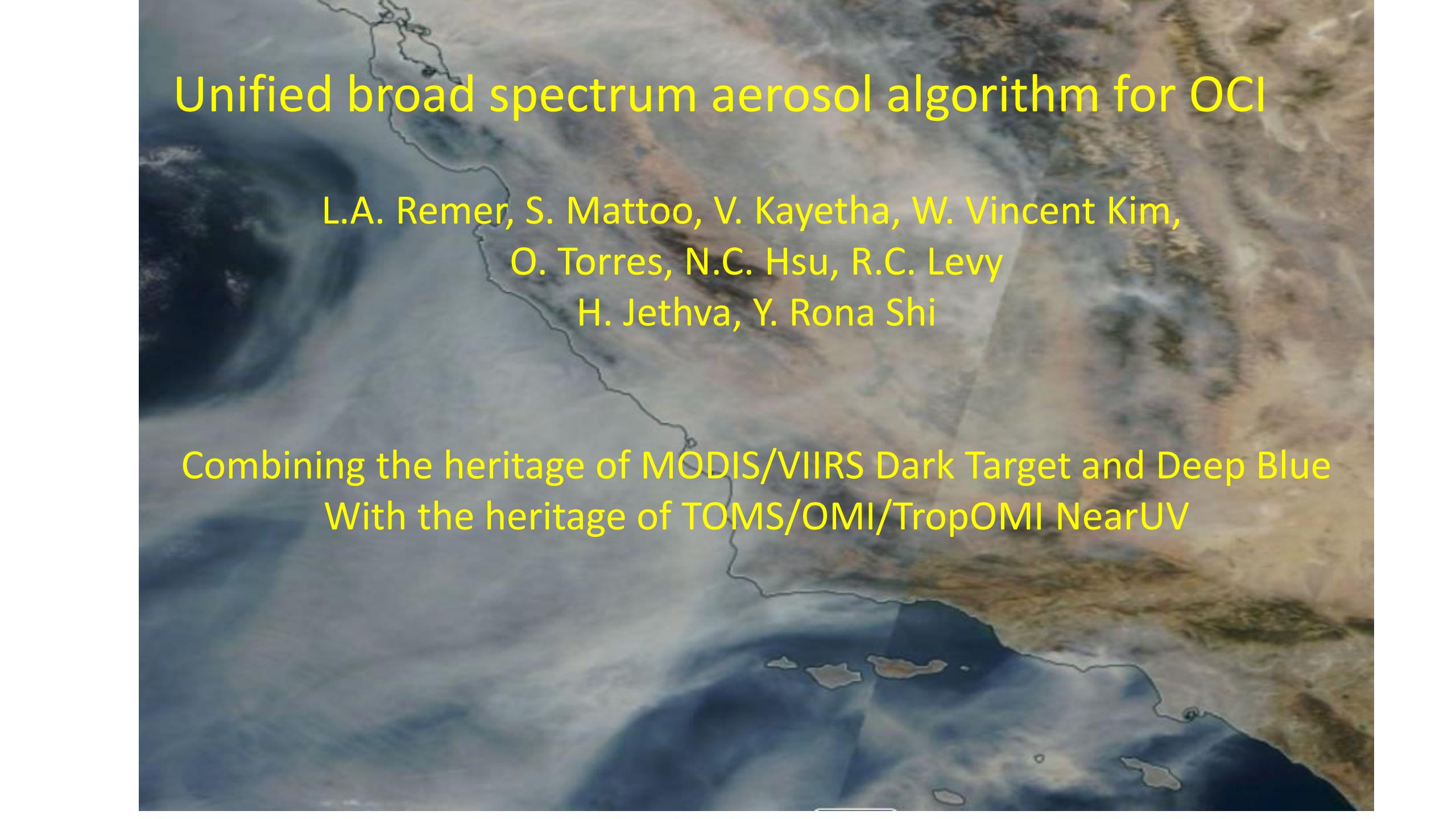
- Remer *et al.* “Unified Aerosol Algorithm” combining DB, DT, and OMAERUV, code delivered, in testing
- Lyapustin *et al.* MAIAC, code to be delivered

VIIRS
04 Mar 2020

AOD
low high

AE
low high



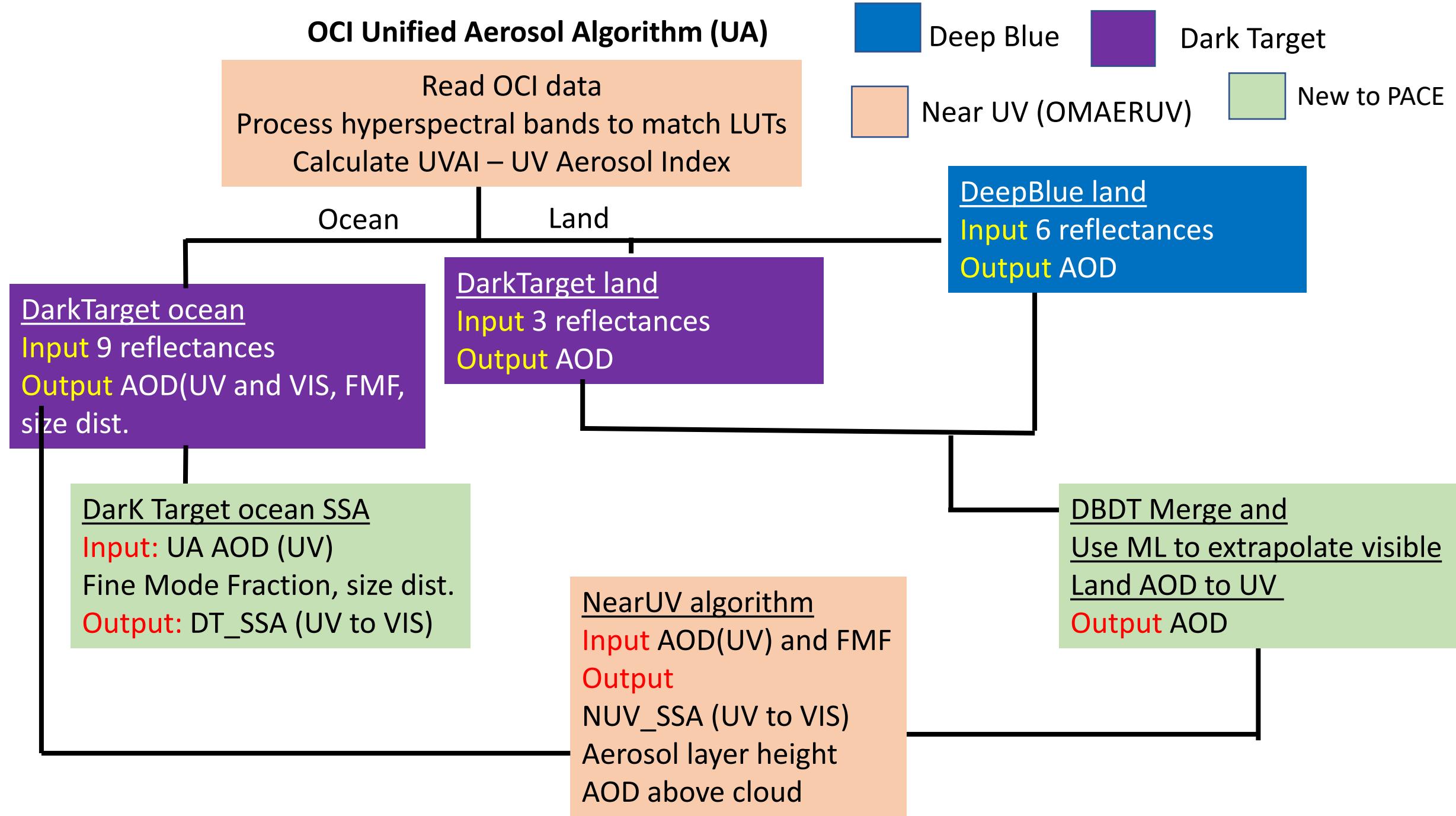
The background image shows a coastal region with dark, rugged mountains on the left and a lighter-colored area with some green vegetation and a body of water on the right. The sky is overcast with various shades of grey and white clouds.

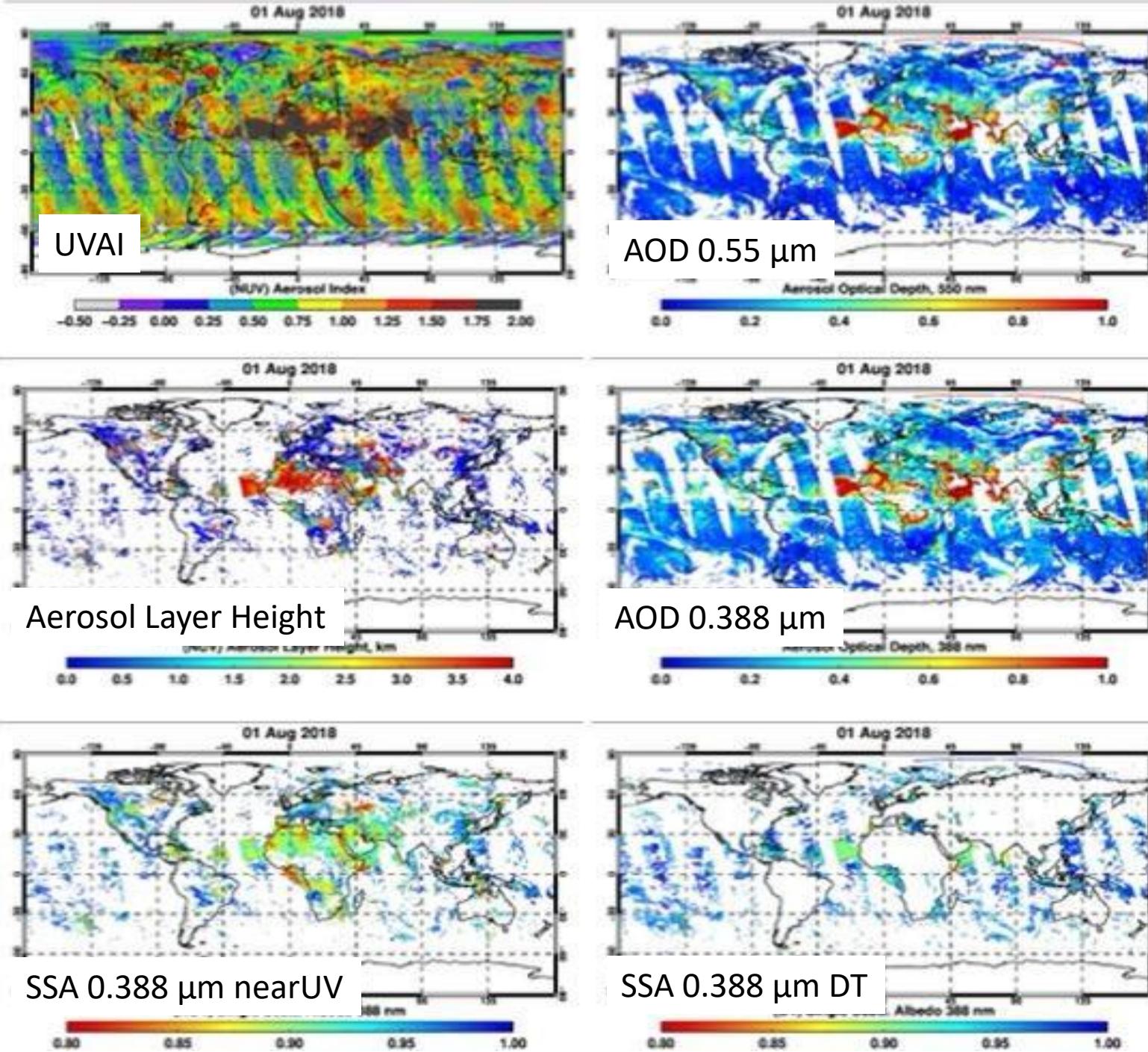
Unified broad spectrum aerosol algorithm for OCI

L.A. Remer, S. Mattoo, V. Kayetha, W. Vincent Kim,
O. Torres, N.C. Hsu, R.C. Levy
H. Jethva, Y. Rona Shi

Combining the heritage of MODIS/VIIRS Dark Target and Deep Blue
With the heritage of TOMS/OMI/TropOMI NearUV

OCI Unified Aerosol Algorithm (UA)





Algorithm applied to
collocated VIIRS/TropOMI
01 August 2018

List of products:

AOD

9 wavelengths over ocean
(0.354 to 2.25 μm)

5 wavelengths over land
(0.354 to 0.67 μm)

New to PACE SSA over ocean
(0.354, 0.388, 0.55 μm),

NearUV SSA over ocean and land
(0.354, 0.388, 0.48, 0.55, 0.67 μm)

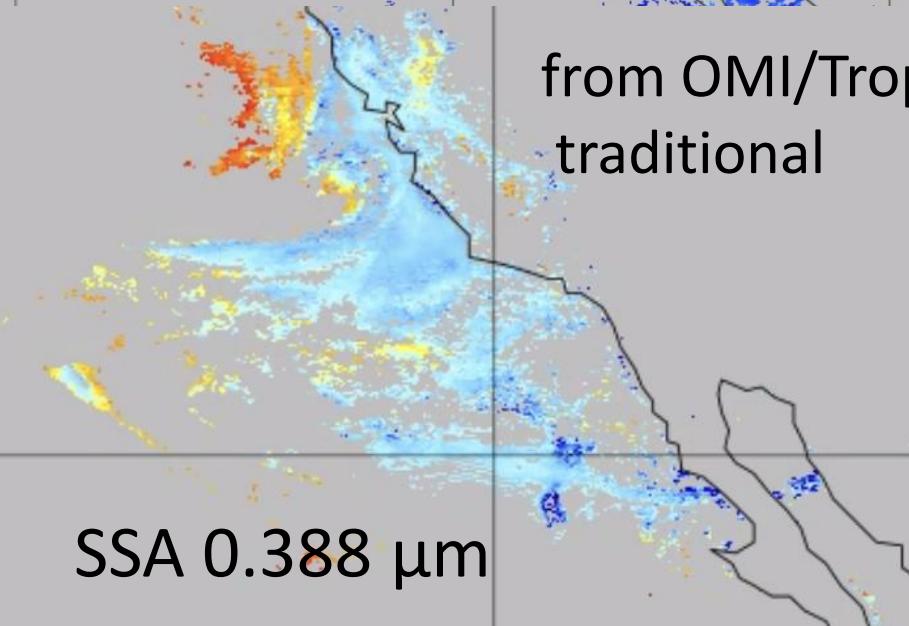
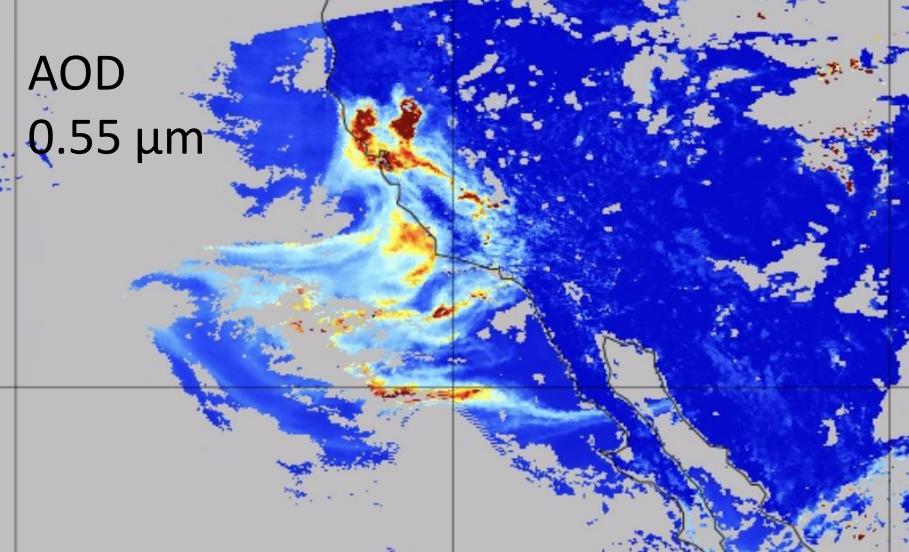
Aerosol layer height

AOD above cloud, when appropriate

UVAI (UV Aerosol Index)

At 7x7 km spatial resolution

From collocated VIIRS + TropOMI inputs



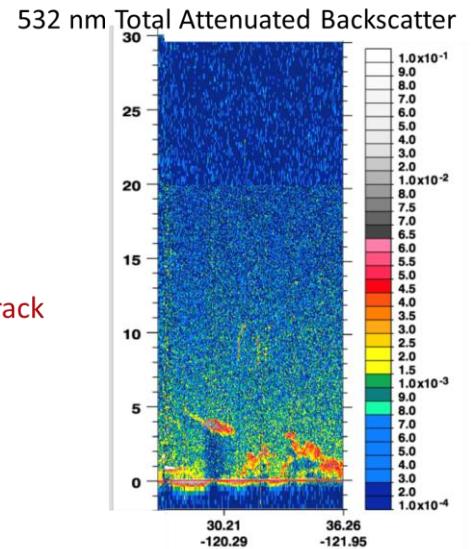
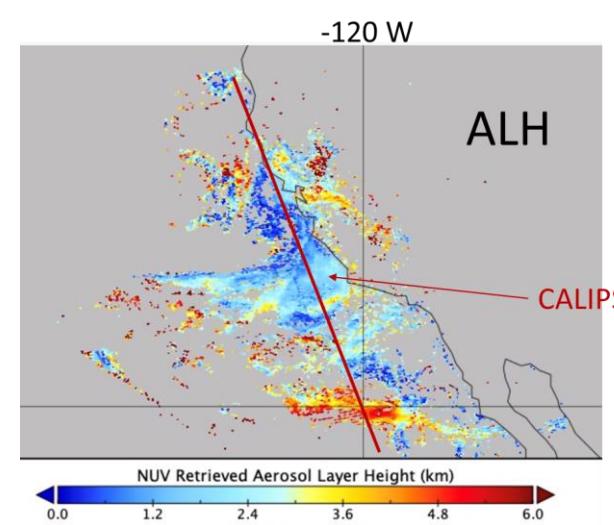
Single scattering Albedo from Dark Target ocean 0.354 and 0.388 and 0.50, microns

0.80 0.84 0.88 0.92 0.96 1.00

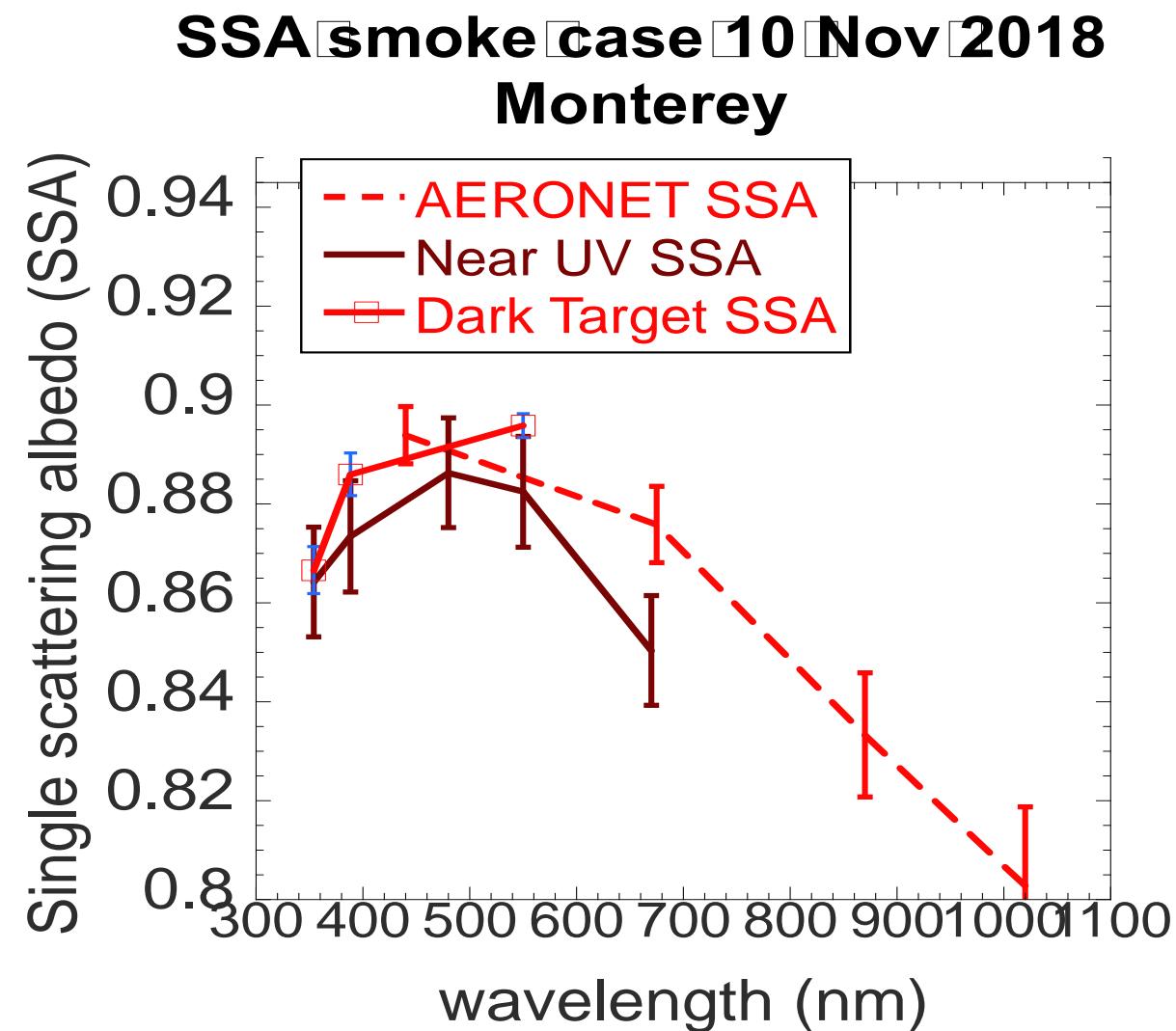
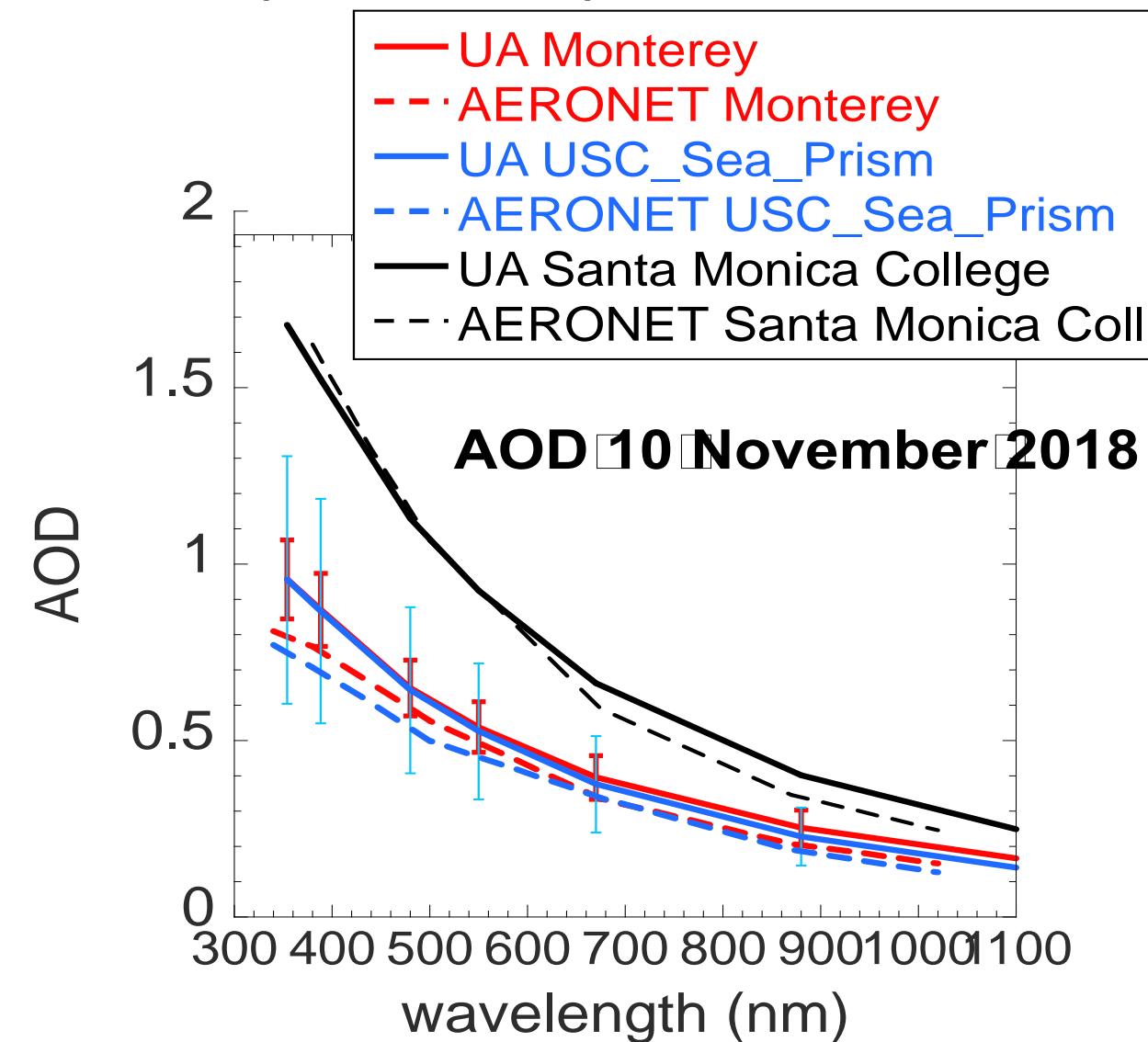
Target ocean 0.354 and 0.388 and 0.50, microns

0.88 0.92 0.96 1.00

Aerosol layer height (ALH)



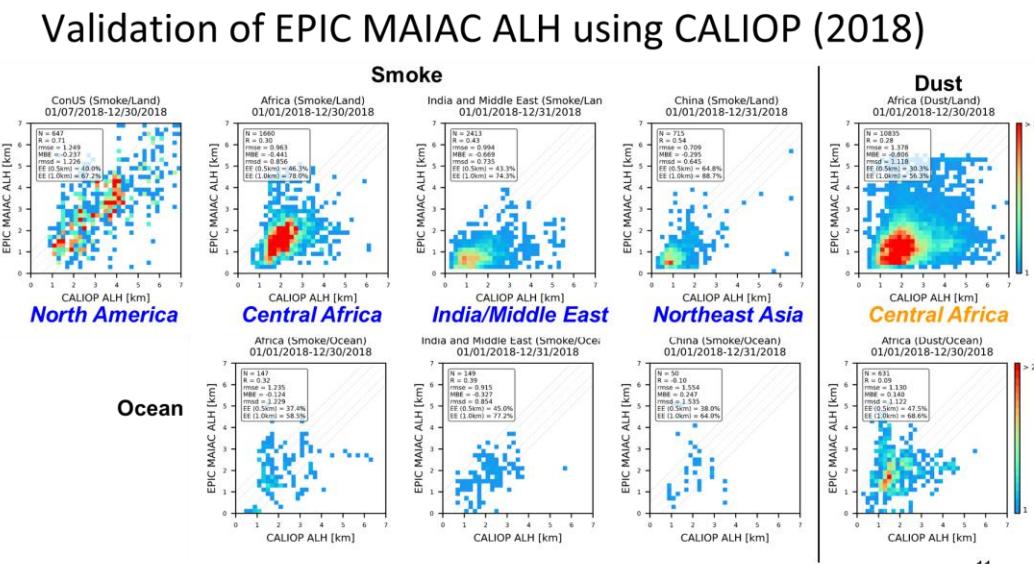
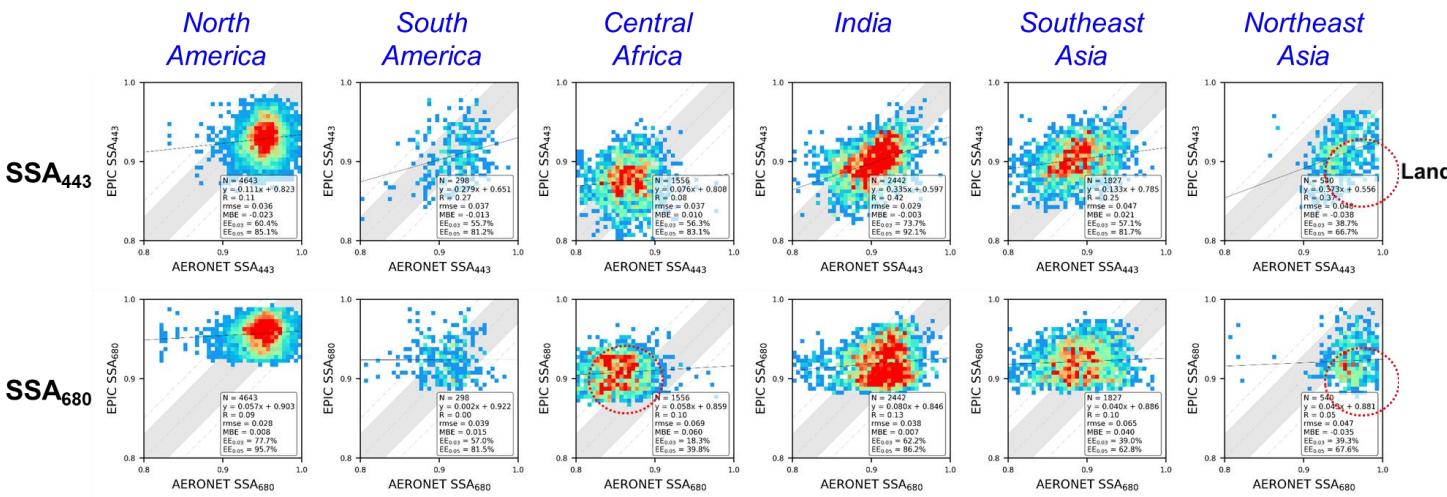
Comparison spectral AOD and SSA at collocated AERONET sites



MAIAC OCI

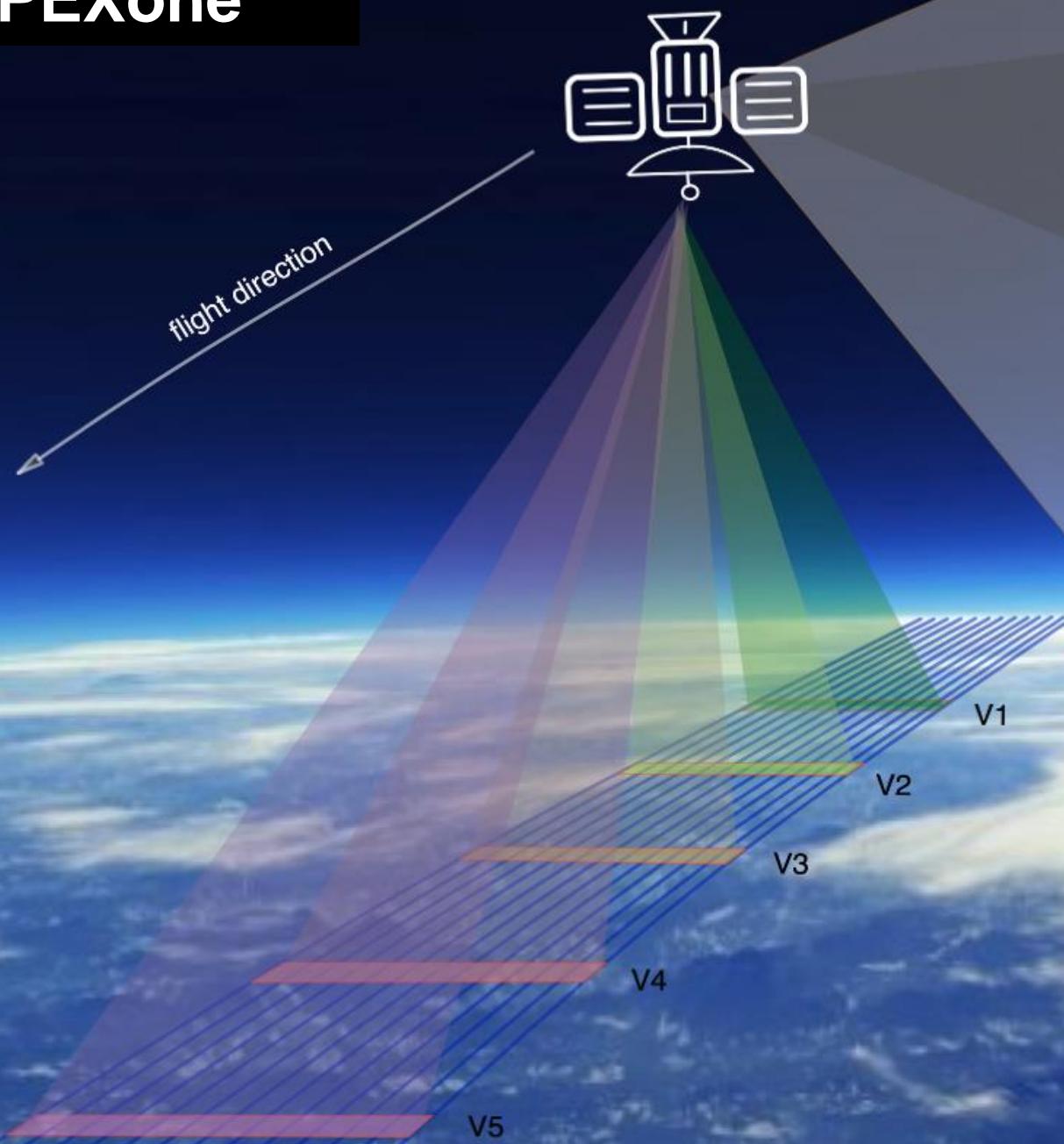
- **MAIAC OCI includes:**
 - i) standard processing (AOD, CWV retrieval @ 1km resolution with climatological regional aerosol models and hyperspectral AC);
 - ii) MAIAC-4D - advanced aerosol retrieval {AOD, $k(\lambda)$, ALH} based on UV-Vis and O₂ A,B-bands, and speciation algorithm (volume fraction and mass concentration - BC/BrC for smoke and Hem/Goethite for dust).

Assessment of MAIAC-4D using DSCOVR EPIC measurements

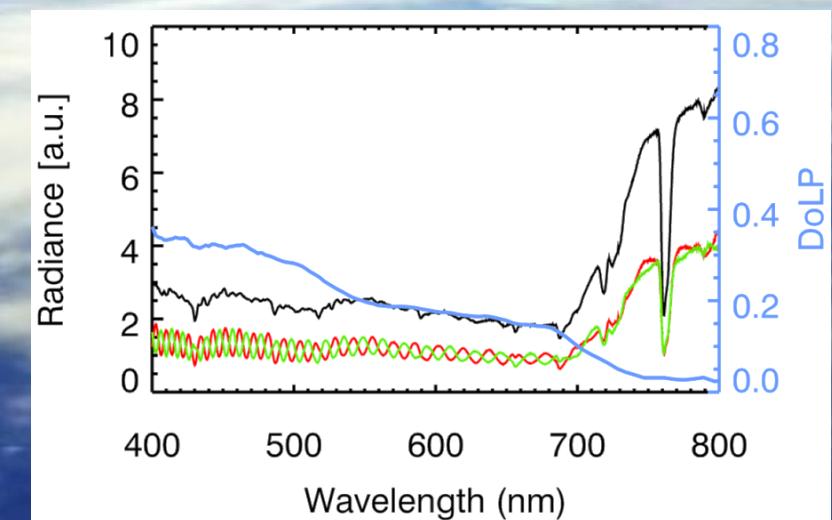


1-year integrated; collocation only when CALIOP AOD > 0.6; ±30min from EPIC

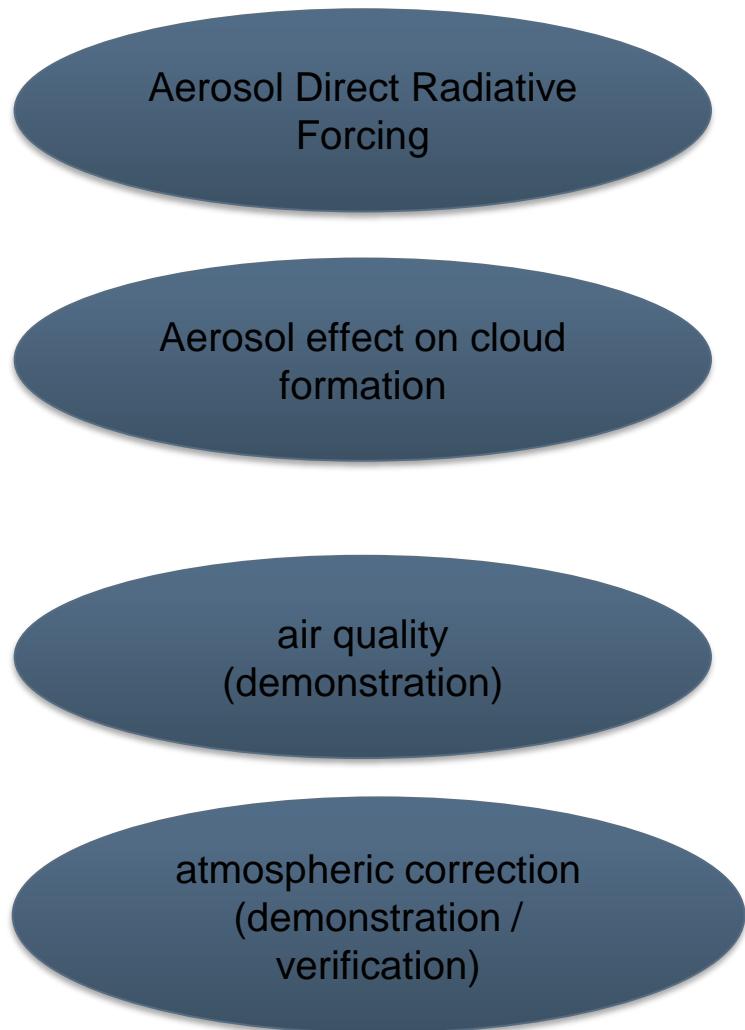
SPEXone



Parameter	Specification
viewing angles	+/-57°, +/-20°, 0°
spectral range	385-770 nm
spectral resolution intensity	2-5 nm
spectral resolution DoLP	15 nm @ 385 nm 40 nm @ 770 nm
spatial sampling	2.5 x 2.5 km ²
spatial resolution	5 x 5 km ²
polarimetric accuracy (goal)	0.003
radiometric accuracy (goal)	2%
Signal to Noise Ratio (dark ocean, SZA=70°)	300
swath	100 km



SPEXone Aerosol Products



Level-2 Products

Aerosol Optical Depth (fine/coarse/total)

expected accuracy: 0.03 or 10%

Single Scattering Albedo

expected accuracy: 0.02-0.03

Effective radius (fine / coarse)

expected accuracy: 10%

Effective variance (fine / coarse)

expected accuracy: 50%

real refr. index (fine/coarse/total)

expected accuracy: 0.03

imag. refr. index (fine/coarse/total)

expected accuracy: 1×10^{-3} or 15%

Aerosol layer height

Expected accuracy: 500 m

Particle shape

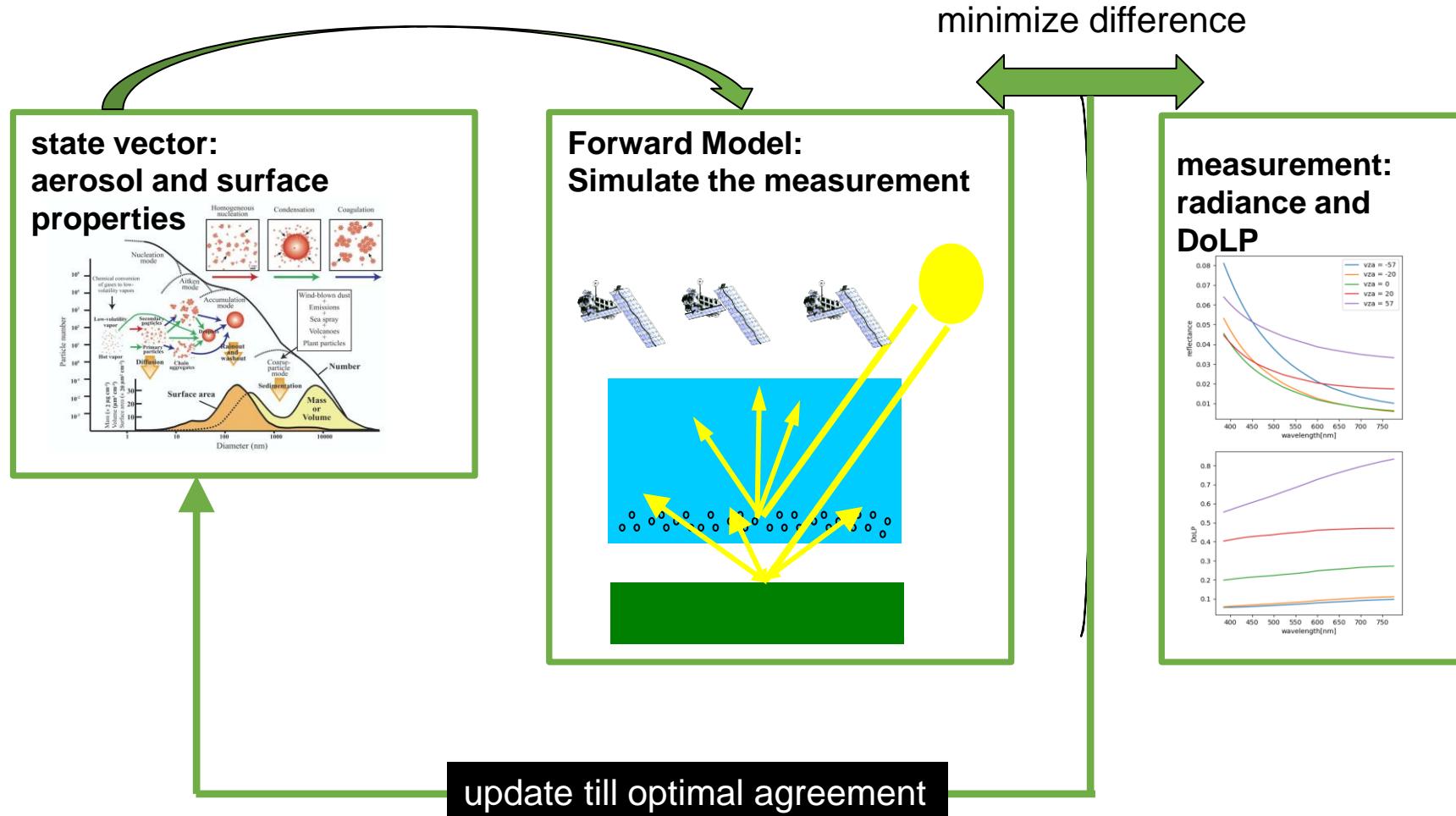
Derived Products

Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN) proxy

Direct Radiative Effect

Chemical composition

SPEXone Aerosol Data Processing: The RemoTAP algorithm



References:

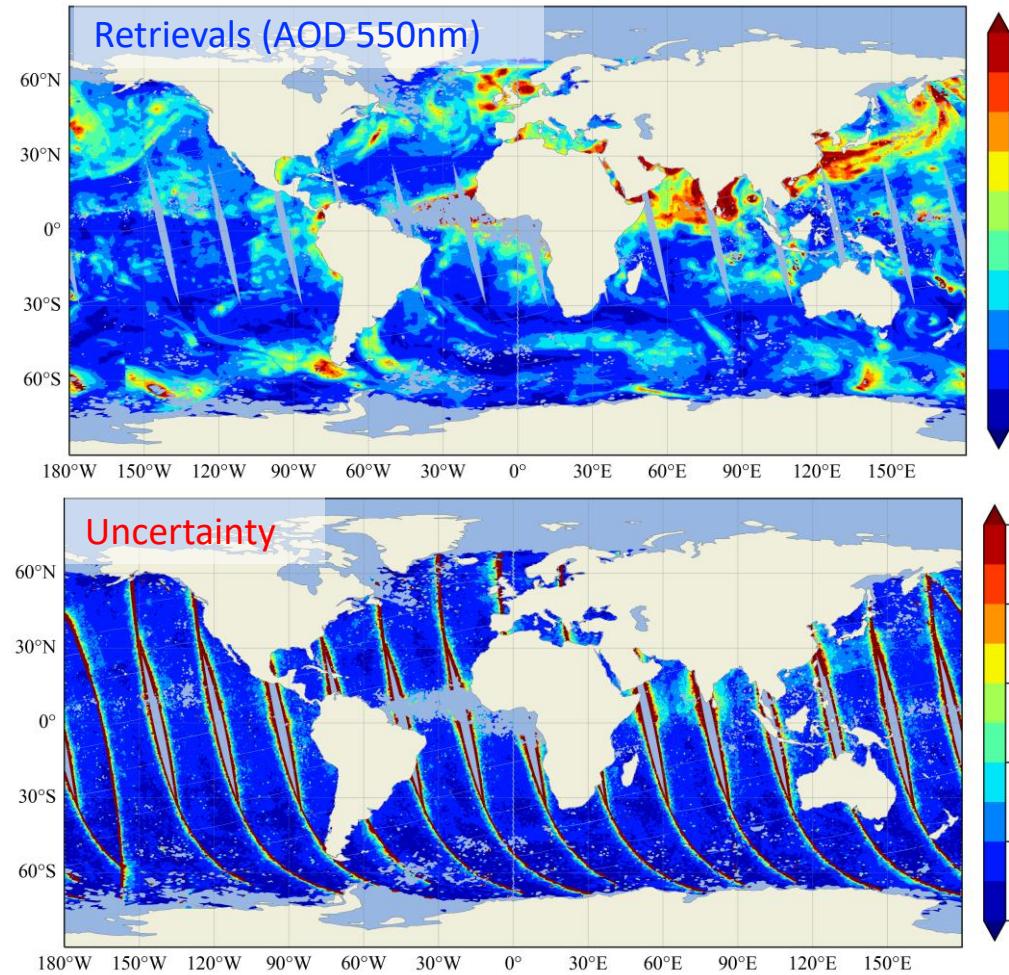
- Lu et al., Frontiers Rem. Sens., 2022
- Fu et al., AMT, 2018; 2022
- Fan et al., Rem. Sens., 2019
- Hasekamp et al., JGR, 2011
- Hasekamp and Landgraf, AO, 2008

RemoTAP: REMOte sensing of Trace gas and Aerosol Products

In-house polarimetric retrievals implemented for HARP2



- Lead: Meng Gao
- Joint aerosol and ocean retrieval
- Fast neural network radiative transfer forward model
- Reasonable pixel-level uncertainty estimates for all quantities
- Validated with AirHARP and synthetic global HARP2 data
- Updates for spheroidal dust and land surfaces in the works



Main products

Complex refractive index (fine/coarse)
 Aerosol effective radius & variance
 Layer height
 AOD
 SSA
 Wind speed
 Chlorophyll a

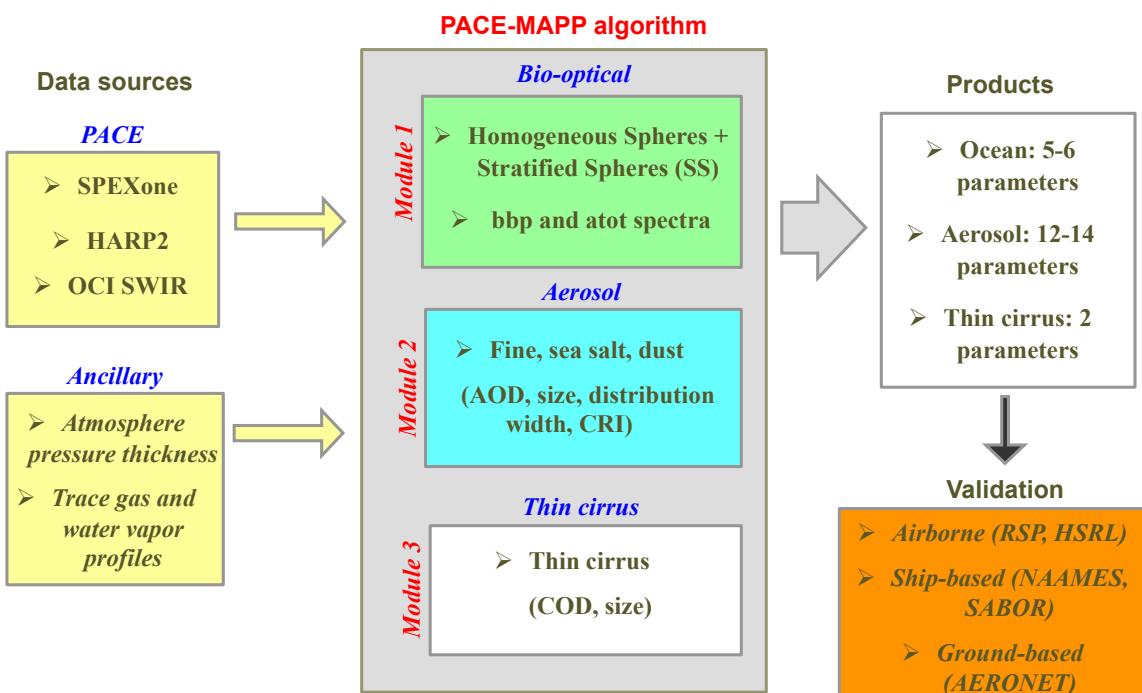
Research products

Multi-angle cloud mask
 Multi-angle water leaving signal

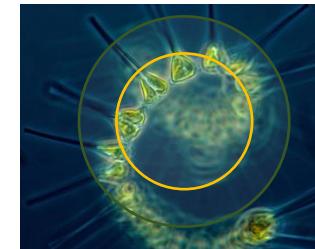
...and PACE-MAPP from the Science Team (Snorre Stamnes/LaRC)

PACE-MAPP will produce accurate aerosol optical and microphysical properties, and ocean properties, using SPEXone, HARP2, and OCI (SWIR channels)

- **coupled atmosphere-ocean vector radiative transfer model**
- **accurate but fast Lorenz-Mie and T-matrix LUTs**



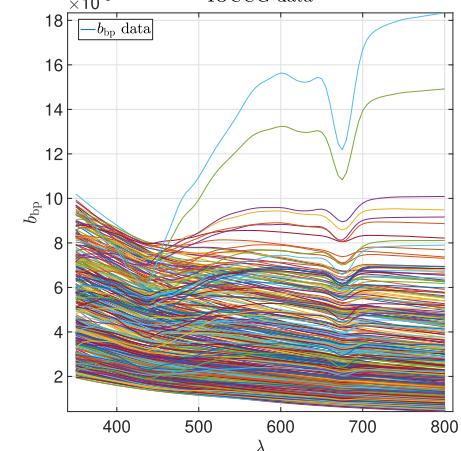
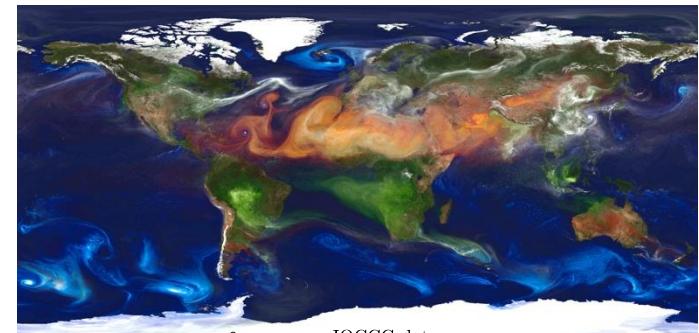
Aerosol VIS-NIR-SWIR properties: fine mode (absorbing), sea salt, and dust



Bio-optical model has a mixture of uncoated and coated spheres



Thin cirrus correction



Collaborate with PACE bio-optics/geochemistry scientists on coastal zones/challenging regions

For more info...

- Next PACE science team competition is out on NASA ROSES!
 - A.38 PACE SAT, due date **Dec 5**
- All data will be freely available in NetCDF4 format
- Questions about PACE aerosol (or cloud) data?
 - Andrew Sayer (andrew.sayer@nasa.gov) for OCI
 - Kirk Knobelspiesse (kirk.d.knobelspiesse@nasa.gov) for polarimetry
 - Meng Gao (meng.gao@nasa.gov) for FastMAPOL
- Find simulated & proxy data here:
<https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/pace/test-data/>