



# Update of Terra and Aqua MODIS and S-NPP VIIRS On-orbit Calibration

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## Contributions:

MODIS/VIIRS Characterization Support Team (MCST/VCST), NASA  
S-NPP and JPSS VIIRS SDR Calibration Team, NOAA

**CEOS WGCV-41, Tokyo, Japan (September 5-7, 2016)**

# Outline

- **MODIS and VIIRS On-orbit Calibration**
- **Terra and Aqua MODIS Performance**
- **S-NPP Performance**
- **Challenging Issues and Future Work**

# MODIS and VIIRS On-orbit Calibration

- **Terra, Aqua, S-NPP, and JPSS Missions**

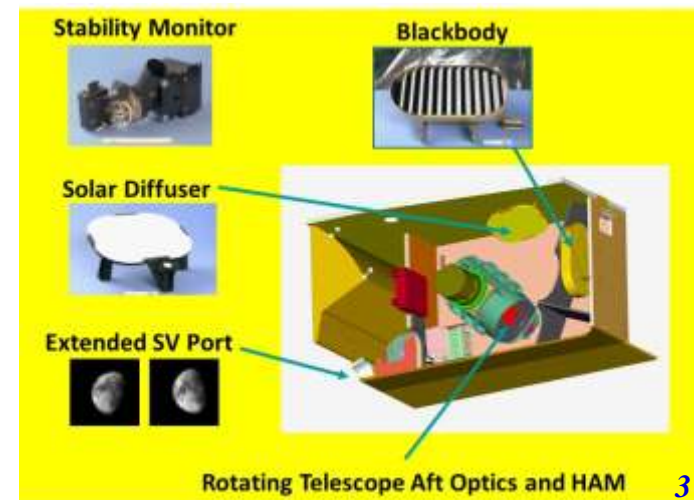
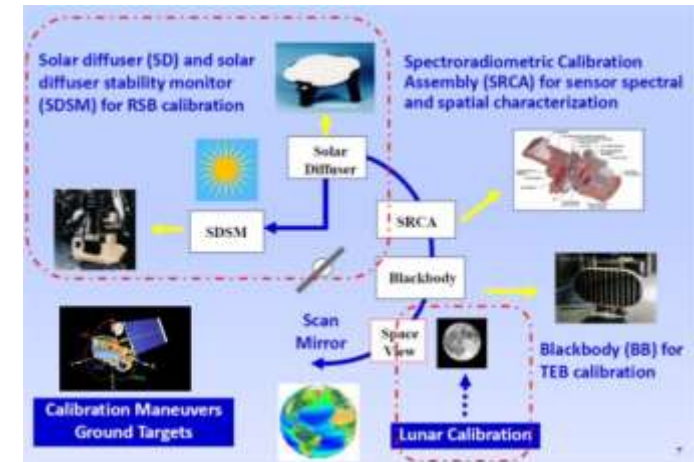
- Terra and Aqua: launched in 1999 and 2002
- S-NPP: launched in 2011
- JPSS-1 and -2: launch in 2017 and 2021

- **MODIS**

- Regular SD/SDSM calibration (SD door opens only during SD/SDSM calibration for Aqua; Terra SD door fixed at open since mid-2003)
- Regular SRCA operations (3 modes)
- Quarterly BB warm-up/cool-down
- Monthly lunar observations at phase angles @  $-55^{\circ}$

- **VIIRS (S-NPP)**

- SD calibration performed every orbit (no SD door); SDSM operated on a regular basis
- Quarterly BB warm-up/cool-down
- Monthly lunar observations at phase angles @  $-51^{\circ}$  (originally planned for @  $-55^{\circ}$ )



# On-orbit Instrument Performance (MODIS)

- **Instrument and On-board Calibrators (OBC)**

- **Terra MODIS** instrument and VIS/NIR FPA temperature increase: < 3.5 K; CFPA temperatures: very stable; BB temperature increase: < 30 mK; SD degradation: faster at shorter wavelengths
- **Aqua MODIS** instrument, VIS/NIR FPA temperature increase: < 2.0 K; CFPA temperatures: small variations in 2010-2015 (improved control lately); BB temperatures: extremely stable; SD degradation: same wavelength dependence but slower rate than Terra MODIS

- **Radiometric, Spatial, Spectral, and Geometric**

- Spectral band responses: large at VIS and NIR; small at SWIR, MWIR, LWIR
- Band-to-band registration (BBR): very stable
- Center wavelengths: changes are within 0.5 nm for most VIS/NIR bands; relatively large changes for bands with broad bandwidths (bands 1 and 19)
- Geolocation accuracy: approximately within  $\pm 50$  m (C6)

# On-orbit Instrument Performance (VIIRS)

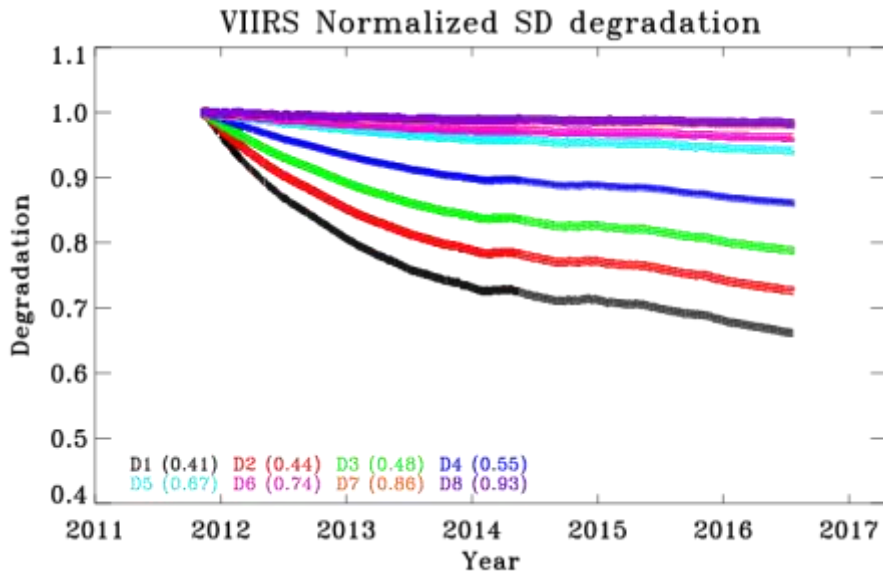
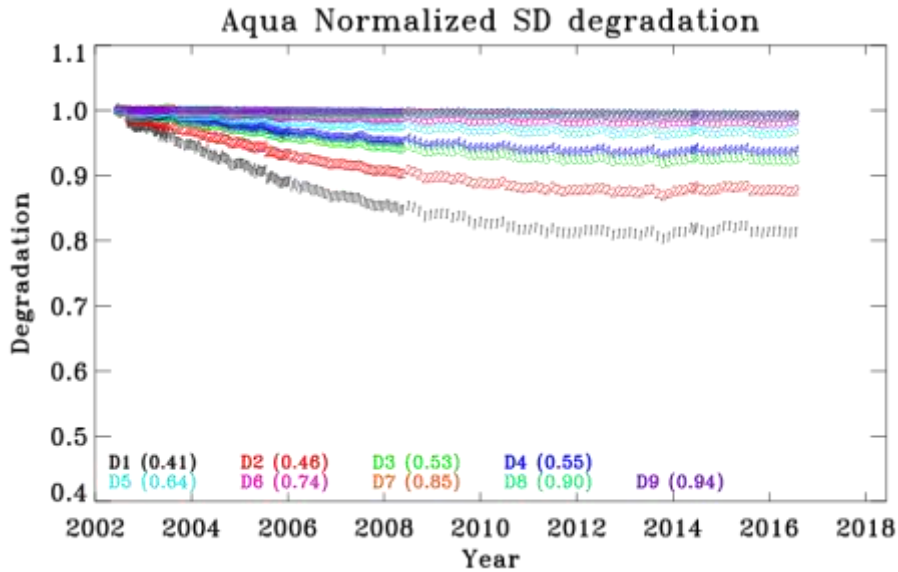
- **Instrument and On-board Calibrators (OBC)**

- Instrument and FPA temperatures: stable
  - BB stability: extremely stable (similar to Aqua MODIS)
  - SD degradation: larger at shorter wavelengths (similar to Terra MODIS)
- } Similar to Aqua MODIS

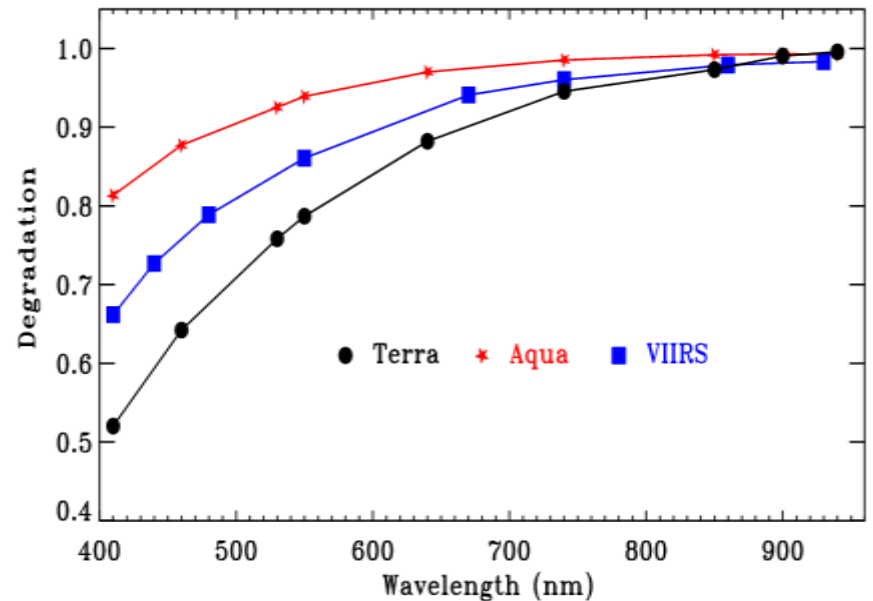
- **Radiometric, Spatial, Spectral, and Geometric**

- Spectral band responses: large at NIR and SWIR; small at VIS, MWIR, LWIR
- Band-to-band registration (BBR): stable (tracked using lunar observations)
- Relative spectral response (RSR): modulated on-orbit (due to strong wavelength dependent optics degradation)
  - Noticeable impact for DNB and small effect on M/I bands
- Geolocation: satisfactory but can be improved further

# MODIS and VIIRS SD on-orbit Degradation



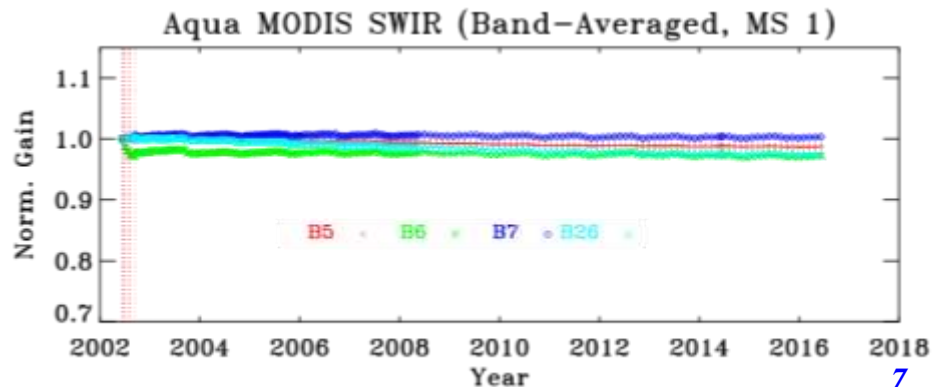
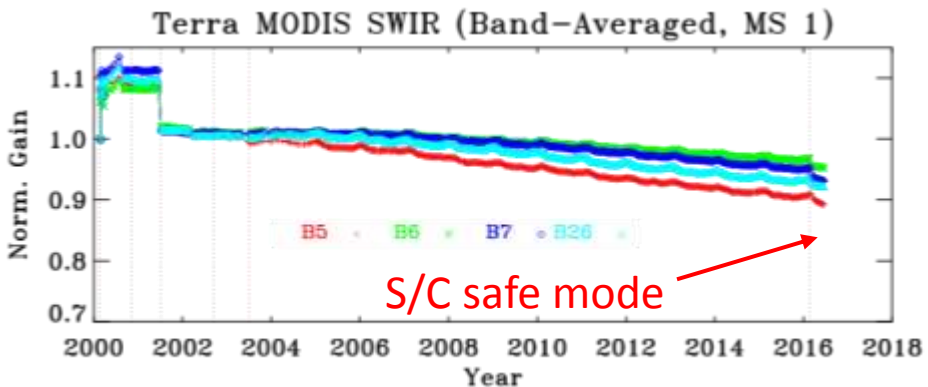
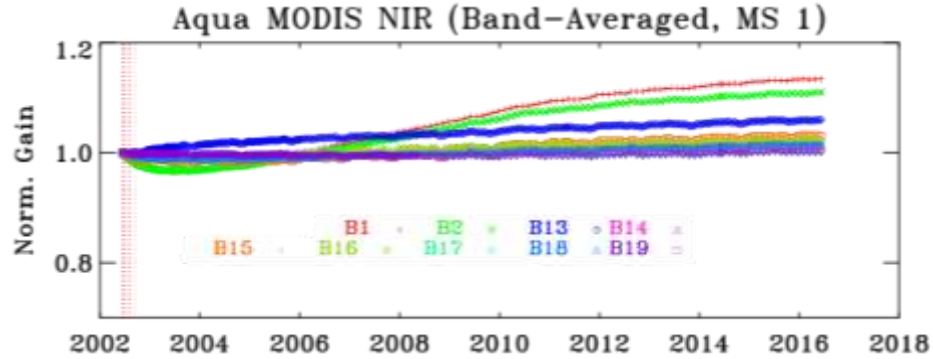
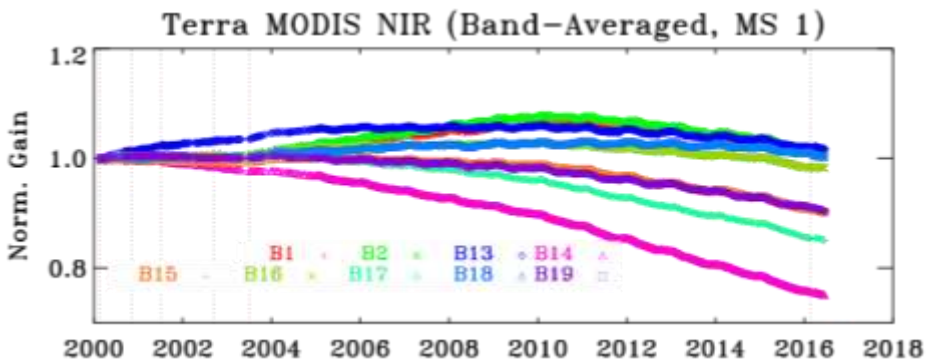
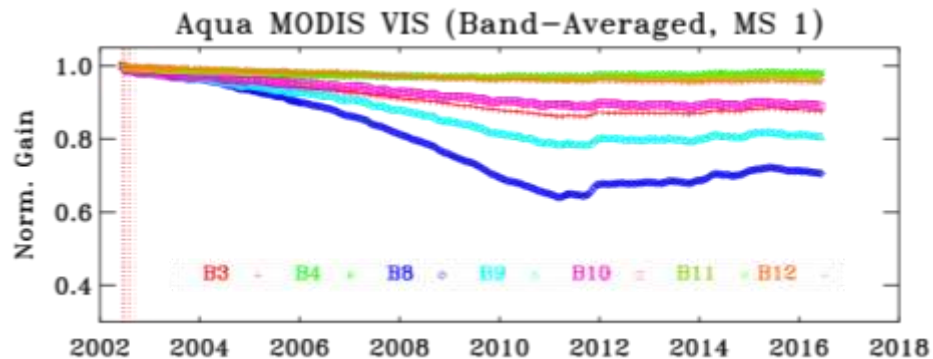
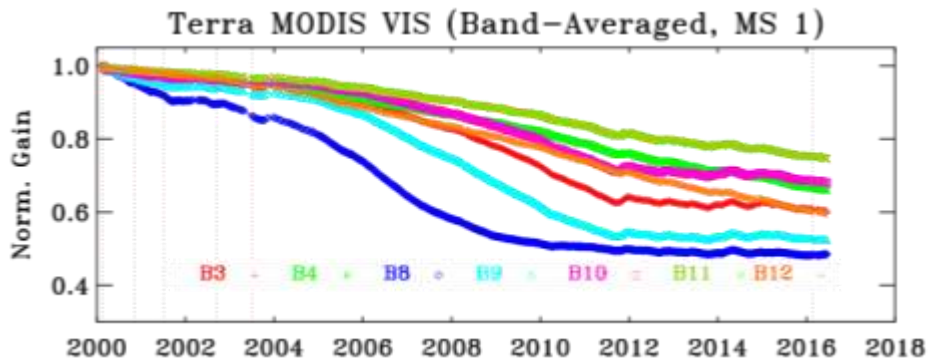
**Aqua SD door open/close**  
**Terra SD door fixed at open since 2003**  
**No SD door for S-NPP**



**Uncertainties at VIS (large correction)**  
**and SWIR (no direct monitoring)**

# MODIS VIS/NIR/SWIR Spectral Band Responses (Gains)

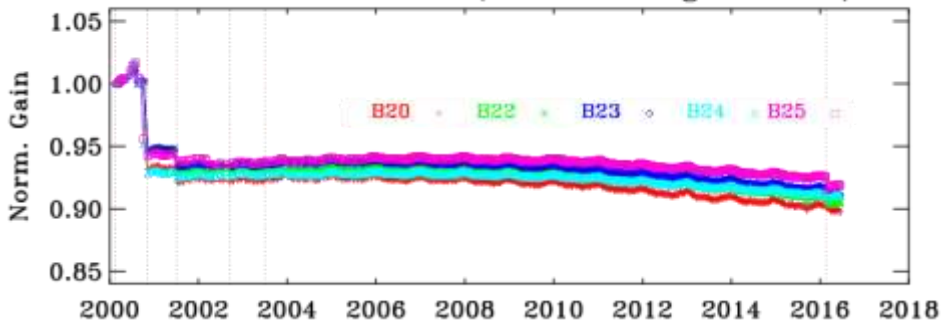
Spectral band responses: large in VIS and NIR; small in SWIR, MWIR, LWIR



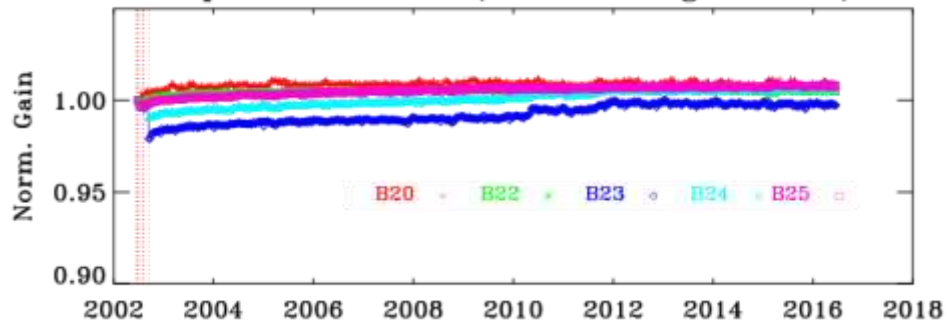


# MODIS MWIR/LWIR Spectral Band Responses (Gains)

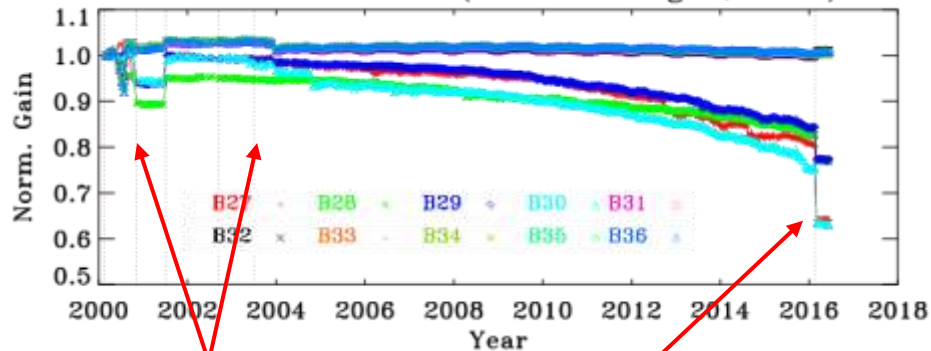
Terra MODIS MWIR (Band-Averaged, MS 1)



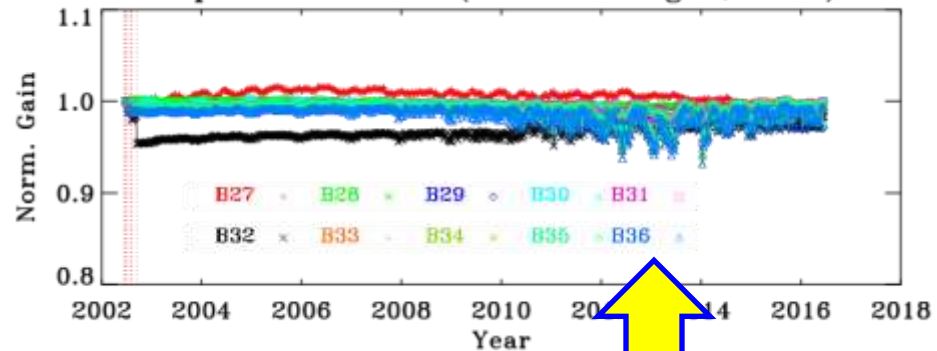
Aqua MODIS MWIR (Band-Averaged, MS 1)



Terra MODIS LWIR (Band-Averaged, MS 1)



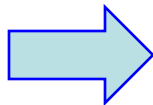
Aqua MODIS LWIR (Band-Averaged, MS 1)



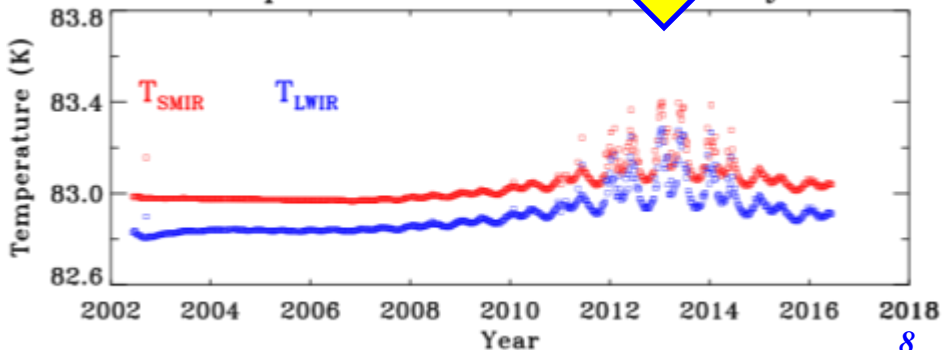
Change of electronic configuration

S/C safe mode

Fluctuations in CFPA temp. led to small variations in LWIR detector responses



Aqua SMIR & LWIR FPA Geometry

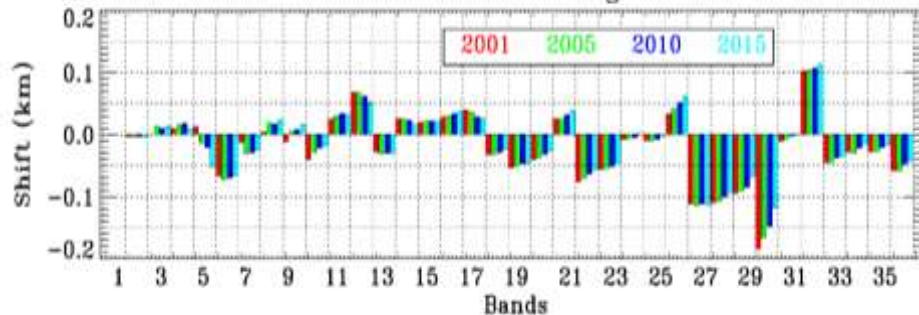




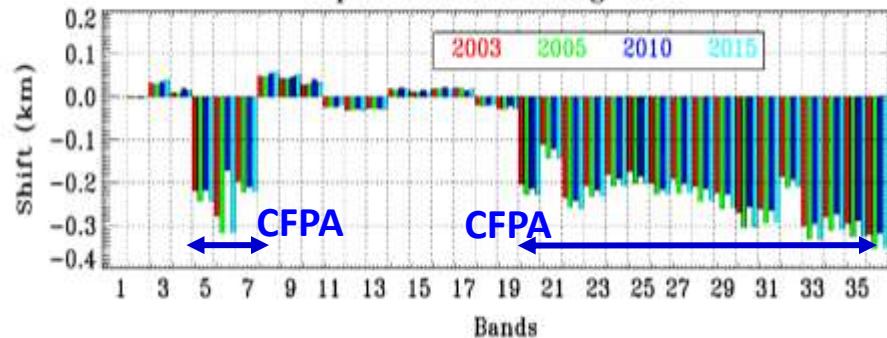
# MODIS Spatial and Spectral Performance

## Band-to-Band Registration (BBR) in Along-scan Direction

Terra BBR Shift Along-scan



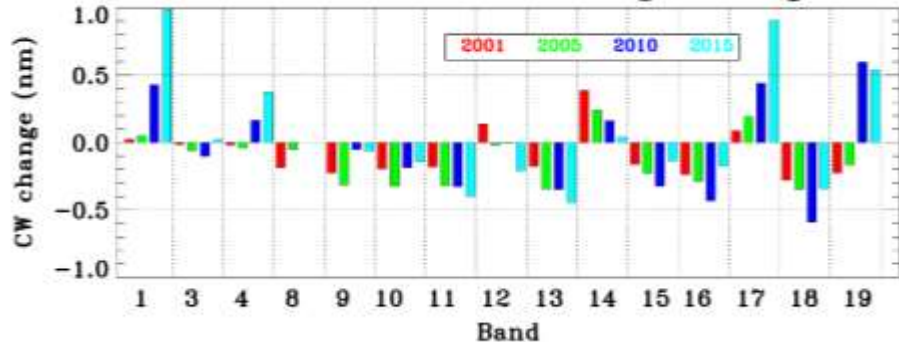
Aqua BBR Shift Along-scan



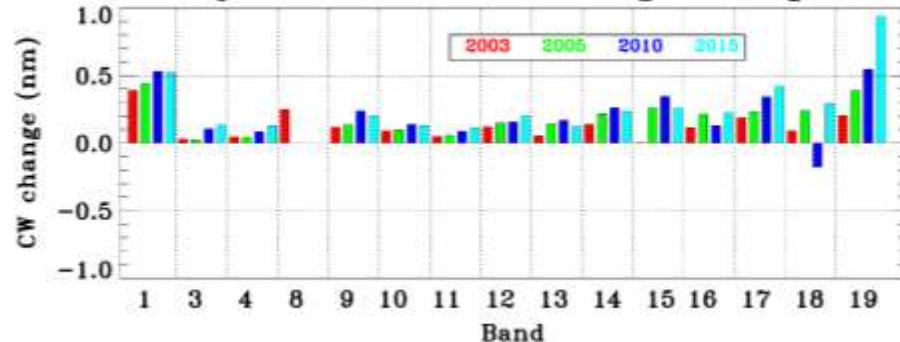
Similar Performance for BBR in Along-track Direction

## Changes in Spectral Band Center Wavelengths (CW)

Terra MODIS Center Wavelength Changes



Aqua MODIS Center Wavelength Changes

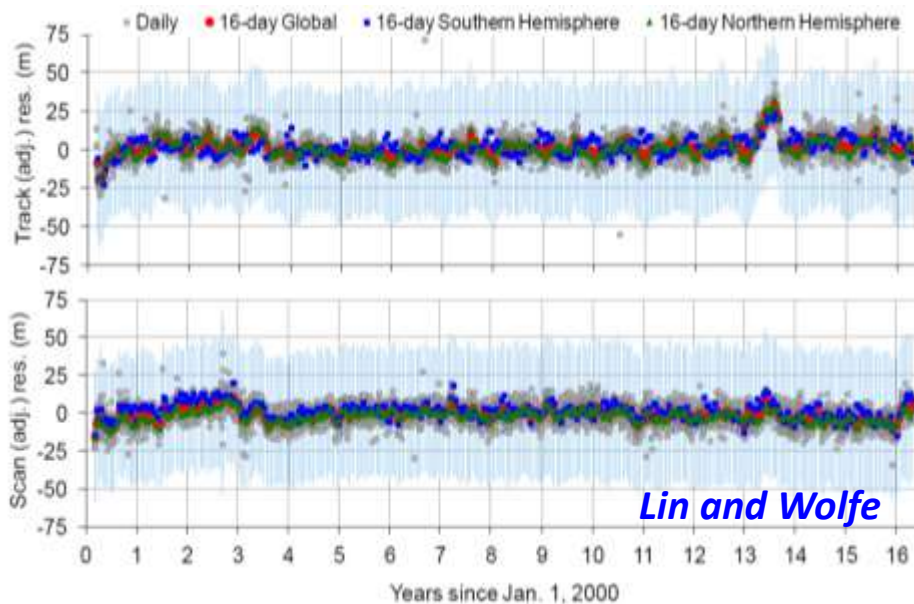


Similar Results for Changes in Bandwidths (BW)

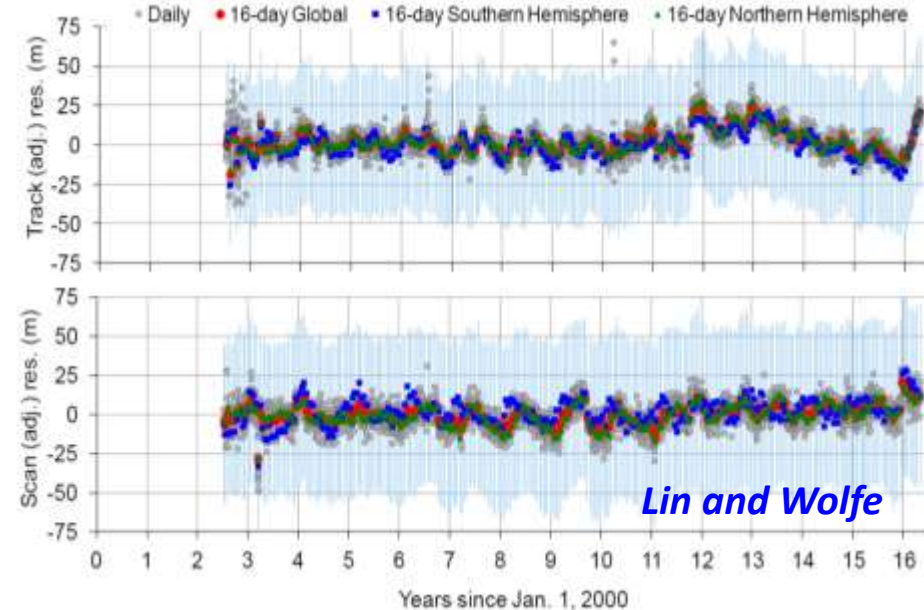
# MODIS Geolocation Performance

## Terra and Aqua MODIS Geolocation Performance Remains Satisfactory

Terra MODIS RMSE (C6)  
Track: 43 m Scan: 44 m



Aqua MODIS RMSE (C6)  
Track: 46 m Scan: 53 m



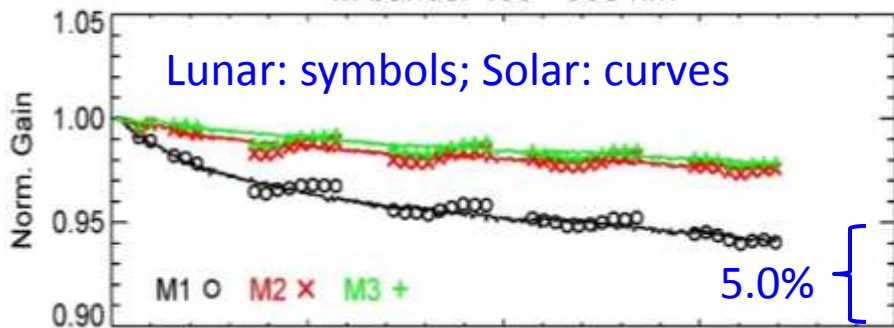
○ Daily   ● 16-day Global   ■ 16-day Southern Hemisphere   ▲ 16-day Northern Hemisphere

Terra track direction jump - due to a delayed implementation/update of Geo LUTs (from 01/01/2013 to 08/10/2013).

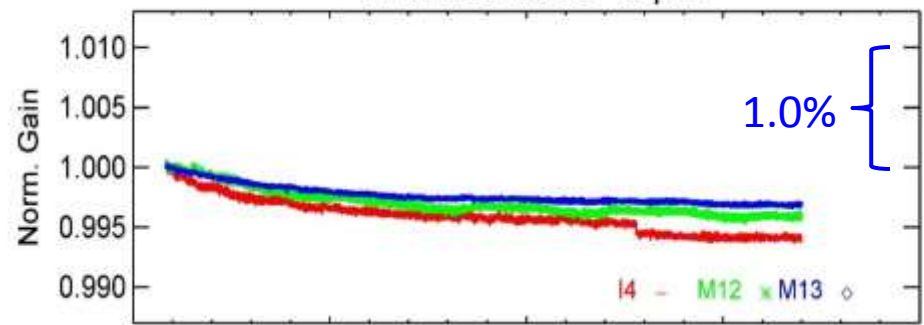
Aqua track direction jump at the end of 2011 (now it's back to "normal") - need to model it and update the LUT.

# VIIRS Changes in Spectral Band Responses (Gains)

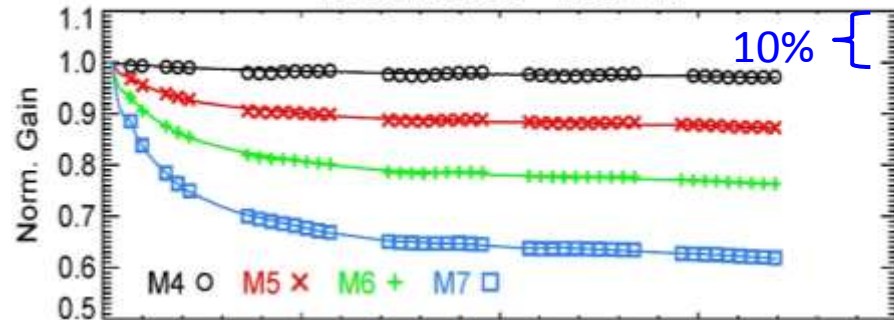
M bands: 400 - 500 nm



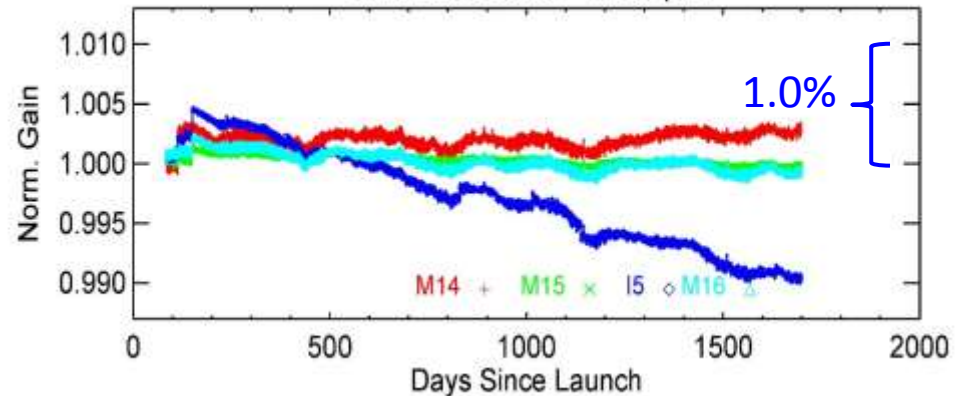
MWIR Bands: 3 - 5  $\mu\text{m}$



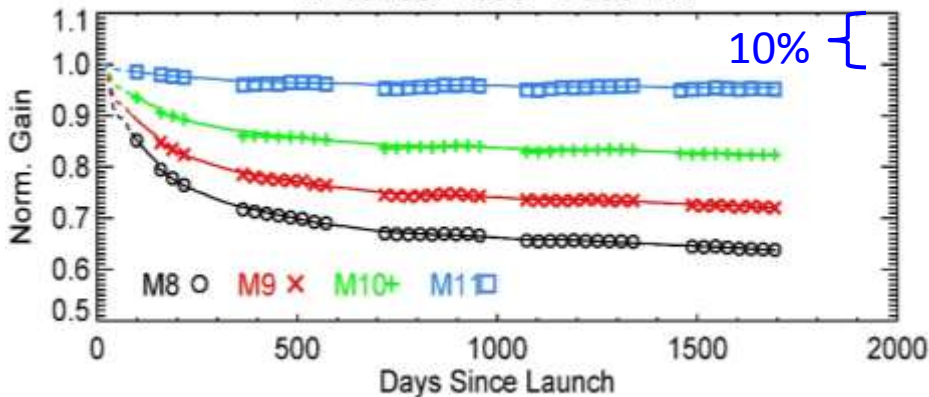
M bands: 500 - 1000 nm



LWIR Band: 8 - 12.5  $\mu\text{m}$



M bands: 1000 - 2500 nm

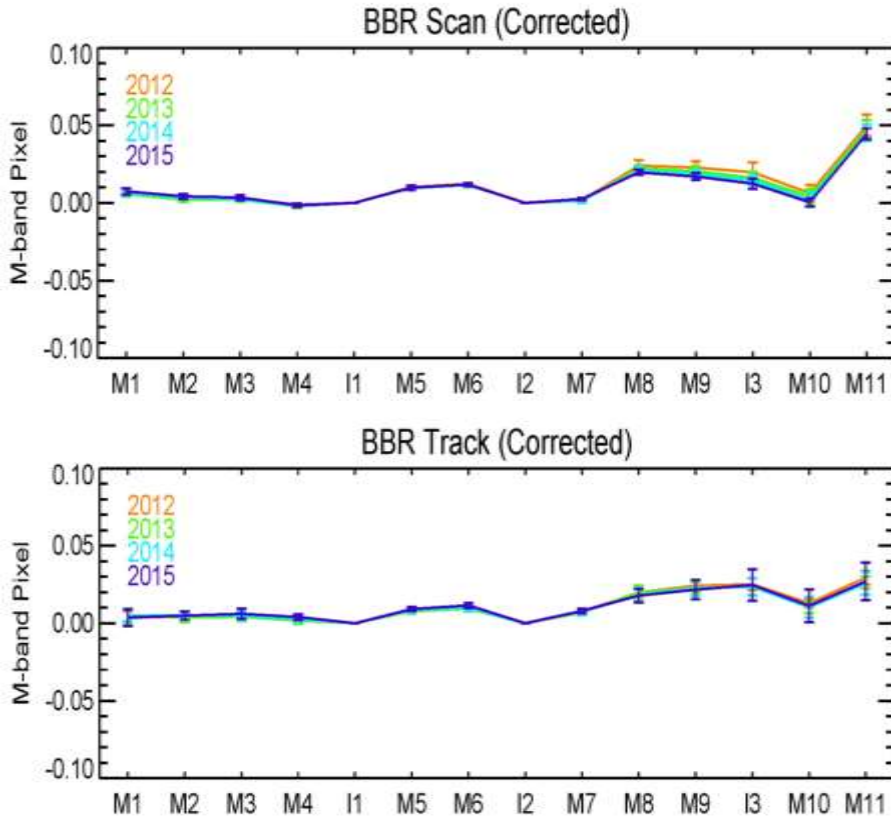


- Large changes in NIR and SWIR (due to mirror contamination)
- Small changes in VIS, MWIR, and LWIR

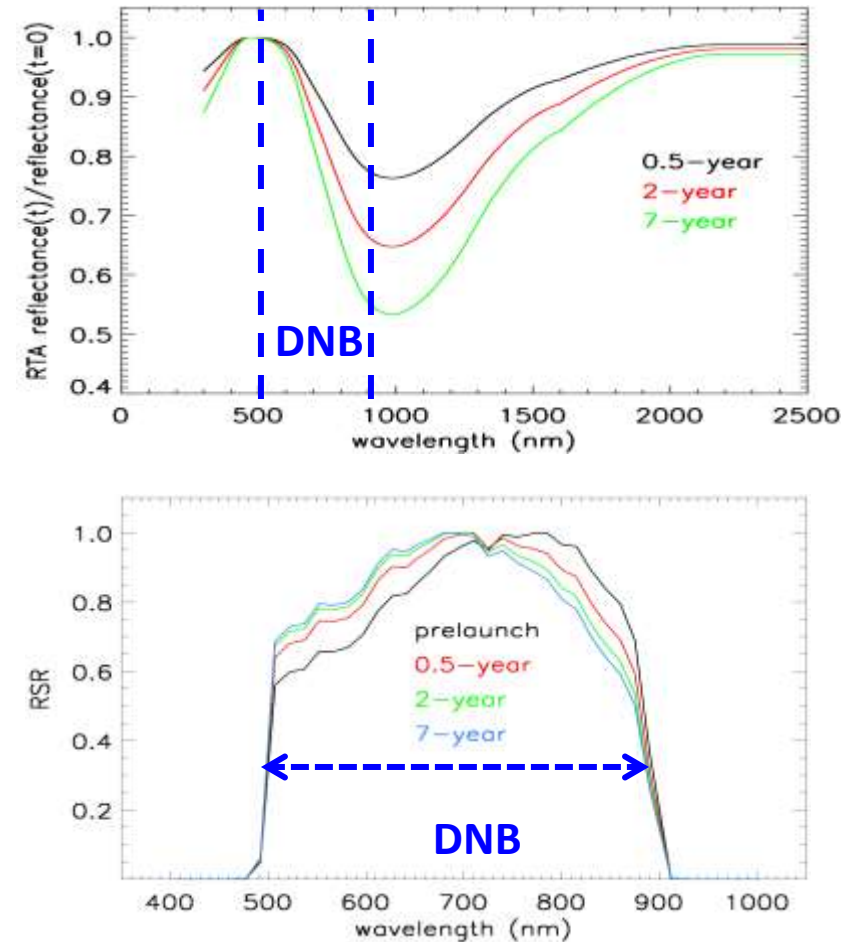


# VIIRS Spatial and Spectral Performance

## Band-to-band registration (BBR)



## Modulated RSR

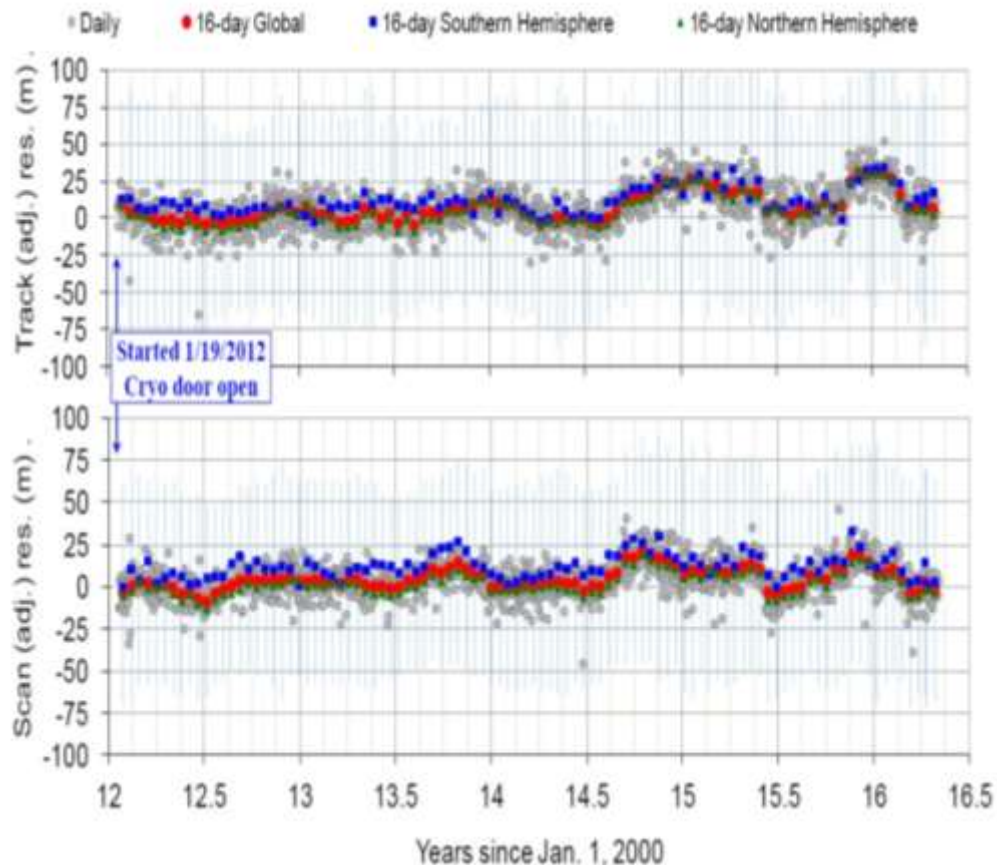


- Improved methodology (originally developed for MODIS BBR using lunar observations and validated using on-board SRCA)
- On-orbit BBR is very stable in both scan and track directions

Large impact for DNB (up to 5%);  
small impact for M/I bands (< 1%)

# VIIRS Geometric Performance

## Geolocation



S-NPP VIIRS RMSE (C1.1)  
Track: 72 m Scan: 61 m

Future improvements  
(via reprocessing)

Terra MODIS RMSE (C6)  
Track: 43 m Scan: 44 m

Aqua MODIS RMSE (C6)  
Track: 46 m Scan: 53 m

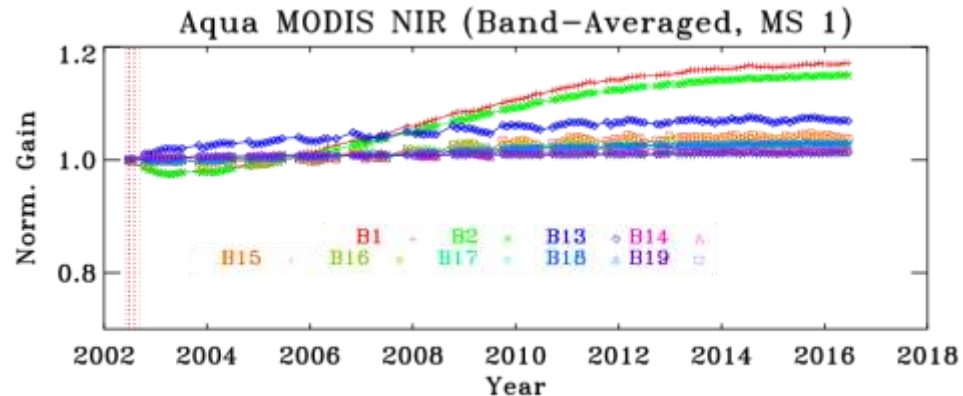
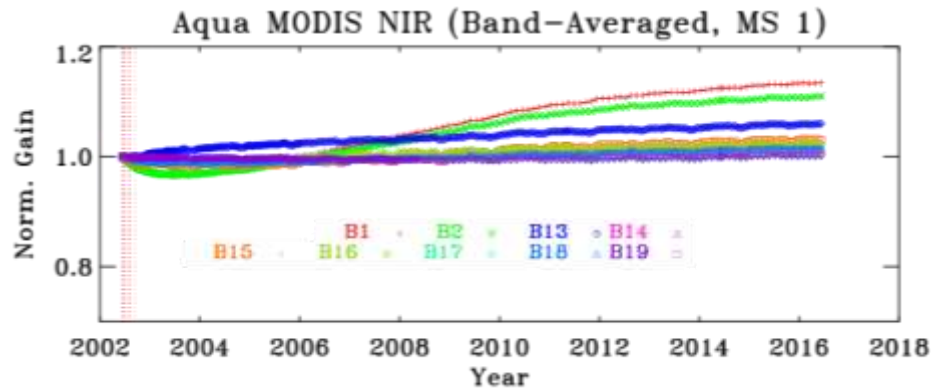
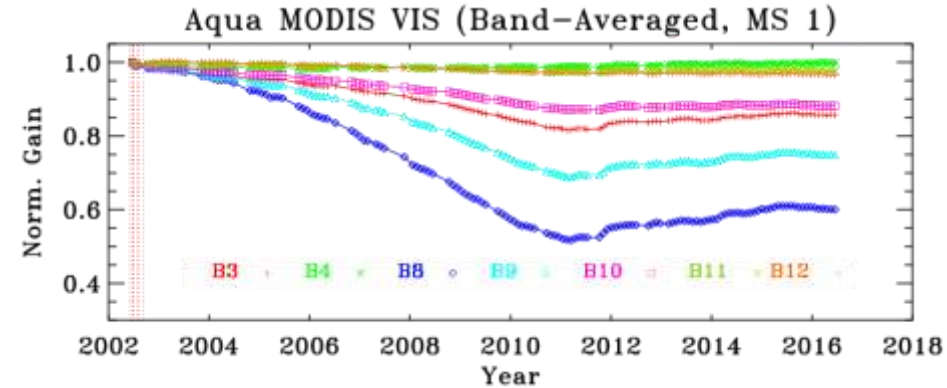
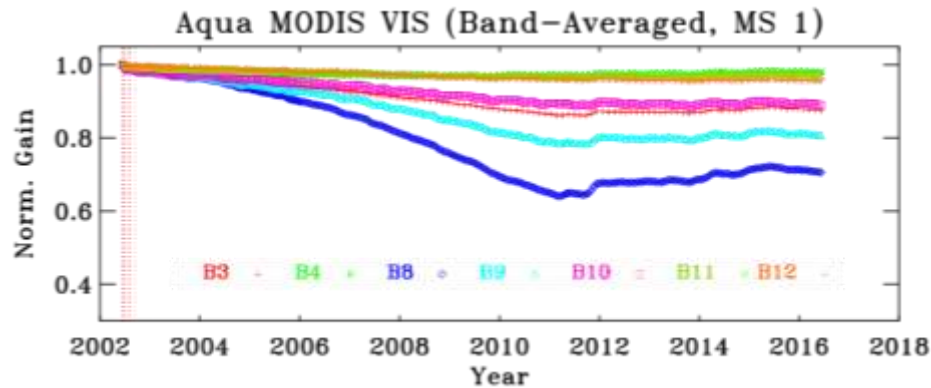
*(Geometric Cal: Lin and Wolfe)*

# Challenging Issues and Future Work

- **Future work to address existing and new challenging issues and to continue improving sensor on-orbit calibration**
  - Changes in MODIS VIS/NIR response versus scan-angle (RVS) – continuing effort
  - Changes in Terra MODIS polarization sensitivity and impact on sensor's earth view response trending – progress has been made in recent years
  - Uncertainty due to large SD degradation and no SD degradation monitoring for SWIR bands – mitigation strategies developed and applied
  - Terra LWIR PV Xtalk impact – correction algorithm testing and implementation
  - Improved use of VIIRS SD and lunar calibration parameters – impact of RSR
  - Tracking potential changes in VIIRS RVS – lessons from MODIS
  - Special calibration and validation effort in support of VIIRS data reprocessing – effort by both NASA and NOAA
- **MODIS and VIIRS calibration consistency and impact on science products**
  - Extensive calibration and validation effort and science support
  - Community effort and interagency collaboration

# MODIS Changes in Response Versus Scan-angle (RVS)

## SD Calibration



RVS is wavelength, mirror-side, and AOI dependent

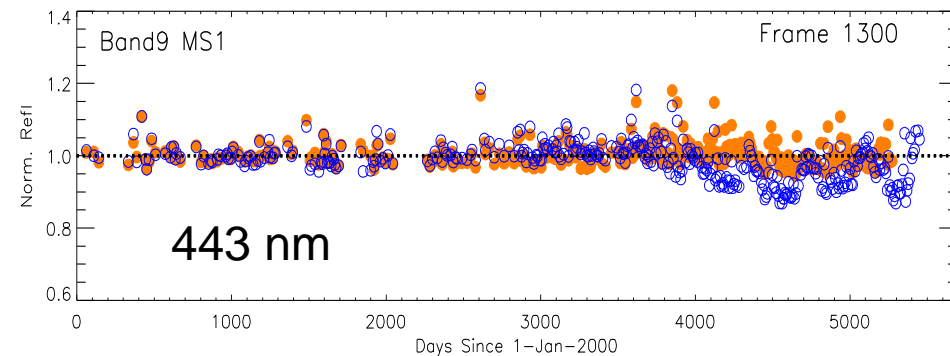
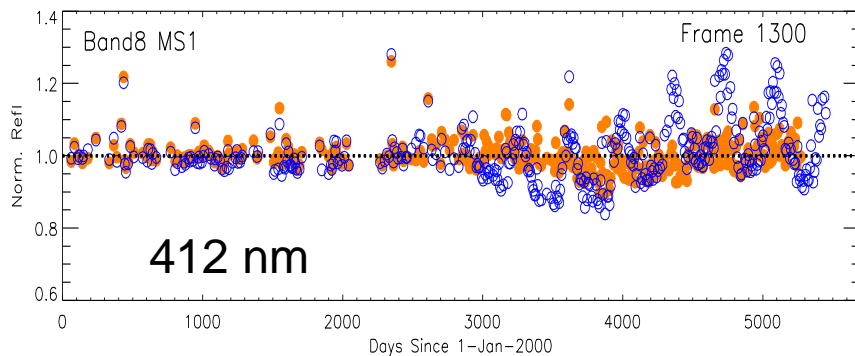
MODIS SD and lunar calibrations performed at 2 different AOIs

VIIRS SD and lunar calibrations performed at the same AOI (closely monitored using PICS)



# On-orbit Changes in Terra MODIS Polarization Sensitivity

- Noticeable on-orbit changes in the polarization sensitivity, especially at short wavelengths (412 nm and 443 nm bands most impacted)
- Previous effort by NASA OBPG developed an approach to decouple the impacts of on-orbit changes in the RVS and polarization using L3 ocean products [*Kwiatkowska et.al, in AO 2009*]
- Current MCST effort provides an independent approach to track the on-orbit polarization sensitivity using L1 reflectance over pseudo-invariant desert sites [*Wu et.al, in SPIE 2015*]
  - On-orbit polarization correction based on the Mueller matrix [similar to OBPG approach]. Linear Stokes vector components modeled from 6SV



uncorrected reflectance    polarization corrected reflectance

# MODIS and VIIRS Data Processing

- **Continuous effort by NASA MCST to support MODIS data processing**
  - C5 and C6: currently running in parallel (C5 stops at end of 2016)
  - Improvements, when necessary, have been made to C5 and/or C6
- **Continuous effort by NASA VCST to support VIIRS data processing**
  - C1.0 and C1.1: modified IDPS code (Mx#.#) with VCST LUTs
  - V1.1.0: current production version; newly developed L1A and L1B software with VCST LUTs
  - V2.0.0: released in July 2016 for software testing and products evaluation
- **Preparation for NOAA IDPS VIIRS data reprocessing**
  - Extensive effort led by NOAA SDR Team to assess and validate VIIRS SDR quality
  - Ongoing studies conducted in preparation for IDPS VIIRS SDR reprocessing

**NASA MODIS and VIIRS Science Team Meeting (June, 2016)**  
**NOAA JPSS Science Team Meeting (August, 2016)**

# *Backup Slides*

# Status of VIIRS NASA Land SDR Support

- Land SIPS SDR reprocess based on IDPS Mx Code with VCST LUTs (C1.0 and C1.1)
  - Independent validation for SDR code and improvements in LUTs derivation.
  - Running Land’s modified IDPS SDR/EDR codes Mx based version with LUTs input from VCST.
  - 41 sets of LUTs for VISNIR/SWIR/DNB have been delivered to Land SIPS for data reprocessing and SDR/EDR assessments in Collections 1.0 and 1.1.

Collection	Code Base	# of LUTs	Delivery Time	Improvements
C1.0	Mx6.3	5	2012.10 - 2013.01	Smoothed functions for SD degradation H-factor and calibration coefficients F-factor.
	Mx6.4	5	2013.04 - 2013.11	Updated SD/SDSM screen transmission, SD BRDF, RTA mirrors degradation model, and modulated RSRs.
C1.1	Mx7.2	25	2013.12 - 2016.02	Improved time-dependent modulated RSR, DNB stray light correction, H & F fitting functions.
	Mx8.11	6	2016.03 - 2016.08	Improved Quality Flags, DNB gain ratio and LGS LUTs introduced, GEO solar/lunar vectors fix, and with RSBAutoCal option.

# Status of VIIRS NASA SIPS L1B Support

- NASA SIPS L1B/LUTs for mission reprocess V1.1.0 (current production version)
  - VIIRS L1A and L1B software, LUTs, and data design are developed under NASA EDOS/SIPS.
  - First L1B software V1.1.0 was released in Jan 2016. L1B software generates 6-min granule VIIRS geolocation and radiometric products including OBC from L1A input, all in NetCDF4 format.
  - V1.1.0 is based on IDPS SDR code Mx8.10 algorithms. The contents of L1B V1.1.0 and SDR Mx8.10/8.11 should match if the same calibration coefficients and parameters are used.
  - NASA L1B LUTs are computed by using on-orbit SD/SDSM screen transmission & SD BRDF, modulated RSR, and consistent fitting methods throughout the mission.
- L1B Software V2.0.0 (currently under testing and evaluation)
  - V2.0.0 was released to SIPS in July 2016 for software testing and products evaluation.
  - Two types of data are required for L1B input – L1A file and L1B calibration Look-Up-Table (LUT).
  - Changes in V2.0.0 are described in next slide.

Collection	Code Base	# of LUTs	Delivery Time	Note
V1.1.0	L1B V1.1.0	7	2016.02 - 2016.08	Redesigned L1B software, LUTs, and data format using L1A data input.
V2.0.0	L1B V2.0.0	1	2016.08 -	Improved L1B software functions and algorithms. L1B products are under evaluation.

# VIIRS L1B Software V2.0 Changes

- The major changes in V2.0 compared to V1.1:

## A. Functional changes

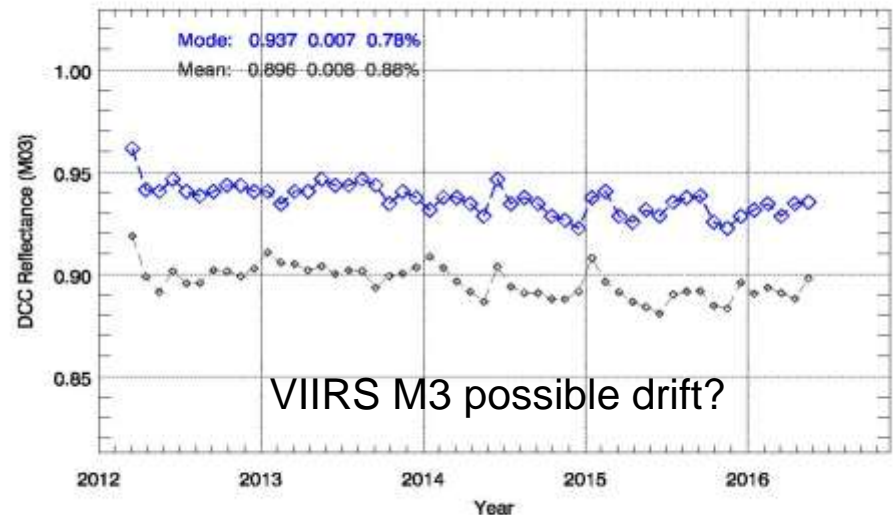
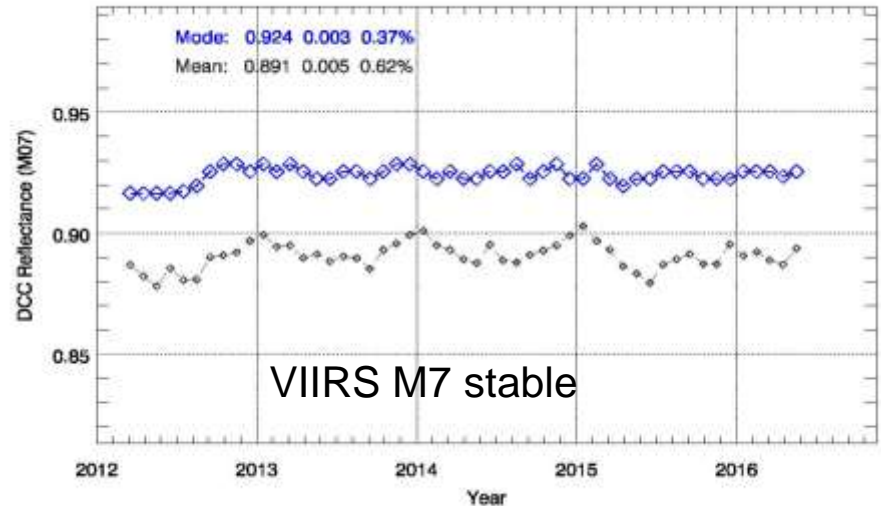
- Add fill values for specific data states requested by Land team.
- Partial line processing to support along-scan extracts.
- Add un-aggregated L1B product for dual gain bands.
- Add RSR tables in RSB LUT. Remove radiance tables from TEB LUT.
- Single resolution processing and output in geolocation.
- Add moon phase angle and moon illumination fraction in DNB geolocation.
- Add limit checks on attitude angles in geolocation.
- Add a new field for uncertainty index in L1B product under development.

## B. Algorithm changes

- Use solar irradiance at 1 AU to avoid computation of large number (in meters).
- Temperature dependent coefficients for RSB Cal.
- Apply time-dependent modulated RSR in RSB Cal.
- Apply running average of TEB F-factor in TEB Cal.
- BB thermistors weighting (selection) to decrease orbital variation in F-factor for TEB Cal.
- Alternative calibration when moon is in SV.
- Apply out of range limits based on dn.

# Deep Convective Clouds (DCC) for Stability Assessments

- The reflectance of deep convective clouds (DCC) are known to be statistically stable over time
- Detecting VIIRS calibration drifts  $< 0.5\%$  in selected bands over several years has been demonstrated
- A large number of data points can help reduce uncertainties
- Additional effort is required to use DCC for calibration inter-comparisons

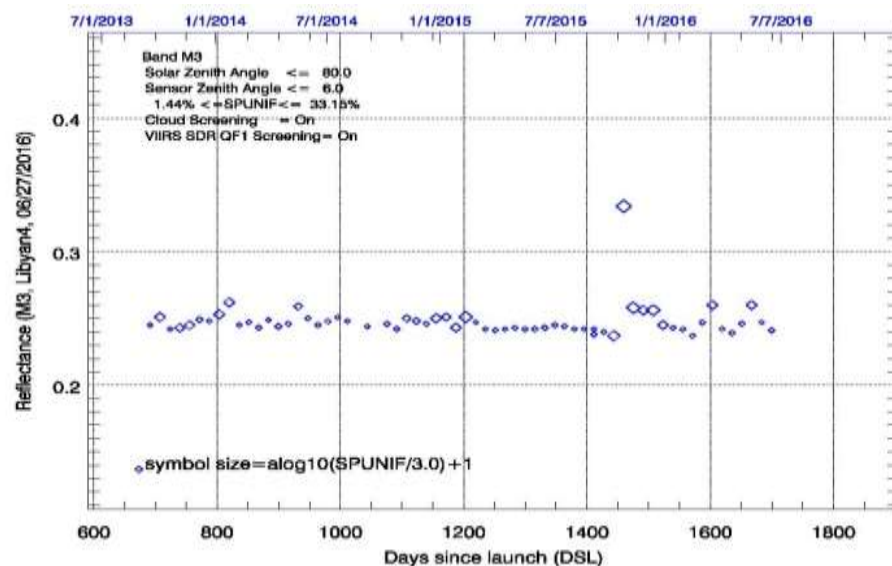
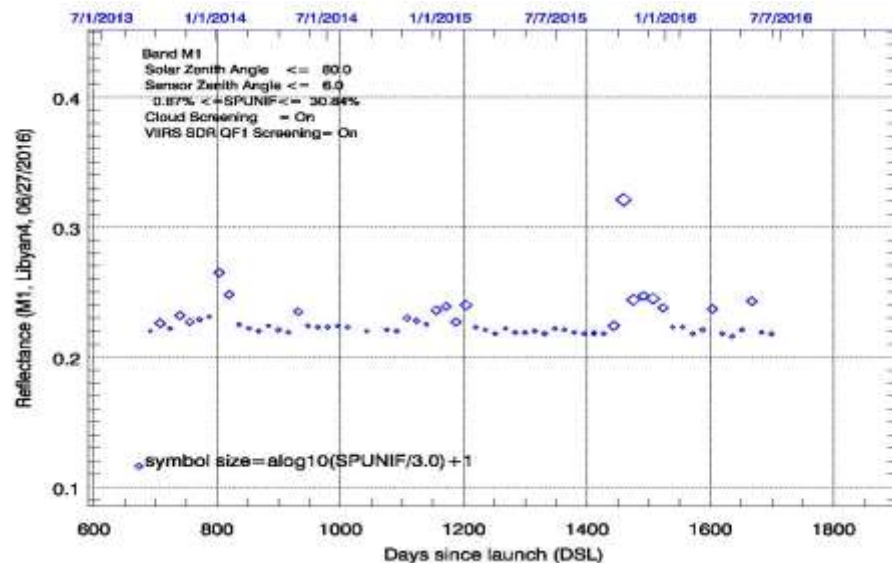


Wang & Cao, Remote Sensing 2016



# Desert Sites for Stability Assessments

- CEOS Working Group on Cal/Val (WGCV) has identified and endorsed several pseudo invariant desert sites for calibration stability monitoring, such as Libya4
- Caveats: sky is not always clear in the desert which reduces the number of useful data points; bi-directional reflection introduces uncertainties
- Desert observations have helped MODIS in correcting long-term drift



Desert trend doesn't necessarily agree with the DCC trend

# SNOs for Sensor Calibration Inter-comparisons

- Comparisons between VIIRS and MODIS have been routinely performed at the Simultaneous Nadir Overpass (SNOs)
- Caveats: this approach only provides relative bias between VIIRS and MODIS, using MODIS as the reference (14 years in orbit)
- Need to extend the inter-comparisons with other satellite instruments at SNOs
- GSICS will help facilitate the comparisons

