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# Comparison of multi-spectral satellite AOD

Plenary session 9 : Spectral dependence of  
AOD / constraining aerosol type

With contribution to

Breakout session 7 : Aerosol type

Breakout session 8 : Not just AOD

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# Objectives

- Satellite retrieved AOD<sub>550</sub> and AE are the main aerosol characteristics used in the aerosol modelling community.
- AOD<sub>550</sub> product is in general of good quality. However, uncertainties exist in AOD, which are compounded in AE calculations, which lower considerably the AE quality.
- During AEROCOM/AEROSAT 2019, the initial suggestion was made about using retrieved spectral optical depth at multiple wavelengths rather than AE as an indicator of additional information about aerosol properties beyond mid-visible AOD.
- The exercise has been initiated to study multi-spectral AOD retrieved from satellites.
- The outcome of the exercise will be recommendations for modelling community on the usage of the satellite products with providing corresponding validation results.



# multi-spectral AOD AEROSAT exercise

## Main steps:

- Step 1 : data collection
- Step 2 : validation/evaluation
- Step 3 : recommendations to modelers

With iterations with data providers, discussions about the data available in the official products, new (testing) products, discussions with modelers, debates at AEROCOM/AEROSAT...



# Publicly available Satellite products included into analysis (Sept 2020)

Satellite	product/res	res	Algo
MODIS Terra	MxD_04_3K	3km	DT
	MxD_04_L2	10km	DT
			DB
			DT&DB
	MxD_08_D3	1 deg	DT
			DB
			DT&DB
VIIRS	L2	1 deg	DT
			DB
	L3		DB
MISR	L2	4.4km	
	L3	0.5 deg	
S3A, SLSTR (ATSR)	SU D3	1 deg	SU
POLDER	L2	0.055 deg	

	res	Algo	AOD		470	480	488	490	550	565	660	670
			412	443								
<b>MODIS</b>												
MxD_04_3K	3km	DT			land corr, ocean eff				*(QF),corr		land corr, ocean eff	
MxD_04_L2	10km	DT			land corr, ocean eff				*(QF),corr		land corr, ocean eff	
		DB	land		land				land *(QF), best est(+unc)		land	
		DT&DB							*(QF)			
MxD_08_D3	1 deg	DT							*			
		DB	land		land				land		land	
		DT&DB							*			
		?			ocean				ocean		ocean	
<b>VIIRS</b>												
L2	1 deg	DT				corr, eff			*,corr,eff, image			corr, eff
		DB							*(QF land/ocean),best est			
		DB	land				land,ocean		land,ocean			land, ocean
L3		DB	land				land,ocean		*			land,ocean
<b>MISR</b>												
L2	4.4km								*			
L3	0.5 deg								*(4bands)			
<b>SLSTR/(A)ATSR</b>												
D3	1 deg	SU							*(+unc)			*(+unc)
<b>POLDER</b>												
L2	0.055 deg			*				*		*		*



# AOD (w/), products

\* - global coverage  
 corr – corrected  
 eff – effective  
 QF – quality flag  
 unc - uncertainty

	res	Algo	860	865	870	1020	1240	1600	1630	1610	2130	2250	AOD scaling coef
<b>MODIS</b>													
MxD_04_3K	3km	DT	ocean eff				ocean eff		ocean eff		ocean eff		
MxD_04_L2	10km	DT	ocean eff				ocean eff		ocean eff		ocean eff		
		DB											
		DT&DB											
MxD_08_D3	1 deg	DT											
		DB											
		DT&DB											
		?	ocean				ocean		ocean		ocean		
<b>VIIRS</b>													
L2	1 deg	DT			eff		eff	eff				corr, eff	
		DB											
		DB		ocean			ocean			ocean		ocean	
L3		DB		ocean			ocean			ocean		ocean	
<b>MISR</b>													
L2	4.4km												for 400-900 nm
L3	0.5 deg												*
<b>SLSTR/(A)ATSR</b>													
D3	1 deg	SU			*(+unc)			*(+unc)					5
<b>POLDER</b>													
L2	0.055 deg			*		*							

**NOTE:** the content of the tables needs to be revised by data providers

# AE (wl), products

	res	Algo	AE									
			412/470	412/488	490/670	470/650	550/860	550/865	550/870	665/865	860/2130	?
<b>MODIS</b>												
MxD_04_3K	3km	DT					ocean					ocean
MxD_04_L2	10km	DT					ocean					ocean
		DB	bright surf			veg						
		DT&DB										
MxD_08_D3	1 deg	DT					*					*
		DB	land									
		DT&DB										
		?					ocean hist					ocean hist
<b>VIIRS</b>												
L2	1 deg	DT					ocean					ocean
		DB		land, best est				ocean, best est				DB/SOAR
		DB										
L3		DB		land arid	land veg			ocean				land/ocean
<b>MISR</b>												
L2	4.4km						*					
L3	0.5 deg						*					
<b>SLSTR/(A)ATSR</b>												
D3	1 deg	SU							*			
<b>POLDER</b>												
L2	0.055 deg									*		

**NOTE:** the content of the tables needs to be revised by data providers

# Aerosol types (flags)

	Aerosol types	MODIS DT	MODIS DB	VIIRS DT	VIIRS DB L2	VIIRS DB D3	Polder
						mode, hist	
				land			
1	Continental	*		*			
2	Moderate absorption Fine	*		*			
3	Strong absorption Fine	*		*			
4	Weak absorption Fine	*		*			
5	Dust Coarse	*		*			
0	Dust		*		*	*	
1	Smoke		*		*	*	
2	High altitude Smoke		*		*	*	
3	CbFg clouds		*		*	*	
4	non-smoke Fine		*		*	*	
5	Mixed		*		*	*	
6	Background		*		*	*	
7	Fine dominated				ocean	*	

Polder: size distribution, sphere function

**NOTE:** the content of the tables  
needs to be revised by data  
providers

# Aerosol types (AOD)

	res	Algo	AAOD	FM AOD	Dust AOD	Coarse AOD	Small/med/Large mode AOD	Non-sph AOD	AOD
				550	550				per mixtire
<b>MODIS</b>									
<b>MxD_04_3K</b>	3km	DT		land(fraction)			ocean(small, large), 7wl		
<b>MxD_04_L2</b>	10km	DT		ocean(fraction)			ocean(small, large), 7wl		
		DB							
		DT&DB							
<b>MxD_08_D3</b>	1 deg	DT							
		DB							
		DT&DB							
		?							
<b>VIIRS</b>									
<b>L2</b>	1 deg	DT							
		DB		ocean, best est					
		DB							
<b>L3</b>		DB		ocean					
<b>MISR</b>									
<b>L2</b>	4.4km		550				*	before screening	before screening
<b>L3</b>	0.5 deg		* (4bands)				*	*	
<b>SLSTR/(A)ATSR</b>									
<b>D3</b>	1 deg	SU	550	*	*				
<b>POLDER</b>									
<b>L2</b>	0.055 deg		6 wl (as AOD)	6 wl		6 wl			

**NOTE:** the content of the tables needs to be revised by data providers



# Other (SSA, SR)

	res	Algo	SSA	Surf refl	Surf refl	DHR	Land BRDF
					Cox-Munk param		Ross_Li BRDF
<b>MODIS</b>							
<b>MxD_04_3K</b>	3km	DT					
<b>MxD_04_L2</b>	10km	DT		land, 470, 660, 2130			
		DB	land, 412,470,660	land, 412,470,660			
		DT&DB					
<b>MxD_08_D3</b>	1 deg	DT					
		DB	land 412,470,660				
		DT&DB					
		?					
<b>VIIRS</b>							
<b>L2</b>	1 deg	DT					
		DB	412,488,669	412,488,668			
		DB					
<b>L3</b>		DB					
<b>MISR</b>							
<b>L2</b>	4.4km		446,558,672,867,before screening				
<b>L3</b>	0.5 deg						
<b>SLSTR/(A)ATSR</b>							
<b>D3</b>	1 deg	SU	550				
<b>POLDER</b>							
<b>L2</b>	0.055 deg		6wl		1 for 5wl, 3 for 670	6 wl	*

**NOTE:** the content of the tables needs to be revised by data providers

# AOD

Satellite



MODIS Terra

Date



2019-08-19

Product/Res

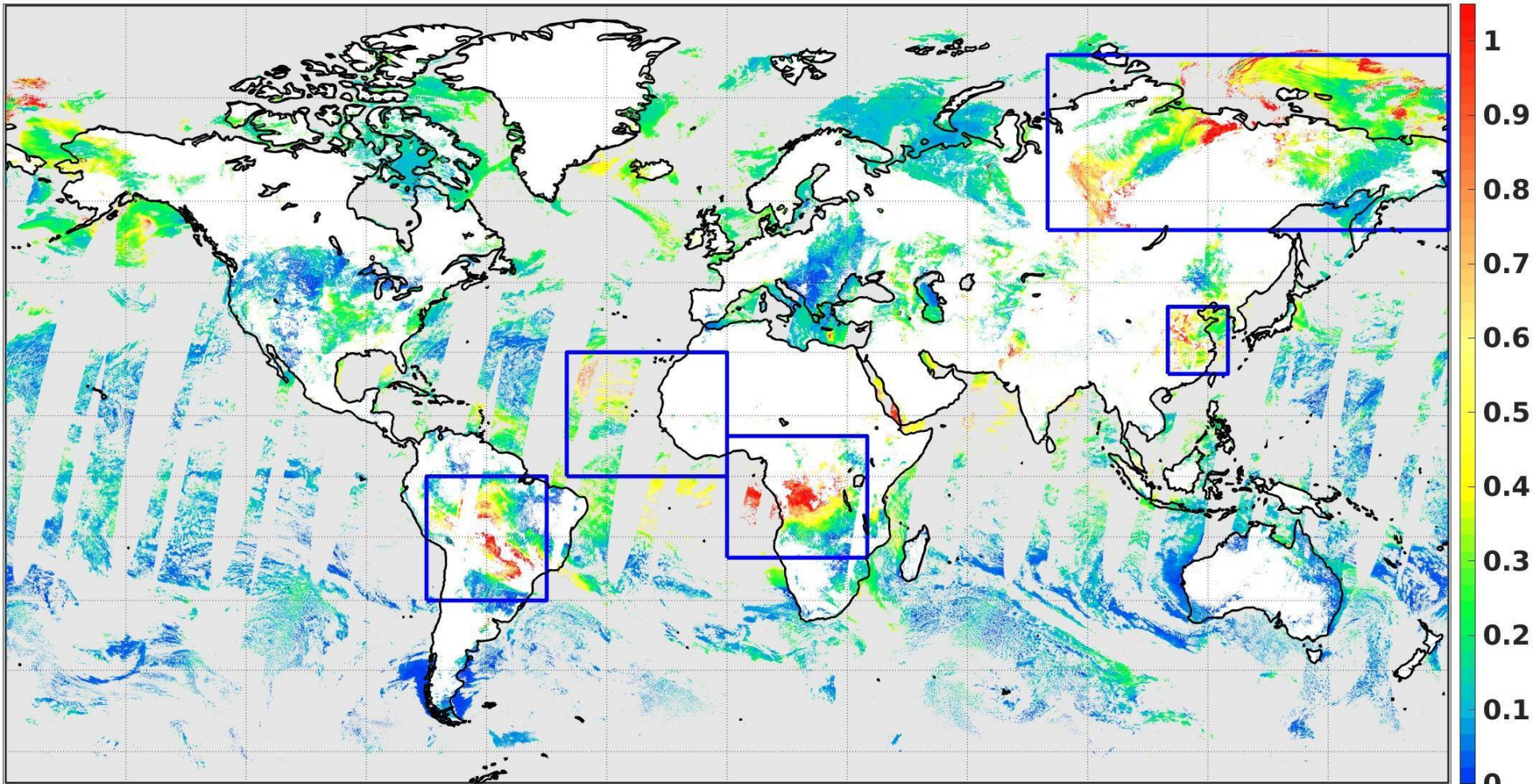
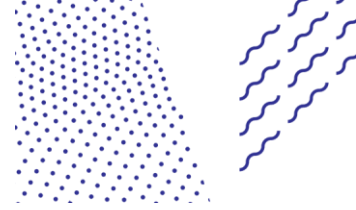


04\_3K

Product

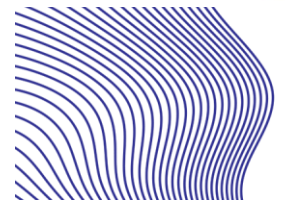


AOD\_550



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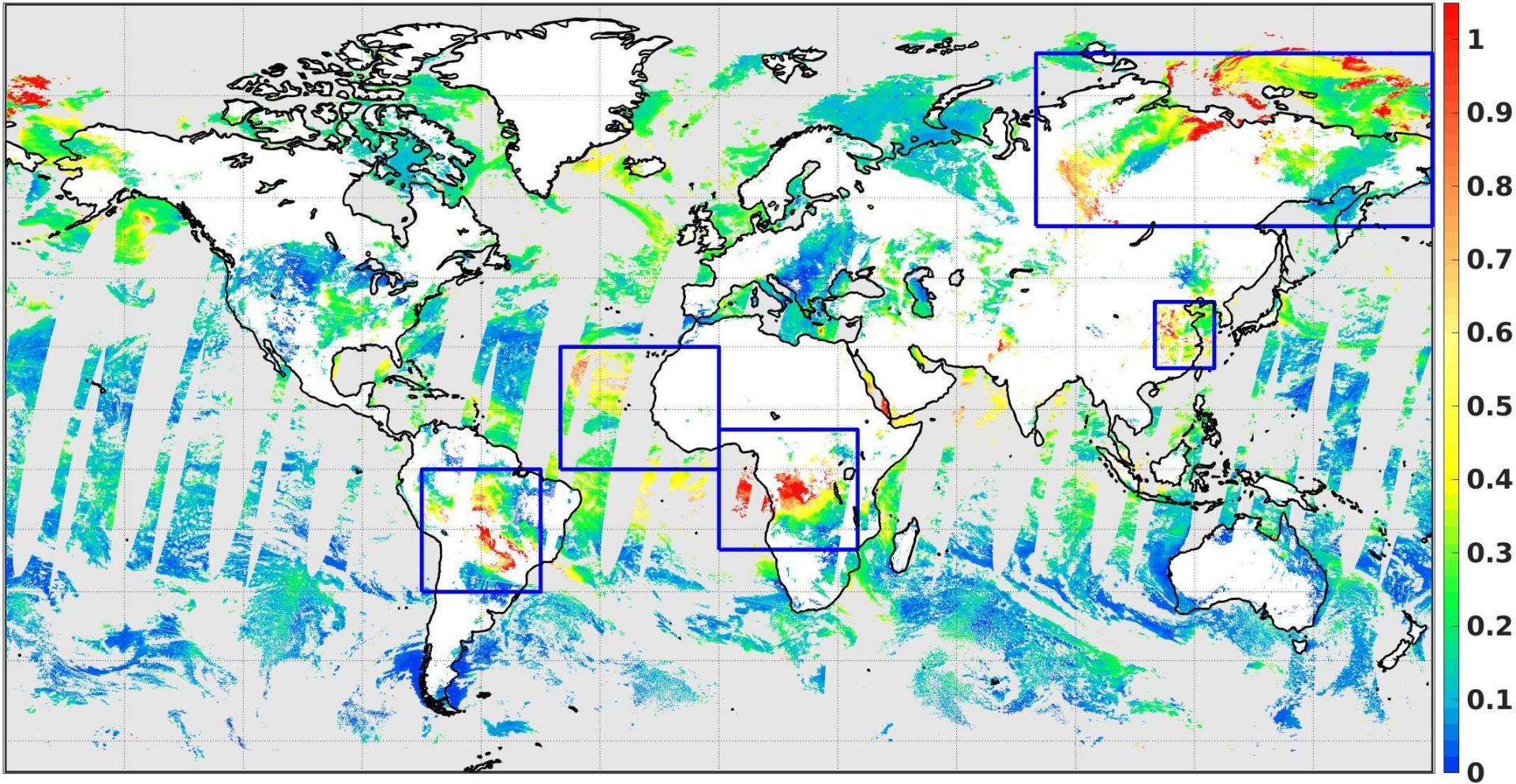
5 areas were chosen for products<sub>10</sub>  
inter-comparison



# AOD

MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_L2

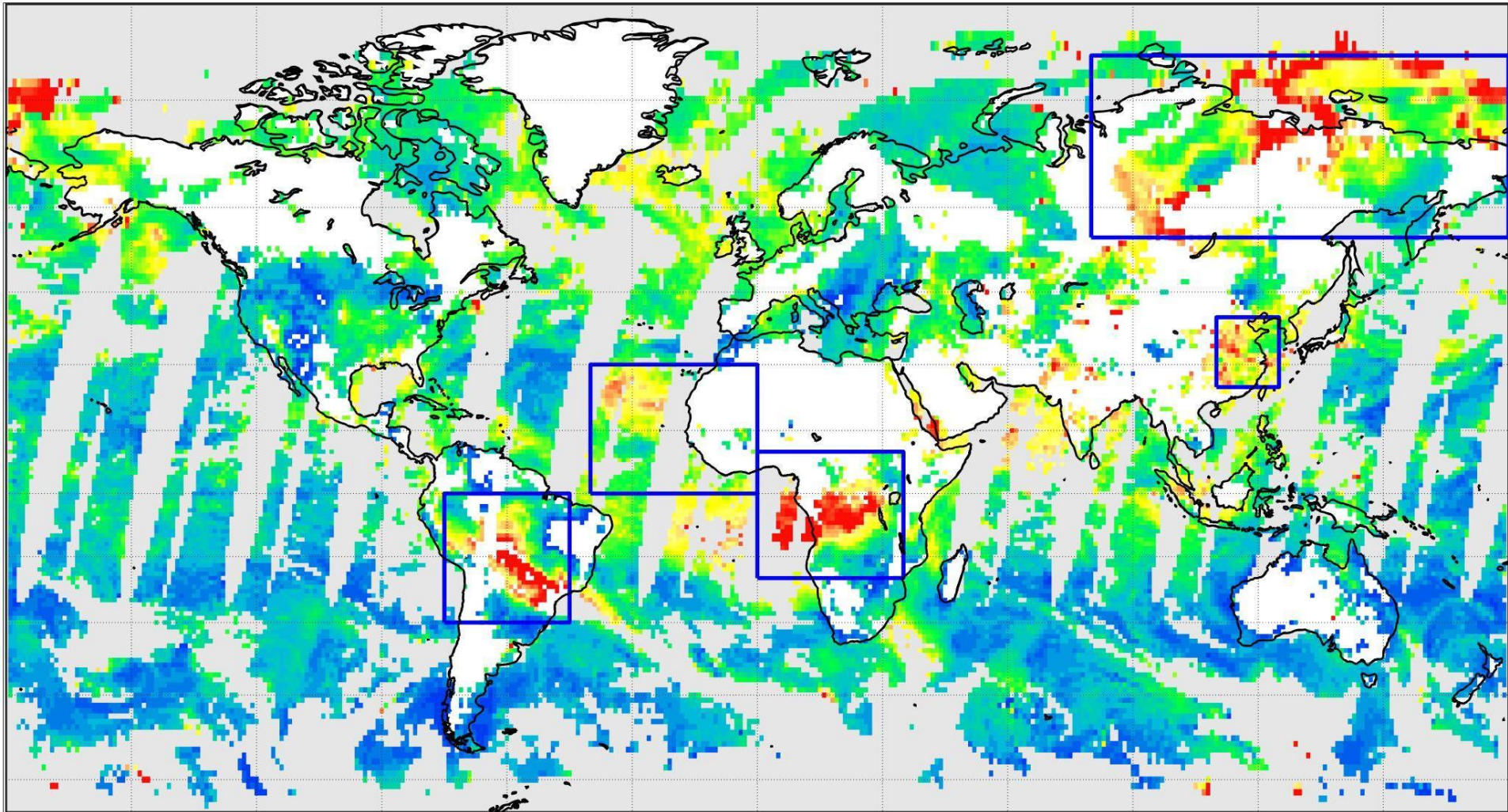
AOD\_550, DT



# AOD

MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 08\_D3

AOD\_550, DT



# AOD

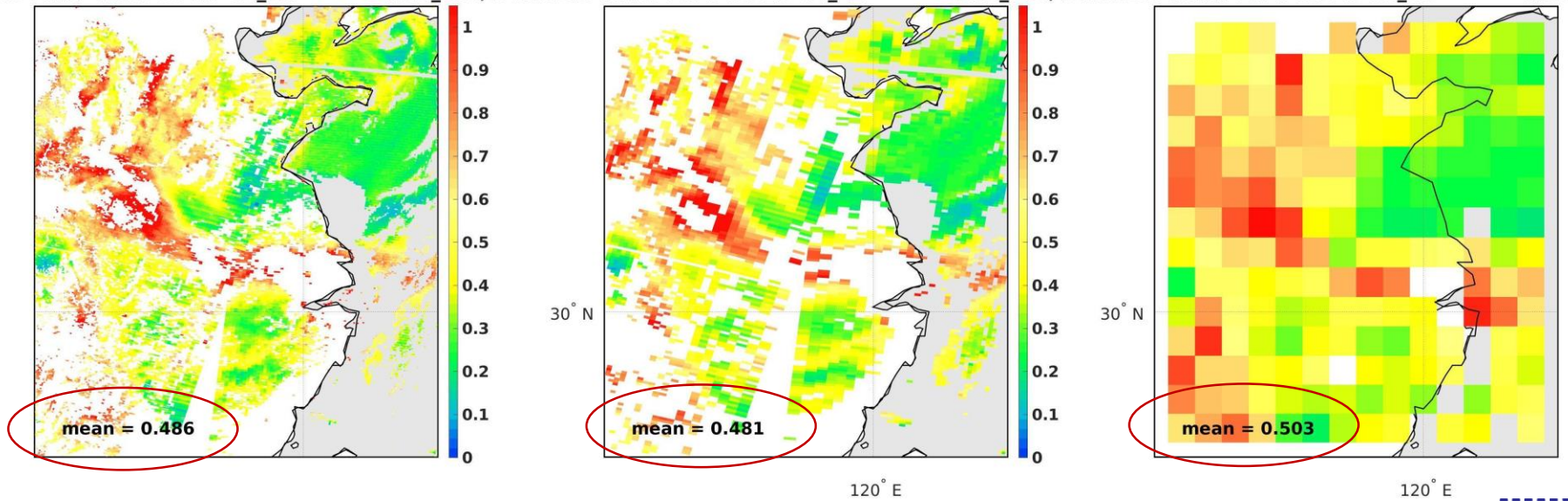
## Same product, different resolution China

MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_3K

AOD 550, DTMODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_L2

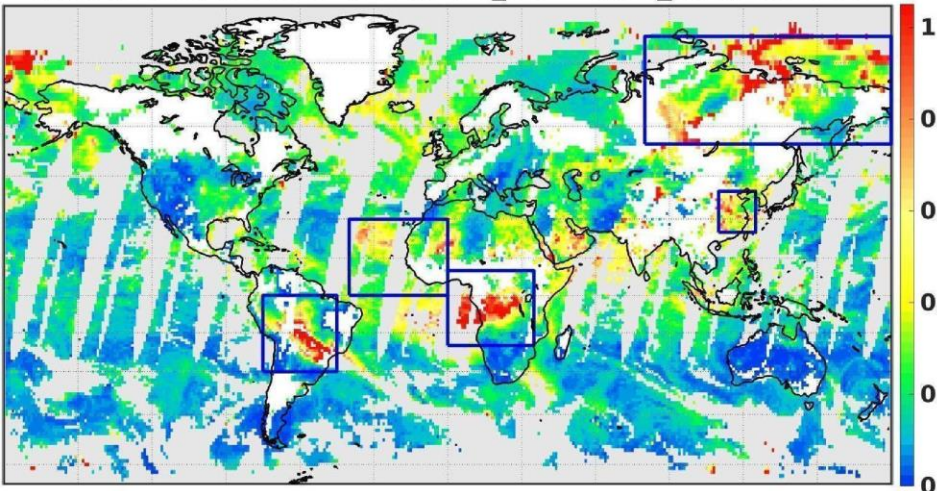
AOD 550, DTMODIS Terra 2019-08-19 08\_D3

AOD\_550

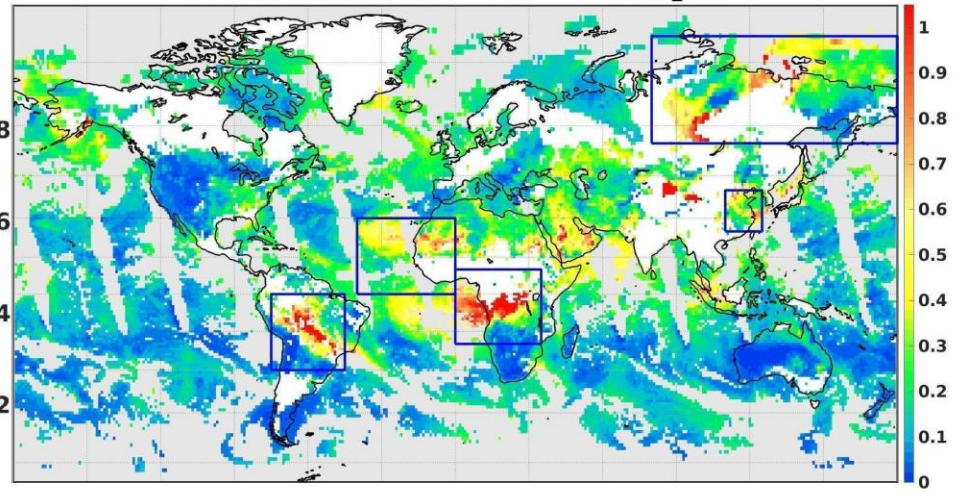


# AOD

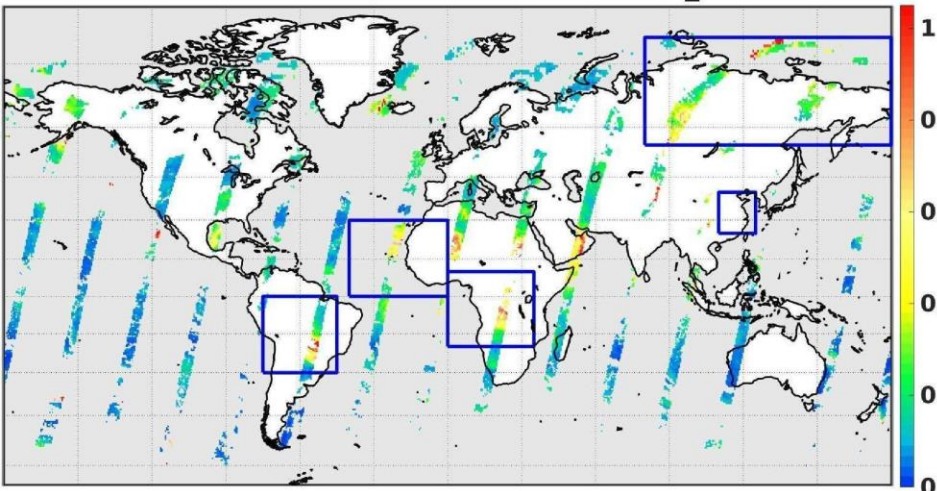
MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 08\_D3 AOD\_550, DT&DB



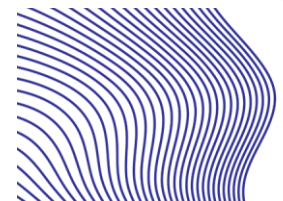
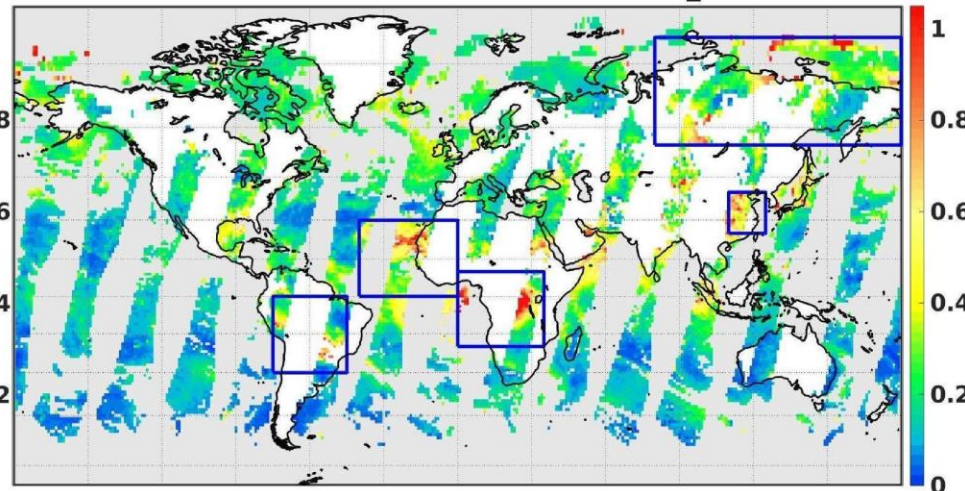
VIIRS AERDB 2019-08-19 D3 AOD\_550



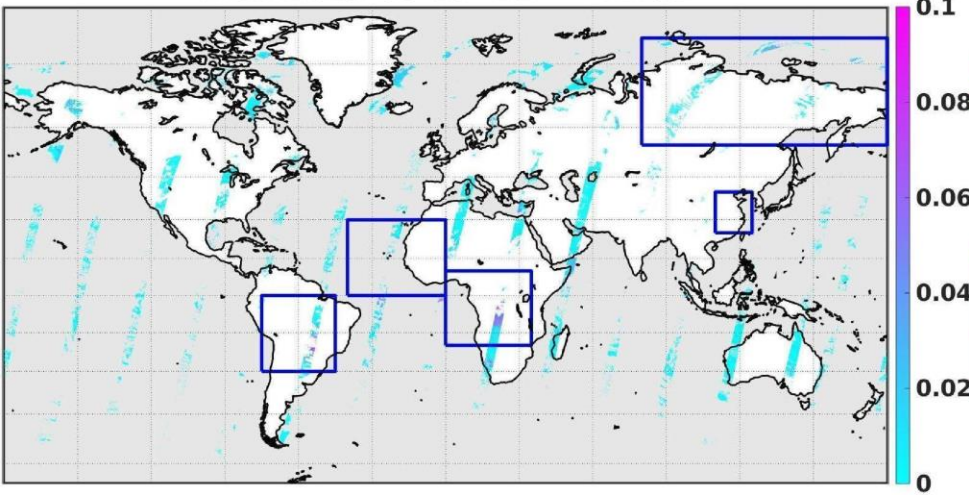
MISR 2019-08-19 D3 AOD\_550



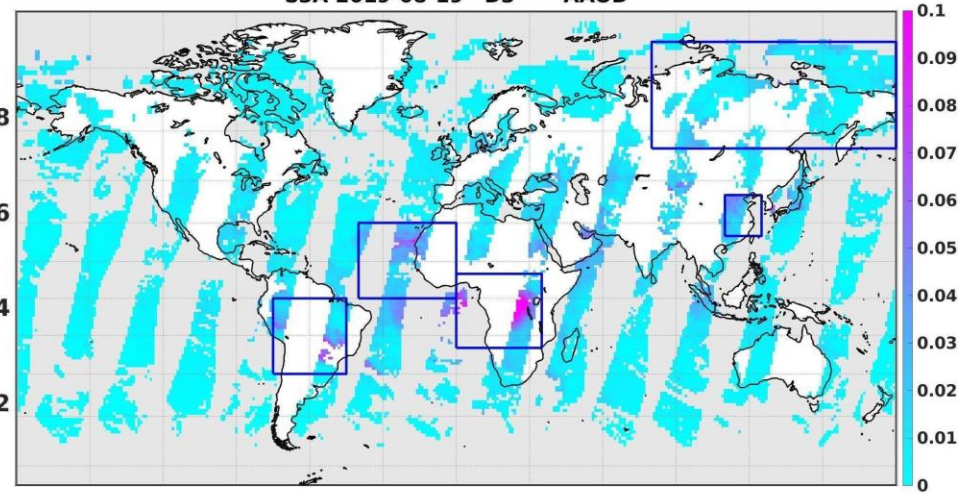
S3A 2019-08-19 D3 AOD\_550



MISR 2019-08-19 L2 AAOD

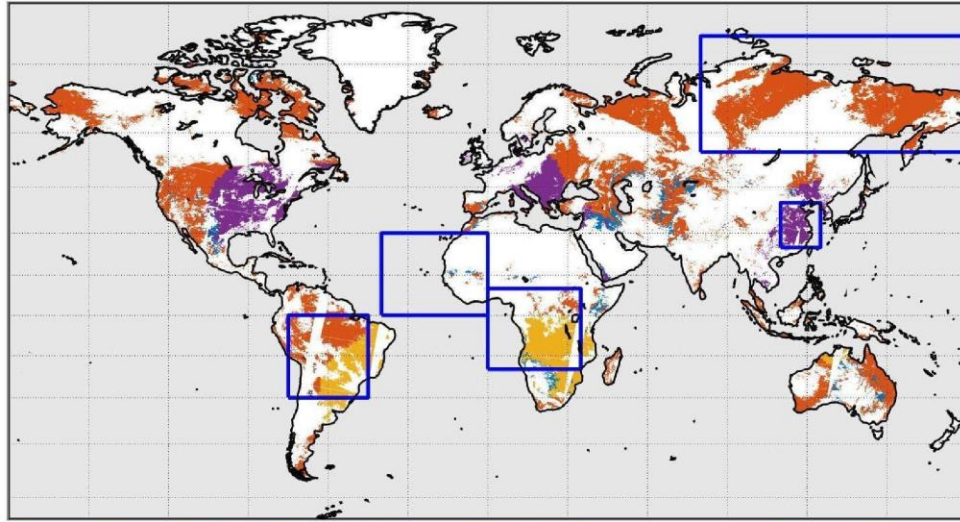


S3A 2019-08-19 D3 AAOD



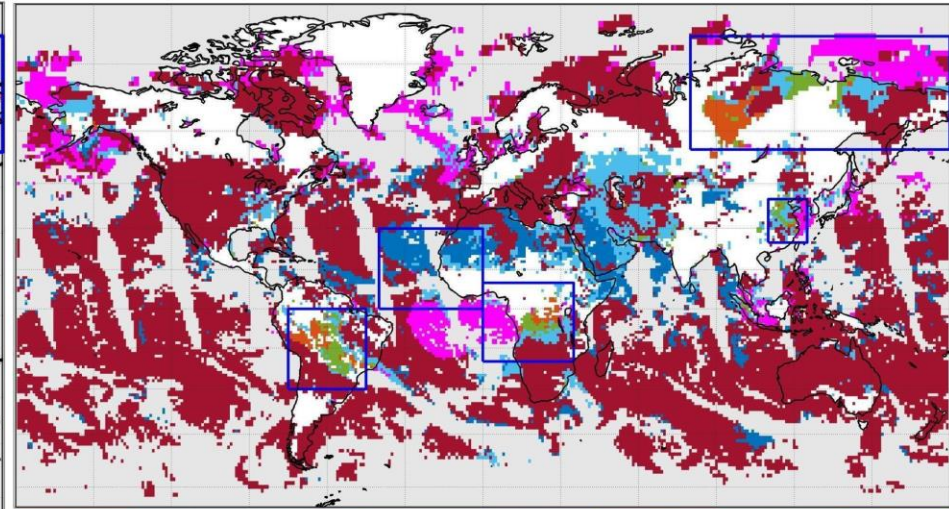
# Aerosol types

MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_L2 Aerosol Type



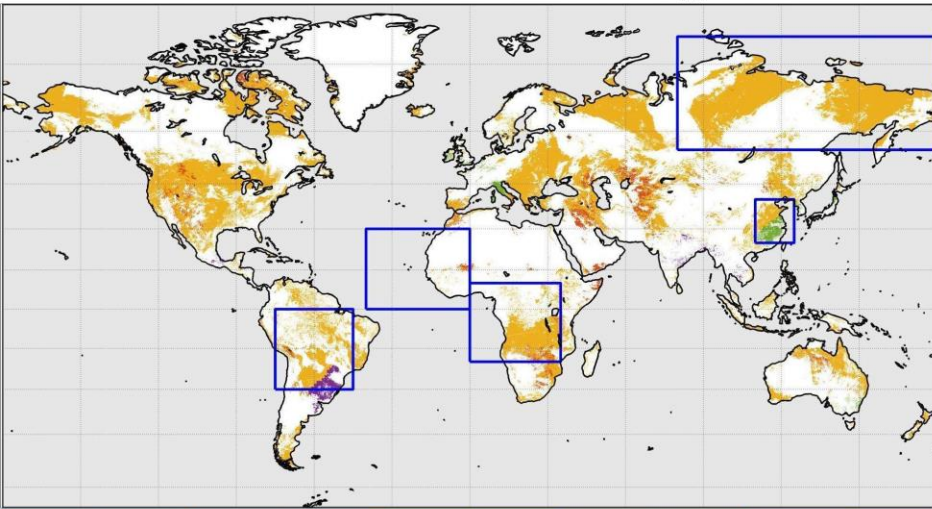
Continental moderate abs Fine strong abs Fine weakly wbs Fine Dust Coarse

VIIRS AERDB 2019-08-19 D3 Aerosol Type, mode

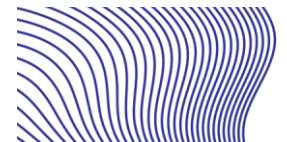


Dust Smoke h/a Smoke clouds n/smoke Fine Mixed Background Fine

VIIRS AERDT 2019-08-19 L2 Aerosol Type Land

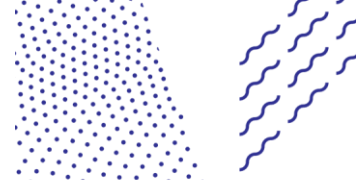


Continental moderate abs Fine strong abs Fine weakly wbs Fine Dust Coarse

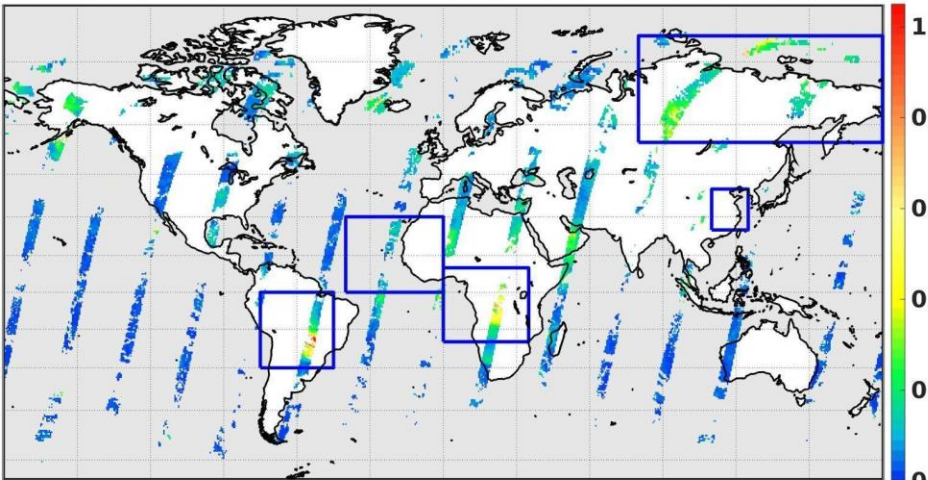




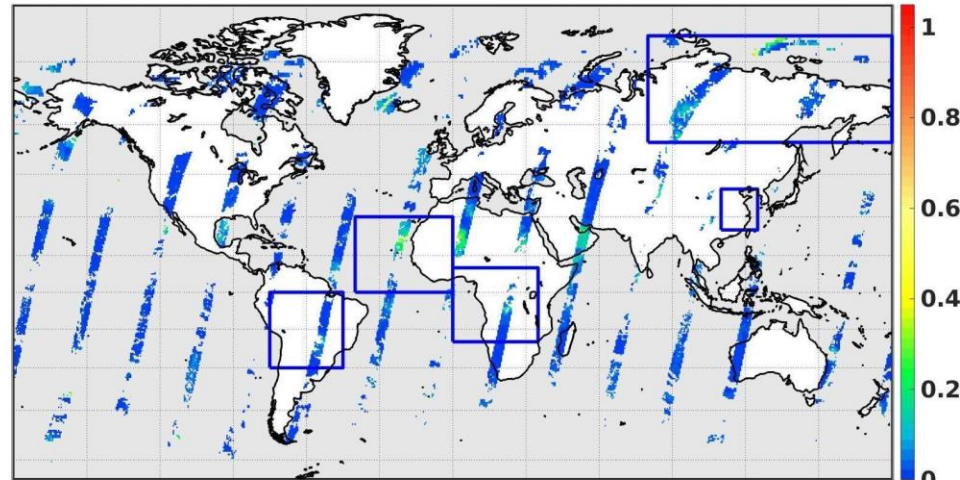
# Aerosol types (AOD)



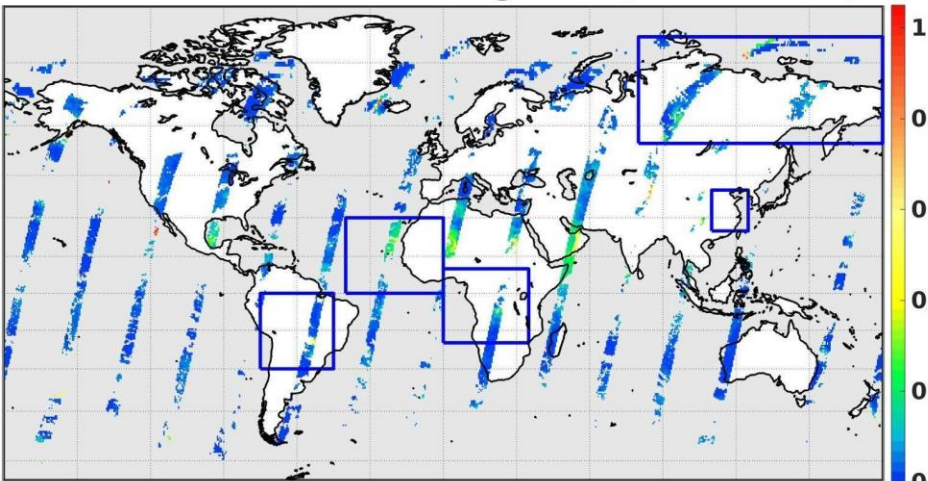
MISR 2019-08-19 D3 Small AOD ( $r < 0.35 \mu\text{m}$ )



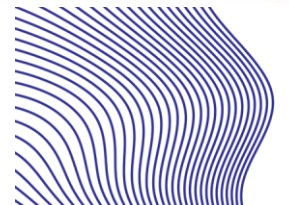
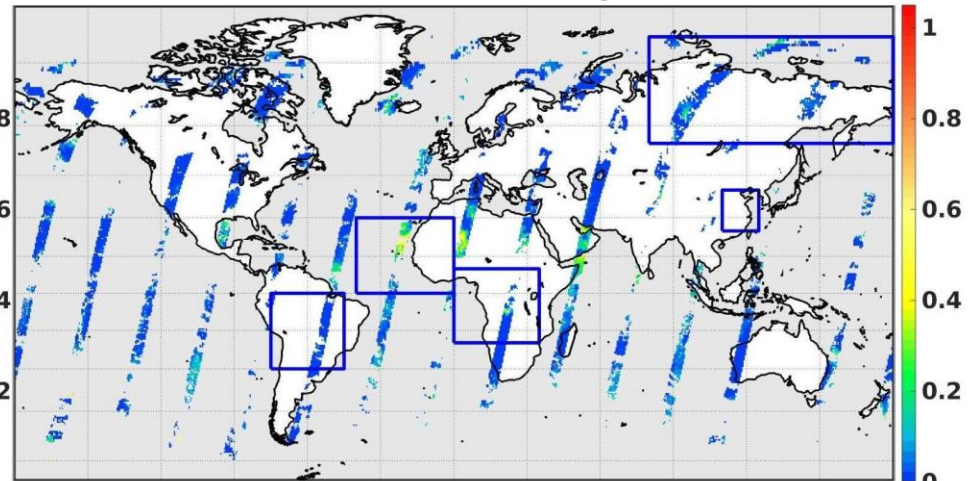
MISR 2019-08-19 D3 Medium AOD ( $r = 0.35 - 0.7 \mu\text{m}$ )



MISR 2019-08-19 D3 Large AOD ( $r > 0.7 \mu\text{m}$ )



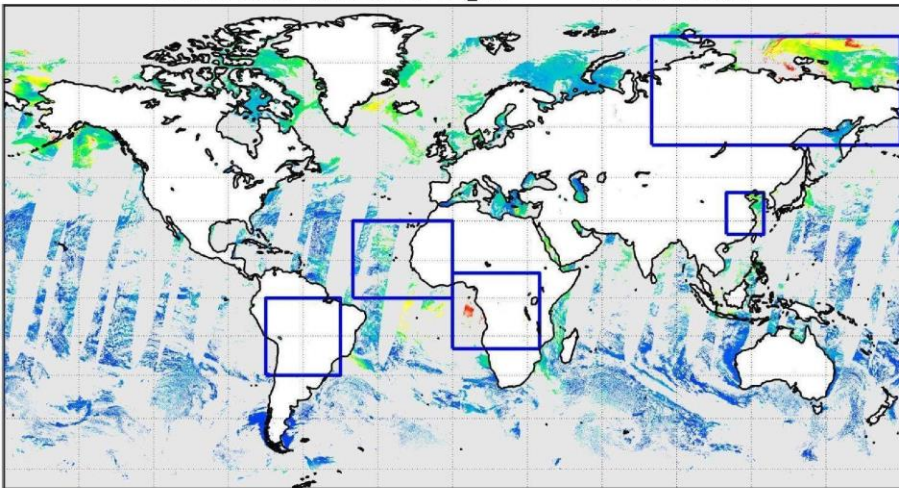
MISR 2019-08-19 D3 Nonspherical AOD



# Aerosol types (AOD)

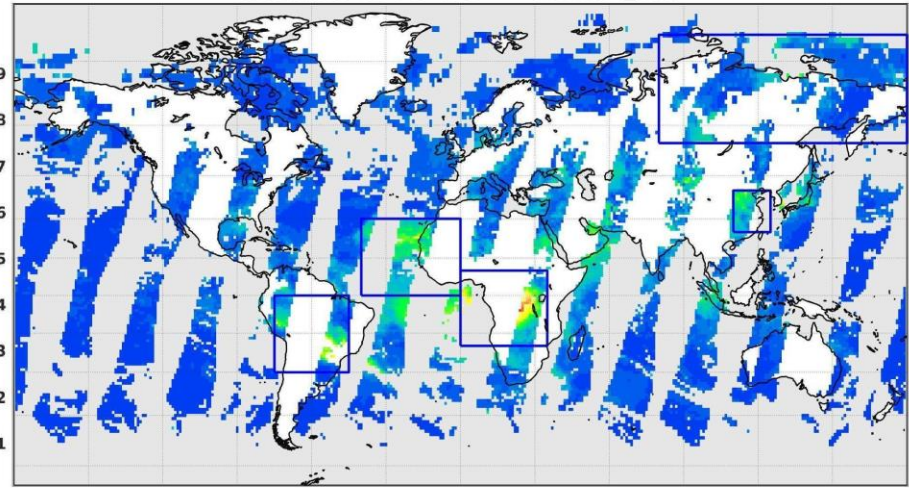
MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_3K

AOD550 small



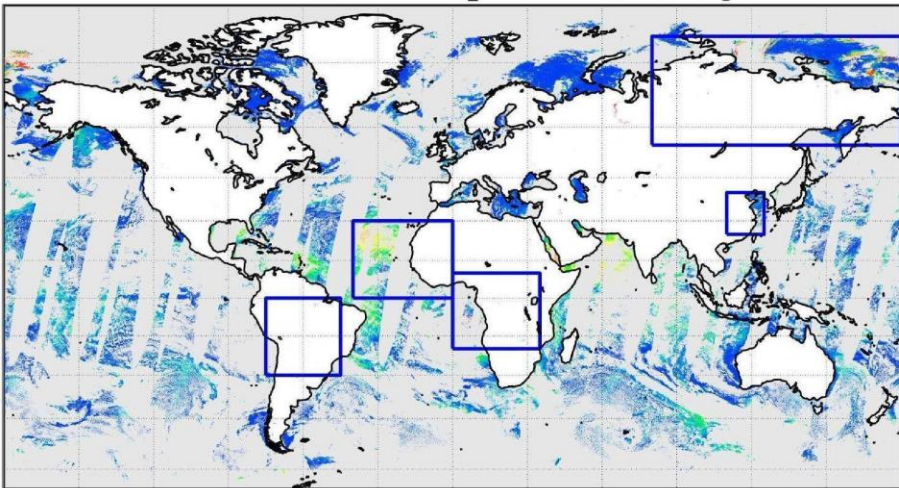
S3A 2019-08-19 D3

FM AOD\_550



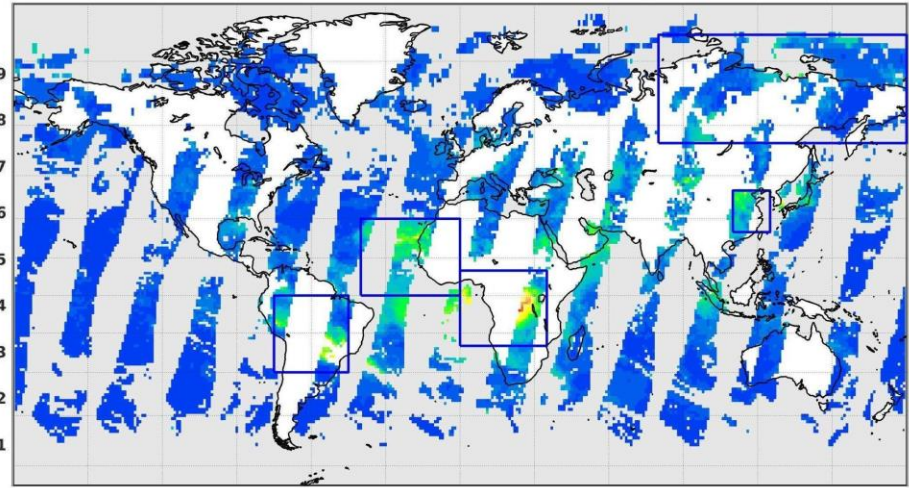
MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_3K

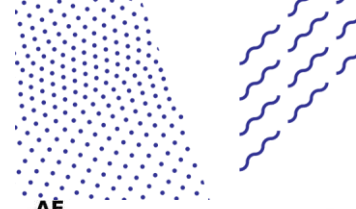
AOD550 large



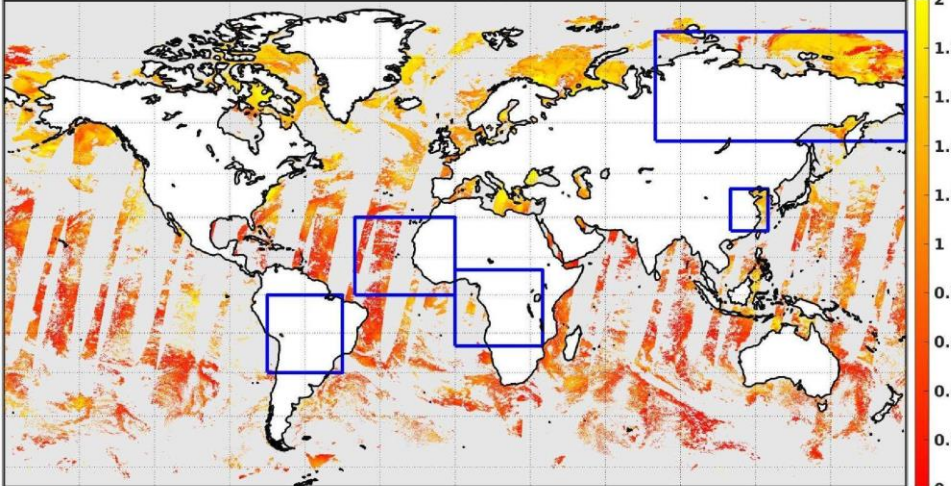
S3A 2019-08-19 D3

Dust AOD\_550

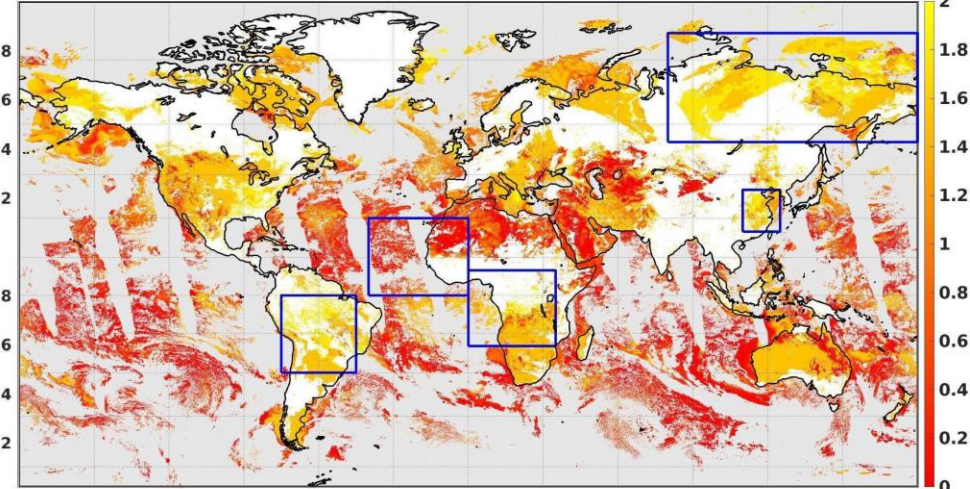




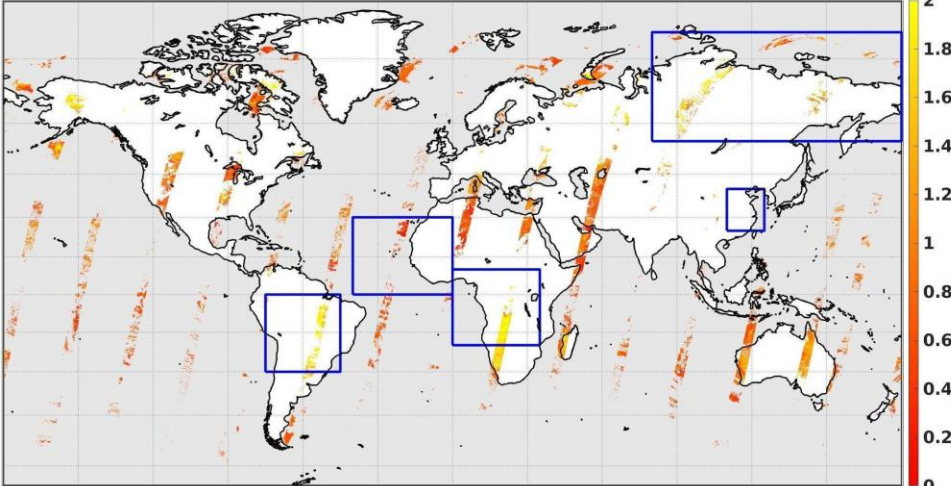
MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 04\_L2 AE 550/860nm



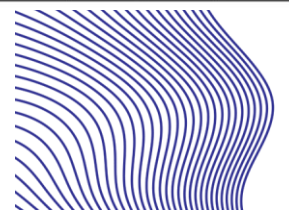
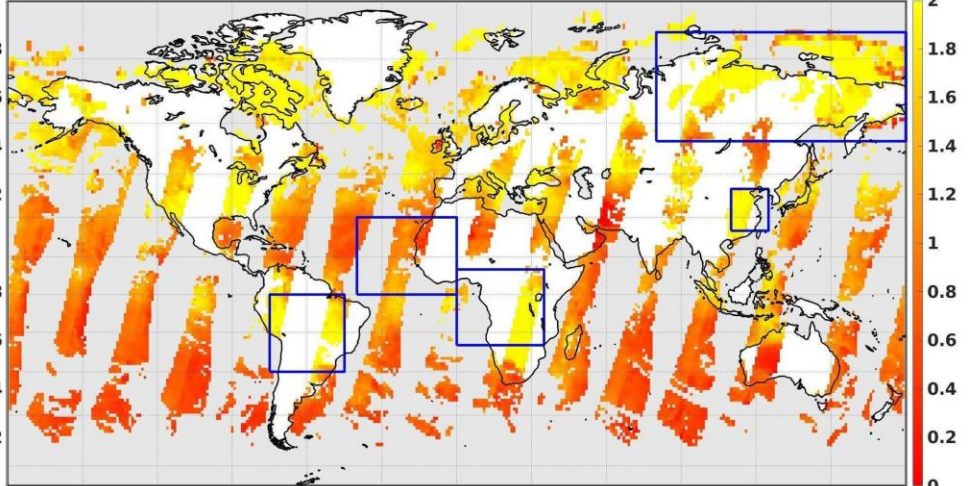
VIIRS AERDB 2019-08-19 L2 AE

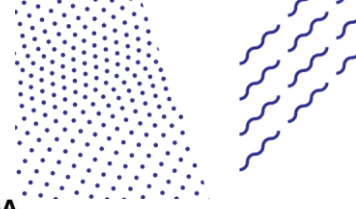


MISR 2019-08-19 L2 AE 550/860nm

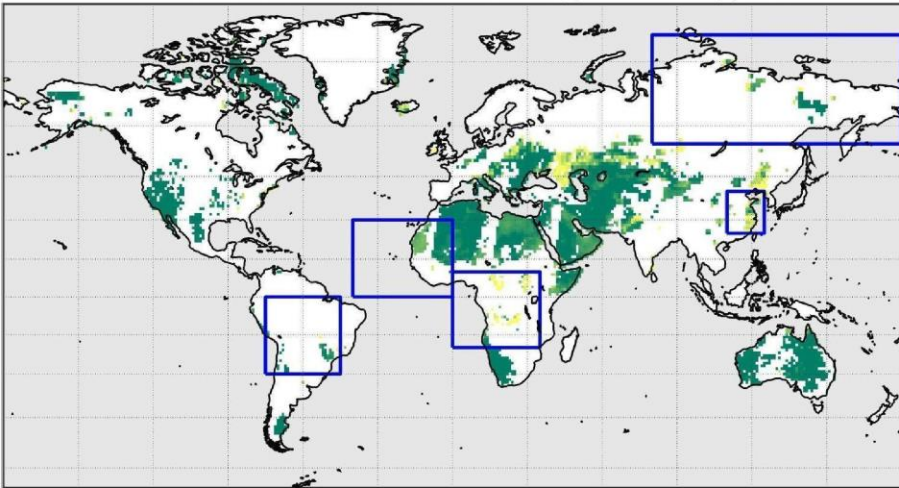


S3A 2019-08-19 D3 AE 550/870nm

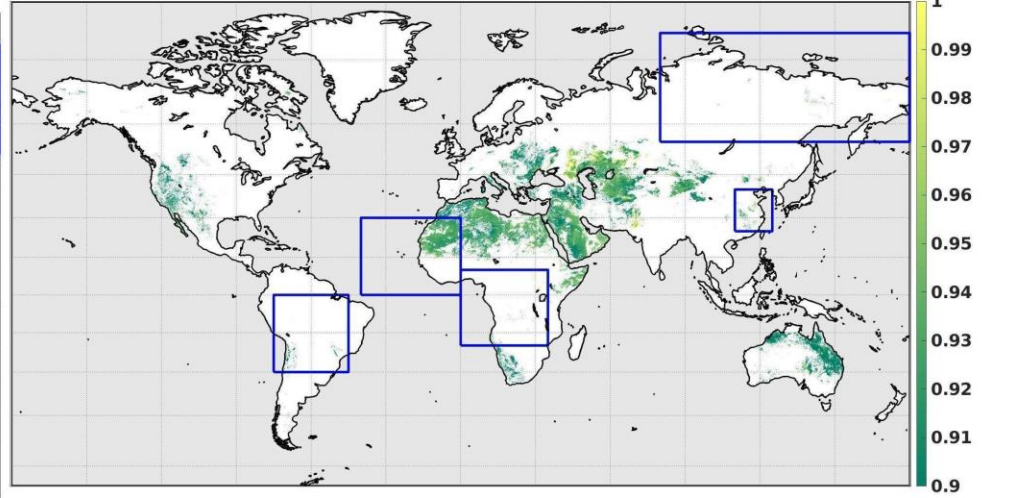




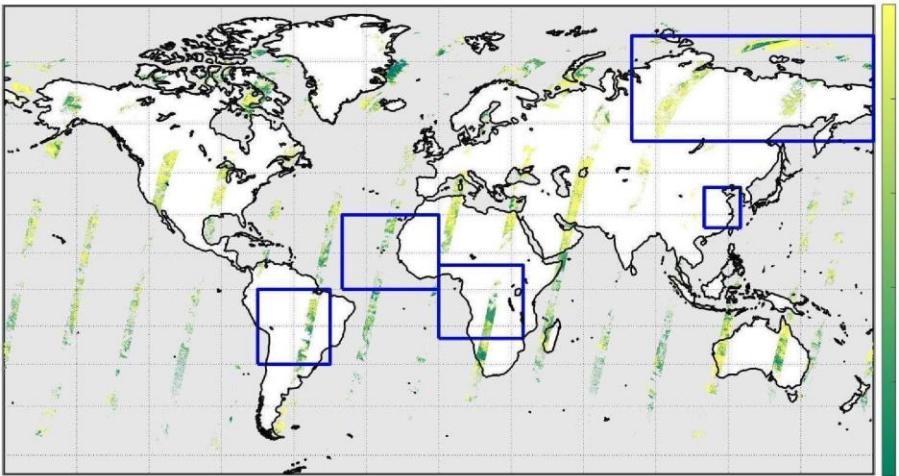
MODIS Terra 2019-08-19 08\_D3 SSA\_412



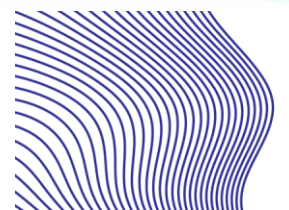
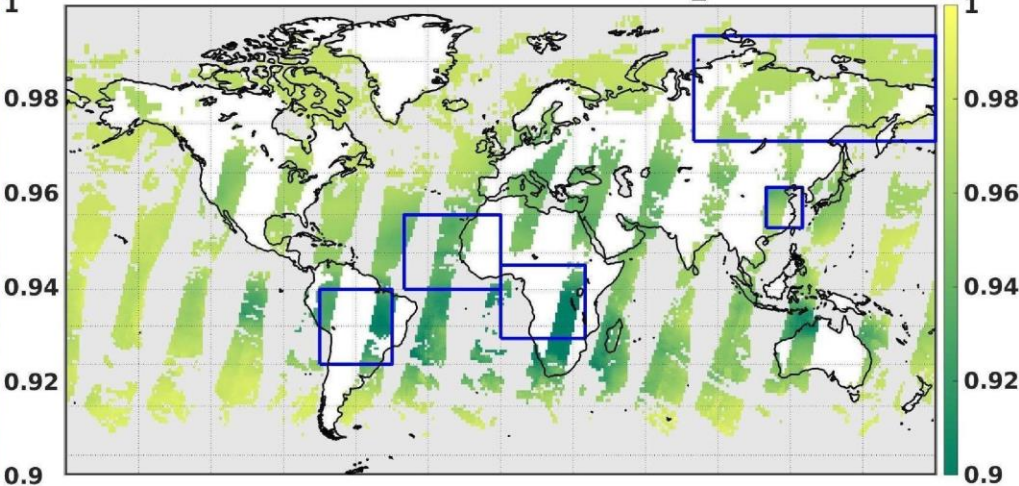
VIIRS AERDB 2019-08-19 L2 SSA



MISR 2019-08-19 L2 SSA 446



S3A 2019-08-19 D3 SSA\_550



# Conclusions

- The content of the AOD official products (MODIS; MISR; VIIRS; Sentinel-3A, POLDER) has been analyzed. Chosen products are summarized in the tables. **To do:**
  - Definitions for aerosol types (and other?) products should be added to the corresponding tables.
  - Content of the tables should be checked by data providers
- Only few products provide other than 550 nm AOD globally
- Aerosol type definitions differ considerably between the products
- 19 August 2019 was chosen for visual inter-comparison of similar products. **To do:**
  - For products not available for that period (POLDER; AATRS), the inter-comparison will be performed for another day (year 2010?)
- **To do:** validation/evaluation of the available products.
- **To do:** ..... – to be filled after discussions at AEROCOM/AEROSAT 2020

