Terra/Aqua MODIS Fire Product Continuity Sentinel-3 Pilot Study Update

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NASA's Land, Atmosphere Near Real-time Capability for EOS User Working Group Meeting 21–22 June 2023

Relevant Sensors

- Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)
 - On board NASA's Terra and Aqua satellites
- Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS)
 - On board NASA/NOAA Suomi-NPP, NOAA-20, and NOAA-21 satellites
- Sea and Land Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR)
 - On board ESA's Sentinel-3A and Sentinel-3B satellites



time \rightarrow

Planned: Sentinel-3C (~2024), Sentinel-3D (~2028), NOAA-22 (~2028), NOAA-23 (~2032)



Sentinel-3A/3B SLSTR

- 10:00 local crossing time (sun-synchronous orbit)
- Sea and Land Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR)
 - Oblique + nadir asymmetric conical scans
 - Quirks w/ respect to saturation and band-to-band co-registration
- Near-real time (NRT) and science-quality SLSTR active fire products available from EUMETSAT and ESA, respectively
 - Our focus is on SLSTR NRT active fire product for FIRMS

Summary of SLSTR Active-Fire Product Findings (1/3)

- Sentinel-3 NRT & standard ("NTC") fire products are two distinctive processing branches due to the different European Commission mandates
 - No requirement for NRT and standard products to be aligned
- NRT product actually contains four different active-fire products made with four different detection algorithms
- Each SLSTR reports \sim 3× as many fire pixels as Terra MODIS
 - Higher sensitivity, especially at night
 - Constrained pixel growth + wavelength
 - Higher false alarm rate, especially along cloud edges
 - MWIR/LWIR misregistration + wavelength
- Significant differences in distribution of fire radiative power (FRP)

Sentinel-3 L2 NRT FRP Algorithm Summary

copernicus.eumetsat.int





FRP SWIR (1 km)

EUM/SEN3/VWG/23/1352808, v1 Draft, 28 February 2023

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SLSTR Pixel Footprint



Xu et al. (2021, RSE)

LANCE User Working Group Meeting

Global Comparison

25 May 2023

25 May 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR NRT

MWIR Algorithm Fire Pixels

25 May 2023 - S3A/B SLSTR



25 May 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR NRT

Alternative MWIR Algorithm Fire Pixels

25 May 2023 - S3A/B SLSTR



25 May 2023 Terra MODIS

Fire Pixels



Global Comparison

1 January 2023

1 Jan. 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR NRT

MWIR Algorithm Fire Pixels



1 Jan. 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR NRT

Alternative MWIR Algorithm Fire Pixels

1 Jan. 2023 - S3A/B SLSTR



1 Jan. 2023 Terra MODIS

Fire Pixels

1 Jan. 2023 — Terra MODIS



1 Jan. 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR ESA NTC (Standard) Product

Fire Pixels

1 Jan. 2023 - S3A/B SLSTR



1 Jan. 2023 S3A+S3B SLSTR NRT

MWIR Algorithm Fire Pixels



Urban - Texas



Shrubland





log FRP (MW)

Summary of SLSTR Active-Fire Product Findings (2/3)

- Assorted practical (but mostly manageable) product issues
 - Cumbersome product format (zip files)
 - NRT product is \sim 60× larger than MODIS swath product
 - Standard product is \sim 300× larger than MODIS swath product
 - Significant differences in contents of standard vs. NRT products
 - Most/all production software is proprietary
 - Detailed description of NRT detection algorithms is not yet available
 - Unorthodox "shared" product layers contain the outputs of separate detection algorithms

Unorthodox SLSTR NRT Fire Product Convention

- Some product layers are shared by the different detection algorithms
- Interrogate confidence_MWIR layer to determine if fire pixel was identified by the MWIR-based detection algorithm and/or the EUMETSAT SWIR-based algorithm
 - confidence = $-100 \rightarrow SWIR$
 - confidence value for common detection is unclear
- Alternatively, interrogate FRP_MWIR layer
 - FRP = -1 MW \rightarrow SWIR

Fire Product Format: MODIS

MOD14.A2023145.0000.061.2023145092000.hdf

Each Level-2 HDF product file contains 5 minutes of swath data.

Fire Product Format: SLSTR

S3A SL 2 FRP 20230524T235743 20230525T000243 20230525T014005 0299 099 144 MAR O NR 002.SEN3.zip

- -- browse.jpg
- -- EOPMetadata.xml
- -- manifest.xml
- `-- S3B_SL_2_FRP___20230524T235324_20230525T000009_20230525T023043_0404_080_002____MAR_O_NR_002.SEN3
 - |-- FRP_in.nc
 - |-- geodetic_in.nc
 - `-- xfdumanifest.xml

Each Level-2 NRT product zip file contains 5 minutes of swath data.

Summary of SLSTR Active-Fire Product Findings (3/3)

- NRT fire product is not yet widely used but is actively being updated by EUMETSAT
 - Numerous recommendations from our team
 - Problems we have reported include blank entries, invalid sample numbers, invalid attribute values, errors in pixel-level flags and metadata
 - NRT product will remain in a state of flux over the short term
- Continuing false-alarm assessment to facilitate filtering in FIRMS