



NASA Earth Observing System

Quantifying Changes in Carbon Pools with Shrub Invasion of Desert Grasslands using Multi-Angular Data from EOS Terra and Aqua

- introduction and preliminary results –

Carbon Pools in Desert Grasslands from EOS

— project start July 2004 —

— people —

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overview

Goal: To improve estimates of above- and belowground C pools in desert grasslands by providing improved maps of:

- plant community type (Kremer & Running, 1993¹)
- canopy structural parameters
- soil/shrub/grass fractional cover

Method: exploit the unique information content of multi-angle remotely-sensed data from MISR and MODIS on NASA EOS satellites.

¹ See references on later slide.

why?

- 1. World-wide increase in woody plant abundance in grasslands since C19th, e.g. the SW US --> changes in C pools and cycling.
- 2. Our ability to model biogeochemical processes depends on knowledge of cover and community type (+ other parameters).
- 3. Moderate resolution Earth Observation is the only technology which provides a means to map changes in community type and structure <u>over large areas</u>.





Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge





The physical structure of plant communities is very different

Sacaton grasslands (SNWR)



Creosotebush shrublands (SNWR)

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The physical structure of plant communities is very different

Black grama grasslands (SNWR)



Honey mesquite dunes (JER)

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The physical structure of plant communities is very different

Black grama grasslands (SNWR)



Creosotebush shrublands (JER)

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The physical structure of plant communities is very different

Tarbush Shrubland (JER)

Broom snakeweed (JER)

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The physical structure of communities is very different (also spectral differences)





Annuals (JER)

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Work with the AVHRRs (AM+PM)...

Iso-Geo-Vol FCC: LiSparse-RossThin kernel weights from the AVHRR VIS BAND ONLY. The unique information content of multiangular imagery is important.





Kernel weights from BRDF model fitting using just the VISIBLE AVHRR channel

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work with the AVHRRs

Experiments in **NM and Inner** Mongolia grasslands² show there is great potential for exploiting the angular signal to map plant communities cf. Pinty et al. 2002³ & many others.



Remote Sensing Approaches

- Kernel-driven and MPRV BRDF model inversions (both 3-parameter models)*
- Geometric-optical models (GO) and derived models; e.g. GORT, SGM, FLAIR
- Empirical & derived measures: ANIX (anisotropy index); NDAX (surrogate for spectral variability of BRDF); Structural Scattering Index (Gao *et al.* 2003⁴); Clumping Index (Chen *et al.*, 2003⁵).



Current Work with MISR & MODIS

MISR Product: Level 1B2 Terrain Data (MI1B2T) at 275 m: red for all cameras and all bands for the An camera. **MODIS Product: MOD09 (nadir & off-nadir** surface reflectance estimates at 250 m). **Bounding coordinates:** -105.5 to -111.0 degrees W 31.2 to 35.0 degrees N **Dates:** May 15 - June 15, 2002 (end of dry season).

Current Work with MISR & MODIS



MISR & MODIS: "9x9" Processing



MISR & MODIS: "9x9" Data- complementarity

Angular sampling in June 2002 (9 days)

* MISR
△ MODIS
(Terra)



MISR/MRPV $\rho 0$ and AOD (Orbit 013039)



* if MISR data are missing, the AOD defaults to ~0.2 (~16 km visibility)

MISR MRPV rho0 image MISR Aerosol Optical Depth @ 550nm (ROYGBIV = 0.251 to 0.001)

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LiSparse-RossThin model kernel weights







LiSparse-RossThin model kernel weights



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LiSparse-RossThin model kernel weights

Our work with MODIS shows that we have some further work to do on cloud and cloud shadow screening.

Note that the artefacts are only apparent in anisotropic kernel weight images.



Community Type Mapping

Jornada and Sevilleta Vegetation Maps were used to collect "signatures" from these data:

1. An camera multi-spectral (blue, green, red, NIR)

- 2. MRPV BRDF model parameters*
- 3. LiSparse-RossThin BRDF model parameters*

* Adjusted against MISR, MODIS and MISR +MODIS BRF data sets.

Community Type Mapping

Jornada Vegetation Map (Jornada LTER)

In 1998 aerial photography and field data were combined to create a current vegetation map of species composition and dominant species, including major plant communities. Using 1996 aerial photos, up to four major dominant species were estimated for each vegetation type.

Community Type Mapping

Sevilleta NWR Vegetation Map (SNWR LTER)

The map includes 13 vegetation classes derived from an unsupervised classification of 12 Landsat TM images (NDVI transformed) collected in various seasons over a seven year period from 1987. A plant classification at the association level was developed from which the initial 32 images classes were combined into the final 13 classes.

MISR/MRPV parameters



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MISR/MRPV parameters

MISR/MRPV b parameter: Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge





	Water or Wet Grooms
	Barren or Sparsely Vegetateo
	Great Besin Grassiands (Galleta and Indian Ricegrass Grasslands)
	Transition Chinuanuan and Great Basin Grasslands (Elack Grama Grasslands with Galerta)
	Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands (Black Gräma Grasslands)
	Transition Chihuahuan and Plams Grassiands (Black Grama Grasslands with Blue Grama)
	Plains Grassiands (Blue Grana and Harry Grana Grasslands)
	Chihuahaan in Gwal Basin Lowand/Swale Gravillands (Alkili or Giant Sacator Gravilands)
	Chihuahuan Desert Strubjands (Creosuteouun Strubjands)
	Great Basin Stiruplands (Fouriving Saltbush or Broom Dales)
-	Rocky Mountain Coniller Savanna (Oneseed Juniper Woodlands)
	Rocky Moontain Con Mr Woodlands (Pinyon Woodlands)
	Rio Grande Ripanan Woodlands (Rio Grande Cottonwood and Saft Cedar Ripanan Woodlands)

Breaks (N.B. colors are not matched but distributions are similar).

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LCLUC Science Team Meeting: C Pools from EOS MISR & MODIS

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MISR iso, geo, vol



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Distance Measure: Travillening Deveryonce

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Contention

MISR+MODIS iso, geo, vol



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MISR MRPV

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House I and the R. S. S.

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Distance Measure: Transformed Diversion:

Using Layers: 1 2.3 4 Total Annual Inne Dest Average Separahility: 15 Contaminer: 1 2 5 A	1011)	932	2		M	ISR	Al	N (I	R, (G, E	3, N	IR))		0	ТD	<1()00	
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And an and Management Property of

Data Set	Mean TD*	# TD<1000
MISR MRPV _{red} +AN _{RGBNIR}	1973	0
MISR AN (R, G, B, NIR)	1932	1
MISR iso, geo, vol	1867	7
MISR+MODIS iso, geo, vol	1839	8
MISR MRPV	1744	13
MODIS iso, geo, vol	1723	13
MODIS+MISR MRPV	1653	17
MODIS MRPV	1624	29

Divoriate Distribution DDE





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jer_blackgrama

jer_burrograss

LCLUC Science Team Meeting: C Pools from EOS MISR & MODIS

Rivariato Distribution PDFs



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Rivariate Distribution PDFs



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Rivariate Distribution PDFs



January 11, 2005

Rivariata Distribution PDFs



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<u>Riveriete Dictribution of MPPV k and b</u>



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The separability and PDF results are confirmed in contingency tests (classifications of the training sites) --maximum likelihood --no prior probabilities --angular signatures via red bands only --spectral data (MISR R, G, B, NIR)

Contingency: MISR An -spectral

jer_othershrubs
jer_burrograss
jer_tobosa
jer_transition
 jer_creosote
jer_blackgrama
jer_sporobolis
jer_tarbush
 jer_mesquitedunes

Other colors represent classes belonging to the Sevilleta



Contingency: MRPV_MISR_r ed band + An_all_bands

jer_othershrubs
jer_burrograss
jer_tobosa
jer_transition
jer_creosote
jer_blackgrama
jer_sporobolis
jer_tarbush
jer_mesquitedunes

Other colors represent classes belonging to the Sevilleta



Contingency: MRPV (MISR red band)

jer_othershrubs
jer_burrograss
jer_tobosa
jer_transition
 jer_creosote
jer_blackgrama
jer_sporobolis
jer_tarbush
 jer_mesquitedunes

Other colors represent classes belonging to the Sevilleta



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Contingency: MISR (iso-geo-vol, red band)

-	jer_othershrubs
	jer_burrograss
	jer_tobosa
	jer_transition
	jer_creosote
	jer_blackgrama
	jer_sporobolis
	jer_tarbush
	jer_mesquitedunes

Other colors represent classes belonging to the Sevilleta



Contingency: MODIS (iso-geo-vol, red band)

jer_othershrubs
jer_burrograss
jer_tobosa
jer_transition
 jer_creosote
jer_blackgrama
jer_sporobolis
jer_tarbush
jer_mesquitedunes

Other colors represent classes belonging to the Sevilleta



CONCLUSIONS

- Multiangle data from MISR and MODIS show potential for improving community type mapping.
- The improvements obtained here are not as important as expected: this may be related to the lack of variation in the solar zenith angle.
- We will review Li-Ross and MRPV approaches while also investigating other methods which may be less sensitive to the angular sampling (e.g., GO modeling) and multiangle metrics (SSI, CI, ANIX).

Plans for Work in Immediate Future

- □ Incorporate NIR band data and model parameters.
- Investigate different combinations of MISR views.
- □ Improve screening for cloud and cloud shadow.
- Extend temporal sampling to the end of the wet season -- we expect this to produce better results.
- Check signature distributions for normality and modify the set of classes accordingly.

Plans for Work in Medium Term

- □ Investigate other multiangle metrics (SSI, ANIX...)
- ☐ Investigate other classification schemes (SVMs).
- □ Incorporate soil information.

Investigate other modeling methods (GO models;
 this requires e.g., that we address the background
 problem for GO modeling in desert grasslands).





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GO modeling in Desert Grasslands



We have been investigating the potential for using a model based on geometric-optics (GO) to retrieve information on shrub cover, density, size and shape. Principles:



How does a GO model respond to very heterogeneous canopies?
-- are GO principles violated in this case?
-- do GO models operate on mean parameter values?



Can GO models work for very heterogeneous canopies which have a highly variable and bright understorey?



Note: MODIS/MISR fields of view are appropriate.

Can GO models work for very heterogeneous canopies which have highly variable and bright understoreys, <u>on different soils</u>?



Conclusions to date: GO models have been demonstrated as useful tools for forested environments but are more challenging in arid environments: here, the magnitude and anisotropy of the remotely-sensed signal is dominated by the "background" comprised of varying proportions of exposed soil, grasses, litter and forbs. We are investigating ways of obtaining the background BRDF in order to isolate the effects of the larger canopy elements, e.g., to estimate shrub abundance.