GlobColour: Progress and achievements

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ACRI-ST

July climatologies - 10 year GlobColour Time series
The GlobColour Concept

ESA’s goal in creating GlobColour

• To satisfy emerging demand for validated merged ocean colour derived products expressed by global ocean colour user community (IOCCG, IOCCP)
• To satisfy operational oceanography requirements (for data assimilation)
• To support development of a European satellite based ocean colour data service having the capacity to continue production of such time series (both archive and NRT) in the future and to prepare for full exploitation of Sentinel 3

• Specific objectives of the GlobColour Service
  – Develop the software systems to support the Service (1)
  – Operate the service by delivering specific validated products :
    • 10 year global archive of merged MERIS-MODIS-SeaWiFS ocean colour products at 4.6 km resolution (2)
    • Produce GlobColour diagnostic data set (DDS) (3)
    • NRT global service at 4.6 km resolution (4)
  – Develop a user base for GlobColour products (5)
GlobColour
DUE project – 3 years – 3 phases

Phase 1 (2006) : Demonstration of feasibility
Phase 2 (2007) : Generation and validation of 10 year time series
Phase 3 (2008) : Daily delivery of global merged ocean colour products

– First objective : Develop the software systems to support the Service
  • Achieved in one year, validated at the first UCM in Villefranche, December 2006
    ➢ Initial merging candidates and products selection according to users requirements
    ➢ Characterisation
    ➢ System
      ▪ Globcolour processor
      ▪ Globcolour tools
      ▪ Web
GlobColour – Data merging

Algorithm inter-comparison and trade-off analysis against in situ data

Merging recommendations:

**Weighted averaging** of bio-optical properties (chl-a)

**GSM01 model** (Maritorena et al., 2002)

- **Input**
  - $L_{w_n}(l)$ from all available sensors
  - + sensor specific error estimates

- **Model**
  - Inversion procedure of a bio-optical merging model

- **Output**
  - Several bio-geochemical products
  - + error estimates per pixel
Sensor characterisation

SeaWiFS

MODIS

MERIS

**CHL**

**K490**

**L490**

In-situ Diagnostic Data Set for characterisation and validation

Achievement

Statistical uncertainties have been derived and are used for the data merging

see Samantha Lavender’s presentation
GlobColour processor

Main modules
- Data acquisition
- Pre-processing
- Spatial binning
- Temporal binning
- Merging
- Formatting (netCDF, JPG/PNG)

Data Volumes
- More than 25 Tb of input data (level 2)
- 14 Tb of intermediate products
- 4.5 Tb of distributed data

Off-line and NRT production

see Gilbert Barrot’s presentation
GlobColour products

Daily, 8-days, monthly products (4.6 km)

- Normalised water-leaving radiance @ 412, 443, 490, 510, 531, 555, 620 nm
- Water-leaving radiance @ 670, 681, 709 nm
- Particle backscattering coefficient (bbp443)
- CDM absorption (aCDM443)
- Chlorophyll concentration (Chla)
- Total Suspended Matter
- Diffuse attenuation coefficient @ 490nm (Kd490)
- Aerosol Optical Thickness (T865)
- Data quality flags
- Cloud fraction
- Excess of radiance at ~ 555 nm (turbidity index) (EL555)
- GSM01 error estimates per pixel for each layer

MODIS-only, MERIS-only

+ new demonstration products PAR, Secchi disk depth, heated layer in 2008

see André Morel’s presentation
GlobColour
DUE project – 3 years – 3 phases

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– Second and third objective : Operate the service by delivering specific validated products
  ❖ 10 year global archive of merged MERIS-MODIS-SeaWiFS ocean colour products at 4.6 km resolution
  ❖ Produce GlobColour diagnostic data set (DDS)
• Achieved in one year, validated at the second UCM in Oslo, November 2007
  ➢ Service/production
  ➢ Validation (validation protocol, match-up analysis)
Product examples

Match-up analyses (OBPG/NOMAD/BOUSSOLE) & product inter-comparison show:

- Error statistics of the merged data are in general better than data from the three individual sensors
- The normalized water-leaving radiance at 490 nm is the most homogeneous product among the 3 sensors
- GlobColour GSM01 merging algorithm shows to be quite robust over coastal waters
Inter-comparison with other initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input Data</th>
<th>REASoN</th>
<th>NASA OBPG</th>
<th>GlobColour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• SeaWiFS</td>
<td>• SeaWiFS</td>
<td>• MERIS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• MODIS-AQUA</td>
<td>• MODIS-AQUA</td>
<td>• SeaWiFS,</td>
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<td>• MODIS-AQUA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merging method</td>
<td>GSM01 model (merges Lwn(λ))</td>
<td>Weighted average</td>
<td>GSM01 model (with Lwn(λ) weighting)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Weighted average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td>CHL</td>
<td>CHL</td>
<td>19 products</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CDM</td>
<td></td>
<td>(uncertainties for some)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BBP</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(uncertainties for daily products)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spatial, temporal resolution</td>
<td>9 km Daily, 4-Day, 8-Day, Monthly</td>
<td>9 km Daily, 8-Day, Monthly, Seasonally, Yearly</td>
<td>4.5 km, 1/4', 1' Daily, 8-Day, Monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The CHL products, merged or from only the individual sensors are consistent and agree well
- MERIS alone tends to produce higher CHL values than SeaWiFS or AQUA
- AQUA alone tends to produce lower CHL values than SeaWiFS or MERIS

Validation results presented at the 2nd user workshop in Oslo, Nov 2007
www.enviport.org/globcolour/validation/
GlobColour uncertainties estimates
Qualification of retrieval – Chi-2 Indicator

NOMAD – V2.0

16 June 2004 - Global

CHI2 (GSM GlobColour model)
GlobColour uncertainties estimates
Qualification of retrieval – Chl-a error estimate

16 June 2004 - Global

If the orange dots are reliable standard deviation – there should be, statistically, about 68% of blue points below the corresponding orange points (+/-1σ)
GlobColour uncertainties estimates
Qualification of retrieval – CDM error estimate

NOMAD – V2.0

CDM (GSM GlobColour model) error
CDM (GSM GlobColour model)

Uncertainties estimates (outputs of GSM)
Actual difference (absolute) between observed and retrieved

If the orange dots are reliable standard deviation – there should be, statistically, about 68% of blue points below the corresponding orange points (+/-1σ)
GlobColour uncertainties estimates
Qualification of retrieval – bbp error estimate

NOMAD – V2.0
16 June 2004 - Global

If the orange dots are reliable standard deviation – there should be, statistically, about 68% of blue points below the corresponding orange points (+/-1σ)

Uncertainties estimates (outputs of GSM)
Actual difference (absolute) between observed and retrieved
GlobColour uncertainties estimates
Qualification of retrieval – Error estimates

Transition from $(X, \sigma)$ couple to reduced variable $X/\sigma$
should follow a standard centered normal distribution.

Chla and bbp error estimates are reliable
Error estimates on $a_{CDM}$ are questionnable
GlobColour

DUE project – 3 years – 3 phases

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GlobColour
DUE project – 3 years – 3 phases

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– Fourth objective : NRT global service at 4.6 km
  • Achieved since July 2008

– Fifth objective : Develop a user base for GlobColour products
  • Started to grow in 2008

➢ Data access
➢ Communication
➢ Validation (continuous)

see Gilbert Barrot’s presentation
see Samantha Lavender’s presentations
http://www.globcolour.info/
http://hermes.acri.fr/

GC data ordering (archive)

GC data ordering (NRT)

GC subscriptions (NRT)

GC ftp access (archive, NRT)

GC products on-line visualisation

NRT global 4.6 km and NRT 1km for user defined RoI (subscriptions)

Allows geographical extraction of archived and NRT products

see Gilbert Barrot’s presentation
Archive access through GlobColour ftp: 164 users
   28000 products
   339 Gb

Archive access through HERMES web: 66 users
   34000 products
   710 Gb

Also: Archive access through WDC – MARE
Archive specific requests: where?

Increase of the number of users after the announcement of the HERMES server on: ESA EO web site, IOCCG News and NASA OBPG News
GlobColour

Hermes NRT Subscription - Nbr of users / country

NRT subscriptions: 26 users
1673 products

Double in two months
NRT subscriptions: where
The GlobColour service satisfying all the initial requirements is in place and ready to continue:
- The GlobColour 10 year archive is fully available and easily accessible
- The NRT Service is operational
- The User Base is growing fast (256 users in November 2008)

GlobColour products are at least as accurate as the individual sensor products. In most cases they are better. User feedback is very positive.

Globcolour brings several benefits over existing products:
- better sampling of the daily variability
- inclusion of error estimates at pixel level, …
  (Maritorena et al. 2008, Ocean Color merged data sets: benefits and challenges, under preparation)

GlobColour is a step towards meeting the requirements for an ocean colour Essential Climate Variable, but more work needs to be done!
(Siegel et al. 2008, Challenges Facing the Creation of Satellite Ocean Color Climate Data Records, under preparation)

remember André Morel’s talk yesterday
Perspectives

- The GlobColour archive will be soon obsolete: a reprocessing should be planned in 2009.

- International Collaboration? GlobColour has already favoured international collaboration (NASA, ESA), as well as with the international scientific community.

- International forum? In combination with MERIS, and OLCI dedicated forum?

- Users want a coastal version of GlobColour => GlobColour 2 (?)

- GlobColour time-series production will continue as part of the EC Kopernikus (GMES) Marine Core Service from 2009 onwards with French national and regional support (REGICOLOUR, INFOCEAN-DESK)

- Real-time monitoring of GlobColour data quality and error estimates (Oceanographic Autonomous Observations that would feed MDB and DDS ala Medspiration)
Acknowledgement

➢ The team is grateful to ESA, and in particular to the Data User Element Programme, to have initiated and funded the GlobColour project.

➢ GlobColour has largely benefited from NASA contributions, including the availability of the MODIS and SeaWiFS products; as well as the in situ data base of radiometric and phytoplankton pigment data, and other oceanographic and atmospheric data: SeaBASS (Werdell and Bailey, 2002).

Thank you!

www.globcolour.info
hermes.acri.fr
Where would we be without GlobColour?

Thank you ESA!

Thank you Olivier!

Thank you Simon!