

3485196317-52394-17119-184-242

From: "Roger N. Clark" <rclark@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thu, 02 Sep 2010 14:48:07
To: FOIA0105@usgs.gov
Subject: [Fwd: Making a newer oil volume estimate]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Making a newer oil volume estimate
Date: Mon, 7 Jun 2010 15:18:11 -0600 (MDT)
From: Roger N. Clark <rclark@speclab1.cr.usgs.gov>
Reply-To: rclark@speclab.cr.usgs.gov
To: elivo@usgs.gov, gplumlee@usgs.gov, gswayze@usgs.gov, raymond@usgs.gov, thoeffen@usgs.gov, vlabson@usgs.gov
CC: rclark@usgs.gov

Vic,

Gregg tells me we have pressure to make volume estimates using newer remote sensing data, particularly with MODIS. Traditional remote sensing can not do the job of AVIRIS. This has been tried before and is not reliable. I'm not even uncomfortable with the projection we did from the AVIRIS to the MODIS scale in the paper when we have data on the same day. The problem with traditional broad band remote sensing is that the signal one measures can be influenced by many factors, including time of day with variable sun glint, and sea surface state (wind and waves) changing the apparent signal. The reason it works for aviris is we use continuum-removed spectral features to identify the different conditions. The continuum removal compensates for level shifts that can't be done with traditional remote sensing.

The best bet is to get a new aviris flight. But to process a new aviris flight, we need the whole team (Gregg, Eric, Todd, Ray and myself). At the moment, with Ray and Todd in the field, that leaves Gregg and Eric in house to push data through. It was a tough job

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with 5 of us working 12 hour days. It is pretty much impossible with only 2 poeple in house (3 after I get back on Friday evening).

In any case, the effort to do a credible new volume estimate requires new aviris data and an adequately staffed team. The team is getting pretty tired and needs some recuperation time having worked long hours for weeks.

Roger