MODIS Lab Biology 3380, Advanced Ecology

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Modis Lab



Electromagnetic radiation



Remotely Sensed Radiation Reflectance



Chlorophyll absorption spectrum



Chlorophyll reflectance of radiation



Surface reflectance of solar radiation



Vegetation reflectance of radiation



Normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI)

NDVI = (NIR-RED)/(NIR+RED)

NDVI is an estimate of leaf area using remote sensing data of reflectance of red (RED) and near infrared (NIR) wavelengths from the surface.





FPAR is the fraction of incoming solar radiation that is absorbed by vegetation and is roughly equivalent to NDVI.

*Note: there are problems with estimates from remotely sensed data but it's a good start to measuring surrogates to GPP on a global scale.

Lab Instructions

Generate a hypothesis and prediction from something you have heard about that has caused a change in vegetation cover.

Example: There has been a large impact on the (vegetation type/surface cover) in (location) due to (type of disturbance/climate change) over (time period). It has caused the conversion of (vegetation type/surface type) to (reduced or increased vegetation cover) across an area the size of (number).

Hypothesis: Due to the large-scale change in vegetation cover at (location) over (time period), and the sensitivity of NDVI to leaf area, we should detect a difference in NDVI at (location) over (time period).

Prediction: We predict that the NDVI of a homogenous surface area at (location) is (higher/lower) at (date) compared with (date).

Go to the Modis website and order your NDVI data here: http://daac.ornl.gov/cgi-bin/MODIS/GLBVIZ_1_Glb/modis_subset_order_global_col5.pl





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GeoTIFF Options

Generate GeoTIFF in MODIS Sinusoidal Projection

Cenerate GeoTIFF and Reproject to Geographic Lat/long







Lab Report

Title	Informative description of the essence of the paper
List of Authors	Names of people who actively participated in the experiment
Introduction	Describes your study's objectives, and how it fits in with your previous knowledge in this area.
	The Introduction explains why your study is important, and how it seeks to extend your
	knowledge. It also provides the rationale for any hypotheses that you hope to test.
Methods	Explains, in a way that is repeatable, how the study was conducted.
Results	Shows the summarized data, usually some form of graphic illustration, from your study; and
	tells the reader what was found from the data collected.
Discussion	Describes your results to the reader. Here you can say if you supported your hypothesis,
	describe how your results relate to existing knowledge, talk about inconsistencies in the data,
	discuss sources of error, and future extensions of your work.
References	Journal articles, textbooks, or peer-reviewed websites that you referred to in the body of your
	paper (subject to strict formatting rules).
Appendix	Data used to compile graphic illustrations used in the Results, along with samples of any
	calculations used to manipulate the data.

Length 6-10 pages