

Exercise: Access and Visualize MODIS Level-2 Chlorophyll Concentration for Lake Victoria Using Ocean Color

Amita Mehta

5 September 2018



Objective

- Search and download MODIS chlorophyll Level-2 data for past and near real-time monitoring



Access, Visualize, and Download MODIS Level-2 Data

1. Go to the OceanColor Web data portal: <https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov>
Under the **Data** tab, select **Level 1 & 2 Browser**. This will bring you to the data search and selection page.



Access, Visualize, and Download MODIS Level-2 Data

3. On this page you can select the desired data product:
 - Check the box next to **MODIS Aqua**
 - Check both the **Day** and **Night** boxes
4. On the calendar below the map, select August 2018 (you can highlight multiple dates on the calendar to view images for more dates)
 - Note: Set the **Display Results** to view more dates at a time
5. From the **Select one or more regions** on right-hand side menu, select **Lake Victoria** from the pre-defined regions
 - Note: Every time you select the date you may have to select the region again

Access, Visualize, and Download Chlorophyll Concentration Data

- Click **Find Swaths**. Here you can view the available data and request to order the products. You will see the results on the screen.
- Click on the top right icon to see the color bar.

The screenshot shows the Ocean Color Web interface. At the top, there are navigation icons and a 'Color Bar' icon. Below this is a 'Sensor Selection' panel with checkboxes for various sensors like SeaWiFS, MODIS, MERIS, and OLCI. A 'Year Selection' table is visible, showing data from 2002 to 2018. A world map displays chlorophyll concentration data for August 2018. To the right, there are 'Pre-Defined Region' and 'Selection by Latitude-Longitude' options. A 'Find Swaths' button is also present.

Sensor Selection →

Year Selection →

Pre-Defined Region

Selection by Latitude-Longitude

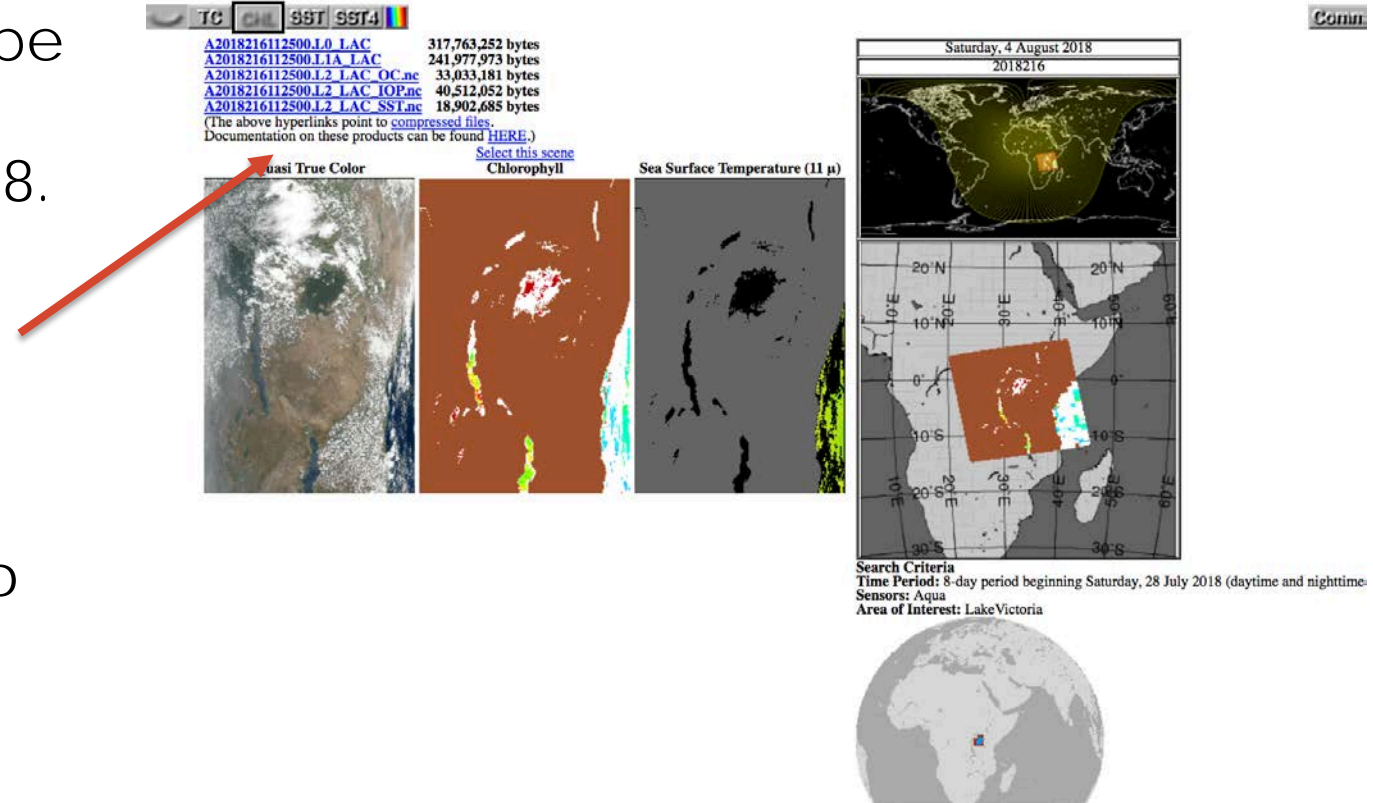
Find the Swath with Entered Parameters

Month & Day Selection

gene carl feldman (gene.c.feldman@nasa.gov) (301) 286-9428

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8. By clicking on the image, you will be taken to the dataset's webpage. Select the image for August 4, 2018.
9. From here you can download the compressed files and documentation.
10. Click on the file [A2018216112500.L2_LAC_OC.nc](#) to download and save it on your computer
 - OC stands for Ocean Color and includes Chlorophyll Concentration



Access, Visualize, and Download Sea Surface Temperature Data

11. Click on the file [A2018216112500.L2_LAC_SST.nc](#) to download and save it on your computer. This file provides MODIS Level-2 Sea Surface Temperature.
12. We will open these files containing MODIS Level-2 data in Week-2.



Thank You