Photometric Variation of Earth and Solar Planets as Point Sources

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A Pale Blue Dot

taken by NASA's Cassini Spacecraft on July 19, 2013 from 5:27 p.m. to 5:42 p.m. EDT



Future Prospects



2010







Earth: Color Variation

Earth: Color Variation





Simulated 10-day light curve of Earth as a point source



Earth: Color Variation





Simulated 10-day light curve of Earth as a point source



Identifying Spin Rotation Period

Pallé+ 2008





※ Rotation Period of the Earth can be successfully determined by Fourier and auto-correlation analysis.

Earth: Daily Color Variation

Livengood+ 2011



Earth: Daily Color Variation

Space-based Observation by NASA's EPOXI mission Livengood+ 2011



Earth: Inversion of Daily Color Variation

PCA eigenspectra maping *Cowan+ 2009, 2011*



PCA eigenspectra maping Oakley & Cash 2009





Decomposition w/ albedo template Fujii+ 2010, 2011



Earth: Yearly Color Variation

Kawahara & YF 2010, 2011, YF & Kawahara 2012



Earth: Yearly Color Variation

Kawahara & YF 2010, 2011, YF & Kawahara 2012











Earth: Spectral Variation





Earth: Spectral Variation











Observed variation of equivalent width of molecular absorption bands



Interpretation of Spectral Variation

- 1. Partial cloud cover
- 2. Inhomogeneity of Atmosphere

O₂, CO₂: well-mixed ↓ long Mean Residence Time in Atmosphere



H₂O:

Not mixed horizontally/vertically

Very short Mean Residence Time
in Atmosphere

Phase transition in the surface layer
among liquid/ice (ocean)

Interpretation of Spectral Variation

- 1. Partial cloud cover
- 2. Inhomogeneity of Atmosphere

O₂, CO₂: well-mixed \$ long Mean Residence Time in Atmosphere

► Water Column Density



H₂O:

Not mixed horizontally/vertically

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in Atmosphere

Phase transition in the surface layer
among liquid/ice (ocean)

Short Summary

- From time series of imaged data of the Earth, *in principle*, we may be able to obtain
 - Spin rotation rate
 - Partial cloud cover
 - Inhomogeneity of surface (ocean/continents/snow)
 - Inhomogeneity of atmosphere (=> water phase transition)











Beyond Earth Ongoing = Preliminary Work

