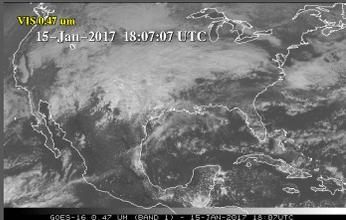


# GOES-16 Band Reference Guide

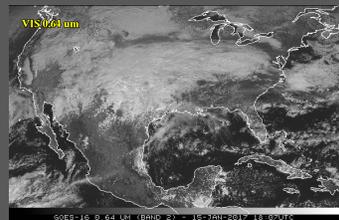
Patrick.Ayd@noaa.gov



**ABI Band #1**  
**0.47 microns**  
**Visible ("Blue Band")**

## Primary Uses:

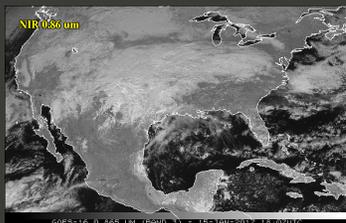
- Monitoring aerosols (smoke, haze, dust)
- Air quality monitoring through measurements of aerosol optical depth



**ABI Band #2**  
**0.64 microns**  
**Visible ("Red Band")**

## Primary Uses:

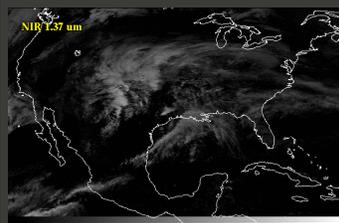
- Daytime monitoring of clouds (0.5-km spatial resolution)
- Volcanic ash monitoring



**ABI Band #3**  
**0.86 microns**  
**Near-IR ("Veggie Band")**

## Primary Uses:

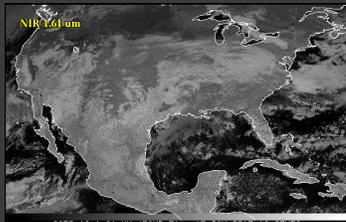
- High contrast between water and land
- Assess land characteristics including flooding impacts, burn scars, and hail swath damage



**ABI Band #4**  
**1.37 microns**  
**Near-IR ("Cirrus Band")**

## Primary Uses:

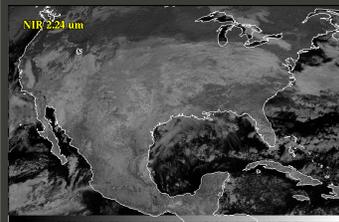
- Thin cirrus detection during the day as the lower troposphere is not routinely sensed
- Volcanic ash monitoring



**ABI Band #5**  
**1.6 microns**  
**Near-IR ("Snow/Ice Band")**

## Primary Uses:

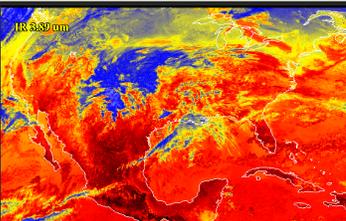
- Daytime snow, ice, and cloud discrimination (Snow/Ice dark compared to liquid water clouds)
- Input to "Snow/Ice vs. Cloud" RGB



**ABI Band #6**  
**2.24 microns**  
**Near-IR ("Cloud Particle Size Band")**

## Primary Uses:

- Cloud particle size, snow, and cloud phase
- Hot spot detection at emission temperatures of greater than 600K

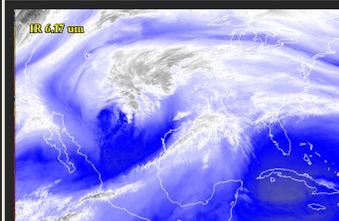


**ABI Band #7**  
**3.9 microns**  
**IR ("Shortwave Window Band")**

Contains daytime solar reflectance component

## Primary Uses:

- Low stratus and fog (especially when differenced with the 11.2-micron IR channel taking advantage of emissivity differences)
- Fire/hot spot detection and volcanic ash

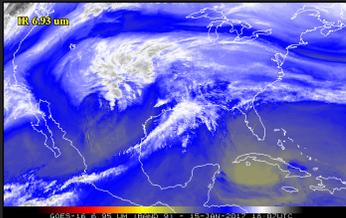


**ABI Band #8**  
**6.2 microns**  
**IR ("Upper-Troposphere WV")**

In a standard US atmosphere the weighting function peaks around 340 mb. **\*\*NOTE:** The sensed radiation is from a layer, not just the peak pressure level which itself varies from the standard value

## Primary Uses:

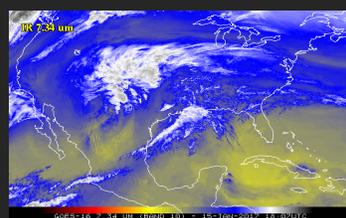
- Upper-level feature detection (jet stream, waves, etc.)



**ABI Band #9**  
**6.9 microns**  
**IR (“Mid-Level Troposphere WV Band”)**

In a standard US atmosphere the weighting function peaks around 440 mb. **\*\*NOTE:** The sensed radiation is from a layer, not just the peak pressure level which itself varies from the standard value

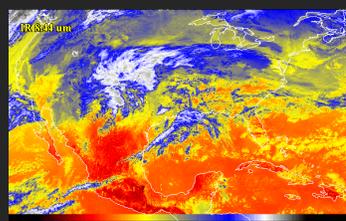
**Primary Uses:** Mid-level feature detection



**ABI Band #10**  
**7.3 microns**  
**IR (“Low-Level Troposphere WV Band”)**

In a standard US atmosphere the weighting function peaks around 615 mb. **\*\*NOTE:** The sensed radiation is from a layer, not just the peak pressure level which itself varies from the standard value

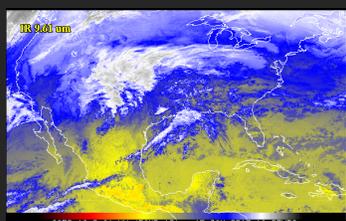
**Primary Uses:** Low-level feature detection (EML, fronts)



**ABI Band #11**  
**8.4 microns**  
**IR (“Cloud-Top Phase Band”)**

**Primary Uses:**

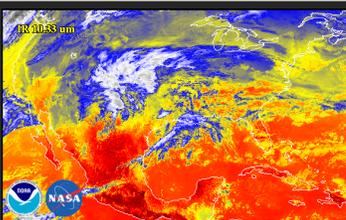
- Cloud-top phase and type products derived when combined with the 11.2- and 12.3- micron channels
- Volcanic ash (SO<sub>2</sub> detection) and dust



**ABI Band #12**  
**9.6 microns**  
**IR (“Ozone Band”)**

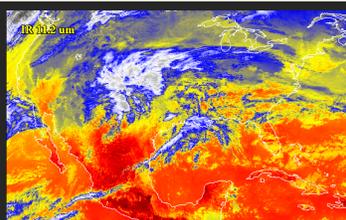
**Primary Uses:**

- Dynamics near the tropopause including stratospheric intrusions (high ozone) associated with cyclogenesis. PV anomaly applications
- Input to Airmass RGB



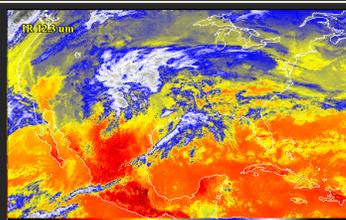
**ABI Band #13**  
**10.3 microns**  
**IR (“Clean IR Longwave Band”)**

- Less sensitive to atmospheric moisture than the other IR channels. As a result brightness temperatures are usually warmer than traditional IR as less radiation is absorbed by water vapor and re-emitted at higher altitudes



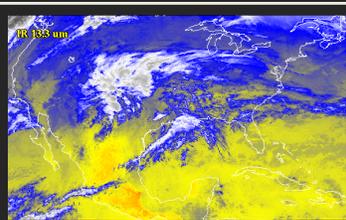
**ABI Band #14**  
**11.2 microns**  
**IR (“IR Longwave Band”)**

- The traditional IR window
- Differenced with the 3.9 micron near IR channel for low stratus and fog detection



**ABI Band #15**  
**12.3 microns**  
**IR (“Dirty IR Longwave Band”)**

- Greater sensitivity to moisture compared to the 10.3- and 11.2-micron channels. As a result, brightness temperatures will be cooler
- Contributes to total PWAT and low-level moisture information



**ABI Band #16**  
**13.3 microns**  
**IR (“CO<sub>2</sub> Longwave IR Band”)**

**Primary Uses:**

- Mean tropospheric air temperature estimation
- Input to RGBs to highlight high, cold, and likely icy clouds

**Useful Links:**

- Individual ABI Band Guides: <http://www.goes-r.gov/education/ABI-bands-quick-info.html>
- ABI Weighting Function Page: <http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes/wf/ABI/>

# GOES-16 Baseline Products and RGBs

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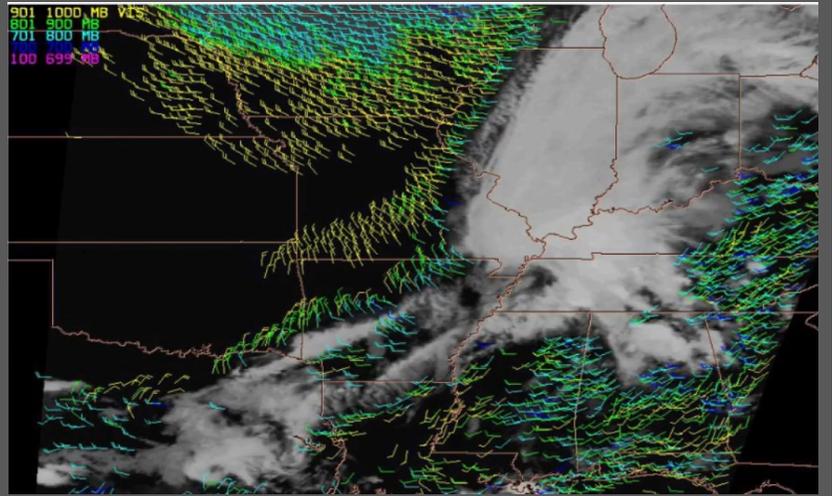
## Derived-Motion Winds (DMWs)

### Availability:

- Full Disk: 60 minutes
- CONUS: 15 minutes
- Mesoscale: 5 minutes

**How it works:** Uses a set of three sequential images to estimate atmospheric motion using six ABI bands following a set of targets (cloud edges or clear sky water vapor gradients)

Uses the ABI Cloud Height Algorithm (ACHA) to assign heights



## Daytime Convection RGB

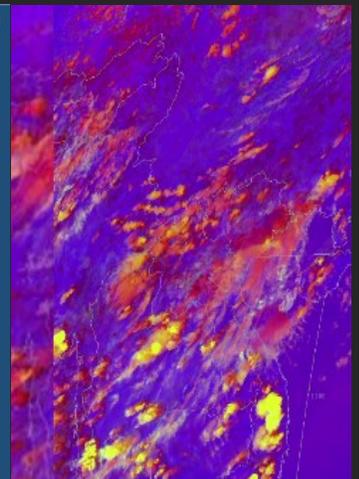
### Uses:

- Identification of convection with strong updrafts and small ice particles indicative of severe storms
- Microphysical characteristics help determine storm strength and the stage of development

### Limitations:

- Daytime only. Pixel color fades when the sun angle is low
- False "Yellow/Strong Convection" may be caused by mountain wave, dust or cold cloud tops with only moderate 3.9-micron reflectance

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Strong Convection, small ice particles (bright yellow)        |
| 2 | Moderate Convection, large ice particles (orange)             |
| 3 | Weak Convection, large ice particles (red)                    |
| 4 | Low- to mid- water clouds (light blue)                        |
| 5 | Mid clouds, thick, small water or ice particles (light green) |
| 6 | Thin cirrus, large ice particles (deep red/pink)              |
| 7 | Thin cirrus, small ice particles (purple)                     |
| 8 | High, thick clouds, large ice particles (red)                 |



## Nighttime Microphysics RGB

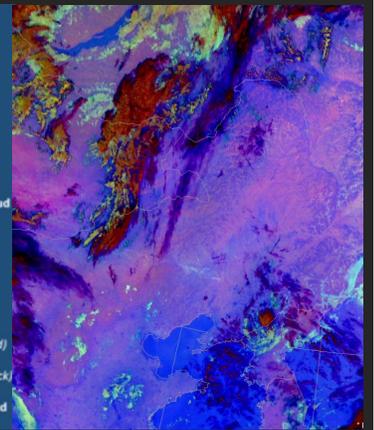
### Uses:

- Fog and low-cloud analysis and differentiation
- Multi-channel approach allows for quick cloud type discrimination
- Outflow boundaries and drylines can be seen

### Limitations:

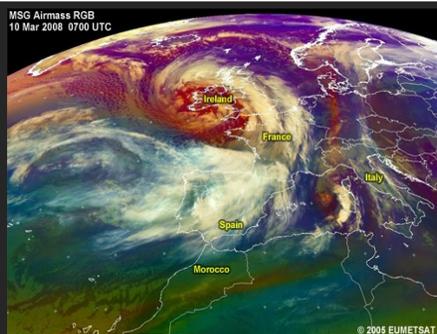
- Nighttime only. Thin fog can blend with the surface
- Shortwave noise in extreme cold. Color of cloud-free regions varies based on temperature, moisture, and surface type

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Fog (dull aqua to gray)                          |
| 2  | Very low, warm cloud (aqua)                      |
| 3  | Low, cool, cloud (bright green)                  |
| 4  | Mid water cloud (light green)                    |
| 5  | Mid, thick, water/ ice cloud (tan)               |
| 6  | Mid, thick, ice cloud (purple)                   |
| 7  | Mid/High, thin, ice cloud (dark blue)            |
| 8  | High, thick cloud (dark red)                     |
| 9  | High, thin cloud (near black)                    |
| 10 | High, thick, very cold cloud (red/yellow, noisy) |



## Airmass RGB

**Example:** High-PV, ozone-rich stratospheric air (appearing red/orange) can be utilized to monitor stratospheric intrusions during cyclogenesis

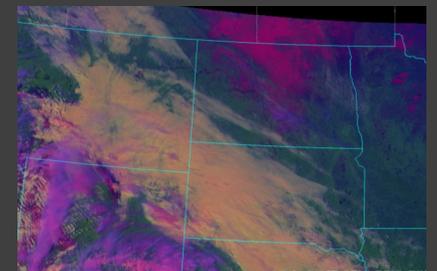


## Daytime Composite #1 RGB

Bands 2, 5, and 14

Purple/Pink: Ice or snow

Orange: Liquid water containing clouds



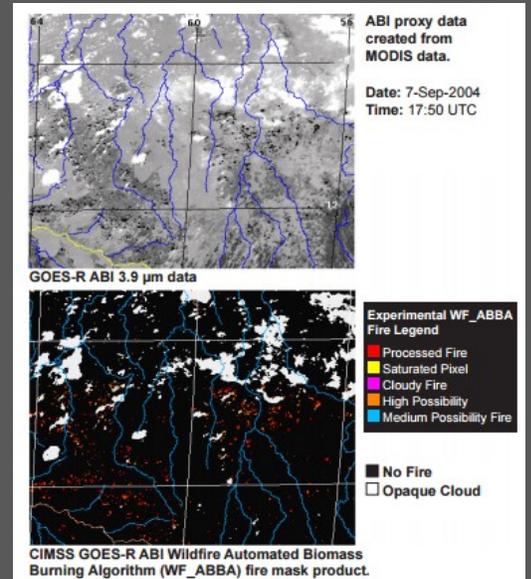
# GOES-16 Baseline Products and RGBs

## Fire Detection and Characterization (FDC)

**How it works:** Fires produce a stronger signal in the mid-wave IR bands (around 4 microns) than they do in the long-wave IR bands (such as 11 microns)

The FDC looks for hot spots exploiting the 3.9-micron channel. The algorithm screens out surfaces that are not usable, such as water, tundra, deserts, and sparsely vegetated mountains. The algorithm also screens out clouds that are opaque for ~4-micron radiation. This is different than a typical cloud mask since fires are often detected through thin clouds such as cirrus or stratus decks

Once a fire has been detected and corrections applied to the radiances, the instantaneous fire size and temperature can be estimated. Fire Radiative Power (FRP) is also calculated for the fire. FRP is directly related to fire size and temperature



## Rainfall Rate Product

### Overview:

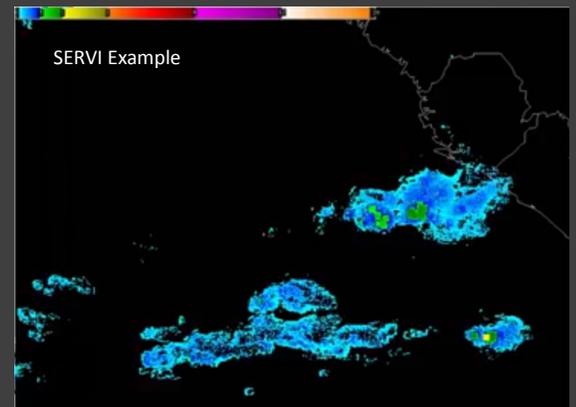
- Full ABI pixel resolution
- Available every 15 minutes with less than 5-minute latency
- Full Disk (Day and Night)
- 0 to 3.9 in/hr range

**How it works:** Using basic assumptions, cloud-top temperature (IR) is related to cloud-top height, which is related to updraft strength transporting moisture into the cloud. Updraft strength is related to rainfall rate

The IR algorithm uses ABI bands 8, 10, 11, 14, and 15 with a fixed calibration to a microwave-retrieved dataset

Clouds are divided into three types (water, ice, and cold top convective clouds) for rainfall rate classes. Satellite rain estimates perform best for convective rain and poorly for stratiform precipitation

Orographic effects, sub-cloud evaporation, and sub-cloud phase changes are not taken into account



## Geostationary Lightning Mapper

**Event:** Any illuminated pixel during a 2-micro second period. Useful for developing convection (initial electrification), lightning spatial extent, and storm triage

**Group:** A cluster of events in time and space. The location is weighted by optical intensity and is most similar to NLDN and ENTLN CG strikes and in cloud pulses

**Flash:** Cluster of groups in time and space. Most similar to a flash in all other networks. More closely related to updraft and storm intensity

GLM has 20-second updates

