

RADIATE

A radiative transfer model for the Earth observation community

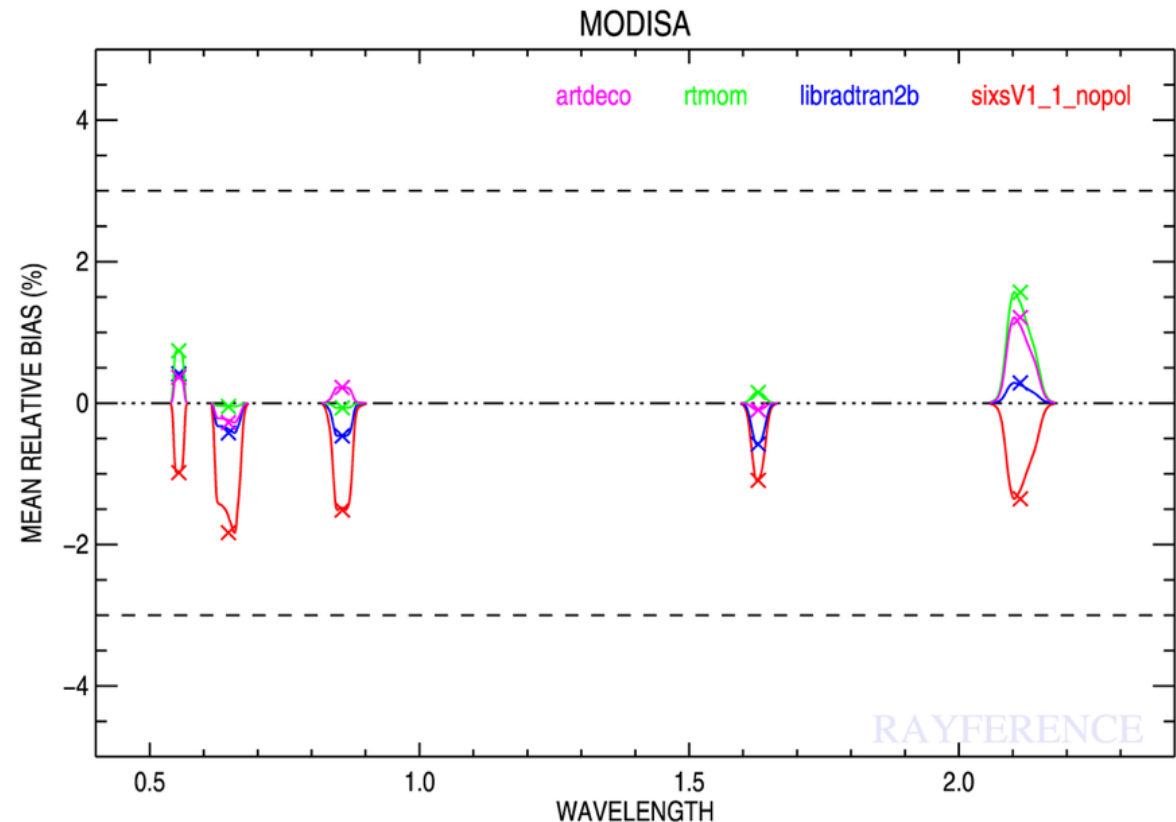
Vincent Leroy, Yves Govaerts, Yvan Nollet, Sebastian Schunke, Nicolas Misk // [Rayference](#)

CEOS WGCV IVOS 35 // 27th September 2023 // DLR, Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany



The root cause: cal/val requires more accurate RTMs

- Modern instruments can reach an accuracy of 2-3% and better
- We use RTMs as part of the calibration process in many cases
- Depending on the one you pick, you won't get the same result
 - Even if you set up the same simulation
 - Uncertainty can go up to 3-4%
 - Attributable to many different factors; an important driver is the atmospheric molecular absorption modelling (usage of standard profiles, without accounting for molecular concentration changes)

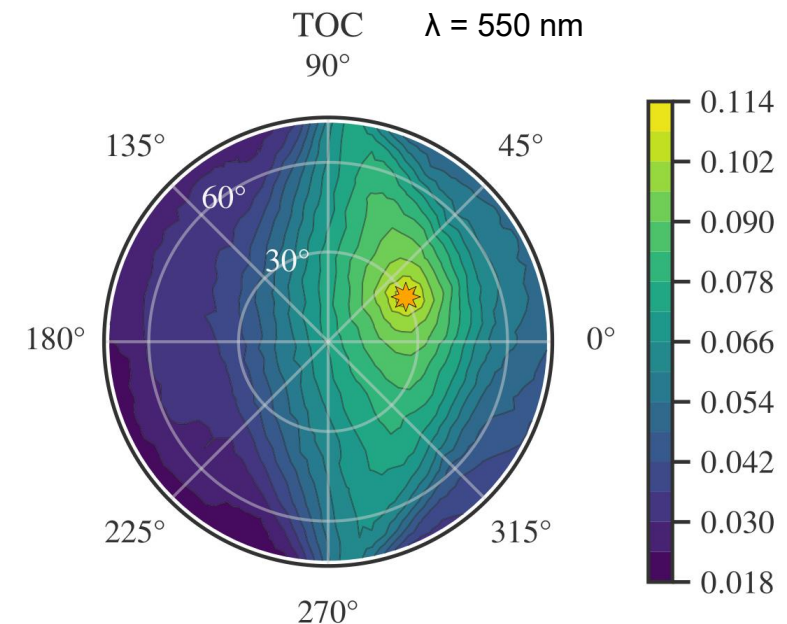
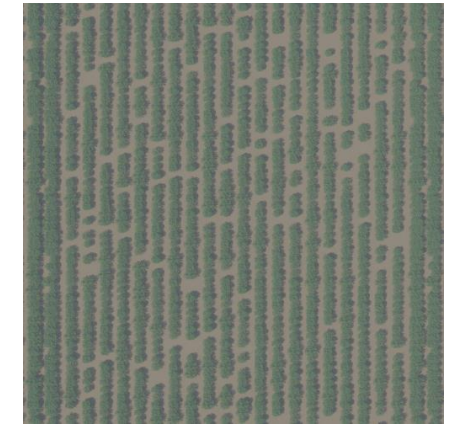


Govaerts (2019), work order for Eradiate Development Phase 1



The root cause: cal/val requires more accurate RTMs

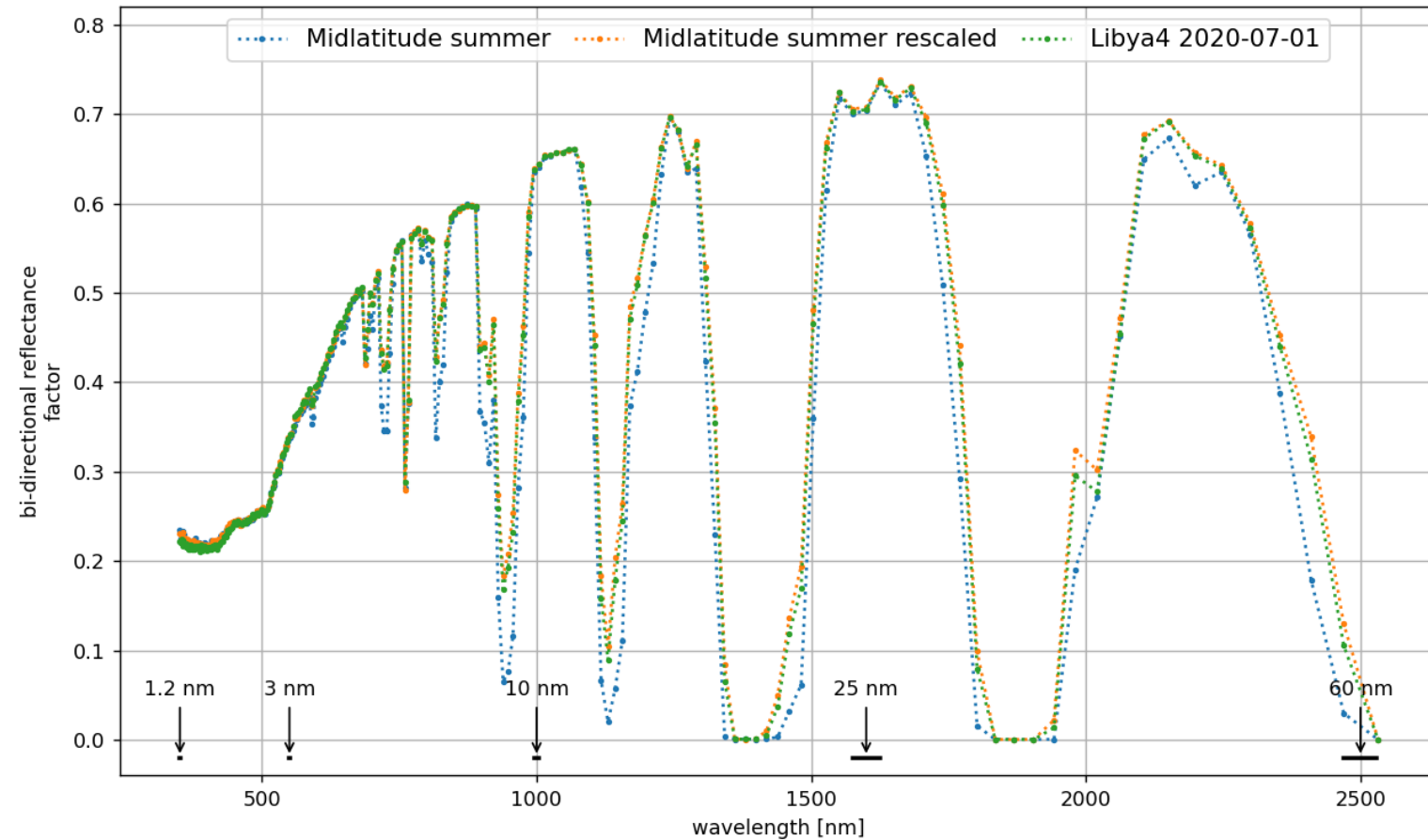
- Most RTMs currently used for cal/val applications assume a plane-parallel geometry with a flat surface
 - Earth is not flat!
 - It has relief and objects at its surface



This is why we started building Eradiate
But how do we build such a model?

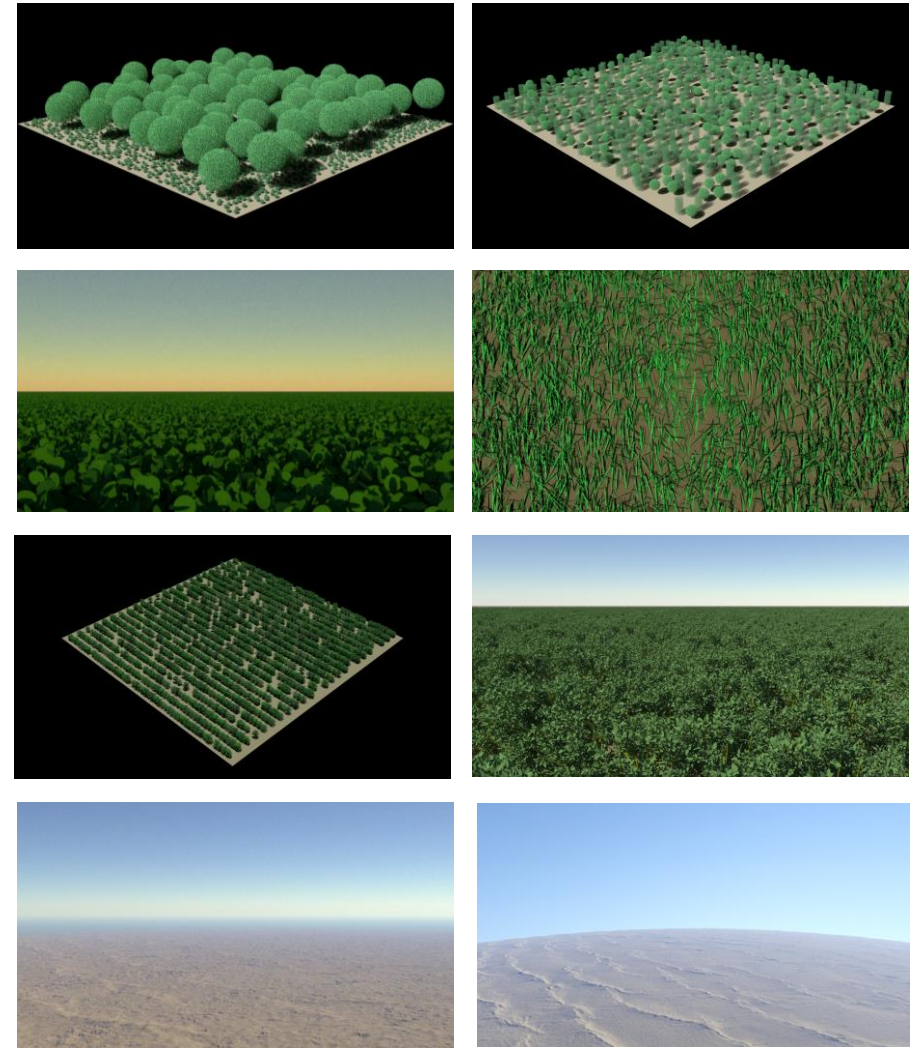
Atmospheric modelling

- Correlated k-distribution method
 - Very common (flexible, simple, reasonably accurate)
⇒ easy to compare to other RTMs
- Support of detailed thermophysical profiles
 - Standard profiles (AFGL 1986)
 - Molecular concentration rescaling
 - Fully customizable profiles (arbitrary input, e.g. CAMS data)



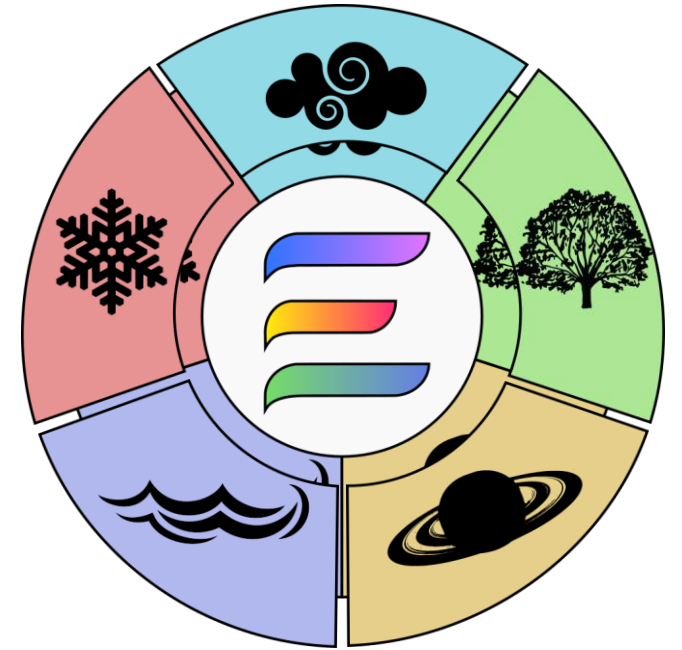
3D surface modelling

- Vegetation: detailed plant modelling
- Relief: support for digital elevation models
- Planetary curvature: spherical-shell geometry
- Arbitrary complexity
⇒ **Monte Carlo ray tracing is the way**



Breaking walls between communities

- RT modelling is done by compartmentalized subcommunities
 - ⇒ many models, generally with a specific focus
 - ⇒ highly accurate modelling requires convergence
- Very impressive work on software infrastructure by computer graphics community
 - ⇒ import technology from there
 - ⇒ Eradiate's radiometric kernel is rendering software
- Modular architecture: easy to add new components without knowing/breaking everything



Beyond physics: Software engineering

It's cal/val: traceability matters

- Data traceability: explain where shipped data comes from
- Algorithm transparency: it's fully open-source

$$\phi_{\lambda}(T) = \frac{R^2}{D^2} L_{\lambda}(T)$$

the radius of the blackbody (R) is set to the solar radius constant ($695.7 \cdot 10^6$ km) and the distance of the blackbody to the Earth (D) is set to 1 astronomical unit ($149.5978707 \cdot 10^6$ km) which is the average Sun-Earth distance. The wavelength range extends from 280 nm to 2400 nm to cover Eradiate's wavelength range.

`coddington_2022-* #`

This is the version 2 of the Total and Spectral Solar Irradiance Sensor-1 (TSIS-1) Hybrid Solar Reference Spectrum (HSRS).

- Wavelength range (in vacuum): 202 nm to 2730 nm
- Spectral resolution: 0.01 nm to ~0.001 nm (variants are also provided at lower, fixed, spectral resolution).
- Time range: representative of a 1-week average from Dec 1, 2019 to Dec 7, 2019
- **Uncertainty:**
 - ≤ 400 nm: 1.3%
 - [400, 460] nm: 0.5%
 - [460, 2365] nm: 0.3%
 - ≥ 2365 nm: 1.3%

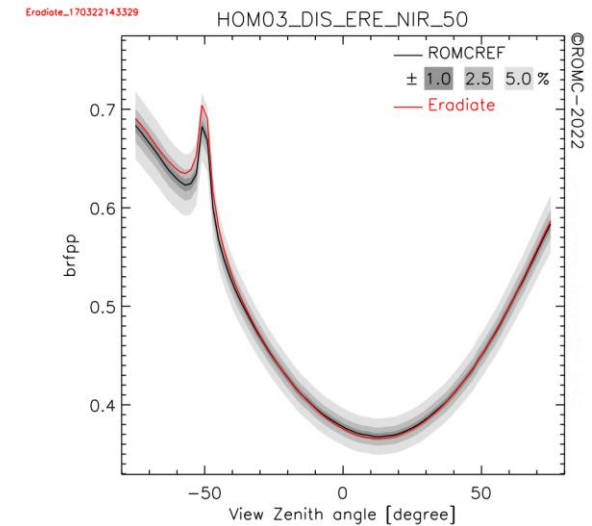
`coddington_2022-fse*`

This is the Full Spectrum Extension (FSE) of the version 2 of the Total and Spectral Solar Irradiance

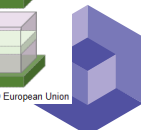


We want to trust it

- Regular and systematic testing
 - Unit tests for individual components
 - Larger use case-based system tests
- Benchmarking
 - RAMI series (ROMC / RAMI-V / RAMI4ATM)
 - Extension to more relevant benchmarks (e.g. IPRT)



ROMC DEBUG mode compares RT model simulations against already published RAMI results. To obtain unambiguous proof of an RT model's performance use the ROMC VALIDATE mode.



Usability in mind

Highly customizable input Python API

- NetCDF-centric workflow
- Easy to bring your own data
- Interactive usage
⇒ Jupyter notebooks
- Scriptable
⇒ write you own app

Smooth learning curve

- Thorough documentation
- Progressive tutorials

```
import eradiate.scenes as ertsc
import eradiate.experiments as ertxp

exp = ertxp.OneDimExperiment(
    surface=ertsc.bsdfs.RPVBSDF(),
    atmosphere=ertsc.atmosphere.MolecularAtmosphere.afgl_1986(),
    illumination=ertsc.illumination.DirectionallIllumination(
        zenith=15.0,
        azimuth=0.0,
    ),
    measures=ertsc.measure.MultiDistantMeasure.from_viewing_angles(
        id="toa_brf",
        zeniths=np.arange(-75, 76, 5), # Cover the [-75°, 75°] range with 5°
        azimuths=0, # Same value as SAA to cover the principal plane
        spectral_cfg={
            "srf": "sentinel_2a-msi-5",
            "bin_set": "10nm",
        },
        spp=1000,
    ),
)
```

```
[7]: results = eradiate.run(exp)
      results
```

Spectral loop [710:15]: 48/48  00:05, ETA=00:00

```
[7]: xarray.Dataset
```

► Dimensions: (sza: 1, saa: 1, w: 3, y_index: 1, x_index: 31, srf_w: 22)

► Coordinates: (13)

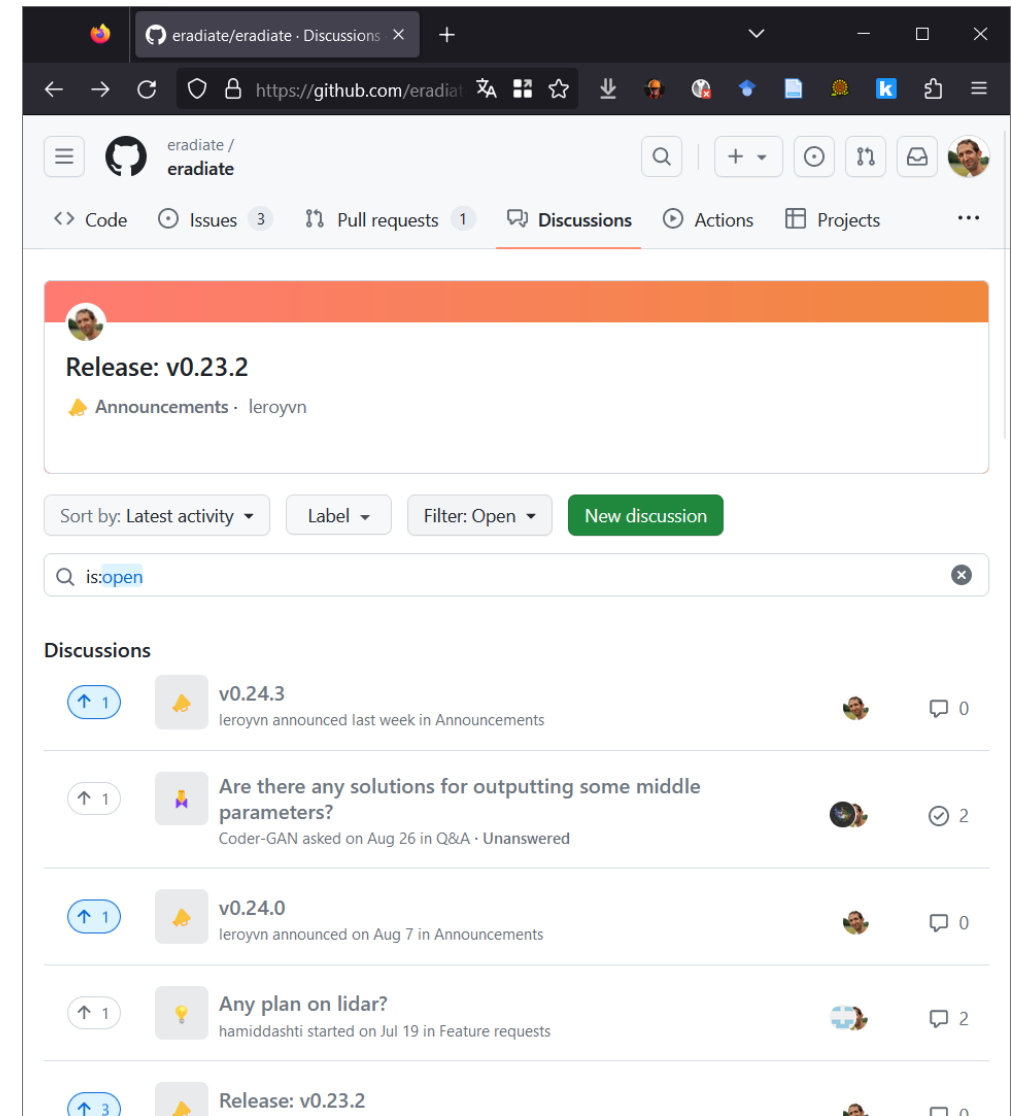
▼ Data variables:

radiance	(sza, saa, w, y_index, x_index)	float64	0.09475 0.0949	 
spp	(sza, saa, w)	float64	1e+03 1e+03 1e+03	 
irradiance	(sza, saa, w)	float64	1.412 1.39 1.349	 
srf	(srf_w)	float64	0.0 0.02836 0.123...	 
brdf	(sza, saa, w, y_index, x_index)	float64	0.06711 0.06722	 



It's built for the community

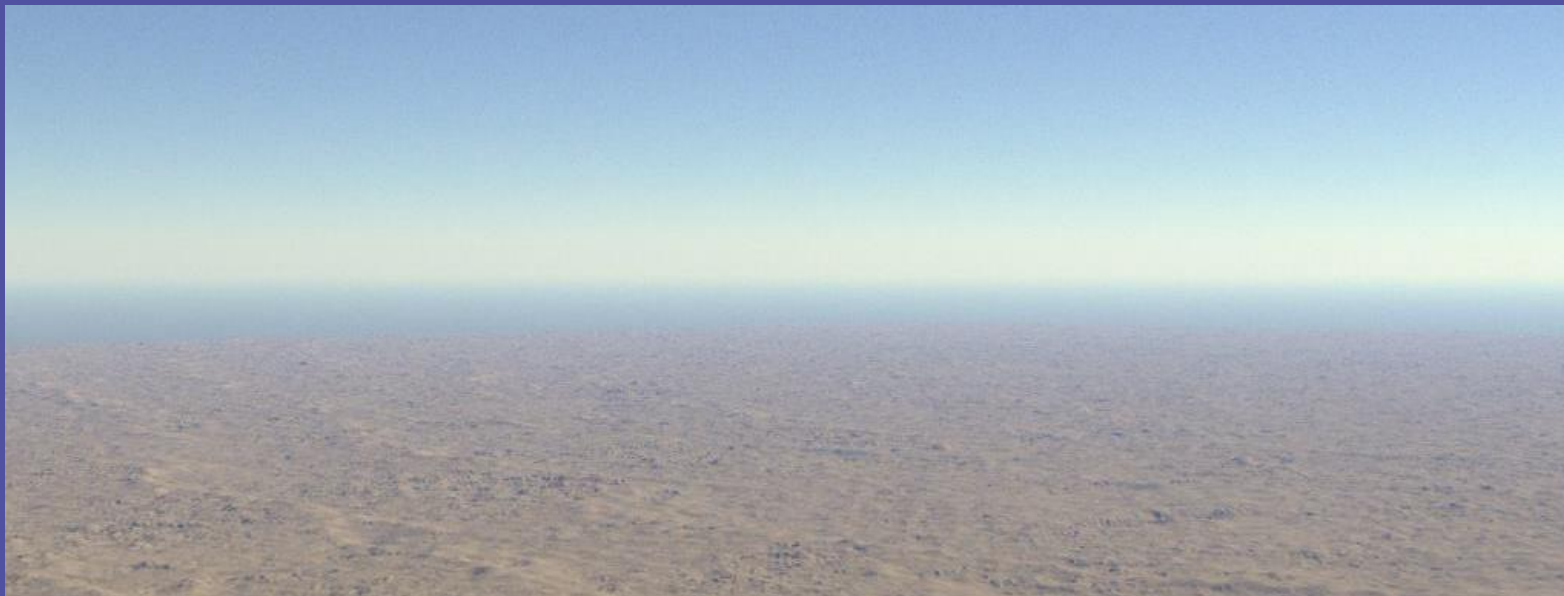
- Open-source (LGPL) hosted on GitHub
- Contributions welcome
 - Request features or datasets
 - Issue/bug reports
 - Improvements and fixes to documentation / code
 - Additional data
- A problem? Come and open a discussion!



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Libya-4 DTM with nonabsorbing atmosphere



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