Data Product Maturity Definitions

NPP SDR Product Maturity Levels
1. Beta • Early release product. • Initial calibration applied. • Minimally validated and may still contain significant errors (rapid changes can be expected. Version changes will not be identified as errors are corrected as on-orbit baseline is not established) • Available to allow users to gain familiarity with data formats and parameters • Product is not appropriate as the basis for quantitative scientific publications studies and applications
2. Provisional • Product quality may not be optimal • Incremental product improvements are still occurring as calibration parameters are adjusted with sensor on-orbit characterization (versions will be tracked) • General research community is encouraged to participate in the QA and validation of the product, but need to be aware that product validation and QA are ongoing • Users are urged to consult the SDR product status document prior to use of the data in publications • Ready for operational evaluation
3. Validated/ Calibrated • On-orbit sensor performance characterized and calibration parameters adjusted accordingly • Ready for use in applications and scientific publications • There may be later improved versions • There will be strong versioning with documentation

Data Product Maturity Definitions (cont.)

NPP EDR Product Maturity Levels	
1. Beta • Early release product • Minimally validated • May still contain significant errors. • Versioning not established until a baseline is determined. • Available to allow users to gain familiarity with data formats and parameters • Product is not appropriate as the basis for quantitative scientific publications studies and applications	
2. Provisional • Product quality may not be optimal • Incremental product improvements are still occurring. • Version control is in affect • General research community is encouraged to participate in the QA and validation of the product, but need to be aware that product validation and QA are ongoing • Users are urged to consult the EDR product status document prior to use of the data in publications • May be replaced in the archive when the validated product becomes available • Ready for operational evaluation	
3. Validated • Product performance is well defined over a range of representative conditions • Ready for use by the Centrals and in scientific publications • There may be later improved versions • There are three validation stages (see next column)	**Stage 1 Validation:** Product performance has been demonstrated to comply with the specification using a small number of independent measurements obtained from selected locations, periods, and associated ground-truth/field program efforts.
	Stage 2 Validation: Product performance has been demonstrated to comply with the specification over a widely distributed set of locations and periods via several ground-truth and validation efforts.
	Stage 3 Validation: Product performance has been demonstrated to comply with the specification and the uncertainties in the product well established via independent measurements in a systematic and statistically robust way representing global conditions.