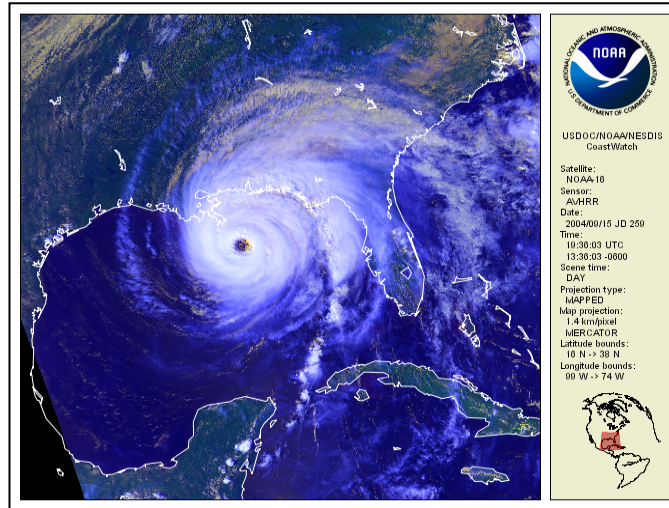# Creating a Hurricane Image with the CoastWatch Software and Utilities

Hurricane Ivan: September 15, 2004, at 19:36 UTC
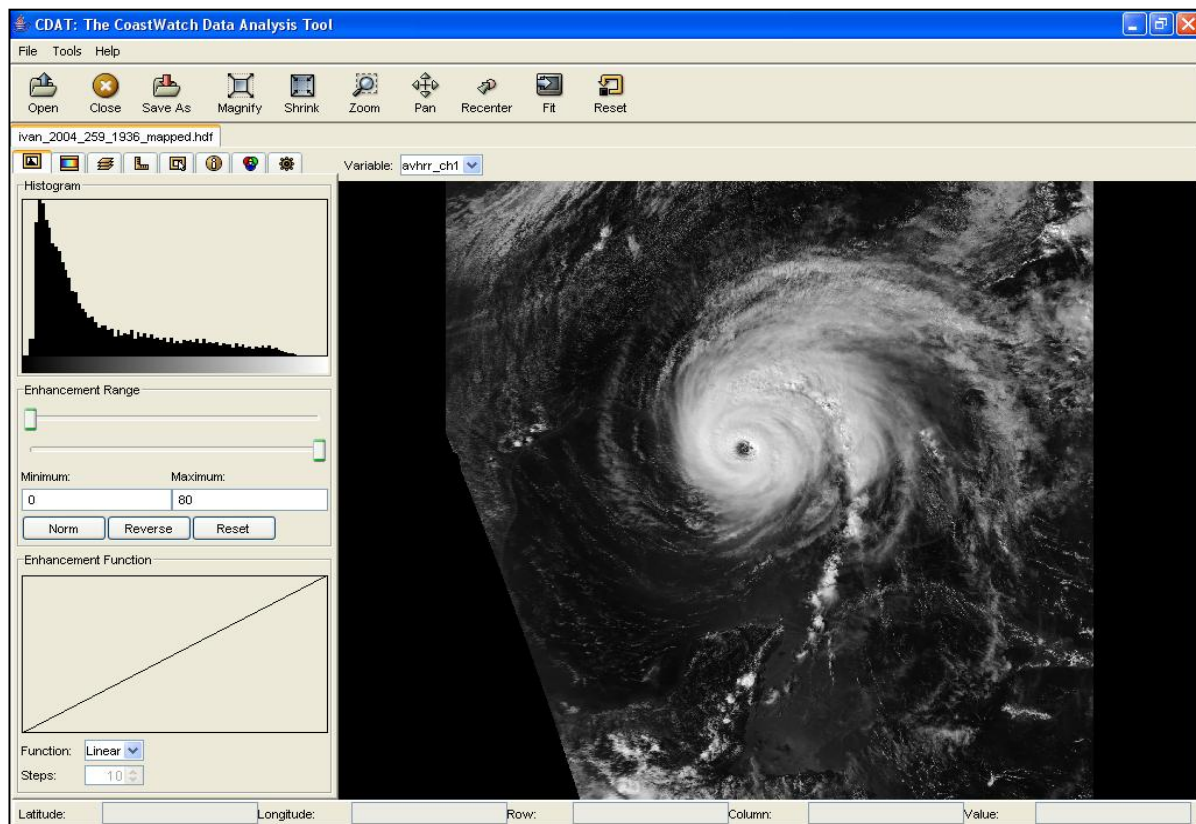
Download the AVHRR HDF data file

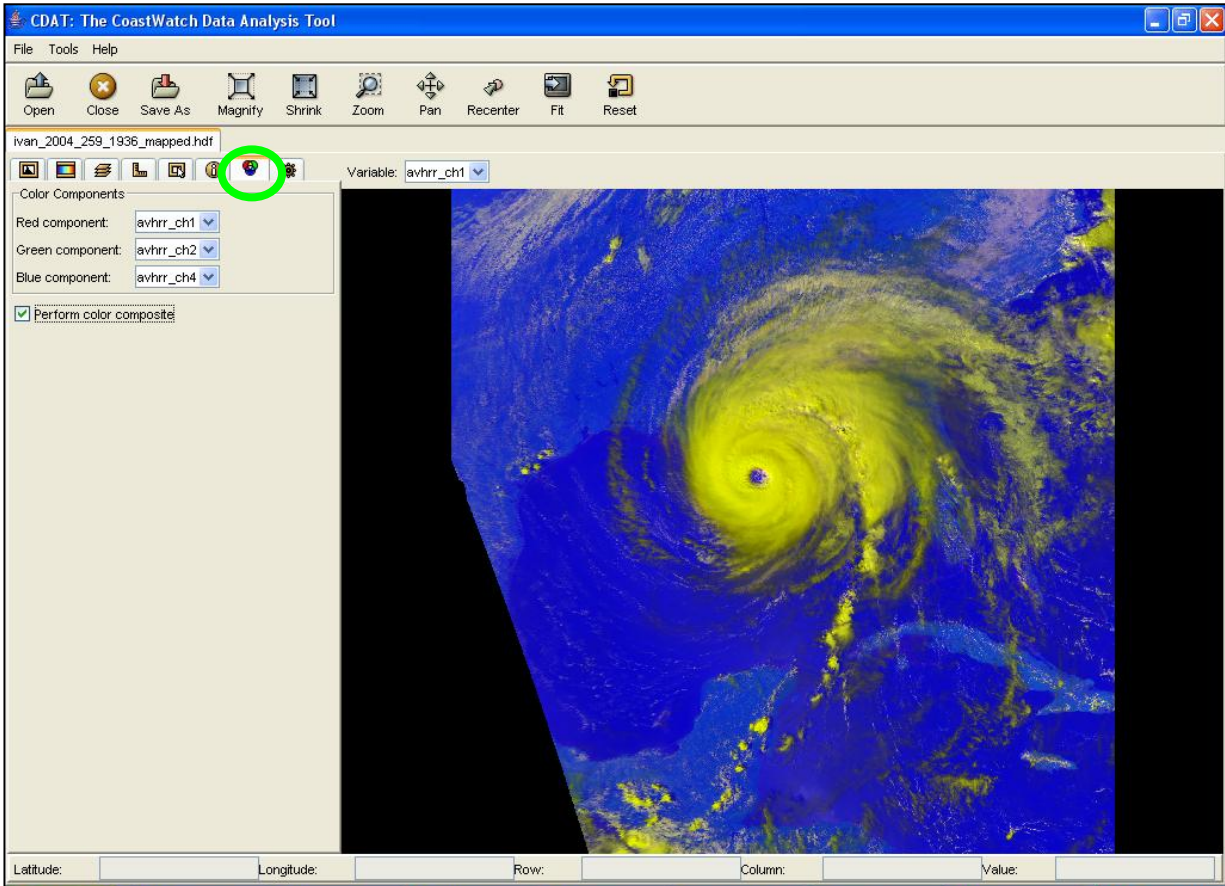*Note: You need the <u>Daytime</u> pass with all 5 channels. Nighttime only yields 3 channels.

- Retrieve Level 3 data from http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/interface/interface.html
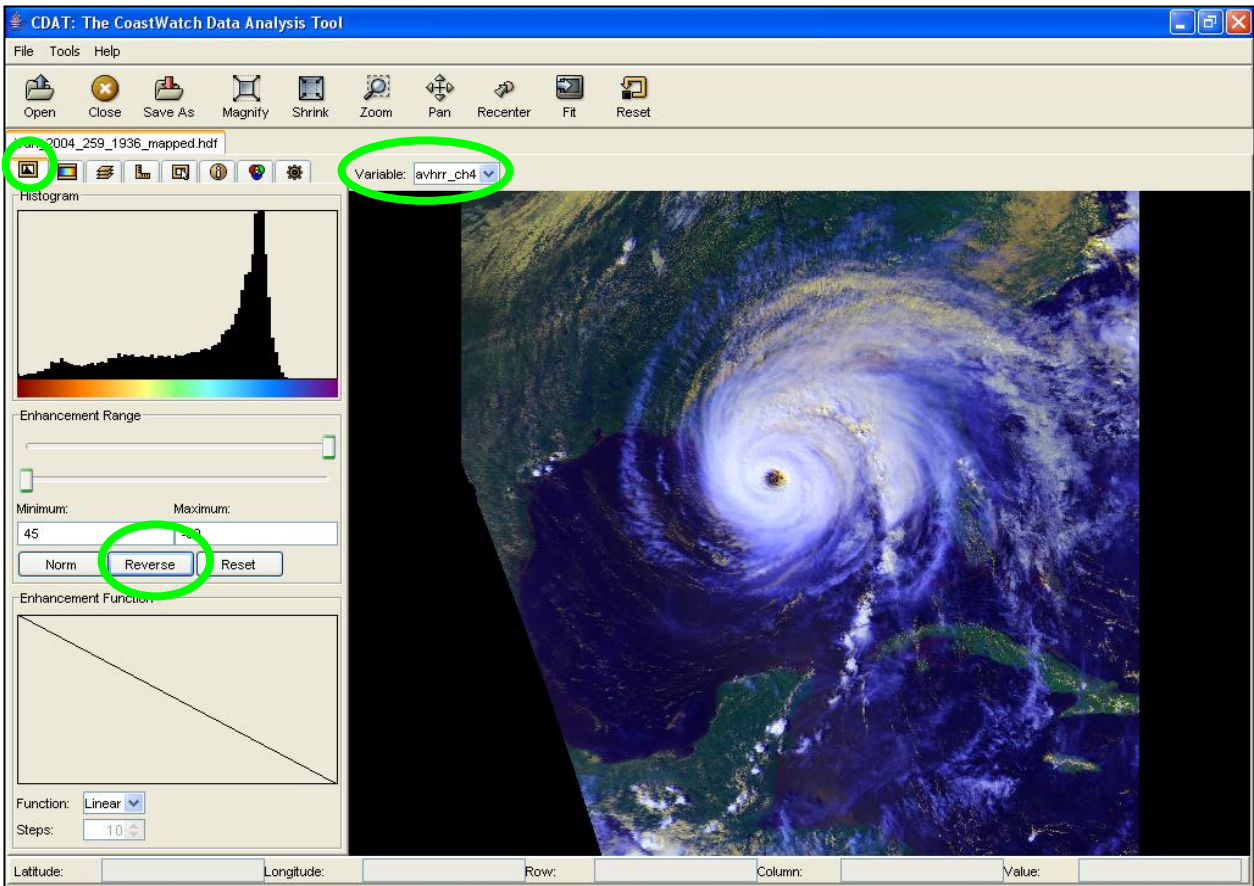
Open CoastWatch Data Analysis Tool (CDAT)

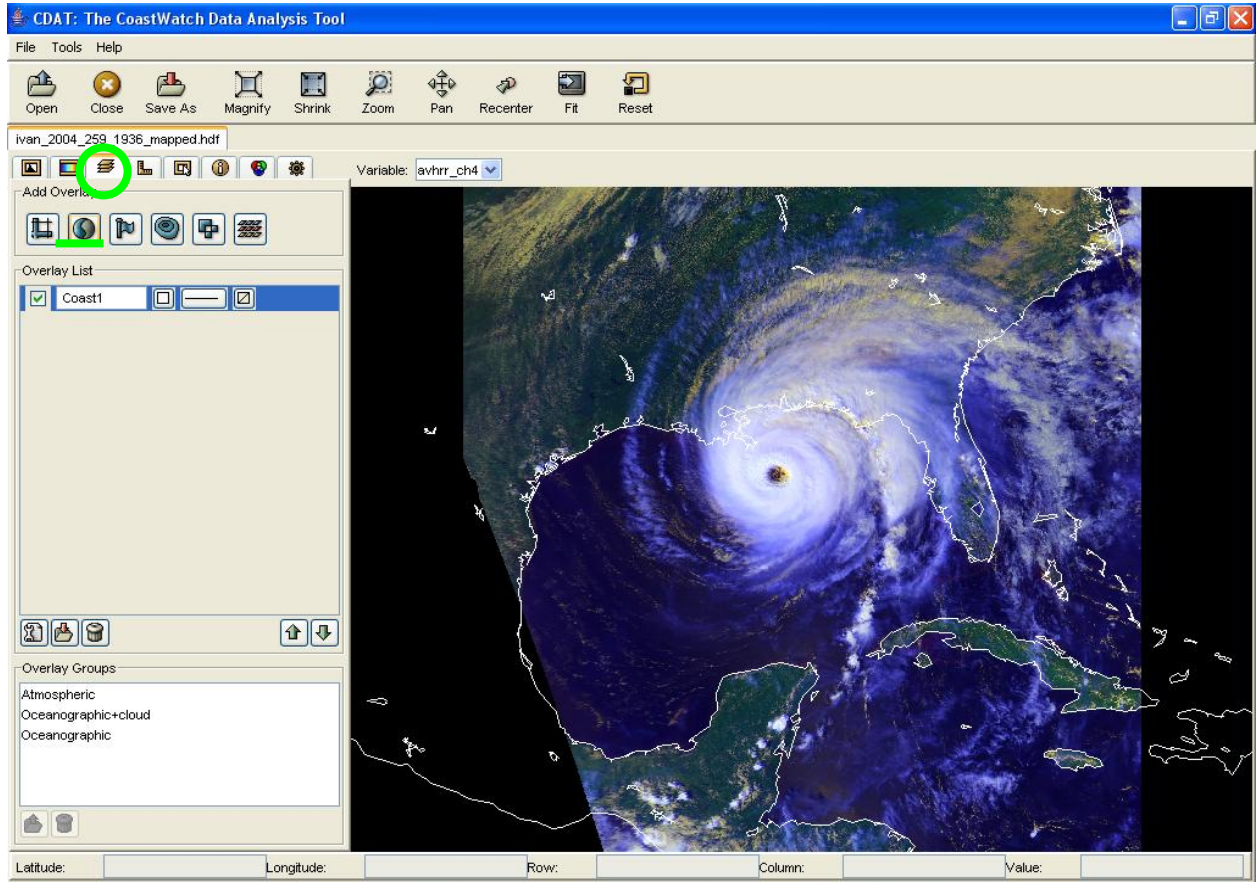- Open the data file with Channels 1, 2, and 4

- Apply the Red, Green, and Blue components to Channels 1, 2, and 4 respectively

- Reverse the Blue for Channel 4

- Add the coastline

- Zoom or pan to get the best view
- Save in desired format

Additional Options:

Downloading data:
      - See "cwstatus_tutorial" to find the Level 2 data on the CoastWatch data server
      - Then, follow "cwmaster_tutorial" to define the map area, to apply to the L2 data

Instead of CDAT:
      - Open a Command Prompt Window (Start > Accessories > Command Prompt)
      - Change directory to the data folder
            For example: prompt:\ cd "folder name"
      - cwrender: performs satellite data visualization
            Prompt:\ folder name>cwrender -- verbose -- format png – composite
            avhrr_ch1/avhrr_ch2/avhrr_ch4 -- redrange 0/80 -- greenrange 0/80 -- bluerange -45/60
            -- bluefunction reverse-linear -- coast white input_ coastwatch_data_.hdf
            output_filename.hdf

The PNG will be created within the same folder.