

of this review in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

Cash Deposit Requirements

In accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Act, Commerce also intends to instruct CBP to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties in the amounts shown for the companies listed above for shipments of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of these final results of this administrative review. For all non-reviewed firms subject to the *Order*, we will instruct CBP to continue to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties at the most recent company-specific rate or the all-others rate (*i.e.*, 20.40 percent), as appropriate.⁷ These cash deposit requirements, effective upon publication of these final results, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice also serves as a final reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order, is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

Notification to Interested Parties

These final results of administrative review are issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(5).

Dated: December 19, 2024.

Abdelali Elouaradia,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the *Order*
- IV. Garware Corporate Name Change
- V. Subsidies Valuation
- VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences
- VII. Analysis of Programs

⁷ See *Order*, 67 FR at 44180.

VIII. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Whether Commerce Erred in Excluding Certain Programs in its Adverse Facts Available (AFA) Calculations for Jindal

Comment 2: Whether Commerce Erred in Selecting AFA Rates Lower than the Highest Non-*De Minimis* Rate for Certain Programs in its AFA Calculation for Jindal

IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2024–31083 Filed 12–27–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–570–170]

Disposable Aluminum Containers, Pans, Trays, and Lids From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids (aluminum containers) from the People's Republic of China (China) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable December 30, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Palmer or Kate Fracke, AD/CVD Operations, Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–1678 or (202) 482–3299, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on June 12, 2024.¹ On July 22, 2024, Commerce tolled certain deadlines in

¹ See *Disposable Aluminum Containers, Pans, Trays, and Lids from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation*, 89 FR 49837 (June 12, 2024) (*Initiation Notice*).

this administrative proceeding by seven days.² On October 8, 2024, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination.³ The deadline for the preliminary determination is now December 19, 2024.

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁴ A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be found at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNotices/ListLayout.aspx>.

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are aluminum containers from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to Commerce's regulations,⁵ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).⁶ No interested party commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. As a result, Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. See the scope in Appendix I to this notice.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, we have

² See Memorandum, "Tolling of Deadlines for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings," dated July 22, 2024.

³ See *Aluminum Containers, Pans, Trays, and Lids from the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation*, 89 FR 81425 (October 8, 2024).

⁴ See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Disposable Aluminum Containers, Pans, Trays, and Lids from the People's Republic of China," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

⁵ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁶ See *Initiation Notice*, 89 FR at 49838.

preliminarily relied upon facts otherwise available with adverse inferences (AFA) for the China-wide entity, including each of the companies selected for individual examination that later withdrew their participation: Ungar Automation Technology Co., Ltd.; Able Packaging Jiangsu Co., Ltd.; and Henan Aluminium Corporation (Henan Aluminum). For a full description of the methodology underlying Commerce’s preliminary determination, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

In accordance with section 733(e) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206, Commerce preliminarily determines that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of aluminum containers from China for the separate-rate companies and the China-wide entity. For a full description of the methodology and results of Commerce’s critical circumstances analysis, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Combination Rates

In the *Initiation Notice*,⁷ Commerce stated that it would calculate producer/

exporter combination rates for the respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in this investigation. Policy Bulletin 05.1 describes this practice.⁸ In this investigation, we calculated producer/exporter combination rates for respondents eligible for separate rates.

Separate Rates

We have preliminarily granted a separate rate to certain separate rate respondents that we did not select for individual examination.⁹ In calculating the rate for non-individually examined separate rate respondents in a non-market economy LTFV investigation, Commerce normally looks to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, which pertains to the calculation of the all-others rate in a market economy LTFV investigation, for guidance. Pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, normally this rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for those companies individually-examined, excluding any dumping margins that are zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Because each company selected for individual examination in this investigation subsequently notified Commerce of its withdrawal from participation, the estimated weighted-average dumping margins in this preliminary determination are based entirely under section 776 of the Act. In investigations where no estimated weighted-average dumping margins other than zero, *de minimis*, or those determined entirely under section 776 of the Act have been established for individually-examined entities, in accordance with section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act, Commerce typically calculates a simple average of the margins alleged in the petition and applies the results to the entities not individually examined but found eligible for a separate rate.¹⁰ In this investigation, the simple average of the rates in the Petition is 193.90 percent.¹¹ See the table below in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice.

Preliminary Determination

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Producer	Exporter	Estimated weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Foshan Bossfoil Aluminum Products Co., Ltd	Aikou Packaging Co., Ltd	193.90
Guangzhou Huafeng Aluminum Foil Technologies Co. Ltd	Guangzhou Huafeng Aluminum Foil Technologies Co. Ltd	193.90
Guangzhou Vanzhen Aluminum Foil Products Co., Ltd	Guangzhou Vanzhen Aluminum Foil Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Henan Mingwei Aluminum Products Co., Ltd	Henan Mingwei Aluminum Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Jinhua Majestic Aluminum Packing Co., Ltd	Jinhua Majestic Aluminum Packing Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Laxwell Aluminum Foil Technology Co., Ltd	Ningbo Laxwell Aluminum Foil Technology Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Mylife Aluminium Foil Products Co., Ltd	Ningbo Mylife Aluminium Foil Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Reco Packing Technology Co., Ltd	Ningbo Reco Packing Technology Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Times Aluminium Foil Technology Corp., Ltd	Ningbo Times Aluminium Foil Technology Corp., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Uber Aluminum Foil Products Co., Ltd	Ningbo Uber Aluminum Foil Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Wonderfoil Aluminium Foil Technology Co., Ltd	Ningbo Wonderfoil Aluminium Foil Technology Co., Ltd	193.90
Ningbo Wonderfoil Aluminium Foil Technology Co., Ltd	Qingdao Honsun Packaging Technology Co., Ltd	193.90
Qingdao Wohler Aluminium Environmental Technology Co, Ltd ..	Qingdao Wohler Aluminium Environmental Technology Co, Ltd	193.90
DongTai Subcompany of Shanghai Dragon Aluminium Foil Products Co., Ltd.	DongTai Subcompany of Shanghai Dragon Aluminium Foil Products Co., Ltd.	193.90
Suzhou Spk Aluminium Foil Co., Ltd	Suzhou Spk Aluminium Foil Co., Ltd	193.90
Nantong Hongtu Health Technology Co., Ltd	Uniriver Industries Co., Ltd	193.90
Wohler (Qingdao) Co., Ltd	Wohler (Qingdao) Co., Ltd	193.90
Yuyao Rhea Alumium Foil Products Co., Ltd	Yuyao Rhea Alumium Foil Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Yuyao Smallcap Household Products Co., Ltd	Yuyao Smallcap Household Products Co., Ltd	193.90
Zhangjiagang Auto Well Co., Ltd	Zhangjiagang Kangyuan International Trading Co., Ltd	193.90
Jiangsu Greensource Health Aluminum Foil Technology Co., Ltd	Zhangjiagang Kangyuan International Trading Co., Ltd	193.90
Zhejiang Zhongjin Aluminum Industry Co., Ltd	Zhejiang Zhongjin Aluminum Industry Co., Ltd	193.90
Henan Vino Aluminium Foil Co., Ltd	Zhengzhou Eming Aluminium Industry Co., Ltd	193.90
China-wide Entity *		287.80

* Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

⁷ See *Initiation Notice*, 89 FR at 49841.

⁸ See Enforcement and Compliance’s Policy Bulletin No. 05.1, regarding, “Separate-Rates Practice and Application of Combination Rates in Antidumping Investigations Involving Non-Market Economy Countries,” (April 5, 2005) (Policy

Bulletin 05.1), available on Commerce’s website at enforcement.trade.gov/policy/bull05-1.pdf.

⁹ See the Preliminary Decision Memorandum for additional details.

¹⁰ See *Certain Pea Protein from the People’s Republic of China: Final Affirmative Determination*

of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, 89 FR 55559 (July 5, 2024).

¹¹ See Petitioners’ Letter, “Antidumping Duty Petition Volume II China,” dated May 16, 2024 (Petition), at Exhibit AD–CN–5.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) and (e)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I, entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the dates discussed below. Further, pursuant to section 733(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the weighted average amount by which normal value exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above as follows: (1) for the producer/exporter combinations listed in the table above, the cash deposit rate is equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed for that combination in the table; (2) for all combinations of China producers/exporters of merchandise under consideration that have not established eligibility for their own separate rates, the cash deposit rate will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for the China-wide entity; and (3) for all third-country exporters of merchandise under consideration not listed in the table above, the cash deposit rate is the cash deposit rate applicable to the China producer/exporter combination (or the China-wide entity) that supplied that third-country exporter.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative determination of critical circumstances, any suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered, or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published. Commerce preliminarily finds that critical circumstances exist for imports of subject merchandise from the non-selected companies eligible for a separate rate and the China-wide entity.¹² In accordance with section 733(e)(2)(A) of the Act, the suspension of liquidation shall apply to all unliquidated entries of merchandise from the non-selected companies eligible for a separate rate and the China-wide entity that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days before the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

To determine the cash deposit rate, Commerce normally adjusts the

estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the amount of domestic subsidy pass-through and export subsidies determined in a companion countervailing duty (CVD) proceeding when CVD provisional measures are in effect. Commerce determined in the preliminary determination of the companion CVD investigation that the mandatory respondent (*i.e.*, Henan Aluminum) and the non-selected respondents (*i.e.*, the “All Others” companies) did not benefit from export subsidies.¹³ Thus, we have not adjusted the cash deposit rates to account for export subsidies. Furthermore, because no respondent cooperated in this proceeding, we do not have any information to conclude whether any respondent is entitled to an adjustment for domestic subsidies passed-through. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

Normally, Commerce discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with a preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because Commerce preliminarily applied AFA to the mandatory respondents in this investigation in accordance with section 776 of the Act, and the applied AFA rate is based solely on the Petition, and the rate assigned to the separate rate companies was a simple average of the Petition rates, there are no calculations to disclose.

Verification

Because the mandatory respondents in this investigation did not provide information requested by Commerce and Commerce preliminarily determines each of the mandatory respondents to have been uncooperative, verification will not be conducted.

Public Comment

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i), interested parties may submit a case brief no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than

five days after the date for filing case briefs.¹⁴ Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.¹⁵

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this investigation, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.¹⁶ Further, we request that interested parties limit their public executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the public executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).¹⁷

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, filed electronically via ACCESS. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Issues raised in the hearing will be limited to those raised in the respective briefs. An electronically filed hearing request must be received successfully in its entirety by Commerce's electronic records system, ACCESS, by 5 p.m. Eastern Time within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.

U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC

¹⁴ See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (*APO and Service Final Rule*).

¹⁵ See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

¹⁶ We use the term “issue” here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

¹⁷ See *APO and Service Final Rule*.

¹² See Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

¹³ See *Disposable Aluminum Containers, Pans, Trays, and Lids from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination*, 89 FR 85495–85497 (October 28, 2024).

of its preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of subject merchandise are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Notification to Interested Parties

This preliminary determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: December 19, 2024.

Abdelali Elouaradia,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids produced primarily from flat-rolled aluminum. The subject merchandise includes disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids regardless of shape or size and whether or not wrinkled or smooth.

The term “disposable” is used to identify an aluminum article that is designed to be used once, or for a limited number of times, and then recycled or otherwise disposed.

“Containers, pans, and trays” are receptacles for holding goods.

The subject disposable aluminum lids are intended to be used in combination with disposable containers produced from aluminum or other materials (*e.g.*, paper or plastic). Where a disposable aluminum lid is imported with a non-aluminum container, only the disposable aluminum lid is included in the scope.

Disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids are also included within the scope regardless of whether the surface has been embossed, printed, coated (including with a non-stick substance), or decorated, and regardless of the style of the edges. The inclusion of a non-aluminum lid or dome sold or packaged with an otherwise in-scope article does not remove the article from the scope, however, only the disposable aluminum container, pan, tray, and lid is covered by the scope definition.

Disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids are typically used in food-related applications, including but not limited to food preparation, packaging, baking, barbecuing, reheating, takeout, or storage, but also have other uses. Regardless of end use, disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids that meet the scope definition and are not otherwise excluded are subject merchandise.

Excluded from the scope are disposable aluminum casks, drums, cans, boxes and similar containers (including disposable aluminum cups and bottles) properly classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 7612.90. However, aluminum containers,

pans, trays, and lids that would otherwise be covered by the scope are not excluded based solely on the fact that they are being classified under HTSUS subheading 7612.90.5000 due to the thickness of aluminum being less than 0.04 mm or greater than 0.22 mm.

The flat-rolled aluminum used to produce the subject articles may be made to ASTM specifications ASTM B479 or ASTM B209–14, but can also be made to other specifications. Regardless of the specification, however, all disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids meeting the scope description are included in the scope.

Disposable aluminum containers, pans, trays, and lids are currently classifiable under HTSUS subheading 7615.10.7125. Further, merchandise that falls within the scope of this proceeding may also be entered into the United States under HTSUS subheadings 7612.90.1090, 7615.10.3015, 7615.10.3025, 7615.10.7130, 7615.10.7155, 7615.10.7180, 7615.10.9100, and 8309.90.0000. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this proceeding is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Single Entity Analysis
- V. Discussion of the Methodology
- VI. Critical Circumstances
- VII. Adjustment Under Section 777(A)(f) of the Act
- VIII. Adjustment to Cash Deposit Rates for Export Subsidies
- IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2024–31082 Filed 12–27–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Establishment of the Methane Plume Remote Sensing Measurements Consortium

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

ACTION: Notice of Research Consortium.

SUMMARY: NIST is establishing the Methane Plume Remote Sensing Measurements Consortium (“Consortium”) to support the rapidly growing field of remote sensing for the detection and quantification of methane emissions, primarily from point sources. This Consortium aims to unite Federal and State agencies, academia, business, and industry to enhance robust transparency, accuracy, reliability, and interoperability of methane plume detection and quantification data products. In this evolving field of

measurement and analysis, consistency across products and results, an understanding of the drivers of error, and a well-constructed validation strategy, are important to increase trust in the data products. To achieve this, the Consortium is focused on identifying the strengths and limitations of current methodologies and analysis approaches. The Consortium seeks to foster transparency through improved documentation, consensus building around best practices and the development of documentary consensus standards. In addition, the Consortium seeks to support the coordination and standardization of validation approaches for these measurements and the utilization of controlled releases. By fostering collaboration among business, Federal agencies, local governmental stakeholders, and researchers, the Consortium aims to drive advancements in methane plume detection and quantification and the analysis supported by them.

Participants will be required to sign a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA).

DATES: The Consortium’s activities will commence on January 15, 2024 (“Commencement Date”). NIST will accept letters of interest to participate in this Consortium on an ongoing basis.

ADDRESSES: Completed letters of interest or requests for additional information about the Consortium can be directed via mail to the Consortium Manager, Dr. Annmarie Eldering, Greenhouse Gas Measurements Program of NIST’s Special Programs Office, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 2100, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, or via electronic mail annmarie.eldering@nist.gov, or by telephone at (301) 975–5558.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Saikat Ghosh, Partnership Officer, National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Technology Partnerships Office, by mail to 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 2200, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, by electronic mail to Saikatkumar.Ghosh@nist.gov or by telephone at (301) 975–3084.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST is establishing the Methane Plume Remote Sensing Measurements Consortium (“Consortium”) to support the rapidly growing field of remote sensing for the detection and quantification of methane emissions, primarily from point sources. This Consortium aims to unite Federal and State agencies, academia, business, and industry to enhance robust transparency, accuracy, reliability, and interoperability of methane plume detection and quantification data products. In this rapidly growing and