



BBR Level-1 product comparison with CERES

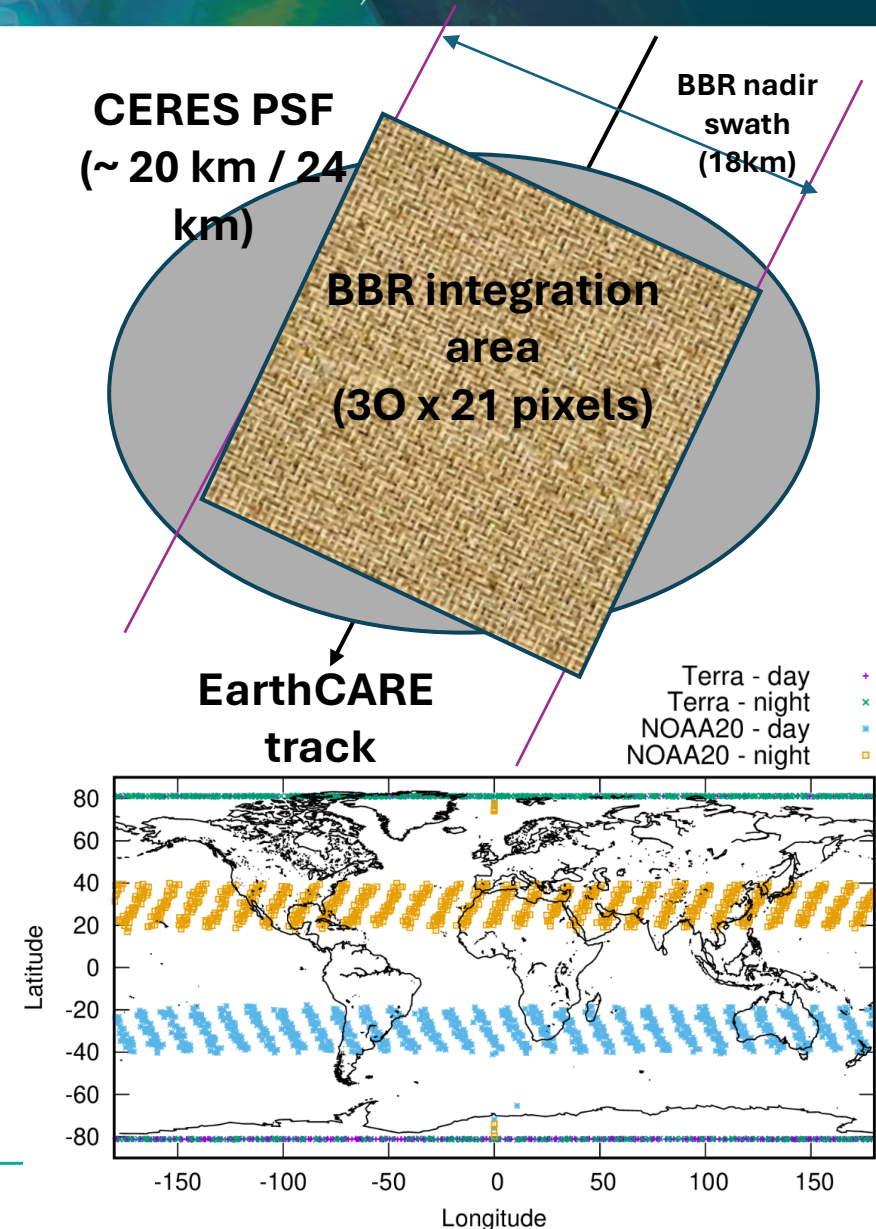
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2nd ESA-JAXA EarthCARE In-Orbit Validation Workshop

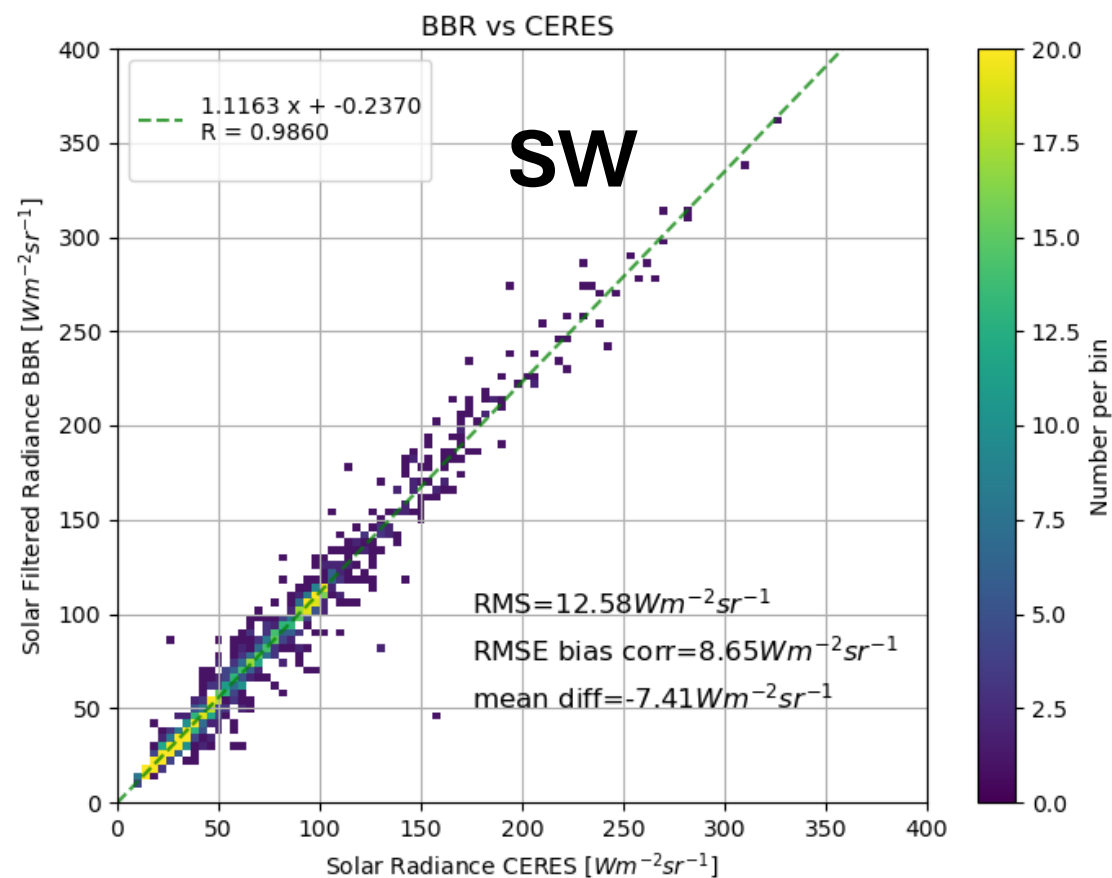
17 – 20 March 2025 | ESA-ESRIN | Frascati (Rome), Italy

BBR-SNG Comparison with CERES FLASHflux - method

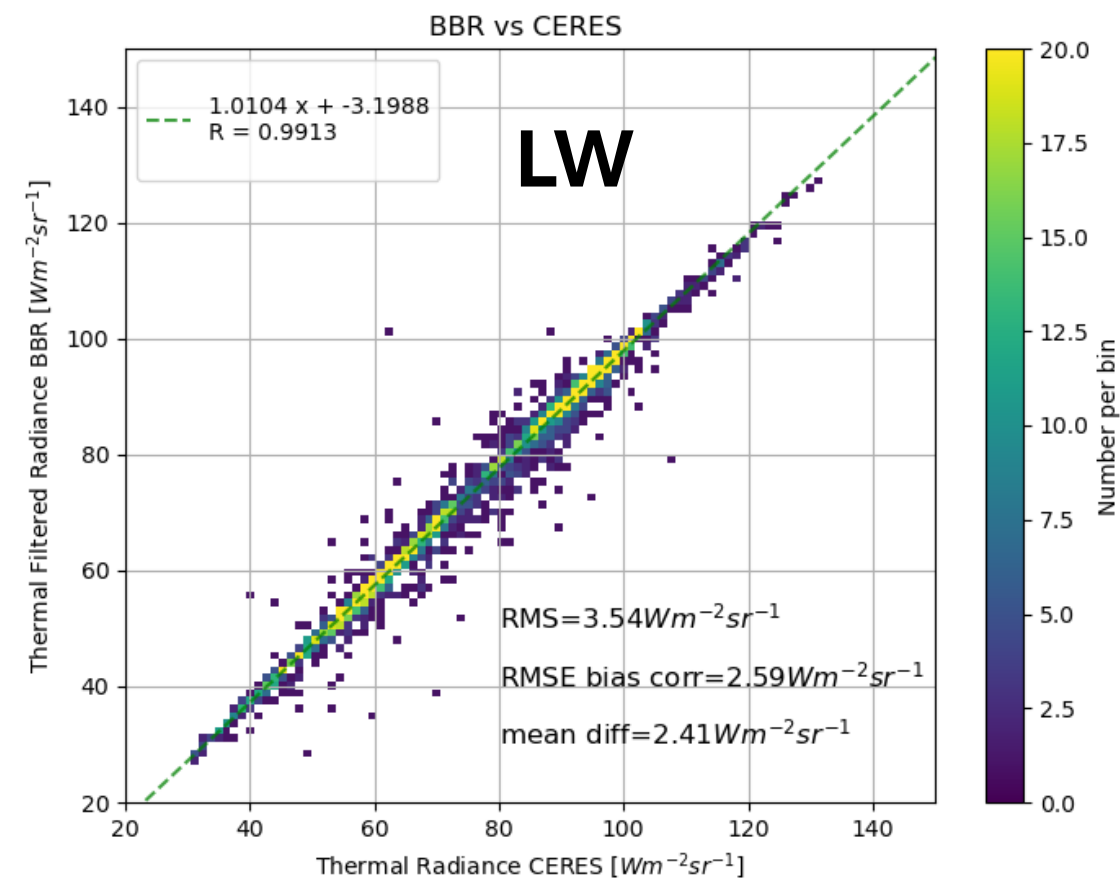
- CERES : Cloud and Earth Radiant Energy System
- Level 2 SSF (Single Scanner Footprint) product
- Currently only FLASHFlux (Fast Longwave And SHortwave Flux) products available from across-track instruments on:
 - FM1 on Terra (descending 10:30 morning drifting)
 - FM6 on NOAA20 (ascending 13:25 afternoon)
- CERES PSF of ~20 km (Terra, Aqua) or ~24 km (SNPP, NOAA20) -> larger than the BBR swath (~18km)
- B-SNG integration area : 30 (across track) x 21 (along-track)
- Collocation criteria
 - Time difference < 300 seconds
 - distance between PSF centers < 3km
 - Angle between viewing directions < 3°
- Dates : 10 Aug. 2024 – 03 March 2025



B-SNG Comparison with CERES FLASHflux - Results

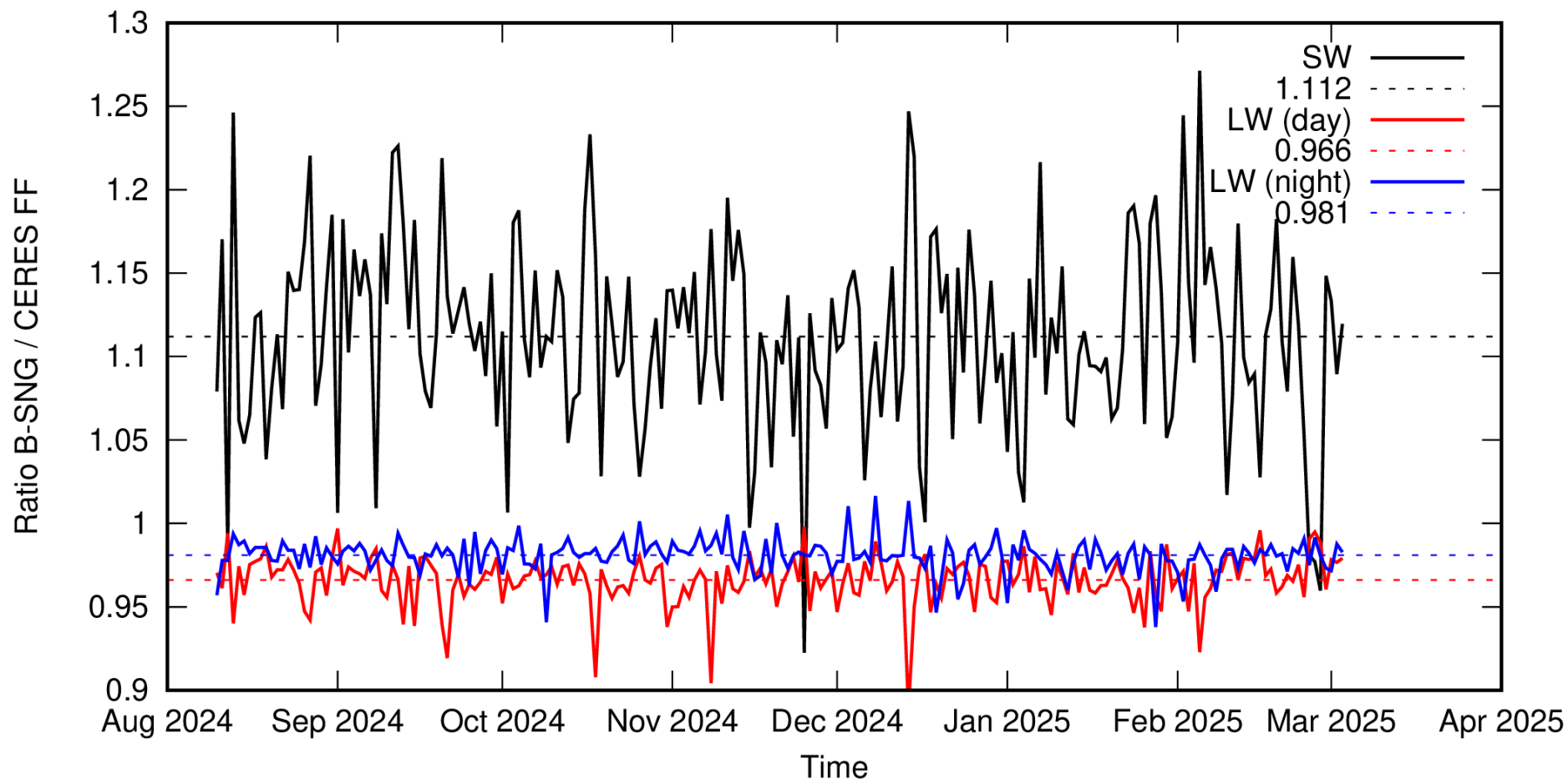


SW brighter ~9%



LW lower ~ 3% (~2.4 W/m²/sr)

Temporal Stability – BBR versus FM6/NOAA20



→ No indication of temporal degradation so far.

Shortwave ground calibration revisit

- SW ground calibration done using a reference laser source at $\lambda=0.532 \mu\text{m}$
- Need to convert gain G_{laser} to $G_{\text{SW}} = C * G_{\text{laser}}$

- A value of $C=0.9278$ seems to have been used in the CCDB instead of $C \sim 1.0$ obtained with latest spectral response.

- Using $C=1$ will reduce the SW radiances and flux by $\sim 7.2\%$
→ Better agreement with CERES

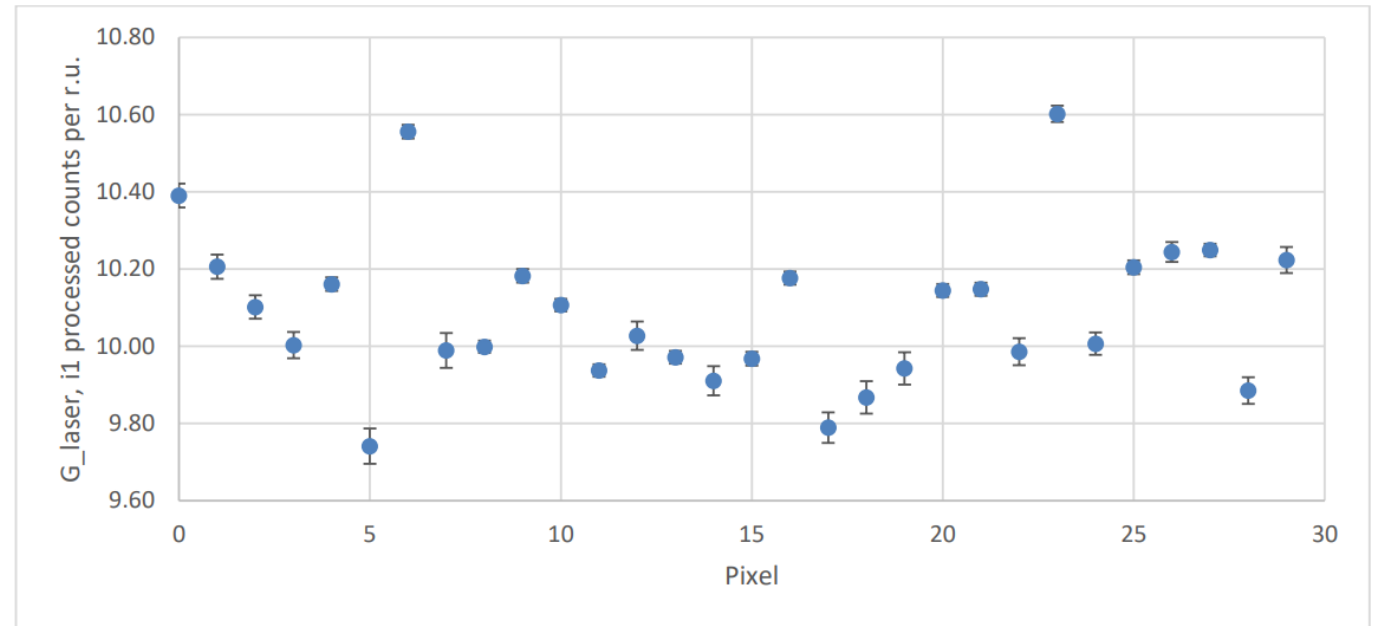
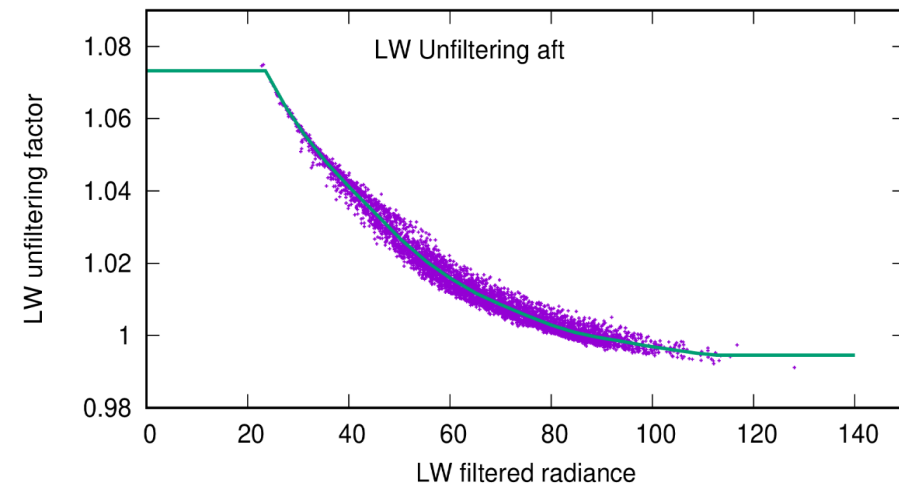
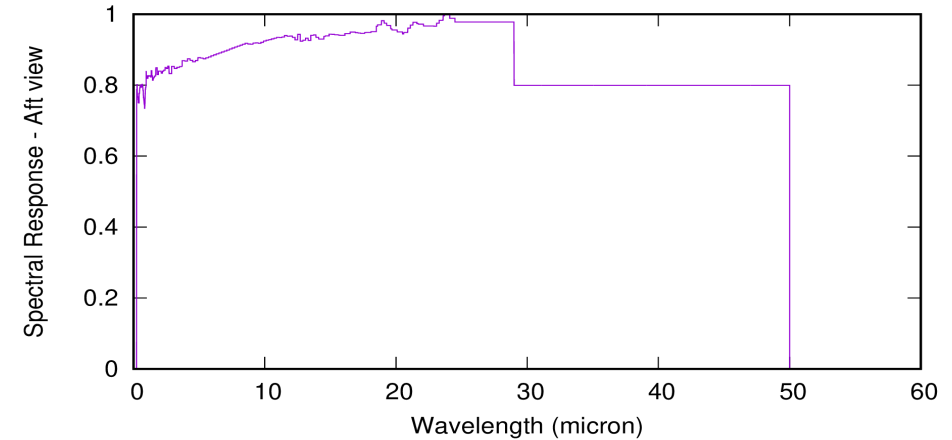


Figure 6-7: Gain of each pixel at the wavelength of the laser source, and averaged for all TestIDs

- The LW calibration uses a CCDB table between filtered radiances and blackbody temperature
- To construct this table there was no interpolation of spectral response, and no sensitivity in the far IR ($\lambda > 50\mu\text{m}$)
- This assumption necessitates higher unfiltering factor, especially for cold scene (up to 7%-8% unfiltering correction)

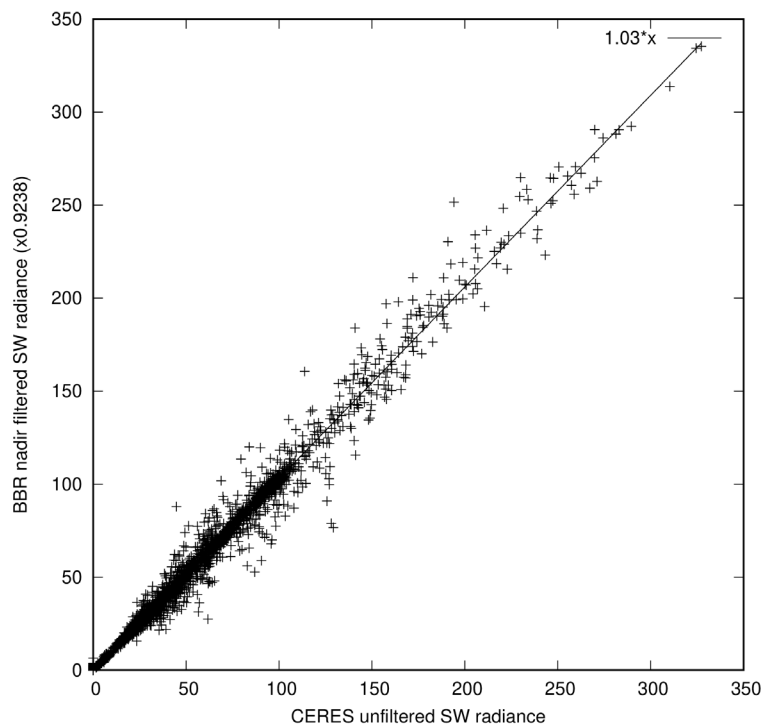
Propose to rebuild the CCDB table with interpolation and extrapolation up to $\lambda = 500\mu\text{m}$
→ Better agreement with CERES (lower difference and scene type dependency)



Shortwave and Longwave calibration revisit

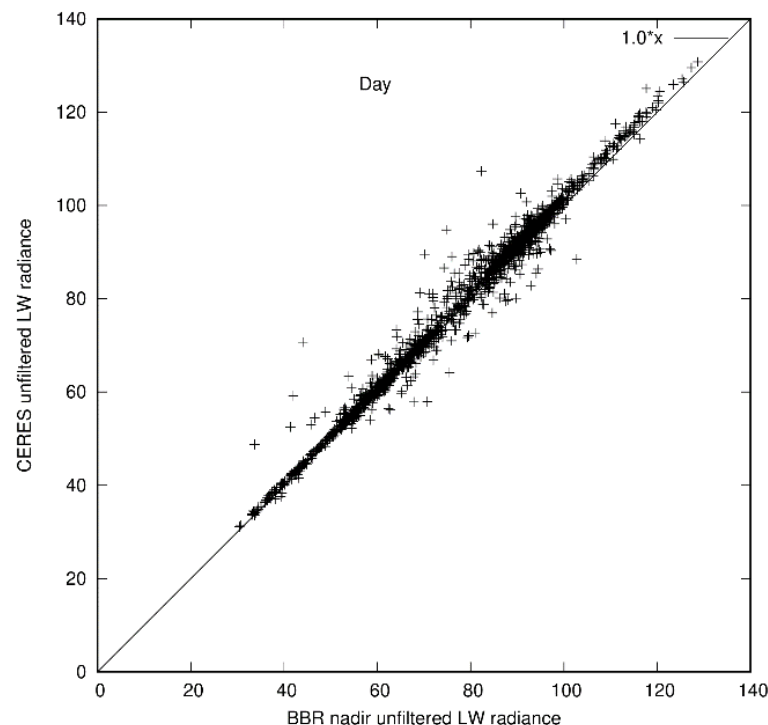


Shortwave (day)



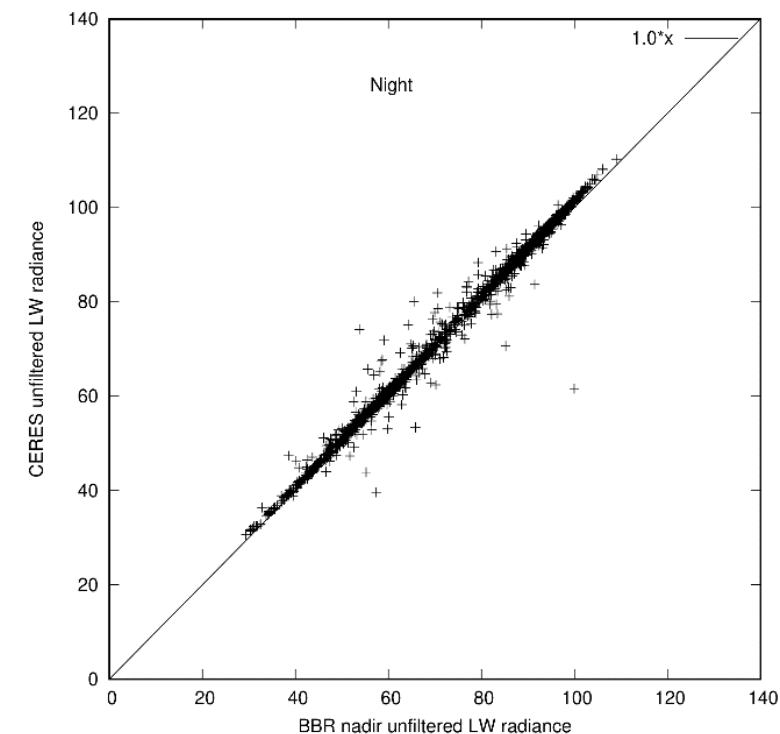
best fits day: $L_{\text{BBR}} = 1.03 L_{\text{CERES}}$

Longwave (day)



best fits day: $L_{\text{BBR}} = 0.984 L_{\text{CERES}}$

Longwave (night)



best fit night: $L_{\text{BBR}} = 0.985 L_{\text{CERES}}$

→ Target to have the CCDB update ready for end of March.

Summary – comparison with CERES

- CERES is the best BB measurements available for BBR validation (GERB also used but less reliable).
- Simultaneous Nadir Overpasses (SNO) with NOAA20 for each orbit crossing.
- Significant biases with respect to CERES FLASHflux the current L1 baseline (AD).
- Will be reduced by CCDB updates. Expected improvements:
 - BBR SW ~9% -> ~2% brighter
 - BBR LW ~3% -> ~1.5% lower

