



Intercomparison of Cloud Products between MSI and Himawari-9/AHI

Masataka Muto¹, Takuji Kubota¹, Toshiyuki Tanaka¹, Mingrui Wang², and Takashi Y. Nakajima²

1: JAXA EORC

2: Tokai University

2nd ESA-JAXA EarthCARE In-Orbit Validation Workshop

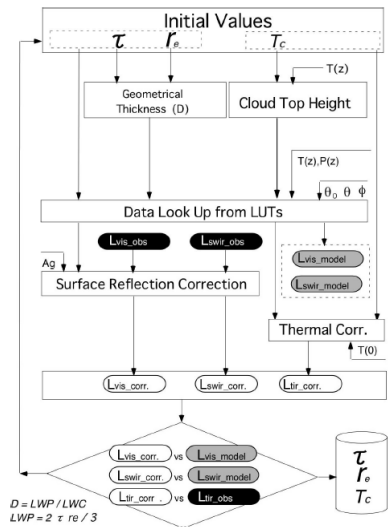
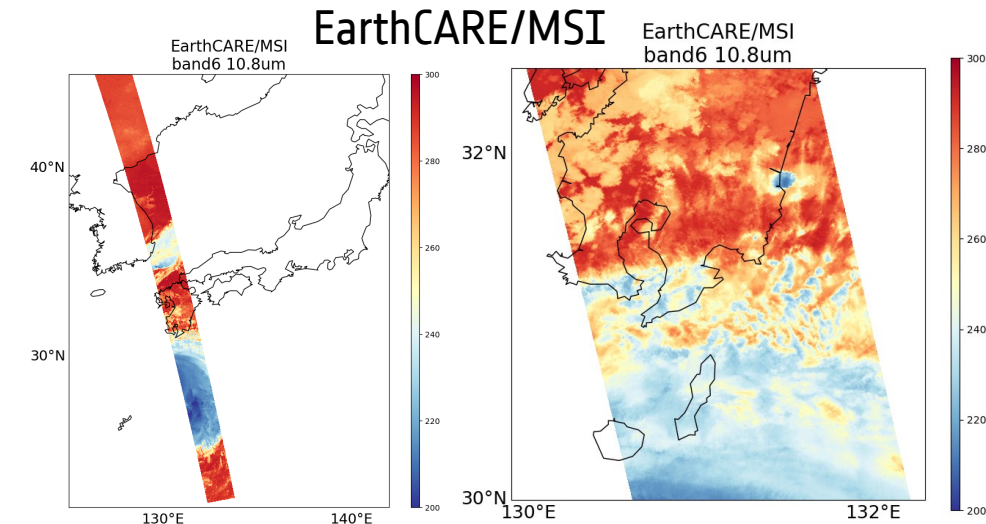
17 – 20 March 2025 | ESA-ESRIN | Frascati (Rome), Italy

MSI vs Himawari-9/AHI

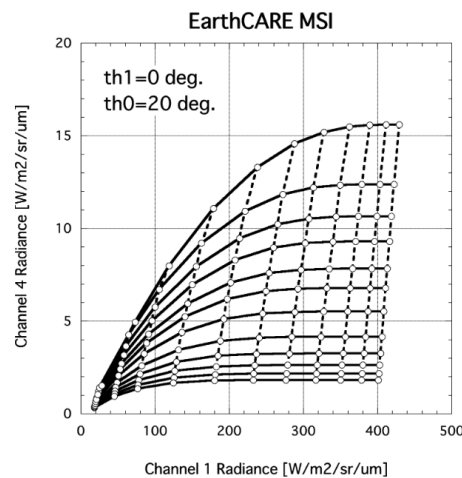
- Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI)
 - Resolution : 2km for L1 and 5km for L2
 - Observation frequency: every 10mins
- CLAUDIA and CAPCOM (Nakajima et al.,2019), which are the same algorithms as those of MSI cloud product (MSI_CLP).



<https://www.mitsubishielectric.co.jp/society/space/satellite/observation/himawari8-9.html>

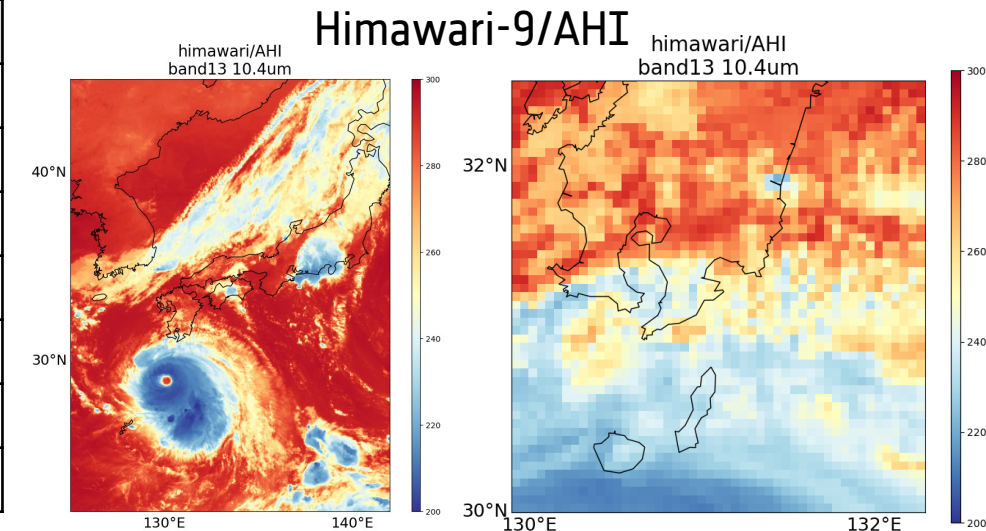


CAPCOM algorithm flow and LUT (Nakajima et al.,2019)



Central wavelength

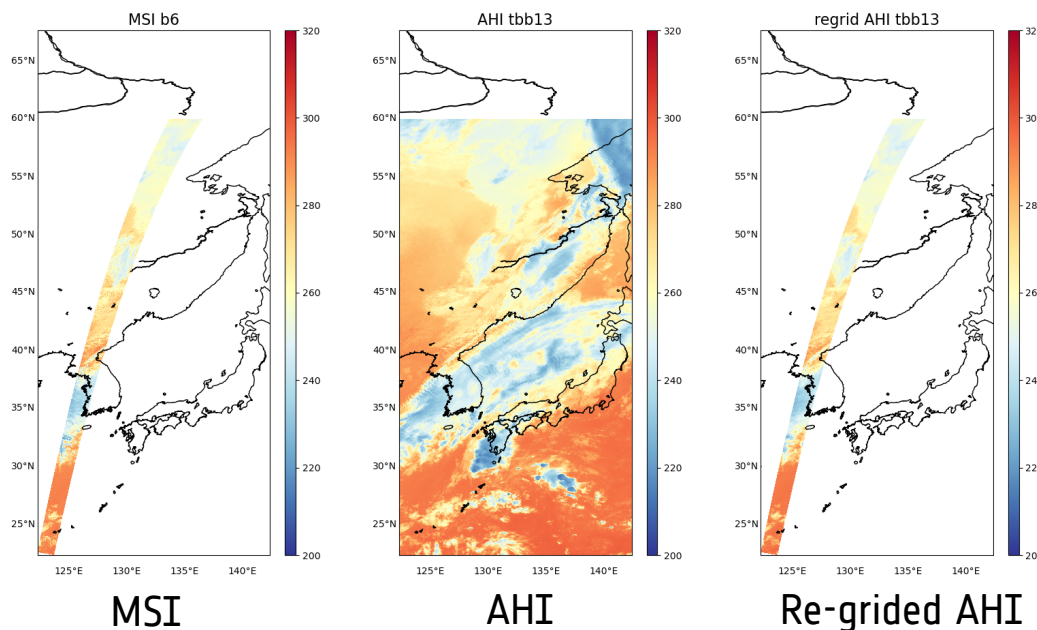
	MSI	AHI
VIS	0.67μm	0.64μm
NIR	0.865μm	0.86μm
SWIR	1.65μm	1.6μm
	2.2μm	2.3μm
TIR	8.8μm	8.6μm
	10.8μm	10.4μm
	12.0μm	12.4μm



MSI vs Himawari-9/AHI

■ Re-grid pixels to make matchup data

- MSI: resolution reduced to 2km(L1) or 5km(L2)
- AHI: search nearest neighbor pixels of MSI



■ Convert VNS radiance to albedo with solar spectral irradiance

$$R = \frac{\pi L(\lambda)}{F_{0(\lambda)} \cos(SOZ)}$$

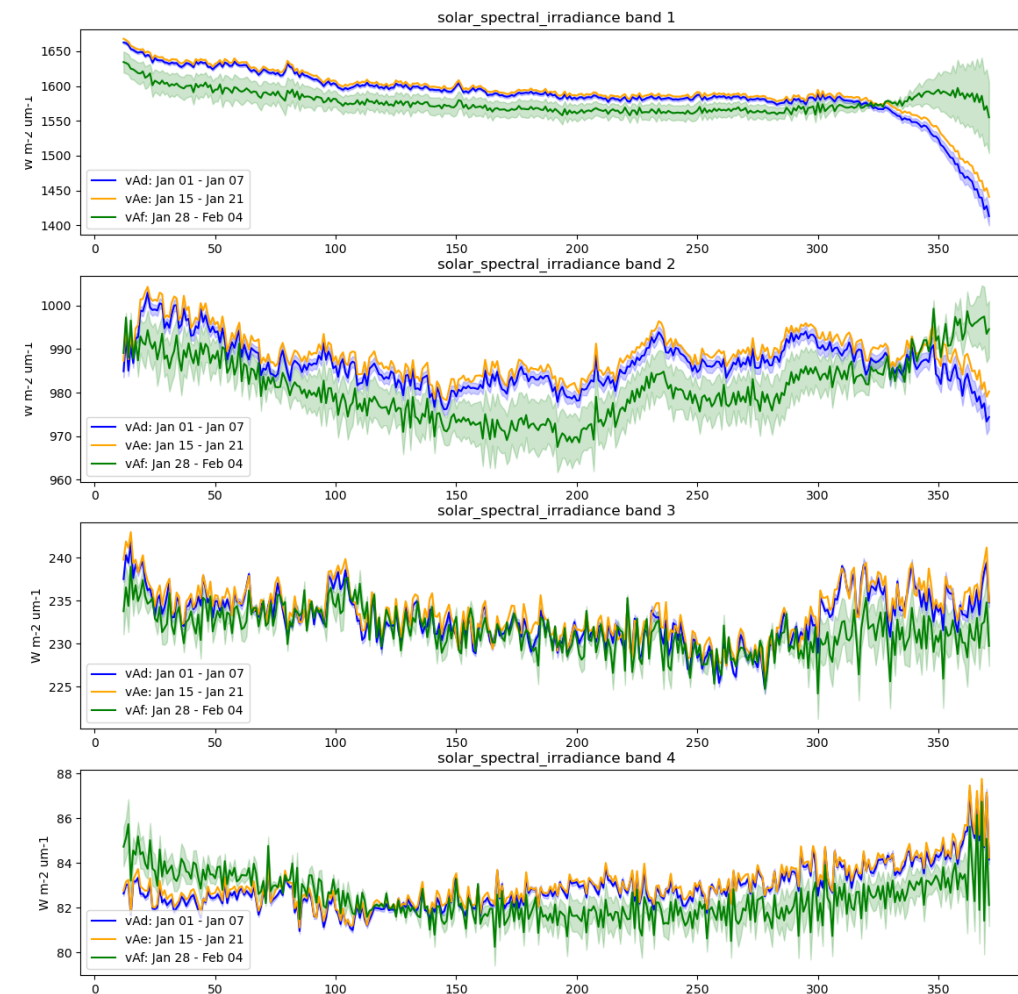
$$Albedo = R \times \cos(SOZ) = \frac{\pi L(\lambda)}{F_{0(\lambda)}}$$

$L(\lambda)$: pixel_value

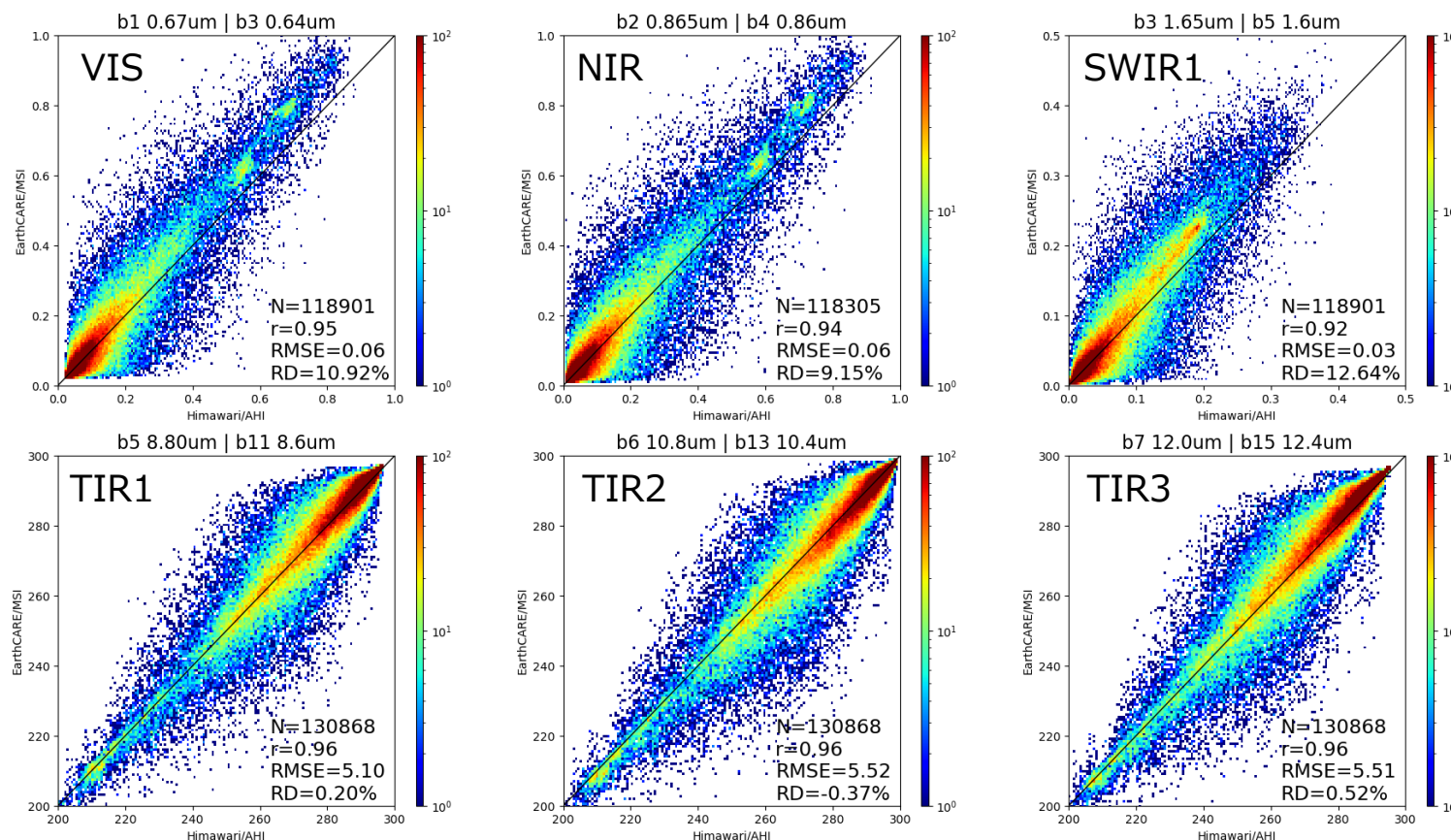
$F_{0(\lambda)}$: solar_spectral_irradiance

SOZ : solar_zenith_angle

Solar_spectral_irradiance

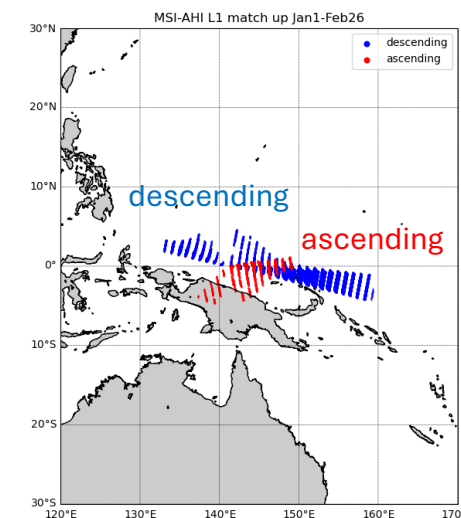


L1 Comparison - MSI vs AHI



Matchup site

Version: vAf
Frame: E, A
Period:
Jan 1 – Feb 27
SAA and SAZ diff.
within 5 degrees



- 3 TIR channel values match well
- VNS was overestimated due to imperfect calibration

L2 Cloud Mask



- MSI_CLP has Clear Confidence Level (CCL)
- Clear/Cloudy criteria set as follows
 - MSI CCL: 0-3 → cloudy | MSI CCL: 4-7 → clear
 - AHI CM : 2-3 → cloudy | AHI CM : 0-1 → clear

Ocean surface

Ocean		AHI	
Total: 4923767		cloudy	clear
MSI	cloudy	1957298	460516
		39.8%	9.35%
	clear	189028	2316925
		3.84%	47.1%

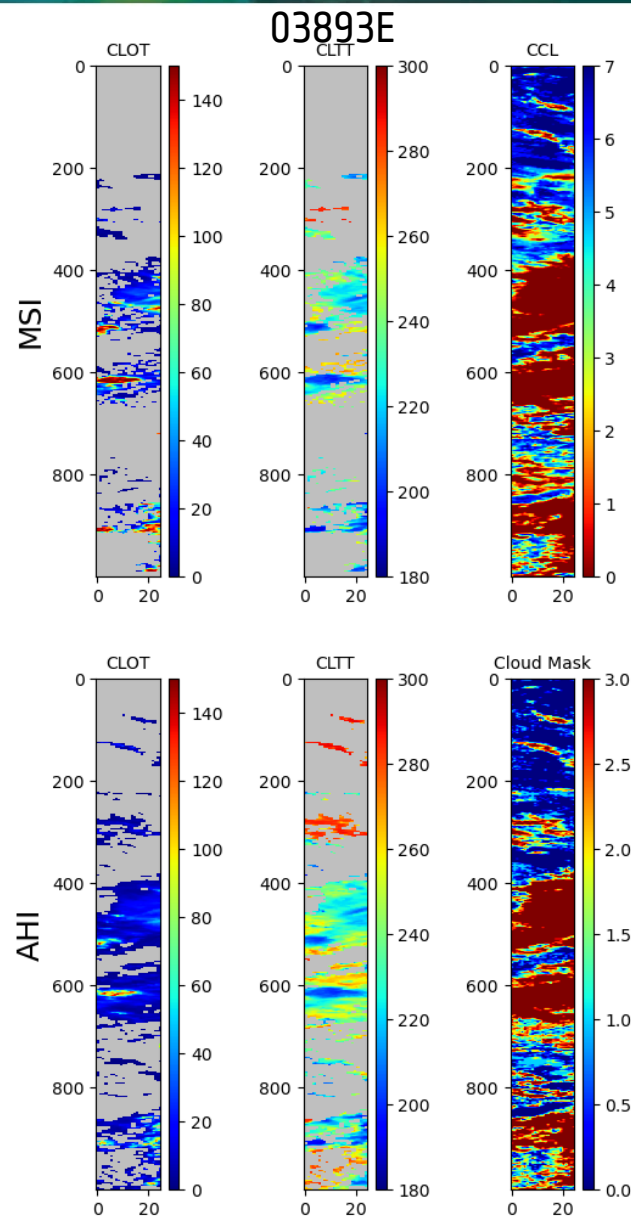
match : 86.8%, mismatch : 13.2%

Land surface

Land		AHI	
Total: 673464		cloudy	clear
MSI	cloudy	251872	53171
		37.4%	7.90%
	clear	15983	352438
		2.37%	52.3%

match : 89.7%, mismatch : 10.3%

→ Cloud mask matches well



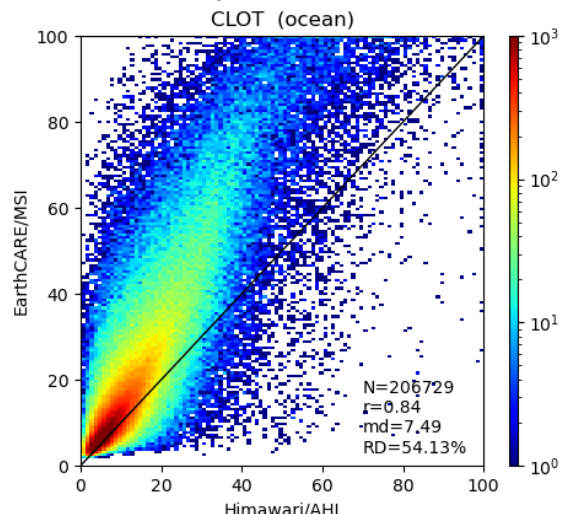
L2 Liquid Water Cloud



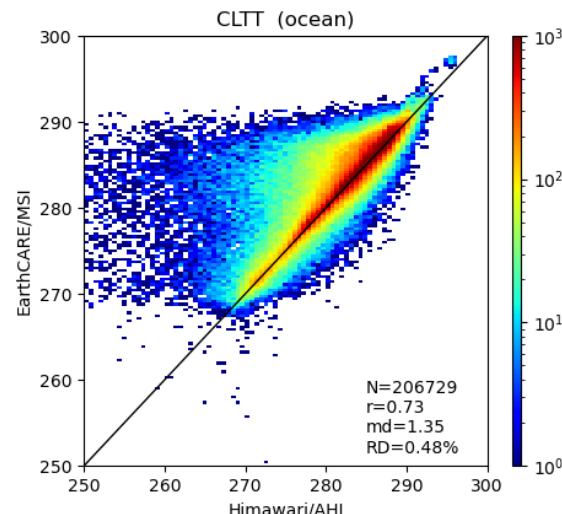
Ocean

MSI_CLP

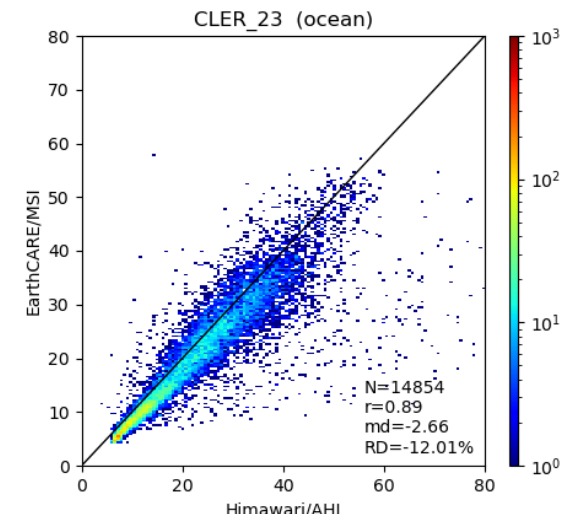
Cloud Optical Thickness



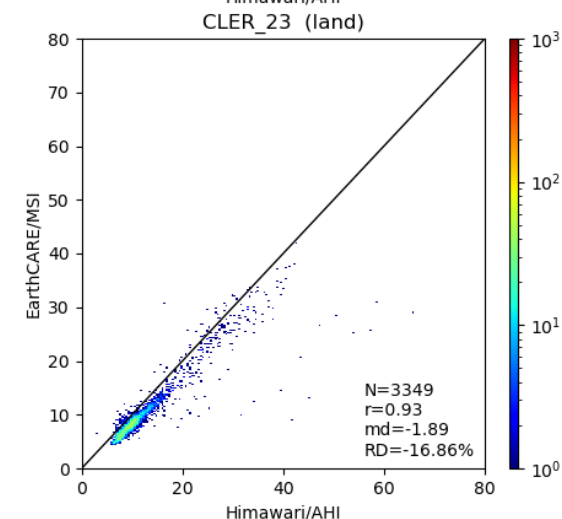
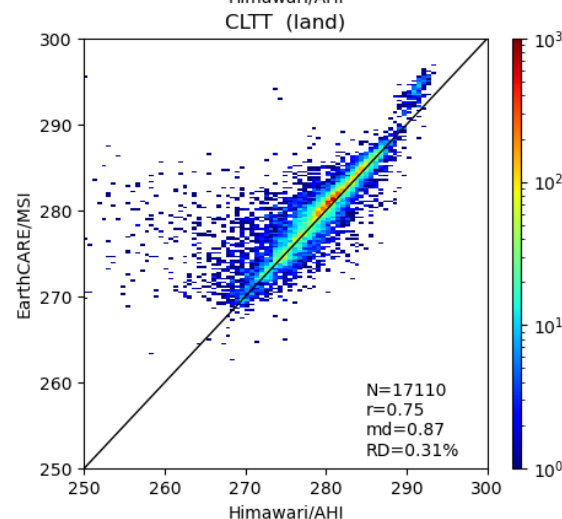
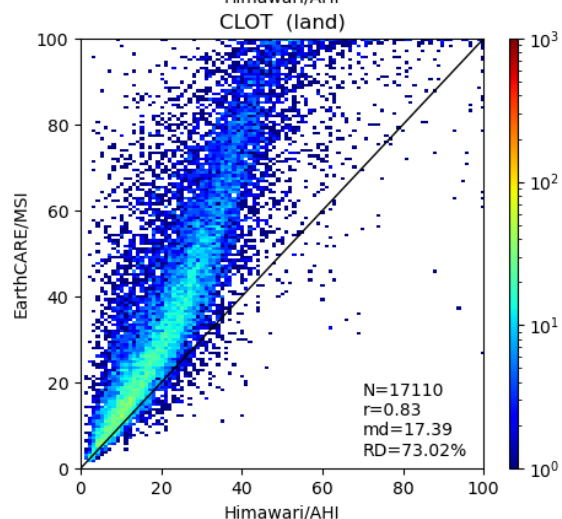
Cloud Top Temperature



Cloud Effective Radius (2.2um)



Land



AHI

L2 Ice Cloud

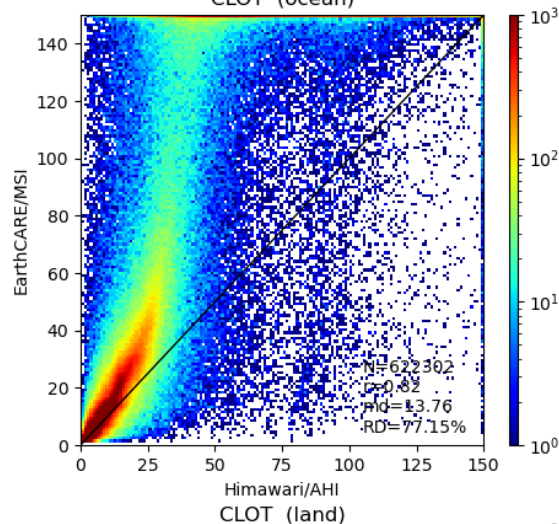


Ocean

MSI_CLP

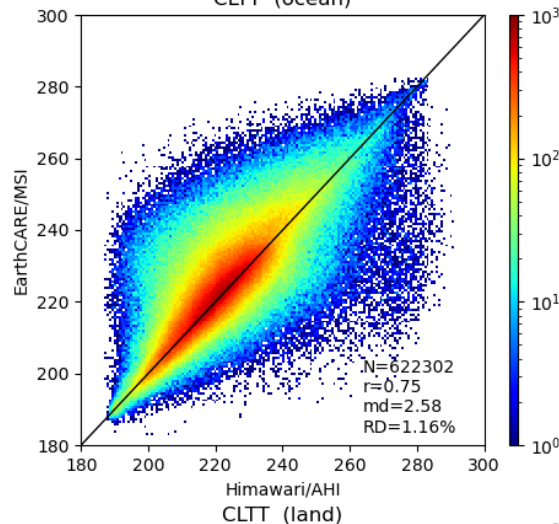
Cloud Optical Thickness

CLOT (ocean)



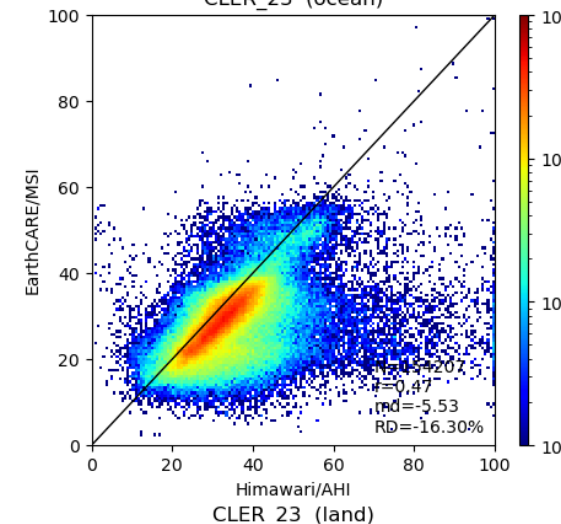
Cloud Top Temperature

CLTT (ocean)

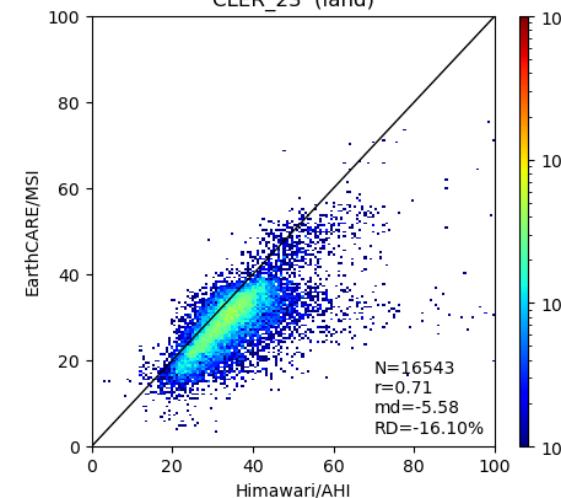
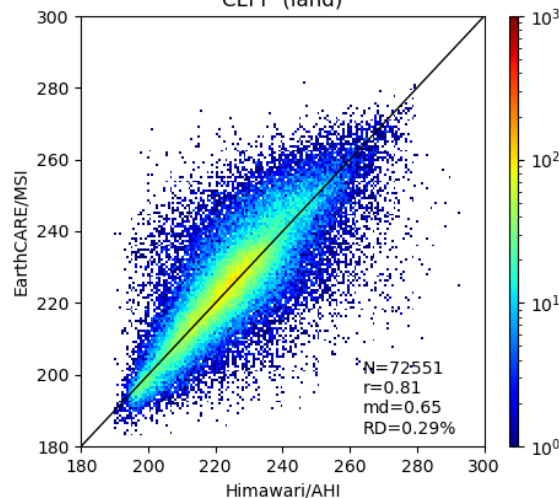
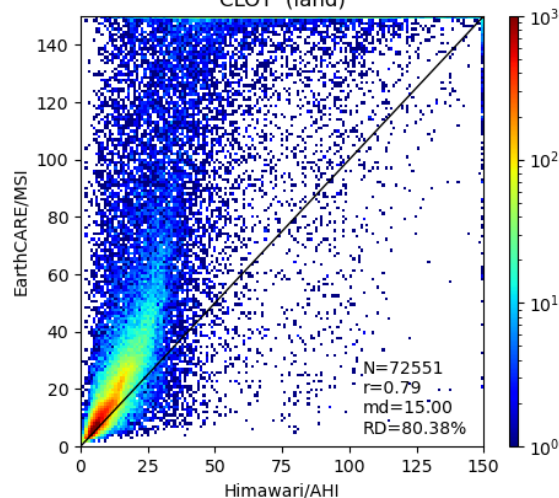


Cloud Effective Radius (2.2um)

CLER_23 (ocean)

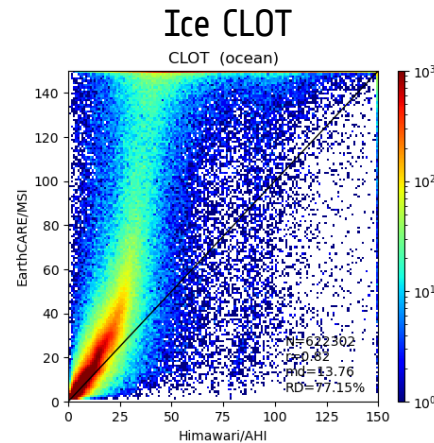
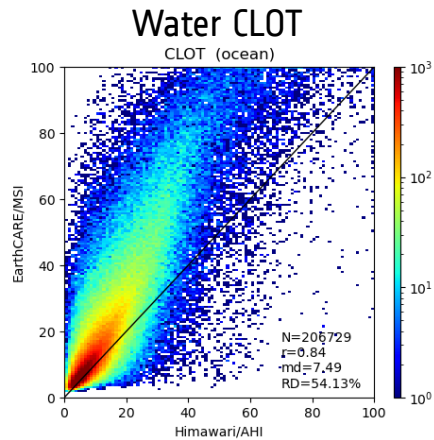


Land



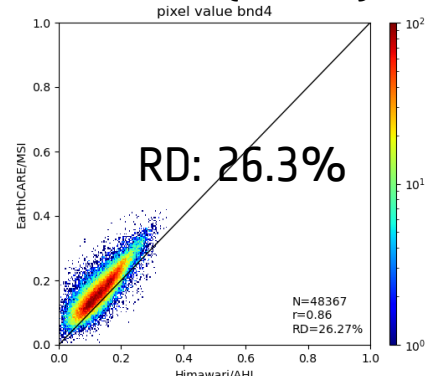
AHI

VNS bias affects CLOT retrieval

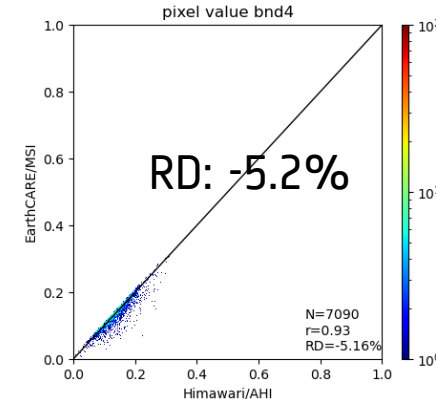


What if L1 VNS bias was corrected?

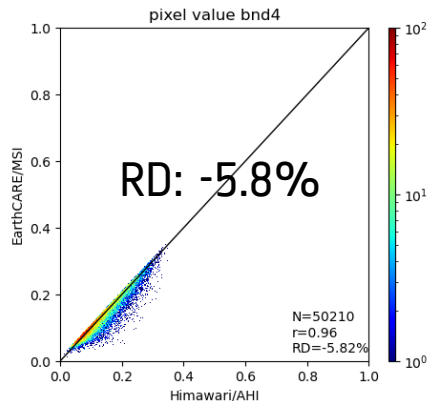
Band4 (2.2um)



QC



QC



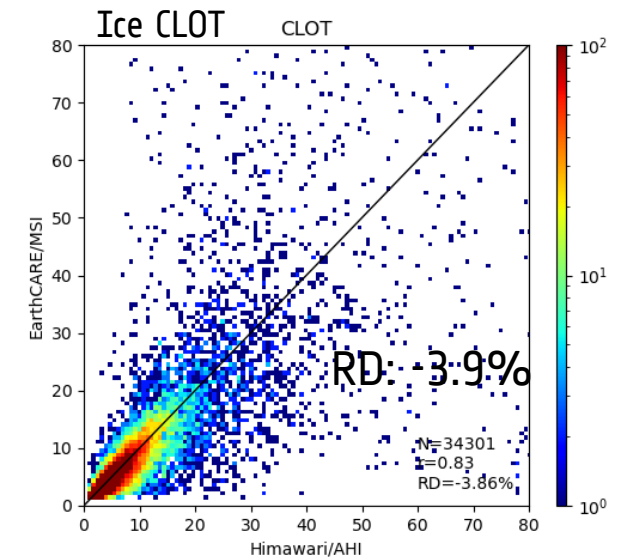
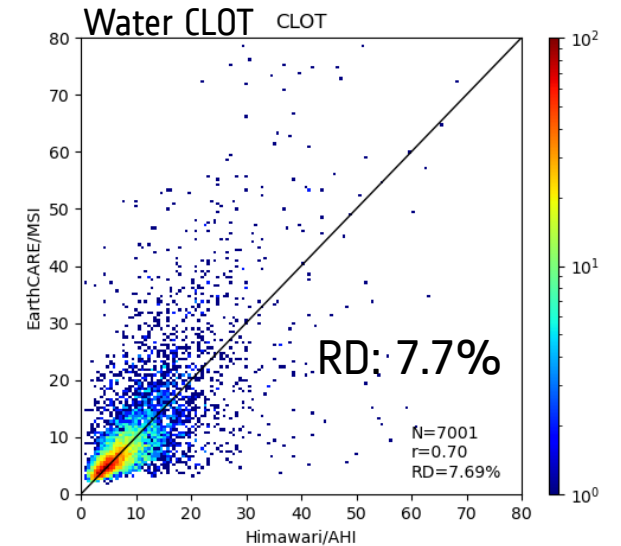
Simple Quality Control

[QC1]: band4

$\text{MSI_band4} - \text{AHI_band4} < 0.02$

[QC2]: band1

$\text{MSI_band1} - \text{AHI_band1} < 0.01$



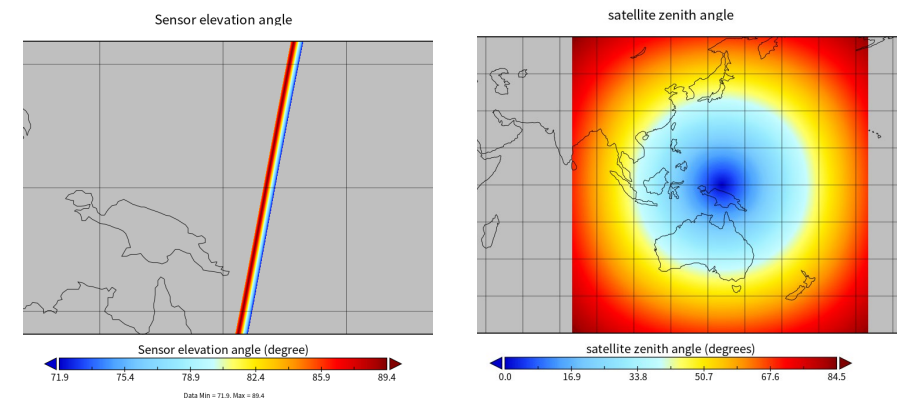
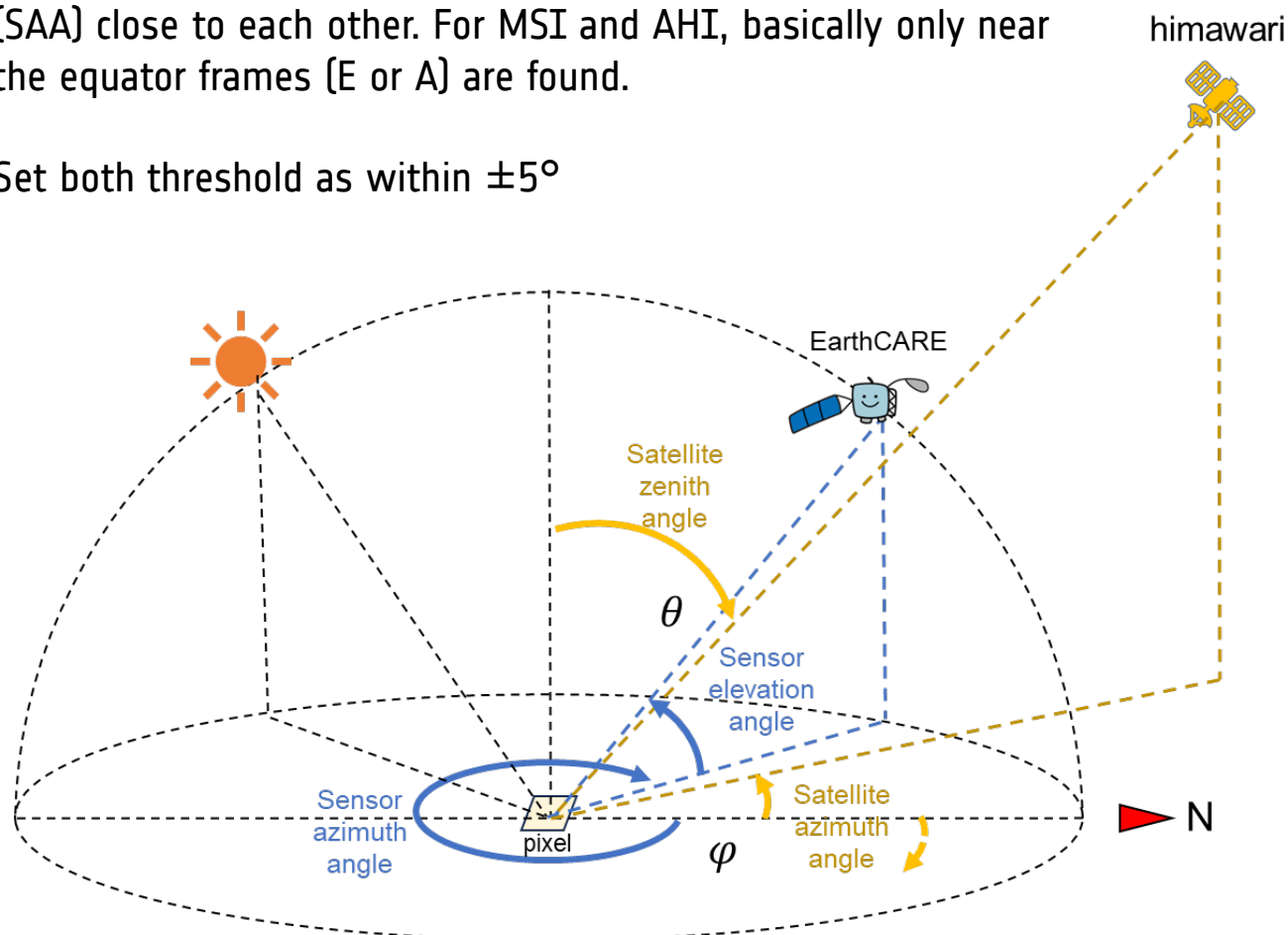


According to the result of intercomparison between MSI and AHI,

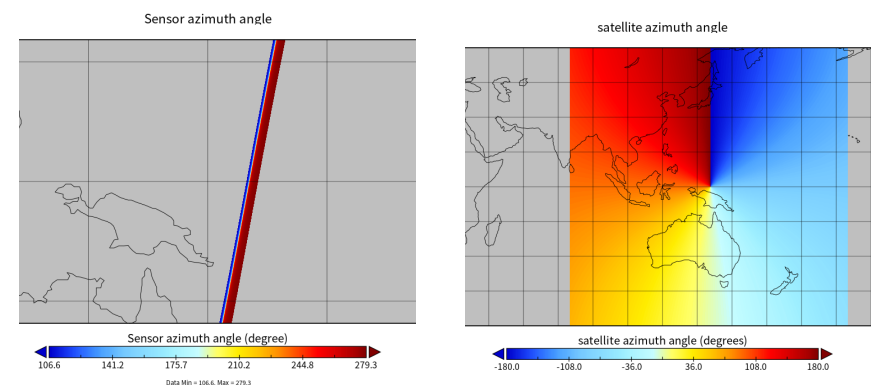
- 3 TIR channels are well calibrated.
- Version vAf of VNS is still excessive and remains calibration issues.
- Cloud optical thickness tends to be overestimate.
- Cloud top temperature and effective radius are estimated relatively well.
- Implemented a (very) simple quality control to reduce the L1 VNS bias, over-trend of cloud optical thickness was mitigated and matched with good accuracy.
- **L1 VNS calibration is a key to improve L2 products!**

(Appendix) Geometrical Correction for L1 comparison

- Search satellite zenith angle (SAZ) and satellite azimuth angle (SAA) close to each other. For MSI and AHI, basically only near the equator frames (E or A) are found.
- Set both threshold as within $\pm 5^\circ$



- AHI : zenith angle
 - MSI : viewing angle
- Convert MSI viewing angle to zenith angle



- AHI azimuth angle : $-180 \sim 180$
 - MSI azimuth angle : $0 \sim 360$
- Fit azimuth angle range of MSI to that of AHI