

EARLY ONLINE RELEASE

This is a PDF of a manuscript that has been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication. As the article has not yet been formatted, copy edited or proofread, the final published version may be different from the early online release.

This pre-publication manuscript may be downloaded, distributed and used under the provisions of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) license. It may be cited using the DOI below.

The DOI for this manuscript is

DOI:10.2151/jmsj.2018-007

J-STAGE Advance published date: December 8, 2017

The final manuscript after publication will replace the preliminary version at the above DOI once it is available.

1

2 **Development of gas absorption tables and an**
3 **atmospheric radiative transfer package for applications**
4 **using the Advanced Himawari Imager**

5

6 **Miho SEKIGUCHI**

7 *Faculty of Marine Technology,*
8 *Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Tokyo, Japan*

9

10 **Hironobu Iwabuchi**

11 *Graduate School of Science,*
12 *Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan*

13

14 **Takashi M. Nagao**

15 *Earth Observation Research Center,*
16 *Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Ibaraki, Japan*

17

18 **Teruyuki Nakajima**

19 *Earth Observation Research Center,*
20 *Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Ibaraki, Japan*

21

22 Oct 5, 2017

23

24

25 -----
26 Corresponding author: Miho Sekiguchi, Tokyo University of Marine Science and
27 Technology, 2-1-6, Etchujima, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-8533 Japan
28 Email: miho@kaiyodai.ac.jp
29 Tel: +81-3-5245-7463
30 Fax: +81-3-5245-7463

31

Abstract

We developed an atmospheric gas absorption table for the Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI) based on the correlated k -distribution (CKD) method with the optimization method, which was used to determine quadrature weights and abscissas. We incorporated the table and band information of the AHI into a multi-purpose atmospheric radiative transfer package, Rstar. We updated the package so that users could easily specify the satellite and band number. Use of this update made it possible for the optimized CKD method to carry out calculations rapidly and accurately. Rstar is easy for beginners to use and facilitates comparison of results. Cloud retrieval tests using different numbers of quadrature points showed that cloud retrievals could be significantly affected by the accuracy of the CKD model.

Keywords: satellite data analysis; atmospheric gas absorption; radiative transfer

1. Introduction

A radiative transfer code is fundamental to analysis of satellite observations. Several modern satellite remote sensing algorithms (Watts et al. 2011; Poulsen et al. 2012; Sourdeval et al. 2015, 2016) are being continuously developed using an optimal estimation method (Rodgers 2000). Iwabuchi et al. (2016, 2018) developed the Integrated Cloud

52 Analysis System (ICAS), which is an optimal estimation-based algorithm used to investigate
53 global distributions of cloud properties. Hashimoto and Nakajima (2017) developed the
54 Multi-Wavelength and multi-Pixel Method (MWPM), which is also based on an optimal
55 estimation approach, to retrieve aerosol optical properties over heterogeneous surfaces.
56 Although computational efficiency is not very important for making a look-up table (often
57 used for analysis of satellite imager data), in these forward models, a radiative transfer code
58 is needed to calculate radiative transfer rapidly and accurately many times and in many
59 cases.

60 Several atmospheric radiative transfer codes have been developed for satellite analysis.
61 For example, RTTOV (Radiative Transfer for TOVS) (Saunders et al. 1999) and 6S (Second
62 Simulation of the Satellite Signal in the Solar Spectrum) (Vermote et al. 1997) are well known
63 open access codes. In Japan, the authors manage the OpenCLASTR (Open Clustered
64 Libraries for Atmospheric Science and Transfer of Radiation) project, from which packages
65 and libraries for atmospheric radiation are developed and distributed. The STAR (System
66 for Transfer of Atmospheric Radiation) series, which plays the main role in this project,
67 contains RSTAR (Nakajima and Tanaka 1986, 1988) for radiance calculations, PSTAR (Ota
68 et al. 2010) for polarized radiance calculations, FSTAR for radiative flux calculations, and
69 MCSTAR (Okata et al. 2017) for three-dimensional Monte-Carlo calculations. RSTAR is a
70 famous radiative transfer package introduced in several satellite retrieval algorithms. It was
71 created in 1988 and has been continuously developed. The latest version is version 7.

72 However, some algorithms are incompatible with recent satellite sensors. The
73 developmental policy of RSTAR is to provide a package that is general and versatile, but
74 such a package requires complicated and detailed specifications for a particular purpose.
75 For a satellite analysis, users have to set the wavelength at the band center, the bandwidth,
76 and the spectral response function of the band that the user wants to analyze. It may be
77 difficult for beginners to specify these settings appropriately to facilitate comparing results
78 with different settings, and it is time-consuming to perform calculations many times with a
79 single setting (i.e., the same set of values for many parameters). Most radiative transfer
80 codes for satellite analyses already include information about sensors; users indicate only
81 the index numbers of the band and sensor as input data. For example, 6S, a radiative
82 transfer code for clear sky and the solar wavelength region, contains spectral response
83 functions at a resolution of $0.025 \mu\text{m}$ and calculates radiative quantities by using an
84 approximation method that involves successive orders of scattering at each wavelength.
85 Rstar uses the discrete-ordinate method for radiative transfer and can treat particle
86 scattering accurately, but it takes a relatively long time to achieve the same resolution as 6S.

87 The Himawari-8 satellite carries the Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI), the resolution of
88 which is greatly improved both spatially and temporally compared to previous meteorological
89 satellites of Japan, GMS and MTSAT series (Bessho et al. 2016). Figure 1 shows the
90 spectral distribution of the outgoing radiance at the top of the atmosphere (TOA) and the
91 surface of Earth multiplied by the response function within the wavelength range of the AHI

92 band #16. The satellite zenith angle was assumed to be 0° . Atmospheric conditions were
93 assumed to be typical of an Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (AFGL) standard atmosphere
94 at mid-latitudes during the summer (Anderson et al. 1986), but the CO_2 concentration was
95 assumed to be 360 ppm. This spectral response function is a transmittance which is
96 provided by Meteorological Satellite Center of Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA),
97 spectrally integrated value of Fig. 1 is equal to satellite-observed radiance in the atmospheric
98 condition as described above. To integrate such a spiky spectral distribution, a large number
99 of quadrature abscissas are needed.

100 The correlated k -distribution (CKD) method (Lacis and Oinas 1991; Fu and Liou 1992)
101 is a rapid method to evaluate atmospheric gas absorption, and it has been incorporated into
102 many broadband models. In this study, we used this method for each wavelength band of
103 the sensors to increase the efficiency of gas absorption process. Moreover, by adopting an
104 optimization method to determine quadrature abscissas and weights, we reduced the
105 number of radiative transfer calculations. Furthermore, we introduced an optimization
106 method into Rstar, and we updated the package of Rstar so that it was suitable for satellite
107 retrieval analysis. Section 2 describes the models and datasets that we used. In Section 3,
108 the optimized CKD method and its evaluations are explained. Section 4 shows the results
109 retrieved by the AHI with this method. Section 5 summarizes this paper.

110

111 **2. Models and Datasets**

112 Rstar7 is a narrow-band model that contains two standard gas absorption tables. It
113 covers the wavenumber spectrum from 10 to 54,000 cm^{-1} , a range that it divides log-linearly
114 into 3732 or 7464 bands. The bandwidths in units of the base-10 logarithm of the
115 wavenumber are 0.001 and 0.0005. For this reason, the bandwidths tend to be wider at
116 shorter wavelengths. These bandwidths may be incompatible with the resolution of the AHI.
117 When the CKD method is applied, the number of quadrature points is fixed at two per band.
118 The abscissas and weights for integration are determined by squared Gaussian quadrature
119 whose abscissas are doubled abscissas of Gaussian quadrature and weights are products
120 of abscissas and weights of that. Perfectly correlated overlapping is assumed in a band
121 where multiple gases are involved. The absorption coefficients of the seven major gases
122 (H_2O , CO_2 , O_3 , N_2O , CO , CH_4 , and O_2) in each band are tabulated for 26 log-linear levels of
123 pressure and 3 levels of temperature. The atmospheric gas absorption database HITRAN
124 2004 (Rothman et al. 2005) is used for line absorptions, and MT_CKD_1 code (Mlawer et
125 al. 2012) is used for continuous absorption. As discussed above, users set quadrature points
126 and weights for spectral integration by Rstar.

127 To make calculations rapid and accurate, we created a new gas absorption table
128 corresponding to each AHI band. We applied the CKD method, and we reduced the number
129 of quadrature points by using an optimization method to determine the abscissas and
130 weights for integration. This method combining the CKD and optimization was originally
131 developed for MSTRNX (Model Simulation radiation TRaNsfer code) (Sekiguchi and

132 Nakajima 2008, hereafter called SN08 in the text), which is a broadband model adapted to
133 MIROC (Model for Interdisciplinary Research on Climate) (Watanabe et al. 2010) and
134 NICAM (Nonhydrostatic Icosahedral Atmospheric Model) (Satoh et al. 2008) and is known
135 to be a fast and stable radiative transfer code. We used HITRAN 2012 (Rothman et al. 2013),
136 the latest version of HITRAN and MT_CKD_2.1, to obtain absorption coefficients. The
137 MT_CKD_2.1 code, which we used to calculate continuous absorption spectra, was
138 developed by AER Inc. and was updated to version 3, which corresponds to HITRAN 2012.
139 We plan to continue updating with the latest version.

140

141 **3. Methods**

142 The optical characteristics of particle scattering, solar irradiance, and the Planck
143 function for blackbody radiation should be independent of wavelength within a band when
144 the CKD method is used for each band. However, in two AHI bands, optical properties vary
145 significantly with wavelength. In AHI band 3, absorption by oxygen is present in part of the
146 spectrum but weak in other parts. AHI band 8 is very wide compared to the other bands, and
147 within band 8 the Planck function varies greatly with wavelength. We divided these two
148 bands into two sub-bands. We initially specified the bandwidths and the gases in each band
149 of the AHI as indicated in Table 1. In this study, the bandwidths are defined the full width at
150 half maximum (FWHM) of the spectral response function (SRF) and we applied the CKD
151 method to each bandwidth. To determine the important absorption gases in each band, we

152 compared calculated radiative fluxes with or without a target gas by reference calculations,
153 whose resolutions were same as that of SRF distributed by JMA; they were 0.1 cm^{-1} (band
154 #7 to #16) or 1.0 cm^{-1} (band #1 to #6), respectively. We took a target gas into consideration
155 if the error due to neglect of that gas was larger than 1%. We sorted the spectral absorption
156 coefficients within each bandwidth to generate a k -distribution. We stored the k -distributions
157 of the target gas species at 26 pressure levels from 0.01 to 1013.25 hPa and three
158 temperatures (200, 260, and 320 K) for each band.

159 A trapezoidal or Gaussian quadrature is often used to carry out numerical integrations
160 in the k -distribution method. In this study, however, we determined the quadrature abscissas
161 and weights using sequential quadratic programming, which is an interactive method for
162 nonlinear optimization. This method is almost same as SN08, but different in two points.
163 One is the setting of the objective function, and the other is the way to select appropriate
164 quadrature abscissas and weights.

165 In this optimization process, quadrature abscissas and weights were set so as to
166 minimize an objective function. The objective function was defined as the square root of the
167 sum of the squared differences between calculations with this method and reference results
168 of the radiative fluxes at the TOA and surface and profiles of heating rates. This setting of
169 the objective function is same as SN08 but Line-By-Line method were used as a reference
170 calculation in SN08. The reference results are calculated radiative fluxes and heating rate
171 with high-spectral resolution, multiplied by the spectral response function and integrated

172 over a bandwidth. The spectral resolutions of the reference calculation were set as same as
173 the SRF. We used six AFGL standard atmospheric conditions (but CO₂ concentrations were
174 modified to 360 ppm) in these calculations. We assumed clear sky conditions because
175 scattering by clouds and aerosols impacted the reference results and made the optimization
176 difficult. To take into account variations of optical path lengths due to multiple scattering and
177 differences in the positions of the sun and satellite, we assumed optical path lengths that
178 satellite zenith angles were equivalent to either 0° or 60°. This setting is also different from
179 SN08.

180 When the objective function decreased, the optimization had sometimes identified a
181 local rather than global minimum. To avoid this problem, we started the optimization process
182 from two initial conditions if the band included more than two gas species. One was a
183 completely correlated overlapping, and the other was a completely uncorrelated overlapping.
184 The initial abscissas and weights were calculated by Gaussian quadrature. Subsequently,
185 we used two processes to change the number of quadrature points, N_c . One process was
186 to optimize for each N_c separately, and the other was to decrease N_c sequentially. In the
187 latter case, the optimization process started from $N_c = 8$ (the initial condition corresponded
188 to completely correlated overlapping, or the number of gas species was 1 or 3 if the initial
189 condition corresponded to completely uncorrelated overlapping) or 9 (the number of gas
190 species was 2 if the initial condition corresponded to completely uncorrelated overlapping).
191 When the optimization process with N_c quadrature points was completed, the initial condition

192 corresponding to $N_c - 1$ quadrature points was defined, and the quadrature point that
193 contributed the least was removed from the optimized quadrature with N_c quadrature points.
194 With this method, we were able to obtain optimized results in each case of N_c quadrature
195 points. We selected the set of abscissas and weights that gave the best results. Finally, the
196 CKD parameters were determined for N_c from 1 to 6. In SN08, N_c is not selectable and
197 already set to perform properly with all band in GCM, on the other hand, in this study, users
198 could select the N_c best suited for their purposes.

199 Figure 2 shows the differences of radiative fluxes that were calculated with the
200 optimized CKD method for $N_c = 1, 2, 4,$ and 6 from the reference calculation. Panels
201 corresponding to Visible (VIS) – Near InfraRed (NIR) bands (bands #1–#7) show net flux
202 differences, and panels corresponding to Thermal InfraRed (TIR) bands (bands #8–#16)
203 show upward flux differences. Atmospheric conditions were assumed to correspond to those
204 of the mid-latitude summer model of the AFGL standard atmosphere. The solar zenith angle
205 was assumed to be 60° and the surface was to be Lambertian with an albedo 0.1 in VIS-
206 NIR bands, surface emissivity was assumed 1.0 in TIR bands. In bands #3 and #8, which
207 were divided into two sub-parts, the same N_c was used in each sub-part, and the results
208 were summed. The satellite received radiances are observed at TOA, however, the profile
209 of radiance is important for cloudy sky cases. In general, the larger the value N_c , the better
210 the results. In the case of bands treated a single gas species, the difference from the
211 reference was smaller than in the case of multiple gases (see also Table 1) because the

212 optimization process converged easily. The altitude of the maximum difference would
213 indicate a maximum dependency of a main target gas in each band. We also checked
214 angular dependencies of satellite received radiance. The differences between results by the
215 combined CKD method and the reference method were not changed with satellite zenith
216 angle in TIR bands, but in VIS-NIR bands, the differences became large in larger satellite
217 zenith angles, their variance is about same as the method difference. We plan to increase
218 satellite zenith angles of the objective functions in next update.

219 **4. Calculation check**

220 We used the CKD table corresponding to $N_c = 6$ in the forward model of the ICAS
221 (Iwabuchi et al., 2018) to simulate brightness temperatures in eight TIR bands (bands #9–
222 #16) for clear sky pixels over the ocean observed by the AHI. In the calculations, the land
223 and ocean surface temperature and emissivity were obtained from the moderate resolution
224 imaging spectroradiometer (MODIS) 8-day mean land and ocean products, and the
225 atmospheric profiles of temperature and concentrations of water vapor and ozone were
226 interpolated spatially and temporally from the Modern-Era Retrospective analysis for
227 Research and Applications (MERRA) meteorological field product (Rienecker et al. 2011).
228 Concentrations of CO₂, N₂O, and CH₄ were assumed to be equal to monthly mean values
229 of global mean. The forward model is based on the two-stream solution of radiative transfer
230 in the plane-parallel multilayered atmosphere. Details of error evaluation for the AHI
231 longwave bands are presented in Iwabuchi et al. (2018). Figure 3 shows scatter plots

232 between the observed and model-simulated brightness temperature for each AHI band. We
233 used full disk data for the period 19–28 August 2015. Discrimination of clear sky pixels was
234 based on confidently clear sky pixels identified by the collocated moderate resolution
235 imaging spectroradiometer (MODIS) cloud mask product. The means and standard
236 deviations of the differences between model simulations are shown in Table 2. We attribute
237 these differences to errors in the assumed temperatures and water vapor profiles, sea
238 surface temperatures (SST), and the gas absorption table calculated with the optimized CKD
239 method. The standard deviation of the SST error was estimated to be about 0.4–0.5 K and
240 the radiometric calibration accuracy ranged from 0.20–0.29 %, which was converted to 0.11–
241 0.18 K when brightness temperature was assumed 300K. Given this estimated standard
242 deviation, the trends of the model results and observations were in good agreement, except
243 for band #11, for which the model results were overestimates. One of the reasons may be
244 that SO₂ was not considered in that band of this version, whereas the other three gas
245 species (H₂O, N₂O, and CH₄) were taken into consideration (Table 1). The transmittance
246 which is considered SO₂ in this band is estimated about 90.2 % with AFGL concentration
247 profile of SO₂, on the other hand, that which is not considered is estimated about 90.7 %.
248 SO₂ is considered one of main gas species in this band and the target of this band in the
249 AHI design, it should be included in the gas absorption model and will be introduced in next
250 update. In the water vapor bands (bands #9 and #10), the standard deviation of the error
251 was larger than 1 K. These figures are used in clear sky pixels over the ocean, the error

252 sources are limited for the error of atmospheric gas profiles and SST. Because these bands
253 are sensitive to the atmospheric profiles in the middle and upper troposphere, SST error is
254 not estimated for the main reason in these band. Compared to temperatures, water vapor
255 amounts in the middle and upper troposphere in the atmospheric reanalysis product are
256 considered to be more uncertain. A main source of uncertainty in these bands is considered
257 the error of the assumed amounts of water vapor in the middle and upper troposphere. For
258 the VIS-NIR bands, we considered a similar analysis that uses the TOA reflectance (not
259 shown), but we needed more information such as aerosol optical properties and sea surface
260 emissivity. That analysis is therefore left for a future study.

261 Infrared measurements for cloudy pixels are sensitive mainly to cloud top temperature,
262 cloud optical thickness, and particle effective radius and secondly to cloud geometrical
263 thickness and vertical inhomogeneity in addition to surface properties and atmospheric
264 profile. Not all of the cloud parameters are available very reliably from observation data. To
265 evaluate the CKD models, however, it would be interesting to test model–measurement
266 consistency and impact of CKD model on cloud retrieval. Cloud properties were retrieved
267 using the ICAS, in which different values of N_c as 2, 3, and 6 were used for forward
268 calculations of brightness temperatures. A set of retrieved cloud properties and simulated
269 brightness temperatures were obtained for optimal solutions. The optimal estimation
270 framework used in ICAS attempts to estimate cloud properties that best fit to the
271 measurements. Thus, the model calculations should fit well to the measurements if the

272 forward model has smaller errors, and vice versa. Figure 4 shows histograms of brightness
273 temperature differences between model calculations and measurements for the cloud
274 retrieval results. The mean difference between the measurements and model with $N_c = 2$
275 was different from zero, whereas the mean bias with $N_c = 6$ was almost zero except for band
276 #12. In band #12, the means of the BT difference was larger with larger N_c , however, the
277 shape of histogram was more symmetric with larger N_c . The mean biases were generally
278 smaller than the clear sky cases shown in Fig. 3 because the model calculations were fitted
279 to the measurements in the optimal estimation-based cloud property inversion. In the water
280 vapor bands (bands #9 and #10), standard deviations of the differences were larger than
281 those in the other bands. The reason was the same as in the clear sky cases. The standard
282 deviations of the differences for $N_c = 2$ were significantly larger than those for $N_c = 3$ and 6,
283 the indication being that the model that uses $N_c = 2$ did not fit the measurements well.

284 The global distributions of cloud top height (CTH) and cloud optical thickness (COT)
285 retrieved by using the optimized CKD table with different numbers of quadrature points (N_c
286 = 2, 3, and 6) are shown in Fig. 5. These results are shown only for pixels with solutions
287 optimized via the ICAS. The number of pixels was significantly smaller for $N_c = 2$ than for N_c
288 = 3 and 6, and the spatial distributions of cloud properties retrieved with $N_c = 3$ and 6 seemed
289 reasonable. The differences in COT and CTH as a function of N_c are shown quantitatively in
290 Fig. 6. Although a difference between $N_c = 3$ and 6 was not clearly apparent in Fig. 5, a
291 difference of COT for low clouds is apparent in Fig. 6b. Comparing only pixels with optimal

292 solutions, high-cloud COT was estimated better than low-cloud COT, irrespective of N_c .
293 Because the ICAS uses eight thermal infrared bands of the AHI, the estimation of COT can
294 be more certain for high clouds than low cloud because of larger difference between cloud
295 and underlying-surface temperatures. The difference between $N_c = 2$ and 6 was widely
296 distributed (Figs. 6a and 6c), which is primarily due to misinterpretation of low cloud as high
297 cloud in the retrieval with $N_c = 2$. This misinterpretation is found over the Indian Ocean near
298 the western coast of Australia, as shown in Fig. 5. Because brightness temperatures are
299 generally comparable for optically thick low cloud and optically thin high cloud, it is an inter-
300 band consistency (i.e. brightness temperature differences among bands) to discriminate the
301 two types of cloud. It is suggested that inter-band consistency is not very good for $N_c = 2$.

302 Calculations by the modified Rstar package were rapid. Figure 7 shows an example of
303 cloud retrieval fields over the Sea of Japan at 01 UTC and 04 UTC on 7 April 2017 that used
304 the satellite analysis version of Rstar developed in this study. Cirrus clouds were present in
305 the upper left of the images at 01 UTC, and low clouds were located in the center of the
306 same images. The cirrus and low clouds overlapped at 04 UTC. The top, second, third, and
307 bottom panels show true-color composite images, COT retrieval results, cloud effective radii
308 (CER), and CTHs, respectively. The panels on the left were retrieved using VIS, NIR, and
309 TIR bands (bands #4, #6, and #13, respectively). The panels on the right were retrieved
310 using TIR bands (bands #11, #13, and #15). Compared with two results of CERs and CTHs
311 at overlapping pixels, it is apparent that the VIS-NIR-TIR method retrieves mainly low clouds,

312 whereas the TIR method retrieves mainly parameters of cirrus clouds. The various bands of
313 the AHI provide much information about many targets, the modified Rstar package would
314 work for high-resolution satellite analysis.

315

316 **5. Summary**

317 We developed gas absorption tables by using an optimized CKD method for rapid and
318 accurate simulations of satellite measurements. The number of quadrature points, N_c ,
319 directly affected computational efficiency. We made CKD parameter tables in which N_c
320 varied from 1 to 6 and could be selected by the user. We have checked cloud retrieval results
321 with different values of N_c . In cases with $N_c = 2$, cloud retrieval results were significantly
322 different from those with $N_c > 2$. We recommend $N_c > 3$ for high accuracy.

323 In this study, we used radiative flux and heating rate for the objective function as same
324 as SN08, however, it is suitable for satellite analysis to use radiance in various solar and
325 satellite angles and surface condition. In addition, we considered difficult to adopt cloud and
326 aerosol for the objective function, because it is needed to divide error sources from gas
327 absorption and particle scattering and the objective function is not easy to converge if the
328 number of parameters increases. We plan to study effects of several parameters for the
329 objective function. We also plan to update the latest version of continuum program
330 MT_CKD_3, and introduce SO_2 absorptions in band 10 and 11. The spectral responsivity of
331 AHI-9 mounted on Himawari-9 is slightly different from AHI-8, the extension to AHI-9 is also

332 planned.

333 We incorporated the CKD tables and band information of the AHI into a multi-purpose
334 atmospheric radiative transfer package, Rstar. We updated the package for satellite analysis
335 so that the user could easily specify the satellite and band number. We also developed tables
336 for Aqua/MODIS, CALIPSO/IIR, and Landsat-7/ETM+. This package makes possible cloud
337 and aerosol retrievals with high speed and high precision that are suitable for high-frequency
338 and high-resolution observations made by satellites such as Himawari-8.

339

340

341

Acknowledgments

342 This research was supported by the Earth Observation Priority Research of the Japan
343 Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) (JX-PSPC-443963). Miho Sekiguchi and Hironobu
344 Iwabuchi acknowledge the support of the First Research Announcement on the Earth
345 Observations of JAXA (PI No.: RA1R502 and RA1R306).

346

347

References

348 Anderson, G. P., S.A. Clough, F.X. Kneizys, J.H. Chetwynd, and E.P. Shettle, 1986: AFGL
349 atmospheric constituent profiles (0.120 km), Air Force Geophysics Lab, United States of
350 America, 48pp.

351 Bessho, K., K. Date, M. Hayashi, A. Ikeda, T. Imai, H. Inoue, Y. Kumagai, T. Miyakawa, H.

352 Murata, T. Ohno, A. Okuyama, R. Oyama, Y. Sasaki, Y. Shimazu, K. Shimoji, Y. Sumida,
353 M. Suzuki, H. Taniguchi, H. Tsuchiyama, D. Uesawa, H. Yokota, and R. Yoshida, 2016: An
354 introduction to Himawari-8/9 — Japan's new-generation geostationary meteorological
355 satellites, *J. Meteor. Soc. Japan*, **94**, 151–183.

356 Fu, Q., K.N. Liou, 1992: On the correlated k -distribution method for radiative transfer in
357 nonhomogeneous atmospheres, *J. Atmos. Sci.*, **49**, 2139–56.

358 Iwabuchi, H., M. Saito, Y. Tokoro, N. S. Putri, and M. Sekiguchi, 2016: Retrieval of radiative
359 and microphysical properties of cloud from multispectral infrared measurements,
360 *Progress Earth Planet. Sci.*, **3**, 32, doi:10.1186/s40645-016-0108-3.

361 Iwabuchi, H., N. S. Putri, M. Saito, Y. Tokoro, M. Sekiguchi, P. Yang, and B. A. Baum, 2018:
362 Cloud property retrieval from multiband infrared measurements by Himawari-8. *J. Meteor.*
363 *Soc. Japan*, **96B**, <http://doi.org/10.2151/jmsj.2018-001>.

364 Hashimoto, M., and T. Nakajima, 2017: Development of a remote sensing algorithm to
365 retrieve atmospheric aerosol properties using multi-wavelength and multi-pixel
366 information. *J. Geophys. Res. Atmos.*, **122**, 6347–6378, doi:10.1002/2016JD025698.

367 Lacis, A.A. and V.A. Oinas 1991: Description of the correlated k -distribution method for
368 modeling nongray gaseous absorption, thermal emission, and multiple scattering in
369 vertically inhomogeneous atmospheres., *J. Geophys. Res.* **96**, 9027–63.

370 Mlawer, E.J., V.H. Payne, J.L. Moncet, J.S. Delamere, M.J. Alvarado, D.D. Tobin, 2012:
371 Development and recent evaluation of the MT_CKD model of continuum absorption., *Phil.*

372 *Trans. R. Soc. A.*, **37**, 1–37, doi:10.1098/rsta.2011.0295.

373 Nakajima, T., and M. Tanaka, 1986: Matrix formulations for the transfer of solar radiation in
374 a plane-parallel scattering atmosphere, *J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer*, **35**, 13–21.

375 Nakajima, T., and M. Tanaka, 1988: Algorithms for radiative intensity calculations in
376 moderately thick atmospheres using a truncation approximation, *J. Quant. Spectrosc.*
377 *Radiat. Transfer*, **40**, 51-69.

378 Okata, M., T. Nakajima, K. Suzuki, T. Inoue, T.Y. Nakajima, and H. Okamoto, 2017: A study
379 on radiative transfer effects in 3D cloudy atmosphere using satellite data, *J. Geophys.*
380 *Res.*, 122(1), 443-468. doi:10.1002/2016JD025441.

381 Ota, Y., A. Higurashi, T. Nakajima, and T. Yokota, 2010: Matrix formulations of radiative
382 transfer including the polarization effect in a coupled atmosphere–ocean system, *J. Quant.*
383 *Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer*, **111**, 878–894, doi:10.1016/j.jqsrt.2009.11.021

384 Poulsen, C. A., R. Siddans, G. E. Thomas, A. M. Sayer, R. G. Grainger, E. Campmany, S.
385 M. Dean, C. Arnold, and P. D. Watts, 2012: Cloud retrievals from satellite data using
386 optimal estimation: evaluation and application to ATSR, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, **5**, 1889–
387 1910.

388 Rienecker, M. M., M. J. Suarez, R. Gelaro, R. Toding, J. Bacmeister, E. Liu, M. G. Bosilovich,
389 S. D. Schubert, L. Takacs, G. K. Kim, S. Bloom, J. Chen, D. Collins, A. Conaty, A. Silva,
390 W. Gu, J. Joiner, R. D. Koster, R. Lucchesi, A. Molod, T. Owens, S. Pawson, P. Pegion, C.
391 R. Redder, R. Reichle, F. R. Robertson, A. G. Ruddick, M. Sienkiewicz, and J. Woollen,

392 2011: MERRA: NASA's modern-era retrospective analysis for research and applications,
393 *J. Clim.* **24**, 3624–3648.

394 Rodgers, C. D., 2000: *Inverse Methods for Atmospheric Sounding: Theory and Practice*,
395 World Scientific, Singapore, 238 pp.

396 Rothman, L.S., D. Jacquemart, A. Barbe, D.C. Benner, M. Birk, L.R. Brown, M.R. Carleer,
397 C. Chackerian Jr., K. Chance, L.H. Coudert, V. Dana, V.M. Devi, J.-M. Flaud, R.R.
398 Gamache, A. Goldman, J.-M. Hartmann, K.W. Jucks, A.G. Maki, J.-Y. Mandin, S.T. Massie,
399 J. Orphal, A. Perrin, C.P. Rinsland, M.A.H. Smith, J. Tennyson, R.N. Tolchenov, R.A. Toth,
400 J. Vander Auwera, P. Varanasi and G. Wagner, 2005: The HITRAN 2004 molecular
401 spectroscopic database, *J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer*, **96**(2), 139-204.

402 Rothman, L.S., I.E. Gordon, Y. Babikov, A. Barbe, D.C. Benner, P.F. Bernath, M. Birk, L.
403 Bizzocchi, V. Boudon, L.R. Brown, A. Campargue, K. Chance, E.A. Cohen, L.H. Coudert,
404 V.M. Devi, B.J. Drouin, A. Fayt, J.M. Flaud, R.R. Gamache, J.J. Harrison, J.M. Hartmann,
405 C. Hill, J.T. Hodges, D. Jacquemar, A. Jolly, J. Lamouroux, R.J. Le Roy, G. Li, D.A. Long,
406 O.M. Lyulin, C.J. Mackie, S.T. Massie, S. Mikhailenko, H.S.P. Müller, O.V. Naumenko, A.V.
407 Nikitin, J. Orphal, V. Perevalov, A. Perrin, E.R. Polovtseva, C. Richard, M.A.H. Smith, E.
408 Starikova, K. Sung, S. Tashkun, J. Tennyson J, G.C. Toon, V.I.G. Tyuterev, G. Wagner,
409 2013: The HITRAN2012 molecular spectroscopic database, *J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat.*
410 *Transfer*, **130**, 4-50.

411 Satoh, M., T. Matsuno, H. Tomita, H. Miura, T. Nasuno and S. Iga, 2008: Nonhydrostatic

412 Icosahedral Atmospheric Model (NICAM) for global cloud resolving simulations. *J.*
413 *Comput. Phys.*, **227**, 3486-3514, doi:10.1016/j.jcp.2007.02.006.

414 Saunders, R., M. Matricardi, and P. Brunel, 1999: An improved fast radiative transfer model
415 for assimilation of satellite radiance observations, *Quart. J. Roy. Meteor. Soc.*, **125**, 1407-
416 1425.

417 Sekiguchi, M., and T. Nakajima, 2008: A *k*-distribution-based radiation code and its
418 computational optimization for an atmospheric general circulation model, *J. Quant.*
419 *Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer*, **109**, 2779–2793.

420 Sourdeval, O., L. C. Labonnote, A. J. Baran, and G. Brogniez, 2015: A methodology for
421 simultaneous retrieval of ice and liquid water cloud properties. Part 1: Information content
422 and case study, *Quart. J. Roy. Meteor. Soc.*, **141**, 870–882.

423 Sourdeval, O., L. C. Labonnote, A. J. Baran, J. Mülmenstädt, and G. Brogniez, 2016: A
424 methodology for simultaneous retrieval of ice and liquid water cloud properties. Part 2:
425 Near-global retrievals and evaluation against A-Train products, *Quart. J. Roy. Meteor.*
426 *Soc.*, **142**, 3063–3081.

427 Vermote, E.F., D. Tanré, J.L. Deuzé, M. Herman and J.-J. Morcrette, 1997: Second
428 Simulation of the Satellite Signal in the Solar Spectrum, 6S: An Overview, *IEEE*
429 *Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, **35**, 3, 675-686.

430 Watanabe, M., T. Suzuki, R. O'ishi, Y. Komuro, S. Watanabe, S. Emori, T. Takemura, M.
431 Chikira, T. Ogura, M. Sekiguchi, K. Takata, D. Yamazaki, T. Yokohata, T. Nozawa, H.

432 Hasumi, H. Tatebe, and M. Kimoto, 2010: Improved climate simulation by MIROC5: Mean
433 states, variability, and climate sensitivity, *J. Clim.*, **23**, 6312-6335.

434 Watts, P. D., R. Bennartz, and F. Fell, 2011: Retrieval of two-layer cloud properties from
435 multispectral observations using optimal estimation, *J. Geophys. Res.*, **116**, D16203, doi:
436 10.1029/2011JD015883.

437

439 Figure 1. Spectral distribution of the outgoing radiance multiplied by the response function
440 at the TOA (solid line) and surface (broken line) for band #16. Atmospheric conditions
441 were assumed to correspond to mid-latitude summer. The resolution of the wavenumber
442 was 0.1 cm^{-1} .

443 Figure 2. Differences of radiative fluxes calculated by using the optimized CKD from the
444 reference calculations. Solid, broken, dotted, and bold lines indicate results with $N_c = 1, 2,$
445 $4,$ and $6,$ respectively. Panels corresponding to bands #1–7 show net flux differences, and
446 panels corresponding to bands #8–16 show upward flux differences. Atmospheric
447 conditions were assumed to be equal to those of the mid-latitude summer, AFGL standard
448 atmosphere. The solar zenith angle was assumed to be 60° . In bands #3 and #8, which
449 were divided into two sub-parts, the results for each N_c case were added.

450 Figure 3. Scatter plots of the observed and model-simulated brightness temperatures for the
451 TIR AHI band of clear sky pixels over the ocean. Full disk data for the period 19–28 August
452 2015 were used. Discrimination of clear sky pixels was based on confidently clear-sky
453 pixels in the MODIS cloud mask product. Red lines denote fits and black diagonal lines
454 indicate the identity. Means and standard deviations of the differences (observed minus
455 modeled) are summarized in Table 2.

456 Figure 4. Histograms of the brightness temperature (BT) differences between
457 measurements and model calculations for the cloud retrieval results for full disk data of

458 12 UTC on August 20, 2015. Cloud retrieval was performed with CKD sets with different
459 numbers of quadrature points (N_c). The means and standard deviations of the BT
460 differences are shown in the legend in each panel.

461 Figure 5. Cloud optical thickness (COT) (a,b,c) and cloud top height (CTH) (d,e,f) retrieved
462 by using CKD sets with different numbers of quadrature points (N_c) for full disk data at 12
463 UTC on 20 August 2015. Results are shown only for pixels with optimal solutions. (a,d) N_c
464 = 6, (b,e) $N_c = 3$, and (c,f) $N_c = 2$.

465 Figure 6. Differences in (a,b) cloud optical thickness (COT) and (c,d) cloud top height (CTH)
466 retrieved with CKD sets with different numbers of quadrature points. The vertical axes
467 denote differences results with $N_c = 2$ (a,c) and $N_c = 3$ (b,d) from results with $N_c = 6$. The
468 color shading denotes occurrence frequency. Results are shown only for optimal retrievals
469 in both reduced ($N_c = 2$ or 3) and full ($N_c = 6$) sets.

470 Figure 7. Sample of low clouds and overlapping cirrus clouds over the Sea of Japan at 01
471 and 04 UTC on 7 April 2017. Top, second, third, and bottom panels are true-color
472 composite images and retrieved results of COT, CER, and CTH, respectively. The
473 panels on the left were retrieved using VIS, NIR, and TIR bands (bands #4, #6, and #13,
474 respectively). The panels on the right were retrieved using TIR bands (bands #11, #13
475 and #15) with a version of Rstar that was updated for this study.

476

477

478

List of Tables

479 Table 1. Band number, center of band [μm], bandwidth [μm], and gases implemented in
480 each band. Bandwidth is defined as the FWHM.

481 Table 2. Mean differences [K] and standard deviations [K] of observed and model-
482 simulated brightness temperatures for the TIR AHI bands of clear-sky pixels over the
483 ocean (observed minus modeled). Scatter plots are shown in Fig. 3.

484

Table 1. Band number, center of band[μm], bandwidth[μm], and gases implemented in each band.

Bandwidth is defined as the FWHM.

band number	center wavelength [μm]	band width [μm]	gases implemented in band
1	0.4703	0.0407	H ₂ O
2	0.5105	0.0308	H ₂ O
3-1	0.6090	0.0320	H ₂ O
3-2	0.6500	0.0500	H ₂ O, O ₂
4	0.8563	0.0345	H ₂ O
5	1.6098	0.0409	H ₂ O
6	2.2570	0.0441	H ₂ O, CH ₄
7	3.8848	0.2006	H ₂ O, CH ₄
8-1	6.0387	0.4227	H ₂ O
8-2	6.4496	0.3993	H ₂ O
9	6.9395	0.4019	H ₂ O
10	7.3471	0.1871	H ₂ O, N ₂ O, CH ₄
11	8.5905	0.3727	H ₂ O, N ₂ O, CH ₄
12	9.6347	0.3779	H ₂ O, CO ₂ , O ₃
13	10.403	0.4189	H ₂ O, CO ₂
14	11.243	0.6678	H ₂ O, CO ₂
15	12.383	0.9656	H ₂ O, CO ₂ , O ₃
16	13.284	0.5638	H ₂ O, CO ₂ , O ₃

Table 2. Mean differences [K] and standard deviations [K] of observed and model-simulated brightness temperatures for the TIR AHI bands of clear-sky pixels over the ocean (observed minus modeled). Scatter plots are shown in Fig. 3.

Band number	Mean difference	Standard deviation
9	0.50	1.61
10	0.39	1.14
11	-1.12	0.56
12	-0.26	0.63
13	-0.28	0.61
14	-0.51	0.71
15	0.03	0.75
16	0.19	0.56

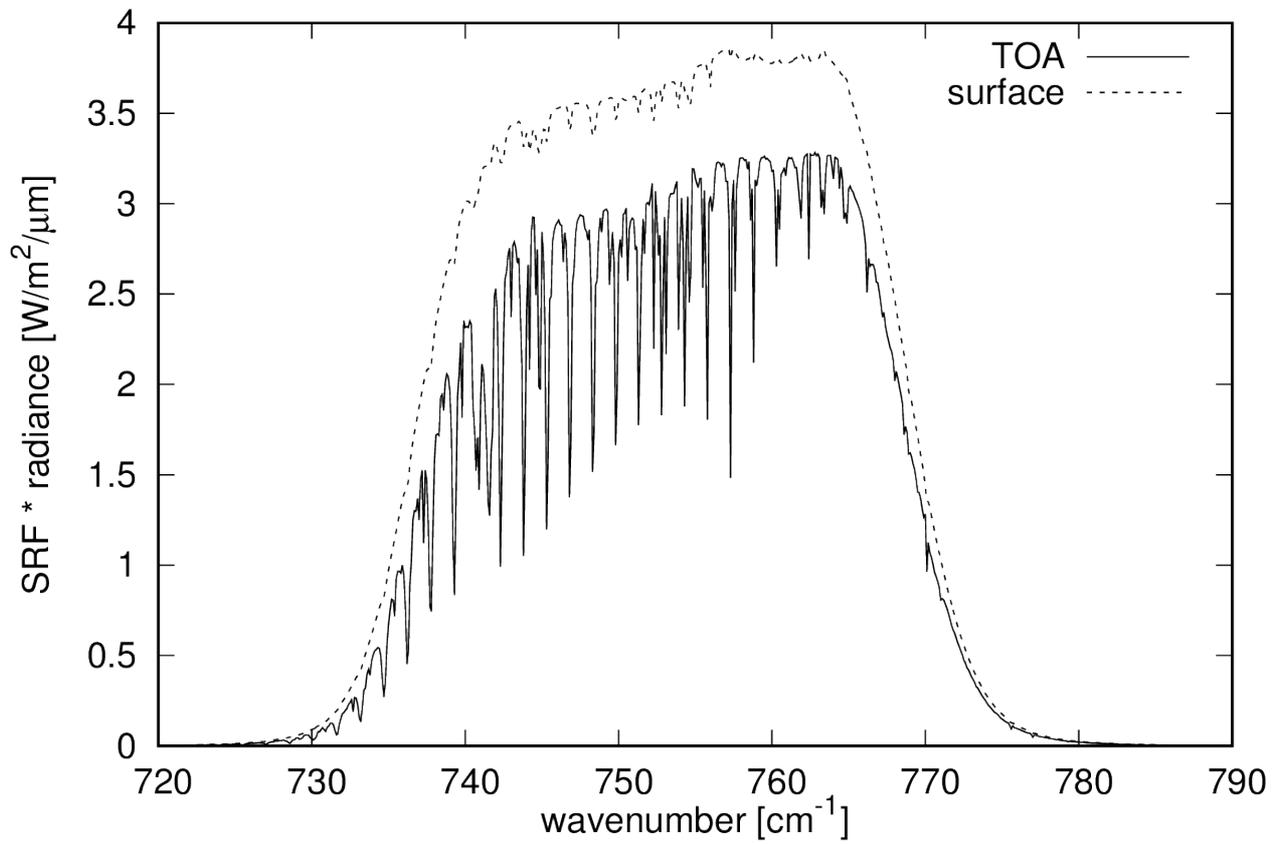
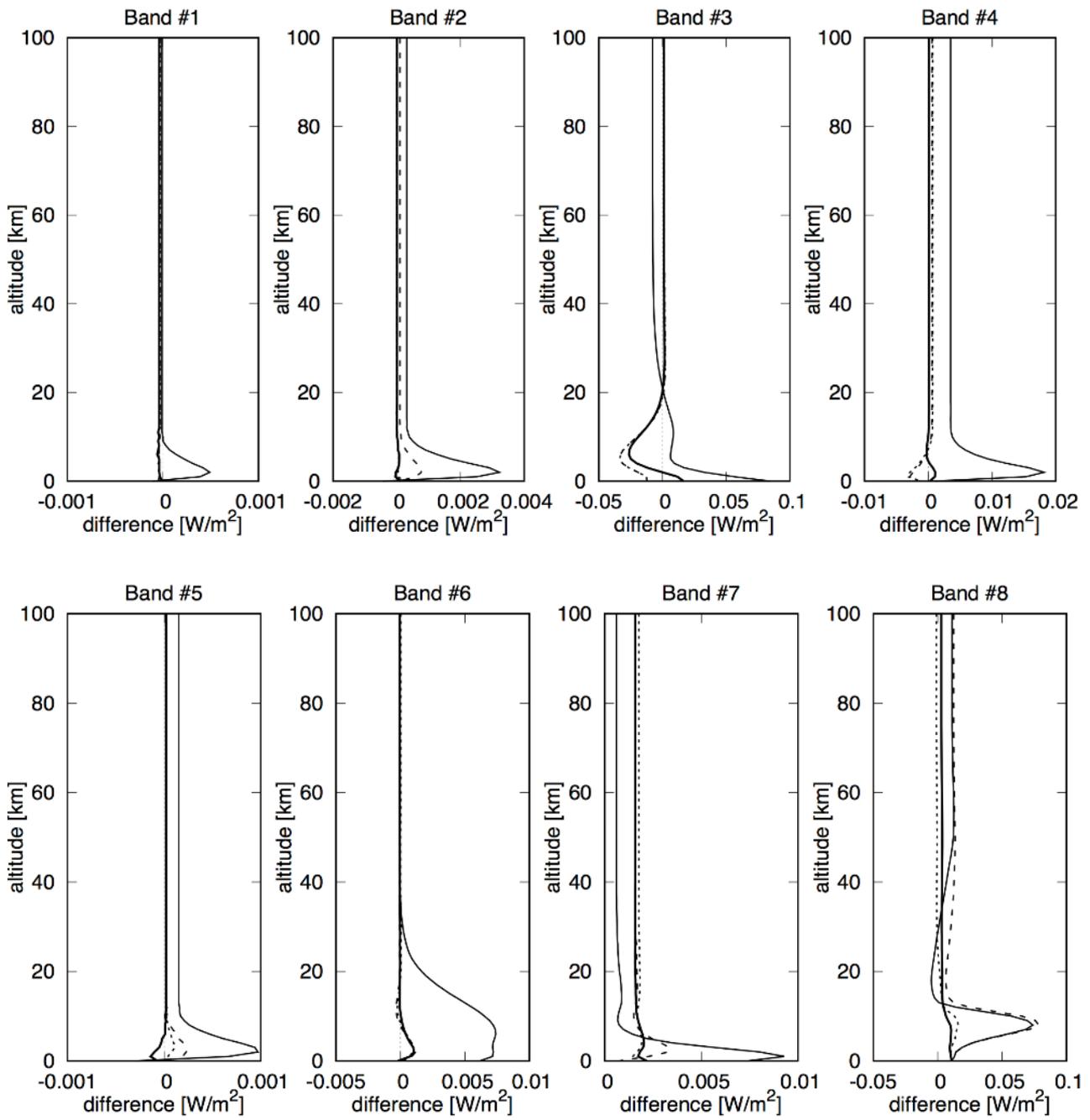
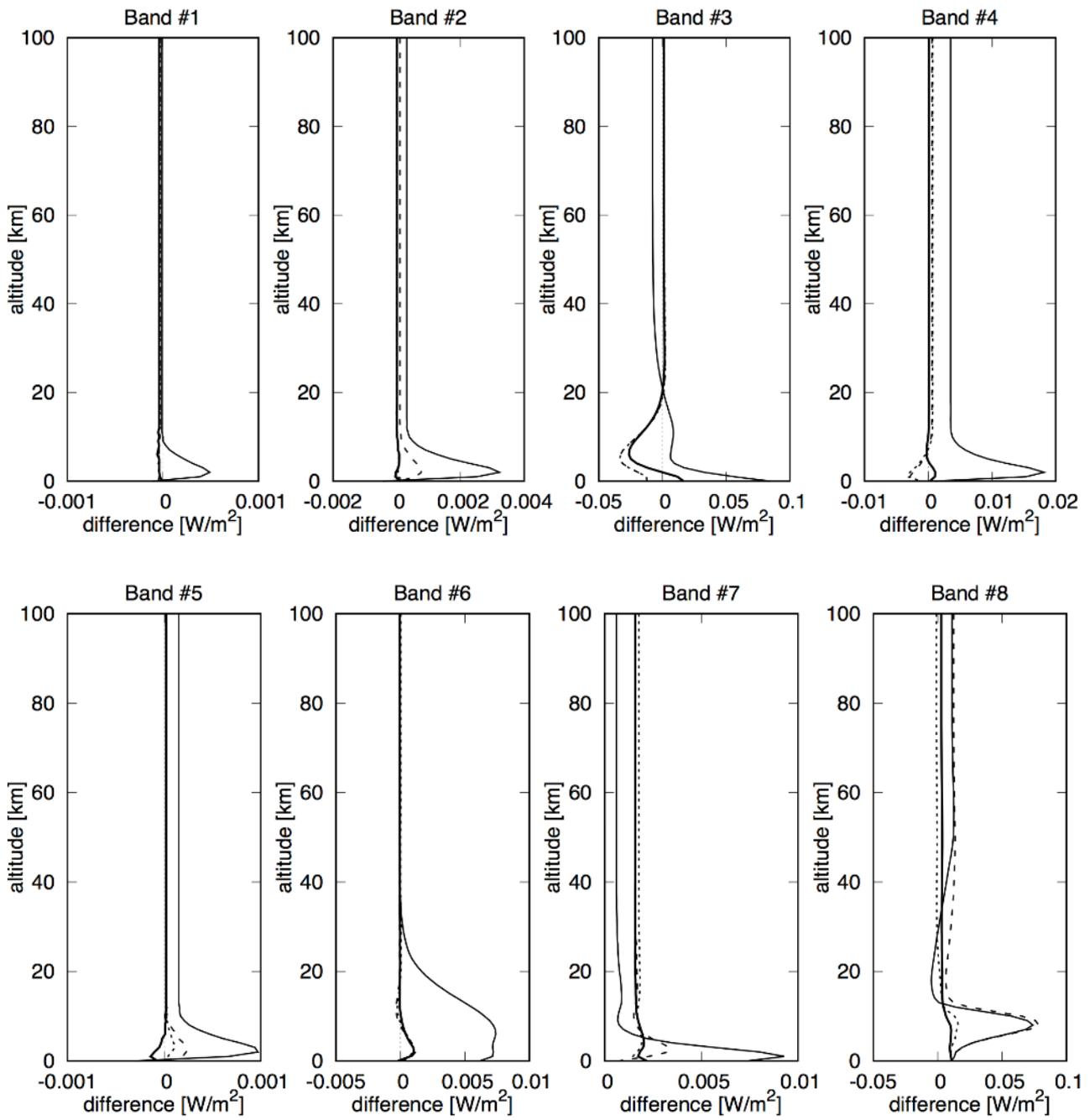


Fig. 1. Spectral distribution of the outgoing radiance multiplied by the response function at the TOA (solid line) and surface (broken line) for band #16. Atmospheric conditions were assumed to correspond to mid-latitude summer. The resolution of the wavenumber was 0.1 cm⁻¹.





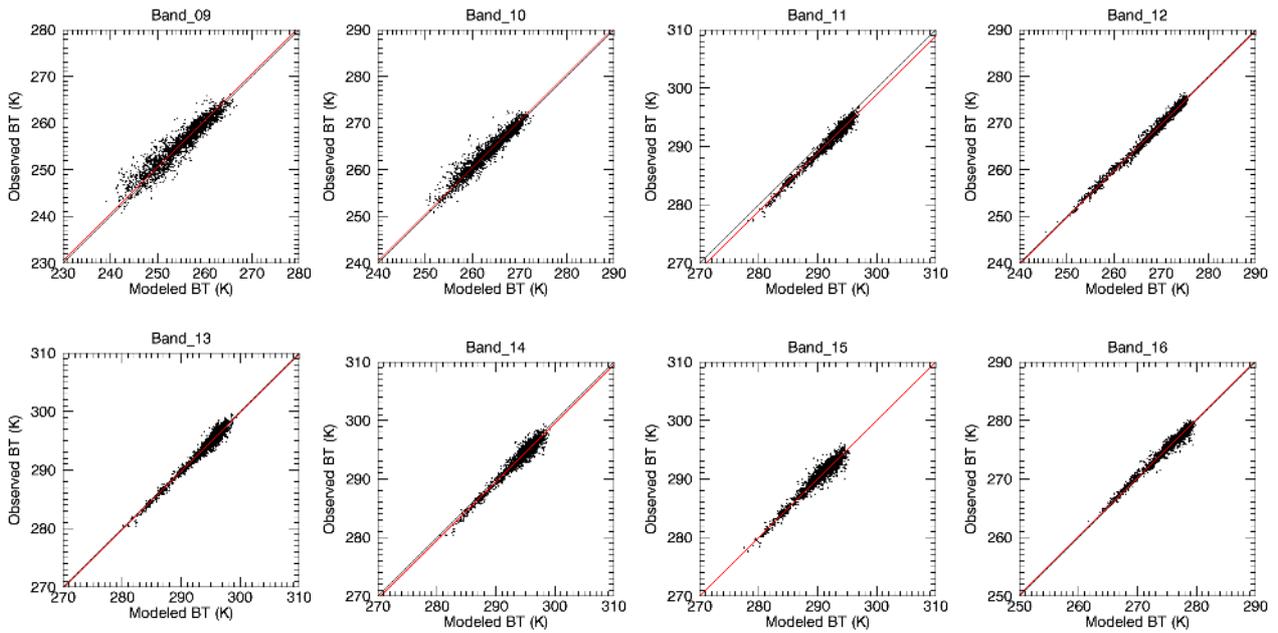


Fig. 3. Scatter plots of the observed and model-simulated brightness temperatures for the TIR AHF band of clear sky pixels over the ocean. Full disk data for the period 19–28 August 2015 were used. Discrimination of clear sky pixels was based on confidently clear-sky pixels in the MODIS cloud mask product. Red lines denote fits and black diagonal lines indicate the identity. Means and standard deviations of the differences (observed minus modeled) are summarized in Table 2.

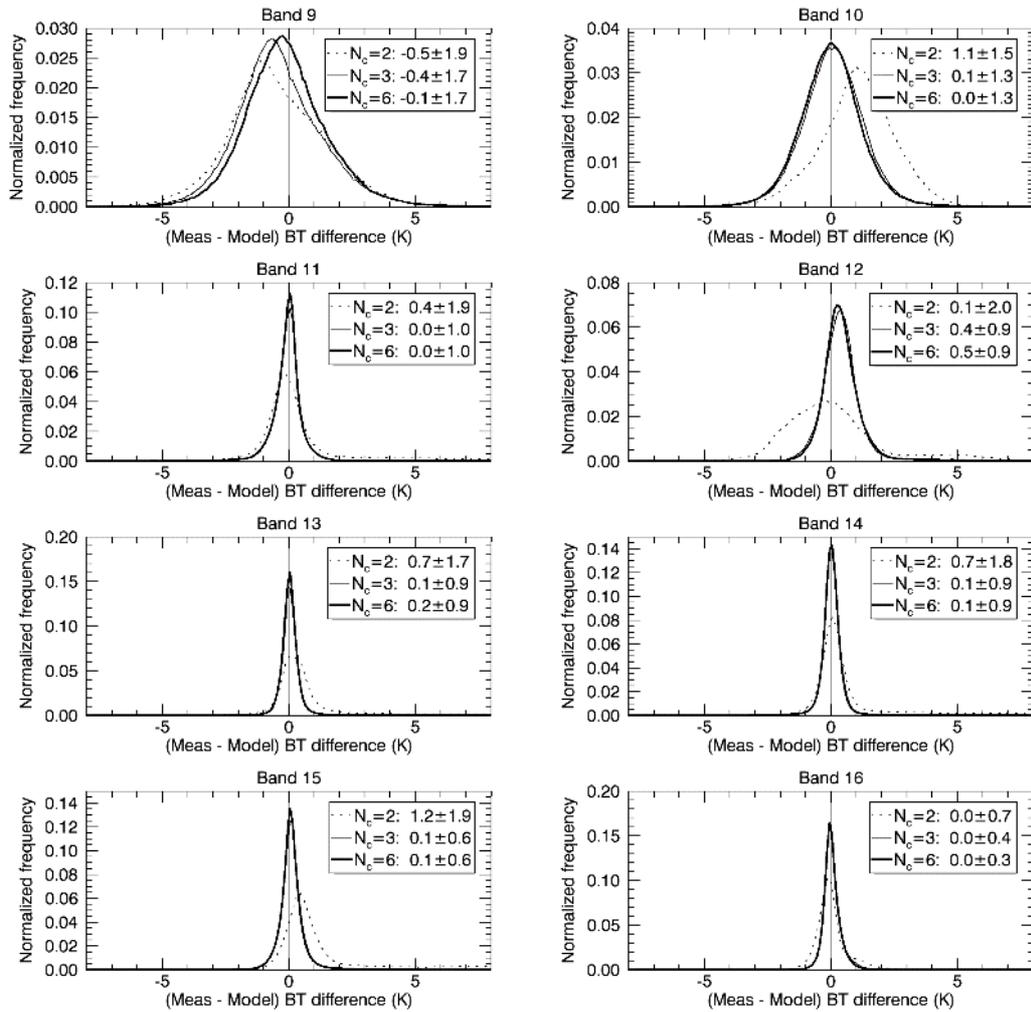


Fig. 4. Histograms of the brightness temperature (BT) differences between measurements and model calculations for the cloud retrieval results for full disk data of 12 UTC on August 20, 2015. Cloud retrieval was performed with CKD sets with different numbers of quadrature points (N_c). The means and standard deviations of the BT differences are shown in the legend in each panel.

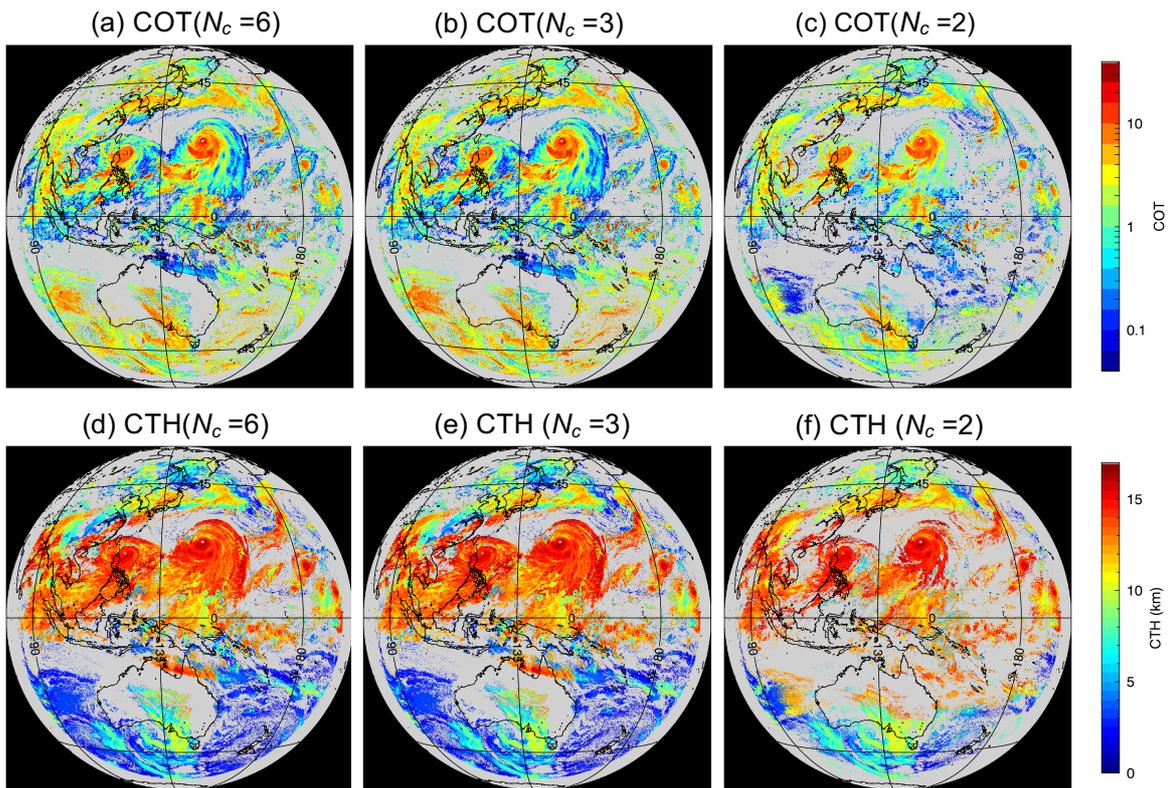


Fig. 5. Cloud optical thickness (COT) (a,b,c) and cloud top height (CTH) (d,e,f) retrieved by using CKD sets with different numbers of quadrature points (N_c) for full disk data at 12 UTC on 20 August 2015. Results are shown only for pixels with optimal solutions. (a,d) $N_c = 6$, (b,e) $N_c = 3$, and (c,f) $N_c = 2$.

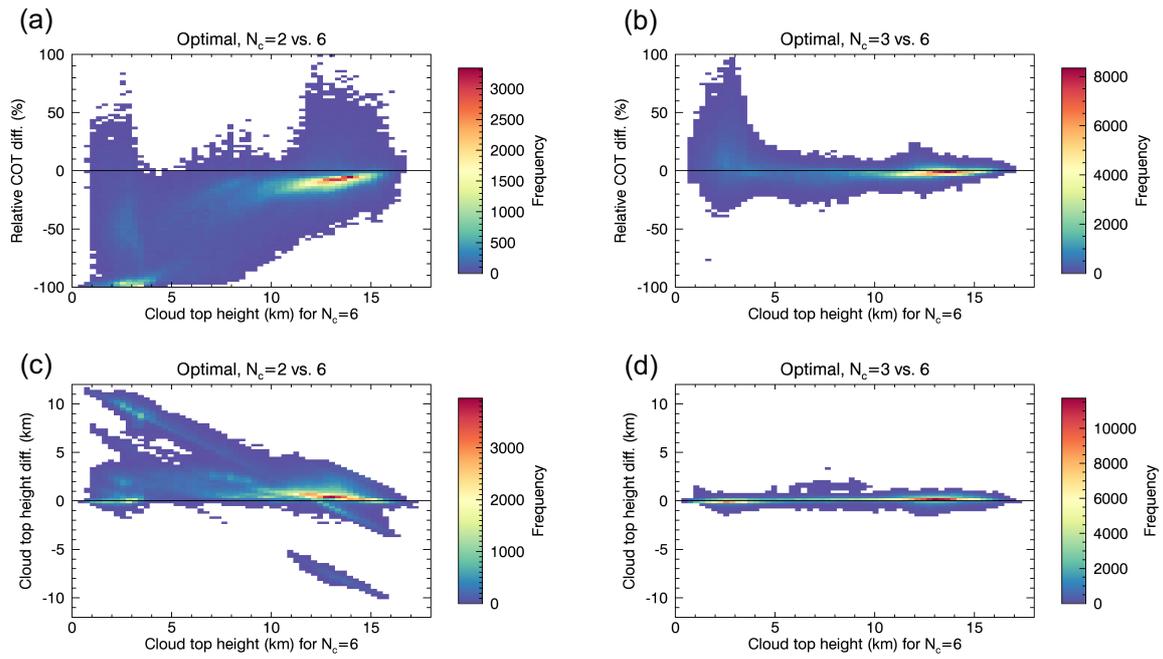


Fig. 6. Differences in (a,b) cloud optical thickness (COT) and (c,d) cloud top height (CTH) retrieved with CKD sets with different numbers of quadrature points. The vertical axes denote differences results with $N_c = 2$ (a,c) and $N_c = 3$ (b,d) from results with $N_c = 6$. The color shading denotes occurrence frequency. Results are shown only for optimal retrievals in both reduced ($N_c = 2$ or 3) and full ($N_c = 6$) sets.

VIS-NIR-TIR method (bands #4, #6, and #13)

TIR method (bands #11, #13, and #15)

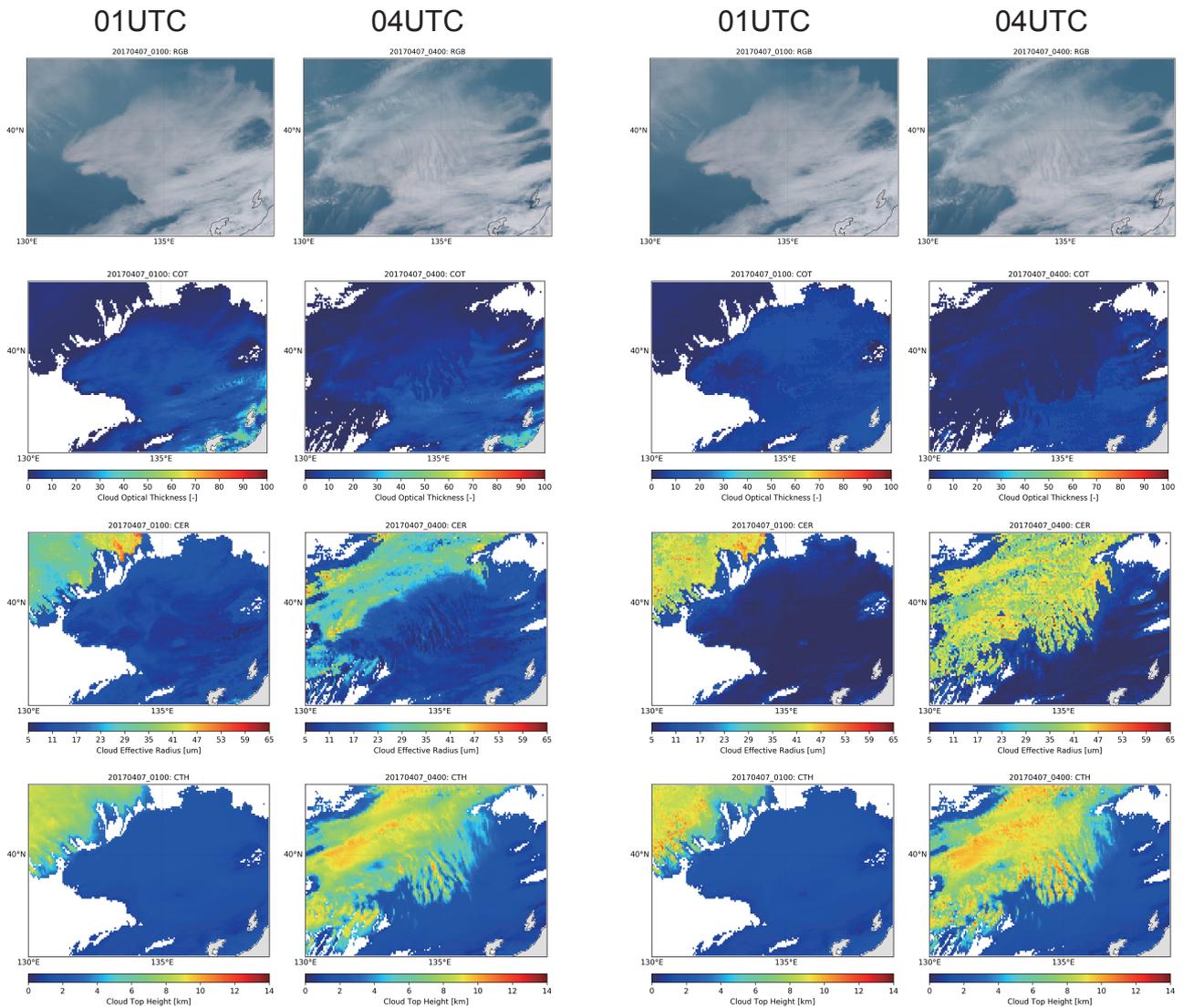


Figure 7. Sample of low clouds and overlapping cirrus clouds over the Sea of Japan at 01 and 04 UTC on 7 April 2017. Top, second, third, and bottom panels are true-color composite images and retrieved results of COT, CER, and CTH, respectively. The panels on the left were retrieved using VIS, NIR, and TIR bands (bands #4, #6, and #13, respectively). The panels on the right were retrieved using TIR bands (bands #11, #13 and #15) with a version of Rstar that was updated for this study.