



System vicarious calibration of GCOM-C/SGLI visible and near-infrared channels

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Abstract

Vicarious calibration coefficients (k_v) of Second-generation Global Imager (SGLI) for ocean color processing were derived using in-situ radiometric buoy measurements from the Marine Optical BuoY (MOBY) and the BOUée pour l'acquiSition d'une Série Optique à Long termE (BOUSSOLE). Two aerosol-model look up tables (LUTs) used in the GCOM-C aerosol retrieval algorithm (LUT-A) and in the previous version of ocean color atmospheric correction algorithm (LUT-B) were tested in the procedures to calculate k_v and retrieve remote sensing reflectance (R_{rs}) and aerosol optical thickness (AOT). Bias of the processed R_{rs} compared to AERONET-OC R_{rs} was reduced by applying the determined k_v (i.e., corrected SGLI radiance = original SGLI radiance/ k_v). LUT-A yielded smaller AOT bias compared to AERONET-OC AOT; on the other hand, LUT-B gave smaller R_{rs} noise due to gentle slope of the aerosol reflectance even though it caused AOT overestimation. When k_v was derived by adjusting to the AOT measurements, k_v was about 1.1 by LUT-A and 1.2 by LUT-B in the near-infrared (NIR) channel. However, the k_v in the NIR channel was close to 1.0 when AOT and land surface reflectance measurements of Radiometric Calibration Network (RadCalNet) were used. The LUT-A with k_v from MOBY and BOUSSOLE are currently adopted for the SGLI standard ocean color processing. Improvement is needed, however, to design an optimal LUT suitable for both aerosol and ocean color purposes.

Keywords GCOM-C · SHIKISAI · SGLI · Remote sensing · Ocean color · Calibration

1 Introduction

Global Change Observation Mission-Climate (GCOM-C), named SHIKISAI, was launched on 23 December 2017 and has been delivering continuous global Earth observations

since 1 January 2018. The GCOM-C satellite carries the Second-generation Global Imager (SGLI) and aims to generate a data record for long-term monitoring of environmental change in the global coastal and open ocean. SGLI has multiple channels with high signal-to-noise ratio to detect the small ocean color signal, 250 m spatial resolution to allow better observation of the coastal oceans, and a wide swath (1150 km) to observe globally every two to three days (see Table 1).

After the launch, stability of SGLI gains was evaluated (1) by using an internal lamp, (2) by measuring solar light through on-board diffusers (Okamura et al. 2018; Tanaka et al. 2018; Urabe et al. 2020), and (3) by aiming at the moon monthly (Urabe et al. 2019). The temporal change estimated from the lunar irradiance observations is less than 2% per year and has been considered in the radiometric calibration of the top-of-atmosphere (TOA) radiance, i.e., Level-1B after the Version-2 processing (cf. SHIKISAI portal, https://shikisai.jaxa.jp/index_en.html).

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Table 1 SGLI observation channels

Sub-system/channel		Center wave-length nm	Width nm	Standard radi- ance W/m ² /sr/μm or Kelvin	Saturation radiance	SNR TI: NEΔT	Pixel size m	Solar irradi- ance, \overline{F}_0 W/m ² /μm
VNR (visible and near- infrared radiometer)	VN01	379.9	10.6	60	240–241	624–675	250 /1000	1092.1
	VN02	412.3	10.3	75	305–318	786–826	250 /1000	1712.0
	VN03	443.3	10.1	64	457–467	487–531	250 /1000	1898.4
	VN04	490.0	10.3	53	147–150	858–870	250 /1000	1939.2
	VN05	529.7	19.1	41	361–364	457–522	250 /1000	1851.0
	VN06	566.1	19.8	33	95–96	1027–1064	250 /1000	1797.1
	VN07	672.3	22.0	23	69–70	988–1088	250 /1000	1502.6
	VN08	672.4	21.9	25	213–217	537–564	250 /1000	1502.3
	VN09	763.1	11.4	40	351–359	1592–1746	250 / 1000	1245.4
	VN10	867.1	20.9	8	37–38	470–510	250 /1000	956.3
	VN11	867.4	20.8	30	305–306	471–511	250 /1000	956.5
	PL01 + 60	672.2	20.6	25	295	609	1000	1503.6
	PL01 + 0				315	707		
	PL01 – 60				293	614		
	PL02 + 60	866.3	20.3	30	396	646	1000	956.8
	PL02 + 0				424	763		
PL02 – 60				400	752			
IRS (infrared scanner)	SW01	1050	21.1	57	289.2	951.8	1000	646.5
	SW02	1390	20.1	8	118.9	347.3	1000	361.2
	SW03	1630	195.0	3	50.6	100.5	250 /1000	237.6
	SW04	2210	50.4	1.9	21.7	378.7	1000	84.2
	TI01	10,785	756	300 K	340 K	0.08 K	250 /500/1000	–
	TI02	11,975	759	300 K	340 K	0.13 K	250 /500/1000	–

SNR is defined as input radiance/noise at the level of standard radiance and IFOV shown by bold characters. After Okamura et al. (2018) with solar irradiance of Thuillier et al. (2003)

In addition to the onboard calibration, vicarious calibration is required for atmospheric correction of SGLI imagery because radiometric calibration, especially inter-band calibration, should be accurate to about 0.1% for ocean color applications (Gordon 1998; Franz et al. 2007; Zibordi et al. 2015). The vicarious calibration determines a set of correction factors (or “vicarious calibration gains”) to adjust the satellite TOA radiance so that derived above surface water-leaving reflectance ρ_w (or remote sensing reflectance, R_{rs}) values are consistent with in-situ observed quantities through the atmospheric radiative transfer calculation (Eplee et al. 2001; Yoshida et al. 2005; Franz et al. 2007; Zibordi and Melin 2017).

The traditional ocean color atmospheric correction (AC) estimates the aerosol optical thickness (AOT) and aerosol model ($M_{aerosol}$) by using the satellite TOA radiance in two near-infrared (NIR) bands where the ρ_w is negligible over clear Case 1 waters. In the case of SGLI AC, the NIR band at 867 nm (VN10) and the red band at 672 nm (VN07) must be used instead of the second NIR band at 763 nm which is designed for observation of the O₂ gaseous absorption and

is not suitable for the AC. So, ρ_w at 672 nm must be pre-assumed from its value in other visible wavelengths through iterative calculations (e.g., Gordon and Wang 1994; Wang and Gordon 1994; Antoine and Morel 1999; Siegel et al. 2000; Toratani et al. 2007). The ρ_w in visible bands is then obtained by correcting the TOA radiance for atmospheric scattering and transmittance, which are calculated from the estimated aerosol properties represented by AOT and $M_{aerosol}$. In the case of vicarious calibration, however, we can use in-situ observed ρ_w in the two AC bands to estimate AOT and $M_{aerosol}$.

For the in-situ reference data set, we used data from the Marine Optical BuoY (MOBY) and the BOUée pour l’acquiSition d’une Série Optique à Long termE (BOUSSOLE) which are widely used for the vicarious calibration of global ocean color sensors (Clark et al. 1997; Eplee et al. 2001; Antoine et al. 2008a). The consistency calibration reference among satellite ocean color sensors can be improved by commonly referencing to the MOBY and BOUSSOLE measurements (Zibordi et al. 2016).

In this paper, we derive vicarious calibration coefficients k_v for ocean color processing by using ρ_w from MOBY and BOUSSOLE and two aerosol lookup tables (LUTs) which are used in the GCOM-C standard aerosol property algorithm (Yoshida 2020; Yoshida et al. 2021) and the ocean color AC algorithm (Toratani et al. 2020; 2021). The R_{rs} derived by applying the k_v and using the same LUTs is validated against R_{rs} observed by Aerosol Robotic Network-Ocean Color (AERONET-OC) (Zibordi et al. 2006, 2009, 2021). The matchup dataset includes a large range of ocean color, surface reflectance, and aerosol conditions. The estimation error and sensitivity of R_{rs} and AOT on the k_v are evaluated for the two sets of aerosol LUTs. The pre-fixed k_v in the red and NIR channels are discussed by referring them to those obtained from the aerosol and surface reflectance observations of AERONET-OC and those of the Radiometric Calibration Network (RadCalNet) (Bouvet et al. 2019).

2 Data

2.1 GCOM-C SGLI Level-1B data

Both Versions 1 and 2 Level-1B (L1B) data were used, the former for 2018 and 2019, and the latter for observations from January 2020, because the Version 2 reprocessing was underway at the time of May 2021. Version 2 L1B includes a correction of temporal degradation of the radiometric gains by the monthly moon calibration and a deselection of noisy detectors in the unilluminated edge parts of the detector arrays which are used for estimating the dark current of the sensor outputs. We have converted Version 1 L1B (L_{v2}) to Version 2-like L1B (L_{v1}) approximately by correcting the temporal change of gain (k_i) and offset (k_o) before the vicarious calibration analysis using days from launch (D) as follows:

$$L_{v2}(\lambda) \sim (L_{v1}(\lambda) - k_o(D))/(1.0 + k_t(\lambda) \cdot D) \quad (1)$$

$$k_o(D) = a_0(\lambda) + a_1(\lambda) \cdot D + a_2(\lambda) \cdot D^2 \quad (2)$$

The coefficients, k_t and a_i ($i = 0, 1, \text{ and } 2$), are shown in the homepage: https://suzaku.eorc.jaxa.jp/GCOM_C/data/prelaunch/index_cal.html). The correction is not needed for Version 2 L1B data which was processed after 29 June 2020.

2.2 MOBY data

MOBY has been operated off the Lanai Island in Hawaii (around 20.82° N, 157.19° W in the 271st deployment) since July 1997 (Clark et al. 1997, 2003), and currently a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funded project to provide vicarious calibration of ocean color

satellites (<https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw/field-observations/MOBY.html>). The normalized water-leaving radiance calculated from the MOBY spectral observations by SGLI relative response function (Uchikata et al. 2014) and available from the NOAA CoastWatch homepage (see above) was used in this study.

2.3 BOUSSOLE data

BOUSSOLE has been operated in the Western Mediterranean Sea, 60 km off Nice, (43.37° N, 7.90° E) since September 2003 (Antoine et al. 2006, 2008a; b). The R_{rs} used in this study was derived from hyperspectral measurements weighted by SGLI spectral response functions. The averages of R_{rs} in the BOUSSOLE blue channels (average R_{rs} of 0.0042 at 443 nm) are about two times smaller than those in the MOBY blue channels (average R_{rs} of 0.0087 at 443 nm). This difference is due to BOUSSOLE data encompassing oligotrophic and mesotrophic conditions while conditions at MOBY are always oligotrophic. Another reason is that, for a given chlorophyll concentration, Case I waters of the Mediterranean Sea exhibit a larger contribution of absorption by colored dissolved organic matter than other oceans (Morel and Gentili 2009; Morel et al. 2007).

2.4 AERONET-OC data

AERONET-OC (Zibordi et al. 2006, 2009, 2021) provides above-water radiometric data gathered with a system initially developed for atmospheric measurements of direct sun-irradiance and sky-radiance measurements and completed with a sea-viewing capability to derive reflectance. The uncertainty is at the 4–5% level for the water-leaving radiance data in the blue–green spectral regions (Zibordi et al. 2009). We used the data from 23 AERONET-OC sites which operated in 2018–2020 to evaluate the influence of the vicarious calibration coefficients on R_{rs} (see Sect. 4.2). The multi-band data were converted to ρ_w in the SGLI visible-NIR channels through the in-water model described in Appendix.

2.5 RadCalNET data

RadCalNet (Bouvet et al. 2019) is an initiative of the Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV) of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and provides a continuously updated archive of surface and TOA reflectances over a network of sites (currently, University of Arizona's site at Railroad Playa, Nevada, USA, the ESA/CNES site in Gobabeb, Namibia, AIR's site at Baotou, China, the CNES site at La Crau, France, the new AIR sandy site at Baotou, China) (<https://www.radcalnet.org/>). We used the Railroad Playa and Gobabeb sites which are

relatively homogeneous at the scale of several kilometers. We calculated land surface reflectance of SGLI channels from the RadCalNet measurements (at a 10 nm spectral sampling interval, in the spectral range from 380 to 2500 nm and at 30 min intervals) of the nearest time by weighting the spectral response functions of the SGLI channels. The datasets include atmospheric observations including surface atmospheric pressure, column-integrated water vapor and ozone, AOT at 550 nm, and aerosol Ångström exponent.

2.6 JMA objective analysis data

Column-integrated ozone and water vapor, sea surface wind speed, and surface pressure data were provided by the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA). The ozone data are produced by the Meteorological Research Institute global chemistry-climate model (MRI-CCM2) (Deushi and Shibata 2011) which includes both the physical processes such as transport, vertical diffusion and deposition, and chemical processes between trace gases (Shibata et al. 2005). These ancillary data were interpolated to the observation times and locations of the match-up data.

3 Methods

3.1 Data processing flow of vicarious gain calculation

Figure 1 gives a schematic description of the vicarious calibration procedure. It involves computing the TOA reflectance, ρ_t , in the near-ultraviolet (NUV) and visible bands from in situ ρ_w measurements and aerosol properties determined at NIR wavelengths and comparing the simulated reflectance with the SGLI reflectance.

The satellite observed TOA reflectance, ρ_t , can be approximated as follows:

$$\rho_t / t_g = \rho_r + \rho_a + t \rho_w / (1 - s_a \rho_w) + T \rho_g \tag{3}$$

All the terms in Eq. (3) are function of the wavelength (λ) but not shown in the equations here. The ρ_r , can be calculated from the satellite observed radiance, L_{TOA} , by using the ratio of sun-earth distance to mean sun-earth distance, d , the SGLI band weighted extraterrestrial solar irradiance, F_0 (F_0 at the yearly average d , $\overline{F_0}$, is shown in Table 1), and solar zenith angle θ_s as follows:

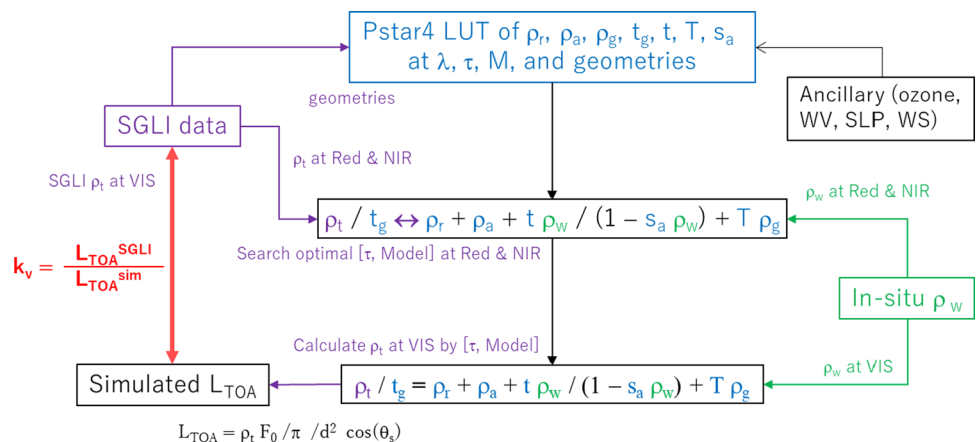
$$\rho_t = L_{TOA} \pi / (F_0 \cos(\theta_s)) \tag{4}$$

$$F_0 = \overline{F_0} / d^2 \tag{5}$$

Atmospheric molecular scattering reflectance, ρ_r (calculated as the satellite reflectance for AOT=0 and $\rho_w=0$), aerosol reflectance, ρ_a , sunglint reflectance, ρ_g , direct + diffuse transmittance of sun-surface-satellite path, t , correction ratio of gaseous (O_3 , O_2 , and H_2O) absorption from the US standard atmosphere, t_g , direct transmittance of sun-surface-satellite path, T , and spherical albedo, s_a , are calculated using the Pstar4 radiative transfer code for AOT at 867 nm (VN10), nine or ten aerosol models, $M_{aerosol}$, and observation geometries (satellite zenith, satellite azimuth, solar zenith, and solar azimuth angles), and stored in look up tables (LUTs). The Pstar4 is a vector radiative transfer model for a coupled atmosphere–ocean system (Nakajima and Tanaka 1986; 1988; Ota et al. 2010), and the scheme is based on the discrete ordinate methods (Stamnes et al. 1988). The atmospheric gas transmittance is modeled as a function of column-integrated ozone and water vapor (WV), and oxygen (represented by sea-level pressure, SLP). The surface reflectance condition in the Pstar4 was set by a Lambertian surface for the RadCalNet, and a flat ocean surface for other calculations.

The in-situ ρ_w are converted from the measured reflectance at geometries of in-situ sensor and solar angles to ones at geometries of satellite sensor and solar angles through

Fig. 1 Flow chart of SGLI vicarious calibration



the bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF) proposed by Morel et al. (2002). If NIR is not observed by in-situ instruments, ρ_w at NIR is estimated by Inherent Optical Property (IOP) model applying observation/simulation ratio at the neighboring red channel ρ_w (see Appendix).

ρ_t is simulated by using in-situ ρ_w , ρ_g , and the LUT variables ($t_g, \rho_r, \rho_a, s_a, t, T$) at selected AOT at V10 (867 nm) and model number $M_{aerosol}$. The glint reflectance ρ_g is estimated by Cox and Munk (1954) using objective analysis of sea surface wind speed data, but it did not significantly affect to k_v in this study because we used observations with $\rho_g < 0.004$ (the influence of the ρ_g on k_v was less than 0.001 except for the O₂ absorption channel VN09). The estimation of the AOT and model number $M_{aerosol}$ are described in Sect. 3.2.

We defined the k_v in each spectral band as SGLI observed radiance L_{TOA}^{SGLI} divided by simulated radiance L_{TOA}^{sim} estimated from the reference as follows:

$$k_v = L_{TOA}^{SGLI} / L_{TOA}^{sim} \tag{6}$$

So, the corrected radiance can be obtained by dividing L_{TOA}^{SGLI} by k_v . Practically k_v is derived by linear regression of L_{TOA}^{sim} and L_{TOA}^{SGLI} with passing the origin, i.e.

$$k_v = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (L_{TOA}^{SGLI}_i \cdot L_{TOA}^{sim}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N (L_{TOA}^{sim}_i)^2}, \tag{7}$$

where N is the number of samples. The deviation of each sample from the k_v is defined as follows:

$$SDk_v = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{L_{TOA}^{SGLI}_i}{L_{TOA}^{sim}_i} - k_v \right)^2 / N}. \tag{8}$$

The 95% confidence level is estimated from SDk_v multiplied by the critical values of Student's t distribution.

3.2 Estimation of AOT and $M_{aerosol}$

3.2.1 SGLI NIR and red channels

AOT and $M_{aerosol}$ are searched in the LUT by matching ρ_t calculated with Eq. (3) and in-situ ρ_w with SGLI observed ρ_t in the NIR and red channels (VN10 and VN07). Therefore, k_v for both NIR and red bands is fixed to 1.0.

3.2.2 In-situ AOTs

AOT at 443 nm (VN03) is estimated from AERONET-OC AOT at NIR and the LUT for each $M_{aerosol}$. Optimal $M_{aerosol}$ is searched by comparing the AOT estimated by LUT and the in-situ AOT at 443 nm. In the case of RadCalNet, the process is the same as AERONET-OC except that AOT at

443 nm and 672 nm is calculated from in-situ measurements of AOT at 500 nm and Ångström exponent, α , using Eq. (9).

$$AOT(\lambda_2) / AOT(\lambda_1) = (\lambda_2 / \lambda_1)^{-\alpha} \tag{9}$$

We used $\lambda_1 = 500$ nm and $\lambda_2 = 443$ nm (VN03) or $\lambda_2 = 672$ nm (VN08) in this study. In this case, k_v are adjusted to fit to the AERONET-OC AOT in the two channels. Using the derived k_v in the red (VN07) and NIR (VN10) channels, k_v in the other channels are derived by the same way as Sect. 3.1 using the MOBY + BOUSSOLE data.

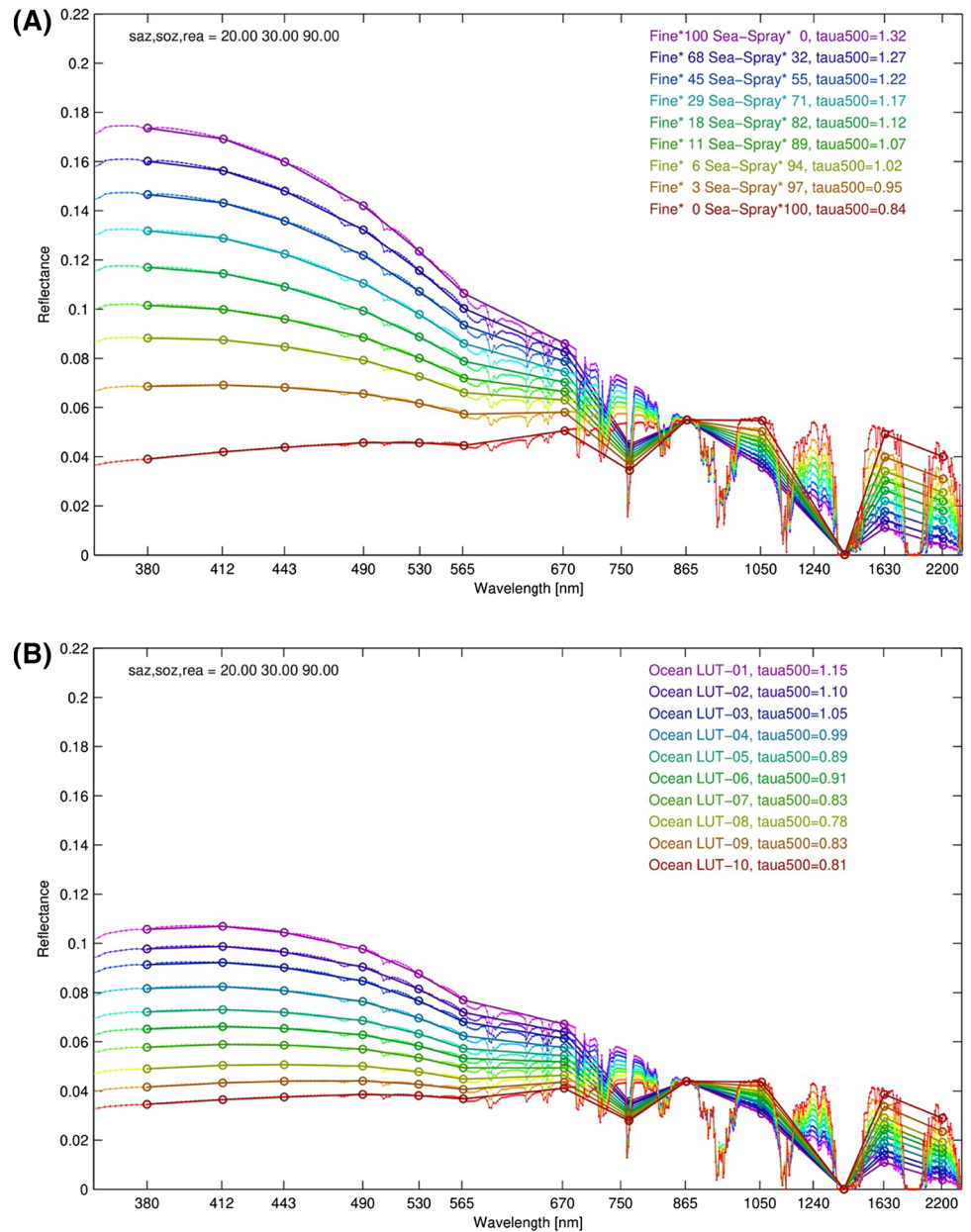
3.3 Aerosol LUTs

We use two LUTs with different aerosol model sets to evaluate vicarious calibration coefficients. The first aerosol LUT (LUT-A) was built as in Yoshida et al. (2018), i.e., including fine and coarse aerosols with mode radii of 0.143 μ m and 2.59 μ m (deviation of 1.537 and 2.054, respectively) for log-normal distribution, with, however, negligible absorption (imaginary part of the refractive indexes are set to very small values, 1.0 10^{-8} and 3.0 10^{-9}) in the Pstar4 code. The fine aerosol model is based on the average properties of the fine mode (category 1–6 by Omar et al. 2005) derived from AERONET measurements, and the coarse aerosol model is the pure marine aerosol by Sayer et al. (2012). The hygroscopic growth effect (affecting the mode radius and refractive index) was not included here. This aerosol model is also used for the LUT of the SGLI land atmospheric correction (Murakami 2020) and the version 3 ocean atmospheric correction (Toratani et al. 2021). The SGLI standard aerosol algorithm is based on the aerosol size distribution of LUT-A, but it estimates the aerosol absorption by mixing absorptive particles with refractive indices of the soot and the dust particles for the fine and coarse aerosols, respectively (Yoshida et al. 2018).

The second aerosol LUT (LUT-B) was calculated as per Shettle and Fenn (1979) which includes the hygroscopic growth of the aerosol particles, by which the mode radius of the fine and coarse aerosols increases from 0.192 μ m to 0.331 μ m and from 2.13 μ m to 6.31 μ m, respectively. This aerosol model is used for the LUT in the SGLI version 2 ocean atmospheric correction algorithm (Toratani et al. 2020).

Figure 2 displays the aerosol reflectance as a function of wavelength for the two LUTs. LUT-A has a wider range of spectral slope of aerosol reflectance. The large difference of the aerosol spectral slopes between LUT-A and LUT-B is caused by the size distribution (especially the mode radius of small particle is smaller in LUT-A than that in LUT-B) and aerosol light absorption is not considered in LUT-A.

Fig. 2 Aerosol models for vicarious calibration LUTs. The upper (A) and the lower (B) panels show aerosol reflectance as a function of wavelength for LUT-A and LUT-B, respectively



3.4 Quality control of input data

SGLI 3×3 -pixel average data centered on the in-situ sites with observation time difference of less than ± 2 h were used in the analysis but excluding the following conditions, (i)–(vii). The number of excluded samples, N , with respect to total number of samples acquired over MOBY + BOUSSOLE is shown as (N /input total number, where the denominator is 189).

- (i) The average of 3×3 NIR reflectance is larger than 0.1 (to avoid cloudy pixels, 19/189),

- (ii) The standard deviation of 3×3 NIR reflectance is larger than 0.001 (to avoid small cloud contamination, 48/189),
- (iii) AOT in the NIR channel is less than 0 or larger than 0.15 (for LUT-A) or 0.185 (for LUT-B; same samples were selected when it was 0.185 because the LUT-B causes larger AOT than LUT-A) (to exclude cases of shadow or dense aerosol, 55/189),
- (iv) α is less than -0.5 or larger than 2.5 when $AOT > 0.05$ (irregular aerosol model selection by irregular spectral slope in the observation, 13/189),
- (v) ρ_g is larger than 0.004 (to avoid sun glint areas, 78/189),

- (vi) Difference between reflectance of VN10 and one of VN11 is larger than 0.004 (to avoid sunglint areas (VN10 and VN11 have the same wavelength, but there is parallax, and the presence of sunglint causes a difference in reflectance), 59/189),
- (vii) Difference between observed and simulated reflectance of VN09 is larger than 0.008 (to avoid cloud contamination which can reduce the path length and absorption in the O₂A band, 48/189).

Solar zenith angles less than 70° were used in this analysis. We did not limit data selection by maximum satellite zenith angle θ_v because θ_v of SGLI visible and near-infrared non-polarized (VNR-NP) channels is less than about 40°. In the case of RadCalNet, we excluded the data of θ_v larger than 10° to avoid the influence of the land surface BRDF which is not corrected for in this study, and water vapor

content was limited to 30 kg/m² to minimize the influence of water vapor absorption and possibly cloudy conditions.

3.5 Influence of the vicarious calibration coefficients on R_{rs} and AOT

The R_{rs} and AOT were calculated with the same processing scheme except for inputting SGLI ρ_t and outputting ρ_w in the blue-green channels in Eq. (3). In-situ ρ_w at NIR and red wavelengths are used for the estimation of ρ_w at visible wavelengths to see just the effect of k_v . The R_{rs} and AOT are evaluated by comparing the matchups of AERONET-OC for LUT-A and LUT-B. The quality control is the same as in Sect. 3.4 except that the maximum AOT is 0.6 instead of 0.15. Sensitivity of R_{rs} and AOT to k_v was investigated for the two aerosol tables, LUT-A and LUT-B, by adding or subtracting 1% to ρ_t of the match-up observations.

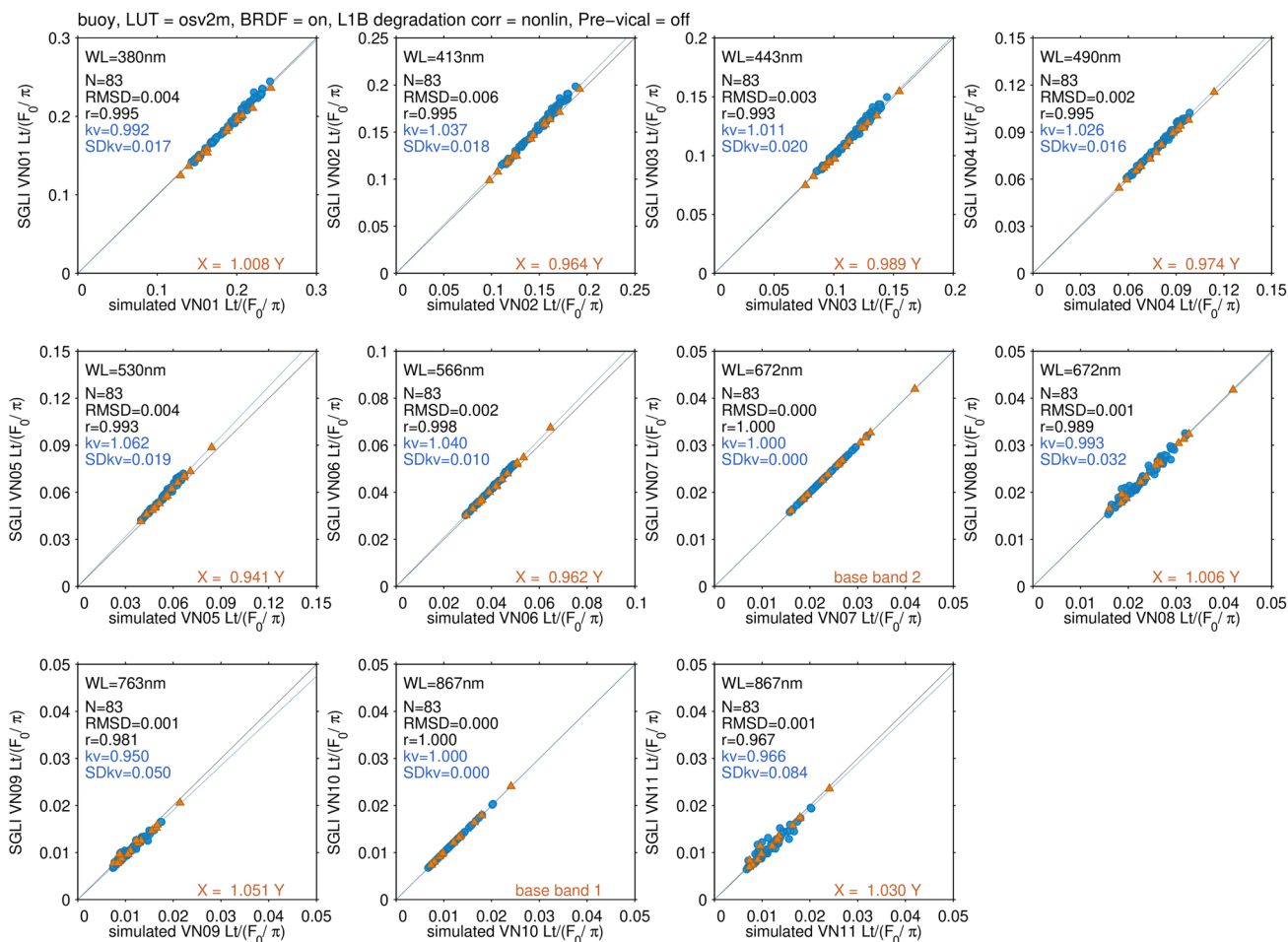
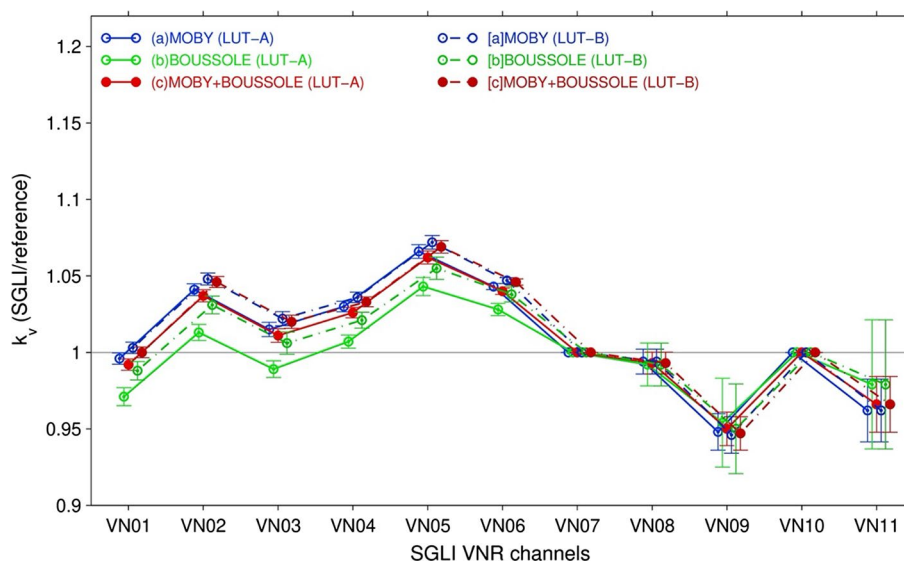


Fig. 3 Scatter diagram of SGLI and simulated radiance normalized by F_0/π ($L_{TOA}/(F_0/\pi)$) calculated at MOBY (69 blue dots) and BOUS-SOLE (14 red triangles). LUT-A was used to derive the simulated reflectance. N indicates sample number, RMSD, root mean square

difference, r, correlation coefficient, and SDk_v , are explained in the text. The blue line shows the line of $Y=k_v X$. The regression by the inverse equation ($X=a Y$, a is the slope) is show in each panel

Fig. 4 Summary plots of k_v of SGLI derived by using **a** MOBY, **b** BOUSSOLE, and **c** MOBY + BOUSSOLE by using LUT-A ((a)–(c), solid lines) and LUT-B ([a]–[c], dashed lines). The 95% confidence level (assuming the t -distribution) is shown by the error bars. The horizontal positions are shifted to avoid the overlap of the plots



4 Results

4.1 MOBY and BOUSSOLE

Figure 3 shows the comparison between simulated and SGLI observed L_{TOA} after normalizing by F_0/π when using the LUT-A. The derived k_v for either MOBY or BOUSSOLE or both together with the LUT-A and LUT-B are shown in Fig. 4 and listed in Table 2. The SDk_v and the 95% confidence levels calculated from SDk_v are displayed in Table 3 and by vertical bars in Fig. 4. Note that the BRDF correction affected k_v by about 0.004 and reduced the SDk_v by about 0.002 at 443 nm (VN03).

The six sets of k_v have a similar spectral shape as follows: higher than 1.0 at VN02, VN04, VN05, and VN06 channels (k_v larger than 1.0 indicates that the SGLI radiance is larger than radiance expected from MOBY + BOUSSOLE data and the LUTs) and around 1.0 in VN01 and VN03 channels; on the other hand, k_v s in VN08, VN09 and VN11 are smaller than 1.0. The 95% confidence levels are larger than the differences among k_v s of (a)–(c), [a]–[c] at the red-NIR wavelengths due to relatively large influence from the errors of the aerosol reflectance estimation.

The k_v s by MOBY are larger than ones by BOUSSOLE in VN01–06: the difference between k_v at 443 nm (VN03) from MOBY and BOUSSOLE is 2.6% in the case of LUT-A and 1.6% in the case of LUT-B (Fig. 4 and Table 2). The k_v s by LUT-B ([a]–[c]) are larger than ones by LUT-A ((a)–(c)) by about 0.7% (MOBY) and 1.7% (BOUSSOLE) at 443 nm. The k_v s by MOBY + BOUSSOLE is closer to ones by MOBY because the sample number for MOBY is five times larger than the sample number for BOUSSOLE.

4.2 Evaluation of R_{rs} and AOT estimates before and after applying k_v

SGLI derived R_{rs} and AOT were evaluated against the AERONET-OC matchups by using the two sets of k_v ((c) and [c] of Table 2) that were derived with the two LUTs. The matchup sites are distributed various geographical areas near the coast (Fig. 5). The results by LUT-A are displayed in Fig. 6 and both results are listed in Table 4. In-situ ρ_w in VN07 and VN10 were used to estimate the aerosol properties for the AC because we intend to see the effect of k_v simply without influence of the estimation errors of the non-zero water leaving reflectance in the AC algorithms.

The bias in Table 4 is improved after applying k_v in VN01, VN05, and VN06 in the case of LUT-A, and in VN02, VN04, VN05, and VN06 in the case of LUT-B. RMSD of R_{rs} in VN01–VN04 channels by LUT-A is larger than one by LUT-B. On the other hand, the positive bias of AOT by LUT-B is larger than one by LUT-A.

4.3 Sensitivity of R_{rs} and AOT to k_v deviation

Figure 7 shows the sensitivity of R_{rs} and AOT to k_v deviation. When $\pm 1\%$ error is added to k_v of each visible channel, the influence on R_{rs} in the same channel is about $\pm 1\%$ multiplied by the transmittance along the light path, t (ranged from 0.6 to 0.8 in violet-green wavelengths), for both aerosol models according to Eq. (3).

When $\pm 1\%$ error is added to k_v of NIR channel (VN10), R_{rs} in visible channels is impacted by the same sign. On the other hand, $\pm 1\%$ error on k_v of red channel (VN07) causes the opposite sign error on R_{rs} in visible channels. This indicates that the R_{rs} errors are suppressed when errors at NIR and red channels have the same sign but enhanced when the errors have the opposite sign. It is notable that errors of R_{rs}

Table 2 k_v from different reference datasets and LUTs

Reference	N	VN01	VN02	VN03	VN04	VN05	VN06	VN07	VN08	VN09	VN10	VN11
LUT-A												
(a) MOBY	69	0.996	1.041	1.015	1.030	1.066	1.043	1.000	0.994	0.948	1.000	0.962
(b) BOUSSOLE	14	0.971	1.013	0.989	1.007	1.043	1.028	1.000	0.992	0.954	1.000	0.979
(c) MOBY + BOUSSOLE	83	0.992	1.037	1.011	1.026	1.062	1.040	1.000	0.993	0.950	1.000	0.966
(d) VN07&10 by AERONET-OC AOT	84 [937]	1.002	1.051	1.028	1.049	1.095	1.080	[1.062]	1.054	1.018	[1.102]	1.062
(e) RadCalNet	140	0.970	1.011	0.976	1.004	1.010	Saturation	Saturation	0.988	1.055	Saturation	0.986
LUT-B												
[a] MOBY	69	1.003	1.048	1.022	1.036	1.072	1.047	1.000	0.994	0.946	1.000	0.962
[b] BOUSSOLE	14	0.988	1.031	1.006	1.021	1.055	1.038	1.000	0.992	0.950	1.000	0.979
[c] MOBY + BOUSSOLE	83	1.000	1.046	1.020	1.033	1.069	1.046	1.000	0.993	0.947	1.000	0.966
[d] VN07&10 by AERONET-OC AOT	84 [927]	1.003	1.050	1.027	1.047	1.092	1.079	[1.074]	1.066	1.054	[1.197]	1.154
[e] RadCalNet	140	0.971	1.012	0.978	1.004	1.009	Saturation	Saturation	0.989	1.058	Saturation	0.991

Table 3 SDk_v from different reference datasets and LUTs

Reference	N	VN01	VN02	VN03	VN04	VN05	VN06	VN07	VN08	VN09	VN10	VN11
LUT-A												
(a) MOBY	69	0.0154	0.0159	0.0194	0.0143	0.0187	0.0083	0.0000	0.0339	0.0497	0.0000	0.0852
(b) BOUSSOLE	14	0.0102	0.0092	0.0095	0.0075	0.0103	0.0070	0.0000	0.0244	0.0507	0.0000	0.0737
(c) MOBY + BOUSSOLE	83	0.0170	0.0179	0.0204	0.0156	0.0195	0.0098	0.0000	0.0325	0.0500	0.0000	0.0835
(d) VN07&10 by AERONET-OC AOT	84	0.0162	0.0170	0.0194	0.0150	0.0192	0.0100	0.0000	0.0344	0.0544	0.0000	0.0918
(e) RadCalNet	140	0.0576	0.0624	0.0648	0.0700	0.0785	Saturation	Saturation	0.0638	0.1150	Saturation	0.0602
LUT-B												
[a] MOBY	69	0.0156	0.0161	0.0192	0.0142	0.0185	0.0081	0.0000	0.0339	0.0498	0.0000	0.0852
[b] BOUSSOLE	14	0.0105	0.0101	0.0126	0.0091	0.0126	0.0087	0.0000	0.0244	0.0511	0.0000	0.0737
[c] MOBY + BOUSSOLE	83	0.0159	0.0167	0.0195	0.0147	0.0188	0.0091	0.0000	0.0325	0.0501	0.0000	0.0835
[d] VN07&10 by AERONET-OC AOT	84	0.0145	0.0152	0.0174	0.0135	0.0177	0.0094	0.0000	0.0347	0.0569	0.0000	0.0997
[e] RadCalNet	140	0.0571	0.0617	0.0639	0.0693	0.0785	Saturation	Saturation	0.0639	0.1154	Saturation	0.0606

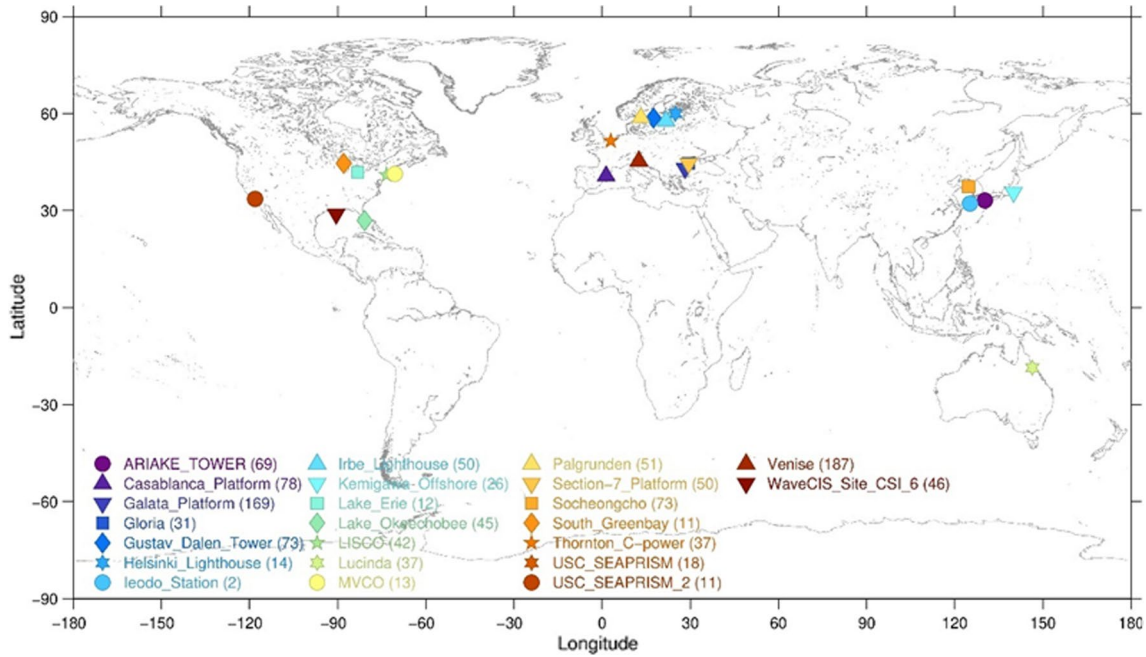


Fig. 5 Distribution of AERONET-OC sites. The marker colors correspond to the ones in Fig. 6

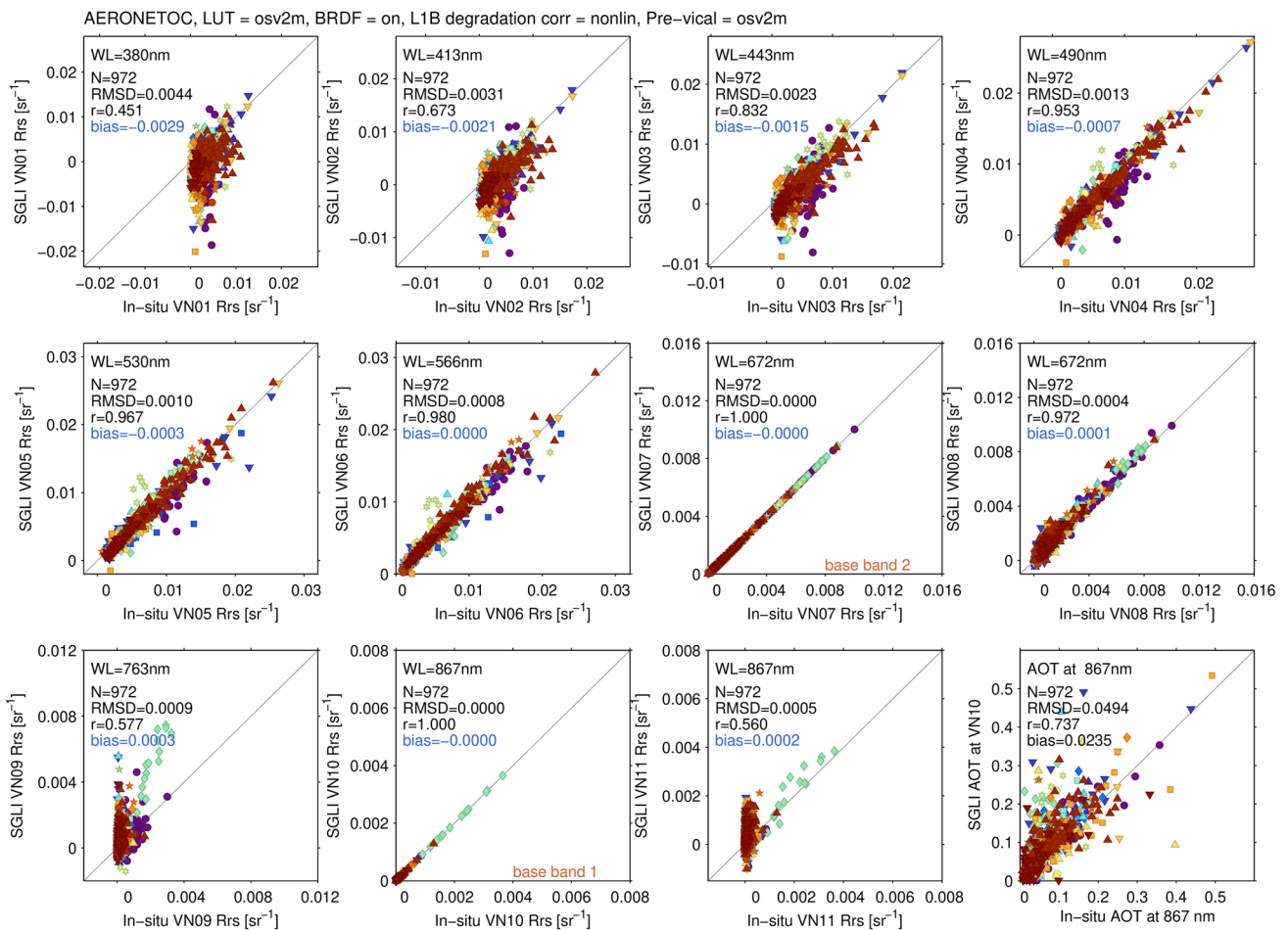


Fig. 6 R_{rs} and AOT comparison between AERONET-OC measurements and estimates by LUT-A (ρ_w in VN07 and VN10 are fixed to the AERONET-OC R_{rs} measurements at the wavelengths). N indicates the match up sample number, RMSD shows root mean square

difference of SGLI estimates and in-situ data, r is correlation coefficient, and bias denotes SGLI minus in-situ values. The units are steradian⁻¹ for R_{rs} and nondimensional for AOT. The marker colors correspond to the ones in Fig. 5

at VN02–VN06 due to the $\pm 1\%$ error of VN10 (and VN07) by using LUT-A are about 10% larger than the errors by using LUT-B (VN01 is influenced by errors from the spectral extrapolation of in-situ R_{rs} described in APPENDIX).

4.4 k_v in NIR and red by using in-situ aerosol measurements

The k_v in the red and NIR channels were estimated (not fixed to 1.0) when the AOT and $M_{aerosol}$ in the LUT were selected using AERONET-OC AOTs in the multiple channels (NIR and blue channels in this study). The k_v becomes much larger than 1.0, especially at wavelengths longer than 530 nm (about 1.1 for LUT-A and 1.2 for LUT-B in VN10 in Fig. 8 and Table 2(d) and [d]).

4.5 k_v in NIR and red by using RadCalNet measurements

The k_v in the red and NIR channels were estimated (not fixed to 1.0) through the AOT and $M_{aerosol}$ in the LUT were selected using RadCalNet measurements of AOT and α (Fig. 8 and Table 2(e) and [e]). The k_v from the RadCalNet sites are lower than k_v from MOBY + BOUSSOLE by 4–5% from NUV to green wavelengths; however, the difference is smaller in longer wavelengths, red and NIR channels. Note that this type of calibration differs from the system vicarious calibration performed at MOBY and BOUSSOLE, which uses the atmospheric correction scheme of the ocean color processing line. The 4–5% differences in the blue and green would yield unacceptable R_{rs} errors, emphasizing that for ocean color remote sensing the MOBY + BOUSSOLE calibration cannot be substituted by a RadCalNet-type calibration.

5 Discussion and conclusion

5.1 Calibration coefficients from different data sources and aerosol models

The k_v values obtained using different reference data are summarized in Table 2 and Fig. 8. Considering RMSD of R_{rs} compared with AERONET-OC, we recommend k_v from MOBY + BOUSSOLE samples with LUT-A or LUT-B, i.e., k_v of Table 2(c) or [c], as the SGLI ocean color vicarious calibration coefficients.

The difference of k_v due to the LUTs (e.g., between Table 2(c) and [c]) is about 1%. The difference on the R_{rs} estimates can be reduced if we use k_v derived by the same LUT. On the other hand, the 1% difference can have significant impact on R_{rs} (as shown in Fig. 7) if we do not use the LUT which is selected to derive the k_v .

The difference between k_v obtained with the MOBY dataset and the BOUSSOLE dataset is larger when using LUT-A than when using LUT-B (the difference for VN03 was 2.6% and 1.6% by LUT-A and LUT-B, respectively). That seems to be due to the same reason as for the R_{rs} error discussed next (Sect. 5.2).

5.2 Bias and deviation on R_{rs} and AOT by k_v of different LUTs

Comparison of errors of R_{rs} and AOT derived by the different LUT-A and -B for AERONET-OC is shown in Table 4. R_{rs} RMSD obtained using LUT-B is smaller in the NUV-blue channels (VN01–VN04) by 12–16% (see Table 4). That may be due to the higher spectral slope of ρ_a in LUT-A (the right panel of Fig. 2), causing larger deviation in R_{rs} at blue wavelengths from errors in NIR channels. The larger difference between k_v from MOBY and BOUSSOLE in the case of LUT-A can be explained in the same way, i.e., by the error in representing the ρ_a of different aerosol types (the average α between 867 and 672 nm estimated by LUT-A was 0.79 and 1.25 for MOBY and BOUSSOLE, respectively) which is enhanced by the higher spectral slope of ρ_a in LUT-A.

On the other hand, LUT-A is recommended for the aerosol estimation regarding both RMSD and bias of AOT. The reason is that LUT-A includes smaller aerosol particle radius which has a higher ratio of backscattering reflectance per AOT, reducing the positive bias of AOT.

5.3 k_v in red and NIR

We have used VN10 and VN07 to estimate the AOT and $M_{aerosol}$ in this analysis, which assumes that k_v is 1.0 in the two channels. Departures from this assumption are possible, i.e., the k_v of the two channels can be other than 1.0.

When we use AERONET-OC AOT at two wavelengths (i.e., VN10 and VN03 to cover blue to NIR wavelengths), k_v becomes larger especially at wavelengths longer than 530 nm (more than 1.1 in VN10 as shown in Fig. 8 and Table 2(d) and [d]). The 10% larger value than 1.0 (1.0 corresponds to the prelaunch gain) does not seem realistic considering the results of prelaunch and onboard calibration (Urabe et al. 2019) and RadCalNet k_v (around 0.95–1.0 in Fig. 8) which were calculated using in-situ AOT and α measurements. This may indicate that the larger k_v s for wavelengths longer than 530 nm are mainly caused by the small aerosol backscattering reflectance (i.e., ρ_a) per a certain AOT in the LUTs, and the error becomes substantial over the ocean because the relative contribution of ρ_a to the ρ_t over the ocean (AERONET-OC) is larger than over land (RadCalNet) at those wavelengths.

The bias in R_{rs} can be reduced if we apply k_v with the same LUT used to derive k_v for both the processing by

Table 4 Statistics of R_{rs} and AOT estimates of AERONET-OC matchups by using LUT-A and LUT-B. The underlined numbers indicate channels for which agreement is improved by applying kv

LUT and statistics	R_{rs} VN01	R_{rs} VN02	R_{rs} VN03	R_{rs} VN04	R_{rs} VN05	R_{rs} VN06	R_{rs} VN07	R_{rs} VN08	R_{rs} VN09	R_{rs} VN10	R_{rs} VN11	AOT867
LUT-A without kv	Sample number 972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972
	in-situ avg 0.00259	0.00315	0.00374	0.00498	0.00526	0.00524	0.00139	0.00139	0.00025	0.00011	0.00011	0.06967
	Bias (SGLI-insitu) -0.00391	0.00122	-0.00079	0.00052	0.00197	0.00120	0.00000	0.00001	-0.00038	0.00000	-0.00008	0.02353
	RMSD 0.00516	0.00257	0.00190	0.00117	0.00223	0.00146	0.00000	0.00039	0.00084	0.00000	0.00042	0.04943
LUT-A with kv	Sample number 972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972	972
	in-situ avg 0.00259	0.00315	0.00374	0.00498	0.00526	0.00524	0.00139	0.00139	0.00025	0.00011	0.00011	0.06967
	Bias (SGLI-insitu) <u>-0.00286</u>	-0.00207	-0.00152	-0.00068	<u>-0.00025</u>	<u>0.00002</u>	0.00000	0.00011	0.00030	0.00000	0.00016	0.02353
	RMSD <u>0.00437</u>	0.00313	0.00233	0.00129	<u>0.00102</u>	<u>0.00080</u>	0.00000	0.00041	0.00087	0.00000	0.00047	0.04943
LUT-B without kv	Sample number 1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016
	in-situ avg 0.00260	0.00317	0.00376	0.00503	0.00541	0.00551	0.00163	0.00163	0.00032	0.00017	0.00017	0.06965
	Bias (SGLI-insitu) -0.00162	0.00288	0.00042	0.00122	0.00243	0.00150	0.00000	0.00000	-0.00036	0.00000	-0.00009	0.04644
	RMSD 0.00365	0.00370	0.00183	0.00165	0.00270	0.00177	0.00007	0.00039	0.00094	0.00000	0.00042	0.06884
LUT-B with kv	Sample number 1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016
	in-situ avg 0.00260	0.00317	0.00376	0.00503	0.00541	0.00551	0.00163	0.00163	0.00032	0.00017	0.00017	0.06965
	Bias (SGLI-insitu) -0.00162	<u>-0.00121</u>	-0.00090	<u>-0.00030</u>	<u>-0.00006</u>	<u>0.00013</u>	0.00000	0.00011	0.00039	0.00000	0.00015	0.04644
	RMSD 0.00365	<u>0.00262</u>	0.00203	<u>0.00114</u>	<u>0.00105</u>	<u>0.00086</u>	0.00007	0.00041	0.00103	0.00000	0.00047	0.06884

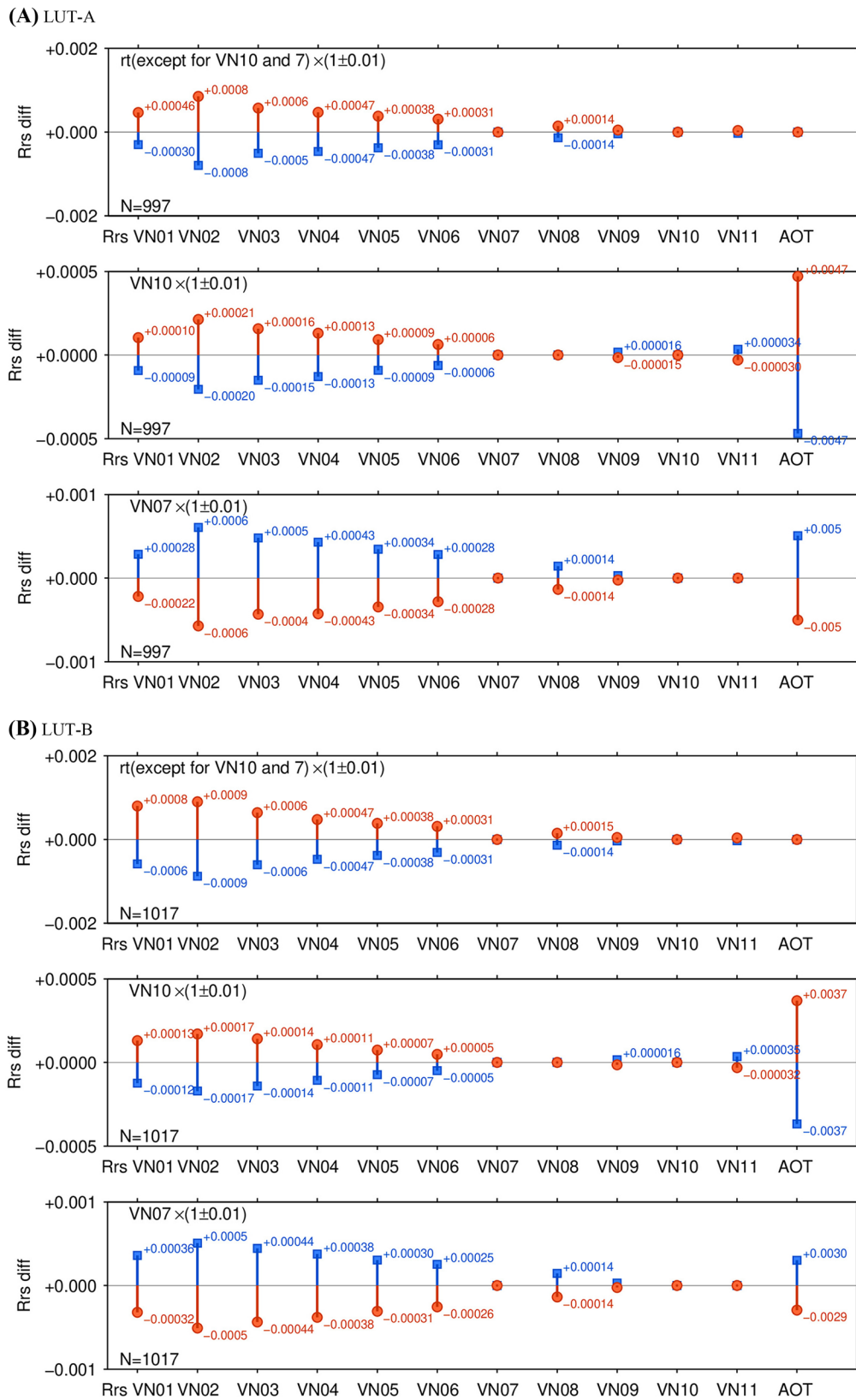


Fig. 7 Influence of the deviation of the vicarious calibration coefficients by **A** LUT-A and **B** LUT-B in the case of AERONET-OC matchups. The first, second, and third panels in **(A)** and **(B)** are R_{rs}

errors resulting from ρ_t error in the same channels, R_{rs} and AOT errors resulting from ρ_t error in VN10, and R_{rs} and AOT errors resulting from ρ_t error in VN07, respectively

LUT-A and LUT-B. However, this study indicates LUT-A is better for the AOT estimation and LUT-B is suitable for the R_{rs} estimation considering the validation results (RMSD in Table 4). It was decided, for version 3 of the SGLI standard AC algorithm has decided to use SVC coefficients (c) and LUT-A instead of -B to cover the wide range slope of the aerosol reflectance (Toratani et al. 2021). Further improvement of the aerosol LUT is needed to construct an optimal LUT for aerosol estimation that is consistent with other variables directly affected by absolute reflectance such as surface shortwave radiation and photosynthetically available radiation.

Appendix

R_{rs} wavelength interpolation

When the reference R_{rs} wavelengths are different from SGLI ones (cases of AERONET-OC), we interpolated (or extrapolated) using an inherent optical property (IOP) algorithm similarly as in Murakami et al. (2005).

We used a simple IOP model based on Gordon et al. (1988) and Lee et al. (2002) adjusted to IOP data in NASA bio-Optical Marine Algorithm Data set (NOMAD) (Werdell and Bailey 2005) and R_{rs} data, and interpolated NOMAD R_{rs} to 1 nm spectral resolution using the model. The IOP algorithms are based on the equation of remote sensing reflectance below the surface (r_{rs}), the total absorption coefficient (a) and the backscattering coefficient (b_b) proposed by Gordon et al. (1988).

Remote sensing reflectance above the surface, R_{rs} was estimated from r_{rs} using the relation from Gordon et al. (1988) and Lee et al. (2002) as follows:

$$R_{rs}(\lambda) = 0.529 \times r_{rs}(\lambda) / (1 - 1.7 \times r_{rs}(\lambda)), \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$r_{rs}(\lambda) = g_1 \times u(\lambda) + g_2 \times u(\lambda)^2, \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$u(\lambda) = b_b(\lambda) / (b_b(\lambda) + a(\lambda)), \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$a(\lambda) = a_w(\lambda) + (a_{ph}(\lambda) + a_{dg}(\lambda)), \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$b_b(\lambda) = b_{bw}(\lambda) + b_{bp}(\lambda), \quad (\text{A5})$$

where r_{rs} is the remote sensing reflectance below the surface at wavelength λ , a is the total absorption coefficient, a_w , the absorption spectra of water, a_{ph} , the absorption spectra of phytoplankton, and a_{dg} the absorption spectra of detritus + colored dissolved organic matter, b_b , the backscattering

coefficient, and b_{bw} and b_{bp} are backscattering coefficients of water and particles respectively. We used a_w and b_{bw} values from Pope and Fry (1997), Kou et al. (1993), Lee et al. (2015) and $g_1 = 0.0949$ and $g_2 = 0.0794$ (Lee et al. 2002).

The spectral shape (normalized at 442 nm) of phytoplankton absorption a_{ph0} was modeled as the average from NOMAD data. The spectral shapes of a_{dg} and b_{bp} were approximated as follows:

$$a_{dg0}(\lambda) = \exp(-S \times (\lambda - 442)), \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$b_{bp0}(\lambda) = (\lambda/442)^{-Y}, \quad (\text{A7})$$

where S and Y are fixed at 0.0146, and 1.18, respectively, values that were derived from the average of NOMAD in situ measurements of a_{dg} and b_{bp} . The weighted values for the SGLI channels are listed in Table 5.

To simplify and improve the stability of the process, we assumed that the spectral shape of the $a_{pg} = a_{ph} + a_{dg}$ can be represented as follows:

$$a_{pg0}(\lambda) = (a_{ph0}(\lambda) \times r_{aph} + a_{dg0}(\lambda)) / (r_{aph} + 1.0), \quad (\text{A8})$$

where a_{ph0} is the phytoplankton absorption normalized to 1.0 at 442 nm derived from the average of NOMAD in situ measurements (Table 5), and r_{aph} is set to 0.6 by the average of a_{ph}/a_{dg} at 443 nm in NOMAD. The difference of r_{aph} can amplify uncertainty at 380 nm through the extrapolation; the bias and RMSD of R_{rs} at 380 nm are changed by -0.0005 and $+10\%$, respectively, according to change of r_{aph} from 0.33 to 0.67. The a_{pg} and b_{bp} are described by a_{pg} and b_{bp} at 442 nm, a_{pg442} and b_{bp442} as follows:

$$a_{pg}(\lambda) = a_{pg442} \times a_{pg0}(\lambda) \quad (\text{A9})$$

$$b_{bp}(\lambda) = b_{bp442} \times b_{bp0}(\lambda) \quad (\text{A10})$$

The a_{pg442} and b_{bp442} in Eqs. (A9) and (A10) were derived using two (blue and green) channels of the reference R_{rs} data by the linear matrix inversion (Hoge and Lyon 1996; 1999; Lyon and Hoge 2006) with Equations (A1–A8). The R_{rs} in channels of the reference dataset and channels of SGLI were calculated using a_{pg442} and b_{bp442} and Equations (A1–A10). The ratios between the reference R_{rs} and simulated R_{rs} were linearly interpolated to the SGLI channel wavelengths and applied to the simulated R_{rs} in the SGLI channels.

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Fig. 8 k_v of SGLI derived by using **c** MOBY + BOUSSOLE, **d** MOBY + BOUSSOLE with AERONET-OC AOTs, and **e** RadCalNet surface reflectance by using LUT-A (solid lines) and LUT-B (dashed lines). The 95% confidence level (assuming the t -distribution) is shown by the error bars. The horizontal positions are shifted to avoid the overlap of the plots

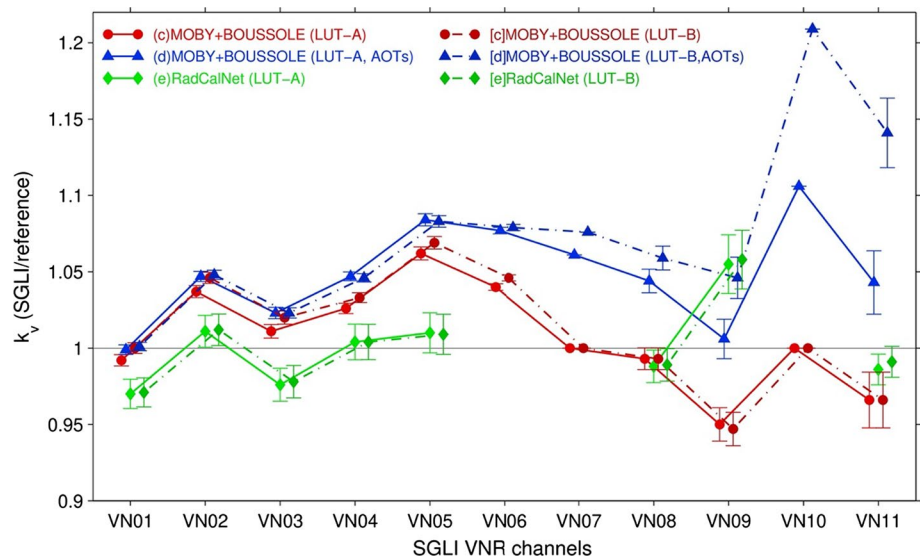


Table 5 Coefficients for the IOP model

	VN01	VN02	VN03	VN04	VN05	VN06	VN07	VN08	VN09	VN10	VN11
λ [nm]	380.0	412.5	443.2	489.9	529.6	566.2	672.0	672.1	763.1	866.8	867.1
a_w [m^{-1}]	0.00377	0.00312	0.00510	0.01337	0.04211	0.06759	0.44573	0.44603	2.85710	4.69239	4.70505
b_{bw} [m^{-1}]	0.00472	0.00333	0.00239	0.00157	0.00112	0.00086	0.00041	0.00041	0.00024	0.00014	0.00014
a_{ph0} [m^{-1}]	0.65516	0.84190	0.98772	0.61764	0.30408	0.14737	0.58058	0.58094	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
a_{dg0} [m^{-1}]	2.48076	1.54306	0.98477	0.49841	0.27957	0.16400	0.03501	0.03496	0.00922	0.00204	0.00203
b_{bp0} [m^{-1}]	1.19554	1.08524	0.99705	0.88615	0.80830	0.74718	0.61056	0.61045	0.52557	0.45232	0.45210

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