PREPARATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE MISSION PERFORMANCE CENTRE (MPC) FOR THE COPERNICUS SENTINEL-3 MISSION

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S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

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List of Changes

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Table of content

1	PROC	ESSING BASELINE VERSION	1
	1.1 5	Sentinel3-A	1
	1.2	Sentinel3-B	1
2	INSTR	UMENT MONITORING	2
	2.1	CCD temperatures	
	2.1.1	OLCI-A	2
	2.1.2	OLCI-B	4
	2.2	Radiometric Calibration	6
	2.2.1	Dark Offsets [OLCI-L1B-CV-230]	9
	2.2.2	Instrument response and degradation modelling [OLCI-L1B-CV-250]1	9
	2.2.3	Ageing of nominal diffuser [OLCI-L1B-CV-240]	7
	2.2.4	Updating of calibration ADF [OLCI-L1B-CV-260]4	6
	2.2.5 Diffus	Radiometric Calibrations for sun azimuth angle dependency and Yaw Manoeuvres for Solar ser on-orbit re-characterization [OLCI-L1B-CV-270 and OLCI-L1B-CV-280]	
	2.3	Spectral Calibration [OLCI-L1B-CV-400] 4	7
	2.3.1	OLCI-A	7
	2.3.2	OLCI-B	7
	2.4	Signal to Noise assessment [OLCI-L1B-CV-620]4	.7
	2.4.1	SNR from Radiometric calibration data 4	.7
	2.4.2	SNR from EO data5	4
	2.5	Geometric Calibration/Validation	4
	2.5.1	OLCI-A	4
	2.5.2	OLCI-B	7
3	OLCI I	EVEL 1 PRODUCT VALIDATION6	51
	3.1	[OLCI-L1B-CV-300], [OLCI-L1B-CV-310] – Radiometric Validation	1
	3.1.1	S3ETRAC Service	1
	3.1.2	Radiometric validation with DIMITRI6	4
	3.1.3	Radiometric validation with OSCAR7	2
	3.2	[OLCI-L1B-CV-320] – Radiometric Validation with Level 3 products	4
	3.2.1	OLCI-A	4
	3.2.2	OLCI-B	4



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

4	LEVE	EL 2 LAND PRODUCTS VALIDATION	5
	4.1	[OLCI-L2LRF-CV-300]	5
	4.1.	1 Routine extractions	5
	4.1.	2 Comparisons with MERIS MGVI and MTCI climatology	5
	4.2 Produc	[OLCI-L2LRF-CV-410 & OLCI-L2LRF-CV-420] – Cloud Masking & Surface Classification for Land	1
5	LEVE	EL 2 WATER PRODUCTS VALIDATION9	4
	5.1	[OLCI-L2-CV-210, OLCI-L2-CV-220] – Vicarious calibration of the NIR and VIS bands	4
		[OLCI-L2WLR-CV-300, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-310, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-32, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-330, OLCI- R-CV-340, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-350, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-360 and OLCI-L2WLR-CV-370] – Level 2 Water- g Reflectance product validation	4
	5.2.	1 Acknowledgements	4
	5.2.	2 OLCI-A	5
	5.2.	3 OLCI-B	2
	5.3	[OLCI-L2WLR-CV-430] – Algorithm performance over spatial and temporal domains 10	7
	5.4	[OLCI-L2WLR-CV-510 & 520] – Cloud Masking & Surface Classification for Water Products 10	7
	5.5	[OLCI-L2WLR-CV530] Validation of Aerosol Product	7
	5.6	[OLCI-L2WLR-CV-380] Development of calibration, product and science algorithms	0
6	VAL	DATION OF INTEGRATED WATER VAPOUR OVER LAND & WATER11	1
	6.1	Preface	1
	6.2	Quantitative validation using GNSS - Land	1
	6.3	Quantitative validation using GNSS - Water	3
	6.4	Quantitative validation using AERONET IWV Retrievals – Land 114	4
	6.5	Validation by AERONET IWV Retrievals – Ocean 11	5
	6.6	Quantitative validation using ARM MWR IWV Retrievals – Land 110	6
	6.7	Summary	8
	6.8	References:112	8
7	LEVE	EL 2 SYN PRODUCTS VALIDATION12	0
8	EVEI	NTS12	1
9	APP	ENDIX A	2



 Ref.:
 S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046

 Issue:
 1.0

 Date:
 18/12/2020

 Page:
 vi

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

List of Figures

Figure 1: long term monitoring of OLCI-A CCD temperatures using minimum value (top), time averaged values (middle), and maximum value (bottom) provided in the annotations of the Radiometric Calibration Level 1 products, for the Shutter frames, all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (absolute orbit 183) for which the instrument was not yet thermally stable 2
Figure 2: Same as Figure 1 for diffuser frames3
Figure 3: long term monitoring of OLCI-B CCD temperatures using minimum value (top), time averaged values (middle), and maximum value (bottom) provided in the annotations of the Radiometric Calibration Level 1 products, for the Shutter frames, all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (absolute orbit 167) for which the instrument was not yet thermally stable4
Figure 4: same as Figure 3 for diffuser frames5
Figure 5: Sun azimuth angles during acquired OLCI-A Radiometric Calibrations (diffuser frame) on top of nominal yearly cycle (black curve). Diffuser 1 with diamonds, diffuser 2 with crosses, 2016 acquisitions in dark blue, 2017 in clear blue, 2018 in green, 2019 in yellow and 2020 in red7
Figure 6: same as Figure 5 for OLCI-B (2018 in blue, 2019 in green and 2020 in red)7
Figure 7: OLCI-A Sun geometry during radiometric Calibrations on top of characterization ones (diffuser frame) 8
Figure 8: same as Figure 7 for OLCI-B8
Figure 9: Dark Offset table for band Oa06 with (red) and without (black) HEP filtering (Radiometric Calibration of 22 July 2017). The strong HEP event near pixel 400 has been detected and removed by the HEP filtering
Figure 10: OLCI-A Dark Offset for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet 10
Figure 11: map of OLCI-A periodic noise for the 5 cameras, for band Oa21. X-axis is detector number (East part, from 540 to 740, where the periodic noise occurs), Y-axis is the orbit number. Y-axis range is focused on the most recent 5000 orbits. The counts have been corrected from the West detectors mean value (not affected by periodic noise) in order to remove mean level gaps and consequently to have a better visualisation of the long term evolution of the periodic noise structure. At the beginning of the mission the periodic noise for band Oa21 had strong amplitude in camera 2, 3 and 5 compared to camera 1 and 4. However PN evolved through the mission and these discrepancies between cameras have been reduced. At the time of this Cyclic Report Camera 2 still shows a slightly higher PN than other cameras.
Figure 12: same as Figure 11 for smear band 12
Figure 13: OLCI-A Dark Current for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet 13
Figure 14: left column: ACT mean on 400 first detectors of OLCI-A Dark Current coefficients for spectral band Oa01 (top) and Oa21 (bottom). Right column: same as left column but for Standard deviation instead of mean. We see an increase of the DC level as a function of time especially for band Oa21 13
Figure 15: OLCI-A Dark current increase rates with time (in counts per year) vs. band (left) and vs. band width (right) 14



Figure 16: OLCI-B Dark Offset for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet. ------ 15 Figure 17: OLCI-B map of periodic noise for the 5 cameras, for band Oa21. X-axis is detector number (East part, from 540 to 740, where the periodic noise occurs), Y-axis is the orbit number. The counts have been corrected from the West detectors mean value (not affected by periodic noise) in order to remove mean level gaps and consequently to have a better visualisation of the long term evolution of the periodic noise structure. ------ 16 Figure 18: same as Figure 17 for smear band. ----- 16 Figure 19: OLCI-B Dark Current for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet. ------ 17 Figure 20: left column: ACT mean on 400 first detectors of OLCI-B Dark Current coefficients for spectral band Oa01 (top) and Oa21 (bottom). Right column: same as left column but for Standard deviation instead of mean. We see an increase of the DC level as a function of time especially for band Oa21.------ 18 Figure 21: OLCI-B Dark Current increase rates with time (in counts per year) vs. band (left) and vs. band width (right)------ 18 Figure 22: OLCI-A Gain Coefficients for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all diffuser 1 radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet. ------ 19 Figure 23: camera averaged gain relative evolution with respect to calibration of 25/04/2016 (change of OLCI channel settings), as a function of elapsed time since the beginning of the mission; one curve for each band (see colour code on plots), one plot for each module. The diffuser ageing has been taken into account.------20 Figure 24: OLCI-B Gain Coefficients for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all diffuser 1 radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet. ------ 21

Figure 25: OLCI-B camera averaged gain relative evolution with respect to first calibration after channel programming change (18/06/2018), as a function of elapsed time since the beginning of the mission; one curve for each band (see colour code on plots), one plot for each module. The diffuser ageing has been taken into account.------ 22

Figure 26: RMS performance of the OLCI-A Gain Model of the current processing baseline as a function of orbit. ----- 23

Figure 27: RMS performance of the OLCI-A Gain Model of the previous Processing Baseline as a function of orbit. The blue vertical dotted line defines the limit from which the gain model starts to be extrapolated (i.e. it corresponds to the most recent CAL of the dataset used to build the model).------ 24

Figure 28: OLCI-A Camera-averaged instrument evolution since channel programming change (25/04/2016) and up to the most recent calibration (22/11/2020) versus wavelength. ------ 25

Figure 29: For the 5 cameras: OLCI-A Evolution model performance, as camera-average and standard deviation of ratio of Model over Data vs. wavelength, for each orbit of the test dataset, including 7 calibrations in extrapolation, with a colour code for each calibration from blue (oldest) to red (most recent). ------ 26

Figure 30: OLCI-A evolution model performance, as ratio of Model over Data vs. pixels, all cameras side by side, over the whole current calibration dataset (since instrument programing update), including 7 calibrations in extrapolation, channels Oa1 to Oa6. ------ 27



Figure 31: same as Figure 30 for channels Oa7 to Oa14. ----- 28 Figure 32: same as Figure 30 for channels Oa15 to Oa21.----- 29 Figure 33: RMS performance of the OLCI-B Gain Model of the current processing baseline as a function of orbit. The blue vertical dotted lines defines the limit from which the gain model starts to be extrapolated (i.e. it corresponds to the most recent CAL of the dataset used to build the model).------ 30 Figure 34: RMS performance of the OLCI-B Gain Model of the previous processing baseline as a function Figure 35: OLCI-B Camera-averaged instrument evolution since channel programming change (18/06/2018) and up to most recent calibration (11/12/2020) versus wavelength.------ 32 Figure 36: For the 5 cameras: OLCI-B Evolution model performance, as camera-average and standard deviation of ratio of Model over Data vs. wavelength, for each orbit of the test dataset, including 8 calibrations in extrapolation, with a colour code for each calibration from blue (oldest) to red (most recent).------ 33 Figure 37: OLCI-B evolution model performance, as ratio of Model over Data vs. pixels, all cameras side by side, over the whole current calibration dataset (since instrument programming update), including 8 calibrations in extrapolation, channels Oa1 to Oa6. ----- 34 Figure 38: same as Figure 37 for channels Oa7 to Oa14. ----- 35 Figure 39: same as Figure 37 for channels Oa15 to Oa21.----- 36 Figure 40: diffuser 1 ageing for spectral band Oa01. We see strong ACT low frequency structures that are due to residual of BRDF modelling. ------ 38 Figure 41: same as Figure 40 for spectral band Oa17. We use this band in order to normalize other bands and remove the ACT structures due to residual of BRDF modelling. Normalized curve for spectral band Oa01 is presented in Figure 42. ------ 38 Figure 42: same as Figure 40 after normalization by band Oa17. Ageing of the diffuser 1 is now visible in the 5 cameras.------ 39 Figure 43: Diffuser 1 ageing as a function of wavelength (or spectral band). Ageing is clearly visible in spectral band #1 to #5.------ 39 Figure 44: Camera averaged ageing for band Oa01 (normalized by band Oa17) as a function of elapsed time. Linear fit for each camera is plotted. The slope (% loss per year) and the correlation coefficient. 40 Figure 45: Slope of ageing fit (% of loss per exposure) vs wavelengths, using all the available ageing sequence at the time of the current cycle (red curve) and at the time of previous cycle for which an ageing sequence was measured (see legend within the figure). ----- 41 Figure 46: OLCI-B diffuser 1 ageing for spectral band Oa01. We see strong ACT low frequency structures that are due to residual of BRDF modelling. ------ 42 Figure 47: same as Figure 46 for spectral band Oa17. We use this band in order to normalize other bands and remove the ACT structures due to residual of BRDF modelling. Normalized curve for spectral band Oa01 is presented in Figure 48. ----- 42 Figure 48: same as Figure 46 after normalization by band Oa17. Ageing of the diffuser 1 is now visible in the 5 cameras.------ 43 Figure 49: OLCI-B Diffuser 1 ageing as a function of wavelength (or spectral band). Ageing is clearly visible in spectral band #1 to #5.------ 44



Figure 50: Slope of ageing fit (% of loss per exposure) vs wavelengths, using all the available ageing sequence at the time of the current cycle (red curve) and at the time of previous cycle for which an ageing sequence was measured (see legend within the figure). ------ 45 Figure 51: OLCI-B diffuser ageing (after 100 exposures, i.e. about two years) according to direct assessment from Yaw Manoeuvres (blue) and nominal method at Cycle 28 (orange). ------ 46 Figure 52: OLCI-A Signal to Noise ratio as a function of the spectral band for the 5 cameras. These results have been computed from radiometric calibration data. All calibrations except first one (orbit 183) are presents with the colours corresponding to the orbit number (see legend). The SNR is very stable with time: the curves for all orbits are almost superimposed. The dashed curve is the ESA requirement. ---- 48 Figure 53: long-term stability of the SNR estimates from Calibration data, example of channel Oa1.---- 49 Figure 54: OLCI-B Signal to Noise ratio as a function of the spectral band for the 5 cameras. These results have been computed from radiometric calibration data. All calibrations except first one (orbit 167) are presents with the colours corresponding to the orbit number (see legend). The SNR is very stable with time: the curves for all orbits are almost superimposed. The dashed curve is the ESA requirement. ---- 51 Figure 55: long-term stability of the OLCI-B SNR estimates from Calibration data, example of channel Oa1. ------ 52 Figure 56: overall OLCI-A georeferencing RMS performance time series (left) and number of validated control points corresponding to the performance time series (right) over the whole monitoring period 55 Figure 57: across-track (left) and along-track (right) OLCI-A georeferencing biases time series for Camera 1. Blue line is the average, black lines are average plus and minus 1 sigma. ----------------------------------55 Figure 58: same as Figure 57 for Camera 2.----- 55 Figure 59: same as Figure 57 for Camera 3.----- 56 Figure 60: same as Figure 57 for Camera 4.----- 56 Figure 61: same as Figure 57 for Camera 5.----- 56 Figure 62: OLCI-A spatial across-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum Figure 63: OLCI-A spatial along-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the along-track error within each camera (left). ------ 57 Figure 64: overall OLCI-B georeferencing RMS performance time series over the whole monitoring period (left) and corresponding number of validated control points (right) -------58 Figure 65: across-track (left) and along-track (right) OLCI-B georeferencing biases time series for Camera 1.----- 58 Figure 66: same as Figure 57 for Camera 2. ----- 58 Figure 67: same as Figure 57 for Camera 3.----- 59 Figure 68: same as Figure 57 for Camera 4.----- 59 Figure 69: same as Figure 57 for Camera 5.----- 59 Figure 70: OLCI-B spatial across-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum Figure 71: OLCI-B spatial along-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the along-track error within each camera (left). ------ 60



Figure 72: summary of S3ETRAC products generation for OLCI-A (number of OLCI-A L1 products Ingested, blue – number of S3ETRAC extracted products generated, green – number of S3ETRAC runs without generation of output product (data not meeting selection requirements), yellow – number of runs ending in error, red, one plot per site type). ------ 62

Figure 73: summary of S3ETRAC products generation for OLCI-B (number of OLCI-B L1 products Ingested, yellow – number of S3ETRAC extracted products generated, blue – number of S3ETRAC runs without generation of output product (data not meeting selection requirements), green – number of runs ending in error, red, one plot per site type). -------63

Figure 74: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from OLCI-A for (top to bottom) bands Oa08 and Oa17 respectively over January 2020-Present from the six PICS Cal/Val sites. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty.------65

Figure 75: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from OLCI-B for (top to bottom) bands Oa08 and Oa17 respectively over January 2020-Present from the six PICS Cal/Val sites. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty.----- 66

Figure 76: The estimated gain values for OLCI-A and OLCI-B over the 6 PICS sites identified by CEOS over the period January 2020-Present as a function of wavelength. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty. ------ 67

Figure 77: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from (black) S2A/MSI, (blue) S3A/OLCI, (green) S3B/OLCI and (Cyan) Aqua/MODIS for NIR band 865nm over LIBYA4 site. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. The systematic and total uncertainties of the desert methodology are 1% and 5% respectively. ------ 69

Figure 78: Ratio of observed TOA reflectance to simulated one for (greenyellow) S2A/MSI, (red) Aqua/MODIS, (blue) S3A/OLCI and (green) S3B/OLCI averaged over the six PICS test sites as a function of wavelength. ----- 70

Figure 79: The estimated gain values for OLCI-A and OLCI-B from Glint, Rayleigh and PICS methods over the past twelve months as a function of wavelength. We use the gain value of Oa8 from PICS-Desert method as reference gain for Glint method. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the method uncertainties.-----71

Figure 80. OSCAR Rayleigh S3A and S3B Calibration results as a function of wavelength for November 2020. The results are obtained with a new climatology derived from CMEMS OLCI monthly CHL products.

-----72

Figure 81. OSCAR Rayleigh S3A and S3B Calibration results as a function of wavelength. Average an standard deviation over all scenes currently (re)processed with the new climatology7	
Figure 82: DeGeb time series over current report period7	75
Figure 83: ITCat time series over current report period7	76
Figure 84: ITIsp time series over current report period7	76
Figure 85: ITSro time series over current report period7	77
Figure 86: ITTra time series over current report period7	77
Figure 87: SPAli time series over current report period7	78
Figure 88: UKNFo time series over current report period7	78



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

 Ref.:
 S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046

 Issue:
 1.0

 Date:
 18/12/2020

 Page:
 xi

Figure 89: USNe1 time series over current report period	79
Figure 90: USNe2 time series over current report period	79
Figure 91: USNe3 time series over current report period	
Figure 92: DeGeb time series over current report period	80
Figure 93: ITCat time series over current report period	81
Figure 94: ITIsp time series over current report period	81
Figure 95: ITSro time series over current report period	82
Figure 96: ITTra time series over current report period	82
Figure 97: SPAli time series over current report period	83
Figure 98: UKNFo time series over current report period	83
Figure 99: USNe1 time series over current report period	84
Figure 100: USNe2 time series over current report period	84
Figure 101: USNe3 time series over current report period	85
Figure 102 Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site Brasschaat, Belgium, land cover Needle-leaved, evergreen. A and C represent S3A; B and D represent	S3B.
Figure 103: Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site Haininch, Deutschland, land cover Broadleaved, deciduous, closed. A and C represent S3A; B arepresent S3B	nd D
Figure 104: Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site FR-Esti	rees-
Mons, France, land cover Cultivated and managed areas. A and C represent S3A; B and D represent	S3B.
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from o	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from 6 S3A 64.	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from 6 S3A 64 Figure 106: PixBox collection (2019) OLCI-A and OLCI-B	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from of S3A 64 Figure 106: PixBox collection (2019) OLCI-A and OLCI-B Figure 107: Results from 2017 PixBox validation on OLCI-A	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from 6 S3A 64 Figure 106: PixBox collection (2019) OLCI-A and OLCI-B	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92 93 2019
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from of S3A 64	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92 93 2019 93
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from of S3A 64	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92 93 2019 93 :), all 97
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from of S3A 64	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92 93 2019 93 :), all 97 :), all 98 :), all
Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines repre- the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from 0 S3A 64	S3B. 90 t the esent cycle 91 92 92 93 2019 93 c), all 97 c), all 98 c), all 99



Figure 115: Scatter plots of OLCI-B versus in situ radiometry (FR data). All available data for the current time period. ------103 Figure 116: AAOT time series over current report period ------105 Figure 117: GALATA time series over current report period ------106 Figure 118: Upper and middle: Scatter plot of the aerosol products (upper: aerosol optical thickness, middle: Angstroem coefficient), derived from OLCI (A left, B right) and AERONET-OC measurements. Lower left: Positions of the AERONET-OC stations. Lower-right: Temporal evolution of different quality measures for the optical thickness derived from OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of matchups)).-----108 Figure 119: Upper and middle: Scatter plot of the aerosol products (upper: aerosol optical thickness, middle: Angstroem coefficient), derived from OLCI (A left, B right) and MAN measurements. Lower: Positions of the MAN acquisitions (left: OLCI A, right: OLCI B). -----109 Figure 120: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from SUOMI NET GNSS measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and GNSS (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Positions of the GNSS (A: left, B: right). ------112 Figure 121: Temporal evolution of different quality measures for OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of matchups)) ------113 Figure 122: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above ocean and from SUOMI NET GNSS measurements. Lower: Positions of the GNSS (A: left, B: right). ------114 Figure 123: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from Aeronet v.3 L1.5 measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and Aeronet (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Positions of the Aeronet (A matchups: left, B matchups: right). -----115 Figure 124: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above ocean and from Aeronet-OC v.3 L1.5 measurements. Lower: Positions of the used Aeronet match ups (A: left, B: right). -----116 Figure 125: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from ARM microwave measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and ARM-MWR (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Temporal evolution of different guality measures for OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of Figure 126: ARM vs. GNSS IWV retrievals for the SGP site for the one-year period between Nov 2017 and Oct 2018. Only cloud free data has been used, according to the liquid/ice water path from the microwave

radiometer ------118



S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

List of Tables

Table 1: OLCI-A SNR figures as derived from Radiometric Calibration data. Figures are given for each camera (time average and standard deviation), and for the whole instrument. The requirement and its reference radiance level are recalled (in mW.sr ⁻¹ .m ⁻² .nm ⁻¹)
Table 2: OLCI-B SNR figures as derived from Radiometric Calibration data. Figures are given for each camera (time average and standard deviation), and for the whole instrument. The requirement and its reference radiance level are recalled (in mW.sr ⁻¹ .m ⁻² .nm ⁻¹)53
Table 3. S3ETRAC Ocean Calibration sites 72
Table 4. OSCAR Rayleigh calibration results for S3A and S3B (average and standard deviation over allacquisitions) over all scenes currently (re)processed with the new climatology and observed difference (in%) between OLCIA and OLCIB
Table 5: Validation sites analysed in report S3A 65/S3B 46. Land cover data from GLC2000 grouped according to the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) designations.
Table 6: Comparison statistics between monthly S3A/B OLCI land products and MERIS archive data 87
Table 7: OLCI-A FR statistics over REP_006 period; FR data99
Table 8: OLCI-A FR statistics over July 2017-present 99
Table 9: OLCI-B FR statistics over February to August 2020 reporting period



Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

1 Processing Baseline Version

Page: 1

1.1 Sentinel3-A

IPF	IPF / Processing Baseline version	Date of deployment
OL1	06.09 / 2.74	NRT: 10/12/2020 09:00 UTC NTC: 10/12/2020 09:00 UTC
OL2 LAND	06.14 / 2.66	NRT: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC NTC: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC
OL2 MAR	06.13 / 2.43	NRT: 12/12/2018 10:15 UTC NTC: 12/12/2018 10:15 UTC
SY2	06.20 / 2.66	NTC: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC
SY2_VGS	06.08 / 2.56	NTC: 15/01/2020 11:00 UTC

1.2 Sentinel3-B

IPF	IPF / Processing Baseline version	Date of deployment
OL1	06.09 / 1.52	NRT: 10/12/2020 09:00 UTC NTC: 10/12/2020 09:00 UTC
OL2 LAND	06.14 / 1.40	NRT: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC NTC: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC
OL2 MAR	06.13 / 1.15	NRT: 12/12/2018 10:15 UTC NTC: 12/12/2018 10:15 UTC
SY2	06.20 / 1.40	NTC: 23/06/2020 08:00 UTC
SY2_VGS	06.08 / 1.28	NTC: 15/01/2020 11:00 UTC



Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 2

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

2 Instrument monitoring

2.1 CCD temperatures

2.1.1 OLCI-A

The monitoring of the CCD temperatures is based on MPMF data extractions not yet operational. In the meantime, we monitor the CCD temperatures on the long-term using Radiometric Calibration Annotations (see Figure 1). Variations are very small (0.09 C peak-to-peak) and no trend can be identified. Data from current cycle (rightmost data points) do not show any specificity.

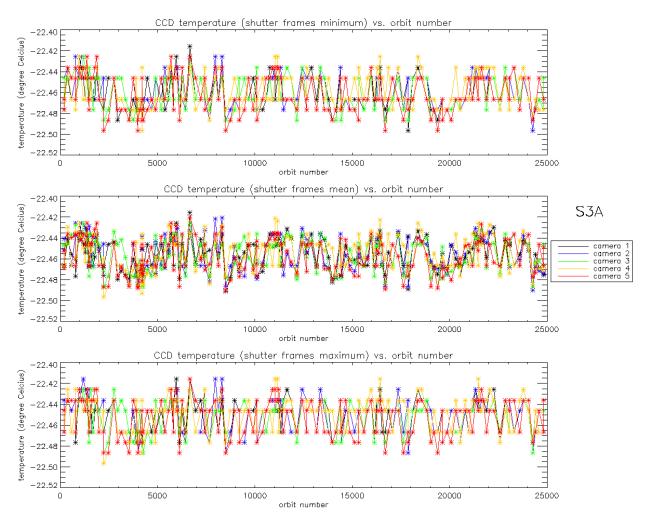


Figure 1: long term monitoring of OLCI-A CCD temperatures using minimum value (top), time averaged values (middle), and maximum value (bottom) provided in the annotations of the Radiometric Calibration Level 1 products, for the Shutter frames, all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (absolute orbit 183) for which the instrument was not yet thermally stable.



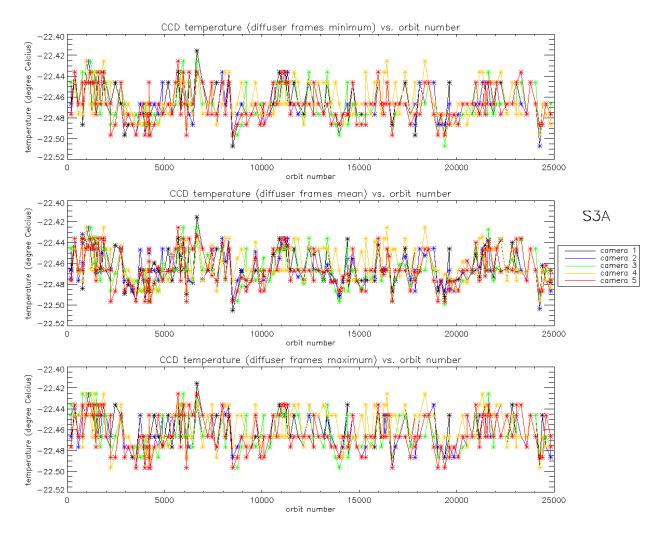


Figure 2: Same as Figure 1 for diffuser frames.



2.1.2 OLCI-B

As for OLCI-A, the variations of CCD temperature are very small (0.08 C peak-to-peak) and no trend can be identified. Data from current cycle (rightmost data points) do not show any specificity.

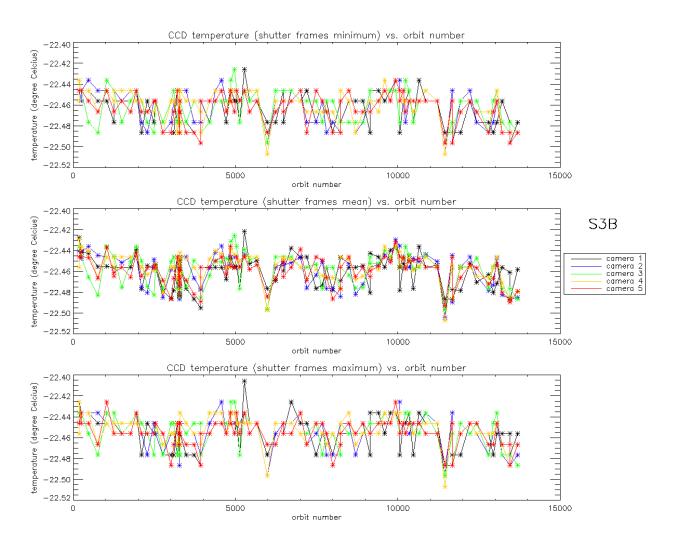


Figure 3: long term monitoring of OLCI-B CCD temperatures using minimum value (top), time averaged values (middle), and maximum value (bottom) provided in the annotations of the Radiometric Calibration Level 1 products, for the Shutter frames, all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (absolute orbit 167) for which the instrument was not yet thermally stable.



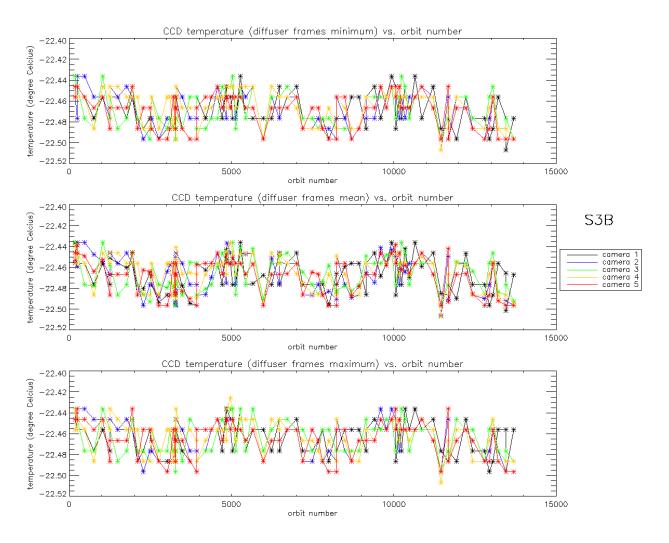


Figure 4: same as Figure 3 for diffuser frames.



2.2 Radiometric Calibration

For OLCI-A, two Radiometric Calibration Sequences have been acquired during Cycle 065:

- So1 sequence (diffuser 1) on 22/11/2020 15:02 to 15:04 (absolute orbit 24823)
- S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 22/11/2020 16:43 to 16:45 (absolute orbit 24824)

For OLCI-B, three Radiometric Calibration Sequences have been acquired during Cycle 046:

- S01 sequence (diffuser 1) on 23/11/2020 18:59 to 19:01 (absolute orbit 13446)
- S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 23/11/2020 20:40 to 20:42 (absolute orbit 13447)
- So1 sequence (diffuser 1) on 11/12/2020 09:28 to 09:30 (absolute orbit 13697)

The acquired Sun azimuth angles are presented on Figure 5 for OLCI-A and Figure 6 for OLCI-B, on top of the nominal values without Yaw Manoeuvre (i.e. with nominal Yaw Steering control of the satellite).



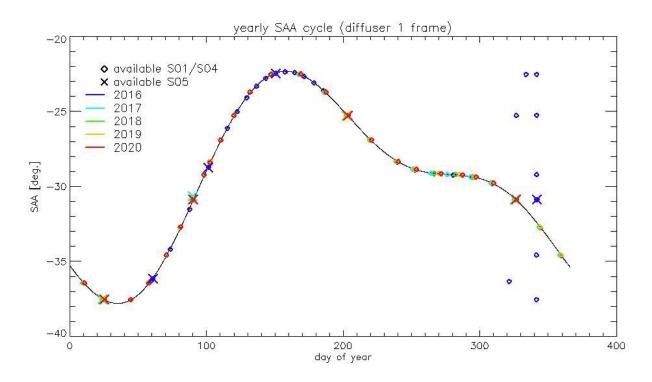


Figure 5: Sun azimuth angles during acquired OLCI-A Radiometric Calibrations (diffuser frame) on top of nominal yearly cycle (black curve). Diffuser 1 with diamonds, diffuser 2 with crosses, 2016 acquisitions in dark blue, 2017 in clear blue, 2018 in green, 2019 in yellow and 2020 in red.

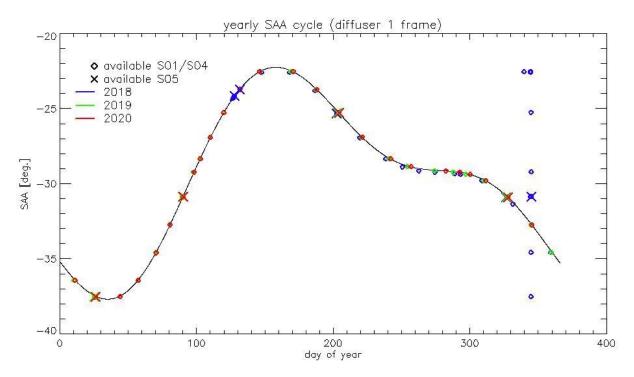


Figure 6: same as Figure 5 for OLCI-B (2018 in blue, 2019 in green and 2020 in red).



Sun Azimuth Angles as a function of solar zenith Angles are presented in Figure 7 for OLCI-A and Figure 8 for OLCI-B.

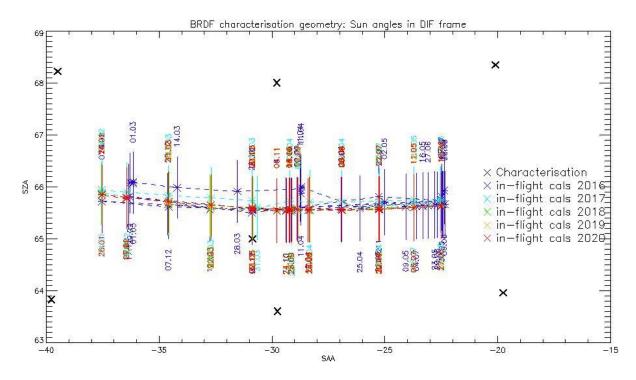


Figure 7: OLCI-A Sun geometry during radiometric Calibrations on top of characterization ones (diffuser frame)

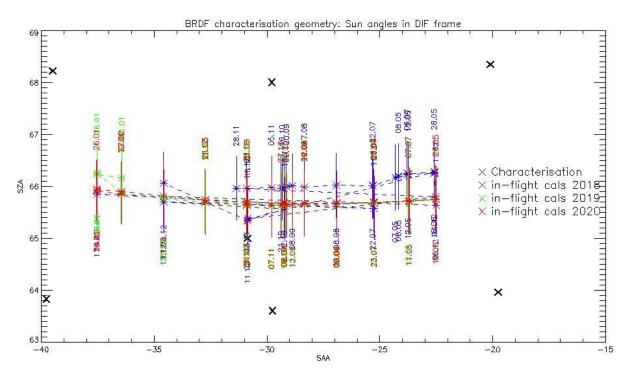


Figure 8: same as Figure 7 for OLCI-B



2.2.1 Dark Offsets [OLCI-L1B-CV-230]

Note about the High Energy Particles:

The filtering of High Energy Particle (HEP) events from radiometric calibration data has been implemented (for shutter frames only) in a post processor, allowing generating Dark Offset and Dark Current tables computed on filtered data. The post-processor starts from IPF intermediate data (corrected counts), applies the HEP detection and filtering and finally computes the Dark Offset and Dark Current tables the same way as IPF. An example of the impact of HEP filtering is given in Figure 9.

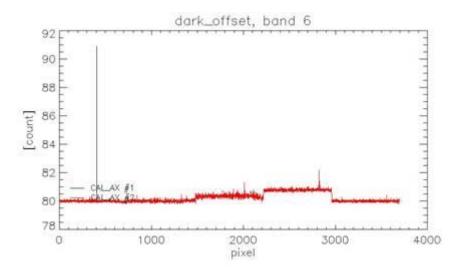


Figure 9: Dark Offset table for band Oa06 with (red) and without (black) HEP filtering (Radiometric Calibration of 22 July 2017). The strong HEP event near pixel 400 has been detected and removed by the HEP filtering.

All results presented below in this section have been obtained using the HEP filtered Dark Offset and Dark Current tables.



2.2.1.2 OLCI-A

Dark offsets

Dark offsets are continuously affected by the global offset induced by the Periodic Noise on the OCL convergence. Current Cycle calibrations are affected the same way as others. The amplitude of the shift varies with band and camera from virtually nothing (e.g. camera 2, band 0a1) to up to 5 counts (Oa21, camera 3). The Periodic Noise itself comes on top of the global shift with its known signature: high frequency oscillations with a rapid damp. This effect remains more or less stable with time in terms of amplitude, frequency and decay length, but its phase varies with time, introducing the global offset mentioned above.

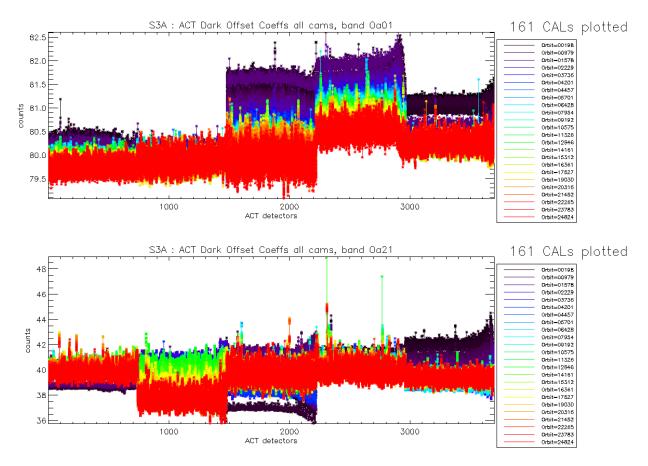


Figure 10: OLCI-A Dark Offset for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

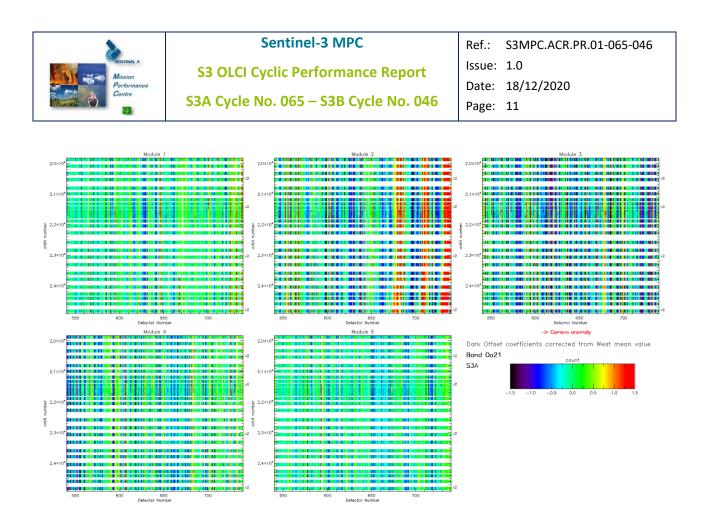


Figure 11: map of OLCI-A periodic noise for the 5 cameras, for band Oa21. X-axis is detector number (East part, from 540 to 740, where the periodic noise occurs), Y-axis is the orbit number. Y-axis range is focused on the most recent 5000 orbits. The counts have been corrected from the West detectors mean value (not affected by periodic noise) in order to remove mean level gaps and consequently to have a better visualisation of the long term evolution of the periodic noise structure. At the beginning of the mission the periodic noise for band Oa21 had strong amplitude in camera 2, 3 and 5 compared to camera 1 and 4. However PN evolved through the



mission and these discrepancies between cameras have been reduced. At the time of this Cyclic Report Camera 2 still shows a slightly higher PN than other cameras.

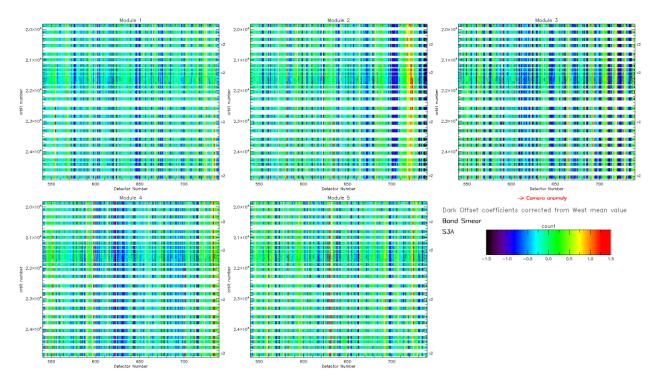


Figure 12: same as Figure 11 for smear band.

Figure 11 and Figure 12 show the so-called 'map of periodic noise' in the 5 cameras, for respectively band 21 and smear band. These maps have been computed from the dark offsets after removal of the mean level of the WEST detectors (not impacted by PN) in order to remove mean level gaps from one CAL to the other and consequently to highlight the shape of the PN. Maps are focused on the last 200 EAST detectors where PN occurs and on a time range covering only the last 5000 orbits in order to better visualize the CALs of the current cycle.

As there was no camera anomaly during the current cycle, there is no sudden change of periodic noise to report during the current cycle. We can see however a small drift in camera 2 Oa21 (Figure 11 upper middle plot) since about orbit 24000 for the last 100 pixels. This kind of drift had already been encountered for the same camera/band/pixels, for example between orbit 13500 and 14500 and between orbit 18000 and 19500 (see previous CR reports).

Dark Currents

Dark Currents (Figure 13) are not affected by the global offset of the Dark Offsets, thanks to the clamping to the average blind pixels value. However, the oscillations of Periodic Noise remain visible. There is no significant evolution of this parameter during the current cycle except the small regular increase (almost linear), for all detectors, since the beginning of the mission (see Figure 14).



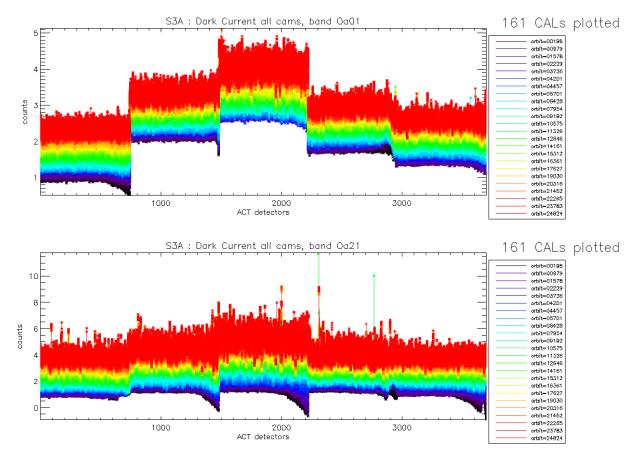


Figure 13: OLCI-A Dark Current for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

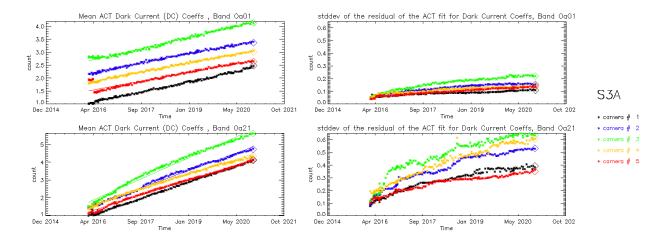


Figure 14: left column: ACT mean on 400 first detectors of OLCI-A Dark Current coefficients for spectral band Oa01 (top) and Oa21 (bottom). Right column: same as left column but for Standard deviation instead of mean. We see an increase of the DC level as a function of time especially for band Oa21.



A possible explanation of the regular increase of DC could be the increase of the number of hot pixels which is more important in Oa21 because this band is made of more CCD lines than band Oa01 and thus receives more cosmic rays impacts. It is known that cosmic rays degrade the structure of the CCD, generating more and more hot pixels at long term scales. Indeed, when computing the time slopes of the spatially averaged Dark Current as a function of band, i.e. the slopes of curves in left plots of Figure 14, one can see that Oa21 is by far the most affected, followed by the smear band (Figure 15, left); when plotting these slopes against total band width (in CCD rows, regardless of the number of micro-bands), the correlation between the slope values and the width becomes clear (Figure 15, right).

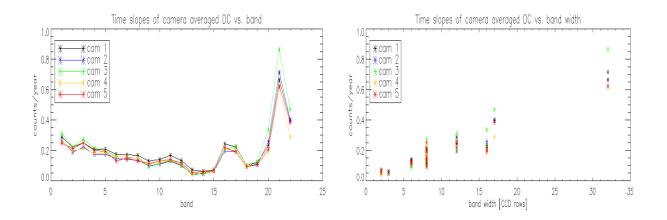


Figure 15: OLCI-A Dark current increase rates with time (in counts per year) vs. band (left) and vs. band width (right)

2.2.1.3 OLCI-B

Dark Offsets

Dark offsets for OLCI-B show a similar behaviour than for OLCI-A: mean level gaps between different orbits, induced by the presence of a pseudo periodic noise on the east edge of the cameras with a drifting phase.

Evolution of OLCI-B Dark Offset coefficients for band Oa01 and Oa21 are represented in Figure 16.

The periodic noise maps are shown for band Oa21 and smear band respectively in Figure 17 and Figure 18. As it happened for OLCI-A after a few thousands of orbits, the strong periodic noise phase and amplitude drift, present at the very beginning of the mission is now showing a clear stabilization.

Despite this overall stabilization, small evolutions are still noticeable in some bands/camera, like for example pixels at the east edge of camera 1 in band Oa21 since orbit 10000 (upper left map in Figure 17) or in camera 4 band Oa21 since orbit 13000 (lower left map in Figure 17).



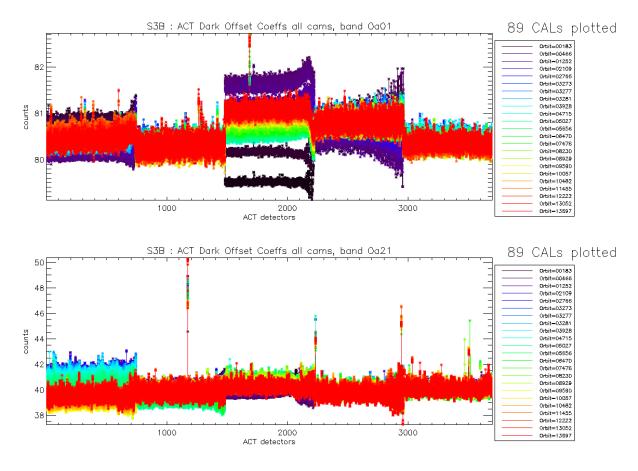


Figure 16: OLCI-B Dark Offset for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

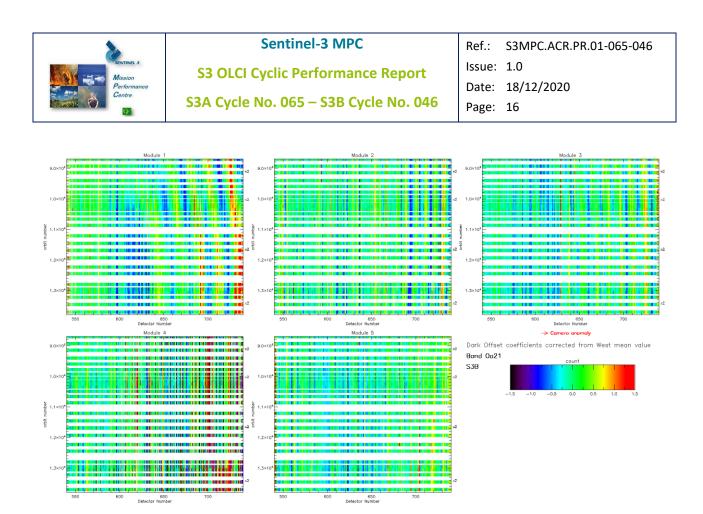


Figure 17: OLCI-B map of periodic noise for the 5 cameras, for band Oa21. X-axis is detector number (East part, from 540 to 740, where the periodic noise occurs), Y-axis is the orbit number. The counts have been corrected from the West detectors mean value (not affected by periodic noise) in order to remove mean level gaps and consequently to have a better visualisation of the long term evolution of the periodic noise structure.

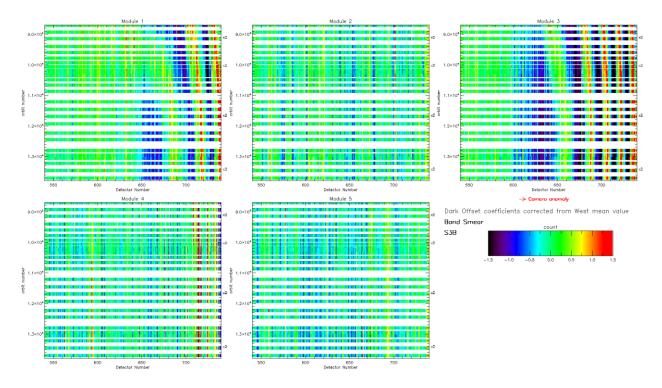


Figure 18: same as Figure 17 for smear band.



Dark Currents

As for OLCI-A there is no significant evolution of the Dark Current coefficients (Figure 19) during the current cycle except the small regular increase (almost linear), for all detectors, since the beginning of the mission (see Figure 20) probably due to an increase of hot pixels (see Figure 21).

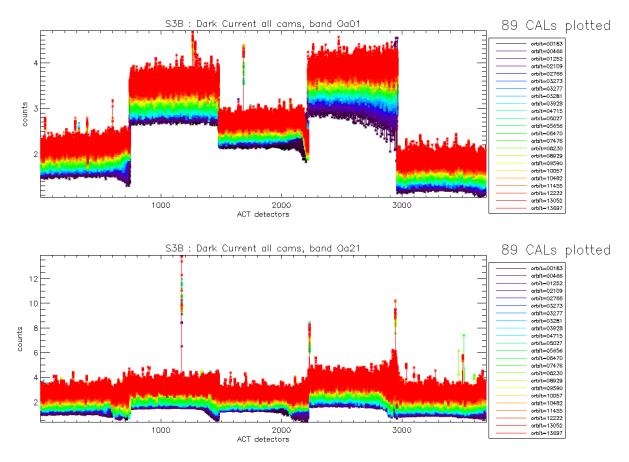


Figure 19: OLCI-B Dark Current for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

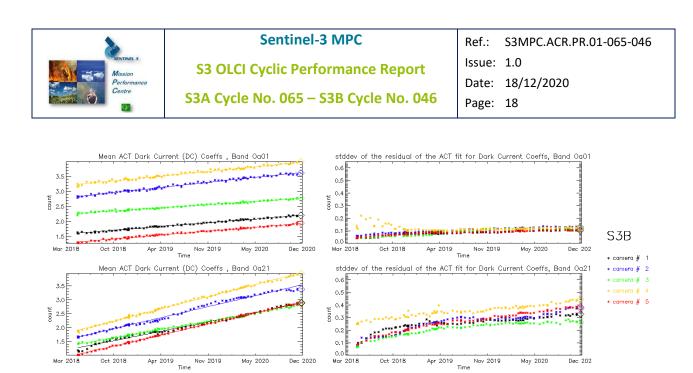


Figure 20: left column: ACT mean on 400 first detectors of OLCI-B Dark Current coefficients for spectral band Oa01 (top) and Oa21 (bottom). Right column: same as left column but for Standard deviation instead of mean. We see an increase of the DC level as a function of time especially for band Oa21.

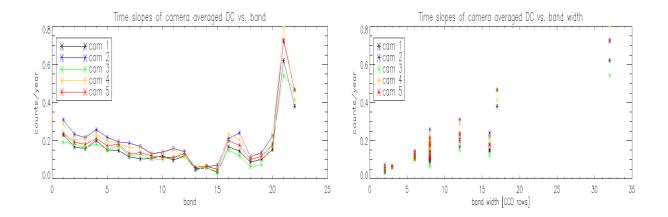


Figure 21: OLCI-B Dark Current increase rates with time (in counts per year) vs. band (left) and vs. band width (right)



2.2.2 Instrument response and degradation modelling [OLCI-L1B-CV-250]

2.2.2.1 Instrument response monitoring

2.2.2.1.1 OLCI-A

Figure 22 shows the gain coefficients of every pixel for two OLCI-A channels, Oa1 (400 nm) and Oa21 (1020 nm), highlighting the significant evolution of the instrument response since early mission.

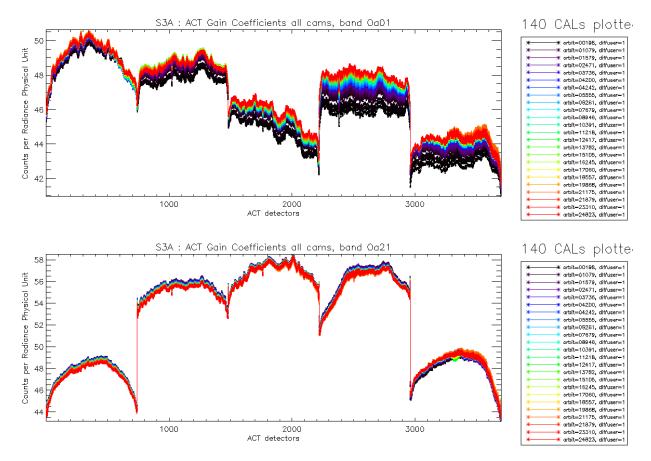


Figure 22: OLCI-A Gain Coefficients for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all diffuser 1 radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 183) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

The gains plotted in Figure 22, however are derived using the ground BRDF model which is known to suffer from illumination geometry dependent residual errors (see previous Cyclic Reports for more details). Consequently they are post-processed to replace the ground BRDF model by the in-flight version, based on Yaw Manoeuvres data, prior to determine the radiometric evolution.

Figure 23 displays a summary of the time evolution derived from post-processed gains: the cross-track average of the BRDF corrected gains (taking into account the diffuser ageing) is plotted as a function of time, for each module, relative to a given reference calibration (the 25/04/2016, change of OLCI channel



settings). It shows that, if a significant evolution occurred during the early mission, the trends tend in general to stabilize, with some exceptions (e.g. band 1 of camera 1 and 4, bands 2 & 3 of camera 5).

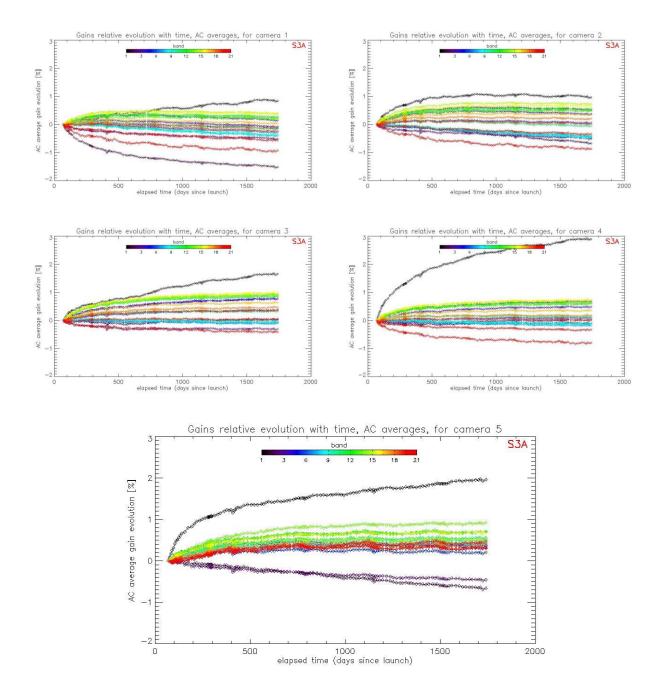


Figure 23: camera averaged gain relative evolution with respect to calibration of 25/04/2016 (change of OLCI channel settings), as a function of elapsed time since the beginning of the mission; one curve for each band (see colour code on plots), one plot for each module. The diffuser ageing has been taken into account.



2.2.2.1.2 OLCI-B

Figure 24 shows the gain coefficients of every pixel for two OLCI-B channels, Oa1 (400 nm) and Oa21 (1020 nm), highlighting the significant evolution of the instrument response since early mission.

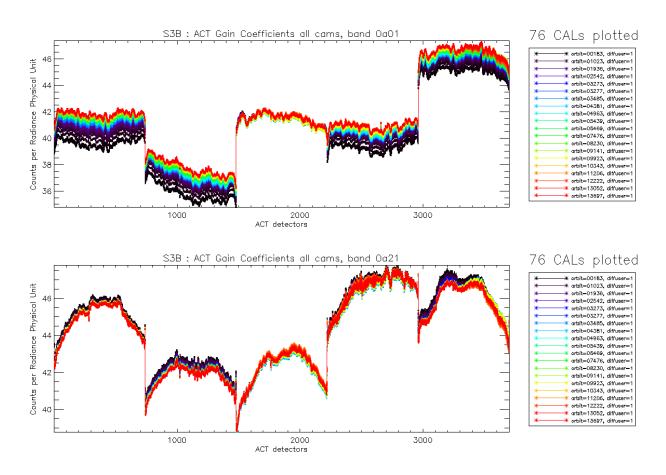
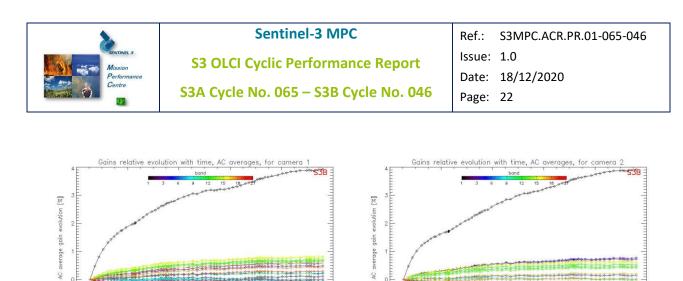


Figure 24: OLCI-B Gain Coefficients for band Oa1 (top) and Oa21 (bottom), all diffuser 1 radiometric calibrations so far except the first one (orbit 167) for which the instrument was not thermally stable yet.

Figure 25 displays a summary of the time evolution derived from post-processed gains: the cross-track average of the BRDF corrected gains is plotted as a function of time, for each module, relative to a given reference calibration (first calibration after channel programming change: 18/06/2018). It shows that, if a significant evolution occurred during the early mission, the trends tend to stabilize. The large amount of points near elapsed time = 220 days is due to the yaw manoeuvre campaign.



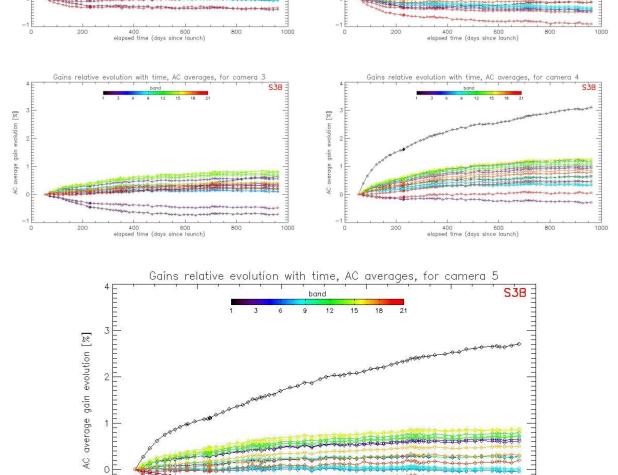


Figure 25: OLCI-B camera averaged gain relative evolution with respect to first calibration after channel programming change (18/06/2018), as a function of elapsed time since the beginning of the mission; one curve for each band (see colour code on plots), one plot for each module. The diffuser ageing has been taken into account.

elapsed time (days since launch)

400

–1 E 0

200

a a a a a a a a a

600

Core Lan

800

111111

1000



2.2.2.2 Instrument evolution modelling

2.2.2.2.1 OLCI-A

The OLCI-A Radiometric Model has been refreshed and put in operations at PDGS the 15/10/2020 (Processing Baseline 2.71). The model has been derived on the basis of an extended Radiometric Calibration dataset (from 08/08/2016 to 08/08/2020). It includes the correction of the diffuser ageing for the six bluest bands (Oa1 to Oa6) for which it is clearly measurable. The model performance over the complete dataset (including the 7 calibrations in extrapolation over about 4 months) remains better than 0.09% when averaged over the whole field of view (Figure 26). The previous model, trained on a Radiometric Dataset limited to 28/08/2019, shows clearly a drift of the model with respect to most recent data (Figure 27). Comparison of the two figures shows the improvement brought by the updated Model over almost all the mission. Performance shown on Figure 26 adopts, as for OLCI-B, the dual model approach, i.e. two different models are used to cover the whole mission (red dashed line on Figure 26), each model being fitted on a partial dataset (green dashed line on Figure 26) whose coverage is optimised to provide best performance.

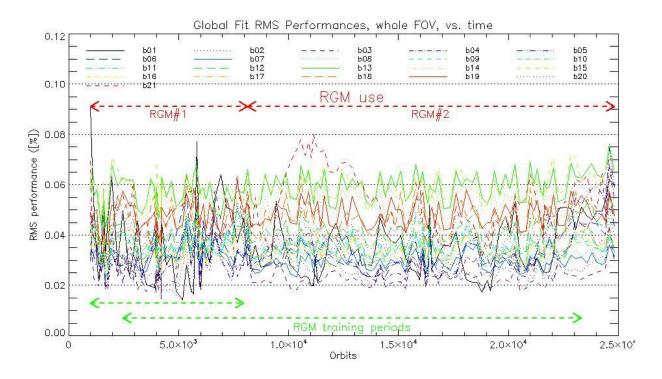


Figure 26: RMS performance of the OLCI-A Gain Model of the current processing baseline as a function of orbit.



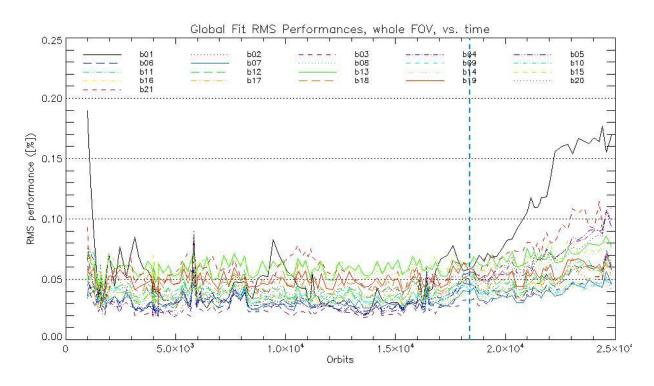


Figure 27: RMS performance of the OLCI-A Gain Model of the previous Processing Baseline as a function of orbit. The blue vertical dotted line defines the limit from which the gain model starts to be extrapolated (i.e. it corresponds to the most recent CAL of the dataset used to build the model).

The overall instrument evolution since channel programming change (25/04/2016) is shown on Figure 28.



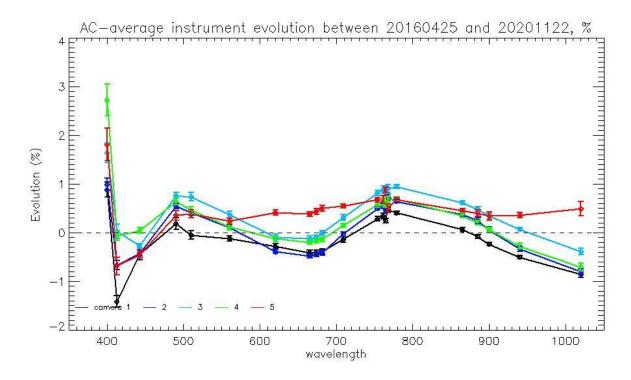


Figure 28: OLCI-A Camera-averaged instrument evolution since channel programming change (25/04/2016) and up to the most recent calibration (22/11/2020) versus wavelength.

The overall per camera performance, as a function of wavelength, and at each orbit is shown on Figure 29 as the average and standard deviation of the model over data ratio.

Finally, Figure 30 to Figure 32 show the detail of the model performance, with across-track plots of the model over data ratios at each orbit, one plot for each channel.

Comparisons of Figure 30 to Figure 32 with their counterparts in Report of Cycle 62 clearly demonstrate the improvement brought by the new model whatever the level of detail.



Sentinel-3 MPC S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

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 Issue:
 1.0

 Date:
 18/12/2020

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

046 Date: 18, Page: 26

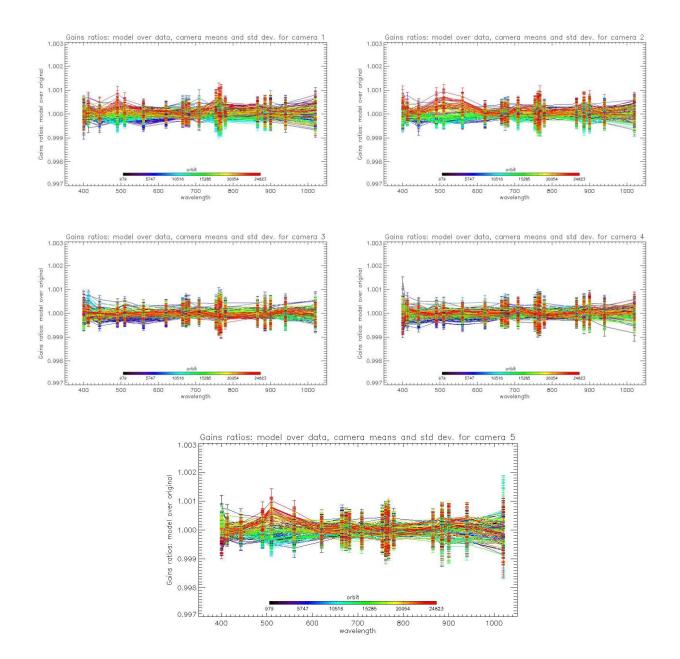
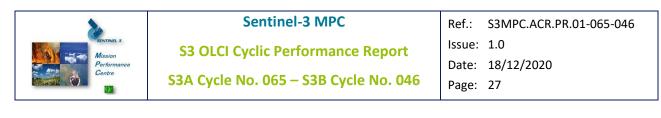


Figure 29: For the 5 cameras: OLCI-A Evolution model performance, as camera-average and standard deviation of ratio of Model over Data vs. wavelength, for each orbit of the test dataset, including 7 calibrations in extrapolation, with a colour code for each calibration from blue (oldest) to red (most recent).



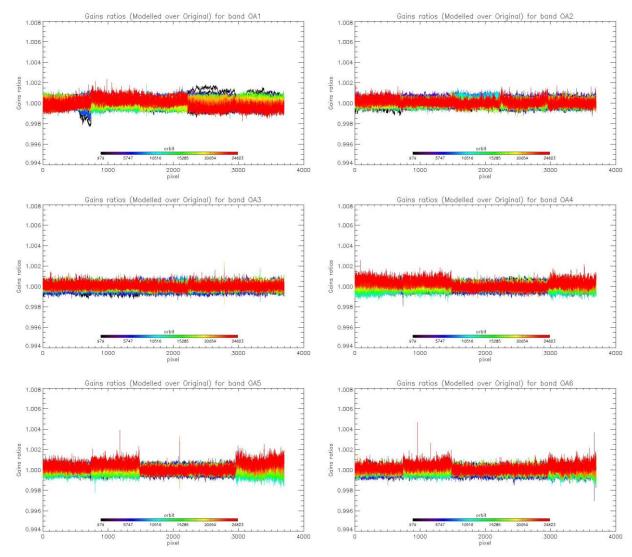


Figure 30: OLCI-A evolution model performance, as ratio of Model over Data vs. pixels, all cameras side by side, over the whole current calibration dataset (since instrument programing update), including 7 calibrations in extrapolation, channels Oa1 to Oa6.



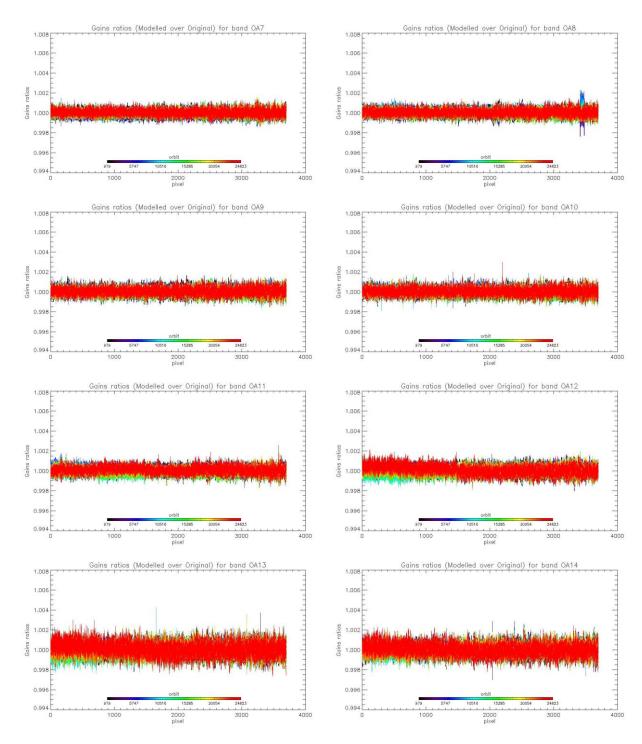


Figure 31: same as Figure 30 for channels Oa7 to Oa14.



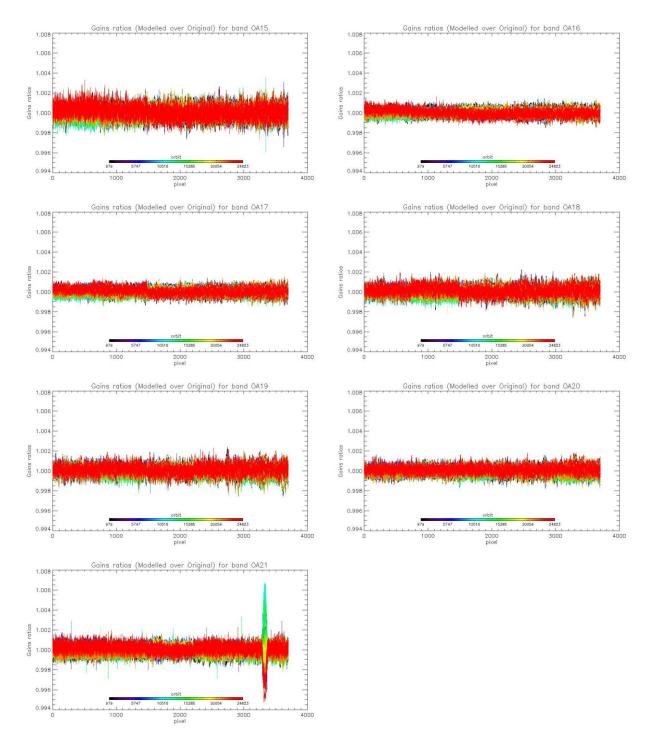


Figure 32: same as Figure 30 for channels Oa15 to Oa21.



2.2.2.2.2 OLCI-B

Instrument response and degradation modelling for OLCI-B, including the use of the in-flight BRDF model (based on 11th December 2018 Yaw Manoeuvres), has been refreshed and deployed at PDGS on 15th October 2020 (Processing Baseline 1.48). The model has been derived on the basis of an extended Radiometric Calibration dataset (from 05/11/2018 to 09/08/2020). It includes the correction of the diffuser ageing for the five bluest bands (Oa1 to Oa5) for which it is clearly measurable. The model performance over the complete dataset (including the 8 calibrations in extrapolation over about 4 months) is illustrated in Figure 33. It remains better than 0.07% when averaged over the whole field of view for all band except Oa01 (< 0.095%). The previous model, trained on a Radiometric Dataset limited to 02/10/2019, shows a drift of the model with respect to most recent data, especially for band Oa01 (Figure 34). Comparison of the two figures shows the improvement brought by the updated Model over all the mission.

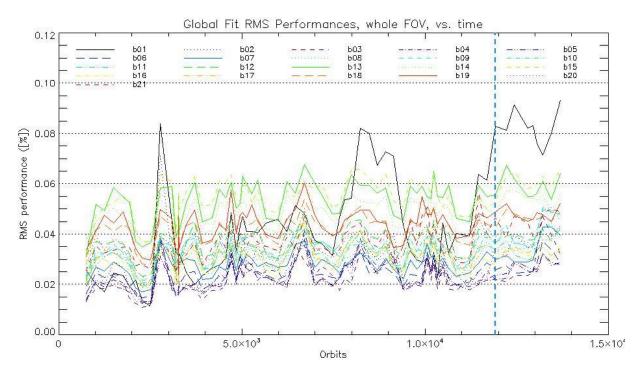
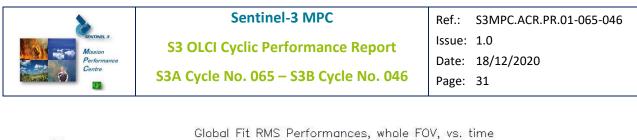


Figure 33: RMS performance of the OLCI-B Gain Model of the current processing baseline as a function of orbit. The blue vertical dotted lines defines the limit from which the gain model starts to be extrapolated (i.e. it corresponds to the most recent CAL of the dataset used to build the model).



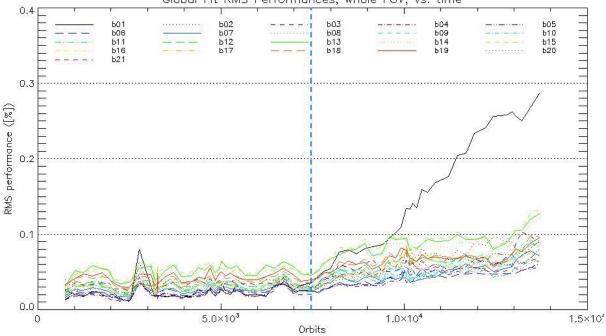


Figure 34: RMS performance of the OLCI-B Gain Model of the previous processing baseline as a function of orbit (please note the different vertical scale with respect to Figure 33).



The overall instrument evolution since channel programming change (18/06/2018) is shown on Figure 35.

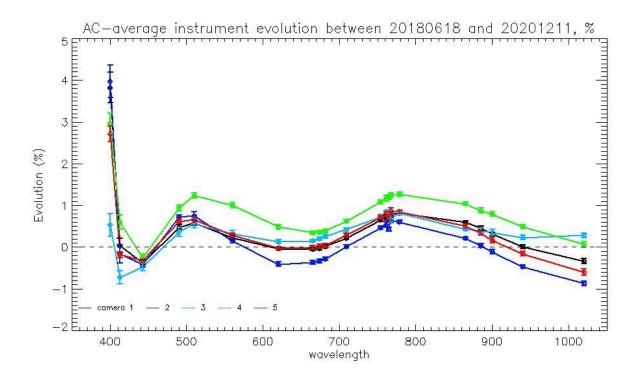


Figure 35: OLCI-B Camera-averaged instrument evolution since channel programming change (18/06/2018) and up to most recent calibration (11/12/2020) versus wavelength.

The overall per camera performance, as a function of wavelength, and at each orbit is shown on Figure 36 as the average and standard deviation of the model over data ratio.

Finally, Figure 37 to Figure 39 show the detail of the model performance, with across-track plots of the model over data ratios at each orbit, one plot for each channel.



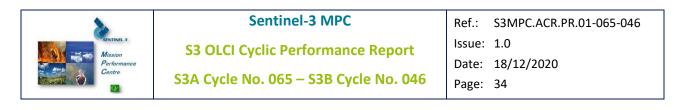
Sentinel-3 MPC S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 33

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Gains ratios: model over data, camera means and std dev. for camera 1 Gains ratios: model over data, camera means and std dev. for camera 2 1.002 1.002 1.001 1.00 iginal over over 1.00 1.00 ap. Inodel tio: 0.999 atios: 0.999 0.998 .ing 0.998 0.997E 0.997E 400 800 900 1000 400 500 800 900 1000 700 700 Gains ratios: model over data, camera means and std dev. for camera 3 Gains ratios: model over data, camera means and std dev. for camera 4 1.001 1.00 iginal over ove 1.000 1.00 Indel nodel 0.99 atios: 0.999 iso: 2 899.0 806.0 Gin 0.997 0.997 400 700 900 400 700 900 Gains ratios: model over data, camera means and std dev. for camera 5 1.002 1.00 model over original 1.000 ratios: 1 0.999 - Sec.0 11109 111 800 5933 8521 1369 0.997 900 700 wavelength 600 500 400 1000

Figure 36: For the 5 cameras: OLCI-B Evolution model performance, as camera-average and standard deviation of ratio of Model over Data vs. wavelength, for each orbit of the test dataset, including 8 calibrations in extrapolation, with a colour code for each calibration from blue (oldest) to red (most recent).



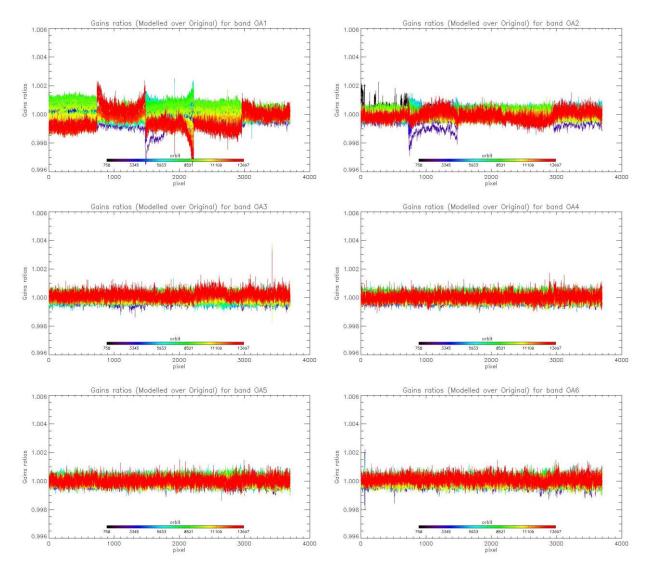
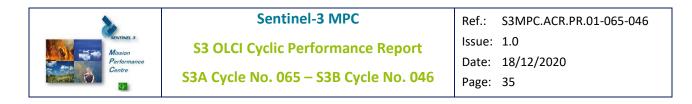


Figure 37: OLCI-B evolution model performance, as ratio of Model over Data vs. pixels, all cameras side by side, over the whole current calibration dataset (since instrument programming update), including 8 calibrations in extrapolation, channels Oa1 to Oa6.



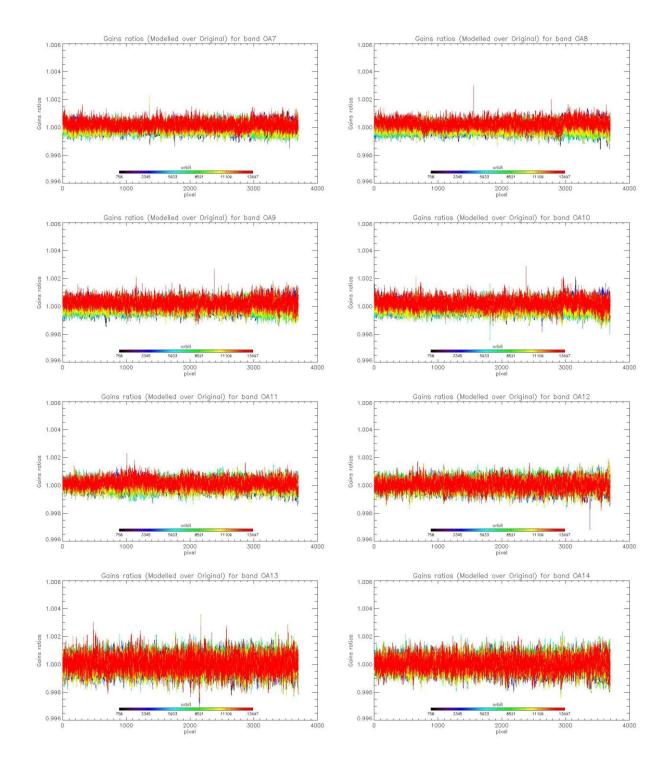


Figure 38: same as Figure 37 for channels Oa7 to Oa14.



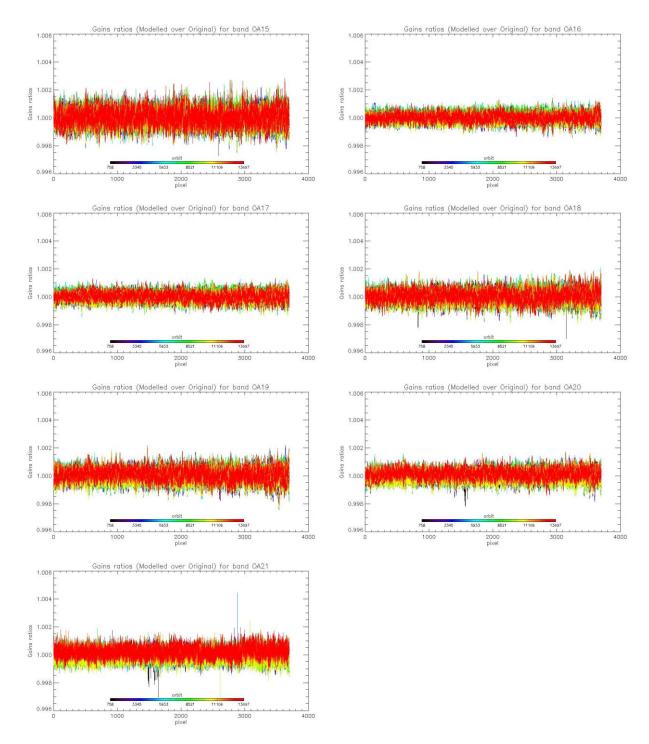


Figure 39: same as Figure 37 for channels Oa15 to Oa21.



2.2.3 Ageing of nominal diffuser [OLCI-L1B-CV-240]

2.2.3.1 OLCI-A

There has been one calibration sequence S05 (reference diffuser) for OLCI-A during acquisition cycle 065:

S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 22/11/2020 16:43 to 16:45 (absolute orbit 24824)

With the associated S01 sequence (nominal diffuser) in order to compute ageing:

So1 sequence (diffuser 1) on 22/11/2020 15:02 to 15:04 (absolute orbit 24823)

The diffuser 1 Ageing is computed for each 3700 detector and each spectral band by formula:

```
Ageing(orb)=G1(orb)/G2(orb)-G1(orb_ref)/G2(orb_ref)
```

Where:

- G1 is the diffuser 1 (= nominal diffuser) Gain coefficients
- G2 is the diffuser 2 (= reference diffuser) Gain coefficients
- orb_ref is a reference orbit chosen at the beginning of the mission

Ageing is represented in Figure 40 for band Oa01 and in Figure 41 for band Oa17. The negative shift of the sequence at orbit 5832 (for which a slight increase would be expected instead) is not explained so far and still under investigation. It should be noted that the corresponding orbit of diffuser 1 (nominal) has also been detected as an outlier in the modelling of the radiometric long-term trend with an unexpected excess of brightness.



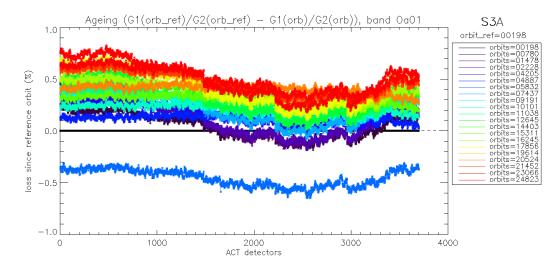


Figure 40: diffuser 1 ageing for spectral band Oa01. We see strong ACT low frequency structures that are due to residual of BRDF modelling.

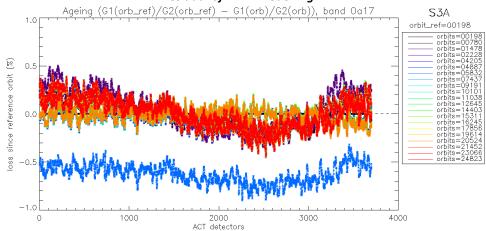


Figure 41: same as Figure 40 for spectral band Oa17. We use this band in order to normalize other bands and remove the ACT structures due to residual of BRDF modelling. Normalized curve for spectral band Oa01 is presented in Figure 42.

Figure 40 and Figure 41 show that the Ageing curves are impacted by a strong ACT pattern which is due to residuals of the bad modelling (on-ground) of the diffuser BRDF. This pattern is dependant of the azimuth angle. It is a 'white' pattern which means it is the same for all spectral bands. As such, we can remove this pattern by normalizing the ageing of all bands by the curve of band Oa17 which is expected not to be impacted by ageing because in the red part of the spectrum. We use an ACT smoothed version (window of 100 detectors) of band Oa17 in order to reduce the high frequency noise. Normalized ageing for spectral band Oa01 is represented in Figure 42 where we can see that this band is impacted by ageing of the diffuser.



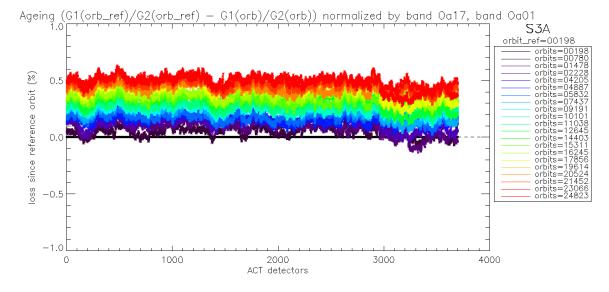


Figure 42: same as Figure 40 after normalization by band Oa17. Ageing of the diffuser 1 is now visible in the 5 cameras.

Camera averaged ageing (normalized by band Oa17) as a function of wavelength is represented in Figure 43 where we can see that ageing is stronger in the 'bluest' spectral bands (short wavelengths). Ageing is clearly visible only for the 6 first spectral bands so far in the OLCI mission life.

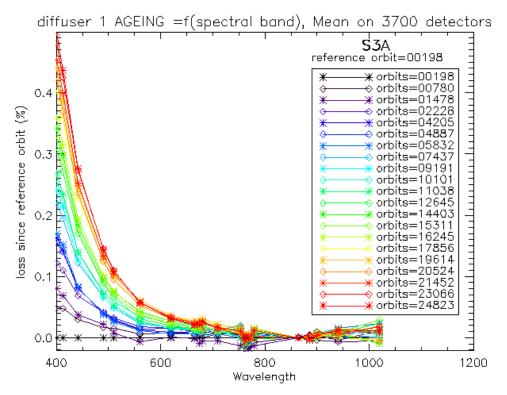


Figure 43: Diffuser 1 ageing as a function of wavelength (or spectral band). Ageing is clearly visible in spectral band #1 to #5.



Figure 44 shows the evolution, for spectral band Oa01, of the 5 cameras averaged ageing as a function of time.

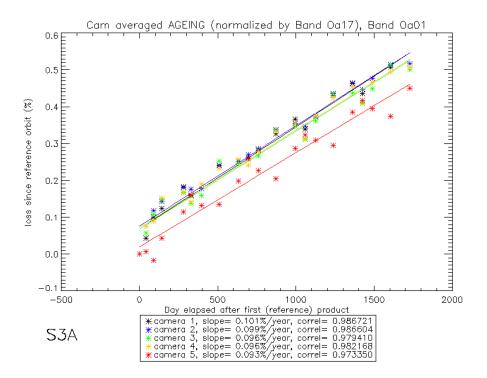
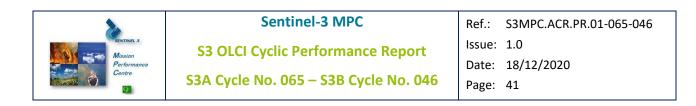


Figure 44: Camera averaged ageing for band Oa01 (normalized by band Oa17) as a function of elapsed time. Linear fit for each camera is plotted. The slope (% loss per year) and the correlation coefficient.

A model of diffuser ageing as a function of cumulated exposure time (i.e. number of acquisition sequence on nominal diffuser, regardless of the band setting) has been built and is described in Cyclic #23 Report. The results of this model confirm the need to model ageing against cumulated exposure rather than elapsed time, as it provides a more linear trend, even if not perfect (see Figure 21 of Cyclic #23 Report).

The slope of this ageing model (% of loss per exposure) as a function of wavelength is presented in Figure 45).



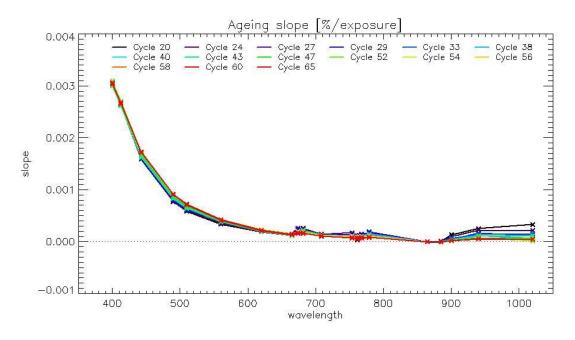


Figure 45: Slope of ageing fit (% of loss per exposure) vs wavelengths, using all the available ageing sequence at the time of the current cycle (red curve) and at the time of previous cycle for which an ageing sequence was measured (see legend within the figure).

In Figure 45, we see that the Ageing slopes have not significantly changed between the current Cycle and the last fourteen cycles with a S05 sequence (cycles #60, #56, #58, #54, #52, #47, #43, #40, #38, #33, #29, #27, #24 and #20). Cycle #47 has been used to derive the Ageing Correction model used for the currently operational Gain Model. The exposure time dependent ageing model is used to derive the Gain Model, the most recent version of which has been put in operations in PDGS on 15th October 2020 (Processing Baseline 2.71).

2.2.3.2 OLCI-B

There has been one calibration sequence S05 (reference diffuser) for OLCI-B during acquisition Cycle 046:

S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 23/11/2020 20:40 to 20:42 (absolute orbit 13447)

With the associated S01 sequence (nominal diffuser) in order to compute ageing:

S01 sequence (diffuser 1) on 23/11/2020 18:59 to 19:01 (absolute orbit 13446)

The diffuser 1 Ageing is computed for each 3700 detector and each spectral band by formula:

```
Ageing(orb)=G1(orb)/G2(orb)-G1(orb_ref)/G2(orb_ref)
```

Where:

- G1 is the diffuser 1 (= nominal diffuser) Gain coefficients
- G2 is the diffuser 2 (= reference diffuser) Gain coefficients
- orb_ref is a reference orbit chosen at the beginning of the mission



Ageing is represented in Figure 46 for band Oa01 and in Figure 47 for band Oa17.

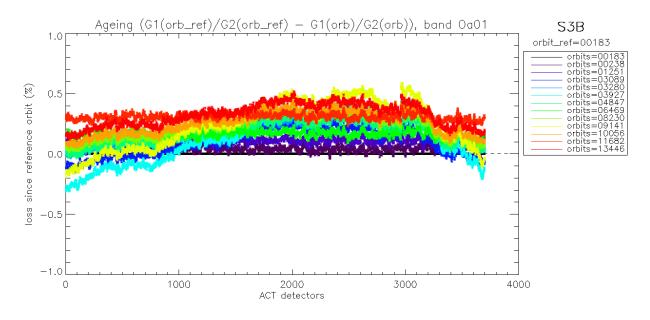


Figure 46: OLCI-B diffuser 1 ageing for spectral band Oa01. We see strong ACT low frequency structures that are due to residual of BRDF modelling.

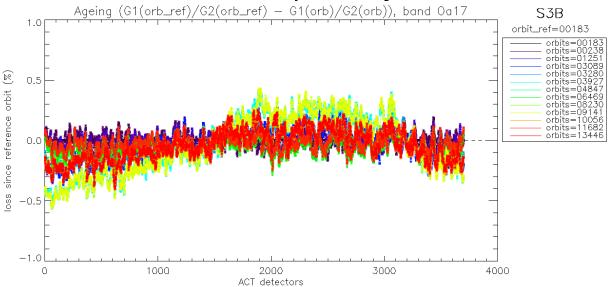


Figure 47: same as Figure 46 for spectral band Oa17. We use this band in order to normalize other bands and remove the ACT structures due to residual of BRDF modelling. Normalized curve for spectral band Oa01 is presented in Figure 48.

Figure 46 and Figure 47 show that the Ageing curves are impacted by a strong ACT pattern which is due to residuals of the bad modelling (on-ground) of the diffuser BRDF. This pattern is dependant of the azimuth angle. It is a 'white' pattern which means it is the same for all spectral bands. As such, we can remove this pattern by normalizing the ageing of all bands by the curve of band Oa17 which is expected



not to be impacted by ageing because in the red part of the spectrum. We use an ACT smoothed version (window of 100 detectors) of band Oa17 in order to reduce the high frequency noise. Normalized ageing for spectral band Oa01 is represented in Figure 48 where we can see that this band is impacted by ageing of the diffuser.

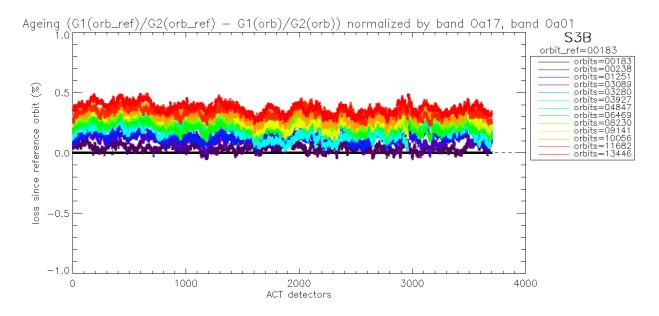


Figure 48: same as Figure 46 after normalization by band Oa17. Ageing of the diffuser 1 is now visible in the 5 cameras.

Camera averaged ageing (normalized by band Oa17) as a function of wavelength is represented in Figure 49 where we can see that ageing is stronger in the 'bluest' spectral bands (short wavelengths). Ageing is clearly visible only for the 5 first spectral bands so far in the OLCI mission life. We see a bump around 680 nm which is probably due to characterisation errors that are strongly geometry dependant and affect differently the various camera. This behaviour is under investigation.



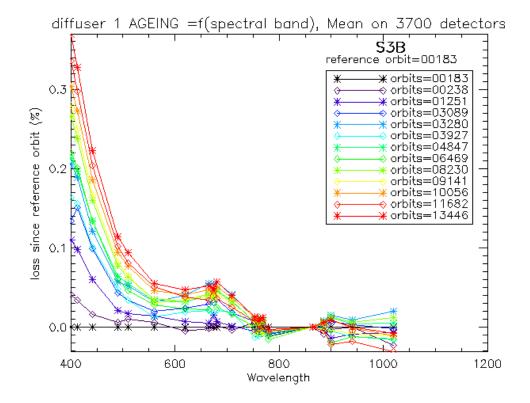
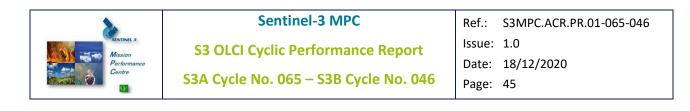


Figure 49: OLCI-B Diffuser 1 ageing as a function of wavelength (or spectral band). Ageing is clearly visible in spectral band #1 to #5.

As for OLCI-A, the OLCI-B Diffuser Ageing has been modelled as a function of cumulated exposure time (i.e. number of acquisition sequence on nominal diffuser, regardless of the band setting). The OLCI-A modelling methodology has been applied to OLCI-B. The results of this modelling, iterated at each new Ageing Sequence acquisition, expressed as the rate of ageing (% of loss per exposure) as a function of wavelength is presented in Figure 50).



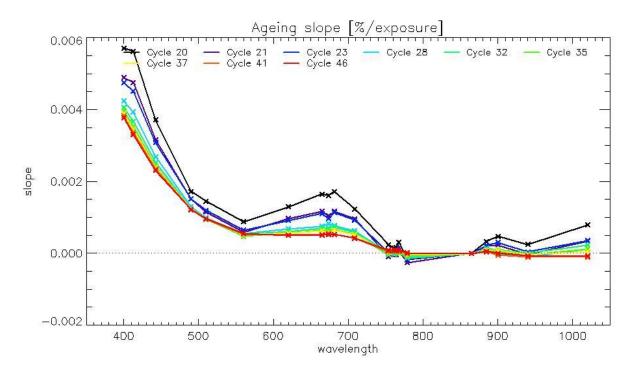
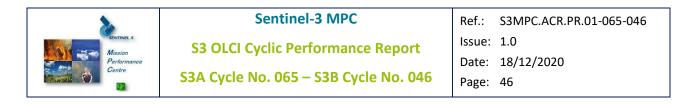


Figure 50: Slope of ageing fit (% of loss per exposure) vs wavelengths, using all the available ageing sequence at the time of the current cycle (red curve) and at the time of previous cycle for which an ageing sequence was measured (see legend within the figure).

In Figure 50, we see that the Ageing slopes have significantly changed between the current Cycle and the last eight cycles with a S05 sequence (cycles #41, #37, #35, #32, #28, #23, #21, #20). However, the behaviour tends to stabilize. The slope in the high wavelengths bands (red, NIR) is close to 0 in the three last cycles which is the expected behaviour (No Ageing expected at high wavelength). A workaround has been used instead of the nominal Ageing Assessment and modelling to allow accounting for Diffuser Ageing in the Radiometric Gain Model. Ageing was assessed by direct comparisons of two nominal diffuser observations, acquired under the same geometry (i.e. directly comparable) and the same day (i.e. with no significant instrument sensitivity evolution) but separated by 7 more exposures to light (during the Yaw Manoeuvres dedicated to the in-flight BRDF modelling). This exposure time dependent ageing model is used to derive the Gain Model, the most recent version of which has been put in operations in PDGS on 15th October 2020 (Processing Baseline 1.48).



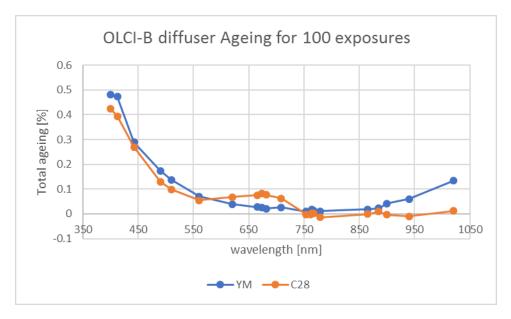


Figure 51: OLCI-B diffuser ageing (after 100 exposures, i.e. about two years) according to direct assessment from Yaw Manoeuvres (blue) and nominal method at Cycle 28 (orange).

2.2.4 Updating of calibration ADF [OLCI-L1B-CV-260]

2.2.4.1.1 OLCI-A

No CAL_AX ADF has been delivered to PDGS during the report period.

2.2.4.1.2 OLCI-B

A new CAL_AX ADF has been generated for OLCI-B with updated Geometric Calibration Model (GCM) and has been delivered to PDGS on 19th November 2020 (processing baseline 1.52, in operation since 10/12/2020 09:00):

S3B_OL_1_CAL_AX_20201028T201225_20991231T235959_20201118T120000______MPC_O_AL_013.SEN3

2.2.5 Radiometric Calibrations for sun azimuth angle dependency and Yaw Manoeuvres for Solar Diffuser on-orbit re-characterization [OLCI-L1B-CV-270 and OLCI-L1B-CV-280]

2.2.5.1.1 OLCI-A

This activity has not evolved during cycle 065 and results presented in Cycle 15 report are still valid.

2.2.5.1.2 OLCI-B

Activity has started for S3B-OLCI. The SAA domain explored is now increased by the acquisitions from the Yaw Manoeuvres and analysis becomes meaningful. Analysis is on-going.



2.3 Spectral Calibration [OLCI-L1B-CV-400]

2.3.1 OLCI-A

There has been neither S02+S03 nor S09 Spectral Calibration for OLCI-A in the reporting period.

Consequently, the last spectral calibration results presented in Cyclic Report #62/#43 (S3A/S3B) remain valid.

2.3.2 OLCI-B

There has been neither S02+S03 nor S09 Spectral Calibration for OLCI-B in the reporting period.

Consequently, the last spectral calibration results presented in Cyclic Report #62/#43 (S3A/S3B) remain valid.

2.4 Signal to Noise assessment [OLCI-L1B-CV-620]

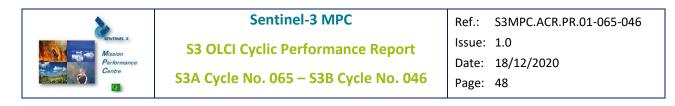
2.4.1 SNR from Radiometric calibration data

2.4.1.1 OLCI-A

SNR computed for all calibration data (S01, S04 and S05 sequences) as a function of band number is presented in Figure 52.

SNR computed for all calibration data as a function of orbit number for band Oa01 (the less stable band) is presented in Figure 53.

There is no significant evolution of this parameter during the current cycle and the ESA requirement is fulfilled for all bands.



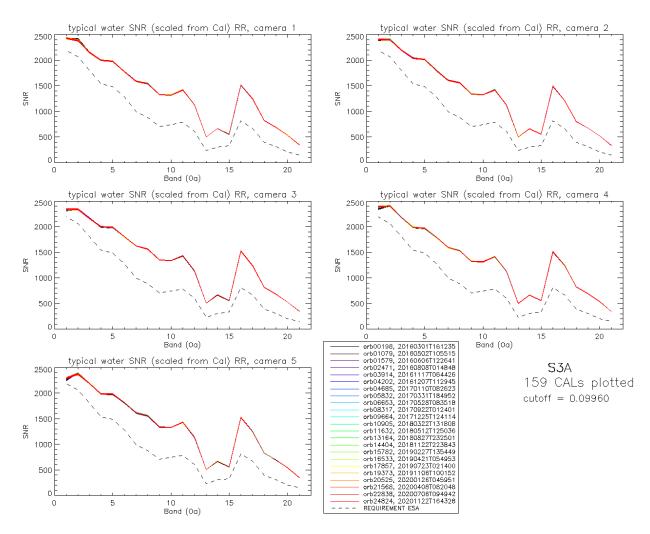


Figure 52: OLCI-A Signal to Noise ratio as a function of the spectral band for the 5 cameras. These results have been computed from radiometric calibration data. All calibrations except first one (orbit 183) are presents with the colours corresponding to the orbit number (see legend). The SNR is very stable with time: the curves for all orbits are almost superimposed. The dashed curve is the ESA requirement.



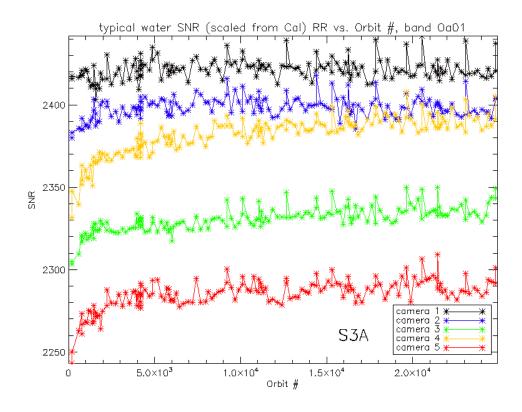


Figure 53: long-term stability of the SNR estimates from Calibration data, example of channel Oa1.

The mission averaged SNR figures are provided in Table 1 below, together with their radiance reference level. According to the OLCI SNR requirements, these figures are valid at these radiance levels and at Reduced Resolution (RR, 1.2 km). They can be scaled to other radiance levels assuming shot noise (CCD sensor noise) is the dominating term, i.e. radiometric noise can be considered Gaussian with its standard

deviation varying as the square root of the signal; in other words: $SNR(L) = SNR(L_{ref})$.

Following the same assumption, values at Full Resolution (300m) can be derived from RR ones as 4 times smaller.



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

 Ref.:
 S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046

 Issue:
 1.0

 Date:
 18/12/2020

 Page:
 50

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

 Table 1: OLCI-A SNR figures as derived from Radiometric Calibration data. Figures are given for each camera

 (time average and standard deviation), and for the whole instrument. The requirement and its reference

 radiance level are recalled (in mW.sr⁻¹.m⁻².nm⁻¹).

	L _{ref}	SNR	C1		C2		С3		C4		C5		All	
nm	LU	RQT	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std
400.000	63.0	2188	2421	6.3	2398	6.4	2330	7.6	2381	12.0	2285	9.1	2363	7.0
412.000	74.1	2061	2389	9.1	2405	6.4	2339	4.9	2401	5.0	2381	8.8	2383	5.3
442.000	65.6	1811	2159	5.5	2197	5.9	2164	4.9	2185	4.1	2194	5.5	2180	3.9
490.000	51.2	1541	2000	4.6	2036	5.1	1997	4.2	1983	4.4	1988	4.7	2001	3.3
510.000	44.4	1488	1979	5.3	2014	4.8	1985	4.6	1967	4.5	1985	4.4	1986	3.6
560.000	31.5	1280	1776	4.5	1802	4.1	1803	4.7	1794	3.9	1818	3.3	1799	3.0
620.000	21.1	997	1591	4.1	1609	4.2	1624	3.2	1593	3.2	1615	3.5	1606	2.6
665.000	16.4	883	1546	4.2	1557	4.4	1567	3.8	1533	3.6	1561	3.8	1553	3.1
674.000	15.7	707	1328	3.4	1337	3.6	1350	2.8	1323	3.2	1342	3.5	1336	2.5
681.000	15.1	745	1319	3.7	1326	3.2	1338	2.7	1314	2.5	1333	3.4	1326	2.2
709.000	12.7	785	1420	4.2	1420	4.1	1435	3.4	1414	3.5	1430	3.0	1424	2.8
754.000	10.3	605	1127	3.1	1121	2.9	1135	3.3	1125	2.5	1139	2.9	1129	2.3
761.000	6.1	232	502	1.1	498	1.1	505	1.2	500	1.1	508	1.4	503	0.9
764.000	7.1	305	663	1.6	658	1.5	668	2.1	661	1.5	670	2.1	664	1.4
768.000	7.6	330	558	1.5	554	1.3	562	1.3	557	1.4	564	1.3	559	1.0
779.000	9.2	812	1516	4.7	1498	4.7	1526	5.2	1511	5.0	1526	4.9	1515	4.2
865.000	6.2	666	1244	3.6	1213	3.5	1239	4.0	1246	3.5	1250	2.8	1238	2.9
885.000	6.0	395	823	1.7	801	1.6	814	2.0	824	1.4	831	1.7	819	1.1
900.000	4.7	308	691	1.6	673	1.3	683	1.6	693	1.5	698	1.5	688	1.0
940.000	2.4	203	534	1.2	522	1.1	525	0.9	539	1.1	542	1.3	532	0.7
1020.000	3.9	152	345	0.9	337	0.8	348	0.7	345	0.8	351	0.8	345	0.5



2.4.1.2 OLCI-B

SNR computed for all OLCI-B calibration data (S01, S04 (but not the dark-only S04) and S05 sequences) as a function of band number is presented in Figure 54.

SNR computed for all OLCI-B calibration data as a function of orbit number for band Oa01 (the less stable band) is presented in Figure 55.

As for OLCI-A the SNR is very stable in time. There is no significant evolution of this parameter during the current cycle and the ESA requirement is fulfilled for all bands.

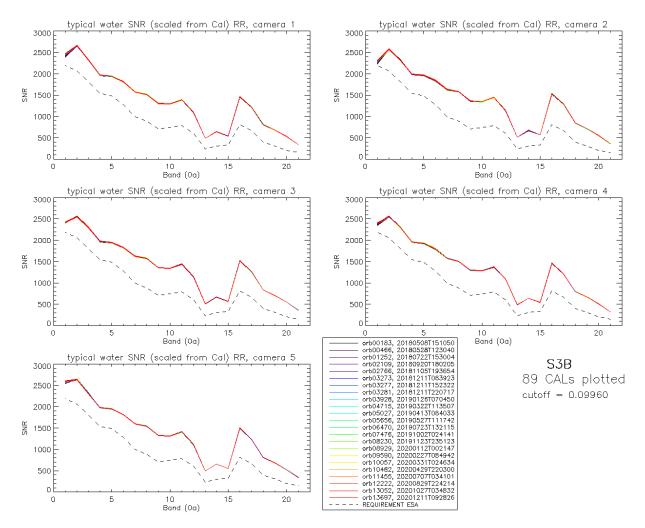


Figure 54: OLCI-B Signal to Noise ratio as a function of the spectral band for the 5 cameras. These results have been computed from radiometric calibration data. All calibrations except first one (orbit 167) are presents with the colours corresponding to the orbit number (see legend). The SNR is very stable with time: the curves for all orbits are almost superimposed. The dashed curve is the ESA requirement.



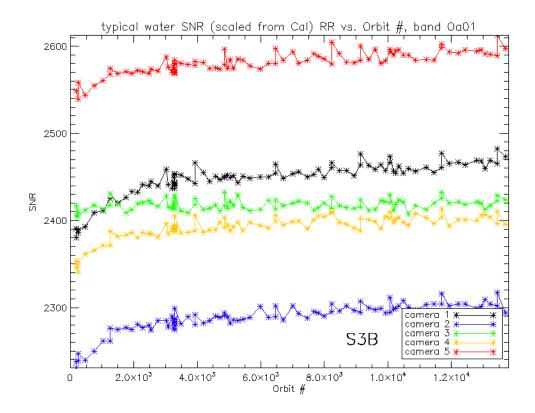


Figure 55: long-term stability of the OLCI-B SNR estimates from Calibration data, example of channel Oa1.



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Table 2: OLCI-B SNR figures as derived from Radiometric Calibration data. Figures are given for each camera (time average and standard deviation), and for the whole instrument. The requirement and its reference radiance level are recalled (in mW.sr⁻¹.m⁻².nm⁻¹).

-			1	ruunanee lever are recuirea (,	1 1			
	L _{ref}	SNR	C1		C2 C3				C4		C5		All	
nm	LU	RQT	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std	avg	std
400.000	63.0	2188	2448	20.0	2288	16.9	2418	6.0	2392	13.7	2581	13.3	2425	12.9
412.000	74.1	2061	2655	6.7	2570	6.0	2546	8.4	2550	5.9	2639	7.0	2592	5.0
442.000	65.6	1811	2325	6.4	2318	5.8	2301	6.3	2305	6.1	2310	6.1	2312	5.1
490.000	51.2	1541	1966	4.6	1988	5.7	1972	4.8	1952	4.6	1979	4.7	1971	3.7
510.000	44.4	1488	1938	5.0	1966	5.6	1943	4.9	1923	5.1	1951	4.8	1944	4.1
560.000	31.5	1280	1813	4.8	1847	5.3	1829	4.7	1804	5.1	1816	4.3	1822	3.8
620.000	21.1	997	1573	4.3	1626	4.7	1625	3.8	1576	3.8	1601	3.4	1600	3.0
665.000	16.4	883	1513	4.1	1579	3.9	1574	4.0	1501	3.1	1546	3.8	1543	2.9
674.000	15.7	707	1301	3.8	1358	3.7	1353	3.4	1292	2.8	1328	3.1	1327	2.4
681.000	15.1	745	1293	3.6	1347	3.2	1343	2.9	1285	2.7	1316	2.8	1317	2.1
709.000	12.7	785	1390	4.2	1447	4.3	1443	4.3	1373	3.0	1412	4.0	1413	3.2
754.000	10.3	605	1095	4.0	1142	3.8	1142	3.7	1089	2.9	1115	3.5	1117	3.2
761.000	6.1	232	487	1.3	509	1.3	508	1.4	485	1.2	497	1.5	497	1.1
764.000	7.1	305	643	1.7	672	2.0	672	2.0	641	1.6	657	1.8	657	1.5
768.000	7.6	330	541	1.5	567	1.5	564	1.4	541	1.4	554	1.7	553	1.2
779.000	9.2	812	1466	4.5	1534	4.8	1526	5.8	1466	4.0	1506	4.7	1500	4.1
865.000	6.2	666	1221	3.7	1286	3.8	1258	3.8	1204	3.8	1238	3.0	1241	3.0
885.000	6.0	395	808	2.4	847	1.9	834	2.0	799	1.8	814	2.2	820	1.6
900.000	4.7	308	679	1.5	714	2.0	704	1.6	669	1.5	682	1.5	690	1.2
940.000	2.4	203	527	1.3	549	1.6	551	1.3	510	1.2	522	1.3	532	0.9
1020.000	3.9	152	336	0.8	358	1.1	358	0.8	318	0.8	339	1.1	342	0.6



2.4.2 SNR from EO data

2.4.2.1 OLCI-A

There has been no update on SNR assessment from EO data during the cycle. Last figures (cycle 9) are considered valid.

2.4.2.2 OLCI-B

The SNR assessment from EO data has not been applied to OLCI-B considering a) that SNR estimates from RC data have been proved more reliable for OLCI-A and b) that it requires a significant amount of human and machine resources that can be more efficiently used for other tasks.

2.5 Geometric Calibration/Validation

2.5.1 OLCI-A

OLCI-A georeferencing performance is compliant since the introduction of MPC Geometric Calibration, put in production on the 14th of March 2018. It has however significantly improved after its last full revision of GCMs (Geometric Calibration Models, or platform to instrument alignment quaternions) and IPPVMs (Instrument Pixels Pointing Vectors) both derived using the GeoCal Tool and put in production on 30/07/2019.

The following figures (Figure 56 to Figure 61) show time series of the overall RMS performance (requirement criterion) and of the across-track and along-track biases for each camera. New plots (Figure 62 and Figure 63) introduce monitoring of the performance homogeneity within the field of view: georeferencing errors in each direction at camera transitions (difference between last pixel of camera N and first pixel of camera N+1) and within a given camera (maximum bias minus minimum inside each camera). The performance improvement since the 30/07/2019 is significant on most figures: the global RMS value decreases form around 0.35 to about 0.2 (Figure 56), the across-track biases decrease significantly for all cameras (Figure 57 to Figure 61), the along-track bias reduces for at least camera 3 (Figure 59) and the field of view homogeneity improves drastically (Figure 62 and Figure 63, but also reduction of the dispersion – distance between the ± 1 sigma lines – in Figure 57 to Figure 61).

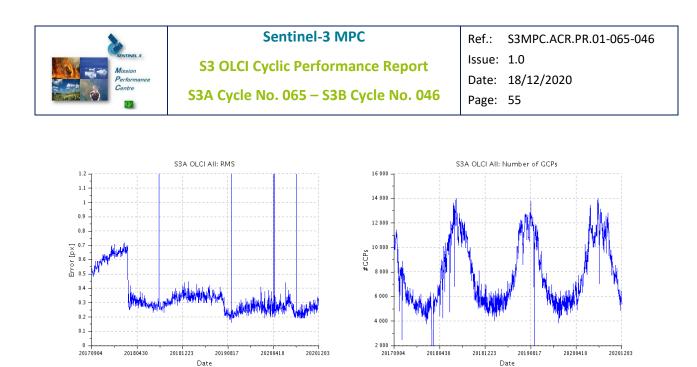


Figure 56: overall OLCI-A georeferencing RMS performance time series (left) and number of validated control points corresponding to the performance time series (right) over the whole monitoring period

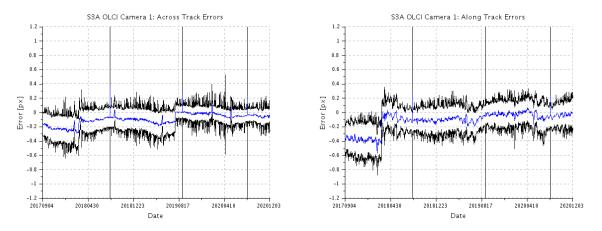


Figure 57: across-track (left) and along-track (right) OLCI-A georeferencing biases time series for Camera 1. Blue line is the average, black lines are average plus and minus 1 sigma.

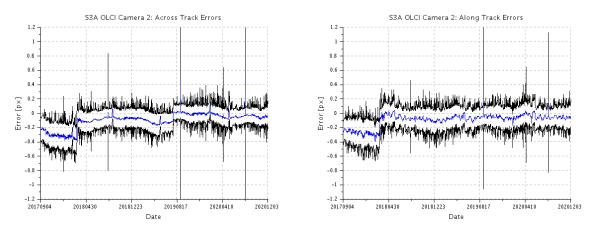


Figure 58: same as Figure 57 for Camera 2.



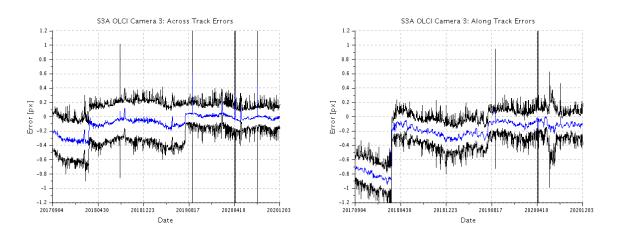
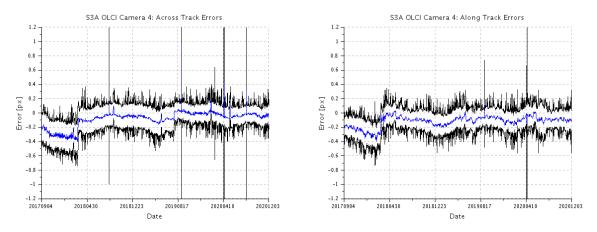


Figure 59: same as Figure 57 for Camera 3.





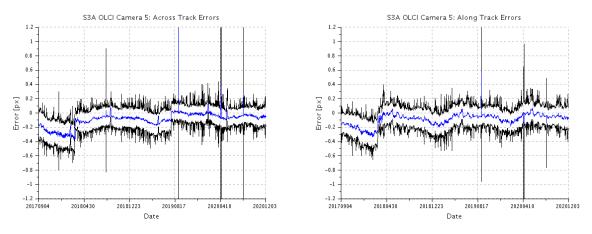


Figure 61: same as Figure 57 for Camera 5.

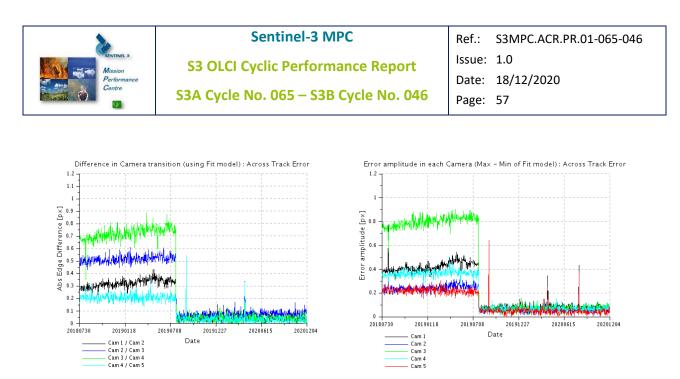


Figure 62: OLCI-A spatial across-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the across-track error within each camera (left).

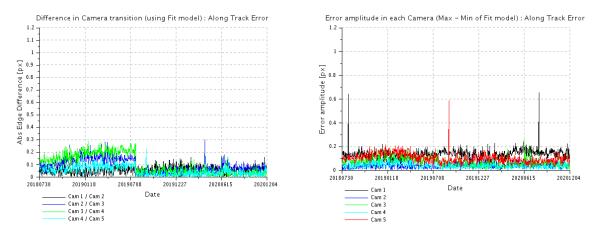


Figure 63: OLCI-A spatial along-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the along-track error within each camera (left).

2.5.2 OLCI-B

Georeferencing performance of OLCI-B improved significantly with the fourth geometric calibration introduced the 30/07/2019. However, the instrument pointing is still evolving, in particular for camera 2 (Figure 70) and a new geometric calibration has been done and introduced in the processing chain on the 16th of April 2020. Its impact is significant on the along-track biases of all cameras (Figure 65 to Figure 69), but also on the continuity at camera interfaces (Figure 70, left) and on intra-camera homogeneity (Figure 70, right).

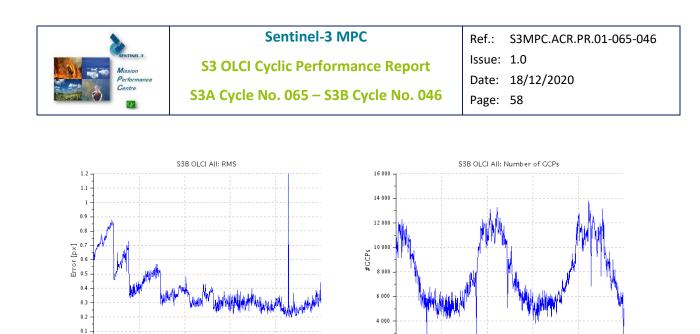


Figure 64: overall OLCI-B georeferencing RMS performance time series over the whole monitoring period (left) and corresponding number of validated control points (right)

2 0 0 0

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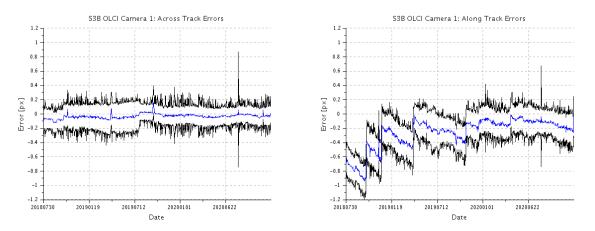


Figure 65: across-track (left) and along-track (right) OLCI-B georeferencing biases time series for Camera 1.

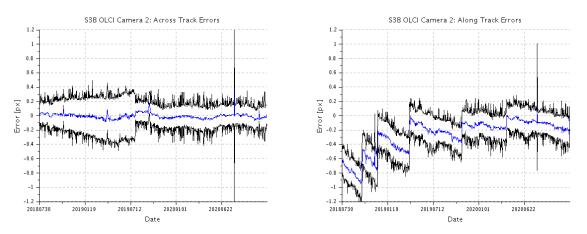
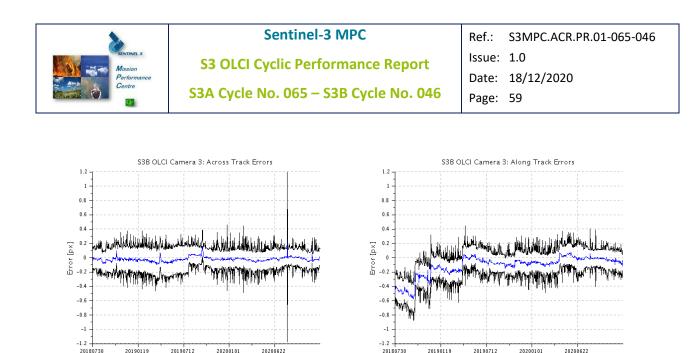
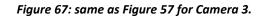


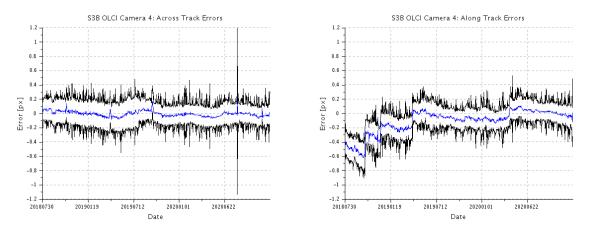
Figure 66: same as Figure 57 for Camera 2.





Date

Date





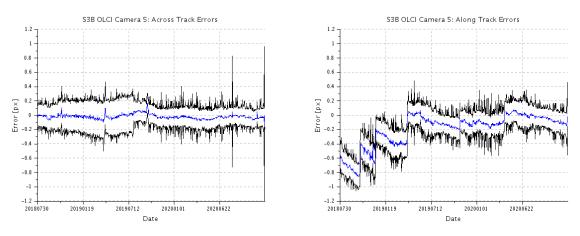


Figure 69: same as Figure 57 for Camera 5.

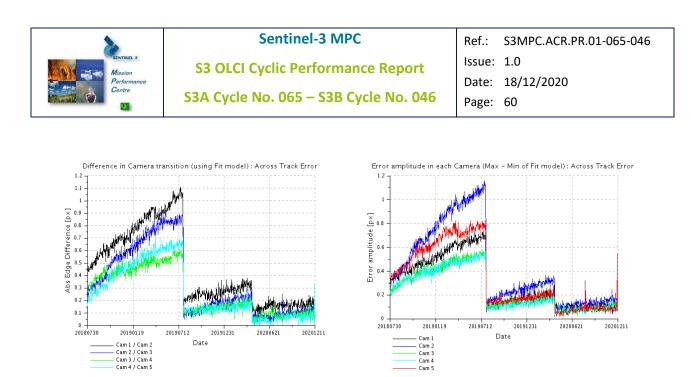


Figure 70: OLCI-B spatial across-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the across-track error within each camera (left).

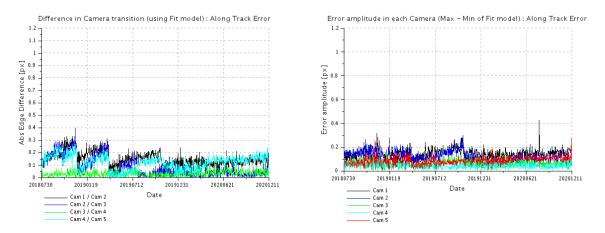


Figure 71: OLCI-B spatial along-track misregistration at each camera transition (left) and maximum amplitude of the along-track error within each camera (left).



3 OLCI Level 1 Product validation

3.1 [OLCI-L1B-CV-300], [OLCI-L1B-CV-310] – Radiometric Validation

3.1.1 S3ETRAC Service

Activities done

The S3ETRAC service extracts OLCI L1 RR and SLSTR L1 RBT data and computes associated statistics over 49 sites corresponding to different surface types (desert, snow, ocean maximizing Rayleigh signal, ocean maximizing sunglint scattering and deep convective clouds). The S3ETRAC products are used for the assessment and monitoring of the L1 radiometry (optical channels) by the ESLs.

All details about the S3ETRAC/OLCI and S3ETRAC/SLSTR statistics are provided on the S3ETRAC website <u>http://s3etrac.acri.fr/index.php?action=generalstatistics</u>

- Number of OLCI products processed by the S3ETRAC service
- Statistics per type of target (DESERT, SNOW, RAYLEIGH, SUNGLINT and DCC)
- Statistics per sites
- Statistics on the number of records

For illustration, we provide below statistics on the number of S3ETRAC/OLCI records generated per type of targets (DESERT, SNOW, RAYLEIGH, SUNGLINT and DCC) for both OLCI-A (Figure 72) and OLCI-B (Figure 73).



Figure 72: summary of S3ETRAC products generation for OLCI-A (number of OLCI-A L1 products Ingested, blue – number of S3ETRAC extracted products generated, green – number of S3ETRAC runs without generation of output product (data not meeting selection requirements), yellow – number of runs ending in error, red, one plot per site type).

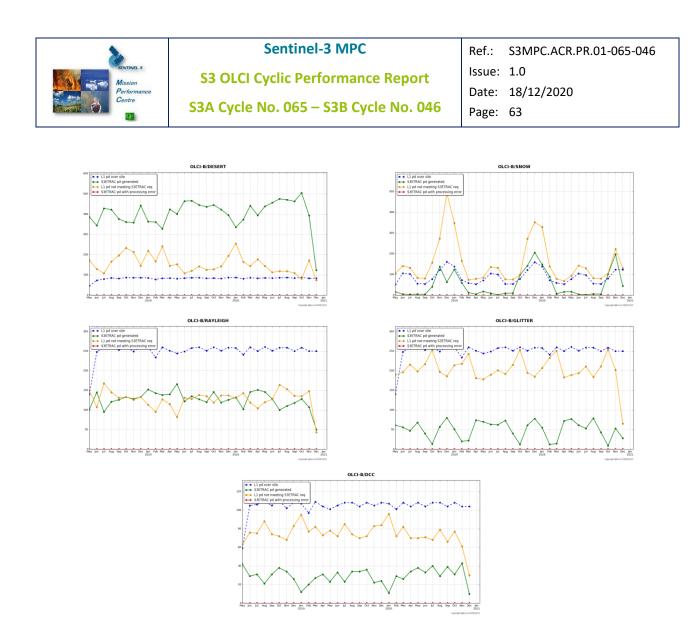


Figure 73: summary of S3ETRAC products generation for OLCI-B (number of OLCI-B L1 products Ingested, yellow – number of S3ETRAC extracted products generated, blue – number of S3ETRAC runs without generation of output product (data not meeting selection requirements), green – number of runs ending in error, red, one plot per site type).



3.1.2 Radiometric validation with DIMITRI

Highlights

OLCI-A and OLCI-B L1B radiometry verification as follow:

- The verification is performed until the 15th of December 2020.
- All results from OLCI-A and OLCI-B over Rayleigh, Glint and PICS are consistent with the previous cycle over the used CalVal sites.
- Good stability of both sensors OLCI-A and OLCI-B could be observed, nevertheless the timeseries average shows higher reflectance from OLCI-A.
- Bands with high gaseous absorption are excluded.

Verification and Validation over PICS

- The ingestion of all the available L1B-LN1-NT products from OLCI-A and OLCI-B over the 6 desert calval-sites (Algeria3 & 5, Libya 1 & 4 and Mauritania 1 & 2) has been performed until the 15th of December 2020.
- 2. The results are consistent overall the six used PICS sites (Figure 74 and Figure 75). Both sensors show a good stability over the analysed period.
- 3. The temporal average over the period January 2020 Present of the elementary ratios (observed reflectance to the simulated one) for OLCI-A shows gain values between 2-4% over all the VNIR bands (Figure 76). Unlikely, the temporal average over the same period of the elementary ratios for OLCI-B shows gain values within 2% (mission requirements) over the VNIR spectral range (Figure 76). The spectral bands with significant absorption from water vapor and O₂ (Oa11, Oa13, Oa14, Oa15 and Oa20) are excluded.



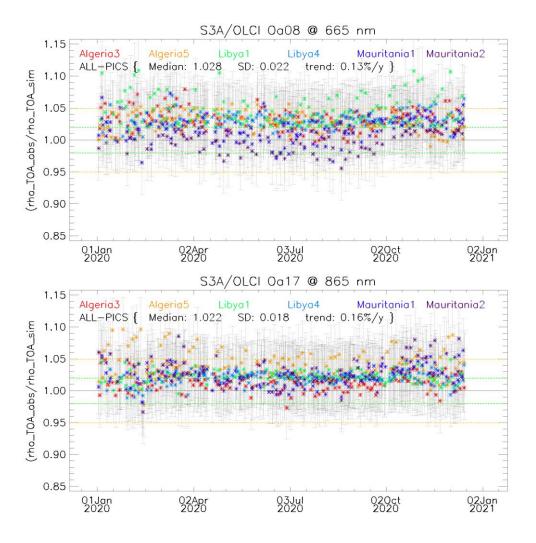


Figure 74: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from OLCI-A for (top to bottom) bands Oa08 and Oa17 respectively over January 2020-Present from the six PICS Cal/Val sites. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty.



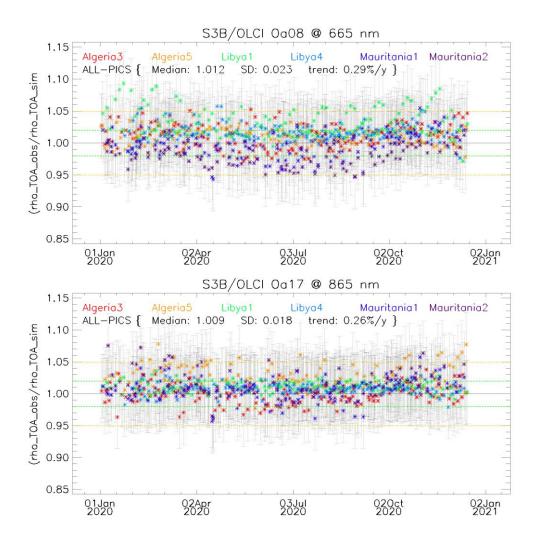


Figure 75: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from OLCI-B for (top to bottom) bands Oa08 and Oa17 respectively over January 2020-Present from the six PICS Cal/Val sites. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty.



S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2 Page: 67

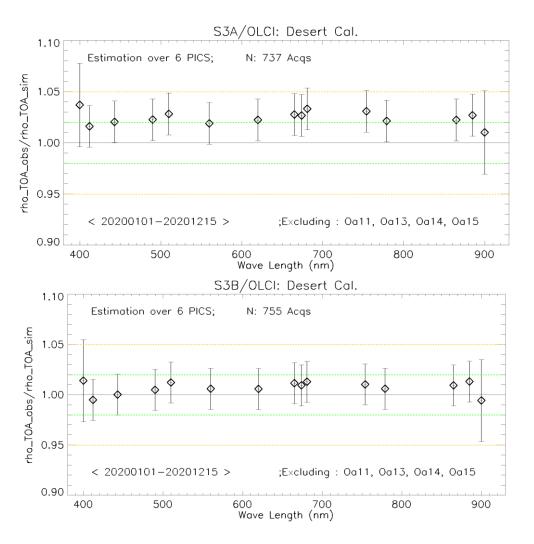


Figure 76: The estimated gain values for OLCI-A and OLCI-B over the 6 PICS sites identified by CEOS over the period January 2020-Present as a function of wavelength. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the desert methodology uncertainty.

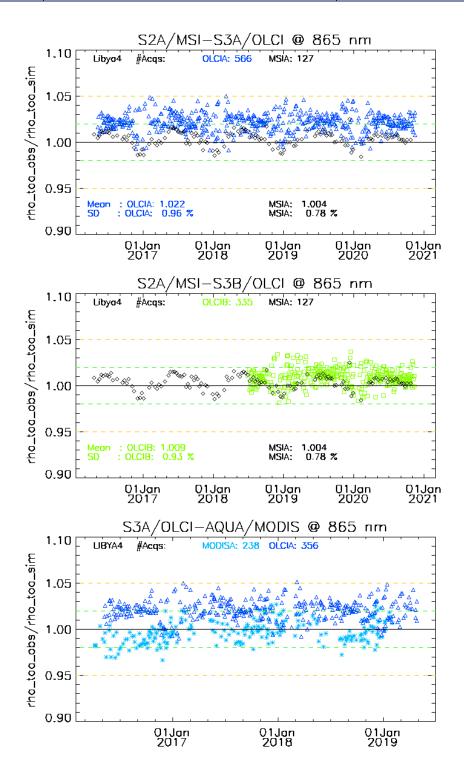
Cross-mission Intercomparison over PICS:

X-mission Intercomparison with MODIS-A and MSI-A has been performed until February 2019 and June 2020 respectively. Figure 77 shows time-series of the elementary ratios from S2A/MSI, Aqua/MODIS, S3A/OLCI and S3B/OLCI over the LYBIA4 site for the period April 2016 until February 2019 and June 2020, respectively.

We observe a clear stability over the three sensors, associated with higher reflectance from OLCI-A wrt to MSI-A and MODISA. MODISA shows higher fluctuation wrt to MSI-A and OLCI-A/B ones.

Figure 78 shows the time averages of estimated gains for the same sensors (MSI-A, OLCI-A, OLCI-B and MODIS-A) over PICS. The spectral bands with significant absorption from water vapour and O2 are excluded. OLCI-A seems to have higher gain wrt the other sensors, which means that OLCI-A has brighter reflectance than its simulated one by PICS method.







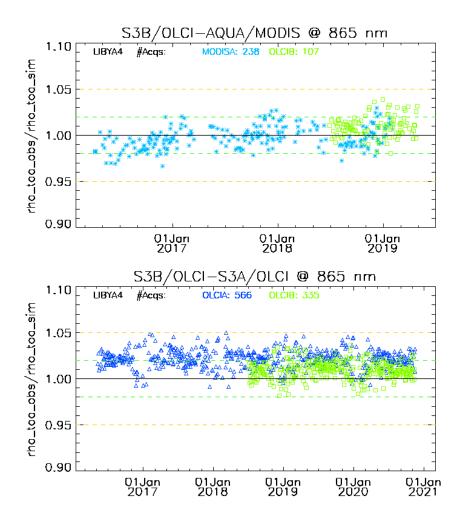
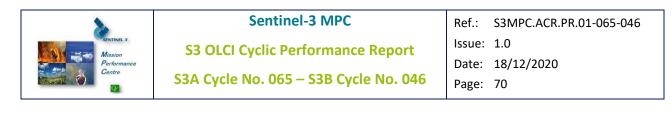


Figure 77: Time-series of the elementary ratios (observed/simulated) signal from (black) S2A/MSI, (blue) S3A/OLCI, (green) S3B/OLCI and (Cyan) Aqua/MODIS for NIR band 865nm over LIBYA4 site. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. The systematic and total uncertainties of the desert methodology are 1% and 5% respectively.



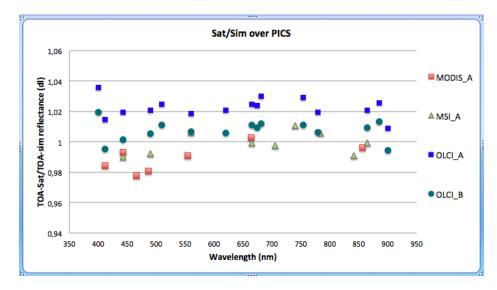


Figure 78: Ratio of observed TOA reflectance to simulated one for (greenyellow) S2A/MSI, (red) Aqua/MODIS, (blue) S3A/OLCI and (green) S3B/OLCI averaged over the six PICS test sites as a function of wavelength.

Validation over Rayleigh

Rayleigh method has been performed from the available mini-files over the **last 12 months** for OLCI-A and OLCI-B. The results were produced with the configuration (ROI-AVERAGE). The gain coefficients of OLCI-A are consistent with the previous results. Bands Oa01-Oa05 display biases values between 5%-7% while bands Oa06-Oa09 exhibit biases between 2%-3% higher than the 2% mission requirements (Figure 79). The gain coefficients of OLCI-B are lower than OLCI-A ones, where bands Oa01-Oa05 display biases values about 3-5%, when bands Oa6-Oa9 exhibit biases better than 2% mission requirements (Figure 79).

Validation over Glint and synthesis

Glint calibration method with the configuration (ROI-PIXEL) has been performed over the **last 12 months** for OLCI-A and OLCI-B. The outcome of this analysis shows a good consistency with the desert and Rayleigh outputs over the NIR spectral range Oa06-Oa09 for both sensors. Glint results from OLCI-A show that the NIR bands are within the 2% (mission requirements), except Oa21 which shows higher biases more than ~5% for both sensors (see Figure 79). Again, the glint gain from OLCI-B looks slightly lower than OLCI-A one.



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12, Page: 71

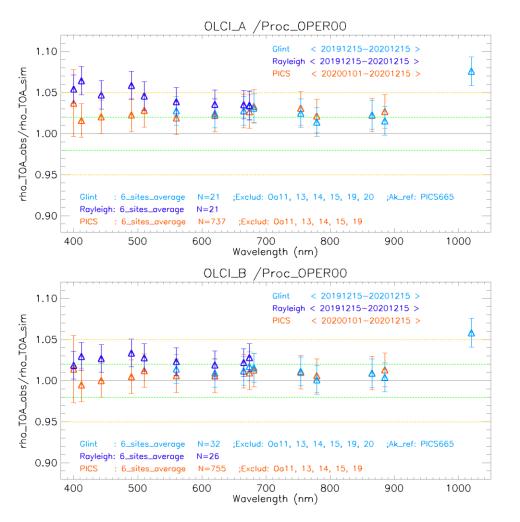


Figure 79: The estimated gain values for OLCI-A and OLCI-B from Glint, Rayleigh and PICS methods over the past twelve months as a function of wavelength. We use the gain value of Oa8 from PICS-Desert method as reference gain for Glint method. Dashed-green and orange lines indicate the 2% and 5% respectively. Error bars indicate the method uncertainties.



3.1.3 Radiometric validation with OSCAR

The OSCAR Rayleigh have been applied to the S3A and S3B S3ETRAC data from the 6 oceanic calibration sites listed in Table 3 using a new chlorophyll climatology, which has been derived from the CMEMS OLCI monthly CHL products considering the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Site Name	Ocean	Ocean North South Latitude Latitude		East Longitude	West Longitude	
PacSE	South-East of Pacific	-20.7	-44.9	-89	-130.2	
PacNW	North-West of Pacific	22.7	10	165.6	139.5	
PacN	North of Pacific	23.5	15	200.6	179.4	
AtlN	North of Atlantic	27	17	-44.2	-62.5	
AtlS	South of Atlantic	-9.9	-19.9	-11	-32.3	
IndS	South of Indian	-21.2	-29.9	100.1	89.5	

Table 3. S3ETRAC Ocean Calibration sites

In Figure 80 the average OSCAR OLCI-A and OLCI-B Rayleigh results are given for November 2020. The results are obtained with the new climatology. In Figure 81 and Table 4 the average of all scenes currently (re)processed with this new climatology is given. This average is obtained from respectively 355 OLCI-B and 532 OLCI-A scenes with valid results. Reprocessed scenes include all months of 2019 and May to November 2020.

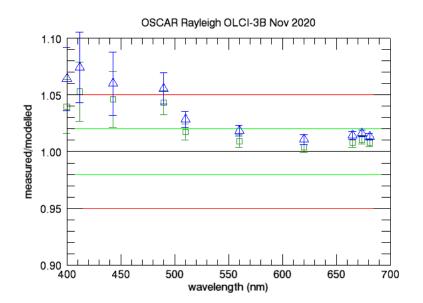
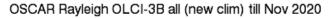


Figure 80. OSCAR Rayleigh S3A and S3B Calibration results as a function of wavelength for November 2020. The results are obtained with a new climatology derived from CMEMS OLCI monthly CHL products.





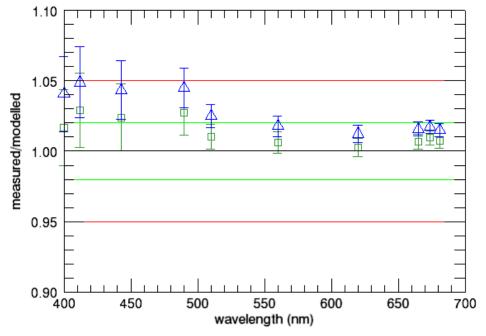


Figure 81. OSCAR Rayleigh S3A and S3B Calibration results as a function of wavelength. Average and standard deviation over all scenes currently (re)processed with the new climatology.

between OLCIA and OLCIB									
OLCI	Wavelength	Oscar Rayle	eigh OLCIA	Oscar Rayleigh	% difference				
band	(nm)	avg stdev avg stdev		stdev	OLCIA and OLCIB				
Oa01	400	1.041	0.027	1.017	0.027	2.36%			
Oa02	412	1.049	0.025	1.029	0.026	2.04%			
Oa03	443	1.043	0.021	1.024	0.024	2.03%			
Oa04	490	1.045	0.014	1.027	0.016	1.83%			
Oa05	510	1.025	0.008	1.010	0.009	1.52%			
Oa06	560	1.018	0.007	1.006	0.008	1.21%			
Oa07	620	1.012	0.006	1.003	0.006	0.98%			
Oa08	665	1.016	0.005	1.007	0.005	0.91%			
Oa09	674	1.018	0.005	1.010	0.005	0.81%			
Oa10	681	1.015	0.005	1.007	0.005	0.79%			
Oa11	709	0.998	0.009	0.994	0.009	0.41%			
Oa12	754	1.010	0.002	1.009	0.002	0.08%			

Table 4. OSCAR Rayleigh calibration results for S3A and S3B (average and standard deviation over allacquisitions) over all scenes currently (re)processed with the new climatology and observed difference (in %)between OLCIA and OLCIB



3.2 [OLCI-L1B-CV-320] – Radiometric Validation with Level 3 products

3.2.1 OLCI-A

There has been no new result during the cycle. Last figures (cycle 20) are considered valid.

3.2.2 OLCI-B

This activity has not started for OLCI-B.



4 Level 2 Land products validation

4.1 [OLCI-L2LRF-CV-300]

4.1.1 Routine extractions

4.1.1.1 OLCI-A

- The focus for this time period has been on the rolling archive Non Time Critical (NT) data until the 7th December 2020. More data available for statistical analysis as a concatenation procedure for all available data in the MERMAID processing has been implemented.
- Concatenated time series of OLCI Global Vegetation Index and OLCI Terrestrial Chlorophyll Index have been regenerated on the current rolling archive availability including previous extractions since June 2016 and April 2018 for S3A and S3B respectively.

Figure 82 to Figure 91 below present the Core Land Sites OLCI-A time series over the current period.

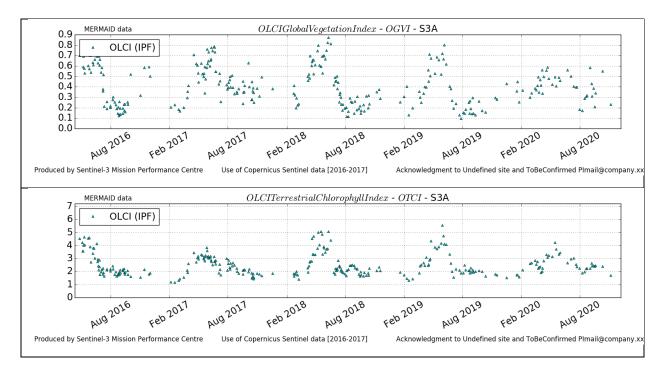
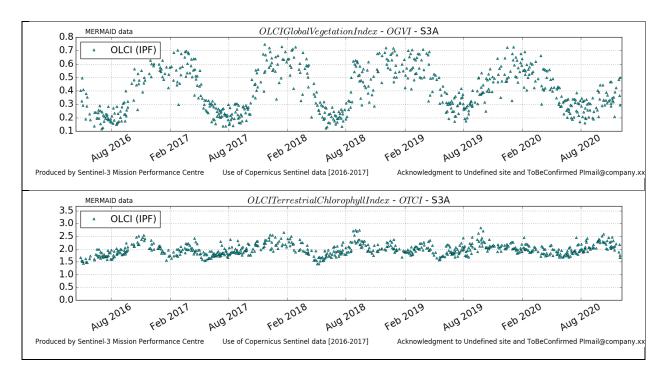


Figure 82: DeGeb time series over current report period







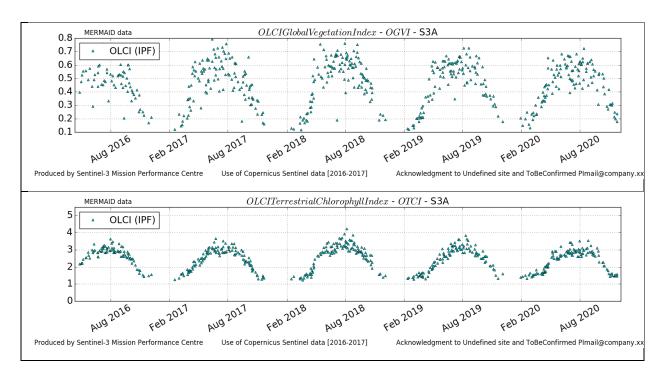
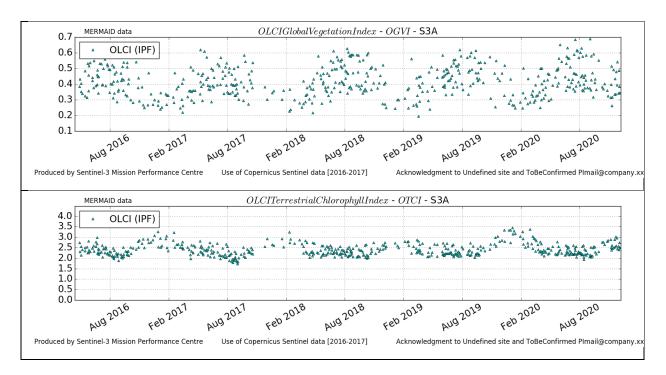


Figure 84: ITIsp time series over current report period







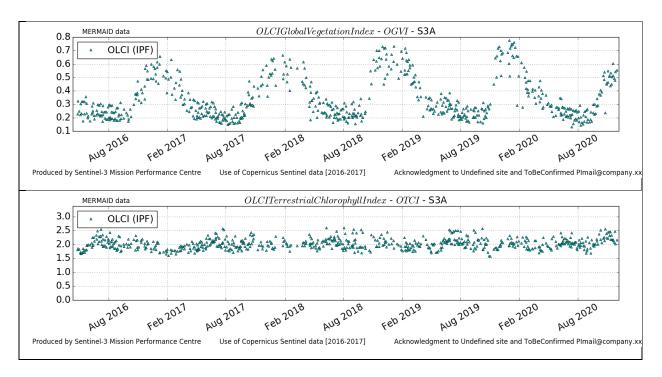
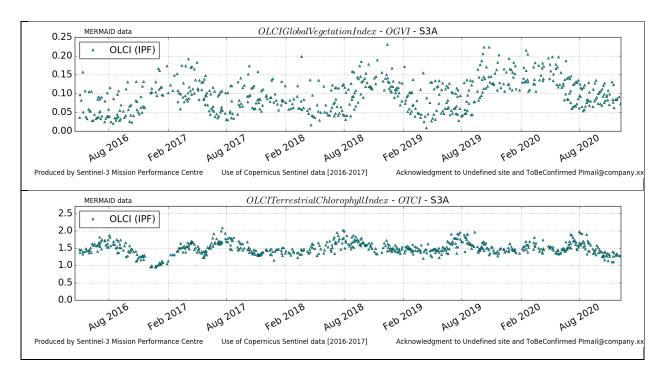
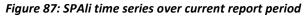


Figure 86: ITTra time series over current report period







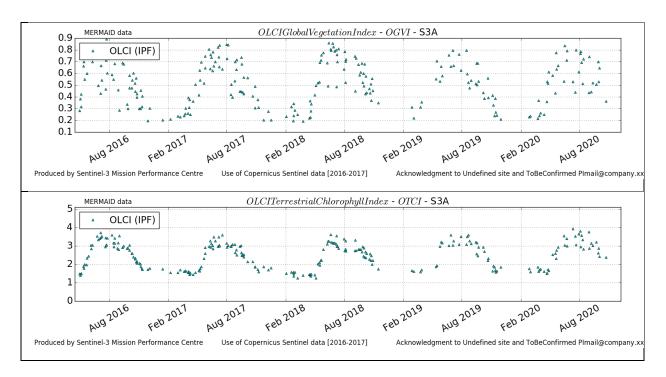
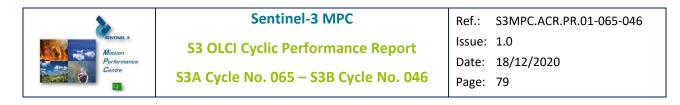
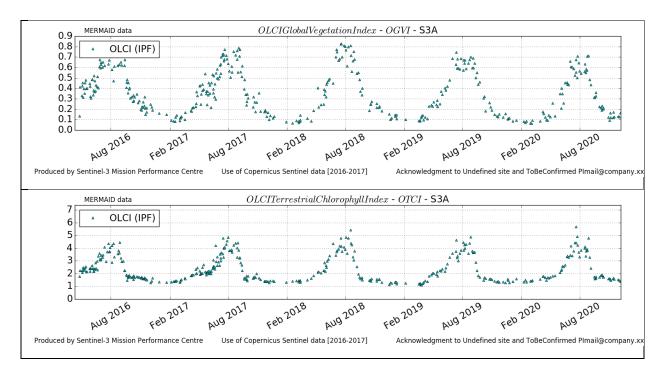


Figure 88: UKNFo time series over current report period







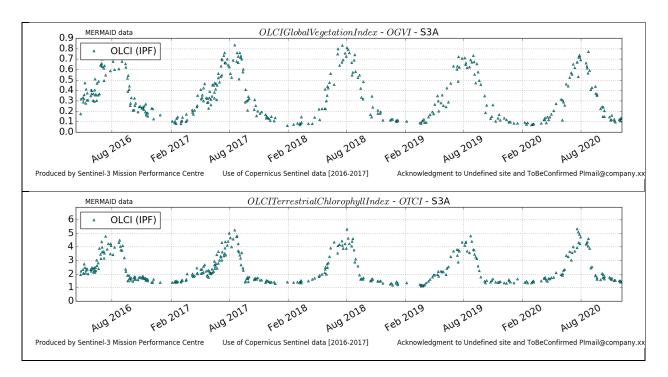


Figure 90: USNe2 time series over current report period

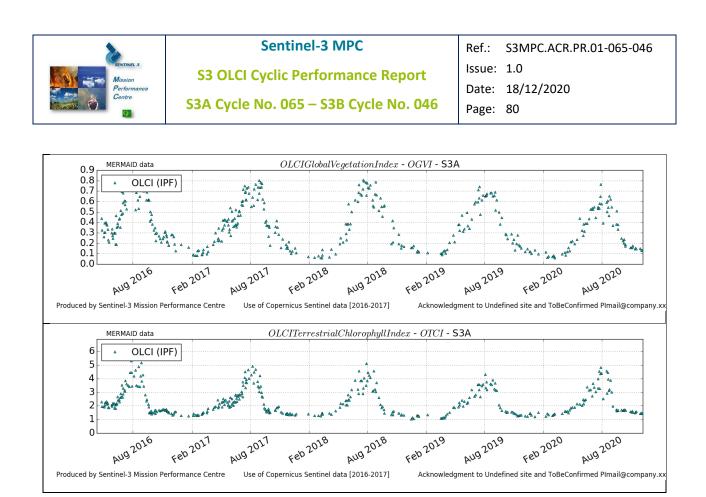


Figure 91: USNe3 time series over current report period

4.1.1.2 OLCI-B

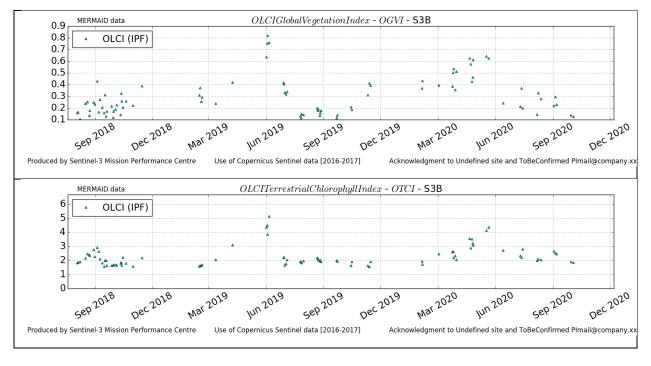
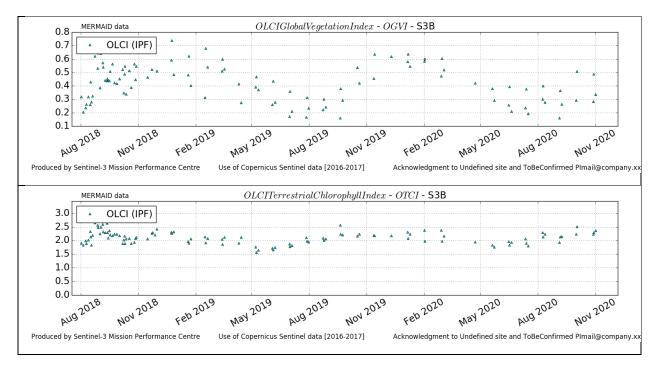


Figure 92 to Figure 101 below present the Core Land Sites OLCI-B time series over the current period.

Figure 92: DeGeb time series over current report period







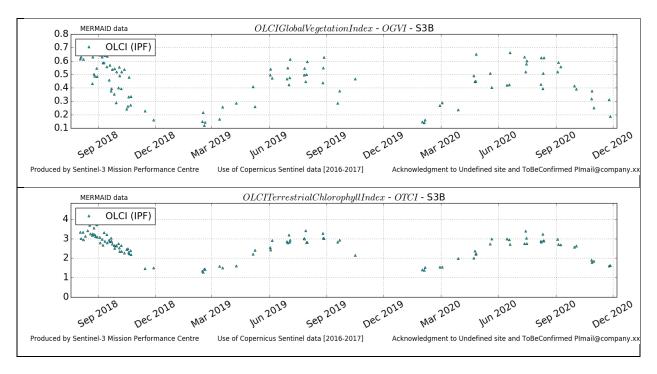
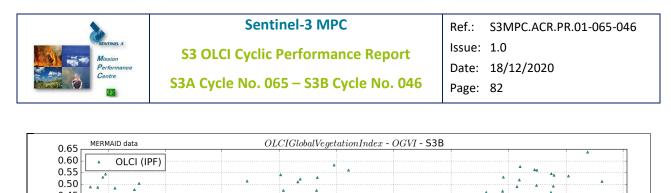
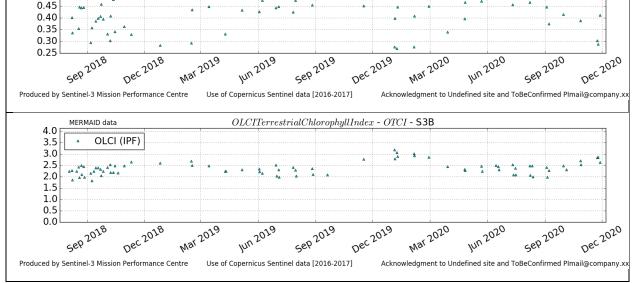
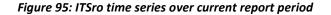


Figure 94: ITIsp time series over current report period







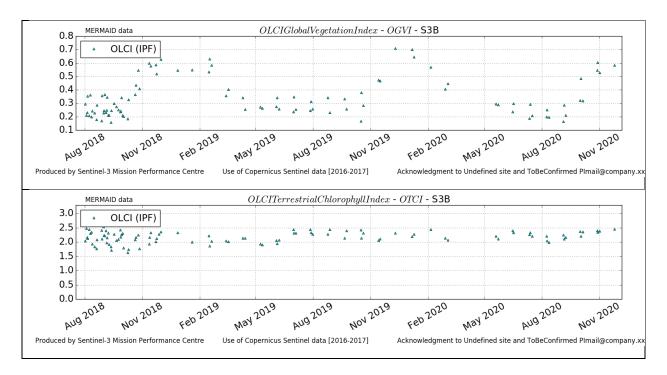
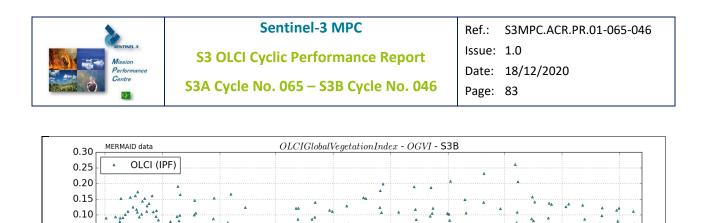
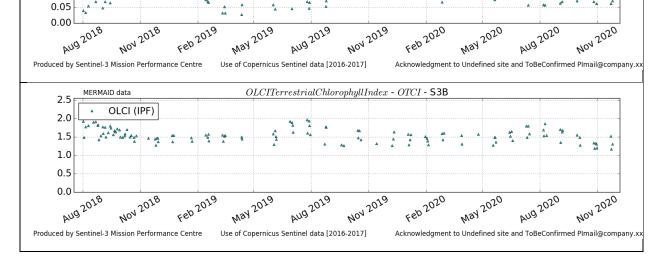
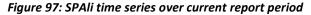


Figure 96: ITTra time series over current report period







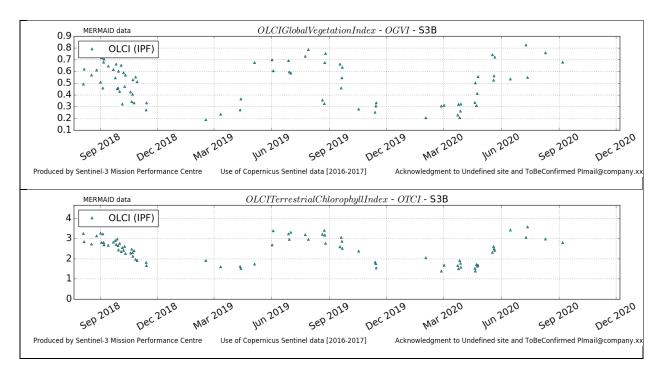
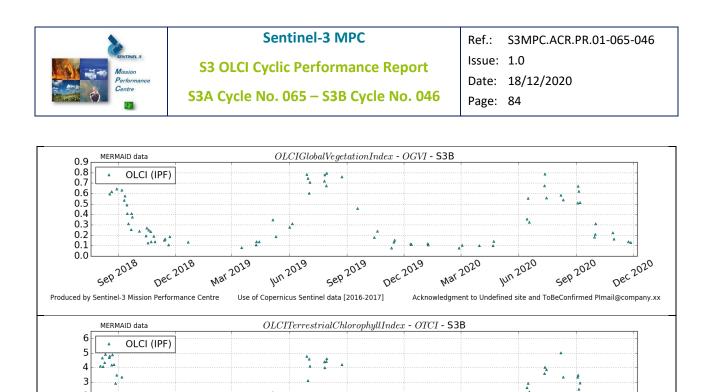


Figure 98: UKNFo time series over current report period



4

Mar 2020

Jun 2020

Acknowledgment to Undefined site and ToBeConfirmed Plmail@company.xx

sep 2020

Dec 2020

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1 0 AA A 442A

Produced by Sentinel-3 Mission Performance Centre

Dec 2018

Sep 2018

۸4

Jun 2019

Use of Copernicus Sentinel data [2016-2017]

sep 2019

Figure 99: USNe1 time series over current report period

Dec 2019

Mar 2019

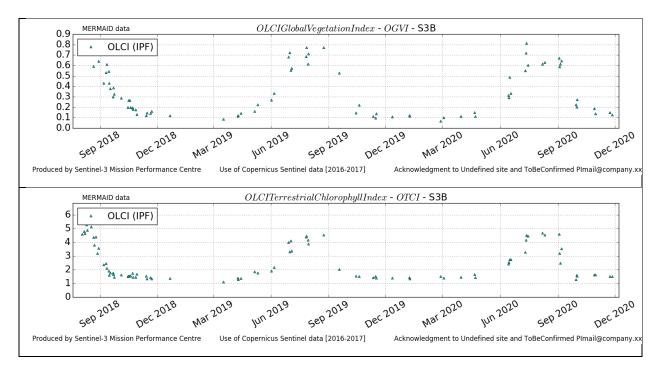


Figure 100: USNe2 time series over current report period

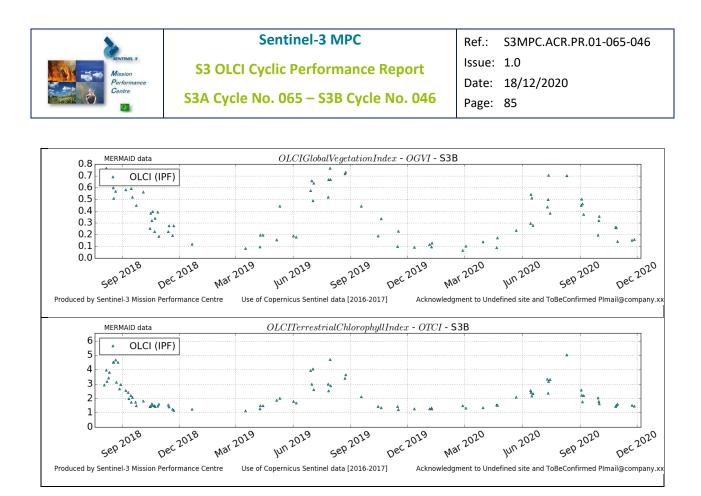


Figure 101: USNe3 time series over current report period

4.1.2 Comparisons with MERIS MGVI and MTCI climatology

This report presents the comparison between MERIS and OLCI land products between 17th November 2020 and 8th December 2020. The comparison is conducted using 3x3 pixel extractions over 33 established validation sites. The sites are distributed across a range of latitudes and include representative land cover types (Table 5). Statistical measures of the comparison between MERIS and OLCI products are presented in Table 6. In general, there is good agreement between the land products with strong R² values and biases around 0. There are similar seasonal trajectories and timings shown in the extractions from both products at the following sites reviewed in this monthly report: BE-Brasschaat, DE-Haininch and FR-EstreesMons. The monthly mean extractions from all sites are shown in Figure 105. OTCI from S3B shows a strong agreement with the MERIS archive, R² = 0.93, NRMSD < 0.08 with very low bias, -0.01. OGVI similarly shows a strong agreement with the MERIS archive, R² = 0.93, NRMSD < 0.15 with a slightly higher bias of 0.06. There is a limited amount of data available for S3B for this cyclic report, as reflected in the timeseries plots in Figure 102 – Figure 104. The performance results are available in the MPC web app (https://s3mpc-soton.shinyapps.io/s3mpc_gui/).



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

 Ref.:
 S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046

 Issue:
 1.0

 Date:
 18/12/2020

 Page:
 86

Table 5: Validation sites analysed in report S3A 65/S3B 46. Land cover data from GLC2000 grouped according to the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) designations.

Acronym	Country	Network	Lat	Lon I	Land cover
AU-Alice-Mulga	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-22.283	133.251	EBF
AU-Calperum	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-34.003	140.588	Non-forest
AU-Cape-Tribulation	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, OzFlux	-16.106	145.378	EBF
AU-Cumberland	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-33.615	150.723	EBF
AU-Great-Western	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-30.192	120.654	DBF
AU-Litchfield	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-13.18	130.79	EBF
AU-Robson-Creek	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-17.117	145.63	EBF
AU-Rushworth	Australia	TERN-AusCover	-36.753	144.966	DBF
AU-Tumbarumba	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-35.657	148.152	EBF
AU-Warra-Tall	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-43.095	146.654	EBF
AU-Watts-Creek	Australia	TERN-AusCover	-37.689	145.685	EBF
AU-Wombat	Australia	TERN-SuperSites, AusCover/OzFlux	-37.422	144.094	EBF
BR-Mata-Seca	Brazil	ENVIRONET	-14.88	-43.973	Non-forest
CR-Santa-Rosa	Costa Rica	ENVIRONET	10.842	-85.616	EBF
DE-Selhausen	Deutschland	ICOS	50.866	6.447	Cultivated
FR-Aurade	France	ICOS	43.55	1.106	Cultivated
FR-Estrees-Mons	France	ICOS Associated	49.872	3.021	Cultivated
FR-Guayaflux	France	ICOS Associated	5.279	-52.925	EBF
FR-Montiers	France	ICOS	48.538	5.312	DBF
FR-Puechabon	France	ICOS	43.741	3.596	ENF
IT-Casterporziano2	Italy	ICOS	41.70427	12.35729	Mixed forest
IT-Collelongo	Italy	EFDC	41.849	13.588	DBF
IT-Lison	Italy	ICOS	45.74	12.75	Cultivated
PR-Guanica	Puerto Rico	NEON	17.97	-66.869	EBF
SE-Dahra	Senegal	KIT / UC	15.4	-15.43	Cultivated
UK-Wytham-Woods	United Kingdom	ForestGeo - NPL	51.774	-1.338	DBF
US-Bartlett	United States	NEON, AERONET	44.064	-71.287	DBF
US-Harvard	United States	NEON, AERONET	42.537	-72.173	DBF
US-Moab-Site	United States	NEON, AERONET	38.248	-109.388	Non-forest
US-Mountain-Lake	United States	NEON, AERONET	37.378	-80.525	DBF
US-Oak-Rige	United States	NEON, AERONET	35.964	-84.283	DBF
US-Ordway-Swisher	United States	NEON, AERONET	29.689	-81.993	ENF
US-Talladega	United States	NEON, AERONET	32.95	-87.393	ENF



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2 Page: 87

Table 6: Comparison statistics between monthly S3A/B OLCI land products and MERIS archive data.

	\$3A				S3B											
Site Acronym		OT	CI vs MTCI			OG	VI vs MGVI			OTCI vs MTCI OG			٥G١	DGVI vs MGVI		
	n	R2	NRMSD	Bias	n	R2	NRMSD	Bias	n	R2	NRMSD	Bias	n	R2	NRMSD	Bias
AU-Alice-Mulga	12	0.51	0.03	-0.03	12	0.66	0.11	0.02	12	0.09	0.08	-0.22	12	0.28	0.11	0
AU-Calperum	12	0.45	0.04	0.09	12	0.9	0.08	-0.01	12	0.12	0.05	0.04	12	0.66	0.16	-0.01
AU-Cape-Tribulation	12	0.84	0.04	-0.1	12	0.38	0.06	0.14	11	0.78	0.04	-0.18	11	0.24	0.17	0.11
AU-Cumberland	12	0.89	0.02	0.01	12	0.43	0.07	0.08	12	0.52	0.05	0.02	12	0.51	0.13	0.08
AU-Great-Western	12	0.97	0.02	0.13	12	0.95	0	0.04	12	0.97	0.01	0.13	12	0.73	0.1	0.03
AU-Litchfield	12	0.92	0.02	-0.01	12	0.96	0.06	0.04	12	0.74	0.07	0.02	12	0.9	0.06	0.02
AU-Robson-Creek	12	0.92	0.03	-0.06	12	0.88	0.04	0.11	12	0.84	0.05	-0.17	12	0.72	0.11	0.12
AU-Rushworth	12	0.81	0.04	0.13	12	0.2	0.08	0.09	12	0.31	0.06	-0.14	12	0.32	0.08	0.04
AU-Tumbarumba	12	0.83	0.06	0.35	12	0.54	0.1	0.11	12	0.54	0.08	0.15	12	0.22	0.1	0.03
AU-Warra-Tall	12	0.62	0.07	-0.02	12	0.27	0.14	0.05	9	0.37	0.09	-0.38	8	0.18	0.31	0
AU-Watts-Creek	12	0.62	0.05	0.04	12	0.47	0.08	0.09	12	0.68	0.06	0.03	12	0.05	0.2	0.08
AU-Wombat	12	0.92	0.03	0.13	12	0.34	0.08	0.08	12	0.79	0.03	-0.1	12	0.04	0.11	0.04
BR-Mata-Seca	12	0.98	0.04	-0.01	12	0.99	0.05	0.02	12	0.9	0.09	0.02	12	0.98	0.07	0.03
CR-Santa-Rosa	12	0.98	0.04	0.12	12	0.59	0.21	0.12	12	0.94	0.08	-0.04	12	0.42	0.27	0.06
DE-Selhausen	12	0.89	0.08	-0.04	12	0.52	0.21	0.06	12	0.73	0.11	-0.2	11	0.23	0.27	0.01
FR-Aurade	12	0.79	0.12	0.08	12	0.83	0.19	0.14	11	0.88	0.08	0.03	12	0.86	0.16	0.08
FR-Estrees-Mons	12	0.94	0.08	0.06	12	0.88	0.11	0.06	11	0.81	0.14	0.14	11	0.89	0.11	0.04
FR-Guayaflux	12	0.68	0.04	-0.17	12	0.03	0.1	0.17	11	0.7	0.04	-0.24	12	0	0.2	0.24
FR-Montiers	12	0.99	0.03	-0.12	12	0.98	0.06	0.04	11	0.95	0.09	-0.08	11	0.9	0.17	0.09
FR-Puechabon	12	0.8	0.03	-0.06	12	0.9	0.06	0.09	12	0.91	0.04	0.06	11	0.9	0.09	0.06
IT-Casterporziano2	12	0.97	0.02	-0.09	12	0.89	0.03	0.07	12	0.9	0.04	-0.07	12	0.46	0.08	0.05
IT-Collelongo	12	0.98	0.05	-0.02	12	0.99	0.05	0.02	12	0.92	0.13	0.05	12	0.97	0.11	0.03
IT-Lison	12	0.98	0.03	-0.04	12	0.97	0.07	0.09	12	0.93	0.05	-0.05	12	0.95	0.1	0.09
PR-Guanica	12	0.46	0.14	-0.23	12	0.33	0.14	0.07	12	0.55	0.15	-0.39	12	0.21	0.2	0.05
SE-Dahra	12	0.77	0.04	-0.04	12	0.9	0.43	0.01	11	0.22	0.1	-0.08	12	0.89	0.52	0.02
UK-Wytham-Woods	12	0.97	0.05	0.05	12	0.96	0.07	0.11	12	0.94	0.07	-0.01	11	0.88	0.14	0.07
US-Bartlett	12	0.97	0.04	-0.03	12	0.97	0.1	0.06	11	0.89	0.08	-0.04	12	0.97	0.1	0.03
US-Harvard	12	0.99	0.03	-0.16	12	0.97	0.09	0.05	11	0.97	0.05	-0.18	12	0.95	0.12	0.02
US-Moab-Site	12	0.76	0.02	0.05	12	0.12	0.22	0.02	11	0.84	0.02	0.01	12	0.01	0.43	0.04
US-Mountain-Lake	12	0.99	0.05	-0.23	12	0.99	0.05	0.03	11	0.96	0.07	-0.41	12	1	0.03	0.01
US-Oak-Rige	12	0.99	0.03	-0.05	12	0.98	0.07	0.05	12	0.98	0.05	-0.08	11	0.98	0.07	0.05
US-Ordway-Swisher	12	0.54	0.03	0.02	12	0.92	0.03	0.09	12	0.08	0.04	0	12	0.69	0.07	0.06
US-Talladega	12	0.98	0.02	-0.12	12	0.98	0.05	0.07	12	0.92	0.05	-0.18	10	0.95	0.1	0.06



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2020

Page: 88

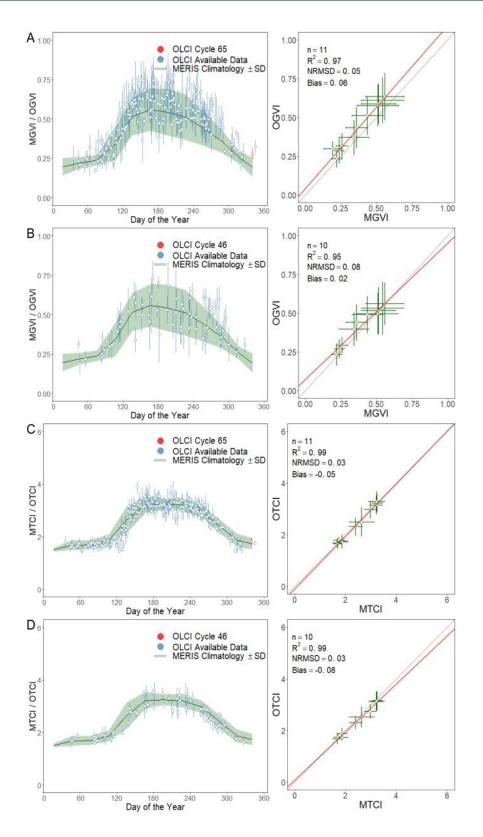


Figure 102 Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site BE-Brasschaat, Belgium, land cover Needle-leaved, evergreen. A and C represent S3A; B and D represent S3B.



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2020

Page: 89

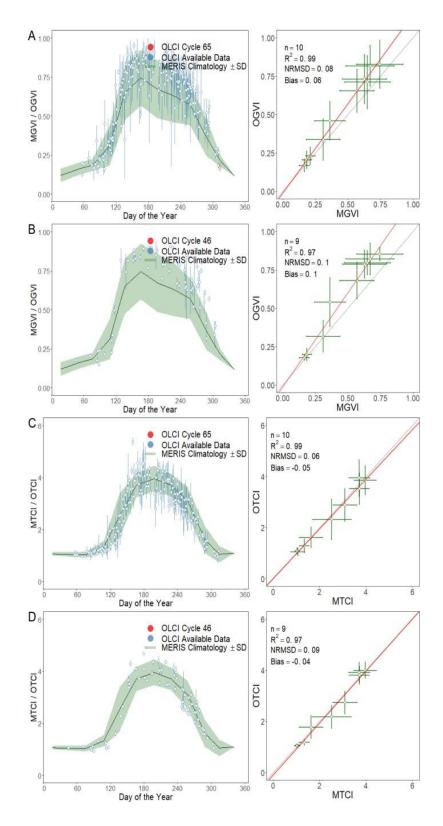


Figure 103: Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site DE-Haininch, Deutschland, land cover Broadleaved, deciduous, closed. A and C represent S3A; B and D represent S3B.



Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

Date: 18/12/2020

Page: 90

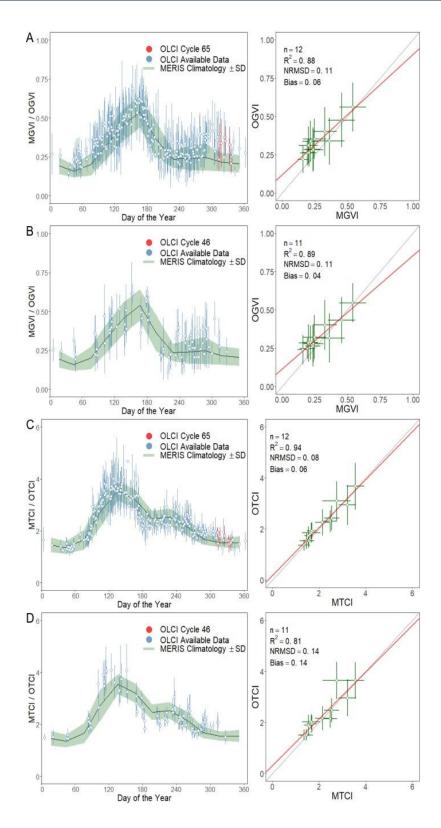
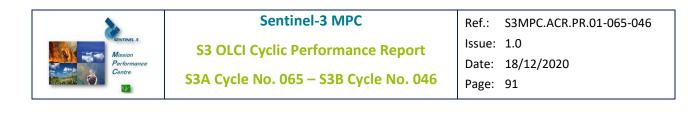


Figure 104: Time-series OGVI and OTCI and corresponding scatterplot of monthly mean for site FR-Estrees-Mons, France, land cover Cultivated and managed areas. A and C represent S3A; B and D represent S3B.

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046



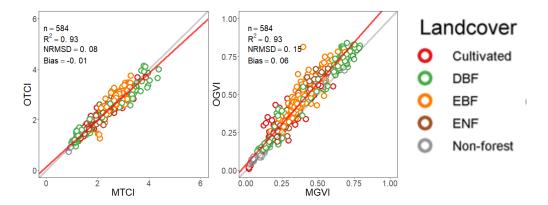


Figure 105: Comparison of OTCI-MTCI (a) and OGVI-MGVI (b). Points in the scatterplot represent the monthly mean of all available S3A and MERIS archive over 55 validation sites. Red and grey lines represent the modelled and 1:1 lines respectively. The scatterplots are updated to include extractions from cycle S3A 64.

4.2 [OLCI-L2LRF-CV-410 & OLCI-L2LRF-CV-420] – Cloud Masking & Surface Classification for Land Products

<u>Analysis on NN for OLCI-A/B using pixel collection</u>: The new pixel collection comprising OLCI-A and OLCI-B L1 data was used to analyse the performance of the current cloud screening NN, as the current NN was only trained on OLCI-A data. As OLCI-A and OLCI-B have slight spectral differences, it was expected that the current NN performs not as good on OLCI-B as on OLCI-A. If there is a big difference/influence, the next step was to see, if the use of the S3-TC A2B alignment coefficients (tandem phase) and flat fielding, allow the usage of a single NN based on OLCI-A or OLCI-B?

The new OLCI-A/B PixBox collection comprises 20,202 pixels and is nearly even distributed between OLCI-A and OLCI-B (see Figure 106 below)



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 92

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Total pixel number:20202, A: 51% (78 files), B: 49% (125 files)

Land (total 48%)

- Land 39%
- Town 4%
- Desert 5%
- dry/salt lake 0.4%

Water (total 51%)

- coastal waters 22%
- open ocean 22%
- Lake 3.0%
- River 1.6%
- Others 2.7%

sun glint 2.8%

Clouds

- Clear 48% Cloudy 52%
 - opaque 18%
 - Oversaturated 1.8%
 - semi-transparent total 32%
 - Thick 8%
 - Average 11%
 - Thin 10%
 - spatially mixed 3.3%
 - over sun glint 0.8%

Snow / Ice

- land/mountain ice 11%
- floating ice 5%

Shadow

- over land 1%
- over water 0.3%

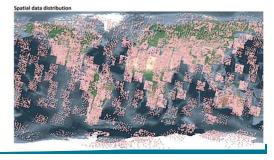


Figure 106: PixBox collection (2019) OLCI-A and OLCI-B

The last validation for OLCI cloud flagging was done in 2017 on a collection of OLCI-A data from 2017. The results had shown an overall accuracy (OA) of 86.09%. Now the main two question were. How is the overall performance now? Is there a difference between the performance of OLCI-A and OLCI-B?

As a recap, the validation results of 2017 are shown in Figure 107 below.

			in-Situ Da	labase		
	Class	Clear	Cloud	Sum	U A	E
	CLEAR	3856	330	4186	92.1	7.9
OLCI FR	CLOUD	900	3756	4656	80.7	19.3
OLC	Sum	4756	4086	8842		
	ΡA	81.1	91.9		OAA:	86.09
	E	18.9	8.1			

OLCI LFR cloud val. - all surface (Insitu 1-5 vs CLD Flags) In Situ Databaco

> Scotts Pi: 0.721 Krippendorfs alpha: 0.721 Cohens kappa: 0.722

Figure 107: Results from 2017 PixBox validation on OLCI-A

Validation of cloud screening NN (IdePix) on OLCI-A/B data based on the 2019 PixBox collection shows that the overall performance is still the same, with 86.75% OA (Figure 108 below). Even though, data of both sensors is used.



OLCI-A & OLCI-B

In-Situ Database

	Class	Clear	Cloud	Sum	U A	E
OLCI FR IdePix	CLEAR	6662	714	7376	90.3	9.7
	CLOUD	1416 7280		8696	83.7	16.3
	Sum	8078	7994	16072		
0	ΡA	82.5	91.1		OAA:	86.75
	E	17.5	8.9			

Scotts Pi: 0.734 Krippendorfs alpha: 0.734 Cohens kappa: 0.735

Figure 108: Validation results of OLCI-A and OLCI-B data using PixBox collection of 2019

This already leads to the expectation that the NN is performing equally on OLCI-A and OLCI-B. And exactly this can be seen when analysing the two sensors separately (see Figure 109 below). OLCI-A and OLCI-B have both OAs above 86%. Interestingly, OLCI-B performs even a bit better compared to OLCI-A.

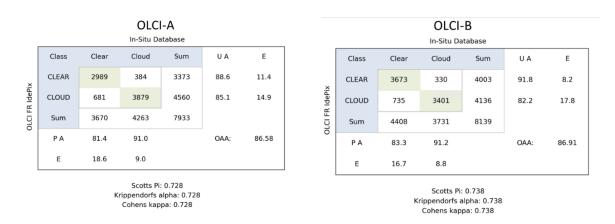


Figure 109: Validation results of OLCI-A only (left) and OLCI-B only (right) using PixBox collection of 2019

In conclusion this means, the NN based on OLCI-A is robust against the slight spectral differences between the two sensors. Therefore, a single NN can be used for the two sensors. Additionally, the analysis had shown that the performance of the cloud screening NN is stable since 2017.



5 Level 2 Water products validation

5.1 [OLCI-L2-CV-210, OLCI-L2-CV-220] – Vicarious calibration of the NIR and VIS bands

Results are not further discussed here as SVC is now implemented directly by EUMETSAT.

5.2 [OLCI-L2WLR-CV-300, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-310, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-32, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-330, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-340, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-350, OLCI-L2WLR-CV-360 and OLCI-L2WLR-CV-370] – Level 2 Water-leaving Reflectance product validation.

5.2.1 Acknowledgements

S3-MPC acknowledges all PIs mentioned below and their respective institutions for their valuable contribution to the validation of OLCI L2 water products with a special emphasis on AERONET-OC PIs for their unique contribution to NRT data validation and a special mention to Giuseppe Zibordi maintaining and providing data over 5 ground stations. AERONET-OC is indeed from far the largest contributor of Fiducial Reference Measurements for routine quantitative data validation.

✤ AERONET-OC

- AAOT, Galata, Gloria, GDT, HLH, Irbe Lighthouse: Giuseppe Zibordi, Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
- **leodo, Socheongcho**: Young-Je Park & Hak-Yeol You, Korean Institute of Ocean Science and Technology & Korea Hydrographic and Oceanographic Administration
- LISCO: Sam Ahmed, Alex Gilerson, City College of New York
- **MVCO**: Hui Feng and Heidi Sosik, Ocean Process Analysis Laboratory (OPAL), Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Thornton: Dimitry Van der Zande, RBINS/OD Nature
- Lucinda: Thomas Schroeder, Integrated Marine Observing System, IMOS
- USC_SEAPRISM: Burton Jones and Curtiss Davis, University Southern California | USC, Oregon State University
- **WaveCIS**: Alan Weidemann, Bill Gibson, Robert Arnone, University of Southern MS, Coastal Studies Inst LSU, Naval Research Laboratory
- Ariake tower: Joji Ishizaka, Kohei Arai, Nagoya University & Saga University
- Blyth NOAH: Rodney Forster, University of Hull, UK
- **Casablanca platform:** Giuseppe Zibordi, Marco Talone, Joint Research Centre of the European Commission



- o Grizzly bay, Lake Okeechobee, South Greenbay: NimaPahlevan, NASA
- Lake Erie: Tim Moore, Steve Ruberg, Menghua Wang, University of New Hampshire & NOAA
- BOUSSOLE
 - David Antoine, Enzo Vellucci (Curtin University, Perth & Laboratoire d'Oceanographie de Villefranche, CNRS)
- MOBY
 - Kenneth Voss & Carol Johnson (University of Miami & NIST)
- SLGO
 - Simon Belanger, Thomas Jaegler & Peter Galbraith (Arctus, Inc & Department of fisheries and Ocean Canada)
- ጳ AWI
 - Astrid Bracher (Alfred-Wegener-Institut)
- IMOS
 - Thomas Schroeder (Integrated Marine Observing System, IMOS)
- BSH
 - Holger Klein (Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie, BSH)
- Proval
 - Edouard Leymarie (Laboratoire d'Oceanographie de Villefranche, CNRS)

5.2.2 OLCI-A

Activities done

- The focus for this time period has been on the rolling archive Non Time Critical (NT) data until the 14th of December 2020.
- Current reporting period is hereafter compared to the reprocessed archive covering the April 2016 to November 2017 period. No issues are reported neither in the extraction process nor in OLCI data.
- All extractions and statistics have been regenerated on the current rolling archive availability including all the extraction since July 2017. The available matchups therefore represent over almost three years of operation.
- At best 481 and 487 matchups at 490 and 560nm respectively are useful for this time period. OLCI's performances remain nominal.



Overall Water-leaving Reflectance performance

Scatter plots and Performance Statistics

Figure 110 to Figure 112 below present the scatterplots and statistics of OLCI FR versus in situ reflectance. Two time periods are considered:

- The reprocessed archive covering the April 2016 to November 2017 time period
- The current reporting period computed on the NT dataset.

The current reporting period statistics are in line with the reprocessed dataset.

Table 7 below summarises the statistics over the reprocessing period while Table 8 provides the same figures for the NT rolling Archive over July 2017 – present. The latter statistics are almost within the requirements (5% accuracy in the blue/green bands) – as demonstrated by the RPD values between 2 and 4.8%, with the noticeable exception of 400 and 412 nm with 9-10%. Performances over the current period appear a bit lower than for the calibration period (except at 412 nm), but of the same order of magnitude.



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 97

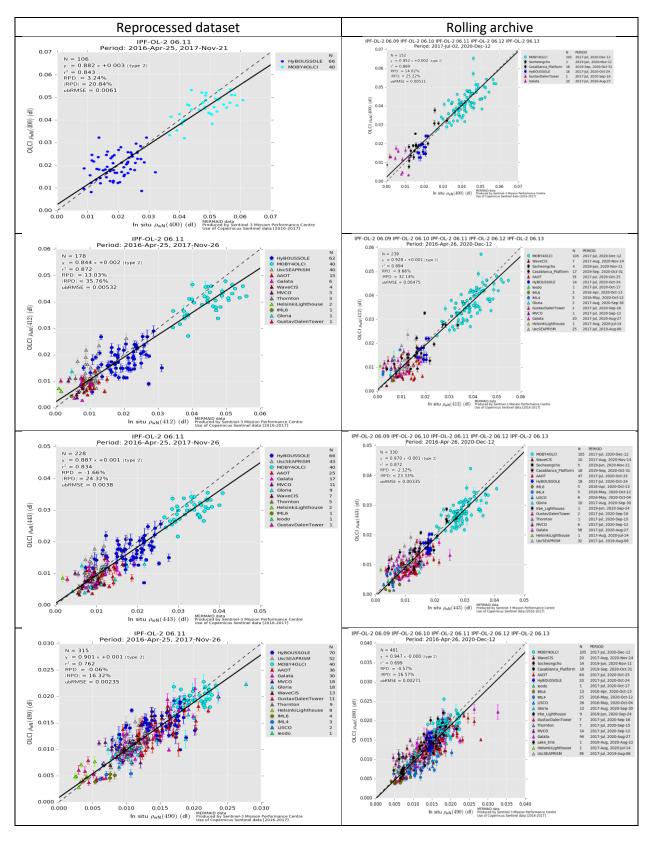


Figure 110: Scatter plots of OLCI-A versus in situ radiometry (FR data). Reprocessed dataset (left), all available data for the current time period (right), Oa1 to Oa4 (400 to 490 nm)



Sentinel-3 MPC

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 98

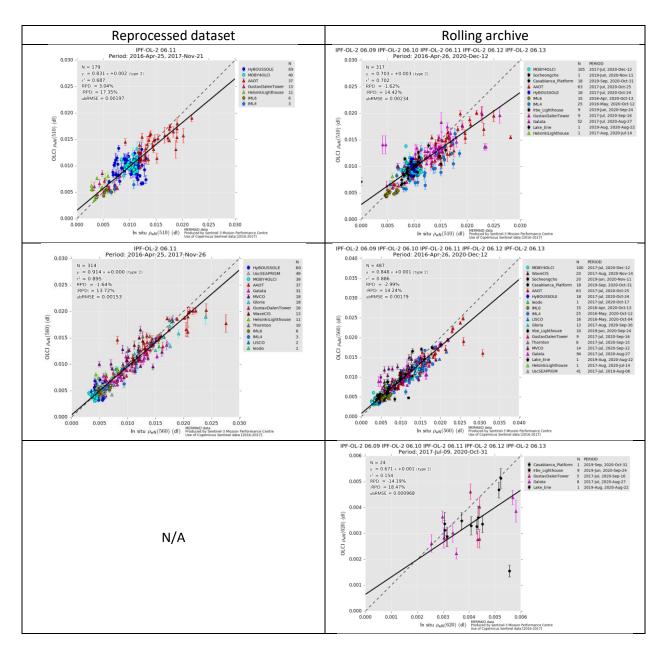
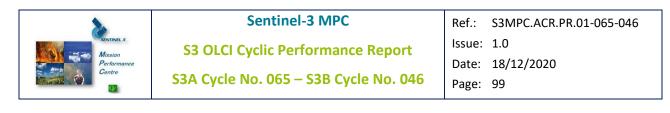


Figure 111: Scatter plots of OLCI-A versus in situ radiometry (FR data). Reprocessed dataset (left), all available data for the current time period (right), Oa5 Oa6 and Oa07 (510, 560 and 620 nm).

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046



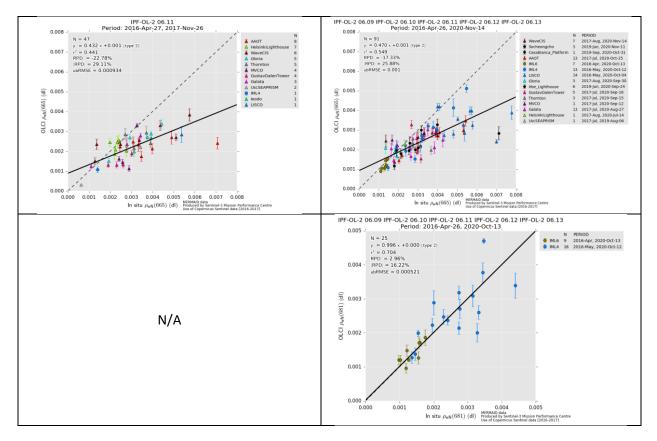


Figure 112: Scatter plots of OLCI-A versus in situ radiometry (FR data). Reprocessed dataset (left), all available data for the current time period (right), Oa8 and Oa10 (665 and 681 nm).

lambda	Ν	RPD	RPD	MAD	RMSE	slope	intercept	r2		
400	105	3.52%	20.74%	-0.0009	0.0062	0.8774	0.0029	0.8435		
412	178	13.03%	35.76%	-0.0011	0.0054	0.8444	0.0021	0.8721		
443	228	-1.66%	24.32%	-0.0013	0.0040	0.8874	0.0006	0.8336		
490	315	-0.06%	16.32%	-0.0004	0.0024	0.9009	0.0009	0.7618		
510	179	3.04%	17.35%	-0.0002	0.0020	0.8314	0.0015	0.6869		
560	314	-1.64%	13.72%	-0.0003	0.0016	0.9139	0.0004	0.8946		
665	47	-22.78%	29.11%	-0.0009	0.0013	0.4325	0.0009	0.4406		

Table 7: OLCI-A FR statistics over REP_006 period; FR data.

lambda	Ν	RPD	RPD	MAD	RMSE	slope	intercept	r2	
400	152	14.02%	25.22%	0.0007	0.0052	0.9525	0.0023		0.87
412	239	9.66%	32.14%	-0.0010	0.0049	0.9285	0.0007		0.89
443	330	-2.12%	23.33%	-0.0011	0.0035	0.9699	-0.0006		0.87
490	481	-4.57%	16.57%	-0.0009	0.0029	0.9467	-0.0002		0.70
510	317	-1.62%	14.42%	-0.0006	0.0024	0.7035	0.0028		0.70
560	487	-2.99%	14.24%	-0.0006	0.0019	0.8480	0.0008		0.89
620	24	-14.19%	18.47%	-0.0007	0.0012	0.6712	0.0006		0.15
665	91	-17.33%	25.88%	-0.0008	0.0013	0.4696	0.0009		0.55
681	25	2.96%	16.22%	0.0000	0.0005	0.9958	0.0000		0.70



Time series

Figure 113 and Figure 114 below present Galata and AAOT in situ and OLCI time series over the June 2017-present period, for the same IPF configuration (from a scientific point of view).

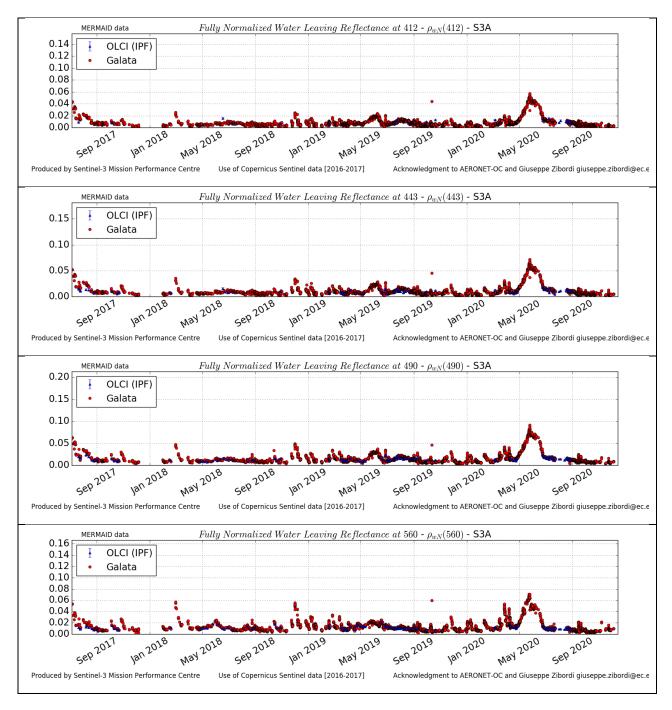


Figure 113: Galata time series over current report period



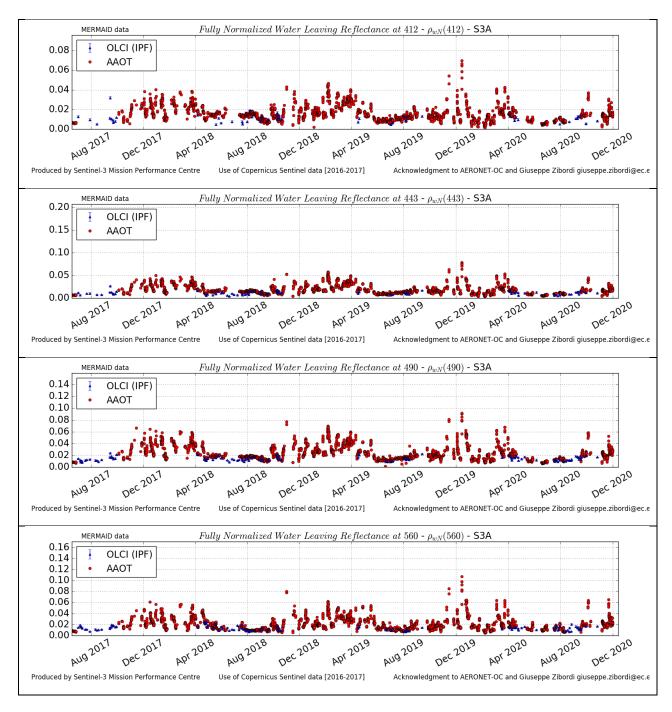


Figure 114: AAOT time series over current report period



5.2.3 OLCI-B

Activities done

- The focus for this time period has been on the rolling archive Non Time Critical (NT) data until the 14th of December 2020.
- All extractions and statistics have been regenerated on the current rolling archive availability including all the extraction since February 2019.
- At best 316 and 334 matchups at 490 and 560nm respectively are useful for this time period.

It must be noted that OLCI-B has no SVC adjustment and as such cannot be expected to provide performances of the same level of quality than OLCI-A.

Overall Water-leaving Reflectance performance

Scatter plots and Performance Statistics

- Figure 115 below presents the scatterplots and statistics of OLCI-B FR versus in situ reflectance.
- Table 9 below summarises the statistics over the current reporting period.



Sentinel-3 MPC

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0

S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Date: 18/12/2020

Page: 103

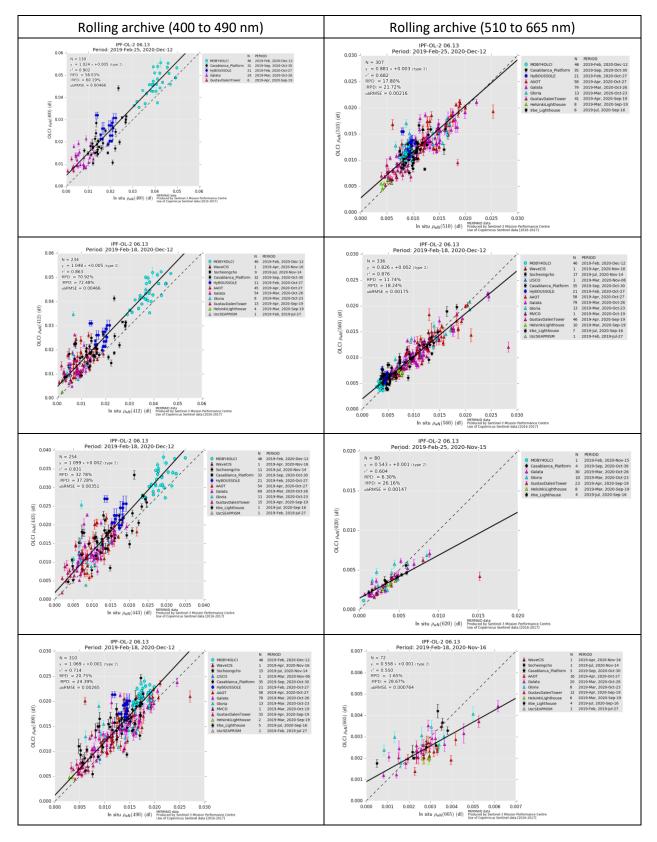


Figure 115: Scatter plots of OLCI-B versus in situ radiometry (FR data). All available data for the current time period.



Sentinel-3 MPC S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Ref.: S3MPC.ACR.PR.01-065-046 Issue: 1.0 Date: 18/12/2020 Page: 104

Table 9: OLCI-B FR statistics over February to August 2020 reporting period.

lambda	Ν	RPD	RPD	MAD	RMSE	slope	intercept	r2	
400	130	58.03%	60.19%	0.0054	0.0072	1.0243	0.0049		0.90
412	234	70.92%	72.48%	0.0055	0.0072	1.0477	0.0047		0.86
443	254	32.78%	37.28%	0.0032	0.0048	1.0988	0.0018		0.83
490	310	20.75%	24.39%	0.0021	0.0034	1.0690	0.0012		0.71
510	307	17.80%	21.72%	0.0014	0.0026	0.8810	0.0027		0.68
560	336	11.74%	18.24%	0.0004	0.0018	0.8259	0.0020		0.88
620	80	6.37%	26.09%	-0.0003	0.0015	0.5434	0.0014		0.60
665	72	-1.65%	28.67%	-0.0004	0.0008	0.5576	0.0009		0.55

Time series

Figure 116 and Figure 117 below present AAOT and GALATA in situ and OLCI-B time series over the current period.



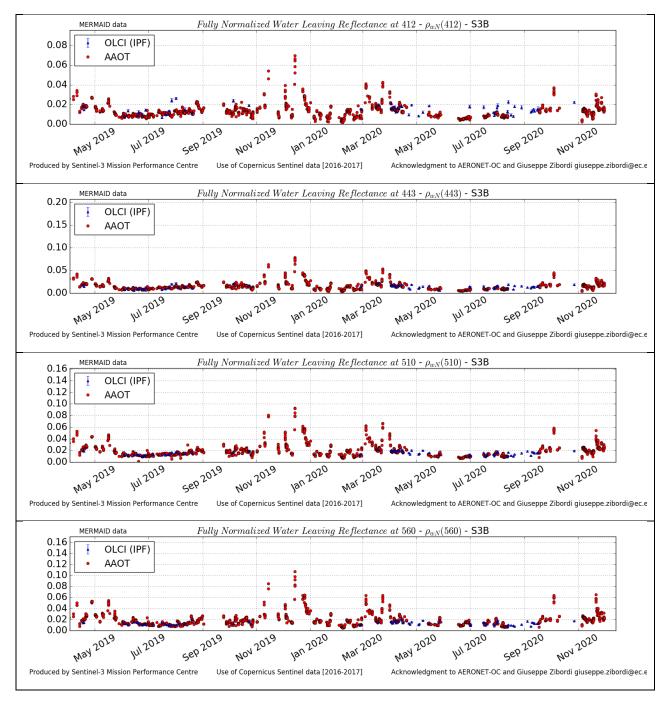


Figure 116: AAOT time series over current report period

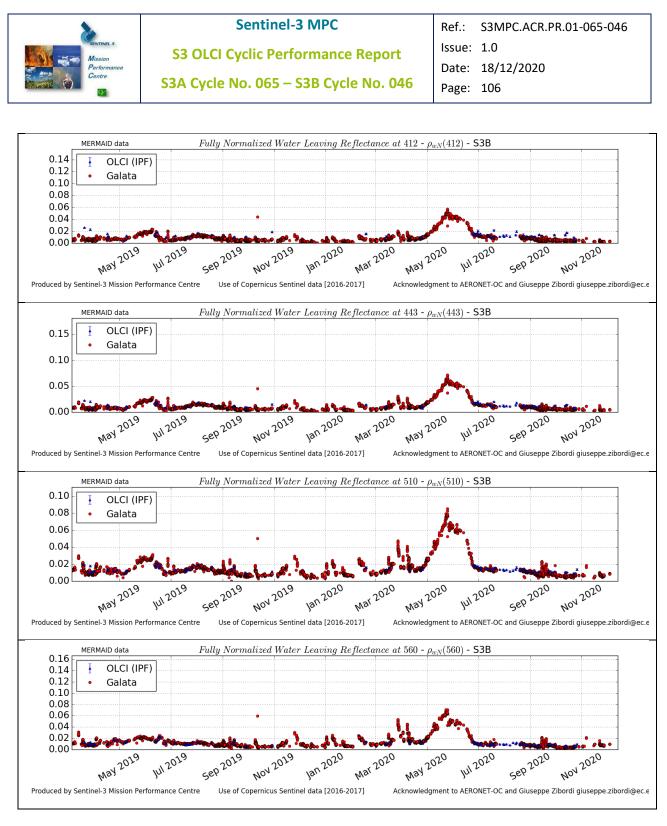


Figure 117: GALATA time series over current report period



5.3 [OLCI-L2WLR-CV-430] – Algorithm performance over spatial and temporal domains

There has been no new result during the cycle. Last figures (cycle 27) are considered valid.

5.4 [OLCI-L2WLR-CV-510 & 520] – Cloud Masking & Surface Classification for Water Products

Please refer to section 4.2 "[OLCI-L2LRF-CV-410 & OLCI-L2LRF-CV-420] – Cloud Masking & Surface Classification for Land Products" where the subject is reported for all underlying surfaces.

5.5 [OLCI-L2WLR-CV530] Validation of Aerosol Product

To validate OLCI's Aerosol product (aerosol optical thickness and Angstroem coefficient at 865nm), we continuously compare it with data from AERONET (Holben et al 1998), AERONET-OC (Zibordi et al 2009) and maritime AERONET (MAN: Smirnow et al 2009). This is an ongoing process, where co-located data are collected and analysed. Since, the AERONET L2 data is stringently quality controlled, it is published with a delay of up to 1 yr. The level 1.5 data, however, is similar to L2 with respect to direct transmission retrievals, including the optical thickness. Hence we are using level 1.5 data. The OLCI-A data is either reprocessed or from after Nov 2017. We show the comparison of non-time-critical full-resolution data (wfr NT). Up to now 860 matchups (OLCI-A) and 360 matchups (OLCI-B) have been identified. For a matchup, the temporal distance between the satellite overpass and the AERONET acquisition was less than 30 minutes. Only OLCI measurements are used for the validation which are cloud-free (according to the standard cloud flags: cloud, cloud margin and cloud ambiguous) in an area of about 10x10 km² around the AERONET acquisition. Further, all recommended flags from Sentinel-3 OLCI Marine User Handbook (EUM/OPS-SEN3/MAN/17/907205) have been applied. Eventually, to reduce the influence of undetected (sub pixel or sub visual) clouds, only matchups have been used, where the standard deviation of the aerosol optical thickness within the 10x10 km² area was less than 0.3. The valid matchups evolved for AERONET and AERONET-OC are shown in Figure 118. The linear correlation of the aerosol optical thickness at 865nm is about 0.7, with a systematic bias of around 0.04 and a systematic overestimation of around 35-40%. The bias corrected root mean squared distance is 0.03. The Angstrom coefficients from maritime AERONET and OLCI are not directly comparable, since they belong to different wavelength ranges (AERONET: 870nm-440nm, OLCI: 865nm - 779nm). Nevertheless, there should be a co-relation. It is remarkable, that the majority of Angstroem coefficients found by OLCI and AERONET is around 1.5, pointing to non-maritime aerosols. The temporal evolution does not show significant changes.



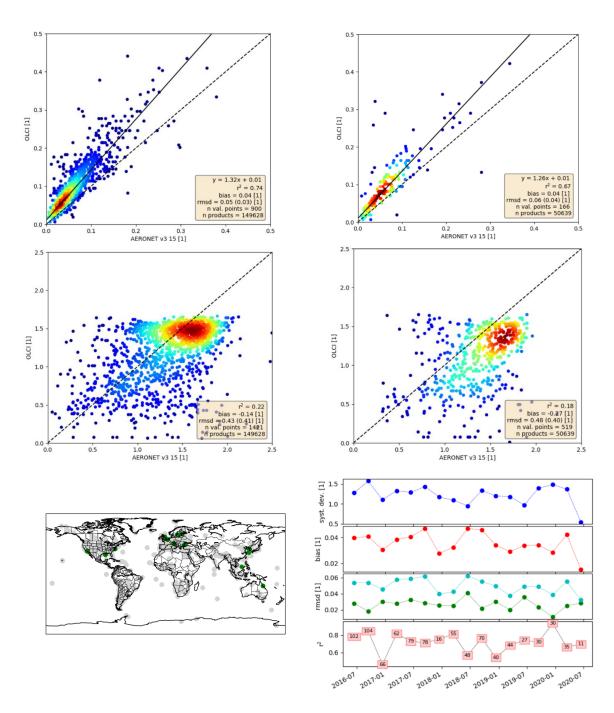


Figure 118: Upper and middle: Scatter plot of the aerosol products (upper: aerosol optical thickness, middle: Angstroem coefficient), derived from OLCI (A left, B right) and AERONET-OC measurements. Lower left: Positions of the AERONET-OC stations. Lower-right: Temporal evolution of different quality measures for the optical thickness derived from OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of matchups)).



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Page: 109

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2020

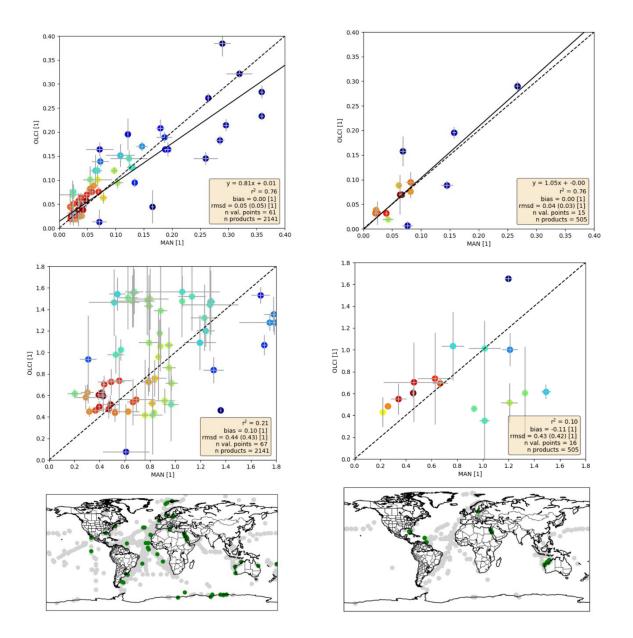


Figure 119: Upper and middle: Scatter plot of the aerosol products (upper: aerosol optical thickness, middle: Angstroem coefficient), derived from OLCI (A left, B right) and MAN measurements. Lower: Positions of the MAN acquisitions (left: OLCI A, right: OLCI B).

The 2100 (OLCI-A) and 500 (OLCI-B) MAN co-locations, acquired during ship cruises, evolved to 60 (OLCI-A) and 12 (OLCI-B) valid matchups, shown in Figure 119. Here the agreement of the aerosol optical thickness at 865nm is better than for the AERONET-OC comparisons. The linear correlation is still 0.75 and the root mean square distance is around 0.05, but no significant bias is found. The Angstrom coefficients does not show a significant correlation, the clustering at 1.5 found for the AERONET-OC matchups, is not perceivable.



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5.6 [OLCI-L2WLR-CV-380] Development of calibration, product and science algorithms

There has been no new development on calibration, product and science algorithms during the cycle.



6 Validation of Integrated Water Vapour over Land & Water

6.1 Preface

The OLCI L2 IWV processor distinguishes between ocean and land surfaces and works very differently above the respective surfaces. Hence, the validation of the IWV product is performed for both surface types independently.

The validation above land is performed via comparisons with ground based GNSS (Ware et al 2000) measurements, water vapor from AERONET (Pérez-Ramírez et al 2014, Holben et al 1998) and water vapor from ground based microwave radiometer at the *Atmospheric Radiation Measurement* (ARM) *Climate Research Facility* of the US Department of Energy ARM. (Turner et al. 2003, Turner et al. 2007).

Above ocean a quantitative verification has been undertaken using AERONET-OC (Zibordi et al 2009).

6.2 Quantitative validation using GNSS - Land

436,000 (OLCI-A) and 128000 (OLCI-B) potential matchups within the period of June 2016 (OLCI-A) January 2019 (OLCI-B) to October 2020 have been analysed yet. The scenes cover high and low elevations; however, the majority of the used SUOMI-NET ground stations are in North and Central America. The global service of SUOMI-NET has been reduced end 2018, thus OLCI-B colocations are rare outside North America. Only OLCI measurements are taken for the validation which are above land and are cloud-free in an area of about 10x10 km² around the GNSS stations. For the cloud detection, the standard L2 cloud-mask has been applied (including the cloud ambiguous and cloud margin flags). The comparison of OLCI and GNSS shows a very high agreement (Figure 120). The correlation between both quantities is 0.98. The root-mean-squared-difference is 2.1-2.2 kg/m². The systematic overestimation by OLCI is 11%-12%. The bias corrected *rmsd* is 1.3-1.4 kg/m². Actually, both instruments behave equal. Figure 121 shows the temporal evolution of OLCI-A's quality measures. Interesting is the strong seasonal pattern of the bias. This belongs to the seasonality of water vapor in North America. It is also partly visible in the systematic overestimation, oscillating between 7 and 12 %. This however could be a sampling effect too.



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

Date: 18/12/2020

Page: 112

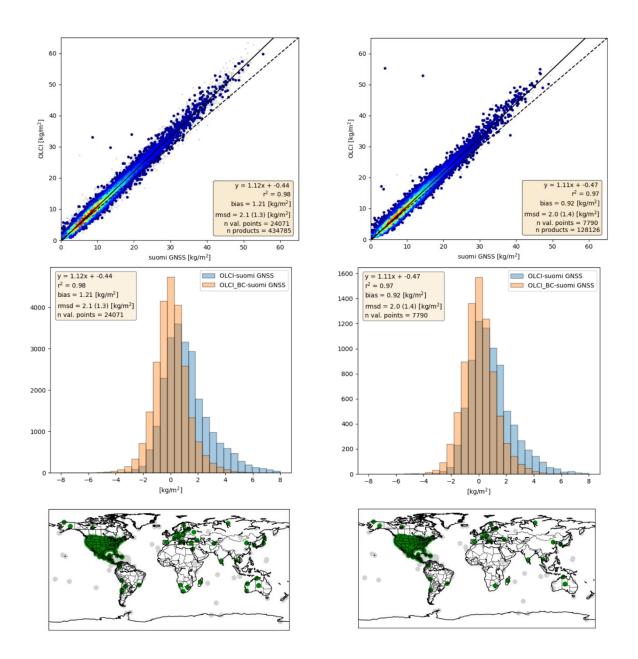
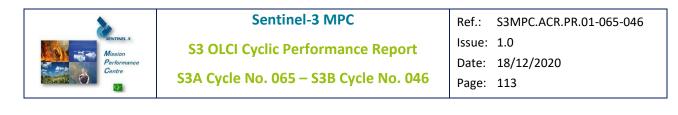


Figure 120: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from SUOMI NET GNSS measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and GNSS (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Positions of the GNSS (A: left, B: right).



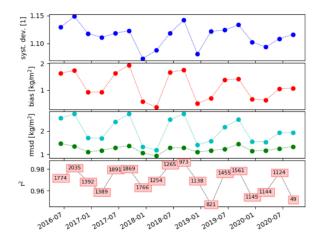


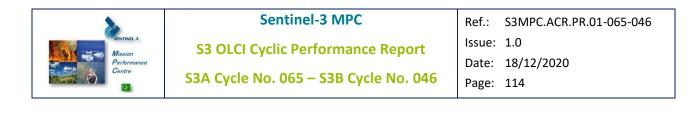
Figure 121: Temporal evolution of different quality measures for OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of matchups))

6.3 Quantitative validation using GNSS - Water

OLCIs IWV above water surfaces has been quantitatively validated via global GNSS measurements too, however with few additional assumptions:

- Since the GNSS stations are usually not directly above water, the closest water pixel (within 1km) is used for the satellite measurement.
- No height correction has been applied to account for the potentially elevated GNSS station.

For OLCI-A 60 matchups remain after filtering (Figure 122). They show a large bias 10 kg/m² and a large scatter (>6 kg/m²). For OLCI-B the number of valid matchups is smaller (14), but all indications point to similar systematic deviations and retrieval noise. This is in accordance with the visual inspection.



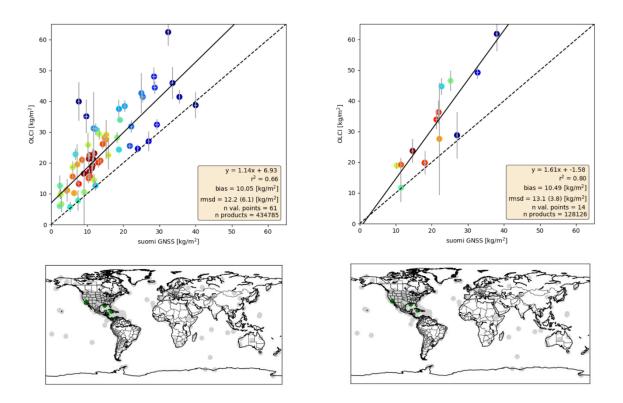


Figure 122: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above ocean and from SUOMI NET GNSS measurements. Lower: Positions of the GNSS (A: left, B: right).

6.4 Quantitative validation using AERONET IWV Retrievals – Land

Aeronet observations, allow the estimation of the total column of water vapour by measuring the extinction of the direct solar irradiance at 900 nm. The used operational algorithm is quite simple and eventually relies on a logarithmic fit (incl. quadratic corrections). AERONET data are better globally distributed than SUOMI-NET. Since, the AERONET L2 is stringently quality controlled, it is published with a delay of up to 1 yr. However, the L1.5 data is similar to L2 with respect to direct transmission retrievals, including the water vapor. Only OLCI measurements are used for the validation which are cloud-free (according to the standard cloud flags: cloud, cloud margin and cloud ambiguous) in an area of about 10x10 km2 around the AERONET acquisition. From the 150000 (OLCI-A) and 505000 (OLCI-B) potential matchups until March 2020, 28000 (OLCI-A) and 9300 (OLCI-B) valid matchups could be used. (Figure 4). The correlation between both quantities is 0.96. The root-mean-squared-difference is 3.7 kg/m². The systematic overestimation by OLCI is 19%. The bias corrected rmsd is ~ 1.8 kg/m2. The systematic deviation between OLCI and AERONET of 19% is significantly larger than the one found for GNSS and ARM (next section). We think that this stems from a dry bias of AERONET and accordingly deficits in the AERONET algorithm, but we have not investigated it deeper.



S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

Page: 115

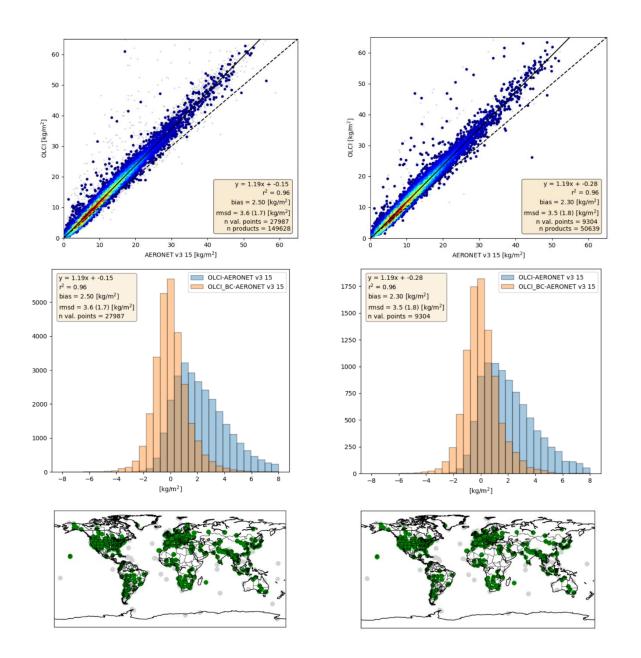


Figure 123: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from Aeronet v.3 L1.5 measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and Aeronet (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Positions of the Aeronet (A matchups: left, B matchups: right).

6.5 Validation by AERONET IWV Retrievals – Ocean

OLCIs IWV above water surfaces has been quantitatively validated via global AERONET-OC measurements. All filter are as for land matchups. The remaining 1860 (OLCI-A) and 670 (OLCI-B) matchups show a large bias of about 9 kg/m², a large scatter (>6 kg/m²) and a systematic overestimation of about 20% (Figure



124). This is in accordance with the visual inspection and with the GNNS matchups (Figure 122) over oceans.

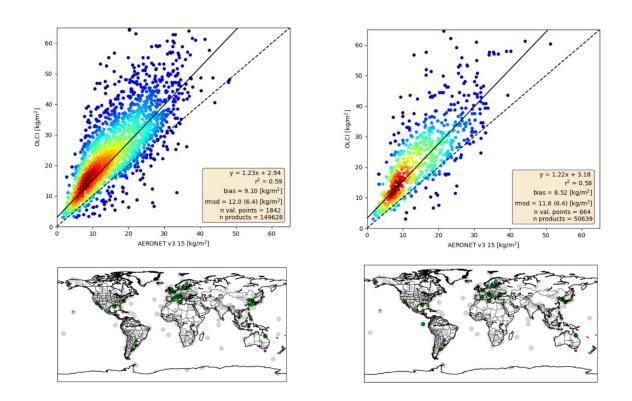


Figure 124: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above ocean and from Aeronet-OC v.3 L1.5 measurements. Lower: Positions of the used Aeronet match ups (A: left, B: right).

6.6 Quantitative validation using ARM MWR IWV Retrievals – Land

Microwave radiometer measurements at the *Atmospheric Radiation Measurement* (ARM) *Climate Research Facility* of the US Department of Energy provides the ground truth with the highest accuracy (0.6 kg/m²). Only the SGP (southern great planes) site provided cloud free measurements. 2900 potential matchups within the period of June 2016 to November 2020 have been analysed yet. Only (OLCI-A) and 900 (OLCI-B) measurements are taken for the validation which are cloud-free in an area of about 10x10 km² around SGP. For the cloud detection, the standard L2 cloud-mask has been applied (including the cloud ambiguous and cloud margin flags), resulting in 148 (OLCI-A) and 49 (OLCI-B) valid matchups. The comparison shows a very high agreement. The correlation between both quantities is 0.99. The root-mean-squared-difference is 1.4 kg/m². The systematic overestimation by OLCI A and B is 8%. The bias corrected *rmsd* is 0.8 kg/m², close to the uncertainty of ARM.



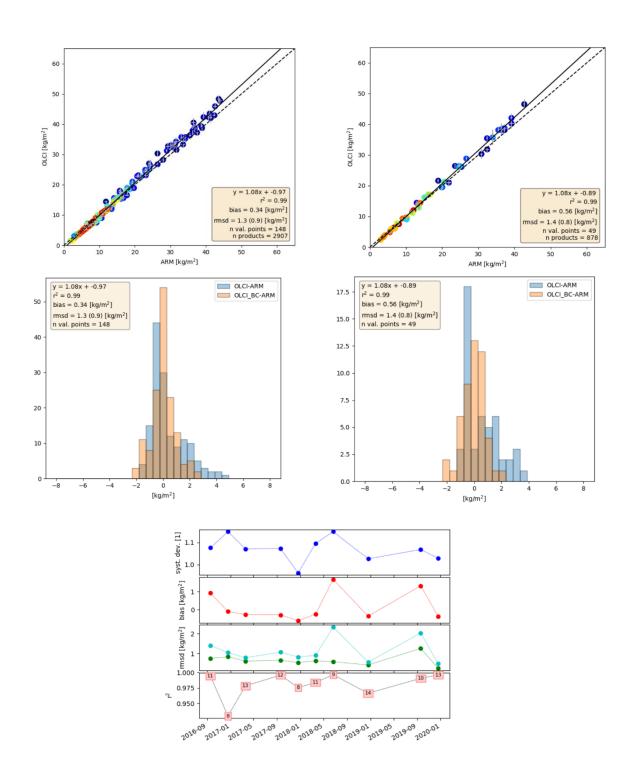


Figure 125: Upper: Scatter plot of the IWV products, derived from OLCI (A left, B right) above land and from ARM microwave measurements. Middle: Histogram of the difference between OLCI (A: left, B: right) and ARM-MWR (blue: original OLCI, orange: bias corrected OLCI). Lower: Temporal evolution of different quality measures for OLCI A (from top to bottom: systematic deviation factor, bias, root mean squared difference (with and without bias correction), explained variance (number in boxes are the numbers of matchups)).



6.7 Summary

- The validation exercise of the OLCI IWV product has been successful. It demonstrates that the product is stable and provides of high quality for retrievals above land surfaces.
- There is a systematic overestimation of around 8%-10% depending on the used ground base reference. The AMR microwave radiometer is regarded as the most accurate method, thus we assume, that the bias is in the order of 9%. Further, we know, that SUOMI-GNSS has a dry-bias of 3% with respect to ARM measurements (Figure 126), which is fully consistent to our observations.
- Retrievals above ocean show an overestimation in transition zones between glint and off glint. This is a clear deficit of the description of the scattering-absorption interaction. Further the IWV has a large wet bias over ocean. A redesigned algorithm will overcome this. The new algorithm is under development.
- The IWV OLCI algorithm uses measurements at 865, 885 and 900 nm, while the bands at 935 and 1040 nm are not used. We expect better results, in particular less noise, if all relevant bands are used.

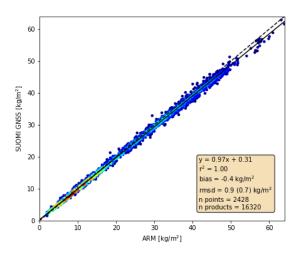


Figure 126: ARM vs. GNSS IWV retrievals for the SGP site for the one-year period between Nov 2017 and Oct 2018. Only cloud free data has been used, according to the liquid/ice water path from the microwave radiometer

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S3 OLCI Cyclic Performance Report

S3A Cycle No. 065 – S3B Cycle No. 046

7 Level 2 SYN products validation

There has been no new result during the cycle. Most recent performance figures can be found in the S3MPC OPT Annual Performance Report - Year 2019 (S3MPC.ACR.APR.005, issue 1.2, 25/06/2020), available on-line at:

https://sentinels.copernicus.eu/web/sentinel/user-guides/sentinel-3-olci/document-library.



8 Events

For OLCI-A, two Radiometric Calibration Sequences have been acquired during Cycle 065:

- So1 sequence (diffuser 1) on 22/11/2020 15:02 to 15:04 (absolute orbit 24823)
- S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 22/11/2020 16:43 to 16:45 (absolute orbit 24824)

For OLCI-B, three Radiometric Calibration Sequences have been acquired during Cycle 046:

- S01 sequence (diffuser 1) on 23/11/2020 18:59 to 19:01 (absolute orbit 13446)
- S05 sequence (diffuser 2) on 23/11/2020 20:40 to 20:42 (absolute orbit 13447)
- So1 sequence (diffuser 1) on 11/12/2020 09:28 to 09:30 (absolute orbit 13697)



9 Appendix A

Other reports related to the Optical mission are:

S3 SLSTR Cyclic Performance Report, S3A Cycle No. 065, S3B Cycle No. 046 (ref. S3MPC.RAL.PR.02-065-046)

All Cyclic Performance Reports are available on MPC pages in Sentinel Online website, at: https://sentinel.esa.int

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