

TROPICS Limb Adjustments

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December 8, 2023 Report to the TROPICS Application Science Team





Why Limb Adjust?

- Imagery, especially water vapor imagery are used routinely by weather forecasters to track the flow and transport of moisture, helping them understand and predict the development of weather systems, and storm intensity
- Microwave water vapor channels have the advantage of much less cloud contamination, however normally the temporal refresh is rather poor which limits it use.
- A constellation of very affordable CubeSats is now feasible (demonstrated by TROPICS) and would provide higher temporal refresh.
- However the instrument is a cross track scanner which has a limb effect that must be adjusted to nadir.
- Limb adjustment efficiently mitigates instrument artifacts.
- A TROPICS Limb Adjustment has been developed based on Goldberg, M.D., D.S. Crosby, and L. Zhou, 2001: The limb adjustment of AMSU-A observations: methodology and validation, Journal Appl. Meteor, 40, 70-83.















Hurricane OTIS













Imagine a constellation of 20 TROPICS-like cubesats



- Limb adjustment works very well for the water vapor channels!!
- Not so well for the atmospheric temperature channels
- Relatively good for the 89Ghz (channel 1), channels 2 3.
- Limb adjustment is an effective way to treat satellite to satellite differences, especially important for a large constellation.



Tropics Weighting Functions

(Temperature Channels (left), Water Vapor Channels (right))



Figure 5. Weighting functions calculated at nadir incidence over a perfectly emissive surface for a standard tropical atmosphere for both a) temperature/imaging and b) water vapor/imaging channels.



ATMS /AMSU Weighting Functions









FIG. 7. AMSU-A channels 4–14 weighting functions for near-nadir (solid curves) and physically estimated (dashed curves) weighting functions from the largest off-nadir angle.



CENTER FOR EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCES AND REMOTE SENSING TECHNOLOGIES





60E

120E

180E

180W

120W

60 W





June to October, 2023. = each fov has a sample size ~ 2.5M

290

TROPICS S03. Ocean 30N to 30 S Latitude





















TROPICS S03. Ocean 30N to 30 S Latitude Asymmetry





Example of N20 minus SNPP ATMS difference before and after final antenna temperature corrections

JGR Atmospheres

Research Article 🕺 Free Access

Performance of Radiative Transfer Models in the Microwave Region

Isaac Moradi 🕰 Mitchell Goldberg, Manfred Brath, Ralph Ferraro, Stefan A. Buehler, Roger Saunders, Ninghai Sun

First published: 06 March 2020 | https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JD031831 | Citations: 5









SNPP VIIRS July 14, 2020

















































Channel 04, 116.5 GHz S06 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023

290

- 280 30N

270 ¥ 260 k

- 240

250 305

EQ

180W

120W

60W







Channel 08, 118.58 GHz S06 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023 230

ò

60E

120E

Channel 05, 117.25 GHz S06 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023









120W

120W

60W

60W

280

- 260 1

- 250

- 240

210.0

180E

30 N - 270

EQ

30S

180W

180W



Channel 06, 117.8 GHz S06 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023

ò

60E

60E

120E

120E

25

- 24

- 24

- 23

23

180E

180E









30N

EQ

305









245

240 월

235

230

180E



















ó

60E

60E

120E

120E

180E



BT [K] 0

Channel 07, 118.24 GHz S06 minus S03 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023









Channel 10, 186.51 GHz S06 minus S03 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023





Ó



60W

60W

180W

180W

120W

120W





Channel 09, 184.41 GHz S06 minus S03 Calflag Limb Adjusted Brightness Temperature July 1 -31, 2023











July 13, 2023

TROPICS full day vs ERA5@ 3 UTC

0.00 2 K

40°S

120°W

-4.00

60°W

-2.00

0°

0.00 K 60°E

2.00

120°E

4.00

180°E

TROPICS full day vs ERA5@ 3 UTC

Summary

- TROPICS data looks promising
- Water vapor channels. satellite to satellite differences are smaller than satellite to ECMWF simulated (esp. upper tropospheric)
- However we need to account for satellite to satellite differences, limb adjustment is one approach looks very promising for the water vapor channels. Also we should look at observed minus analysis calculated especially for the temperature channels.
- Collaborate to get feedback from NWS forecasters
- How do we maximize the utilization of the water vapor channels?
 - For both weather and climate applications.
 - We should keep the water vapor bias corrections free of NWP.
- Limb adjustment coefficients are available.
- More comparison with ECMWF ERA5 and with ATMS
- Limb adjusted imagery should be considered as a "EDR" imagery product.