GERB calibration evolution – a cross-study with CERES

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GERB (Geostationary Earth Radiation Budget) are a series of broadband instruments:

TOTAL - (UV – Far Infrared), (0.35\(\mu\)m to >150\(\mu\)m); SW - Quartz filter, (<4\(\mu\)m)
Nominal observation region - 60°N to 60°S, 60°E to 60°W
Linear array of 256 N-S detectors, taking 5½ minutes for a full scan

Raw pixel level radiance ---> Level 1.5 NANRG products
Processing, incl. higher res. METEOSAT imager SEVIRI, ---> Level 2 products
GERB-1 ---> METEOSAT-9  (April 2007-present)

Handover to GERB-3 planned in Feb 2013, but delayed due to GERB-3 despin mirror jam.

*UPDATE* 30th Apr 2015 GERB-3 resumed normal operation
Aim of Study

TO DETERMINE CHANGES TO THE GERB CALIBRATION WHILST IN ORBIT

- Known change in spectral response across SW region

-----> CROSS COMPARISON OF GERB PRODUCTS WITH CERES SSF EDITION 3A (FM1, FM2, FM3, FM4)

- Both use Denton UV enhanced silver-coated mirrors
- Both use a quartz filter in the SW
- Monitor GERB/CERES SW radiance ratio through time

Study compares all products with each CERES instrument for both LW and SW, however this talk will focus on the comparison between the GERB-2 HR (9x9km) product and the CERES instrument FM2 for June 04-06.
Data Matching

• **ANGULAR**
  
  -> Co-angular criteria  -  Observation angles must be < 8 °

• **TEMPORAL**
  
  -> Time of CERES observation must be within 7½ minutes

• **SPATIAL**
  
  • GERB pixels with centres within a CERES PSF circle
  • GERB radiance match as weighted Gaussian mean of these pixels

• **ADDITIONAL CRITERIA**
  
  -> Viewing zenith angle (VZA) < 60 °; Solar zenith angle (SZA) < 60 °;
  -> Ocean sun-glint angle > 25 °; GERB and CERES radiances > 0 W sr⁻¹ m⁻²
Some Initial Considerations

Earth split geographically into $3 \times 3^\circ$ regions. A GERB/CERES SW radiance ratio is calculated for each region as $\frac{\sum \text{Radiance}_{\text{GERB,region}}}{\sum \text{Radiance}_{\text{CERES,region}}}$.

Completely Overcast Observations

June 2004

June 2005

June 2006

Completely Clear Sky Observations, June 2004

GERB/CERES Radiance Ratio

No. Bin Observations

- Different areas of matching each year
- Must be careful to ensure sufficient matches for any sampling so as not to calculate a representative ratio using samples of drastically different numbers
Some Initial Considerations II

Ratios are calculated as \( \Sigma (\text{Radiance}_{\text{GERB,scene}}) / \Sigma (\text{Radiance}_{\text{CERES,scene}}) \)

Errors are calculated as \( 2\sigma / \sqrt{N-1} \), where \( \sigma \) is the standard deviation of the average daily ratios, and \( N \) is the no. days.

GERB/CERES radiance ratio and evolution expectedly dependent on scene...

...However, is separation by scene sufficient to apply a calibration update?
Some Initial Considerations III

2D Histogram plot - Completely Overcast June 2004

GERB/CERES Radiance Ratio for June 04,05,06 calculated from linear regressions

Linear regression: \( R^2 \approx 1 \), Intercept < ± 0.1

Considering linear regressions performed on different ranges of GERB radiances above...

\[
> 150 \text{ W sr}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{CERES} = 1.187 \times \text{GERB} - 71.105
\]

\[
< 150 \text{ W sr}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{CERES} = 1.430 \times \text{GERB} - 13.129
\]

...illustrates that within a particular scene the GERB/CERES radiance ratio still has an inherent dependence on the radiance.

--- Can a theoretical analysis help us find a good variable to separate by?
**Theoretical Spectral Analysis**

**GERB assumed spectral response** $\phi(\lambda)$ and **changed response** $\phi'(\lambda)$

- Alter GERB spectral response at the shortest wavelengths
- Multiply $\phi(\lambda)$ by $e^{a(\lambda-0.5)}$, where $a = -4\ln(0.4)$, for $\lambda < 0.5\mu m$

(following spectral response evolution study of CERES in Matthews et al. (2005))

Use a database of 750 simulated spectral radiance curves $L(\lambda)$ using SBDART for a range of surface types (incl. use of the NASA ASTER spectral library) (thanks to N. Clerbaux for access)

For each scene, for each SZA 0:10:60, VZA 0:5:60, RAA (Relative Azimuth) 0:10:180, calculate:

- Unfiltered radiance: $\int L(\lambda)d\lambda$
- Assumed filtered radiance: $\int L(\lambda)\phi(\lambda)d\lambda$
- Changed filtered radiance: $\int L(\lambda)\phi'(\lambda)d\lambda$
- Unfiltering Factors $\alpha_{\text{assumed}}, \alpha_{\text{changed}} = \text{Unfiltered Radiance/Filtered Radiance}$
Predominantly Cloudy Scenes

*THEORETICAL*

- Simulated change in GERB spectral response increases the associated unfiltering factor at all radiances
- Percentage change in unfiltering factor appears to scale linearly with the assumed unfiltering function
- Spread is due to variations in viewing geometry
- Does this linear relationship hold for all scenes plotted together?
- Linear relationship holds when all scenes are plotted together.

- However, for use with real-world observations, only CERES unfiltered SW data is readily available currently.

- Perform same theoretical analysis with a CERES SW-like response:

\[ \phi_{CERES}(\lambda) = \phi_{GERB}(\lambda)^{2/5} \times \text{Quartz Filter Transmission} \]

- Linear relationship holds for all scenes, however there is a larger spread due to a smaller range in \( \alpha_{CERES, assumed} \).
Application to Observations

\[ \alpha_{\text{CERES, observed}} \text{ vs. GERB unfiltered radiance, June 2005} \]

In the real data, there is a bifurcation at unfiltering factors below 1.32, that affects the analysis significantly, and is not present in any of the above theoretical simulations.

CERES unfiltering factor vs. GERB/CERES individual match ratios, plotted as a 2D histogram.
CERES unfiltering factor split into 71 bins 1.285:0.0025:1.46

GERB/CERES bin ratio calculated \( \frac{\Sigma (\text{Radiance}_{\text{GERB,bin}})}{\Sigma (\text{Radiance}_{\text{CERES,bin}})} \)

Error bars are calculated as a 2\( \sigma \) daily sample within each bin

- \( 1.32 < \alpha_{\text{CERES}} < 1.42 \); Consistent 2% decrease of the ratio between Jun 04 and Jun 05. Between Jun 05 and Jun 06 there is little evidence of any significant shift in this region. Change does not scale with unfiltering factor, suggesting a SW gain factor rather than a spectral darkening.
- \( \alpha_{\text{CERES}} < 1.32 \); Likely due to time-varying CERES unfiltering factor (not accounted at present)
- \( \alpha_{\text{CERES}} > 1.42 \); Region consisting of very dark scenes requires further work.
Conclusions/Discussion

• Theoretical study confirms that unfiltering factor is a better variable than either radiance or scene for quantifying the effect on the data of an evolving instrument spectral response

• Initial results show that application of this technique to study real data is promising and has highlighted several interesting features for further investigations

• To put these changes in context, and distinguish trends due to instrument changing response from comparison noise, this study will be extended across the full GERB record utilizing matched radiances from FM1, FM2 and FM3. Studies are also planned for limited periods to compare the GERB and CERES unfiltering factors.

• Plan to use these comparisons to derive a correction to the unfiltered GERB radiance as a function of the GERB unfiltering factor.
END
Application to Observations (cont.)

CERES unfiltering factor vs. GERB/CERES individual match ratios, plotted as a 2D histogram. The colour indicates the number of matches in each bin, and the colour bar is (significantly) saturated at 250.

- Can notice the bifurcation point
- Numbers highly concentrated into a small fraction of the CERES unfiltering factor range
- Similar numbers of matches in both years, so there is a noticeable effect of the different viewing regions between the two years
Application to Observations

**ALL SCENES, *THEORETICAL***

\(\alpha_{\text{CERES, assumed}}\) vs. CERES unfiltered radiance

\(\alpha_{\text{GERB, assumed}}\) vs. GERB unfiltered radiance

\(\alpha_{\text{CERES, assumed}}\) vs. GERB unfiltered radiance

\(\alpha_{\text{CERES, observed}}\) vs. GERB unfiltered radiance, June 2005

In the real data, there is a bifurcation at unfiltering factors below 1.32, that affects the analysis significantly, and is not present in any of the above theoretical simulations.
Variation with viewing geometry for one cloud scene

- The thickness to the curves of $\alpha$ vs. radiance on the previous slide is due to variation of $\alpha$ with viewing geometry.
- This variation is small compared to the variation of $\alpha$ with radiance.

$\alpha_{\text{assumed}}$ vs. unfiltered radiance for ocean scenes

- Axes restricted
- $\alpha_{\text{assumed}} > 2$ and unfiltered radiances > 300 W m$^{-2}$ sr$^{-1}$ can be removed by increasing the threshold on the ocean sun glint angle.
- Similar structure to cloudy scenes – do we recover a similar linear relationship between the percentage change in the unfiltering factor and the assumed unfiltering factor for all scenes?
GERB 3 status

Successfully commissioned and running well but suffered a mirror stopping event 27\textsuperscript{th} April 2013 soon after starting operational life.

Numerous restart attempts and recovery operations performed over the next 2 years all failed to produce any discernible movement in the mirror. The mirror was finally restarted on 11\textsuperscript{th} February 2015 and normal operations resumed 30\textsuperscript{th} April 2015 (after eclipse season).

– Probable root cause: bearing debris coupled with a weakness in the ‘upgraded and improved’ GERB 3 mirror control system on start-up after a power cycle. Possible additional contributor of non-optimal control circuit tuning resulting in reduced available maximum torque for GERB 3 or particularly bad bearing condition considered possible but not confirmed.

– GERB 3 operating procedures altered to minimise future risk, but further running experience required to determine optimal response to future events.

– GERB 4 modified to address startup weakness of upgraded mirror control system.
GERB 3 Normal mode data

- Raw data TOTAL and FILTER from resumption of NORMAL operations on 30/04/2015
- Lunar and CALMON scans performed pending assessment
June 2004

Ocean = 310178
Dark vegetation = 37819
Bright vegetation = 77327
Dark desert = 14372
Bright desert = 37483

June 2005

Ocean = 213422
Dark vegetation = 38769
Bright vegetation = 52758
Dark desert = 12959
Bright desert = 19248

June 2006

Might be worth redoing analysis only for boxes where there are a minimum amount of points within-

Or remove point from analysis if point falls within a box with outside 0.8-1.2...
Although there is a noticeable darkening with VZA, the cumulative effect of adding observations up from 0 stays consistent from roughly 40 degrees upwards.

Cumulative distribution (%), i.e. when considering 0-5, 0-10, 0-15 VZA etc. --- roughly even spread of observations in each 5 degree VZA bin.

FM2 radiance ratios calculated as <all gerb observations> / <all cere observations>. Standard deviations calculated from the daily radiance ratios, as before.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>04</th>
<th>05</th>
<th>06</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0380 ± 0.0035</td>
<td>1.0235 ± 0.0039</td>
<td>1.0227 ± 0.0051</td>
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2 degree plots (0.8-1.2 scale), <all gerb in bin>/<all ceres in bin>

2 degree plots (0.8-1.2 scale), ceres radiance

2004 gerb vza
2004 matched direction of obs

Smaller criteria biases towards the edges of the matched domain – possible cause for increase in SD.