OMPS SDR Release, Beta Data Quality

Recommended Cautions for Data Users

The JPSS Algorithm Engineering Review Board has reviewed the OMPS Earth Viewing Sensor Data Record products and set the Data Quality attribute to Beta. Beta quality is defined as:

* Early release product
* Initial calibration applied
* Minimally validated and may still contain significant errors (rapid changes can be expected)
* Available to allow users to gain familiarity with data formats and parameters
* Product is not appropriate as the basis for quantitative scientific publications, studies and applications

The Board recommends that users be aware of certain specific data product characteristics. The product caveats for OMPS at this time are:

1. The OMPS NM and NP SDR processing was designed to automatically generate dark current estimates. This is being done less frequently than originally planned. Since the dark current is changing, these estimates may be inaccurate. We will begin providing weekly characterizations from direct analysis by a human-in-the-loop at some point in the future.
2. The Solar spectra currently provided in the OMPS NM and NP Earth View SDRs are synthetic proxies created from high-resolution reference solar spectra convolved with prelaunch bandpass measurements. These will be replaced with on-orbit OMPS-measured spectra, from preliminary analysis, in the June/July 2012 time frame. More accurate Day One solar spectra will be provided at a later date.
3. The wavelength scale for the OMPS NM and NP for both Earth and Solar spectra are based on pre-launch measurements. We are studying spectral features (e.g., Fraunhofer lines) to verify/characterize the on-orbit behavior. Initial indications are that potential adjustments to the wavelength scales will be at the Ångstrom level.
4. While the OMPS NP South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA) flag is working well in identifying regions with higher frequency of charged particles, we expect to optimize it as more results become available and are analyzed.
5. Out-of-band stray light is present in the OMPS NP measurements at the units percent level. The stray light was characterized on the ground. We are designing and testing stray light corrections with the in-orbit data for future implementation.
6. The CCD smear corrections can be affected by charged particles. This has been observed to create a bias, albeit infrequently, in the smear corrections for an individual row. We are developing corrections and screening to handle this complication.
7. The non-linearity corrections for both the OMPS NP and OMPS NM used in the SDR processing are derived from the prelaunch characterization. In-orbit measurements show negligible changes, so updates to these tables are low priority.
8. OMPS NM SDR product dimensions allow for a future change in the horizontal resolution to much smaller FOVs. Most of the parameters in an HDF granule have spatial dimensions of 105 cross-track by 15 along-track. Currently, with the nadir FOV size set at 50×50 KM2, only the first 35 cross-track by 5 along-track cells are used to store actual measurements, so eight ninths of the values will be zeros or fill values for a normal case. The OMPS NP SDR products allow for a future change in the horizontal resolution as well, from one 250×250 KM2 FOV to twenty-five 50×50KM2 FOVs. Currently only the first cross-track by first along-track cell contains an actual measurement, so twenty-four twenty-fifths of the cells contain zeroes or fill values.