# **Evaluation of Geostationary Lightning Mapper** (GLM) Navigation Performance with the INR Performance Assessment Toolset (IPATS)

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#### Outline

- GOES/Geospatial Lightning Mapper overview
- IPATS and INR evaluation overview
  - General overview
  - GLM-specific challenges and optimizations
- Post-processing quality filtering
- Example results and conclusions





Image from NASA SPORT (Short-term Prediction Research and Transition Center; https://weather.msfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/sportPublishData.pl?dataset=goeseastglm&product=group&loc=conus

#### GOES-R series earth-observing payloads overview





ABI "GeoColor" image with GLM overlay from 6/14/18; Animation from NOAA/NESDIS Regional and Mesoscale Meteorology Branch (RAMMB): http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/ramsdis/

|                       | ABI – Level 1B  | GLM – Level 1β                        |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Spectral              | 16 bands, 0.4 μm to 14 μm   | Single band (777 nm)                  |
| Spatial<br>Resolution | Fixed Grid (FG) coordinate system with sample spacing of 14, 28, or 56 $\mu$ rad (0.5, 1, or 2 km at nadir)   | 8 km at nadir, 14 km at edge of field |
| Coverage              | <ul> <li>Full Disk (FD): 17.4 deg diameter centered at nadir</li> <li>CONUS: Rectangular, 5000 km EW x 3000 km NS</li> <li>Mesoscale: Rectangular, 1000 km EW x 1000 km NS</li> </ul> | Near full disk                        |
| Temporal              | FD: 5 or 15 min; CONUS: 5 min; Mesoscale: 30 sec  | 150 sec                               |
| Acquisition           | Scan  | Stare                                 |

GLM Level 1B product is navigated events; level "1 beta" "background images" acquired largely for calibration

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#### **GLM INR Assessment**

- The formal GLM level 1B product is navigated lightning events
- Camera alignment errors are assessed using coastline matching (coastline identification in GLM background images, misregistration assessment between detected coastlines and coastline database)
- Background images themselves do not have formal image navigation and registration (INR) requirements
- The GOES-R flight project performs independent verification and validation of the INR performance of ABI and GLM
  - GLM INR is assessed via the background images after "downsampling" by the ground system
  - While the background images do not have formal INR requirements, their navigation accuracy is generally considered to be a helpful proxy for event navigation accuracy (i.e., background image INR accuracy is suggestive of event navigation accuracy but does not constitute a formal navigation accuracy validation)

navigation

Formal

Informal assessment (IPATS)

#### **IPATS evaluation modes**

- Navigation (NAV) error (ABI & GLM)
  - Difference between location of pixel in data product and true location
- Frame-to-frame registration (FFR) error (ABI)
  - Relative navigation error of corresponding pixels of same band in consecutive images
- Swath-to-swath registration (SSR) error (ABI)
  - Relative navigation error of two neighboring pixels on opposite sides of image swath boundary
- Channel-to-channel registration (CCR) error (ABI)
  - Relative navigation error of corresponding pixels of different bands in the same frame
- Within-frame registration (WIFR) error (ABI)
  - Difference between radial separation of two pixels on the FG and their true angular separation
  - Computed from ABI NAV measurements

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#### **IPATS** image registration by correlation



Modified from De Luccia et al., 2016

- For NAV, shifted sub-image is cropped from ABI or GLM image, stationary sub-image is truth map:
  - High contrast Landsat 8 derived chip projected to FG for ABI NAV
  - ABI image for GLM NAV, with GLM background image resampled to fixed grid
- For more detail on IPATS, see De Luccia et al., 2016, SPIE Asia Pacific Remote Sensing

Common error estimation concept for all evaluation modes except ABI WIFR

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#### **GLM-specific optimizations**

- Downsampled GLM background images:
  - Have very coarse resolution w.r.t. ABI images (~224 μrad vs 28 μrad for ABI B3)
  - Lack regular pixel spacing
- To perform navigation w.r.t. ABI data, the images must be on a common pixel grid
- IPATS has incorporated an irregular grid resampling algorithm
  - GLM and ABI images are resampled to a common ("ABI-like") pixel grid at user-specified sampling; GLM NAV baseline resamples to native ABI resolution
  - Careful optimization of resampling factors and evaluation window size has been performed

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Irregular grid resampler concept: GLM grid (every 10 pixels illustrated)

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Irregular grid resampler concept: ABI-like (regular) grid

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Irregular grid resampler concept. Solid blue lines represent GLM pixels, dotted black lines the regular ABIlike grid. A local search algorithm assigns GLM pixels to resampled pixels

#### **Distribution of IPATS correlation windows**

- IPATS correlations are performed for a number of small image subsets ("windows") across the image extents
- Windows drawn from the location of the Landsat-based chips used for ABI NAV and a regular grid of windows
- Windows are enabled and disabled for various evaluation modes
- GLM-specific optimizations included tailored window sizes, and disabling of windows over water and close to the edge of the disk/GLM field of regard



GLM evaluation windows for the 89.5° W "checkout" orbit. Background image source: NASA

#### **GLM Datasets**

- 2 3-day sets, full 24 hours, denser sampling during illuminated periods
  - 28 Sep 2017: 2017, DOY 260-262 (9/17-9/19)
  - 31 Oct 2017: 2017, DOY 294-296 (10/21-10/23)
- Processed to downsampled background image format via offline process (Adam Milstein, MIT/LL, Donald Chu, NASA GSFC)
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**IPATS results quality filtering** 

- Correlation results from all windows span a range of "quality" levels
- Many windows exhibit reduced performance due to factors such as varied illumination conditions, variable scene content or cloud motion, errors in the correlation process, etc.
- Filtering in post-processing attempts to emphasize correlation results where misregistration is due to real navigation offsets as opposed to such other competing factors
- GLM NAV uses four parameters to perform quality filtering. The baseline configuration includes carefully tuned thresholds for each parameter; since GLM NAV is a relative assessment (no absolute truth), optimization trades reduced dispersion against sample size
  - Solar zenith angle (reject low sun conditions); SZA
  - Analytic measurement uncertainty: parameterization of false misregistration resulting from noise sources described above for otherwise perfectly registered images; aMU
  - Clear sky ratio: Ratio of clear/probably clear to cloudy/probably cloudy pixels based on ABI level 2 cloud mask product; CSR
  - 9\*median absolute deviation extreme outlier rejection; MAD

### Progressive application of quality filtering: Unfiltered

- Scatterplot of x vs y errors for the 28 Sep 2017 (training) set
- All correlations in the dataset surviving the indicated filter are illustrated
- Error indicates the relative NAV error for the GLM window w.r.t. ABI "truth"





- ٠ vs y errors for the 28 Sep 2017 (training) set
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#### Progressive application of quality filtering: SZA + AMU + CSR SZA < 75°, AMU < 2.52 µrad, CSR > 250 (25% clear) 100 Scatterplot of x ٠ vs y errors for the 28 Sep 50 2017 (training) set Refined Error Y (µrad) All correlations • 0 in the dataset surviving the n = 21308 indicated filter are illustrated -50 Error indicates ٠ the relative NAV error for -100 the GLM window w.r.t. ABI "truth" -150 -150 -100 -50 0 50 100 Refined Error X (µrad)



Bimodal distribution results from a known artifact of the GLM focal plane

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#### **Results for example datasets**

Summary results capturing properties of error distributions, as illustrated in previous charts

|   | 28 Sep 2017 | 31 Oct 2017 | 28 Sep 2017 | 31 Oct 2017 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | N Hem       | N Hem       | S Hem       | S Hem       |
| σ                                       | 11.2        | 10.0        | 11.3        | 12.1        |
| $\sigma_{v}$                            | 9.5         | 9.5         | 15.4        | 14.3        |
| Mean X                                  | -18.1       | -14.0       | -22.4       | -27.2       |
| Mean Y                                  | 12.7        | 11.4        | -49.8       | -54.1       |
| <del>X</del>   + 3σ <sub>x</sub>        | 51.8        | 44.2        | 56.4        | 63.5        |
| $ \overline{\mathbf{Y}}  + 3\sigma_{v}$ | 41.2        | 39.8        | 96.0        | 96.9        |
| n ,                                     | 15420       | 10322       | 5764        | 2062        |
| # images                                | 186         | 166         | 175         | 141         |

All shaded rows in units of microradians (µrad) Results are after quality filtering and hemisphere stratification

#### **Temporal trends**

One point per GLM background image



- NAV estimates are relatively stable over the analysis period
- Expected trend in dispersion with sample size
- General correlation in sample size with illumination (time)
  - Irregular nature likely due to variable temporal offset (interand intra-image) between ABI and GLM images

#### Discussion

- Error "metric" of mean +  $3\sigma$  is ~40-50 µrad (~100 µrad NS in S Hem)
- Navigation accuracy requirement for navigated lightning events is 112 µrad
- IPATS NAV results for GLM background images are suggestive of NAV accuracy of lightning events
- Results suggest GLM NAV compliance with L1B requirement
- Sample size issues (note discrepancy between 28 Sep and 31 Oct sets) are likely due to cloud cover differences; sample size issues are a focus of ongoing research

|                              | 28 Sep 2017 | 31 Oct 2017 | 28 Sep 2017 | 31 Oct 2017 |
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#### Sample size issues

- Bars indicate total number of correlations per 24 hour period (ending 23:59 UTC) after quality filtering
- Fewer samples in S Hem are observed consistently
- Significant reduction in sample size for 31 Oct 2017 set
- Sample size issues are under active research; may be linked to cloud cover/distribution in this case



Insufficient sample size leads to poor statistical INR assessment

#### Conclusions

- Functional independent GLM NAV evaluation with IPATS has been demonstrated.
- Baseline quality filtering is effective at clarifying true INR performance.
- Filtered results from the two datasets considered herein suggest compliance with GLM NAV requirements.
- Sample size issues are the focus of ongoing research efforts.
- Analysis of GOES-17 GLM are forthcoming.



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# **Backup Materials**

# CSR Histograms











CSR Histograms, S Hem



