

Calibration and validation of the level 2 data of the Korean OSMI ocean color satellite

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Abstract: A comparison was made between the chlorophyll *a* and suspended solid (SS) retrievals from OSMI and SeaWiFS sensor to chlorophyll *a* and SS values determined with the standard method during the NFRDI's research cruises. The percentage of organic and inorganic materials from the SS was calculated to study the contribution of turbid water in the northern part of the East China Sea. The open sea waters in the Kuroshio regions of the East China Sea showed relatively higher concentration of volatile SS. However, towards the northwestern part of the East China Sea, the situation became much more optically different with the non-volatile SS from the Yangtze river and the sea bottom sources in the sea in winter and spring seasons. Furthermore, in order to indirectly detect low salinity water with high turbidity, which related to the Yangtze river using remote sensed data from the satellites, a comparison between the results of the band ratio (nLw 490nm/nLw 555nm) of SeaWiFS (OSMI) and the distribution of low salinity around the Jeju Island was presented.

Keywords: OSMI, SeaWiFS, Calibration and Validation of Satellite data.

1. Introduction

The Korean Multi-Purpose Satellite (KOMPSAT-1) with the capability of monitoring ocean color was launched in December 21, 1999. The Ocean Scanning Multi-Spectral Imager (OSMI) is the first Korean ocean monitoring space-borne instrument on KOMPSAT-1 satellite developed by the Korean Aerospace Research Institute (Cho *et al.*, 1998). The visible bands of OSMI are very similar to the bands of SeaWiFS on Orbview-2 satellite.

Remote sensing studies typically involve the mapping of concentrations of a given variable in water bodies using radiance collected by a sensor placed above the water surface. Quantification of concentrations is usually achieved by the development of empirical or semi-empirical models correlating the radiance (or reflec-

tance), as measured by remote sensor, with the 'ground truth' data (Yacobi *et al.*, 1995).

The spectral area used for remote sensing in Case I waters is limited to the blue and green range (Gordon and Morel, 1983). Attempts to apply Case I-derived algorithms for Case II productive waters have demonstrated their limitation when applied to measurements of waters with high concentrations of Chl and/or suspended and dissolved organic matter (GKSS, 1986).

Suh *et al.* (2001) studied the relationship between *in situ* chlorophyll measurements onboard the Korean NFRDI's ship and the estimated chlorophyll from the SeaWiFS satellite data using the ocean color chlorophyll 2 algorithm (OC 2; O'Reilly *et al.*, 1998) in the region of the northern East China Sea.

Suh *et al.* (2001) determined the total suspended solid mass, and compared it with SeaWiFS (OSMI) spectral band ratio (nLw 490nm/ nLw 555nm). As one moves even closer to the northwestern part of the East China Sea, the situation becomes much more optically complicated, not only due to higher concentration of phytoplankton, but also due to suspended solid and dissolved materials from terrestrial and sea bottom sources. The color often approaches yellow-brown in the turbidity waters (case 2 waters).

The purposes of this study are 1: to understand ocean optical properties, 2: to develop simple calibration and validation methods using SeaWiFS (OSMI) level 2 data.

2. Chlorophyll Measuring in Field

We filtered appropriate amount of volume of seawater sample on GF/F filter. We filtered the sea water sample enough so that green color can be seen on the filter as possible as. Also we prepared a blank, which was a GF/F filter filtered with 0.45um filtered sea water. We placed the filter on a histoprep, wrapped in aluminum foil, and

stored in LN2 Dewar/Dryshipper. The samples stored in LN2 Dewar, placed the filter in a 1ml test tube, filled with 10ml 90% acetone, seal top with parafilm, wrapped the entire test tube with aluminum foil, and stored in refrigerator for approximately 24 hours. Samples should be read between 24-36 hours for best results.

After extraction, brought samples out and let tubes equilibrate to room temperature. We turned on the Fluorometer and let it warm up for about 20-30 minutes. There should be a standard chlorophyll that should be measured on the Fluorometer at the beginning of every chlorophyll sample reading to test the integrity of the Fluorometer.

We took each sample and wiped the tube with kim-wipes and inserted in the sample compartment. We read and recorded reading under Rb value. We placed ~3 drops of 10% HCl in the test tube, sealed top with parafilm, inverted several times gently, and placed test tube with sample back into the sample compartment (Strickland and Parsons, 1968).

3. Ocean Optical Properties

We were interested in the optical properties in the northern East China Sea.

Data from free fall castings of the PRR-800 spectral radiometer which has 6 bands (412, 443, 490, 510, 555, 665(670)nm) at SeaWiFS (OSMI) spectral bands were collected from the northern East China Sea in February, 2000 and in May, 2001.

The northern East China Sea waters were similar with the global waters (e.g. CalCOFI) in May, 2001. The waters were dramatically different from the many other global waters in February, 2000. In these waters, very high reflectance is associated with Case 2 waters with heavy suspended solid load (Suh *et al.*, 2001). However it was difficult to know which one of organic detritus or mineral sediments was the major contributor to the high reflectivity in the northern East China Sea.

Therefore, the measurement of the percentage of volatile and non-volatile SS in total SS was made to determine which one of the two contributed to high reflectivity in the northwestern part of the East China Sea in February and May, 2001. The open sea waters in the Kuroshio regions of the East China Sea show relatively higher concentrations of volatile SS. However, towards the northwestern part of the East China Sea, the situation becomes much more optically different with the non-volatile SS from the Yangtze river and the bottom sources of the sea in winter and spring seasons.

4. Simple Calibration and Validation Method (Simple CAL/VAL Method)

We studied the relationship between the measured ocean color in the fields of the East China Sea and the estimated ocean color data of level 2 from the satellite.

4-1. Chlorophyll *a* Algorithm

The relationship between the measured chlorophyll and the SeaWiFS (OSMI) chlorophyll can be expressed by the following eq. (1) in the northern part of the East China Sea.

$$\text{Chl} = 0.187 \text{Ln}(X) + 0.408, \quad R^2 = 0.73 \quad (1)$$

where, X is the estimated chlorophyll *a* from the SeaWiFS data using the OC 2 algorithm.

4-2. Suspended Solid Algorithm

The relationship between the measured suspended solid and the SeaWiFS (OSMI) band ratio can be expressed by the following eq. (2) in the northern part of the East China Sea.

$$\text{SS} = -0.632 \text{Ln}(X) + 2.201, \quad R^2 = 0.56 \quad (2)$$

where, X is the band ratio $nLw(490)/nLw(555)$.

4-3. Regeneration of Chlorophyll *a* and SS Imageries using the Simple CAL/VAL Method for Level 2 of SeaWiFS (OSMI) Satellite Data

A chlorophyll plot using the OC 2 algorithm and a plot using the simple CAL/VAL method (1) for chlorophyll from the OSMI data on 26th September, 2000 were shown in this paper. A comparison plot between the two chlorophyll values in the northern East China Sea was also shown in this paper.

Delta chlorophyll *a* values using between the OC 2 algorithm and simple CAL/VAL method were 0.1~0.2mg/m³ in the a little clear waters around the Jeju Is, and 0.3~0.6mg/m³ in the turbid water and transitional waters related to the switching 96 CCD on OSMI. After we did geometric correction for OSMI imagery on 26th September 2000, a comparison made between the chlorophyll *a* from OSMI using OC 2 and the chlorophyll *a* from OSMI data using the simple CAL/VAL method. The delta chlorophyll *a* values were 0.1~0.2mg/m³ in a little clear water and 0.5~1.0mg/m³ in turbid water.

To compare between the estimated chlorophyll *a* using the simple CAL/VAL method and the *in situ* chlorophyll *a*, the measured field chlorophyll *a* data were shown in this paper. The chlorophyll *a* values derived from the simple CAL/VAL method are very similar to the *in situ* ones in October, 2000.

A comparison plot among the SS values at the 4 lines was shown in this paper. In case of the differential SS values among a little clear water, turbid water, and the transitional waters related to the switching 96 CCD on OSMI, the SS values in the turbid water and transitional waters are higher than others. Specially the SS values were suddenly increased in the region between one scanning of 96 CCD on OSMI and another scanning of the CCDs.

An imagery using the above simple CAL/VAL method

(2) for SS from the SeaWiFS data on 6th August, 2000 was shown in this paper. The distribution of SS using the simple CAL/VAL method is very similar to the distribution of salinity (iso-line 28psu) at that time.

5. Conclusions

The oceanographic stations in the northern East China Sea observed very strong absorption caused by suspended solids during the winter period. However, the ocean color properties of the stations in the spring were intermediate between case 1 and case 2.

The ocean color of the northern East China Sea is optically complicated due to the contributions not only from concentration of phytoplanktons, but also from suspended solids. In order to validate satellite ocean color retrievals and to develop simple CAL/VAL methods for complex case 2 regions require continuous routine ship-based studies. In case of the stripes on the OSMI imagery, the data errors introduced by the nature of whisk-broom scan related to the OSMI instrument (also known as bow-tie effect) should be corrected from raw data at channel access data unit(CADU) level.

The northern East China Sea is regarded as an important fisheries ground. However, the surface salinity is very low in summer seasons because of the run offs from the Yangtze river. A highly feasible method of detecting low salinity water in the East China Sea during the summer has been developed using the relationship between the turbid water from the Yangtze river and the bands ratio of SeaWiFS (OSMI). Suh *et al.*(1993) had shown the relationship between the measured transparency in turbid water and the digital radiance values from channel 1 of NOAA/AVHRR. The relationship between the measured surface salinity and the estimated SS in turbid water will be interested in the monitoring low salinity water in the East China Sea in summer season using ocean color satellite.

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