CGMS-XXXIII JMA-WP-12 Prepared by JMA Agenda Item: II/4 Discussed in WG II

Operational Satellite Products from MTSAT-1R

This paper presents a summary of operational satellite products from MTSAT-1R used in JMA.

Operational Satellite Products from MTSAT-1R

JMA started operation of the Multi-functional Transport Satellite-1R (MTSAT-1R), which is the successor to the Geostationary Meteorological Satellite-5 (GMS-5) on 28 June 2005. The MTSAT-1R has more sophisticated meteorological functions than those of GMS-5. MTSAT-1R carries an imager with a new channel (IR4) in addition to the conventional four channels (VIS, IR1, IR2, and IR3) of GMS-5. IR4 channel is expected to meet the requirement of the detection of low-level clouds in the nighttime. Spectral bandwidth for each channel of MTSAT-1R imager is listed in the Table 1. The quantization of all channels is improved from 6 bits (VIS) or 8 bits (IR) to 10 bits.

Channel	Spectral bandwidth (µm)	
Visible (VIS)	0.55 - 0.90	
Infrared 1 (IR1)	10.3 - 11.3	
Infrared 2 (IR2)	11.5 - 12.5	
Infrared 3 (IR3)	6.5 - 7.0	
Infrared 4 (IR4)	3.5 - 4.0	

 Table 1.
 The spectral coverage of imager onboard MTSAT-1R

The Meteorological Satellite Center (MSC) of JMA started processing satellite-derived products from MTSAT-1R data in July 2005. The new channel IR4 and the improvement of quantization of IR and VIS channels are expected to improve the products' quality. Besides, the total number of Atmospheric Motion Vectors (AMV) is expected to increase owing to more frequent observation (the time intervals of observations has been changed from 30 to 15 minutes) than GMS-5. The satellite products operationally derived from MTSAT-1R are summarized in Table 2.

Product	Frequency	Description	Used	Comments
		(Coverage area)	channel	
Cloud Information	24 times per day	Information on cloud types,	VIS, IR1,	
Chart	(hourly)	cloud top height, cloud	IR2, IR3	
(Northern and		distribution pattern for		
Southern		aeronautical users		
Hemispheres (NH and		(50N- 0N, 90E-170W; NH		
SH))		0S-50S, 90E-170W; SH)		
Aerosol Optical	7 times per day	Grid data (20 x 20km) of	VIS, IR1,	
Thickness	(09-15LT, hourly)	aerosol optical thickness for	IR2	
		environmental users		
		(52N-17N, 114E-150E)		
Sea Surface	8 times per day	Grid data (0.25 x 0.25 deg.)	VIS, IR1,	Derived by updated
Temperature	(3 hourly)	of sea surface temperature	IR2	algorithm
		for marine users		(Dynamic MCSST
		(60N-60S, 80E-160W)		coefficients)
Snow and Ice Index	1 time per day	Grid data (0.1 x 0.1 deg.) of	VIS	
		an index on snow/ice cover		
		for NWP users		
		(60N-20N, 80E-160W)		
Atmospheric Motion	4 times per day	Atmospheric motion vectors	VIS, IR1,	Distributed to
Vector	(6 hourly)	for NWP users	IR3	worldwide users via
		(50N-50S, 90E-170W)		GTS in SATOB &
				BUFR formats
Atmospheric Motion	24 times per day	Atmospheric motion vectors	VIS, IR1,	New product from
Vector	(hourly)	for NWP users	IR3	MTSAT-1R
		(50N-0N, 90E-170W)		
Upper Cloud Amount	8 times per day	Grid data (1.0 x 1.0 deg.) of	IR1	
Distribution	(3 hourly)	upper cloud amount		
		(-400hPa) for climatological		
		users		
		(60N-60S, 80E-160W)		
Cloud Grid	48 times per day	Grid data (20 x 20 km) on	VIS, IR1,	New product from
Information Data	(half-hourly)	cloud type, cloud amount	IR2, IR3,	MTSAT-1R
		(total (-surface), upper	IR4	
		(-400hPa) and convective),		
		and cloud height for		
		short-range weather forecast		
		(52N-17N, 114E-150E)		

ISCCP (*1) Data	8 (B1, B2)	Grid data for ISCCP	VIS, IR1,	(*1) ISCCP:
	5 times per month	(Full Disk; B1, B2)	IR2, IR3,	International Satellite
	(AC)	(2000 x 2000 km around the	IR4	Cloud Climatology
		SSP; AC)		Project
GPCP (*2) Data	8 times per day	Histogram data (1.0 x 1.0	IR1	(*2) GPCP:
	(3 hourly)	deg.) for GPCP		Global Precipitation
		(40N-40S, 90E-170W)		Climatology Project

Table 2.	List of operational	satellite products fi	rom MTSAT-1R
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