



1 **Update on GOSAT TANSO-FTS performance, operations,**  
2 **and data products after more than six years in space**

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13

14 **Abstract**

15 A dataset containing more than six years (February 2009 to present) of radiance-spectra  
16 for carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) observations has been acquired by the Greenhouse  
17 gases Observing SATellite (GOSAT), nicknamed “Ibuki”, Thermal And Near infrared Sensor  
18 for carbon Observation Fourier-Transform Spectrometer (TANSO-FTS). This manuscript  
19 provides updates on the performance of the satellite and TANSO-FTS sensor and describes  
20 important changes to the data product, which has recently been made available to users. With  
21 these changes the typical accuracy of retrieved column-averaged dry air mole fractions of CO<sub>2</sub>  
22 and CH<sub>4</sub> ( $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  and  $X_{\text{CH}_4}$ ) are 2ppm or 0.5% and 13ppb or 0.7%, respectively. Three major  
23 anomalies of the satellite system affecting TANSO-FTS are reported: a failure of one of the  
24 two solar paddles in May 2014, a switch to the secondary pointing system in January 2015 and  
25 most recently, a cryo-cooler shutdown and restart in August 2015. The Level 1A (L1A) (raw



1 interferogram) and the Level 1B (LIB) (radiance spectra) of version V201.201 (V201)  
2 described here have long-term uniform quality and provide consistent retrieval accuracy even  
3 after the satellite system anomalies. In addition, we discuss the unique observation abilities of  
4 GOSAT, made possible by an agile pointing mechanism, which allows for optimization of  
5 global sampling patterns.

6

## 7 **1 Introduction**

8 The Greenhouse gases Observing SATellite (GOSAT), launched on 23 January 2009, carries  
9 two independent sensors, the Thermal And Near infrared Sensor for carbon Observations  
10 Fourier Transform Spectrometer (TANSO-FTS) and the Cloud and Aerosol Imager (TANSO-  
11 CAI) (Kuze et al., 2009). The objective of the mission is to provide long term monitoring of  
12 column-averaged dry air mole fractions of carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) and methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ) ( $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  and  
13  $X_{\text{CH}_4}$ ) over much of the globe. After the Scanning Imaging Absorption Spectrometer for  
14 Atmospheric CHartography (SCIAMACHY) stopped its operation on April 2012 and prior to  
15 the launch of the Orbiting Carbon Observatory-2 (OCO-2) in July 2014, GOSAT was the only  
16 instrument that could provide column amounts of greenhouse gases (GHG) from space (Crisp  
17 et al., 2012; Yoshida, et al. 2013). Multiple teams from more than ten countries have been  
18 working on independent retrievals of  $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  and  $X_{\text{CH}_4}$  with errors of less than 2 ppm (0.5%)  
19 and 13 ppb (0.7%), respectively, over much of the globe. These datasets have not only reduced  
20 uncertainty in global  $\text{CO}_2$  flux estimates, but have also been used to monitor regional emissions  
21 such as  $\text{CO}_2$  from mega-cities and  $\text{CH}_4$  from oil fields, coal power plants, landfills, and livestock  
22 (Kort et al., 2011; Turner et al., 2015). Furthermore, the first high-resolution spectra of plant  
23 fluorescence from space have presented patterns of gross primary productivity and opened a  
24 new viewpoint to the carbon cycle (Frankenberg et al, 2011).

25 By providing long-term high-resolution spectral data, TANSO-FTS is a pathfinder for  
26 the following missions such as the Orbiting Carbon Observatory (OCO-2), which was launched  
27 in 2014 (Crisp et al., 2004) and TROPospheric Monitoring Instrument (TROPOMI), which is  
28 scheduled in 2016 (Veefkind et al, 2012). GOSAT and these missions have different  
29 observation strategies. TANSO-FTS has wide spectral coverage from SWIR to TIR and an  
30 agile pointing system at the expense of spatial context, while OCO-2 and TROPOMI measure  
31 GHG with higher spatial resolution using imaging grating spectrometers.



1           Since launch, the Level 1A (L1A) (raw interferogram) and the Level 1B (L1B) (radiance  
2 spectra) have been updated ten times: versions of V006, V007, V050, V080, V100, V110, V130,  
3 V150, V161, and V201 (Kuze et al., 2012). Kuze et al. (2014) provided the radiance  
4 degradation factors (RDF) for long term radiometric correction after launch. Several analyses  
5 and laboratory experiments have improved the accuracy of the solar lines and molecular line  
6 parameters (Toon et al., 2015; Long et al., 2012; Thompson et al., 2012). The accuracy and  
7 degree of convergence of the retrieval algorithms has been improved by fitting the most  
8 persistent spectral residuals with the empirical orthogonal functions (EOF) (O'Dell et al., 2013).  
9 These efforts have reduced radiative transfer calculation errors.

10           This paper describes the long-term performance and operation of GOSAT TANSO-FTS.  
11 Sect. 2 summarizes improvements of the radiometric and geometric calibrations. Sect. 3  
12 describes changes to L1B processing and the user product for the new L1B version V201.201  
13 (V201) release. Finally, Sect. 4 discusses changes to the TANSO-FTS observation pattern with  
14 aim of optimizing the global coverage of the measurement set and providing targeted  
15 measurements over emission sources such as megacities, oil fields and volcanos. Sect. 5  
16 provides a summary of the changes and discusses the future role of GOSAT in GHG  
17 observations from space. It also provides an inter-comparison with the newer OCO-2 satellite.  
18 The TANSO-CAI radiometric calibration is also described in Sect. 2.

19

## 20   **2 Long-term operation and calibrations**

21           The long-term operation of over six years is summarized in Fig. 1 and calibration activity is  
22 described in this section.

### 23   **2.1 Operation before three major anomalies**

24           Except for single-event anomalies caused by cosmic radiation on the star tracker, the mission  
25 data processor, and the GPS receiver, all the components of the satellite bus and two instruments  
26 had been working normally until 24 May 2014. The degree of degradation (DOD) of less than  
27 10% of the 4 batteries indicated that power generation degradation was much less than 1% and  
28 the satellite bus batteries did not show significant degradation. Enough fuel remained for 14  
29 more years of operation as of February 2014, at which point the five year design life-time had  
30 passed. Every 2.5 years, an out-of-plane orbit control for the adjustment of the inclination of  
31 the orbit phase is performed to keep the local overpass time between 12:46 and 12:51. In July



1 and August 2011 and December 2013, GOSAT suspended observations several times, and  
2 during these control periods, observations were collected using the nominal 3-point cross-track  
3 (CT) scan mode without glint and target observations (Kuze et al, 2012).

4 Kuze et al. (2012) listed the TANSO-FTS items that gradually change with time or occur  
5 periodically: (1) the zero path difference (ZPD) shifts in the FTS, (2) the FTS laser signal  
6 detection level, and (3) the pointing offset. Up-and-down zero-crossings of laser-fringes (half  
7 laser fringe) are utilized for sampling triggers, which result in 76,336 sampling points per  
8 interferogram. A fringe counter counts fringes up in the forward scan direction and down in  
9 the reverse scan direction. The ideal ZPD position is the center of the sampling points which is  
10 maintained under nominal operation. The occurrence of occasional count errors at the scan  
11 turnaround causes shift in the ZPD position. Excessive ZPD shifts could lead to spectral  
12 resolution changes unless the interferogram is processed with an asymmetric weighting  
13 function as described later. The precise same spectral resolution has been maintained for all  
14 retrieved spectra either by repositioning ZPD or by applying an asymmetric weighting function  
15 when the shift is too large. The root cause of the ZPD shift is a combination of degraded laser  
16 detection levels, the turnaround time duration of the FTS mechanism, and micro-vibrations of  
17 the Earth sensor of the satellite attitude control at 244 Hz. The ZPD shifts had been carefully  
18 corrected by shifting the FTS scan position before the bias reaches 50 half laser fringes until  
19 May 2014. After periodic corrections, the absolute ZPD shift value has been kept lower than  
20 100 laser half-fringes and hence the precise spectral resolution has been maintained for these  
21 conditions in all spectral retrievals as shown in Fig. 2. About 70% of the data between July  
22 2009 and July 2010 and almost 100% of the data between August 2010 and May 2014 are well  
23 controlled and not processed with an asymmetric weighting function. The detected laser signal  
24 amplitude of dephase and fringe channels indicate that there will be enough margin for future  
25 operation, as shown in Fig. 3. The phase delayed dephase signal is used to control the FTS scan  
26 direction and the fringe provides the sampling trigger. While the CT motion controlled by the  
27 micro stepper motor of the TANSO-FTS pointing mechanism assembly is stable, complicated  
28 along track (AT) motion has caused fluctuations (Fig. 4). To avoid pointing fluctuations caused  
29 by inadequate power to actuate the hardened cable in the primary pointing system, the AT  
30 pointing angle range was limited between  $-16.0^\circ$  (backward) and  $19.4^\circ$  (forward) instead of  
31 the originally designed  $\pm 20^\circ$ .



1           There is no functional and performance change on orbit in TANSO-CAI since launch  
2 except for the gradual radiometric degradation. The dark current levels of the bands 1, 2 and 3  
3 CCD detectors have gradually increased. As of October 2015, 26 out of 512 pixels of the Band  
4 4 InGaAs-detector with complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) readouts show  
5 abnormal large dark level. The integration time for the all 4 bands has not been changed.  
6 TANSO-CAI has been operated continuously except for short period after the solar paddle  
7 anomaly in May 2014.

8

## 9   **2.2 Solar-paddle-rotation anomaly**

10 On 24 May 2014, rotation of one of the two solar paddles stopped, probably because of a single  
11 event in the control electronics. The GOSAT satellite computer automatically shut down both  
12 TANSO-FTS and CAI. Since the incident, the combination of one rotating and one non-rotating  
13 panel has been generating enough power to operate both TANSO-FTS and CAI. From 30 May  
14 2014, TANSO-FTS and CAI restarted their observations and are now in full operation.  
15 However, the FTS ZPD shift has become much faster than before. The most probable cause is  
16 a permanent alignment change in the laser detection optics after the sudden cool-down, resulting  
17 in a large decrease in signal level on one side of the FTS scan. The FTS scan controller has  
18 become more sensitive to micro vibrations. By biasing more than 800 half laser fringes to the  
19 side with a higher laser detection level, the ZPD shift becomes much slower but all the data  
20 have a ZPD position too far from the center of the interferogram requiring asymmetric  
21 weighting function processing. Regardless of the biased ZPD position, the radiometric  
22 response and spectral positions remain unchanged. After the incident, all the L1B data have  
23 quality alert flags indicating a ZPD bias larger than 100 half laser fringes. In addition, scans  
24 with large ZPD shift from the center of the acquired interferogram have caused false alert flags  
25 as the center burst was detected as a pointing fluctuation. Scans with large ZPD shifts suffer  
26 from resolution degradation when processed with L1B V161. To accommodate this change  
27 for V161, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) is providing the modified  
28 instrument line shape function (ILSF) for single-side-biased interferograms.

29



### 1 **2.3 Pointing instability and switch to secondary mechanism**

2 A two-axis pointing system is used by TANSO-FTS to allow both CT and AT motions. In the  
3 typical 3-point CT scan mode, the AT mechanism provides slow image motion compensation  
4 during each 4-second integration for 40.8s and quick turnaround and return of 0.6s with  $\pm 6^\circ$   
5 mechanical swing motion. Since 3 September 2014, the settling time of the AT pointing of the  
6 primary system worsened, resulting in an error greater than  $0.1^\circ$  at the beginning of  
7 interferogram acquisition. A parameter tuning of the pointing control on 17 November 2014  
8 did not remedy the problem and the pointing stability continued to decay. Realizing that the  
9 primary pointing mechanism might be degraded due to aging of the ball bearings and lubricant,  
10 the secondary system was characterized and calibrated over the following one and a half month  
11 time period. During this time (since 15 December 2014), the L1B processing was suspended  
12 and all the target mode observations were canceled. On 26 January 2015, the pointing was  
13 switched from the primary pointing system to the secondary system by rotating the optical path  
14 selector by  $45^\circ$  as shown in Fig. 4. The pointing settling and stability then became smaller than  
15  $0.1^\circ$ , which is much better than the primary system. The nominal observations with glint and  
16 target were then restarted and the AT motor traveling range is once more  $\pm 20^\circ$  with no angular  
17 offset. From 30 August 2015, the target mode planning system was resumed allowing users to  
18 specify targets of interest with accurate geolocation correction.

19 The TANSO-FTS engineering model (FTS-EM) was operated in a vacuum chamber on  
20 the ground to investigate the pointing system behavior after switching to the secondary  
21 mechanism. Under vacuum, the stiffness of the cable twisting is increased, resulting in reduced  
22 AT traveling range. The secondary pointing system indicates cable hardening but the level is  
23 much smaller than the primary system. We repeated the hardening both with the FTS-EM  
24 mechanism and new cables. Once activating the swing motion in the vacuum and air, the cable  
25 shows hardening and softening but no change without motion. Two cycle tests showed that  
26 continuous motions changes the stiffness. The data also showed the saturation of the hardening  
27 after a week-long operation. The hypothesis is that oxidization of the metal cable smooths the  
28 swing motion in the air. The ground test result suggests that the secondary pointing system  
29 may continue with stable motion in orbit. Once cable hardening is detected, the AT traveling  
30 range will need to be reduced as was done for the primary pointing system.

31 Lessons learned from the operation with the primary pointing system show that the use  
32 of wider AT motion with a larger ball bearing rotation can minimize aging effects. In parallel,  
33 we have started a periodic diagnostic operation to monitor the cable stiffness and the friction of



1 lubricant and bearing by using full range of AT motion every three days. Except for the initial  
2 change in December 2014 and January 2015, the secondary pointing mechanism shows no  
3 significant change in the cable stiffness and friction of the lubricant. Therefore, there is no need  
4 to reduce the range of the secondary system AT pointing.

5 The AT angular resolver shows AT angle errors larger than  $0.1^\circ$  (sometimes  $1^\circ$ )  
6 especially when GOSAT passes over certain areas. These phenomena suggest that angular  
7 sensors and readout cables are sensitive to electro-magnetic interference. To minimize  
8 mechanical shock to the AT pointing mechanism, since 30 August, 2015 the secondary pointing  
9 system is stopped for a short time of less than 1 min over certain areas keeping the FTS  
10 mechanism activated.

11

#### 12 **2.4 Cryo-cooler shutdown and temporary TANSO-FTS Band 4 TIR suspension**

13 On 2 August, 2015, TANSO-FTS-TIR (Band 4) suspended its data processing due to a sudden  
14 shutdown of the cryocooler. The temperature of the band 4 detector increased from 70K to  
15 ambient temperature, while the short-wave infrared (SWIR) bands 1, 2 and 3 were operating  
16 normally and providing O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> spectra. The most probable root-cause is a single  
17 event anomaly on the cryocooler control electronics. After the sudden cryocooler mode  
18 changed to standby, probably because of the rapid change in thermal balance, the ZPD position  
19 of the interferogram shifted rapidly from 800 half laser fringes, crossed the center of the scan,  
20 and then to 650 fringes on the opposite side of the center of the scan. The ZPD shift mechanism  
21 is complicated and it is difficult to simulate the thermal distortion without the large heat source  
22 of the cryocooler. For 6 weeks, the bias value of 650 half laser fringes showed a stable condition.  
23 The new LIB V201 is able to correct the 650 half laser fringes-biased interferogram properly.  
24 On September 14, 2015, the cryocooler was restarted successfully. The new ZPD stable  
25 position after the cooler restart is 1100 half laser fringes, which is on the same side but slightly  
26 larger bias than before August 2. After September 15, both SWIR and TIR have been acquired  
27 simultaneously with nominal grid, target, and glint modes. As Fig. 3 presents, the lower  
28 detection level in the future might require a larger ZPD bias to decrease the ZPD shift.

29



## 1 **2.5 Calibrations**

### 2 **2.5.1 Radiometric calibration: response degradation**

3 Analytical results from the annual vicarious calibration campaigns (VCC) in Railroad Valley  
4 (RRV), Nevada, U.S.A. and monthly on-orbit solar diffuser calibrations show that the absolute  
5 radiometric response for both TANSO-FTS-SWIR and TANSO-CAI had rapid initial  
6 degradation for the first two years with slower degradation since (Kuze et al, 2011; 2014). The  
7 relative changes in TANSO-FTS, estimated from the backside diffuser calibration, are now very  
8 slow as shown in Fig. 5. The degradation rate is slightly higher for the S-polarization than for  
9 the P-polarization in Band 1. The most probable source of the degradation is the FTS beam  
10 splitter efficiency. After correction of the Spectralon diffuser bidirectional reflectance  
11 distribution function (BRDF) and the distance from the sun, the seasonal variation remains.  
12 Possible causes are the temperature-dependent band 1 modulation efficiency, imperfect  
13 Spectralon BRDF correction, and earthshine contamination (Toon et al, 2015). The prelaunch  
14 data show a temperature dependency in the modulation efficiency. Twice every year, in April  
15 or May, and just after the summer time VCC, lunar calibrations have been conducted for both  
16 TANSO-FTS and CAI by rotating the satellite and tracking the lunar surface. Except for the  
17 6<sup>th</sup> lunar calibration on 15 July 2011, TANSO-FTS successfully targeted the lunar disk within  
18 the instantaneous field of view (IFOV). The phase angle of the moon was within 2–5° of full  
19 moon phase for the first four calibrations but was changed to around 7° for 2010 as the lunar  
20 BRDF changes rapidly near the full moon. After the solar paddle anomaly, the lunar calibration  
21 was suspended to avoid the extreme power consumption of the batteries. The lunar radiometric  
22 calibration is consistent with the VCC within their respective error budgets (Shiomi et al., 2013).

23 Since the work published in Kuze et al. (2014), annual VCCs were also performed in  
24 2013, 2014 and 2015, and the data were processed using the same method. Fig. 6 (a) shows the  
25 TANSO-FTS RDF by comparing the measured radiance, using prelaunch radiometric  
26 conversion factor, and forward calculation using surface and radiosonde data together with the  
27 RDF model described in Kuze et al. (2014). The results show very slow radiance response  
28 degradation. In addition, the 2015 VCC shows there is no significant difference between the  
29 primary pointing system and the secondary unit. Therefore, there is no need to change the RDF  
30 model. These data can be applied to the complete long-term L1B dataset. Fig. 6 (b) indicates  
31 no degradation of TANSO-CAI since VCC2011. The error budget of VCC is estimated to be  
32 lower than the assigned value of 7%. Inter-comparison with the well-calibrated Visible Infrared



1 Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) radiometer onboard the Suomi National Polar-orbiting  
2 Partnership (SUOMI-NPP) also shows long-term agreement with the TANSO-FTS RDF model  
3 within the allocated error budget (Uprety et. al., 2015).

4 For TIR calibrations of TANSO-FTS Band 4, frequent calibration using the blackbody  
5 (BB) and deep space (DS) can remove the response degradation and background radiation.  
6 During the VCC2011, the systematic error after calibration in each spectral window was  
7 analyzed, showing a higher bias of 2K in L1B V130 in radiation from the cold upper atmosphere  
8 in the CO<sub>2</sub> band at 650–700cm<sup>-1</sup> (Kataoka et al., 2014). The radiometric calibrations are  
9 modified in V161 and are described in Sect. 3.1. Long-term comparison with sea surface  
10 temperatures (SST) monitored by NOAA buoys shows that the difference in monthly means  
11 are smaller than 1K over six years (Kataoka et al., 2015).

12

### 13 **2.5.2 Spectral calibration**

14 The temperature of the onboard metrology ILSF calibration laser in the FTS mechanism has  
15 been well controlled for more than six years. Except for the very gradual changes described in  
16 Kuze et al. (2012), the absolute spectral position using Solar Fraunhofer lines and ILSF using  
17 the onboard calibration laser indicate very stable spectral characteristics. No correction value  
18 has to be considered in the L1B processing and there is no difference between the data from the  
19 primary and secondary pointing systems.

20

### 21 **2.5.3 Geometric calibration and target observation planning**

22 The TANSO-FTS primary pointing system has a pointing offset that cannot be detected with  
23 an angular resolver (Kuze et al., 2012). The angular telemetry used by geolocation by the L1B  
24 algorithm therefore introduces a bias. The pointing offset has been estimated using the onboard  
25 camera (CAM). The long-term pointing offset for both grid and target observations is presented  
26 in Fig. 7. The offset before January 2015, changed slowly with a monthly time scale. Every  
27 two weeks after observation, the best-estimate offset values are updated, and these values are  
28 provided to GOSAT data users by the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) via  
29 the GOSAT user interface gateway (GUIG). The application of these correction values reduces  
30 the fluctuation in the geolocation to less than 1km. In planning target mode observations,  
31 especially of volcano vents and power plants, applying the offset in advance leads to more



1 accurate pointing. Target mode planning has been implementing the pointing offset since 5  
2 August 2013. Target observations are planned two weeks in advance, but the pointing  
3 correction at the time of the target observation is applied. Generally, with this change plus the  
4 above-mentioned fluctuation of 1km, the target mode observations have been performed with  
5 pointing errors less than 2 km.

6 The pointing offset of the secondary pointing mechanism is different. No offset in the  
7 angular resolver has as yet been detected. The pointing settling of the secondary system is  
8 much more stable than the primary one. However, the optical path selector shown in Fig. 4 was  
9 rotated by 45 deg and introduces scene flux as a folding mirror. The axes of the optical path  
10 and CT rotation are slightly misaligned, which results in the CT angle-dependent offset. The  
11 offset is repeatable and can be well-characterized. The L1B V201 product has corrected  
12 geolocations, and the accuracy after correction is better than 0.5 km. For target observations,  
13 the geometrical offset and misalignment between the GOSAT satellite bus and TANSO-FTS  
14 have been implemented from August 30, 2015. At this time, there is no need for additional  
15 correction using the CAM data.

16

### 17 **3 Updates to Level 1 products**

#### 18 **3.1 Issues in previous versions and L1B V161 modifications**

19 The V150 L1 algorithm is described in detail by Kuze et al. (2012) and Suto et al. (2013a).  
20 Two significant modifications to L1B V161 are described here. First, the optical path difference  
21 (OPD) sampling interval non-uniformity correction (SINUC) as described in Sect. 2.3.5 of  
22 Kuze et al. (2012) was applied in L1B V150. However, a spectral ringing artifact was  
23 inadvertently introduced to the spectra in the L1B V150 processing, as 100 zeros were filled in  
24 at both ends of the interferogram. The L1B V161 processing switched off SINUC to correct  
25 this mistake.

26 The second significant change to the L1B V161 product is related to the TANSO FTS  
27 thermal infrared measurement in spectral band 4. The TIR radiometric validation, performed  
28 via comparisons with other satellite and air-borne instruments such as the Scanning High-  
29 resolution Interferometer Sounder (S-HIS), indicates that the strong CO<sub>2</sub> absorption band at  
30 660- 700 cm<sup>-1</sup> has a high bias (Kataoka et al., 2014). This suggests that the DS obscuration  
31 correction applied in L1B V130 and V150 overcorrected the longwave spectra. Further analysis



1 indicated that the DS view obscuration is unrealistic, given the mechanical alignment and  
2 pointing offset described in 2.5.3. For the polarization sensitivity correction, we had applied a  
3 polarization incident angle of  $45^\circ$ , which was measured prelaunch, for all of the reflecting  
4 surfaces. However, some of the mirror surfaces have angles of incidence less than  $45^\circ$  as  
5 indicated in Fig. 4. For L1B V161 and later, a more accurate polarization reflectance for each  
6 mirror was applied by interpolating between discrete reflectance models with incident angles  
7 of  $35^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$ , and  $55^\circ$ . This application improves long wave radiometric calibration and the DS  
8 view correction is no longer applied. Other minor modifications include estimating the direct  
9 current (DC) offset by preparing long term look-up-tables with very small gradual time-  
10 dependence and implementing BB temperature conversions using fine-step look-up-tables  
11 instead of interpolating discrete prelaunch calibration data.

12

### 13 **3.2 L1B V201**

14 In this section, the most recent L1B V201 is described. There are three major objectives for  
15 this update: modifying Band 1 nonlinearity correction, creating a data product that accurately  
16 accommodates the two major anomalies in 2014, and adding information for users' convenience.  
17 Nonlinearity introduced by the Band 1 analogue signal chain has been a long-term issue for the  
18 L1B processing (Suto et al., 2013). First, we address the radiance spectra improvement by  
19 correcting the nonlinearity in the interferogram domain via intensity-dependent phase  
20 correction (X-axis) in addition to an amplitude correction (Y-axis), as shown in Fig. 8. Then,  
21 we describe the reprocessing of the more than six years dataset using the same spectral  
22 resolution after correction of the large ZPD shift caused by solar paddle incident and the other  
23 corrections. The updated data flow, including modified processing, is shown in Fig. 9. As the  
24 ZPD position is largely shift, the L1B V201 algorithm detects the ZPD position before  
25 qualification and correction procedures.

26

#### 27 **3.2.1 Band 1 nonlinearity and intensity-dependent phase correction**

28 By carefully analyzing more than six years of on-orbit data, we revised the nonlinearity  
29 corrections based on the prelaunch test and the tests with the engineering model (EM) in the  
30 laboratory after launch. As the Fourier transform spectrometer is based on the linear response



1 of the instrument, the linearity of the detector, electric parts, and integrated circuit in the  
2 analogue signal processing chain have to be carefully investigated. All the nonlinear items in  
3 the analogue circuits (amplifier, electrical filter, and detector) are corrected in the interferogram  
4 domain, as presented in Fig. 8. No corrections were performed in the spectral domain. The  
5 identified nonlinear parts of the Band 1 analogue circuit are shown in Fig. 10. The oxygen A  
6 ( $O_2 A$ ) band in Band 1 is used to estimate the effective light-path length with modification by  
7 scattering. Band 1 also covers solar Fraunhofer lines. The nonlinearity corrections directly  
8 improve the Level 2  $X_{CO_2}$  and  $X_{CH_4}$  products and chlorophyll fluorescence retrieval. Earlier  
9 versions of the Band 1 nonlinearity correction was applied in L1B V150 and V161. Assuming  
10 that the nonlinearity in the Band 1 analogue circuit mainly occurred in the low-pass filter circuit,  
11 it can be expressed as a single set of 3<sup>rd</sup> order polynomials and corrected (Suto et al., 2011).  
12 However, both gain amplifier and the low-pass filter circuit have nonlinearity with different  
13 characteristics. It was found that the nonlinearity correction could not remove input-level  
14 dependent offset and out-of-band artifacts completely.

15 As shown in Fig. 10, the actual analogue circuit consists of four sub modules: the silicon  
16 (Si) detector, the high gain amplifier, the low pass filter, and the analogue to digital converter  
17 (ADC). The Si detector is highly linear. The ADC non-linearity is difficult to correct as  
18 discussed in Kuze et al. (2012). After the release of L1B V150 and V161, we measured the  
19 intensity-dependent phase delay in the high gain amplifier circuit using the EM model in the  
20 laboratory (Suto et al. 2014). The phase delay of the in-orbit circuit should be close to the EM  
21 value but needs to be estimated by finding the parameters that minimize out-of-band spectra.  
22 The estimated input dependent-phase is shown in Fig. 11. These phases are corrected separately  
23 by resampling the interferogram in L1B V201, while in V150 and V161 these phases in the  
24 high gain amplifier and amplitude nonlinearity in the low pass filter are simultaneously  
25 corrected by using a single set of 3<sup>rd</sup> order polynomials. As the phase is an X-axis error in the  
26 interferogram, a separate correction is more appropriate. This correction has been implemented  
27 in L1B V201. The nonlinearity correction parameters were almost constant but might have  
28 small variation. Therefore, multiple iterations are applied as shown in Fig. 9.

29



### 1 **3.2.2 Large ZPD biased interferogram correction**

2 A large ZPD shift causes a change in spectral resolution since the interferogram has fewer  
3 samples on one side of the ZPD than on the other side. To provide precisely uniform resolution  
4 data for the entire mission, a ZPD bias correction is applied to produce the full spectral  
5 resolution data from the biased ZPD interferogram as illustrated in Fig. 12. The biased  
6 interferogram is multiplied by the weighting function and Fourier transformed using the same  
7 length as a normal interferogram. The smooth weighting transitions at the edges are used to  
8 limit the artifacts to a very low frequency out of band region. The regions where the weight is  
9 2 or 0 varies with the ZPD bias, which is calculated for every interferogram as illustrated in Fig.  
10 9. The largest bias value is 3782 half laser fringes, when the FTS mechanism hits the bumper.  
11 When the ZPD shift is less than 100 half laser fringes, no weighting function is applied. After  
12 June 2014, almost all the data are processed with a weighting function resulting in a slight  
13 reduction of the signal to noise ratio (SNR) as the number of total sampling points per  
14 interferogram is reduced by the bias value. The constant ILSF can be applied to all the L1B  
15 V201 products. The ILSF model for V201 is provided from NICE GUIG.

16

### 17 **3.2.3 Corrections for intensity variation and sampling interval non-uniformity**

18 Intensity variation is corrected dividing the interferogram by an interferogram created from the  
19 low frequency-components such as pointing fluctuation and optical vignetting. During  
20 normalization, we used the linear slope of the DC component for L1B V201 instead of boxcar  
21 DC component used in previous versions. After the intensity variation correction described in  
22 Kuze et al. (2012), the interferogram became symmetric and both edges have almost the same  
23 signal levels. Up to L1B V161, the DC level is subtracted by the linear slope obtained by  
24 averaging the 100 edge fringes at both ends of the interferogram. This process sometimes  
25 creates artifact spectra from linear slope components. For L1B V201, the DC level is subtracted  
26 by using a single point at the edge instead of averaging 100 fringe values. The V201 L1B  
27 algorithm applies SINUC again by modifying the sampling interval non-uniformity model in  
28 Fig. 5 in Kuze et al, (2012) to have smooth ends at the maximum OPD. This correction  
29 improves the consistency between the forward and backward scanning and removes the ringing  
30 artifact structure that existed in V150.

31



### 1 **3.3 Information added to L1B V201**

2 After more than six years of operation, data processing, and data distribution, there have been  
3 many questions and comments from GOSAT users. The answers to frequently asked questions  
4 and important and useful ancillary data have been added to the L1B product itself. The  
5 modified items are described in the following subsections.

#### 6 **3.3.1 Master quality flags**

7 Before launch, quality flags of possible anomalies were prepared, but most of the anticipated  
8 anomalies never occurred in orbit or remained below the criteria because the temperature of the  
9 optics and detectors have been well controlled, and scan speed instability of the FTS mechanism  
10 is much less than 2%. These flags have been removed from the L1B V201 products. Only the  
11 pointing fluctuation and saturation cause quality degradation. A newly introduced master  
12 quality flag identifies poor interferograms resulting from fluctuating pointing. As the data are  
13 identified from the measured modulated data, the flag cannot detect poor interferograms when  
14 fluctuation occurs near the center burst of the interferogram and the surface reflectance is  
15 spatially uniform. The ratio of poor data is about 10% and most of the fluctuating data are  
16 filtered out.

17

#### 18 **3.3.2 Calibration information**

19 A number of new items have been added to the L1B V201 product data to provide advanced  
20 analysis and for users' convenience.

21 (i) Best-estimate pointing-location; Although the pointing offset is considered in planning the  
22 target mode observation, the geolocation calculated from the angular resolver and satellite  
23 position data have a pointing offset as described in Sect. 2.3 and summarized in Table 1, the  
24 best-estimated pointing locations are added. The pointing offset is now provided in the L1B  
25 V201.

26 (ii) Best-estimate radiance conversion for SWIR (bands 1, 2, and 3); The spectral radiance data,  
27 given in units of volt-cm ( $V\text{ cm}$ ) have been converted to the calibrated spectral radiance given  
28 in units of  $W\text{ cm}^{-1}\text{ str}^{-1}$  using the prelaunch calibration data. The degradation after launch is  
29 also corrected using RDF provided in Kuze et al. (2014).



- 1 (iii) Finite-size IFOV correction for TIR (Band 4); The finite-size of the field of view has a self-  
 2 apodization effect. Without large degradation of the spectral shape, the self-apodization due to  
 3 the size is corrected as described by Knuteson et al. (2004). Together with the original radiance  
 4 spectra for atmospheric molecules retrieval, the corrected spectra for Band 4 is added for  
 5 meteorological applications.
- 6 (iv) Mueller matrix for utilizing two linear polarization data; For SWIR, the input solar scattered  
 7 light is measured in both P and S polarizations separately. The overall optical efficiency of the  
 8 two linear polarizations, which are combinations of the pointing mirror, the FTS beam splitter,  
 9 and the aft-optics, differs slightly with pointing angles. Therefore, the instrument polarization  
 10 of both optical efficiency and phase can be characterized for wide spectral range with a Mueller  
 11 matrix (Kuze et. al, 2012; O'Brien et al., 2013). The pointing mirror portion of  
 12  $\mathbf{M}(\theta_{AT}, \theta_{CT}) = \mathbf{M}_r(-\theta_{CT})\mathbf{M}_p(\theta_{AT})\mathbf{M}_m(\theta_{AT})\mathbf{M}_r(\theta_{CT})$  in equations (9) and (10) of Kuze et al.  
 13 (2012) is a function of pointing angles and varies in every measurement. The calculated value  
 14 for each measurement from the mirror surface reflectivity and its phase is stored in the L1B  
 15 product later than V201 for users' convenience. As a degradation correction can be applied to  
 16 the radiance calibration portion, the degradation is not included in Mueller matrix.
- 17 (v) CAM data with joint photographic experts group (JPEG) format; The onboard CMOS  
 18 camera shown in Fig. 4 is mounted on the optical axis of the TANSO-FTS and can identify the  
 19 location viewed by the FTS pointing mechanism. CAM has a much higher spatial resolution  
 20 than TANSO-CAI, and is useful for cloud screening. CAM was originally designed to check  
 21 the optical alignment after launch. It has been working without degradation beyond its designed  
 22 life of one year. On the day side, we have been acquiring CAM data every 4s and at least 1  
 23 CAM image exists per interferogram. 1 CAM is selected and attached to the L1B showing the  
 24 exact pointing location.
- 25 (vi) Scattering angle; Surface reflection and scattering from aerosol and clouds have a strong  
 26 dependence on geometry. The scattering angle is the angle between the incident sun light  
 27 direction and scattered light toward GOSAT. It can be calculated from the sun and satellite  
 28 positions and pointing angles. This value has been added to the L1B V201 for the users'  
 29 convenience.
- 30 (vii) Target mode classification; Calibration and validation sites, large emission sources, and  
 31 volcanos have been targeted in addition to the nominal grid observations. To avoid large biases



1 in  $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  and  $X_{\text{CH}_4}$  due to these targeted enhanced emission sources, target observations are  
2 categorized and identified so that they may be screened out by the user.

3 (viii) A brief comment as a long name for Hierarchical Data Format (HDF) viewer; TANSO-  
4 FTS is a unique instrument compared to conventional imagers, and some parameters in L1B  
5 are specific and not easily understood by users. Brief explanations of the parameters are added  
6 as a long name.

7

### 8 **3.4 Remaining issues with the V201 product after calibration**

9 The goal of the calibration and correction is to remove systematic errors. Although, major  
10 issues in L1B have been solved in the V201 product, there remain systematic errors equivalent  
11 to the random noise level. Both SWIR and TIR have possible sources of systematic residuals  
12 between the measured spectra and forward calculations.

#### 13 **3.4.1 SWIR**

14 The SWIR prelaunch calibrations consisted of 5 nm steps radiance conversion tables for Band  
15 1 and 20 nm steps for bands 2 and 3. After launch, the vicarious calibration uses 1 nm step data  
16 but the accuracy is worse than the prelaunch calibration. Finer spectral structure in the  
17 radiometric response and their changes, and calibration uncertainty in the spectral structure,  
18 causes the residual bias. Studies have shown that shorter wavelengths within a band have larger  
19 degradation, especially in bands 1 and 2.

20 As described in Sect. 3.2.1, nonlinearity parameters are selected by minimizing out-of-  
21 band artifacts. Real noise and small side lobes are corrected toward zero, and nonlinearity may  
22 be overcorrected. At present, it is difficult to accurately extract out-of-band artifacts smaller  
23 than random noise. As described in Sect. 2.3.2 of Kuze et al. (2012), the 16-bit ADC used in  
24 TANSO-FTS have the largest nonlinearity at the center of the dynamic range. The level of the  
25 AC-coupled band 1 interferogram is close to zero volt as OPD increases, especially in low input  
26 cases. The frequent use of the center bit creates nonlinearity, but there is no correction method  
27 at present.



### 1 3.4.2 TIR

2 Fig. 13 shows the total estimated calibration uncertainty in cases of typical earth radiation and  
3 ideal BB target of 280K. Errors in the polarization reflectance, onboard BB emissivity  
4 measurement, and the detector nonlinearity correction coefficient, create systematic errors in  
5 the spectral radiance. The measured polarization reflectance has much larger error than the  
6 scalar reflectance. The temperature differences between the onboard BB and the environment  
7 and between the scene and the mirror surface yield errors. Therefore, when TANSO-FTS views  
8 cold atmospheres and surfaces, measurement error is larger than the error from viewing the  
9 ideal BB target of 280K. The polarization correction is one of the largest error sources. To  
10 validate the radiometric calibration and polarization correction, High-performance  
11 Instrumented Airborne Platform for Environmental Research (HIAPER) Pole-to-Pole  
12 Observations (HIPPO) and NOAA buoy data are used as input for forward calibration. In  
13 addition, coincident flight data of the airborne S-HIS FTS over Greenland for cold target and  
14 over Railroad Valley for hot target are used for spectral radiance comparisons. These results  
15 suggest the L1B V201 data has spectrally dependent bias equivalent to random noise level. The  
16 next L1B version will minimize these systematic errors. Meanwhile, we suggest the following  
17 bias corrections. The errors are correlated with the background temperature change. The  
18 onboard BB temperature with three high resolution thermometers represents the seasonal and  
19 orbital-phase variation in instrument environment temperature. The FTS-mechanism and aft-  
20 optics on the optical bench are temperature-controlled at 23°C. The difference between the  
21 environment temperature and the optical bench creates a calibration error. Therefore, the  
22 following correction can minimize the bias over the wide target temperature range.

$$23 \quad R_{corr} = R_{obs} - \{a(\nu) \times (R_{obs} - R(T_{bb})) + b(\nu)\} \quad (1)$$

24 where  $R_{corr}$ ,  $R_{obs}$ , and  $T_{bb}$ , are corrected and raw observed radiance in  $\text{W cm}^{-1}\text{str}^{-1}$ , and BB  
25 temperature, respectively. The scaling factor  $a(\nu)$  and the offset  $b(\nu)$  are both functions of  
26 wavenumber  $\nu$ , and determined from the HIPPO and buoy validation data (Kataoka et al., 2015).

27 Another issue is the sudden change in TIR signal level, which decreased after the solar  
28 paddle incident in May 2014 and increased after the cryo-cooler shutdown in September 2015.  
29 Once the signal level changed, it became stable. As there was no water vapor spectral structure  
30 in the difference, the most probable cause is the optical alignment or imperfect nonlinearity  
31 correction. As the TIR spectra are calibrated six times per orbit, these gaps do not create errors.



1 For the nonlinearity correction, the DC offset level  $V_{DCoffset}$  in the equation (1) described in  
2 Kuze et al. (2014) has to be carefully tuned as it is estimated from the DS view signal. These  
3 values will be modified in the next version.

4

#### 5 **4 Optimizing global coverage**

6 The nominal sampling strategy of GOSAT TANSO-FTS is a 3- or 5-point CT scan, along with  
7 some special target points such as calibration and validation sites and emission sources. In this  
8 section, we discuss ideas and plans for optimizing the usefulness of the GOSAT data collection  
9 via changes to the sampling pattern. Some of these ideas could be extended to the planned  
10 GOSAT-2 mission, which is tentatively planned for a 2018 launch (Suto et al, 2013b) and the  
11 planned OCO-3 mission with a pointing mirror assembly (Eldering et al., 2013).

12 The 2-axis pointing was originally designed for viewing onboard calibration sources and  
13 grid point observations. With daily operation planning, the full use of onboard memory in the  
14 pointing mechanism controller can be utilized to optimize the global pointing. The agile  
15 pointing system permits a large number of custom targets per orbit at the expense of spatial  
16 context. It is still difficult to cover the Earth's entire surface with high spectral resolution  
17 spectrometers such as OCO-2 and TANSO-FTS, which have 16 and 3 day ground track repeat  
18 cycles respectively. Therefore, a sampling strategy of these instruments benefits from  
19 optimization.

20 Since August 2010, TANSO-FTS has been operating in a 3-point CT scan mode. The  
21 exceptions are a 1-point CT scan mode between September 2014 and December 2014 when the  
22 primary pointing mechanism was unstable, and a short period of 5-point CT scan mode just  
23 after TANSO-FTS operation was reset. Thus, measured points were distributed at even  
24 distances. The yield rate over cloudy area such as the Amazon, South-east Asia, and Central  
25 America, and low surface albedo areas such as snow and ice and bays and channels is very low.  
26 Areas with thick aerosols such as the Sahara also have larger errors. Generally, flatter and  
27 brighter targets provide better spectra for the L2 retrieval algorithms. Now that GOSAT has  
28 demonstrated accurate  $X_{CO_2}$  and  $X_{CH_4}$  remote sensing, demand for emission source  
29 measurements of mega-cities, power plants, gas fields, and volcanoes has increased. In addition  
30 to grid observations, by uploading the pointing angles from the ground every day, TANSO-FTS  
31 can target a maximum of about one thousand points per day.



1 Dithering over fractional cloud areas and targeting coasts and islands, while avoiding bays  
2 and channels can increase the yield rate of spectra that provide high quality Level 2 retrievals.  
3 Multi-angle observations with cross track, forward, nadir and backward viewing with the two  
4 axis-pointing mirror may distinguish aerosol scattering from surface reflection and reduce  
5 aerosol-related errors. After the pointing mechanism was switched from the primary to the  
6 secondary on 26 January 2015, the secondary shows stable settling and slower cable hardening  
7 than the primary system. The optimized target mode allocation can now be considered.

8

#### 9 **4.1 Emission source observation**

10 Turner et al. (2015) has compared North America CH<sub>4</sub> emissions between the Emission  
11 Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR) v4.2 model, the 2012 US Environmental  
12 Protection Agency (EPA) inventory, and the GOSAT Level 2 products. The analytical results  
13 show that the EDGAR and EPA bottom-up inventories underestimate a US anthropogenic  
14 methane source. The emissions are highest in the southern–central US, the Central Valley of  
15 California, and Florida wetlands; large isolated point sources such as the US Four Corners also  
16 contribute. Compared with CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> emissions are not well understood. To this end, the  
17 sampling of GOSAT paths 35, 36 and 37 over the west coast of North America have been  
18 modified by adding targeting of possible large emission sources. For path 35, TANSO-FTS  
19 targets coal mining and a power plant at Four Corners. For path 36, TANSO-FTS targets the  
20 RRV calibration site three times from the east followed by the Armstrong Flight Research  
21 Center (AFRC) and the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) which have Total Carbon  
22 Column Observing Network (TCCON) validation sites (Wunch et al, 2011). In addition, the  
23 Chino dairy complex is targeted from Path 36. For the path 37, which occurs the following day,  
24 TANSO-FTS targets RRV three times from the west, then three points near Sacramento,  
25 California: rice fields, downtown and a landfill. Path 37 also samples Bakersfield, California  
26 followed by the AFRC and Caltech sites. For Bakersfield, TANSO-FTS targeted six points  
27 per path to include upwind and downwind oil fields together with ground and airborne in-situ  
28 measurements. This approach, which combines accurate surface, dense airplane and column  
29 measurements, was tested in order to estimate the magnitude of the emissions quantitatively  
30 using a chemical transport model, without the need for inversion algorithms (Leifer et al., 2015).

31



## 1    **4.2 Dithering observation in cloudy areas**

2    In order to understand plant respiration and photosynthesis, we attempt to increase the yield  
3    rate of high quality L1B spectra that yield good Level 2 over the Amazon, which experiences  
4    frequent contamination by fractional clouds within the TANSO-FTS 10.5 km IFOV. Since  
5    2014, for measurements obtained over the Amazon, we tried dithering observations instead of  
6    3 point-CT-scan mode observation. We simply categorized the region into two areas: tropical  
7    rain forest (TRF) and Cerrado (CRD). During the dry season, in September 2014, we applied  
8    a 3-day dithering observation after the 3-day no-dithering observation. By filtering out clouds  
9    with CAM data, 41 (TRF) and 164 (CRD) data remain with dithering while 23 (TRF) and 163  
10    (CRD) remain without dithering, as illustrated in Fig. 14. This experiment showed that  
11    dithering increased the clear sky data over TRF during the dry season. Another advantage of  
12    dithering is that observation points are increased while a nominal 3-point scan CT mode is used  
13    to observe the same point three times. For more statistical analysis, we continue the dithering  
14    observation for selected target regions.

15

## 16    **4.3 Extension of glint observation**

17    Uncertainty of the CO<sub>2</sub> uptake estimation can be reduced by extending the latitudinal range of  
18    GOSAT glint measurements over oceans. Due to very low reflectance of water surfaces,  $X_{CO_2}$   
19    can be retrieved only with glint observation, i.e., in nadir viewing the scene is too dark to  
20    provide adequate SNR. Until August 2014, the latitudinal range of glint had been  $\pm 20^\circ$  of sub-  
21    solar point by tracking the exact specular reflection points. Since September, 2014, we have  
22    extended the glint observation range by tracking not only the exact specular reflection point but  
23    also tracking along the principal plane of the GOSAT-sun-specular reflection point on the sea  
24    surface. The larger incident angle of the sun has larger reflectance. As illustrated in Fig. 15a,  
25    at the time of the autumn equinox, the observed range becomes more than  $\pm 40^\circ$  in latitude by  
26    providing additional data beyond  $\pm 20^\circ$ , where the surface reflectance had been too dark to  
27    process before. Fig. 15b shows the clear sky data point screened with CAM after glint area  
28    extension.

29



#### 1 **4.4 Multi-angle and slant-viewing observation**

2 Frankenberg et al. (2012) suggested that it is possible to achieve aerosol-related error reduction  
3 using multi-angle measurement with viewing zenith angles of  $\pm 30^\circ$ . Since the AT motion of  
4 TANSO is limited  $\pm 20^\circ$ , we have instead measured the RRV vicarious calibration site from the  
5 eastern orbit of path 36 and the western orbit of path 37 on the next day. Assuming that the  
6 surface and atmospheric condition does not change much within a day, the results can be  
7 analyzed statistically. From path 37, the sun is located behind GOSAT with the CT angle of  
8  $+33^\circ$  producing scattering angle greater than  $150^\circ$ . GOSAT observes brighter backscattered  
9 radiation but at the same time, the scattering from aerosol and cloud is larger. On the other  
10 hand, the data from path 36 with the CT angle of  $-20^\circ$  is less contaminated by aerosol and cloud,  
11 which are the largest error sources in the GHG retrieval. At present, we have acquires more  
12 than 200 sets of measurements for statistical analysis. These datasets can be used to find the  
13 best viewing geometry in the future operation to minimize thin cloud and aerosol contamination.  
14

#### 15 **5 Summary and Discussion**

16 Solutions for two GOSAT system anomalies that occurred on-orbit in 2014 have been found  
17 and applied to the new L1B V201 processing. Currently, the satellite bus has enough fuel and  
18 four healthy batteries for a decade of observations by TANSO-FTS (both SWIR and TIR) and  
19 TANSO-CAI. Radiance degradation of TANSO-FTS and CAI has become very slow. The  
20 scanning motion of the TANSO-FTS mechanism has been stabilized by biasing the ZPD  
21 position with low metrology laser detection level. Well-calibrated and user-convenient L1B  
22 V201 has been released, and all six years of data are being reprocessed in order to provide the  
23 same spectral quality and seamless data. The target mode optimization has improved the  
24 number of good data and detected large emission sources, contributing to the effort of detecting  
25 emissions using satellite data and understanding missing carbon sinks. Especially with careful  
26 operation of the mechanical portions, GOSAT will extend its mission life, maximize TANSO-  
27 FTS performance, and provide a unique dataset.

28 Even though the number of sampling points per orbit is smaller than for imaging  
29 spectrometers, TANSO-FTS has an advantage of wide spectral coverage for both  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$   
30 in SWIR and TIR. OCO-2 uses grating spectrometers, while GOSAT uses a Fourier transform  
31 spectrometer to record spectra near 0.76, 1.6, and  $2.0 \mu\text{m}$  with different observing strategies,  
32 integration times, and spatial and spectral resolutions. After the successful launch of OCO-2,



1 measurements from the two independent instruments can be compared to distinguish common  
2 forward calculation errors such as line parameters, aerosol scattering, and ocean glint reflection  
3 from instrument-specific errors. The multiplexed and large throughput signal from the FTS  
4 requires a larger dynamic range and has higher possibility of nonlinearity. Grating  
5 spectrometers have more complicated instrument line shape functions and pixel-to-pixel non-  
6 uniformity. These characteristics have to be properly modeled in the retrieval process. The  
7 initial steps of this inter-comparison are (1) radiometric comparison from a common vicarious  
8 calibration site at RRV in Nevada, where surface reflectance and BRDF have been  
9 characterized over six years and  $X_{CO_2}$  data are also available from air-borne and ground-based  
10 instruments, (2) spectral comparisons from the lunar calibration data, and (3) comparisons of  
11  $X_{CO_2}$  from spatially and temporally coincident observations such as Lamont, AFRC, Caltech  
12 TCCON sites. Once the two instruments are characterized, they can view common targets from  
13 different geometries (Kuze et al, 2015). This capability provides additional constraints on  
14 aerosol scattering, which is the largest uncertainty for CO<sub>2</sub> retrieval from space.

15 Globally-consistent observation of greenhouse gases from space is still challenging  
16 especially at high latitude and over very bright desert surfaces with thick aerosol. However, a  
17 detailed understanding of the carbon cycle requires global satellite data. Further applications,  
18 validations and new algorithms, such as those presented above, should be investigated for full  
19 use of GOSAT data;

20 (i) TIR and SWIR synergetic observations; thermal emission from the atmosphere contains  
21 vertical density distribution information due to the temperature gradient. With a column density  
22 constraint from SWIR, the difference between the upper and lower troposphere can be retrieved,  
23 which will contribute to a better understanding of the dynamics.

24 (ii) Simultaneous observation of two liner polarizations; TANSO-FTS is the only space borne  
25 instrument that measures two linear polarizations with high spectral resolution. This capability  
26 has the potential to provide improved retrieval of cloud and aerosol (Sanghavi et al., 2015).

27 (iii) Validation with the medium gain; global GOSAT observations cover a wide range of  
28 surface albedos (Kawakami et al, 2015). The nonlinearity correction is the most complicated in  
29 the L1B processing routine. Except for TCCON at AFRC, all the TCCON sites are located at  
30 medium or low albedo areas. Light path modifications are complicated with aerosol at high  
31 albedo areas and retrieval becomes more difficult.



1

2

### 3 **Acknowledgements**

4 The authors would like to thank J. Katoh, N. Goto, Y. Aketa, S. Funaki, and Y. Tsukahara of  
5 the GOSAT operation team, A. Sasaki and S. Obara of the JAXA tribology laboratory, T. Arai  
6 of Fujitsu Corporation, K. Ikehara of NEC Corporation, F. Komagata, K. Nakagawa, and  
7 Hashizume of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Y. Yoshida and T. Yokota of the NIES GOSAT  
8 team, the JPL OCO-2 calibration team led by C. Bruegge and F. Schwandner, the RemoteC  
9 team led by A. Butz at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, and the SSEC team led by R.  
10 Knuteson at the University of Wisconsin.

11

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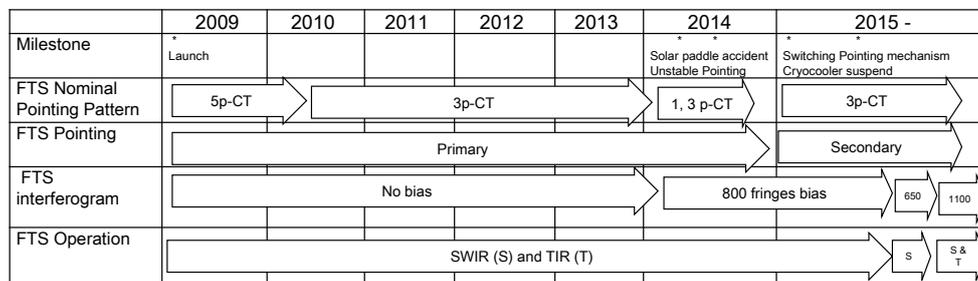
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2 Table 1. Pointing offset and geolocation information in the L1B product.

Pointing system	Pointing offset	L1B V161 and earlier Geolocation	Correction	L1B V201 Geolocation	Best-estimate geolocation
Primary (PM-A)	Time dependent (correction table of every two week) (AT and CT angles independent)	Not corrected	Users have to use the correction table provided from NIES GUIG	Not corrected	Corrected
Secondary (PM-B)	Constant since Feb. 2015 CT angle dependent	Not corrected		Corrected	Corrected (The same as the geolocation)

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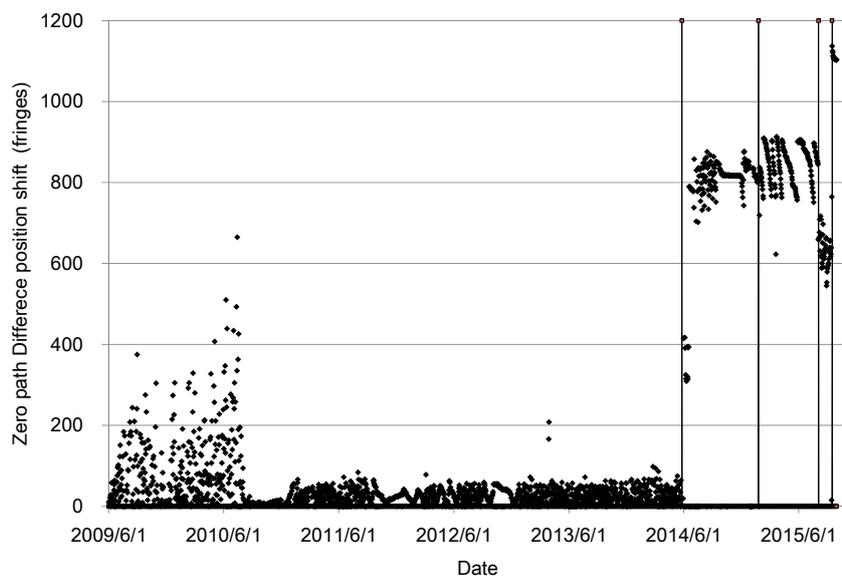


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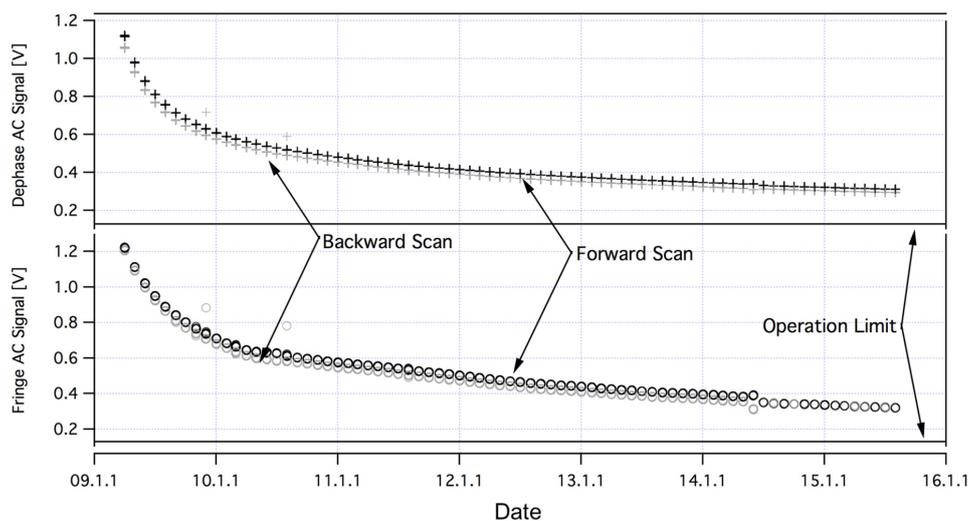
6 Note: There is no change in the operation of TANSO-CAI and CAM

7 Fig. 1. Long-term operation status..

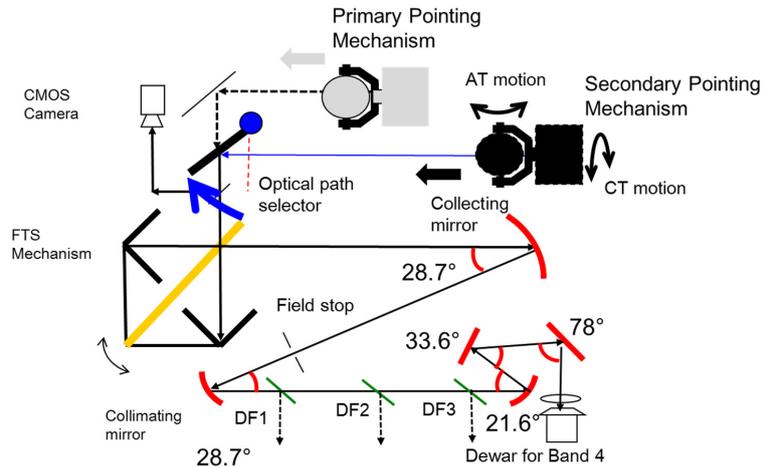
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2 **Fig. 2.** Long-term ZPD position from the center of the interferogram with periodic correction  
3 operations. The optical center of the interferogram is 38273 half laser fringes. The vertical  
4 lines represent the time of 3 major system anomalies: solar paddle, pointing mechanism  
5 change and cryocooler suspension and restart.



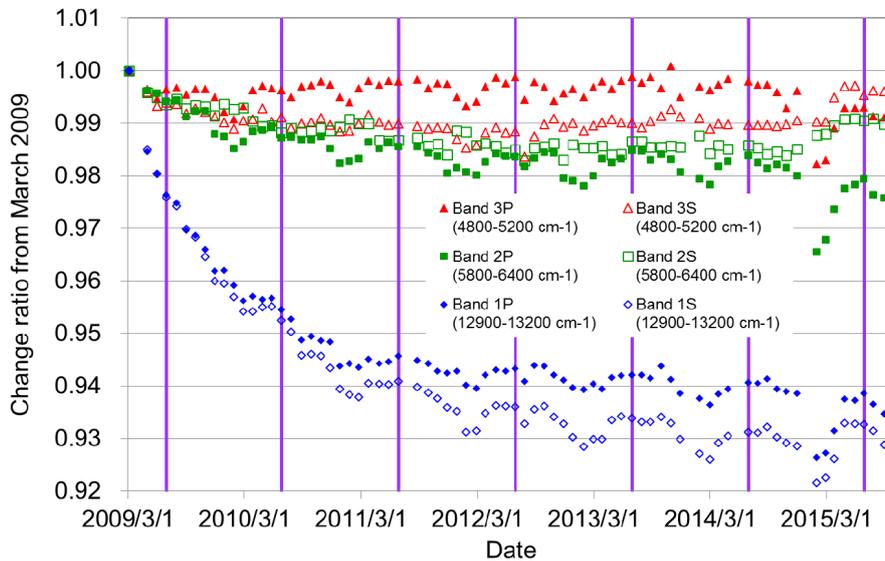
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7 **Fig. 3.** Detected laser signal amplitude of dephase and fringe and the minimum level of 0.13V  
8 (solid level) to control the FTS mechanism.  
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1

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Fig. 4. Pointing mechanisms and optics layout of TANSO-FTS.



3

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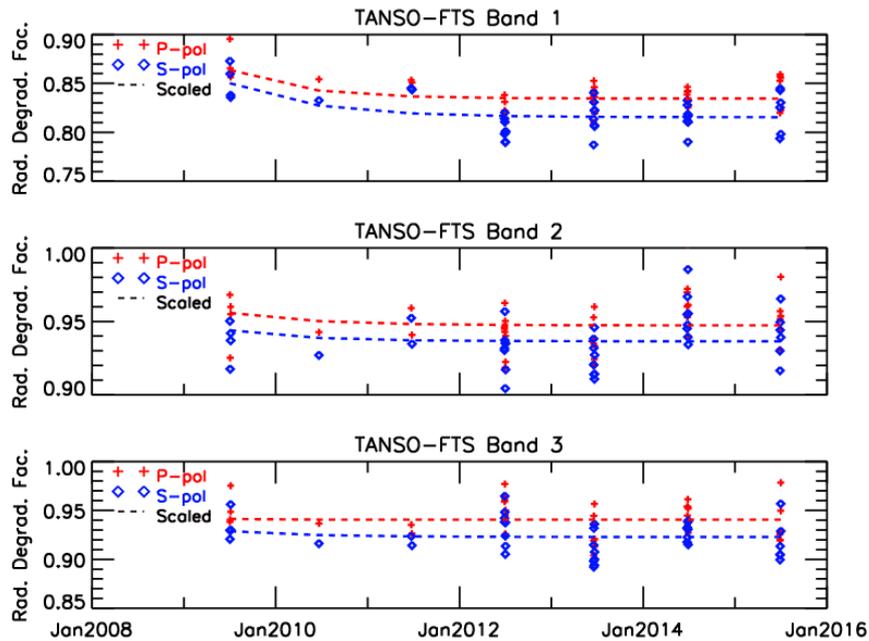
Fig. 5. Solar irradiance monthly calibration data from the back side of the onboard Spectralon  
 diffuser, which indicates the change from the first measurement in space after correction for the  
 distance between the satellite and the Sun and the angle of incidence of the solar beam upon the  
 diffuser. The vertical lines represent the time of vicarious campaigns.

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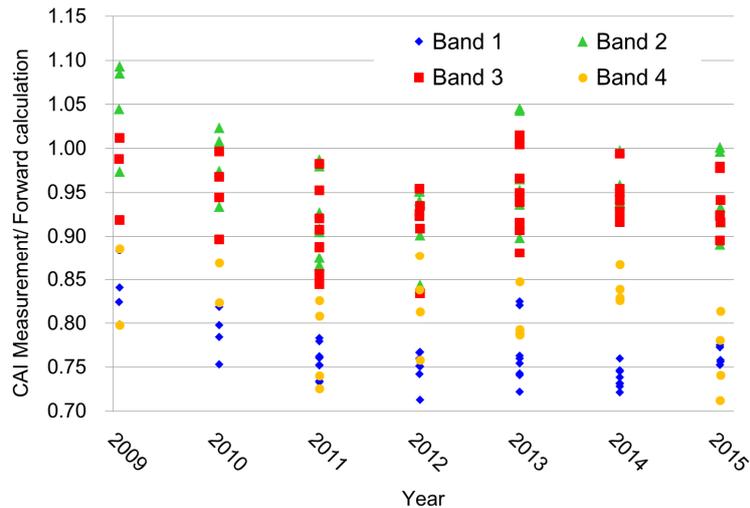
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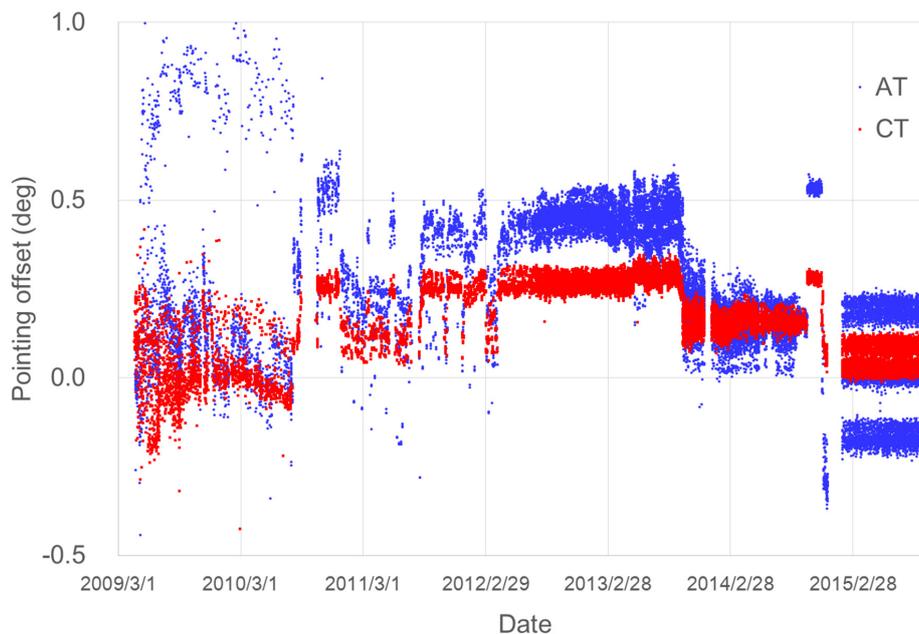


3 (b)

4 **Fig. 6.** RDF for six years from seven annual vicarious calibration campaigns of (a) TANSO-  
 5 FTS and (b) TANSO-CAI. Each symbol represent calibration points calculated from individual  
 6 surface measurement. The lines in (a) show the model derived from the onboard solar diffuser  
 7 data.



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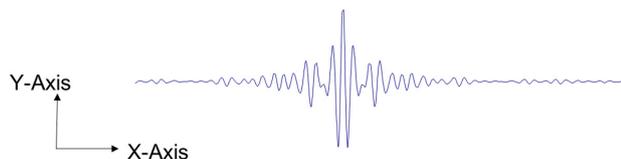
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4 **Fig. 7.** Long-term pointing offset for grid observations: AT optical angle (circle) and CT  
5 (square). Since August 2010, the grid observation pattern has changed from the 5-point CT  
6 mode to the 3-point CT scan mode. From 23, January 2015, the secondary pointing system is  
7 used.

8



1



X-AXIS (Re-sampling)

- (1) FTS mechanism scan speed instability correction for medium gain (2 sinusoidal sources) (V110 and later)
- (2) *Sampling interval non-uniformity correction (SINUC) (V150 issue, not applied in V161, modified in V201)*
- (3) *Analogue circuit intensity dependent phase delay correction (V201)*
- (4) Doppler shift due to image motion compensation (forward to backward viewing) (not corrected)

Y-Axis (Intensity correction)

- (1) *Intensity variation (low frequency) component correction (V050, modified in V201)*
- (2) Detector nonlinearity correction (Band 4) (V110 and later)
- (3) *Band 1 high gain amplifier nonlinearity correction (V150, modified in V201)*
- (4) ADC nonlinearity (not corrected, V130 issue)

2

3

**Fig. 8.** Corrections in the Level 1 B processing in the interferogram domain. V050, V110,

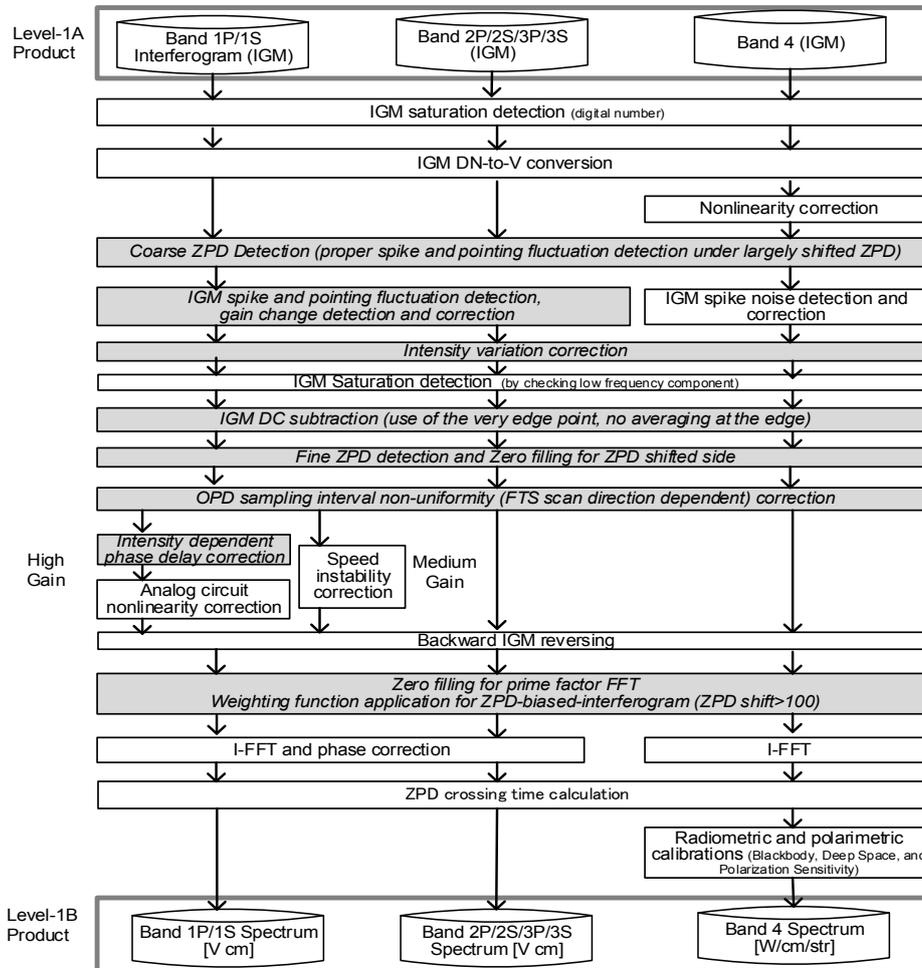
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V130, V150, V161, and V201 are versions of the Level 1B. The items with italic letters are

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described in this paper.

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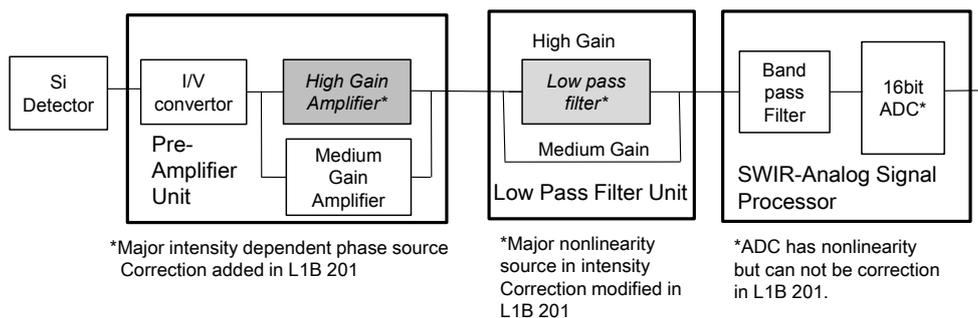
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2 Fig. 9. TANSO-FTS L1B V201 data processing flow. Hatched boxes and italic letters show  
 3 the modification from L1B V161. The procedures are also modified in L1B V201.

4

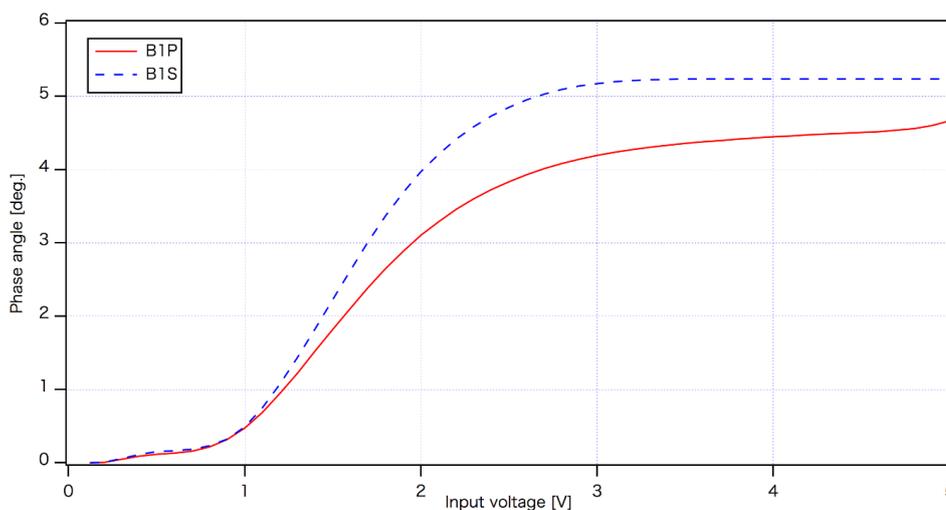


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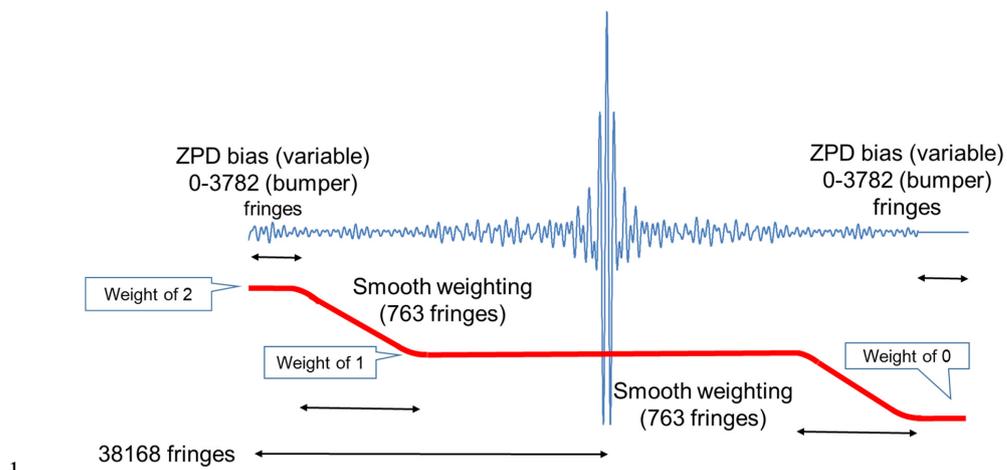
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3 Fig. 10. Band 1 analogue circuit block diagram and correction in L1B V201.



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5 Fig. 11. Intensity dependent phase of the Band 1 P (B1P) (solid line) and S (B1S) (dotted line)  
 6 high gain analogue circuit. Higher gain B1S has larger dependency.

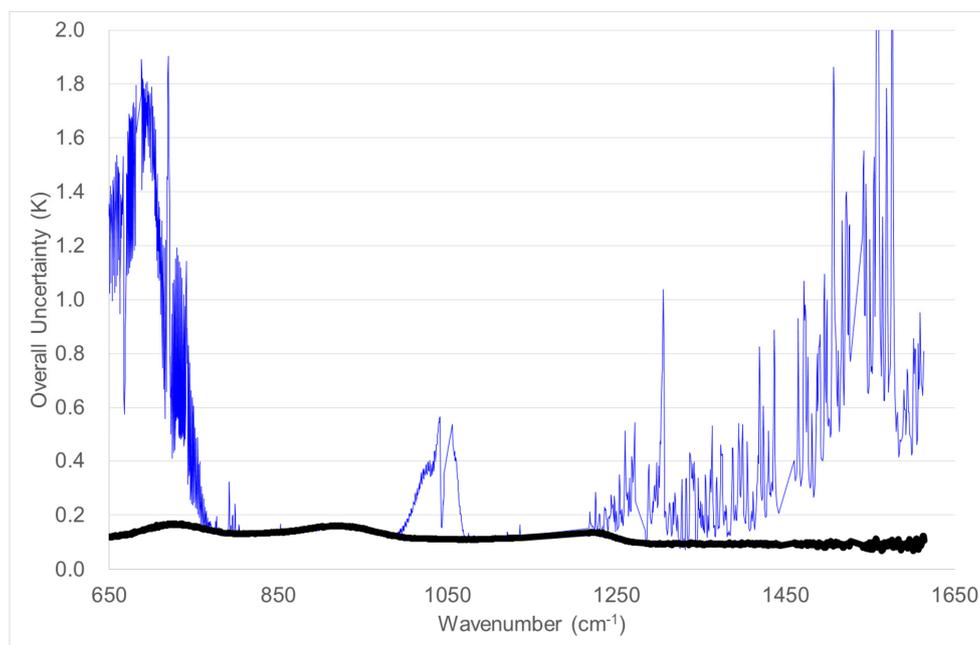


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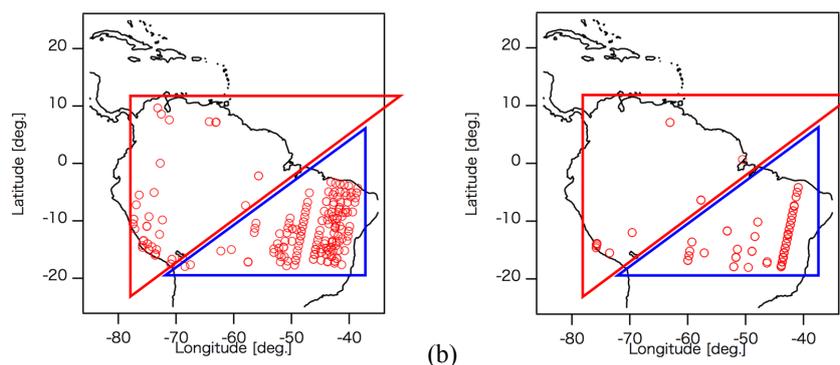
2 Fig. 12. Weighting function for interferogram with bias larger than 100 half laser fringes.

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2 **Fig. 13.** Estimated calibration uncertainty by adding systematic bias error in case of viewing  
3 nadir (06:19:10 UTC, on 23 December 2010) (solid line) and 280 K BB target (bold line).

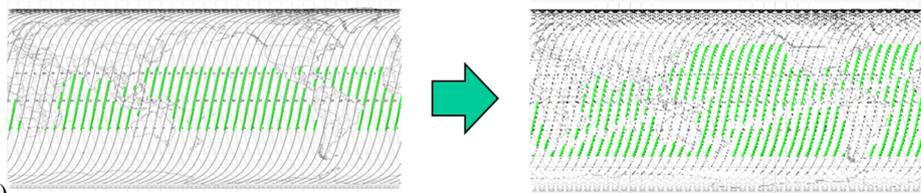


4 (a) (b)  
5 **Fig. 14.** Clear sky data (a) with and (b) without introducing dithering observation over the  
6 Amazon in September 2014. Upper and lower triangles are categorized as tropical rain forest  
7 and Cerrado, respectively. The repeated observation location are overwritten.

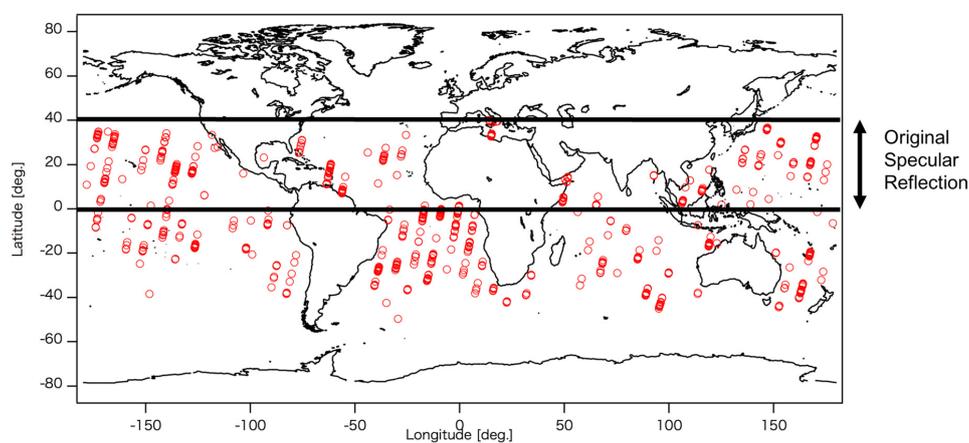
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2 (a)



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4 Fig. 15. (a) Glint observation area extension by tracking along the principal plane of reflection  
5 before (left) and after (right) 9 September 2014, and (b) clear sky data point distribution after  
6 extension during 7–9 June 2015.