

Synergistic Use of the ABI and HES for Atmospheric Sounding and Cloud Property Retrieval

Chian-Yi Liu¹, Jun Li¹, Timothy J. Schmit² and W. Paul Menzel²

¹ Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies, Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI USA

² Office of Research and Applications, NOAA/NESDIS, Madison, WI USA

The Advanced Baseline Imager (ABI) and the Hyperspectral Environmental Suite (HES) on the GOES-R series will enable improved monitoring of the distribution and evolution of atmospheric thermodynamics and clouds. The HES will be able to provide hourly atmospheric soundings with spatial resolution of 4 ~ 10 km with high accuracy using its high spectral resolution infrared measurements. However, the presence of clouds affects the sounding retrieval and needs to be dealt with properly. The ABI will provide at high spatial resolution (0.5 ~ 2km) a cloud mask, surface and cloud types, cloud-top phase information, cloud top pressure (CTP), cloud particle size (CPS), and cloud optical thickness (COT), etc. The combined ABI/HES system offers the opportunity for atmospheric and cloud products to be improved over those possible from either system alone. The key step for synergistic use of ABI/HES radiance measurements is the collocation in space and time. Collocated ABI can (1) provide HES sub-pixel cloud characterization (mask, amount, phase, layer information, etc.) within the HES footprint; (2) be used for HES cloud-clearing for partly cloudy HES footprints; (3) provide background information in variational retrieval of cloud properties with HES cloudy radiances. The Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) and the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) measurements from the Earth Observing System's (EOS) Aqua satellite provide the opportunity to study the synergistic use of advanced imager and sounder measurements. The combined MODIS and AIRS data for various scenes are analyzed to study the utility of synergistic use of ABI products and HES radiances for better retrieving atmospheric soundings and cloud properties. ABI can also help HES for cloud-clearing of footprints in partial cloud cover. Currently there is an option that ABI and HES might be located on different satellites, this design will have impact on the ABI/HES synergism. In order to answer the question on what the impact will be on the ABI/HES synergism if the two satellites are separated by a distance of 1, 2.5, or 5.0 degree in longitude, a study is carried out to simulate the ABI BT differences within collocated HES footprints due to the two-satellite system for ABI and HES.

Proceedings of the Fourteenth International TOVS Study Conference

Beijing, China
25-31 May 2005

