

Release of GCOM-W1 AMSR2 L2 and L3 Products (Geophysical Dataset)

Takashi Maeda^{1*}, Keiji Imaoka¹, Misako Kachi¹, Arata Okuyama¹, Kazuhiro Naoki¹

¹JAXA EORC

The Global Change Observation Mission 1st - Water "SHIZUKU" (GCOM-W1) was launched by the H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 21 at 1:39 a.m. on May 18, 2012 (Japan Standard Time, JST) from the Tanegashima Space Center. SHIZUKU satellite is carrying the Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer 2 (AMSR2), which is the successor sensor to the Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer - Earth Observing System (AMSR-E) loaded on Aqua satellite.

AMSR2 started observation on July 3, 2012, and after the initial calibration operation, the brightness temperature dataset (L1 product) was released from 'GCOM-W1 Data Providing Service' (<https://gcom-w1.jaxa.jp/>) on January 25, 2013. As the next step, release of the geophysical dataset (L2 and L3 products) is scheduled in May, 2013, and we are surely making preparations for it.

On the other hand, observation by AMSR-E was stopped on October 4, 2011 due to increasing frictional resistance of rotating antenna, but was successfully restarted on December, 2012. AMSR-E is now rotating at 2 rpm, one - twentieth slowly than the normal operation, but its data also can be obtained, and used for cross calibration for AMSR2 data.

We present the current status of AMSR2 data products, and how to use them.

Keywords: GCOM-W1, AMSR2, L2 Product, L3 Product, Geophysical Dataset