OSIRIS

Optical, Spectroscopic, and Infrared Remote Imaging System

Acquisition and processing of flat field images for OSIRIS calibration

RO-RIS-MPAE-TN-075 Issue: 2 Revision: - 20/12/2021

> Prepared by: Jakob Deller

Reference: RO-RIS-MPAE-TN-075 Issue: Rev.: - $\overline{2}$ Date: 20/12/2021 Page: ii.

Approval Sheet

Joket Vielle Digitally signed by Jakob Deller
DN: cn=Jakob Deller, c=DE, o=Max
Planck Institute for Solar System
Research, email=deller@mps.mpg.de Soettingen
.12.20 15:08:54 +01'00' prepared by: Jakob Deller (signature/date) Digitally signed by **Holger Sierks** Date: 2021.12.20 ∞ 15:41:17 +01'00'

approved by: Holger Sierks (signature/date)

Document Change Record

Table of contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

1 General aspects

1.1 Scope

This document describes how the flat fields to calibrate OSIRIS images have been obtained. The description is based on the OSIRIS calibration report [\[RD5\]](#page-5-1).

1.2 Reference Documents

2 Flat fields determination

The OSIRIS flat fields were created using the integrating sphere with the calibrated halogen lamps (near-IR and visible) and xenon lamps (mostly UV), placed at a lamp linear extension screw position of 12 mm and 50 mm. The configuration with the lamps at 12 mm is referred to as *lamps in bright position* and the one with the lamps at 50 mm as *lamps in dark position*. The intensity with the lamps in dark position is about 35 times lower than the one with the lamps in bright position.

The pre-flight flat fields are of special importance because no real flat field exposures can be obtained in flight. In fact, the internal calibration lamps do not provide homogeneous illumination (especially for the WAC) and the fields of view of the cameras are too large to obtain flat fields with celestial objects.

To create a flat field, between 3 to 5 raw images of the integrating sphere obtained with the same filter combination were used. For the NAC, the flat fields have been obtained in the delta calibration on 19-20 July 2003 and for the WAC in December 2001. Flat fields obtained in other periods (i.e. October 2001 for the WAC and in 2001 for the NAC) are not used for the calibration pipeline because the cameras were in a different configuration than the final one.

The selected images are full frame images (2048 x 2048 pixels) read out through amplifier B. Additionally all images contain 48 overclocked lines that are used to determine the bias level. All flat fields have been obtained with cold CCDs (~190 K).

Before creating the flat field, the raw images are processed: the coherent noise is removed, the bias is subtracted using the average intensity from the overclocked lines, and the overclocked lines are removed from the image. While the bad column on the WAC CCD is interpolated, dark pixels are not removed.

The flat field is created pixel by pixel. For each pixel, first the median value of the 3-5 input images is calculated. In case in one of the images the pixel value differs by more than 5σ from the median,

this pixel value is rejected as being unreliable. The average of the remaining values is the value of the flat field at that pixel.

Finally, the flat fields are normalized to unity in the central 200×200 pixels region as described in Section [2.1.](#page-6-0)

The initial versions of the flat fields (V01) used by the calibration pipeline to calibrate the OSIRIS images have been created with the Disrsoft routine makeflat.pro.

2.1 Normalization of the flat field images

The flat fields are normalized to unity in the central 200×200 pixel region, dividing the image by the average value in the window [924:1123,924:1123] in CCD coordinate system.

In case of the WAC UV245 filter (F31), a pinhole is located in the center of the image. The additional intensity caused by the pinhole is corrected to calculate the normalization factor. For this image, the average over the central region is normalized to 1.0768013.

2.2 WAC flat fields

The flat fields for all WAC filter combinations are listed in [Table 3.](#page-20-0) The original files (.uax) are stored in .\data\lab\FM\first_calibration\Analysis\flatfields\wac. The calibrated halogen lamps were used for the filters in the visible spectral range, while the xenon lamps were used for the UVfilters.

The lamps were operated in bright position. Halogen lamps were used for filters in the visible wavelength range, and xenon lamps were used for filters in the UV range. Only filter F12 was operated with the halogen lamp in dark position.

The initial versions of the flat fields (V01) used by the calibration pipeline to calibrate the OSIRIS images have been created with the Disrsoft routine makeflat.pro. They have been updated to remove facility artefacts as described in Section [9.](#page-13-0)

The flat fields used by the pipeline are listed in [Table 5.](#page-24-1)

2.3 NAC flat fields

The flat fields for all NAC filter combinations are listed in [Table 4.](#page-21-0) The original files (.uax) are stored in data\lab\FM\first_calibration\Analysis\flatfields\newnac.

Numerous filter combinations were observed with the halogen lamps, both in bright and in dark position. Two filter combinations containing the neutral density filter (F83 and F84) and combinations containing the near-UV or far-UV filters were additionally flat-fielded with the xenon lamps.

Flat fields derived from images acquired with the lamps in bright position differ up to a few percent from flat fields obtained in dark position. It was decided to use the flat fields taken with the halogen lamps in bright position as default flat fields for all filter combinations that were flat-fielded in that configuration.

The original flat field images used in the pipeline in version V01 are derived from the original .uax files by the procedure described in [\[RD5\]](#page-5-1) and listed in [Table 4.](#page-21-0) The first column contains the filenames of the flat fields called by OsiCalliope. These are equivalent to the files that were used by the IDL pipeline.

In 2015, the NAC filters affected most by these facility artefacts (F16, F24 and F84) have been corrected using in-flight calibration lamp images (see Section [2.4\)](#page-7-0). After a re-evaluation in 2020, many of the NAC flat fields have been corrected by removing these facility artefacts applying a correction derived from the ratio between flats taken with lamps in bright and dark position (see Section [2.5\)](#page-10-0).

2.4 Correction of calibration facility artefacts on NAC flats using in-flight calibration lamp images

Colour ratio images of the comet surface highlighted the known non uniformity of some of the NAC flat fields, in particular of the NAC F16 (Near-UV), F24 (Blue) and F84 (Blue) flat fields. Those filters are in the short wavelength part of the visible spectrum, with λ_{cent} < 480 nm. We will refer to the flat fields of those filters as "shorter wavelength flats" and to the flat fields of filters with $\lambda_{cent} \geq 535$ nm as "longer wavelength flats".

In the GRM delta calibration performed in 2016, the non-uniform pattern of the shorter wavelength flat fields was reproduced and attributed to illumination artefacts of the integrating sphere at the time when the images used to generate the flat fields were acquired.

Flat field images can be handled as a product of two separate images: a low spatial frequency and a high spatial frequency image.

- The high spatial frequency component shows the small scale, pixel to pixel variations. This is the effect of the CCD pixel non uniformities in size and sensitivity, and also the contamination effects on or close to the CCD surface.
- The low spatial frequency component contains the effect of the optical system, filter transmission non-uniformities, and the illumination artefacts of the target. These are large scale variations of the pixel sensitivities across the image surface.

Since the integrating sphere artefacts affect only the low spatial frequency flat fields, the correction should be applied only to this component, keeping the original high spatial frequency part unchanged.

The separation of the low and high spatial frequency components of the flat field image is done by the following procedure:

- Remove the hot and cold areas (grey level > 1.1 and grey level < 0.95) from the flat images by area patching, to avoid that they affect the averaging.
- Create the low spatial frequency image by applying a Gaussian blur filter with a size of 100 pixels.
- Normalize the low spatial frequency image to 1.00.
- Create the high spatial frequency image by dividing the original flat field by the low spatial frequency image.

The longer wavelength flats are relatively uniform, with a maximum deviation of only 2% from the average [\(Figure 1\)](#page-8-0). The shorter wavelength flats, and especially F24, F84 and F16, show larger non-uniformity (about 5%) and a characteristic pattern near the corners [\(Figure 2\)](#page-8-1).

Figure 1 Original low spatial frequency flat fields for F22, F23, and F82.

Figure 2 Original low spatial frequency flat fields for F24, F84, and F16.

Analysing the in-flight internal calibration lamp images of the NAC, the characteristic large scale non-uniformities are not visible. This indicates that these artefacts are caused by the laboratory calibration optical setup.

Consequently, if we assume that the longer wavelength flat fields are correct, the correction of the shorter wavelength flat fields can be performed using in-flight calibration lamp images:

 $FLAT_{short}$ corrected = $FLAT_{long}$ ref * $FLAT_{short}$ lamp / $FLAT_{long}$ lamp

where:

For the generation of the corrected shorter wavelength flat fields we have used the flat field of the orange filter (F22) as longer wavelength reference flat field.

The generation of the new flat images is done by the following procedure:

- Generate flat field images from the calibration lamp images, for the longer wavelength and the shorter wavelength filters.
- Separate the high- and low-spatial frequency component of the original flat images, and the calibration lamp flat images.

- Calculate the corrected low spatial frequency flat image based on the above formula, using only the low spatial frequency component of the original and the calibration lamp flats.
- Generate the new flat image by multiplying the new low spatial frequency component with the original high spatial frequency component.
- Normalize the flat field to a mean of 1 in the central pixel region specified in Section [2.1](#page-6-0) as has been done in the V01 of the flat field images.

[Figure 3](#page-9-0) shows the comparison between the original and the corrected flat fields for F16 (top row), F24 (centre row) and F84 (bottom row), respectively.

Figure 3 Original and corrected F16 (top), F24 (centre) and F84 (bottom) flat field images.

Version V02 of the flat field images for NAC filters F16, F24, and F84 on the calibration pipeline database are normalized to a mean value of 1 over the entire field, while V03 of these files are normalized only in the central part as described in Section [2.1.](#page-6-0) The flat fields currently used by the pipeline are listed in [Table 5.](#page-24-1)

2.5 Correction of calibration facility artefacts on NAC flats

The versions V01 of the NAC flat images are created from the integrating sphere images of the calibration campaign 2003 July. During this sequence, several images have been acquired in different filter combinations and sphere lamp configurations. The flat field images generated with the same filter setup, but with different lamp intensity configuration exhibited a significant difference. A characteristic pattern appeared which became stronger with the illumination intensity. The main features of this pattern is equivalent to the pattern removed during correction of filters F16, F24 and F84 using the in-flight calibration lamp images. This adds further evidence that these features are indeed caused by the measurement facility and not by the optical system itself.

The ratio of high and low intensity is therefore used to correct the NAC flat field images from facility caused artefacts. In some cases, where for technical reasons (too dim for high-intensity or to right for low-intensity flat images to be acquired) no ratio can be calculated, the ratio of a filter combination close in wavelength range or sharing one of the filter plates is used for this correction.

The creation of the ratio images for NAC flats and the selection of the applicable ratio and scaling parameters is detailed in [RD1.](#page-5-2)

2.5.1 Removal of facility artefacts from NAC flat field images

The normalized ratio image $I_{\text{corr}, i,j}$ for filter Fij is used to correct the flat-field image $F_{V01, i,j}$ by applying the following equation:

$$
F_{\text{V02},ij} = F_{\text{V01},ij} \times \left(\frac{1}{1 - C_{ij}(I_{\text{corr},ab} - 1)}\right)
$$

Where

$F_{V01,ij}$	The existing flat for filter ij
$F_{V02,ij}$	The resulting flat for filter ij
$I_{\text{corr},ab}$	The ratio calculated for filter ab
C_{ij}	The correction factor for filter ij

The correction factor C_{ij} is selected using an optimization routine to find the resulting flat $F_{V02, i,j}$ with the smallest standard deviation of values around the mean.

The resulting flat $F_{V02, ij}$ is normalized to a mean of 1 in the central region specified in Section [2.1](#page-6-0) as has been done for the versions V01 of the flat field images.

2.5.2 Values used in the removal of facility artefacts from NAC flat field images

Table 1 Filters corrected from facility artefacts by applying a scaled ratio image derived from a high- and a low-intensity flat field image. For details see [\[RD1\]](#page-5-2)

Figure 4 NAC flat field files corrected for facility artefacts using ratios of high-to low-intensity flat field images. The colour scale is calculated for individual pairs of V01 and V02 of the same filter, but all ratio images are scaled based on the colour bar on the top of the image.

Figure 4 continued.

2.6 Correction of calibration facility artefacts on WAC flats

The features in the calibration facility causing the artefacts seen in NAC flat fields are also manifest in WAC flat field files of the original flat fielding campaign, even though by the different focal length and optical properties appearing in different shapes and sizes. The artefacts are defocused, dark areas with circular and elliptical shape, and present on all filter images. They showed significant displacements between calibration campaigns in 2001 October and December, as seen in [Figure 5.](#page-14-0) This is attributed to the horizontal position variation of the integrating sphere position or a different camera alignment between the two measurements, which is a strong indication for a non-camera, thus facility, nature.

The WAC focal length is relatively short, so the marked spots on the flat images are likely due to the sphere back surface non-uniformity, and the different reflection of the flattened back section.

Figure 5 Two images of the WAC F21 taken during the flat field campaign two month apart. For display purposes, the first-order gradient caused by the off-axis optical system is removed and the images are normalized. The marked regions contain features that move in location. The images are WAC_2001-10- 10T 03.23.55.061Z_ID00_0000008827_F21.uax (left) and WAC_2001-12-9T23.15.21.300Z_ID00_00000 10015_F21.uax (centre). The relative difference is calculated by $\Delta_{rel} = 2 \cdot (I_{left} - I_{right})/(I_{left} + I_{right})$

To correct the above effect, synthetic correction images were generated based on the same method as the ghost patterns in case of the in-field stray light removal [\[RD4\]](#page-5-3). Each pattern is defined as a disk centred at position X, Y with a radius of R_p . This disk is scaled to intensity A and a Gaussian blur of width G is applied .An exemplary synthetic artefact created with the parameters in [Table 2](#page-14-1) is shown in [Figure 6.](#page-15-0)

Table 2 Parameters of the synthetic artefact shown in [Figure 6.](#page-15-0) For a detailed explanation, see [RD4]. . The Gaussian blur parameter is chosen as $G = 400px$.

Reference: **RO-RIS-MPAE-TN-075** Issue: **2** Rev.: **-** Date: 20/12/2021 Page: 11

Figure 6 Exemplary synthetic artefact created by the ghost pattern above using the method described in [RD4]. These patterns are optimized to eliminate the facility artefacts seen in [Figure](#page-14-0) [5.](#page-14-0)

The pattern components are individually tuneable. For each WAC filter combination the synthetic artefact image is optimized and reviewed to eliminate the features seen in [Figure 5.](#page-14-0) The result is shown in [Figure 7.](#page-16-0)

Figure 7 WAC Flat field files corrected for facility artefacts. For display purposes, the gradient caused by the off-axis optical system is removed. The colour scale is calculated for individual pairs of V01 and V02 of the same filter, but all ratio images are scaled based on the colour bar on the top of the image.

[Figure 7](#page-16-0) continued. The colour bar on the top of the image and is the same as in [Figure 7.](#page-16-0)

2.7 Synthetic flat field images

For the WAC filter F11, as well as the NAC filter F31 and the NAC filter F81 no laboratory measurements are available.

The flat field of the WAC F11 filter has been synthetically generated as weighted average of existing visible wavelength flat fields. As weighting factor we have used the CCD quantum efficiency at the central wavelength of each filter.

The NAC F31 flat field image NAC_FM_FLAT_31_V01.IMG is the pixel-wise average of the following files: NAC_FM_FLAT_32_V02.IMG, NAC_FM_FLAT_38_V01.IMG, NAC_FM_FLAT_21_V01.IMG.

The NAC F81 flat field image NAC_FM_FLAT_81_V01.IMG is the pixel-wise average of the following files: NAC_FM_FLAT_82_V02.IMG, NAC_FM_FLAT_87_V02.IMG, NAC_FM_FLAT_88_V02.IMG.

3 Spectral Correction

The flat field images acquired with the integrating sphere in 2001 and 2003 were illuminated with either halogen or xenon lamps (the light source per filter is specified in [Table 3](#page-20-0) and [Table](#page-21-0) [4\)](#page-21-0), with a known spectral characteristic $E_{\text{sphere}}(\lambda)$ of the resulting flux including sphere coating. Observed solar system objects reflect solar light and thus show in first approximation the spectral characteristic of the Sun E_{Sun} .

It is moreover known from measurements of flight spare filters in 2012 that the filter transmission curve changes as a function of the incidence angle of the beam. The transmission curve shifts to smaller wavelengths for increasing angles of incidence and also changes its shape and integral [\[RD2\]](#page-5-4). As the incidence angle of the principle rays varies from 6.7 to 11.5 degrees within the field of the WAC, also the transmission curve changes as a function of this angle. For the NAC, this variation is from 4.30 to 4.37 degree such that the transmission variation is negligible.

As a consequence, a flat field image acquired with a halogen or xenon source would be different when acquired with a solar source spectrum. The difference for each pixel is the ratio of the integrated flux from a solar spectrum divided by the sphere spectrum R_{Sun}/R_{sphere} , where

$$
R_{\text{source}} = \int E_{\text{source}}(\lambda) \cdot S(\lambda, \theta) d\lambda
$$

is the integrated spectral flux of a source, with source being either Sun or sphere. The instrument sensitivity S depends on the wavelength λ and on the angle of incidence θ of the principle ray of a given pixel. Note that the actual flux per pixel comes from a distribution of incidence angles due to the convergence of the beam in the optical system. But the principle ray (or chief ray) is used as a good approximation for the effective angle [\[RD3\]](#page-5-5).

The ratio R_{Sun}/R_{sphere} was calculated for each filter and each pixel and normalised to the central 200 \times 200 pixels (also see [2.1\)](#page-6-0). Typical ranges of these correction images are \pm 1% with respect to the centre between left and right, where CN filter shows the largest variation of ±2.2%. In the calibration pipeline, the image is divided by this *spectral correction flat field* immediately after the laboratory flat field correction.

OSIRIS images are thus flattened for a solar type spectrum.

For the analysis of objects with other spectra, the image needs to be converted by multiplying an OSIRIS Level 2 (CODMAC L3) image with the solar spectral correction and divided by the spectral correction of the target of choice. The two spectral correction images that are provided with the OSIRIS data sets are R_{Sun}/R_{lamp} and R_{Vega}/R_{lamp} , which are stored as layers SUN_IMAGE and VEGA_IMAGE in files with the name WAC_FM_SPEC_ij_V01.IMG, where ij is the filter combination.

The correction is not required for WAC filter 11 (empty) as there is no filter shift without filter.

4 Error estimation of flat-field images

During the removal of facility artefacts the strongest artefacts found in the images have been removed. This resulted in a change of up to 2% of the flat field images. It is therefore reasonable to assume that no facility artefact feature above the 1% level remains in the flat field image. We therefore estimate the absolute error of the flat field to $\sigma_{F_{lab}} = 0.01$.

In the flat-fielding, the corrected image \bar{N}_{labflat} is calculated from the bias corrected image \bar{N}_{bias} using the laboratory flat field \overline{F}_{lab}

$$
\overline{N}_{\text{labflat}} = \frac{\overline{N}_{\text{bias}}}{\overline{F}_{\text{lab}}}
$$

Therefore the error contribution of the flat fielding step to the total error map is estimated as

$$
\sigma_{\overline{N}_{\text{labflat}}} = \overline{N}_{\text{labflat}} \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_{\overline{N}_{\text{bias}}}}{\overline{N}_{\text{bias}}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_{F_{\text{lab}}}}{\overline{F}_{\text{lab}}}\right)^2}
$$

where

 $\sigma_{\bar{N}_{\text{labflat}}}$ Is the error map after the flat-fielding step.

- \bar{N}_{labflat} Is the image after the flat-fielding step
	- \bar{N}_{bias} Is the image after the bias correction step, that is the step before the flatfield correction in the calibration pipeline
	- $\sigma_{\bar{N}_{\text{bias}}}$ Is the error map after the bias correction step
		- $\overline{F}_{\text{lab}}$ Is the laboratory flat field image used
	- $\sigma_{F_{\text{lab}}}$ Is the relative level of imperfections remaining in the laboratory flat field images. $\sigma_{F_{\rm lab}} = 0.01$

5 List of flat fields from ground calibration

Table 3 List of WAC flat fields.

a: file name as in the OsiCalliope database. ^b: file name of the original flat field images in uax format. $^{\circ}$: filename used to store the flat fields images in the IDL pipeline database. ^d: IDs of the images that were used to create the flat field (taken from the list obtained by the IDL procedure readfilelist, corresponding to the index in the file .\osiris\IDL\disrsoft\cal_soft\osirsoft\database\ filelists\filelist.out on CVS). e : exposure time. f : the filter positions. 9 and h : lamps and their positions.

Table 4 List of NAC flat fields.

Reference: **RO-RIS-MPAE-TN-075**
Issue: 2 Rev.: -

Page:

Issue: **2** Rev.: **-** –
20/12/2021
18

Reference: **RO-RIS-MPAE-TN-075**

Date: 20/12/2021

Issue: **2** Rev.: **-** Page: 19

a: file name as in the OsiCalliope database. ^b: file name of the original flat field images in uax format. $^{\circ}$: filename used to store the flat fields images in the IDL pipeline database. ^d: IDs of the images that were used to create the flat (taken from the list obtained by the IDL procedure readfilelist, corresponding to the index in the file .\osiris\IDL\disrsoft\cal_soft\osirsoft\database\ filelists\filelist.out on CVS). . e : exposure time. f : the filter positions. 9 and h : lamps and their positions.

6 Calibration files used by OsiCalliope

The calibration files used by OsiCalliope to calibrate OSIRIS images are listed in [Table 5](#page-24-1) and [Table 6.](#page-25-0)

Table 5 List of the NAC and WAC flat fields used by OsiCalliope

Table 6 List of spectral flat fields.

6.1 Previous versions

[Table 7](#page-26-0) lists previous versions of NAC and WAC flat fields in the deprecated naming convention of early versions of the calibration pipeline. Those files are obsolete, but they are identical to the files listed in [Table 5](#page-24-1) in versions V01 (V02 for filters NAC F16, F24 and F84).

Table 7 List of the previous versions of NAC and WAC flat fields.