



iCOR-OLCI plugin for SNAP toolbox

Software User Manual

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Contents

1.	Introduction.....	3
1.1.	Scope	3
1.2.	ICOR for OLCI background	3
i)	AOT retrieval	3
ii)	Adjacency correction SIMEC	4
iii)	Application of SVC gains.....	4
iv)	Atmospheric correction	4
1.3.	Reader level	4
1.4.	Version 3.1 updates.....	5
1.5.	References	5
2.	Software installation	6
2.1.	Hardware requirements	6
2.2.	Software requirements	6
2.3.	Download and installation.....	7
3.	Processors	11
3.1.	I/O parameters	12
3.2.	Processing parameters	13
3.3.	Output	17
3.4.	Command line processing	18
4.	Frequently Asked Questions	19
4.1.	iCOR fails to run	19
4.2.	Path does not exist	19
4.3.	Seemingly corrupt output in SNAP	20
4.4.	The result image band is all black.....	20
5.	Known issues	21
	Acknowledgement.....	21

1. Introduction

1.1. Scope

This document describes the installation and handling of the iCOR-OLCI plugin for SNAP. The plugin allows users to perform the iCOR atmospheric correction on OLCI images for land, inland and coastal waters.

1.2. ICOR for OLCI background

iCOR for OLCI Sentinel-3 is a modified implementation of the ICOR approach as already implemented in SNAP for the correction of Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 (De Keukelaere et al. (2018)). The methodology is briefly explained below.

i) AOT retrieval

One of the unknown input parameters for performing the atmospheric correction is the AOT (Aerosol Optical Thickness). In iCOR we implemented an adapted version of the land based AOT retrieval technique described by Guanter et al. (2005). The methodology can be summarized as follows:

- The raw TOA image is subdivided into tiles of about 15×15 km which are small enough to assume atmospheric homogeneity and large enough to include sufficient spectral variability.
- For each tile with a cloud and water percentage less than respectively 20% and 50%, we search for the lowest radiance value in each of the OLCI visible bands (i.e. Oa1 till Oa10). This is done for all land pixels in the tile resulting in a **dark target spectrum**. The lowest radiance values can be derived from different land pixels in the tile.
- The dark target spectrum is then used to set a first **upper AOT boundary** value for the tile:
 - The corresponding path radiance of the dark target spectrum is retrieved using the pre-calculated MODTRAN5 Look-Up-Table (LUT).
 - The AOT value leading to the path radiance closest to but not exceeding the dark spectrum in any of the visible bands becomes the tile upper AOT boundary.
- In the next step, the initial AOT estimation is refined through a multiparameter endmember inversion technique using selected end-members (ranging from bare soil to highly vegetated pixels) within the scene.
- If the macro-pixel contains too much clouds and/or the spectral reflectance variability within the macro-pixel is too small, no AOT retrieval is performed for that macro-pixel. The AOT value is then interpolated from the nearby macro-pixels for which the retrieval did succeed. Interpolation is done using an inverse weighted distance.
- Finally, a bilinear **interpolation** to the nominal pixel resolution is performed.

- In the OLCI implementation, this AOT is finally bounded over water pixels by a max AOT value. This max AOT value is calculated as the minimum of the AOT values for which the retrieved water leaving reflectance (without adjacency correction) at Oa11(708.75 nm) and at Oa18 (885 nm) would equal zero.

ii) Adjacency correction SIMEC

Optionally the SIMEC adjacency correction (Sterckx et al., 2005) can be applied over water pixels. The SIMEC adjacency correction is based on the NIR similarity (NIRsim) which states that the shape of the water spectrum in the NIR region is invariant. On the basis of this assumption the background contribution is iteratively calculated.

iii) Application of SVC gains

To correct for the known positive bias in the OLCI Level-1 data, System ViCarious (SVC) gains can optionally be applied to the radiance data prior to this atmospheric correction step.

iv) Atmospheric correction

After the AOT retrieval and the optional SIMEC step, the OLCI spectral bands (omitting the spectral bands affected by oxygen i.e. Oa13, Oa14, Oa15 and water vapor absorption i.e. Oa19, Oa20) are atmospherically corrected using the pre-calculated Moderate Resolution Atmospheric Transmission (MODTRAN, Berk et al., 1998) version 5 LUTs. These LUTs use as input 1) the solar and viewing geometry, 2) the terrain altitude as derived from the OLCI L1b annotation data file (i.e. geo_coordinates.nc), 3) the retrieved AOT values and 4) water vapour and ozone concentrations as provided in the OLCI auxiliary data layers (or optionally overwritten by user input).

For water pixels, a correction for the Fresnel reflectance is applied while land pixels are assumed to be Lambertian. If the “Perform Glint Correction” is selected, iCOR performs a correction for uncertainties in the Fresnel correction, mainly related to glint and haze effects. To this end, the water leaving reflectance at Oa21 (1020 nm) is subtracted from the retrieved water leaving reflectance. This is only performed when a pixel is not mixed (land/water) or when there are no remaining adjacency effects. This is automatically verified based on the difference in reflectance in Oa10 (681.25nm) and Oa11 (708.75nm). Furthermore, in case the reflectance at Oa21 (1020 nm) exceeds the reflectance at Oa17 (865nm), for instance due to calibration issues, this latter band is used in the correction instead of Oa21.

It should be noted that LUTs are only calculated for the nominal central wavelengths. As a Smile Correction Processor, like there is for MERIS, is not yet available in SNAP, smile related artefacts (i.e. due to change of center wavelength between camera’s and pixels) might still be visible in the iCOR atmospheric correction results. see chapter 4. for more details.

1.3. Reader level

This document is written for SNAP Toolbox users. The document assumes that the reader is familiar with the basic concepts in the SNAP software and its integrated processors.

1.4. Version 3.1 updates

We find it important to keep improving the performance of iCOR and to expand the embedded functionalities.

The iCOR SNAP Version 3.1 plug-in is made compatible with latest SNAP 12.0 version and include the following improvements:

- Update to support SNAP 12
- Python upgraded to version 3.12
- Installation as user without administrative privileges under Windows

1.5. References

- De Keukelaere, L., Sterckx, S., Adriaensen, S., Knaeps, E., Reusen, I., Giardino, G., Brescani, M., Hunter, P., Van der Zande, D., Vaicute, D. (2018). iCOR Image Correction for Atmospheric Effects, Results for Landsat-8 OLI and Sentinel-2 MSI, *European Journal of Remote Sensing*, Vol. 51, 525-542.
- Guanter, L., 2007. New algorithms for atmospheric correction and retrieval of biophysical parameters in earth observation. Application to ENVISAT/MERIS data.
- Guanter, L., Alonso, L., Moreno, J., Member, A., 2005. A Method for the Surface Reflectance Retrieval From PROBA / CHRIS Data Over Land : Application to ESA SPARC Campaigns 43, 2908–2917.
- Richter, R., Schläpfer, D., Müller, A., 2006. An automatic atmospheric correction algorithm for visible/NIR imagery. *Int. J. Remote Sens.* 27, 2077–2085. doi:10.1080/01431160500486690
- Sterckx, S., Knaeps, E., Adriaensen, S., Reusen, I., Keukelaere, L. De, Hunter, P., 2015. Opera : an Atmospheric Correction for Land and Water. *Proc. Sentin. Sci. Work.* 3–6.
- Sterckx, S., Knaeps, S., Kratzer, S., Ruddick, K., 2014. SIMilarity Environment Correction (SIMEC) applied to MERIS data over inland and coastal waters. *Remote Sens. Environ.* doi:10.1016/j.rse.2014.06.017
- Vermote, E.F., Tanré, D., Deuzé, J.L., Herman, M., Morcrette, J.J., 1997. Second simulation of the satellite signal in the solar spectrum, 6s: an overview. *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.* 35, 675–686. doi:10.1109/36.581987

2. Software installation

2.1. Hardware requirements

20 GB of free disk space of which:

- 1.2 GB for ESA-SNAP Toolbox installation
- 7 GB for iCOR installation
- Extra space for intermediate files during processing

2.2. Software requirements

OS :

- Window 8 or higher (64bit)
- Linux: Ubuntu 24.04 (LTS) (64bit)

General :

- SNAP 12.0.0 – <https://step.esa.int/main/download/snap-download/>

Windows:

- Windows redistributables (2022) https://aka.ms/vs/17/release/vc_redist.x64.exe
- When installing ESA-SNAP make sure the option “Extend my PATH environment variable” is selected



Ubuntu:

- Installation of python packages:

```
sudo apt install python3-rasterio  
sudo apt install python3-pyproj  
sudo apt install python3-gdal  
sudo apt install gdal-bin
```
- Make esa-snap gpt available on PATH
Assuming esa-snap is installed in /opt/esa-snap
this can be done by adding these lines to ~/.bashrc

```
if [ -d "/opt/esa-snap/bin" ] ; then  
    PATH="/opt/esa-snap/bin:$PATH"  
fi
```

2.3. Download and installation

!! Important note: If you have already previous version of SNAP and/or ICOR installed, it is important to fully uninstall and remove these older SNAP and ICOR versions before starting the installations.

Installation on WINDOWS

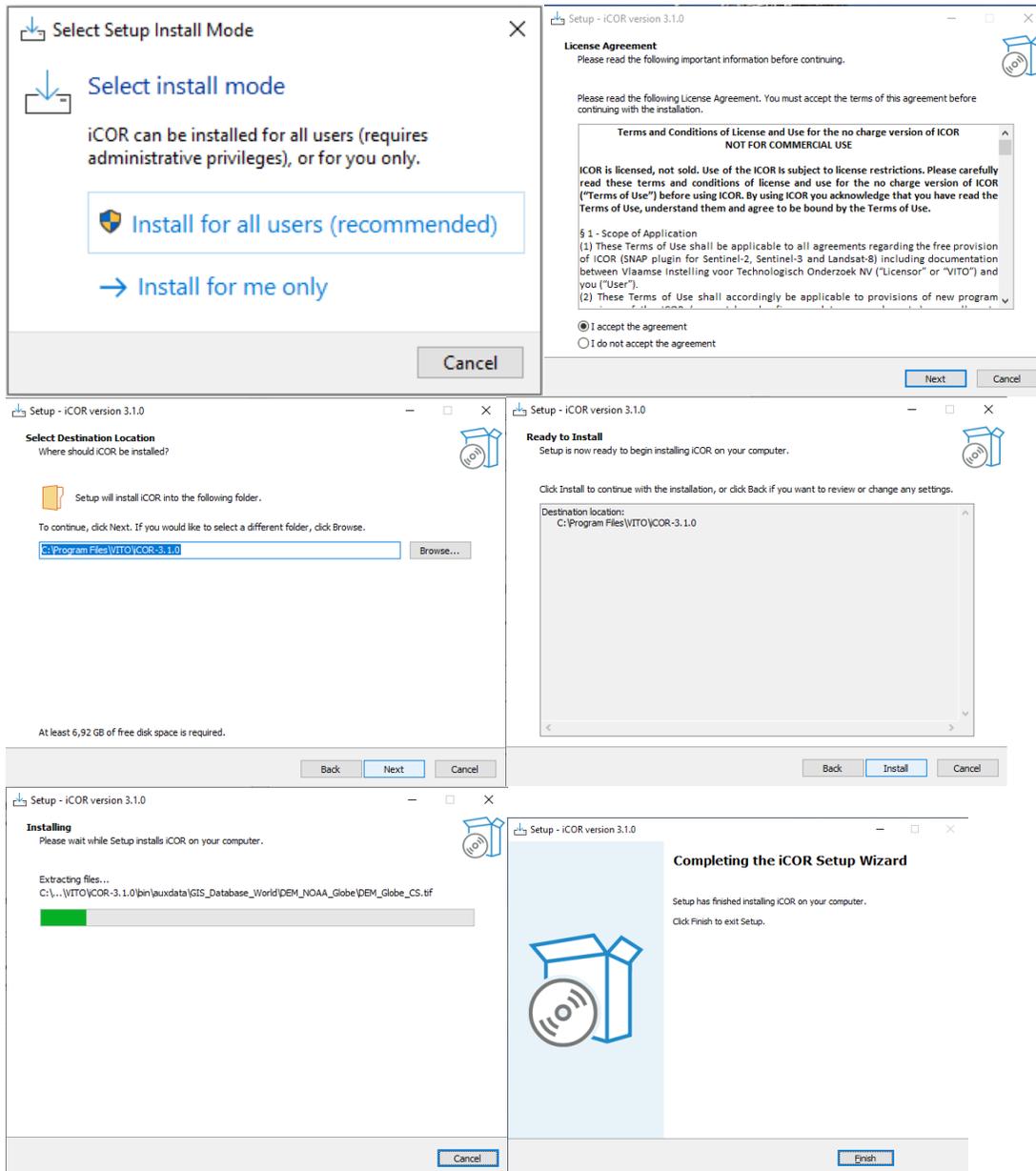
Run iCOR_Setup_3.1.0.exe

Please note that it can take a few minutes before the installation process starts.

A new window will pop-up with the iCOR Setup installation wizard.

If you have no administrative privileges some steps are skipped, also see "Non default installation path" further below in this document for needed changes.

- ➔ "Select install mode" → "Install for all users (recommended)"
- ➔ "Do you want to allow this app from an unknown publisher to make changes to your device" → "Yes"
- ➔ Go through the installation by selecting "I accept the agreement"
- ➔ Choose the installation folder (by default: 'C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0')
If you change this see "Non default installation path" further below in this document for needed changes.
→ "Next" → "Install"
- ➔ "Finish"



Installation on LINUX Ubuntu

Run `icor_install_ubuntu_24_04_x64_3.1.0.bin` with a user that has permissions to write to `/opt` or by using `sudo`

Please note that it can take a few minutes before the installation process starts.

`sudo ./icor_install_ubuntu_24_04_x64_3.1.0.bin`

This should result in the following output:

```
[sudo] password for <username>:
```

```
Verifying archive integrity... 100% MD5 checksums are OK. All good.
```

```
Uncompressing iCOR installer Ubuntu 24.04 x64 3.1.0 100%
```

Copying iCOR files into the installation folder : /opt/vito/icor-3.1.0
Done
iCOR installation for SNAP finished

Opening the plugin in SNAP

If the tool is successfully installed, you need to provide the installation path to SNAP. Therefore, in the SNAP toolbox go to Tools → Plugins → Downloaded → Add Plugins.

Browse to the directory where the iCOR files were installed, under the subdir 'sta' and select the file → click on Open.

For Windows:

- *iCOR-landsat8-sta-3.1.0-WINDOWS.nbm*
- *iCOR-sentinel2-sta-3.1.0-WINDOWS.nbm*
- ***iCOR-sentinel3-sta-3.1.0-WINDOWS.nbm***

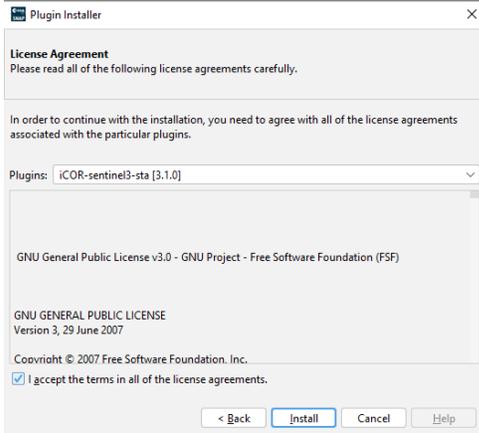
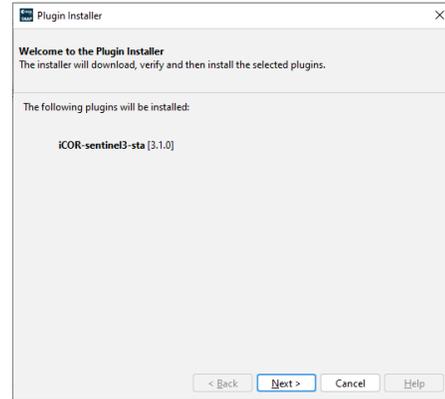
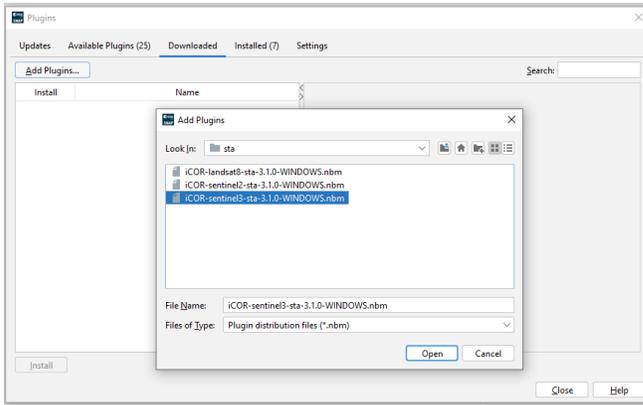
The default directory for these files is: C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0\sta or C:\Users\\AppData\Local\Programs\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0

For Linux:

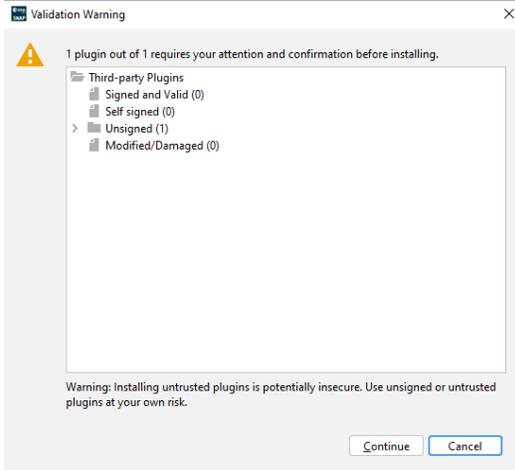
- *iCOR-landsat8-sta-3.1.0-LINUX.nbm*
- *iCOR-sentinel2-sta-3.1.0-LINUX.nbm*
- ***iCOR-sentinel3-sta-3.1.0-LINUX.nbm***

The default directory for these files is: /opt/vito/icor-3.1.0/sta

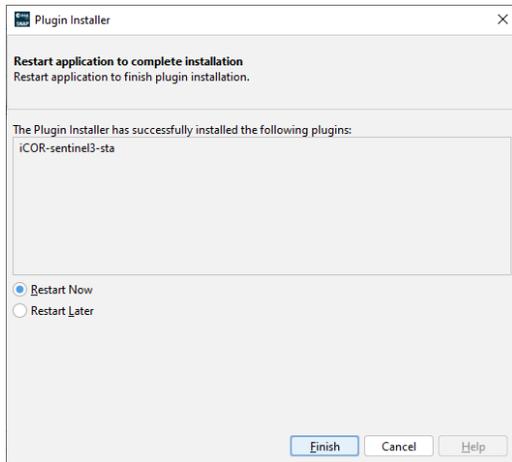
Select plugin (iCOR-sentinel3-sta) and press on Install → Next → Select 'I accept the terms in the License Agreement' → Install.



A validation Warning might pop-up:



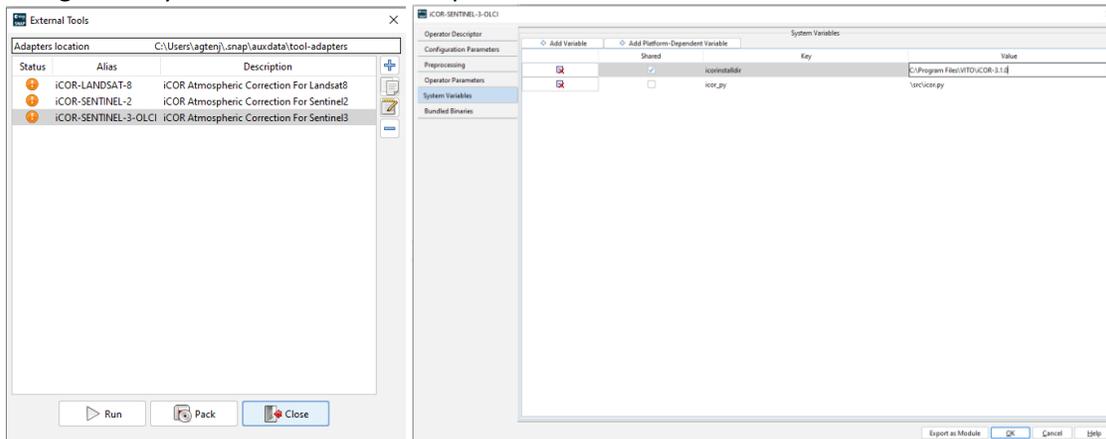
Press “Continue” to continue the installation procedure.



To complete the installation, restart SNAP.

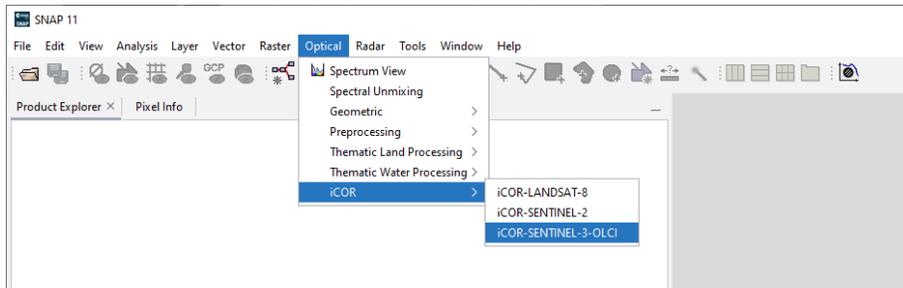
Non default installation path

If you made adaptations to the installation path of one of the software tools (iCOR on Windows by default: C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0\ non privileged user install by default: C:\Users\



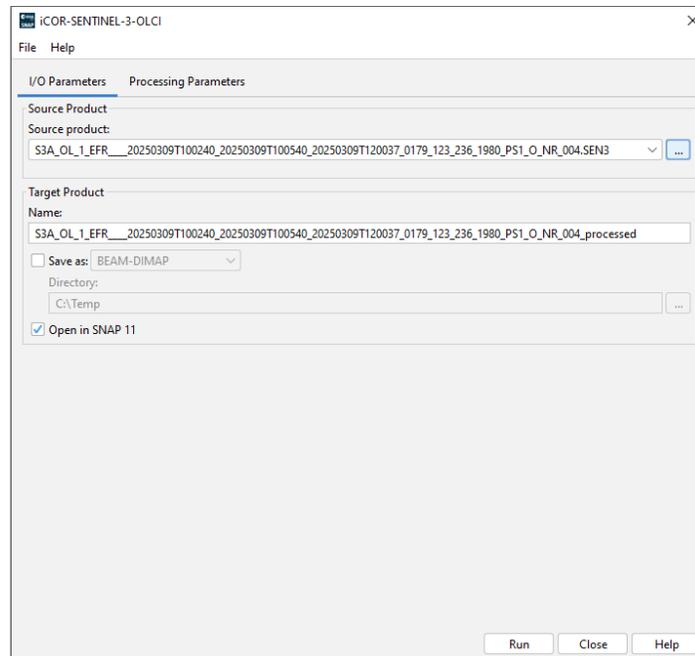
3. Processors

When the plugin is loaded in SNAP, the tool can be accessed through Optical → iCOR → iCOR-SENTINEL-3-OLCI.



3.1. I/O parameters

In the first tab I/O parameters, you can select the OLCI image you would like to process. Please note that **the OLCI data must be unzipped** first.



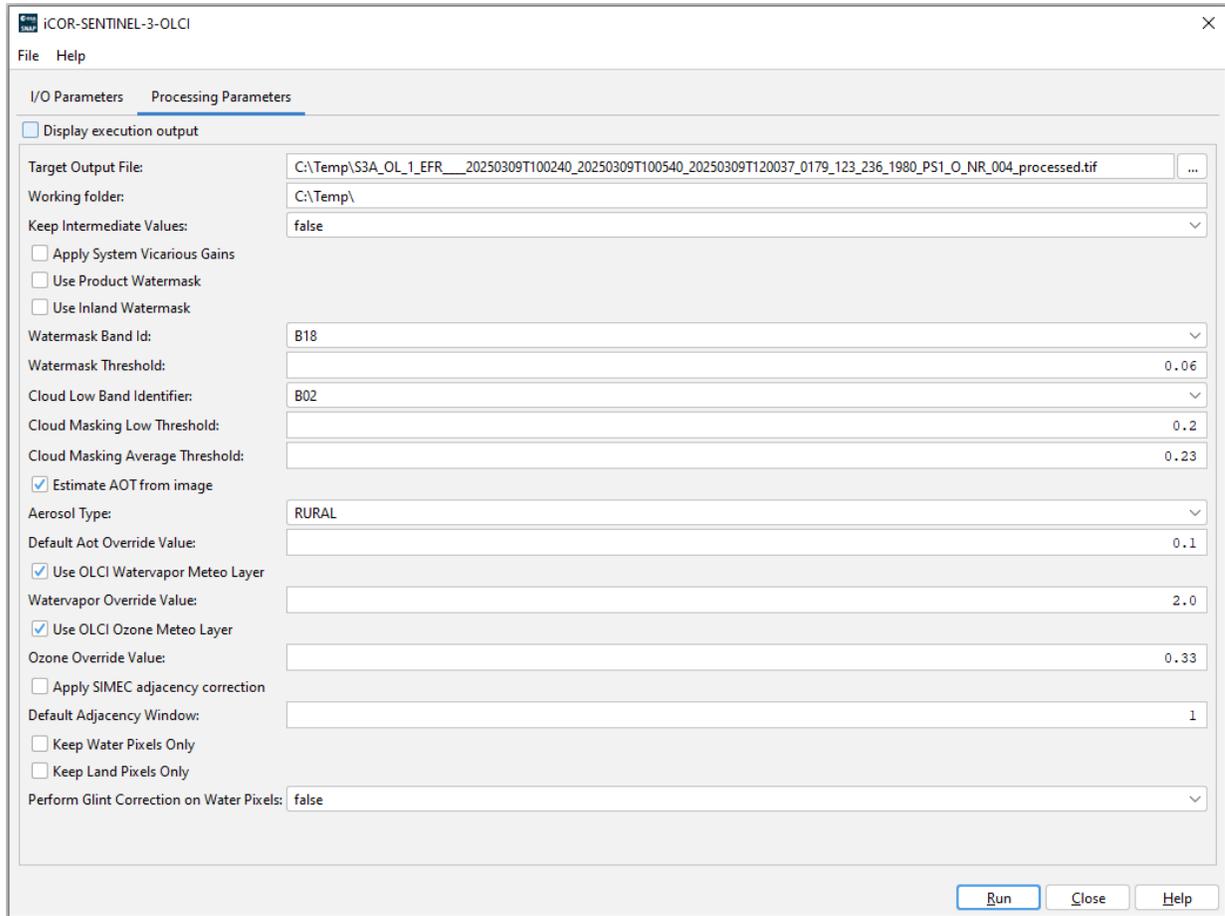
Source product : here the **xfdumanifest.xml** in the **unzipped S3A_OL_1_EFR*.SEN3** folder needs to be selected. Please note that iCOR is only able to work with OLCI Level-1 at-sensor radiances ("*EFR*", *EER*") in the original format.

Target product : refers to the name of the output product as it will appear in SNAP. The default output directory (i.e. C:\Temp) and default output name (i.e. S3*_processed.tif) can be changed in the *Processing Parameters* tab.

Open in Snap : When this box is checked, the processed OLCI image will be opened in SNAP when the iCOR processing has been finished.

3.2. Processing parameters

In the second tab Processing Parameters, you can set the iCOR processing parameters.



Explanation parameters

- **Display execution output:** It is advised to check this box. When this box is checked, the different steps run through by iCOR are displayed. This helps to check if there was no failure in one of the processing steps.

A failure might for instance occur when the image based AOT retrieval was not able to retrieve AOT values from the scene (see WARNING **Estimate AOT from image**)

- **Target output file:** By default, the output file will be stored under “C:\Temp\” with as default output name: “S3*_processed.tif”. Users can change the default output directory to another existing directory. The output name can also be changed.

- **Working folder**

Folder where the intermediate files are stored. These files are removed when the process has finished unless the “Keep Intermediate Values” box is true.

- **Keep Intermediate Values**

By setting this option to true, the intermediate files will not be automatically removed when the process has finished.

- **Apply System Vicarious Gains:** When this box is checked the System Vicarious Gains (SVC) are applied to the at-sensor radiance data prior to the atmospheric correction. Users can adapt the SVC gains by modifying the S3A.csv and S3B.csv files stored under “C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0\bin\Sensor_Sentinel3\s3_svc”. The default SVC gains for S3A are listed in Table 1.

- **Table 1 OLCI S3A SVC gains**

Band	λ centre (nm)	SVC gain
Oa1	400	0.9798
Oa2	412.5	0.9718
Oa3	442.5	0.9747
Oa4	490	0.9781
Oa5	510	0.9827
Oa6	560	0.9892
Oa7	620	0.9922
Oa8	665	0.992
Oa9	673.75	0.9943
Oa10	681.25	0.9962
Oa11	708.75	0.996
Oa12	753.75	1.003
Oa13	761.25	1
Oa14	764.375	1
Oa15	767.5	1
Oa16	778.75	1.005
Oa17	865	1
Oa18	885	0.996
Oa19	900	1
Oa20	940	1
Oa21	1 020	0.914

- **Water mask settings**

- **Use Product Water Mask:** when this option is selected, the static water mask derived from the OLCI Level 1b flags is used to delineate the water pixels in the image. By default water body detection is based on a threshold value in a single band (see below).
 - **Use Inland Water Mask:** this box can only be checked when also the Use Product Water Mask box is checked. When checked, the SIMEC adjacency correction is only applied to inland water pixels identified from the static inland water mask derived from the OLCI Level 1b flags. This option might be of interest to users not

interested in coastal waters because processing time will be reduced (SIMEC not applied to coastal waters).

- **Watermask Band Id:** If the Use Product Water Mask is not set, the water mask is obtained using a threshold value on a single band. The default setting is using band Oa18 at 885 nm. Users can change here the band used to create a land/water mask.
- **Watermask Threshold:** Defines the threshold value for the TOA reflectance for the water mask. If the value is below the threshold, the pixel is identified as a water pixel, otherwise it is a land pixel.
- **Cloud mask settings**
 - The cloud mask is created using multiple threshold levels. A pixel is identified as a cloud if it fulfils following requirements:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{TOAreflectance}_{\text{Cloud Low BAND ID}} > \text{Threshold}_{\text{Cloud Mask Low}} \\ & \text{AND} \\ & \text{Average_TOAreflectance}_{\text{VISbands}} > \text{Threshold}_{\text{Cloud Mask Average}} \end{aligned}$$

As such, the parameters stand for

- **Cloud Mask Low Threshold** – Threshold value for the cloud low ID band. If this value is exceeded, one of the requirements of defining a cloud pixel is fulfilled.
- **Cloud Low Band Identifier** – Band ID used to check the Cloud Mask Low Threshold value.
- **Cloud Mask Average Threshold** – Threshold value for the average TOA reflectance in the VIS range (Oa1 till Oa10). If this value is exceeded, one of the requirements of defining a cloud pixel is fulfilled.
- **Estimate AOT from image:** Checking this box enables the image based AOT retrieval as explained in paragraph 1.2.

WARNING: The image based AOT retrieval requires the presence of land pixel and sufficient spectral variability in the scene. The image-based AOT retrieval might fail if scene is dominated by for instance water, clouds, deserts or snow. In this case a failure message is given in the execution window when the “display execution output” is checked. In this case the user has to disable “Estimate AOT from image” (by unchecking the box) and insert of fixed value in “AOT override value” box.

- **Aerosol type:** you can choose between a rural and a desert aerosol model

- **Default AOT Override Value:** you can choose to disable the image based AOT retrieval by unchecking the *Estimate AOT from image* box and insert a fixed AOT value for the whole scene.
- **Use OLCI water Vapor Meteo Layer:** By default the box is checked and the water vapour concentration as provided in the OLCI auxiliary data layers is used in the atmospheric correction. Users can uncheck the box and provide a fixed water vapor value in the next line.
- **Water Vapor Override Value:** If the *Use OLCI water Vapor Meteo Layer* is not checked, a fixed water vapor value, to be used for the whole scene, can be specified here.
- **Use OLCI Ozone Meteo Layer:** By default the box is checked and the ozone concentrations as provided in the OLCI auxiliary data layers is used in the atmospheric correction. Users can uncheck the box and provide a fixed water vapor value in the next line
- **Ozone Override Value:** If the *Use OLCI Ozone Meteo Layer* is not checked, a fixed ozone value, to be used for the whole scene, can be specified here.
- **Apply SIMEC Adjacency correction:** if the box is checked, the SIMEC adjacency correction is applied to water pixels as explained in paragraph 1.2. If both *Use Product Water Mask and Use Inland Water Mask* were checked, SIMEC is only applied to the inland water pixels retrieved from the static inland water mask OLCI Level 1b flags
- **Default Adjacency Window:** an option is provided in iCOR to perform an adjacency correction using a fixed range. The extent of this range or the window size can be set by the user. The units are number of pixels (N). The weighted average within the NxN box is considered for the adjacency correction. By default N is set to 1, and no adjacency correction is applied over land. Please note that if the *Apply SIMEC Adjacency correction* box is checked, SIMEC will be applied to the water pixels and not the fixed range adjacency correction. The fixed range correction will only be applied to the pixels not considered in the SIMEC algorithm such as land pixels.
- **Keep Water Pixels Only:** when checked, the final output image will only contain the water-leaving reflectance for those pixels identified as water. Land and cloud pixels will be masked.
- **Keep Land Pixels Only:** when checked, the final output image will only contain the surface reflectance for land pixels. Water and cloud pixels will be masked.
- **Perform Glint Correction on Water pixels:** It is highly recommended to check this box if you are using the images for water-related applications.
If checked, iCOR performs a correction for uncertainties in the Fresnel correction, mainly related to glint and haze effects. To this end, the water leaving reflectance at Oa21 (1020 nm) is subtracted from the retrieved water leaving reflectance. This is only performed when a pixel is not mixed (land/water) or when there are no remaining adjacency effects. This is automatically verified based on the difference in reflectance in Oa10 (681.25nm) and Oa11 (708.75nm). Furthermore, in case the reflectance at Oa21 (1020 nm) exceeds the reflectance

at Oa17 (865nm), for instance due to calibration issues, this latter band is used in the correction instead of Oa21.

3.3. Output

For water pixels, iCOR calculates the water-Leaving reflectance and for all other pixels the surface reflectance. The reflectance is retrieved for all OLCI bands except those affected by atmospheric gaseous absorption (Oa13, Oa14, Oa15, Oa19, and Oa20). The output file contains also per pixel the latitude, longitude and Height. Therefore the ICOR output product contains 19 spectral bands: the first 16 bands containing the reflectance, the last 3 bands containing respectively the longitude, latitude and height.

Original OLCI Band	Band number	λ centre (nm)
Oa1	Band1	400
Oa2	Band2	412.5
Oa3	Band3	442.5
Oa4	Band4	490
Oa5	Band5	510
Oa6	Band6	560
Oa7	Band7	620
Oa8	Band8	665
Oa9	Band9	673.75
Oa10	Band10	681.25
Oa11	Band11	708.75
Oa12	Band12	753.75
Oa16	Band13	778.75
Oa17	Band14	865
Oa18	Band15	885
Oa21	Band16	1 020
Latitude	Band17	NA
Longitude	Band18	NA
Height	Band19	NA

3.4. Command line processing

The best way for running iCOR in batch mode is to first run iCOR through the nominal GUI interface with the settings you want to use and to select 'display execution output'.

In the beginning of the output window display you get something like:

```
"C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0\bin\python-3.12.10-embed-
amd64\python.exe" "C:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR-3.1.0\src\icor.py" --
keep_intermediate true --cloud_average_threshold 0.23 --cloud_low_band
B02 --cloud_low_threshold 0.2 --aot false --aerosol_type RURAL --
aot_window_size 100 --simec false --bg_window 1 --aot_override 0.1 --
ozone true --aot_override 0.1 --ozone_override 0.33 --watervapor true -
-wv_override 2.0 --water_band B18 --water_threshold 0.06 --output_file
C:\Temp\S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T200615
_0119_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002_processed.tif --sensor S3 --apply_gains
false --glint_cor false --inlandwater false --productwater false --
keep_land false --keep_water false --project false --working_folder
C:\Temp\
C:\dev\vito\S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T20
0615_0119_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002.SEN3\xfdumanifest.xml
```

You can reuse this line and change the input and output files to run iCOR in batch mode.

For windows:

```
[icor_dir]\icor.bat --keep_intermediate true --cloud_average_threshold
0.23 --cloud_low_band B02 --cloud_low_threshold 0.2 --aot false --
aerosol_type RURAL --aot_window_size 100 --simec false --bg_window 1 --
aot_override 0.1 --ozone true --aot_override 0.1 --ozone_override 0.33
--watervapor true --wv_override 2.0 --water_band B18 --water_threshold
0.06 --output_file
C:\Temp\S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T200615
_0119_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002_processed.tif --sensor S3 --apply_gains
false --glint_cor false --inlandwater false --productwater false --
keep_land false --keep_water false --project false --working_folder
C:\Temp\
C:\dev\vito\S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T20
0615_0119_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002.SEN3\xfdumanifest.xml
```

For Linux :

```
[icor_dir]/icor.sh --keep_intermediate true --cloud_average_threshold
0.23 --cloud_low_band B02 --cloud_low_threshold 0.2 --aot false --
aerosol_type RURAL --aot_window_size 100 --simec false --bg_window 1 --
aot_override 0.1 --ozone true --aot_override 0.1 --ozone_override 0.33
--watervapor true --wv_override 2.0 --water_band B18 --water_threshold
```

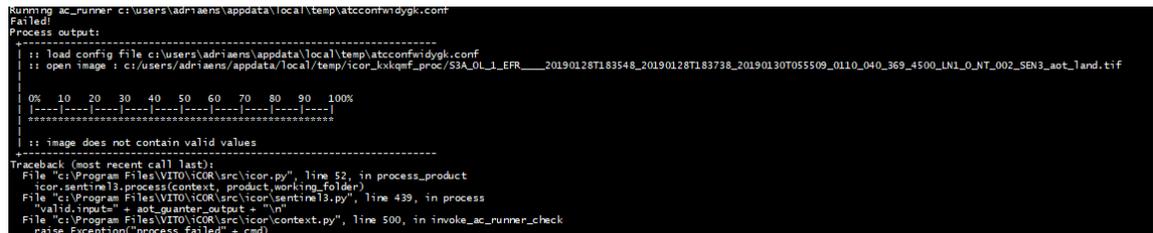
```
0.06 --output_file
/tmp/S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T200615_01
19_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002_processed.tif --sensor S3 --apply_gains
false --glint_cor false --inlandwater false --productwater false --
keep_land false --keep_water false --project false --working_folder
/tmp/
/data/vito/S3A_OL_1_EFR____20170618T104144_20170618T104344_20171019T200
615_0119_019_051_____MR1_R_NT_002.SEN3/xfdumaniest.xml
```

4. Frequently Asked Questions

4.1. iCOR fails to run

iCOR failure can occur due to different reasons:

- The image-based AOT retrieval might fail if scene is dominated by only water, clouds, deserts or snow. In this case a failure message is given in the execution window when the display execution output is checked. In this case the user has to disable “Estimate AOT from image” (by unchecking the box) and insert of fixed value in ‘AOT override value’ box.

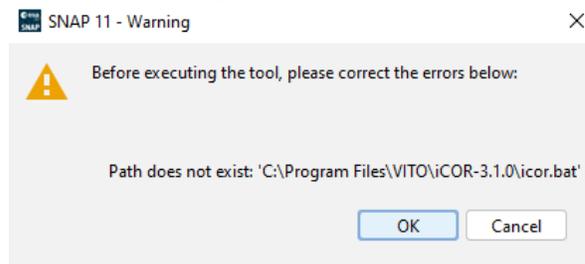


```
Running ac_runner c:\users\adriaens\appdata\local\temp\atconfndydk-conf
Failed!
Process output:
:: load config file c:\users\adriaens\appdata\local\temp\atconfndydk-conf
:: open image : c:\users\adriaens\appdata\local\temp\icor_kkqmf_proc/S3A_OL_1_EFR____20190128T183548_20190128T183738_20190130T055509_0110_040_369_4500_LN1_0_NT_002_SEN3_aot_land.tif
0% 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100%
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
:: image does not contain valid values
-----
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "c:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR\src\icor.py", line 52, in process_product
    icor_sentinel3_process(context, product, working_folder)
  File "c:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR\src\icor\sentinel3.py", line 439, in process
    "valid_input" + aot_quarter_output + "\n"
  File "c:\Program Files\VITO\iCOR\src\icor\context.py", line 500, in invoke_ac_runner_check
    raise Exception("process failed" + cmd)
```

- Paths are not properly defined (See download and installation)
- Not enough disk space available for processing. iCOR generates during processing a lot of intermediate data. It is therefore recommended to have about 20 GB of free disk space for running iCOR.
- When failure has occurred, useful information can be derived. when the ‘keep_intermediate’ option is selected, it is advisable to clean these temp folders frequently. Intermediate files are stored into the working folder.

4.2. Path does not exist

You get a Warning “Path does not exist”.

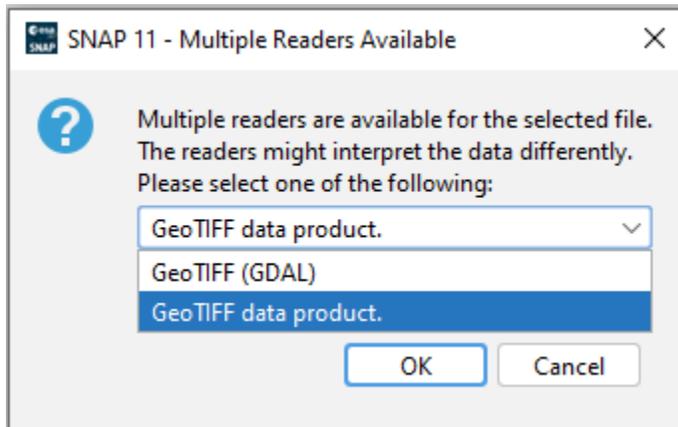


Check Download and Installation especially Non default installation path.

4.3. Seemingly corrupt output in SNAP

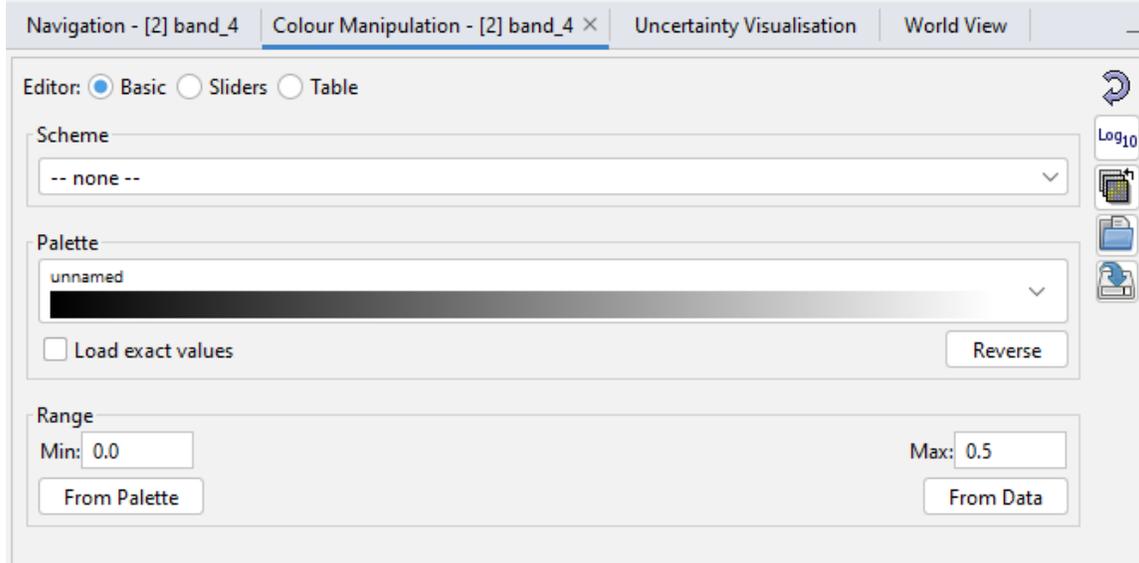
When opening (automatically after processing or manually) the S3*_processed.tif, this can sometimes result in SNAP opening the S3*_processed.tif file with the wrong reader if multiple readers are available.

In that case, close the product and reopen it selecting the “GeoTIFF data product.” reader.



4.4. The result image band is all black

In first instance you might get an image with only black and white colours, since iCOR sets invalid pixels at max float. In the Colour Manipulation tab → click on “From Data” → change Max: to a more appropriate value (eg. 0.5) and press ENTER to confirm.



5. Known issues

iCOR LUTs are calculated for the OLCI nominal central wavelengths. However, it is known that the center wavelengths vary between the five camera's and between pixels (the so-called spectral smile). Spectral smile artefacts might be visible in the iCOR results. A change in reflectance might be observed when crossing the camera boundaries (Figure 1, Figure 2).

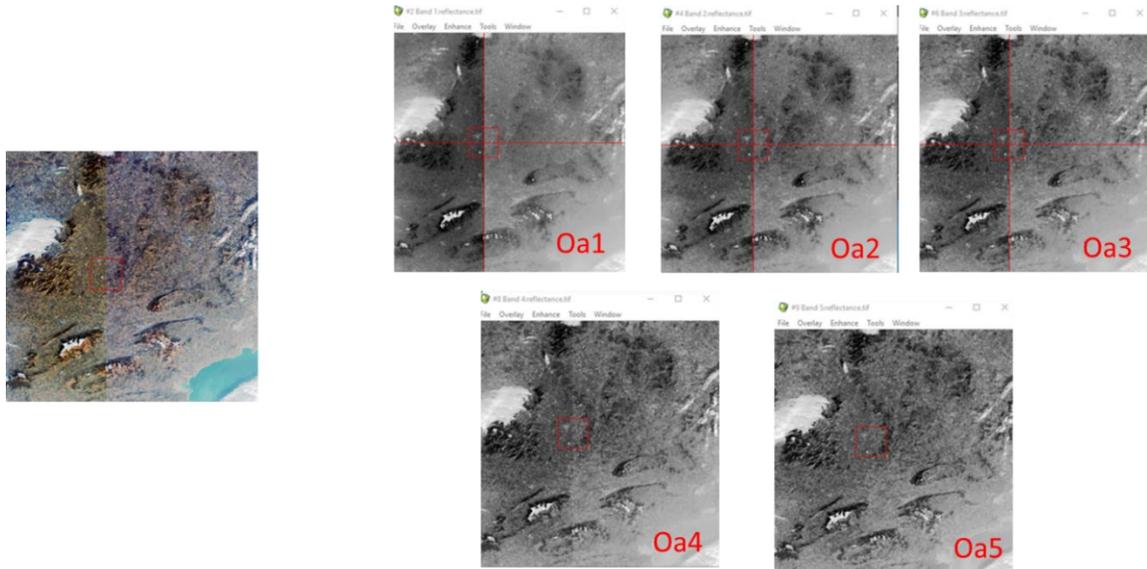


Figure 1 Example spectral smile artefact over land

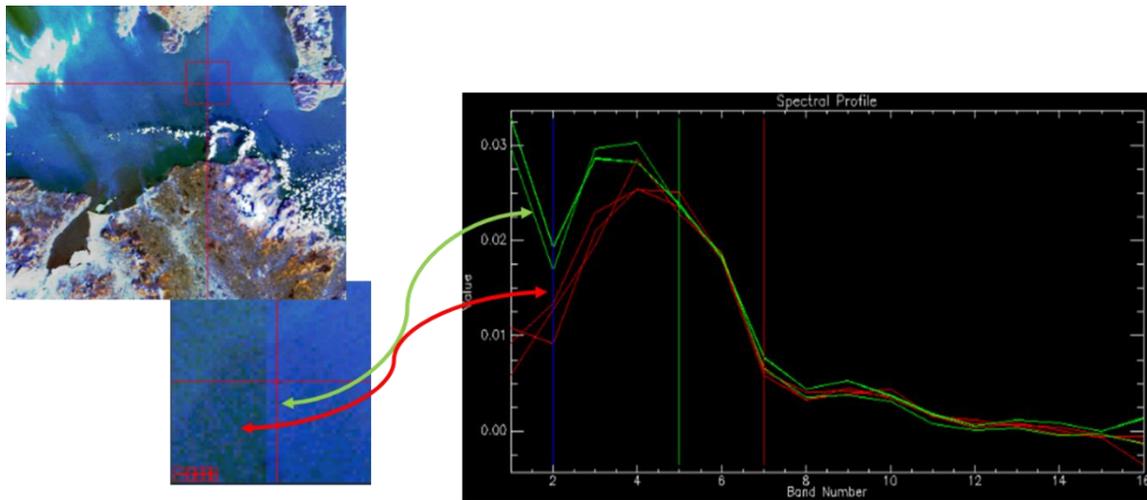


Figure 2 Example of spectral smile artefact over water

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