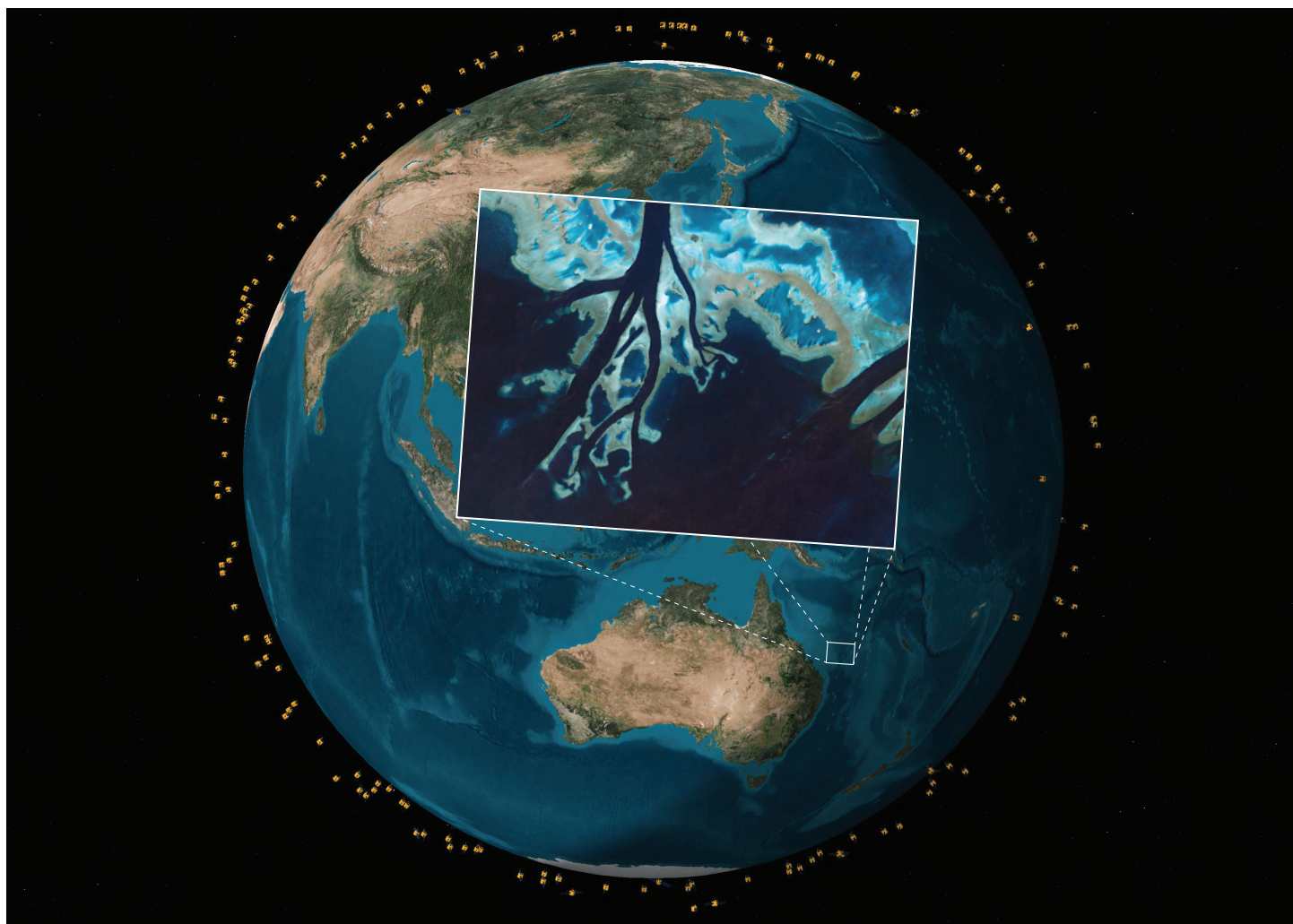


System Characterization Report on Planet's Dove Classic

Chapter C of
System Characterization of Earth Observation Sensors



Open-File Report 2021–1030–C

Cover: Satellite image of the Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taken July 8, 2016, using the Planetscope sensor. Image courtesy of Planet, licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic license. An image showing the current (2021) operational Planet flock satellites, generated from Analytical Graphics, Inc., Systems Tool Kit.

System Characterization Report on Planet's Dove Classic

By Minsu Kim,¹ Seonkyung Park,¹ Cody Anderson,² and Gregory L. Stensaas²

Chapter C of
System Characterization of Earth Observation Sensors

Compiled by Shankar N. Ramaseri Chandra¹

¹KBR, Inc., under contract to the U.S. Geological Survey.

²U.S. Geological Survey.

Open-File Report 2021–1030–C

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

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Conversion Factors

U.S. customary units to International System of Units

| Multiply | By | To obtain |
|------------|--------|-----------------|
| | Length | |
| inch (in.) | 2.54 | centimeter (cm) |
| inch (in.) | 25.4 | millimeter (mm) |

International System of Units to U.S. customary units

| Multiply | By | To obtain |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------------|
| Length | | |
| centimeter (cm) | 0.3937 | inch (in.) |
| meter (m) | 3.281 | foot (ft) |
| meter (m) | 1.094 | yard (yd) |
| kilometer (km) | 0.6214 | mile (mi) |
| Mass | | |
| kilogram (kg) | 2.205 | pound avoirdupois (lb) |

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--|
| ECCOE | Earth Resources Observation and Science Cal/Val Center of Excellence |
| GSD | ground sample distance |
| JACIE | Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation |
| OLI | Operational Land Imager |
| SNR | signal-to-noise ratio |
| USGS | U.S. Geological Survey |

System Characterization Report on Planet's Dove Classic

By Minsu Kim,¹ Seonkyung Park,¹ Cody Anderson,² and Gregory L. Stensaas²

Executive Summary

This report addresses system characterization of Planet's Dove Classic satellites and is part of a series of system characterization reports produced and delivered by the U.S. Geological Survey Earth Resources Observation and Science Cal/Val Center of Excellence. These reports present and detail the methodology and procedures for characterization; present technical and operational information about the specific sensing system being evaluated; and provide a summary of test measurements, data retention practices, data analysis results, and conclusions.

Since 2013, Planet has launched more than 360 Dove 3U CubeSats, where U stands for 10-centimeter (cm) x 10-cm x 10-cm stowed dimensions, each weighing about 5 kilograms. Since 2015, all Dove satellites have had four-band imagers with about a 4-meter (m) pixel ground sample distance. Since 2016, all Doves have been launched into Sun-synchronous orbits varying from 474 to 524 kilometers, with inclinations between 97 and 98 degrees. The Dove series satellites do not have orbit maintenance capabilities; thus, their orbits decay slowly over time, contributing to shorter lifetimes of about 3 years. More information on Planet satellites and sensors is available in the "2020 Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation—Remote Sensing Satellite Compendium" and from the manufacturer at <https://www.planet.com/>.

The Earth Resources Observation and Science Cal/Val Center of Excellence system characterization team completed data analyses to characterize the geometric (interior and exterior), radiometric, and spatial performances. Results of these analyses indicate that Dove Classic has an interior geometric performance in the range of -0.218 (-0.073 pixel) to -0.037 m (-0.012 pixel) in easting and -0.167 (-0.056 pixel) to -0.111 m (-0.037 pixel) in northing in band-to-band registration, an exterior geometric error of -6.841 (-2.280 pixels) in easting and -6.235 m (-2.078 pixels) in northing offset in comparison to Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager, a radiometric performance in the range of -0.057 to -0.010 in offset and 0.963 to 1.298 in slope, and a spatial performance in the range of 2.77 to 3.35 pixels for full width at half maximum, with a modulation transfer function at a Nyquist frequency in the range of 0.003 to 0.010 .

Introduction

Planet, Inc. is well known for launching reduced-mass Earth observation satellites, with its Dove satellites weighing 5.8 kilograms (12.8 pounds). Each Dove is a 3U CubeSat, where U stands for 10-centimeter (cm) x 10-cm x 10-cm stowed dimensions. The first prototype Doves were launched in April 2013, followed by at least 20 more successful launches in the 7 years since, each carrying a flock of multiple Dove satellites, for a total of more than 360 Dove satellites launched into orbit. Planet has used this frequent launch cadence to produce at least 17 builds, or generations, of Doves with various technological and operating improvements in each build, which has resulted in continual advancement in capability in the 7 years since the launch of the first Dove. All data are provided with permission from Planet through their standard data access portal.

The data analysis results provided within this report have been derived from approved Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) processes and procedures. JACIE was formed to leverage resources from several Federal agencies for the characterization of remote sensing data and to share those results across the remote sensing community. More information about JACIE is available at https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/eros/calval/jacie?qt-science_support_page_related_con=3#qt-science_support_page_related_con.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this report is to describe the specific sensor or sensing system, test its performance in three categories, complete related data analyses to quantify these performances, and report the results in a standardized document. In this chapter, the Dove Classic sensor is described. The performance testing of the system is limited to geometric, radiometric, and spatial. The scope of the geometric assessment is limited to testing the interior alignments of spectral bands against each other, and the exterior alignment is tested in reference to Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI).

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Earth Resources Observation and Science Cal/Val Center of Excellence (ECCOE) project, and the associated system characterization process used for this assessment, follows the USGS Fundamental Science Practices, which include maintaining

¹KBR, Inc., under contract to the U.S. Geological Survey.

²U.S. Geological Survey.

data, information, and documentation needed to reproduce and validate the scientific analysis documented in this report. Additional information and guidance about Fundamental Science Practices and related resource information of interest to the public are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/about/organization/science-support/office-science-quality-and-integrity/fundamental-science-practices>. For additional information related to the report, please contact ECCOE at eccoe@usgs.gov.

System Description

This section describes the satellite and operational details and provides information about the Dove Classic sensor.

Satellite and Operational Details

The satellite and operational details for Dove Classic are listed in [table 1](#).

Sensor(s) Information

The imaging sensor details for Dove Classic are listed in [table 2](#). The relative spectral response for Dove Classic is shown in [figure 1](#).

Table 1. Satellite and operational details for Planet’s Dove Classic.

[cm, centimeter; NIR, near infrared; km, kilometer; °, degree; ±, plus or minus; m, meter; <, less than]

| Product information | Dove Classic |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Satellite and operational information | |
| Product name | Level 3B |
| Satellite name | Planet’s Dove Classic |
| Satellite size | CubeSat 3U form factor (10 cm x 10 cm x 30 cm) |
| Sensor name(s) | Planetscope |
| Sensor type | Multispectral (blue, green, red, NIR) |
| Mission type | Global land-monitoring mission |
| Launch date | Multiple dates, beginning November 2018 |
| Number of satellites | 130 Planetscope satellites within constellation |
| Expected lifetime | About 6 years |
| Operator | Planet |
| Operational details | |
| Operating orbit | Sun-synchronous orbit |
| Orbital altitude range | 475 km |
| Sensor angle altitude | 98.0° inclination |
| Imaging time | 9:30–11:30 a.m. (local solar time) |
| Geographic coverage | Land imaging ±81.5° lat. |
| Temporal resolution | Daily |
| Temporal coverage | 2018 to present |
| Imaging angles | ±25° |
| Ground sample distance(s) | 3 m |
| Data licensing | Restricted |
| Data pricing | Limited free data; commercial imagery pricing |
| Data latency | <24 hours |
| Product abstract | https://www.planet.com/products/planet-imagery/ |
| Product locator | https://www.planet.com/products/ |

Table 2. Imaging sensor details for Planet’s Dove Classic.

[Planetscope has a swath width of 8 kilometers; μm , micrometer; m, meter; NIR, near infrared]

| Spectral band(s) details | Dove Classic | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Lower band (μm) | Upper band (μm) | Radiometric resolution (bits) | Ground sample distance (m) |
| Band 1—blue | 0.455 | 0.515 | 12 (scaled to 16) | 3 |
| Band 2—green | 0.500 | 0.590 | 12 (scaled to 16) | 3 |
| Band 3—red | 0.590 | 0.670 | 12 (scaled to 16) | 3 |
| Band 4—NIR | 0.780 | 0.860 | 12 (scaled to 16) | 3 |

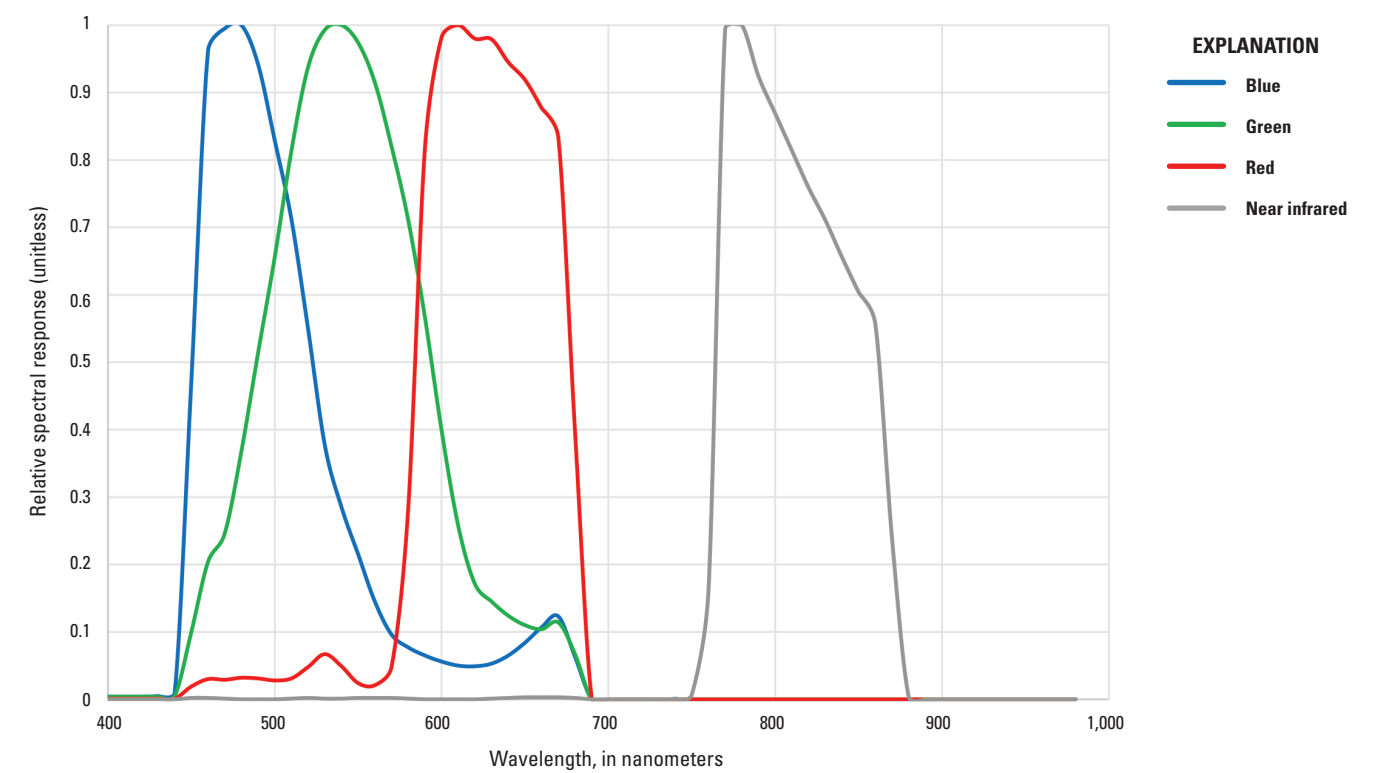


Figure 1. Planet’s Dove Classic relative spectral response.

Procedures

ECCOE has established standard processes to identify Earth observing systems of interest and to assess the geometric, radiometric, and spatial qualities of data products from these systems.

The assessment steps are as follows:

- system identification and investigation to learn the general specifications of the satellite and its sensor(s);
- data receipt and initial inspection to understand the characteristics and any overt flaws in the data product so that it may be further analyzed;
- geometry characterization, including interior geometric orientation measuring the relative alignment of spectral bands and exterior geometric orientation measuring how well the georeferenced pixels within the image are aligned to a known reference;
- radiometry characterization, including assessing how well the data product correlates with a known reference and, when possible, assessing the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR); and
- spatial characterization, assessing the two-dimensional fidelity of the image pixels to their projected ground sample distance (GSD).

Data analysis and test results are maintained at the USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science Center by the ECCOE project.

Measurements

The observed USGS measurements are listed in [table 3](#). Physical error, in meters, is calculated by the GSD multiplied by the pixel error. Details about the methodologies used are outlined in the “Analysis” section.

Analysis

This section of the report describes the geometric, radiometric, and spatial performance of Dove Classic.

Geometric Performance

The geometric performance for Dove Classic is characterized in terms of the interior (band-to-band alignment) and exterior (geometric location accuracy) geometric analysis results.

Table 3. U.S. Geological Survey measurement results.

| Description of product | Top of Atmosphere reflectance |
|---|---|
| USGS measurement results | |
| Geometric performance (easting, northing), in meters (pixels) | |
| Interior (band to band) | Band 1 (blue) Mean: -0.037 m (-0.012), -0.167 m (-0.056) RMSE: 0.335 m (0.111), 0.408 m (0.136) Band 2 (green) Mean: -0.060 m (-0.020), -0.125 m (-0.042) RMSE: 0.336 m (0.111), 0.398 m (0.133) Band 3 (red) Mean: -0.085 m (-0.028), -0.143 m (-0.048) RMSE: 0.356 m (0.119), 0.444 m (0.148) Band 4 (near infrared) Mean: -0.218 m (-0.073), -0.111 m (-0.037) RMSE: 0.690 m (0.230), 0.738 m (0.246) |
| Exterior (geometric location accuracy) | Mean: -6.841 m (-2.280), -6.235 m (-2.078) RMSE: 6.930 m (2.310), 6.561 m (2.187) |
| Radiometric performance (offset, slope) | |
| Radiometric evaluation (linear regression—Dove Classic versus L8 OLI reflectance) | Band 1 (offset, slope): -0.010, 0.963 Band 2 (offset, slope): -0.029, 1.063 Band 3 (offset, slope): -0.042, 1.208 Band 4 (offset, slope): -0.057, 1.298 |
| Radiometric stability | Overall radiometric characteristics were maintained over time (from April 2017 to March 2019). Time series of radiometric comparison in terms of slope and offset are provided in figures 14 and 15 in the “Analysis” section. |
| Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) (all median at Ltyp) | Bands 1–3 (RGB): Mean SNR ~30 Band 4 (NIR): Mean SNR ~24 |
| Spatial performance | |
| Spatial performance measurement | Band 1: FWHM = 2.77 pixels; MTF at Nyquist = 0.010 Band 2: FWHM = 3.07 pixels; MTF at Nyquist = 0.003 Band 3: FWHM = 3.07 pixels; MTF at Nyquist = 0.007 Band 4: FWHM = 3.35 pixels; MTF at Nyquist = 0.006 |
| Known artifacts and quality issues | |
| USGS noted artifacts/quality issues | As predicted by the large line spread function (FWHM ranging from 2.77 to 3.35 pixels), the Dove Classic imagery does not have precise transition across a target edge. Low SNR could affect quantitative measurements. |

Interior (Band-to-Band)

For this analysis, each band of the Dove Classic image was registered against all other bands. Results from three images were gathered in [table 4](#) to determine the mean error and root mean square error as listed in [table 3](#) with results represented in pixels. Greater misalignment was seen with band 4 (near infrared), likely as a result of poorer spatial quality and its spectral distinctness from bands 1–3. Together, the interior and exterior geometric analysis results, as reported in the “Interior (Band-to-Band)” and “Exterior (Geometric Location Accuracy)” sections, provide a comprehensive assessment of geometric accuracy. The band-to-band error in terms of error histograms and error distribution plot for three band combinations from the Roswell, New Mexico, scene (20180120_170400_0e2f) are presented in [figures 2–7](#).

Exterior (Geometric Location Accuracy)

For this analysis, band 4 (infrared) of Dove Classic image (20190325_083005_0e2f_3B_AnalyticMS) and Landsat 8 OLI image (LC08_L1TP_180033_20190325_20190403_01_T1) for Izmir, Turkey, were compared to estimate relative geometric error. The results are listed in [table 5](#) and the error grid is shown in [figure 8](#), the error histogram and error distribution is shown in [figure 9](#).

Radiometric Performance

For this analysis, 68 cloud-free regions of interest were selected from near-coincident Dove Classic system and Landsat 8 OLI scene pairs listed in appendix 1. Once the relative georeferencing error between Landsat 8 OLI and Dove Classic has been corrected, Top of Atmosphere reflectance values from the two sensors are extracted. The scatterplots are drawn in a way that the x-axis is the reference sensor and the y-axis is the comparison sensor. The linear regression, thus, represents Top of Atmosphere reflectance relative to that of the reference sensor. Ideally, the slope should be near unity and the offset should be near zero. For example, if the slope is greater than unity, that means the comparison sensor has a tendency to overestimate Top of Atmosphere reflectance compared to the reference sensor. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison results are listed in [table 6](#). The range of linear regressions coefficients for four bands using all scene pairs (appendix 1) are presented. Several selected radiometric comparison graphs using Landsat 8 OLI and Dove Classic scene pairs are shown in [figures 10–13](#).

Radiometric Stability

For this analysis, [figure 14](#) shows a time series of the slope of the radiometric comparison between Landsat 8 OLI and Dove Classic, as calculated. A time series of the offset of

Table 4. Band-to-band registration error (in pixels).

[ID, identifier; RMSE, root mean square error]

| Scene ID | Band combination | Mean error (easting) | Mean error (northing) | RMSE (easting) | RMSE (northing) |
|---|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 20180120_170400_0e2f (Roswell, New Mexico) | Band 1–band 2 | 0.007 | –0.025 | 0.042 | 0.059 |
| | Band 1–band 3 | 0.019 | –0.062 | 0.058 | 0.101 |
| | Band 1–band 4 | –0.072 | 0.054 | 0.198 | 0.230 |
| | Band 2–band 3 | 0.012 | –0.042 | 0.065 | 0.088 |
| | Band 2–band 4 | –0.086 | 0.078 | 0.202 | 0.234 |
| | Band 3–band 4 | –0.119 | 0.115 | 0.207 | 0.246 |
| 20180303_160129_0e2f (Chicago, Illinois) | Band 1–band 2 | 0.008 | –0.026 | 0.054 | 0.073 |
| | Band 1–band 3 | 0.005 | –0.076 | 0.067 | 0.114 |
| | Band 1–band 4 | –0.028 | –0.077 | 0.266 | 0.237 |
| | Band 2–band 3 | –0.007 | –0.053 | 0.072 | 0.099 |
| | Band 2–band 4 | –0.060 | –0.079 | 0.255 | 0.254 |
| | Band 3–band 4 | –0.096 | –0.066 | 0.256 | 0.255 |
| 20170708_172421_0e2f (Florence, Arizona) | Band 1–band 2 | 0.007 | –0.043 | 0.038 | 0.053 |
| | Band 1–band 3 | 0.003 | –0.099 | 0.055 | 0.107 |
| | Band 1–band 4 | –0.059 | –0.146 | 0.228 | 0.251 |
| | Band 2–band 3 | 0.001 | –0.061 | 0.054 | 0.075 |
| | Band 2–band 4 | –0.061 | –0.125 | 0.225 | 0.260 |
| | Band 3–band 4 | –0.074 | –0.084 | 0.233 | 0.247 |

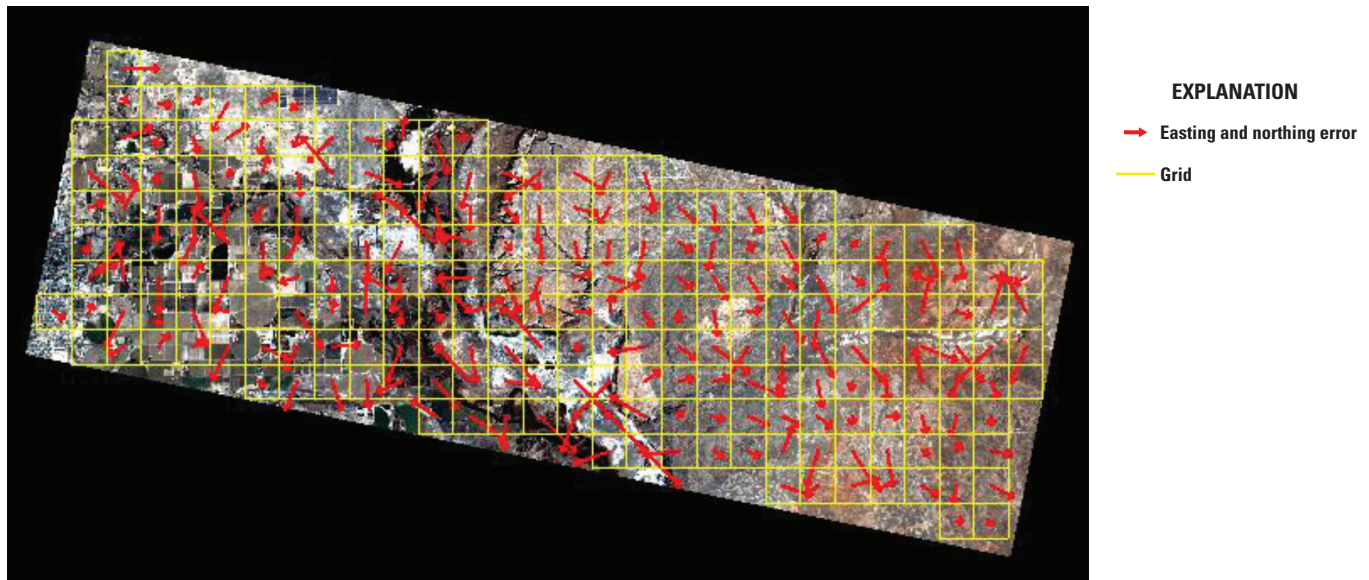


Figure 2. Band 1 (blue) to band 2 (green) geometric error map of Roswell, New Mexico.

the radiometric comparison between Landsat 8 OLI and Dove Classic is shown in [figure 15](#). The datasets used to populate the time-series analysis results are detailed in appendix 1.

Signal-to-Noise Ratio

The SNR was calculated using homogeneous areas adjacent to an edge target over the Baotou (China) Cal/Val site. The difference between the dark and bright area pixel values (commonly measured in terms of digital numbers) is divided by the one-sigma standard deviation noise level to get the SNR. SNR results are listed in [table 3](#).

Spatial Performance

For this analysis, edge spread and line spread functions were calculated with resulting full width at half maximum and modulation transfer function at Nyquist frequency analysis output, as listed in [table 7](#). The Dove-Classic image for the Baotou, China, Cal/Val site used for the analysis is

“20200718_031215_0f28_3B_AnalyticMS.tif” and is shown in [figure 16](#). The band 1 (blue) edge spread and line spread function results using the Baotou (China) Cal/Val site for analysis are shown in [figure 17](#). The yellow box in [figure 16](#) shows the edge transect bounding box. The results for band 1 (blue) are shown in [figures 17](#) and [18](#). In [figure 17](#), the dotted lines with diamond symbols are the raw transects. The green line is the middle transect, where the red dots are the region of the curve that is used for alignment. The lower plot in [figure 17](#) is the aligned curve and the green line represents edge spread function. In the upper plot in [figure 18](#), a white curve is an edge spread function with red line segment shows relative edge response; the green curve is a line spread function with a white line segment represents full width at half maximum. The lower plot in [figure 18](#) is a modulation transfer function up to Nyquist frequency (0.5) and the dashed line shows the frequency corresponding to the 50-percent modulation transfer function value. The results for band 2 (green) are shown in [figures 19](#) and [20](#), the results for band 3 (red) are shown in [figures 21](#) and [22](#), and the results for band 4 (near infrared) are shown in [figures 23](#) and [24](#).

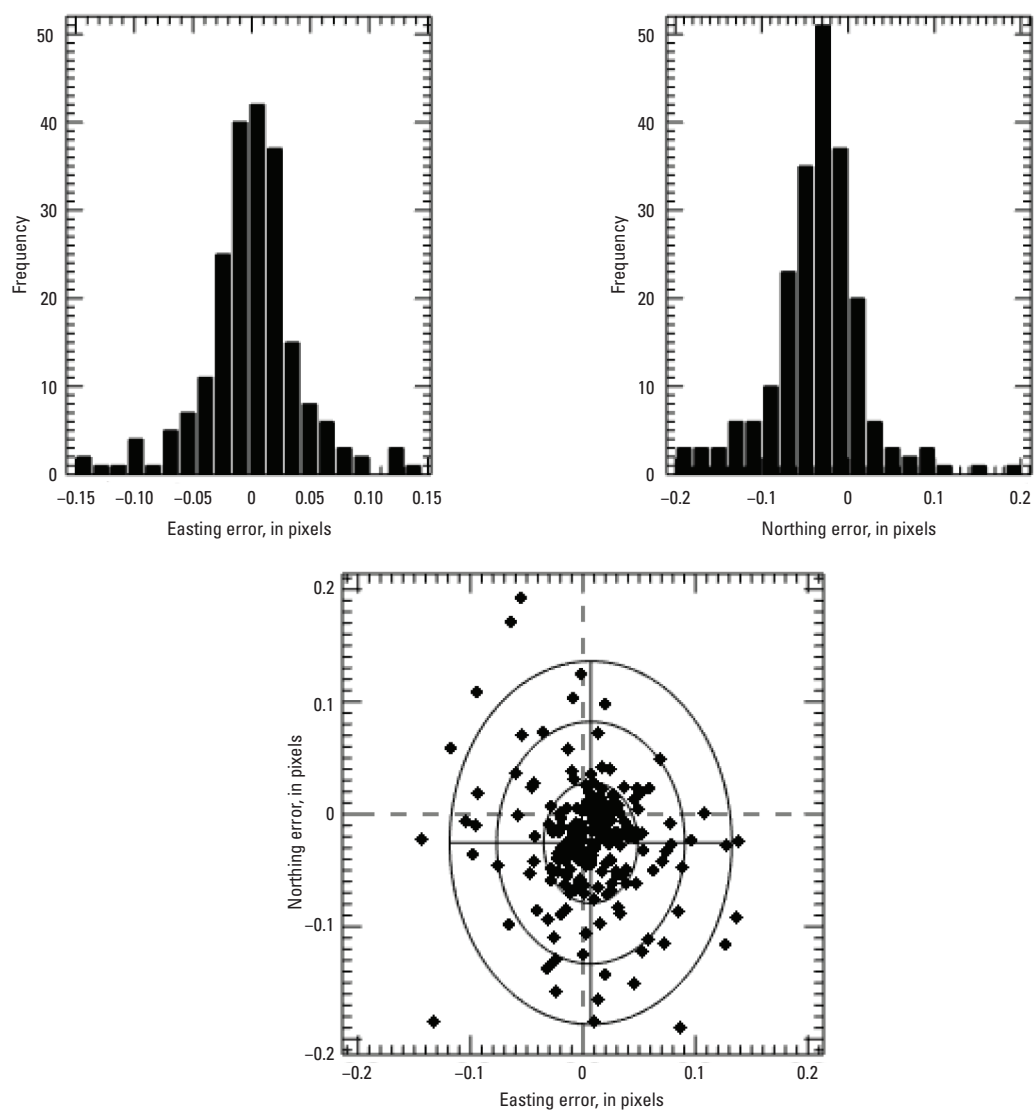


Figure 3. Band 1 (blue) to band 2 (green) geometric error histograms for easting and northing (upper) and error distribution (lower) for Roswell, New Mexico.

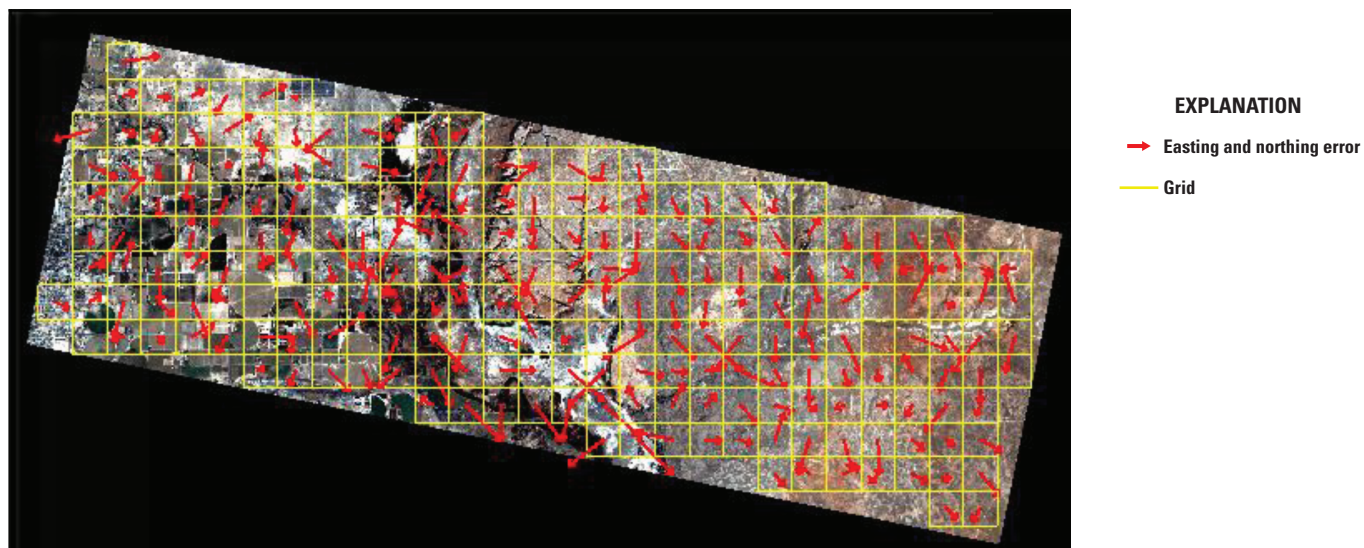


Figure 4. Band 2 (green) to band 3 (red) geometric error map of Roswell, New Mexico.

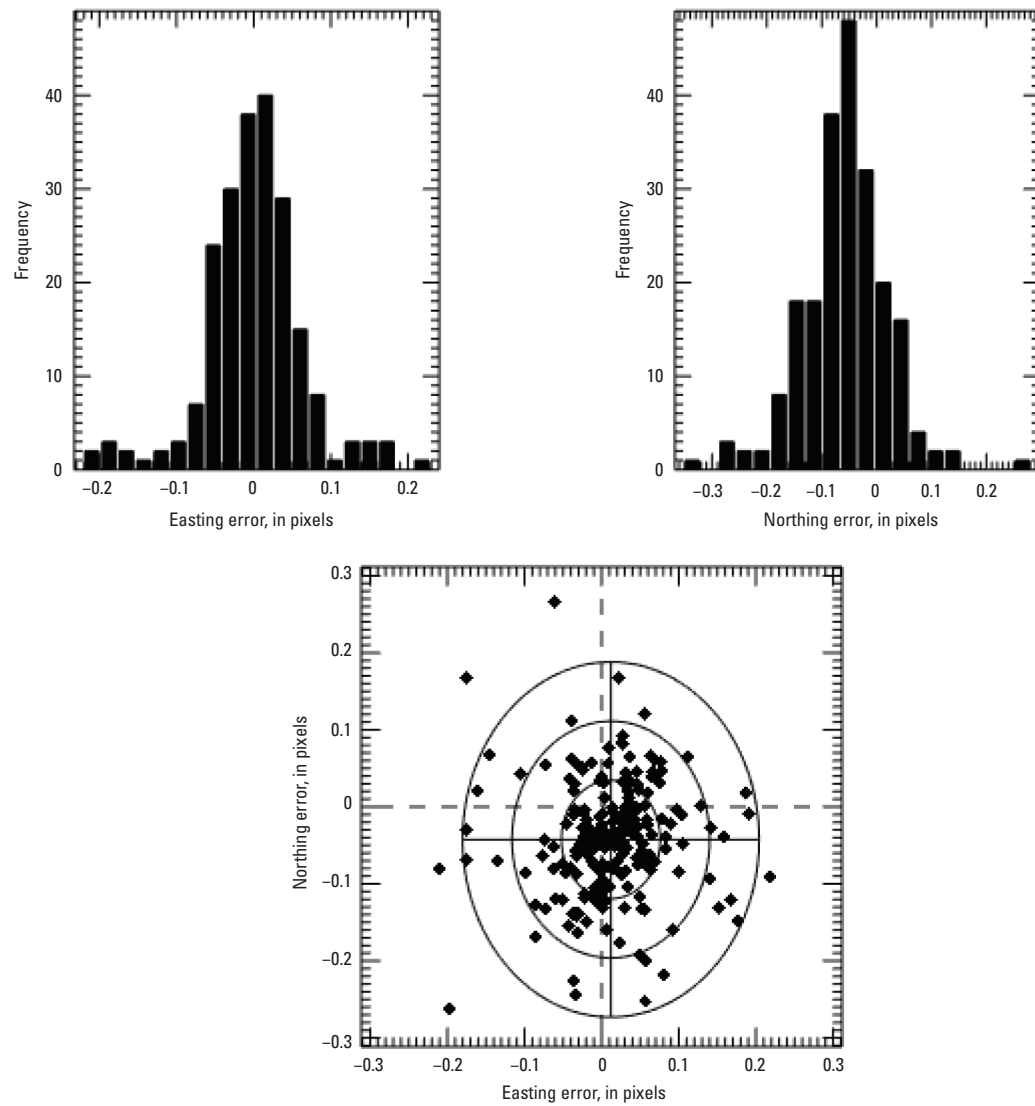


Figure 5. Band 2 (green) to band 3 (red) geometric error histograms for easting and northing (upper) and error distribution (lower) for Roswell, New Mexico.

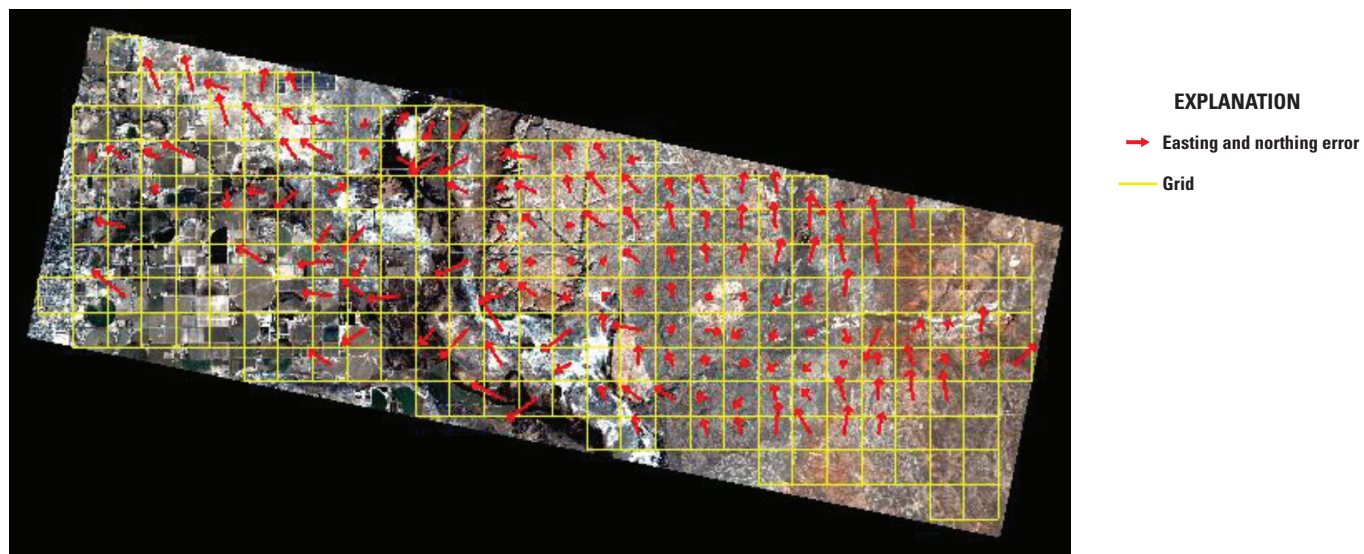


Figure 6. Band 3 (red) to band 4 (near infrared) geometric error map of Roswell, New Mexico.

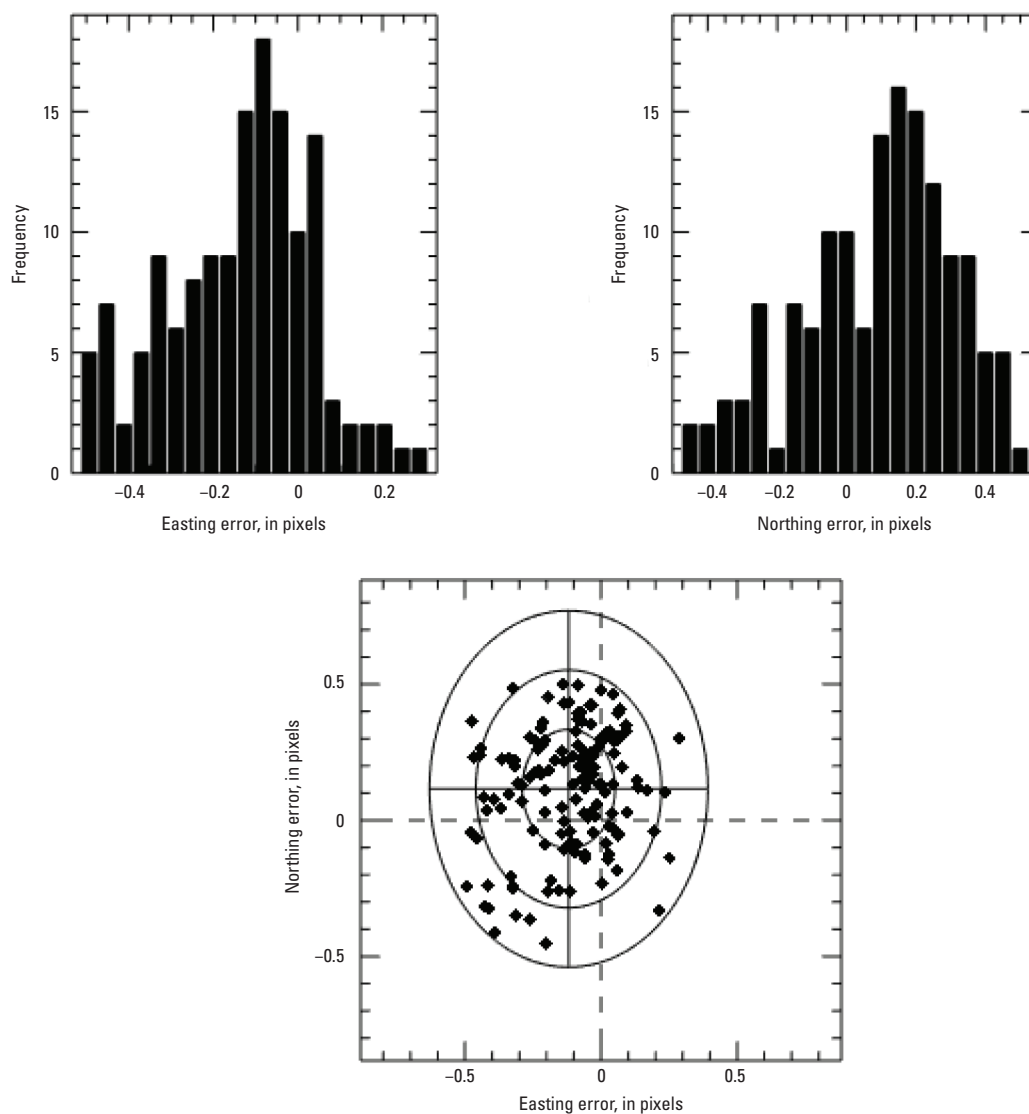


Figure 7. Band 3 (red) to band 4 (near infrared) geometric error histograms for easting and northing (upper) and error distribution (lower) for Roswell, New Mexico.

Table 5. Geometric error of Planet's Dove Classic imagery relative to Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager.

[RMSE, root mean square error; m, meter]

| Mean error (easting) | Mean error (northing) | RMSE (easting) | RMSE (northing) |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| -2.280 pixels | -2.0781 pixels | 2.310 pixels | 2.187 pixels |
| (-6.841 m) | (-6.235 m) | (6.930 m) | (6.561 m) |

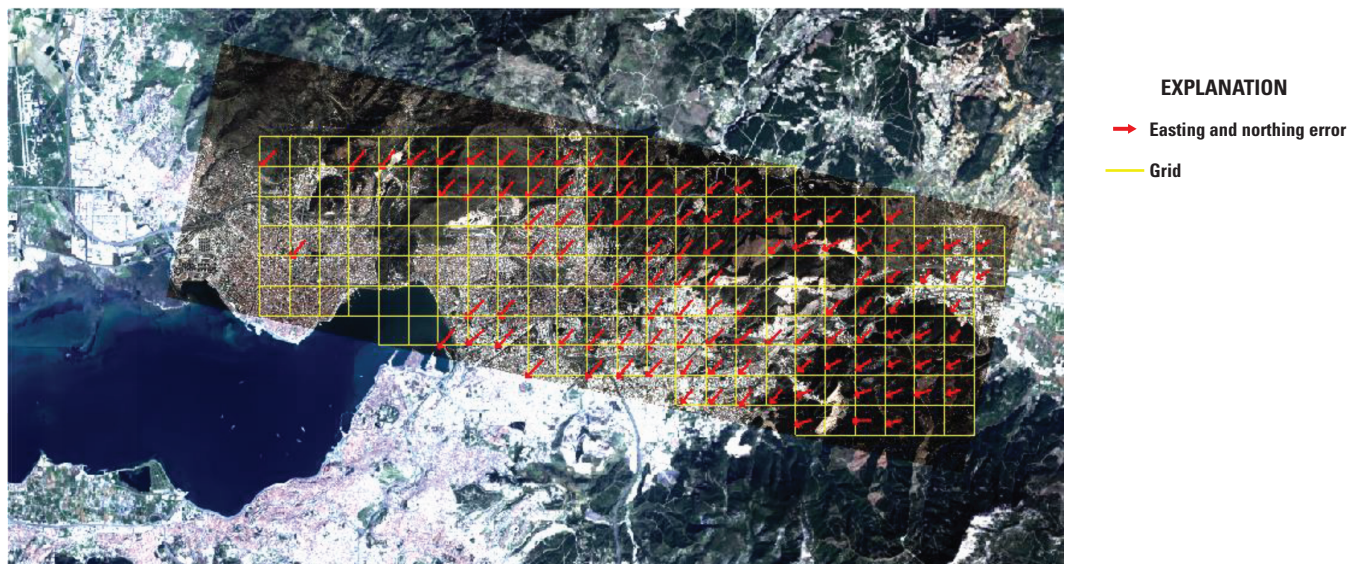


Figure 8. Relative geometric error map for Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager and Planet's Dove Classic for Izmir, Turkey.

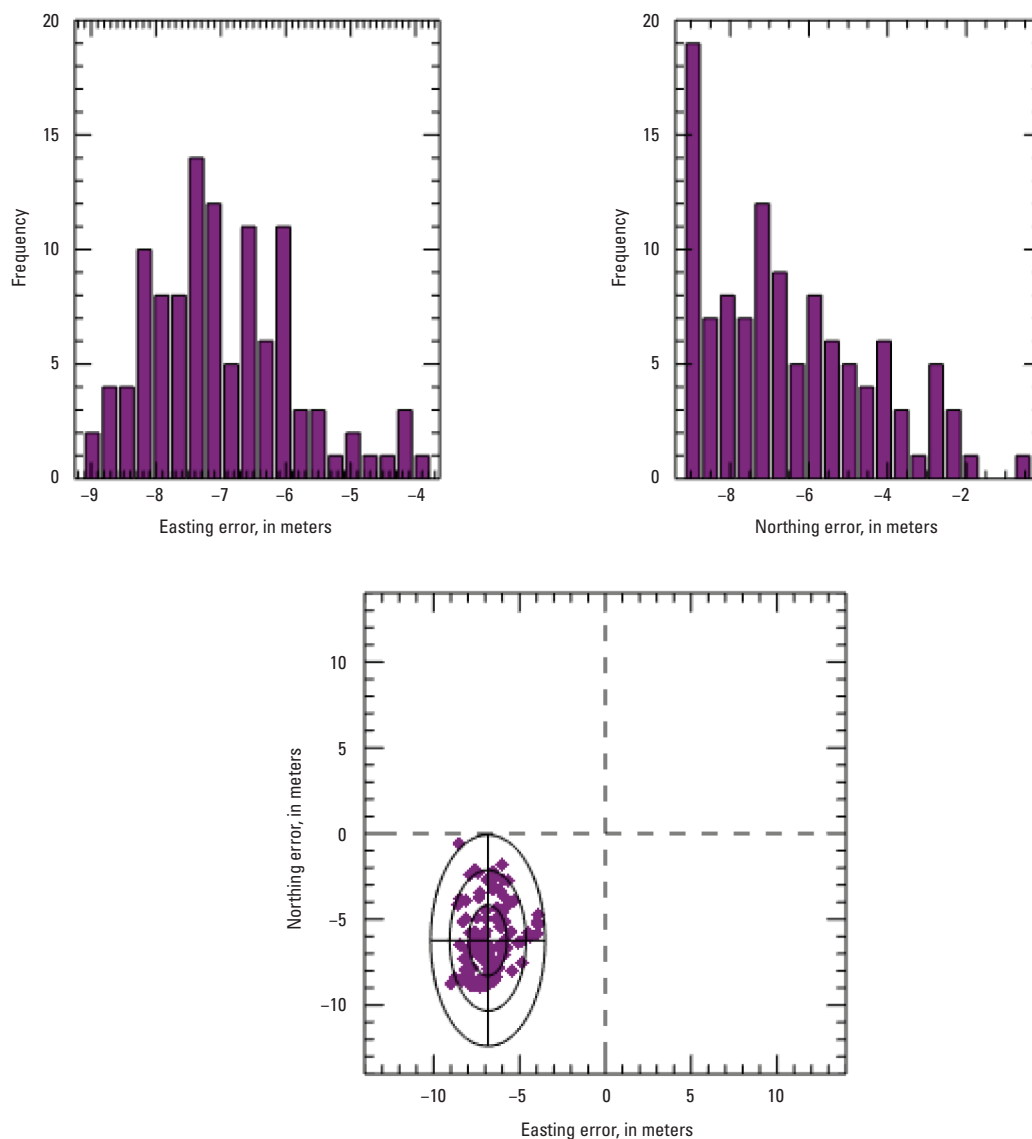


Figure 9. Relative geometric error histograms for easting and northing (upper) and error distribution (lower) for Izmir, Turkey.

Table 6. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison of Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager images against Planet's Dove Classic images.

[NIR, near infrared; ~, about]

| Statistics | Band 1—Blue | Band 2—Green | Band 3—Red | Band 4—NIR |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Radical offset | -0.021 to 0.000 | -0.043 to ~0.015 | -0.062 to -0.019 | -0.103 to -0.025 |
| Radical slope | 0.991 to 1.114 | 1.081 to 1.224 | 1.177 to 1.409 | 1.282 to 1.500 |

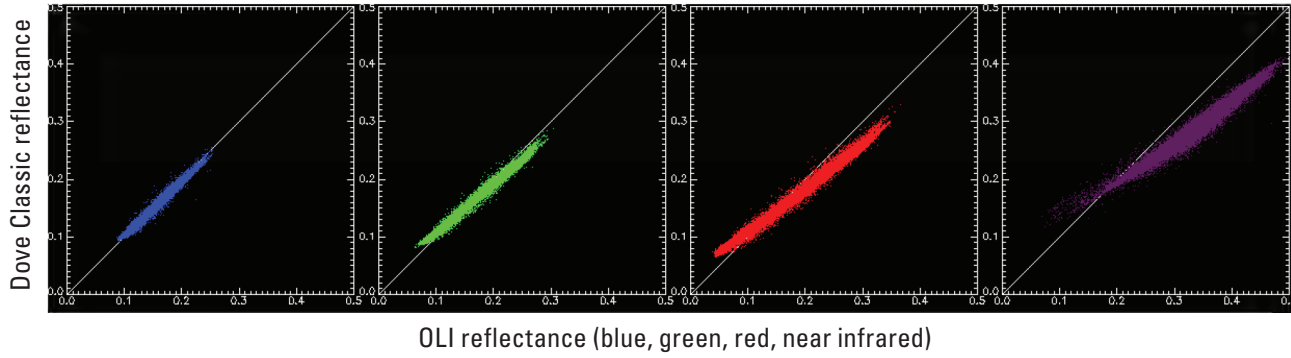


Figure 10. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison for Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI) and Dove Classic, April 2017 scene pair (LC08_L1TP_023037_20170408_20170414_01_T1 and 20170408_160456_0e2f_3B_AnalyticMS, respectively).

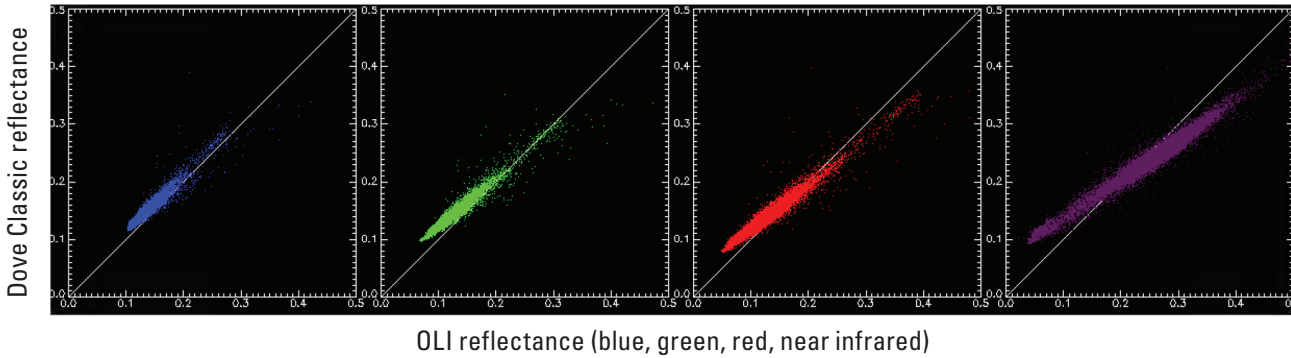


Figure 11. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison for Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI) and Dove Classic, December 2017 scene pair (LC08_L1TP_128049_20171220_20171224_01_T1 and 20171220_030332_0e2f_3B_AnalyticMS, respectively).

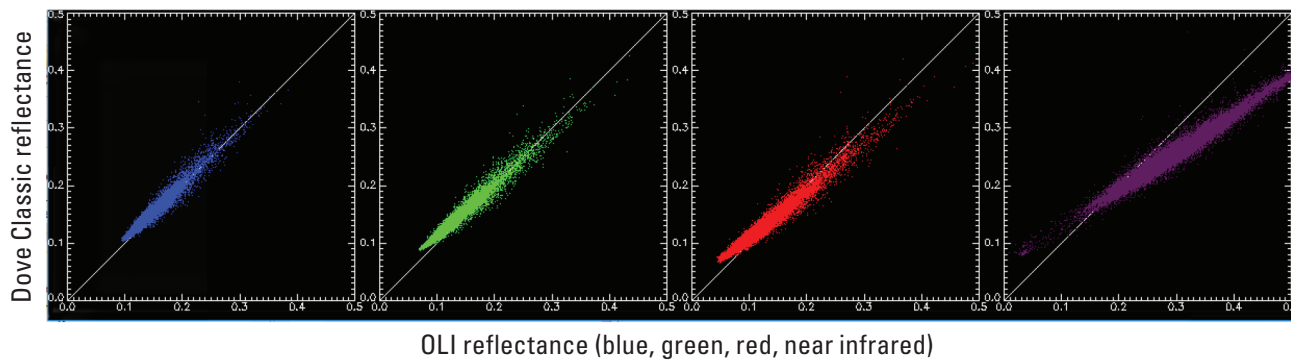


Figure 12. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison for Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI) and Dove Classic, August 2018 scene pair (LC08_L1TP_192029_20180817_20180829_01_T1 and 20180817_093542_0e2f_3B_AnalyticMS, respectively).

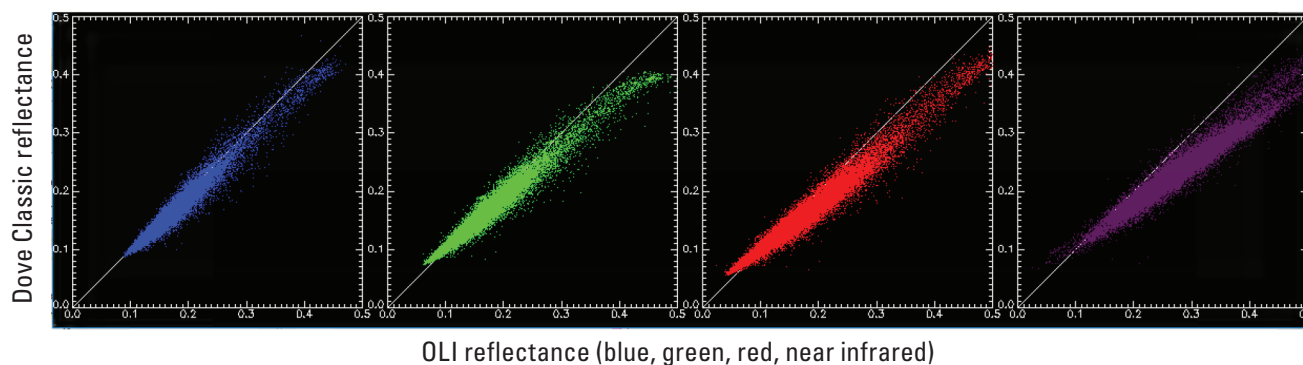


Figure 13. Top of Atmosphere reflectance comparison for Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI) and Dove Classic, March 2019 scene pair (LC08_L1TP_180032_20190325_20190403_01_T1 and 20190325_082920_0e2f_3B_AnalyticMS, respectively).

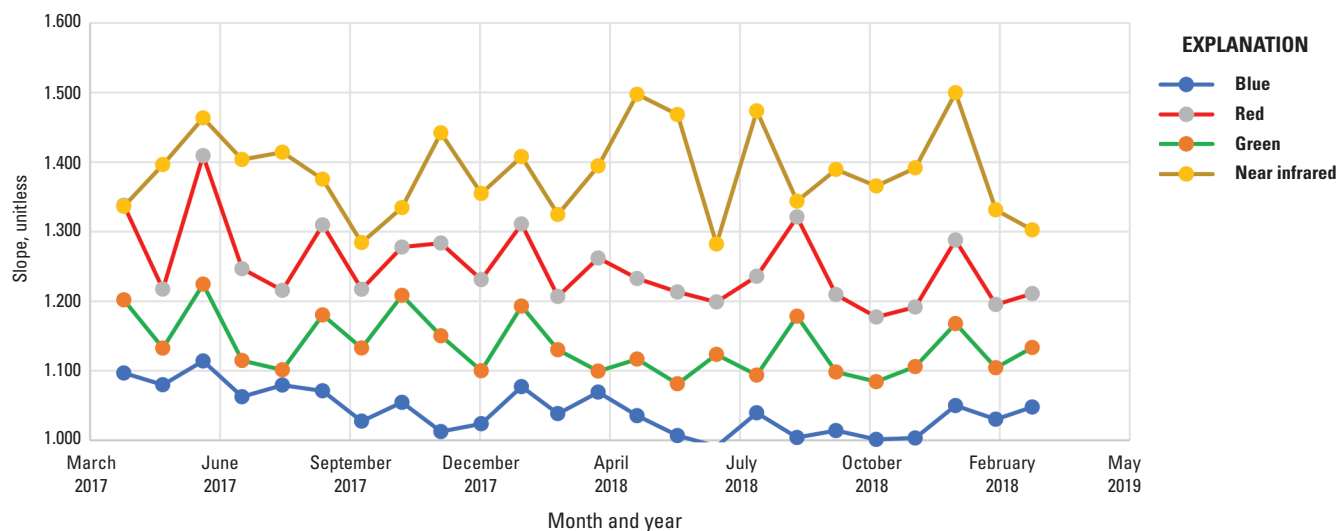


Figure 14. Time series of Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager and Planet's Dove Classic radiometric slope comparison.

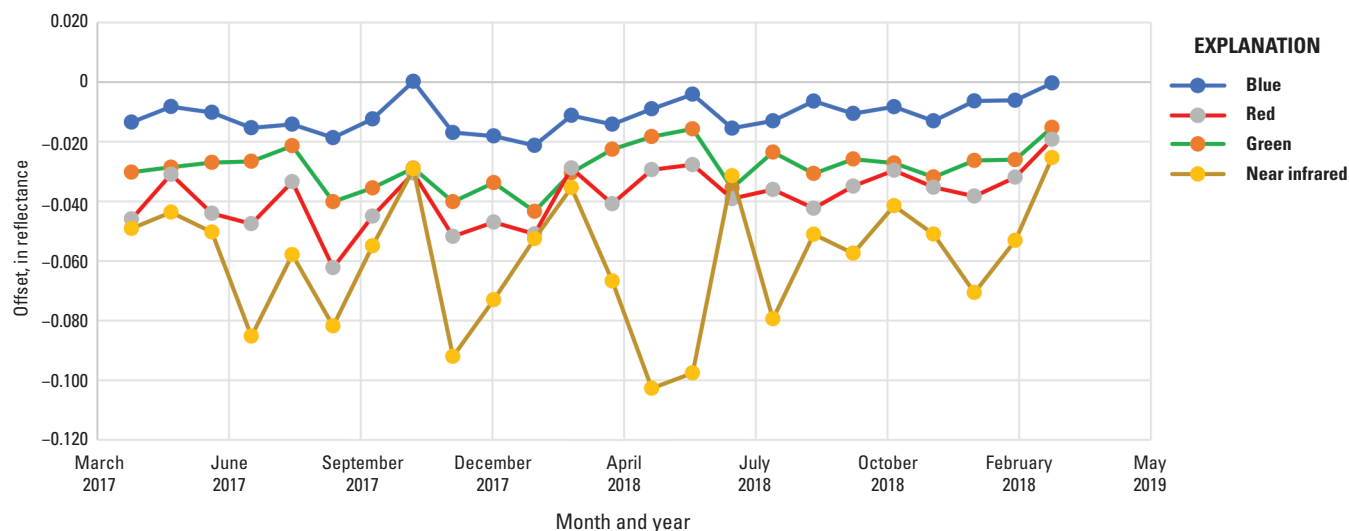


Figure 15. Time series of Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager and Planet's Dove Classic radiometric offset comparison.

Table 7. Spatial performance of Planet’s Dove Classic.

[RER, relative edge response; FWMH, full width at half maximum; MTF, modulation transfer function; NIR, near infrared]

| Spatial analysis | RER | FWHM | MTF at Nyquist |
|------------------|------|-------------|----------------|
| Band 1—blue | 0.36 | 2.77 pixels | 0.010 |
| Band 2—green | 0.33 | 3.07 pixels | 0.003 |
| Band 3—red | 0.33 | 3.07 pixels | 0.007 |
| Band 4—NIR | 0.27 | 3.35 pixels | 0.006 |

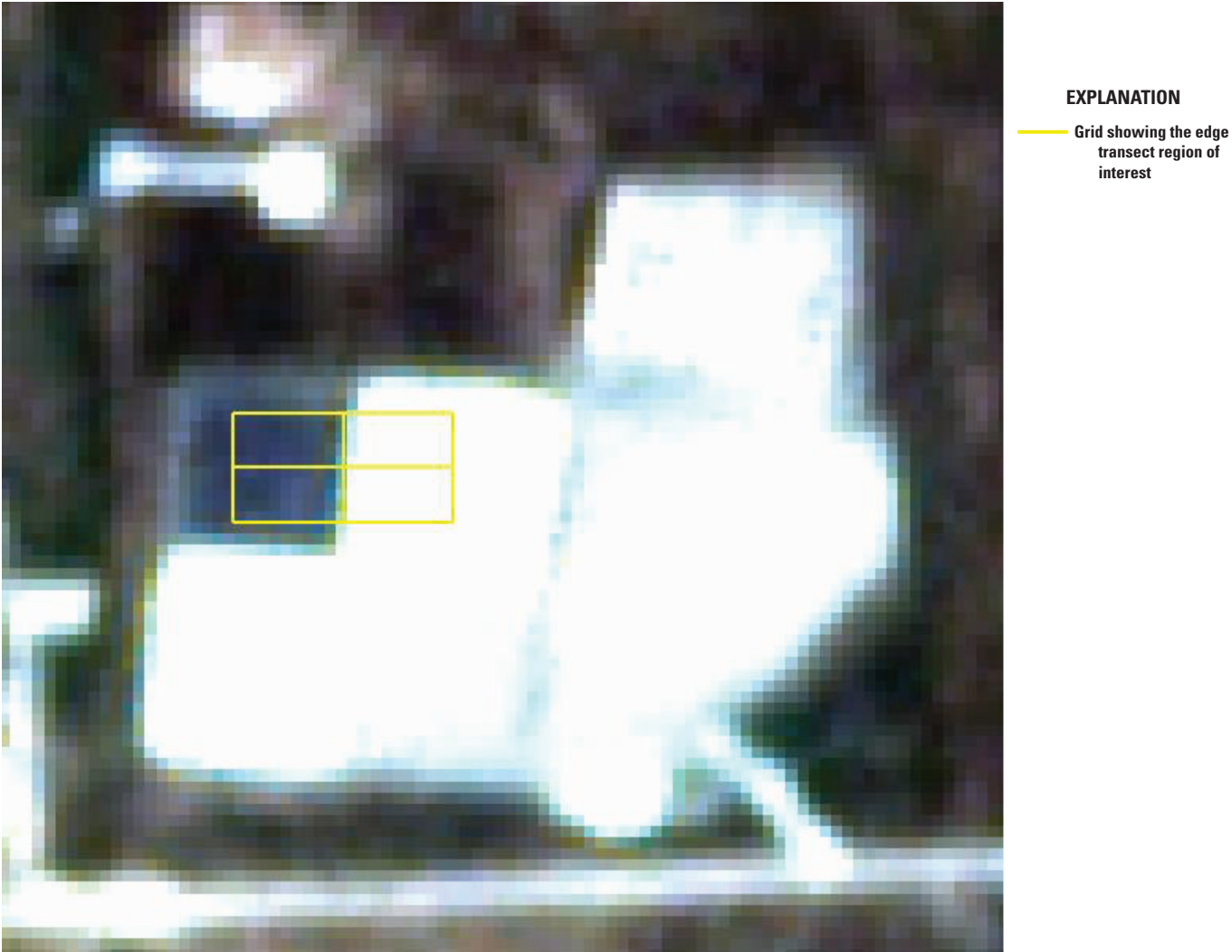


Figure 16. Dove-Classic image of calibration site at Baotou, China.

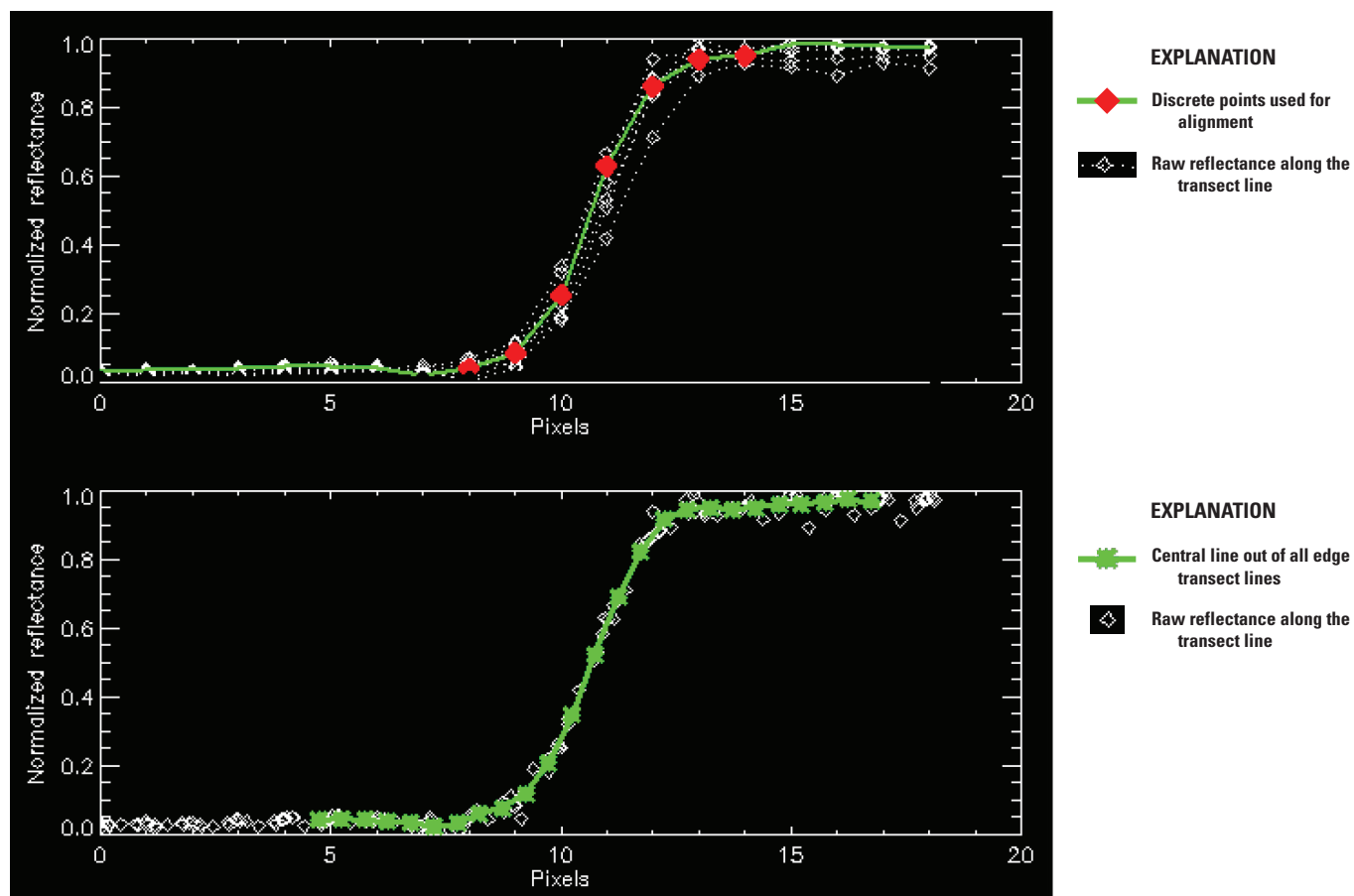


Figure 17. Band 1 (blue) raw edge transects (upper) and shifted transects (lower) for Baotou, China.

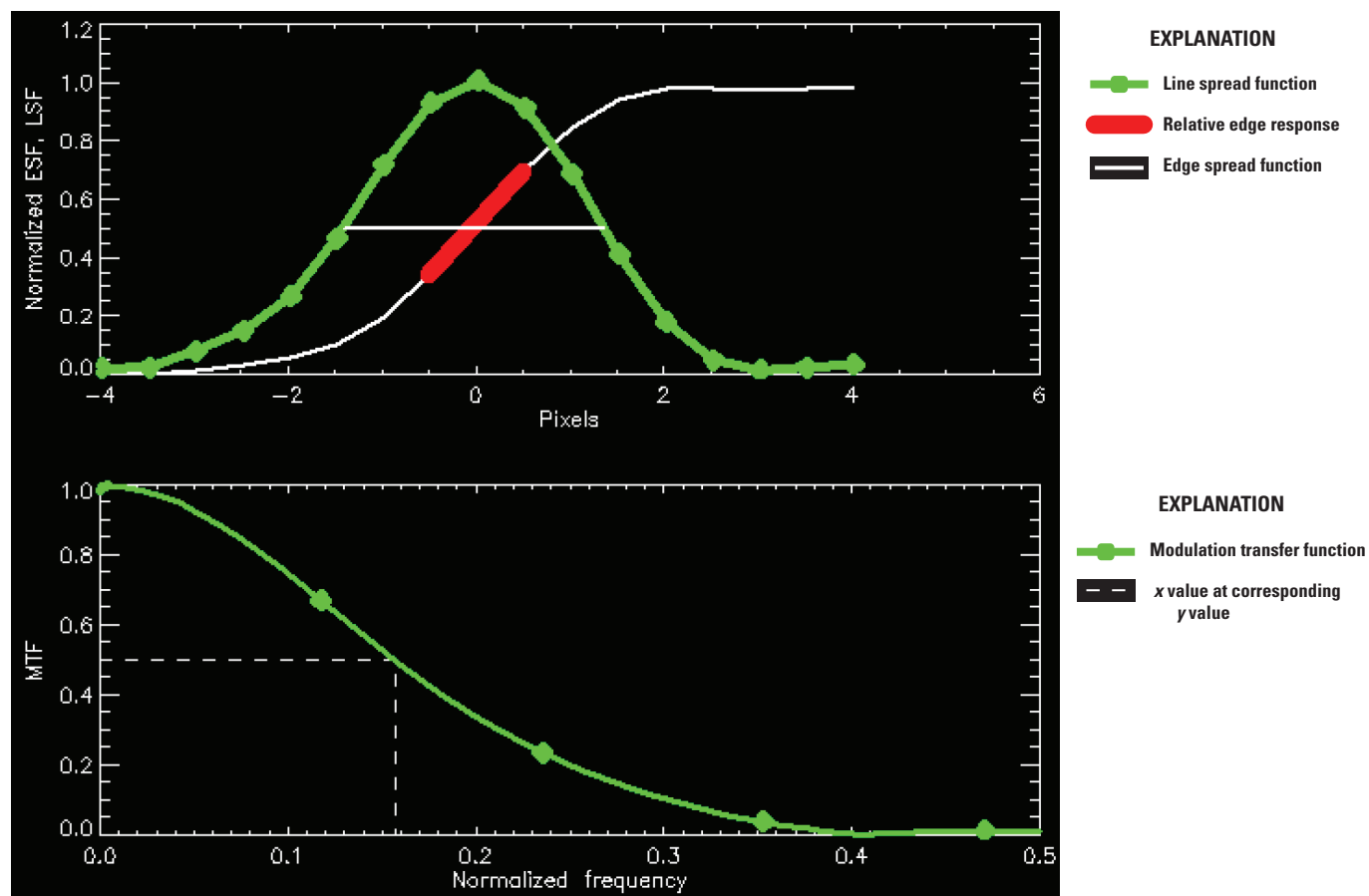


Figure 18. Band 1 (blue) edge spread function (ESF) and line spread function (LSF; upper) and modulation transfer function (MTF; lower) for Baotou, China.

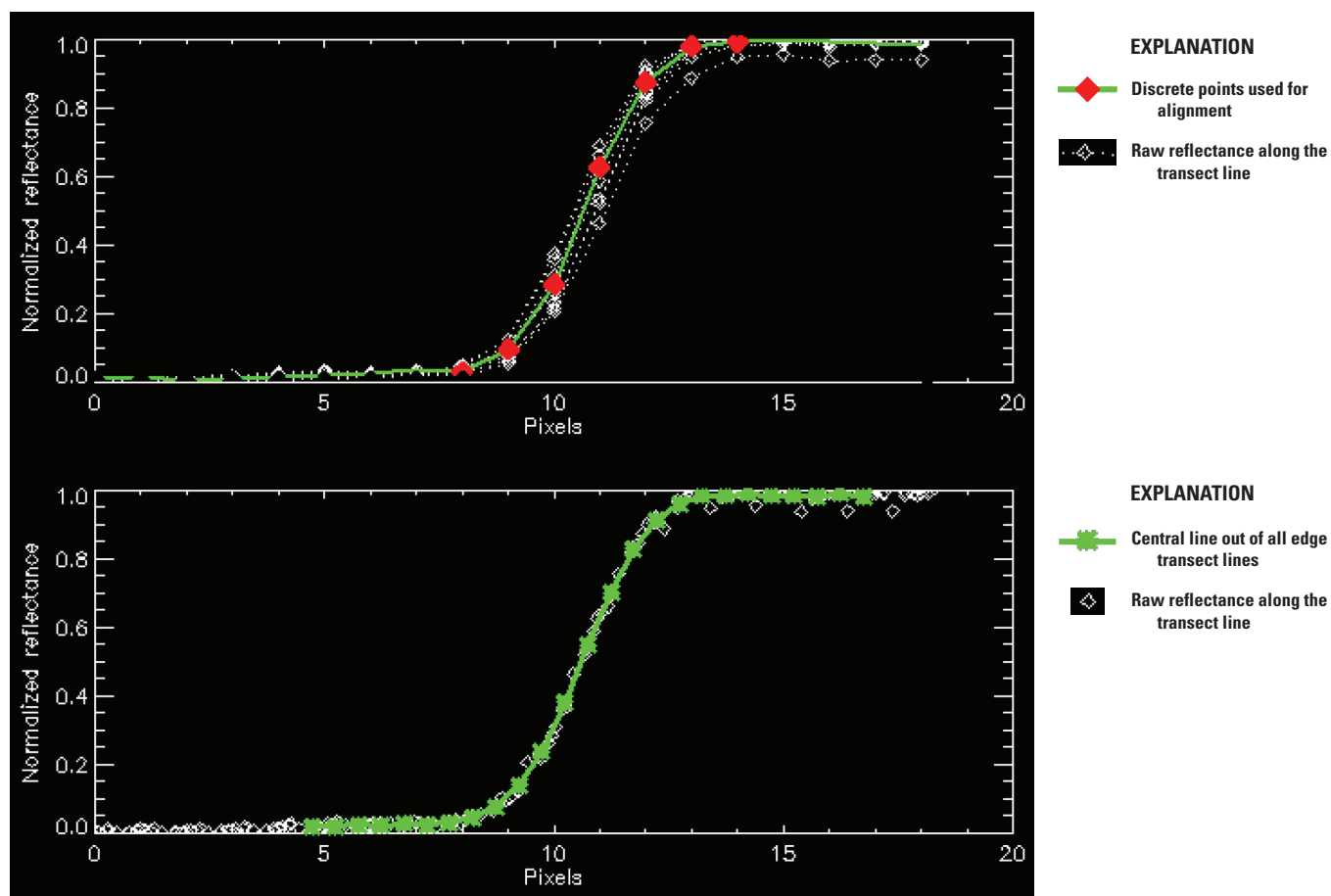


Figure 19. Band 2 (green) raw edge transects (upper) and shifted transects (lower) for Baotou, China.

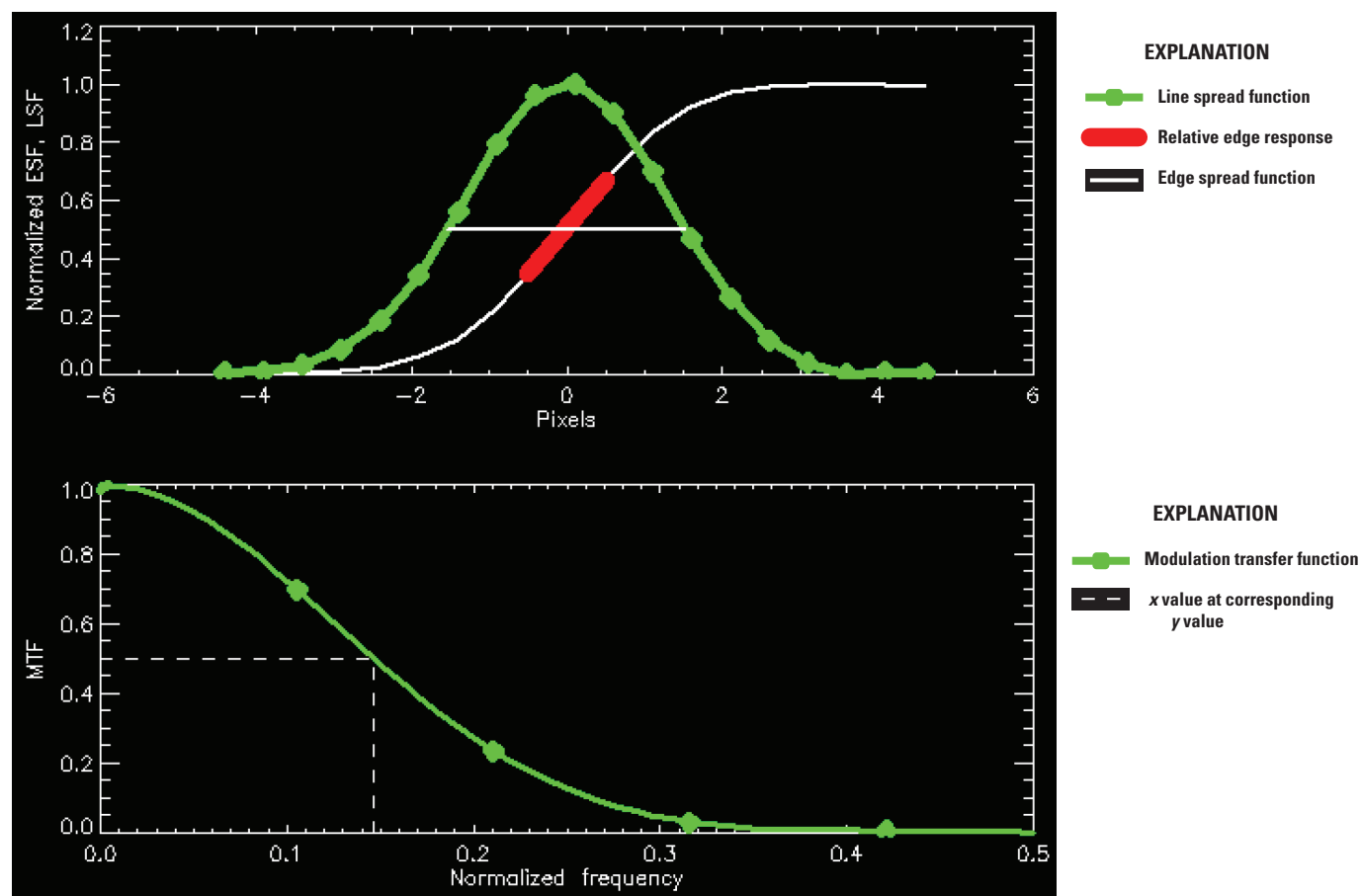


Figure 20. Band 2 (green) edge spread function (ESF) and line spread function (LSF; upper) and modulation transfer function (MTF; lower) for Baotou, China.

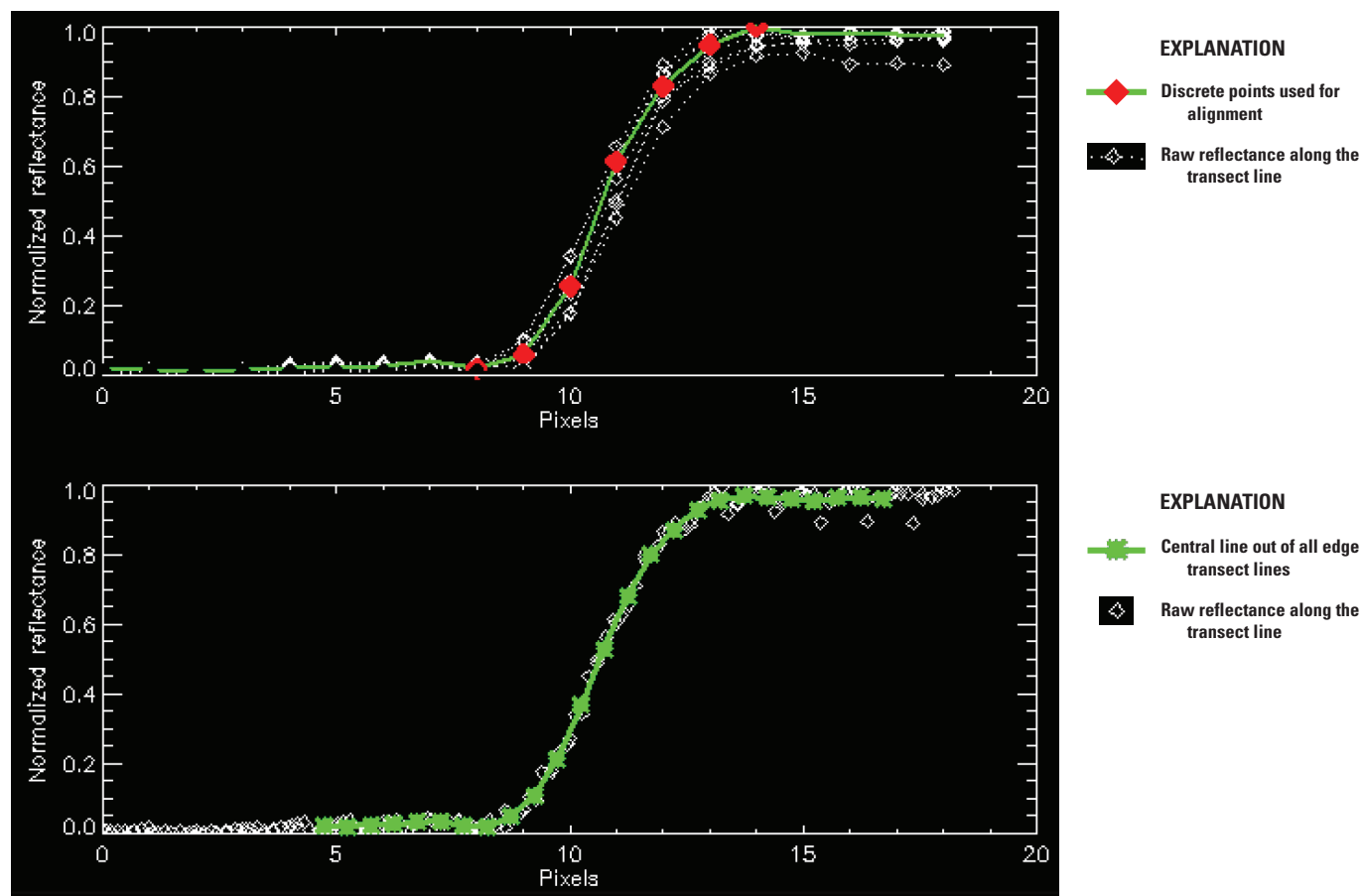


Figure 21. Band 3 (red) raw edge transects (upper) and shifted transects (lower) for Baotou, China.

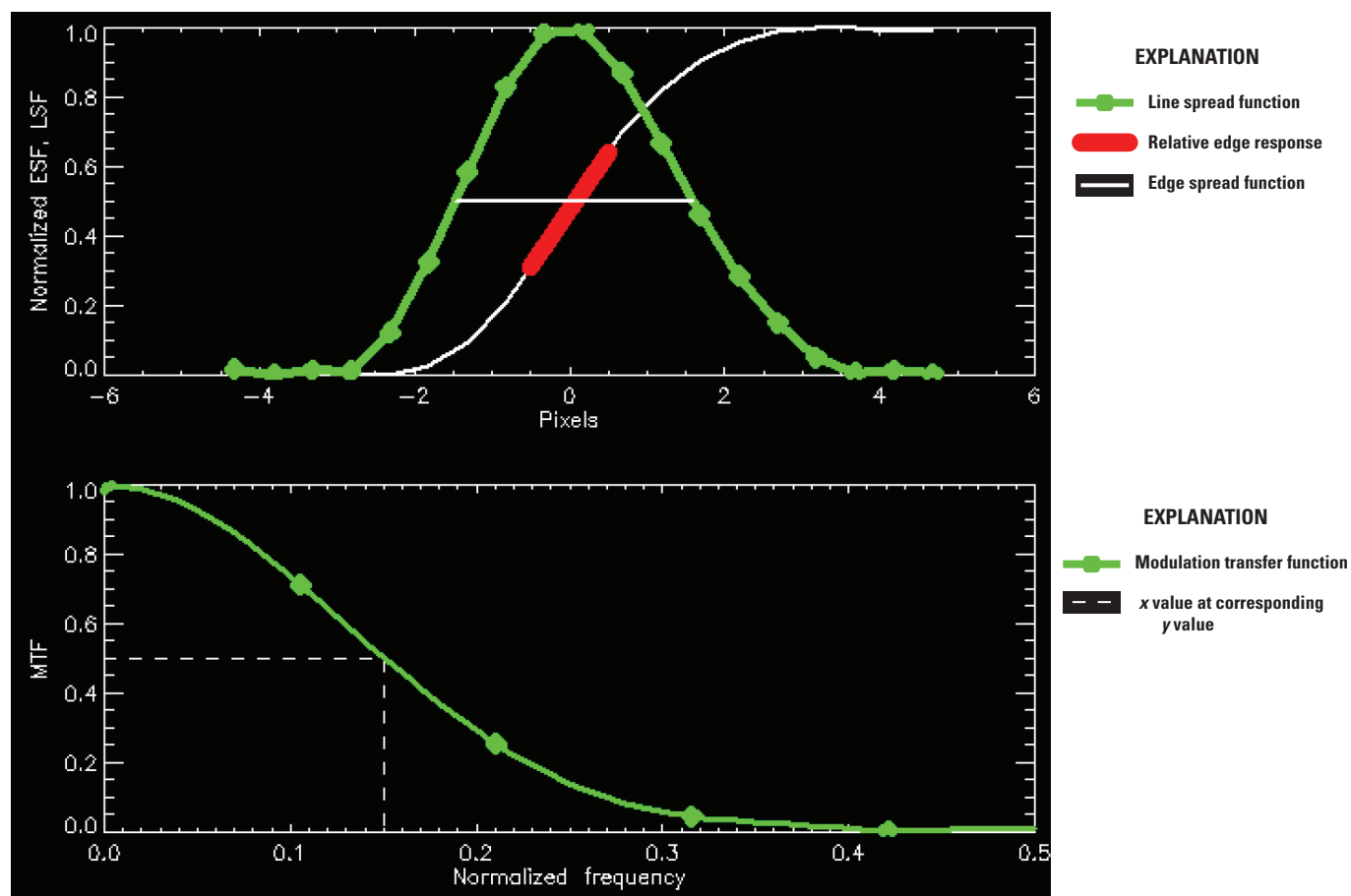


Figure 22. Band 3 (red) edge spread function (ESF) and line spread function (LSF; upper) and modulation transfer function (MTF; lower) for Baotou, China.

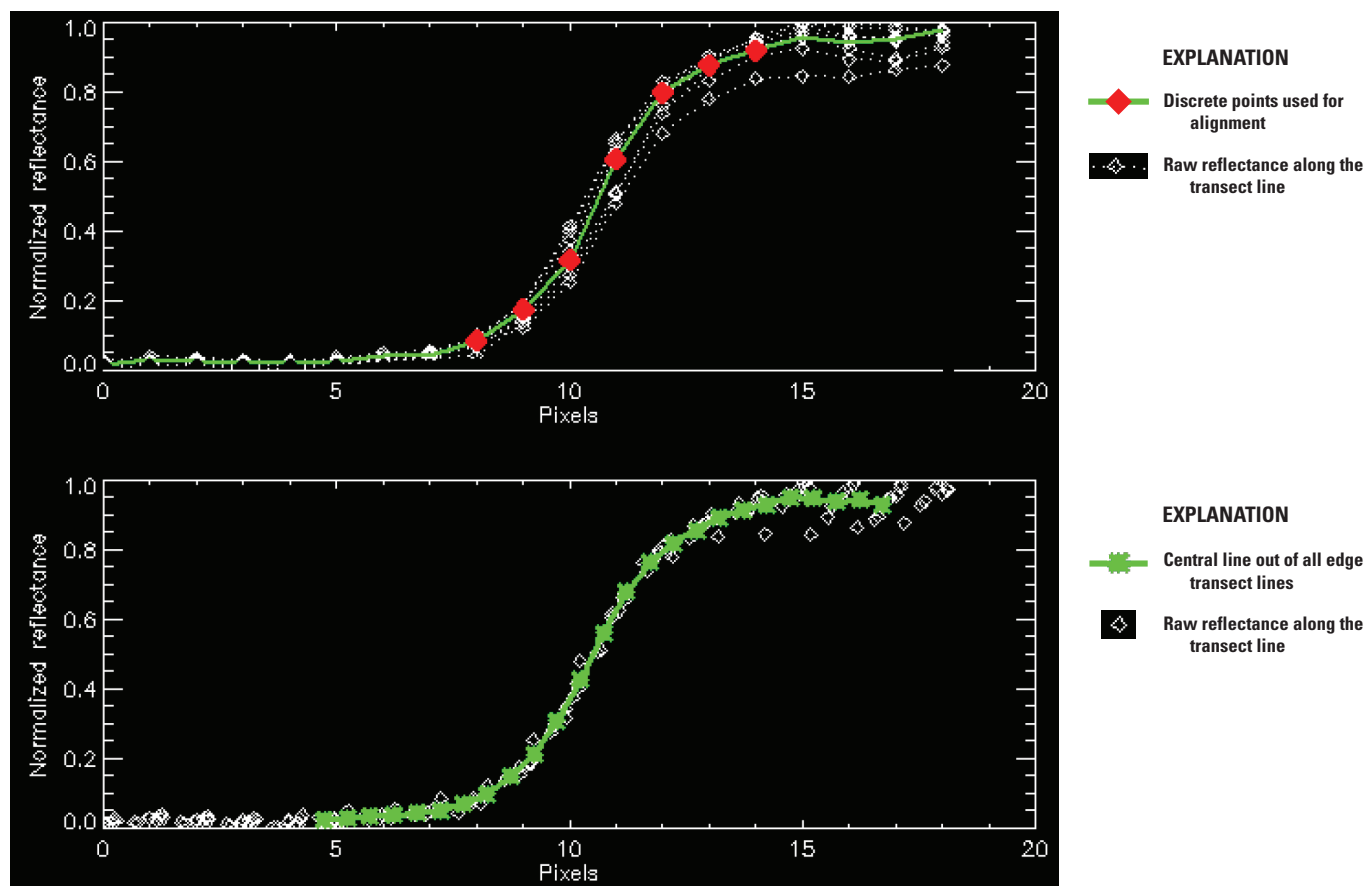


Figure 23. Band 4 (near infrared) raw edge transects (upper) and shifted transects (lower) for Baotou, China.

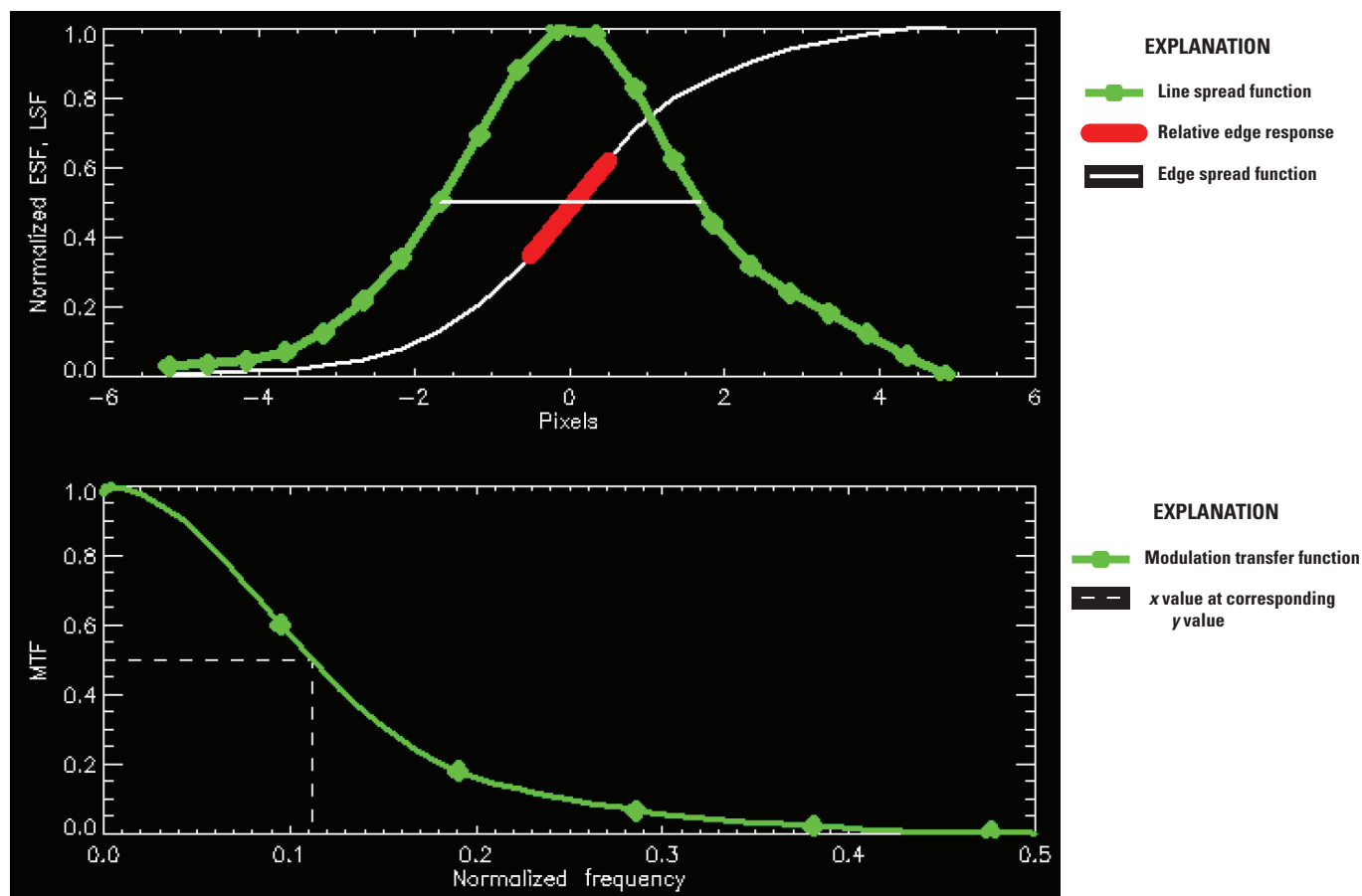


Figure 24. Band 4 (near infrared) edge spread function (ESF) and line spread function (LSF; upper) and modulation transfer function (MTF; lower) for Baotou, China.

Summary and Conclusions

This report summarizes the sensor performance of Planet's Dove Classic system based on the U.S. Geological Survey Earth Resources Observation and Science Cal/Val Center of Excellence (ECCOE) system characterization process. In summary, we have determined that this sensor provides an interior geometric performance in the range of -0.218 (-0.073 pixel) to -0.037 meter (m; -0.012 pixel) in easting -0.167 (-0.056 pixel) to -0.111 m (-0.037 pixel) in northing in band-to-band registration, an exterior geometric error of -6.841 (-2.280 pixels) in easting -6.235 m (-2.078 pixels) in northing offset in comparison to Landsat 8 OLI, a radiometric performance in the range of -0.057 to -0.010 in offset and 0.963 to 1.298 in slope, and a spatial performance in the range of 2.77 to 3.35 pixels for full width at half maximum, with a modulation transfer function at a Nyquist frequency in the range of 0.003 to 0.010 .

In conclusion, the team has completed an ECCOE standardized system characterization of the Dove Classic sensing system. Although the team followed characterization procedures that are standardized across the many sensors and sensing systems under evaluation, these procedures are customized to fit the individual sensor as was done with Dove Classic. The team has acquired the data, defined proper testing methodologies, carried out comparative tests against specific references, recorded measurements, completed data analyses, and quantified sensor performance accordingly. The team also endeavored to retain all data, measurements, and methods. This is key to ensure that all data and measurements are archived and accessible and that the performance results are reproducible.

The ECCOE project and associated Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation partners are always interested in reviewing sensor and remote sensing application assessments and would like to see and discuss information on similar data and product assessments and reviews. If you would like to discuss system characterization with the U.S. Geological Survey ECCOE and (or) the Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation team, please email us at eccoe@usgs.gov.

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Appendix 1. Radiometric Data

Datasets used for the radiometric stability time-series analysis are listed in [table 1.1](#).

Table 1.1. Radiometric time-series analysis reference datasets.

[OLI, Operational Land Imager; ID, identifier; _02ef, camera identifier; m, meter]

| Month | Landsat 8 OLI product ID | Dove Classic ID (_02ef) | Time difference (m) |
|------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Apr. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_023037_20170408_20170414_01_T1 | 20170408_160456 | 33 |
| Apr. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_023037_20170408_20170414_01_T1 | 20170408_160504 | 33 |
| May 2017 | LC08_L1TP_089084_20170524_20170614_01_T1 | 20170524_231640 | 26 |
| May 2017 | LC08_L1TP_089084_20170524_20170614_01_T1 | 20170524_231641 | 26 |
| May 2017 | LC08_L1TP_089084_20170524_20170614_01_T1 | 20170524_231642 | 26 |
| June 2017 | LC08_L1TP_033042_20170601_20170615_01_T1 | 20170601_171146 | 29 |
| June 2017 | LC08_L1TP_033042_20170601_20170615_01_T1 | 20170601_171147 | 29 |
| June 2017 | LC08_L1TP_033042_20170601_20170615_01_T1 | 20170601_171148 | 29 |
| July 2017 | LC08_L1TP_036029_20170708_20170717_01_T1 | 20170725_172115 | 32 |
| July 2017 | LC08_L1TP_036037_20170708_20170717_01_T1 | 20170725_172420 | 33 |
| July 2017 | LC08_L1TP_036037_20170708_20170717_01_T1 | 20170725_172421 | 33 |
| Aug. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_178034_20170828_20170914_01_T1 | 20170828_080308 | 30 |
| Aug. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_178034_20170828_20170914_01_T1 | 20170828_080309 | 30 |
| Sept. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_168035_20170923_20171013_01_T1 | 20170923_070407 | 29 |
| Oct. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_168034_20171025_20171107_01_T1 | 20171025_070102 | 30 |
| Oct. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_168034_20171025_20171107_01_T1 | 20171025_070107 | 30 |
| Oct. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_168034_20171025_20171107_01_T1 | 20171025_070126 | 30 |
| Nov. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_197035_20171121_20171206_01_T1 | 20171121_100852 | 24 |
| Nov. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_197035_20171121_20171206_01_T1 | 20171121_100855 | 24 |
| Nov. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_197035_20171121_20171206_01_T1 | 20171121_100857 | 24 |
| Dec. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_128049_20171220_20171224_01_T1 | 20171220_030332 | 28 |
| Dec. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_128049_20171220_20171224_01_T1 | 20171220_030341 | 28 |
| Dec. 2017 | LC08_L1TP_128049_20171220_20171224_01_T1 | 20171220_030342 | 28 |
| Jan. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_032037_20180120_20180206_01_T1 | 20180120_170400 | 29 |
| Jan. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_032037_20180120_20180206_01_T1 | 20180120_170408 | 29 |
| Jan. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_032040_20180120_20180206_01_T1 | 20180120_170520 | 29 |
| Jan. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_032040_20180120_20180206_01_T1 | 20180120_170521 | 29 |
| Feb. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_128051_20180206_20180221_01_T1 | 20180206_030844 | 23 |
| Feb. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_128051_20180206_20180221_01_T1 | 20180206_030845 | 23 |
| Feb. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_128051_20180206_20180221_01_T1 | 20180206_030846 | 23 |
| Mar. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_022031_20180303_20180319_01_T1 | 20180303_160129 | 26 |
| Mar. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_022032_20180303_20180319_01_T1 | 20180303_160203 | 25 |
| Apr. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_191028_20180420_20180502_01_T1 | 20180420_093038 | 20 |
| Apr. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_191028_20180420_20180502_01_T1 | 20180420_093042 | 20 |
| Apr. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_191028_20180420_20180502_01_T1 | 20180420_093045 | 20 |
| May 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025034_20180527_20180605_01_T1 | 20180527_162522 | 22 |
| May 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025034_20180527_20180605_01_T1 | 20180527_162523 | 22 |
| May 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025034_20180527_20180605_01_T1 | 20180527_162524 | 22 |
| June 2018 | LC08_L1TP_196028_20180626_20180704_01_T1 | 20180626_100108 | 20 |
| June 2018 | LC08_L1TP_196028_20180626_20180704_01_T1 | 20180626_100109 | 20 |
| July 2018 | LC08_L1TP_042036_20180721_20180731_01_T1 | 20180721_180700 | 26 |
| July 2018 | LC08_L1TP_042036_20180721_20180731_01_T1 | 20180721_180701 | 26 |
| Aug. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_192029_20180817_20180829_01_T1 | 20180817_093542 | 22 |

Table 1.1. Radiometric time-series analysis reference datasets.—Continued

[OLI, Operational Land Imager; ID, identifier; _02ef, camera identifier; m, meter]

| Month | Landsat 8 OLI product ID | Dove Classic ID (_02ef) | Time difference (m) |
|------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Aug. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_192029_20180817_20180829_01_T1 | 20180817_093553 | 22 |
| Aug. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_192029_20180817_20180829_01_T1 | 20180817_093554 | 22 |
| Sept. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_200026_20180926_20181009_01_T1 | 20180926_102341 | 24 |
| Sept. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_200026_20180926_20181009_01_T1 | 20180926_102346 | 24 |
| Sept. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_200027_20180926_20181009_01_T1 | 20180926_102358 | 24 |
| Sept. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_200027_20180926_20181009_01_T1 | 20180926_102359 | 24 |
| Oct. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025030_20181018_20181031_01_T1 | 20181018_162115 | 24 |
| Oct. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025030_20181018_20181031_01_T1 | 20181018_162119 | 24 |
| Oct. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025031_20181018_20181031_01_T1 | 20181018_162137 | 26 |
| Oct. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_025031_20181018_20181031_01_T1 | 20181018_162146 | 26 |
| Nov. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_023034_20181121_20181129_01_T1 | 20181121_161104 | 25 |
| Nov. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_023034_20181121_20181129_01_T1 | 20181121_161109 | 25 |
| Nov. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_023034_20181121_20181129_01_T1 | 20181121_161117 | 25 |
| Dec. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_016040_20181222_20181227_01_T1 | 20181222_153224 | 22 |
| Dec. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_016040_20181222_20181227_01_T1 | 20181222_153225 | 22 |
| Dec. 2018 | LC08_L1TP_016040_20181222_20181227_01_T1 | 20181222_153233 | 22 |
| Jan. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_091085_20190120_20190201_01_T1 | 20190120_234405 | 11 |
| Jan. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_091085_20190120_20190201_01_T1 | 20190120_234418 | 11 |
| Feb. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_041036_20190207_20190221_01_T1 | 20190207_180954 | 18 |
| Feb. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_041036_20190207_20190221_01_T1 | 20190207_180955 | 18 |
| Feb. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_041036_20190207_20190221_01_T1 | 20190207_180956 | 18 |
| Mar. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_180032_20190325_20190403_01_T1 | 20190325_082920 | 16 |
| Mar. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_180032_20190325_20190403_01_T1 | 20190325_082925 | 16 |
| Mar. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_180033_20190325_20190403_01_T1 | 20190325_083005 | 15 |
| Mar. 2019 | LC08_L1TP_180033_20190325_20190403_01_T1 | 20190325_083006 | 15 |

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