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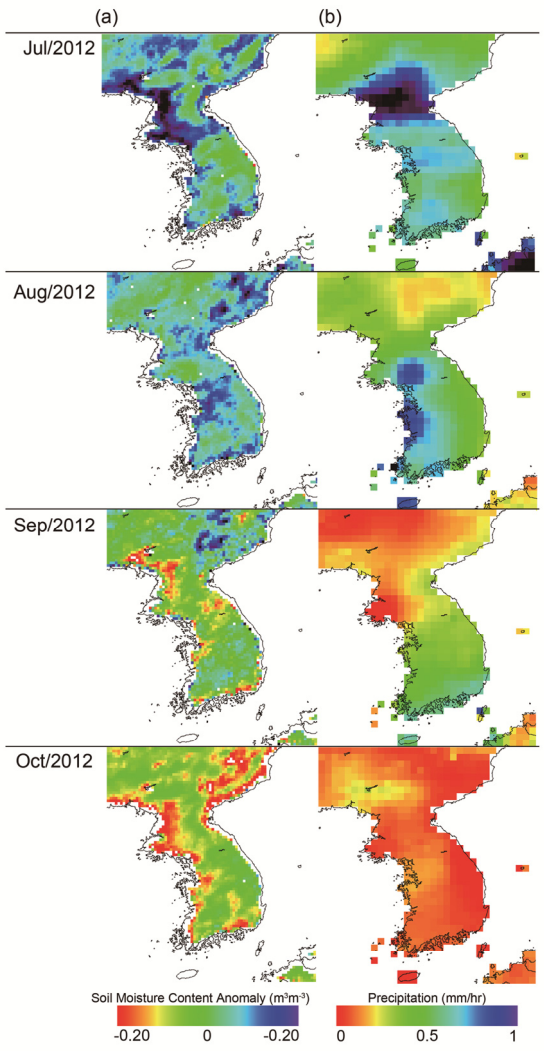
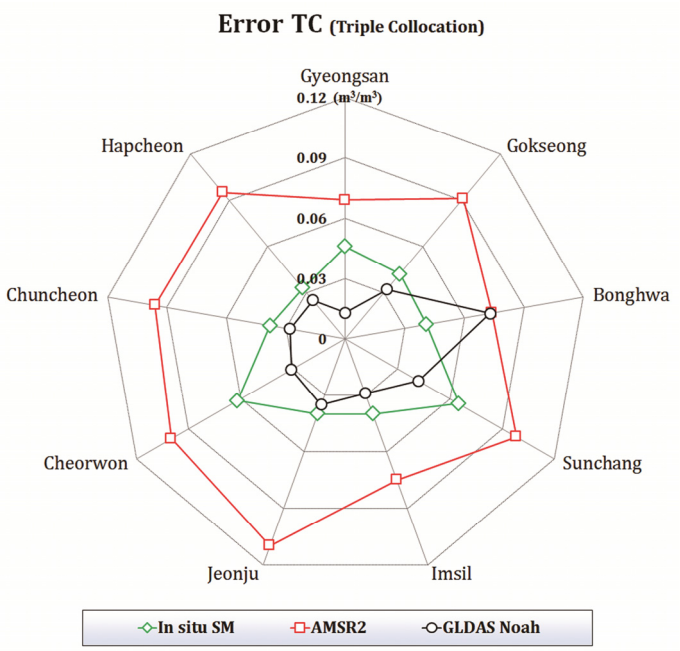
Figure 1. Comparison between the monthly distributions of (a) anomaly of the AMSR2 soil moisture content, (b) the TRMM precipitation.



↓ Figure 2. Estimated errors of the soil moisture dataset from each source estimated by the triple collocation.



- The temporal patterns of the AMSR2 were roughly associated with the in situ soil moisture measurements with some intermittent striking values. Normalizing and filtering methods were applied for the comparison between them with less systematic differences.
- Based on triple collocation, the error estimation showed that the AMSR2 data had a larger error than the in situ and Global Land Data Assimilation System (GLDAS) soil moisture values (Fig. 1).
- The spatial distribution of the soil moisture anomaly which used the average soil moisture during the studied period (July 2012 to October 2012) was compared with the spatial distribution of the precipitation that were obtained from the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) 3B43 (Fig. 2). The spatial distribution of the AMSR2 soil moisture anomaly and precipitation were found to be moderately well correlated.