



CLAAS4: Top-Of-Atmosphere (TOA) INPUT DATA: update2

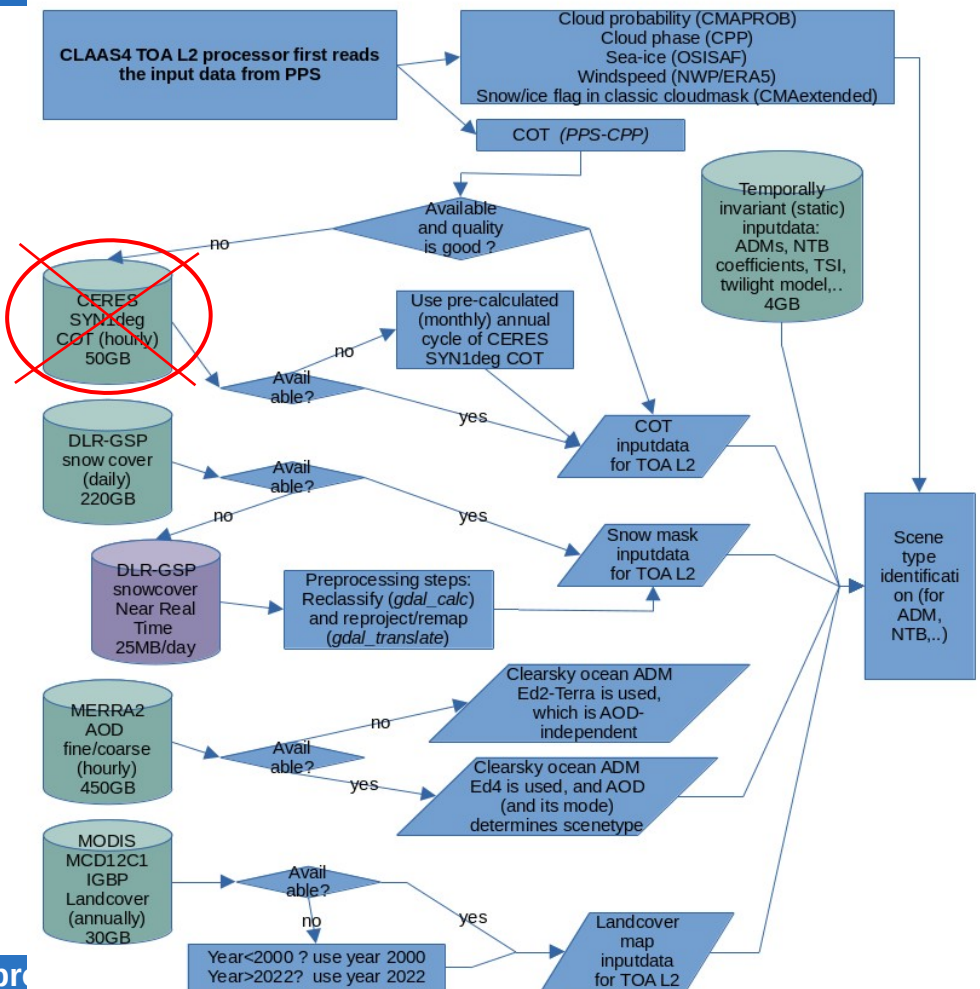
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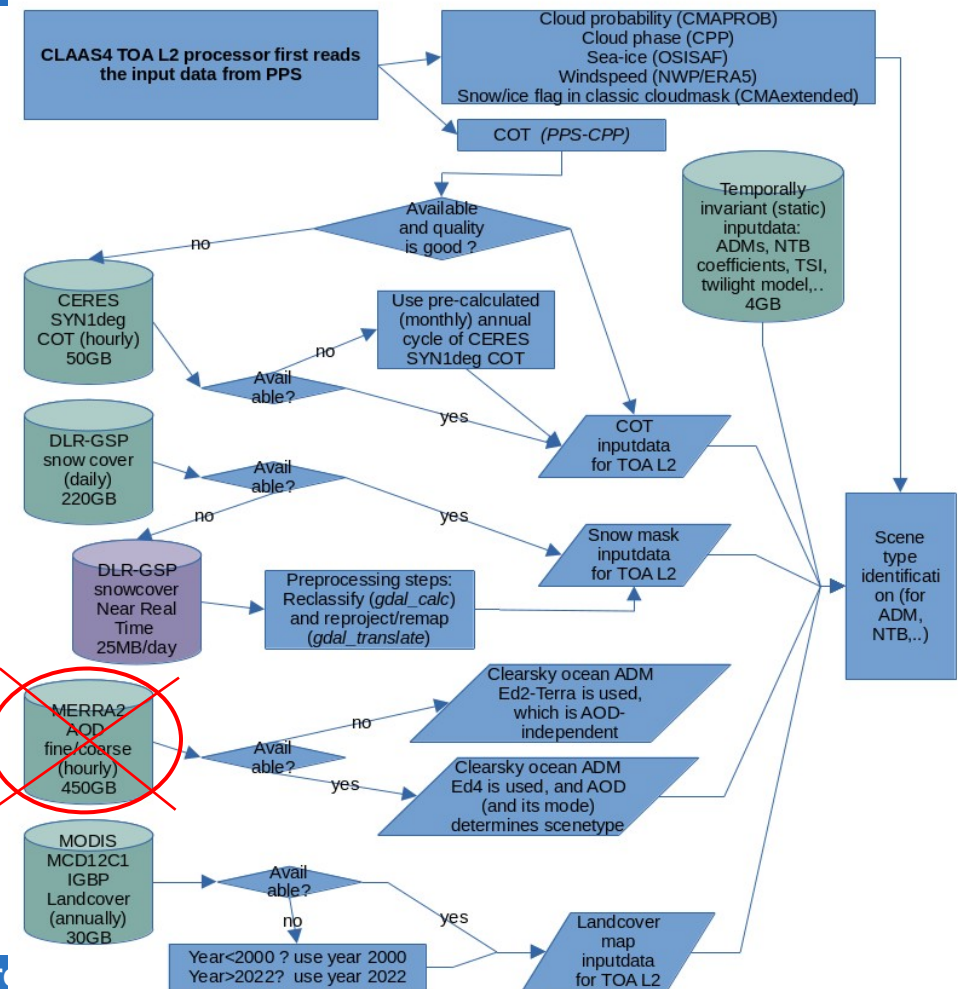
Cloud Optical Thickness:

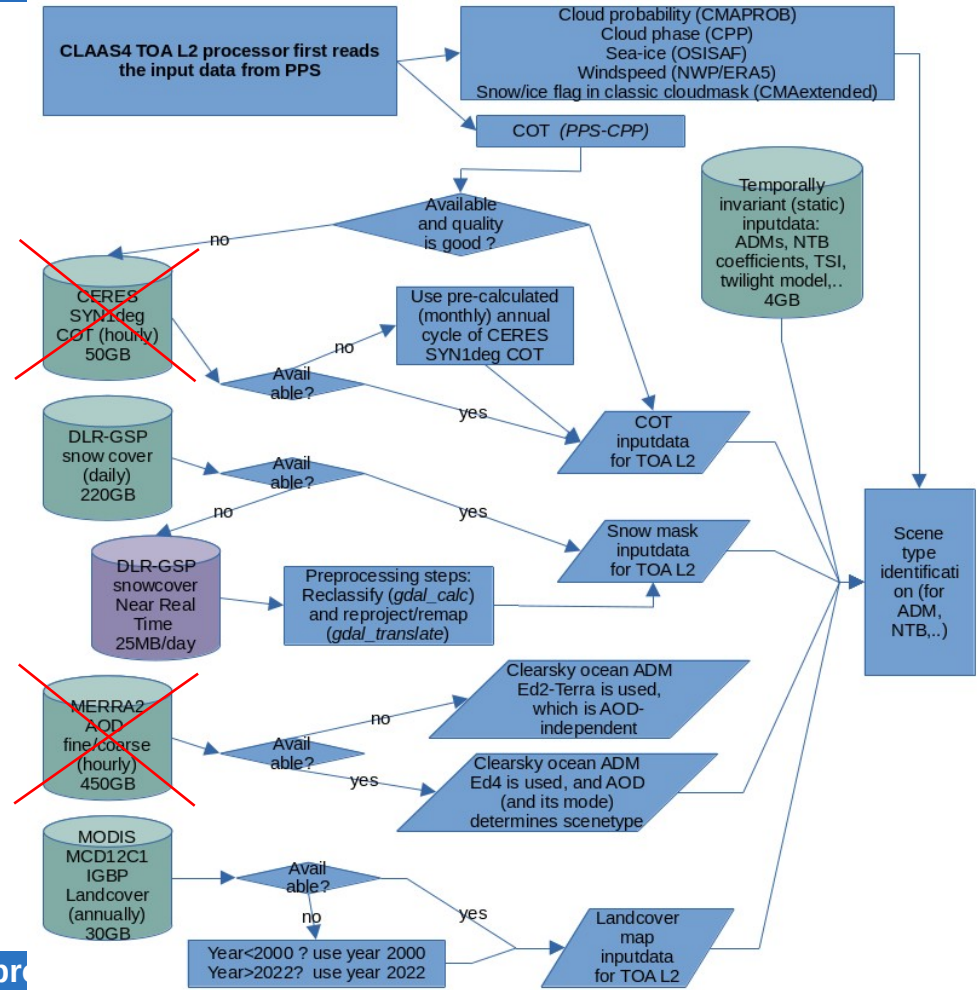
- If CLAAS4 COT is not realistic/available
- Product: **Hourly CERES SYN1deg 1°x1°**
- Total file size: 50GB
- Why using it?
 - *There is no good alternative: we *need* a COT value for clouds, ANY value, really (reason: scene type identification for ADMs). But it should be a realistic value for that time and place, even if it is not the actual or correct value. The climatology does not fulfill that need.*
- Why not using it?
 - *Not available in Near-Real-Time (NRT), so the ICDR would still use the 12-month climatology*
 - *Extra dependency on external data record is to be avoided if possible*
- **Alternatives: [this is chosen]**
 - *Climatology of 12 months CERES COT 1°x1° (as used in CLARA-A3)*
 - *Assume constant COT=0.75 in sunglint over ocean*



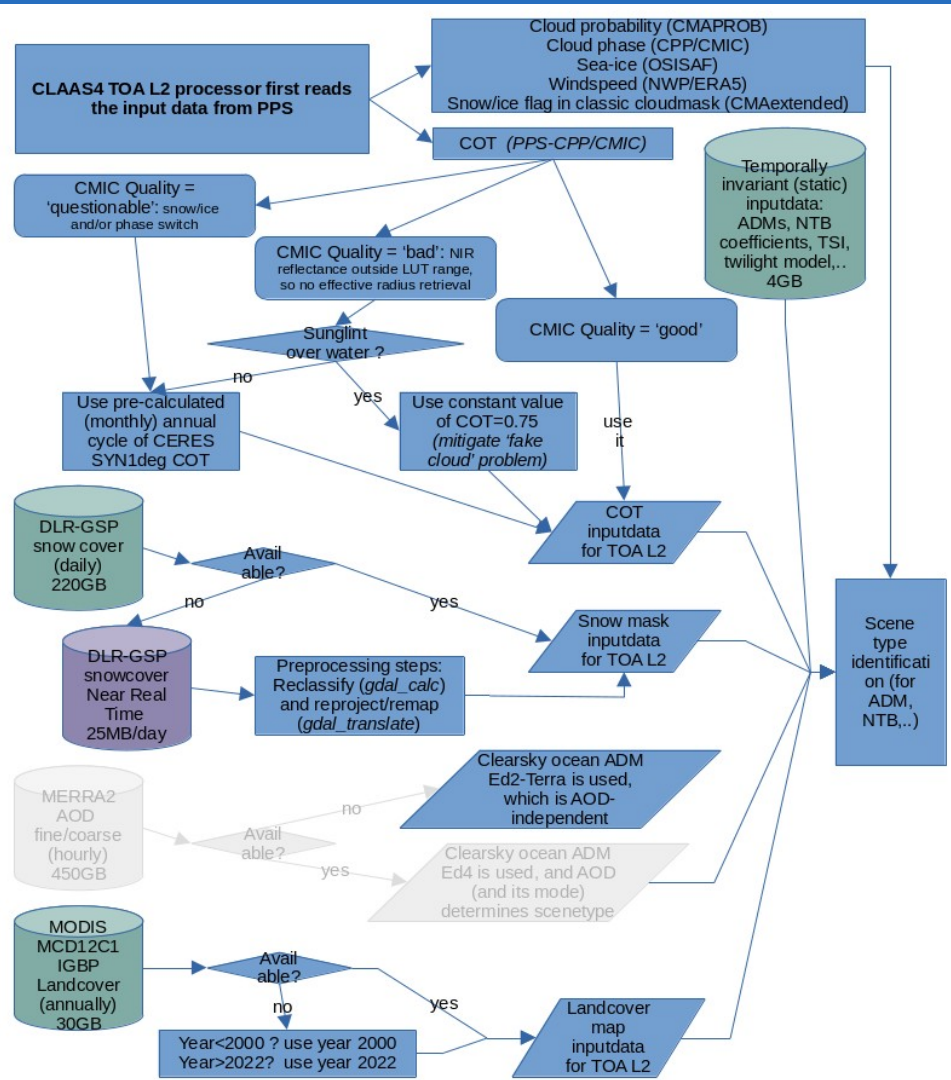
Aerosol Optical Depth + AOD mode:

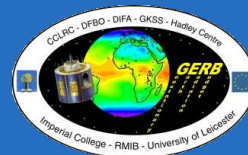
- Product: **MERRA2 hourly reanalysis 0.5°x0.625°**
- Total file size: 450GB
- Why using it?
 - *Reliable scene type identification of AOD and its mode (coarse vs fine), needed for clearsky ocean Ed4 ADMs*
 - *These are the newest available, state-of-the-art ADMs, this is an argument which will help to “sell” the product (PR) and keep it competitive and future-proof (at least, on paper).*
 - *Not using it would raise questions with reviewers and users*
- Why not using it?
 - *Large effort and external dependency for relatively small gain in performance with respect to the AOD-independent Ed2/Terra ADMs (see next slide)*
 - *Not available in Near-Real-Time (NRT), so the ICDR would not make use of it and fall back to the AOD-independent Ed2/Terra clearsky ocean ADMs (but then again, this would not come with a big decreasing jump in quality/performance)*
 - *Extra dependency on external data record is to be avoided if possible*
- **Alternatives?**
 - *Yes, it would be possible to altogether eliminate the use of MERRA2 AOD by entirely replacing the Ed4 ADMs for clearsky ocean by the AOD-independent Ed2/Terra ADMs [this is chosen]*





- Eliminated use of MERRA2 reanalysis
 - No large impact on performance
- Eliminated use of CERES Hourly COT
 - But still mitigated the 'fake cloud' problem by imposing COT=0.75 in sun glint conditions (over ocean) when CMIC COT quality = bad





Thanks for your attention!