

SALCA Data Summary for TLSIIG Brisbane 2013

Instrument System specifications of the Salford Advanced Laser Canopy Analyser (SALCA) are given in Table 1. The instrument has a fixed resolution in zenith at 1.05mrad, but variable in azimuth to 1.05mrad, 2.1mrad, and 4.2mrad. Due to output power strength of the 1545nm laser, a combination of neutral density filters is sometimes used whilst scanning: 0 (no filter), 0.4nd, 0.6nd, and 1nd.

Centre wavelengths	1545.4 nm and 1063.4 nm
Pulse length	3 ns (1545 nm) and 1 ns (1063 nm)
Pulse rate	5 kHz
Beam width at sensor	3.6 mm (1545 nm) and 2.4 mm (1063 nm)
Beam divergence	0.56 mrad
Laser output energy	5 µJ (1545 nm) and 0.5 µJ (1063 nm)
Detector field of view	2.67 mrad
Sampling rate	1GHz
Range resolution	15 cm
Maximum range	105 m
Angular sampling step	1.05mrad
Angular displacement between wavelengths	6 µrad

Table 1: SALCA system specifications

File name structure SiteName_Filter_AzimuthResolution_ followed by a sequential number generated by the instrument. Each file is described in an accompanying spreadsheet which defines the specific parameters used for each scan along with relevant field notes.

Field sampling scheme Data was collected using SALCA in 4 plots: Karawatha Forest Park (KARA001, KARA002, KARA005), and D'Aguilar National Forest Park (GOLD0101). Each plot contained 5 primary scanning positions (centre, north, south, east, west) with the plot centre scan position taking the highest priority. Due to timing constraints in the field, 4 out of 5 positions were completed in KARA001, KARA005, and GOLD0101, and only the centre position in KARA002. Numerous reflectors were positioned within line of sight of each scan position, with a double reflector representing North.

Previous measurements with SALCA have shown a drop-off in intensity over time, possibly due to the heating of the instrument. In order to investigate this further a portable multi-target calibration panel was used in most scans. This consisted of a 6-grey target panel that was moved around as the scan progressed so that it was imaged at the same range (10m) multiple times within each scan (Figure 1). Some scans also had a panel in a fixed position to appear at the beginning and end of the scan.

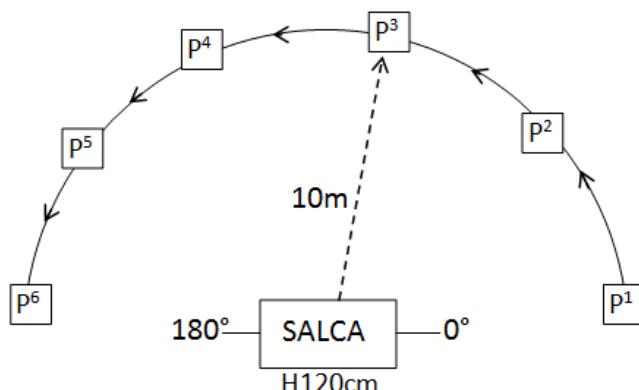


Figure 1: Setup for using calibration panels while scanning.

Preview of site KARA005 centre position

First return raw intensity: 1063nm (no filter)



First returns raw intensity: 1545nm (no filter)

