

For Immediate Release

August 12, 2025

Ridge-i Inc.

Ridge-i Partners with Microsoft to Build a New Platform Integrating Generative AI and Earth Observation Data

~Accelerating the Practical Use of Digital Twin Earth with Microsoft Planetary Computer Pro and Azure~

Ridge-i (Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Takashi Yanagihara; hereinafter “Ridge-i”), a company specializing in consulting and development of AI and deep learning technologies, has initiated collaboration with Microsoft Japan Co., Ltd. (hereinafter “Microsoft Japan”) to build an innovative platform that integrates generative AI with Earth observation data.

▼Background and Initiative Overview

In March 2025, Ridge-i announced a proof-of-concept in collaboration with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) on the use of AI for Digital Twin Earth research. This project resulted in the development of an interactive AI prototype that connects generative AI with satellite data platforms, including the JAXA Earth API, Google Earth Engine API, and JAXA’s websites (Earth-graphy, Satellite Navigator). Leveraging Ridge-i’s expertise in satellite data utilization, the system enabled users without specialized knowledge of satellite analysis to obtain and analyze Earth observation data through natural language queries.

With this new integration with Microsoft Japan, Ridge-i will further evolve the technological foundation cultivated through the JAXA collaboration and embark on developing a new platform powered by Microsoft Planetary Computer Pro and Azure. This initiative aims to accelerate global market expansion based on achievements in Japan.

▼Outcomes of the JAXA Proof-of-Concept

The prototype jointly developed by Ridge-i and JAXA delivered the following achievements:

● **Natural language-based satellite data retrieval:** For example, when asked, “What was the maximum land surface temperature in the Kanto region in January 2020?”, the system analyzed GCOM-C satellite data and immediately returned a textual and graphical answer: “Approximately 12.8°C.”

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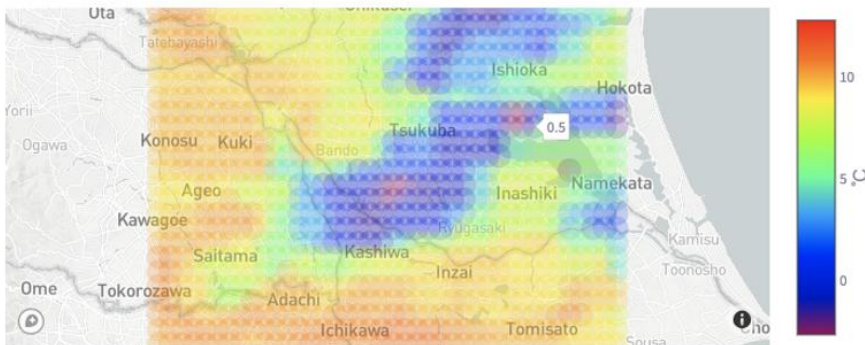


Fig. 1: Spatial distribution of environmental parameters in Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan, from JAXA GCOM-C/SGLI satellite data

● **Intuitive satellite image acquisition:** When asked, “What did the area around Singapore look like in January 2020?”, the system automatically retrieved and displayed the corresponding satellite image.

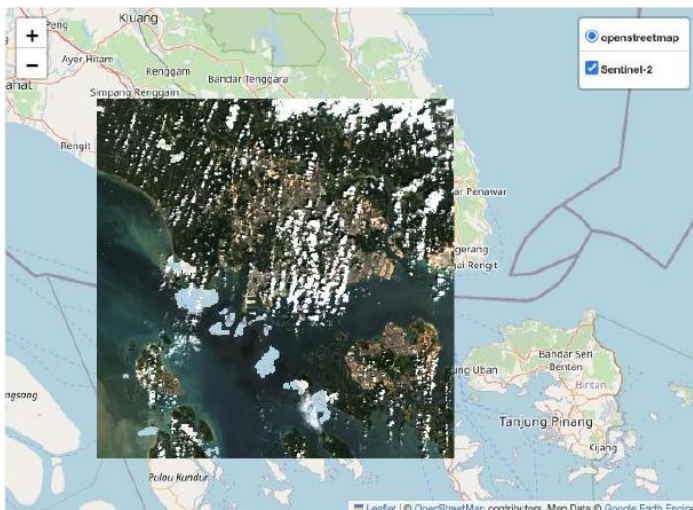


Fig. 2: Automated satellite image retrieval demonstrating query-based geospatial data access for Singapore region

● **Demonstration of the “AI on TOP” foundation:** By utilizing generative AI as an interface, the prototype established a technology platform that allows anyone to easily access and analyze data.

▼ Features of the New Platform

The new platform, developed in collaboration with Microsoft Japan, will build upon these proof-of-concept results and deliver the following features:

- **Integration with Microsoft Planetary Computer Pro:** Efficient access to and processing of petabyte-scale Earth observation data, as well as early access to cutting-edge large-scale models.
- **Azure-based global deployment:** Stable service provision from anywhere in the world by integrating Microsoft Azure Infrastructure services like VMs and Storage.

- **Enhanced user interface:** Improved usability through seamless integration with other Microsoft products, such as Power BI, to deliver customer experience-driven design.
- **Expansion of proven “AI on TOP” technology:** Broader integration with Microsoft Azure OpenAI to enable diverse data sources.
- **Enterprise-grade security:** A secure environment capable of handling highly confidential data.

▼Comments

■ Takashi Yanagihara, CEO, Ridge-i

We are truly excited that the generative AI and Earth observation data analysis technologies we have developed will be further enhanced through integration with Microsoft’s Planetary Computer Pro and Azure. This collaboration will enable more advanced and practical applications of satellite data. Beyond disaster response, we anticipate applications in diverse fields such as environmental simulations, as well as opportunities to expand our user base globally, ultimately contributing to the growth of the space industry.

■ Johnny Tian, VP, Digital Natives & Startups, Microsoft Asia

The utilization of satellite data has the potential to become an important technology across a wide range of industries, not only in disaster response but also in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, transportation, and energy. By combining Ridge-i’s advanced data processing and analysis technologies, along with the technological foundation cultivated through joint demonstration experiments with JAXA, with Microsoft’s AI and cloud technologies, we believe this initiative will contribute to the democratization and advancement of satellite data utilization.

■ **About Ridge-i**

Ridge-i (Tokyo Stock Exchange Growth Market, Securities Code: 5572) is a tech innovation firm tackling business and social challenges through AI and deep learning-driven solutions. The company’s strengths lie in multimodal AI, combining various AI technologies such as image recognition deep learning, anomaly detection using sensors, and optimization AI. From strategy formulation and requirements definition to on-site consulting, development, and maintenance, Ridge-i provides end-to-end support that delivers measurable ROI. Ridge-i is also deeply committed to addressing social issues. Its project GRASP EARTH, which identifies SDG-related issues and environmental changes using satellite imagery, has won the Space Development and Utilization Grand Prize three times in succession since the 4th award ceremony. The company continues to pursue excellence in technology and business to deliver top-class solutions that enable society and customers to experience sustainable impact.

Company Information

Company Name: Ridge-i

Founded: July 2016

Headquarters: Otemachi bldg. 438 1-6-1 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

CEO: Takashi Yanagihara

Capital: 28.55 million yen

Our Business:

- Consulting and development of AI and deep learning technologies
- Providing products through joint ventures, licensing, maintenance models, and in-house development.
- Providing AI analysis solutions using satellite data

URL: <https://ridge-i.com>

【Contact for Inquiries】

Ridge-i Ltd.

Hoshina, Oguchi

E-mail: pr@ridge-i.com

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