

Microwave emissivity of land surfaces: experiments and models

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Introduction

- ☐ Experimental investigations conducted by the Microwave Remote Sensing Group made it possible to realize a wide archive of microwave emissivity of the following surface types:
- ➤ bare soil with different levels of moisture and types of surface roughness
- > soil covered with wheat, corn, alfalfa, sunflower, natural grass at various level of biomass
- deciduous and coniferous forests with different woody volumes
- > soil covered with snow in different conditions (dry and wet) and depth.
- > Ice sheet in Antarctica





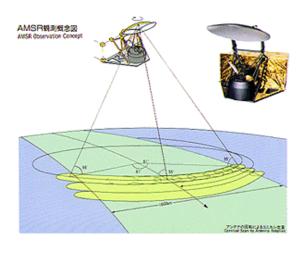
Experimental equipments

















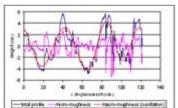






Ground measurements



















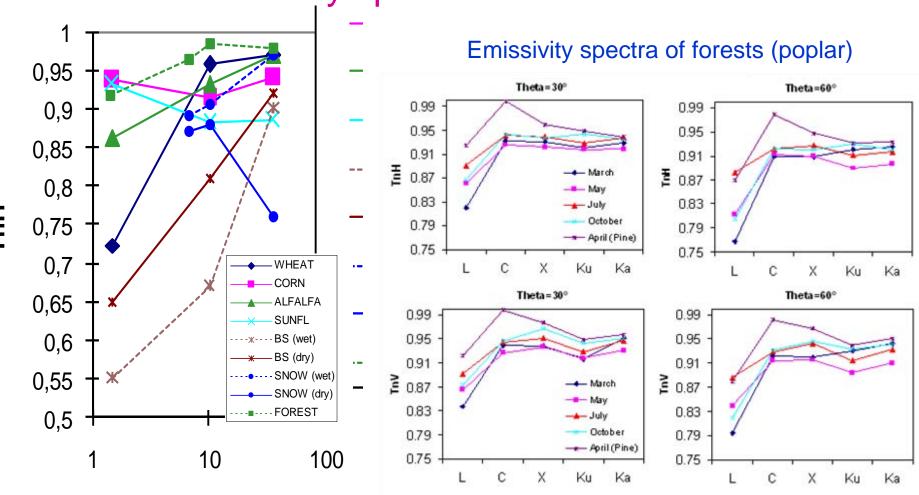


Experimental results: sensitivity to land features





Emissivity spectra of land surfaces

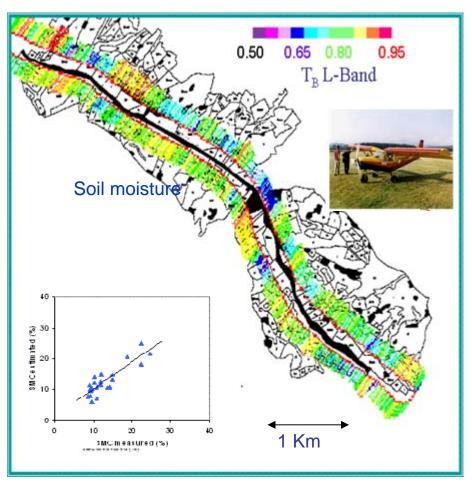


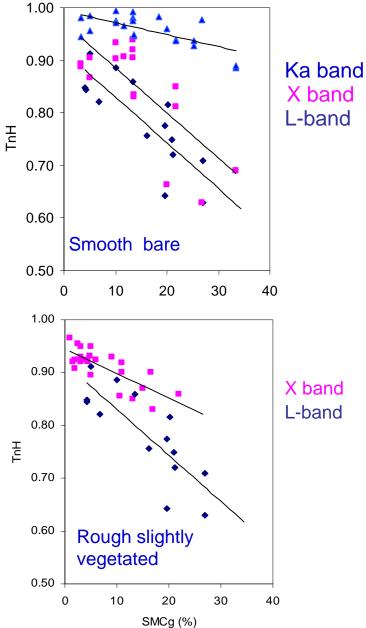






Emissivity of agricultural surfaces



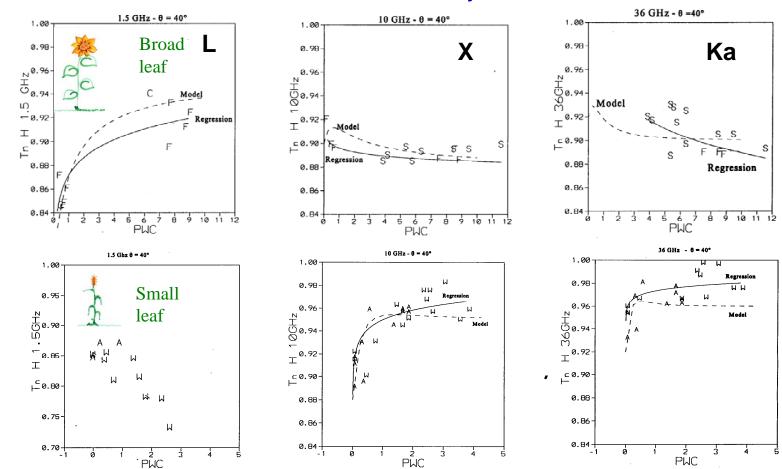






Sensitivity to Plant Water Content of crops

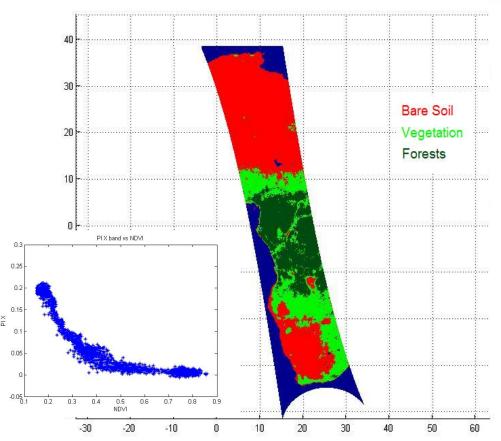
emissivity

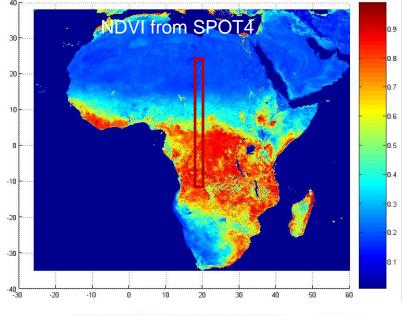


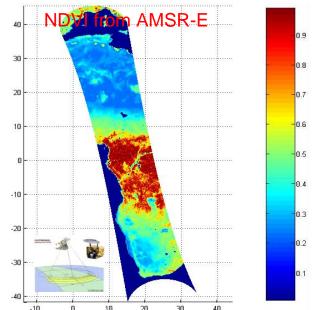




Sensitivity to vegetation (AMSR-E)

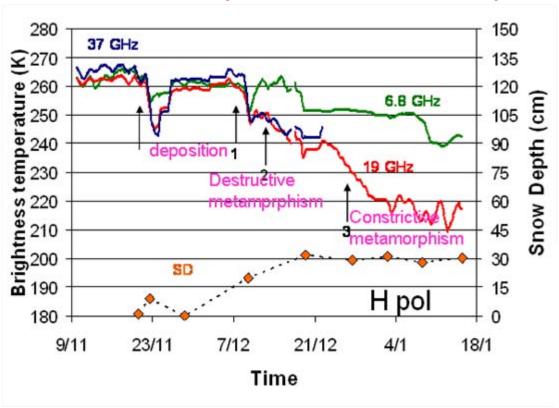




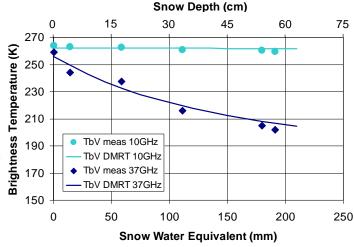




Sensitivity to snow cover: dry snow accumulation



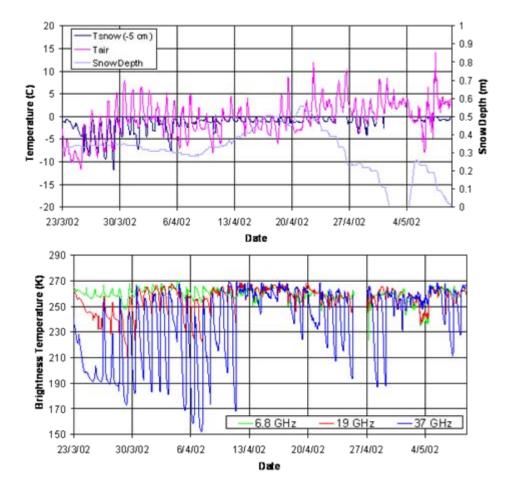






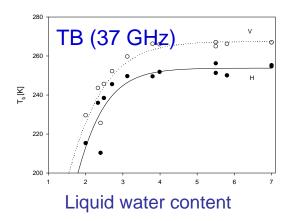


Sensitivity to snow wetness



∑ 260 ∑260 11:00 240 220 220 를 240 11:00 8,220 200 200 Brightnes 180 180 9:30 37 GHz 19 GHz 560 580 600 620 640 660 680 700 540 560 580 600 620 640 660 680 700 Local time [minutes] Local time [minutes]

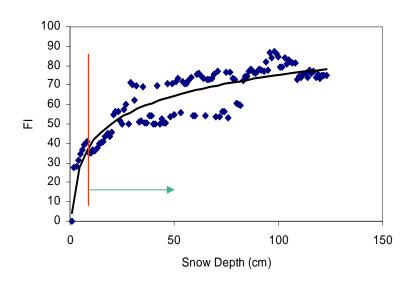


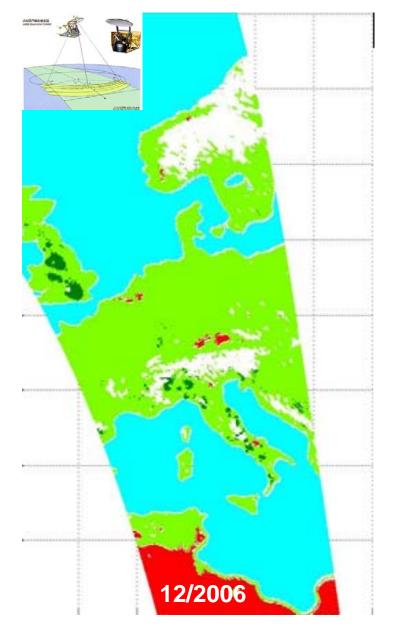


Melt-refreezing cycles



Sensitivity to snow cover (AMSR-E)



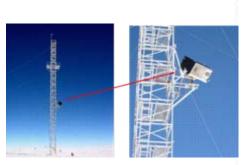






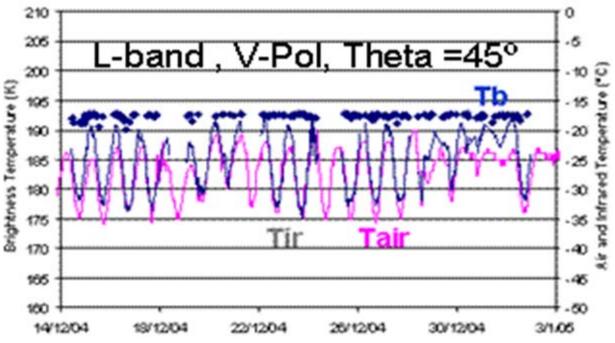
Antarctica: Temporal variability L-band

Ground based



2 week Time stability

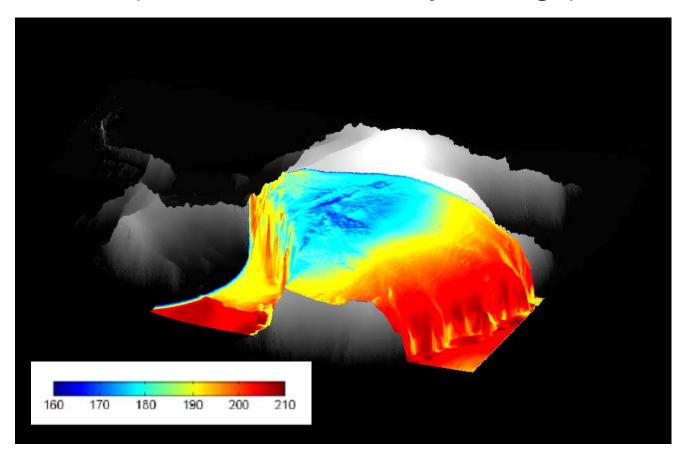
Mean = 192.32 KDev. st. = 0.18 K





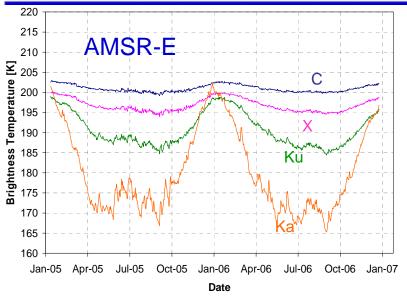


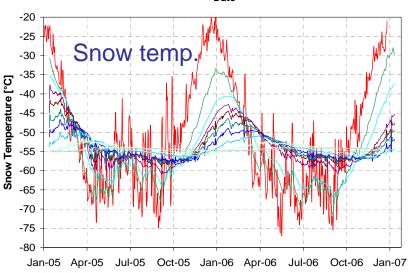
Antarctica: Spatial variability – AMSR-E (Tb 37 GHz V - Yearly average)



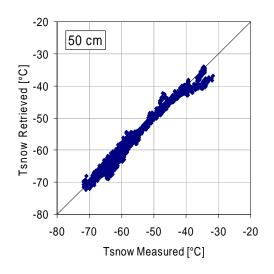


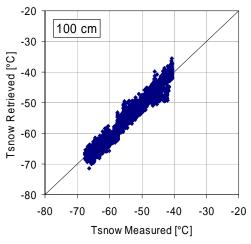






Antarctica: Temporal variability AMSR-E



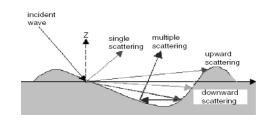






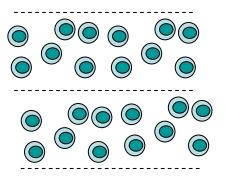
Electromagnetc modelling

Surface scattering: soil



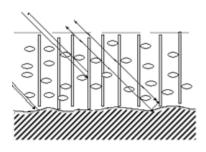
Volume scattering:

snow

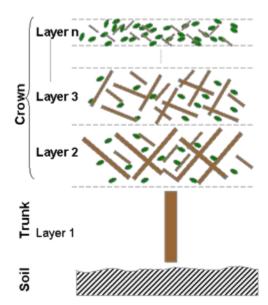


vegetation

crops



forests

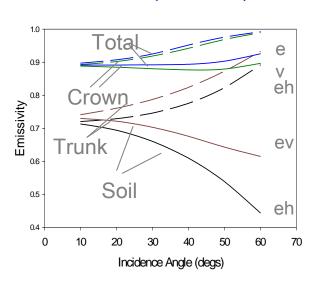


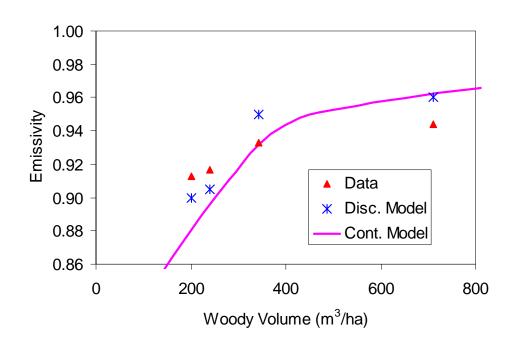




Sensitivity to forest biomass

Forest - Radiative Transfer (L-Band)

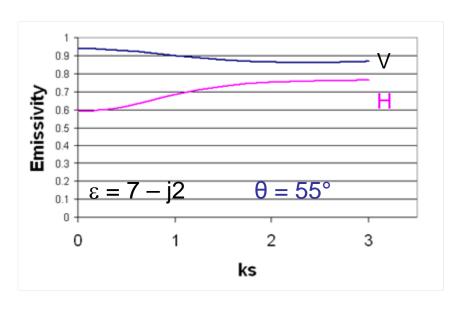


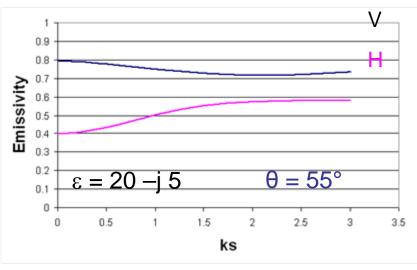






Model sensitivity to soil roughness



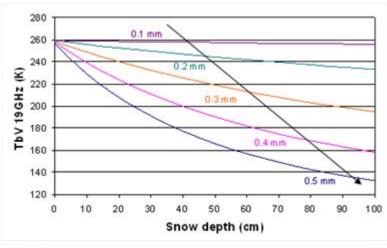


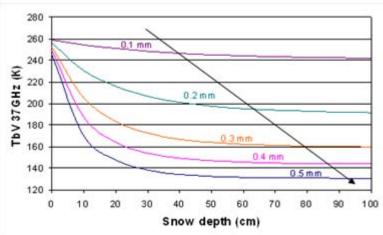




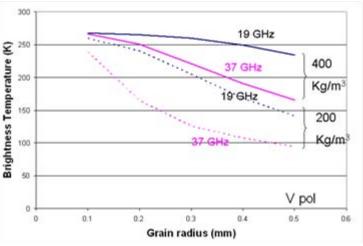
Model sensitivity to snow parameters

Snow depth

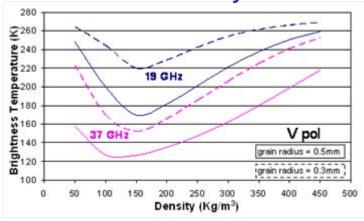




Grain size



Snow density







Conclusions

- ☐ Microwave emissivity of land surfaces in the frequency range 1- 40 GHz strongly depends on
 - Frequency, polarization and incidence agle of the observing sensor
 - Cover type and physical conditions
 - ➤ Bare soil: moisture, surface roughness
 - ➤ Vegetation: crop/forest type, biomass
 - ➤ Snow: depth, density (water equivalent), wetness, grain dimension

