Retrieval of Global Hyperspectral Surface Emissivity Spectra from Advanced IR Sounder Radiance Measurements Jun Li and Jinlong Li

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## **Motivation**

- Emissivity effect on sounding retrievals
  - Plokhenko and Menzel (2000); Seemann et al (2008);
- Hyperspectral IR radiance assimilation over land
- Other products with IR radiances
  - Cloud-top pressure
  - Dust/aerosol
  - Land surface temperature
  - Trace gas
- Emissivity effect on climate (Jin and Liang 2006)

Goal: To derive global IR surface emissivity spectra with hyperspectral IR radiance measurements



# Physical retrieval of surface emissivity spectrum from hyperspectral infrared radiances

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[1] Retrieval of temperature, moisture profiles and surface skin temperature from hyperspectral infrared (IR) radiances requires spectral information about the surface emissivity. Using constant or inaccurate surface emissivities typically results in large temperature and moisture profile errors, particularly over semi-arid or arid areas where the variation in emissivity is large both spectrally and spatially. A physically based algorithm has been developed to retrieve a hyperspectral IR emissivity spectrum simultaneously with the temperature and moisture profiles, as well as the surface skin temperature. To make the solution stable and efficient, the hyperspectral emissivity spectrum is represented by eigenvectors, derived from the laboratory measured hyperspectral emissivity database, in the retrieval process. Experience with Atmospheric InfraRed Sounder (AIRS) radiances shows that simultaneous retrieval of the emissivity spectrum and the sounding improves the surface skin temperature and temperature and moisture profiles, particularly in the near surface layer. Citation: Li, J., J. Li, E. Weisz, and D. K. Zhou (2007), Physical retrieval of surface emissivity spectrum from hyperspectral infrared radiances, Geophys. Res. Lett., 34, L16812, doi:10.1029/2007GL030543.

Sounder [*Plokhenko and Menzel*, 2000] and Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) [*Wan and Li*, 1997; *Ma et al.*, 2002; *Seemann et al.*, 2003; *Wan et al.*, 2004]. Handling IR surface emissivities in the retrieval process is essential for deriving accurate boundary layer temperature and moisture profiles, and surface skin temperature, especially over land. This is equally true for IR radiance assimilation in Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP).

[4] Surface emissivity for a given channel is often not updated simultaneously with profiles in the physical iterative process, for example, using emissivities from a regression approach [*Li et al.*, 2000; *Zhou et al.*, 2006]. Some physical algorithms also retrieve emissivities together with the sounding, but only at selected channels and spectral bands. *Hayden* [1988] retrieved emissivities at two spectral bands (longwave and shortwave IR bands) in GOES sounding processing. *Zhou et al.* [2007] and *Susskind et al.* [2003] used approximately 40 and 4 channels, respectively, for emissivity retrieval in AIRS retrieval processing. It is difficult to retrieve emissivities of all channels directly in the sounding step, due to a large number of unknowns in the

### The variational retrieval algorithm has been developed

### **Retrieval Algorithm**

Atmospheric measurement equation

y = F(x) + e $y = (R_1, R_2, ..., R_n)^T;$  $x = (t(p); w(p); o(p); t_s; \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n;)^T$ 

Regularization and discrepancy principle (Li and Huang 1999)

(Cost function)

$$J(x) = (y_m - y_c(x))^T E^{-1} (y_m - y_c(x)) + (x - x_0)^T S_0^{-1} (x - x_0)$$

Too many parameters need to be retrieved if including all channels' emissivities !!!

EOF expansion

 $x = \sum_{i=1}^{l} a_i \varphi_i = a \phi;$ 

 $\begin{cases} \phi: \text{ eigenvector matrix;} \\ a: \text{ eigenvector coefficients to be retrieved} \end{cases}$ 



### Simulated Retrieval for Desert (32 profiles)



# Weighting Function for Surface Emissivity



Emissivity signal in IR is small (e.g., 0.01 emissivity results in ~0.5 K change in window region), but its impact on boundary sounding is significant. Weaker signals in short wave region make it hard to retrieve.

7 UW/CIMSS Retrieved AIRS Emissivity (9.30µm)



AIRS 9.3 μm (single channel) emissivity retrieval with regression as first guess. Color plot is the 9.3 μm surface emissivity, while black/white plot are 9.3 μm AIRS brightness temperature (K).







AIRS 9.3 µm emissivity retrieval with first guess of 0.98 for all channels and all footprints



8-day composite of global hyperspectral IR emissivity spectrum from AIRS SFOV clear sky radiances between Jan. 1 and Jan. 8 of 2004 – CIMSS research product (gridded to 0.5 by 0.5 degree)

AIRS emissivity (CH: 1265/8.21µm)

#### Re-group from IGBP category:

Forests: Evergreen needle forests Evergreen broad forests; Deciduous needle forests; Deciduous broad forests; mixed forests; Shrubs: Opened shrubs; Closed shrubs; Savanna: Woody savanna:

Savanna: Woody savanna; Savanna;

Cropland: Cropland; Crop mosaic;

Snow/Ice: Snow; Ice;

Tundra;

Desert: Desert/Barren;



#### Emissivity spectra over Arizona and Utah

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

AIRS emis. Lat/Lon: 37.75/-112.25 (pixel: 256/136)

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

Comparison with operational MODIS emissivity product (collection 4.0)
Shortwave IR window regions

- -3.97 um
- -4.06 um
- Longwave IR window regions
  - 8.55 um
  - -11.02 um
  - -12.04 um

AIRS emissivity spectra are convolved with MODIS spectral response functions (SRFs) 14

**Aqua MODIS IR SRF Overlay on AIRS Spectrum** 

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

3.97 µm

16

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

emissivity by approximately 0.025 for 3.97 µm spectral band when compared with

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

4.06 µm

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

underestimates emissivity by approximately 0.025 for 4.06 µm spectral band when compared with AIRS 19

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

8.55 µm

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

MODIS and AIRS agree very well for 8.55 µm spectral band, differences are less than 0.02 for most regions

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

11.02 µm

22

![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

AIRS and MODIS agree well for 11.02 µm spectral band, differences are less than 0.02 for most regions

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

12.04 µm

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

AIRS and MODIS agree well for 12.04 µm spectral band, differences are less than 0.02 for most regions

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Summary

- Global hyperspectral IR surface emissivity map has been created.
  - The hyperspectral IR emissivity product agrees with the broad band operational MODIS emissivity product (collection 4.0) in longwave region, differences are less than 0.02
  - MODIS underestimates the emissivity by approximately 0.025 for shortwave region when compared with AIRS
- The spectral and spatial variations of hyperspectral IR surface emissivity spectra well reflect the ecosystem land surface type properties
- Applications of hyperspectral IR emissivity data include
  - Data assimilation of hyperspectral IR radiances over land
  - Data base for other products (e.g., dust, aerosol, TPW, LST, CTP, etc.) with IR radiances
  - Climate modeling and prediction