

All-sky simulations of the Ice Cloud Imager (ICI)

With focus on particle models

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- 6 EUMETSAT
- 7 HE Space Operations



The Ice Cloud Imager (ICI) instrument

$\lambda < 1 \text{ mm}$

Channels: 183-664 GHz

Conical scanner, 15 km footprint

Launch: 2026?

Entering a new regime: sub-mm wavelengths
Suited to observe ice hydrometeors

Main usage of ICI data:

- Assimilation of radiances
- Stand-alone retrievals

Need to investigate and develop radiative transfer at sub-mm wavelengths!



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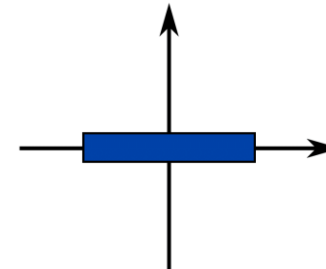
Detailed particle models needed

From clear-sky to all-sky simulations

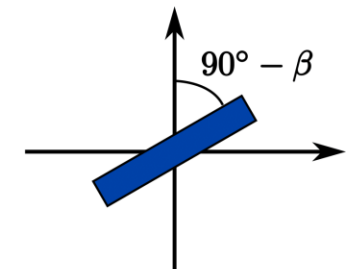
Representation of hydrometeors need:

- Particle size distribution
 - e.g., F07, MGD, ...
- Particle shape (habit)
 - e.g., plates, columns, aggregates, ...
- Particle orientation
 - Totally random orientation (TRO)
 - Azimuthally random orientation (ARO)
- Single scattering properties

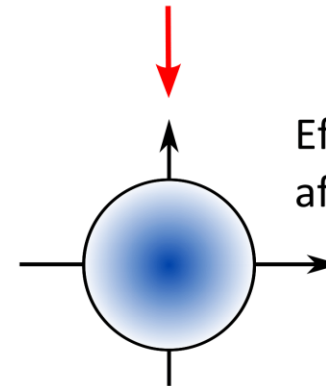
No preferred orientation/
Basic orientation



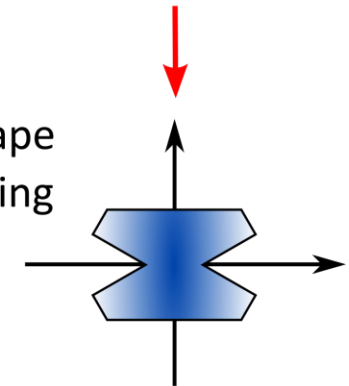
Tilted orientation



Effective shape
after averaging



TRO particle



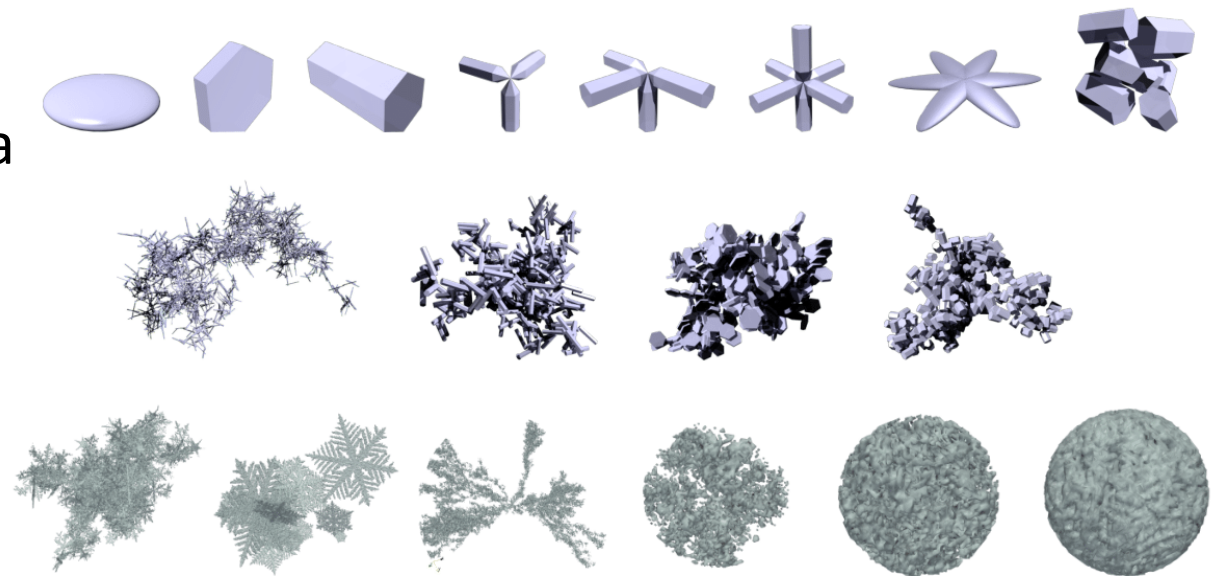
ARO particle

Brath et al., AMT, 2020

ARTS Single scattering database

- 34 particle habits for TRO
- 2 particle habits for ARO
 - Heavy to generate and store the data
 - Not all solvers handle ARO
- > 30 sizes and 3 temperatures per habit
- Broad frequency coverage
 - Data supports sub-mm channels

Examples on shapes/habits for TRO



Frequency coverage

1 - 886 GHz

Temperature coverage

190 – 270 K

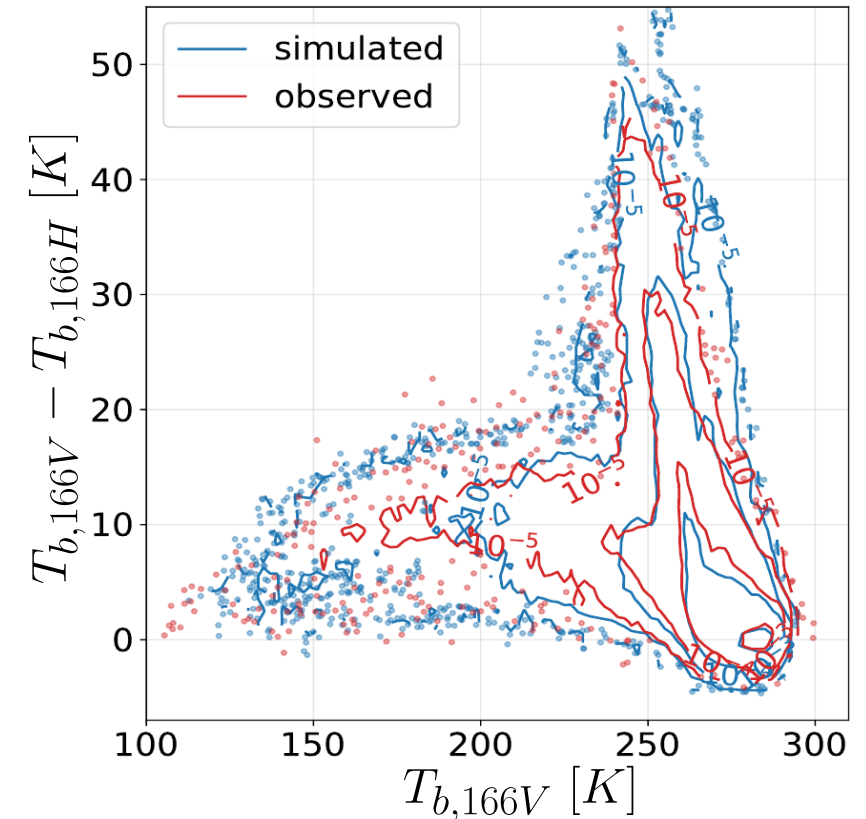
Approximated azimuthally random orientation (aARO) scheme

General principle:

- Scaling of TRO radiances to approximate ARO effect on V and H polarisation
- Polarisation ratio (ρ) tuned to recreate observed polarisation signals

$$\rho = \frac{\tau_{ARO,H}}{\tau_{ARO,V}} = \frac{\tau_{TRO} \cdot (1 + \alpha)}{\tau_{TRO} \cdot (1 - \alpha)} = \frac{(1 + \alpha)}{(1 - \alpha)}$$

Polarisation signal of GMI 166 GHz



Barlakas et al., AMT, 2021

Kaur et al., Remote Sens., 2022

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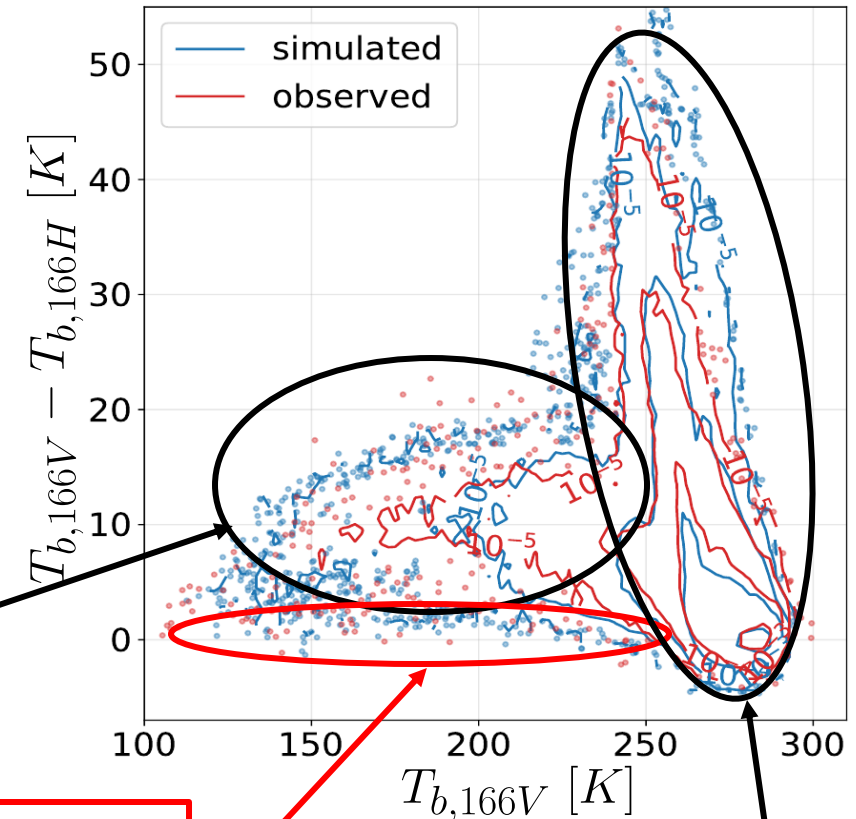
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Polarisation signal due to oriented hydrometeors

Particles with no preferred orientation, i.e., TRO particles

Polarisation signal due to surface impact

Polarisation signal of GMI 166 GHz



Assimilation:

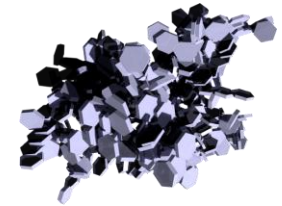
contributions to community models

- ARTS single scattering database
 - Available for both RTTOV-SCATT and CRTM v3.0
 - Sub-mm region covered
 - Improved representation of aggregates
- Approximated ARO scheme
 - "Empirical scaling" in RTTOV-SCATT v13.0 (updated scheme in v13.2)
 - Fixed scaling factor, $\rho = 1.4$ (Barlakas et al.)
 - Oriented particles (without increased computational load)

Evolution of snow habit in RTTOV-SCATT



Previous snow habit
Sector snowflake



New snow habit
Large plate aggregate

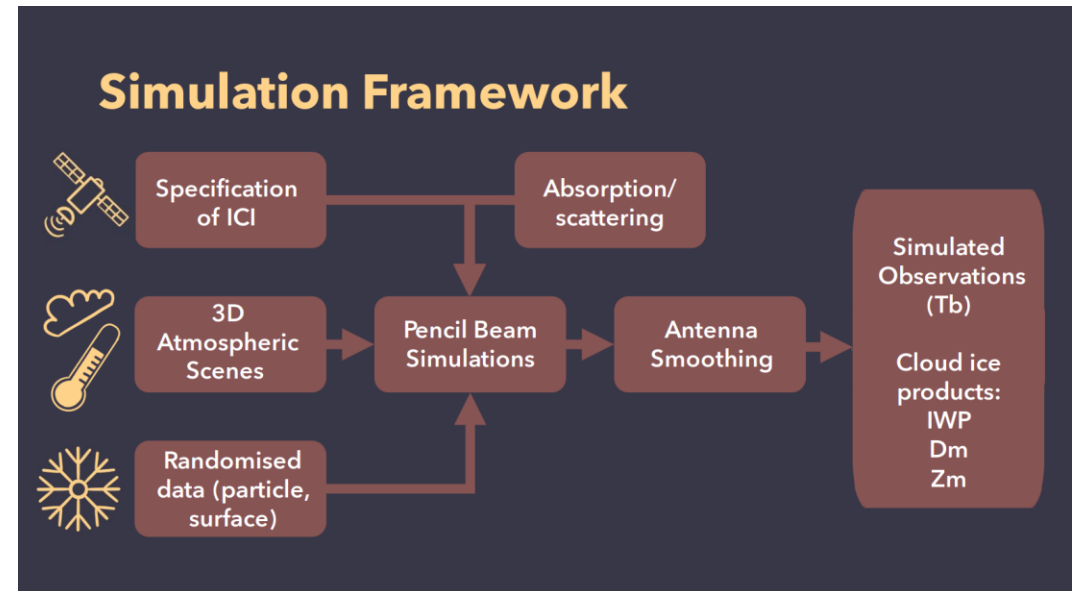
Stand-alone retrievals: upcoming products

Chalmers research products:

- Machine learning based retrievals of Ice Water Path (IWP)
- Possible to get vertical profiles of Ice Water Content (IWC)?

EUMETSAT operational products for ICI:

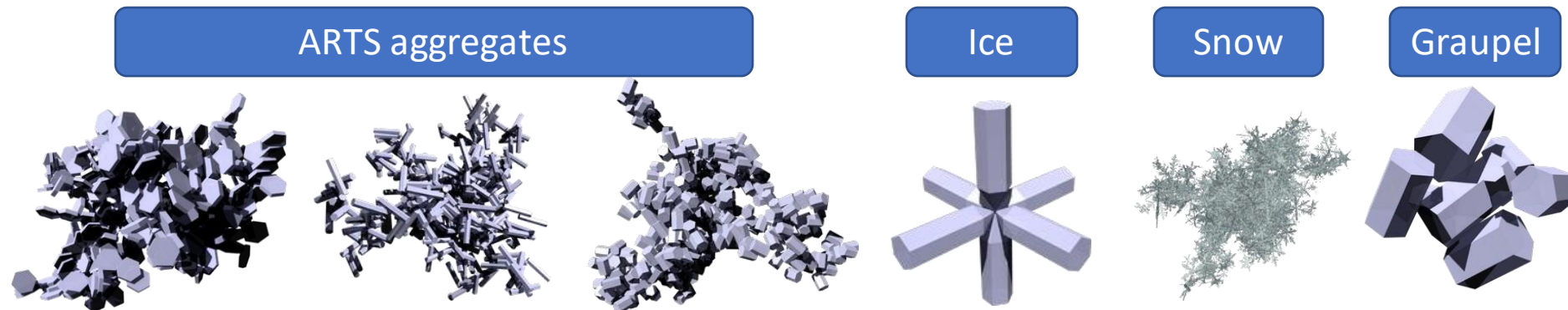
- IWP, mean cloud diameter, mean mass altitude
- Development of radiation database for the operational algorithm



Stand-alone retrievals: randomized particle models

- Single scattering data from ARTS database
- aARO scheme with random scaling factor
- 6 particle models
 - Habit + PSD + aARO factor
- Randomly selected with probability, p_i

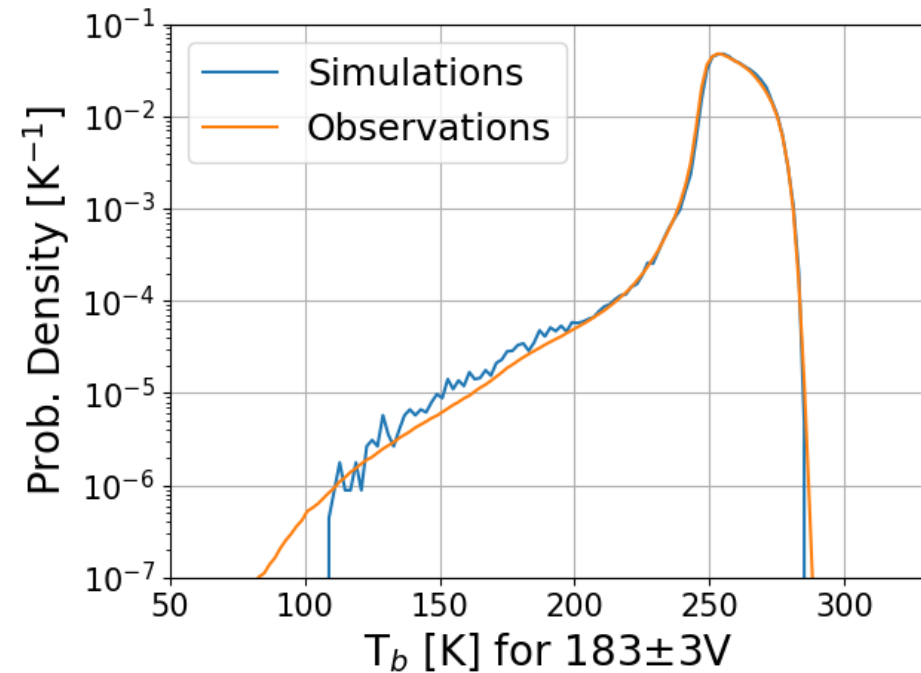
Particle Model	Habit	PSD	aARO factor	p_i
AA1	Large plate aggregate	F07 - Tropics	1 - 1.6	0.3
AA2	Large column aggregate	F07 - Tropics	1 - 1.6	0.1
AA3	Large block aggregate	D14	1 - 1.6	0.13
IWC	Six bullet rosette	D14	1 - 1.6	0.2
Snow	Evans snow aggregate	F07 - Midlatitude	1.4 - 1.6	0.1
Graupel	Eight column aggregate	D14	1 - 1.2	0.17



Stand-alone retrievals: validation of forward model

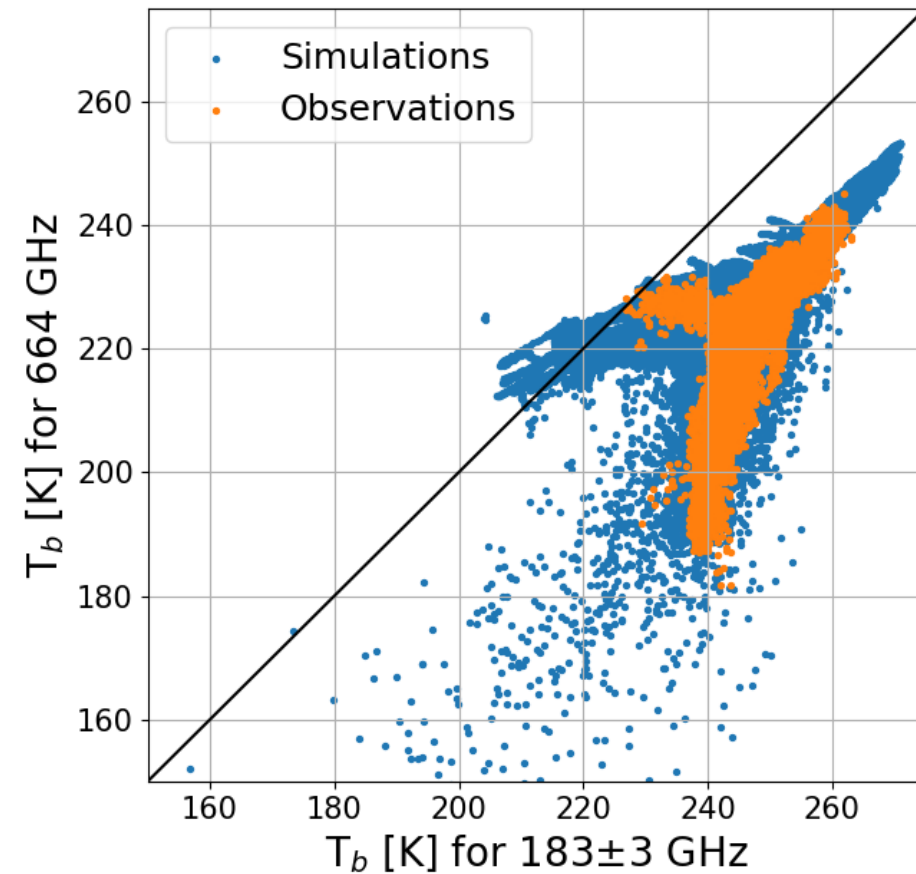
Comparison to satellite observations (GMI)

- Simulations of conical scanner in MW-regime ok!



Comparison to airborne observations (ISMAR)

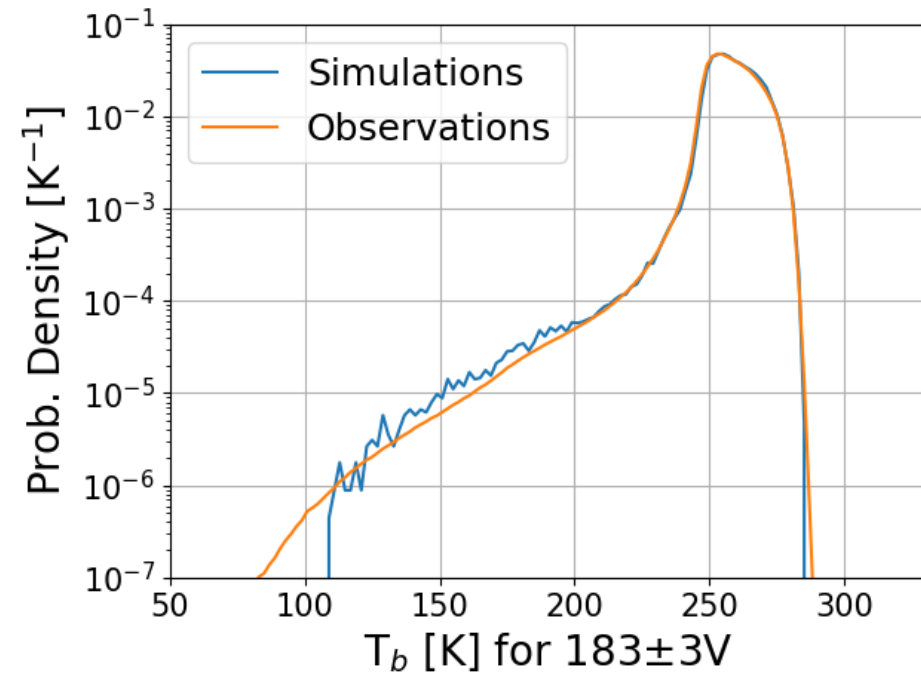
- Sub-mm (664 GHz) features captured



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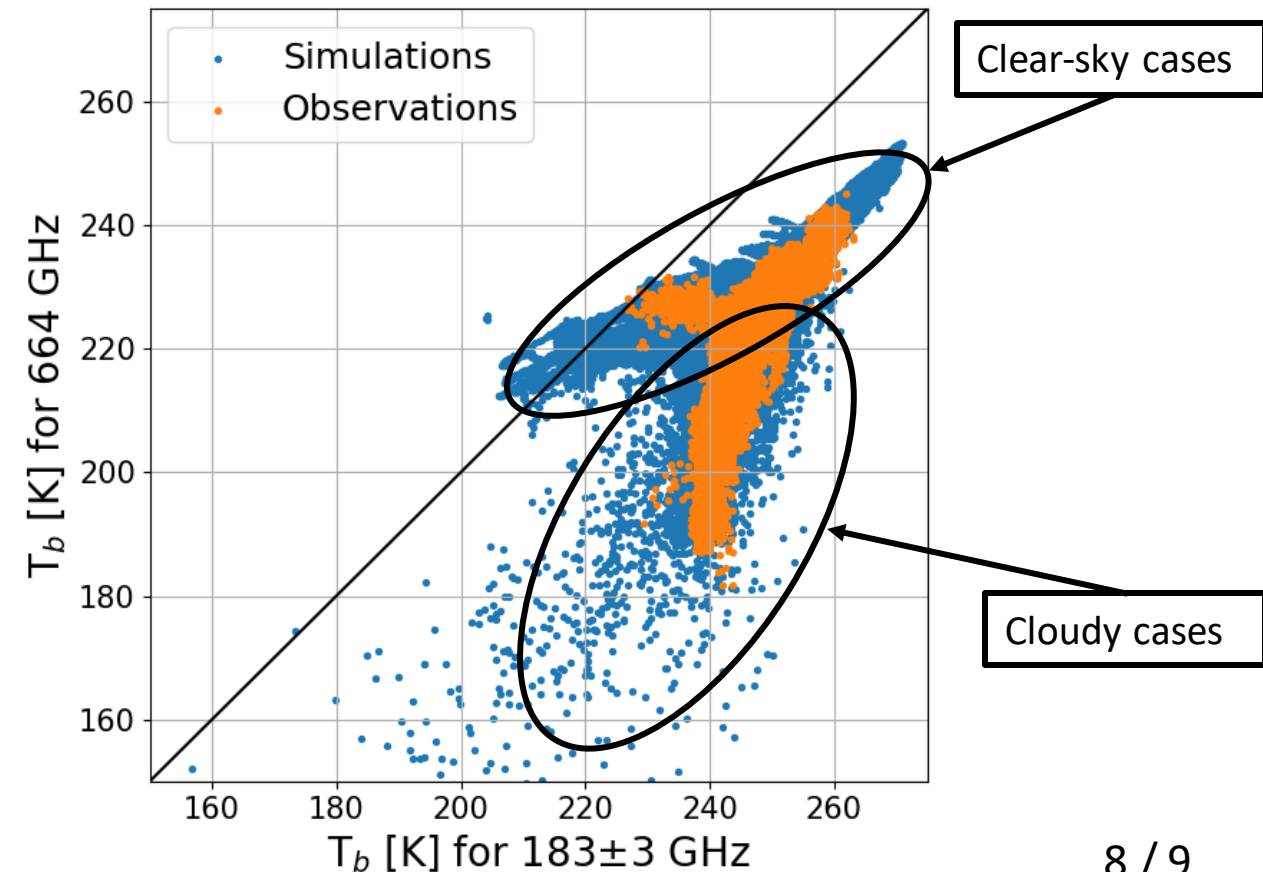
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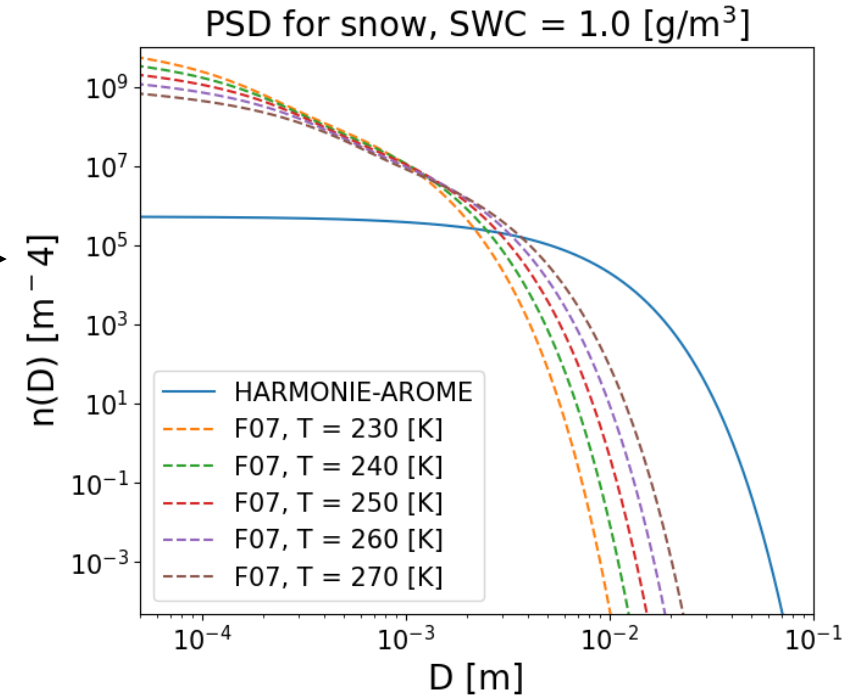
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Outlook

- Further investigate what habits to use
- Large uncertainties in particle size distributions (PSD) →
- Arctic Weather Satellite first sub-mm?



Summary

- EUMETSAT operational retrievals ready
 - Retrieval database delivered
- All-sky part ready for initial assimilation of ICI radiances
 - RTTOV-SCATT and CRTM updated to be prepared for ICI

Extra

Stand-alone retrievals:

Atmospheric absorption and surface emissivity models

Atmospheric absorption

- Nitrogen: continuum model of Liebe et al. (1993)
- Oxygen: Rosenkranz (1993) (molecular transitions and continuum)
- Water vapor: Molecular transitions up to 1.65 THz (Atmospheric & Environmental Research group)
- Ozone: JPL line catalogue

Surface emissivity models

- Empirical emissivities for land and ocean (TELSEM, TESSEM)
- Developed a stochastic model for snow and sea-ice (tuned to GMI) to capture observed variation of emissivity with different snow-packs at higher frequencies