# Exploring a microwave radiance footprint operator in regional data assimilation systems

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Motivation

# Radiance data assimilation in high-resolution limited-area models is challenging

1

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#### Outline

Footprint operator in general

Data and models

The actual implemented radiance footprint operator

A case study

Statistics and forecast verification

Future plans and summary

Single observation



Model grid





Interpolation



Interpolation











Interpolation



Interpolation

Footprint operator

**The idea** of radiance footprint operator **is not new**, for example

Duffourg et al. (2010) infrared radiances for convective-scale DA

Kleespies (2009) aggregation of model surface quantities

In this talk, **microwave, cross-track scanning** sensors and footprint operator are examined in a clear-sky framework.





Averaging model quantities

Footprint operator

#### **AMSU-A** and **MHS** radiances

#### AMSU-A IFOV size **48-147 km** (nadir-edge) MHS IFOV size **16-53 km** (nadir-edge)



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### **AROME-Arctic**

HARMONIE-AROME core **2.5 km** horizontal resol. 3D-Var scheme CONV, AMV, SCATT, RAD

#### MetCoOp

HARMONIE-AROME core **2.5 km** horizontal resol. 3D-Var scheme CONV,AMV,SCATT, RADAR, GNSS, RAD





### Implementation



#### Implementation



Footprint representation in observation space (using many interpolated model profiles) and averaging the simulated Tb after RTTOV simulations

#### Footprint representation in obs space



Svalbard, Isfjorden area



Svalbard, Isfjorden area



Svalbard, Isfjorden area

#### Footprint representation in obs space



Retrieved emissivity for each footprint operator point independently.

#### Footprint representation in obs space



### Retrieved emissivity in the footprint operator

Open ocean: Fast Microwave Water Emissivity Model (version 4)

Over land: dynamic emissivity retrieval (Karbou et al., 2006)

Over sea ice: (Karbou et al., 2014)





Sea-ice chart of MET Norway

The footprint operator is more relevant where the **variability** in model fields is considerable and also comparable with the observation error





Copernicus Sentinel data 2020, processed by European Space Agency





AMSU-A channel 5



#### AMSU-A channel 6



#### AMSU-A channel 7









ITSC-24 Tromsø, Norway; 2023.03.20.

40°E

1.50 1.75



The use of the footprint operator is potentially more beneficial

# **Radiance footprint operator**

Observing system experiments

Spin-up period: 1-31 January, 2021

Verification period: 1-28 February, 2021

AMSU-A pixels near the edges of the swath are active



Assimilated observations: SYNOP, AIREP, TEMP, PILOT, BOUY, SCATT, AMSU-A (no MHS and IASI)

Verification: normalised RMSE diff. (90% confidence) between the default and the footprint observation operator experiment - positive/negative values denoting positive/negative impact of the footprint operator

#### Radiance footprint operator Departure-based statistics



# Radiance footprint operator Observing system experiments

Overall impact: neutral

Verification of temperature forecasts initialized at 06 UTC



# Further improvements and plans

Preliminary results, more impact studies, 4D-Var

Optimization work, spatial sampling

Footprint operator + Slant-path operator (Bormann et al., 2017; Shahabadi et al., 2020)



#### **Summary**

In high-resolution DA, the use of the footprint operator is relevant and improves spatial representation of the satellite data

Benefit is expected where the variability is large

Footprint operator reduces O-B standard deviation and has promising impact on LAM forecasts

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

