



→ EARTH OBSERVATION SUMMER SCHOOL

Earth System Monitoring & Modelling

30 July–10 August 2018 | ESA–ESRIN | Frascati (Rome) Italy

Remote Sensing of Sea Ice – Sea ice concentration

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Technical
University of
Denmark



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Acknowledgements



Thomas Lavergne¹, Atle Macdonald Sørensen¹, Stefan Kern², Rasmus Tonboe³, Dirk Notz⁴, Signe Aaboe¹, Louisa Bell⁴, Gorm Dybkjær³, Steinar Eastwood¹, Carolina Gabarro⁵, Georg Heygster⁶, Mari Anne Killie¹, Matilde Brandt Kreiner³, John Lavelle³, Roberto Saldo⁷, Stein Sandven⁸, Leif Toudal Pedersen⁷

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³Danish Meteorological Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark

⁴Max-Planck Institut für Meteorologie, Hamburg, Germany

⁵Barcelona Expert Center, ICM-CSIC, Spain

⁶Institute of Environmental Physics, University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany

⁷Danish Technical University-Space, Copenhagen, Denmark

⁸Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center, Bergen, Norway

And others ☺ + a number of figures from Ulaby et al, 1986



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In situ observations – Oden/LOMROG 2009

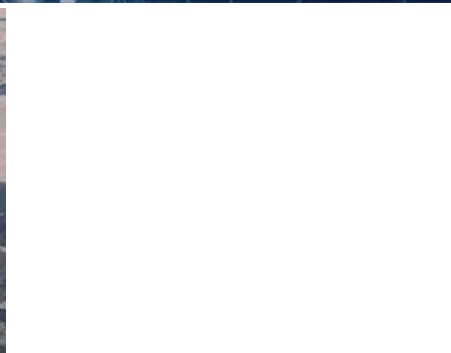


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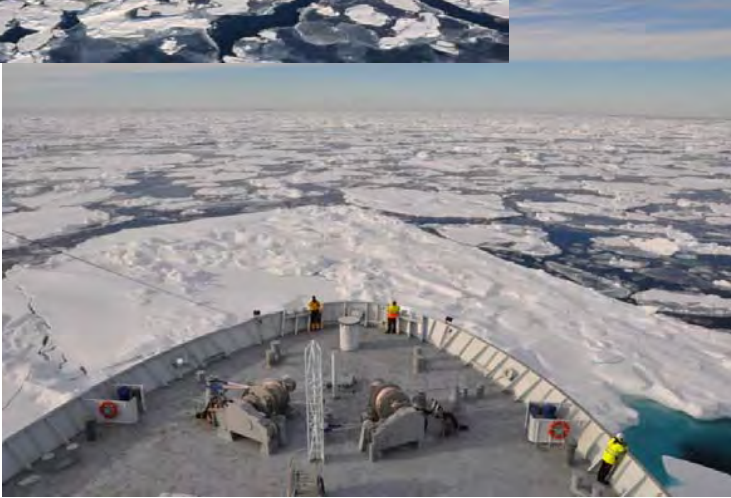
Airborne observations – new ice & icebergs



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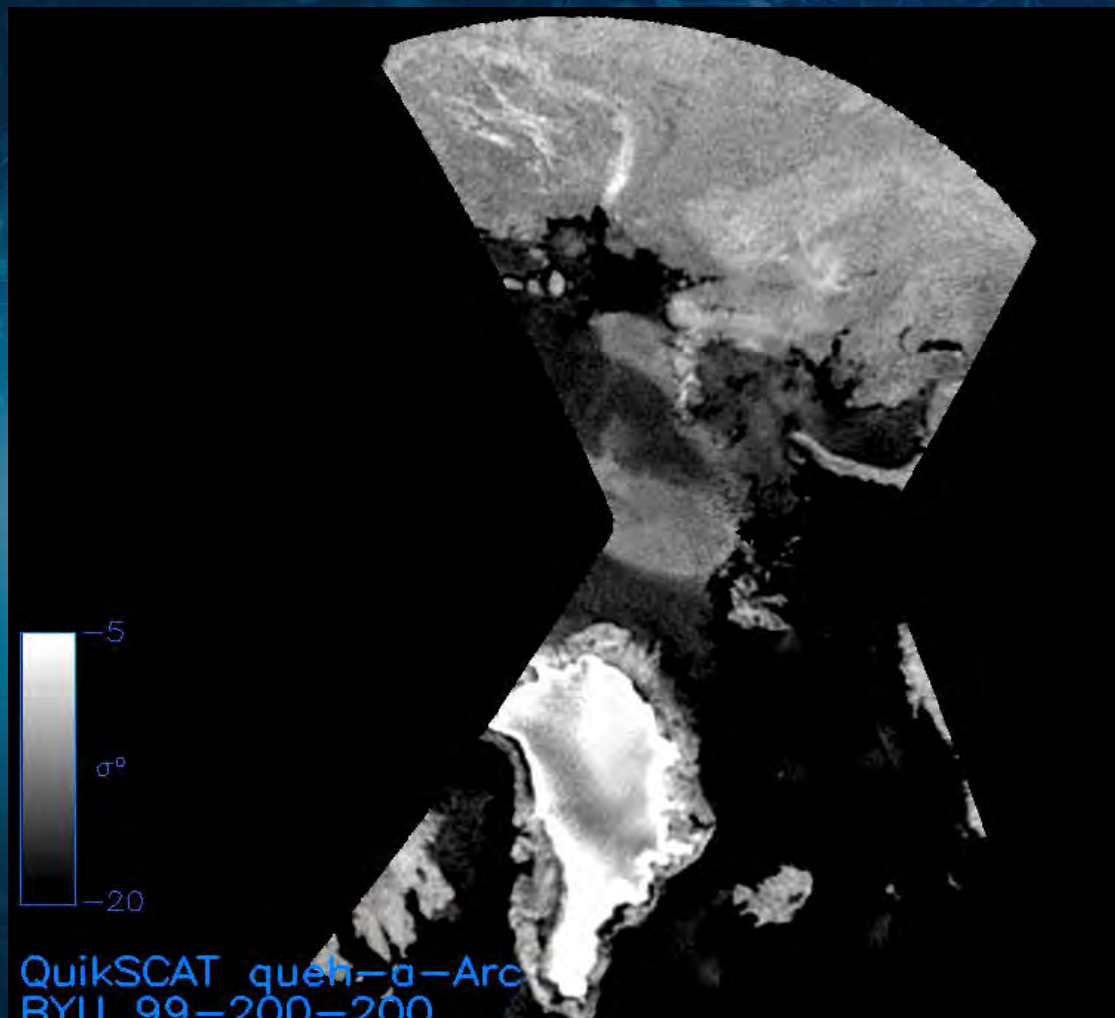
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Arctic Sea ice 1999-2007

QuikSCAT

From Brigham Young
University, US



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MODIS Visible light imagery of the Arctic



Aug 24, 2013



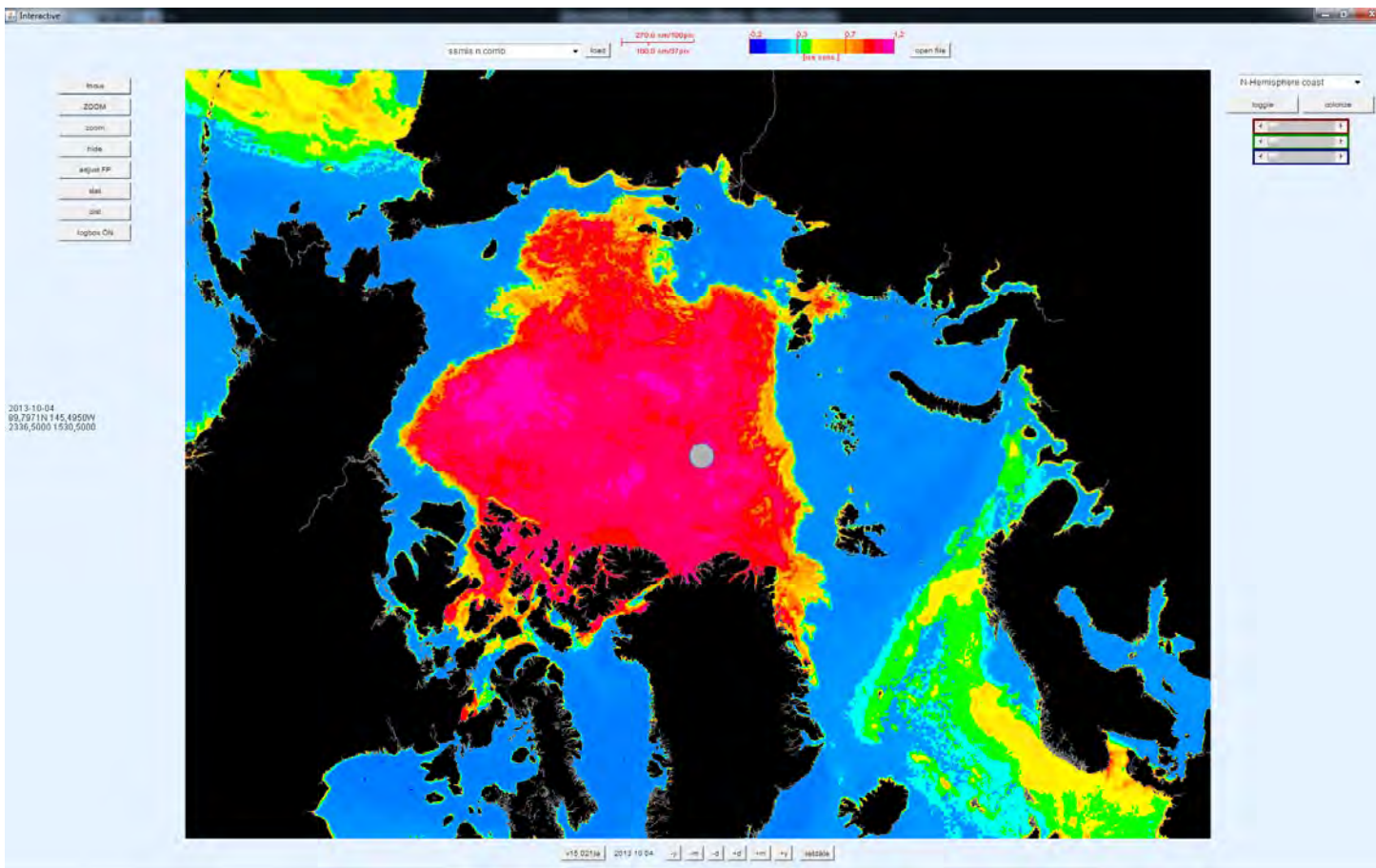
Oct 4, 2013

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Microwave imagery during the Polar Night (October 4, 2013)



Microwave radiometry

All weather
Day and night

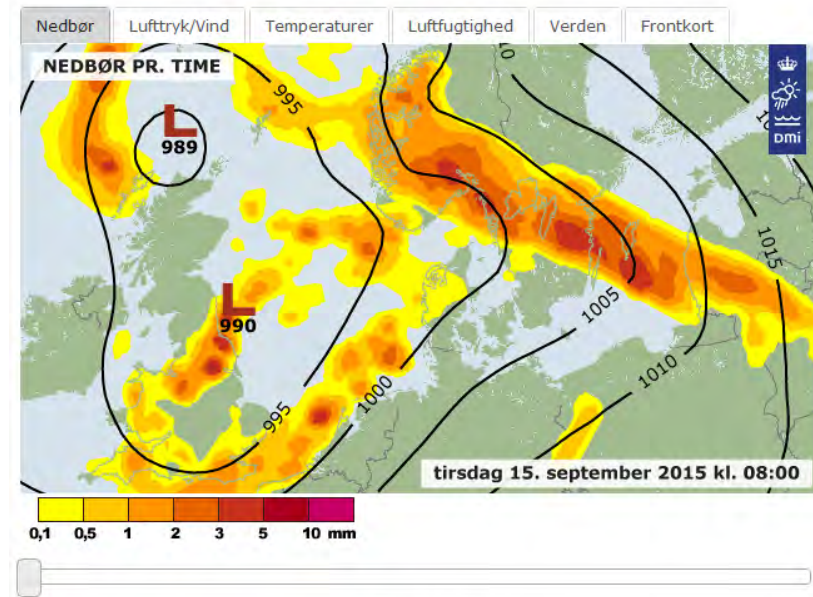
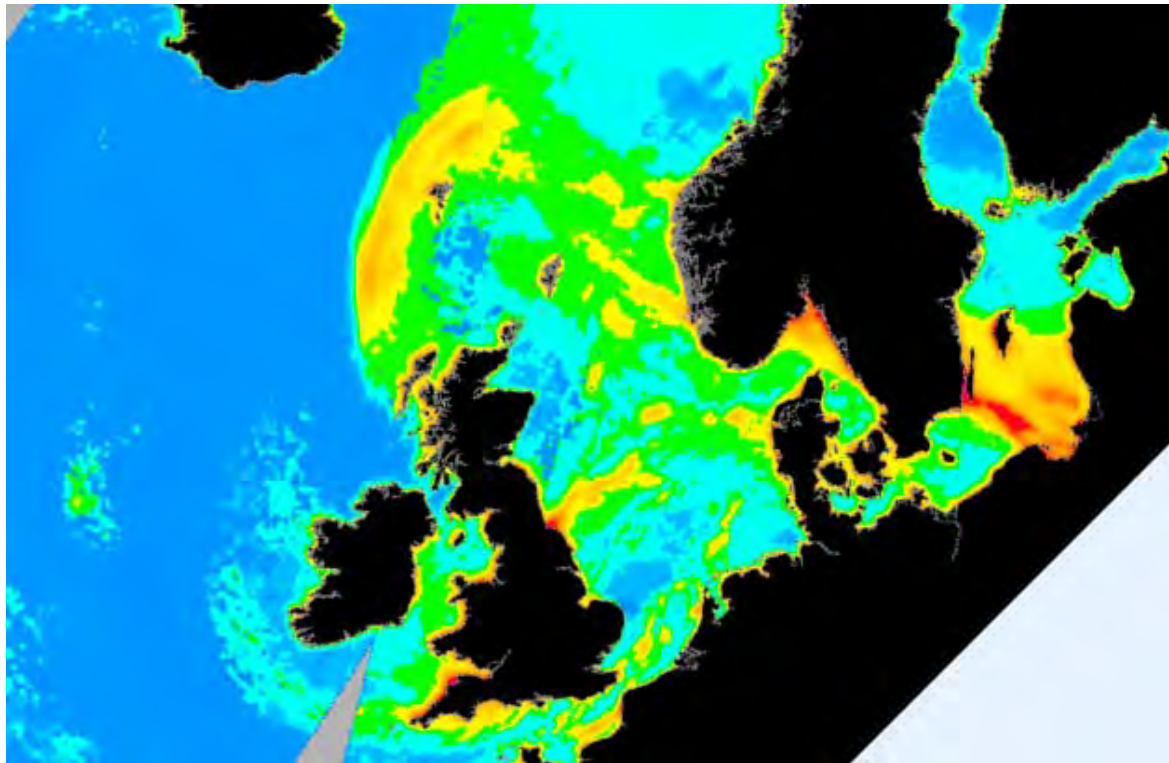
However, at higher
frequencies not
independent of
weather influence

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September 15, 2015, morning AMSR2, atmospheric influence



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Resolution – why do we want high frequencies?

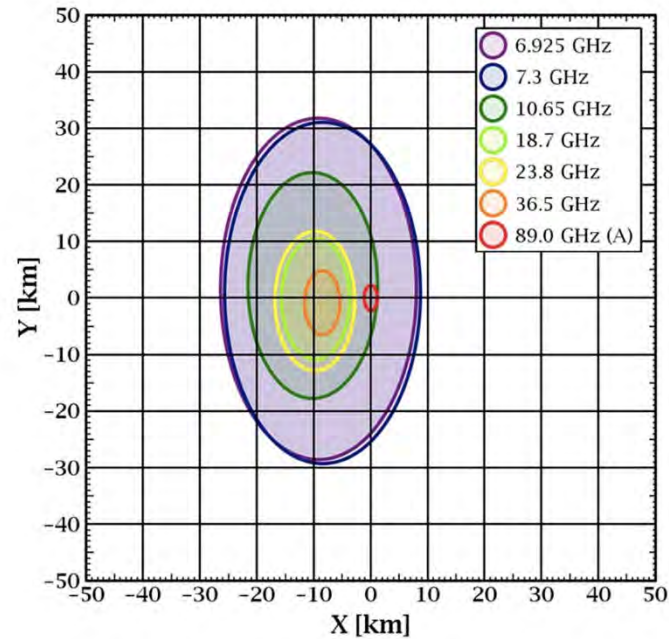


AMSR2 – GCOM-W



Spatial resolution Antenna beamwidth

$$\theta_{3\text{dB}} \sim 1.2\lambda/D$$



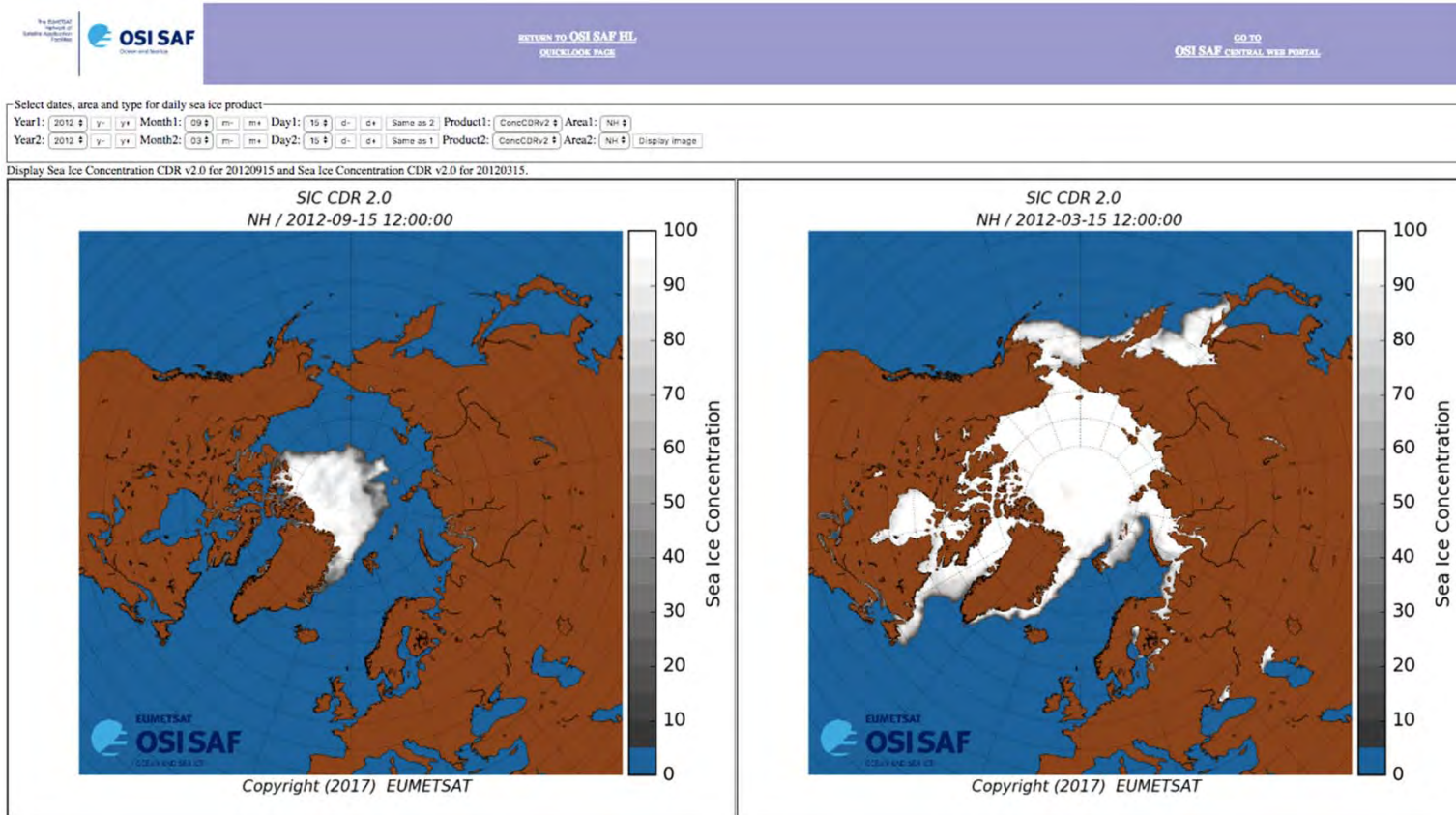
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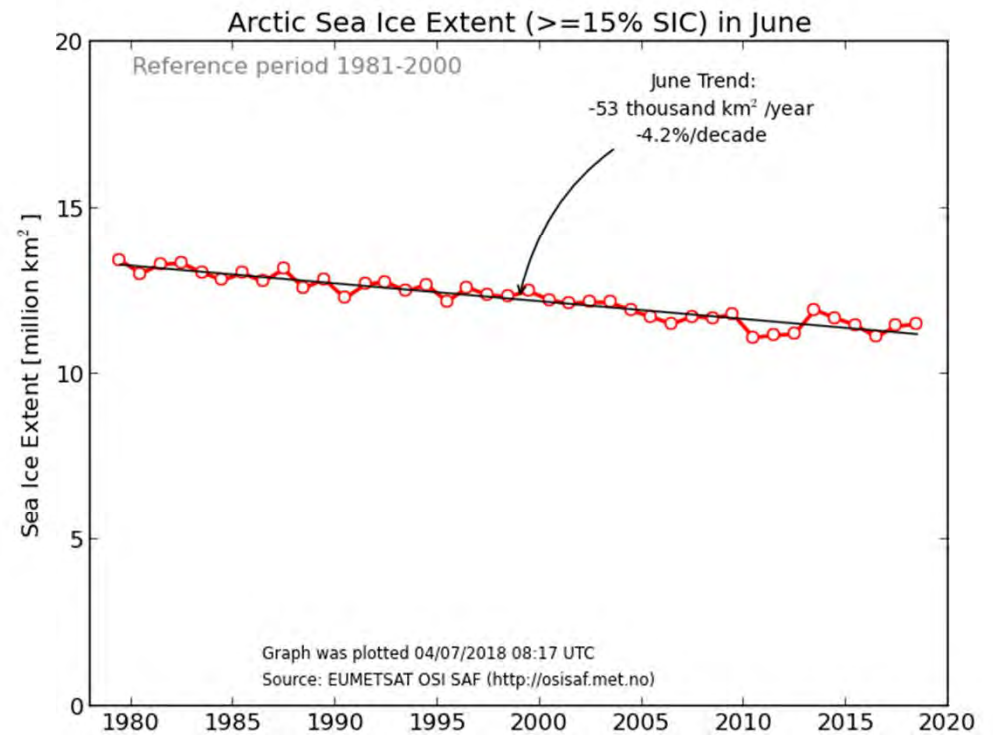
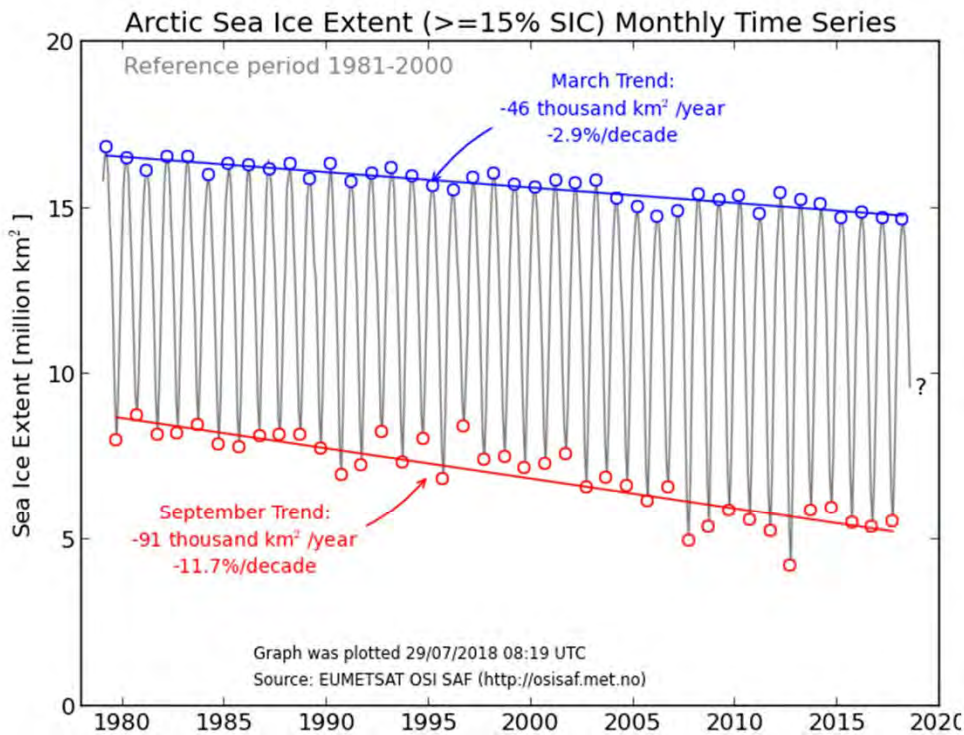
OSISAF/SICCI Sea Ice CDR

http://osisaf.met.no/p/ice_reproc_daily_twoimg.php

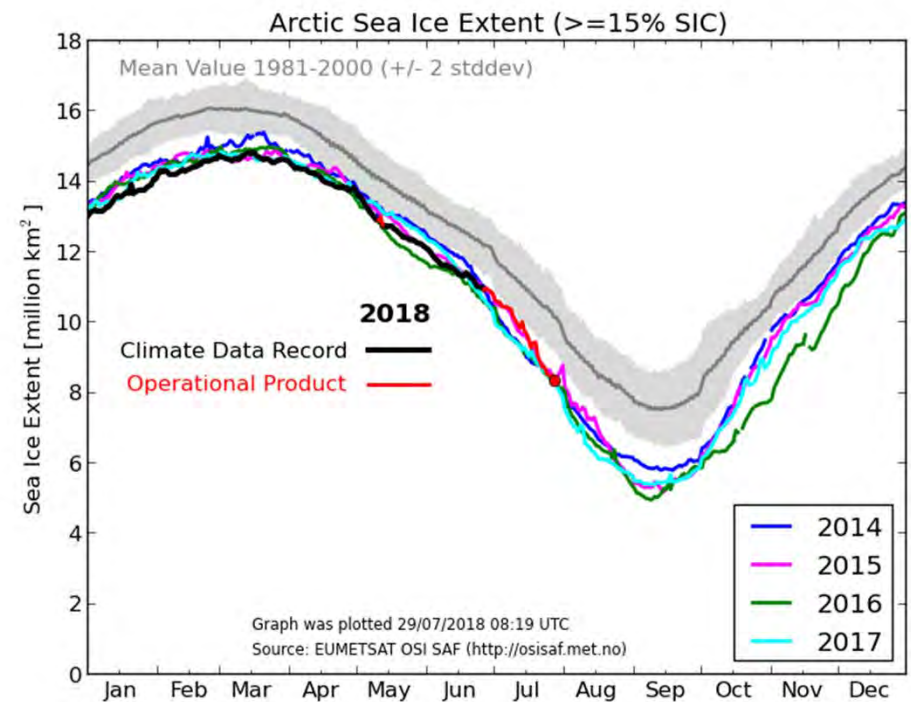
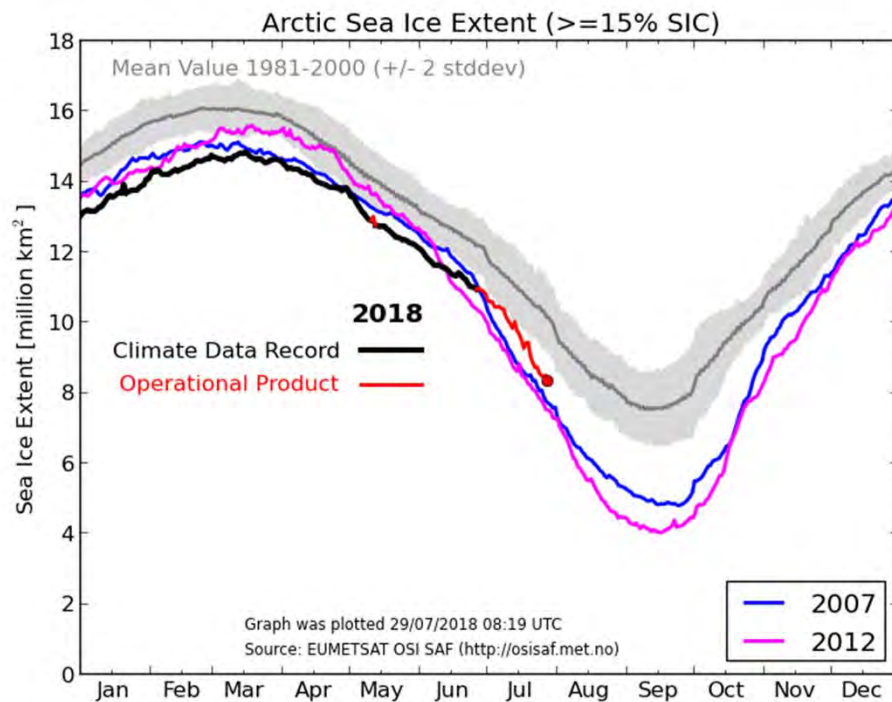


Atmospheric correction and proper algorithm selection allows daily near weather independent sea ice concentrations since late 1978

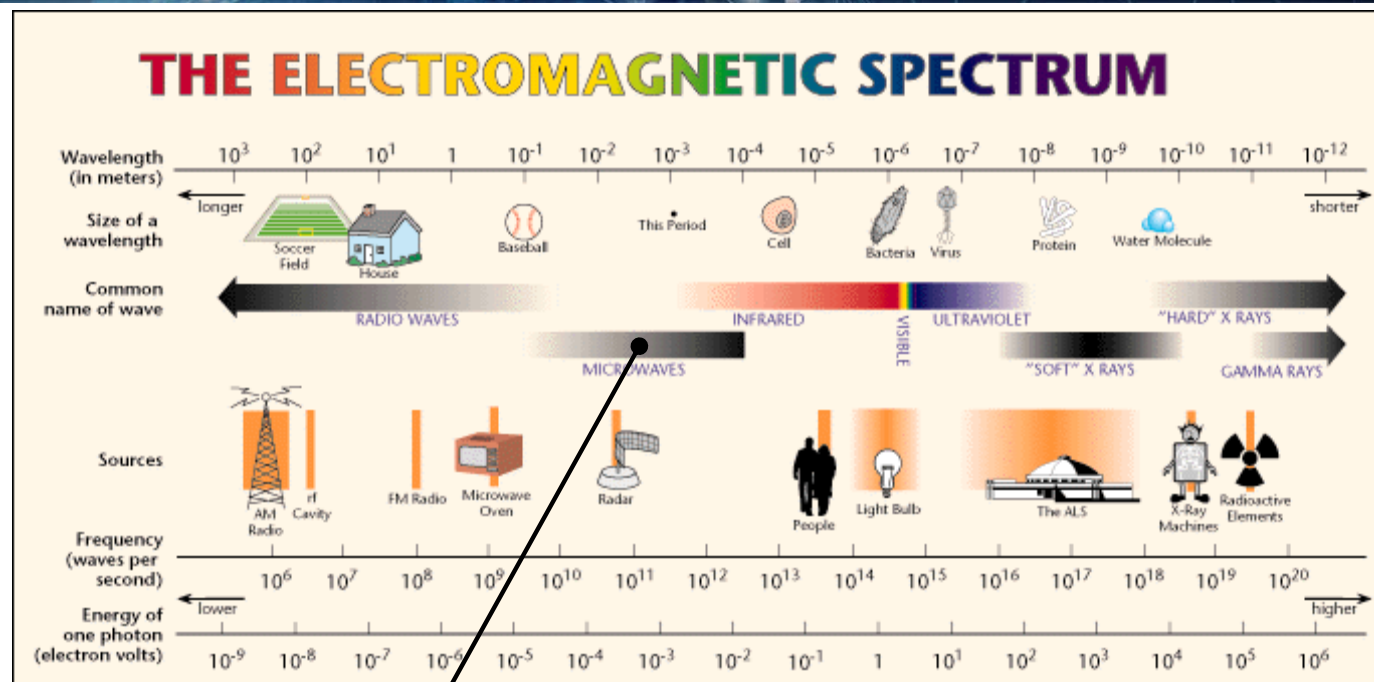
OSISAF Arctic Sea Ice extent CDR



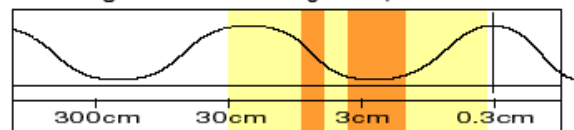
OSISAF Arctic Sea Ice extent CDR



Microwaves?



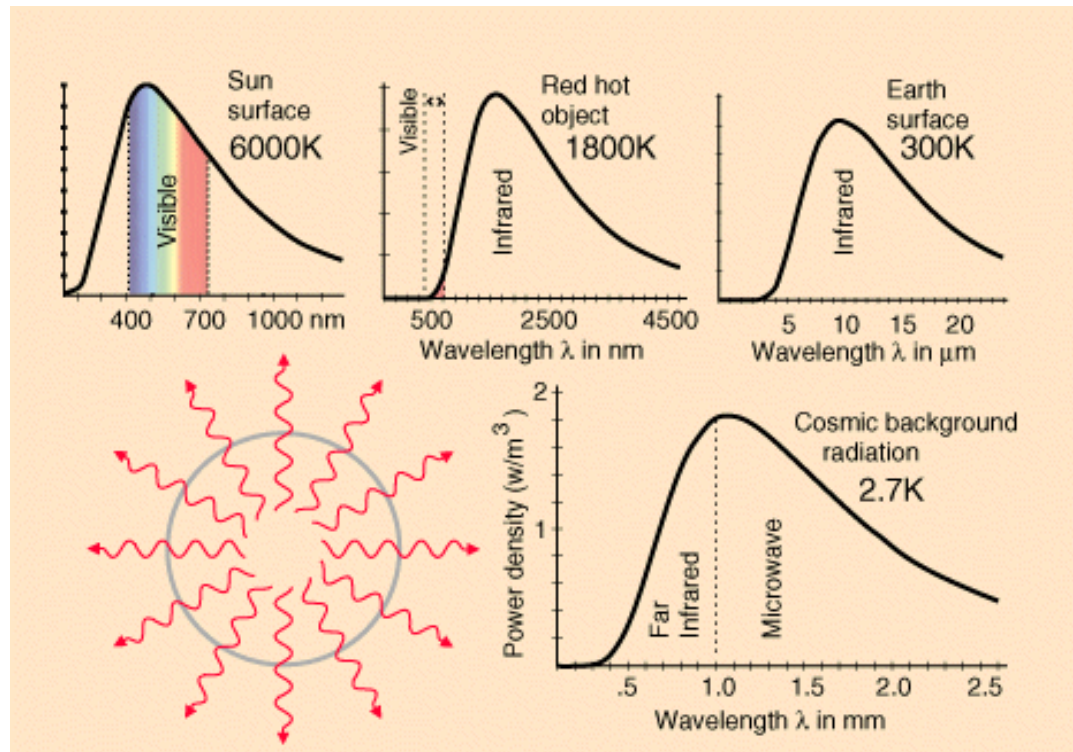
Microwave region of the Electromagnetic Spectrum



Radar Bands:

L S C X K

Planck's law of thermal radiation

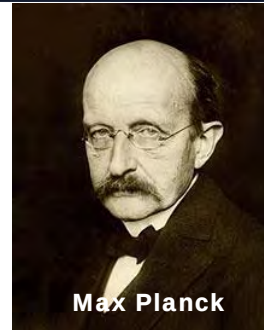


$$E(\lambda, T) = \frac{2hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda kT}} - 1}$$

$h = 6.625 \times 10^{-27}$ erg-sec (Planck Constant)

$k = 1.38 \times 10^{-16}$ erg/K (Boltzmann Constant)

$c = 3 \times 10^{10}$ cm/sec (Speed of Light)



Steffan - Boltzmann Law:

$$E = \sigma T^4$$

$\sigma = 5.6705 \times 10^{-5}$ erg - cm² - K⁻⁴ - sec⁻¹
(Steffan - Boltzmann Constant)

Wien Displacement Law:

$$\lambda_{\text{Max}} = \frac{3 \times 10^7}{T}$$

(λ in Angstroms, T in Kelvin)

Emissivity and brightness temperature

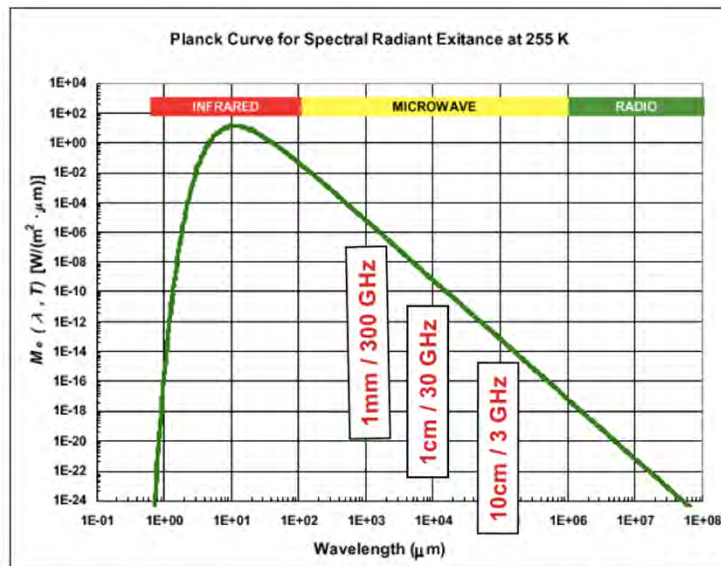


$$T_B = \varepsilon T \text{ (grey body)}$$

$$\varepsilon = T_B / T$$

ε is emissivity

T_B is brightness temperature



In 1900 [Max Planck](#) empirically derived an expression for [Blackbody Radiation](#) expressed in terms of wavelength $\lambda = c / \nu$.

$$B_\lambda(T) = \frac{2c^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{h}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda kT}} - 1}$$

Wikipedia, 2017

where h is [Planck's constant](#). The Planck law does not suffer from an ultraviolet catastrophe, and agrees well with the experimental data, but its full significance (which ultimately led to quantum theory) was only appreciated several years later. In the limit of very high temperatures or long wavelengths the term in the exponential becomes small, and so the denominator becomes approximately $hc / \lambda kT$ by [power series](#) expansion. Specifically,

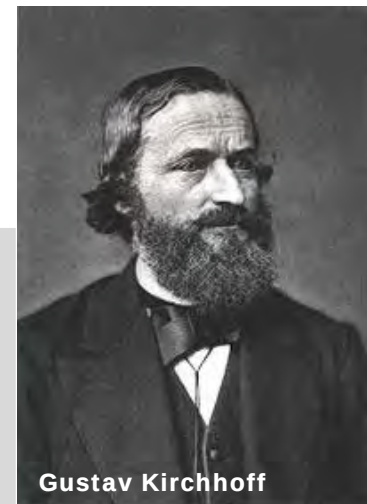
$$\frac{1}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda kT}} - 1} \approx \frac{1}{\frac{hc}{\lambda kT}} = \frac{\lambda kT}{hc}$$

which results in the full Planck Function reducing to

$$B_\lambda(T) = \frac{2ckT}{\lambda^4}$$

which is identical to the classically derived Rayleigh-Jeans expression.

$\varepsilon = \langle$
In thermodynamic
equilibrium
emissivity (ε) =
absorptivity (α)

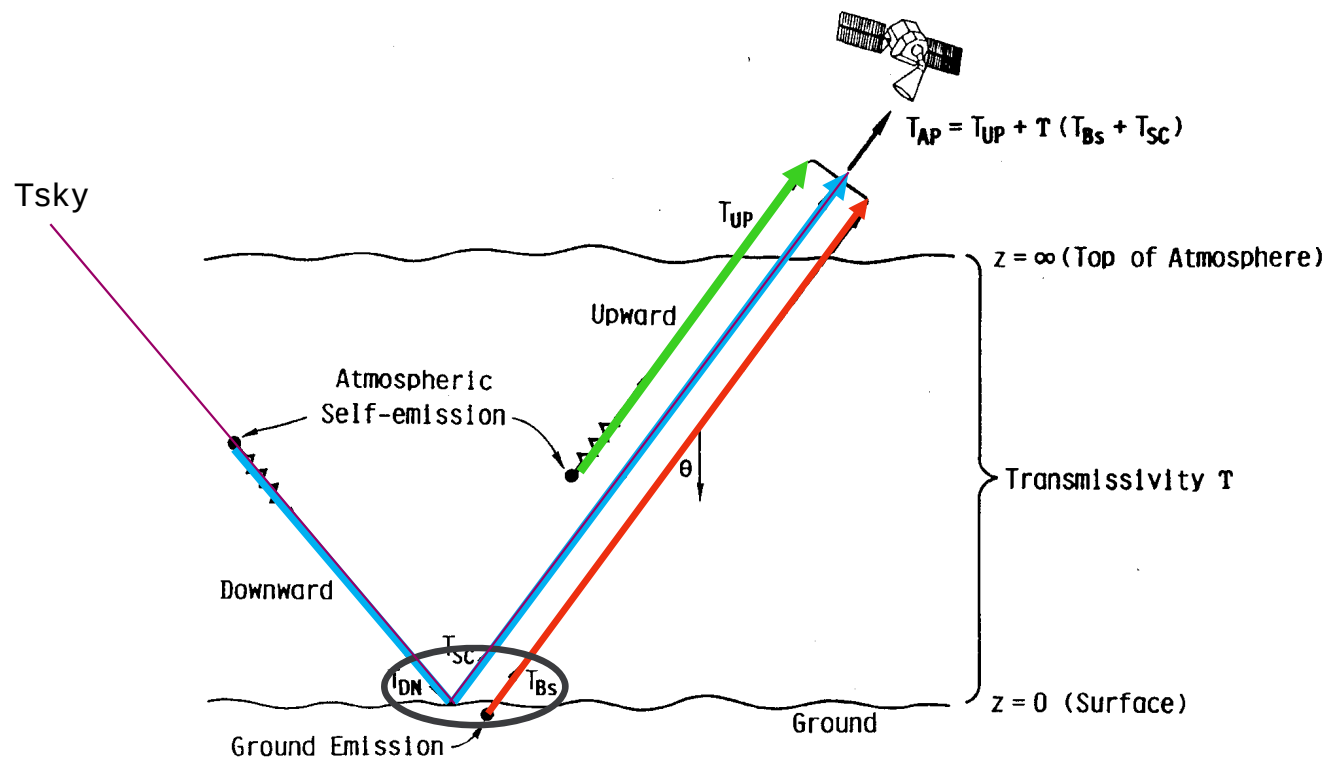


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The Atmosphere- Radiative transfer



$$T_{ap} = T_{UP} + \epsilon T_S (e^{-\tau}) + T_{DN} (1 - \epsilon) (e^{-\tau}) + T_{SP} (1 - \epsilon) (e^{-2\tau})$$

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$$\textcircled{T_{UP}} = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta_0)} \int_0^H T_a(z) \alpha(z) e^{-\tau(z,H)/\cos(\theta_0)} dz$$

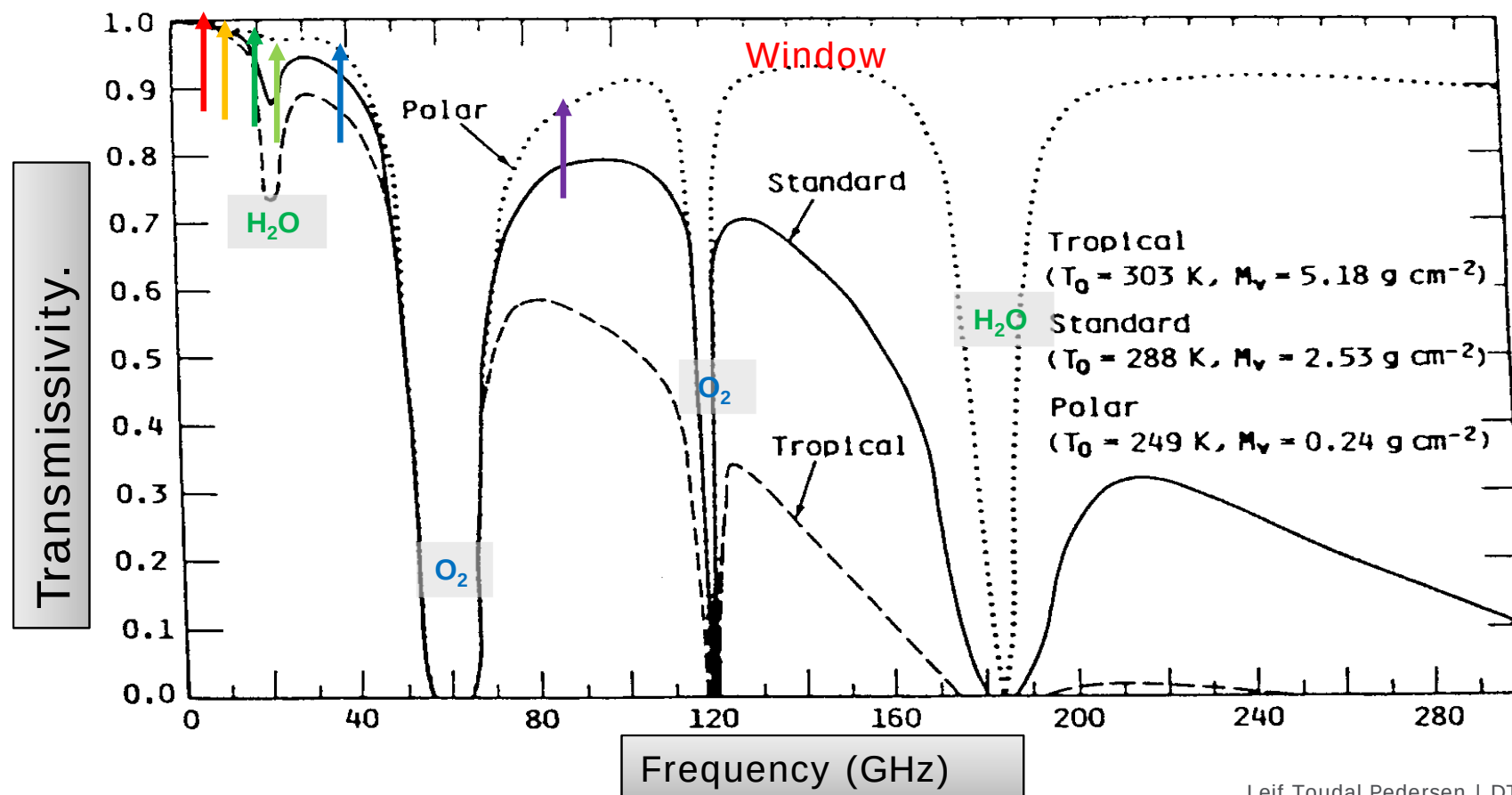
Upwelling

$$\tau(z,H) = \int_z^H \alpha(z) dz$$

$$\textcircled{T_{DN}} = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta_0)} \int_0^H T_a(z) \alpha(z) e^{-\tau(0,Z)/\cos(\theta_0)} dz$$

Downwelling

The Atmosphere - Transmissivity

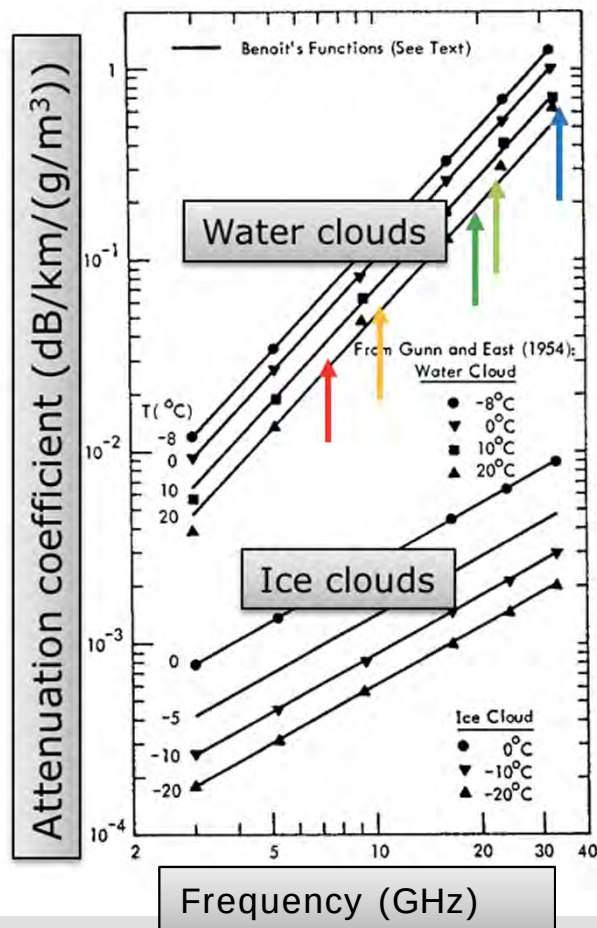


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Cloud attenuation and Downwelling temperature (T_{DN})



Typical T_{DN} values at higher latitudes

Frequency [GHz]	T_{DN} [K]	$ \exp(-\tau) $
6.9	3-5	0.982
10.7	4-6	0.979
18.7	7-17	0.955
23.8	10-35	0.918
36.5	20-40	0.886
50.5	120-140	0.487
52.8	210-230	0.139
89	30-110	0.749

Incl.
O₂
H₂O
Cloud
 T_{air}

Excl.
 T_{sc}

Water – Ocean surface reflection

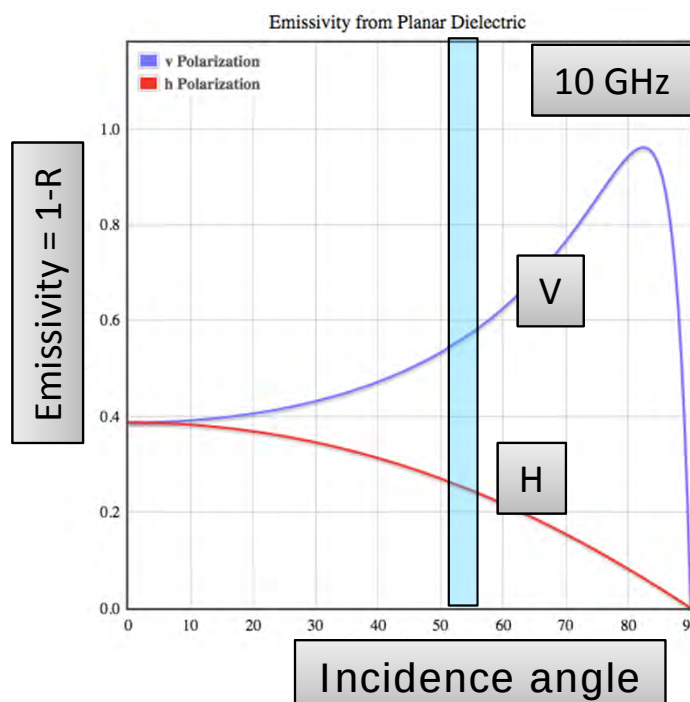
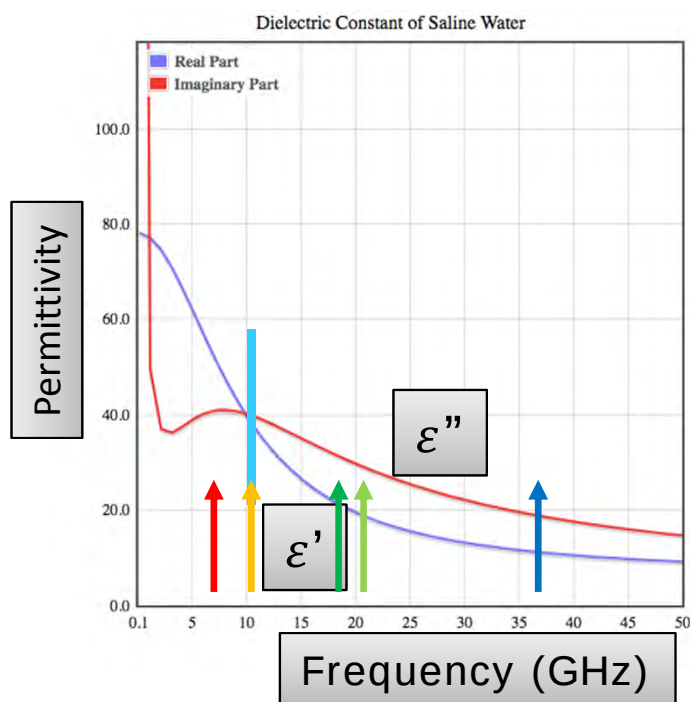
Fresnell reflection coefficients



$$R_v = \left| \frac{\epsilon \cos \theta - \sqrt{\epsilon - \sin^2 \theta}}{\epsilon \cos \theta + \sqrt{\epsilon - \sin^2 \theta}} \right|^2$$

$$R_h = \left| \frac{\cos \theta - \sqrt{\epsilon - \sin^2 \theta}}{\cos \theta + \sqrt{\epsilon - \sin^2 \theta}} \right|^2$$

ϵ is relative permittivity
 θ is incidence angle



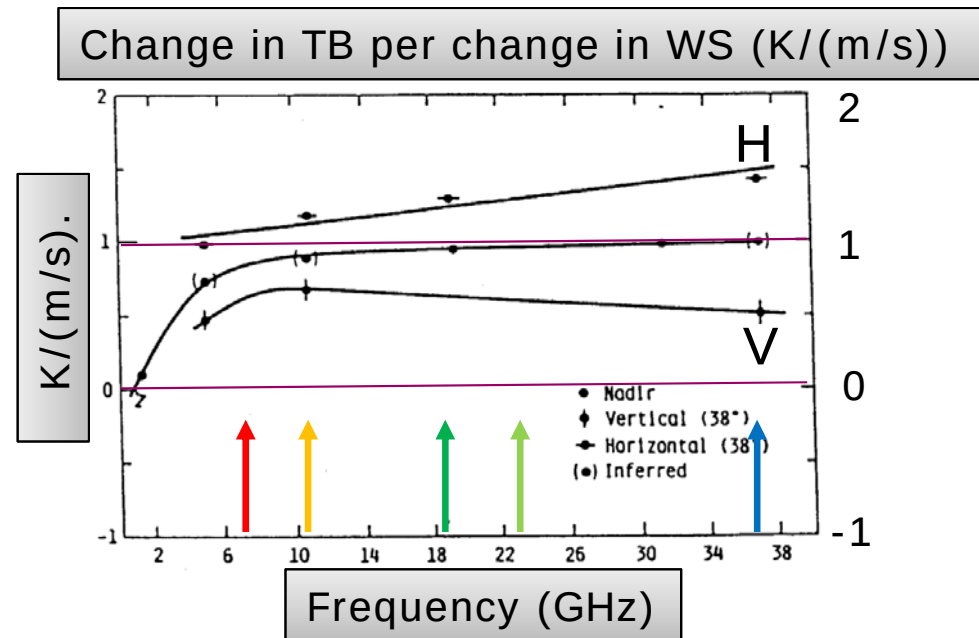
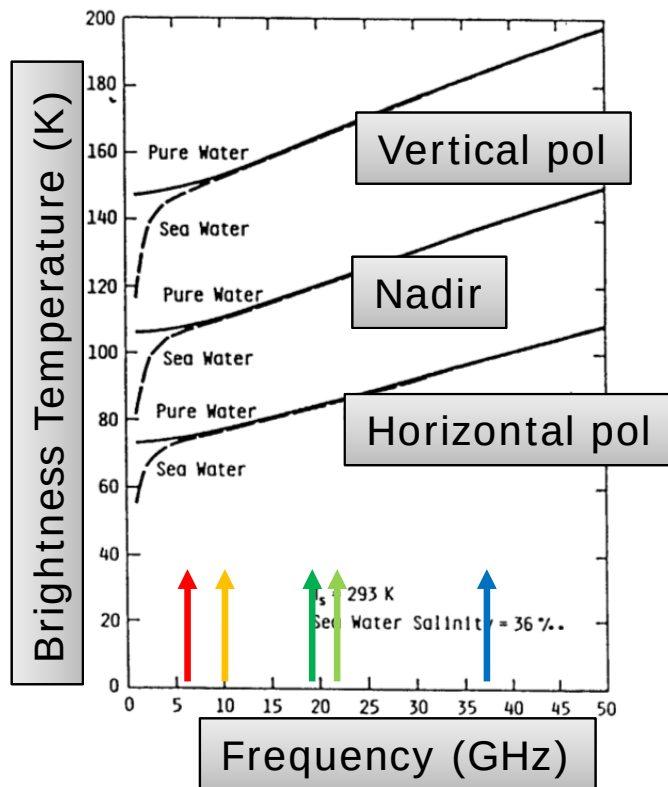
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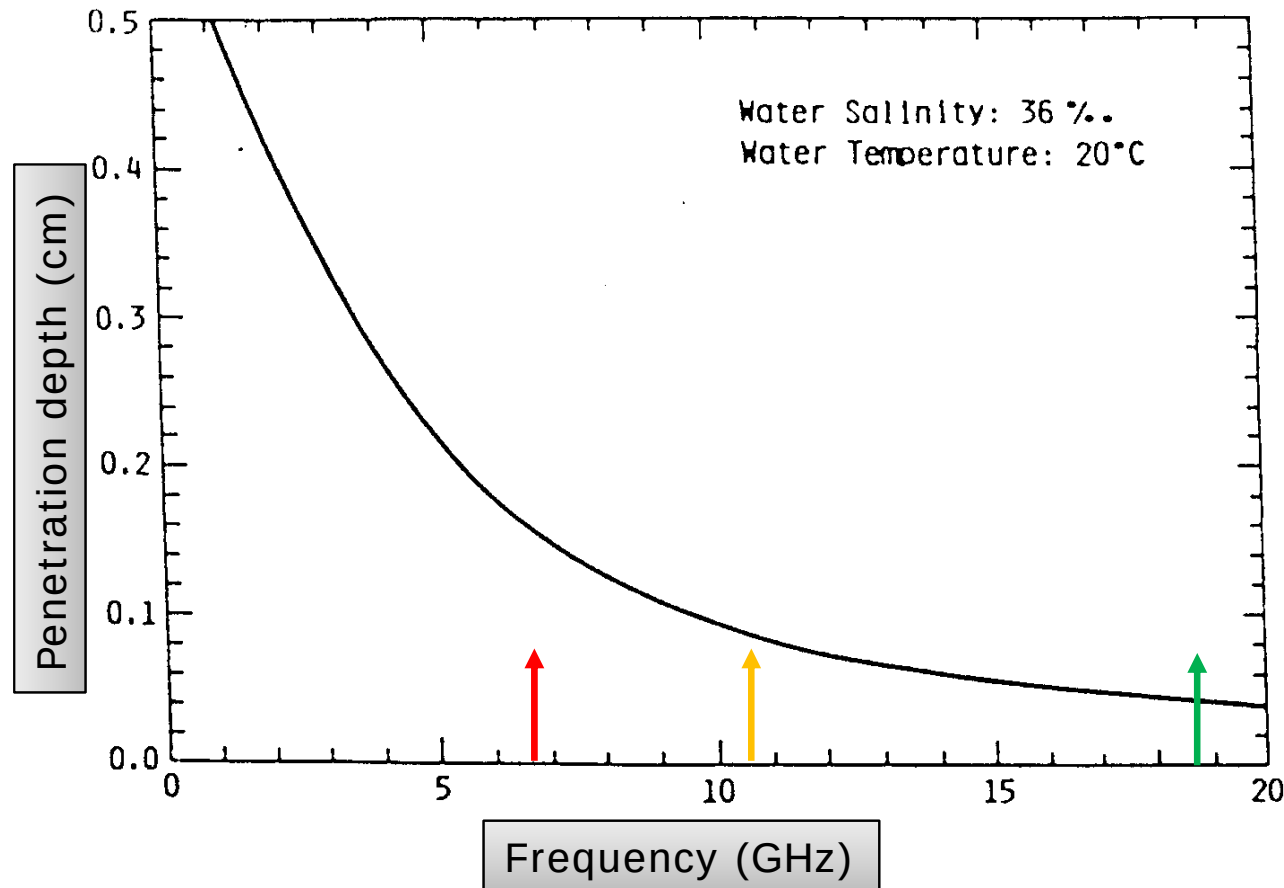
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Water - Brightness temperature

The effect of wind



Water - Microwave penetration depth



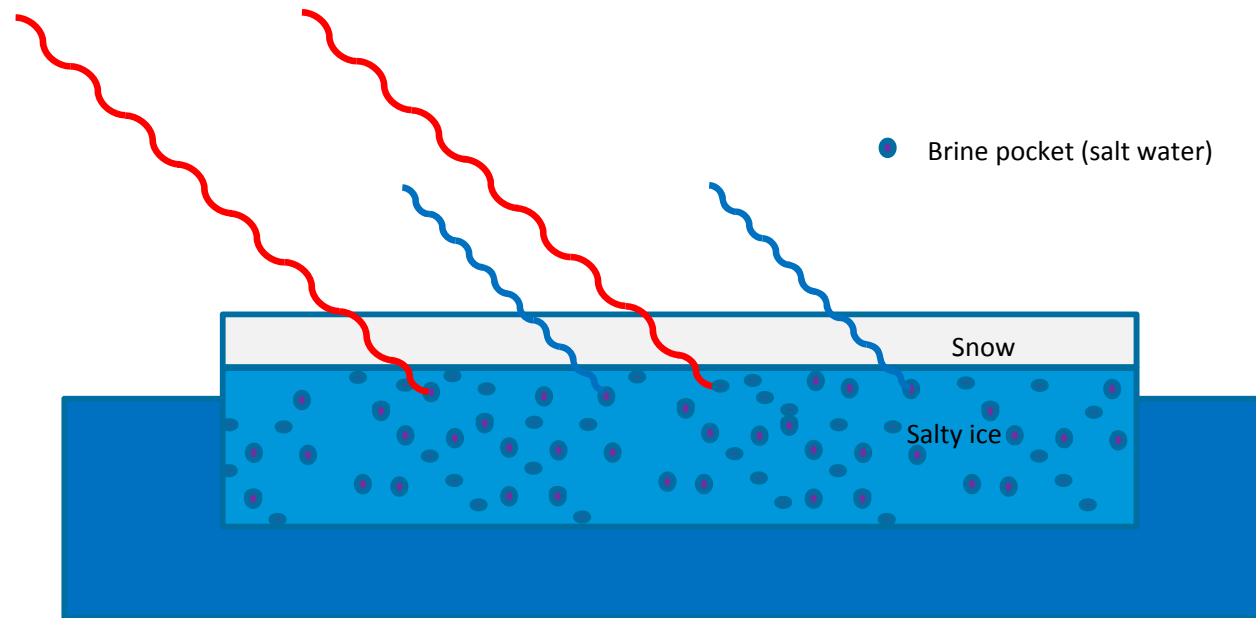
0.5 to 1 mm water on top of ice will have the same T_B as the ocean and cannot be distinguished from open water

Above 5 GHz the curve looks almost the same also for lower salinity and temperatures

Ice - First-year ice signatures - Winter



Absorbs almost almost all incoming radiation –
nearly a black body at microwave wavelengths (emissivity ~ 0.9)



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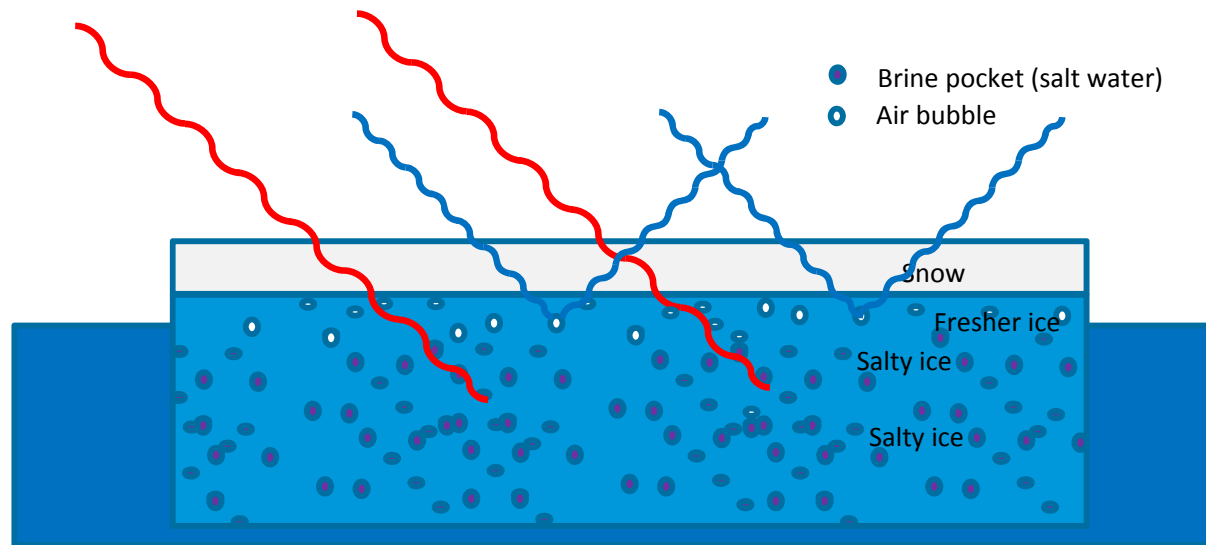


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Ice - Multi-year ice signatures - Winter



Absorbs almost all incoming radiation at longer wavelengths – nearly a black body (emissivity ~ 0.9)
Scatters radiation at shorter wavelengths (< 2 cm) $\rightarrow$ lower emissivity



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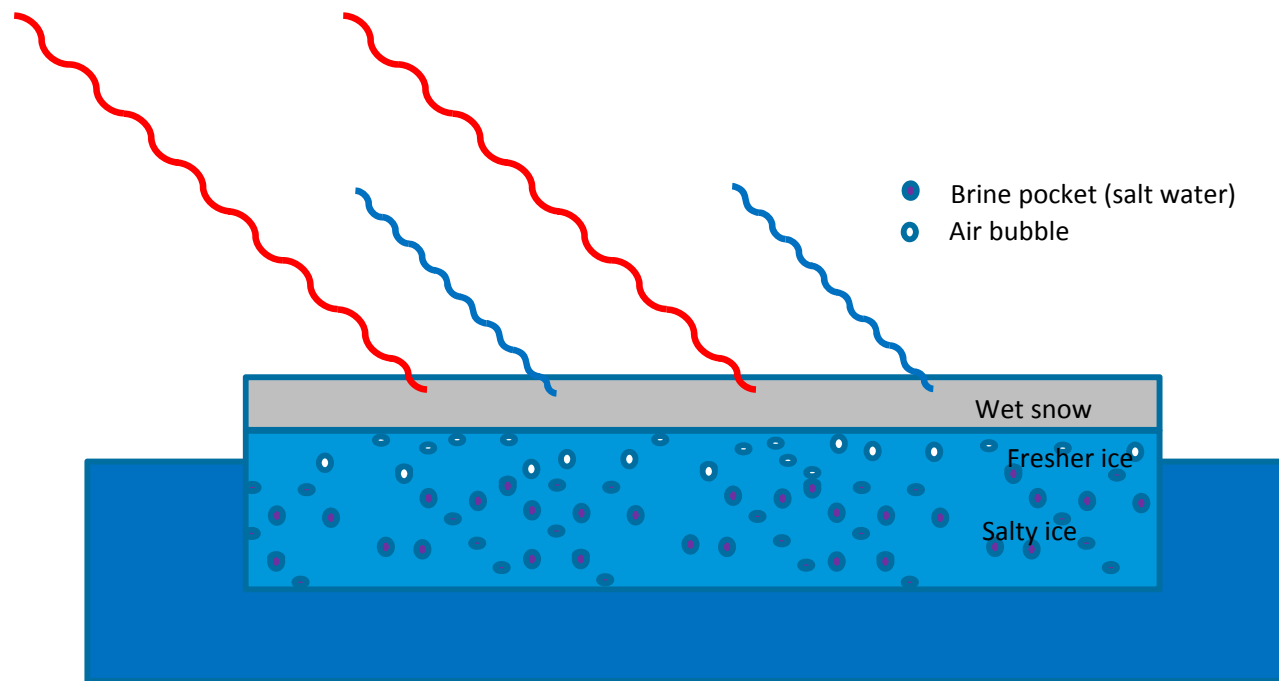


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Ice - Signatures- Summer



Wet snow absorbs almost all incoming radiation -> nearly a black body (emissivity ~ 0.9)



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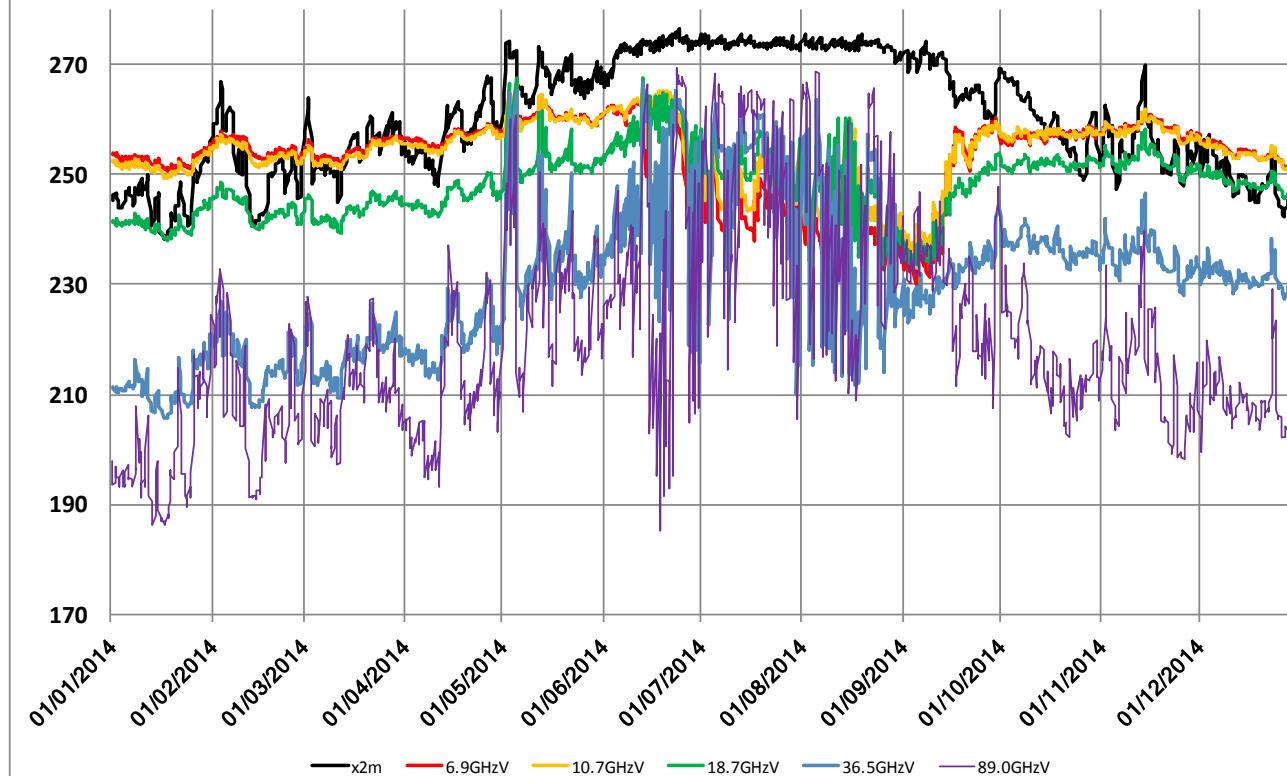


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Ice and snow - Seasonal cycle of TBs



AMSR2 TB-V time series along CRREL buoy 2013J trajectory - Year of 2014



From the ESA CCI
Sea ice
concentration
reference dataset

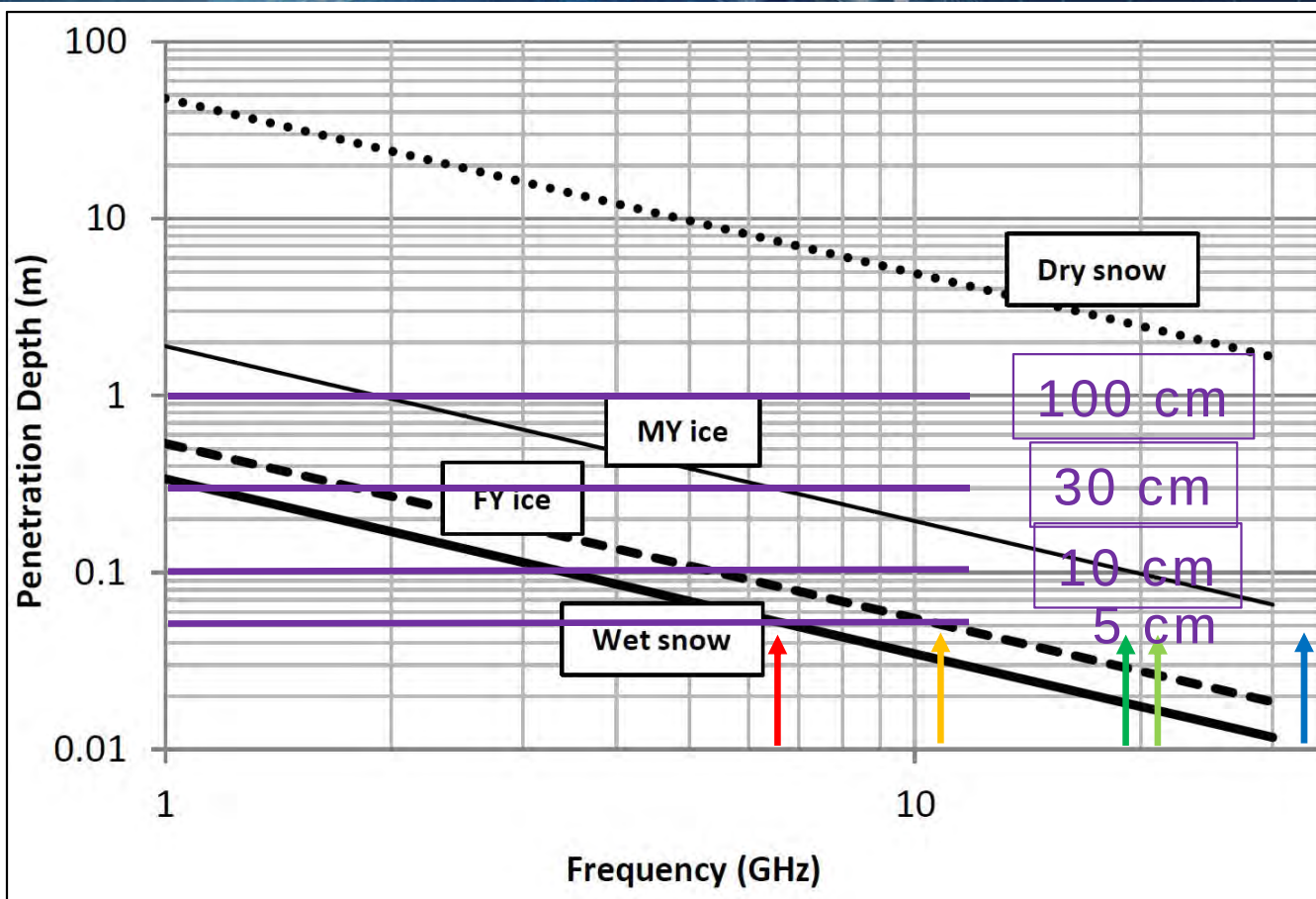
https://figshare.com/articles/Reference_dataset_for_sea_ice_concentration/6626549

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Ice and snow - Penetration depth

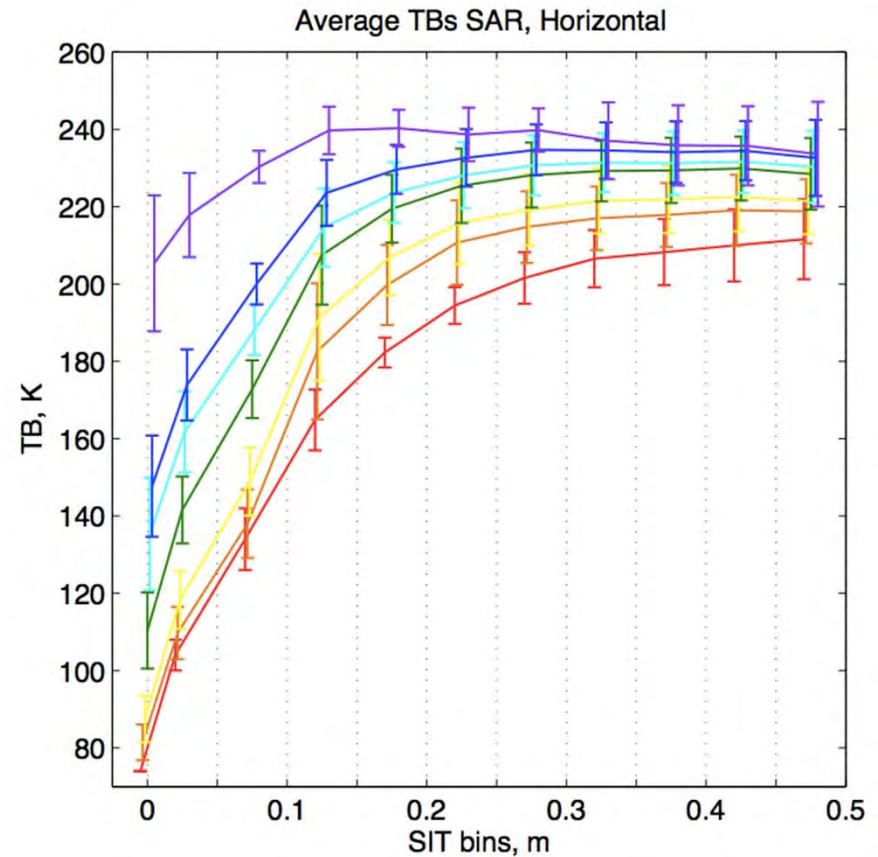
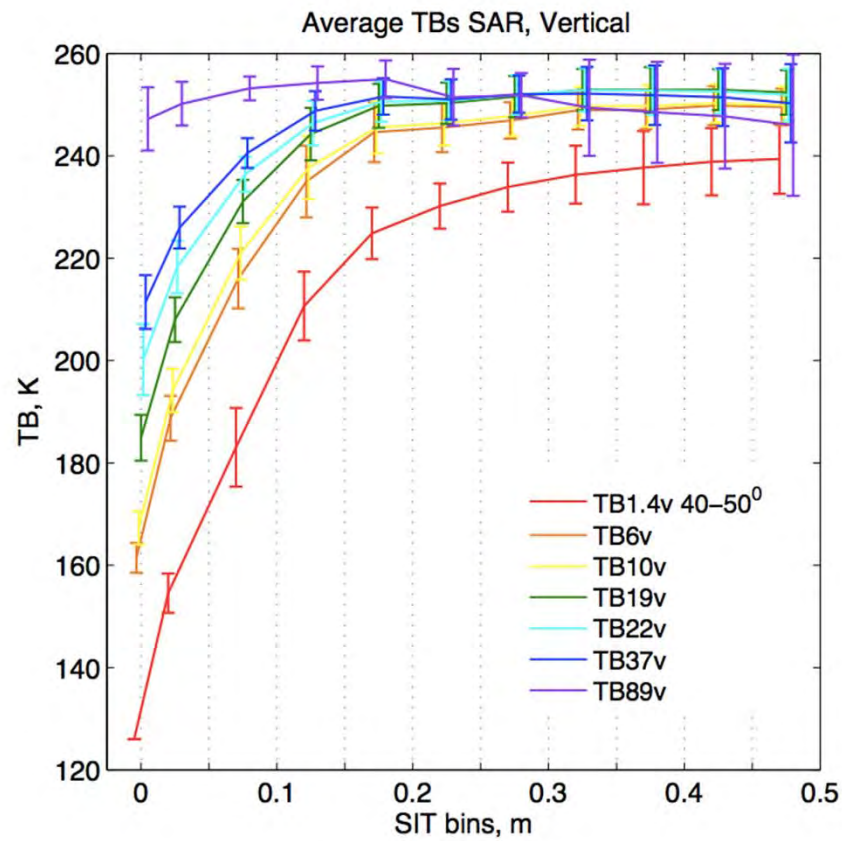


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The influence of ice thickness (thin ice)

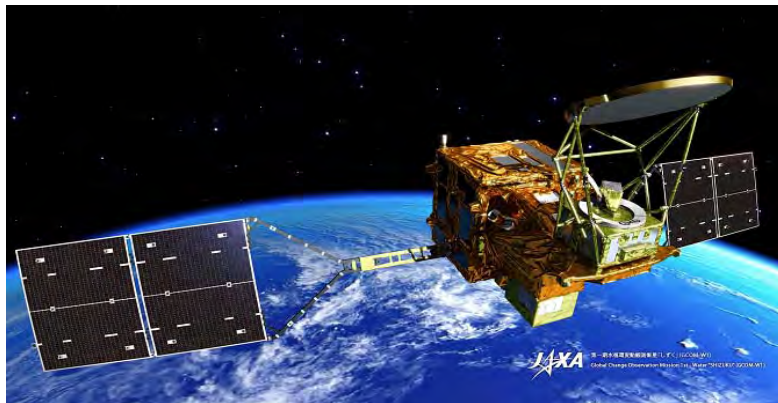


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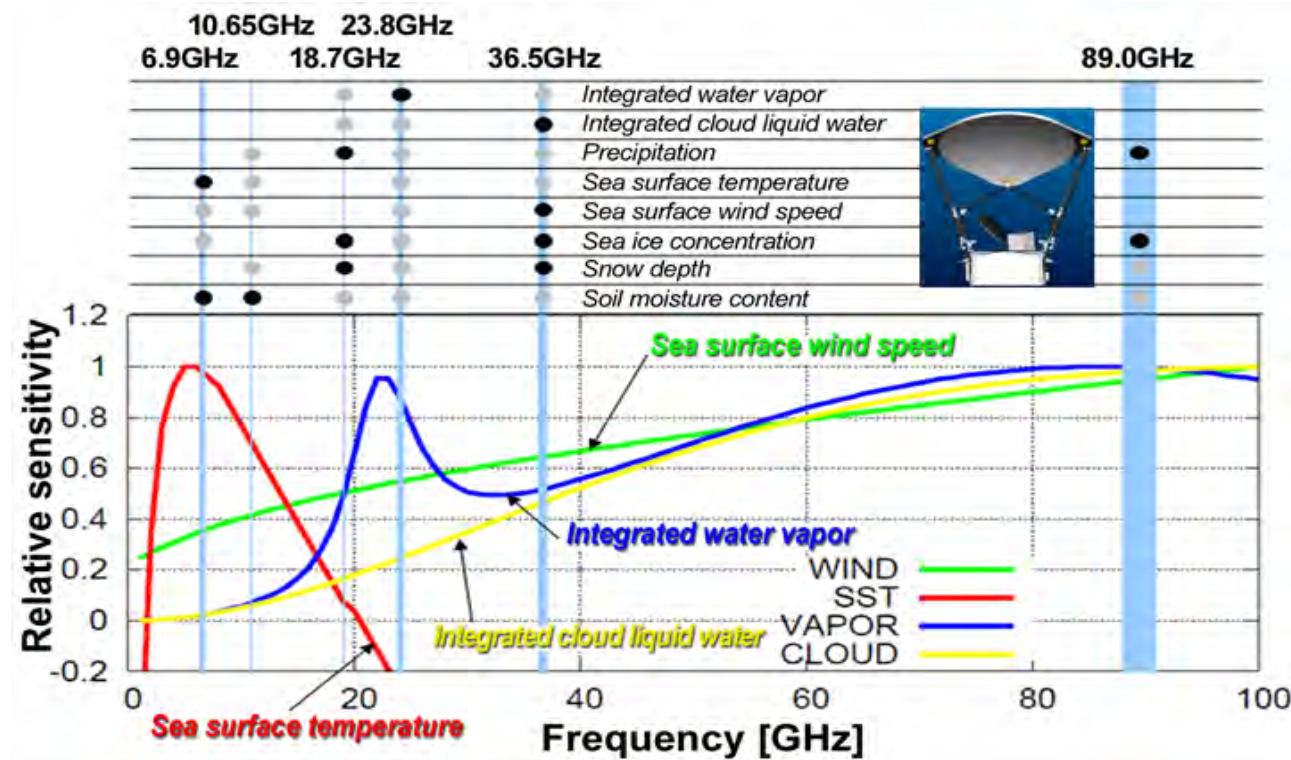
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AMSR2 on JAXA's GCOM-W



AMSR2 Channel Set

Center Freq.	Band width	Pol.	Beam width	Ground res.	Sampling interval
GHz	MHz		degree	km	km
6.925/7.3	350	V/H	1.8	35 x 62	10
10.65	100		1.2	24 x 42	
18.7	200		0.65	14 x 22	
23.8	400		0.75	15 x 26	
36.5	1000		0.35	7 x 12	
89.0	3000		0.15	3 x 5	5

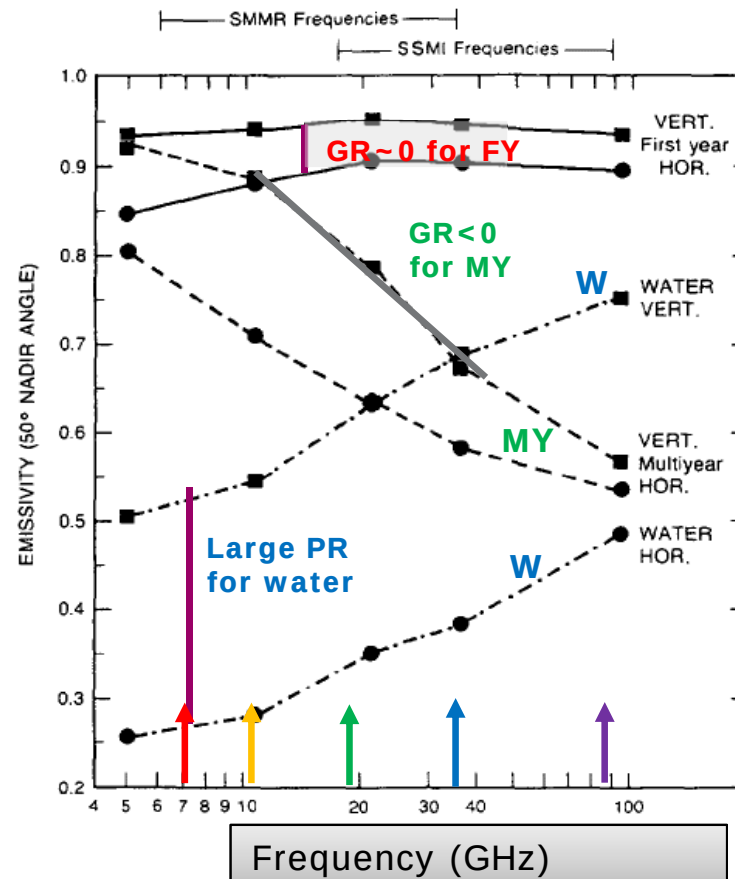


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Signature - Summary



End of part 1

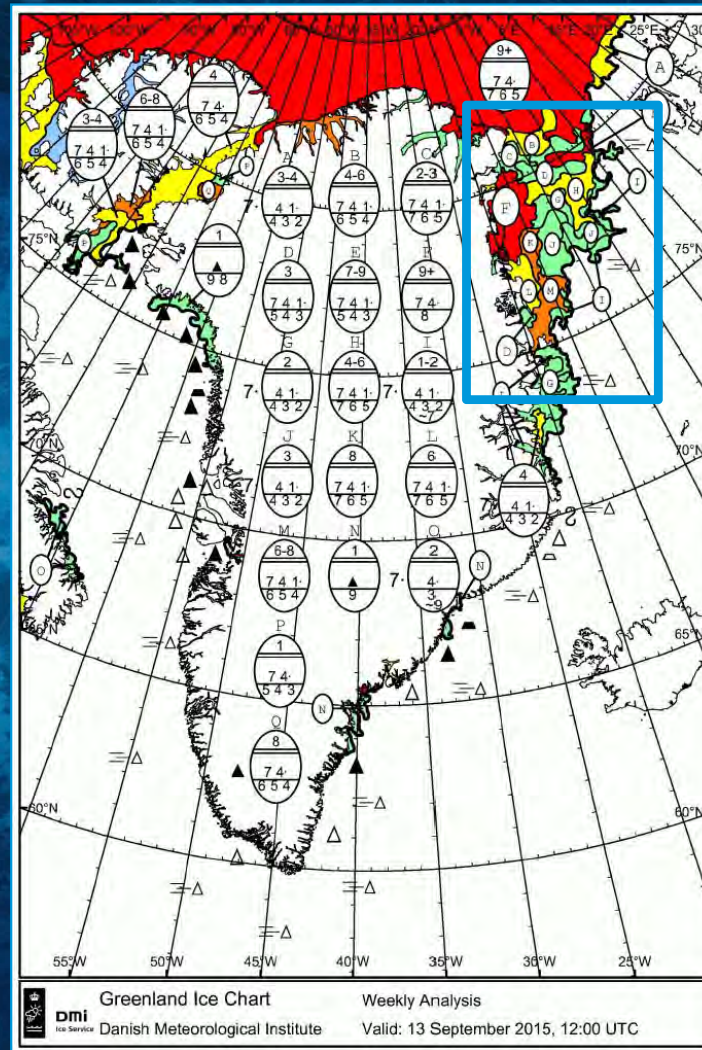
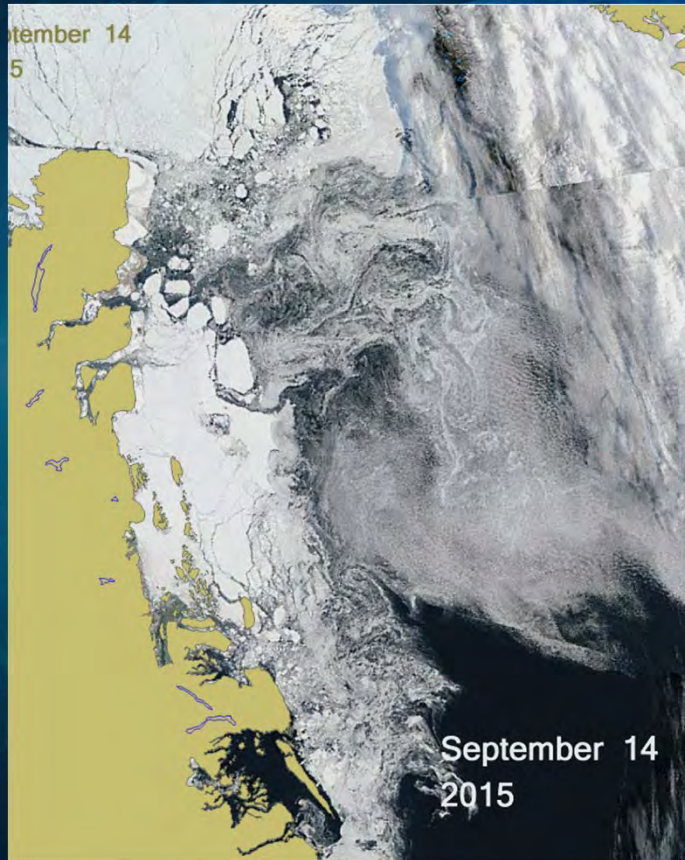


Thank you 😊



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Icecharts



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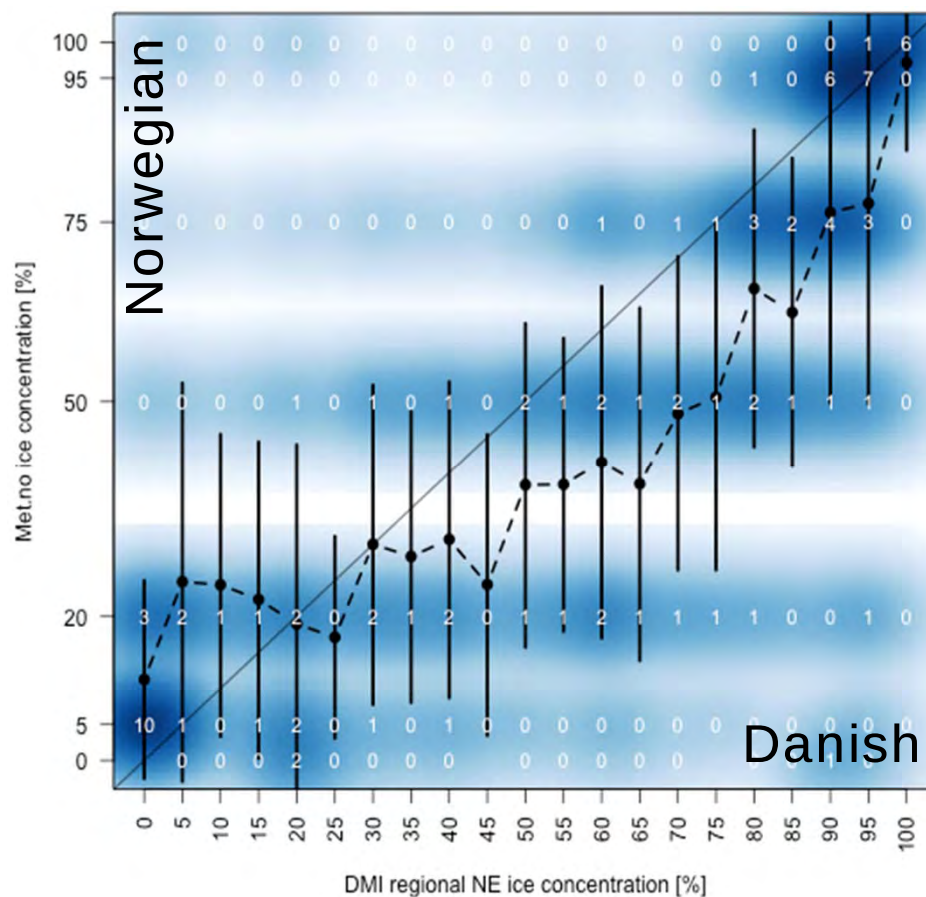
Include volume scattering

$$T_B = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \int_{-(h_{ice}+h_{snow})}^0 T(z) \kappa_a(z) e^{-\tau(z, h_{snow})} dz + \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \int_{-(h_{ice}+h_{snow})}^0 T_{DN}(z) \kappa_s(z) dz$$

$$\tau(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} (\kappa_a(z) + \kappa_s(z)) dz$$

$$T_{DN}(z) = T_{DN}(0) e^{-\tau(0, z)} + \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \int_z^0 T(z) \kappa_a(z) e^{-\tau(z, h_{snow})} dz$$

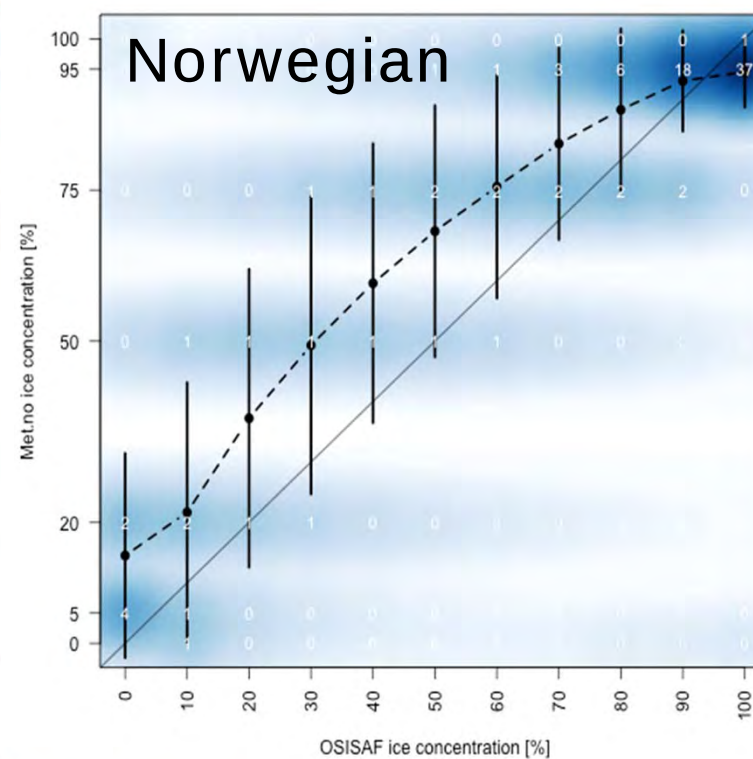
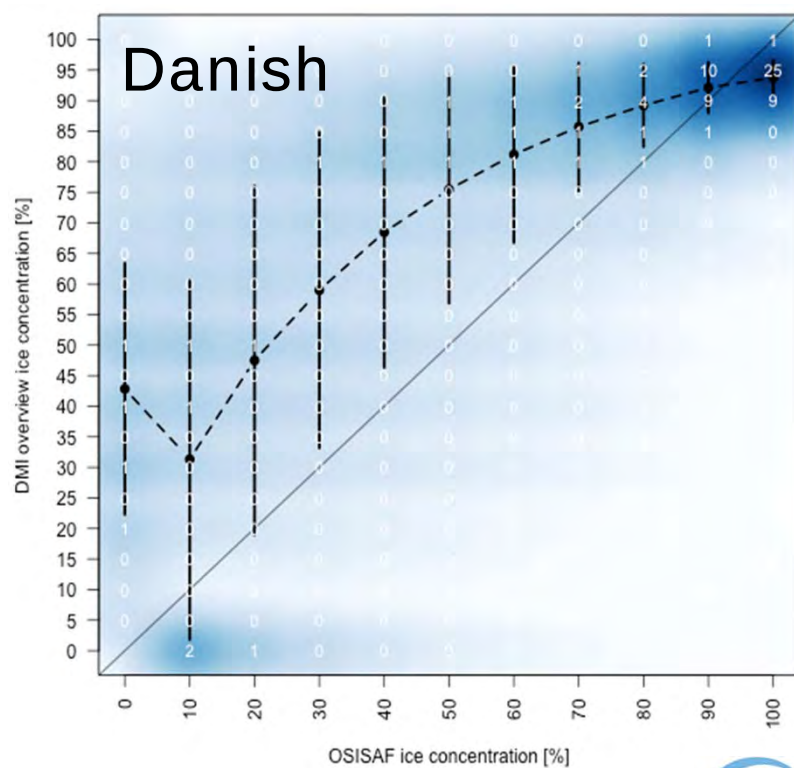
Icechart to OSISAF SIC intercomparison



East Greenland Area

See also:
Karvonen, Juha, Jouni Vainio,
Marika Marnela, Patrick Eriksson,
and Tuomas Niskanen, A
*Comparison Between High-
Resolution EO-Based and Ice
Analyst-Assigned Sea Ice
Concentrations*, IEEE JOURNAL OF
SELECTED TOPICS IN APPLIED
EARTH OBSERVATIONS AND
REMOTE SENSING, VOL. 8, NO. 4,
APRIL 2015

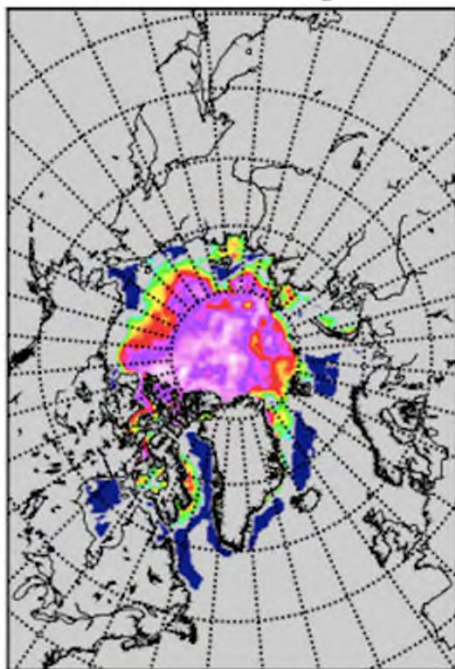
Icechart vs OSISAF - SIC intercomparison



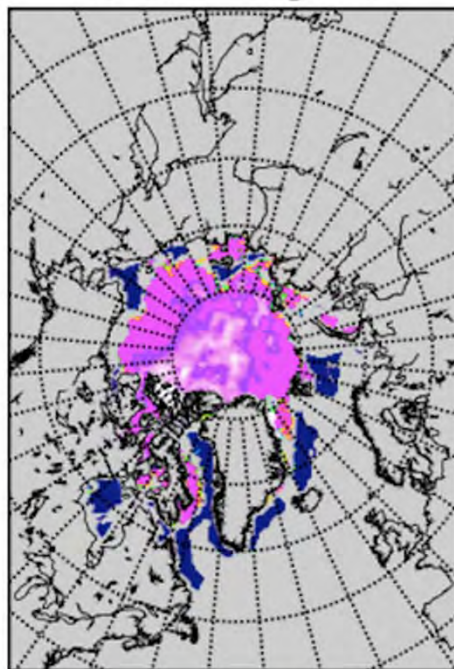
Icechart vs OSI-SAF ice concentration

Sea Ice Concentration (OSI SAF vs NIC) Comparison 2017-07-20

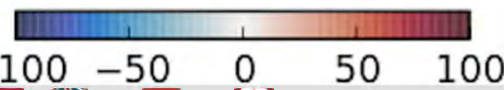
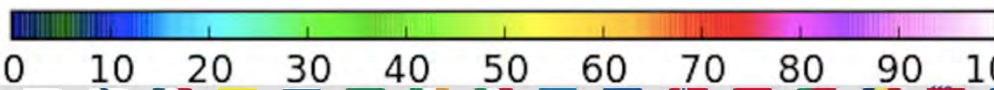
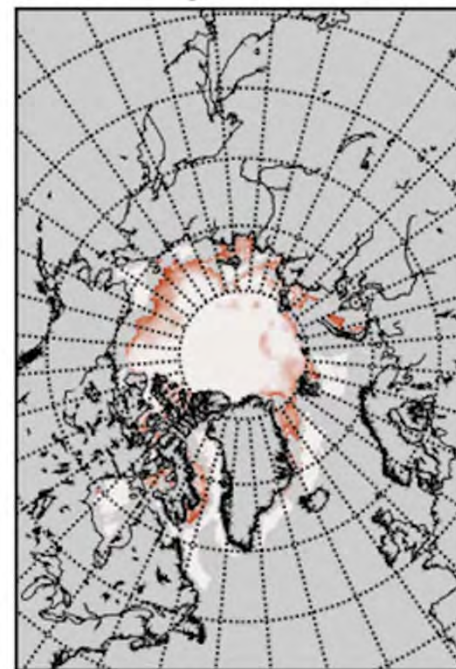
OSI SAF Percentage SIC



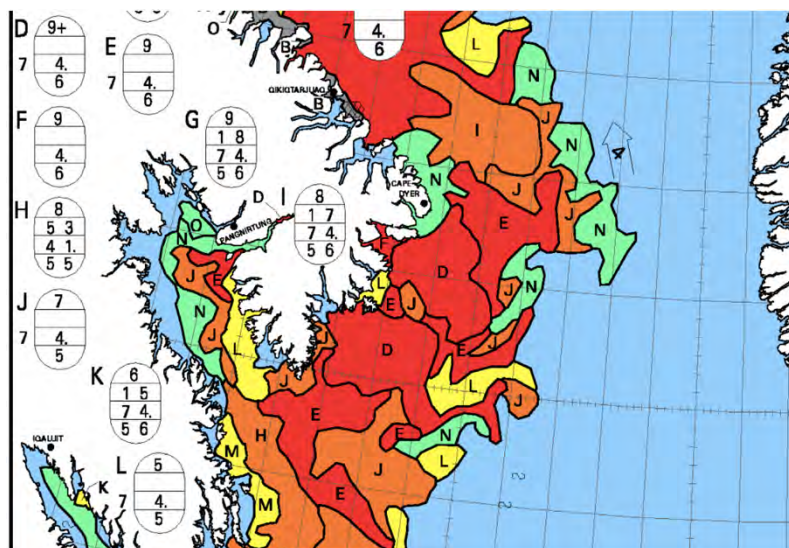
NIC Percentage SIC



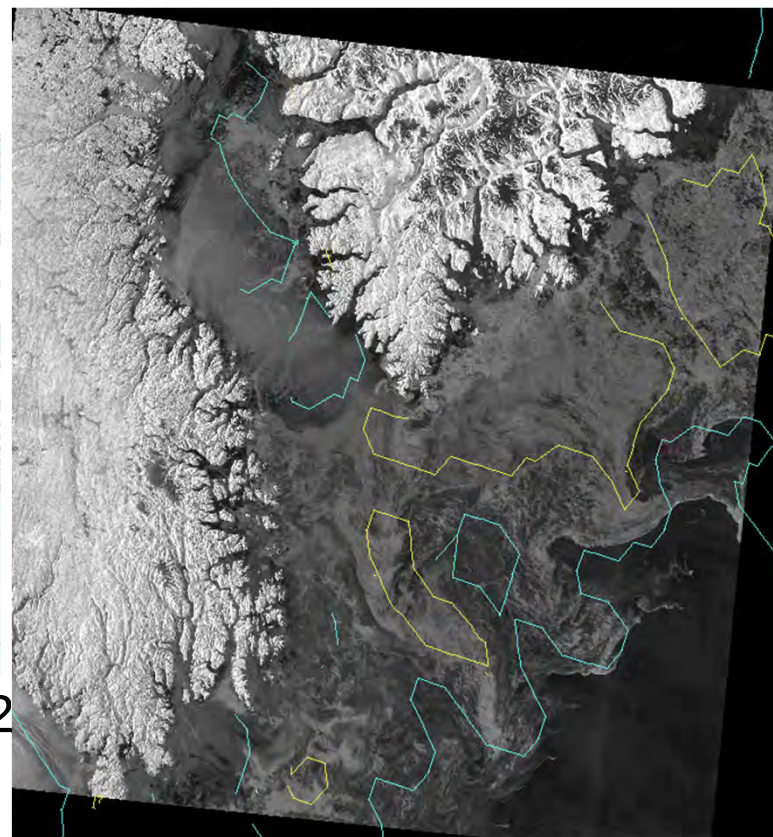
SIC Anomaly ('NIC' - 'OSI SAF')



CIS Icechart vs Sentinel-1 SAR



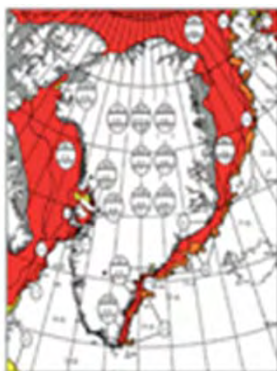
CIS daily ice chart on July 20, 2017



Sentinel-1 SAR on July 20, 2017



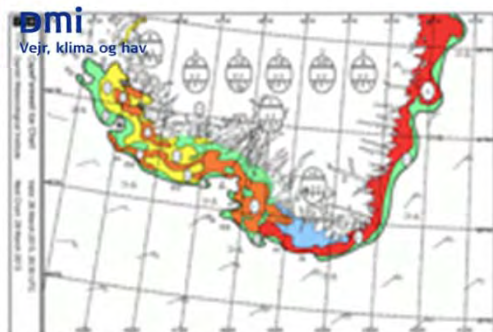
Icechart to OSISAF SIC intercomparison



DMI Greenland Overview Ice Chart



Met.no Svalbard Ice Chart

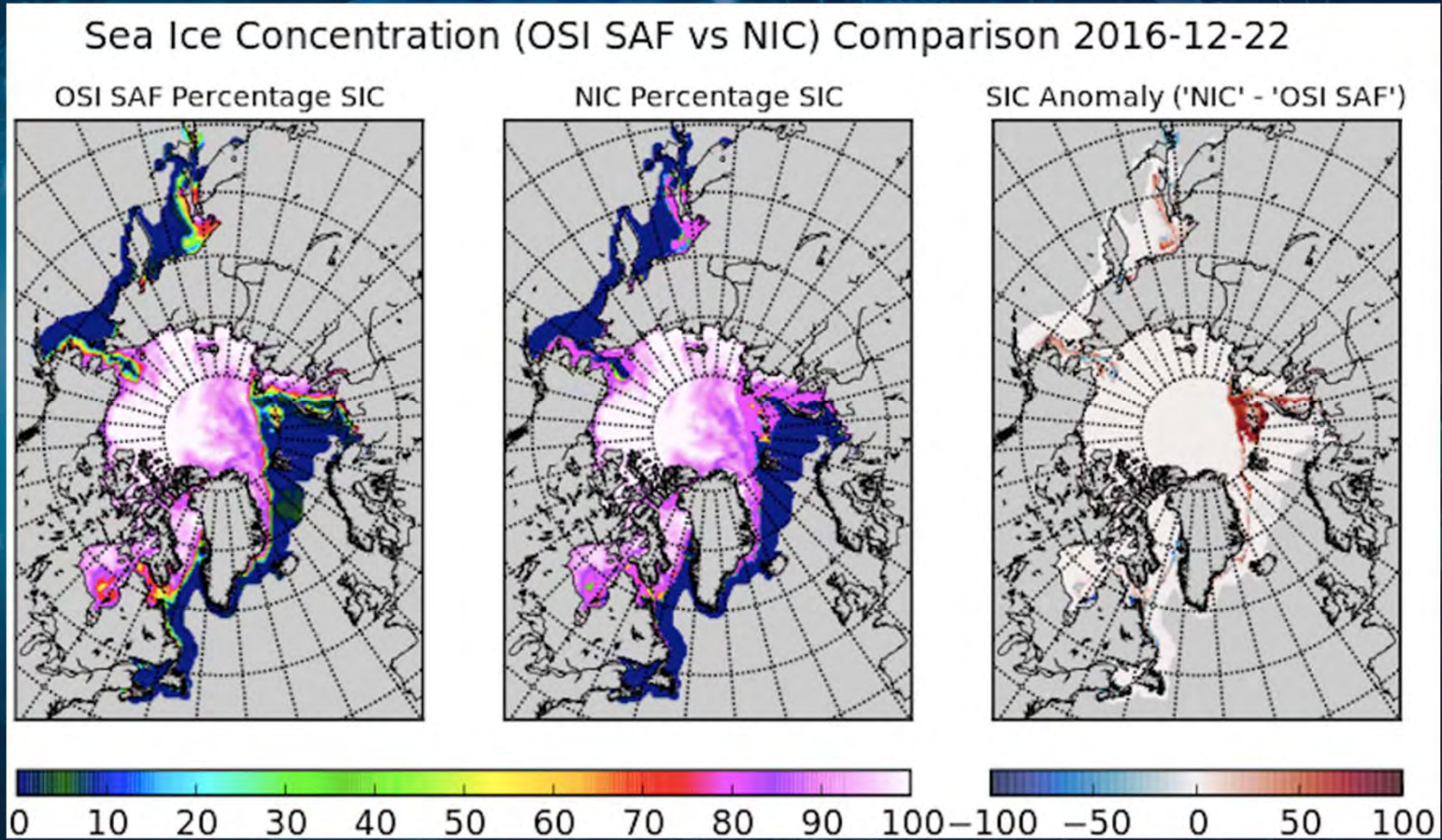


DMI Greenland Regional Ice Chart (example)



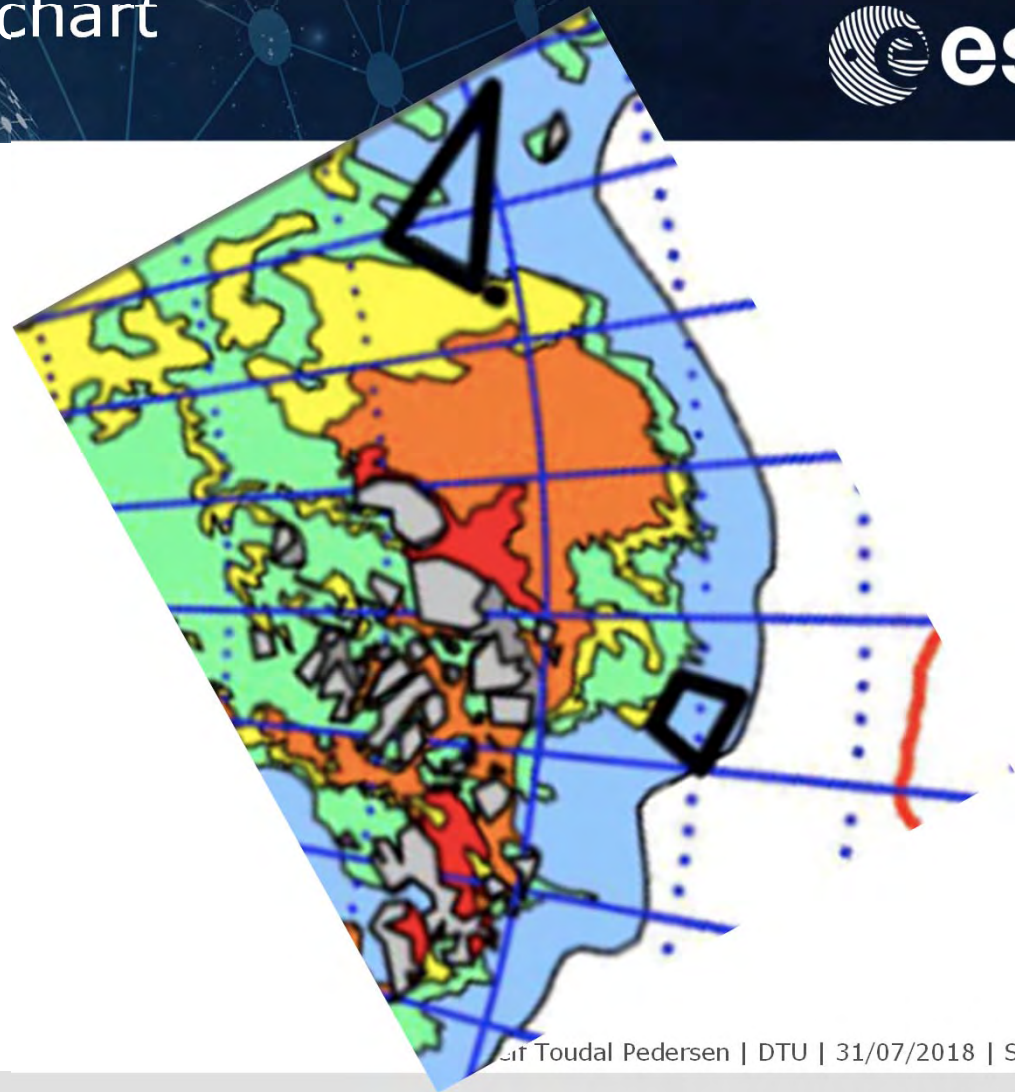
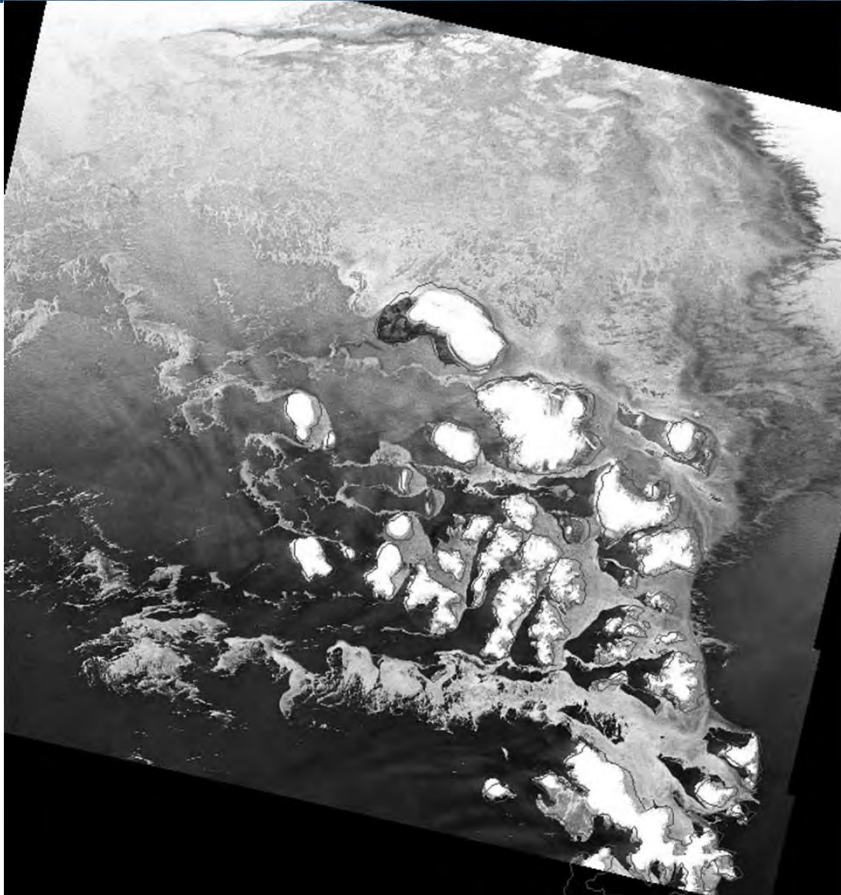
OSISAF Ice Concentration data

Icechart to OSISAF SIC intercomparison



Sentinel-1 SAR and MET Icechart

2016-12-22



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