## Innovative sea ice data products for AMSR3: I. High *resolution* sea ice concentration, II. Snow depth on sea ice

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## I. High *resolution* sea ice concentration: ASI (ARTIST Sea Ice) algorithm

- High resolution ice concentrations needed for
  - Navigation
  - NWP + climate research
  - 0.5% of open water transmit equal heat to atm as 99.5% sea ice.
- Horizontal resolution ~ λ/aperture, AMSR2: 89 GHz: 3 x 5 km 19 GHz: 14 x 22 km
- Use *polarization differences* near 90 GHz (Svendsen et al. 1987):

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- Large for OW: tie Point  $P_0 = D$
- Small for all ice types:
  tie points P<sub>1</sub> = A ~ B ~ C
- Challenge: weather influence, mainly over open water

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# Three types of weather correction for ASI sea ice concentrations

- **1. ASI**: screen weather influenced OW pixels with 3 weather filters (Spreen et al., 2009)
  - GR 18-23: Water Vapor
  - GR 18-37: CLW
  - C(Bootstrap) < 5%.

Current processing.

- ASI2: correct TBs based on ECMWF model fields of TWV, T\_surf, WS. Being validated for AMSR3 high resolution SIC standard product. [Lu et al., J-STARS 2018]
- ASI3: correct TBs based on
  OEM retrieval (Scarlat et al. J-STARS 2017) of TWV, T\_surf, WS and LWP derived form AMSR2 [Lu et al., 2022, JGR in press].



#### https://seaice.uni-bremen.de



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## **Multi-parameter Optimal Estimation retrieval**

Simultaneously determines all parameters affecting the observed TBs (wind speed, surface temperature, total water vapor, SIC, liquid water path, multiyear ice concentration) all channels, so that, when fed into a common forward model, they best reproduce the observations (Scarlat et al. 2018).





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## **Comparing three ASI versions**



## **Cal/Val Efforts**

#### Tie points and performance

• Derived for ASI-2 and ASI-3 from Round Robin Data Package (RRDP) with confirmed 0% and 100% SIC, ASI tie points taken from Spreen et al. (2008)

	ASI noWF	ASI-2 noWF	ASI-3 noWF
	<b>Tie Points</b>		
P <sub>0</sub> [K]	47	72	80
P <sub>1</sub> [K]	11.7	12.3	14
Dynamic range [K]	35.3	59.7	66
RRDP results: bias ± stdev			
Open water [% SIC]	<b>27.7</b> ± 31.3	15.8 ±20.7	<b>0</b> ± 0.6

-0.3 ±1.0

#### **Further activities**

 $-0.5 \pm 1.3$ 

 $-0.8 \pm 1.5$ 

• Validation wit Validation with Landsat scenes

100% SIC

[% SIC]

- ASI-2 and ASI-3 ported to Python 3, provided to JAXA for op. implementation and more validation
- ASI-2 planned as AMSR3 "at launch" high resolution sea ice concentration standard data product ASI-3 planned as AMSR3 high resolution sea ice concentration research data product, might become standard product after implementation and validation
- More validation scenes suggested to JAXA





## **II. Retrieval of Snow Depth on Arctic Sea Ice**

#### Why we need it

Snow depth on sea ice key influences on Arctic climate system:

- Reduces heat transfer
- High albedo
- Reduces sea ice freeboard
- Influences radar backscatter
- Attenuates light transmission

#### **Earlier shown**

 Snow depth (SD) *linearly estimated* from gradient ratio GR at different frequencies, classically

$$GR(37,19) = \frac{Tb_{37} - Tb_{19}}{Tb_{37} + Tb_1}$$

- Lower frequencies: better sensitivity to higher snow depths, best results with combination GR (37,19) and GR(19,7)
   → reduces uncertainty
- Calibration with airborne observations of **Operation ice Bridge** (2009-2015, March and April) in Beaufort and Greenland Seas.
- Retrieval over FYI:  $Sd_{FYI}$  = 19.26–553 · GR(19/7) RMSD = 4 cm over MYI  $Sd_{MYI}$  = 19.34–365 · GR(19/7) RMSD = 5.5 cm

#### **OIB flights for calibration**





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### Data set: Arctic-wide March Snow Depth





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## **Application during MOSAiC campaign**



- MOSAiC ice floe predominantly second-year ice, SD for MOSAiC is only available March and April: red rectangle.
- Retrieved:
- Snow depth retrieved
  - at Polarstern positions and
  - 50 km and
  - 100 surroundings
- Uncertainties based on Monte Carlo simulations varying input parameters for a snow and sea ice emission model MEMLS (Tonboe et al., 2006) and atmosphere (PAMTRA; Mech et al., 2020). Most sea ice, snow and atmosphere .properties not known to SD retrieval.
- Result: uncertainty on MYI 5 ... 10 cm.



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Snow depth MOSAiC 2020 and years 2005-2019



#### **Snow depth**

- almost constant during Mar-Apr 2020 along Polarstern path
- increased ~ 3 cm during snowfall event April
- During MOSAiC along Polarstern path:
  - 3 cm smaller than 2005-2019 average
  - 13 cm smaller than in 1954 1991 climatology (Warren et al. 1999)
- Relevant for estimation of ice thickness from altimeter freeboard observations.





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#### **Conclusions: Three Innovative sea ice data products for AMSR3**

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- 1. High resolution sea ice concentration (SIC) : ASI with atmospheric correction:
  - ASI -2 (correction from ECMWF model): Developed to maturity of operational application as AMSR3 "at launch" high resolution sea ice concentration standard product
  - New development: ASI-3 (weather correction from Optimal Estimation retrieval and AMSR-2/3 TBs, new: also cloud liquid water correction): planned as AMSR3 high resolution sea ice concentration research product, procedure in press (Lu et al. JGR 2022), being validated in RA-3 project.

#### 2. High accuracy sea ice concentration (CI C Prigent, Paris Observatory)

Combines *low atm influence at low frequencies* with high accuracy at higher frequencies:

- Optimal Estimation retrieval of SIC with simple mixing forward model, also retrieves SST, SSS, snow depth
- Scheme to combine retrievals of different resolutions suggested (Kilic et al. 2019, 2020)

#### 3. Snow depth on sea ice:

- Retrieval using gradient ratio GR(19, 7) instead of GR(37,18) to reduce uncertainty
- Uncertainty estimated with thermodynamic and RT models, and field measurements:
  - Lower frequencies less influenced by ice type and clouds
  - But: snowpack properties strongly influence satellite observations (Rostosky 2018)
- Arctic snow depth data set 2005-2019 established (Rostosky et al., 2020)
- Pilot application: Snow depth during MOSAiC campaign (2020) and climatology (Krumpen et al. 2021)

## **Publications**

- **Kilic L**., R. T. Tonboe, **C. Prigent, and G.Heygster**: Estimating the snow depth, the snow–ice interface temperature, and the effective temperature of Arctic sea ice using Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer and ice mass balance buoy data. JGR 2019.
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