Atmospheric
Measurement
Techniques

Open Access

Discussions

Accounting for the effects of Sastrugi in the CERES Clear-Sky Antarctic shortwave ADMs

J. Corbett[1] **and W. Su**[2]

[1]Science Systems and Applications, Inc. NASA Langley Research Center, Mail Stop 420, Hampton, Virginia 23681-2199, USA
[2]NASA Langley Research Center, Mail Stop 420, Hampton, Virginia 23681-2199, USA

Correspondence to: J. Corbett (joseph.g.corbett@nasa.gov)

Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper |

AMTD

8, 375–404, 2015

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction
Conclusions | References
Tables | Figures

|◄ | ►|
◄ | ►

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version
Interactive Discussion

Abstract

The Cloud and Earth's Radiant Energy System (CERES) Instruments on NASA's Terra, Aqua and Soumi-NPP satellites are used to provide a long-term measurement of the Earth's energy budget. To accomplish this, the radiances measured by the instruments must be inverted to fluxes by the use of a scene-type dependent angular distribution model (ADM). For permanent snow scenes over Antarctica, shortwave ADMs are created by compositing radiance measurements over the full viewing zenith and azimuth range. However, the presence of small-scale wind blown roughness features called sastrugi cause the BRDF of the snow to vary significantly based upon the solar azimuth angle and location. This can result in monthly regional biases as large as $\pm 15\,\mathrm{W\,m^{-2}}$ in the inverted TOA SW flux. In this paper we created a set of ADMs that account for the sastrugi effect by using measurements from the Multi-Angle Imaging Spectro-Radiometer (MISR) instrument to derive statistical relationships between radiance from different viewing angles. These ADMs reduce the monthly regional biases to $\pm 5\,\mathrm{W\,m^{-2}}$ and the monthly-mean biases are reduced by up to 50 %. These improved ADMs are used as part of the next edition of the CERES data.

1   Introduction

The Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System (CERES) instruments are used to estimate the amount of reflected shortwave (SW) flux and emitted longwave (LW) flux at the top-of-atmosphere (TOA) (Wielicki et al., 1996). These fluxes are widely used in studies of the Earth's energy budget. However, CERES measures radiances (in $\mathrm{W\,m^{-2}\,sr^{-1}}$) not flux (in $\mathrm{W\,m^{-2}}$). In order to derive the flux from the radiance we use scene-dependent angular distribution models (ADMs) (Loeb et al., 2005). ADMs relate the reflected radiance at a given satellite viewing geometry to the total reflected flux. The viewing geometry is described in terms of satellite viewing zenith angle, θ_v, the solar zenith angle, θ_0 and the relative azimuth angle, $\phi = \phi_v - \phi_0$, where ϕ_0 and ϕ_v

are the solar and viewing azimuths (see Fig. 1). The CERES next-generation ADMs are described in Su et al. (2014), which improved upon the ADMs provided by Loeb et al. (2005). In this paper, we focus on details pertaining to the development and testing of the ADMs over clear Antarctic scenes that were briefly described in Su et al. (2014).

1.1 Angular distribution models

The CERES instrument consists of a three-channel broadband scanning radiometer (Wielicki et al., 1996). The scanning radiometer measures radiances in shortwave (SW, 0.3–5 µm), window (WN, 8–12 µm), and total (0.3–200 µm) channels at a spatial resolution of ∼ 20 km at nadir. The Longwave (LW) component is derived as the difference between total and SW channels. These measured radiances at a given Sun-Earth-satellite geometry need to be converted to outgoing reflected solar and emitted thermal TOA radiative fluxes. To do so, we must account for the angular distribution of the radiance field, which is scene type dependent. To facilitate the construction of ADMs, there are a pair of identical CERES instruments on both *Terra* and *Aqua* spacecraft. At the beginning of the mission, one of the instruments on each spacecraft was placed in a rotating azimuth plane (RAP) scan mode. In this mode, the instrument scans in elevation as it rotates in azimuth thus acquiring radiance measurements from a wide range of viewing geometries. To provide accurate information on scene types, CERES instruments are designed to fly alongside an imager (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on *Terra* and *Aqua*). Cloud and aerosol retrievals from MODIS pixels (Minnis et al., 2011) are averaged over CERES footprints by accounting for the CERES point spread function (Smith, 1994) and are used for scene type classification. For the clear-sky permanent snow scenes (mostly Greenland and Antarctica) examined in this paper, the existing ADMs were separated into two scene types, bright or dark (Kato and Loeb, 2005). The bright/dark classification was based upon the nadir 0.65 µm reflectance from the MODIS imager for each $1° × 1°$ grid box. Grid boxes whose mean radiance was less then the median grid box radiance for that

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

Title Page

Abstract　Introduction

Conclusions　References

Tables　Figures

◀◀　▶▶

◀　▶

Back　Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

month and solar zenith angle range were classified as dark, and those whose mean radiance was greater than or equal to the median radiance were classified as bright.

The general strategy of constructing ADMs is to sort the measured radiances into angular bins over different scene types. Over a given scene type (j), a large ensemble of measured radiances are sorted into discrete angular bins. Averaged radiances in all angular bins ($\hat{I}$) are calculated and all radiances in the upwelling directions are integrated to provide the ADM flux ($\hat{F}$). The ADM anisotropic factors (R) for scene type j are calculated as:

$$R_j(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi) = \frac{\pi \hat{I}_j(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)}{\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \hat{I}_j(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi) \cos\theta_v \sin\theta_v d\theta_v d\phi} = \frac{\pi \hat{I}_j(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)}{\hat{F}_j(\theta_0)} \tag{1}$$

where θ_0 is the solar zenith angle, θ is the CERES viewing zenith angle, and ϕ is the relative azimuth angle between CERES and the solar plane. For an observed radiance (I_o) under the same scene type, it is then converted to flux by using the anisotropic factor that we derived:

$$F_j(\theta_0) = \frac{\pi I_o(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)}{R_j(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)}. \tag{2}$$

1.2 Sastrugi and BRDF of snow

As the wind blows across the surface of Antarctica it forms, through the process of deposition and erosion, what are known as sastrugi (Gow, 1965). Sastrugi are dune-like features that align parallel to the wind direction. Their length and height are determined by the wind speed and can vary significantly, with reports of their size from < 1 to $\gg 10\,\mathrm{m}$ in length and from 0.04 to $> 1\,\mathrm{m}$ in height (Gow, 1965; Frezzotti et al., 2002). They are larger at the end of winter and tend to decrease in size and flatten out over the summer (Gow, 1965). They are ubiquitous over much of Antarctica, and, due to the consistency of the katabatic winds, closely oriented in direction over large areas (Parish and Bromwich, 1987).

The fact that they are closely oriented over large areas means they have a significant effect on the BRDF of snow seen by satellite based instruments (Kuchiki et al., 2011; Remy et al., 1992). They alter the BRDF of snow by introducing a solar azimuth dependence. As the solar azimuth goes from parallel to the sastrugi axis to perpendicular the reflectance in the forward scattering direction is reduced and the reflectance in the back-scattering direction is enhanced (Warren et al., 1998). They also cause the snow BRDF to lose its azimuthal symmetry. The forward scattered reflectance is reduced due to shadowing from the sastrugi and the back scattering enhanced by the altering of the effective solar zenith angle (Warren et al., 1998). The magnitude of the decrease and increase depends on the solar zenith angle, the viewing zenith angle and the size of the sastrugi. With a more pronounced effect for larger sastrugi and at more oblique solar and viewing zenith angles. The density of the sastrugi field will also affect how much the BRDF changes with a denser field having a larger effect (Zhuravleva and Kokhanovsky, 2011).

Several observational and modeling studies have found that sastrugi can cause a slight decrease in the albedo compared to flat snow (Warren et al., 1998; Carroll and Fitch, 1981; Zhuravleva and Kokhanovsky, 2011). This is due to the effective decrease in the solar zenith angle compared to the flat snow. For dense sastrugi fields, sastrugi-to-sastrugi reflections will also decrease the albedo by increasing the chance a photon is absorbed, especially for longer wavelengths or broadband measurements (Warren et al., 1998). The magnitude of the change in albedo is generally found to be small, around 0.02 or less than a few percent (Carroll and Fitch, 1981; Leroux and Fily, 1998; Zhuravleva and Kokhanovsky, 2011; Warren et al., 1998).

The CERES TOA short-wave (SW) fluxes were found to be affected by sastrugi by Corbett et al. (2012). It was demonstrated that the albedo retrieved over areas close to the South Pole exhibited a sinusoidal shape as a function of solar azimuth angle. The variation was found to be around 0.08 from peak to trough, or approximately 10 % of the mean. This is much larger than the previous observational or modeling studies and was determined to be an artifact caused by the ADMs not accounting for changes

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

|◀ | ▶|

◀ | ▶

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

in the BRDF caused by sastrugi. Over the rest of Antarctica, the sastrugi-induced bias was estimated by comparing the fluxes derived from nadir-only viewing zenith angles with those from all viewing angles. Using this method, they were able to determine that sastrugi were causing statistically significant biases between -15 and $15\,\mathrm{Wm}^{-2}$,
depending on the region and time of year. The contribution to the Antarctic-wide and global clear-sky TOA flux was -1 and $-0.01\,\mathrm{Wm}^{-2}$ respectively, however these were not statistically significant.

Sastrugi were identified as a potential problem as early as 1994 in relation to the ERBE instrument (Warren et al., 1998; Grenfell et al., 1994). Proposed solutions have
included use of a sastrugi angle when creating ADMs (Grenfell et al., 1994) and simply using observations where the viewing angle is restricted in a way that the effects of sastrugi are avoided (Warren et al., 1998). The downfall with the first approach is that it requires accurate knowledge of the wind direction that caused the sastrugi, which is not necessarily the wind direction at the time of the radiance observation. As me-
teorological observations over much of Antarctica are sparse, the wind direction data may not be reliable. By introducing an additional angle you also reduce the sampling available for each R value in Eq. (1), which may adversely affect the resulting ADMs. Using only the nadir views is a feasible solution and is the basis behind the method we use to determine the bias caused by sastrugi (Corbett et al., 2012). However, as
this approach limits the regions sampled each day by CERES it could introduce spatial sampling biases into the long-term CERES record. The approach we have taken is to incorporate information from NASA's Multi-Angle Imaging Spectro-Radiometer (MISR) into our ADM creation process. We detail the method we use and the results in the sections below. As clouds effectively mask the surface the problem of sastrugi affecting
the radiance-to-flux inversion is confined to clear-sky scenes only. This paper deals with clear-sky scenes over Antarctica only. The approach we use for ADMs over cloudy scenes and Greenland is detailed in Su et al. (2014).

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

Title Page

Abstract	Introduction
Conclusions	References
Tables	Figures

⏮ ⏭

◀ ▶

Back Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

2   Datasets

This study is conducted with the CERES Edition 4 Single Scanner Footprint (SSF) and the CERES Single Scanner Footprint – MISR (SSFM) datasets. The SSF dataset consists of CERES radiances, fluxes, viewing geometry and geo-location informa-
tion combined with MODIS radiances and cloud information derived from those ra-
diances (Minnis et al., 2011), matched to the CERES field-of-view (FOV) and con-
voluted using the CERES PSF. The SSFM dataset consists of the same SSF with the addition of co-located, and PSF weighted, MISR radiance measurements. The MISR instrument (Diner et al., 1998) is also flying on NASA's *Terra* satellite. It con-
sists of push-broom style cameras and provides near-simultaneous measured radi-
ances of the same footprint from nine different viewing zenith angles (Df / a = ±70.5°, Cf / a = ±60.0°, Bf / a = ±45.6°, Af / a = ±26.1°, and An = 0.0°) in the along-track direc-
tion. MISR measures at four different wavelengths (blue – 446 nm, green – 558 nm, red – 672 nm, and near-infrared – 867 nm), with resolution ranging from 275 m at nadir to 1.1 km for the off-nadir cameras. The SSFM dataset is discussed in more detail in Loeb et al. (2006). Additionally, we use the Modern-Era Retrospective Analysis For Research and Applications (MERRA) re-analysis dataset to determine wind speed and direction (Rienecker et al., 2011).

3   Method

As noted above, sastrugi can strongly affect the BRDF of snow, with the effect de-
pending on their orientation relative to the sun. When they are aligned parallel to the sun the reflectance in the forward scattering direction is relatively higher, and the back scattering reflectance relatively lower than when the sastrugi are aligned perpendicu-
lar to the sun. This can be demonstrated using MISR measurements and the MERRA wind directions. If we assume that the sastrugi are aligned parallel to the mean wind field from MERRA, then we can sort the MISR measurements by the relative sastrugi

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

◄ | ►

◄ | ►

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

angle, $\phi_{sas} = \phi_{wind} - \phi_0$. This is shown in Fig. 2. Here we have calculated the mean near-infrared (NIR) radiance from MISR, separating the scenes into three ϕ_{sas} bins; $0° \le \phi_{sas} < 30°$ (sasturgi mostly parallel to the sun, green line), $30° \le \phi_{sas} \le 60°$ (sasturgi neither parallel nor perpendicular to the sun, blue), and $60° \le \phi_{sas} \le 90°$ (sastrugi

5   mostly perpendicular to the sun, red). The Figure shows that in the forward direction (positive viewing zenith angles) the reflectance is highest when the sastrugi are aligned parallel to the sun, and decreases as the sastrugi become more perpendicular to the sun. The opposite occurs in the back scatter direction. The highest reflectance occurs when the sastrugi are aligned perpendiculary, decreasing as the sastrugi become par-

10   allel. This is what we would expect to happen and demonstrates that MISR is picking up a sastrugi signal in its measurements.

     One of the underlying assumptions about ADMs is that the anisotropy does not change as the radiance changes. It is assumed that the radiances are positively corre- lated at all viewing geometries. This allows us to then assume that if a measurement

15   at one viewing angle is greater than the mean, then the radiances at all the angles that we can't simultaneously see are also greater than the mean. The anisotropy is then the same and the albedo scales accordingly. For single-viewing geometry instruments such as CERES there is no easy way to test this assumption. By using a multi-angle in- strument such as MISR, which essentially gives us a slice of the instantaneous BRDF,

20   we can test this. The results in Fig. 2 suggest that this assumption is being violated and the presence of sastrugi causes the reflectance to become anti-correlated. This behav- ior is caused by the highly consistent orientation of the sastrugi and is not present for other scene types that do not have surface features with such a preferred azimuth (such as sand dunes, trees, clouds). As outlined briefly in Su et al. (2014), we examine this

25   further using the joint probability distributions of standard scores between reflectance (ρ_m) measurements from any two MISR cameras. The standard score is calculated as:

$$z_m(\theta_0, \theta_m, \phi) = \frac{\rho_m(\theta_0, \theta_m, \phi) - \overline{\rho}_m(\theta_0, \theta_m, \phi)}{\sigma_{\rho_m}(\theta_0, \theta_m, \phi)}, \tag{3}$$

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

|◄ | ►|

◄ | ►

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

where the averages $(\overline{\rho}_m)$ and standard deviation $(\sigma_{\rho m})$ are calculated in $5°$ bins for all available θ_0 and ϕ at each MISR viewing angle, θ_m. The absolute value of z represents the departure of a measurement from the mean in units of the standard deviation, where negative z indicates the measurement is below the mean and positive z is above
5   the mean.

Figure 3 shows the joint distributions of z between forward viewing Df ($\theta_m = 70.5°$) camera and the remaining cameras. Distinct correlations can be seen in the Figures, with the slope of the relationship changing as the angular distance between the cameras changes. There is a strong positive correlation at the adjacent camera, the corre-
10   lation remains positive, but decreases in strength, as the viewing angle becomes less oblique. Once the viewing angle becomes negative, the correlation also becomes negative, increasing as the angles become more oblique. This indicates that the sastrugi are increasing the reflectance in one direction, while at the same time decreasing the reflectance in the opposite direction. We use these relationships to help us develop
15   ADMs for CERES that take account of this observed behavior.

3.1   Development of adjustment factors

The joint distributions show the statistical relationship between the reflectances from two cameras. They allow us to determine how changes in reflectance at one angle are related to changes at other angles. To create ADMs that utilise this we
20   first calculate the standard-scores for each of the MISR cameras using Eq. (3). For each camera pair, $i, j \in \{\theta_m\}$ we combine these to get the joint probability density functions (PDF), $P(z_i, z_j)$. These are shown in Fig. 3 for the Df camera, i.e. $i = 70.5°, j \in \{\theta_m\}$. For each j we use these joint PDFs to get the conditional probabilities of i for seven discrete intervals of z, $P(z_i | z_\gamma < z_j \leq z_\delta)$, where $(z_\gamma, z_\delta) \in$
25   $\{(-3, -2), (-2, -1), (-1, -0.5), (-0.5, 0.5), (0.5, 1), (1, 2), (2, 3)\}$. We then find the most likely value from these conditional probabilities, $E[P(z_i | z_\gamma < z_j \leq z_\delta)]$. As most of the conditional probabilities are normally-distributed the most likely value is taken to be the mean. The conditional probabilities and corresponding mean values are shown in

Fig. 4 for the case when $P(z_i| -1 < Z_{Df} \leq -2)$. The progression from positive means to negative means with viewing angle changes can clearly be seen. The mean values give us the expected z_i value when the z_j value is within a certain range. In other words, if we measure a reflectance value at camera j, after determining its z value, we can estimate what the reflectance will be at camera i. Relating this to CERES, we can think of this as j being the angle we measure a radiance at and i being the angle we "can't" see with CERES. The most likely value of the conditional probability for each of the nine MISR cameras and for each z range is termed the adjustment factor and is denoted as $A(z_i, z_j)$, $i=1, 9$, $j=1, 9$, and (z_γ, z_δ) is the seven z ranges defined above.

To use these adjustment factors with CERES measurements we need to interpolate them to the same θ_v bin grid used in the CERES ADMs. For permanent snow this is a 5° grid, i.e $\theta \in \{0, 5, \dots, 90\}$. For correspondence with the MISR θ_m which are defined as negative when $\phi > 90$, we use the set $\theta_c = \{-90, -85, \dots, 85, 90\}$. The interpolation is performed using a third-order spline interpolation scheme in the SciPy package (www.scipy.org). The interpolation requires two steps, the first interpolates along the i axis, interpolating $A(z_i, z_j)$ values from θ_m onto θ_c, and the second step interpolates along the j axis. We then split the values into the forward and backwards direction of ϕ, resulting in the array $A'(z'_{\theta_i, \phi_i}, z'_{\theta_j, \phi_j})$. This array can be interpreted in the same manner as A, but for CERES measurements. In this case $i = 1,18$ and $j = 1,18$ representing the CERES θ_v angles. If we measure a reflectance, with standard score z' at (θ_i, ϕ_i) then A' tells us what the likely standard scores are at θ_j and ϕ_j, the angles we can't see. Note that as we do not have full azimuthal coverage from MISR the A' values are the same for all $0° \leq \phi < 90°$ and for all $90° \leq \phi < 180°$. We also do not have any solar zenith angle dependence in the adjustment factors. The standard-scores themselves are calculated in solar zenith angle bins, however we found that the joint-PDFs were largely insensitive to the solar zenith angle, so the decision was made to not include the solar zenith angle dependence in the adjustment factors. For a given θ_v and ϕ angle, the adjustment factors are denoted as $\beta(\theta, \phi_{f/b}, z)_{\theta_v, \phi}$. Where z corresponds to the

standard score range of the measured radiance, and θ and $\phi_{f/b}$ indicate the viewing zenith angle and forward or backwards relative azimuth direction.

The resulting adjustment factors for the CERES viewing zenith angle range, $65° < \theta \leq 70°$ in the forward direction are shown in Fig. 5. By following a line it is possible to see how the adjustment factors change with viewing zenith angle and z range. For example, when the z value is between 1 and 2 (red squares) the adjustment values decrease from around 1.5 to zero as the viewing angle decreases towards $\theta = 0°$. As the viewing angle goes negative (backwards viewing direction) the adjustment factor continues to decrease before reaching a value of about -0.8 at $\theta = -70°$. When the z value is between -0.5 and 0.5 (green circles) the adjustment factors remain close to zero for all angles. The adjustment factors corresponding to those from Fig. 4 are represented by the blue squares in Fig. 5. The actual values from the MISR measurements are shown by the orange stars, demonstrating how the values are interpolated from the MISR angles to the CERES angles.

3.2 Construction of ADMs

To construct the ADMs, we create a set of adjusted reflectance values ρ_{adj}, where the size of the adjustment depends upon the measurement viewing geometry and the standard-score range.

We first calculate the mean and standard deviation of the CERES clear-sky reflectances over Antarctica, using measurements from both the *Terra* and *Aqua* satellites. This gives us $\bar{\rho}(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)$ and $\sigma(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi)$, where $\theta_0 \in \{0, 2, \ldots, 86\}$, $\theta_v \in \{0, 5, \ldots, 85\}$ and $\phi \in \{0, 5, \ldots, 180\}$. Then, for each θ_v, ϕ, and z in each (z_γ, z_δ) bins we select the relevant values from $\beta(\theta_c, \phi_{f/b}, z)_{\theta_v, \phi}$.

The ρ_{adj} values are then calculated as:

$$\rho_{adj}(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi, \theta_c, \phi_{f/b}, z) = \bar{\rho}(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi) + \sigma(\theta_0, \theta_v, \phi) \times \beta(\theta_c, \phi_{f/b}, z)_{\theta_v, \phi} \qquad (4)$$

Any viewing geometry bins without measurements (very oblique angles or solar avoidance angles) are filled in using the BRDFs of Hudson et al. (2010). The adjusted

reflectances are then integrated over all upwelling directions, for each combination of $\theta_c, \phi_{f/b}$, and z and the ADMs are derived from Eq. (1), giving us $R(\theta_0, \theta, \phi)_{\theta_c, \phi_{f/b}, z}$.

3.3 Application of the ADMs

To apply the ADMs to a CERES reflectance measurement, we first calculate the z value
5   of the measured reflectance using previously calculated mean and standard deviation values as in Eq. (3). We then select the appropriate θ_i, ϕ_i and (z_γ, z_δ) values, which give us the correct ADM to use. The ADMs are then applied as in Eq. (2). In order to not introduce any discontinuities we also interpolate the R values between z range bins.

10   ## 4   Results

Figure 6a shows the mean CERES clear-sky reflectance (red line) for the region 88–89° S, 76–83° W, averaged over all Decembers from 2000–2004 as a function of the solar azimuth angle. At this latitude, sampling is available at all solar azimuth angles and a limited viewing zenith angle ($45° < \theta < 65°$) range at a fixed relative azimuth an-
15   gle ($65° < \phi < 75°$). The reflectance shows a clear sinusoidal signal as a function of the solar azimuth angle. This suggests that there is a surface feature that periodically brightens then darkens the reflectance with azimuth, i.e sastrugi. The mean anisotropic values used to convert the reflectance to albedo are also shown in dashed lines. The anisotropic factors from Kato and Loeb (2005) (hereafter KL05) (Fig. 6a dashed blue)
20   are fairly constant across the solar azimuth range, whereas the new anisotropic factors (Fig. 6a, dashed green) follow the shape of the reflectance curve more closely. The corresponding mean albedos are shown in Fig. 6b with albedos inverted using KL05 ADMs in blue and using the ADMs described in this paper (hereafter CS15) in green. The KL05 albedo also follows a sinusoidal shape with solar azimuth. Although sastrugi
25   are expected to alter the albedo slightly with solar azimuth angle the change is much

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

I◀   ▶I

◀   ▶

Back   Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

larger than expected. Also, as the relative azimuth is about 70°, the change in albedo is not in the correct phase with respect to the solar azimuth (the maximum albedo would occur when the sun is aligned perpendicular to the sastrugi, which is an offset of about 70°). This is a result of the anisotropic factors being relatively constant across the solar
5 azimuth range. The CS15 albedos show a slight variation with solar azimuth, however the dependence is greatly reduced. This indicates that the CS15 albedo retrievals behave more realistically with solar azimuth than the KL05 ADMs, and the anisotropic factors are more accurately compensating for the change in reflectance. The standard deviation is greatly reduced too, suggesting the retrievals are more consistent.
10 Figure 7a shows the reflectance values against viewing zenith angle for two separate 1° × 1° grid boxes over Antarctica; circles (81° S, 163° W, A), squares (81° S, 35° E, B). These measurements were acquired when either of the CERES instruments were scanning in along-track mode so it sees the same area from different viewing zenith angles, but with a fairly constant relative azimuth angle close to the principal plane
15 ($\phi \approx 20°$). As can be seen the reflectance curves from the two regions have quite different shapes. Grid box B (purple squares) has a much higher backwards peak than grid box A (green circles) which has a higher forward peak. The difference in shape can be understood by looking at the viewing geometry angles shown in Fig. 7b and c. The green line shows the viewing azimuth with respect to North (0°), the red line shows
20 the solar azimuth. The blue line shows our estimate of the sastrugi direction, based upon the mean wind direction from the MERRA dataset over the period 2000–2004. The viewing geometry is fairly similar in both cases, with the viewing azimuth close to 270° and the solar azimuth around 300°. The main difference between the two is the wind direction, or sastrugi angle. In the first region, the sastrugi angle is more parallel
25 to the solar azimuth angle and the viewing azimuth is about 30° off the sastrugi angle. In the second region, the sastrugi angle is approximately North–South, resulting in the viewing angle been almost perpendicular to the sastrugi. This is consistent with the higher backwards peak and lower forward peak. The corresponding albedo retrievals against viewing zenith angle for the two regions are shown in Fig. 7d and e. Ideally,

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

Title Page

Abstract	Introduction
Conclusions	References
Tables	Figures

◀ | ▶

◀ | ▶

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

the albedo at a given location should be independent of viewing zenith angle. However, we see that the KL05 ADMs (shown in green) return a very systematic dependence of albedo on viewing zenith angle. This especially true for the region B where albedo varies from 0.78 to 0.60 as the viewing zenith goes from −70° (i.e. backwards viewing) to 60° (forward viewing). While the FOVs from the different angles are not all looking at exactly the same area, there is considerable overlap and it is hard to believe that the albedo is actually varying by this much over such a small area, indicating that the retrievals are probably erroneous. For region A, the dependence is not as large, yet we do see an increase in the KL05 albedo from the backwards viewing to the forward viewing angles. In both regions the albedos retrieved using the CS15 ADMs are much flatter with viewing zenith. This indicates that these ADMs are better at accounting for the variation of anisotropy caused by sastrugi.

To estimate the monthly grid box level bias over Antarctica due to sastrugi we first calculate the 24 h equivalent flux for each flux measurement using the method described in Loeb and Manalo-Smith (2005). Briefly, this method uses the instantaneous albedo and the diurnal variation of the KL05 ADM albedos to estimate what the reflected SW flux would be at any time over a 24 h period for a given location, assuming there are no changes in the atmospheric or surface properties. The average of these values is then the estimate of the 24 h mean reflected SW flux, $\hat{F}_{24\,h}$. Equation (3) of Loeb and Manalo-Smith (2005) describes this mathematically as:

$$\hat{F}_{24\,h} = \frac{\hat{A}[\theta_0(t_0)]}{\alpha_k[\theta_0(t_0)]} \left\{ \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{l=1}^{N_t} \alpha_k[\theta_0(t_l)]\mu_0(t_l)F_0 \right\} \tag{5}$$

where $\hat{A}$ is the estimated instantaneous albedo determined using Eq. (3), t_0 is the time of observation, $\alpha_k[\theta_0(t_l)]$ is the scene type (k) dependent ADM albedo at the solar zenith angle corresponding to local time t_l, l is the time step increment, N_t is the number of time steps used to compute the 24 h flux and $\mu_0(t_l)$ is the cosine of the solar

zenith angle at t_l. F_0 is, as above, the TOA solar insolation. To improve calculation speed the $(1/N_t)\sum_{l=1}^{N_t}\alpha_k[\theta_0(t_l)]\mu_0(t_l)F_0$ term is pre-calculated for each Julian day at a resolution of 1° in latitude and 1 min in time and stored in a look-up table.

We then calculate two estimates of the $\hat{F}_{24\,h}$ for each 1° × 1° grid box. The first es-
⁵ timate, $\hat{F}_{24\,h}$, is calculated using measurements from all viewing zenith angles. The second, $\hat{F}_{24\,h}^n$, from measurements where the viewing zenith angle is close to nadir ($\theta < 20°$). We then define the bias as the difference between the flux calculated from all angles and the flux from nadir angles. This is the procedure used in Corbett et al. (2012), and allows us to estimate what effect sastrugi have on the mean TOA flux over
¹⁰ Antarctica. The idea is that the sastrugi will have the most impact on the ADMs at more oblique angles than at the nadir angles, thus the difference between the total flux and near-nadir flux will give us an idea of the bias in the averaged monthly level 3 CERES data products. The maps and histogram of the grid box level bias are shown in Fig. 8 for November, December, and January of 2002, for both the KL05 ADMs and the CS15
¹⁵ ADMs. The largest bias effects can be seen in the KL05 ADMs over the East Antarctic Plateau area, especially on the eastward slope. The CS15 ADMs show a decrease in the bias over most of Antarctica. The bias still exists in some regions but its magnitude has been reduced. This is also shown in the histograms where the distribution of biases is much tighter and the mean bias is closer to zero. Generally, the weighted-area
²⁰ mean bias and weighted-are standard deviation of the bias have both decreased, with the mean decreasing by between $\sim 25\%$ (December) and $\sim 40\%$ (January) and the standard deviation decreasing by between $\sim 50\%$ (November) to $\sim 15\%$ (January). These values are of similar magnitude in other years.

The change in the mean 24 h flux between the KL05 and CS15 ADMs is shown
²⁵ in Fig. 9 for the months October to March for 2002. The changes are generally quite small at the grid box level, within 20 Wm^{-2}, and a maximum 2-sigma range of 4.5 % of the mean 24 h flux (equivalent to 7.4 Wm^{-2} in October), or 12.2 Wm^{-2} (3.6 % of the mean 24 h flux in December). The Antarctic-wide mean changes are within a few Wm^{-2}, ranging from -1.9 Wm^{-2} in November to 1.4 Wm^{-2} in January. Qualitatively, the

changes in flux show a similar pattern to the bias maps, with the sign reversed. This is especially noticeable over eastern Antarctica, where the positive biases over the ridge of the plateau have become negative flux changes, and the positive biases along the slopes at 90 and 135° E are associated with negative flux changes. The negative flux biases located approximately between 0 and 45° E, north of 75° S are associated with positive flux changes, as are the negative flux biases between 90 and 135° E. The flux changes also capture to some extent the alternating biases located between 45 and 90° E. The changes are as we would hope for, with negative biases, suggesting we were underestimating the flux, associated with positive flux changes. Positive flux biases, indicating over-estimation of the flux, are assocatied with negative flux changes. The correlation between flux changes and bias is shown in Fig. 10, with Fig. 10a showing the correlation for all of Antarctica and Fig. 10b showing the correlation for the eastern part of Antarctica between 0 and 180° E. The correlation coefficients are −0.33 and −0.48 respectively. The improved correlation for the eastern part seems to stem from the large flux increases over the Ross and Ronne Ice Sheets in the western part of Antarctica in December and January. These large flux increases are not associated with a negative flux bias, suggesting that the new ADMs might be overestimating the fluxes in these areas. However, in general the relationship between biases and flux changes is as we would expect it to be, and provides further support to this new method of creating ADMs.

5   Discussion

Due to the along-track sampling of the MISR instrument, and Terra's polar orbit, the SSFM data used here are only available close to the principal plane. This means that the relationships we derive between the cameras are only really valid for that region. We assume here that the relationships hold as the relative azimuth changes. Unfortunately, there is no way to test this assumption as it is not possible to get simultaneous measurements of the same location from different viewing zeniths at the relative

azimuths sampled by CERES at high latitudes, approximately 70–80° and 100–110° while in cross track mode. However, the standard deviation used to calculate the ADMs is generally lower at these angles than at the principal plane angles. This means the change in albedo possible from these angles is much less than from the principal plane angles which have much higher standard deviations. We note that the some of the above results can be used as a form of validation of this assumption. Especially the results in Fig. 6, which test the ADMs from cross-track angles with a wide range of reflectance values. The consistent results achieved regardless of the reflectance values suggests that this assumption is valid.

Another limitation is that the absolute value of the CERES reflectance and the standard deviation is used to determine which ADM to use. By doing this we are assuming that the mean reflectance and standard deviation calculated for the period 2000–2005 will remain unchanged for the rest of the record (a length of time as of yet undetermined). This is not a completely unrealistic assumption, as the expected changes in Antarctic snow surface properties (mainly snow grain size) that would affect the absolute brightness are very minimal (Picard et al., 2012). As we also use an interpolation scheme between standard deviation bins this limits the effect that any shifts in the distribution might have on the anisotropic factor and, hence, the final albedo.

A third source of potential error is the use of the MISR ellipsoid projected radiances in the SSFM dataset. The ellipsoid projected radiances are projected onto the WGS 84 surface ellipsoid. This means that over the high Antarctic plateau the radiances, registered to the same point on the ellipsoid, will be offset slightly at the true surface. Based upon the height of the Antarctic Plateau (≈ 3 km) above the ellipsoid and the height of Terra's orbit (705 km), this offset will be ≈ 10 km between the Da and Df cameras. However, this offset is still within the size of the CERES FOV (20 km) at nadir, so at least within the CERES footprint the cameras will be viewing portions of the same scene. Because of the CERES footprint size and the large-scale homogeneity of the Antarctic plateau this is unlikely to cause any significant errors, however it probably contributes to the noise between the Df and Da cameras in Fig. 3.

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

◀ | ▶

◀ | ▶

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

6 Conclusions

Sastrugi are an interesting problem for radiance-to-flux inversion. They have the ability to significantly alter the BRDF, without changing the albedo. Capturing this in a consistent and physically plausible way is important to accurately estimate the albedo and irradiance over clear-sky Antarctica. In our attempt to find a solution to this issue we have incorporated the multi-angle information from MISR into the creation of the CERES clear-sky Antarctic snow ADMs. By using angular relationships derived from MISR we are able to create a set of ADMs that successfully removes the most of the bias caused by the sastrugi. The regional, monthly-mean biases have decreased significantly to less than $\pm 5\,\mathrm{Wm}^{-2}$, and the Antarctic wide biases have decreased for all months. These results are encouraging, and suggest this novel method for creating ADMs is successful in accounting for the effects of sastrugi on anisotropy.

References

Carroll, J. and Fitch, B.: Effects of solar elevation and cloudiness on snow albedo at the South Pole, J. Geophys. Res.-Oc. Atm., 86, 5271–5276, 1981. 379

Corbett, J. G., Su, W., and Loeb, N. G.: Observed effects of sastrugi on CERES top-of-atmosphere clear-sky reflected shortwave flux over Antarctica, J. Geophys. Res., 117, D18104, doi:10.1029/2012jd017529, 2012. 379, 380, 389

Diner, D. J., Beckert, J. C., Reilly, T. H., Bruegge, C. J., Conel, J. E., Kahn, R. A., Martonchik, J. V., Ackerman, T. P., Davies, R., Gerstl, S. A. W., Gordon, H. R., Muller, J., Myneni, R. B., Sellers, P. J., Pinty, B., and Verstraete, M. M.: Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRa-

Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper |

AMTD

8, 375–404, 2015

Sastrugi ADMs

J. Corbett and W. Su

Title Page

Abstract   Introduction

Conclusions   References

Tables   Figures

◄◄   ►►

◄   ►

Back   Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

diometer (MISR) instrument description and experiment overview, IEEE T. Geosci. Remote, 36, 1072–1087, 1998. 381

Frezzotti, M., Gandolfi, S., and Urbini, S.: Snow megadunes in Antarctica: sedimentary structure and genesis, J. Geophys. Res., 107, 4344, doi:10.1029/2001jd000673, 2002. 378

5   Gow, A. J.: On the accumulation and seasonal stratification of snow at the South Pole, J. Glaciol., 5, 467–477, 1965. 378

Grenfell, T. C., Warren, S. G., and Mullen, P. C.: Reflection of solar radiation by the Antarctic snow surface at ultraviolet, visible, and near-infrared wavelengths, J. Geophys. Res., 99, 18669, doi:10.1029/94jd01484, 1994. 380

10   Hudson, S. R., Kato, S., and Warren, S. G.: Evaluating CERES angular distribution models for snow using surface reflectance observations from the East Antarctic Plateau, J. Geophys. Res., 115, D03101, doi:10.1029/2009jd012624, 2010. 385

Kato, S. and Loeb, N. G.: Top-of-atmosphere shortwave broadband observed radiance and estimated irradiance over polar regions from Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System

15   (CERES) instruments on Terra, J. Geophys. Res., 110, 07202, doi:10.1029/2004jd005308, 2005. 377, 386

Kuchiki, K., Aoki, T., Niwano, M., and Motoyoshi, H.: Effect of sastrugi on snow bidirectional reflectance and its application to MODIS data, Journal of Geophysical, 116, D18110, doi:10.1029/2011jd016070, 2011. 379

20   Leroux, C. and Fily, M.: Modeling the effect of sastrugi on snow reflectance, J. Geophys. Res., 103, 25779–25788, 1998. 379

Loeb, N. and Manalo-Smith, N.: Top-of-atmosphere direct radiative effect of aerosols over global oceans from merged CERES and MODIS observations, J. Climate, 18, 3506–3526, 2005. 388

25   Loeb, N., Kato, S., Loukachine, K., and Manalo-Smith, N.: Angular distribution models for top-of-atmosphere radiative flux estimation from the Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System instrument on the Terra satellite. Part I: Methodology, J. Atmos. Ocean. Tech., 22, 338–351, 2005. 376, 377

Loeb, N., Sun, W., Miller, W., and Loukachine, K.: Fusion of CERES, MISR, and MODIS

30   measurements for top-of-atmosphere radiative flux validation, Journal of Geophysical, 111, D18209, doi:10.1029/2006jd007146, 2006. 381

Minnis, P., Sun-Mack, S., Young, D. F., Heck, P. W., Garber, D. P., Chen, Y., Spangenberg, D. A., Arduini, R. F., Trepte, Q. Z., Smith, W. L., Ayers, J. K., Gibson, S. C., Miller, W. F., Hong, G.,

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

|◀ | ▶|

◀ | ▶

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Chakrapani, V., Takano, Y., Liou, K.-N., Xie, Y., and Yang, P.: CERES Edition-2 cloud property retrievals using TRMM VIRS and terra and aqua MODIS data – Part I: Algorithms, IEEE T. Geosci. Remote, 99, 1–27, 2011. 377, 381

Parish, T. and Bromwich, D.: The surface windfield over the Antarctic ice sheets, Nature, 328, 51–54, 1987. 378

Picard, G., Domine, F., Krinner, G., Arnaud, L., and Lefebvre, E.: Inhibition of the positive snow-albedo feedback by precipitation in interior Antarctica, Nature Climate Change, 2, 795–798, 2012. 391

Remy, F., Ledroit, M., and Minster, J. F.: Katabatic wind intensity and direction over Antarctica derived from scatterometer data, Geophys. Res. Lett., 19, 1021–1024, 1992. 379

Rienecker, M. M., Suarez, M. J., Gelaro, R., Todling, R., Bacmeister, J., Liu, E. Bosilovich, M. G., Schubert, S. D., Takacs, L., Kim, G.-K., Bloom, S., Chen, J., Collins, D., Conaty, A., da Silva, A., Gu, W., Joiner, J., Koster, R. D., Lucchesi, R., Molod, A., Owens, T., Pawson, S., Pegion, P., Redder, C. R., Reichle, R., Robertson, F. R., Ruddick, A. G., Sienkiewicz, M., and Woollen, J.: MERRA: NASA's Modern-Era Retrospective Analysis for Research and Applications, J. Climate, 24, 3624–3648, 2011. 381

Smith, G. L.: Effects of time response on the point spread function of a scanning radiometer., Appl. Optics, 33, 7031–7037, 1994. 377

Su, W., Corbett, J., Eitzen, Z., and Liang, L.: Next-generation angular distribution models for top-of-atmosphere radiative flux calculation from the CERES instruments: methodology, Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 7, 8817–8880, doi:10.5194/amtd-7-8817-2014, 2014. 377, 380, 382

Warren, S., Brandt, R., and Hinton, P.: Effect of surface roughness on bidirectional reflectance of Antarctic snow, J. Geophys. Res., 103, 25789, doi:10.1029/98je01898, 1998. 379, 380

Wielicki, B. A., Barkstrom, B. R., Harrison, E. F., Lee, R. B., Louis Smith, G., and Cooper, J. E.: Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System (CERES): an earth observing system experiment, B. Am. Meteorol. Soc., 77, 853–868, 1996. 376, 377

Zhuravleva, T. and Kokhanovsky, A.: Influence of surface roughness on the reflective properties of snow, J. Quant. Spectrosc. Ra., 112, 1353–1368, doi:10.1016/j.jqsrt.2011.01.004, 2011. 379

Title Page

Abstract | Introduction

Conclusions | References

Tables | Figures

◀◀ | ▶▶

◀ | ▶

Back | Close

Full Screen / Esc
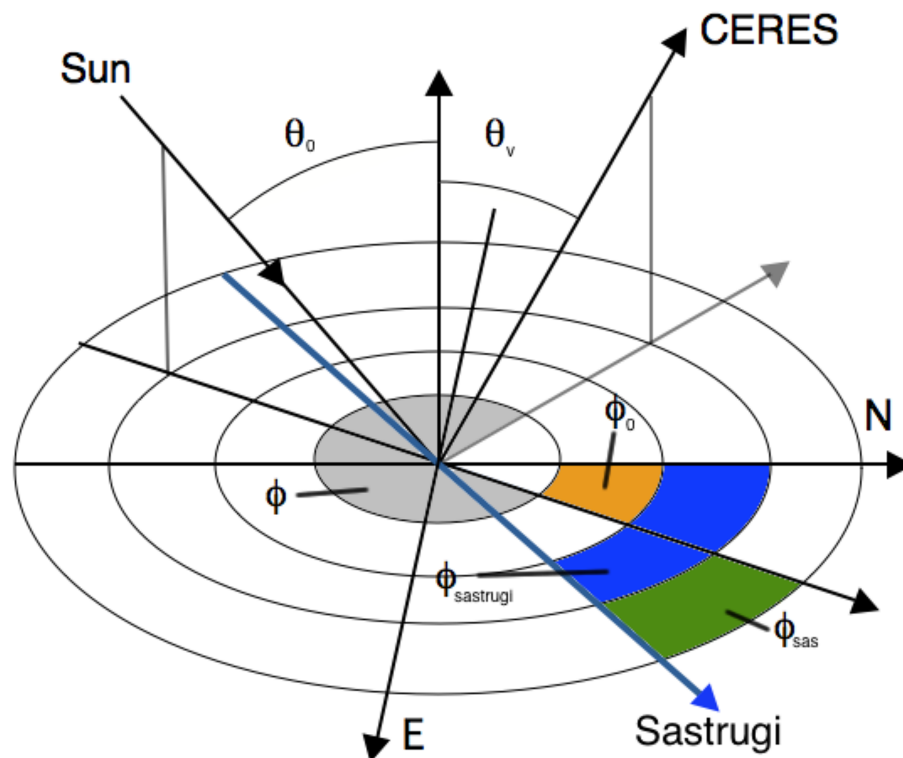
Figure 1. Diagram showing zenith and azimuth angles used in this study. θ_0 and ϕ_0 (orange section) indicates the solar zenith angle and azimuth angle (defined from North) respectively. θ_v is the viewing zenith angle of the CERES instrument. ϕ (grey section) is the relative azimuth angle between the CERES azimuth and the solar azimuth. The blue line indicates the direction of sastrugi, and the blue section shows sastrugi azimuth angle, $\phi_{sastrugi}$. ϕ_{sas} is the relative azimuth between the sastrugi azimuth and the solar azimuth and is illustrated by the green section.
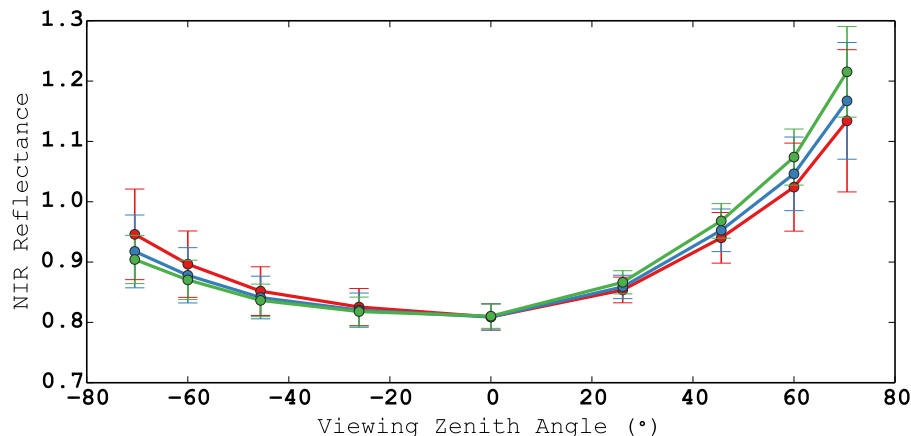
Figure 2. Mean MISR near-infrared reflectance over clear-sky Antarctica for θ_0 = 65–70°. The reflectance are separated by the ϕ_{sas} angle (see Fig. 1); 0° ≤ ϕ_{sas} < 30° (green), 30° ≤ ϕ_{sas} < 60° (blue), and 60° ≤ ϕ_{sas} ≤ 90°. The error bars represent one standard deviation.

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion
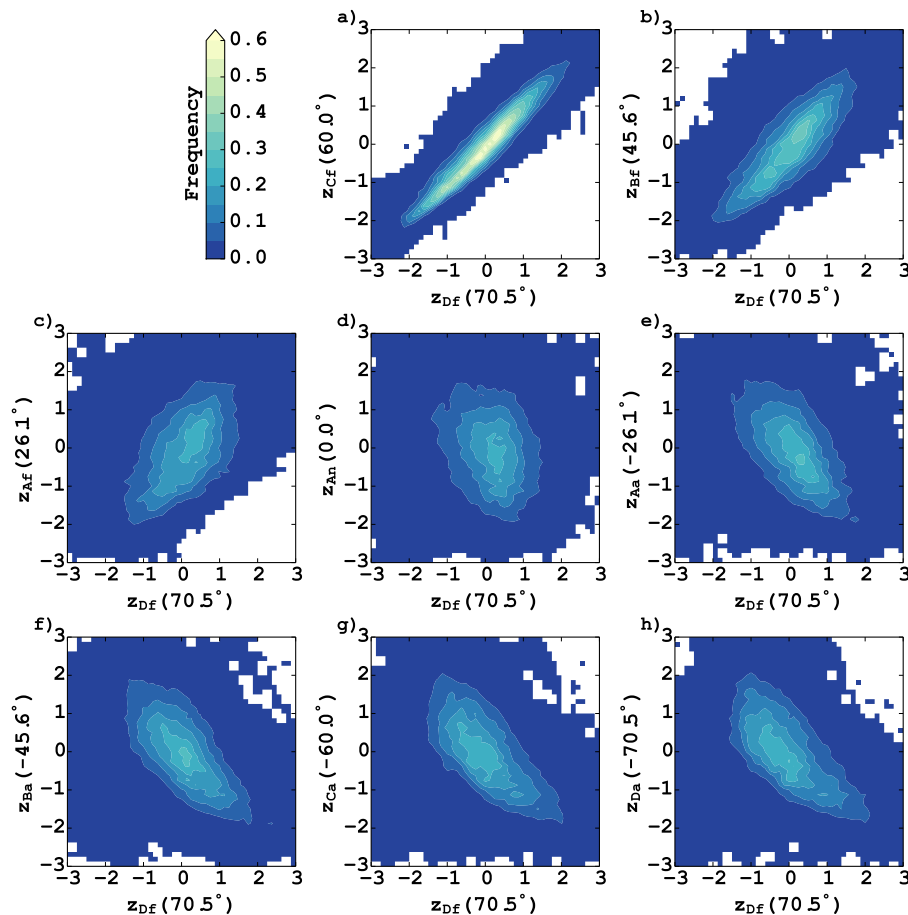
Figure 3. (a–h) Joint probability distributions ($P(z_i, z_j)$) of NIR standard scores (see Eq. 3 between MISR's Df ($\theta_m = 70.5°$, x axis) and the remaining eight cameras. All θ_0 and ϕ angles are included.
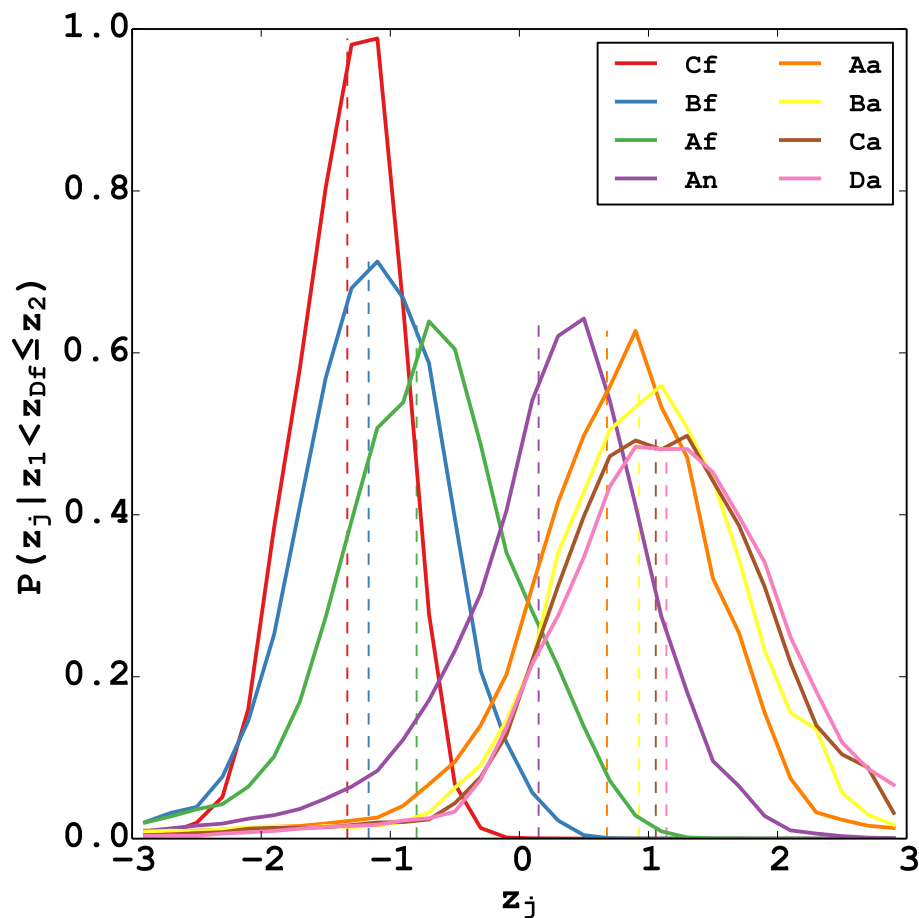
Figure 4. Conditional probability distributions ($P(z_j| -1 < z_{Df} \leq -2)$) of MISR cameras Cf–Da, for when the z value of the Df camera is between −1 and −2. The dashed vertical line show the mean value.
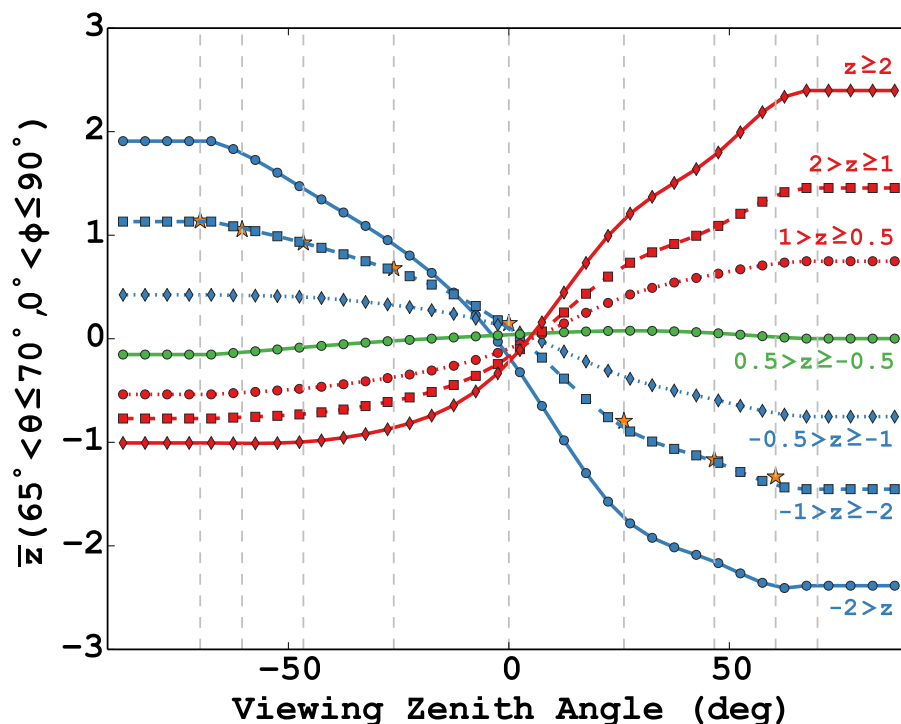
Figure 5. Adjustment factors interpolated from MISR angles (grey dashed lines) onto a 5° θ grid for use with CERES measurements. These adjustment factors are for the case when $65° \leq \theta_v < 70°$ and $\phi < 90°$. Each of these lines represents a set from $\beta(\theta_c, \phi_{f/b}, z)_{\theta_v, \phi}$. The orange stars show the locations of the MISR values from which the blue square's values were interpolated.
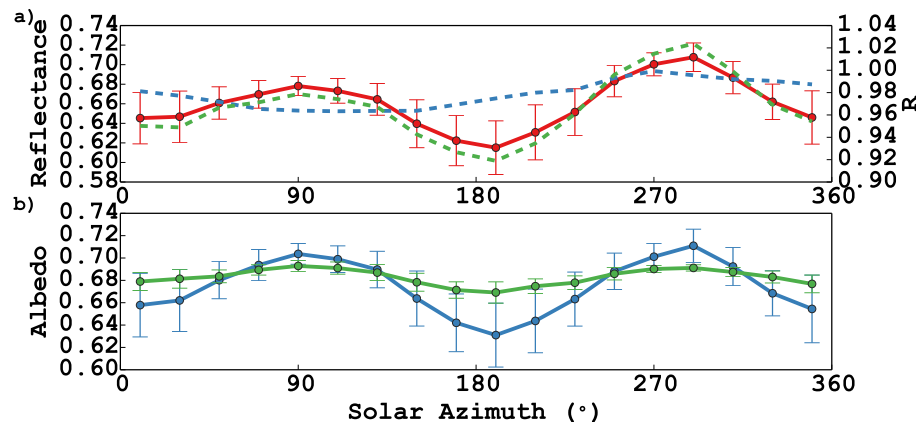
Figure 6. (a) Mean CERES reflectance (red line, left scale) in 20° ϕ_0 bins for the region 88–89° S, 76–83° W over all Decembers from 2000–2004. The ϕ range is 65–75°, 45° < θ < 65° and 65° < θ_0 < 70°. The dashed blue line shows the mean anisotropic factor (right scale) used to invert these reflectances into fluxes from the KL05 ADMs. The dashed green line shows the same but for the ADMs developed here (CS15). **(b)** Mean CERES albedo for the same region and viewing geometry in **(a)** for the KL05 ADMs (blue) and CS15 ADMs (green line). Error bars represent one standard deviation.
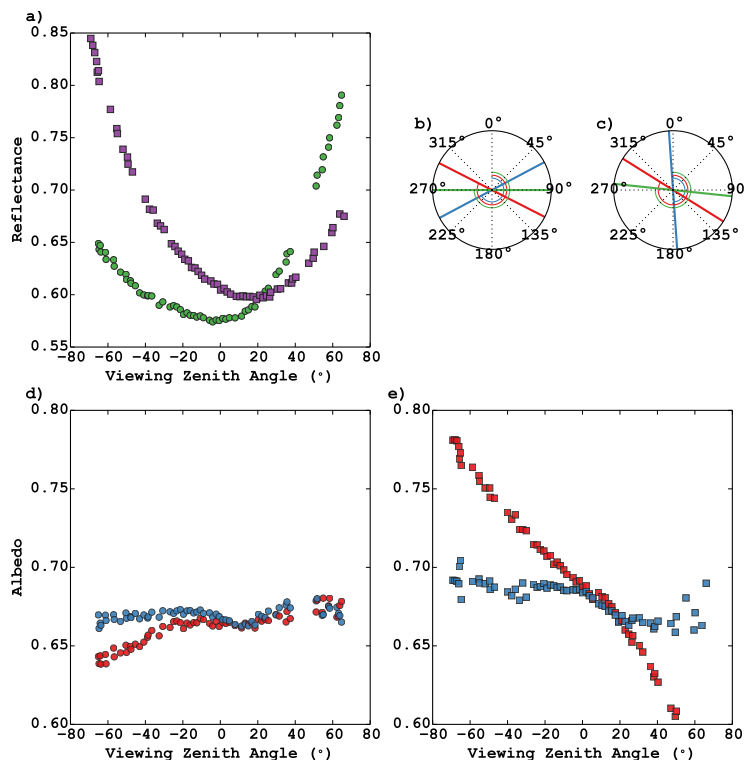
Figure 7. (a) Instantaneous clear-sky CERES reflectance values against viewing angle for two 1° × 1° grid boxes: 81° S, 163° W (green circles, 28 December 2004) and 81° S, 35° E (purple squares, 16 December 2003). **(b)** and **(c)** viewing and sastrugi azimuth (from North) for the two grid boxes in **(a)** when the measurements were made; viewing azimuth (green line), ϕ_{sastrugi} (blue), and ϕ_v (red line). **(d)** Albedo against viewing zenith angle for the grid box 81° S, 163° W calculated using KL05 ADMs (red) and CS15 ADMs (blue). **(e)** as in **(c)** but for the grid box 81° S, 35° E.
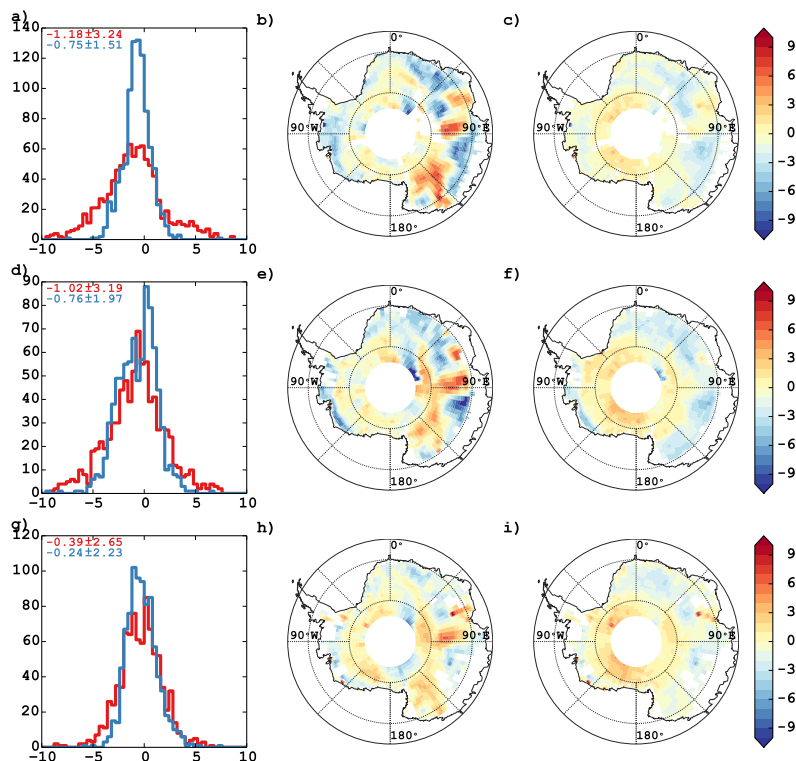
Figure 8. Comparison of mean 24 h flux biases (Wm^{-2}) (see Eq. 5) for November (first row), December (middle) and January (bottom) of 2002. The left column shows histograms of the grid box biases for KL05 ADMs (red line) and CS15 ADMs (blue line), the middle column shows maps of the bias for when using the KL05 ADMs, and the right column shows the maps when using the CS15 ADMs.

Title Page

Abstract · Introduction

Conclusions · References

Tables · Figures

Back · Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion
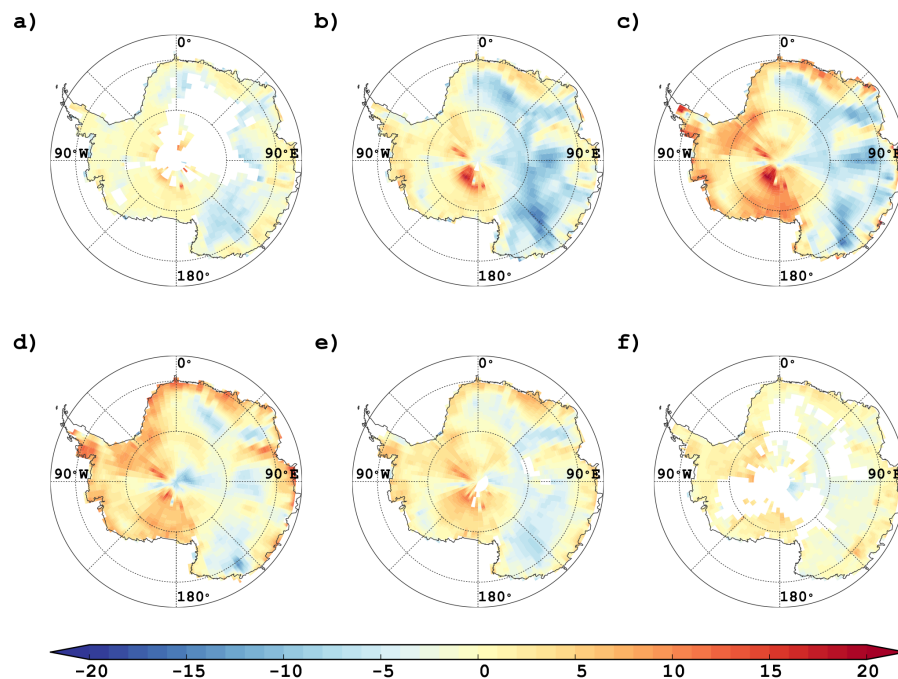
Figure 9. Difference in clear-sky $\bar{F}_{24}$ (Wm^{-2}) between CS15 and KL05 ADMs for **(a–f)** October–March of 2002. Difference is calculated as $\Delta \bar{F}_{24} = \bar{F}_{24}^{\text{new}} - \bar{F}_{24}^{\text{op}}$.
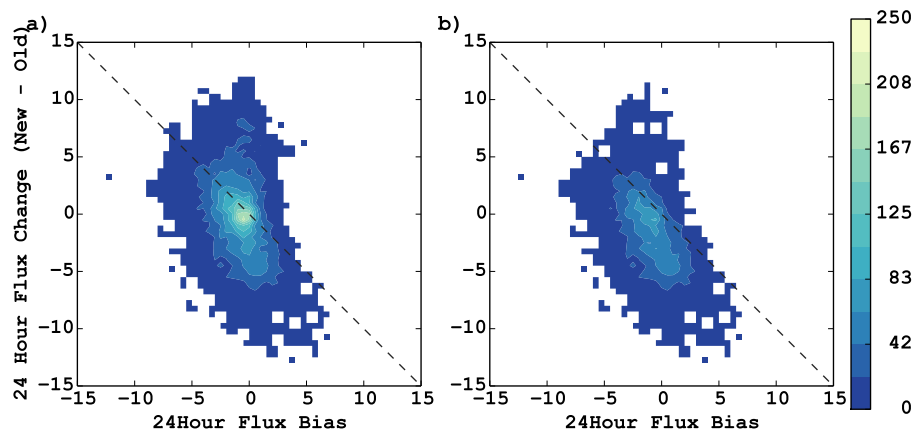
Figure 10. (a) Density plot between the grid box level $\Delta \bar{F}_{24}$ (y axis) and the 24 h flux bias for the months October through March for the years 2000–2004 for all valid grid boxes over Antarctica. **(b)** as in **(a)** with the grid boxes limited to the eastern portion (0–180° E) of Antarctica only.