

Hurricane Wind Speed and Rain Rate Measurements Using the Airborne Hurricane Imaging Radiometer (HIRAD)

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Dissertation Objective



- To develop an end-to-end computer simulation of HIRAD brightness temperature measurements in hurricanes
 - Uses numerical hurricane models to provide realistic 3D environmental "nature runs"
 - Forward microwave radiative transfer model
- To develop a HIRAD inversion algorithm to estimate the ocean surface wind speed and rain rate in hurricanes
 - Uses Monte Carlo simulation to characterize retrieval errors as a f(WS, RR & EIA)

HIRAD Instrument Configuration

CFRSL



4-Freq C-band Radiometer (4 - 6.6 GHz)
Synthetic Thinned Array Radiometer

 Equivalent pushbroom antenna for cross-track imaging brightness temperature scene simultaneously

Measurement swath ~ 3 × Altitude



60















Simulation of HIRAD Measurements: Forward Model





Hurricane Wind & Rain Fields



Longitude, deg



HIRAD T_b Forward Model

Forward Model - RTM



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Atmospheric T_{ap} has three components: upwelling radiance (T_{UP}) , reflected down-welling radiance (T_{refl}) & surface emission (T_b)



Rain Simulation in Forward RTM





Beyond edge of HIRAD swath

Simulation uses:

Forward model

□ 3-D Varying rain rate

Covers both upwelling & downwelling slant path

- Maximum width = 41 cells,

Retrievals

RR assumed uniform along line-of-sight slant path

CFRSL - Ocean Emissivity Model scaled for SST = 300 K





Ocean surface emissivity model developed for HIRAD studies
Based upon SFMR & WindSat hurricane observations

Sample Cross-track Scans Hurricane Frances

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HIRAD simulation crosstrack scans (3 locations)

> Aircraft 20 km altitude

- ♦ Scan 1 →
 - eyewall region with highest winds (right)
- ♦ Scan 2 \rightarrow
 - through the center of the eye (middle)

♦ Scan 3 →

 Outer edge of eyewall region (left)



True Brightness Temperature Scene





Antenna Pattern Convolution



Antenna Temp (T_A) Simulation





Pushbroom Antenna Simulation



- Real aperture pushbroom radiometer equivalent of HIRAD synthesized beams
 - Matches HIRAD cross-track resolution
 - (41 pushbroom beams)
- ≻Real aperture phased array antennas
 - Each frequency has an independent antenna design
 - Good beam efficiency (lower 90%'s)
 - Patterns approximately match HIRAD synthesized beamwidths and X-Pol coupling

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Co-Pol & X-Pol Patterns at 6.6 GHz



90

0 deg Scan Beam

60 deg Scan Beam







Scan 1



Scan 3



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Note:

Effect of polarization mixing with the X-Pol

Retrieve Geophys Pars: WS & RR





Develop an inversion model for inferring wind speed (WS) & rain rate (RR)

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Error: Retrievals - nature run

Characterized as a f(WS, RR & EIA)

Perform Monte Carlo simulations

Different hurricanes & flight tracks





Parameter	Included
Water Vapor	Hurricane climatology
SST	Constant = 28 deg Celsius
Cloud Liquid Water	Hurricane climatology
Oxygen	Hurricane climatology

Antenna Pattern Correction - 1



> Remove X-Pol (V-Pol) effect from the total T_A





Antenna Pattern Correction - 2



Correct for antenna pattern

$$T_{corr} = \frac{1}{\eta_{MB}} \Big[T_{bH_{conv}} - \eta_U \times T_U - \eta_B \times T_B \Big]$$

* T_U and T_B correspond to sidelobe contributions "above" and "below" the boresight"





Scan 3

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Scan 1



Scan 2



Note:

Antenna pattern effect is negligible after correction

Retrieval Algorithm



Implemented in MATLAB

Evaluates least squares "Cost" function



- All possible combinations of
 - WS 0: 0.1 :70 m/s
 - RR 0: 0.8 :120 mm/hr
- Single global minimum solution



Retrieved WS Scenes, m/s 0 Kelvin Random Errors



Scan 1Scan 2Scan 3



Retrieval Errors



>Three major sources of errors:

- 1) Instrument T_b measurement random errors
 - Monte Carlo simulation run parametrically:
 - **♦** 1, 2, 4 & 8 K
 - HIRAD ~ 4K RSS random error

 $\square \text{ NEDT & } \Delta G/G (2K)$

Geophyscial Model Function (surface emissivity) (3K)

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□A/C attitude (1K)

Antenna pattern correction errors
Retrieval RTM modeling error

Model Validation



≻To verify:

- Algorithms are performing properly
- Codes are written properly
 - □ Run cases where answers are known

- Model validation cases include:
 - Atmosphere
 - RR Treatment
 - ♦ SST
 - Antenna Pattern Correction
 - Quantization Errors

Simulation Statistics

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 Total number of cases
3 Fig-4 flight patterns
2 additional legs outside eye
8 (legs) × 240 (scan/leg) = 1920 total scans

Total 9 hours run time per leg
Includes 5 cases of different random errors



RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors





RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors



RMS Rain Rate Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors














Error Sources Assessment



Case 1 \rightarrow Incorrect SST in retrieval

- > In FWD Model:
 - Rain-free
 - No Atmosphere
 - Variable SST
- > In Retrieval Algorithm:
 - No Atmosphere
 - No Random Errors
 - Perfect Antenna Correction

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***** Constant SST = 28 C

RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors SST Component







Error Sources Assessment



Case 2 \rightarrow Constant Rain Rate in retrieval

> In FWD Model:

* Variable 3D RR

No Atmosphere

Constant SST = 28 deg Celsius

> In Retrieval Algorithm:

No Atmosphere

No Random Errors

* 0.8 mm/hr RR step size

Perfect Antenna Correction



RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors Rain Rate Component





Error Sources Assessment



Case 3 \rightarrow Incorrect atmos. in retrieval

In FWD Model:

- Rain-free
- * 3D Atmosphere
- Constant SST = 28 deg Celsius

> In Retrieval Algorithm:

- * Hurricane Atmosphere climatology
- No Random Errors
- Perfect Antenna Correction



RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors Atmospheric Correction Component







Error Sources Assessment Case 4 → Imperfect antenna pattern correction

In FWD Model:

- Rain-free
- No Atmosphere
- Constant SST = 28 deg Celsius
- > In Retrieval Algorithm:
 - No Atmosphere
 - No Random Errors
 - * Assumed antenna pattern correction





Surface WS, m/s

RMSE Surface, m/s





Error Sources Assessment

Case 5 \rightarrow Random Error Effect

In FWD Model:

- Rain-free
- No Atmosphere
- Constant SST = 28 deg Celsius
- > In Retrieval Algorithm:
 - No Atmosphere
 - * Random Errors Included
 - Perfect Antenna Correction





Surface WS, m/s

RMSE Surface, m/s



Summary



- An end-to-end simulation of HIRAD measurements of hurricane surface wind and tropical rainfall has been developed
- Simulation has been extensively validated
- Preliminary results of Monte Carlo simulations for Hurricane Frances demonstrate that high resolution, wide swath imaging are feasible under realistic aircraft operating conditions
- Simulations in progress to characterize the wind speed and rain rate retrieval errors as a f(WS, RR, EIA)

- Multiple hurricanes
- Rotating Fig-4 aircraft flight tracks

Future Work



Improve rain rate retrieval to account for climatologically hurricane rain vertical profiles

Develop dual polarized MLE wind speed/rain rate retrieval algorithm to reduce errors due to polarization mixing at larger incidence angles

> Increase simulation data base of hurricane cases

CERSI

Publications - Journal



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- [3] Boon H. Lim, Ruba Amarin, Salem El-Nimri, James Johnson, Linwood Jones and Christopher S. Ruf, "Synthetic Aperture Pattern Considerations For An Under Sampled 1-D Synthetic Thinned Aperture Radiometer", *submitted for publication in the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters*, 2008.

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- [1] Johnson, James W., Amarin, Ruba A., El-Nimri, Salem F., and W. Linwood Jones, "A Wide Swath, Imaging Microwave Radiometer for Hurricane Observations", 60th InterDepartmental Hurricane Conference, Mobile, AL, Mar. 21-24, 2006
- [2] Amarin, Ruba A., Johnson, James and W. Linwood Jones, "Signal Analysis of Microwave Radiometric Emissions in Hurricanes: Part 2 – Oceanic rain Rate Dependence", Proc. IEEE SoEastCon, Memphis, TN, Mar. 31-Apl. 1, 2006
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- [4] **Ruba A. Amarin**, Salem F. El-Nimri, James W. Johnson, W. Linwood Jones, Boon H. Lim and Christopher S. Ruf, "Instrument Design Simulations for Synthetic Aperture Microwave Radiometric Imaging of Wind Speed and Rain Rate in Hurricanes", presented at IEEE Intrn. Geosci. Remote Sens. Symp., Barcelona, SP., 2007.
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- [6] B. H. Lim, **R. A. Amarin**, S. F. El-Nimri, J. Johnson, L. Jones, and C. S. Ruf, "Restrictions on the Field of View for an Undersampled 1-D Synthetic Thinned Aperture Radiometry," presented at IEEE Intrn. Geosci. Remote Sens. Symp, Barcelona, SP., 2007.

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- [9] S. F. El-Nimri, S. Alsweiss, J. Johnson, L. Jones, R. Amarin, and E. Uhlhorn, "HURRICANE IMAGING RADIOMETER WIDE SWATH SIMULATION FOR WIND SPEED AND RAIN RATE", IGARSS Conference, Boston, 2008.
- [10] Ruba A. Amarin, W. Linwood Jones, Salem El-Nimri and James W. Johnson, "A Wide-Swath Hurricane Imaging Radiometer for Imaging of Wind Speed and Rain Rate in Hurricanes", 2010 USNC URSI Radio Science Meeting, 6-10 January, 2010, Boulder, CO.
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- [14] Ruba A. Amarin, W. Linwood Jones, James W. Johnson, Christopher Ruf, Timothy Miller and Shuyi Chen, 'Estimates of Hurricane Wind Speed Measurement Accuracy using the Airborne Hurricane Imaging Radiometer', *to be submitted to AMS 29th Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology*, 10-14 May 2010, Tucson, Arizona.
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Back Up Slides

Parameters in Atmosphere

Parameter	Included	Source
Rain Rate	3-D	• MM5 data available
Water Vapor	3-D	• MM5 data available
Cloud Liquid Water	3-D	• MM5 data available
Super-cooled Water	3-D	Included in cloud liquid water
Oxygen	2-D	• MM5 data available
SST	2-D	• Data available from NSSTC
Nitrogen	\sim	Not included
Graupel	\sim	• MM5 data not available

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Effect on Tb

Forward RTM (RadTb) Atmospheric Model

RadTb is a μ-wave RTM used to compute atmospheric absorption coefficients

- ≻ O2, WV & CLW
- > 39 layers of 20 Km total thickness

FWD Model - RTM

a - and

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Verification Hurricane Eye

Sum of Difference Surface

Contour Plot of the Surface

Rain Absorption Model from NOAA HRD SFMR Algorithm

Uses empirical power-law relationship to calculate rain absorption coefficient (Uhlhorn)

$$K_R = aR^b$$

CLW Density, gm/m³

64

SST, deg Celsius

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RetrievalsSST assumed constant = 28 deg Celsius

CLW and WV Profiles in Retrievals 5Km Averaged Rings

Cloud Liquid Water Profiles

Water Vapor Profiles

Model Validation – Example

> Antenna Pattern Correction

 Perfect knowledge of the sidelobe Tb contribution yields negligible error

No Issues in Applying Antenna Pattern

Fixing the Issue

Rain Simulation

Beyond HIRAD Swath

-20

-20

EIA, deg

Results - Retrieved Wind Speed 1 Kelvin Random Errors

Fig-4 A Two Legs (IP 90, 180) → 480 Cross-track Scans

Results - Retrieved Rain Rate 1 Kelvin Random Errors



Fig-4 A Two Legs (IP 90, 180) → 480 Cross-track Scans



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Results - Retrieved Wind Speed 1 Kelvin Random Errors



Fig-4 B Two Legs (IP 30, 120) → 480 Cross-track Scans

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RMS Rain Rate Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors





Results - Retrieved Wind Speed 1 Kelvin Random Errors



Fig-4 C Two Legs (IP 60, 150) → 480 Cross-track Scans



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RMS Wind Speed Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors





-60.5

-61

-60



78

RMS Rain Rate Retrieved Errors 1 Kelvin Random Errors





-59.5

Longitude, deg

-60

-60.5

-61

-59

-58.5

-58



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-58







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