

**University of Maryland Baltimore County - UMBC**  
**Phys650 - Special Topics in Experimental Atmospheric Physics**  
**(Spring 2009)**

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<http://userpages.umbc.edu/~martins/PHYS650/>

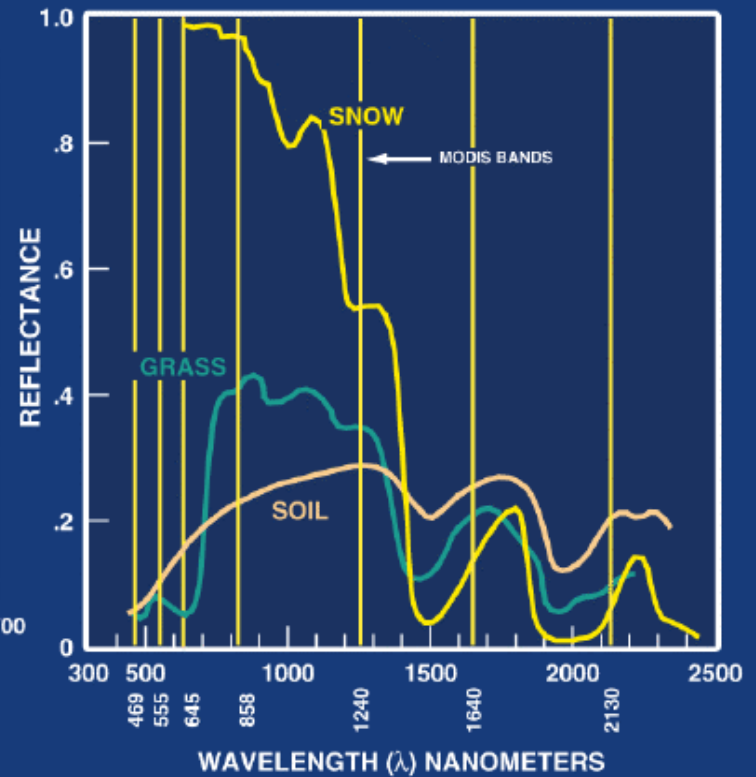
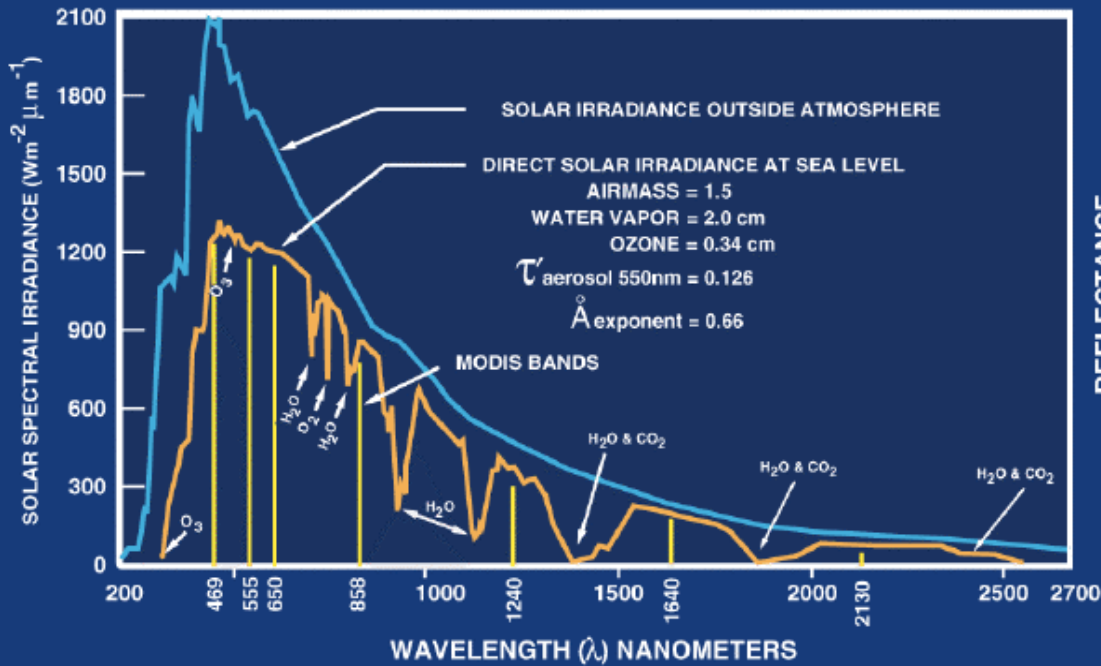
**Class 11 – Introduction to Surface BRDF  
and Atmospheric Scattering**

**Class 12/13 - Measurements of Surface  
BRDF and Atmospheric Scattering**

# Directional Reflectance of Surfaces and Particles

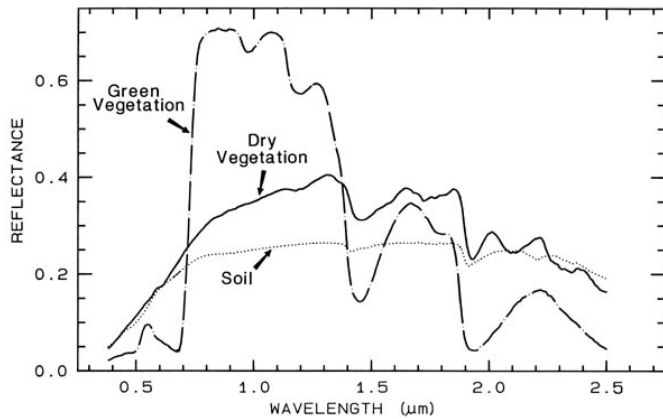
- Surface color
- Reflectance by a smooth and flat surface
- Reflectance of a rough surface
- Reflectance by particles over a surface
- Reflectance by particles or molecules in suspension in the atmosphere

# Solar (reflective) spectral domain



# Vegetation reflection

Spectral dependence  
(for angular dependence, see Lecture 2)



Frequent measure: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

$$NDVI = \frac{R_{NIR} - R_{VIS}}{R_{NIR} + R_{VIS}}$$

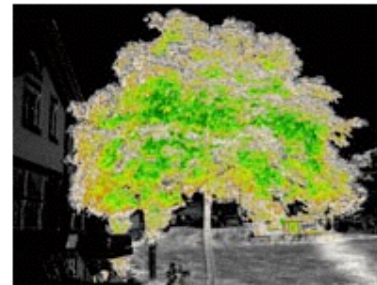
VIS



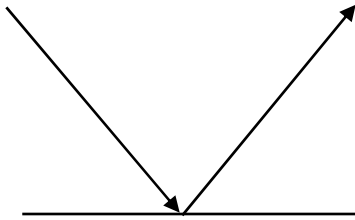
IR



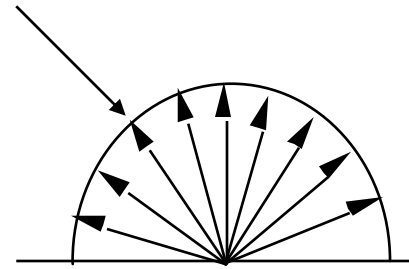
NDVI



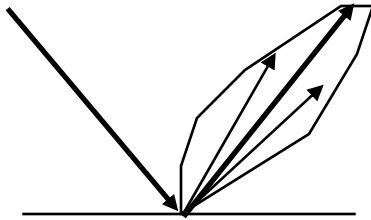
# Different Types of Reflectors



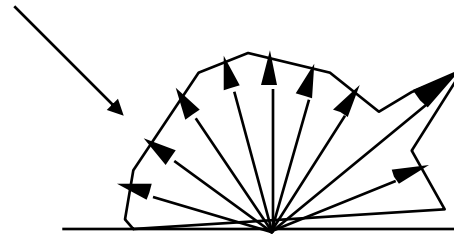
Specular reflector (mirror)



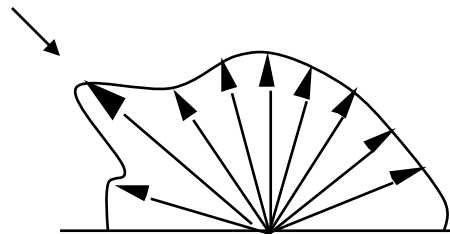
diffuse reflector (Lambertian)



Nearly Specular reflector (water)



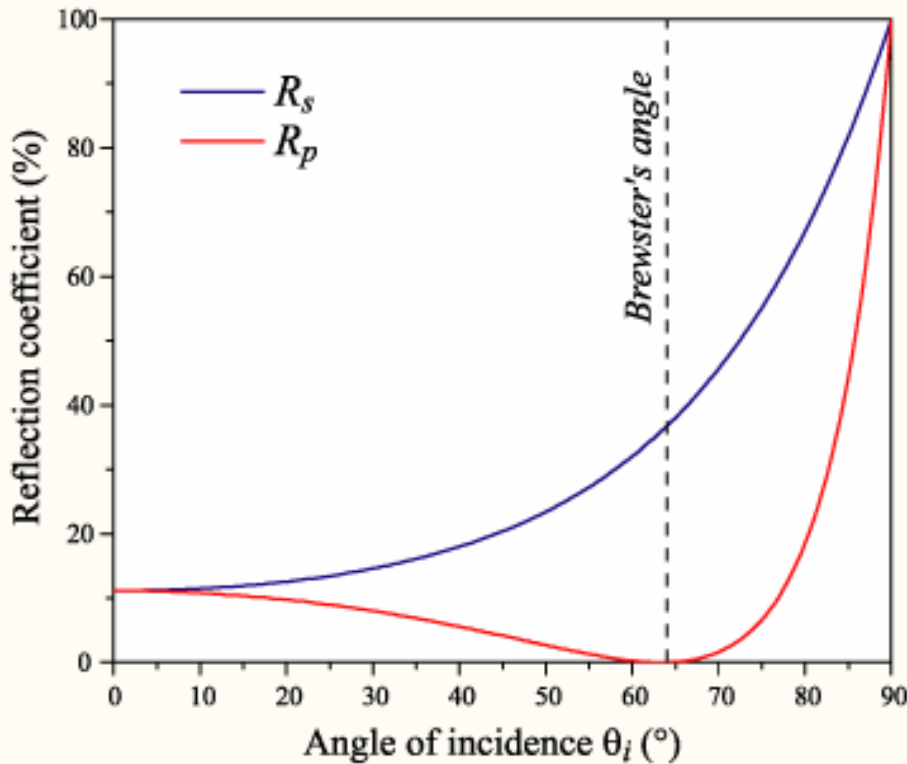
nearly diffuse reflector



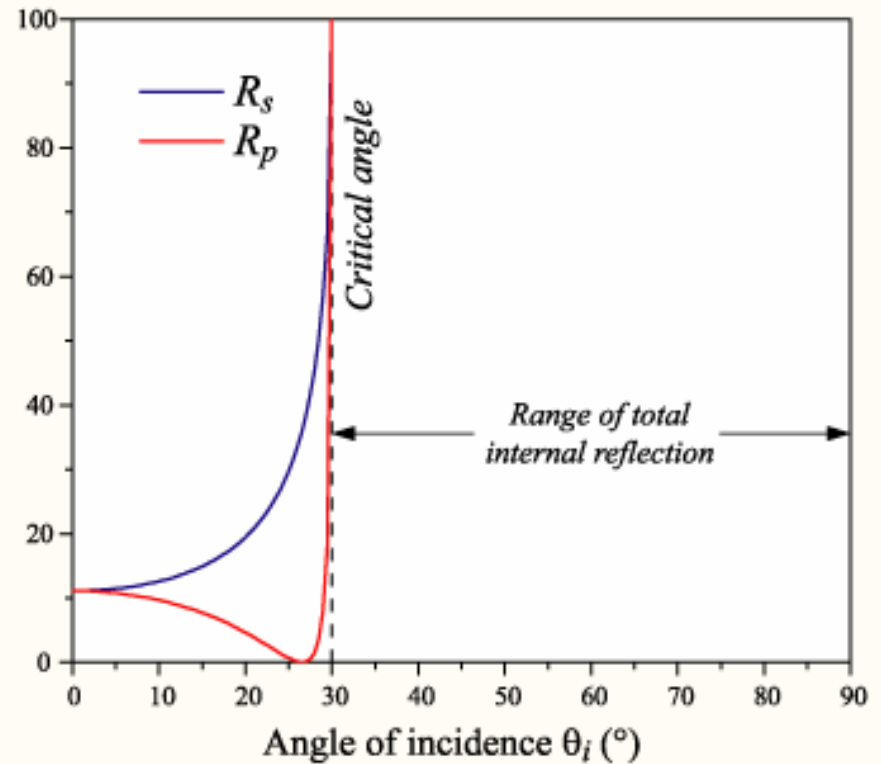
Hot spot reflection

# Fresnel Curves for Flat and Smooth Surfaces

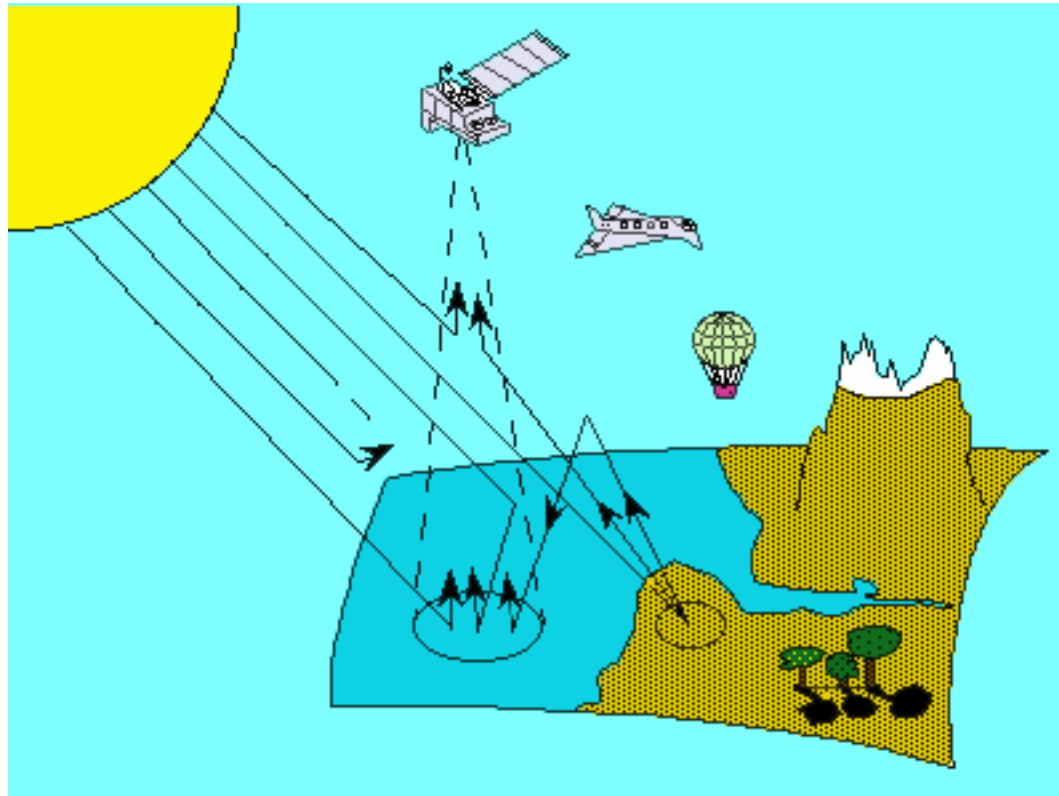
$n_1 = 1.0, n_2 = 2.0$



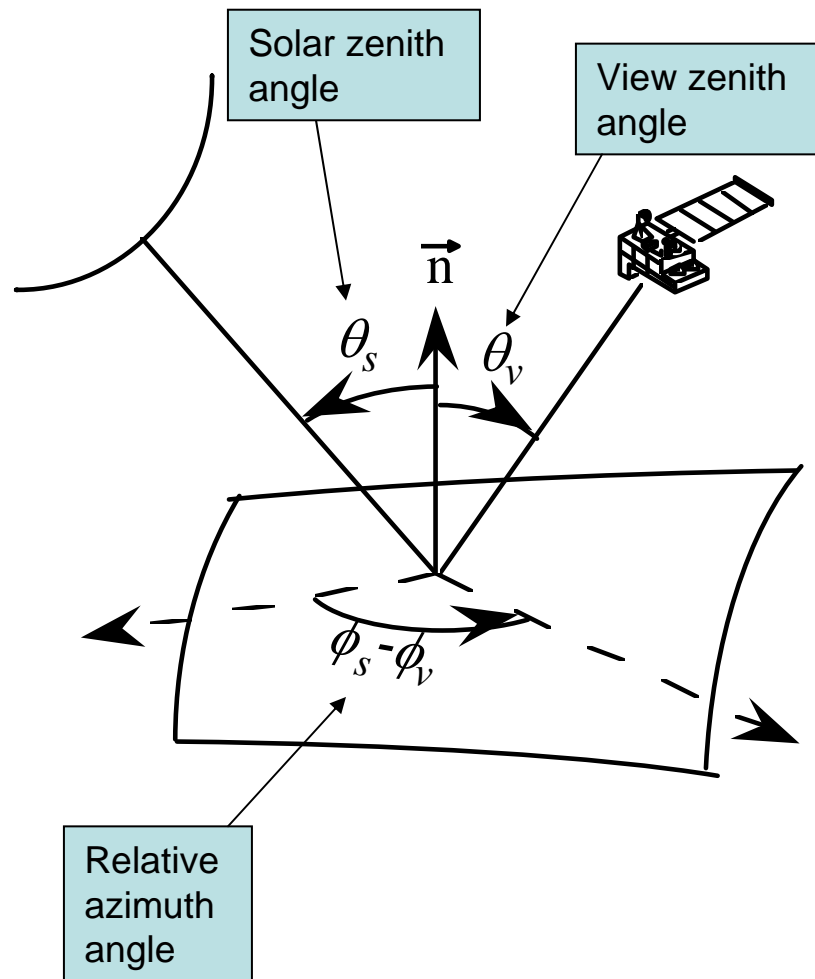
$n_1 = 2.0, n_2 = 1.0$



# Solar Energy Paths

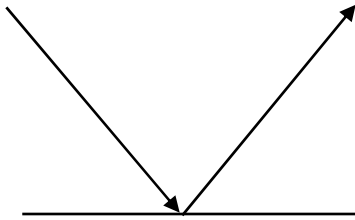


# Observation Geometry

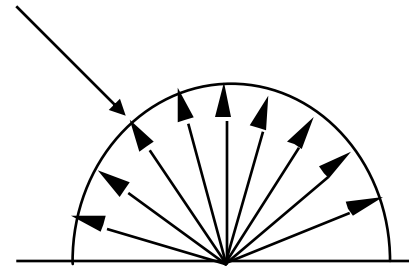




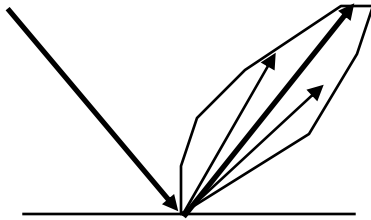
# Different Types of Reflectors



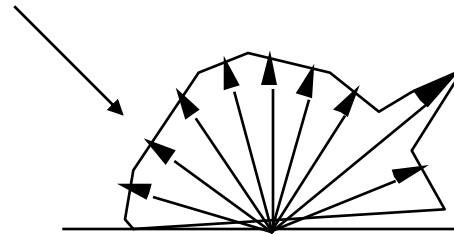
Specular reflector (mirror)



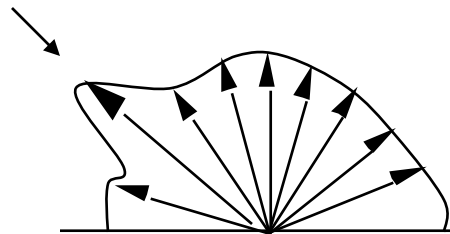
diffuse reflector (Lambertian)



Nearly Specular reflector (water)



nearly diffuse reflector

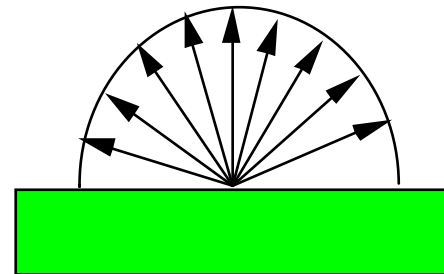
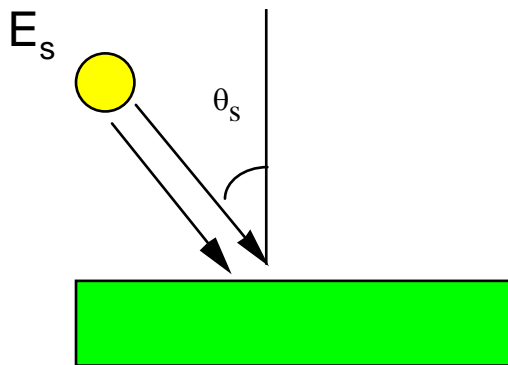


Hot spot reflection

# Perfect Lambertian Reflector

Radiance of the Perfect Lambertian Reflector

$$\int_0^{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} RPLF(\theta_s, \theta, \phi) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi = E_s \cos(\theta_s)$$



Isotropic radiation

$$\rho_{\text{Perfect Lambertian reflector}}(\theta_s, \theta_v, \phi) = 1$$

$$\rho_{\text{Lambertian reflector}}(\theta_s, \theta_v, \phi) = \rho$$

# Surface characterization

In atmospheric studies, surface often characterized using bulk properties:

**Albedo:** 
$$\rho = \frac{F_{\uparrow}}{F_{\downarrow}}$$

**BRF** (Bidirectional Reflection Function) or Simply **Reflectance (R)**:

$$BRF = \frac{\pi \cdot I}{\mu_0 \cdot F_0} \quad BRF = BRF(\Omega, \Omega_0, \lambda)$$

Advantages over *I*:

Interpretation and limits:

## BRDF

(Bidirectional Reflection Distribution Function):

$$BRDF = \frac{BRF}{\rho}$$

Remote sensing  
CAR (Cloud absorption radiometer)  
measurement strategy

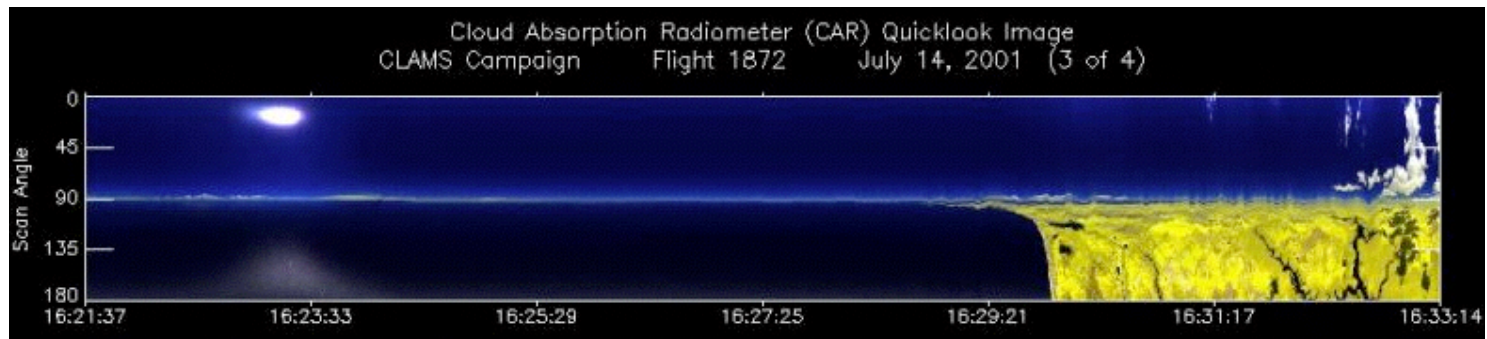
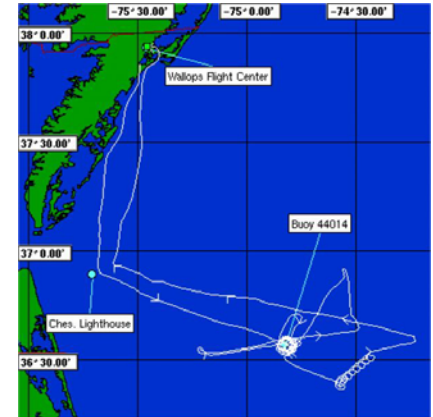
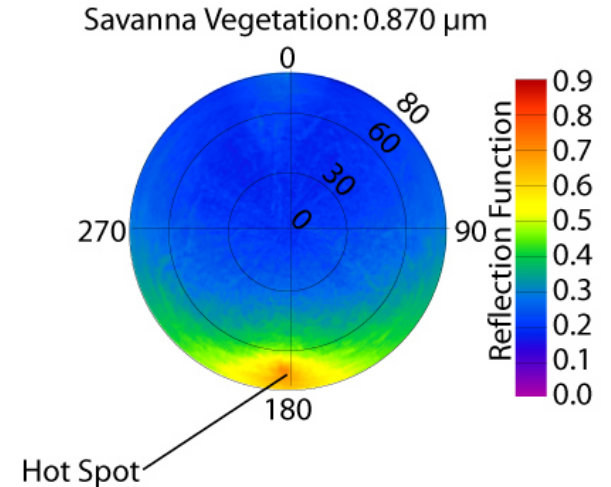
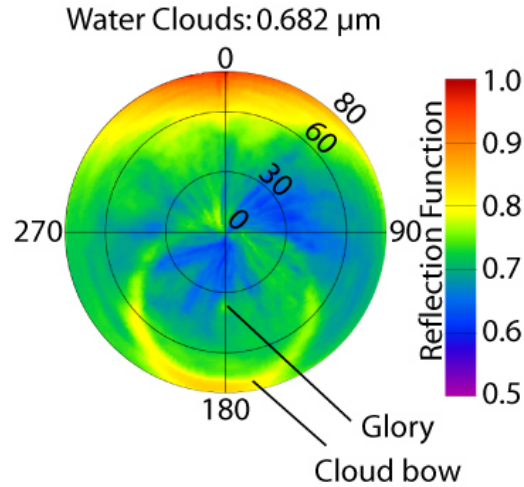
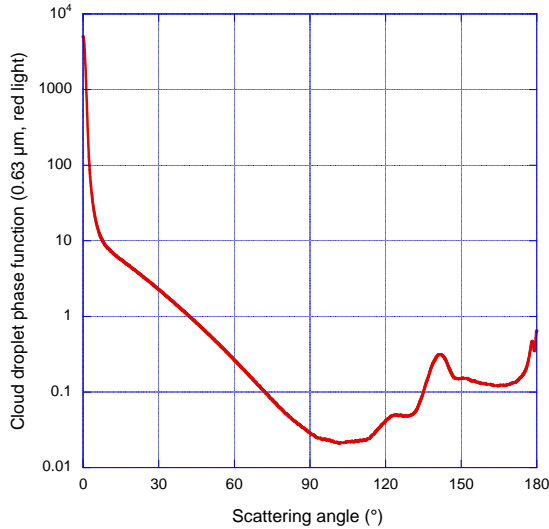


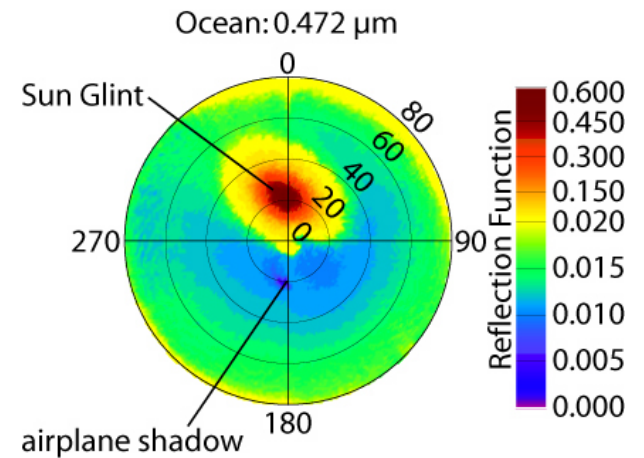
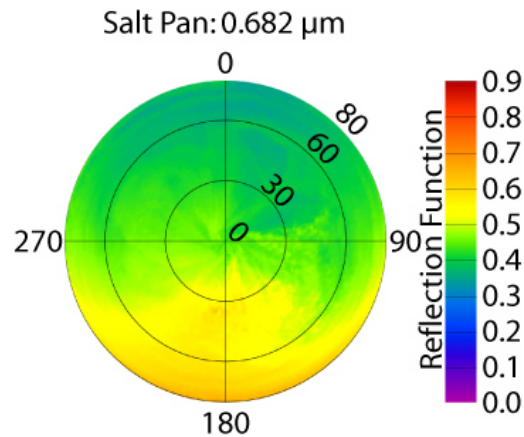
Figure thanks to Tamas Varnai/JCET - UMBC

# Surface reflection patterns

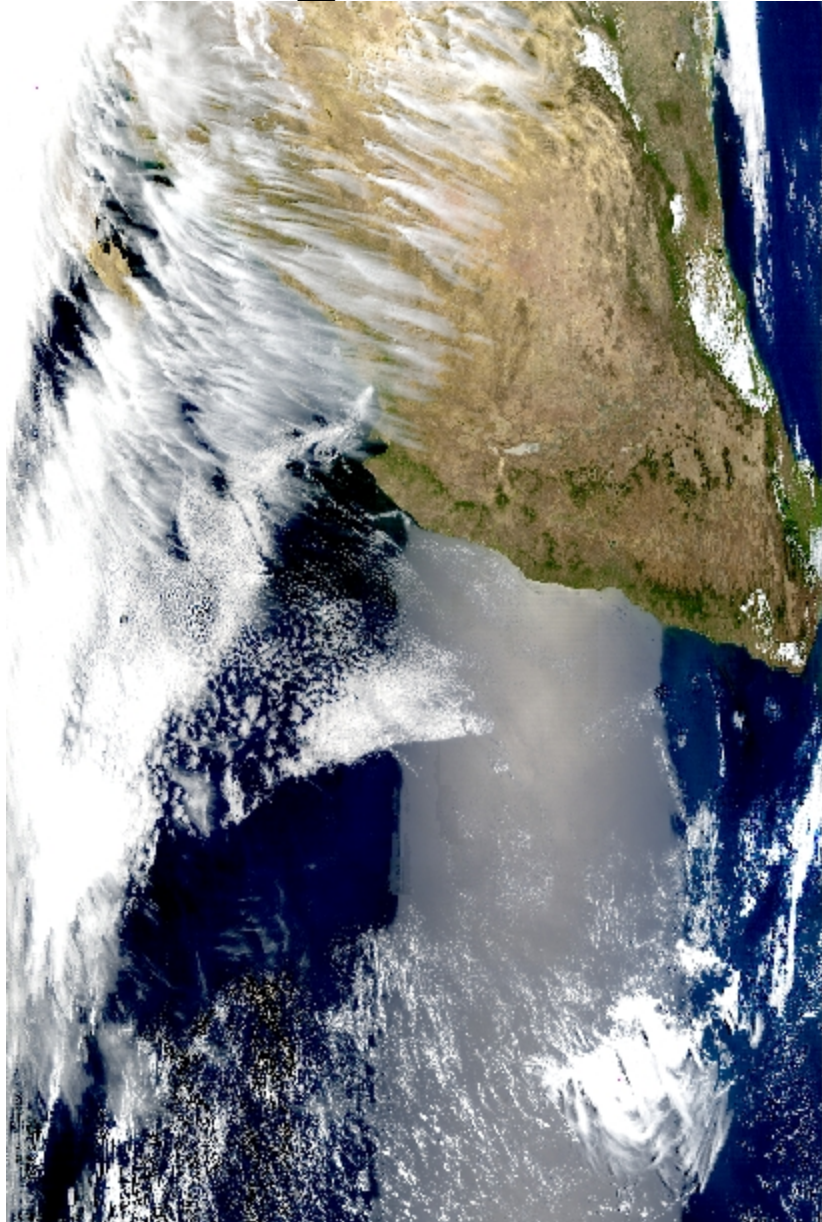
## CAR measurements



## Explanation of features



# Sun glint as seen by MODIS



**Gray level temperature image**

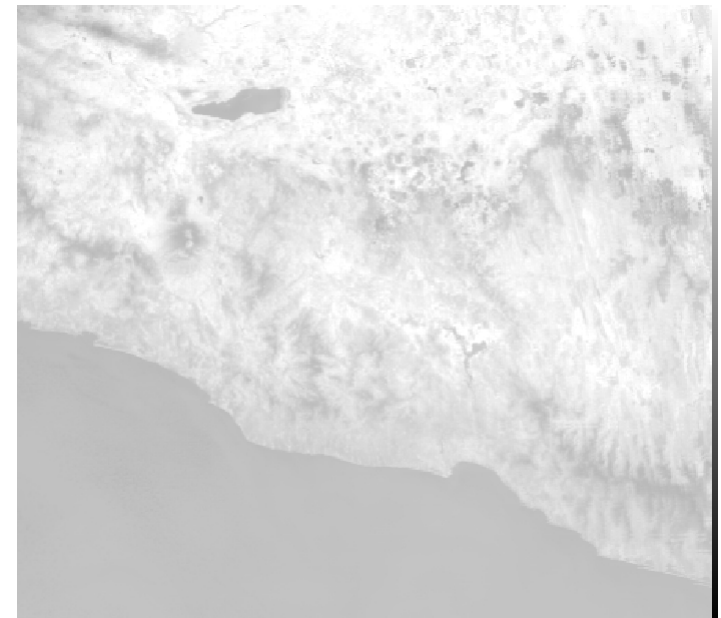
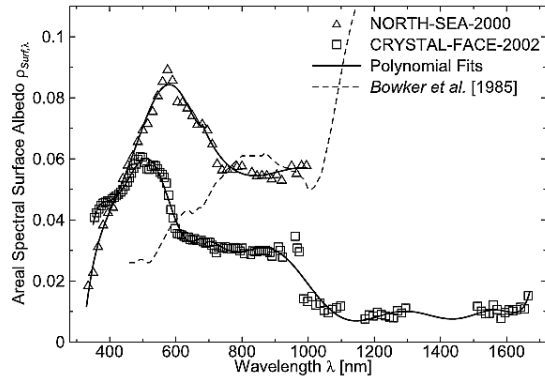


Figure thanks to Tamas Varnai/JCET - UMBC

# Sea surface

Spectral dependence:  
dark in infrared (?)



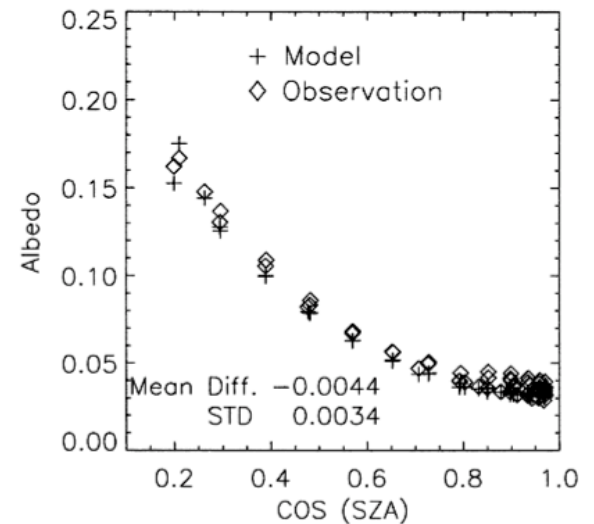
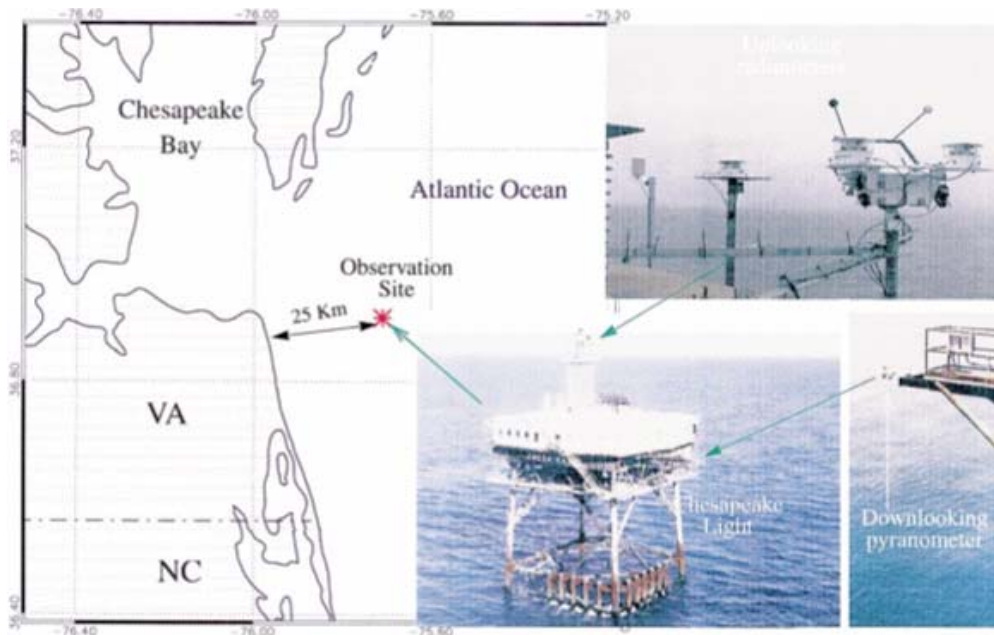
# Sea surface: measurement and modeling

Cox and Munk model (1954):

- assumes sine waves
- parameterizes reflectance as a function of wind speed (2-10 m/s)

•Probability of surface orientation ( $U$  is wind speed):

$$p(\tan\theta_n) = \frac{1}{\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{\tan^2\theta_n}{\sigma^2}\right) \quad \sigma^2 = 0.003 + 0.00512U$$

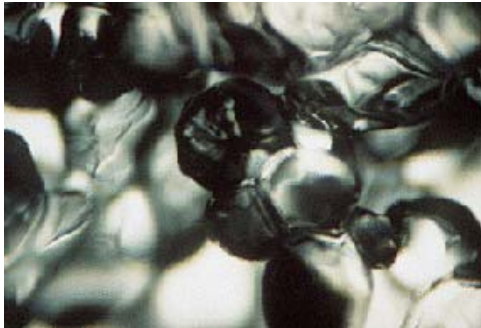


Current research:

- wider wind range (e.g., white caps, multiple reflection),
- underwater scattering (plankton)

# Snow reflection

Nearly uniform spherical crystals



Size increases and extinction coefficient decreases with age

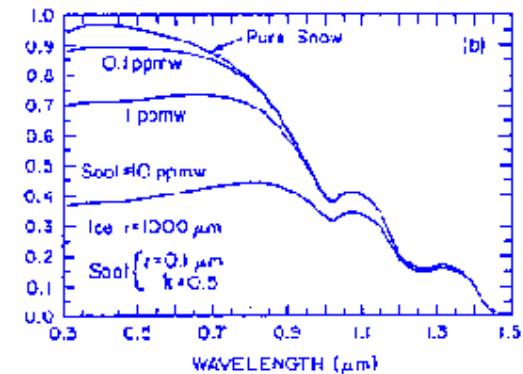
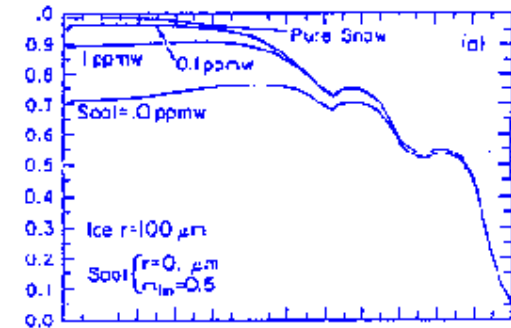
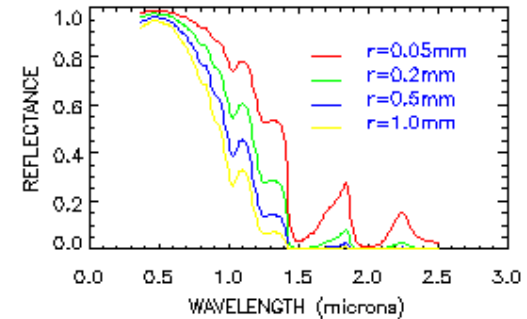
Fresh snow: ~50 μm

Old dry snow: ~200 μm

Wet snow: ~1000 μm (=1 mm)

Radius (μm)	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	N (1/m <sup>3</sup> )	VEC (1/m)
50	0.1	2.07e11	3.25e3
200	0.2	6.49e9	1.63e3
1000	0.4	1.04e8	0.65e3

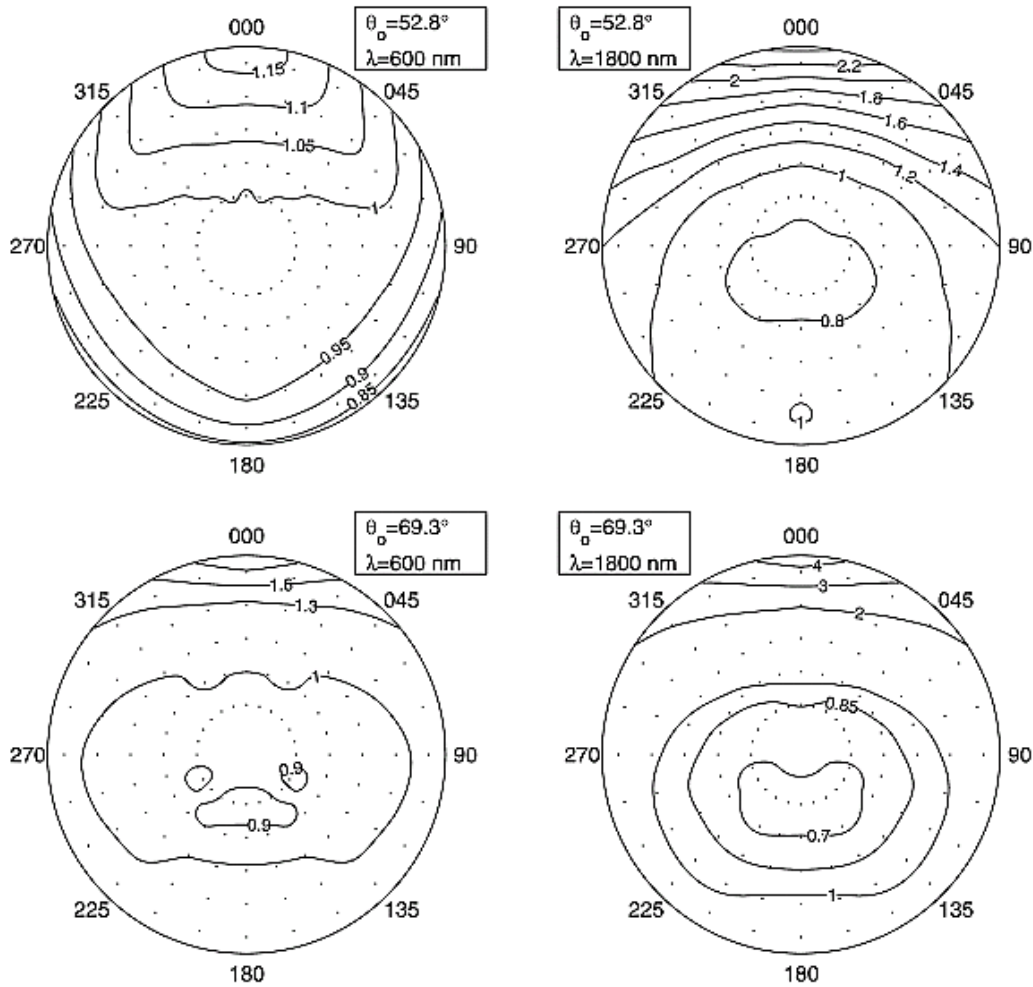
$$\sigma \approx \frac{3 LWC}{2 \langle r \rangle \rho}$$



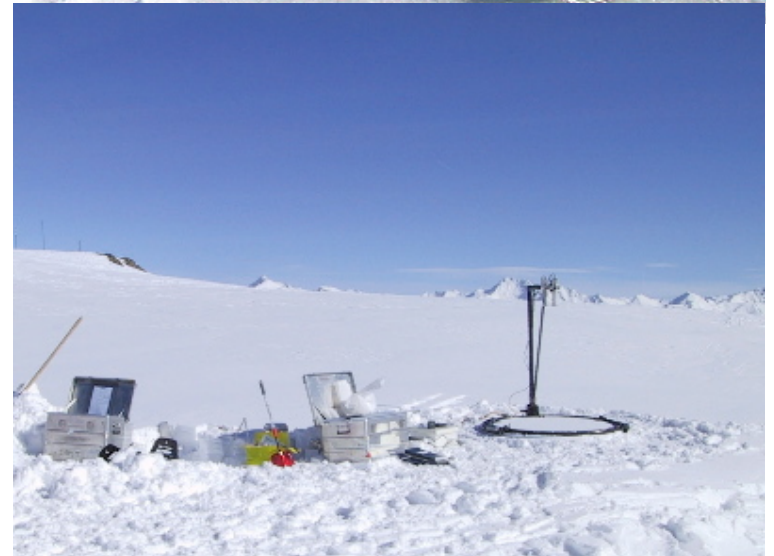


# Snow reflection

Angular dependence

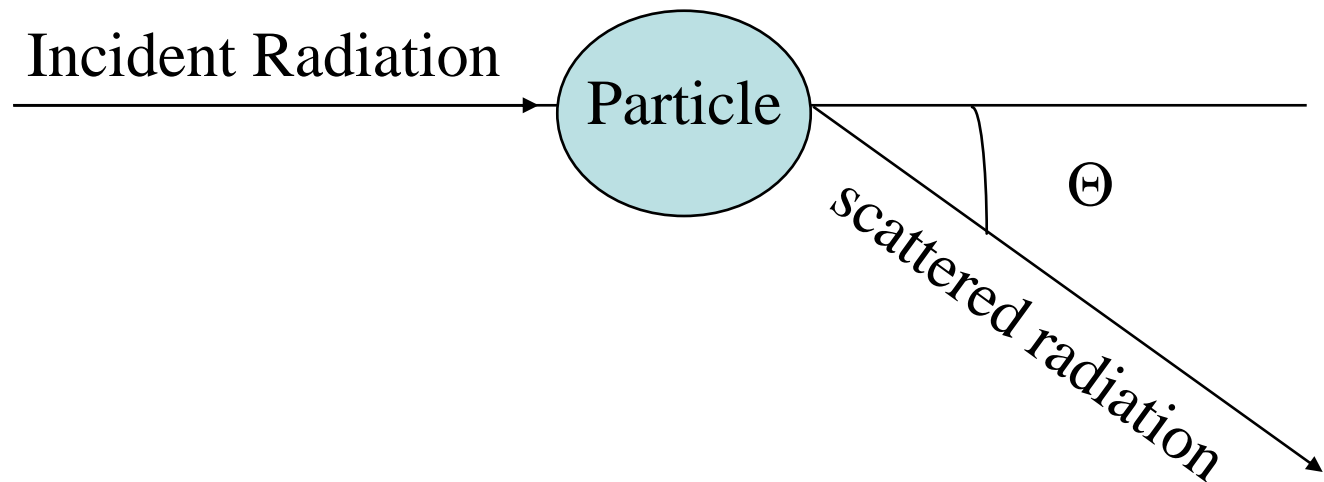


Explain dependence on solar elevation and wavelength



# Scattering by Particles:

- The scattering angle,  $\Theta$ , is the relative angle between the incident and the scattered radiation

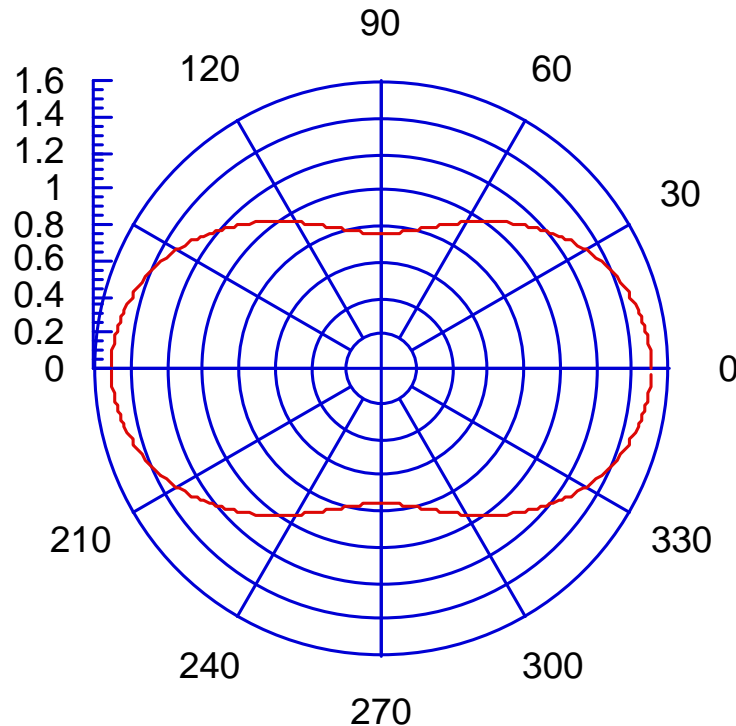


# Rayleigh/molecular scattering

## 1/4

- Rayleigh or molecular scattering refers to scattering by atmospheric gases, in

that case:

$$P(\Theta) = \frac{3}{4} (1 + \cos^2(\Theta))$$


# Rayleigh phase function

Idea of polarization, sources of polarization

Two components of variations in electric field

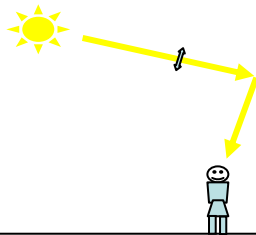
Dipole scattering depends on angle between  $E$ -variations and plane of scattering (specified by incoming and outgoing directions):

Perpendicular component:  $P(\Theta) = 1$

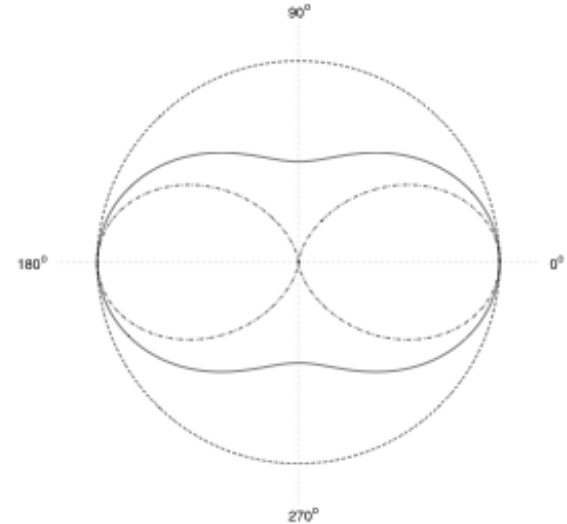
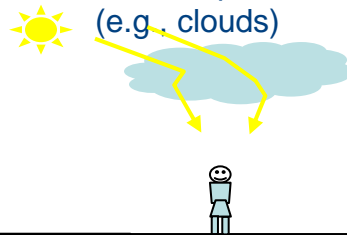
Parallel component:  $P(\Theta) \propto \cos^2(\Theta)$

Overall: 
$$P(\Theta) = \frac{3}{4}(1 + \cos^2 \Theta)$$

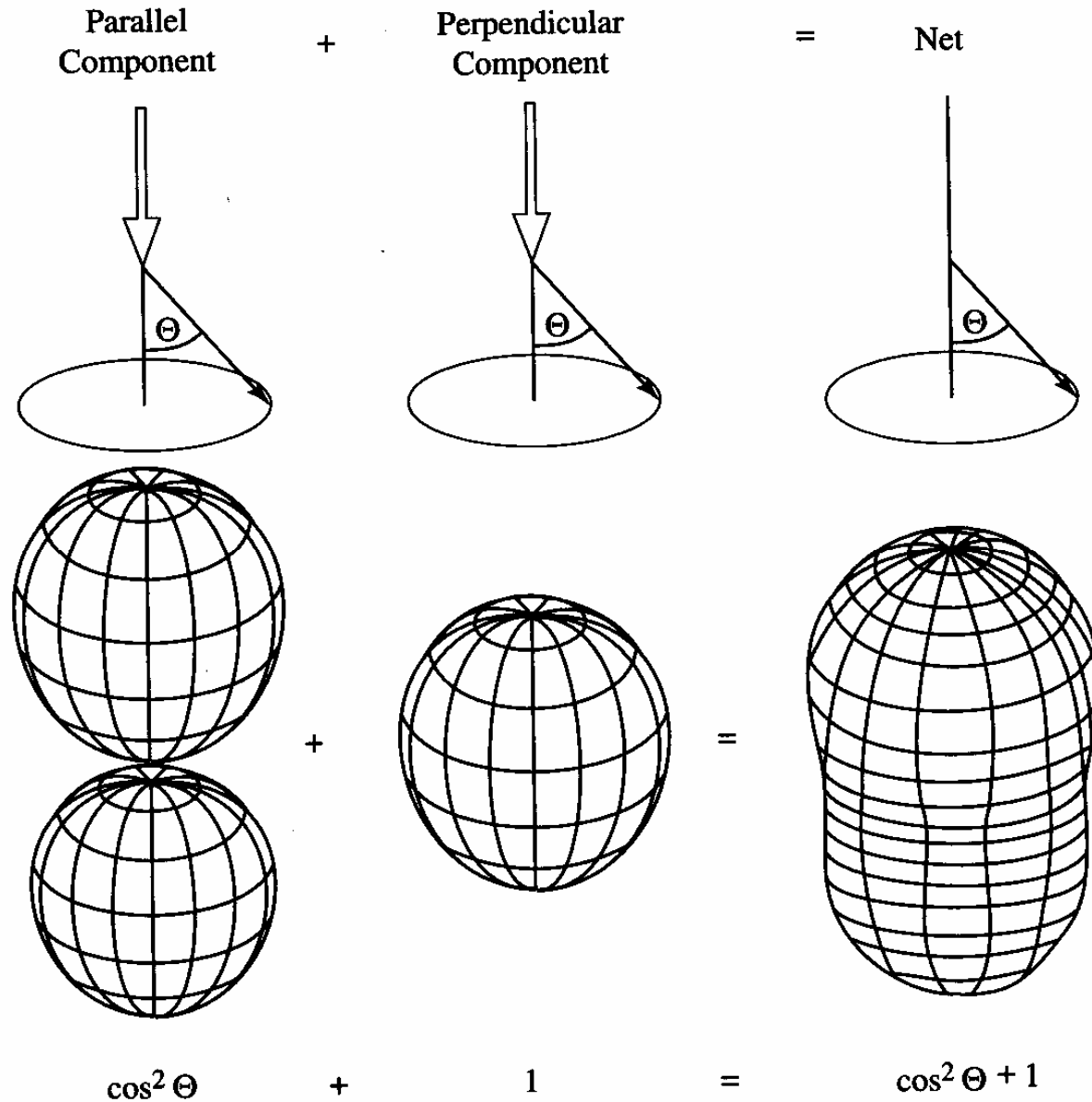
Clear-sky polarization



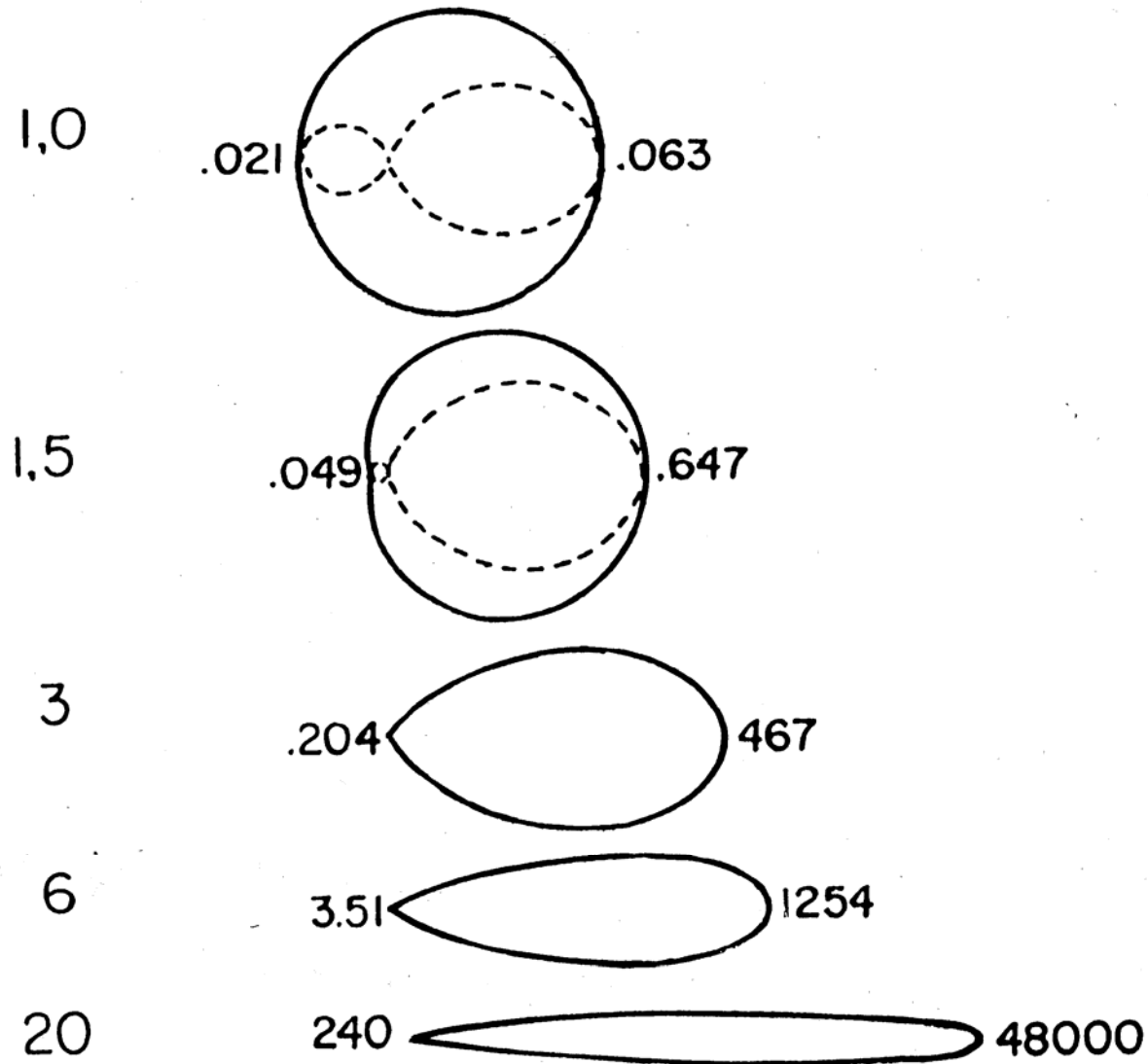
Multiple scattering reduces polarization (e.g., clouds)



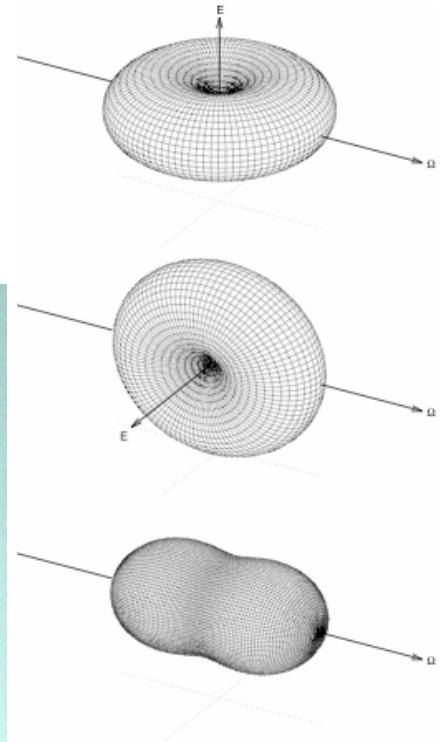
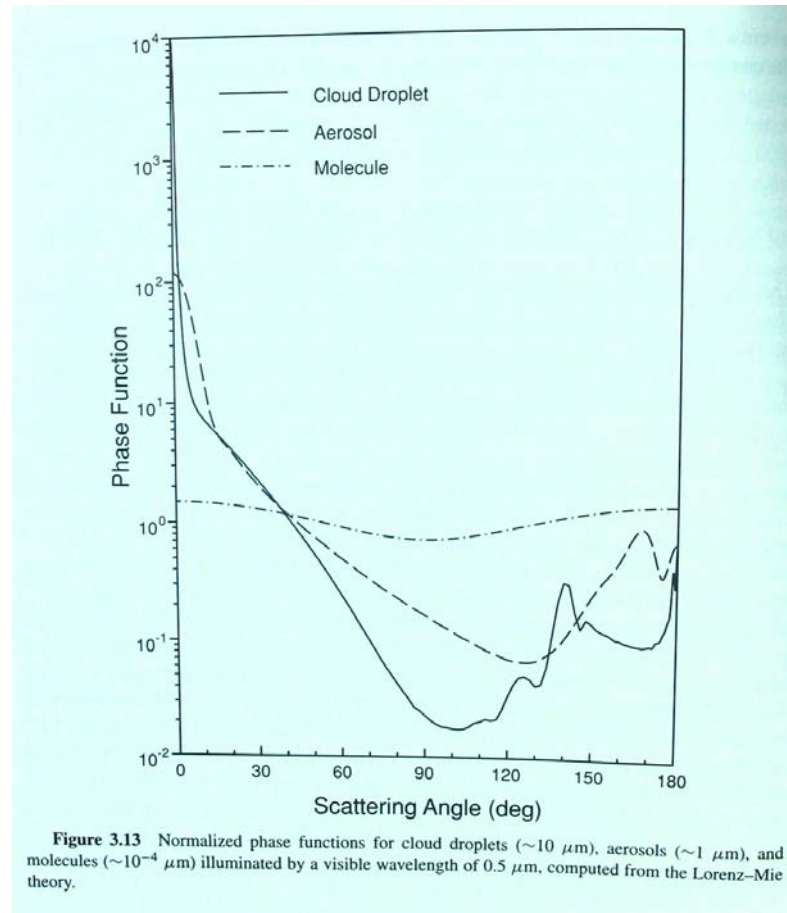
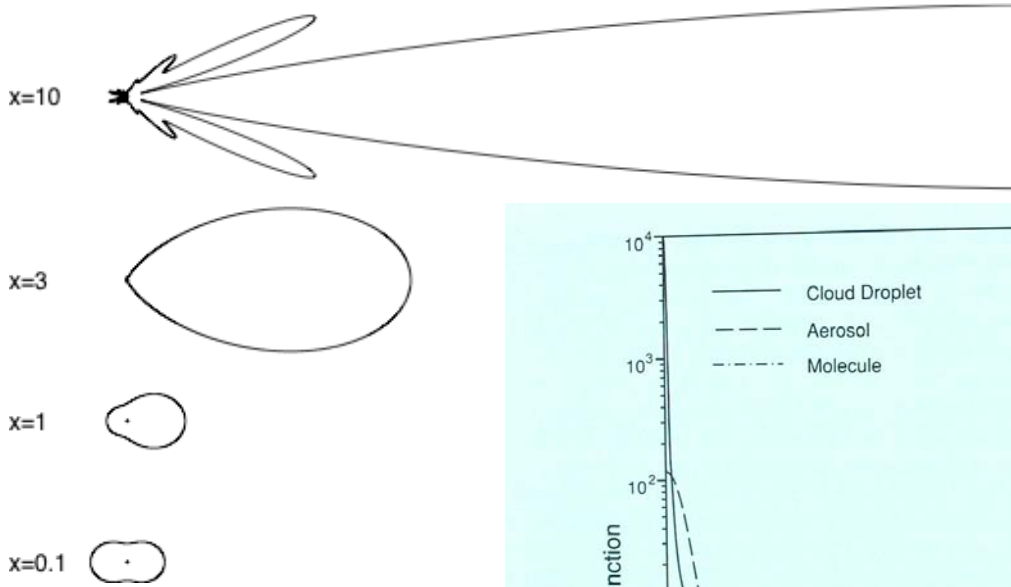
# Phase diagram for Rayleigh scattering



# Phase diagrams for aerosols

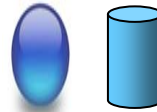


# Phase function plots



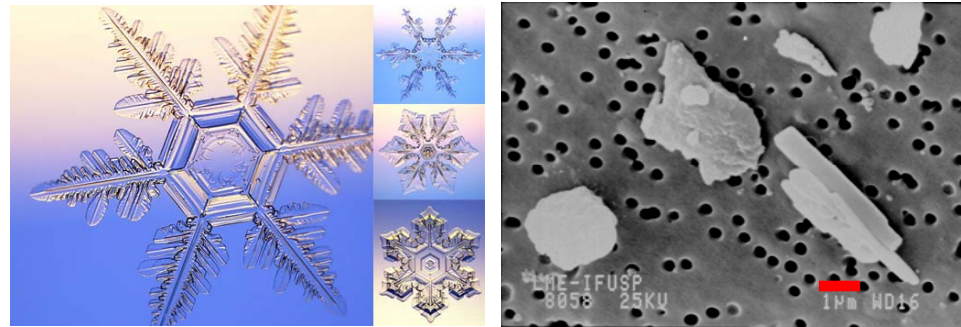
# Non-spherical particles

**T-matrix method:** Rotational symmetrical particles:

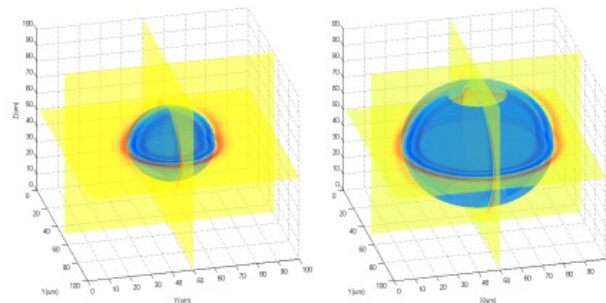


Series expansion uses spherical Henkel and Bessel functions, etc.  
Free public codes (FORTRAN) available, fast

**FDTD method:** irregular particles  
(e.g., ice crystals, aerosol)

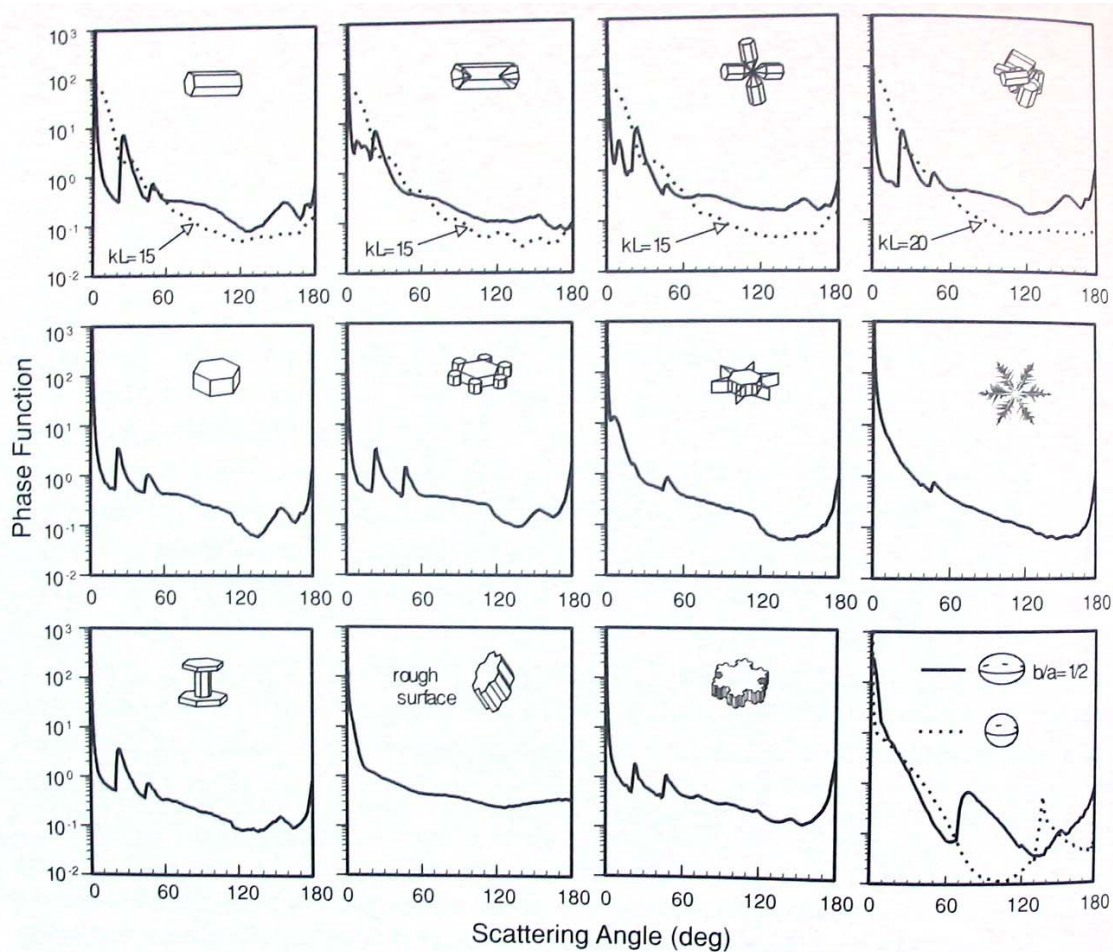


Finite difference time domain  
Computationally expensive  
Codes available (commercial too)

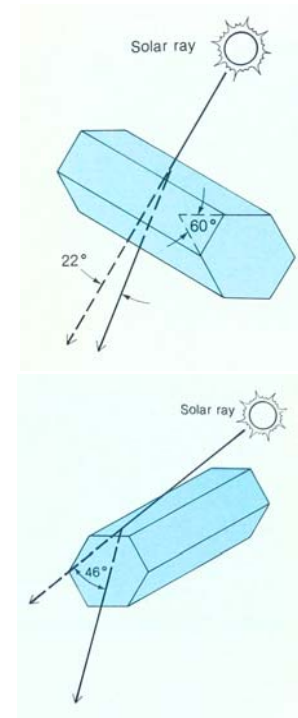




# Sample ice crystal phase functions



22° and 46° halos



# Snow at longer wavelengths

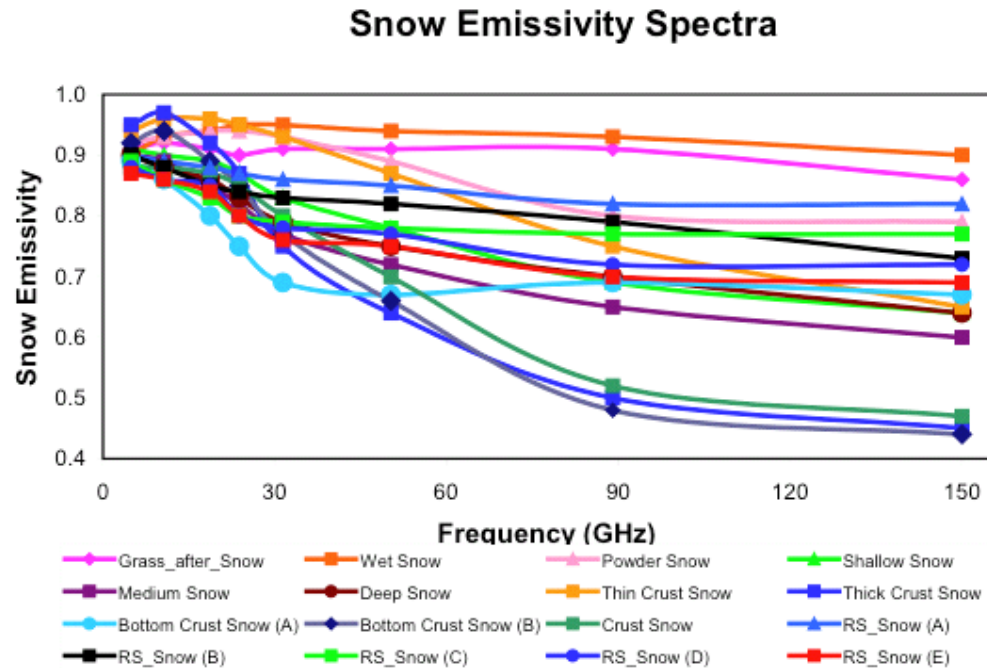
Thermal infrared: Snow emissivity really high (~0.99)

Microwave:

One issue is closeness of particles

Rayleigh approximation so-so: 10-100 GHz or perhaps 0.5 to 5 cm wavelength (snow grain size: 50µm when fresh, 1000µm when old and wet)

Remote sensing: compare effectiveness of scattering, emission at 2 frequencies (e.g., 19, 37 GHz)



# Sea ice

Fresh ice, like a mirror



Often covered by snow



Melting ponds  
(albedo decreases in summer)



## Sea ice: leads and pressure ridges



# Sea ice: inside

Ice itself: absorption (hence blue color), but not much scattering except algae at boundaries

## Scatterers

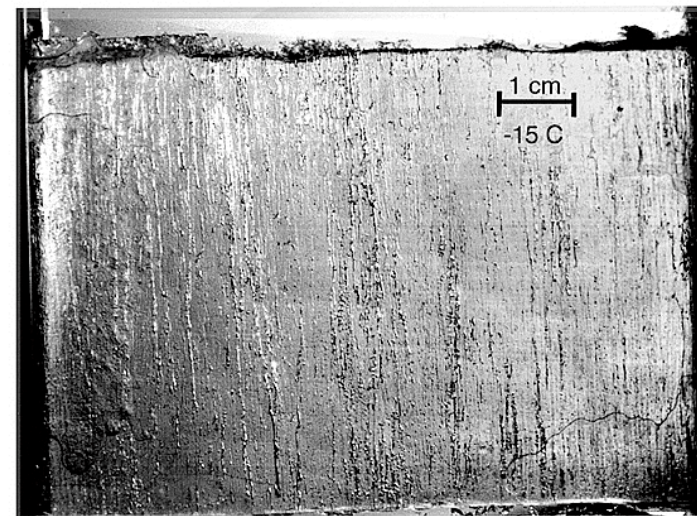
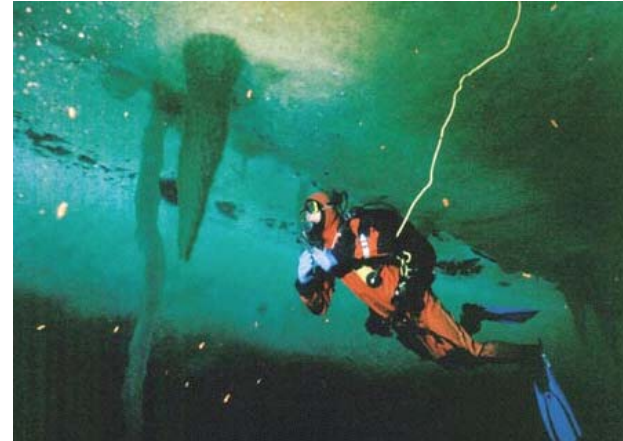
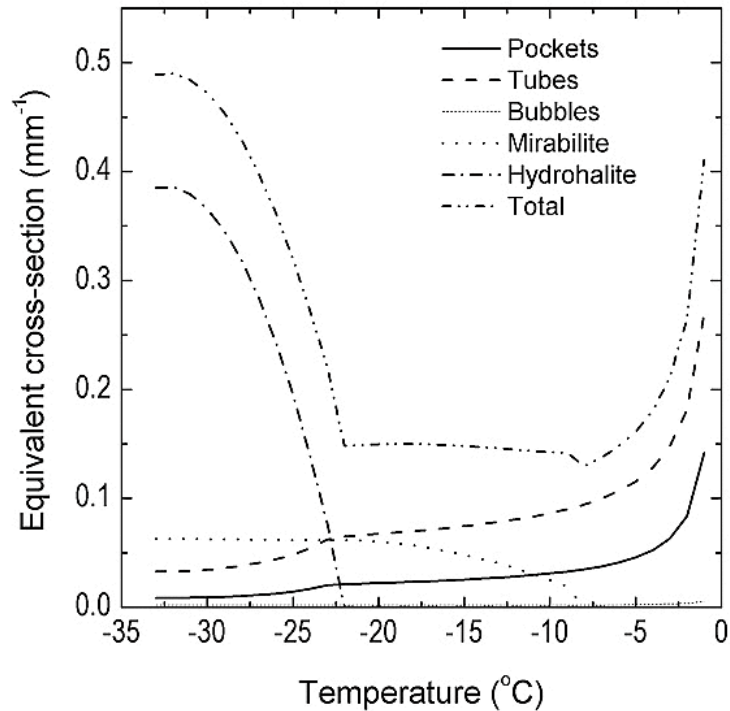


Figure 1. Vertical thick section of first-year sea ice taken from interior first-year ice at a depth of approximately 80 cm. Sample thickness is approximately 5 mm.

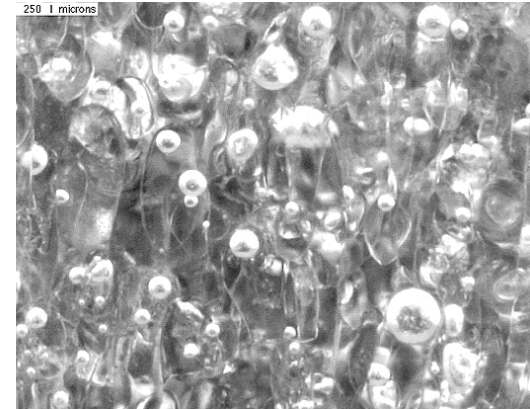
# Sea ice: inside

Close-up photo of sea ice

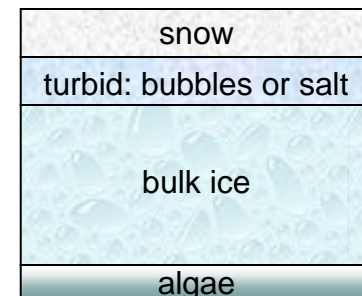


**Figure 4.** Photomosaic of vertical thin section of first-year ice in transmitted light at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Ten boxed subregions were used for counting inclusions. Overall dimensions of scene are  $12.1 \times 4.7$  mm, with 2 mm thickness. Arrows indicate examples of (1) brine tubes, (2) brine pockets, (3) bubbles, (4) drained inclusions, (5) transparent areas, and (6) poorly defined inclusions. (right) An enlargement of box outlined with dashed line. Arrows indicate (A) solitary brine pocket, (B) cluster of small pockets, and (C) string of pockets.

Bubbles in near-melting ice



Vertical structure of sea ice



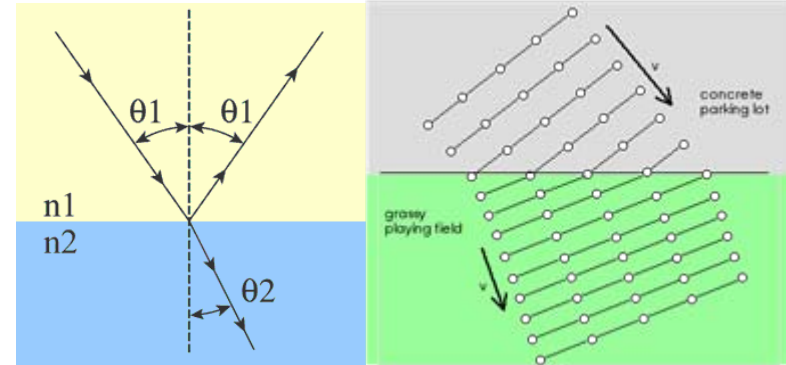
Extra Slides:

# Scattering by large particles—geometric optics

If  $x > 1000$ , diffraction is not too important (what examples?)

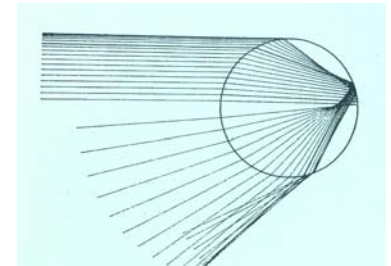
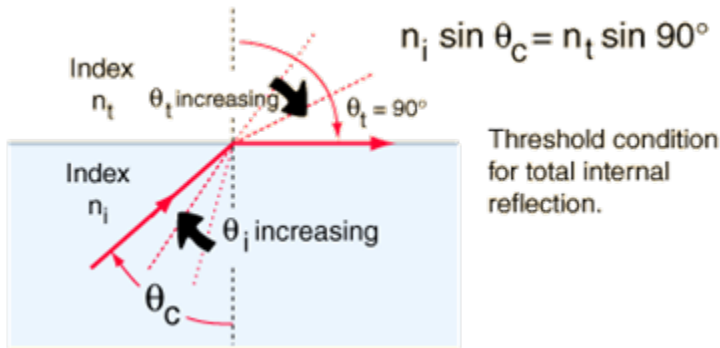
**Snell's laws (1625):**  $\theta_{1,out} = \theta_{1,in}$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = \frac{m_{r,2}}{m_{r,1}}$$



(Figure uses a different notation,  $n$  instead of  $m_r$ )

Critical angle:  $\theta_c = 90^\circ$  ( $\sin(\theta_c) = 1$ ),  
 If  $\theta$  is greater than critical angle: internal bouncing



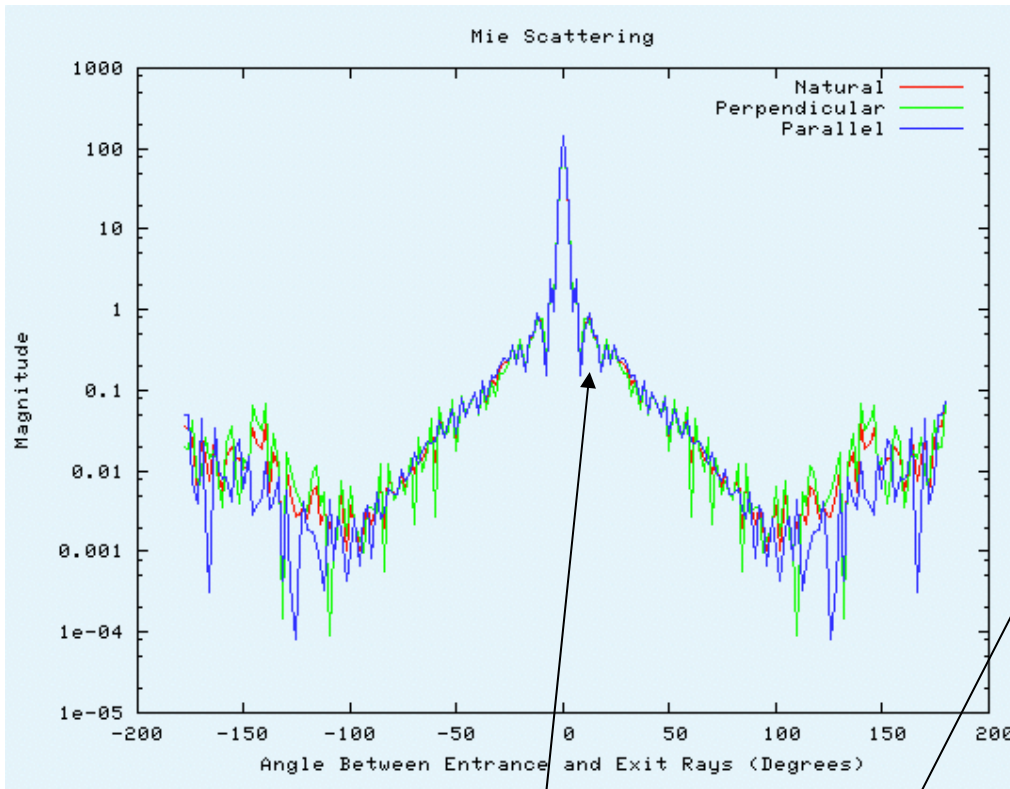
For light coming out of water, critical angle is about  $50^\circ$ .

[Nice online demonstration](http://www.physics.northwestern.edu/ugrad/vpl/optics/snell.html) (<http://www.physics.northwestern.edu/ugrad/vpl/optics/snell.html>)



# Sample Mie phase functions

Cloud droplet,  $r = 10 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\lambda = 0.55 \mu\text{m}$  (green)



corona

aureole

Figure from a book

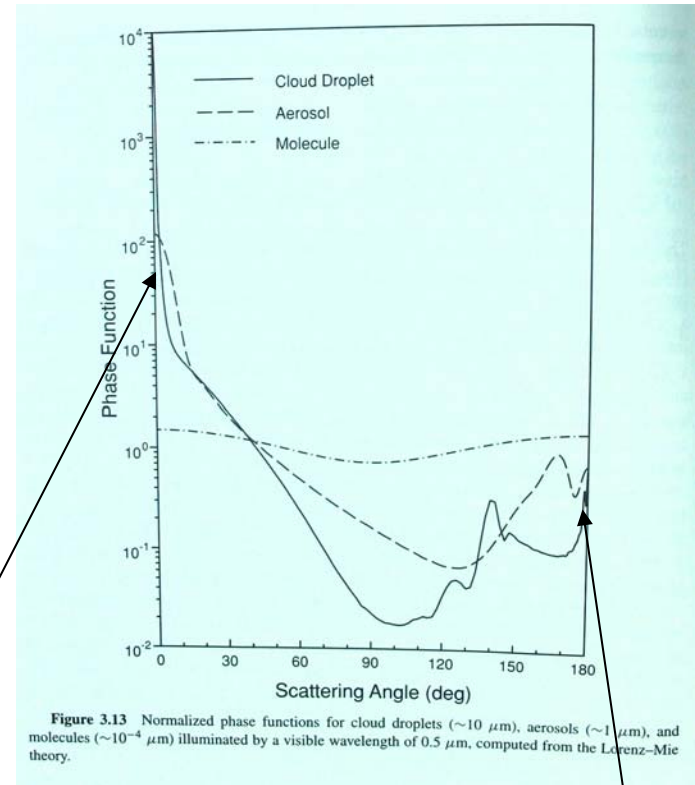


Figure 3.13 Normalized phase functions for cloud droplets ( $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ ), aerosols ( $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ ), and molecules ( $\sim 10^{-4} \mu\text{m}$ ) illuminated by a visible wavelength of  $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ , computed from the Lorenz-Mie theory.

Why no ripples?

Why no polarization?

glory

## Corona, aureole



# Aerosol size effect on Scattering:

Fine particles from smoke

Coarse dust particles

Fine particles from smoke

