



A Comprehensive Forward Model for Spaceborne Radar Instruments

Isaac Moradi
NASA GMAO Code 610.1
University of Maryland
Greenbelt, MD 20771

Ronald Gelaro (NASA), Gerald Heymsfield (NASA),
Benjamin Johnson (NASA), Arlindo da Silva (NASA)

American Geophysical Union
Fall Meeting
Moscone Center
San Francisco, CA 94103
11-15 December, 2023



Outline

- **Introduction & Importance**
- **The Discrete Dipole Approximation**
- **Bulk Scattering Properties**
- **The Radar Simulator**
- **Evaluation of Radar Simulator**
- **Assimilation of radar observations**
- **Conclusions**

All-weather radiative transfer calculations

Cost function for 3D-Var Data Assimilation:

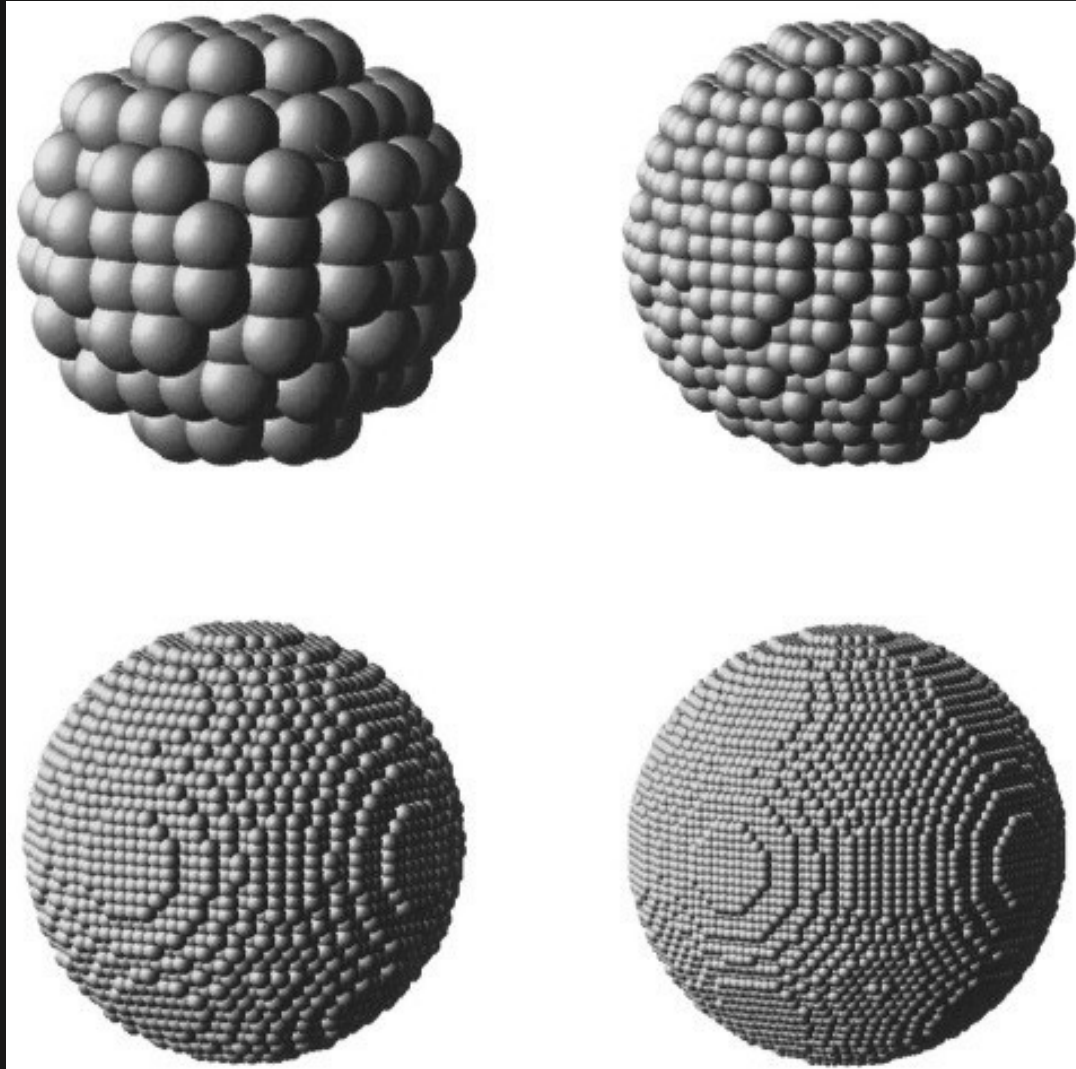
$$J(\vec{x}) = \overbrace{\frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_b)^T \overrightarrow{B}^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_b)}^{J_b} + \overbrace{\frac{1}{2} (H(\vec{x}) - \vec{y})^T \overrightarrow{R}^{-1} (H(\vec{x}) - \vec{y})}^{J_o}$$

Relation between the observations (y) and the forward operator (H) can be expressed as:

$$y = H(\vec{x}, \vec{p}_b, \vec{p}_s) + E$$

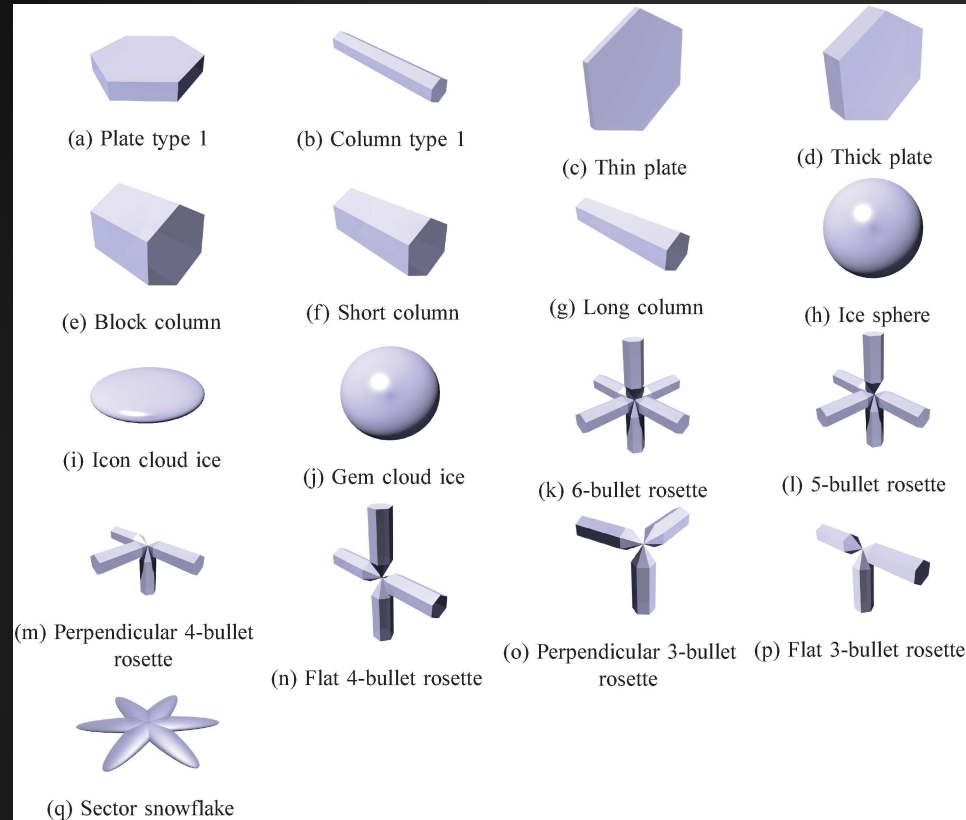
x state vector, p_b parameters such as size distribution of hydrometers, p_s indicates the scattering parameters (e.g., phase function, scattering coefficient, asymmetry factor) The scattering parameters highly depend on the shape of hydrometeors and current CRTM cloud lookup tables assume spherical shapes for all hydrometeors (frozen or liquid)!

The Discrete Dipole Approximation

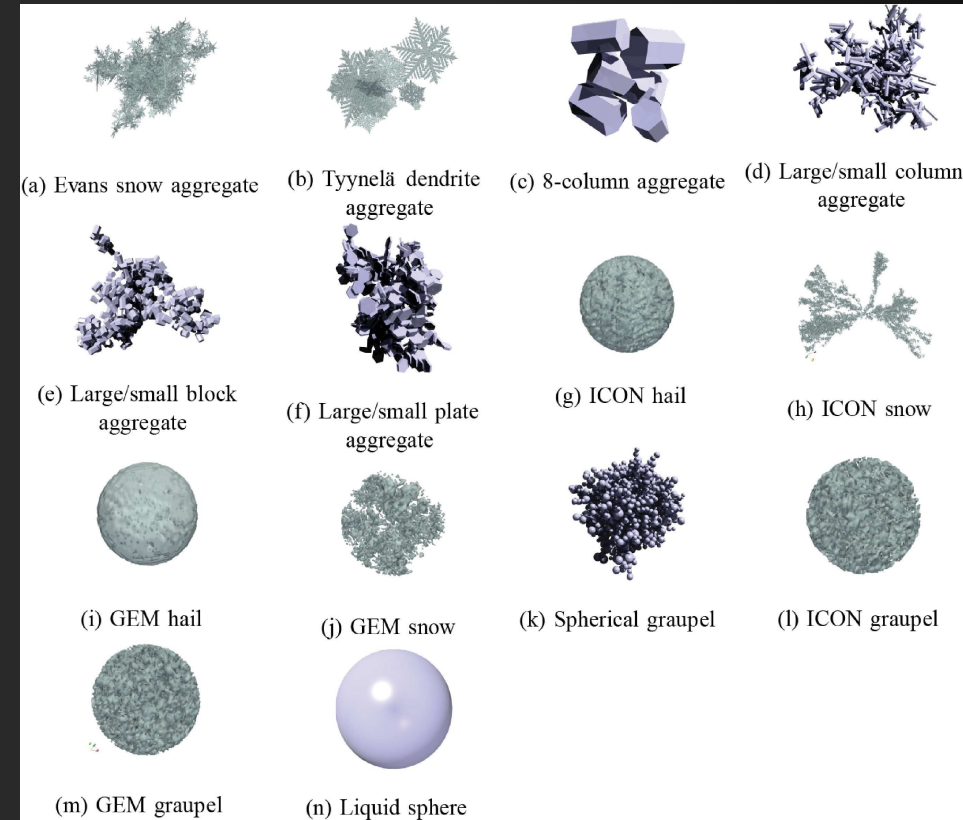


In the DDA technique, scattering and absorption are approximated by a finite array of small polarized dipoles. DDA was originally introduced by DeVoe in 1964. The dataset was developed by Eriksson et al (2018) using the Amsterdam DDA (ADDA, Yurkin et al., 2020) and includes single scattering properties of a large number of frozen and liquid habits.

Laczik et al., Appl. Opt. 35, 3736-3745 (1996) Used with permission



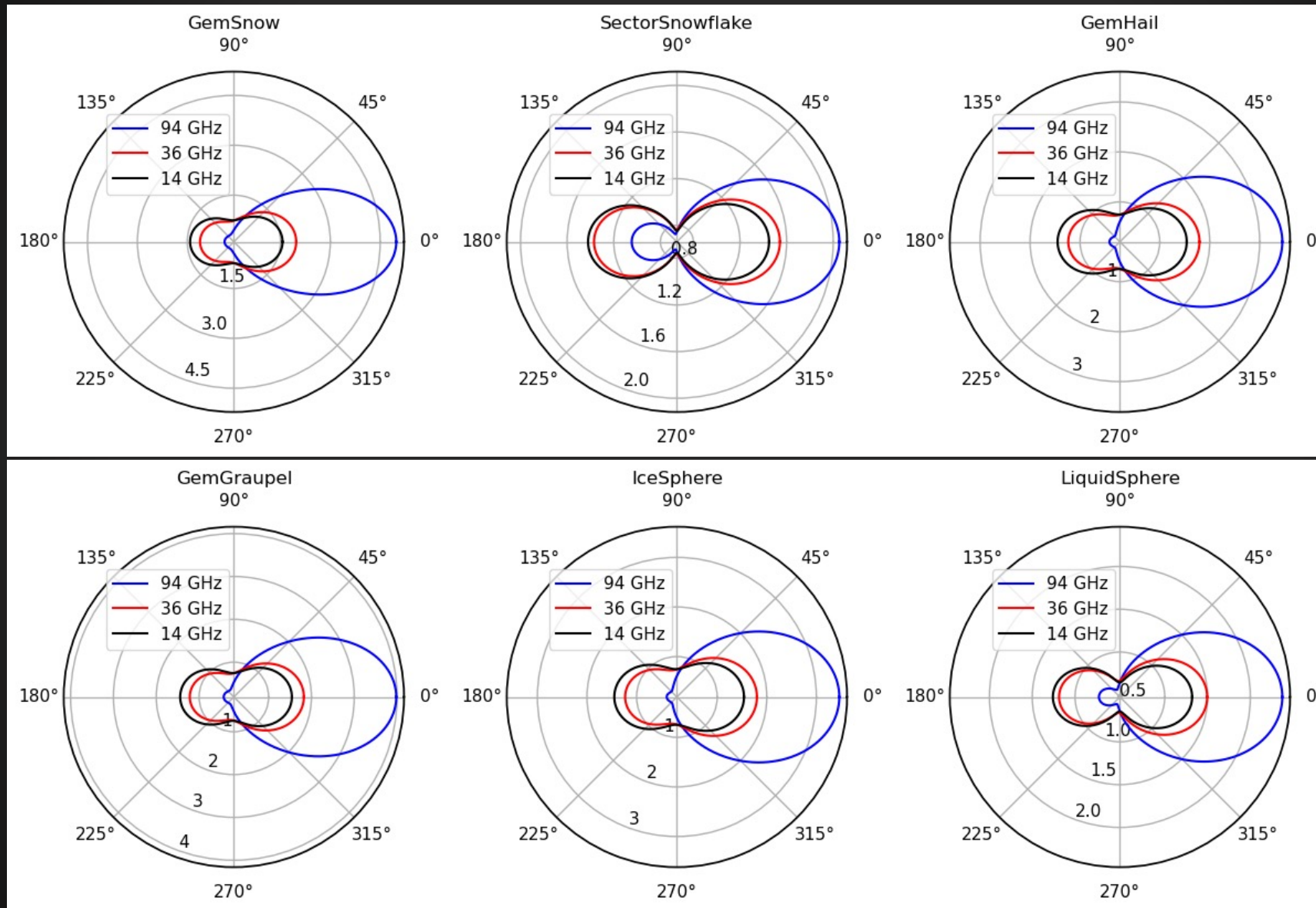
(a) Single crystal.



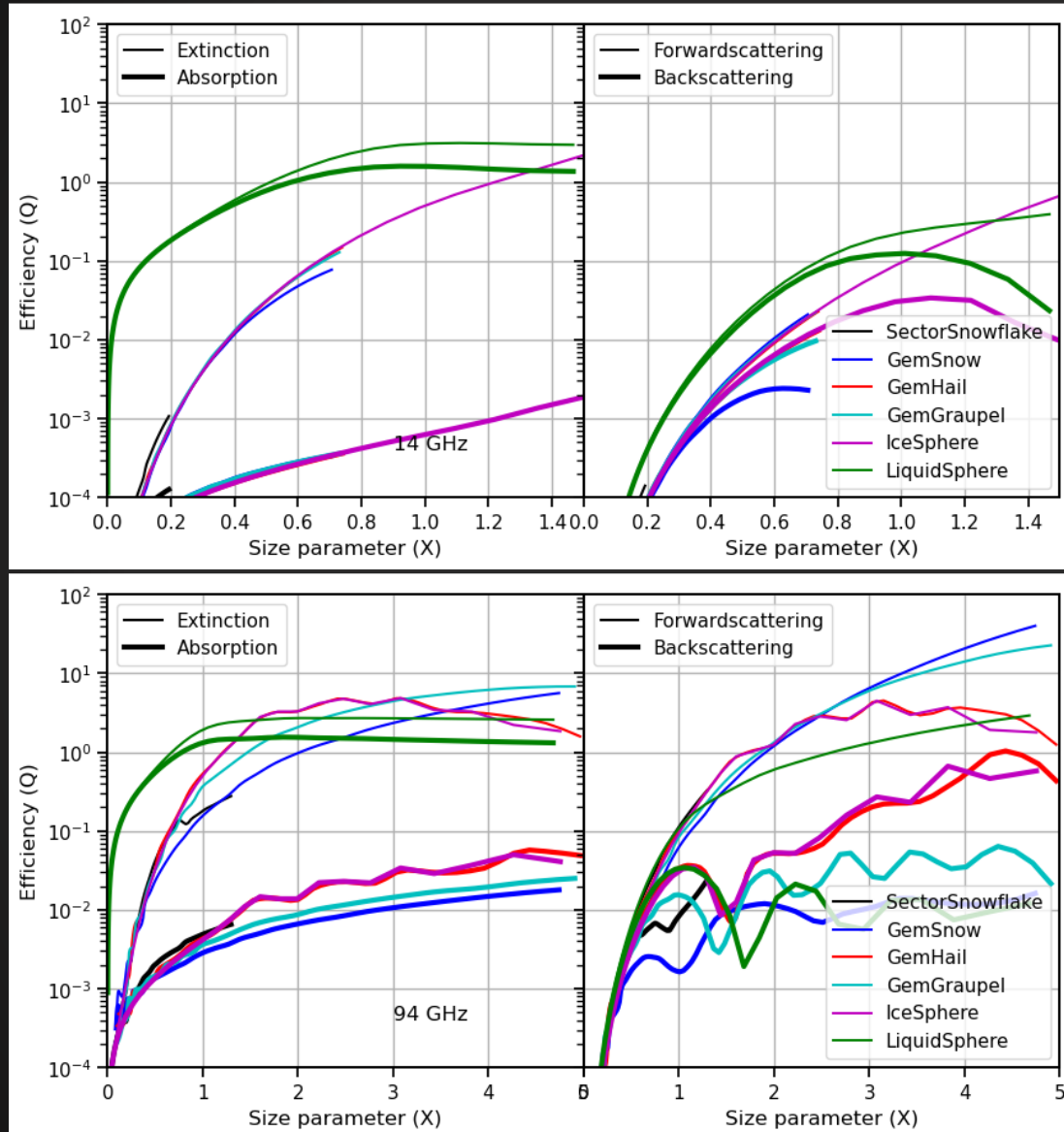
(b) Aggregates and liquid habits

Single crystal, aggregate, and liquid habits included in the database generated by Eriksson et al. (2018). Note that although habits "h" and "j" may look identical in the image, they have different aspect ratio.

The Phase Functions



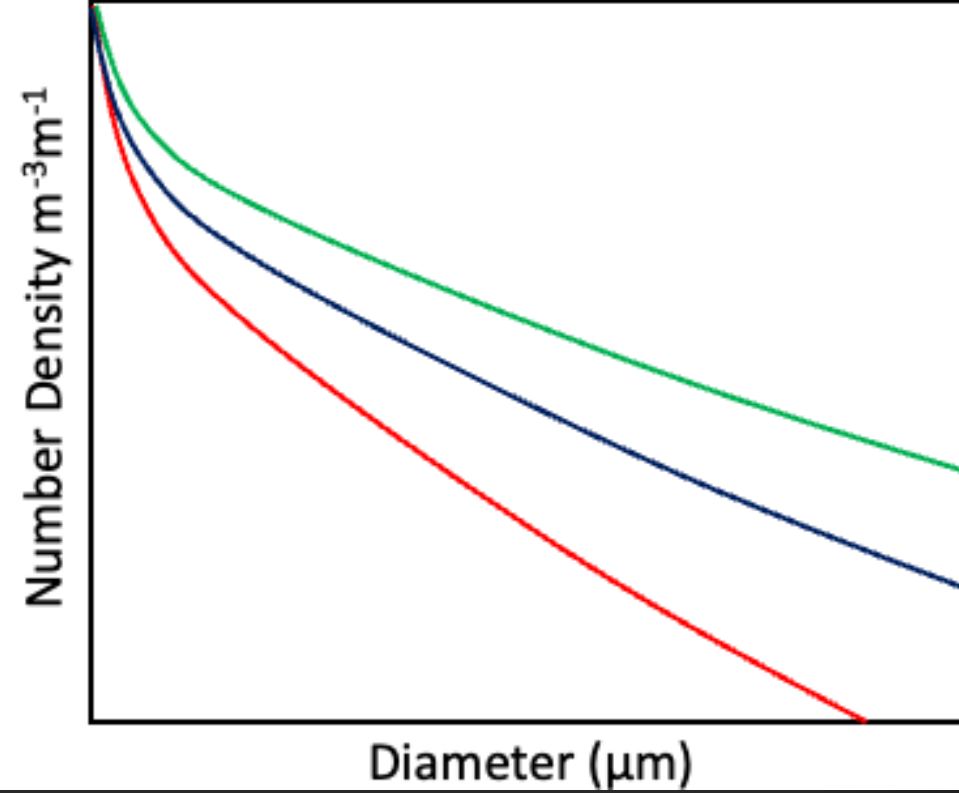
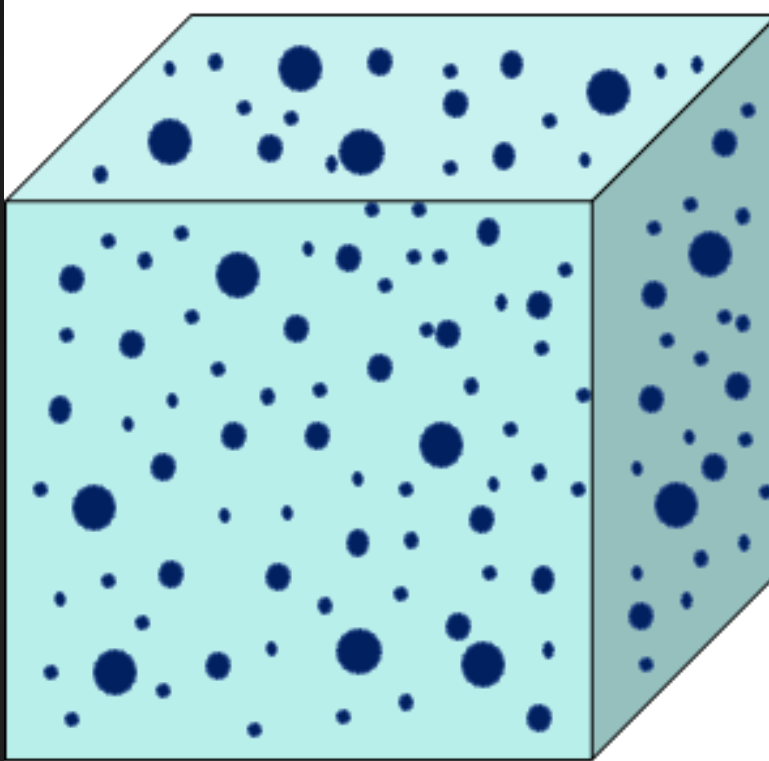
Backscattering Coefficients



$$Q_{\lambda} = \frac{\sigma_{\lambda}}{\pi r^2}$$

$$X = \frac{\pi D}{\lambda}$$

Extinction and backscattering efficiencies from the ARTS database for several different habits (Temp: 260 K)



Particle size distribution is used to compute bulk scattering properties from single scattering data

Modified Gamma Size Distribution: $N(D) = N_0 D^\mu \exp(-\Lambda D^\gamma) \quad m^{-3} m^{-1}$

Mass Scattering Coefficients:

$$k_x = \frac{\int \sigma_x(D) n(D) dD}{\int m(D) n(D) dD} = \frac{\int \sigma_x(D) n(D) dD}{\int \rho(D) V(D) n(D) dD} \quad m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$$

The radar equation can be formalized as follows:

$$R = \frac{10^{18} \lambda^4}{\pi^5 |k_w|^2} \beta_b \quad m^4 m^2 m^{-4} m^1 \Rightarrow mm^6 m^{-3}$$

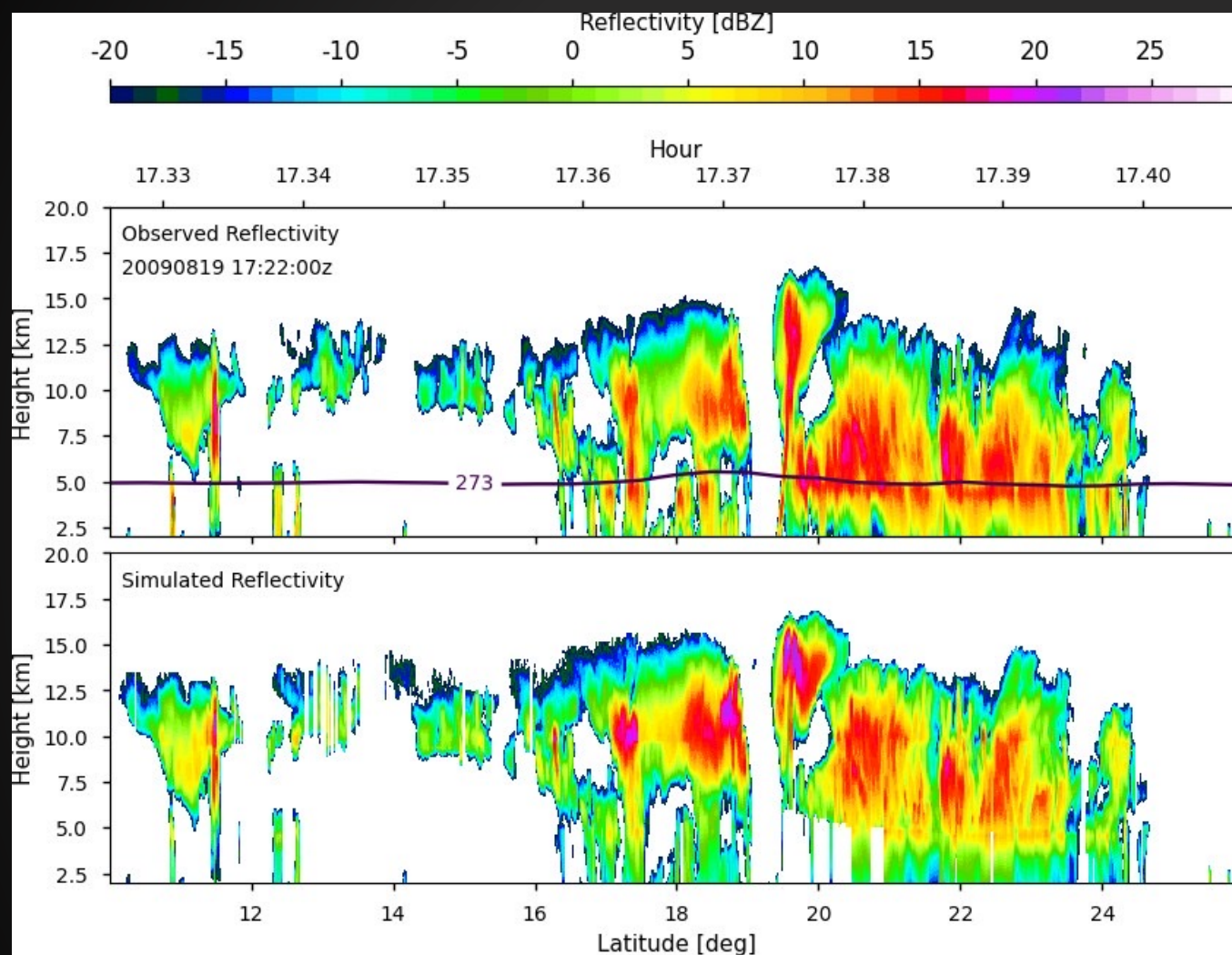
$$R_a = \frac{10^{18} \lambda^4}{\pi^5 |k_w|^2} \Gamma \beta_b \quad m^4 m^2 m^{-4} m^1 \Rightarrow mm^6 m^{-3}$$

$$\beta_b = \int_0^\infty \sigma_b(D) n(D) dD \quad m^2 m^{-4} m^1 \Rightarrow m^{-1}$$

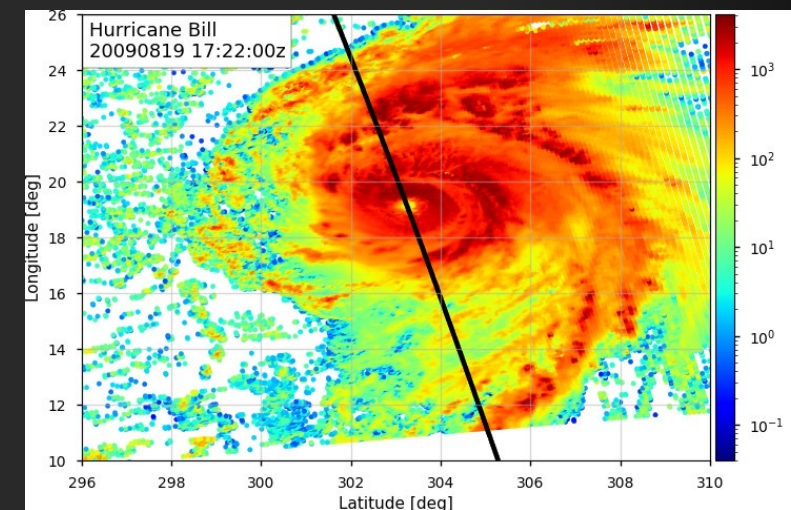
The unit for R (reflectivity) and R_a attenuated reflectivity are in $m^6 m^{-3}$ and 10^{18} is used to convert the unit to $mm^6 m^{-3}$. This is in turn converted to dBz or decibels by taking $R_e = 10 \log_{10} (R)$ or $R_{ea} = 10 \log_{10} (R_a)$. The dielectric factor (k_w) is calculated using the complex permittivity of the liquid water, $|k_w|^2 = 0.75$.

Transmittance (attenuation) depends on both scattering and absorption coefficients.

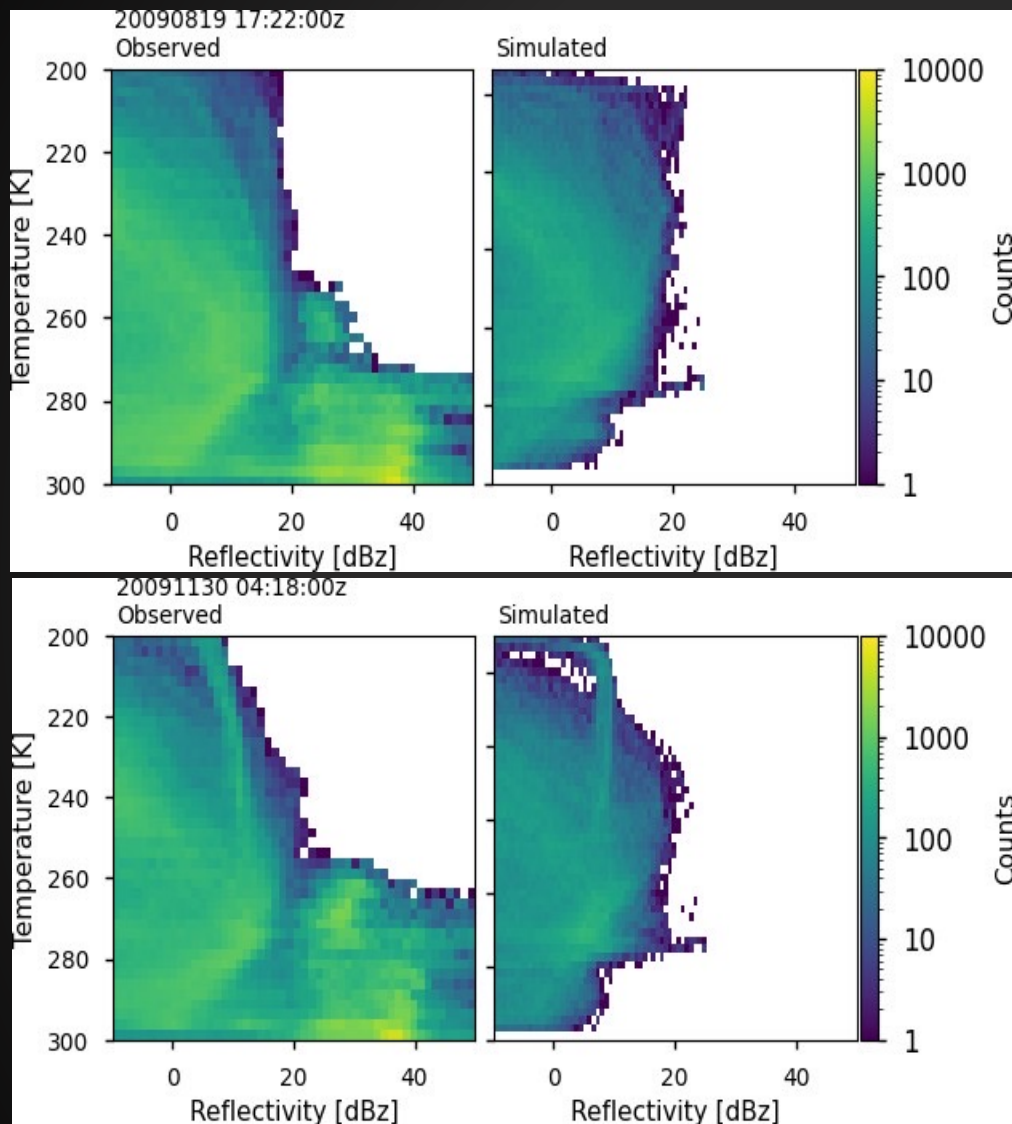
$$\Gamma(r) = \exp \left(-2 \int_{r_1}^{r_{\text{sat}}} k_e(r) dr \right) = \exp \left(-2 \sum_{i=r_1}^{r_{\text{sat}}} \tau(i) \right)$$



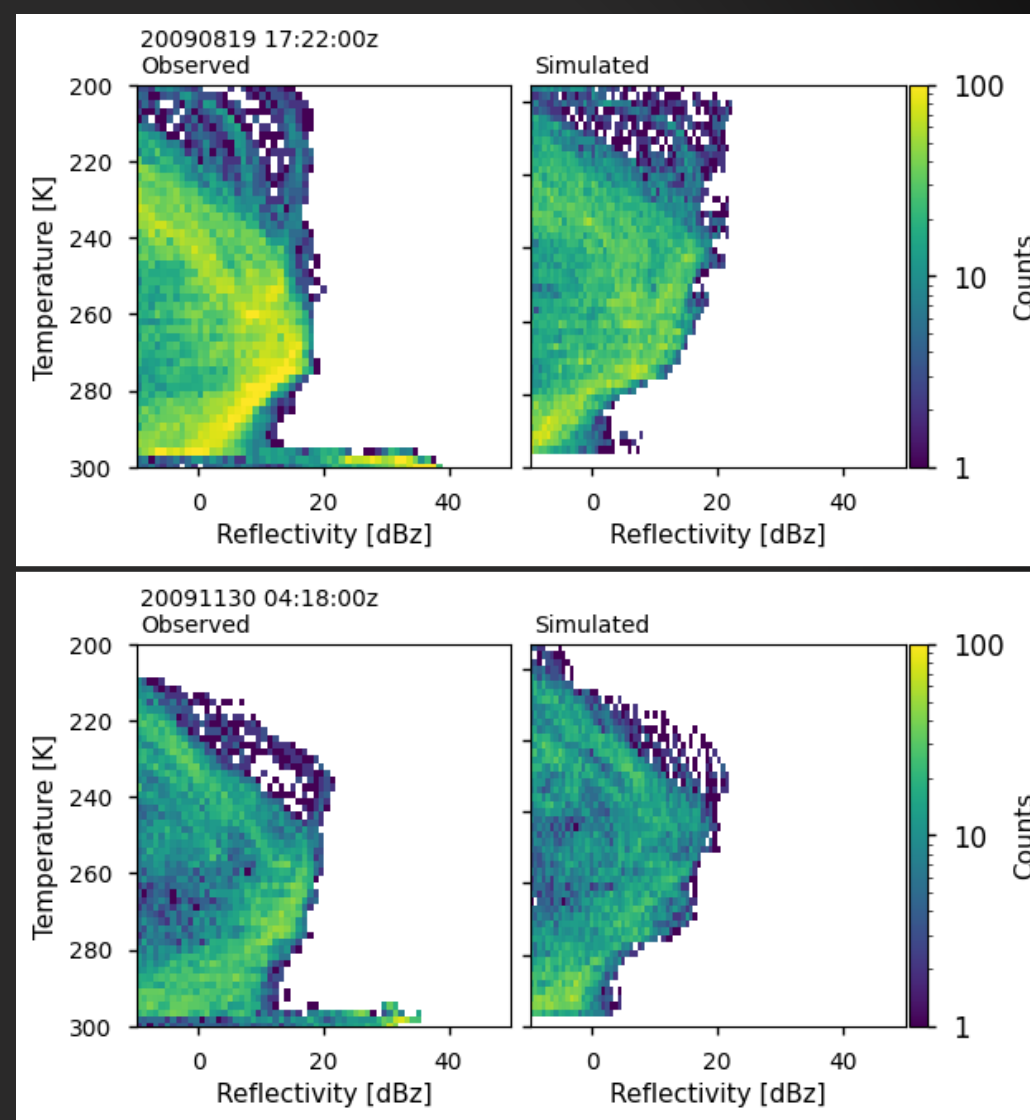
Observed and simulated
reflectivities for Hurricane Bill.

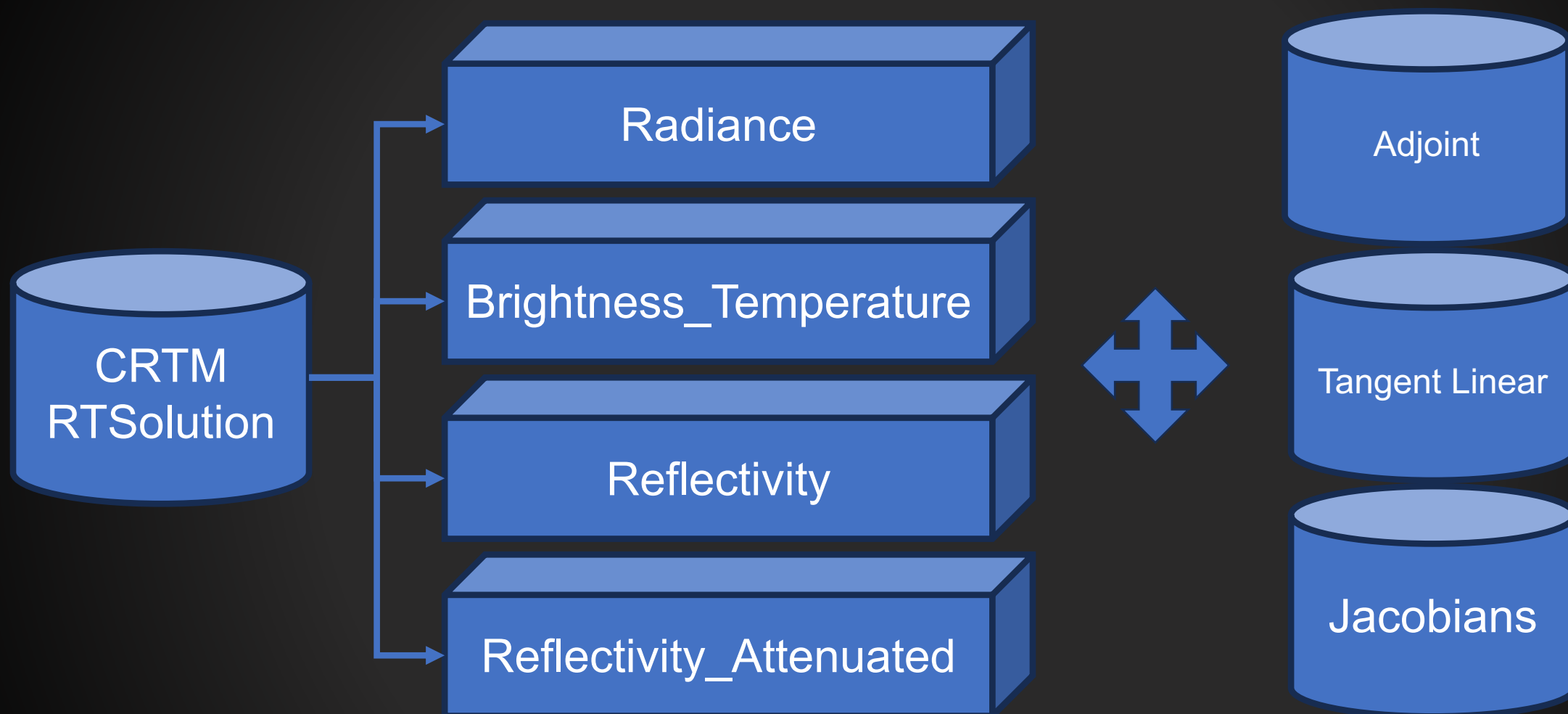


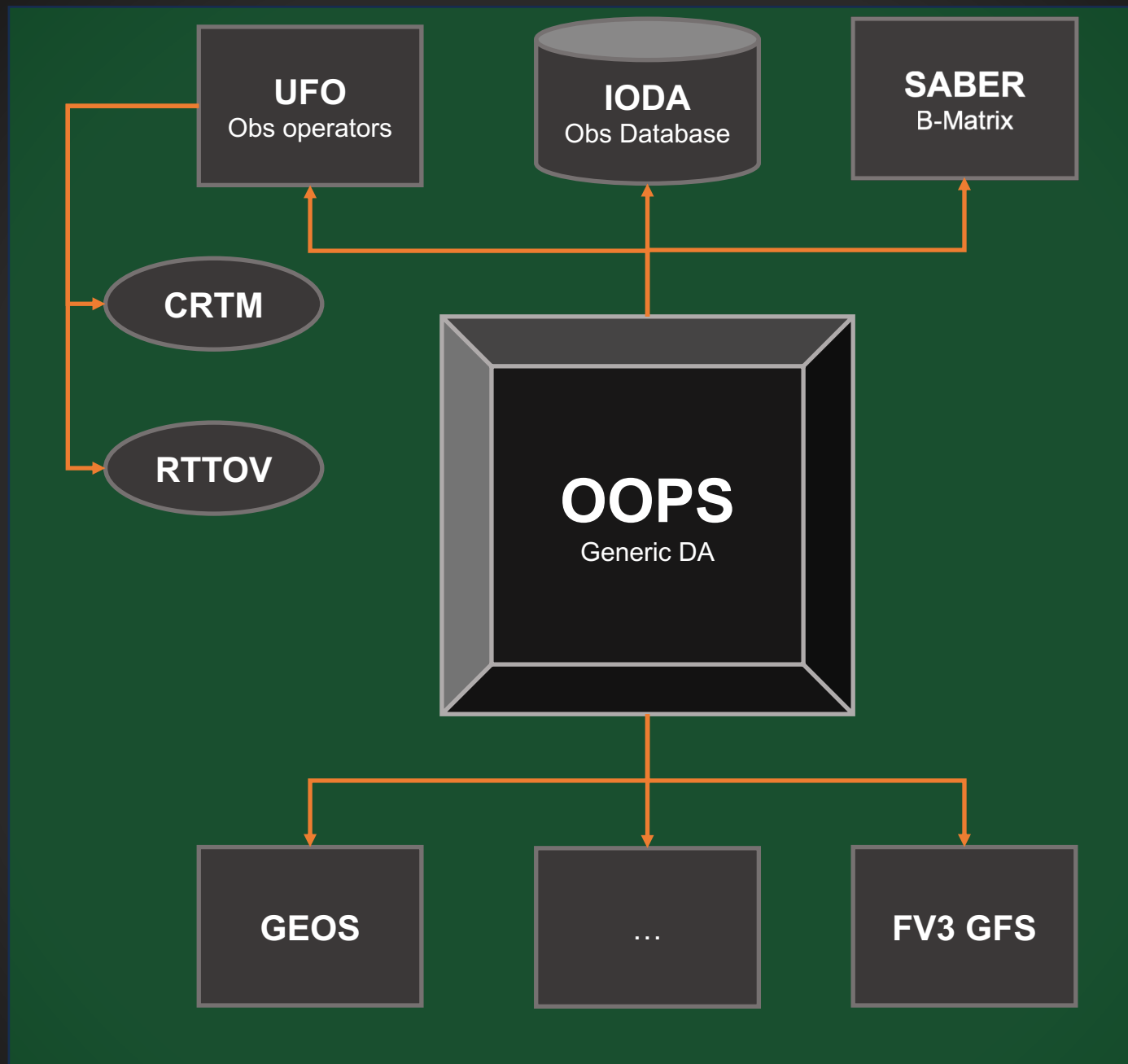
Global



Tropical Cyclone







$$\begin{bmatrix} \partial \kappa_b \\ \partial \Gamma \\ \partial R \\ \partial R_a \\ \partial R_e \\ \partial R_{ae} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ P_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ P_1 \Gamma & P_1 \kappa_b & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{10}{R \ln 10} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{10}{R_a \ln 10} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial \kappa_b \\ \partial \Gamma \\ \partial R \\ \partial R_a \\ \partial R_e \\ \partial R_{ae} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \partial \kappa_b^* \\ \partial \Gamma^* \\ \partial R^* \\ \partial R_a^* \\ \partial R_e^* \\ \partial R_{ae}^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & P_1 & P_1 \Gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & P_1 \kappa_b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{10}{R \ln 10} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{10}{R_a \ln 10} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial \kappa_b^* \\ \partial \Gamma^* \\ \partial R^* \\ \partial R_a^* \\ \partial R_e^* \\ \partial R_{ae}^* \end{bmatrix}$$



- ▶ CRTM radar simulator as well as its adjoint and tangent linear are implemented and tested
- ▶ A new scattering dataset generated using the DDA method was implemented into CRTM and evaluated using a collocated reanalysis and satellite dataset
- ▶ The radar module takes advantage of different CRTM atmospheric absorption and cloud scattering modules
- ▶ The radar module can be used for the assimilation of observations from instruments such as CloudSat CPR, GPM DPR, and EarthCare CPR.
- ▶ The active module is implemented within JEDI/UFO and ready to go!
- ▶ Work is in progress to evaluate the active module within the JEDI DA system

Moradi et al. (2022): Implementation of a discrete dipole approximation scattering database into community radiative transfer model. JGR-Atmospheres, 127, DOI: 10.1029/2022JD036957

Moradi et al. (2023): Developing a Radar Signal Simulator for the Community Radiative Transfer Model. IEEE TGRS, Accepted.

Moradi et al. (2020): Assimilation of Satellite Microwave Observations over the Rainbands of Tropical Cyclones. Mon. Wea. Rev., 148, 4729–4745, DOI: 10.1175/MWR-D-19-0341.1.

**Thank you for
your attention!**

