A Two-Step Data Assimilation Framework to Improve Soil Moisture Data

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CMOS-CGU (Ottawa 2010) assimilation of satellite soil moisture data

Satellite Soil Moisture Data

 Soil moisture: a crucial input for hydrological and weather forecasting applications



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Retrieval of Satellite Soil Moisture

Radiative transfer model (RTM)

- Use satellite brightness temperature
- Retrieve satellite soil moisture
- Land Parameter Retrieval Model (LPRM)
- Challenges: why assimilate?
 - Variable accuracy
 - Deeper soil layers

Soil Moisture Data Sources

Satellite soil moisture data

- Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer (AMSR-E)
- Grid size: 50 \times 50 km
- Insitu soil moisture data
 - 16 soil moisture networks
 - part of Brightwater creek, Saskatoon

Improving Soil Moisture Estimates Through a 2-Step Data Assimilation

- A joint assimilation of brightness temperature (TB) and soil moisture
 - Merge two soil moisture estimates:
 - Satellite soil moisture (LPRM)
 - Land surface scheme (CLASS)
 - Objectives: Bias, RMSE, Cost function
 - Validate with in-situ dataset





Step One: Assimilation of Satellite TB Into LPRM

- Observed TB from satellite
- Simulated TB from LPRM
- Merge observed and simulated TBs



Comparison Between Assimilation and LPRM Default



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Step Two: Assimilate Satellite Soil Moisture Into CLASS

- Satellite soil moisture from LPRM
- Simulated soil moisture from CLASS
- Merge two soil moisture estimates



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Comparison Between Soil **Moisture Estimates**



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Validation for Soil Moisture at 20cm Depth



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Summary and Conclusions

- Improve soil moisture estimate by assimilating satellite TB into LPRM
- Generate an improved soil moisture through a merger between satellite soil moisture and CLASS
- Continuous updating for real-time soil moisture assimilation