

# Comparison of Forward Operators for Polarimetric Radars Aiming for Data Assimilation

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## Why Dual-Polarized Radar?

- Distinguish ice and liquid phases of precipitation using radar.
- Identify specific hydrometeor populations such as hail or super-cooled water.
- Quantify rain, snow and hail fall rates using radar.

WRF model with **two-moment** microphysics (Morrison and Gettleman J. Climate 2008)

\* Predict intense rains with WRF.  $\phi(D) = N_0 D^\mu e^{-\Lambda D}$   $N_0$  Intercept parameter  
\* The two moment microphysics provides:  $\Lambda$  Slope parameter  
 $\mu$  Spectral shape parameter  
**number densities and mixing ratios of rainwater** (←focused in this study)

## Two types of variable convertors

### A Model to observation

#### TMX T-matrix (direct scattering calculation)

(Doviak and Zrnic 1993, Smyth and Illingworth 1998, Oguchi 1973)

$$Z_{H,V} = \frac{4\lambda^4}{\pi^4 |K_w|^2} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} |S_{h,v}(D)|^2 n(D) dD \quad \text{From the WRF model}$$

$$K_{DP} = \frac{2 \times 180 \times 10^{-3} \lambda}{\pi} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \text{Re}[S_h(D) - S_v(D)] n(D) dD \quad \text{with T-matrix (Mishchenko 2000)}$$

$$A_H = 8.686 \times 10^{-3} \lambda \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \text{Im}[S_h(D)] n(D) dD$$

$$A_{DP} = 8.686 \times 10^{-3} \lambda \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \text{Im}[S_h(D) - S_v(D)] n(D) dD$$

#### FIT Fitting (indirect scattering calculation)

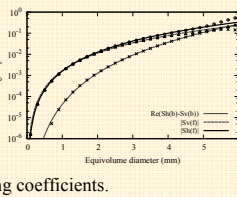
(Zhang et al. 2001) Used in Jung et al. (2008)

$$|S_{h,v}(D)| = \frac{4\lambda^4}{\pi^4 |K_w|^2} (\alpha_{h,v}^2 N_0 \Lambda^{-(2\beta_{h,v}+1)} \Gamma(2\beta_{h,v}+1))$$

$$Z_{H,V} = \frac{4\lambda^4}{\pi^4 |K_w|^2} (\alpha_{h,v}^2 N_0 \Lambda^{-(2\beta_{h,v}+1)} \Gamma(2\beta_{h,v}+1))$$

$$K_{DP} = \frac{180\lambda}{\pi} N_0 \alpha_k \Lambda^{-(\beta_k+1)} \Gamma(\beta_k+1)$$

$$A_H = \alpha_H K_{DP}^{\beta_H} \quad A_{DP} = \alpha_d K_{DP}^{\beta_d} \quad \alpha, \beta \text{ are fitting coefficients.}$$



**Result** Averages and standard deviations of OBS, TMX, FIT, and their differences of  $Z_H$ ,  $Z_{DR}$ , and  $K_{DP}$

	$Z_H$ (dBZ)		$Z_{DR}$ (dB)		$K_{DP}$ ( $^{\circ} \text{km}^{-1}$ )	
	AVG	STD	AVG	STD	AVG	STD
OBS	16.41	10.76	0.93	1.05	1.30	1.54
TMX	22.28	11.65	1.01	0.58	0.61	0.57
FIT	18.80	10.33	0.64	0.46	0.27	0.19
TMX - OBS	5.76	15.11	0.15	1.03	-0.58	1.62
FIT - OBS	2.06	14.31	-0.19	1.01	-0.86	1.44

FIT is better than TMX.

### B Observation to model

Derived theoretically or fitting with scattering calculation

Suggested by radar meteorologists (Bringi and Chandrasekar 2001)

$Z_H$ ,  $Z_{DR}$  and  $K_{DP}$  are observed by polarimetric radars, and compared with modeled rainwater contents  $Q_r$ .

$$Z_{H,V} = c_1 Z_h^{a_1} 10^{0.1b_1 Z_{DR}} \quad \text{Used in Li and Mecikalski (2012)}$$

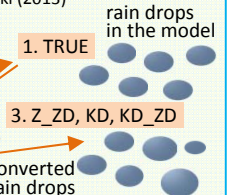
$$K_D = c_2 \left( \frac{K_{DP}}{f} \right)^{b_2} \quad \text{Used in Yokota et al. (2014)}$$

$$K_{D\_ZD} = c_3 K_{DP}^{a_3} 10^{0.1b_3 Z_{DR}} \quad \text{Used in Li and Mecikalski (2013)}$$

$a_x, b_x, c_x$  are constants

FIT is used as a TRUE-observation generator

1. WRF simulates rainwater,
2. then, FIT converts them to polarimetric factors,
3. again,  $Z_{ZD}$ ,  $K_D$ , and  $K_{D\_ZD}$  convert these factors back to rainwater.



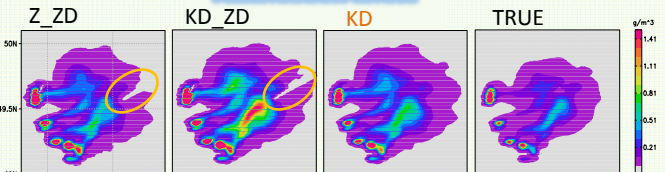
## Result

Averages and standard deviations of TRUE,  $Z_{ZD}$ ,  $K_D$ , and  $K_{D\_ZD}$ , and their differences.

	Difference with TRUE			
	AVG	STD	AVG	STD
TRUE	0.073	0.12	—	—
$Z_{ZD}$	0.088	0.15	0.018	0.05
$K_D$	0.073	0.13	0.005	0.03
$K_{D\_ZD}$	0.12	0.22	0.053	0.10

$K_{D\_ZD}$  is worst among these 3 methods.

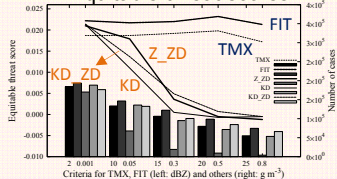
## Attenuation effect



Only  $K_D$  is not affected by the attenuation.

## A ↔ B Result Comparison between A and B operators against radar observations

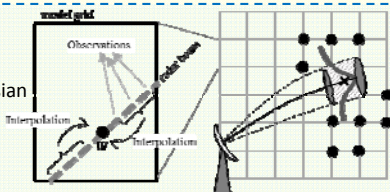
### Equitable threat scores



Convertors of "model to obs" (TMX and FIT) look better than that of "obs to model".

## Space interpolator

- The interpolator handles:
- ✓ Beam broadening with Gaussian weight in 3-D
  - ✓ Statistical beam bending



## Conclusion:

- Developed 5 operators for polarimetric radars with the WRF model.
- FIT is better than TMX.
- $K_D$  is better than  $Z_{ZD}$  and  $K_{D\_ZD}$ .
- "model to obs" look better than "obs to model".

## NEXT STEP:

- Assimilation with FIT and/or  $K_D$  by WRF Var.