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TOWARD STATISTICAL FORWARD OBSERVATION OPERATOR TO ASSIMILATE LEVEL-1 MICROWAVE OBSERVATIONS

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ECMWF

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➤ CORSO Copernicus project

- Preparation of the CO2MVS
- Better constraint biogenic fluxes
- Develop statistical fwd observation operator to analyse land surface variable controlling carbon fluxes
- Application to passive and active level-1 microwave and SIF observations

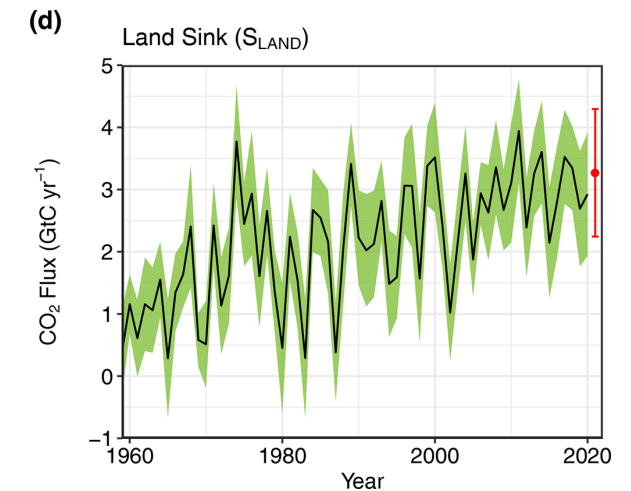
➤ Why assimilating level-1 satellite observations instead of soil moisture retrieval ?

- More accurate quantification of uncertainties
- Analyze not only soil moisture but also vegetation variables
- Consistent with NWP radiance DA framework

➤ Why statistical observation operator ?

- Large uncertainties in physical-based model for land surface: e.g. surface heterogeneity, volume scattering
- Remove bias between model and retrieval
- Consistent observation operator across frequencies and instrument
- Maximize the information content of the training database

Large uncertainties in biogenic CO₂ fluxes

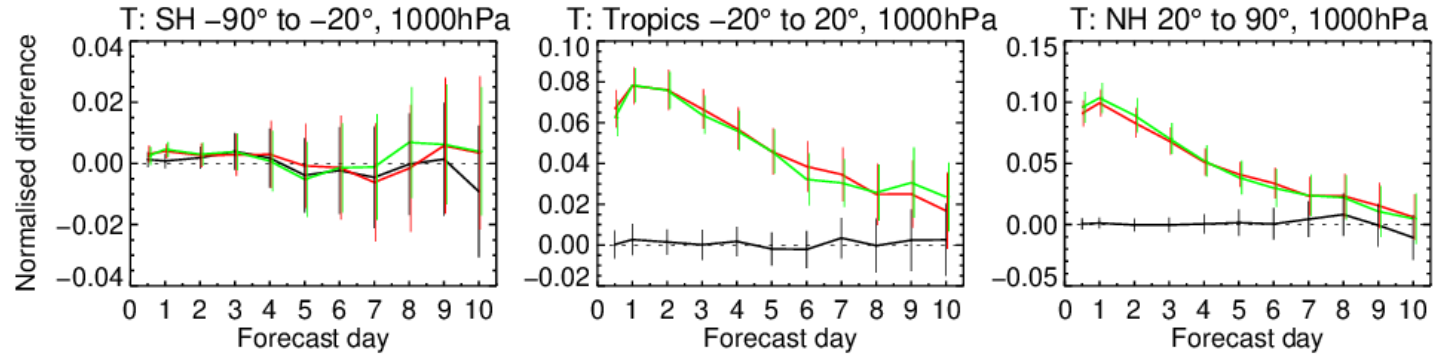


Friedlingstein et al.: Global Carbon Budget 2021



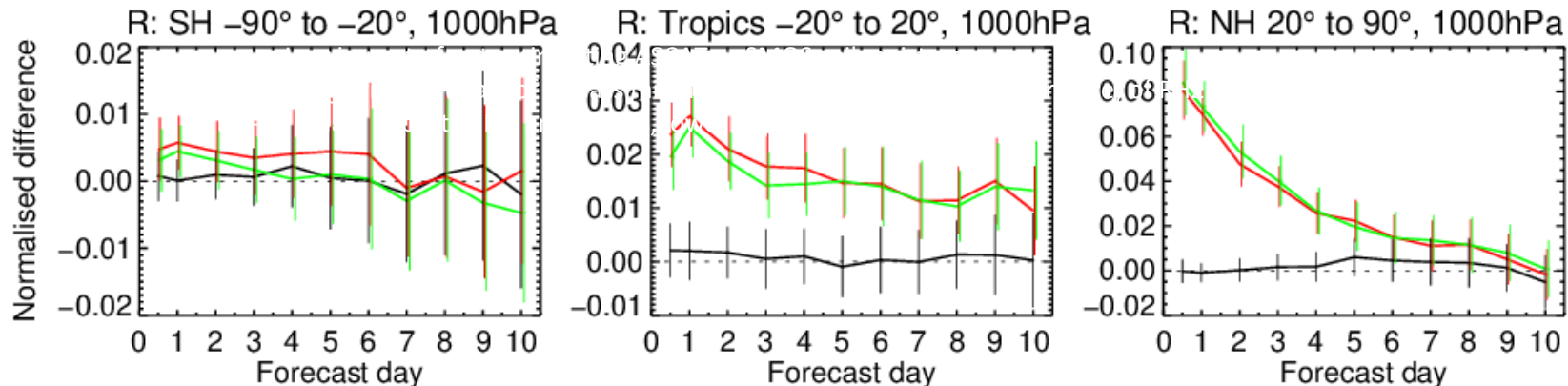
Impact of analyzing soil moisture

2m temperature



— SEKF without ASCAT and SMOS – Control
— SEKF inflated RH2M and T2M obs error – Control
— no SEKF, open loop – Control

2m Relative humidity



- Low impact of not assimilating ASCAT or SMOS soil moisture
- Significant impact of not assimilating (or inflating the obs error variance) of RH2M and T2M
- Main impact in NH and tropics, lower impact in SH



Training databases for statistical forward observation operator

- **Active microwave ASCAT:**

- Credit: P. Weston see Aires, Weston et al., 2021
- 2016-2019; *0.25°-resolution grid*.
- *Satellite: Backscatter coefficient at 40 degree*
- ERA-5 model variables: LAI, soil moisture, soil temperature, magnitude of 2m temperature diurnal cycle

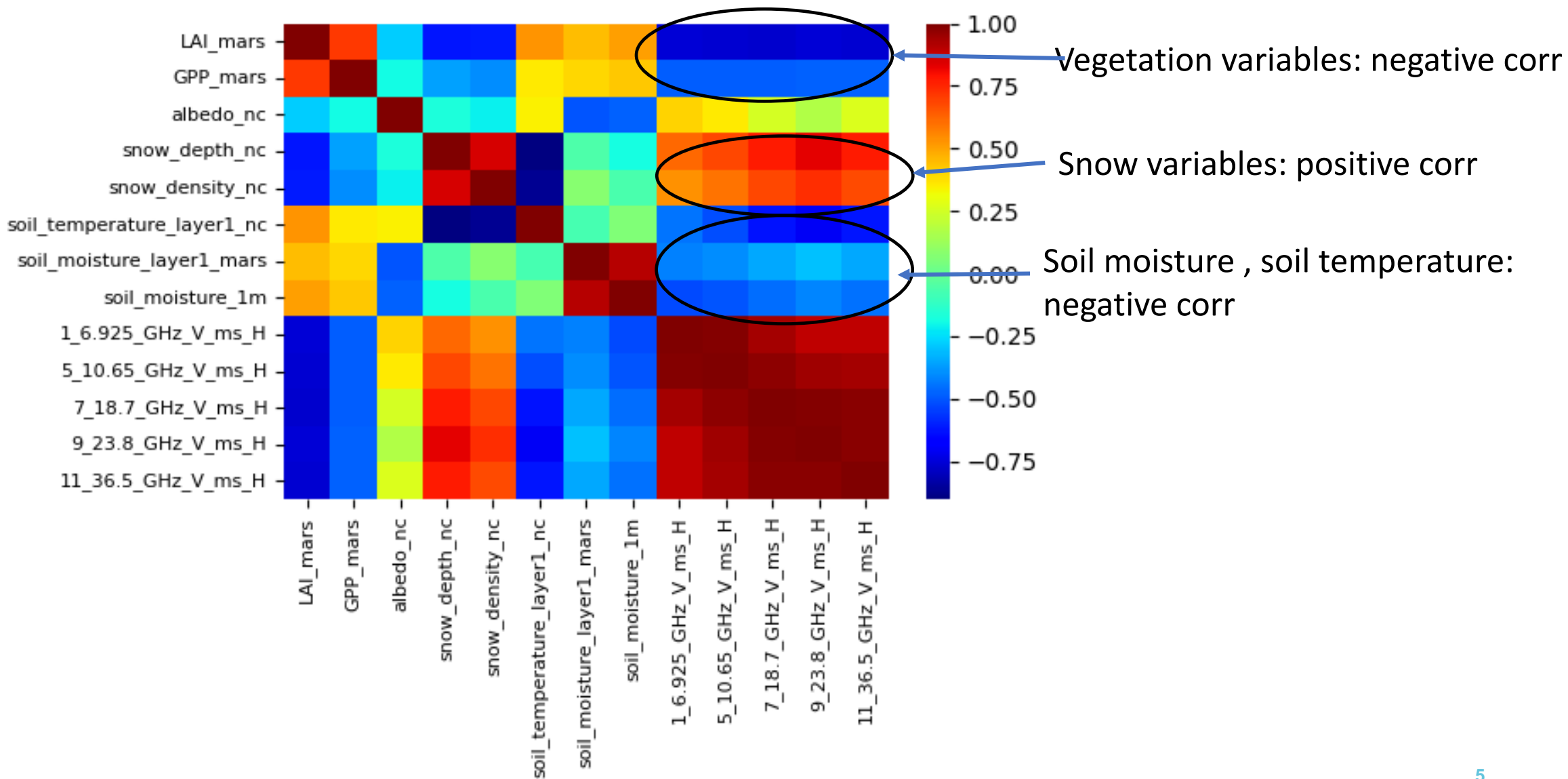
- **Passive microwave: AMSR2**

- Credit: Alan Geer
- CERISE/CORSO joint training database
- Model: IFS Cycle 47r1 (all-sky observations from 47r3)
- N256 reduced Gaussian grid
- 15-month period:2020/07/01-2021/09/30
- Satellite: 14 channels brightness temperature, including polarization



Information content of passive microwave database (AMSR2)

Model field versus polarization index $(V-H)/(V+H)$

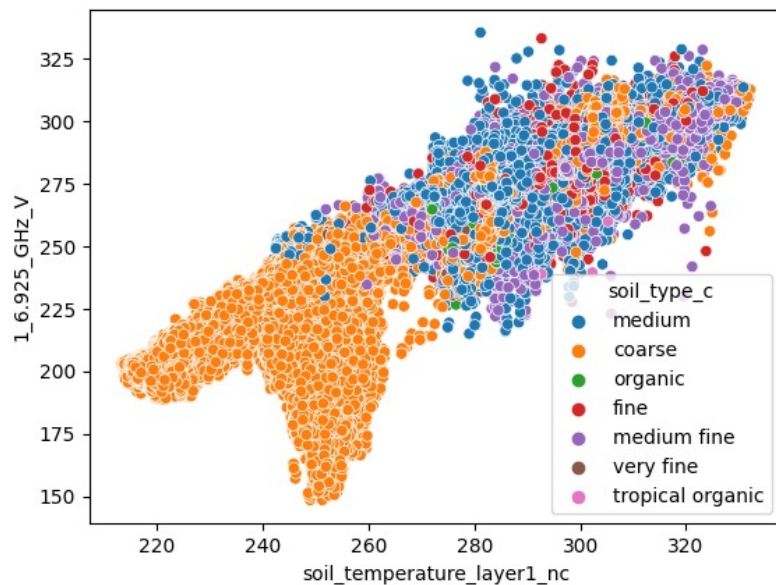




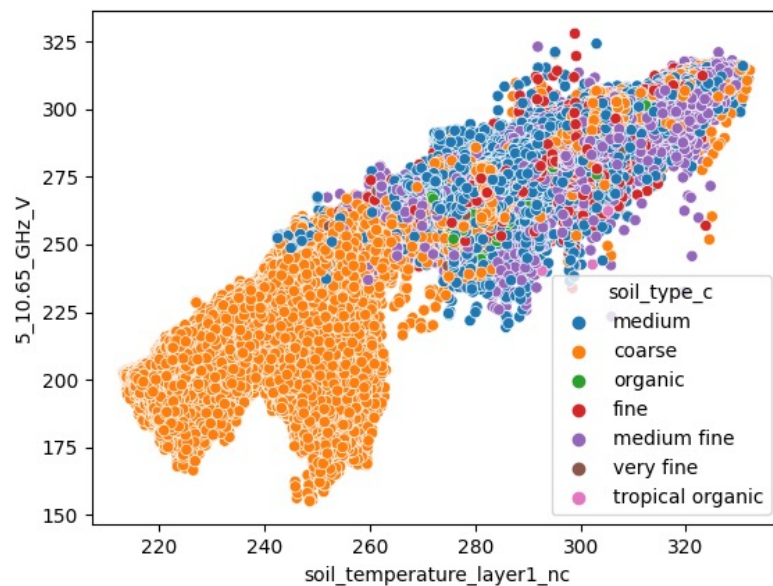
Information content of passive microwave database (AMSR2)

Soil temperature vs observation scatter-plot (soil type clustering)

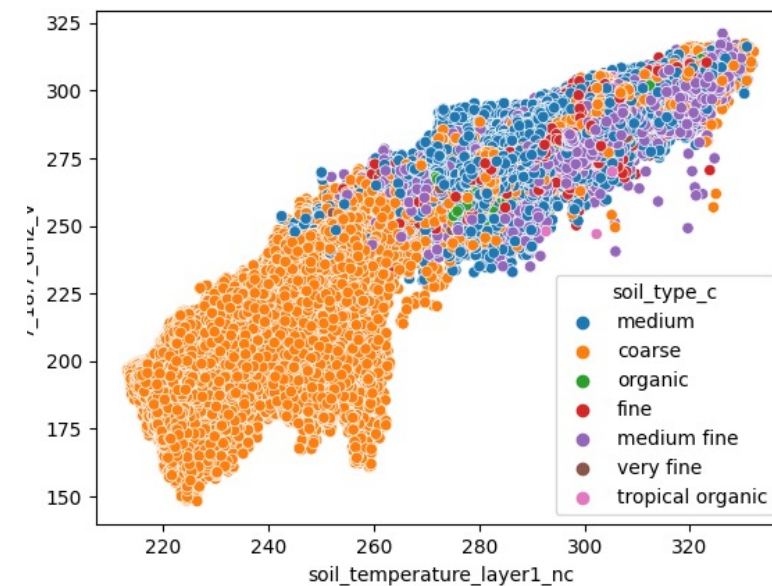
6.9 Ghz C-band (V)



10.65 Ghz X-band (V)



18.7 Ghz Ku-band (V)



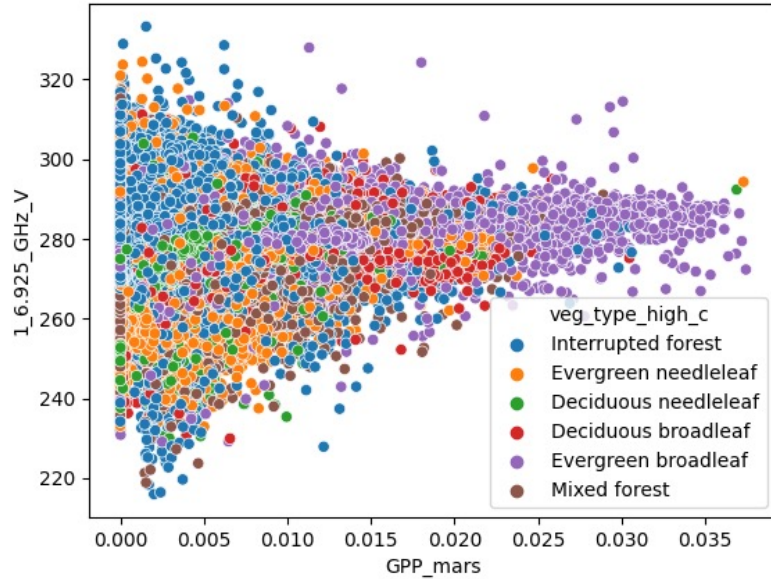
Strong influence of soil temperature at all frequencies



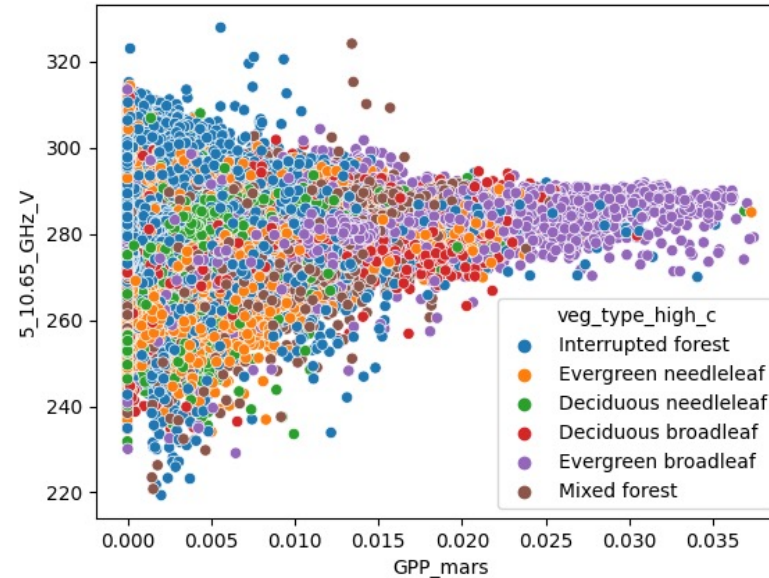
Information content of passive microwave database (AMSR2)

GPP vs observation scatter-plot (high veg type clustering)

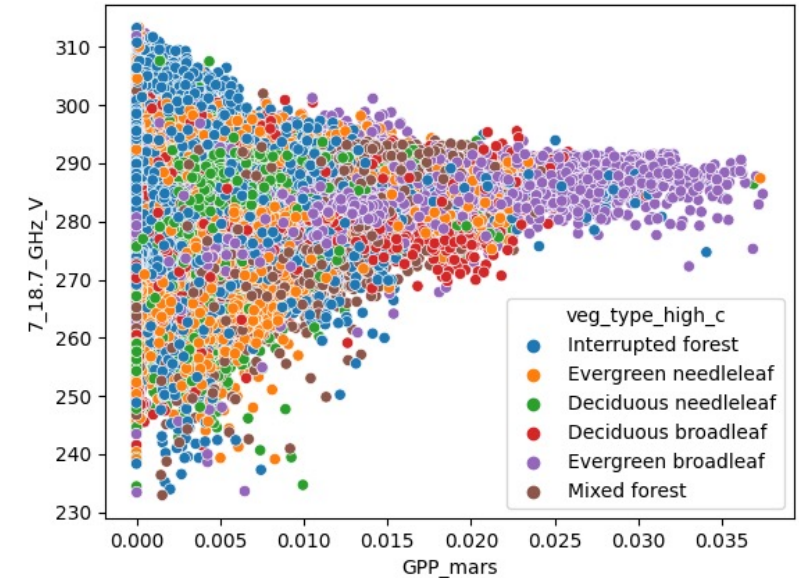
6.9 Ghz band



10.65 Ghz band (V)



18.7 Ghz band (V)

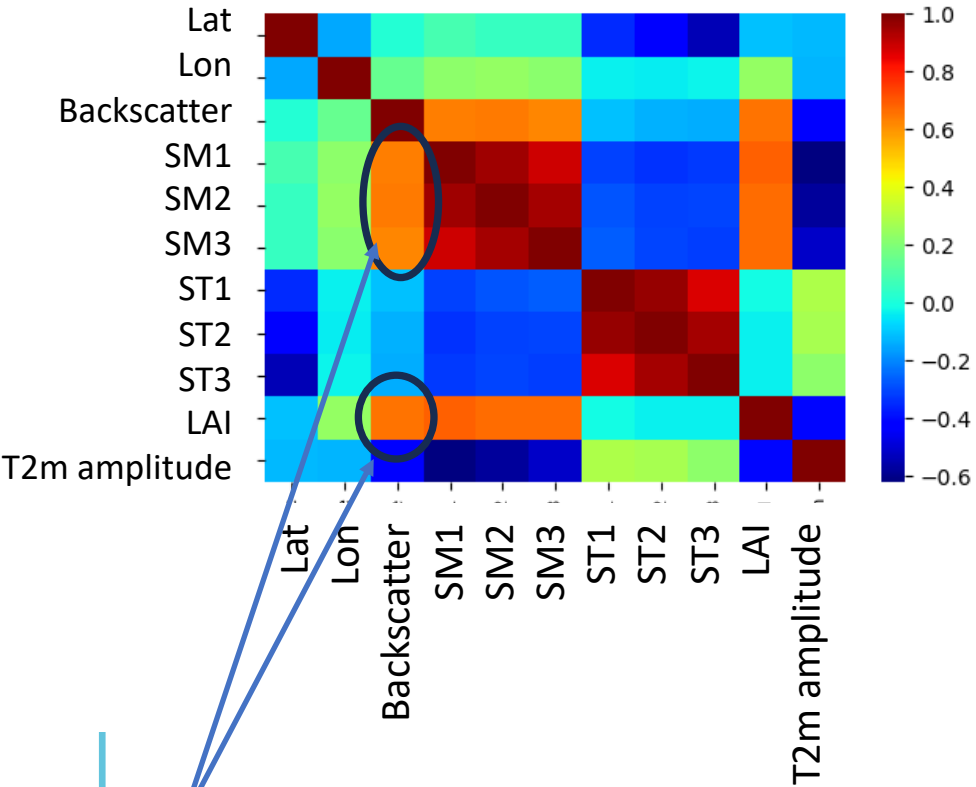


More difficult to identify microwave sensitivity to GPP across vegetation types

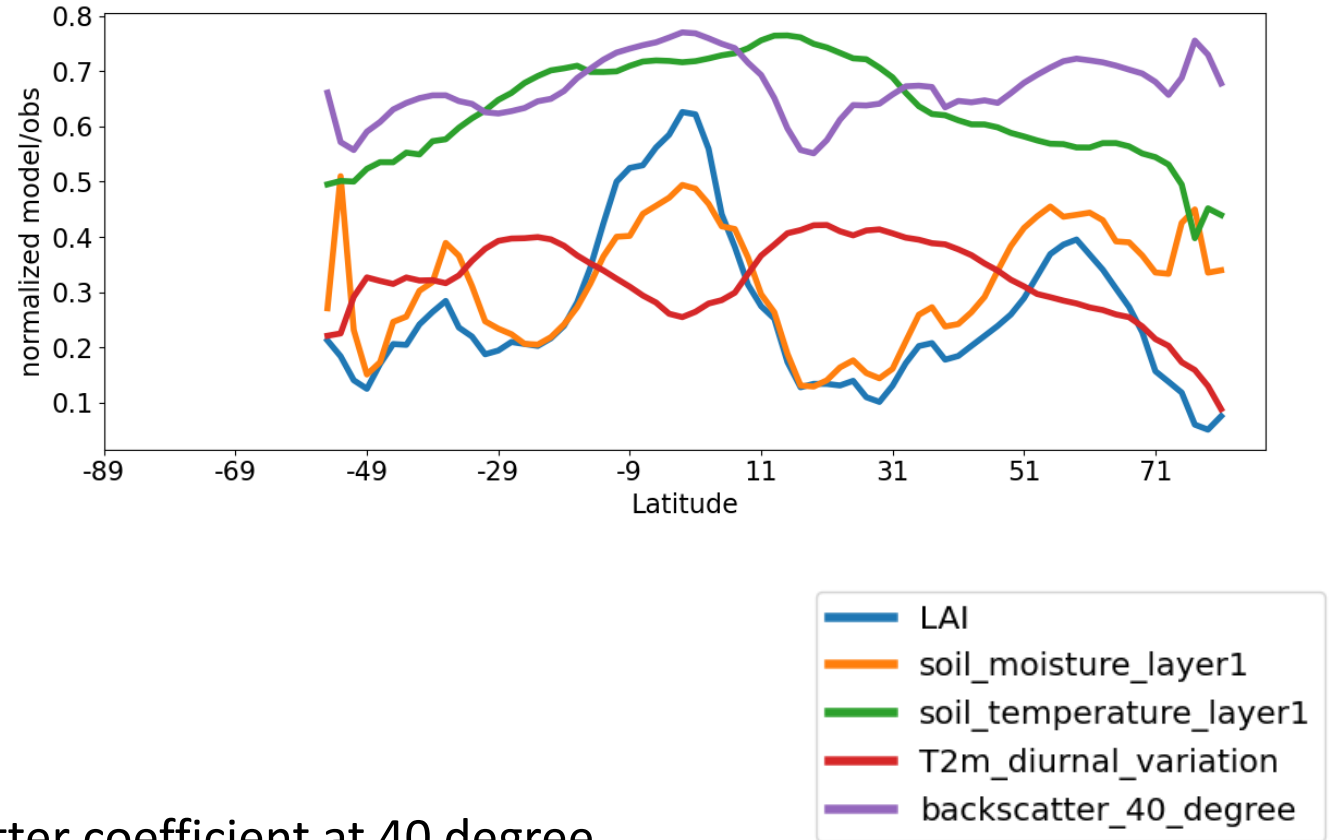


Information content of active microwave database (ASCAT)

Correlation map



Latitude transect of model variables and backscatter



Main influent model variables on the backscatter coefficient at 40 degree

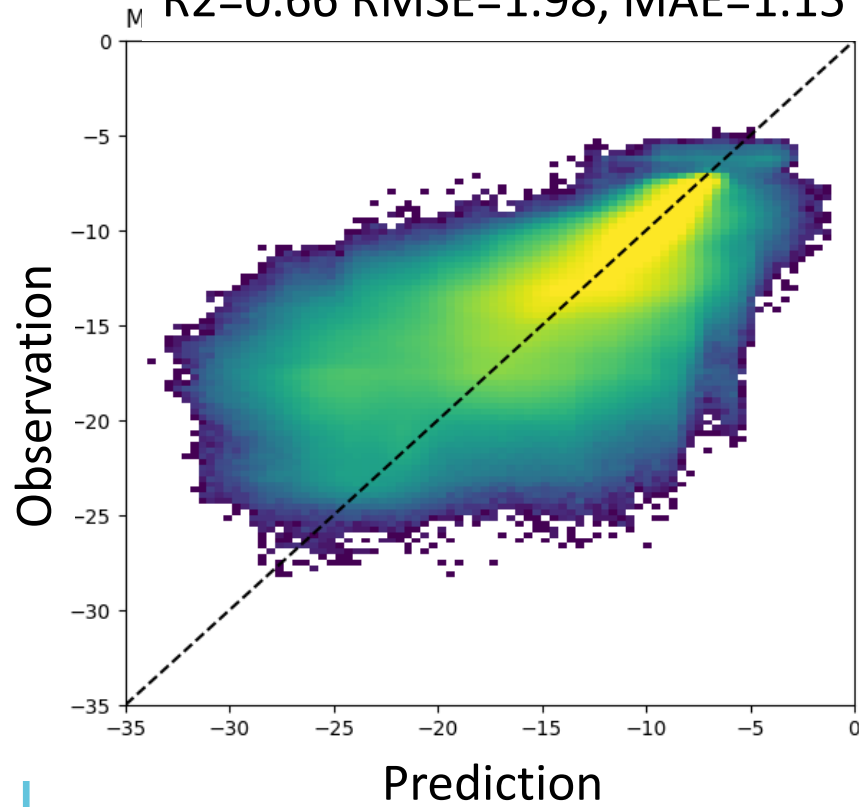


Comparison of ML approaches for forward operator for ASCAT

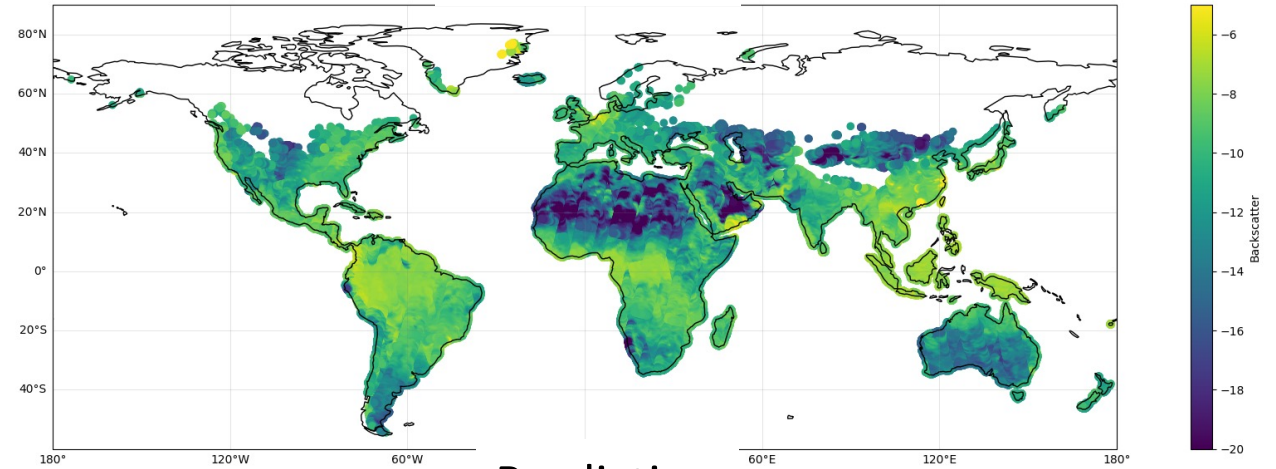
Gradient boosted trees (xgboost package)

Evaluation over 2017 test set

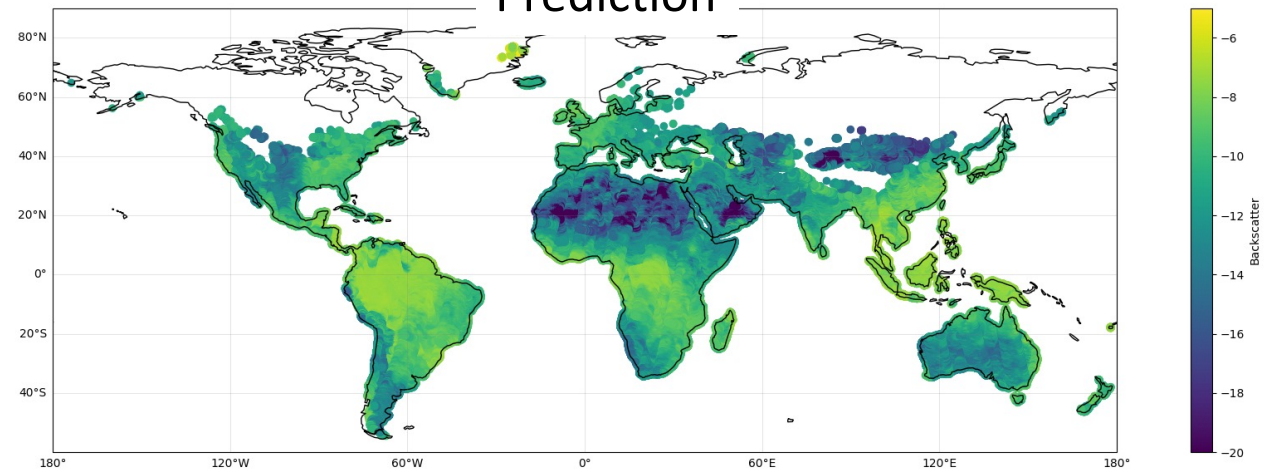
R2=0.66 RMSE=1.98, MAE=1.15



Observation



Prediction



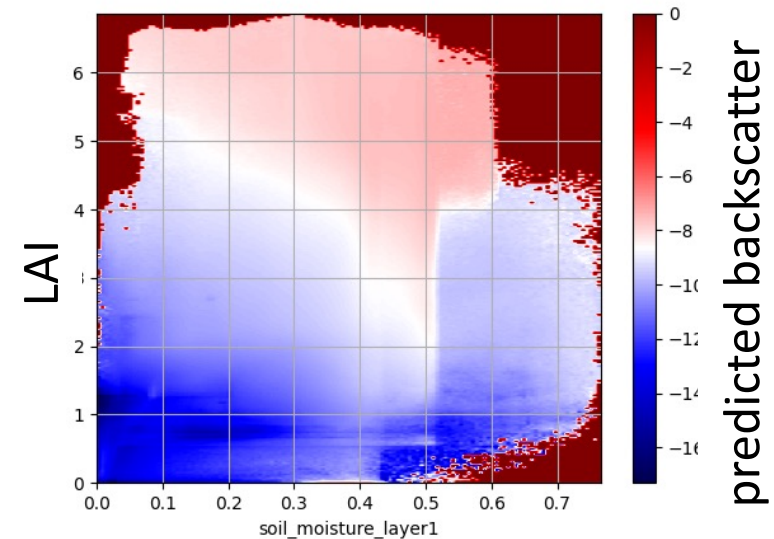
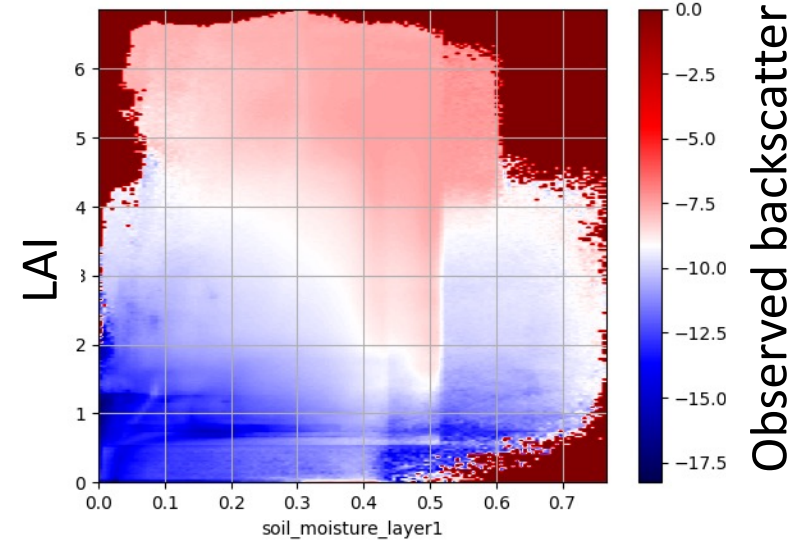
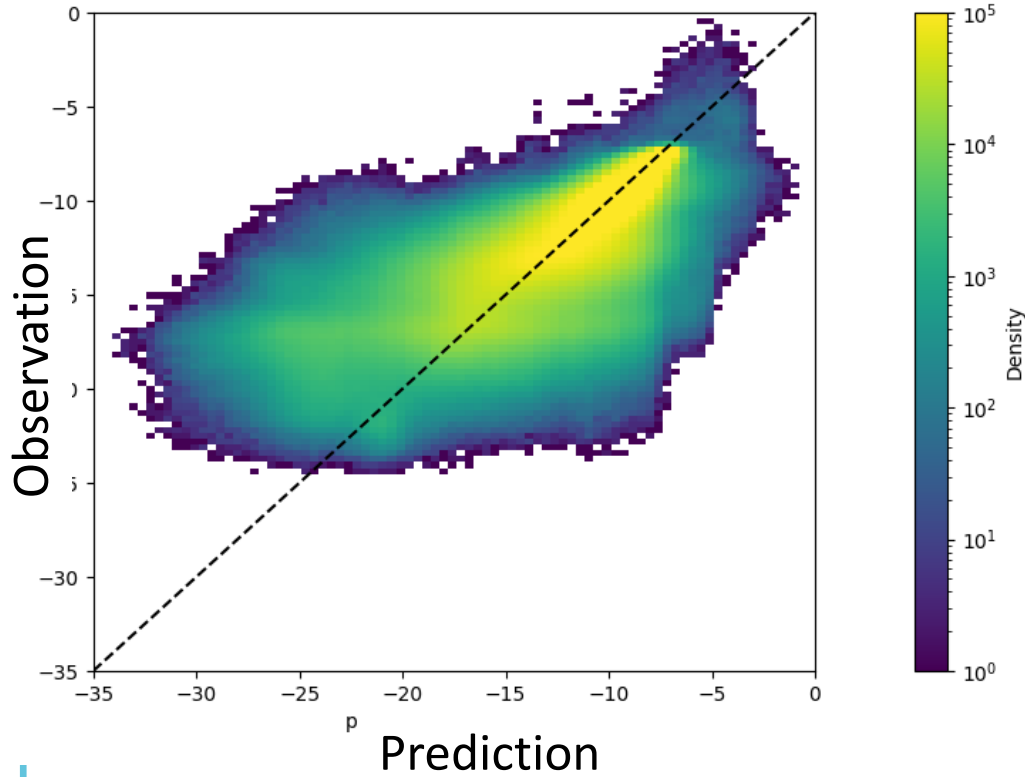


Comparison of ML approaches for forward operator for ASCAT

Feedforward neural network (2 hidden layers, 60 neurons, LeakyReLU)

Evaluation over 2018 test set

$R^2=0.66$ $RMSE=2.00$, $MAE=1.15$





Conclusions and next steps

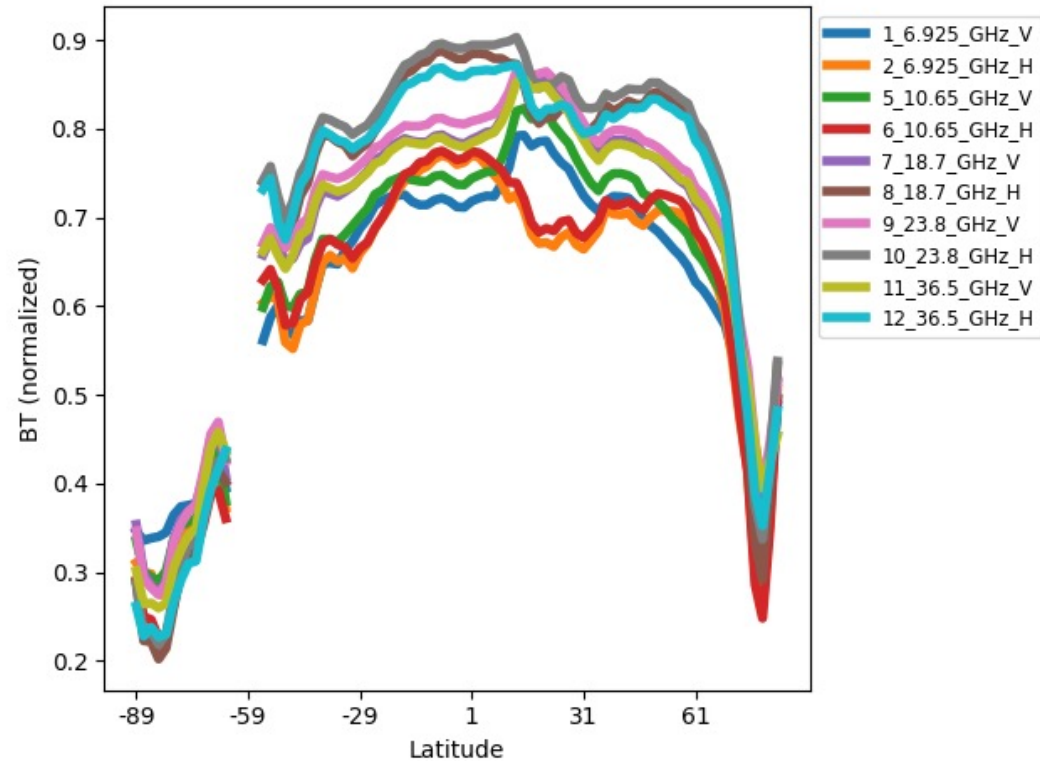
- Implement the observation operator in IFS to test level-1 microwave assimilation
- Application to passive microwave: AMSR-2 (C,X,Ka,Ku bands)+SMOS (L-band)
- Develop a training database and a NN for SIF
- Test other deep learning architecture: use of convolutional layer and autoencoder to deal with lack of information content and uncertainties in the model variables



Information content of passive microwave database (AMSR2)

Latitude transects (land only)

AMSR2 observations



Model fields

