

# SEG/AGU JOINT WORKSHOP

Enhanced Sea-Ice Thickness Retrieval  
with Multi-Frequency Electromagnetic Devices

January 8, 2013

**Priska Hunkeler**<sup>1,2</sup>, **Stefan Hendricks**<sup>1</sup>,  
**Andreas Pfaffhuber**<sup>3</sup>, **Malte Vöge**<sup>3</sup>,  
**Rüdiger Gerdes**<sup>1</sup>

1



2



3





- Motivation
- Development of MAiSIE
- First data



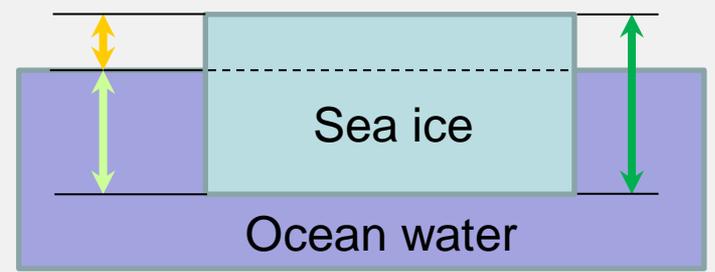
- Motivation
- Development of MAiSIE
- First data





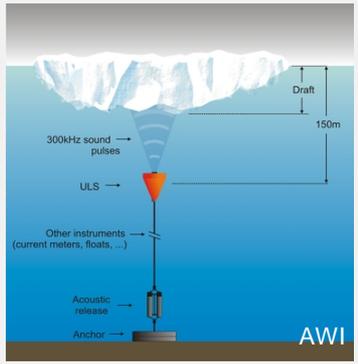


# Sea-ice thickness



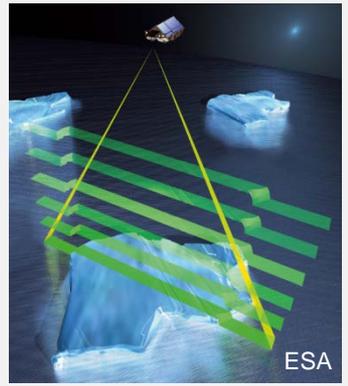
## Indirect methods

### Draft



CDR

### Freebord



R.Ricker, AWI

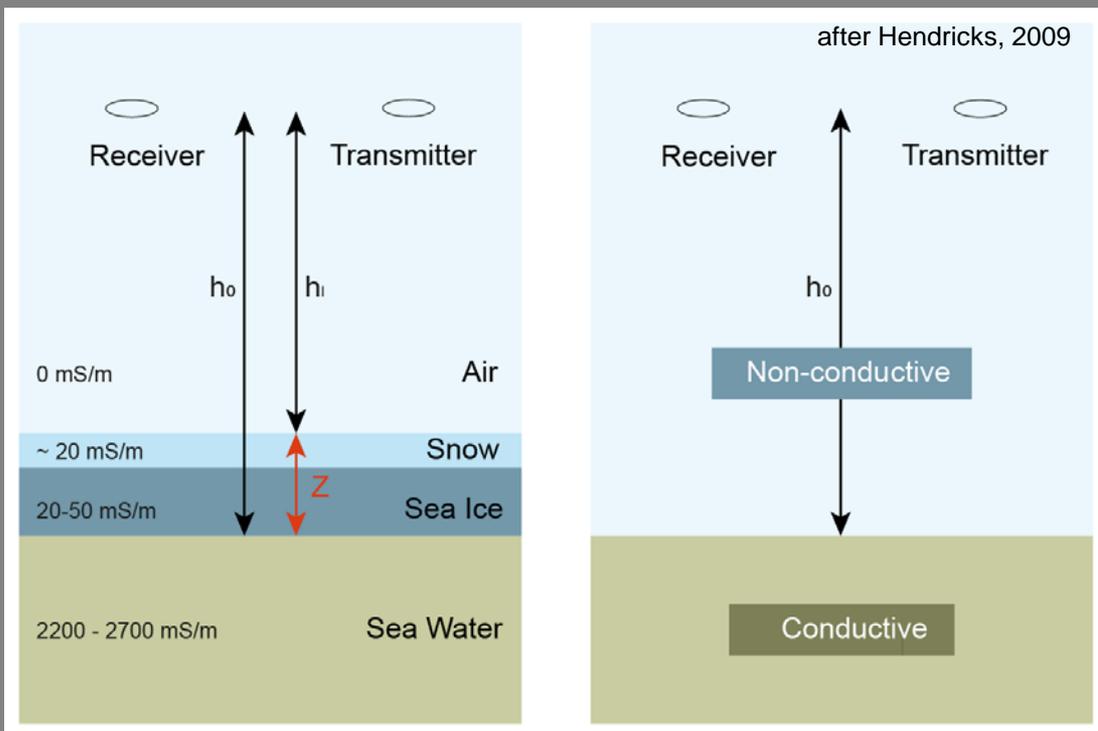
## Direct methods

### Total ice plus snow thickness

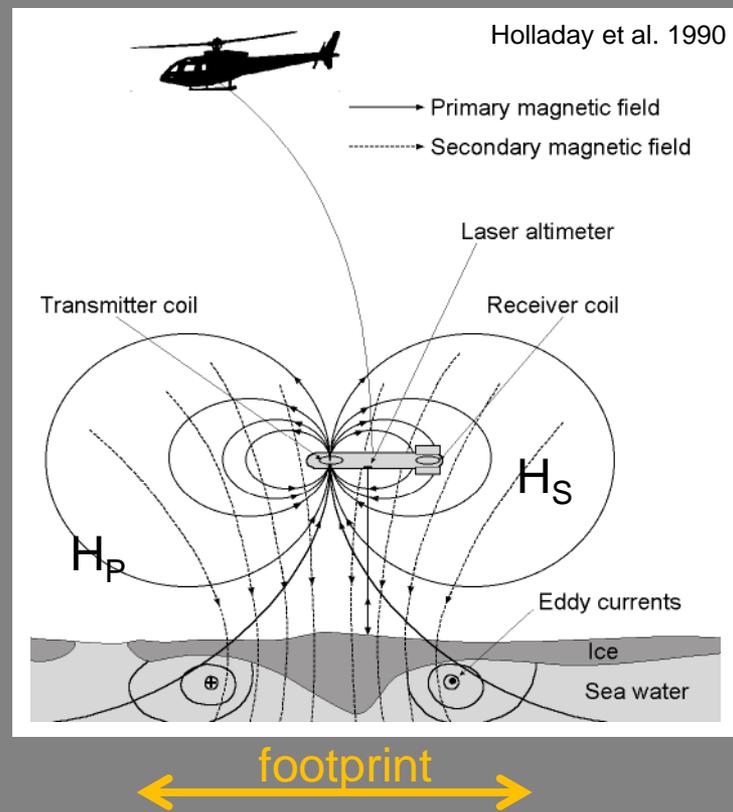


NRL

# Airborne Electromagnetics (AEM) - 1D approach



Method is based on the contrast of **electrical conductivity** between ocean water and sea ice



$h_1$  Measured with laser altimeter

$h_0$  Secondary  $H_S$  to primary  $H_P$  magnetic field (Phase and Amplitude, In-phase and Quadrature) can be related to  $h_0$

$h_0 - h_1$  **Sea-ice thickness  $Z$**

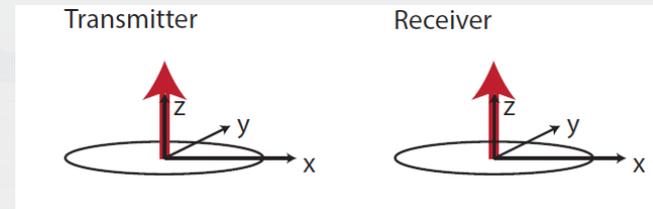
# 1D approach

## Technical realisation

1 transmitter coil

1 receiver coil

1 frequency (4kHz)



## 1D Assumption

The sea ice layer is described as a level plate

Sea ice is a non-conductive medium

## Limitation

Ice thickness variability on sub-footprint scale can not be resolved (e.g. pressure ridge)

The variable conductivity in the ice layer gives a bias in the 1D ice thickness estimates

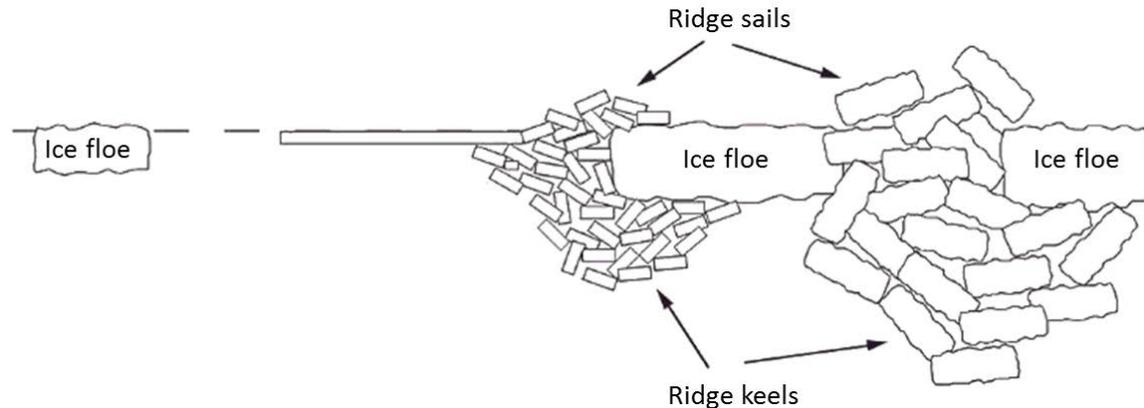
## Objectives

**More accurate sea ice thickness estimation for deformed ice**

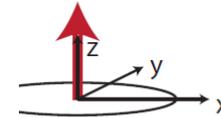
**Pressure ridge keel volume estimate**

**Platelet-ice thickness**

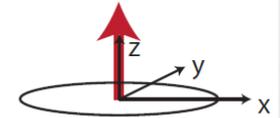
# 1D approach



Transmitter



Receiver



## Objectives

**More accurate sea ice thickness estimation for deformed ice**

**Pressure ridge keel volume estimate**

**Platelet-ice thickness**

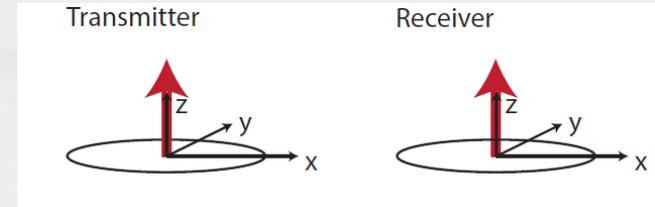
# 1D approach

## Technical realisation

1 transmitter coil

1 receiver coil

1 frequency (4kHz)



## 1D Assumption

The sea ice layer is described as a level plate

Sea ice is a non-conductive medium

## Limitation

Ice thickness variability on sub-footprint scale can not be resolved (e.g. pressure ridge)

The variable conductivity in the ice layer gives a bias in the 1D ice thickness estimates

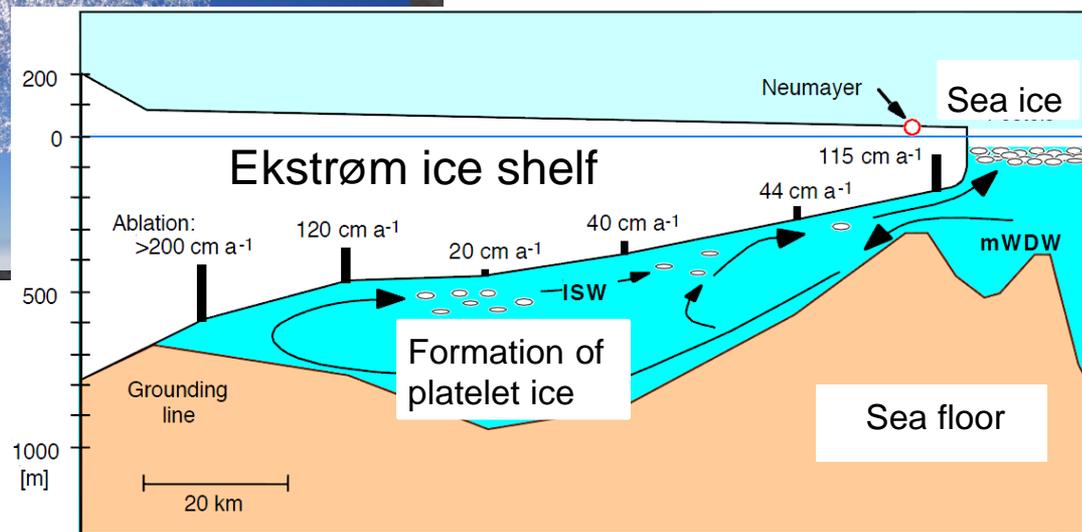
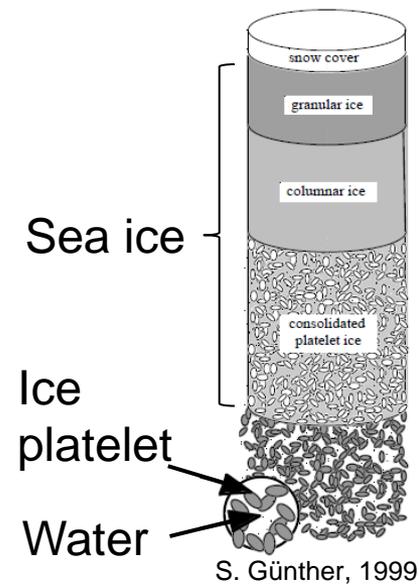
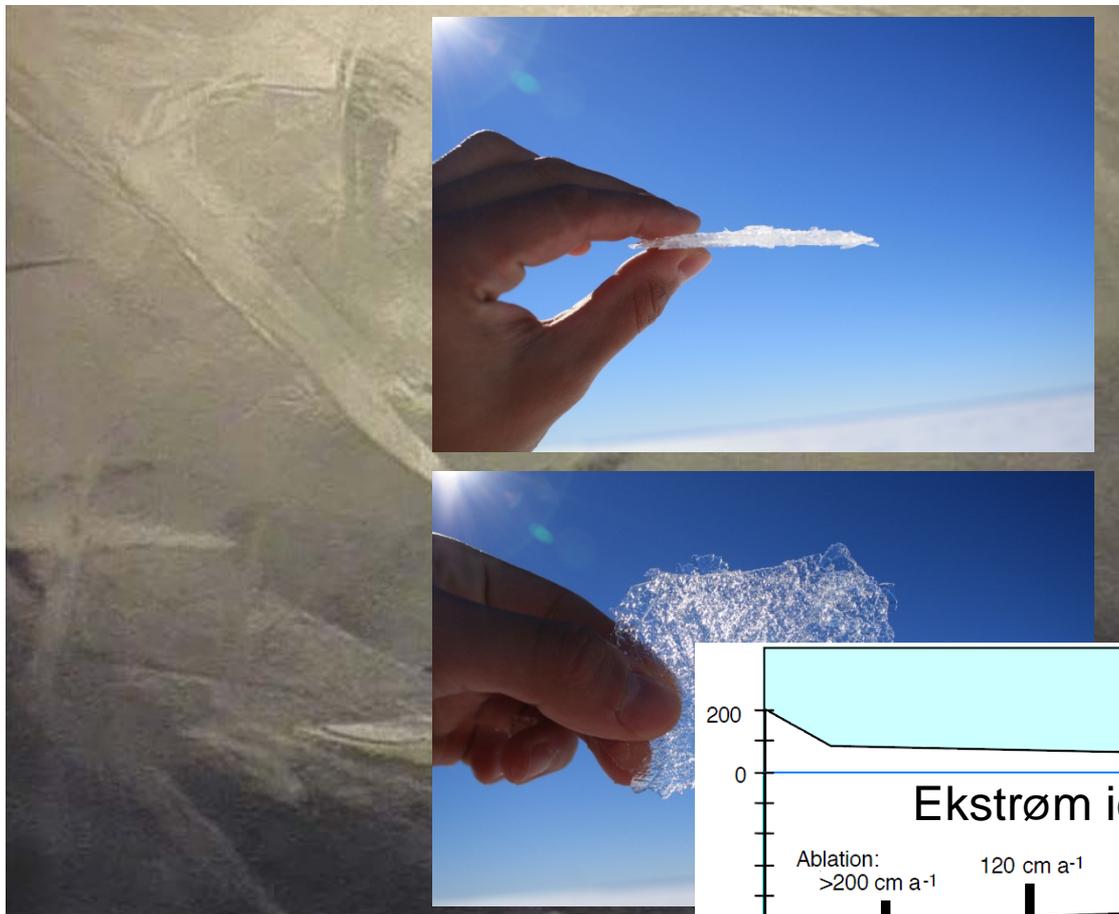
## Objectives

**More accurate sea ice thickness estimation for deformed ice**

**Pressure ridge keel volume estimate**

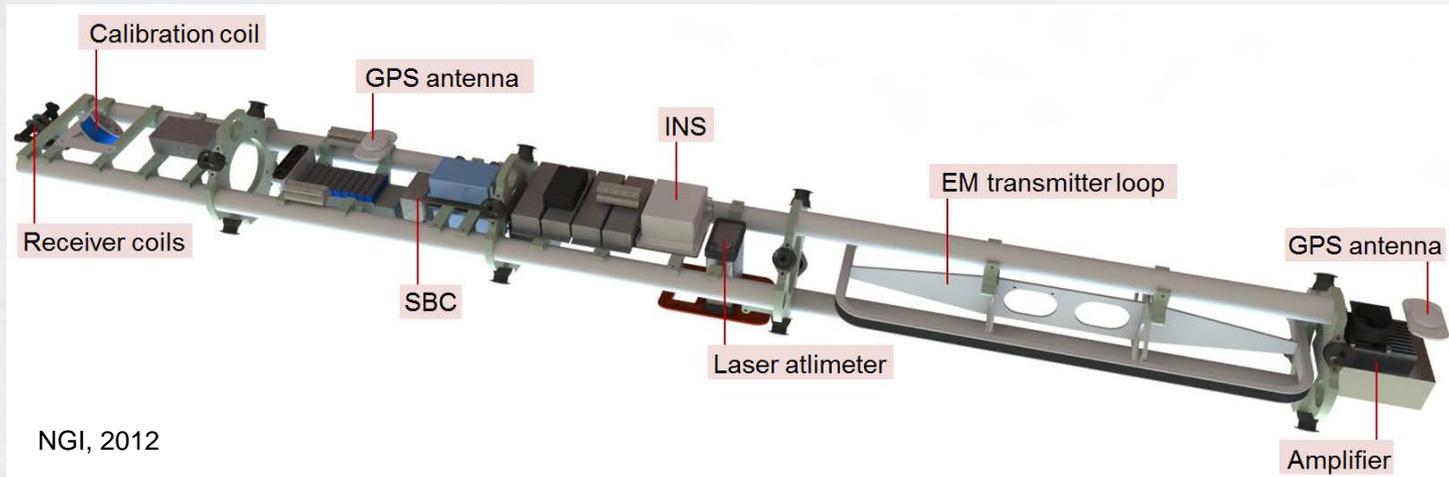
**Platelet-ice thickness**

# 1D approach



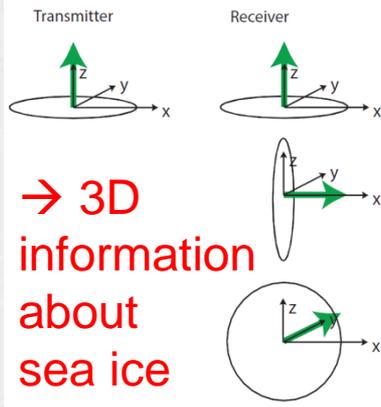
ISW: Ice Shelf Water  
 mWDW: modified Warm Depth Water

# Technical realisation of MAiSIE, the Multi-sensor Airborne Sea-Ice Explorer



NGI, 2012

## 3 axis receiver

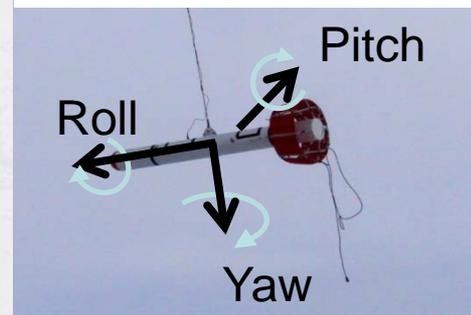


## Frequency

Broadband  
0.5-8 kHz

→ Variable sounding depth

## Attitude

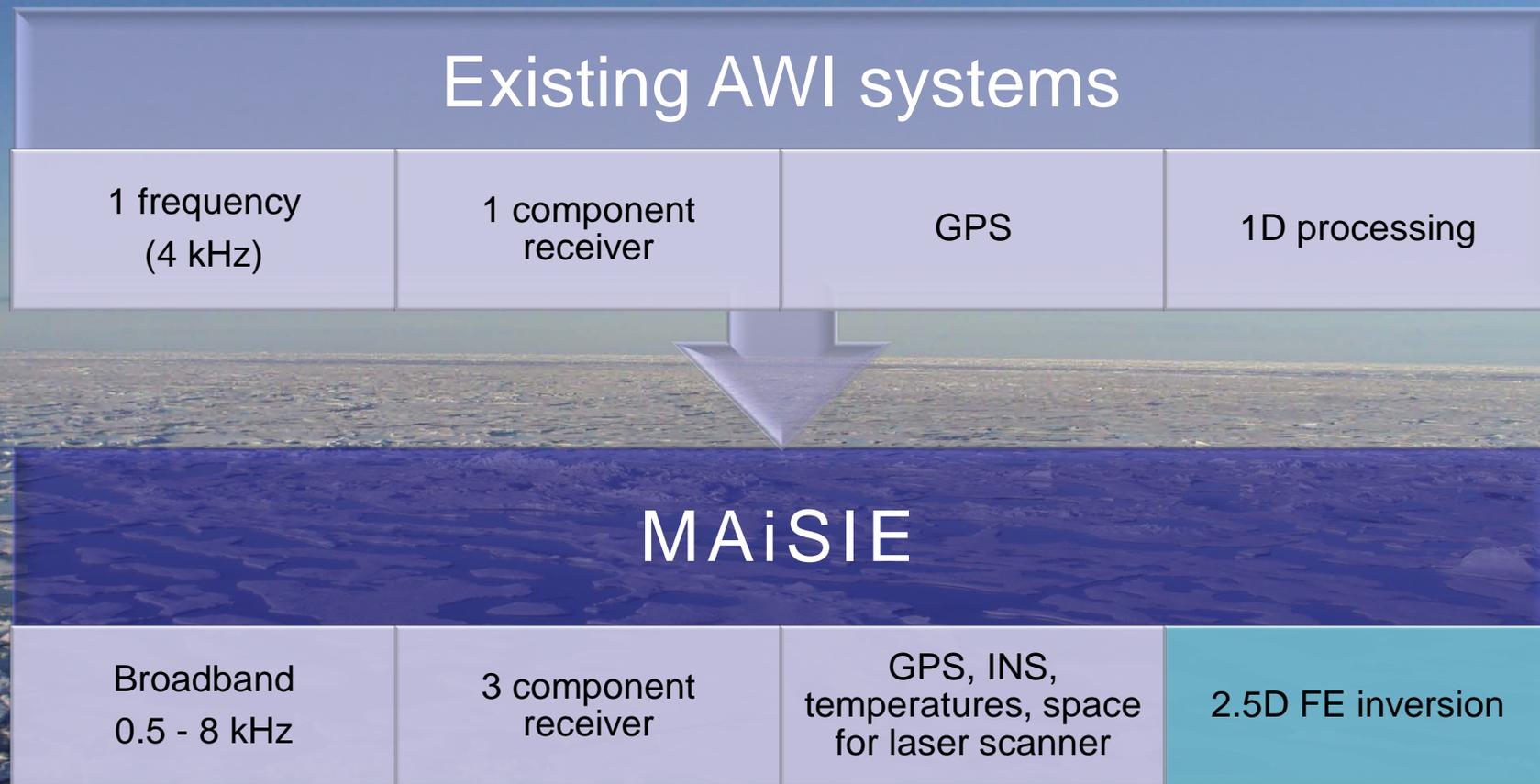


→ Better control of typical error sources

## Temperature

Measurements inside the EM-Bird (receiver, amplifier,...)

# Summary MAiSIE





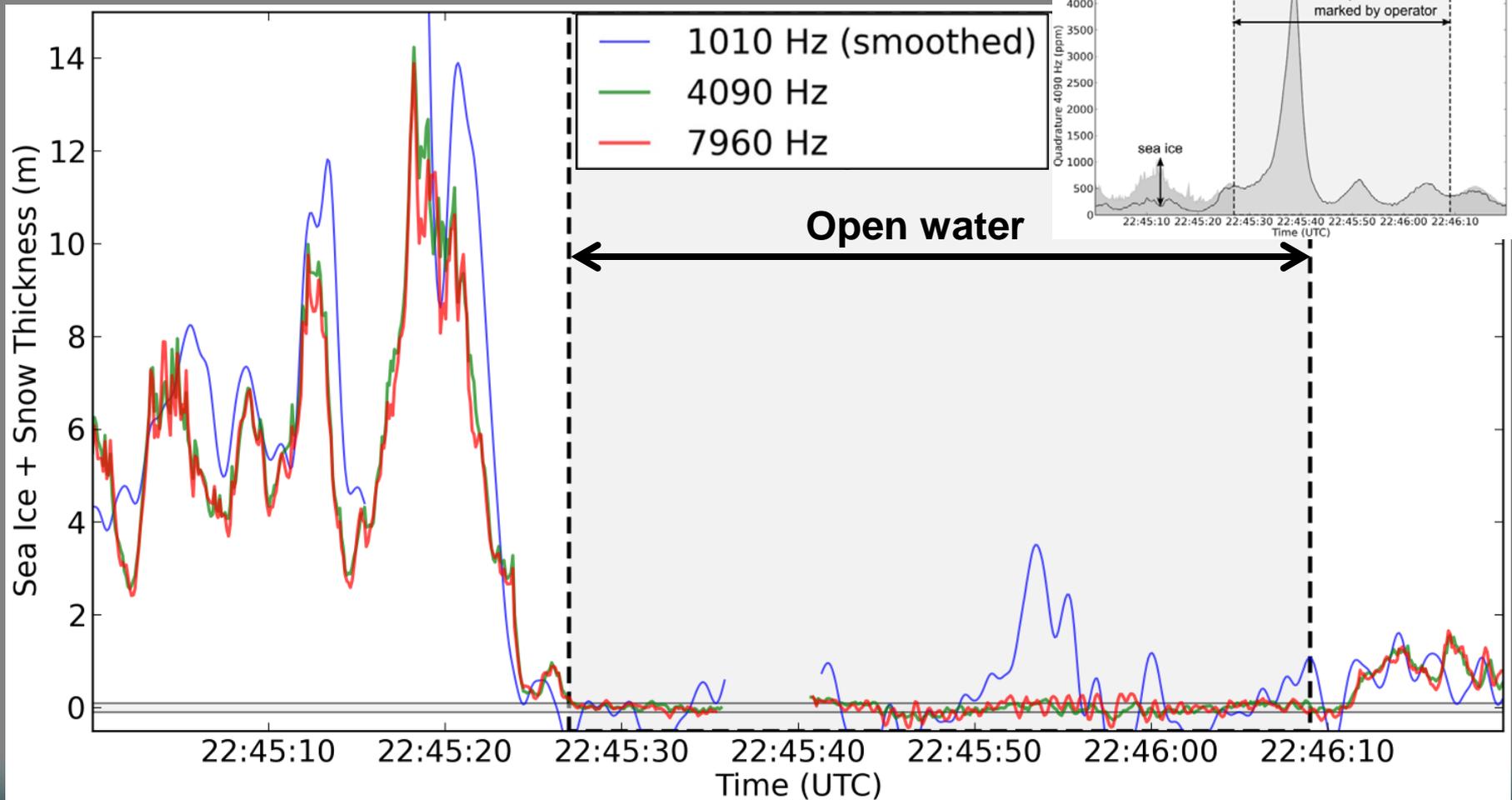






# Field campaign SIZONet in Barrow - Data quality

- 1D sea ice thickness for different frequencies over sea ice and open water
- Higher frequencies are within  $\pm 10\text{cm}$  over open water





# Field campaign SIMBIS, November 2012, Atka Bay, Antarctic

Weddell  
Sea

Atka Bay



- Detection of platelet ice with the multi-frequency handheld EM device GEM-2
- Validation data sets from drillings, under-ice inspection system, ice cores
- AEM campaign with MAiSIE in Weddell Sea 2013







### AEM MAiSIE multi-frequency and multi-component datasets

- Barrow 2012
- Central Arctic Ocean 2012

### GEM-2 multi-frequency dataset (platelet ice, ridge)

- Atka Bay 2012

### Hardware

- MAiSIE hardware changes: Reducing drift und noise

### Data analysis

- Correcting for pitch, roll and yaw
- Completion of inversion software
- Processing of existing AEM data sets
- Processing of GEM-2 data set

### Campaigns

- AEM campaigns 2013 (Barrow and Weddell sea)

Thank you

