

ATMOS 5140 Lecture 6 – Chapter 5

- Radiative Properties of Natural Surfaces
- Absorptivity
- Reflectivity
- Greybody Approximation
- Angular Distribution of Reflected Radiances

Natural Surfaces Idealized as Planar Boundaries









Natural Surfaces Idealized as Planar Boundaries



Absorptivity and Reflectivity

$\alpha_{\lambda}(\theta,\phi) + r_{\lambda}(\theta,\phi) = 1$

Absorptivity and Reflectivity

$\alpha_{\lambda}(\theta,\phi) + r_{\lambda}(\theta,\phi) = 1$

Natural Surfaces are frequently azimuthally isotropic - then ϕ disappears

Dependence on θ may also be ignored, as an approximation

Then you can relate the reflected monochromatic flux $(F_{\lambda,r})$ to the incident flux $(F_{\lambda,0})$

Absorptivity and Reflectivity

Then you can relate the reflected monochromatic flux $(F_{\lambda,r})$ to the incident flux $(F_{\lambda,0})$

$$F_{\lambda,r} = r_{\lambda} F_{\lambda,0}$$

$$F_{\lambda,0} - F_{\lambda,r} = (1 - r_{\lambda})F_{\lambda,0} = \alpha_{\lambda}F_{\lambda,0}$$





Fresh Snow very reflective in the visible





Dark Soil and light snow absorbs strongly in the near infrared



Grass & Alfalfa Peak at 0.55 microns – green – due to chlorophyll

Grey Body Approximation



$$\bar{r} \equiv \frac{F_r}{F_i}$$
$$\bar{a} = 1 - \bar{r}$$

Assume the absorptivity and reflectivity of a surface does not depend upon wavelength over some broadband (i.e. surface is grey).

Now you can use single average absorptivity to represent band.

Grey Body Approximation



Assume the absorptivity and reflectivity of a surface does not depend upon wavelength over some broadband (i.e. surface is grey).

Normally create value for shortwave and longwave

$$a_{sw} = 1 - r_{sw}$$

 $a_{lw} = 1 - r_{lw}$

Grey Body Approximation



Assume the absorptivity and reflectivity of a surface does not depend upon wavelength over some broadband (i.e. surface is grey).

Normally create value for shortwave and longwave

$$a_{sw} = 1 - r_{sw}$$

$$a_{lw} = 1 - r_{lw}$$

Shortwave
albedo

Shortwave Albedo



polystyrene painted with white elastomeric paint



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Environ. Res. Lett. 8 (2013) 015023 (14pp)

The use of reflective and permeable pavements as a potential practice for heat island mitigation and stormwater management

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(b)

Figure 5. Optical and thermal images of experimental test sections on 9 July 2012. (a) Optical images. (b) Infrared thermal images under dry condition (16:00) (lighter is hotter, average surface temperatures are listed with albedo in parentheses).

Incoming shortwave radiation

> Outgoing infrared longwave radiation radiation outgoing reflected shortwave radiation

Incoming shortwave radiation

> Outgoing infrared longwave radiation

Outgoing reflected shortwave radiation

Net (absorbed) shortwave radiation is large, so there is increased outgoing longwave radiation Net (absorbed) shortwave radiation is small, so there is decreased outgoing longwave radiation

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Reflection



b) Reflection λ_r Air
Air

When

 λ_i

Water

$$\Theta_i = \Theta_r$$

Specular reflection

Smooth surface in comparison to wavelength of light



 $F_r = rF_i$

Lambertian Reflectance

- property that defines an ideal "matte" or diffusely reflecting surface
- apparent brightness of a Lambertian surface to an observer is the same regardless of the observer's angle of view
- surface's luminance is isotropic, and the luminous intensity obeys Lambert's cosine law.



Lambertian Reflectance

$F_r = \pi I_r$

$I^{\uparrow} = \frac{rF_i}{\pi}$

 $I^{\uparrow} = \frac{rS_0 \cos \theta_i}{1}$ π



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Surface Reflection

(a) specular

(b) quasi-specular

(c) Lambertian







(d) quasi-Lambertian







Sun Glint





Deep Water Horizon and Reflection



If the oil is located very close to the spot where the Sun's reflection would appear, it usually looks brighter than nearby clean water in the MODIS images

sunlight	sunlight	
rough clean water	smooth oil slick	

https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/OilSlick/