



# **Progress Towards a Combined AMSR / SeaWinds Algorithm**

**Kyle Hilburn and Frank Wentz**

**Remote Sensing Systems  
Santa Rosa, CA, USA**

**SeaWinds Cal/Val Meeting  
Arcadia, CA, USA  
29-30 September 2003**



## **Preliminaries**

- **Response of SeaWinds sigma-0's to rain very similar to QuikSCAT on average.**
  - **Previously noted discrepancy the result of collocation dataset period and non-stationarity of means.**

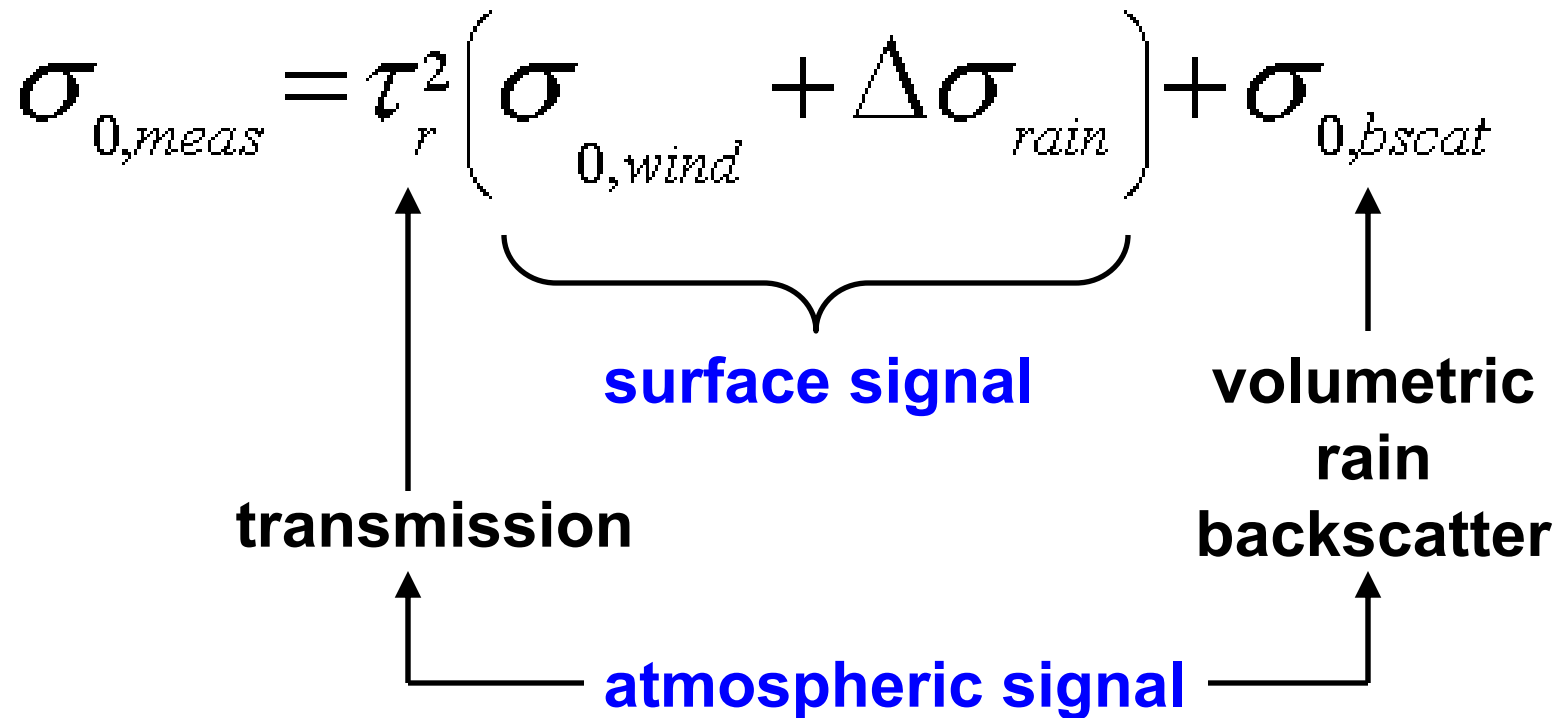


# Purpose

- **Gain understanding of rain effects**
  - Drive algorithm development
  - Estimate confidence in corrected winds
- **Complicating factors:**
  - Beamfilling
  - Vertical profile
  - DSD
  - Rain roughening



# Model

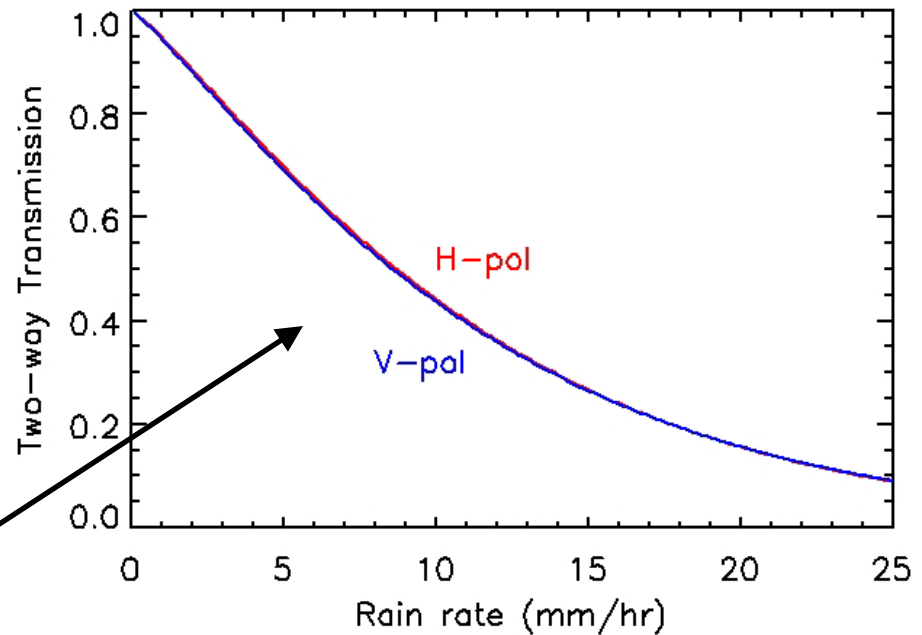




# Transmission

$$\tau_r^2 = e^{-2 \int_0^{H \sec \theta} k(l) dl}$$
$$= e^{-2H \sec \theta k}$$

ITU  $k$ - $R$  relationships  
( $H=3\text{km}$ ).



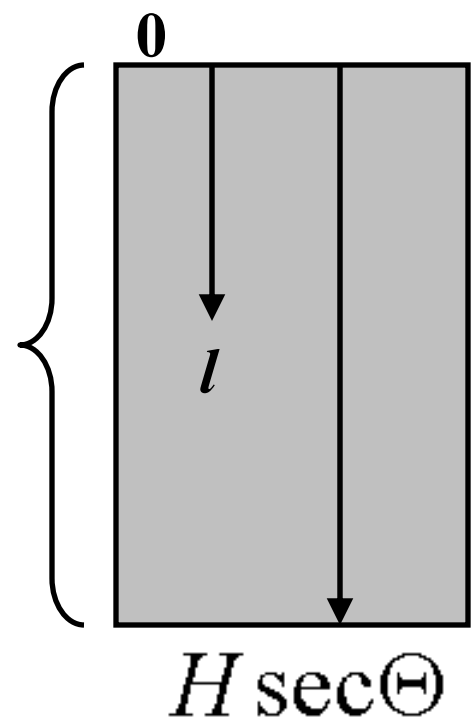


# Volumetric Rain Backscatter

$$\sigma_{0,bscat} = \int_0^{H \sec \theta} e^{-2 \int_0^l k dl} \eta dl$$

$$= \left( \frac{1 - \tau_r^2}{2k} \right) \left( \frac{\pi^5 |K_w|^2}{\lambda^4} \right) z_{e,p}$$

effective radar  
reflectivity factor =  $z_e(l) = \text{constant}$



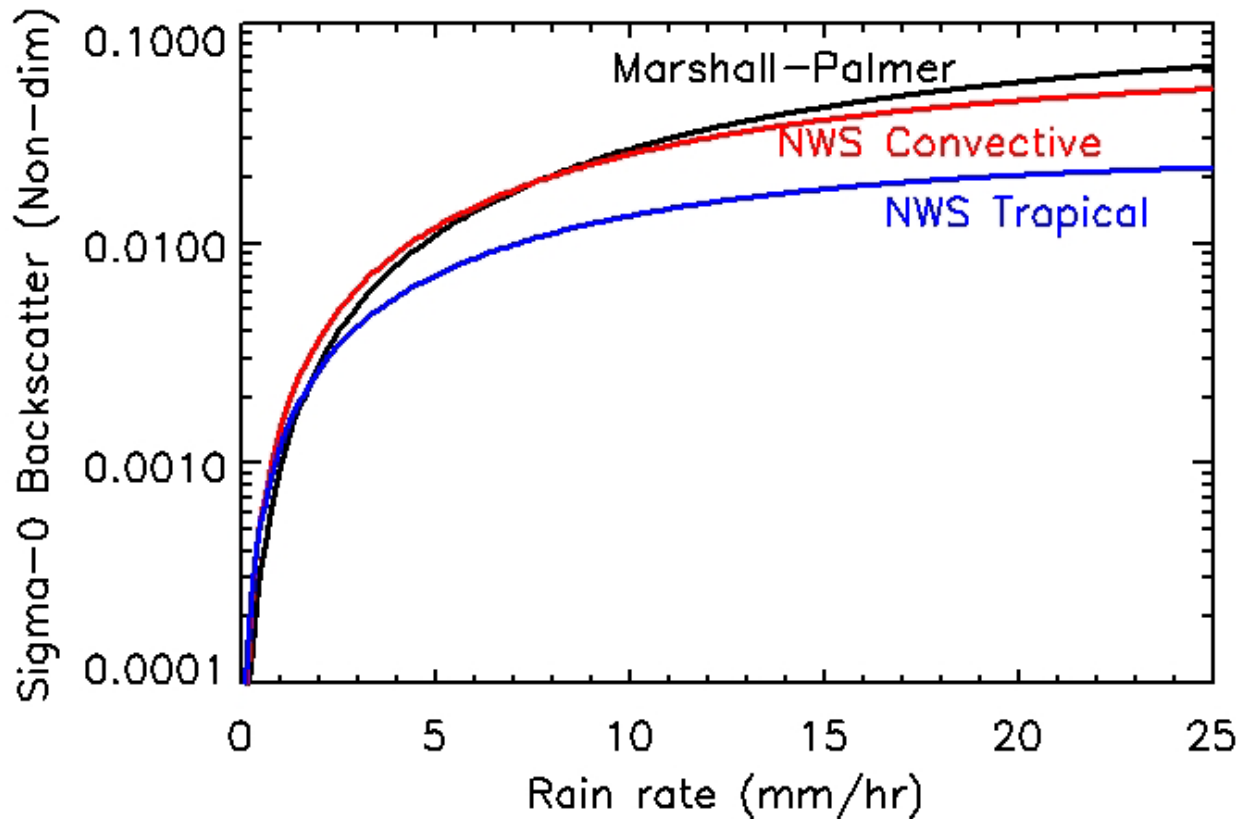
**Polarization conversion:**

$$R = c z_h^a z_v^b$$

*Polarimetric Doppler Weather Radar*  
Bringi and Chandrasekar (2001)



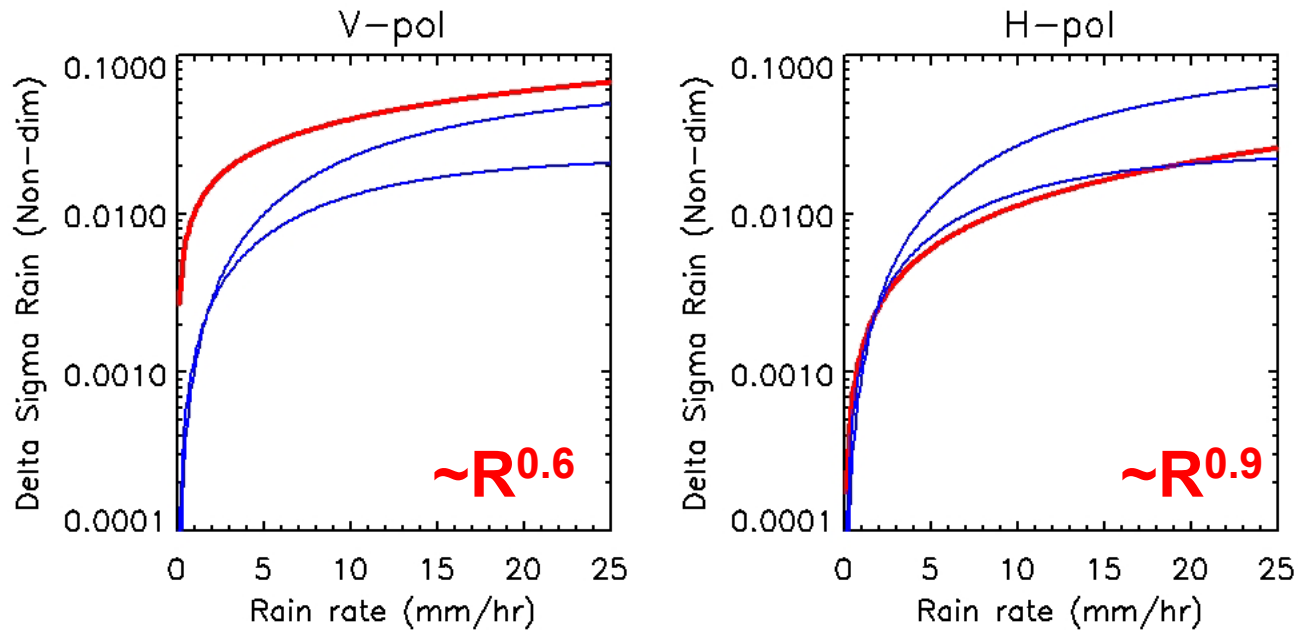
# Volumetric Rain Backscatter



(H-pol,  
H=3 km)



# Rain Roughening



**Contreras et al., 2003 (JGR)**  
**(all wind speeds, 51 deg incidence)**

**NWS Tropical and Marshall-Palmer (~R<sup>1.2,1.6</sup>)**





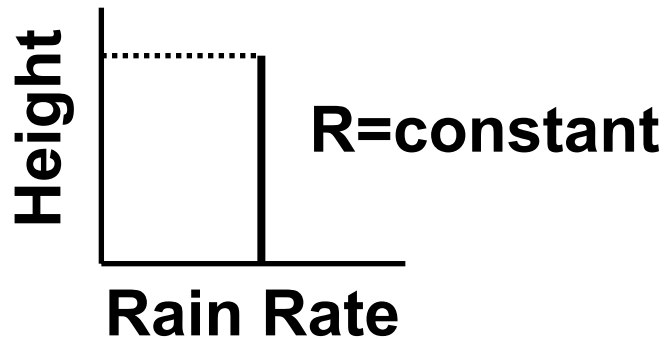
# Beamfilling

- **Two assumptions**
  - **Constant vertical profile**
  - **Uniform horizontal distribution in footprint (Beamfilling)**

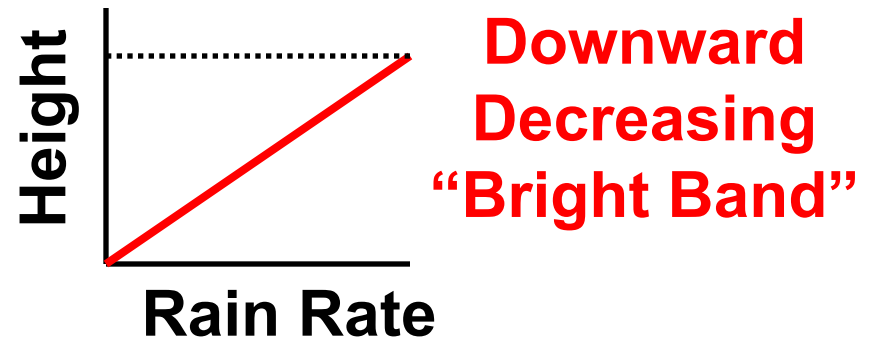
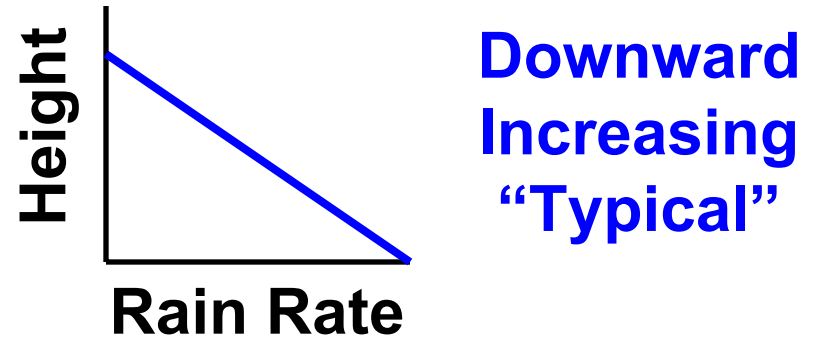


# Profiles

## Zeroth Order Approx.



## First Order Approx.

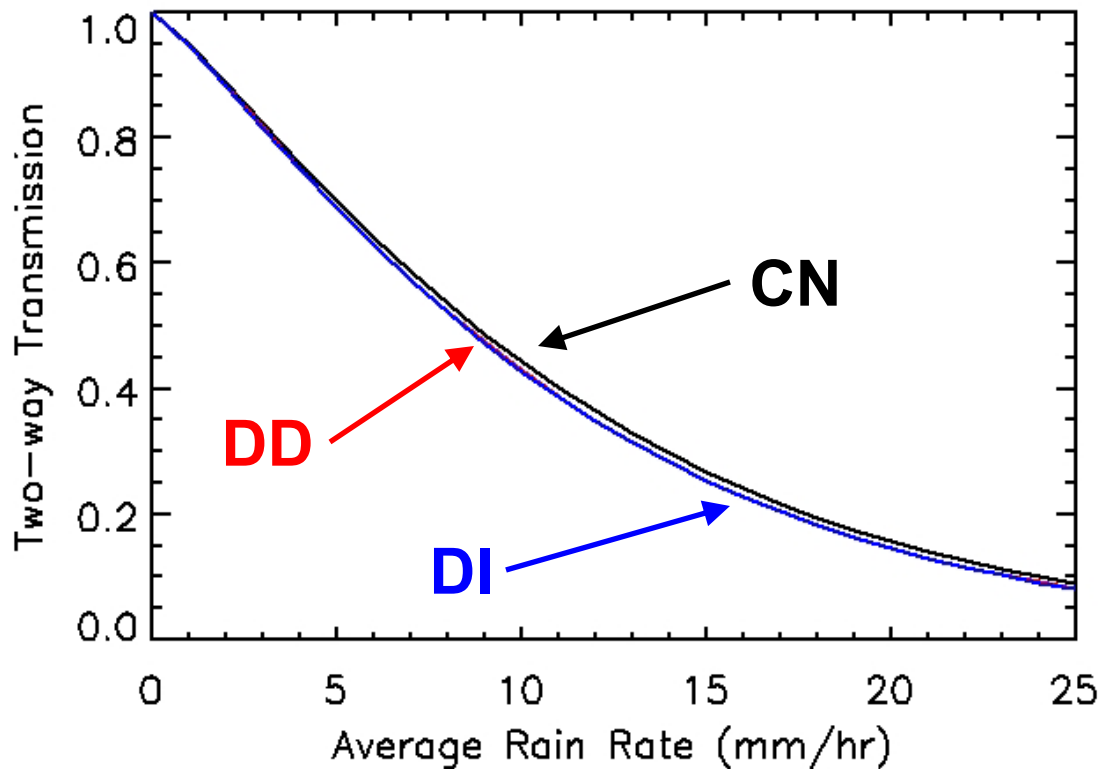


Note: All profiles have same

- Average Rain Rate
- Rain Column Height



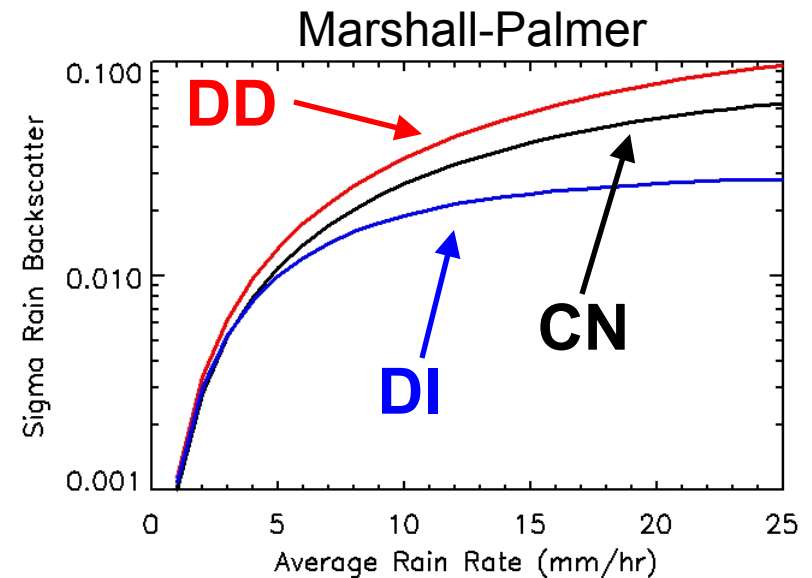
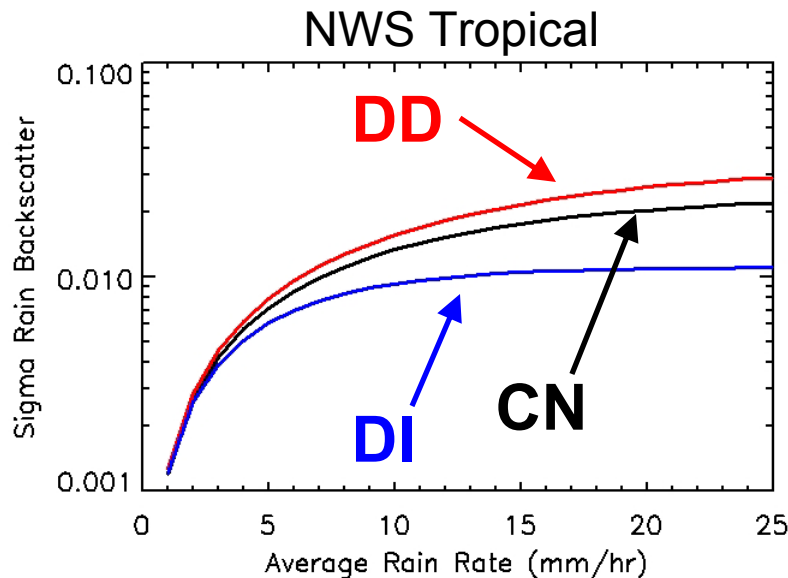
# Profiles (Transmission)



**Thus, it is the total rain water content, and not the profile, that is important for attenuation.**



# Profiles (Volumetric Backscatter)



**Thus, the profile shape is as important as the DSD!  
... But the profile is only important for  $R > 3$  mm/hr.**

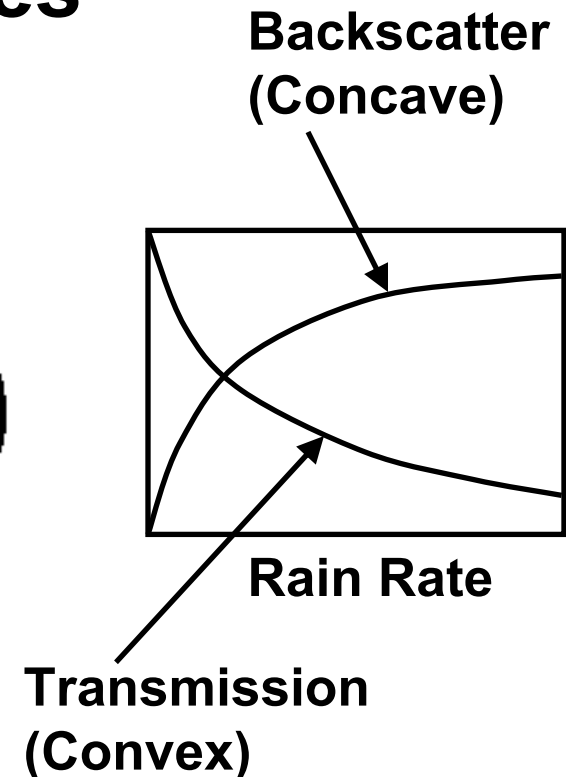


# Beamfilling

- Jensen's Inequality gives

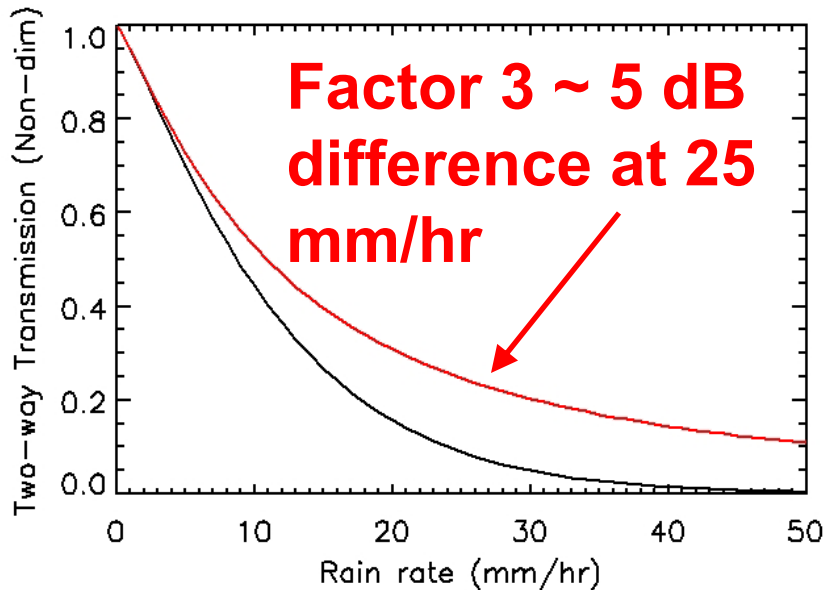
$$E[\tau_r^2(R)] > \tau_r^2(E[R])$$

$$E[\sigma_{0,bscat}(R)] < \sigma_{0,bscat}(E[R])$$



# Beamfilling (Transmission)

$$E(\tau_r^2) = E(e^{tA}) = M_A(t) = \frac{1}{(1 - (A_L \beta^2)t)^{\beta^{-2}}}$$



$$t = -2 \sec \theta, A = kH$$

$$\beta = \frac{\Delta A_L}{A_L} = \frac{\text{var}^{1/2}}{\text{mean}}$$

**= 0.85,  
typically**

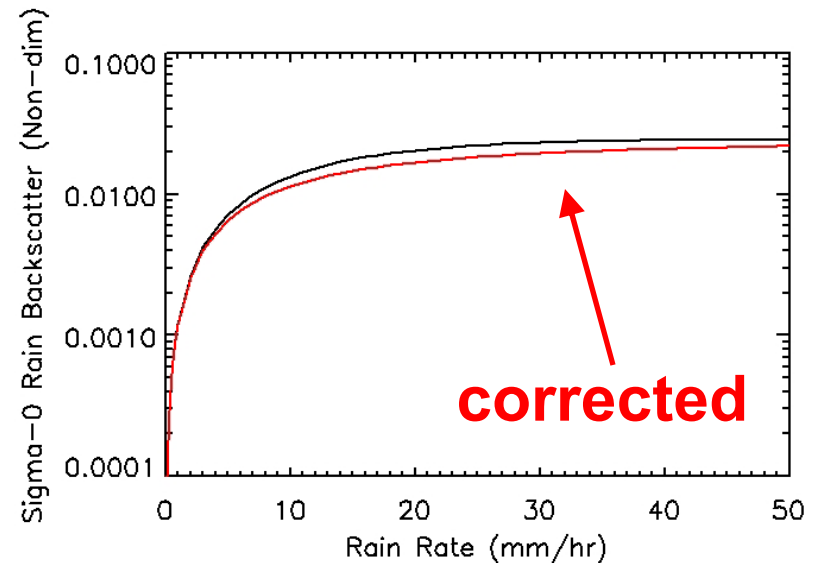


# Beamfilling (Volumetric Backscatter)

$$\sigma_{0,b\text{scat}} = \int_0^{H \sec \Theta} \left[ \int_0^\infty e^{-2kl} c a k^b P(k) dk \right] dl$$

$$= \left[ \frac{\Gamma(\beta^{-2} + b) c a}{\Gamma(\beta^{-2}) (A_L \beta^2)^{\beta^{-2}}} \right] \cdot$$

$$\frac{\left( 2H \sec \Theta + \frac{1}{A_L \beta^2} \right)^{\beta^{-2} + b + 1} - \left( \frac{1}{A_L \beta^2} \right)^{\beta^{-2} + b + 1}}{2(\beta^{-2} + b + 1)}$$





# Data to Test Model

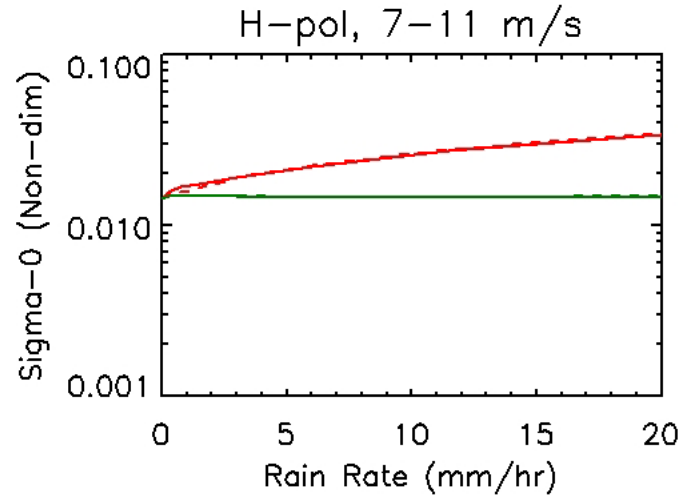
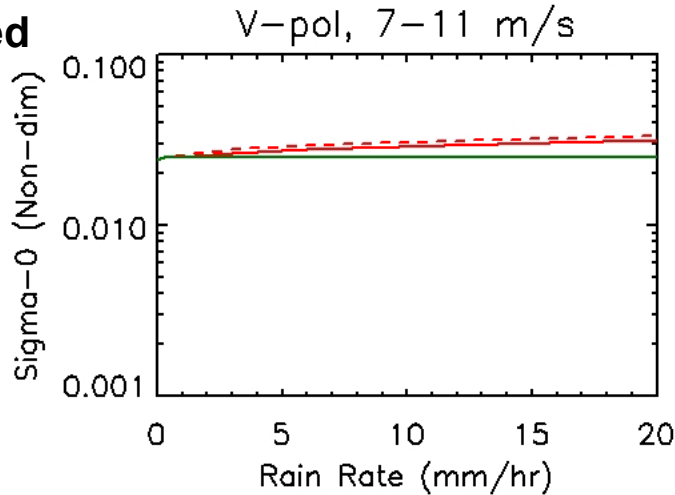
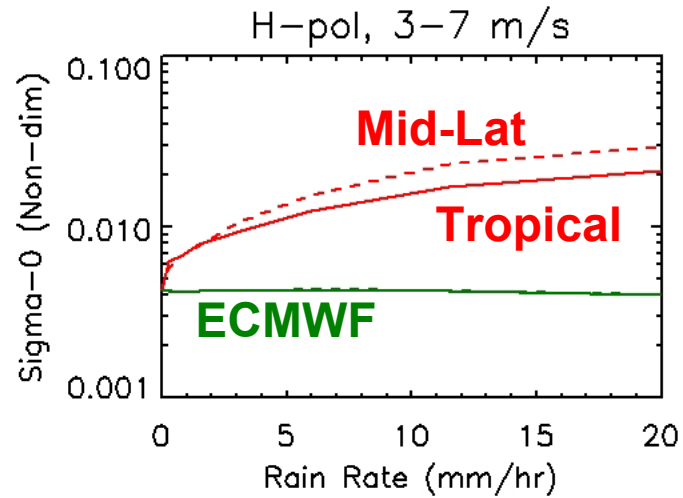
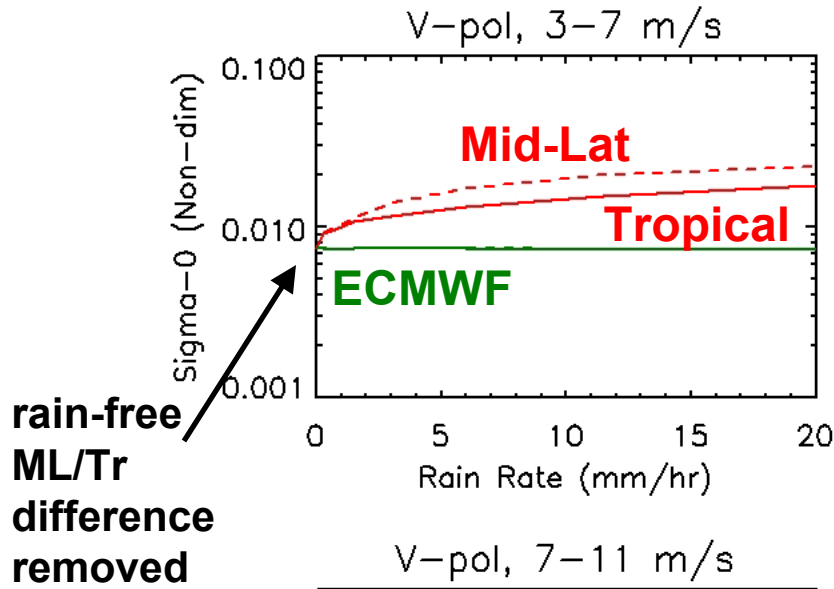
- **Used 15 minute collocated SeaWinds sigma-0's with SSM/I rain rates**
  - Upwind normalized
  - F15 usually
- **Used ECMWF tri-linearly interpolated wind speed and directions to get the wind sigma-0**
  - Linearly adjusted ECMWF sigma-0's to rain-free SeaWinds sigma-0's for each beam and wind speed



dash: ML  
solid: Tr



# SeaWinds Data



# Conceptual Model

## Mid-Latitude

## Tropics

Less  
attenuation  
of wind  
and rain  
roughened  
surface

Top Rain Column



Sea Surface

Top Rain Column



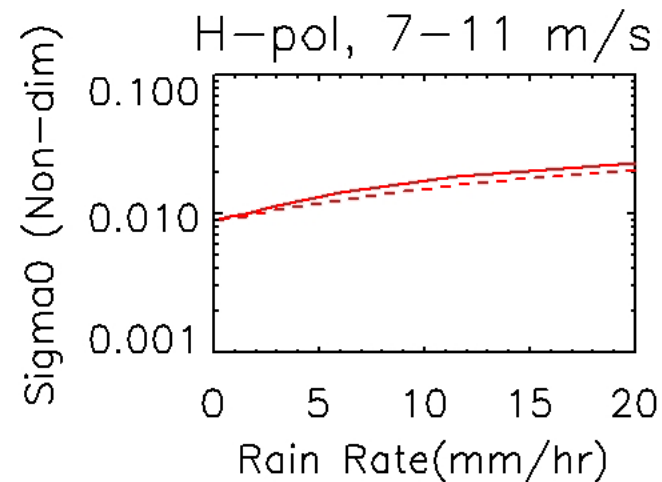
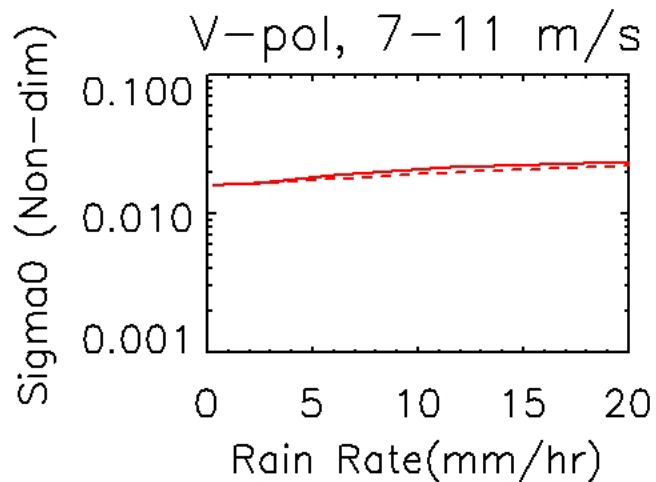
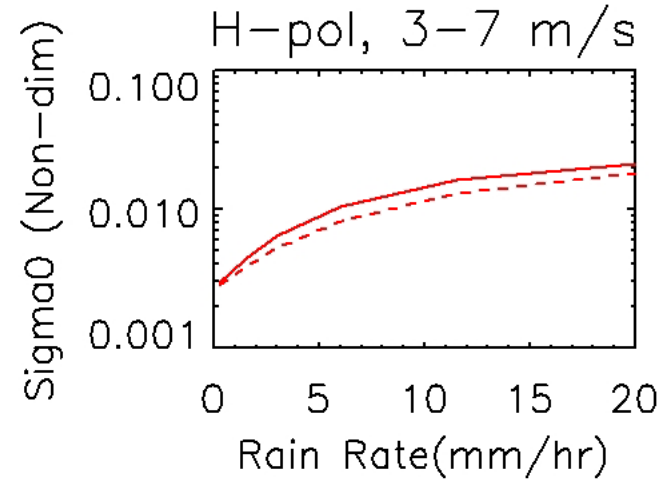
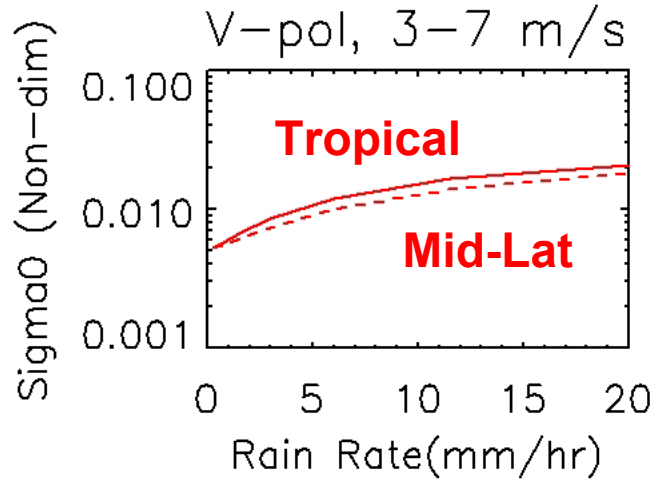
Sea Surface

Deeper  
column  
implies  
additional  
backscatter-  
but not  
enough to  
surpass M-L  
signal

dash: ML  
solid: Tr



# No Rain Roughening

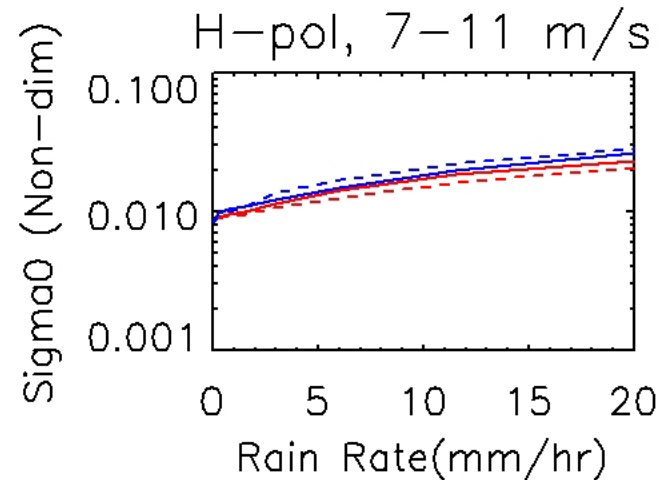
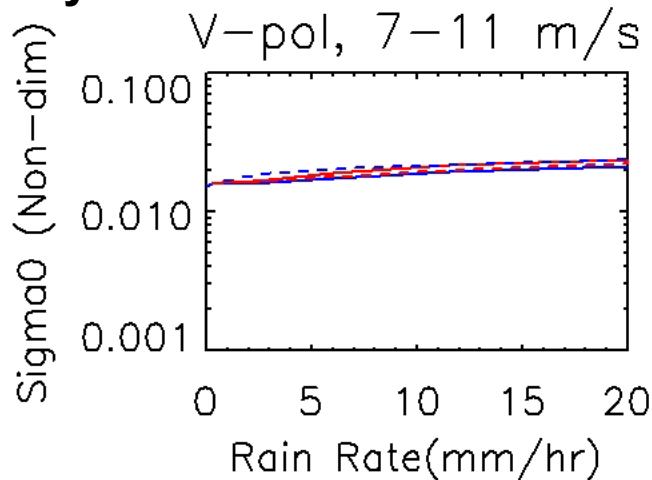
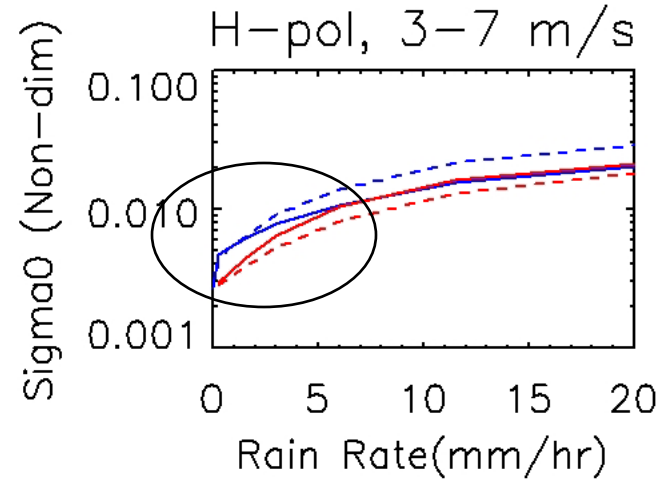
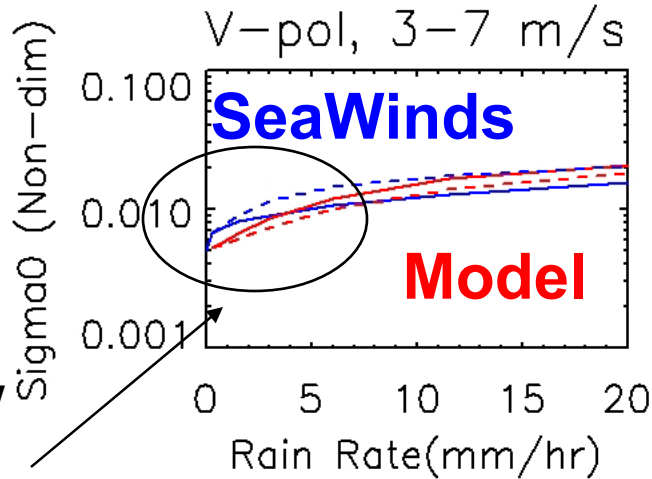


dash: ML  
solid: Tr



# No Rain Roughening

note low  
rain rate  
discrepancy

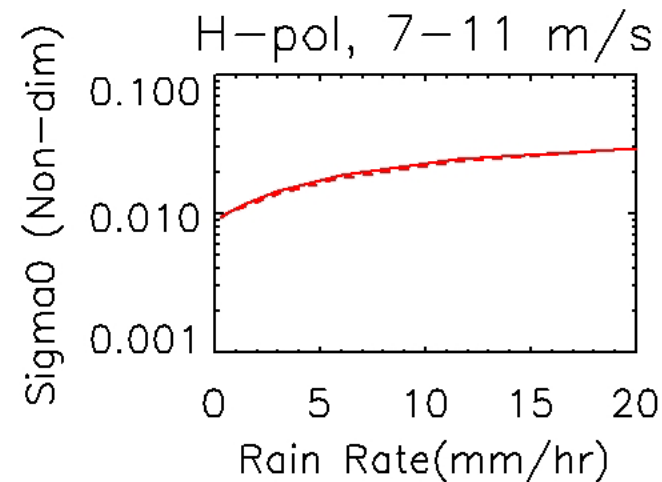
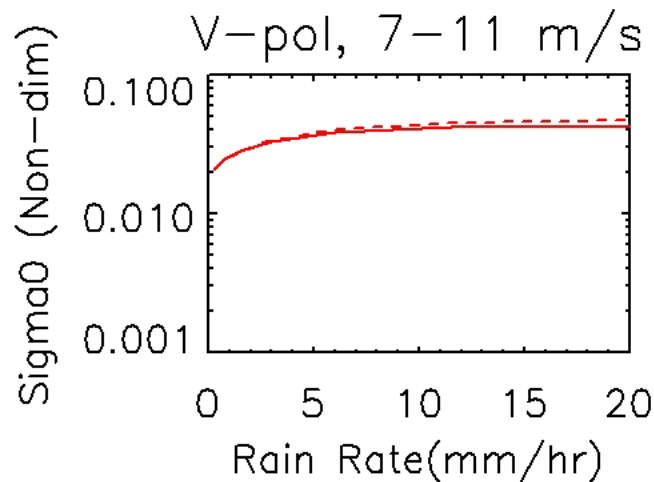
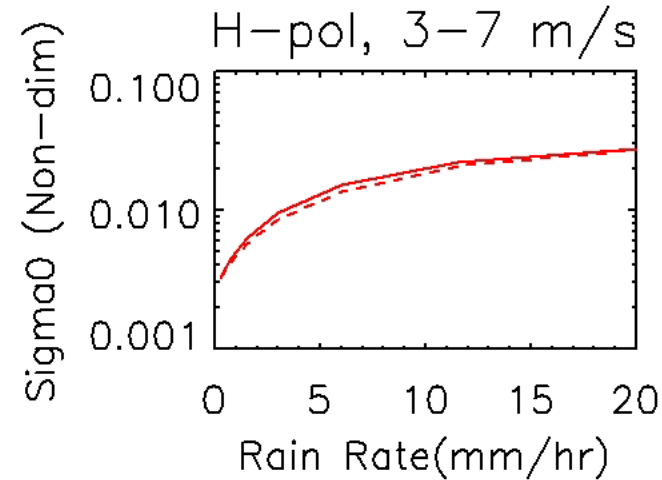
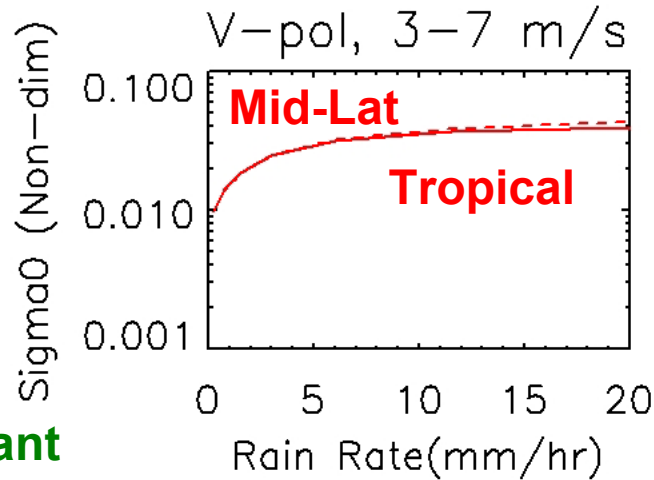


dash: ML  
solid: Tr



# Rain Roughening

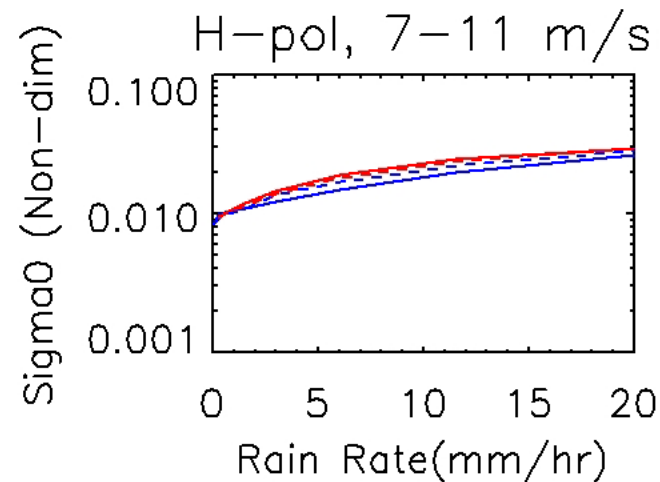
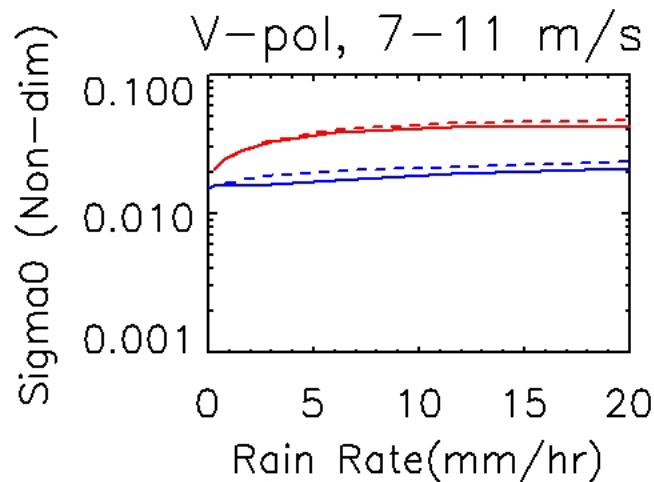
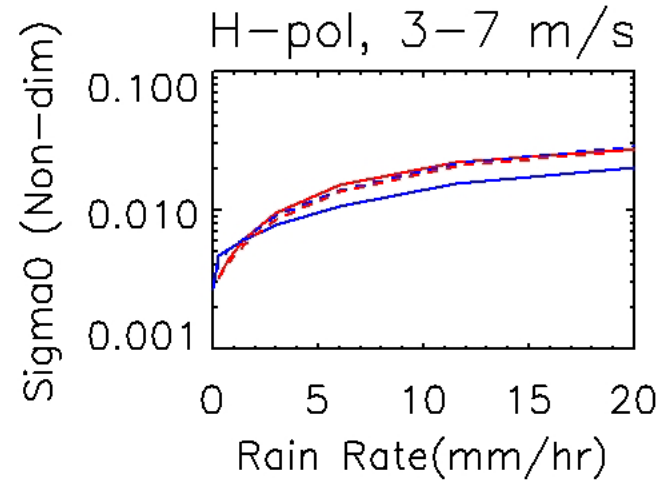
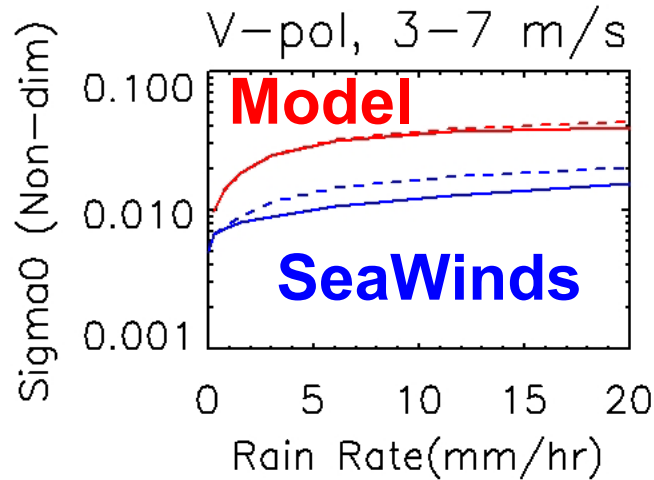
(constant profile used)



dash: ML  
solid: Tr



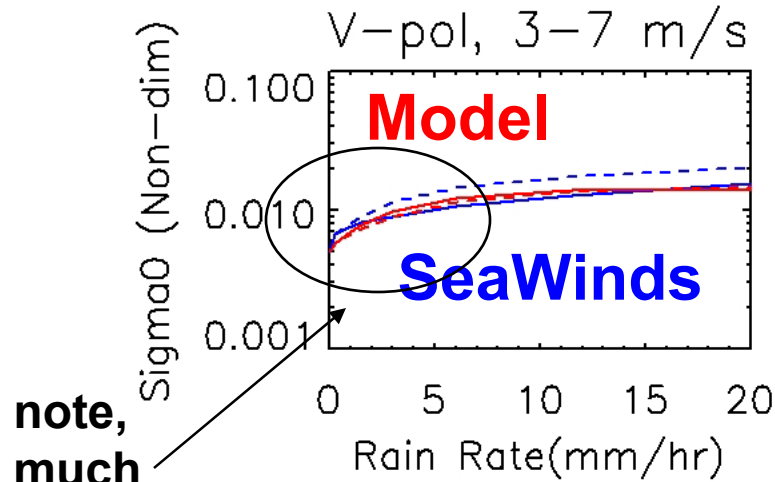
# Rain Roughening



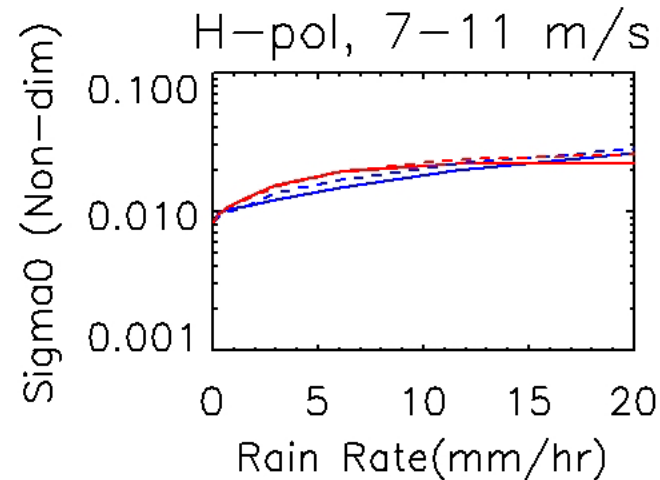
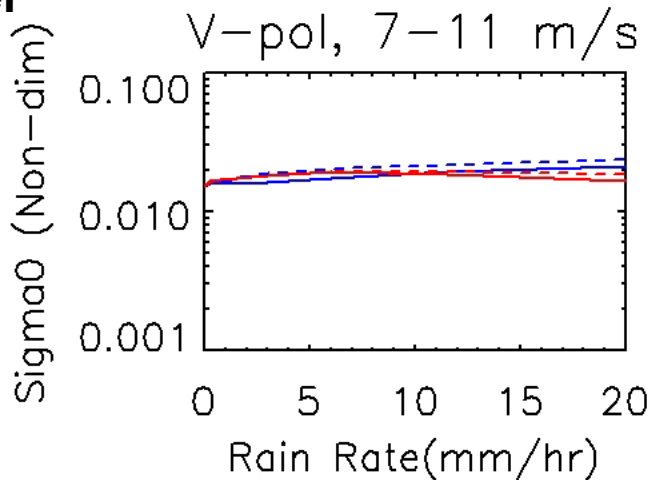
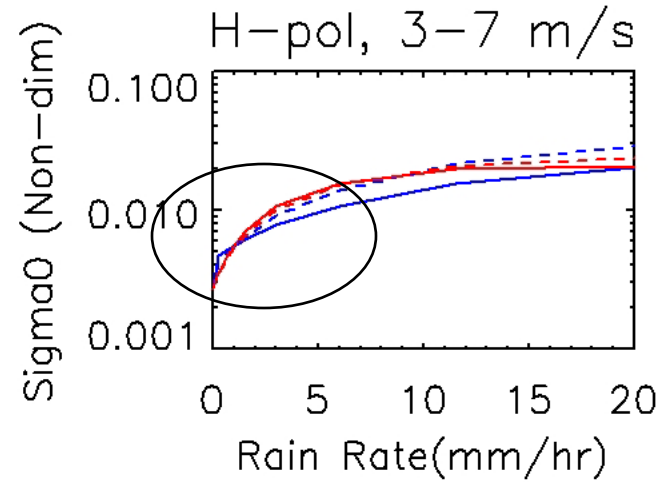
dash: ML  
solid: Tr



# Rain Roughening (Scaled)



note,  
much  
better





## **Conclusions**

- **Regarding beamfilling, profiles, and DSDs**
  - **Beamfilling: Important for transmission, but not for backscattering**
  - **Profile: Important for backscattering, but not for transmission**
  - **Profile is as important as DSD**
- **Further refinement of model still necessary**