

Texts:*The Avalanche Handbook* (2006), 3rd ed., by David McClung & Peter Schaerer, + assigned papers**Monday, March 26, 2018****8:15****Morning lectures – albedo, energy balance**

Welcome to SNARL

Carol Blanchette [Valentine/SNARL web page](#)*What's albedo and why should you care?* Optical properties of ice and water; reflectance of snow in the solar spectrum

Jeff Dozier

Dozier, Mountain hydrology, snow color, and the fourth paradigm

Instrumentation on Mammoth Mountain: Description of CUES (CRREL/UCSB Energy Site)

Ned Bair

Bair et al., CUES

[CRREL/UCSB snow energy balance](#)*Energy balance of the mountain snow pack*: solar and longwave radiation, sensible and latent heat exchange, cold content.

Jeff Dozier

Fierz et al., Energy balance models.

Properties of ice and snow crystals in the atmosphere and the ground: crystal structure; triple point; saturation vapor pressure; shapes.

Jeff Dozier

Avalanche Handbook, chapter 2
Shultz, Crystal growth in ice and snow**13:00****Lunch break****14:00****Afternoon lectures – practical matters***Introduction to avalanches*: Tutorial material to help understand Tuesday's gun and bomb tours

Ned Bair

[Snowpack tests video \(24 min\)](#)*Why the US Army cares about snow*: Operations, research gaps, technology maturation, and examples

Bert Davis

[Army Geospatial Research Cold-weather warfare](#)*The rain-snow transition*. Identifying it, trends

Danny Marks

Marks et al., Determining precipitation phase

[CW3E Ensemble-derived Freezing Level](#)

Q&A on day, break

18:30**Dinner****Evening**

Study and read (most instructors gone for Jeff's retirement party)

Tuesday, March 27, 2018**8:00****Morning lectures – remote sensing of snow and ice***Tutorial on remote sensing of mountain snow*: What we can tell in the visible through microwave spectrum

Jeff Dozier

Nolin, Remote sensing of seasonal snow
Lettenmaier et al., Hydrologic remote sensing (just the material on snow)*Airborne Snow Observatory*: measurements of snow albedo (from spectrometer) and depth (from lidar)

Tom Painter

[NASA Airborne Snow Observatory](#)
Painter et al., Airborne Snow Observatory*Microwave remote sensing*: Operational measurements of snow depth and water equivalent

Bert Davis

Dozier et al., Spatial distribution of SWE

12:00**Lunch**

13:00	Afternoon – Mammoth Mountain <i>USDA field experiment:</i> Observations of drone, ground-penetrating radar, terrestrial lidar	Danny Marks McKenzie Skiles	
	<i>Mammoth Mountain avalanche control:</i> Tour of the gun and avalanche control demo	Mammoth Mtn	Mammoth Mountain Ski Patrol
18:00	Dinner		
19:00	Evening Perspective on this year's snowpack and avalanche hazard	Josh Feinberg	Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center
	Avalanche airbag demo	West Vane	
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 All day – Mammoth Mountain & Sidecountry			
8:30	<i>Field measurements of snow properties:</i> Extended column tests; snowpit analysis for stratigraphy and SWE, metamorphism; observations of liquid water in snow (if it's wet); spatial variability to support the field experiment		Greene et al., Snow, Weather, Avalanches
16:30	<i>Field measurements:</i> Assembling and plotting the data		
18:00	Dinner		
19:00	Evening <i>Snow surveys and identifying the snow line, and Thursday's slide off McGee</i>	Sue Burak	
Thursday, March 29, 2018			
8:00	Morning lectures – snow hydrology <i>Snow hydrology in the Sierra Nevada:</i> Water supply; runoff forecasting; droughts, trends; errors	Jeff Dozier	Bales et al., Mountain hydrology of western U.S. Calif Data Exchange Center
	<i>Storms in the Sierra Nevada:</i> How atmospheric circulation affects precipitation	Jeff Dozier	Rosen, Atmospheric rivers Center for Western Weather & Extremes
	<i>Dirty snow:</i> Acceleration of the hydrologic cycle by dust and black carbon	Tom Painter McKenzie Skiles	Painter et al., Dust radiative forcing 1 Skiles et al., Dust radiative forcing 2
	<i>SWE Reconstruction:</i> How it works, in mountains with and without surface measurements	Ned Bair	Bair et al., Validation reconstruction of SWE ...
12:30	Lunch		
13:30	Afternoon lectures – snow science <i>Snow ecohydrology in mountain basins:</i> How snow affects aquatic ecology in the Sierra Nevada.	John Melack	Sickman et al. Mechanisms for N export

	<i>Economic value of snow forecasts</i>	Timbo Stilling	
	Variability in snow density. How to measure, how to model?	Danny Marks	
	<i>Advanced topics in snow metamorphism:</i> Effect of energy balance on avalanche hazard; theoretical basis of change in albedo; sintering; modeling of snow metamorphism at the grain scale.	Ned Bair	Avalanche Handbook, chapter 3. Fierz et al., International classification of snow.
	Q&A on day, break		
18:00	Dinner		
19:00	Evening		
	<i>Field measurements:</i> Assembling and plotting the data to compare with the field experiment	Ned Bair Mike Colee Danny Marks	
Friday, March 30, 2018			
8:30	Morning – Mammoth Mountain		
	<i>Mammoth Mountain Snow:</i> Tour of CUES instrument site, avalanche control routes	Mammoth Mtn	CRREL/UCSB snow energy balance Mammoth Mountain Ski Patrol
13:00	Lunch		
14:00	Afternoon – lecture and discussion		
	<i>Structure from motion:</i> Using a drone to measure elevation (and thereby snow depth)	McKenzie Skiles	Bühler et al., Snow depth mapping
	Review and discussion, whole course		
Saturday, March 31, 2018			
9:00	Final Exam, 3 hours, open notes, open Internet		
12:30	Lunch, clean up, move out		