

Simulation of the Lunar Surface Emission and Inversion of the Regolith Layer Thickness Using Fusion

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A correspondence of the lunar regolith layer thickness to the lunar digital elevation mapping (DEM) is proposed to construct the global distribution of lunar regolith layer thickness. Based on some measurements, the temperature distribution over the lunar surface is proposed. Albedo of the lunar nearside at the wavelengths of 0.42, 0.65, 0.75, 0.95 μm from the telescopic observation is employed to construct the spatial distribution of FeO+TiO₂ on the lunar regolith layer. A statistic relationship between the DEM and FeO+TiO₂ content of the lunar nearside is then extended to construction of FeO+TiO₂ content of the lunar farside. Thus, the dielectric permittivity of global lunar regolith layer can be determined.

Based on all these conditions, brightness temperature of the lunar regolith layer in passive microwave remote sensing, which is planned for China's Chang-E lunar project, is numerically simulated by a parallel layer model using the fluctuation dissipation theorem.

Furthermore, taking these simulations as observations, an inversion method of the lunar regolith layer thickness is developed by using three- or two-channels brightness temperatures. When the FeO+TiO₂ content of the lunar regolith layer and the four channels brightness temperatures in Chang-E project are well distinguishable, the regolith layer thickness and physical temperature of the underlying lunar rocky media can be inverted by the three-channels approach. When the FeO+TiO₂ content is so high that the brightness temperature at higher frequency might be saturated, the regolith layer thickness is alternatively inverted only by the two-channels approach. Numerical simulation and inversion approach in this paper make an evaluation of the performance of passive microwave remote sensing, and for future data calibration and validation.