

CICS-MD Science Meeting
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Sinéad L. Farrell 1-3 Interannual Variability in Contemporaneous Measurements of Arctic Snow and Sea Ice Thickness

The NASA Operation IceBridge mission was initiated in 2009 to collect airborne remote sensing measurements with the goal of bridging the gap between NASA's ICESat mission and the upcoming ICESat-2 mission, scheduled for launch in 2017. IceBridge uses multi-instrumented aircraft to monitor the Arctic and Southern Oceans and provides new and unique data that describes the topography, morphology and snow cover of the sea ice pack across basin scales. Here we present the latest results from the IceBridge mission paying particular attention to advances in the measurement of snow depth on Arctic sea ice. We investigate interannual variability in the winter snow and sea ice packs of the Arctic Ocean. We present the regional trends in thickness derived from six years of IceBridge retrievals between 2009 and 2014, contrasting observations of the multi-year ice pack with seasonal ice zones.