

# Auxiliary material for: A general treatment of snow microstructure exemplified by an improved relation for the thermal conductivity

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## 1 Classification of snow samples

In the following we provide a detailed listing of used samples. The isothermal experiments are listed in Tab. 1. The time series of temperature gradient experiments (TGM-2, TGM17) were conducted in the  $\mu$ -CT and listed in Tab. 2,3. The temperature gradient experiments (DH-1, DH-2) were carried out in a metamorphism box and listed in Tab. 4. The set of 37 individual samples (DIV) comprising various types of snow is described in Tab. 5. Besides the ice volume fraction  $\phi_i$  (density) (conservative error estimate:  $\pm 0.01$ ) and the specific surface area (SSA) (conservative error estimate  $\pm 10\%$ ) we provide a measure of “grain size”: The mean thickness Sp and Th of the ice matrix and pore space, respectively have been computed by the method [2] based on the inscription of spheres. The respective errors denote the standard deviation of the thickness distribution. In addition, a grain classification has been carried out from tomography images according to [1]. For time-lapse metamorphism experiments also the time step is given.

Table 1: Properties of the snow samples of isothermal experiments **ISO-1** (upper part) and **ISO-5** (lower part). ISC: international snow classification, Time in (weeks), Th: ice thickness (mm), Sp: pore thickness (mm),  $\phi_i$ : ice volume fraction, SSA: specific surface area ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ).

ISC	Time	Th	Sp	$\phi_i$	SSA
DF dc	0	$0.07 \pm 0.02$	$0.26 \pm 0.12$	0.167	43.51
RG sr	2	$0.11 \pm 0.03$	$0.33 \pm 0.14$	0.186	27.27
RG sr	5	$0.14 \pm 0.03$	$0.36 \pm 0.13$	0.198	22.71
RG sr	7	$0.16 \pm 0.03$	$0.37 \pm 0.14$	0.216	20.55
RG sr	10	$0.18 \pm 0.03$	$0.38 \pm 0.14$	0.221	19.51
RG sr	16	$0.20 \pm 0.04$	$0.40 \pm 0.15$	0.237	16.66
RG lr	31	$0.25 \pm 0.05$	$0.46 \pm 0.19$	0.249	14.04
RG lr	44	$0.28 \pm 0.06$	$0.46 \pm 0.18$	0.271	12.46
RG lr	47	$0.29 \pm 0.06$	$0.47 \pm 0.18$	0.277	14.19
DF dc	0	$0.08 \pm 0.03$	$0.26 \pm 0.11$	0.176	37.79
RG sr	2	$0.11 \pm 0.03$	$0.31 \pm 0.12$	0.185	28.76
RG sr	5	$0.12 \pm 0.04$	$0.34 \pm 0.13$	0.187	25.45
RG sr	7	$0.13 \pm 0.04$	$0.36 \pm 0.14$	0.191	23.74
RG sr	10	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.39 \pm 0.16$	0.190	22.19
RG sr	16	$0.16 \pm 0.04$	$0.44 \pm 0.20$	0.193	19.97
RG sr	31	$0.19 \pm 0.04$	$0.43 \pm 0.16$	0.218	17.16
RG sr	44	$0.21 \pm 0.05$	$0.46 \pm 0.19$	0.224	16.79
RG sr	47	$0.21 \pm 0.05$	$0.46 \pm 0.19$	0.228	16.36

Table 2: Properties of the snow samples of **TGM-17** temperature gradient experiment. ISC: international snow classification, Time in (days), Th: ice thickness (mm), Sp: pore thickness (mm),  $\phi_i$ : ice volume fraction, SSA: specific surface area ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ).

ISC	Time	Th	Sp	$\phi_i$	SSA
RG sr	0.0	$0.13 \pm 0.03$	$0.24 \pm 0.09$	0.289	21.70
RG sr	0.3	$0.14 \pm 0.03$	$0.25 \pm 0.09$	0.288	21.46
RG sr	0.7	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.25 \pm 0.10$	0.287	21.05
RG sr	1.0	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.25 \pm 0.10$	0.287	20.60
RG sr	1.3	$0.15 \pm 0.04$	$0.26 \pm 0.10$	0.289	20.13
RG sr	1.7	$0.15 \pm 0.04$	$0.26 \pm 0.10$	0.288	19.79
RG sr	2.0	$0.16 \pm 0.04$	$0.27 \pm 0.10$	0.292	19.18
RG xf	2.3	$0.16 \pm 0.05$	$0.27 \pm 0.11$	0.290	18.87
RG xf	2.7	$0.16 \pm 0.05$	$0.28 \pm 0.11$	0.291	18.47
FC xr	3.0	$0.16 \pm 0.05$	$0.28 \pm 0.11$	0.292	18.13
FC xr	3.3	$0.17 \pm 0.05$	$0.28 \pm 0.11$	0.292	17.83
FC xr	3.7	$0.17 \pm 0.05$	$0.29 \pm 0.11$	0.292	17.49
FC xr	4.0	$0.17 \pm 0.06$	$0.30 \pm 0.11$	0.292	17.14
FC so	4.3	$0.18 \pm 0.06$	$0.30 \pm 0.12$	0.292	16.77
FC so	4.7	$0.18 \pm 0.06$	$0.31 \pm 0.12$	0.292	16.55
FC so	5.0	$0.18 \pm 0.06$	$0.31 \pm 0.12$	0.293	16.20
FC so	5.3	$0.18 \pm 0.06$	$0.32 \pm 0.13$	0.294	15.98
FC so	5.7	$0.18 \pm 0.06$	$0.32 \pm 0.13$	0.294	15.77
FC so	6.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.33 \pm 0.13$	0.293	15.55
FC so	6.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.33 \pm 0.13$	0.294	15.39
FC so	6.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.34 \pm 0.14$	0.294	15.18
FC so	7.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.34 \pm 0.14$	0.294	15.08
FC so	7.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.35 \pm 0.14$	0.295	14.96
FC so	7.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.35 \pm 0.14$	0.293	14.99
FC so	8.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.36 \pm 0.15$	0.293	14.90
FC so	8.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.36 \pm 0.15$	0.293	14.85
FC so	8.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.36 \pm 0.15$	0.293	14.81
FC so	9.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.36 \pm 0.15$	0.293	14.76
FC so	9.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.37 \pm 0.16$	0.294	14.67
DH cp	9.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.37 \pm 0.16$	0.295	14.58
DH cp	10.0	$0.18 \pm 0.07$	$0.36 \pm 0.16$	0.295	14.86
DH cp	10.3	$0.18 \pm 0.07$	$0.37 \pm 0.16$	0.294	14.60
DH cp	10.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.16$	0.294	14.51
DH cp	11.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.16$	0.295	14.38
DH cp	11.3	$0.18 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.16$	0.293	14.53
DH cp	11.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.17$	0.295	14.34
DH cp	12.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.17$	0.296	14.31
DH cp	12.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.38 \pm 0.17$	0.296	14.26
DH cp	12.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.39 \pm 0.17$	0.295	14.19
DH cp	13.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.39 \pm 0.17$	0.295	14.09
DH cp	13.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.40 \pm 0.17$	0.296	13.99
DH cp	13.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.40 \pm 0.17$	0.295	13.96
DH cp	14.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.18$	0.296	13.78
DH cp	14.3	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.18$	0.295	13.78
DH cp	14.7	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.18$	0.294	13.77
DH cp	15.0	$0.19 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.18$	0.294	13.71

DH cp	15.3	$0.20 \pm 0.08$	$0.42 \pm 0.18$	0.294	13.62
DH cp	15.7	$0.20 \pm 0.08$	$0.42 \pm 0.19$	0.294	13.57
DH cp	16.0	$0.20 \pm 0.08$	$0.42 \pm 0.19$	0.296	13.40

Table 3: Properties of the snow samples of **TGM-2** temperature gradient experiment. ISC: international snow classification, Time in (days), Th: ice thickness (mm), Sp: pore thickness (mm),  $\phi_i$ : ice volume fraction, SSA: specific surface area ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ).

ISC	Time	Th	Sp	$\phi_i$	SSA
DF dc	0.0	$0.10 \pm 0.04$	$0.26 \pm 0.11$	0.218	28.95
DF dc	0.1	$0.10 \pm 0.04$	$0.27 \pm 0.12$	0.219	28.66
DF dc	0.4	$0.11 \pm 0.04$	$0.27 \pm 0.12$	0.217	28.05
DF dc	0.6	$0.11 \pm 0.04$	$0.29 \pm 0.13$	0.218	27.25
RG sr	0.9	$0.11 \pm 0.04$	$0.29 \pm 0.13$	0.219	26.51
RG sr	1.1	$0.12 \pm 0.05$	$0.30 \pm 0.13$	0.220	25.70
RG sr	1.4	$0.12 \pm 0.05$	$0.31 \pm 0.14$	0.221	24.87
RG sr	1.4	$0.12 \pm 0.05$	$0.32 \pm 0.14$	0.223	24.16
RG xf	1.9	$0.13 \pm 0.05$	$0.32 \pm 0.14$	0.226	23.57
RG xf	2.1	$0.13 \pm 0.05$	$0.34 \pm 0.15$	0.225	23.00
RG xf	2.4	$0.13 \pm 0.06$	$0.34 \pm 0.15$	0.228	22.42
RG xf	2.6	$0.14 \pm 0.06$	$0.35 \pm 0.16$	0.231	21.93
FC so	2.9	$0.14 \pm 0.06$	$0.36 \pm 0.16$	0.230	21.62
FC so	3.1	$0.14 \pm 0.06$	$0.37 \pm 0.17$	0.229	21.35
FC so	3.4	$0.14 \pm 0.06$	$0.37 \pm 0.17$	0.231	20.92
FC so	3.6	$0.15 \pm 0.06$	$0.38 \pm 0.17$	0.232	20.34
FC so	3.9	$0.15 \pm 0.07$	$0.39 \pm 0.17$	0.233	19.89
FC so	4.7	$0.15 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.19$	0.231	19.06
DH cp	4.9	$0.15 \pm 0.07$	$0.41 \pm 0.19$	0.234	18.90
DH cp	5.1	$0.16 \pm 0.07$	$0.42 \pm 0.19$	0.235	18.60
DH cp	5.4	$0.16 \pm 0.07$	$0.43 \pm 0.20$	0.236	18.32
DH cp	5.6	$0.16 \pm 0.07$	$0.43 \pm 0.20$	0.237	18.05
DH cp	5.9	$0.16 \pm 0.07$	$0.43 \pm 0.20$	0.238	17.83
DH cp	6.1	$0.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.44 \pm 0.20$	0.241	17.47
DH cp	6.4	$0.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.45 \pm 0.21$	0.241	17.12
DH cp	6.6	$0.17 \pm 0.08$	$0.44 \pm 0.20$	0.244	16.94
DH cp	6.9	$0.17 \pm 0.08$	$0.44 \pm 0.20$	0.246	16.81
DH cp	7.1	$0.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.44 \pm 0.20$	0.248	16.61
DH cp	7.4	$0.17 \pm 0.08$	$0.45 \pm 0.20$	0.251	16.43
DH cp	7.6	$0.18 \pm 0.08$	$0.47 \pm 0.22$	0.244	16.24
DH cp	7.9	$0.18 \pm 0.08$	$0.47 \pm 0.21$	0.245	16.09
DH cp	8.1	$0.18 \pm 0.08$	$0.47 \pm 0.22$	0.246	15.97
DH cp	8.4	$0.18 \pm 0.09$	$0.48 \pm 0.22$	0.246	15.75
DH cp	8.6	$0.18 \pm 0.09$	$0.48 \pm 0.22$	0.248	15.70
DH cp	8.9	$0.18 \pm 0.09$	$0.48 \pm 0.23$	0.252	15.47
DH cp	9.1	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.50 \pm 0.24$	0.254	15.24
DH cp	9.4	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.50 \pm 0.24$	0.258	15.16
DH cp	9.6	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.50 \pm 0.24$	0.258	15.05
DH cp	9.9	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.51 \pm 0.25$	0.259	15.01
DH cp	10.1	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.51 \pm 0.25$	0.255	14.75

DH cp	10.4	$0.20 \pm 0.09$	$0.53 \pm 0.26$	0.256	14.32
DH cp	10.6	$0.20 \pm 0.09$	$0.53 \pm 0.26$	0.256	14.23
DH cp	10.9	$0.20 \pm 0.10$	$0.55 \pm 0.27$	0.255	14.12
DH cp	11.1	$0.20 \pm 0.10$	$0.55 \pm 0.28$	0.256	14.07
DH cp	11.4	$0.20 \pm 0.10$	$0.56 \pm 0.28$	0.257	13.97
DH cp	11.6	$0.20 \pm 0.10$	$0.55 \pm 0.27$	0.258	13.97
DH cp	11.9	$0.21 \pm 0.10$	$0.56 \pm 0.28$	0.257	13.94

Table 4: Properties of the snow samples **DH-1** (Upper part) and **DH-2** (lower part). ISC: international snow classification, Time in (weeks), Th: ice thickness (mm), Sp: pore thickness (mm),  $\phi_i$ : ice volume fraction, SSA: specific surface area ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ).

ISC	Time	Th	Sp	$\phi_i$	SSA
DF dc	0	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.37 \pm 0.13$	0.196	22.13
RG xf	1	$0.15 \pm 0.05$	$0.34 \pm 0.12$	0.224	20.61
RG xf	2	$0.16 \pm 0.06$	$0.44 \pm 0.17$	0.190	19.57
DH cp	4	$0.19 \pm 0.09$	$0.48 \pm 0.20$	0.225	16.26
DH cp	6	$0.25 \pm 0.11$	$0.58 \pm 0.24$	0.277	11.50
DH cp	12.5	$0.29 \pm 0.14$	$0.69 \pm 0.33$	0.324	9.29
DF bk	0	$0.15 \pm 0.05$	$0.31 \pm 0.15$	0.281	19.96
RG wp	1	$0.16 \pm 0.05$	$0.27 \pm 0.11$	0.332	18.17
RG xf	4	$0.20 \pm 0.08$	$0.34 \pm 0.15$	0.360	14.08
FC so	6	$0.2 \pm 0.10$	$0.46 \pm 0.22$	0.332	12.23
DH cp	11.5	$0.28 \pm 0.15$	$0.51 \pm 0.27$	0.406	9.35

Table 5: Properties of diverse snow samples (**DIV**). ISC: international snow classification, Th: ice thickness (mm), Sp: pore thickness (mm),  $\phi_i$ : ice volume fraction, SSA: specific surface area ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ).

ISC	Time	Th	Sp	$\phi_i$	SSA
DH cp	-	$0.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.49 \pm 0.23$	0.260	15.99
DH cp	-	$0.16 \pm 0.07$	$0.47 \pm 0.22$	0.260	16.37
DH cp	-	$0.20 \pm 0.10$	$0.62 \pm 0.33$	0.290	12.97
DH cp	-	$0.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.54 \pm 0.32$	0.310	14.05
DH cp	-	$0.19 \pm 0.10$	$0.51 \pm 0.28$	0.330	13.51
DH cp	-	$0.23 \pm 0.14$	$0.93 \pm 0.53$	0.230	12.28
DH cp	-	$0.25 \pm 0.13$	$0.78 \pm 0.37$	0.250	11.31
DH cp	-	$0.29 \pm 0.20$	$0.82 \pm 0.44$	0.280	10.51
DH cp	-	$0.20 \pm 1.76$	$0.07 \pm 1.27$	0.122	12.90
FC so	-	$0.41 \pm 0.18$	$0.71 \pm 0.29$	0.340	7.11
FC so	-	$0.26 \pm 0.09$	$0.54 \pm 0.21$	0.270	11.65
FC so	-	$0.25 \pm 0.42$	$0.07 \pm 0.15$	0.302	12.71
FC xr	-	$0.18 \pm 0.40$	$0.05 \pm 0.14$	0.242	17.05
MF cl	-	$0.31 \pm 0.12$	$0.63 \pm 0.29$	0.300	9.40
MF cl	-	$0.31 \pm 0.11$	$0.40 \pm 0.17$	0.410	9.62
MF cl	-	$0.35 \pm 0.13$	$0.80 \pm 0.35$	0.290	8.21
MF cl	-	$0.21 \pm 0.06$	$0.34 \pm 0.13$	0.320	14.72
MF cl	-	$0.21 \pm 0.06$	$0.31 \pm 0.12$	0.330	15.14

RG lr	-	$0.26 \pm 0.09$	$0.49 \pm 0.20$	0.290	11.89
RG sr	-	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	$0.31 \pm 0.11$	0.170	29.03
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.03$	$0.28 \pm 0.10$	0.210	26.39
RG sr	-	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	$0.33 \pm 0.12$	0.170	27.15
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.03$	$0.30 \pm 0.11$	0.200	25.50
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.04$	$0.56 \pm 0.34$	0.130	25.09
RG sr	-	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	$0.34 \pm 0.13$	0.180	26.78
RG sr	-	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.36 \pm 0.14$	0.190	23.41
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.03$	$0.32 \pm 0.12$	0.210	24.90
RG sr	-	$0.10 \pm 0.03$	$0.24 \pm 0.09$	0.210	31.34
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.04$	$0.29 \pm 0.11$	0.220	24.85
RG sr	-	$0.19 \pm 0.41$	$0.07 \pm 0.16$	0.256	16.16
RG sr	-	$0.22 \pm 0.30$	$0.05 \pm 0.13$	0.363	14.47
RG sr	-	$0.16 \pm 0.27$	$0.03 \pm 0.09$	0.294	19.89
RG sr	-	$0.34 \pm 0.81$	$0.13 \pm 0.36$	0.261	8.84
RG xf	-	$0.18 \pm 0.38$	$0.04 \pm 0.14$	0.246	17.63
PP pp	-	$0.04 \pm 0.03$	$0.30 \pm 0.14$	0.113	62.35
PP pp	-	$0.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.27 \pm 0.15$	0.067	103.19
PP pp	-	$0.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.26 \pm 0.13$	0.078	90.82
RG sr	-	$0.13 \pm 0.04$	$0.30 \pm 0.11$	0.194	25.91
DF dc	-	$0.05 \pm 0.02$	$0.16 \pm 0.04$	0.085	65.12
DF dc	-	$0.06 \pm 0.02$	$0.16 \pm 0.04$	0.144	56.54
FC so	-	$0.19 \pm 0.08$	$0.35 \pm 0.17$	0.316	15.69
FC so	-	$0.21 \pm 0.07$	$0.24 \pm 0.11$	0.459	13.14

## References

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- [2] Hildebrand, T., and P. Ruegsegger, A new method for the model-independent assessment of thickness in three-dimensional images, *J. Microscopy*, 185(1), 67–75, 1997.