Abstract

running average method to infer the lower digit than the accuracy for deep layers and (2) by using a numerical filter to compensate for the difference between the straight line profile and a profile which results from an assumption of constant thermal diffusivity between the two measurement levels for shallow layers. The length of averaging window varies from 3 days at 0.3 m in depth to 15 days at 5 m. The amplitude and phase coefficients of the numerical filter are approximated by A=1 ($\omega' < 2$), $A=\sqrt{2}/\omega'$ ($\omega' \ge 2$) and $\theta=\omega'/6$ ($\omega' < 3\pi/2$), $\theta=\pi/4$ ($\omega' \ge 3\pi/2$), where $\omega'=\omega/\omega_0$, ω being the radian frequency of temperature variations, $\omega_0=2K/d^2$, in which K is the thermal diffusivity and d is the thickness of the layer. Hourly values of snow heat flux at Mizuho Station in 1979 are calculated with the correction. The corrected values are reasonable in order and show coincidence in phase with the net radiation.

(Received April 23, 1984)

SNOW SURFACE FEATURES OF THE SHIRASE GLACIER DRAINAGE BASIN, ANTARCTICA (Abstract)

Shuhei TAKAHASHI¹, Hirokazu OHMAE², Masao ISHIKAWA², Takayoshi KATSUSHIMA³ and Fumihiko NISHIO⁴

¹Kitami Institute of Technology, 165, Koen-cho, Kitami 090 ²The Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, Kita-19, Nishi-8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060

³Faculty of Science, Hokkaido University, Kita-10, Nishi-8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060 ⁴National Institute of Polar Research, 9–10, Kaga 1-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 173

During the glaciological studies of the Shirase Glacier drainage basin in East Queen Maud Land, Antarctica, in 1982, snow surface features were observed along two traverse lines: a 300 km-long north-south line along the streamline of Shirase Glacier from 71°S (1600 m a.s.l.) to 74°S (3200 m a.s.l.), and a 350 km-long east-west line along a 2000-m contour line between Mizuho Station and the Yamato Mountains.

Along the north-south line, sastrugi areas and glazed surface areas existed alternatively at intervals of 20 or 50 km, while the sastrugi was prominent in the lower part of the line and the glazed surface was predominant in the upper part. The alternating presence of sastrugi and glazed surface seemed to correspond to the changing inclination of the ice sheet surface. It is suggested that the sastruga is a depositional feature and the glazed surface is of a long-term erosional form. The difference in surface features can be explained by the change in katabatic wind velocity which is proportional to the surface inclination. Since the drifting snow depends on wind velocity, the horizontal divergence of drifting snow and the formation of erosional surface features will take place where the surface inclination increases. On the contrary, a decrease of surface inclination may produce depositional surface features.

The same correspondence between surface slope and snow surface features was found even along the east-west line, where the frequency of sastrugi was observed by counting sastrugi numbers per 1 km during the pass of an oversnow vehicle for 150 km. A remarkable glazed surface area 60 km from Mizuho Station was located at a place where the altitude decreased to the west. The formation of the glazed surface area is also explained by the drifting snow divergence because the prevailing wind direction is east-southeast and the wind velocity increases to the west with increasing inclination.

(Received May 17, 1984)