

Supplementary

An operational global L-band soil moisture and vegetation optical depth dataset from optimized 40° SMOS brightness temperatures

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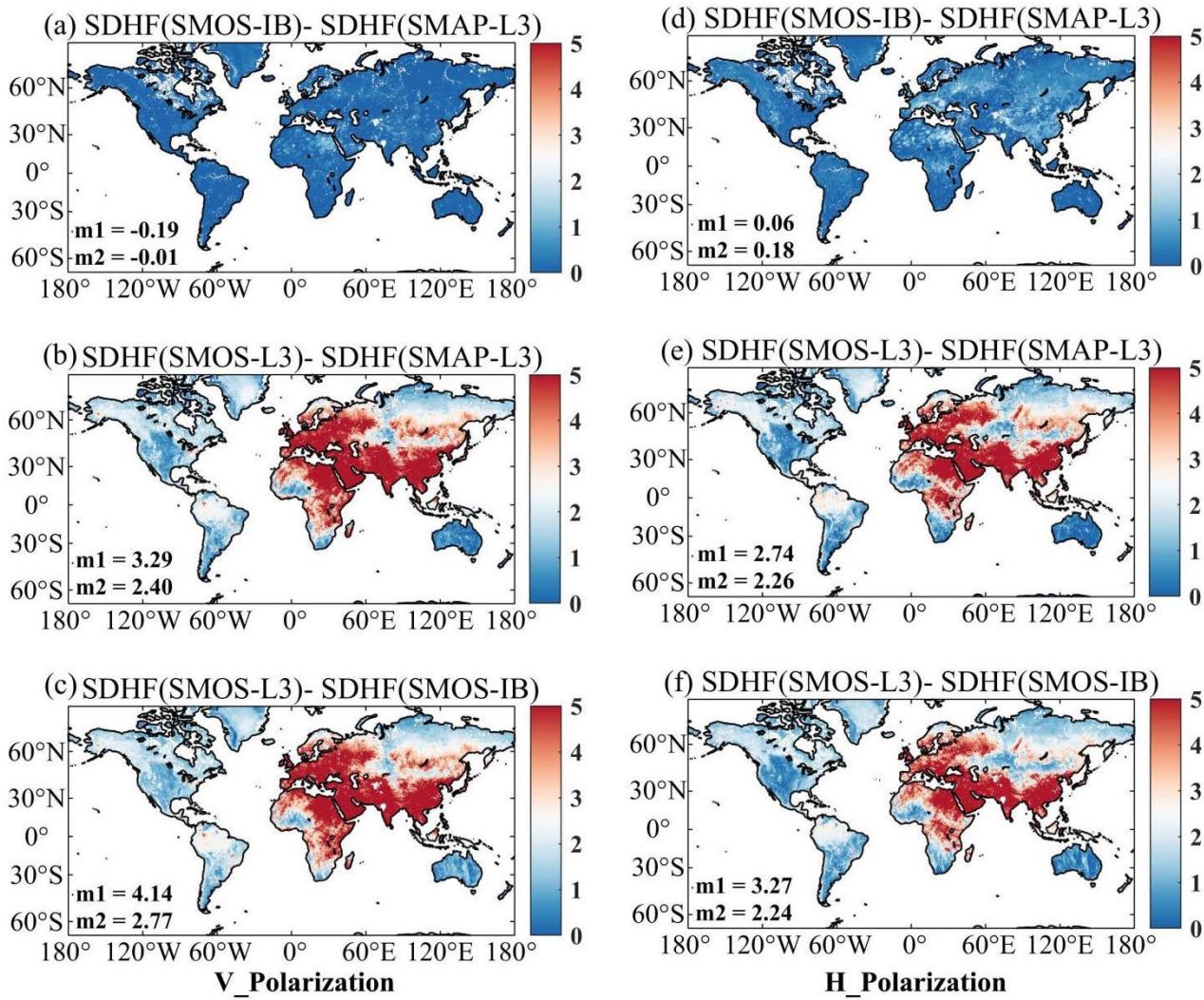
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1 **Table S1** Summary of the *in-situ* networks from ISMN used in the study. The number of stations/pixels included in each IGBP
 2 land cover is also listed.

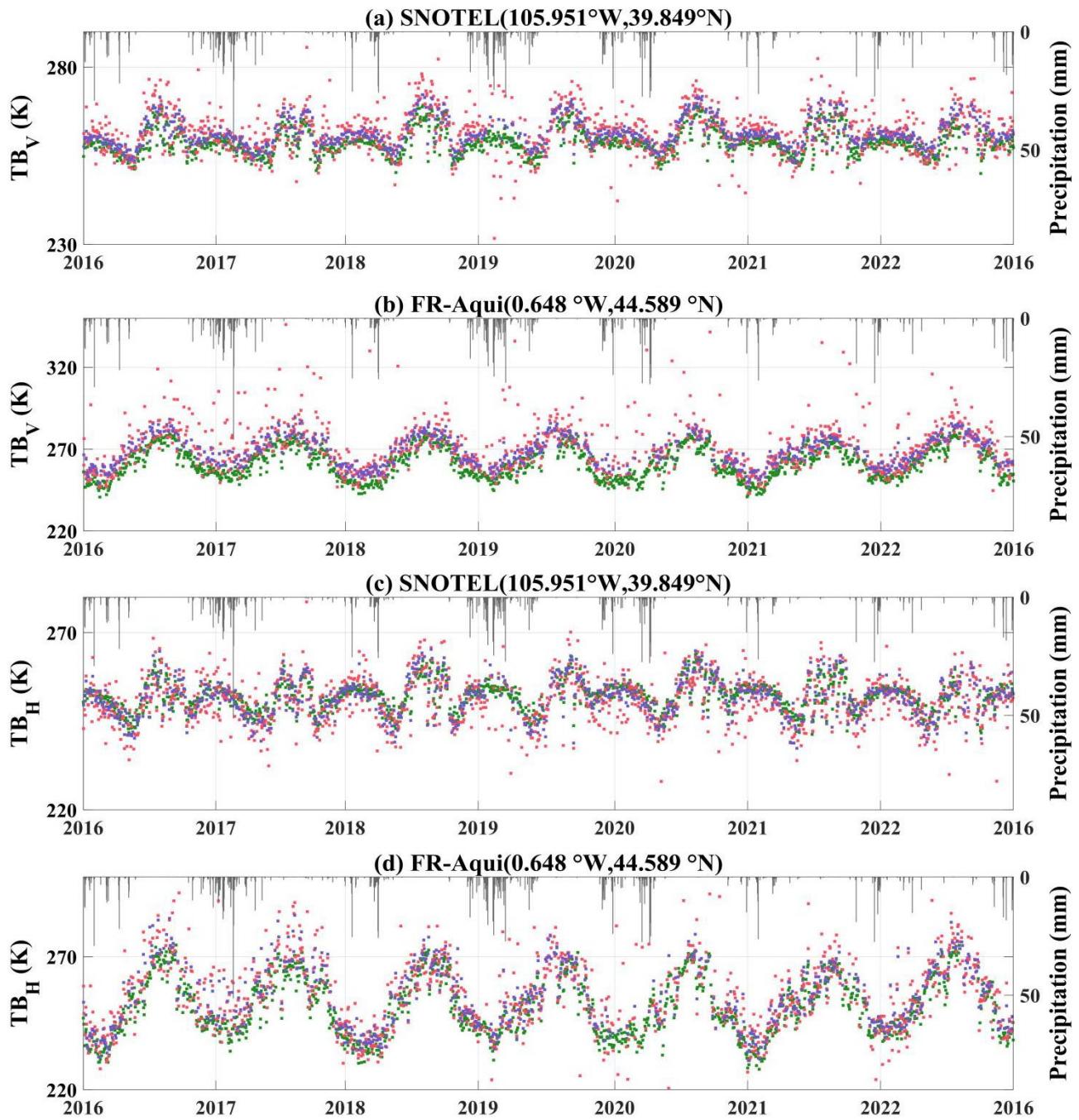
Network name	Country	No. footprints	IGBP land cover types (No.)
AMMA-CATCH	Benin, Niger	2	S (1) and G (1)
ARM	USA	15	G (6) and C (9)
FMI	Finland	2	WS (2)
FR-Aqui	France	1	ENF (1)
HOAL	Austria	1	MF (1)
HOBE	Denmark	3	C (3)
NAQU	China	1	G (1)
OZNET	Australia	11	S (2) and C (9)
PBO-H2O	USA	1	G (1)
REMEDHUS	Spain	4	S (3) and C (1)
RISMA	Canada	7	C (7)
RSMN	Romania	14	C (12)
SCAN	USA	129	Diverse land cover types: ENF (3), DBF (10), MF (3), OS (31), WS (3), G (46), C (31) and Barren (2)
SMN-SDR	China	1	G (1)
SMOSMANIA	France	17	Diverse land cover types: ENF (2), MF (5), C (9) and CNVM (1)
SNOTEL	USA	172	Diverse land cover types: ENF (63), OS (19), WS (6), G (79) and C (5)
SOILSCAPE	USA Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya	4	Diverse land cover types: OS (2), WS (1) and S (1)
TAHMO		3	EBF(2) and WS (1)
TERENO	Germany	1	MF (1)
TWENTE	Netherlands	4	C (4)
TxSON	USA	6	G (6)
USCRN	USCRN	64	Diverse land cover types: ENF (4), DBF (6), MF (1), CS(1), OS (8), WS (2), G (38), C (13) and Barren (1)
iRON	Canada	1	ENF (1)

4 **Table S2** Statistics of validation results of $IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$, IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB} , $IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$, IC_{multi}^{SMOS} and IB_{mono}^{SMAP} against ISMN *in-situ* SM data for 2016–2022.
5 Best performance in terms of R , $ubRMSD$ and Bias of the five SM retrievals in each network is typed in bold.
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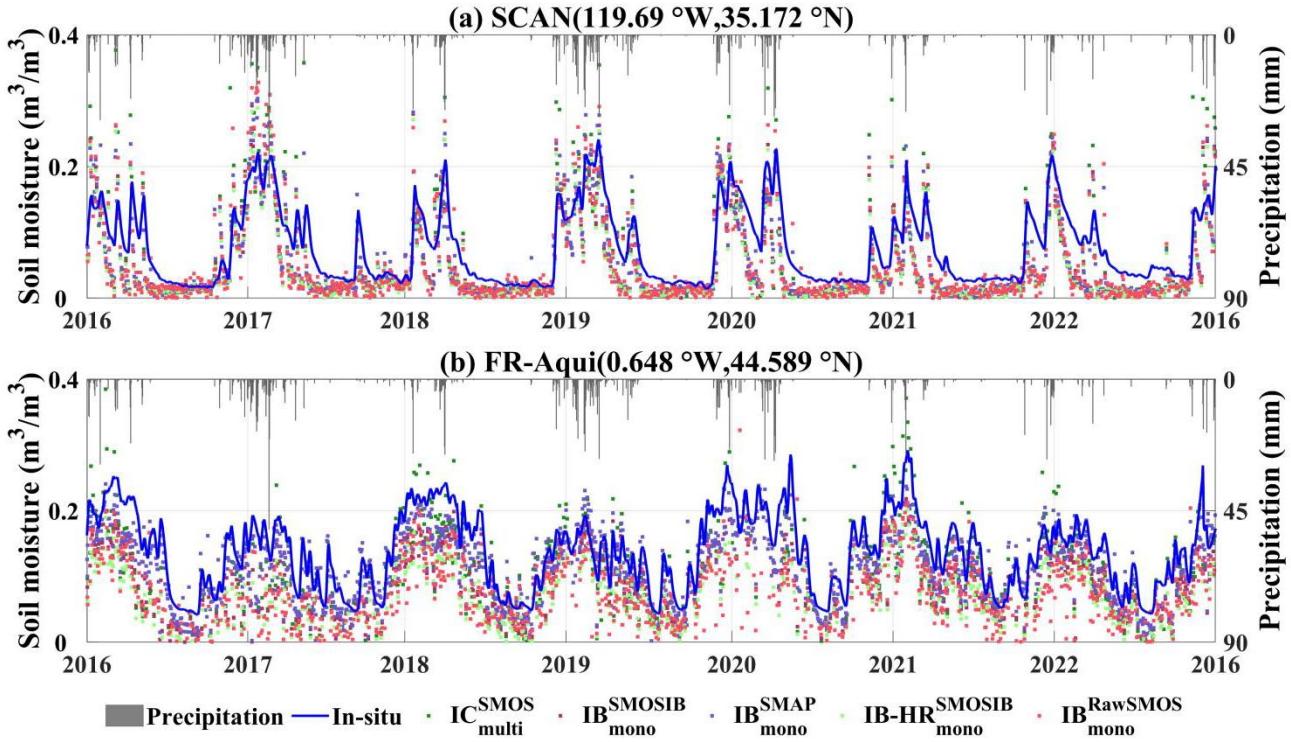
Metrics	R					$ubRMSD$ (m^3/m^3)					Bias (m^3/m^3)				
Networks	$IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$	IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB}	$IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$	IC_{multi}^{SMOS}	IB_{mono}^{SMAP}	$IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$	IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB}	$IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$	IC_{multi}^{SMOS}	IB_{mono}^{SMAP}	$IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$	IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB}	$IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$	IC_{multi}^{SMOS}	IB_{mono}^{SMAP}
AMMA-CATCH	0.89	0.90	0.87	0.88	0.90	0.024	0.025	0.030	0.030	0.026	0.000	0.012	0.012	0.014	0.013
ARM	0.85	0.85	0.84	0.84	0.85	0.043	0.044	0.046	0.046	0.044	-0.069	-0.069	-0.068	-0.064	-0.069
FMI	0.48	0.46	0.36	0.49	0.51	0.043	0.041	0.053	0.058	0.038	0.031	0.060	0.128	0.103	0.082
FR-Aqui	0.82	0.81	0.78	0.77	0.86	0.035	0.035	0.037	0.043	0.030	-0.066	-0.047	-0.063	-0.032	-0.024
HOAL	0.67	0.64	0.46	0.61	0.74	0.044	0.046	0.054	0.050	0.040	-0.182	-0.171	-0.188	-0.156	-0.116
HOBE	0.68	0.68	0.63	0.64	0.73	0.038	0.039	0.051	0.047	0.041	-0.071	-0.070	-0.065	-0.063	-0.066
NAQU	0.80	0.80	0.79	0.76	0.86	0.054	0.057	0.054	0.064	0.053	0.057	0.059	0.054	0.066	0.048
OZNET	0.76	0.76	0.75	0.73	0.76	0.059	0.060	0.065	0.067	0.060	-0.018	-0.008	-0.007	-0.004	-0.009
PBO-H2O	0.85	0.85	0.81	0.85	0.87	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.062	0.063	-0.081	-0.082	-0.081	-0.078	-0.080
REMEDHUS	0.79	0.80	0.79	0.78	0.79	0.046	0.047	0.049	0.051	0.047	-0.033	-0.024	-0.024	-0.022	-0.020
RISMA	0.63	0.63	0.58	0.62	0.61	0.062	0.064	0.070	0.074	0.068	-0.096	-0.083	-0.083	-0.077	-0.084
RSMN	0.62	0.62	0.53	0.61	0.62	0.060	0.061	0.068	0.072	0.058	-0.011	-0.001	-0.011	0.005	0.002
SCAN	0.67	0.67	0.64	0.66	0.66	0.052	0.052	0.056	0.057	0.053	-0.049	-0.039	-0.037	-0.034	-0.040
SMN-SDR	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.48	0.034	0.035	0.039	0.040	0.039	-0.115	-0.114	-0.110	-0.110	-0.097
SMOSMANIA	0.73	0.73	0.67	0.72	0.75	0.063	0.061	0.062	0.058	0.057	-0.104	-0.090	-0.112	-0.074	-0.074
SNOTEL	0.62	0.62	0.56	0.58	0.60	0.075	0.075	0.077	0.078	0.075	-0.088	-0.084	-0.083	-0.077	-0.085
SOILSCAPE	0.86	0.86	0.84	0.86	0.87	0.039	0.041	0.054	0.042	0.041	-0.032	-0.019	-0.010	-0.016	-0.014
TAHMO	0.67	0.67	0.63	0.63	0.71	0.039	0.041	0.047	0.046	0.040	-0.039	-0.027	-0.028	-0.025	-0.027
TERENO	0.78	0.78	0.67	0.75	0.78	0.057	0.055	0.063	0.056	0.055	-0.191	-0.169	-0.167	-0.162	-0.169
TWENTE	0.75	0.75	0.69	0.73	0.77	0.063	0.063	0.069	0.065	0.060	-0.107	-0.099	-0.096	-0.094	-0.095
TxSON	0.85	0.85	0.84	0.84	0.85	0.033	0.034	0.036	0.038	0.033	-0.056	-0.060	-0.063	-0.057	-0.059
USCRN	0.74	0.73	0.70	0.71	0.73	0.049	0.049	0.051	0.051	0.049	-0.057	-0.053	-0.053	-0.050	-0.053
iRON	0.44	0.48	0.40	0.38	0.48	0.051	0.050	0.052	0.052	0.050	-0.114	-0.110	-0.113	-0.109	-0.107
Median	0.67	0.67	0.64	0.65	0.67	0.058	0.059	0.063	0.063	0.059	-0.067	-0.061	-0.062	-0.056	-0.061
Optimal/All	3/23	7/23	1/23	0/23	12/23	10/23	2/23	0/23	2/23	9/23	3/23	1/23	1/23	11/23	7/23



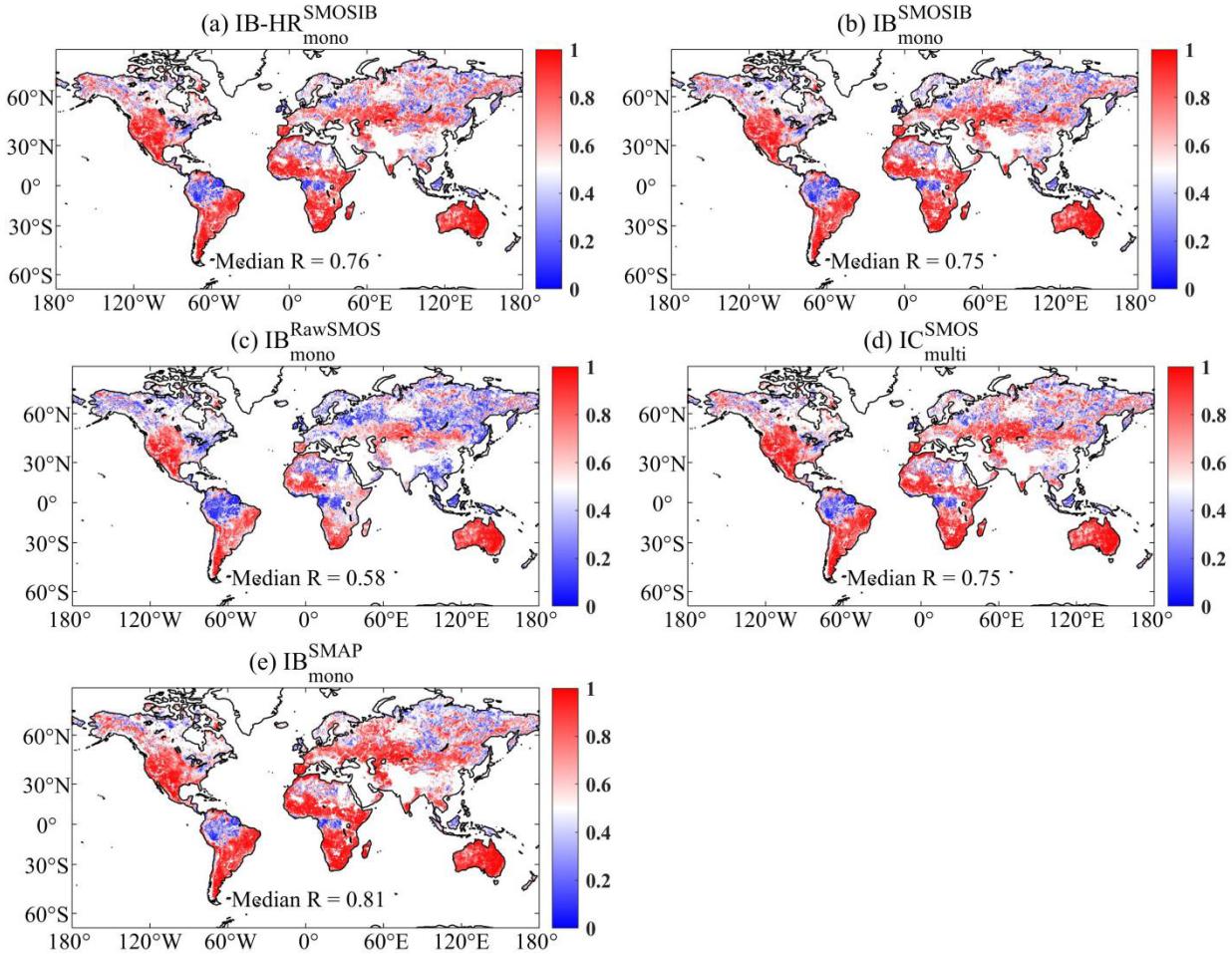
9 **Figure S1** Maps of the standard deviation of the high-frequency variations (SDHF) difference of the TB time series for each
10 of the three TB products in V-polarization (a) - (c) and H-polarization (d) - (f). The TB SDHF were computed after removing
11 the seasonal trend that was estimated with a 30-days moving window average filter. $m1$ and $m2$ denote the spatial mean and
12 median SDHF difference value, respectively.



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15 **Figure S2** Time series of the three TB products and *in-situ* measurements between 2016 and 2022 at two sites from (a) SCAN
16 and (b) FR-Aqui network, respectively. Each plot also contains daily precipitation shown in the axis on the right side (grey
17 bar).



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19 **Figure S3** Time series of the five SM products and *in-situ* measurements between 2016 and 2022 at two sites from (a) SCAN
20 and (b) FR-Aqui network, respectively. Each plot also contains daily precipitation shown in the axis on the right side (grey
21 bar). Note that a 7-day moving window filter was applied to the *in-situ* observations to distinguish them from the satellite-
22 based SM.
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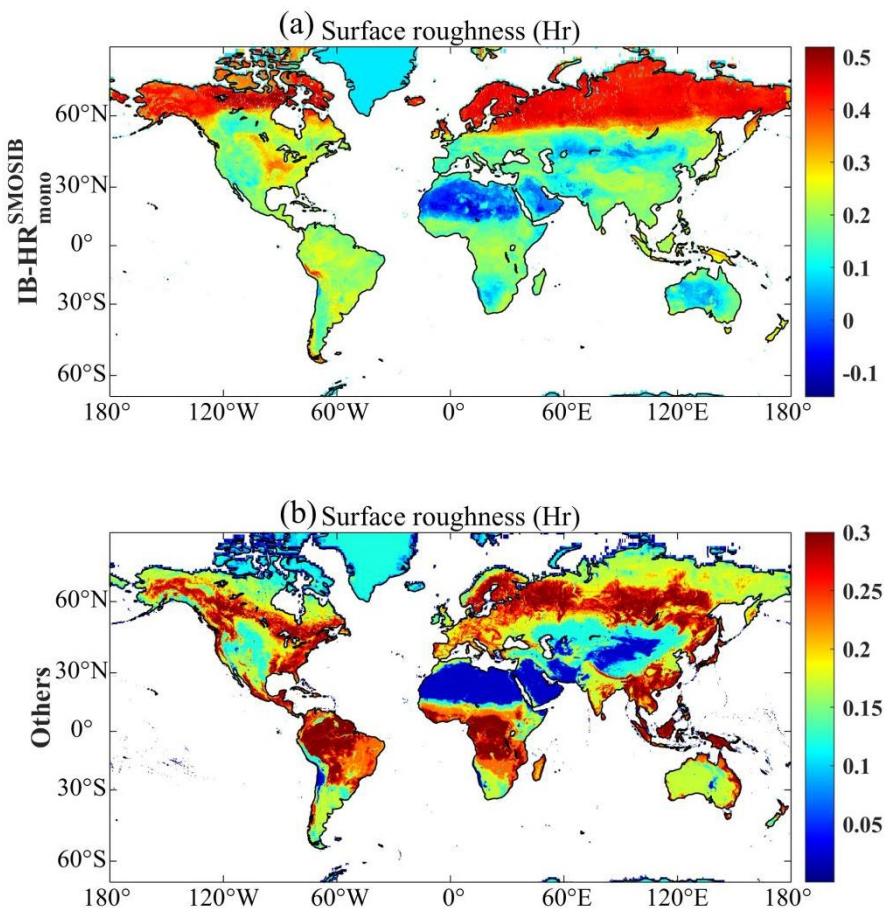


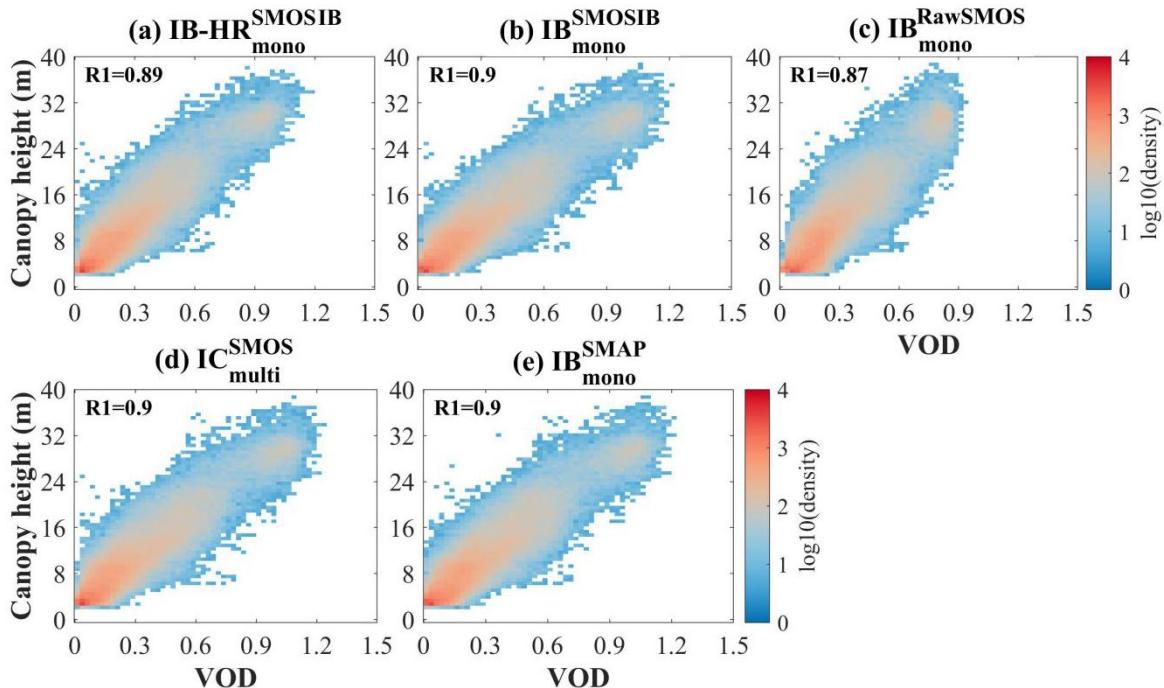
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26 **Figure S4** The spatial distribution of the TCA-based R calculated by soil moisture anomaly estimates for (a) $IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$,
 27 (b) IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB} , (c) $IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$, (d) IC_{multi}^{SMOS} and (e) IB_{mono}^{SMAP} .

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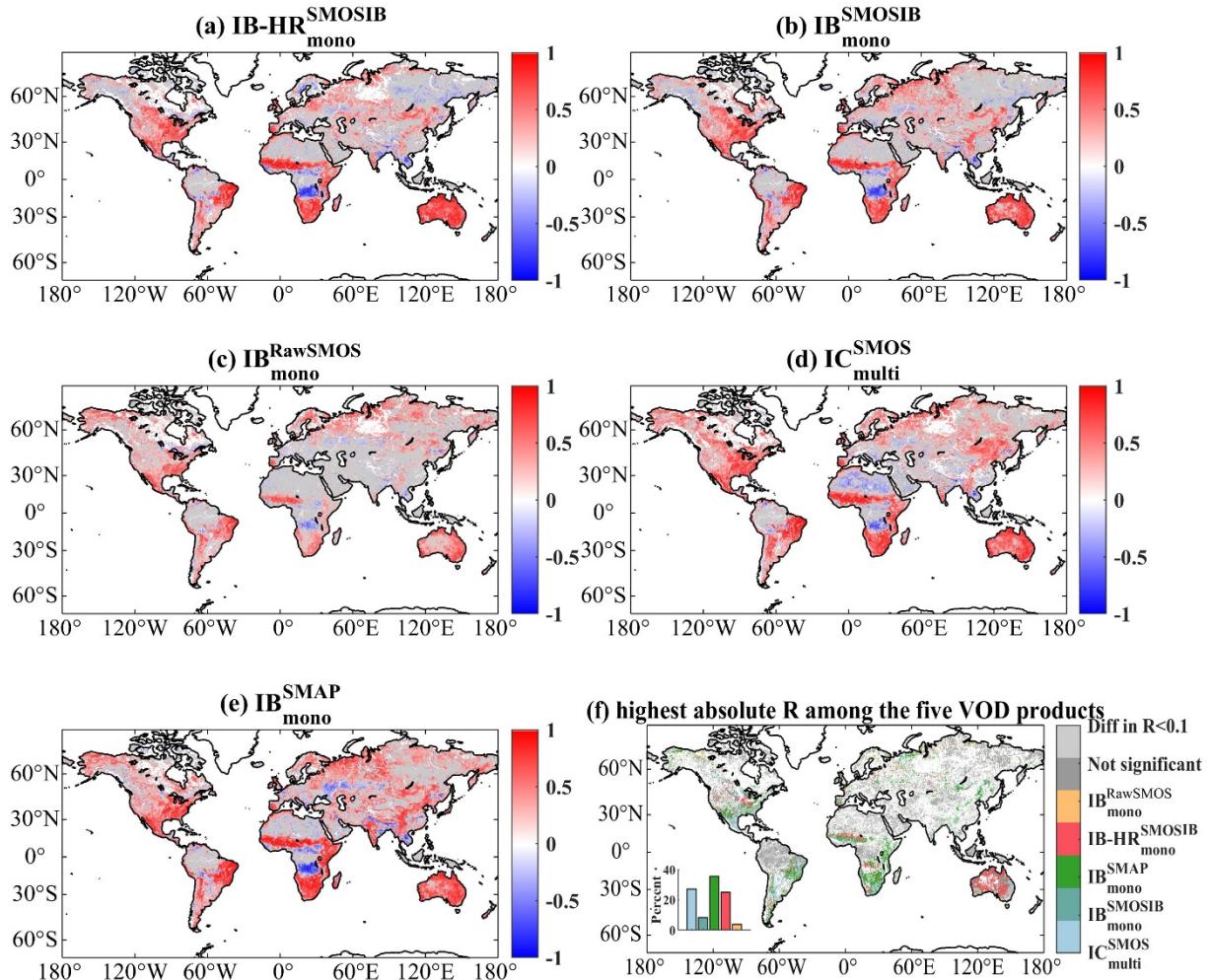
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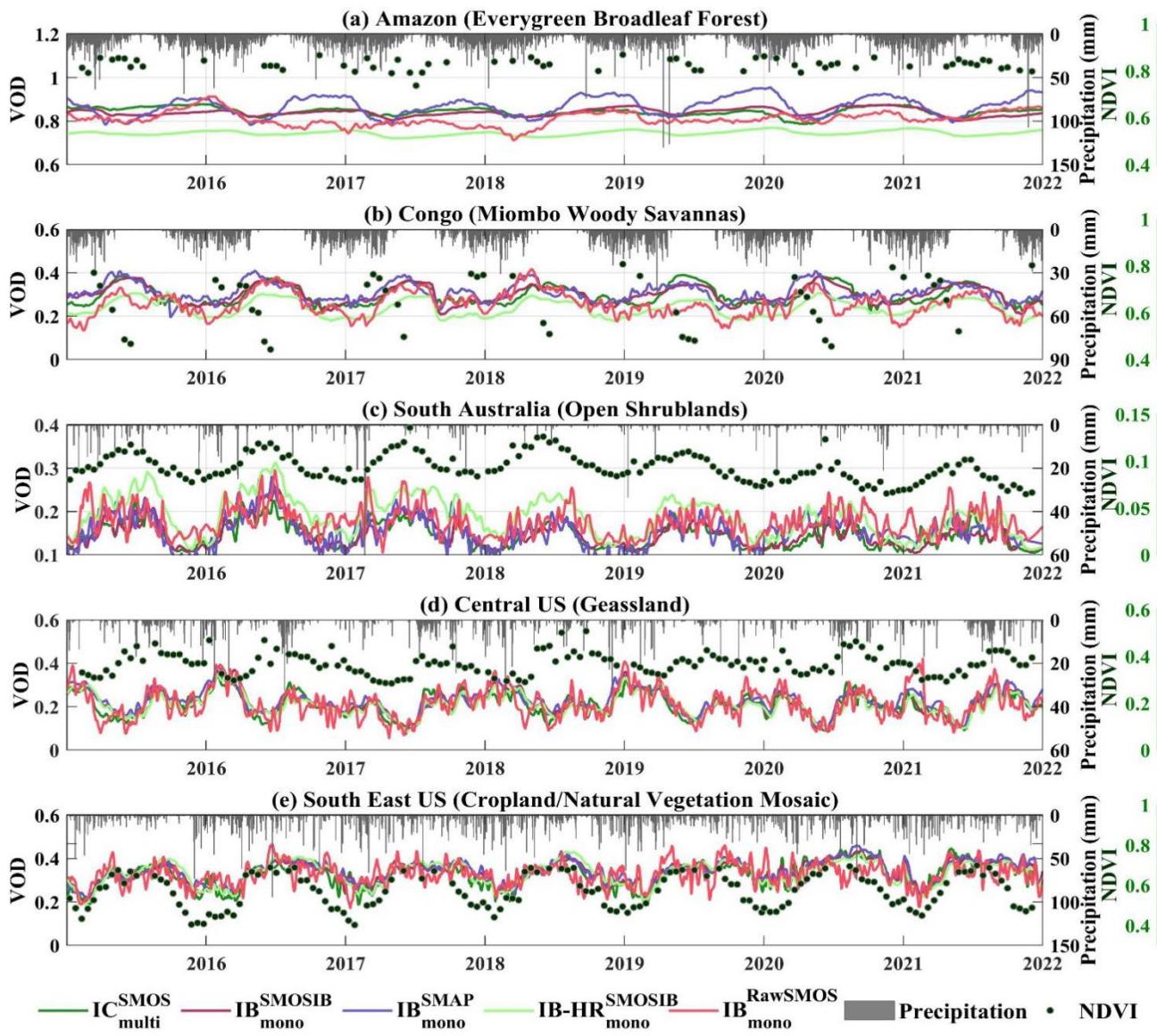
Figure S6 Global density plots of VOD vs. canopy height (a-e) for five products: (a) $IB_HR_{mono}^{SMOSIB}$, (b) IB_{mono}^{SMOSIB} , (c) $IB_{mono}^{RawSMOS}$, (d) IC_{multi}^{SMOS} and (e) IB_{mono}^{SMAP} . $R1$ denotes the correlation coefficient computed spatially between VOD and corresponding proxies.



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38 **Figure S7** Correlation coefficient (R) of the temporal relationship between 16-day composite of VOD and NDVI (2016 – 2022)
39 for (a) IB_HR^{SMOSIB} , (b) IB^{SMOSIB} , (c) $IB^{RawSMOS}$, (d) IC^{SMOS} and (e) IB^{SMAP} . (f) maps of the above five VOD datasets with
40 the highest absolute R values with NDVI. The dark grey color indicates pixels with non-significant ($p > 0.05$) R values, and
41 the light grey color indicates pixels with R difference for each paired VOD product < 0.1 . White areas mean “no valid data”.

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44 **Figure S8** Time series of the five VOD products over five pixels corresponding to (a) Evergreen broadleaf forest (64.79°W ,
 45 6.65°S), (b) Miombo woody savannas (23.71°E , 8.85°S), (c) Open shrublands (124.54°E , 30.31°S), (d) Grasslands
 46 (110.39°W , 34.31°N) and (e) Cropland/Natural vegetation mosaic (86.83°W , 35.34°N) between Jan 2016 and Dec 2022.
 47 Each plot also contains daily precipitation and NDVI information. Note that a 7-day moving window filter was applied to the
 48 VOD values of the five products to distinguish them from the NDVI values.

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