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S. Dorizon, V. Ciarletti, D. Plettemeier, W.S.
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PII: S0032-0633(15)00307-4
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pss.2015.10.008>
Reference: PSS4080

To appear in: *Planetary and Space Science*

Received date: 28 January 2015

Revised date: 16 October 2015

Accepted date: 20 October 2015

Cite this article as: S. Dorizon, V. Ciarletti, D. Plettemeier and W.S. Benedix,
Performance validation of the ExoMars 2018 WISDOM GPR in ice caves
A u s t r i a , *Planetary and Space Science*
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pss.2015.10.008>

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S. Dorizon^{a,b}, V. Ciarletti^{a,b}, D. Plettemeier^c, W.S. Benedix^c

a. Université Versailles Saint Quentin en Yvelines, 45 avenue des Etats Unis - 78035 Versailles cedex, France

b. Laboratoire atmosphères, Milieux, Observations Spatiales (LATMOS), Quartier des Garennes, 11 bd d'Alembert - 78280 Guyancourt, France

c. Technische Universität Dresden, TU Dresden, Institut für Nachrichtentechnik, Lehrstuhl Hochfrequenztechnik - 01062 Dresden, Germany

Corresponding author:

Sophie Dorizon, LATMOS-OVSQ, Quartier des Garennes, 11 bd d'Alembert - 78280 Guyancourt, France

E-mail : sophie.dorizon@latmos.ipsl.fr

Phone : +33 (0)180285092

Abstract

The WISDOM (Water Ice Subsurface Deposits Observations on Mars) Ground Penetrating Radar has been selected to be part of the ExoMars 2018 exobiological rover mission. A prototype has been tested during the Mars Simulation organized by the Austrian Space Forum in Alpine ice caves in Dachstein, Austria. This campaign provided the opportunity to validate methods developed to process WISDOM's data in a well-documented environment and to retrieve geometrical and quantitative information about the 3D structure and the electromagnetic properties of the subsurface. We estimate the ice thickness in different locations inside the ice caves, and show that this ice is formed of fine strata with different properties. Data analysis allows reconstructing the bedrock in a 3D environment where a complete survey was performed.

Keywords

ExoMars, WISDOM, GPR, subsurface, ice caves, permittivity

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