

# SAR and InSAR Application in Disaster Management

A Brief Introduction

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Remote Sensing in Disaster Management

Case studies

Optical Remote Sensing

SAR

InSAR

Time Series InSAR





# Intro

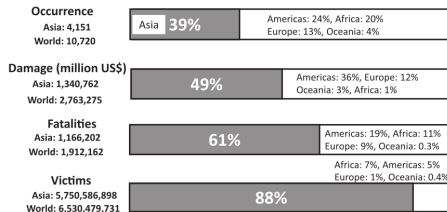
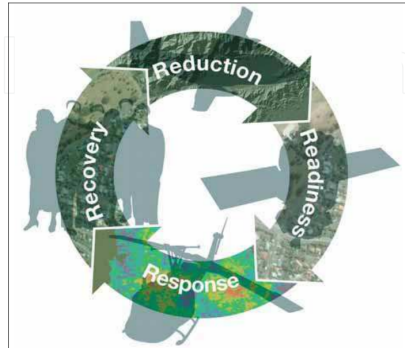
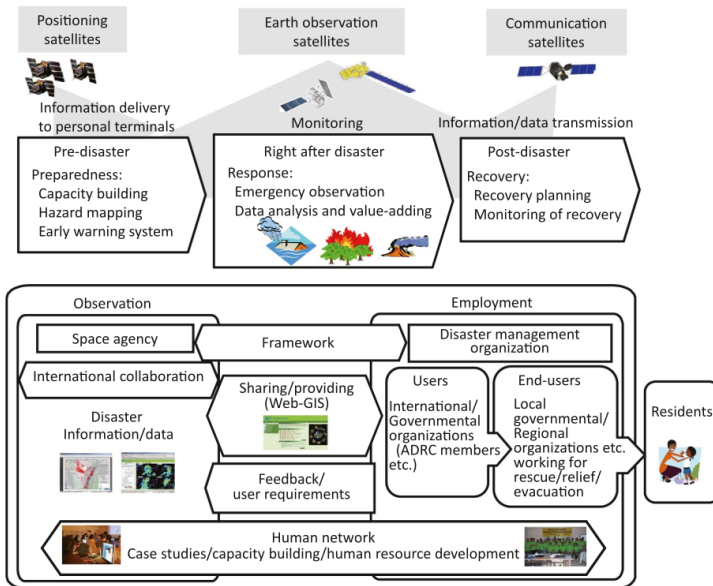


Fig. 2. Impacts of natural disasters by region, 1987–2016.

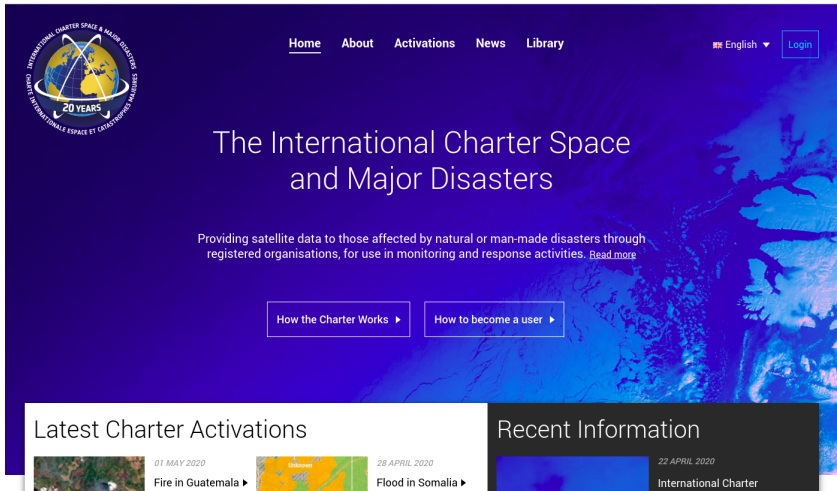
Source: ADRC-Natural Disasters Data Book 2016 [7].



# Remote Sensing in Disaster Management



# The International Charter Space and Major Disasters



The screenshot shows the homepage of the International Charter Space and Major Disasters website. The header features a logo on the left, a navigation menu with links to Home, About, Activations, News, and Library, and a language selector set to English with a Login button. The main heading reads 'The International Charter Space and Major Disasters'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'Providing satellite data to those affected by natural or man-made disasters through registered organisations, for use in monitoring and response activities. [Read more](#)'. Two buttons are present: 'How the Charter Works' and 'How to become a user'. The footer is divided into two sections: 'Latest Charter Activations' and 'Recent Information'. The 'Latest Charter Activations' section lists two events: 'Fire in Guatemala' (01 MAY 2020) and 'Flood in Somalia' (28 APRIL 2020). The 'Recent Information' section lists 'International Charter' (22 APRIL 2020). A small circular logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the page.

**INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SPACE & MAJOR DISASTERS**  
COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE L'ESPACE ET DES CATASTROPHES MAJEURES  
20 YEARS



[Home](#) [About](#) [Activations](#) [News](#) [Library](#) [English](#) [Login](#)

## The International Charter Space and Major Disasters


Providing satellite data to those affected by natural or man-made disasters through registered organisations, for use in monitoring and response activities. [Read more](#)

[How the Charter Works](#) [How to become a user](#)

### Latest Charter Activations

 01 MAY 2020 [Fire in Guatemala](#)  28 APRIL 2020 [Flood in Somalia](#)

### Recent Information

 22 APRIL 2020 [International Charter](#)



# Copernicus EMS



COPERNICUS



Emergency Management Service - Mapping

\*\*\*

Home

[Home](#) | [What is Copernicus](#) | [EMS - Mapping](#) | [EMS - Early Warning System](#)

[News](#)

LATEST NEWS - 2020-04-09 | [\[EMS071\] Wildfires, Preparedness, Arnsberg, Germany](#)

## EMS - MAPPING

- Service Overview
- Who can use the service
- How to use the service
- Portfolio: Rapid Mapping
- Portfolio: Risk and Recovery
- Quality control / Feedback
- User Guide

## RAPID MAPPING

- List of Activations
- Map of Activations
- GeoRSS Feed
- Online Manual

## List of EMS Rapid Mapping Activations

<b>Title</b> <input type="text" value="Contains"/>	<b>Event Type</b> <input type="text" value="Drought"/> <input type="text" value="Epidemic"/> <input type="text" value="Extreme temperature"/> <input type="text" value="Humanitarian"/> <input type="text" value="Infestation"/> <input type="text" value="Mass movement"/>	<b>Event Date (UTC)</b> <b>Start date</b> <input type="text" value="E.g., 2020-06-18"/> <b>End date</b> <input type="text" value="2020-05-19"/> <small>E.g., 2020-06-18</small>	<b>Affected Countries</b> <input type="text" value="Guinea"/> <input type="text" value="Haiti"/> <input type="text" value="Honduras"/> <input type="text" value="Hungary"/> <input type="text" value="Iceland"/> <input type="text" value="India"/> <input type="text" value="Indonesia"/> <small>Select multiple countries with Ctrl/Cmd</small>
<b>Activation Status</b> <input type="text" value="- Any -"/>	<input type="button" value="Apply"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>		

Act. Code	Title	Event Date	Type	Country/Terr.	Feed
EMSR393	Earthquake in Indonesia	2019-09-26	Earthquake	Indonesia	
EMSR335	Tsunami in Indonesia	2018-12-22	Volcanic activ...	Indonesia	
EMSR317	Earthquake in Indonesia	2018-09-28	Earthquake	Indonesia	
EMSR304	Earthquake in Lombok, Indonesia	2018-08-04	Earthquake	Indonesia	

Displaying 1 - 4 of 4 items



# Sentinel Asia

The screenshot shows the Sentinel Asia website in a web browser. The browser's address bar displays 'sentinel-asia.org'. The website has a blue header with the Sentinel Asia logo and navigation links: Emergency Observation, About, News, Activities, Meetings, Publications, E-Learning, Links, and OPTEMIS. The 'News' section is active, showing a list of recent news items. To the right, there are social media links for Twitter and Facebook, both labeled 'Sentinel Asia'. Below the news list, there is a section for the 'Latest Report 1: Storm and Flood in India on 15 May, 2020'.

Home - Sentinel Asia Web Site x +

sentinel-asia.org

**Sentinel Asia**

Emergency Observation About News Activities Meetings Publications E-Learning Links OPTEMIS

## News

- 2020-05-15** NEW  
Storm and Flood in India on 15 May, 2020
- 2020-05-15** NEW  
New technical materials are available on e-learning page of Sentinel Asia Website.
- 2020-05-08**  
Indonesia Flood on 8 May, 2020
- 2019-04-30**  
April 2020 News from Sentinel Asia Project Office

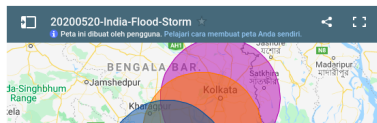
Sentinel Asia @Sentinel\_Asia  
Yamaguchi University provided new technical materials on Geospatial Analysis for capacity building. Available on the @Sentinel\_Asia website: [sentinel-asia.org/e-learning/Tec...](https://sentinel-asia.org/e-learning/Tec...)

Sentinel Asia  
Like Page

May 15, 2020

Sentinel Asia

## Latest Report 1: Storm and Flood in India on 15 May, 2020



Disaster Type: Storm and Flood

Country: India

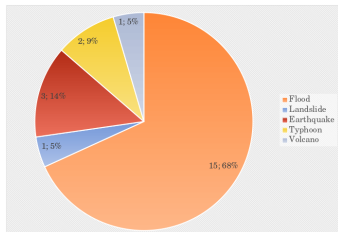
Occurrence Date (UTC): 15 May, 2020

SA activation Date(UTC): 15 May 2020

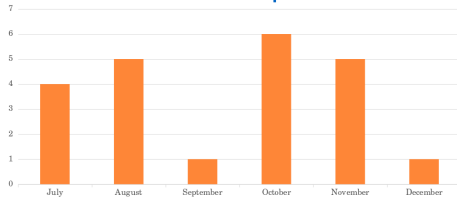
Requester: National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, India



# Sentinel Asia Activities in 2017



Number of activation per month



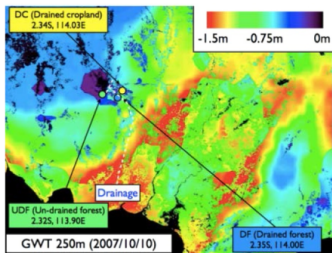
# Sentinel Asia Success Story

Fire detection

Observation by satellites



Operation at LAPAN in Jakarta



Wildfires in Palangka Raya, Kalimantan

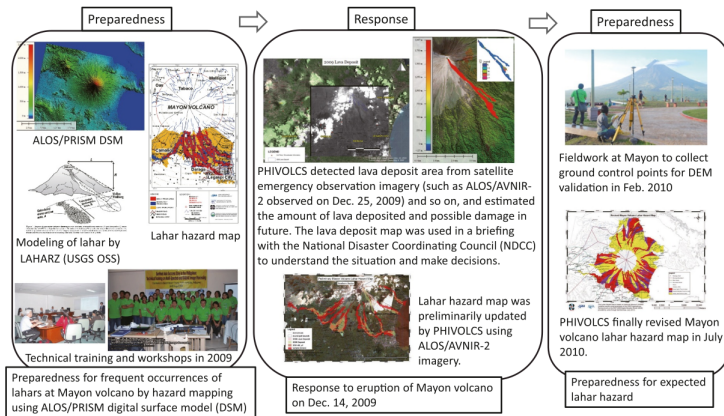


Fire information via  
SMS to firefighters

Firefighters



# Sentinel Asia Success Story



**Fig. 8.** Hazard mapping for lahars at Mayon volcano in the Philippines and application to response.

Source: Presentations by A. S. Daag and R. U. Solidum, Jr. of PHIVOLCS at JPT annual meetings and reply to feedback questionnaire of SA emergency observation. \*



# Sentinel Asia Success Story

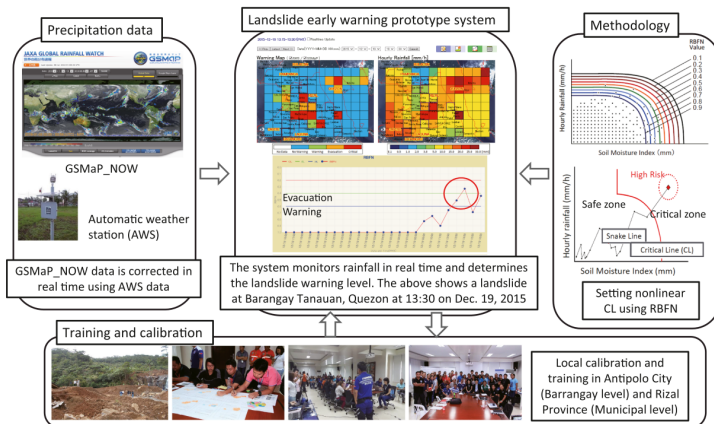
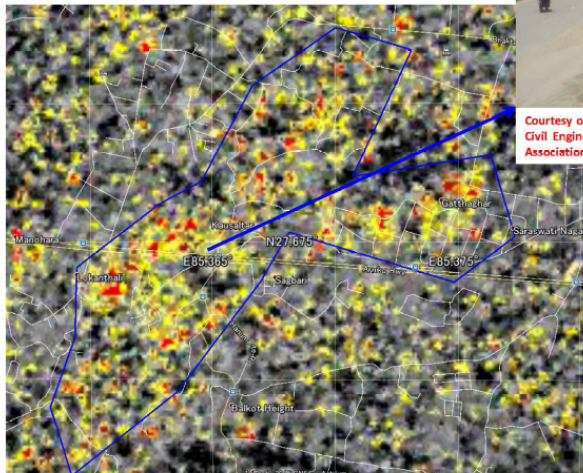


Fig. 9. Landslide early warning prototype system in the framework of the SA Success Story in the Philippines.  
Source: Presentation by A. S. Daag of PHIVOLCS at APRSAF-23 annual meeting.

# Nepal activation 2015

## Difference of coherence ( $\Delta\gamma$ ) analysis (@Kausaltar in Katmandu)



Courtesy of the Investigation team of the Japan Society of Civil Engineers, Japanese Geotechnical Society, and Japan Association of Earthquake Engineering.

### Prospective damaged area

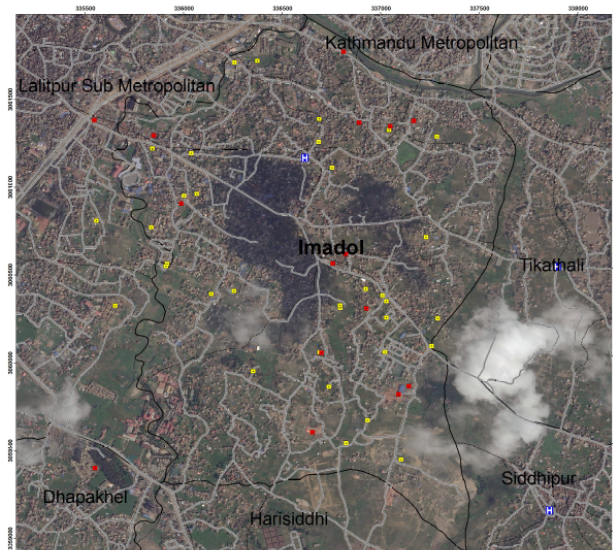
Red :  $\Delta\gamma \geq 0.4$   
Orange :  $\Delta\gamma \geq 0.3$   
Yellow :  $\Delta\gamma \geq 0.2$

Sensor : PALSAR-2  
Obs. date : May 2, 2015  
Feb. 21, 2015  
Oct. 4, 2014



# Nepal activation 2015

## DAMAGE ASSESSMENT OF IMADOL VDC, LALITPUR DISTRICT



This map shows possible damaged buildings in Imadol VDC of Lalitpur district, Nepal after the 25 April 2015 earthquake in Nepal. Visual interpretation of high resolution satellite image was done to prepare the map.



0 125 250 500 750 1,000  
Meters

Map Scale A1 = 1:6,000  
Coordinate: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 45N

### Legend

- Completely damaged
- Partially damaged
- H Health Facility
- Roads
- ▭ Village Development Community (VDC)
- - - Ward

Satellite Data: WorldView-3  
Imagery Date: 27 April 2015  
Resolution: 50 cm  
Copyright: DigitalGlobe, Inc.

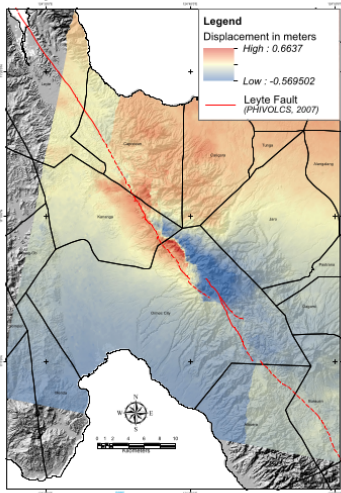
Road Data: OpenStreetMap (OSM)  
Health Facility Data: WHO  
Administrative Boundary Data: Survey Dept.

Disclaimer:  
GIS data collected from various sources. Accuracy is not verified.



# Philippines activation 2017

DEFORMATION ANALYSIS USING ALOS-2 DATA  
06 July 2017 M6.5 LEYTE EARTHQUAKE, PHILIPPINES

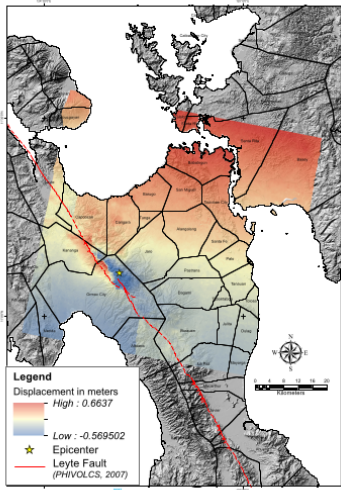


Geomatics Center



DeGAR processed by GeoInformation AT

DEFORMATION ANALYSIS USING ALOS-2 DATA  
06 July 2017 M6.5 LEYTE EARTHQUAKE, PHILIPPINES



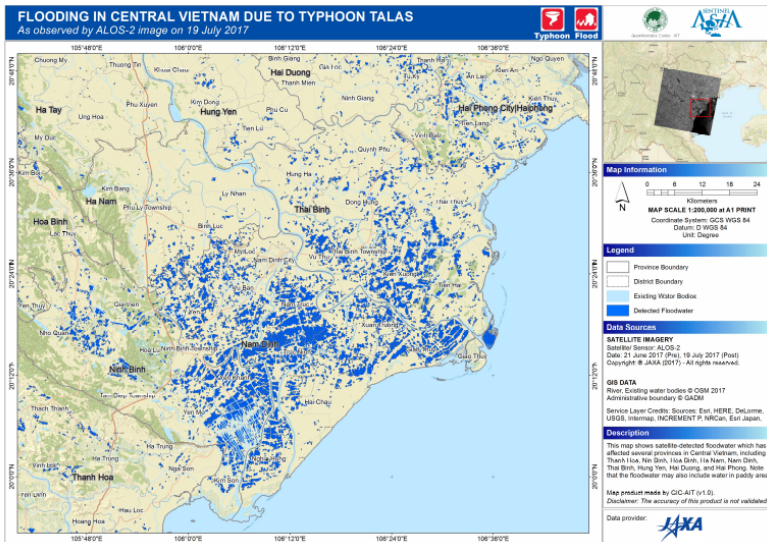
Geomatics Center



DeGAR processed by GeoInformation AT



# Vietnam activation 2017

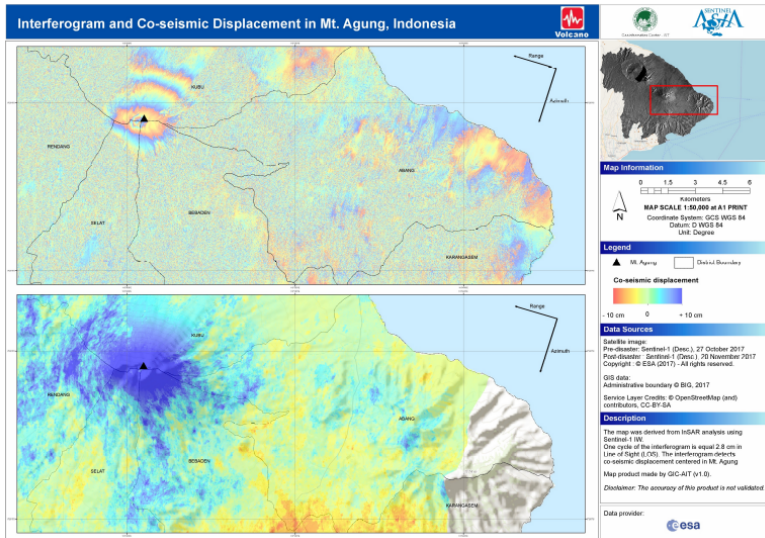


- Date : 17 July 2017
- Disaster : Typhoon

Requester : MONRE  
Data provided : ALOS-2



# Indonesia activation 2017



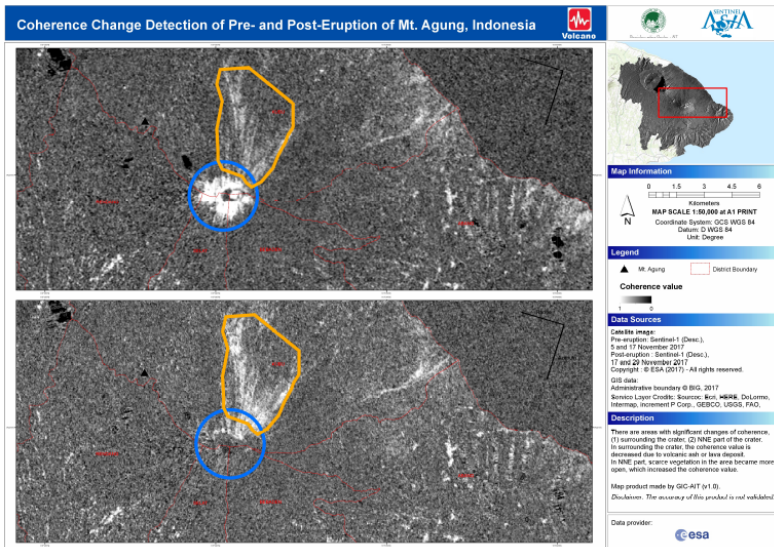
• Date : 21 November 2017

Requester : LAPAN/BNPB





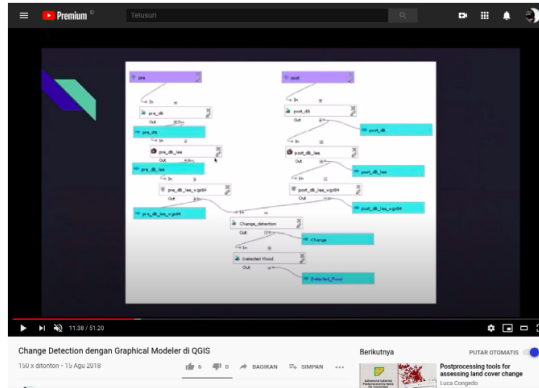
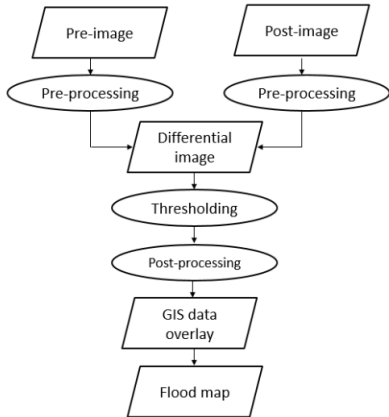
# Indonesia activation 2017







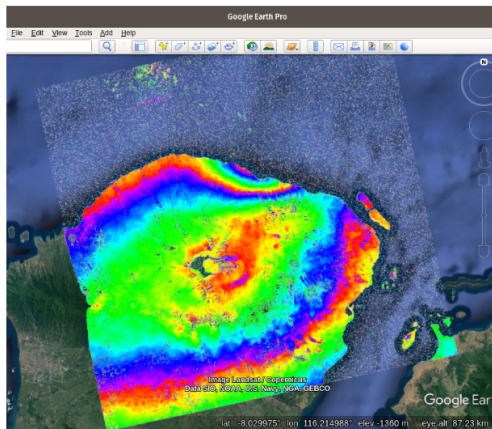
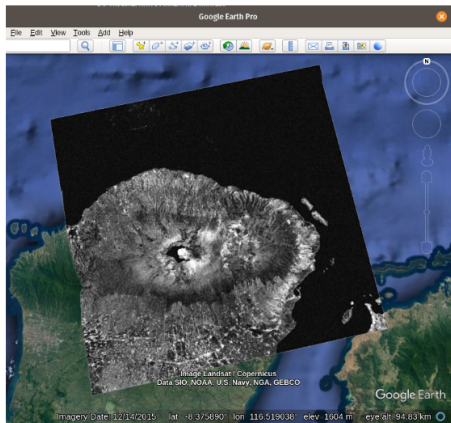

# Change detection



[https://youtu.be/HR\\_7kENFGT4](https://youtu.be/HR_7kENFGT4)



# InSAR



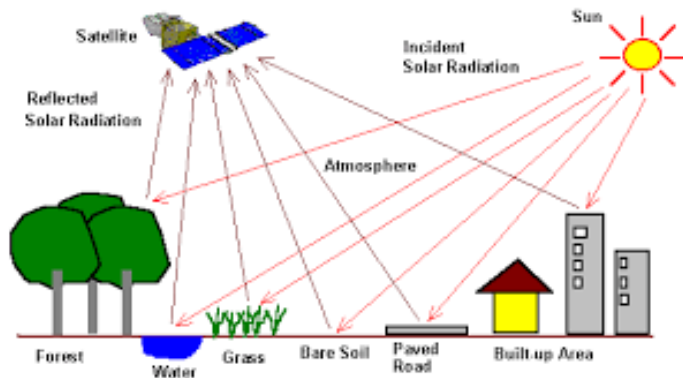
# Introduction

## Remote Sensing

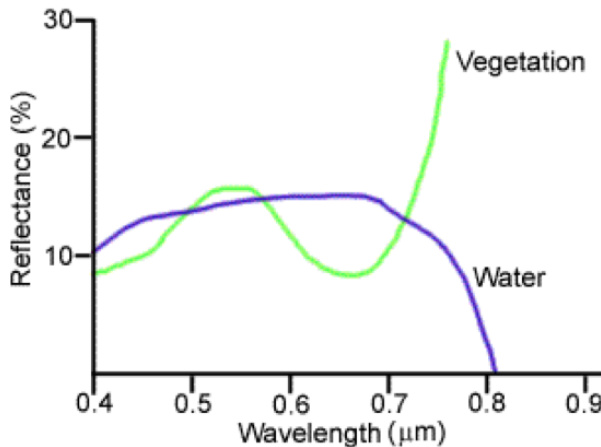
Remote sensing is the process of detecting and monitoring the physical characteristics of an area by measuring its reflected and emitted radiation at a distance (typically from satellite or aircraft). Special cameras collect remotely sensed images, which help researchers "sense" things about the Earth.



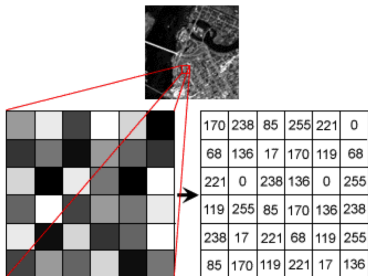
# Remote sensing system



# 1. Spectral response



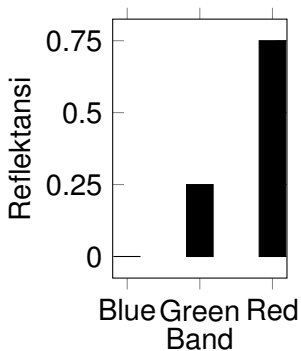
## 2. Everything is a number



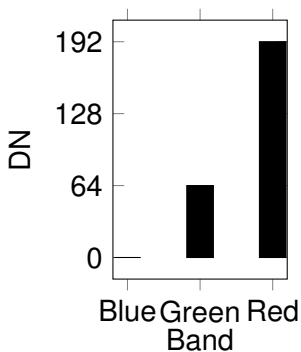
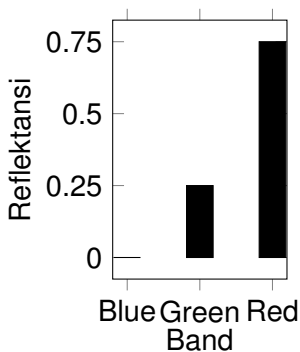
Image, pixel and digital number

- ▶ Reflected EM will be recorded by sensor in digital number.
- ▶ Visualisation will be defined by grayscale level.

### 3. RGB Visualisation

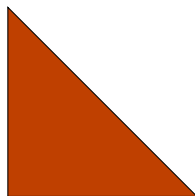
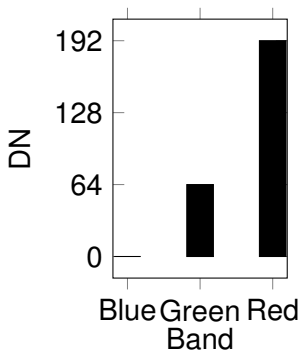
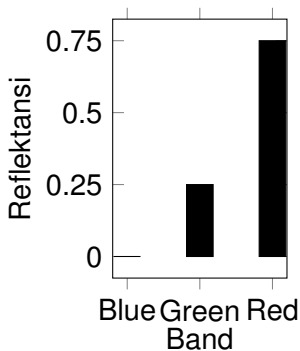


### 3. RGB Visualisation

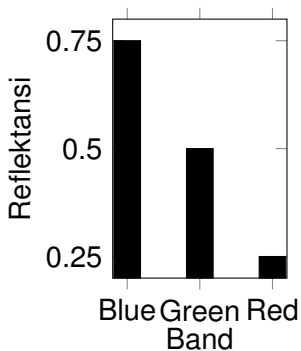




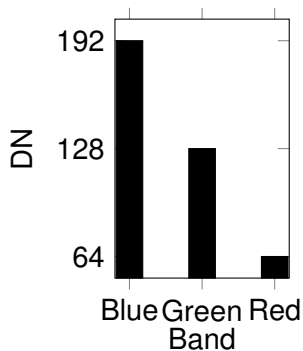
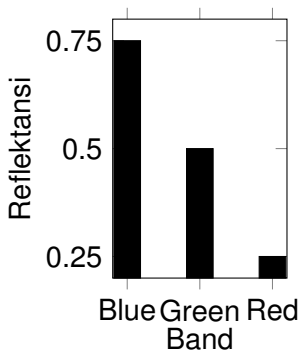
### 3. RGB Visualisation



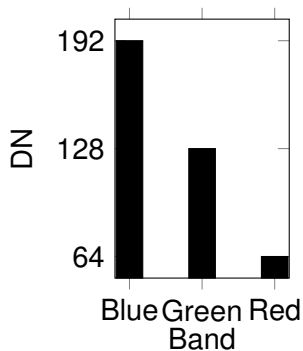
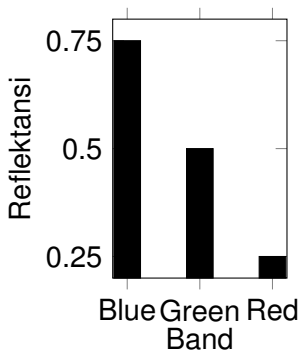
### 3. RGB Visualisation



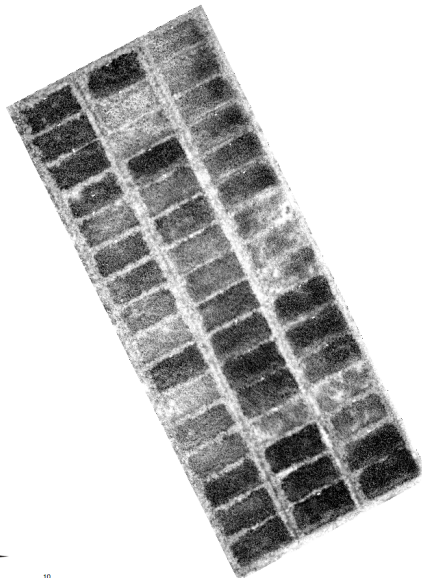
### 3. RGB Visualisation



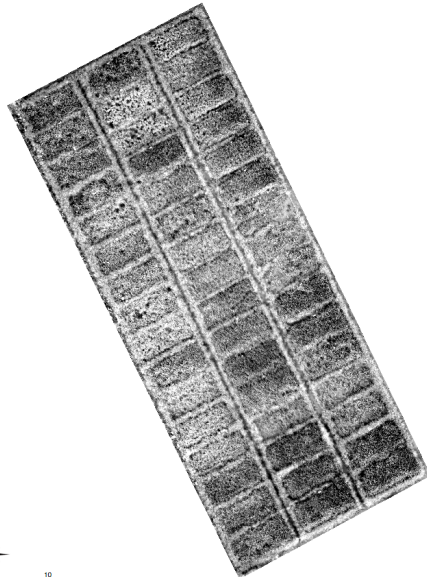
### 3. RGB Visualisation



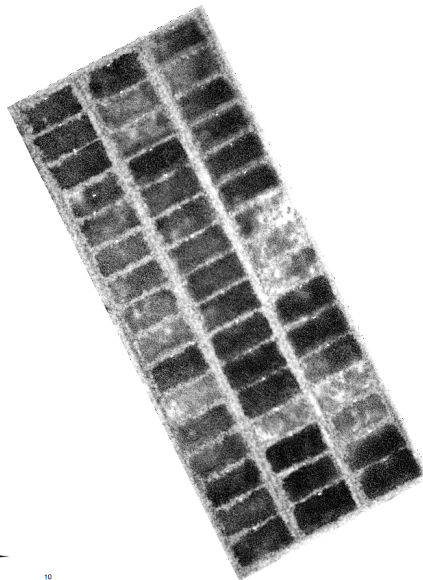
# Blue channel



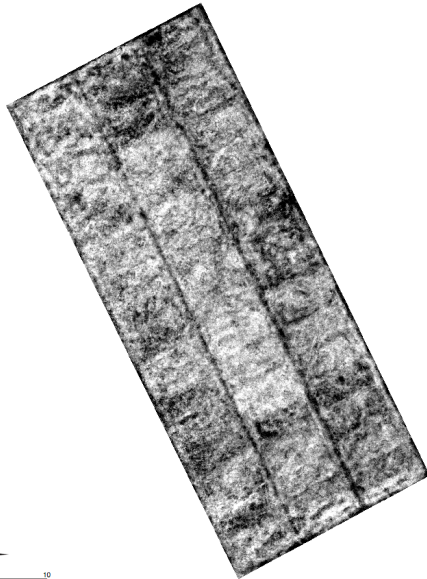
# Green channel



# Red channel

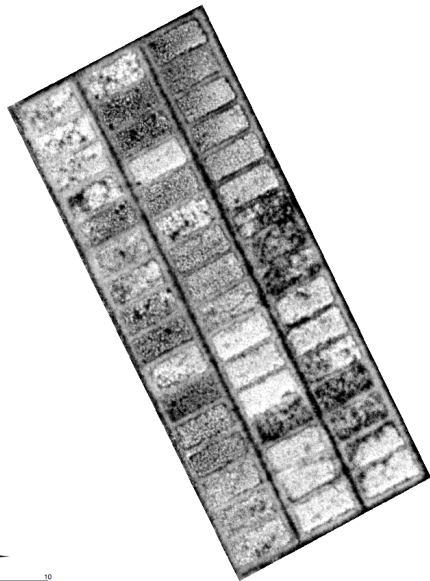


# Red edge channel

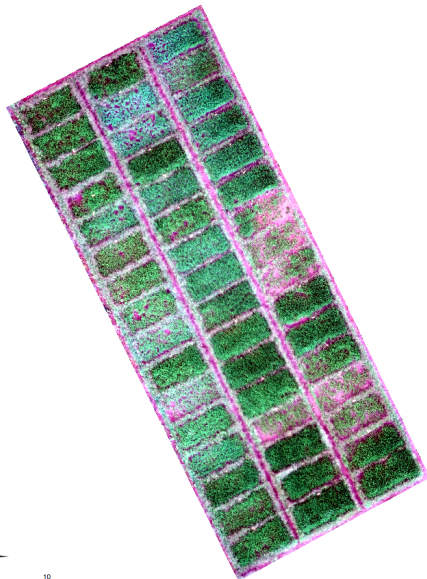




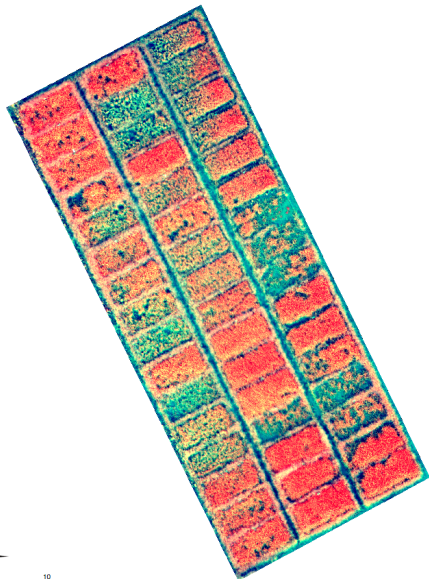
# Near infra-red (NIR) channel



# RGB = Red:Green:Blue



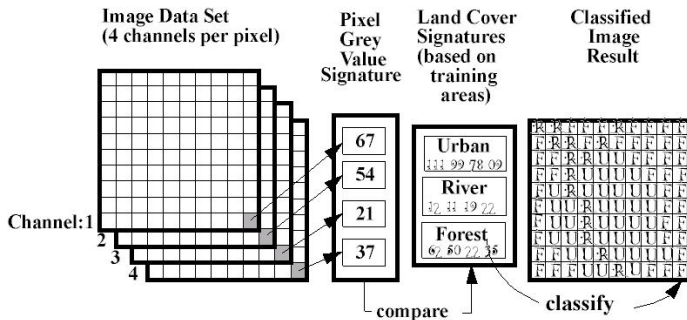
# RGB = NIR:Red:Green



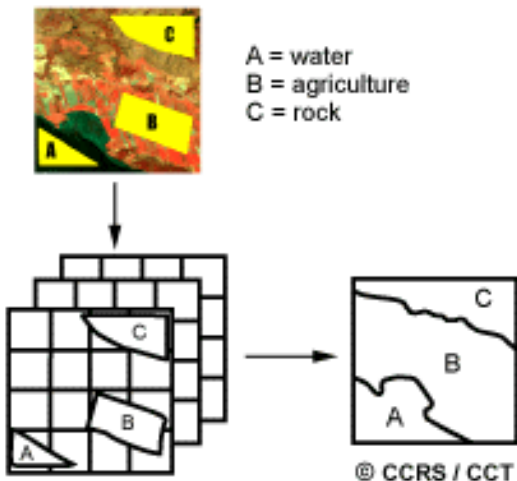
## 4. Minimizing errors



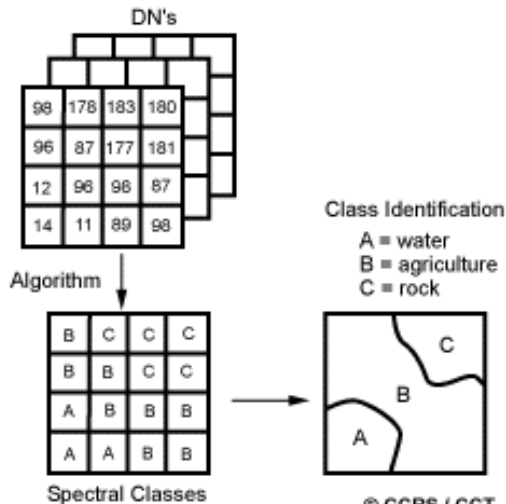
# 5. Classification



# Supervised classification



# Unsupervised classification



# Introduction

## Geodesy

Geodesy is a scientific discipline that deals with the measurement and representation of the Earth's surface in a three-dimensional, time-varying space. A topographic map is essential for the thematic mapping of geological and environmental information.<sup>a</sup>

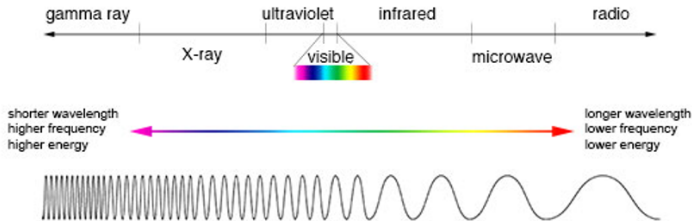
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<sup>a</sup> Jung Hum Yu, 2011





# RADAR spectrum



- ▶ Radar was investigated by A.H. Taylor and L.C. Young in 1922 (Wilkinson 1987). Side Looking Airborne Radar (SLAR), which has a continuous strip mapping capability, was developed in the 1950s.

|| <https://www.capellaspace.com/sar-101-an-introduction-to-synthetic-aperture-radar/>

¶ Jung Hum Yu, 2011



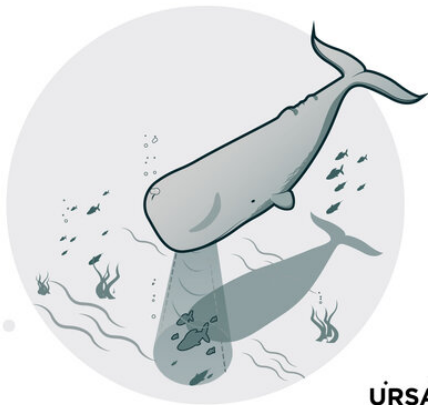
# Echolocation

## HOW SAR WORKS

### THINK ECHOLOCATION, LIKE A WHALE

- SAR sends out energy, bounces that energy off something and returns the energy as information that:
  - Is multi-dimensional
  - Includes: time, geometry, signal data & elevation
  - Is commonly formed into an image
- With this, we can measure: speed, distance, direction & presence

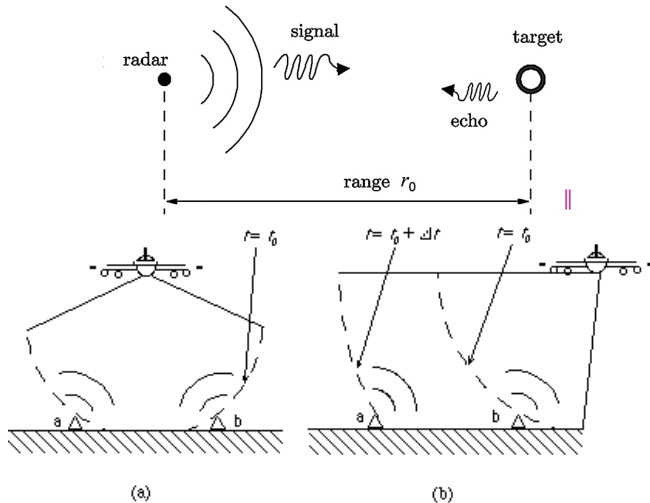
THESE MEASUREMENTS ARE REPEATABLE FOR HIGH PRECISION RESULTS



URSA



# Why side-looking radar

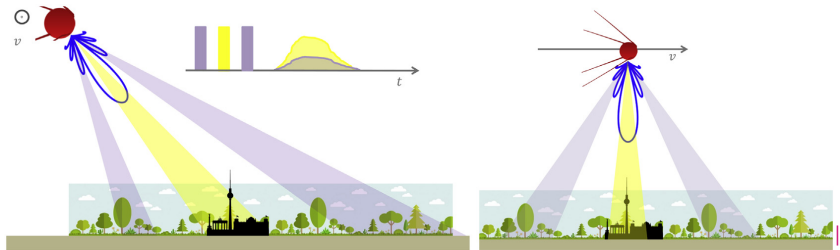


<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-809254-5.00005-1>

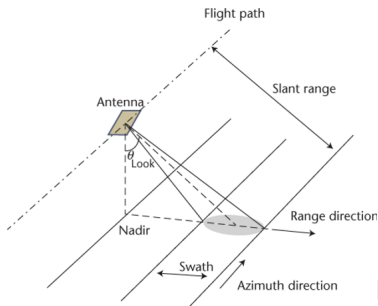
<http://www.csr.utexas.edu/projects/rs/whatissar/rar.html>



# Why side-looking radar



# RADAR geometry



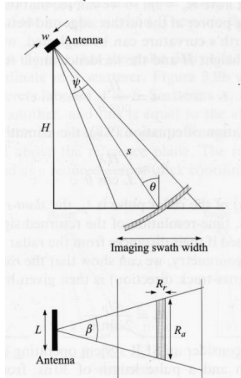
- ▶ SLAR has two major types: real aperture radar and synthetic aperture radar, where the word “aperture” means antenna.
- ▶ Real aperture radar uses a fixed length antenna ranging in length from 1- 2m.
- ▶ Synthetic aperture radar also uses similar length antenna however it can synthesize a much longer antenna which has an improved resolution.



# Real Aperture Radar

## SIDE-LOOKING RADAR (REAL-APERTURE RADAR)

Active  
sensor !



Emission of a short pulse:  $t_p = 30$  ns

**Across-track resolution** obtained  
by time-resolving the signal

$$R_r = \frac{ct_p}{2 \sin \theta}$$

if  $t_p = 30$  ns,  $\theta = 35^\circ$  then  **$R_r = 8$  m**

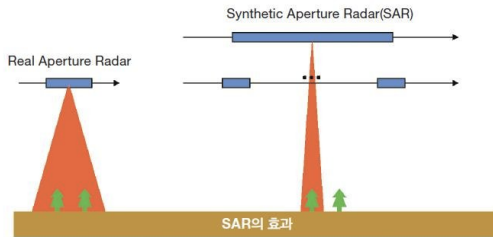
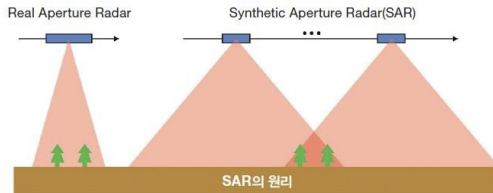
**Along-track resolution** is poor

$$R_a = \frac{H\lambda}{L \cos \theta}$$

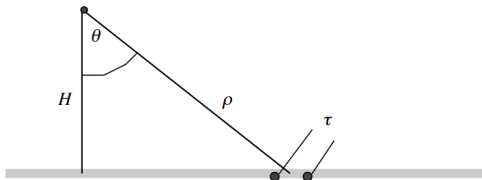
if  $H = 800$  km,  $\lambda = 24$  cm,  $L = 10$  m  
 $\theta = 35^\circ$  then  **$R_a = 24$  km**

||

# Synthetic Aperture Radar



# Across-track resolution (slant range)



- $\theta$  - look angle
- $H$  - spacecraft height
- $B$  - bandwidth of radar
- $\tau$  - pulse length  $1/B$
- $C$  - speed of light

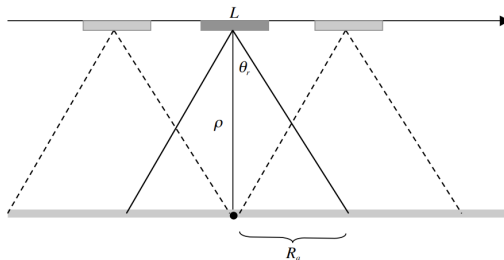
$$\Delta r = \frac{C\tau}{2} \quad - \text{ slant range resolution}$$

$$R_r = \frac{C\tau}{2} \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \quad - \text{ ground range resolution}$$

||



# Along-track / azimuth resolution)



- $L$  - length of radar antenna
- $\rho$  - nominal slant range  $H/\cos\theta$
- $\lambda$  - wavelength of radar

$$\sin\theta_r = \lambda/L \quad - \text{ diffraction resolution}$$

$$R_a = \rho \sin\theta_r = \frac{\rho\lambda}{L} = \frac{\lambda H}{L \cos\theta} \quad - \text{ half - length of ground illumination}$$

# Spotlight mode

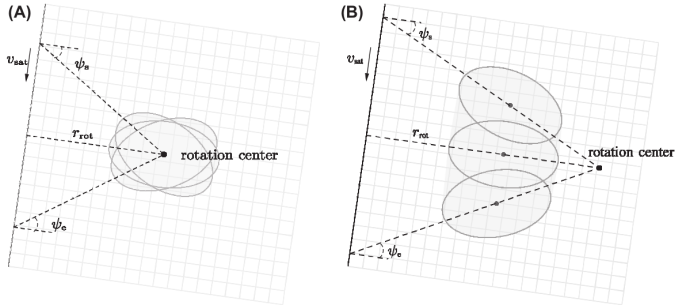


FIGURE 5.80

Steering laws, footprints, and scene size for staring (A) and sliding (B) spotlight acquisition modes. In the sliding configuration, a longer azimuth scene size is traded off for a coarser illumination time and azimuth resolution.

# ScanSAR mode

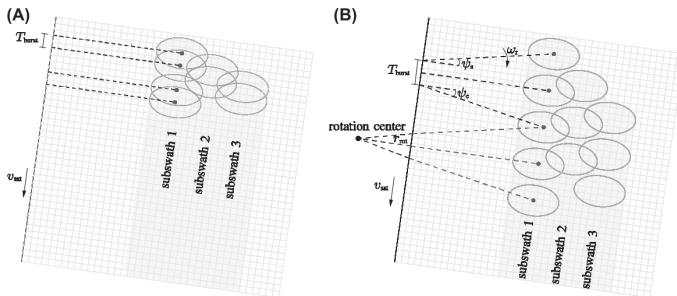
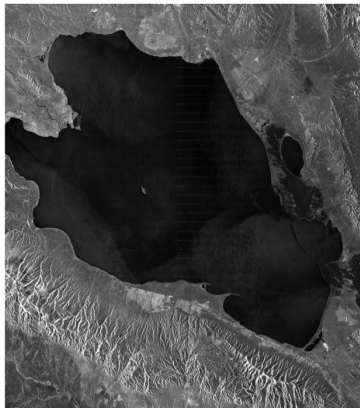


FIGURE 5.82

Steering laws, footprints, and scene size for ScanSAR (A) and terrain observation by progressive scans (TOPS) (B) acquisition modes. The azimuth steering of the TOPS mode allows for the illumination of the scene with more homogeneous radiometric qualities.

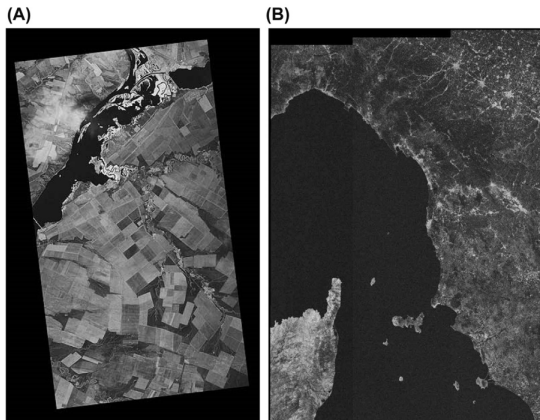
# ScanSAR mode



**FIGURE 5.83**

TerraSAR-X ScanSAR image over Qinghai Lake, China. The periodic horizontal white stripes in the lake are due to a noise scaling effect due to scalloping. The distance between the stripes corresponds to the duration of the radar bursts. Note azimuth ambiguities can also be observed in the lake.

# TOPS mode



**FIGURE 5.84**

First synthetic aperture radar images acquired by (A) TerraSAR-X and (B) Sentinel-1 in the terrain observation by progressive scans (TOPS) acquisition mode. TerraSAR-X image acquired over the south Russian Steppes about 500 km northeast of the Black Sea and about 50 km west of Volgograd. Sentinel-1A mosaic of the first S-1A TOPS interferogram (two slices) in IW mode around the Gulf of Genoa, Italy, acquired on August 7 and 19. Range extension, 250 km; azimuth extension, 340 km.



# Modes comparison

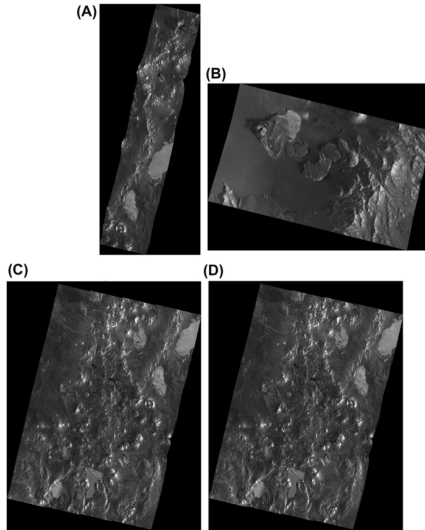


FIGURE 5.81

Geocoded TerraSAR-X images over the Atacama Desert, Chile. Stripmap (A), sliding spotlight (B), ScanSAR (C), and terrain observation by progressive scans (TOPS) modes (D). The vertical direction corresponds to north.

# SAR missions

**Table 5.4 List of All Spaceborne Synthetic Aperture Radar Missions Over the Past 40 years**

Sensor	Frequency Band/ Polarization	Agency
Seasat	L/HH	NASA/JPL
ERS-1/2	C/VV	ESA
JERS-1	L/HH	JAXA
SIR-C/X-SAR	L/quad, C/quad, X/VV	NASA/JPL, DLR, ASI
Radarsat-1	C/HH	CSA
SRTM	C/HH + VV, X/VV	NASA/JPL, DLR, ASI
ENVISAT/ASAR	C/dual	ESA
ALOS/PalSAR	L/quad	JAXA
TerraSAR-X/TanDEM-X	X/quad	DLR/Astrium
Radarsat-2	C/quad	CSA
COSMOSkyMed-1/4	X/dual	ASI/MiD
RISAT-1	C/quad	ISRO
HJ-1C	S/VV	
Kompsat-5	X/dual	KARI
PAZ	X/quad	CDTI
ALOS-2	L/quad	JAXA
Sentinel-1a/1b	C/dual	ESA
Radarsat constellation-1/2/3	C/quad	CSA
SAOCOM-1/2	L/quad	CONAE/ASI

# SAR Data Acquisitions

Belajar Sendiri Sistem Informasi Geo...

Pengantar

1 Pendahuluan

2 Persiapan

2.1 Perangkat lunak

2.2 Data

2.2.1 EROS

2.2.2 Earthdata

2.2.3 Copernicus

I Analisis Tutupan Lahan

3 Akuisisi data

4 Prinsip dasar penginderaan jauh

4.1 Spectral signature

4.2 Semua adalah angka

4.3 Visualisasi RGB

4.4 Minimalisasi kesalahan

4.5 Klasifikasi

II Sistem Informasi Geografis

5 Pengantar SIG

5.1 Definisi

5.2 Tipe Data

5.3 Sistem koordinat, skala dan re...

6 Visualisasi Data di QGIS

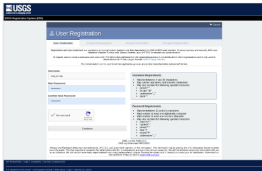
## 2.2 Data

Data citra satelit yang akan digunakan untuk mendapatkan informasi tutupan lahan adalah citra Landsat (Landsat 5 TM, Landsat 7 ETM+ dan Landsat 8). Data citra akan diunduh melalui Semi Automatic Classification Plugin (SCP Plugin). SCP Plugin akan mencari arsip data di tiga situs Earth Resources Observation and Science / EROS (<https://ers.cr.usgs.gov>), Earthdata (<https://urs.earthdata.nasa.gov>) dan Sentinel Data Hub (<https://scihub.copernicus.eu/apihub>). Untuk mengakses ketiga situs tersebut, Anda harus melakukan registrasi terlebih dahulu.

### 2.2.1 EROS

Tahapan membuat akun di EROS adalah sebagai berikut :

1. Membuat Username yang unik dan mengisi password sesuai dengan ketentuan yang ada.



Gambar 2.20: Registrasi user EROS



# SAR Wavelength

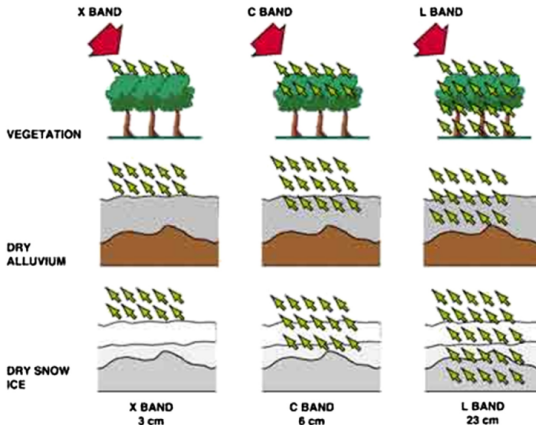
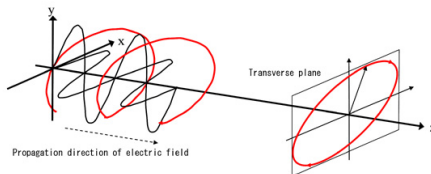


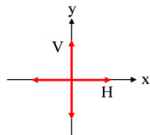
FIGURE 5.34

The effect of increasing radar wavelength on its ability to sense through a tree canopy.

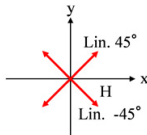
# SAR Polarization



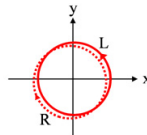
(i) Locus of an elliptically polarized wave



(a) Horizontal polarization,  
Vertical polarization



(b) Linear 45 degree polarization,  
Linear -45 degree polarization,



(c) Left circular polarization,  
Right circular polarization

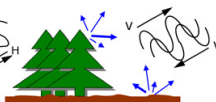
(ii) Typical polarizations



(a) HH



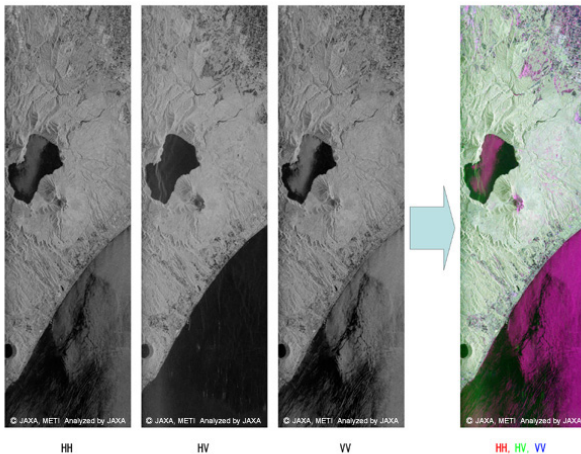
(b) HV and VH



(c) VV

(iii) Scattering with respect to polarization

# SAR Polarization



2006/08/19 01:17(UT) ALOS/PALSAR POLARIMETRY

[https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/ALOS/en/img\\_up/pal\\_polarization.htm](https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/ALOS/en/img_up/pal_polarization.htm)



# Backscatter value interpretation table

**Table 5.2 Exemplary Values of Radar Backscatter for Typical Artificial Surface, Surface Scatterers, and Volume Scatterers**

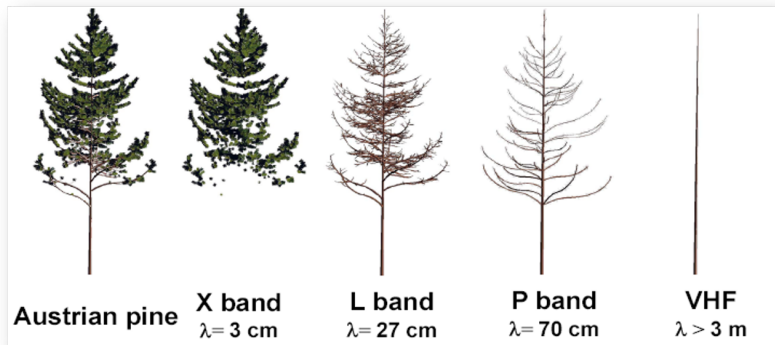
Radar Brightness	$\sigma_0$ (dB)	Target Examples
Very high backscattering	$>0$	Artificial objects and urban areas, ascending terrain slopes, very rough surfaces, very steep incident angles
High backscattering	$-10$ to $0$	Rough surfaces (e.g., dense vegetation, forests, open water with wind), volumes (e.g., multiyear ice, marginal sea ice)
Moderate backscattering	$-20$ to $-10$	Moderately rough surfaces (e.g., vegetation, crops, first-year ice, open water with little wind)
Low backscattering	$>-20$	Smooth surfaces (e.g., calm water, roads, very dry soil, deserts)

*Note the values are just representative and will change as a function of several parameters of the acquisition, such as wavelength and/or polarization.*



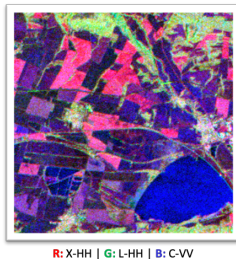
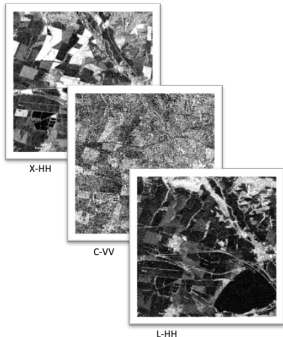
# Multi-frequency composites

- ▶ Combination of multiple SAR frequency bands.
- ▶ Synergy of different backscatter mechanisms.



# Multi-frequency composites

- ▶ Combination of multiple SAR frequency bands.
- ▶ Synergy of different backscatter mechanisms.

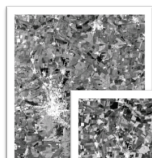


© USGS

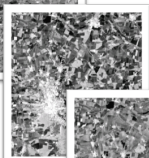


# Multi-temporal composites

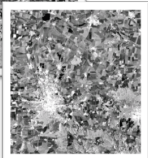
- ▶ Combination of multiple dates of SAR acquisitions.
- ▶ Colors indicating changes.



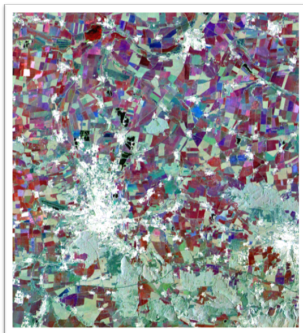
TSX (HH)  
06APR12



TSX (HH)  
20MAY12



TSX (HH)  
31MAY12



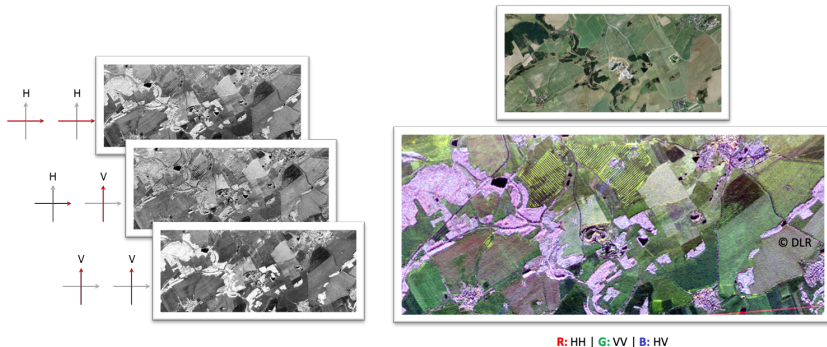
R: 06APR | G: 20MAY | B: 31MAY © DLR



© Google Earth

# Multi-polarization Products

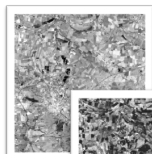
- ▶ Combination of multiple polarizations.
- ▶ Colors indicating different backscatter mechanism.



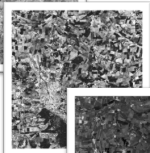


# Multi-product Composites

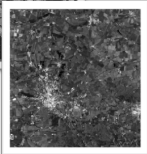
- Combination of multiple products derived from SAR data.
- Increase class separability



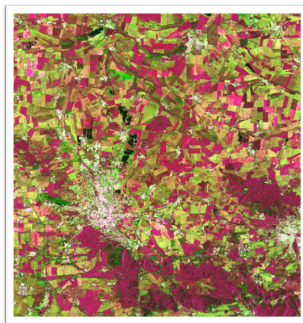
Backscatter  
Intensity



Coherence



Average Backscatter

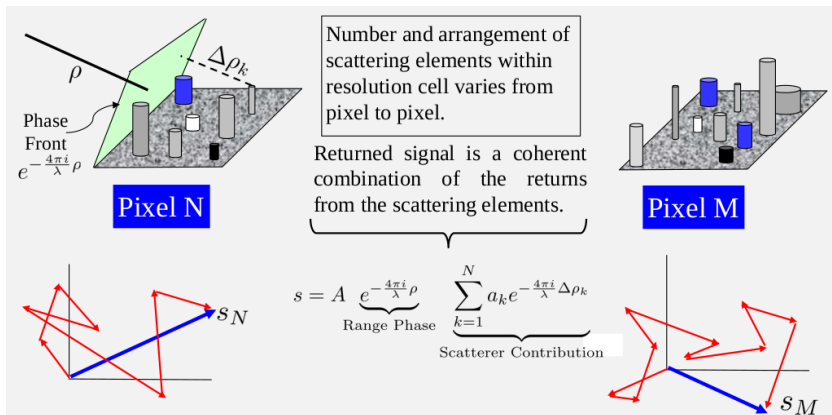


R: Intensity | G: Coherence | B: Ø Backscatter © DLR



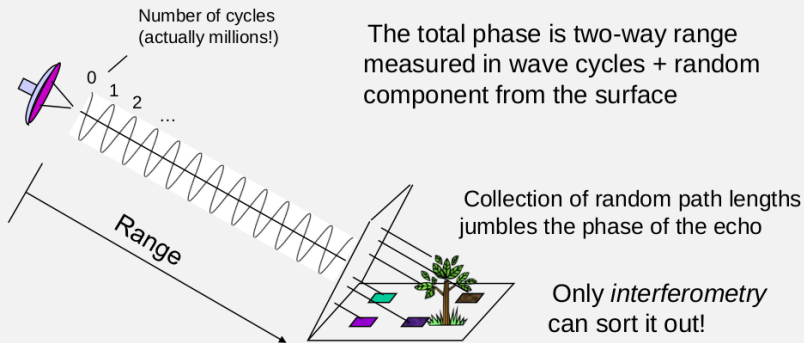
© Google Earth

# SAR Imagery and Speckle



# SAR Phase

The phase of the radar signal is the number of *cycles of oscillation* that the wave executes between the radar and the surface and back again.



- ▶ Radars measure the amplitude and delay of the backscattered echoes
- ▶ The delay information is stored in the phase of the received signal with subwavelength accuracy
- ▶ The ranging accuracy of the phase measurement is low due to a mixing with many other components of the measurement (speckle noise).
- ▶ We need to access the differential phase of the two SAR images acquired from different times or from different positions.

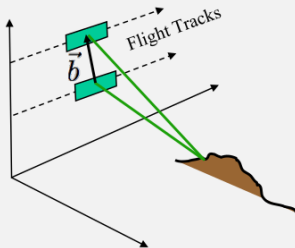
<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> Emery and Camps. 2017

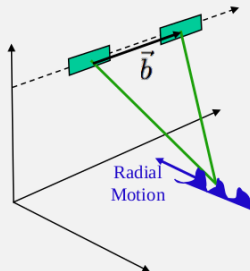
# Types of SAR Interferometry

## Cross-Track Interferometer



- Dual antenna single pass interferometers
  - Single antenna repeat pass interferometers
- => Topography and Deformation

## Along-Track Interferometer



- Dual antenna single pass interferometer
  - Along-track separation
- => Radial velocity

Slid

# Interferometry for Topography

Measured phase difference:

$$\otimes \phi = -\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \delta \rho$$

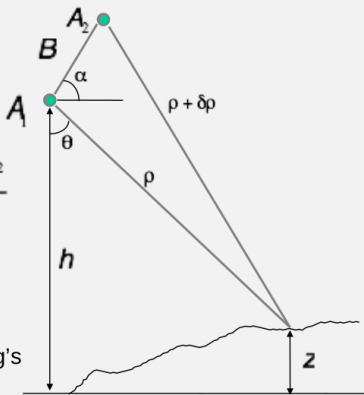
Triangulation:

$$\sin(\theta - \alpha) = \frac{(\rho + \delta\rho)^2 - \rho^2 - B^2}{2\rho B}$$

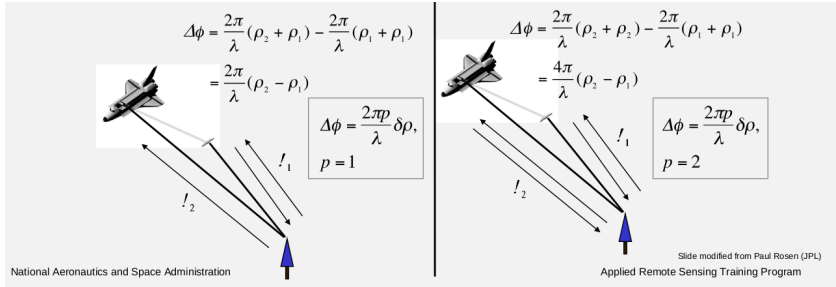
$$z = h - \rho \cos \theta$$

Critical Interferometer Knowledge:

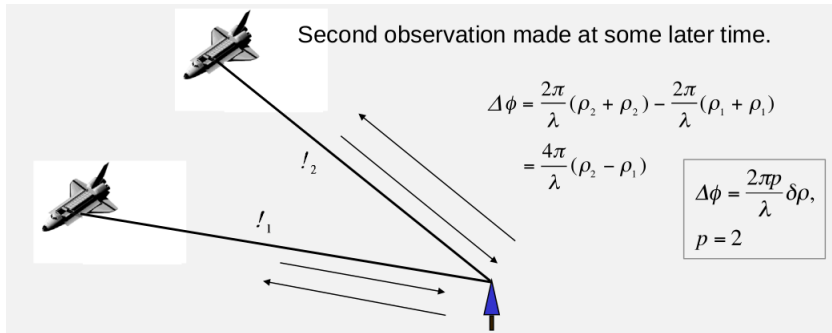
- Baseline, ( $B, \alpha$ ) to mm's
- System phase differences, to deg's



# Data Collection Options



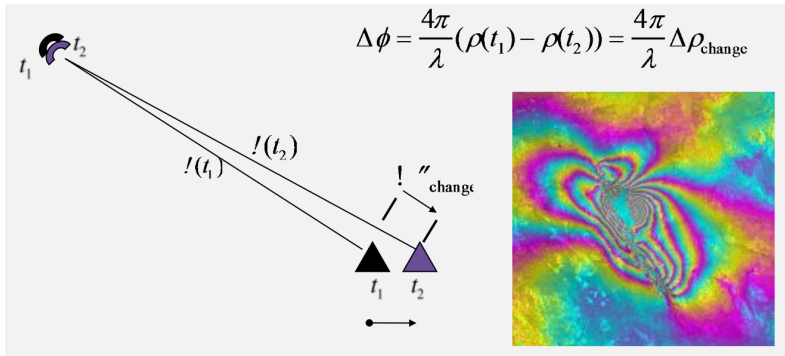
# Data Collection Options





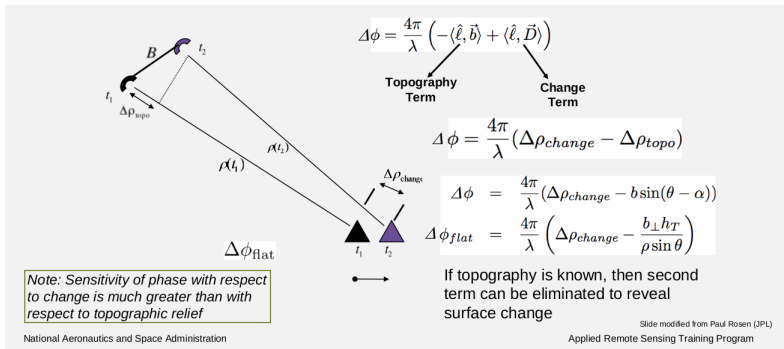
# Differential Interferometry

When two observations are made from the same location in space but at different times, the interferometric phase is proportional to any change in the range of a surface feature directly.



# Differential Interferometry and Topography

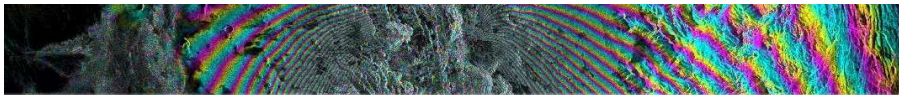
Generally two observations are made from different locations in space and at different times, so the interferometric phase is proportional to topography and topographic change.



# Correlation Theory

- ▶ InSAR signals decorrelate due to:
  - ▶ Thermal and Processor Noise.
  - ▶ Differential Geometric and Volumetric Scattering.
  - ▶ Rotation of Viewing Geometry
  - ▶ Random Motions Over Time
- ▶ Decorrelation relates to the local phase standard deviation of the interferogram phase
  - ▶ Affects height and displacement accuracy.
  - ▶ Affects ability to unwrap phase.





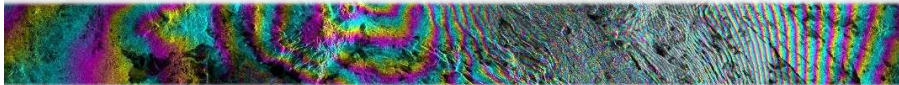
# GEOS 657 – MICROWAVE REMOTE SENSING

## GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

### Lecturer:

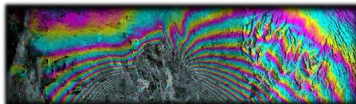
Franz J Meyer, Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks; [fjmeyer@alaska.edu](mailto:fjmeyer@alaska.edu)

### Lecture 15: InSAR Time Series Analysis Basics & PS-InSAR: Time Series Analysis using Point Targets



UAF Course GEOS 657





## THE BASIC CONCEPTS OF INSAR TIME SERIES ANALYSIS



ASF

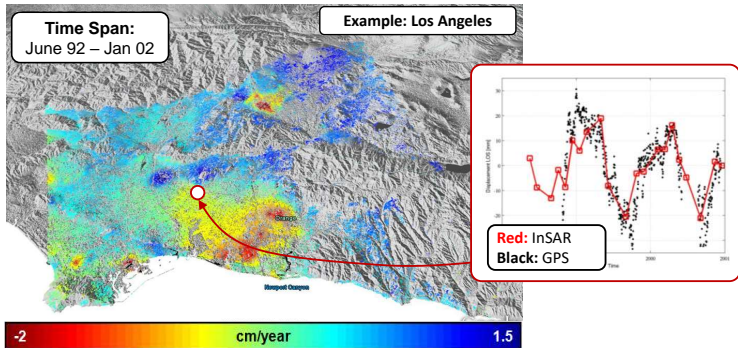


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# Study Deformation Across Time Scales



# Why Use Time Series Analysis?



## Two compelling reasons

### 1. Study temporally extended phenomena

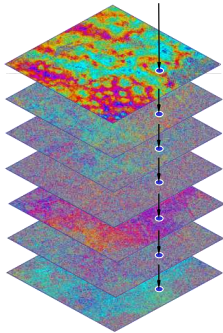
- Volcanic inflation
- Landslides
- Inter-seismic slip
- Groundwater-related subsidence

### 2. Improved estimation of deformation

- **signal** by exploiting time series to remove
- Atmosphere
- Topography (DEM errors)
- and other noise sources



# Treatment of Error Sources and Limitations Through InSAR Time Series Analysis



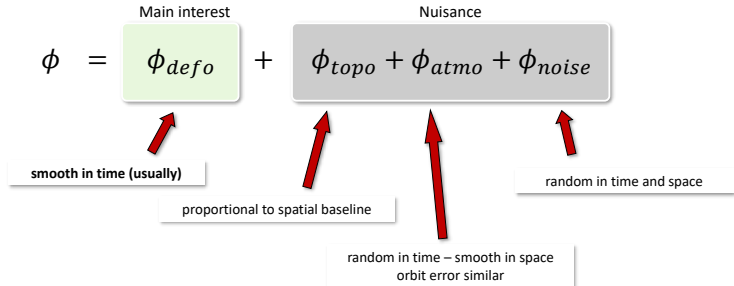
## Concepts included in Time Series InSAR

1. **Use many ( $N \gg 2$ ) interferograms (ifgrms) spanning long time span**
  - $N \gg 2$  observations and only two unknowns (topography  $h$ ; deformation  $v$ )
  - Suppression of noise (atmosphere; orbit errors; noise) *[response to Limitation 4 in Lecture 13]*
  - Improve precision of deformation estimates *[response to Limitation 2 in Lecture 13]*
2. **Find patches that are coherent in all ifgrms**
  - Sophisticated algorithm required to identify pixels that are coherent over long time frames *[response to Limitation 2 in Lecture 13]*
3. **Analyze phase of coherent pixels over time & across space**





# Separate Phase Components With Time Series Analysis



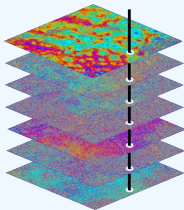
Separate components based on their temporal, spatial and baseline characteristics



# Rationale of InSAR Time Series Analysis

## Input

Time series of SAR images



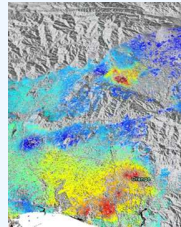
## Processing

Key steps

- Interferogram formation
- Unwrapping
- Isolate deformation

## Output

Deformation



# Multiple Approaches to Time Series Analysis

A key distinction is the type of target that is analyzed

## Point-like scatterers

One scatter dominates the signal from a SAR resolution cell



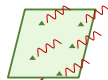
### Point Target InSAR

- + high quality for selected points
- + retains full resolution
- **only few coherent points**
- does not work well for short stacks

Persistent Scatterer Interferometry (PSI)

## Distributed targets

Many scatterers contribute to signal  
Extended targets



### Distributed Target InSAR

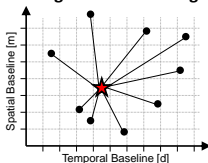
- + **higher point density**
- + flexible, easily applicable to large areas
- usually higher noise level
- averaging reduces resolution

Small Baseline Subset (SBAS)



# Two Philosophies on How to Form Interferograms from Multiple Images

- PSI uses single reference image

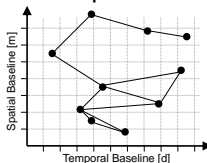


- Ifgrms formed relative to one unique reference image

## Used in Persistent Scatterer InSAR (PSI) [Lecture 15]

- + solving of equation system "simple"
- + very low noise level of selected points
- **Only few coherent points**
- Long time lag to reach critical number of images in stack

- SBAS uses multiple reference images

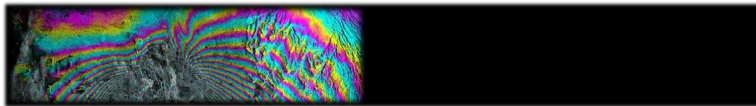


- Ifgrms formed between all image pairs that fulfill user defined baseline requirements (min – max allowed baselines)

## Used in Short Baseline Subset InSAR (SBAS) [Lecture 16]

- + **higher density of coherent point**
- + quicker stack buildup
- equation system underdetermined
- higher phase noise → lower absolute accuracy or filtering required





## POINT TARGET-BASED INSAR TIME SERIES ANALYSIS



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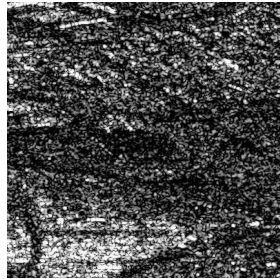


## Persistent Scatterer Interferometry (PSI)

- Developed by A. Ferretti, F. Rocca, and, C. Prati, Politecnica di Milano, Italy
- Idea:** Every Interferogram *always* contains *a few coherent pixels* whose phase can be exploited for deformation analysis



incoherent average of 70 ERS SAR images



individual images (9 years)



ASF

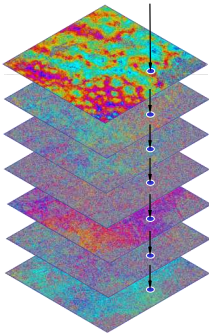


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# Persistent Scatterer Interferometry (PSI)



- Many interferograms all referenced to *single reference image*
- Identification of isolated stable points
- Analyze *phase difference* between pixels both in time and space
- Phase difference analysis is a powerful means for noise suppression
- Detectable velocities from cm/day to mm/year



# General Scatterer Types in SAR Images

- **Distributed targets:**
  - Many scatterers contributing to the signal from a resolution cell with about equal importance
  - **Examples include:** vegetated surfaces; bare soil; general natural terrain
- **Point-like scatterers:**
  - One scatterer dominates the signal from a SAR resolution cell
  - **Examples include:** Corner reflectors; man-made features such as buildings

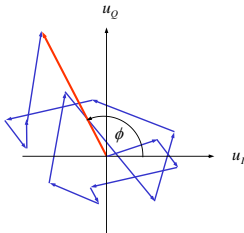




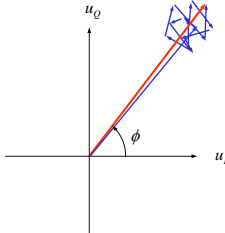
# Characteristics of Distributed and Point Targets

Goal: Understand Nature of Persistent Scatterers

Distributed Targets



Point Targets

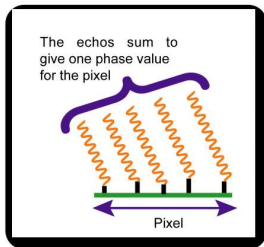


Point Targets are likely to show consistent phase and amplitude over time → **most persistent scatterers are point-like targets (rocks, manmade structures, ...)**



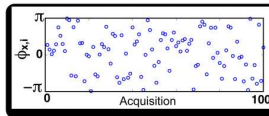
# Characteristics of Distributed and Point Targets

## Distributed Targets Decorrelate Quickly



Distributed scatterer pixel

If scatterers move with respect to each other, the phase sum changes



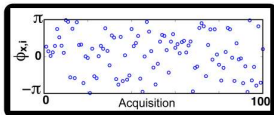
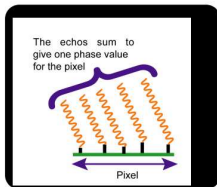
(similar effect if incidence angle changes)

Source: A. Hooper, University of Leeds; UNAVCO InSAR Training

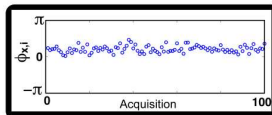
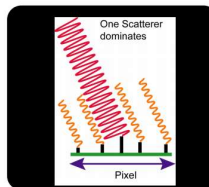


# Characteristics of Distributed and Point Targets

Point-Like Targets keep Coherent For Long Times



Distributed scatterer pixel



"Persistent scatterer" (PS) pixel

Source: A. Hooper, University of Leeds; UNAVCO InSAR Training



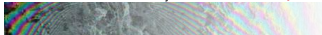
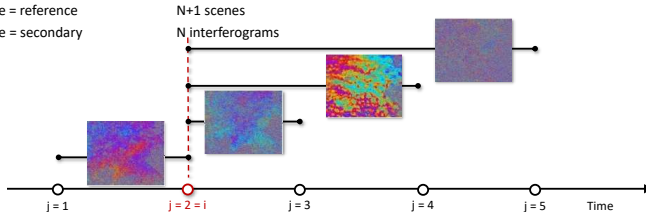
# Persistent Scatterer Interferometry (PSI)

- Phase of an interferogram:

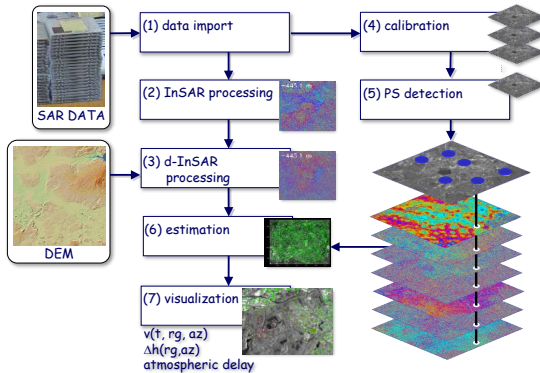
$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= W\{\phi_{topo} + \phi_{defo} + \phi_{atmo} + \phi_{orbit} + \phi_{noise}\} \\ &= W\left\{\frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}}{R \cdot \sin(\theta)} h + \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} v \cdot \Delta t + \phi_{atmo} + \phi_{orbit} + \phi_{noise}\right\} \\ (W: \text{wrapping operator} \rightarrow \phi: [-\pi, \pi])\end{aligned}$$

- Form several interferograms referenced to a unique “reference” image

- $i$ th image = reference
- $j$ th image = secondary



# PSI Processing Chain




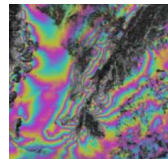
# PSI Processing Chain

## Steps (1) – (3): InSAR and D-InSAR Processing

### 1. Interferogram generation:

$$\phi_x^k = W \left\{ \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}^k}{R \cdot \sin(\theta)} h_x + \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} v_x \Delta t^k + \phi_{x,atmo}^k + \phi_{x,orbit}^k + \phi_{x,noise}^k \right\}$$

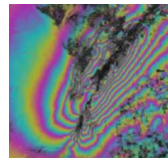
  $h = h_{DEM} + h_{ERR}$



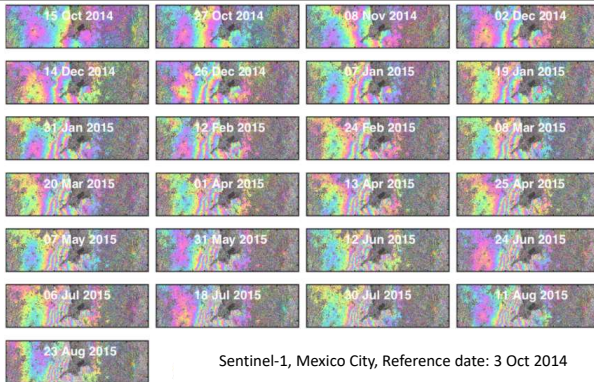
### 2. Remove DEM via D-InSAR processing:

$$\Delta\phi_x^k = W \left\{ \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}^k}{R \cdot \sin(\theta)} h_{x,err} + \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} v_x \Delta t^k + \phi_{x,atmo}^k + \phi_{x,orbit}^k + \phi_{x,noise}^k \right\}$$

- $h_{x,err}$  remains due to
  - Imperfect interferometric baseline
  - Imperfect DEM



## Example of Single-Reference d-InSAR Stack



Sentinel-1, Mexico City, Reference date: 3 Oct 2014

Source: A. Hooper, University of Leeds; UNAVCO InSAR Training



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# PSI Processing Chain

## Steps (4) & (5): Selection of Persistent Scatterer (PS) Candidates

- **Various ways for detecting PS:**

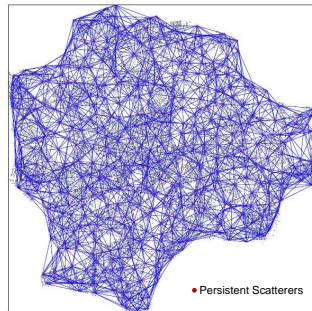
- **Amplitude dispersion index:**  $D_A = \frac{\sigma_A}{\mu_A} \rightarrow$  points with stable amplitude  $A$  over time
- Points with high signal-to-clutter ratio
- ...

- **Features of Persistent Scatterers:**

- No temporal decorrelation
- Very low phase noise

- **Goal: Dense spatial distribution of high quality PS**

- ⇒ Favorable description of spatial deformation signal
- ⇒ Easier phase unwrapping



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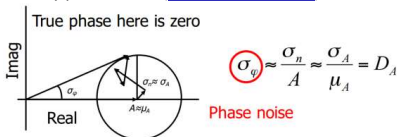




# PSI Processing Chain

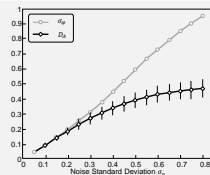
## A Few Words on the Amplitude Dispersion Index

- Amplitude Dispersion Index initially published in ([Ferretti et al., 2001](#))



- Approach:** Calculate  $D_A$  per pixel and use points with  $D_A < \text{threshold}$

- Data analysis has shown that  $D_A$  is a good approximation for  $\sigma_\phi$  for low values of  $D_A$



# PSI Processing Chain

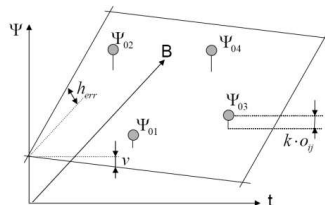
## Step (6a): Spatio-Temporal Modeling

- **Linear** deformation model: phase  $\phi_{x,defo}^k$  of pixel  $x$  of ifgrm  $k$

$$\phi_{x,defo}^k = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} v_x \Delta t^k$$

- **Linear** dependence of DEM error on interferometric baseline  $\rightarrow$

$$\phi_{x,topo}^k = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}^k}{R \cdot \sin(\theta)} h_{x,err}$$



- **Estimation of DEM error and deformation using spatio-temporal model:**

– Fitting of a 2-d plane into the phase observations in the spatio-temporal baseline plot (see above)



# PSI Processing Chain

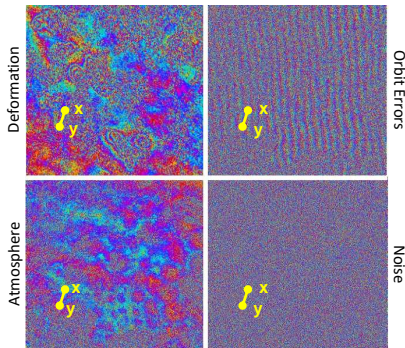
## Step (6b): Persistent Scatterer Estimation I

- **Goal:**  
Estimation of
  - DEM error
  - Surface deformationat the position of the Persistent Scatterers
- **Problem:**
  - Noise contributions at the PS positions may mask desired signal
  - Some phase components are random in time and prevent successful estimation



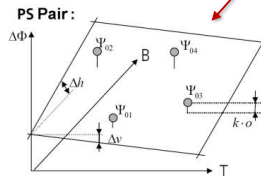
## Step (6b): Persistent Scatterer Estimation II

Calculation of Phase Differences between Nearby Points



$$\Delta\phi_{x-y}^k = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}^k}{R \cdot \sin(\theta)} \Delta h_{x-y, err} + \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \Delta v_{x-y} \Delta t^k +$$

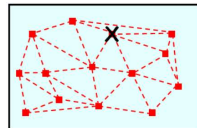
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \phi_{x-y, atmo}^k + \\ \phi_{x-y, orbit}^k + \\ \phi_{x-y, noise}^k \end{array} \right\} \text{small}$$



# PSI Processing Chain

## Step (7c): Integration Step

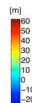
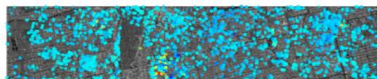
- We now have estimated  $\Delta h_{x-y, err}$  and  $\Delta v_{x-y}$  corresponding to the height-error and deformation velocity **differences between pairs of PS points**
- To obtain parameters at the PS locations ( $h_{x, err}$  and  $v_x$ ), we **perform a least-squares integration** with respect to a reference point (X)



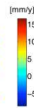
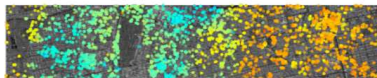
- **Example:**

- Integration Result for InSAR Stack over Las Vegas

DEM error



Linear deformation rate



Source: A. Hooper, University of Leeds; UNAVCO InSAR Training



# Analysis of Residuals to Separate Atmospheric Delay from Noise

- Residuals:

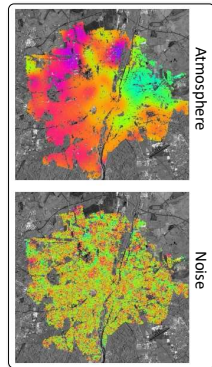
$$\phi_{x,res}^k = \phi_{x,atmo}^k + \phi_{x,noise}^k + \cancel{\phi_{x,orbit}^k}$$

- Properties:

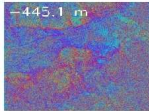
- Atmosphere correlated in space and uncorrelated in time
- Noise uncorrelated in both space and time

→ Separation:

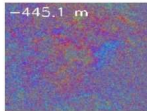
- Spatial filtering and subsequent interpolation



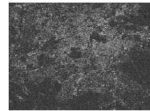
## Summary of PSI Results



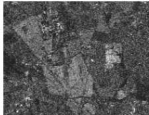
InSAR



D-InSAR



Coherence



Calibrated Amplitude



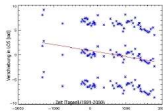
multi-look Amplitude



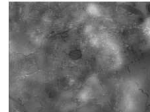
super resolution



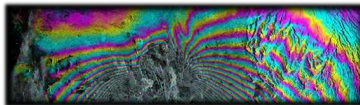
Deformation Map



Deformation per PS



Atmo. Water Vapor



## PS-INSAR (PSI): ACCURACY ASSESSMENT AND EXAMPLES



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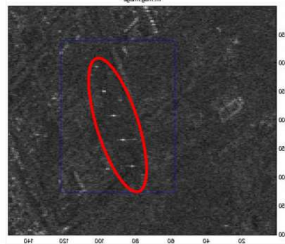
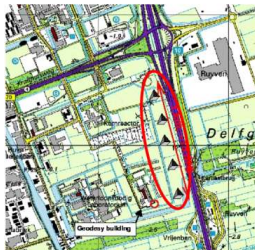


# Assessment of Accuracy of PS-InSAR

## Corner Reflector Experiment Conducted by Delft University, NL

- **Experiment Setup:**

- Row of oriented corner reflectors
- Surveyed using levelling for validation of PSI results



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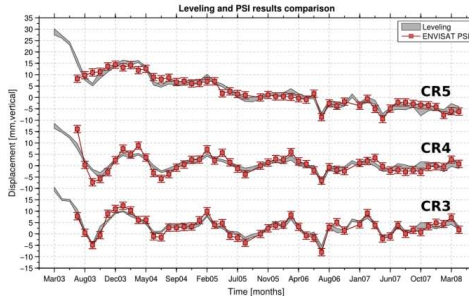
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# Assessment of Accuracy of PS-InSAR

Corner Reflector Experiment Conducted by Delft University, NL

- Comparison of leveling and PSI deformation measurements
  - Excellent match of measurements



Marinkovic et al, CEOS SAR workshop, 2004



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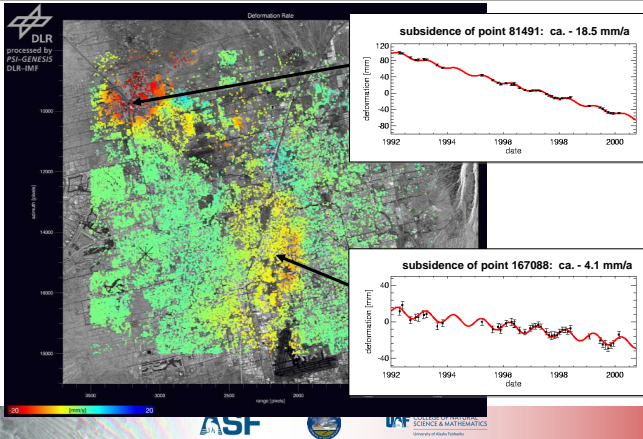


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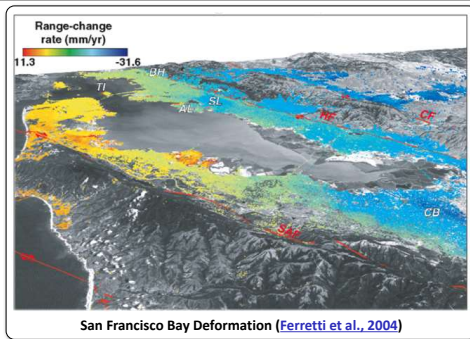
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# PSI Example: Subsidence in Las Vegas



## PSI Example: Bay Area, California



- These results indicate that PSI works well in **urban areas**, but not so well in areas without man-made structures. **Why?**



## Think – Pair – Share:



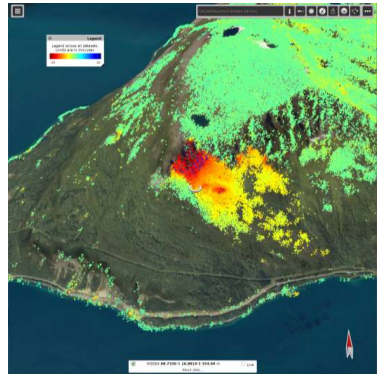
Let's look at some PS-InSAR Data: Explore [the following deformation site](#) on the InSAR Norway PSI Portal

### Activity 1: Explore and compare ascending and descending deformation data:

- How do the deformation features for ascending and descending compare.
- What do ascending and descending data tell you about the direction of surface motion?

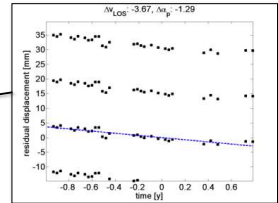
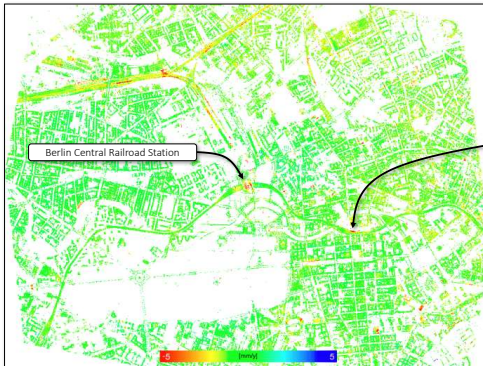
### Activity 2: Analyze data gaps / point density variations:

- The PSI point density varies throughout this site.
- Look at ascending and descending data. You may notice distinct differences in the point coverage between these geometries.
- Formulate two reasons why point densities may vary between these geometries.



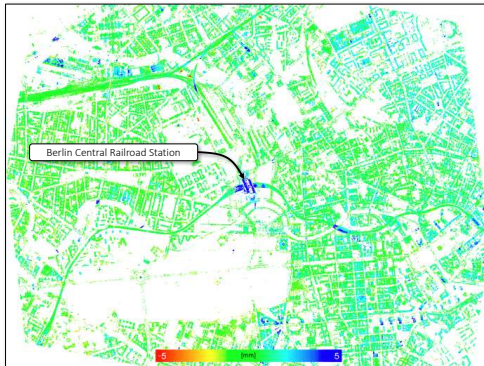
# High-Resolution PS-InSAR Study in Berlin, Germany

Linear deformation rate (Gernhardt, 2011)



# High-Resolution PS-InSAR Study in Berlin, Germany

Linear deformation rate (Gernhardt, 2011)



Subtle phenomenon  
Seasonal deformation (vertical)

# High-Resolution PS-InSAR Study in Berlin, Germany

Point density depends on sensor properties and land cover



Case Study Berlin: ERS-2 Data (resolution ~ 20m)



Vegetated areas

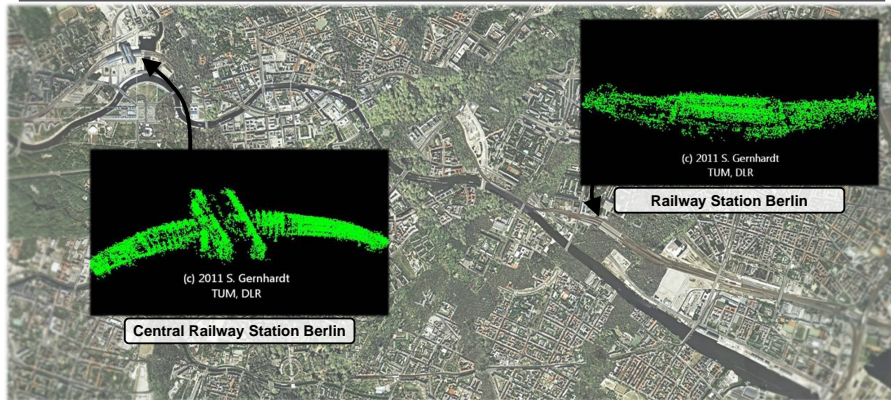
Gerhardt, 2011



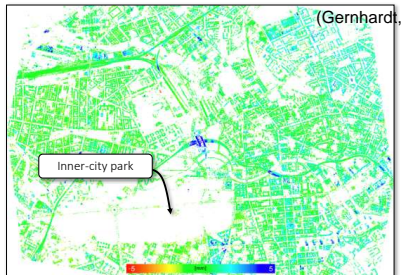


# Sub-Milimeter Surface Analysis

## Building Deformation in Berlin, Germany



# Summary of PSI



## Key features

### 1. PSI exploits and requires stable scatterers

- Such as buildings, rock outcrops
- Hence works well in e.g. urban environments
- High precision at full resolution

### 2. Drawbacks

- Point density dependent on environment
- Point density dependent on sensor
- Computational cost

Most large-scale geohazard applications focus on distributed targets, using medium-resolution SAR imagery.

