

2022 DRAGON 5 SYMPOSIUM

MID-TERM RESULTS REPORTING

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PROJECT ID. 59307

**3-D CHARACTERIZATION AND TEMPORAL
ANALYSIS OF VEGETATED AREAS USING
TIME-SERIES OF POLARIMETRIC SAR DATA
AND TOMOGRAPHIC PROCESSING**

2022/10/22

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**3-D CHARACTERIZATION AND TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF VEGETATED AREAS USING TIME-SERIES
OF POLARIMETRIC SAR DATA AND TOMOGRAPHIC PROCESSING**

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PRESENTED BY: L. FERRO-FAMIL

3-D CHARACTERIZATION AND TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF VEGETATED AREAS USING TIME-SERIES OF POLARIMETRIC SAR DATA AND TOMOGRAPHIC PROCESSING

WP 1: 3-D characterization of forested and vegetated areas using low-frequency PolSAR/ PolInSAR/ PolTomoSAR data

- WP 1-1: 3-D characterization of forested areas using low-frequency SAR tomography technology
- WP 1-2: Synergies of low-frequency (L-, P- band) and high-frequency (X-, C- band) SAR data for characterization of forested and vegetated areas
- WP 1-3: Requirement analysis and feasibility demonstration for China's P-band SAR satellite
- WP 1-4: Simulation of spaceborne data sets and adaption of the developed techniques to the corresponding specific configurations

3-D CHARACTERIZATION AND TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF VEGETATED AREAS USING TIME-SERIES OF POLARIMETRIC SAR DATA AND TOMOGRAPHIC PROCESSING

WP 2: Innovative 3-D imaging modes and techniques

- WP 2-1: Tandem-like PolTomSAR (at L- (Tandem-L) or C-(S1-CS) bands) for forest and agricultural volume imaging
- WP 2-2: Bistatic tomography (Companion Satellite) for improved SNR and vertical imaging potential
- WP 2-3: Wavelet-Based CS imaging and other innovative techniques for vegetated area characterization

3-D CHARACTERIZATION AND TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF VEGETATED AREAS USING TIME-SERIES OF POLARIMETRIC SAR DATA AND TOMOGRAPHIC PROCESSING

WP 3: Temporal monitoring of forested and vegetated areas using time-series of acquisitions

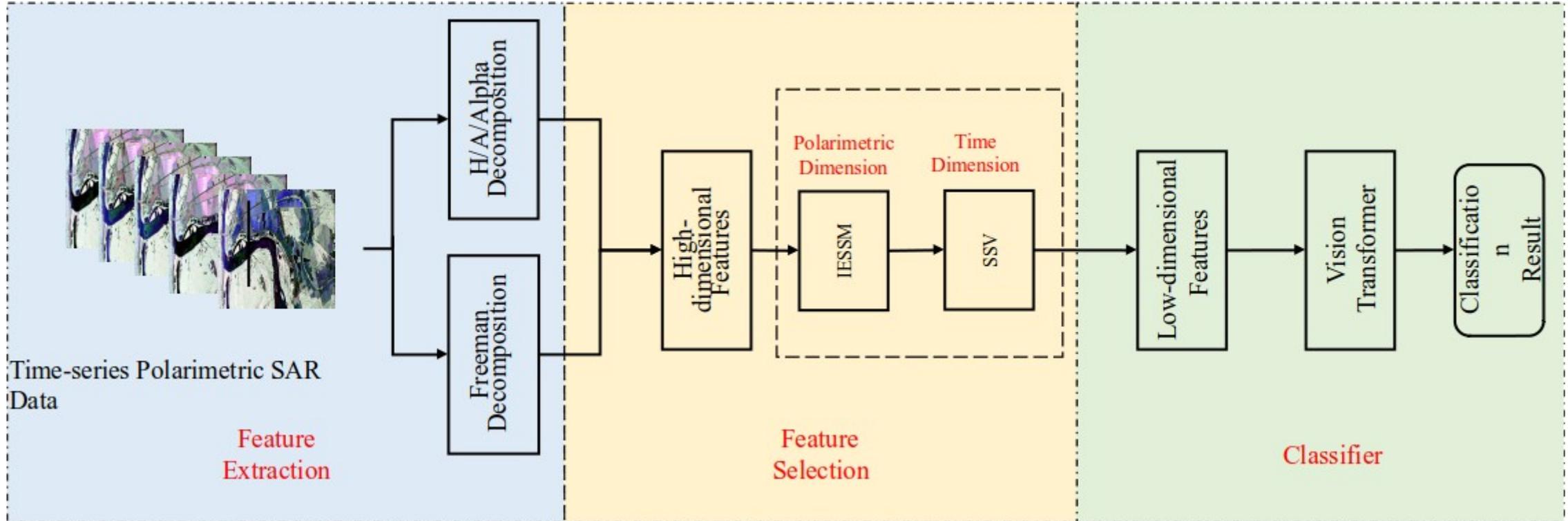
- WP 3-1: Forest and grassland disaster monitoring from multi-temporal PolSAR and PolinSAR features/descriptors using high-level detection and classification techniques (Airborne sensors, ALOS)
- WP 3-2: Woody Savannah AGB estimation (Tropics), mapping (S America+ Africa+ Australia) and deforestation rate (Cambodia) using ALOS time -seris
- WP 3-3: Nearly real-time deforestation mapping (Tropics and S. America), temperate (France) forest parameter mapping using S1 time series

WP 4: PolSARpro Software continued development.



Method

Overall network structure



Polarization decomposition of the pre-processed time-series polarimetric SAR image

For the decomposed high-dimensional features, feature selection is performed from polarization and time dimensions.

Verification of feature selection results by Vision Transformer

Experiment and conclusions

Data

This paper uses the data of UAVSAR for experiments. It includes 5 Fully-PolSAR images from July 1, 2019 to September 23, 2019. It contains 16 categories, and the labeling area has a total of 9047044 pixels.

2019-07-01



2019-07-16



2019-07-25



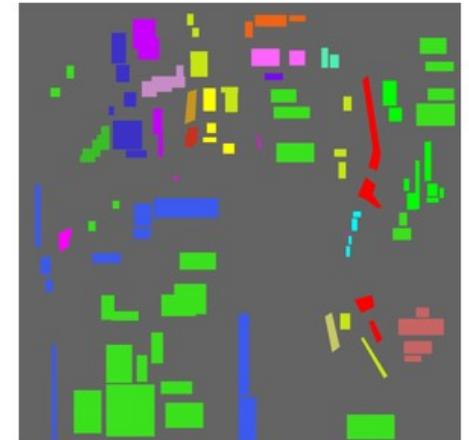
2019-08-12



2019-09-23



Ground Truth





Experiment and conclusions

Young Scientist Poster id: 135

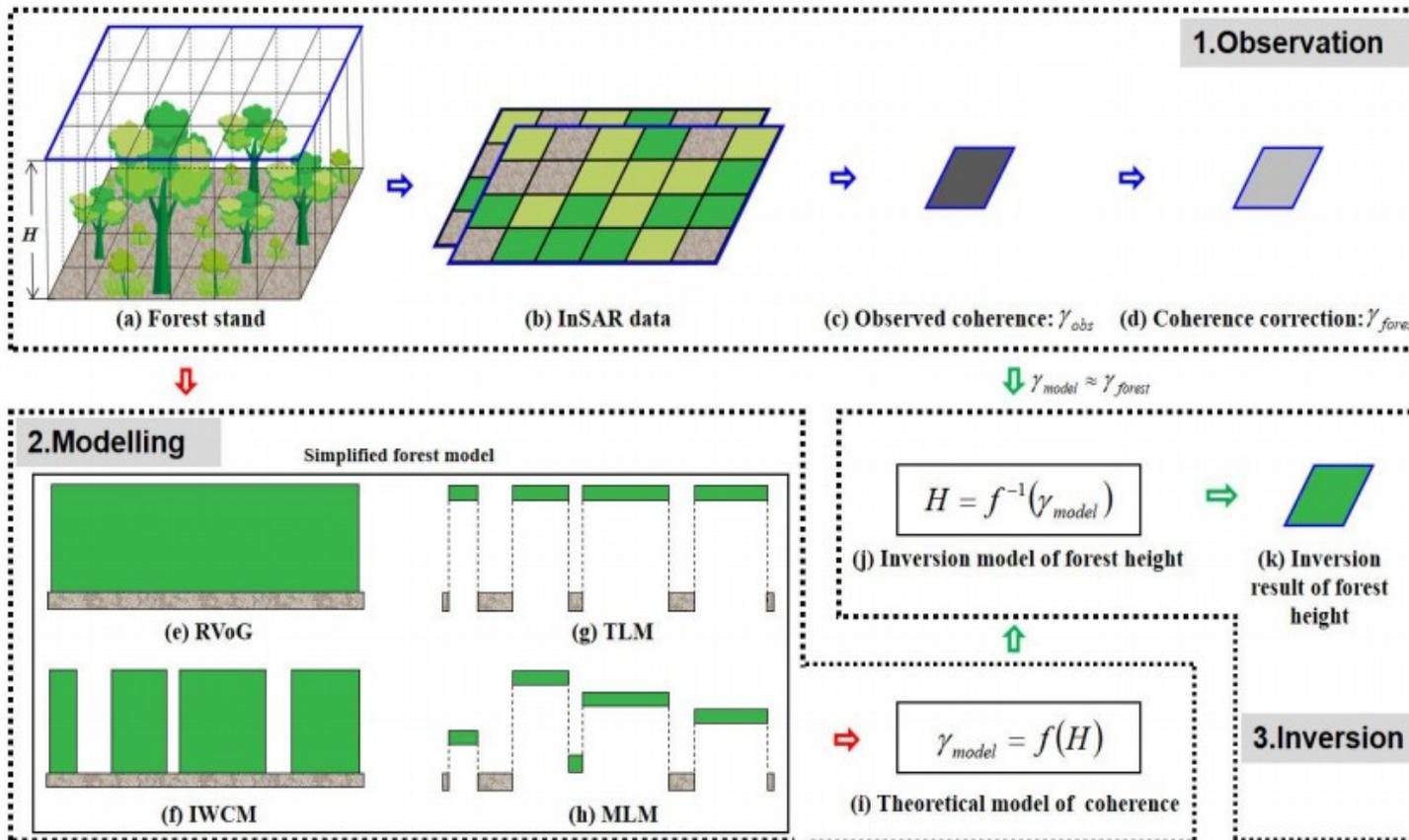
Features	IESSM	SSV	IESSM+SSV
Alpha	0.8995	0.2661	1.1656
Anisotropy	0.9171	0.5520	1.4691
Beta	0.9077	0.4850	1.3927
(1-H)(1-A)	0.8563	0.3491	1.2054
(1-H)A	0.7893	0.4473	1.2312
H(1-A)	0.8961	0.4971	1.3932
HA	0.9223	0.4925	1.4148
Delta	0.9137	0.5090	1.4227
Entropy	0.8532	0.3510	1.2042
Gamma	0.9176	0.7269	1.6445
Lambda	0.9084	0.2603	1.1687
Freeman_Dbl	0.8730	0.3831	1.2561
Freeman_Odd	0.8642	0.5951	1.4593
Freeman_Vol	0.8922	0.2275	1.1197

Method	Accuracy
ResNet-14+all 14 features	86.68%
Vision Transformer +all 14 features	88.02%
ResNet-14+9 features	85.99%
Vision Transformer +9 features	87.38%

We selected nine outstanding features based on the proposed feature selection method and conducted related experiments on ResNet with Vision Transformer, and the results proved the effectiveness of Vision Transformer. Our selected features also achieve essentially equal accuracy compared to all features.

*Zhiyuan Lin, Jiabin Cui, Qiang Yin et.al. Time-series PolSAR crop Classification based on joint feature extraction (IGARSS2022(EI), Oral)

Coherence estimation from InSAR data should be consistent with the model



(1) Coherence calculation

(2) InSAR coherence model

(1) Coherence calculation method from InSAR data

Coherence	Calculation equations
$\gamma_{def.int}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_{1,i} a_{2,i}} \cdot e^{j\Phi_i} \right / \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N a_{1,i} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N a_{2,i}}$
$\gamma_{def.flr}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_{1,i} a_{2,i}} \cdot e^{j\Phi_i} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{flr,i}} \right / \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N a_{1,i} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N a_{2,i}}$
$\gamma_{def.top}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_{1,i} a_{2,i}} \cdot e^{j\Phi_i} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{flr,i}} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{top,i}} \right / \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N a_{1,i} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N a_{2,i}}$
$\gamma_{pha.int}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N e^{j\Phi_i} \right $
$\gamma_{pha.flr}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N e^{j\Phi_i} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{flr,i}} \right $
$\gamma_{pha.top}$	$\left \sum_{i=1}^N e^{j\Phi_i} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{flr,i}} \cdot e^{-j\Phi_{top,i}} \right $



Traditional method

The assumption for the coherence modeling is not considered



Proposed method

Phase based



(2) InSAR coherence modeling for forest vegetation

The penetration of short wavelength SAR into forest is mainly gap penetration rather than medium penetration

Coherence estimation with ML method:

$$\gamma_{Obs} = \frac{\left| \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_{1,i} a_{2,i}} \cdot e^{j\phi_i} \right|}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N a_{1,i} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N a_{2,i}}}$$

Assuming :

- ∞ Master and slave *BSC* have no difference
- ∞ InSAR phase after flat and topo removal ;
- ∞ *BSC* don't change in the same height ;

MLM:

$$\gamma_{MLM} = \frac{\left| \int_0^H f(h) \sigma(h) e^{jk_z h} dh \right|}{\int_0^H f(h) \sigma(h) dh}$$

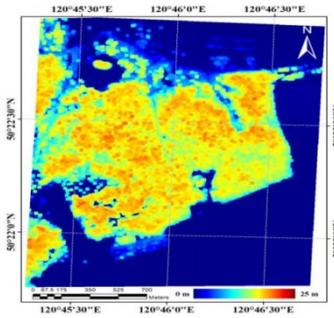
- ∞ *BSC* don't change in vertical direction ;

Simplified MLM:

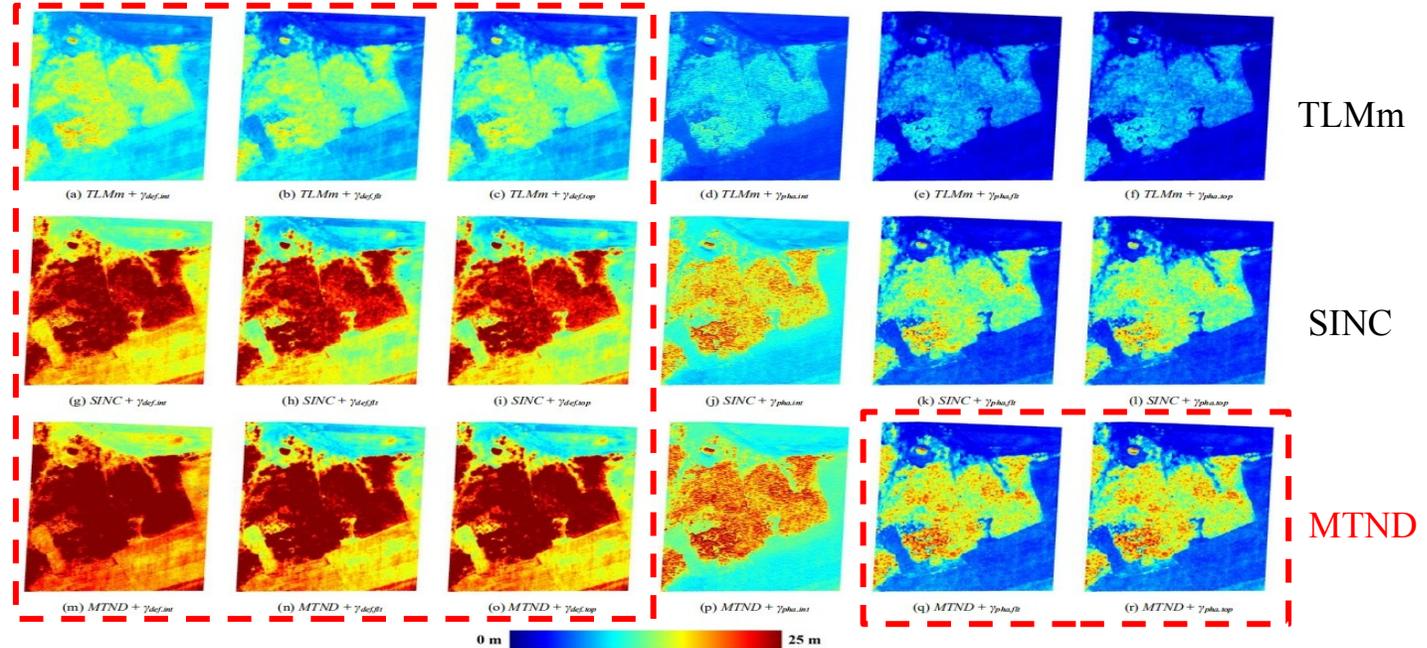
$$\gamma_{Model_MLM} = \left| \int_0^H f(h) e^{jk_z h} dh \right|$$

- Two-Point Distribution → TLMm
- Uniform Distribution → SINC
- Mixed Truncated Normal Distribution → MTND

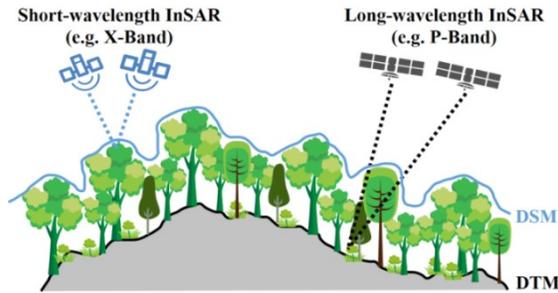
Assuming $f(h)$ is of different distribution.



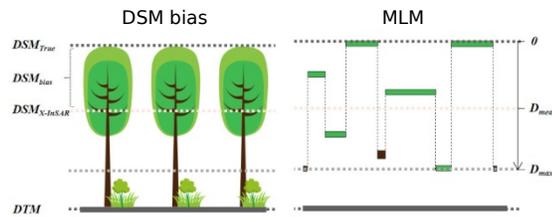
LiDAR H100



TLMm model under estimation forest height , take $\gamma_{pha,fit}/\gamma_{pha,top}$ as inputs MTND model is of highest accuracy

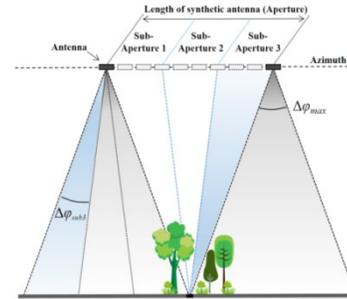


Under-estimate DSM Over-estimate DTM



$$f(x) = \frac{1}{D_{max}}, x \in (0, D_{max})$$

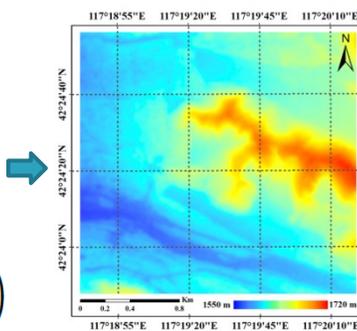
$$DSM_{bias} = D_{max}/2 = \frac{\pi}{|k_z|} \left(1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \sin^{-1} \left[|\gamma|^{0.8} \right] \right)$$



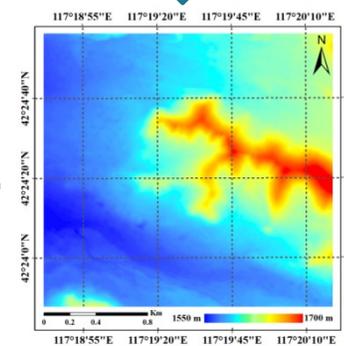
Sub-aperture decomposition to get the true ground surface

(Fu, H. et al, remote Sensing, 2017)

phase

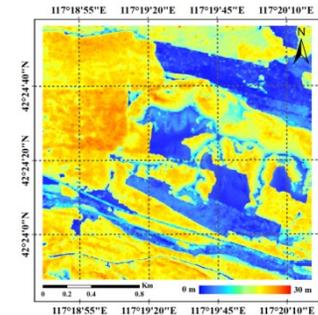


DSM after bias compensation



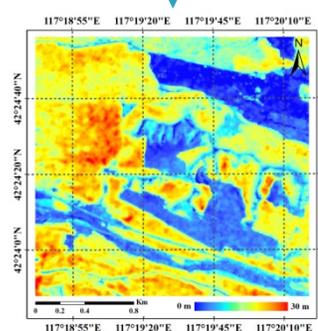
DTM derived from sub-aperture

Acc.=86.6%
RMSE=1.8m



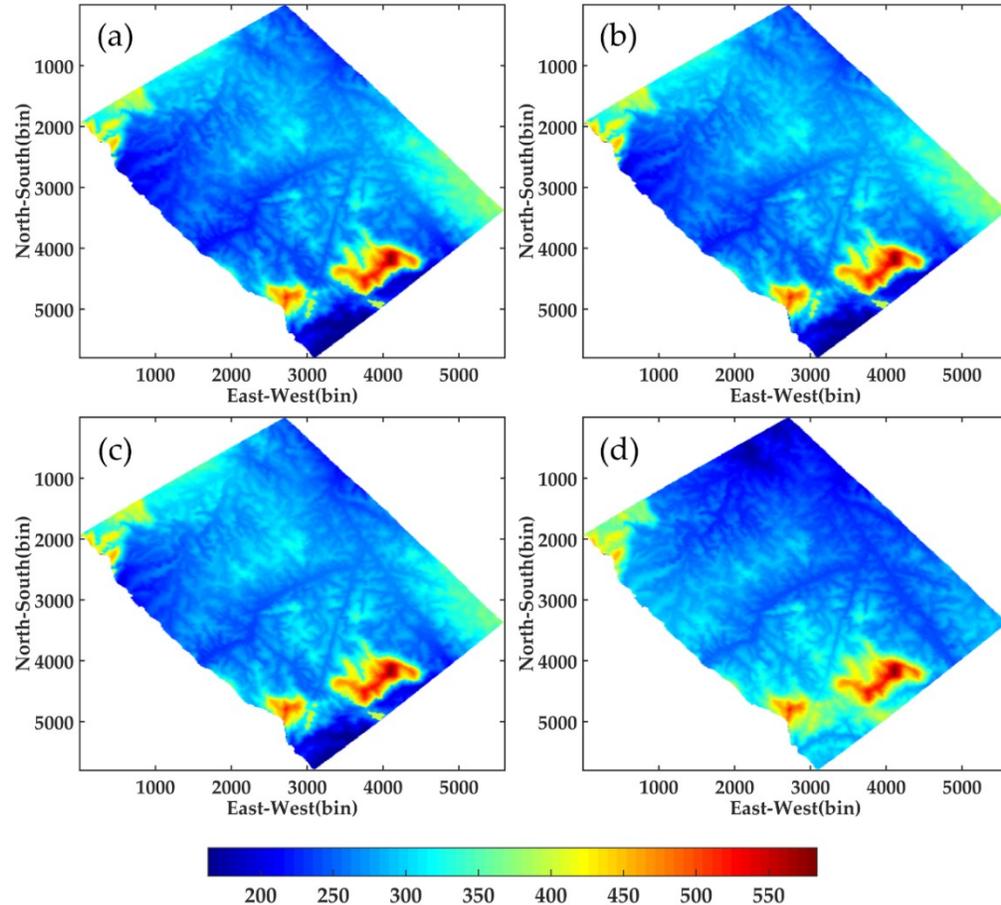
LiDAR H100

validation



Forest height

Dual polarimetric TomoSAR (DP-TomoSAR) is proposed as a suitable candidate to estimate forest underlying topography because of its wide swath and multiple polarimetric observations.



Underlying topography: (a) DP-Beamforming (b) DP-Capon (c) DP-MUSIC and (d) LiDAR

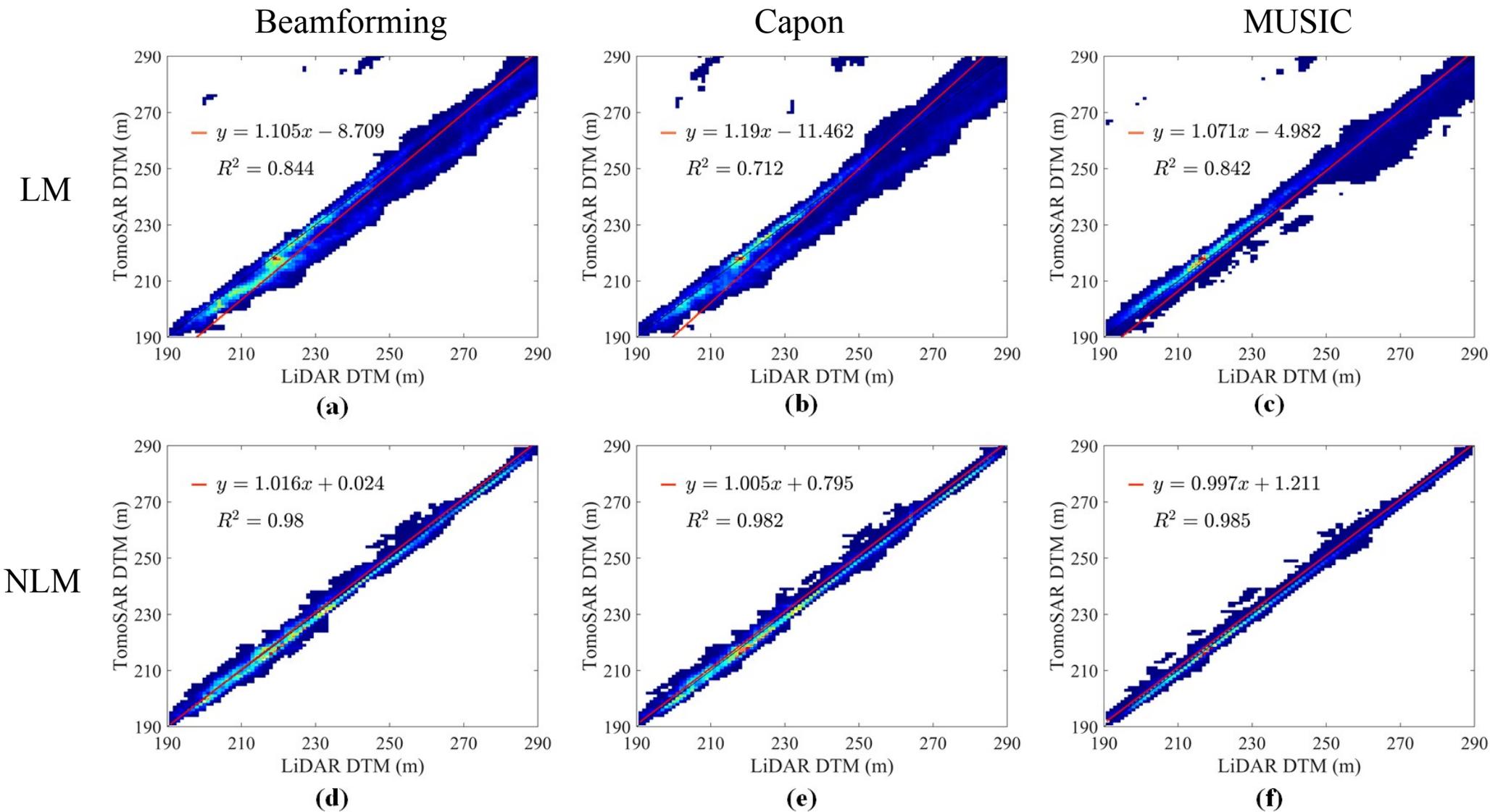
Table 1. RMSE of underlying topography estimated by different algorithms using SP-TomoSAR, DP-TomoSAR and FP-TomoSAR.

Method	Data Type	RMSE (m)
Beamforming	SP	9.24
	DP	8.25
	FP	8.07
Capon	SP	9.20
	DP	8.09
	FP	7.92
MUSIC	SP	9.18
	DP	8.17
	FP	8.01

The underlying topography obtained by different DP-TomoSAR algorithms maintain a high consistency in texture features. The accuracy of the results retrieved by all the three algorithms using DP-TomoSAR and FP-TomoSAR is close, and both of them are superior to those of SP-TomoSAR.

Xing Peng, Youjun Wang, Shilin Long, Xiong Pan, Jianjun Zhu, Xinwu Li. Underlying Topography Inversion Using TomoSAR Based on Non-Local Means for an L-Band Airborne Dataset. Remote Sensing, 2021, 13(15), 2926.

Nonlocal means(NLM) TomoSAR on ESA BioSAR 2008 datasets



TomoSAR reconstruction algorithm based on **CS atomic norm minimization (Tomo-ANM)**. ANM is a continuous compressed sensing technique, and its fast realization, IVDST, is utilized to accelerate the process. SL1MMER is shown as a reference.

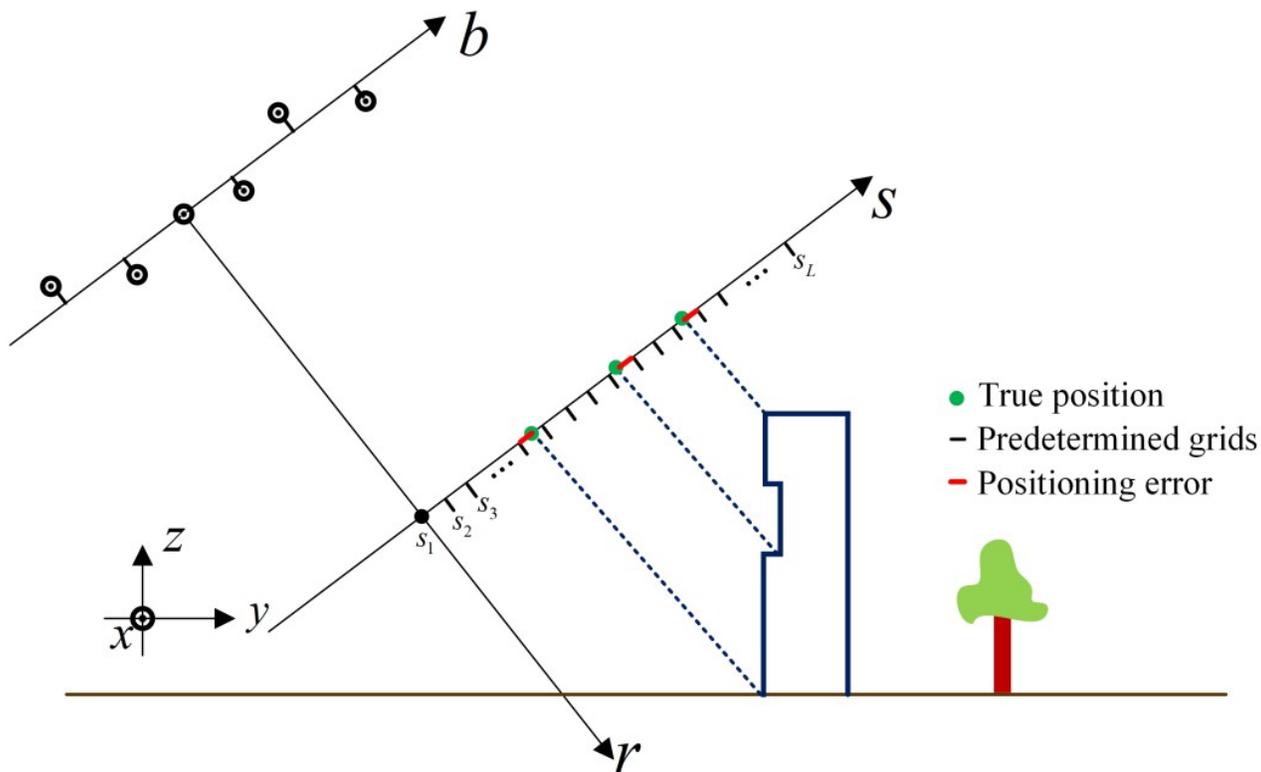
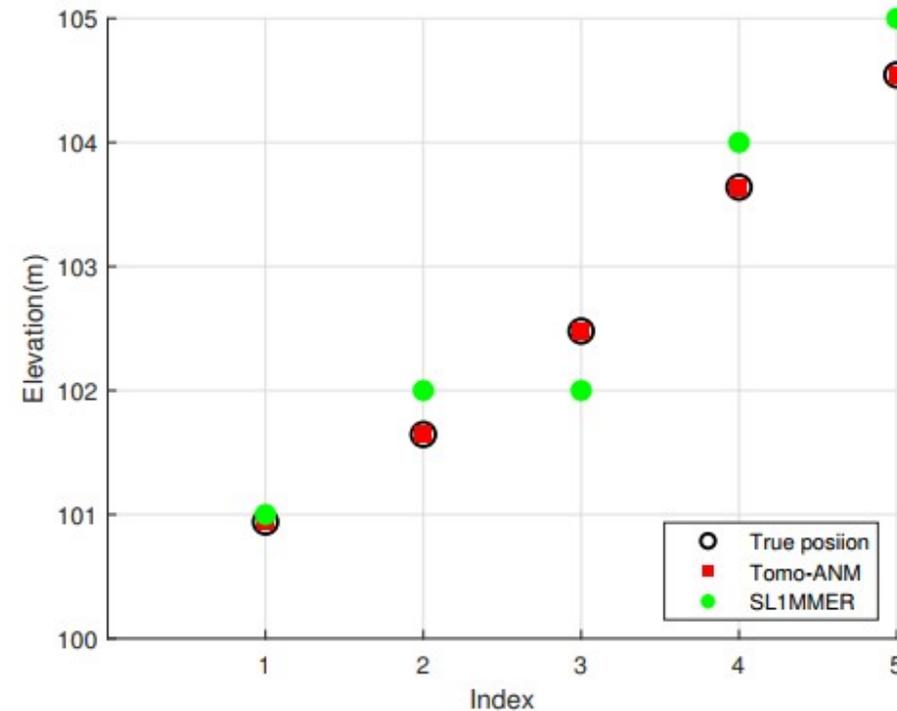
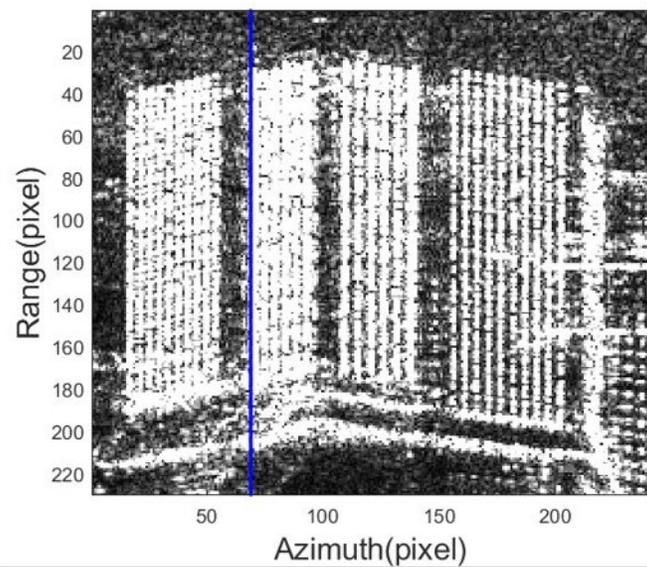


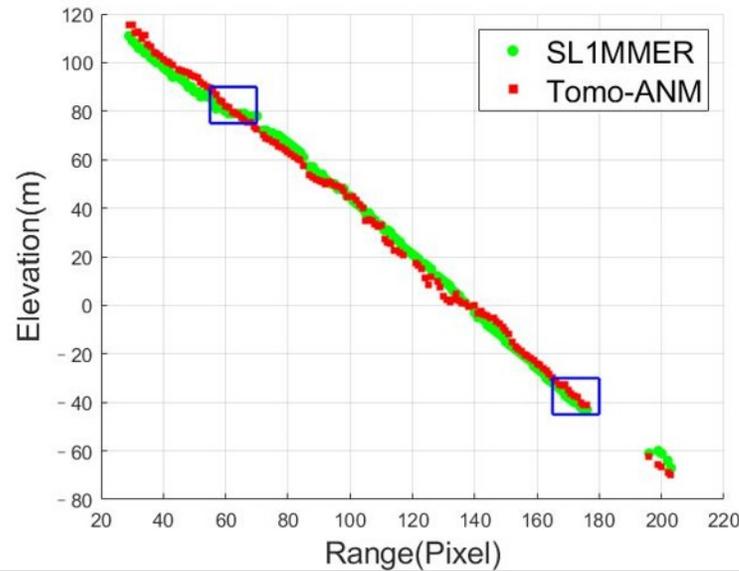
Diagram of the off-grid effect in TomoSAR elevation direction.



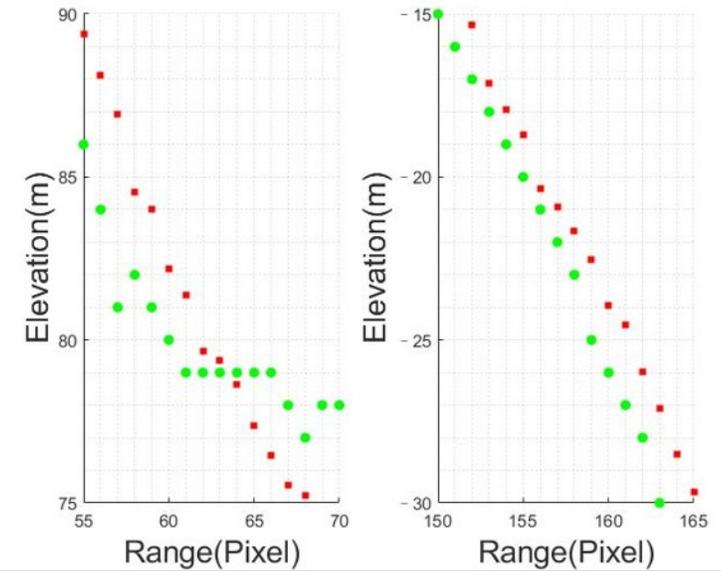
Removal of the off-grid effect by Tomo-ANM.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Real data results: (a) SAR image. Blue line is used to show tomographic profiles. (b) The Tomo-ANM and SL1MMER profiles of line azimuth 69. (c) Partial enlargement of the blue rectangle in (b).

Table 1. Height estimation of different methods. The true height of the building is 99 m.

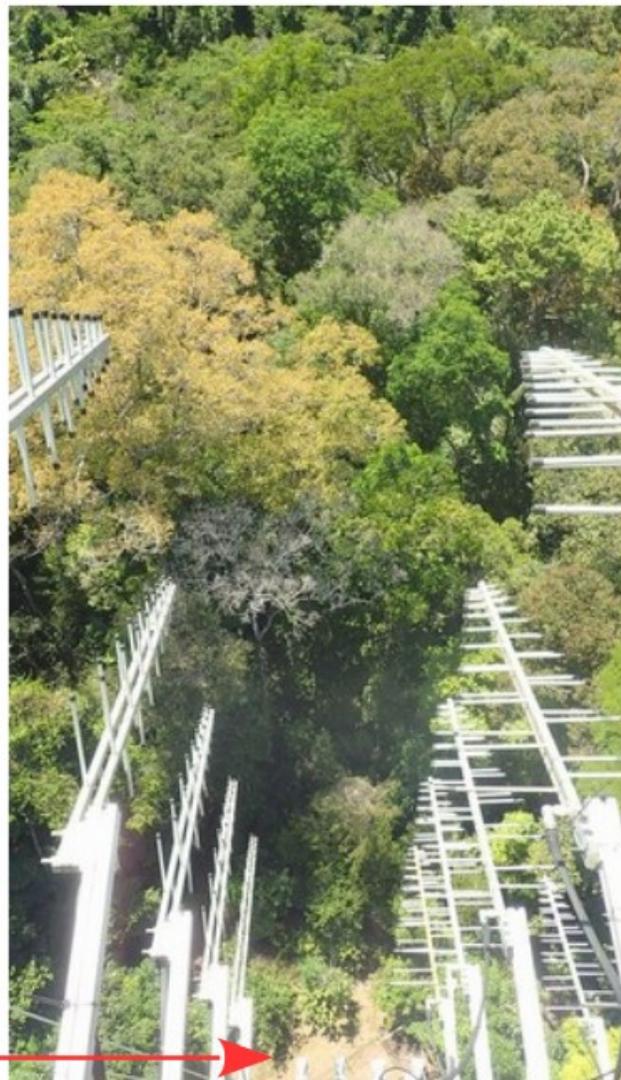
	Building Height(m)	Estimation Error(m)
Tomo-ANM-CVX	96.62	2.40%
Tomo-ANM-IVDST	95.70	3.33%
SL1MMER	91.84	7.23%

We used eight stacks TerraSAR staring spotlight data to conduct real data experiments. The results showed that, compared with the on-grid algorithm, Tomo-ANM can eliminate the off-grid effect, so as to better position scatterers and obtain more accurate building height estimation results.

Côté Ouest
de la tour

Réseau des
20 antennes
bandes P+L

6 antennes
bande C

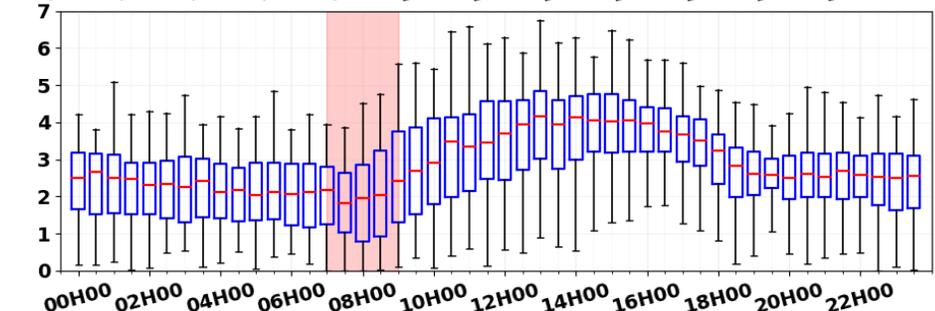
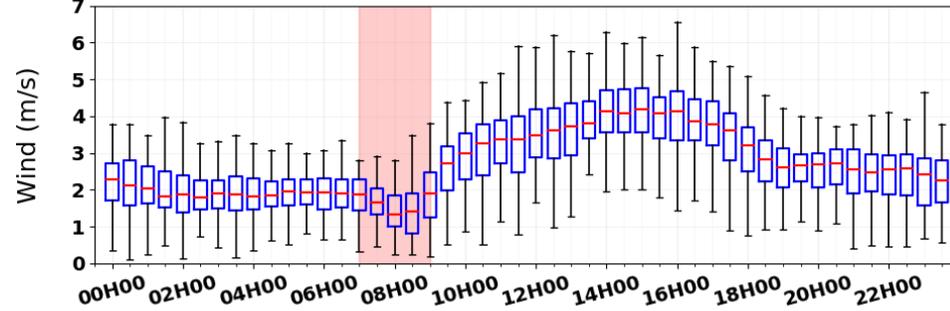
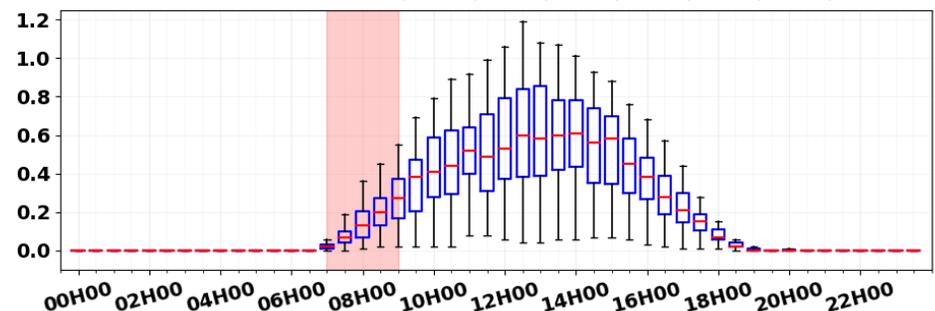
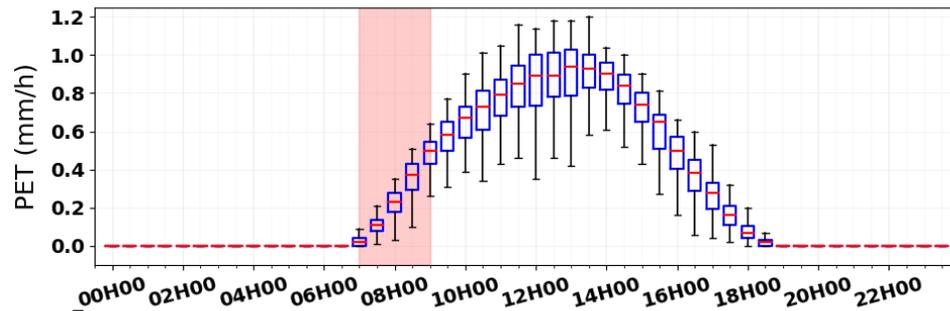
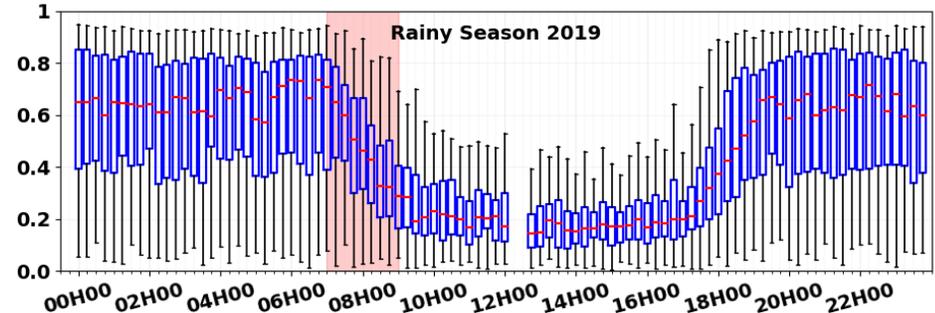
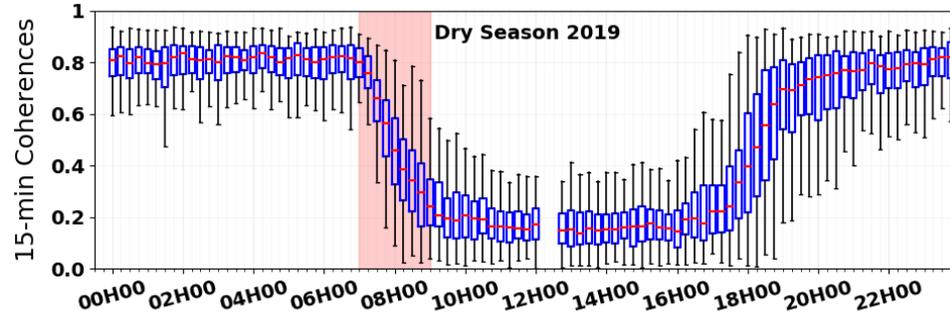


Côté Nord-Est
de la tour

2 antennes
large bande
(6-18GHz)

6 antennes
bande C

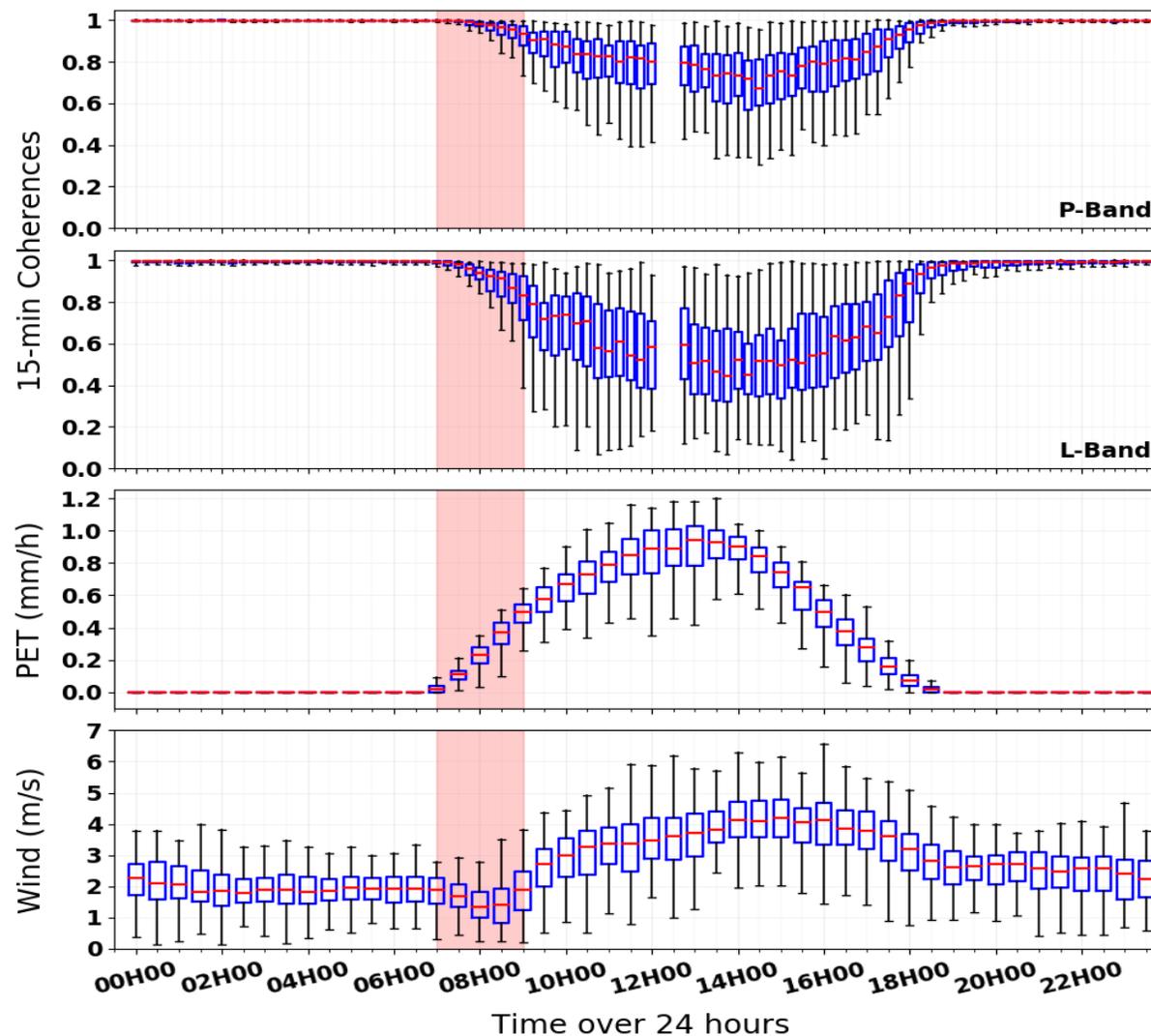




Time over 24 hours

Time over 24 hours

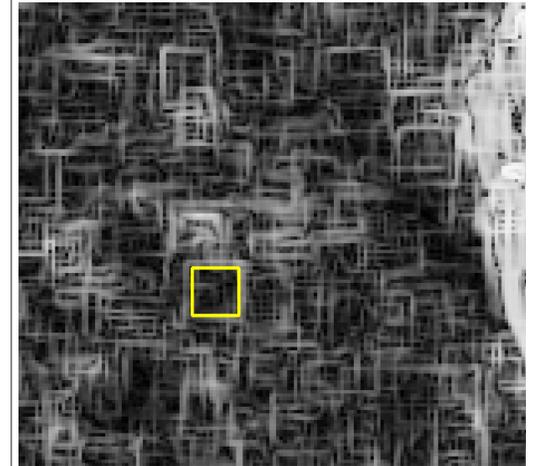
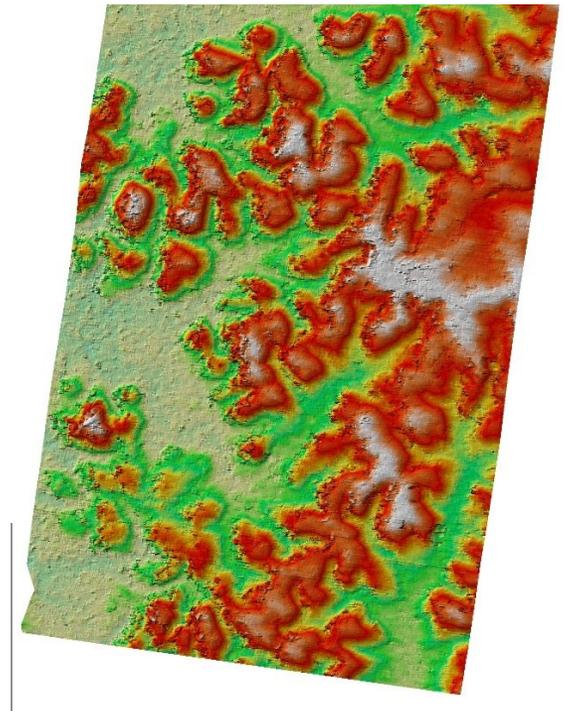
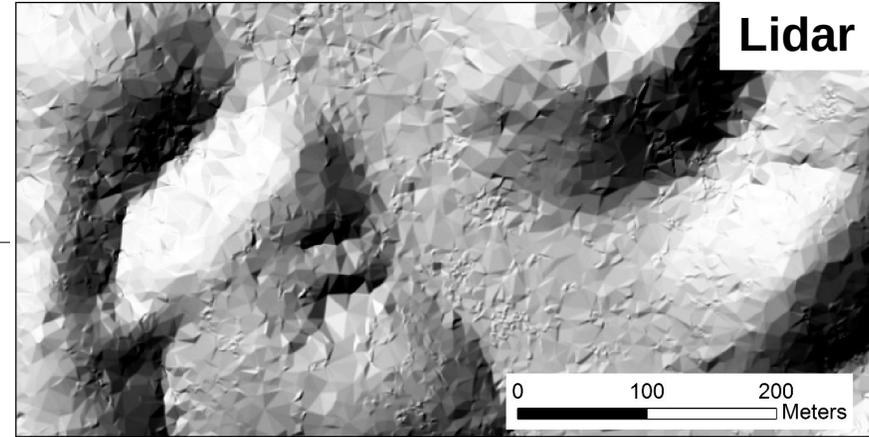
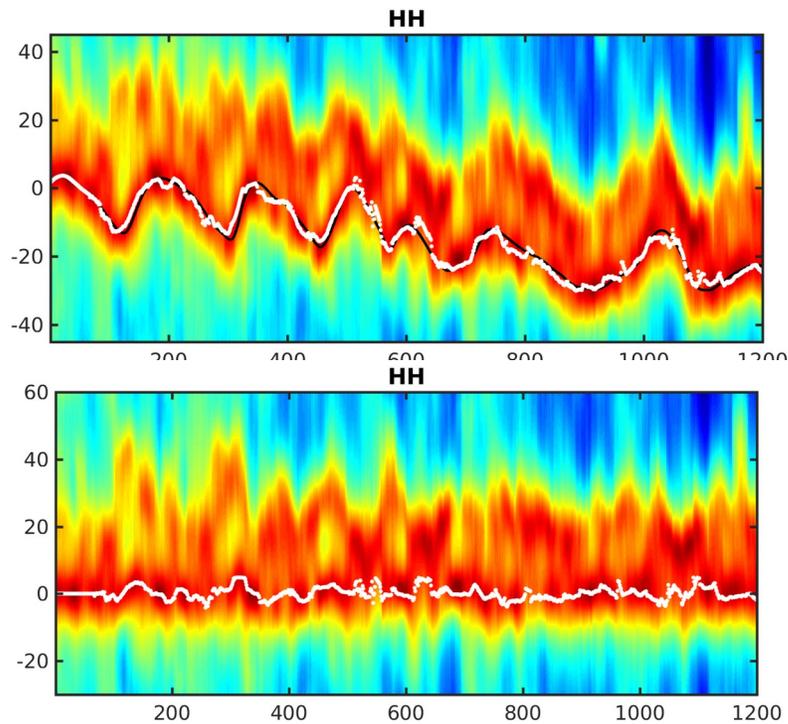
C-band 15mn-decorrelation patterns can be explained by evapotranspiration, not wind speed



Evapotranspiration plays a key role at L and P bands too

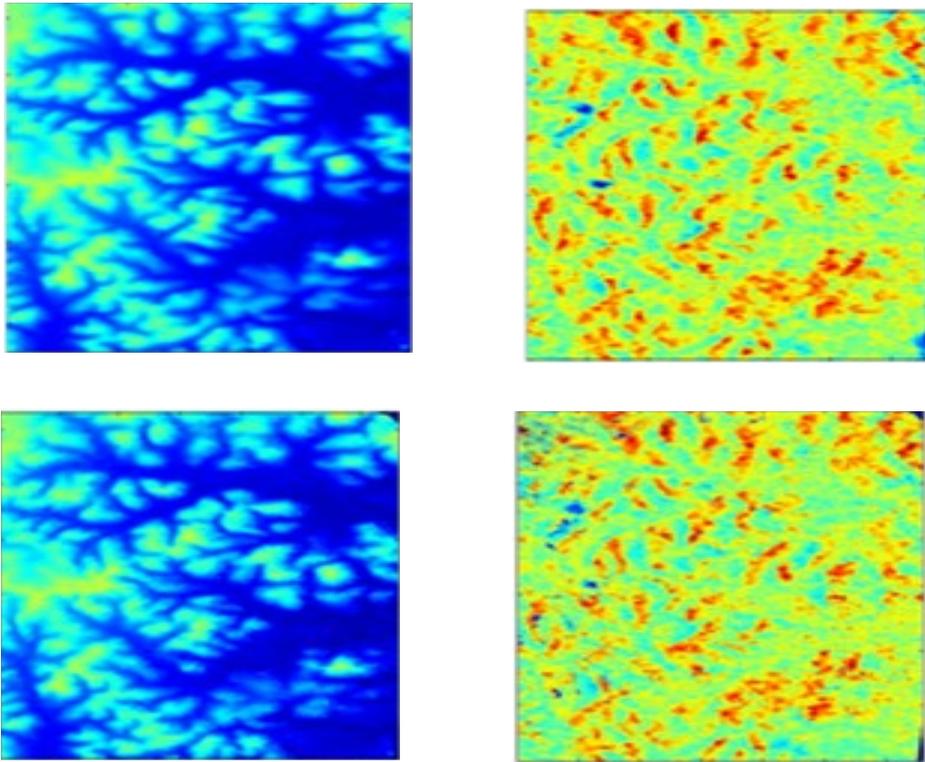
Ground and tree height estimation

- geophysical relevance
- comparizon/complementarity with other EO missions

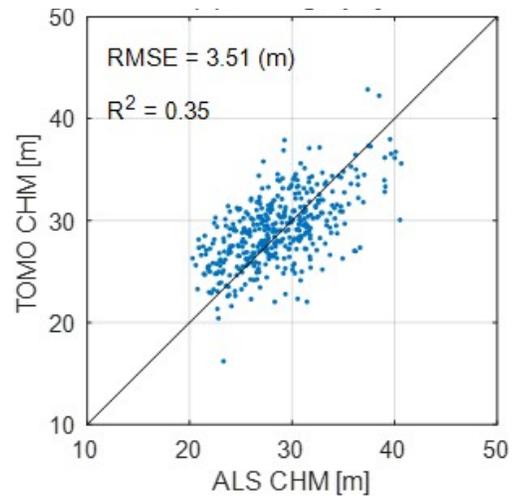
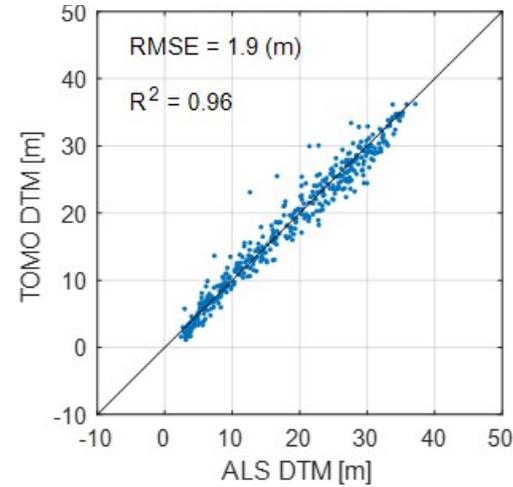


Ground and tree height estimation

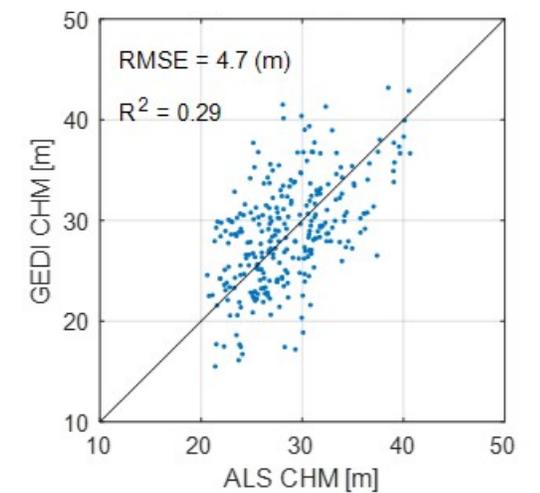
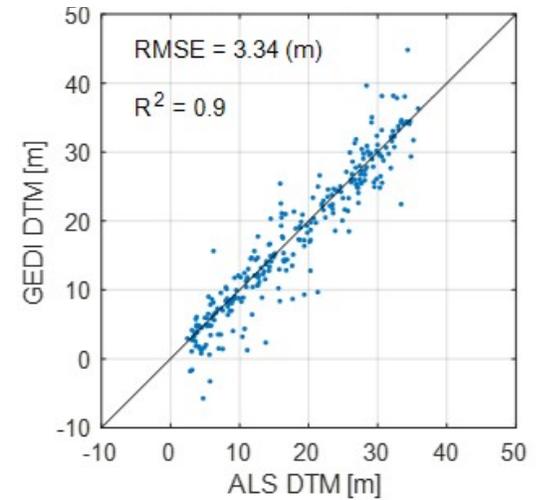
- geophysical relevance
- comparizon/complementarity with other EO missions



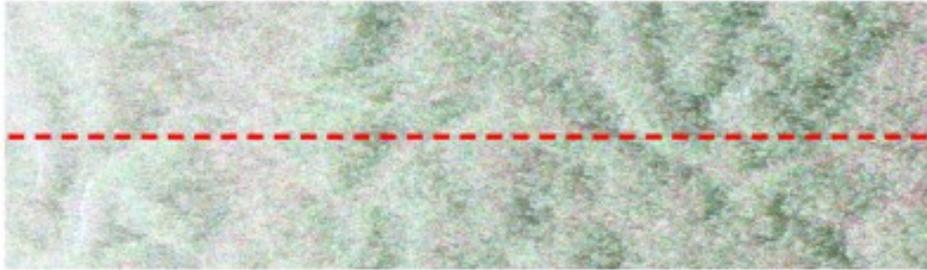
P-band TomoSAR



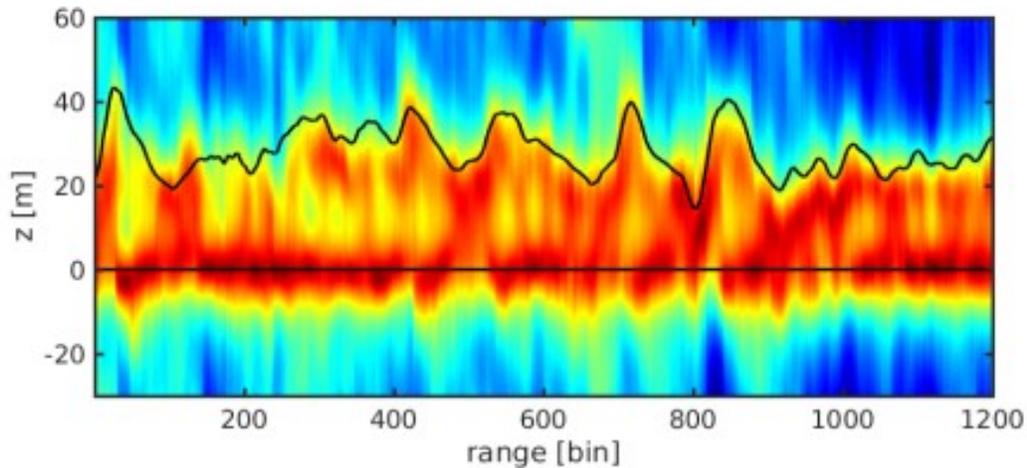
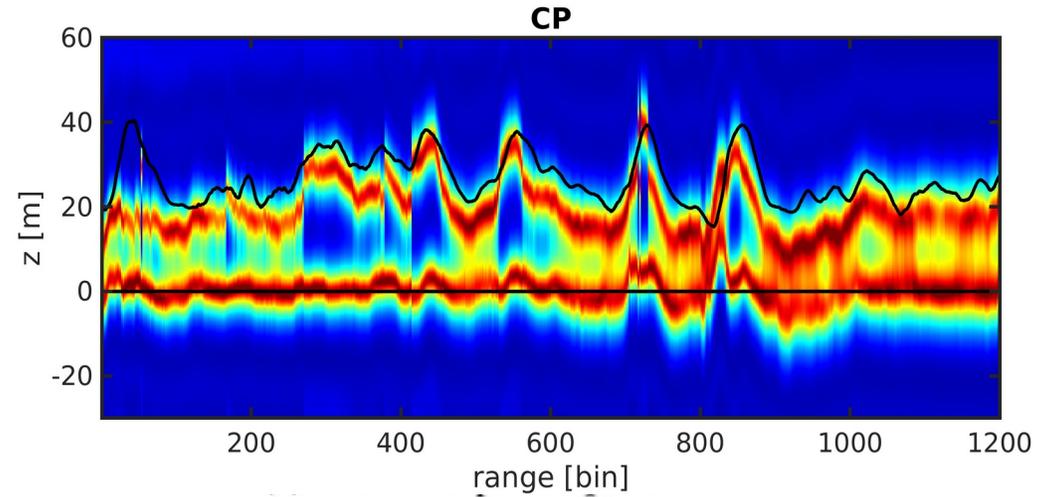
GEDI



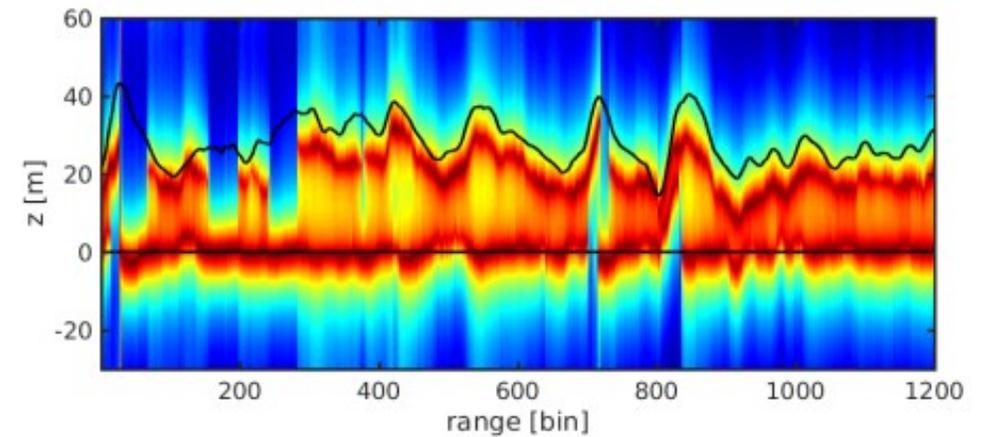
Adaptive HR retrieval of a tropical forest structure at P band



(a) Test line



(b) Capon tomogram using $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$

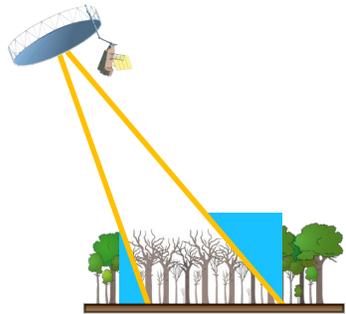
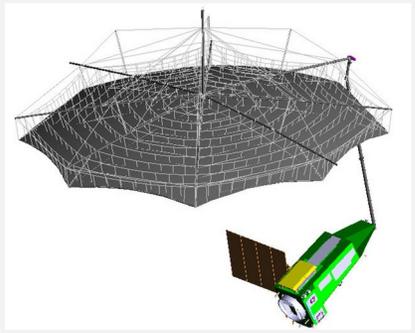


(d) Capon tomogram using $\mathbf{R}(\hat{\alpha})$

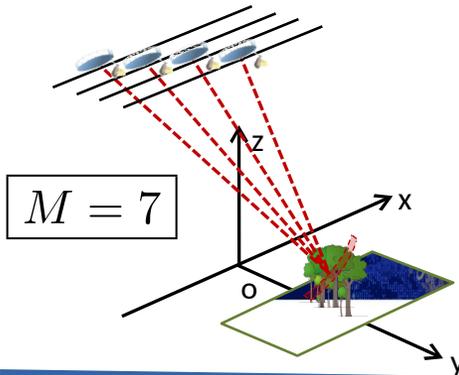
BIOMASS mission sequence of operating modes

Tomographic Phase:
7 x 3-day repeat
15 months for global coverage

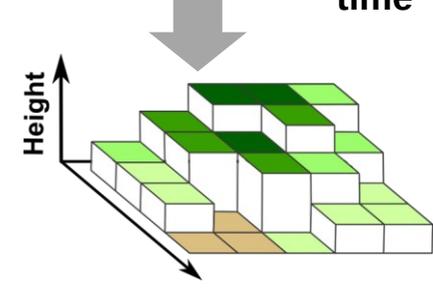
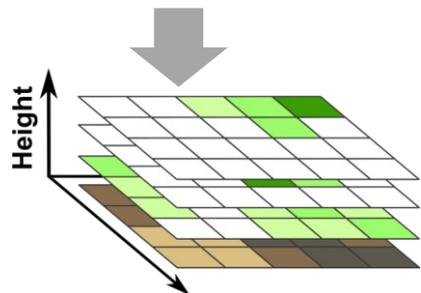
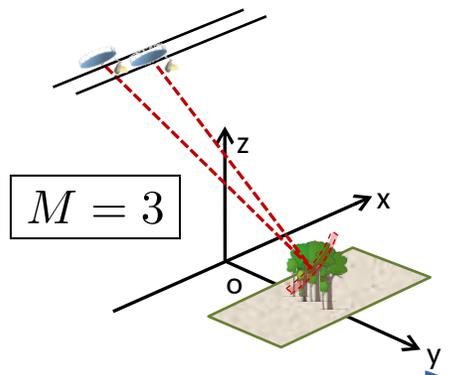
Interferometric Phase:
3 x 3-day repeat; 7 months for global coverage
≈ 4 years time series



PolTomoSAR

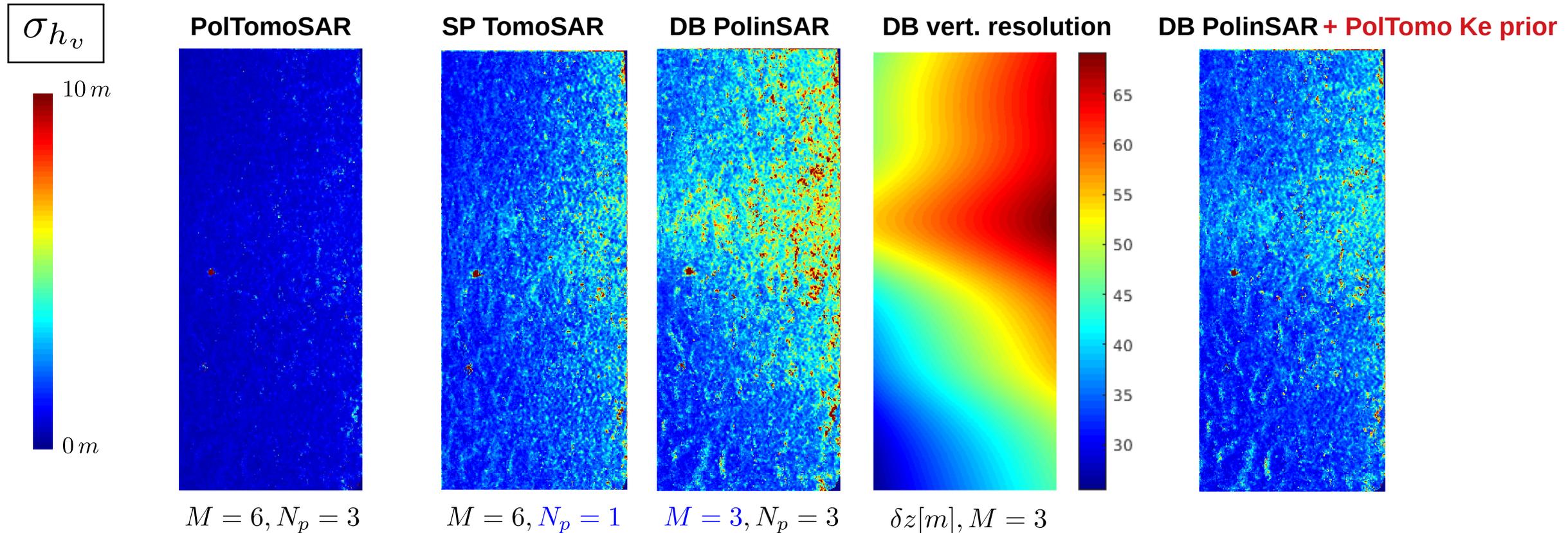


DB-Pol-InSAR



- Synergistic use of priors
- Performance quantification

Standard deviation of tree height estimates



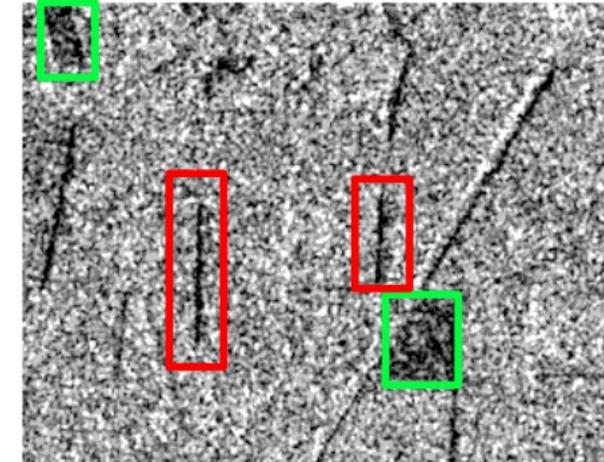
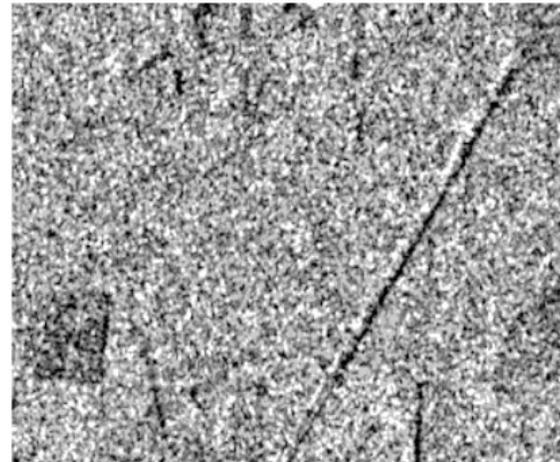
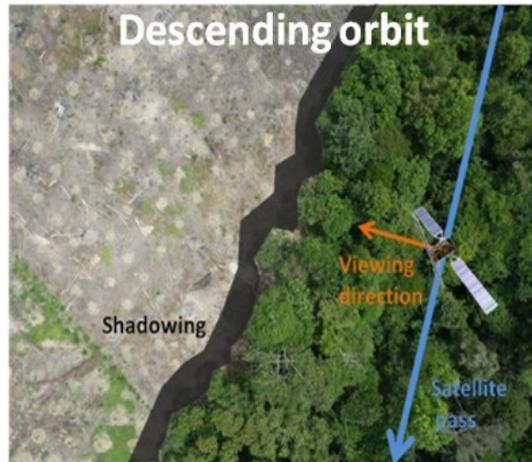
- Absolute variability values depend on processing configuration
- Sensitivity to vertical resolution
- Auxiliary information (priors) → overcome resolution related issues



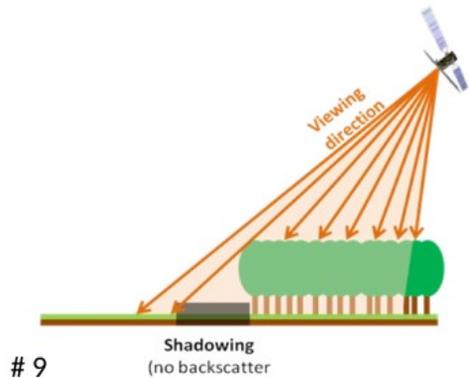
- 12 days (6 in Europe) time-series → NRT capabilities
- C-band: forest loss detection affected by
 - changing environmental factors (soil moisture...)
 - residual (or regrowing) vegetation

10 May 2015

1 October 2016



Recent logging
Older logging shadow edge



**10 m resolution,
>90% accuracy (Peru, Gabon, French Guiana, Brasil and Vietnam)**

Article
Use of the SAR Shadowing Effect for Deforestation Detection with Sentinel-1 Time Series
 Alexandre Bouvet ^{1,*}, Stéphane Mermoz ¹, Marie Ballère ¹, Thierry Koleck ^{1,2} and
 Thomas Le Toan ¹

<https://www.spaceclimateobservatory.org/tropisco-amazonia>



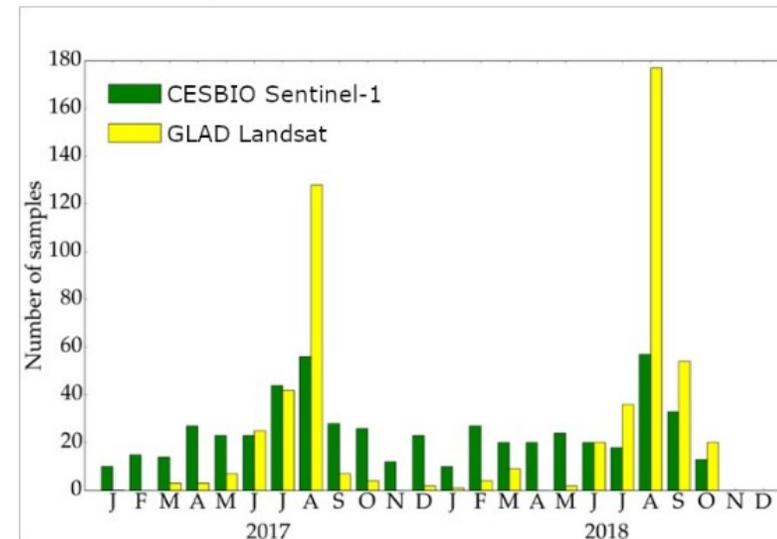
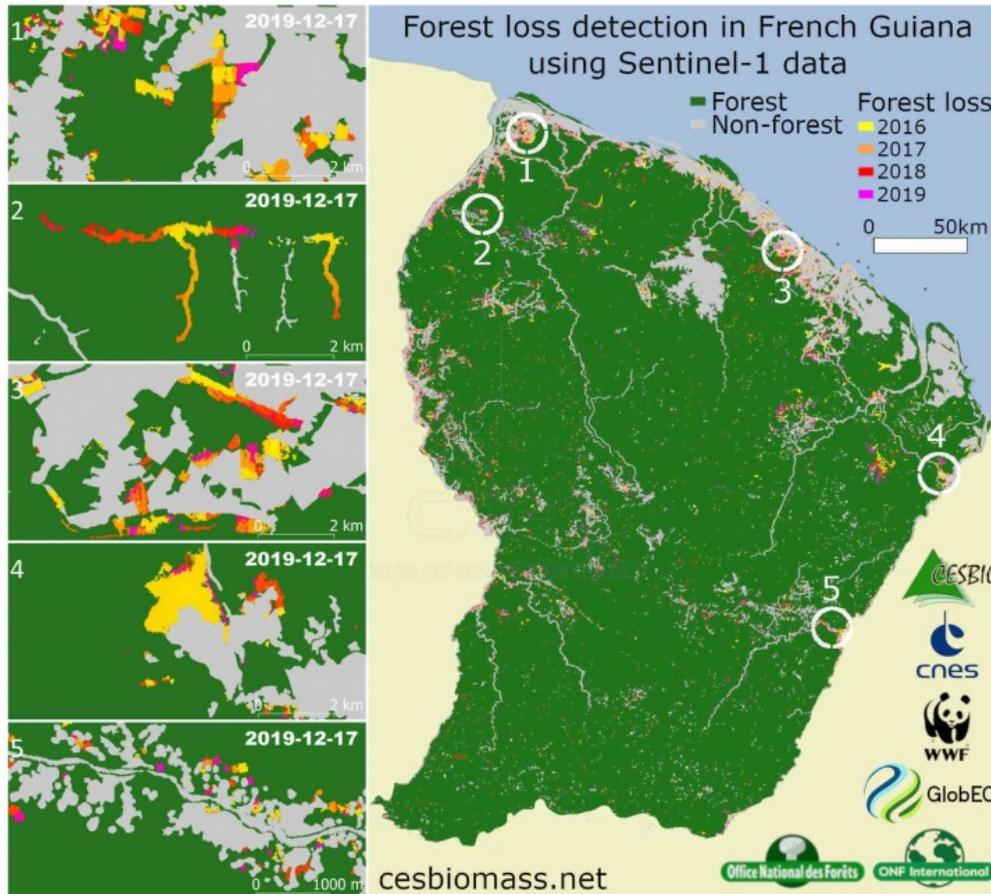
Remote Sensing of Environment
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SAR data for tropical forest disturbance alerts in French Guiana: Benefit over optical imagery

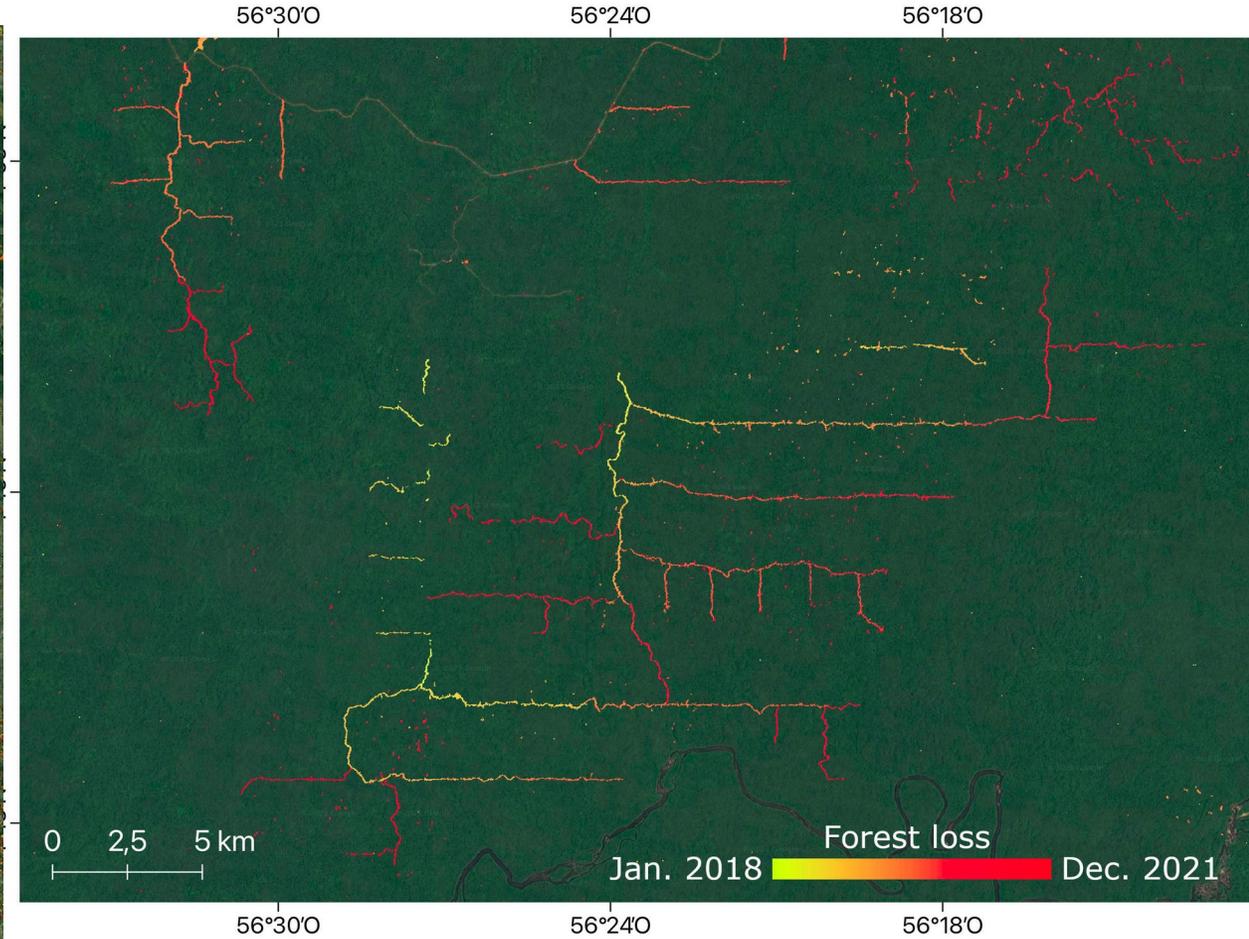
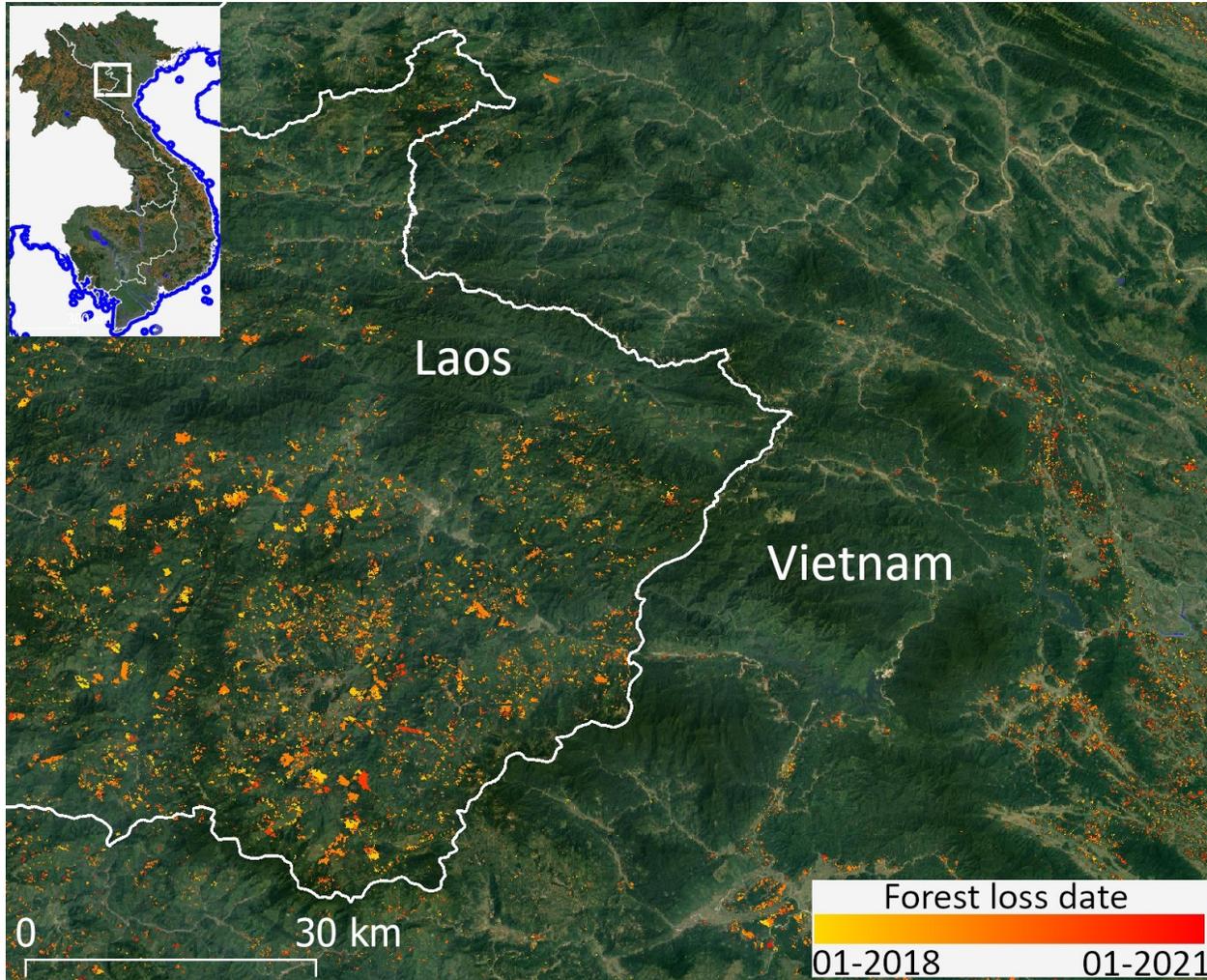
Marie Ballère ^{a, b, c, d, e}, Alexandre Bouvet ^d, Stéphane Mermoz ^{d, e}, Thuy Le Toan ^d, Thierry Koleck ^a, Caroline Bedeau ^f, Mathilde André ^f, Elodie Forestier ^f, Pierre-Louis Frison ^e, Cédric Lardeux ^g

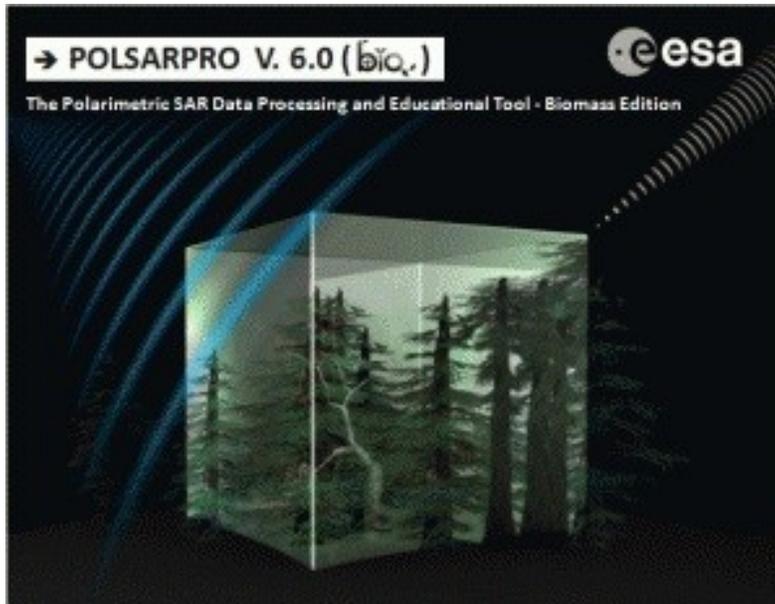
Drivers: gold mining, smallholder agriculture and forest exploitation



Validated using 1 867 in situ plots covering 2 124.5 ha: UA of 96.2% and PA of 81.5%

<https://www.spaceclimateobservatory.org/tropisco-amazonia>





U. Rennes 1, IETR, E. Pottier



- **ESA PolinSAR & BIOMASS workshop**

Toulouse, France, 19-23 june 2023

- **ESA SAR polarimetry training**

Toulouse, France, 12-16 june 2023

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- Qiang Yin; Jie Xu; Deliang Xiang*; et al. Polarimetric Decomposition With an Urban Area Descriptor for Compact Polarimetric SAR Data. *IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing*, 2021, 14: 10033-10044.
- Qiang Yin; Junlang Li; Fei Ma*; et al. Dual-Channel Convolutional Neural Network for Bare Surface Soil Moisture Inversion Based on Polarimetric Scattering Models. *Remote Sensing*, 2021, 13(22): 4503.
- Ying Luo ; Qiang Yin* ; Fei Ma ; A Discrimination Method of Water and Shadow Areas Based on Polarization Entropy of Sentinel-1 Data , *IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS)*, 2022.07.17-22.
- Shasa Deng; QiangYin*; Fan Zhang; Xinzhe Yuan; A Ship Ghost Interference Removal Method Based on GaoFen-3 Polarimetric SAR Data, *IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS)*, 2022.07.17-22.
- Zhiyuan Lin; Qiang Yin* ; Yongsheng Zhou ; Jun Ni ; Fei Ma; Time-series PolSAR Crop Classification Based on Joint Feature Extraction, *IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS)*, 2022.07.17-22.
- Zhao Lei, Chen Erxue, Li Zengyuan, et al. A New Approach for Forest Height Inversion Using X-Band Single-Pass InSAR Coherence Data. *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 2022, 60: 5206018. DOI:10.1109/TGRS.2021.3072125
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- **Marie Ballère, Alexandre Bouvet, Stéphane Mermoz, Thuy Le Toan, Thierry Koleck, Caroline Bedeau, Mathilde André, Elodie Forestier, Pierre-Louis Frison, Cédric Lardeux, SAR data for tropical forest disturbance alerts in French Guiana: Benefit over optical imagery, Remote Sensing of Environment, Volume 252, 2021,**
- **Papathanassiou, K.P. et al. (2021). Forest Applications. In: Hajnsek, I., Desnos, YL. (eds) Polarimetric Synthetic Aperture Radar. Remote Sensing and Digital Image Processing, vol 25. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-56504-6_2**



Data access (list all missions and issues if any). NB. in the tables please insert cumulative figures (since July 2020) for no. of scenes of high bit rate data (e.g. S1 100 scenes). If data delivery is low bit rate by ftp, insert “ftp”

ESA Third Party Missions	No. Scenes
1. Sentinel 1	100s
2. GEDI	10s
3. ESA Airborne campaigns	10s
4. UAV SAR	10s
5.	
6.	
Total:	100 s

Issues:

Chinese EO data	Study Area	No. Scenes
1. CASMSAR	Genhe, Inner Mongolia, China	200+
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
Total:		200+

Issues:



Name	Institution	Poster title	Contribution
P.-A. BOU	CESBIO & ONERA	3-D SAR imaging of forests from space at higher frequency bands using incoherent bistatic tomography Concepts and validation using the TomoSense campaign	Tomography at higher higher frequencies from space
Y. XI	CSU (China) & CESBIO		BIOMASS DB PolinSAR (Chinese-French co-supervision) (arrived in Feb. 2022)
M. BOTTANI	ISAE-SUPAERO & CESBIO		Deforestation monitoring using S1 & S2. Beginning in Nov. 2022

Name	Institution	Poster title	Contribution
Kunpeng Xu	IFRIT	Research On Forest Height Extraction Method Based On Multi-band InSAR Data	Presented a forest height estimation approach utilizing the penetration difference between P-band and X-band InSAR data.
Yaxiong Fan	IFRIT	Forest Height Estimation Using Time Series Short-baseline Polarimetric SAR Interferometry Data	Investigated the potential of time series short-baseline PolInSAR data for estimating forest height
Zhiyuan Lin	BUCT	A Temporal Polarization SAR Classification Method Based on Polarimetric-Temporal Feature Selection	PolSAR Time series classification