

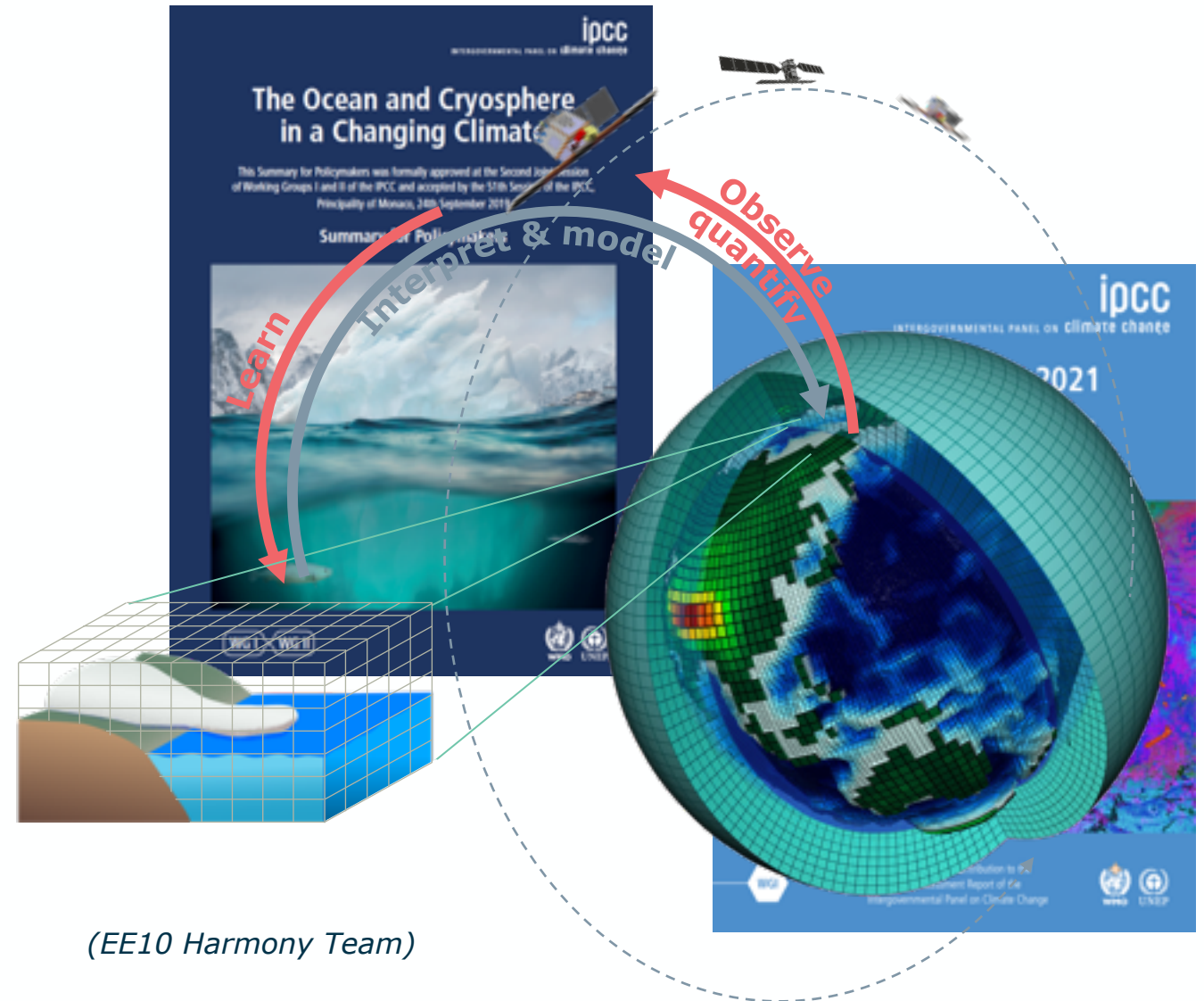
# Future Satellite Missions to Fill Gaps for Downstream Ocean Applications

---

Dr. Craig Donlon  
Hd. Earth Surface and Interior  
ESA/ESTEC, The Netherlands

# Overview

- **The unique nature** of our Earth Observation Evidence Base
- **Exploring the Earth** – the challenge of individual measurements vs the bigger global picture
- **We are ‘in for the long-term’** – Copernicus measurements
- Amazingly - we **can't cover everything today...**



(EE10 Harmony Team)

## TAKING THE PULSE OF THE PLANET

Essential Climate Variables are key indicators that describe Earth's changing climate. Scientists use these variables to study climate drivers, interactions and feedbacks, as well as reservoirs, tipping points and fluxes of energy, water and carbon.

The climate-quality datasets produced by the Climate Change Initiative are a major contribution to the evidence base used to understand climate change.

“ Satellite products provide a valuable complement to in-situ measurements. These observations are valuable (high confidence) for regional applications since they provide multi-channel images at very high spatiotemporal resolutions ”

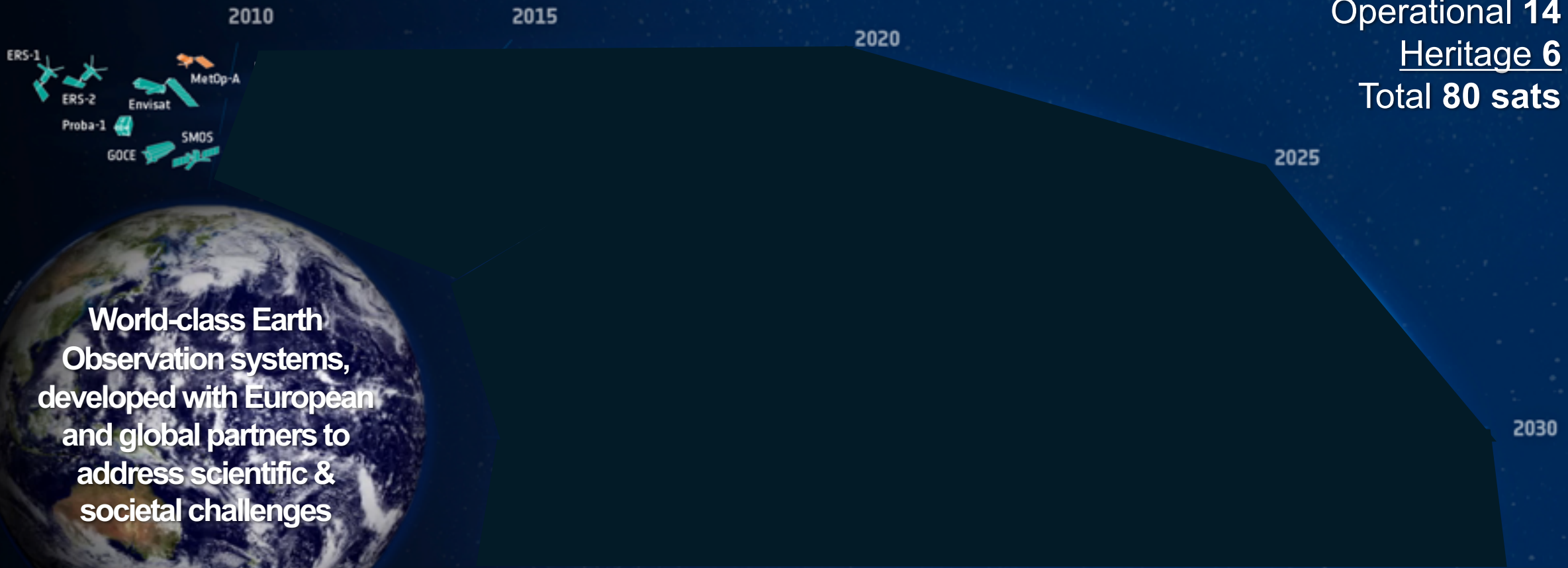
IPCC AR6 2021



# Decadal Evolution in ESA Earth Observation



Preparing 20  
 Developing 40  
 Operational 14  
Heritage 6  
**Total 80 sats**



World-class Earth Observation systems, developed with European and global partners to address scientific & societal challenges

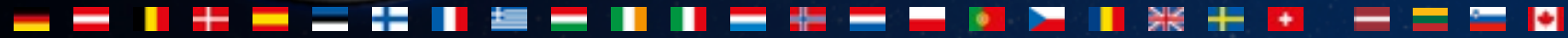
Science

Copernicus

Meteorology

4

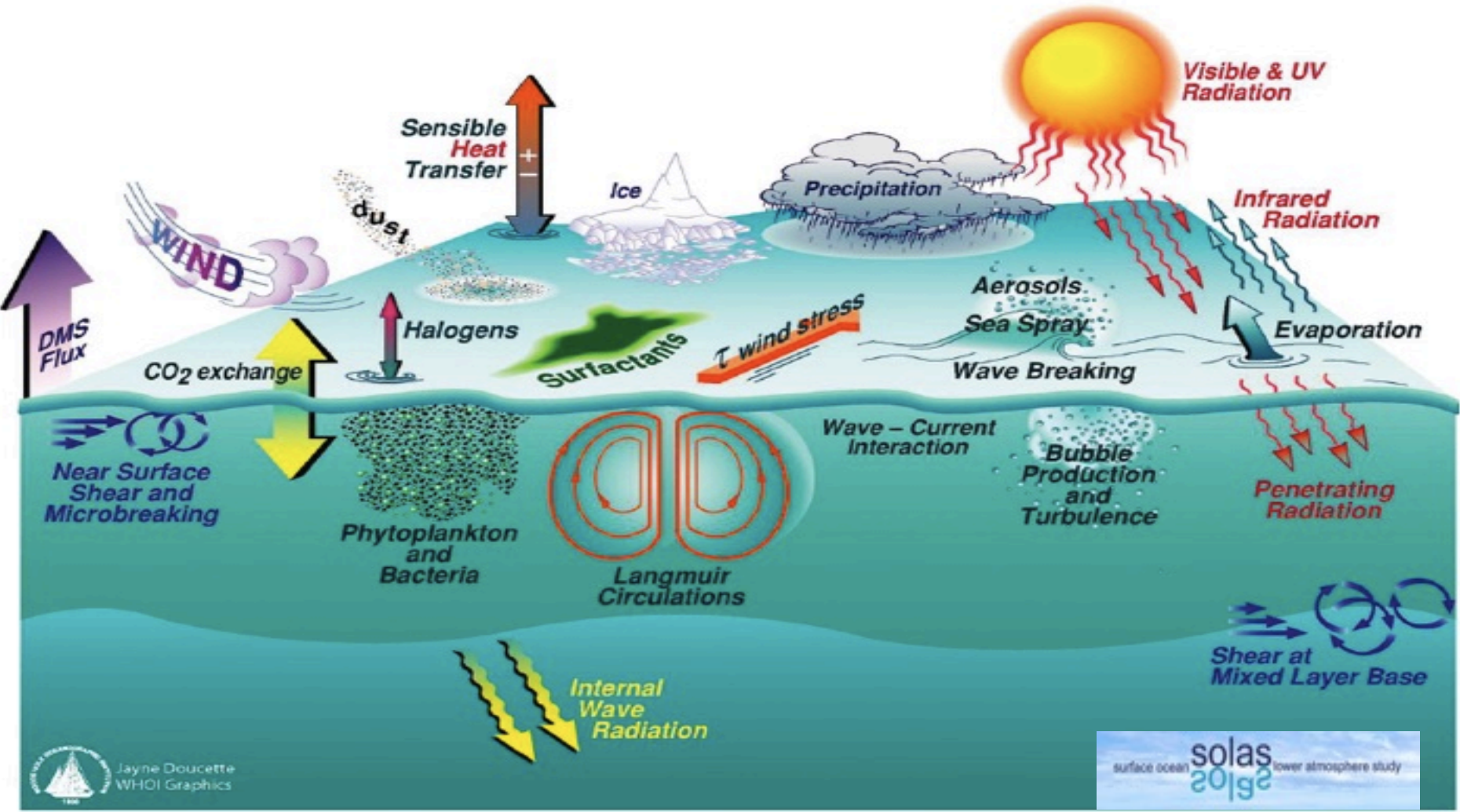
\*Pending final mission selection

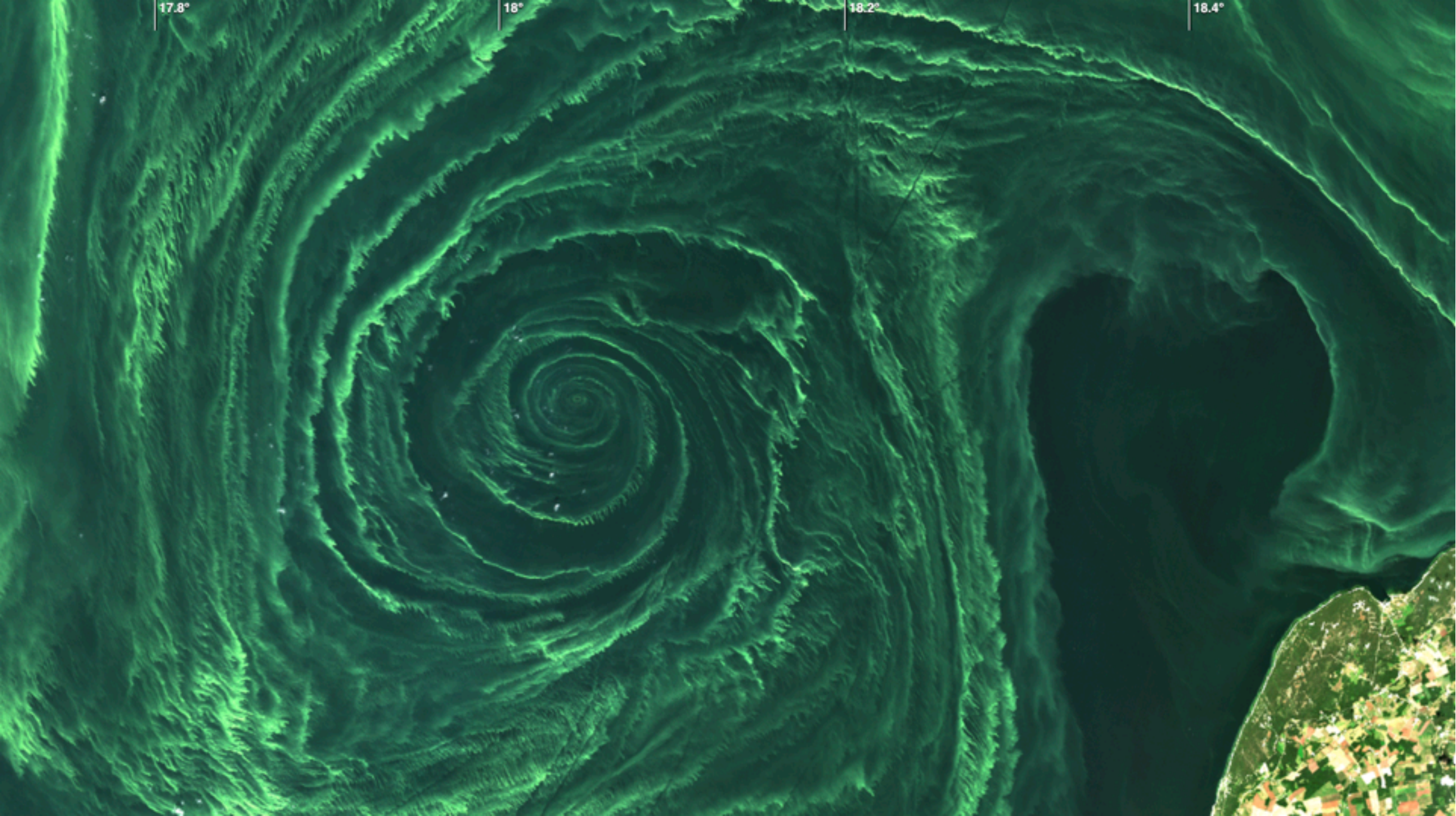


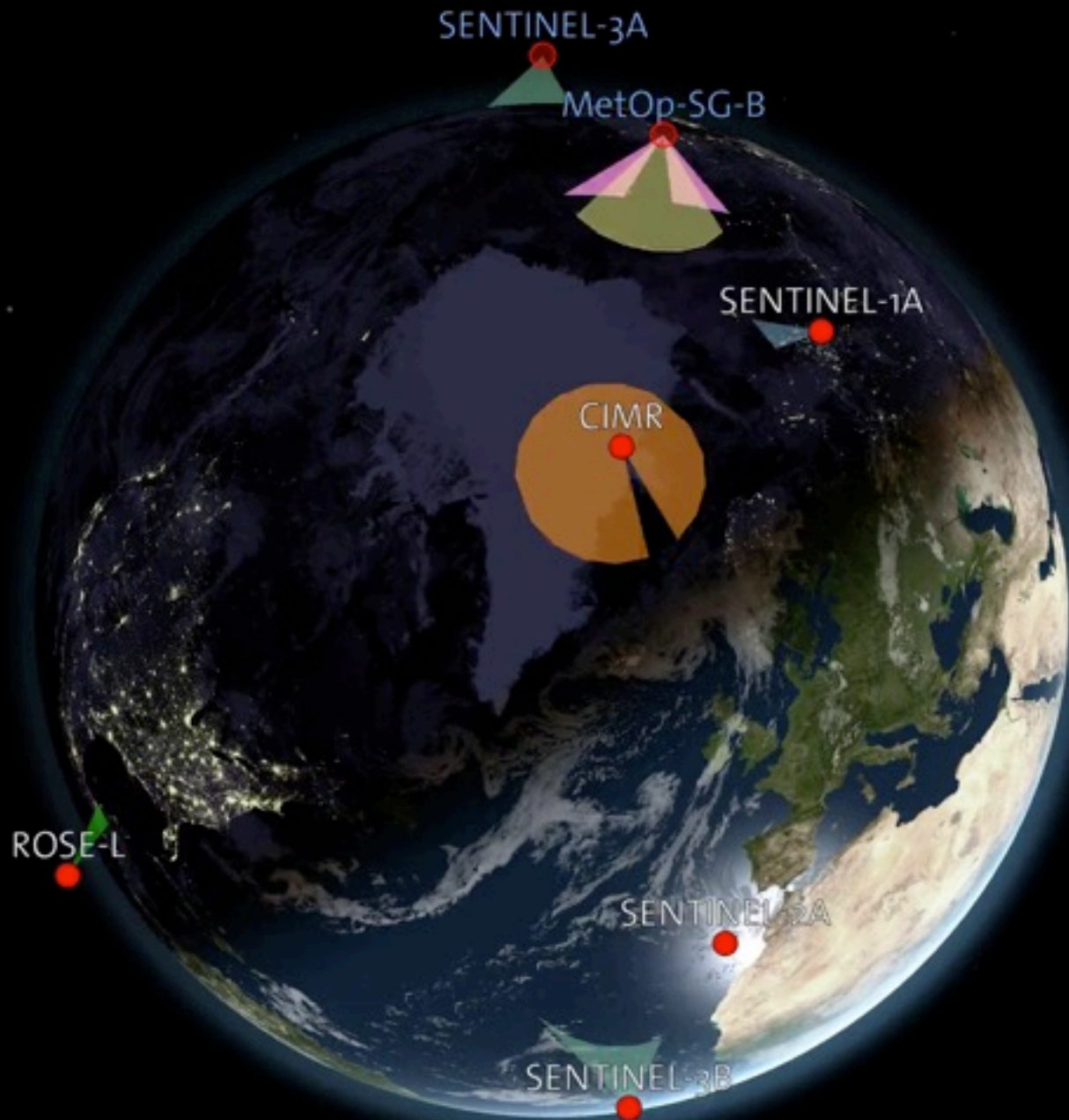
# Processes at work defining signals to measure



Satellite instruments generally measure 2D surface expressions of 4D structures





**CIMR**

Orbit Number: 10695  
Time Since AOC: 1506.689  
Lat: 85°N 39' 00"  
Long: 4°E 29' 58"  
Alt: 832.916 km  
Daylight

**CRISTAL**

Orbit Number: 5603  
Time Since AOC: 5071.219  
Lat: 56°S 44' 27"  
Long: 162°E 11' 52"  
Alt: 793.089 km  
Daylight

**MetOp-SG-B**

Orbit Number: 10693  
Time Since AOC: 1068.796  
Lat: 52°N 30' 25"  
Long: 120°E 30' 50"  
Alt: 830.217 km  
Eclipse

**ROSE-L**

Orbit Number: 1893  
Time Since AOC: 2665.767  
Lat: 17°N 40' 26"  
Long: 87°W 39' 52"  
Alt: 637.907 km  
Daylight

**SENTINEL-1A**

Orbit Number: 36265  
Time Since AOC: 1111.625  
Lat: 68°N 22' 57"  
Long: 71°E 02' 55"  
Alt: 796.942 km  
Daylight

**SENTINEL-1B**

Orbit Number: 25280  
Time Since AOC: 4116.810  
Lat: 68°S 53' 07"  
Long: 111°W 47' 37"  
Alt: 722.487 km  
Daylight

**SENTINEL-3A**

Orbit Number: 25706  
Time Since AOC: 311.652  
Lat: 18°N 24' 41"  
Long: 246°E 59' 32"  
Alt: 804.787 km  
Eclipse

**SENTINEL-3B**

Orbit Number: 34312  
Time Since AOC: 2680.816  
Lat: 20°N 23' 20"  
Long: 26°W 58' 46"  
Alt: 804.811 km  
Daylight

**SENTINEL-2A**

Orbit Number: 29192  
Time Since AOC: 2355.651  
Lat: 39°N 03' 27"  
Long: 20°W 42' 31"  
Alt: 793.940 km  
Daylight

**SENTINEL-2B**

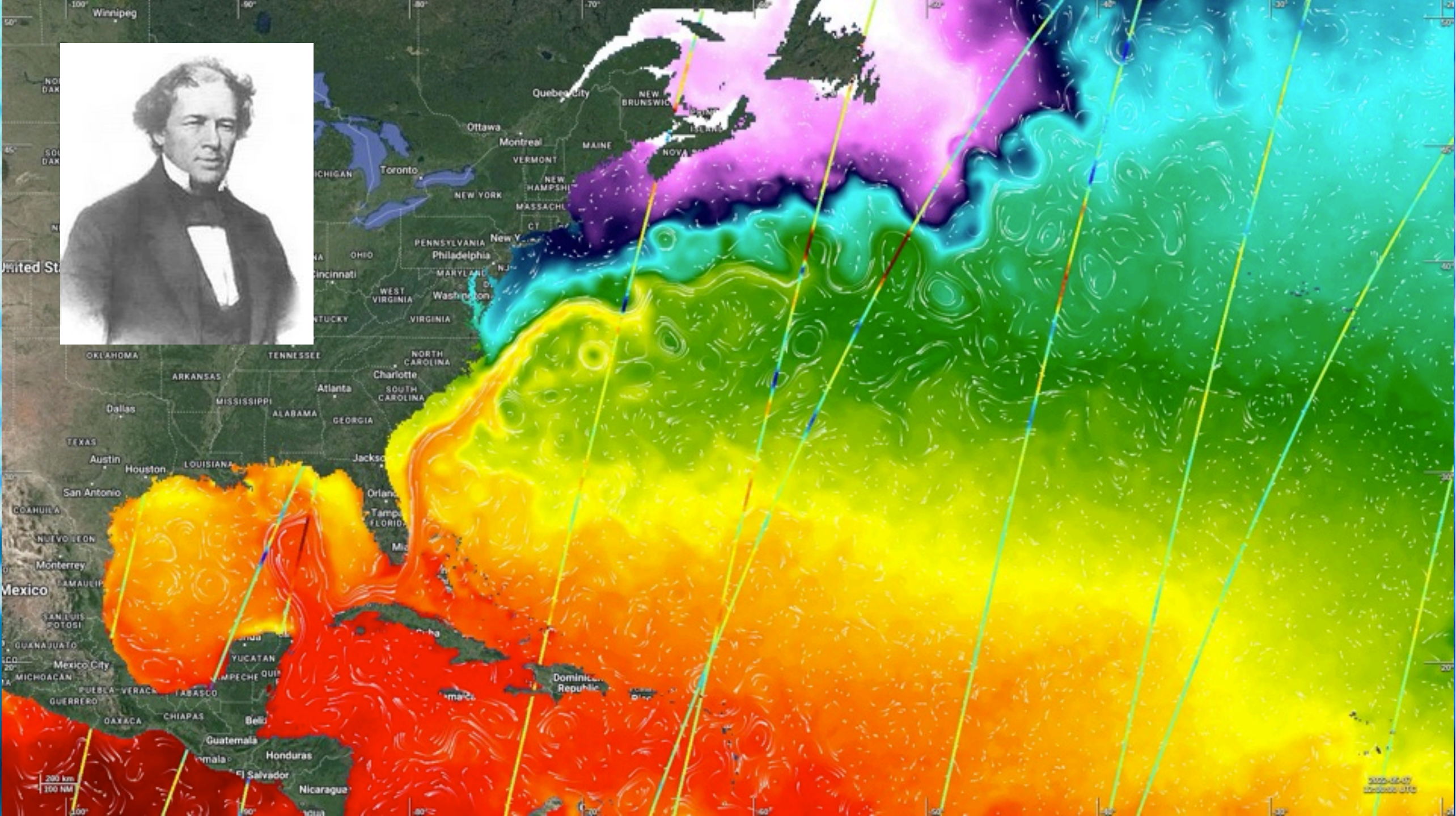
Orbit Number: 20283  
Time Since AOC: 5178.714  
Lat: 39°S 08' 07"  
Long: 164°E 20' 08"



Matthew Fontaine Maury (1806 – 1873): 1853 Brussels Conference on Observation Practice

“There is a River in the Ocean” he declared in 1844.





# ESA DUE Globcurrent



**Task 1:** Federate the inter-develop scientific and en

**Task 2:** Undertake research Theoretical Baseline Des algorithm.

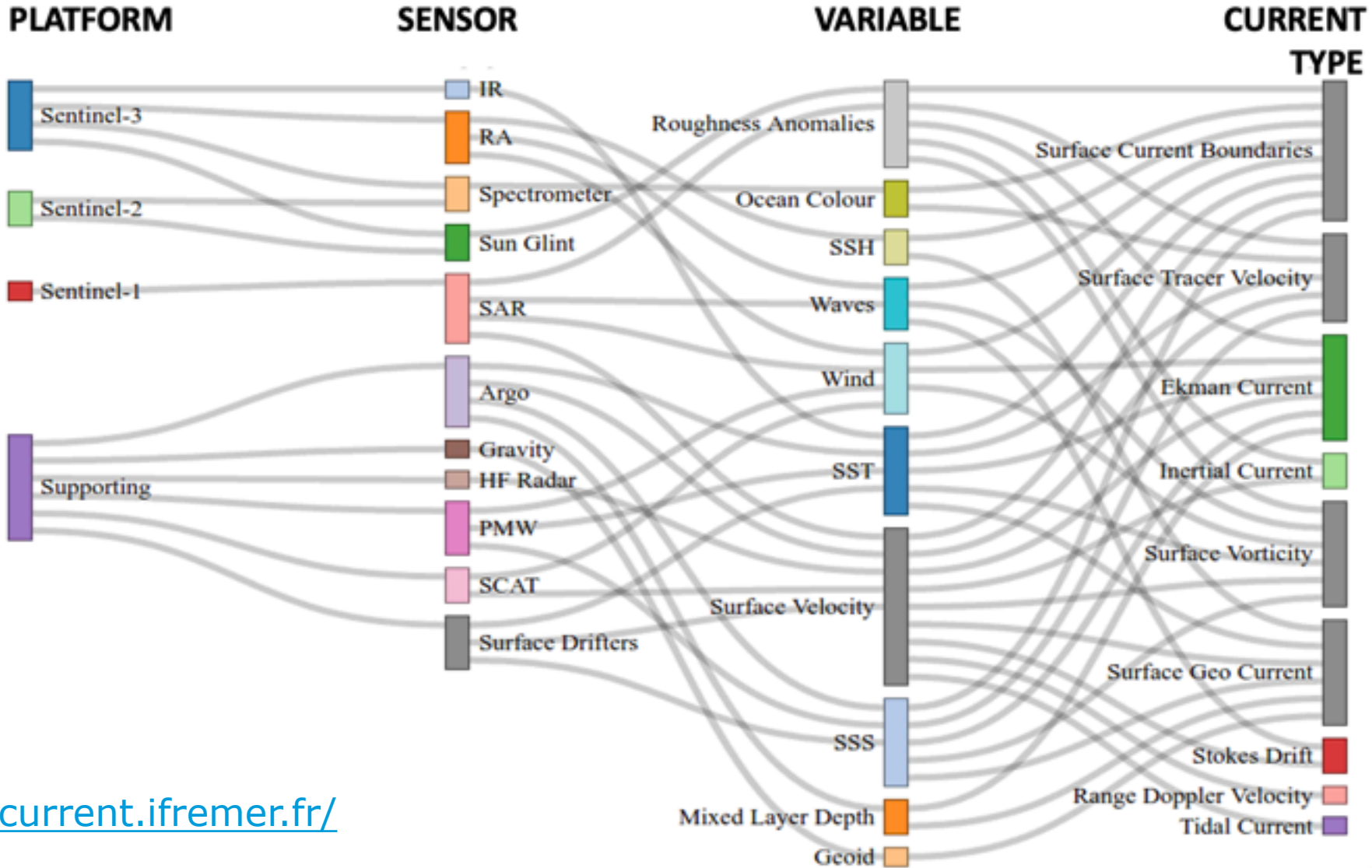
**Task 3:** Define and docum demonstration and prod

**Task 4:** Implement, qualif operate each system to p

**Task 5:** Define, plan and i development of the *Glob* services.

**Task 6:** Write the *GlobCu*

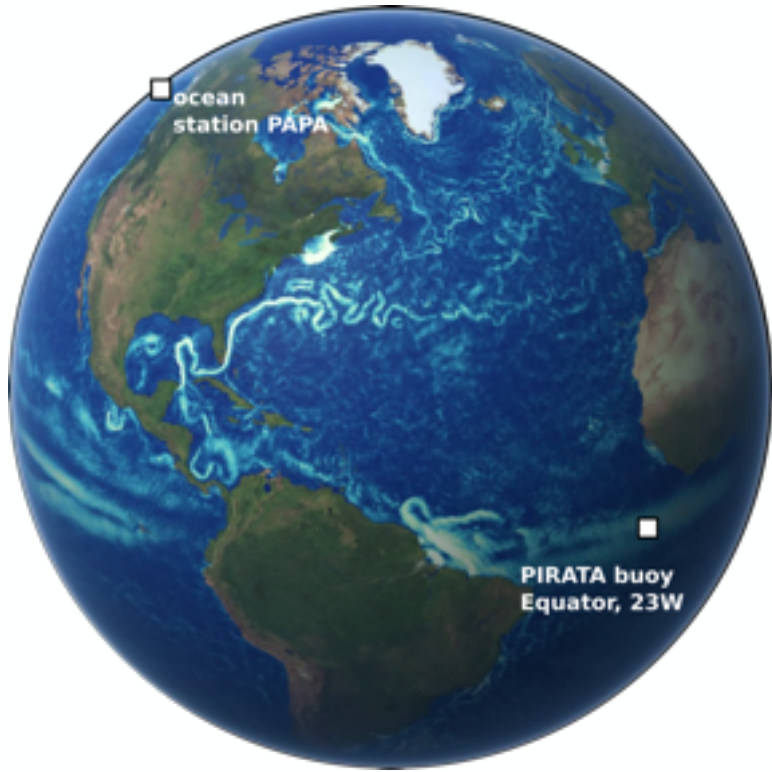
**Task 7:** Management of t



<http://globcurrent.ifremer.fr/>



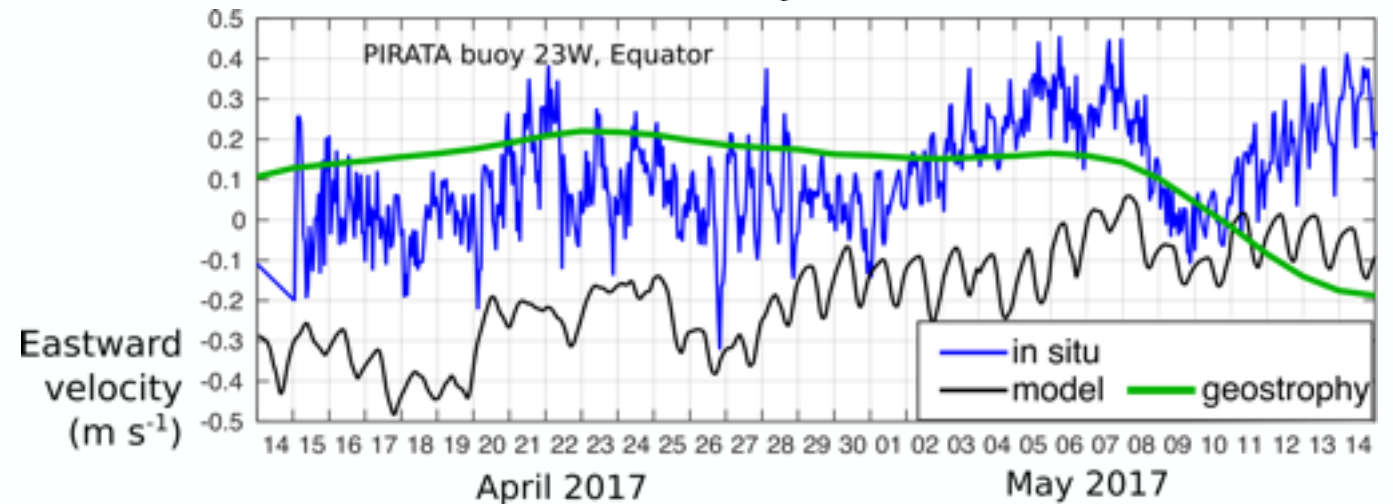
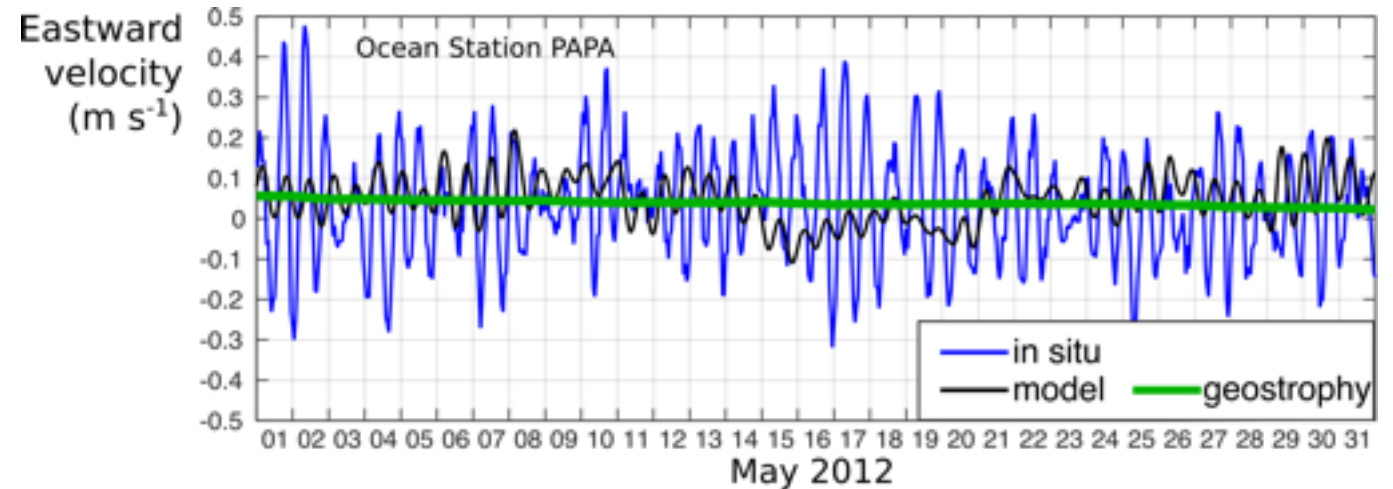
# For Copernicus Ocean Topography, Sampling is the fundamental requirement in both space AND time



## IPCC VI Report:

An AMOC decline over the 21st century is very likely for all SSP scenarios; a possible abrupt decline is conceivable.

There is high confidence that many ocean currents will change in the 21st century in response to changes of wind stress.



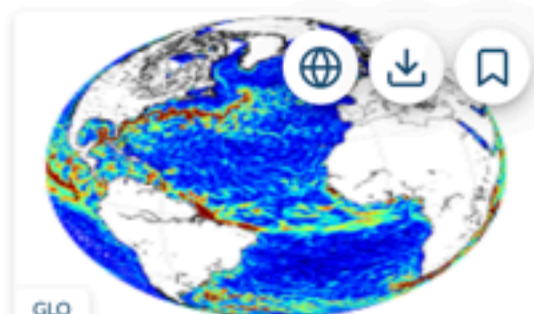


Full catalogue

Ocean Monitoring Indicator catalogue

There is 2 ocean products corresponding to your criteria

Globcurrent: global  
Combined Geostrophy+  
Ekman Currents



GLO

Global Total Surface And 15M Current (Copernicus-globcurrent) From Altimetr...

MULTIOBS\_GLO\_PHY\_NRT\_015\_003

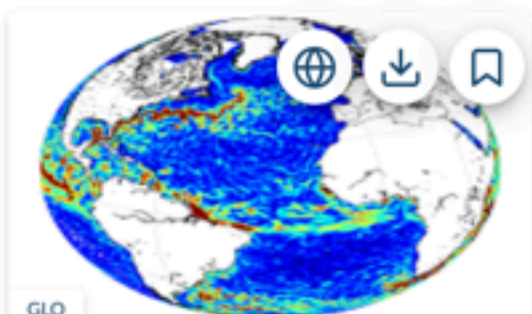
UV

From 2020-01-01 To Present

0.25 degree x 0.25 degree

Observation  
L4

2 depths level  
6 hourly instantaneous - daily mean - monthly mean



GLO

Global Total Surface And 15M Current (Copernicus-globcurrent) From Altimetr...

MULTIOBS\_GLO\_PHY\_REP\_015\_004

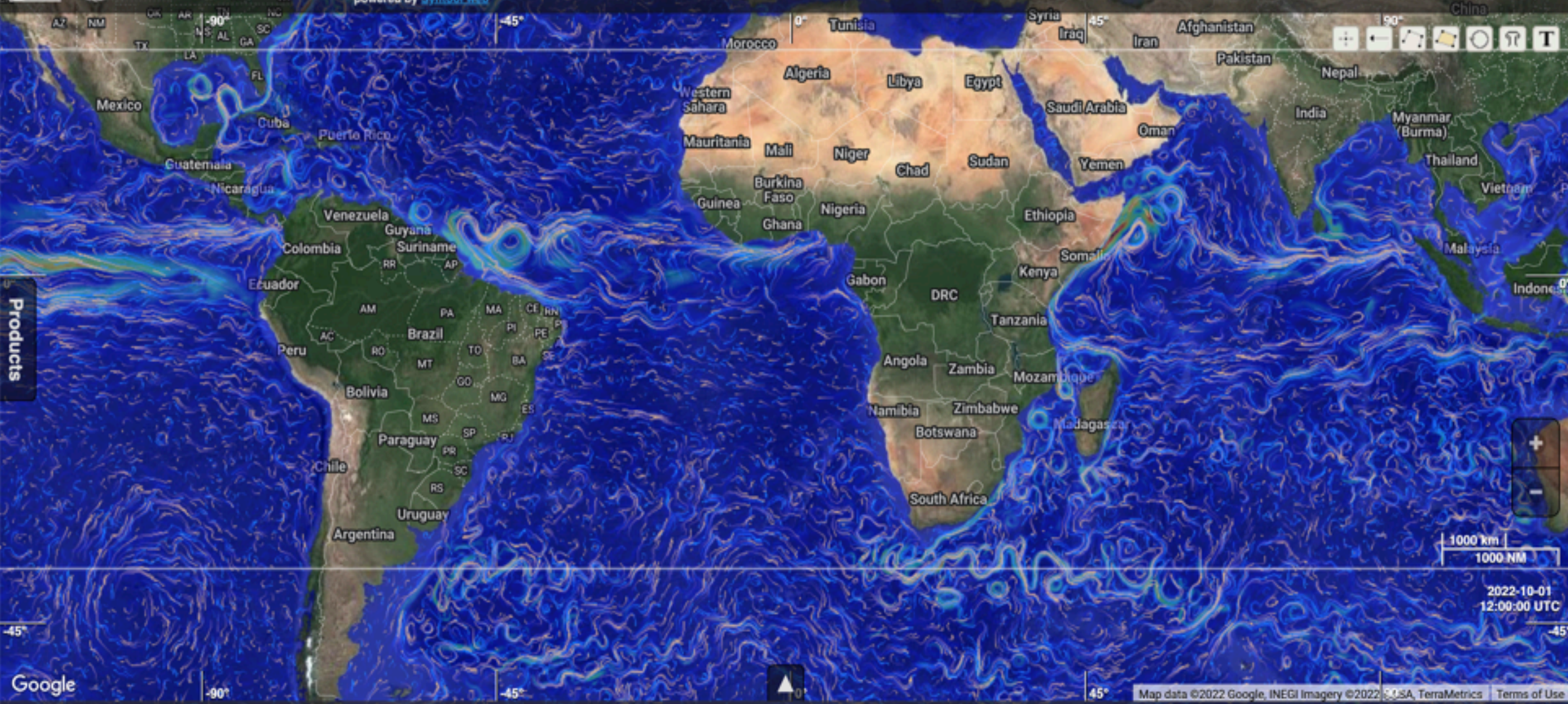
UV

From 1993-01-01 To Present

0.25 degree x 0.25 degree

Model assimilation  
None

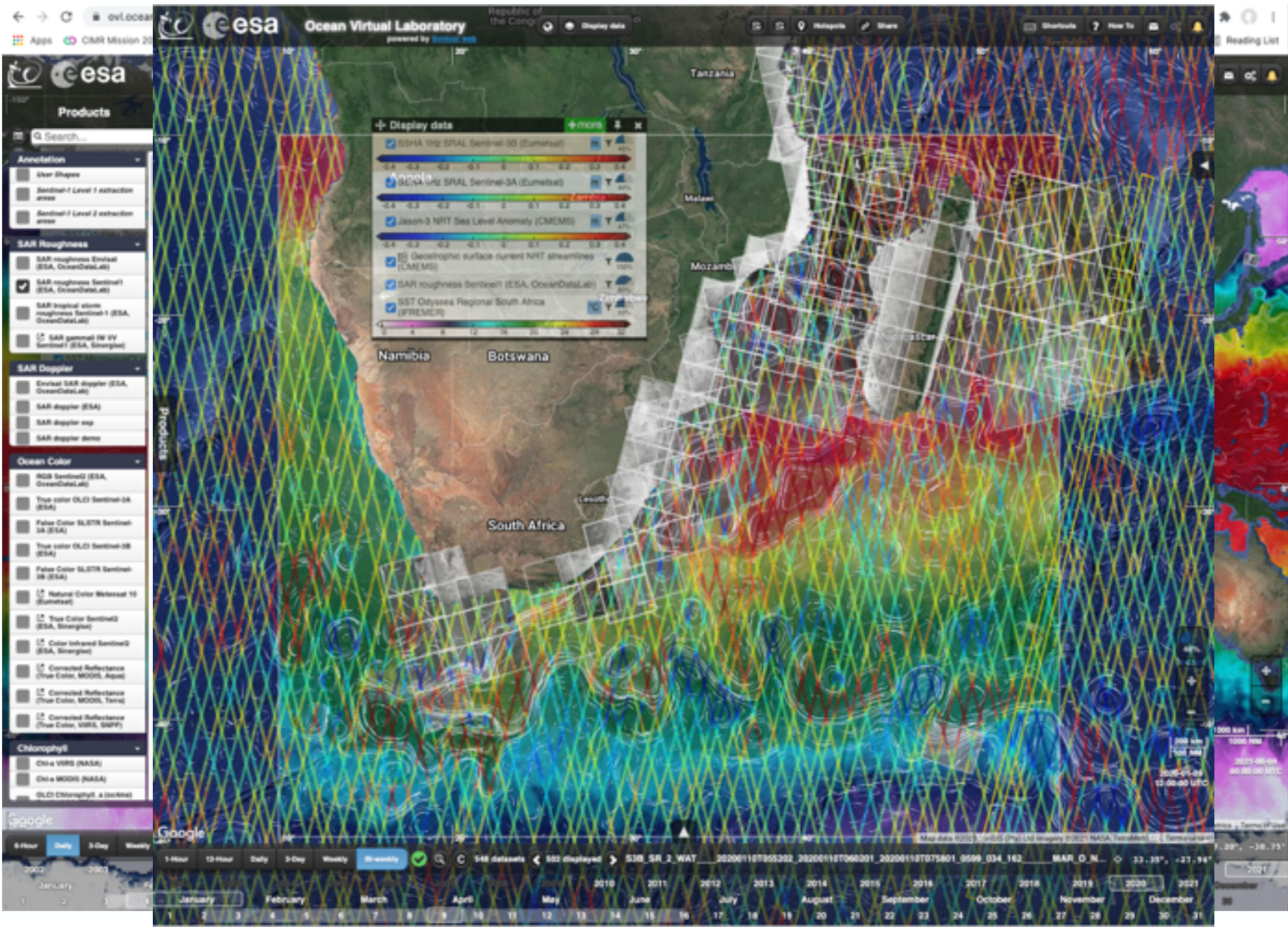
2 depths level  
3 hourly instantaneous - daily mean - monthly mean



1-Hour 12-Hour **Daily** 3-Day Weekly Bi-weekly  5 datasets 2022-10-01 12:00:00 UTC

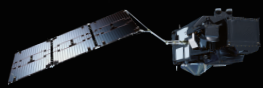
2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 2002

To keep “in touch” with the data, new abstraction Tools enable data interpretation from the local to the global scale have become necessary

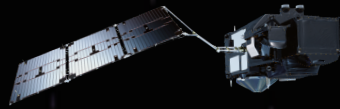


# Copernicus Sentinel-3

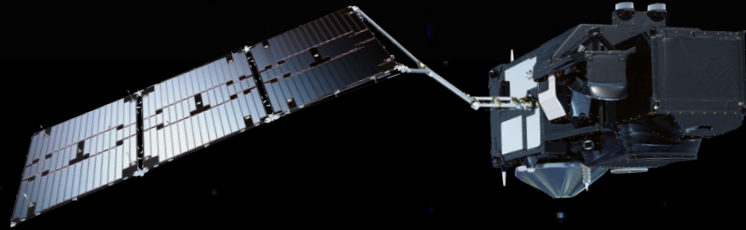
Visible, Thermal Infrared and radar altimetry measurements for 20 years



S3D: 2026+ (TBC)



S3C: 20244 (TBC)



S3B: 2018-



S3A: 2016-

Height of  
the surface

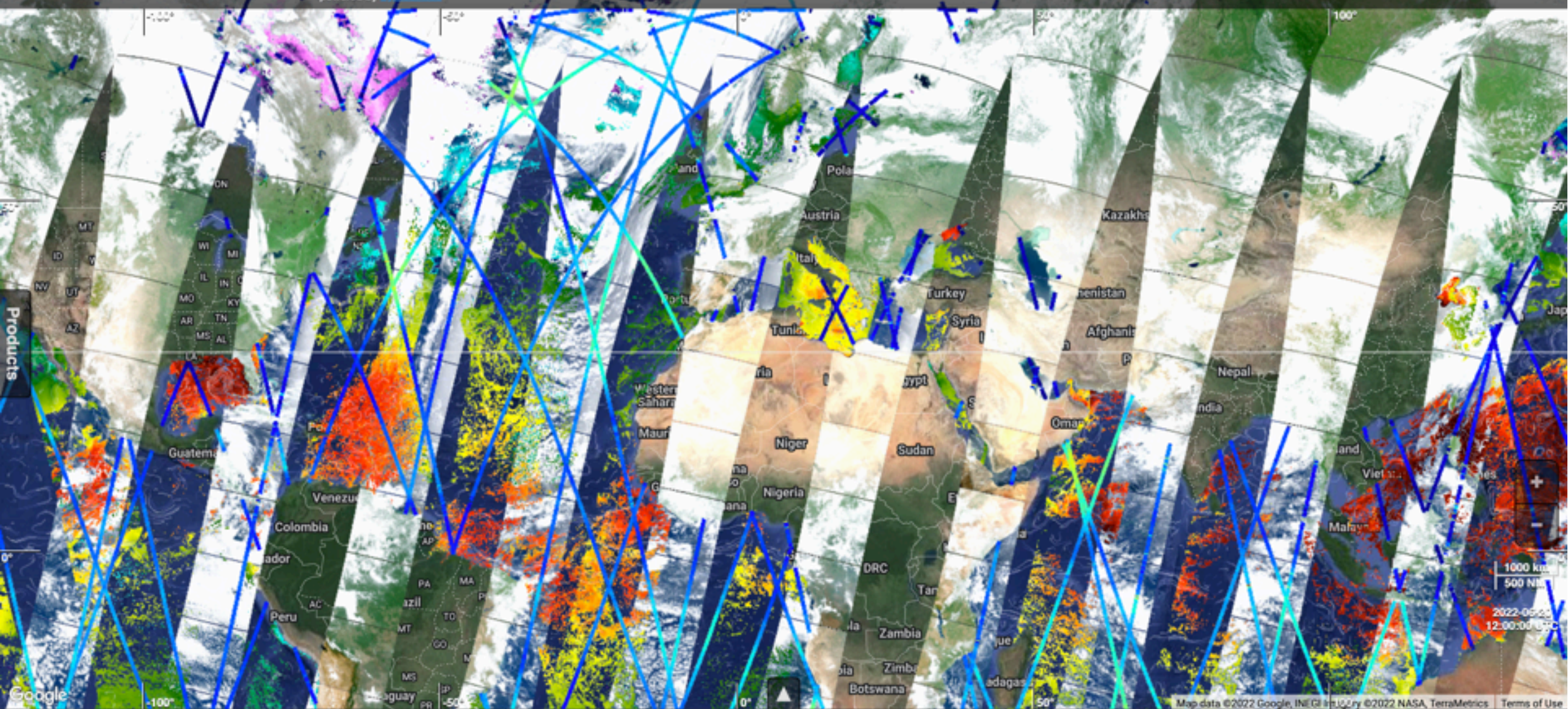
**SAR Altimeter**

Temperature  
of the surface

**Sea and Land Surface  
Temperature Radiometer**

Colour of  
the surface

**Ocean and Land  
Colour Imager**



1-Hour 12-Hour **Daily** 3-Day Weekly Bi-weekly

497 datasets 429 displayed

2022-06-20 12:00:00 UTC

8.09°, 25.80°

2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

January February March April **June** July August September October November December

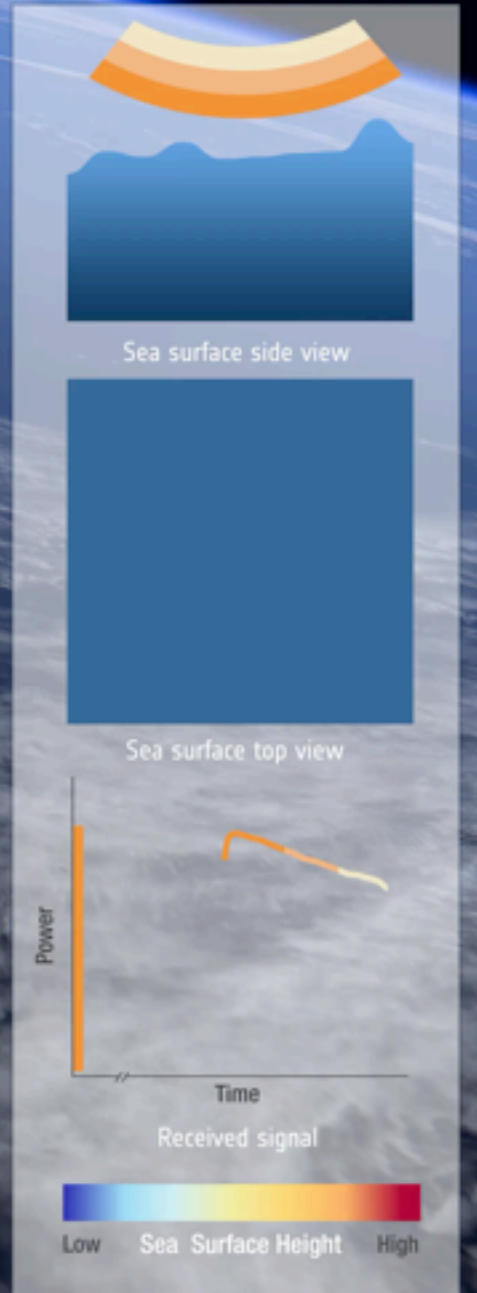
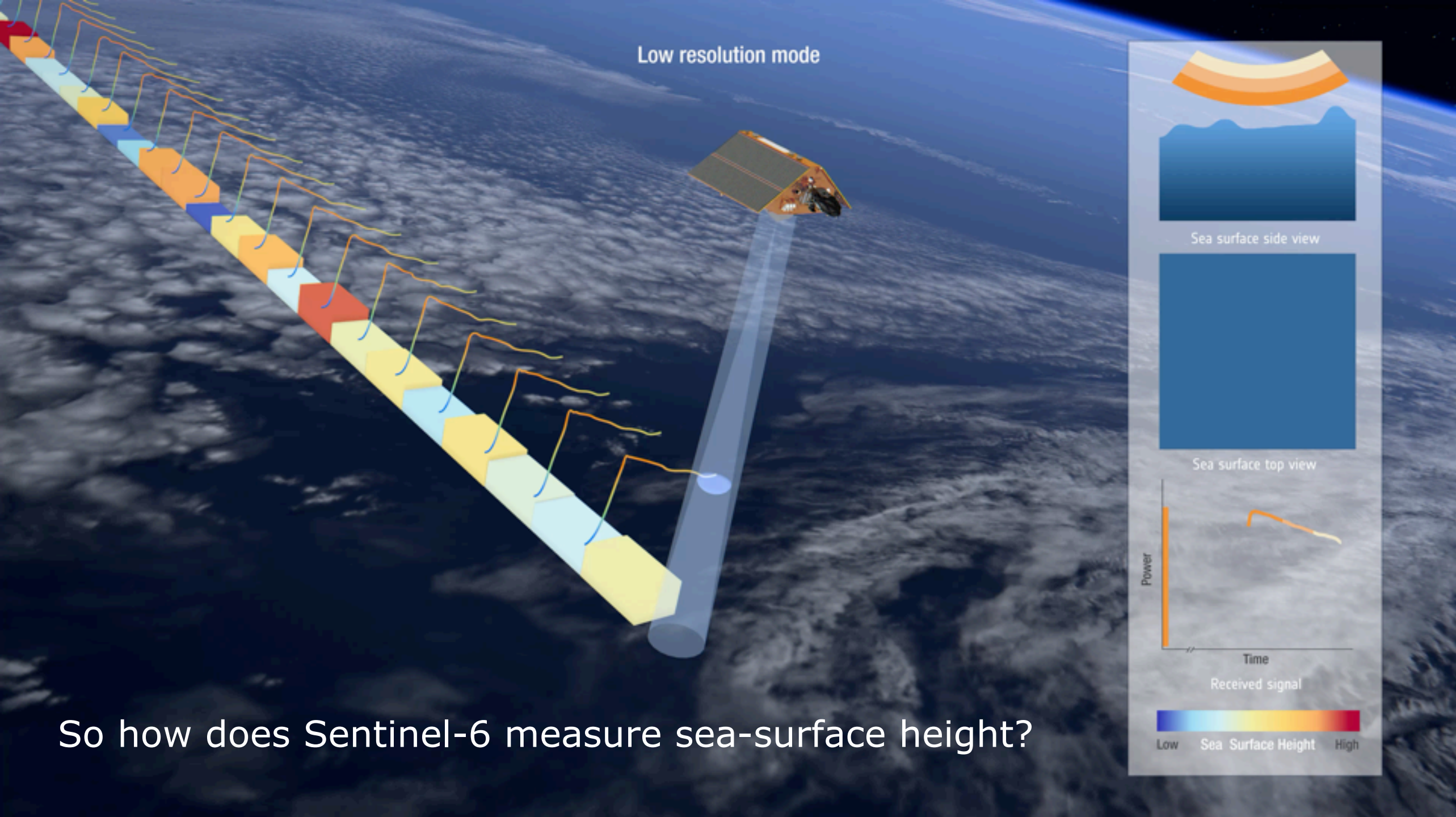
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



# Sentinel-6 - dedicated to Sea Level Rise



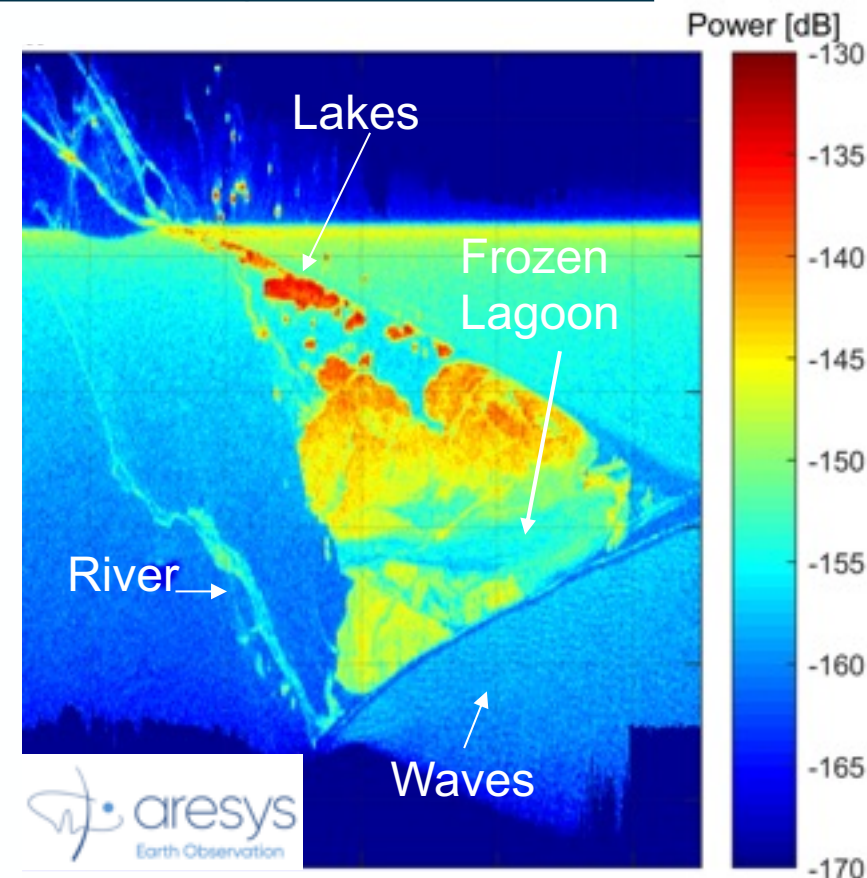
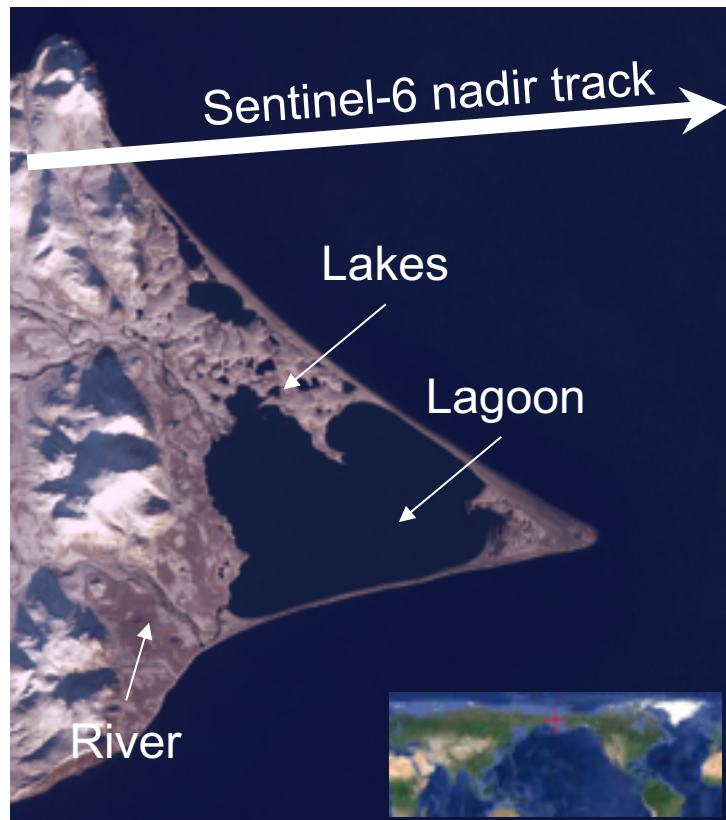
Low resolution mode



So how does Sentinel-6 measure sea-surface height?

# The Beauty of Copernicus: First S6 Cross Track SAR Range Image with Copernicus SAR and Optical data

S6-MF Poseidon-4 altimeter reveals unprecedented detail in the Ozero Nayval lagoon and surrounding river areas. Fully focussed synthetic aperture radar processing highlights the low noise performance of new digital instrument architecture. This will improve sea level rise measurements in marginal sea ice zone.

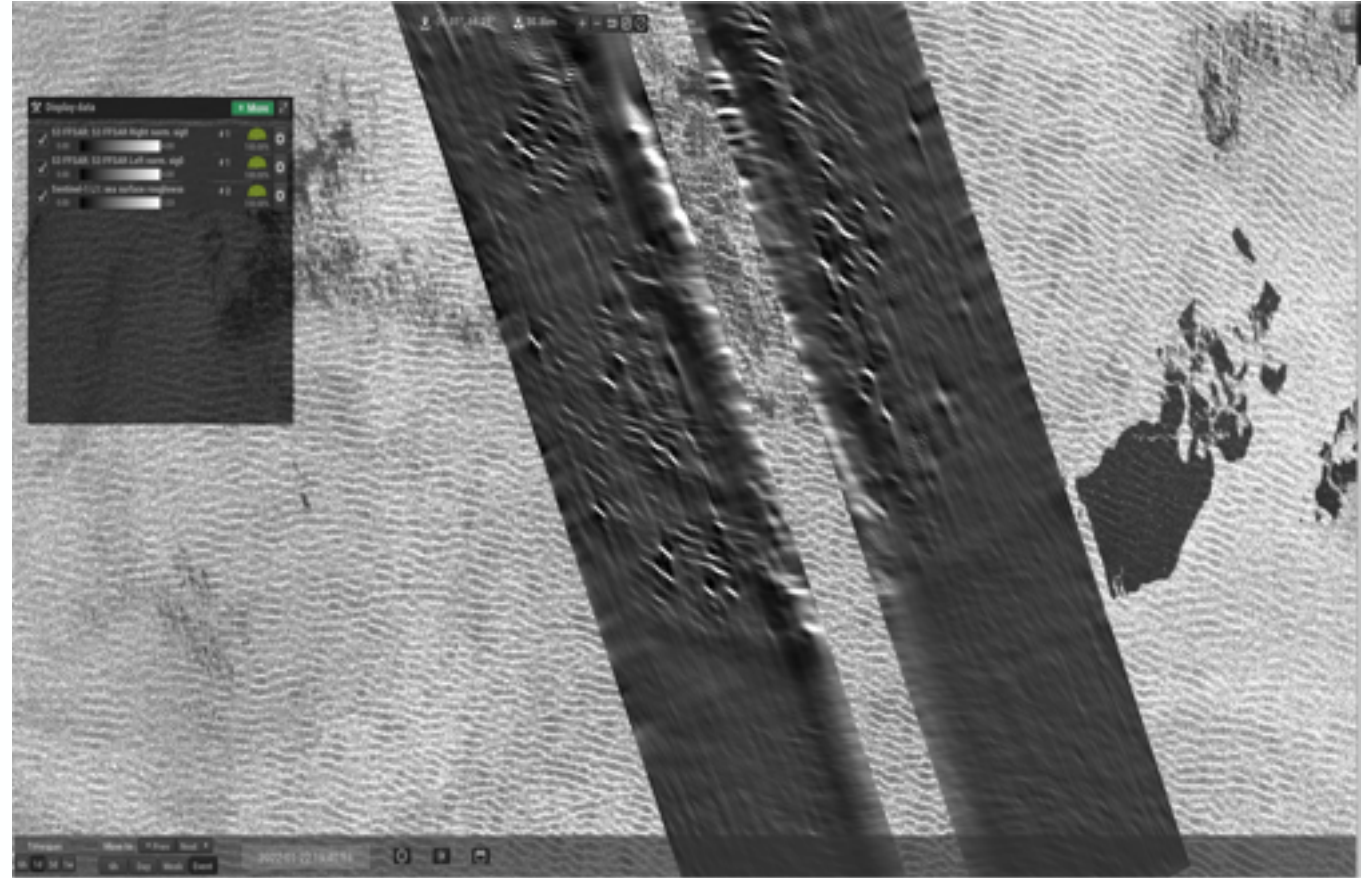
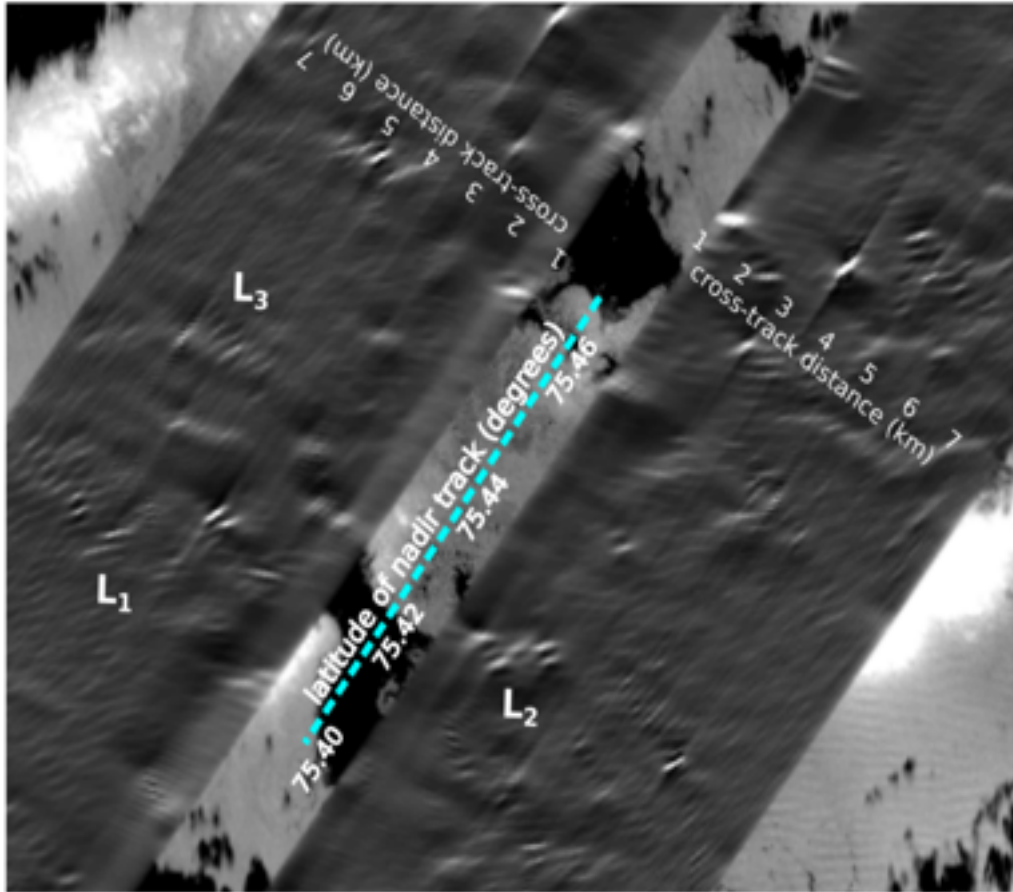


Sentinel-2B (10m) Ozero Nayvak peninsular, Russia, 15 August 2020

Sentinel-1B Interferometric Wide Swath, 29 Nov 2020

Sentinel-6MF (a) LRM (b) Fully Focussed SAR Range image, 30 Nov 2020

# Sentinel-3 nadir altimeter FFSAR



## Geophysical Research Letters\*

Research Letter | Open Access |

### SAR Altimetry Data as a New Source for Swell Monitoring

Ourania Altiparmaki Marcel Kleinherenbrink, Marc Naeije, Cornelis Slobbe, Pieter Visser

First published: 28 February 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1029/2021GL096224>

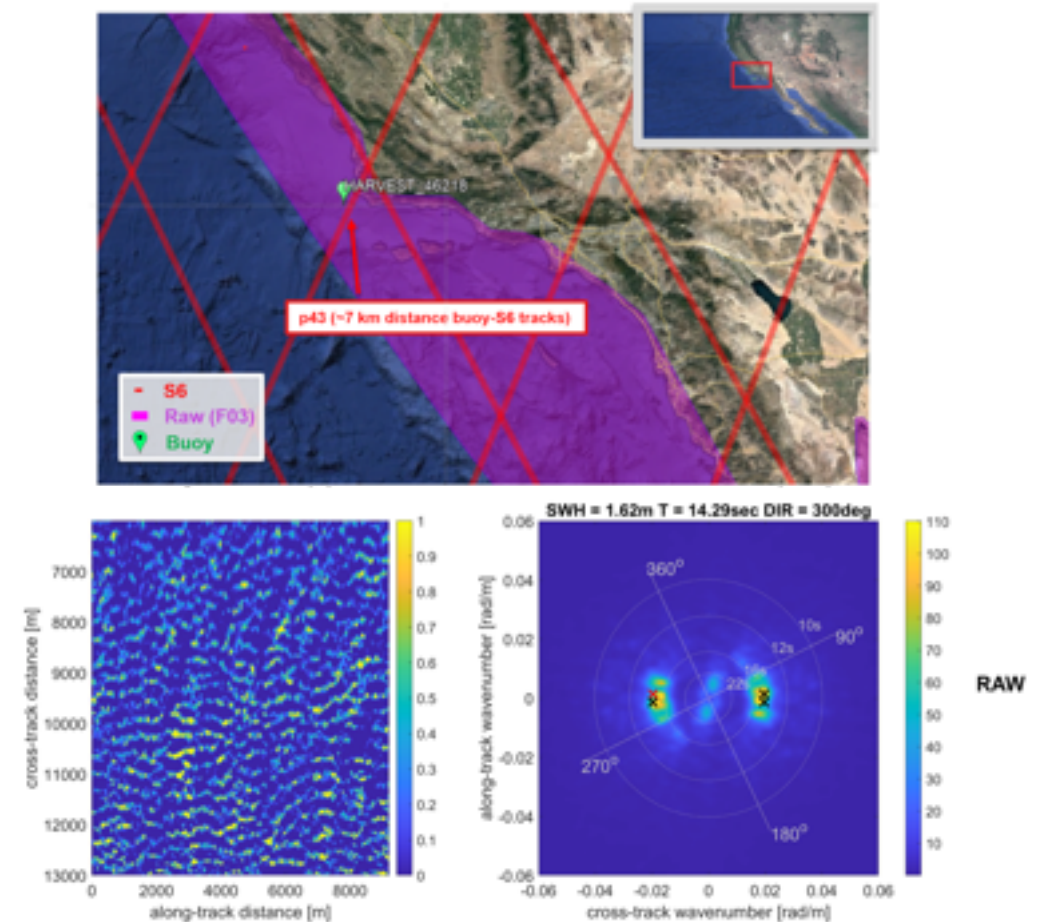
SECTIONS

PDF TOOLS SHARE

Swells are long-crest waves induced by storms. They can travel thousands of kilometers and impact remote shorelines. They also interact with local wind generated waves and currents. It has been shown that the presence of swell lowers the quality of the geophysical parameters which can be retrieved from the delay/Doppler radar altimeter data. This, in turn, affects the estimation of small-scale ocean dynamics. In addition, the resolution offered by the delay/Doppler processing schemes, which is approximately 300 m in the along-track direction, does not allow to resolve swells. This work presents a method which demonstrates that Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) altimeters show potential to retrieve swell-wave spectra from fully-focused SAR altimetry processed data for the first time, and proposes thus, that SAR altimetry can serve as a source for swell monitoring.

Variant A \*with no extra technical development\* will bring unprecedented coverage of the ocean directional swell spectrum directly supporting CMEMS coupled ocean-atmosphere models and marine applications

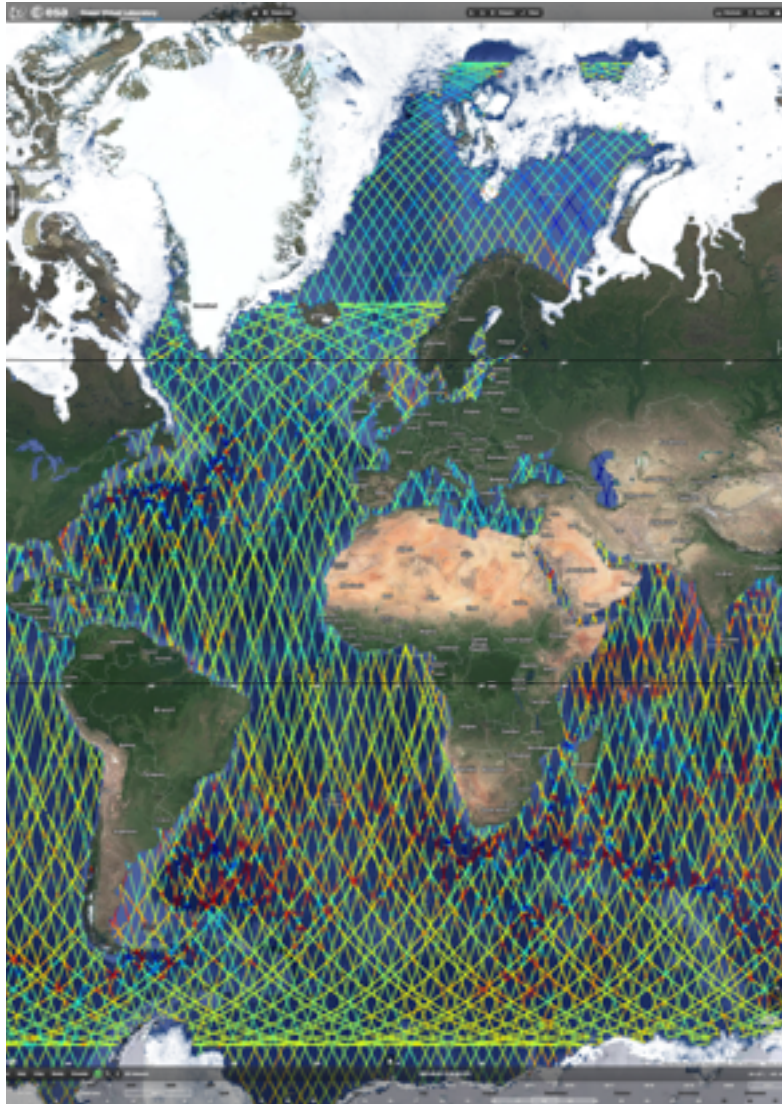
## Sentinel-6 Nadir Altimeter 2D Wave Spectrum compared to Harvest Buoy



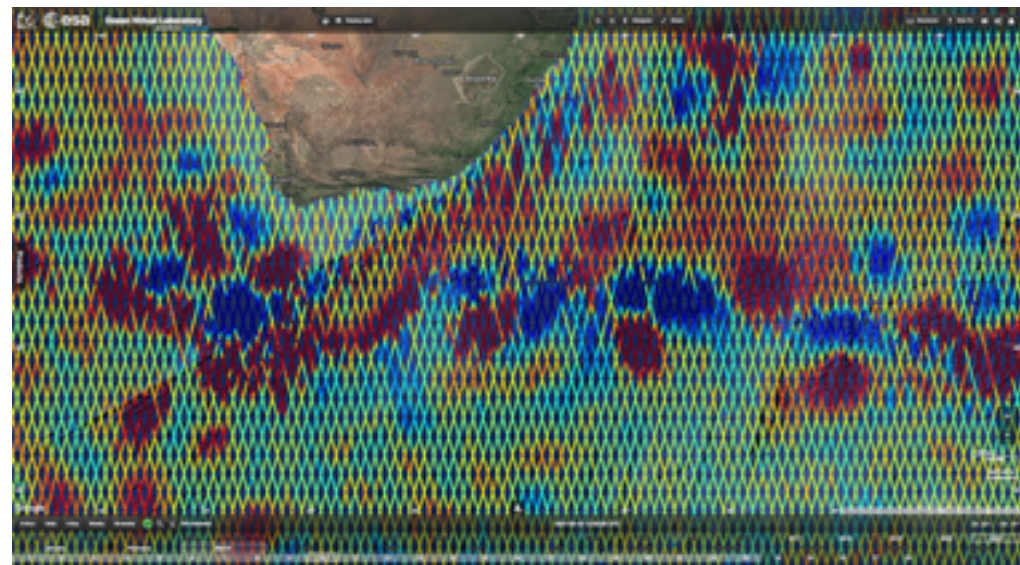
Rania Altiparmaki <[O.Altiparmaki@tudelft.nl](mailto:O.Altiparmaki@tudelft.nl)>

# S3A+S3B+S6 sampling today

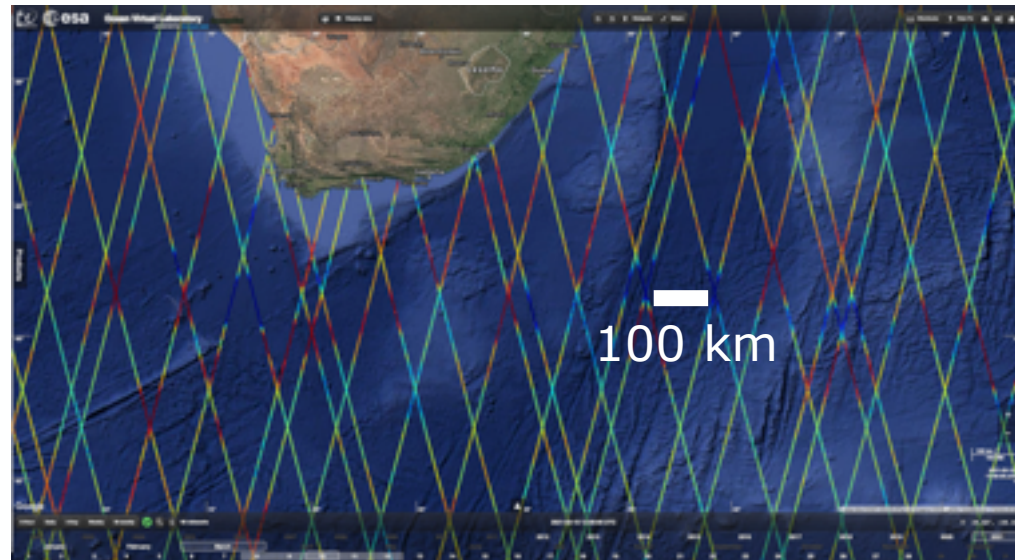
<https://odl.bzh/VFpQoP-a>



S3A+S3B+J3(S6) after 10 days



S3A+B after 27 days

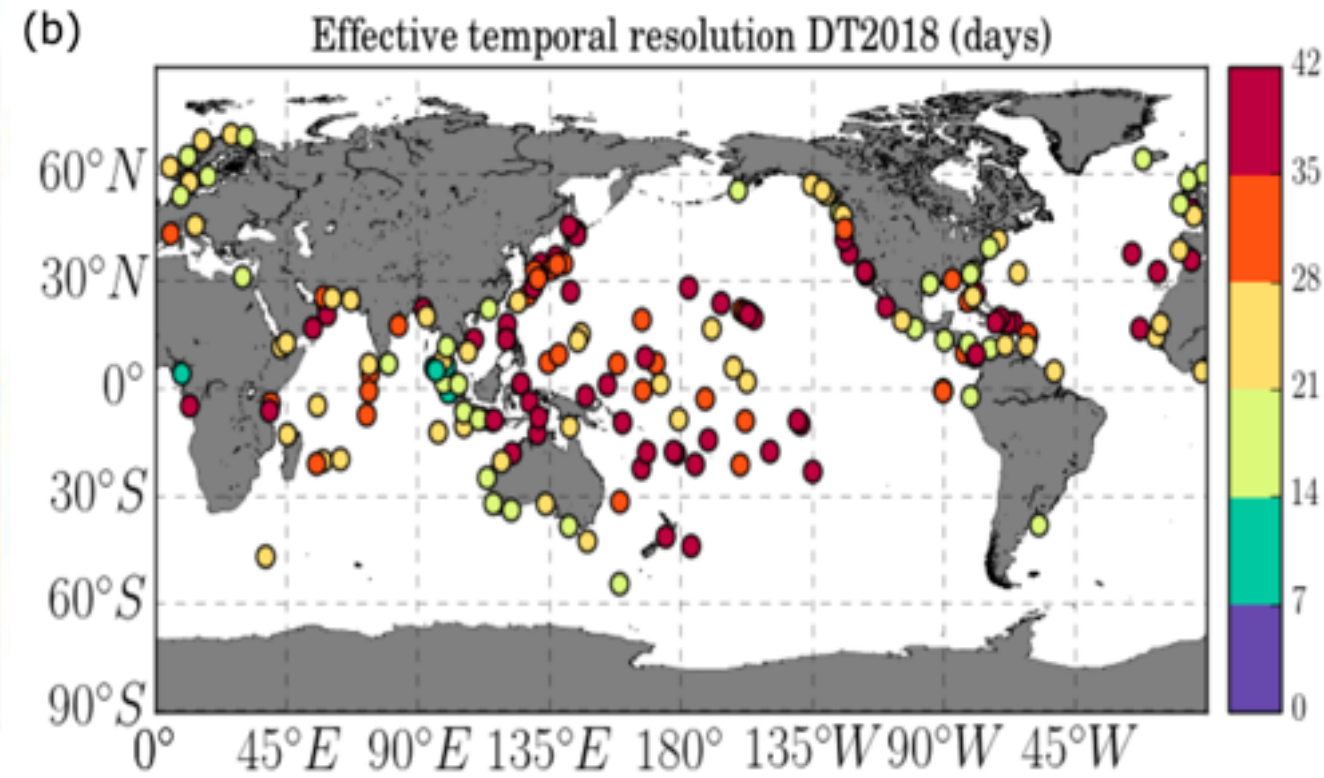
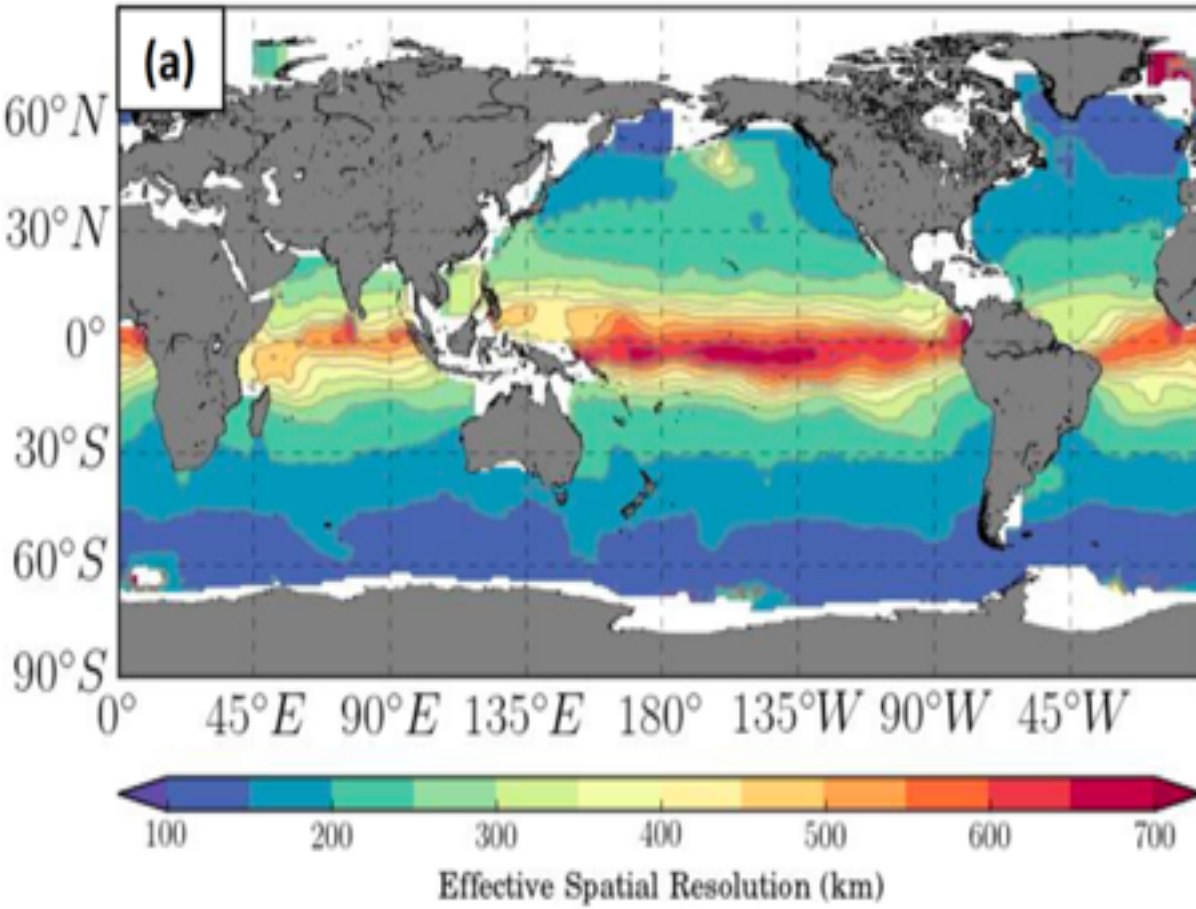


S3A+B after 5-days

**Primary User Need: Better sampling and coverage**

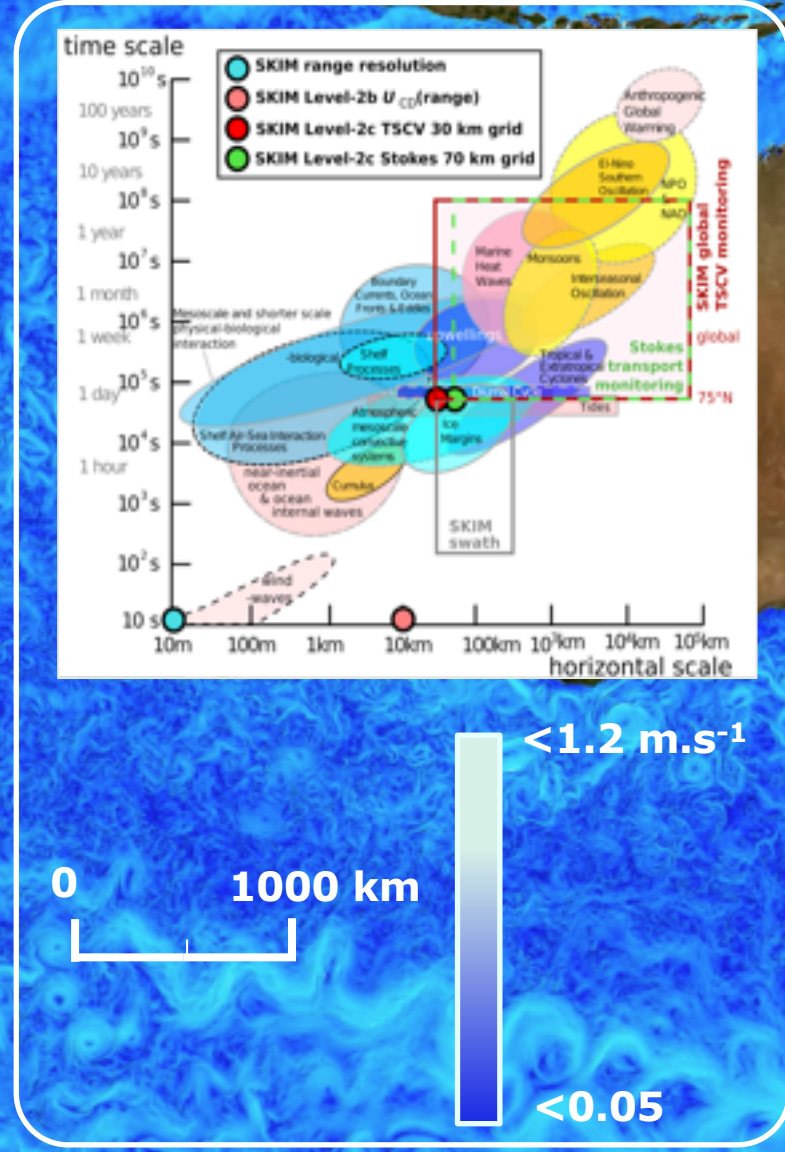
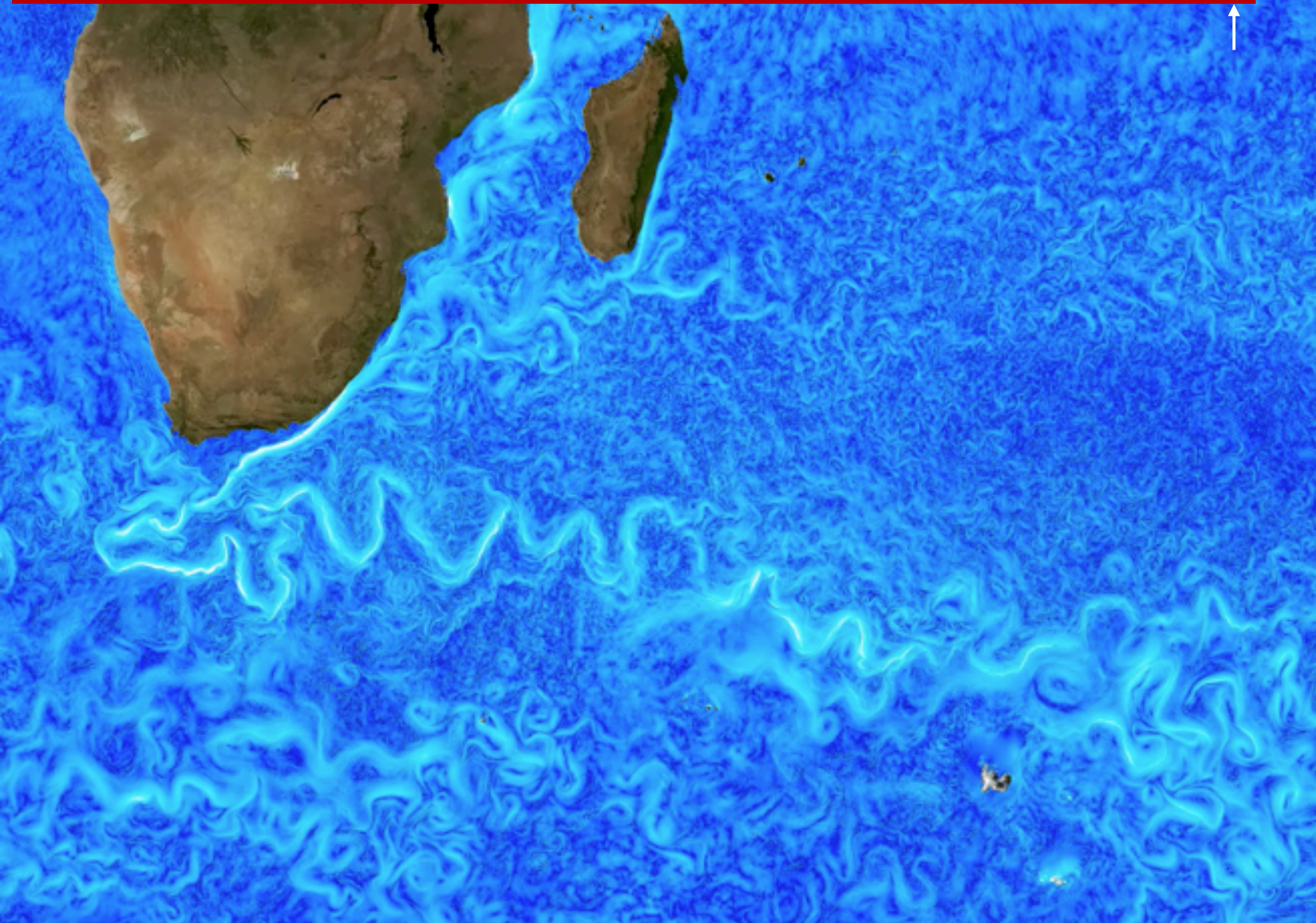


# Effective spatial and temporal resolution of ALL available altimeters today



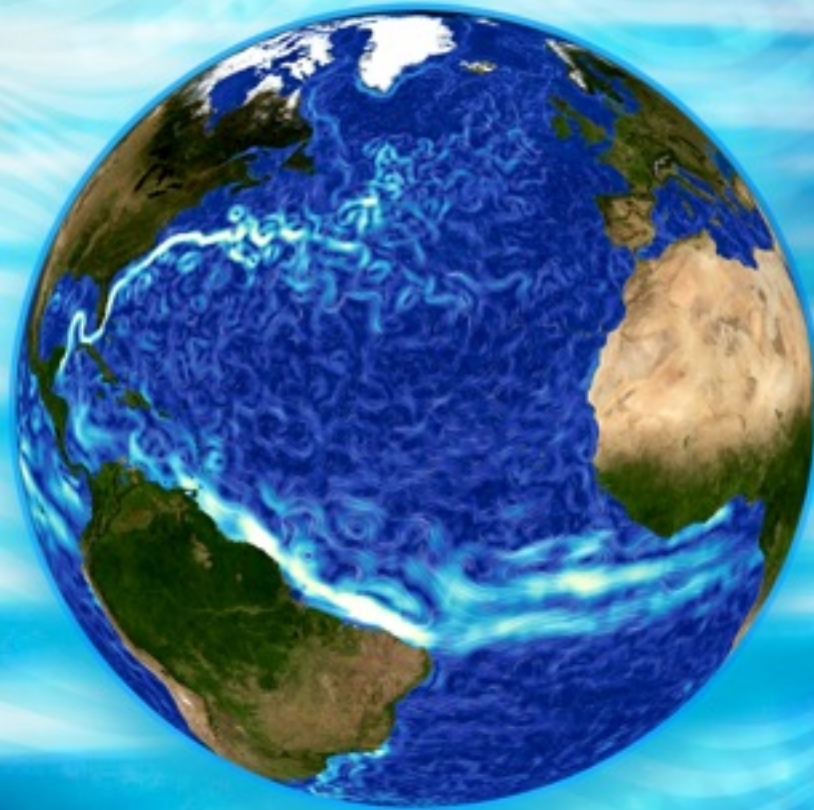
(Balarotta et al, 2019)

At this scale SKIM a 30km grid cell is small- like a dot .



SKIM can help determine if these model outputs are real



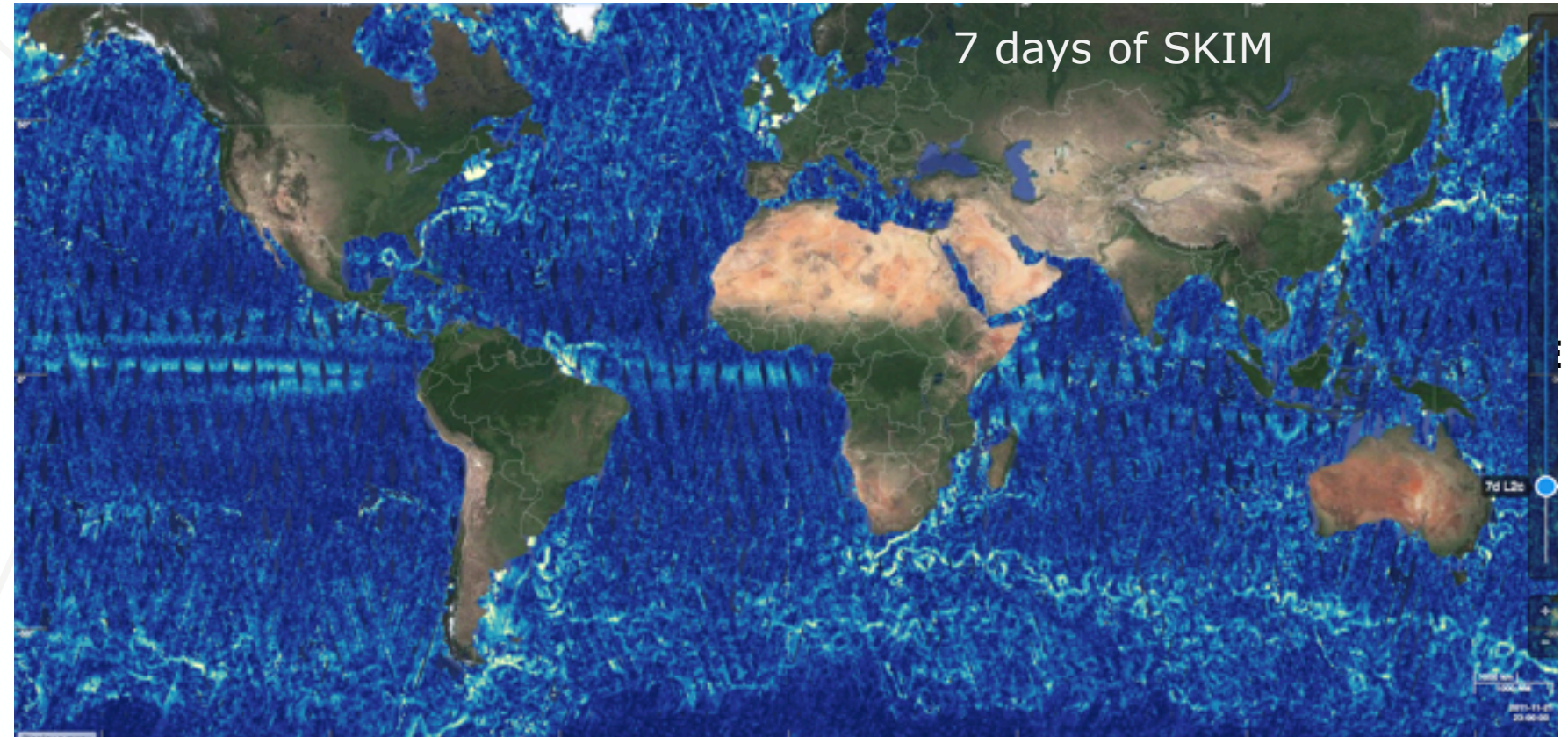
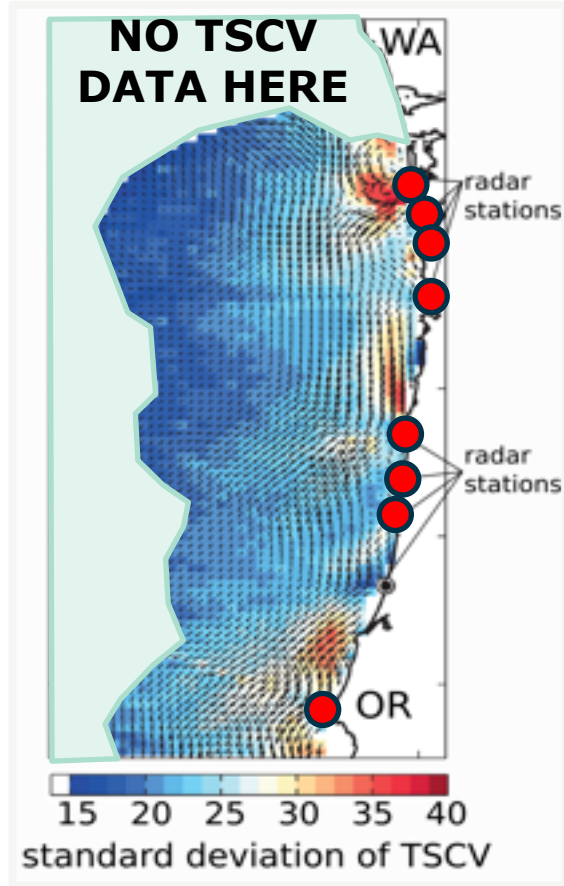


# skim

→ **UNDERSTANDING OCEAN  
SURFACE MOTION**

# A coastal technology exists: HF radars measure TSCV

Land-based Doppler system with O(100km) range: cover fraction of ocean



SKIM will be the first 'HF radar in space' with global coverage

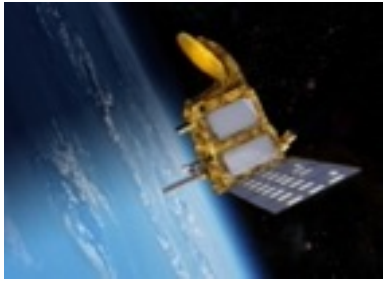
# SKIM EE9 Candidate (Courtesy F. Arduin, PI)

The Sea-surface Kinematics Multiscale monitoring (SKIM) mission is built around a Ka-band instrument combining:

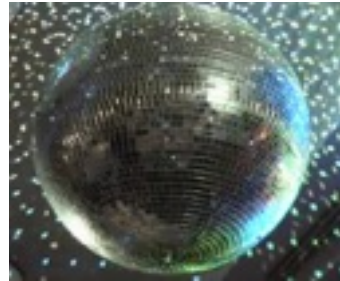
radar altimeter,

disco ball, and

speed gun ...



+



+

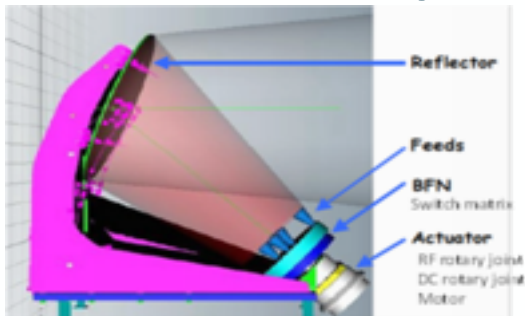


=

**Altimeter:** 32 KHz PRF, 200 MHz bandwidth, SAR unfocused

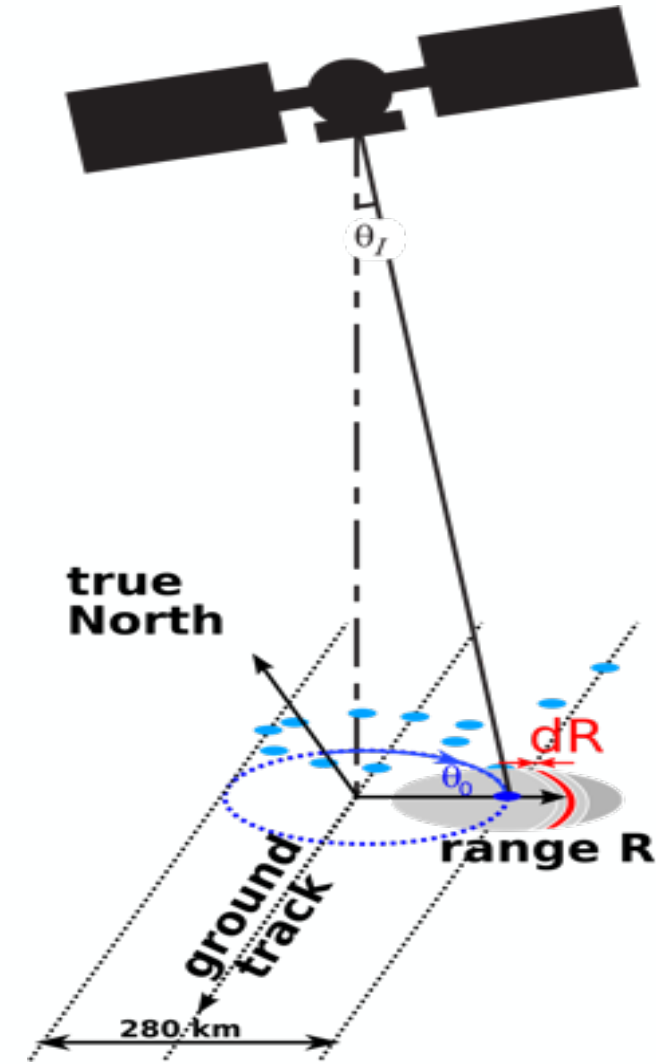
→ very low noise for sea level, wave height, ice freeboard ...

**disco ball:** a rotating plate with 8 horn feeds : one nadir beam (classical altimeter)



7 other beams  
at 6 and 12° incidence  
4 m range resolution

**speed gun:** Doppler analysis → surface currents, ice drift & wave orbital velocities.



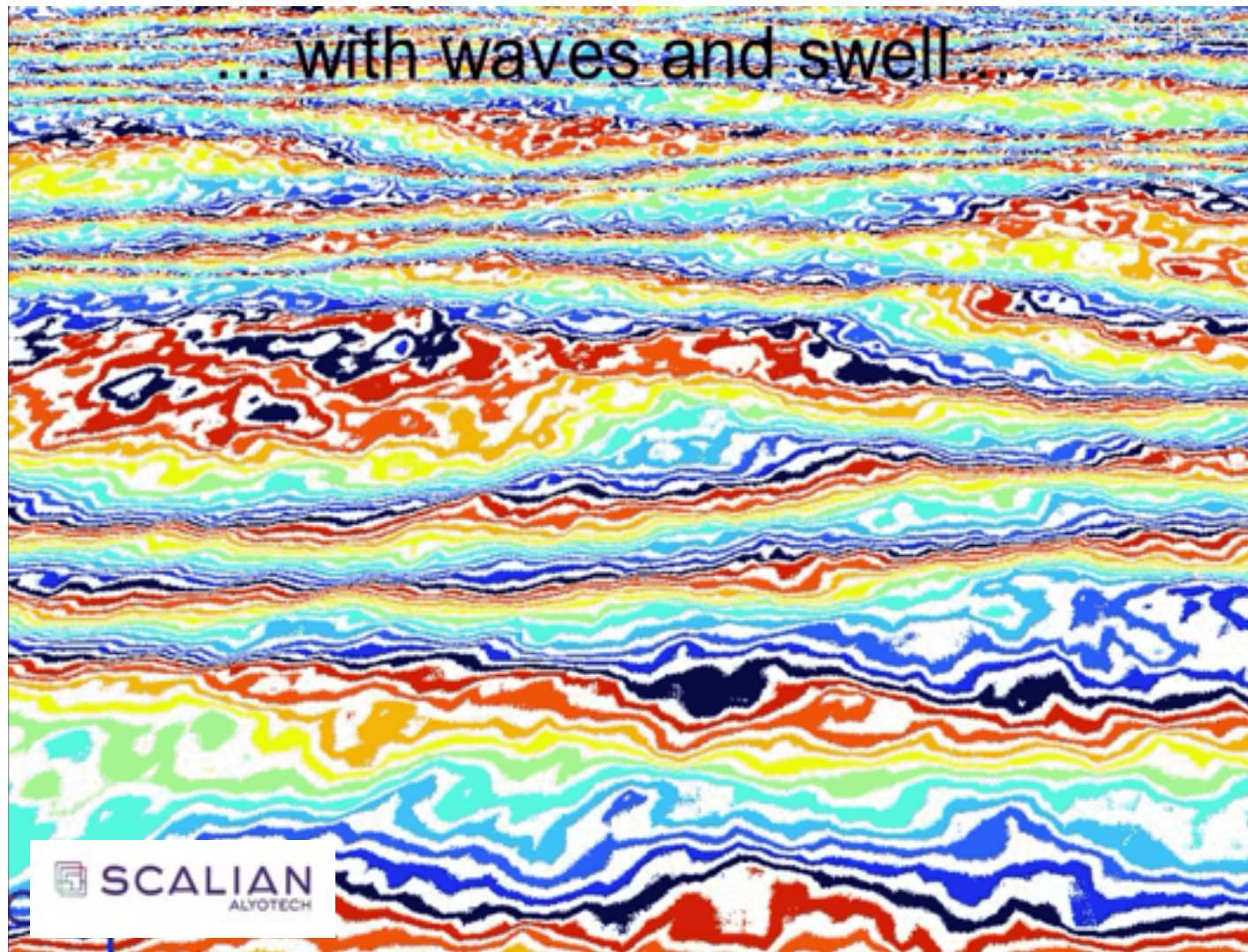
# SEEPS SKIM Test Scene Generation



To accurately simulated signal



From Roughness...



# Regional L2c TSCV performance

- Scenario: one month of SKIM L2c from SKIMulator at  $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$  with full propagation of uncertainty for: instrument, mapping, fine-pointing,  $U_{WD}$  ( $\sigma^0$  bloom removed,  $U_{10} \geq 5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , rain flagged)

**M2: RMS difference between the simulated Level-2c compared to truth  $\leq 0.15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  or 15% (whichever is greater) and a goal of  $\leq 0.1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .**

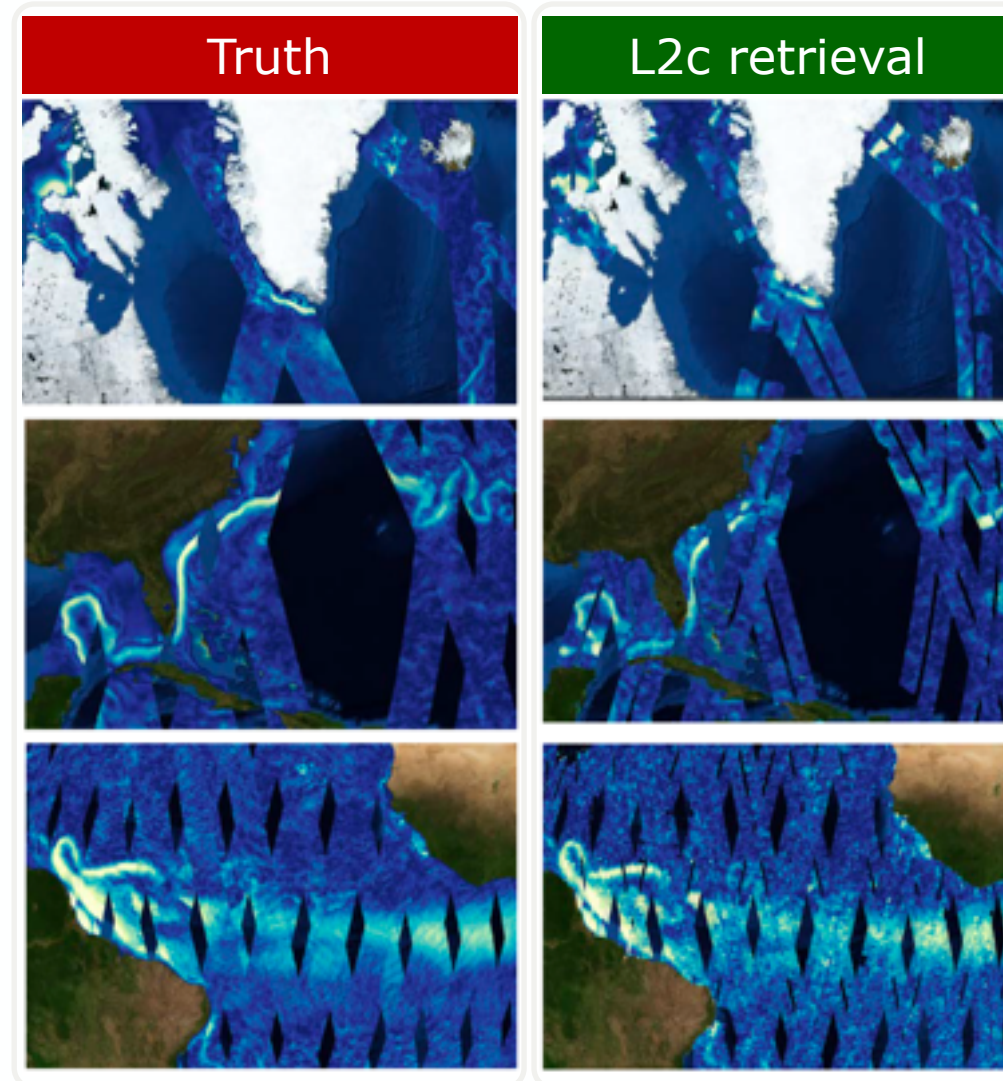
## SKIM L2c Across Track performance

Region	Total $U_{CD}$ ( $U_s$ )	Mapping	Instrument	$U_{WD}$ residual	$U_{SGD}$	Attitude	RMS of 'Truth' $U_{CD}$ ( $U_s$ )
Gulf Stream	0.12 (0.006)	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.01	0.40 (0.055)
Equator	0.10 (0.002)	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.16 (0.042)
Fram	0.10 (0.009)	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.11 (0.030)

## SKIM L2c Along Track performance

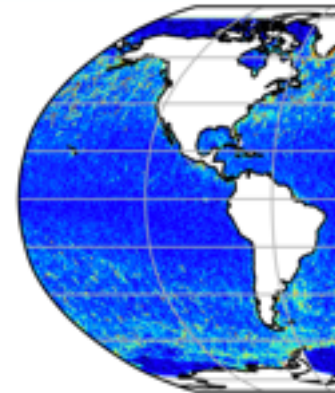
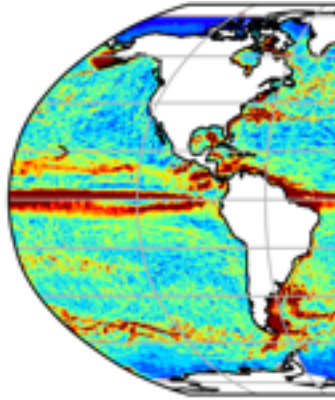
Region	Total $U_{CD}$ ( $U_s$ )	Mapping	Instrument	$U_{WD}$ residual	$U_{SGD}$	Attitude	RMS of 'Truth' $U_{CD}$ ( $U_s$ )
Gulf Stream	0.13 (0.007)	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.04	0.01	0.32 (0.042)
Equator	0.10 (0.003)	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.01	0.13 (0.036)
Fram	0.09 (0.016)	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.01	0.12 (0.024)

SKIM can meet regional L2c performance requirements

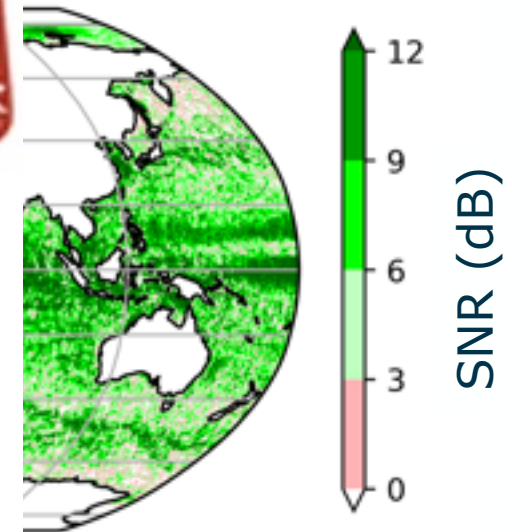


# L2c TSCV

- Scenario: one squared Gauss
- Metric M4: Pe



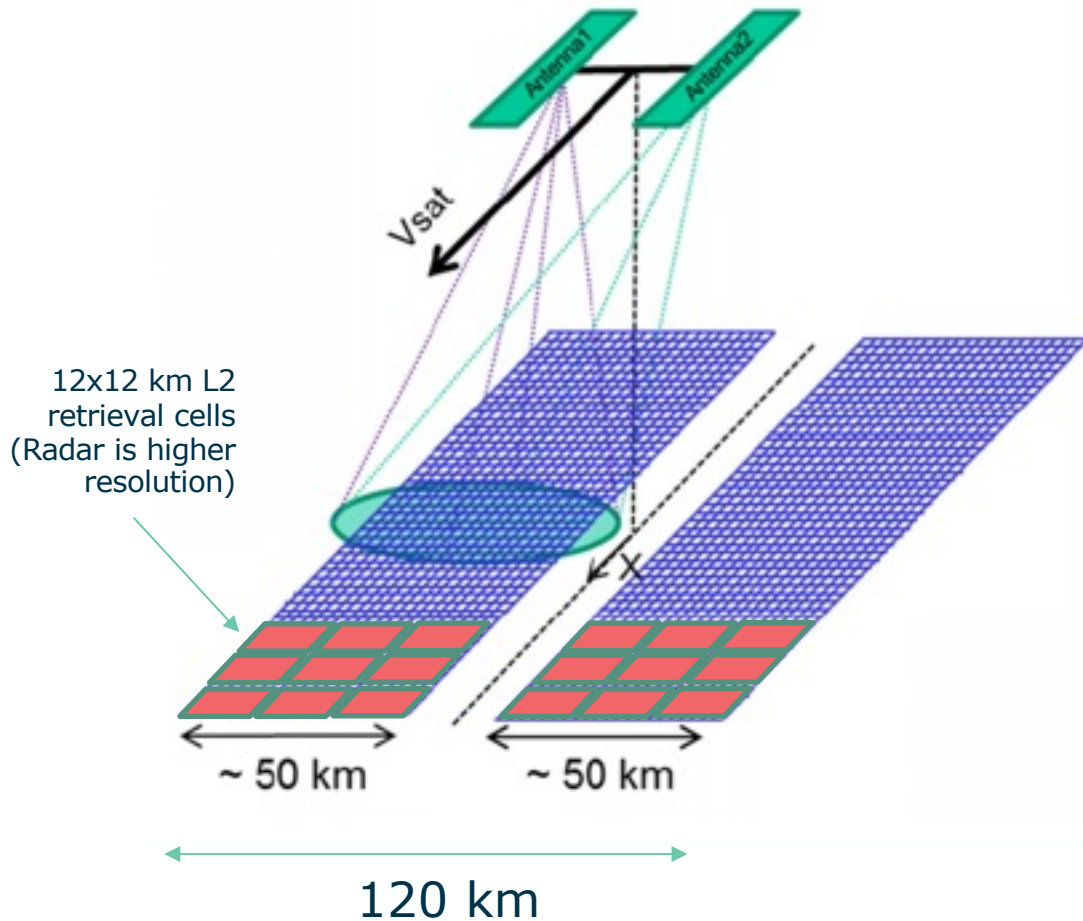
$U_{SGD}$	Attitude	RMS of 'Truth' $U_{CD} (U_s)$
0.06	0.01	0.21 (0.044)
0.05	0.01	0.18 (0.039)



Performance requirements

# S3NG-T ESA Phase A/B1: baseline focus on radar interferometry

## Constellation of 2 **European swath altimeter satellites**



**Sentinel-3 baseline continuity performance/coverage/revisit (ocean, ice, inland water) from Nadir altimetry**

**Then we add New Technologies to enhance the nadir measurements** (NASA/CNES SWOT R&D mission will be the first demonstration in 2023+)

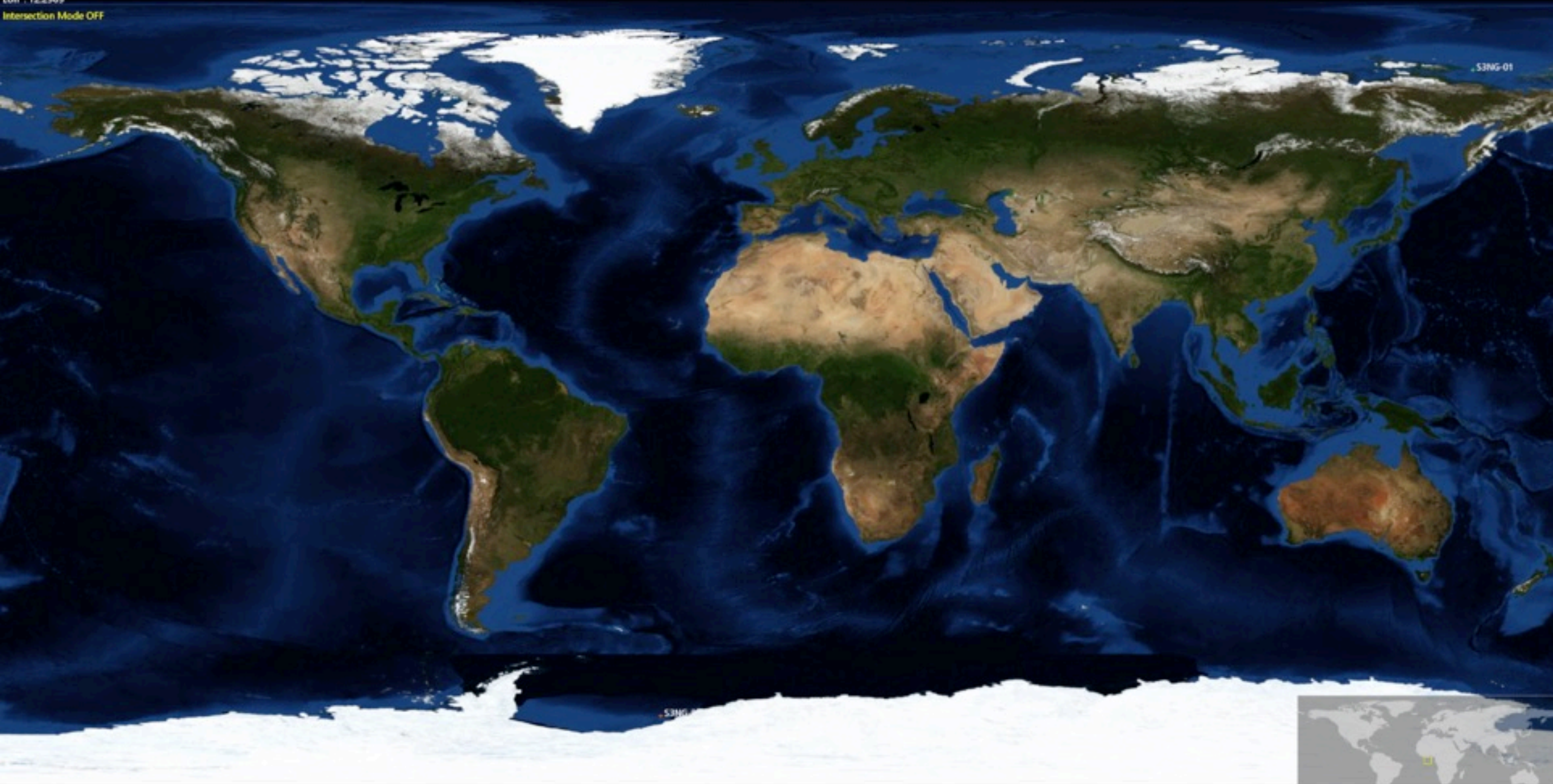
- ← L2 @ ~ 12km ka-band (SAOO) for ocean surfaces (higher native posting)
- ← Ku-band Nadir altimeter required at centre of swath for Hs and long wavelength roll error.
- ← Enhanced hydrology and ocean height gradient measurement
- ← When Hs > 5m performance in (SSH) and Hs is challenged

- ← **First demonstration in space US SWOT Mission - launch this year**
- ← **There will be a gate review @SWOT launch+14 months to confirm the performance of SWOT @L2 to proceed with the swath altimeter design**

ESA EE10 Harmony & EE12 SeaStar mission concepts also relevant

2010-Jan-02 10:00:00.000 UTC  
Lat : -13.7194  
Lon : 12.2969  
Intersection Mode OFF

# Variant B: 2 swath altimeters (1/2 day increment)



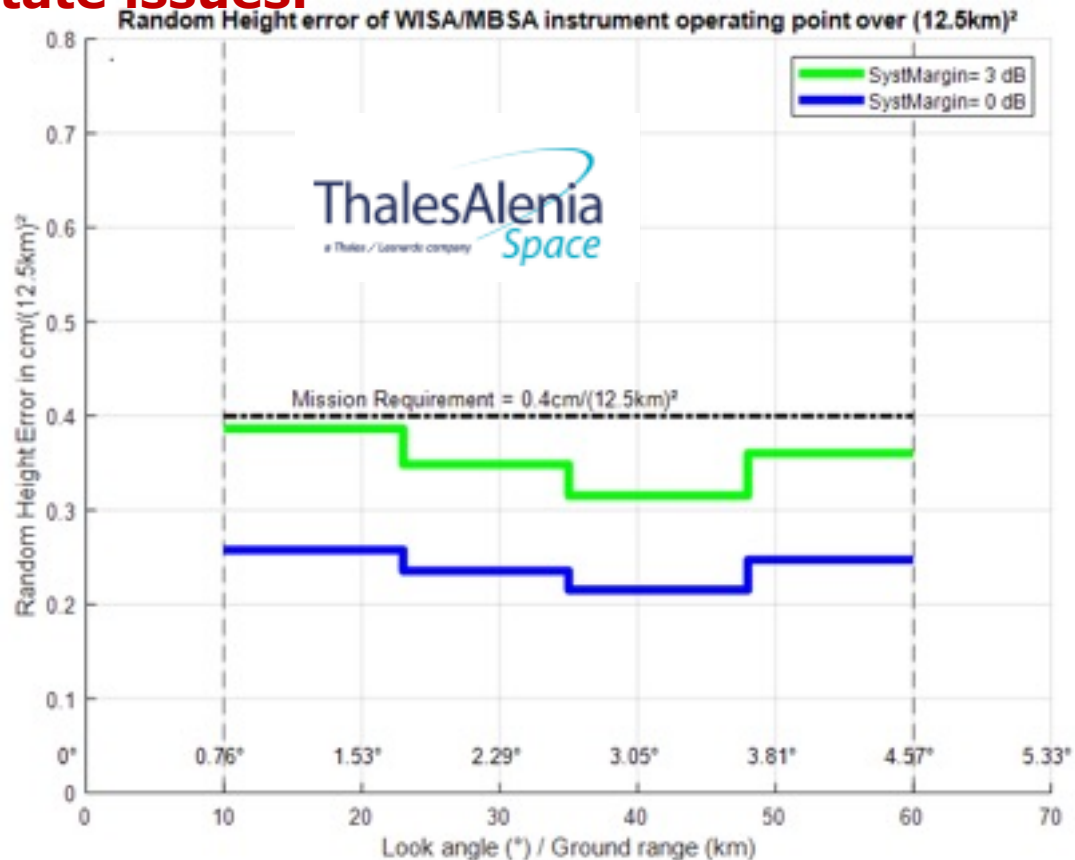


# Interferometry; Addressing Sea State issues

SSH may be underestimated due to velocity bunching.

Layover, in the range direction due to swells, is expected to decrease the coherence of the interferometry and increase the random altimetry noise.

**Spatial smoothing is one of the main methods for reducing the residual error of sea state issues.**

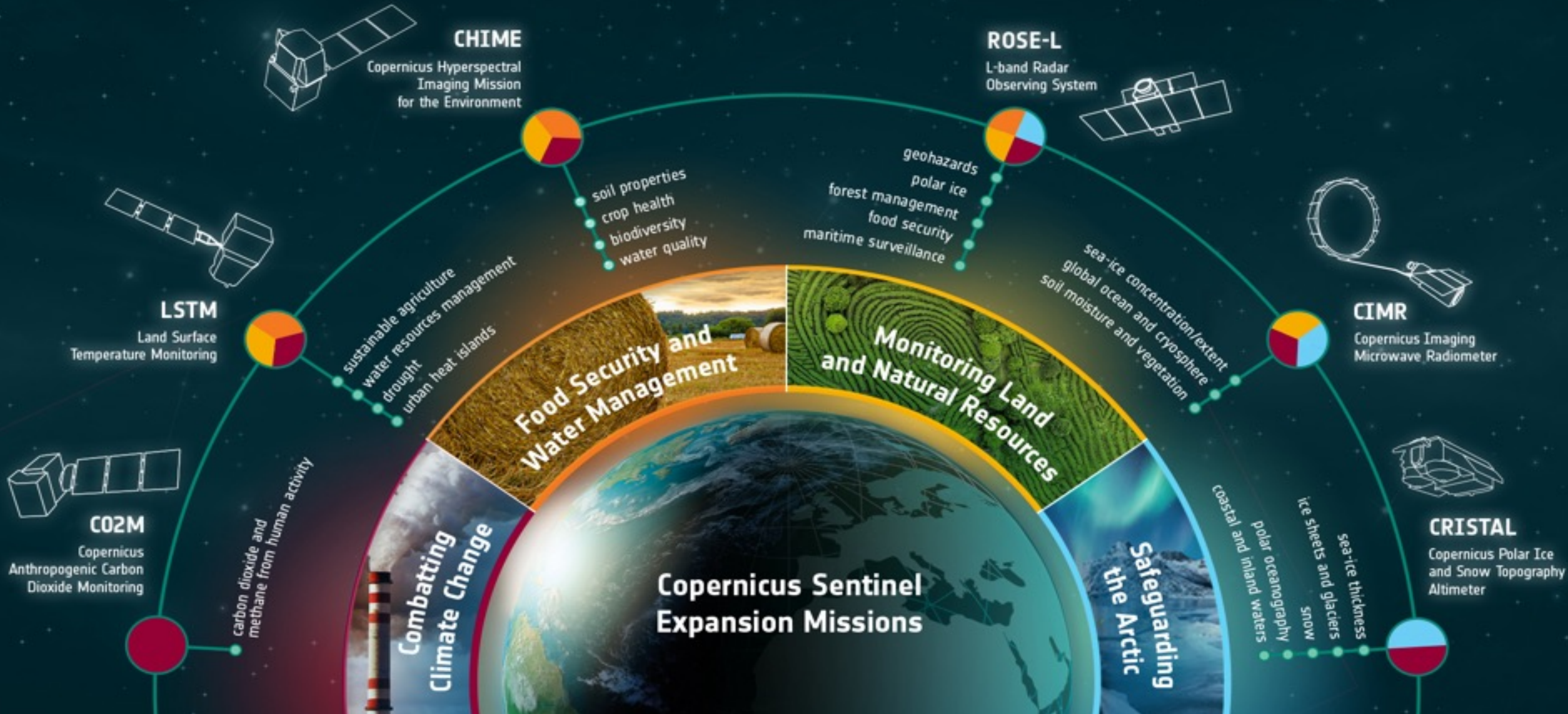




PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



co-funded with



+ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

# CRISTAL

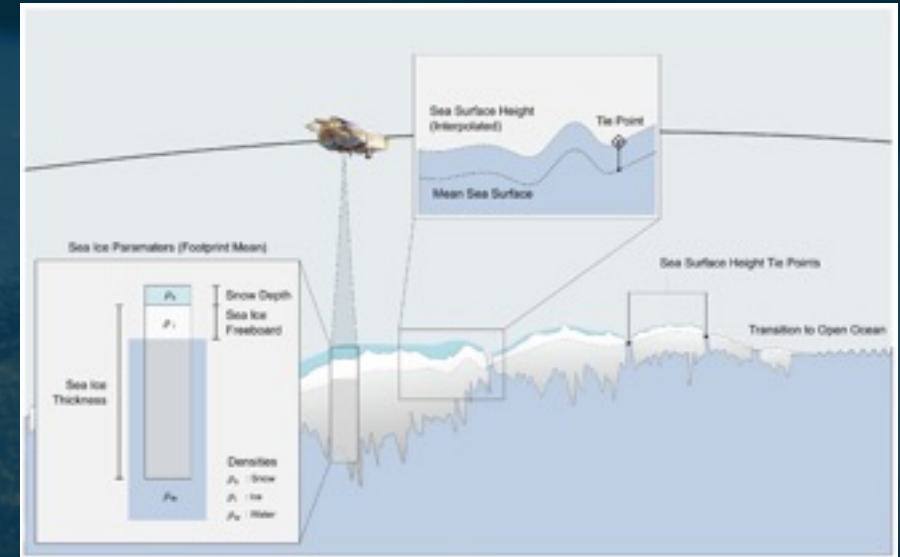
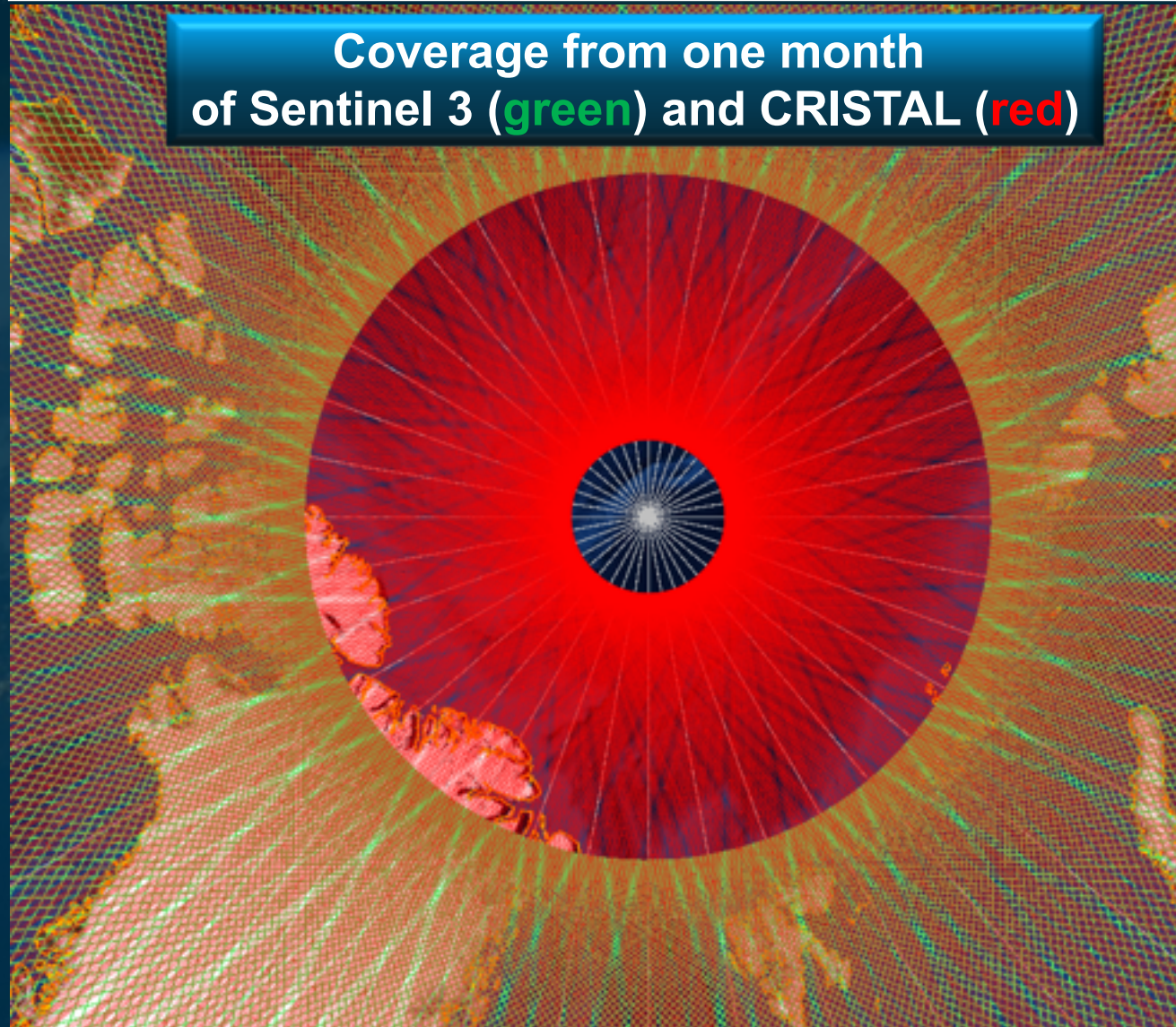
Polar Ice and Snow  
Topographic Mission

Mapping polar sea  
ice thickness and  
land ice elevation  
with overlaying  
snow depth

Expected launch A 2028 / B 2030

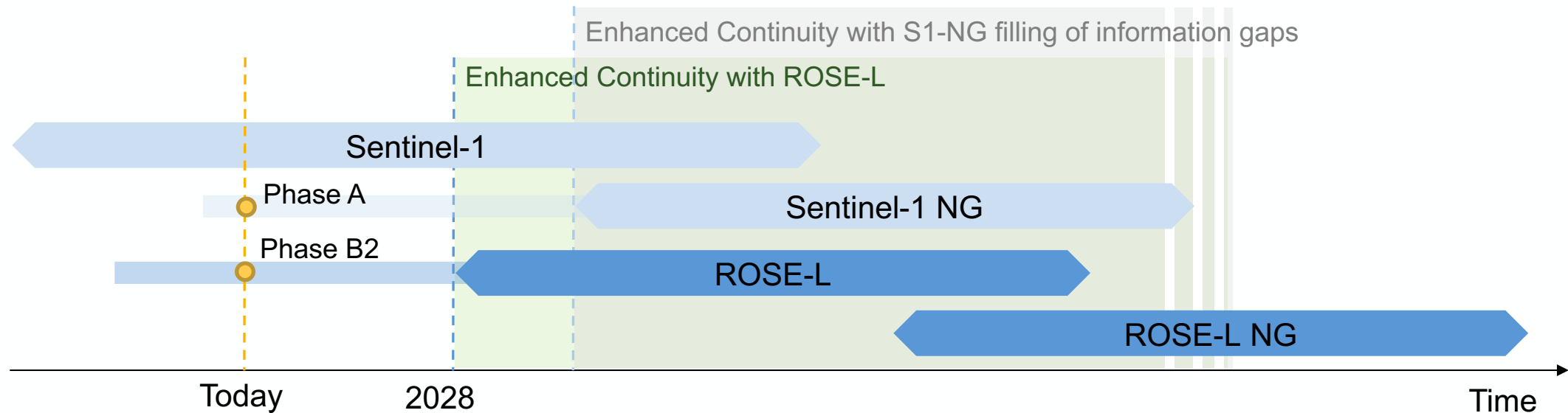


# Dense Polar altimetry coverage



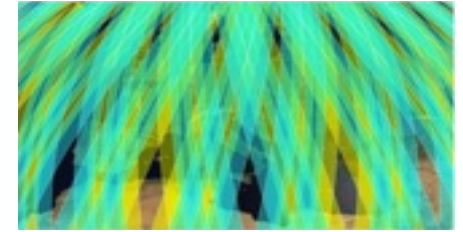
# ROSE-L Mission Background and Justification

- Copernicus Expansion mission
  - Responds directly and traceably to Copernicus user needs
  - Provides **new information not yet available** through current Sentinel missions (Gaps)
  - Provides enhanced information **in combination with current Sentinel missions** (Enhanced continuity)
- **Same orbit and acquisition geometry as Sentinel-1 (IWS)** providing an operational dual-frequency system of satellites and enhanced information products
- Two ROSE-L satellites : PFM & FM2 + options currently under Phase B2+ study



# ROSE-L Mission Requirement

- High-resolution e.g.  $< 50\text{m}^2$  for enhanced continuity
- Swath width  $> 260\text{ km}$  for co-location with Sentinel-1 Interferometric Wide mode
- Revisit: 6 days Global, 3 days Europe and 1 day Arctic
- 6-day Repeat Pass Interferometry (with 2 satellites) to monitor surface deformation and motion
- Polarisation diversity to maximise information content and robustness of information extraction (dual and full polarimetry)
- Low Noise Equivalent Sigma Zero ( $< -28\text{ dB}$ )
- Stringent data latency requirements: 10min over Europe, 200min Global
- AIS-onboard to support Maritime Monitoring
- Wave-mode to operate over oceans and open seas



Europe: 3-day revisit



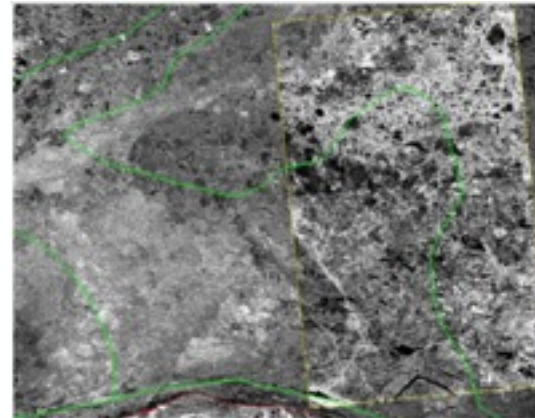
12-day Coverage Mask

**Cryosphere**

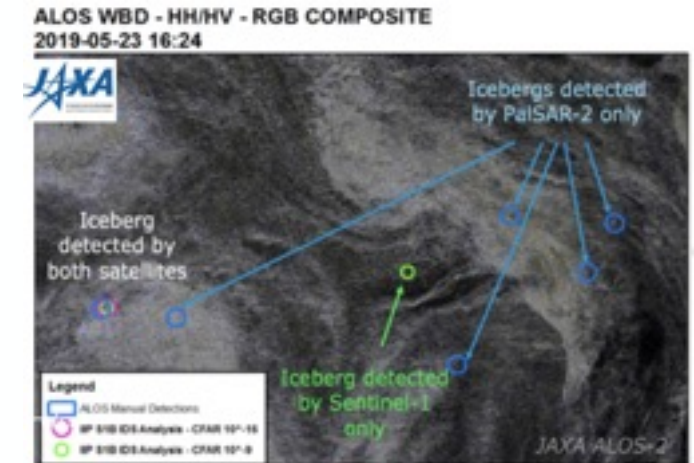
- Enhanced high-resolution sea ice information
- Snow Water Equivalent through InSAR

**Maritime Monitoring**

- Improved Maritime Monitoring (Iceberg, Oil Spills and Vessel Detection and Mapping)



Sea Ice Mapping



Iceberg Detection

# ROSE-L and Sentinel-1 NG - Synergy

## ROSE-L

L-Band (1.27 GHz)

Revisit

- 6 days Global
- 3 days Europe
- 1 day (Pan)Arctic

Resolution < 50 m2

Dual-Pol (DP) and Quad-Pol (QP)

Swath (DP) 260 km

Launch: 2028

## Sentinel 1 NG

C-Band (5.4 GHz)

Revisit

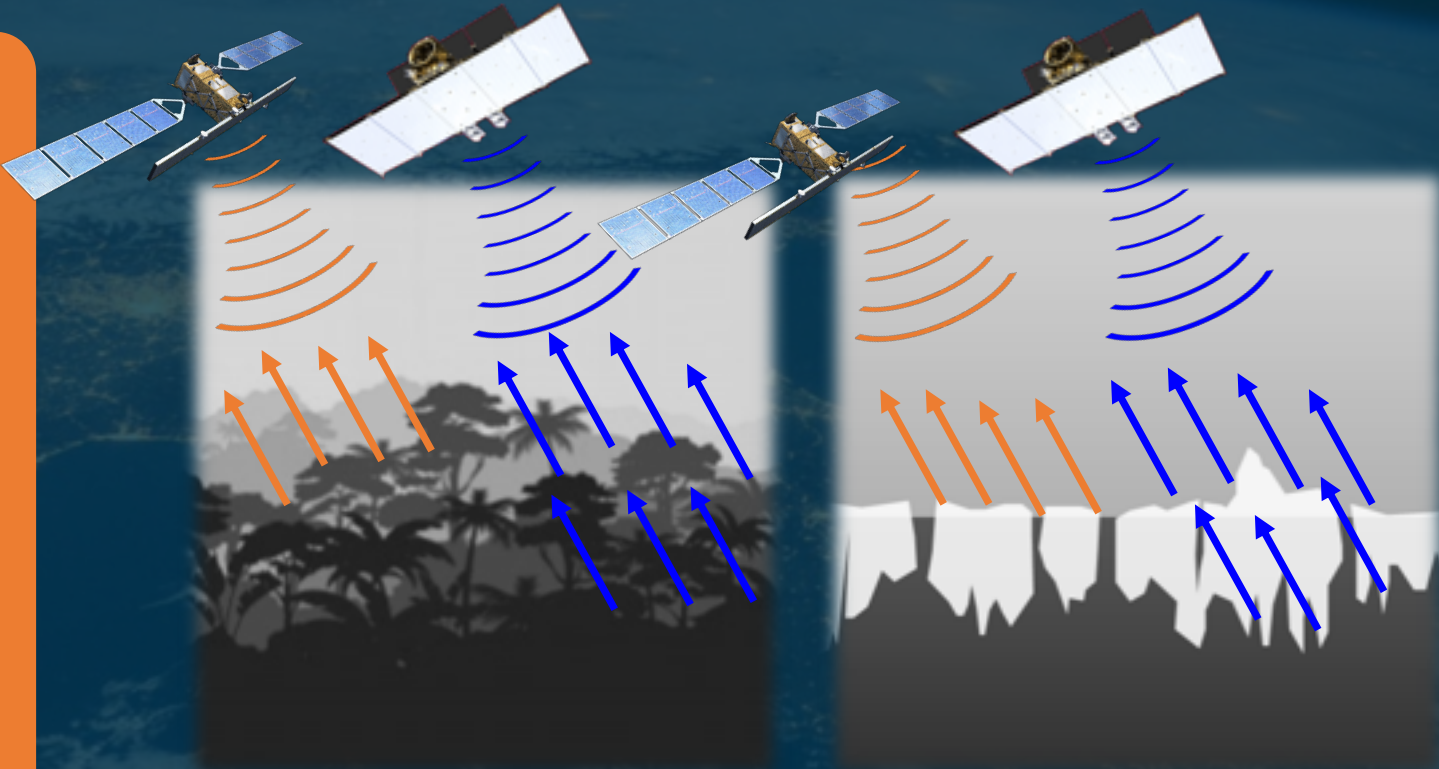
- 3 days Global
- 0.5 day Arctic

Resolution < 25 m2

Dual-Pol and Quad-Pol

Swath > 400 km

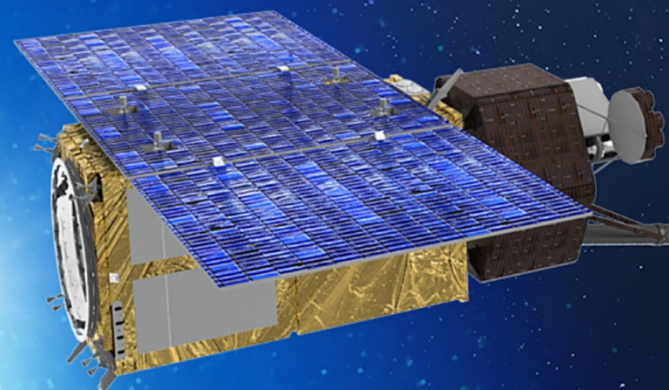
Launch: > 2032



C- and L-Band combined acquisitions enhance the sensitivity to the geophysical parameters of interest (e.g. different penetration in vegetation, snow and ice)

# CIMR

Daily imaging of polar oceans, sea ice and snow



Understanding the polar oceans and their impact on our changing climate

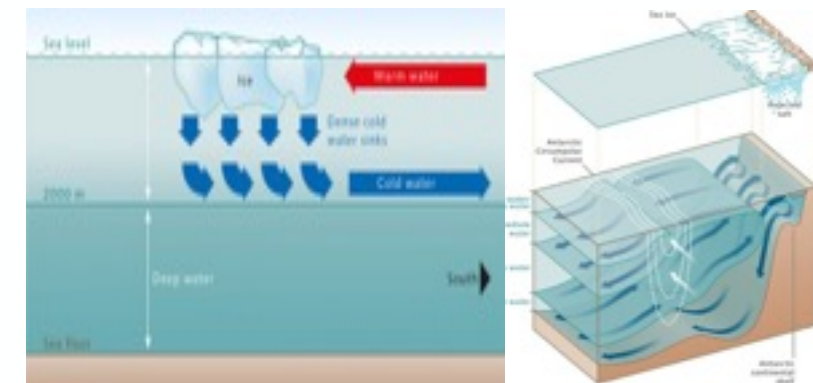
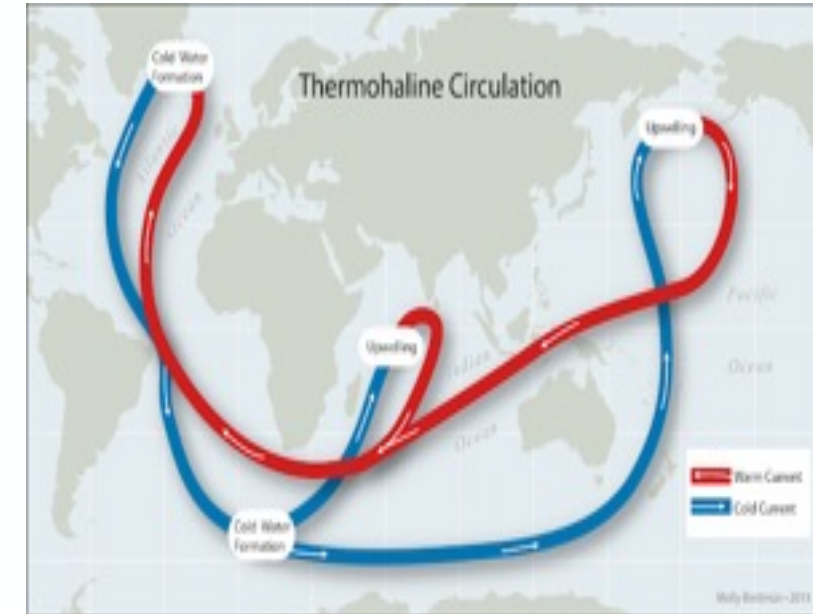
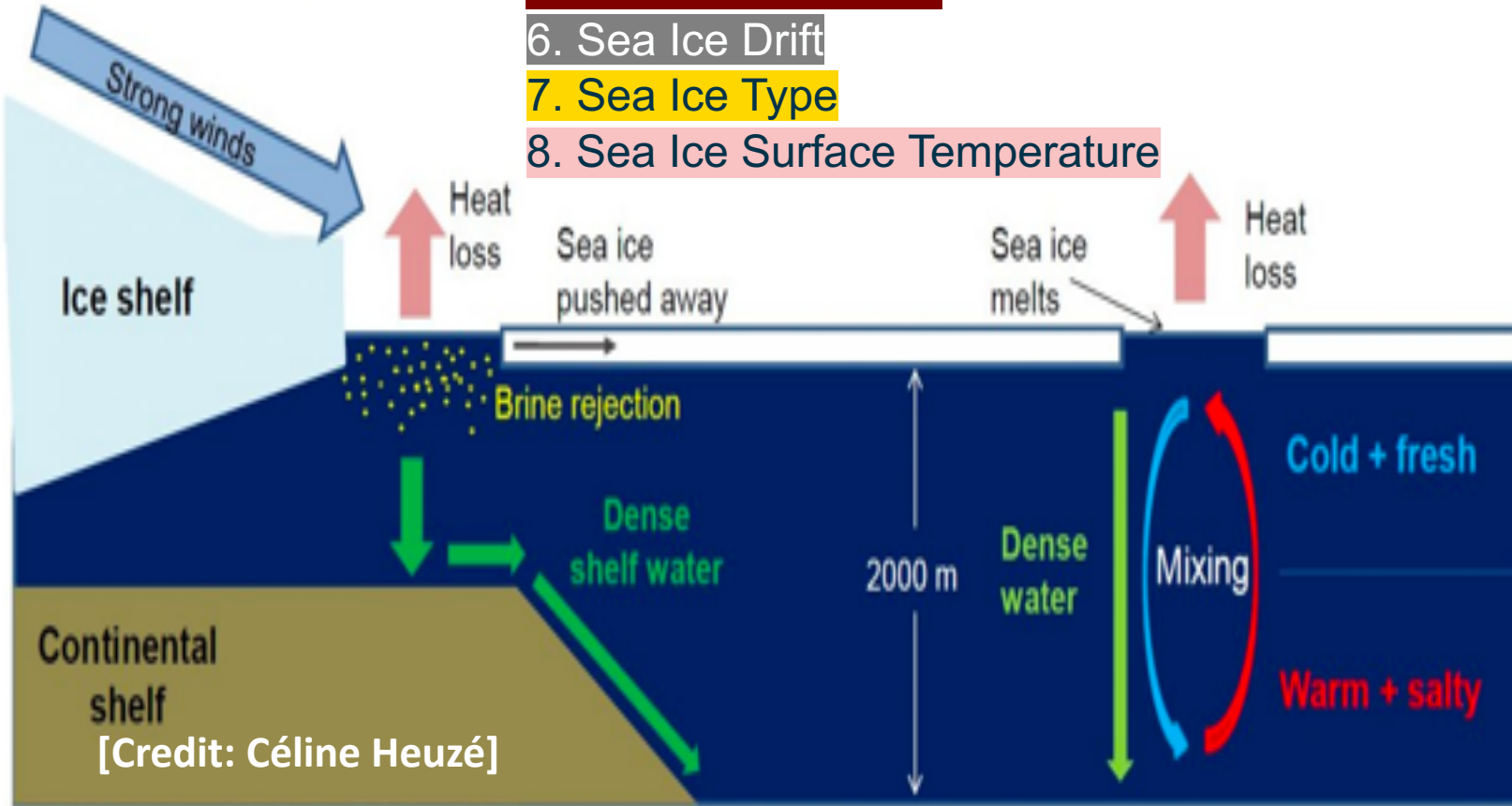
Expected launch A 2029 / B 2031



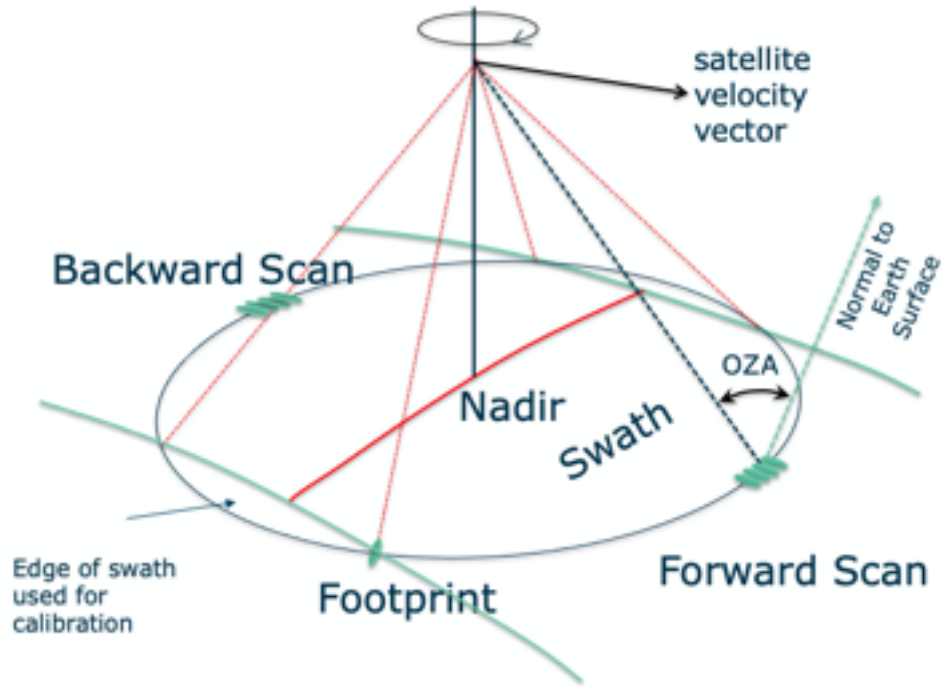


# CIMR: Cryosphere-ocean-atmosphere processes

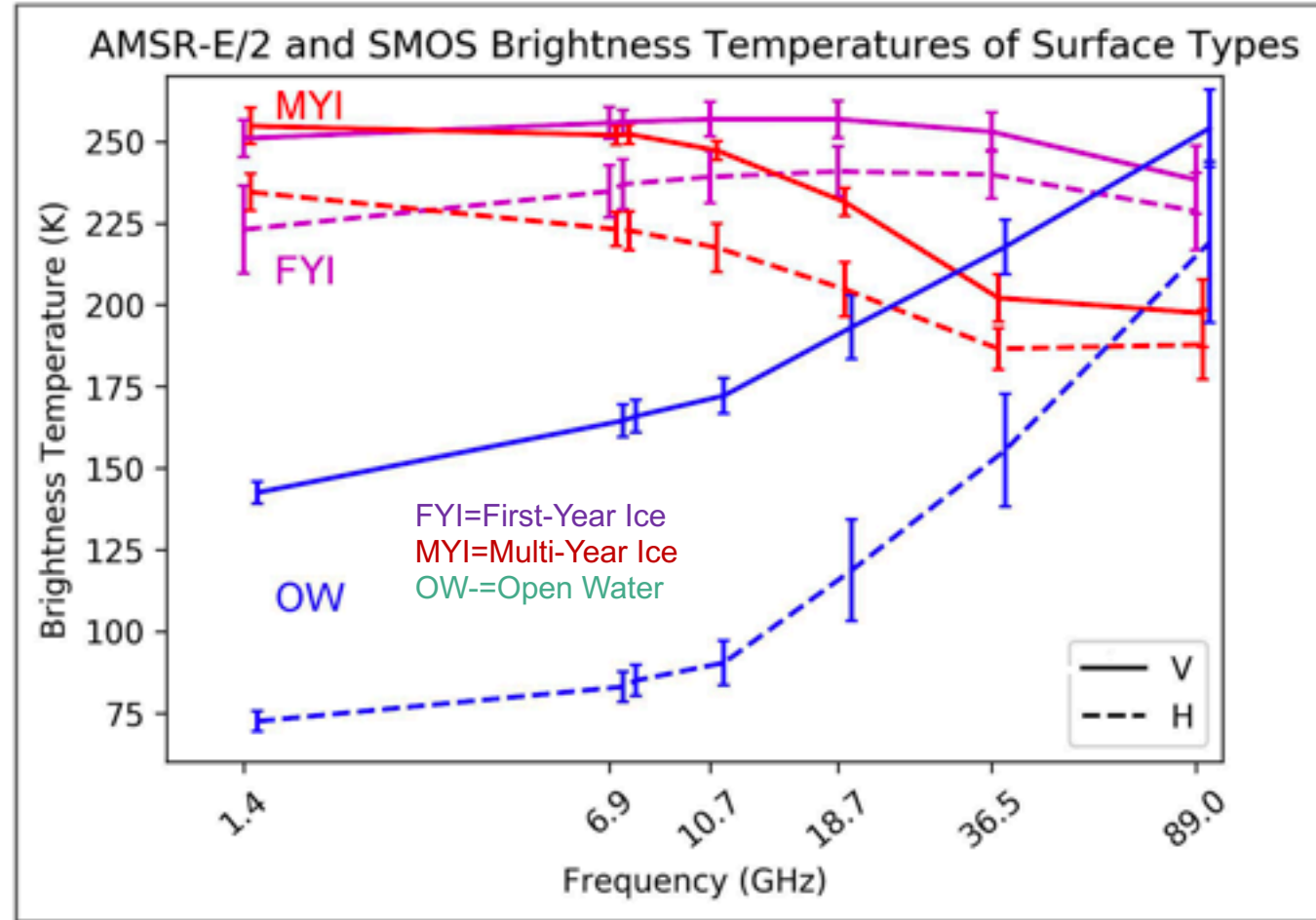
1. Sea Ice Concentration
2. Sea Surface Temperature
3. Sea Surface Salinity
4. Surface Winds
5. Sea Ice Thickness
6. Sea Ice Drift
7. Sea Ice Type
8. Sea Ice Surface Temperature



# CIMR conically Scanning, L-, C/X, K/Ka-bands (H,V, 3rd Stokes)

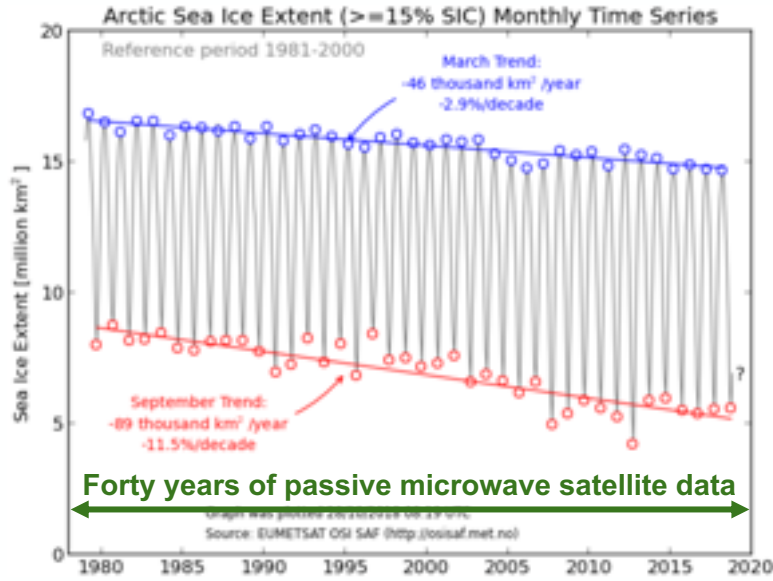


Donlon, Craig; Vanin, Felice (2019): Scanning Geometry of the CIMR instrument. Figshare <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.7749398.v1>

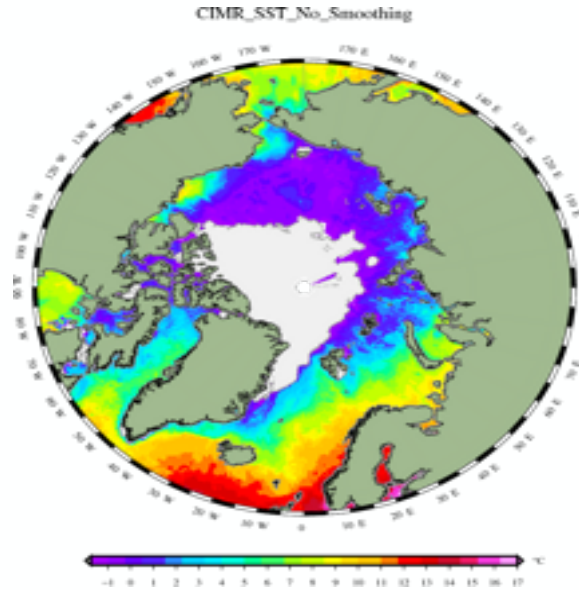


Lu, J. and Heygster, G.: AMSR-E/2 and SMOS Brightness Temperatures of Surface Types, , doi:10.6084/m9.figshare.7370261.v2, 2018.]

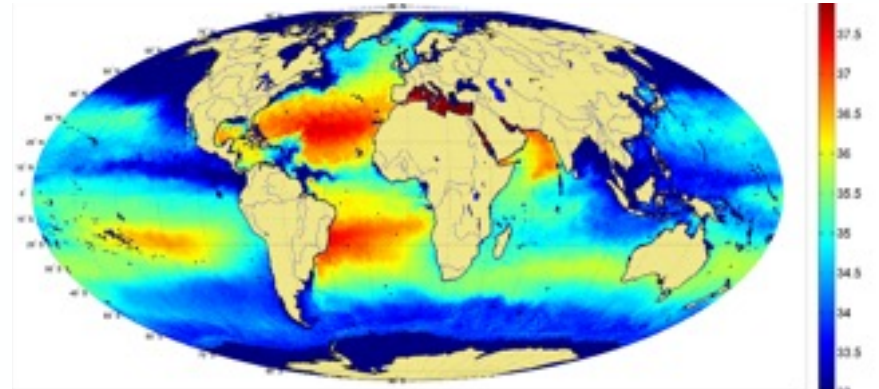
# Sea Ice Concentration



# Sea Surface Temperature

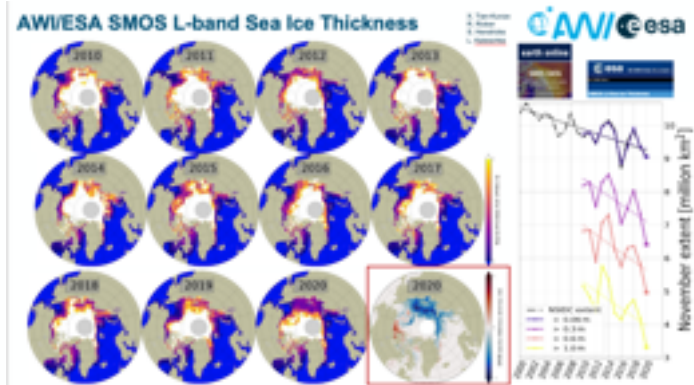


# Sea Surface Salinity

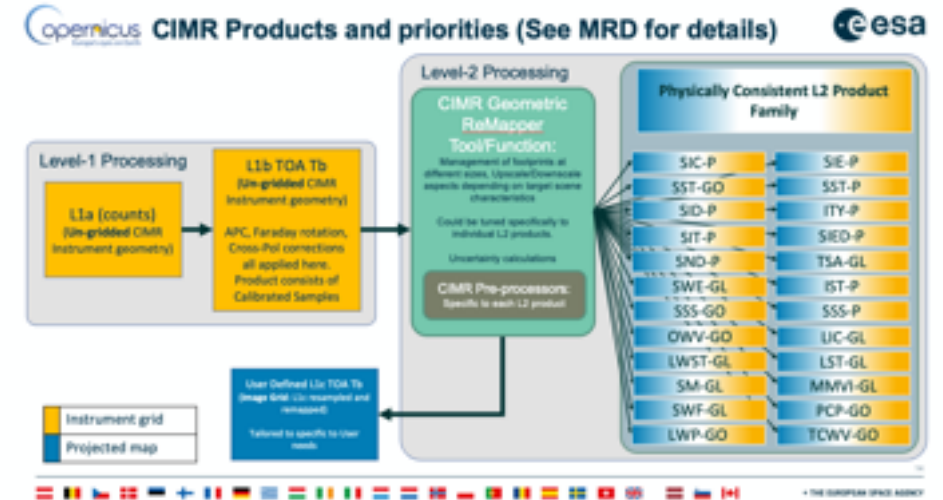
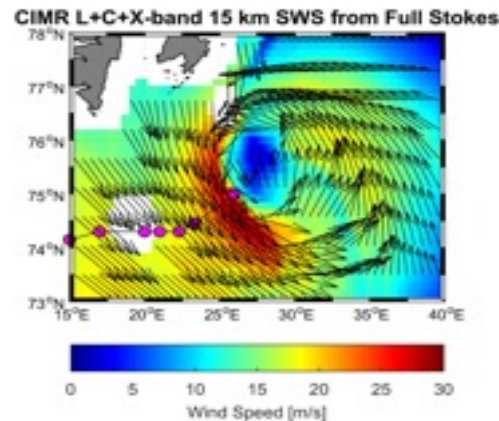


Sea Ice Drift, ice type, snow, soil moisture...

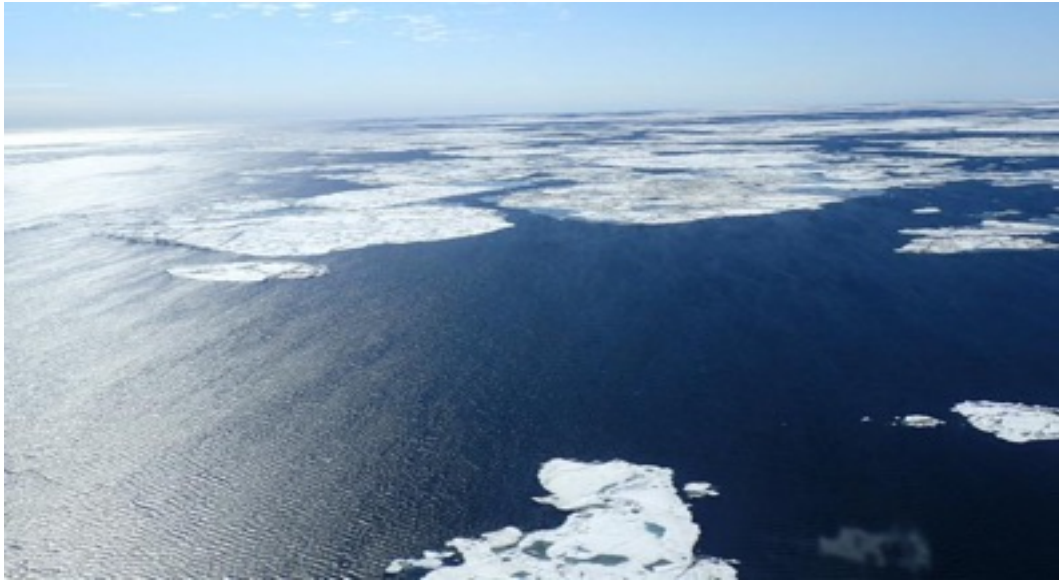
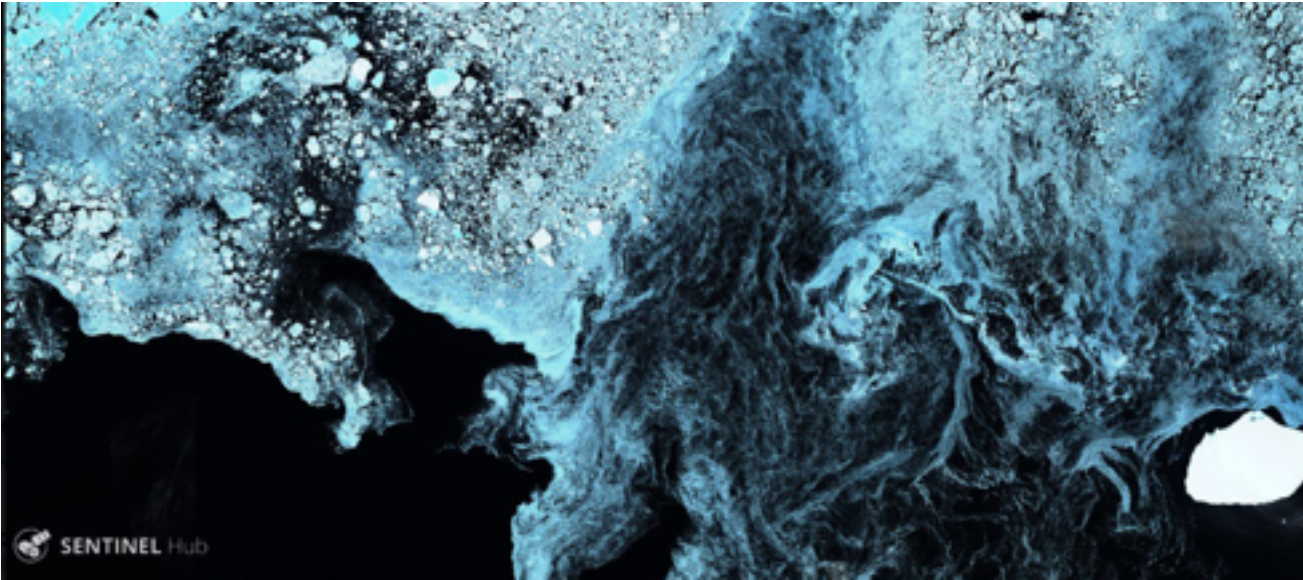
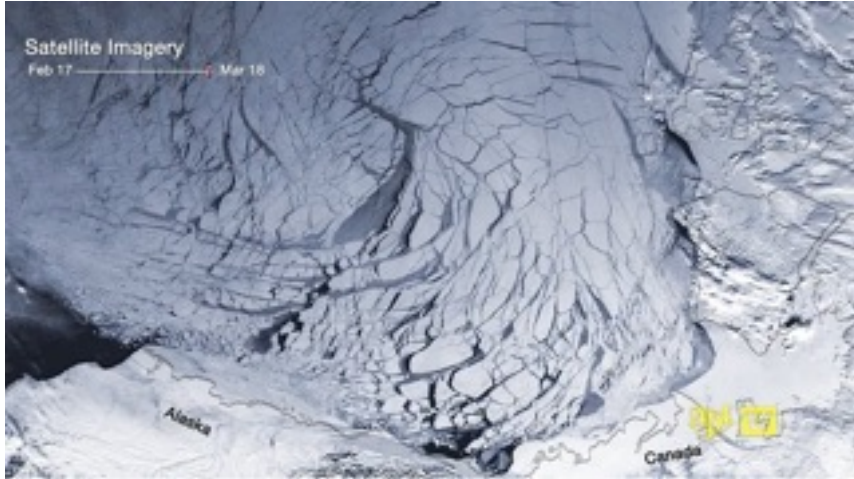
# Thin Sea Ice thickness



# Surface Wind over ocean

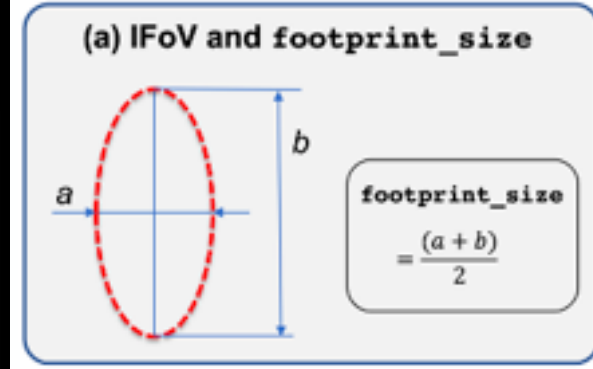
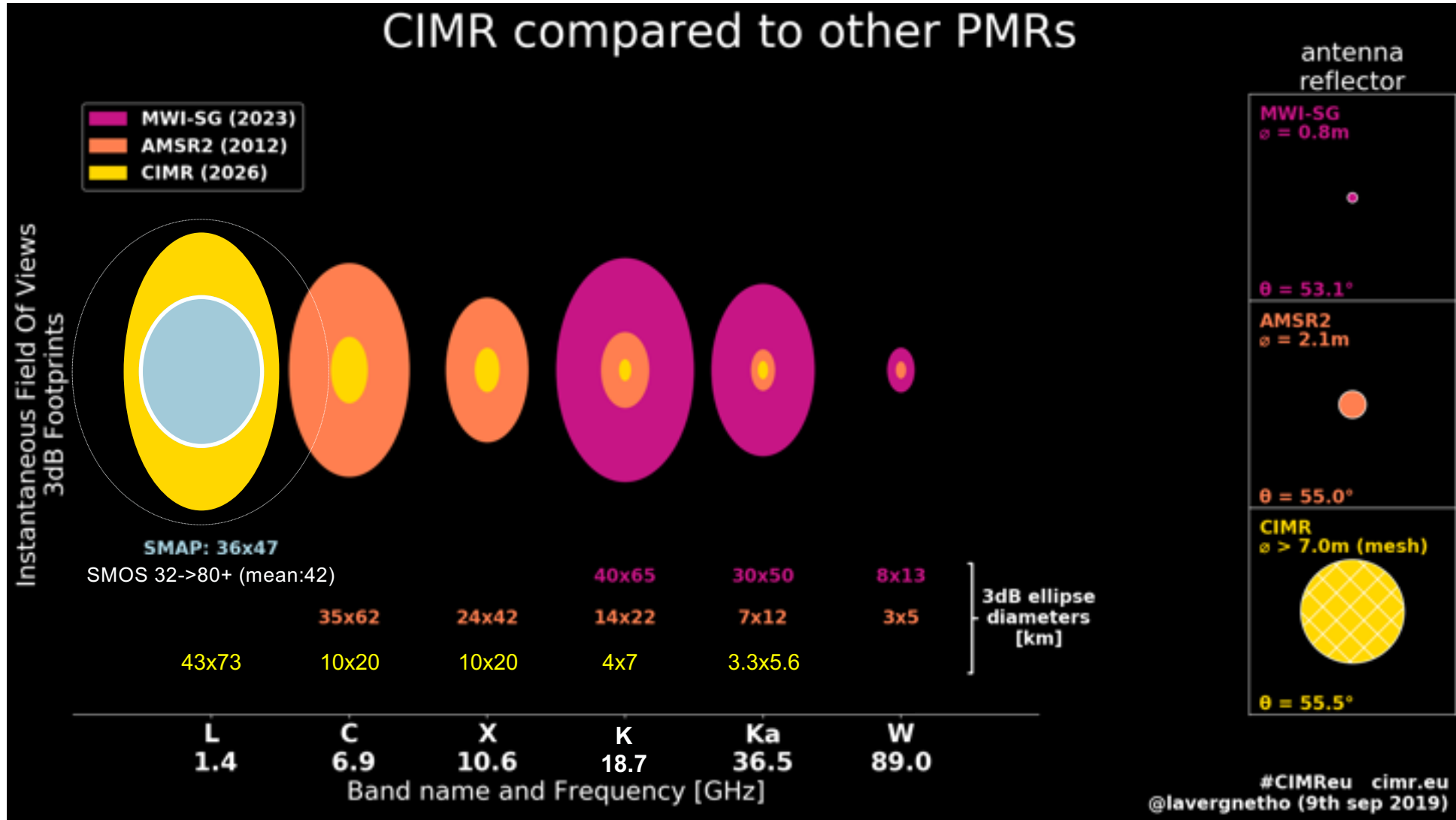


# Sea Ice spatial characteristics are complex.

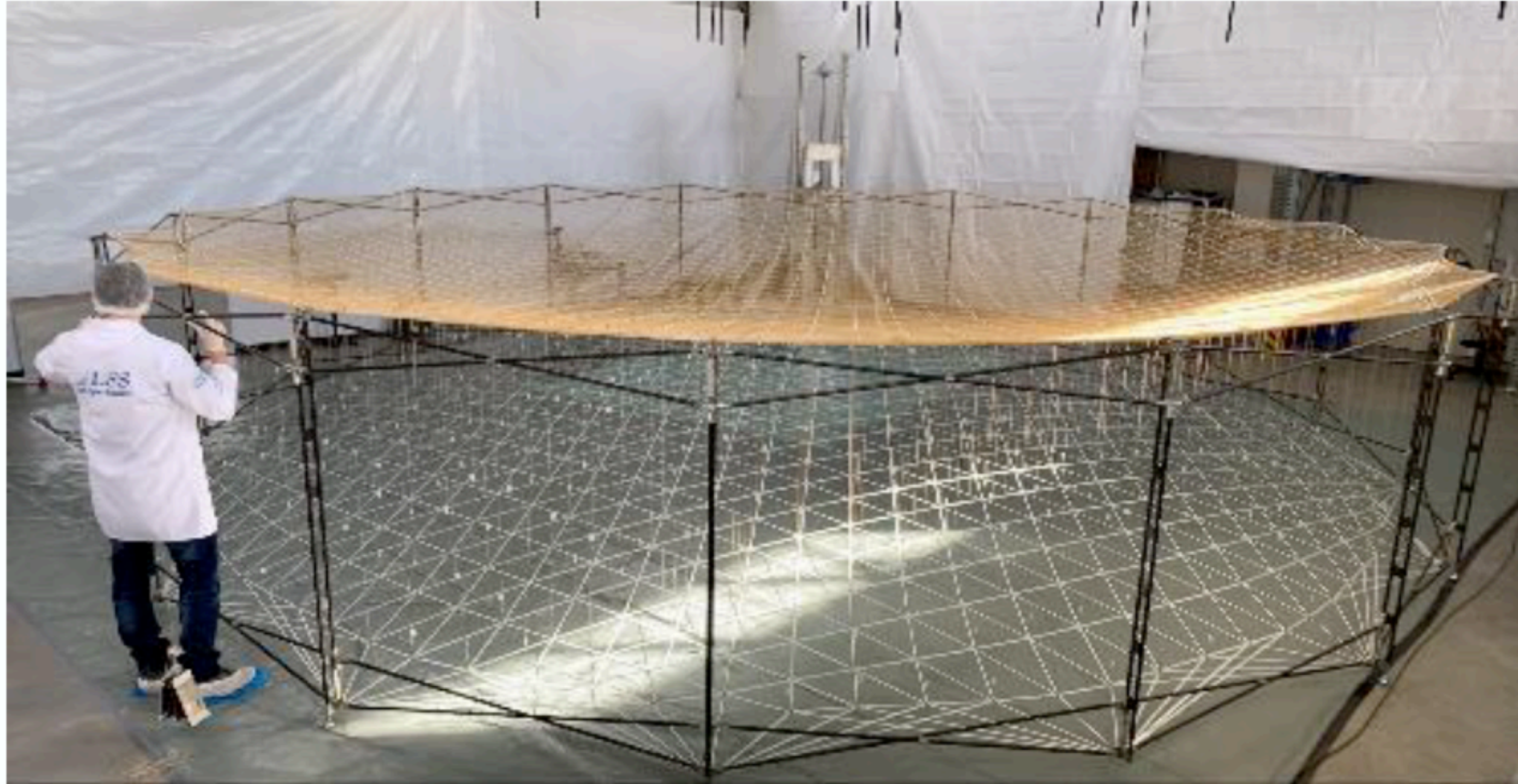


# CIMR -3dB projected IFoV and footprint\_size

## CIMR compared to other PMRs

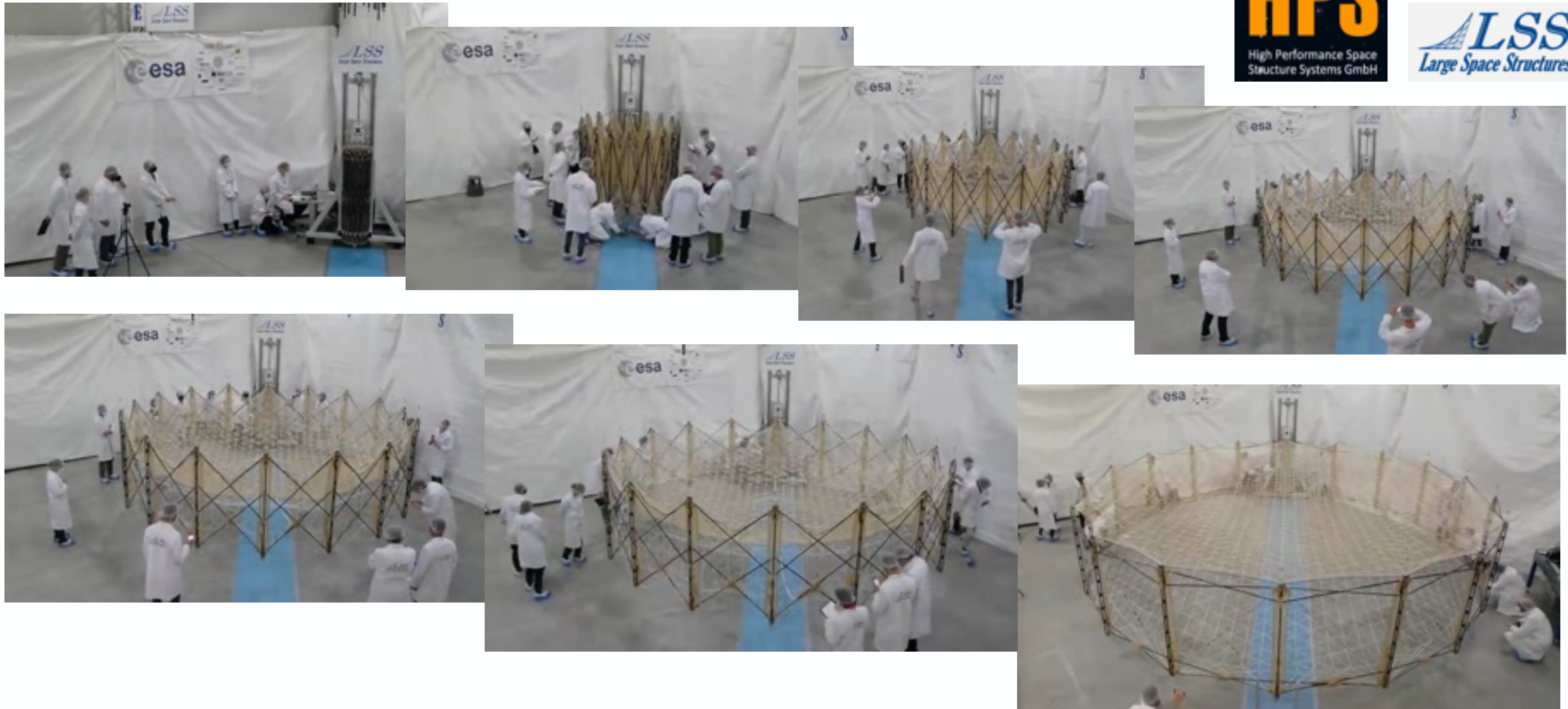


footprint\_size:  
 L: <60 km  
 C: ≤15 km  
 X: ≤15 km  
 K: ≤ 5.5 km  
 Ka: ≤5 (g:4) km



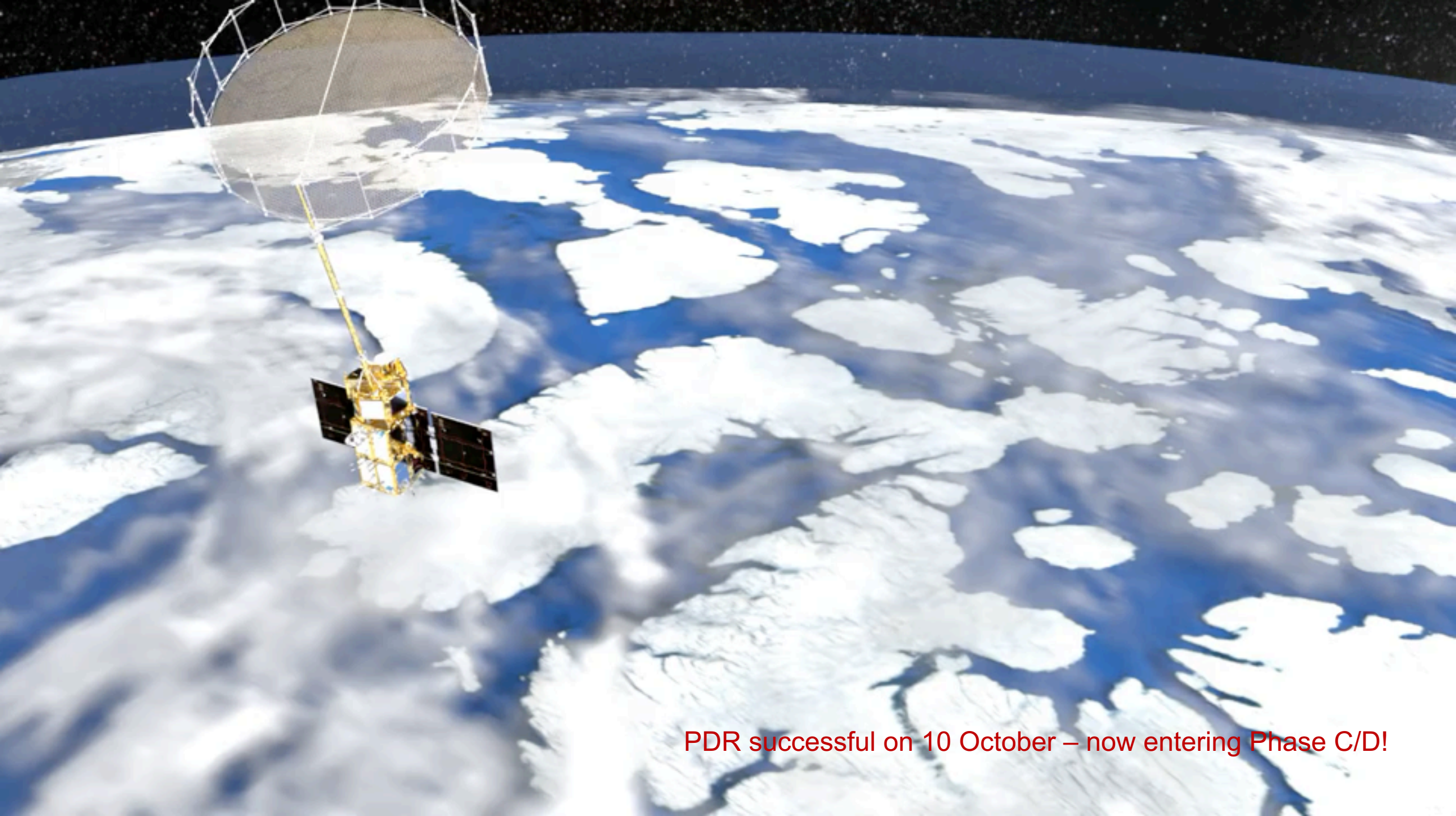
**8m K-band reflector (LEOB - courtesy LSS GmbH)**

# 8-meter LEOB EM post-TVAC deployment (6th May, 2022)



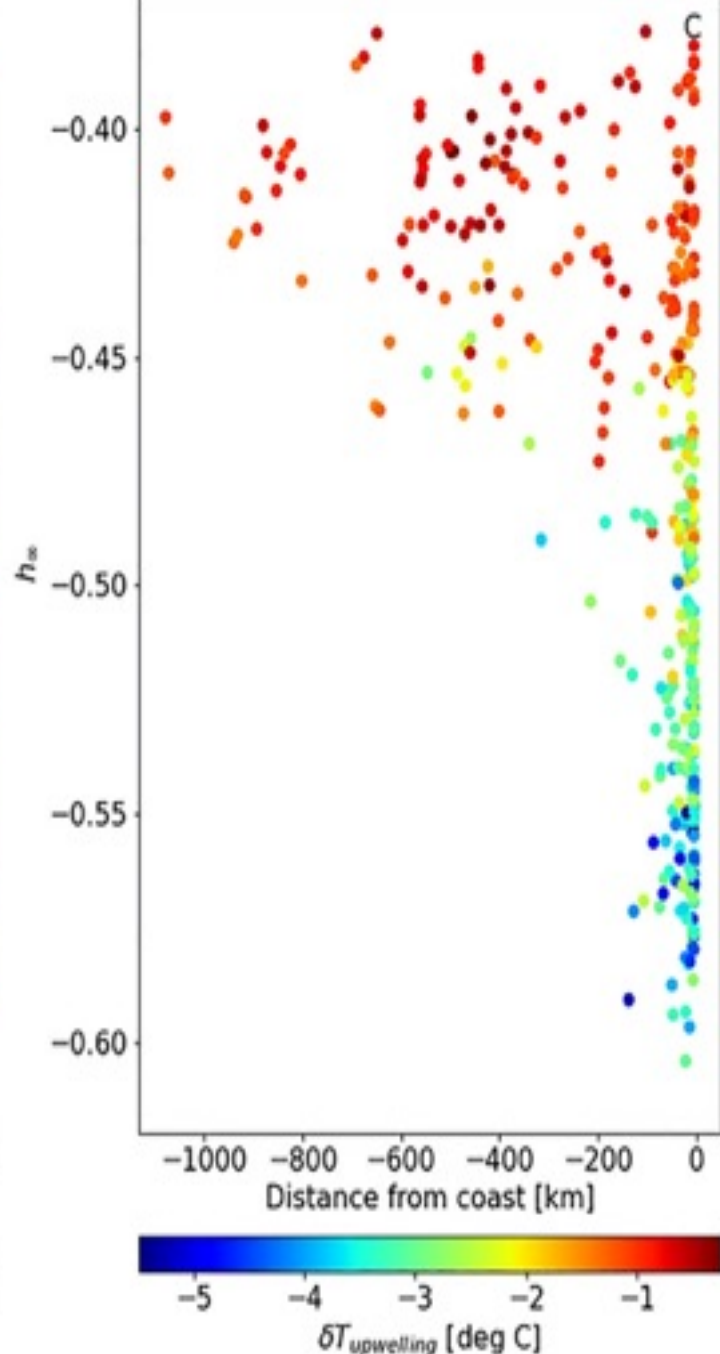
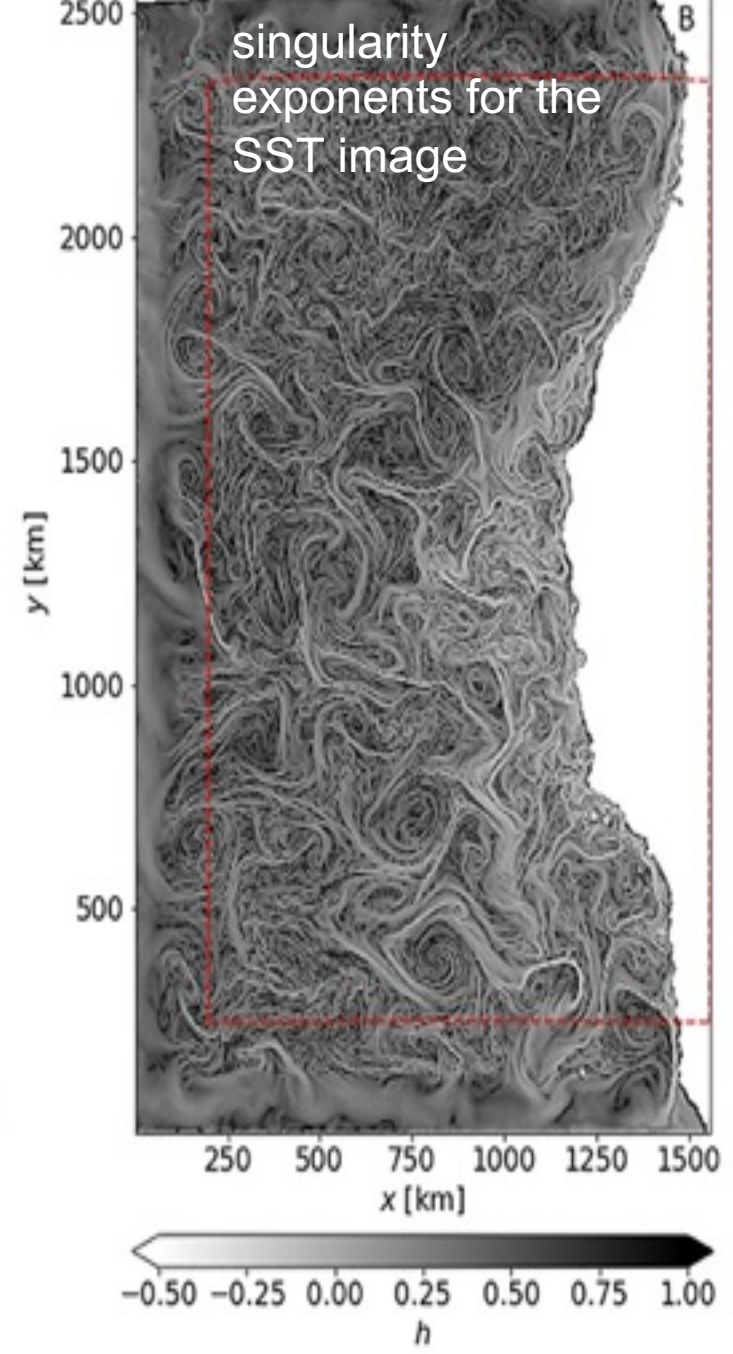
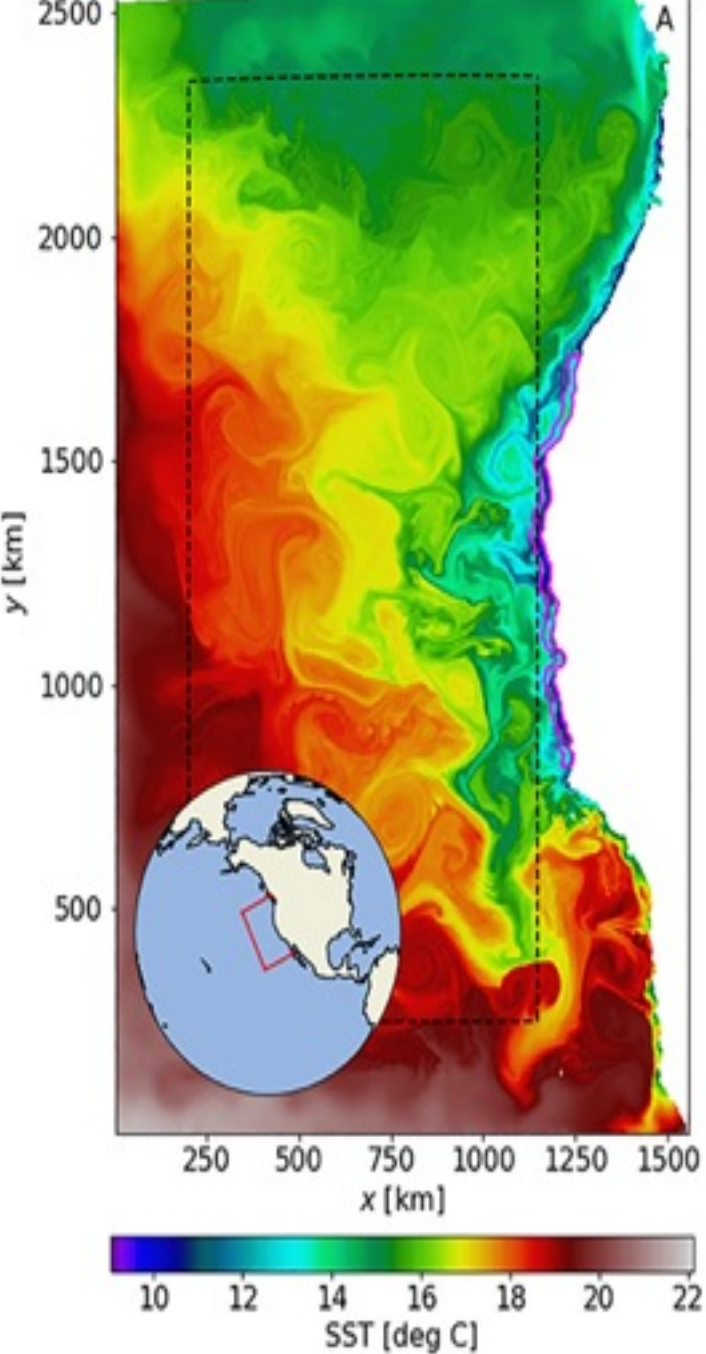
“motorized” deployment: complete cycle with latching





PDR successful on 10 October – now entering Phase C/D!





On the Seasonal Cycle of the Statistical Properties of Sea Surface Temperature  
 Geophysical Research Letters, Volume: 49, Issue: 8,  
 First published: 11 April 2022,  
 DOI: (10.1029/2022GL098038)



*Harmony* is ESA's Earth Explorer 10 mission, comprised of two companion satellites in a loose convoy with Sentinel-1D (along-track separation  $\sim 350$  km).

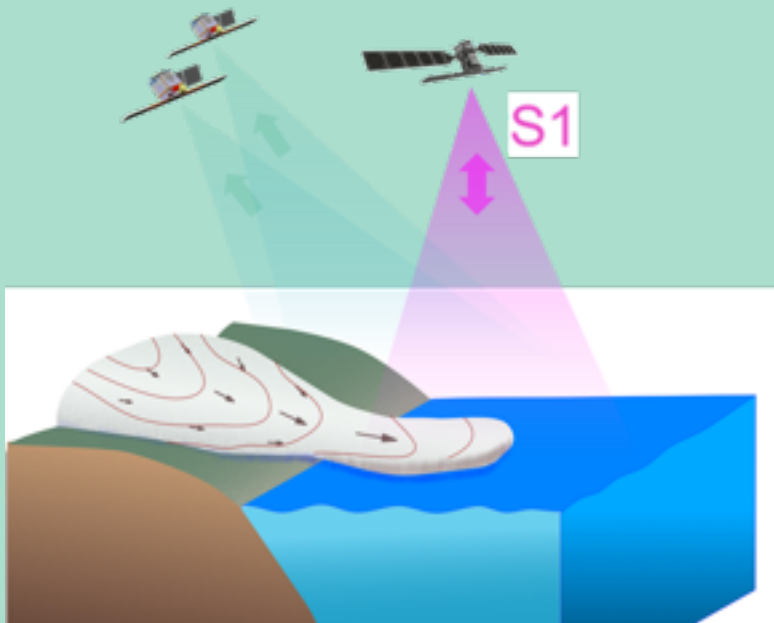
- Its payload suite consists of a passive SAR and a multi-view TIR instrument
- Foreseen launch in 2029
- Multi-faceted mission (solid Earth, land ice and ocean)

*Harmony* will resolve (sub)kilometre scale motion vectors and topography changes associated to dynamic Earth System processes:

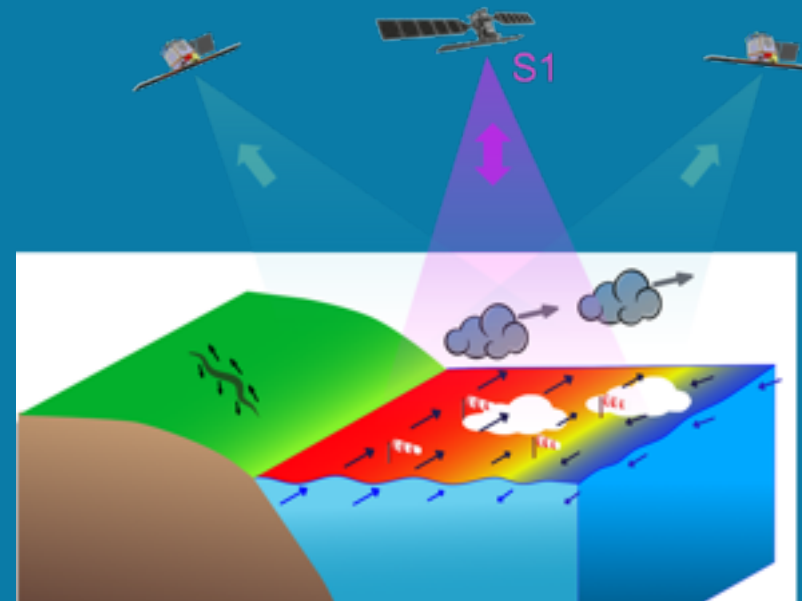
- heat, gas and momentum exchanges at the air-sea interface;
- the inner structure of ocean-atmosphere extremes;
- instantaneous sea-ice motions to characterize sea-ice dynamics;
- 3-D deformation vectors associated to tectonic strain;
- topographic change at active volcanoes worldwide;
- gradual and dynamic volume changes of global mountain and polar glaciers.

# Harmony in a nutshell

**2 Harmony Satellites using Sentinel 1 SAR instrument as the illuminator.**  
**Each satellite includes a SAR instrument receiver in C-band and one Thermal Infra-Red payload.**



Cross-track Interferometric phase covering land applications like glaciers, permafrost, volcanoes.



~250 km swath in Stereo phase covering 3-D surface deformation ocean applications: surface motion, surface winds, sea surface temperature, cloud motion.

Year 1

Year 2

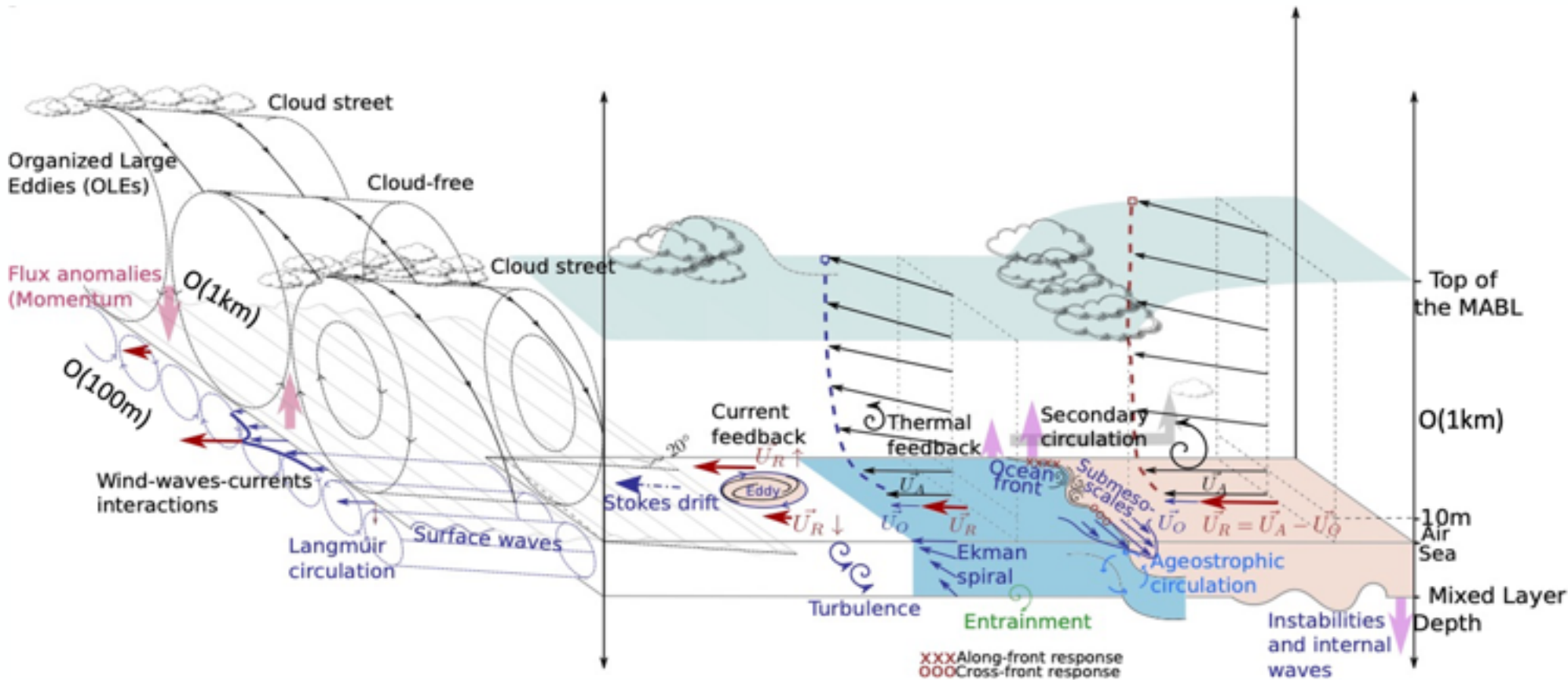
Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

# Bringing Harmony at the air-sea interface

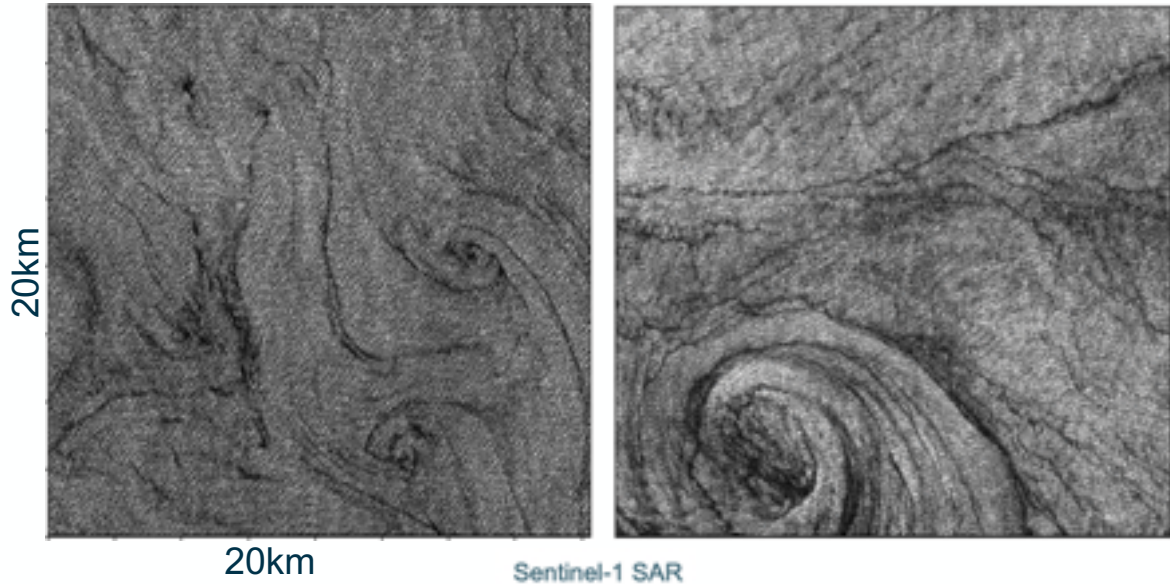
Exchanges of **heat**, **gas**, **momentum** at the air-sea interface depend on the **thermal**, **chemical**, **kinematic** imbalance between ocean and atmosphere that are modulated by **km to sub-km** scale processes



**Air-sea fluxes** depend on

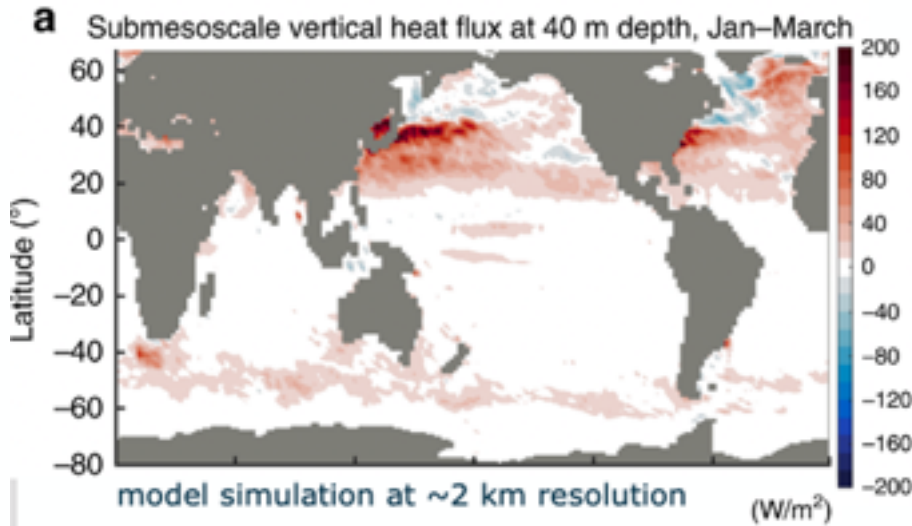
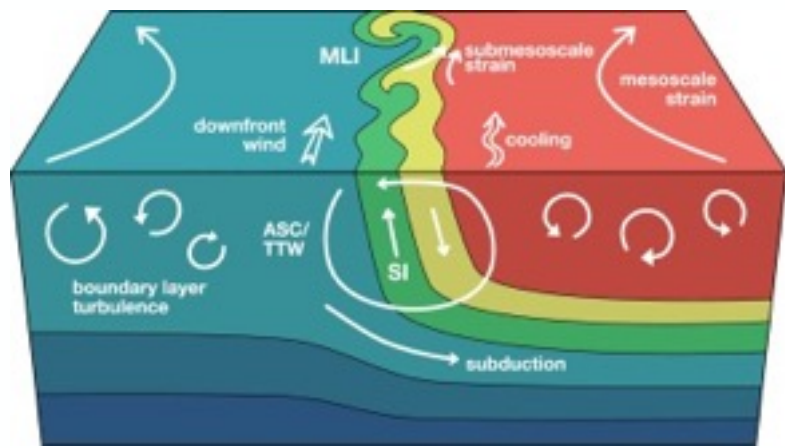
- **Surface stress** impacted by currents and winds, which are affected by Sea Surface Temperature (SST)
- **Boundary layer depth** (which varies by 2 orders of magnitude under different stability conditions)

# Submesoscale ocean features



→ **FUNDAMENTAL**

Submesoscale processes modulate **exchanges of heat, salt, carbon, nutrients** between upper and deep layers, with **unknown long-term impacts on marine ecosystem and climate**



→ **KEY MISSING INFORMATION**

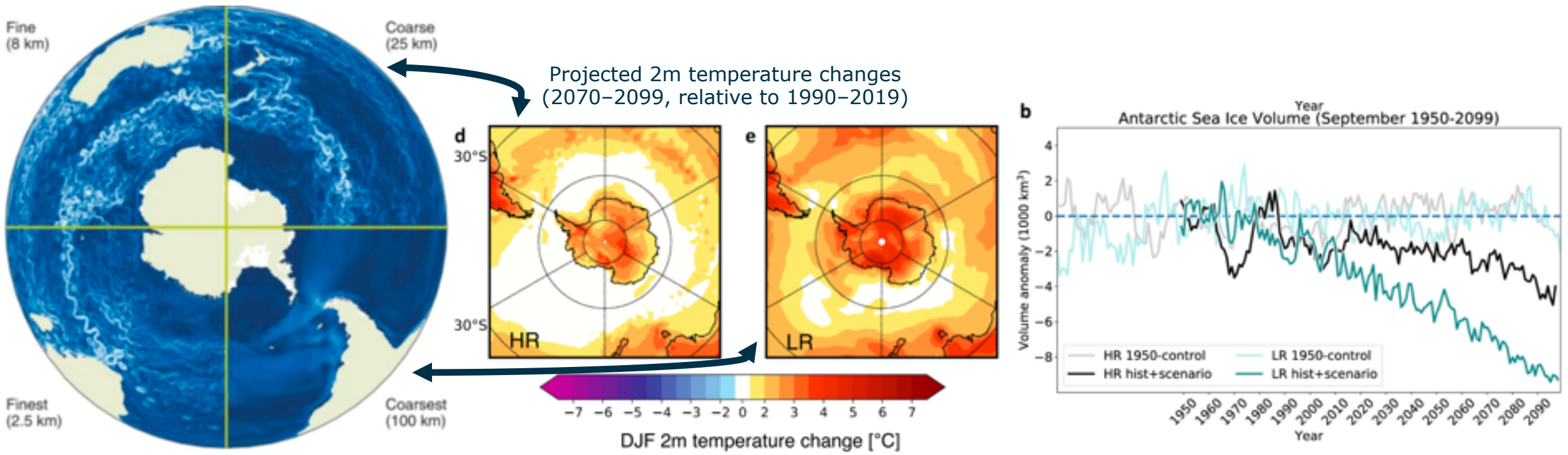
any topography-based mission only provides non divergent fields (2D fields, missing vertical flow)

Gula et al. 2022 doi:[10.1016/B978-0-12-821512-8.00015-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821512-8.00015-3)

Su et al Nature Comm 2018 doi:[10.1038/s41467-018-02983-w](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-02983-w)

# Small scale upper ocean dynamics

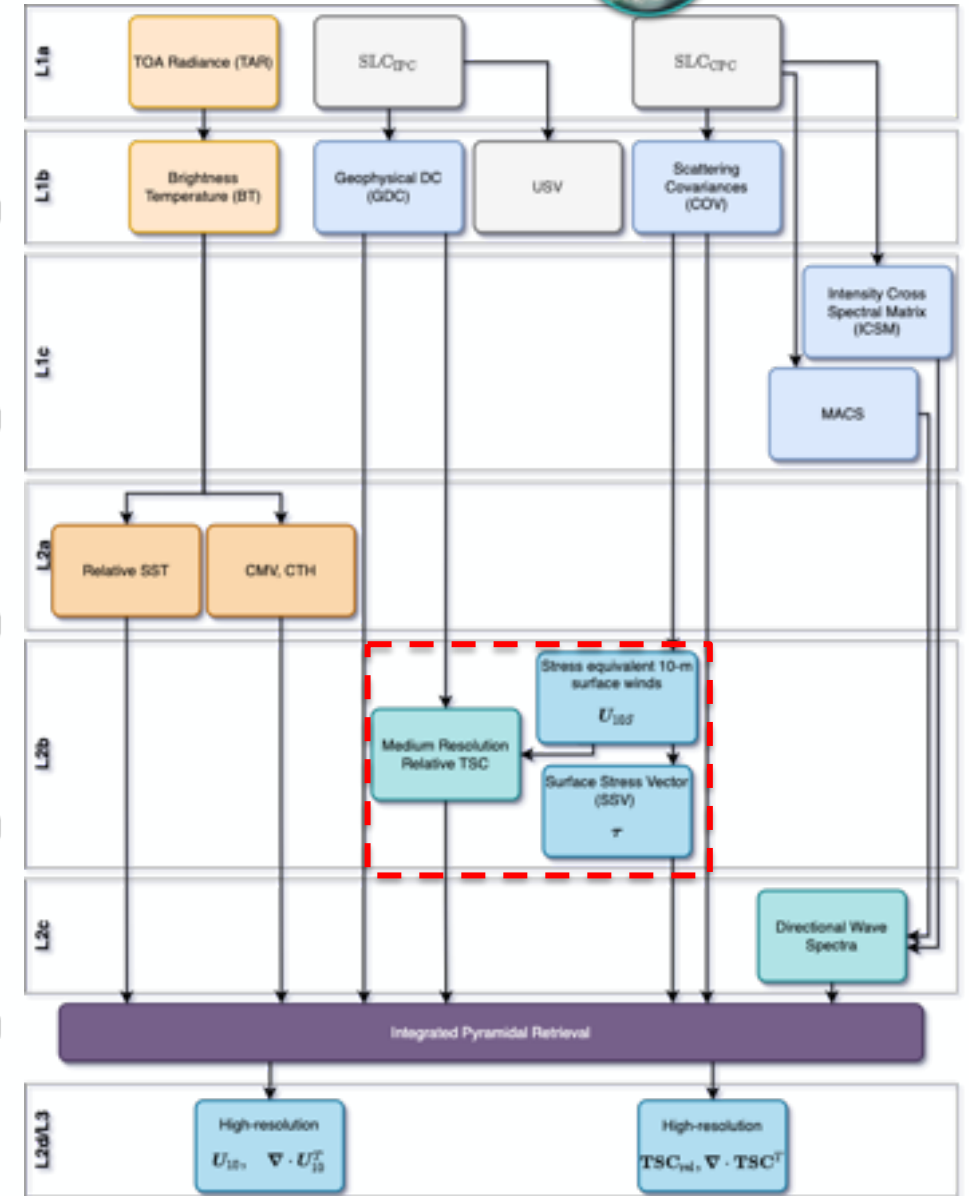
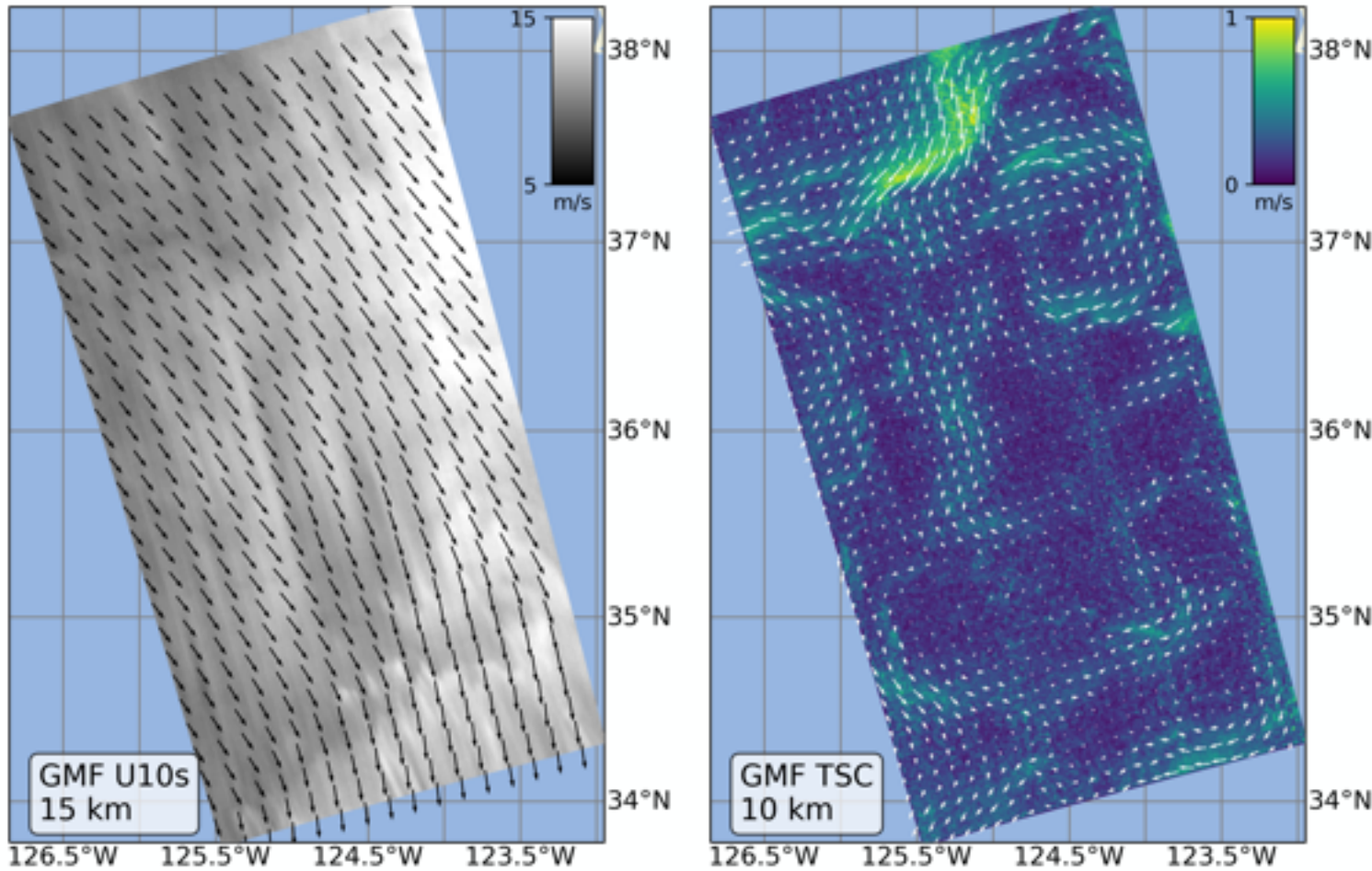
Harmony will resolve the **high-latitude small mesoscale ocean surface dynamics** and quantify the **submesoscale surface current gradients** over all latitudes and seasons **down to O(1-5 km) horizontal resolution**



Hewitt et al. Nature Climate Change 2022  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01386-6>

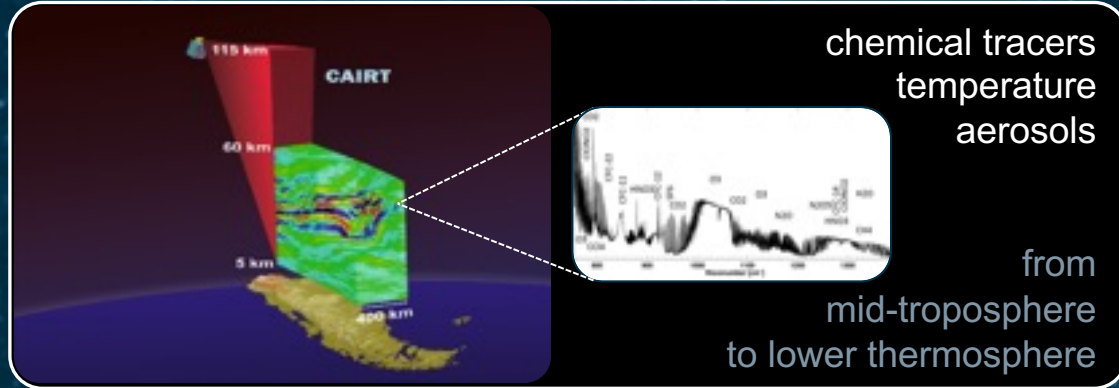
Rackow et al. Nature Communications 2022  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-28259-y>

# L2b: Stress equiv. surface wind ( $U_{10s}$ ) & relative surface current (TSC)



## Cairt

Charting our changing atmosphere in 3D



### Key science and mission objectives

- To observe atmospheric composition, structure and dynamics
- To better understand the processes that couple atmospheric circulation, chemistry, composition and regional climate change

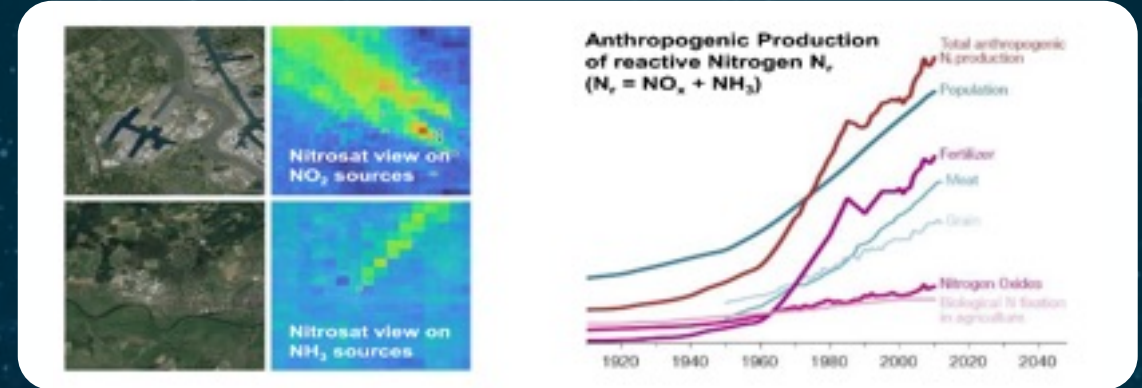
### Proposed mission concept

- Infrared limb emission imager (imaging Fourier Transform Spectroscopy)
- Spectral coverage of 710 – 2200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  at 0.1  $\text{cm}^{-1}$
- Tomographic 3D mapping of atmosphere (5-115 km) at 50x50x1  $\text{km}^3$
- Loose formation with MetOp-SG / IASI-NG for synergistic limb-nadir retrievals

Credits: [iss062e005412](https://iss062e005412)

## Nitrosat

Mapping reactive nitrogen at the landscape scale



### Key science and mission objectives

- Detect and characterize individual sources of reactive nitrogen species  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_2$  associated with farming industrial complexes, transportation, fires and cities

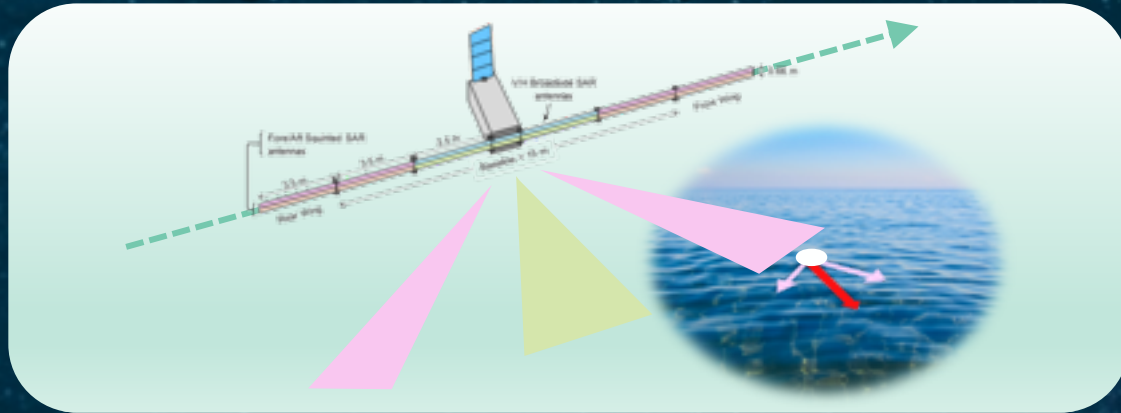
### Proposed mission concept

- Observe atmospheric  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_2$  column densities
- with spatial resolution 500 m×500 m
- with high sensitivity to the planetary boundary layer
- Mission lifetime at least 3 years



## Seastar

Measuring small-scale ocean dynamics



### Key science and mission objectives

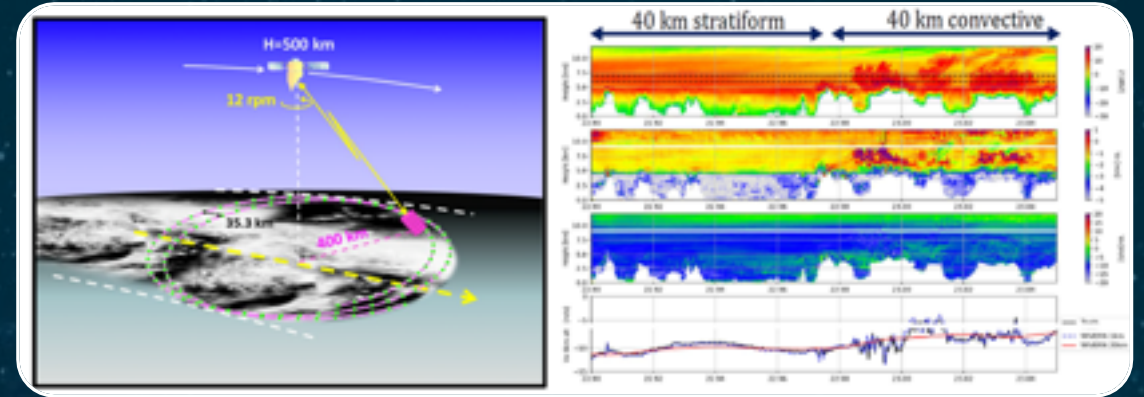
- synoptic high-res observations of currents, winds and waves over coastal and shelf seas, and the Marginal Ice Zone
- infer derivative products such as vorticity, strain and divergence
- contribute to understanding of air-sea interactions, vertical processes and marine productivity
- validate high-resolution models

### Proposed mission concept

- Ku-band SAR system for squinted along-track ocean interferometry (ATI) from space, with three beams (fore, aft, broadside) for full 2-D measurements
- Flexible space/time sampling: fast 1-2 day revisit, or all coastal and shelf seas

## Wivern

Observing global winds, clouds and precipitation



### Key science and mission objectives

- Measure in-cloud horizontal atmospheric motion and microphysical properties
- Extend lead-time and predictive skills of high-impact weather
- Contribute to reanalysis, improve weather and climate model parameterization
- Establish benchmark for precipitation and cloud profiling

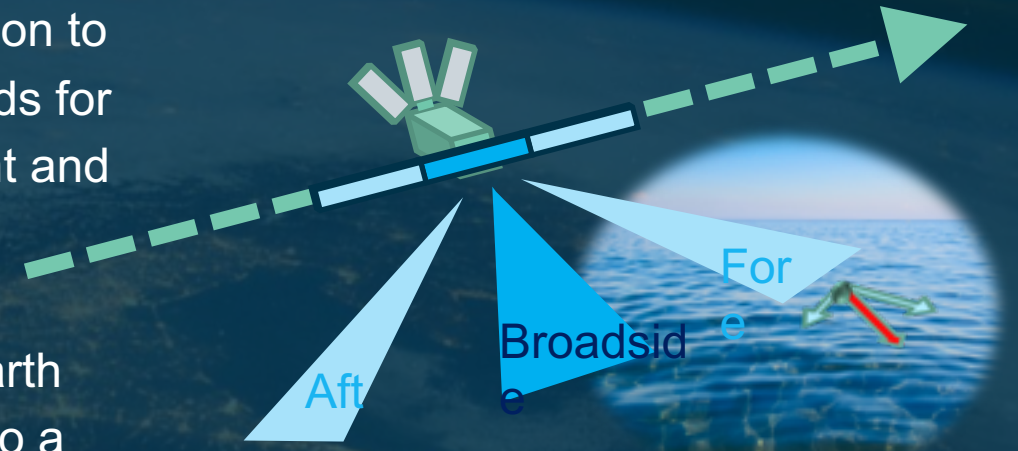
### Proposed mission concept

- Conically scanning W-band radar with dual polarization pulse-pair technique
- Sun-synchronous polar orbit with 800 km swath, daily revisit above 50° latitude
- 5-year lifetime



SEASTAR is a dedicated ocean mission to address well-articulated scientific needs for new synoptic imaging of ocean current and wind vectors at 1km resolution.

Its focus on key interfaces of the Earth system makes SEASTAR relevant to a large and growing community of ocean, atmosphere, cryosphere, coastal and climate scientists and operators.



<https://projects.noc.ac.uk/seastar>

**A 'quantum leap in knowledge' for Earth Observation and Earth Science**

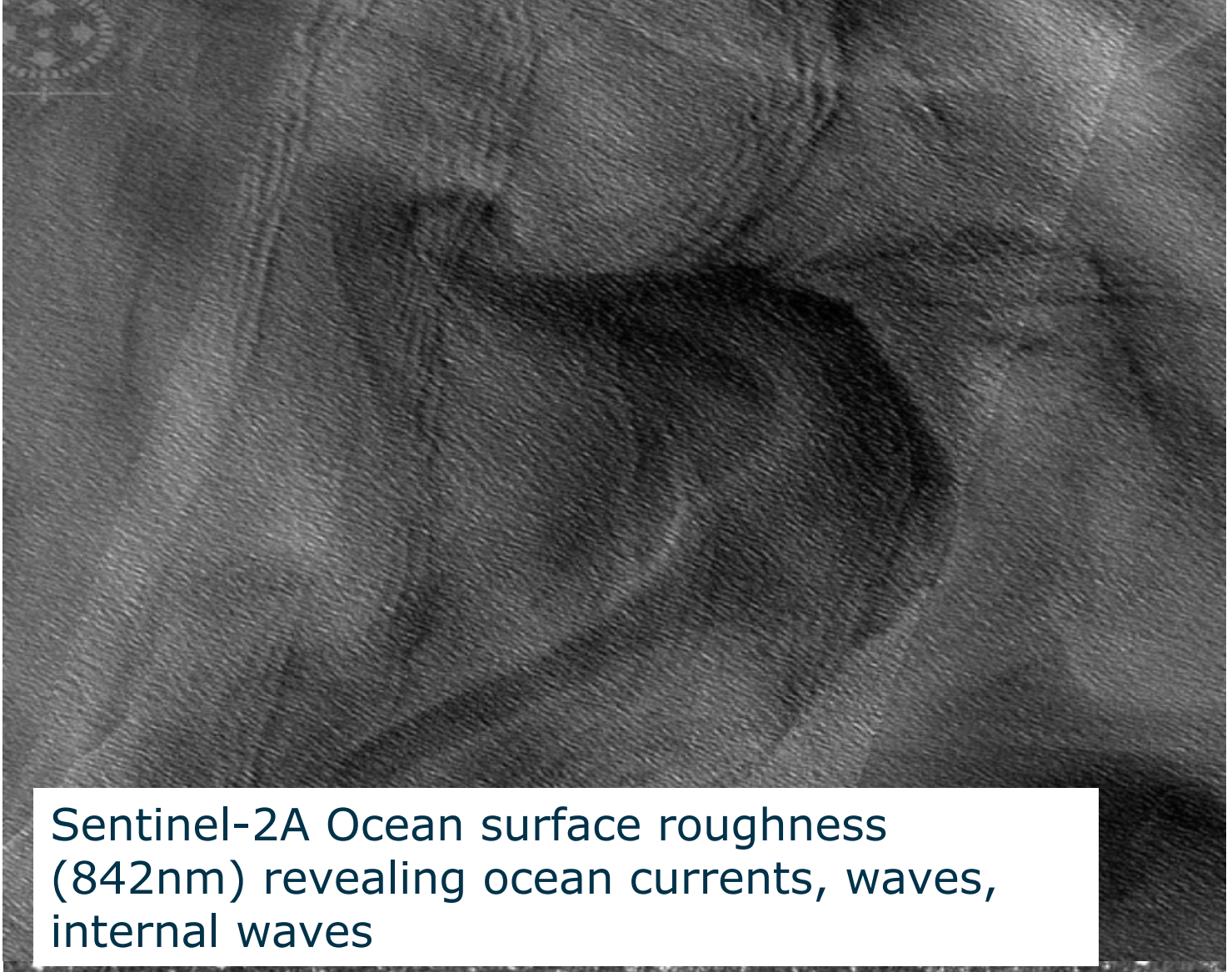
The first mission of its kind, with some ambitious elements, that builds on high levels of scientific and technological readiness in Europe.



<https://twitter.com/i/status/1404160046897020>



# Ocean signatures, science and Applications of S2



Sentinel-2A Ocean surface roughness (842nm) revealing ocean currents, waves, internal waves

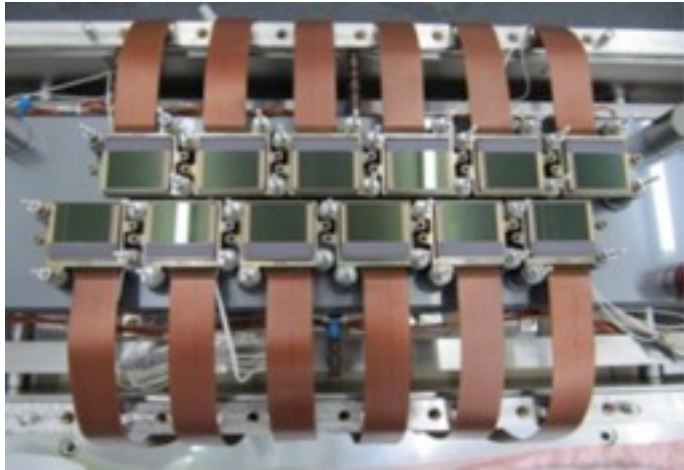




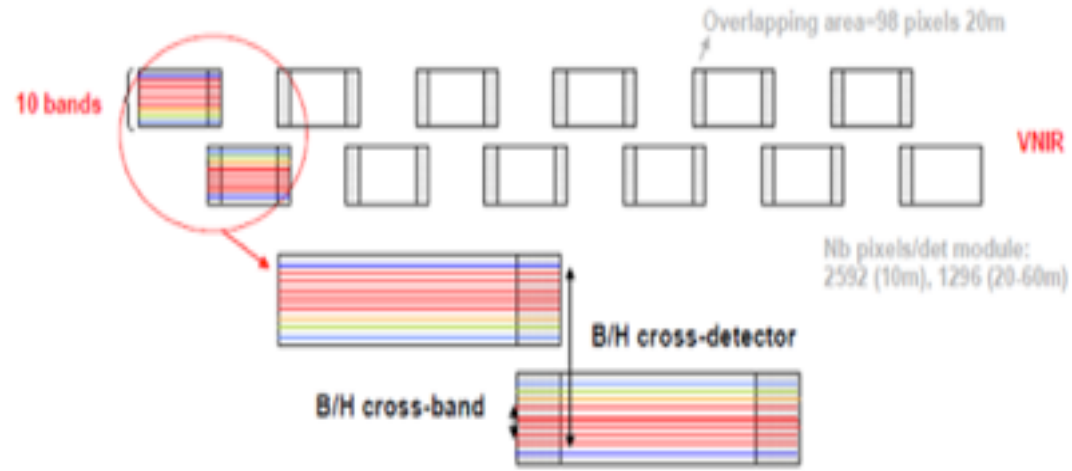
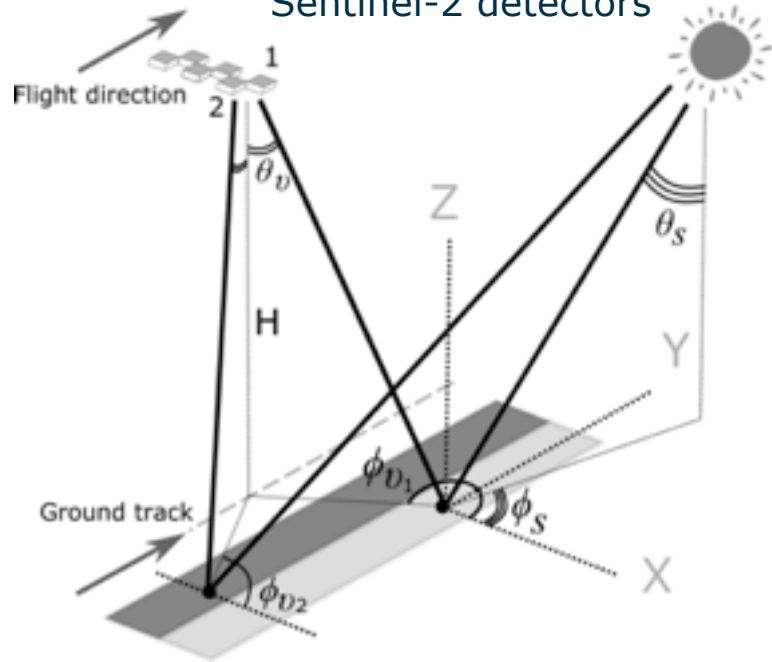
# Sentinel-2

→ COLOUR VISION FOR COPERNICUS

# Sentinel-2 MSI Features = New Opportunities



Sentinel-2 detectors



12 clusters (detectors), 13 lines of sensors (bands) in each

Odd clusters are looking forward, even clusters are looking backward, spectral channel sensors also have relative displacement

Parallax angle between the two alternating odd and even clusters of detectors results in a shift along track of approximately 46 km (maximum).

Inter-band measurement parallax amounts to a maximum along track displacement of approximately 14 km.

## Sun glitter imagery of ocean surface waves. Part 1: Direction, spectrum retrieval and validation

Vladimir Kudryavtsev [✉](#), Maria Yurovskaya, Bertrand Chapron, Fabrice Collard, Craig Donlon

First published: 31 January 2017 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JC012425> | Citations: 39

This article is a companion to Kudryavtsev et al. [2017], doi:[10.1002/2016JC012426](https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JC012426).

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[PDF](#) [TOOLS](#) [←](#)

## Sun glitter imagery of surface waves. Part 2: Waves transformation on ocean currents

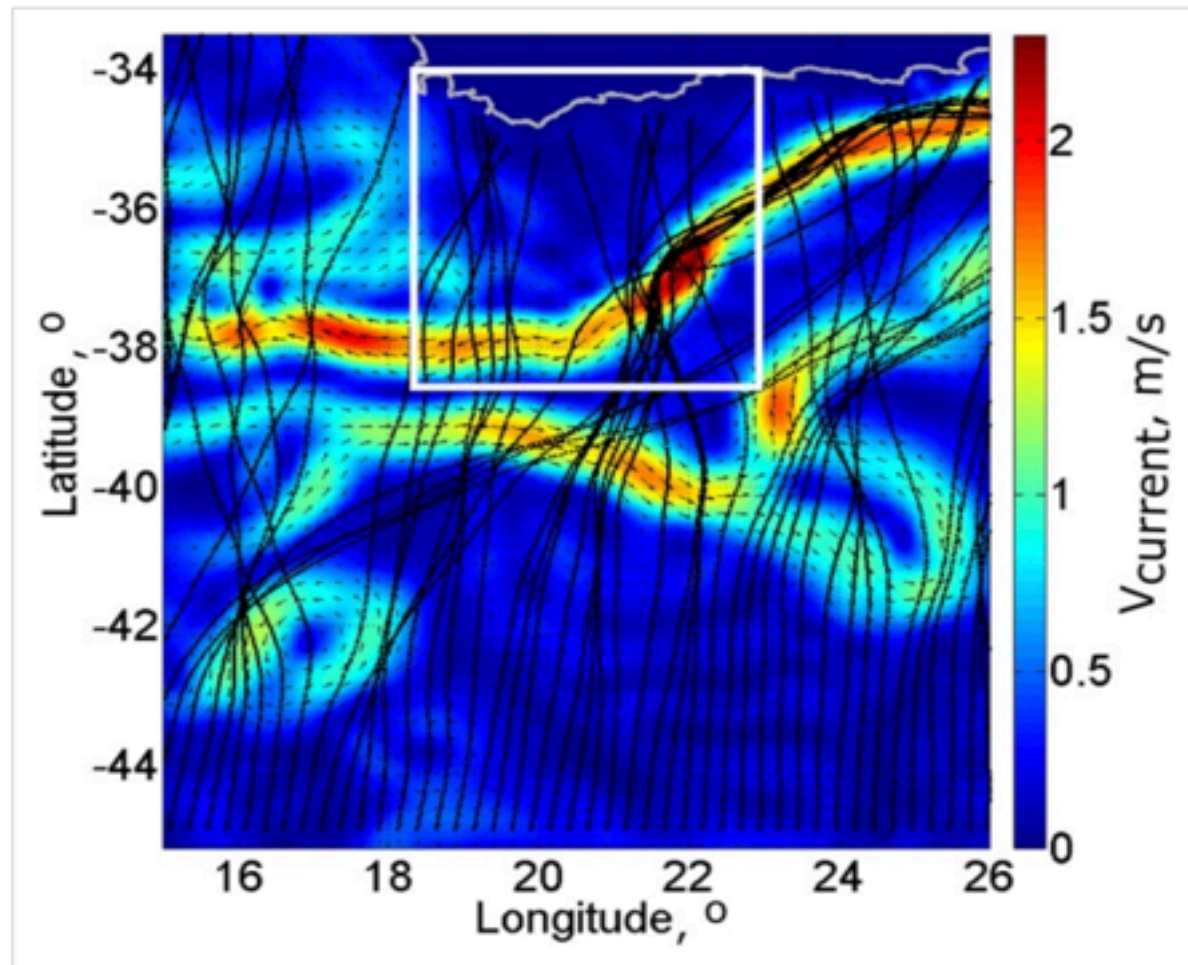
Vladimir Kudryavtsev [✉](#), Maria Yurovskaya, Bertrand Chapron, Fabrice Collard, Craig Donlon

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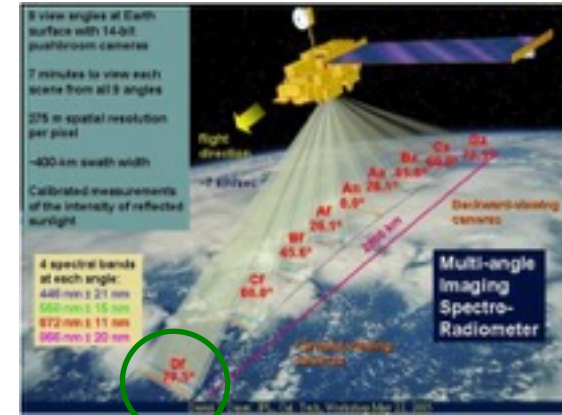
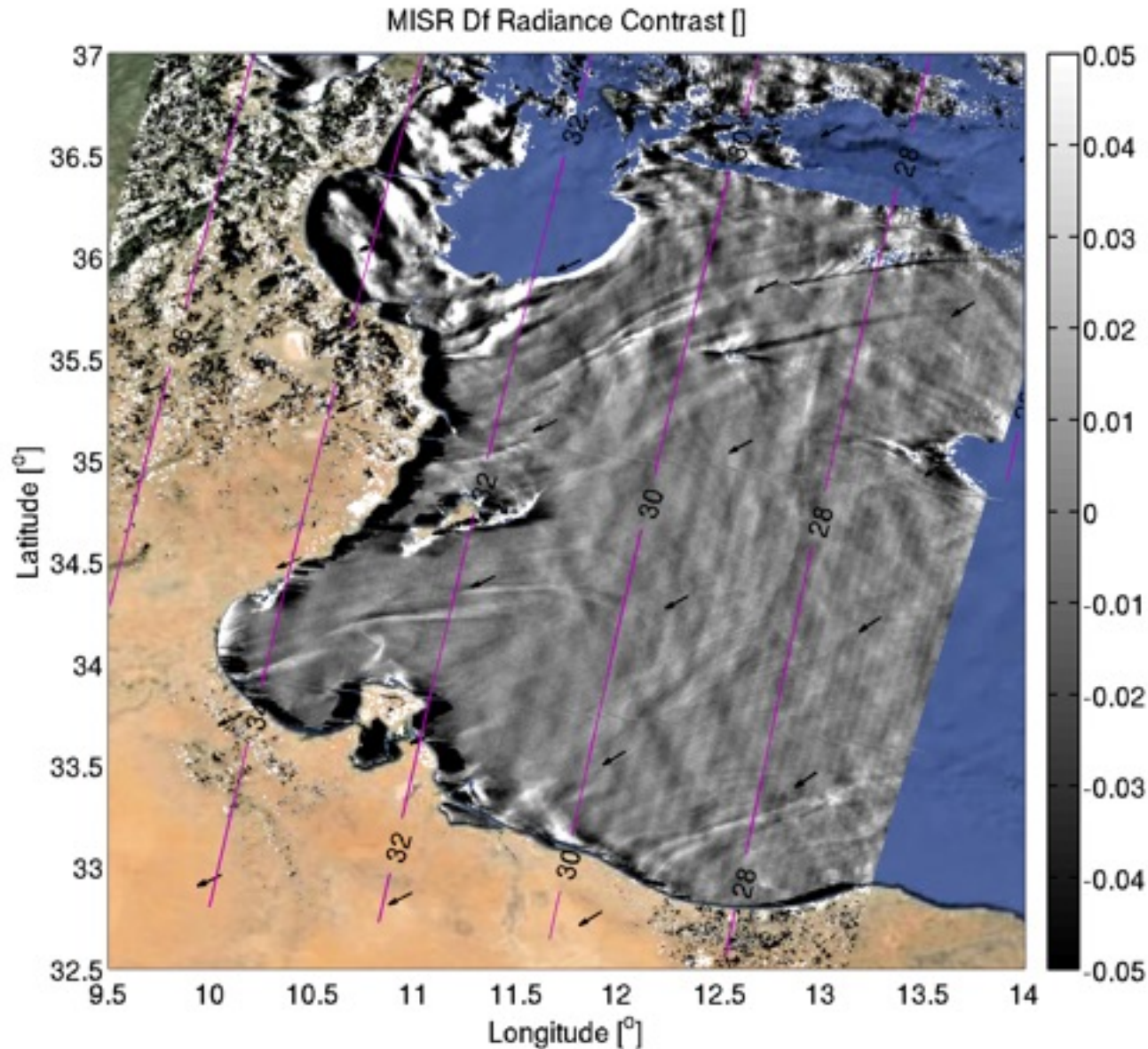


**Figure 14**

[Open in figure viewer](#) | [PowerPoint](#)

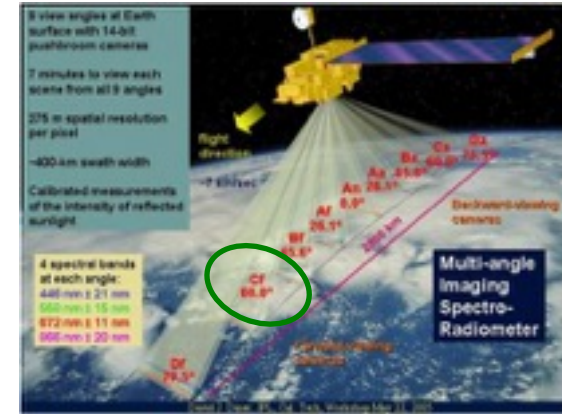
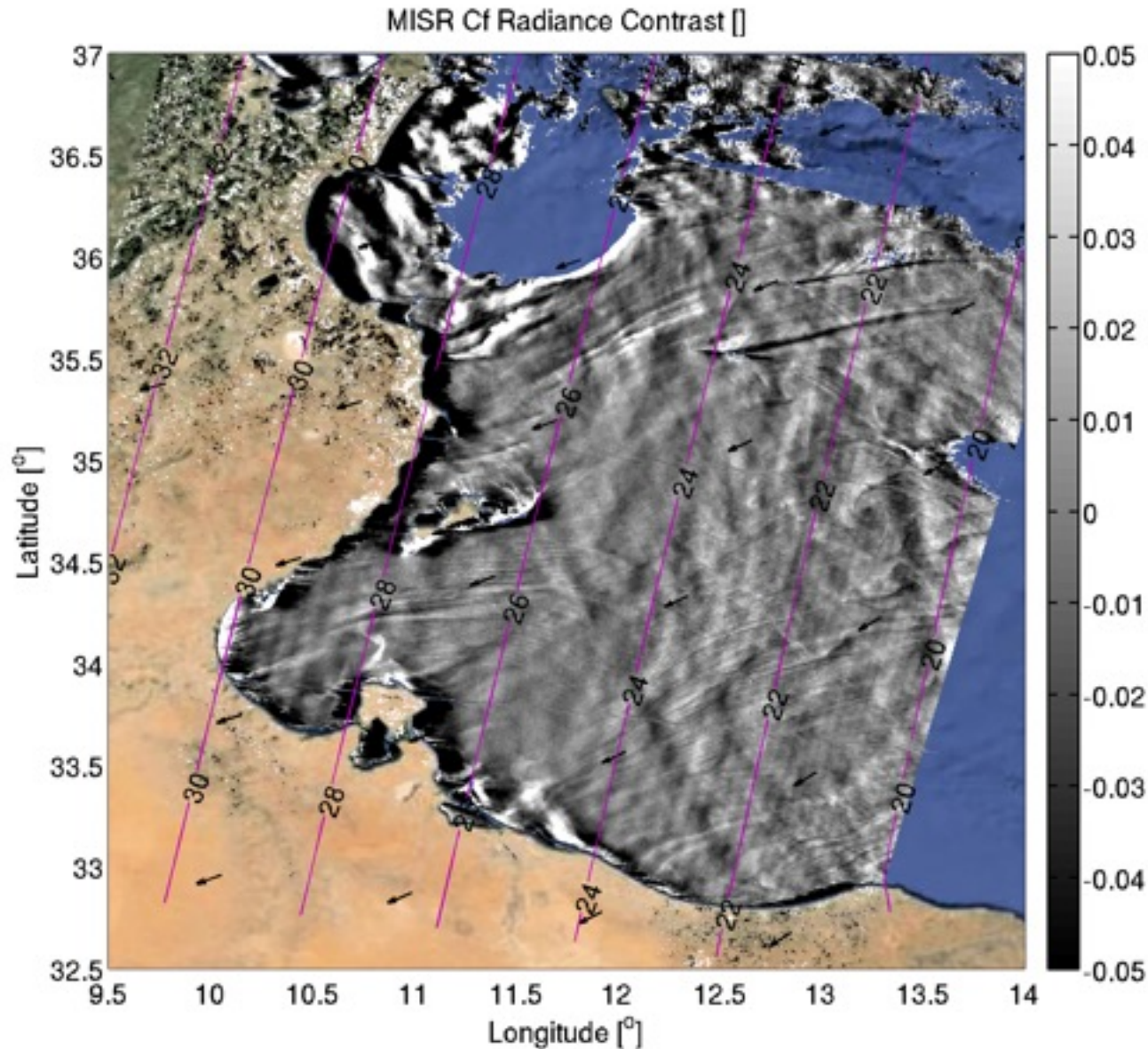
Wave-rays of an incoming  $75^\circ$  (counter clockwise from the East) swell at  $-45^\circ$  latitude, with wave number  $k=2.5 \times 10^{-2}$  rad/m. The altimeter surface current velocity field is taken from <http://www.avisio.altimetry.fr/en/data/products/sea-surface-height-products/global/madt-h-uv.html>. White box indicates area for Sentinel-2 data analysis.

Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)

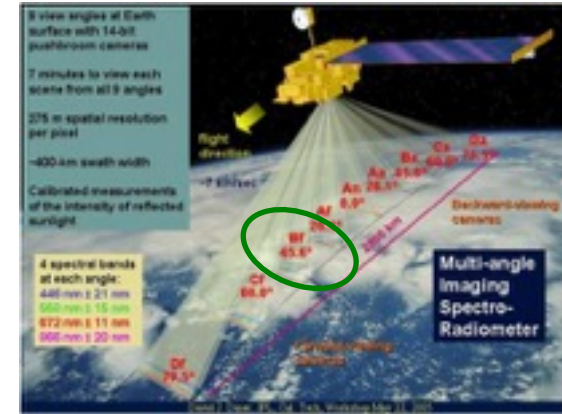
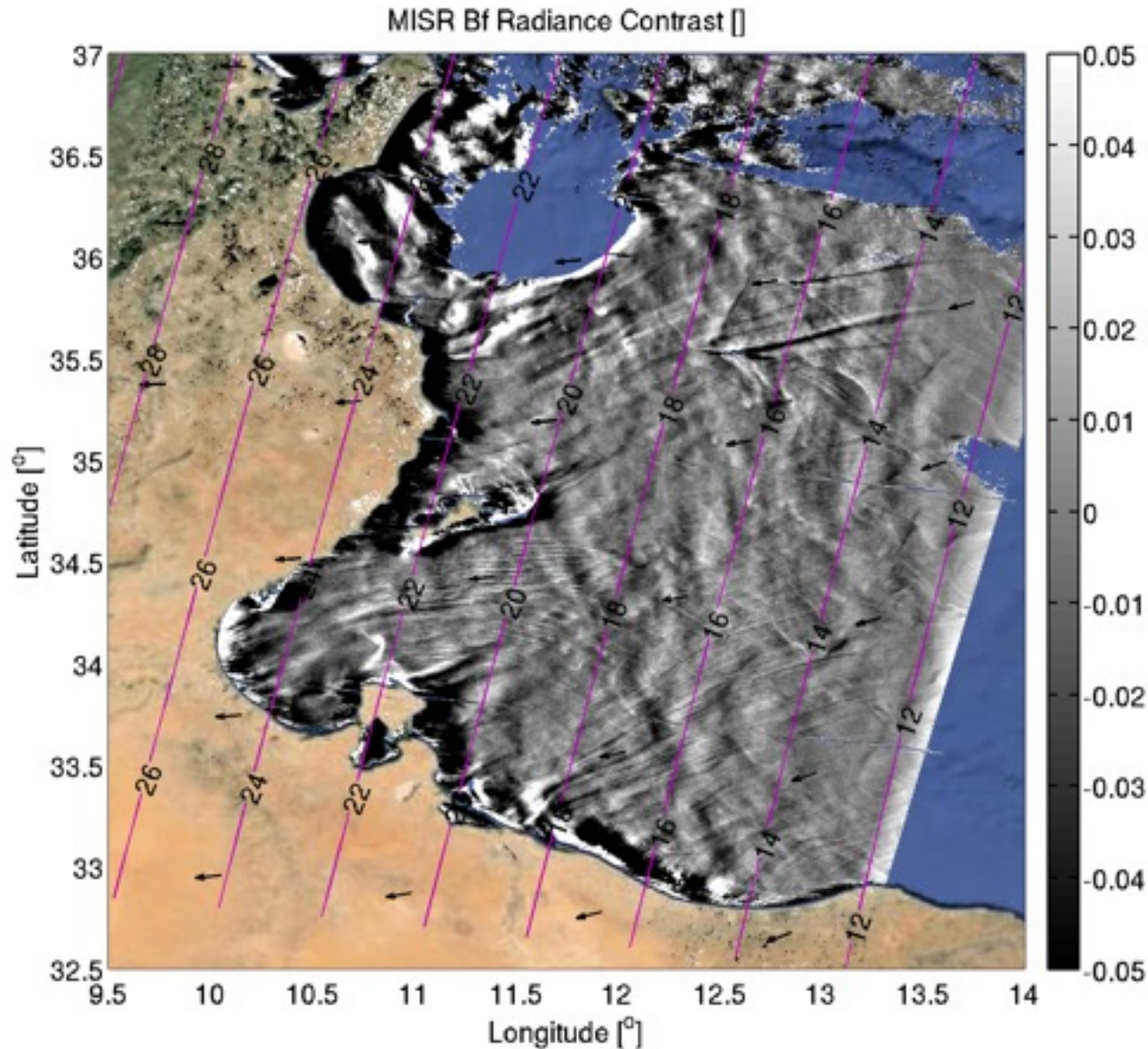




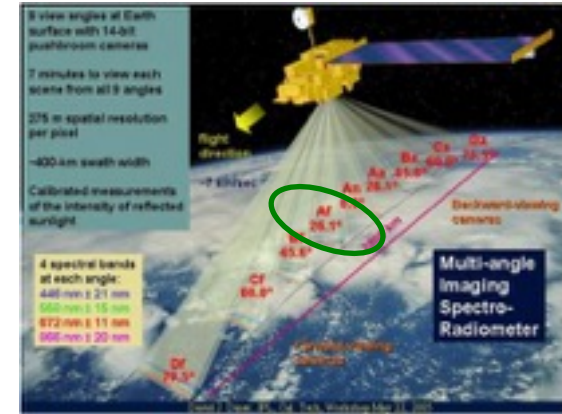
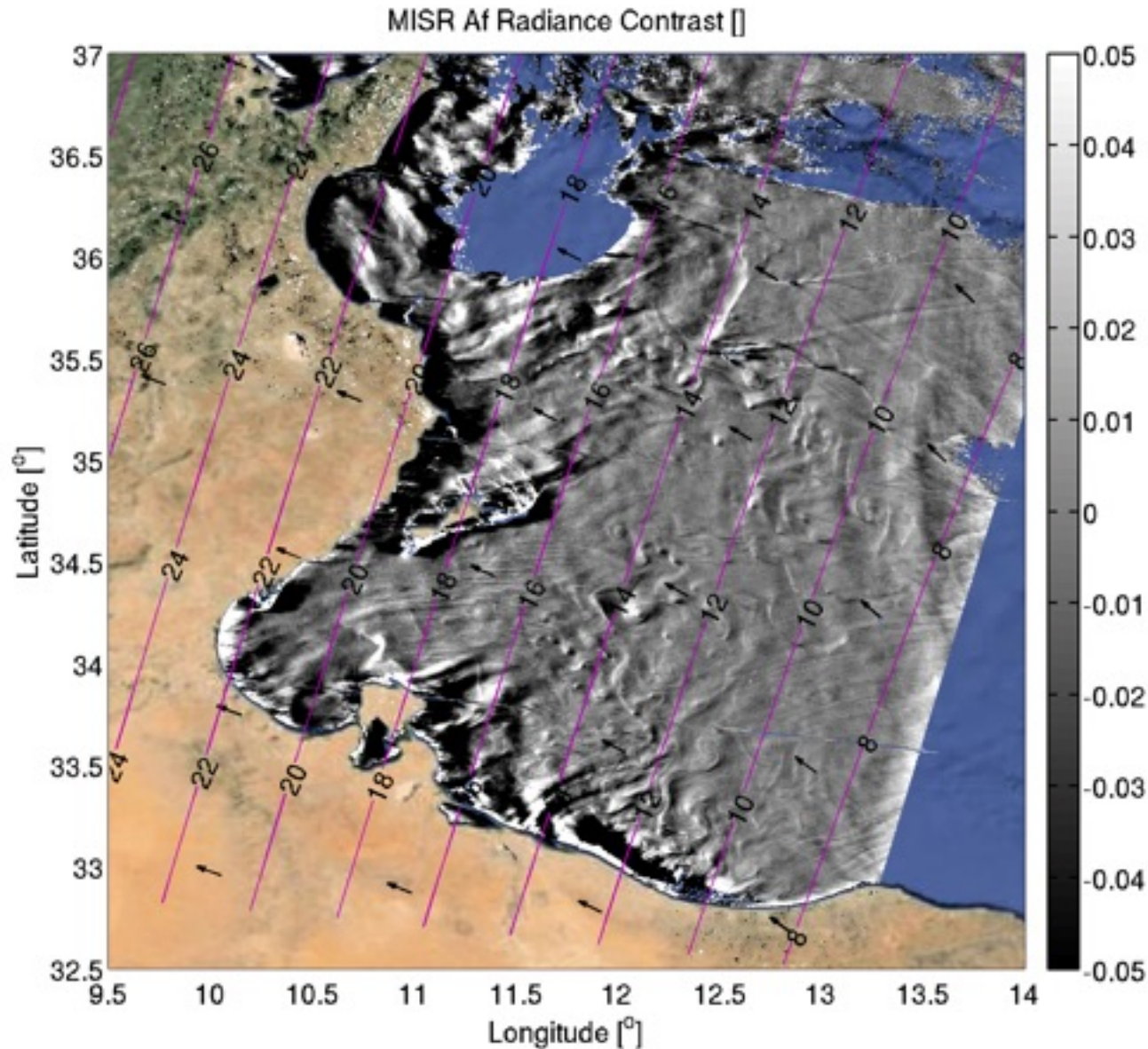
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



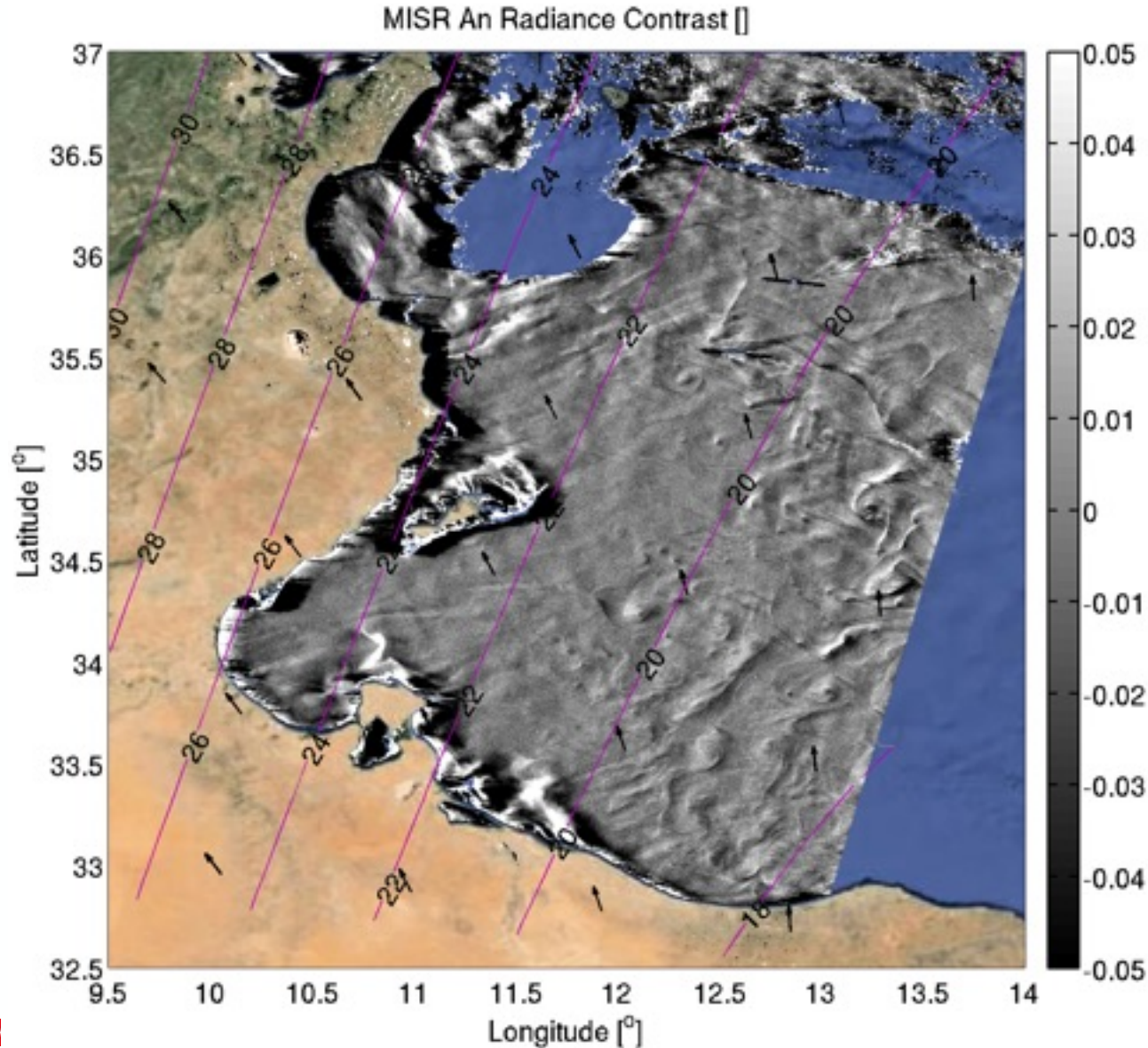
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



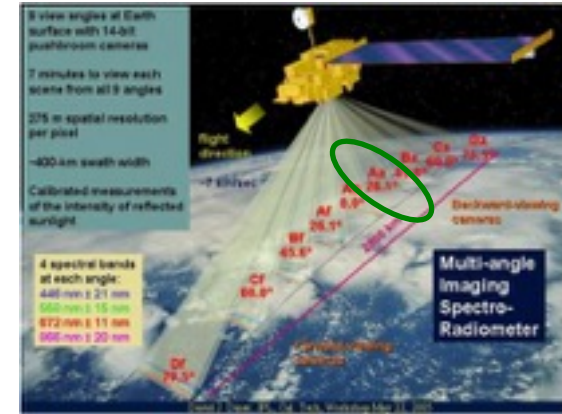
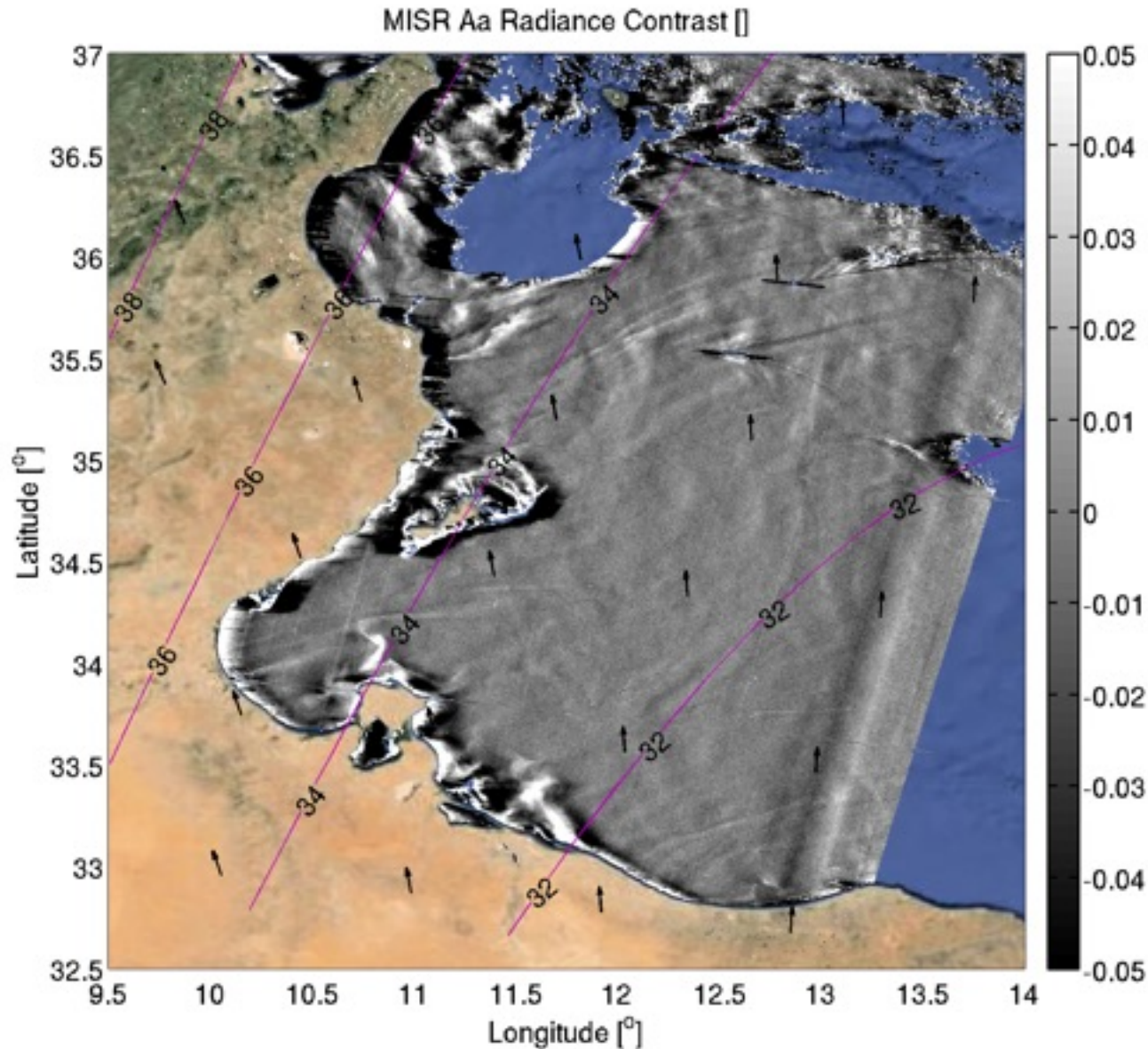
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



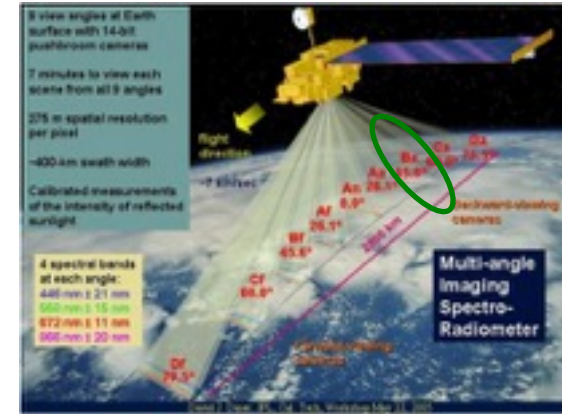
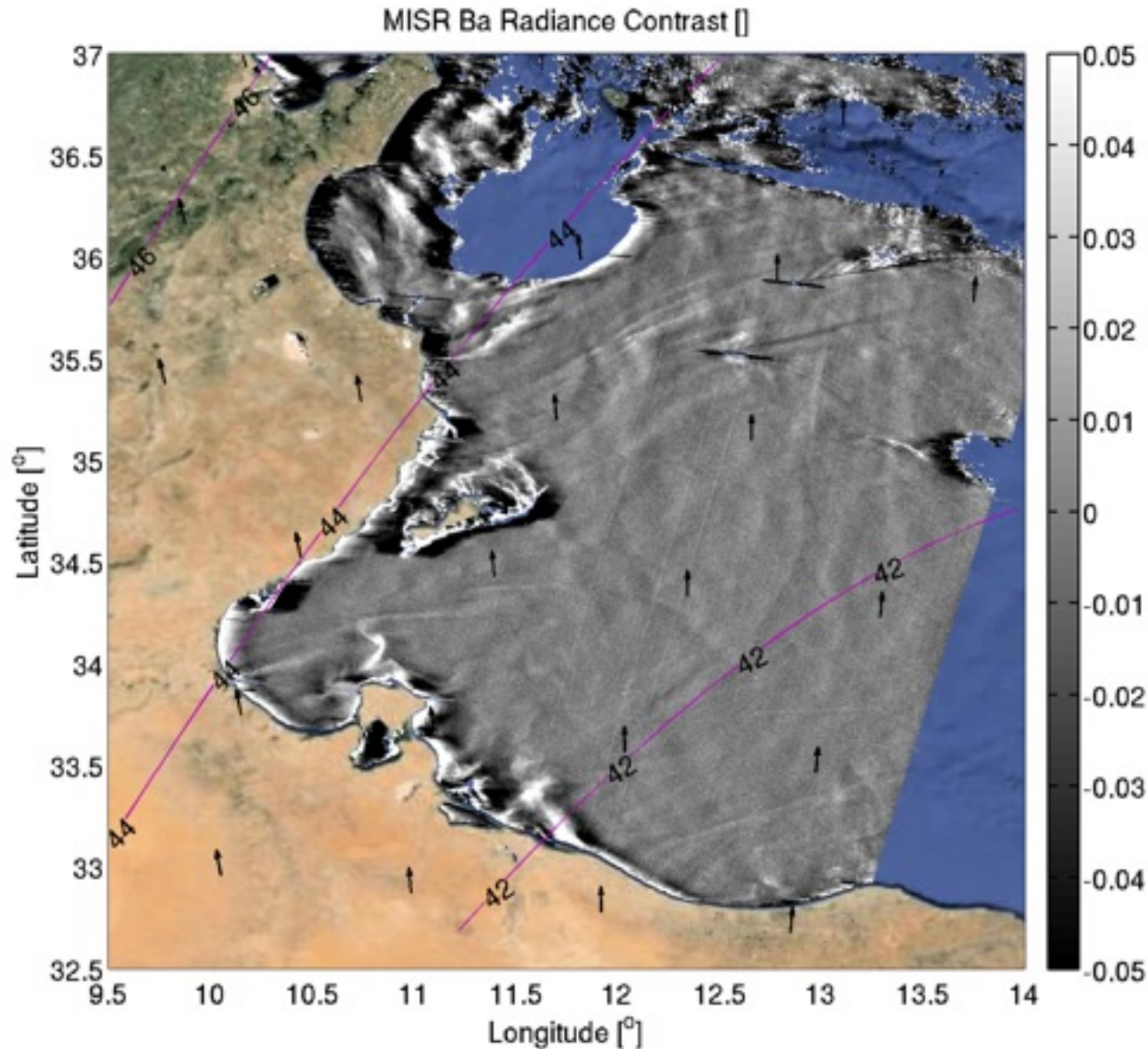
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



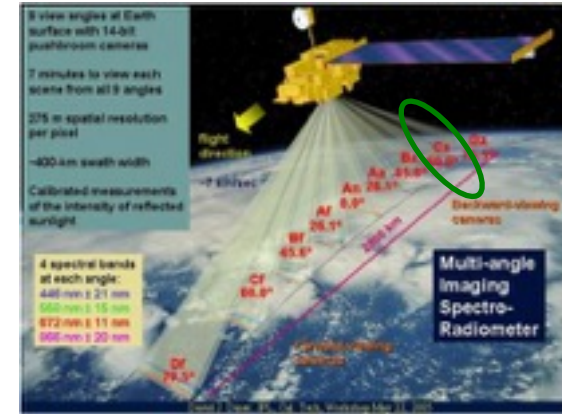
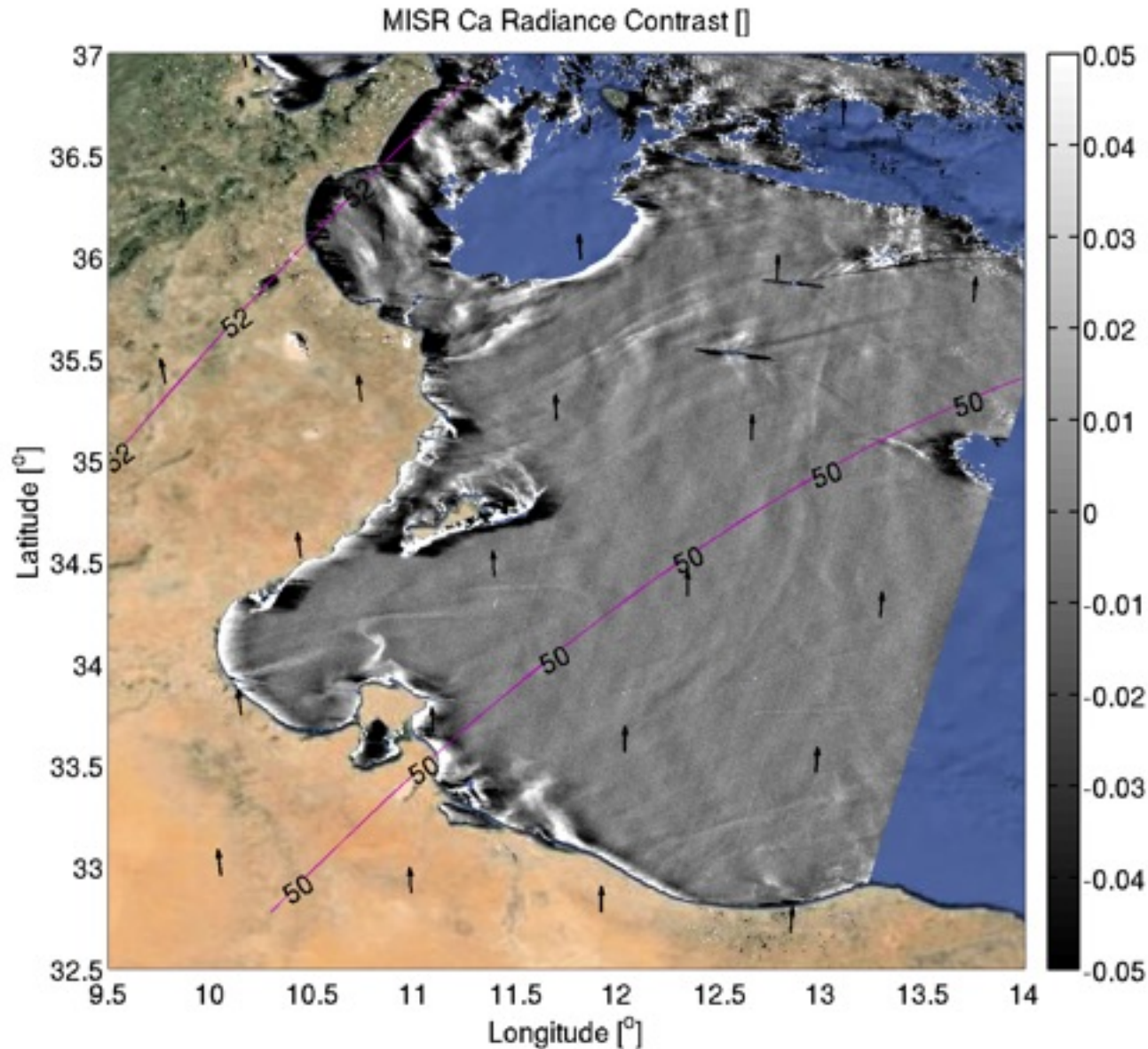
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



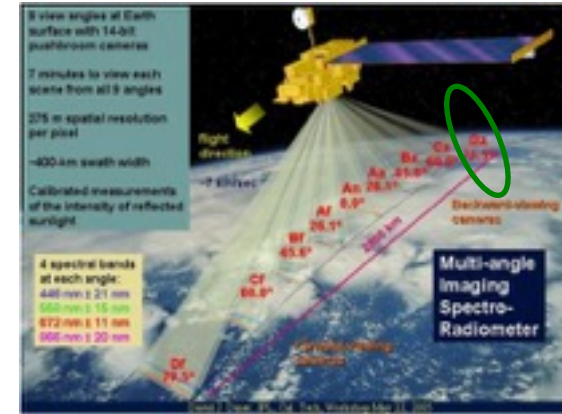
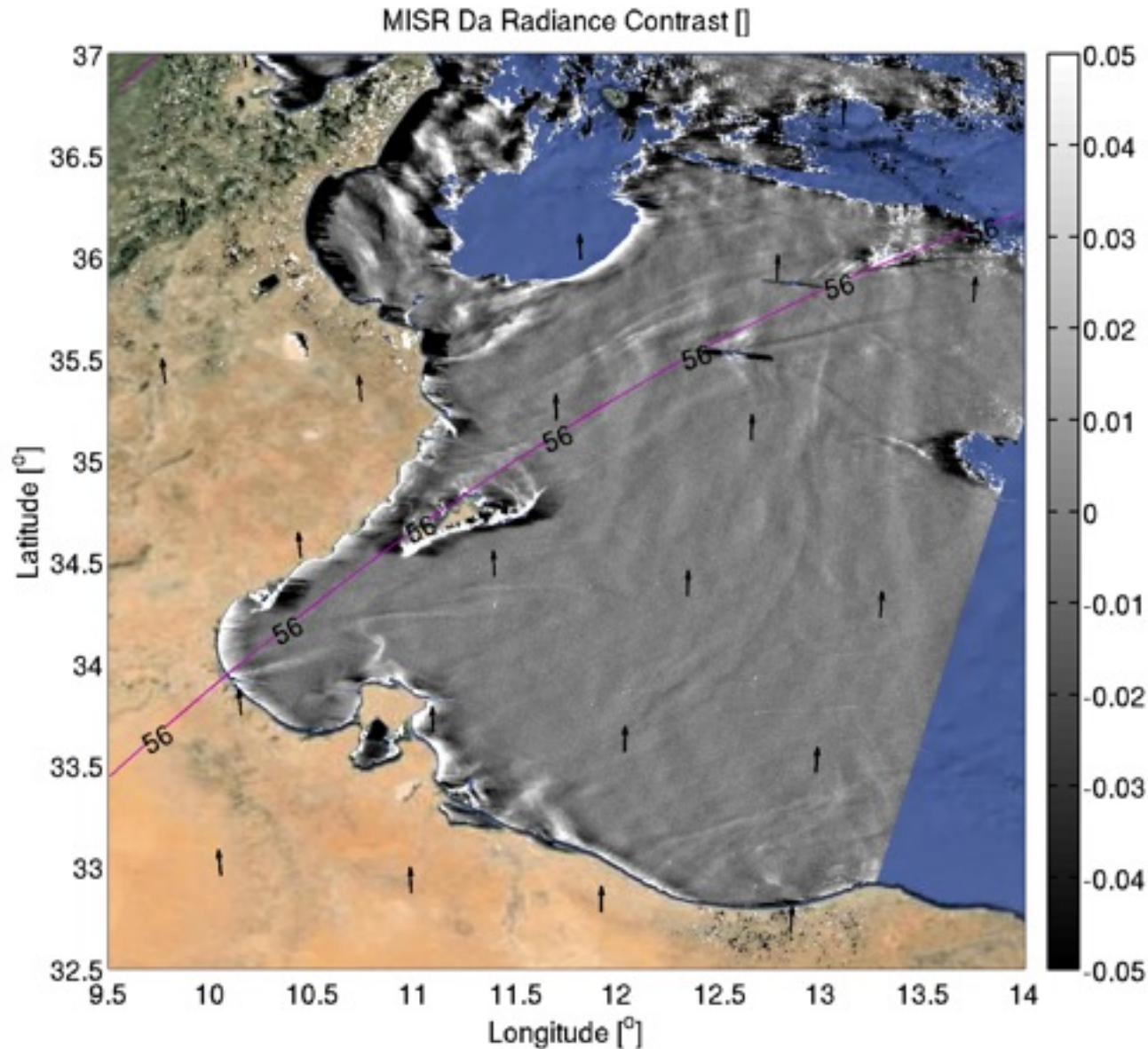
Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)



# Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)

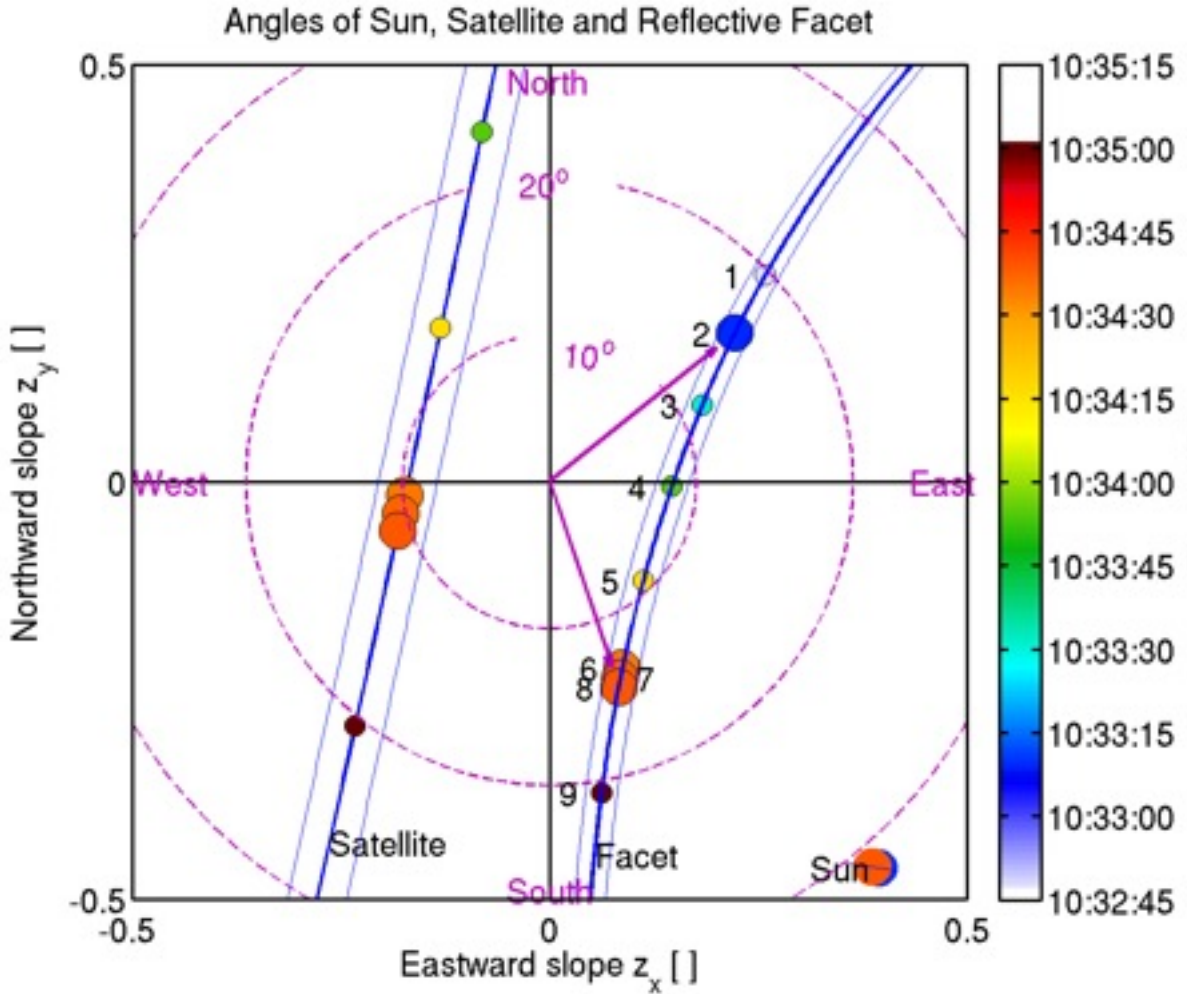


Surface roughness from sun glint at multiple view angles: example at medium resolution (250m)

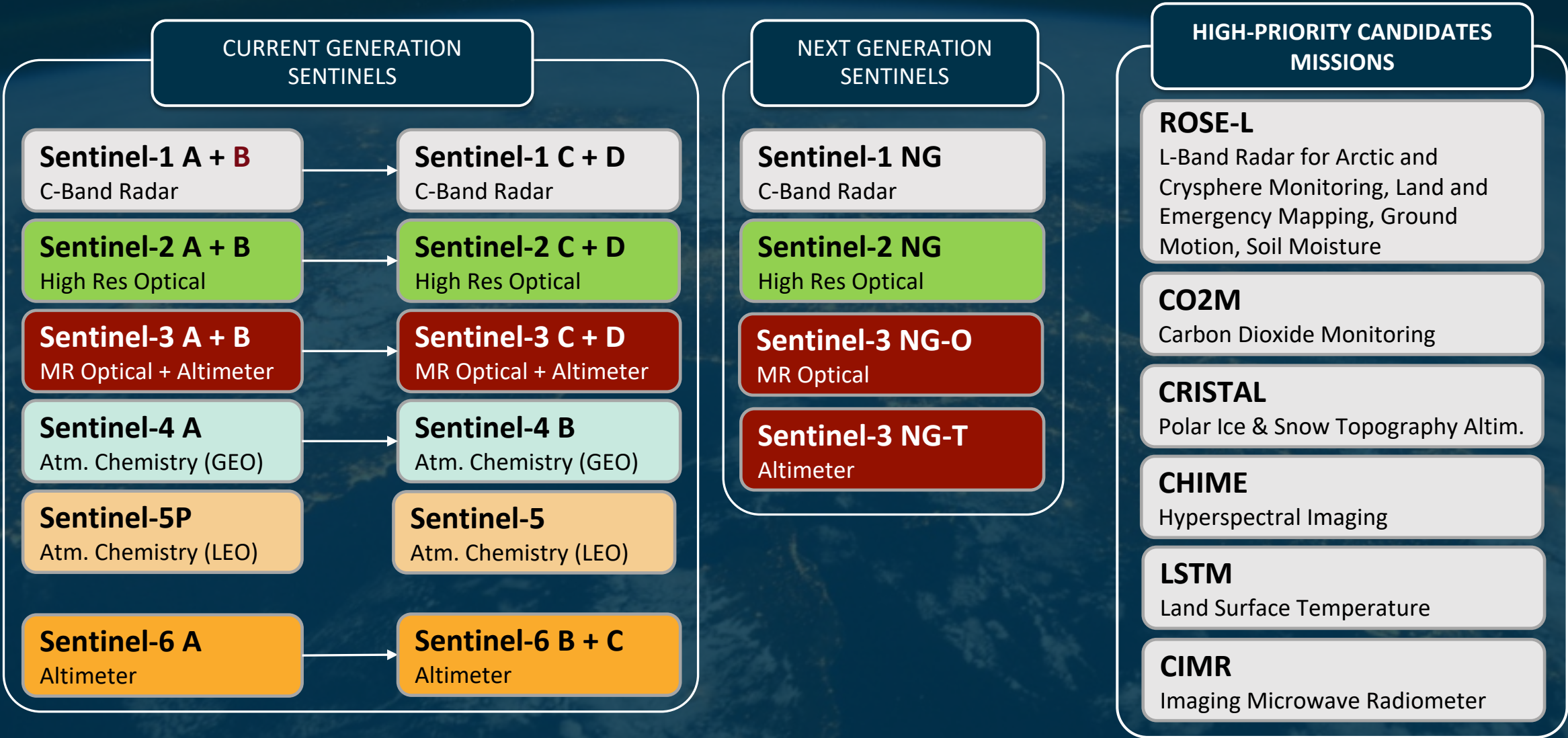




Sarong proposition of a viewing geometry dedicated to wind, waves, current and bathymetry



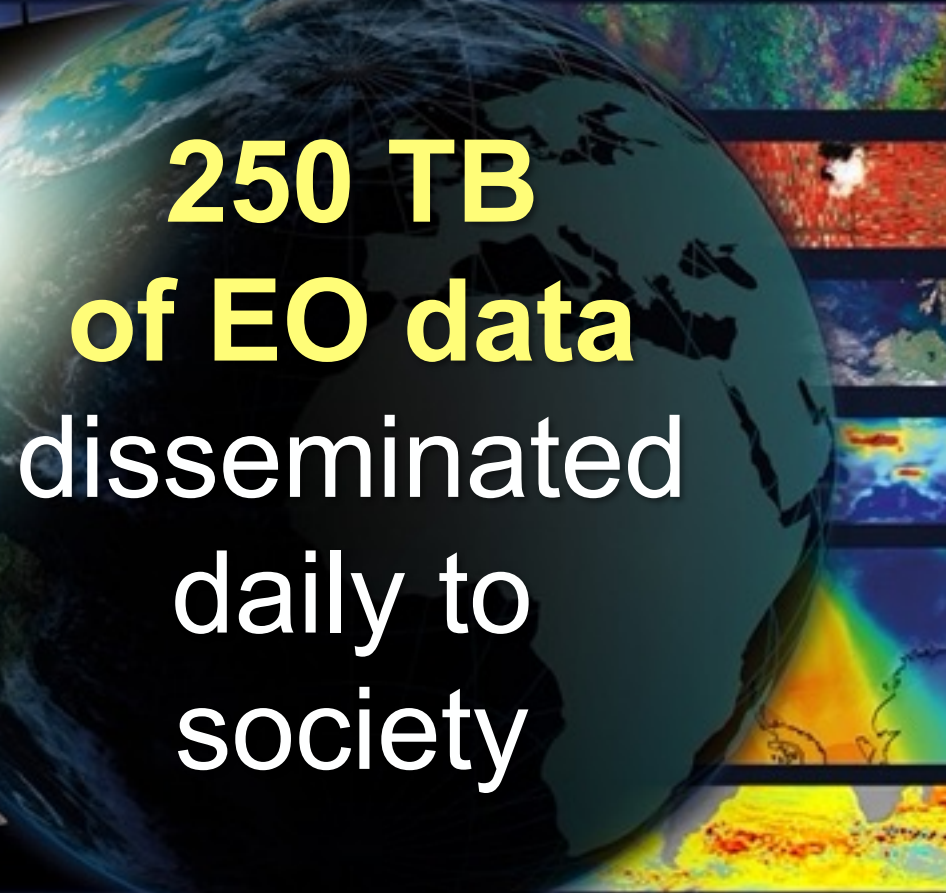
# Copernicus Future development



# Data Volumes are growing – e.g. Copernicus Sentinels



**250 TB**  
**of EO data**  
disseminated  
daily to  
society



sentinel-1

→ RADAR VISION

sentinel-2

→ COLOUR VISION

sentinel-3

→ A BIGGER PICTURE

sentinel-4

→ EUROPEAN AIR MONITORING

sentinel-5p | sentinel-5

→ GLOBAL AIR MONITORING

sentinel-6

→ CHARTING SEA LEVELS



# Conclusion

- **Europe is providing an unprecedented and unique Earth Observation Evidence Base** that is supporting an enormous and growing number of applications across **all domains**
- The European Space Agency, together with the European Commission and EUMETSAT, is now preparing to **enhance and extend the Copernicus system**
  - User and Policy driven requirements drive the system evolution
  - Continuity of Copernicus observables is to be guaranteed
  - Enhanced continuity sets next generation targets
- **The ESA Earth Explorer Program** continues to developing new scientific missions to view our planet Earth using **innovative techniques and technologies**.
- **Fundamental challenges remain to exploit satellite measurements in synergy** from the local process-driven perspective to the global climate challenges.
- **We have an extremely rich and growing data archive for reanalyses and climate activities that provides an unparalleled scientific evidence base**
- **These are critical for effective decision making and Policy implementation – and of course our next generation of forecasting and prediction systems**

# Copernicus

Europe's eyes on Earth

Thank you  
Any Questions?

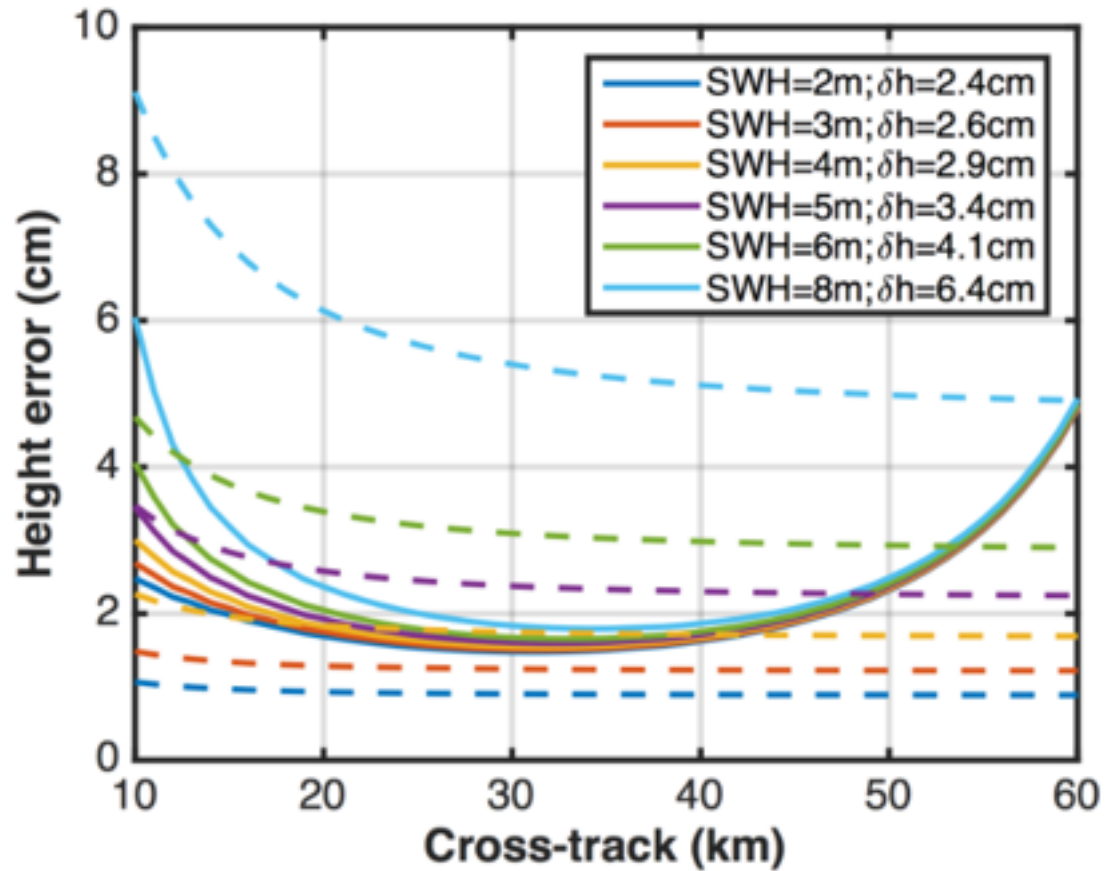
Contact:  
[Craig.Donlon@esa.int](mailto:Craig.Donlon@esa.int)



European Space Agency



# Impact of Sea State on Swath altimeters



Remote Sens. 2020, 7, 14108–14120; doi:10.3390/rs71114108



Article

## Impact of Surface Waves on SWOT's Projected Ocean Accuracy

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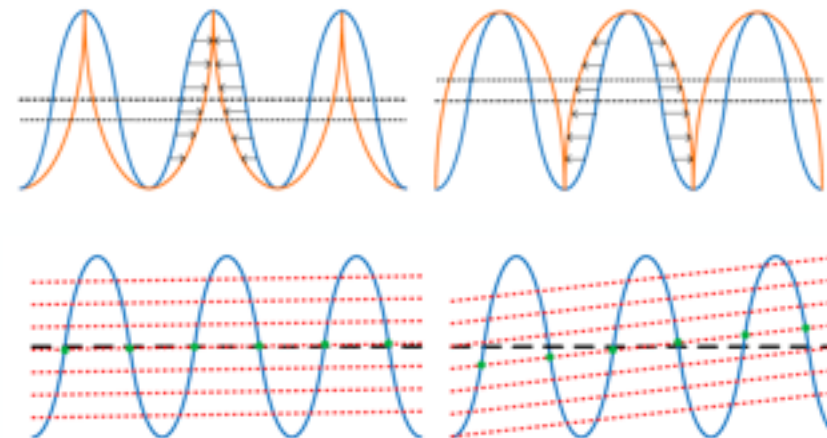
Article

## Impact of Ocean Waves on Guanlan's IRA Measurement Error

Yiting Bai<sup>1,2</sup>, Yuehua Wang<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Yanmin Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>, Changfang Zhao<sup>1,2</sup> and Ge Chen<sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Qingdao National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology, Qingdao 266200, China  
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Received: 14 March 2020; Accepted: 9 May 2020; Published: 12 May 2020



Velocity Bunching

Layover

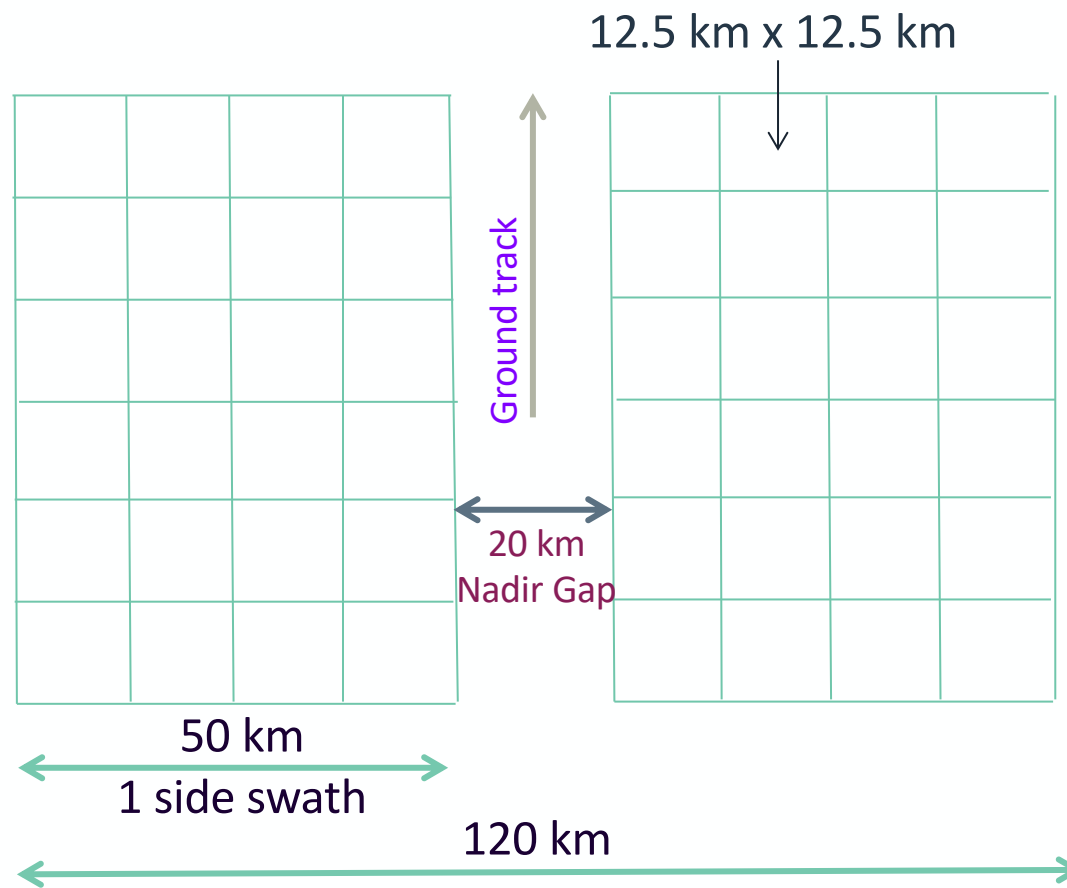
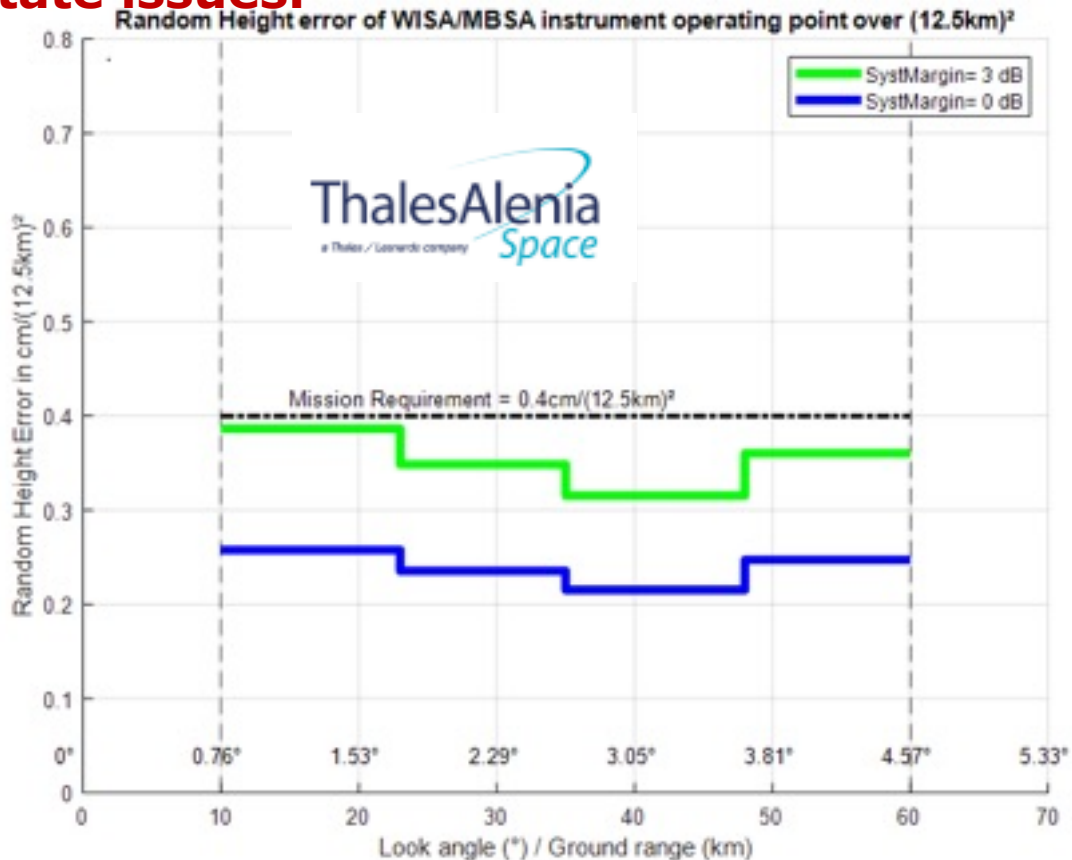
**Wave induced measurement issues limit the usefulness of near-nadir interferometers for studying surface wave effects, and may contaminate sub-mesoscale signatures to some extent for high Hs conditions (Rodriguez et al, 2017)**

# Interferometry; Addressing Sea State issues

SSH may be underestimated due to velocity bunching.

Layover, in the range direction due to swells, is expected to decrease the coherence of the interferometry and increase the random altimetry noise.

**Spatial smoothing is one of the main methods for reducing the residual error of sea state issues.**



# Potential coverage impact of $H_s > 5m$ taking InSAR swath altimeter SSH performance

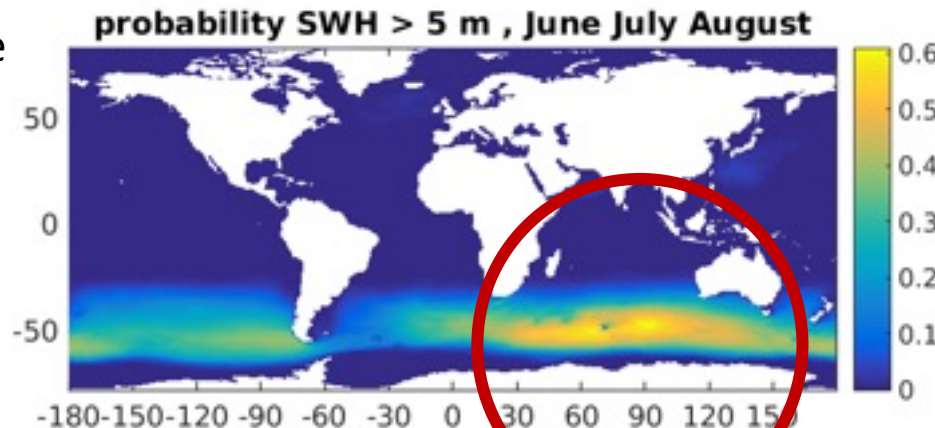
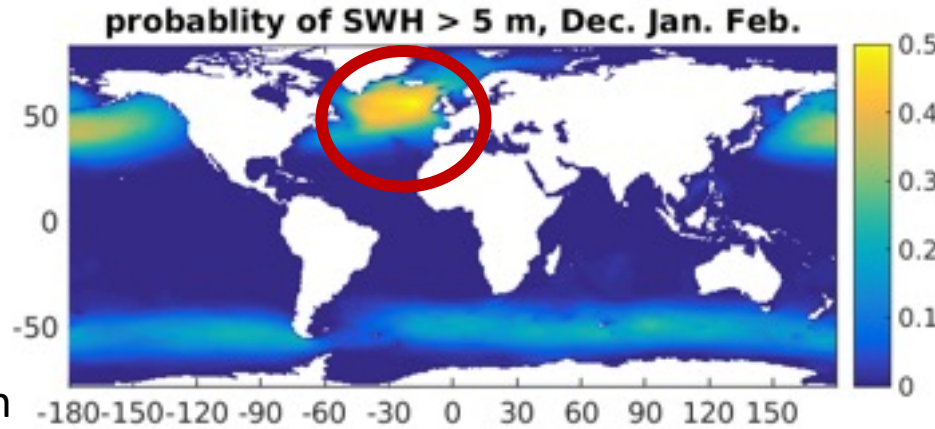


The analysis is “brute force” and reports seasonal averages for a latitude band. This obscures the dominant regional impacts (in particular storm tracks in both hemispheres in winter) where the impact will be greatest that can be identified in the  $Pe(H_s)$  maps.

The  $H_s$  climatology is from WaveWatch III (Produced by F. Ardhuin, LOPS) and does not consider the impact of future changes in  $H_s$  due to climate change.

40% loss of coverage for swath altimeter at  $H_s > 5m$  in S. Ocean

More swath altimeters will not solve the problem of regional data coverage loss



WaveWatch 3 Climatology (F. Ardhuin, LOPS)

