

NISAR Mission Status and Plans

17th Annual Biodiversity & Ecological Conservation Team Meeting – Silver Spring, MD – May 8, 2024



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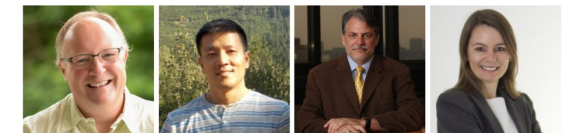


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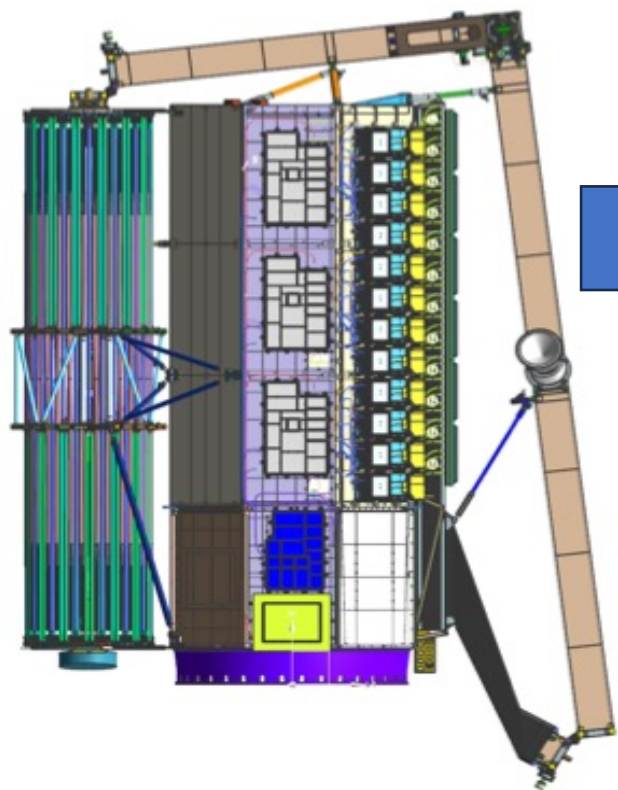
Erika Podest
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The City College of New York
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NASA – ISRO Partnership – Concept to Reality



Partnership between NASA and ISRO

Dual frequency SAR

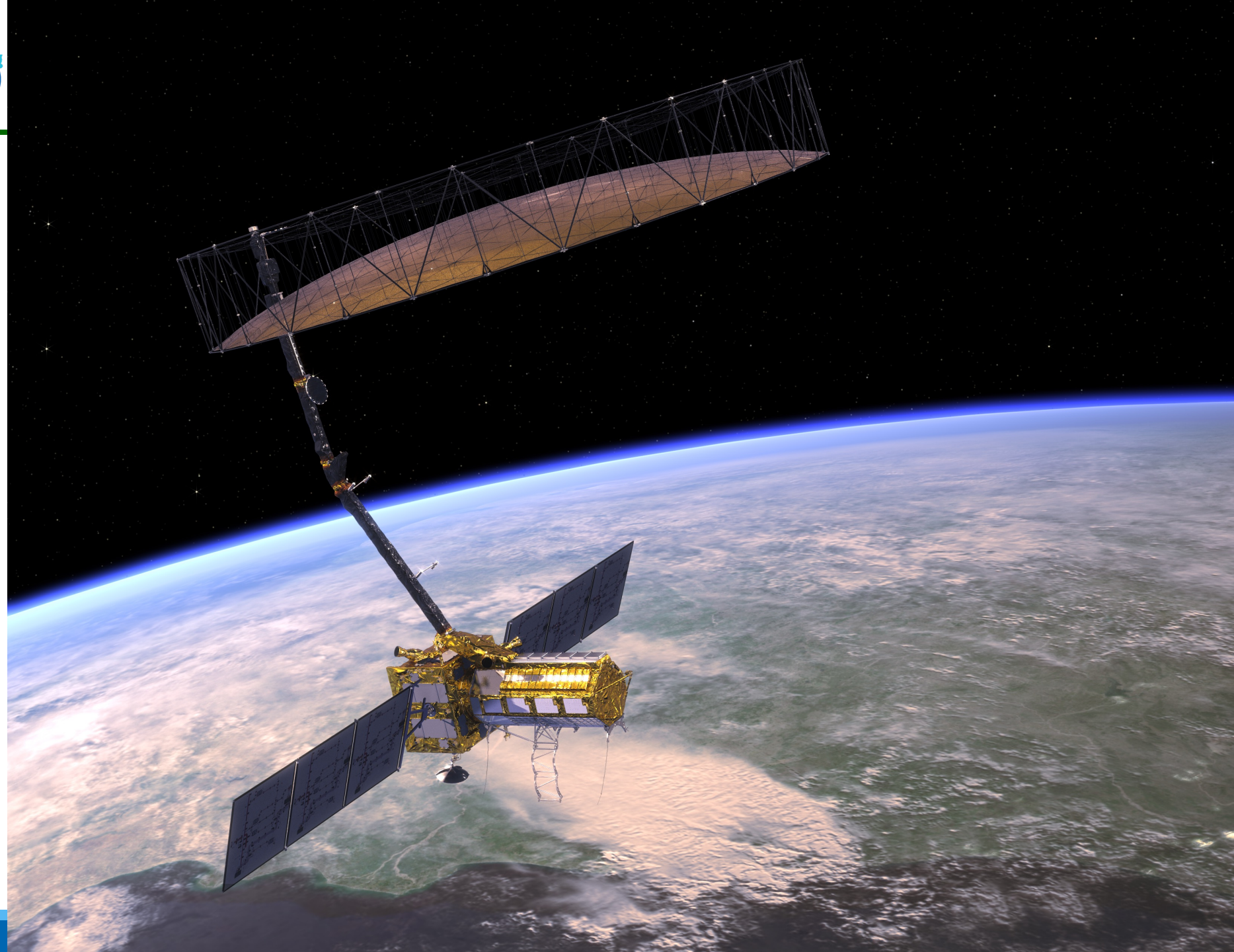
L-band – 24 cm

S-band – 10 cm

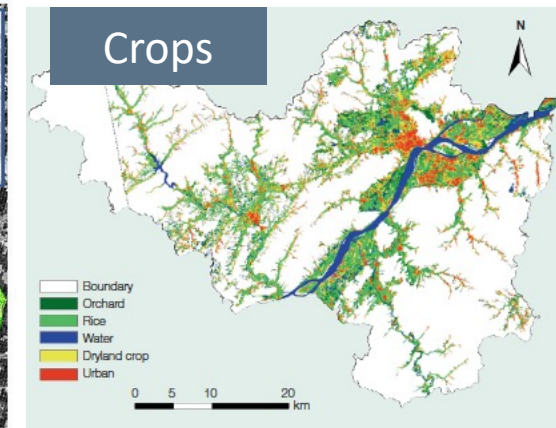
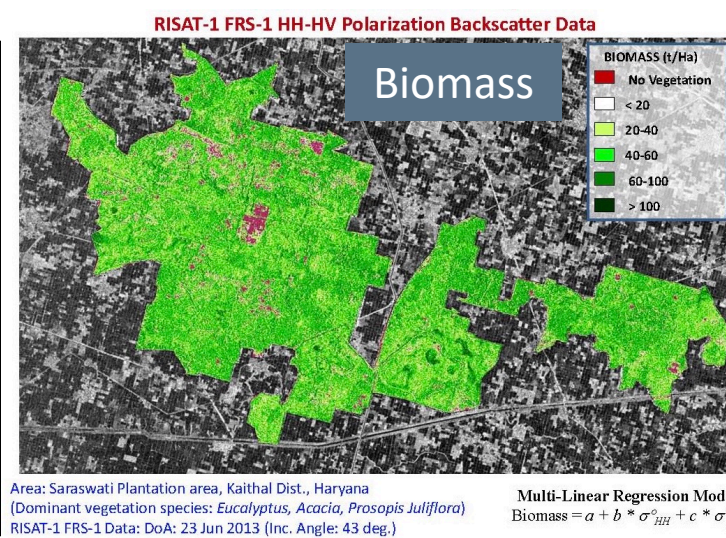
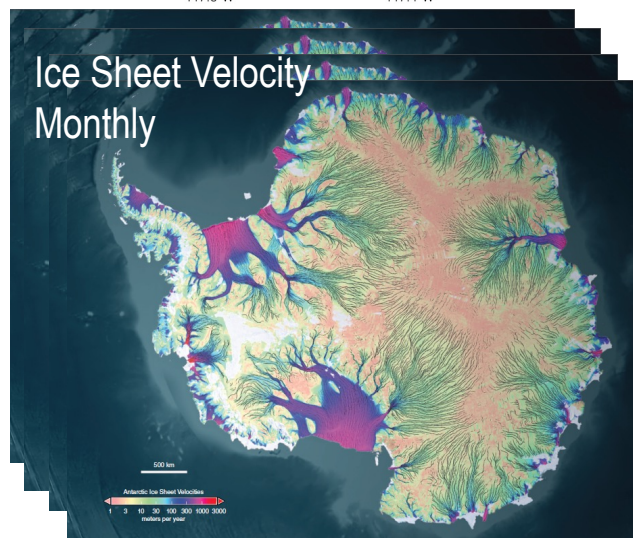
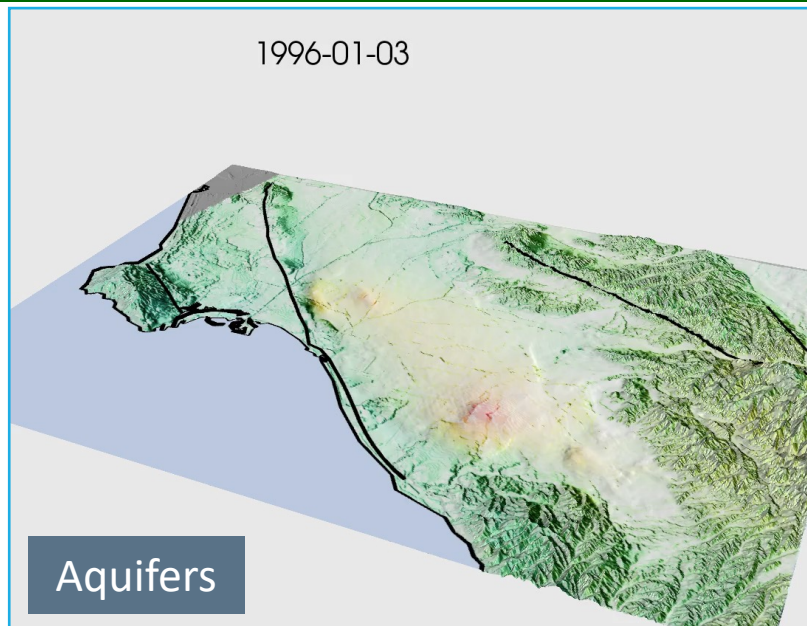
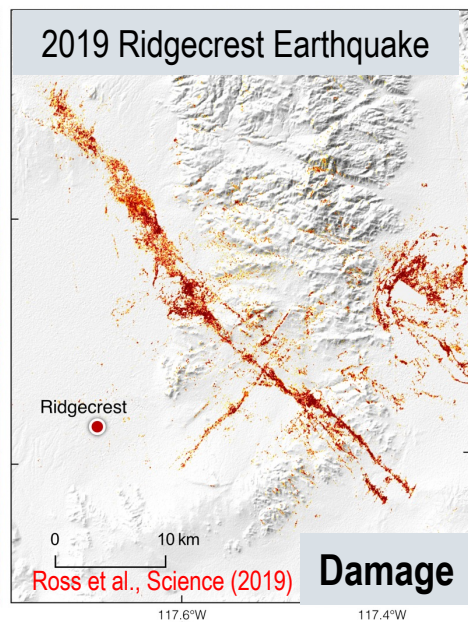
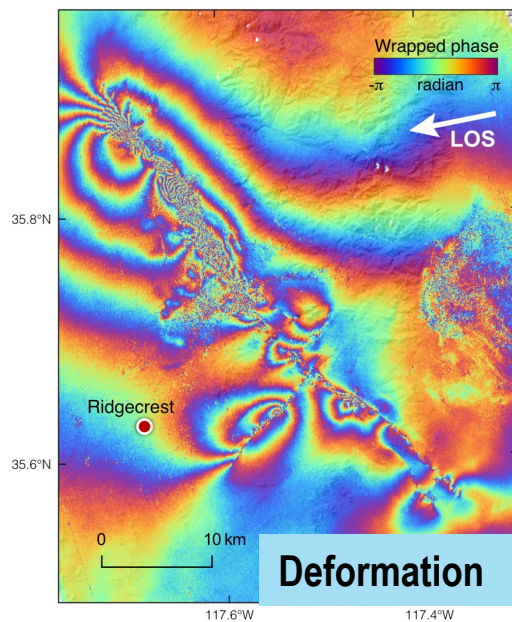
12 day exact repeat for
interferometry

~6 day coverage with
ascending and
descending orbits

Near global land and ice
coverage



NISAR Will Enable New and Innovative Research Spanning the Earth Sciences: Climate, Carbon, and Catastrophes ++



Multi-Linear Regression Model:

$$\text{Biomass} = a + b * \sigma_{HH}^2 + c * \sigma_{HV}^2$$

Research and Analysis

- Earth Surface and Interior
 - Geodetic Imaging / Natural Hazards
 - Space Geodesy
- Carbon Cycle & Ecosystems
 - Terrestrial Ecology
 - Land Cover/Land Use Change
 - Carbon Monitoring System
 - Ocean Biology
- Climate Variability & Change
 - High Mountain Asia
 - Physical Oceanography
 - Cryospheric Sciences
 - Sea Level Change Science Team
- Water and Energy Cycle
 - Terrestrial Hydrology
- Weather and Atmospheric Dynamics
 - Hurricane Science
 - Weather and Atmospheric Dynamics

Earth Action/Applications

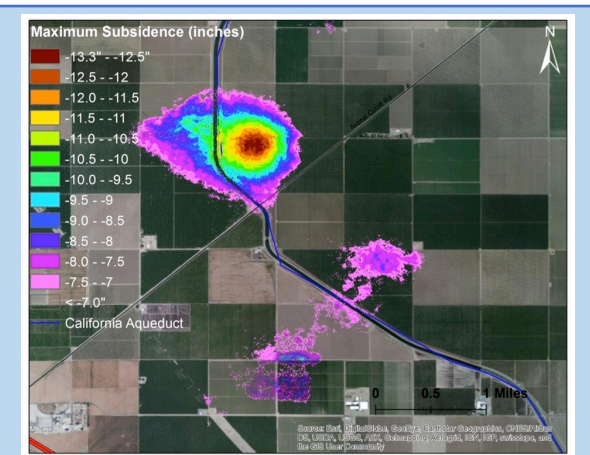
- Agriculture Applied Research
- Disasters
- Ecological Forecasting and Ecological Conservation
- Equity and Environmental Justice
- Public Health
- Socioeconomic Assessments and Benefits
- Water Resources
- Wildland Fires (Wildfires)
- SERVIR

Missing: Atmospheric Composition, Biological Diversity

Missing: Air Quality



Geohazards

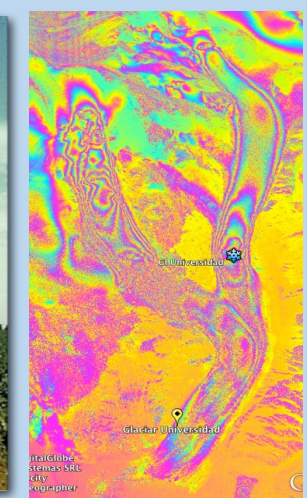


Infrastructure Stability

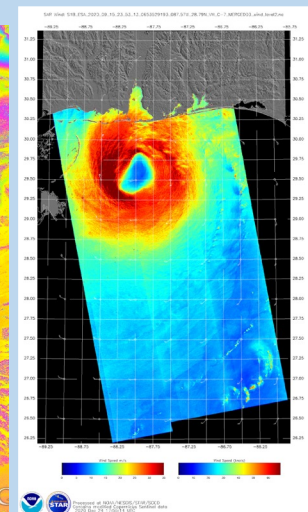
Aquifers



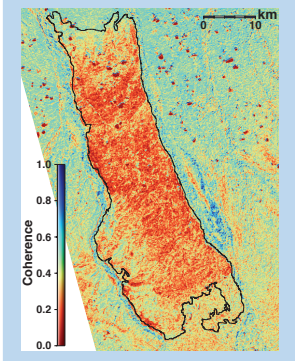
Glaciers



Hurricanes



Fire Scars & Permafrost



Greenland
80MHz SP
LSAR

Greenland
25MHz CP &
37.5MHz HH
SSAR

Oct. 2023 Observation Plan

Revised every 6 months

Beaufort Sea – Sea Ice Mode

Background Land
20MHz DP

Sea Ice 5MHz

North America
40MHz DP &
20MHz QP

Sahara
5MHz SP VV

RSLC
Posting

5 MHz ~ 25 x 5 m
20 MHz ~ 6.25 x 5 m
40 MHz ~ 3.12 x 5 m
80 MHz ~ 1.56 x 5 m

SP – Single Pol
DP – Dual Pol
QP – Quad Pol
CP – Cross Pol

SNWG-2016
enabled high-
resolution data
over North America

US Coastal Waters - 5 MHz
Gulf of Mexico
Caribbean

Coverage of India
Region with
LSAR & SSAR

Background Land
20MHz SP
Descending direction
Alternating each 12 days with
Africa and South America

Urban Areas
40MHz DP

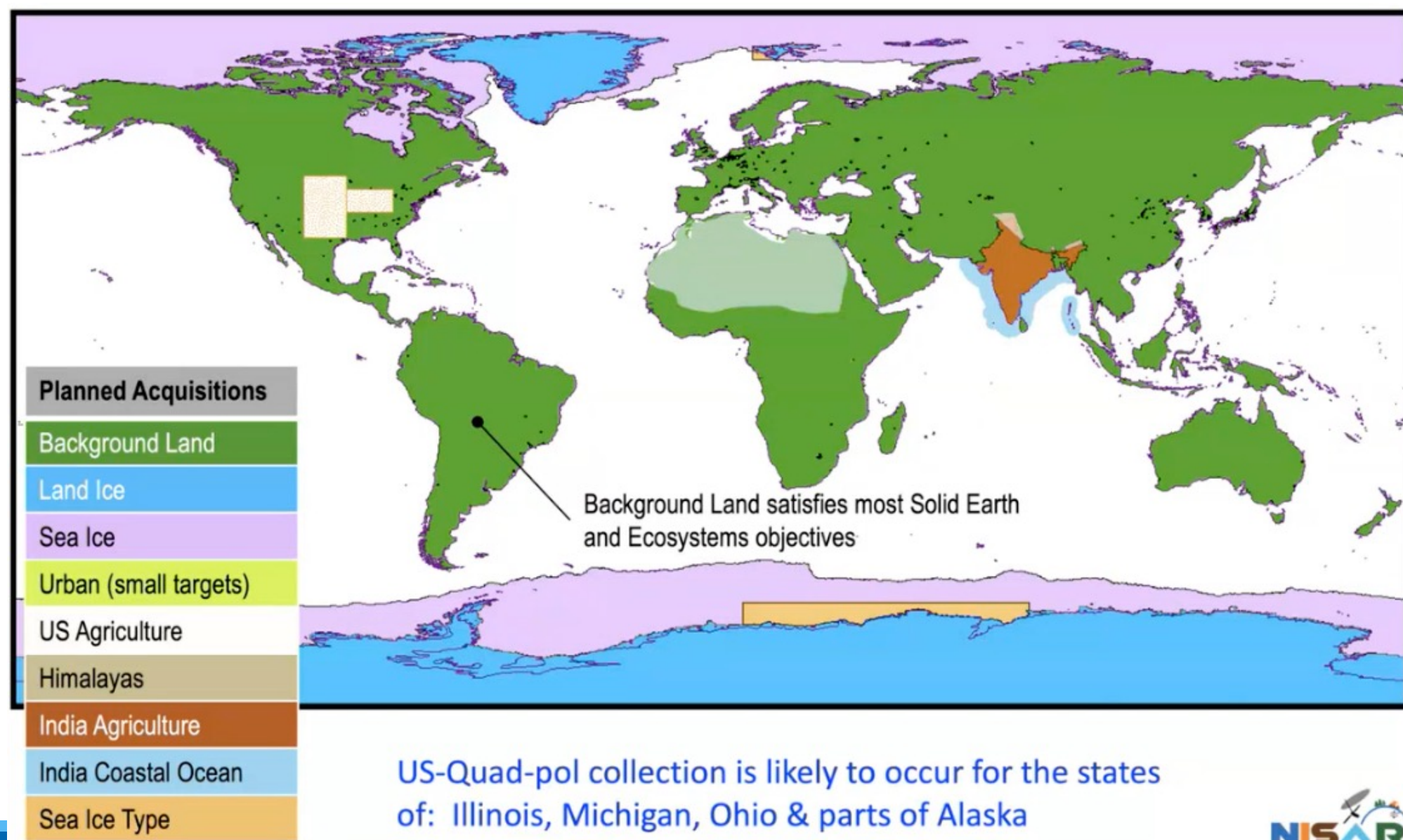
Sea Ice Quadrant
with LSAR & SSAR

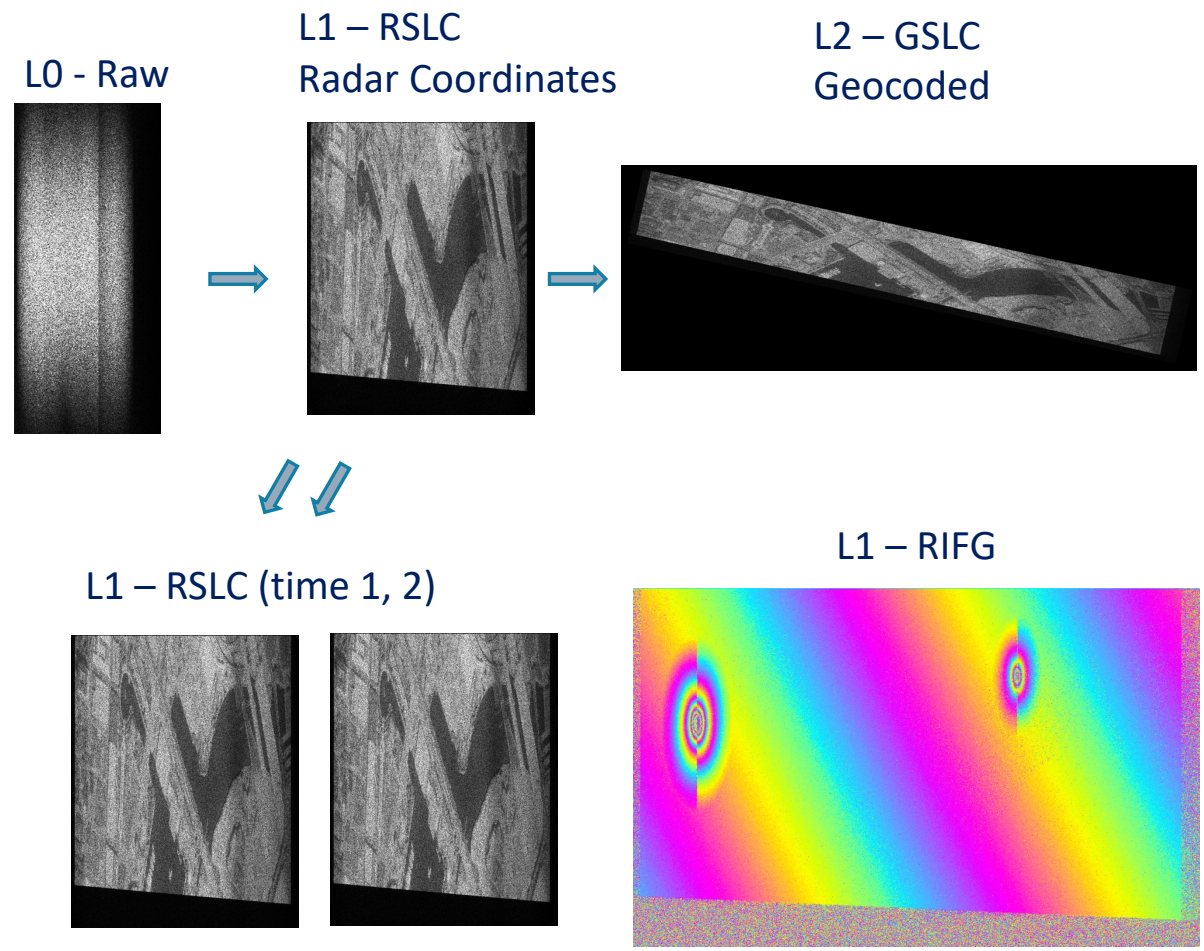
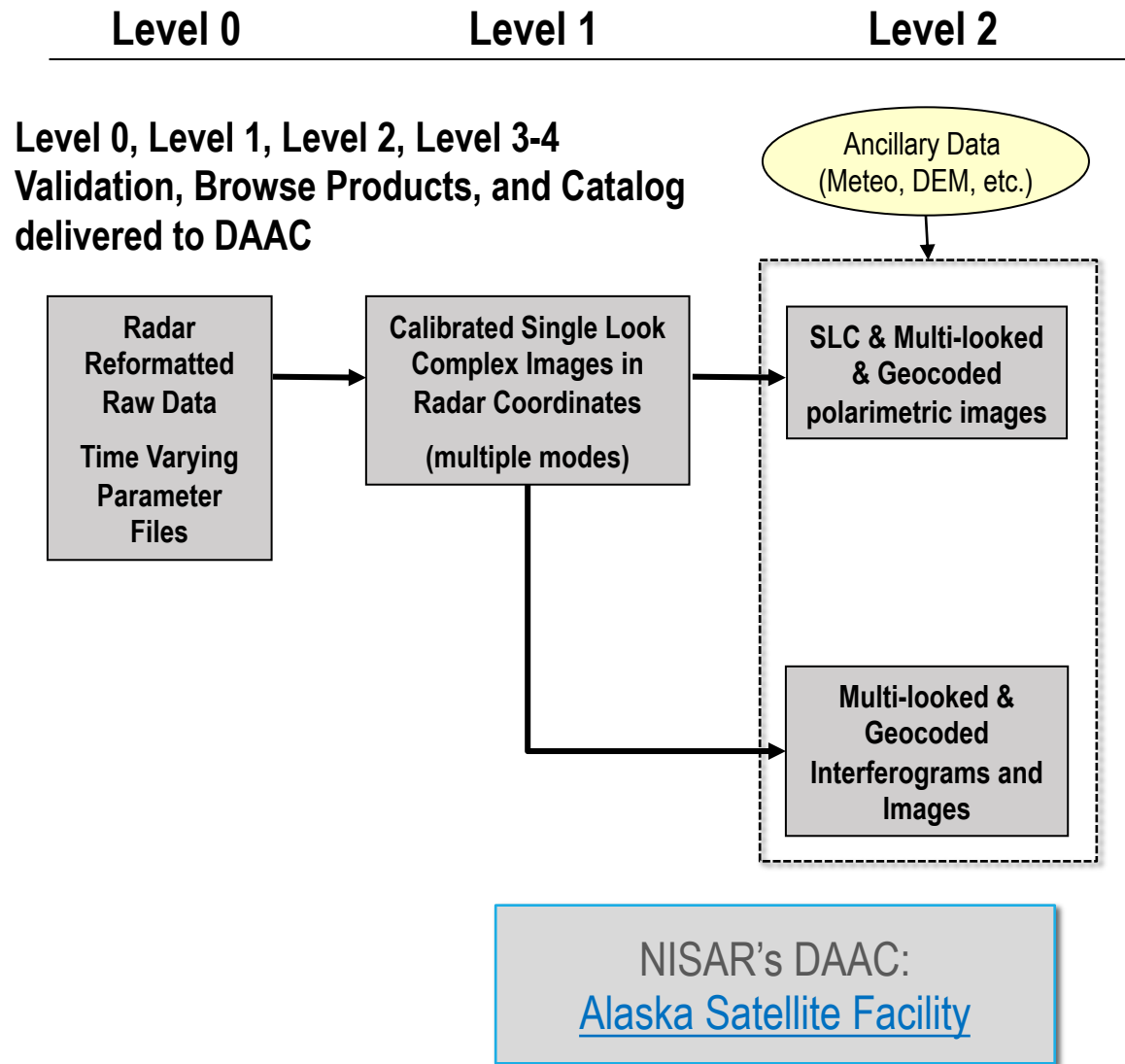
Qual-Pol modes are Fixed
All other modes are Dithered

Antarctica
40&80MHz SP
L-SAR

Antarctica
25MHz CP &
37.5MHz HH
S-SAR

Mode-Specific Science Targets in Observation Plan





Level 0

Level 1

Level 2

Level 0, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3-4
Validation, Browse Products, and Catalog
delivered to DAAC

Radar
Reformatted
Raw Data
Time Varying
Parameter
Files

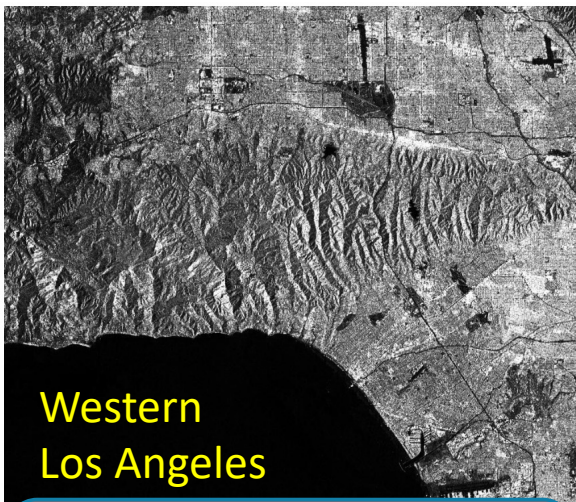
Calibrated Single Look
Complex Images in
Radar Coordinates
(multiple modes)

SLC & Multi-looked
& Geocoded
polarimetric images

Ancillary Data
(Meteo, DEM, etc.)

Geocoded **RTC** products (HH,
HV) can be analyzed as
another “optical” band

NISAR’s DAAC:
[Alaska Satellite Facility](#)

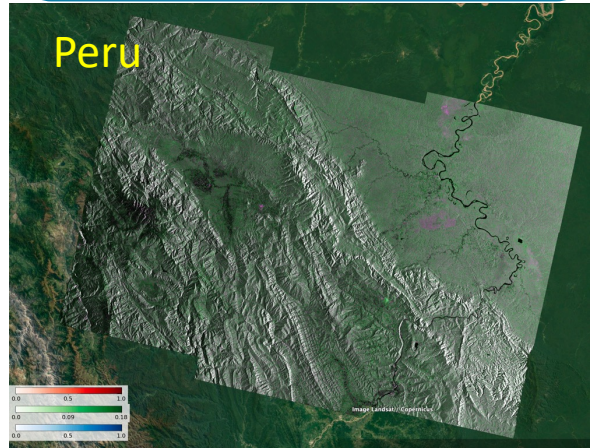


Western
Los Angeles

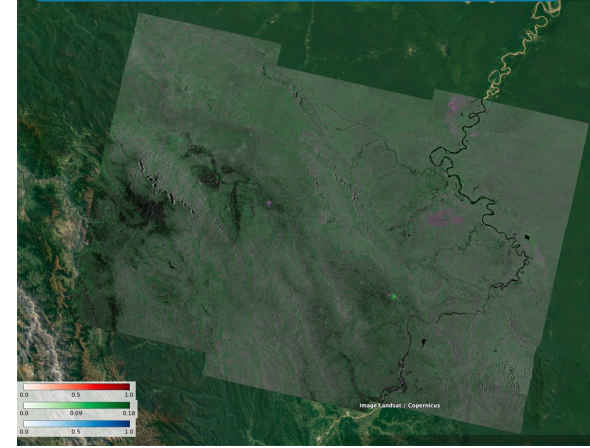
Geocoded Covariance (GCOV)
Simulated NISAR from
Sentinel-1 data



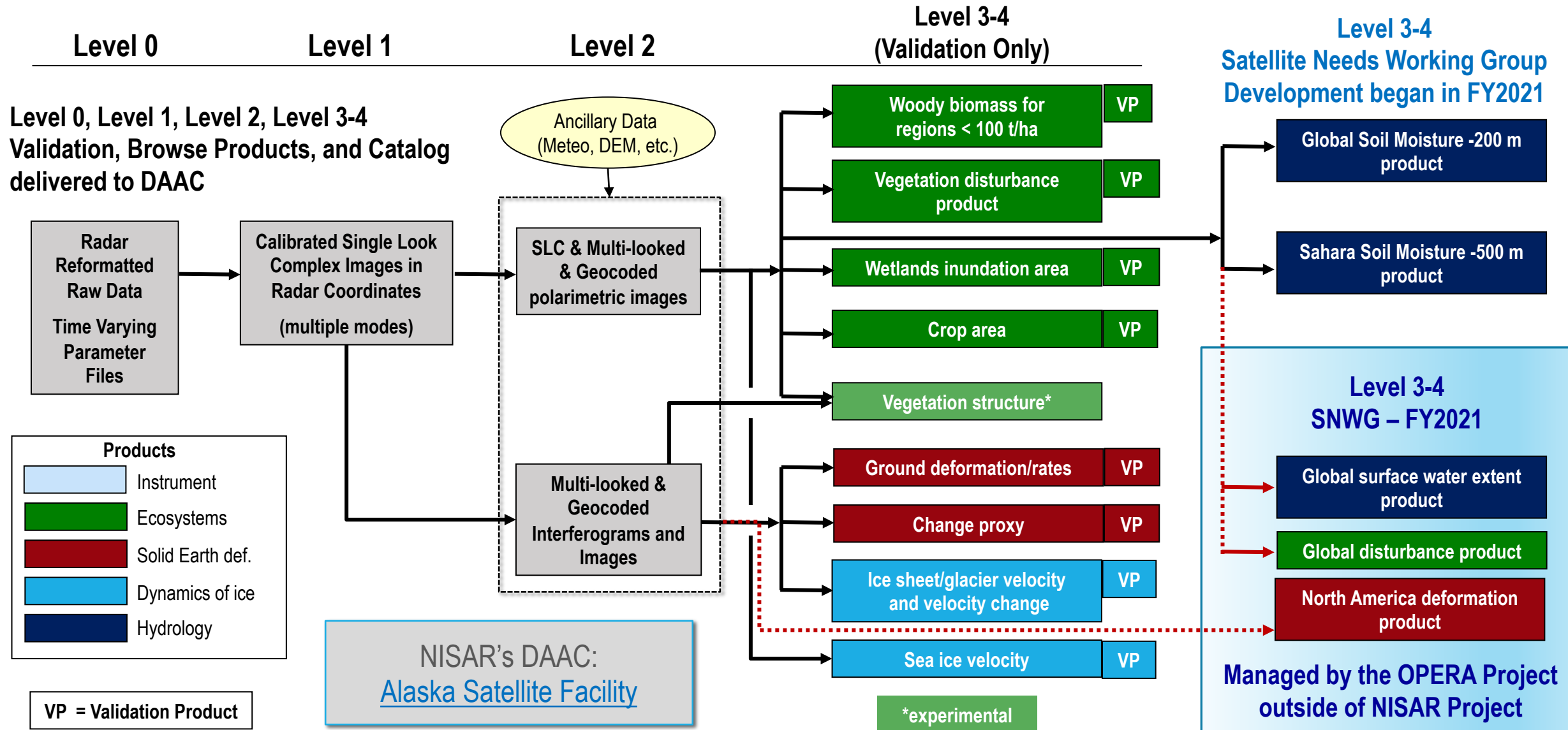
Geocoded radiometric
terrain correction (**RTC**: GSLC)
collected Sentinel-1 data



Peru



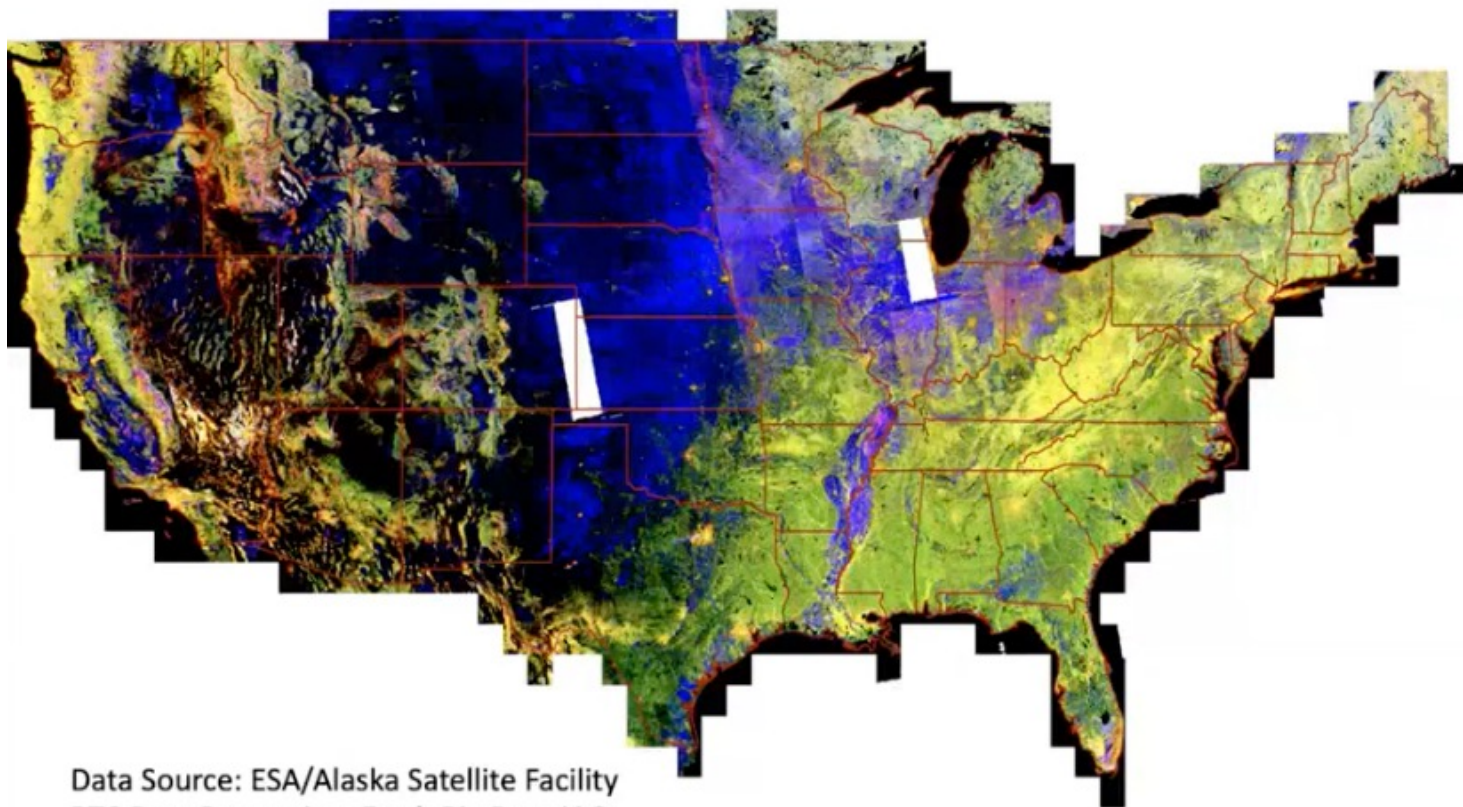
NISAR Science Data Analysis and Archive Approach



- Metrics of SAR backscatter over an observation time series (e.g., annual, season) can be used to monitor agricultural activity.

C-VV Median / C-VH Median / C-VH p95-p5

Sentinel-1 2017, Ascending Near over Far Range

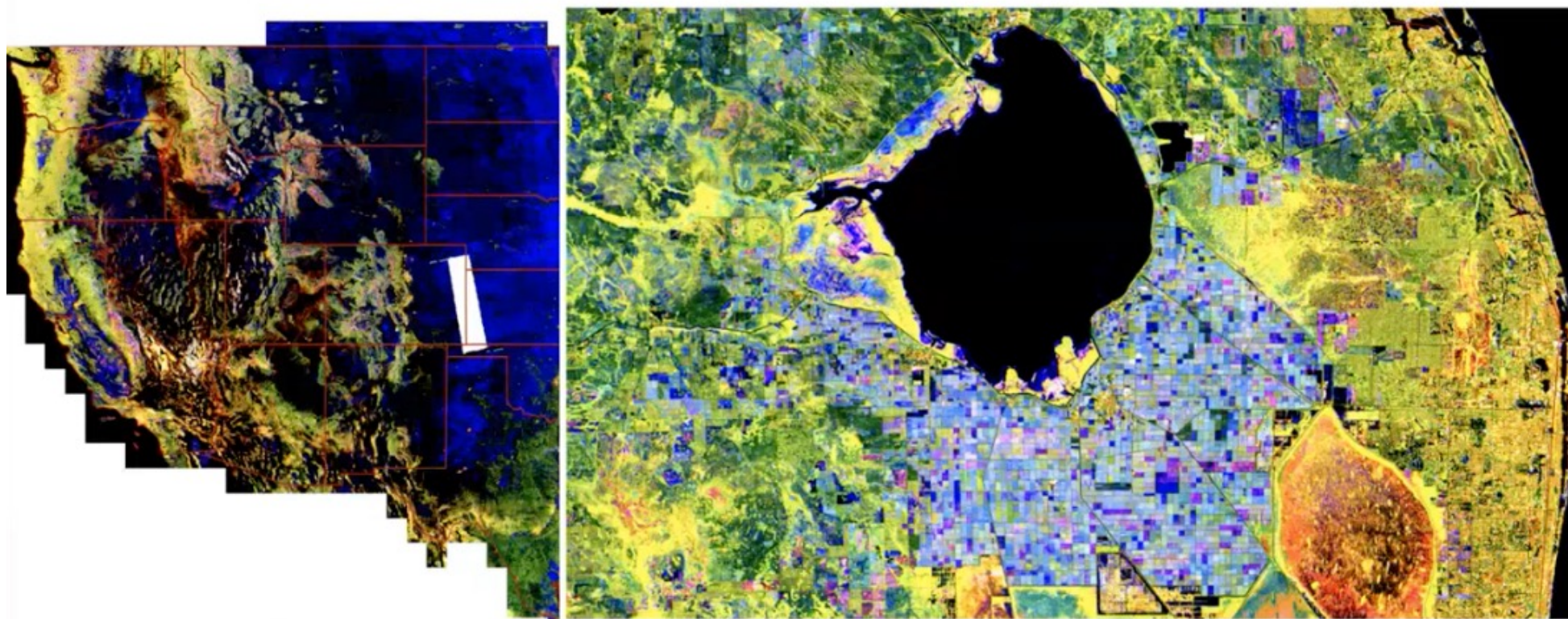


Data Source: ESA/Alaska Satellite Facility
RTC Data Processing: Earth Big Data LLC
Mosaicking and Visualization: Earth Big Data LLC

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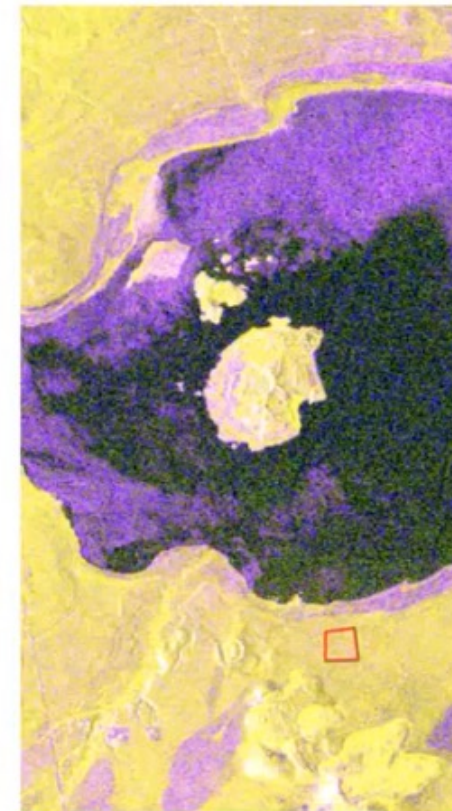
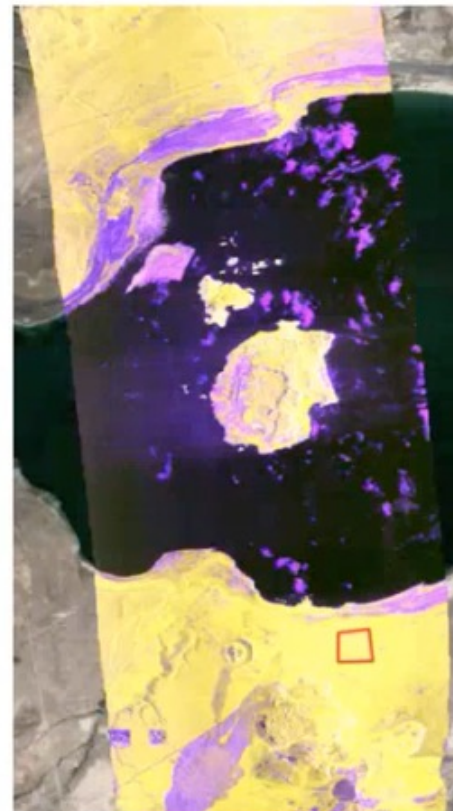
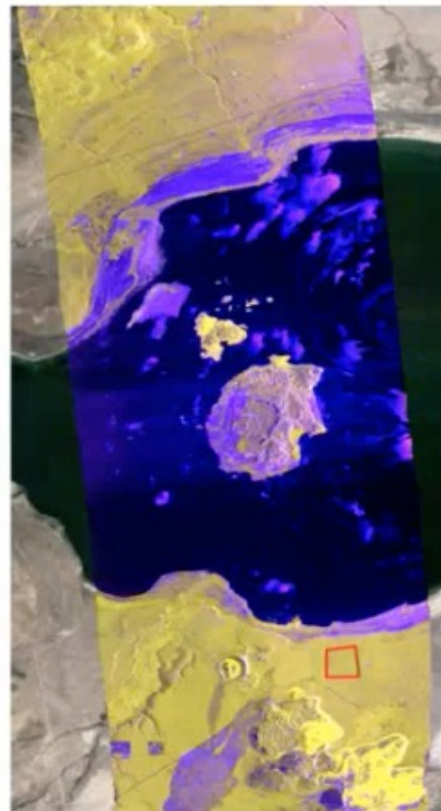
Scale [dB] (-30 to -10, -35 to -15, 4 to 12)

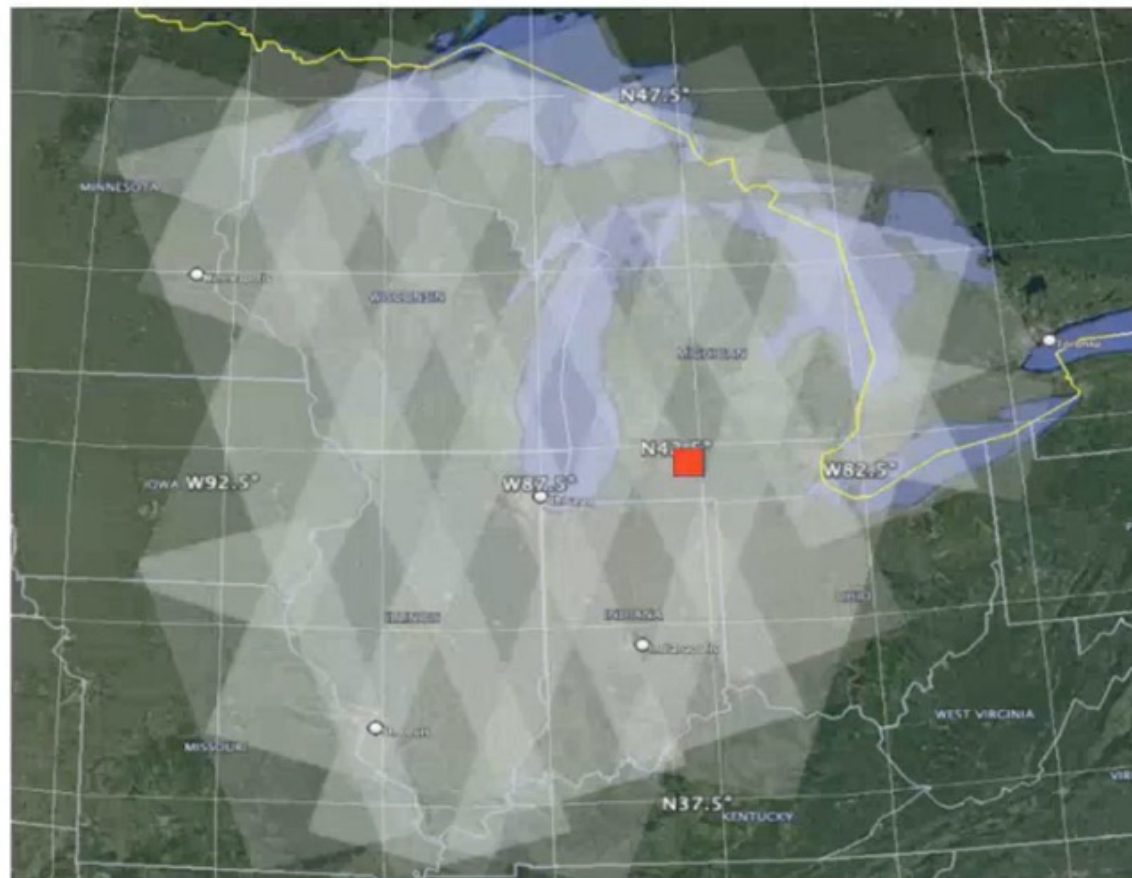
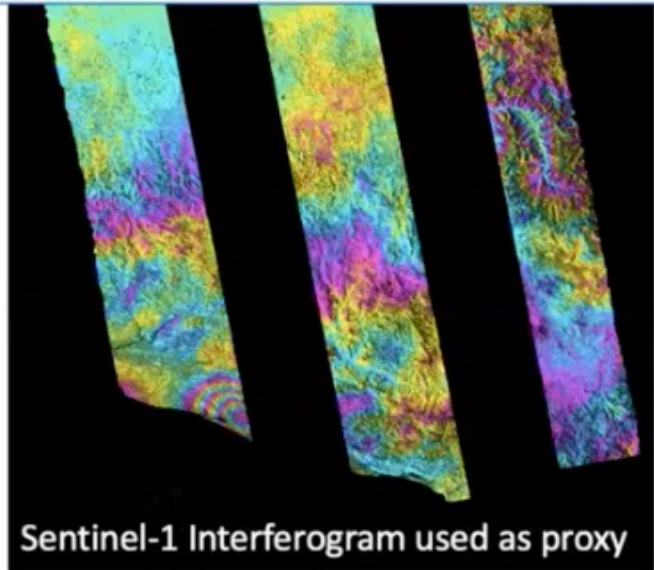
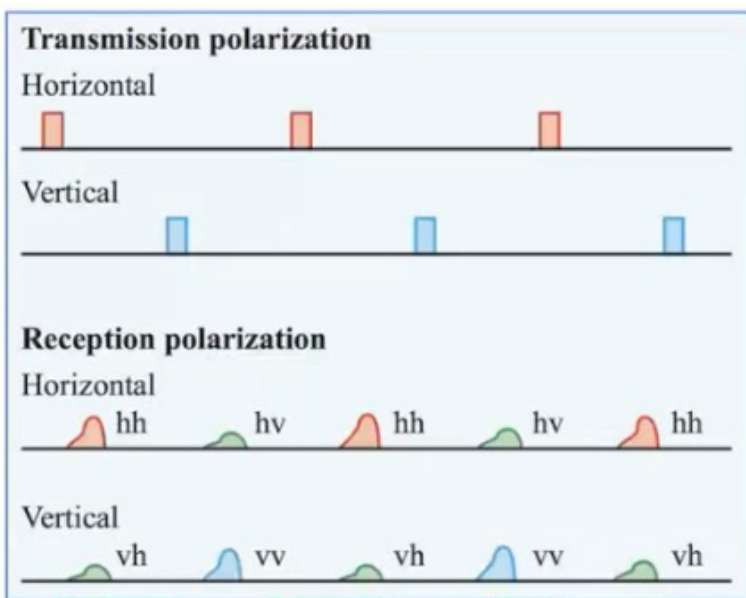
False color image: |VV|, |HV|, |VV/HV|

L-band

S-band

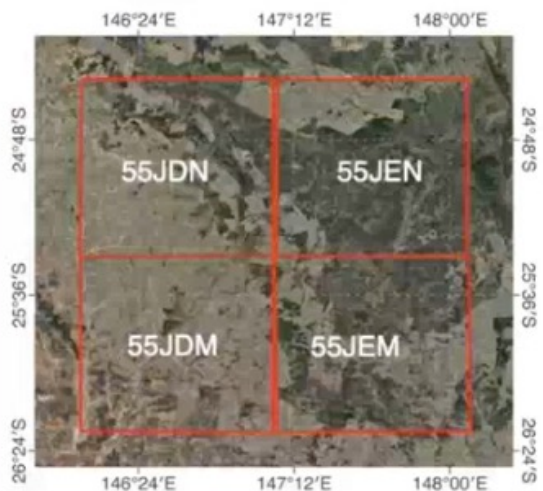
C-band



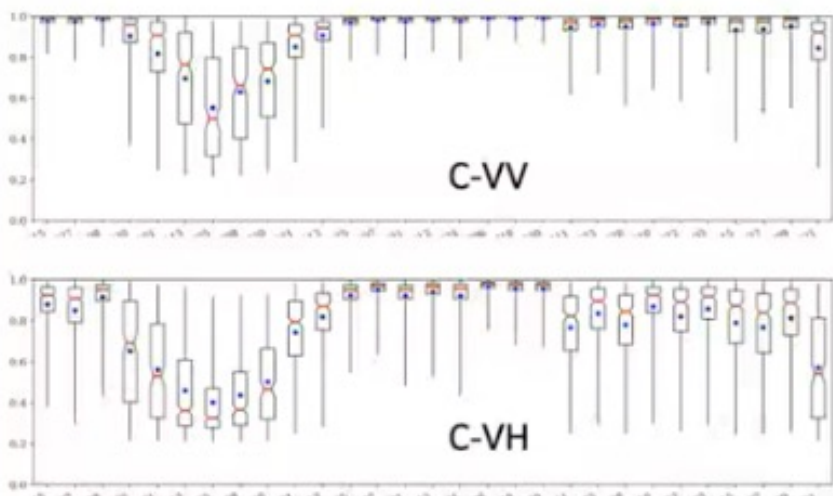
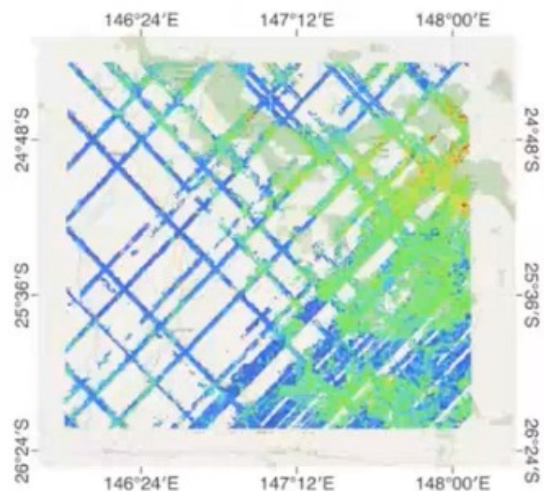


Michigan State Agriculture cal/val site indicated in Red

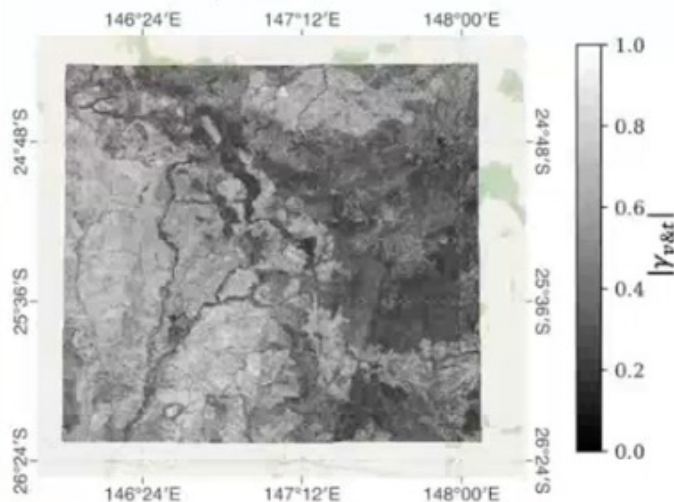
Google Satellite Image
(True Color Composite)



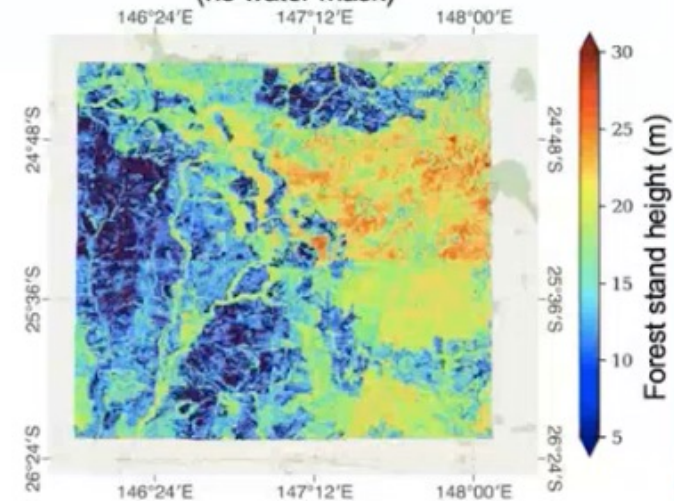
Reference height
GEDI RH100(m)



Sentinel-1 12-day coherence
(summer)



Estimated Forest stand height
(no water mask)



- Dependable time-series (2 observations every 12 days)
- High resolution (~20m),
- Dual-polarized (HH, HV)
- Ground-projected data will be co-registered to a fixed grid
 - making time series analysis will be very simple
- Available over all land surfaces, globally

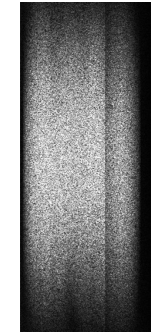
will change the way that we use data for Ecosystems

- Learning how to work with data in the cloud will be an important skill to develop

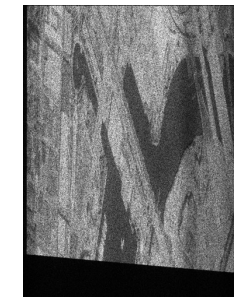
Science Data System Products Latency

Products	Requirement	Current Best Estimate	Urgent Response
L0	24 Hours	12 Hours	2 Hours
L1	9 Days	1 Day	4 Hours
L2	9 Days	2 Days	6 Hours

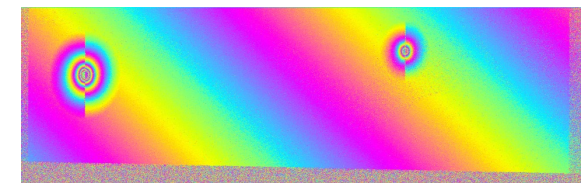
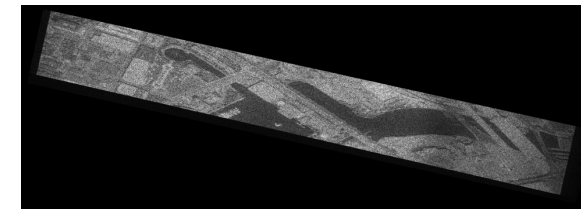
L0 - Raw



L1 - RSLC

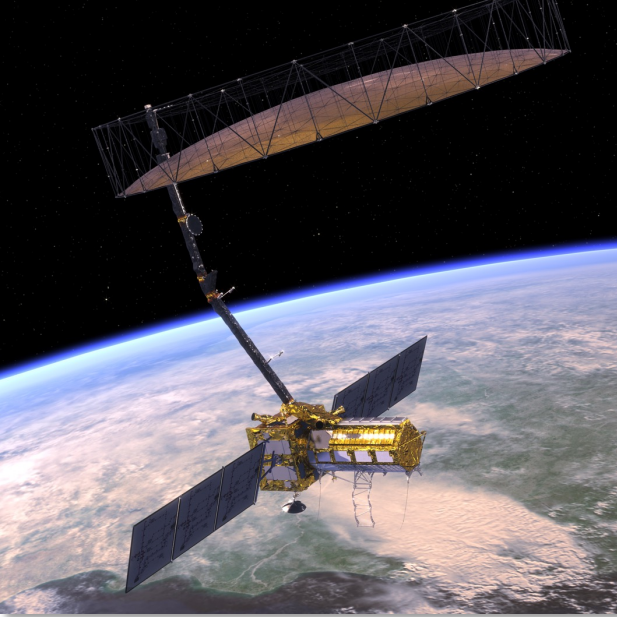


L2 - GSLC



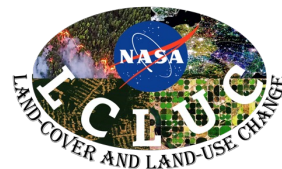
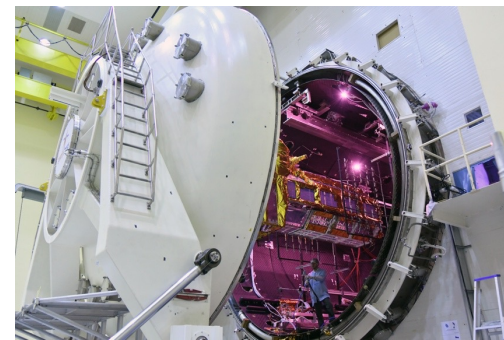
- Science Data System is sized to produce this data within 1 day latency
- Limiting factor is receiving all the ancillary files, specifically the Medium accuracy Orbit Ephemeris from GNSS

NISAR is 99.99% Completed and Tested



Launch
has
been
delayed

- NISAR was completely integrated in India before a radar reflector's thermal risk was identified
- The reflector was removed and returned to California
- Reflector will return to India, reintegrated, and tested before launch.
- First light images 2-3 months after launch
- Science operations 3 months after launch
- Global products to Level 2 will be fully and openly available to the global community
- NISAR data/products @ Alaska Satellite Facility
- Go to NISAR and ASF webpages for more information on how to get ready for NISAR
 - <https://nisar.jpl.nasa.gov/>
 - <https://asf.alaska.edu/>



- Open data – per NASA data policy – at the Alaska Satellite Facility DAAC
 - Pre-launch Sample products: <https://uavsar.jpl.nasa.gov/science/documents/nisar-sample-products.html>
 - Post-launch Science products
 - *NISAR will be two times larger than the current EODIS Archive.*
- Open Source Software – SDS and data processing code available for download
 - InSAR Scientific Computing Environment, Enhanced Edition (ISCE3): <https://github.com/isce-framework/isce3>
- Open Source Science algorithms for science products
 - Jupyter notebooks available for download: <https://gitlab.com/nisar-science-algorithms>
- Open Source Training Opportunities
 - Jupyter notebooks in cloud training environments at Alaska Satellite Facility OpenScienceLab
 - ARSET and other courses: <https://nisar.jpl.nasa.gov/resources/sar-education-resources/>
- Free cloud computing resources for NASA subscribers

Early Adopters & Community of Practice

Community of Practice

are individuals or organizations that can be public or private, Federal or local entities, and can have a local, national or international scope for their application.

Early Adopters (Science or Applications)

are individuals, teams, and organizations who

- have a clearly defined need for NISAR data
- have an existing application that can benefit from NISAR and
- are capable of applying their own resources to demonstrate the utility of NISAR data for their application.

Early Adopters provide important feedback to the NISAR team regarding which NISAR data products meet the needs of their applications.

Become an Early Adopter

to learn about the NISAR mission and its data, and to join quarterly telecons to present your work, receive feedback and discover opportunities for collaboration!

Apply Here!

<https://nisar.jpl.nasa.gov/engagement/application-sign-up>





<http://nisar.jpl.nasa.gov>

Thank You



NISAR
Community of Practice
& Early Adopters



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NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
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Backup Slides

