

InSAR geodézia súčasné možnosti a výzvy

InSAR geodesy
current capabilities and challenges

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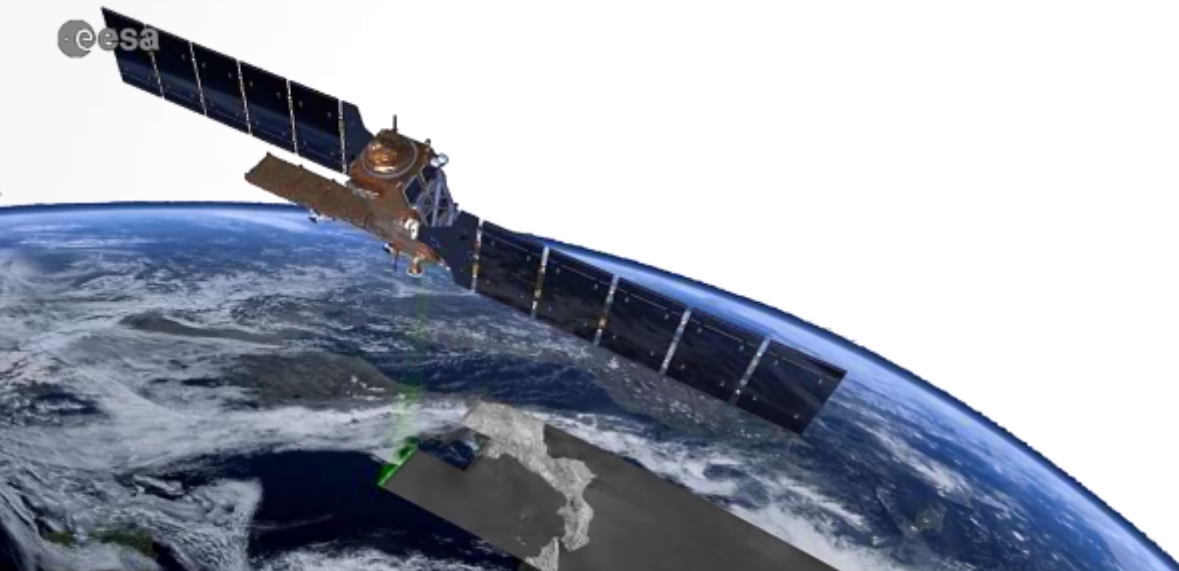
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insar.sk s.r.o., Presov, Slovak Republic

Geodetic and Cartographic Institute (GKU), Bratislava, Slovakia

InSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar)

(In)SAR are measurements, not „nice images“

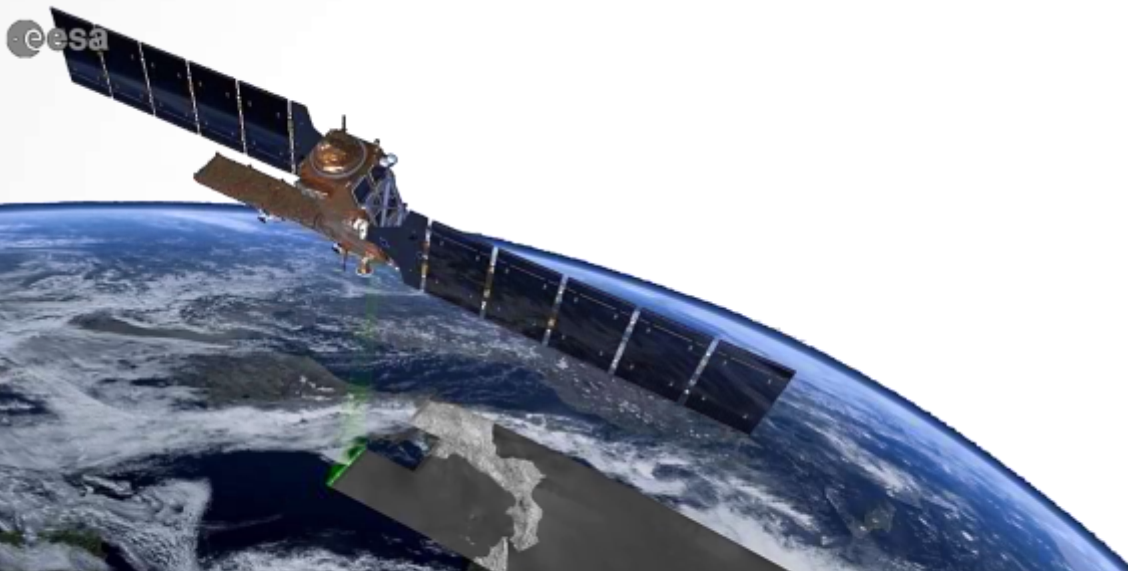


InSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar)

- What do we measure (directly & indirectly)?
- What are the benchmarks?
- What is its reference system (frame)?
- What is the precision and accuracy (stochastic properties)?
- What are the capabilities, limitations and challenges?



InSAR geodesy: theory



SAR phase measurement

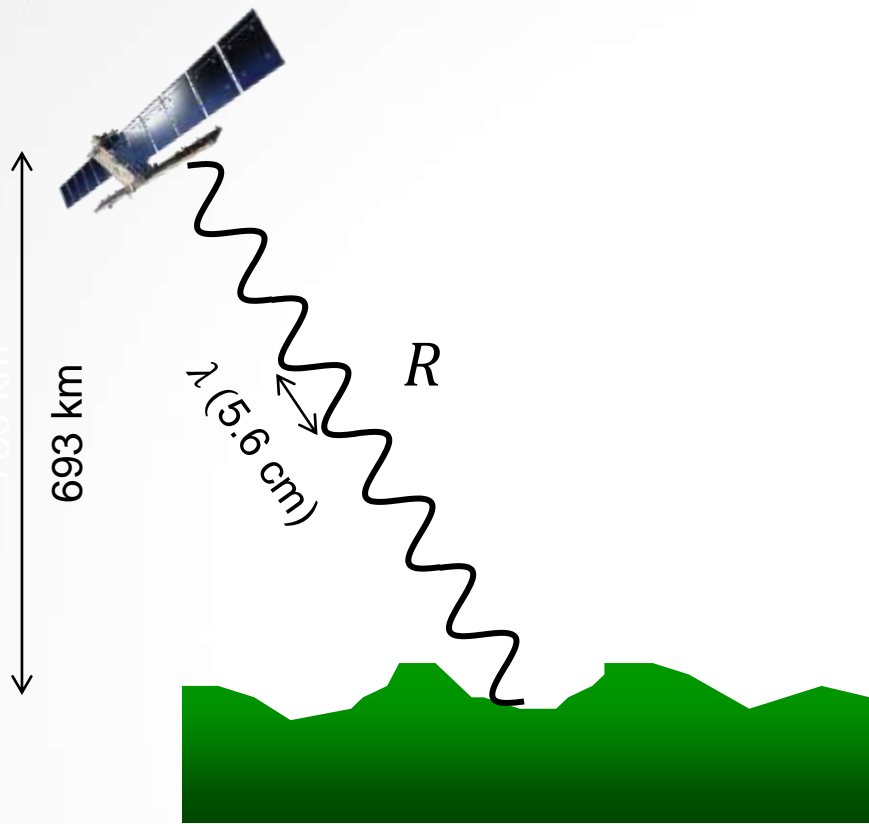
Complex phasor
measurement per pixel:

$$y = A \exp(i\psi)$$

Phase

$$\psi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} 2R = n2\pi + \Delta\psi$$

Round trip ~ 30 million wavelengths
BUT we don't know the exact number
(phase ambiguity)

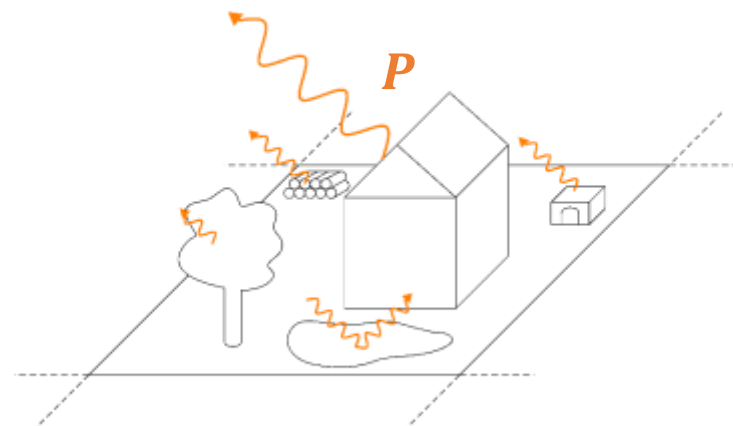
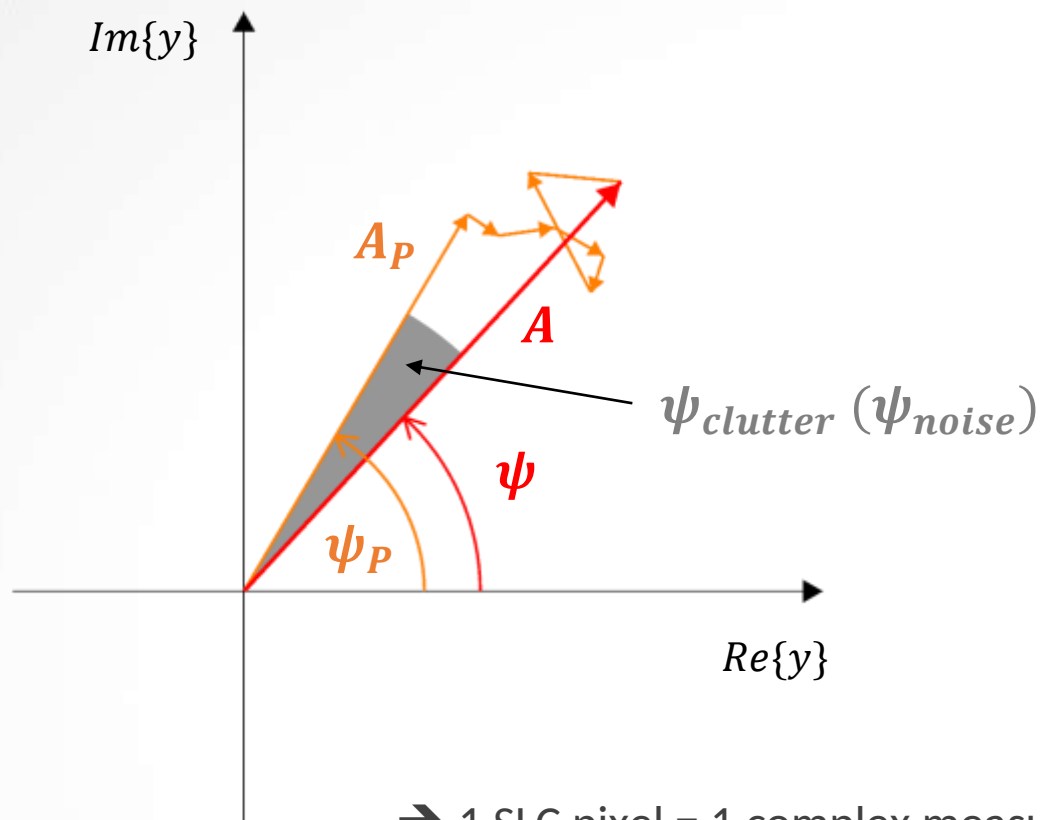


Coherent scattering

Complex phasor:

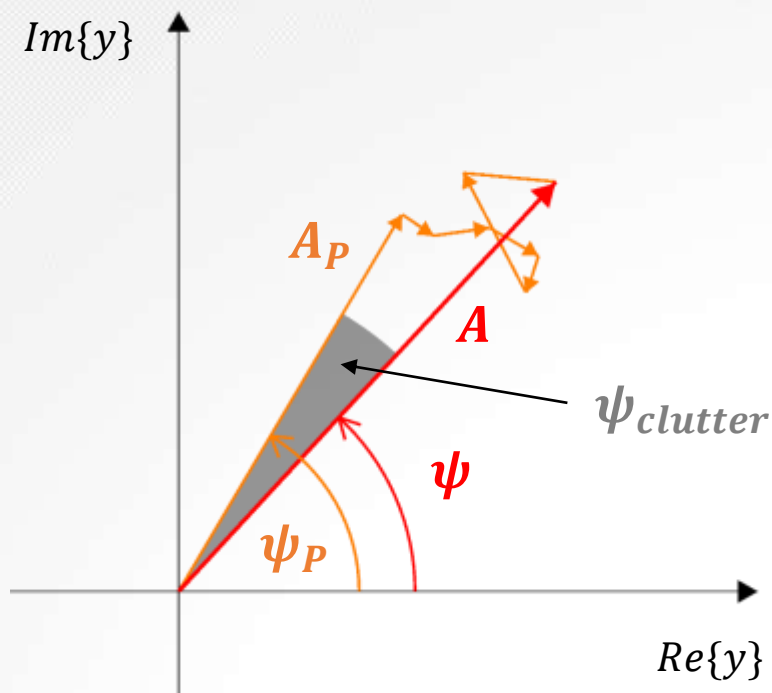
$$y = A \exp(i\psi)$$

per 1 pixel:

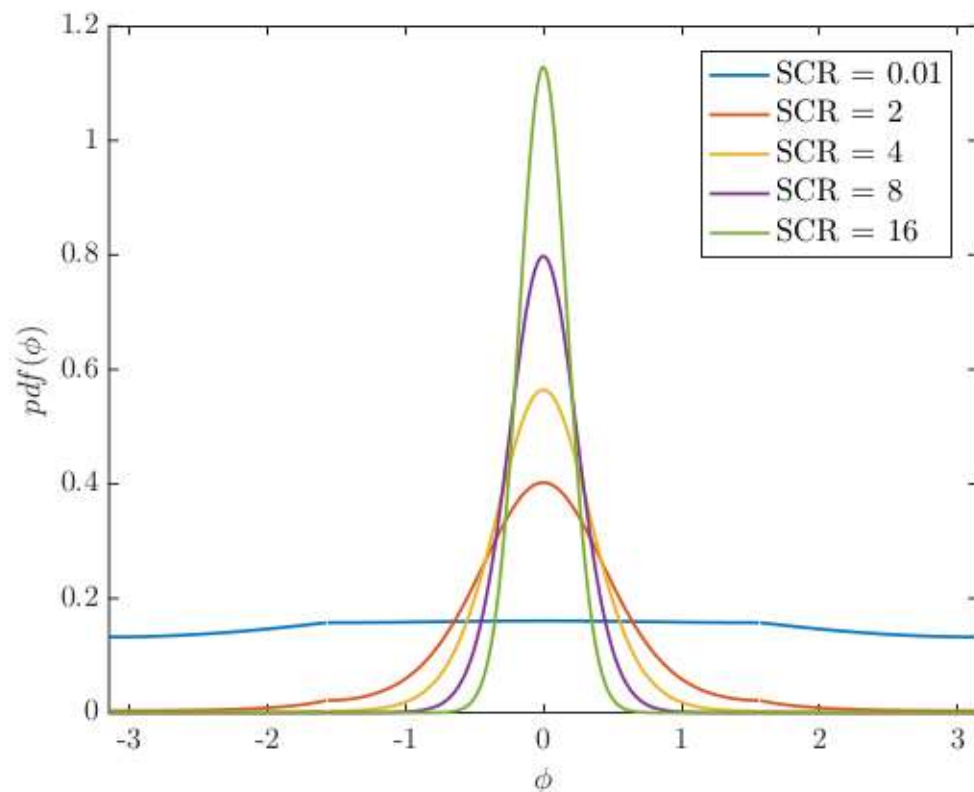


→ 1 SLC pixel = 1 complex measurement

Signal-to-clutter ratio (SCR)



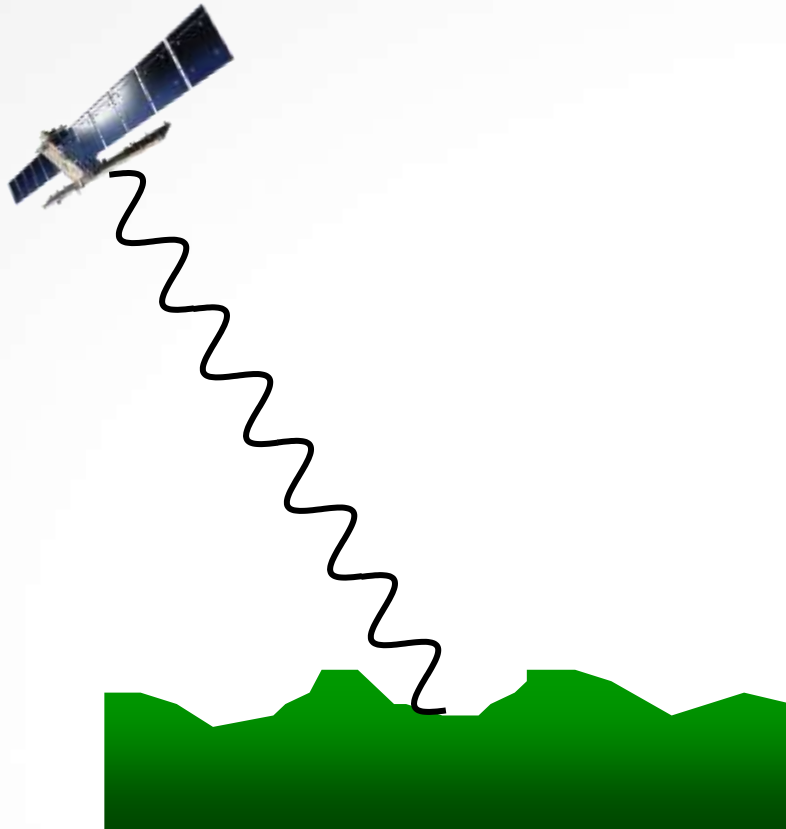
$$SCR = \frac{\text{signal}^2}{\text{clutter}^2} = \frac{\mathbb{E}(A)^2}{2\sigma_n^2}$$



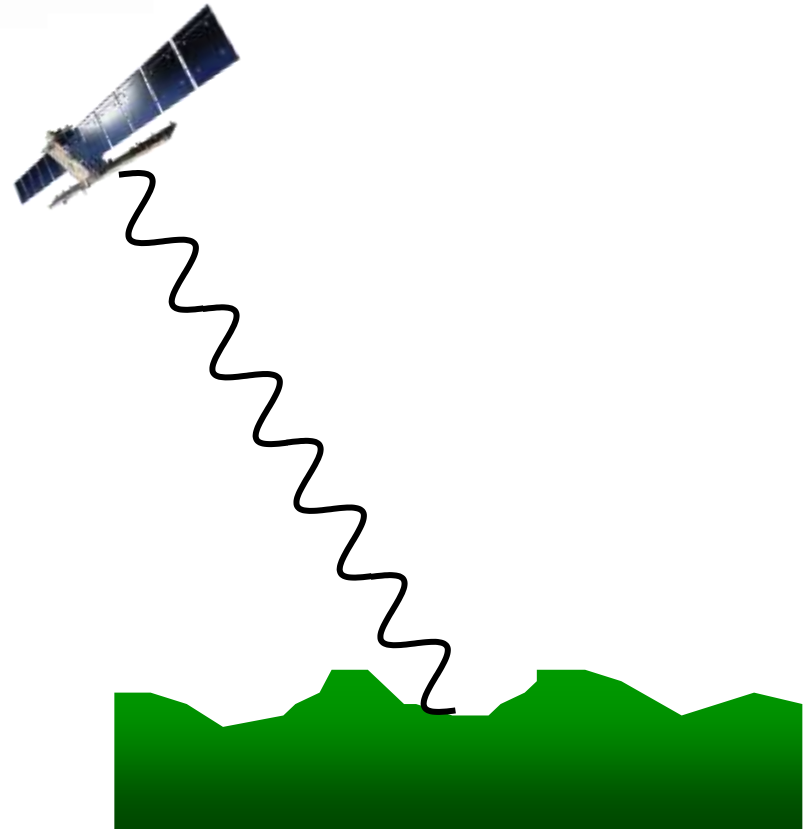
SAR Interferometry (InSAR)

$$y_1 y_2^* = |y_1| |y_2| \exp(j(\psi_1 - \psi_2))$$

t_0



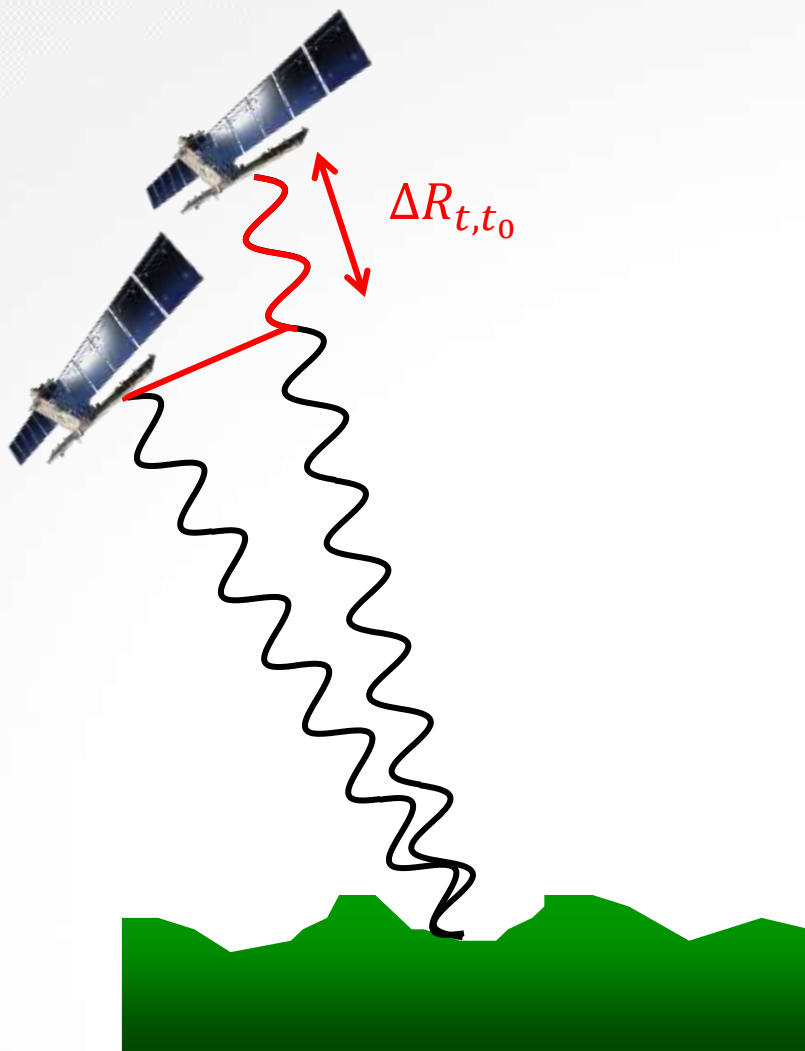
$t_0 + \Delta t$



SAR Interferometry

Interferometric phase (interferogram)

$$\psi_t - \psi_{t_0} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \Delta R_{t,t_0}$$



$\Delta R_{t,t_0}$ caused by different:

- position of sensor (parallax)
- position of scatterer (deformation)
- atmospheric signal delay

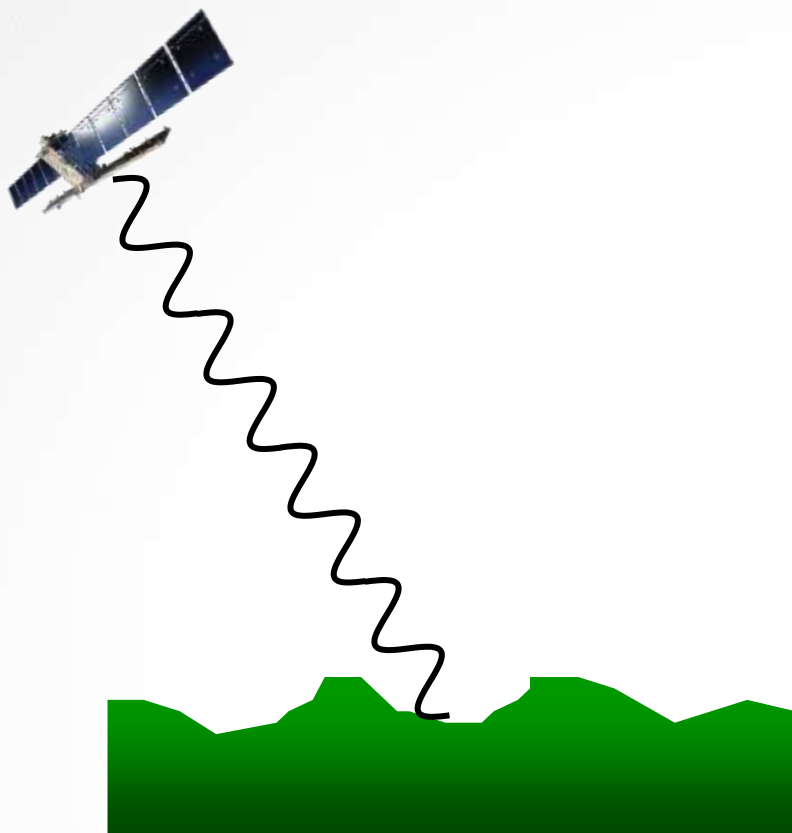
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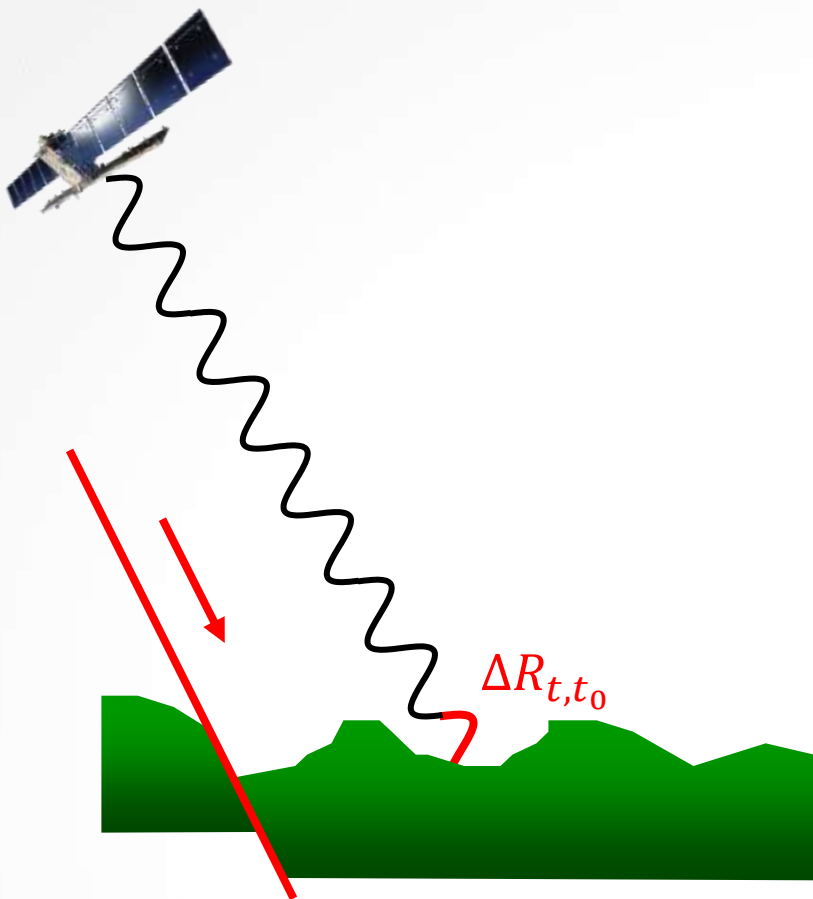
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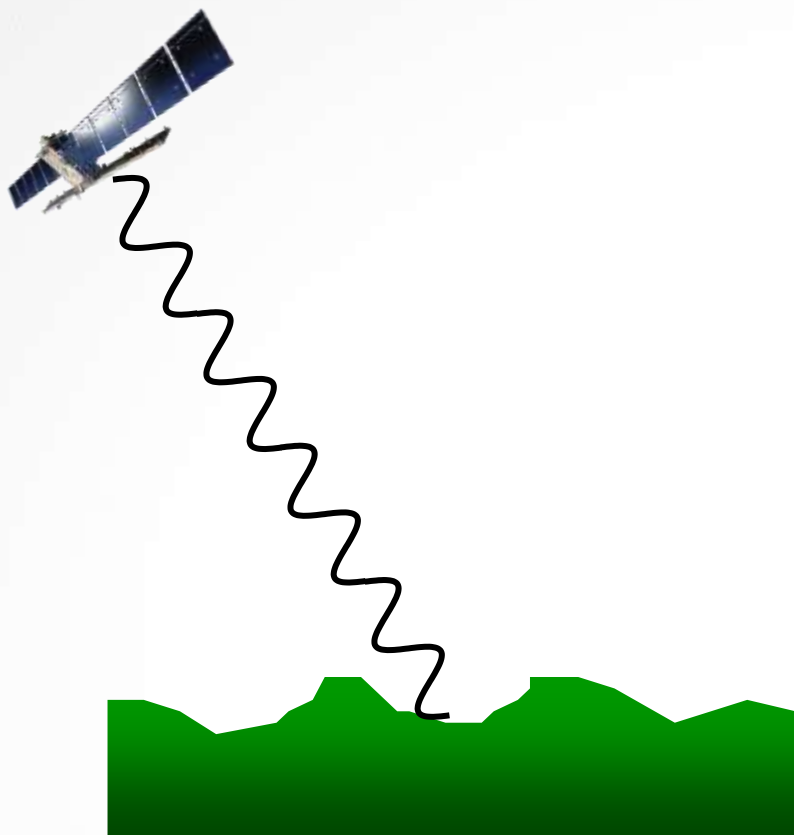
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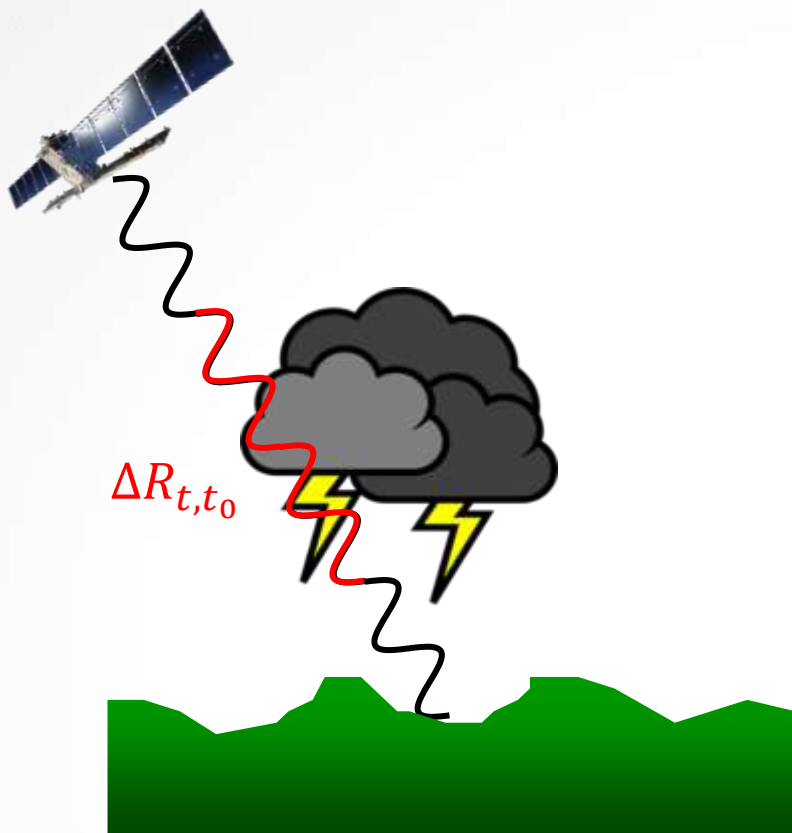
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InSAR observation equation

$$\phi = -2\pi a + \phi_{ref} + \phi_{defo} + \phi_{atmo} + \phi_{scatt}(clutt) + \phi_{noise}$$

Geometry phase

 ϕ_{geom}

- » Reference phase
 ϕ_{ref}
- » Ref. body phase
 $\phi_{refBody}$

 $\phi_{orbitErr}$
 ϕ_{subPix}
**if compensated*
- » Topography phase
 ϕ_{topo}

 $\phi_{resTopo}$
**if compensated*
- » Displacement phase
 ϕ_{defo}

Atmospheric phase

 ϕ_{atmo}

- » Ionospheric phase
 ϕ_{iono}
- » Tropospheric phase
 ϕ_{tropo}
- » Turbulent component
 $\phi_{turbulent}$
- » Stratified component
 $\phi_{stratified}$

Scattering (Clutter) phase

 ϕ_{scatt}

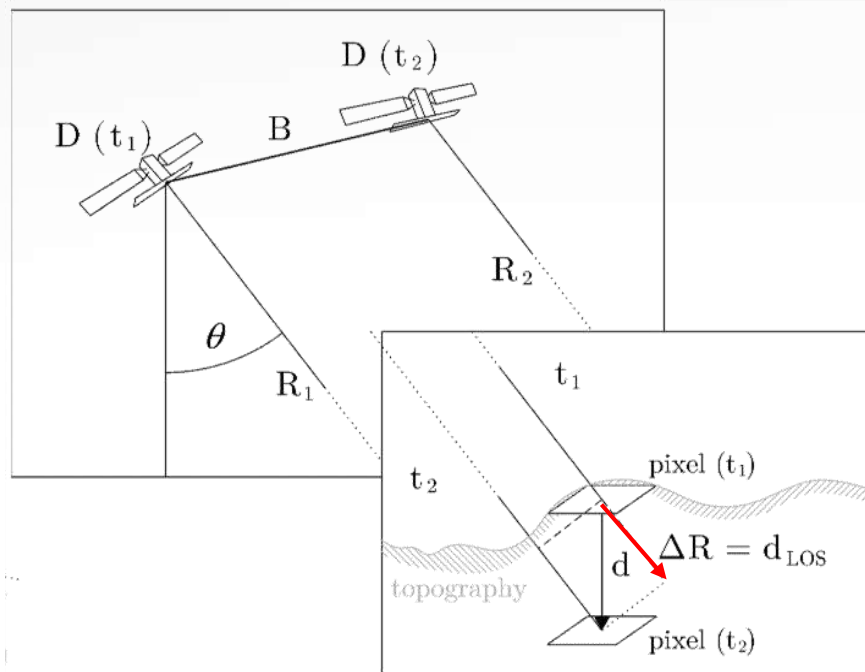
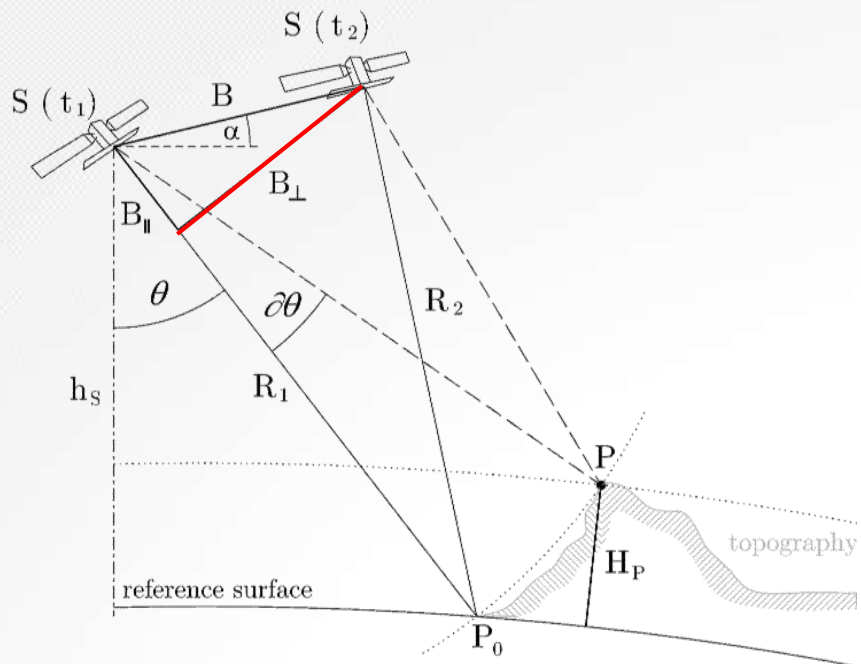
- » Clutter phase
 ϕ_{clutt}
- » Decorrelation phase
(change of clutter
= loss of coherence γ)
 $\phi_{decorel}$
- » Temporal
- » Geometric

Phase noise

 ϕ_{noise}

- » Sensor & Processing noise

Topography & Displacement (LOS) phase



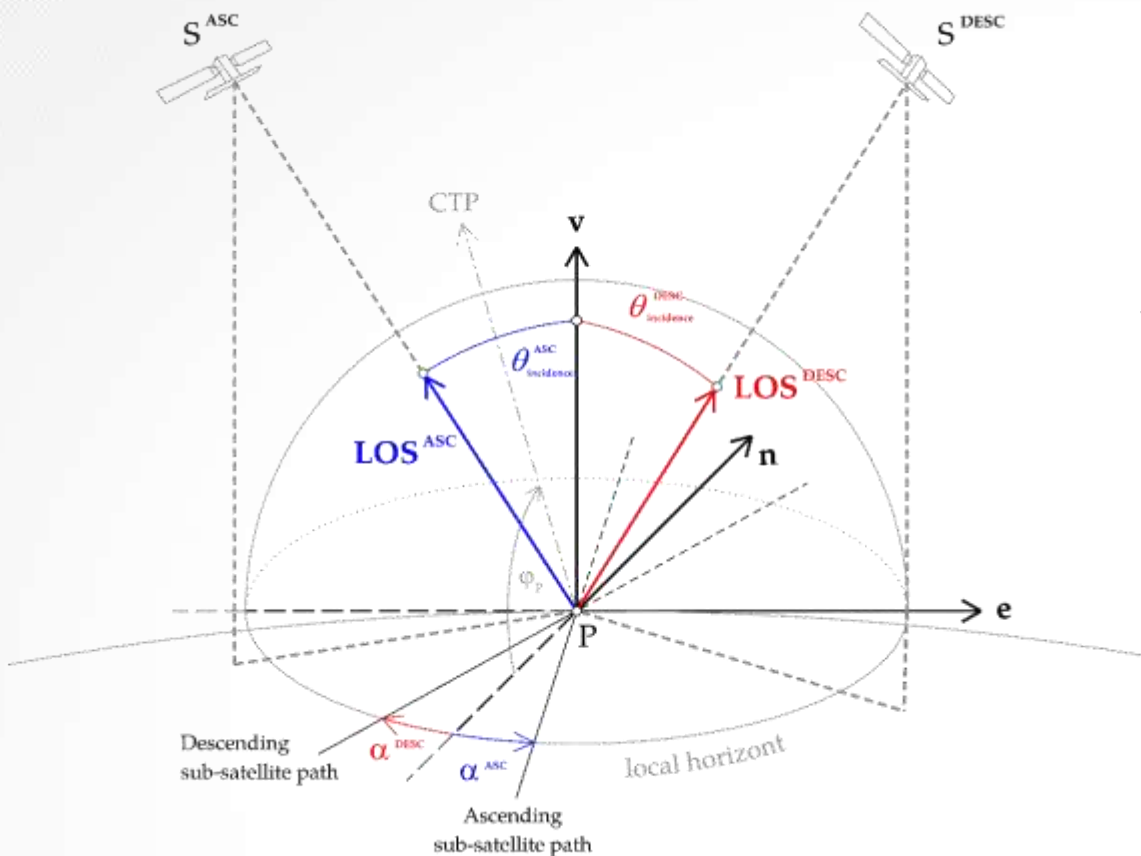
$$\phi_{topo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}}{R \sin \theta} H_P$$

$$\phi_{defo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} d_{LOS}$$

“residual” topography (linearized by DEM)

Displacement sensitivity

$$d_{LOS} = d_v \cos(\theta) - \sin(\theta) [d_n \cos(\alpha_h - 3\pi/2) + d_e \sin(\alpha_h - 3\pi/2)]$$



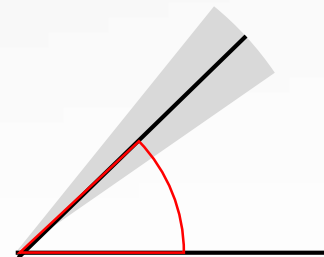
Sentinel-1:

VERTICAL = **76%** ,
 EAST-WEST = **63%** ,
 NORTH-SOUTH = **17%**

A-priori precision

Scatterer with SCR = 20 :

$$\sigma_{\phi} = \sim 6^{\circ}$$



Relative height precision

$$\phi_{topo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}}{R \sin \theta} H_P$$

theoretically



$$\sigma_H = \sim 1 \text{ m}$$

Displacement precision

$$\phi_{defo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} d_{LOS}$$

theoretically

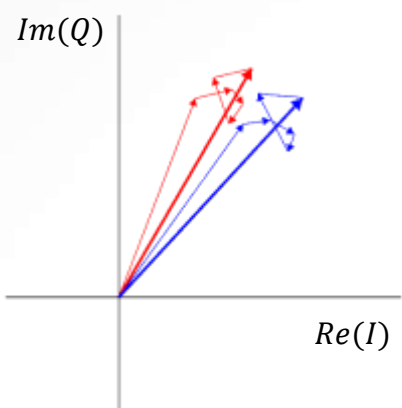
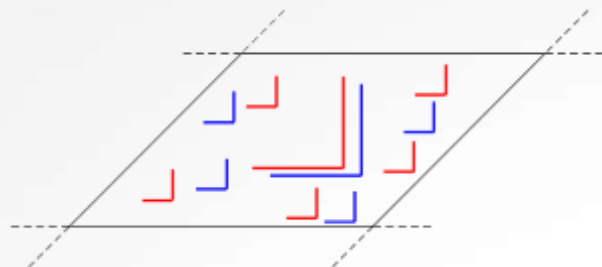


$$\sigma_{d_{LOS}} = \sim 0.5 \text{ mm}$$

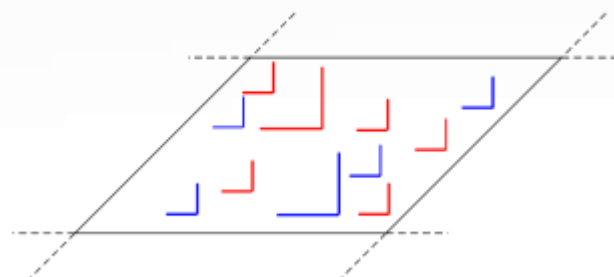
Persistent Scatterers (PS)

Point scattering

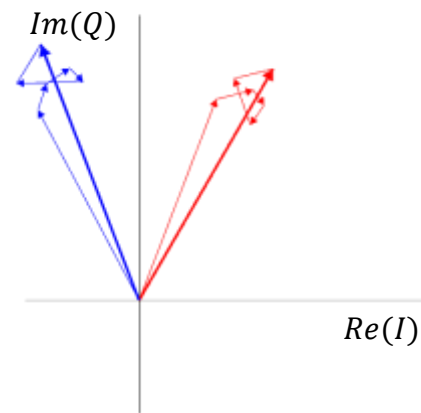
a.) coherent



b.) incoherent

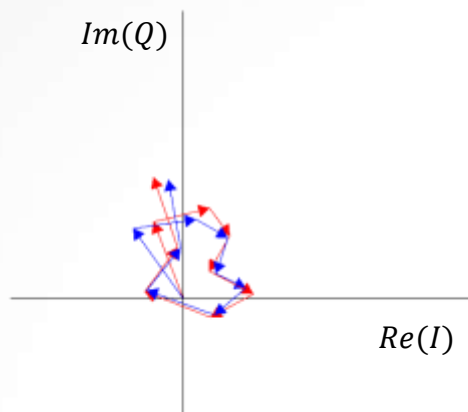
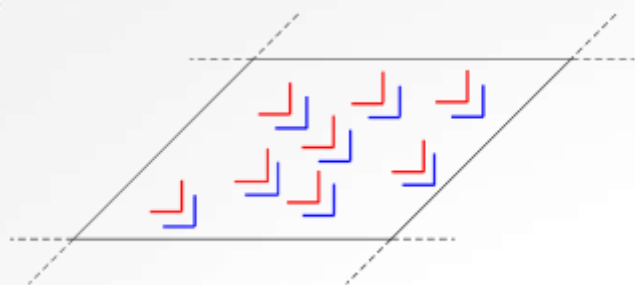


T_0
 $T_0 + \Delta T$



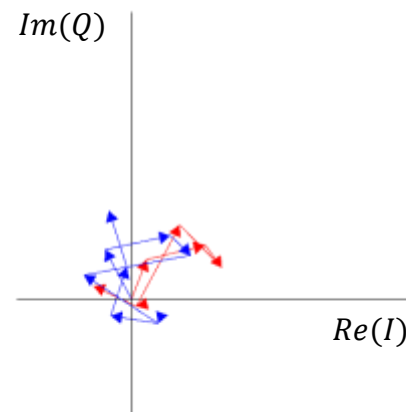
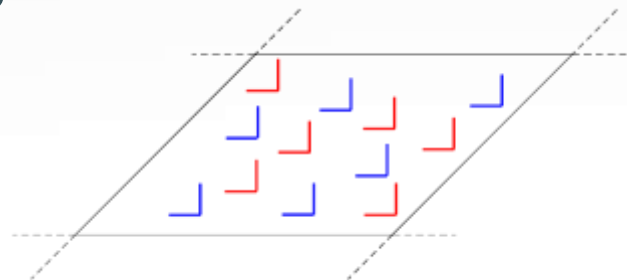
Persistent Scatterers (PS)

a.) coherent



Distributed
scattering

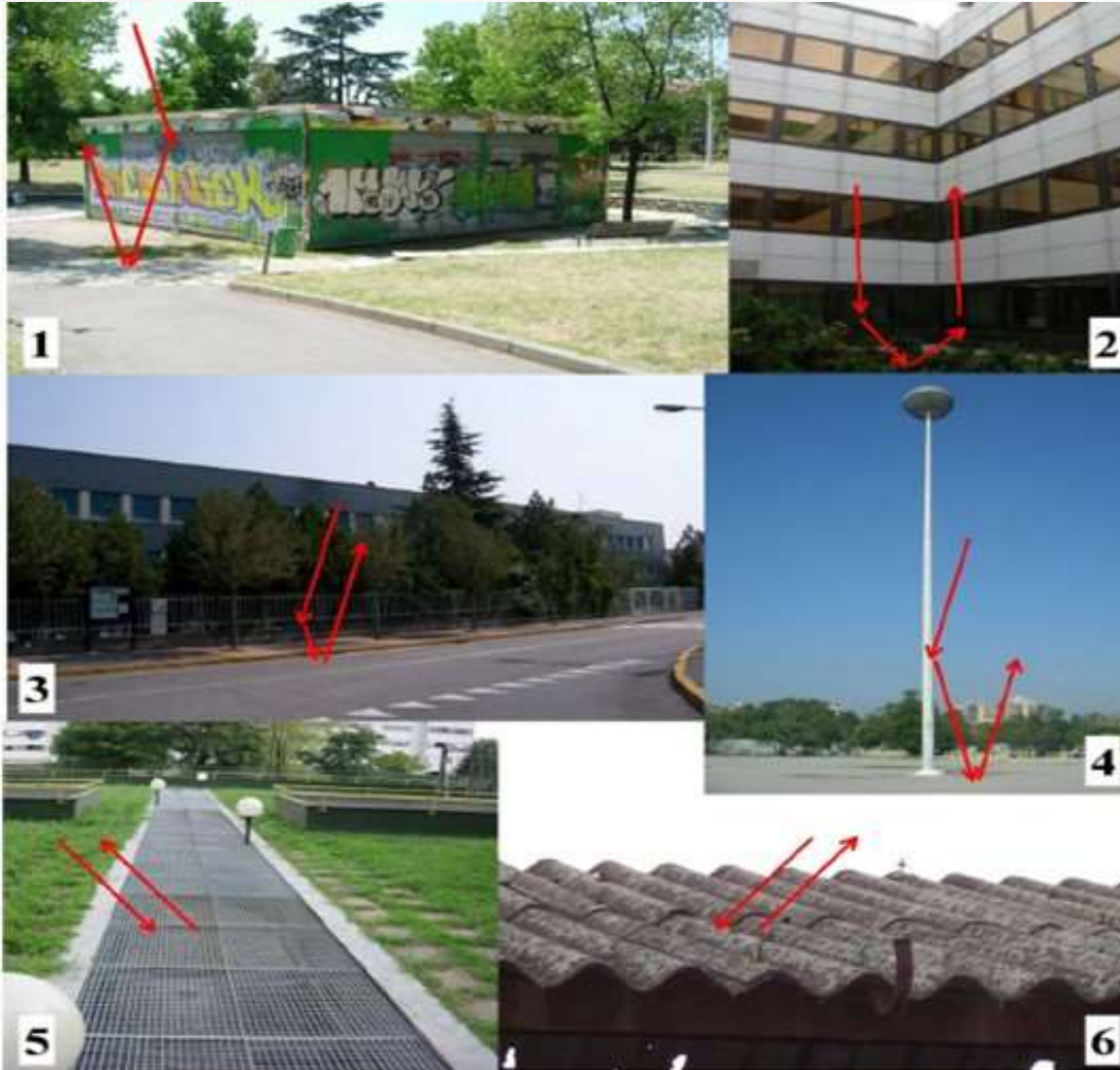
b.) incoherent



T_0

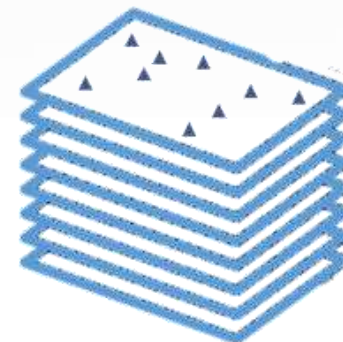
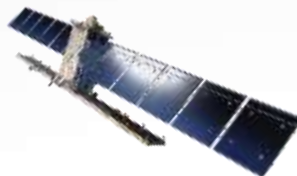
$T_0 + \Delta T$

Persistent Scatterers (PS)



Time-series (Multi-temporal InSAR)

- **New acquisition = new measurement every 6 days**



- **freely available, whole Earth's landmass, {October 2014 – ongoing}**

SAR image time series

t_0 "Master" epoch

$t_{1,2,3...N}$ "Slave" epochs

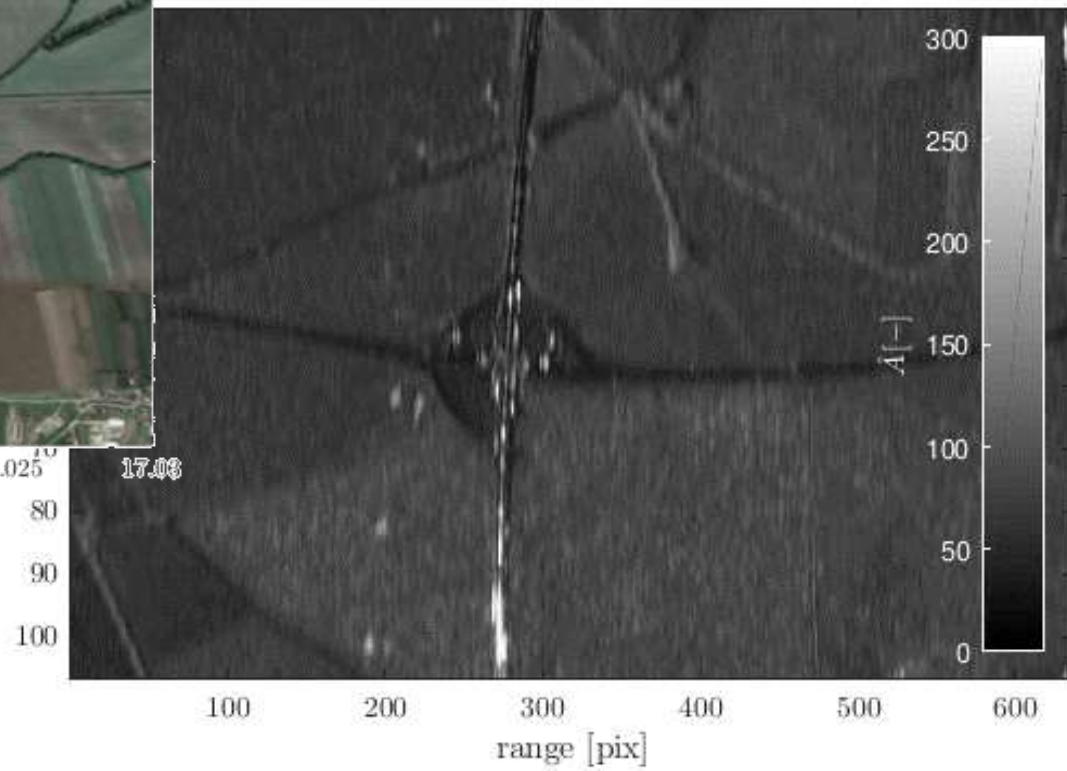
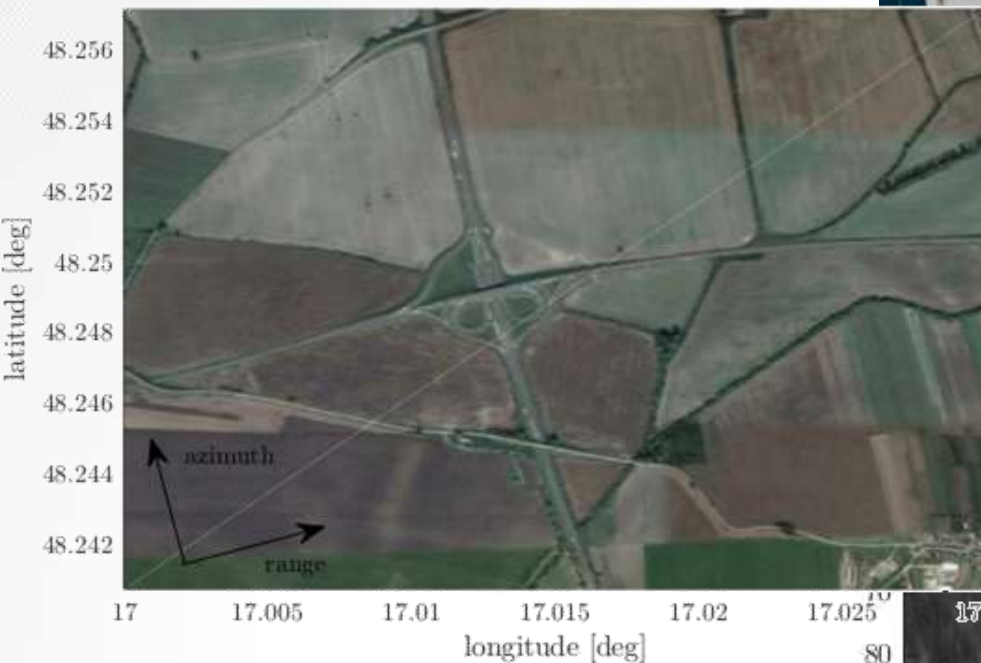
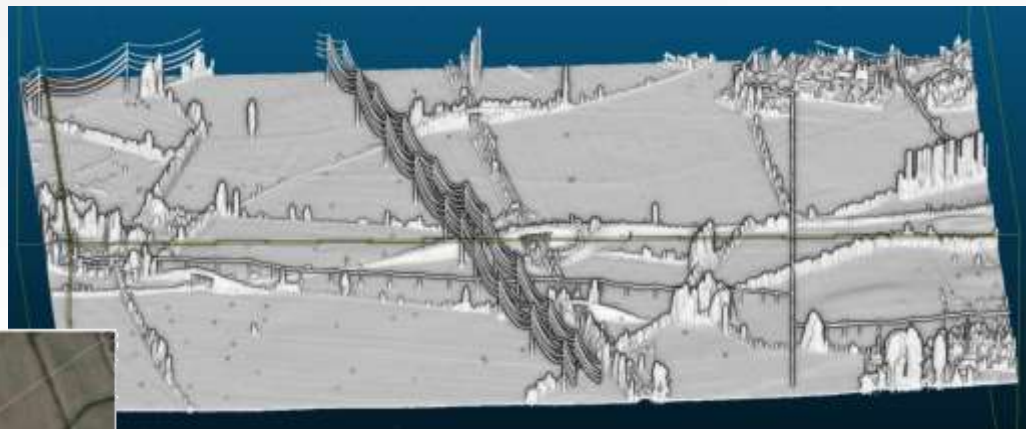
Outcome:

$\phi_{1,2,3...N}$ Interferometric phase time series in every pixel

- **Network of Persistent Scatterers – geodetic estimation theory**

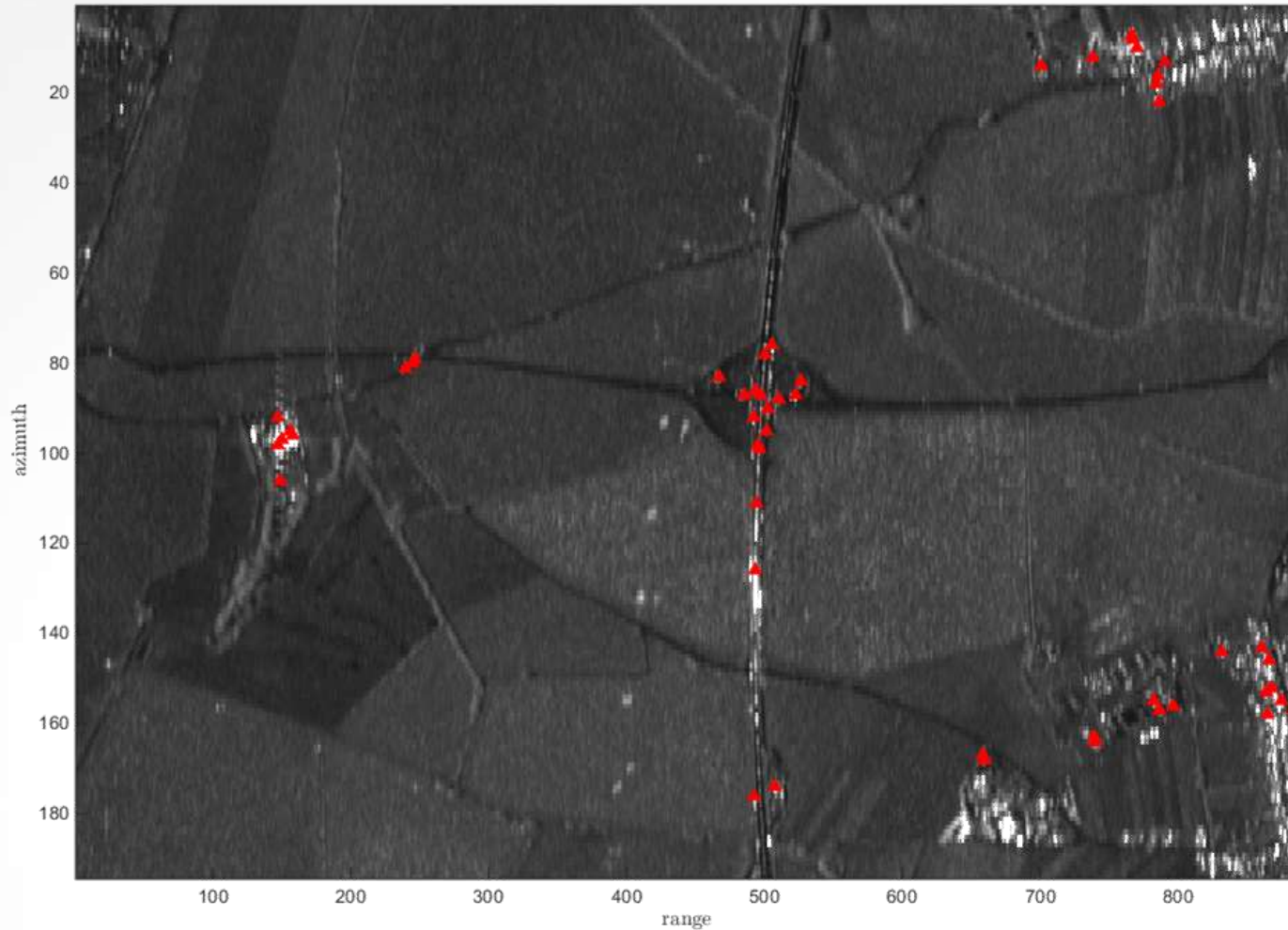
Demonstrative case

D2/D4 Záhorská Bystrica



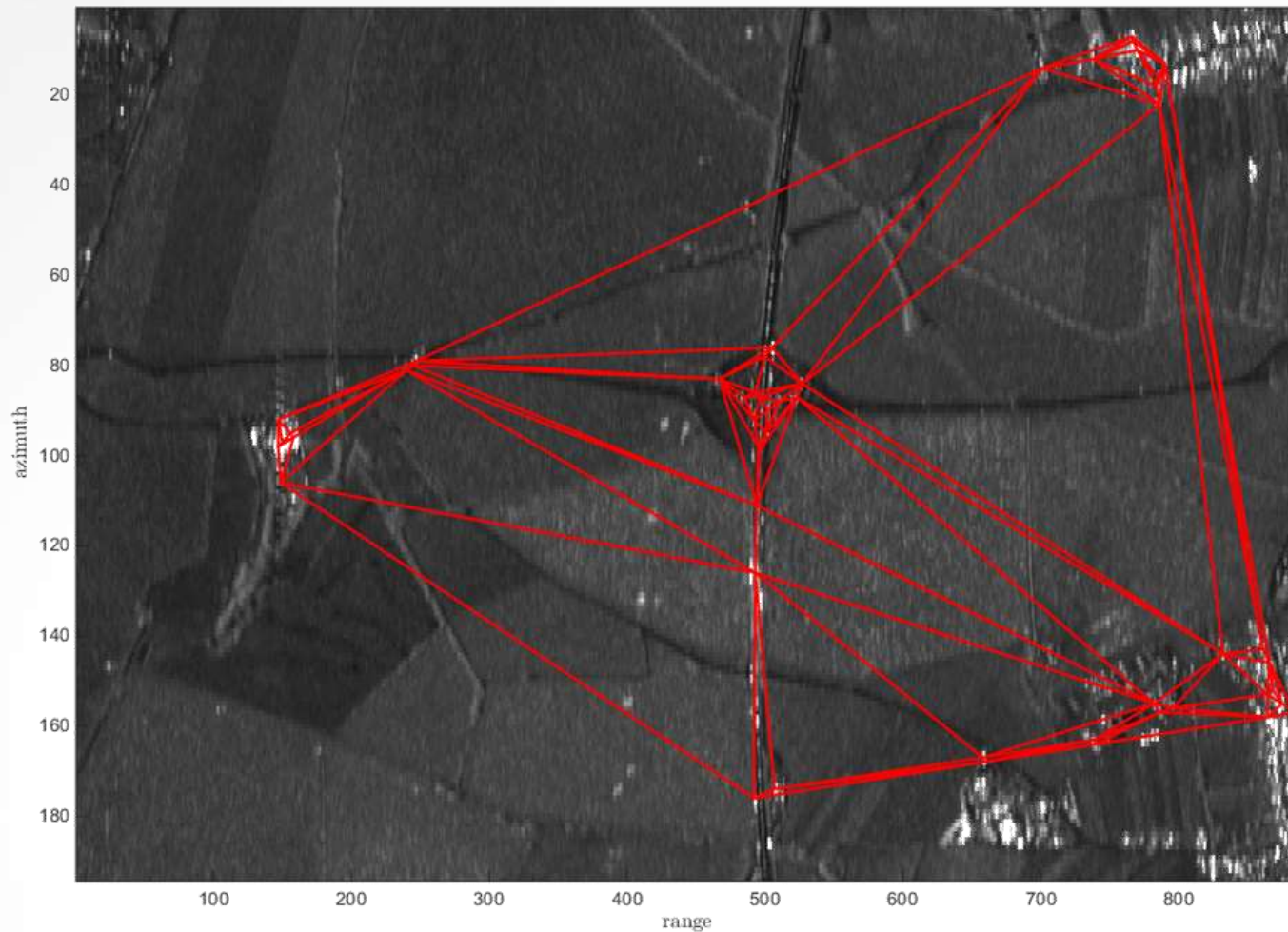
Detection & estimation problem

Persistent Scatterer Candidates (PSC)



1st order estimation network

Phase double-differences

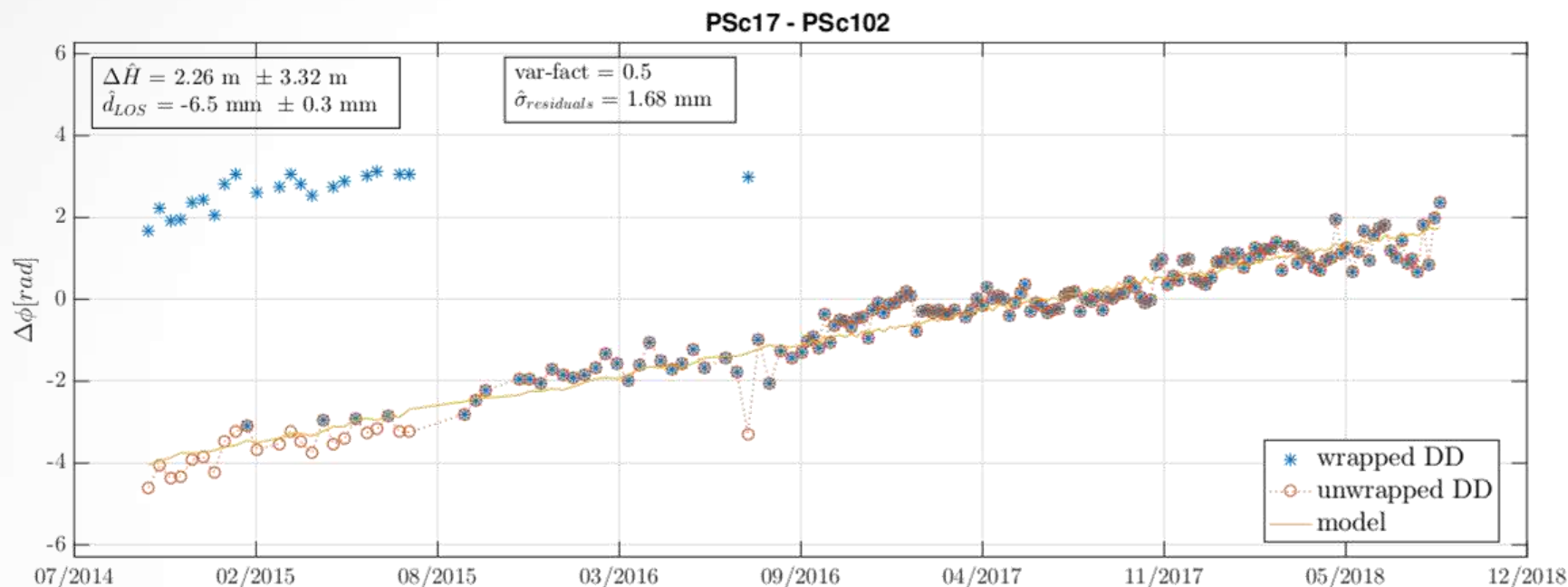


Ambiguity resolution

Functional model for arc between PS „i“ a PS „j“:

$$\Delta\phi_{i,j} = \alpha \Delta h_{i,j} + \beta \Delta d_{i,j} + 2\pi \mathbf{a}_{i,j} \quad \leftarrow \text{ambiguity vector}$$

Ambiguity resolution examples (**Integer least-squares, LAMBDA method**):

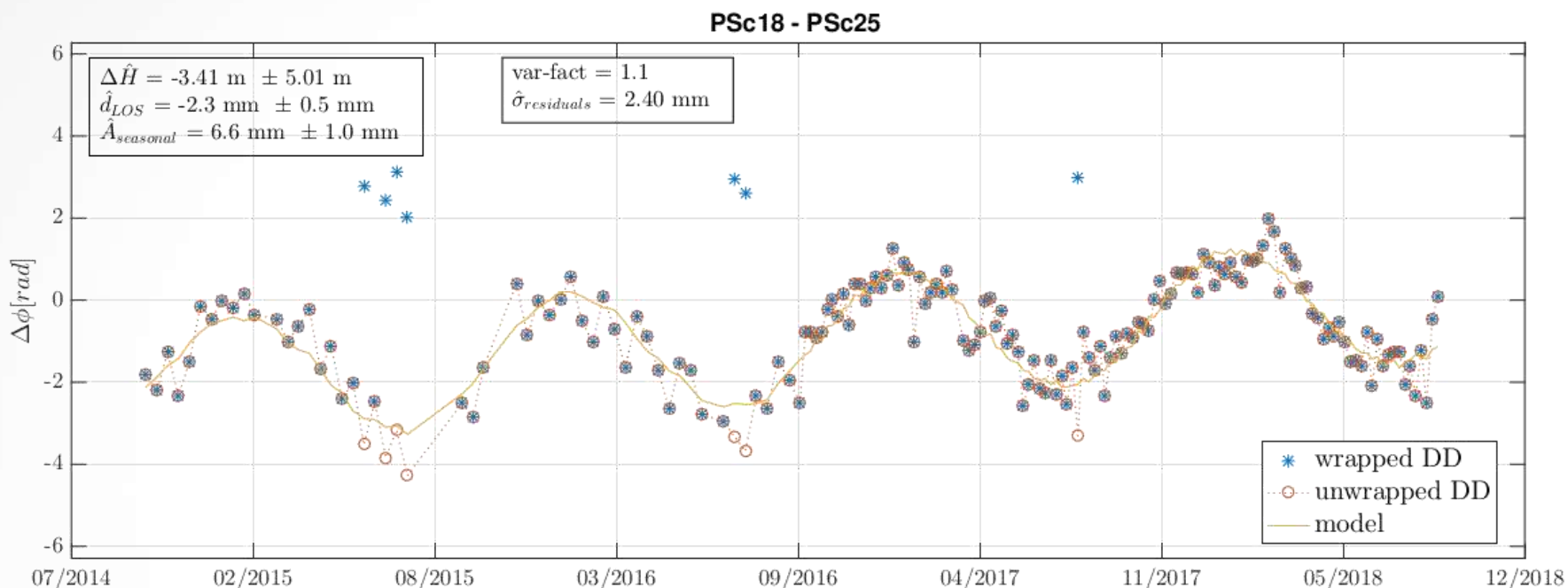


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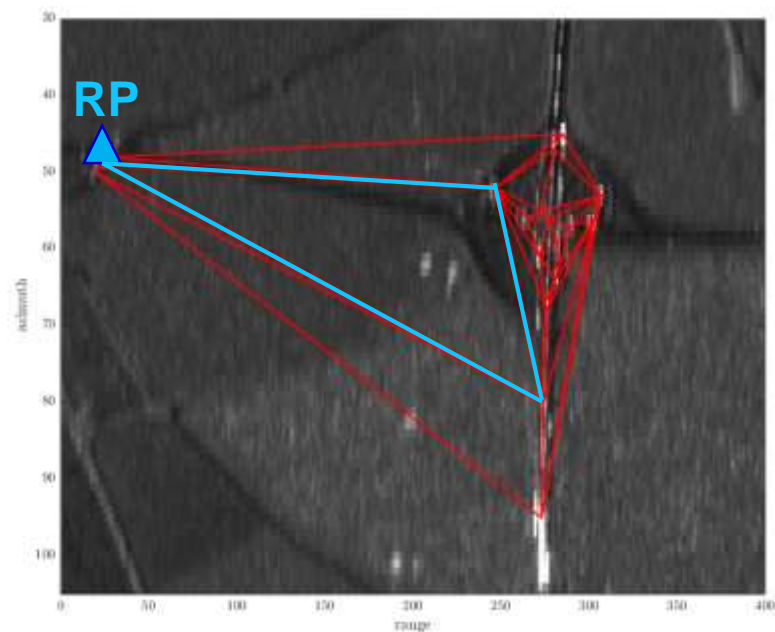
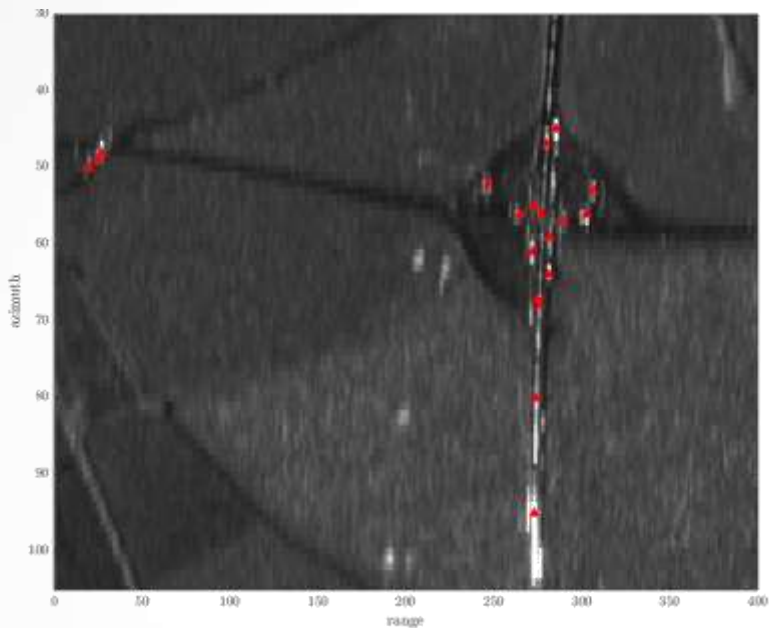
Network integration

- all relative to one
arbitrary reference point
(RP)

I.) Variance component
estimation (VCE) for new VC
matrices

II.) Ambiguity testing in
triangle closures

$$\Delta\phi_{i,j} + \Delta\phi_{j,k} + \Delta\phi_{k,i} = 0$$



InSAR quality indicators

I. A-posteriori variance factor (for PS „i“)

$$\hat{\sigma}_i^2 = \frac{(\boldsymbol{\phi}_i - \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{model}) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}} (\boldsymbol{\phi}_i - \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{model})^T}{N - k}$$

Correctness of functional model & a-priori variances

II. Ensemble coherence (for PS „i“)

$$|\hat{\gamma}_i| = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \exp \left[j(\phi_i - \hat{\phi}_{model})_k \right]$$

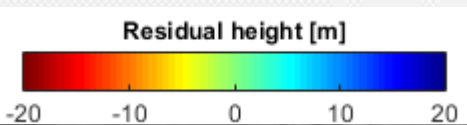
Correctness of functional model & degree of phase noise

III. VC matrix of estimated parameters (for PS „i“)

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\hat{\mathbf{h}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{d}}_i}$$

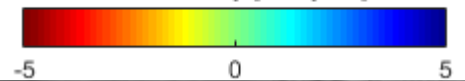
Correctness of functional model & redundancy & ambiguity errors

PS network



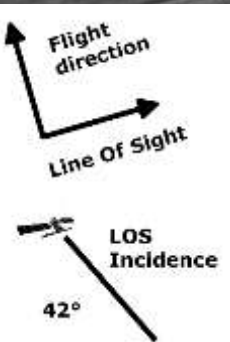
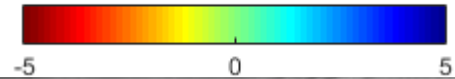
PS network

LOS velocity [mm/year]



PS network

LOS velocity [mm/year]

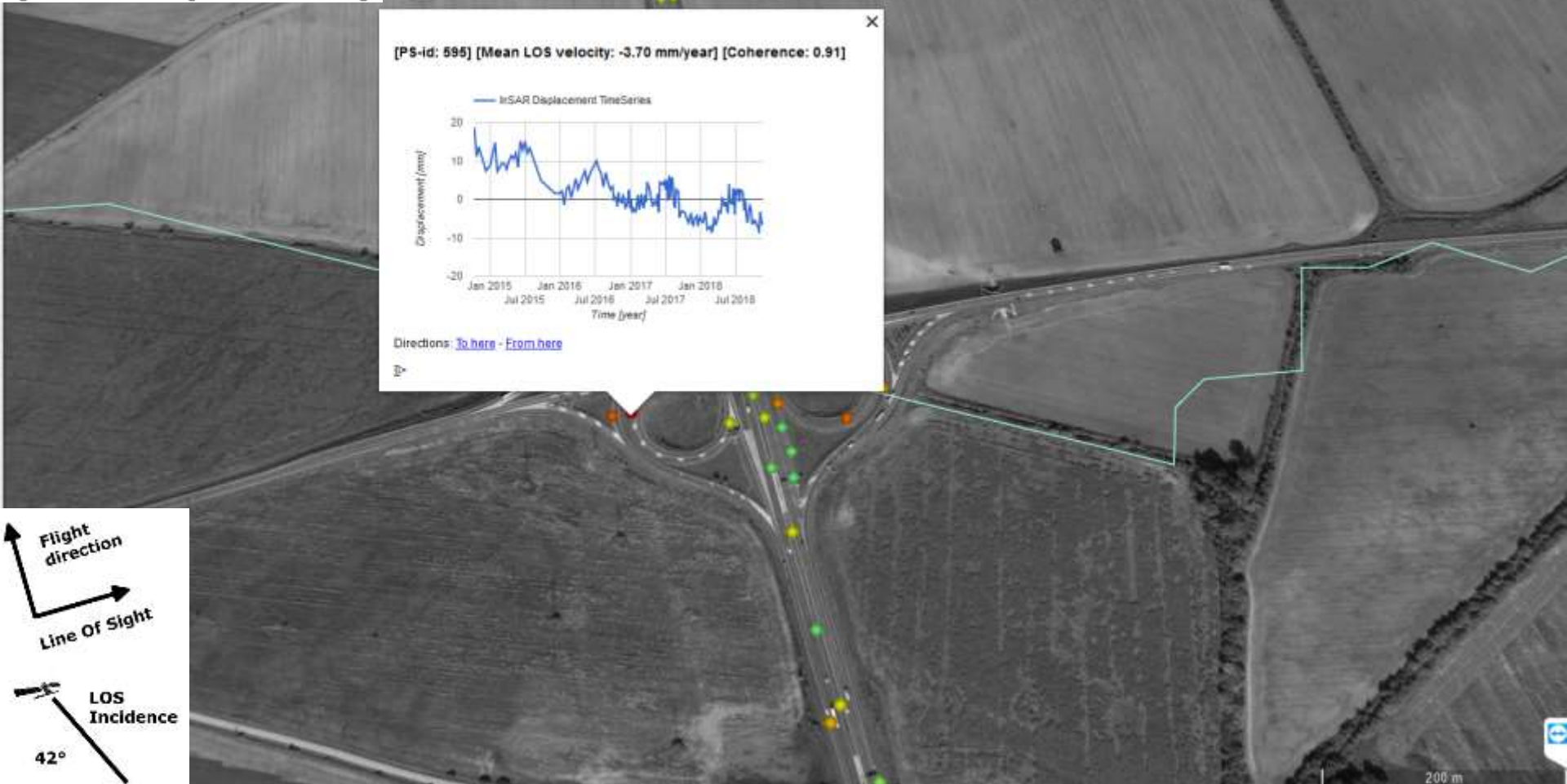


PS network

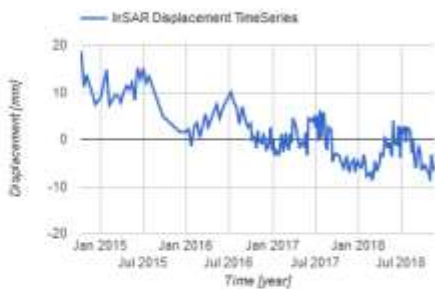
LOS velocity [mm/year]



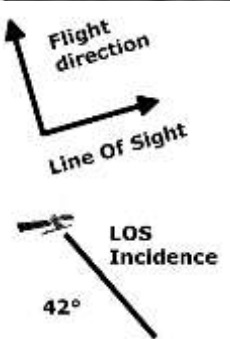
-5 0 5



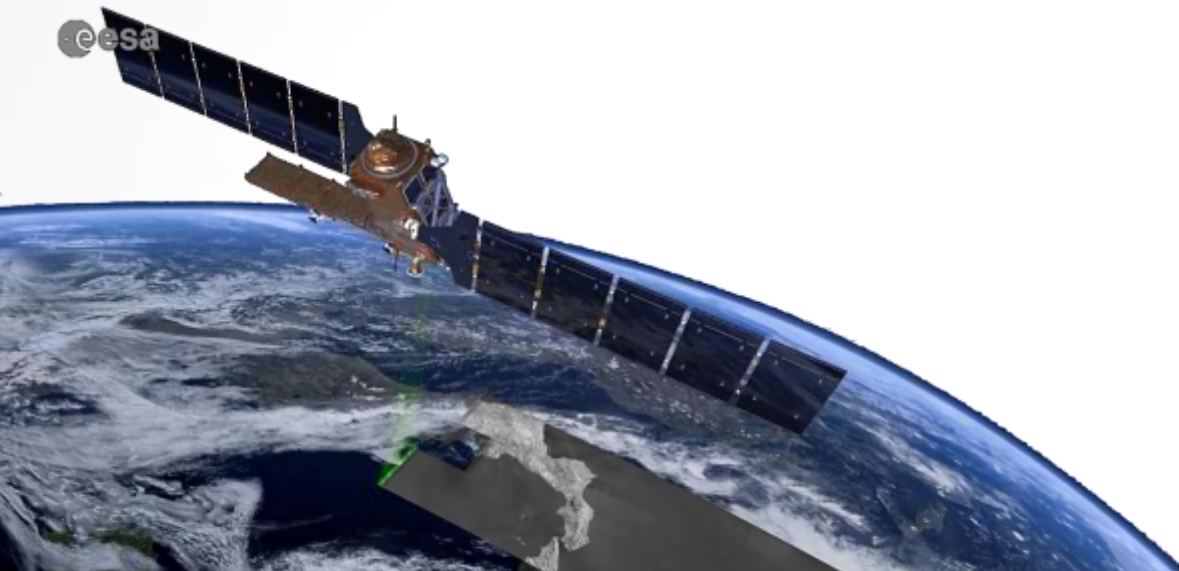
[PS-id: 595] [Mean LOS velocity: -3.70 mm/year] [Coherence: 0.91]



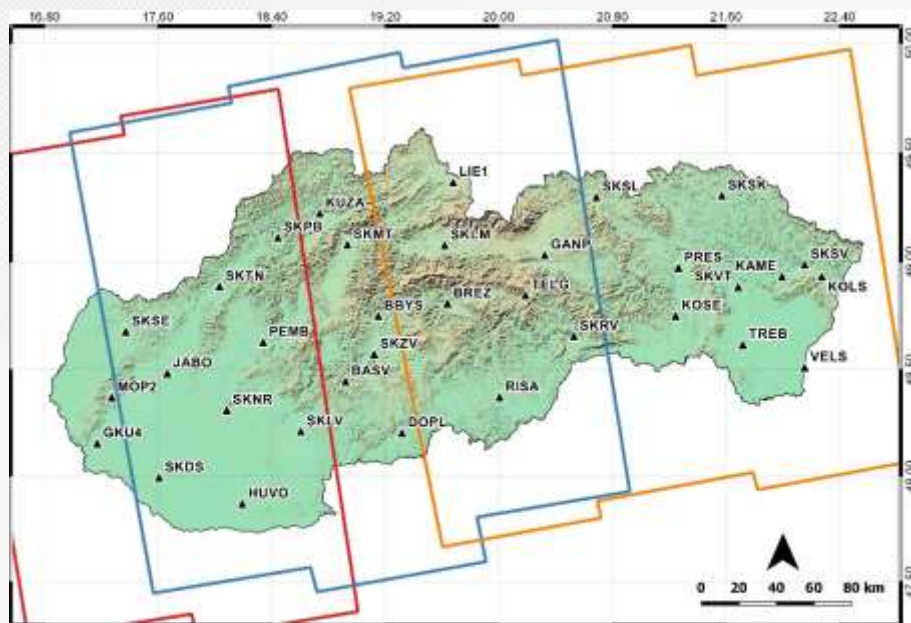
Directions: [To here](#) - [From here](#)



Case studies from Slovakia



Sentinel-1 coverage of Slovakia



**Sentinel-1
coverage
of Slovakia**

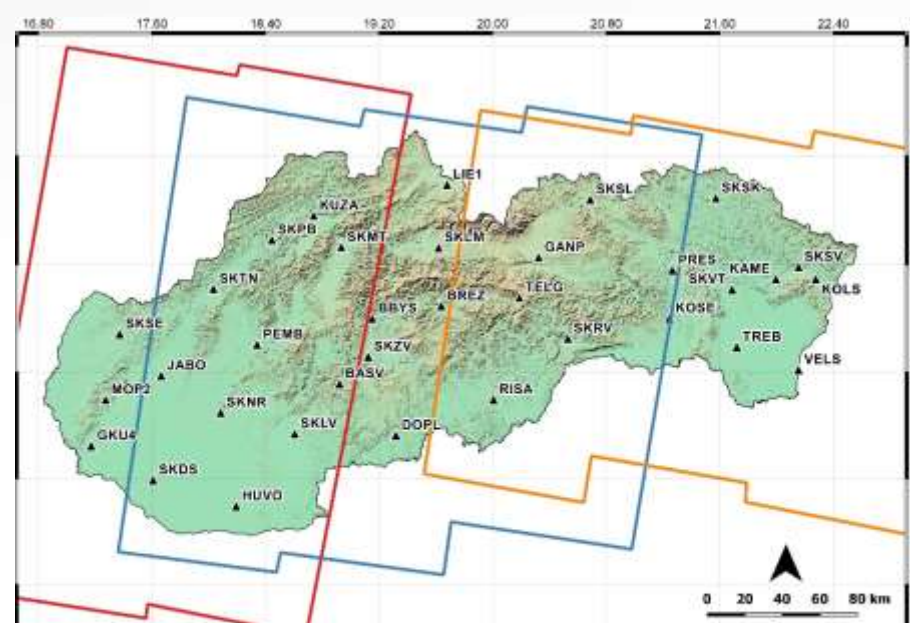
▲
GNSS
ref. station
SKPOS®

Sentinel-1 Ascending orbit

ASC 073

ASC 175

ASC 124



**Sentinel-1
coverage
of Slovakia**

▲
GNSS
ref. station
SKPOS®

Sentinel-1 Descending orbit

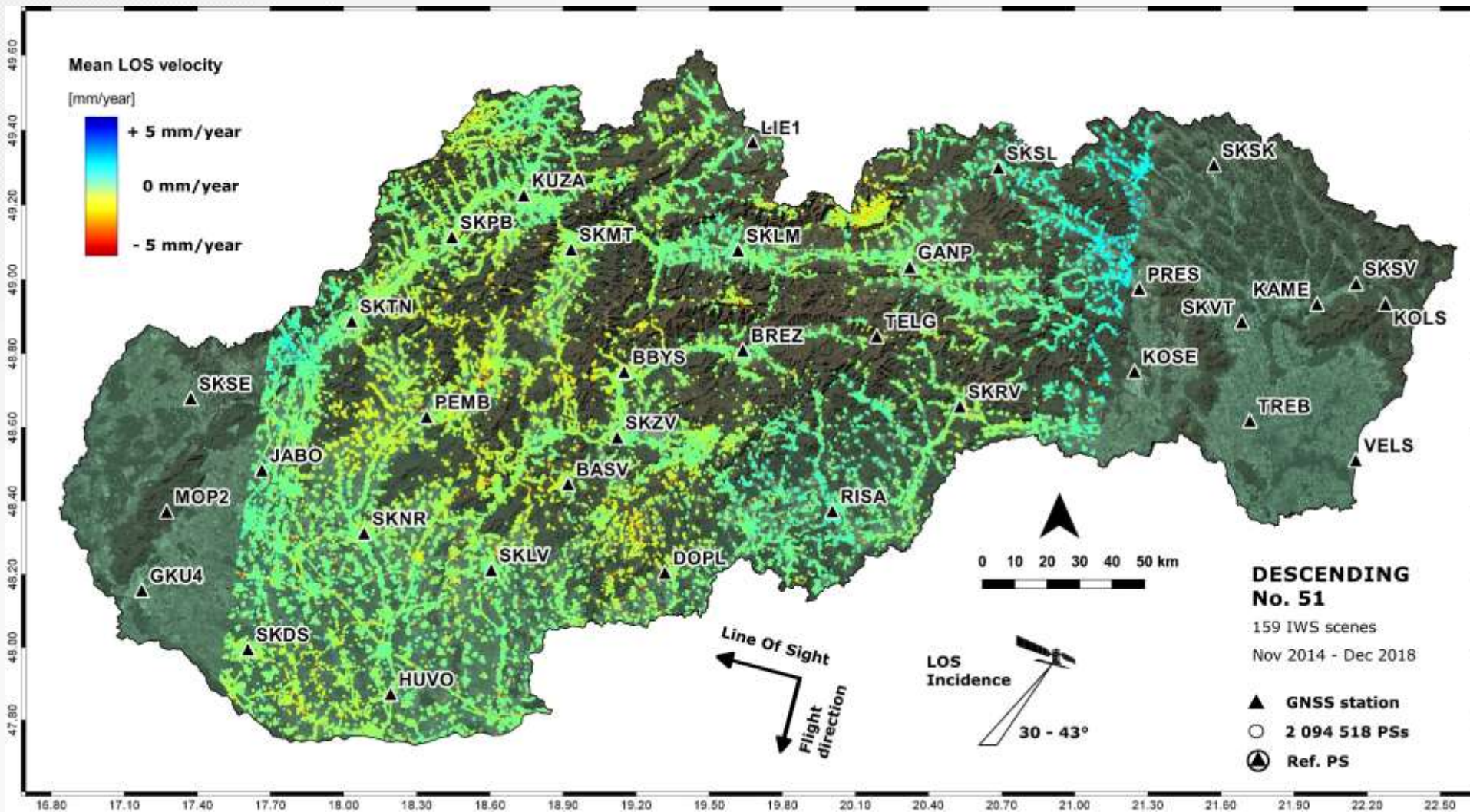
DSC 124

DSC 51

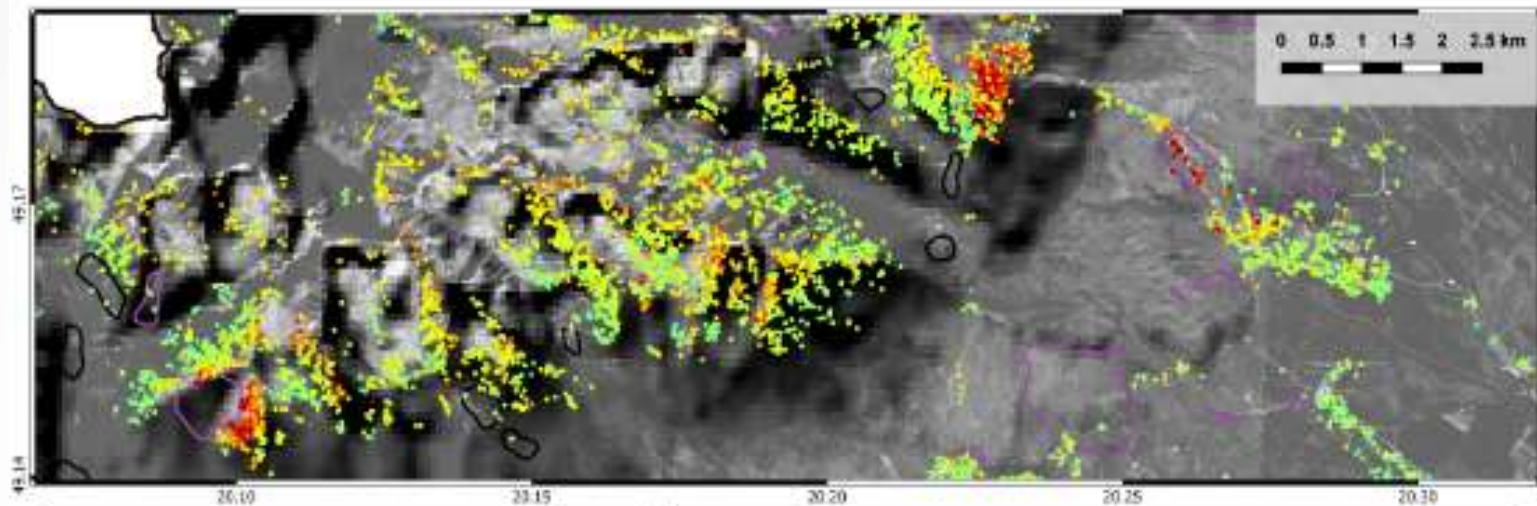
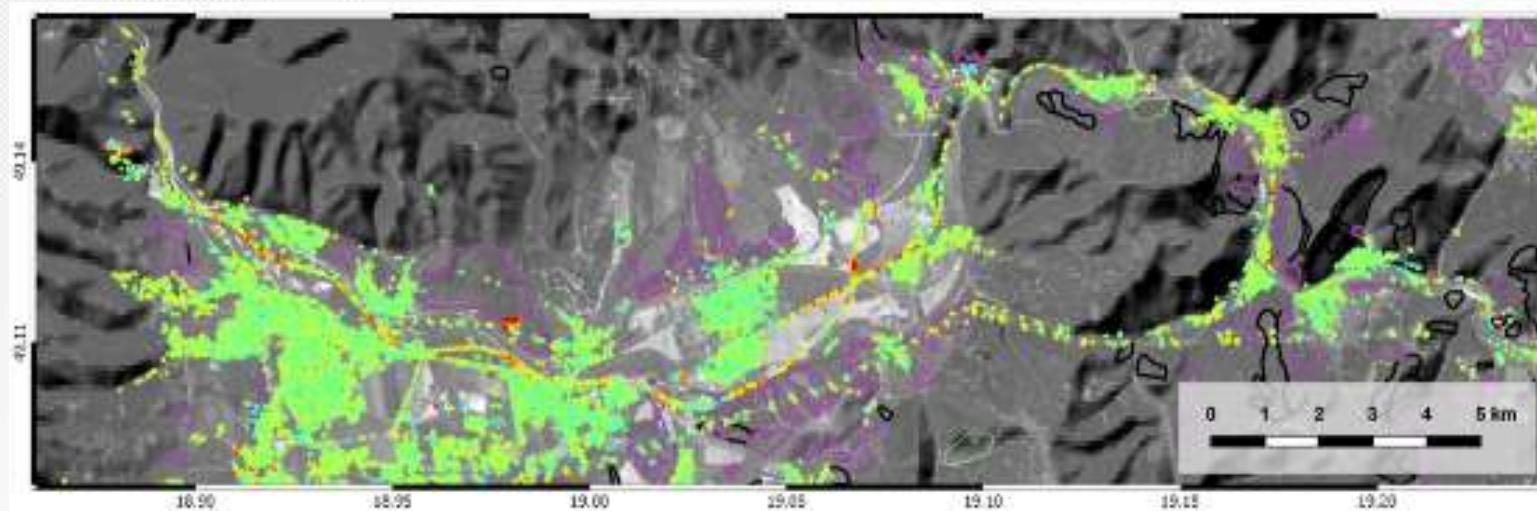
DSC 153

orbit	Ascending			Descending		
	ASC 175	ASC 102	ASC 073	DSC 153	DSC 124	DSC 051
Number of acquisitions	208	228	225	211	221	210
First usable acquisition	20150226	20141129	20141209	20141203	20141014	20141201
Acquisition interval	Currently every 6 days, 12 days prior to Sentinel-1B (20160920)					

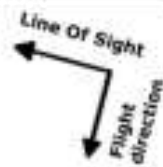
State-wide monitoring



Regional monitoring capability



LOS displacement velocity

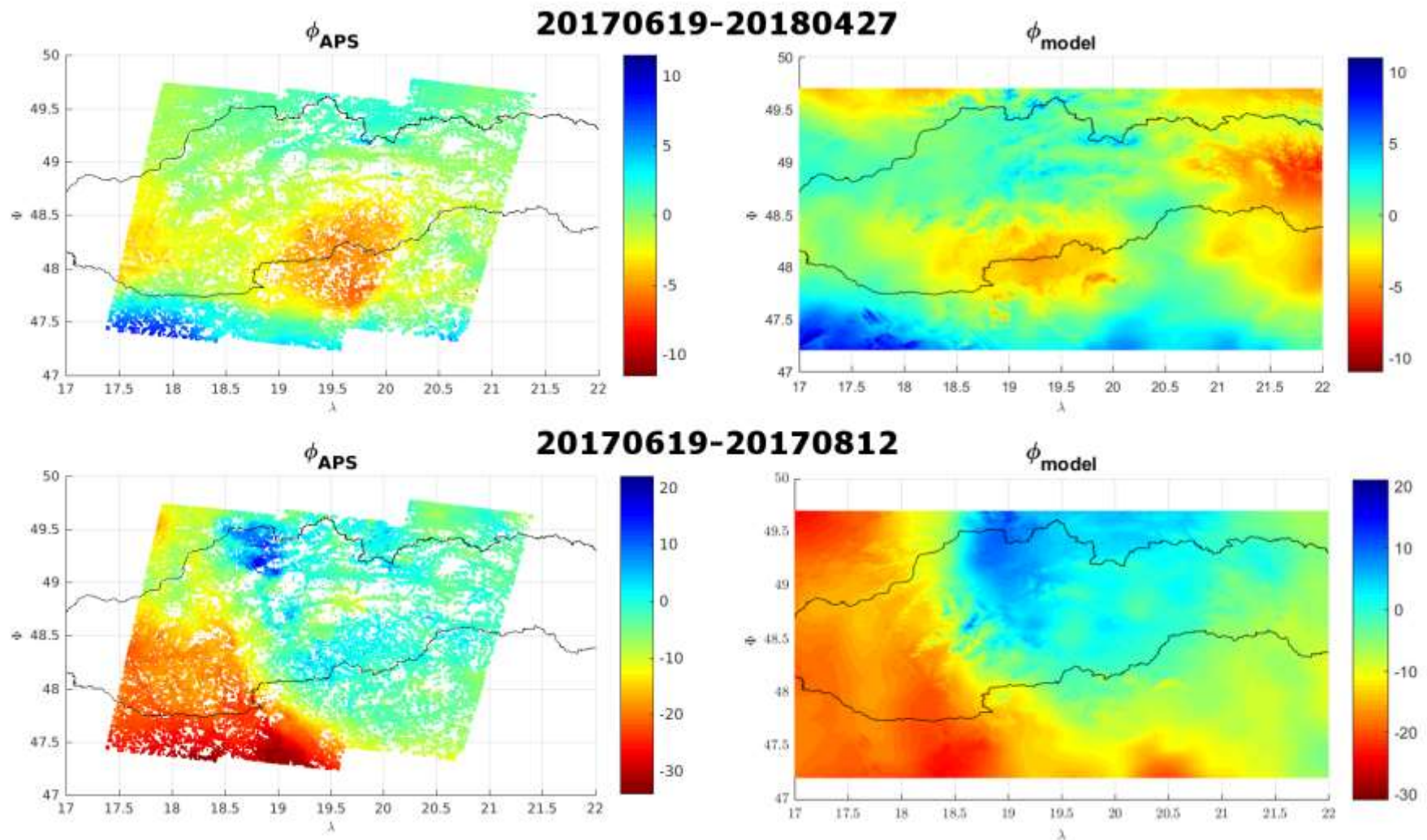


Landslide activity

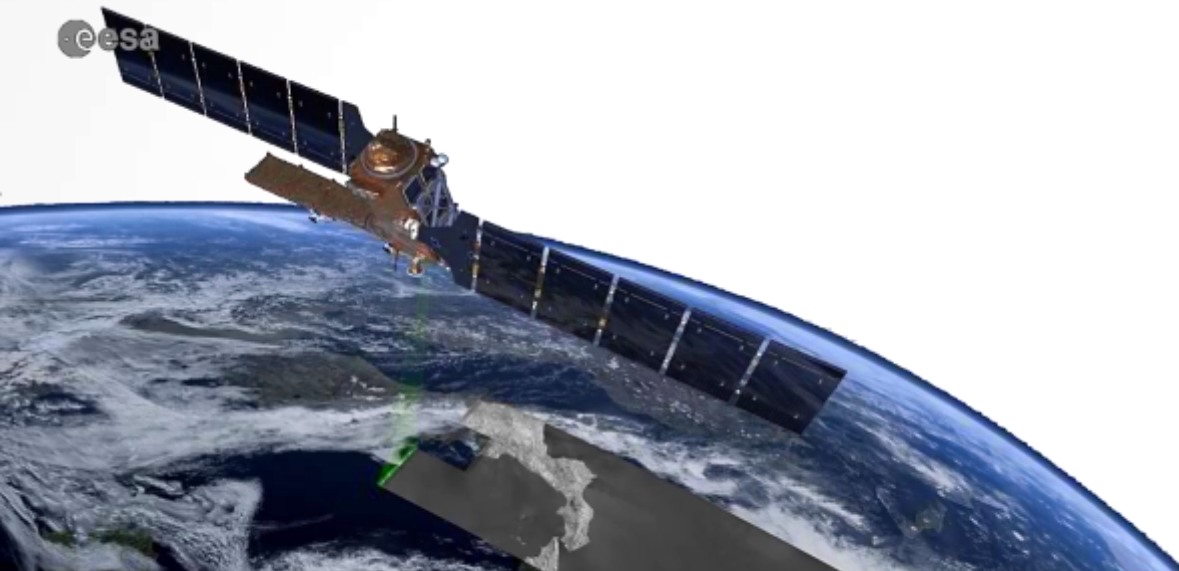
stabilized

potentially active

APS – InSAR estimation / Numerical weather model



InSAR limitations and challenges

The ESA logo is located in the bottom left corner of the slide. It consists of the letters 'esa' in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with a small circular icon to its left containing a stylized satellite or probe.

Limitations & challenges for InSAR geodesy

1. InSAR network = “free network/datum”

- 1 spatial + 1 temporal reference required
- geolocation accuracy ~ several metres

2. Accuracy, although < 1 mm, significantly **decreases over large arc lengths**

- esp. due to **systematic effects**, e.g. **troposphere**

3. **No standardized** and generally accepted:

- **algorithm**, software;
- exchange format;
- **quality** indicators

InSAR & GNSS/levelling collocation

Collocation of InSAR measurements with other technique in:

a.) parameter space
$$\Delta_p \Delta_t u = [u(p_1, t_1) - u(p_1, t_0)] - [u(p_0, t_1) - u(p_0, t_0)]$$

b.) observation space

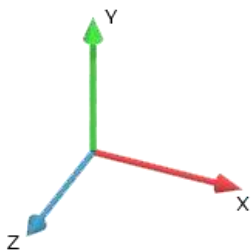


“Conventional” geodetic techniques vs. InSAR

Geodetic benchmark

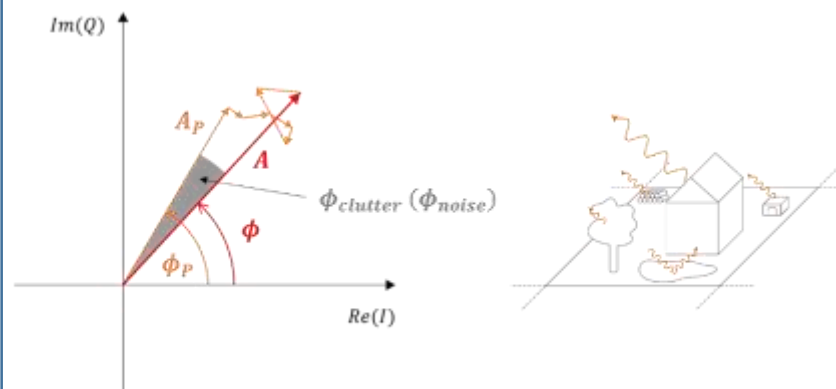


3D / 1D (vertical) vector

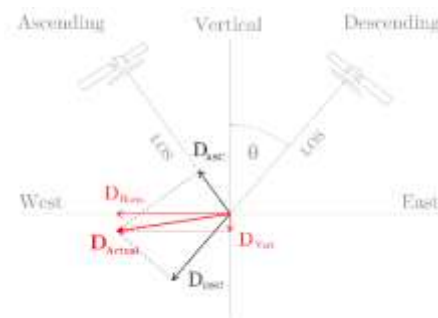


$$\{\Delta X, \Delta Y, \Delta Z\}; \{\Delta h\}$$

Complex sum of scatterers per pixel



Line-of-sight (LOS) vector



$$\{\Delta LOS\}_{ASC}; \{\Delta LOS\}_{DSC}$$

InSAR & GNSS/levelling collocation

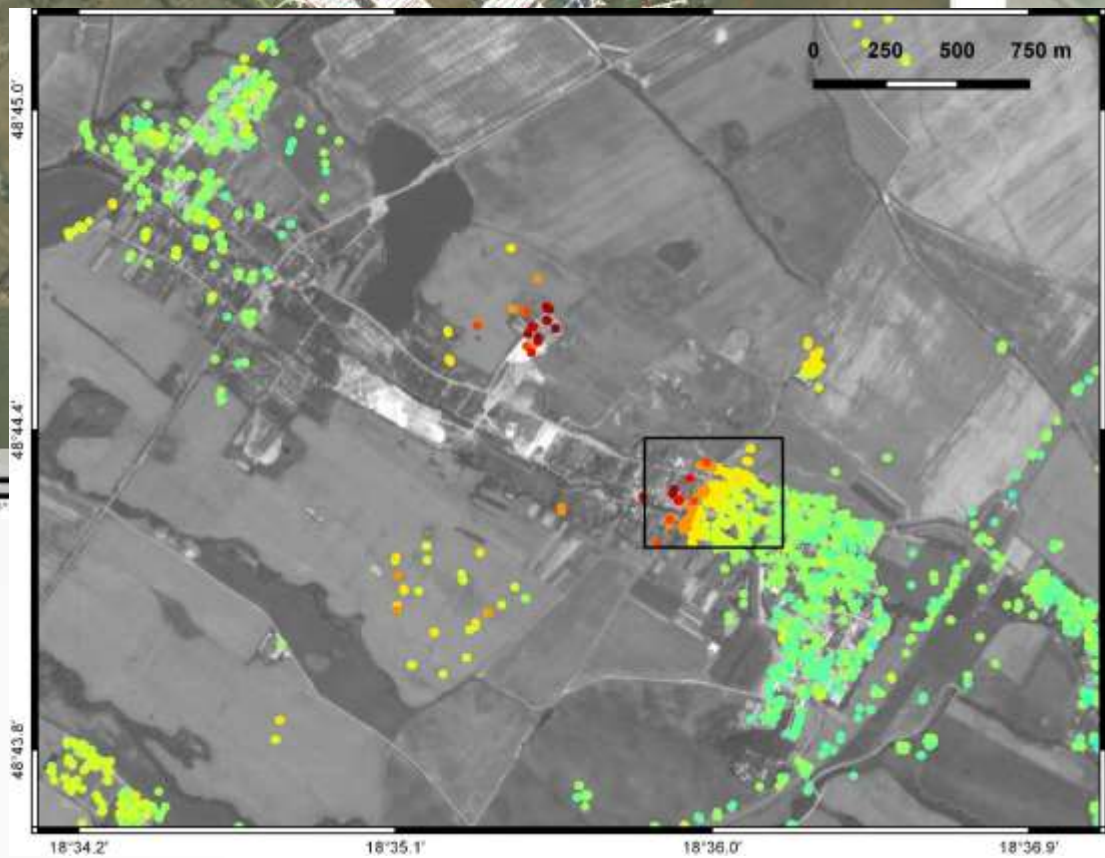
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$$\Delta_p \Delta_t u = [u(p_1, t_1) - u(p_1, t_0)] - [u(p_0, t_1) - u(p_0, t_0)]$$

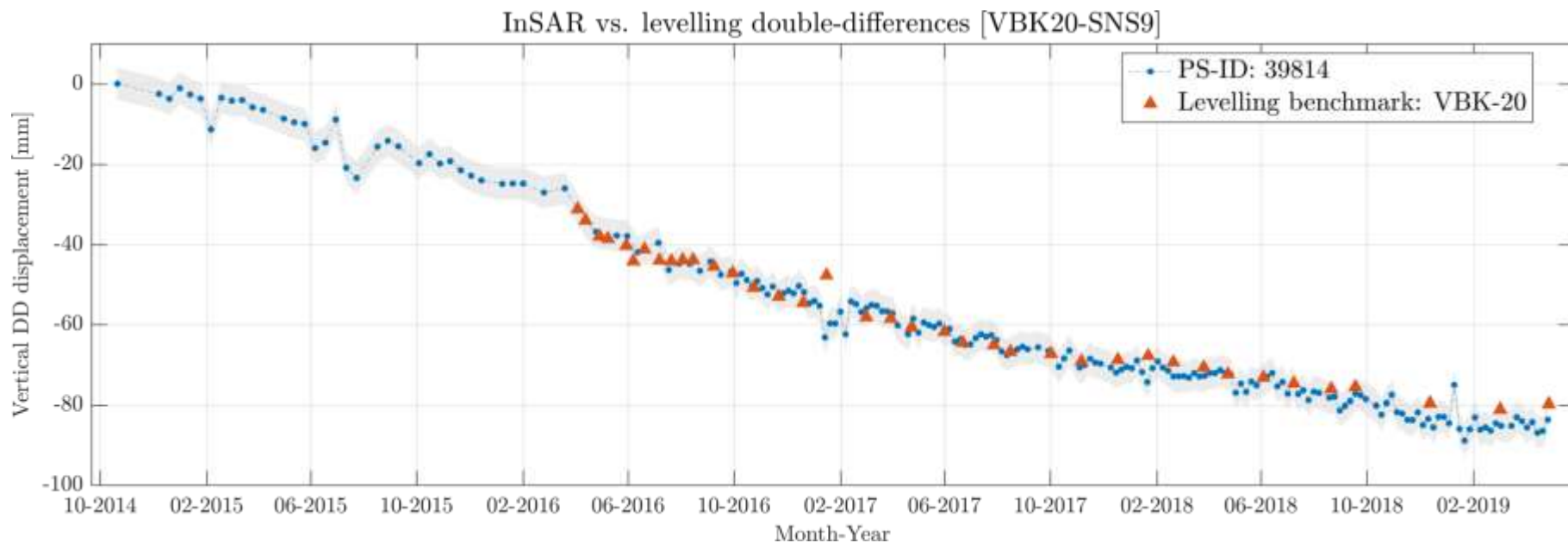
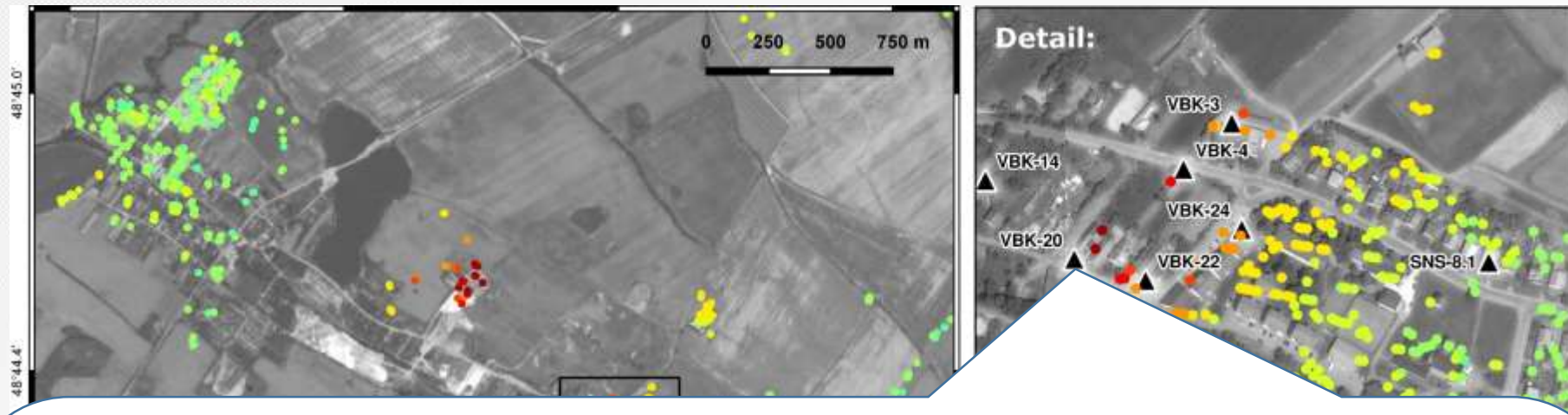
b.) observation space



InSAR & Levelling: Undermining subsidence



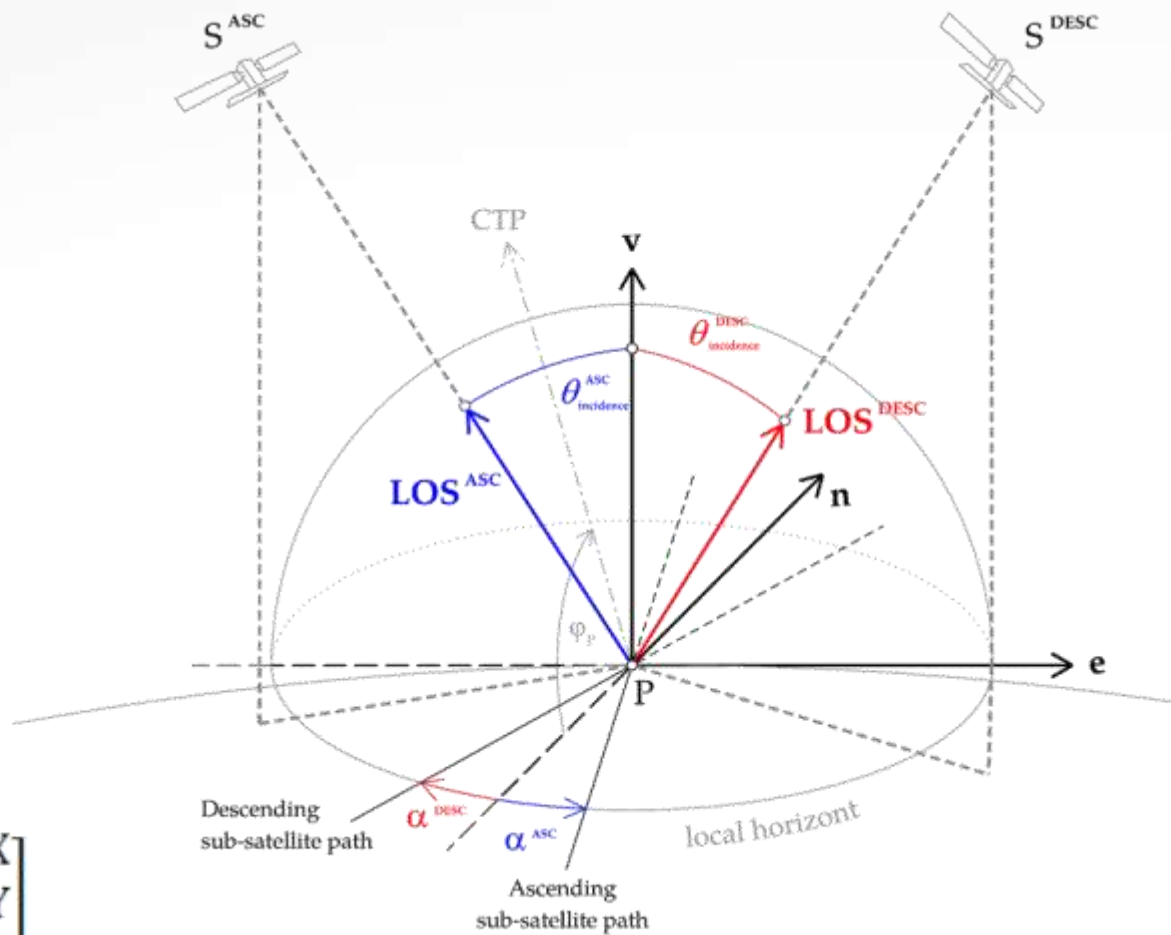
InSAR & Levelling



InSAR & GNSS

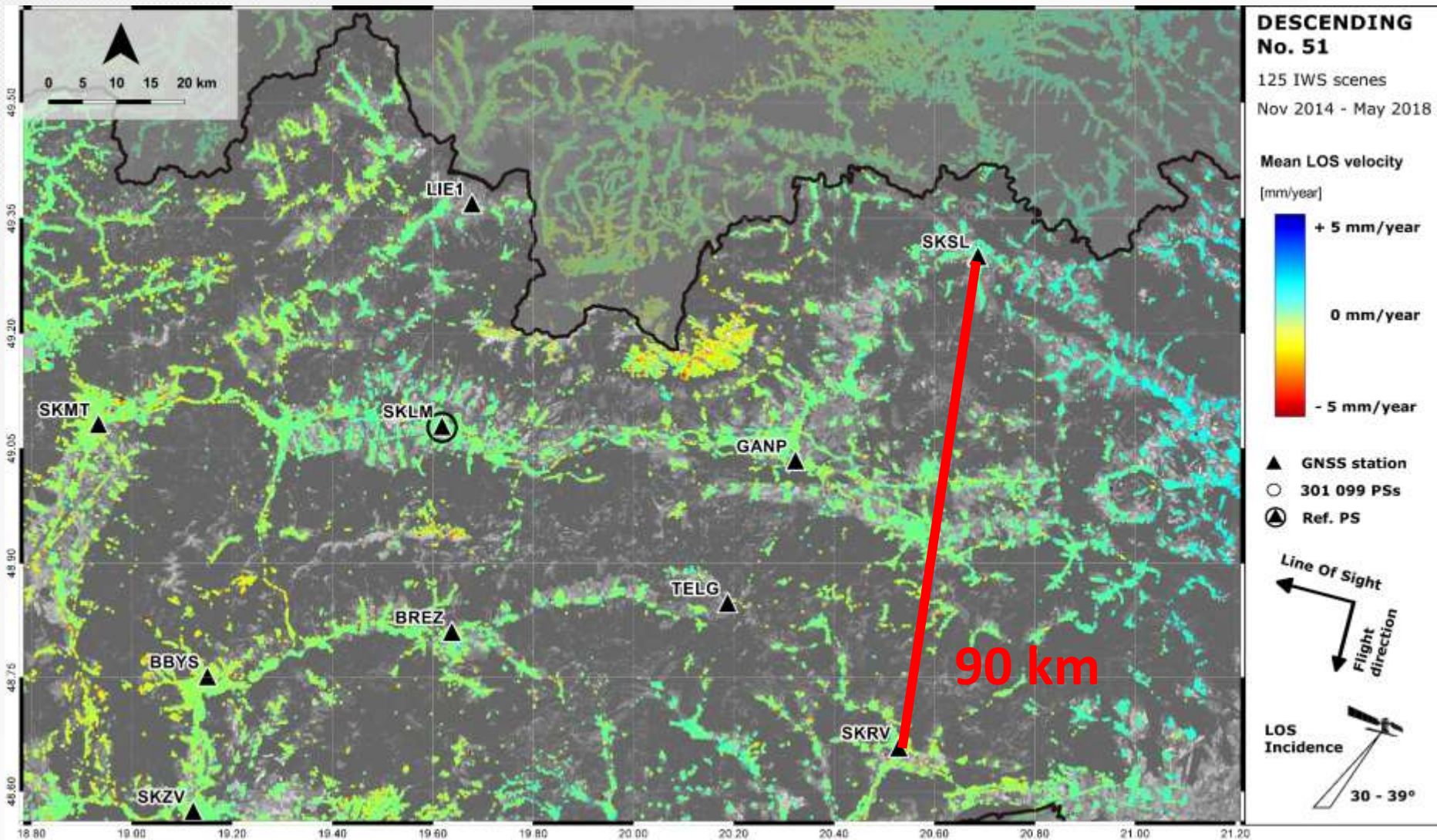
GNSS baselines:

0. reference epoch
1. cartesian differences (weekly solutions)
2. topocentric differences
3. LOS differences

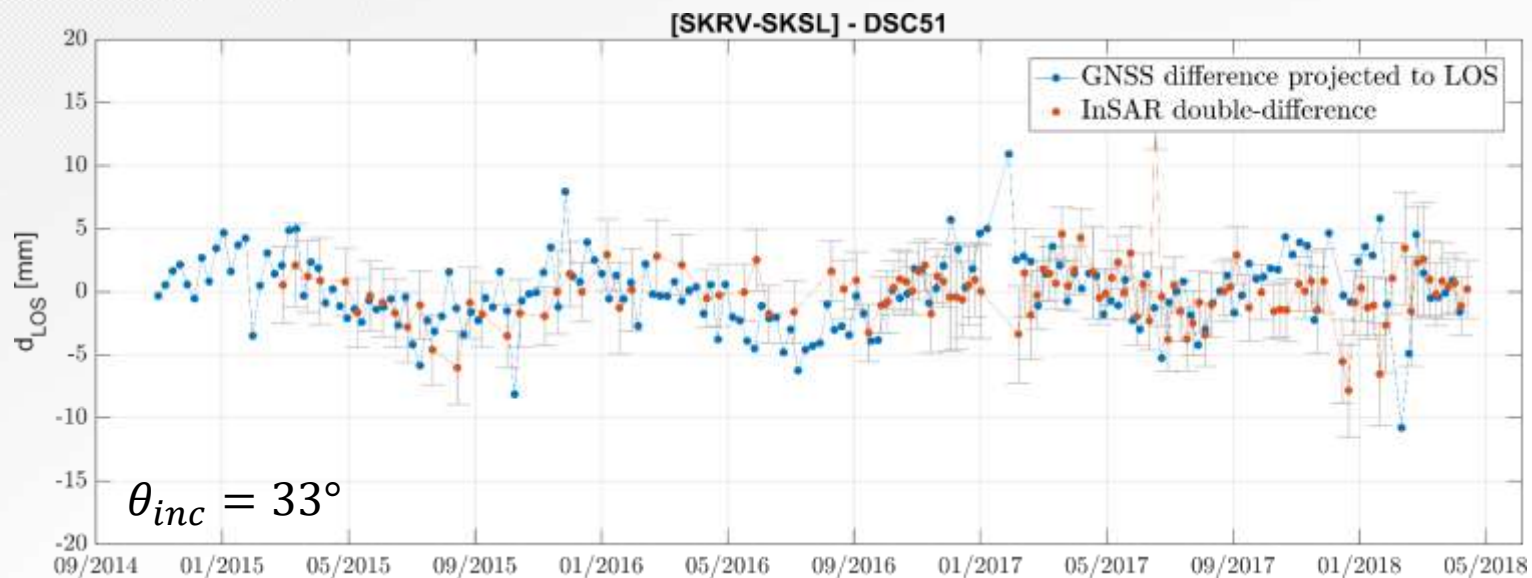


$$\Delta d_{LOS,GNSS} = \mathbf{R}(\theta, \alpha) \mathbf{R}(\varphi, \lambda) \begin{bmatrix} \Delta X \\ \Delta Y \\ \Delta Z \end{bmatrix}_{GNSS}$$

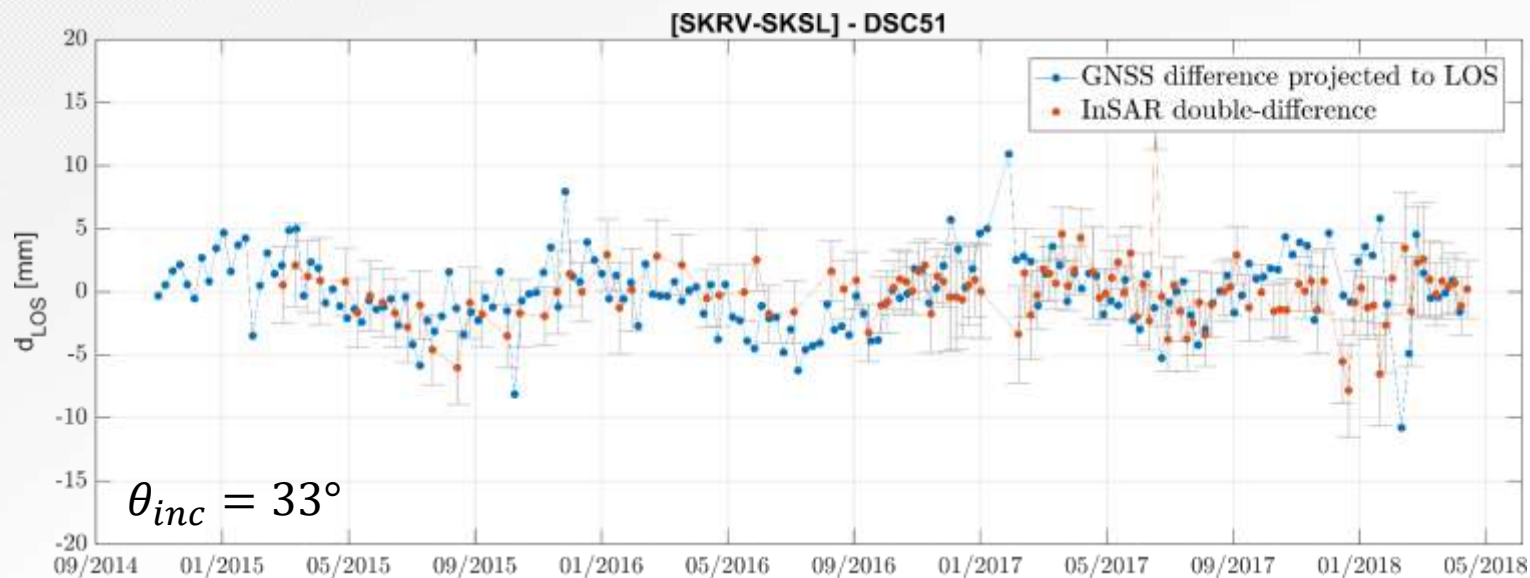
InSAR & GNSS



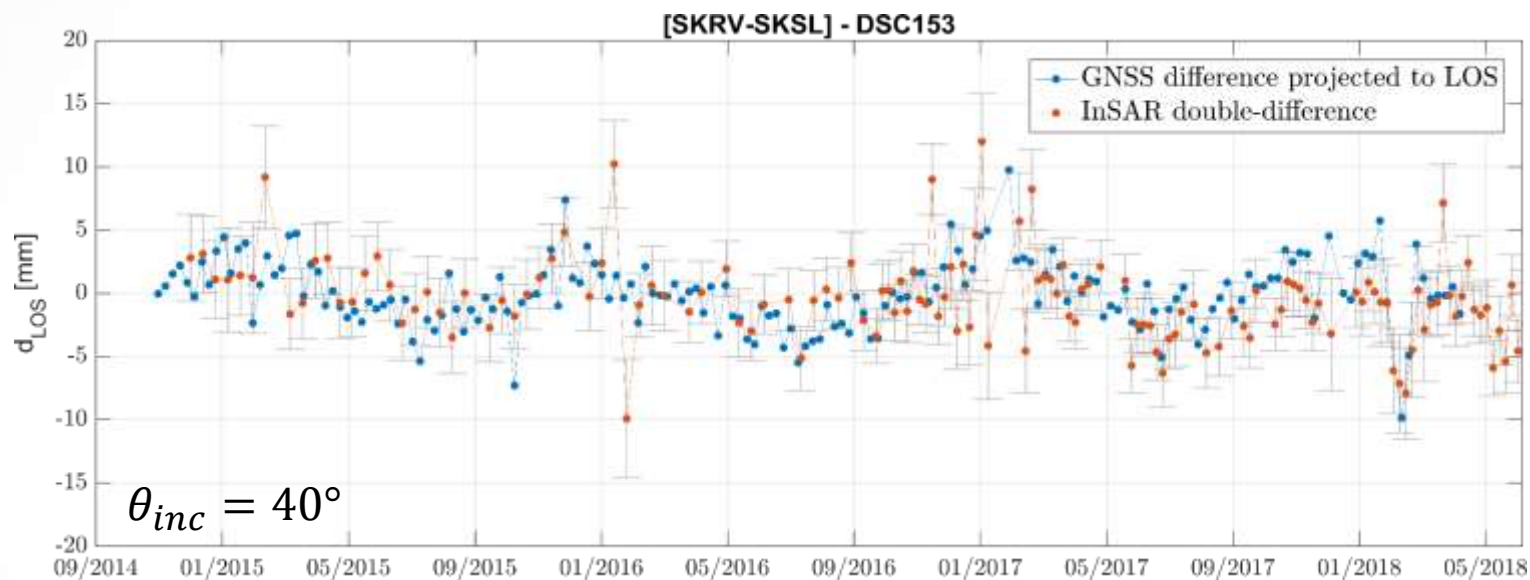
Descending 51



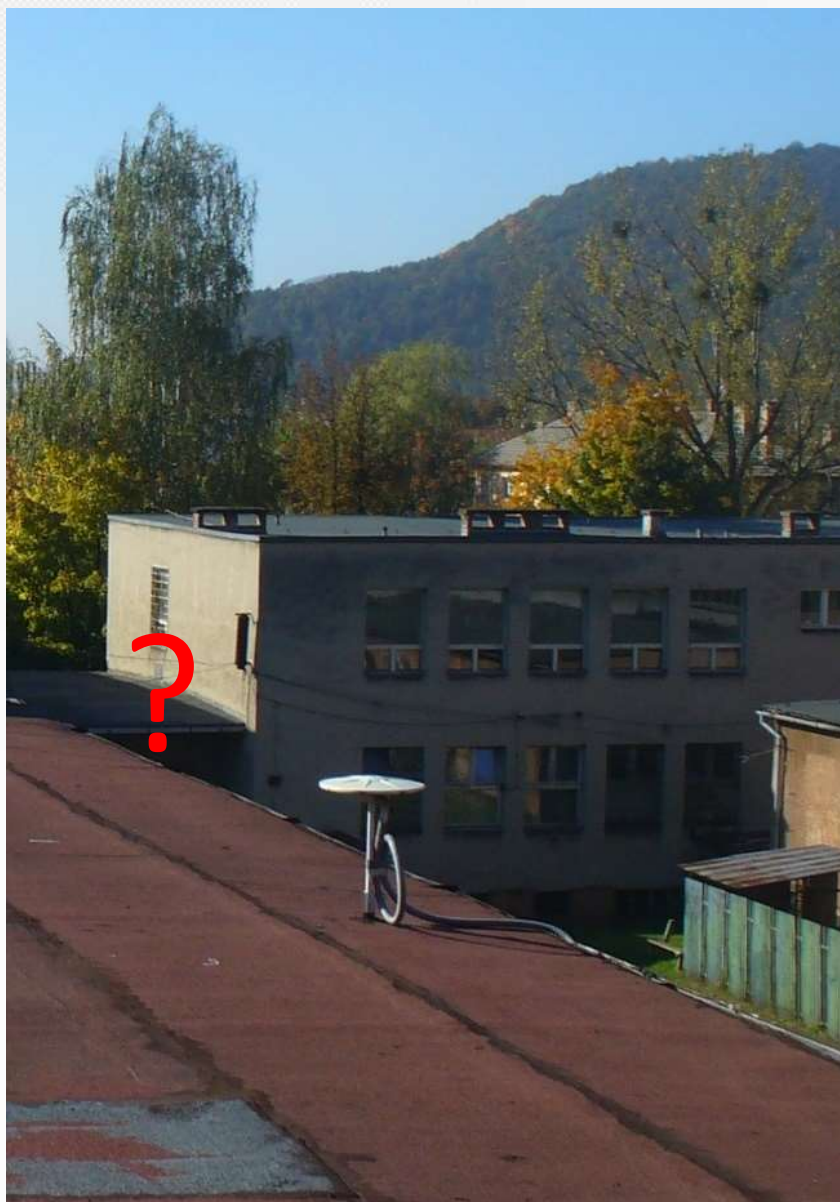
Descending 51



Descending 153



InSAR & GNSS



InSAR & GNSS/levelling collocation

Collocation of InSAR measurements with other technique in:

a.) parameter space
$$\Delta_p \Delta_t u = [u(p_1, t_1) - u(p_1, t_0)] - [u(p_0, t_1) - u(p_0, t_0)]$$

b.) observation space



InSAR & GNSS/levelling collocation



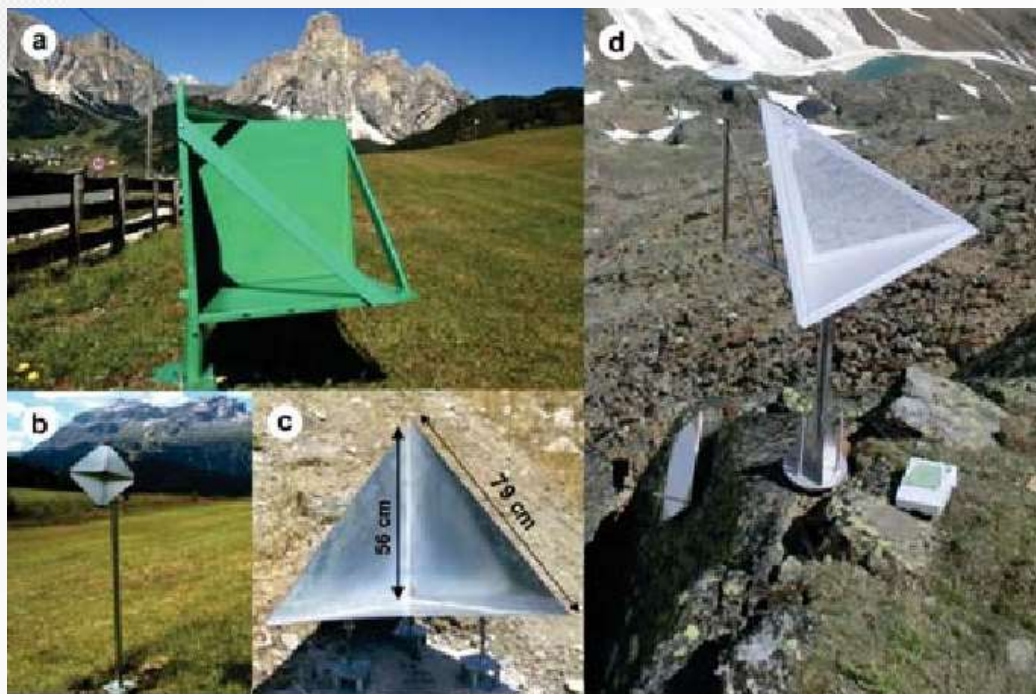
Corner reflectors



**Compact active
transponders
(CAT)**

InSAR artificial reflectors

A.) Corner reflectors (Passive artificial radar point scatterer)



InSAR & GNSS collocation

B.) Radar transponders (Active artificial radar point scatterer)



Integrated geodetic reference station – IGRS

InSAR

GNSS

Levelling

Tachymetry

LiDAR

Gravimetry

Design:



Type:
DBF90T-GNSS

First InSAR & GNSS collocation site in SR



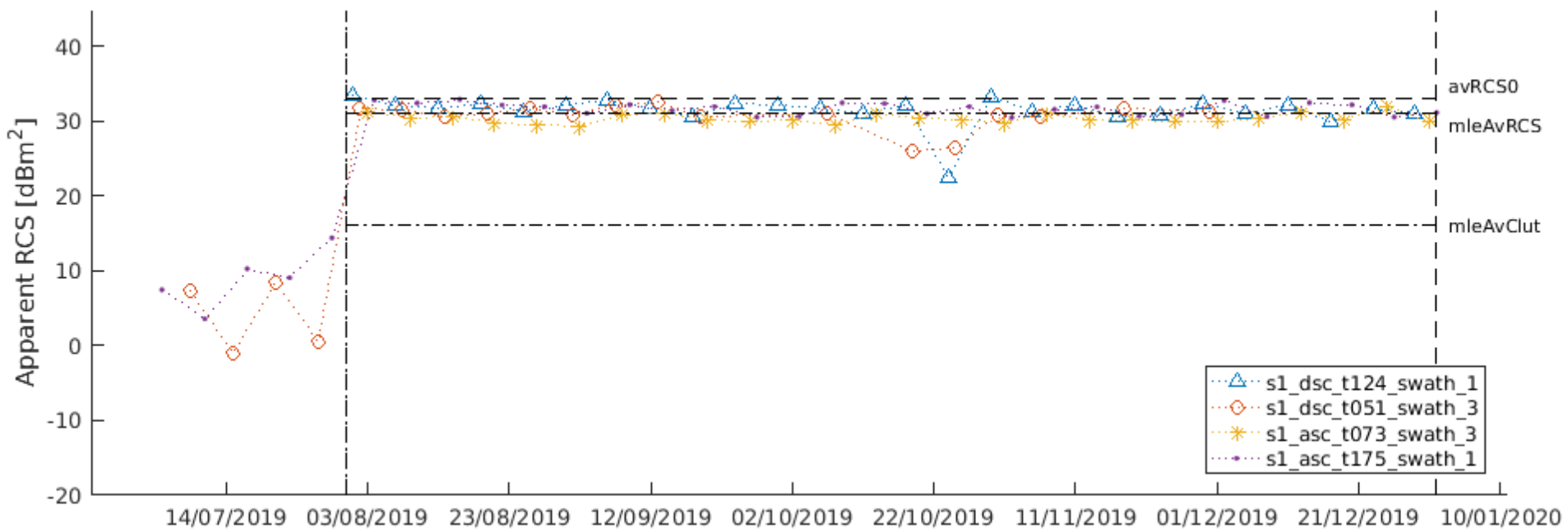
Date installed:

31.7.2019

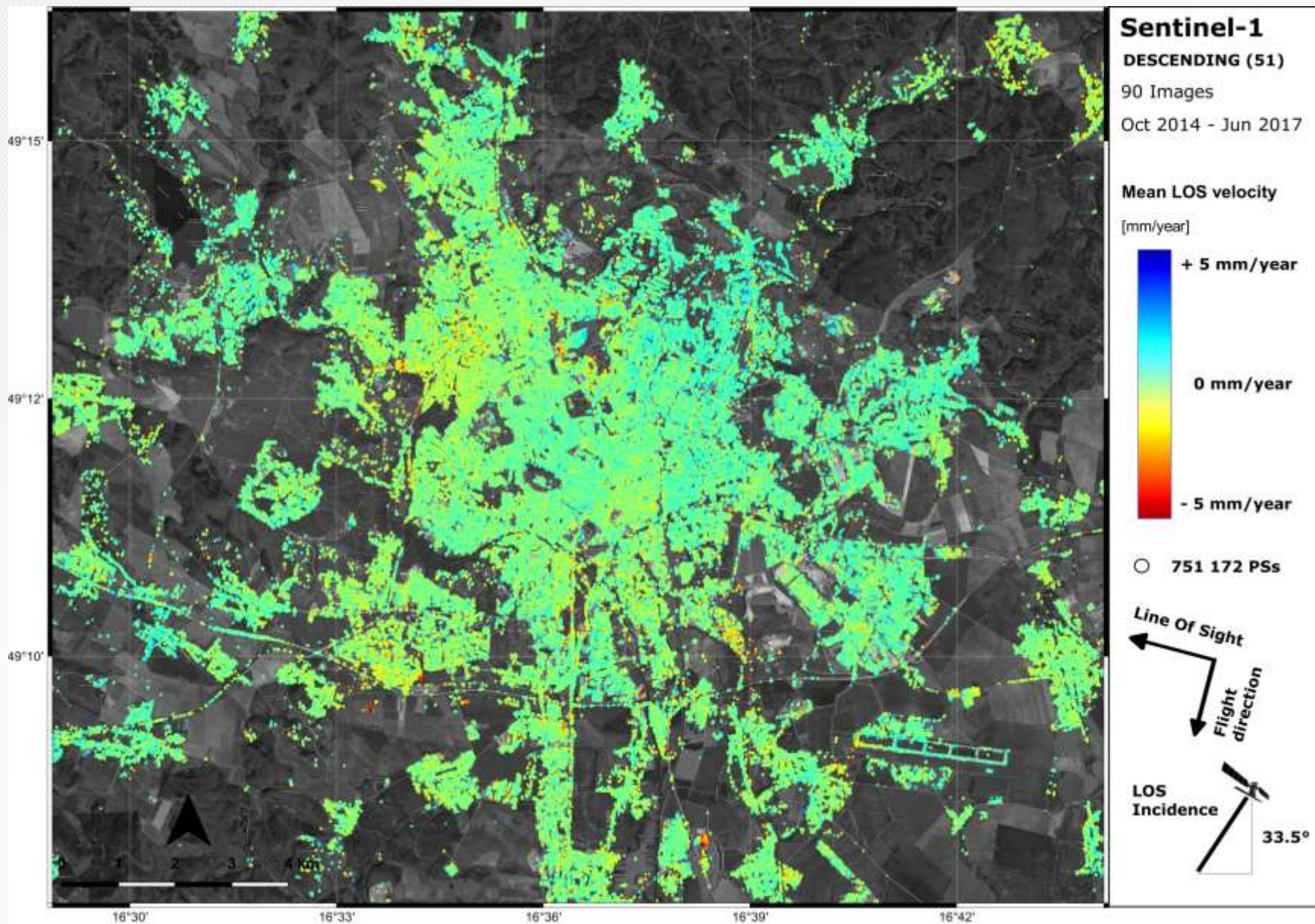
**Hvezdáreň
Partizánske**

PEMB (PEM2)

First InSAR & GNSS collocation site in SR

**PEMB**

Questions?



BACKUP SLIDES

Future

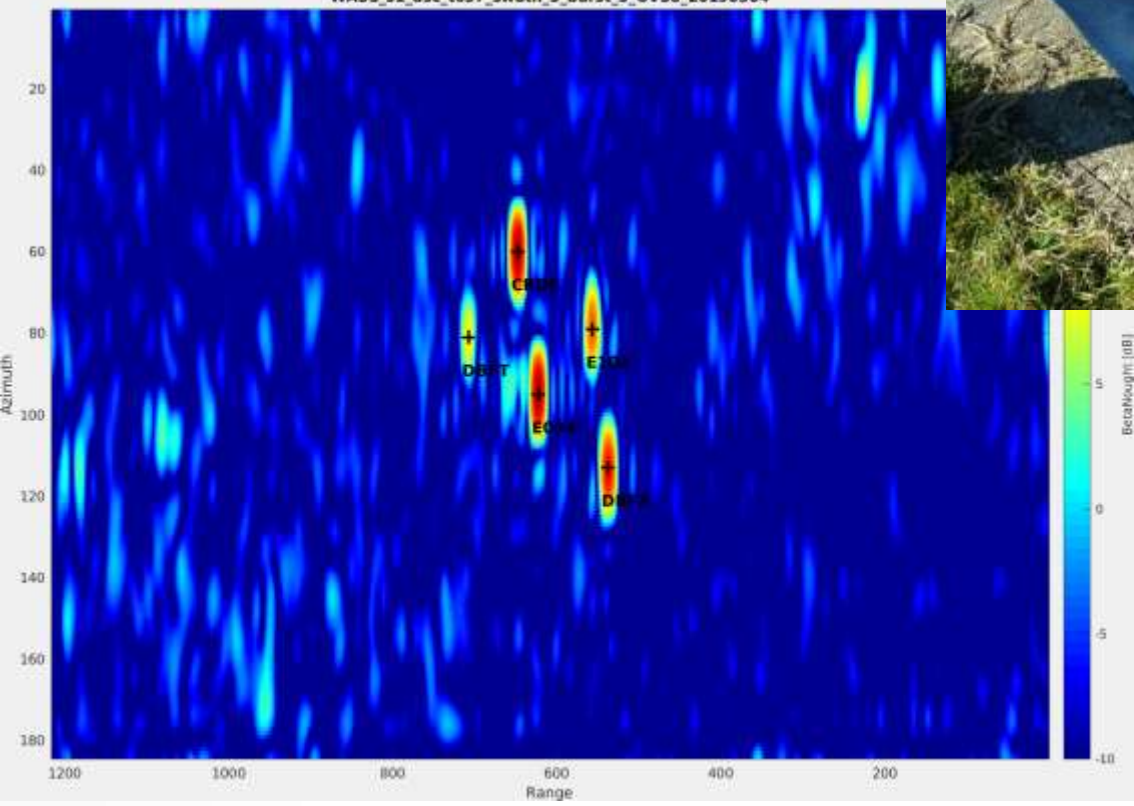
„InSAR measurements in a geodetic reference frame“

- A.) Transformation of InSAR “datum-free networks” into a standard coordinate reference system (frame) via deployment of artificial SAR reflectors (passive/active) and their collocation with permanent GNSS measurements**
- B.) Standardization of InSAR quality control (precision/accuracy indicators) via further development of own time series processing chain (G-MaPIT)**
- C.) Mitigation of atmospheric systematic effects via utilization of auxiliary data (GNSS-derived tropospheric products and numerical weather models)**

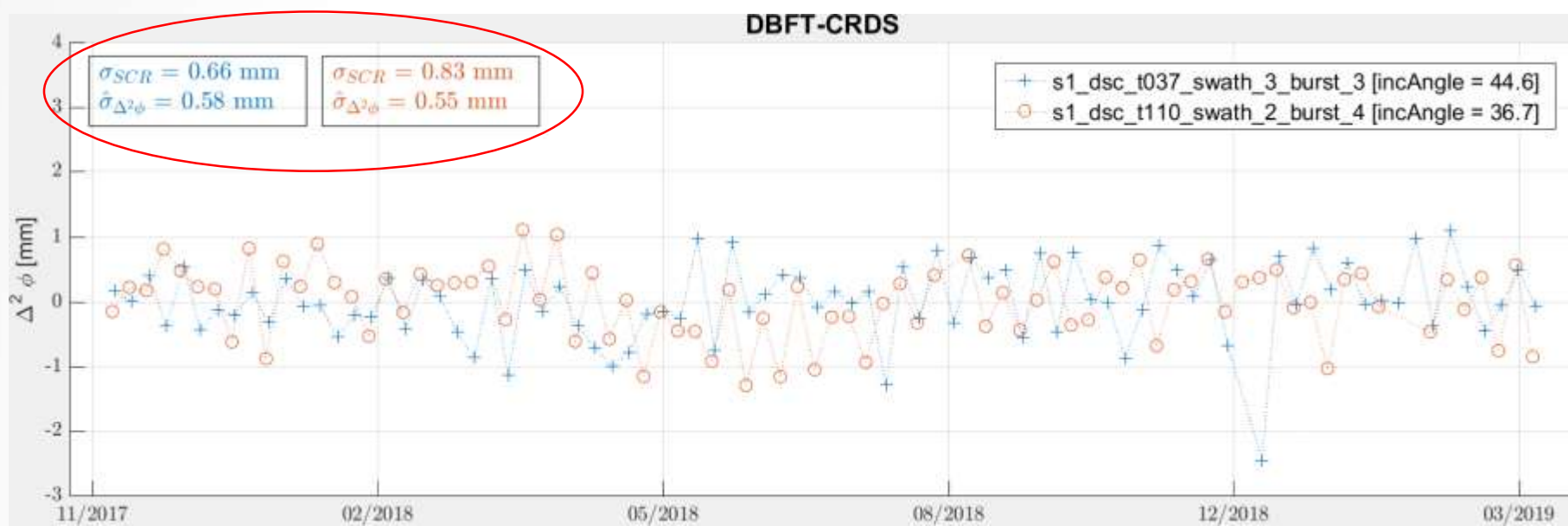
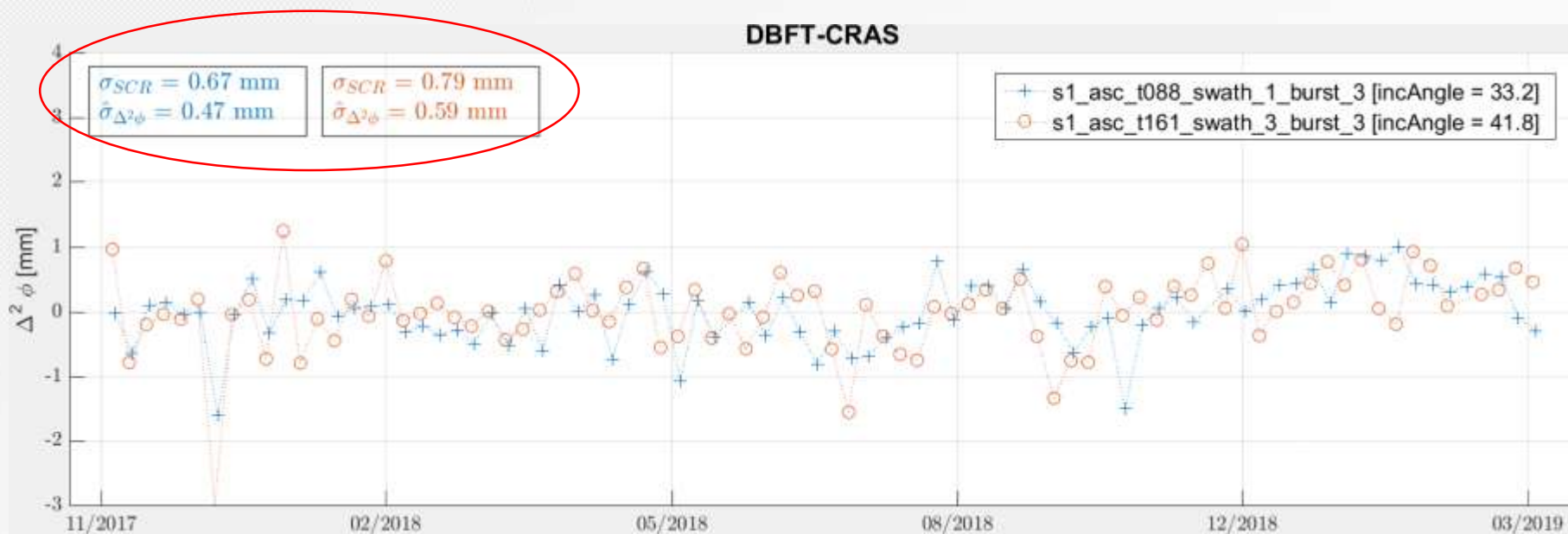
ECR-Cs testing

	E094 [RCS]	E104 [RCS]
asc_t088_swath1 (incAngle = 33.2deg, azAngle = 258.8deg)		
20190301	40.56	-
20190307	40.43	42.48
20190313	-	-
20190319	-	-
asc_t161_swath3 (incAngle = 41.8deg, azAngle = 260.5deg)		
20190228	38.37	39.14
20190306	-	-
20190312	-	-
20190318	-	-

WASS_s1_dsc_t037_swath_3_burst_3_OVS8_20190304



InSAR analysis – Wassenaar test site



1st order network solution

Functional model for PS „i“:

$$E\{\boldsymbol{\phi}_i\} = \underbrace{\frac{4\pi}{\lambda R \sin \theta} \mathbf{B}_\perp \mathbf{h}_i}_{\text{function of geometry}} + \underbrace{\frac{4\pi}{\lambda} f(\mathbf{t} - t_0)}_{\text{function of time}} \mathbf{d}_{LOS,i} + \underbrace{2\pi \mathbf{a}}_{\text{vector of ambiguities}} \quad D\{\boldsymbol{\phi}_i\} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{\phi}_i}$$

function of geometry

function of time

vector of ambiguities

- Transition to phase double-differences

1st order network solution – ambiguity resolution

Functional model for PS „i“:

$$E\{\phi_i\} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda R \sin \theta} \mathbf{B}_\perp h_i + \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} f(t - t_0) d_{LOS,i} + 2\pi \mathbf{a}$$

Functional model for “arc” between PS „i“ and PS „j“:

$$\Delta\phi_{i,j} = \alpha \Delta h_{i,j} + \beta \Delta d_{i,j} + 2\pi \mathbf{a}_{i,j}$$

BLUE solution: **Integer least-squares** (e.g. LAMBDA method)

Remark:

Atmospheric phase cannot be included within functional model – its just partially reduced by solving short “arcs” - inc. in stochastic model

APS estimation

Assumption: APS is correlated in space, while decorrelated in time (of individual satellite acquisitions)

- 1st order PS network residuals:

$$\phi_i - \hat{\phi}_{i,model} = \phi_{unmodeled\ Defo} + \phi_{atmo,t_i} + \phi_{noise}$$

- isolated from residuals by spatio-temporal filtering:

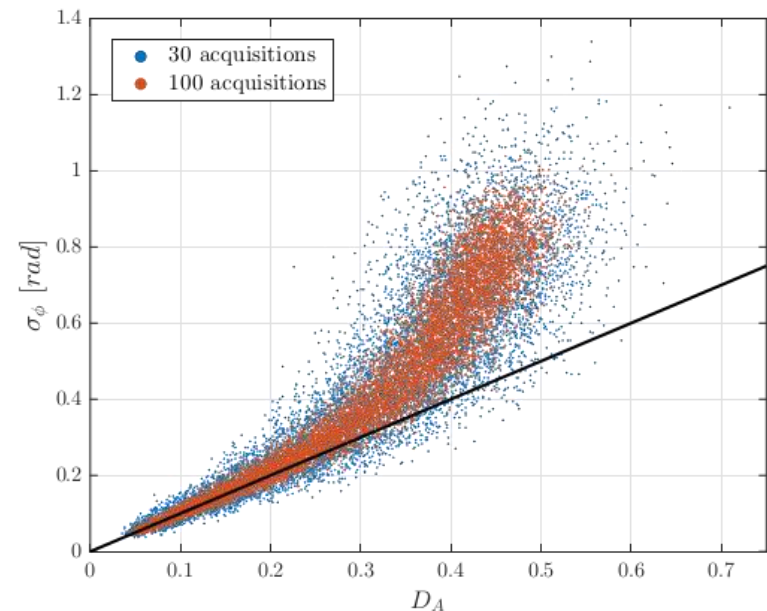
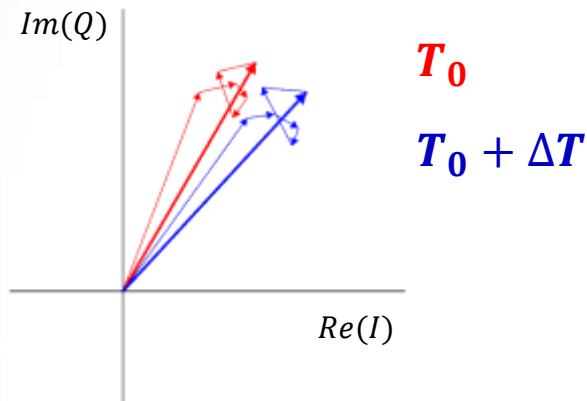
$$\hat{\phi}_{atmo,t_i} = \left[\left[\phi_i - \hat{\phi}_{i,model} \right]_{HP_time} \right]_{LP_space}$$

- significant spatial wavelengths of APS estimated within 1st order network by variogram (empirical covariance function of atmo.)

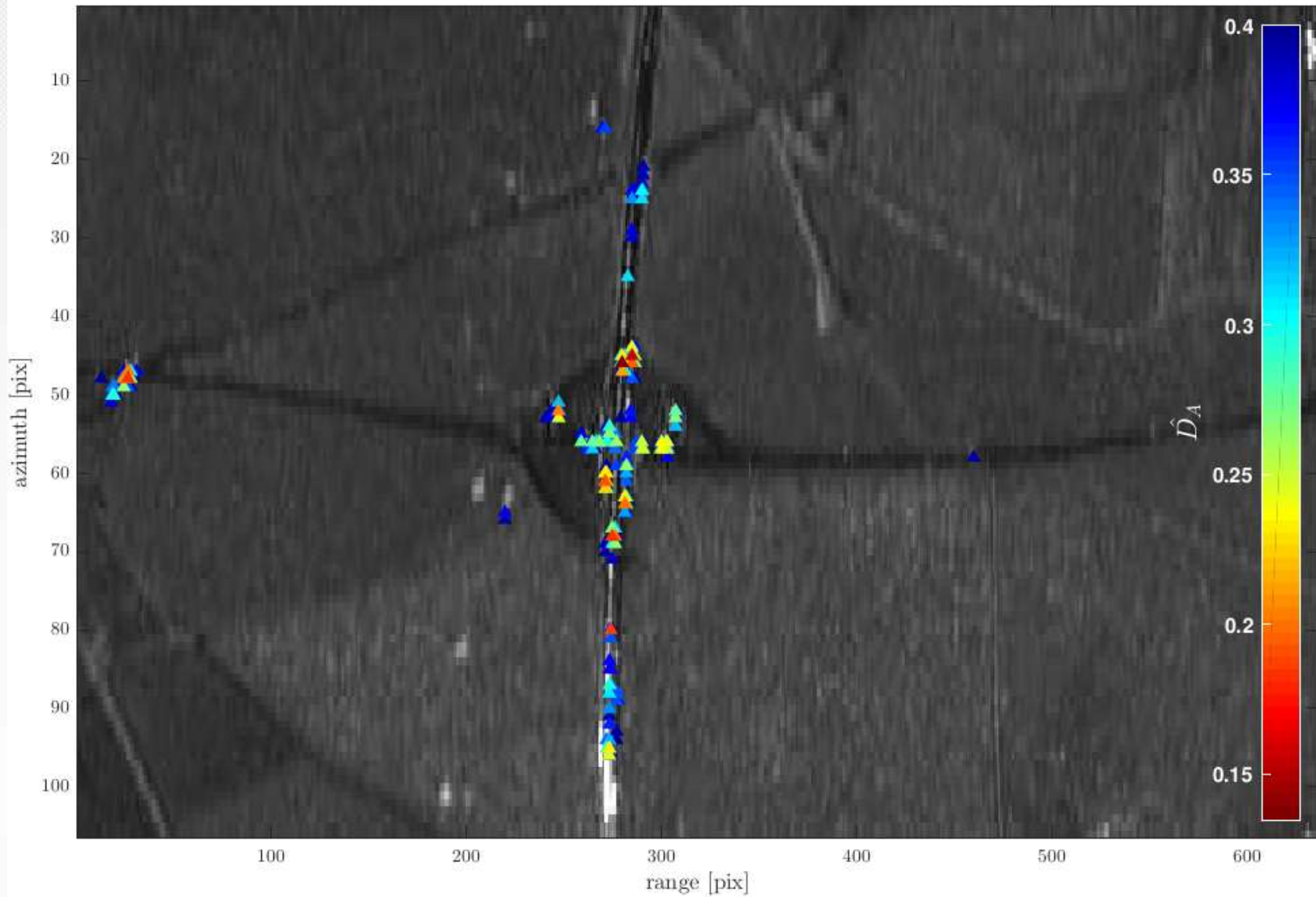
Detection & estimation problem

Persistent Scatterer Candidates (PSC)

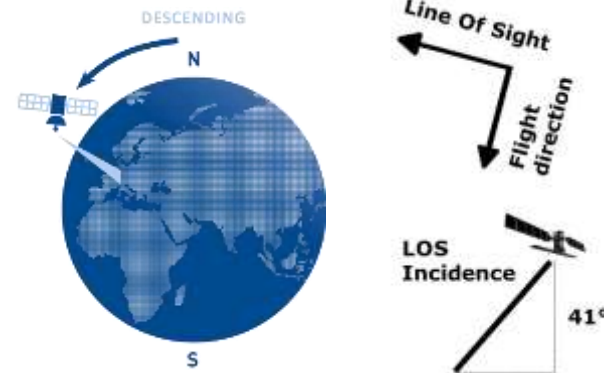
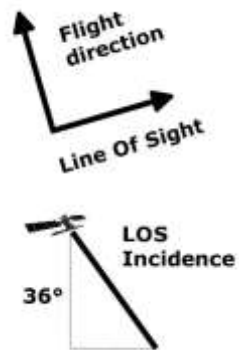
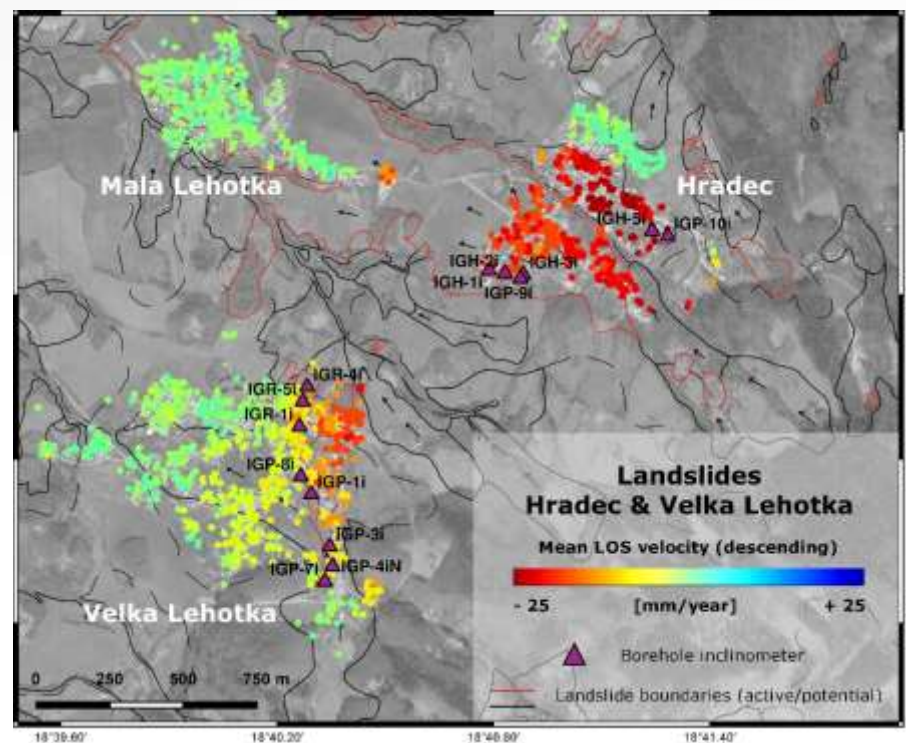
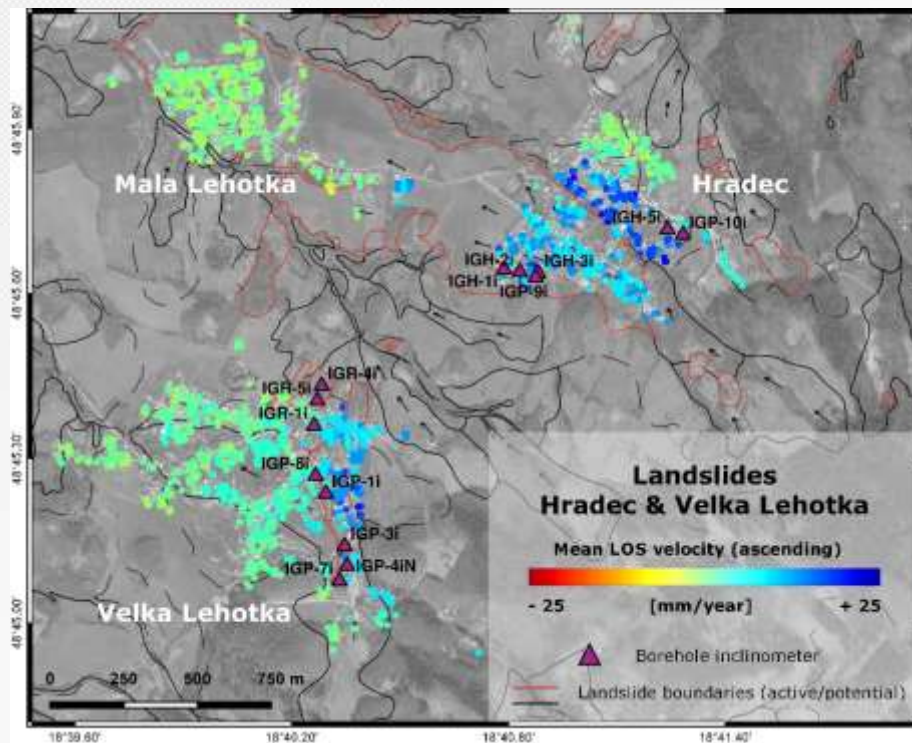
- Cannot use coherence (“phase dispersion”) for PS selection because phase contains ambiguity (is wrapped) $(0, 2\pi)$!
- Amplitude dispersion as a proxy for coherence



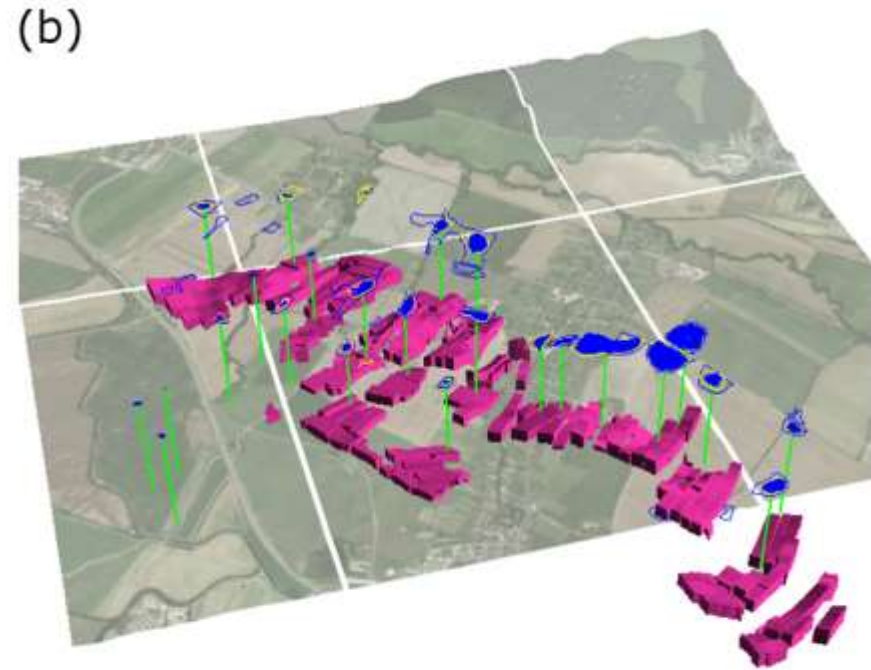
Persistent Scatter Candidates (PSC)



Local monitoring: Landslides



Local monitoring: Undermining subsidence



Atmospheric phase

InSAR: differential atmospheric phase ($t_0 - t_i$):

$$\phi_{atmo} = \psi_{atmo,t_0} - \psi_{atmo,t_i}$$

$$\phi_{atmo} = \phi_{iono} + \phi_{tropo}$$

Ionosphere

C-band (5.6 cm) sparingly affected

Long spatial wavelengths
(~ 100s of km)

Troposphere

Dry + wet component

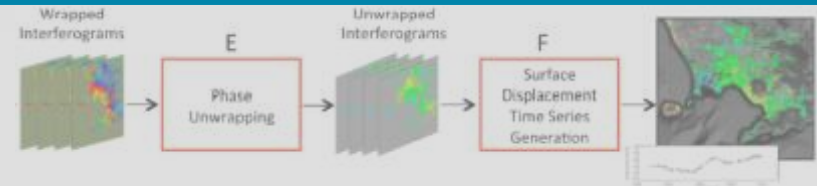
- turbulence
- stratification

Relatively short spatial
wavelengths (~ 10s of km)

Time-series (Multi-temporal) InSAR

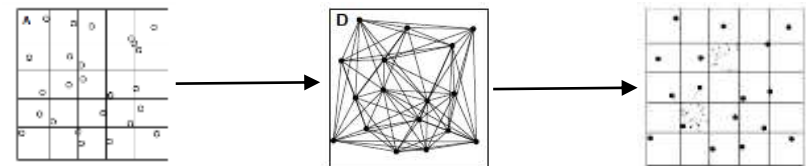
How to extract displacement time series from wrapped phase time series of PS?

a.) „Geophysical“ approach



- questionable assumptions, model-oriented approach
- image processing / signal processing
- lack of relevant quality indicators

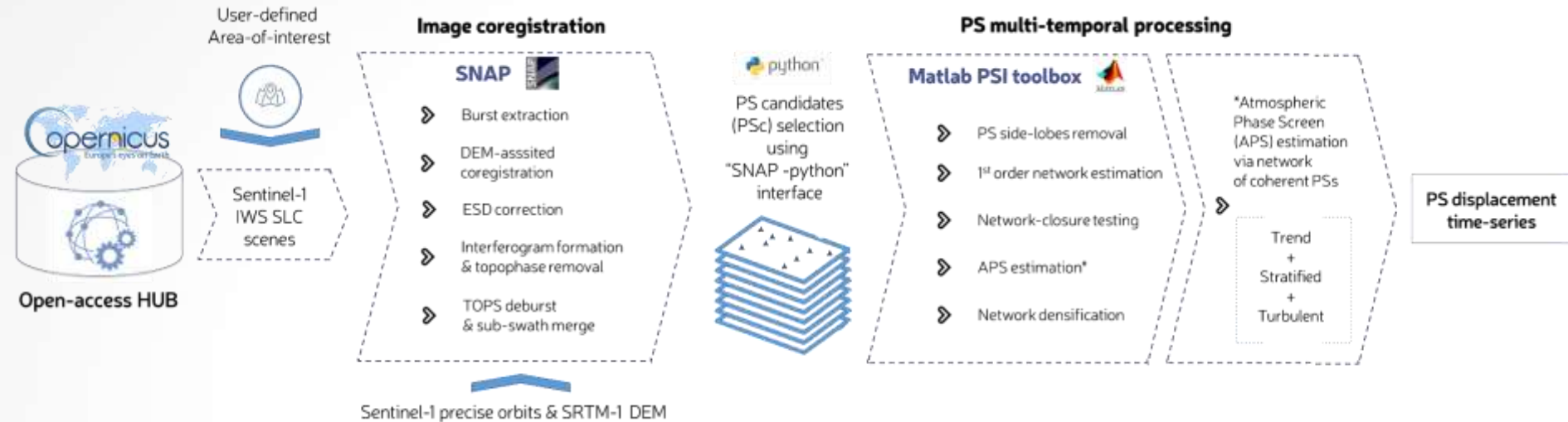
b.) „Geodetic“ approach



- „Delft school“
- geodetic estimation theory (propagation of stochastic properties - VC matrices)

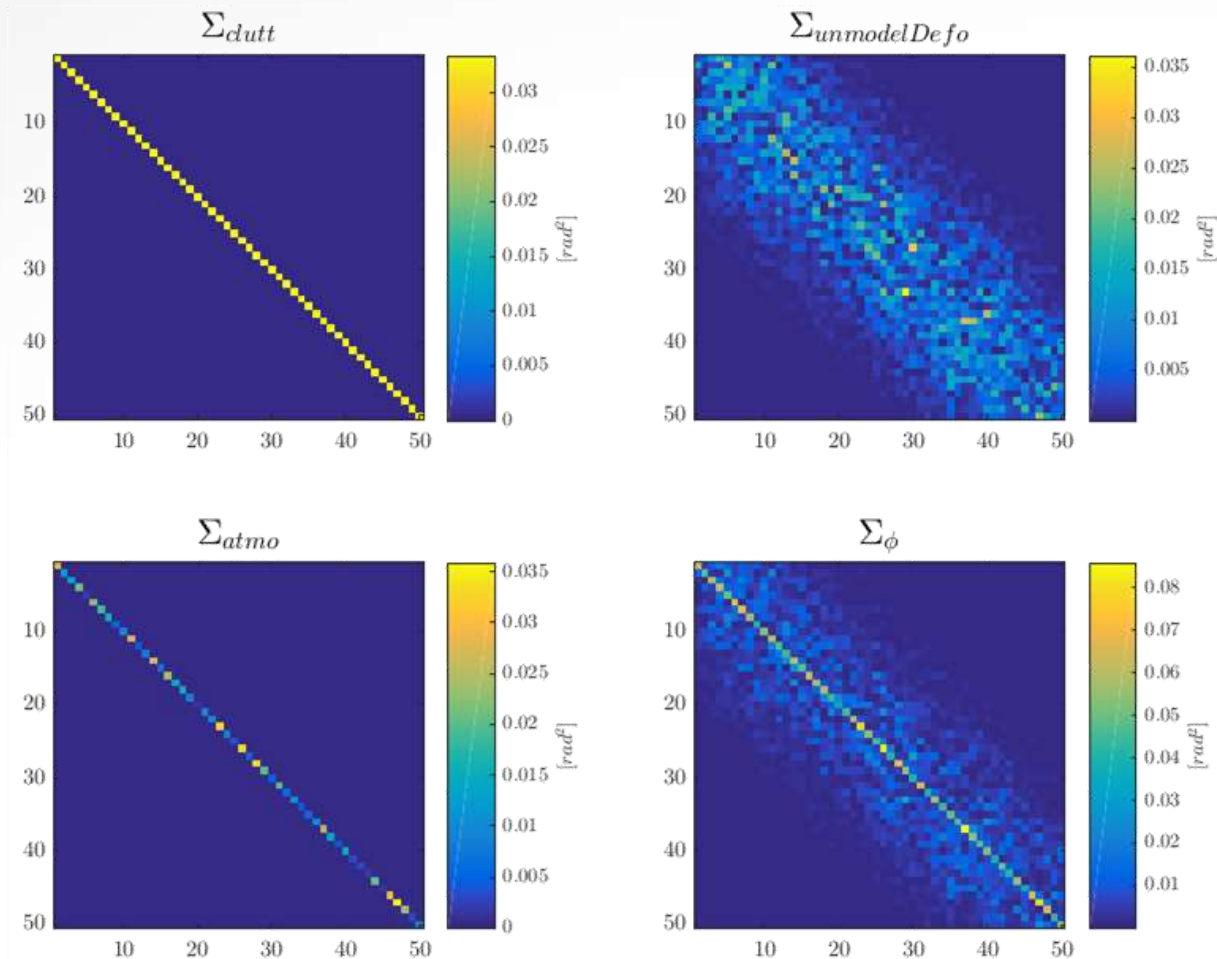
Own software implementation

Geodetic MATLAB & Python-based InSAR toolbox (**G-MaPIT**)

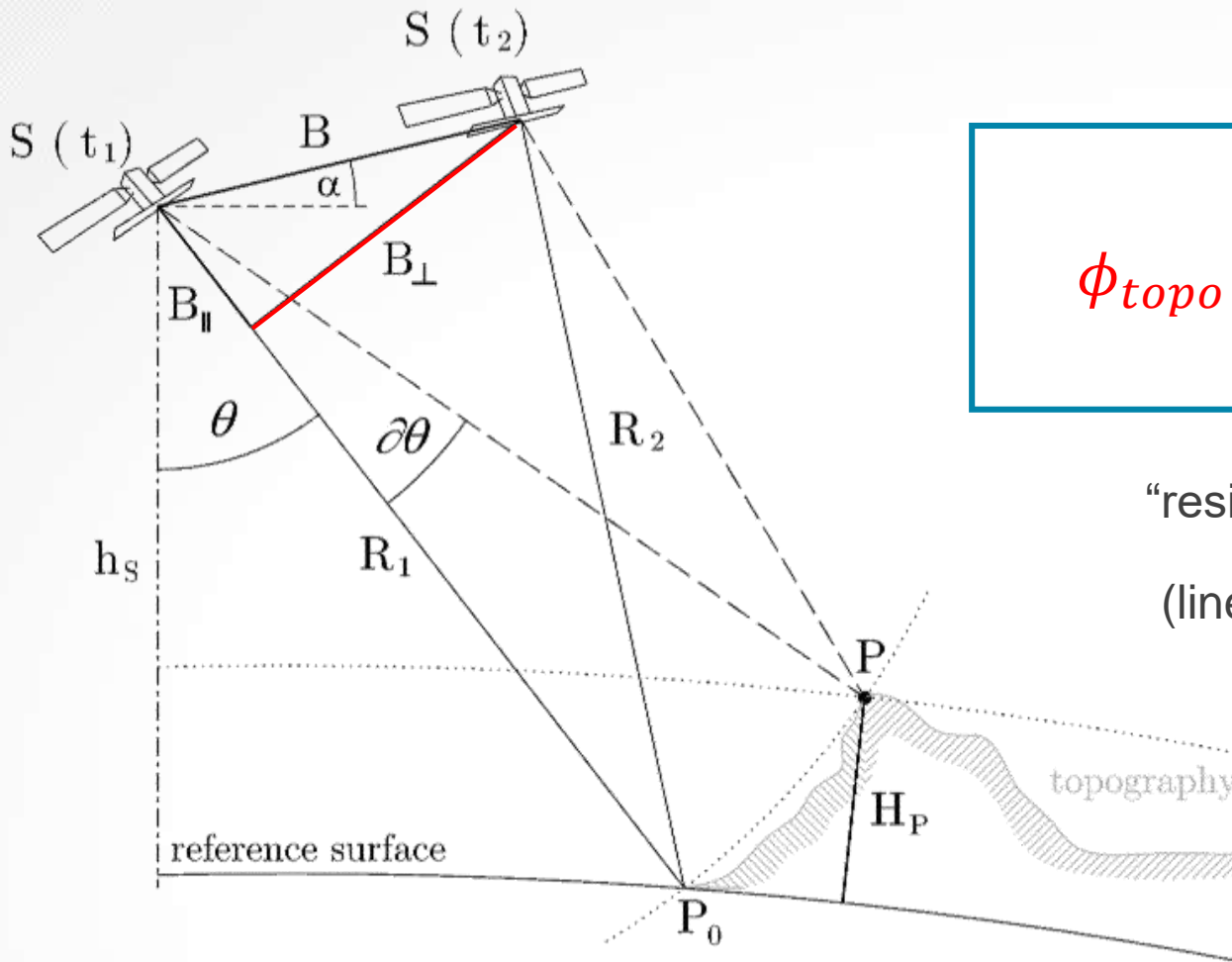


APS estimation

Assumption: APS is correlated in space, while decorrelated in time (of individual satellite acquisitions)



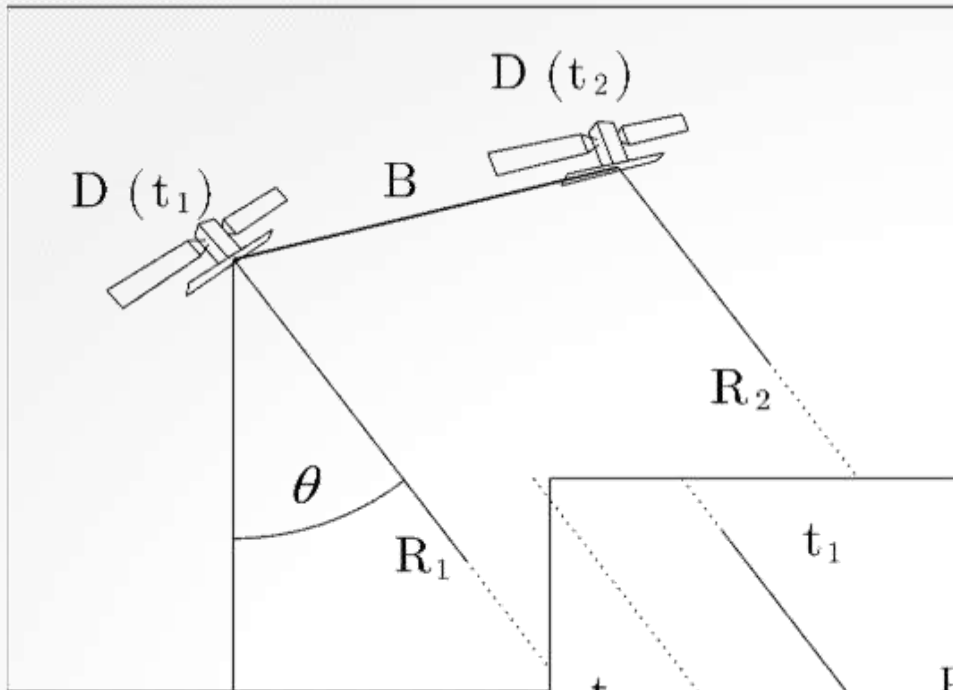
Reference (Topography) phase



$$\phi_{topo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \frac{B_{\perp}}{R \sin \theta} H_P$$

“residual” topography
(linearized by DEM)

Displacement phase (LOS geometry)



$$\phi_{defo} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} d_{LOS}$$

