

# Estimation of Canopy Height using UAVSAR Data in the Reserve Faunique des Laurentides and Penobscott Forests.

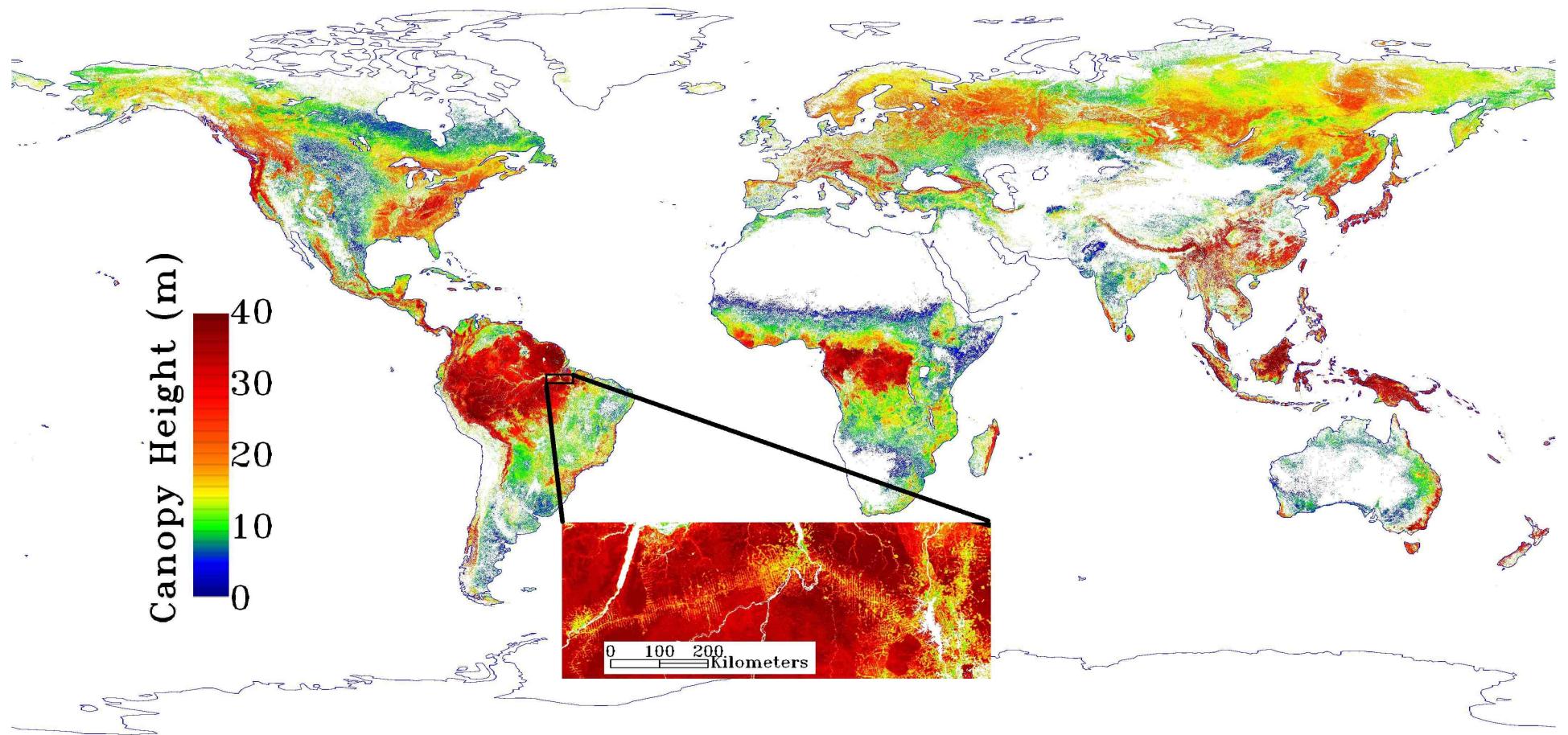
Marc Simard

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Marco Lavalle, Naiara Pinto, Scott Hensley,  
Maxim Neumann, Thierry Michel, Ralph  
Dubayah

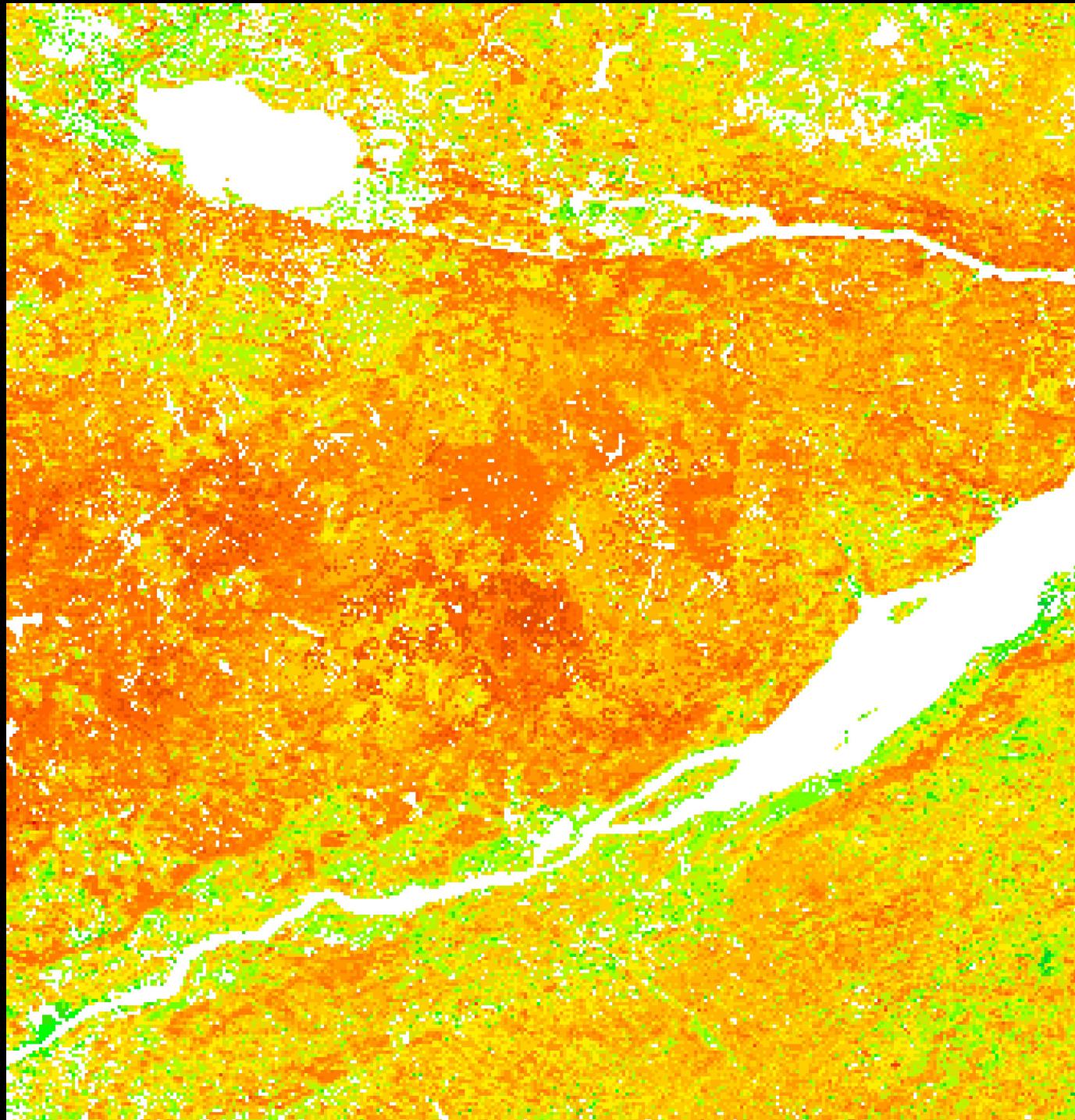


# Global Map of Forest Canopy Height (1km resolution)

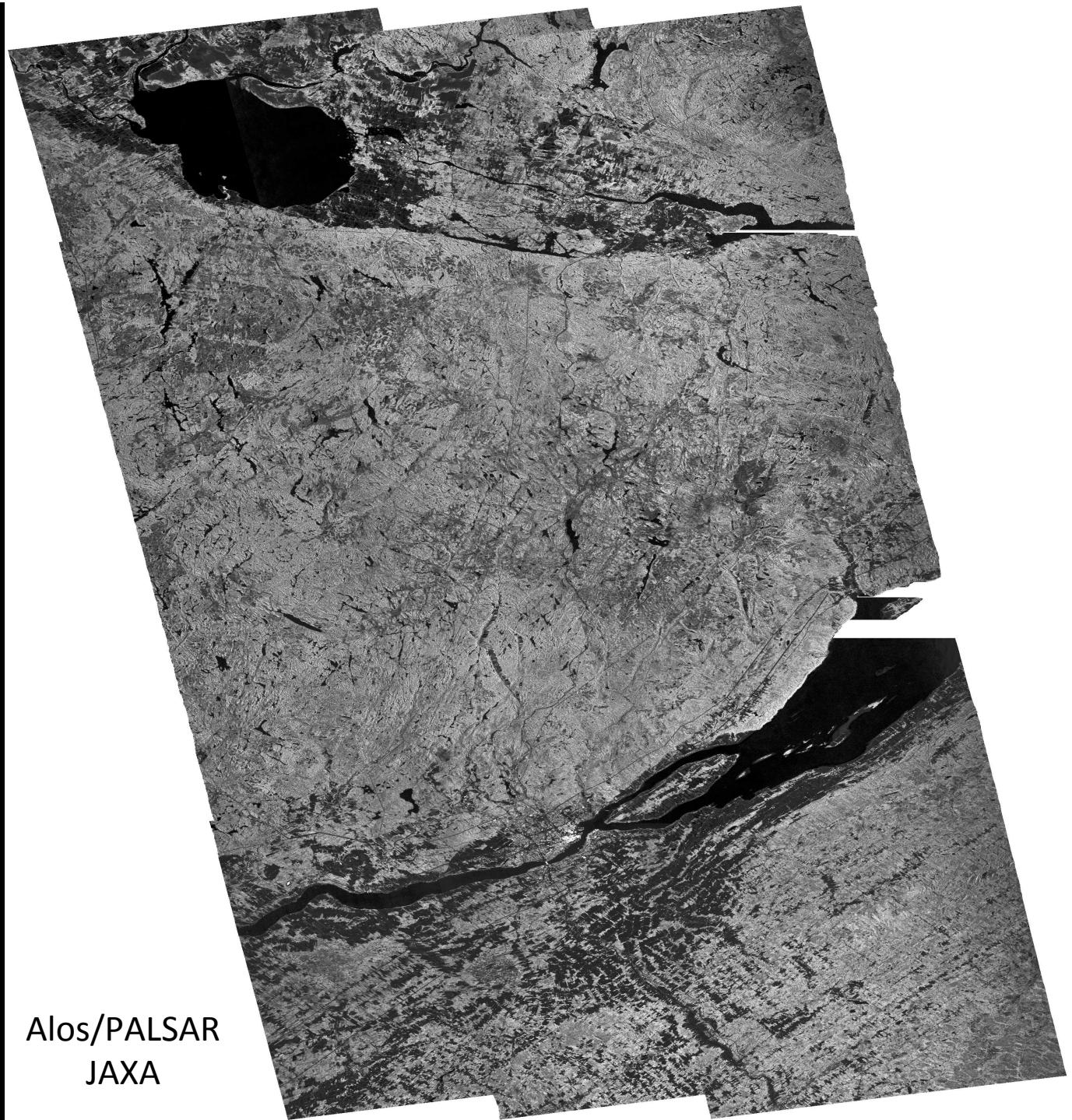
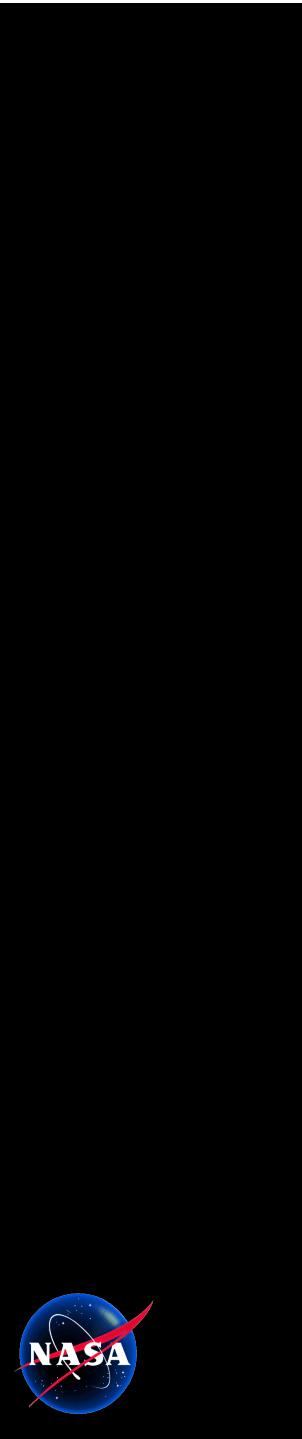


Simard et al. (Journal of Geophysical Research, 2011)

Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov



ard@jpl.nasa.gov



Alos/PALSAR  
JAXA

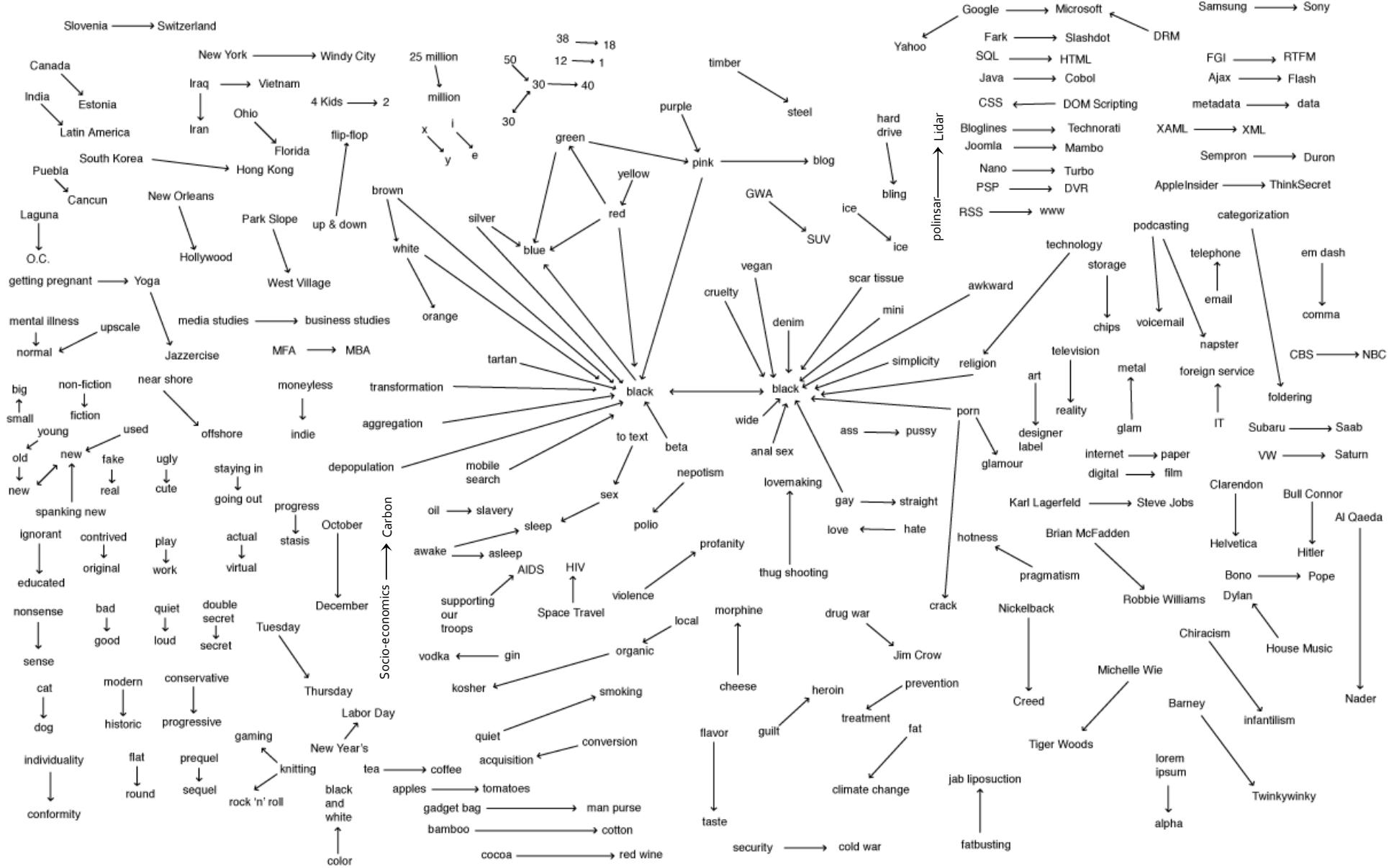


ard@jpl.nasa.gov

IS THE NEW  
*LeisureArts*

The project documents every instance of the phrase "is the new" encountered from various sources in 2005. It is intended to map the iterations of a peculiarly common marketing and literary device.

[http://thediagram.com/6\\_3/leisurearts.html](http://thediagram.com/6_3/leisurearts.html)



# UAVSAR Campaign 2009-2010

- PI: Marc Simard,
  - Co-I's Ralph Dubayah, Scott Hensley
- Objective:
  - To assess, quantify and mitigate the impact of temporal decorrelation on the retrieval of canopy height from polinSAR

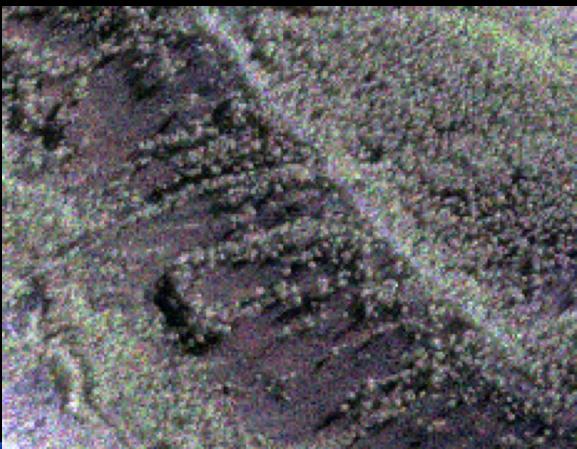


Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# Airborne and Field Data Collection

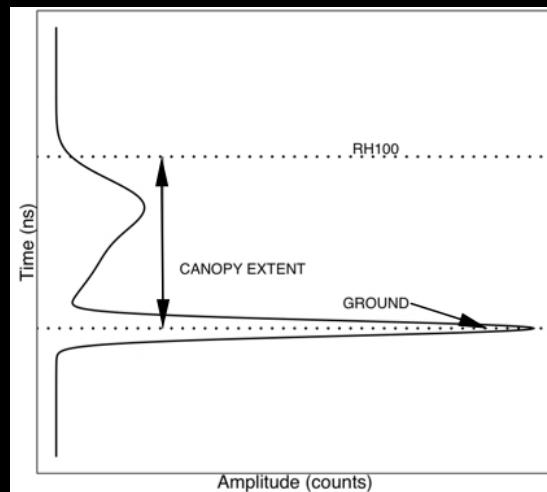
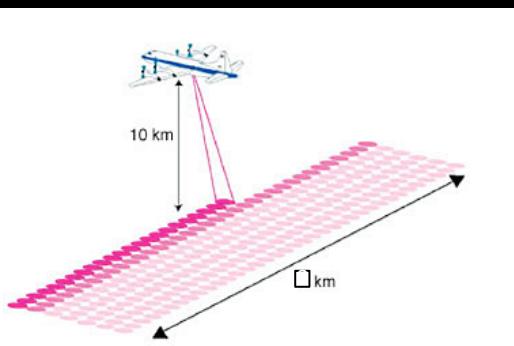
## UAVSAR

L-band polarimetric radar capable of repeat pass interferometry



## LVIS

Laser Vegetation Imaging System  
Full waveform lidar (25m footprint)



- Spatial resolution

- UAVSAR: ~6m
- LVIS ~25m

## Swaths

- UAVSAR ~20km
- LVIS 2km (based on max of 5° look for vegetation)

## Field data (88 forest plots)

- Tree height;
- Trunk diameter DBH
- Tree species
- Crown size
- Terrain Slopes
- Plot height and biomass



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

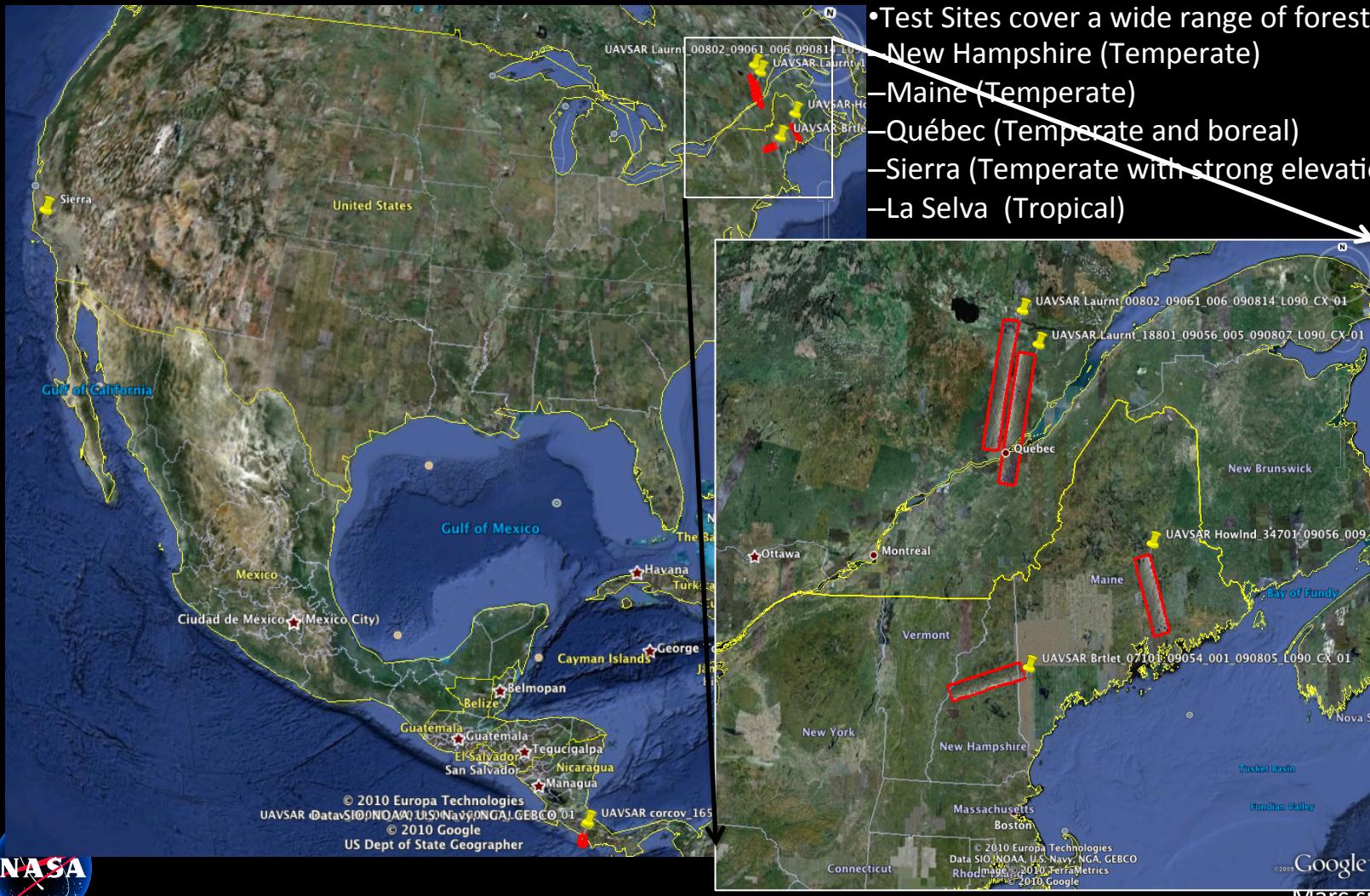
# Sites

- Laurentides, Québec
- Penobscott/Howland, Maine
- Bartlett/Hubbard Brook, New Hampshire
- Sierra Nevada, California
- La Selva, Costa Rica



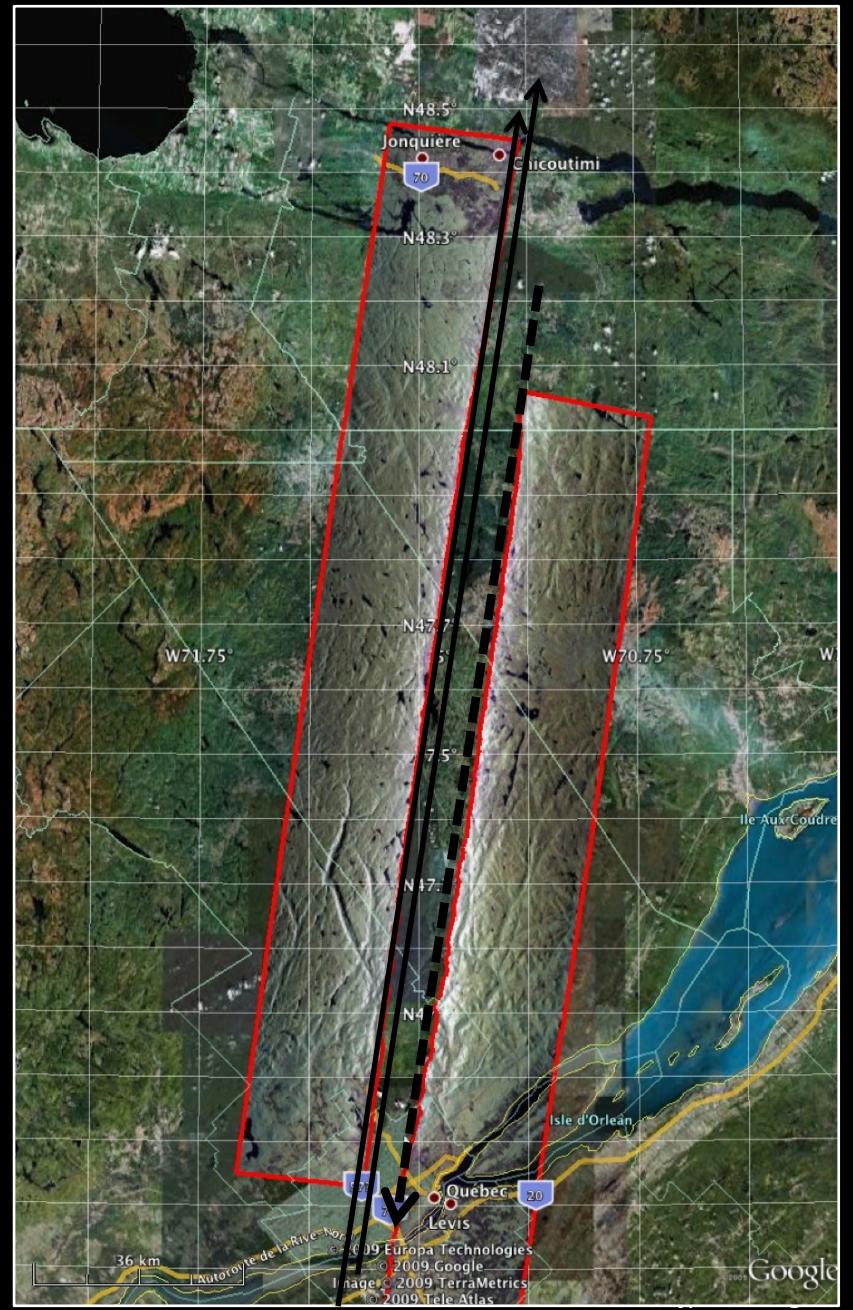
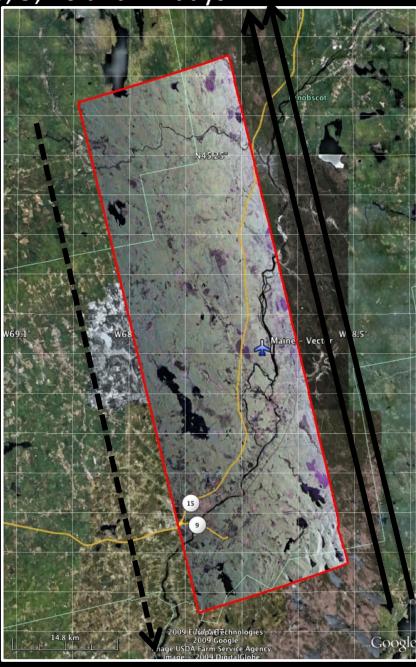
Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

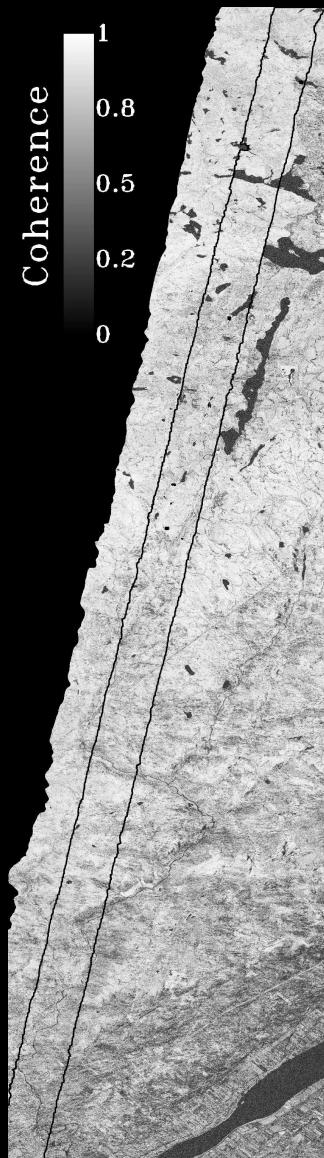
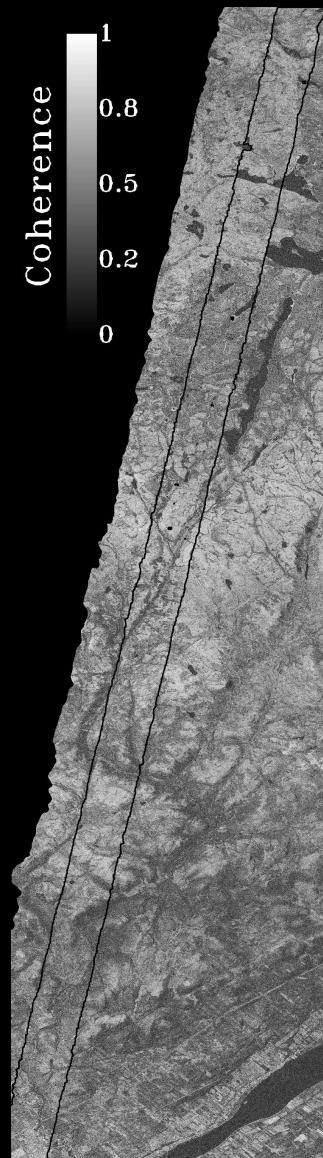
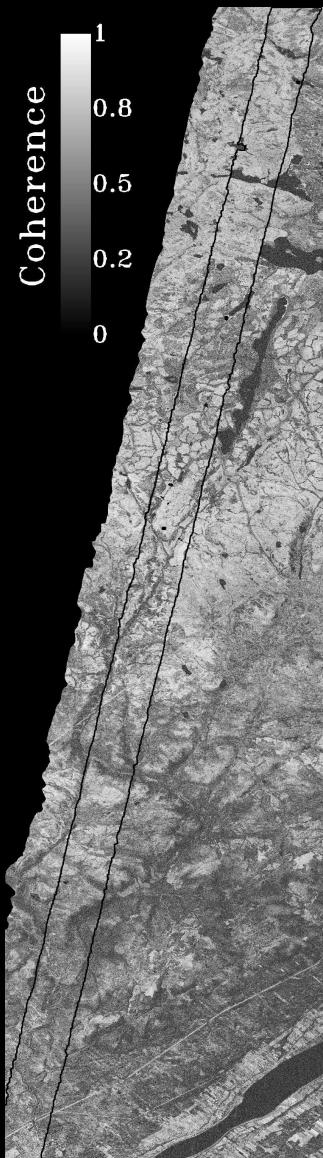
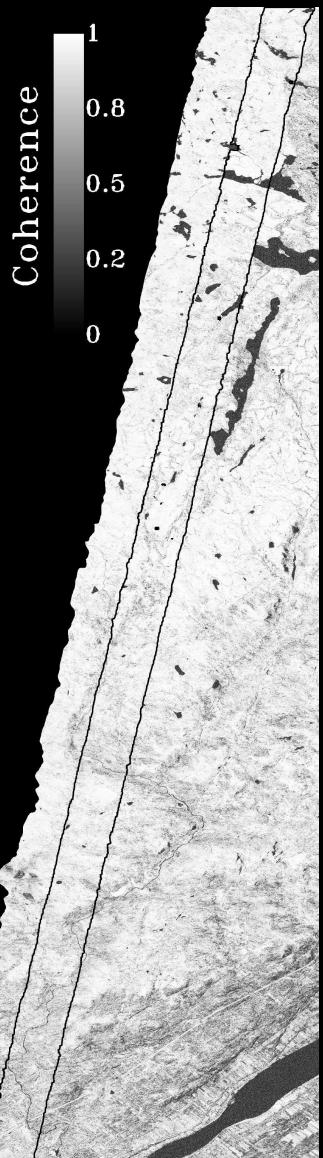
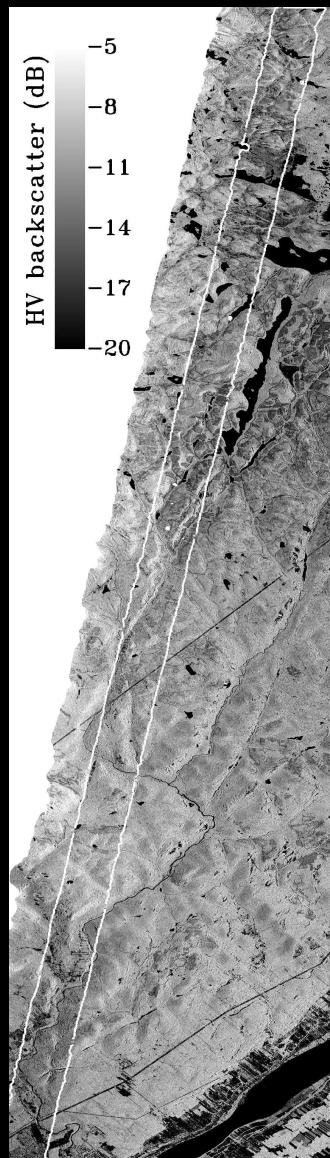
# UAVSAR Campaign 2009-2010



# Data collection strategy

- UAVSAR images covered transects of ~100km with ~20km swath (Laurentides is 185km long)
- Covered boreal, temperate and tropical forests
- Large diversity of management practices:
  - sites are characterized by experimental forests, national parks and managed forests (e.g. lumber)
- UAVSAR flew 3 days(5 in tropics) over a period of about 2 weeks.
  - Each day, UAVSAR flew 4 times over each site.
  - Collected both zero and 65m baselines.
- Example:
  - North East sites flown on 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2009.
  - Providing 4 temporal baselines of 45', 2, 7 and 9 days
  - Costa Rica: January 29<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> 2010
  - Temporal baselines: 30' and 2, 4, 6, 9, 10 and 12 days





$\sigma_{\text{HV}}$

45'

2 days

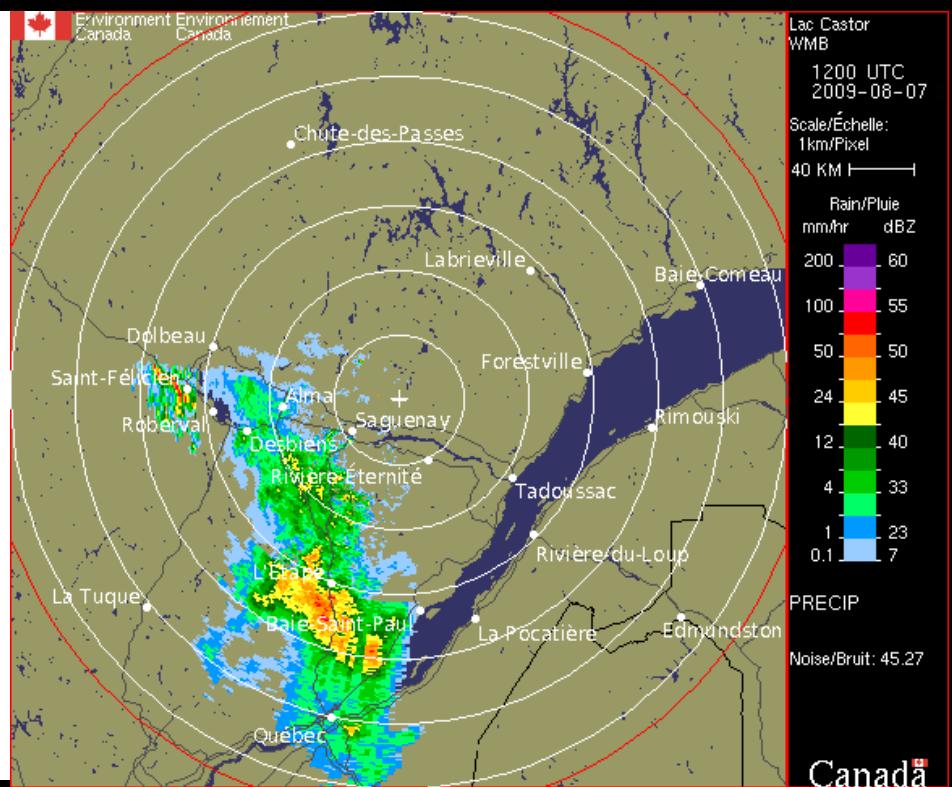
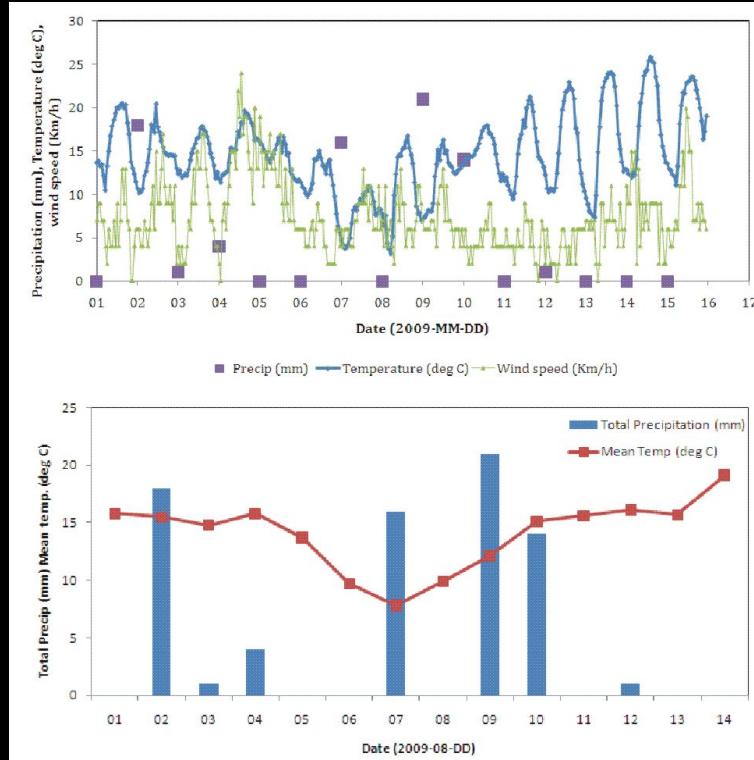
7 days

9 days



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

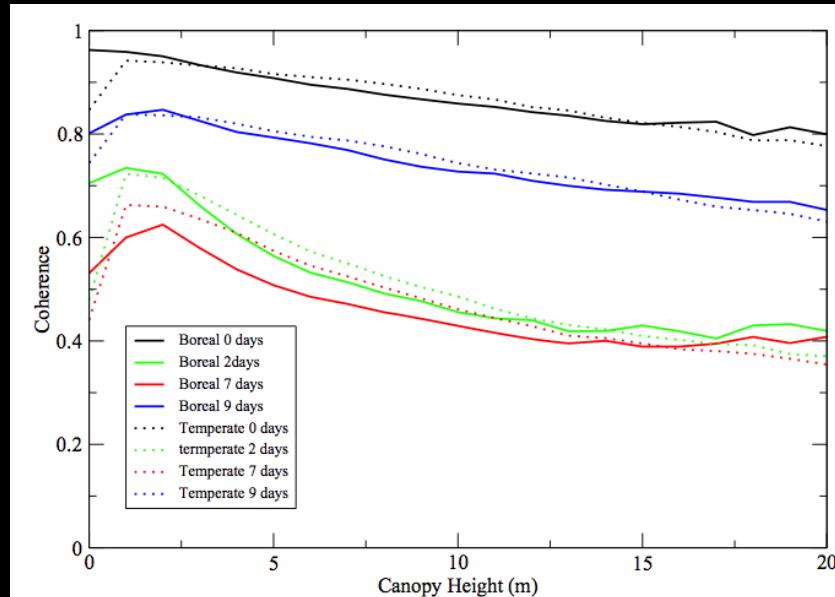
It is precipitation and change in moisture rather than “time” that most impacts temporal decorrelation on temporal scales of days.



- A large rain storm on the acquisition date of the 7<sup>th</sup> causes a decrease of the inSAR correlation with pairs including other days.
- Wind is nearly stable between 5 and 10km/h.



# Temporal Decorrelation Experiment Summary and Conclusion



- Simard, M.; Hensley, S.; Lavalle, M.; Dubayah, R.; Pinto, N.; Hofton, M. An Empirical Assessment of Temporal Decorrelation Using the Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle Synthetic Aperture Radar over Forested Landscapes. *Remote Sens.* **2012**, *4*, 975–986.
- M. Lavalle, M. Simard, and S. Hensley, “A temporal decorrelation model for polarimetric radar interferometers,” *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 2011 (online), DOI: 10.1109/TGRS.2011.2174367.
- Pinto, N.; Simard, M.; Dubayah, R. Using InSAR Coherence to Map Stand Age in a Boreal Forest. *Remote Sens.* **2013**, *5*, 42–56.

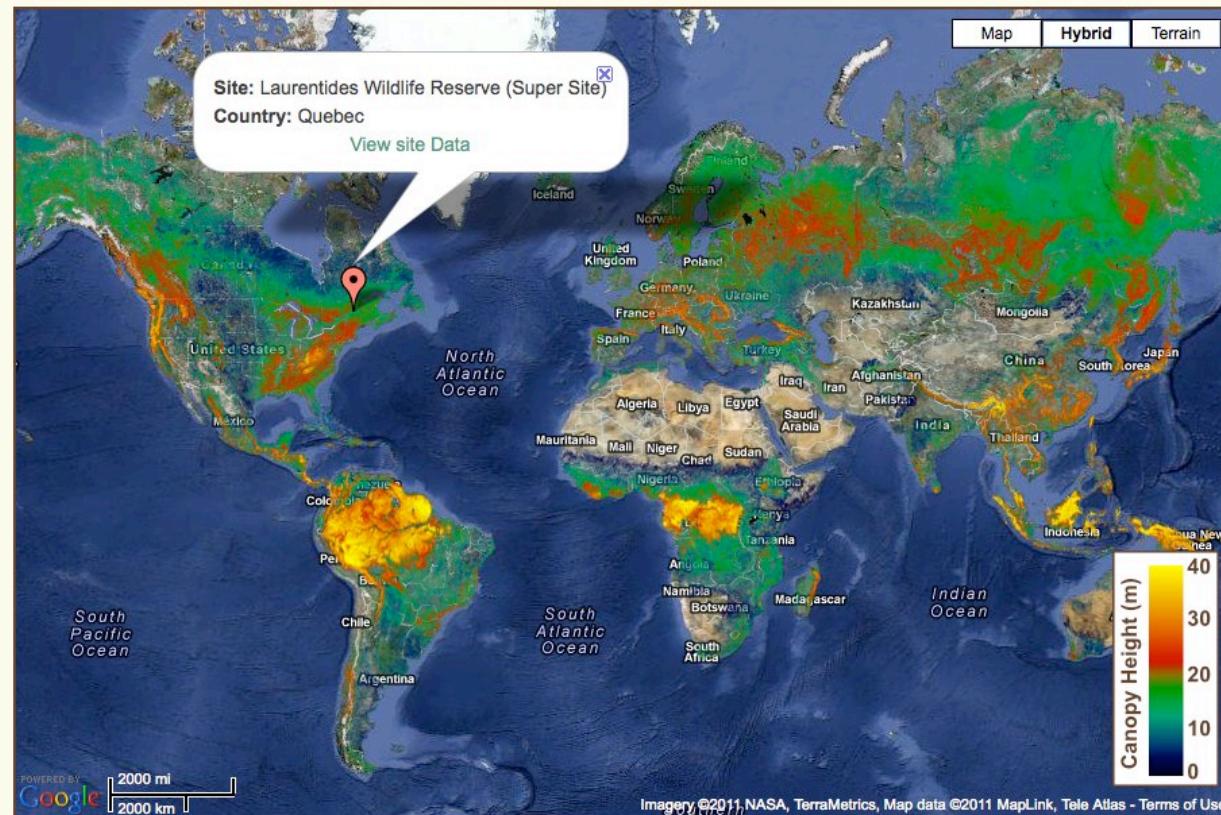




## 3D Land Mapping

Combining Lidar and Radar for Remote Sensing of Land Surfaces

Click on a marker to find out more information about your favorite site.



Imagery ©2011, NASA, TerraMetrics, Map data ©2011 MapLink, Tele Atlas - Terms of Use

- Show low resolution (10km) 3D Global Vegetation Map derived from ICESat/GLAS and environmental modeling  
Download the full resolution (1km) map here [TIF] and map legend here. An error map can be downloaded here.

### Project Description

This website presents the research projects of Dr. Marc Simard, Senior Scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The overall objective is to combine radar and lidar remote sensing to characterize the forested landscapes in 3D. The science products generated by Simard and

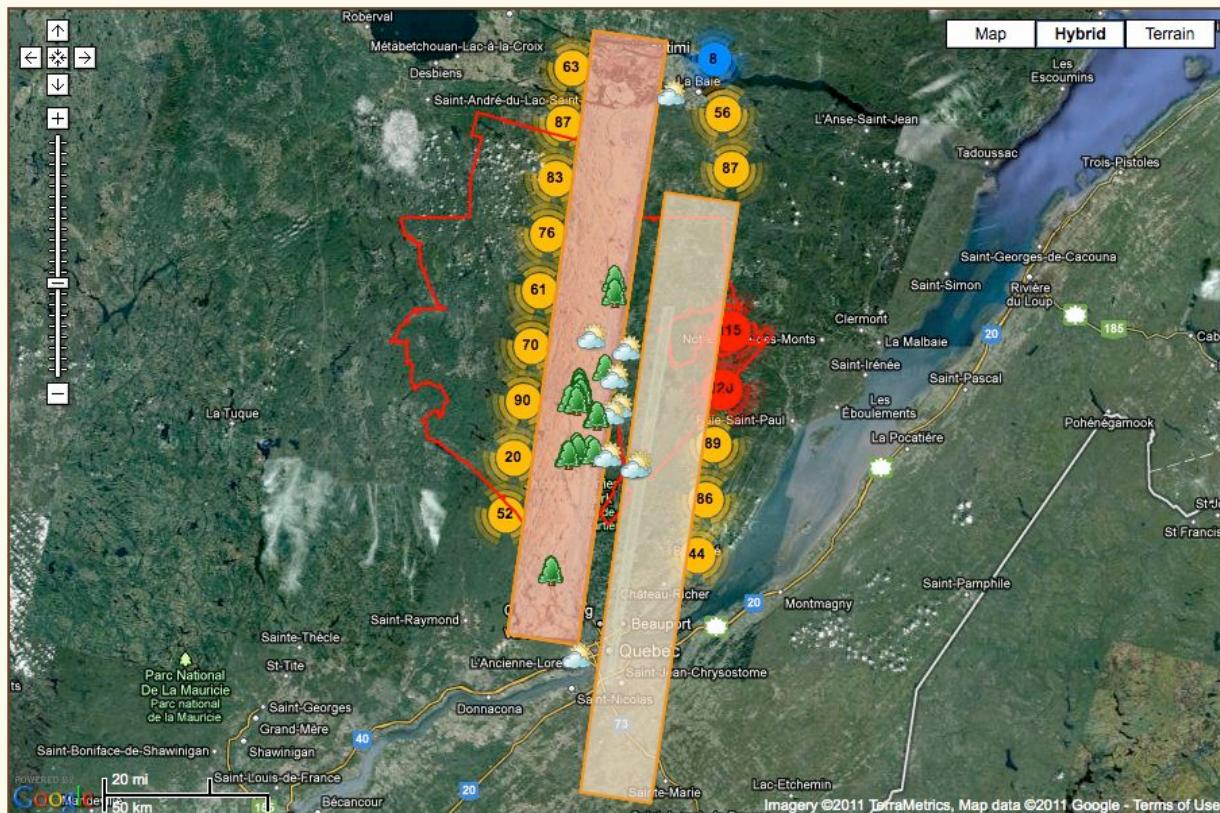


&lt;&lt; Back to all sites

## Super Site: Laurentides Wildlife Reserve, Quebec

Click a checkbox to show a specific dataset in the map. Then click the objects (markers, swaths, etc) in the map for more information.

Super Site [KML]  UAVSAR  LVIS  ICESat [TXT]  SRTM [KML]  Field Data [CSV]  Weather Data [KML]



### UAVSAR Swath Details: Laurnt\_00802

Lat: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lng: \_\_\_\_\_

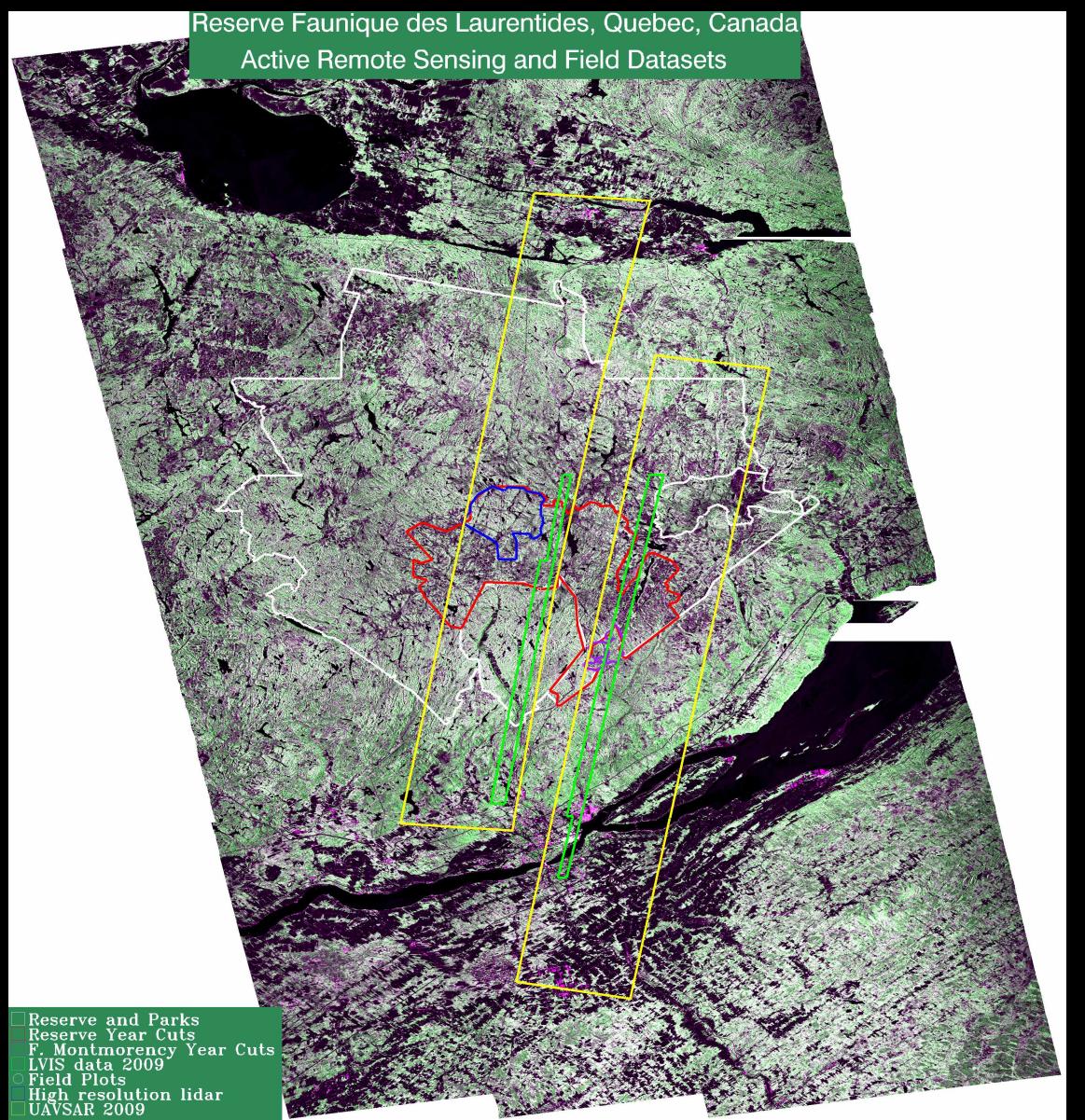
Radiometrically Calibrated Backscatter (View a high-resolution map here)

Low-resolution: [KML], GeoTIFF files by polarization: [HH] [HV] [VV]

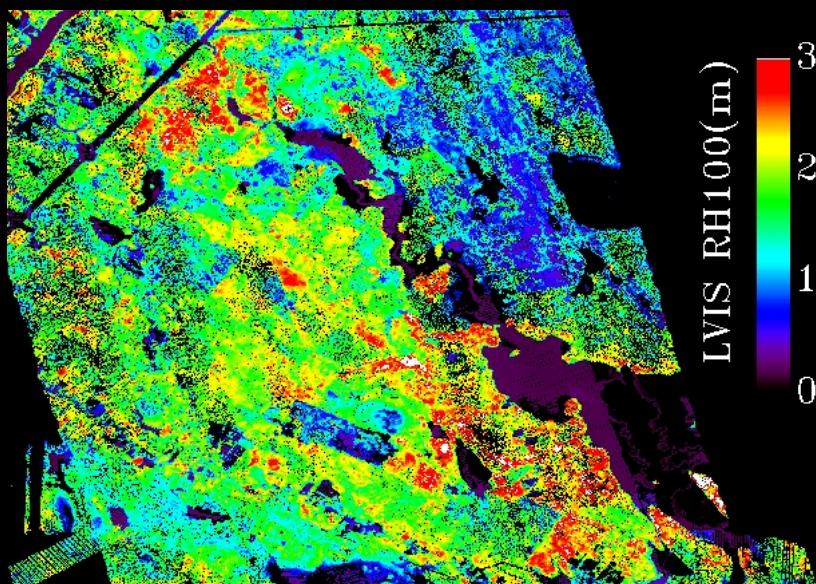
# A Cal/Val Super Site for Active Remote Sensing Platforms

Réserve Faunique des Laurentides (Québec, Canada) proposed at CEOS 2010

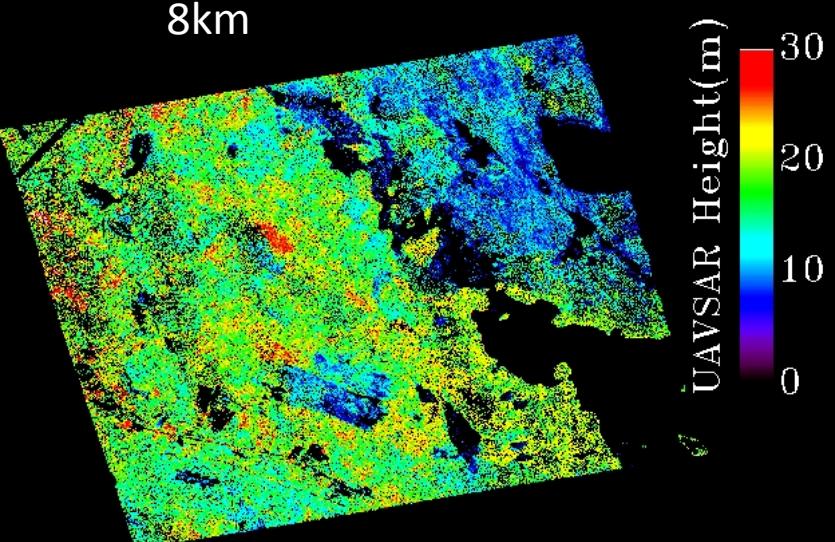
- Laurentides
  - 1000m elevation range
  - Temperate and boreal forests
  - National Parks
  - Experimental forests
  - Large scale (Governmental) lumber management
  - Public access to all sites
- Data
  - UAVSAR, ALOS/PALSAR
  - repeat-pass UAVSAR (Multi-temporal )
  - MODIS, LANDSAT
  - Lidars : LVIS, ICESat/GLAS, high res.
  - **TanDEM-X**
  - Field
    - Canopy structure
    - Weather data
    - Government/industry participation
    - Stand age
  - Real Time Weather data
- Missing
  - Radarsat (requested)
  - ENVISAT
  - TerraSAR-X



# Penobscott, Maine

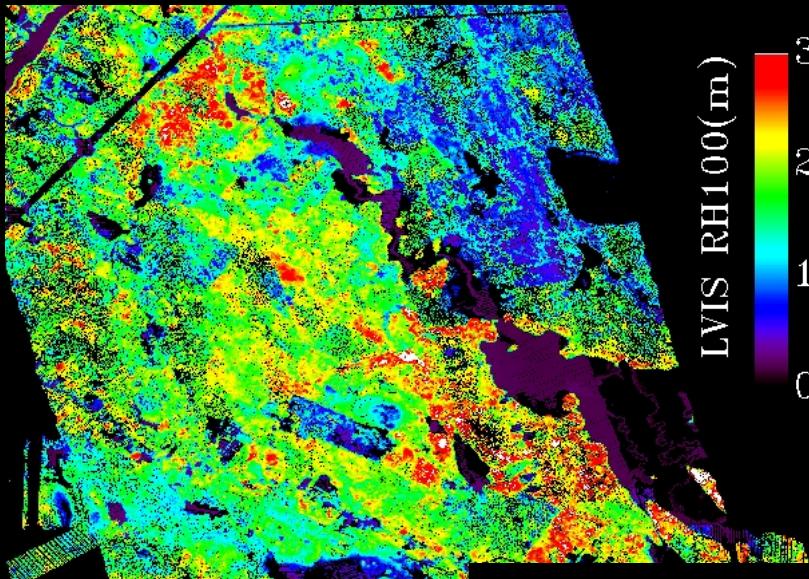


↔ 8km →

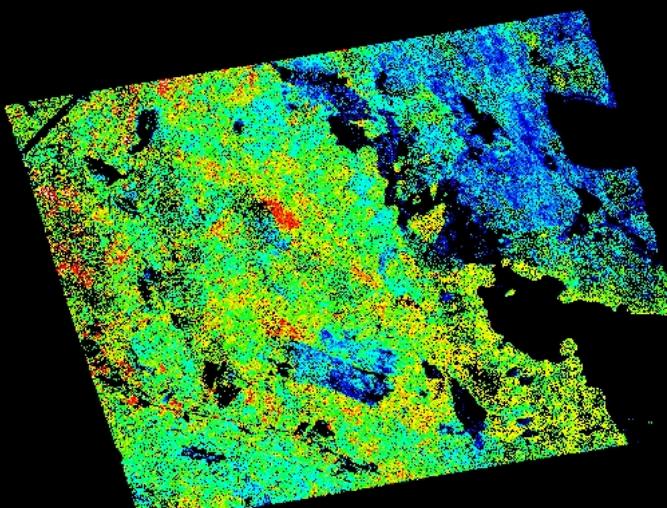


Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

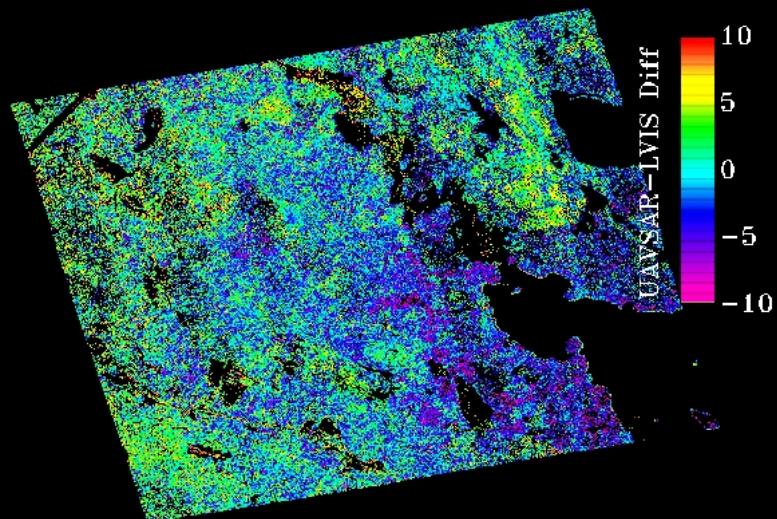
# Penobscott, Maine



LVIS RH100(m)



UAVSAR Height(m)

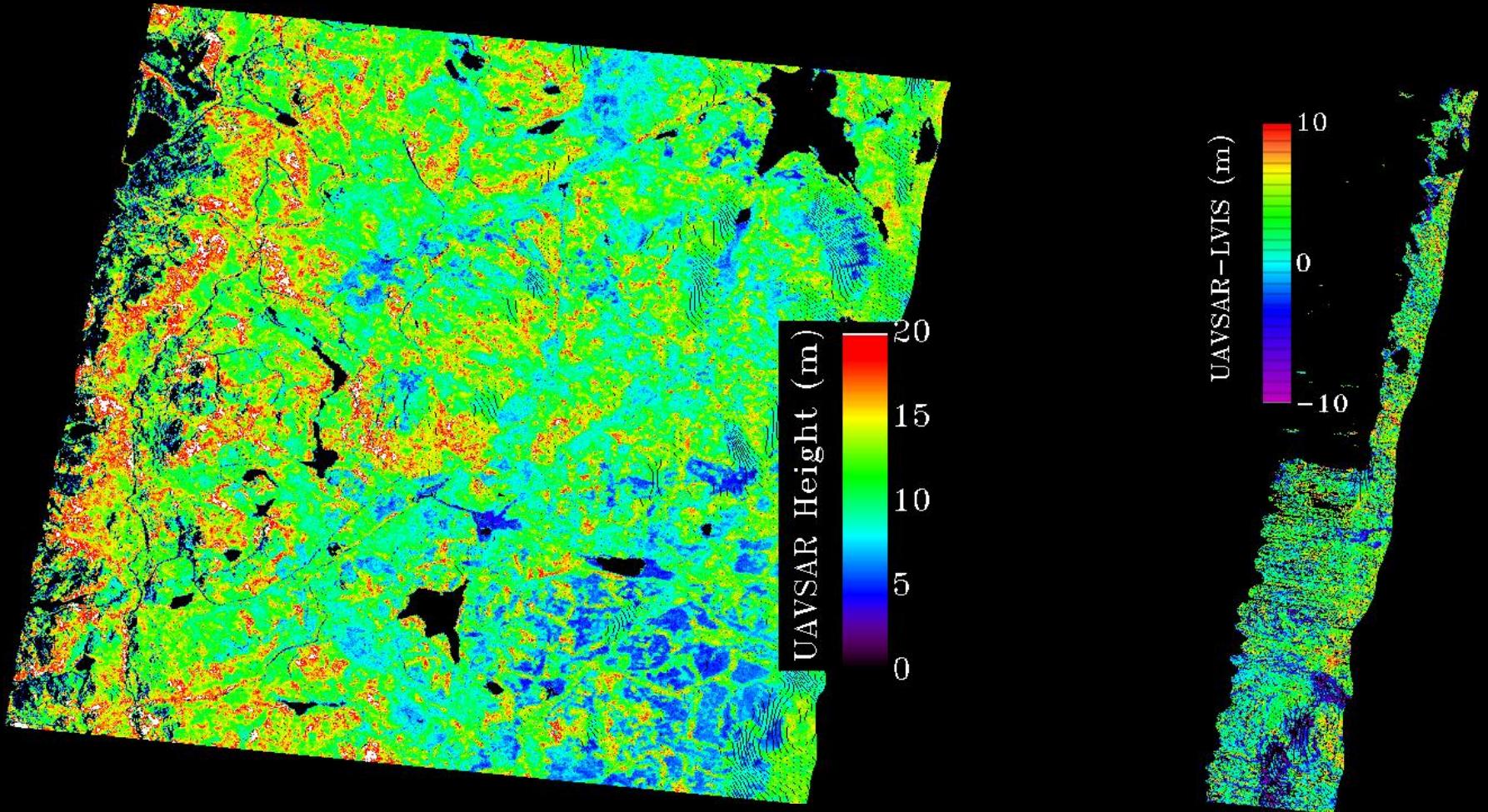


UAVSAR-LVIS Diff



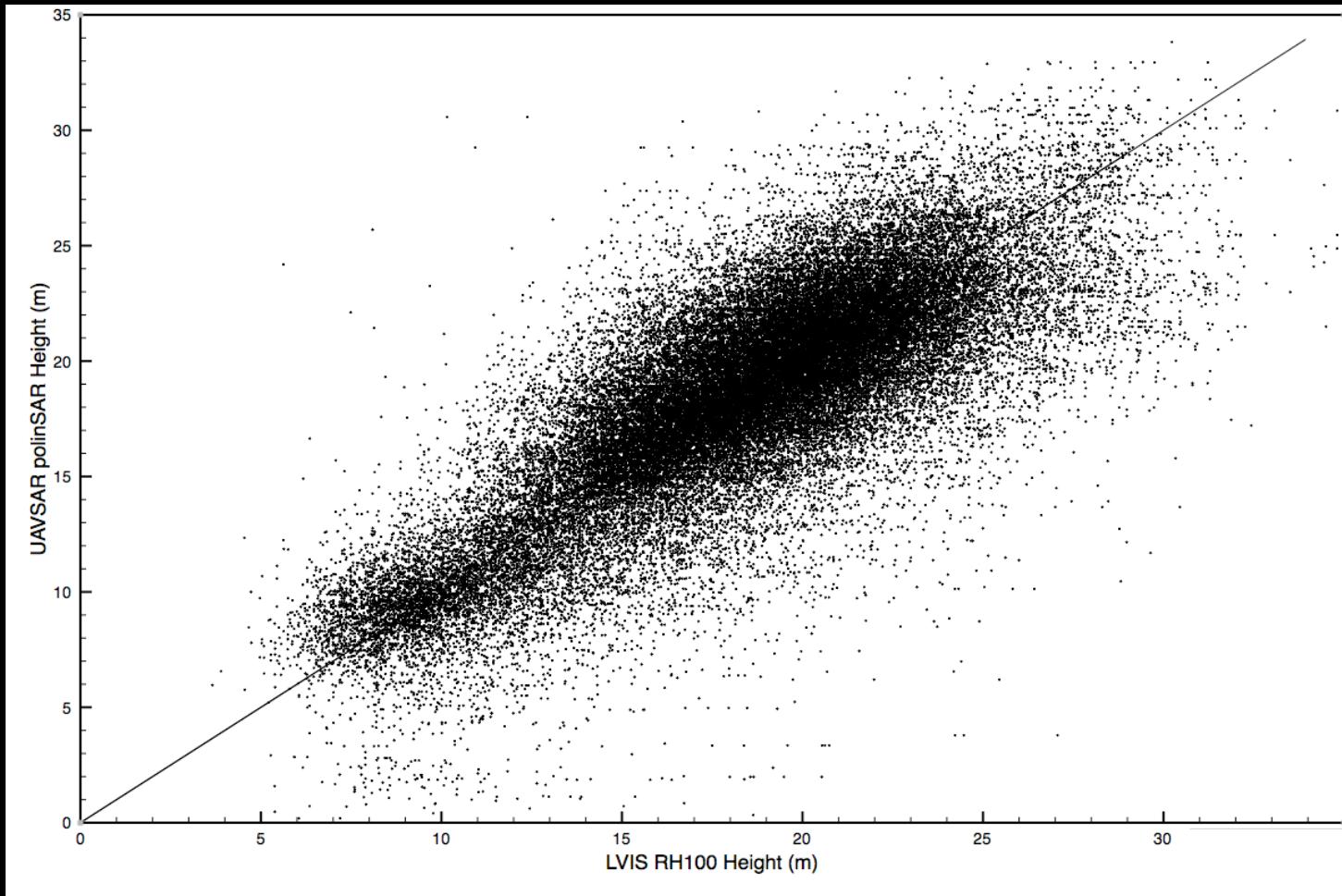
Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# Laurentides, Québec



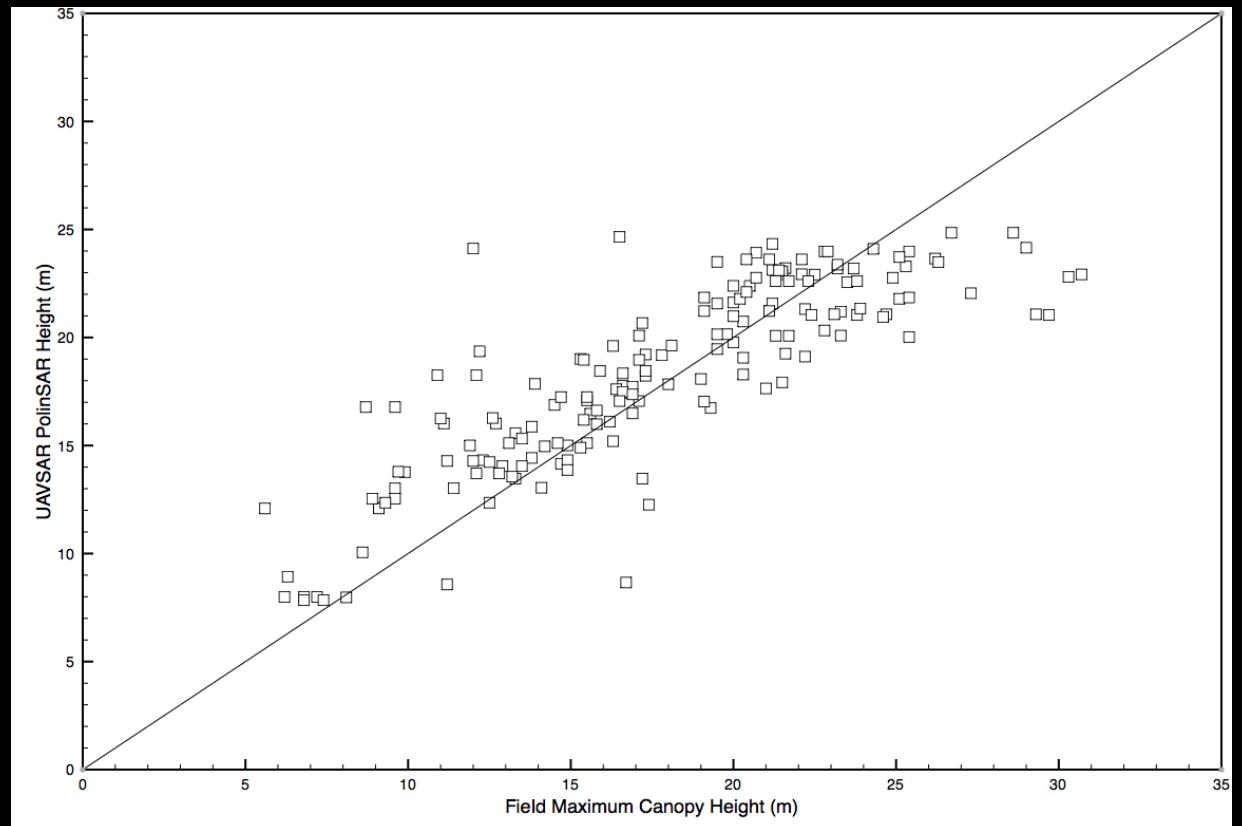
Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# PolinSAR inversion of canopy Height

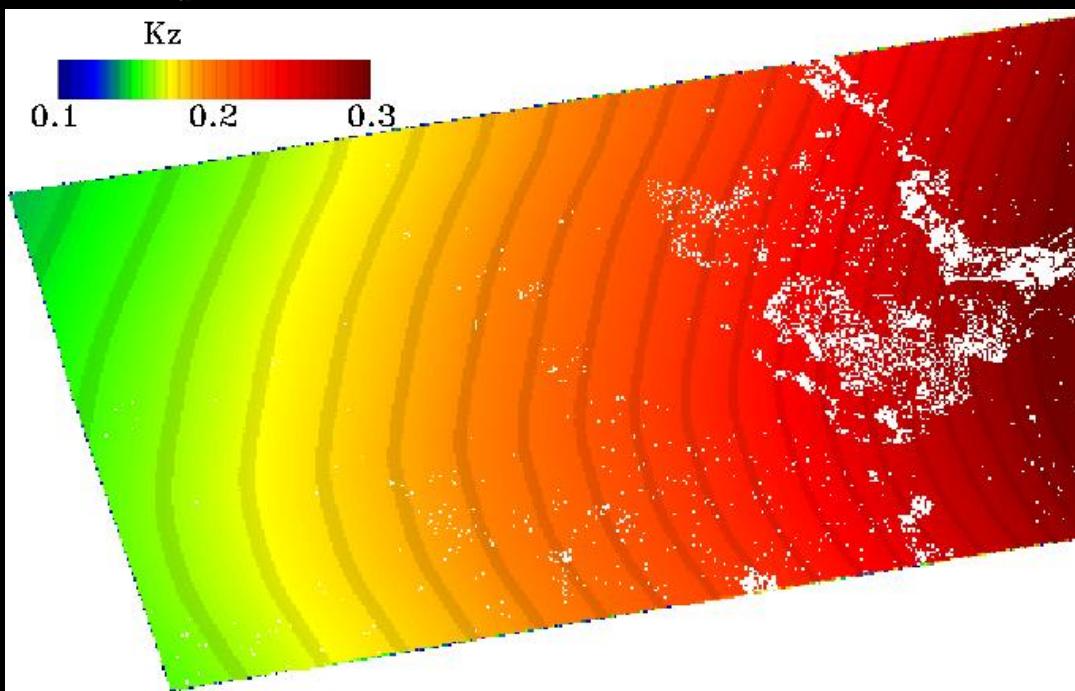
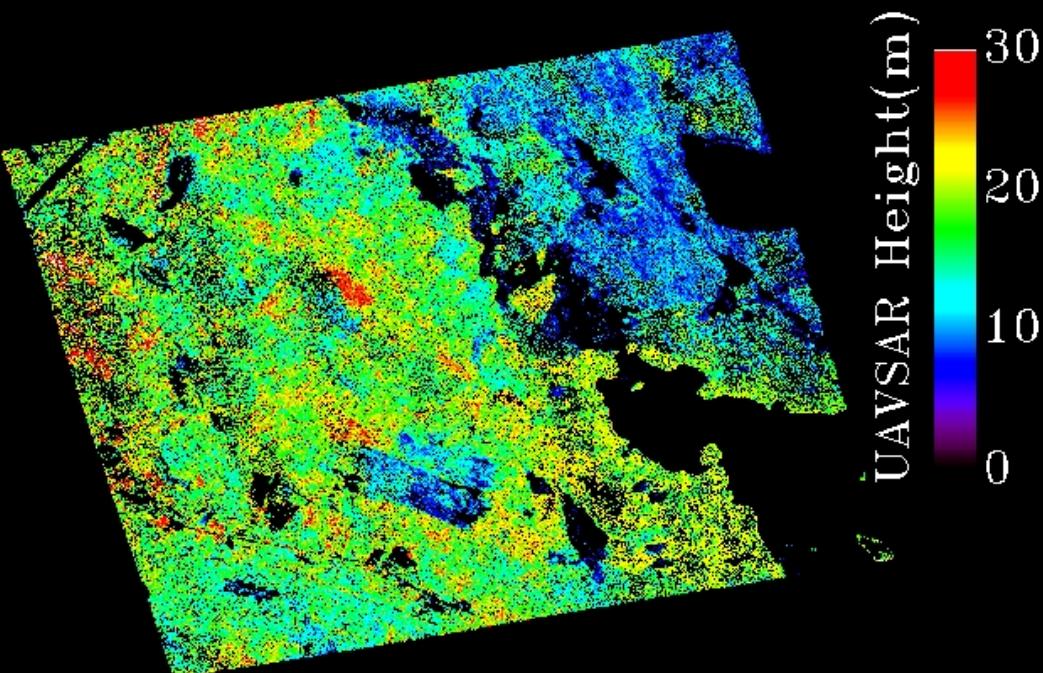


Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# UAVSAR polinSAR vs Field Height

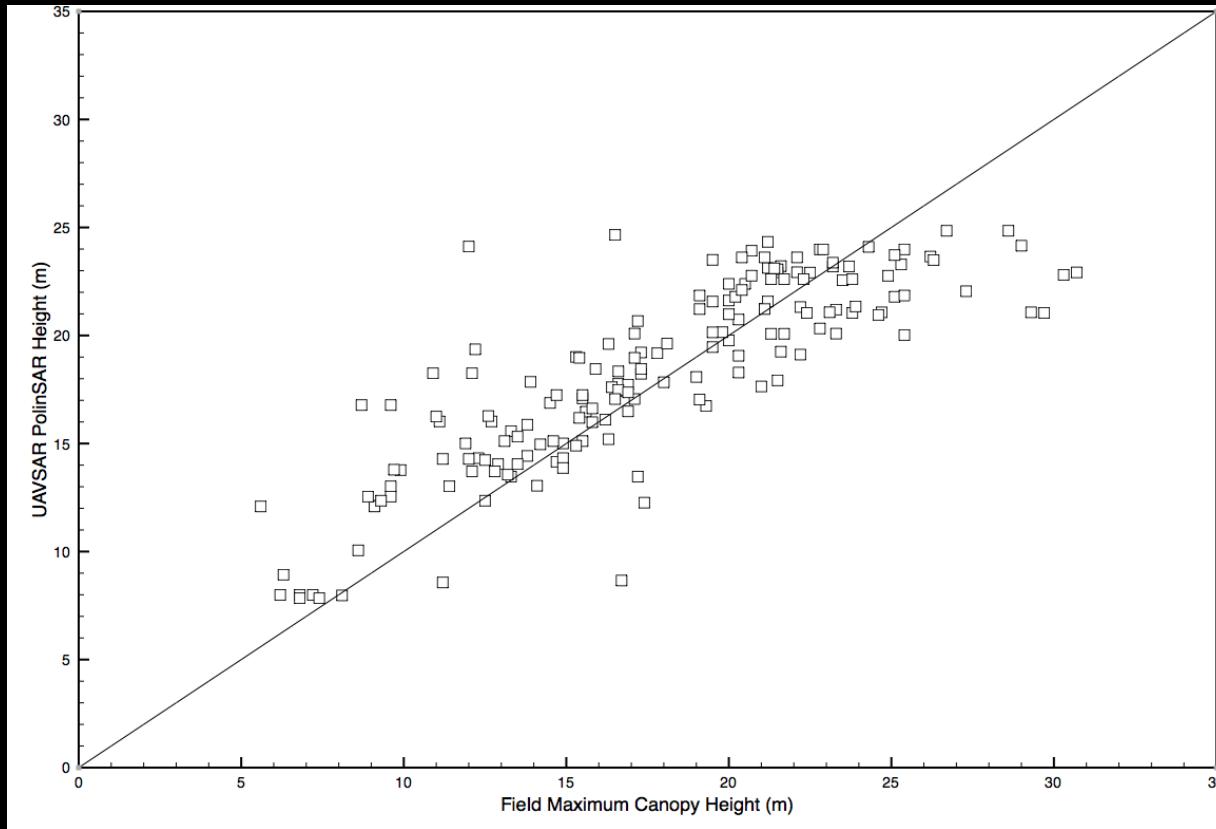


Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

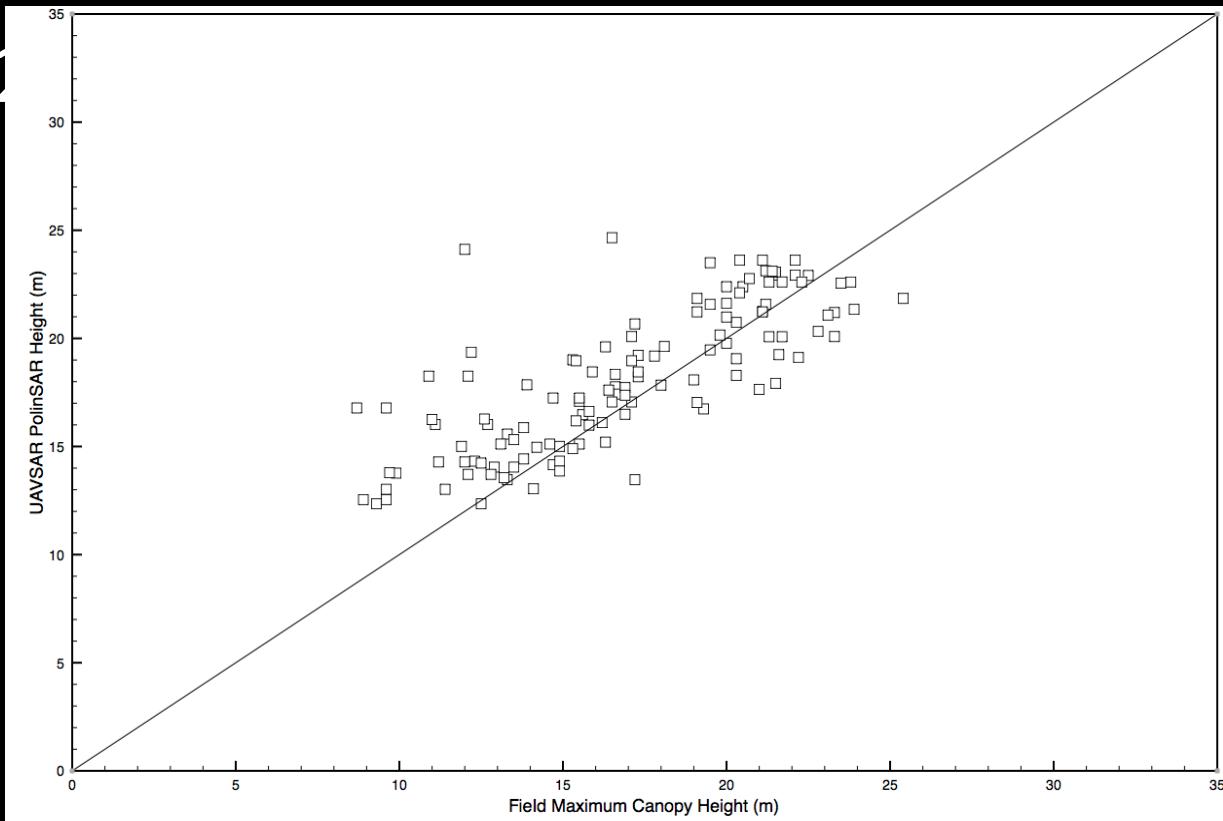
# UAVSAR polinSAR vs Field Height



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# UAVSAR polinSAR vs Field Height

- $K_z < 0.1$



Marc.simard@jpl.nasa.gov

# Conclusion

- We empirically estimated the impact of temporal decorrelation on interferometric coherence and identified a few causes
- We successfully performed polinSAR inversion of canopy height using repeat-pass UAVSAR data
- Future: Continue analysis of the impact of  $K_z$ , extinction, temporal decorrelation and spatial resolution
- Process other sites

