

The background features a large, glowing blue globe of Earth with a network of blue lines and dots overlaid, suggesting a global data network. Three circular insets show satellite imagery: a glacier calving, a coastal erosion, and a tropical cyclone. The bottom of the image shows a turbulent ocean with white-capped waves.

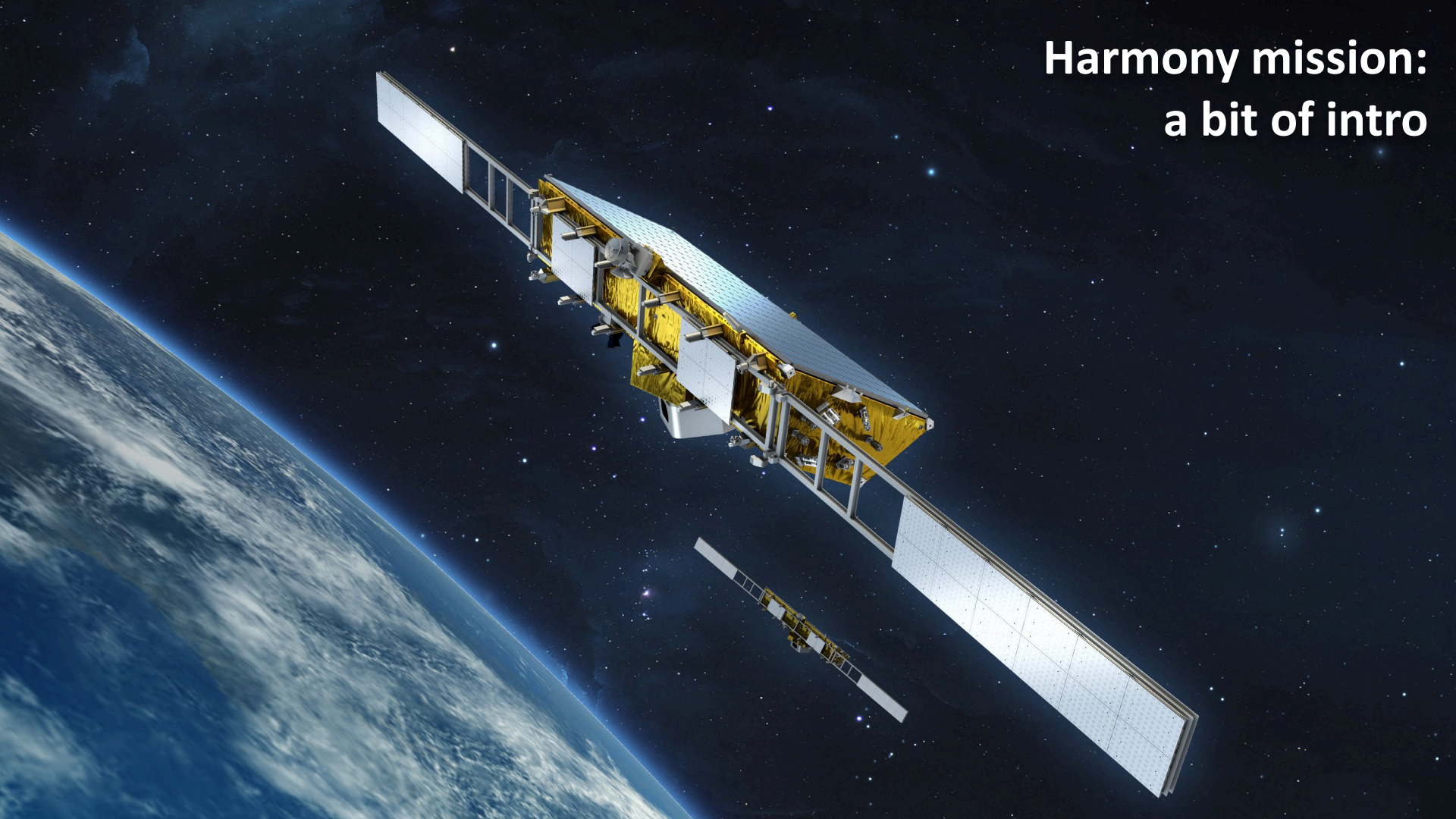
harmony

**TO RESOLVE STRESS  
IN THE EARTH SYSTEM**

**Harmony: science status overview**



# Harmony mission: a bit of intro



# A multi-domain “Earth System” mission



Upper oceans and ocean-atmosphere interactions



Land ice and sea ice

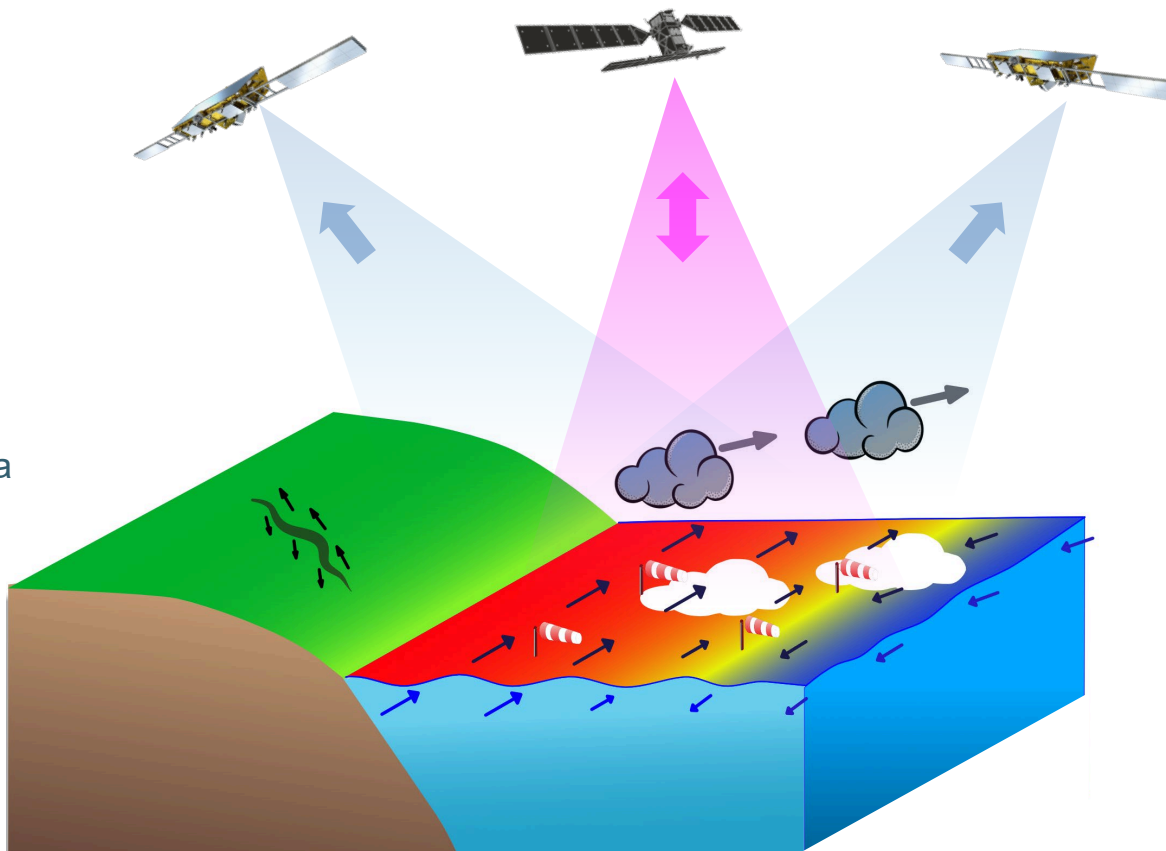


Tectonic strain and volcanic processes

# Observation concept: “stereo” phase

Line-of-sight diversity for high resolution

- 3-D surface deformation (DInSAR)
- **Ocean surface motion (Doppler)**
- **Surface winds (scatterometry)**
- Improved directional surface wave spectra
- Sea Surface (skin) temperature
- Cloud-top motion (TIR time-lapse) and height (TIR parallax)

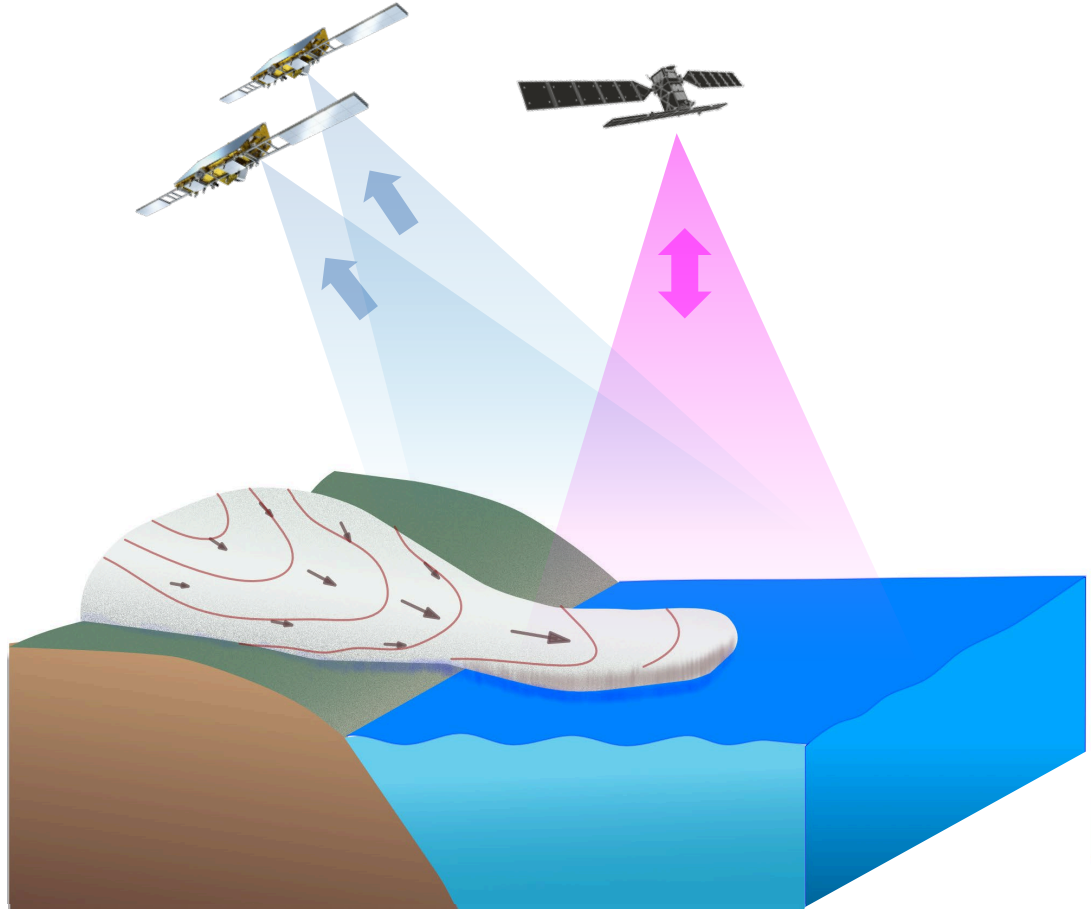




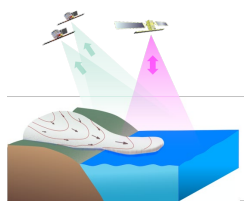
# Observation concept: close formation phase

Single-pass cross-track interferometer

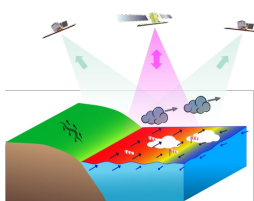
- 3-D surface deformation (as in Stereo)
- Surface elevation time-series
  - Glaciers, permafrost, icebergs
  - Volcanoes
- **Ocean-topography (experimental)**



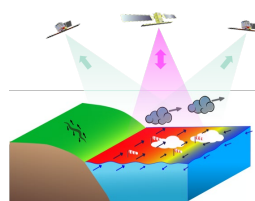
# Mission Timeline



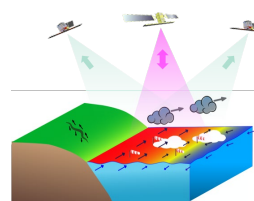
Y1



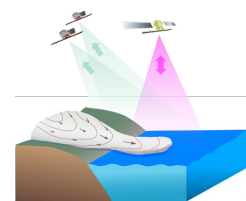
Y2



Y3



Y4



Y5

Ice Volume change

Glacier dynamics

Ice Volume change

Glacier dynamics

3-D Ice surface motion

Air-sea interactions

Atmosphere-ocean-extremes (Tropical Cyclones, Polar lows, etc)

Upper ocean dynamics

Tectonic Strain (3-D deformation)

Exp. Ocean topography

Exp. Ocean topography

Vol. change (volcanoes)

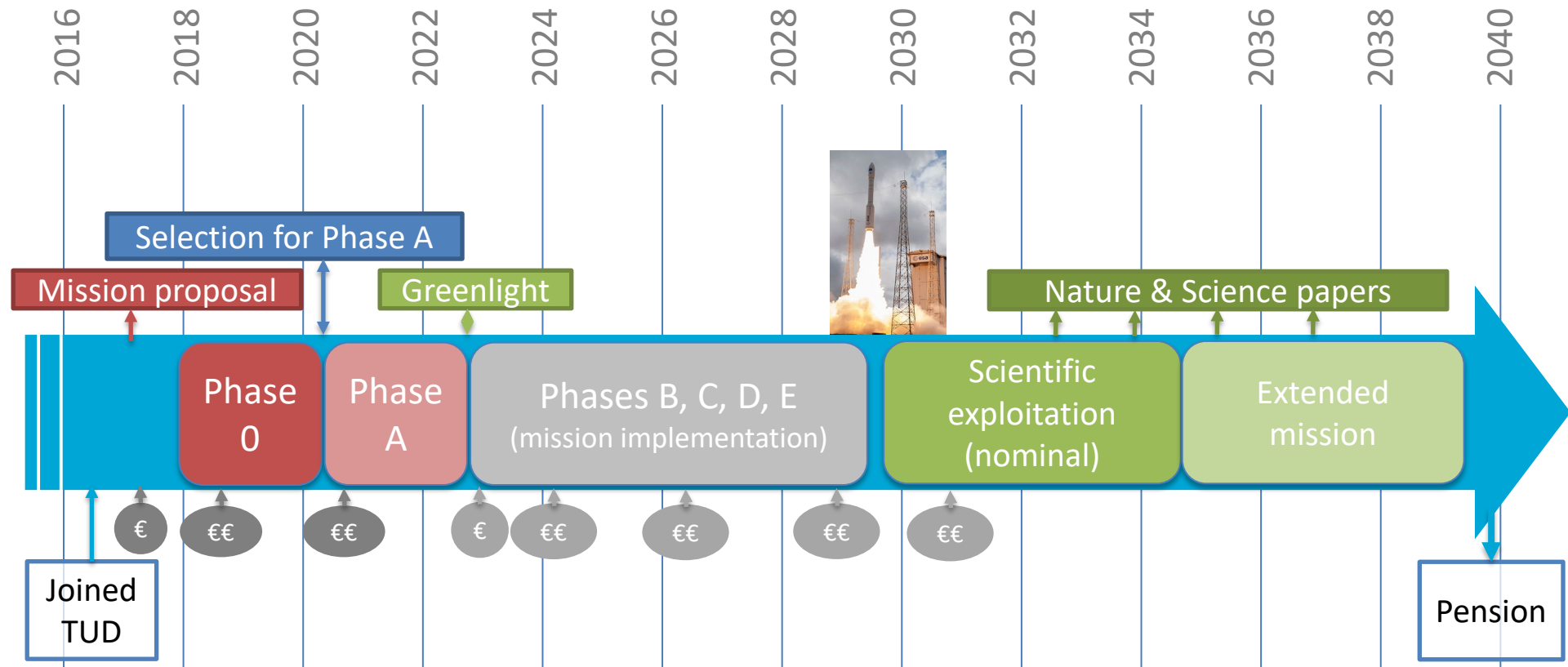
Vol. change (volcanoes)

Iceberg volume

Sea-ice instantaneous motion/deformation

Iceberg motion

# Timeline

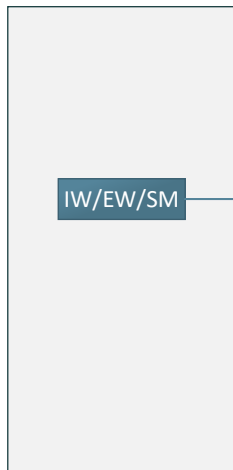




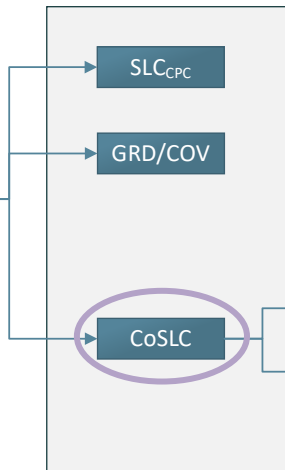
DLR

# Land Products

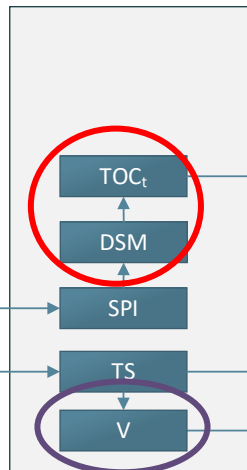
## L0 Product Type



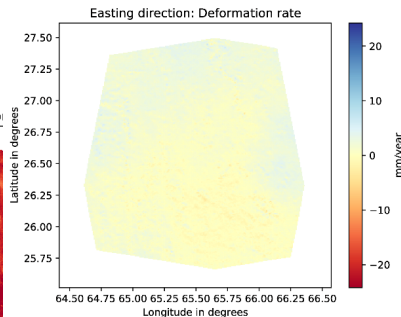
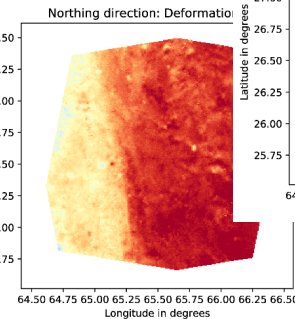
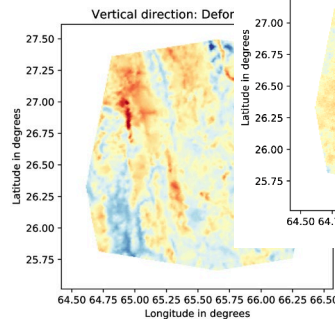
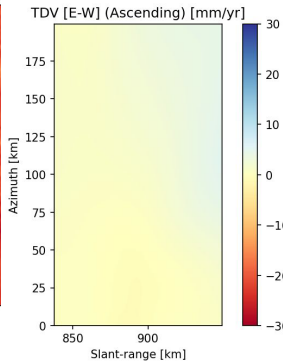
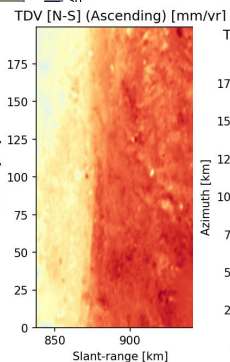
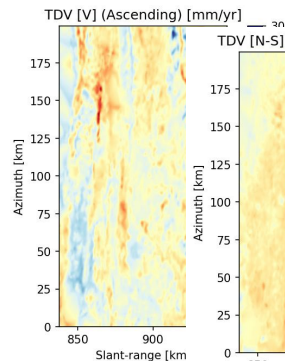
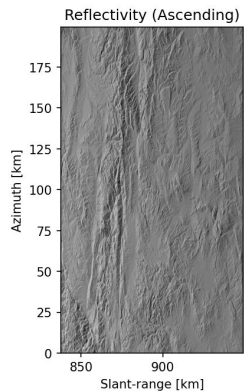
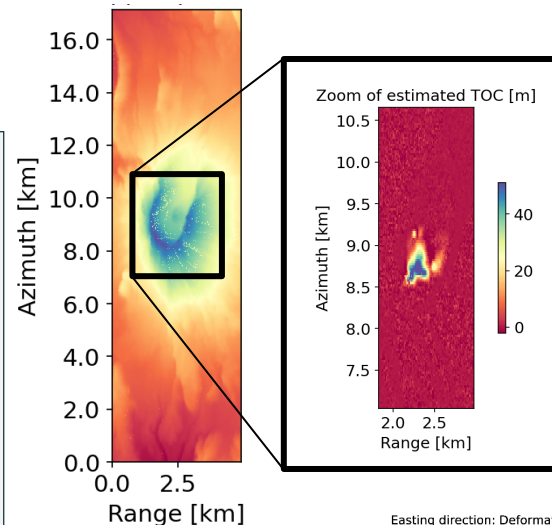
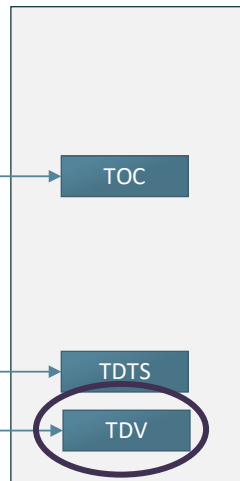
## L1 Product Type



## L2 Product Type



## L3 Product Type





# Challenges for Land Applications

## End-to-End Simulation, Processing, Calibration

- System calibration, especially clock synchronization, XTI and ATI baseline calibration
- Calibration of L1/L2/L3 products
- Efficient simulation of raw products including more representative instrument characterization and scenes generation
- Efficient SAR image formation under large bistatic angles

## Science

- Refine priority areas for all applications taking into account system constraints
- Cal/Val strategy

# Way Forward for Land Applications

## HEEPS/Terra: End-to-End Simulation

- Improve system characterization (instrument, antenna, orbit, attitude)
- Improve forward models (snow/ice, dispersive ionosphere)
- Accurate reverse processing kernel for raw data generation of extended scenes (topography, antenna)

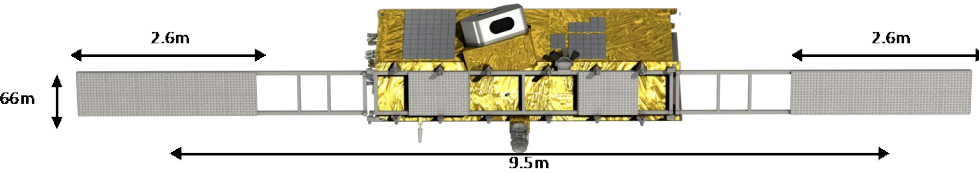
## L1/L2/L3 Algorithms

- Consolidate ATBDs
- Implement breadboard processors: L1, InSAR chain, DEM retrieval chain, PSI chain
- Investigate calibration approaches for L2/L3 products (DEM calibration, penetration bias, residual synchronization errors)

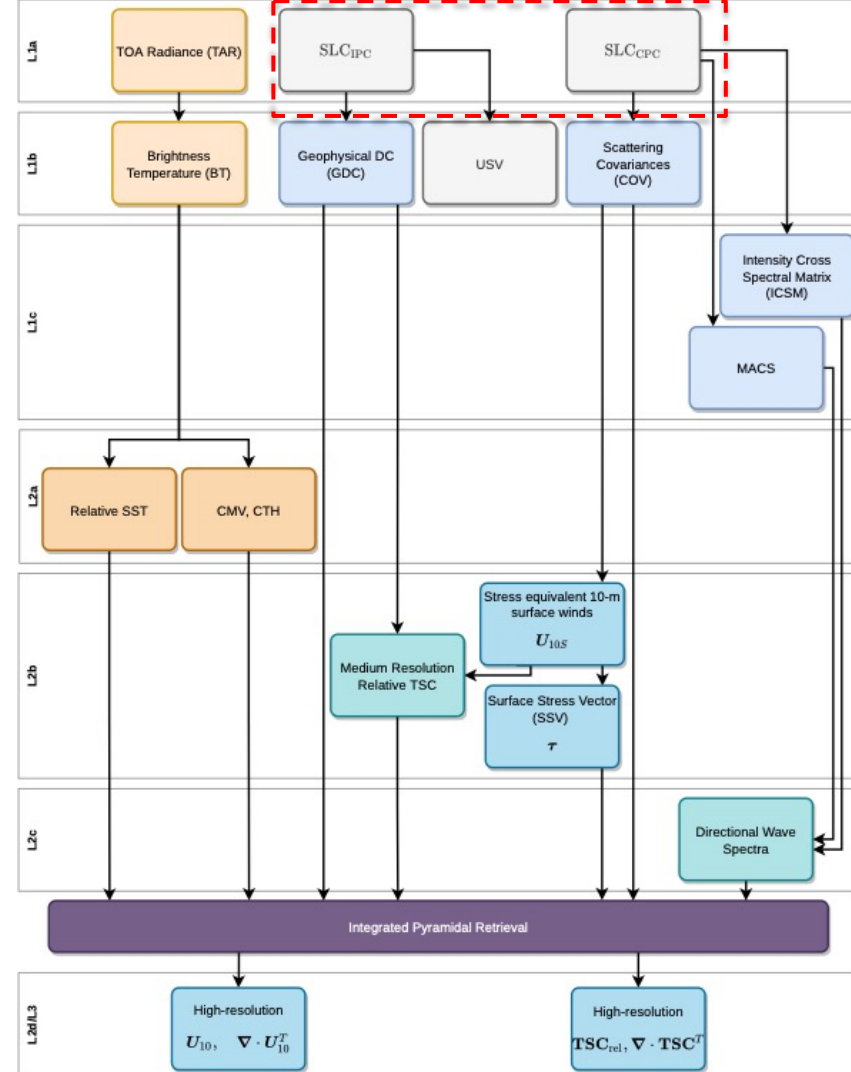
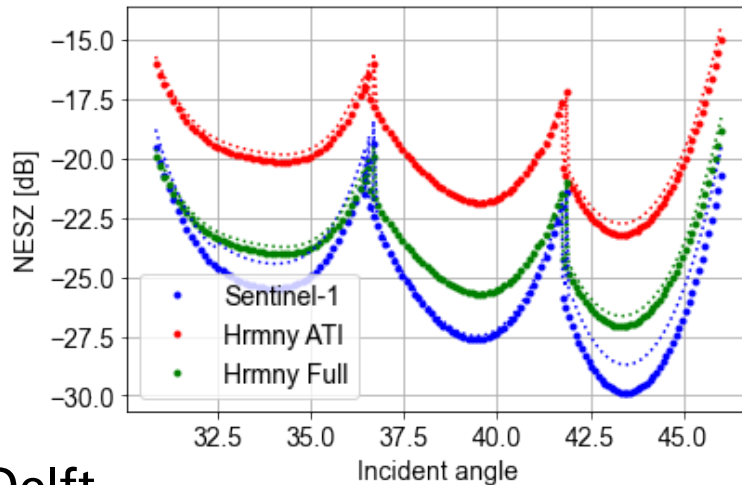
## Science

- Consolidate requirements: refine priority areas (masks), temporal sampling requirements, seasonal dependency, complementarity with other sensors (e.g., altimetry for inland regions for land ice)
- Consolidate helix formation and DEM acquisition strategy for XTI phase
- Consolidate representative scenarios and scenes for the end-to-end simulation
- Conduct performance campaign in view of system CDR

# For oceans & air-sea



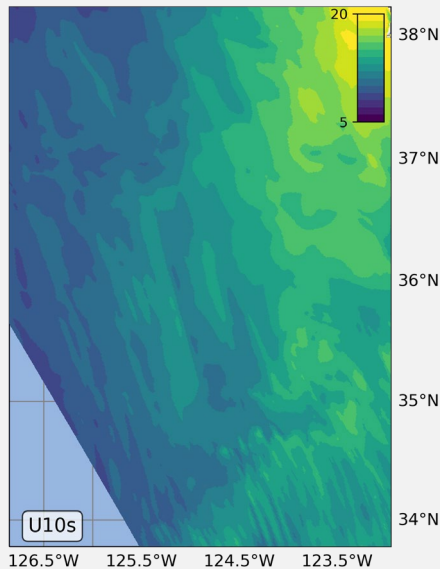
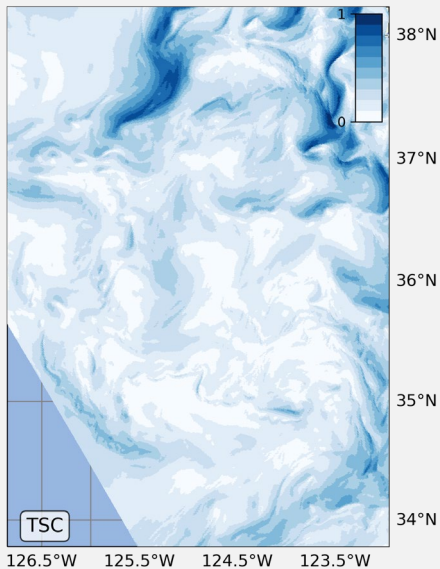
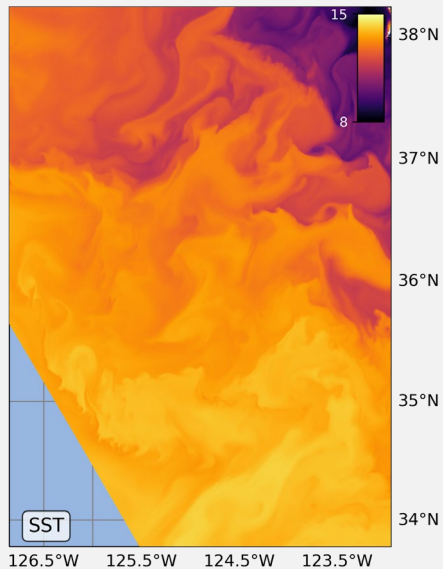
- Two types of SLC
  - Individual Phase Center  $\rightarrow$  ATI
  - Combined (DBF)  $\rightarrow$  everything else



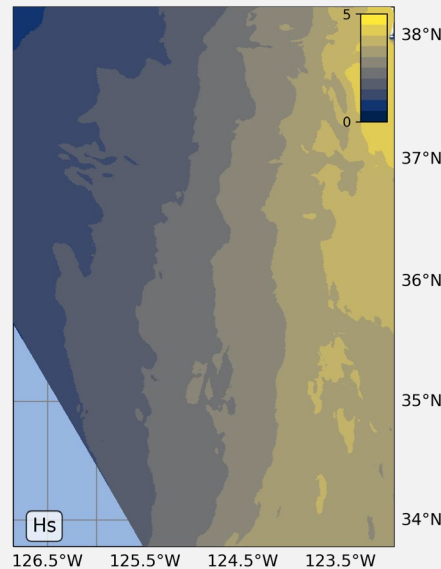


# Example input: California Coastal System ROMS

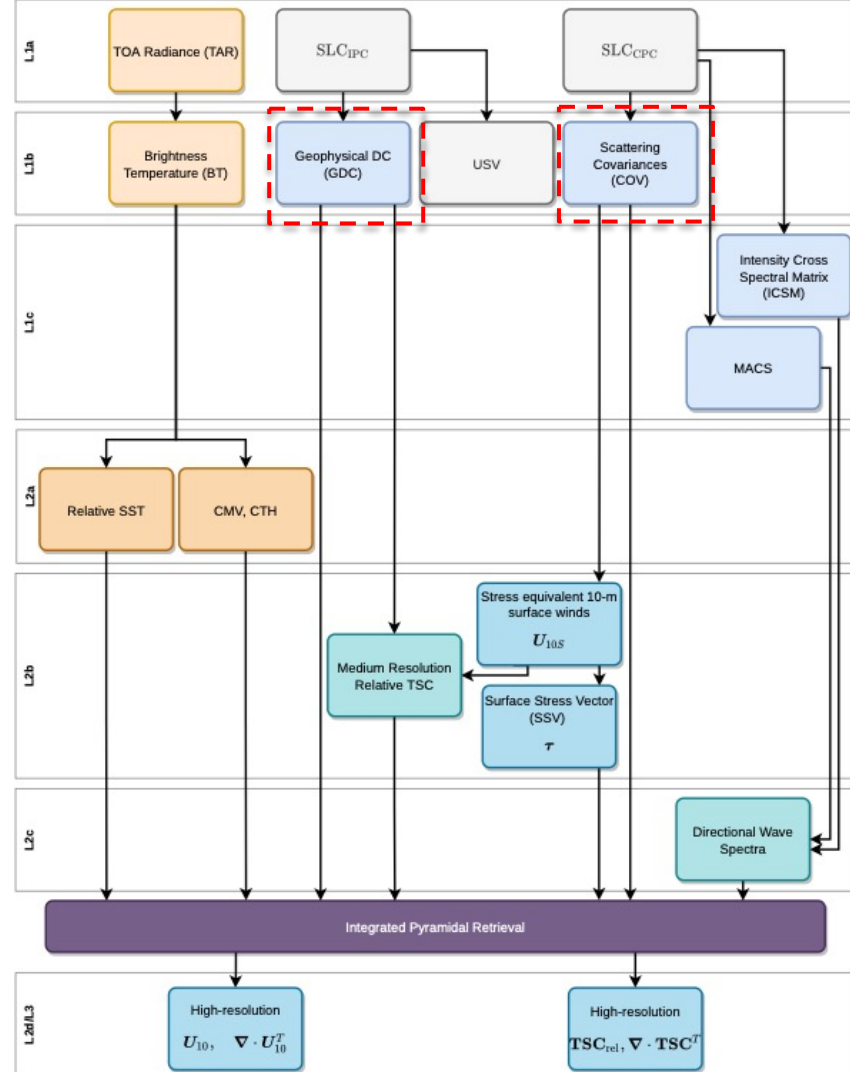
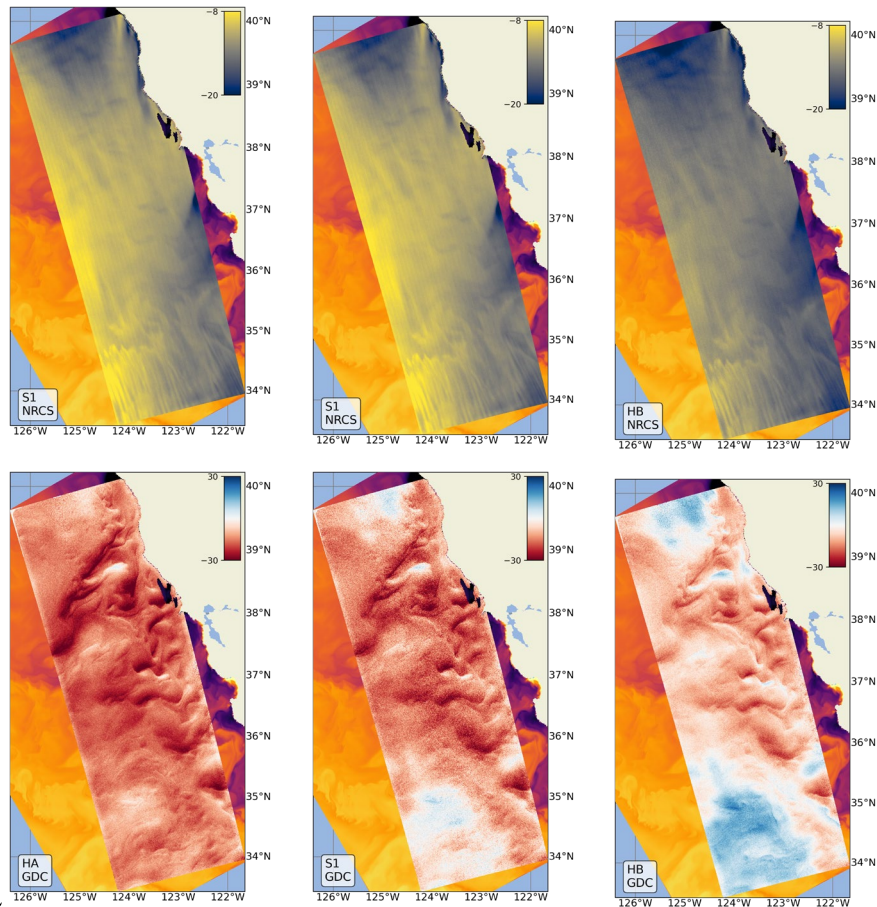
ROMS



SWAN

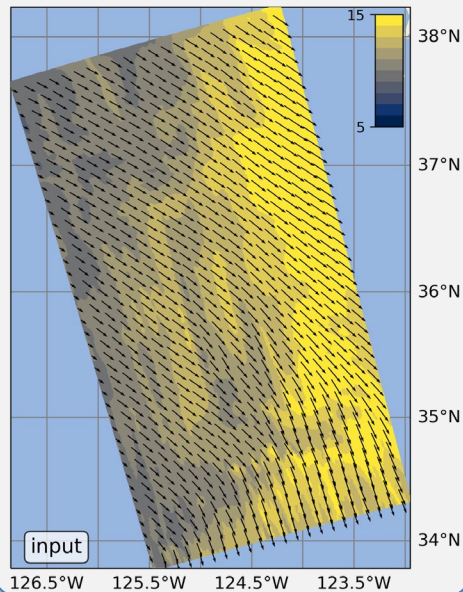


# For oceans & air-sea: L1b-c

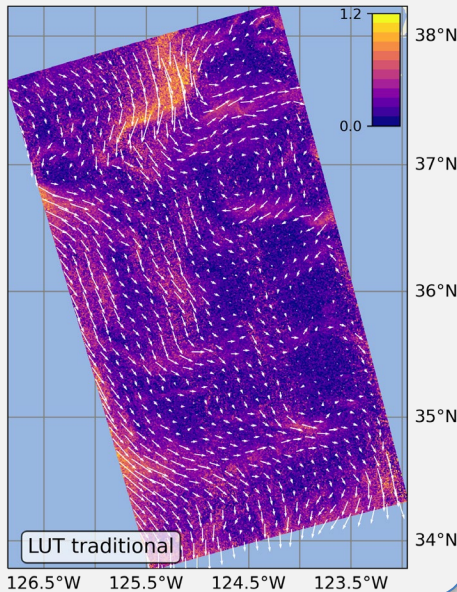
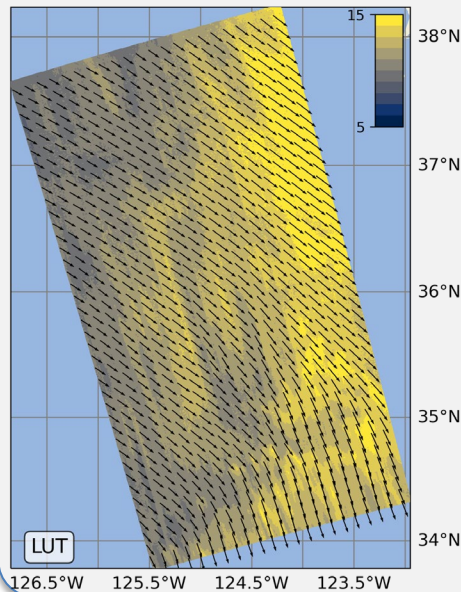


# Retrieval

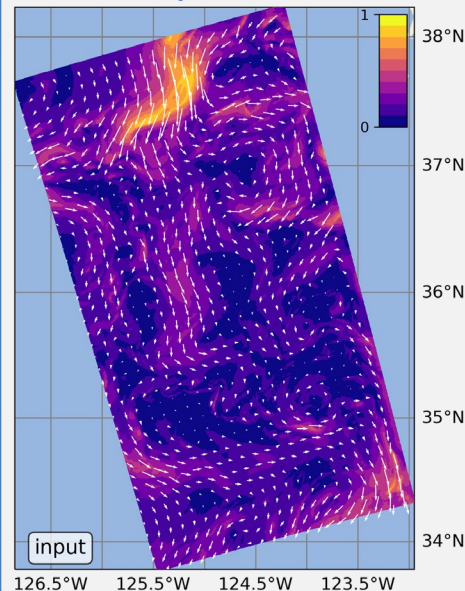
Input  $U_{10s}$



Naive GMF-based forward/inverse



Input TSC



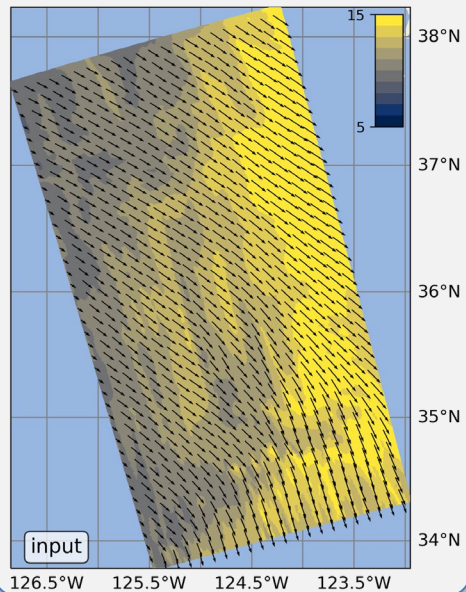
Instrument (SNR, geometry) performance:

- TSC: O(15 cm/s) at 2x2 km<sup>2</sup>
- $U_{10s}$ : O(5%) at 1x1 km<sup>2</sup>

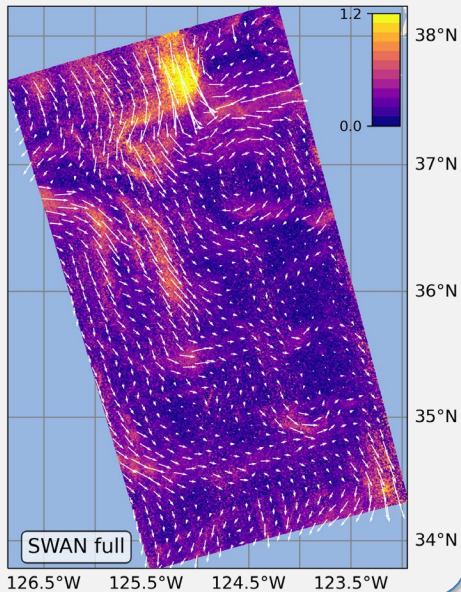
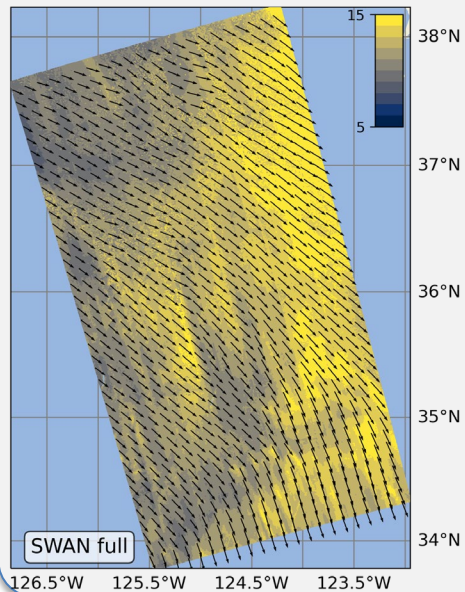


# Retrieval

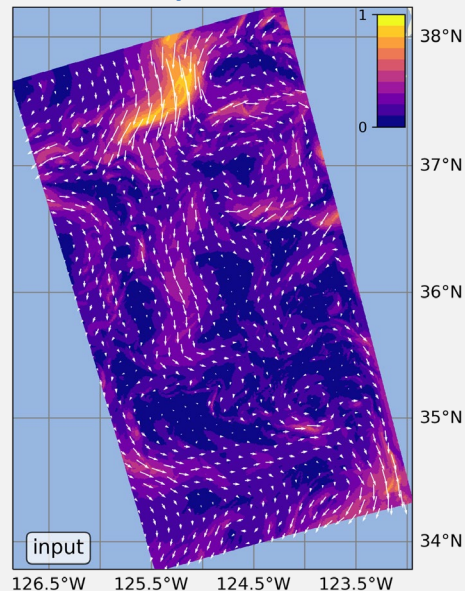
Input  $U_{10s}$



Full forward, best-effort retrieval

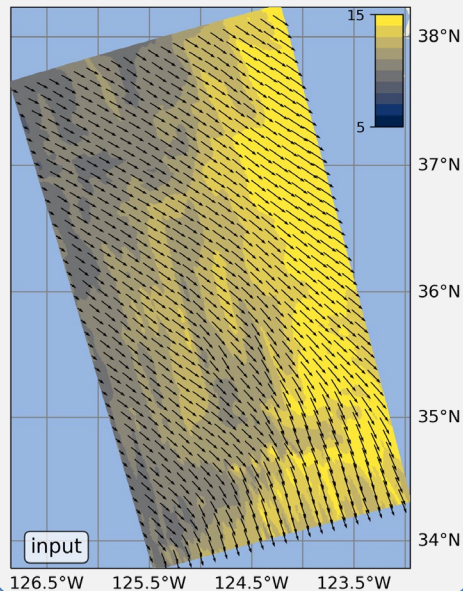


Input TSC

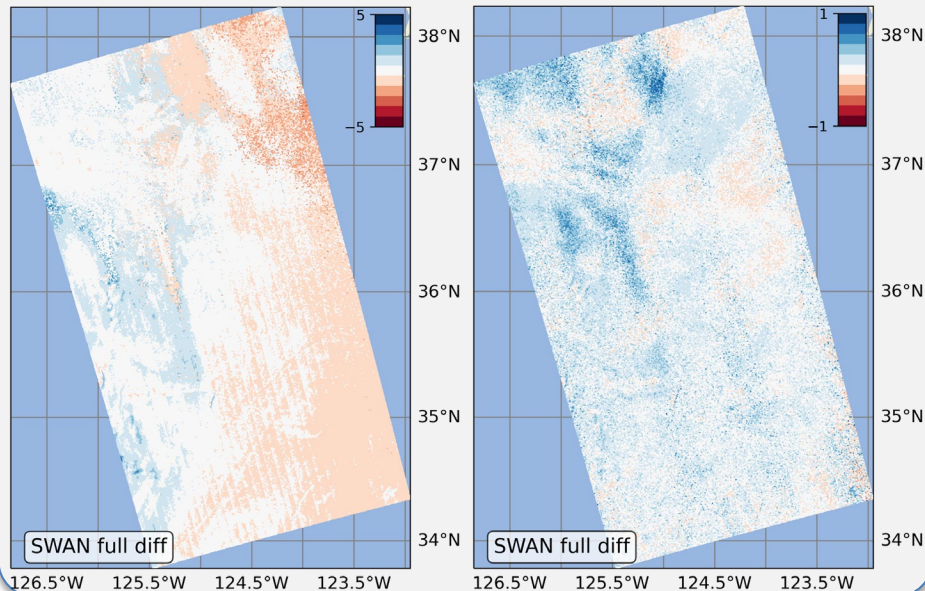


# Retrieval

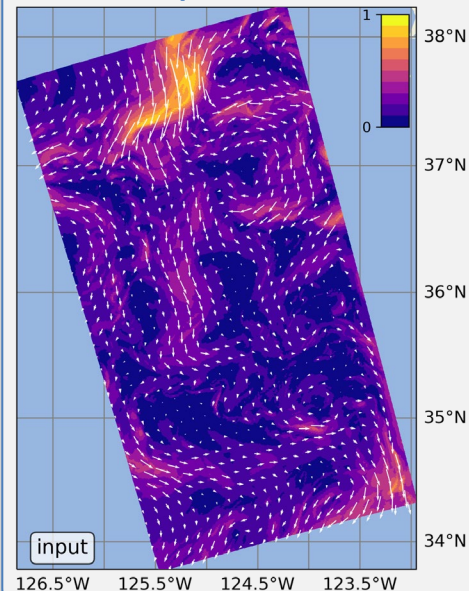
Input  $U_{10s}$



$U_{10s}$  and TSC magnitude errors



Input TSC



- Performance mostly limited by difficulties in inversion near strong gradients.
- To be expected, but to be worked on.

# Challenges for ocean and air-sea applications

## System level

- Pointing → ATI phase errors → Velocity errors
- Synchronization
- Calibration → wrong NRCS → biased  $U_{10s}$

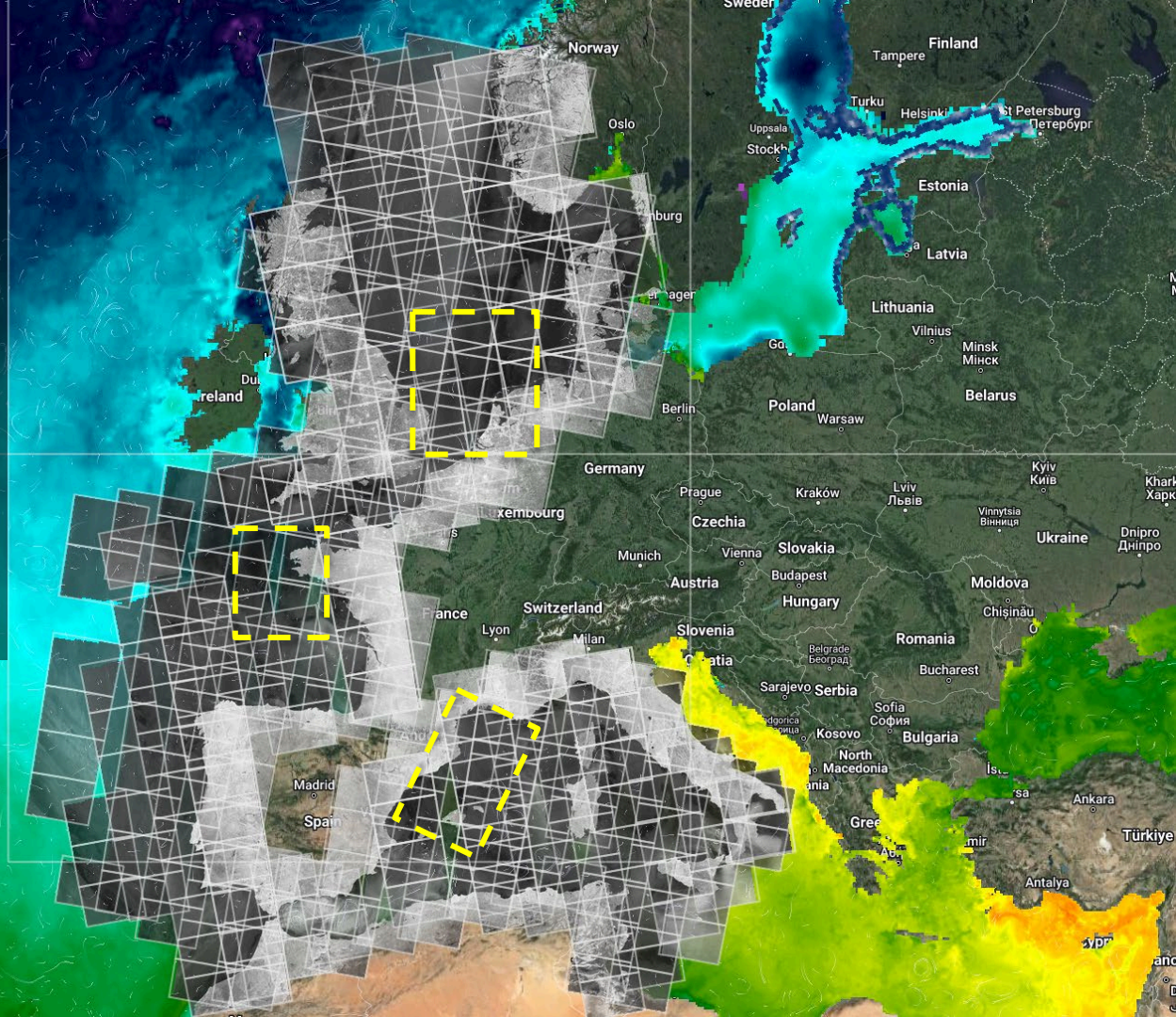
## Science (inversion)

- Lack of accurate Geophysical Model Functions:  
$$\vec{\sigma}_0, \vec{v}_{Dop} = G(\vec{U}_{10s}, \vec{V}_{TSC}, \text{wave age}, \dots, \text{geometry})$$
- Corresponding uncertainty in inversion
- Residual calibration issues

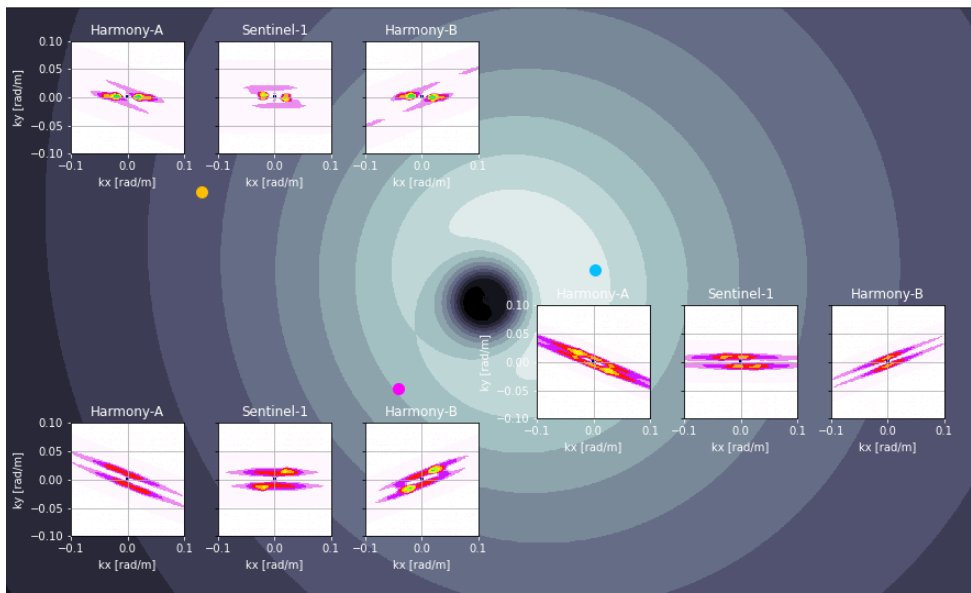


## (Potential) (Virtual) CalVal sites:

- Brittany (models by Ifremer)
- Western Med (ICM, SOCIB, Ifremer)
- Dutch North Sea (Deltares/KNMI/TU Delft)
- ???



# Also for ocean-atmosphere extremes



Potential observations of the TC core

## Potential observations of a TC wake

