

# Monitoring the forest using the ALOS

M. Shimada

JAXA/EORC

Feb. 5 2009

# The Advanced Land Observation Satellite - ALOS



PALSAR

L-band (23.6 cm)

Synthetic Aperture Radar

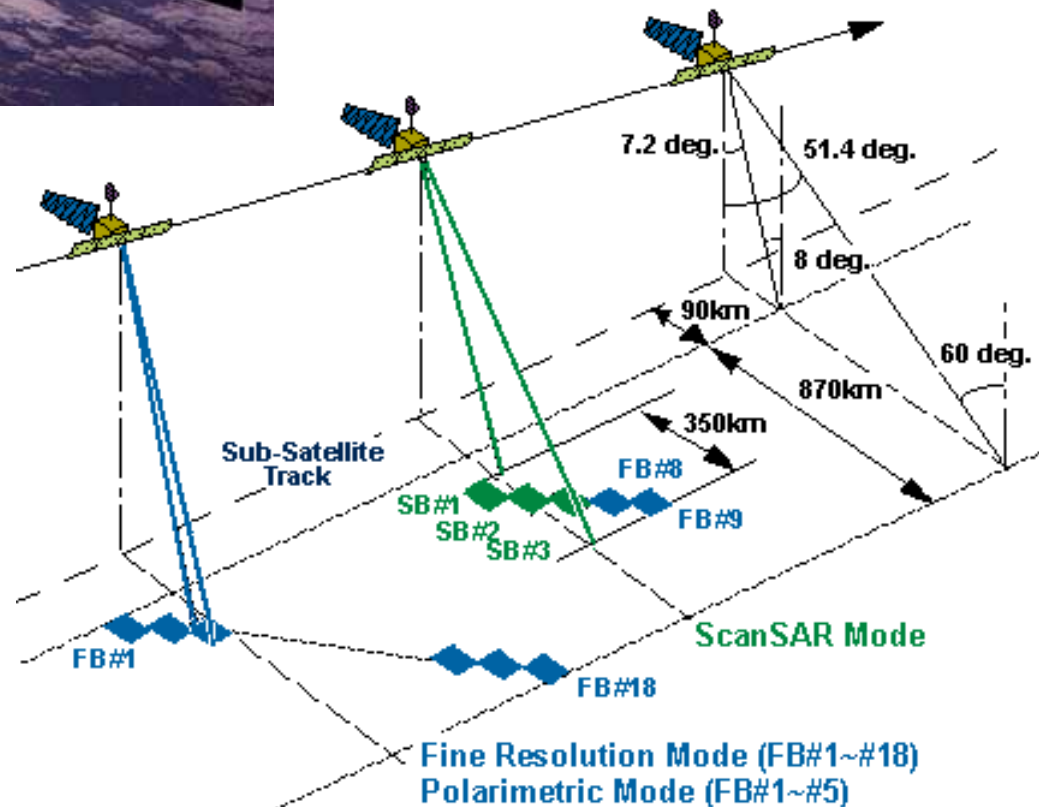
Polarimetry

Dual Polarization

SCANSAR



Launch:  
24 Jan. 2006



ALOS  
K&C

# Forest monitoring and the K&C initiative

The Kyoto & Carbon Initiative is an international collaborative project forming the continuation and extension of the JERS-1 SAR GRFM/GMFM project into the end of the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-ALOS and as far as possible.

Aims to support information needs posed by the “3C’s”

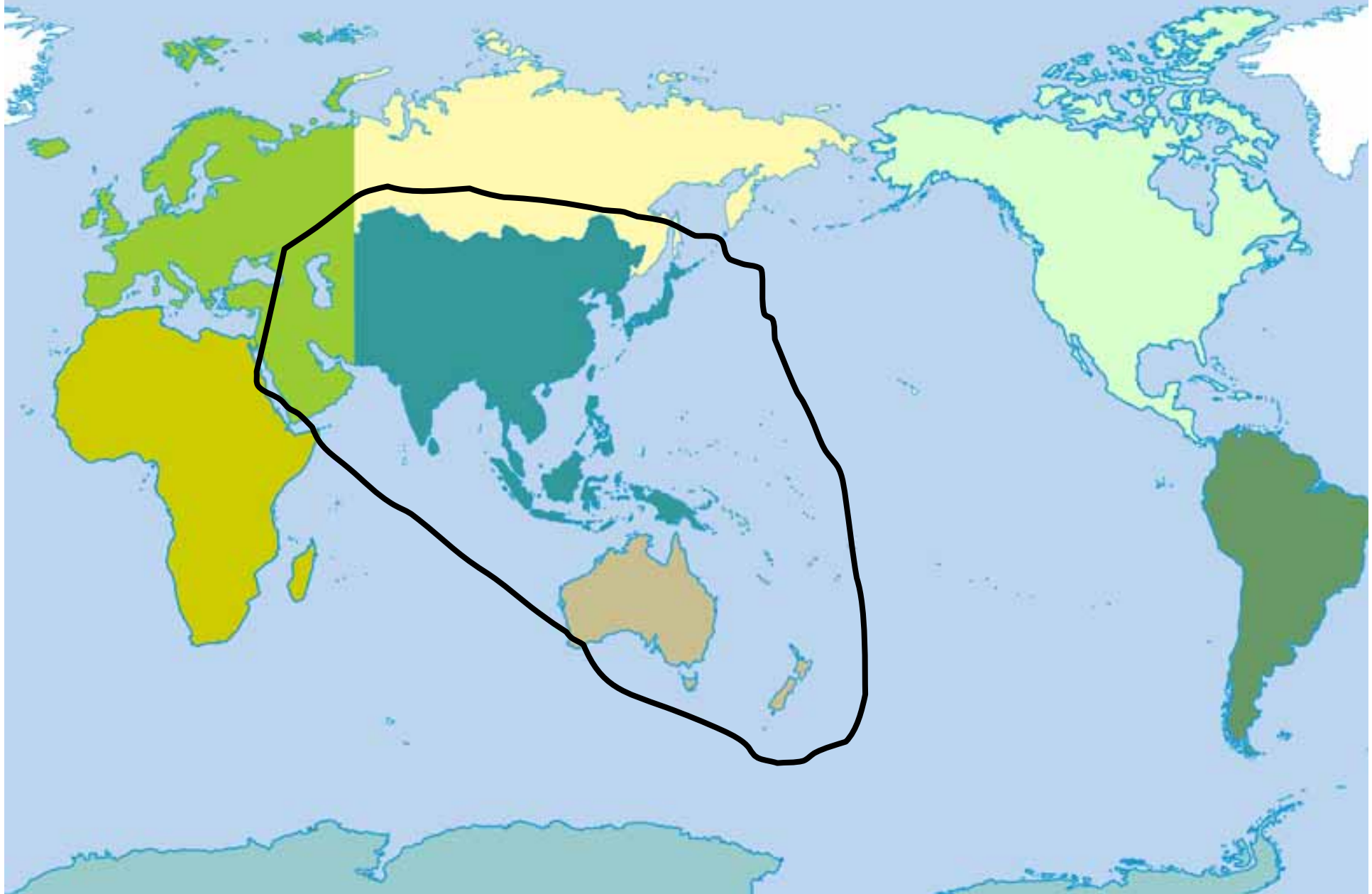
- The terrestrial Carbon cycle science community (CO<sub>2</sub> & CH<sub>4</sub> sources and sinks);
- Multinational Environmental Conventions and Declarations:
  - UNFCCC Kyoto protocol (Forest and land cover change)
  - Ramsar Convention (wetland characteristics and disturbances)
  - UN Millennium Declaration & UNCCD(water supply and desertification)
- Environmental Conservation

## Feature of the L-band SAR on ALOS

Longer wave length and better discrimination of the forest clear cut.

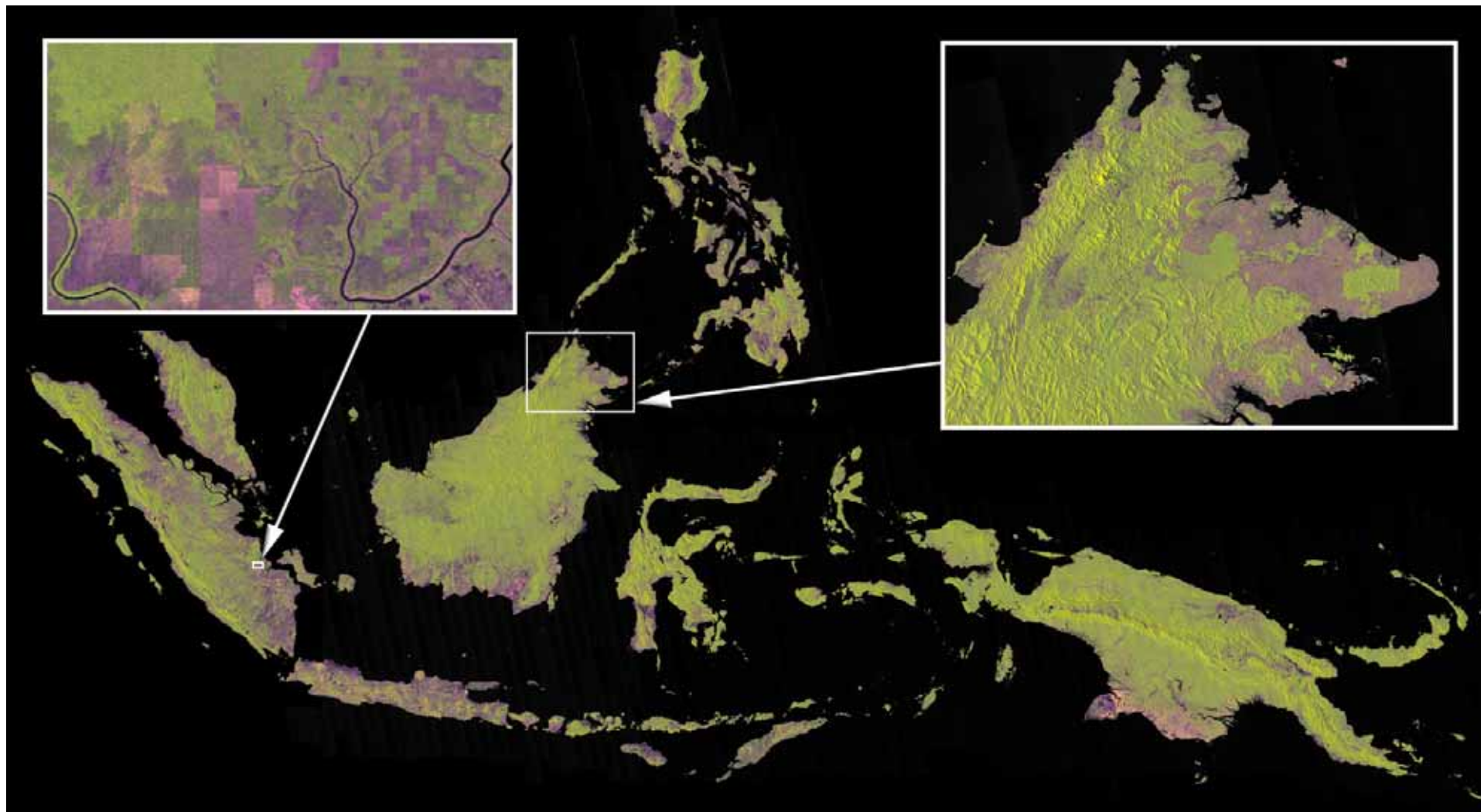


## JAXA's coverage of the mosaic generation



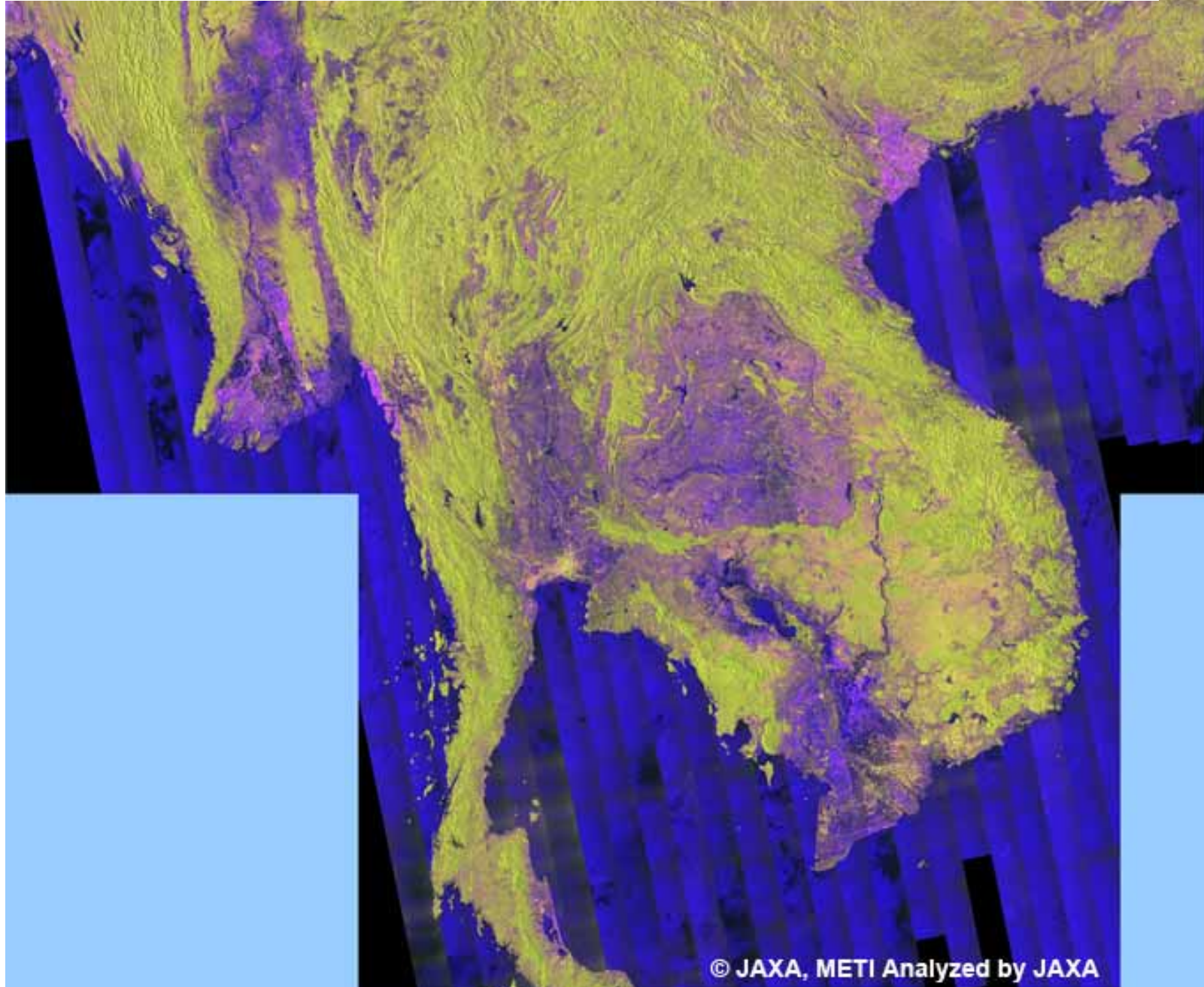
# SE products (1): 2007 summer: Sigma-naught

HH, HV, HH/HV



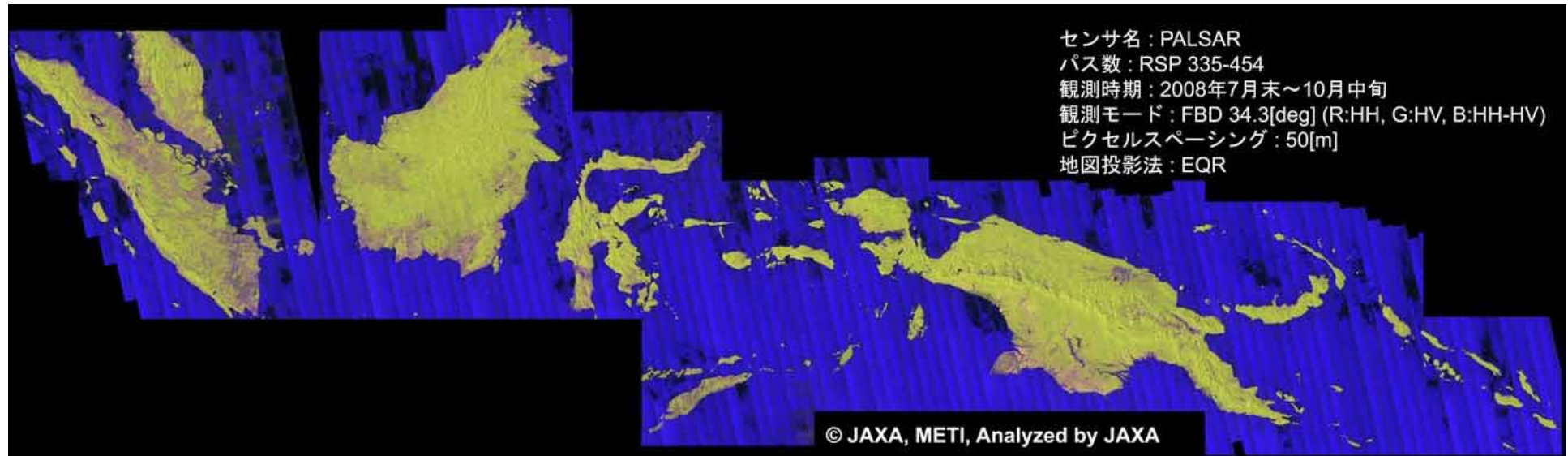


## SE products (2) : 2007 summer:Gamma-naught

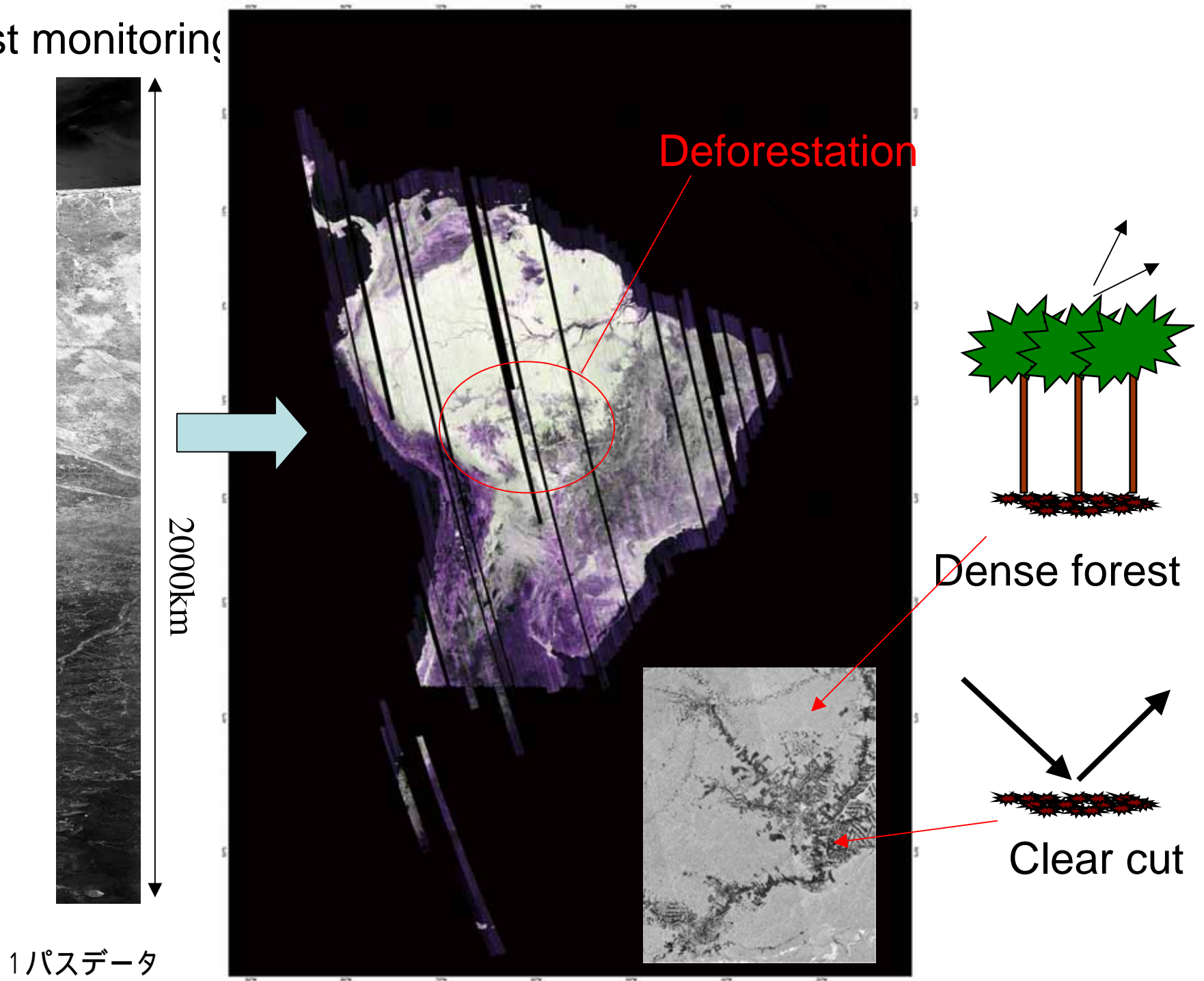


## 3 . 2 . 2 . 4 Forest mosaic

South east asis mosaic 2008



# Forest monitoring





# Amazon Deforest Watch (Santarem) JERS-1 & ALOS

## Acquisition Term

1993/6/26  
~ 2007/9/13

### JERS-1

- 1993/6/26
- 1997/5/4
- 1997/7/31

### ALOS

- 2007/6/13
- 2007/9/13

Lat : S 2 ° 34  
Lon : W 54 ° 45

© JAXA,METI



# SCANSAR Examples

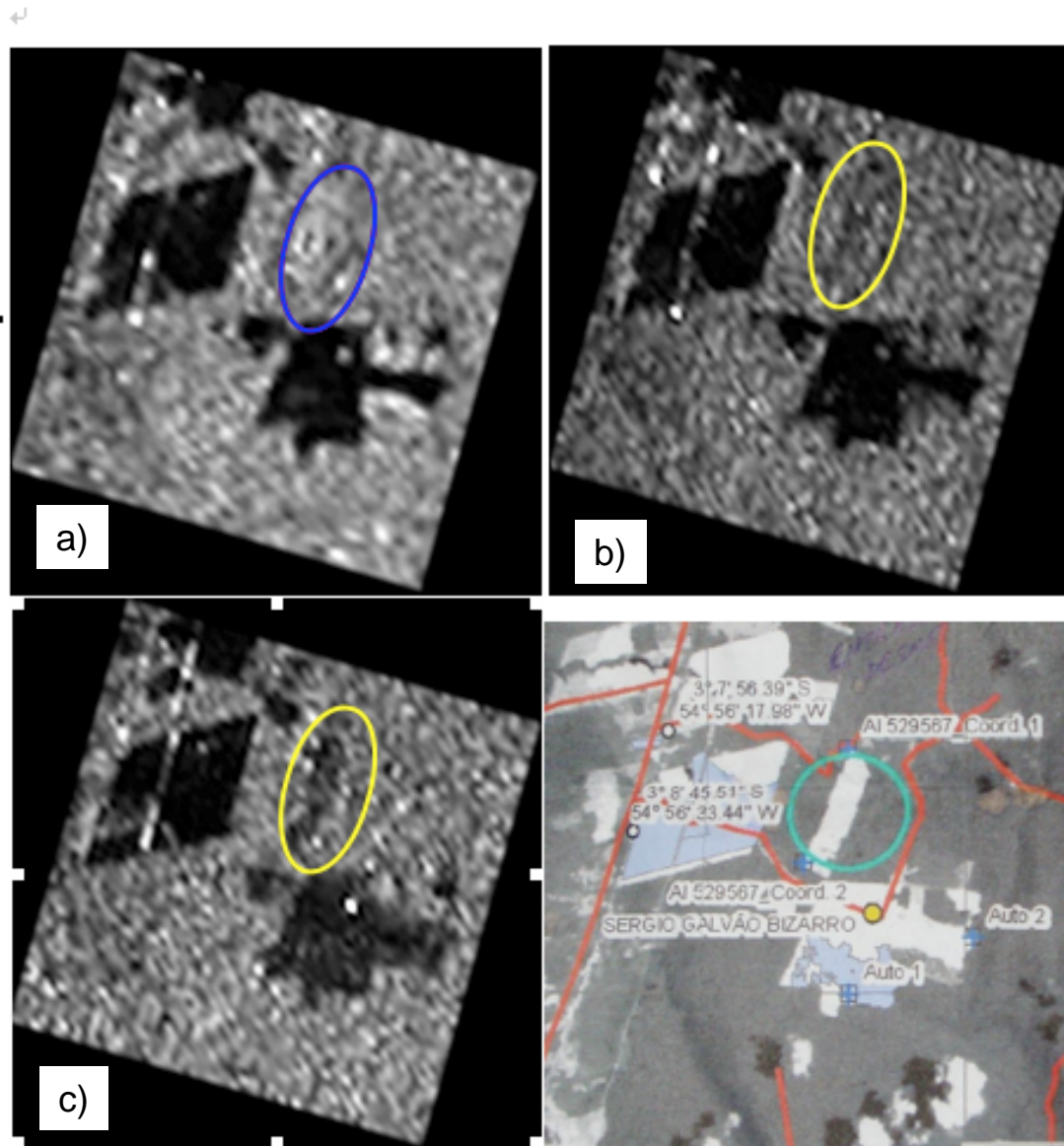


図 5 左上 RSP406 2008/8/30 WB1、 右上 RSP406 2008/10/15 WB1、  
左下 RSP406 2008/11/30 WB1、 現地図 (まるでかこったところが伐採があったところ)。

a)before logging, b) mid of the cutting,c) after cutting.

These images are provided to IBAMA and use for the monitoring the logging.

Tapajos,PARA State, Brasil



Logging place

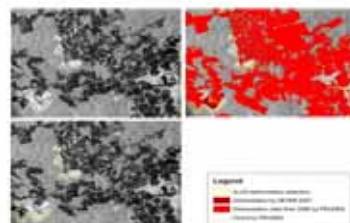


## Law Enforcement Deforestation Assessment- Mid-term results

## ヘリコプター写真

### Project objectives

The Palsar ALOS data will assist the identification of very recent deforestation activities and also where the cloud cover is a limiting factor for the use of optical remote sensing as a resource to support field activities.



### Results

The first operational results are presented, it is the beginning of use of PALSAR data to identify new polygons of deforestation.

### K&C Science Team members

Humberto N de Mesquita Jr.  
Cláudio Azevedo Dupas  
Marlon Cristlei da Silva  
Rodrigo Antônio de Souza  
Daniel de Moraes Freitas  
Felipe Matos

Brazilian Inst. of Environment and Natural Renewable Resources-IBAMA, Brazil.

Collaborators:  
Dr. Dalton Valeriano  
National Institute of Space Research - INPE, Brazil.

Dr. Guilherme H. B. de Miranda  
Federal Police Department - DPF, Brazil

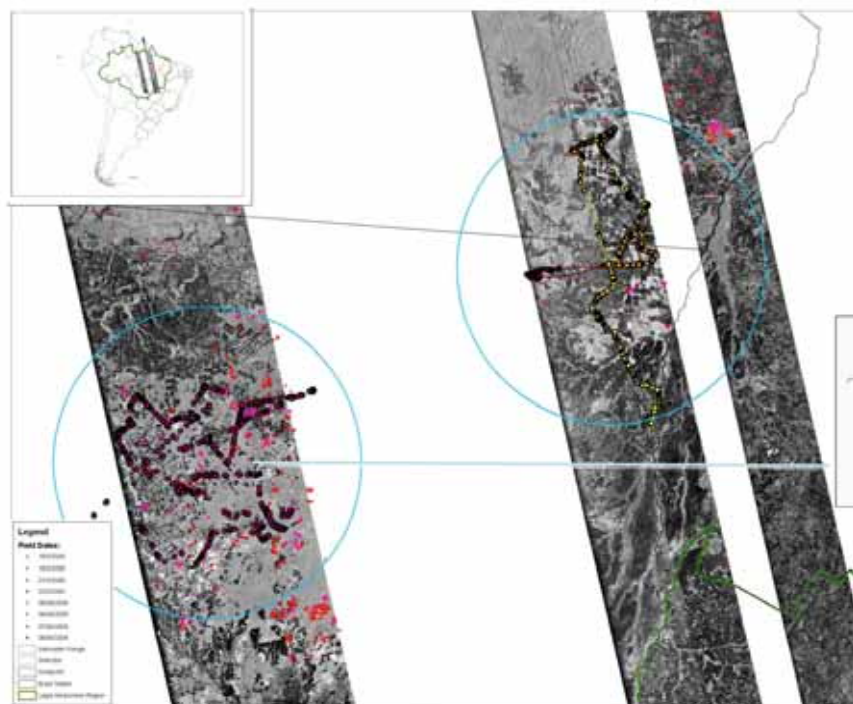


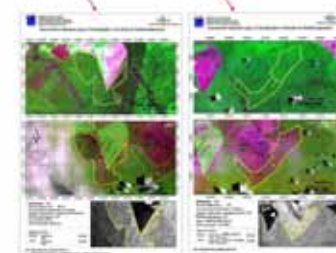
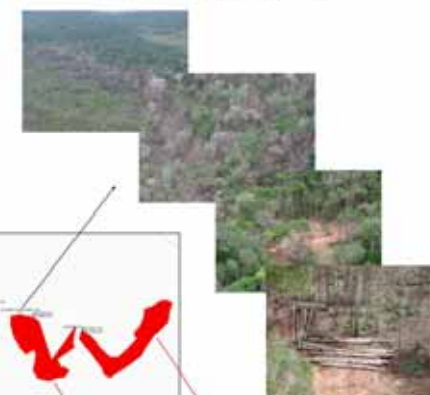
Image captions

	ALOS x DETER	Overall	%
January	45	45	6.07%
February	13	58	7.83%
March	1	59	7.96%
April	55	124	16.73%
May	13	137	18.49%
Total	137	423	

	Analyzed	Selected	%
Strip 16060	215	22	10.23%
Strip 16062	100	35	35.00%
Strip 16063	13	-	-
Strip 16069	290	57	19.65%
Strip 16070	77	28	36.36%
Strip 16071	56	24	42.86%
Total	751	166	

ALOS PALSAR data used  
WB1 & FBS HH (50m)

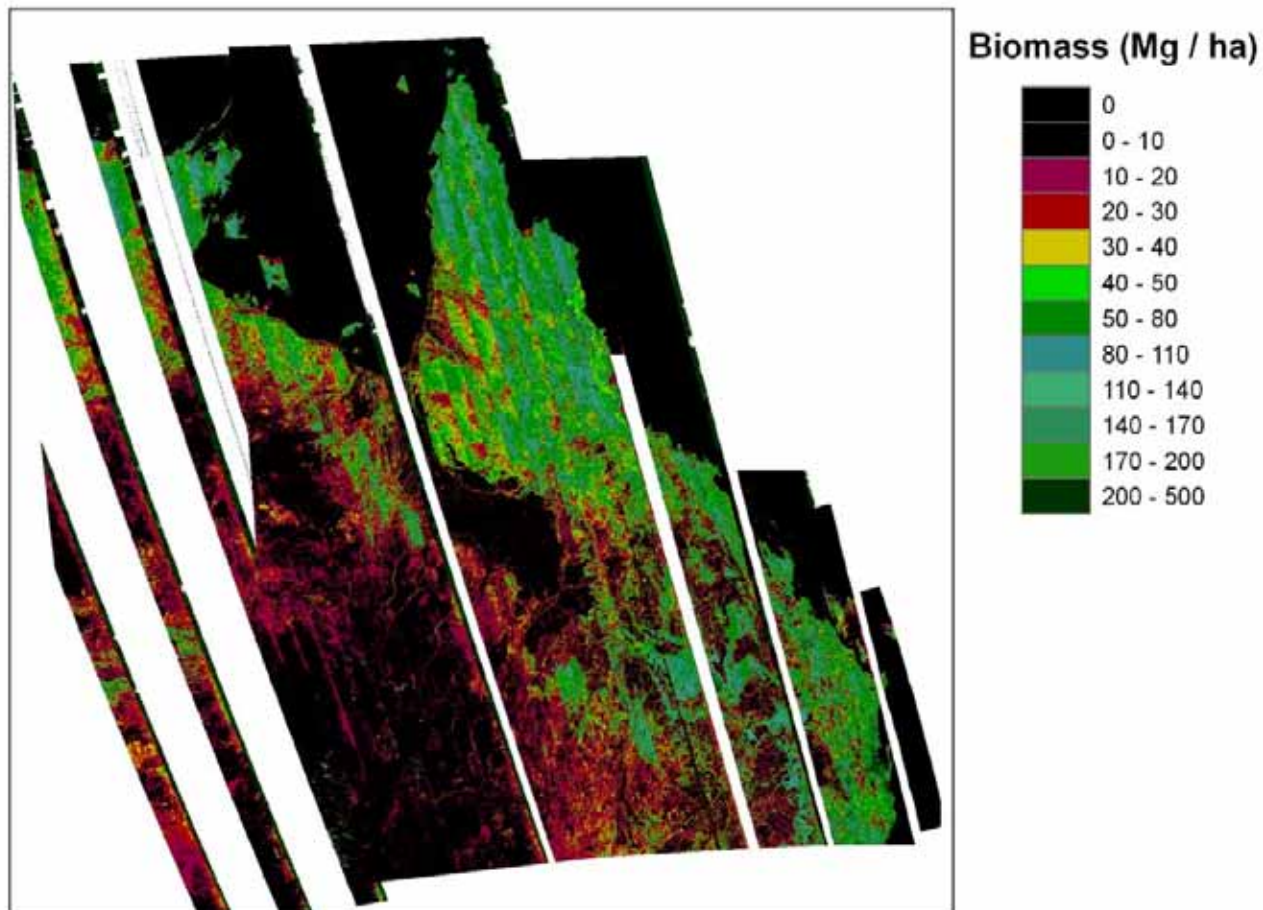
Other data sources  
CBERS-2, 2b & LandsatTM



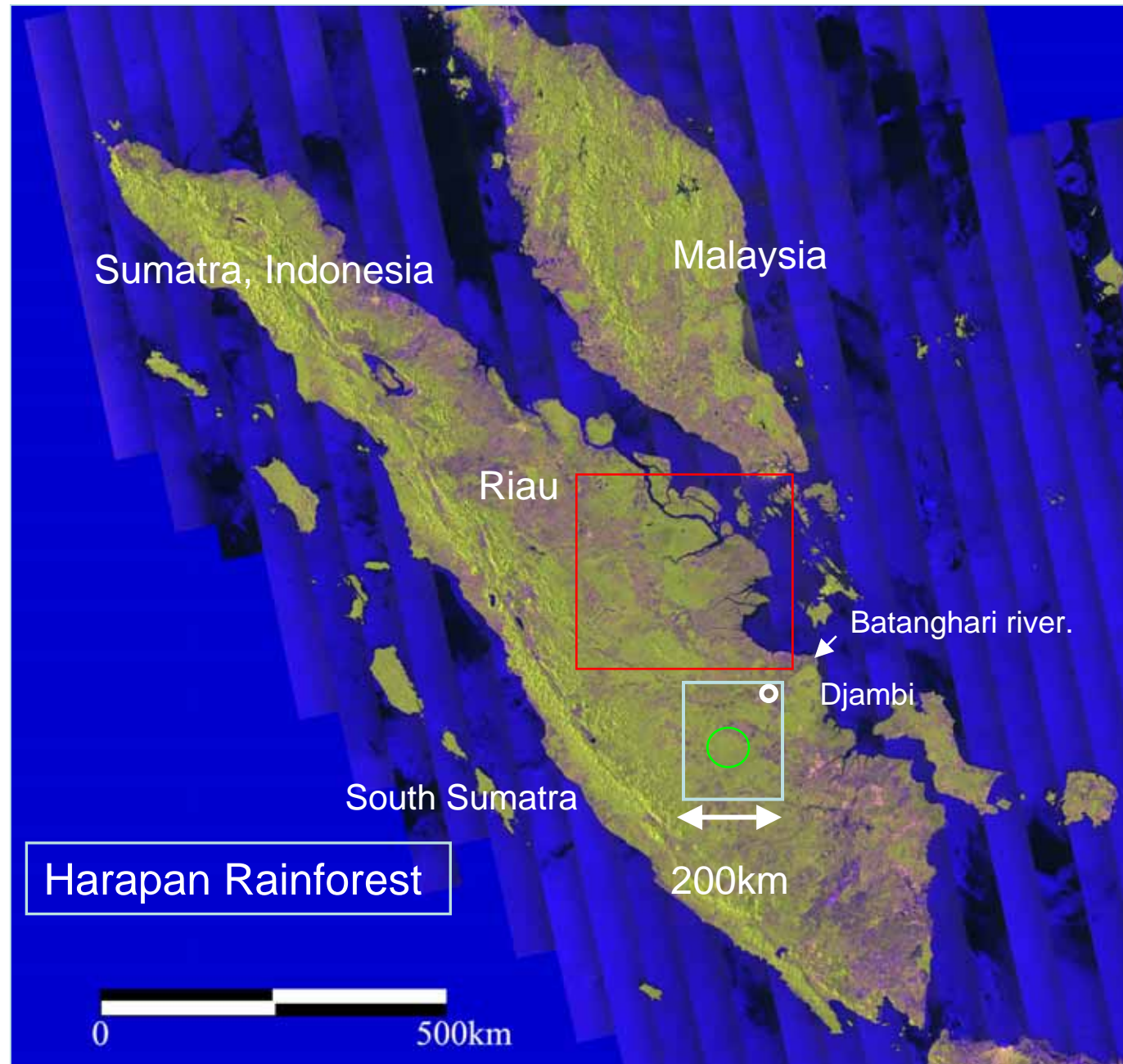


### 3 . 2 . 2 . 6 Biomass map

There are two ways for estimating the biomass. 1) use the relationship between NRCS of forest in HH and HV and biomass gives the distribution of the biomass. The below figure shows the biomass map of the north australia ffrom the PALSAR data. 2) the height estimation of the forest using the polarimetric SAR ineterferometry.



# PALSAR Sumatra mosaic July, 2007 and change over 15 years



One season mosaic colored with three values, **HH**, **HV**, **HH/HV**.

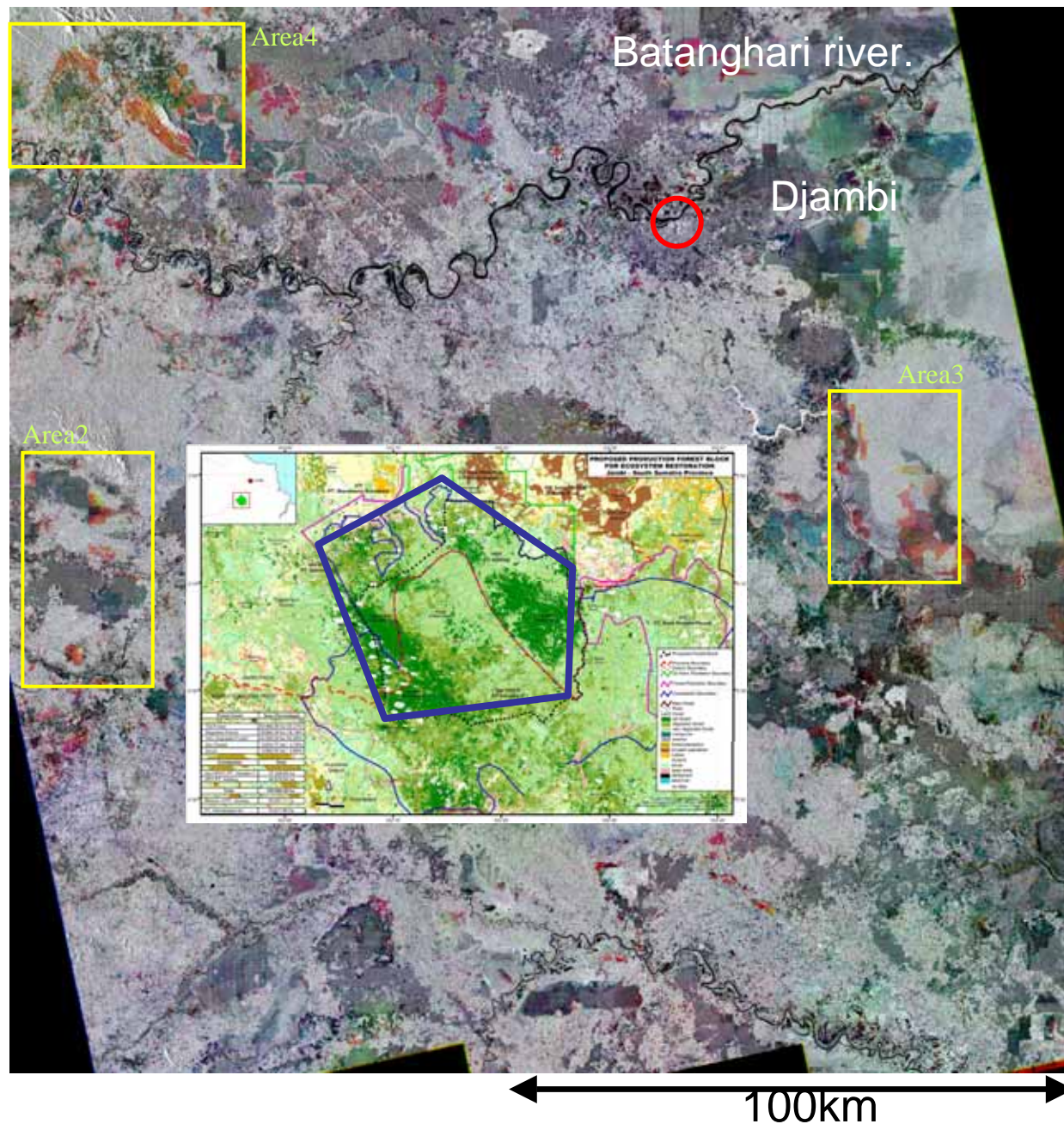
Coverage:  
Malaysia and  
Sumatra

Green: forest  
Purple: clear cut

PALSAR :  
FBD(Fine beam  
dual, 10m  
resolution)



# Forest Change Detection between June 2007~Sept 2008



Sensor: PALSAR  
Polarization:HV

Color assignment

R:June/July, 2007

G:June/July, 2008

B: Aug./Sept., 2008

Red: deforestation  
between 2007 and 2008  
Yellow : recent  
deforestation in 46 days  
(between June,2008 and  
Sept.,2008)

Blue/Green: Regrowth or  
recover this year.

Dark gray: deforestation  
as of June 2007

Bright gray:Forest as of  
Sept., 2008



## 4.3.4.2 Forest, wet land, desert, and mosaic

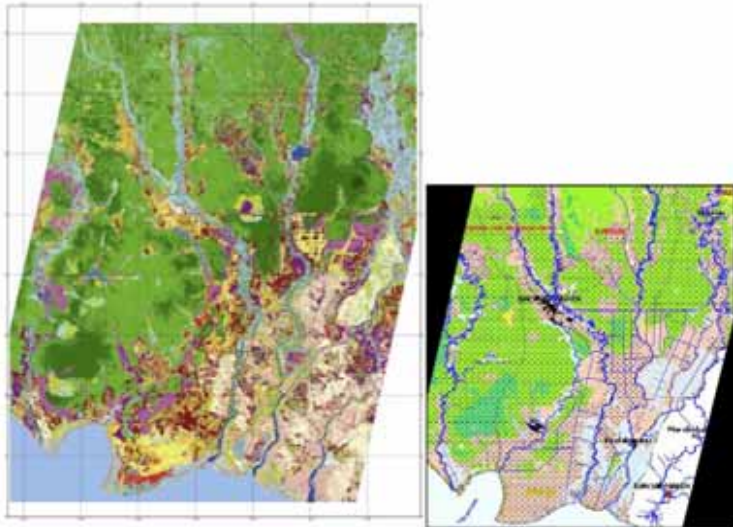
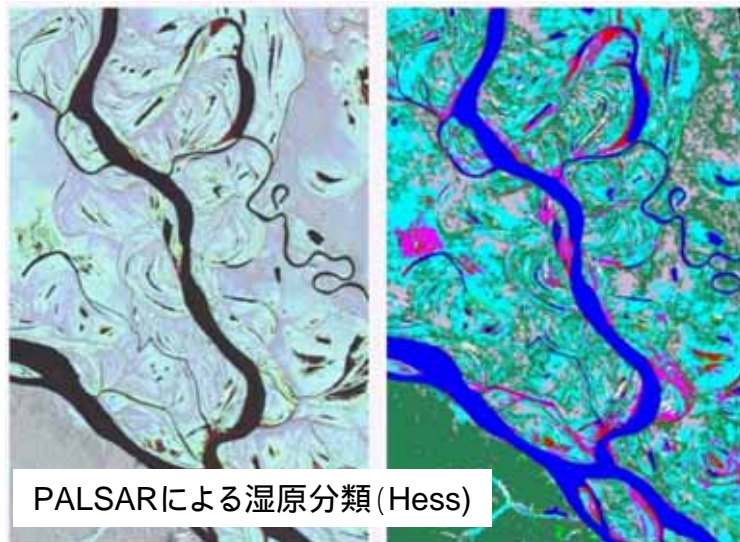
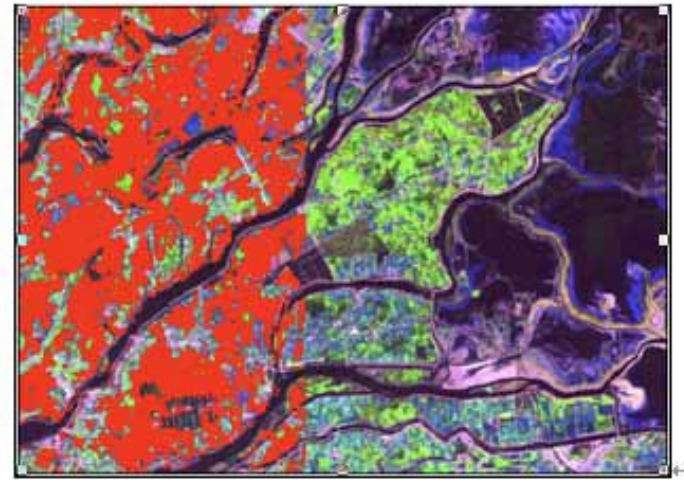


Figure 7. (Left) Map of forest and land use/cover 2007 of the main product development area (the EMRP project area and Sebangau) in Central Kalimantan based on FBD and WB1 HH data (K&C mid-term product 1). (Right) The official Indonesian Ministry of Forestry map dates from 2003, and is less detailed and less accurate.

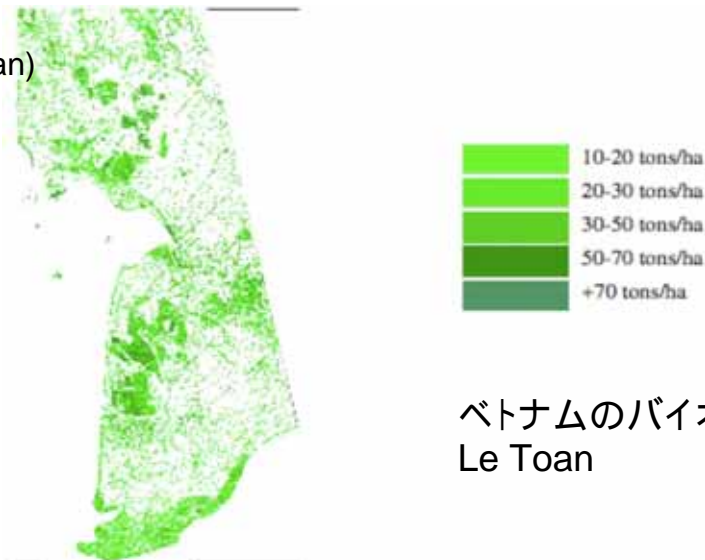
左) PALSARによる土地利用分類、右) 公開分類図 ((Heakman)



PALSARによる湿原分類 (Hess)



中国ポーヤン湖近くの稲作地帯抽出 (赤が稲作地帯) : Salas

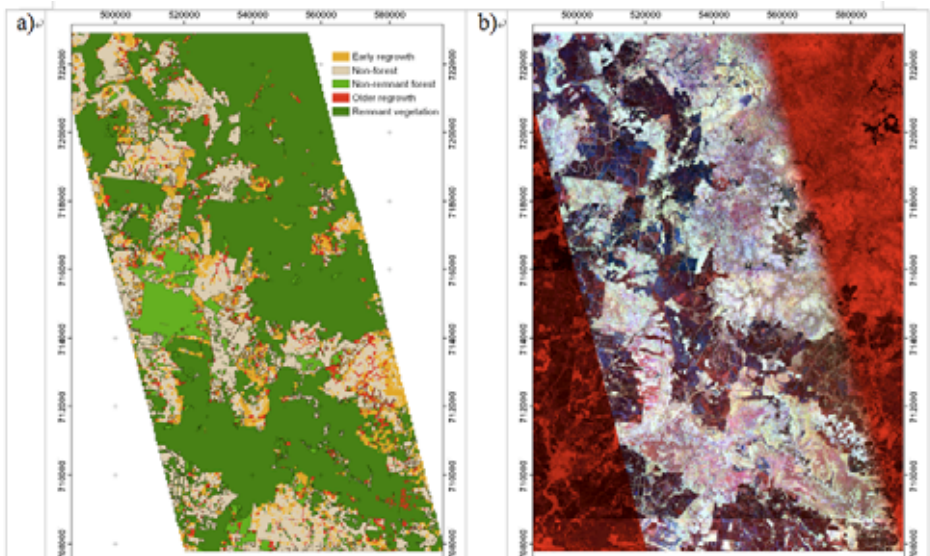


ベトナムのバイオマス分布  
Le Toan

Figure 11: Strip maps of biomass in South Vietnam



## 4.3.4.2 Examples ( 2 )



森林再生状況：左PALSAR、右MODIS: Rucas [Vdata and](#)

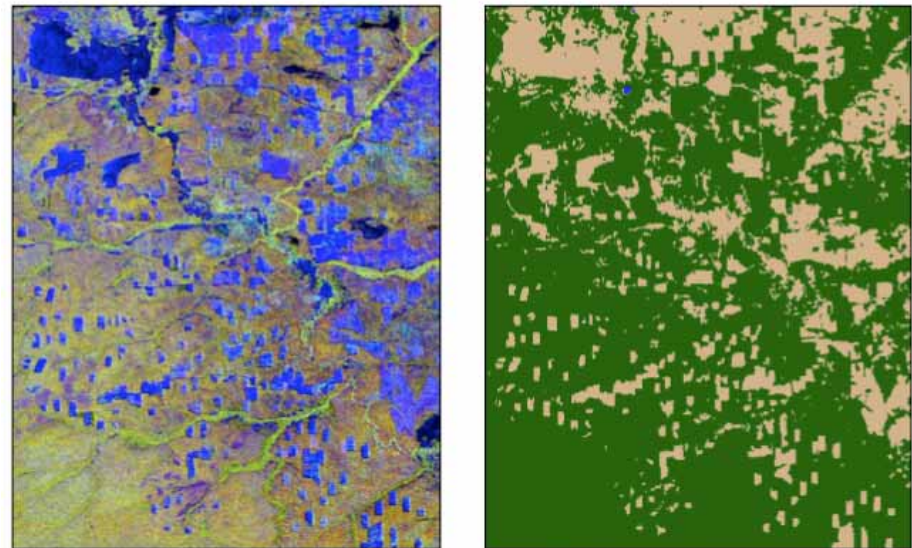


Fig. 4: Left: Composite of HV / HH / Coherence. Right: Land Cover Map (green: forest). Deforestation monitor in siberia: 青が伐採地 (Schimuulius)

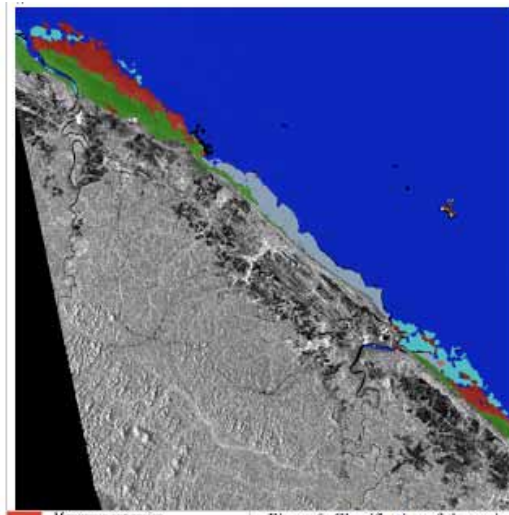
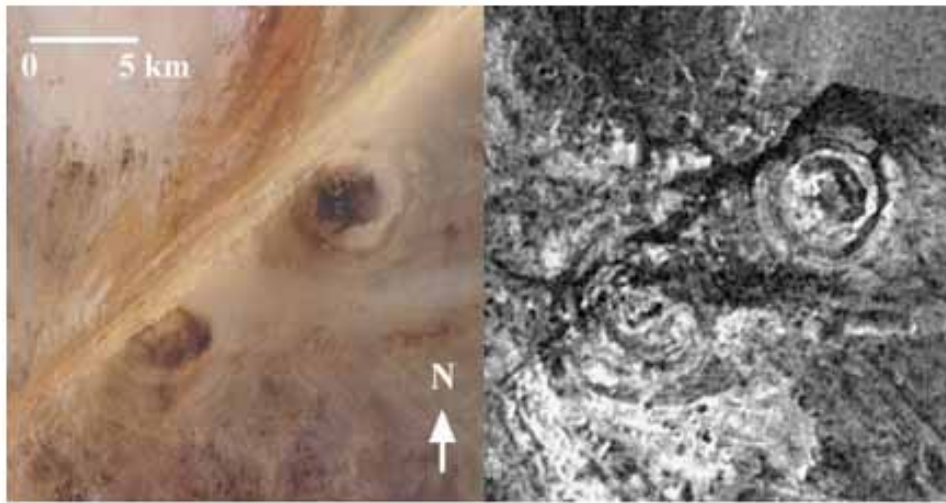


Figure 6. Classification of change in mangrove extent based on comparison of JERS-1 SAR (2006) and ALOS PALSAR (2007) data, French Guiana.

ギアナのマングローブの変化 (Lucas)

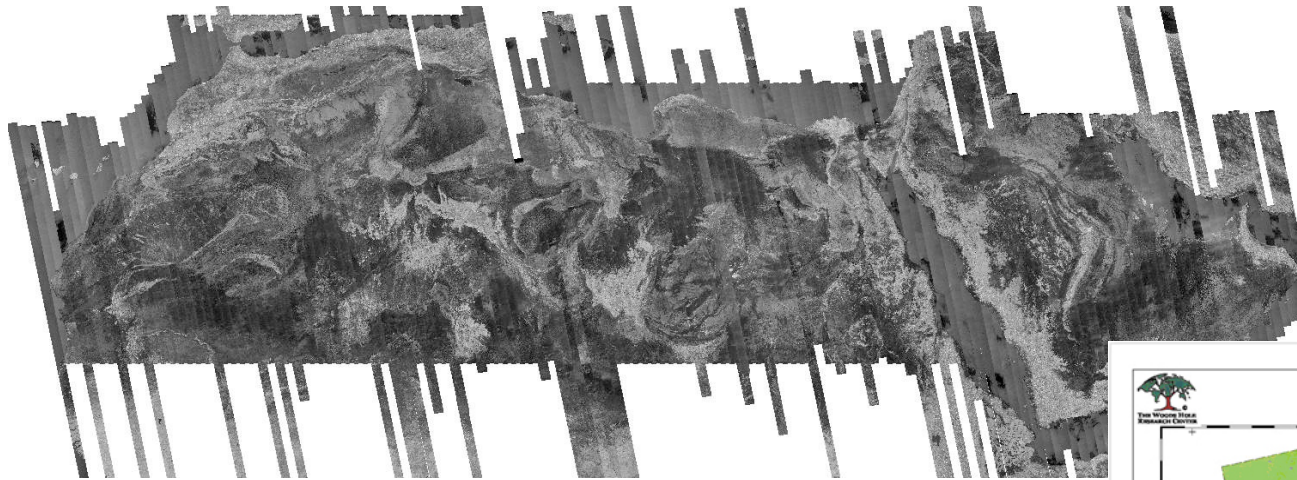


A double impact crater in southeast Libya

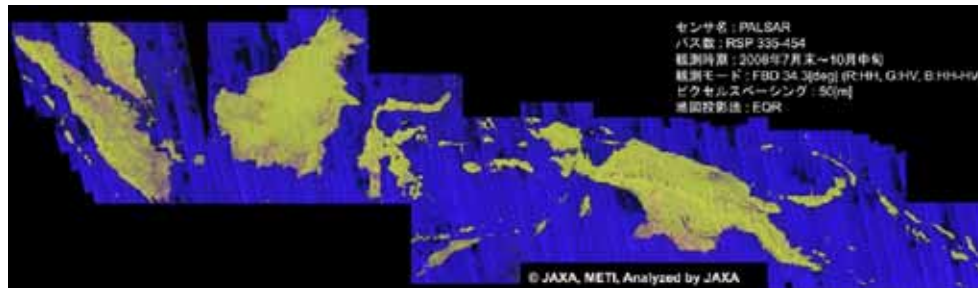
PALSARによるサハラクレーターの検出 (Paillou)



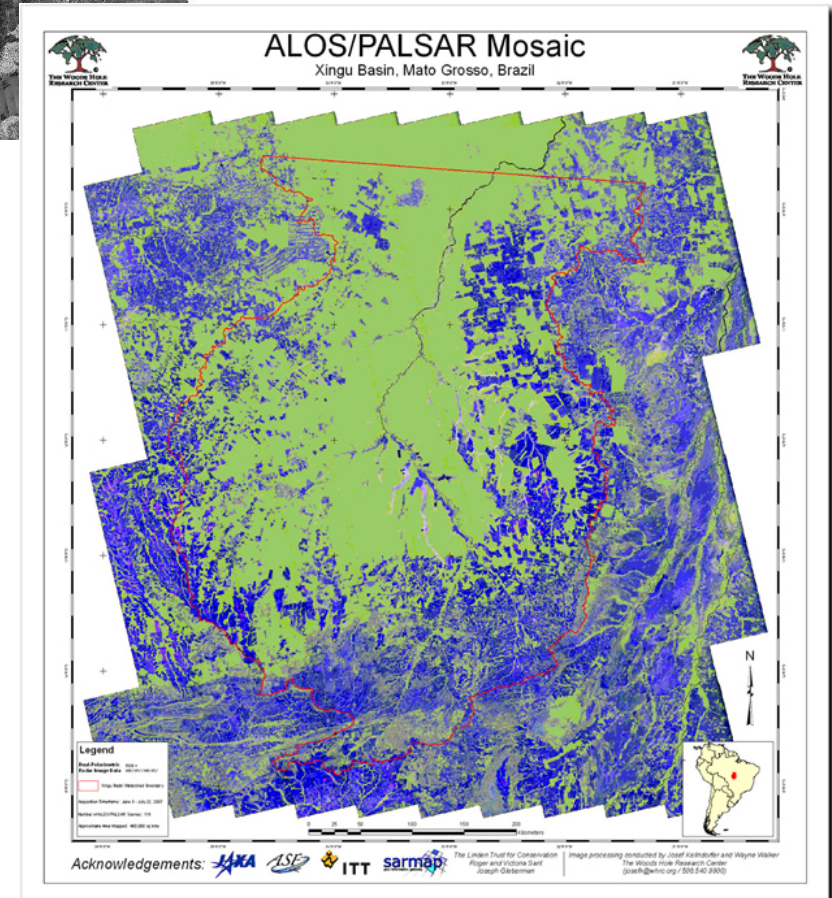
#### 4.3.4.2 モザイク画像 / 伐採状況図



サハラ砂漠のモザイク画像: 白く見えるのが比較的水分を多く含む可能性がある場所 (Paillou)



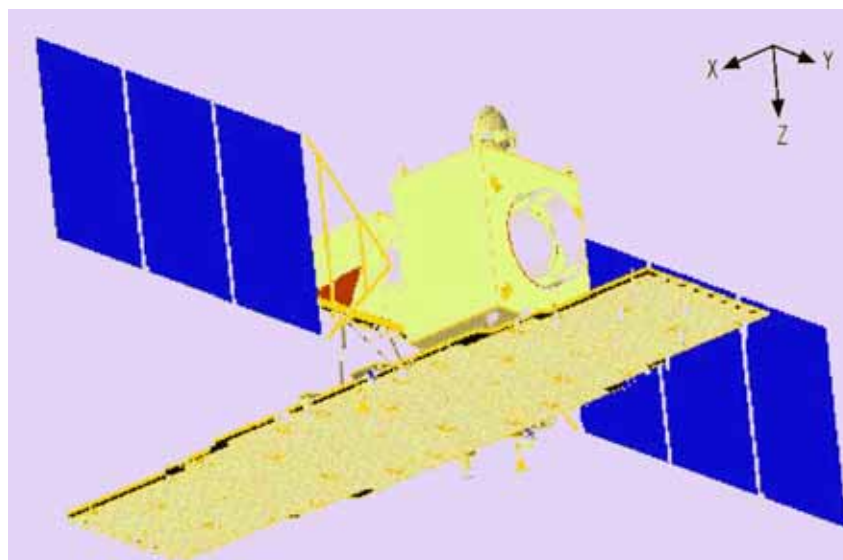
東南アジアモザイク2008年夏期(JAXA)



アマゾン中部シング地区の森林伐採状況(Kellndorfer)

# ALOS-2

2009.01A  
JAXA/ALOS-2



Moving direction

Artistic view

orbit	type	sun synchronous
	height	~630km
	LST	12:00 (local noon) descending
Designed life		Five years
Launch	time	Winter, JFY2012
	Launcher	H-2A
satellite	mass	2 ton type
	paddle	2 paddles
Mission data		Direct transmission and Ka band DRTS
SAR frequency		Lband (1.2 GHz)
Main observati on modes	High resol.	1 ~ 3m, swath25km
	Basic obs.	3m, swath : 50km
	Wide obs.	100m, swath : 350km
Main target areas		Deformation, volcano, change detection, resource finding.
		Forest, Sea ice, river, rice field monitoring

## Conclusions

- 1) ALOS/PALSAR and systematic observation proceed the global forest monitoring and earth environment monitoring (K&C initiatives)
- 2) Dual polarization of PALSAR shows better sensitivity for the deforestation than like pol., and the both pol. Shows the distribution of the biomass quantities up to 200ton/ha.
- 3) Forest degradation and the future strategy for expressing the forest products are under evaluations.
- 4) JAXA produced three 50m PALSAR ortho mosaics of SEA in 2008 and continue to produce for the further forest investigations.
- 5) JAXA started the near real time production of the SCANSAR images within 5 days after the data reception and quick distribution to the IBAMA in 2007 and 2008. JAXA will make the similar system to the SEA in 2009.



## K&C support to the GEO Task on Forest Carbon Tracking

At the recent K&C meeting (KC#11, Jan. 2009), the Science Team were asked to support the GEO Task through

1. Advice on optimal SAR data modes and thematic products for annual, medium resolution forest-cover change monitoring
2. Guidelines to CEOS agencies for the development of sensor synergistic SAR data acquisition strategies to support the GEO Task
3. Standards for the generation of annual, ortho-rectified, terrain illumination corrected regional-scale SAR mosaics
4. Methodologies for forest change & trend monitoring using SAR, that is interchangeable with optical methods (e.g. PRODES/Brazil, NCAS/Australia), and corresponding accuracy assessment.
5. Demonstration projects for “near-real time annual” SAR monitoring of deforestation and degradation, to show at COP15.

The Science Team is interested and able to contribute. Points 1, 2 & 3 already on-going.

Close collaboration with the GEO Task leaders required. Time is short!