

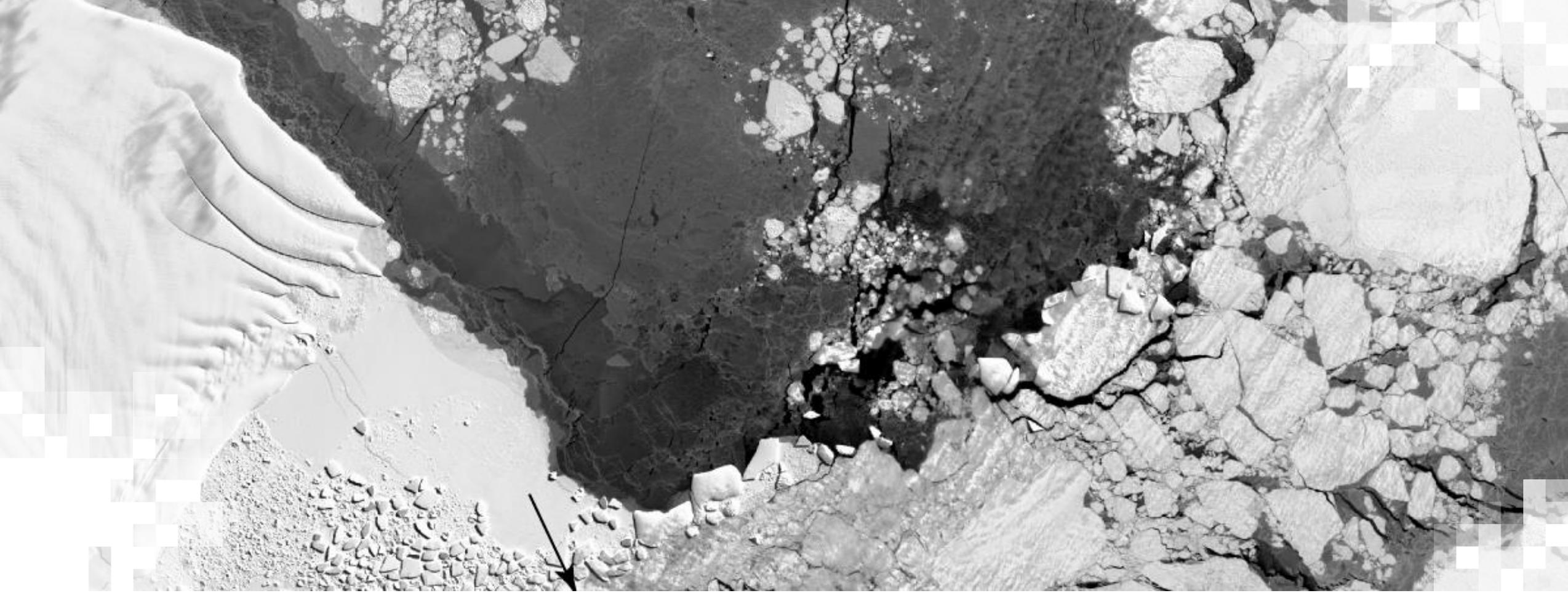
## SAR for Detecting and Monitoring Floods, Sea Ice, and Subsidence from Groundwater Extraction

Session 1: Detecting and Monitoring Sea Ice with SAR

Malin Johansson, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

October 24, 2023





About ARSET

# About ARSET

- ARSET provides accessible, relevant, and cost-free training on remote sensing satellites, sensors, methods, and tools.
- Trainings include a variety of applications of satellite data and are tailored to audiences with a variety of experience levels.



AGRICULTURE



CLIMATE & RESILIENCE



DISASTERS



ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION



HEALTH & AIR QUALITY



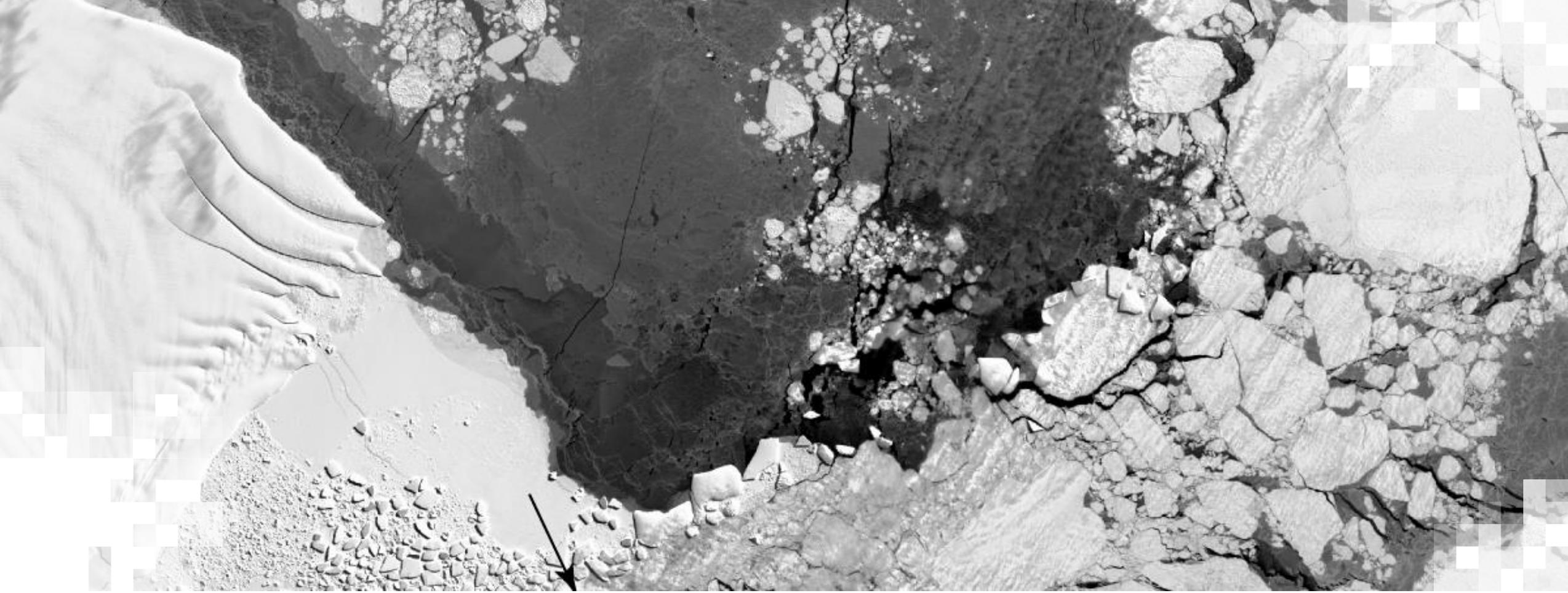
WATER RESOURCES



# About ARSET Trainings

- Online or in-person
- Live and instructor-led or asynchronous and self-paced
- Cost-free
- Bilingual and multilingual options
- Only use open-source software and data
- Accommodate differing levels of expertise
  
- Visit the [ARSET website](#) to learn more.





SAR for Detecting and Monitoring Floods, Sea Ice, and  
Subsidence from Groundwater Extraction

## **Overview**

# Sea Ice, Floods and Groundwater Extraction can be Seen from Space

- The objective of this training is for participants to learn how to use SAR to detect and address potential disasters related to sea ice, floods and groundwater extraction.
- These sort of events can have a large impact on human lives, infrastructure and the economy.
- SAR can be critical in informing on-the-ground efforts on disaster mitigation efforts and resilience.



# Training Learning Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

- Generate subsidence maps due to groundwater extraction to inform risk and resource management.
- Detect and monitor sea ice to identify potential risks to shipping and coastal erosion.
- Detect and monitor floods in order to more closely monitor increase/decrease of flood waters and better inform disaster response and management.



# Prerequisites

- [Fundamentals of Remote Sensing](#)
- [Introduction to Synthetic Aperture Radar](#) (first and fourth sessions)
- [Radar Remote Sensing for Land, Water, & Disaster Applications](#) (second session)



# Training Outline

## Session 1

**Detecting and  
Monitoring Sea Ice  
with SAR**

**Tue. Oct. 24, 2023**

**11:00-13:00 EDT  
(UTC-4)**

## Session 2

Measuring Surface  
Subsidence due to  
Groundwater  
Extraction with  
InSAR

Tue. Oct. 31, 2023

11:00-13:00 EDT  
(UTC-4)

## Session 3

Detecting and  
Monitoring Floods  
with SAR

Wed. Nov. 1, 2023

11:00-13:00 EDT  
(UTC-4)

## Homework

Opens Nov. 1– Due Nov. 17 – Posted on Training Webpage

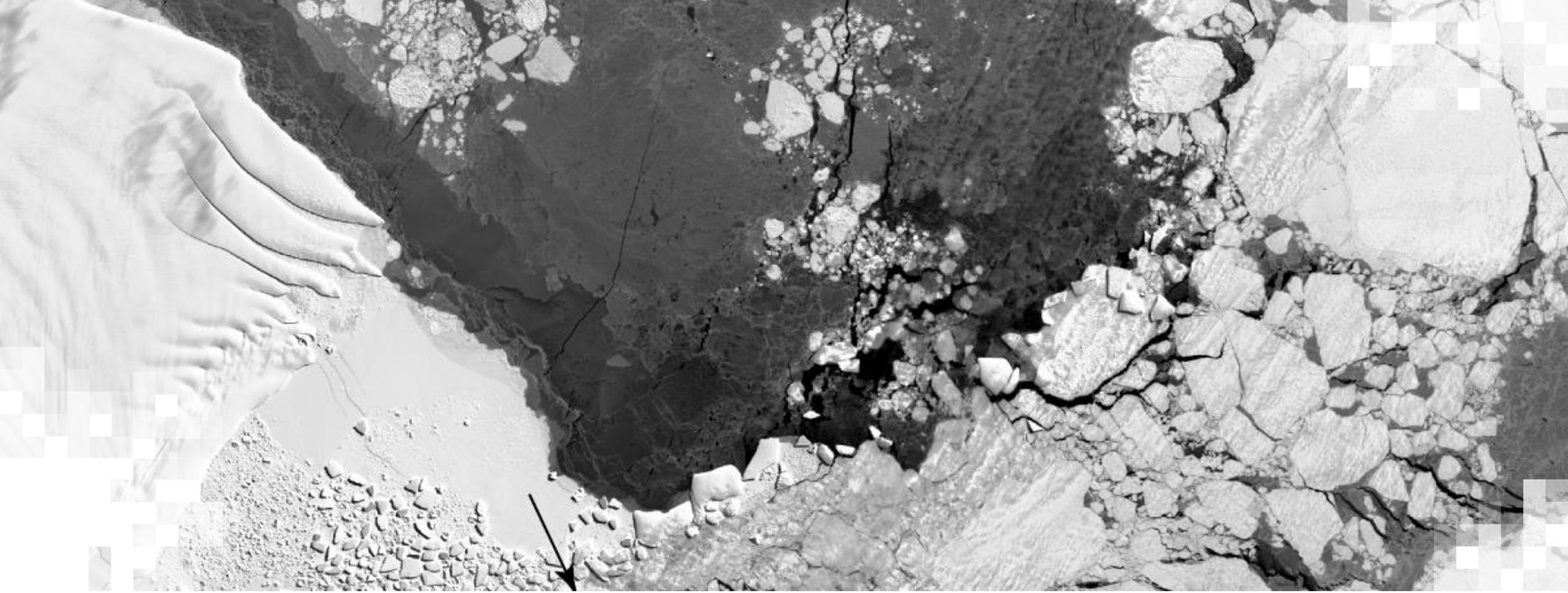
A certificate of completion will be awarded to those who attend all live sessions and complete the homework assignment(s) before the given due date.



# How to Ask Questions

- Please put your questions in the Questions box and we will address them at the end of the webinar.
- Feel free to enter your questions as we go. We will try to get to all of the questions during the Q&A session after the webinar.
- The remainder of the questions will be answered in the Q&A document, which will be posted to the training website about a week after the training.





## **Session 1: Detecting and Monitoring Sea Ice with SAR**

# Session 1 Objectives

By the end of Session 1, participants will be able to:

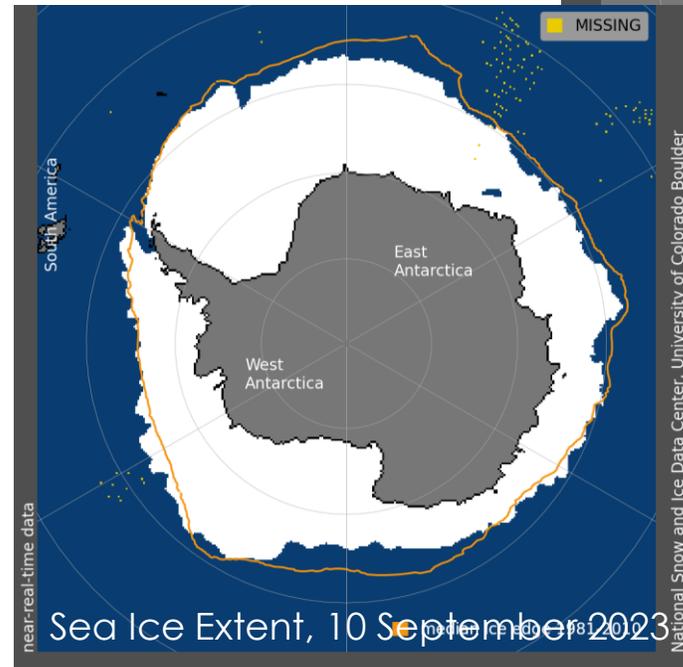
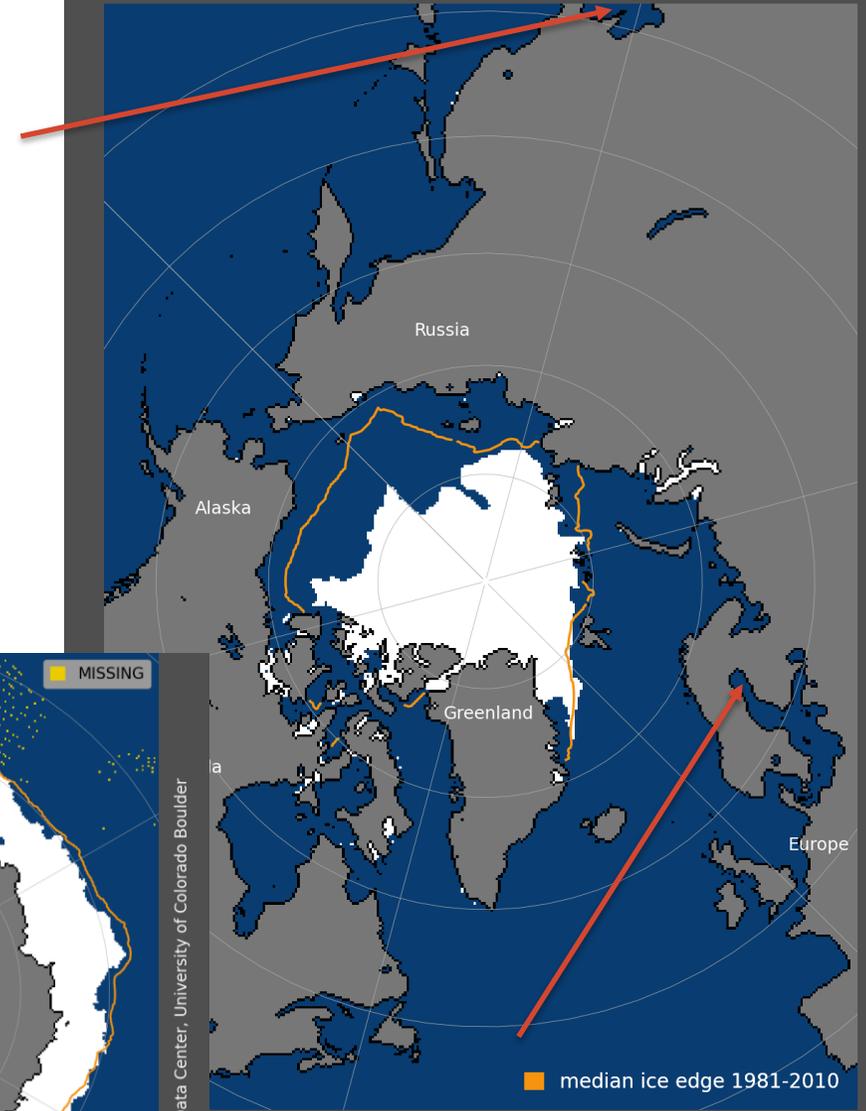
- Understand the mechanism behind our ability to monitor sea ice
- Understand the challenges with sea ice monitoring
- Understand how sea ice characteristics can be derived using single- and dual-polarization SAR images
- See how satellite (SAR) images can fit into the larger-scale picture when it comes to safe shipping and climate models



# What is sea ice?

- Ice that forms from freezing of sea water
  - Salty
- Covers the Arctic Ocean
- Surrounds Antarctica
- Occurs seasonally in sub-polar seas

Sea Ice Extent, 27 Sep 2023



# What does sea ice look like?

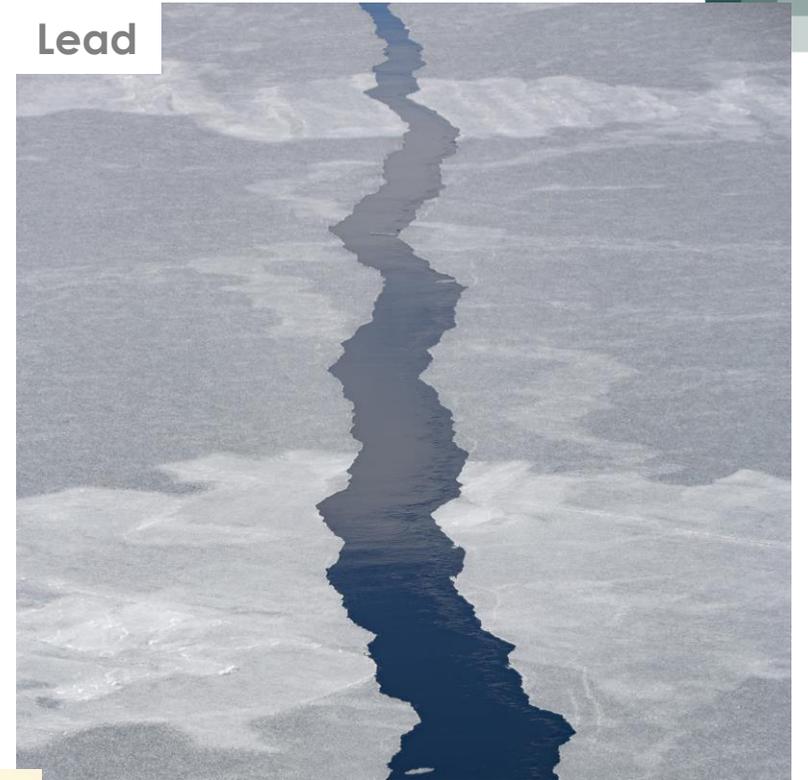
Sheets of Nilas Ice



Pancake Ice



Lead



Thin First-Year Ice



Rough First Year Ice



Multi-First Year Ice



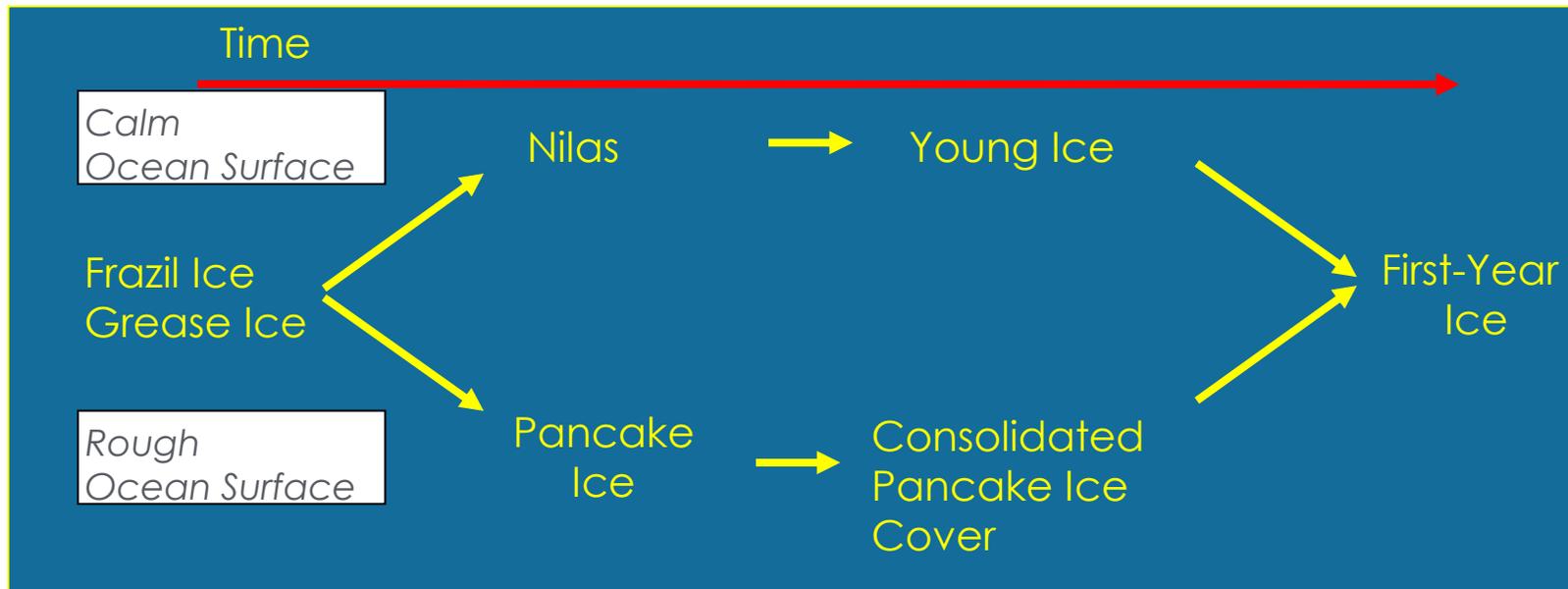
# Basic Classes and Mechanisms of Ice Formation

Salinity

Class	Description	Thickness
New Ice	Ice which began to grow a few hours or days ago	0 – 10 cm
Young Ice	Transition between new and first-year ice	10 - 30 cm
First-Year Ice	Ice of no more than one winter's growth	30 – 200 cm
Old Ice	Ice that has survived at least one summer's melt; most topographic features are smoother than on first-year ice	> 200 cm

High

Low

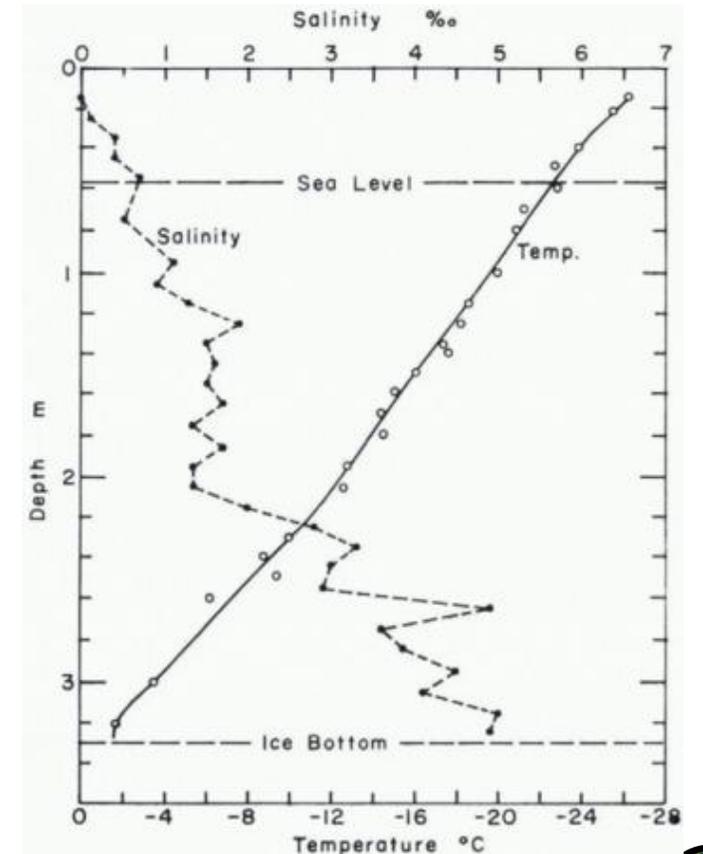


# What does sea ice look like?

- Sea ice includes brine pockets and air bubbles.
- As the ice ages and deforms, the salinity, density, surface roughness, and topography will change.



Photos: J. Landy



Cox and Weeks, 1974



# What does sea ice look like?

- Sea ice core seen close up

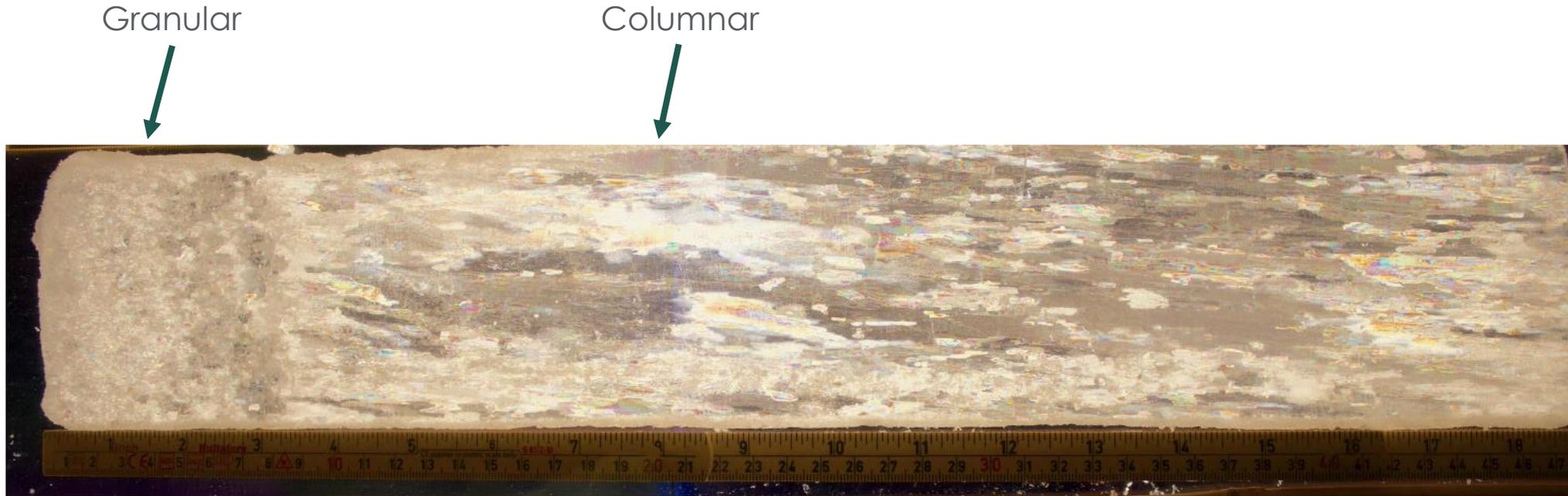


Photo: J. Osanen



# How does it disintegrate?

- In the summer it melts
  - First the snow melts
  - Melt pond starts forming



Photo: T. Karlsen



# How does it disintegrate?

- In the summer it melts
  - First the snow melts
  - Melt pond starts forming
  - The albedo decreases (i.e., heat absorption increases)

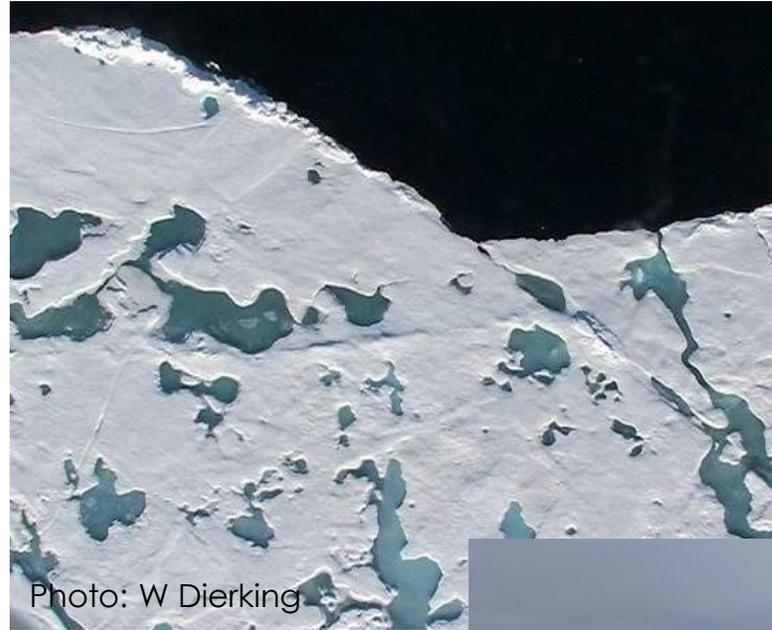


Photo: T. Karlsen



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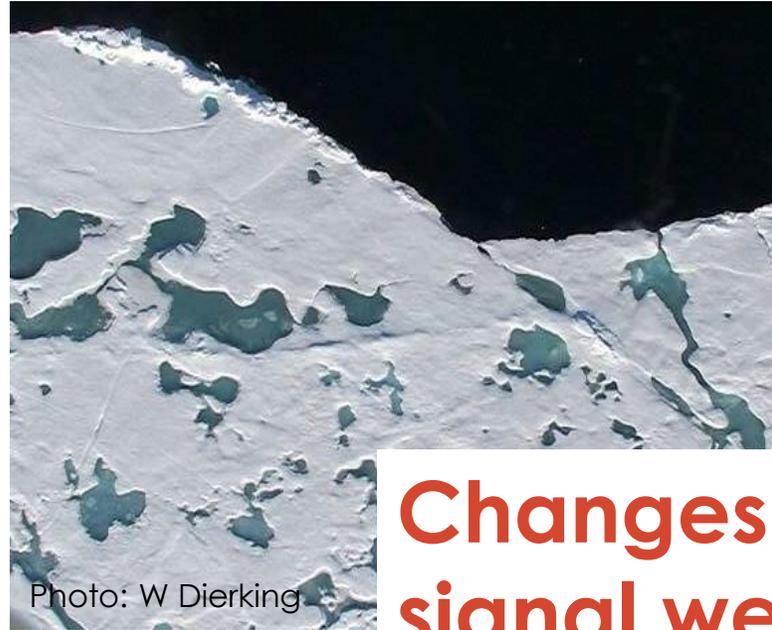


Photo: W Dierking

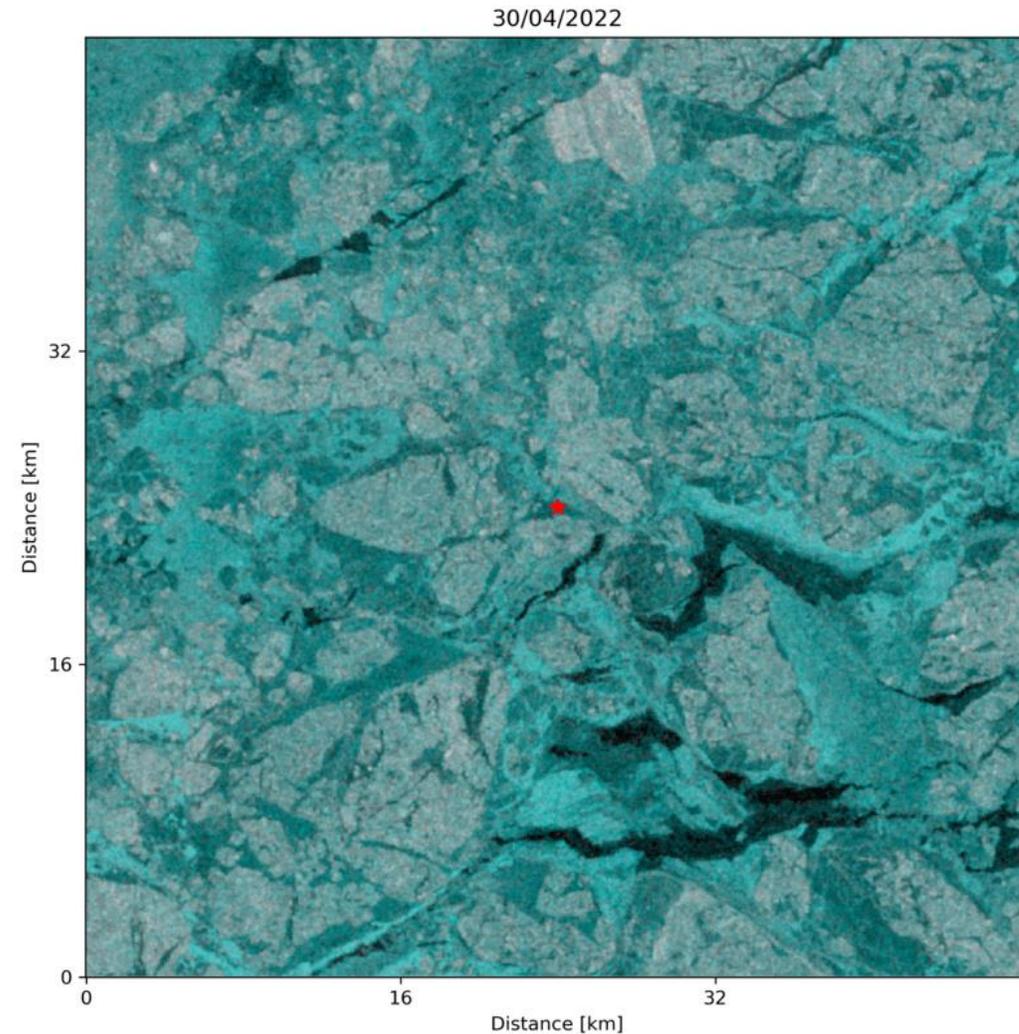
**Changes the signal we can observe with SAR!**



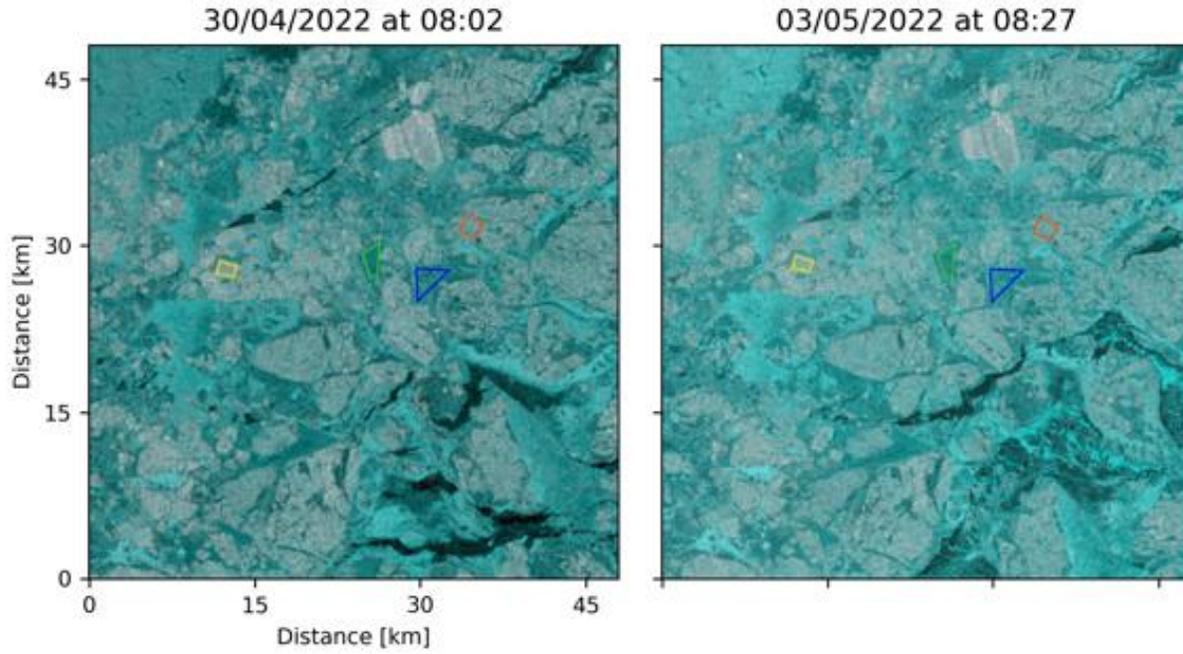
Photo: M. Johansson



# How does sea ice look like in SAR images?

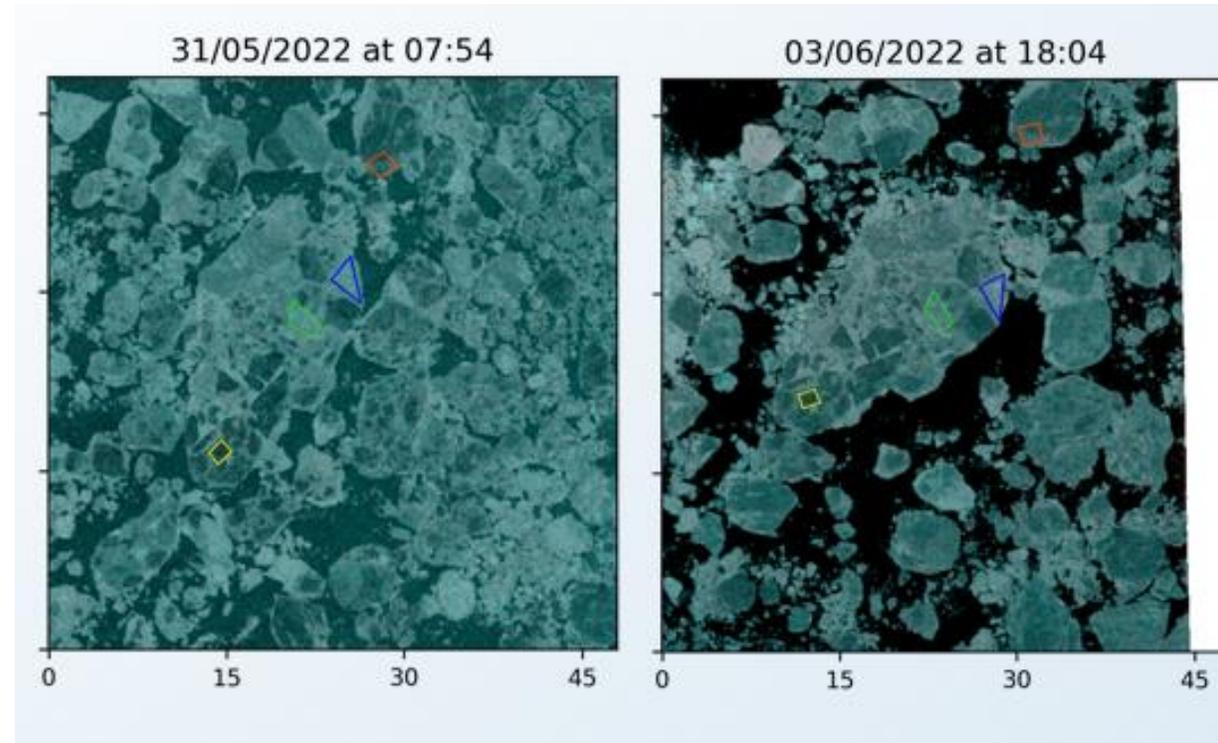


# How does sea ice look like in SAR images?



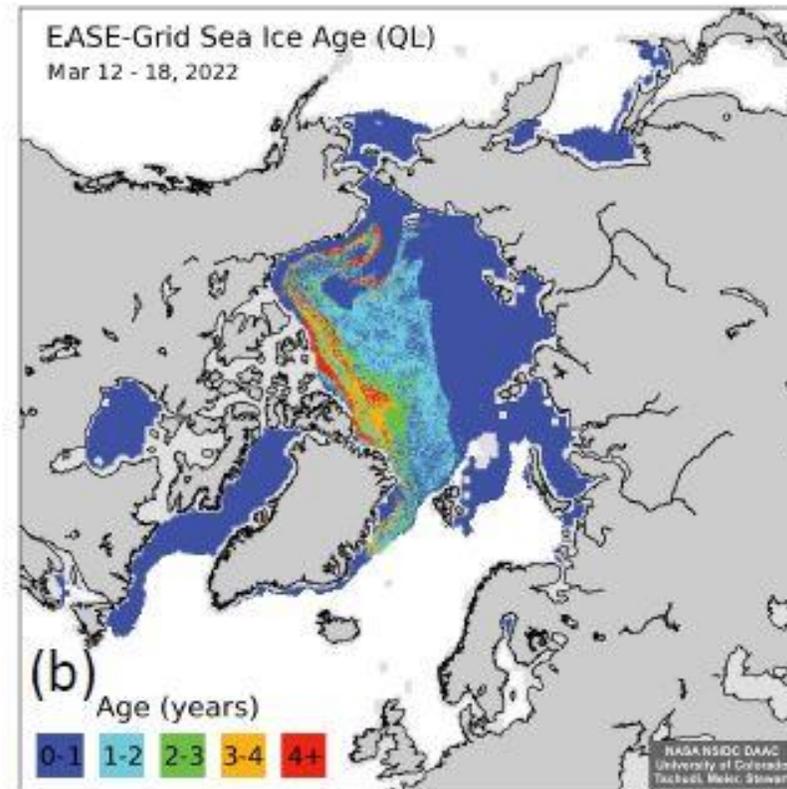
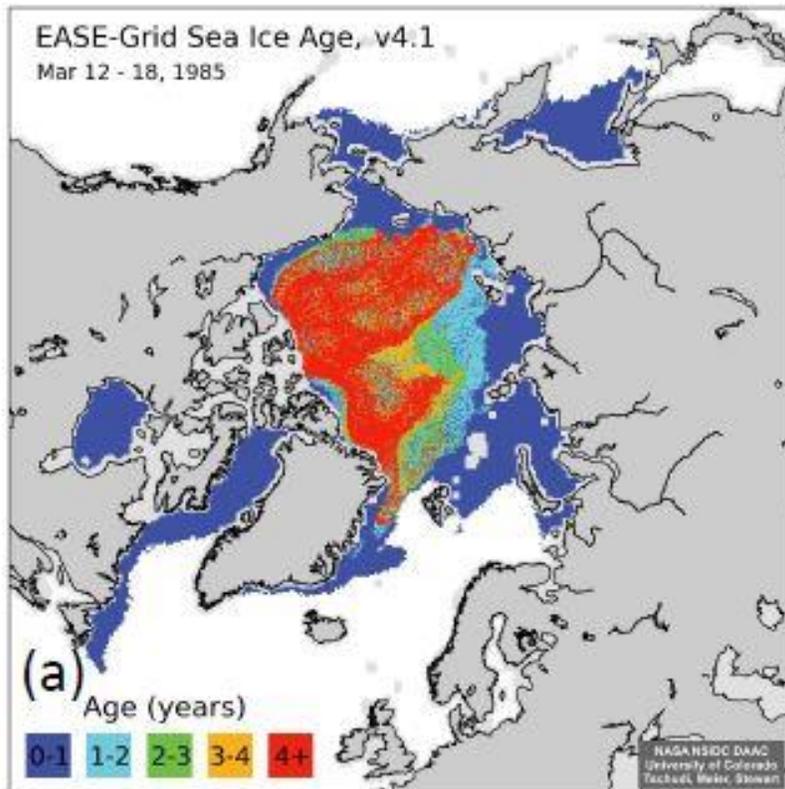
Freezing

Melting



# Changes to the Sea Ice in the Arctic Ocean

- The thicker ice is disappearing.

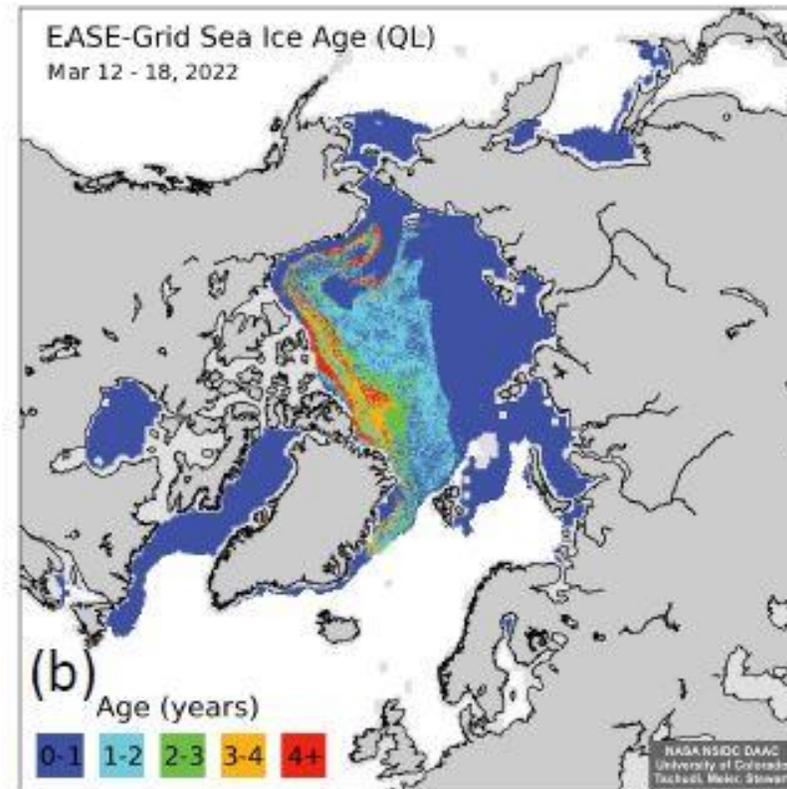
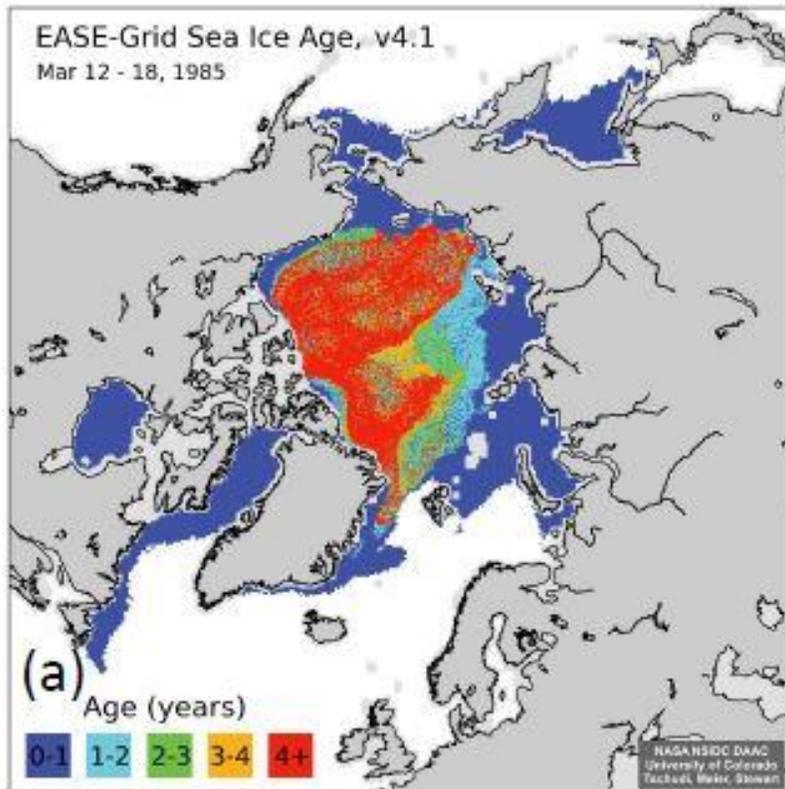


© NSIDC



# Changes to the Sea Ice in the Arctic Ocean

- The thicker ice is disappearing.
- Today the larger fraction of Arctic sea ice is less than one year old.

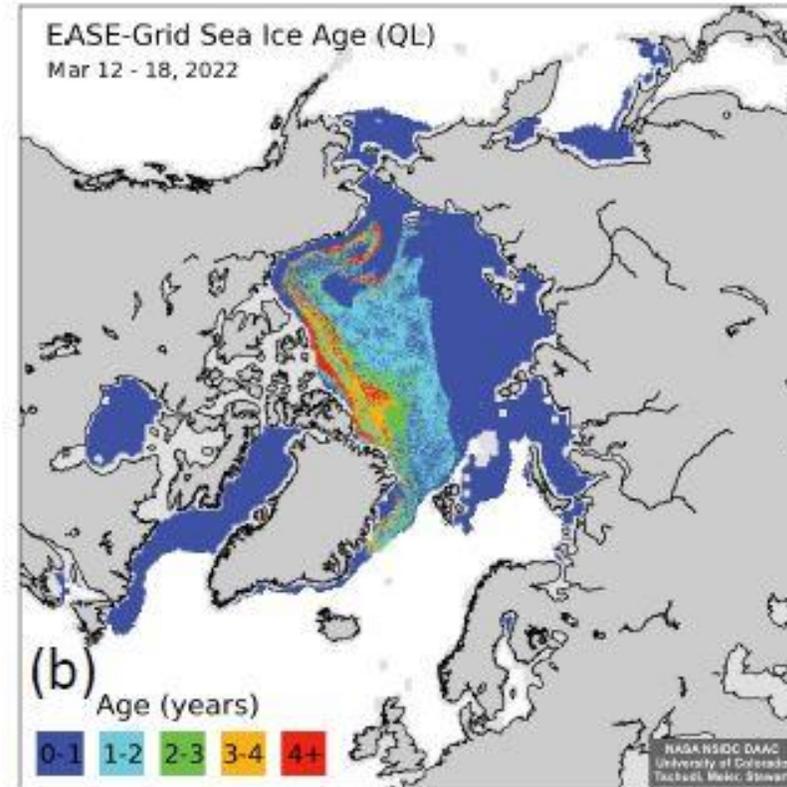
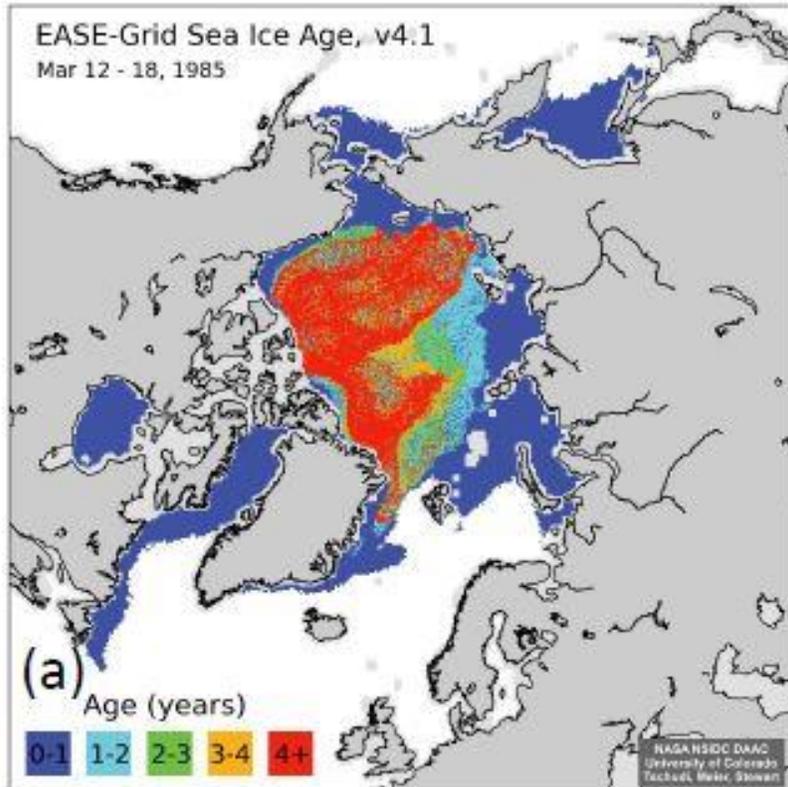


© NSIDC



# Changes to the Sea Ice in the Arctic Ocean

- The thicker ice is disappearing.
- Today the larger fraction of Arctic sea ice is less than one year old.
  - Oldest (and thickest) in the West
  - Younger (and thinnest) in the East

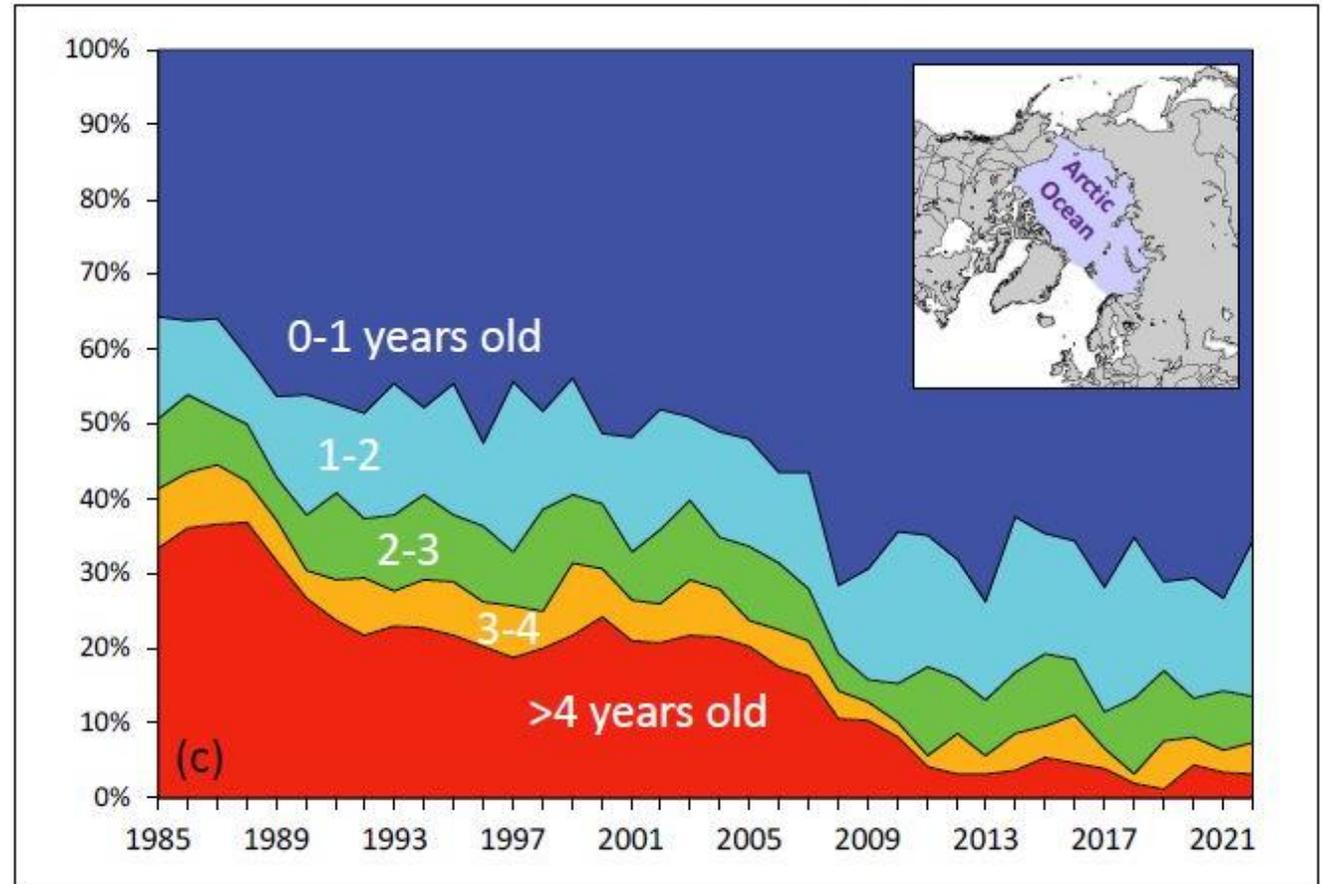


© NSIDC



# Sea Ice Age

- How is the age of sea ice determined?
  - Count it from 1st September
  - Freeze-up season

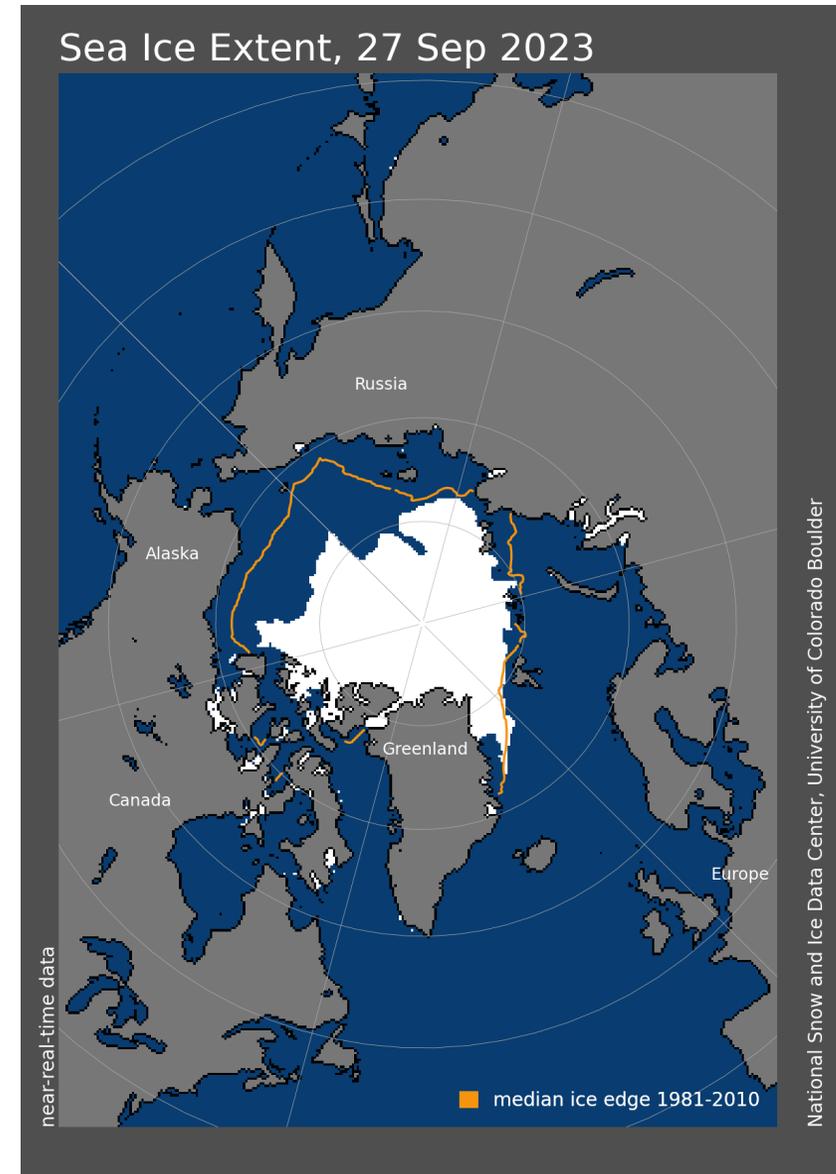


© NSIDC



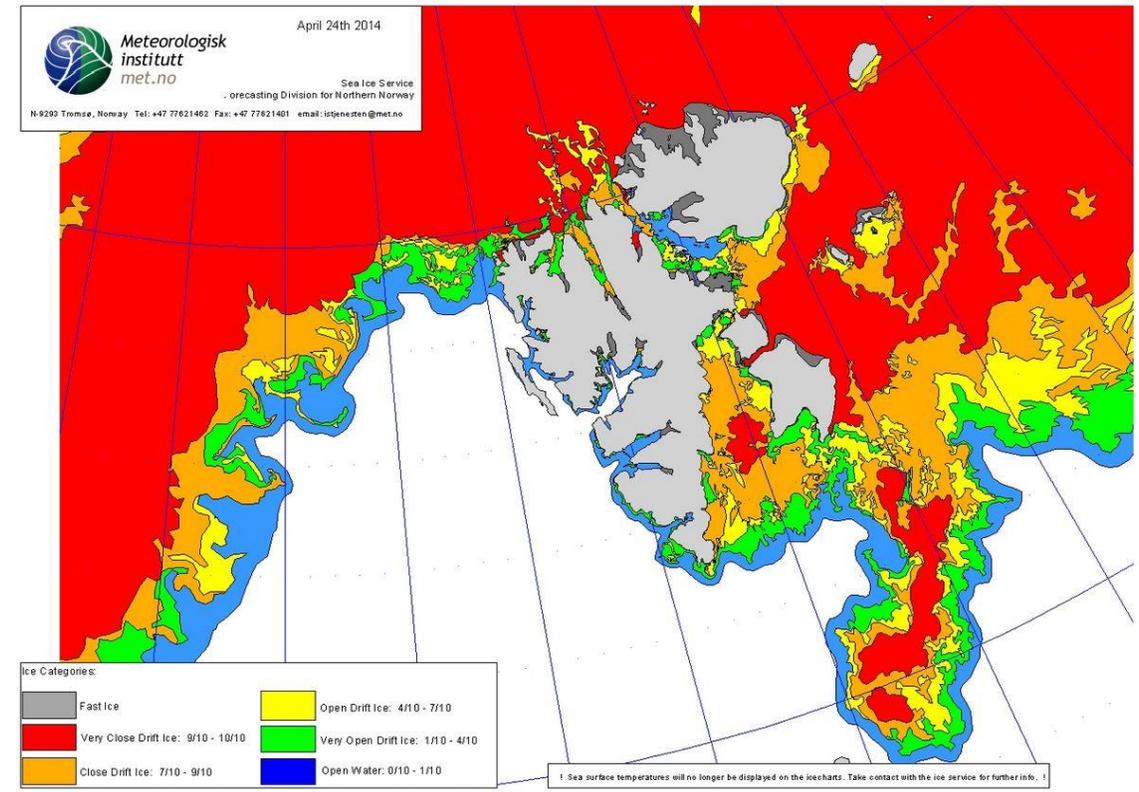
# What do we monitor?

- Which parameters are used to describe the characteristics of the Arctic and Antarctic sea ice cover?
  - Sea ice extent



# What do we monitor?

- Which parameters are used to describe the characteristics of the Arctic and Antarctic sea ice cover?
  - Sea ice extent
  - Sea ice concentration
  - Sea ice types



# What do we monitor?

- Which parameters are used to describe the characteristics of the Arctic and Antarctic sea ice cover?
  - Sea ice extent
  - Sea ice concentration
  - Sea ice types
  - Sea ice stage of development



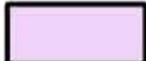
# Sea Ice Monitoring and Detection

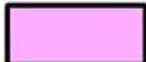
- WMO Nomenclature
  - Not directly compatible with SAR images
- SAR does not see ice thickness.

## *Ice Stage of Development (SoD)*

 Ice of undefined SoD [X]

 Open water [0]

 New ice [1]

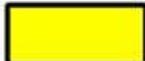
 Nilas [2]

 Nilas (with frost flowers) [2]

 Young ice [3]

 Grey ice [4]

 Grey-white [5]

 First year [6]

 Thin first year ice [7]

 First stage first year [8]

 Second stage first year [9]

 Medium first year [1·]



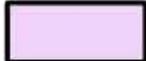
# Sea Ice Monitoring and Detection

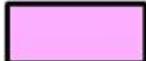
- WMO Nomenclature
  - Not directly compatible with SAR images
- SAR does not see ice thickness.
- SAR “sees“ surface roughness (mm to dm range) and volume inhomogeneities (air inclusions, brine pockets, large snow grains, etc.)

## *Ice Stage of Development (SoD)*

 Ice of undefined SoD [X]

 Open water [0]

 New ice [1]

 Nilas [2]

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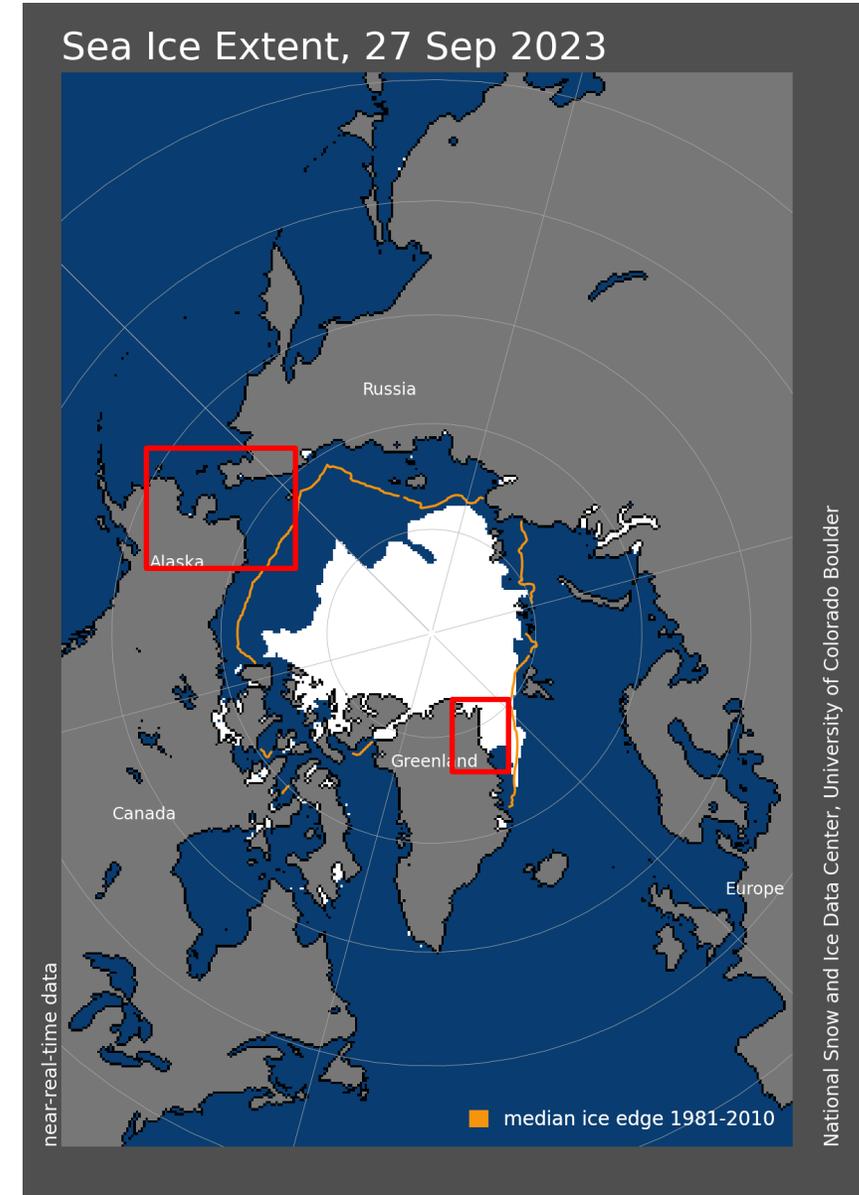
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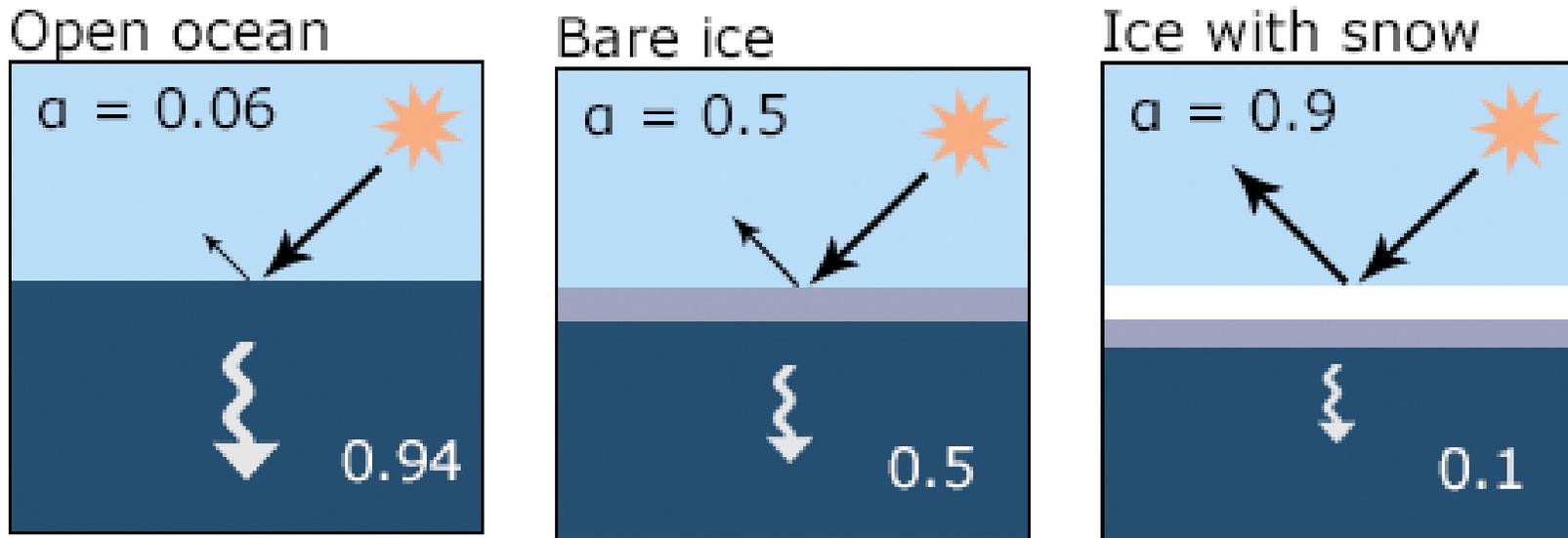
# How does the sea ice extent vary?

- Seasonal Cycle
- Sea Ice Drift
  - Arctic Gateways
    - Bering Strait – Connects to the Pacific Ocean
    - Fram Strait – Connects to the Atlantic Ocean
- Fram Strait is located between Greenland and Svalbard
  - Fastest flowing sea ice drift



# Why do we monitor sea ice?

- Albedo:
  - If there is no sea ice, the ocean absorbs the heat.
  - Presence of sea ice => higher albedo => the sea ice reflects more incoming solar radiation => ocean temperature increases less
  - Sea ice + snow => even higher albedo



# Why do we monitor sea ice?

- Albedo
- Transportation
  - Hazard for shipping
  - Planning ship routing



Photo: NORCE



Photo: T. Karlsen



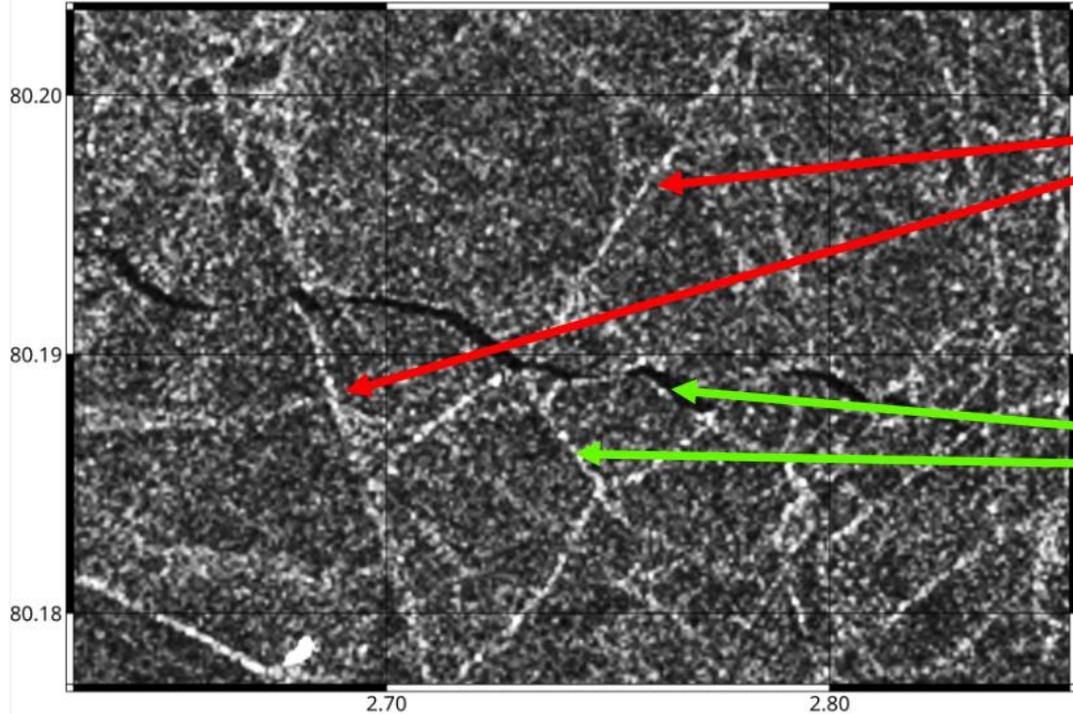
Photo: C. Zoelly



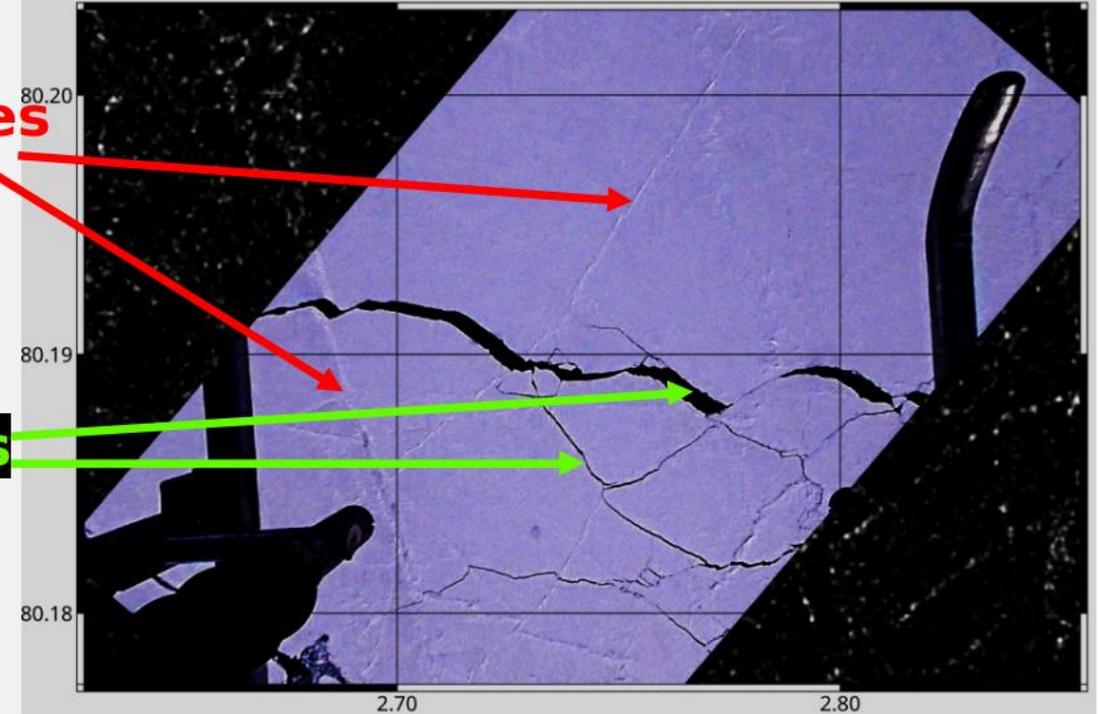
# Operational Sea Ice Mapping

- Need of SAR imaging for optimising icebreaker route

**SAR RCM image** from 2023/06/01 06:00



**Helipod image** from 2023/06/01 10:00

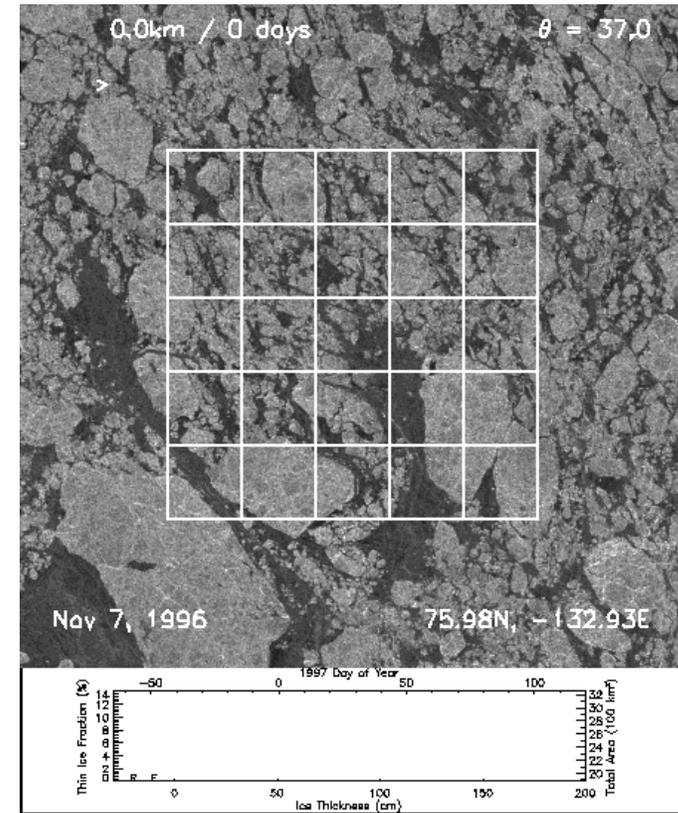


# Sea Ice Drift

- Sea ice moves -> leads and ridges



Photo: W. Dierking, 1991



Courtesy of R. Kwok



# Why do we monitor sea ice?

- Albedo
- Transportation
  - Hazard for shipping
  - Planning ship routing
  - Used as road



Photo: W. Copeland



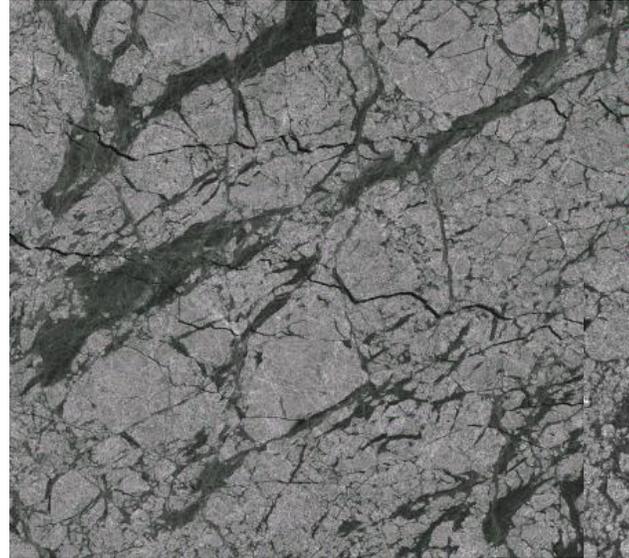
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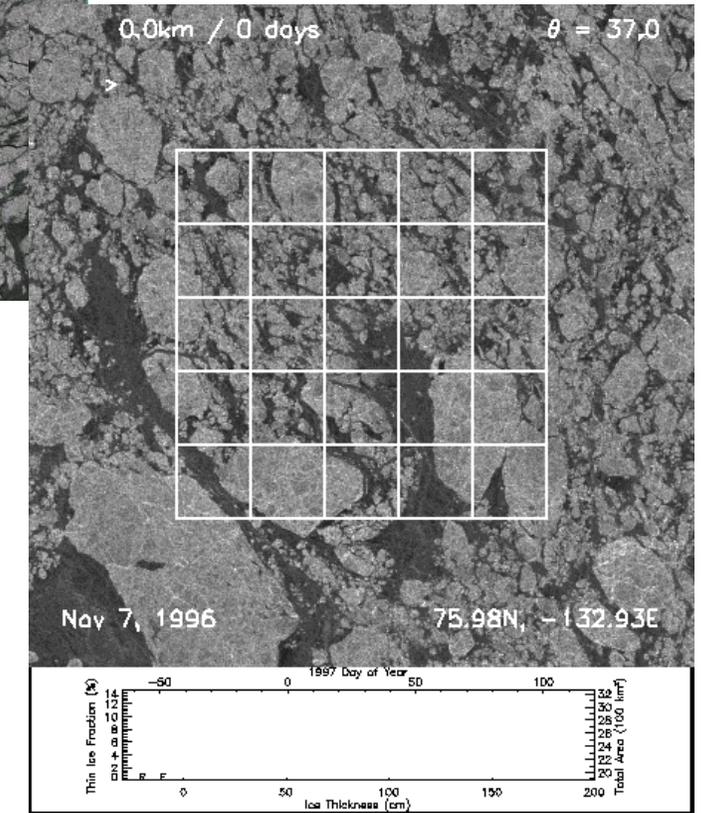


# Why do we monitor sea ice?

- Albedo
- Transportation
  - Hazard for shipping
  - Planning ship routing
  - Used as road
- Coastal Erosion
- Climate System
  - Heat and gas exchanges
  - Heat flux sea surface: 100 -1000 W/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Sea Ice >1m Thick: 5-20 W/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Frequency and size of leads and polynyas influences regional heat flux.



SAR Image, 100x100 km



Courtesy of R. Kwok



# How do we monitor sea ice?

Altitude 30m



Altitude 900m

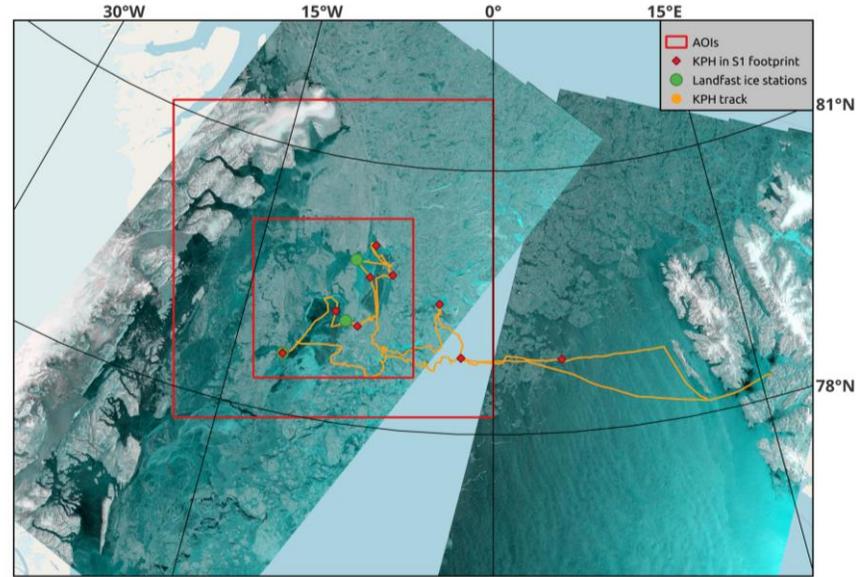


Photos: W. Dierking



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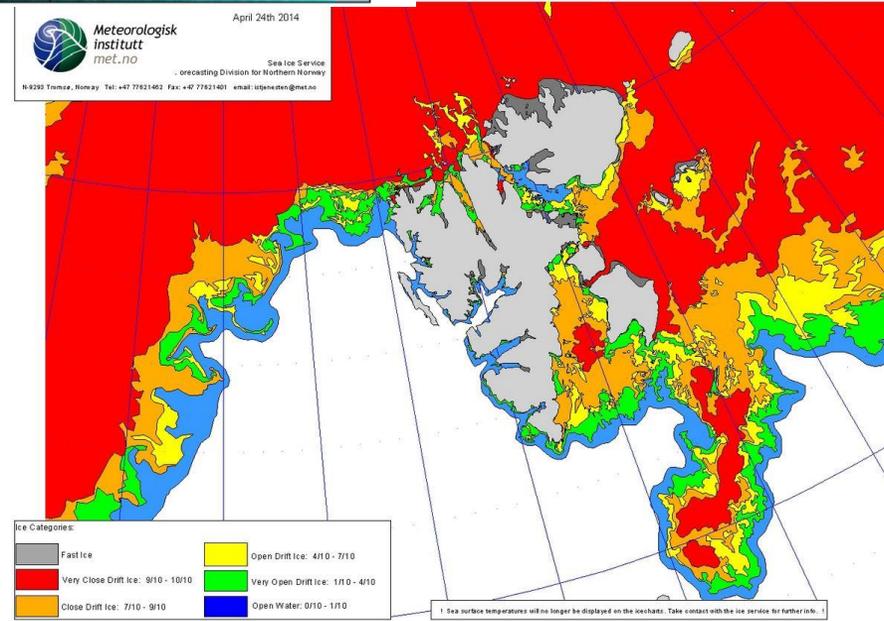
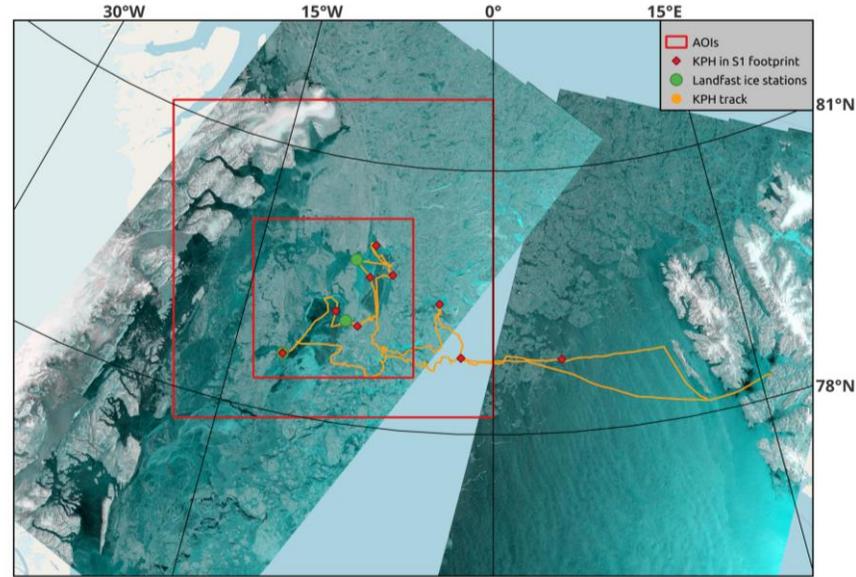
Altitude 30m



Altitude 900m



Photos: W. Dierking



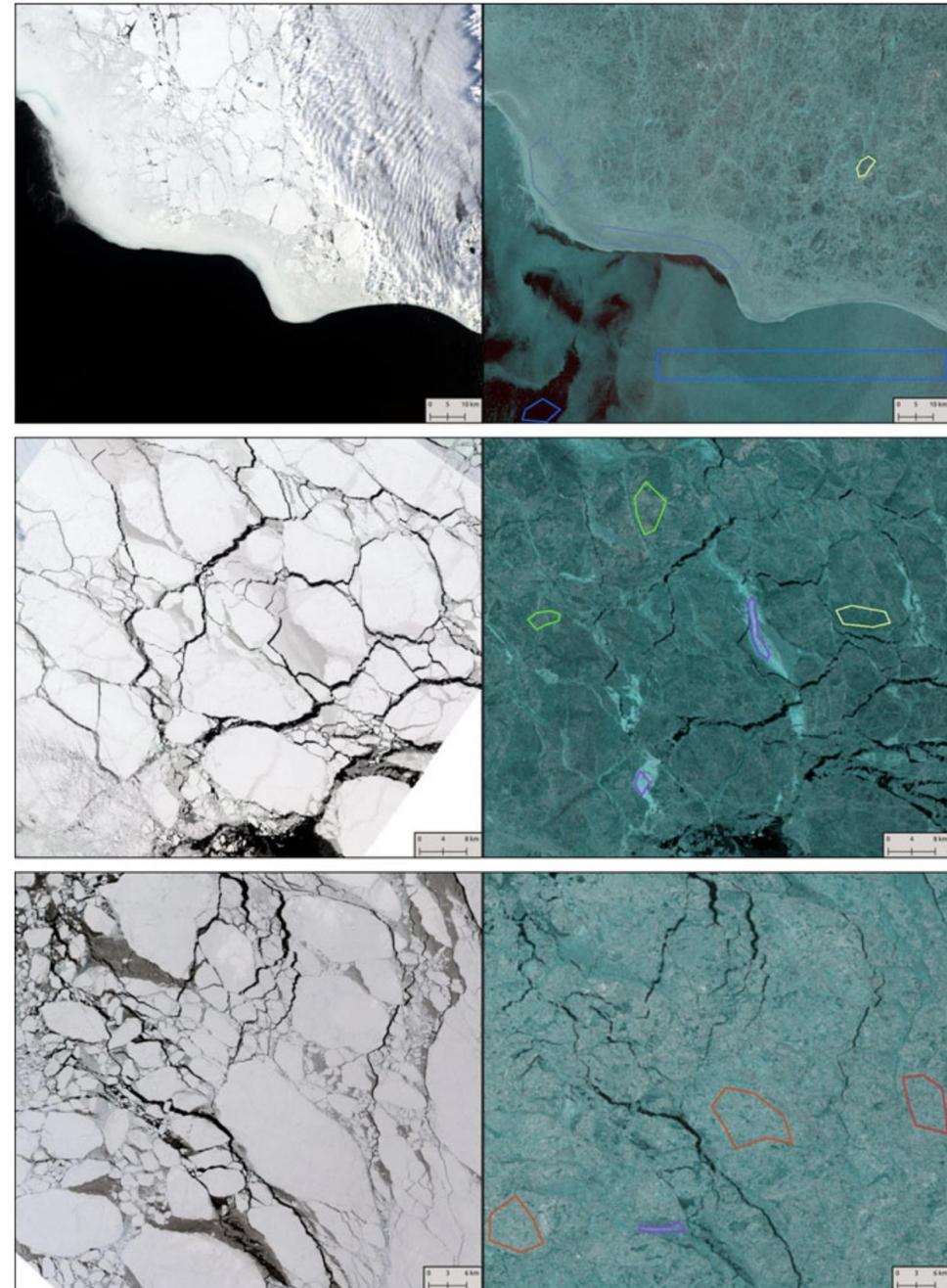
# Sea Ice Maps

- Drawn by Hand
  - Expert knowledge
  - History from sequence of SAR images
  - Yesterday's images (from the past [hours to a day])
  - Information from ships
  - Other satellite sensors
  - Weather forecasts
- Remaining Challenges:
  - AI may be helpful in improving ice charts (under investigation)
  - Very important to avoid misclassifications regarding hazardous ice conditions



# SAR vs. Optical

- SAR images can penetrate the clouds and work during polar night
  - Not as intuitive to interpret
  - Need to understand the radar signal's interaction with the ground
- Sentinel-2 on the left
- Sentinel-1 on the right
  - R = HV
  - G = HH
  - B = HH
- False color composite/image



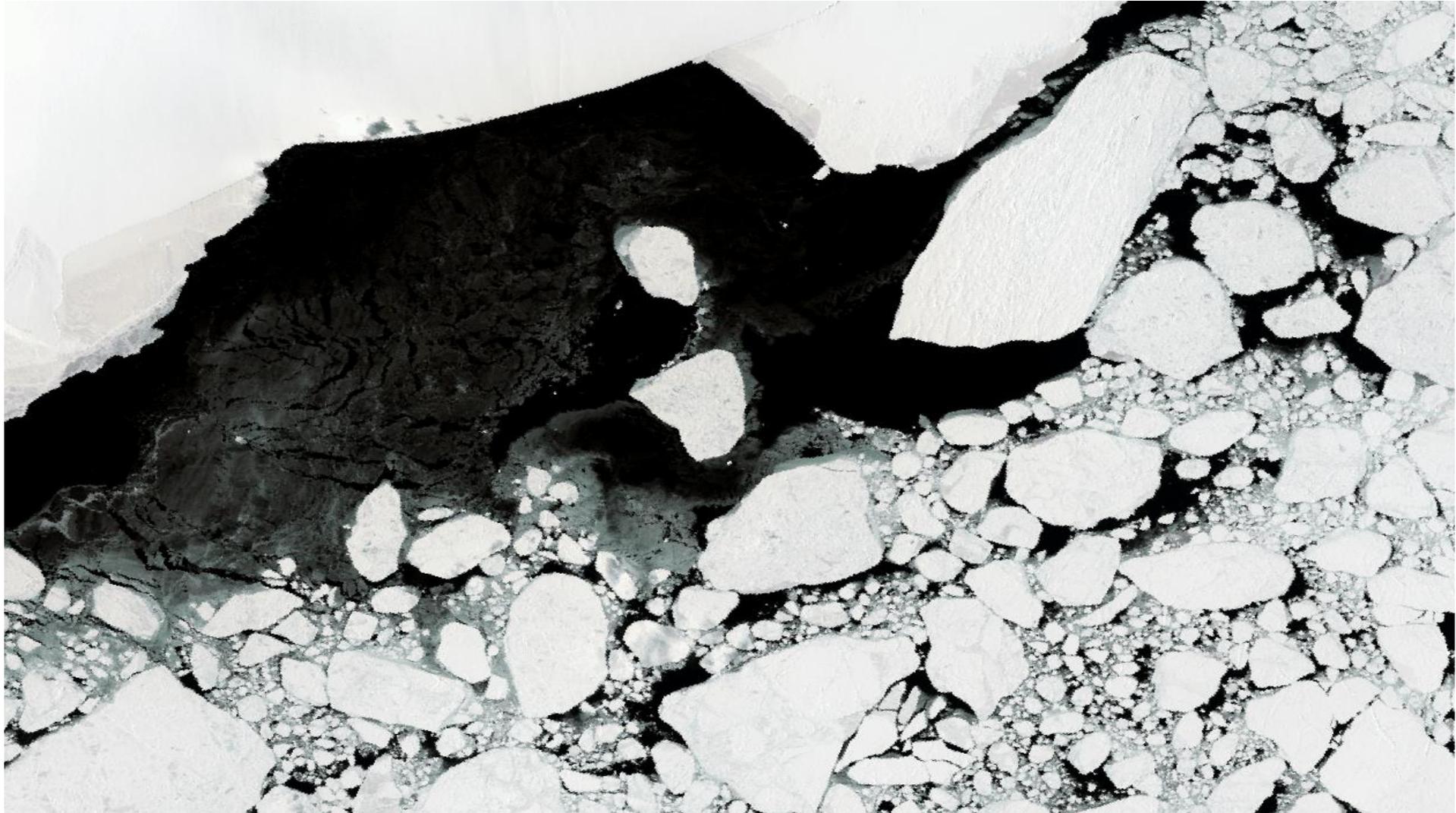
# Sentinel-1 & Sentinel-2

---



# Sentinel-1 & Sentinel-2

---



J. Lohse

# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

## Positives

- Works at night
- Can see through the clouds
- Sea ice areas with rough topography can be recognized in SAR images
  - Used for detection of deformed sea ice areas



# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

## Positives

- Works at night
- Can see through the clouds
- Sea ice areas with rough topography can be recognized in SAR images
  - Used for detection of deformed sea ice areas

**Very useful for safe shipping**



# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

## Challenges

- Challenging to interpret
  - Multiple scales are involved, from micro to km scales



# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

## Challenges

- Challenging to interpret
  - Multiple scales are involved, from micro to km scales
- Multiple scattering mechanisms involved
  - Young thin ice can be bright due to frost flowers, and looks similar to old, thick ice (multi-year ice)



Photo: W. Guo

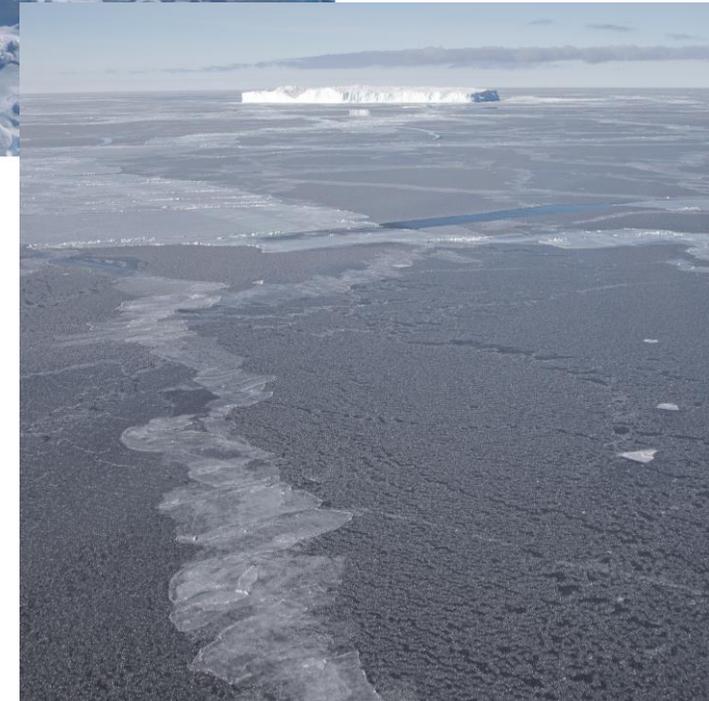


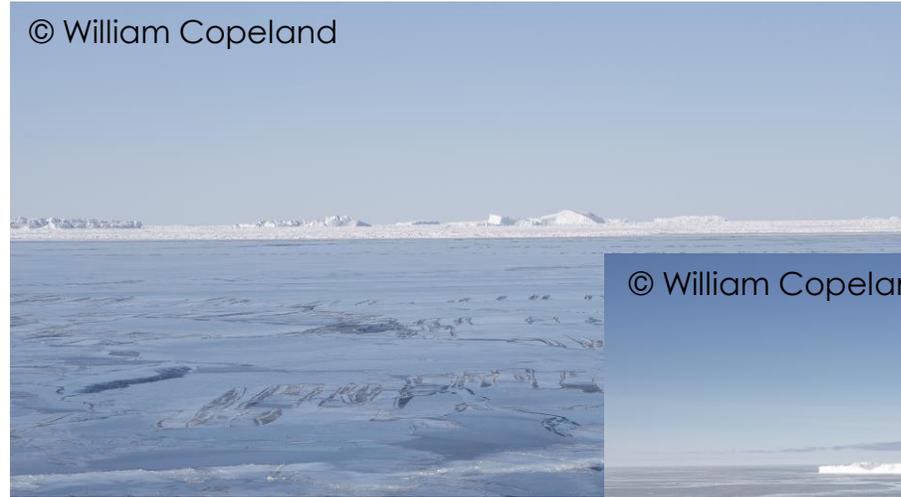
Photo: William Copeland

# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

## Challenges

- Challenging to interpret
  - Multiple scales are involved, from micro to km scales
- Multiple scattering mechanisms involved
  - Young thin ice can be bright, due to frost flowers, and looks similar to old thick ice (multi-year ice)
- Young ice has a large range of SAR signatures

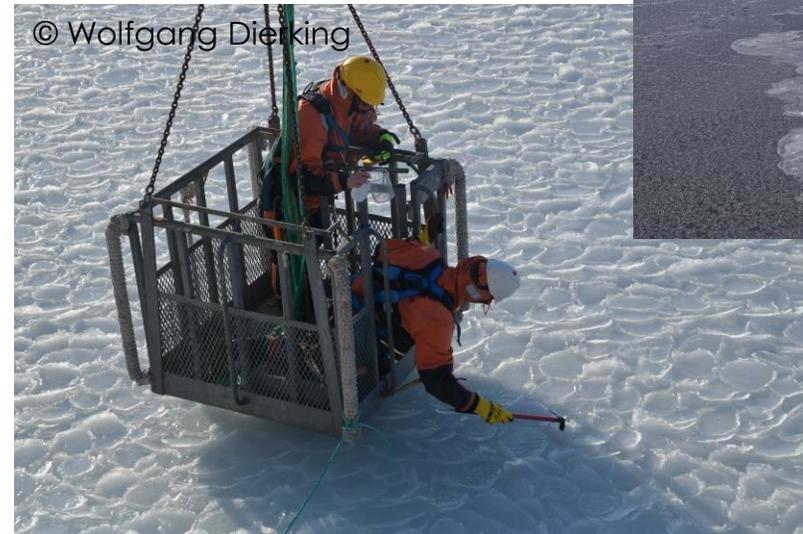
© William Copeland



© William Copeland

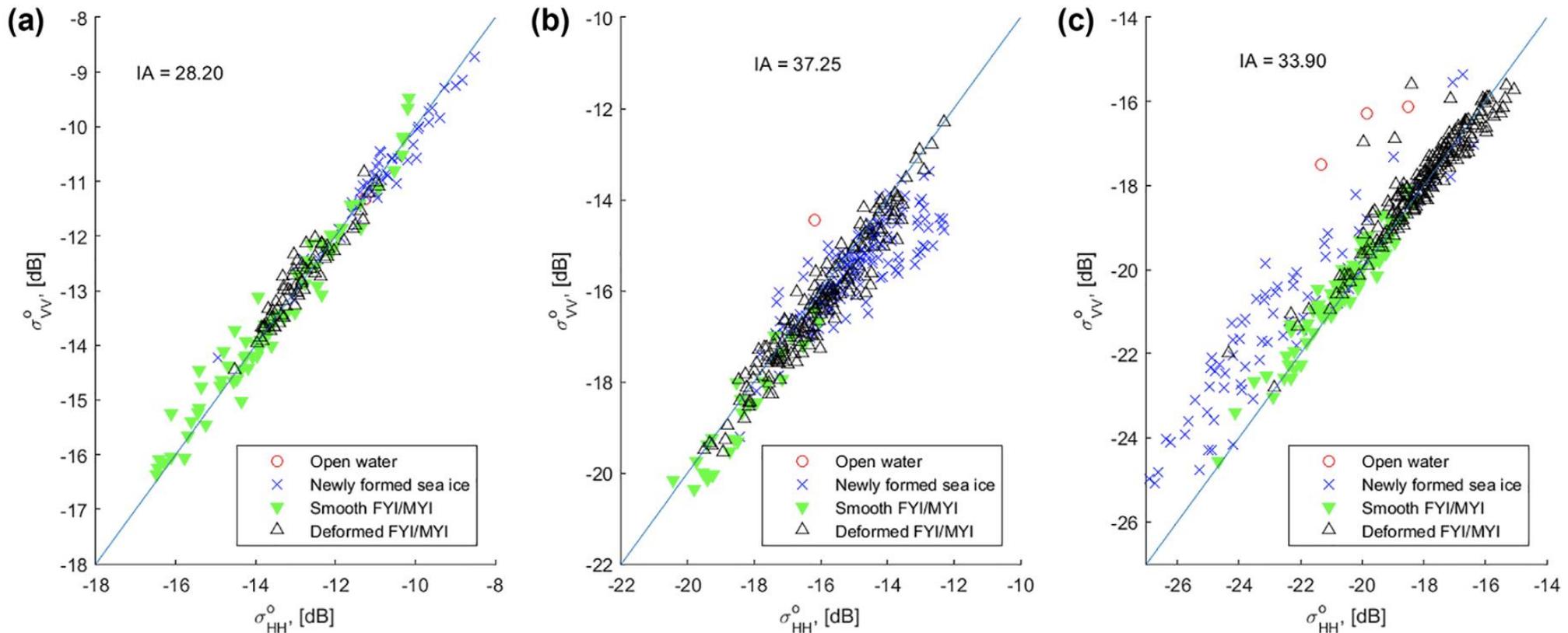


© Wolfgang Dieking



# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

- Evolution for young, smooth, and deformed sea ice
  - Variability is largest for the young ice type



# Using SAR to Monitor and Detect Sea Ice

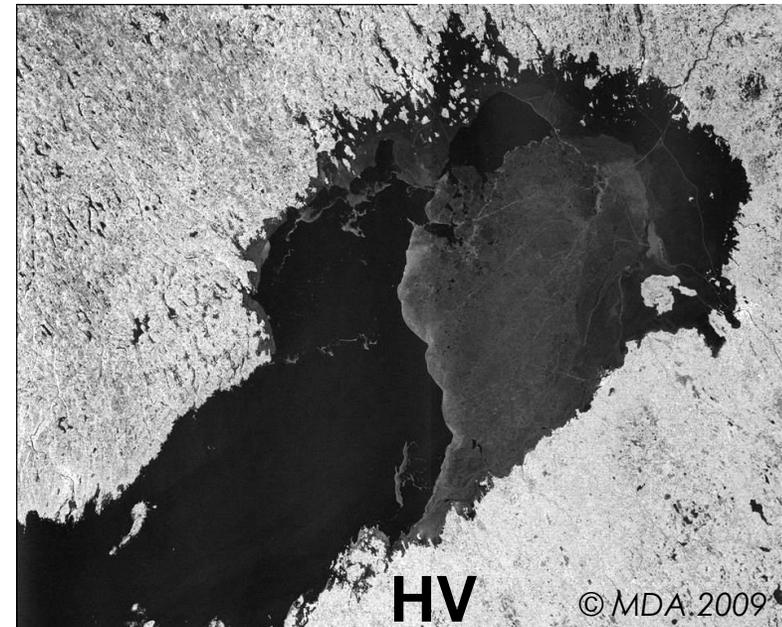
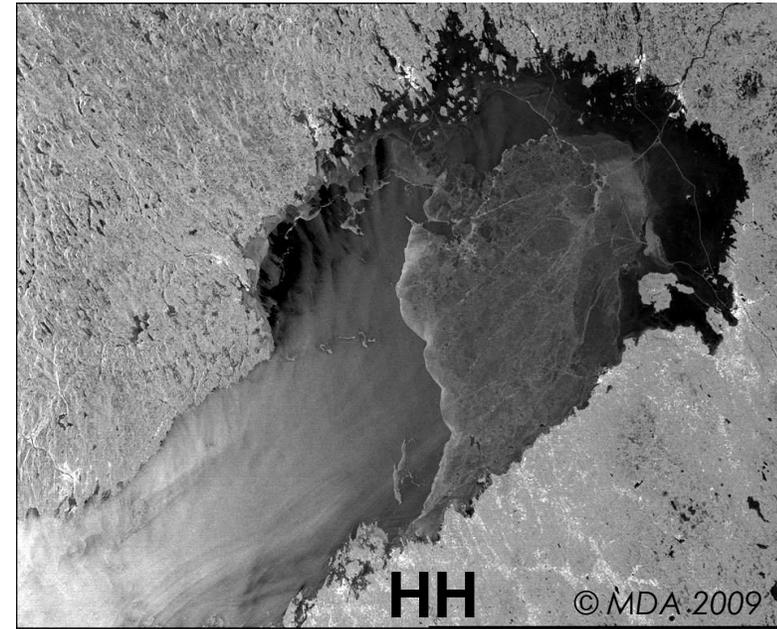
## Challenges

- Separation between open ocean and sea ice -> wind speed dependent
- Propagation and scattering of radar waves in snow and ice layers cause complex interaction processes.
- Melt season changes everything!
  - Separation between wet sea ice, melt ponds on sea ice, and open ocean



# What type of SAR data do we use?

- ScanSAR images primarily
  - Coverage
  - These days HH+HV
    - Good backscatter signatures



Satellite:  
Radarsat-2  
ScanSAR  
Date: 2009-04-  
24

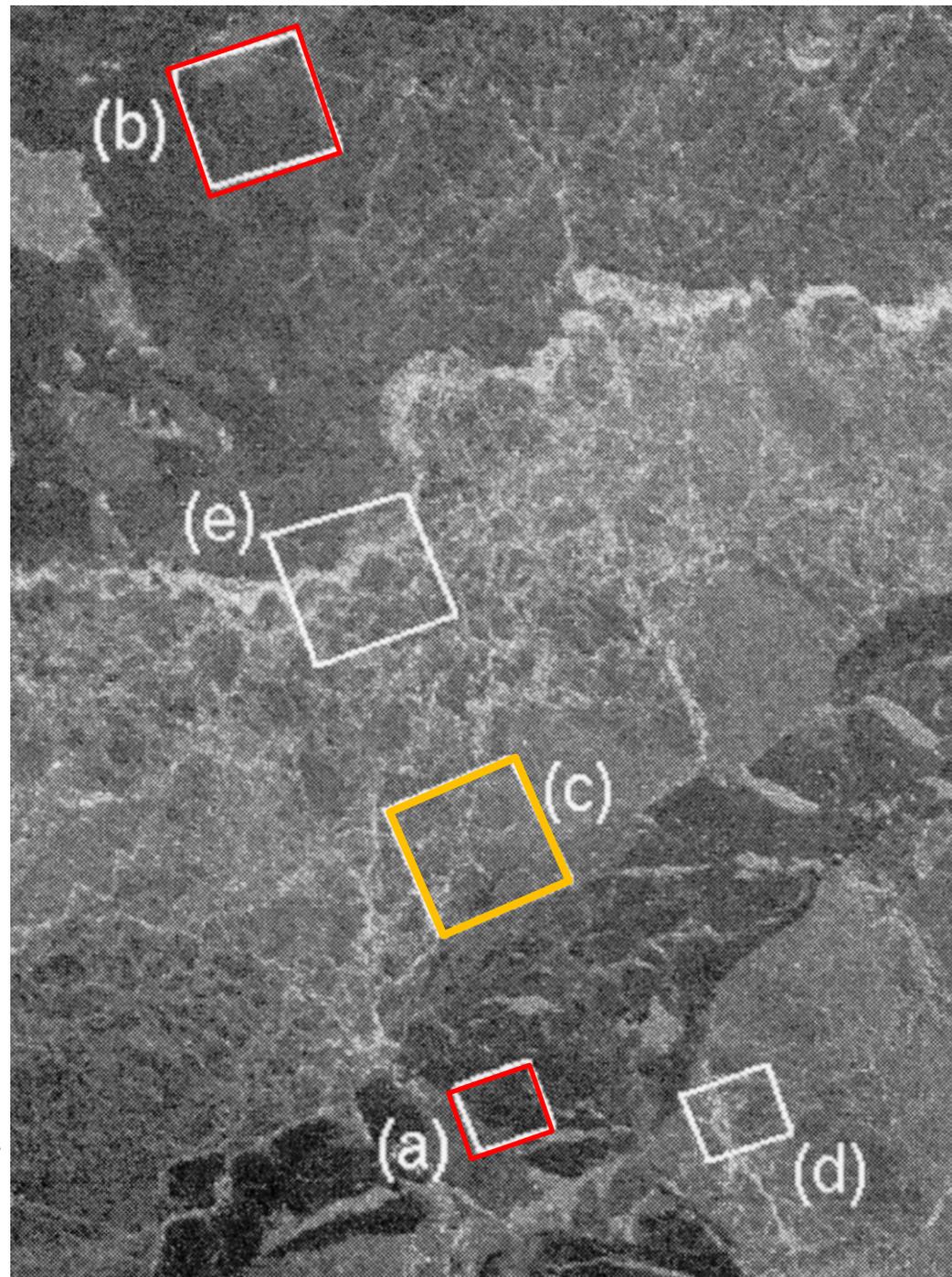


# SAR Signatures

ERS-1 SAR image from 1992-03-17 showing different ice types in boxes:

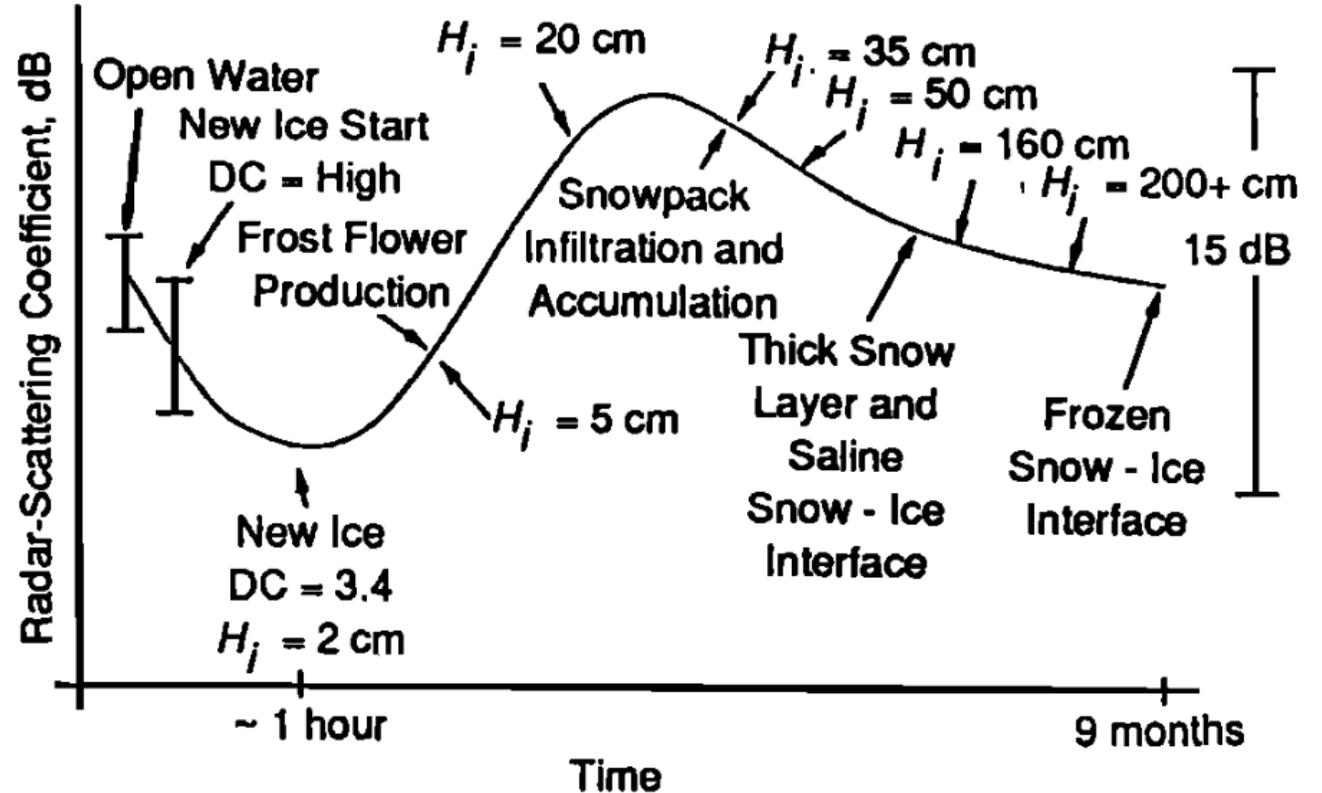
- a) Smooth Level Ice
- b) Rough Level Ice
- c) Ridged Ice
- d) Hummocked Ice
- e) Rubble Fields
- f) Jammed Brash Barrier

Courtesy of P. Dammert et al



# Sea Ice Backscatter Signatures

## Ice Growth Process



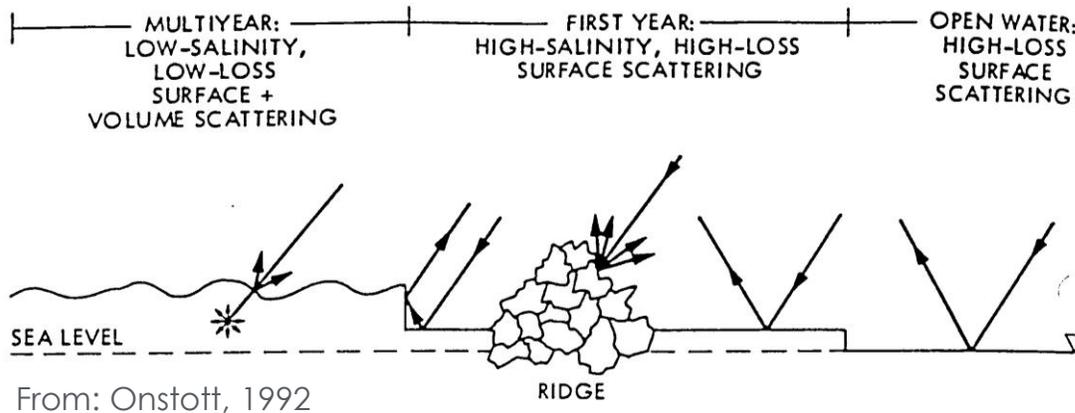
From: Onstott, 1992



# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

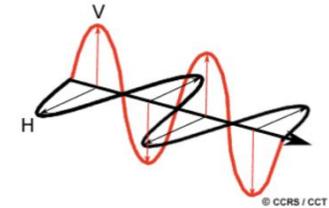
## Sea Ice

- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)

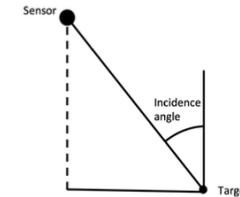


## • Sensor parameters

### • Polarization

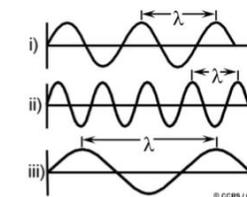


### • Incidence angle $\theta$



### • Resolution, sensor noise, ...

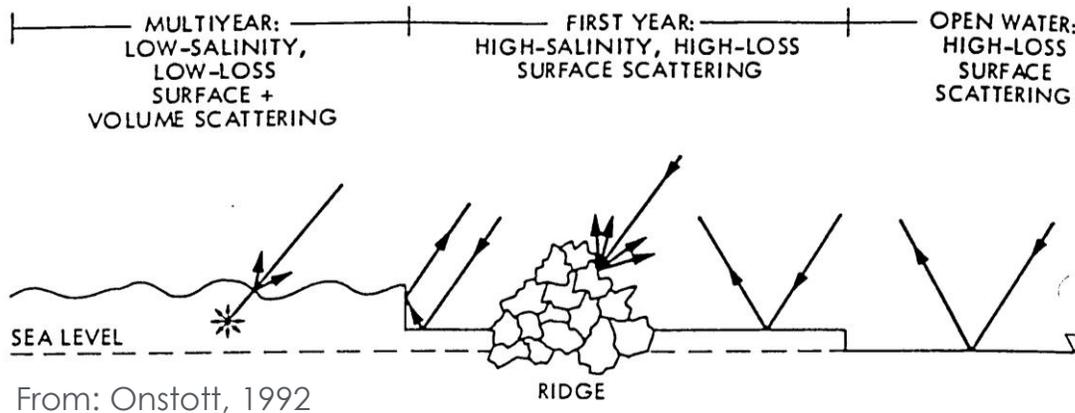
### • Frequency



# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

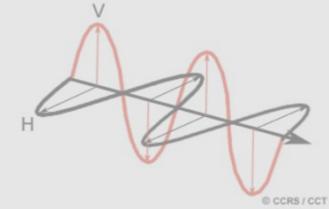
## Sea Ice

- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)

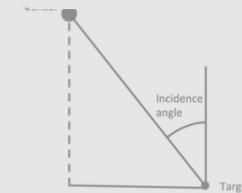


## • Sensor parameters

- Polarization

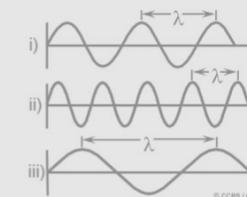


- Incidence angle  $\theta$



- Resolution, sensor noise, ...

- Frequency

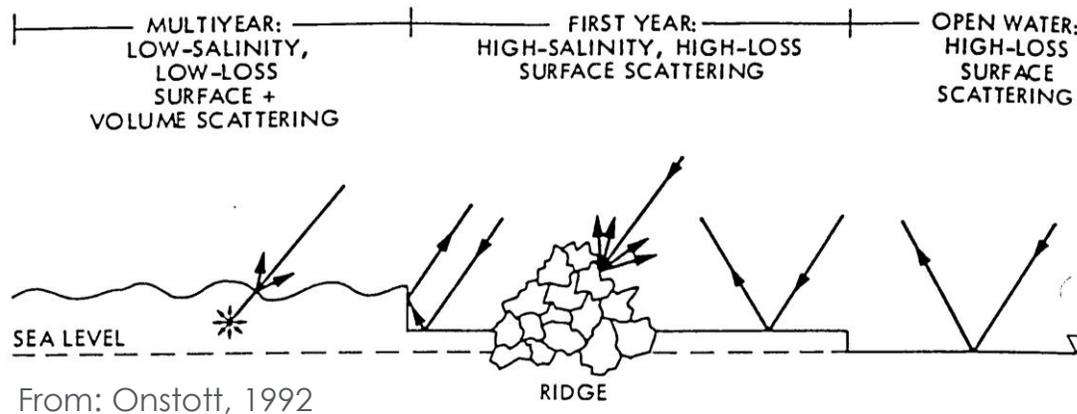


# Many factors affect SAR imaging

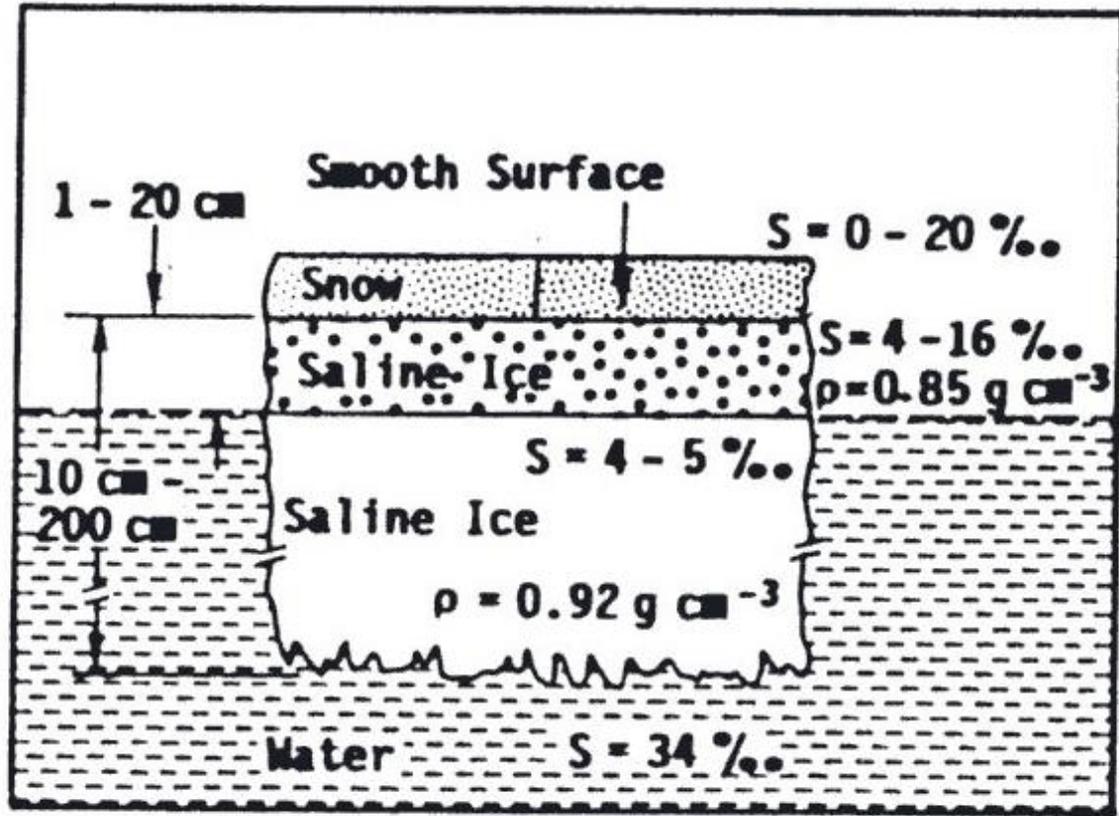


## Sea Ice

- **Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)**
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)



# Sea Ice Salinity



(b) First-Year Ice



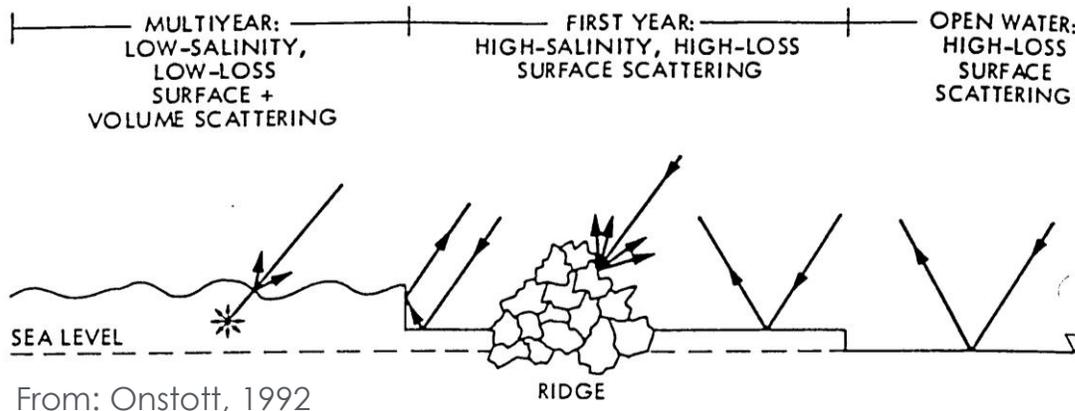
Photo: J. Landy



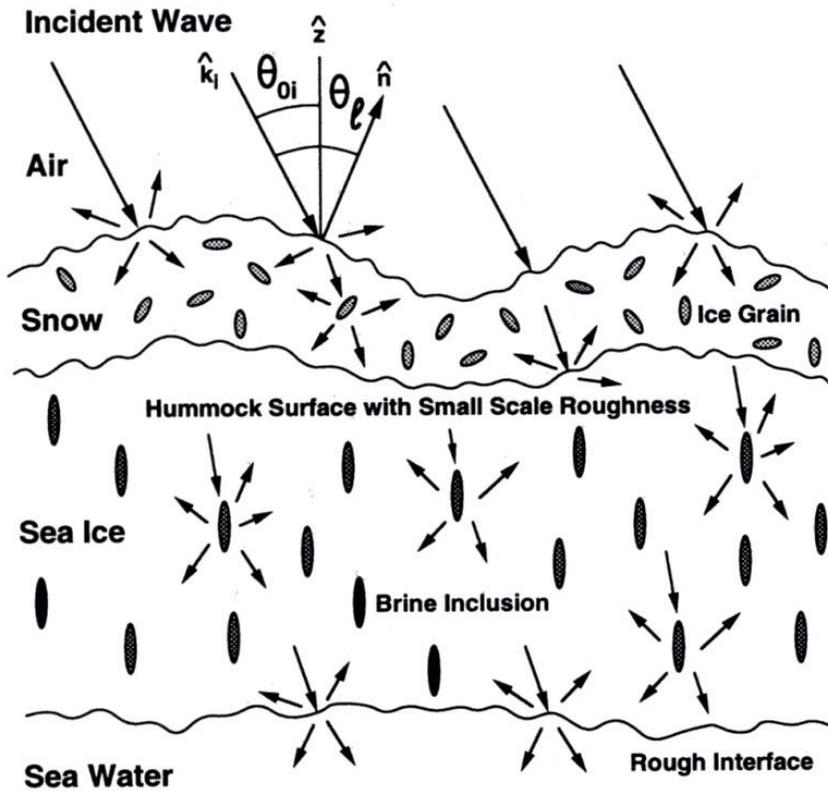
# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

## Sea Ice

- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- **Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering**
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)



# Sea Ice Scattering



Wave scattering from sea ice (from Nghiem et al., [1995]).

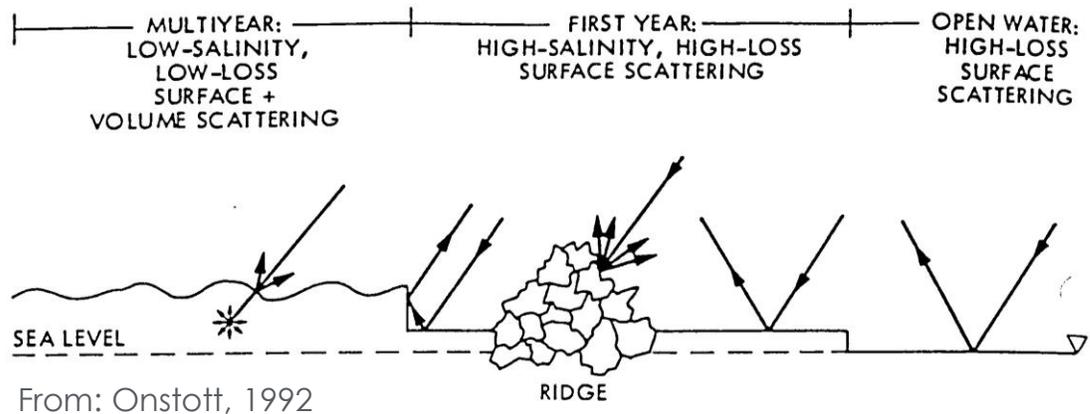


# Many factors affect SAR imaging.



## Sea Ice

- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- **Surface Roughness and Topography**
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)



# Sea Ice Deformation and Roughness



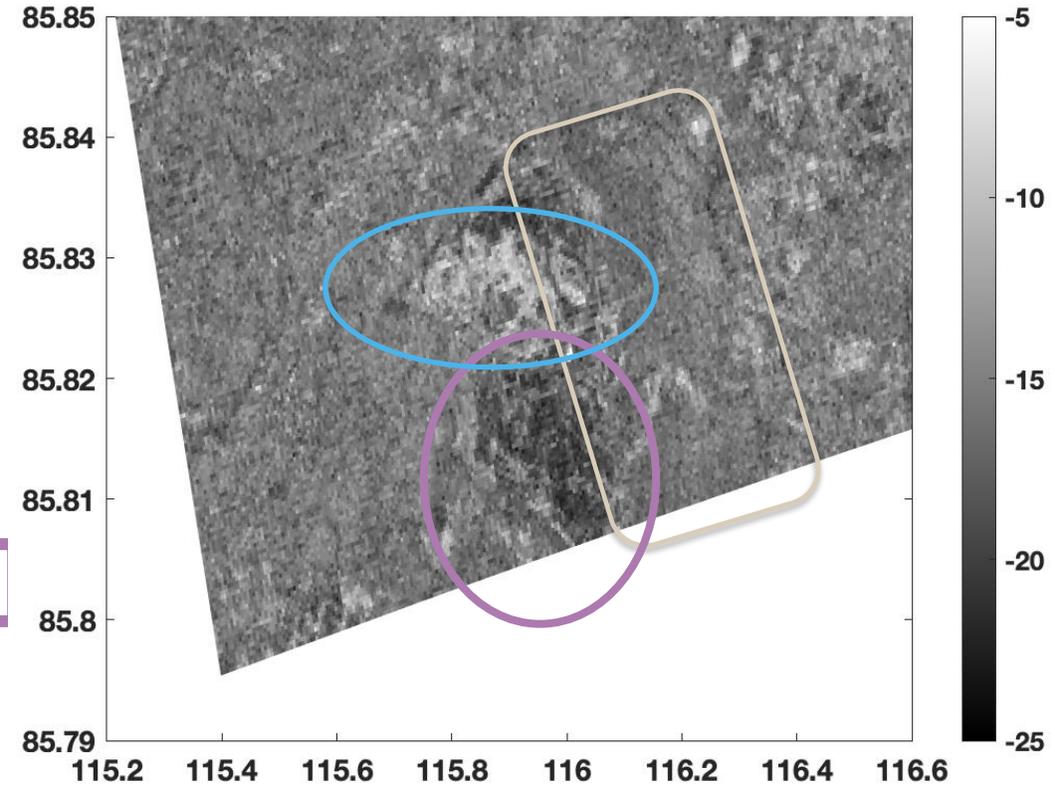
Young Ice

Ridges

Refrozen melt ponds

Thickness: < 1m  
Snow: 10 cm

C-band: 10 November 2019



© MDA, M. Johansson 2019  
MOSAIC Expedition

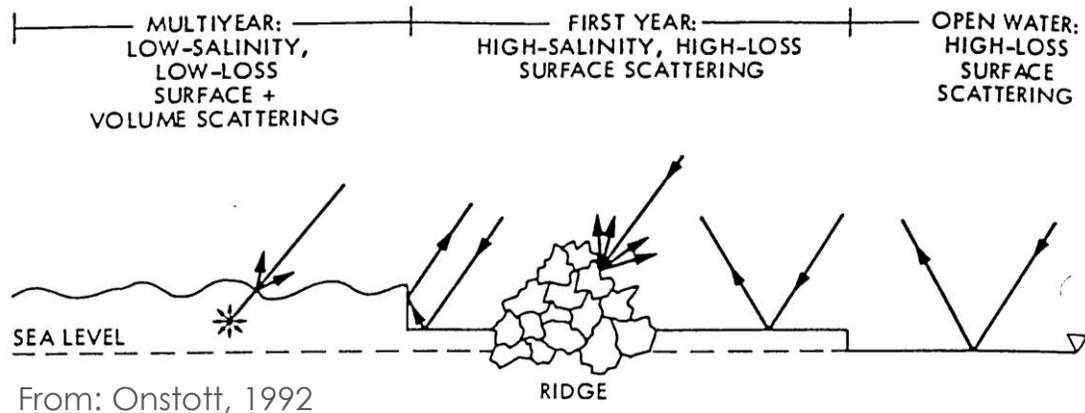


# Many factors affect SAR imaging.



## Sea Ice

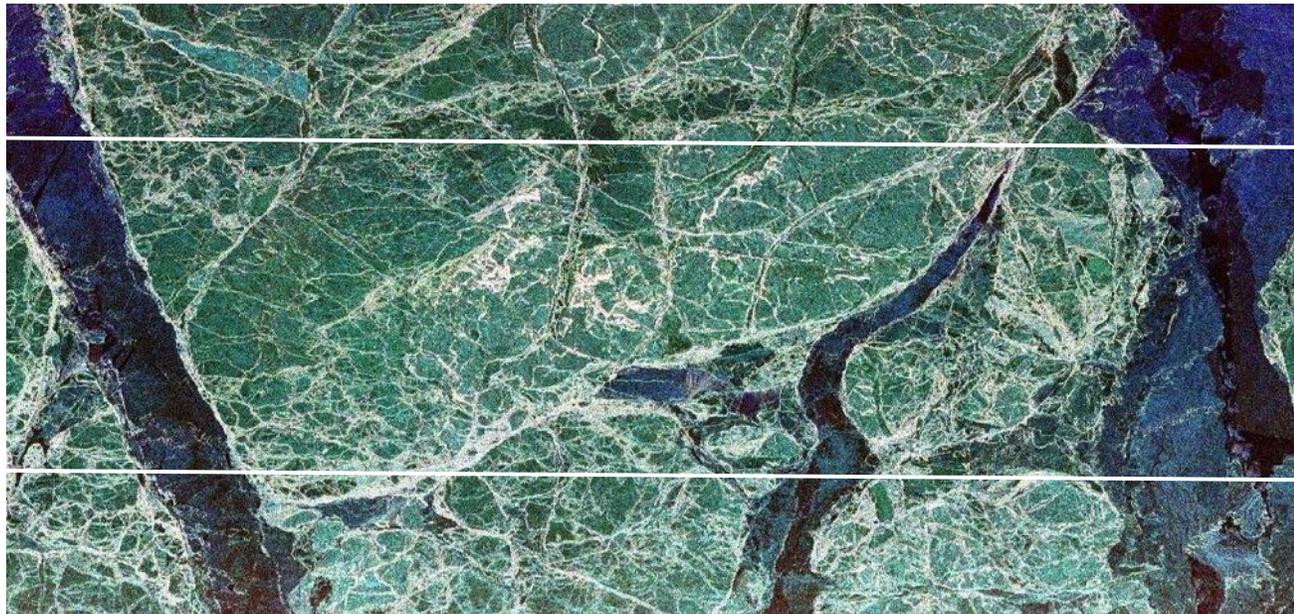
- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- **Layers**
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- **Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)**



# Radars look through dry snow.



AWI/Optimare  
Airborne  
Color Line-Scanner



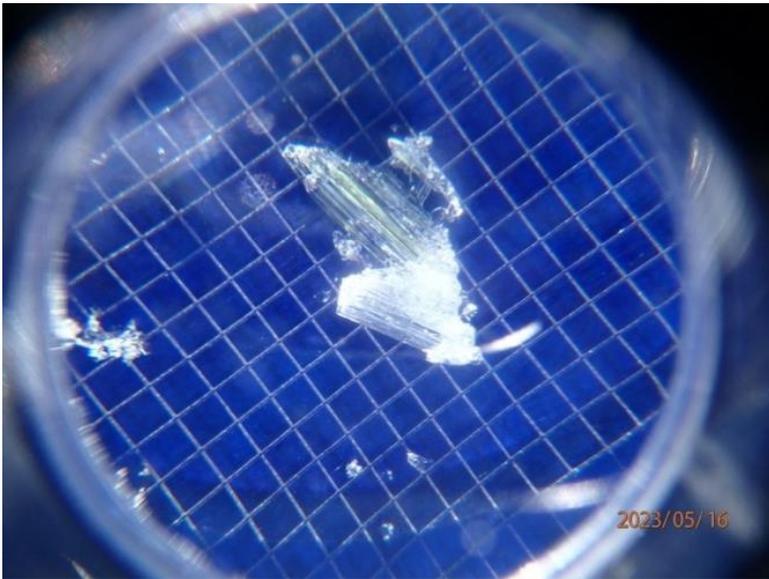
3 km

DLR ESAR:  
L-Band  
R: X-Pol.  
G: H-Pol.  
B: V-Pol.



# Sea Ice Dynamics – Influence of Snow

- ARTofMELT (Atmospheric rivers and the onset of sea ice melt)
- May 7<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>
- 28 snow pits



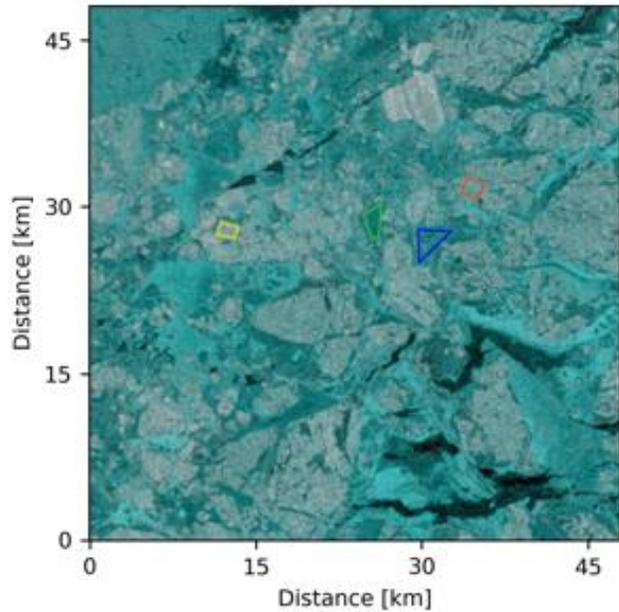
Photos: T. Karlsen



# Influence of Snow

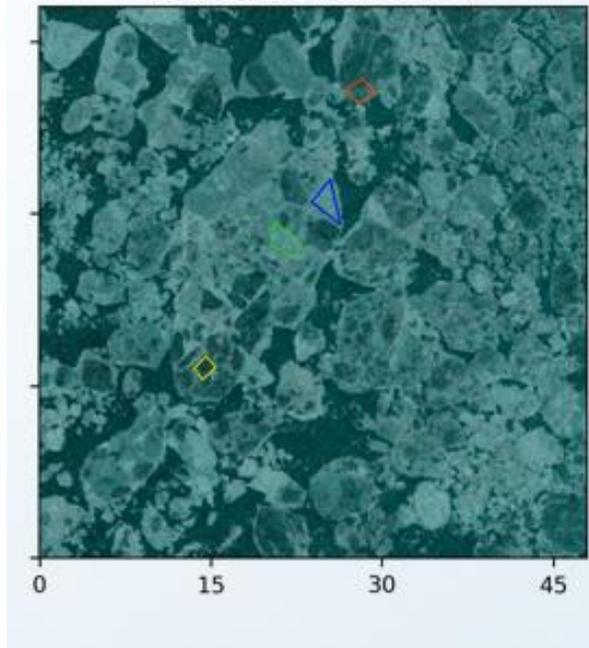
## Freezing

30/04/2022 at 08:02

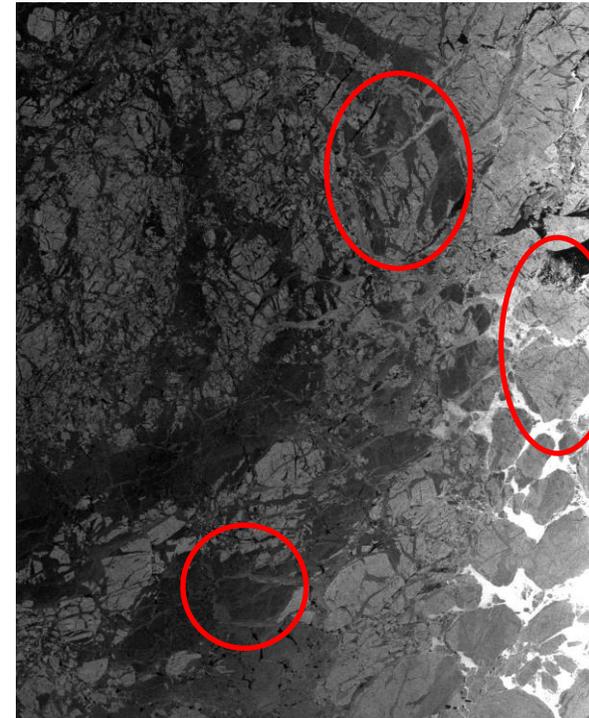


## Melting

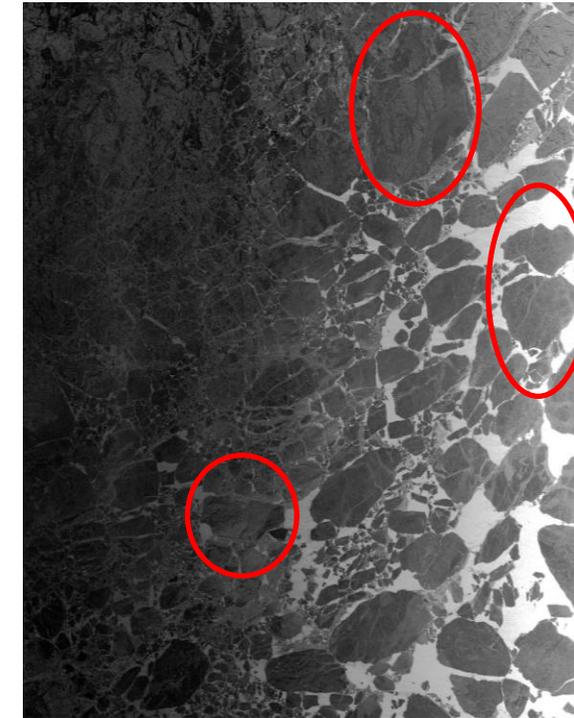
31/05/2022 at 07:54



HH, 02-06-2008



HH, 05-06-2008



C. Taelmann et al, 2023

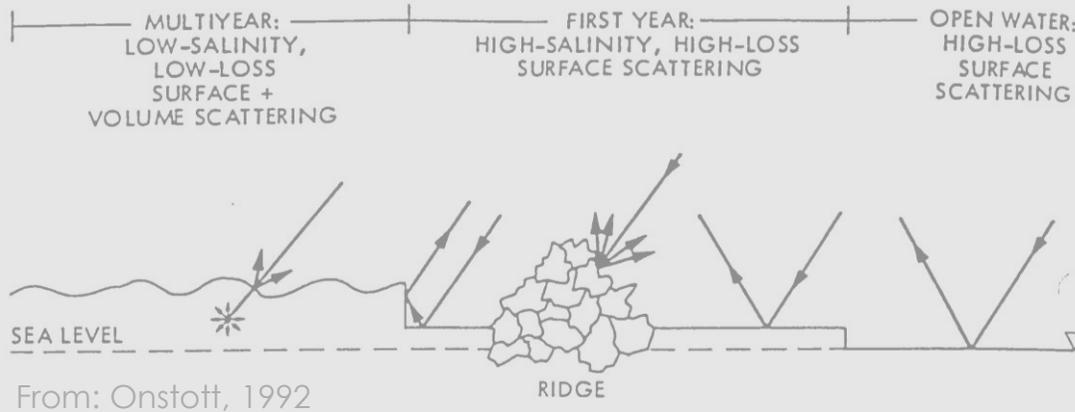
© ASAR Images



# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

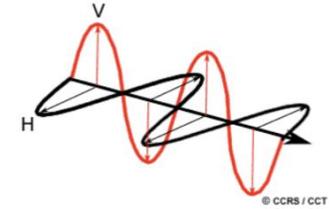
## Sea Ice

- Difference in Salinity (dielectric constant, penetration depth)
- Porosity and Inclusions - Scattering
- Surface Roughness and Topography
- Layers
  - Snow/Sea Ice
  - Sea Ice/Water
- Snow Cover (density, grain size, moisture)

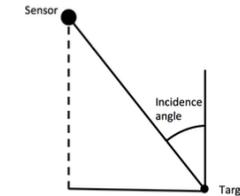


## • Sensor parameters

### • Polarization

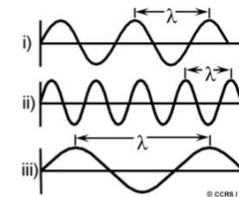


### • Incidence angle $\theta$



### • Resolution, sensor noise, ...

### • Frequency

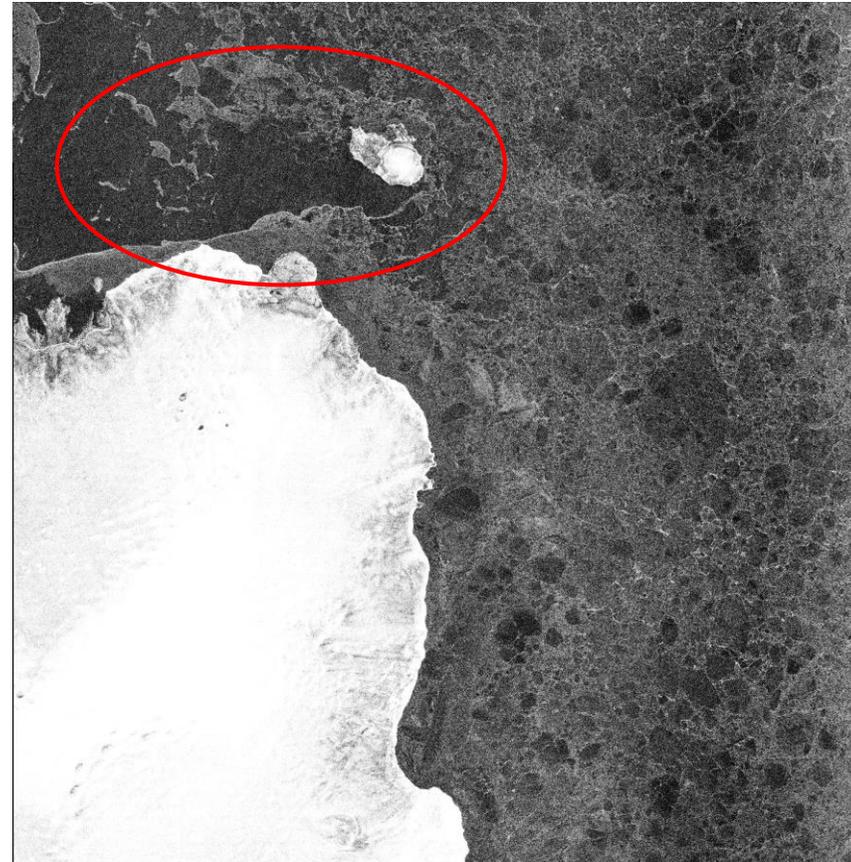


# Sea Ice Backscatter Signatures

ASAR, March 17, 2007  
(ICESAR-Campaign)



HH-Polarization

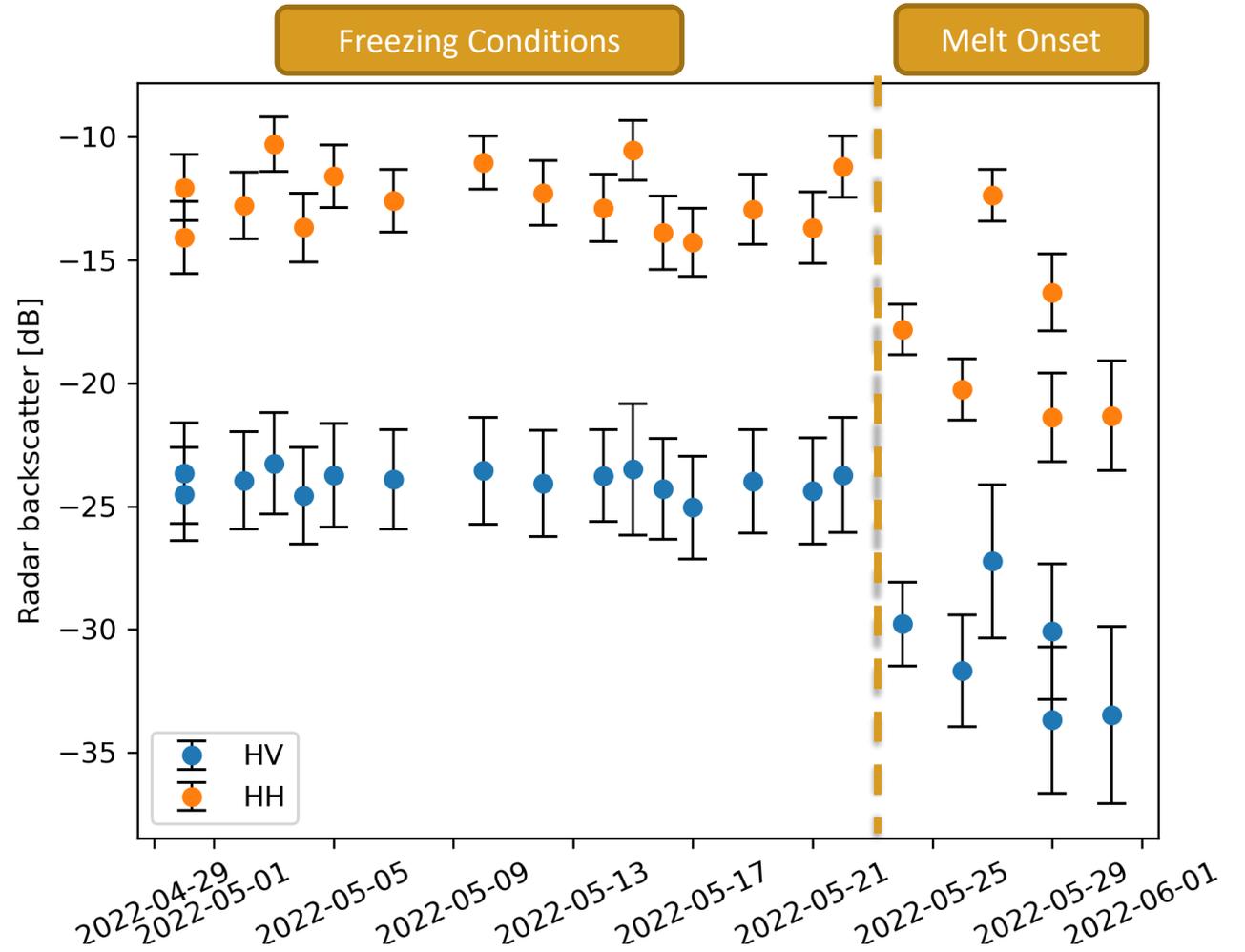
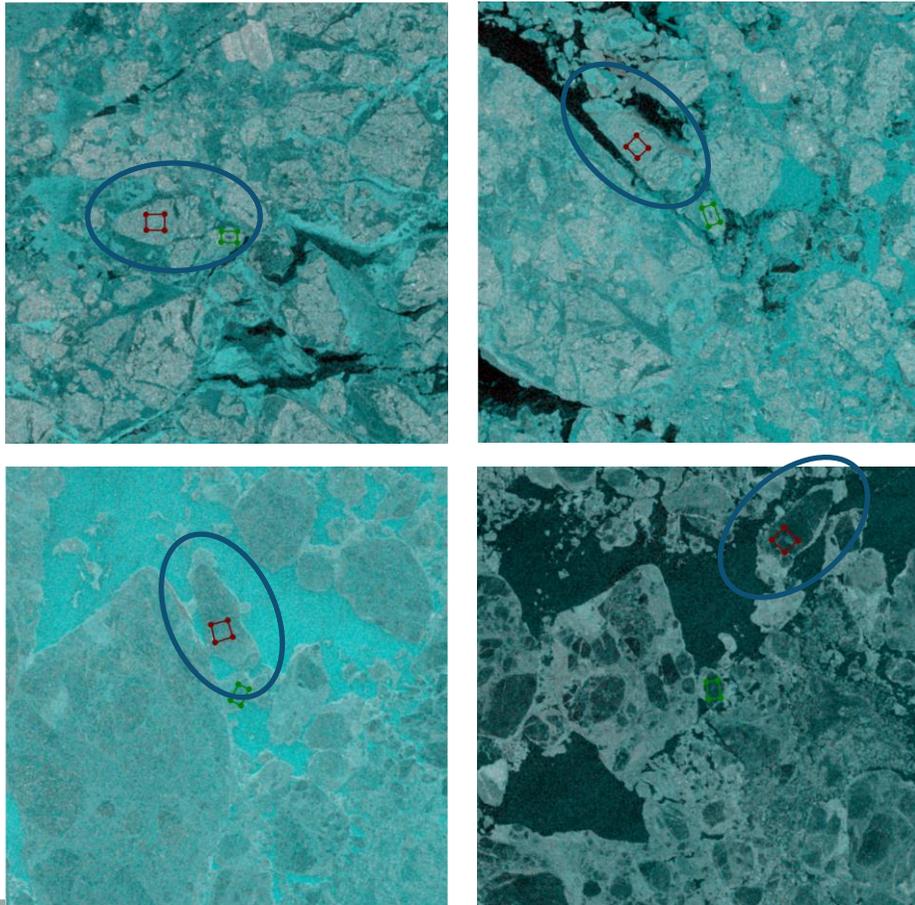


HV-Polarization



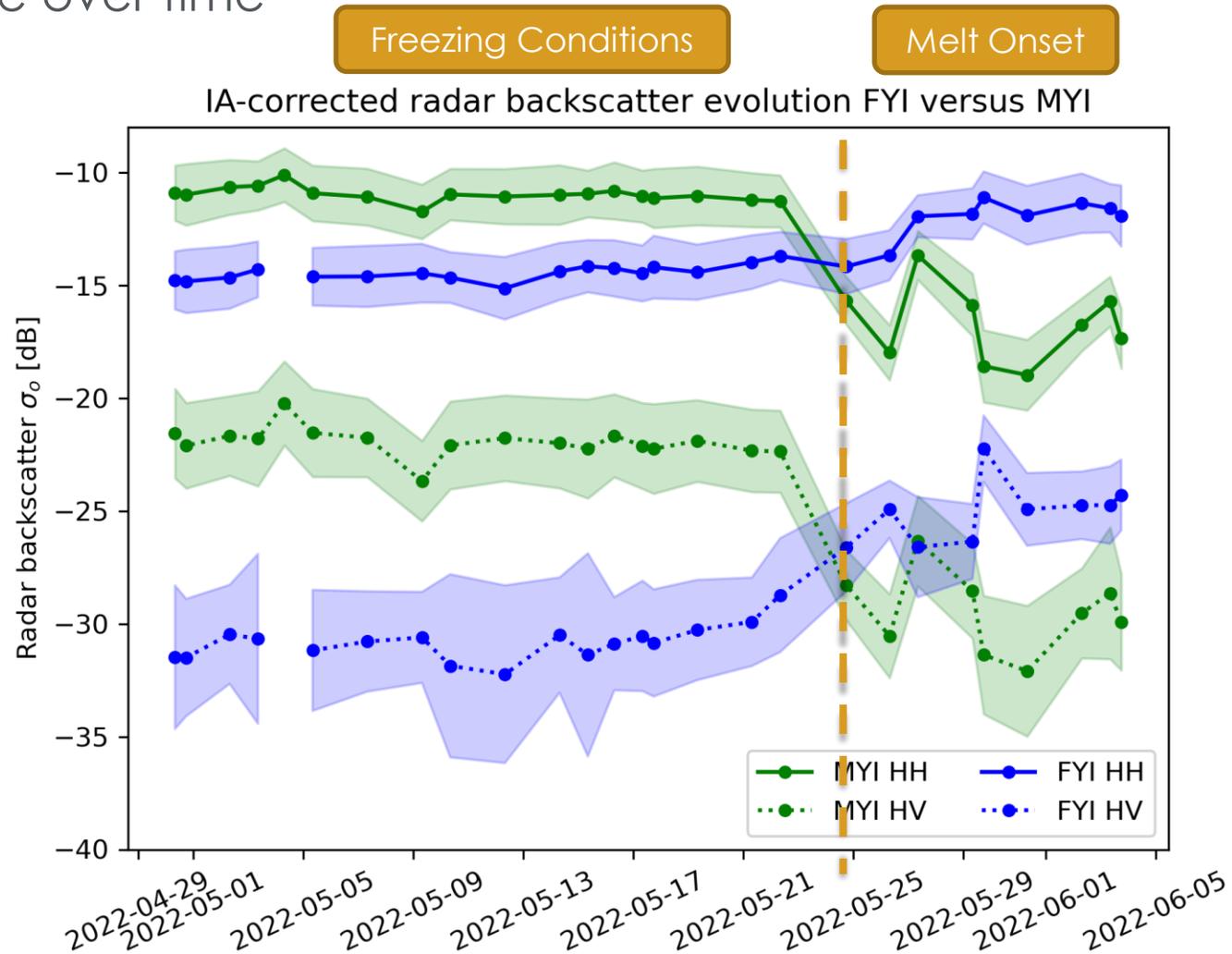
# Sea Ice Backscatter Signatures

- Track the same ice over time
  - Multi-year ice floe



# Sea Ice Backscatter Signatures

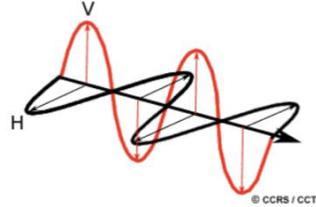
- Track the same ice over time



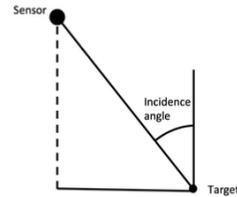
# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

- **Sensor parameters**

- Polarization



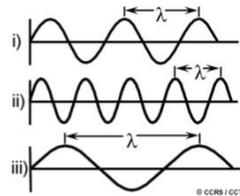
- Incidence angle  $\theta$



- Resolution,  
sensor noise,

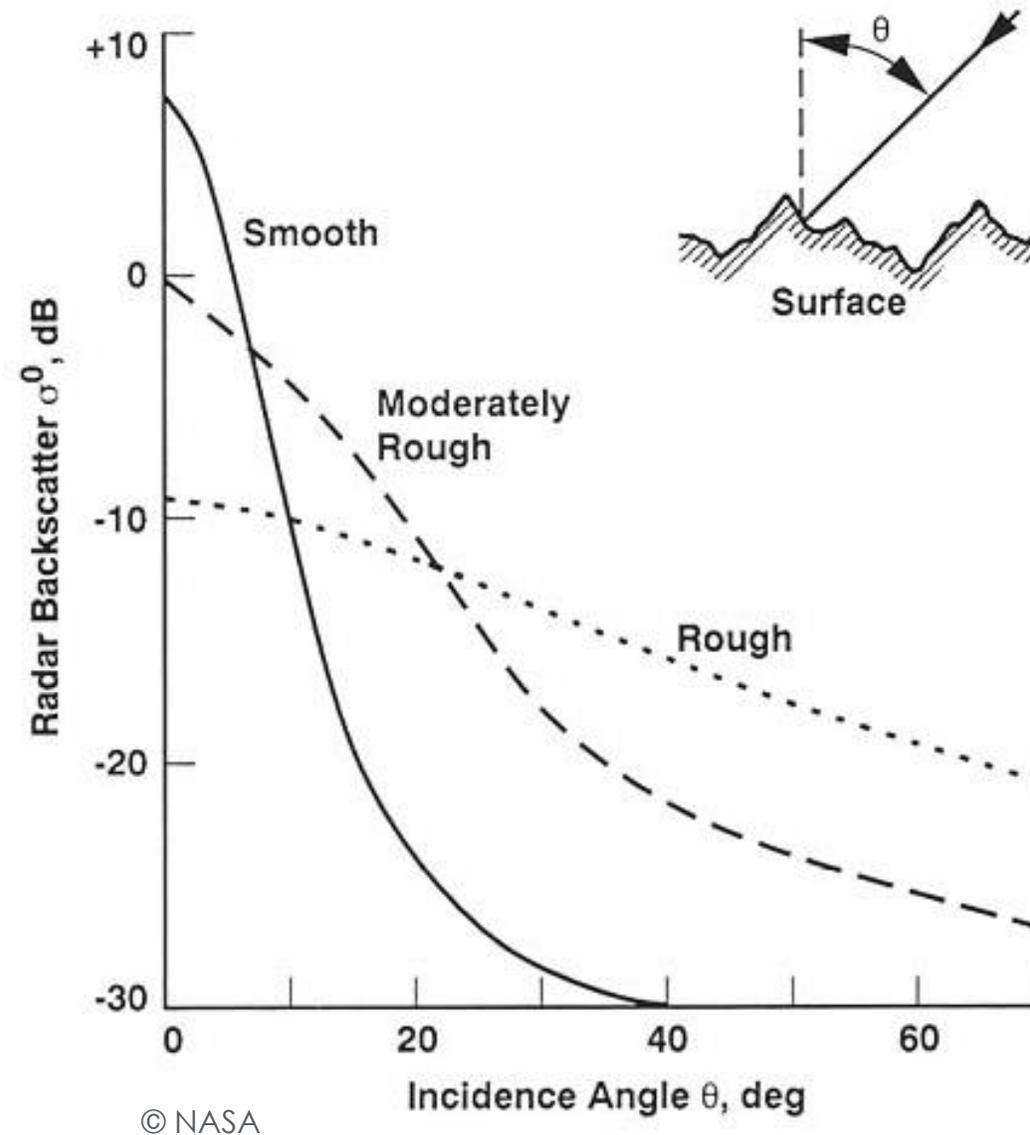
...

- Frequency



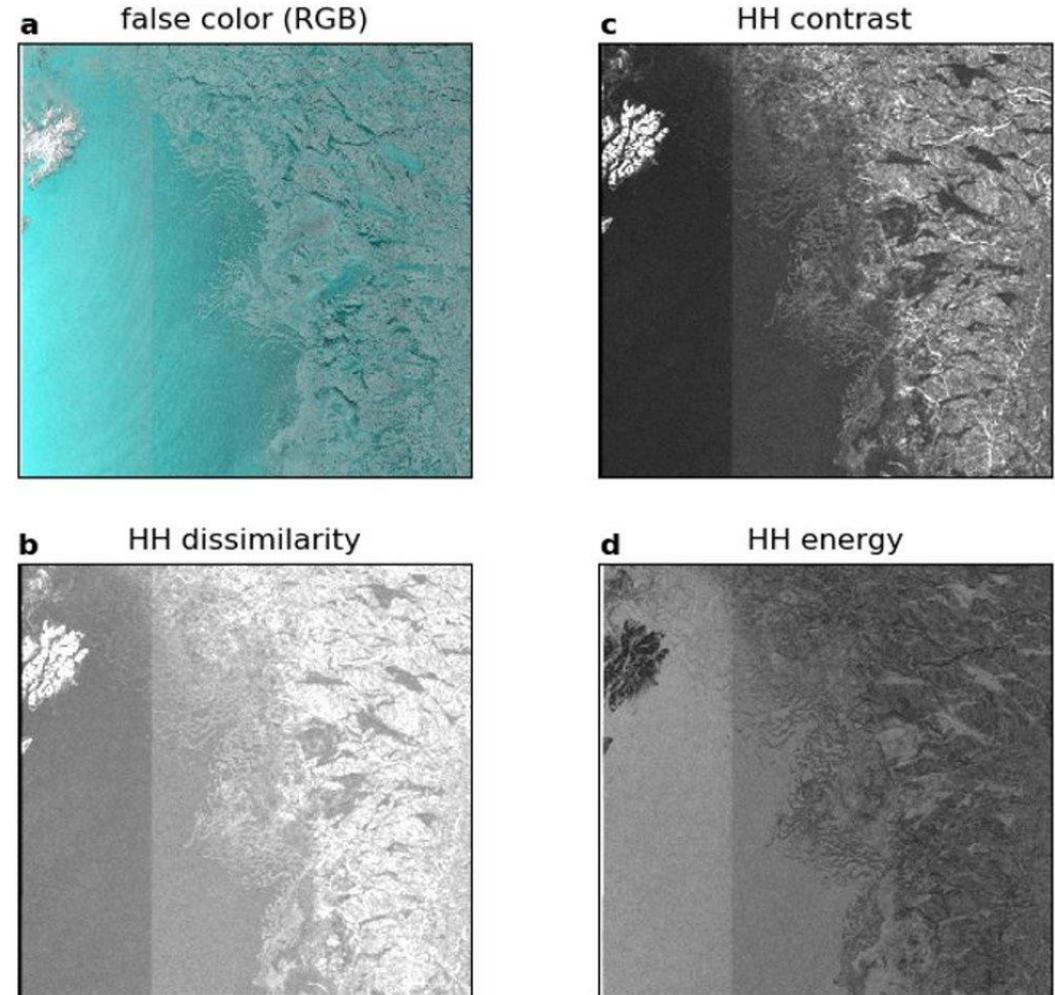
# Incidence Angle

- Radar backscatter is reduced with increased incidence angle.



# Incidence Angle

- We can either correct for the effect across the entire image
  - 0.22 dB/deg for C-band (Mahmud et al, 2018)
- Overall ice types, hence, not a perfect correction
- Or one correction for each ice type

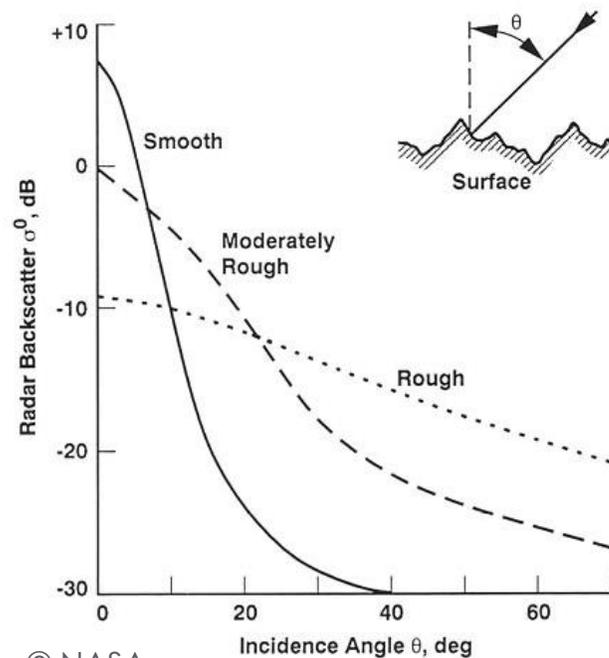


Lohse et al, 2021

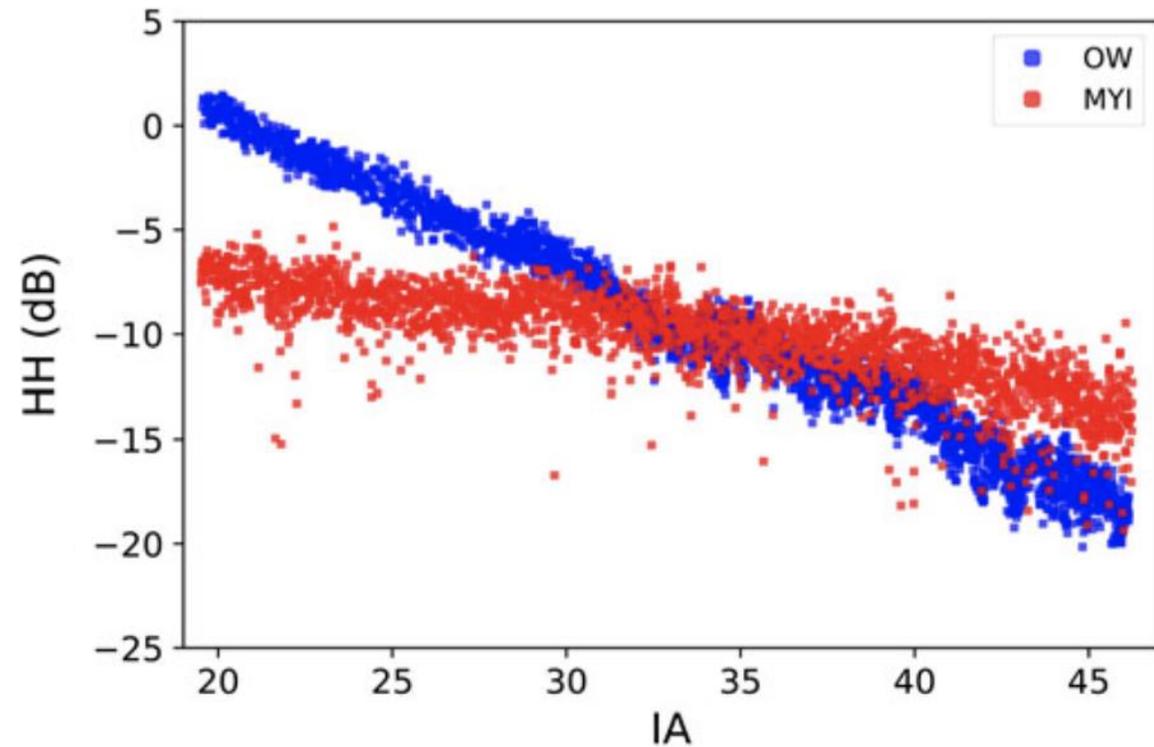


# Incidence Angle

- Radar backscatter is reduced with increased incidence angle.
- The change across the scene is dependent on the material on the ground.

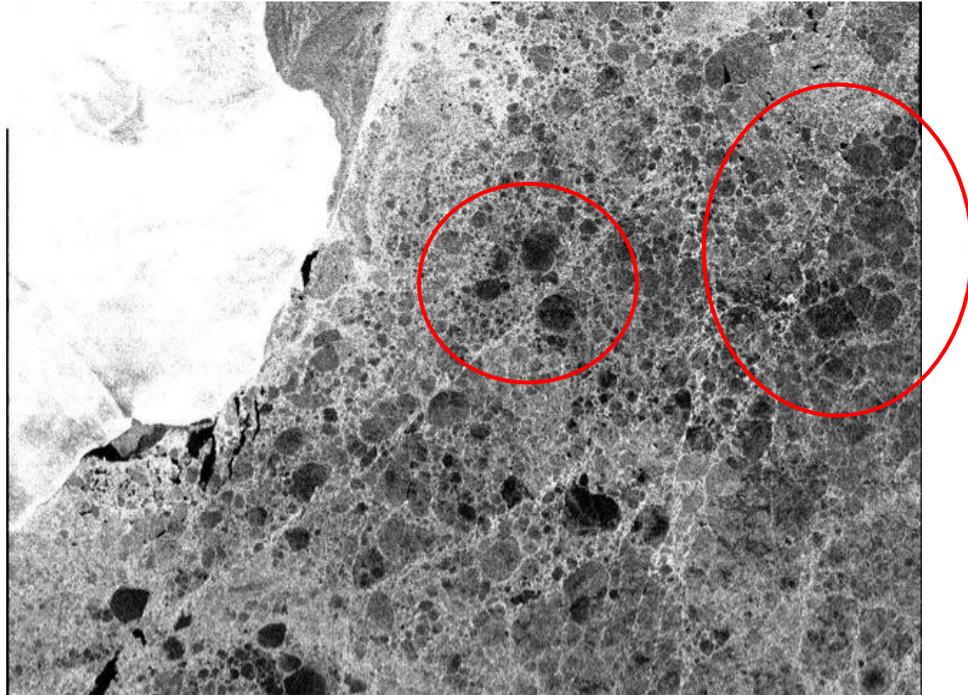


© NASA

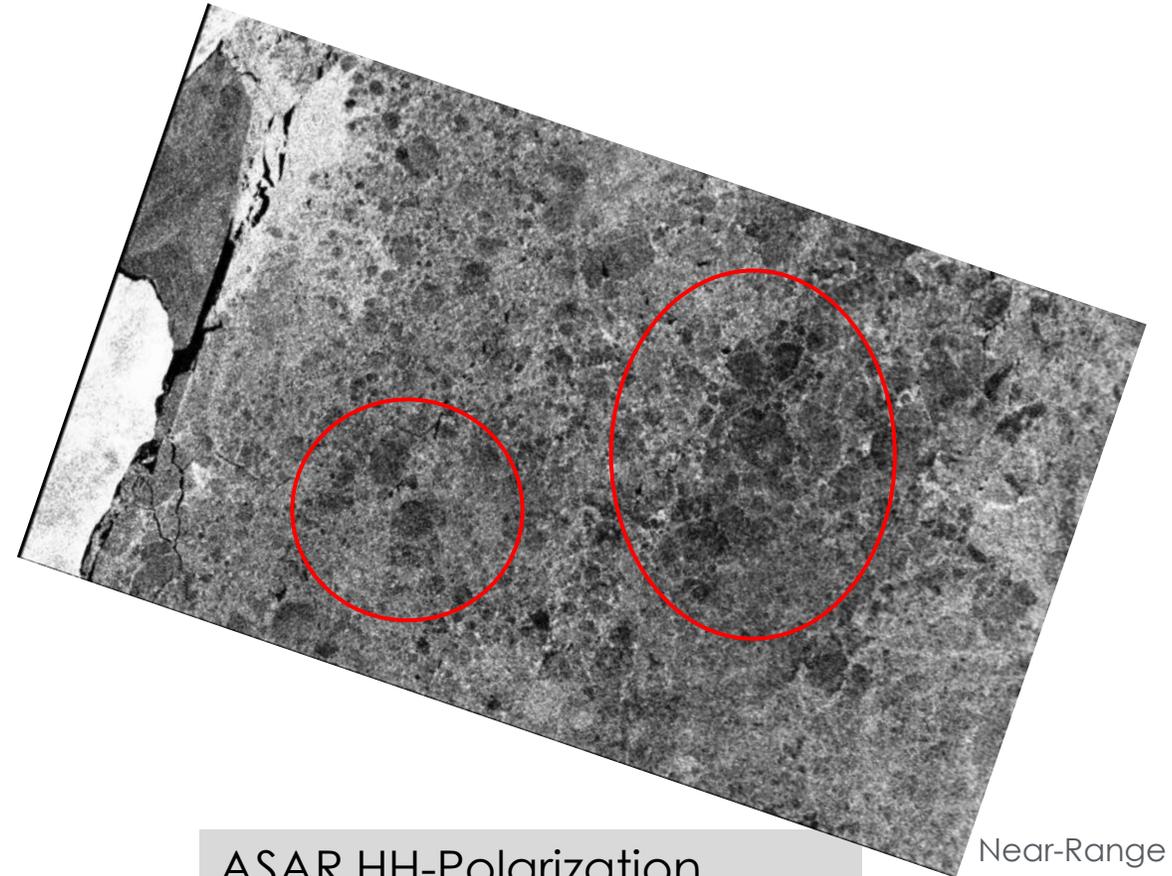


# Incidence Angle

60 km



ASAR HH-Polarization  
20. March 2007, 9:11 UTC  
Incidence Angle: 42 – 45°



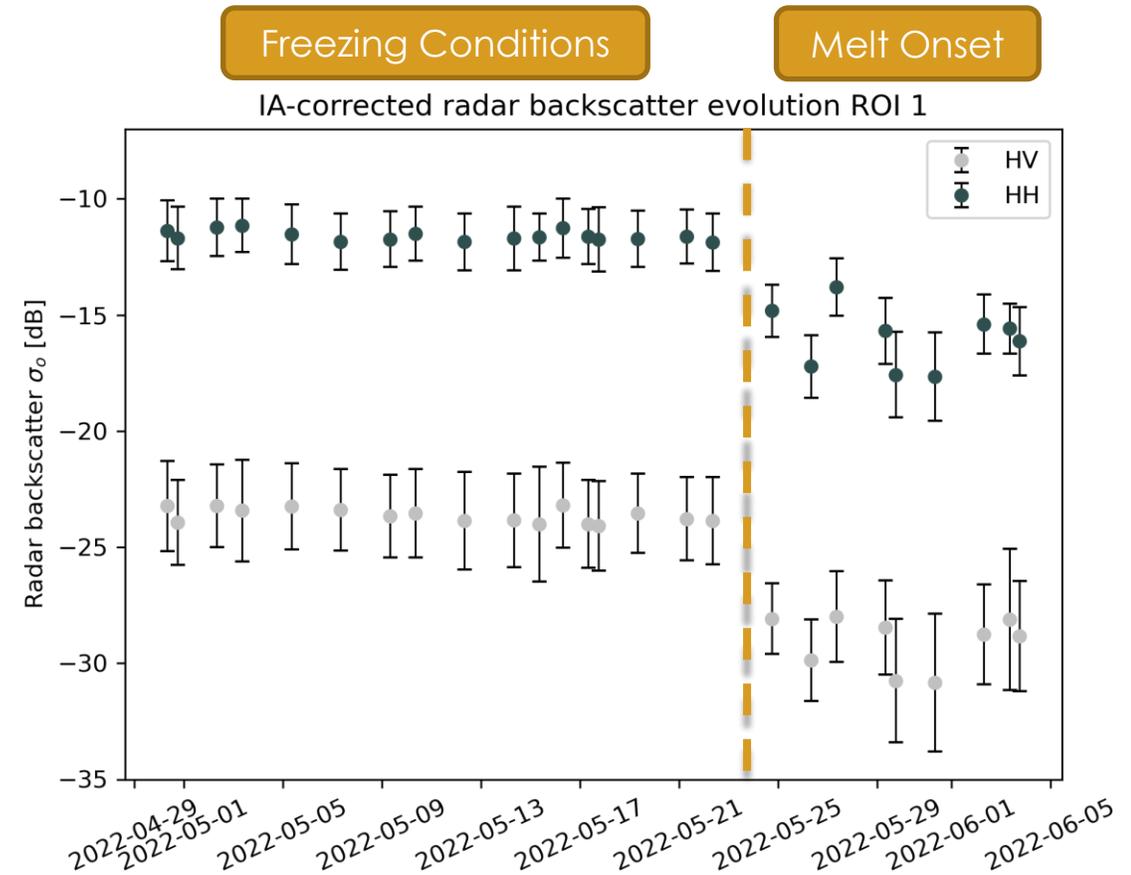
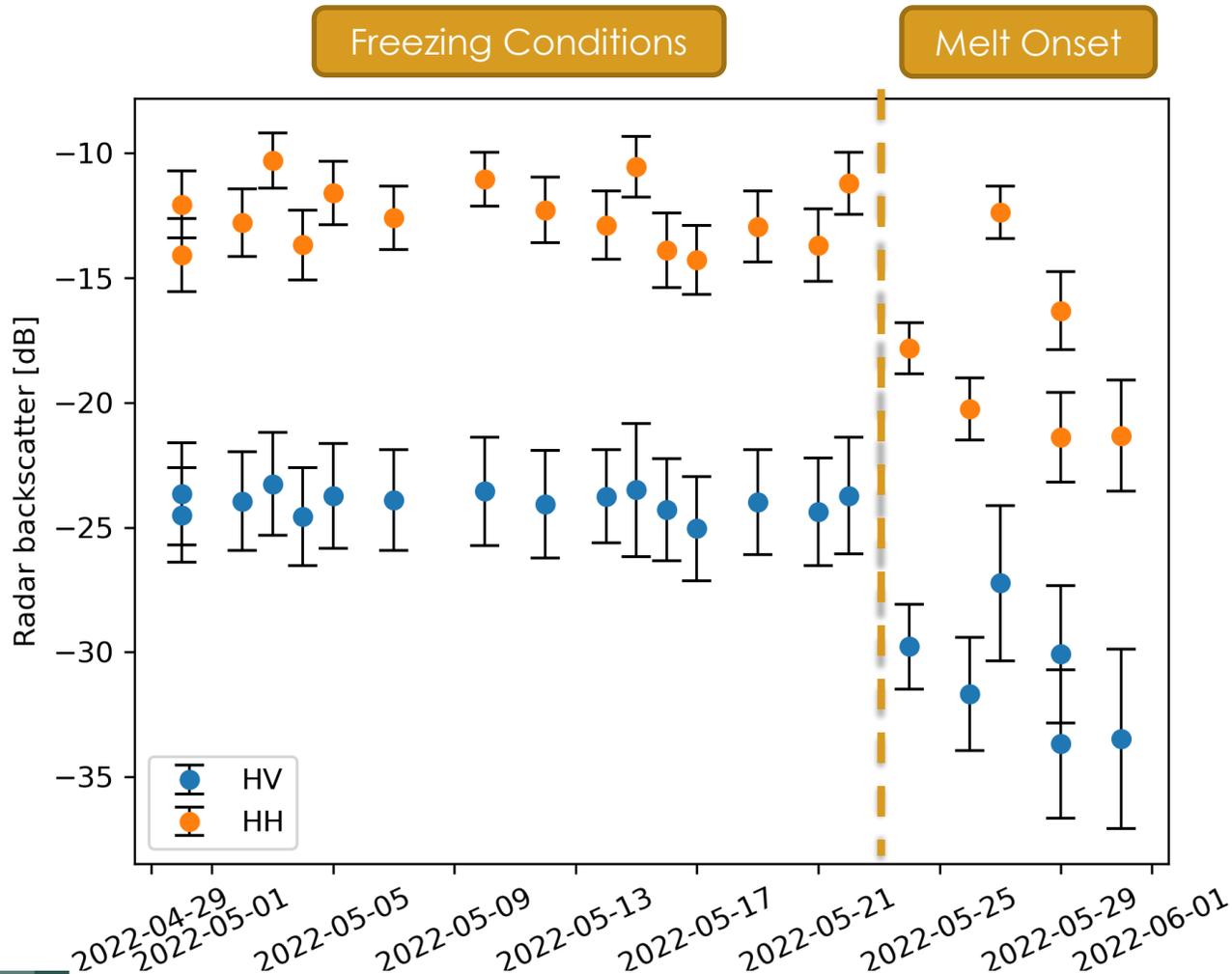
ASAR HH-Polarization  
21. March 2007, 10:20 UTC  
Incidence Angle: 19 – 22°

*...hampers (automatic) segmentation/classification*



# Sea Ice Backscatter Signatures – Incidence Angle

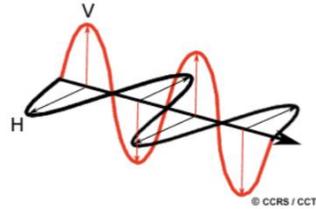
- Track the same ice over time



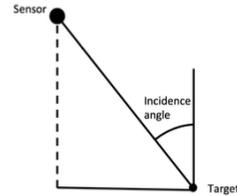
# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

- **Sensor parameters**

- Polarization

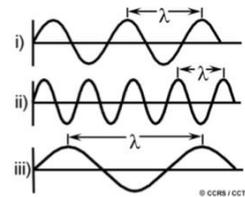


- Incidence angle  $\theta$

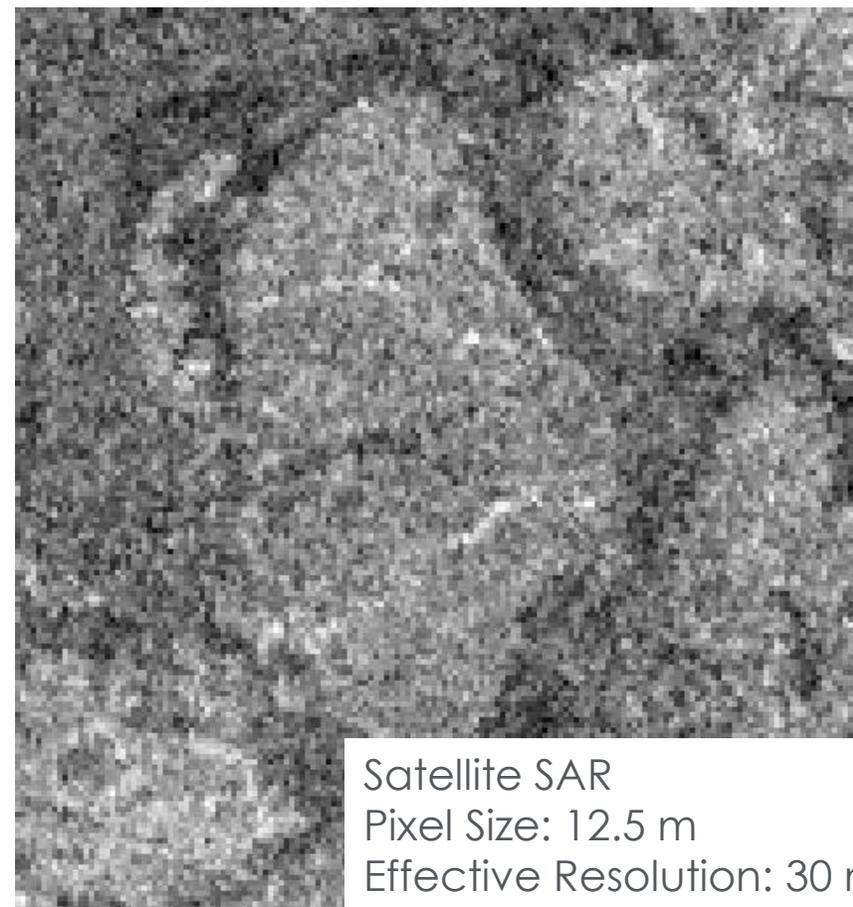
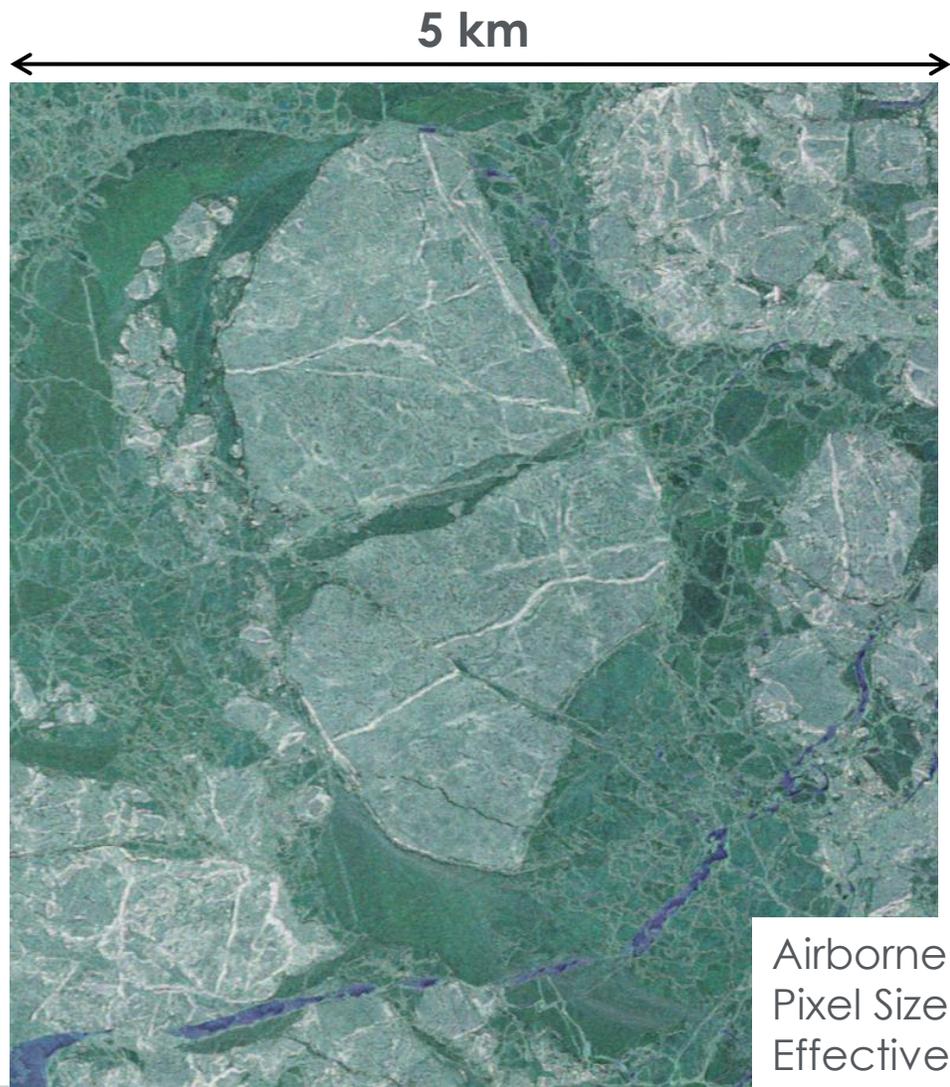


- Resolution,  
sensor noise,  
...

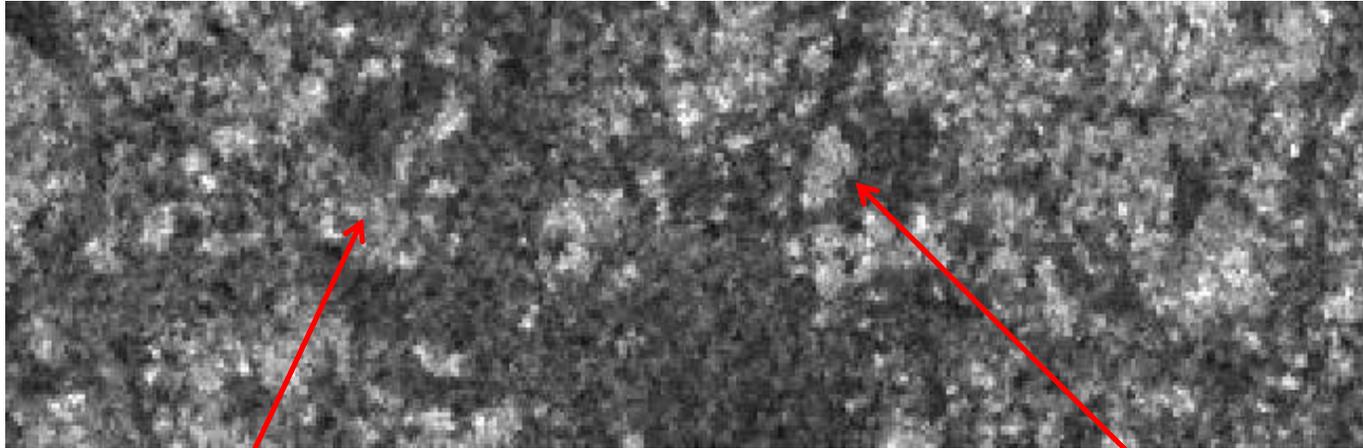
- Frequency



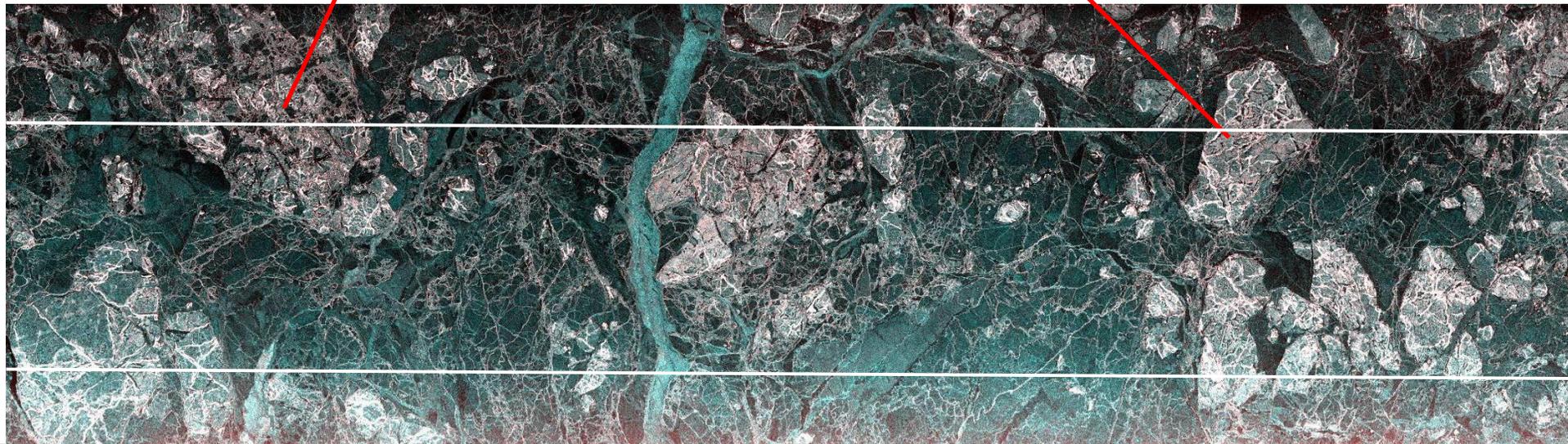
# Effect of Spatial Resolution



# Comparison Envisat ASAR – ESAR, Fram Strait, March 19, 2007



Envisat ASAR WSM image  
HH – polarization  
Incidence angle 26°  
Resolution 150 m  
  
@ 11:22 UTC



3km

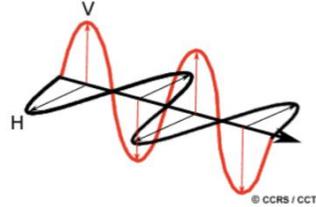
ESAR image  
(R-VH, G-VV, B-VV)  
Resolution 2m  
  
@ 12:26 UTC.



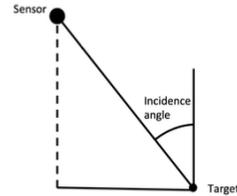
# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

- **Sensor parameters**

- Polarization



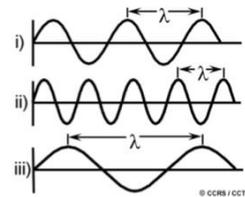
- Incidence angle  $\theta$



- Resolution, sensor noise,

...

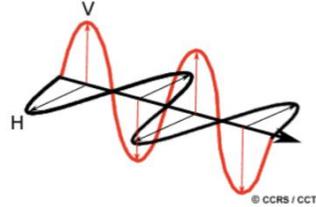
- Frequency



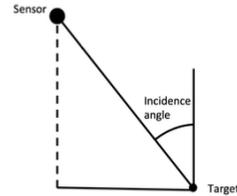
# Many factors affect SAR imaging.

- **Sensor parameters**

- Polarization



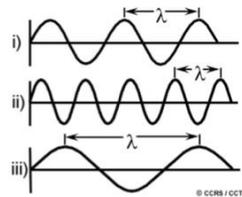
- Incidence angle  $\theta$



- Resolution, sensor noise,

...

- Frequency



Exciting aspect with upcoming NISAR (2024), ALOS-4 (2024), ROSE-L (2028)

Existing missions ALOS-2 and SAOCOM

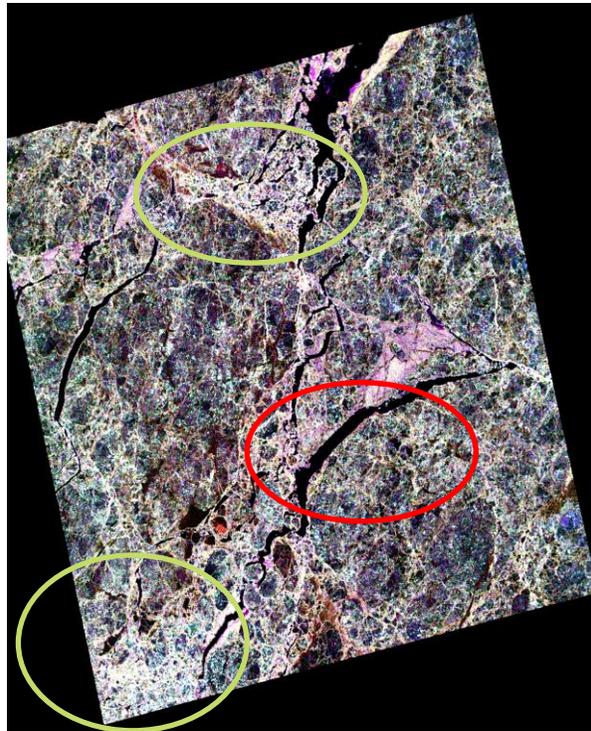


# Frequency

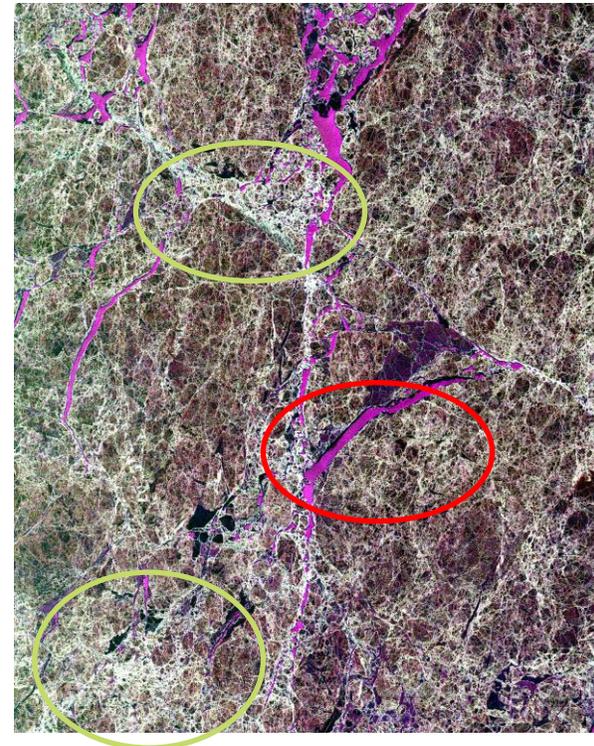
Different frequencies have **different penetration depths**.

- An X-band radar, wavelength approx. 3 cm -> small penetration depth
- An L-band signal, wavelength approx. 23 cm -> greater penetration depth

C-Band

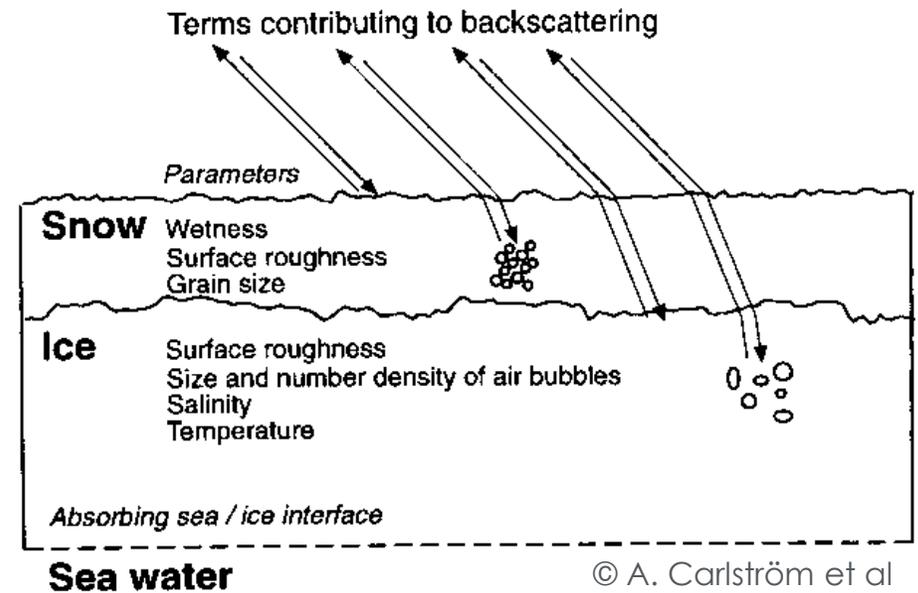


L-Band



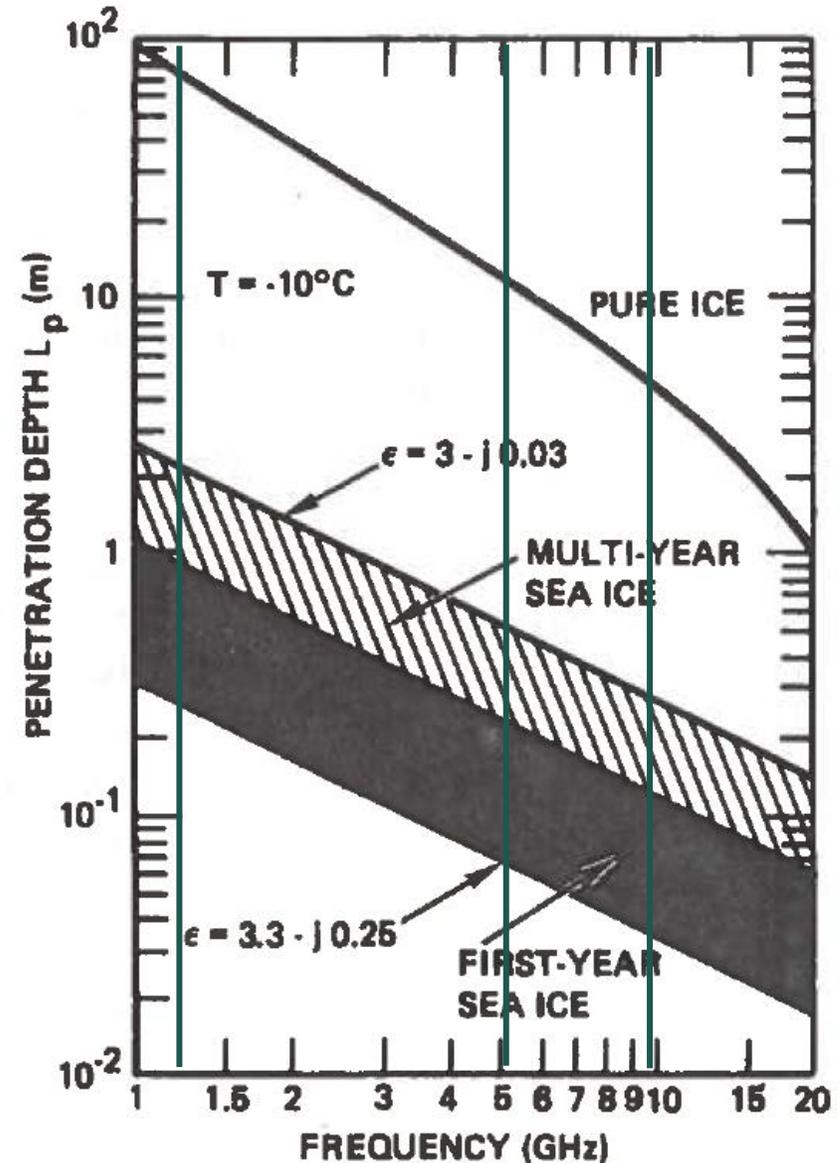
# Frequency

- An X-band radar, wavelength approx. 3 cm -> small penetration depth
- An L-band signal, wavelength approx. 23 cm -> greater penetration depth
- Scattering and attenuation from:
  - Snow
  - Snow/Ice Surface
  - Ice Volume
  - Ice/Water Interface
- X- and C-band from surface
- S-band partly from surface partly from ice volume
- L-band from ice volume



# Frequency

- Penetration depth for different sea ice types
- The change in salinity affects the dielectric constant.

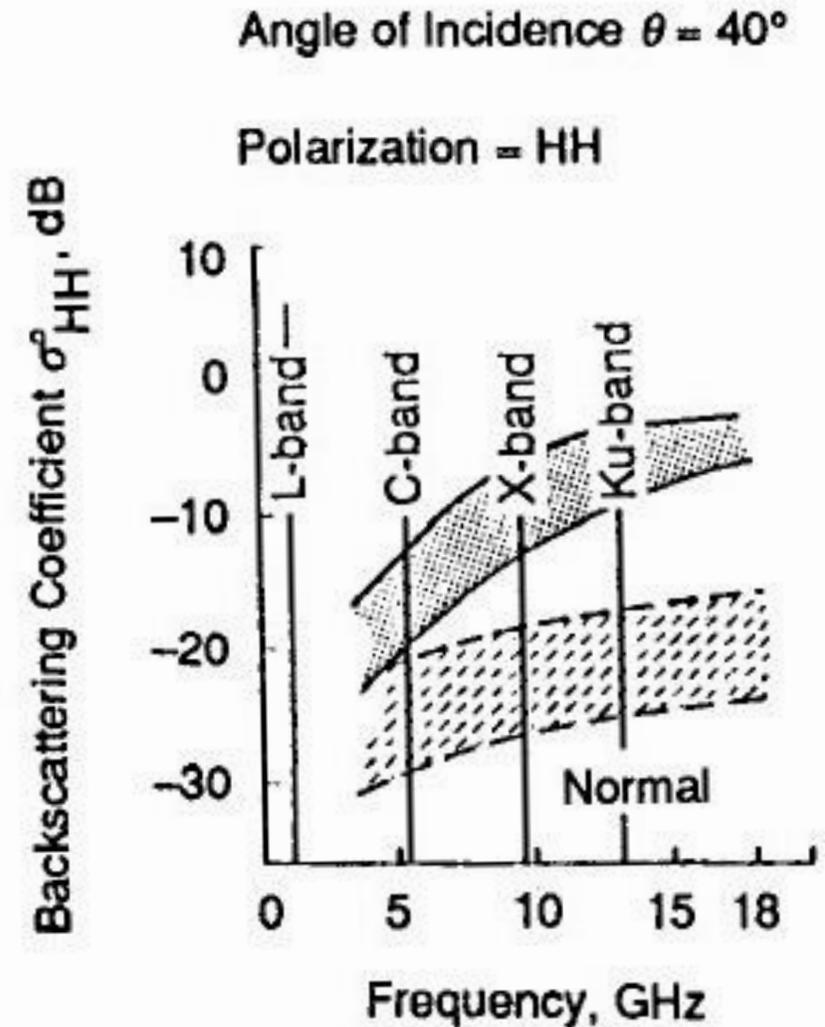


From: Ulaby et al. 1982

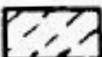


# Frequency

- X-band data reveal largest intensity contrast between first-year and multi-year ice
- Larger sensitivity to snow on ice, and to surface and subsurface (a few centimeters depth) characteristics
- Larger sensitivity to the onset of melt

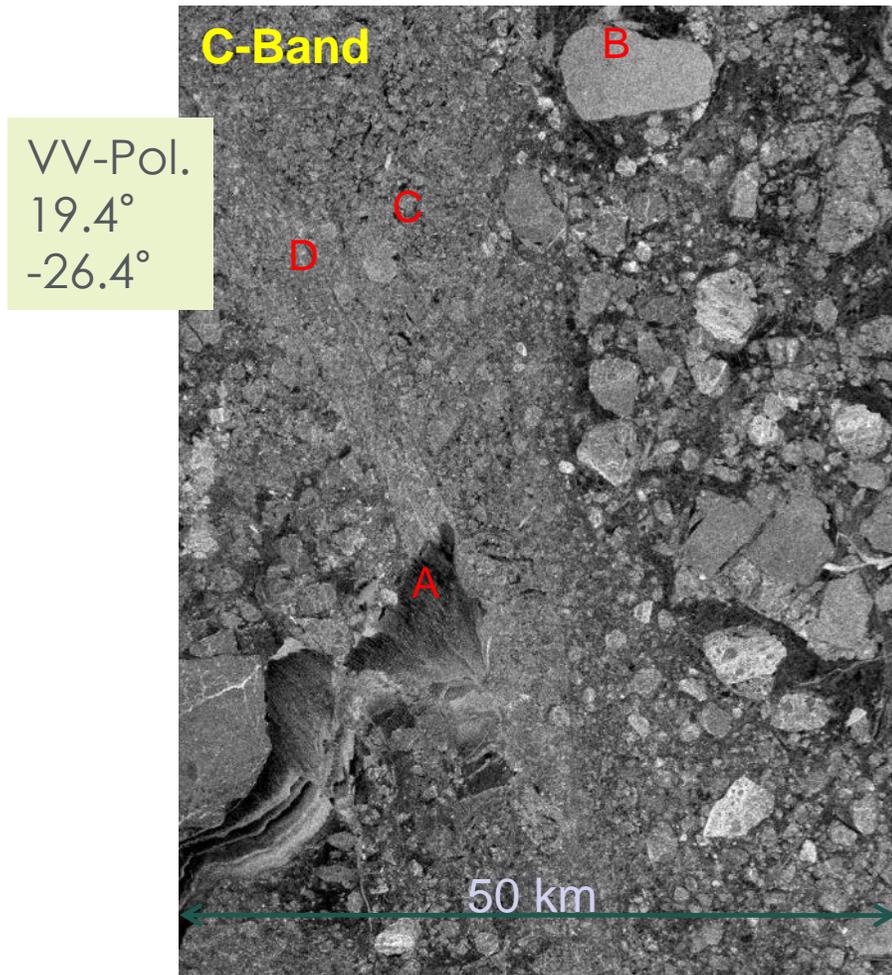


From: Onstott, 1992

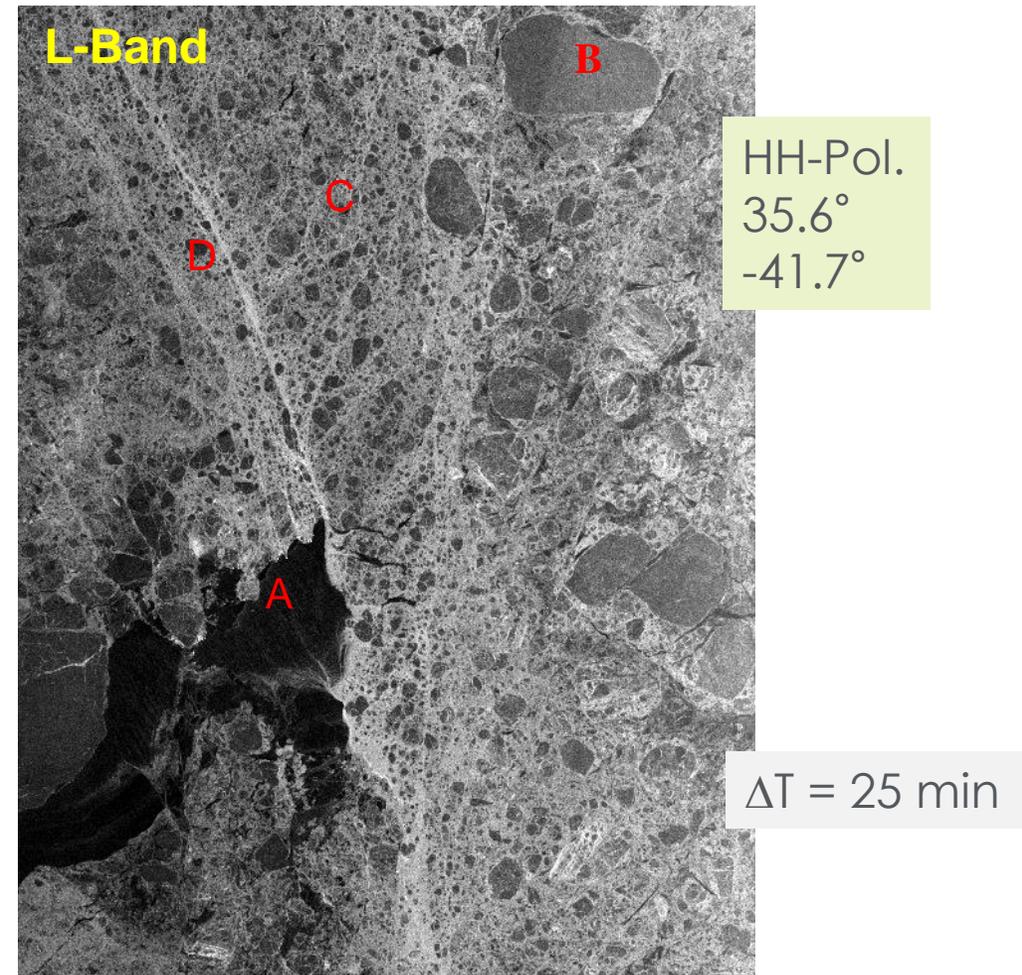
-  = Multiyear Ice
-  = First-Year Ice



# Potential of Multi-Frequency



ERS-1

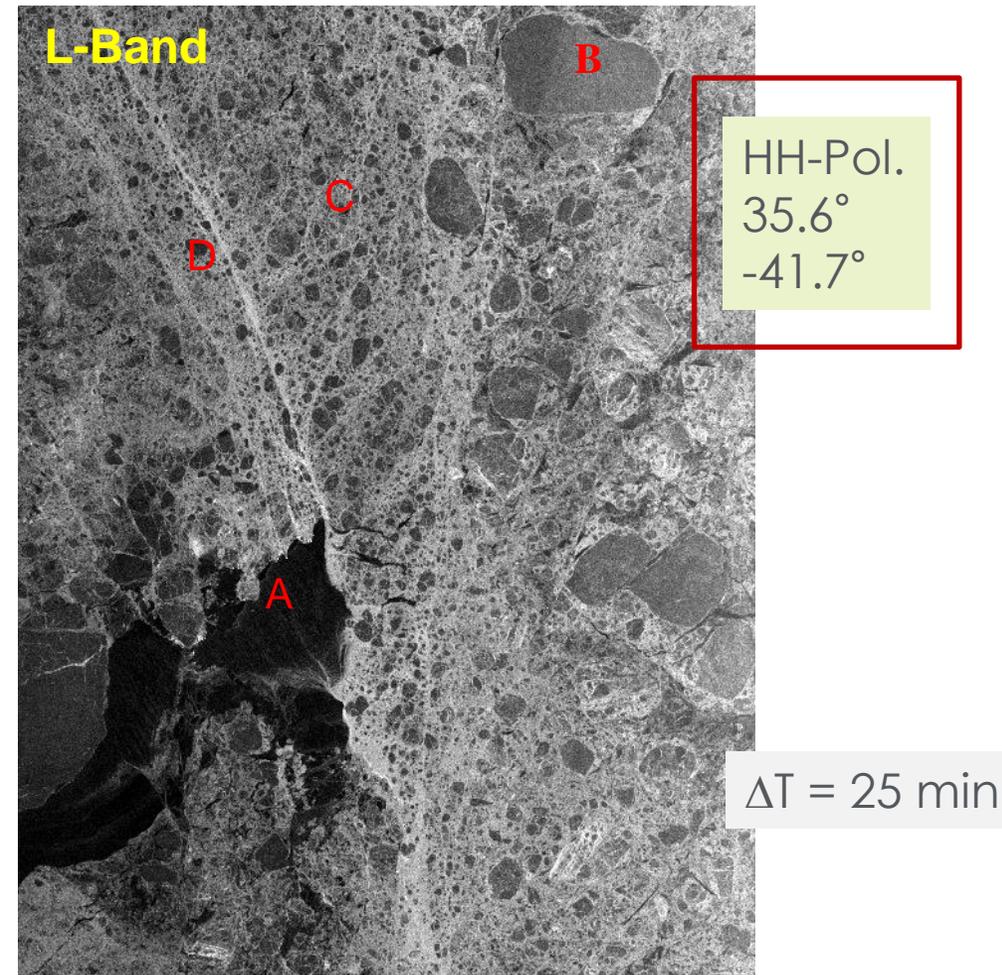
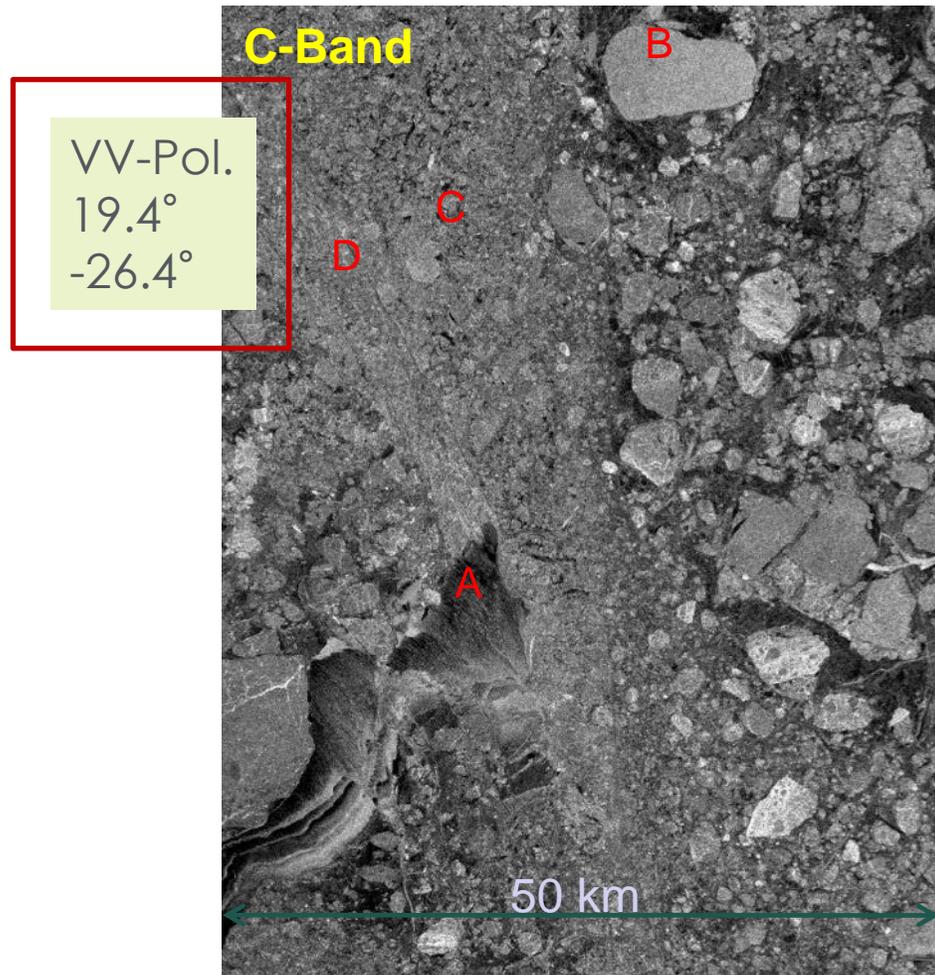


JERS-1

Coast of East Greenland



# Potential of Multi-Frequency



ERS-1

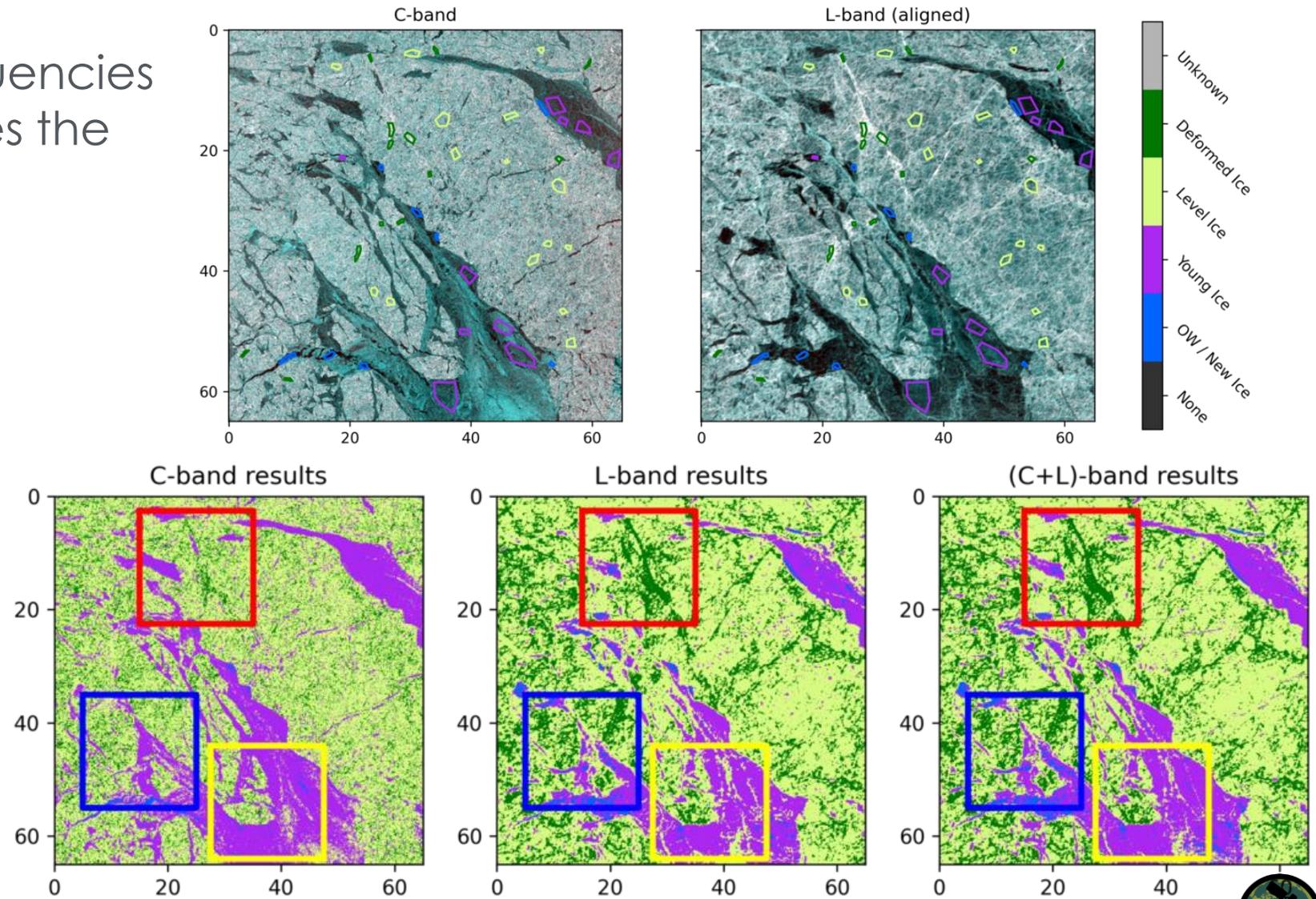
JERS-1

Coast of East Greenland



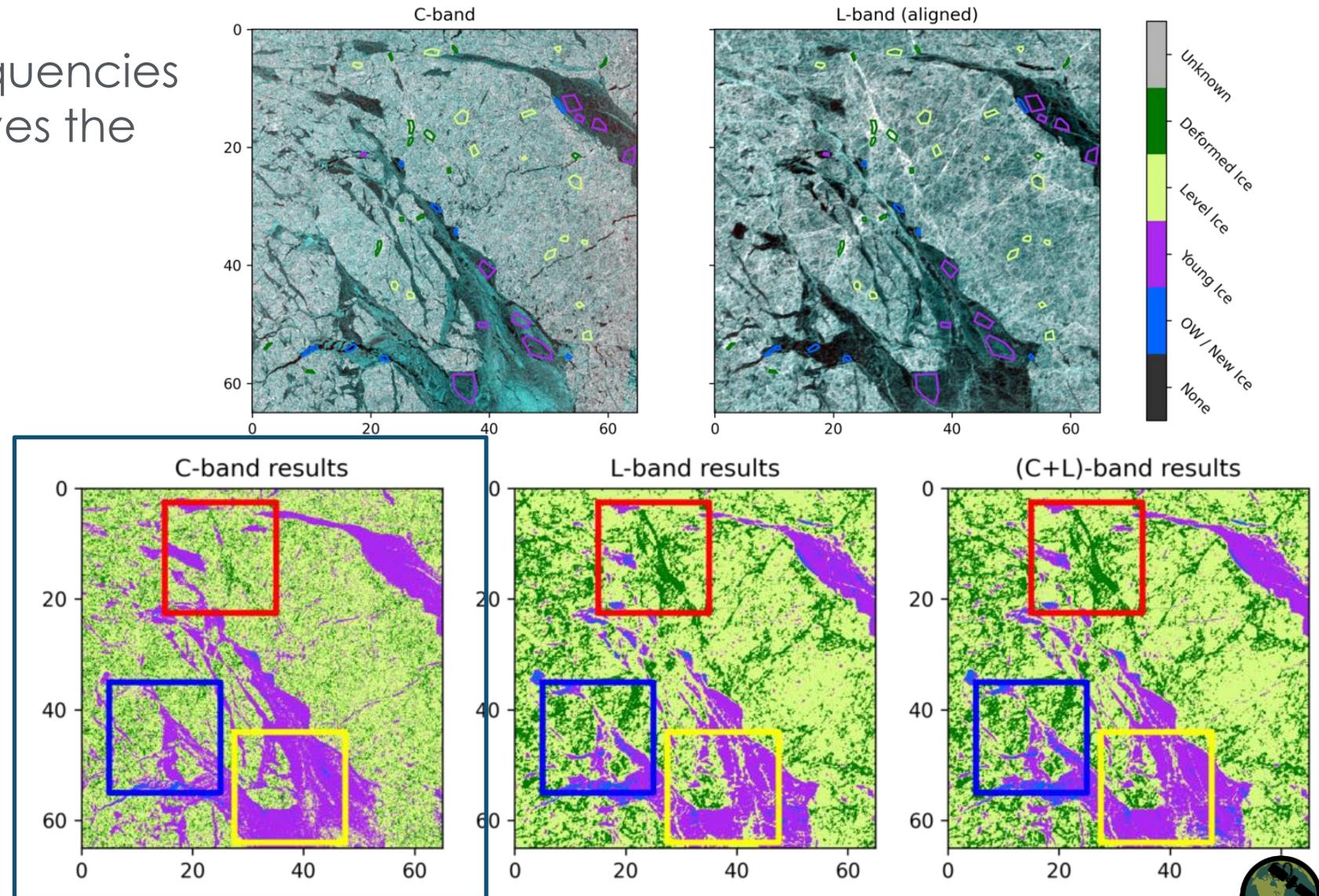
# Potential of Multi-Frequency

- Combining the two frequencies (L- and C-band) improves the classification accuracy.



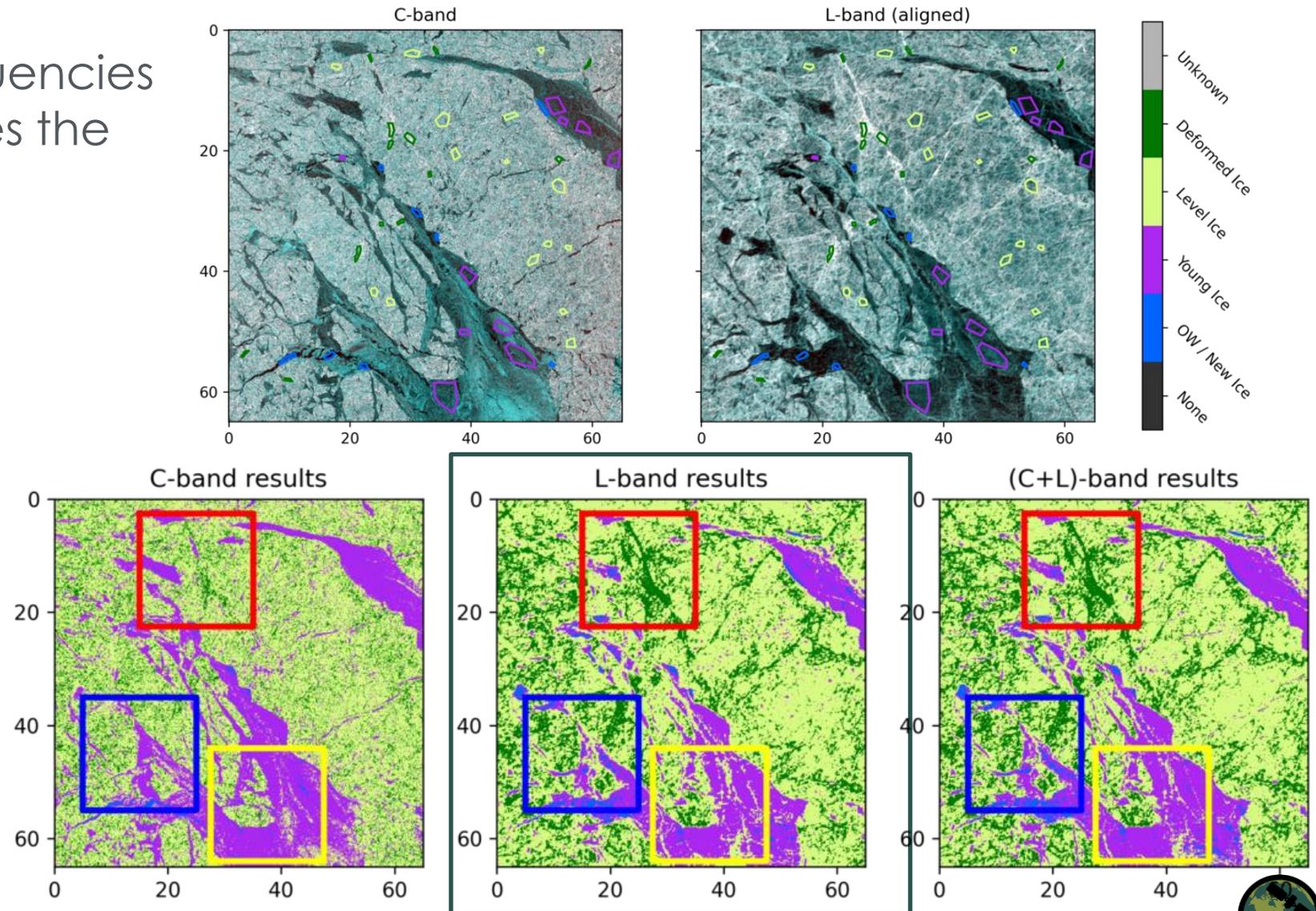
# Potential of Multi-Frequency

- Combining the two frequencies (L- and C-band) improves the classification accuracy.



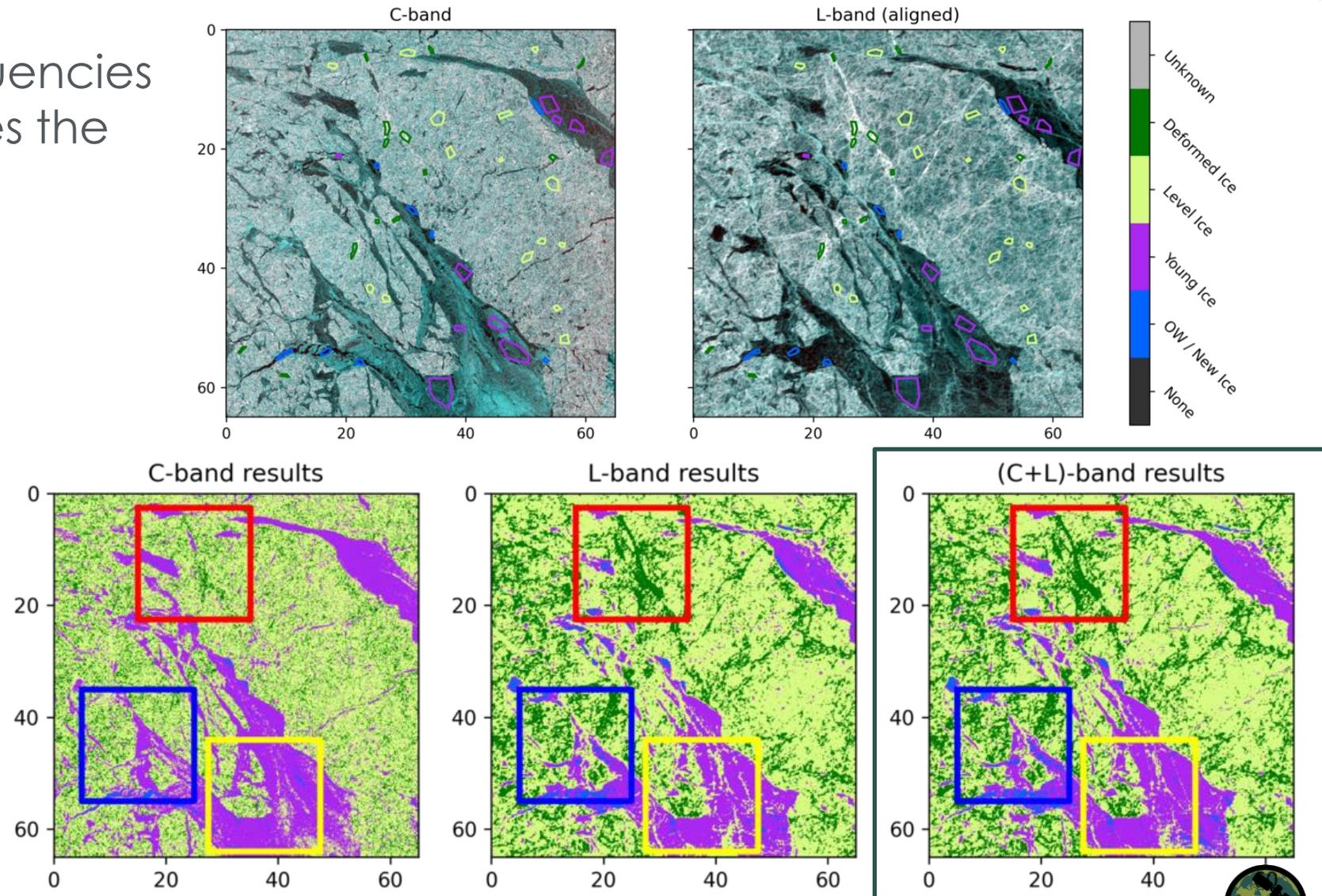
# Potential of Multi-Frequency

- Combining the two frequencies (L- and C-band) improves the classification accuracy.

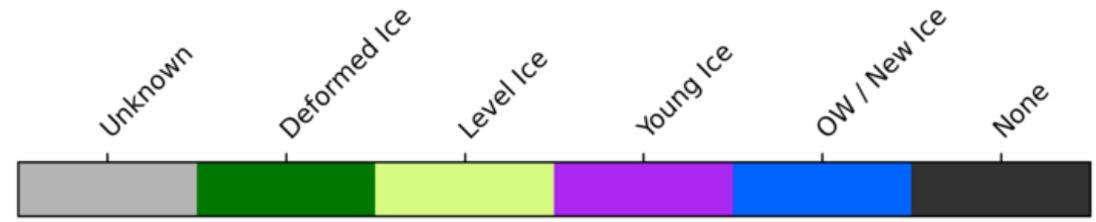


# Potential of Multi-Frequency

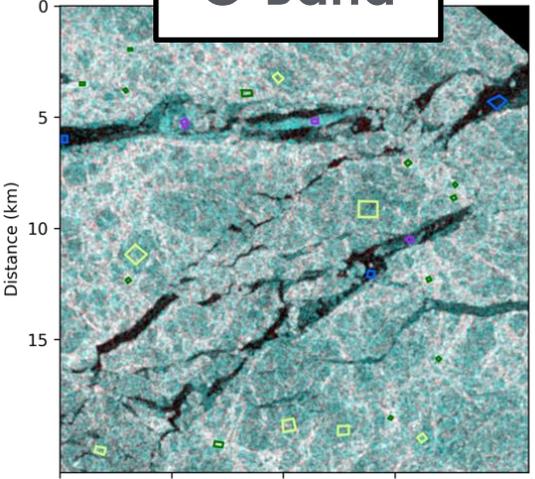
- Combining the two frequencies (L- and C-band) improves the classification accuracy.



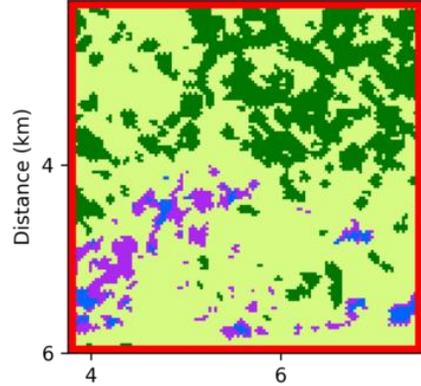
# Classification Results



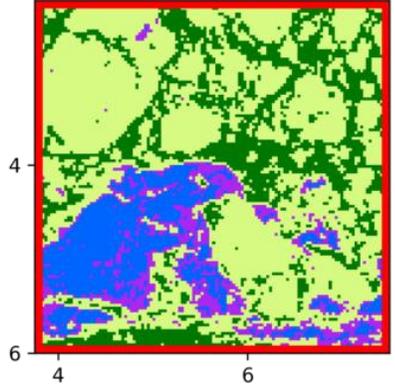
C-Band



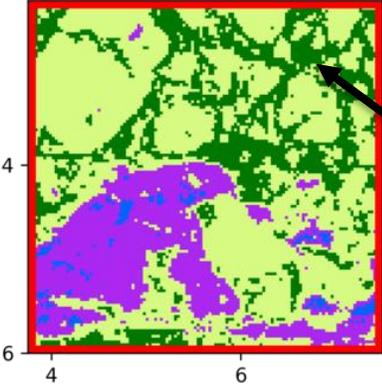
C-Band Results



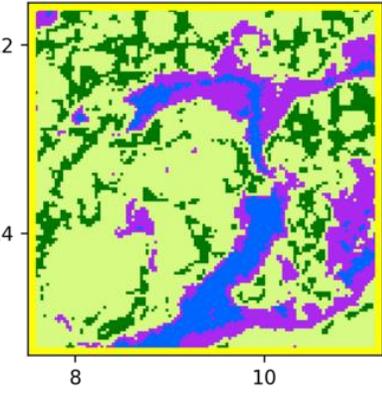
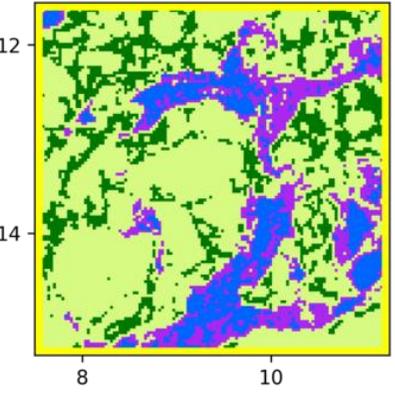
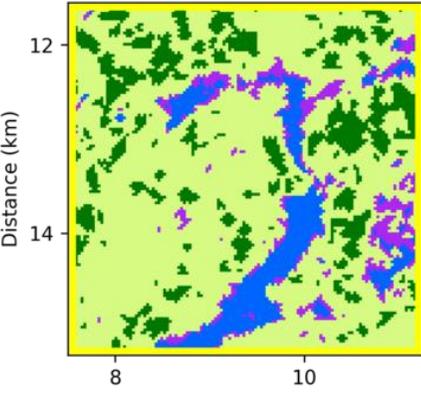
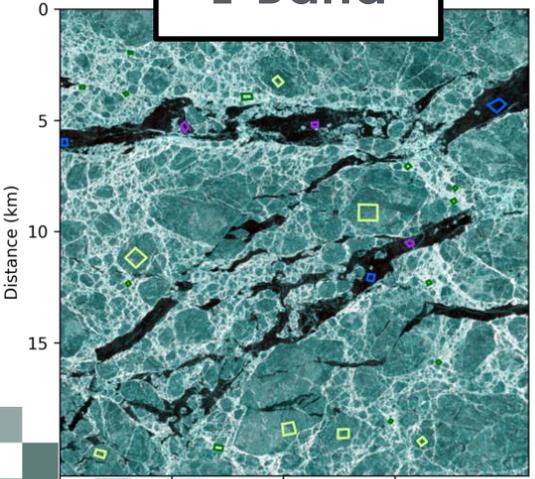
L-Band Results



(C+L)-Band Results



L-Band

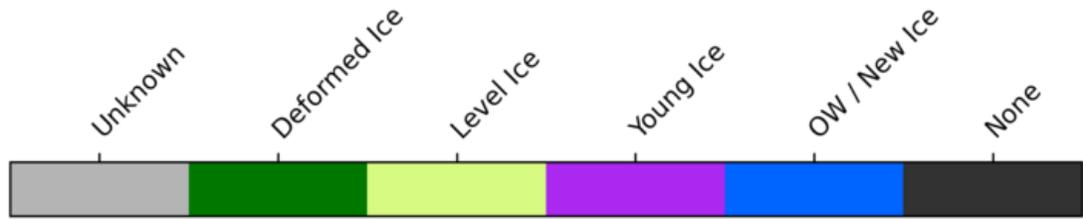


L-band or C- and L-band is clearly best at detecting Deformed Ice.

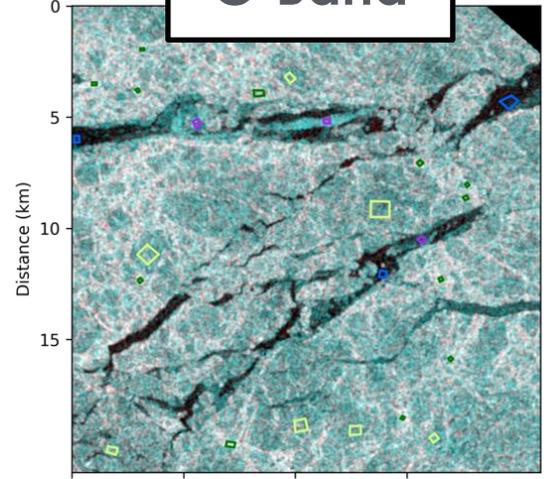
Distance (km)



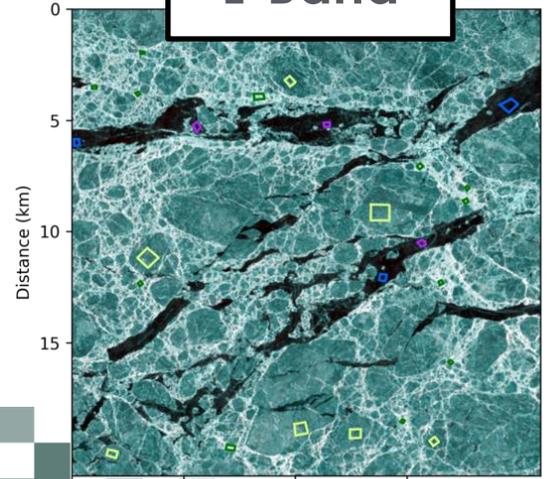
# Classification Results



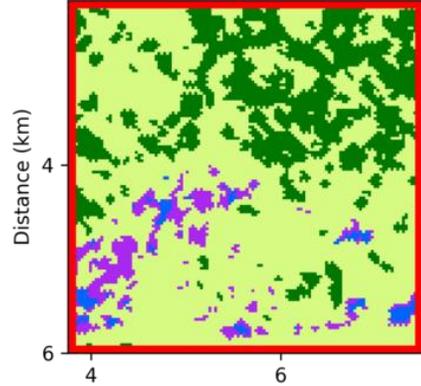
C-Band



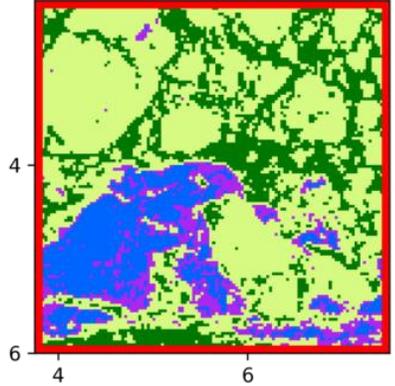
L-Band



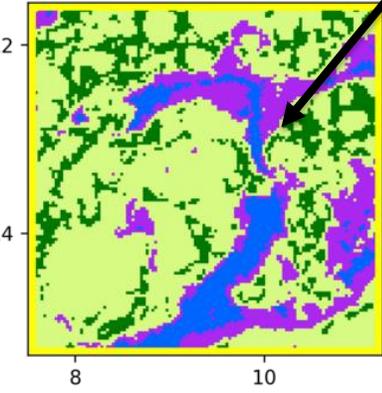
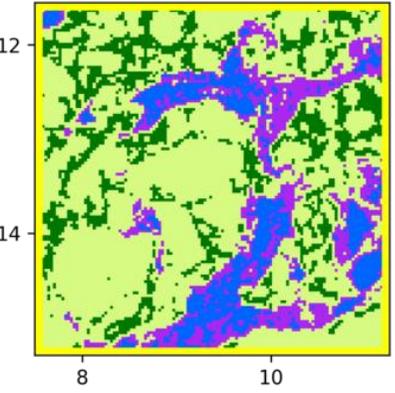
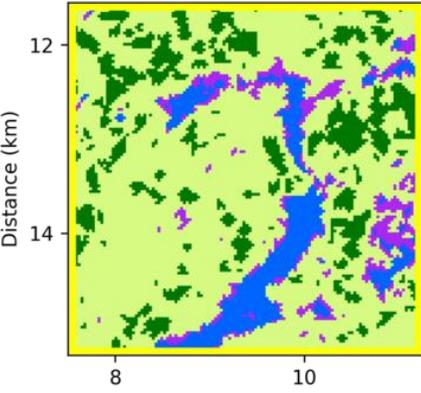
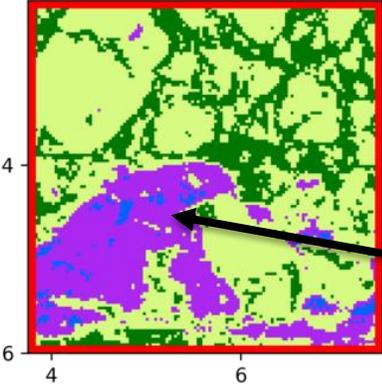
C-Band Results



L-Band Results



(C+L)-Band Results

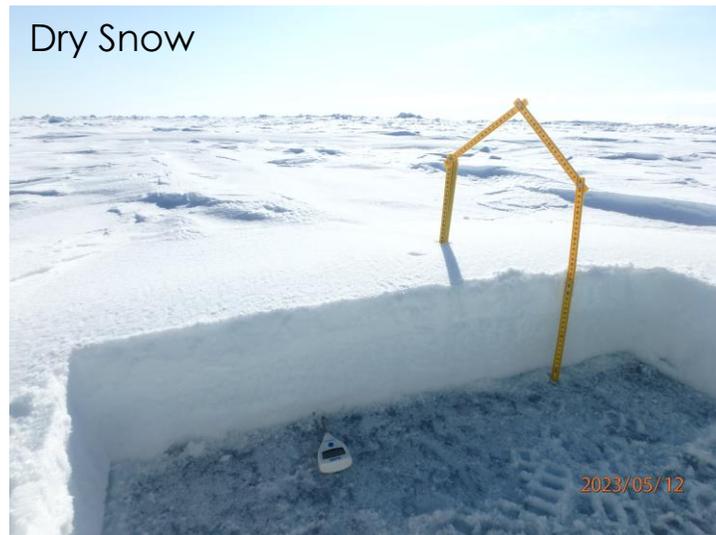


Only the **combination** of C- and L-band captures: **Young Ice** and **Open Water** within lead systems correctly.

Distance (km)



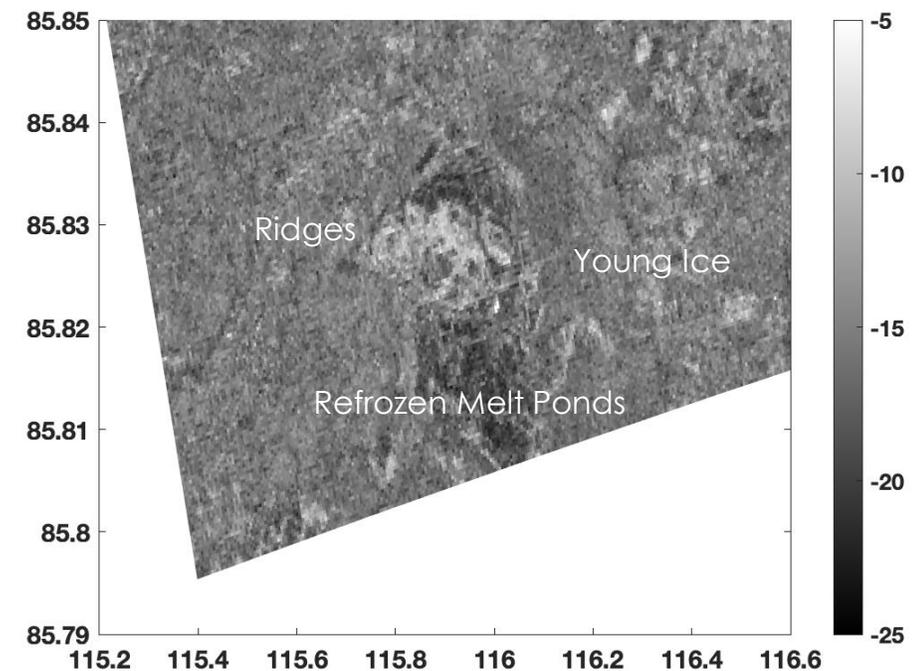
# How do we monitor sea ice?



Photos: W. Dierking

Photos: T. Karlsen

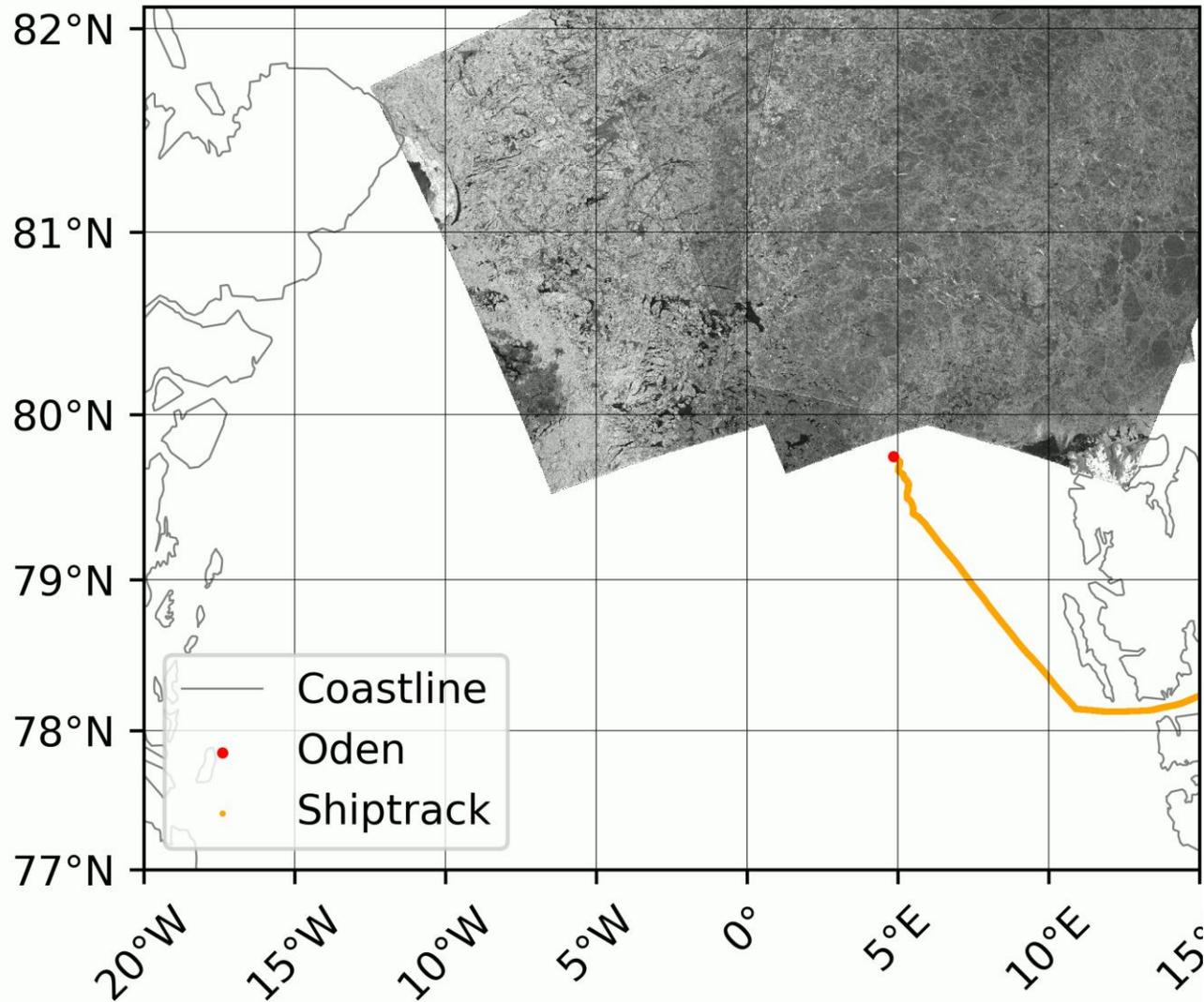
C-Band: 10 November 2019



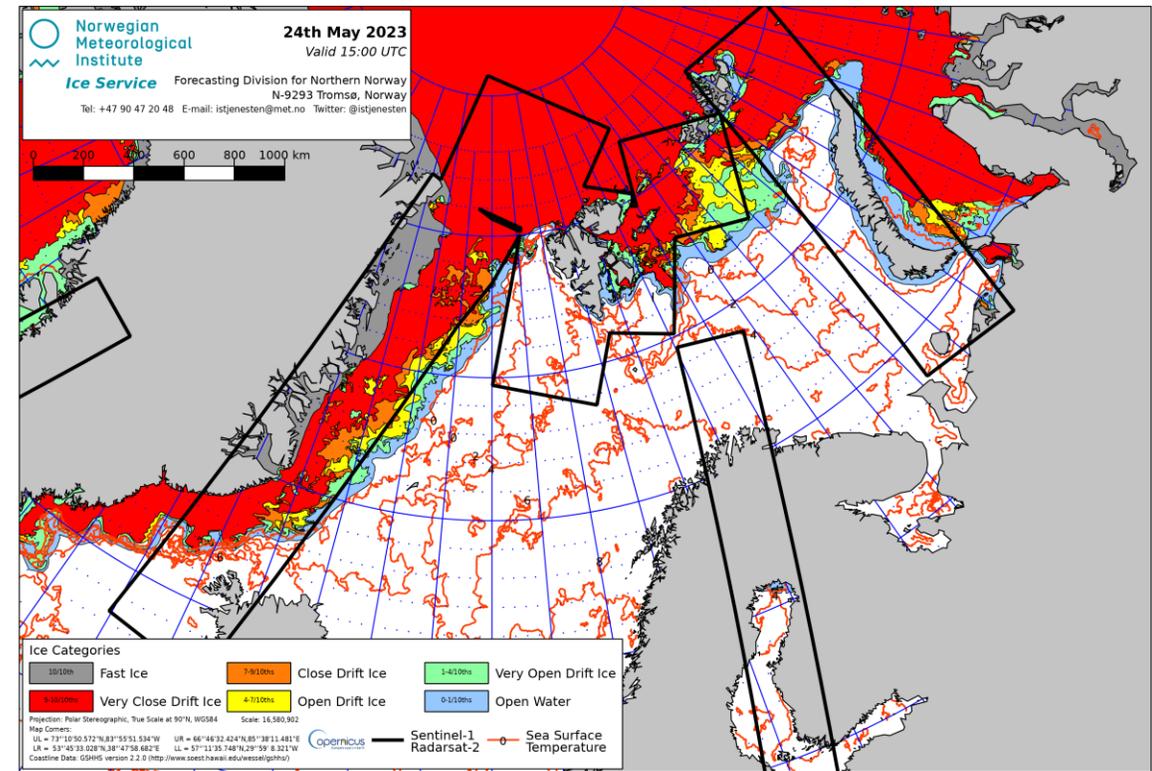
RADARSAT-2 © MDA



updated: 2023-05-09T062832 UTC



- Use all of the freely available images to generate sea ice maps.

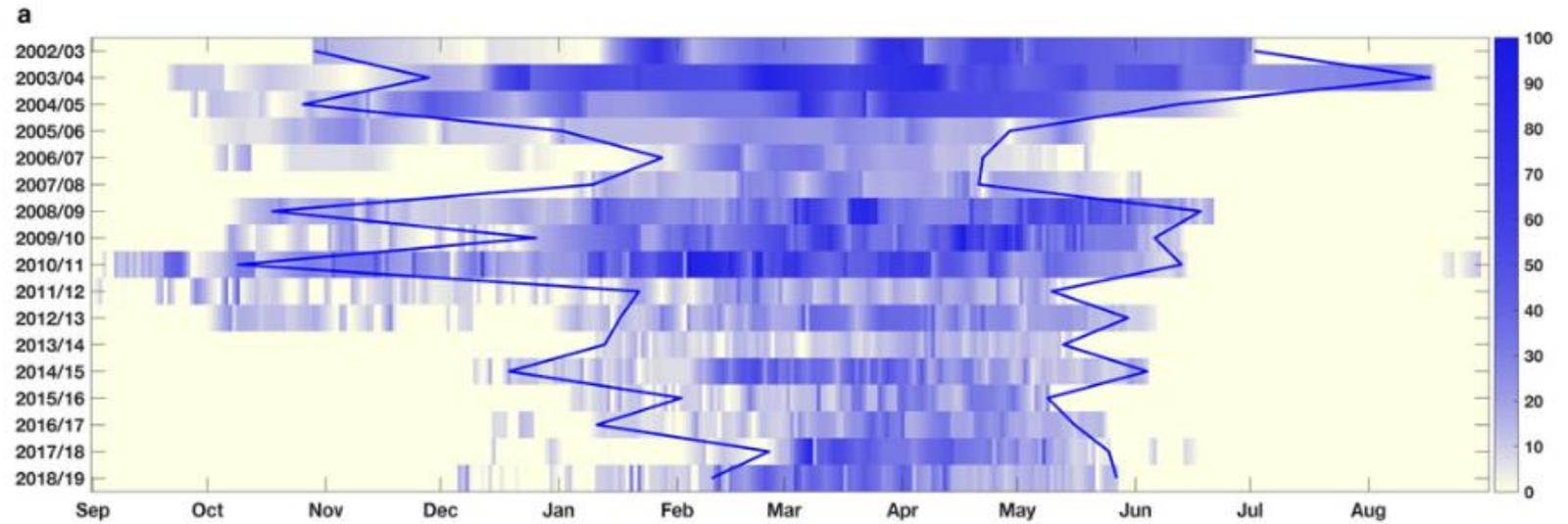
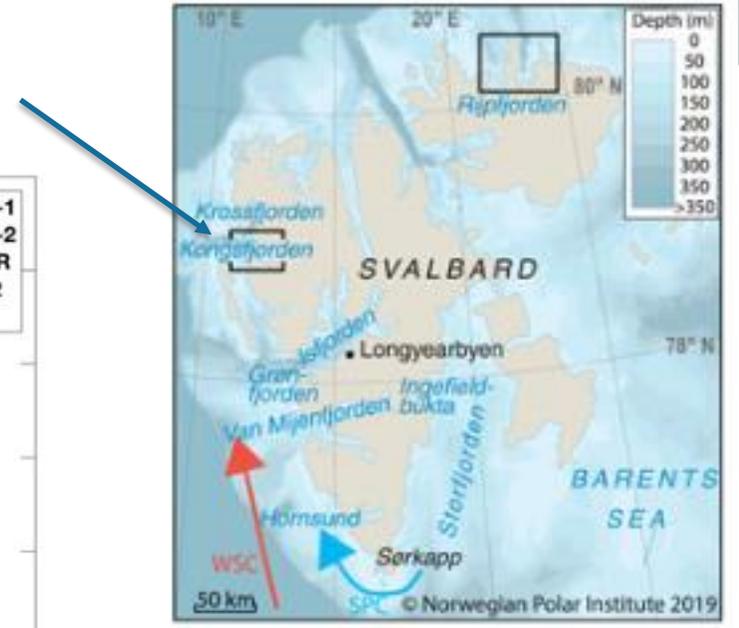
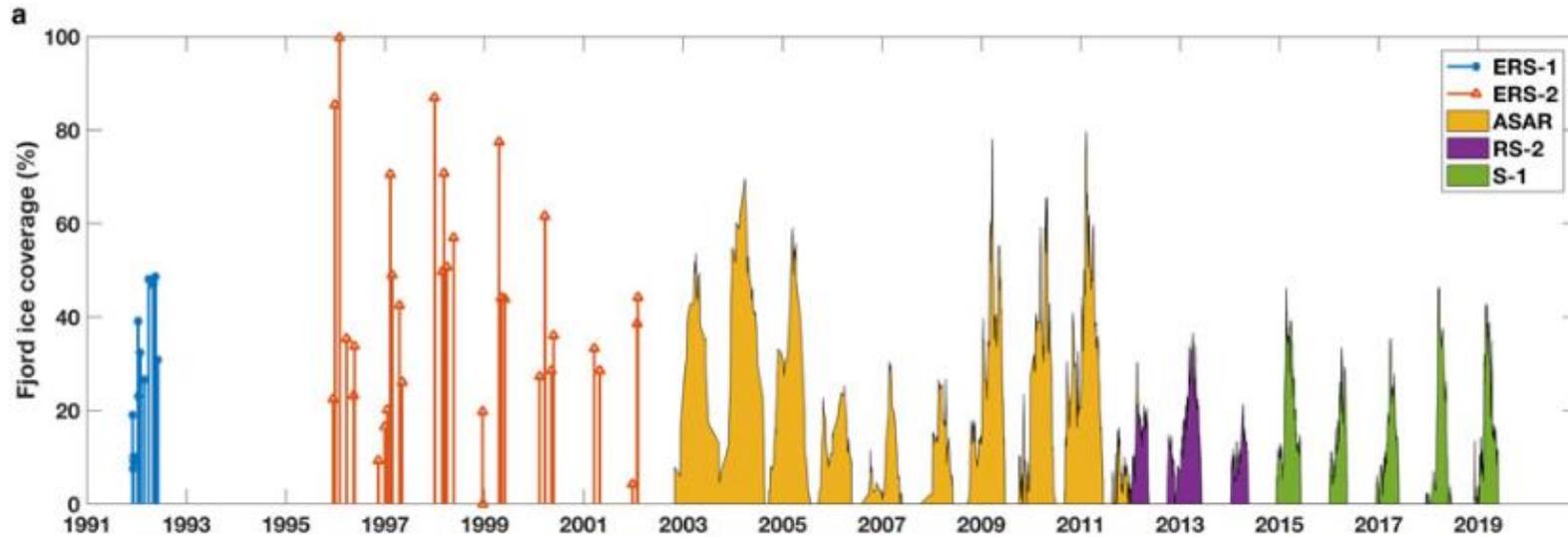


T. Karlsen, 2023

NASA ARSET – Measuring Floods, Subsidence, and Sea Ice with SAR

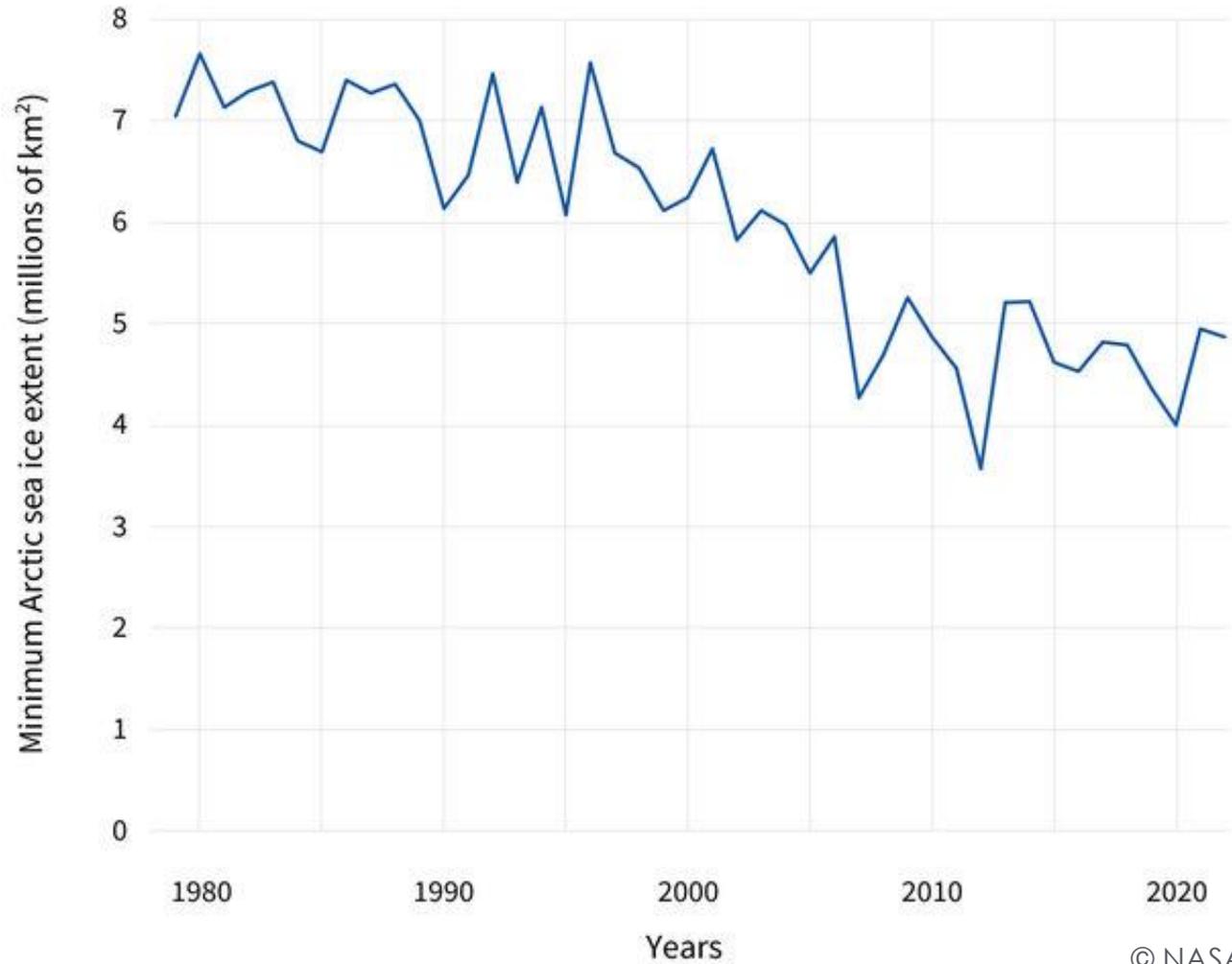


# Monitor and Detect Regional Changes



# Monitor and Detect Global Changes

## ARCTIC SEA ICE YEARLY MINIMUM



© NASA



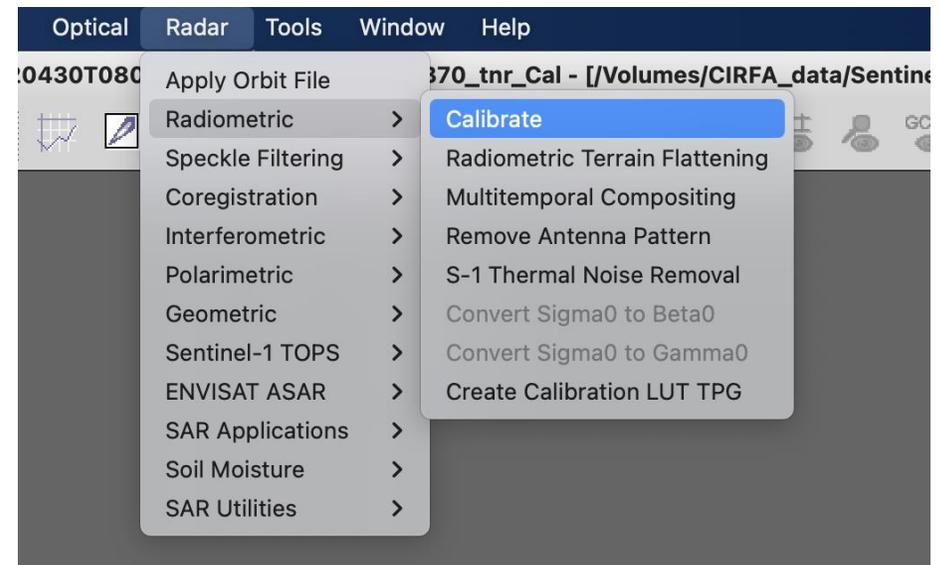
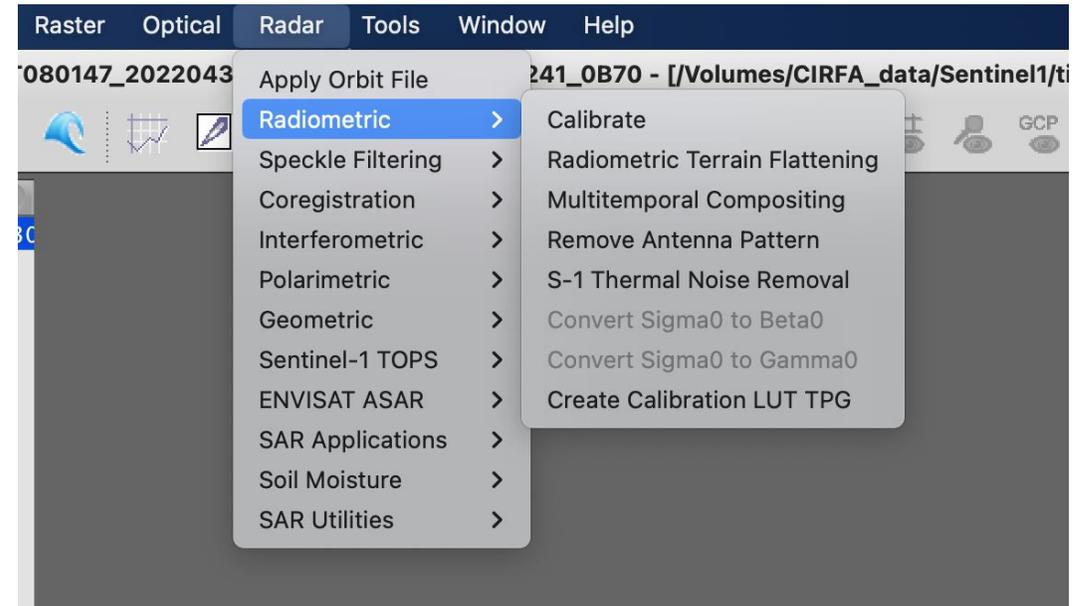
# Summary

- We observe surface roughness with SAR, and in sea ice this takes many forms.
- Sensor specifics, such as incidence angle and frequency, affect detection and monitoring capabilities.
- SAR can be used to detect and monitor sea ice.
  - More than one channel is preferable, as the HV channel provides better separation between open water and sea ice.
  - We for the most part cannot derive sea ice thickness using SAR – making WMO classes challenging.
  - But we can identify areas with different deformation.
  - Young and thin ice is our most challenging ice type - > can look both like smooth, open water and as deformed MYI.
  - Time series can be used in climate models.



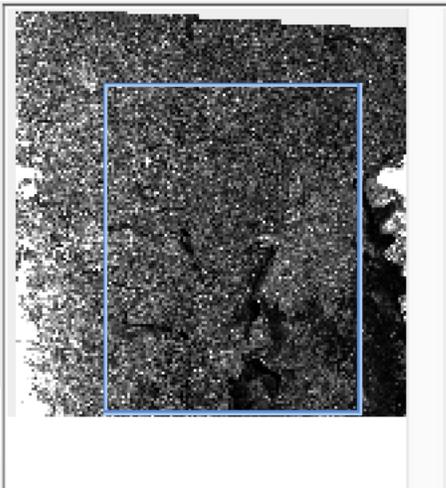
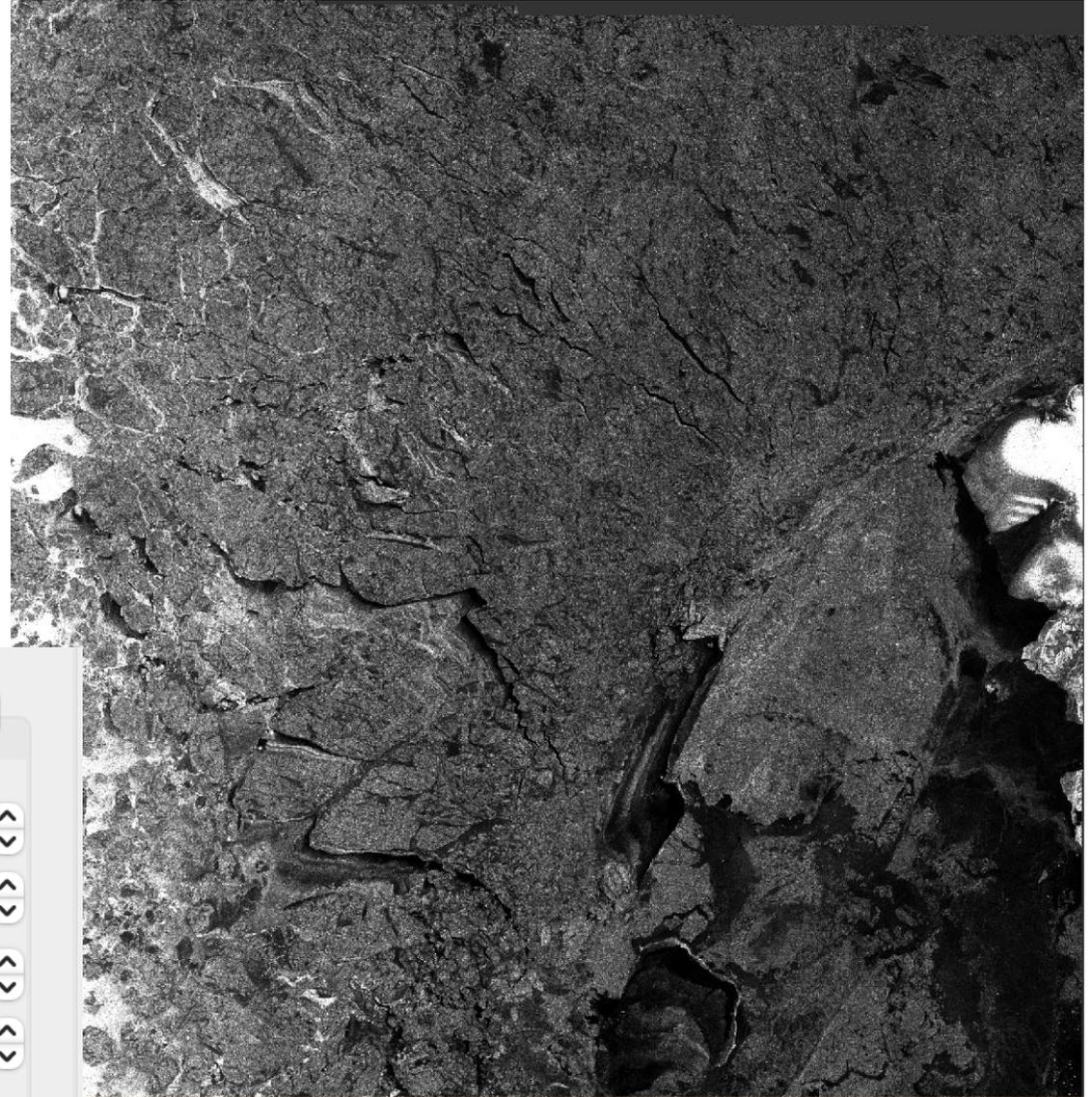
# Perform Your Own Sea Ice Classification

- Classify deformed, level, young ice and open water within this image:
  - S1A\_EW\_GRDM\_1SDH\_20220430T080147\_20220430T080251\_043000\_052241\_0B70.SAFE
- Open the file in SNAP.
- Pre-Processing:
  - Thermal noise removal -> Radar -> Radiometric -> S-1 Thermal Noise Removal
  - Calibration -> Radar -> Radiometric -> Calibrate



# Perform Your Own Sea Ice Classification

- The image should then look something like this.
- The next step is to do a sub-setting, primarily to speed up the process.
- The area should be cut out as:



Pixel Coordinates    Geo Coordinates

North latitude bound:  ^ v

West longitude bound:  ^ v

South latitude bound:  ^ v

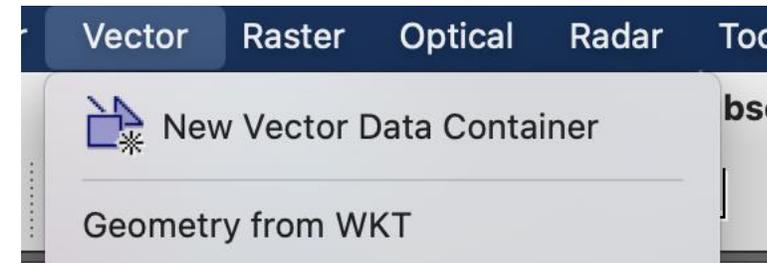
East longitude bound:  ^ v



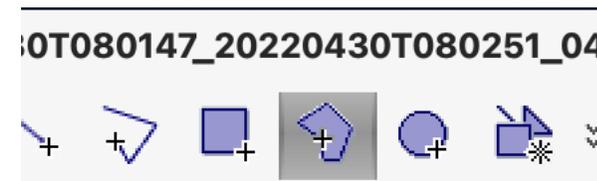
# Perform Your Own Sea Ice Classification

- The image is now ready to be classified.
- Today we will do a random forest classification.
- For this we need some training data!
  - Deformed Ice
  - Level Ice
  - Young Ice
  - Open Water

- Training data is generated by identifying polygons containing the different ice types.

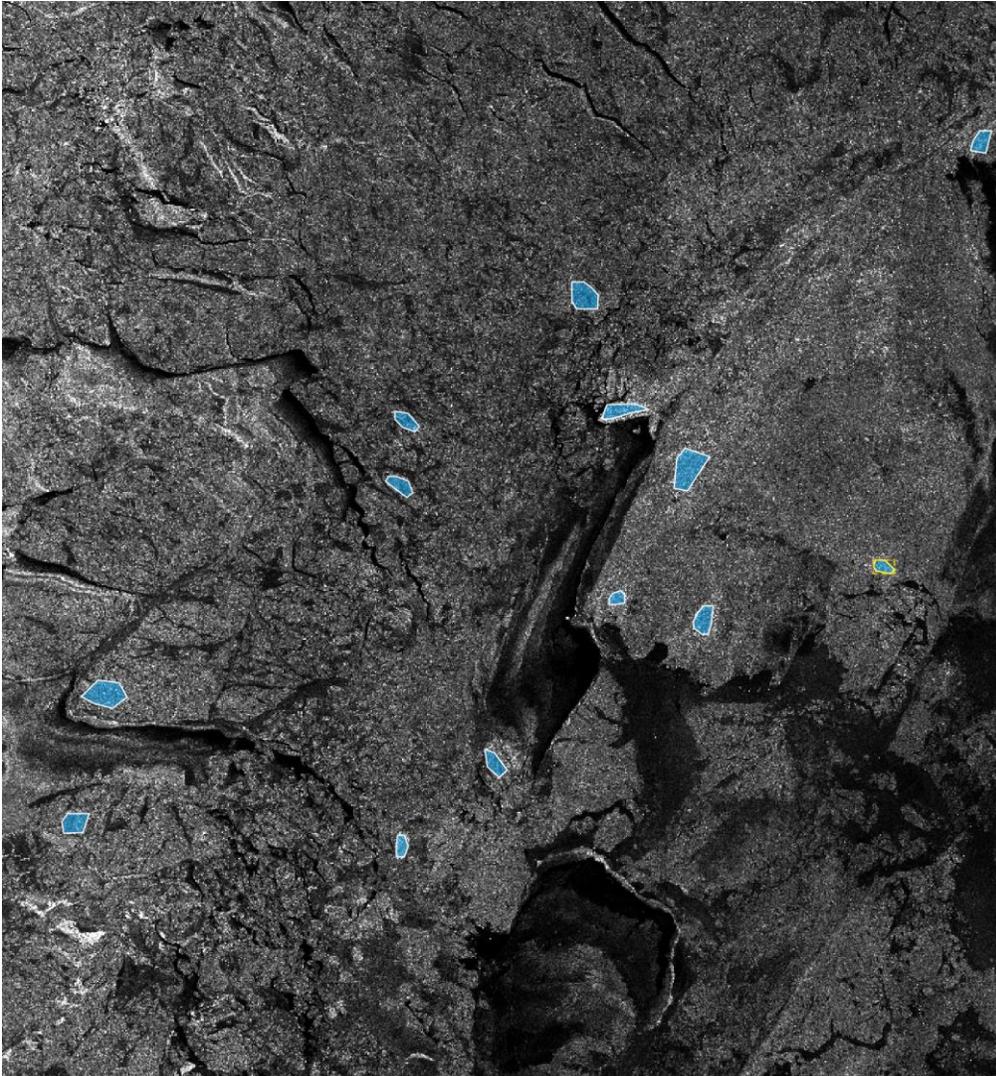


- And start creating polygons using this:

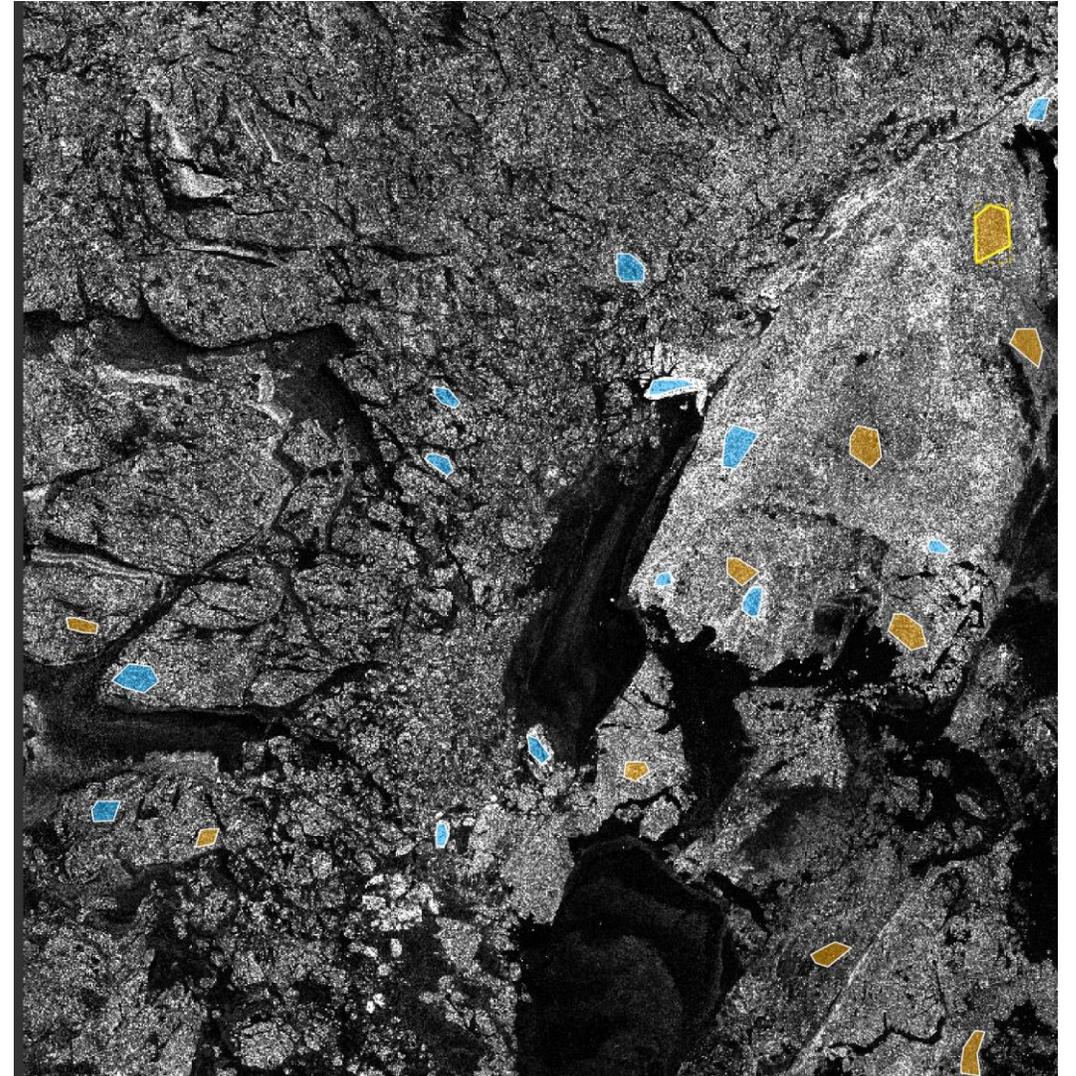


# Deformed (Blue) and Level (Yellow) Sea Ice Polygons

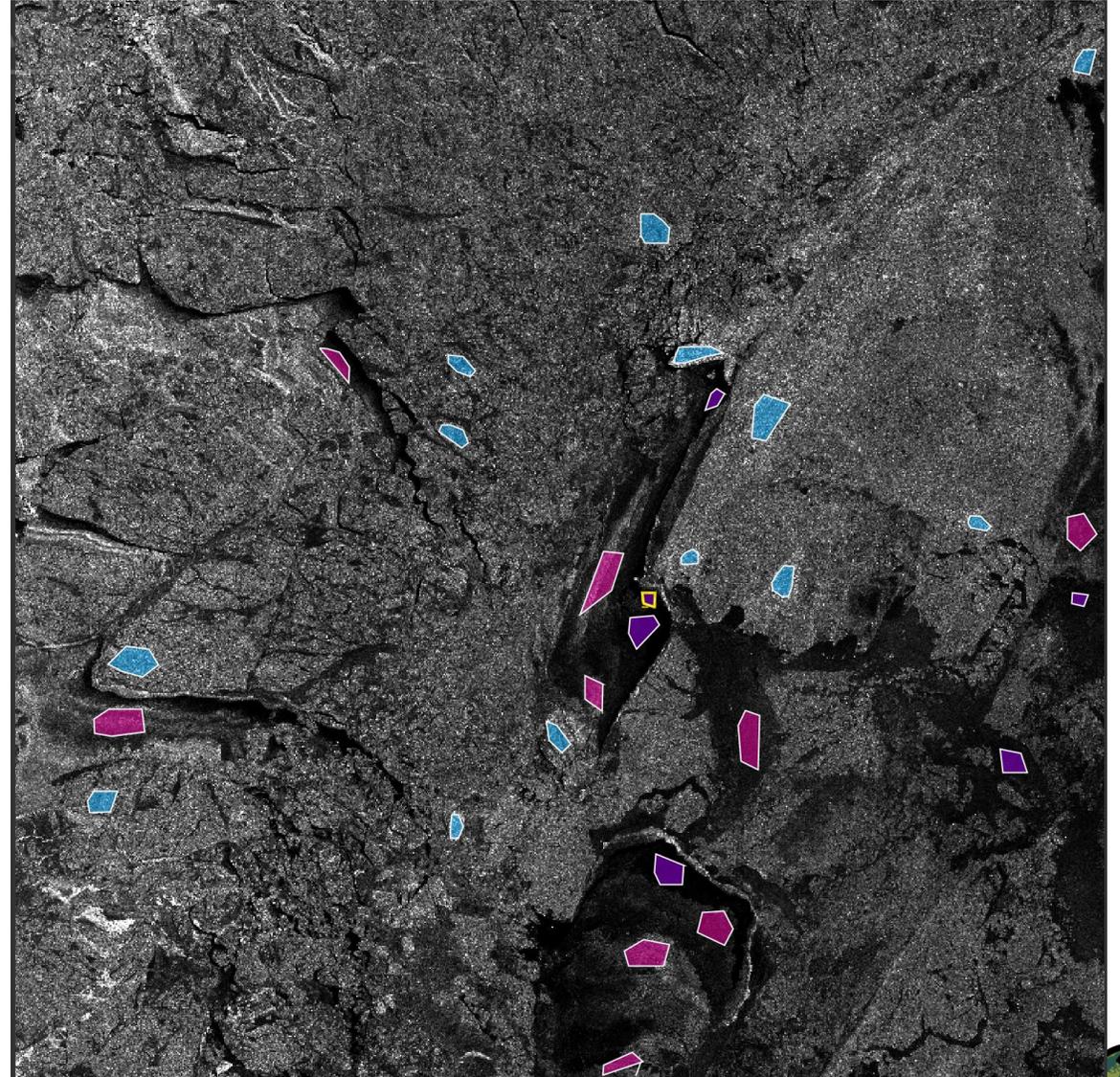
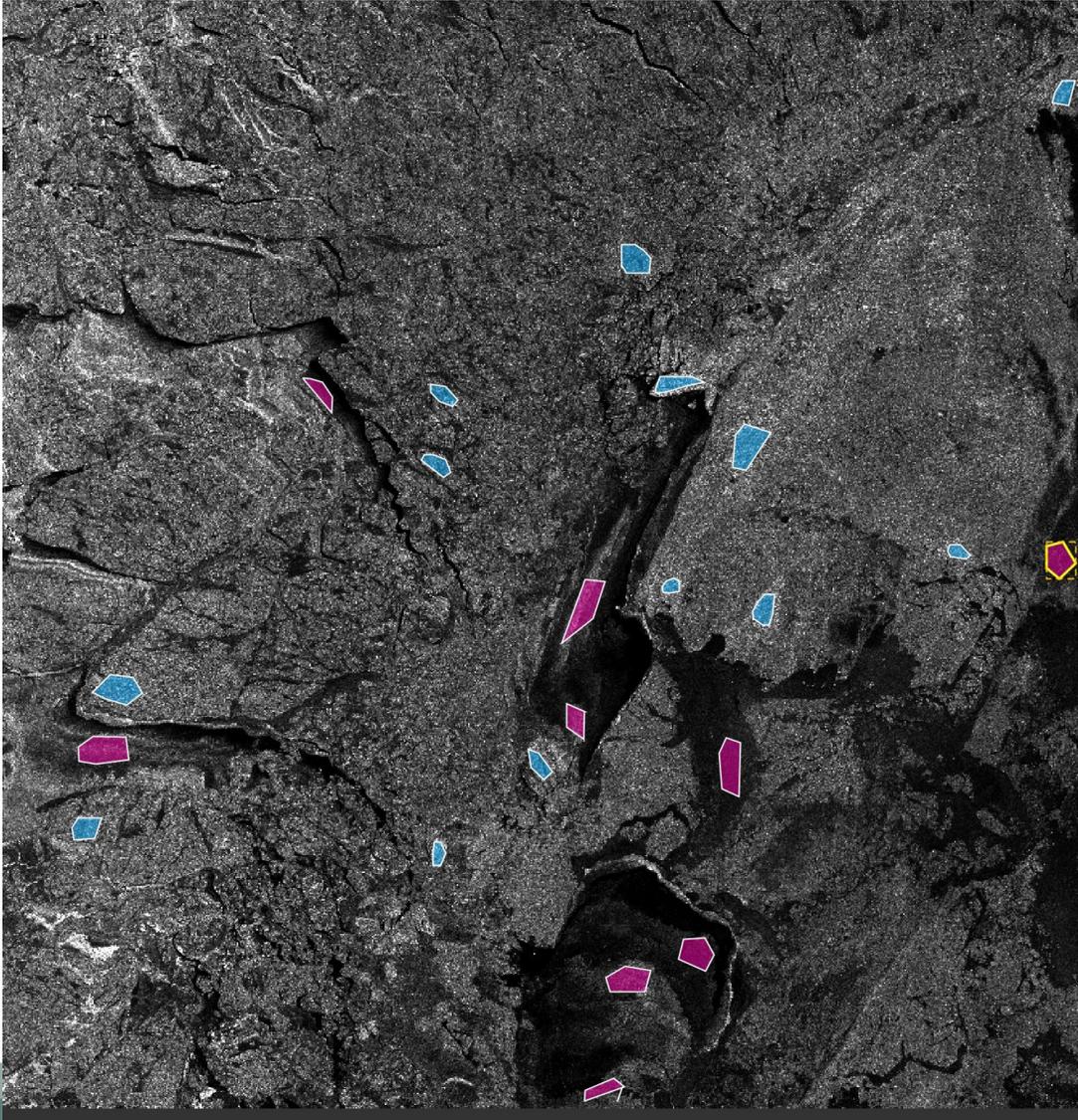
- HH-Channel



- HV-Channel

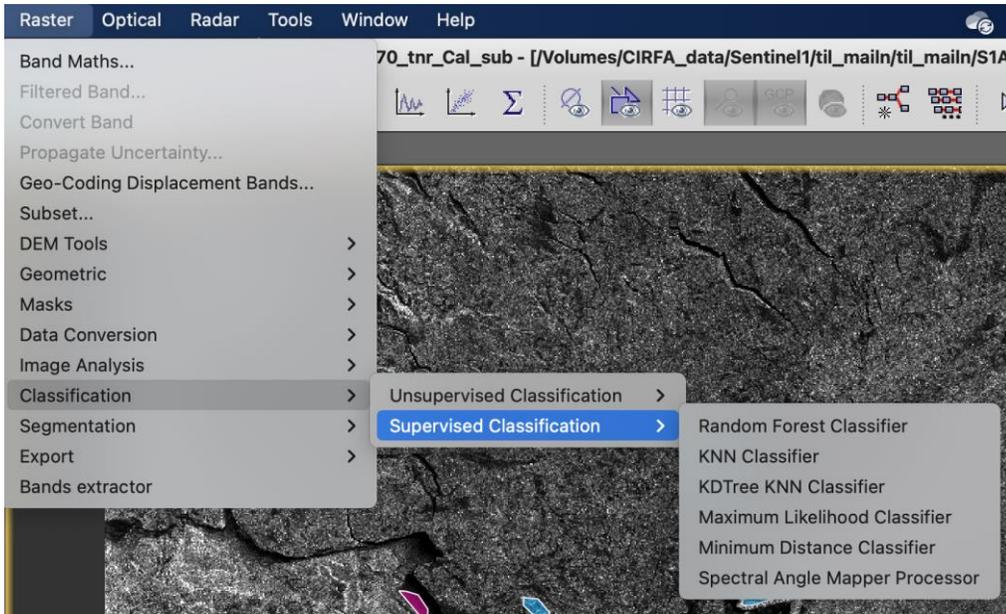


# Young Ice (Pink) and Open Water (Purple)

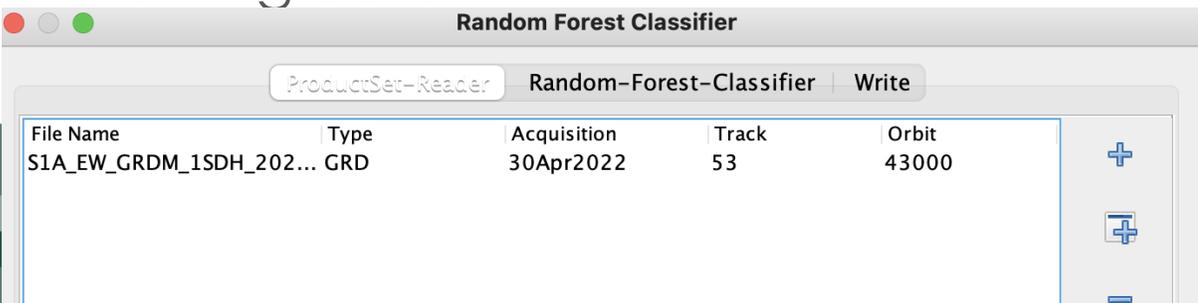


# Perform the Random Forest Classification

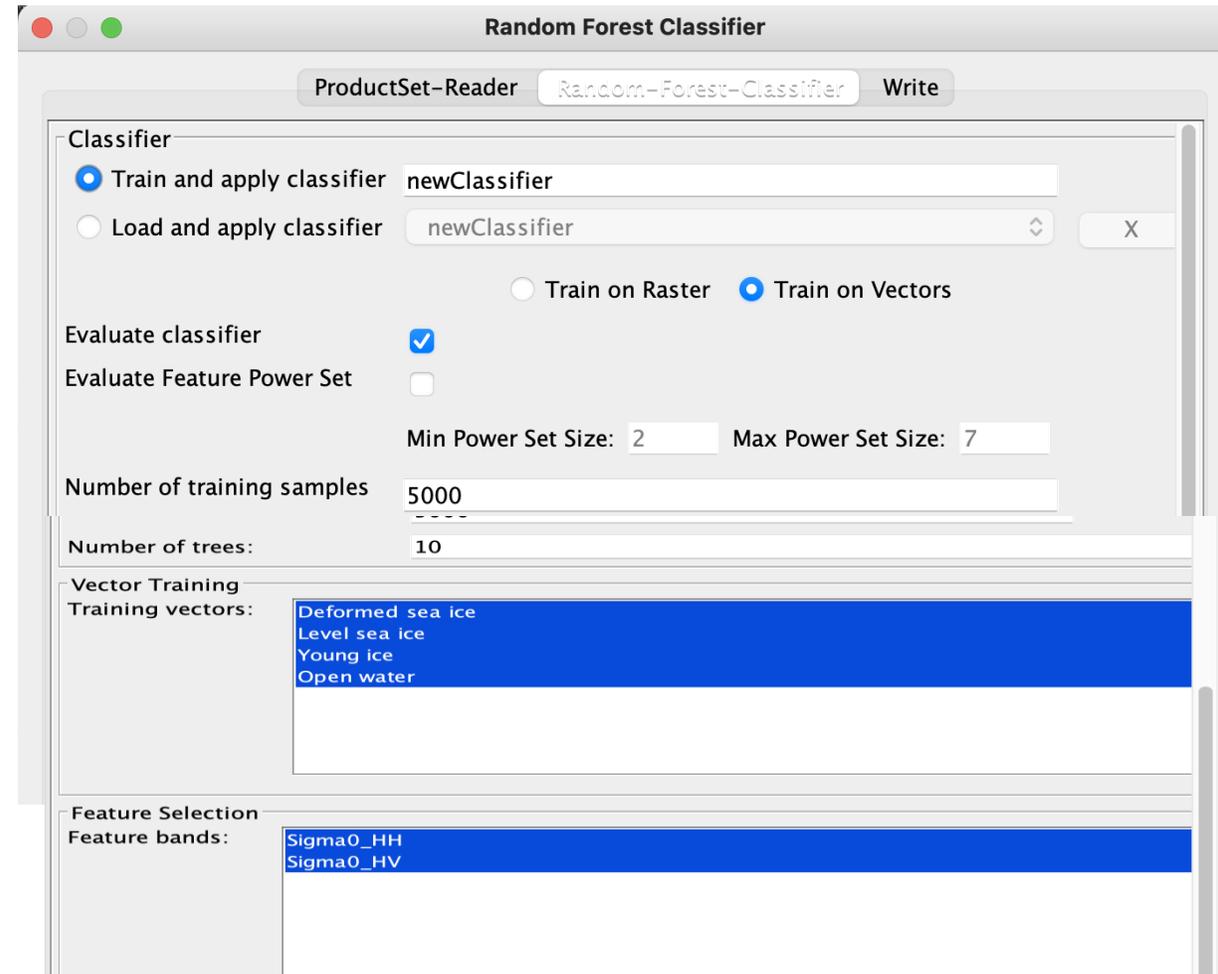
- Set up the random forest.



- Find the folder/image with your training data.

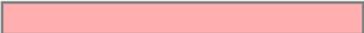


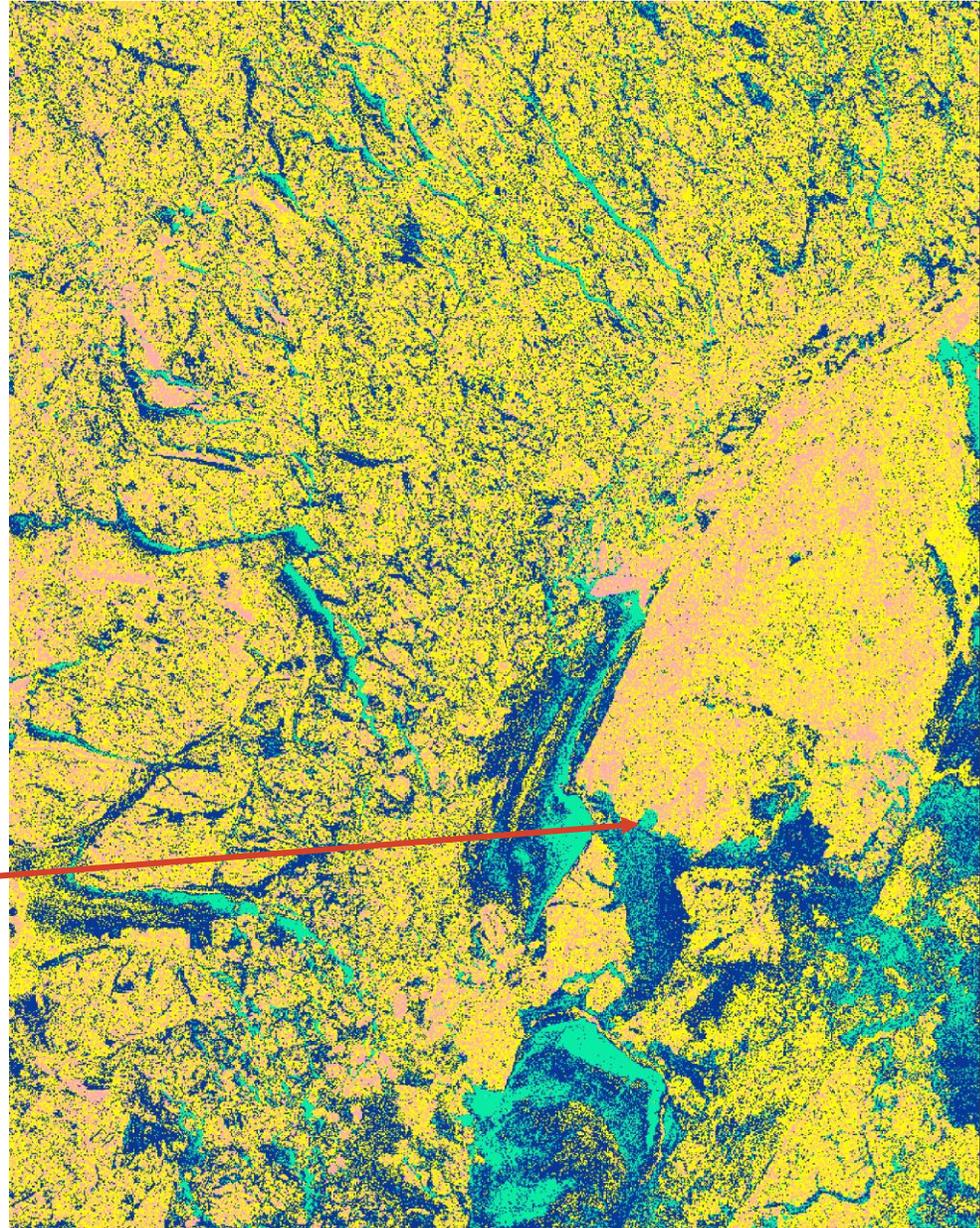
- Select the classes that you'd like to include.



# Perform the Random Forest Classification

- For the image and classes that I selected, my results turned out like this:

Label	Colour	Value
no data		-1
Deformed...		0
Level sea i...		1
Young ice		2
Open water		3



# Acknowledgements

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**Wolfgang Dierking, Johannes Lohse, Catherine Taelman, Denis Demchev, Truls Karlsen, and Torbjørn Eltoft** for slides, input and helpful feedback.

**Janine Osanen** for the sea ice stratigraphy image.

All those who have target ordered satellite data to overlap with the in-situ data for countless sea ice campaigns. Without you the temporal and spatial overlaps wouldn't have happened.

All those who have participated in fieldwork collecting in-situ data.



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- [ARSET Website](#)
- Follow us on Twitter!
  - [@NASAARSET](#)
- [ARSET YouTube](#)

Visit our Sister Programs:

 [DEVELOP](#)

 [SERVIR](#)



# Resources

For the latest about the Arctic and Antarctic sea ice:

- <https://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/>
- [https://nsidc.org/data/seaice\\_index/](https://nsidc.org/data/seaice_index/)
- <https://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/charctic-interactive-sea-ice-graph/>
- <https://earth.gsfc.nasa.gov/cryo/data/current-state-sea-ice-cover>

WMO Sea Ice Nomenclature:

- [https://library.wmo.int/viewer/41953?medianame=259-2015\\_multilingual\\_#page=1&viewer=picture&o=&n=0&q=](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/41953?medianame=259-2015_multilingual_#page=1&viewer=picture&o=&n=0&q=)
- Extreme Earth Dataset: <https://earthanalytics.eu/datasets.html>,  
<https://zenodo.org/record/4683174#.YLTRA5MzZdA>
- More information about our cruise: <https://zenodo.org/record/7314066#.Y3I418fMJPZ>



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**Thank You!**

