

ALOS

K&C Initiative  
An international science collaboration led by JAXA

**Related mission updates:**

**MOLI**

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Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)*

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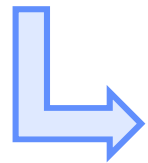
- Introduction**
- MOLI's feature**
- Products of MOLI**
- Preliminary results of airborne lidar experiment**
- Summary**

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- MOLIS feature
- Products of MOLIS
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## Background

Global anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> budget (IPCC 2013, AR5)

	1750–2011 Cumulative PgC	1980–1989 PgC yr <sup>-1</sup>	1990–1999 PgC yr <sup>-1</sup>	2000–2009 PgC yr <sup>-1</sup>	2002–2011 PgC yr <sup>-1</sup>
Atmospheric increase <sup>a</sup>	240 ± 10 <sup>f</sup>	3.4 ± 0.2	3.1 ± 0.2	4.0 ± 0.2	4.3 ± 0.2
Fossil fuel combustion and cement production <sup>b</sup>	375 ± 30 <sup>f</sup>	5.5 ± 0.4	6.4 ± 0.5	7.8 ± 0.6	8.3 ± 0.7
Ocean-to-atmosphere flux <sup>c</sup>	-155 ± 30 <sup>f</sup>	-2.0 ± 0.7	-2.2 ± 0.7	-2.3 ± 0.7	-2.4 ± 0.7
Land-to-atmosphere flux <i>Partitioned as follows</i>	30 ± 45 <sup>f</sup>	-0.1 ± 0.8	-1.1 ± 0.9	-1.5 ± 0.9	-1.6 ± 1.0
Net land use change <sup>d</sup>	180 ± 80 <sup>g</sup>	1.4 ± 0.8	1.5 ± 0.8	1.1 ± 0.8	0.9 ± 0.8
Residual land sink <sup>e</sup>	-160 ± 90 <sup>f</sup>	-1.5 ± 1.1	-2.6 ± 1.2	-2.6 ± 1.2	-2.5 ± 1.3



Terrestrial carbon budget due to land use change and carbon absorption by forests is **more uncertain** than others. (Ciais et al., 2013 )  
It is important to estimate forest biomass precisely.

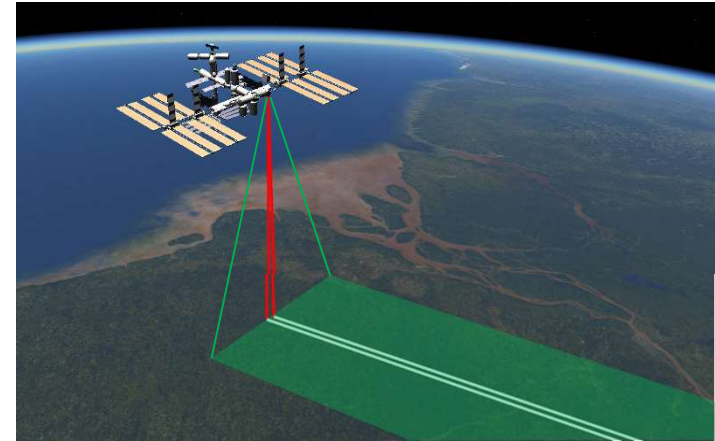
JAXA has begun studying the space vegetation LIDAR mission using the Multi-footprint Observation Lidar and Imager (MOLI).

What's MOLI?

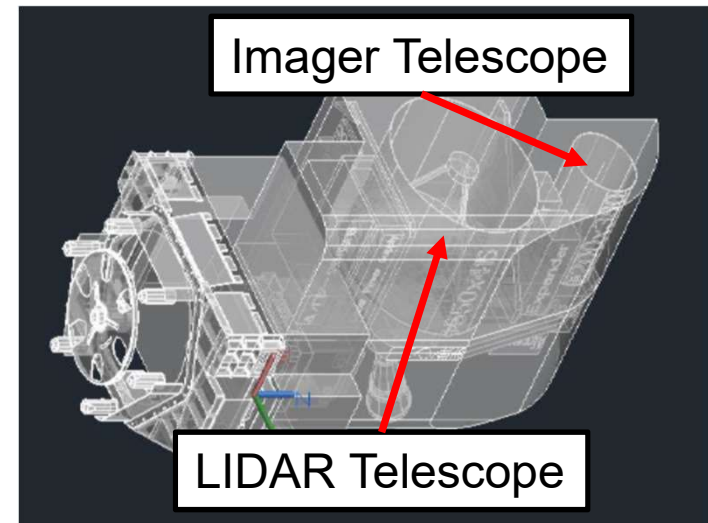
MOLI = 森  
forest

## □ MOLI (Multi-footprint Observation Lidar and Imager)

Items	Specifications
Mission instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○LIDAR</li> <li>Laser wavelength/ 1064nm</li> <li>Number of beam / 2 beam (Split from one beam)</li> <li>Beam power/ 20mJ each</li> <li>Pulse width / less than 7ns</li> <li>Footprint radius / <math>\Phi 25m</math></li> <li>○Imager</li> <li>Band / Green; 550-630nm</li> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Red; 630-740nm</li> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">NIR: 740-880nm</li> <li>Spatial resolution / 5m</li> <li>Swath / 1km</li> </ul>
Size	1605 × 640 × 830 [mm]
Mass	About 300 kg
Power	Less than 400W
Operation	Over 1year
Operational orbit	ISS orbit(Inclination : 51.6 deg) Non-synchronous at an altitude of 400km



Observation Image



Overview of MOLI

## ***In-situ Measurement***

Accurate but not homogenous globally  
Needs tremendous resources (time, manpower)



## ***Satellite Measurement(Optical Imager , SAR)***

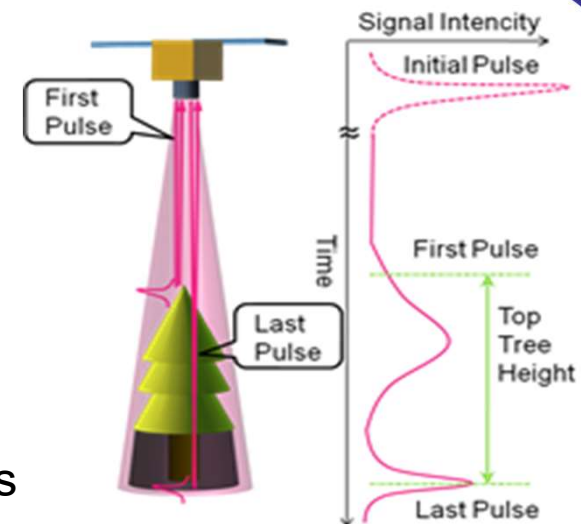
LANDSAT is powerful tool for its long-term record. However its measurement of **Area**.  
L band SAR can measure **Volume**, but saturation  $\sim 100\text{t/ha}$  [above-ground biomass]  
(Luckman et.al. 1998)

## ***Satellite LIDAR Measurement***

→***Effective method of directly measuring tree height***

Lidar is a sensor that transmits intense pulsed laser light to the ground, receives the reflected signal, and measures the distance from the round-trip delay time of the pulse.

The **biggest factor that affects** tree height and biomass estimation is the **slope angle of the ground**. (Rosette et al. 2008a, Hilbert & Schmillius 2012)

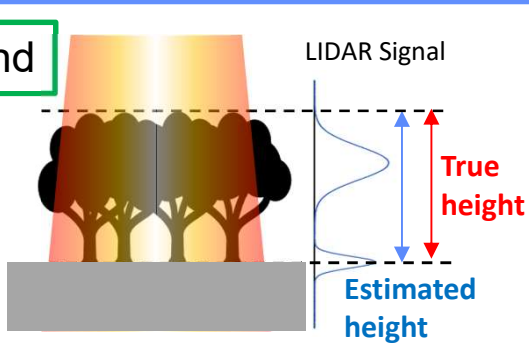


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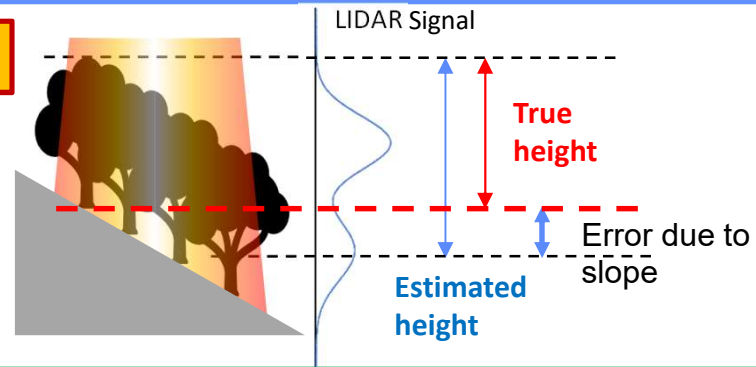
## MOLI's feature → Improvement of canopy high observation by "Multi footprint"

flatland

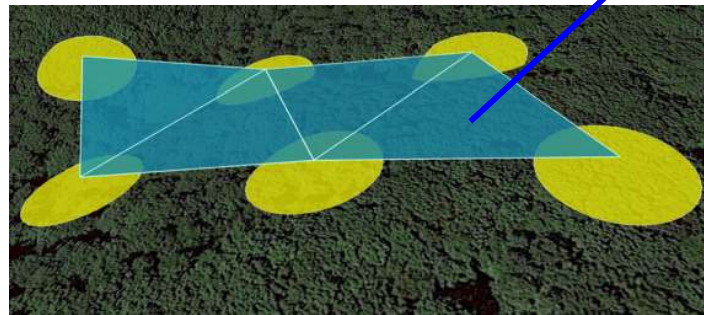
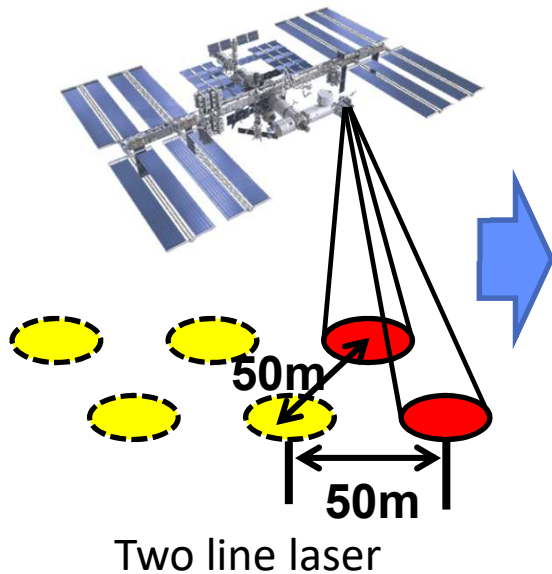


Canopy height  
= Distance between Signal start and last pulse

slope



Canopy height  
= Distance between Signal start and last pulse  
— Term for correcting error from slope



Estimate slope angle from altitude information  
of three footprints (observation points)

Expected effect by  
"Multi footprint"

Before:  
Correction using  
DEM data.

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Product level	Product category	Products	Remark
L1 (Standard)	Lidar footprint products	Waveforms ( $\geq 500$ Msp/s)	including geolocation data Footprint Position Accuracy $\leq 15$ m
	Imager product (1km swath)	Image (Red, Green, NIR)	geometrically corrected
L2 (Standard)	Lidar footprint products	Canopy heights	$\pm 3$ m (Canopy Height is under 15m) $\pm 20\%$ (Canopy Height is over 15m)
		Forest biomass	$\pm 25$ t/ha (Biomass density is under 100t/ha) $\pm 25\%$ (Biomass density is over 100t/ha)

※ Multi-footprint is expected to compensate each product up to 30 degrees of slope.

Product level	Product category	Products	Remark
L3 (Research)	Integrated products with Lidar and imager (1km swath)	Canopy heights	<b>Target</b> <b>【Canopy heights】</b> $\pm\sim 5\text{m}$ (Canopy Height is under 15m) $\pm\sim 40\%$ (Canopy Height is over 15m) <b>【Forest biomass】</b> $\pm\sim 40\text{t/ha}$ (Biomass density is under 100t/ha) $\pm\sim 40\%$ (Biomass density is over 100t/ha)
		Forest biomass	
L4 (Research)	Wall-to-Wall map products (Integrated with GCOM-C/SGLI Data)	Canopy height map	
		Forest biomass map	

※ Multi-footprint is expected to compensate each product up to 30 degrees of slope.

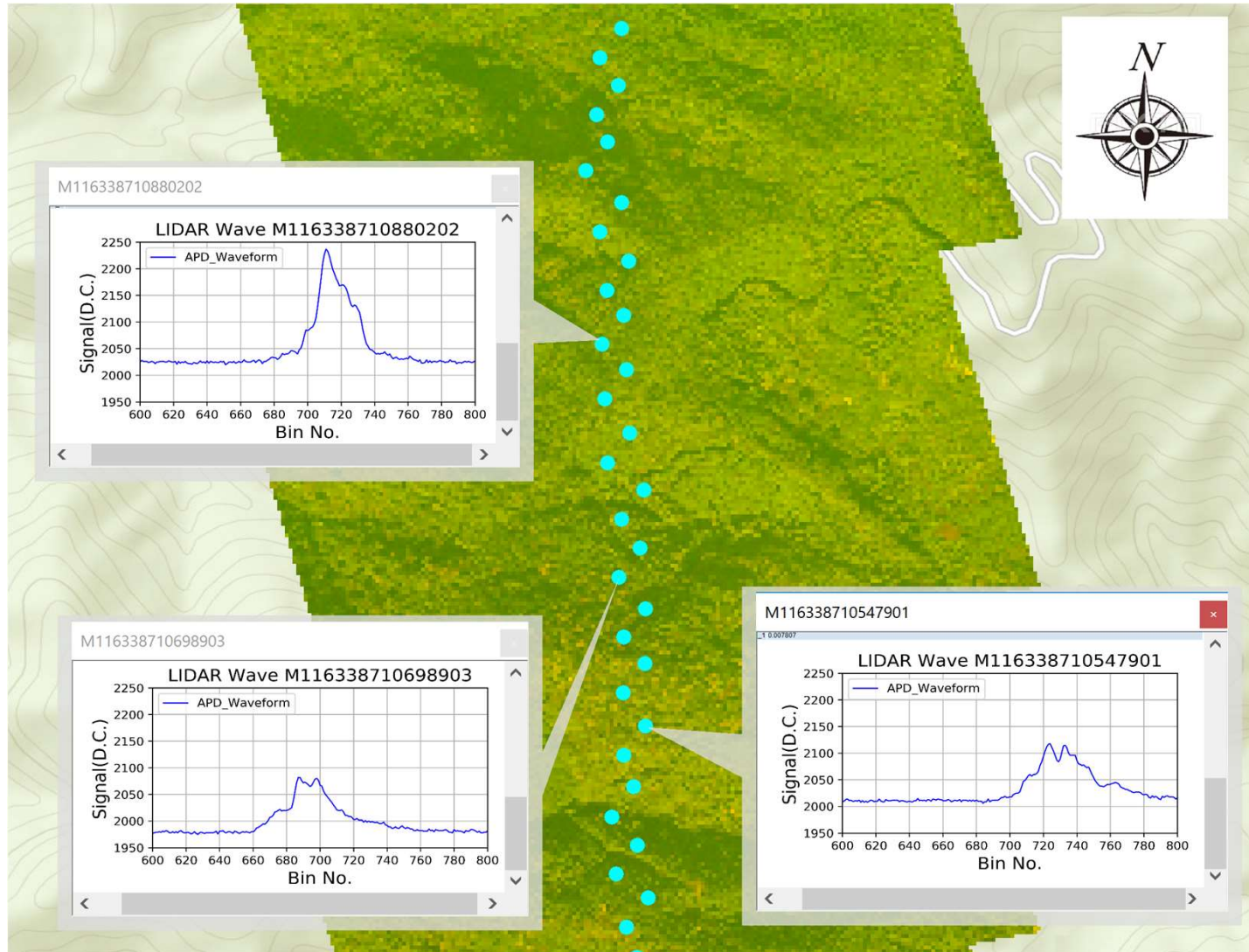


Image of L1 product at GIS software  
(Using airborne lidar experiment at Ise forest)

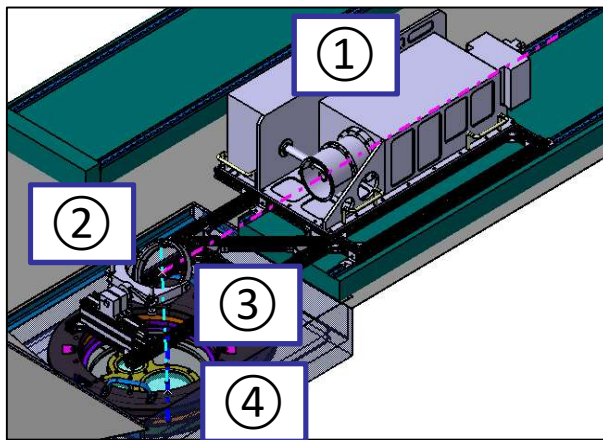
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## Test configuration

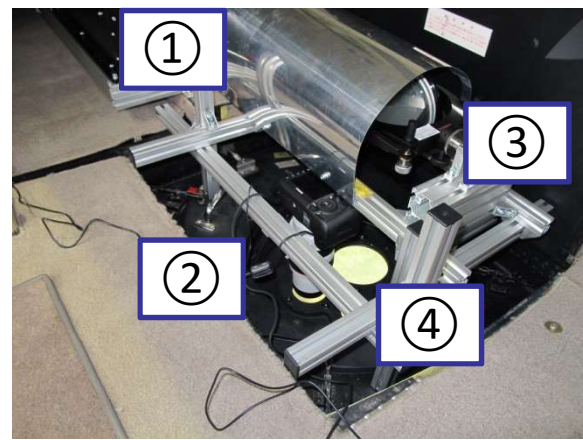
We installed a multi-foot print lidar system on aircraft(King Air 200T) with CCD camera (Canon EOS 5D Mark III).



Overview of King Air 200T



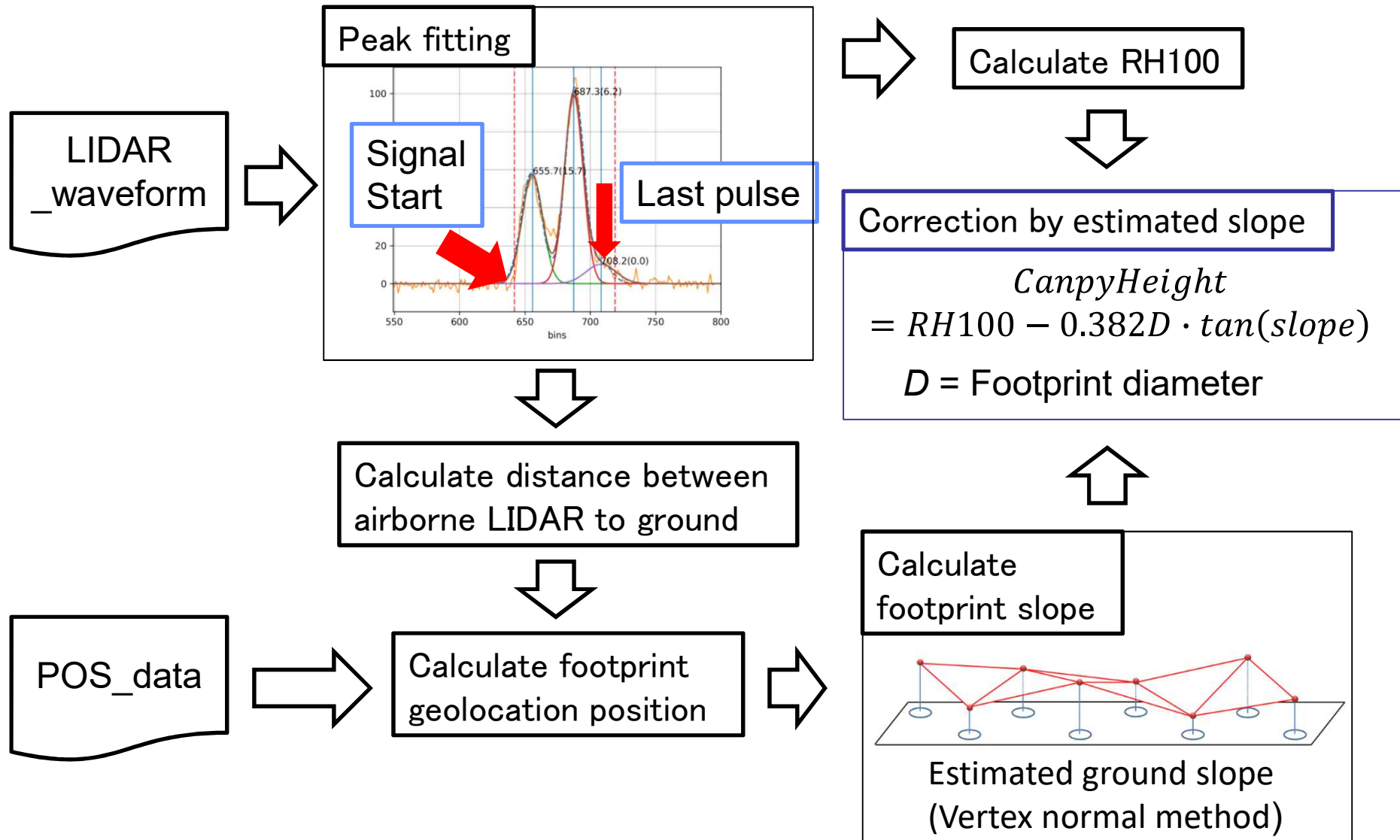
Lidar System(CAD model)



Lidar System(picture)

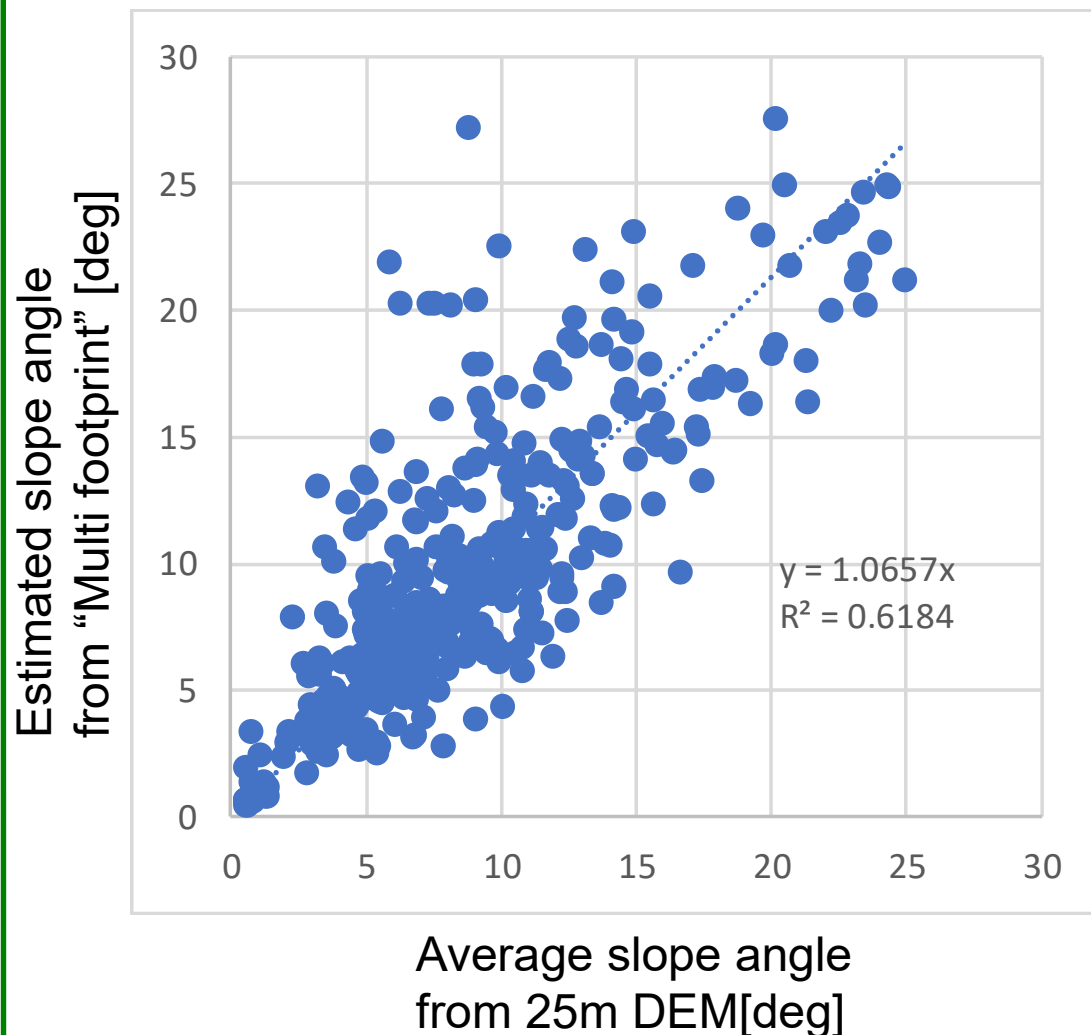
- ① Lidar
- ② CCD camera
- ③ reflection mirror
- ④ window (AR Coating)

## Data processing





## Estimated slope angle



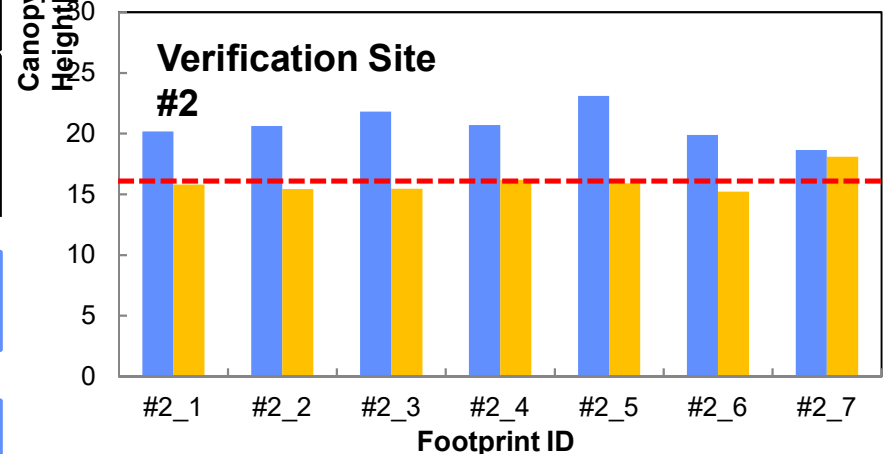
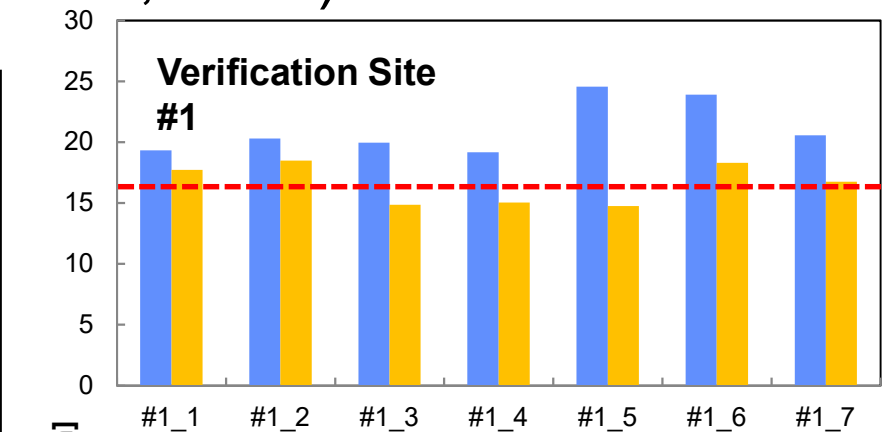
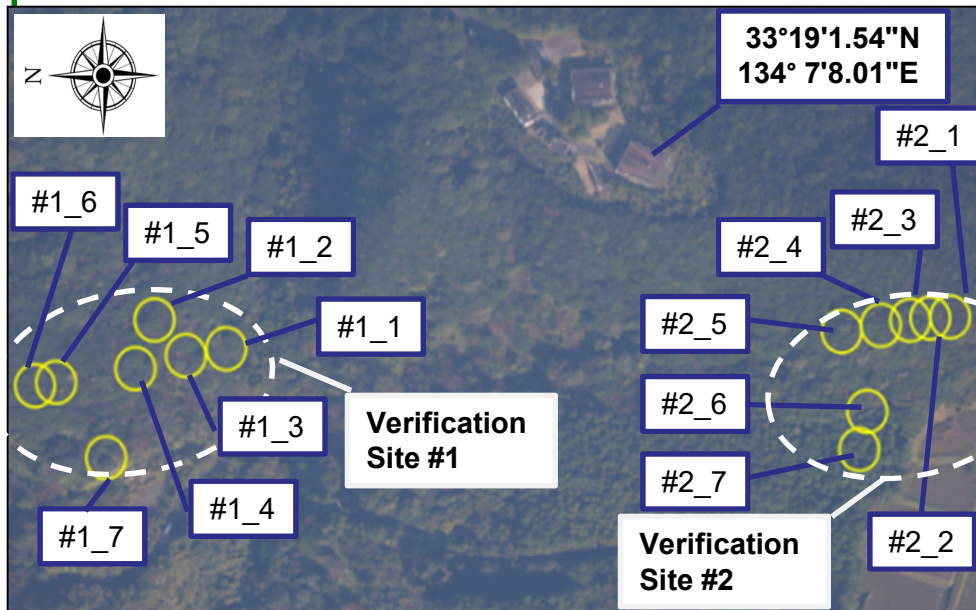
First, we compared estimated some footprint slope angle calculated by "Multi footprint" with DEM data.

The DEM was resampled to 25 m square and calculated slope according to the footprint diameter of MOLI

From this result, we confirmed that the Multi footprint method can estimate roughly ground slope.

### Verification (Muroto forest)

We validated the canopy height directly to verify the observation results at 3 sites. (Muroto, Gero)



**Verification Site #1**

Error of before the correction : 4.94[m]  
 Error of after the correction : 1.54[m]

**Verification Site #2**

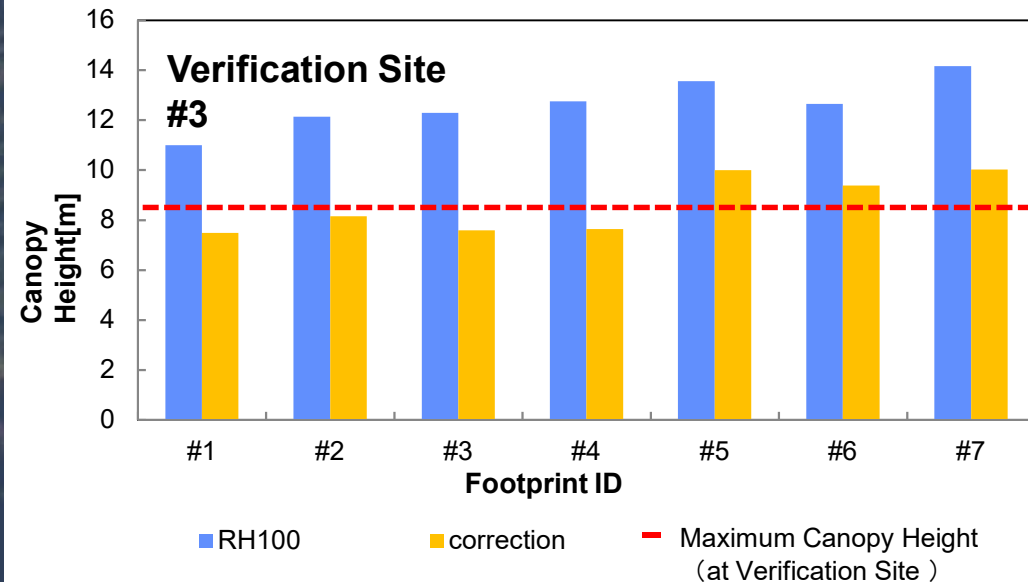
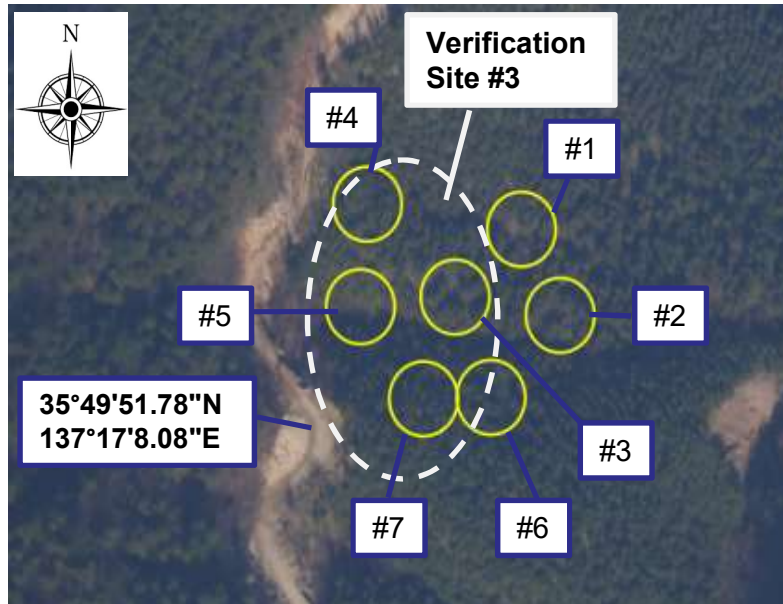
Error of before the correction : 4.30[m]  
 Error of after the correction : 1.08[m]

RH100

correction

Maximum Canopy Height (at Verification Site)

## Verification (Gero forest)



## Verification Site #3

Error of before the correction : 4.63[m]  
 Error of after the correction : **1.18[m]**

These results show validity of the observation method using Multi-footprint for the mission requirement in 3 verification sites.

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- **MOLI Target launch : 2022~ (Now Phase A to B)**
- **JAXA/EORC called for MOLI's research proposals.**  
**(EO-RA2)**

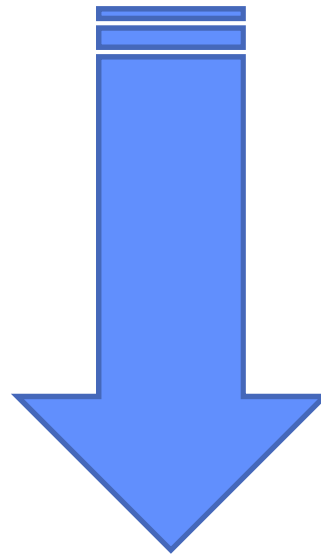
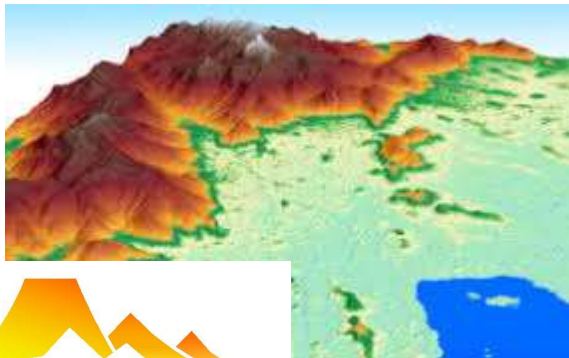
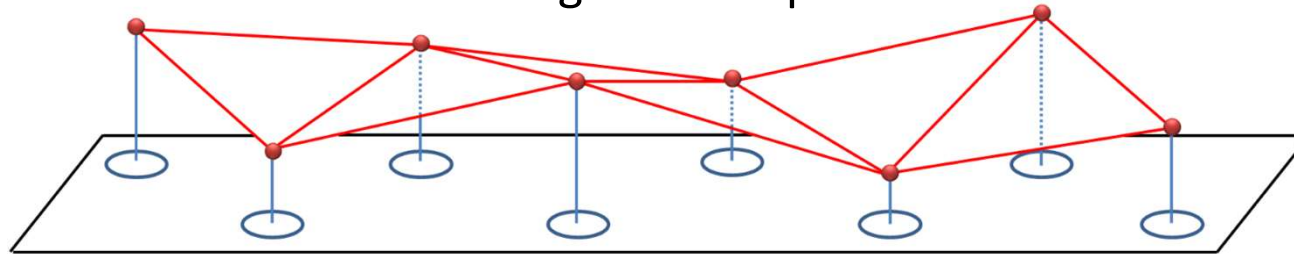
## Future Work

- **Method of slope angle calculation will improve.**
- **To evaluate the accuracy using Airborne Laser Scanning (ALS) data.**
- **To trial Integrated products with large footprint airborne Lidar data and imager(CCD camera) data.**

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Estimated ground slope result



Improve the  
estimated result?

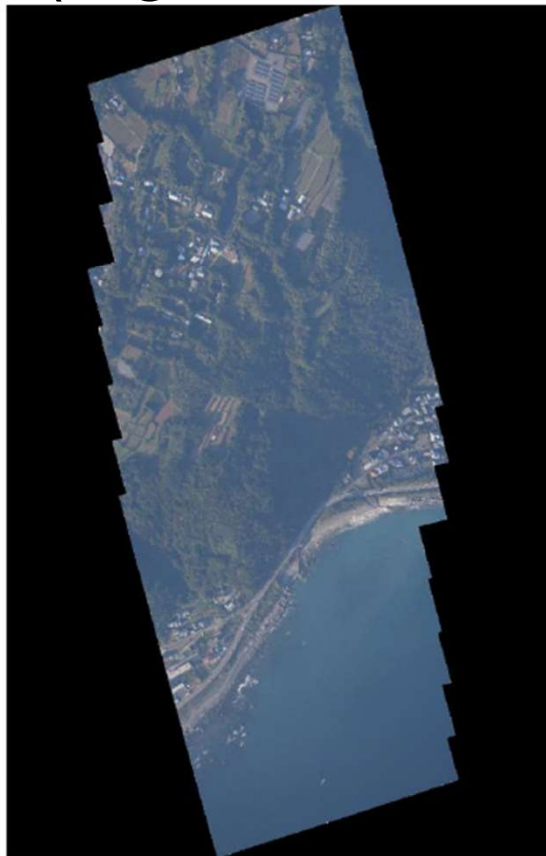
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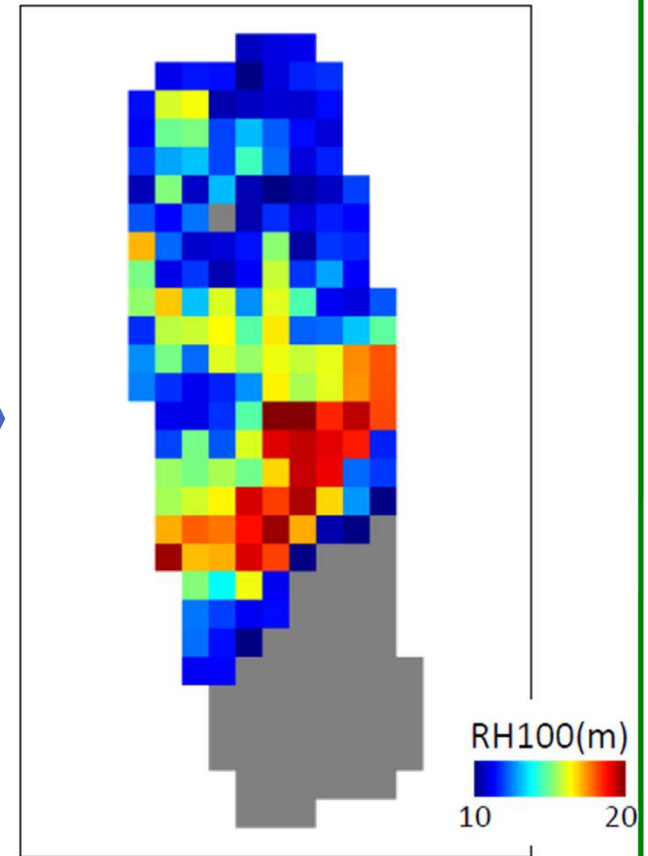
## Prototype MOLI L3 product to airborne lidar experiment (Algorithm under development)



Raw CCD camera data  
Spatial resolution ~10cm



Adjust to MOLI Imager  
resolution(5m) and  
Smoothing local contrast



Integrated products with  
Lidar and imager data  
(40m mesh, RH 100)



A banner at the top of the slide features satellite imagery of a river delta system. The word "ALOS" is written in white, serif font on a dark blue rectangular background on the left side of the banner.

ALOS

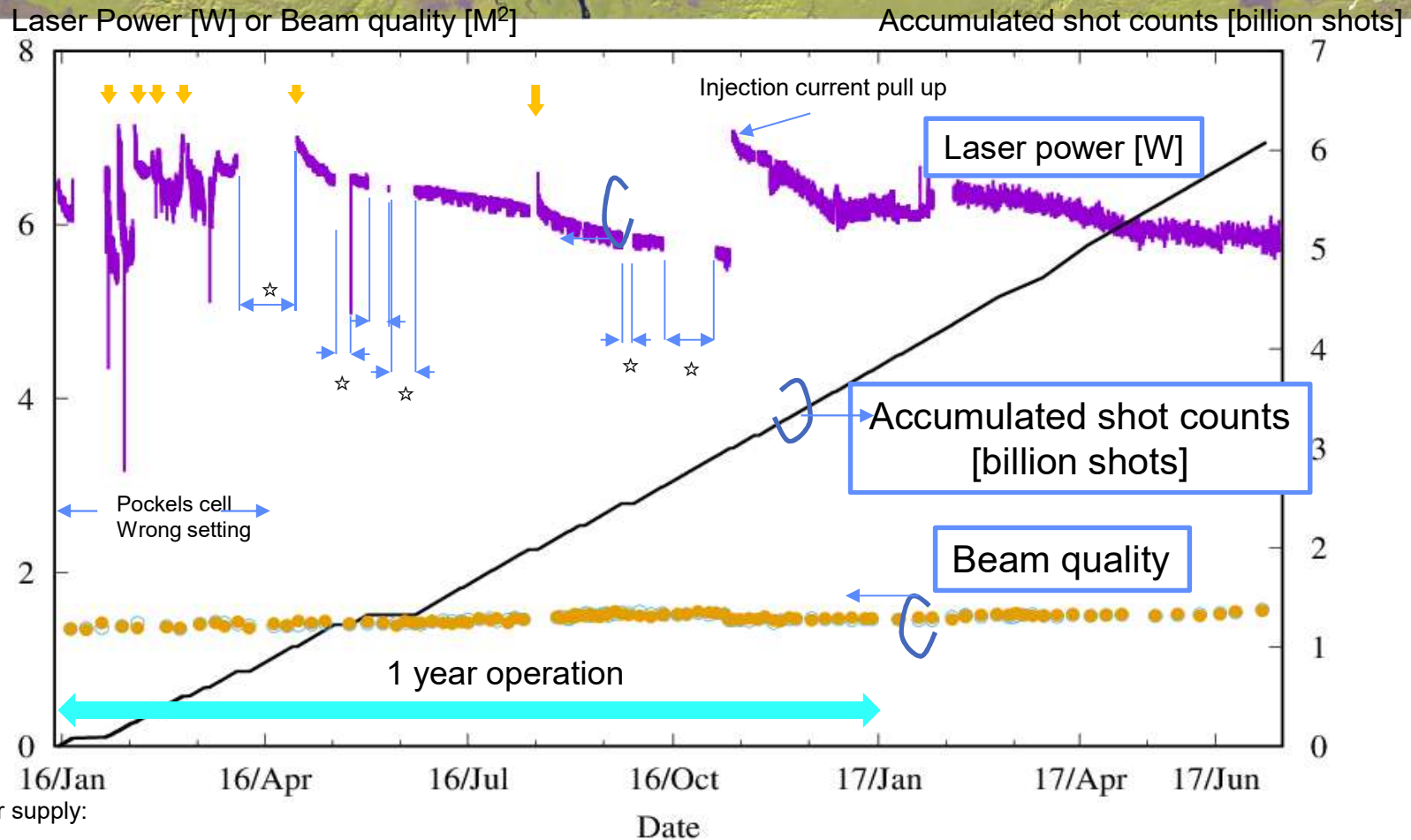
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**Thank you so much for  
your kind attention**

The logo for the Advanced Land Observing Satellite (ALOS) program, featuring the letters 'ALOS' in a white, serif font against a dark blue background.A banner for the Knowledge and Capacity (K&C) Initiative, featuring a satellite-style map of a river delta in shades of green and blue. The text 'K&C Initiative' is in a white serif font, and 'An international science collaboration led by JAXA' is in a smaller, italicized white serif font below it.

*K&C Initiative*  
*An international science collaboration led by JAXA*

## **Appendix**

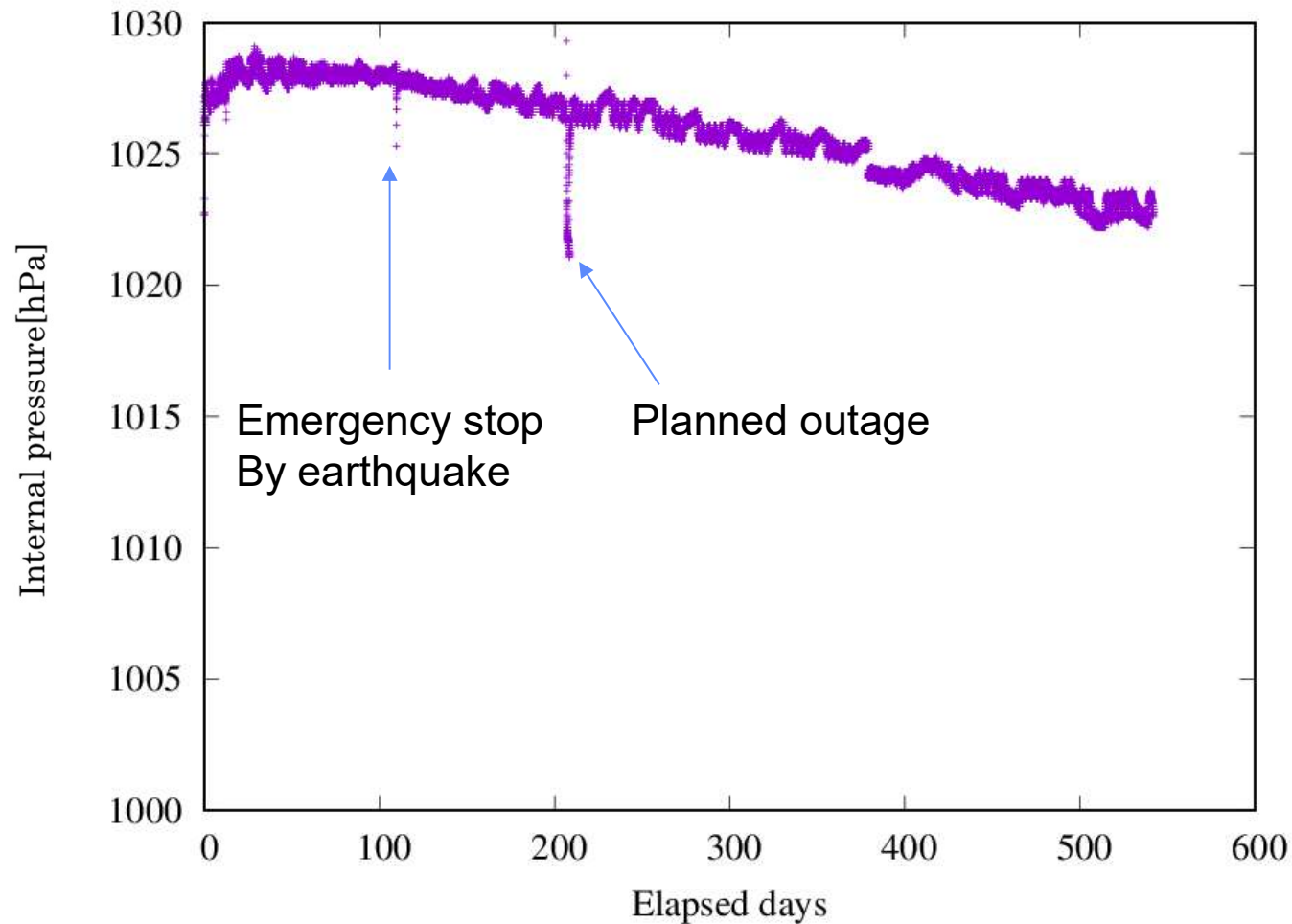


■ Laser power supply: on/off

★ Data lack due to software memory leakage

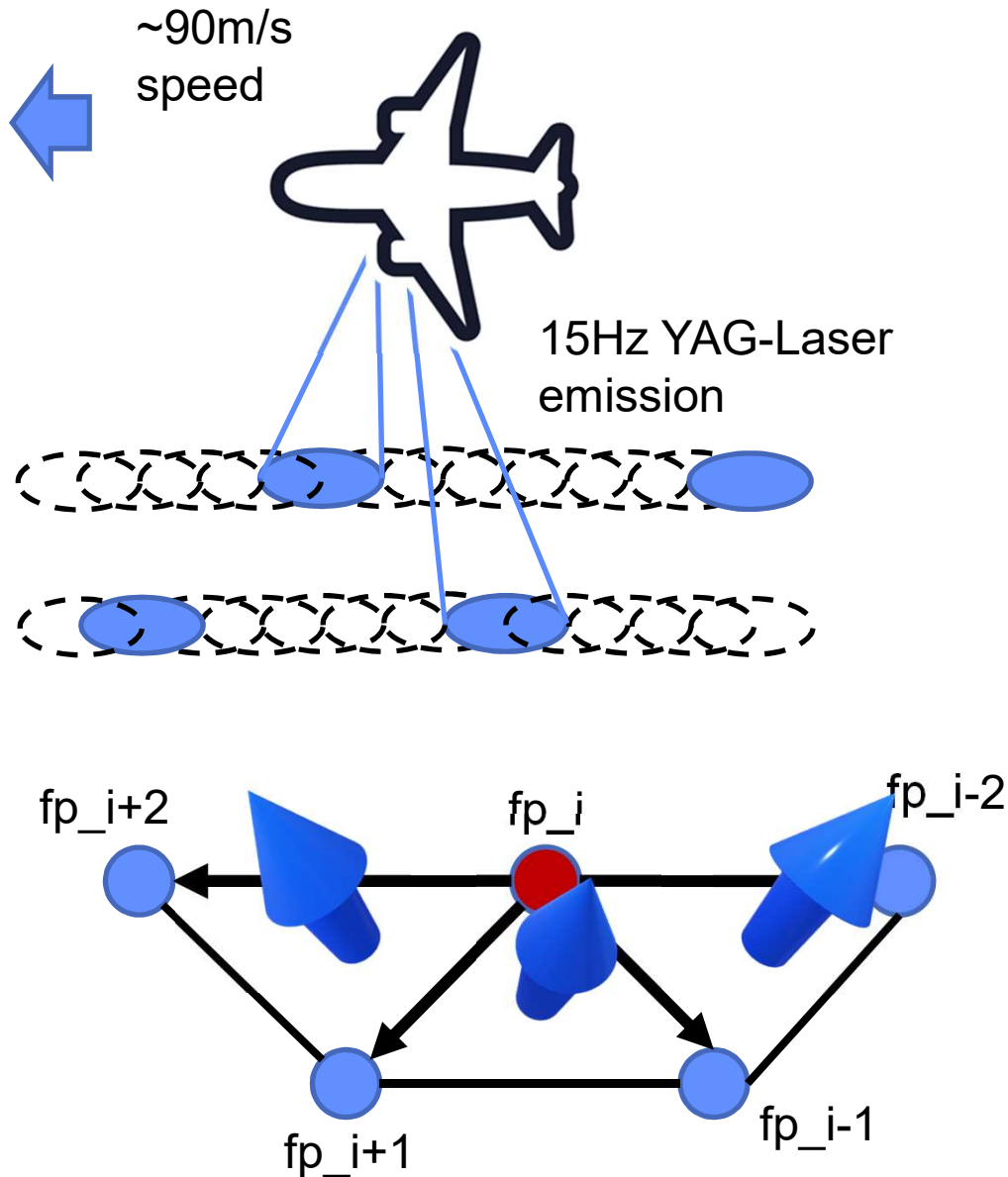
Space borne Laser is needed to be **installed in a pressurized canister to prevent LIC.**

We have conducted trial test of Laser in vacuum and **achieve more than one year operation** of laser in vacuum condition.



Pressurized canister keeps internal pressure less than 1% decrease

No leak observed during test periods



In order to simulate MOLI sampling design, we selected the necessary analyzed data from footprint data overlapped because of relationship between airplane speed and laser Repetition frequency.

Calculate slope from vector normalized by adding all normals of triangle made of "Multi footprint".

# Slope correction for GLAS data (Ver. 2)

The laser intensity is shown as follows

$$A_0 \exp(-\alpha r^2) \quad \text{Where } r \text{ is distance from the center of footprint}$$

The half of correction term is calculated as follows:

$$\text{where } R = \frac{1}{2} D_f$$

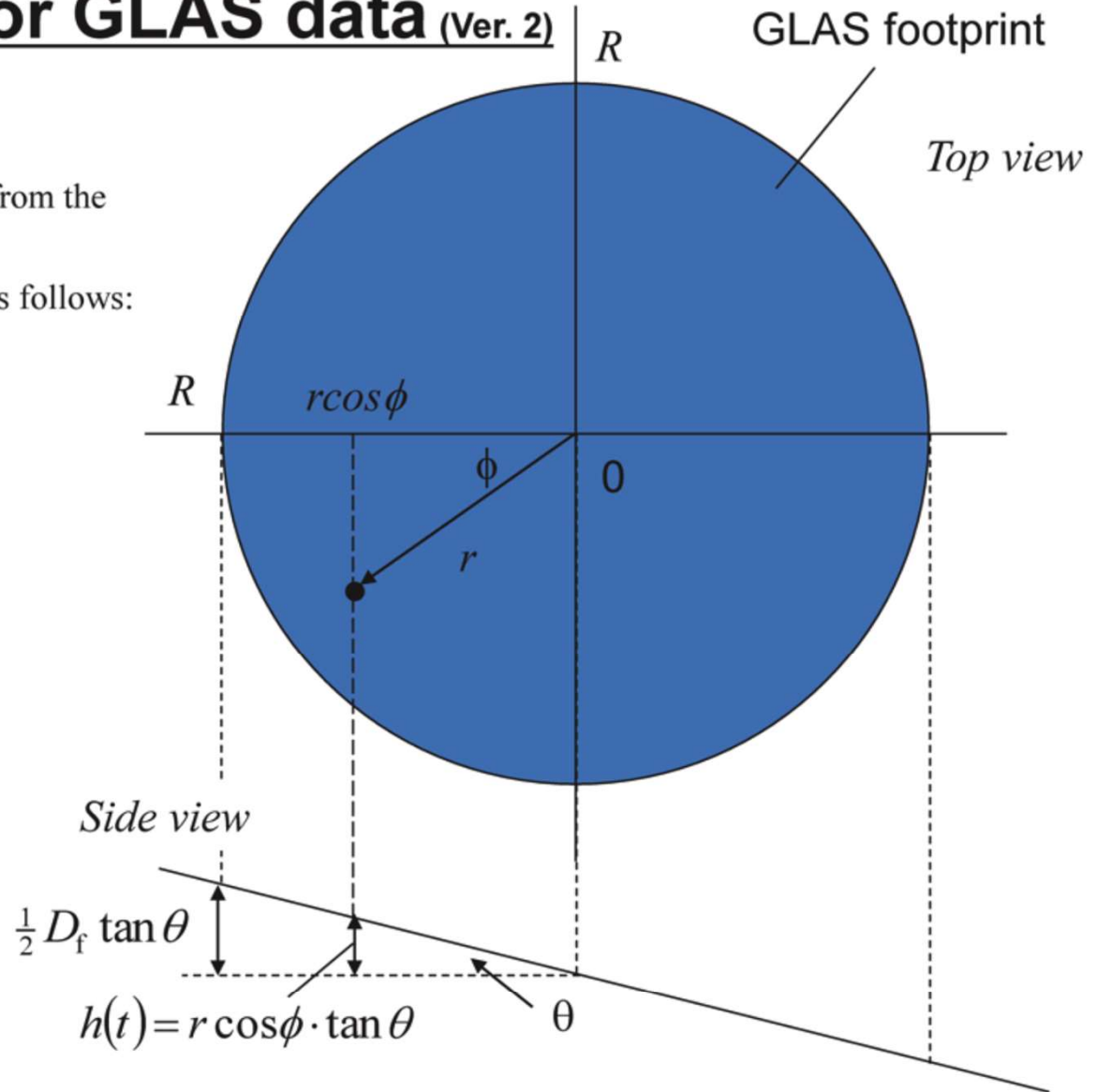
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{h} &= \frac{\int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} A_0 e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r \cdot \cos\phi \cdot \tan\theta \cdot r \cdot d\phi dr}{\int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} A_0 e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r \cdot d\phi dr} \\ &= \frac{A_0 \cdot \tan\theta \int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r^2 \cdot \cos\phi \cdot d\phi dr}{A_0 \int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r \cdot d\phi dr} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r^2 \cdot \cos\phi \cdot d\phi dr}{\int_0^R \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r \cdot d\phi dr} \cdot \tan\theta \\ &= \frac{\int_0^R e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r^2 \cdot \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos\phi \cdot d\phi dr}{\int_0^R e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot r \cdot \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} d\phi dr} \cdot \tan\theta \\ &= \frac{\int_0^R r^2 e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot dr}{\frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^R r e^{-\alpha r^2} \cdot dr} \cdot \tan\theta \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{\alpha} R) \cdot e^{\alpha R^2} - 2\sqrt{\alpha} R}{\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \pi (e^{\alpha R^2} - 1)} \cdot \tan\theta \end{aligned}$$

Maclaurin's expansion

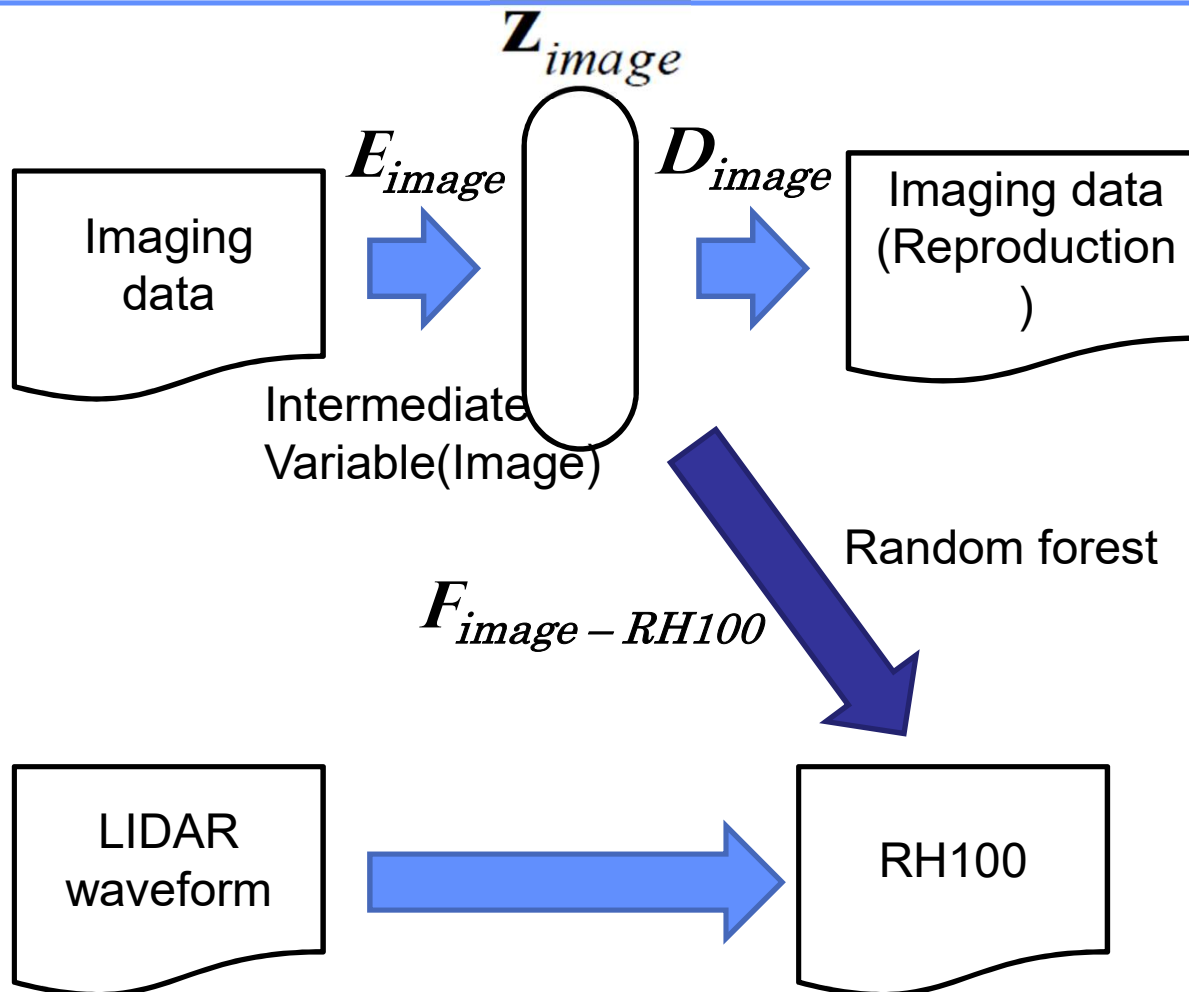
Because the beam intensity is constant

$$\bar{h} \approx \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{4}{3} - \frac{2\alpha R^2}{15} - \frac{\alpha^2 R^4}{315} + \frac{2\alpha^3 R^6}{945} + \frac{\alpha^4 R^8}{13860} + \dots \right) \cdot R \tan\theta$$

$$\approx 0.382 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot D_f \tan\theta$$



## RH100 estimation from imager data using machine learning



Non-linear projection of image to low-dimensional intermediate variable  $Z_{image}$  with VAE (Variational Autoencoder)

Learning the image relation ( $E_{image}$ ,  $D_{image}$  can be obtained)

Learning the relationship between the image's intermediate variable  $z_{image}$  and RH 100 with RandomForest ( $F_{image \rightarrow RH 100}$  is obtained)

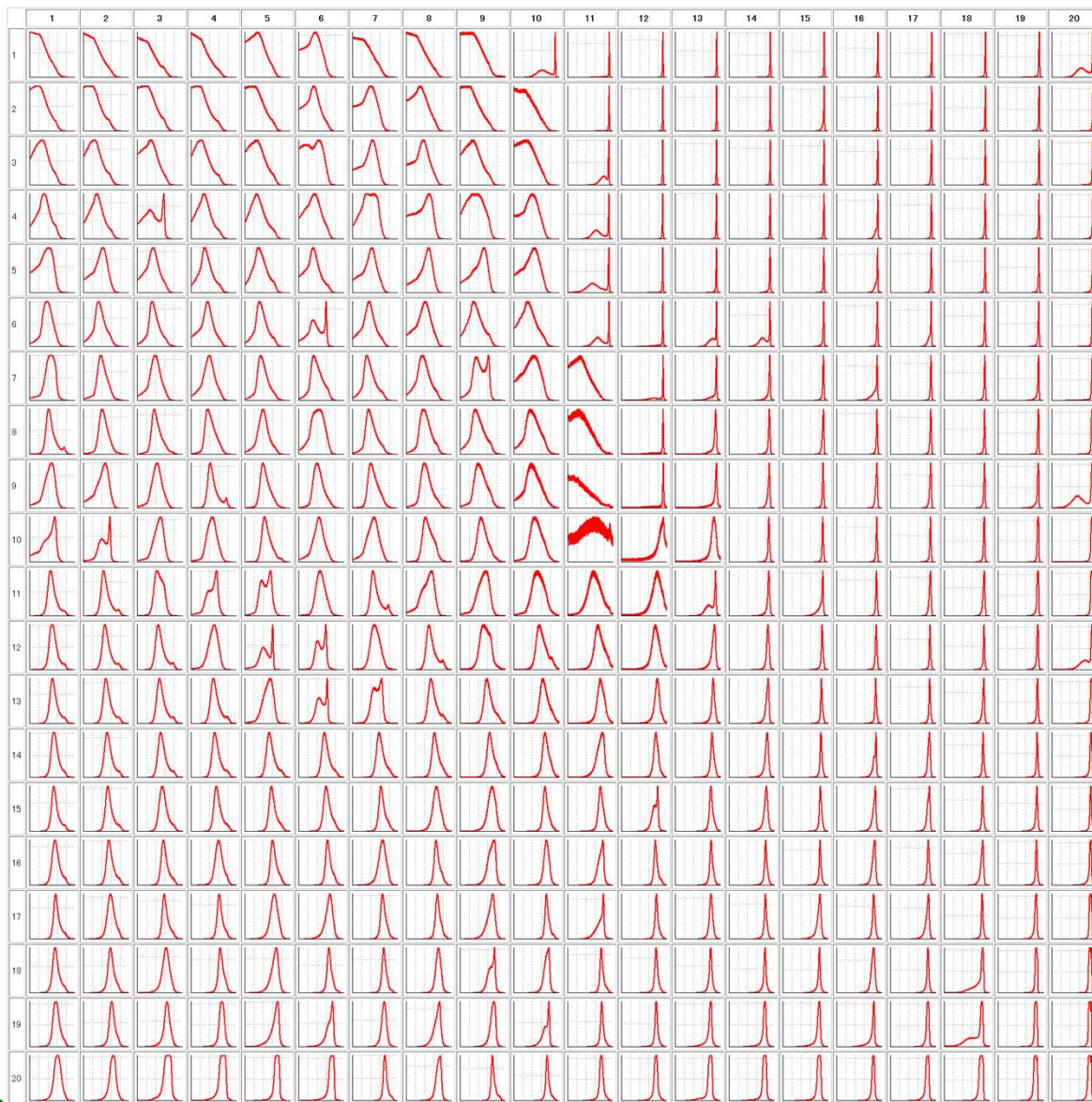
Combining  $E_{image}$ ,  $F_{image \rightarrow RH 100}$  makes it possible to generate RH100 maps from imager images

# ALOS

## Waveform classification of ICESat/GLAS data

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### 20 \* 20 classification (Self-organizing maps)



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	4	9	9	9	9
5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	4	9	9	9	9
6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	8	9	9	9
7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
8	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
9	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
11	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
12	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
13	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
14	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	4	9	9	9
15	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
16	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
17	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	11
18	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	2
19	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	2	9	9	2	9	2	9	9	2	9
20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	2	9	2	2	9	9	9	2	11

### Land covering by MOD 12

- 2 Broadleaf evergreen forest(Green)
- 4 Broadleaf deciduous forest
- 9 Savanna
- 11 wetland