Alaska Wetlands Map from Satellite L-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar



A 100-meter resolution wetlands map of Alaska has been developed using JERS-1 SAR imagery. Whitcomb, Moghaddam, McDonald, Kellndorfer, and Podest, 2009

L-band Radar Imagery from JERS-1 Boreal Mapping Mission



Winter

Significant pass-to-pass striping, pointing to temporal scene variations



Summer

Wetlands Classification Approach

- The Alaska radar mosaic is divided into 9 tiles, and each tile classified separately, with enough overlap to ensure consistency of class definitions
- 100m resolution
- Example data layers for a tile:





Tile A5 DEM



Tile A5 open water



Tile A5 texture



Tile A5 acquisition date

Wetlands Classification Approach

- Ground reference data set primarily from National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
- NWI uses Cowardin's classification system (1979) for the US
- Nonwetlands classes from Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse (AGDC)



NON-WETLAND:





Open Water Change- North Slope, Alaska



Flood Pulse of Amazonian Wetlands: ALOS ScanSAR Time Series

An ALOS Kyoto & Carbon Initiative Wetlands Theme Product

Start date: 4 Nov 2006 End date: 7 Nov 2007 Repeat interval: 46 days

ALOS PALSAR, ScanSAR mode L-band, HH-pol 350-km swath width 100 m pixel



Sample raster product for Piagaçu-Purus Reserve, Brazil



Sample vector product for Piagaçu-Purus Reserve, Brazil

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	71	Woody	Tree	Closed	Tall	1	1	0
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5 2 2	80	Woody	Tree	Closed	Tall	1	1	1

- Raster products (wetland extent, vegetation cover, and inundation period) synthesize flooding information from many dates

- Knowledge of flooding state on individual dates is important for crossproduct comparison and use in models, but would increase product volume by roughly 10x if presented in raster format

- Flooding state for specific dates is therefore formatted as shapefile and attribute (dbf) file giving flooding status for all available dates for each image object

- Attribute file also includes presence/absence of seasonal aquatic macrophytes, and LCCS hierarchical classes

McDonald et al.

Wetland Classification of the Chaya Basin



Wetland Classification of the Chaya Basin- cont.

Accuracy assessment was based on validation pixels not used for training. Accuracy varied between 2% and 20% according to class. However, because of limited ground truth data, these values may vary.



Monthly Inundated Area

QuikSCAT and AMSR-E



Inundated Area Fraction

