SAR for Sustainable Development

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Outline

- RADARSAT-2 SAR sensor
- Applications of SAR data for sustainable development



SAR Continuity in Canada

- Spaceborne SAR is Canada's long-term solution to environmental monitoring, resource management, and security
- \$200M is committed for the first phase of a RADARSAT-2 follow-on SAR Constellation planned to commence operations in the 2010 time frame
- Canadian Govt has pledged \$100M of funding for the Tandem Mission



Tandem Mission





RADARSAT-2 Program

- Co-funded by Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and MacDonald Dettwiler (MDA)
 - public-private partnership
- RADARSAT-1 continuity
 - C-band SAR (5.6 cm wavelength)
 - imaging modes
- 7-year design life
 - RADARSAT-1 in 10th year of 5.25year design life
- Planned launch in December 2006



RADARSAT-2 is currently undergoing pre-launch testing at the David Florida labs in Ottawa, Canada



RADARSAT-2 Features

- High resolution
 - 3 m
 - 1m x 2.5m SpotLight
- Polarimetry
 - single/dual polarization
 - quad-pol
- Along-track inteferomety
- Right and left-looking capability
- Enhanced ground system providing:
 - efficient satellite tasking 50 km
 (12 24 hours routine)
 - faster data processing
 - data encryption for security



RADARSAT-2 imaging modes provide variable resolution and swath width



Fisheries Monitoring

- National & state fisheries agencies are responsible for the management of fisheries located within their Exclusive Economic Zone
- Vessel Management Systems (VMS) have been implemented to track fishing activities
- However, once VMS is implemented, one of the major concerns is detection of illegal fishing vessels, which is viable with radar satellites



Ship appear as bright targets against a dark (ocean) background



Peruvian Fisheries Monitoring Pilot Study



- Example of VMS tracked vessels (yellow) and radar detected (green)
- Correlation between radar detected and VMS tracked, but other targets that were detected suggest illegal fishing activity



Integrated Satellite Tracking of Polluters (I-STOP)

- Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service involved in two initiatives:
 - Birds Oiled At Sea
 - Prevention of Oiled Wildlife
- These initiatives are based on studies suggesting that 300,000 birds off the east of Canada are killed yearly due to oil dumping
- I-STOP instituted in an effort to help prevent ship-source and chronic oil pollution



Oil slick



Oil slick and source vessel



I-STOP Concept of Operations







Satellite-Based Weather-Event Validation

- World Bank project to evaluate implementation of crop insurance based on weather-events.
- Verification methods typically based on biased field measurements. Satellitebased verification system allow the insurance companies to validate the claims, thus reducing risk and keeping insurance costs compatible with local economies.
- SAR and VIR data were used to validate:
 - cumulative rainfall (for inferring drought);
 - flooding;
 - vegetation density



Study sites in Mexico. Morocco, Tunisia, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua were also partners in the project.



Flood Mapping for Rice Crop Sustainability



scale 1:1,220,000



Scale 11,290,000



scale 1:1,220,000







Goal:

Strengthen the capacity of Bangladesh to manage its own development process by improving water resource management

Purpose:

Implement an information network to deliver information products to facilitate planning and management of water and land resources as it relates to flood and erosion monitoring



EMIN Erosion Information Product



Sustainable Energy Sources

- Offshore wind turbines can provide energy from renewable sources
- Optimal site location is required, and SAR data can provide relevant information in the form of:
 - wind
 - waves
 - bathymetry



Offshore wind turbines



DA

Towards Sustainable Use of SAR

- Costs can be reduced by sharing data under the assumption that multiple users can use one image.
- Developing countries (and SAR users in general) require information products versus data. These products should be:
 - interpretable
 - interoperable
 - timely
- Future SAR satellites:
 - maturing in design, thus reducing development costs
 - smaller, thus reducing launch costs
 - increased automation of ground systems to reduce operating costs



Flood extent (blue) derived from SAR data and merged with topographic map

