

# The SGR-ReSI Experiment on the TechDemoSat-1 Mission

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**CEOI Technology Conference, 21/04/15**

**#0249070**

# Acknowledgements

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- National Oceanographic Centre
- University of Surrey
- CEOI, NERC, EPSRC
- InnovateUK, UKSA & SEEDA
- University of Bath and PIL
- Satellite Applications Catapult
- European Space Agency
- CYGNSS Project (Michigan, SWRI, etc.)
- SSTL
  - R&D funding, & TDS-1 project team
  - GNSS team, Ops team

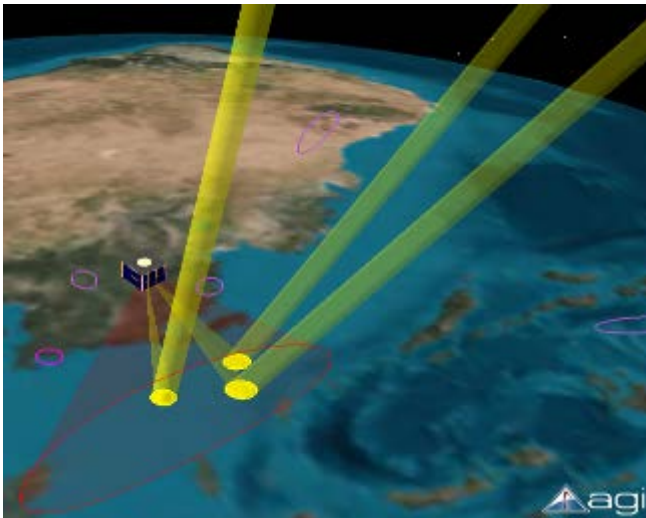
# Overview

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- Background to Experiment
- SGR-ReSI
- TechDemoSat-1
- Launch & First Operations
- Overview of first results
- Website
  - Sample Data
  - Access to Catalogue of Data
  - Docs: Mission description & Product Manual
- Current Status & Future

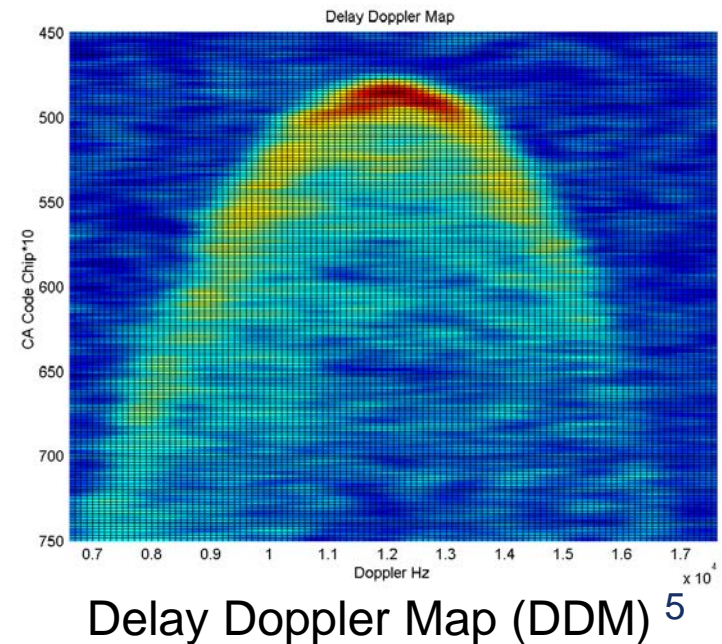
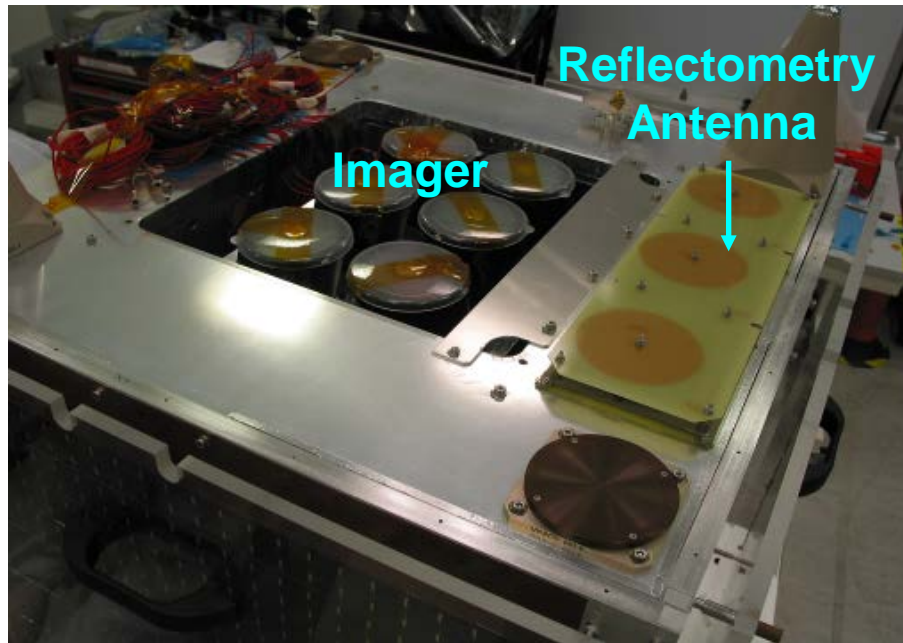
# GNSS Reflectometry

- GNSS Reflectometry
  - Detecting GPS / GNSS signals reflected off the Earth's surfaces
  - “Multipath” signals should contain geophysical imprint
- Using Earth-reflected GPS signals for ocean sensing first discussed in 1988
  - 1993 ESA proposed reflectometry for ocean **Altimetry** – PARIS
  - CCAR, & ESA studies on **Scatterometry** in late 90s – 00s
  - First reflected signal detected 1998 (JPL using SIR-C data)
  - First dedicated in-orbit experiment: UK-DMC (2003)



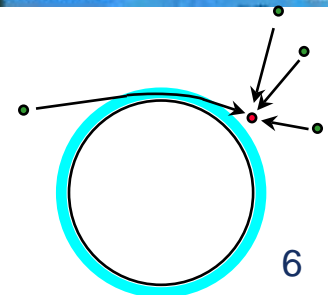
# UK-DMC Experiment 2003

- GPS Reflectometry experiment flown as opportunity on 100kg UK-DMC satellite, Sept 2003 - 2011
- Modified GPS Receiver connected to data recorder
- Downward pointing antenna, LHCP, 12 dBi gain
- ~60 collections gathered over sea, land and ice
  - Signals collected from all surface types!
- Spread of ocean reflections shown to be related to sea state => surface winds



# Science / Operational Needs

- Follow-on instrument to address needs:
- Ocean Sensing - driver
  - (GANDER – global altimeter network concept)
  - Wind and Waves – More GNSS-R data required to verify inversion models
  - Applications both near real-time, and long term
  - Meteo, navigation, off-shore operations, science
- Ice sensing
  - Ice edge detection, ice concentration
  - Dual Frequency may allow free-board measurement
- Soil Moisture potential
  - Soil mapping and crop management
  - Potential for biomass measurements?
- Atmosphere (GNSS-RO)
  - Tropospheric for weather, and research
  - Ionospheric monitoring, mapping, scintillation



# Remote Sensing Receiver: SGR-ReSI

- Space GNSS Receiver – Remote Sensing Instrument
- COTS Based GNSS Receiver

CEOI Sponsored  
Project

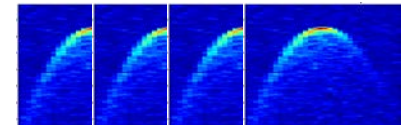
- Primarily designed for GNSS Reflectometry
- Doubles up as platform GNSS receiver
- With Co-processor for remote sensing

- Processes reflected GPS signals on-board into

- Delay Doppler Maps (DDMs)
- Alternatively can collect raw data for processing on ground

- From DDMs, invert into

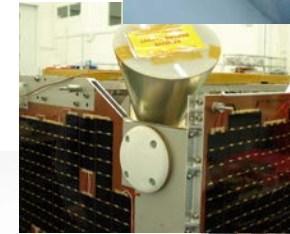
- Waves (mss)
- & Wind (m/s)
- Other geophysical params



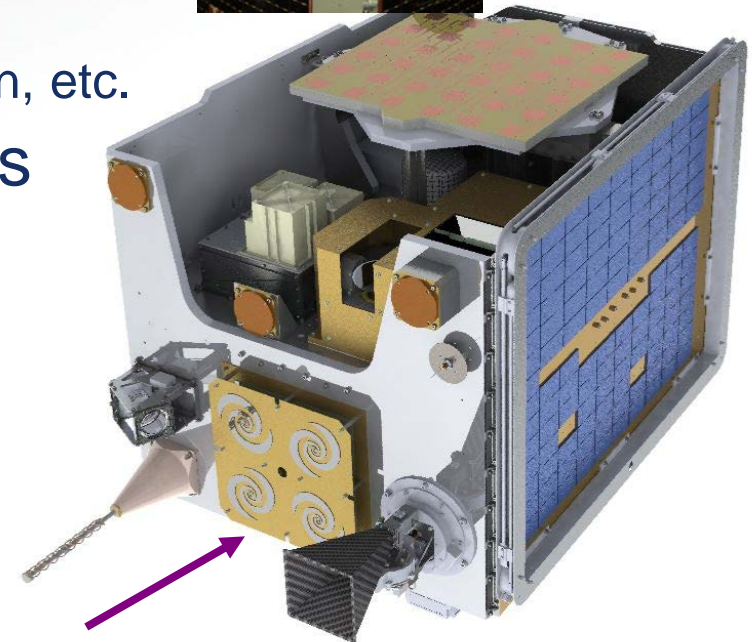
# SGR-ReSI on TechDemoSat-1

- TechDemoSat-1
  - 160 kg UK Satellite,
  - Launched **July 2014**
  - Demonstration for 8 UK Payloads
    - Incl. Radiation environment sensors
    - CMS Sounder, Cubesat equip
    - Altimeter, de-orbit sail
  - Also SSTL's new technologies
    - OBC, comms, ADCS, propulsion, etc.
- **SGR-ReSI** is one of payloads
  - Two dual frequency antennas (L1 & L2C)
    - Zenith – hemispherical dual patch
    - Nadir – 13 dBi gain, 30° 3dB BW flared spiral
      - Two single freq zenith patch
  - 5-10 watts, 1.5 kg

SGR-ReSI  
Unit



Zenith  
Antenna



Nadir Antenna





# Orbit Success – Launch 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014

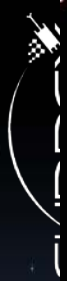
Parameters	Nominal	Actual
Semi-major axis (km)	7009.44	7006
Period (mins)		97.3
Inclination	98.399°	98.391°
Eccentricity	0.00059	0.00075
Perigee (km)		630.1
Apogee (km)		640.5



- Fregat successfully deployed Meteor-2-1b plus 8 piggyback sats
- TDS-1 NORAD tracking ID: 40076

## Two-Line Element Set (19<sup>th</sup> April 15):

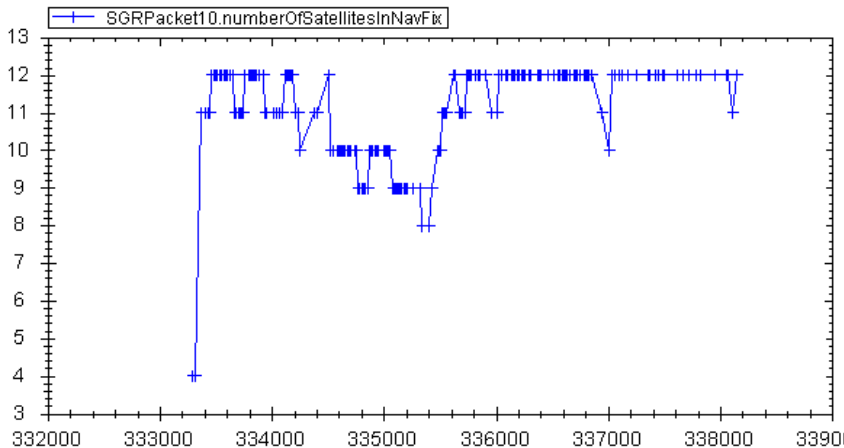
```
40076U 14037H 15110.46425912 .00000922 00000-0 12681-3 0 9997 2
40076 98.3550 179.6062 0007206 86.3135 273.8903 14.80859732 42275
```



# First SGR-ReSI operation - navigation

- SGR-ReSI first switched on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014

From 20:16 – 22:00 UTC



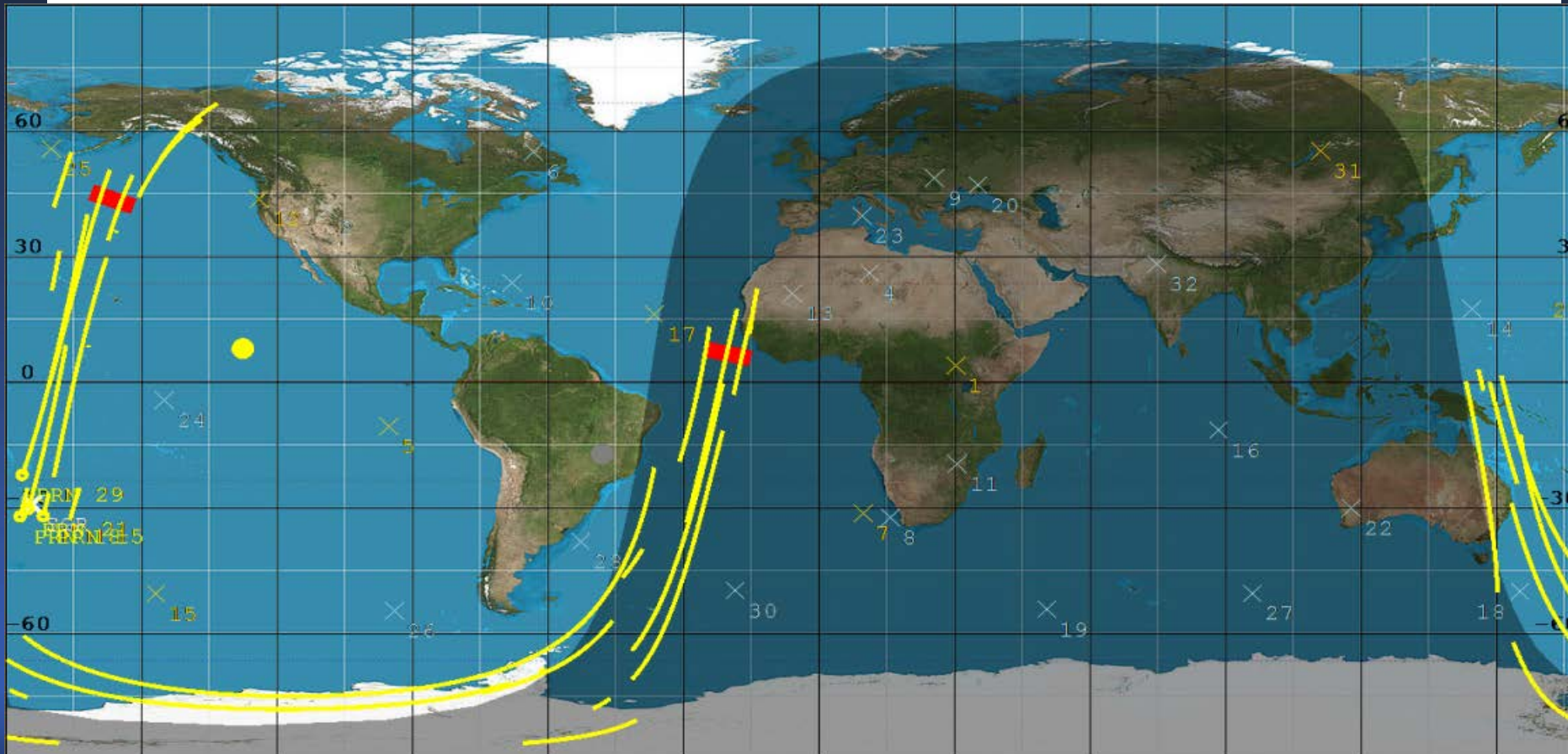
SV	Pseudorange Residuals (m)	Range Rate Residuals
1	-3.258267	2.749481
28	-1.562889	2.956008
32	0.1926875	-0.1328386
17	-2.318973	6.790369
12	-2.33883	3.330171
18	-3.126989	-0.3578756
22	0.8753037	1.036655
24	-0.3724754	7.361742
4	-0.5150235	2.20552
14	-2.119796	1.645988
11	-2.420414	0.4344346
15	-1.344057	3.334653



- Positioning, tracking 12 GPS satellites!
  - Self-consistency residuals approx 1.5m
  - Initially, 12 of 24 channels were enabled
    - Up to 15 GPS satellites tracked when all 24 channels enabled

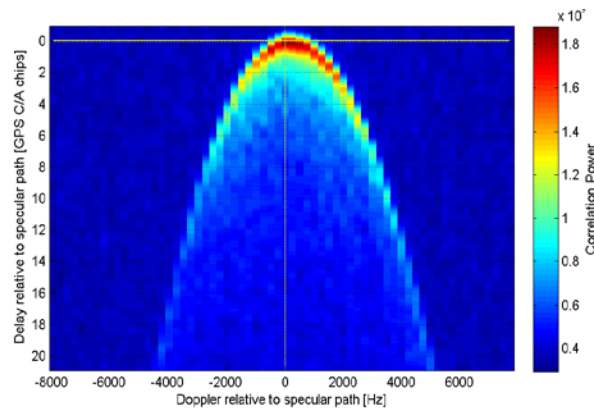
# First Reflectometry Operation in Orbit

- DDMs and raw data gathered 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2014
  - 10:33 UTC
  - 20:08 UTC
- Red indicates raw data, yellow indicates DDM tracks
  - Four times the DDMs gathered in whole UK-DMC lifetime



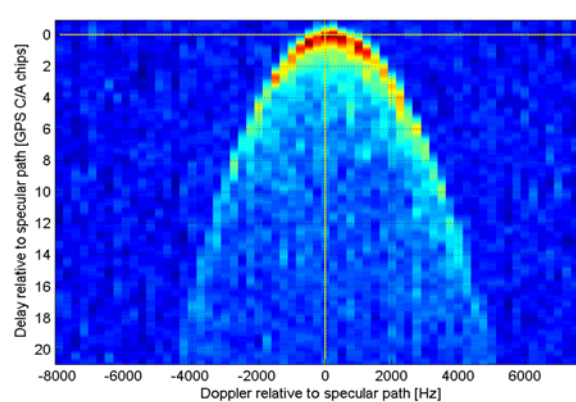
# Raw Data through Software receiver

- MATLAB-based software receiver modified to produce DDMs
  - Processing algorithms reconfigurable
  - Allows testing of new algorithms/different parameters
- Generation of 1 minute of Delay Doppler Maps
  - Taken off the coast of Alaska
  - Good signals from 3 of 5 PRN channels processed
    - 4 ms coherent integration, 2 seconds incoherent



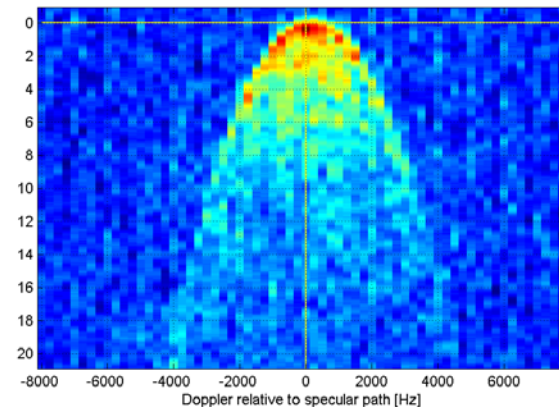
DDM configuration:  
 Integration Start at: 1.590166e+005 GPS seconds  
 DDM channel: 6 PRN: 12 RF front end: 1  
 Delay bins: 350, Doppler bins: 64  
 Incoherent integrations: 500 Location in file: 68  
 Reconfiguration During Integration: 0

PRN 12



DDM configuration:  
 Integration Start at: 1.590166e+005 GPS seconds  
 DDM channel: 1 PRN: 25 RF front end: 1  
 Delay bins: 350, Doppler bins: 64  
 Incoherent integrations: 500 Location in file: 68  
 Reconfiguration During Integration: 0

PRN 25

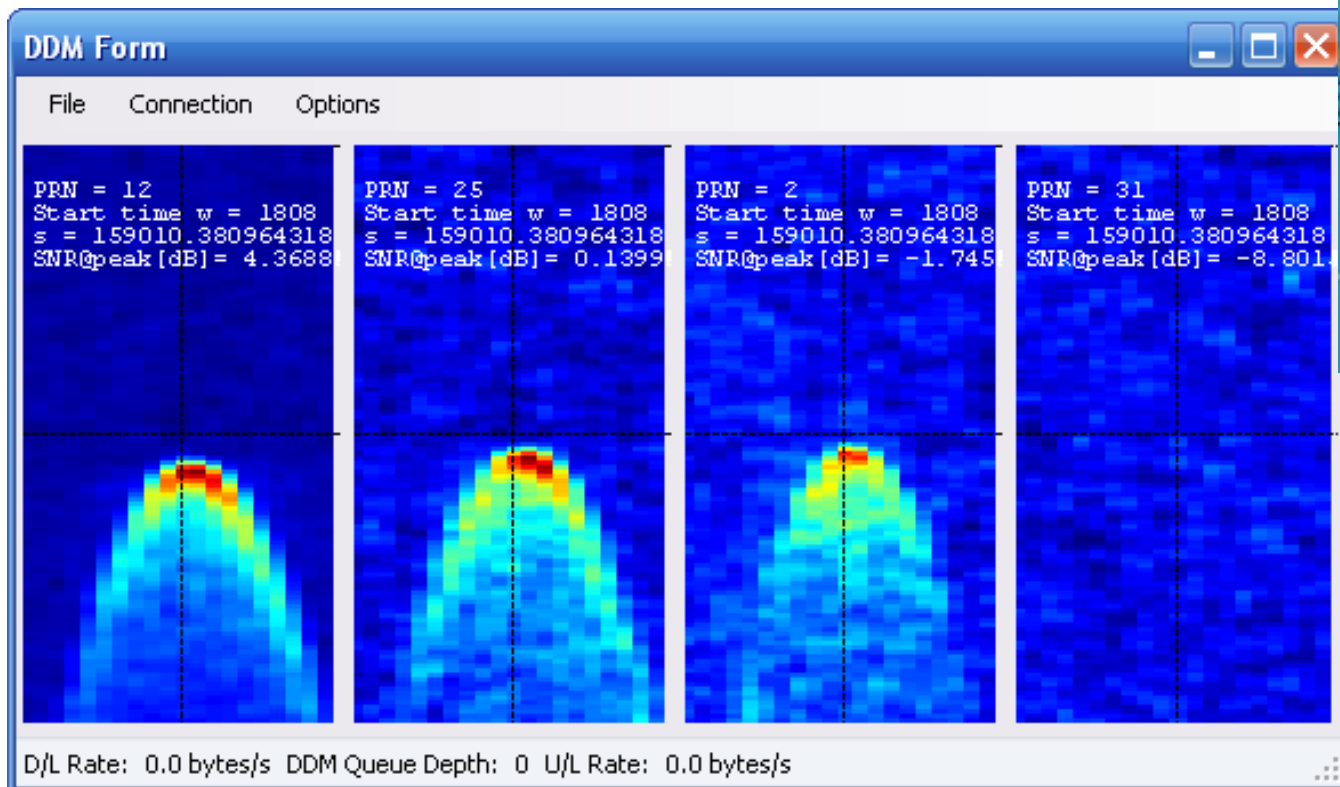


DDM configuration:  
 Integration Start at: 1.590166e+005 GPS seconds  
 DDM channel: 2 PRN: 2 RF front end: 1  
 Delay bins: 350, Doppler bins: 64  
 Incoherent integrations: 500 Location in file: 68  
 Reconfiguration During Integration: 0

PRN 2

# On-board Delay Doppler Maps

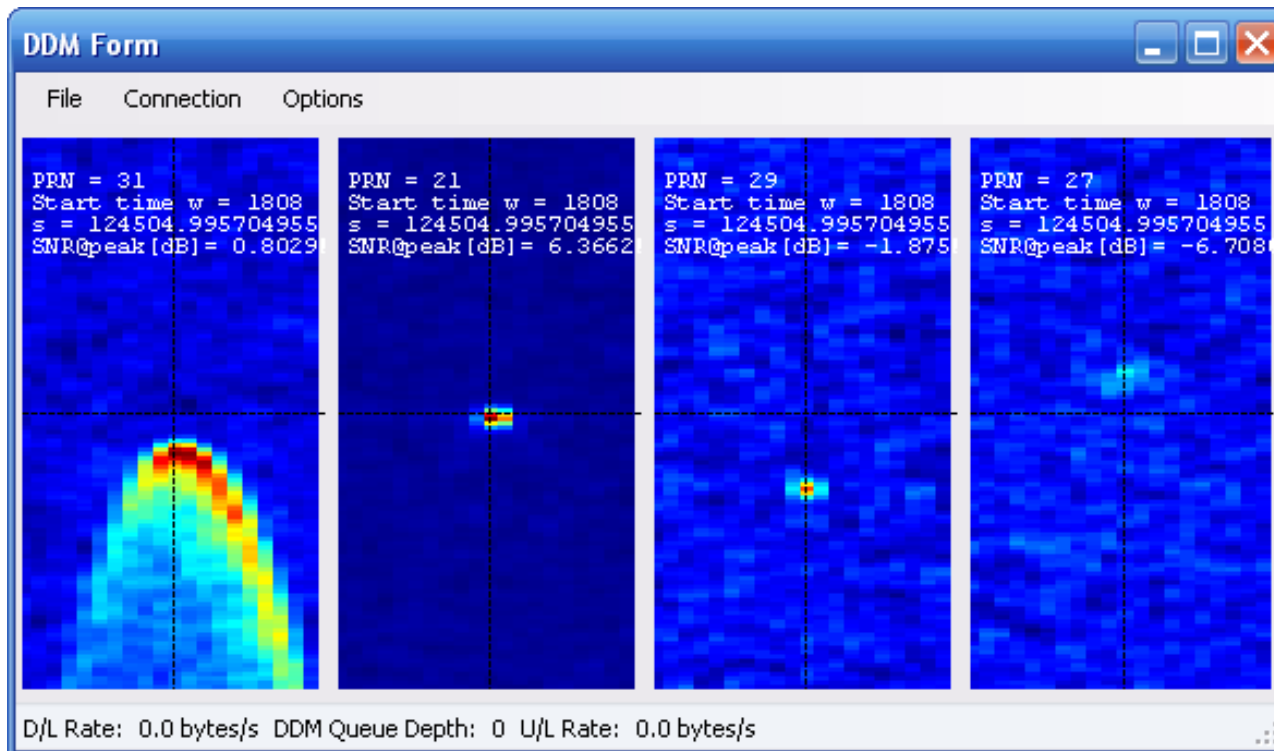
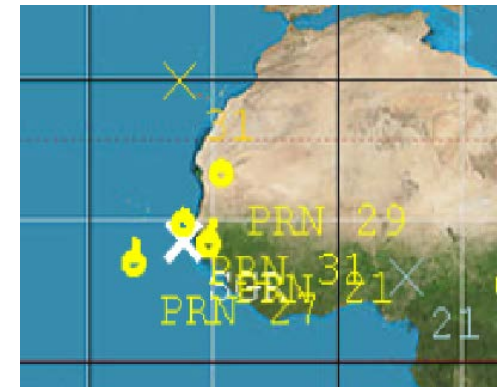
- First Delay Doppler Maps from on-board processing
  - Gathered ~80 minutes of DDMs over sea, ice & land
  - Generally 1 strong signal, sometimes up to 4
  - Stable DDM generation (though a known Doppler-related offset observed)



Example of  
ocean  
reflections  
near Alaska

# Collections over Land & Ocean

- Reflections on and off West Coast of Africa
  - Strong signals off land and sea
  - Captured transitions over coast



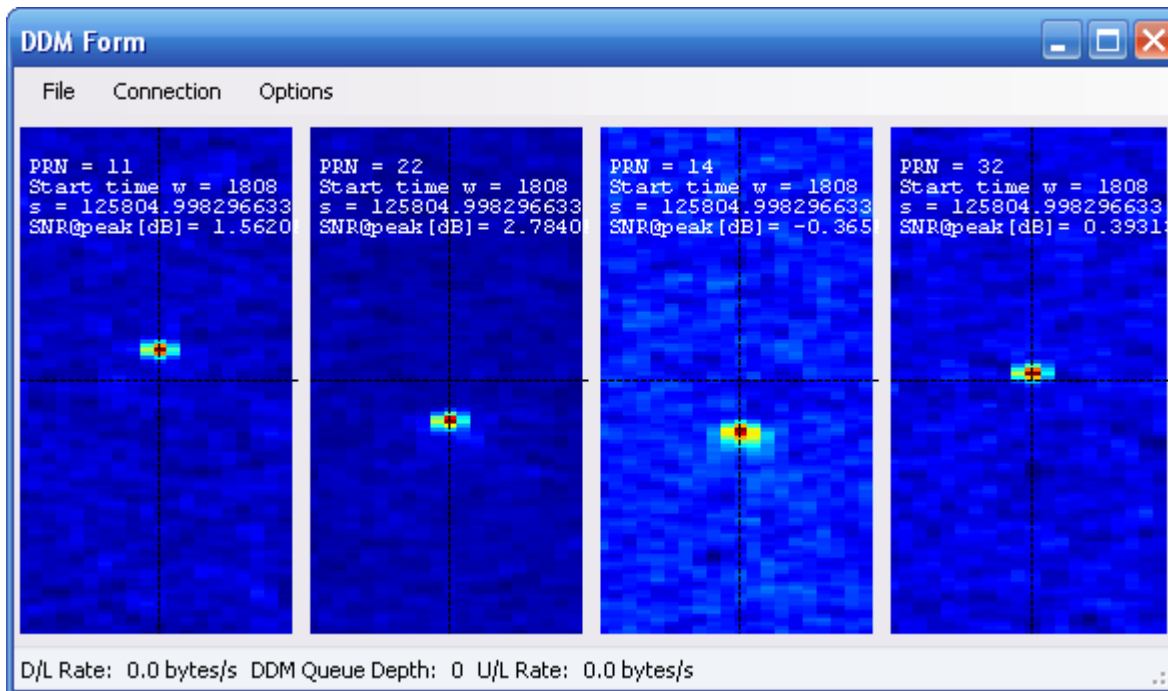
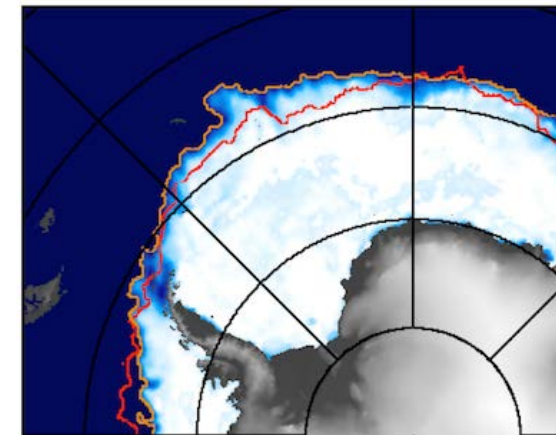


# Reflections off Ice

- Captured DDMs over Weddell Sea
  - Web data confirms sea ice present
  - Very strong reflections



Southern Hemisphere, September 1,





# Video of First Reflectometry Operation

SGRPC3 - C:\aaLIVE\_c\temp\GP090100.SGRblg - [Ground Track]

File Connection Display Commands Window Tools Help

File Settings View

DDM Form

File Connection Options

D/L Rate: 0.0 bytes/s DDM Queue Depth: 0 U/L Rate: 0.0 bytes/s

Current Plot Time: 09:33:24 UTC Lon, Lat: 96.5, -57.9

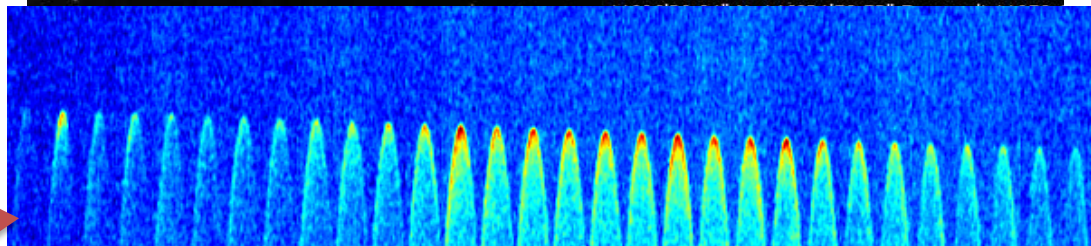
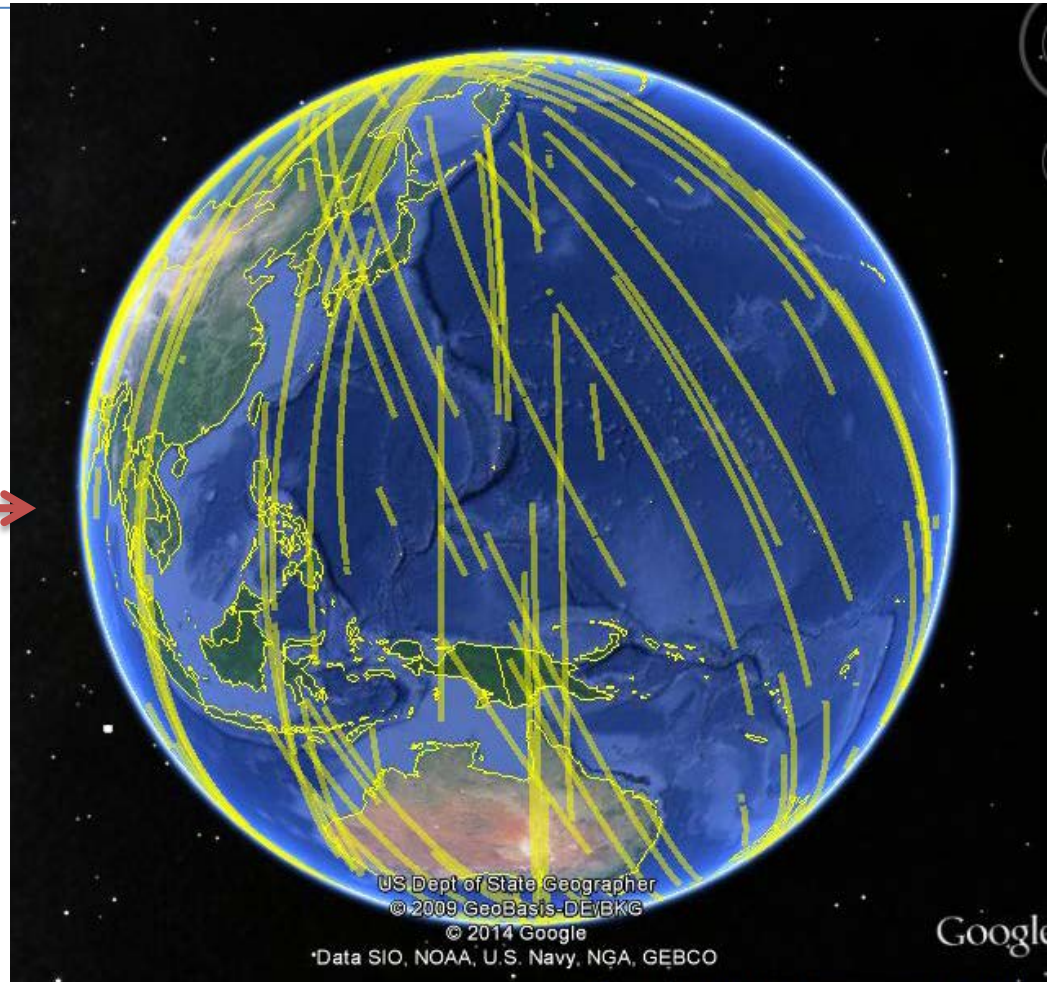
Playback Progress: [Progress Bar]

Log Parsing Progress: [Progress Bar]

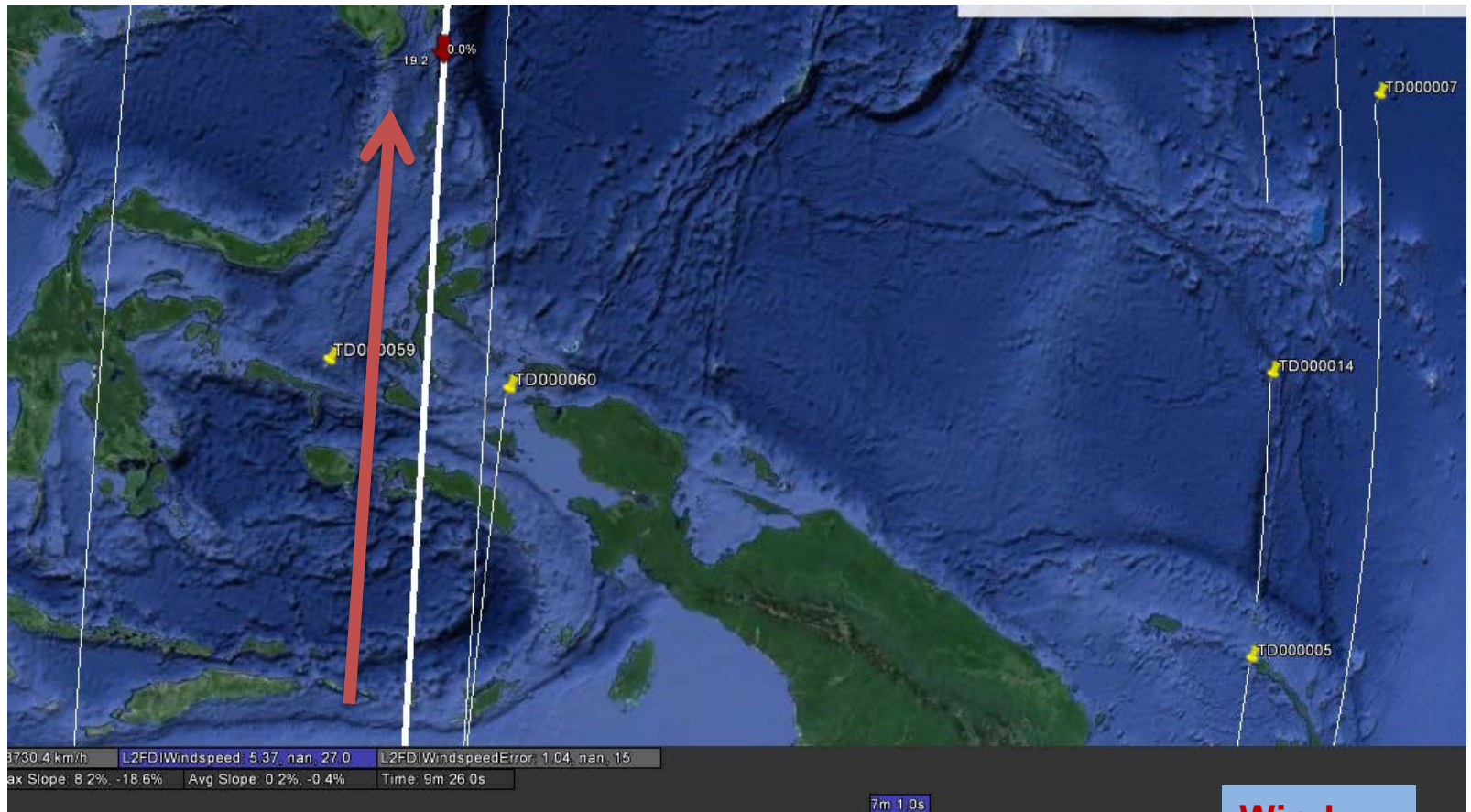
Connection Status: Not Connected Logging Status: Not Logging

# Example TDS Track Collections

- Operations of TDS-1 only 2 days out of 8
- Data collected in 2hr bursts over 24-48 hours
- Example is RD6
  - 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014 →
  - Approx 20 hours
- Each track generates sequence of DDMs
  - One per second, up to 4 simultaneous tracks
  - Signals become stronger as they pass through maximum gain of TDS antenna
  - Decimated Summary →



# Trial Inversion to L2: Wind Speed

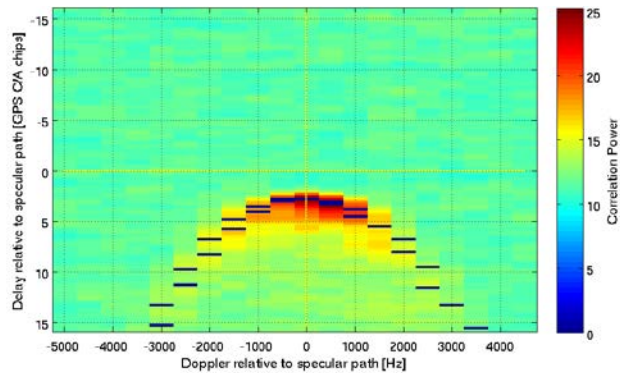


Wind Speed measurements  
(Gaps inserted when over land)

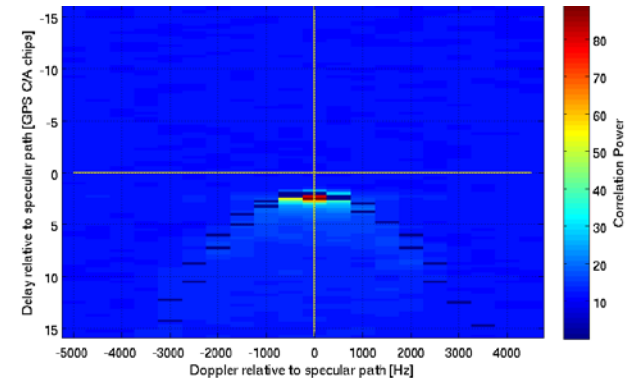
Validation  
WIP!



# Ice Edge & Transition Sensing

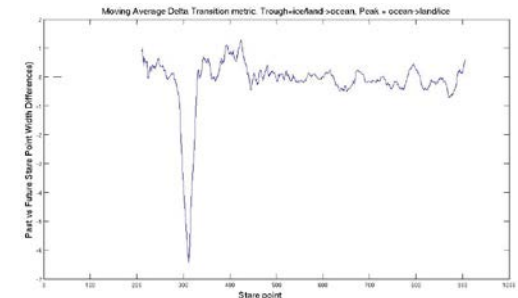
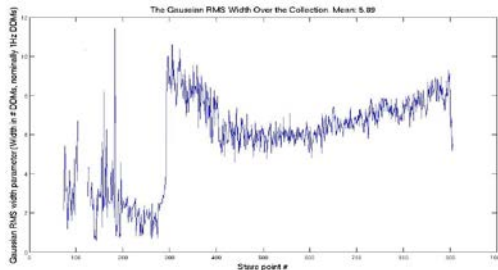


DDM configuration:  
Integration Start at: 1.256920e+05 GPS seconds



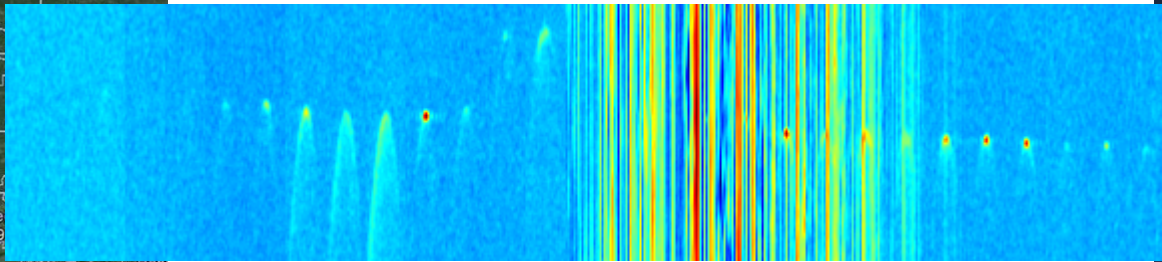
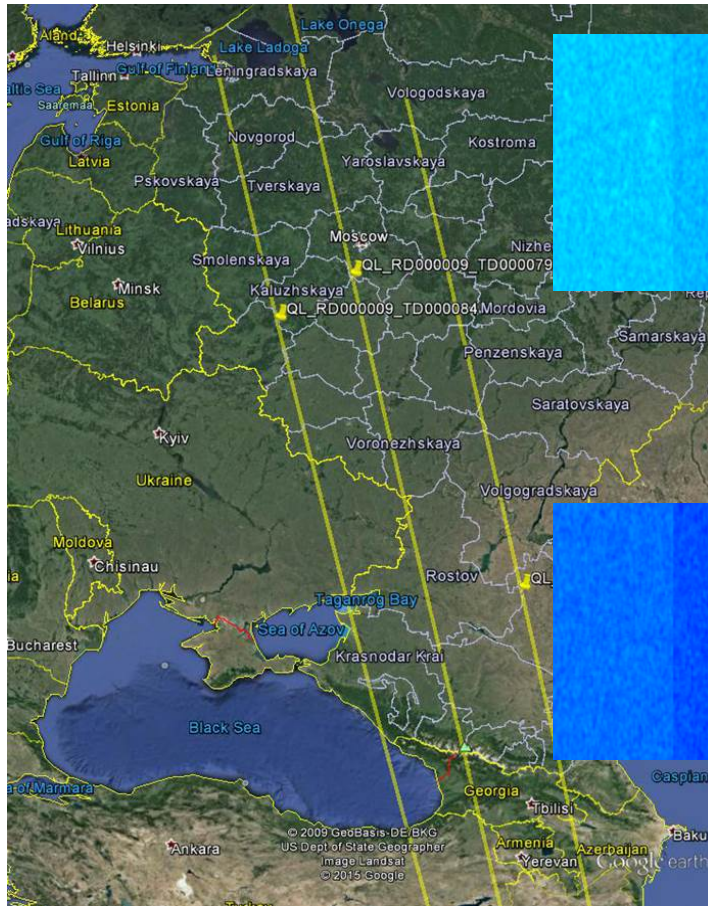
DDM configuration:  
Integration Start at: 1.256950e+05 GPS seconds

- Transitions from ocean to ice in Delay Doppler Maps
  - Transitions obvious to eye
    - Algorithms being developed to identify boundaries
  - By using “moving average stare processing” approach, a higher resolution can be achieved
  - Testing against land boundaries which can be tested
    - Geolocation accuracies of < 10 km are being achieved
    - Further work needed to make reliable, verify / remove biases, etc.

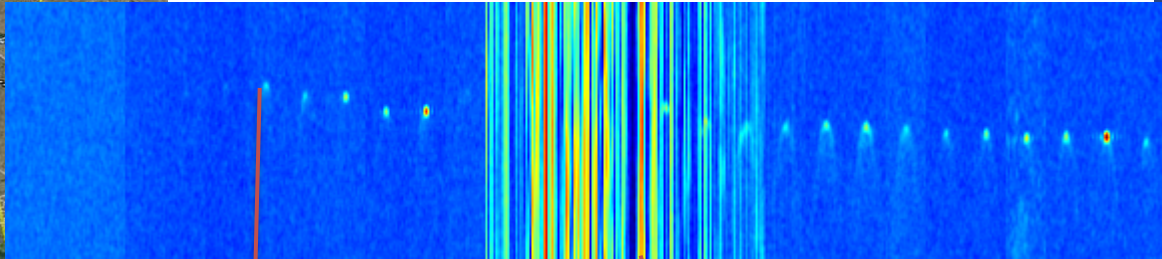


# Interference / Jamming Issues

- Some interference issues to GNSS observed
  - E.g. Ukraine / Russian border (and other places around globe)
  - Suspicion of GPS jamming supported by reports from OSCE



DDM sequences  
- Each 1 minute apart



Good DDMs

Interference

# GNSS-R Data Service



- MERRByS
  - Measurement of Earth Reflected Radio-navigation signals By Satellite
- SSTL, NOC supported by ESA
  - Development of ground processing to produce timely data for customers
- L1b Products
  - DDMs
- L2 Products:
  - Ocean Wind Speed
  - Mean Square Slope
  - Aimed at
    - Meteorologists
    - Offshore energy
    - Shipping, Insurance
    - Scientific users: Climate research
- First demo from TDS
  - Future missions can supply data for service

Atlas Mission Interface

192.168.100.132:8080/atlas/atlas

Logout

Catalogue

Campaign

Filter

Item	Type
Campaigns	
Map	Map
Map_1	Map
Map	Map
Library	

Map

Map\_1

46.26244; 40.36337

Catalogue ProductDetails

Product Level: TDS1\_L1b

Result Page N: 1 Product x Page: 30

Time Period: 20:43:43 01/01/2014 20:43:43 03/02/2015

RD: NA

Track: NA

PRN: NA

FrontEnd: Any

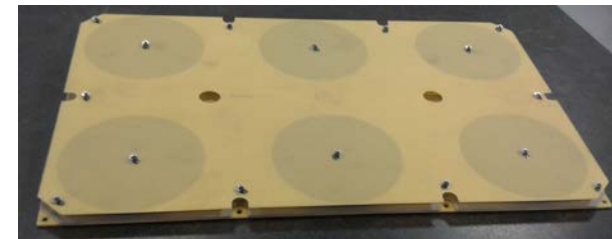
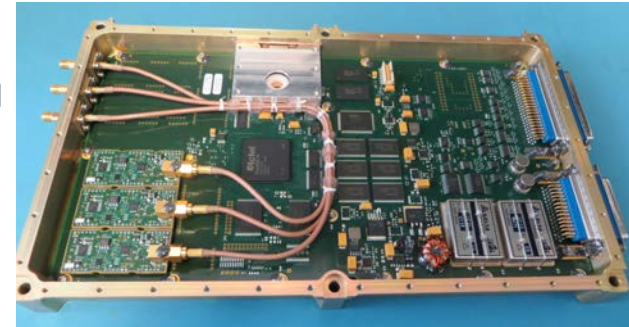
CalibrationLNState: Any

Quicklook	RdID	TrackID	Product Level	First TimeStamp	Last TimeStamp	QL TimeStamp
	7	29	TDS1_L1b	2014-11-08 11:43:51	2014-11-08 11:59:40	2014-11-08 11:52:00
	7	30	TDS1_L1b	2014-11-08 11:43:51	2014-11-08 11:59:20	2014-11-08 11:52:00
	7	34	TDS1_L1b	2014-11-08 11:47:11	2014-11-08 12:15:10	2014-11-08 11:57:40

Logged in as: all Atlas 3.1.5

# Next Mission with ReSI: CYGNSS

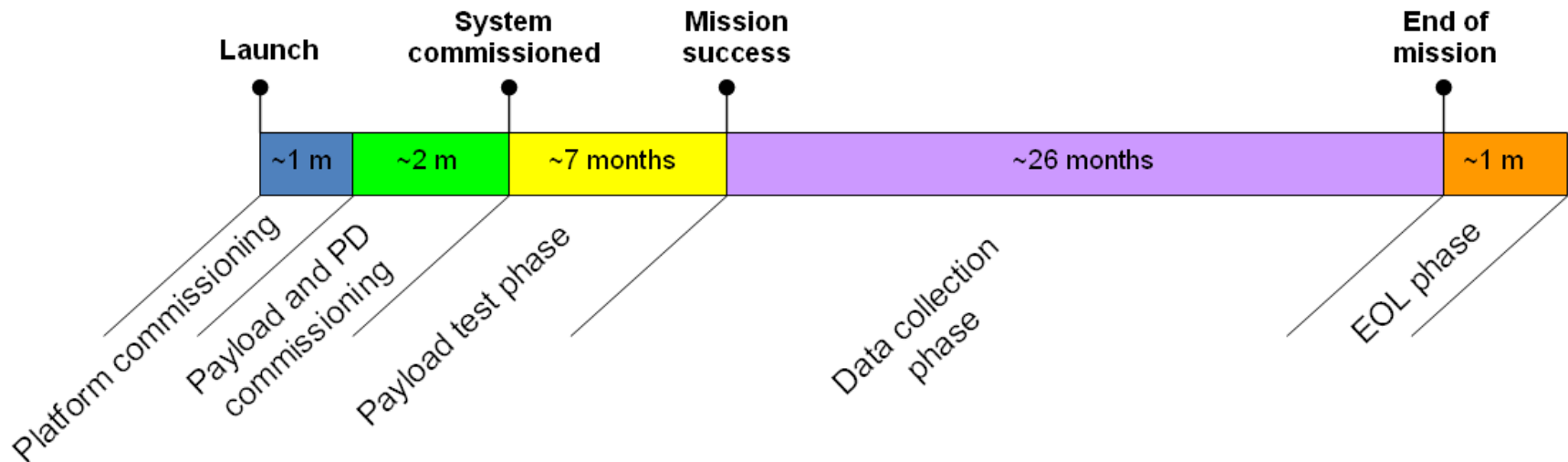
- SGR-ReSI selected for NASA CYGNSS project
- Measure hurricanes using GPS
- 8 satellite constellation ~ 22 kg each
- Working with SST-US (US office)
- Uni Michigan, SWRI
  - SGR-ReSI Modules (“DMR”)
    - Including 3 x RF receivers, processor, coprocessor, SSSDR
  - Low Noise Amplifiers
    - Including cavity filter and switched black body load
  - Nadir antennas
    - 6 element fixed gain arrays  
~ 14 dBiC LHCP gain
  - Zenith antennas
    - Passive patch antenna
- 8 x FM DMR unit manufacture
  - Handled by SST-US in Colorado





# TechDemoSat-1 Status & Schedule

- TDS-1 launched 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014
  - Operated by Sat Apps Catapult Centre and SSTL
- Payload test phase commenced 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2014
- “Mission Success” in approx May 2015
  - Transitioning to Data Collection Phase
  - 2 Years more life – may be extendable



# User Accessibility

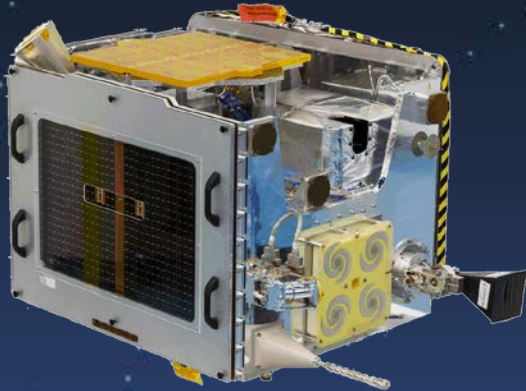
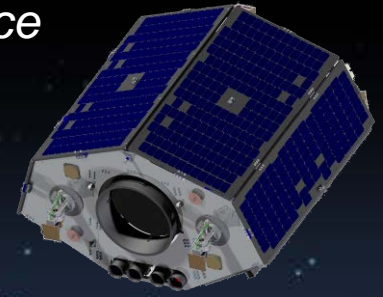
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- Users will determine if GNSS-R continues...



[www.merrbys.co.uk](http://www.merrbys.co.uk)

- We are giving users access to
  - **Sample data sets** – Level 0, Level 1b and Level 2
    - Taster of data types, quality, data format
    - Gaining orientation with data
  - **Full catalogue** of L1b and L2 DDMs
- Significant effort to prepare data products & service
  - Please excuse bugs, omissions!
  - Feedback welcome



Thank You