

Mònica Roca  
Cristina Martin-Puig

**isardSAT**<sup>®</sup>



SAR altimetry from  
L0 to L2:  
L1 processing impact on L2  
performance and accuracy

1. Introduction: isardSAT projects and capabilities
2. The L1 altimeter SAR processing
3. Jason-CS interleaved new design
4. Motivation for studying L1 impact on L2
5. SAR mode model adapted or not to L1
6. SAMOSA adaptation to baseline B
  - Area of interest
  - Validation of Hs
  - Data quality and found issues
  - Hs and SSH validation and variability
13. SAMOSA adapted to Jason-CS and SARin mode for CryoSat
14. Conclusions and recommendations

- isardSAT is a research SME with highly qualified and specialised personnel in altimetry not only L1, but L2 for SAR mode now, and L3 as well.
- **isardSAT** is located in a technological park in Barcelona 
- with subsidiaries in:
  - UK (since spring 2013)
  - Poland (since summer 2013)

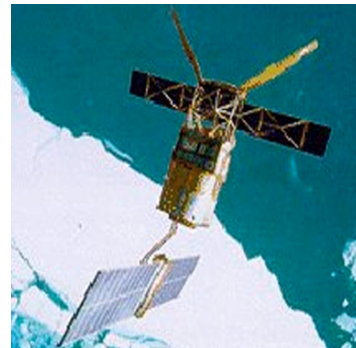


isardSAT employees expertise and background in LRM altimetry:

- EnviSat RA-2 Level 1b ESL



- ERS Level 1b processor development within REAPER project



isardSAT employees expertise and background in SAR altimetry:

- SAR mode L1 processing

- CryoSat cal/val using transponders



- Sentinel-3 from L0 and L1b GPP implementation



- **Jason-CS Poseidon-4 GPP definition and implementation**



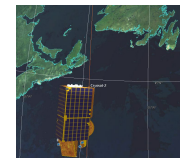
- SAR mode L2 processing

- SAMOSA

- SAR mode waveform modelling (e.g, SAMOSA model)
- SAR mode Retracking

- CP40

- Analysis of the SARin mode for Coastal



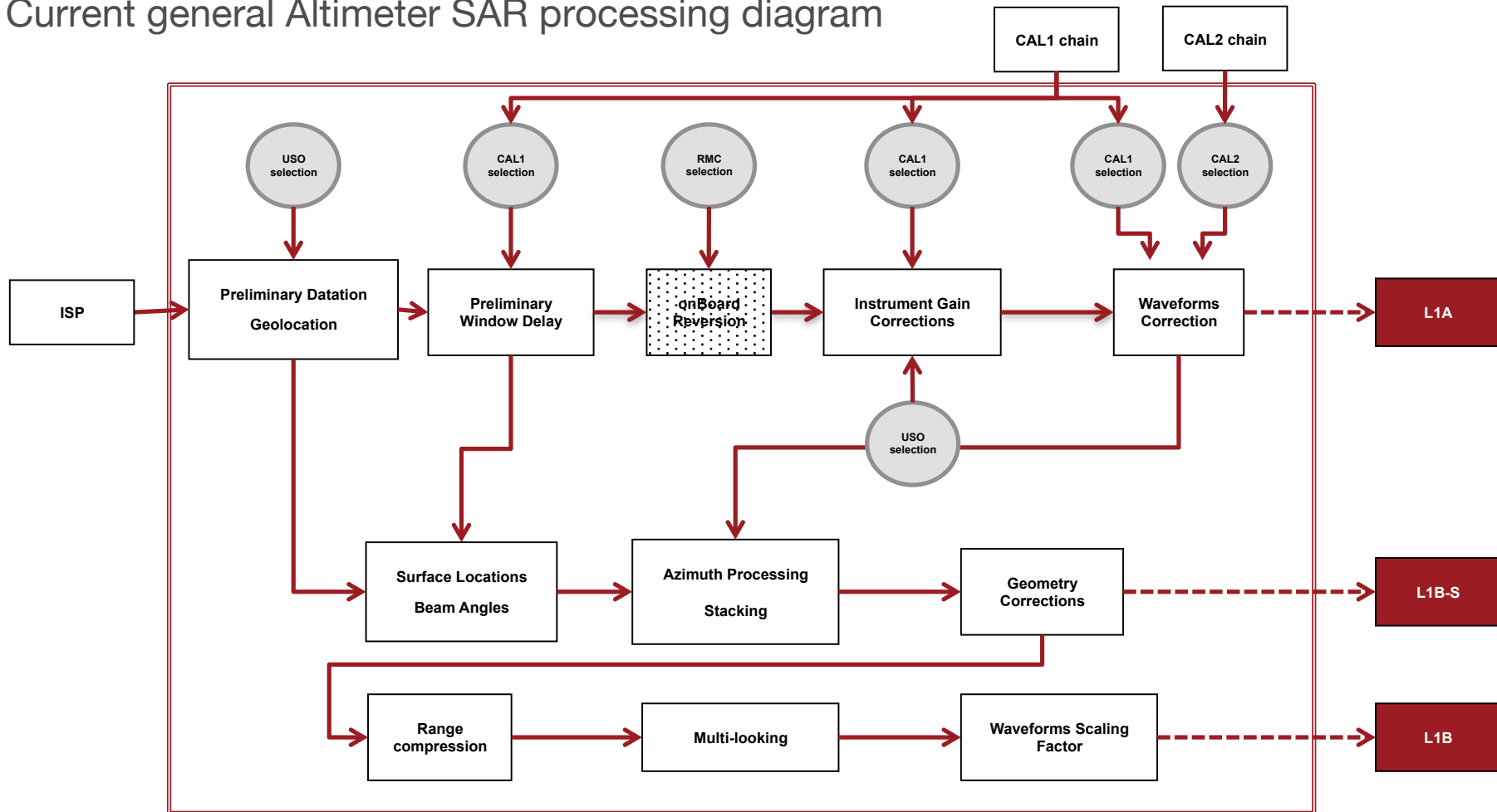
- SAR mode L3 processing

- isardSAT is building collaborative partnerships with scientific institutes of relevance (Europe and China) for the derivation of **ocean** and **in land** products from SAR mode

**isardSAT<sup>®</sup>**

## **2. isardSAT L1 Altimeter SAR processing**

Current general Altimeter SAR processing diagram

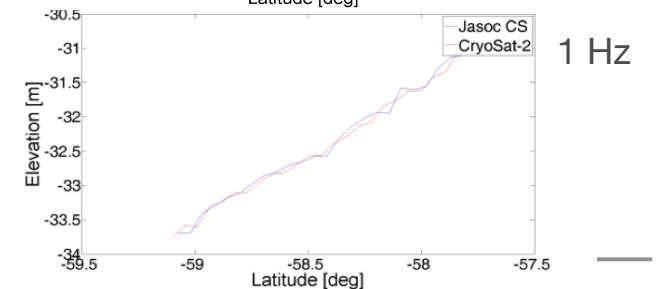
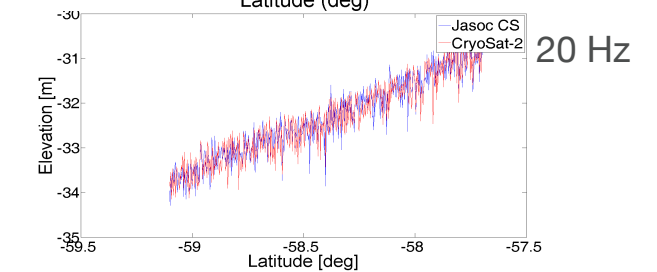
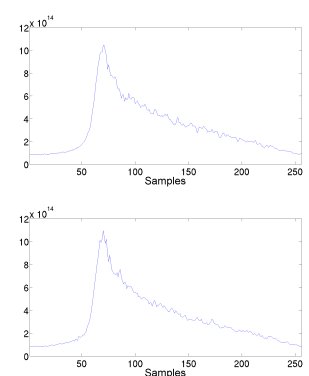
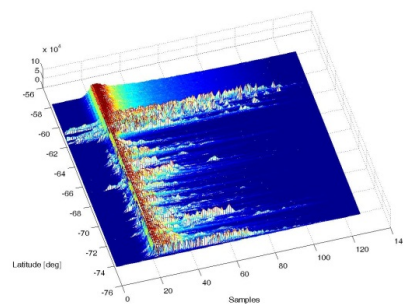
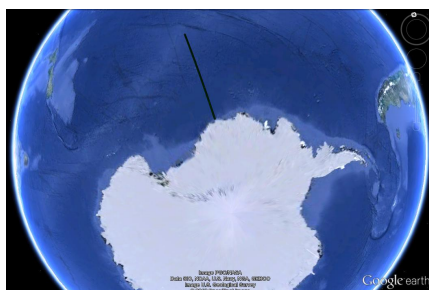
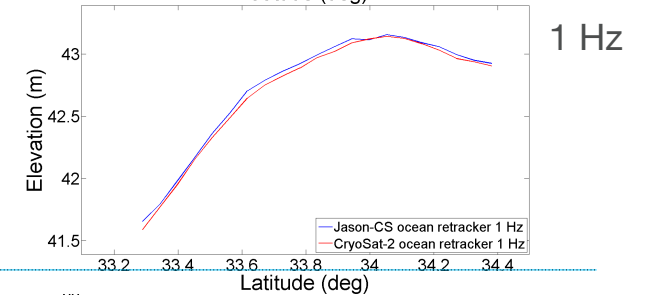
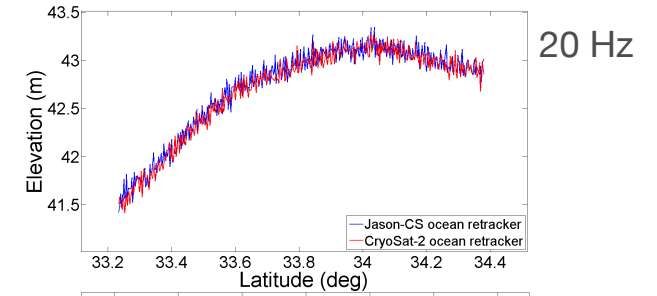
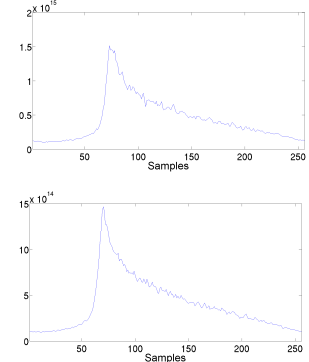
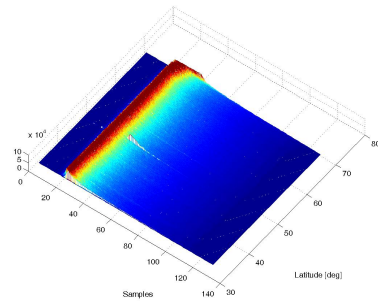
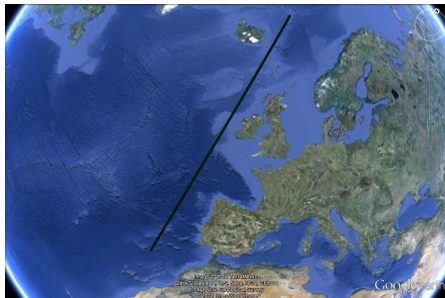


## Verification

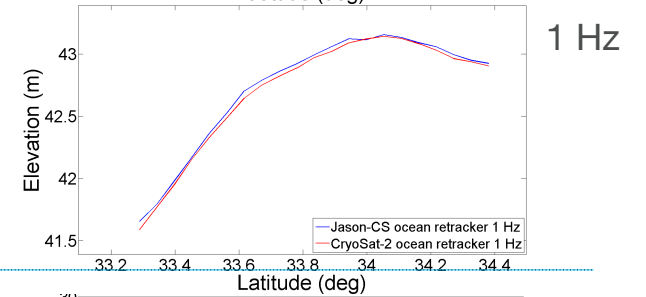
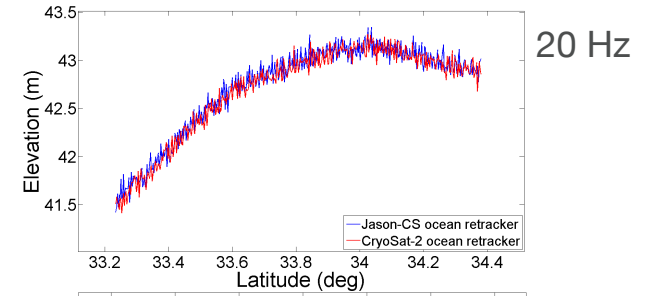
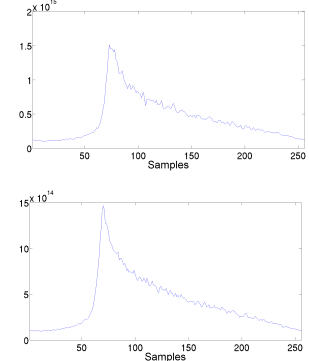
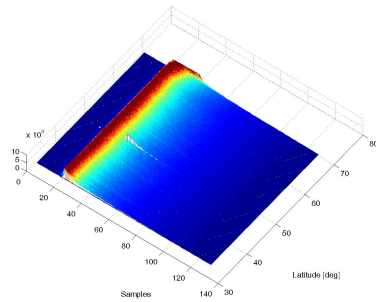
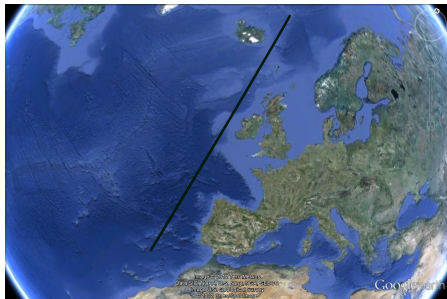
- Verification using:
  - Adapted CRYMPS simulated data: with Jason-CS characteristics (e.g. orbit)
  - CryoSat adapted FBR data: with CryoSat characteristics
- Several scenarios have been tested:
  - Point Targets
  - Ocean Surfaces
  - Other surfaces (specular)
- Using different geometries:
  - Simplified: circular orbit, spherical Earth
  - Real: real orbit, real Earth, with mispointing, etc.
- All modes (LRM, SAR and CALs)



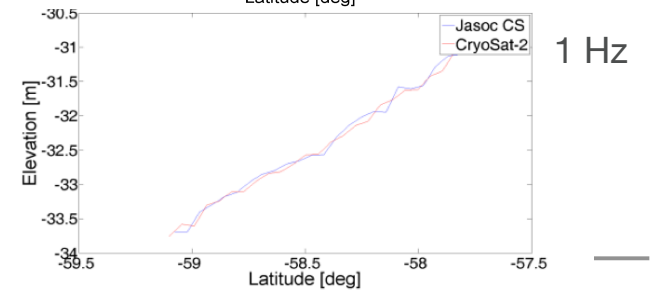
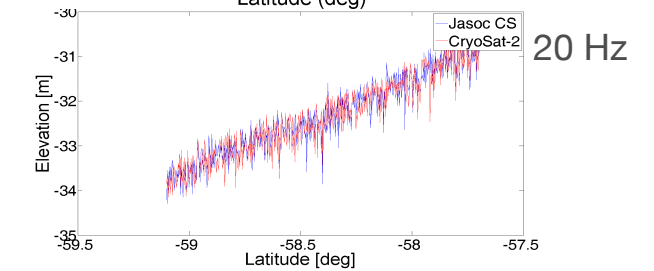
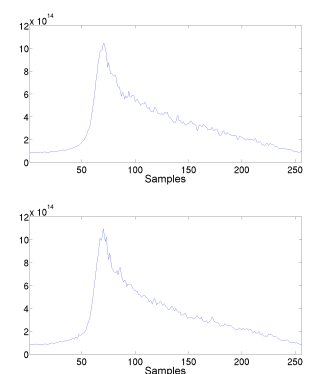
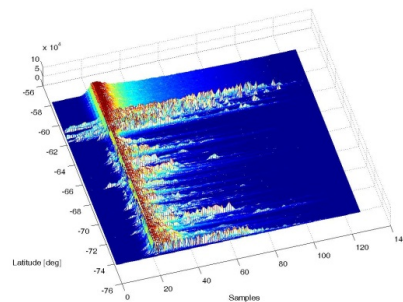
## Jason-CS P4 GPP Verification using CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS



## Jason-CS P4 GPP Verification using CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS



*Numerical comparison provided later in this presentation*



Jason-CS P4 GPP Verification using a number of adapted CRYMPS simulated data  
Ex:

Parameters		18B
Geometry	Scattering details	uniform scattering. ~ 4000 bursts
	DEM	No
	Orbit	Circular
	Earth	Spherical
	Earth semi major	6378000
	Earth semi minor	6378000
	Earth flattening	0
	Earth Rotation	No
Instrument	LAI	747182
	Attitude [dB]	Variable
	Path Delay [ns]	0
	Power Variation [dB]	0
	Mispointing	No

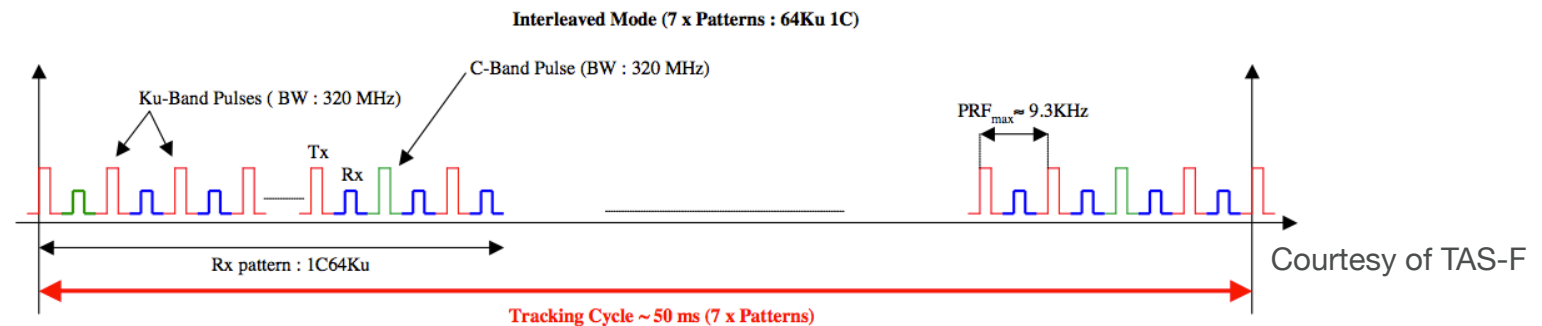
Item to be verified	Req.	18B exact	18B approx.	Pass /Fail
Along Track Sampling min/max margin	time $\pm$ 500 $\mu$ s	$\pm$ 2.2053 $\mu$ s	$\pm$ 2.2054 $\mu$ s	✓
	space $\pm$ 3.5 m	$\pm$ 1.1369 mm	$\pm$ 1.1369 mm	✓
Along Track Sampling STD	time < 10 $\mu$ s	0.7207 $\mu$ s	0.7208 $\mu$ s	✓
	space < 70 mm	0.40159 mm	0.40159 mm	✓
Re-tracked range difference with expected: Elevation	mean < 0.4 m (1Hz)	-0.00408 m	0.07409 m	✓
Re-tracked range difference with DEM	std < 0.008m (1Hz)	0.06249 m (10 Hz) 0.01976 m (1Hz)	0.06249 m (20Hz) 0.01976 m (1 Hz)	✓

- New features and conceptual processing improvements are being investigated in different parts of the processing chain.
- Some results will be presented at the ESA Living Planet Symposium:
  - Numerical Performance of Jason-CS SARM  
*C. Martin-Puig; A. Garcia-Mondéjar; R. Escolà; M. Roca; isardSAT*
  - Jason-CS Poseidon-4 Ground Processor Prototype: Results Using Interleaved Mode Simulated Raw and In-Orbit CryoSat Data.  
*M. Roca (1) ; R. Escolà (1); A. Garcia-Mondéjar (1); B. Martínez-Val (1); P. García-Arnaud (1); M. Fornari (2); K. Köble (3); R. Francis (2); R. Cullen (2)*  
*1: isardSAT; 2: ESA; 3: Astrium GmbH*
  - Sigma-0 Estimation Improvements, using Jason-CS Altimetric SAR Mode: Results using Simulations and in Orbit CryoSat Data  
*R. Escolà; C. Martin-Puig; A. Garcia-Mondéjar; M. Roca*  
*isardSAT*
  - CryoSat-2 SARin Mode for Coastal Altimetry  
*P. García-Arnaud; C. Martin-Puig; A. García-Mondéjar; M. Roca*  
*isardSAT*



New design (interleaved and digital architecture) characteristics:

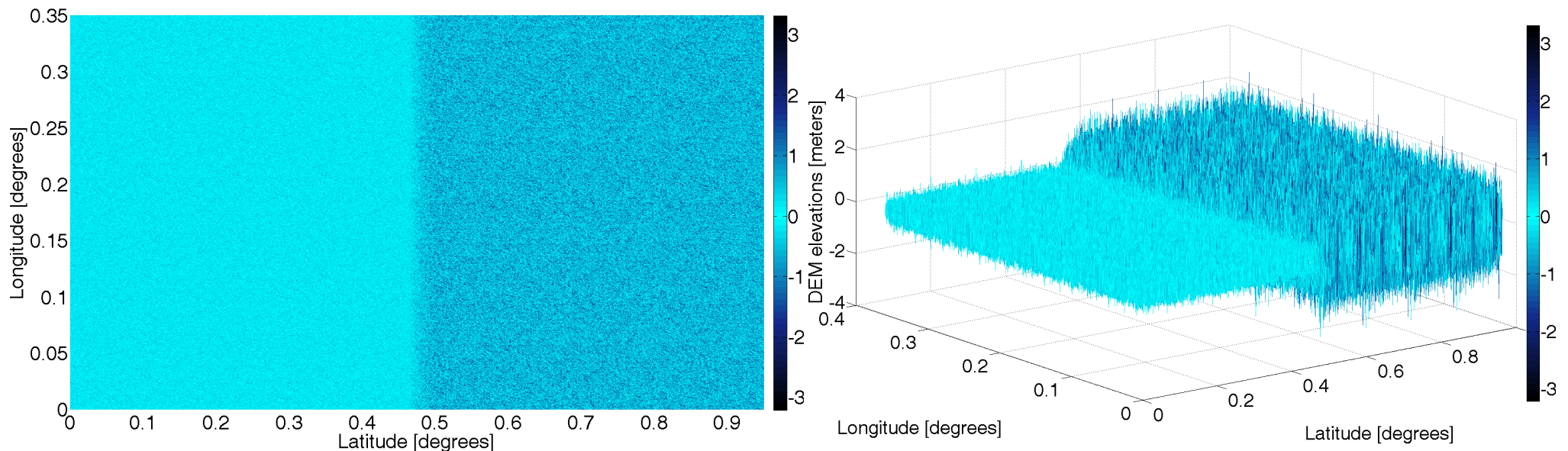
- Received pulses in-between transmitted pulses
- with a high PRF so echoes are correlated for Doppler processing
- PRF varies around the orbit (so tracking cycle duration)



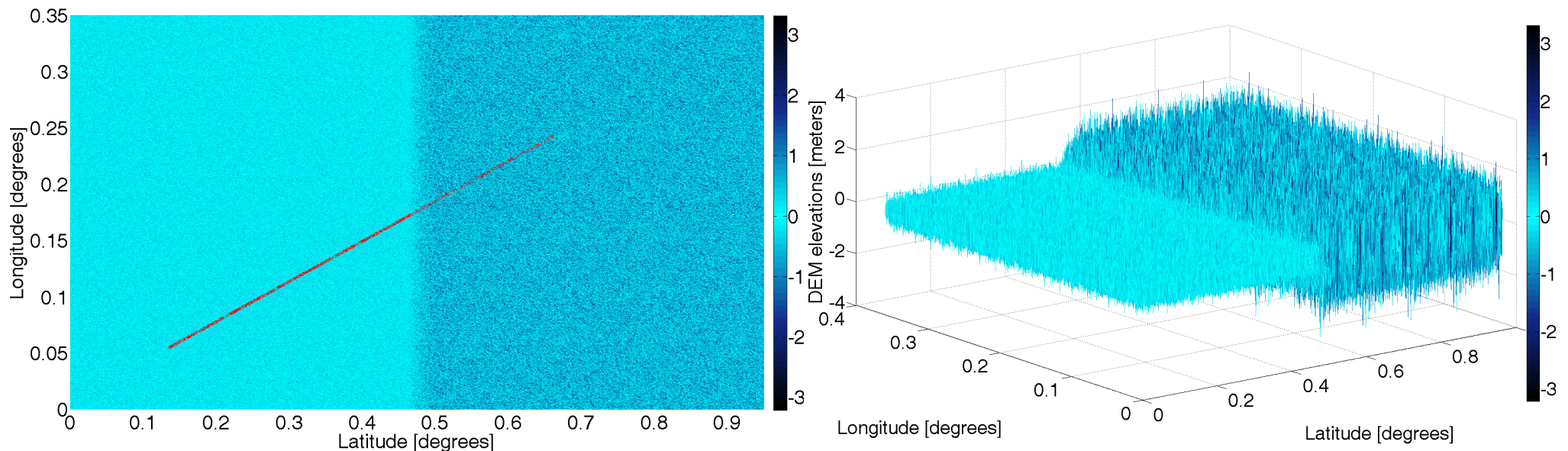
- Digital sampling not coinciding with range resolution
- C-band pulses also interleaved with Ku-band pulses

*New design already incorporated in isardSAT's prototype definition.*

- Results of preliminary testing are successful.
- Example of an ocean surface area with the following characteristics:
  - 2 different SWH: SWH1 = ; SWH2 =
  - Constant Sigma zero = 15 dB
  - Polar angle = 15°

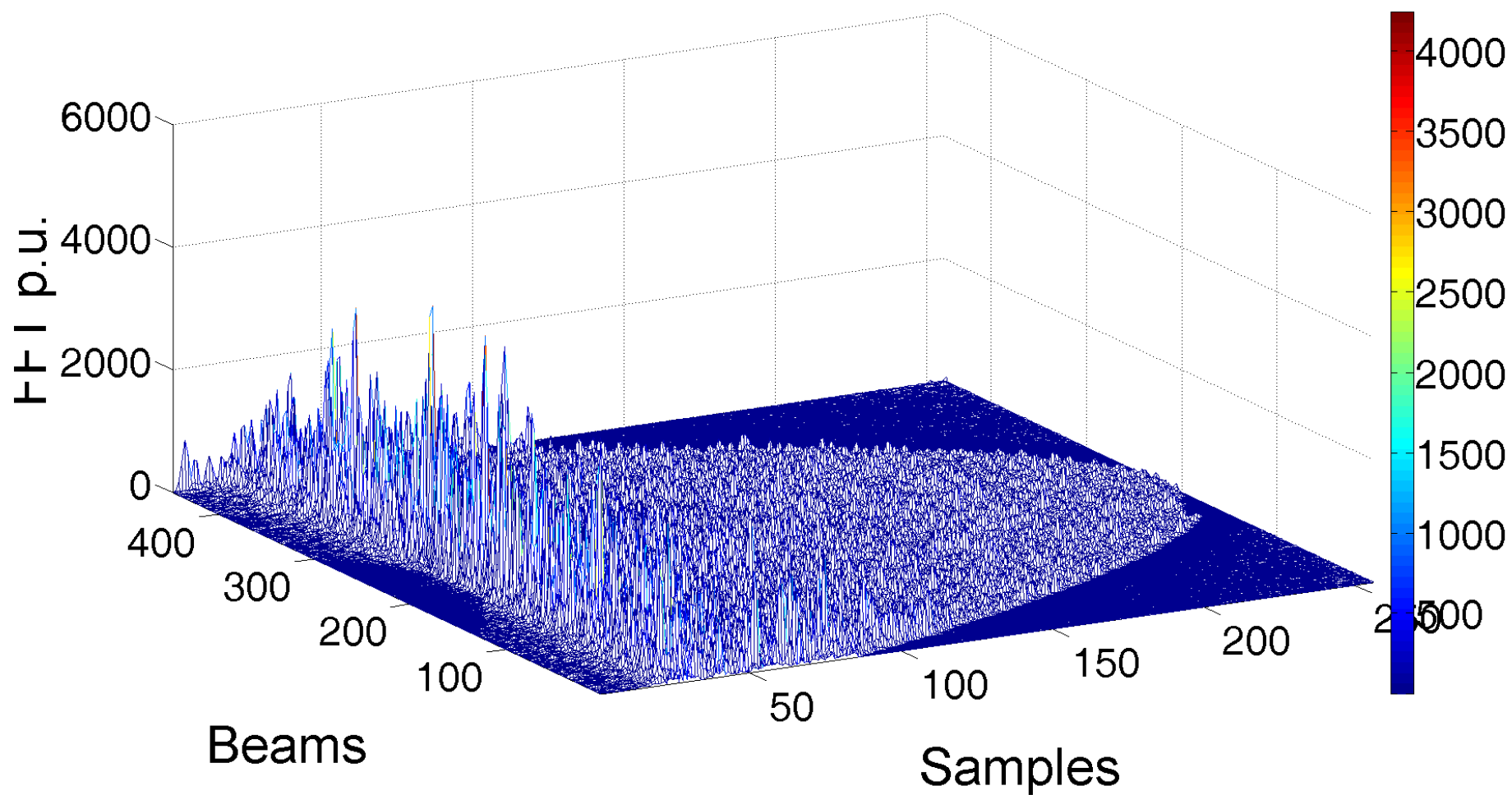


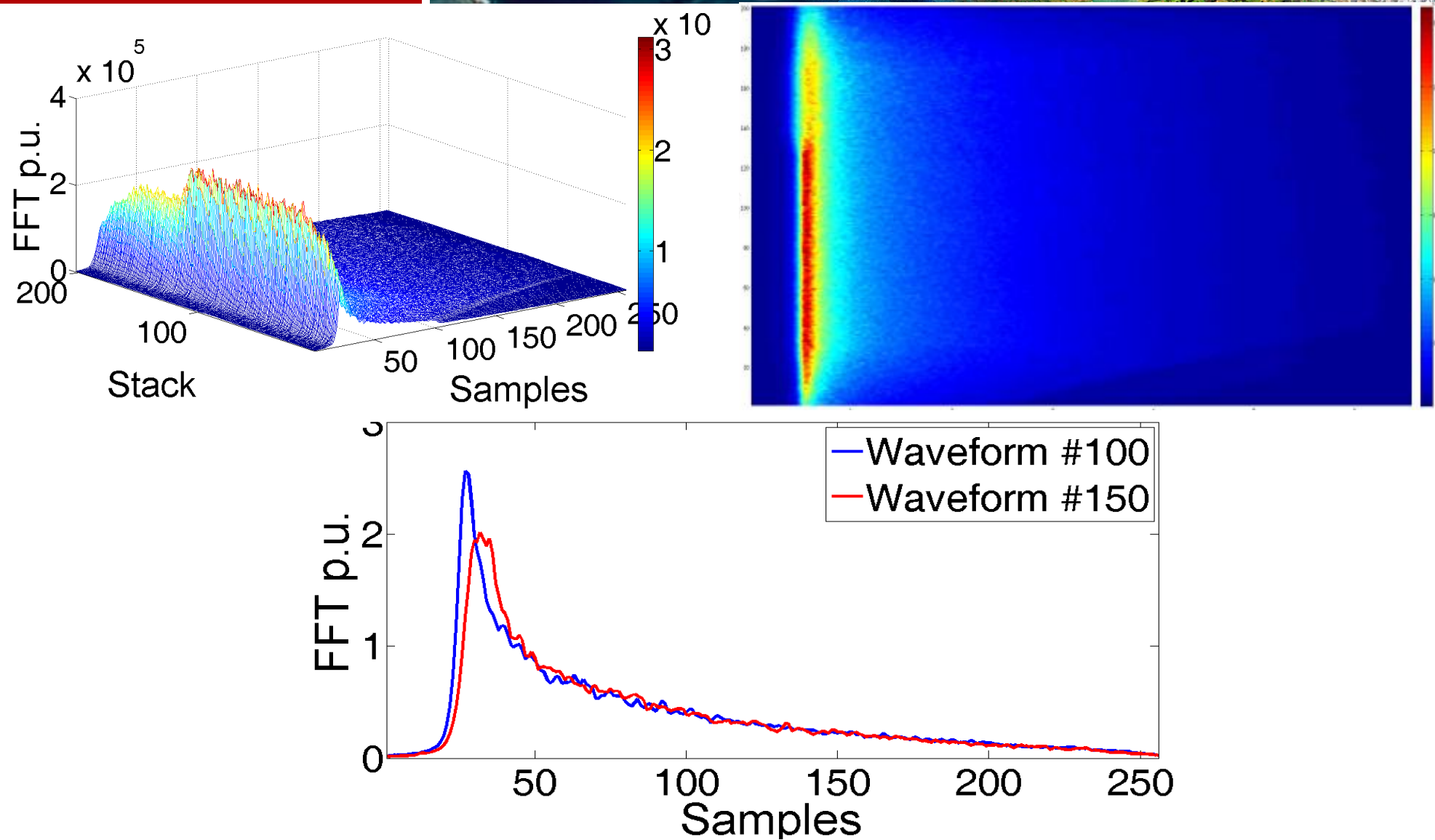
- Results of preliminary testing are successful.
- Example of an ocean surface area with the following characteristics:
  - 2 different SWH: SWHa ; SWHb
  - Constant Sigma zero = 15 dB
  - Polar angle = 15°



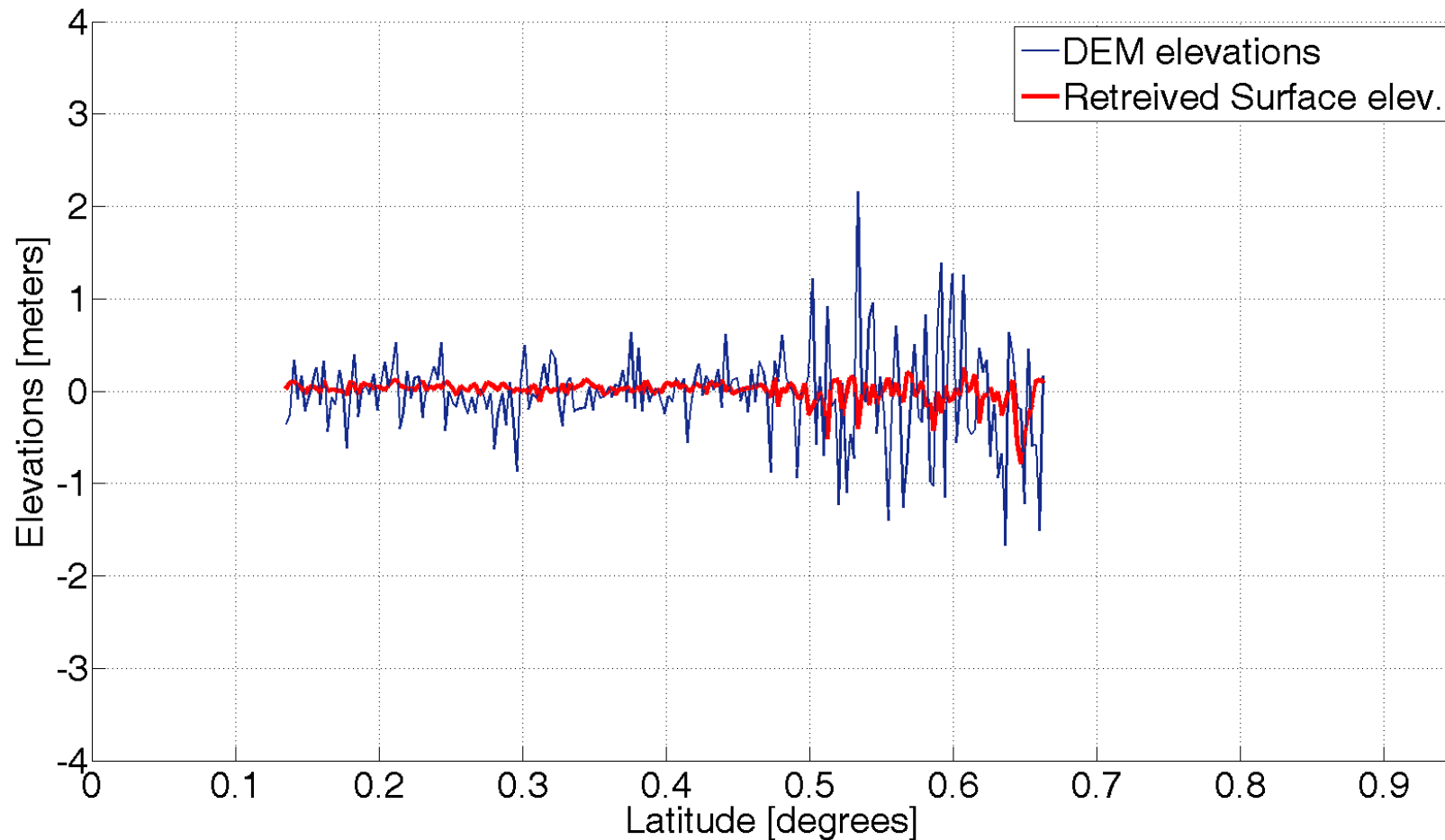


Stack with geometry corrections applied: SWHa




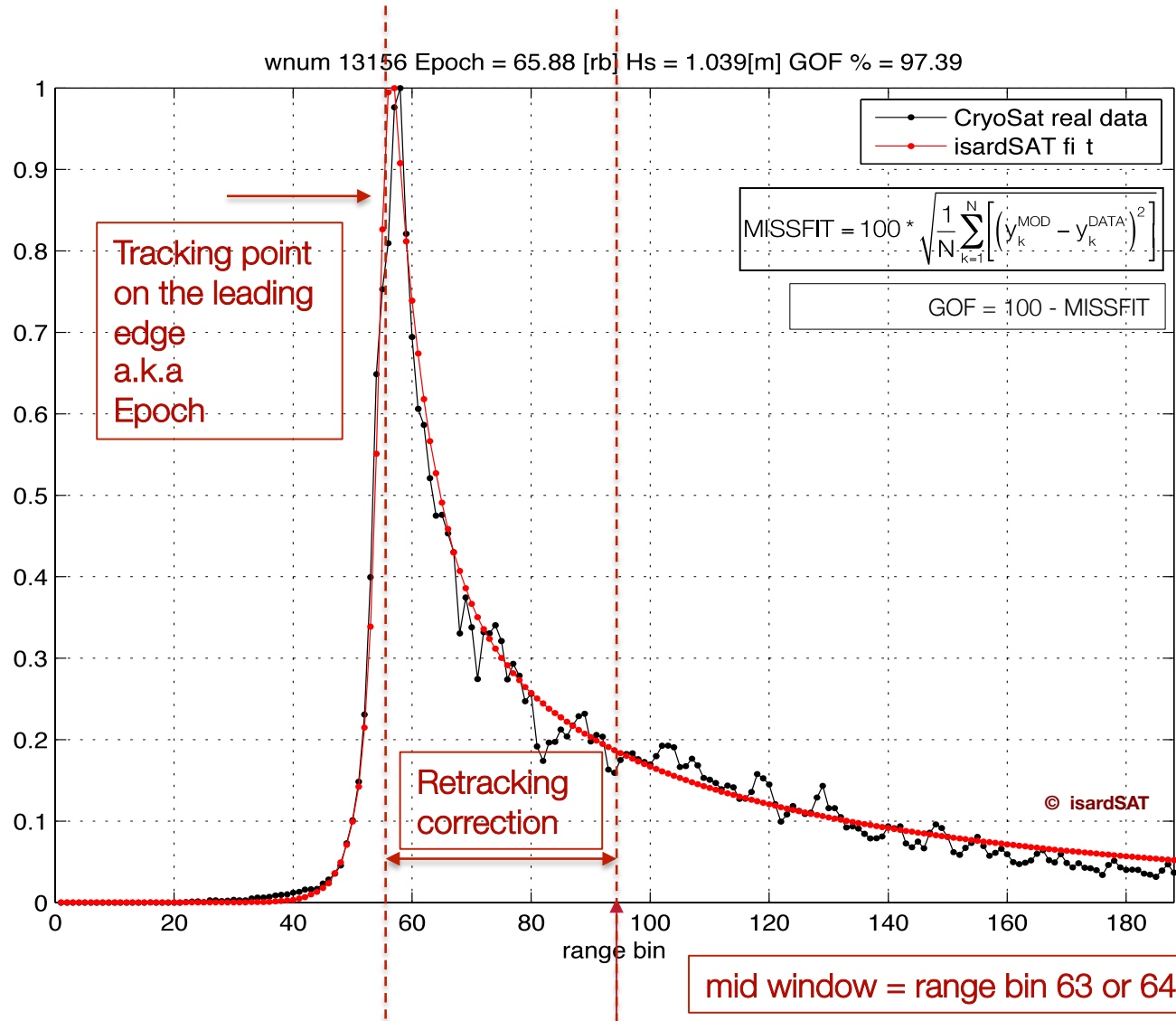


Elevation results using a simple 87% of maximum detection.



- SAMOSA retracker will be adapted to interleaved. Results will be presented at ESA LPS.

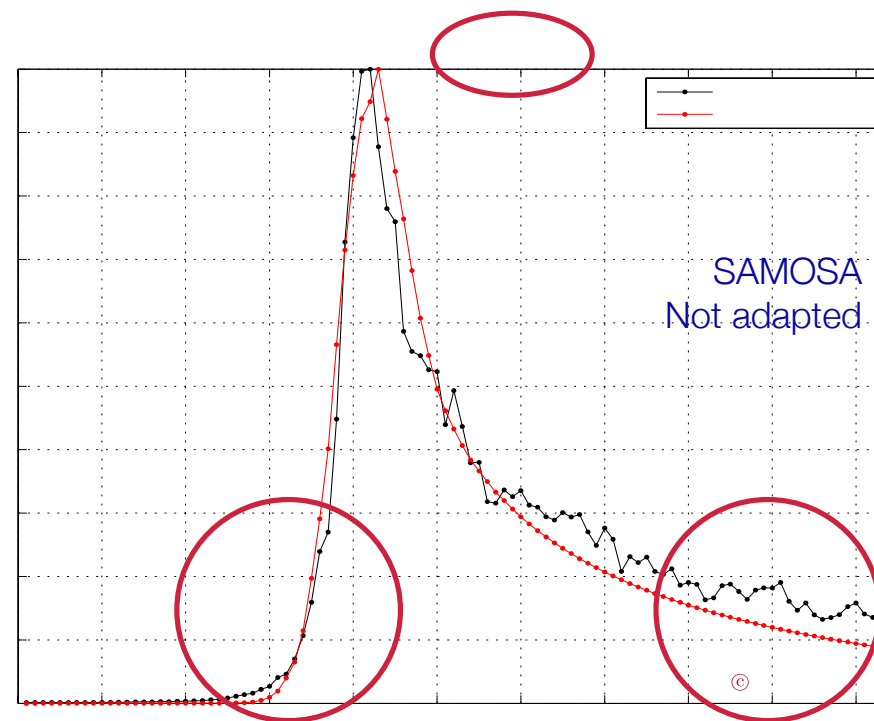
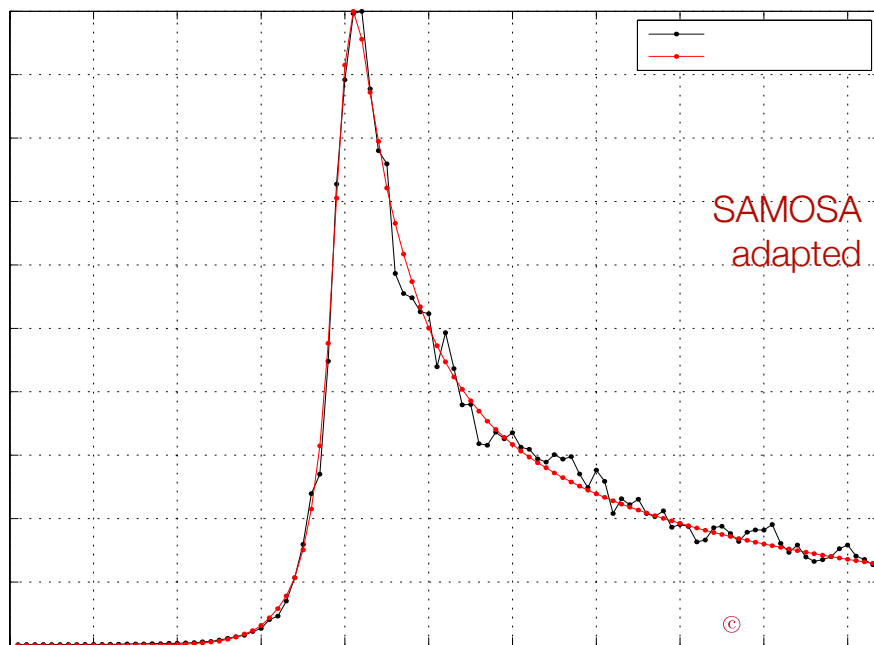
The logo for isardSAT, featuring the text "isardSAT" in white on a red background.The title "SAR mode L2" in white text on a dark blue background.The subtitle "Why are we all here discussing 😊" in white text on a dark blue background.



- Motivation of this second part of the talk:
  - The SAMOSA model was defined under certain assumptions which do not fully agree with CryoSat L1 Baseline B processor, but it is brought to incorporate these easily
  - The model is currently under peer review and the proper reference for it is:
    - C. Ray, C. Martin-Puig, M.P. Clarizia, G. Ruffini, S. Dinardo, C. Gommenginger and J. Benveniste. [SAR Altimeter Backscattered Waveform Model](#). *Submitted to IEEE Trans. On Geoscience and Remote Sensing. 2013. [currently under peer review]*
  - As in the paper above the model has shown good performances as shown in previous conferences by:
    - Gommenginger et al. OSTST 2011, etc.
  - But what happens with baseline B? Why the results presented so far are not so good?

- Motivation of this second part of the talk:
  - The SAMOSA model was defined under certain assumptions which do not fully agree with CryoSat L1 Baseline B processor, but it is brought to incorporate these easily
  - The model is currently under peer review and the proper reference for it is:
    - C. Ray, C. Martin-Puig, M.P. Clarizia, G. Ruffini, S. Dinardo, C. Gommenginger and J. Benveniste. [SAR Altimeter Backscattered Waveform Model](#). *Submitted to IEEE Trans. On Geoscience and Remote Sensing. 2013. [currently under peer review]*
  - As in the paper above the model has shown good performances as shown in previous conferences by:
    - Gommenginger et al. OSTST 2011, etc.
  - But what happens with baseline B? Why the results presented so far are not so good?

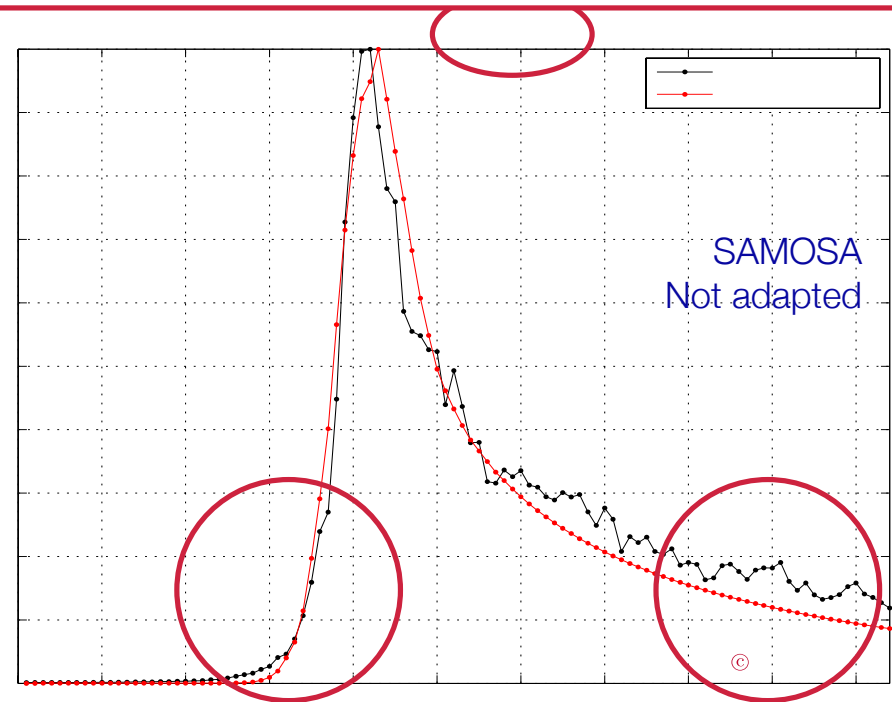
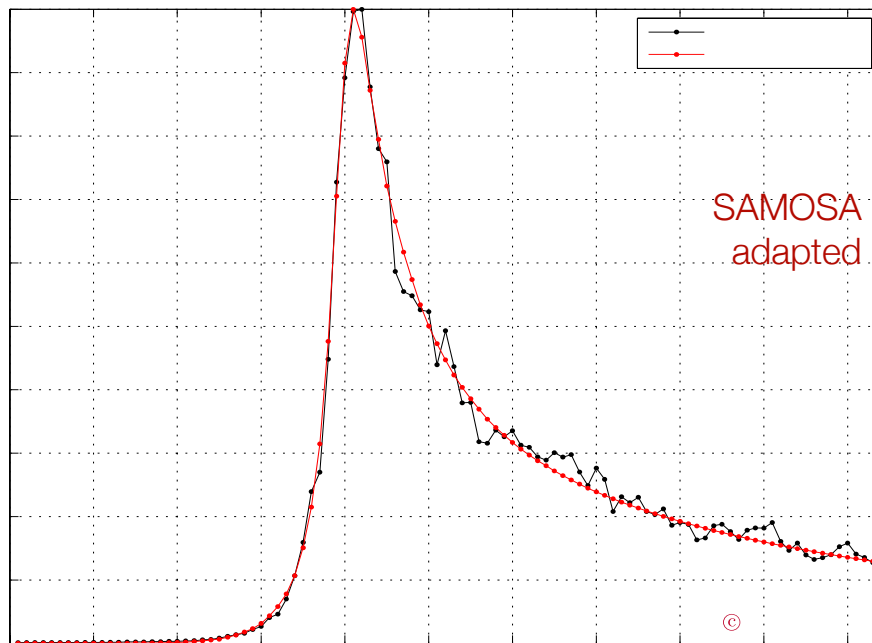
**SAMOSa IS NOT OPTIMAL FOR ALL L1 PROCESSING AS BASELINE B, BUT WITH A FEW ADAPTATIONS WHICH STILL LEAD TO AN ANALYTICAL SOLUTION THE MODEL CAN BE MADE OPTIMAL TO ANY L1 PROCESSING DIFFERENT TO THEORETICAL DELAY-DOPPLER → work to be published soon**





CONCLUSION: L1 AND L2 IN SARM ARE STRONGLY CORRELATED

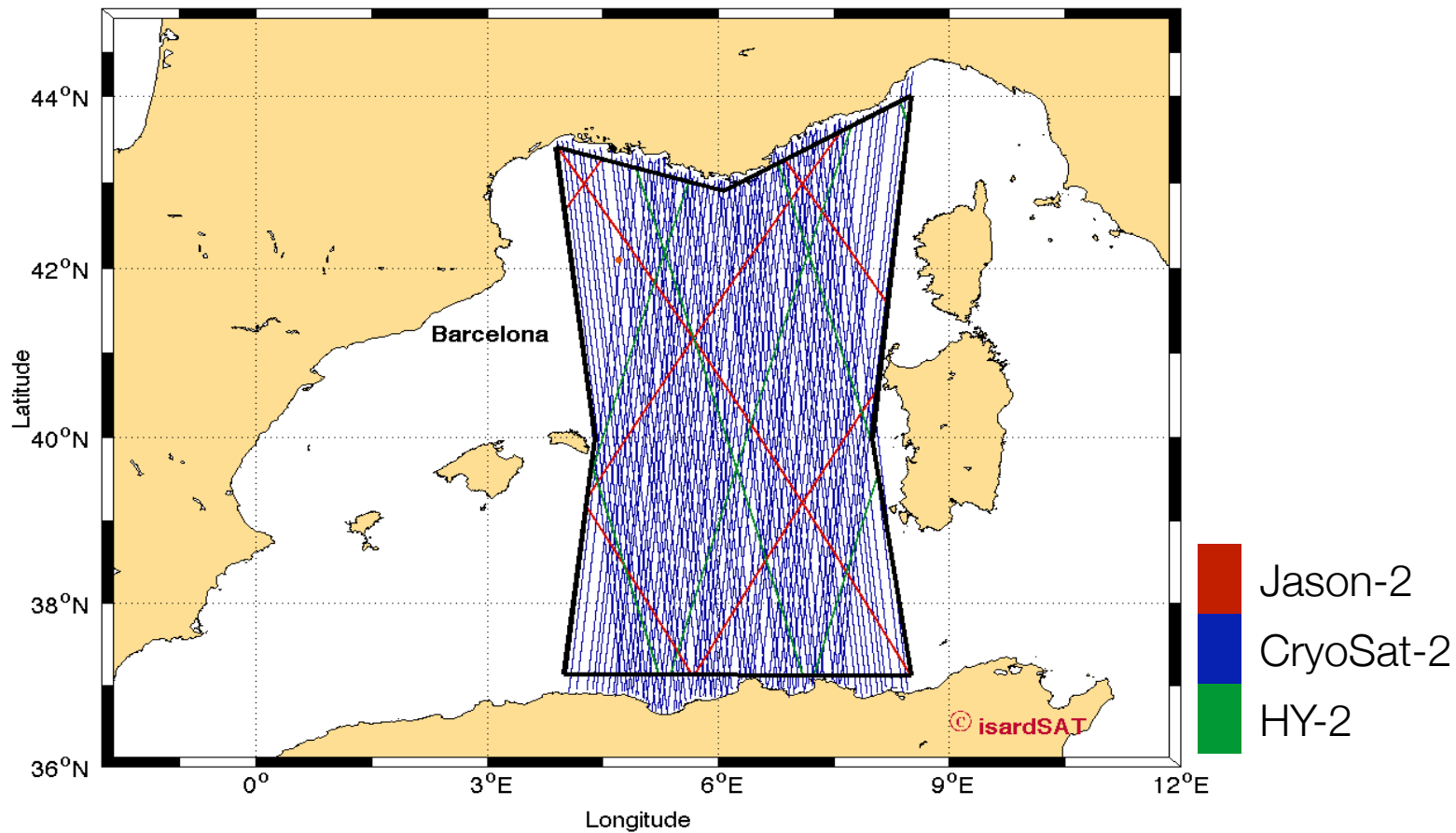
Buoy Hs = 1.2m  
 1.5h difference between buoy acquisition and track pass  
 Distance ~ 10km



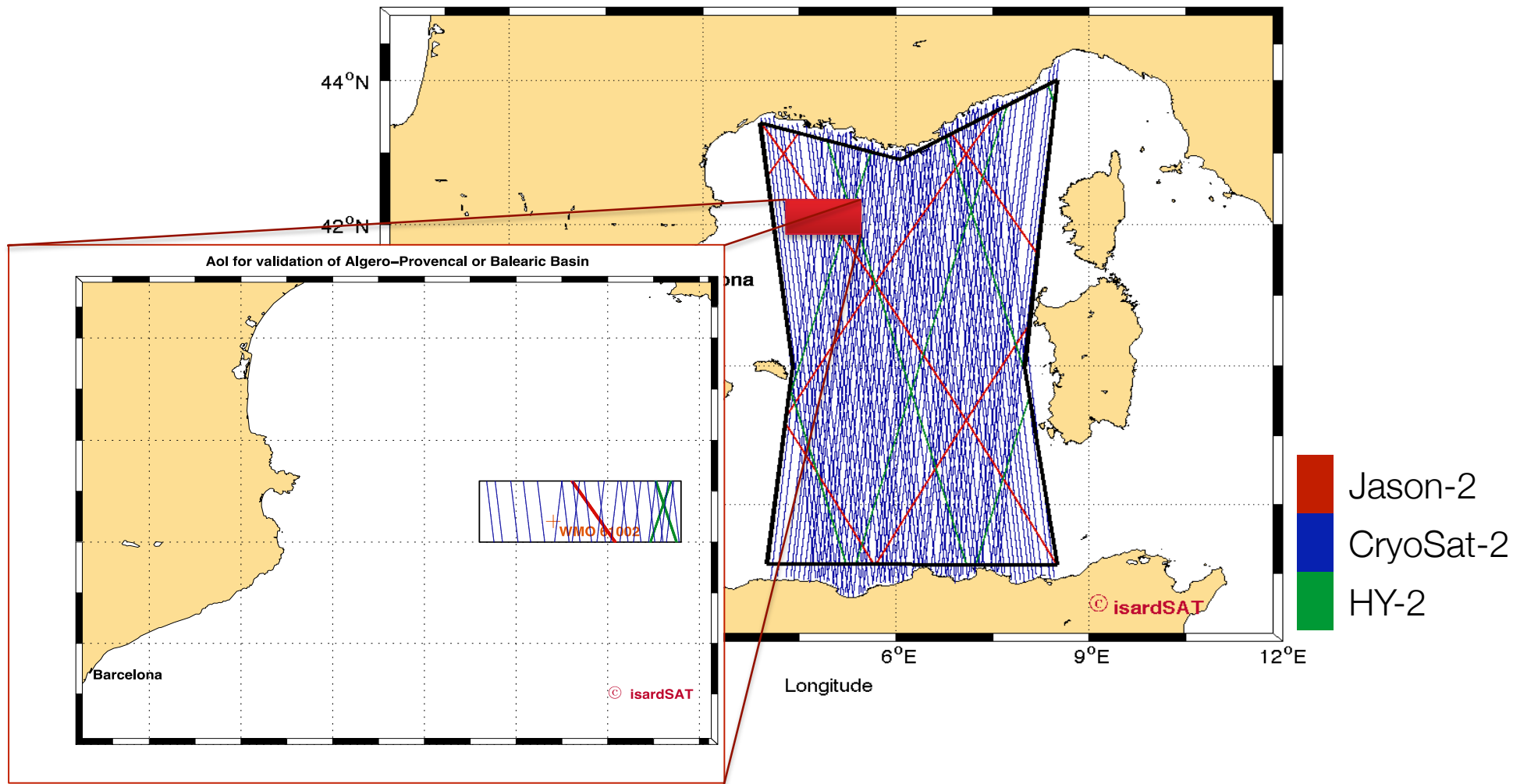
- The adaptation to CryoSat-2 Baseline B
  - Theoretical adaptation of the model
  - Implementation of code
  - Hs validation
    - Comparison with buoy data
  - SSH variability analysis
  - Quantification of performances
- Going a bit further ...
  - Adaptation to SARin data
  - Adaptation to the Jason-CS mission

- The adaptation to CryoSat-2 Baseline B
  - Theoretical adaptation of the model
  - Implementation of code
  - Hs validation
    - Comparison with buoy data
  - SSH variability analysis
  - Quantification of performances
- Going a bit further ...
  - Adaptation to SARin data
  - Adaptation to the Jason-CS mission

CryoSat data for 2012 in the Algero-Provencal or Balearic Basin. Total of tracks = 97

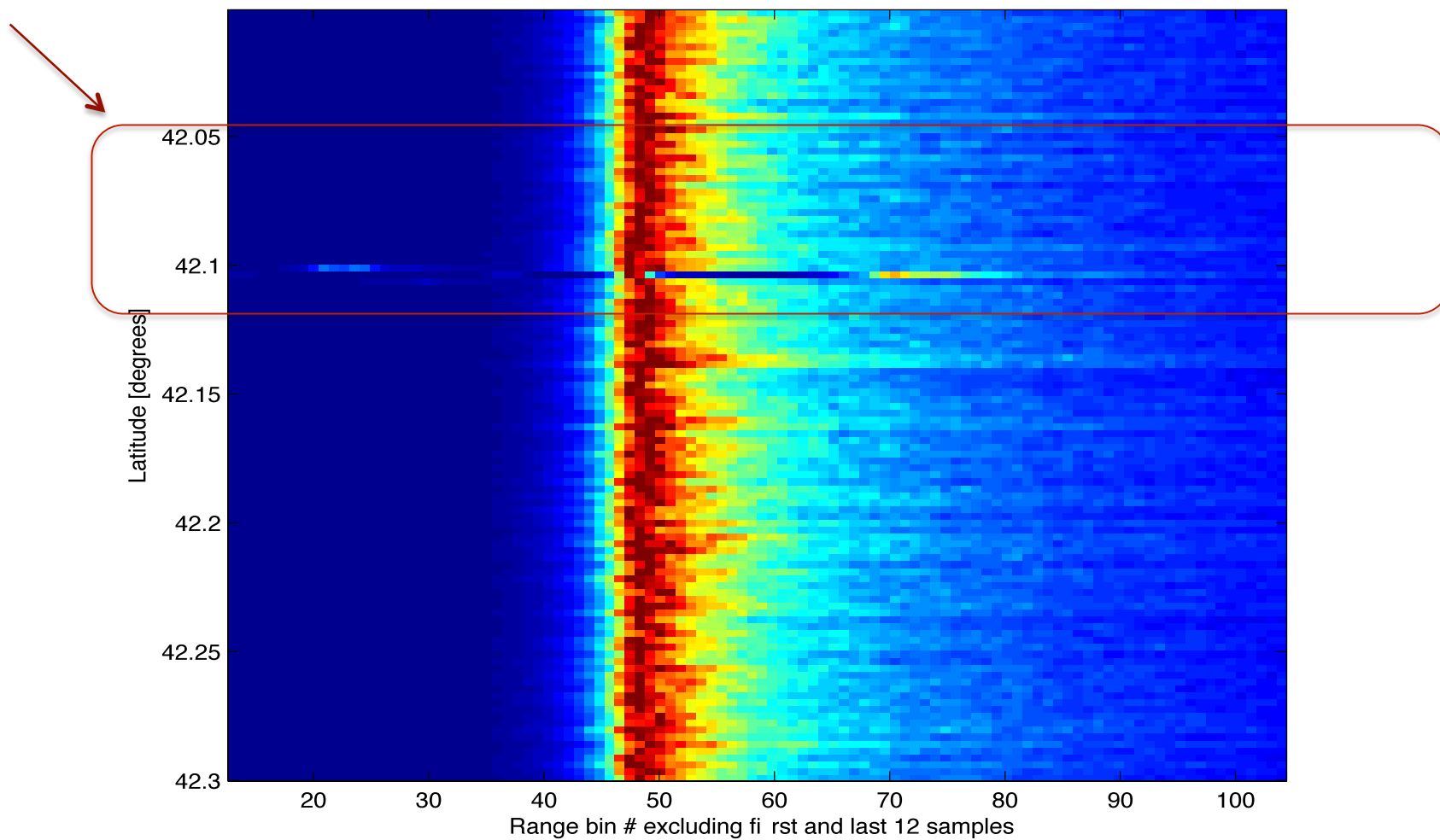


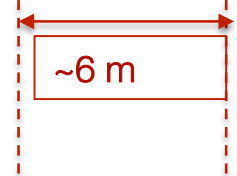
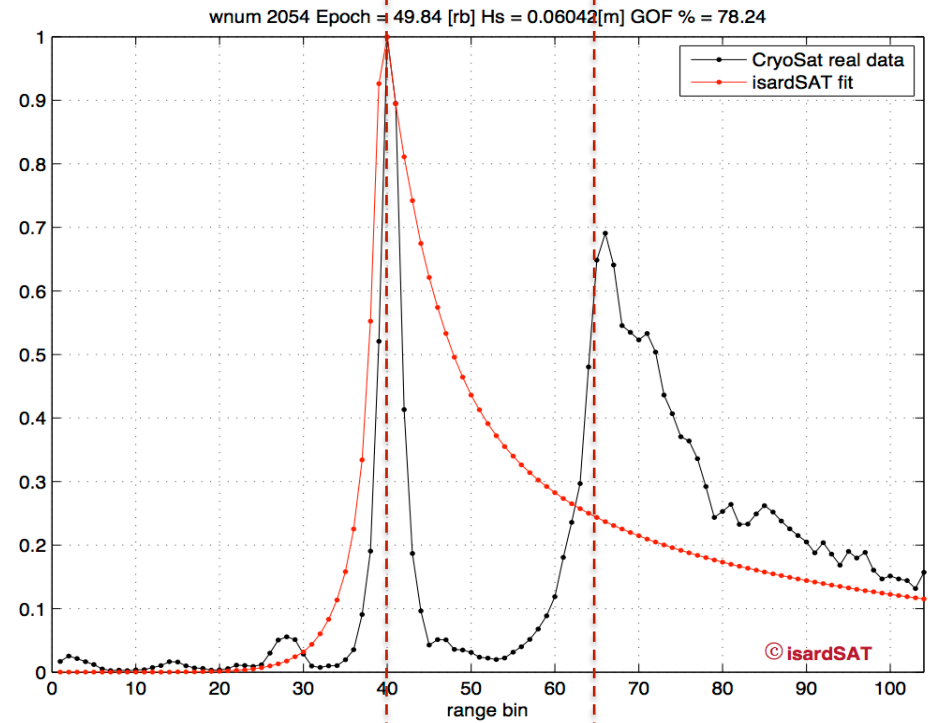
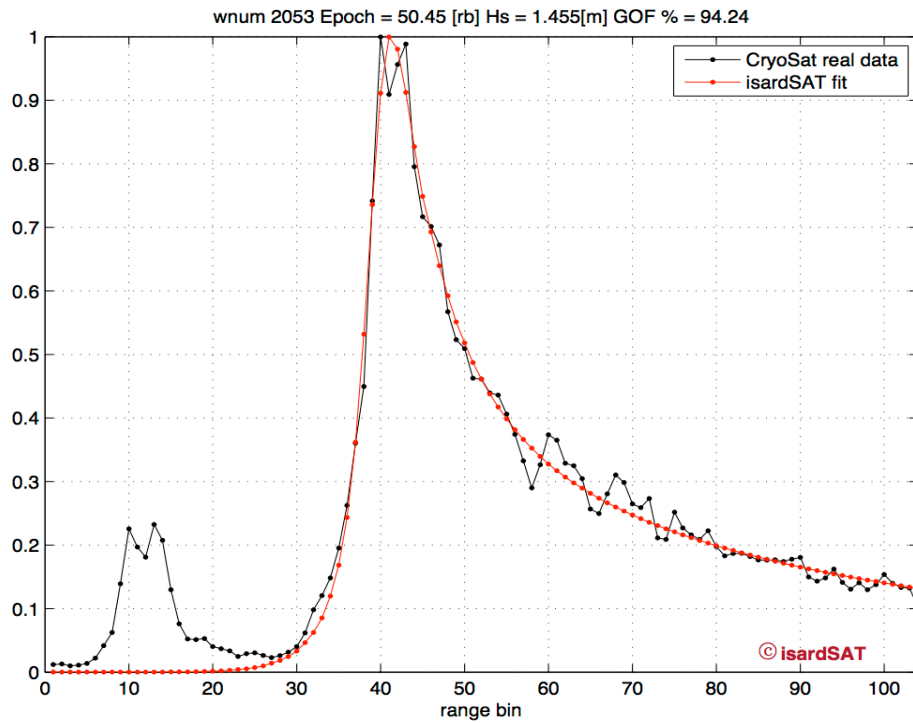
CryoSat data for 2012 in the Algero-Provençal or Balearic Basin. Total of tracks = 97

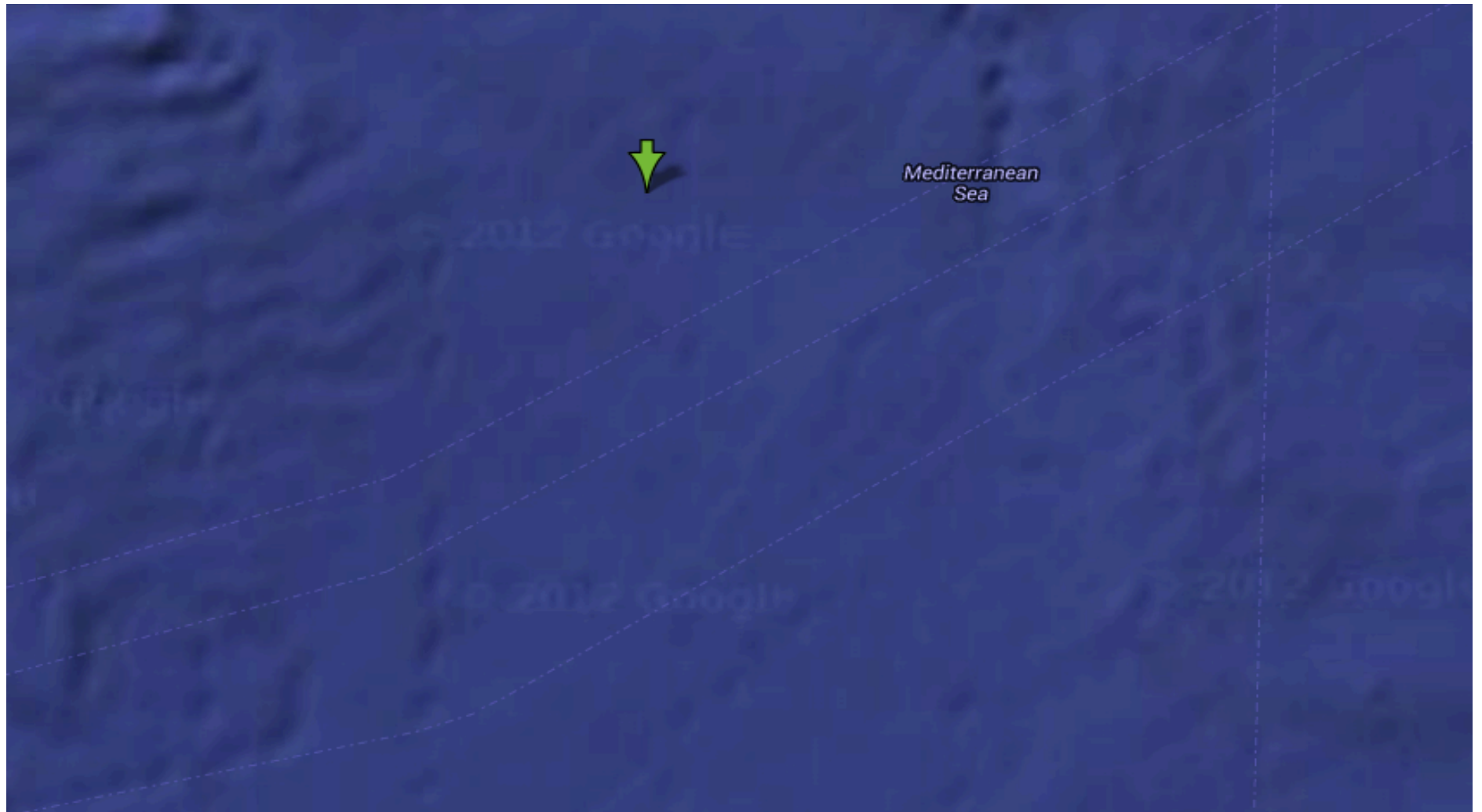


Not flagged!

Track view in Aoi for 20121010

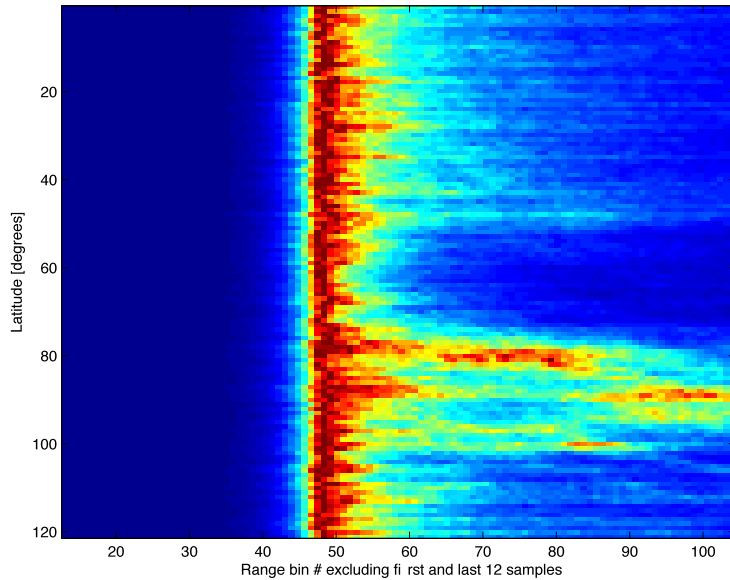




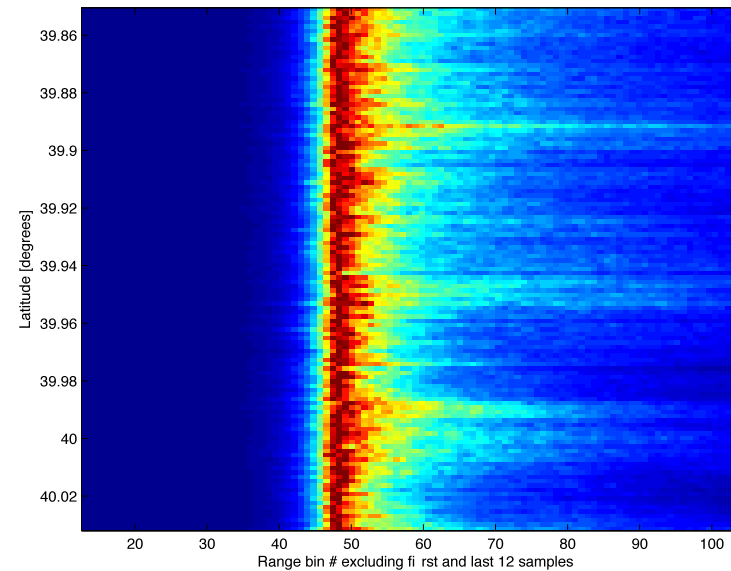




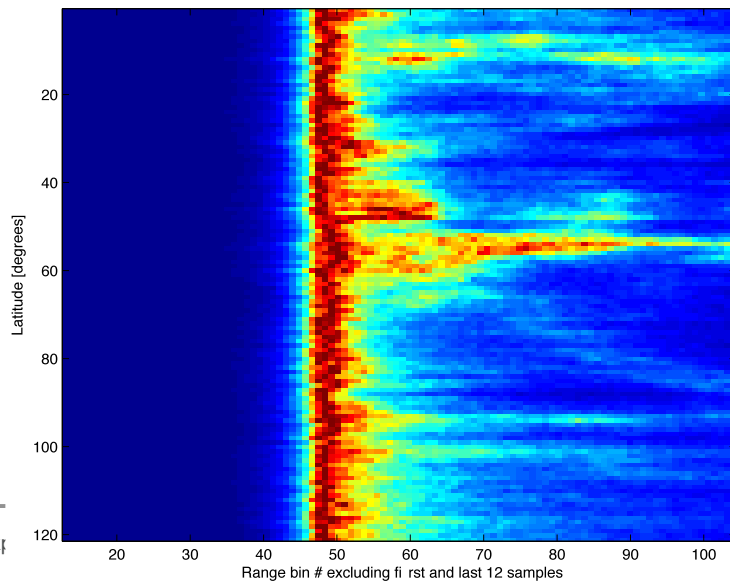
Track view in Aoi for 20120328



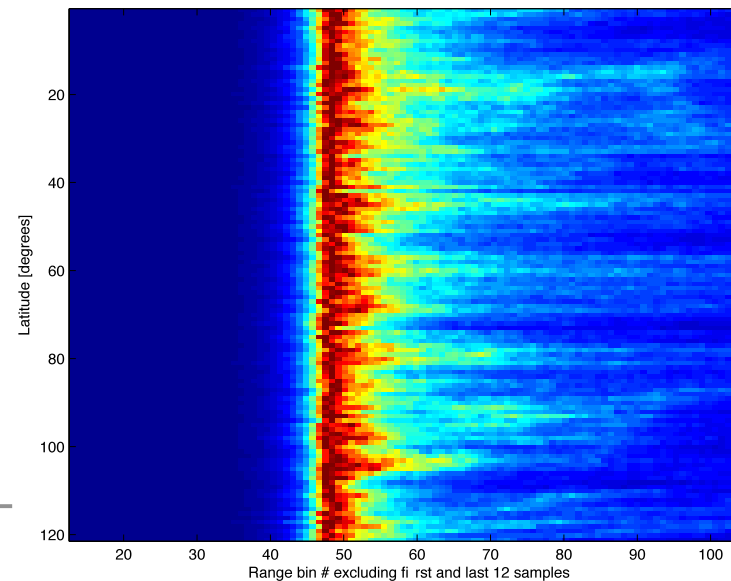
Track view in Aoi for 20120127



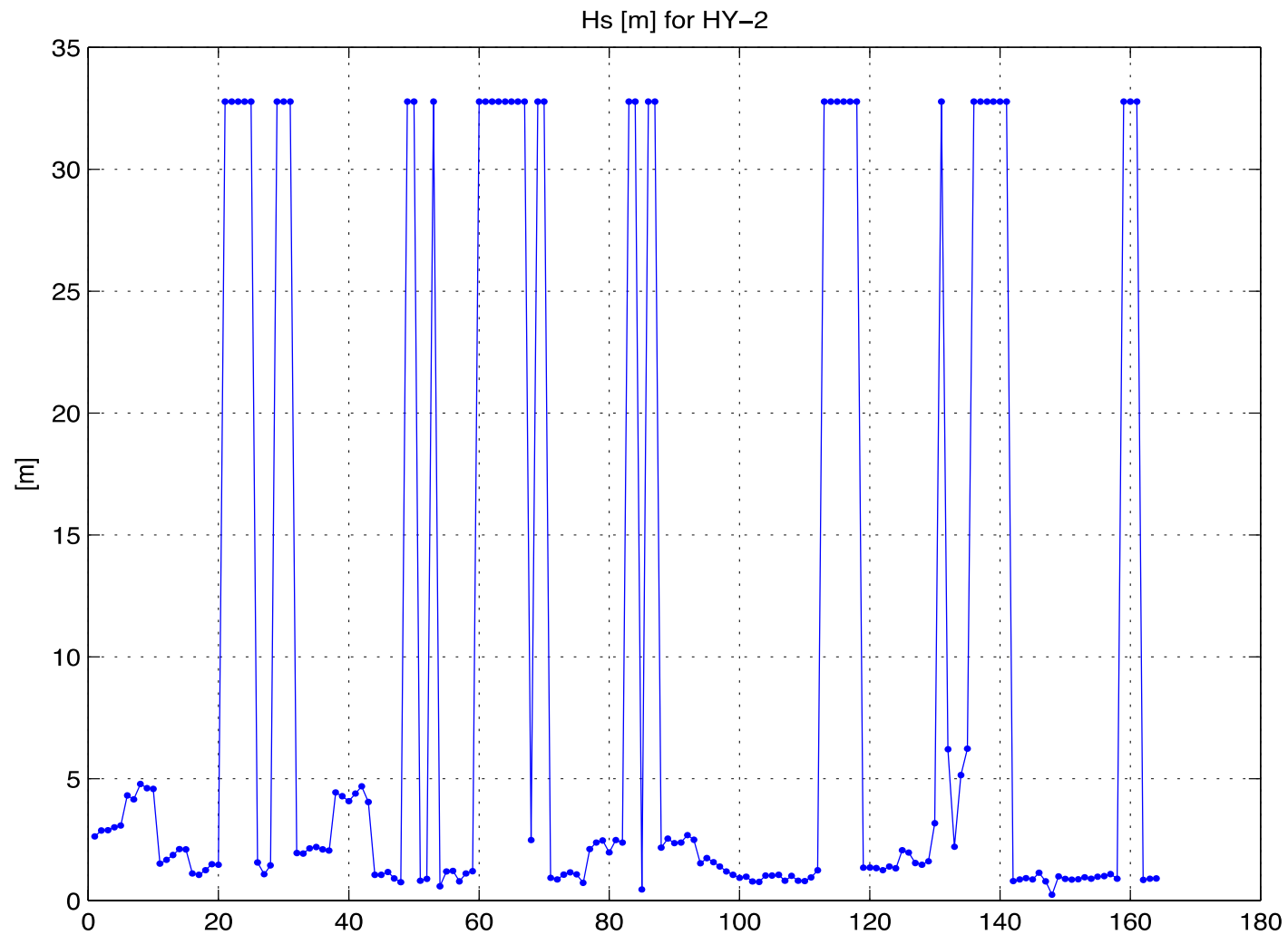
Track view in Aoi for 20120527



Track view in Aoi for 20120301

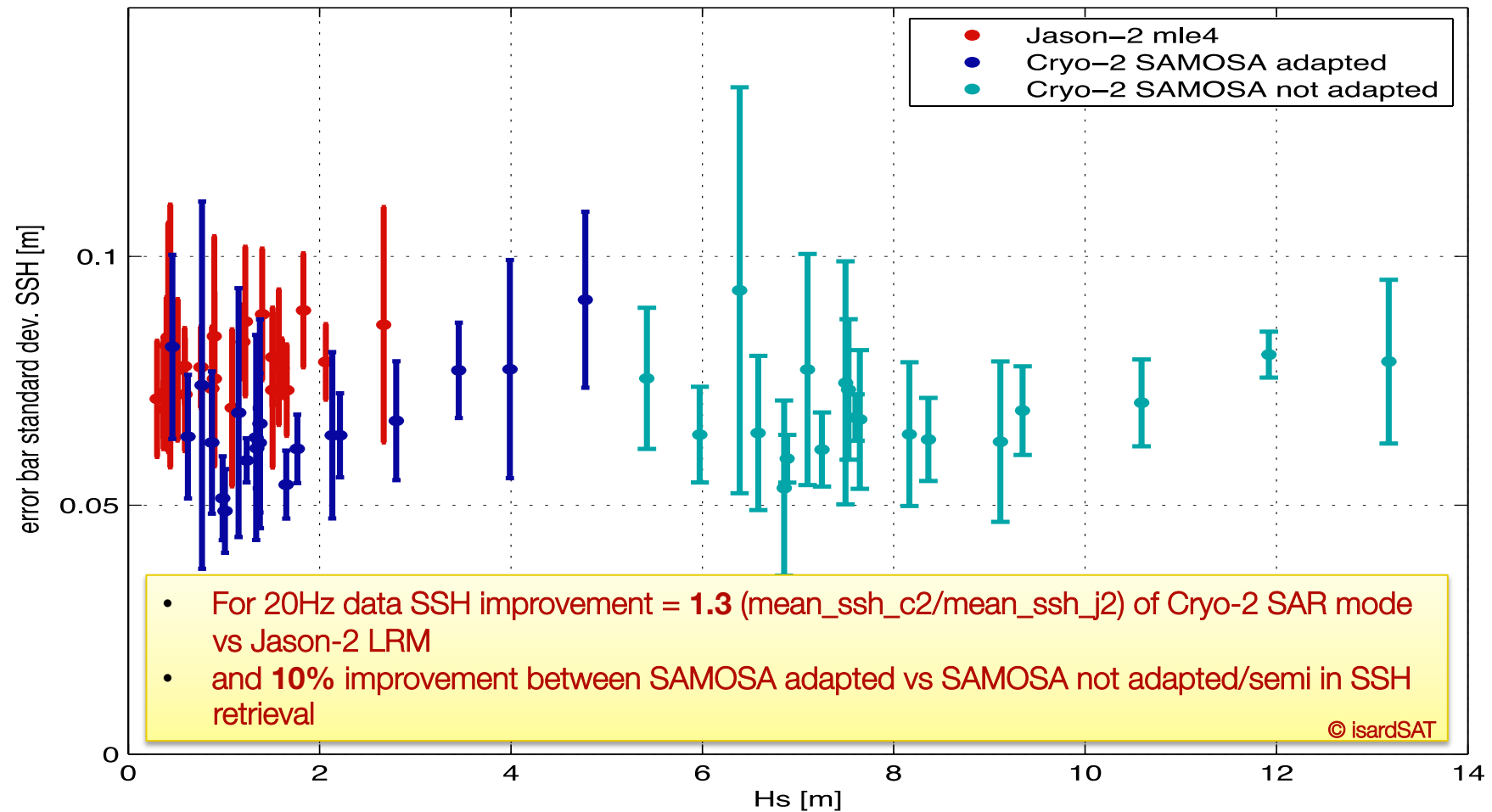


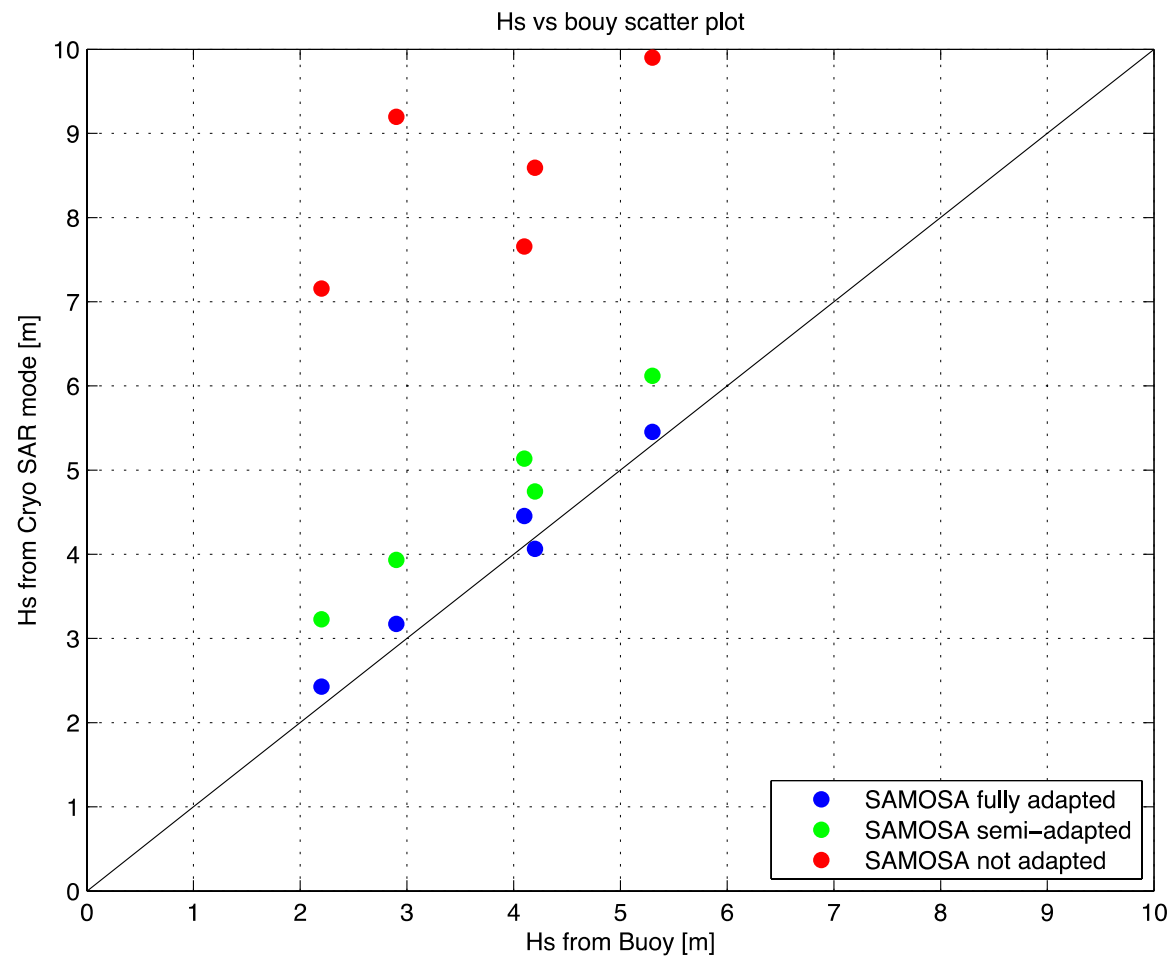
- A few geo collocation between CryoSat and Jason-2 / HY-2
- For the areas selected, which corresponds to ~ 6 secs of data
  - Processed CryoSat-2 L1b SAR mode data from baseline B
    - SAMOSA adapted
    - SAMOSA only adapted for ZP (semi-adapted)
    - SAMOSA not-adapted at all
  - Jason-2 GDR(D) data
  - HY-2 GDR data
- Both Cryo and Jason-2 data correspond to one year data from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012. We only have HY-2 data from March 2012.
- **NOTE: Data is not collocated in time!**

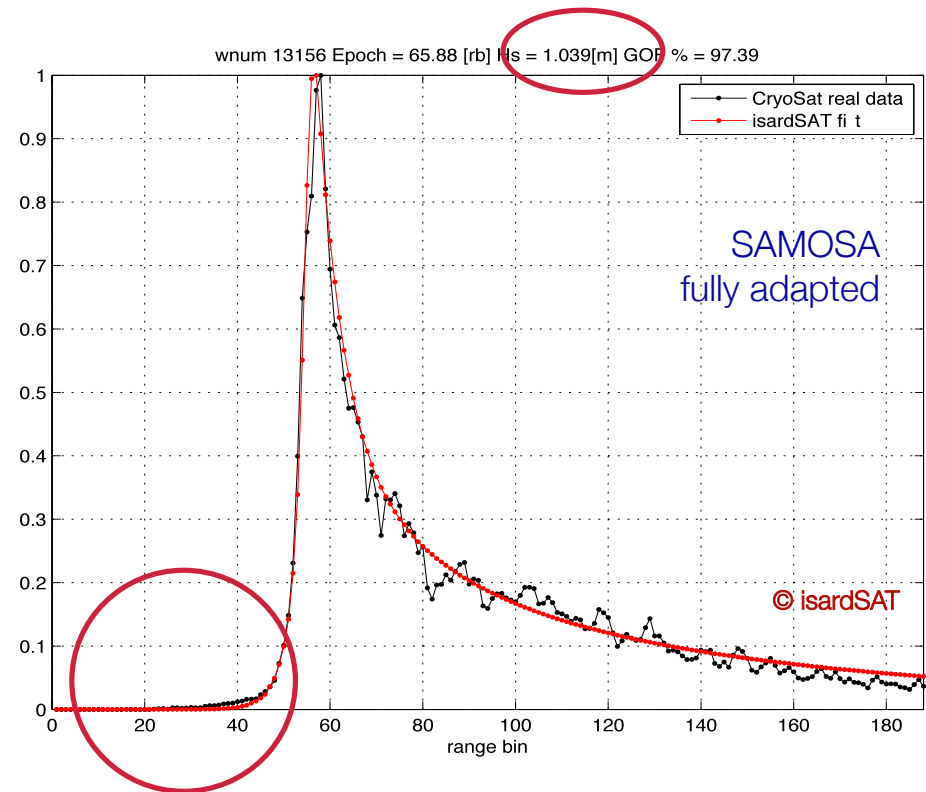
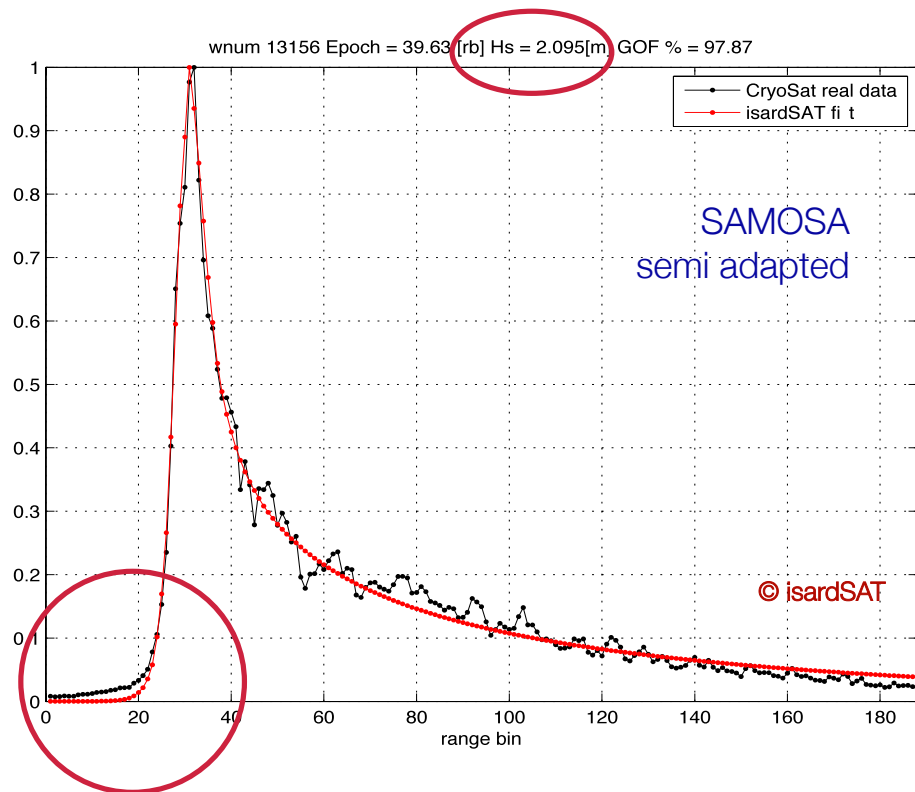


Monte-Carlo → We analyze SSH 20Hz in patches of 20 waveforms and analyze variability

Jason-2 and CryoSat-2 SSH variability in terms of std over 6 sec data







Version	Hs	GOF
SAMOSA fully adapted	Hs < 2m	97.42%
	Hs > 2m	96.66%
SAMOSA semi-adapted	Hs < 2m	97.00%
	Hs > 2m	96.50%

In terms of GOF is difficult to appreciate the difference between the semi and full adapted versions of the SAMOSA model. The main difference remains in the leading edge and trailing edge, or end of cue.

However, in terms of Hs retrieval there is a considerable difference! (see next slide)

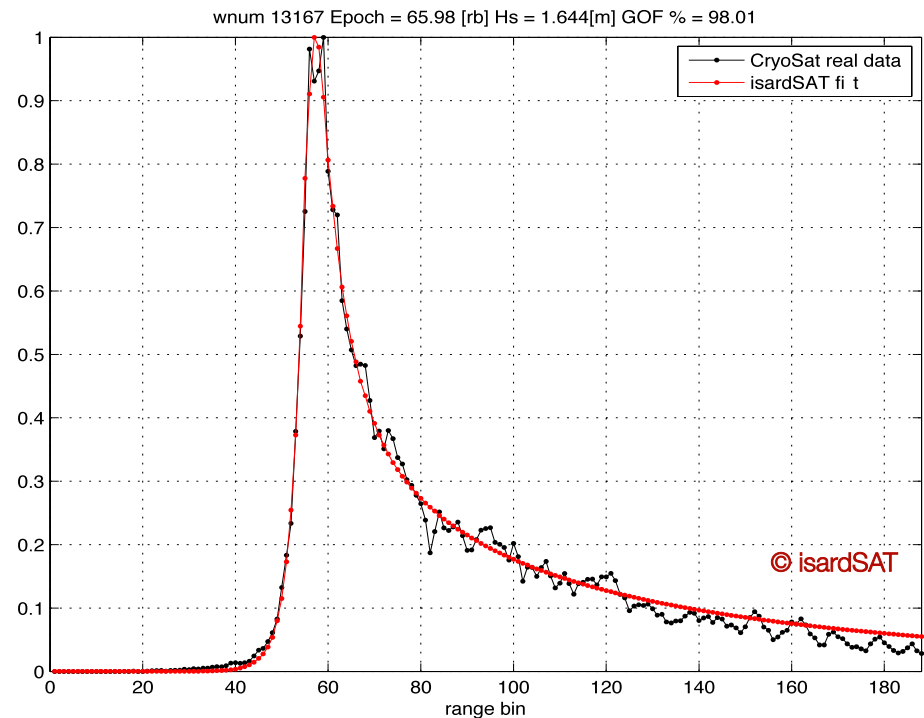
Parameter	Formula	SAMOSa fully adapted to Baseline B	SAMOSa semi adapted to Baseline B
Bias Systematic errors	$N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - T_i) = \bar{x} - \bar{T}$	32.49 [cm]	1.10 [m]
Root mean square difference (RMSE):	$\sqrt{N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - T_i)^2}$	39.22 [cm]	1.13 [m]
Standard deviation of the difference (SDD):	$\sqrt{N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - T_i - \text{Bias})^2}$	21.98 [cm]	27.73 [cm]
Scatter index (SI):	$\text{SI} = \text{SDD} / \bar{T}$	0.08	0.1

**Error estimation – following mathematics from a presentation of ECMWF by S. Abdalla**



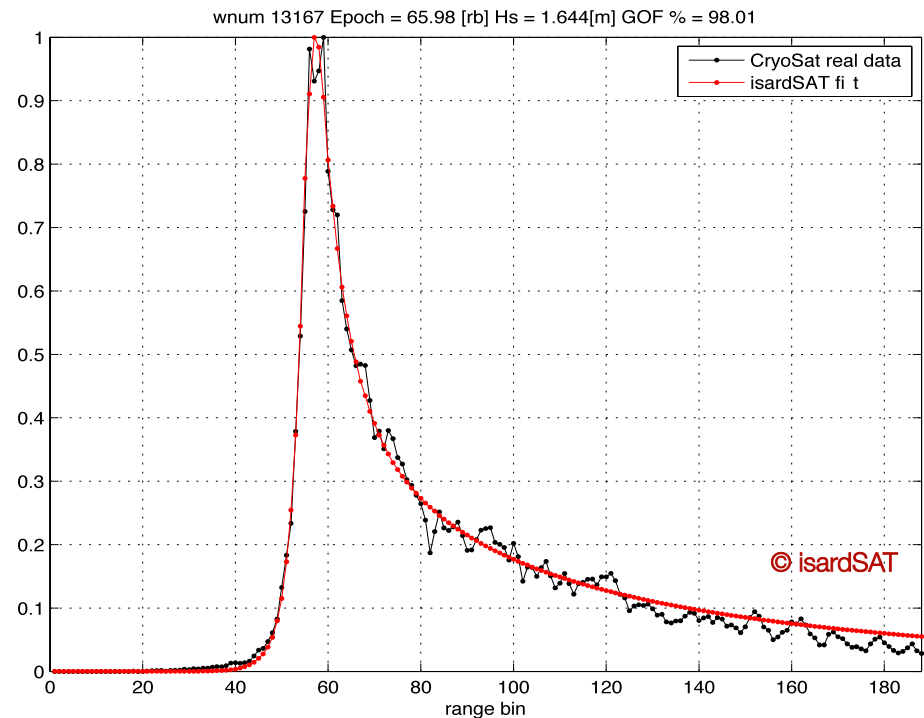
- isardSAT is building the Jason-CS P4 GPP for L1
- For L1b verification purposes we have adapted the SAMOSA model to the Jason-CS L1b processor not for interleaved yet
- So far we are working with:
  - Simulated Jason-CS data (no interleave)
  - And CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS
- Next ...

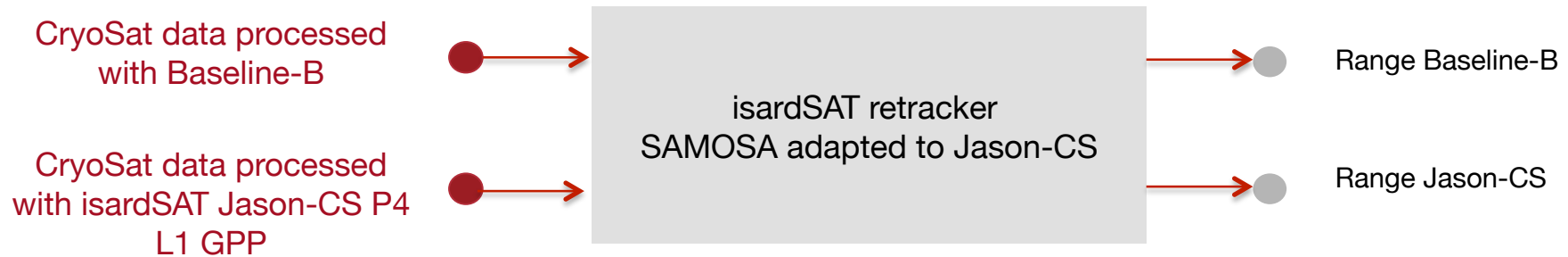
CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS  
GOF: 98.01%



- isardSAT is building the Jason-CS P4 GPP for L1
- For L1b verification purposes we have adapted the SAMOSA model to the Jason-CS L1b processor not for interleaved yet
- So far we are working with:
  - Simulated Jason-CS data (no interleaved)
  - And CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS
- Next ...
  - Adapting SAMOSA to Jason-CS interleaved mode! → more ... @ ESA Living Planets

CryoSat data adapted to Jason-CS  
GOF: 98.01%





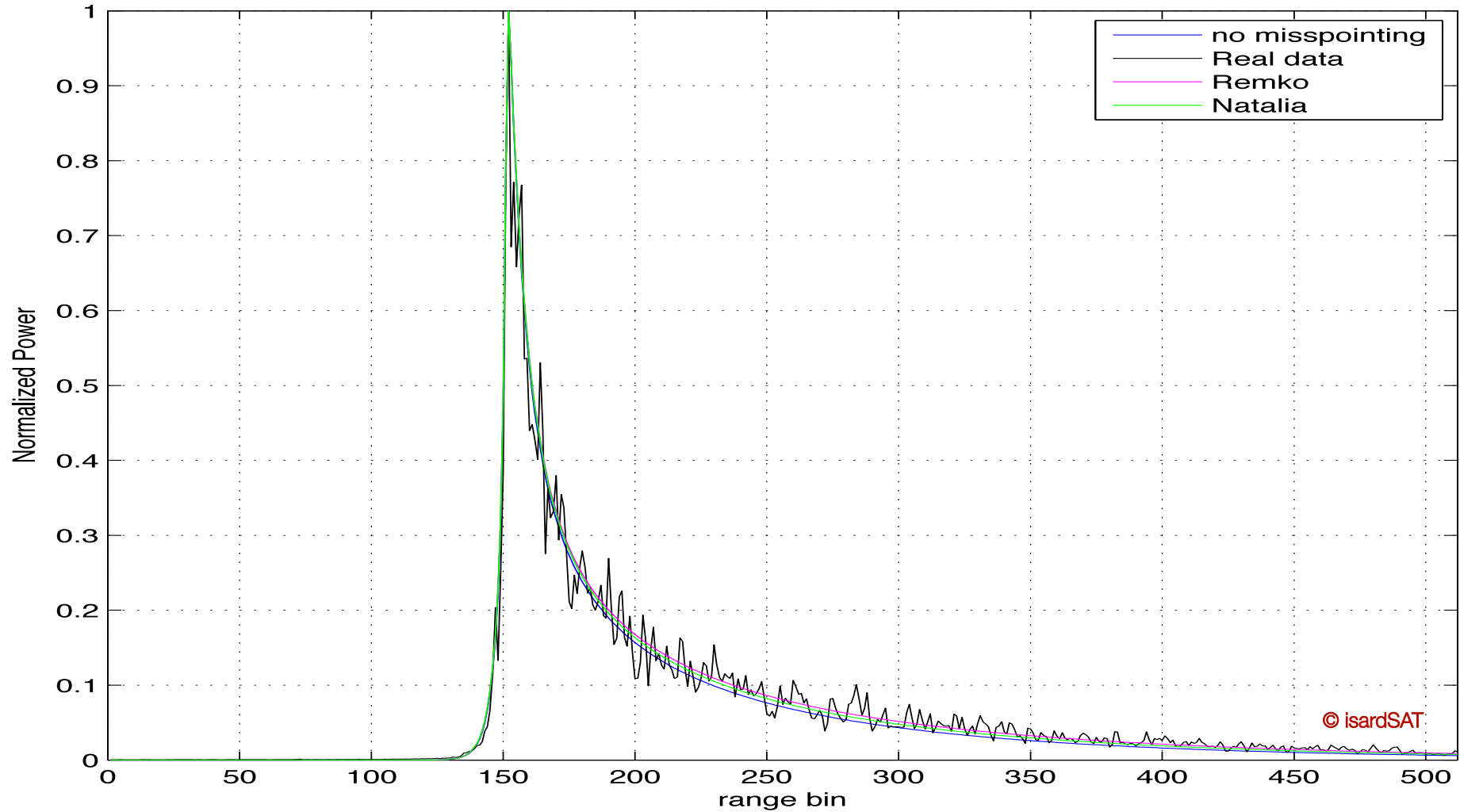
$$\text{Retracked range difference} = [ \text{Range Jason-CS} ] - [ \text{Range Baseline-B} ]$$

Retracked Range Difference [ MEAN ]	20Hz	0.02802 [m]
	1Hz	0.0283 [m]
Retracked Range Difference [ STDEV ]	20Hz	0.10312 [m]
	1Hz	0.02306 [m]

$$\text{Hs stdev difference} = [ \text{stdev of Hs as derived by Jason-CS GPP} ] - [ \text{stdev of Hs as derived by Baseline-B} ]$$

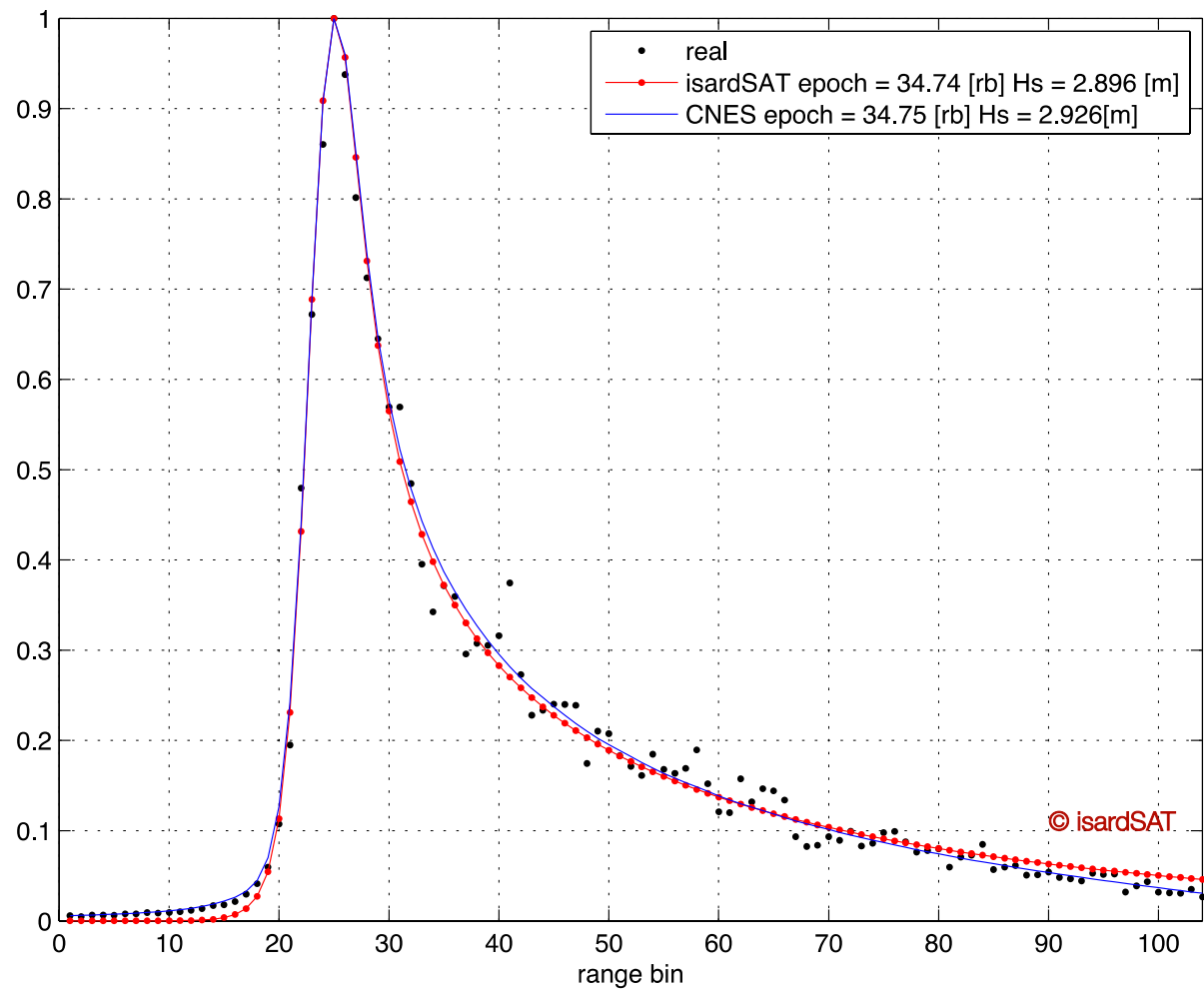
Stdev difference	20Hz	0.02 [m]
------------------	------	----------

1st isardSAT SARin fit to CS2 with inhouse SARM model

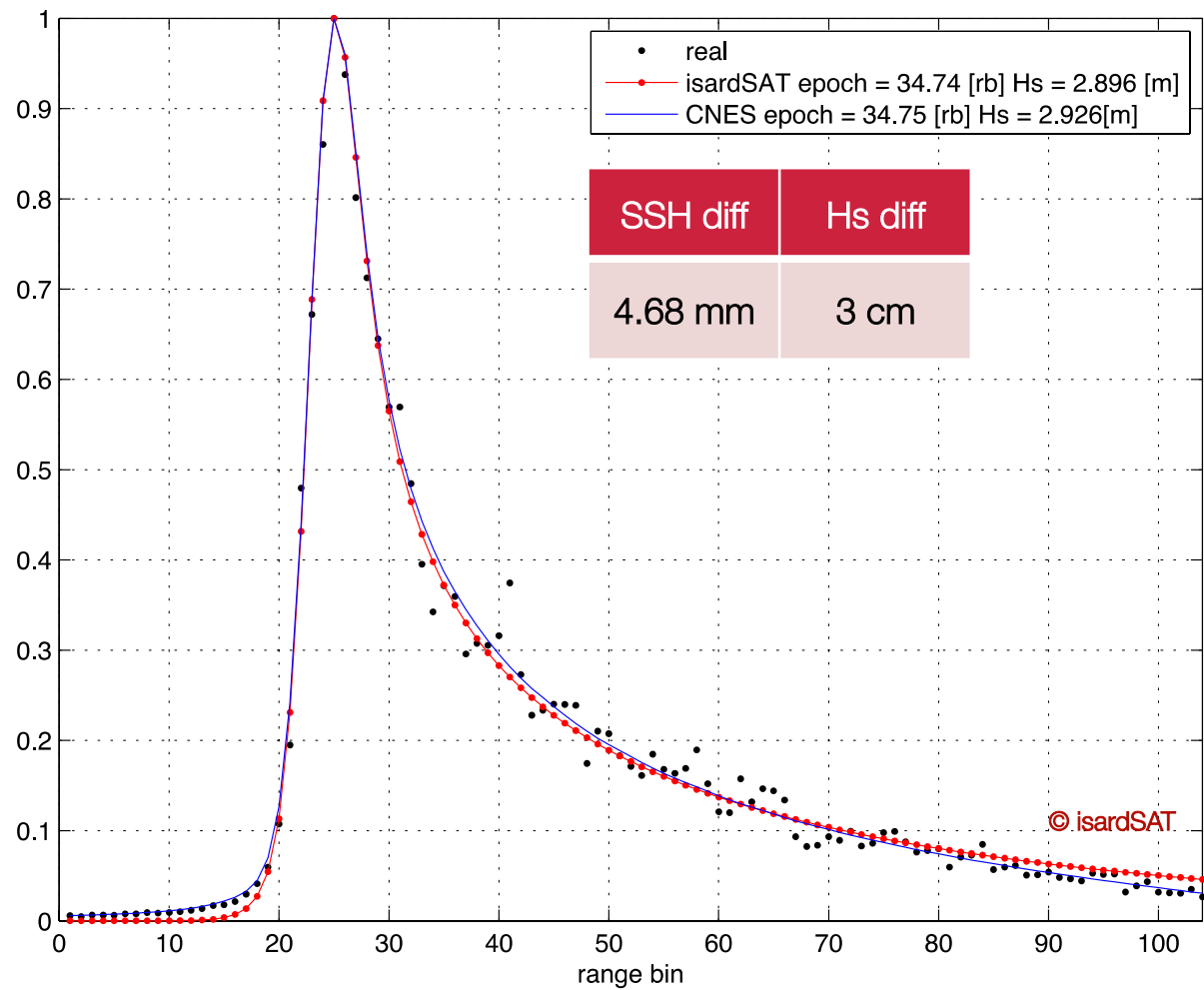


© isardSAT

wnum #18 GOF-i = 97.84 GOF-Ca = 97.93 GOF-Cb= 97.93



wnum #18 GOF-i = 97.84 GOF-Ca = 97.93 GOF-Cb= 97.93



- isardSAT has the capability to process L1 and L2 data. We have 2 complete chain: for CryoSat and for Jason-CS (including interleaved mode)
- Retracking teams (either with analytical or non-analytical) models shall work in close cooperation with L1 teams. Otherwise they are likely to commit errors in the estimation of geophysical information
- People working with the SAMOSA model must make sure they adapt it properly to the L1 processor used to derive the L1B data retracked
- In the effort to adapt SAMOSA to Baseline B from CryoSat we have shown that non-adapting the model to L1 processing may results in errors of:
  - 10% in derivation of SSH
  - ~80 cm bias in Hs comparing the model fully adapted to the model semi-adapted. If no adaptation is done at all this bias turns to be in the order of meters!
- isardSAT team has shown the capability of SAMOSA to work for Jason-CS and other like CPP CNES ... further results will be presented @ ESA Living Planet

A satellite image showing a river delta and a coastline. The river is a prominent feature, flowing from the top left towards the bottom right. The land is green and brown, indicating vegetation and urban areas. The ocean is dark blue, with white waves visible on the right side. The image is used as a background for the slide.

**isardSAT**<sup>®</sup>

Thanks for your  
attention!

Mònica Roca &

Cristina Martin-Puig

[Cristina.martin-puig@isardSAT.cat](mailto:Cristina.martin-puig@isardSAT.cat)