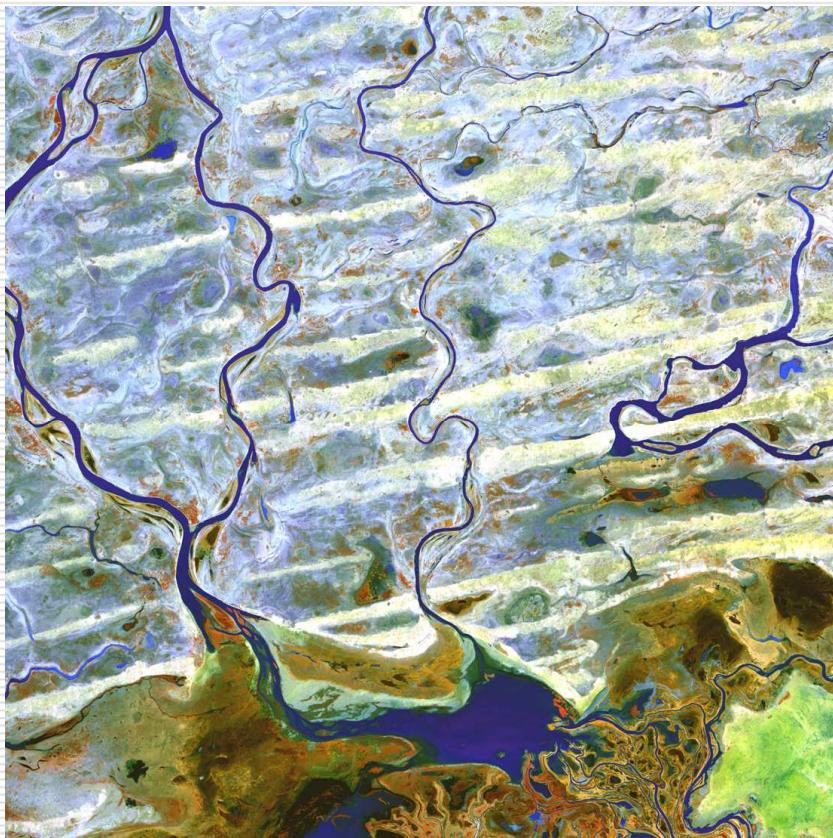


Remote Sensing – an Introduction



Seminar: Space is the Place

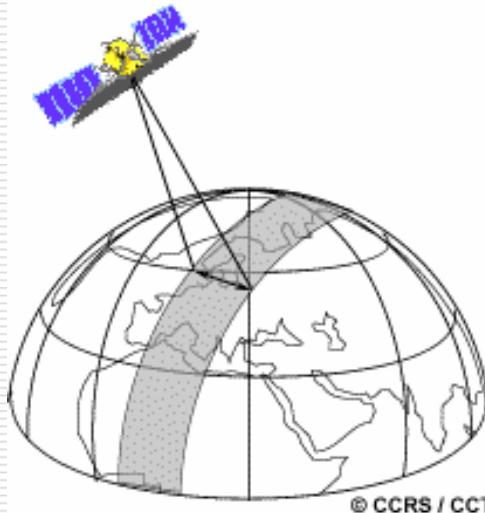
Referenten: Anica Huck &
Michael Schlund

Remote Sensing...



...means the observation of, or gathering information about, a target by a device separated from it by some distance.

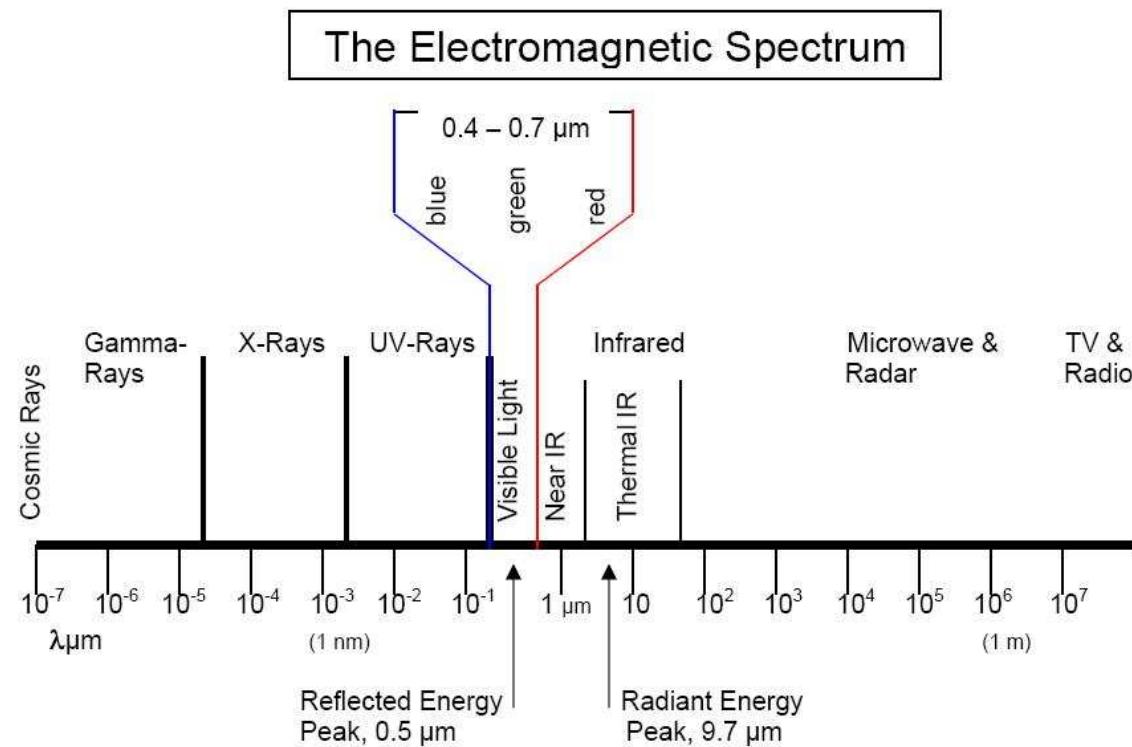
Cracknell & Hayes 1991



Remote Sensing

A major characteristic of an image is the wavelength band it represents.

Richards & Jia 1999



Remote Sensing

Spectral resolution

wavelength width of the different frequency bands recorded

Temporal resolution

frequency of flyovers by the satellite or plane

Spatial resolution

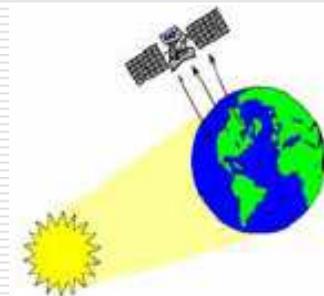
size of a pixel that is recorded in a raster image

Radiometric resolution

number of different intensities of radiation the sensor is able to distinguish

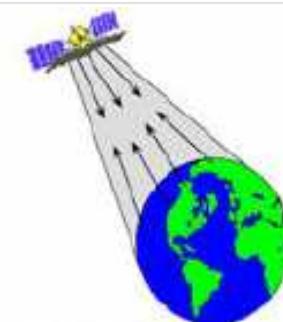
Measurements...

...of the spatial distribution of reflected solar radiation
→ external energy source (*passive*)



...of the spatial distribution of the energy emitted by the earth itself

...of the relative return from the earth's surface of
energy transmitted from the vehicle itself (*active*)

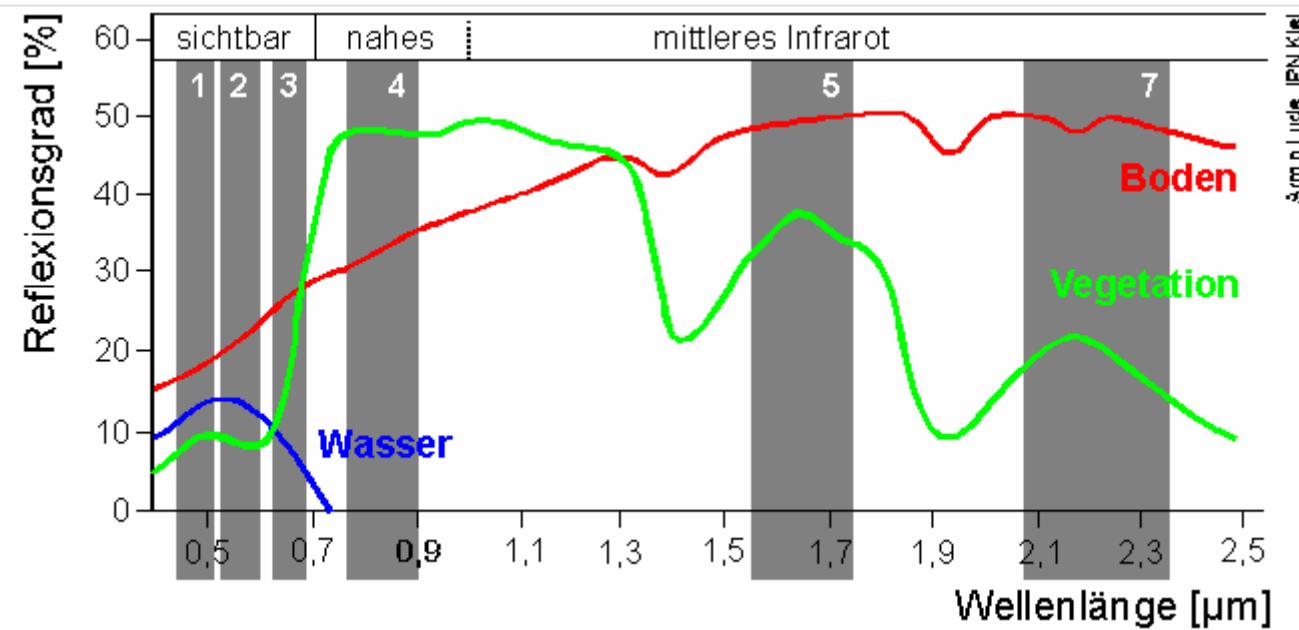


Richards & Jia 1999

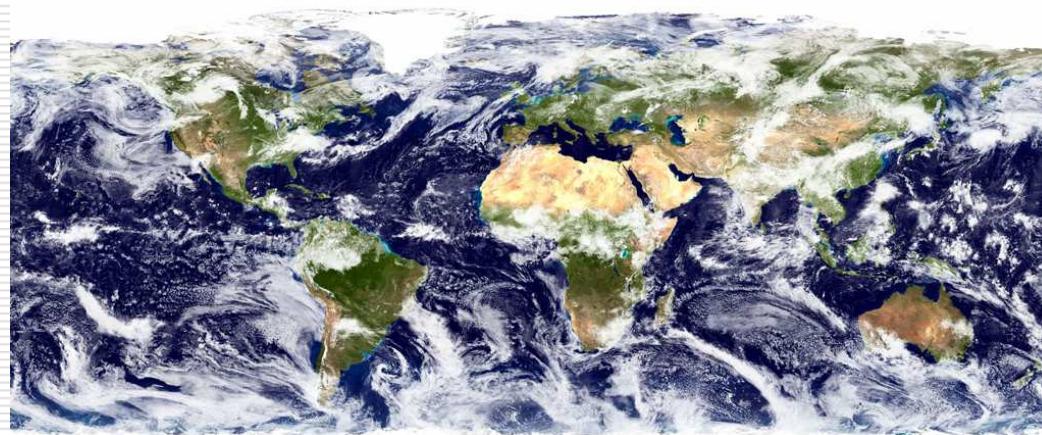
Interaction mechanism

„Significance of different ranges lies in the interaction mechanism between the electromagnetic radiation and the material being examined“

Richards & Jia 1999



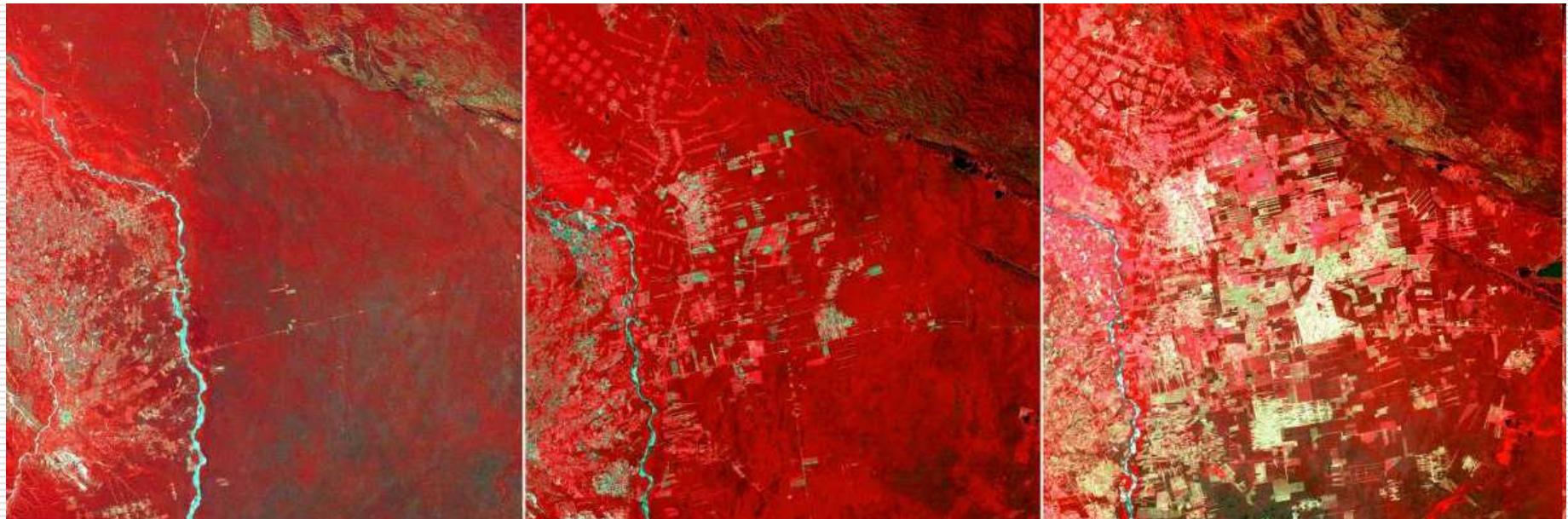
Interaction mechanism - Examples



http://ivvgeo.uni-muenster.de/Vorlesung/FE_Script/2_2.html

http://als.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Land_ocean_ice_cloud_1024.jpg

Examples of use - Deforestation



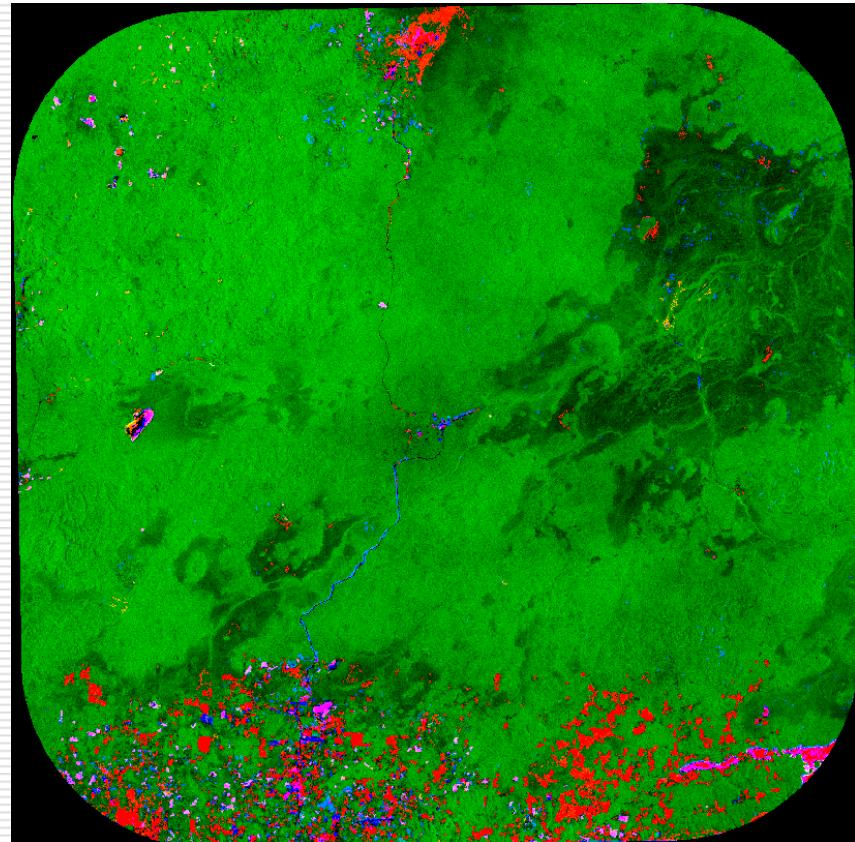
http://news.satimagingcorp.com/2009/10/satellite_image_technology_monitoring_global_warming_and_climate_change_.html

Examples of use - Deforestation

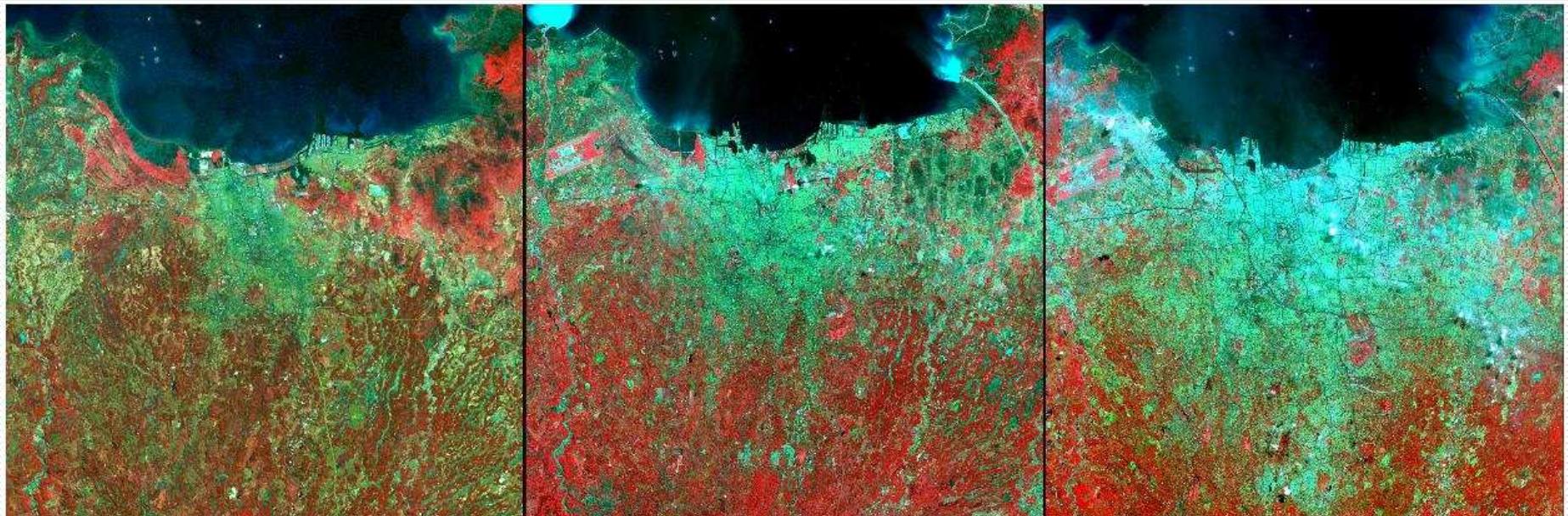
-Ratios

$$\rightarrow \text{NDVI} = (\text{band 4} - \text{band 3}) / (\text{band 4} + \text{band 3})$$

-Color space transformations



Examples of use – Urban growth



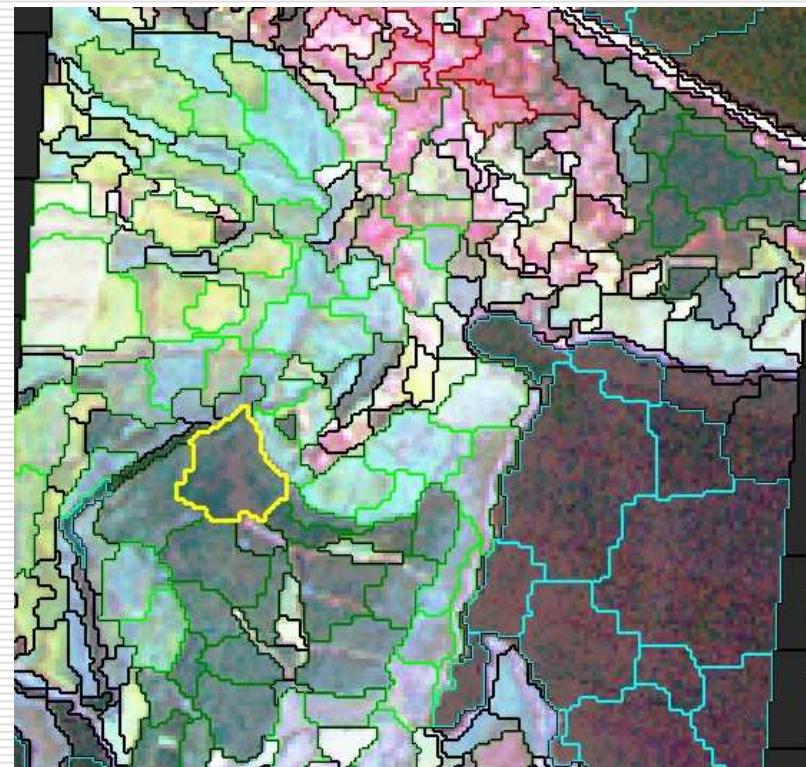
<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=5693>

Examples of use – Urban growth

-Segmentations

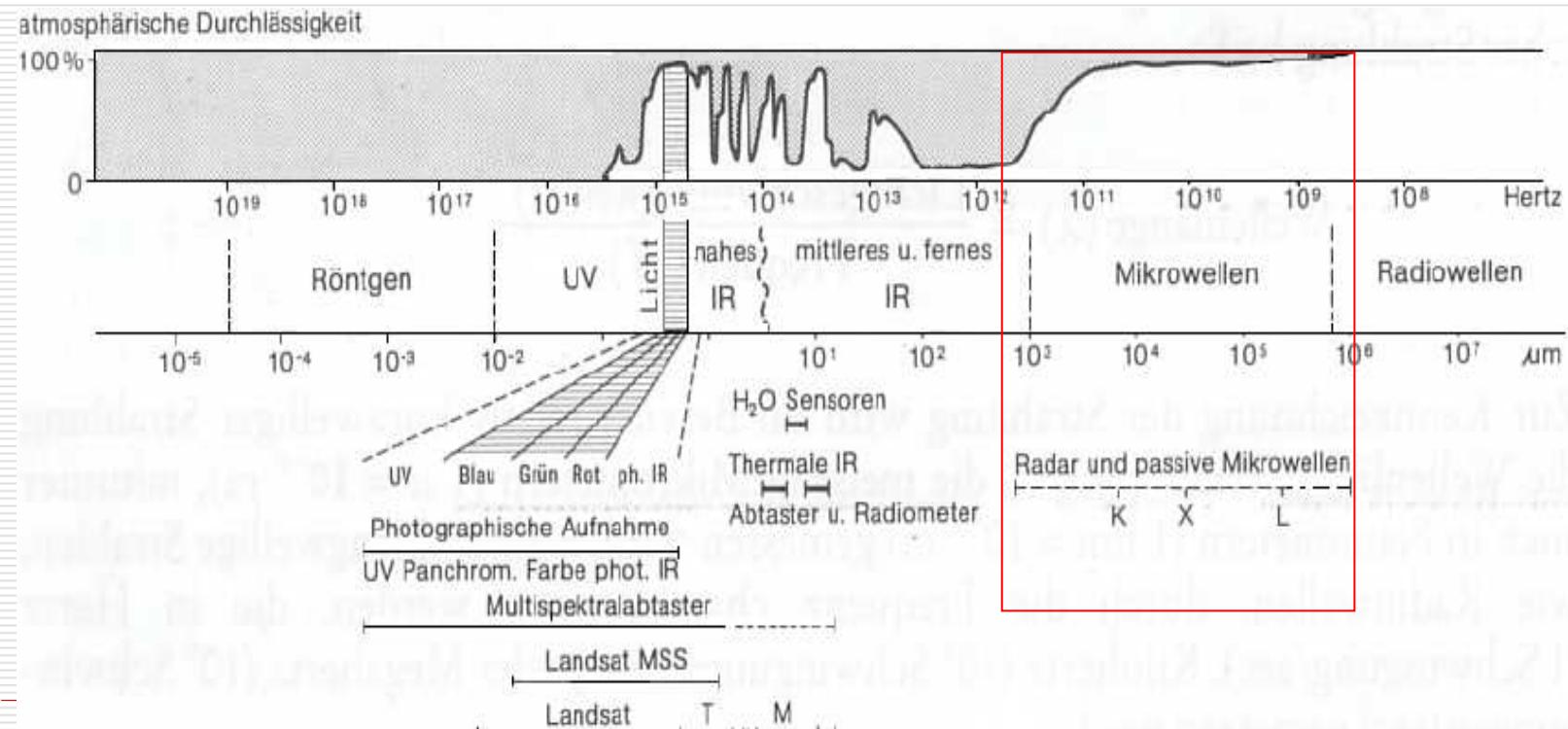
→Creating objects by:

- shape
- size
- color
- pattern
- shadow
- texture



RADAR Remote Sensing

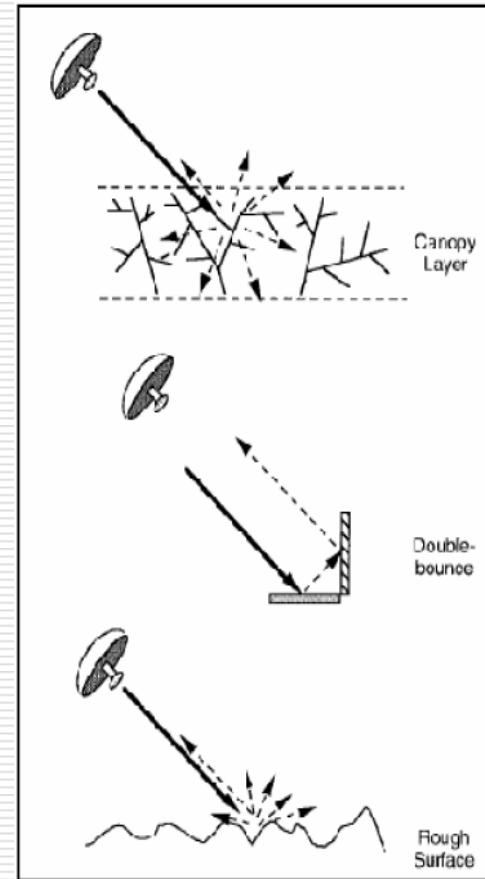
- RADAR = Radio Detection and Ranging
- Often active system
- Backscatter of Microwaves (1 cm to 1 m)



(Löffler 1994:18)

RADAR Remote Sensing

- Can penetrate the surface
- Backscattering depends on:
 - Electrical properties (wetness)
 - Roughness
- Microwaves are polarized (sending & receiving)



(FREEMAN & DURDEN 1998:963)

RADAR Remote Sensing



(Google Earth 2009)



(E-SAR from Görmin: HH-Polarization)

Advantage / Disadvantage of RADAR RS

-Adavantages

-Active systems → day & night

-Can penetrate atmospheric „troubles“ (like clouds)

-Can penetrate the surface (depends on „wetness“ → soil moisture)

-Can used for biomass measurements (e.g. Polarization)

-multiple images can create height or elevation models (Interferometry)

→ Fields of application:

-Forest monitoring

-Agriculture

-Hydrology

-Cryosphere

-...

Advantage / Disadvantage of RADAR RS

-Disadvantages:

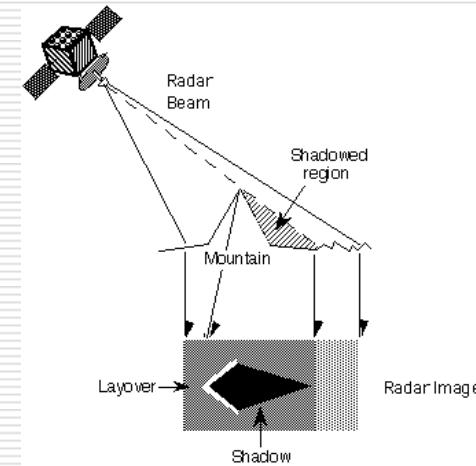
-Speckle(-Noise) (Salt & Pepper-Effect in homogeneous regions)

-Forshortening

-Layover

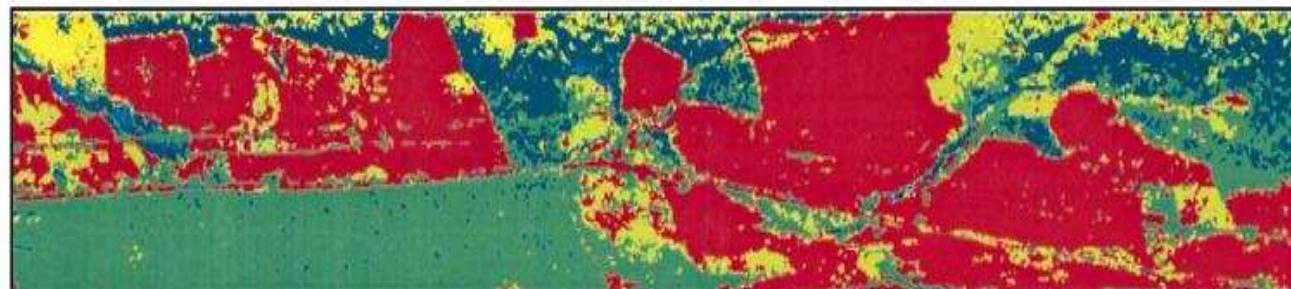
-Radarshadow

→Problems in heterogeneous reliefs



(<http://southport.jpl.nasa.gov/cdrom/sirced03/cdrom/DOCUMENT/HTML/TEACHERS/MODULE02/MOD2SECB.HTM>)

Examples of use – Forest monitoring



■ Primary Forest ($202.61 \text{ ton}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1} \pm 43.19$)

■ Advanced Secondary Succession ($87.72 \text{ ton}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1} \pm 33.79$)

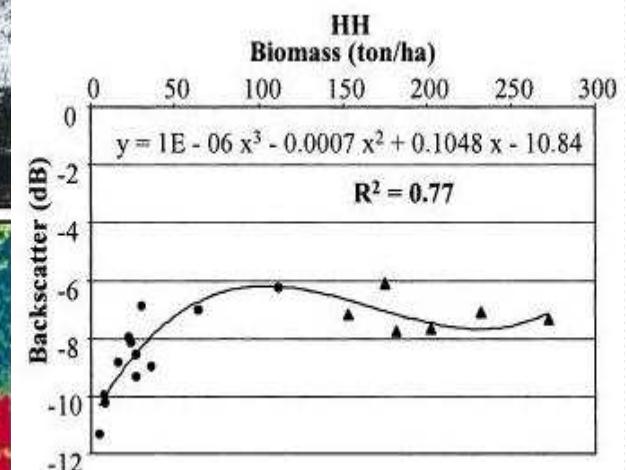
■ Intermediate Secondary Succession ($27.70 \text{ ton}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1} \pm 4.69$)

■ Initial Secondary Succession ($9.39 \text{ ton}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1} \pm 4.64$)

■ Crop/Pasture ($1.48 \text{ ton}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1} \pm 0.85$) and Bare Soil

■ Floodplain area

(Santos et al. 2003:491)



(Santos et al. 2003:489)

Examples of use – Elevation Models

-Famous topography mission by radar interferometry is SRTM

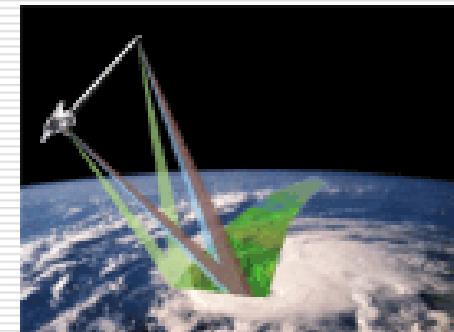
-Goal: 1st dataset of global land elevations

-Interference by combining two data sets

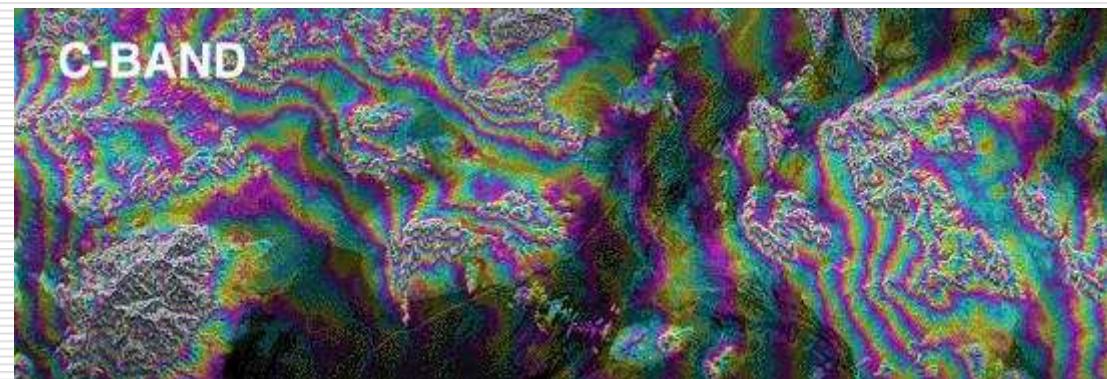
-Information about distance of two antennas

+ differences in reflected signal + flat earth

→ accurate elevation



(<http://www2.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/mission.htm>)



(<http://www2.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/images/bin/sc-irwin.gif>)

Examples of use – Elevation Models

Applications & animations by NASA JPL

<http://www2.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/multimed.htm>



(<http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/archive/PIA06674.gif>)

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