

ASI – Laura Candela

Earth Observation

The Italian Space Segment



COSMO-SkyMed highlights

Earth Observation

Capability to Multiple imaging modes / resolutions







COSMO-SkyMed SECOND GENERATION

Farth Observation



COSMO-SkyMed and Climate Change

Earth Observation

• Effects of global warming in the coldest regions on Earth:

– polar regions regular monitoring SAR data are able to provide information on the ice coverage, and size and shape of ice floes

- Effects of natural disasters caused by global changes
 - Floods, landslides ...

COSMO-SkyMed highlights

Earth Observation

Revisit time

In polar regions, due to its polar orbit, the COSMO-SkyMed 4-satellites can offer unique opportunities in term of time revisit and high coverage. At 70° latitude up to 8 right-looking and 8 left-looking acquisitions are feasible,

then right and left looking modes for each of the 4 satellites allows the coverage of large areas in a short time like in the case of the north-east and north-west pass covered in only 24 hours.

Acquisitions per day(4 satellites) (https://ftp.sovzond.ru/forum/2014/reports/Morucci.pdf)



To acquire a set (about 90) of sites and glaciers (also called supersites) with high-resolution X-band sensors, on the base of the priority level identified by the scientific community in Greenland and Antartic (3 levels).
To perform the coverage of the Antarctic coast Approach, General recommendations
Polarization HH
Stripmap acquisition mode (Time series)
with a incidence angle range 25 and 45 degrees (even 57 to cover South Pole).

BACKGROUND MISSION Started in May 2011



- The background mission applies a systematic low priority acquisition strategy, so to obtain regular, repetitive and comparable acquisitions and to minimize possible conflicts with existing user requests.
- Create an archive of images also dedicated to interferometric applications.
- Maximize the system exploitation during the operation lifetime of the constellation.

Studies

Earth Observation

COSMO-SkyMed SYSTEM EXPLOITATION

FOCUS ON POLAR AREAS STUDIES

The studies, on-going or concluded, conducted in the framework of agreements or projects activated with ASI by several Institutional users

Over the three-year period 2013-2015, 240 projects have been activated, the 8% of them regards studies of polar areas.

The majority have been activated in the framework of ASI-CSA JOINT AO, due to a strong interest in this topic from the Canadian reserachers (22% of 48 projects). The interest on these area is continuing in the framework of CURRENT CSK OPEN CALL (publicated on 25 February 2015 and PERMANENTLY OPEN





Distribution per thematic area of institutional projects on polar studies based on COSMO-SkyMed data exploitation (2013-2015)

The users have required mostly STRIPMAP HIMAGE over all thematic areas to carry out interferometric studies. The SPOTLIGHT sensor mode have been required mainly for permafrost studies, instead SCANSARWIDE for glaciers monitoring.

Italy participates in ESA CCI+

Earth Observation

Ice Sheets



Example of automated extraction of the glacier velocity field based on a pair of COSMO-SkyMed High resolution (Spotlight 2) images collected on Perito Moreno glacier (Argentina) with a time interval of 16 days and the same observing geometry(Date: 2009/02/02 and 2009/02/18,pol. VV, Inc. Angle 40°)



Earth Observation

Greenland and Antarctica 2014 and onwards

Approach:

Acquisition geometries of plans chosen in order

- □ Stripmap mode (3-5 m res., 40 km swath),
- □ HH, asc/ desc directions, right look side,
- $\hfill\square$ incidence angles between 25° $\,$ 45° $\,$,
- Time resolution of 4 or 8 dais (glaciers lev3, higher proirity), 16 days (glaciers lev 2 and 1, antartic coast)
- ScanSAR wide region mode (30 m resolution, 100 km swath)
- ScanSAR huge region mode (100 m resolution, 200 km swath)





Antartic (left) and Greenland (right) Glacier monitored, Antartic Cost Coverage (left)

	Number of Glacers acquired	Acquisition number per orbital cycle
Greenland	53 (<mark>11 level. 3</mark> 16 level 2 26 level 1)	156
Antartica	33 (<mark>6 level 3</mark> 6 level 2 21 level 1)	244
Antartic Coast	-	496

Copernicus Emergency Management Service

Earth Observation



 EMSR097: Floods in Bangladesh



PRISMA

— Earth Observation



Vegetation

Earth Observation

In the framework of forestry and agriculture PRISMA can provide

- Estimation and mapping of soil organic carbon (SOC) in agricultural fields that is a relevant variable in the quantification of the balance of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) and in studies dealing with the mitigation of climatic change
- Mapping of vegetation stress (water, chemical)
- Vegetation Classification





MSI (Moisture Stress Index) maps from Landsat TM (Box (b)), acquired on 27 July 2003) and Hyperion (Box (c)), acquired on 26 July 2003) data. In the Box (a) it is shown the orto-photo with the dominant Corine Land Cover class (Natural grassland with trees and shrubs). MSI values based on hyperspectral information capture worse conditions in terms of water deficit/stress with respect to values derived from multispectral data. This is in line with the climatic trend of the year 2003, which was characterized by extremely high temperatures over the whole Europe and also for the investigated area located in Northern Sicily.

Vegetation

Earth Observation



Hyperspectral satellite image (Hyperion) acquired in Maccarese (Rome) and estimated soil variables maps concerning soil moisture, clay and soil organic carbon (SOC).

Aerosol

Earth Observation

Hyperspectral satellite observations may be fruitfully applied to better characterize atmospheric aerosol and their effects on the climate system.



Identification of key minerals in desert dust suspended in the atmosphere from a Hyperion image during the Saharan dust event of August 2001 over Southern Italy. The MODIS images on the left show the daily sequence of the Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) over South-Western Europe. The Hyperion scene in the centre was acquired north of Sicily, and the reflectance between 2100 and 2350 nm over the sea is analyzed. Key minerals in dust were recognized by Spectral Angle Mapper (SAM) method, and the relative abundance by Linear Spectral Unmixing (LSU). The uncertainty in the estimated abundance is very high due to the instrument noise

Volcanoes

• Earth Observation

The carbon dioxide (CO_2) gas by absorbing electromagnetic radiation in several regions of solar spectrum, plays an important role on the earth radiation budget, although his concentration is low compared to other atmospheric gases (N2, O2).

Hyperspectral data can provide:

Identification and estimate of volcanic gas emission in the atmosphere



Simulation of volcanic carbon dioxide content from Mt. Etna summit craters based on PRISMA characteristics.

Volcanoes

• Earth Observation

Volcanic plumes have an impact on the climate



Left: Strombolian explosion picture. Right: Measurement of volcanic carbon dioxide content from Strombolian explosion retrieved using airborne MIVIS hyperspectral data acquired on 1997 with 3 m of ground spatial resolution (from Spinetti et al., 2012).

Vs. Copernicus



- Earth Observation

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