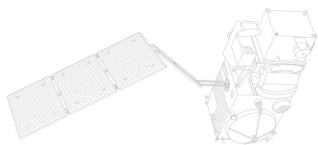


→ SAR ALTIMETRY TRAINING COURSE

# SAR Altimetry over the Polar Ocean

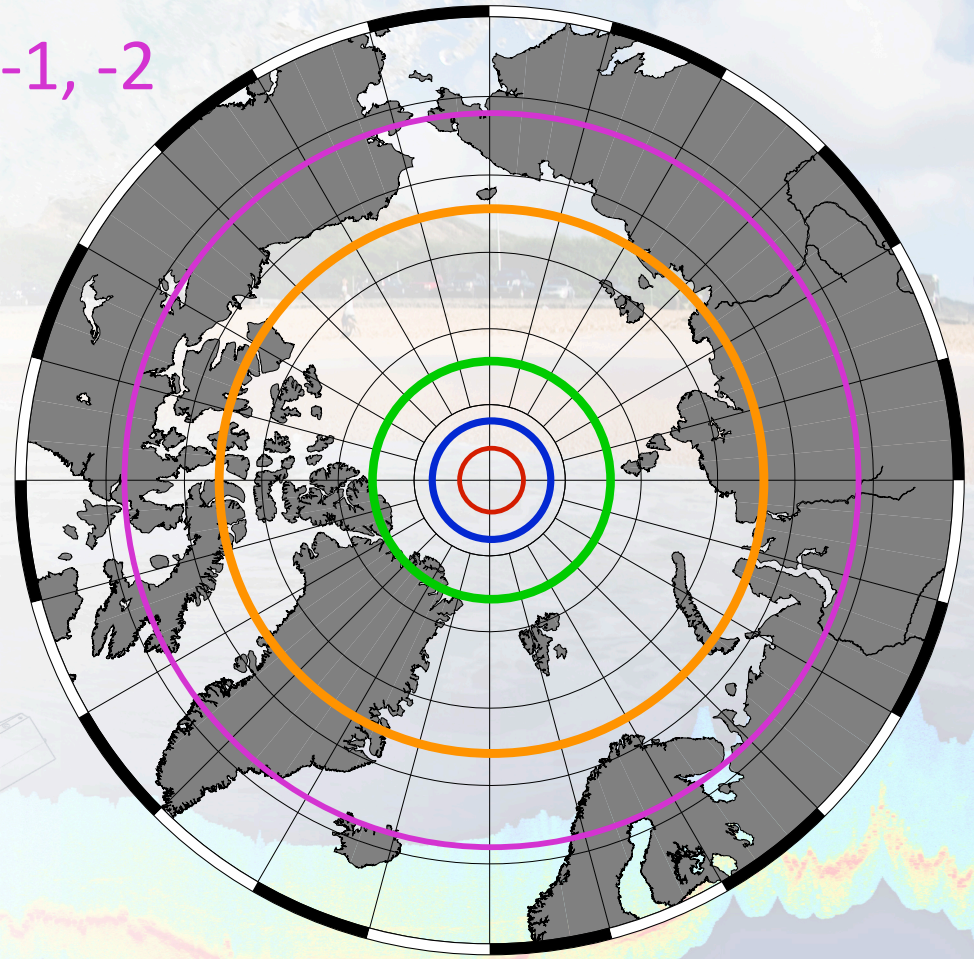
Lars Stenseng  
DTU Space

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21–22 October 2014 | Lake Constance | Germany

- TOPEX/Poseidon, Jason-1, -2
- Geosat, GFO
- ERS-1, -2, ENVISAT
- IceSat
- CryoSat-2



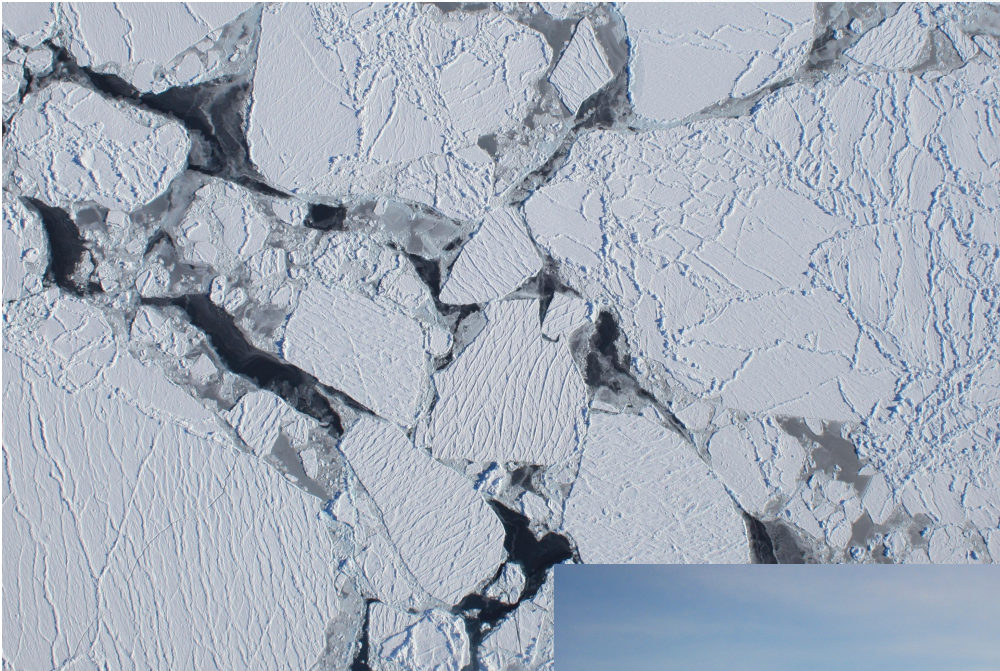


Photo: NASA

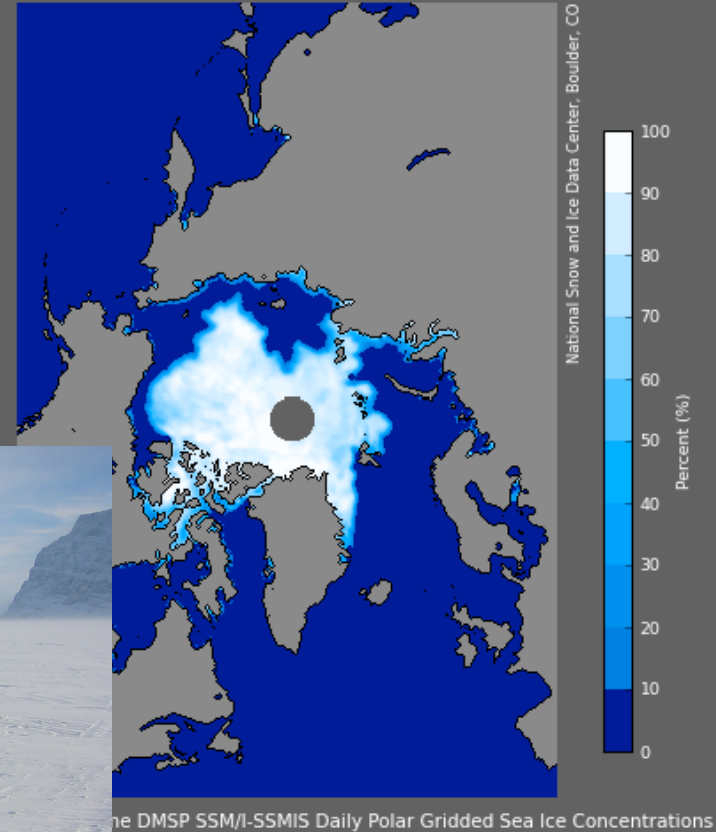


Photo: DTU Space



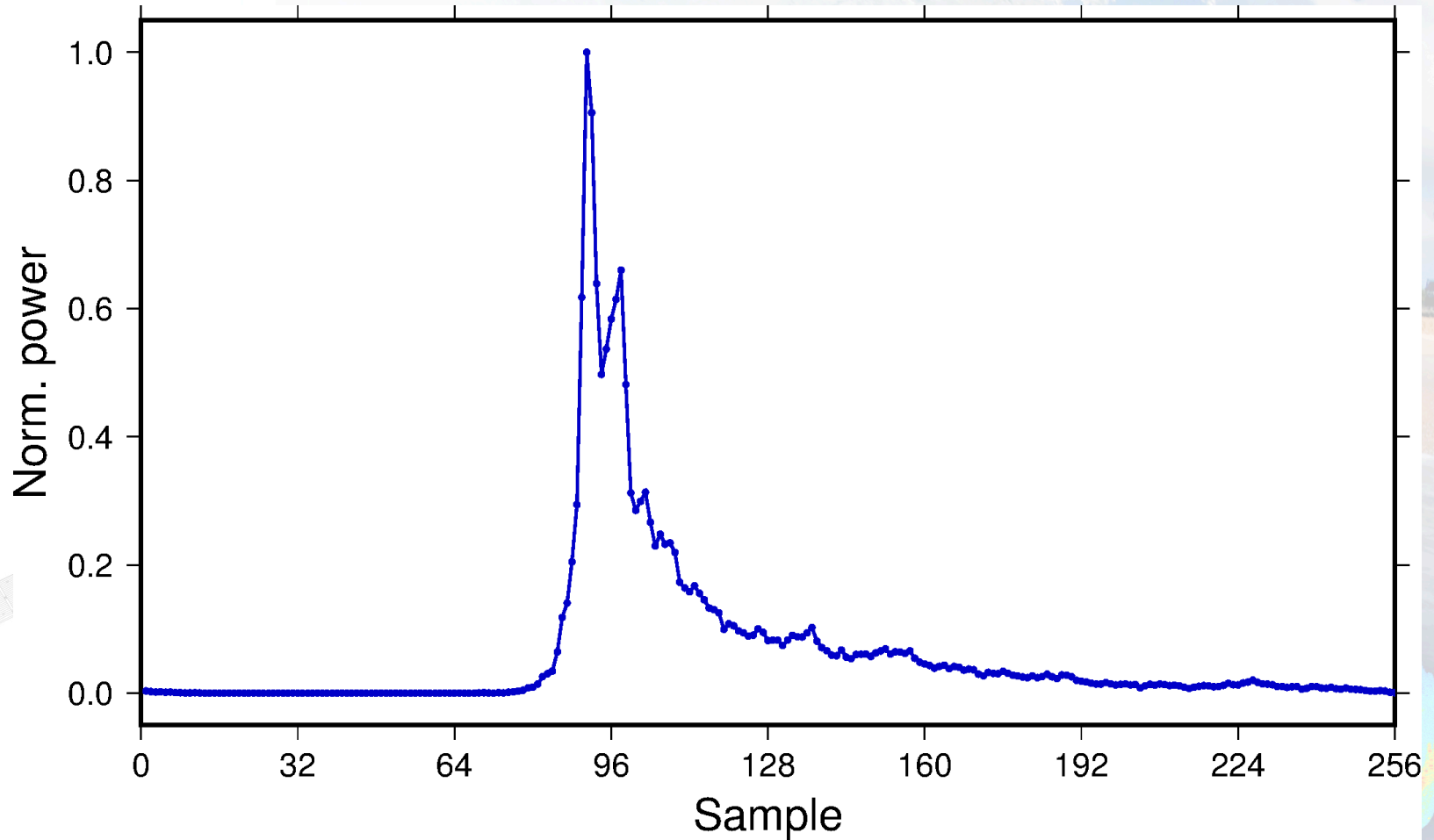
## Sea ice concentration last week

10/15/2014



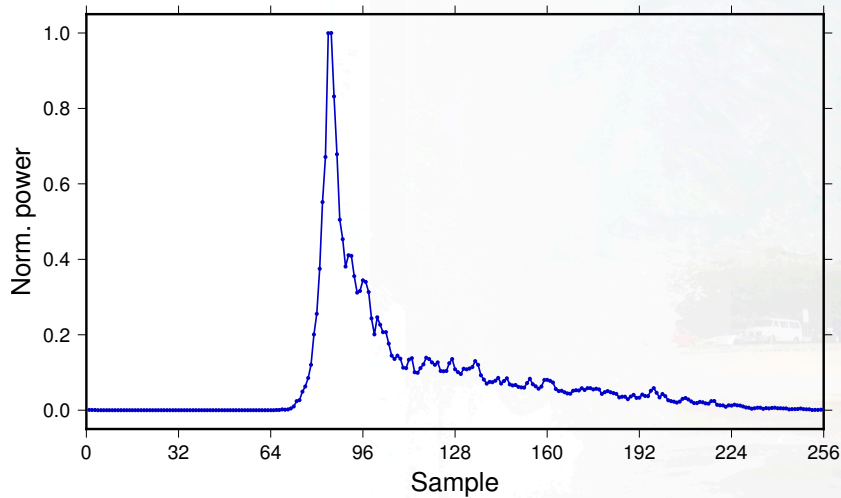
the DMSP SSM/I-SSMIS Daily Polar Gridded Sea Ice Concentrations

National Snow and Ice Data Center  
Maslanik and Stroeve 1999

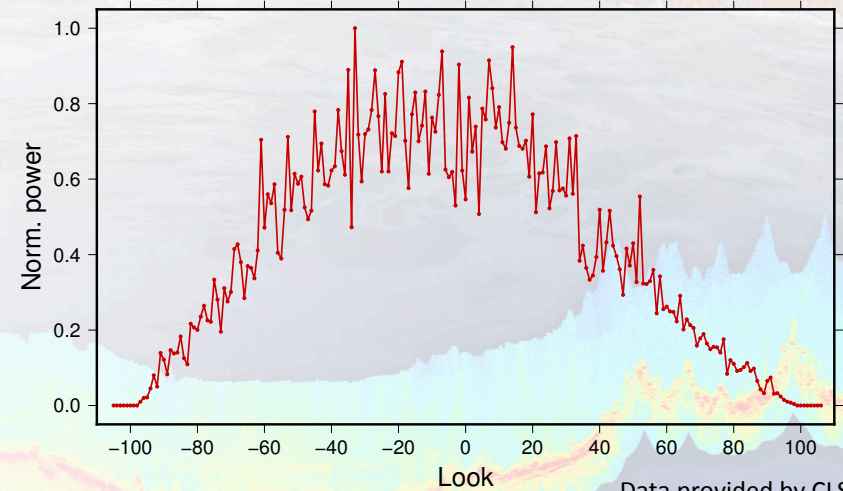
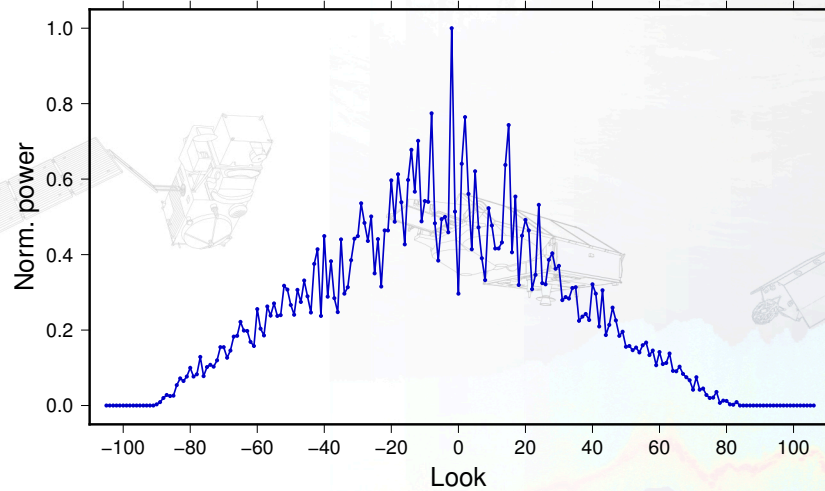
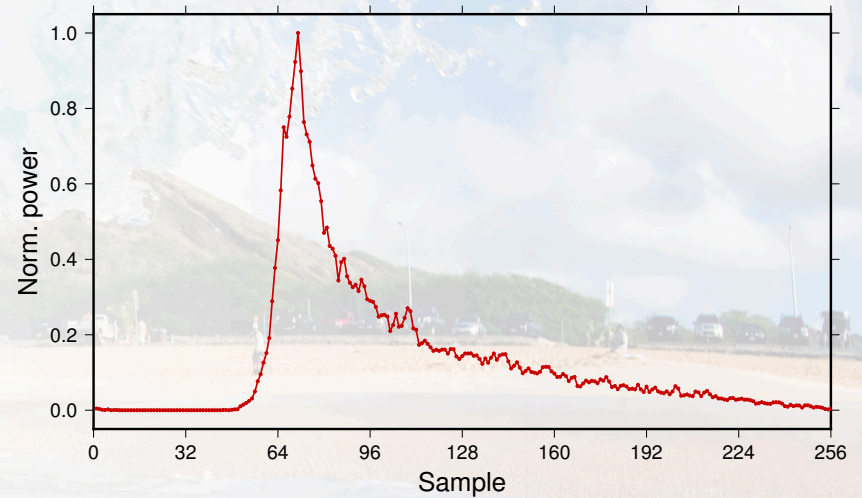


Data provided by CLS/CNES

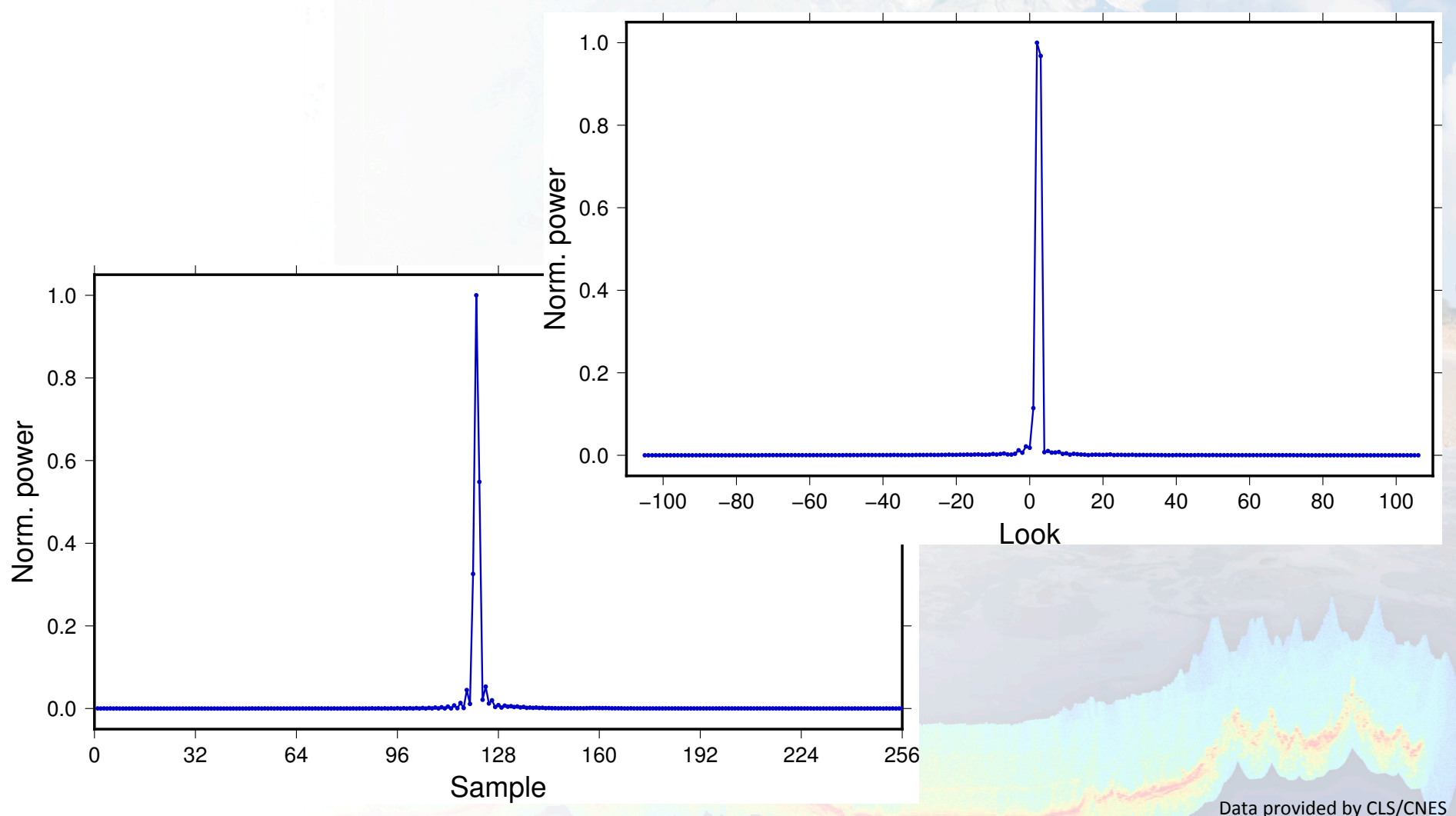
### Arctic waveform



### Ocean waveform

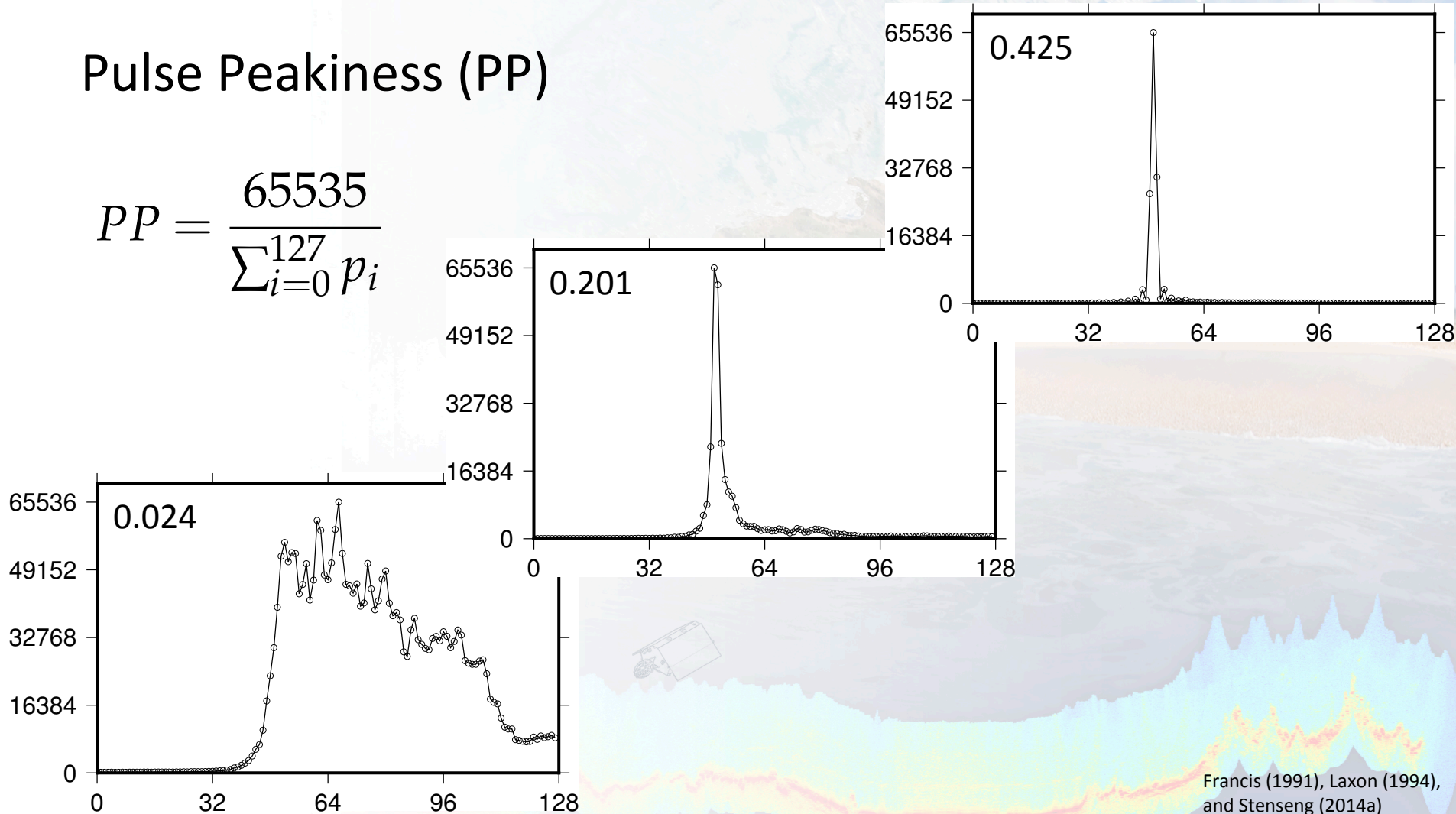


Data provided by CLS/CNES



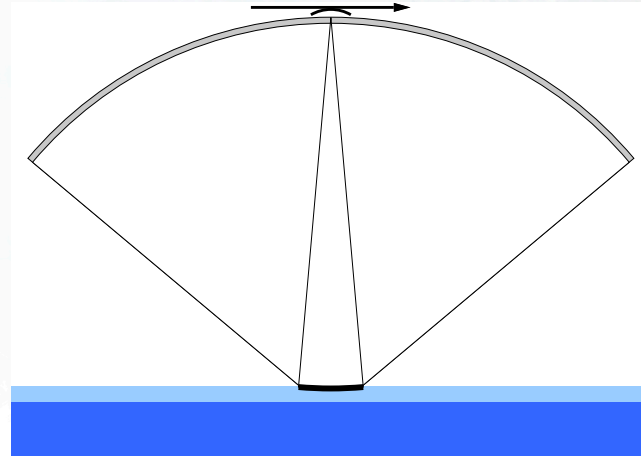
## Pulse Peakiness (PP)

$$PP = \frac{65535}{\sum_{i=0}^{127} p_i}$$

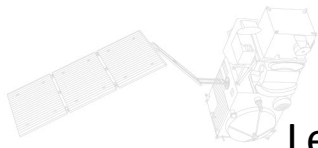
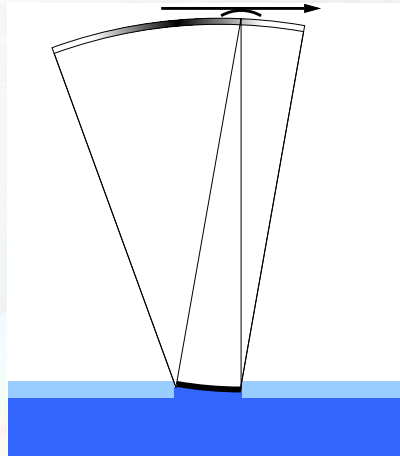


Francis (1991), Laxon (1994), and Stenseng (2014a)

Sea ice

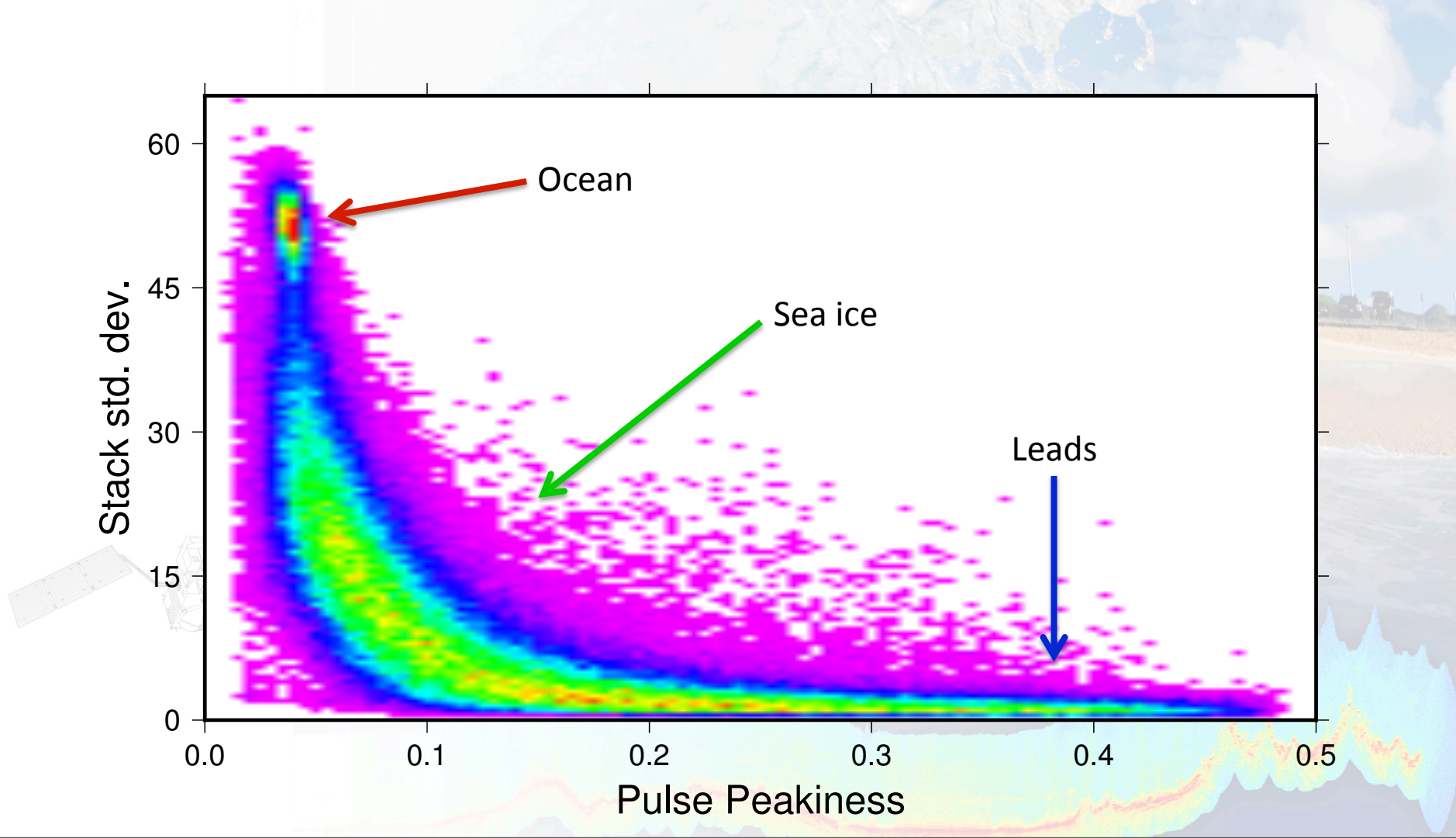


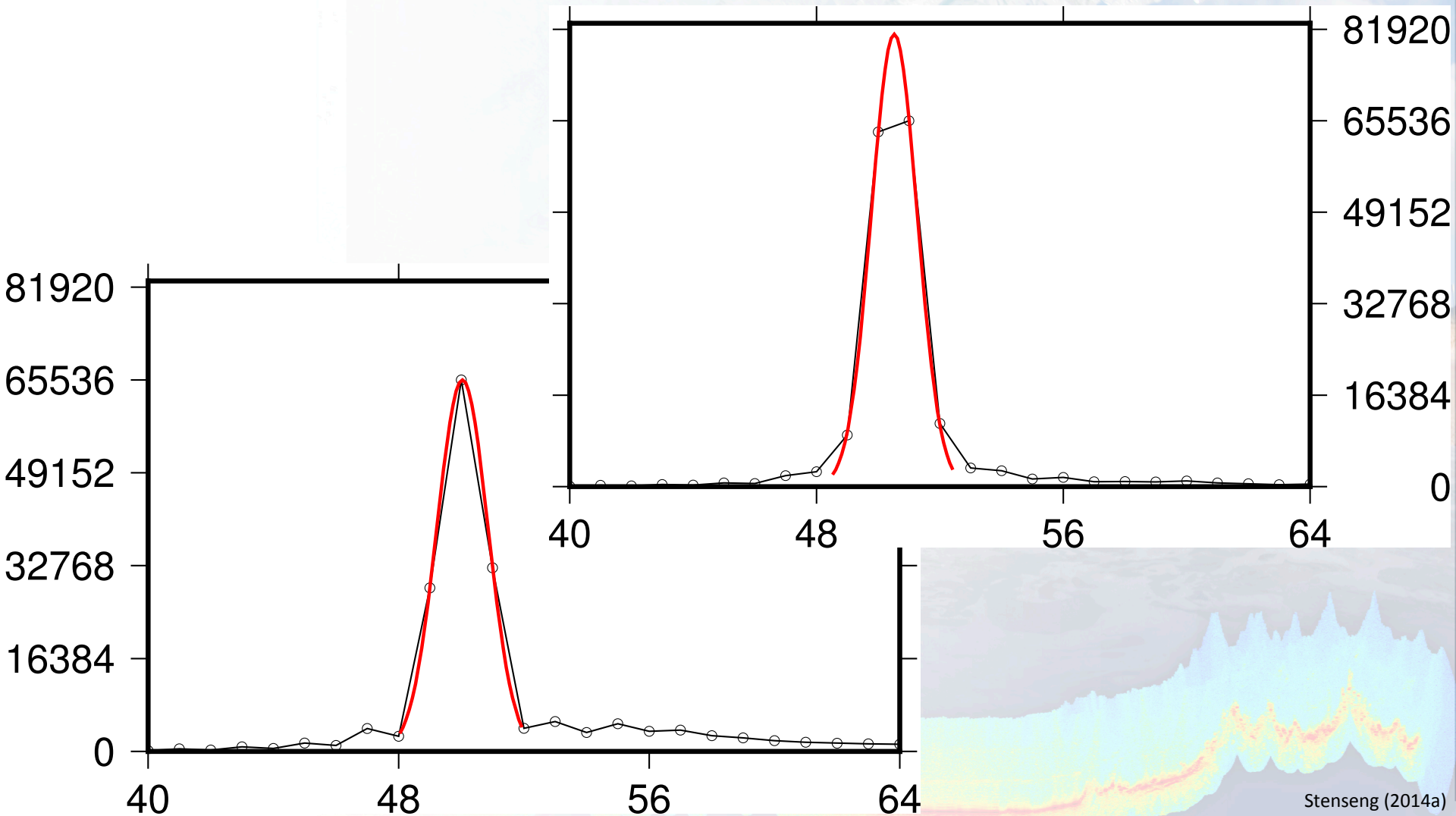
Lead in sea ice



Stenseng (2014a)



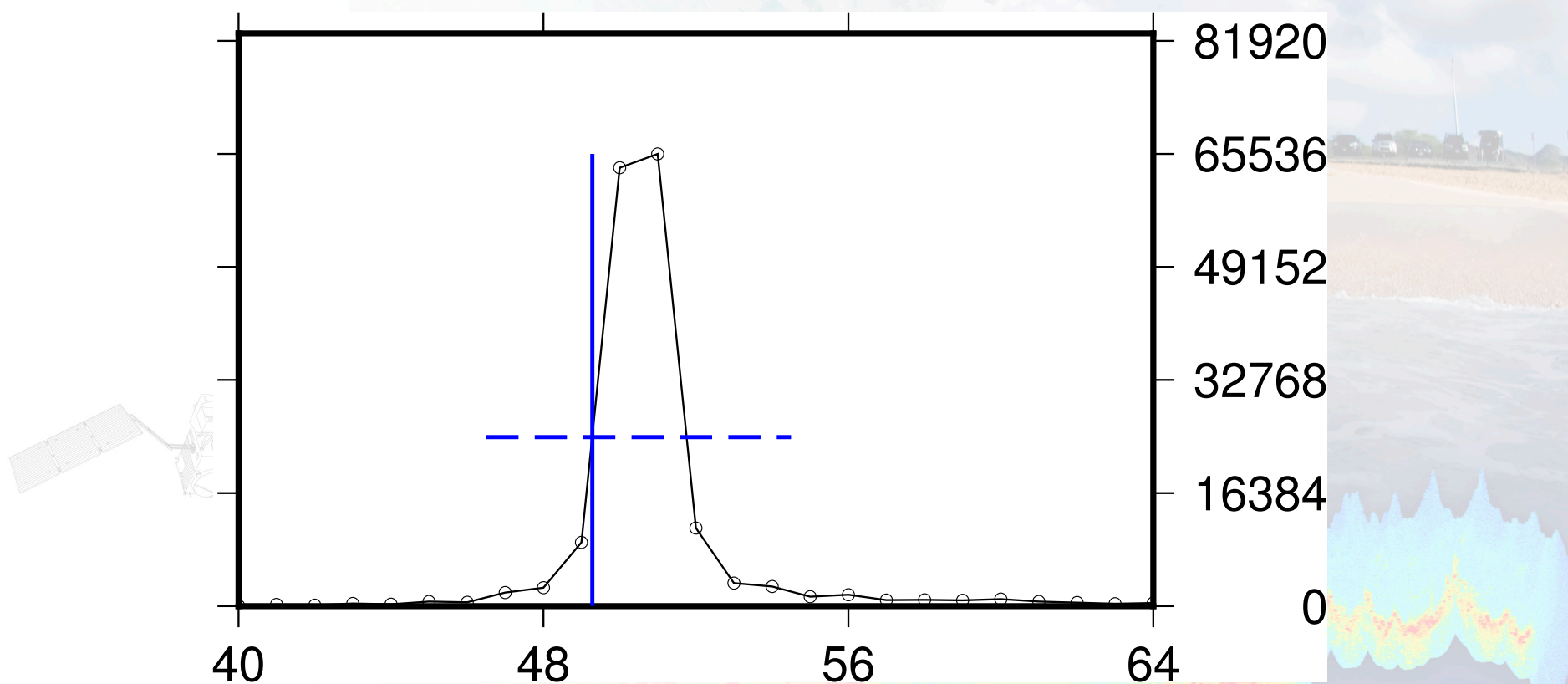




Stenseng (2014a)

$$P_b = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{i=m-2}^{m+2} p_i$$

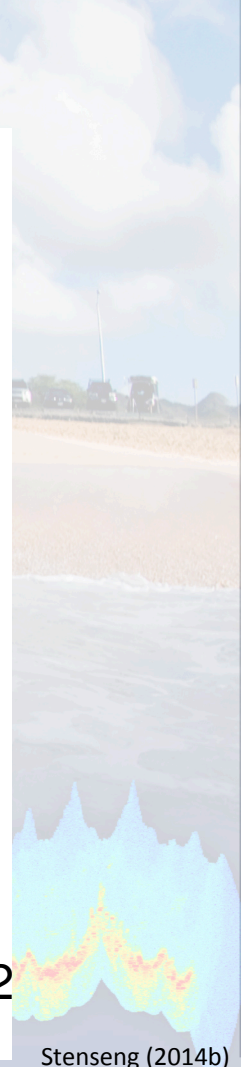
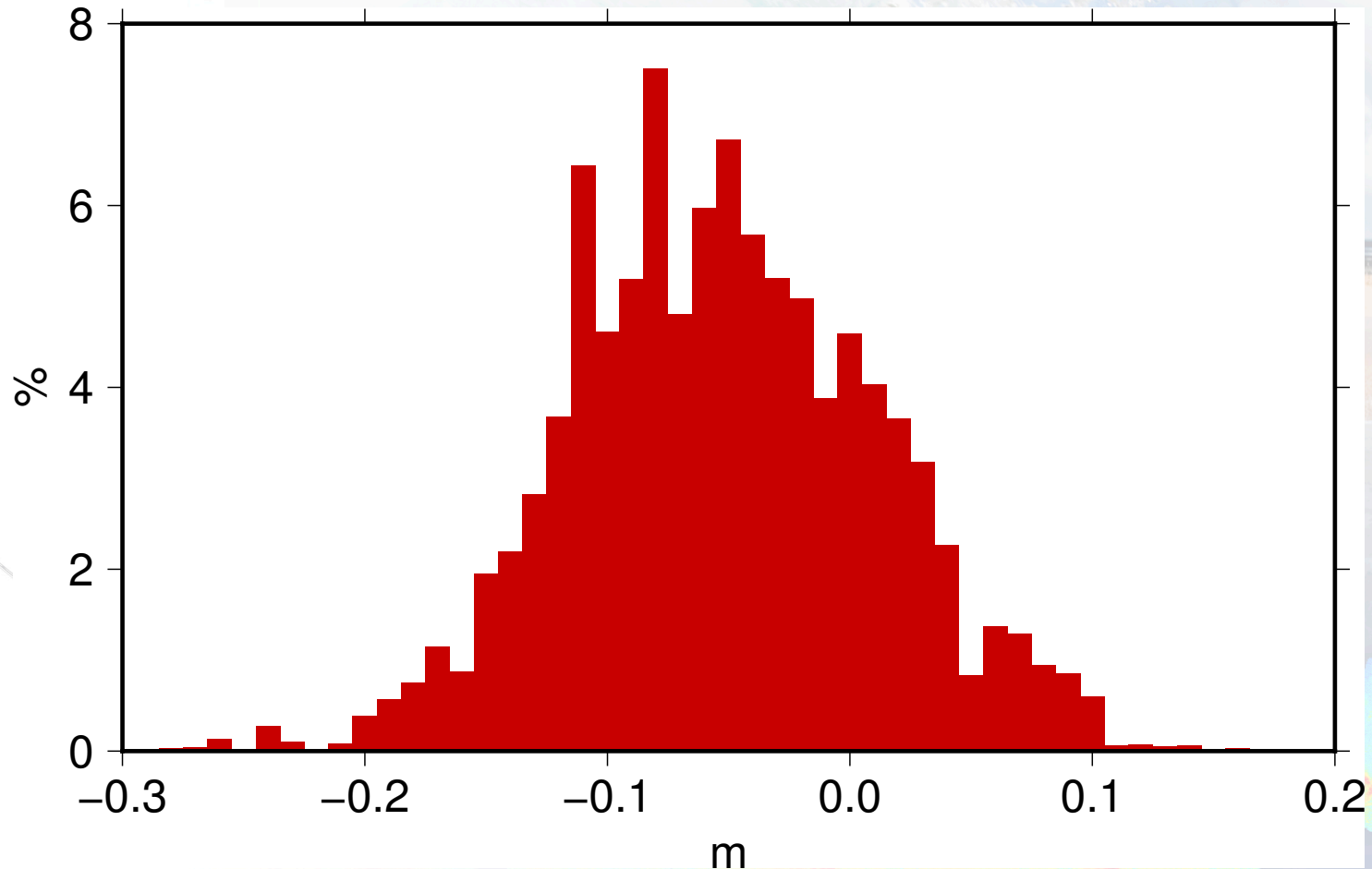
$$E = \frac{F_T \cdot P_b - p_{j-1}}{p_j - p_{j-1}} + j - 1$$



Davis (1997) and Stenseng (2011/2014a)

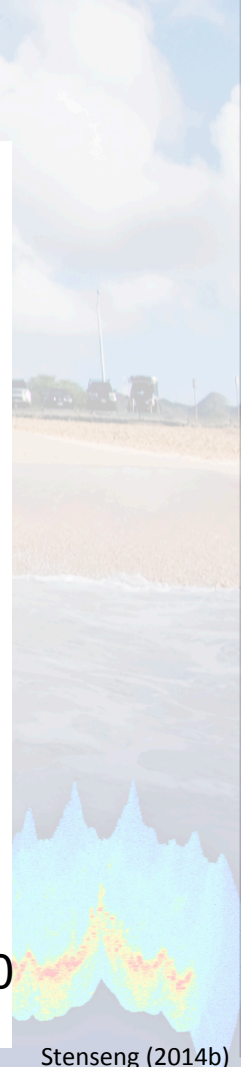
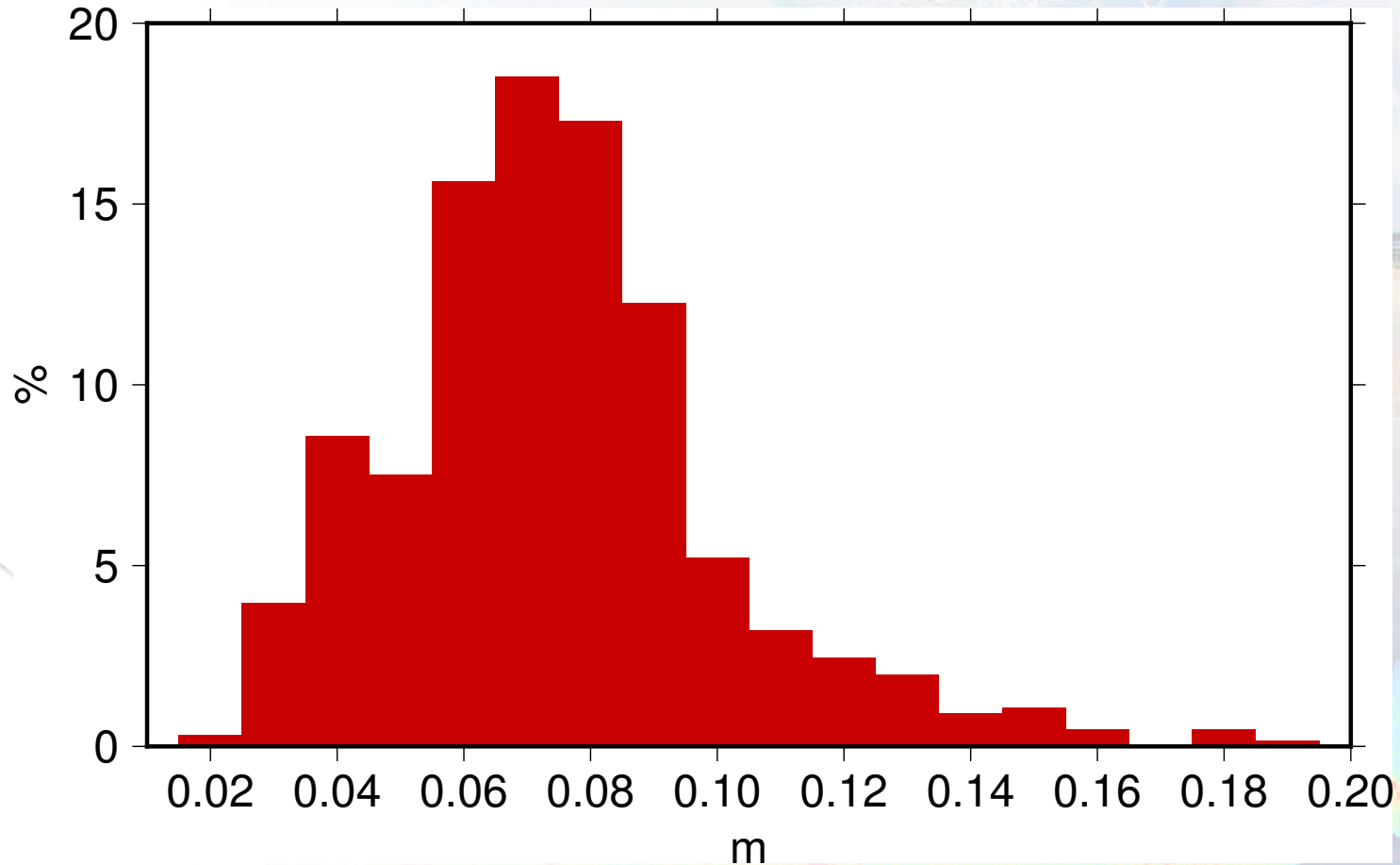
- Validation: DTU13 Mean Sea Surface
  - <20% of the observations is useful
  - Std. dev. calculated per track, not 1 Hz std. dev.
- Validation: IceBridge mission
  - ~15 dedicated CryoSat-2 under flights (3 used)
  - Georeferenced aerial photo for lead detection
  - Laser altimeter for sea surface height

Mean track difference: -5.2 cm

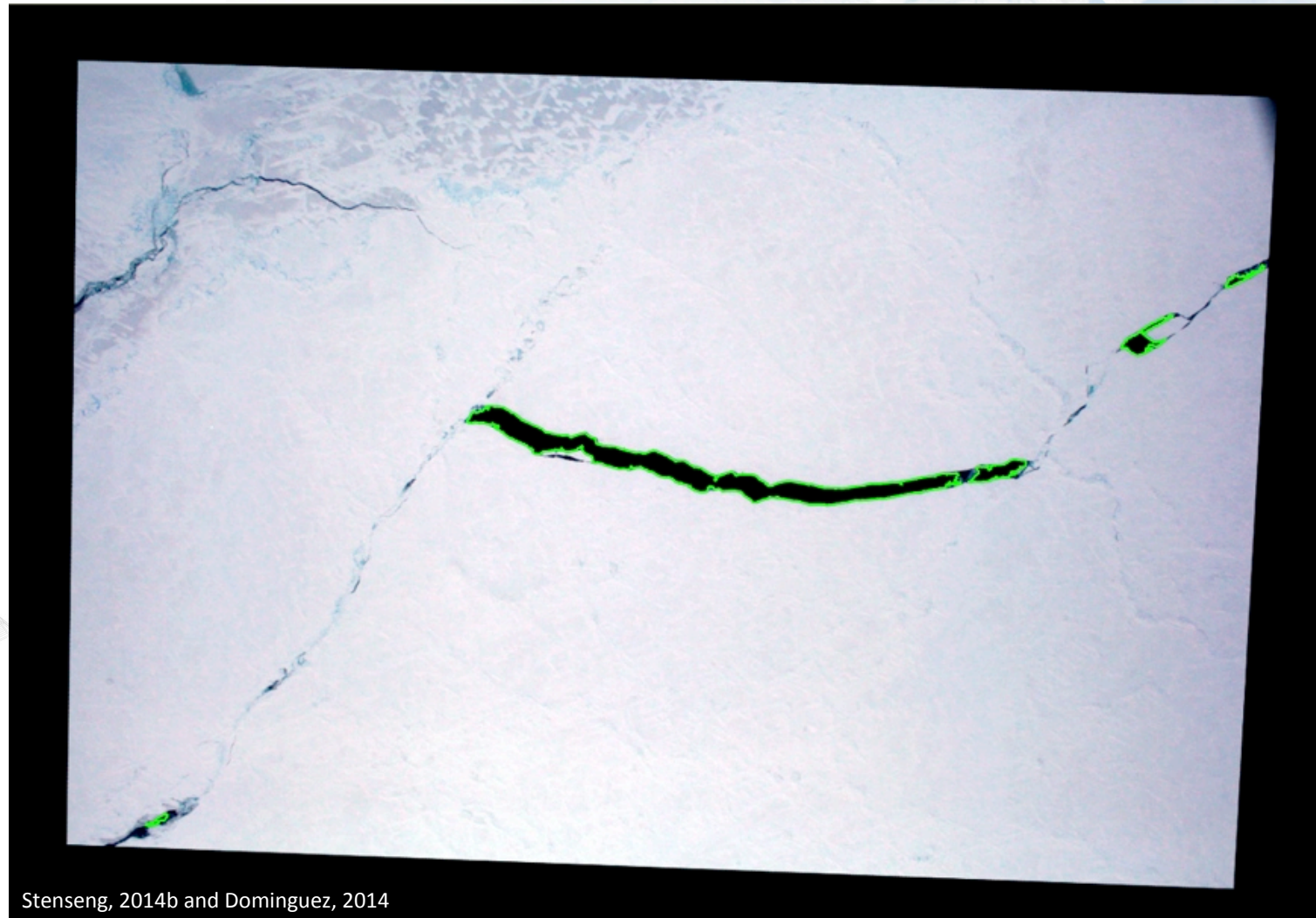


Stenseng (2014b)

Track standard deviation: 7.4 cm

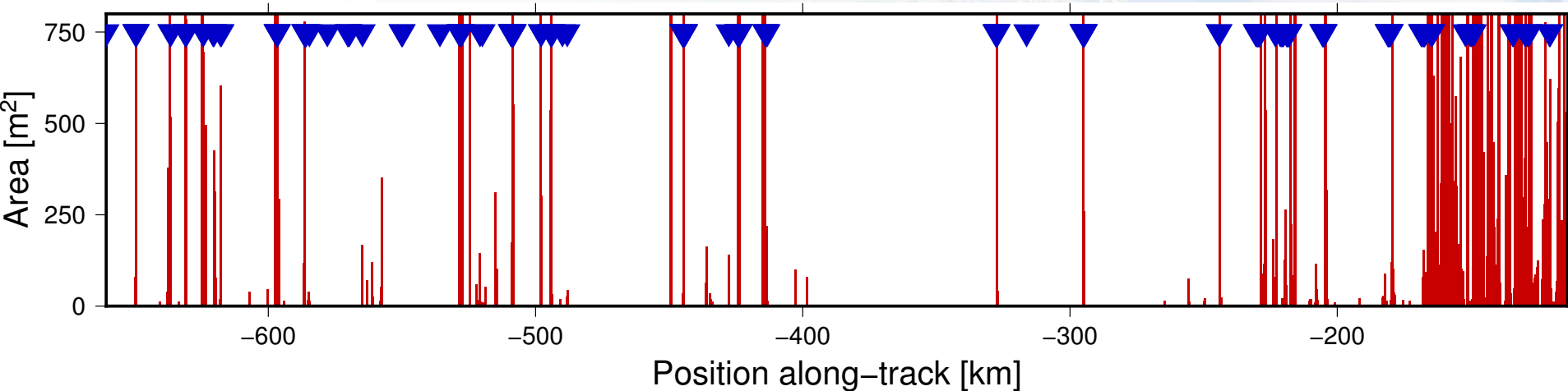


Stenseng (2014b)



Stenseng, 2014b and Dominguez, 2014

## Leads in aerial photos and CryoSat-2 data

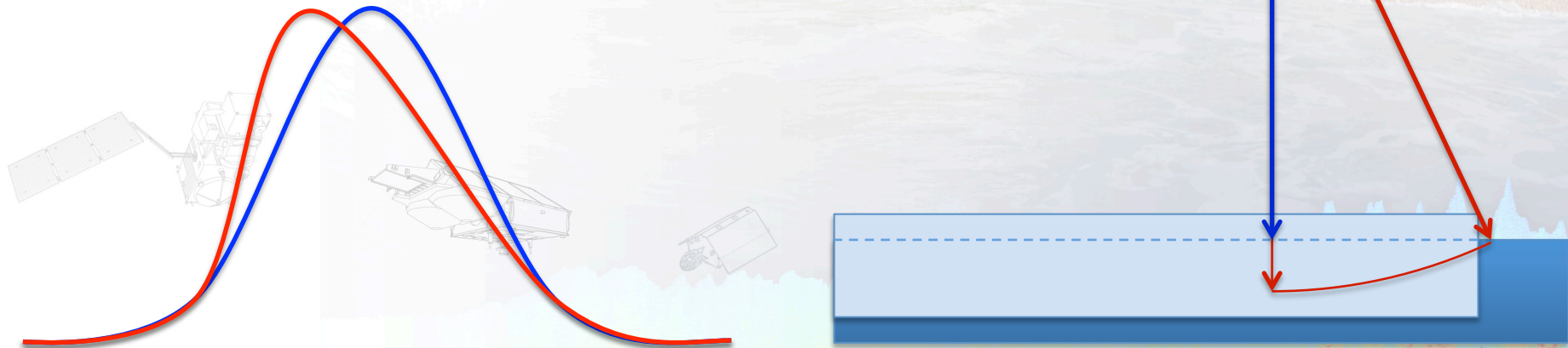


- Detected ~80% of leads >500 m<sup>2</sup>
- LiDAR observations ~4 cm std. dev.
- Mean difference 0 cm **Only 34 collocated observations**

Stenseng (2014b)

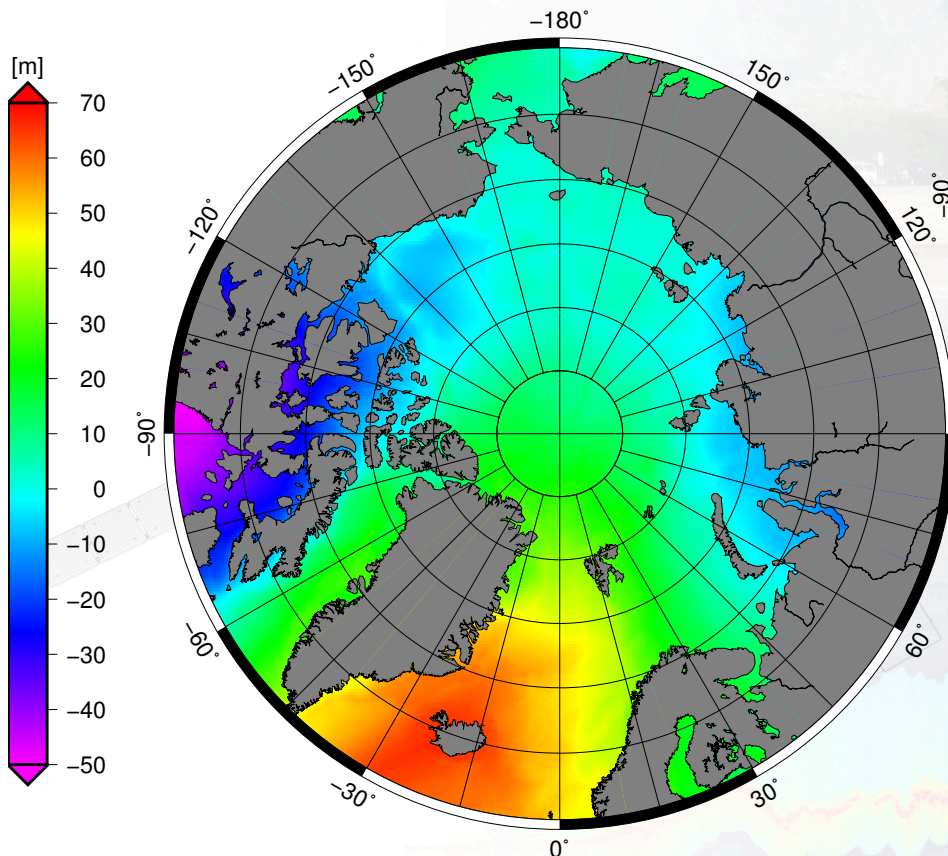


- Bright off nadir targets dominates
- Range to target longer → surface lower
- Cross-track angle from SARin (the Wingham box)
  - CryoSat-2 SARin mode: accuracy over precision
  - Only 1 burst per radar cycle (vs. 4 in SAR)

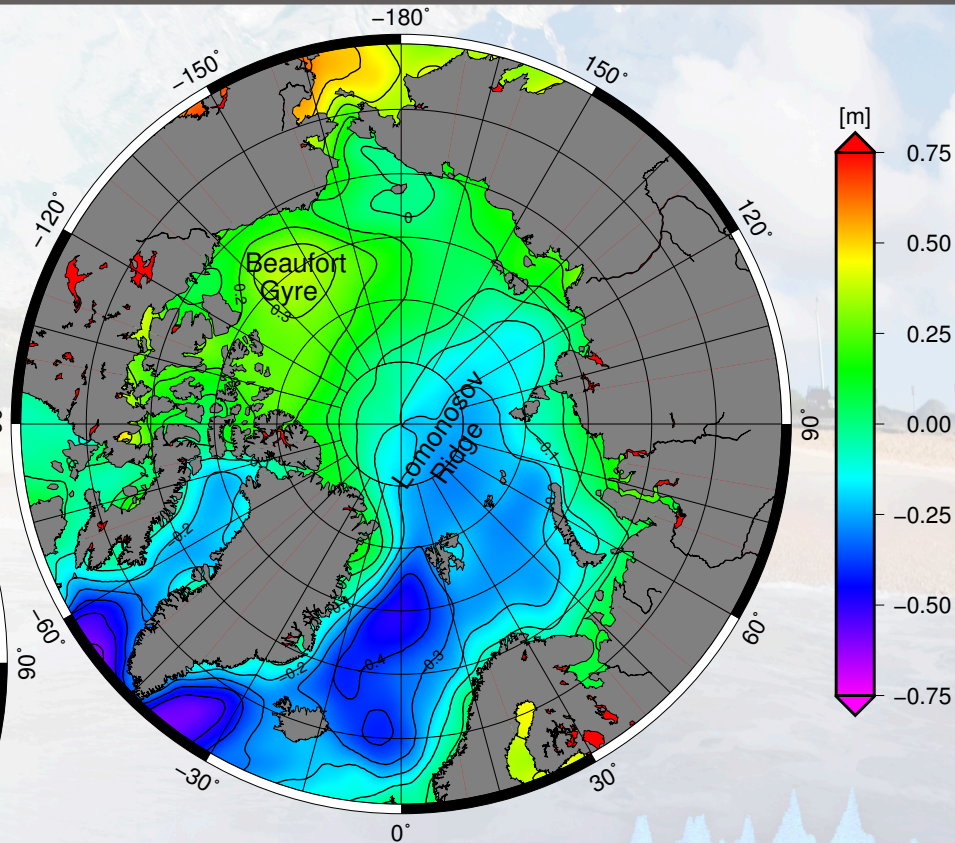


Stenseng (2014b), Armitage and Davidson (2014)

DTU13 Mean Sea Surface



DTU13 Mean Dynamic Topography



<ftp://ftp.space.dtu.dk/pub/DTU13>

Stenseng et al. (2013/2014)

# Questions? If you are still awake!



- Armitage, T. W. K. and Davidson, M. W. J. (2014). Using the Interferometric Capabilities of the ESA CryoSat-2 Mission to Improve the Accuracy of Sea Ice Freeboard Retrievals. *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 52(1):529-536.
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- Stenseng, L. and Andersen, O. B. (2013). Improving the arctic mean sea surface with cryosat-2 data. In *2013 Fall Meeting, AGU, San Francisco, Calif., 9-13 Dec.*, number G41B-0937.
- Stenseng, L. (2011). Polar remote sensing by CryoSat-type radar altimetry. PhD thesis, DTU Space, National Space Institute.