

# Potential of SIOS's airborne imaging sensors in Svalbard



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# SIOS – a Norwegian initiated international collaboration to create a regional observing system

## The Observing System

- A cooperating international research infrastructure for improved knowledge of environmental and climate change in the Arctic
- Focus to answer Earth System Science questions
- Systematic long term observations – stable over time, yet dynamic as new questions from society arise
- Minimizing environmental footprint, optimizing measurements and resources, new technologies, remote sensing, integration of data
- Open, free and harmonized data
- **Improving research conditions** for scientists working in ESS

## The regional scope

- The Norwegian archipelago Svalbard and surrounding waters





## Remote Sensing Service



- **Single point of contact** for satellite information for Svalbard
- Information about **opportunities** and on **how to use** satellite data
- Streamlined **access to EC Copernicus** programme satellite data for Svalbard
- Working together with product users and providers **to improve the usability** of satellite data
- Providing **tools** for satellite data users
- Prioritized **geospatial product** generation



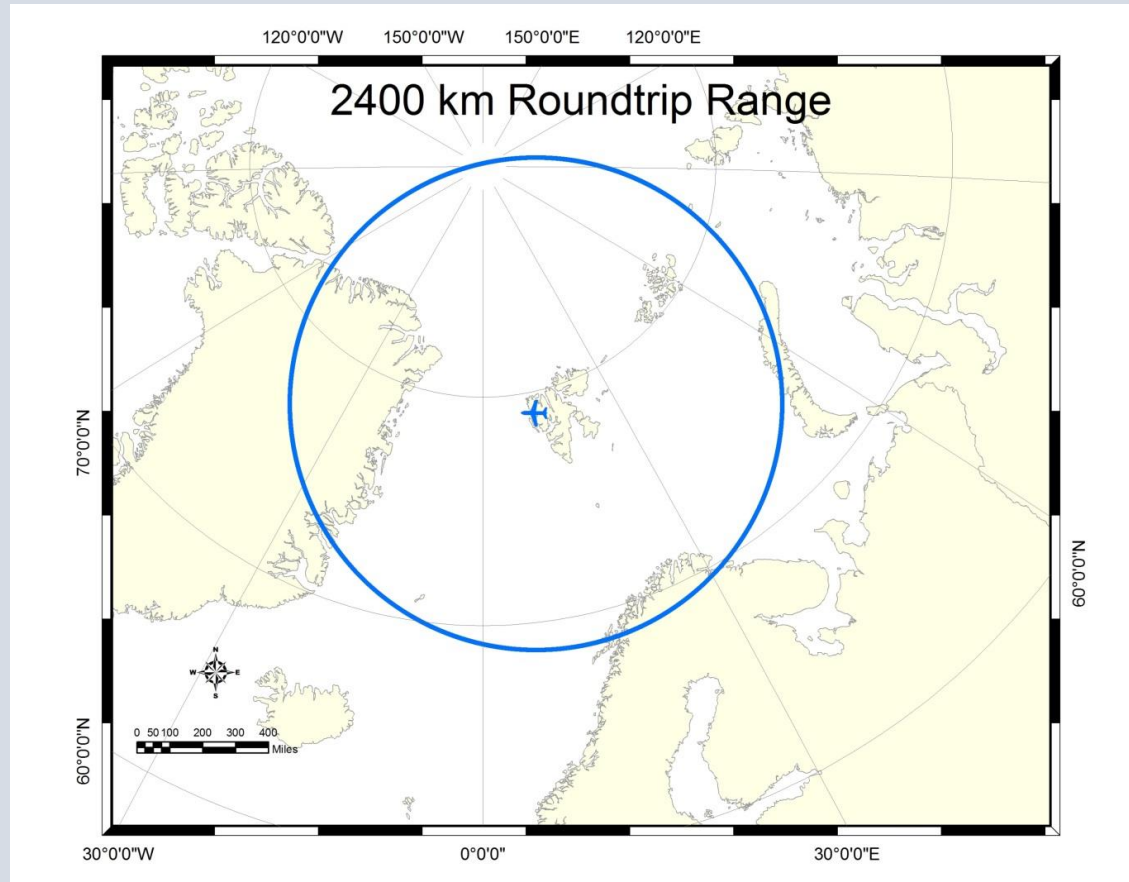


Norway's first passenger aircraft with high resolution  
remote sensing capabilities

# Current payload

- Hyperspectral Imagery (VNIR-1800, Norwegian Electro-Optics)
  - Detection and classification of objects based on spectral signature; vegetation, oil on water, algae
    - 400 - 1000 nm, 3.26 nm spectral resolution
    - 570 meter wide strip from 1000 m height with 0.30 m resolution
- Medium format camera (PhaseOne IXU-150, 50 Mpix)
  - High resolution images, 3D / Terrain model
    - 800 meter wide strip from 1000 m height with 0.1 m resolution
- Broadband Radio (Radionor)
  - Retrieve data from buoys, relays, data sharing, coordination and preparedness
    - 5.8Ghz, up to 15 Mbit / s and 200 km range
- AIS (Kongsberg Seatex)
  - Collection and sharing of AIS data. Better real-time coverage around Svalbard.
  - Seatex's first airborne AIS developed in the project
- GNSS (APLANIX POSAV V6 410)
  - Accurate and direct georeferencing of images and single pixels (0.5 pixel accuracy)

# Capability Lufttransport Dornier



# Airborne Remote Sensing Campaigns



## Sensors

- RGB camera and hyperspectral imager installed on Dornier aircraft stationed in Longyearbyen
- High resolution georeferenced images

## Opportunities

- First call in 2020 resulted in 25 flight hours for 10 projects
- Second call in 2021 resulted in 25 flight hours for 11 projects

**Data will be available eventually through SIOS Data Access Point**



# Airborne Remote Sensing Campaigns in Svalbard

## Campaigns 2020



10 projects, 25 flight hours

## Campaigns 2021



11 projects, 25 flight hours



# SIOS Hyperspectral Remote Sensing Training Course -2021

15 teachers  
80 applications  
35 selected participants

**17** PhD Students  
**04** Masters/Bachelors Students  
**06** Researchers  
**06** Postdocs  
**01** Educator  
**01** Industry

25 institutions from 11 nations

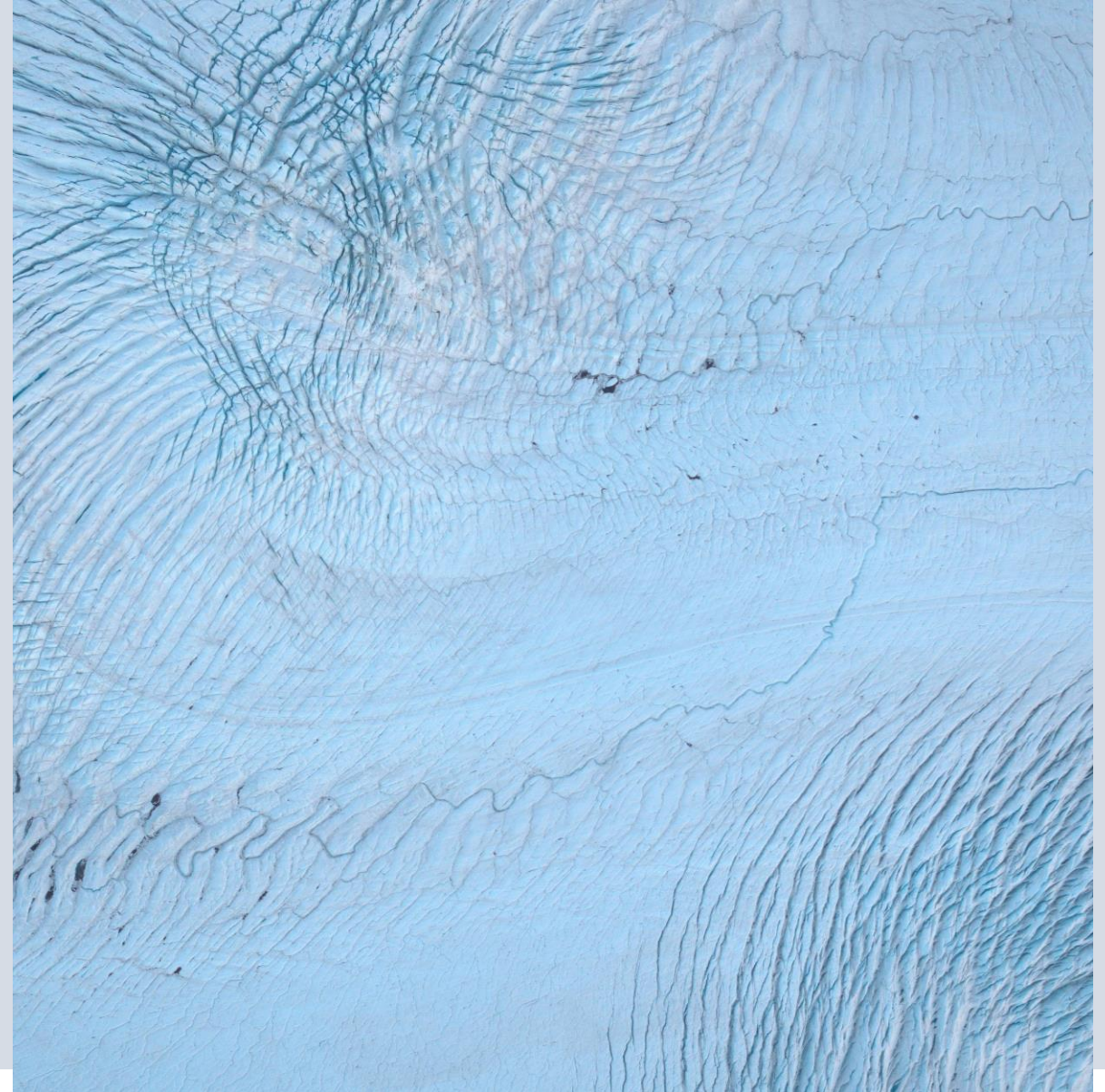
292 lecture series participants

10 mini projects



**Manuscript:** Potential of hyperspectral sensors in Svalbard (under prep)

# Dornier images for crevasse identification



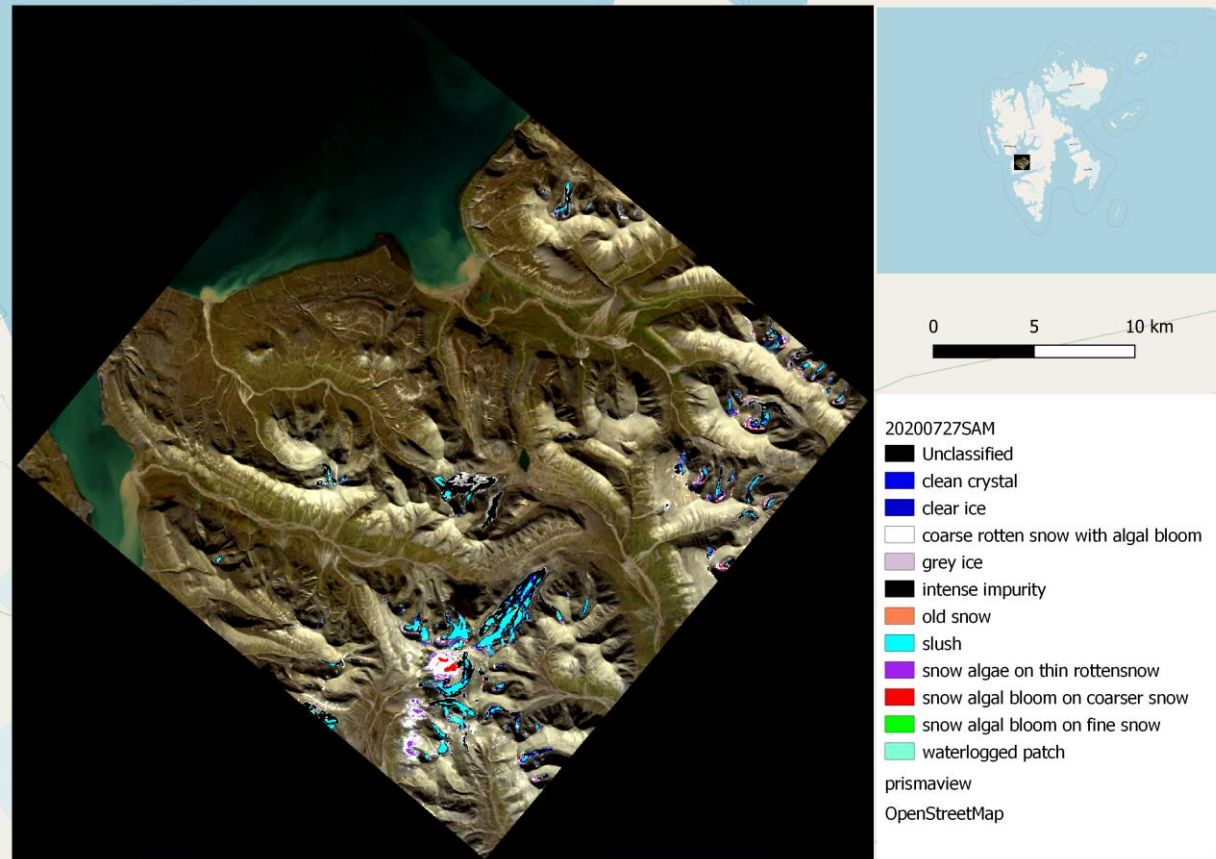
# Dornier images for crevasse identification



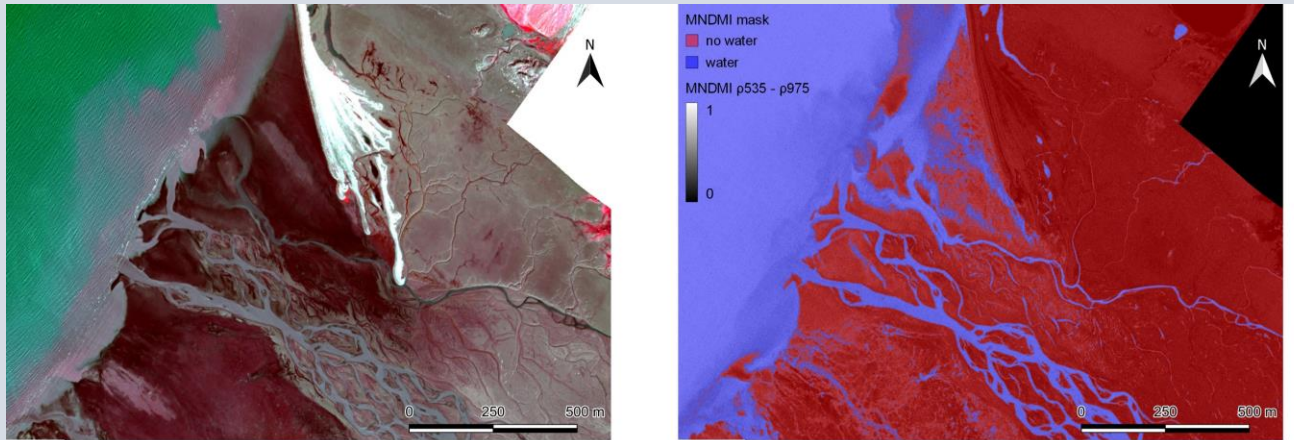
# Dornier images for reindeer counting



# Glacier classification using SAM

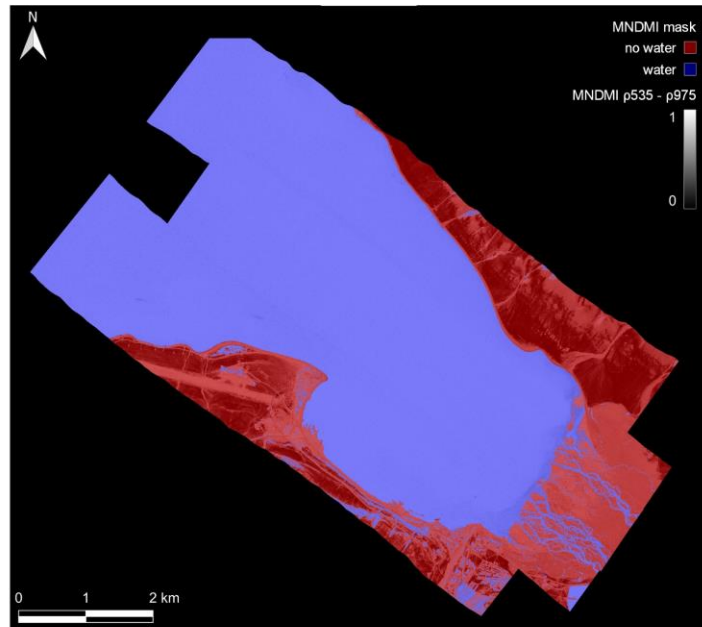


# Waterbody mapping



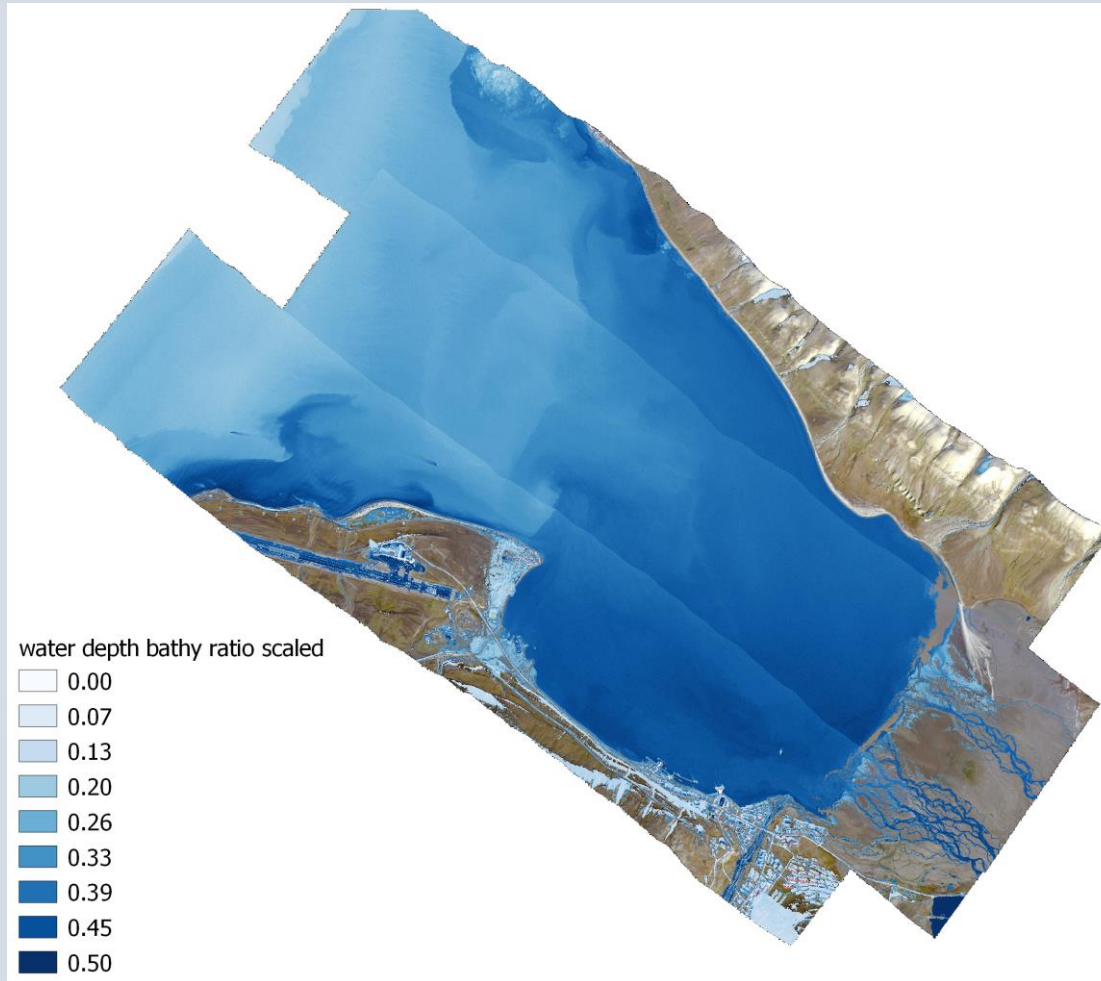
(a)

(b)



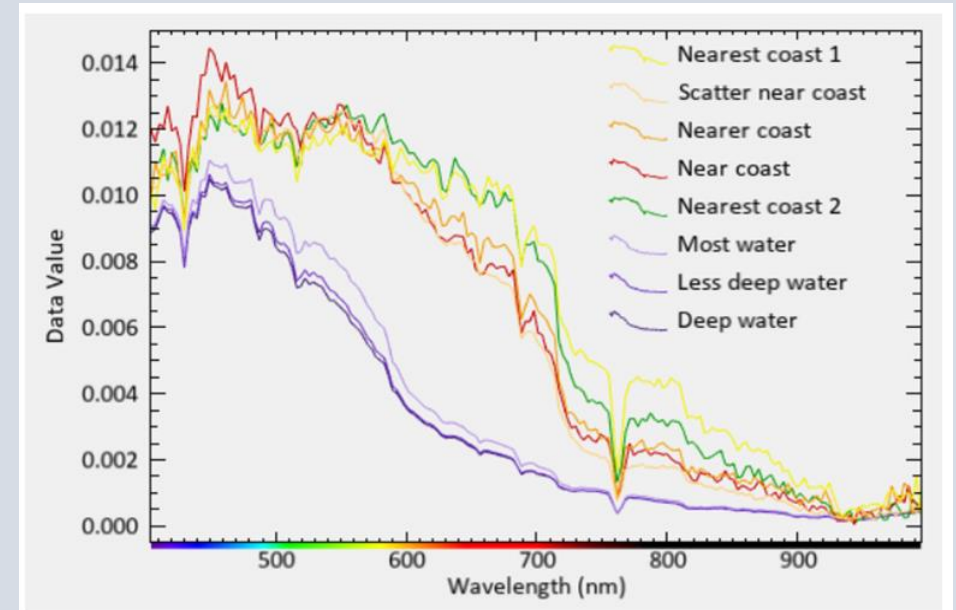
(c)

## Relative water depth using ratio model



# Water classification using SAM

- Visually inspected each endmember
- Tried to label them and group them into colors
- Can see two main areas
  - Coastal water
  - More open water

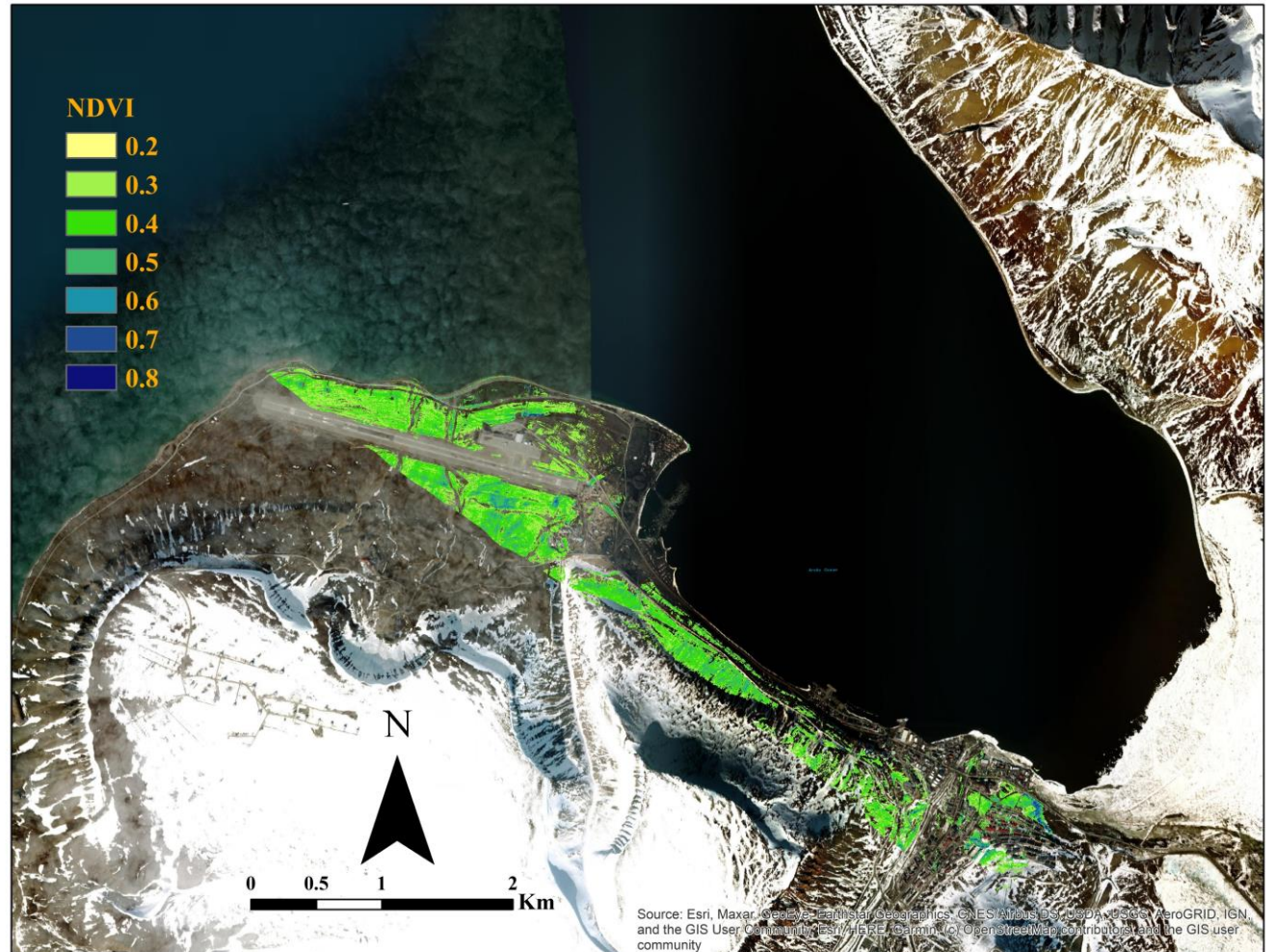


# Vegetation mapping using NDVI

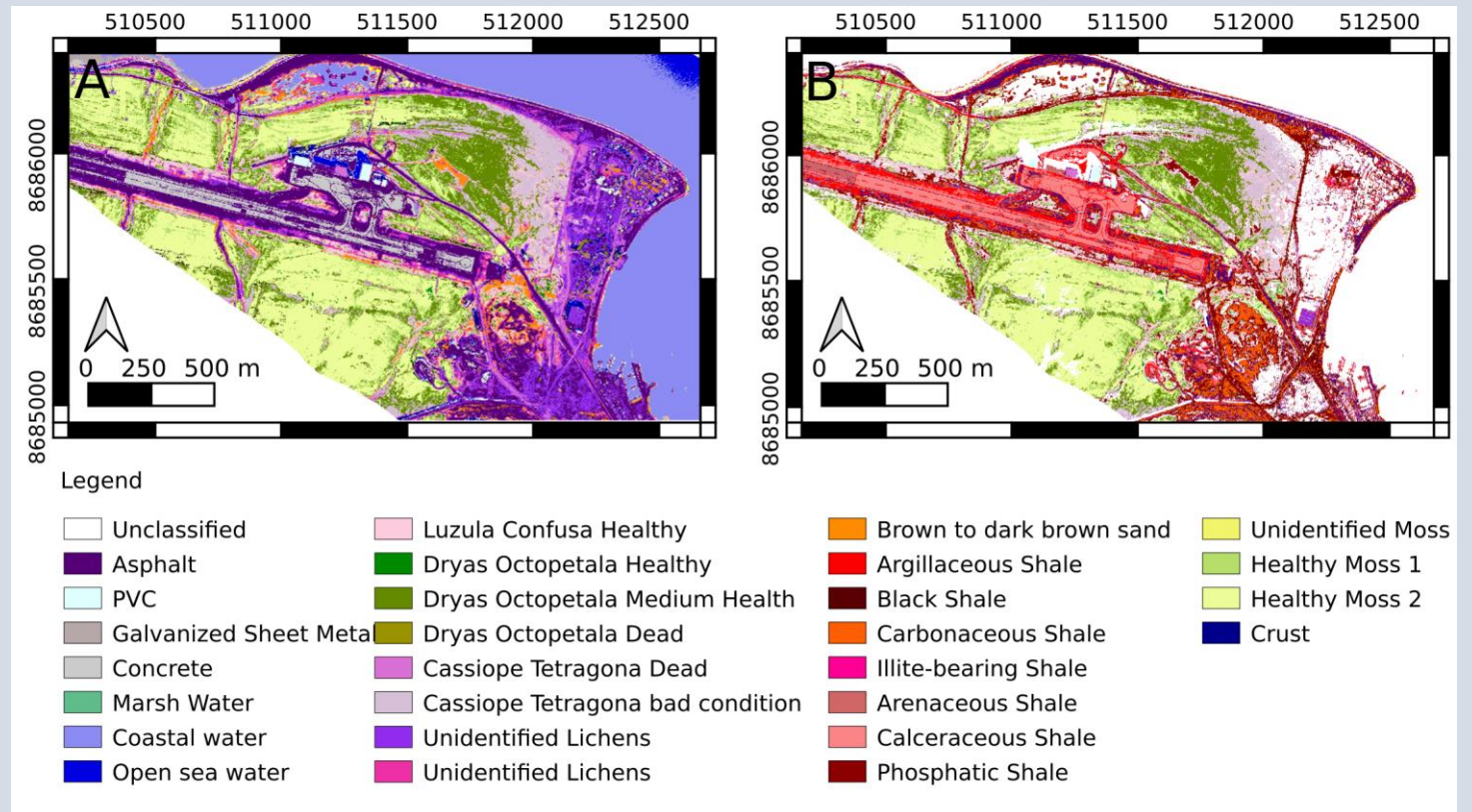
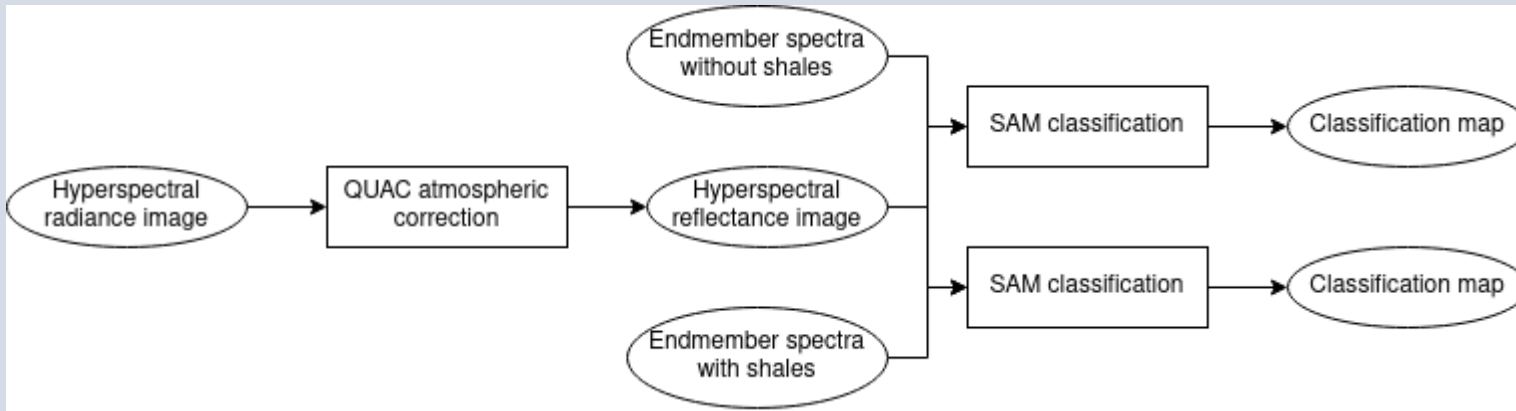
$$\text{NDVI} = (\text{NIR} - \text{Red}) / (\text{NIR} + \text{Red})$$

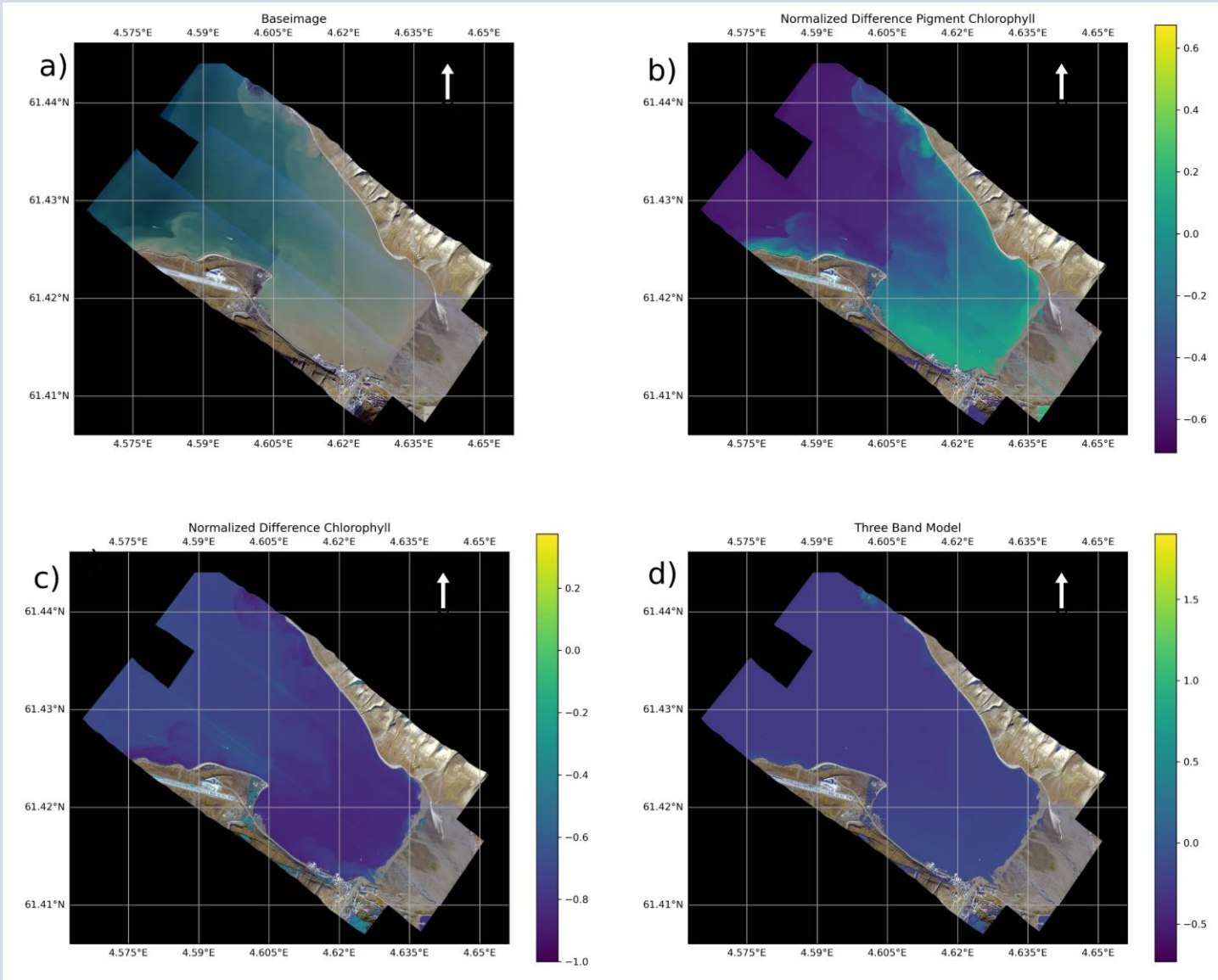
**NIR- 799 (nm)**

**Red- 681 (nm)**



# Landcover mapping using hyperspectral data



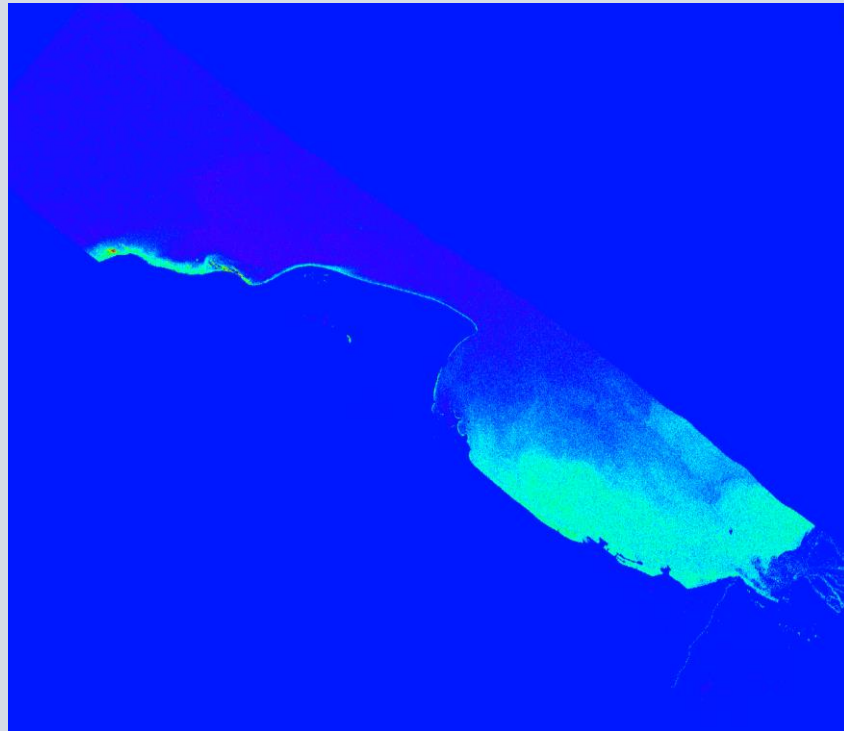


## Relative Chl-a Concentration

- Spatial pattern seems reasonable.
- $\text{Chl-a} = \alpha(\text{Relative Chl-a}) + \beta$
- Ground truth data to calibrate fitting curve
- Spatial resolution of satellite product is too coarse.

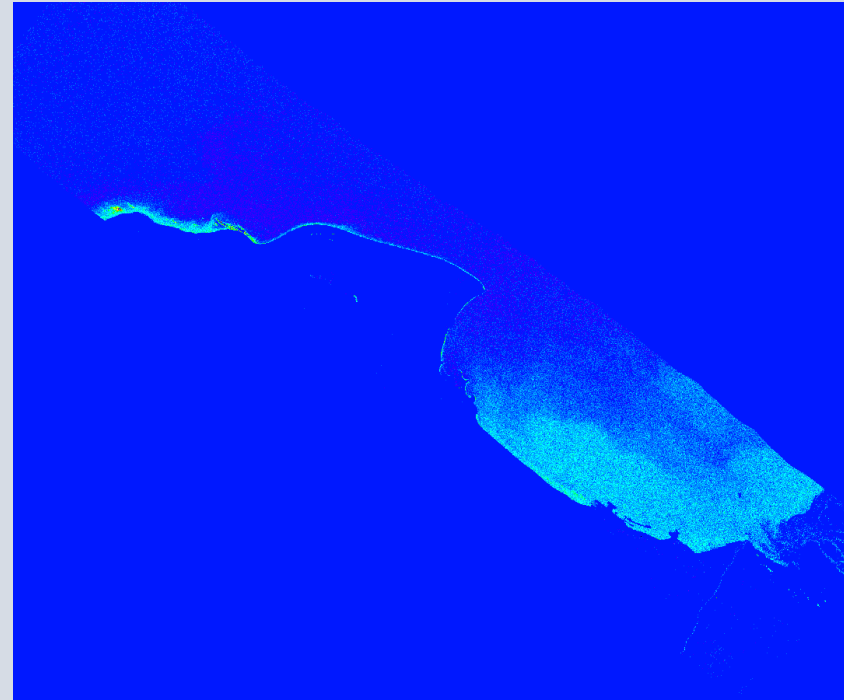
# Chlorophyll mapping using hyperspectral data

## MCI (Maximum Chlorophyll Index)



| Color        | MCI range |          |
|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Blue         | -0.00071  | -0.00042 |
| Dark Blue    | -0.00042  | -0.00012 |
| Light Blue   | -0.00012  | 0.000172 |
| Lighter Blue | 0.000173  | 0.000465 |
| Cyan         | 0.000467  | 0.000758 |
| Light Cyan   | 0.000761  | 0.001051 |
| Green        | 0.001055  | 0.001344 |
| Light Green  | 0.001349  | 0.001637 |
| Yellow-Green | 0.001643  | 0.00193  |
| Yellow       | 0.001937  | 0.002223 |
| Light Yellow | 0.002231  | 0.002516 |
| Orange       | 0.002525  | 0.002809 |
| Light Orange | 0.002819  | 0.003102 |
| Red-Orange   | 0.003113  | 0.003395 |
| Red          | 0.003407  | 0.003688 |
| Dark Red     | 0.003701  | 0.003981 |

## MERIS MCI (MERIS Maximum Chlorophyll Index)



| Color        | MERIS MCI range |          |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| Blue         | -0.00089        | -0.00059 |
| Dark Blue    | -0.00059        | -0.00028 |
| Light Blue   | -0.00028        | 0.000018 |
| Lighter Blue | 0.000018        | 0.00032  |
| Cyan         | 0.00032         | 0.000622 |
| Light Cyan   | 0.000622        | 0.000924 |
| Green        | 0.000924        | 0.001226 |
| Light Green  | 0.001226        | 0.001528 |
| Yellow-Green | 0.001528        | 0.00183  |
| Yellow       | 0.00183         | 0.002132 |
| Light Yellow | 0.002132        | 0.002434 |
| Orange       | 0.002434        | 0.002736 |
| Light Orange | 0.002736        | 0.003038 |
| Red-Orange   | 0.003038        | 0.00334  |
| Red          | 0.00334         | 0.003642 |
| Dark Red     | 0.003642        | 0.003944 |

$$MCI = R_{\lambda_2} - \left[ R_{\lambda_1} + (R_{\lambda_3} - R_{\lambda_1}) \cdot \frac{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}{\lambda_3 - \lambda_1} \right]$$

$\lambda_1 = 666.0177$  nm Band 83

$\lambda_2 = 710.6452$  nm Band 97

$\lambda_3 = 755.2728$  nm Band 111

$$MERIS\ MCI = \lambda_{709} - \lambda_{681} - \left[ \frac{(710.64 - 681.95)}{(752.09 - 681.95)} \cdot (\lambda_{753} - \lambda_{681}) \right]$$

$\lambda_{753}$ : Band 110 = 752.0851 nm

$\lambda_{709}$ : Band 97 = 710.6452 nm

$\lambda_{681}$ : Band 88 = 681.9561 nm

**An international partnership of researchers studying the environment and climate in and around Svalbard to**

- Develop an efficient observing system
- Share technology, experience and data
- Close knowledge gaps
- Decrease the environmental footprint of science