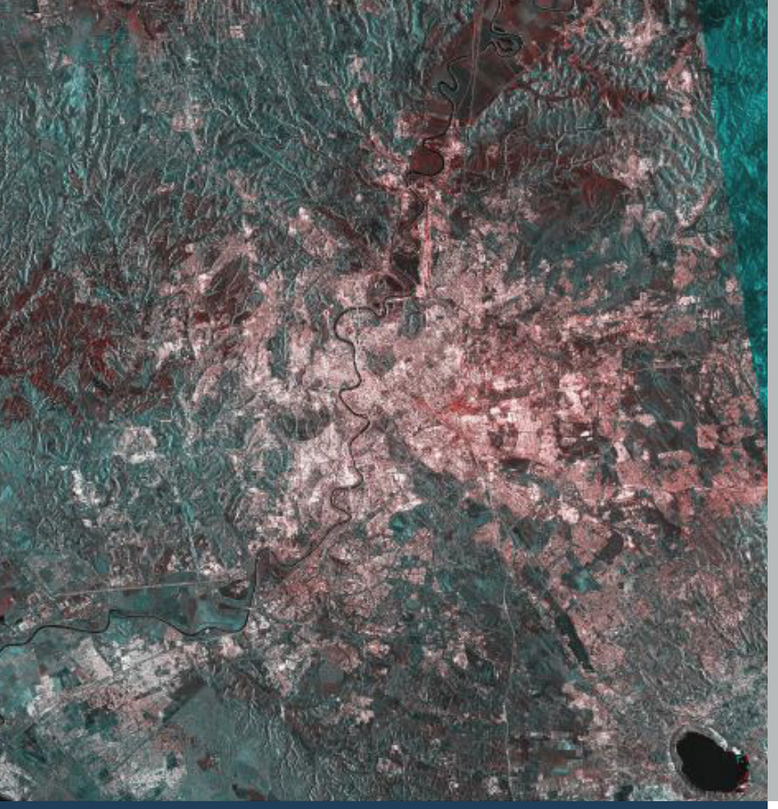


ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstract submission opening	**July 2023**
Abstract submission closure	**18 September 2023**
Notification of acceptance	**October 2023**
Registration opening	**July 2023**
Issue of preliminary programme	**October 2023**
Issue of final programme	**at the workshop**
Workshop dates	**15–17 November 2023**

REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Further information and guidelines regarding the registration and abstract submission can be found on the workshop website at :

http://biogeosar.esa.int

The workshop is jointly organized by ESA and the Department of Information Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunication of Sapienza University of Rome

Venue
Sapienza University of Rome
Faculty of Civil and Industrial Engineering
Via Eudossiana 18
00184 Rome
Italy

CONTACT POINTS & LOGISTICS

Workshop Organising Committee:
Björn Rommen (ESA)
Francesca Ticconi (ESA)
Nazzareno Pierdicca (DIET, Sapienza Univ. of Rome)
Chiara Telli (DIET, Sapienza Univ. of Rome)

Workshop Logistics:
Logistics details (e.g., venue, recommended hotels) will be included on the workshop website by September 2023.

Website:

http://biogeosar.esa.int

esa

SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

8th International Workshop on Retrieval of Bio- & Geo-physical Parameters from SAR Data for Land Applications

Rome, Italy
15-17 November 2023

BACKGROUND & SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES

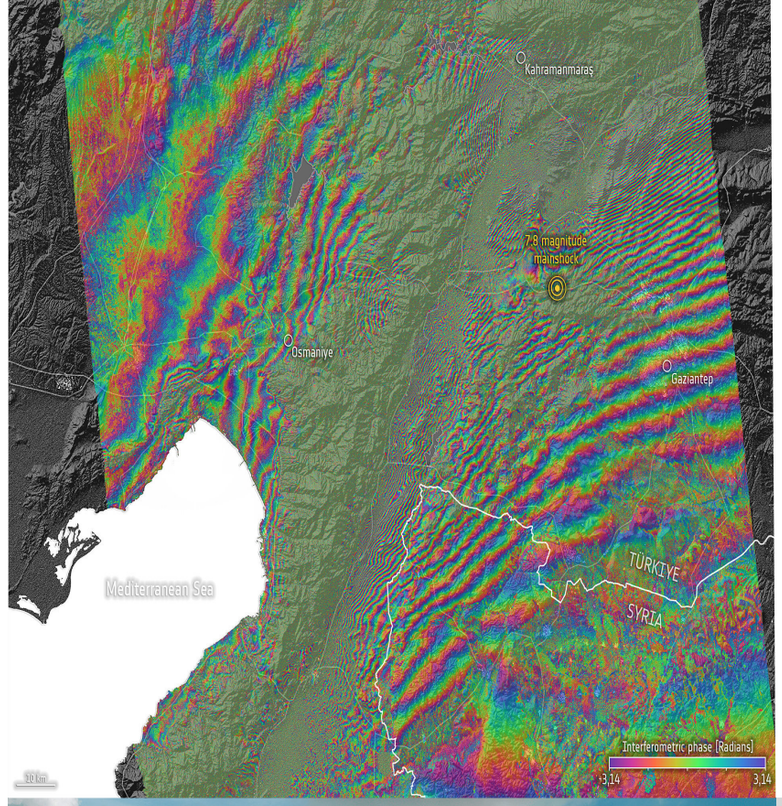
This series of workshops was initiated in the late 1990s, stimulated by the launch of ESA's ERS-1/2 satellites and by the onset of data from airborne and space shuttle SAR missions. The main scope was to examine the state of the art and promote the development of SAR land applications that rely on the extraction of bio- & geophysical parameters. The Workshops aimed at linking the modelling and experimental communities and stimulating ideas that have finally led to mission proposals such as Biomass, Hydroterra, Harmony, etc. Seven workshops were undertaken jointly between ESA and the scientific community that took place in Toulouse (1995), Noordwijk (1998), Sheffield (2001), Innsbruck (2004), Bari (2007), Harwell (2015), and Oberpfaffenhofen (2018).

Today, we have a greatly expanded set of systems in space, offering data at a range of wavelengths, polarisations, spatial resolutions, and repeat cycles. This Big Data challenge poses many expectations and concerns in the Earth Observation sector. At the same time, there is an ever greater need to establish a clear scientific basis and a common and well-established framework for models and algorithms.

The workshop will aim to foster new land applications by using SAR data from the current and future missions, such as Biomass, Sentinel-1 Next Generation, ROSE-L, NISAR, etc. The program follows a similar setup as the earlier editions of the workshop. As such, contributions are invited covering the following main themes:

- **Land-use and classification**
- **Agriculture**
- **Soil and hydrology**
- **Forestry**
- **Ice and snow**

For those main themes, contributions can cover a wide range from detailing models and algorithms, novel observational techniques (e.g. multistatic, polarimetry, small platforms) to integration and data assimilation into models.



PARTICIPATION

The workshop is open to scientists, students, representatives from national, European and international space agencies and value adding industries.

ORGANISATION

The workshop is organised around oral presentations selected by the scientific committee, invited overview presentations, round table discussions with seed questions and summary sessions

LANGUAGE AND FEES

The official language of the workshop is English. No participation fees will be charged. Participants are expected to finance their own travel & accommodation expenses.

SEED QUESTIONS

In order to trigger the discussion and to provide some guidance to authors and round table discussion, a provisional list of seed questions is:

→ What is the impact of multi-temporal and multi-spectral acquisitions?

→ What are the SAR applications that have an unquestionable added value that address real-life topics for society and that are suitable for commercialisations?

→ What are potential novel bio- and geophysical products that can be derived only from new observational techniques (e.g. multistatic, quad-pol, simultaneous multi-frequency acquisitions, etc.) ?

→ What applications would mostly profit from data fusion algorithms?

→ In which application domain a clear preference between machine learning algorithms or EM modelling can be identified?