TANDEM-X: A New Era of Global Digital Elevation Data

PHOWO2011 - September 2011

M. Weber // September 07, 2011

All the space you need



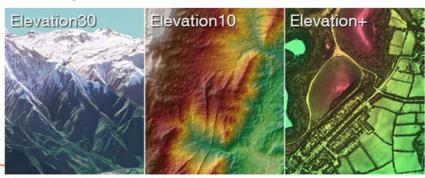






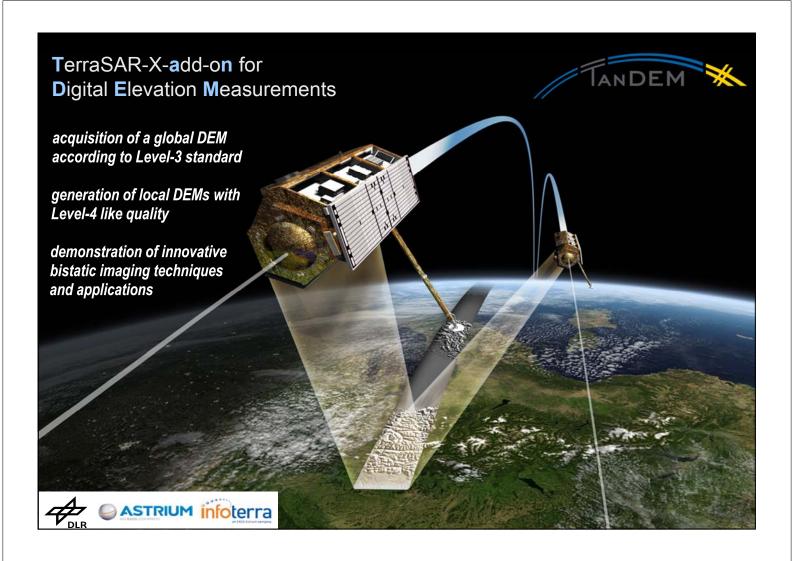
Today's DEM

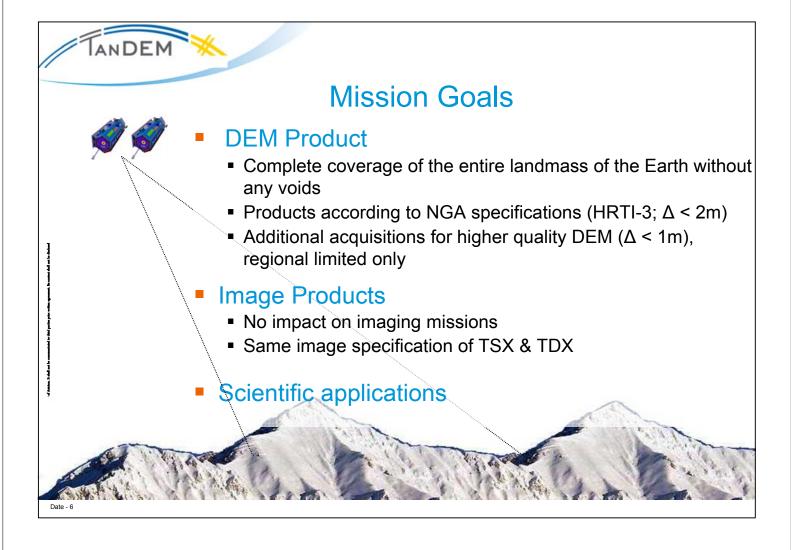
- <u>Elevation30</u>: unique worldwide 3D geographic reference database for all global coverage needs
- Elevation10: regional 10 m elevation models everywhere in the world whatever the relief and weather conditions
- <u>Elevation+</u>: high precision digital elevation modelling service providing
 1 m DEM and beyond



GEO ELEVATION SERVICES PASTRIUM

Highly Accurate Elevation Data Worldwide







Key Features

- Close formation flight
- Both satellites serve two missions (TerraSAR-X & TanDEM-X) and are being operated jointly by one combined ground segment
- Globally oriented acquisition strategy for the global DEM
- Powerful processing chains to handle 1500 TByte of data

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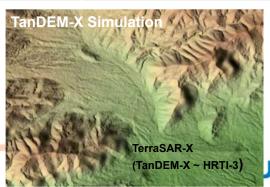


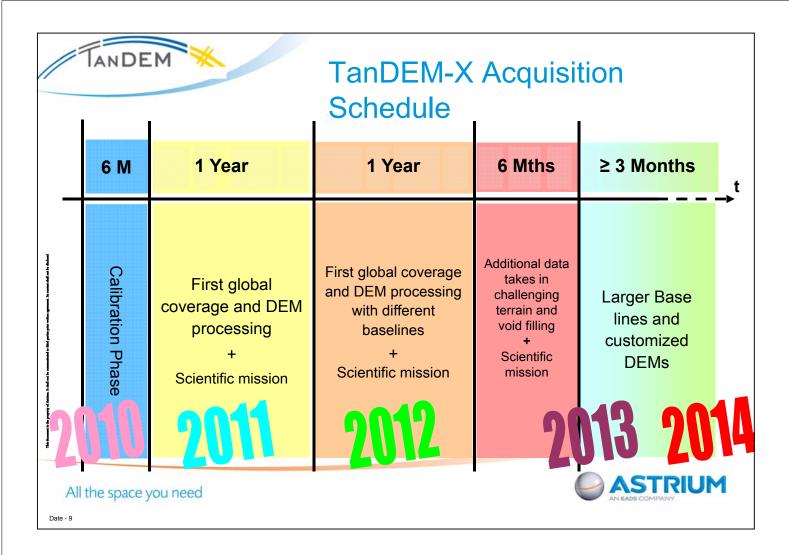
Primary Mission Objective: Global DEM

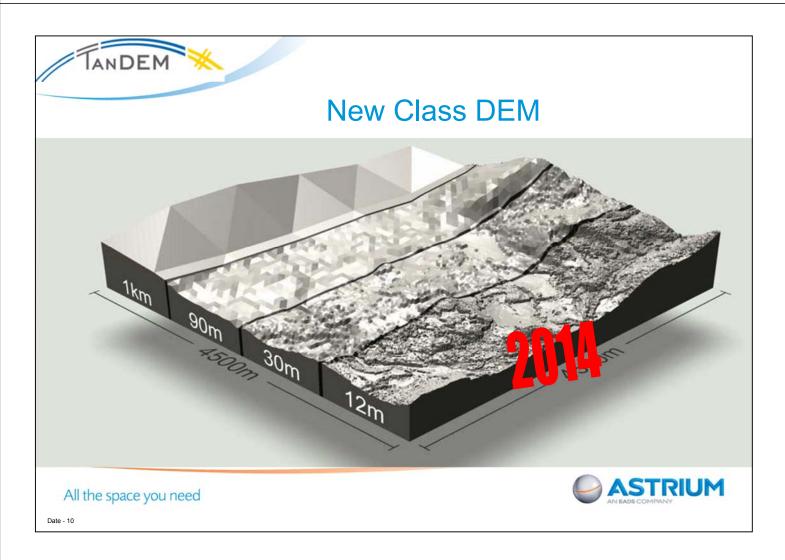
Specifications at Mission Design (2005)

DEMs	Spatial Resolution	Absolute Vertical Accuracy (90%)	Relative Vertical Accuracy (point-to-point in 1° cell, 90%)
DTED-1	90 m x 90 m	< 30 m	< 20 m
DTED-2	30 m x 30 m	< 18 m	< 12 m
TDXDE	12 m x 12 m	< 10 m	< 2 m
M HRTI-4	6 m x 6 m	< 5 m	< 0.8 m











Status Acquisition

- Since December 12, 2010 DEM acquisition is operational and runs smoothly
- More than 5200 data takes have been acquired
- First global acquisition to be finished by the end of 2011 as planned
- Data-driven processing resumed mid August, free capacity used for re-processing of archived data
- Mosaicking & calibration processor to be made operational

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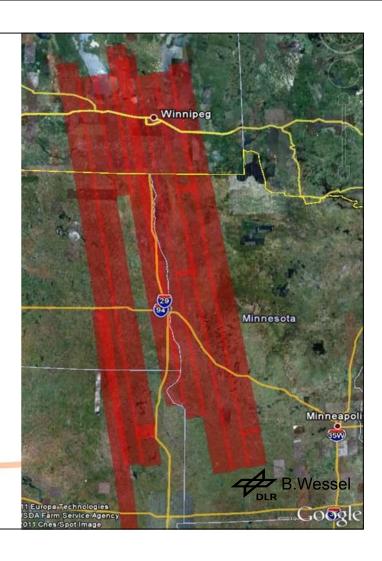


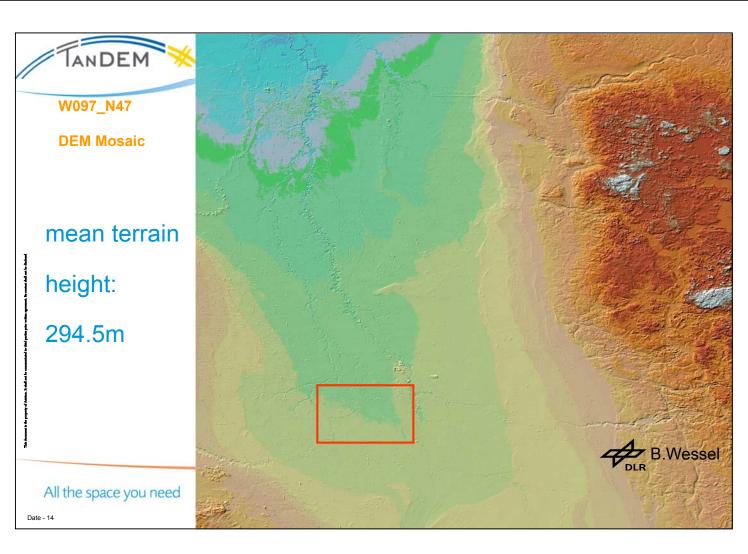


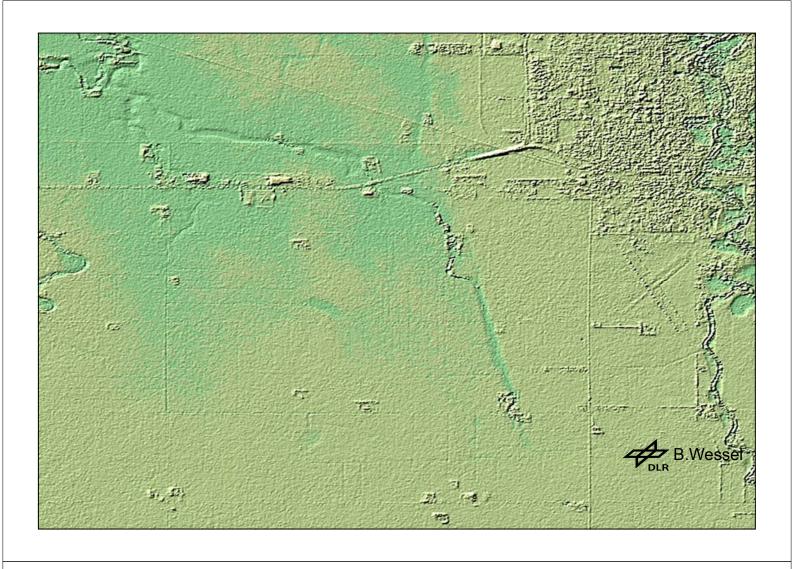
Test Site Minnesota/Manitoba

- 12 datatakes
- Reference data:
 - High resolution reference DEM
 - ICESat
 - SRTM
 - GPS track

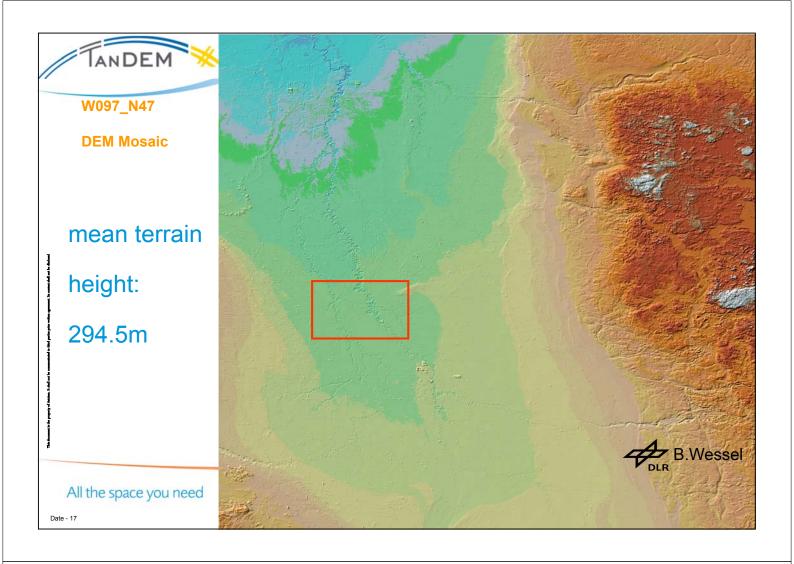
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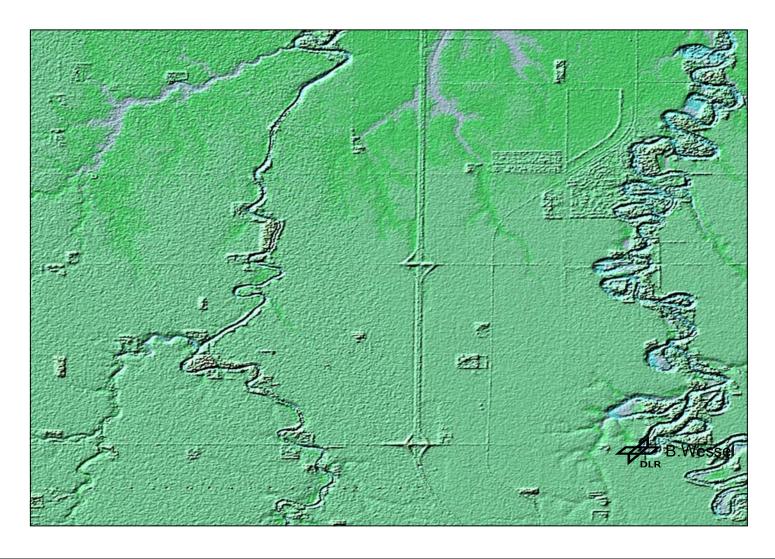
















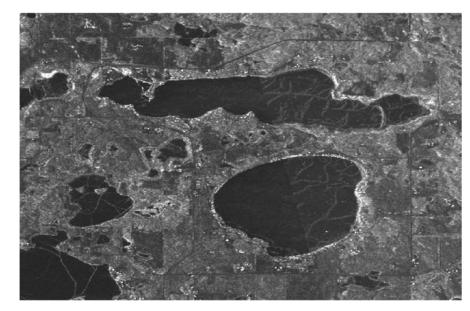
First Observations

- First block calibration Manitoba/Minnesota validates absolute vertical accuracy ~1-2m (LE90)
- Technical specification will be fulfilled (User Requirement Doc)
- Results will be better than expected





Editing Challenges



Radar image

Minnesota USA

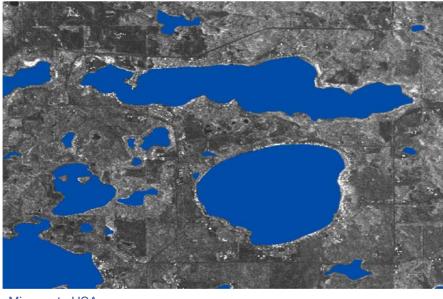
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Water Editing



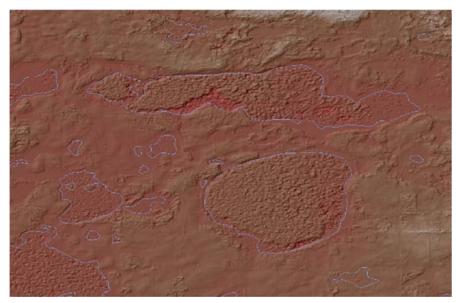
Radar image with water identified

Minnesota USA

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Water Editing



DSM elevation model with water identified

Minnesota USA

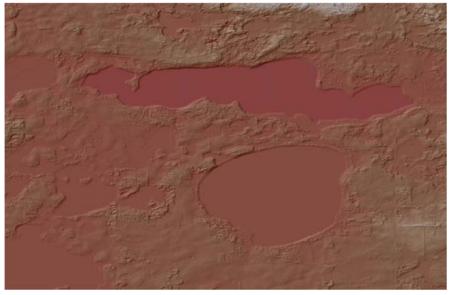
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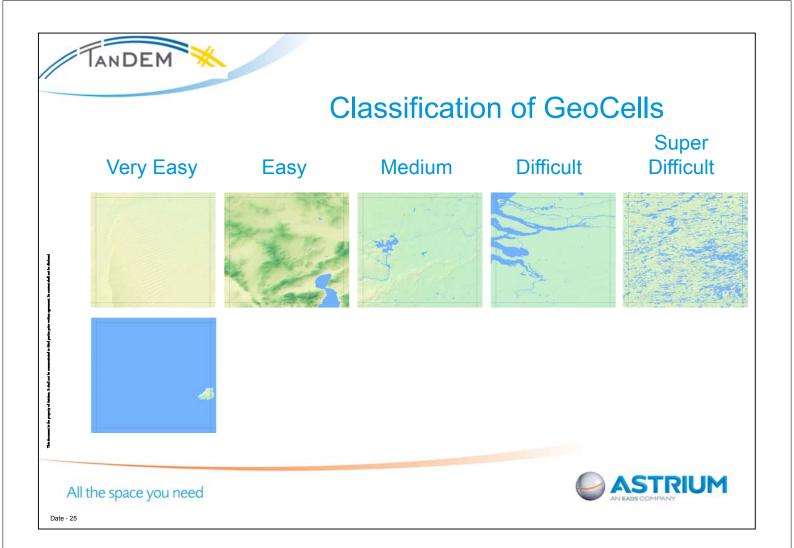
Water Editing

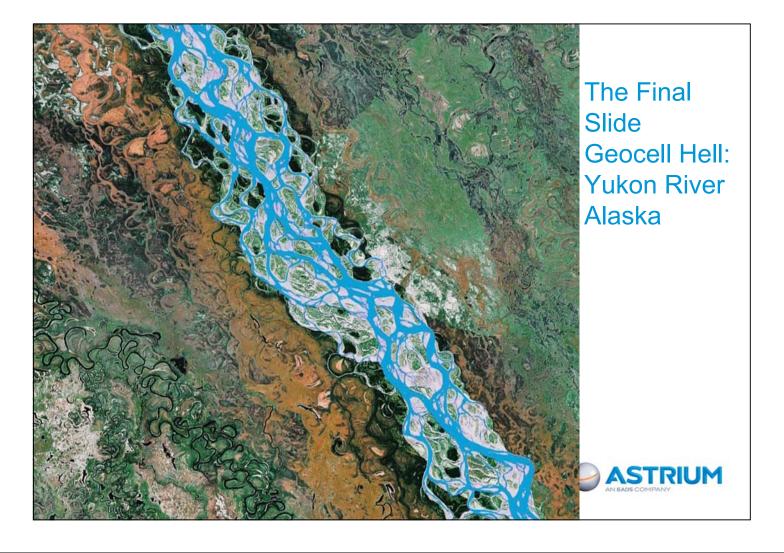


DSM elevation model with water flattened

Minnesota USA

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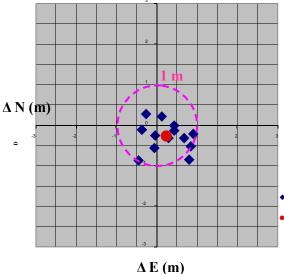






Geolocation Accurcay

TerraSAR-X-1 Spotlight Monoscopic Absolute Geolocation Accuracy (Rigorous Sensor Model Data)



The scatter plots show the mean displacements for each image in blue, and the associated centroid of all of the errors in red.

The overall means are close to zero. The CE90 circles are shown in magenta.

Tom Ager , NGA, ASPRS 2009 Annual Conference

Image Error Centroids

Mean

Centroids

Image Error Centroids
 Mean

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StripMap Monoscopic

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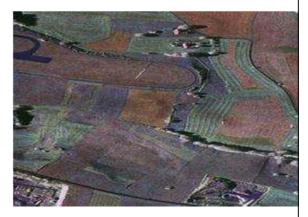


The next SAR Generation

TerraSAR-X2









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The next SAR Generation

- Heritage modes, INSAR continuity (as adopted)
- Enhanced collection capability
 - Zoom in: dual polarized 0.5 m (government: <0.5 m single pol.)
 - Zoom out: 500 km swath (50 m, dual pol.)
 - Overall capacity like first generation with increased flexibility: high local collection density for object patterns
 - AIS collects integral in local imagery
- Improvements in communication and downlinks
 - 800 Mbps (X-band); station compatibility
 - Relay link option based on LCT (EDRS)
- Constellation
 - 2 polar + 1 inclined
 - Average revisit below 10h
 - For most critical areas 24h revisit guaranteed at best resolution

