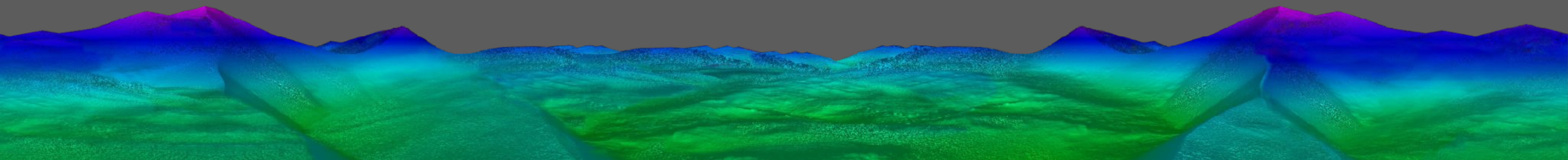




## Agricultural Applications of UAS

August 15, 2018





# Agricultural Applications for UAS

- ▶ BST currently working with Ag professionals and researchers to identify use cases.
- ▶ Three primary areas of focus:
  - ▶ Aerial Maps
  - ▶ Multispectral/Thermal Sensing
  - ▶ Soil Moisture Mapping

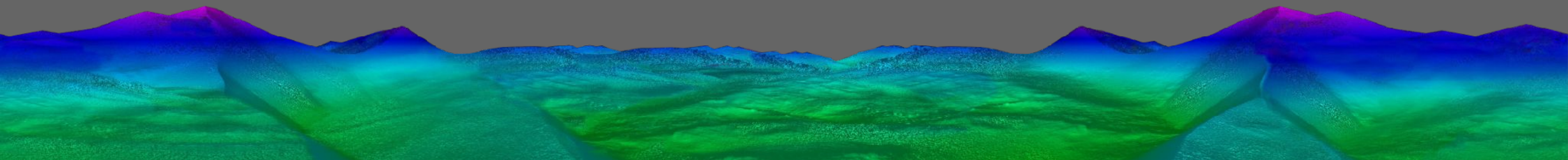




- ▶ 3D Surveys for drainage, and farm construction work.

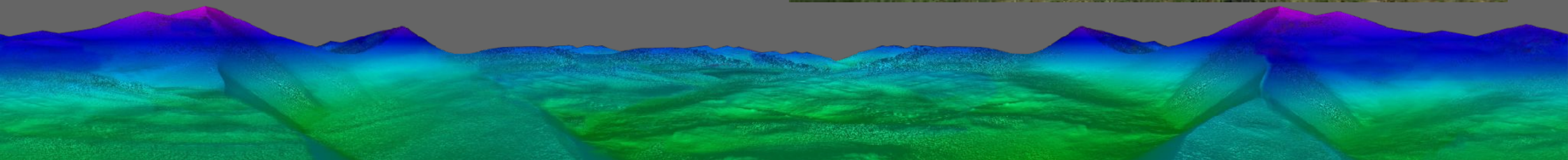


- ▶ Aerial inspection for livestock tracking, storm damage assessment, and crop monitoring.



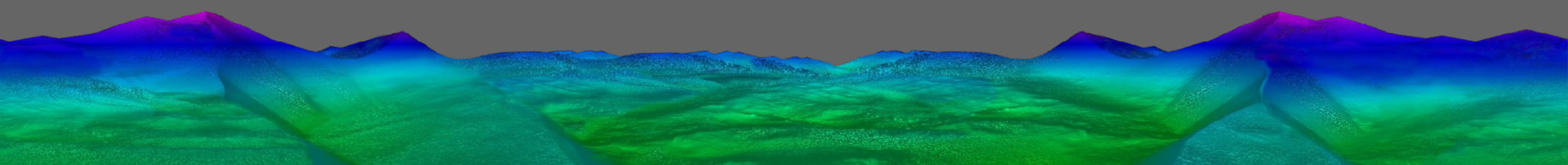
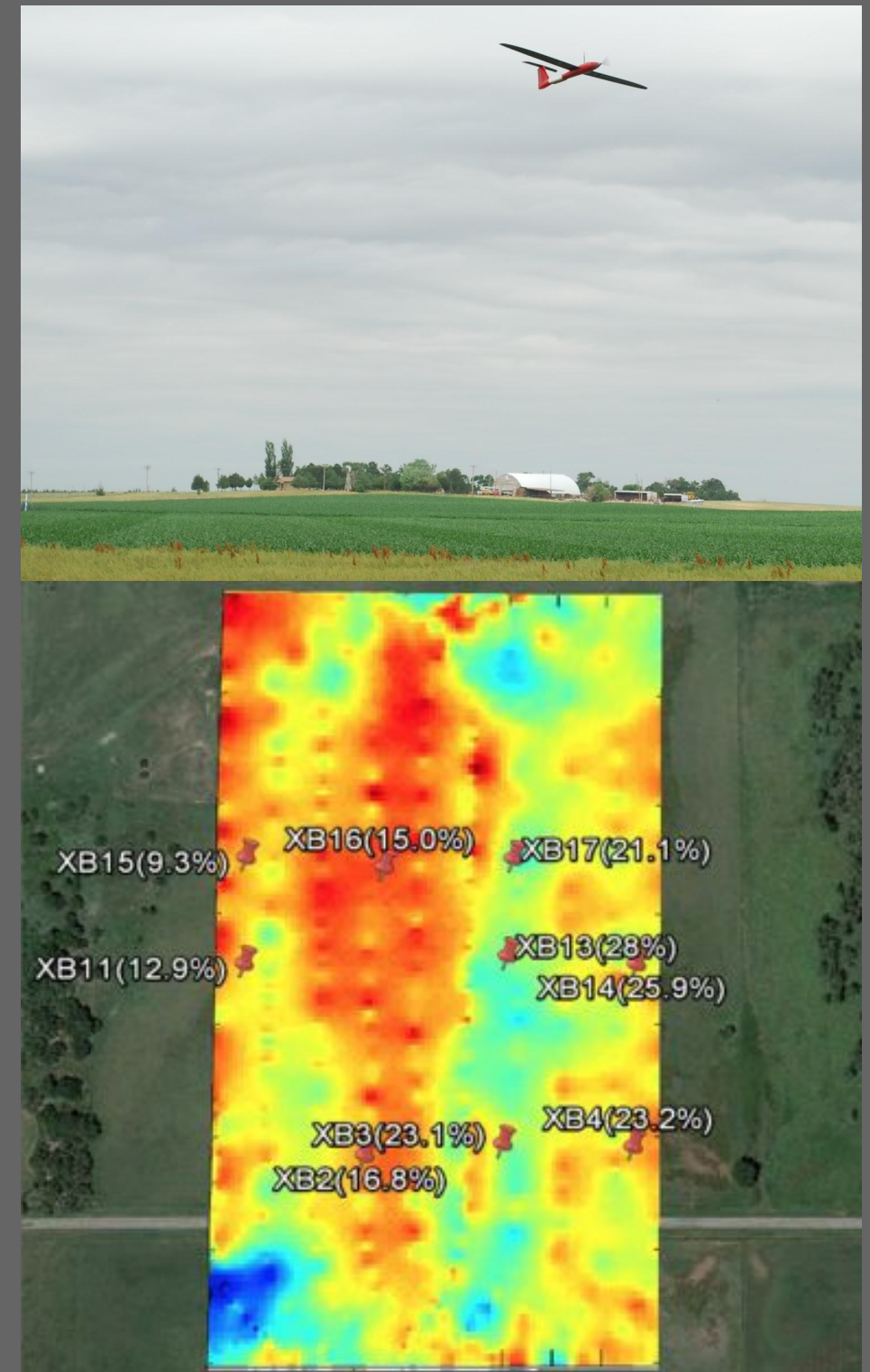


- ▶ Precision watering systems exist, but data to inform watering patterns is scarce
- ▶ Working on early detection of water stress in plants on a very small grid.
- ▶ Results of the work show that UAS has to be part of a larger strategy:
  - ▶ Grid sampling
  - ▶ Local knowledge
  - ▶ Targeted application





- ▶ L-band radiometer developed and tested under NASA SBIR
- ▶ Capable of measuring soil moisture content up to 5cm below ground
- ▶ 600 acres per flight
- ▶ Preliminary results correlate with in situ probes
- ▶ 12 successful missions flown with S2 at 4 different sites.







# Soil Moisture Mapping sUAS

The Measurement Solution for Scientific, Agricultural, and Emerging Applications



## Coverage Per Aircraft

at 15m Resolution	1 km <sup>2</sup> (247 acres) per hour
at 30m Resolution	2 km <sup>2</sup> (494 acres) per hour

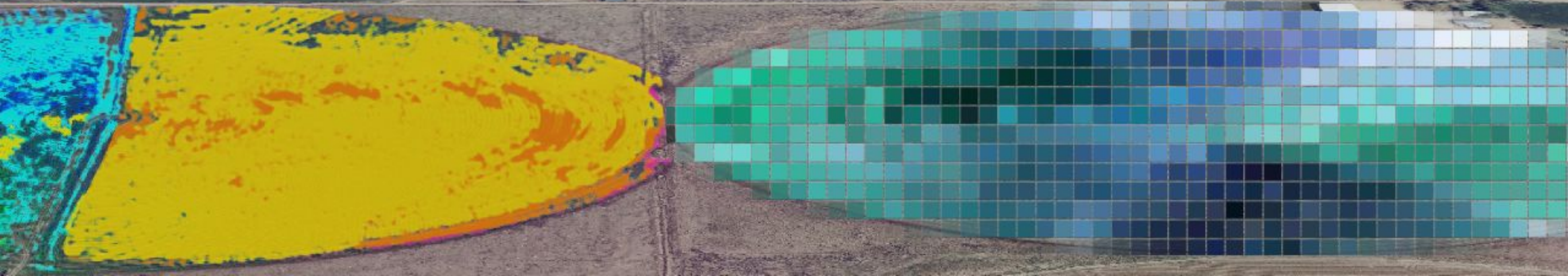
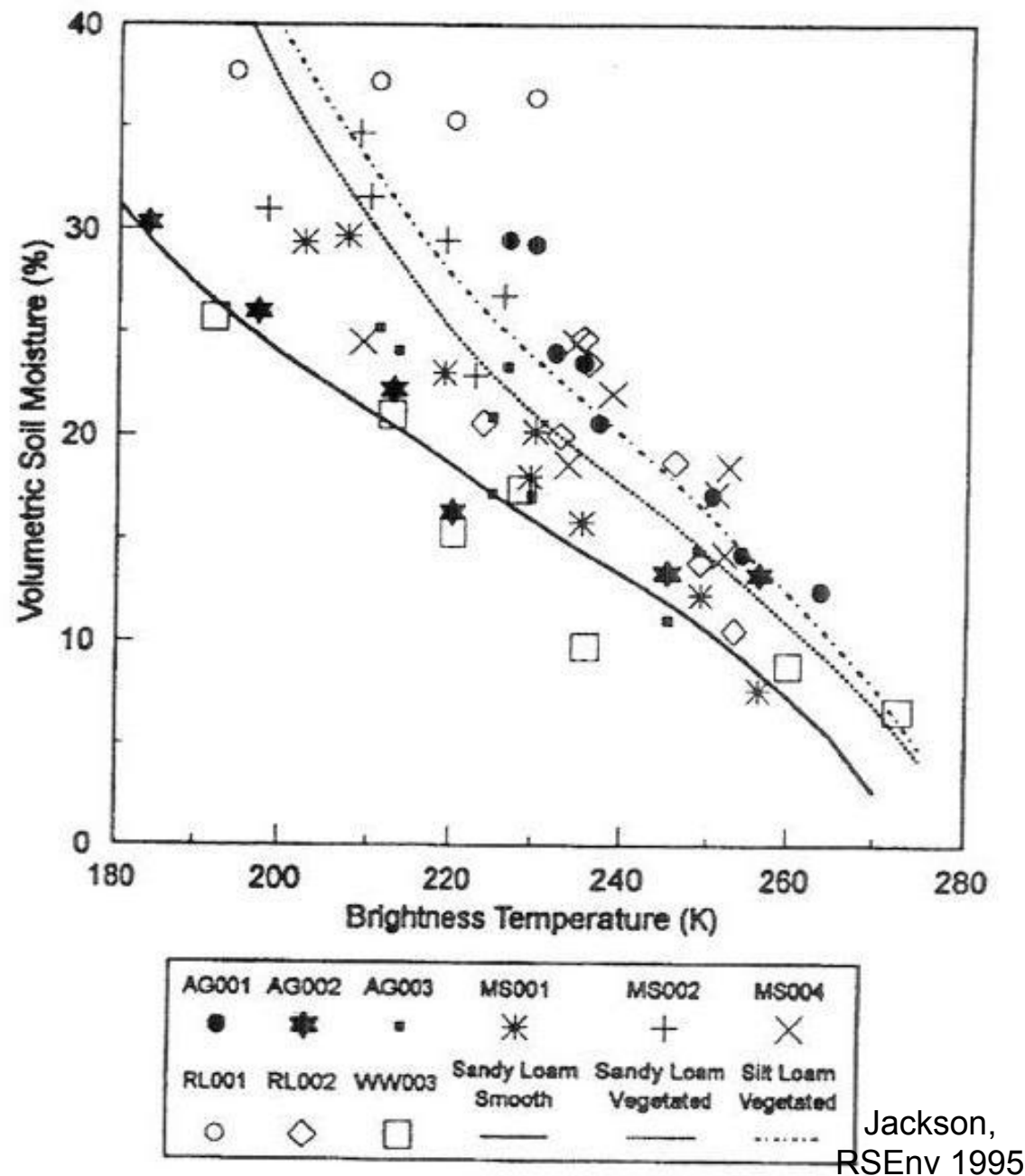


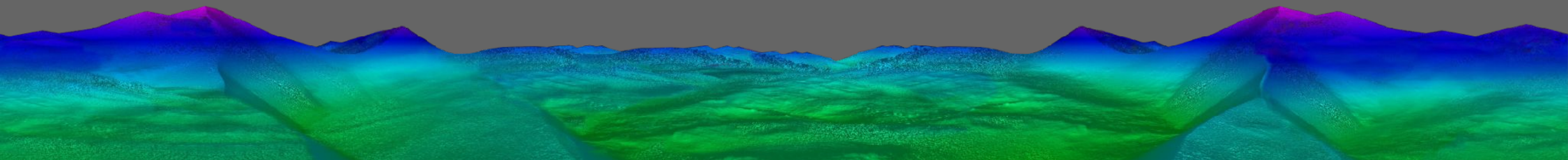


Figure 7. Observed and predicted relationships between brightness temperature and 0–5 cm soil moisture for verification sites in Washita'92.



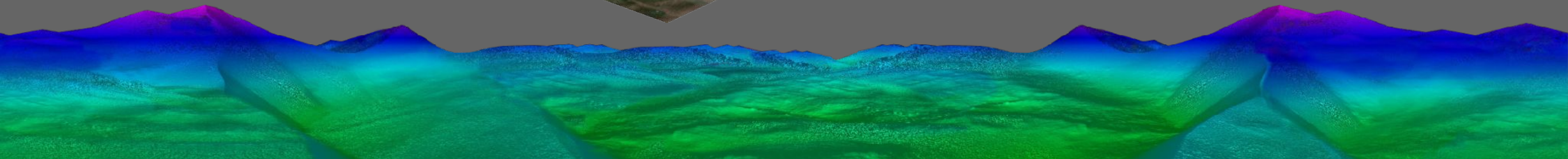
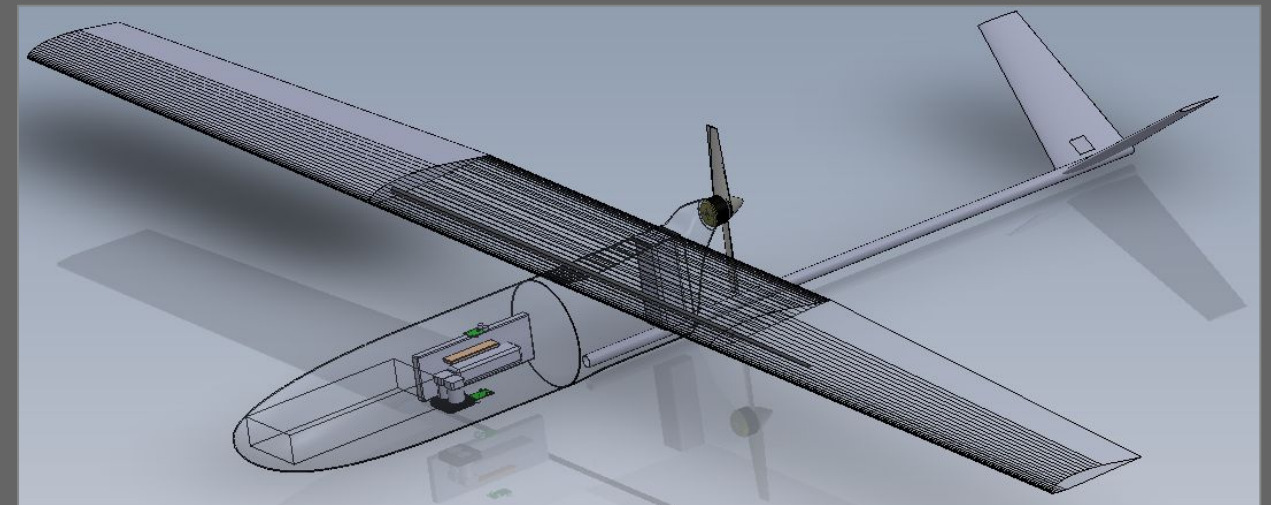
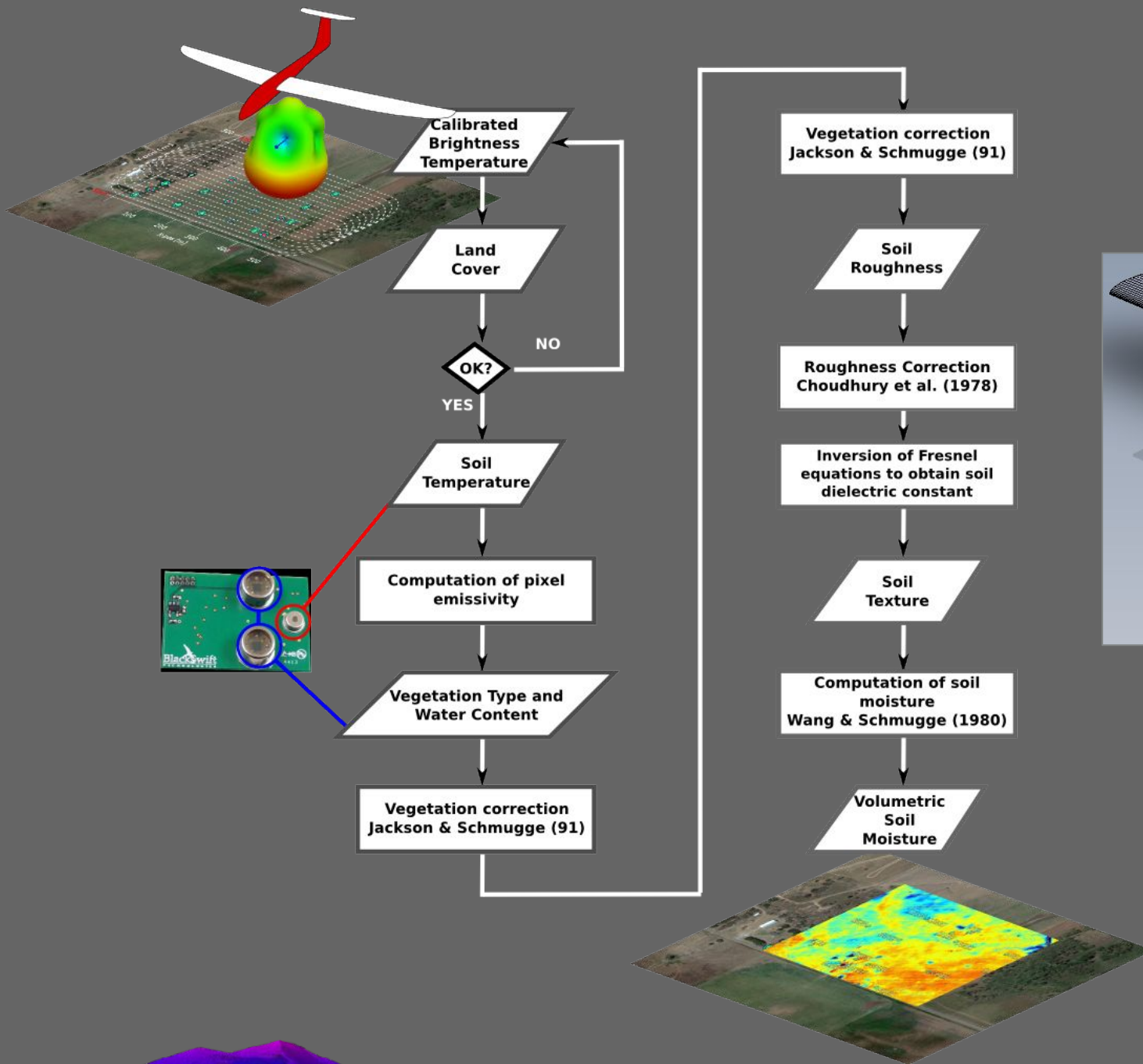
- ▶ Strong correlation for different soil types.
- ▶ RMS error of ~3% VSM achievable with vegetation and surface correction.
- ▶ 5cm depth.

- ▶ L-band radiometer developed for soil moisture (and sea surface salinity) mapping.
- ▶ Uses a unique radiometer front-end design to ensure high sensitivity and stability and rejection of horizontal RFI through a lobe-differencing correlation technique.
- ▶ In third revision, original PCB layout by Vladimir Leuski, subsequent designs by Al Gasiewski, Eryan Dai, and Mike Hurowitz.



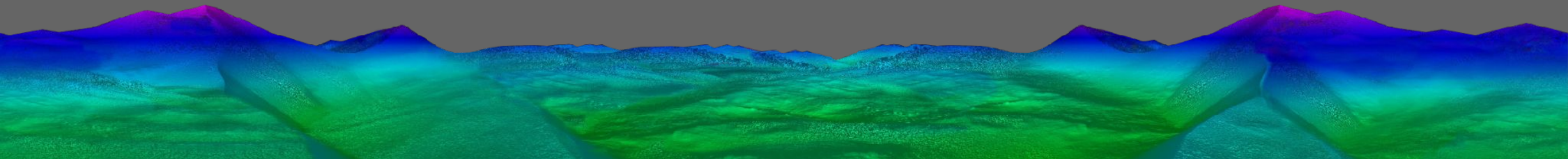
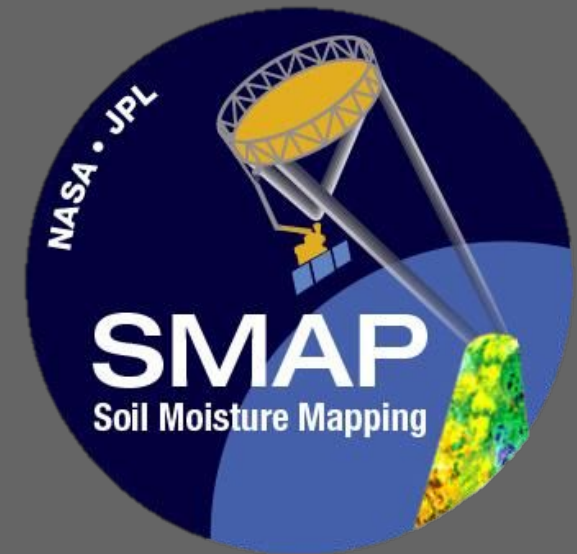
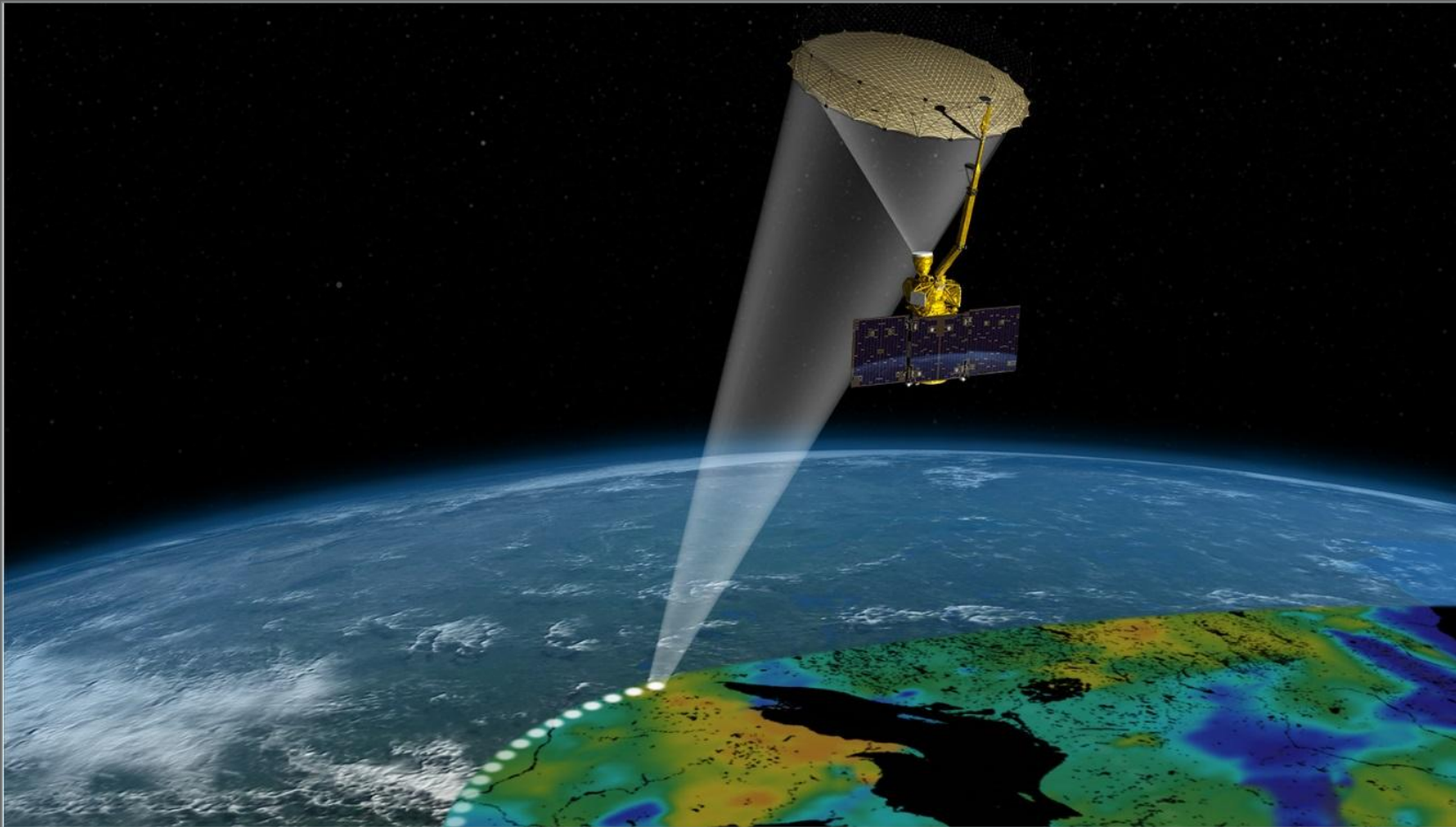


# SOIL MOISTURE MAPPING



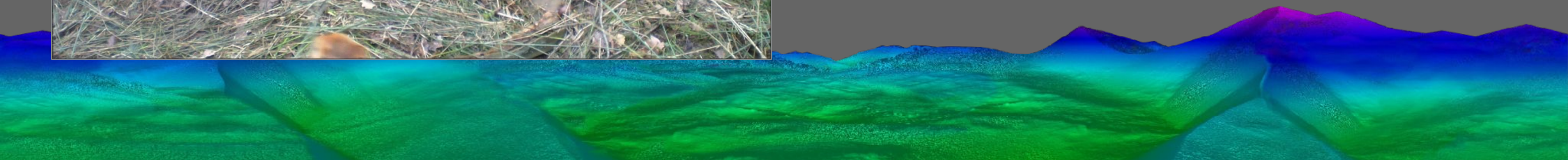
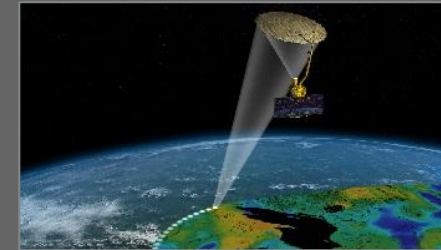


## Scientific Research





Scientific Research  
Soil Integrity

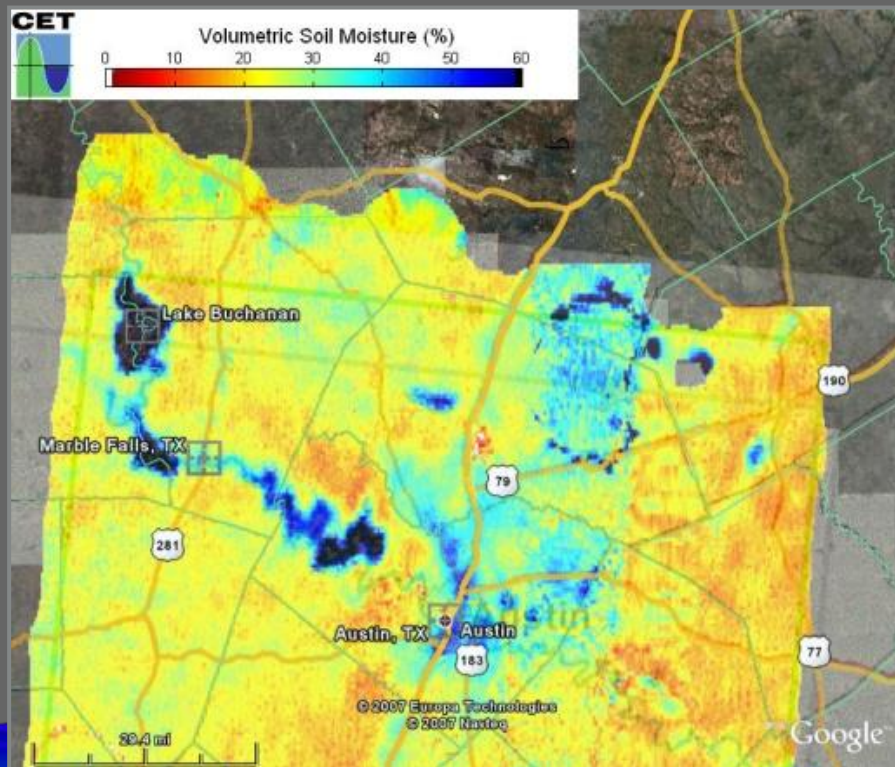
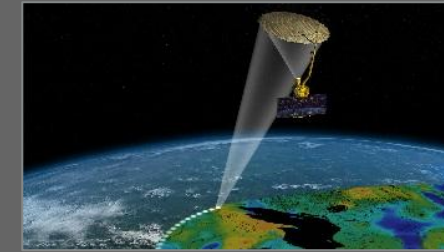




Scientific Research

Soil Integrity

Flash Flood / Land Slide



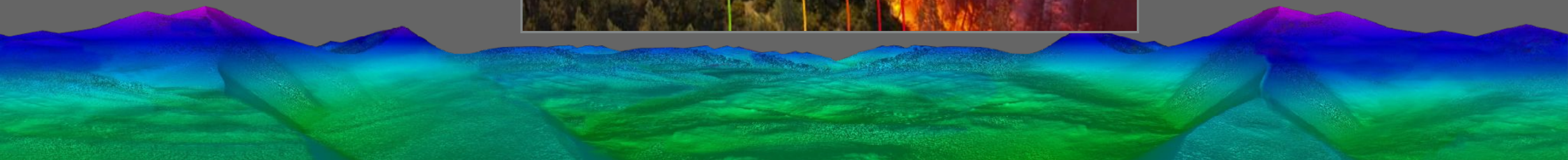
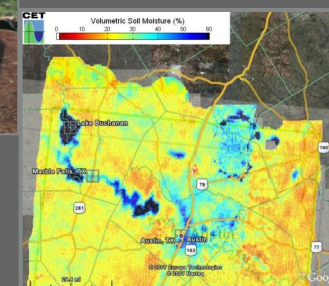
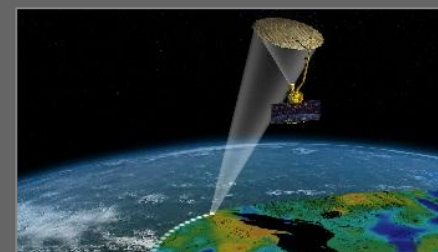


Scientific Research

Soil Integrity

Flash Flood / Land Slide

Wildfire





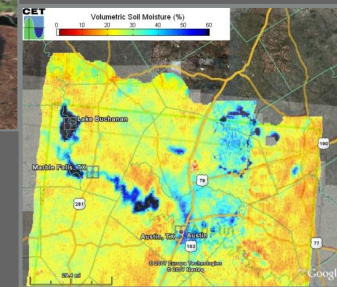
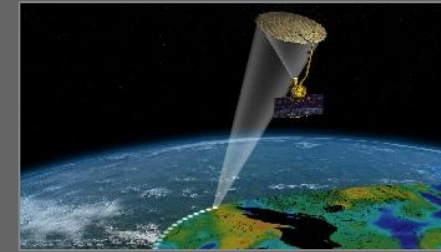
Scientific Research

Soil Integrity

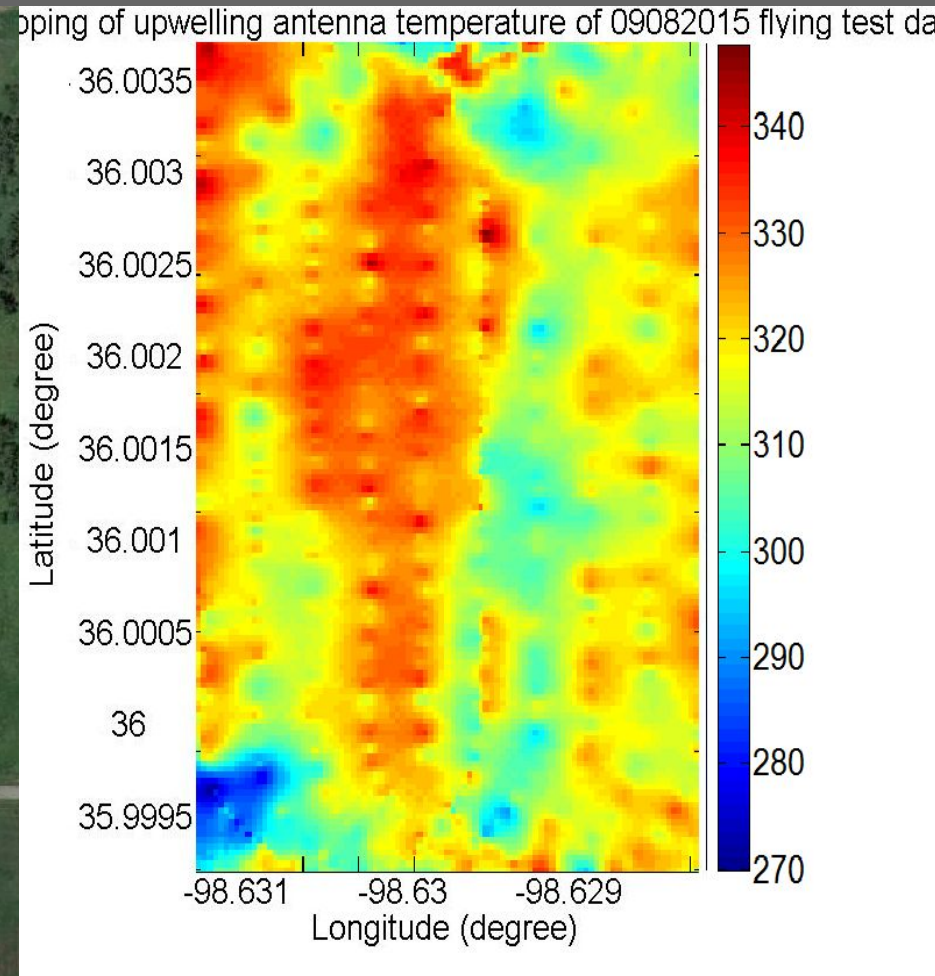
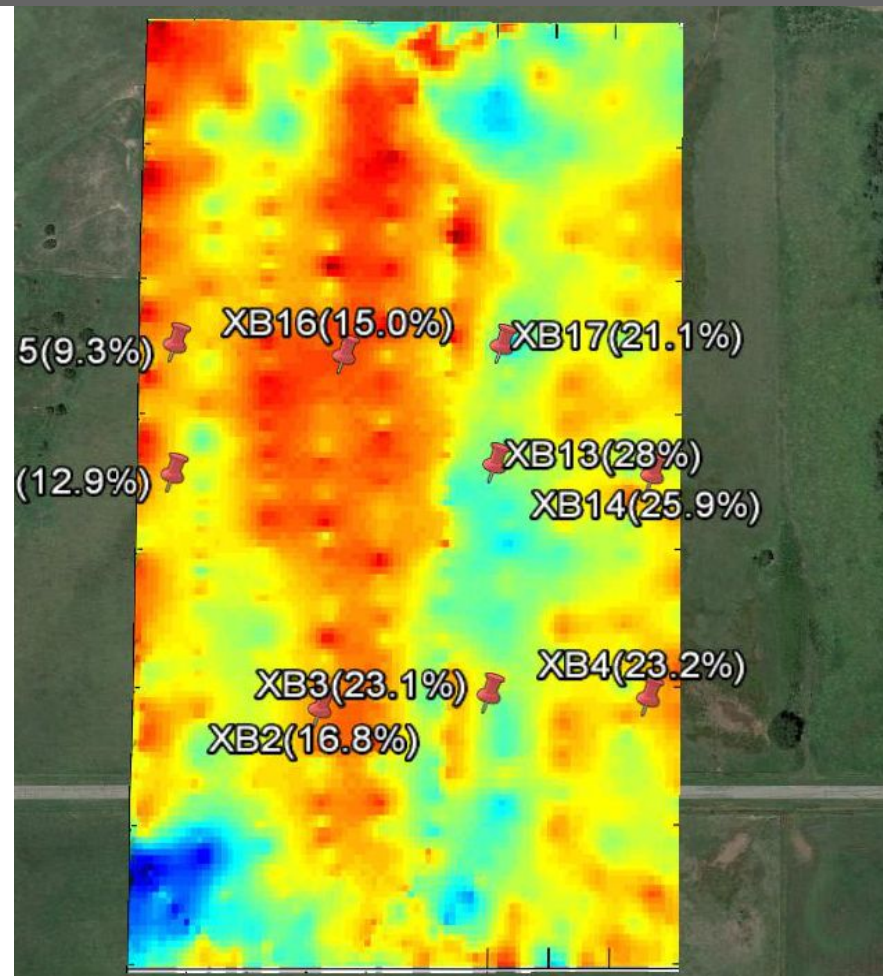
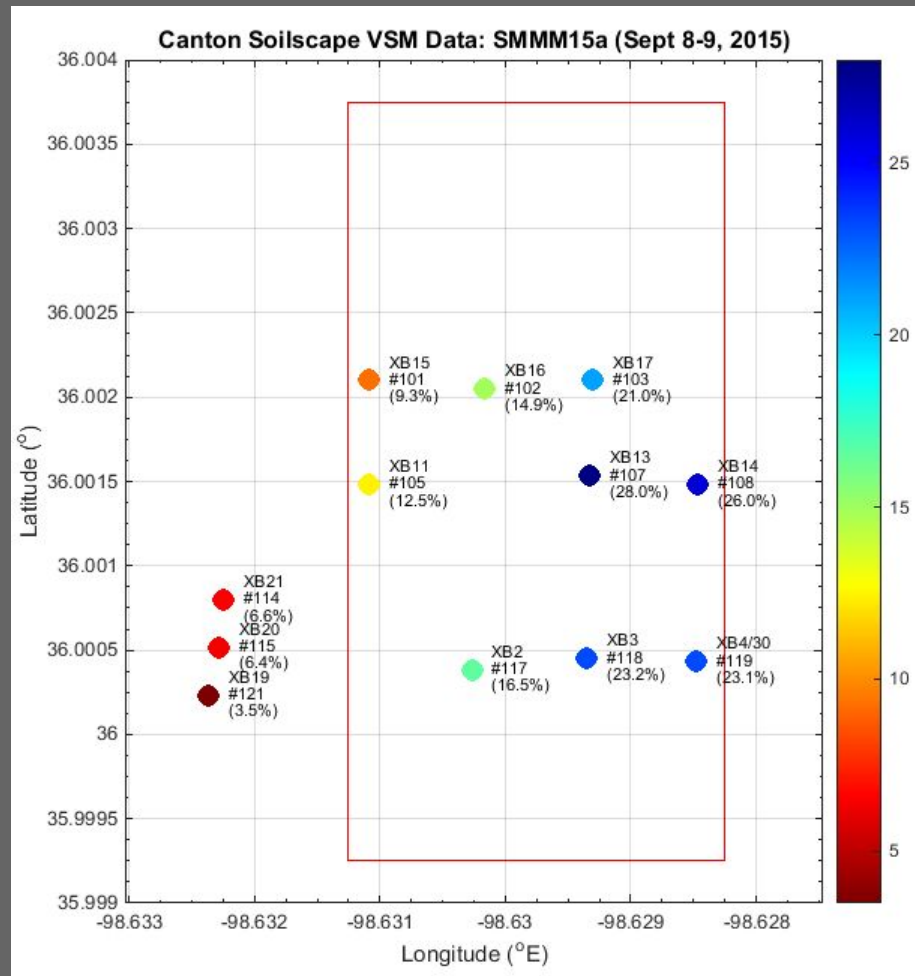
Flash Flood / Land Slide

Wildfire

Agriculture









- ▶ More information:
  - ▶ <http://BlackSwiftTech.com>
- ▶ Contact:
  - ▶ [info@blackswifttech.com](mailto:info@blackswifttech.com)

