

# WORKSHOP EVIDENCE FROM SPACE

# ISPL ESA STUDY THE USE OF SATELLITE-DERIVED INFORMATION AS EVIDENCE

# UCL ESRC PROJECT ON THE USE OF SATELLITE INFORMATION IN AUSTRALIA



# WILKINS OLD REFECTORY, UCL, GOWER STREET, LONDON WC1E 6BT TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2010

# **WORKSHOP PROGRAMME**

8.15 Sign in – Coffee and tea will be provided

8.45 Welcome and Introduction – Overview of Project

Workshop Chairman: Mark Doherty

ISPL Director: Sa'id Mosteshar Key issues in use of satellite-derived information.

Evaluation of previous research. New research under the Study.

8.55 Methodology – Rules of Evidence

Moderator: Luc Govaert

Presenter: Kevin Madders Relevant principles of evidence, practical issues

including authentication, audit trail, processing

reliability and security

9.25 Systems Capabilities – Satellite and Data Processing Features

Moderator: Gordon Campbell

Presenters: David Morten Satellite capabilities for land motion measurement

Robert Gurney Calibration and system reliability

Marc Journel Satellite capabilities for oil spill detection and

polluter identification

**10.15** Coffee

10.30 Cases using EO Information - Space and Aerial Information

Moderator: Tanja Masson-Zwaan

Presenter: Alessandro Ferretti Cases, including Rovigo

Simon Kay Agricultural Subsidy Claims, Verification,

Fraud and Expert Evidence

Egbert Jongsma Cases prosecuted

11.15 Jurisdictional Treatment – Case Reports and Regulatory Experience – Comparative Perspectives

Moderator: Kai-Uwe Schrogl

Presenter: Sa'id Mosteshar UK and US

Kevin Madders Belgium, The Netherlands

Lucien Rapp France
Sa'id Mosteshar Germany

Maureen Williams International law

12.30 Buffet Lunch in the Wilkins North Cloisters

13.30 UCL ESRC Project – Use of Satellite Information in Australia and Lessons Learned

Moderator: Richard Macrory

Presenter: Ray Purdy Use of satellite derived information,

perceptions and impact

14.30 Case Study I – Land subsidence

Moderator: Luc Govaert

Presenters: Sa'id Mosteshar and Alessandro Ferretti

15.30 Tea

15.45 Case Study II – Oil Spill

Moderator: Gordon Campbell

Presenter: Kevin Madders and Marc Journel

16.45 Questions Raised – Issues Identified, Areas for Further Study, Actions and Conclusions

Moderator: Sa'id Mosteshar

Panelists: Gordon Campbell, Luc Govaert, Robert Gurney, Tanja Masson-Zwaan,

Ray Purdy, Kai-Uwe Schrogl, Maureen Williams

17.15 Closing report and concluding remarks by the ESA Project Managers and Institute Director

#### LAND SUBSIDENCE CASE STUDY

## The hypothetical scenario

Property A is the site of the office and a state of the art patented design warehouse owned by Four Level Ltd. ("FL"), a private defence contractor. Property B is adjacent to Property A and is the site of the office and warehouse of Glass Suppliers ("GS"), a plate-glass manufacturing company.

In January 2009, in order to increase the capacity of its storage facility by installing a basement, FL started excavating an area close to the boundary with Property B. The excavation and subsequent building works continued until March 2009. In April 2009, GS alleges that it observed cracks in the concrete foundations of its warehouse due to land subsidence. By September 2009, GS alleges that the degree of land movement caused damage to its stock and serious structural damage to its warehouse. GS alleges that the excavation by FL on Property A caused the land movement and claims damages.

There is satellite data available that covers both Property A and Property B. The data was processed as indicated in the Technical Annex. The resulting information shows subsidence in the area of the excavation. Details of the subsidence and the technique used to measure the relevant land movement are also given in the Technical Annex. Two specialists were involved in the technical analysis of the data and its interpretation.

Aerial sensed information was also available. There are two sets, one dated December 2008 and another dated October 2009. These were produced by the government as part of its annual land mapping survey and made available to the public.

The ground evidence available was limited. Surveys were conducted in March 2008 for initial construction of the warehouse on Property A. No ground inspection has been carried out on Property B because FL did not consent to have surveyors on its property. However there are surveys conducted by an expert engaged by GS on Property B, and also observing Property A from Property B in October 2009.

Both the aerial and land surveys support the satellite derived information.

# **Technical Annex**

The satellite evidence was gathered from the ascending and descending orbits of the ESA satellites ERS-1 and 2 that produced satellite synthetic aperture radar ("SAR")¹ data covering the period from January 2001 - June 2010. This was processed through the Permanent (or Persistent) Scatter Technique ("PSInSAR")² to identify permanent scatter points on both properties that over a series of images demonstrate deformation in the level of the land and buildings. PSInSAR technique facilitates detection of land movement at rates as low as 1 millimetre a year, depending on the number of radar images available, the type of radar sensor used, and the phenomena under study.

Analysis of the data shows the following land movement over an area of 500 metres by 500 metres, with the boundary of Property A and B at its centre:

- 1. 20 measurement points were identified
- 2. Using measurements at two monthly intervals the rate of change per year were:

January 2008 to June 2008 Rise at 0.2 cm June 2008 to January 2009 No change

- 3. Area outside immediate vicinity of boundary to June 2010 No change detected
- 4. At Boundary of Properties:

January 2009 to February 2009

February 2009 to March 2009

March 2009 to April 2009

April 2009 to May 2009

May 2009 to June 2010

No change

Drop of 0.2 cm

Drop of 0.2 cm

Drop of 0.3 cm

reception area, each imaging the target.

Synthetic-aperture radar (SAR) is a form of radar in which multiple radar images are processed to yield higher-resolution images than would be possible by conventional means. Either a single antenna mounted on a moving platform (such as an airplane or spacecraft) is used to illuminate a target scene or many low-directivity small stationary antennae are scattered over a

Interferometric synthetic aperture radar, also abbreviated InSAR or IfSAR, is a radar technique used in geodesy and remote sensing. This geodetic method uses two or more synthetic aperture radar (SAR) images to generate maps of surface deformation or digital elevation, using differences in the phase of the waves returning to the satellite. Persistent or Permanent Scatter techniques are a relatively recent development from conventional InSAR, and rely on studying pixels that remain coherent over a sequence of interferograms. In 1999, researchers at Politecnico di Milano, Italy, developed a new multi-image approach in which one searches the stack of images for objects on the ground providing consistent and stable radar reflections back to the satellite. These objects could be the size of a pixel or, more commonly, sub-pixel sized, and are present in every image in the stack. PSInSAR<sup>TM</sup> is an international trademark of Politecnico di Milano.

#### OIL SPILL CASE STUDY

## **Hypothetical Scenario**

Despite protests by shipping and environmental interests, the port of Haven in Country A in January doubled its berthing, to manage demand.

Company MakeProfit, registered in Country B, owns the container vessel *Dark Sea*, registered in Country C. *Dark Sea* is old and poorly maintained. According to one of the crew, Nga Duc, the ship's master, Captain Salt, said he had pointed this out to MakeProfit's CEO, Shirley Doller, who had told Salt to "make do". Salt recounted that she had also instructed him to keep berthing costs "at the level they were before". The only way Salt can do this is to spend less time in port. This leaves little opportunity to evacuate properly the fuel oil waste and engine lubricant residues ("slops") that accumulate in larger than normal quantities on the vessel because of its condition.

Unusual atmospheric conditions arose in February and continued into March, when *Dark Sea* set out for Haven from Capetown. The conditions, caused by volcanic ash, left coastal surveillance aircraft grounded. Knowing that aircraft were the chief means of detecting discharges, Captain Salt apparently decided to evacuate slops directly into the sea en route to Haven. It seems this was done at night on 21 March 20 kilometres off the coast of Country E, in waters where ships frequently wait before proceeding on to Haven so as to reduce their time at berth. It is common knowledge that some ships use the waiting time to flush their tanks in this area of the sea, which lies outside Country E's territorial waters but within its declared Exclusive Economic Zone ("EEZ"). This area is regularly monitored with SAR images.

Salt then made for Haven at 14:00 on 22 March, leaving behind a patchy slick extending for 2 kilometres within the EEZ. The slick went on to beach in Countries E, F and A. Coastal fishermen from these countries are prevented from fishing in the affected area for a period of two weeks, so losing revenue.

## **Other Relevant Facts**

SAR and optical images from two different satellite systems are available for the period before, during and after this incident, as well as AIS data. The *Dark Sea* had left the area before any surface vessel could the affected area to investigate.

Country C disputes Country E's EEZ. Countries A and E are EU Member States. A is a civil law jurisdiction with an inquisitorial tradition, while E is a common law jurisdiction with an adversarial tradition.

# The Brief

The maritime surveillance authority, state prosecutor of Country E, and FishHelp (the association representing fishermen's interests of countries E, F and A) have asked you to advise on their course of action, on the basis of the evidence available. The brief for the consultation identifies the following issues:

- Surveillance means normally available and the practical value of the evidence in the circumstances
- Providers of satellite evidence and the scope, accuracy and reliability of their data, especially AIS and the two systems, SAR and optical
- Sample collection techniques for the slops and experience in similar circumstances
- Evidential law admissibility and weight of the types of evidence concerned in relation to criminal and civil proceedings
- Authorities to be involved that are responsible for surveillance and verification under legislation based on MARPOL and European regional conventions on sea pollution
- Tribunals with jurisdiction
- Initiation of proceedings and locus standi
- Applicable substantive and procedural law

# ATTENDANCE LIST WORKSHOP: EVIDENCE FROM SPACE 5 OCTOBER 2010

#### **Moderators and Presenters**

Gordon Campbell Directorate of EO Programmes, Project Manager, ESA ESRIN

Mark Doherty Head of Exploitation Division, ESA ESRIN

Alessandro Ferretti Chief Executive Officer, TRE Luc Govaert Project Manager, ESA ESRIN

Professor Robert Gurney Director, Environmental Systems Science Centre, Reading University

Egbert Jongsma Audit Manager, Netherlands Court of Audit
Marc Journel Satellite Based Monitoring Services, EMSA
Dr Simon Kay Head of Unit, Joint Research Centre, MARS
Professor Richard Macrory Director, Centre for Law and the Environment, UCL
Professor Kevin Madders Systemics Network International; KCL; ISPL Faculty
Tanja Masson-Zwaan President IISL; Deputy Director, IIASL Leiden; ISPL Faculty

David Morten Managing Director, Fugro NPA

Professor Sa'id Mosteshar Director, ISPL

Ray Purdy Deputy Director, Centre for Law and the Environment, UCL; ISPL Faculty

Professor Lucien Rapp Toulouse University; ISPL Faculty
Professor Kai-Uwe Schrogl Director ESPI; ISPL Faculty

Professor Maureen Williams University of Buenos Aires/Conicet; Chair, Space Law Committee, ILA

#### Rapporteurs

Susan Barham Partner, Barlow Lyde & Gilbert
Klaus Becher Space Policy Consultant; ISPL Faculty

Dr Hervé Borrion Science Manager, Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science, UCL

Dr Andrew Brearley Debris Policy Specialist

Richard Graham Senior Associate, Bird & Bird; ISPL Faculty
David Halbert Technical Project Manager, Infoterra

Dr Stephen Hobbs Director, Cranfield Space Research Centre, Cranfield University

Mikael Kamp Sørensen Director, GRAS

Yeliz Korkmaz Researcher, Leiden University

Professor Jan-Peter Muller Image Understanding & Remote Sensing, Space & Climate Physics, UCL

Matxalen Sánchez Aranzamendi Resident Fellow, ESPI

Neil F Stevens General Counsel, Atrium; ISPL Faculty

Professor Geoffrey Wadge Chairman, Monserrat Science Committee; NERC-ESSC

Ilaria Zilioli Contracts Officer, ESA; ISPL Faculty

## **Participants**

Maria Adams Head of Future Missions, UK Space Agency Jonathan Amos Science Correspondent, BBC News

Philip Annetts Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs, DEFRA

Tony Ballard Partner, Harbottle & Lewis, ISPL Trustee

Cristina Barreau Environmental Lawyer, Surfrider Foundation Europe

Darcy Beamer-Downie General Counsel, Airclaims Ltd
Dr Ulrike Bohlmann Legal Administrator, ESA

Rasmus Borgstrøm Geographic Resource Analysis & Science Ltd., GRAS
Ann Brosnan Head of Serious Casework, Environment Agency UK
Alan Brunstrom Integrated Applications Promotion IAP, ESA

Giovanni Cannizzaro Businness Development, Telespazio

Marco Cattadori Booz & Co

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Antidia Citores Law and Lobbying Coordinator, Surfrider Foundation Europe Robin Cleverly Law of the Sea Consultant, UK Hydrographic Office

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WORKSHOP PAPERS LONDON INSTITUTE OF SPACE POLICY AND LAW Martin Ditter Project Manager, ESA Harwell Centre

Samantha Duckett Helical Bar

Ruth Eldon ISPL Workshop Administrator Yanal Abul Failat Student, Kingston University

Chris Forsyth Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

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