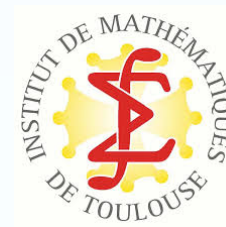




Université  
de Toulouse



# Physical-based inverse methods to infer ice-sheets & ice-streams bed properties

by J. Monnier

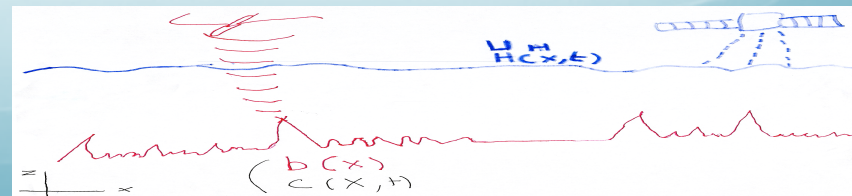
INSA & Mathematics Institute of Toulouse

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**Study #1) Ice-sheet beds in interior sectors :**

➔ A new inverse method to improve the bed estimations ?

**Study #2) On multi-scale dynamic inversions  
to be applied to seasonal ice-streams modeling**



# Antarctica Bedmap 2: Topography from data compilation & interpolation

Source : [Fretwell et al.]'13

**Method:** airborne data compilation, 25 millions of survey points  
+ Kriging & other.

→ **5-km cells.**

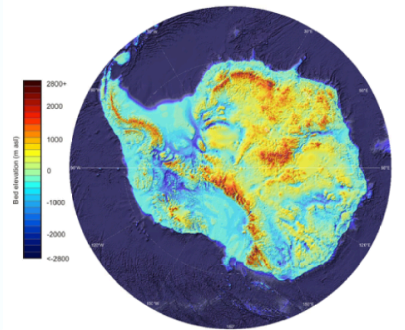
**1/3 of cells contain data → Error +/-100m**

**The others 2/3 do not → Error +/- 300m**

80% of cells are within 20 km of measurements

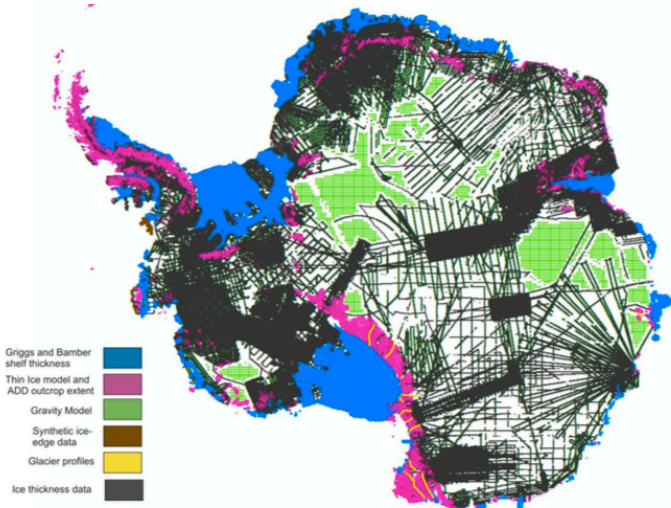
**For interior sectors, gravity data are inverted → Error up to +/-1000 m**

« Poles of ignorance » are ~200Km from nearest data.



Bedmap2: bed elevation  
[Fretwell et al.]'13

Data set used for Bedmap2



Uncertainties

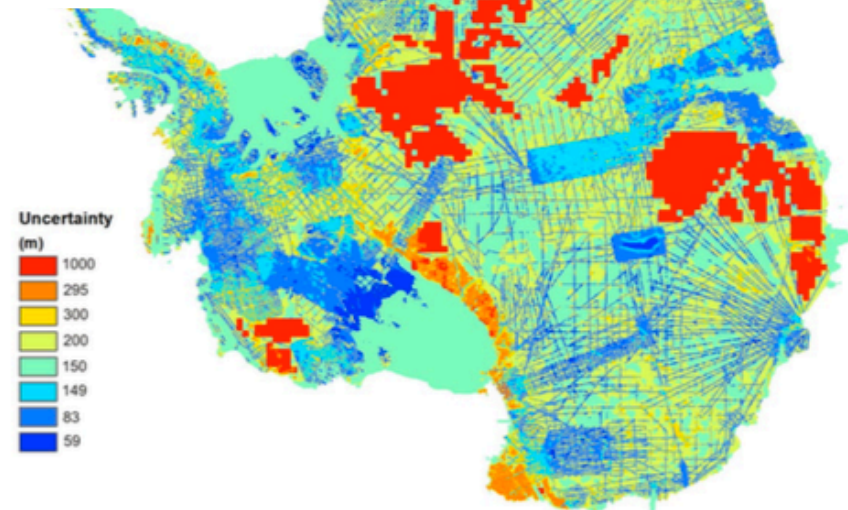


Fig. 11. Estimated uncertainty in ice thickness grid.

# Greenland bed topography from data compilation & interpolation

**Source :** [Bamber et al.]'13

From airborne data, 420 000 km of lines : see Fig.  
Data sources: CReSIS & many others.

**Method:** data compilation (data gridded with 5km posting)  
+ Averaging & Kriging on 1km - 2.5km grids.

➔ **Errors** from 10 to 300 m.

**For interior sectors,**  
across-track spacing can be more than 50 km  
➔ **Error +/-100 m and up to +/-300m.**

## Challenge for physical-based inverse methods:

Improve the accuracy  
between the data lines  
by combining  
the surface observations  
(Altimetry, InSAR)  
with  
the conservation laws

Airborne data lines  
Source: [Bamber al.'13]

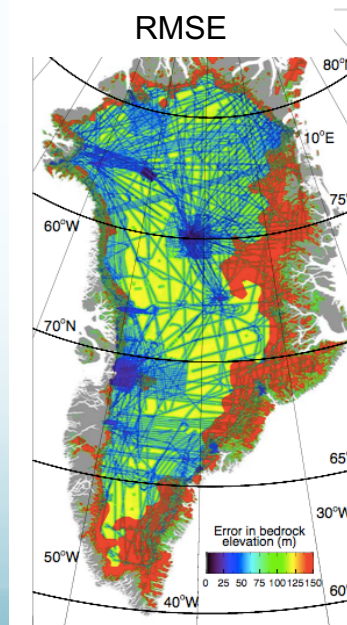
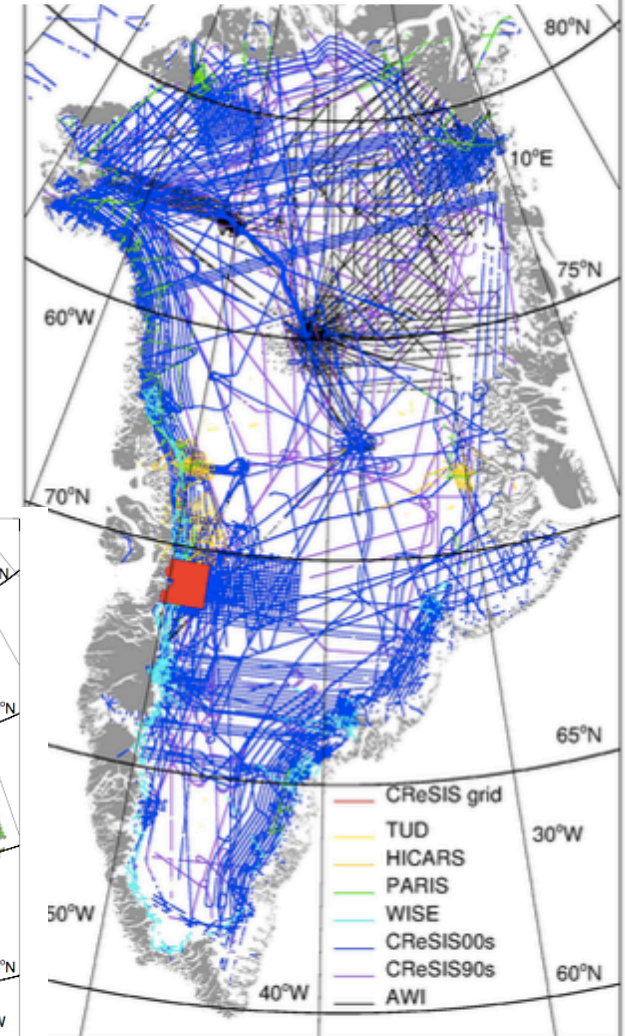


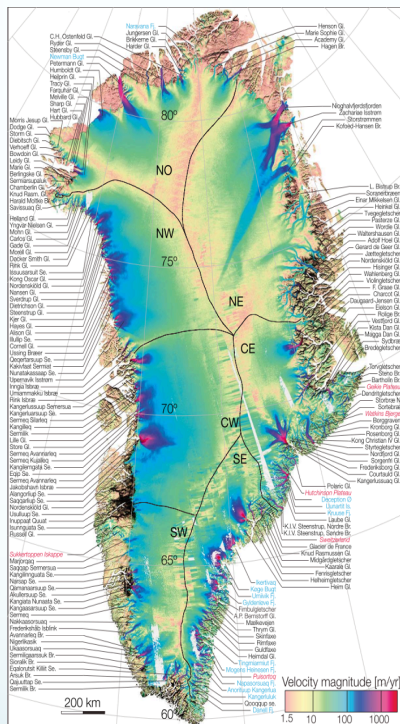
Fig. 7. RMS error in bed elevation due to the combined uncertainties in the IPR data and those due to interpolation.

1. Data sources. CReSIS90 (purple) includes all data from 1993-1999 as used in (Bamber et al., 2001b). CReSIS00 (blue) includes data derived from CReSIS instruments between 2000 and 2012.



# Databases: InSAR, Altimetry & Airborne measurements

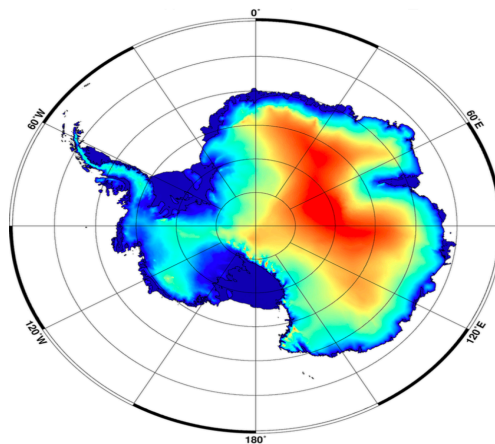
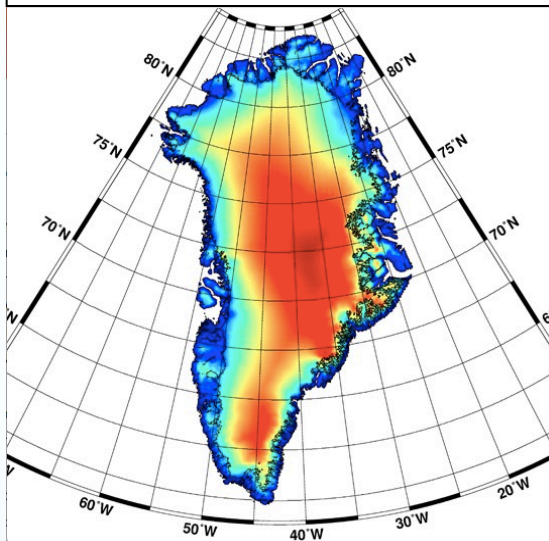
**Ice velocities**  
derived from InSAR  
[Rignot-Mouginot] et al.



**Top surface elevation (DEM)  
& Slopes**

See eg [V. Helm et al.]'14 from  
Cryosat-2 (2012 data up to 88° N/S)

1-km grid DEM (error ~ a few m)  
Slopes (~0.1° interior) at larger scale.



**Airborne data**

CReSIS et al.  
[Bamber al.'13]

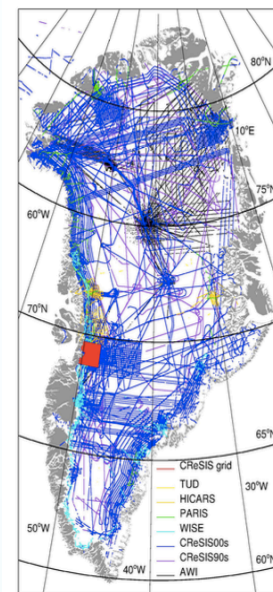
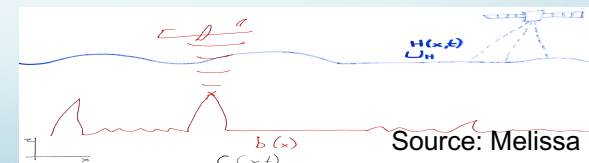


Fig. 1. Data sources. CReSIS90 (purple) includes all data from 1993 to 1999 as used in (Bamber et al., 2001b). CReSIS00 (blue) includes all data derived from CReSIS instruments between 2000 and 2012.





# Bed topography inference: the current reference method [Morlighem et al]'14

Greenland bed topography maps  
by [Morlighem et al]'14  
Streams: Depth-averaged mass equation  
Interior sectors: [Bamber et al' 13]

**Method** : Combination of the depth-averaged mass equation (transport)  
(Rasmussen'88) + data cocktail (altimetry, InSAR, airborne)  
+ Variational Data Assimilation (VDA).

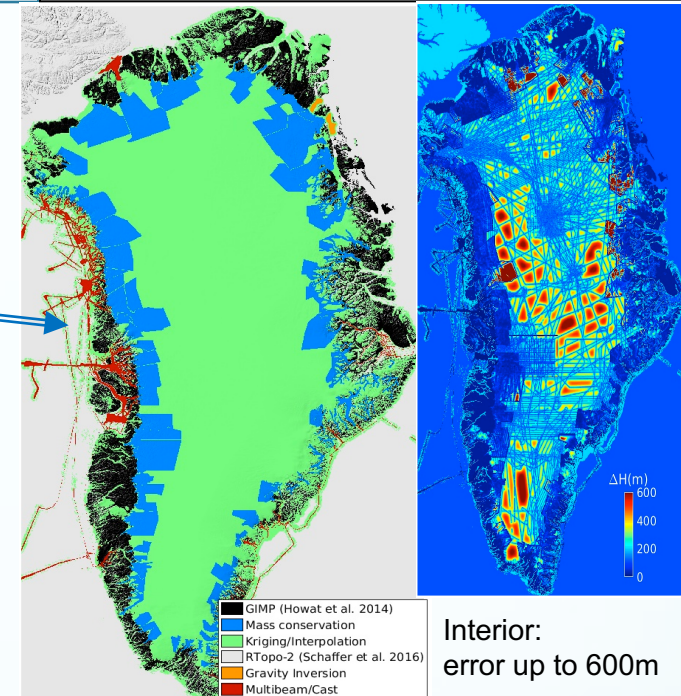
→ Topography in fast flow areas (~plug flows at ~100+ m/y)  
eg Greenland grid ~400m resolution.

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**Pros:** - Efficient since VDA + mass conservation.  
- Extremely useful since in the fast flow areas.

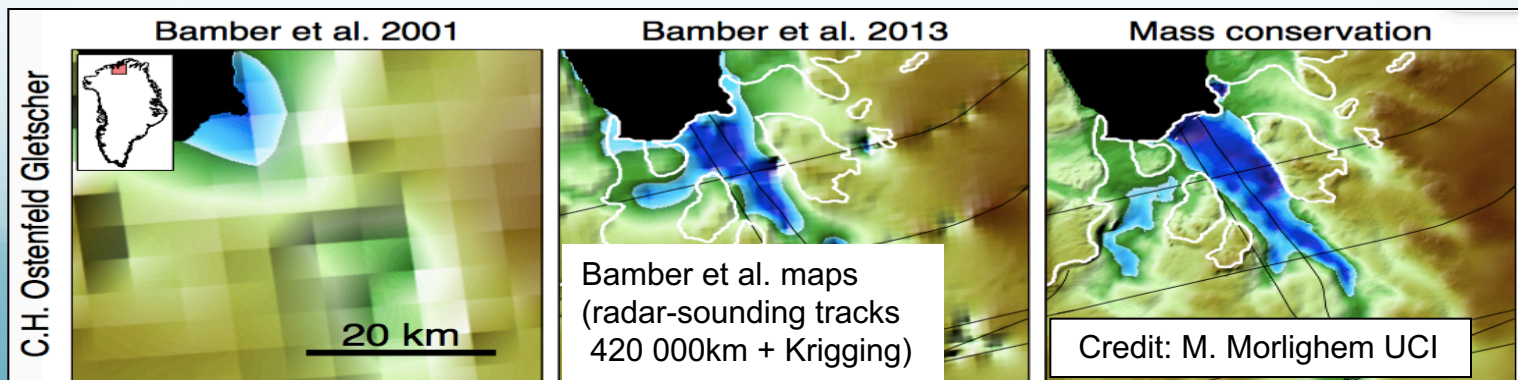
**Cons:**

- In the fast flow areas only since dynamic model ~ plug flow.  
No actual momentum conservation.
- Flight tracks at upstream are required.
- Error measurements are intrincally propagated since transport equation.



Interior:  
error up to 600m

→ Accurate map in fast flow areas where quite dense flight tracks are available

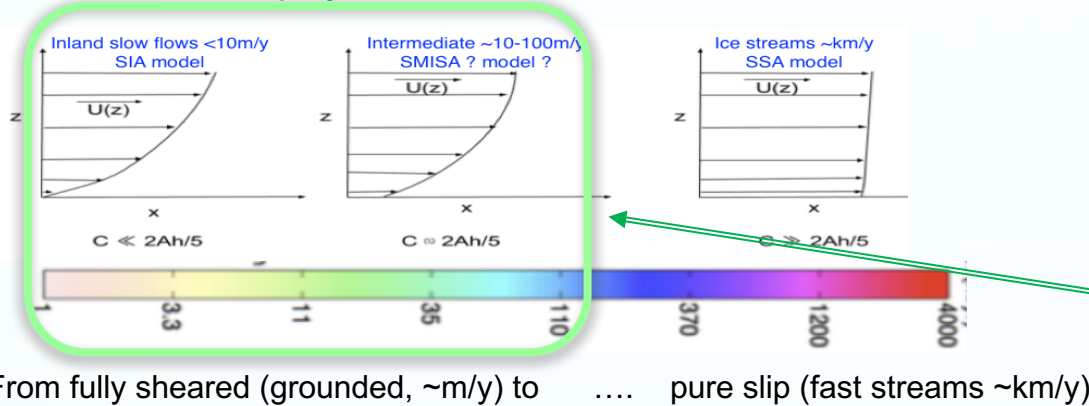


# In view to infer the bed properties in poorly measured areas and/or in slow flow areas (< 50+ m/y)

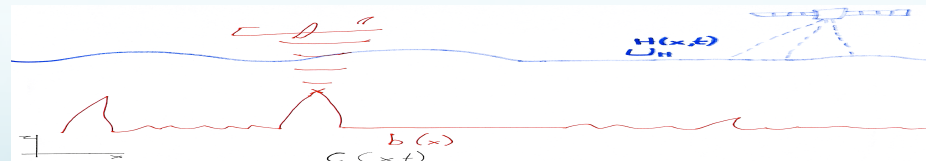
## Additional difficulties :

- The validity range of the **shallow ice flow models** is restricted  
The mass equation is not sufficient in sheared flow sectors.

### The considered physical-based model

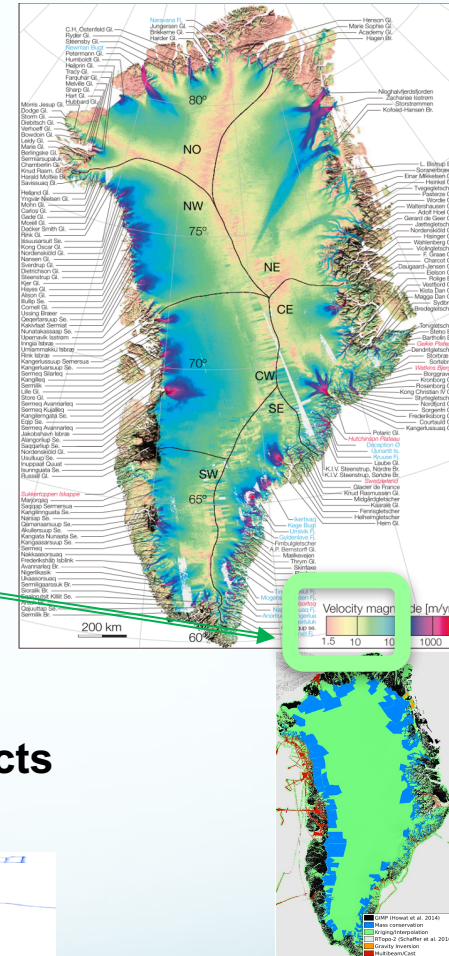


- Separating the topography effects from the friction coefficient effects measured from an unique signature: the surface observations.



Friction coefficient  $C$  = rough macroscopic model of the non-homogeneous material beneath the glaciers and/or subglacial hydrology.

Propagation of error measurements : better to damp than transporting



# The proposed method to infer the bed properties in the interior sectors

From [Monnier-desBoscs]'17

## Ingredients

- **A quite complete physics** (xSIA, standard)

Shallow Ice Approximation with weak/moderate slip at bottom

→ Valid for slip ratio  $R_S \sim [0.3 - 1.] < 50+$  m/y  
and at  $\sim 5$  km scale.

- **The mathematical inverse method : analytico-numerical**

- Analytical calculations combined with the observed quantity

$$\frac{\|U_H\|}{\|\nabla H\|^q} : \text{ratio InSAR / Altimetry}$$

- VDA of Altimetry data  $H$  + Airborne data where available.

→ **Three depth estimations depending on the Slip Ratio (=flow regime)**

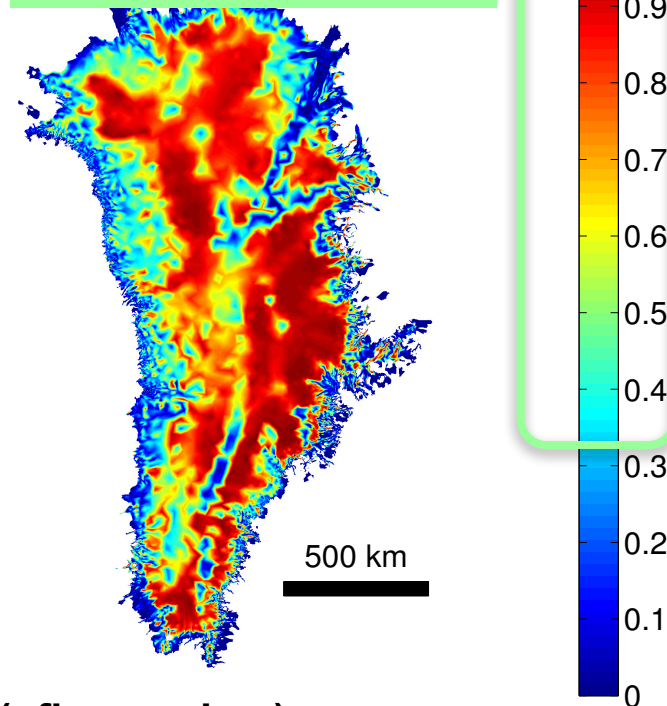
$$h \approx \left[ \frac{(q+1)}{2\bar{\rho}A} Q_H \right]^{1/(q+1)} \equiv h_{sr1}$$

$$a_2 h^{q+2} - \frac{Q_H}{\bar{\rho}} h + \eta = 0$$

$$h = \left[ 1 - \frac{R_s}{(q+2)} \right]^{-1} \frac{\bar{\rho}}{Q_H} \eta \equiv h_{sr2}$$

**Fig. = Slip Ratio**  
From ISSM computations  
H. Seroussi et al. JPL

The method should be fine everywhere excepted in the blue sectors





# An academic multi-regime test case

**Step 1. A-priori slip ratio law  $R_S(U_H)$**

+ Analytical calculations

including the observed term

$$\frac{\|U_H\|}{\|\nabla H\|^q}$$

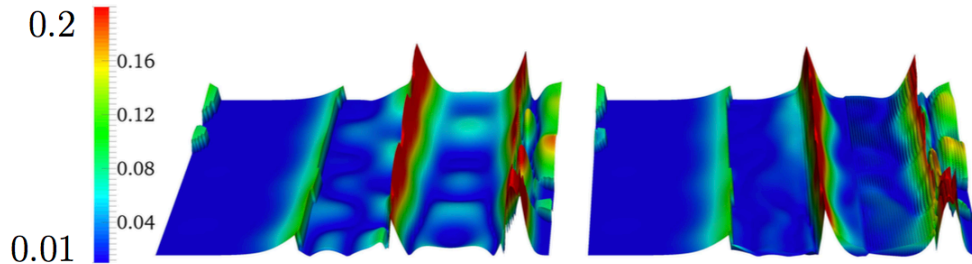
→ 1st good estimation of  $h$  (robust wrt  $R_S$ )

**Step 2. VDA in  $H$  + polynom solved**

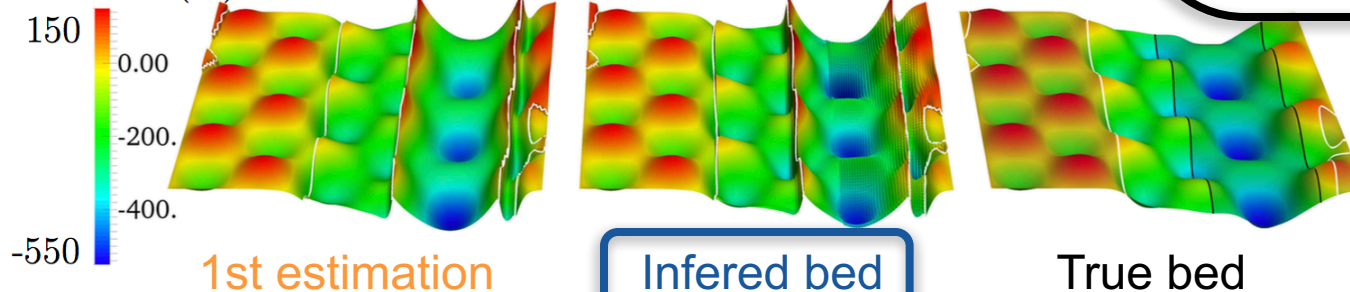
→ Inferred bed

Errors ~ 5% & ~ 20% in stiff variations areas

$h$  error (%)



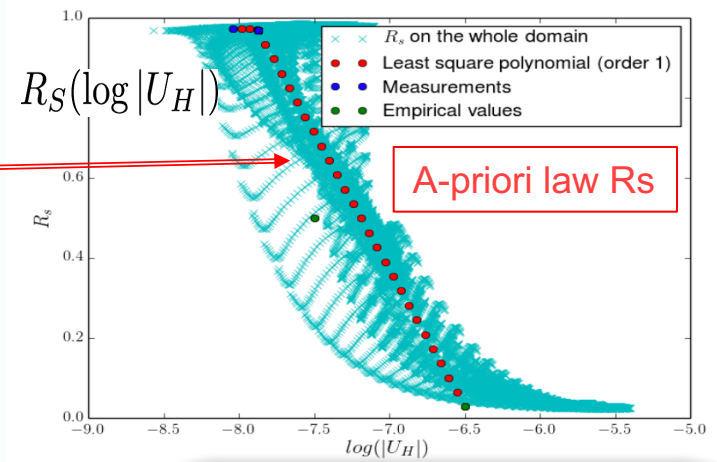
Bed elevation (m)



1st estimation

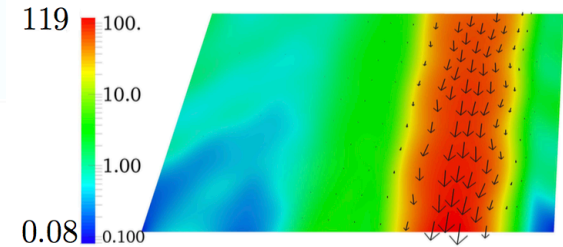
Inferred bed

True bed



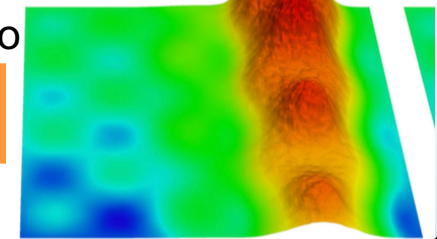
Velocity (m/y)

Obs.



The ratio

$$\frac{\|U_H\|}{\|\nabla H\|^q}$$



# The proposed inverse method

From [Monnier-desBoscs]'17

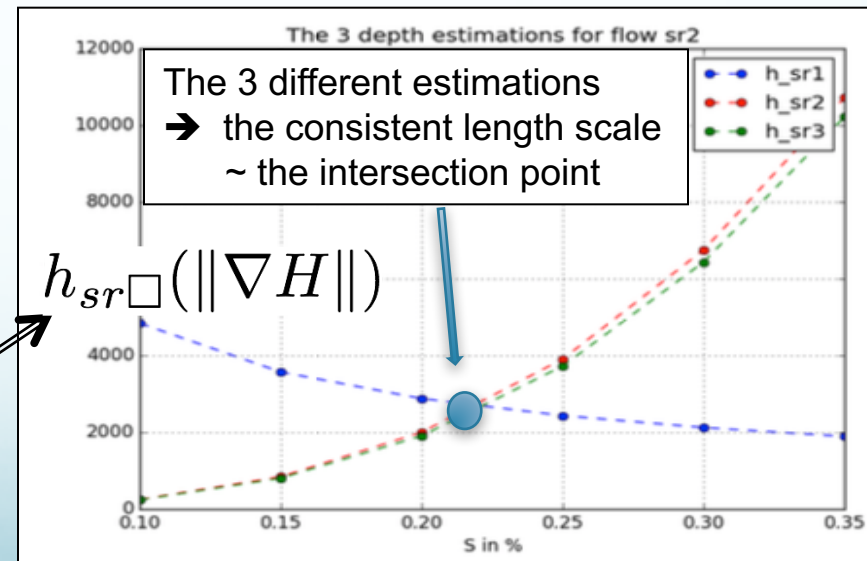
## Pros

- Works where no other method does (it is dedicated to interior sectors  $< \sim 50^\circ$  m/y).  
Today: Kriging or gravity inversions with locally extremely large uncertainties.
- Can be performed even without any airborne measurement ! However more accurate if available !
- Works independently of the airborne measurement locations.
- Error measurements are damped and not propagated (elliptic equation and not transport-hyperbolic eqn)

## Cons

- Large scale resolution  
since based on a shallow model  $\rightarrow \sim 5\text{-km grid}$
- Highly sensitive to the slope scale value  
however there is a solution to this problem.  
Indeed from the 3 depth estimations...

Plot: The 3 depth estimations  $h$  vs slope values  $\|\nabla H\|$   
(Test with 20% noise on InSAR value of  $UH$ )



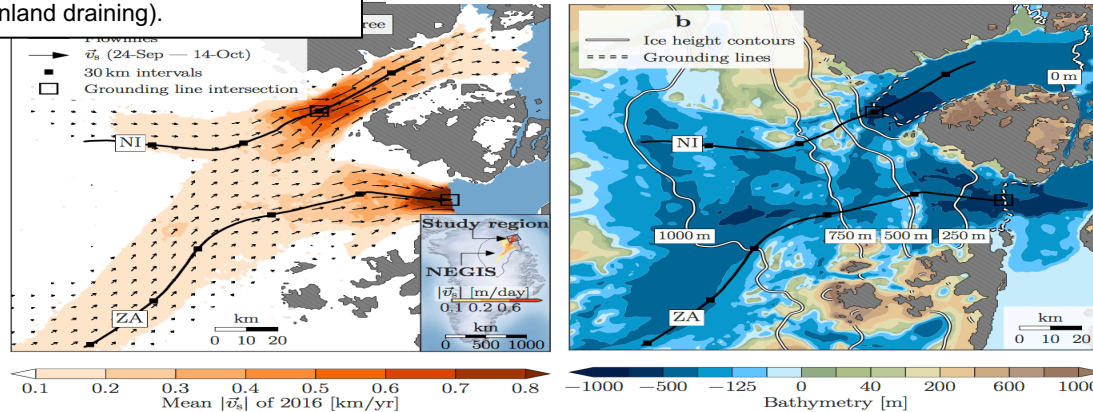
$\rightarrow$  The consistent length scale for the slope definition.

# Study #2 : On the seasonal ice-streams modeling

Prospective study at its very beginning

**Test case :** Northeast Greenland Ice Stream  
(16% Greenland draining).

Image source: Rathmann et al. GRL 2017



**[Rathmann et al. 2017]’s study :**

**ESA Sentinel-1 SAR UH ~12 days repeat → Analysis of the dynamic becomes possible.**

Complex multi-physics dynamic : seasonal melting / sliding phenomena.

The multi-scale subglacial hydrology dynamics is not measured ...

→ uncertain & complex sub-surface model (partially from observed dynamic surface lakes ~ km).

**Our goal (prospective study !) :**

**Try to bypass this extremely difficult sub-surface modelling**

**by developing a multi-scale inverse method combined with HR surface data.**

**A good starting point is available :**

Direct & inverse model: SSA equations with VDA of the complete data cocktail  
including the High Frequency ESA Sentinel 1 data (swath SAR).

Ua computational software from H. Gudmundsson, British Antarctic Survey, UK.



**\* Forthcoming actions \***

**Study #1: Can the interior bed topographies be inferred from surface data ? Let's try it !...**

- ✓ Inverse method assessed into details for academic test cases (IMT).
- ❑ **Inversion from the complete databases planned in autumn '17**  
*with M. Morlighem (UCIrvine), ISSM computational software (UCI-JPL).*



**Study #2: On the seasonal ice-streams: multi-scale inverse approach. Propective study.**

- ❑ Seasonal dynamics: need High Frequency & High Resolution data.  
eg Sentinel-1 SAR : the crucial data sets in the very recent & current studies.
- ✓ Up to now, *in a purely computational point of view*, our new inverse method is promising ...  
(Preliminary study at IMT 2016-17).

❑ **How is it relevant to model the seasonal ice stream dynamics ?**

➔ One of our small research program goal CNES Tosca project.

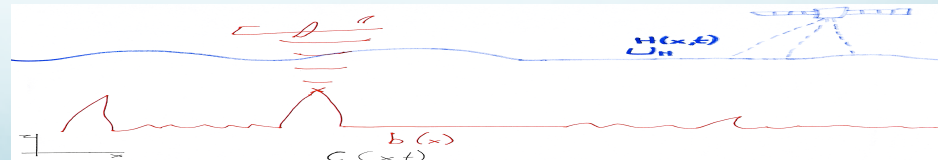
*Postdoc begins in october'17*

*In collaboration with H. Gudmundsson (BAS, UK)  
& Colleagues from IMT (optimisation).*



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Thank you for your attention

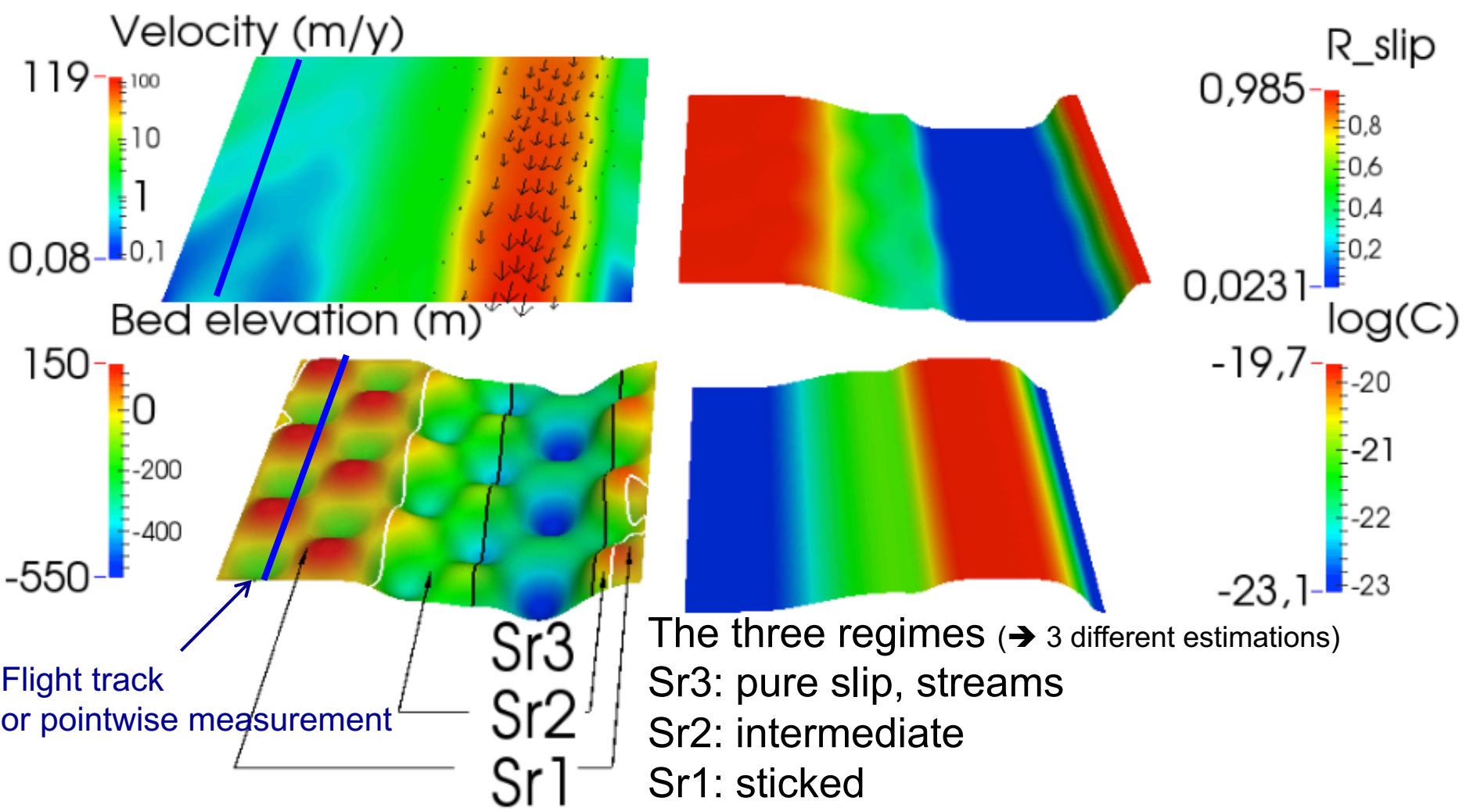


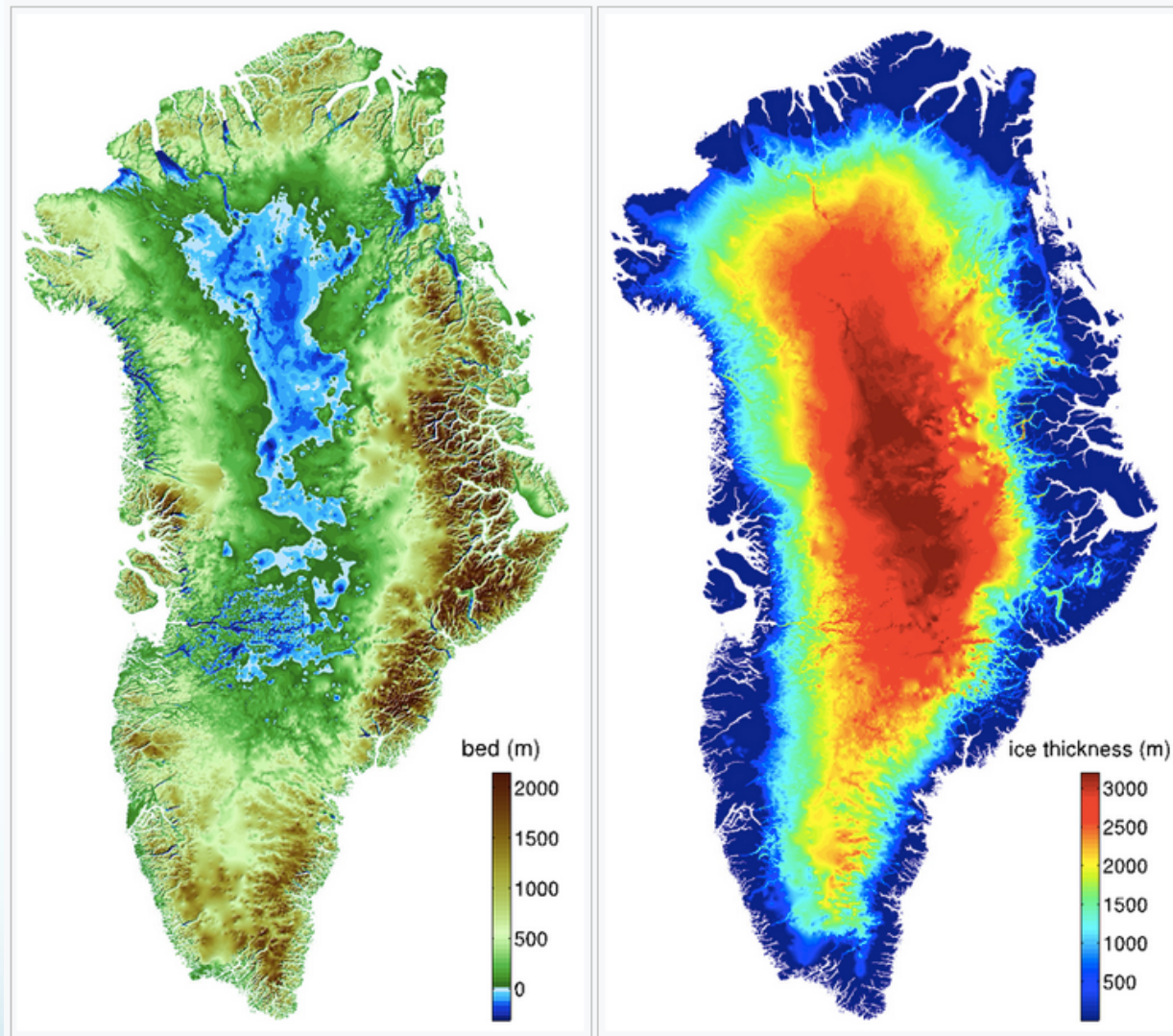




# An academic multi-regime test case

- Academic but complex since fully multi-regime (+ real-like noise amplitudes).
- «Airborne» measurements (  $\mathcal{Q}_H$ : 20% noise) : lateral boundary (or pointwise !)  
→ case not resolvable by the existing methods.

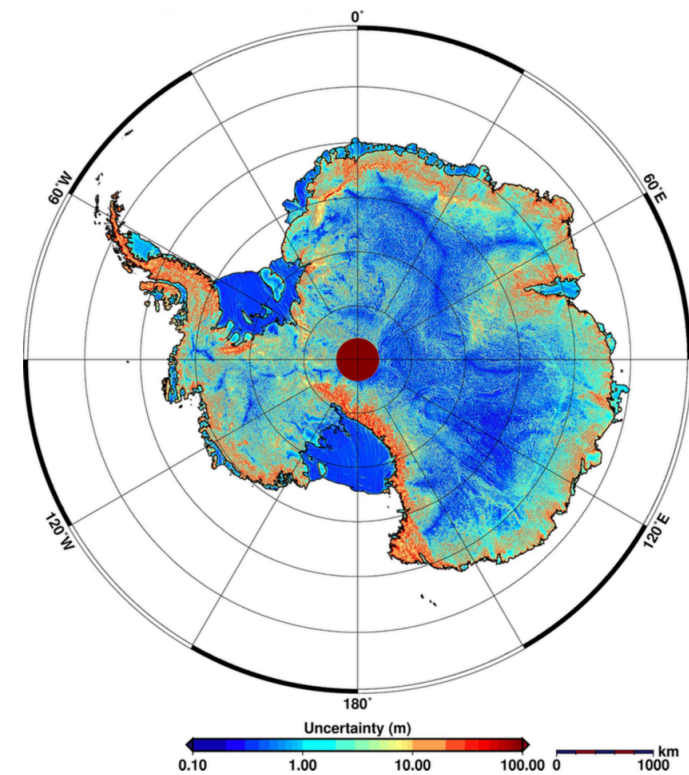




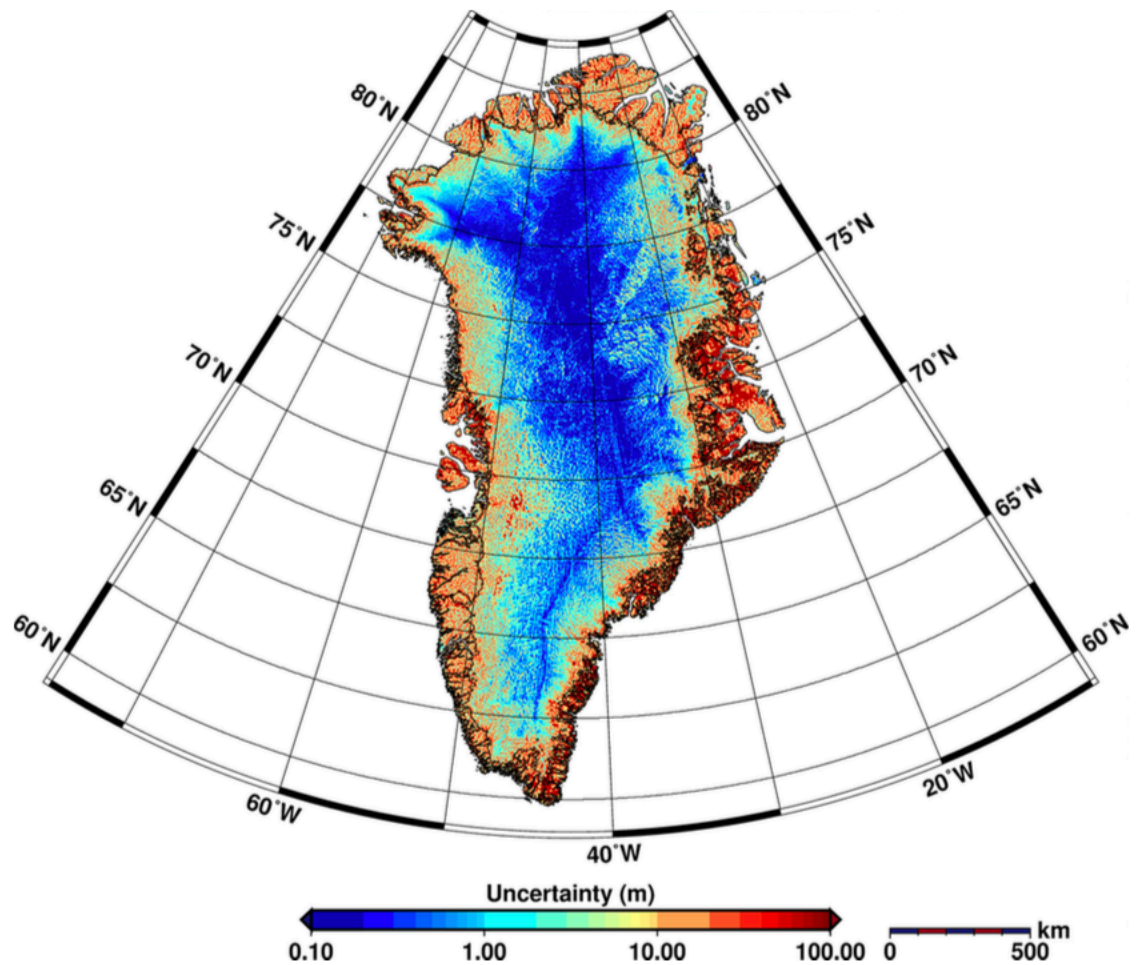
***Greenland bed topography maps  
by [Morlighem et al'14]***

Streams: Depth-averaged mass equation

Interior sectors: [Bamber et al' 13]



**Figure A1.** Uncertainty map of the new Antarctica DEM calculated using a multiple regression approach based on DEM–ICESat differences.



**Figure A2.** Uncertainty map of the new Greenland DEM calculated using a multiple regression approach based on DEM–ICESat differences.



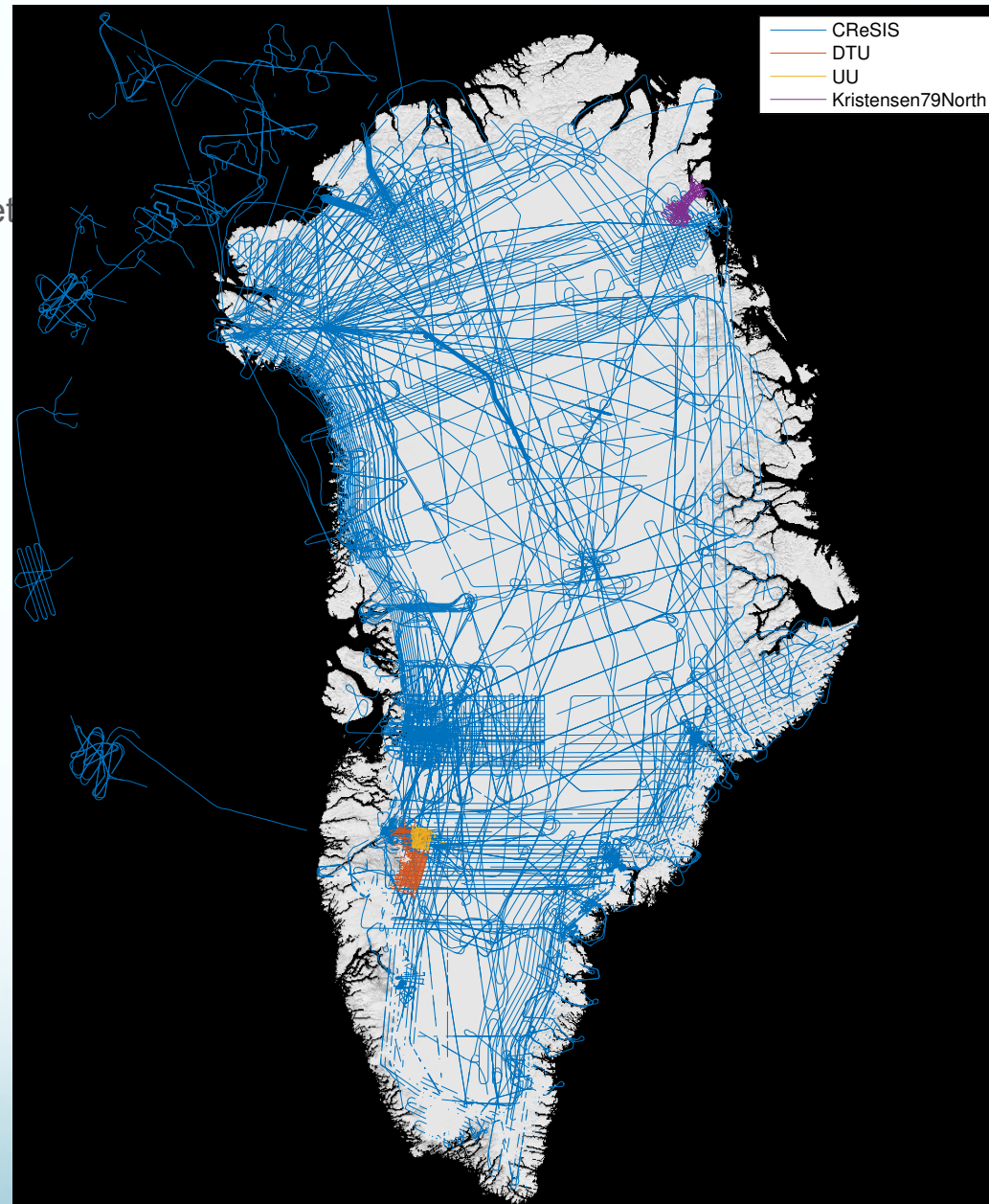
CReSIS = Center for Remote Sensing

of the Ice Sheet (Kansas University) (NASA, SSF, et

DTU = Technical University of Denmark

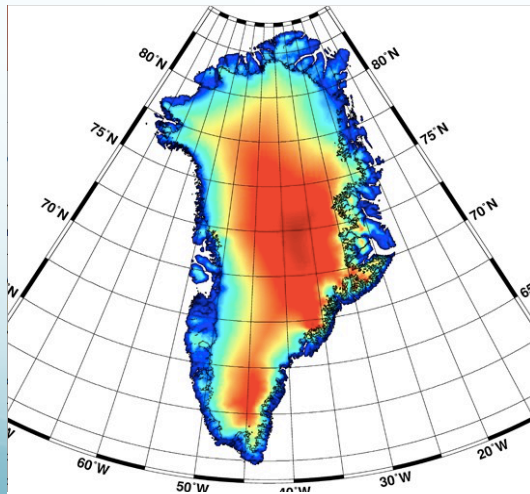
UU = Utrecht University

Map: M. Morlighem pers. Comm

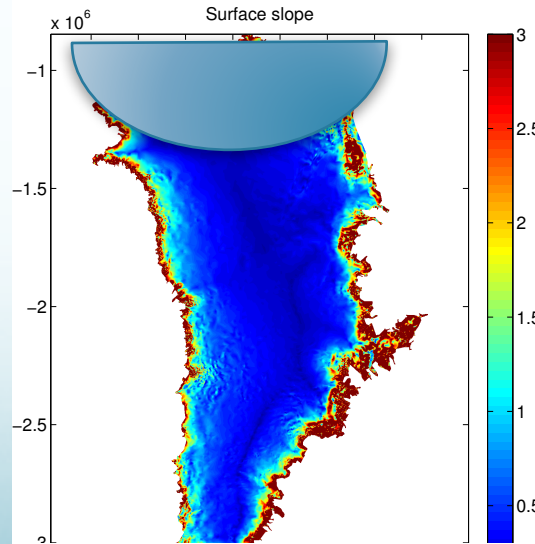


# Satellite altimetry

	Sentinel-3	ICESat 2	SWOT
Launch	2016	2017	2021
Footprint	300 m Nadir over Sealce	10 m footprint (4 lasers)	120 km swath
Repeat	27 days with (up to) 10 repeats at high latitude	30/90 days	22 days with up to 12 repeats at high latitude (78o max)
Accuracy	? (SSH: 3-5cm)	15 cm	?
Limitations	Snow/ice penetration ?	3 km space tracks Cloud coverage	Snow/ice penetration ?



Top surface elevation  
from ESA Cryosat-2  
[V. Helm, Cryos. '14]

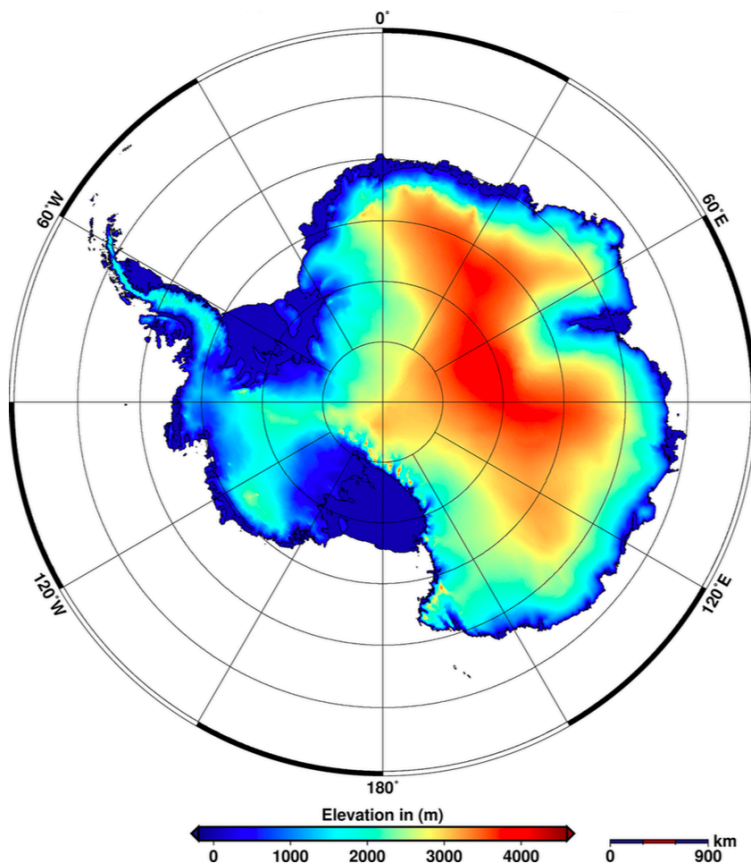


Surface slopes from...  
Credit: Seroussi-Larour, JPL

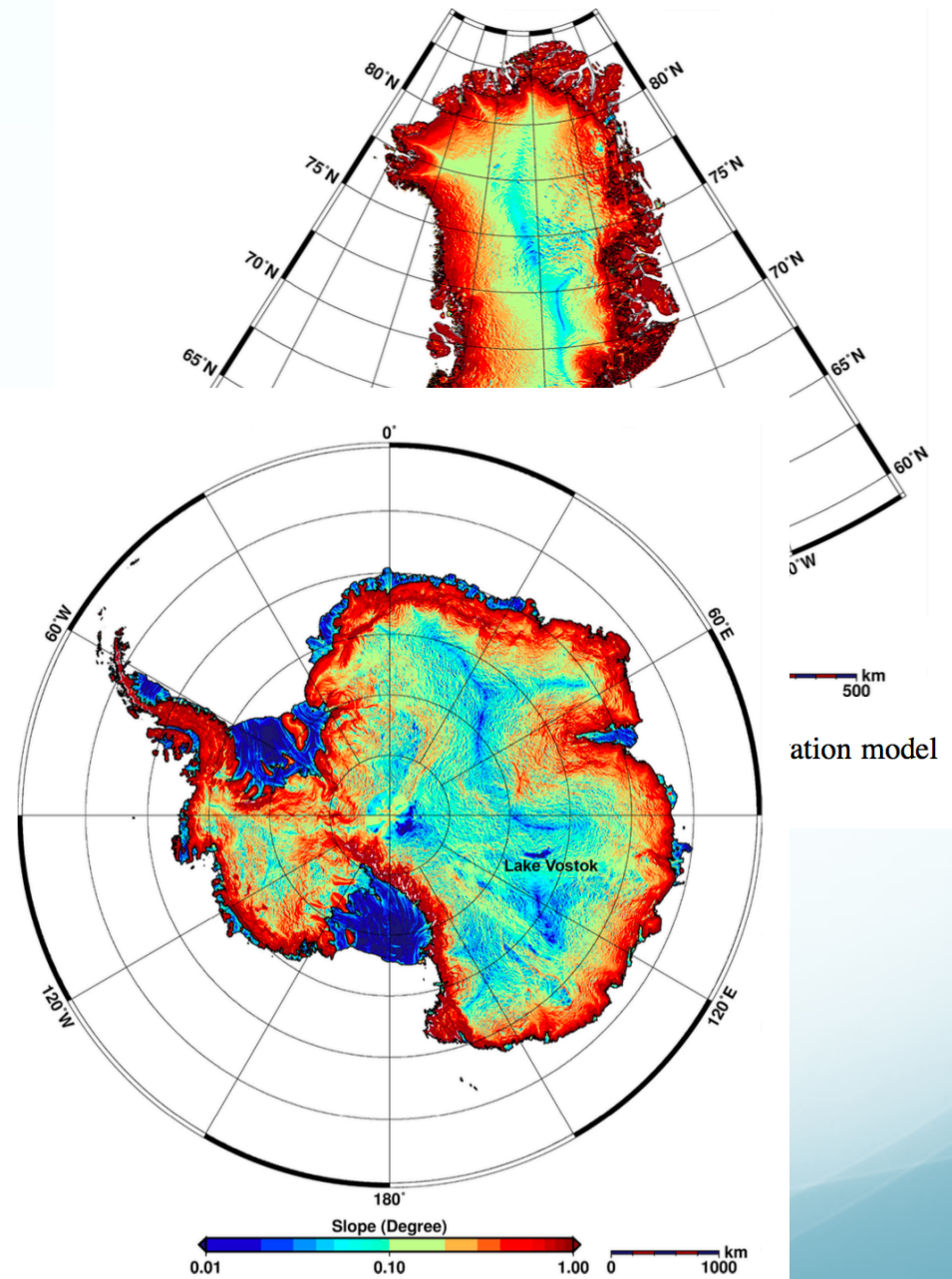
High frequency visits  
→ precious data  
for rapidly varying coastal  
flows  
e.g. Southern Greenland  
with seasonal dynamics

\*\*\*  
SWOT

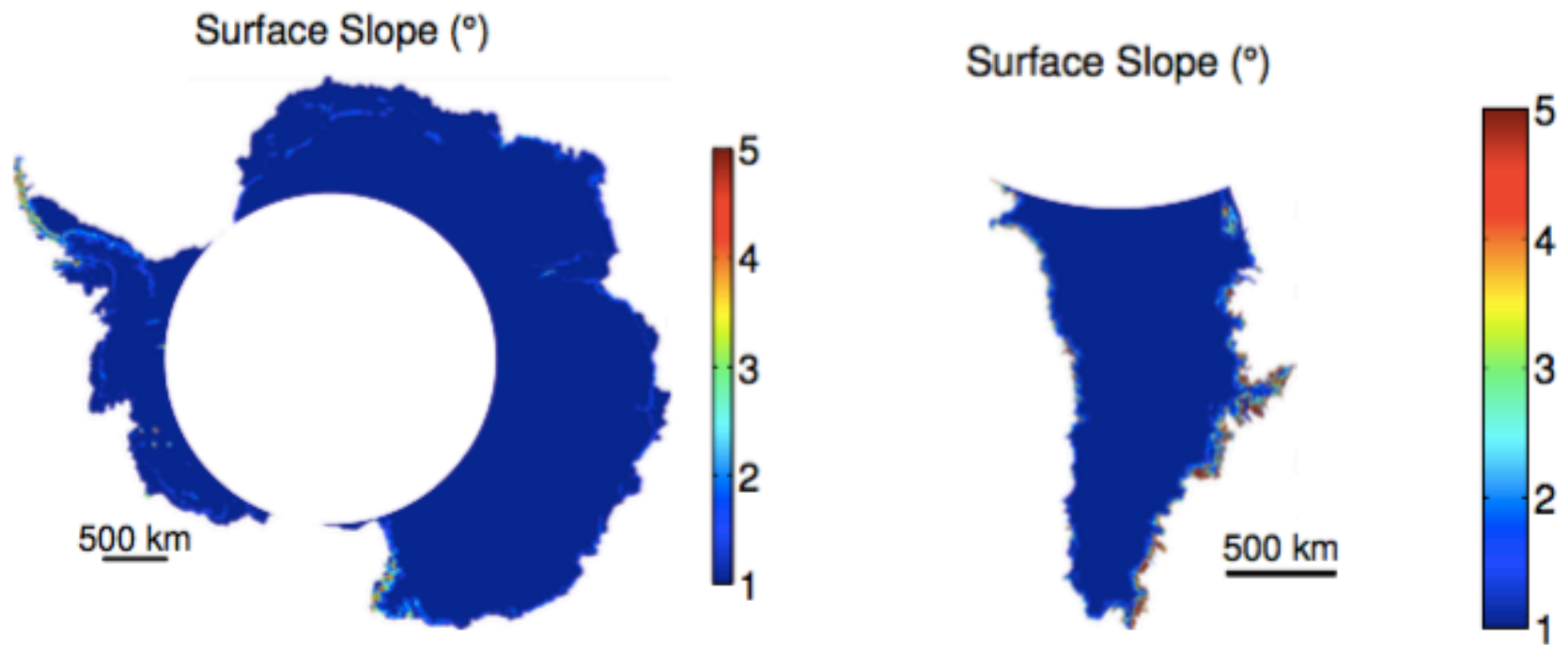
LR inland  
HR coastal flows (?)



**Figure 5.** New elevation model of Antarctica derived from CryoSat-2.



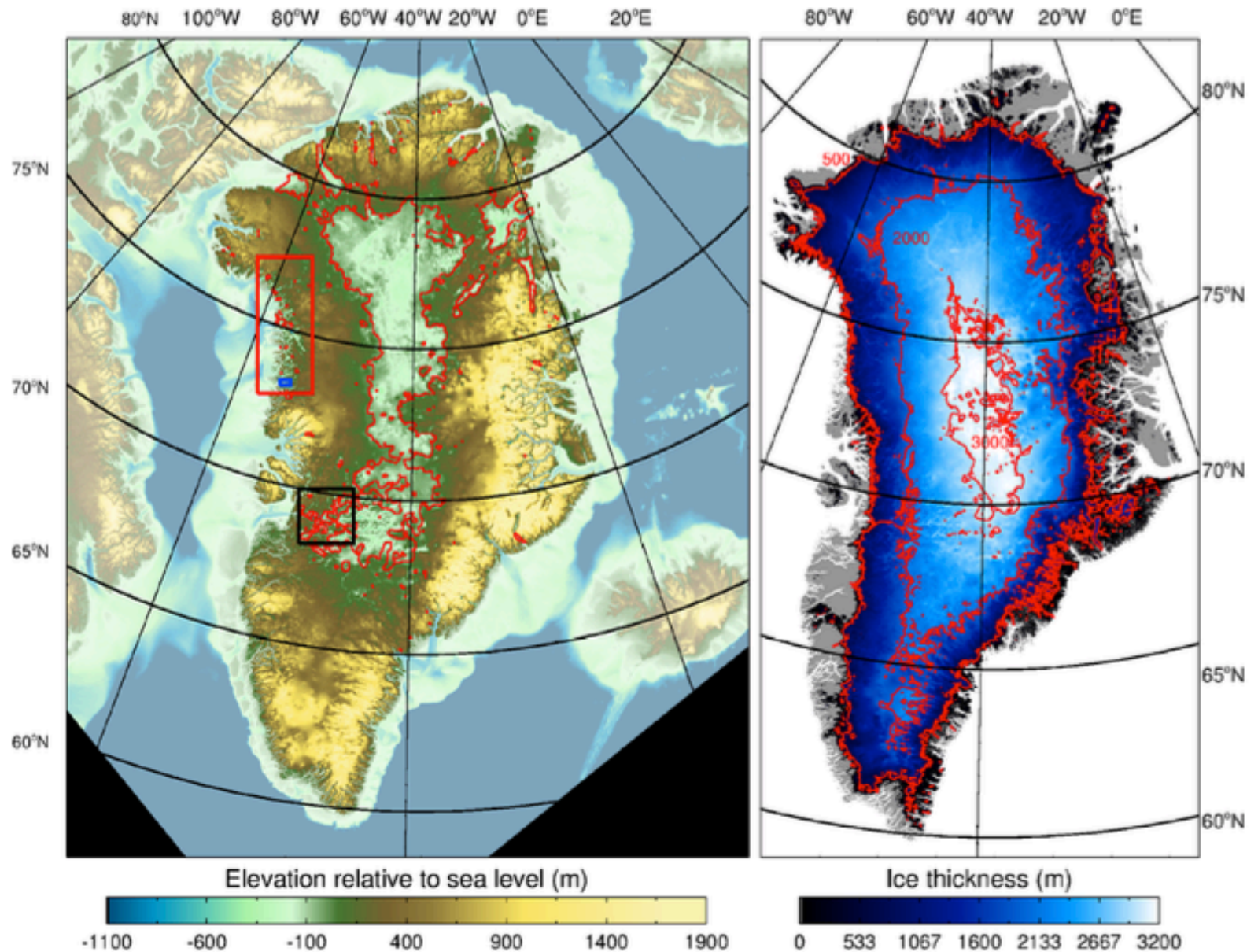
**Figure 6.** Surface slopes, estimated from the new elevation model of Antarctica.



**Figure 1.** Estimated coverage of SWOT over Antarctica (left) and Greenland (right): surface slopes (in °) and radar coverage. The white zones correspond to areas not covered by the radar

Image: courtesy of H. Seroussi, JPL





**Fig. 3.** (a) Bed elevation and bathymetry. Bathymetry is plotted on an opaque scale. Black and red boxes show the location of the Jakobshavn and north-west coastal regions shown in Fig. 4a–f, respectively. The blue box shows the location of the region shown in Fig. 2. The red contour is at 0 m above sea level. (b) Ice thickness as determined from the difference between surface and bed DEMs, with contours at 500, 2000 and 3000 m.

From [V. Helm, Cryos.'14]  
Data Cryosat-2 ESA 2012

