



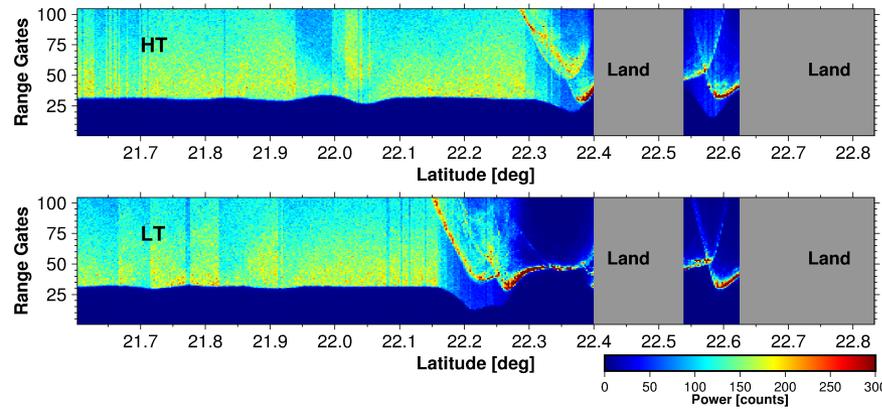
# Detecting sub-waveforms using spatio-temporal waveform information in combination with sparse representation and conditional random fields for coastal applications

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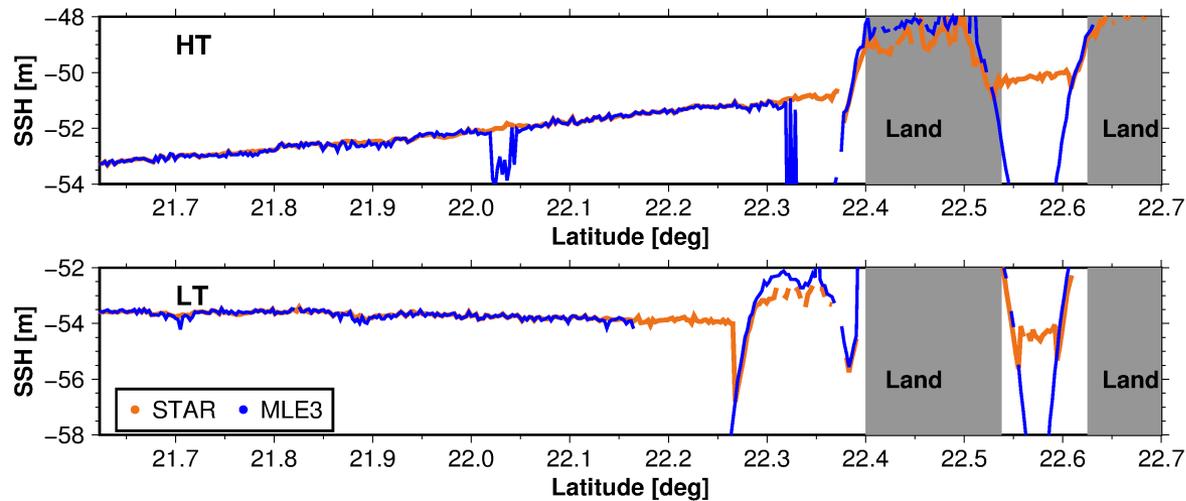
1) Institute for Geodesy and Geoinformation, University of Bonn



# Motivation and Scope

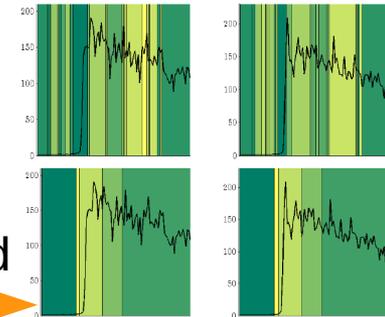


MLE3



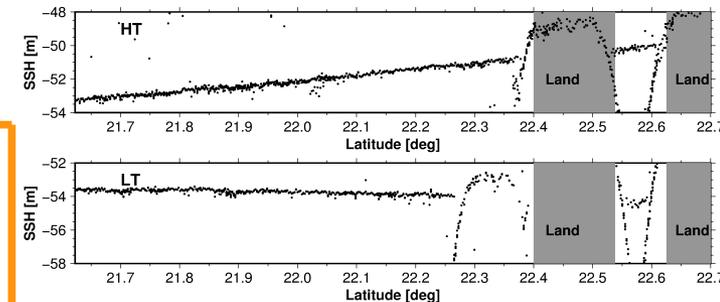
Sub-waveform Detection

- Sparse Representation
- Conditional Random Field



STAR: Spatio-Temporal  
Altimetry Retracker

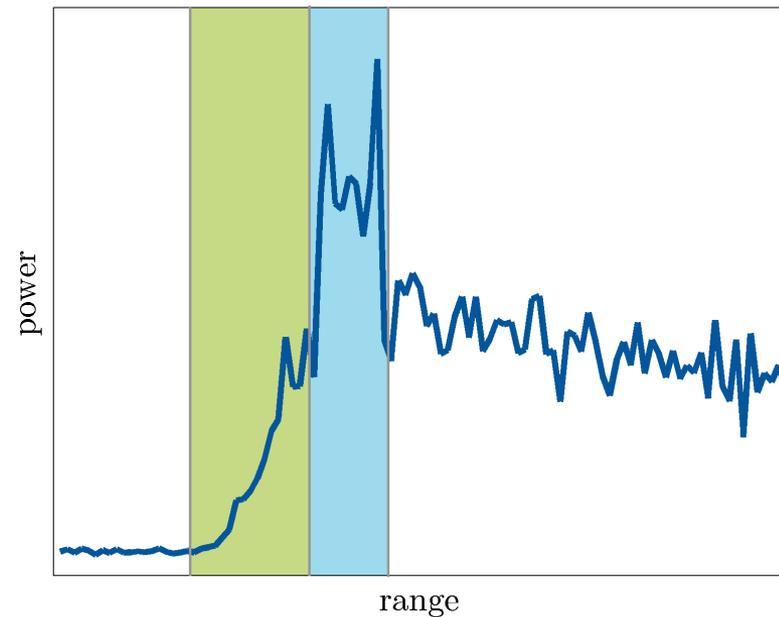
MLE3  
(swf)



Dijkstra-Algorithm

# Overview

- Sub-waveform Detection
- Retracking Model and Selection of final Estimates
- Spatio-Temporal Altimetry Retracker (STAR)
- Results and Validation
- Summary and Conclusion



# Sub-waveform Detection

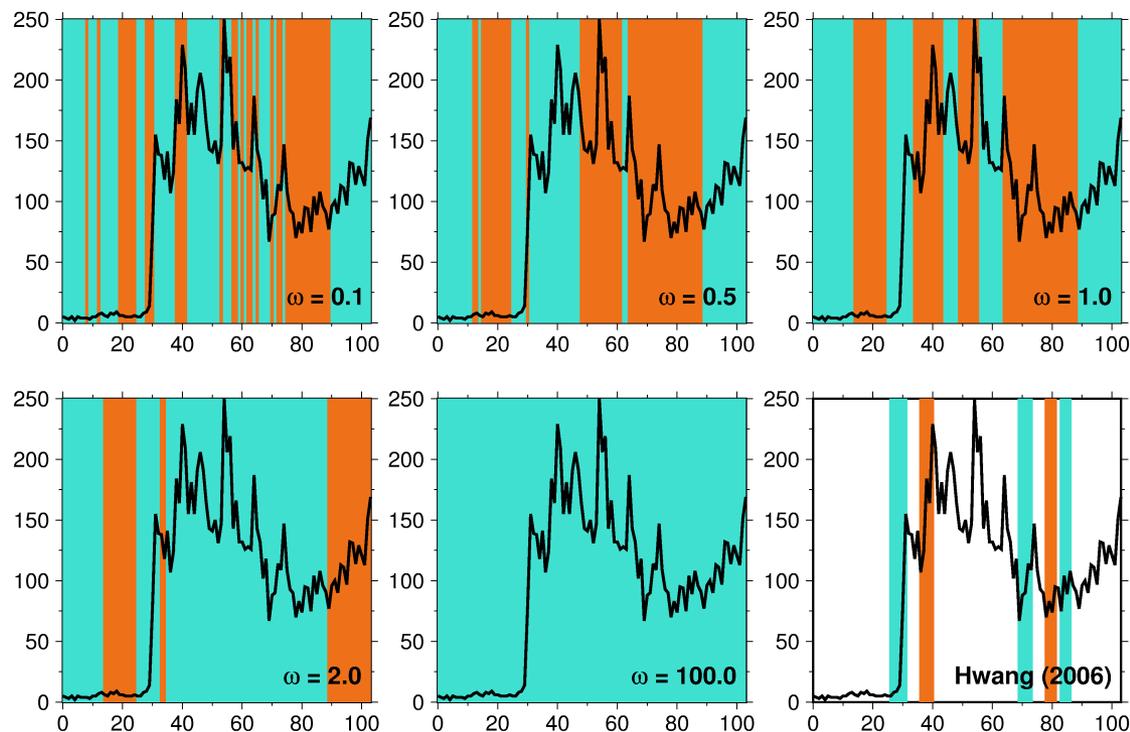
## Definition

- Incorporate spatial (within one waveform) and temporal (successive waveforms along the satellite groundtrack) information on neighboring range gates to derive a comprehensive partitioning of the total waveform into individual sub-waveforms

- Hwang et al. (2006): leading edges only

- Assumption:  
All successive range gates that are approximated by the same combination of model waveforms form a sub-waveform

→ **Conditional Random Field**



# Sub-waveform Detection

## Conditional Random Field

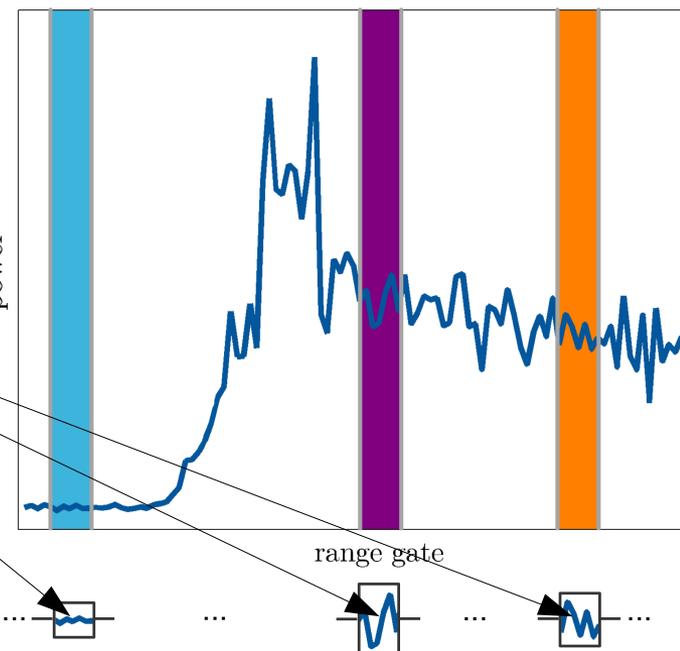
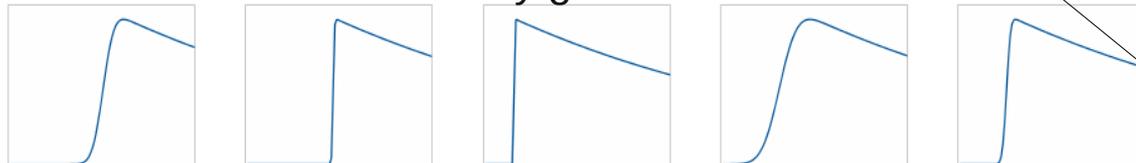
- Minimize energy function

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{l,g} (\mathbf{r}'_{l,g} + \beta'_{l,g}) - w \sum_{l,g,q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{B}(\xi_{l,g}, \xi_{l,q}, \mathbf{y}_{l,g}, \mathbf{y}_{l,q})$$

- L waveforms
- G range gates

- Unary terms
  - $\mathbf{r}'_{l,g}$  ... normalized reconstruction error
  - $\beta'_{l,g}$  ... normalized difference to 1
- Windowed waveforms  $\xi$
- Identified basis elements  $\mathbf{y}$

Basis elements: randomly generated



# Sub-waveform Detection

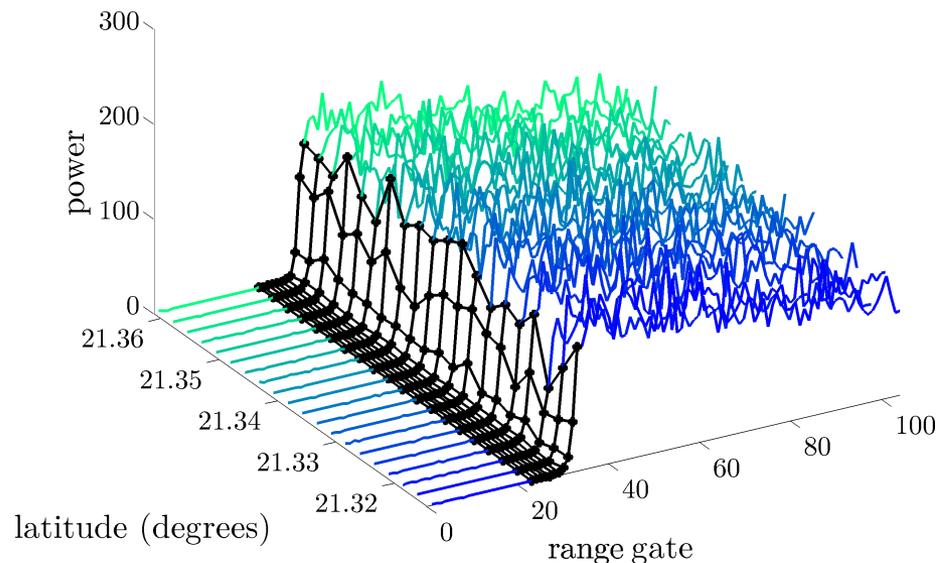
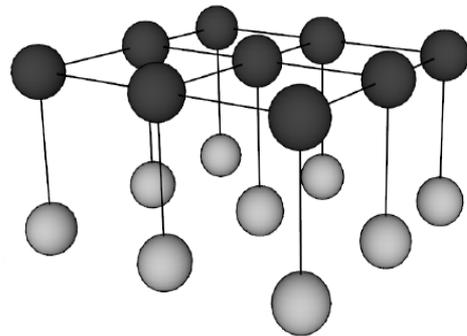
## Conditional Random Field

- Energy function  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{l,g} (\mathbf{r}'_{l,g} + \beta'_{l,g}) - w \sum_{l,g,q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,g}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,q}, \mathbf{y}_{l,g}, \mathbf{y}_{l,q})$

- Binary term

$$\mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,g}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,q}, \mathbf{y}_{l,g}, \mathbf{y}_{l,q}) = \begin{cases} \cos(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,g}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{l,q}), & \text{if } \mathbf{y}_{l,g} = \mathbf{y}_{l,q} \\ 0, & \text{if } \mathbf{y}_{l,g} \neq \mathbf{y}_{l,q} \end{cases}$$

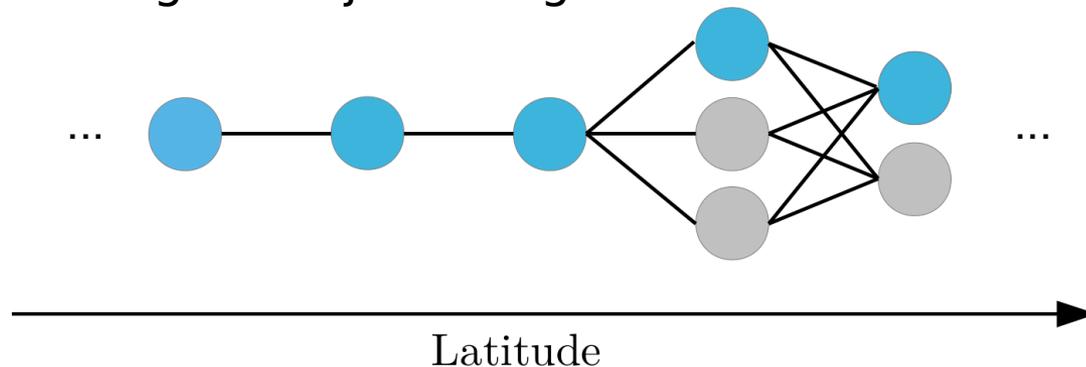
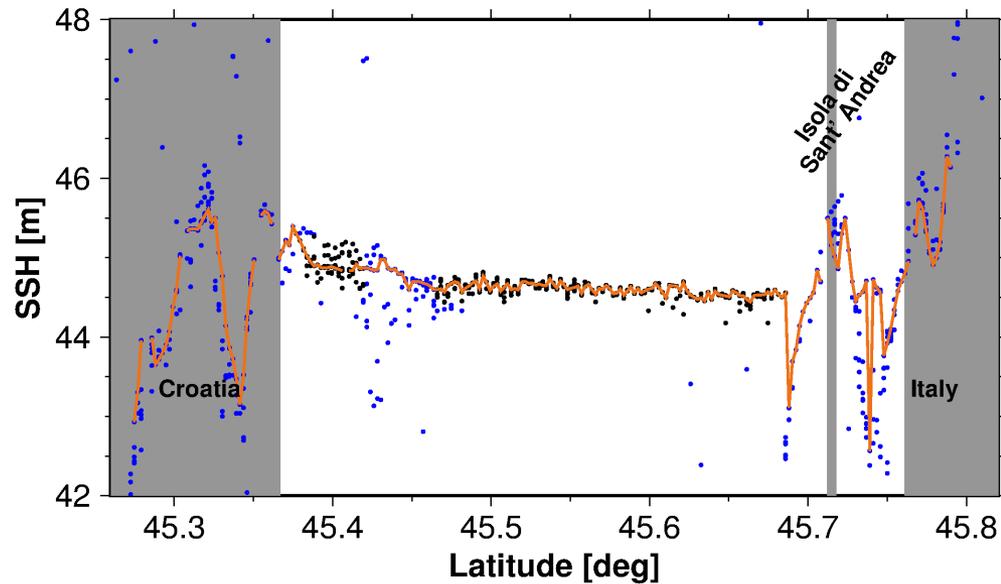
- Hyperparameter  $w$  acts as a weight to enforce homogeneity, i.e. the size and number of sub-waveforms
- Range gates are represented as a graphical model



# Retracking Model and Selection of final Estimates

## Point Cloud and Dijkstra-Algorithm

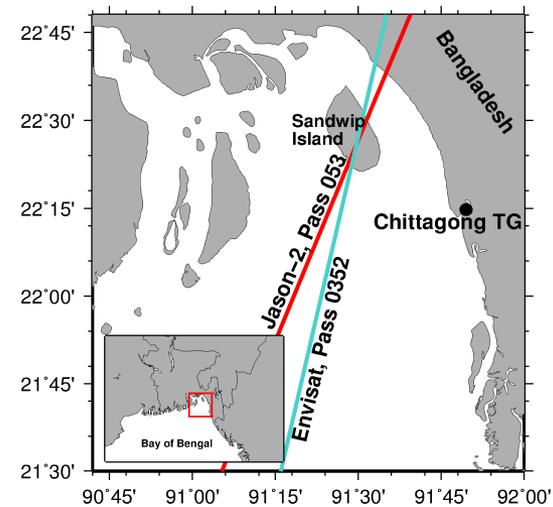
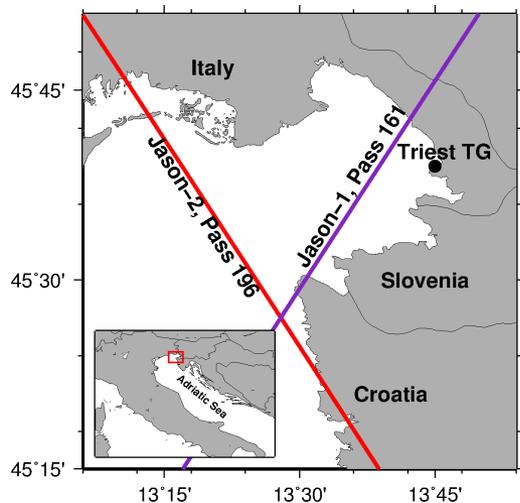
- Sub-waveform detection partitions the entire waveform
- The sub-waveforms can be combined with an any retracking model
- Result: SSH point-cloud
- Final estimates from finding the 'best path' through the point cloud using the Dijkstra-algorithm



# Spatio-Temporal Altimetry Retracker (STAR)

## Specifications and Study Sites

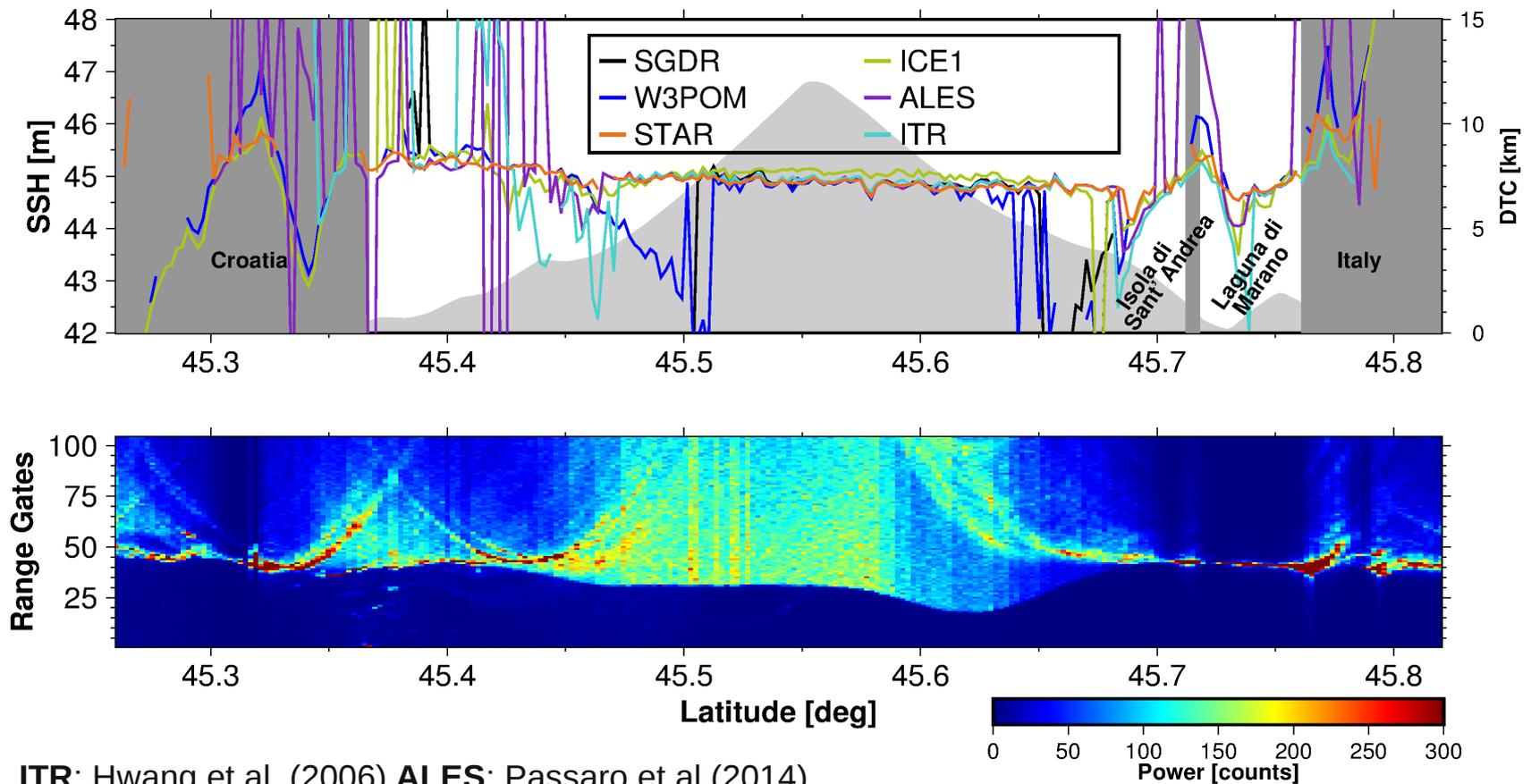
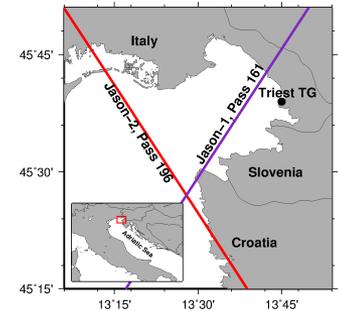
- **STAR**: Spatio-Temporal Altimetry Retracker
  - Weight  $\omega = \{0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 100.0\}$ 
    - 5 partitionings of the entire waveform (location-independent)
  - 3-parameter ocean model (Halimi et al., 2013)
    - Applied to each sub-waveform
- Study Sites



# Results and Validation

## Comparison of SSH

- SSH from Jason-2, Pass 196, Cycle 165

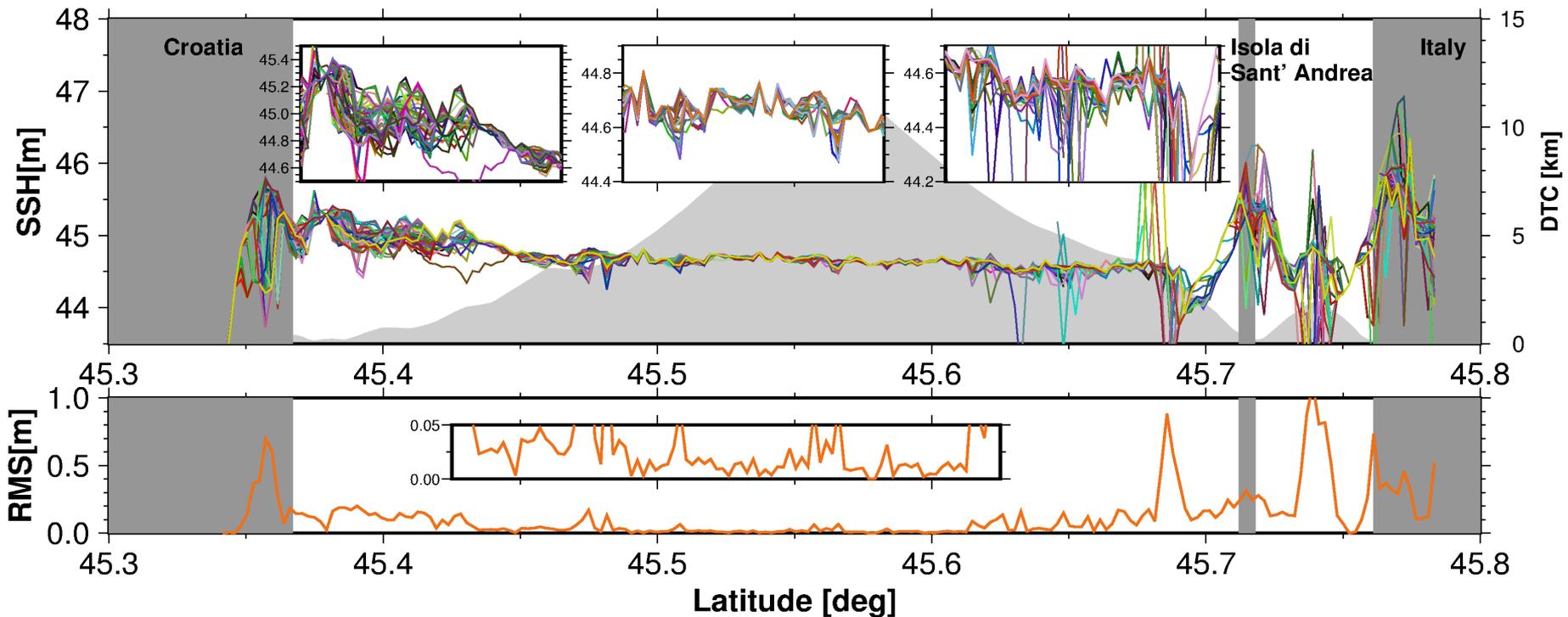
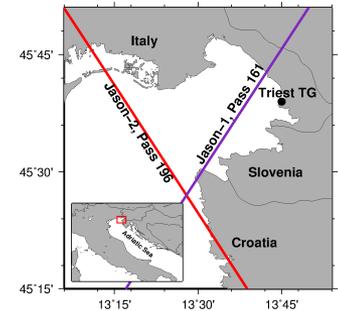


ITR: Hwang et al. (2006) ALES: Passaro et al (2014)

# Results and Validation

## Repeatability of STAR

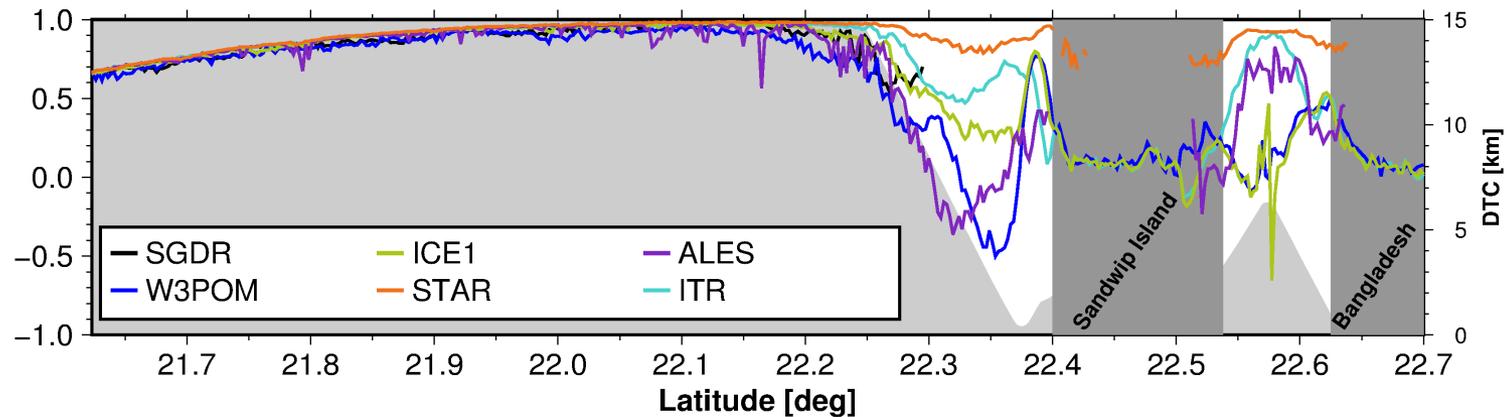
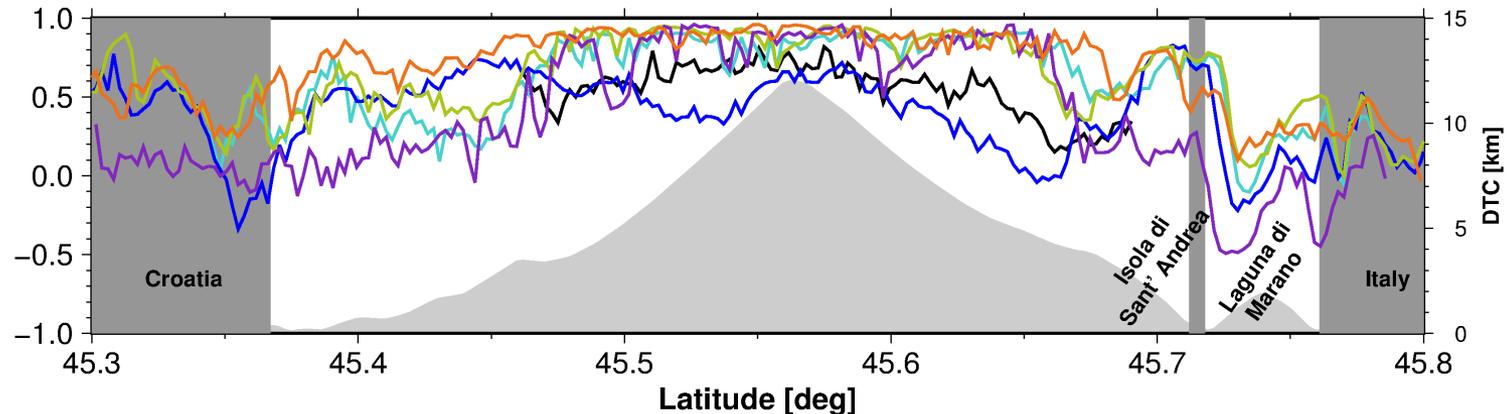
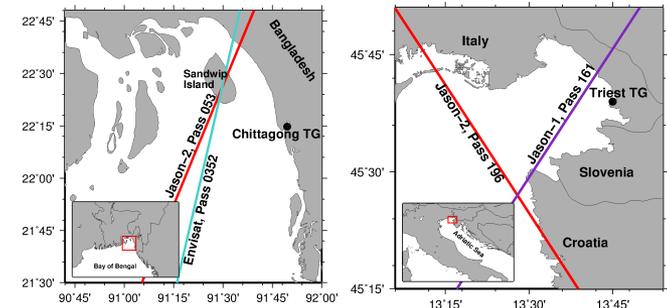
- Random generation of base functions results in varying SSH for multiple runs of the same pass and cycle.
- 1000 runs of Jason-2, Pass 196, Cycle 165



# Results and Validation

## Overall Correlation

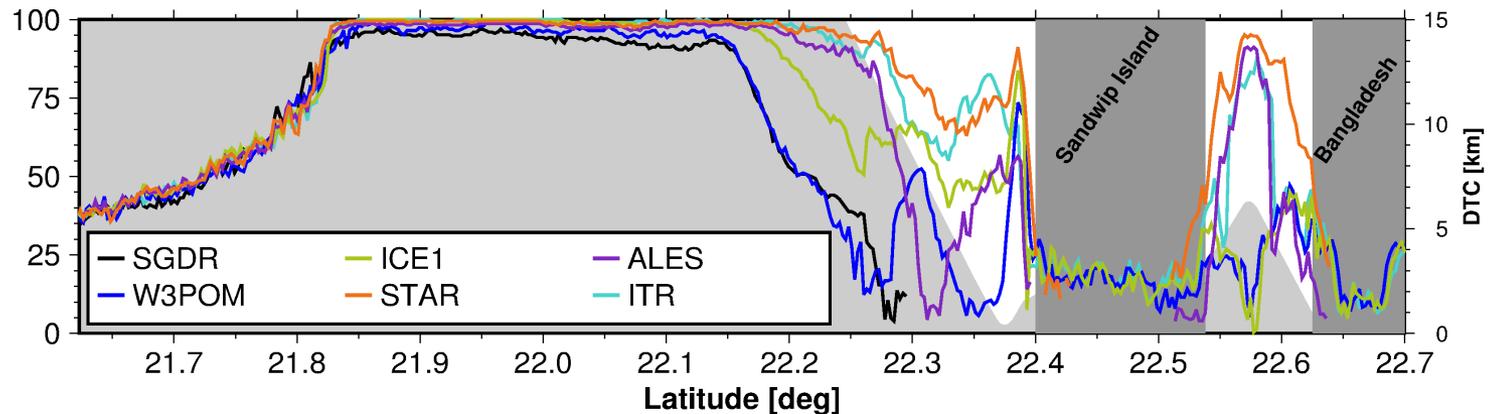
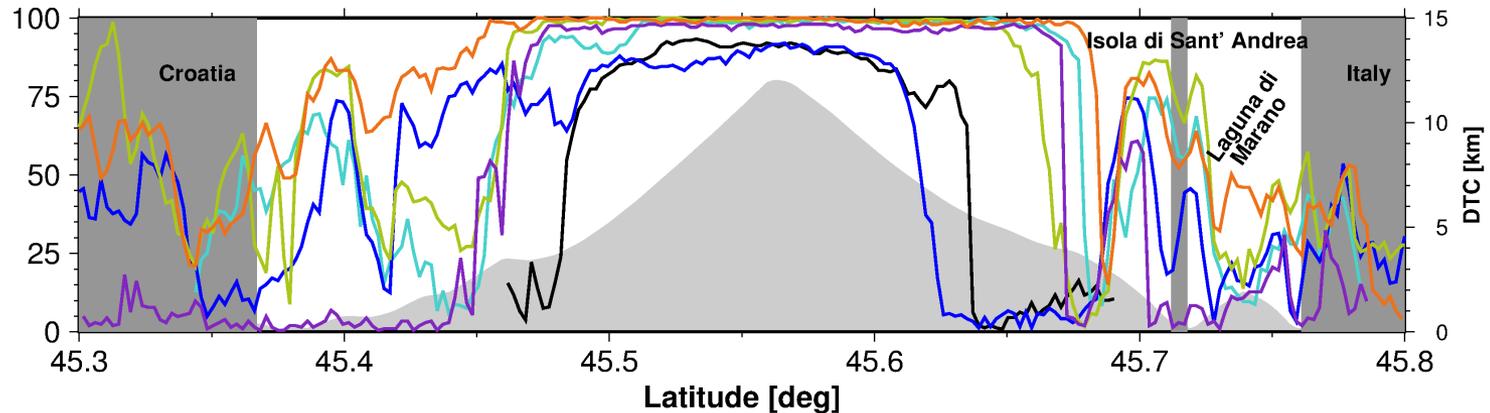
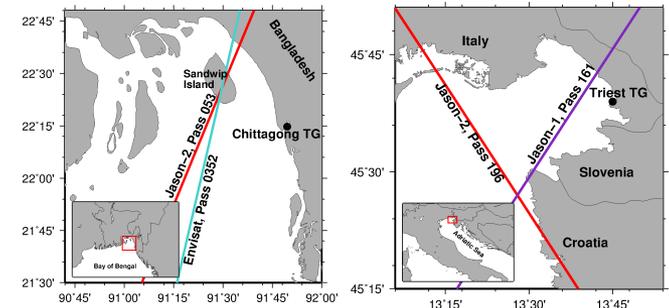
- Hourly tide gauge data and altimetry (2009/07-2014/12)
  - No ocean tide/atmosph. pressure correction applied; outliers removed



# Results and Validation

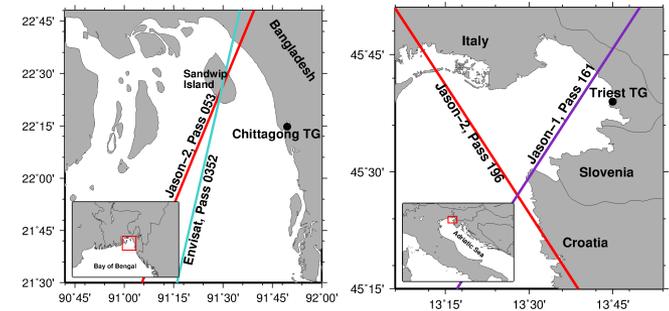
## Retained Cycles

- Percentage of retained cycles (2009/07-2014/12)
  - Iteratively remove largest difference until correlation  $>0.9$

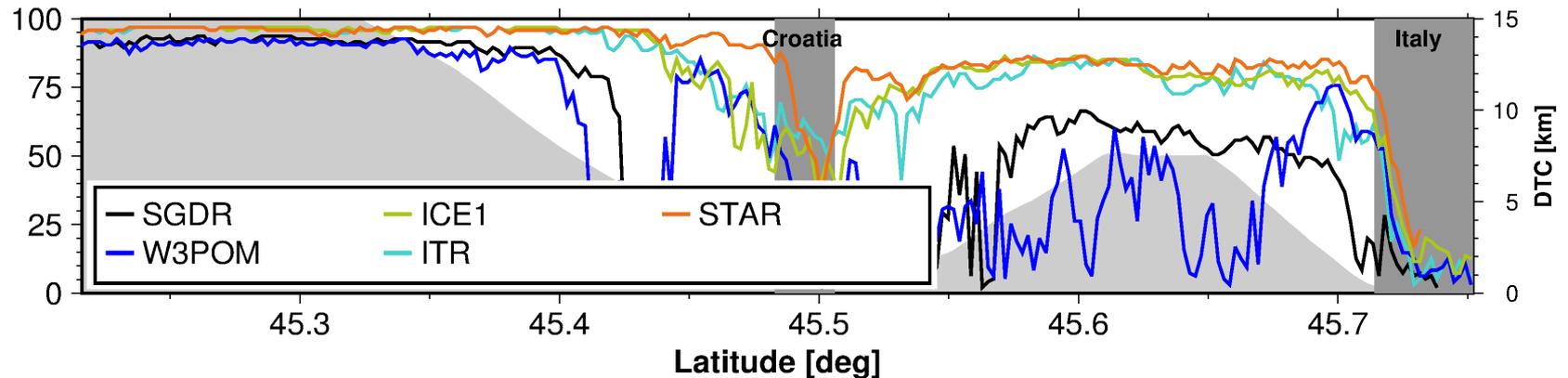


# Results and Validation

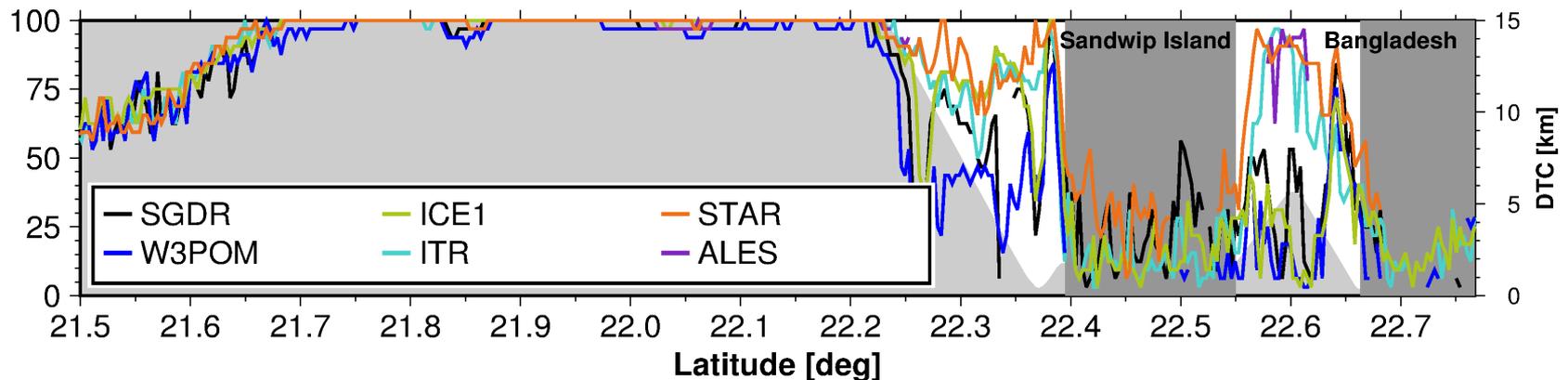
## Application to Jason-1 and Envisat Data



- Jason-1, Pass 161: Percentage of retained cycles (Gulf of Trieste)



- Envisat, Pass 0352: Percentage of retained cycles (Bay of Bengal)



# Summary and Conclusions

- Novel approach for deriving sub-waveforms
  - Incorporating neighboring information using conditional random field
  - Partitioning of the entire waveform
  - Combination with any retracking model possible
  - Point cloud of possible SSH (same for SWH and Sigma-naught)
- STAR method generally provides coastal SSHs of at least the same quality or better for a larger number of retained cycles (>20% in some regions) compared to other methods
  - Variation introduced by the random component is in range with other modifications (e.g. weighting scheme, MLE/WLS ...)
  - Quality of Cryosat-2 PLRM-STAR SSHs is comparable to SAR mode data (see pres. by Fenoglio-Marc et al. at SAR altimetry workshop)
  - Next steps: further investigate SWH and Sigma-naught

**Roscher, R., Uebbing, B. and Kusche, J. (2016/17). STAR: Spatio-Temporal Altimeter Waveform Retracking using Sparse Representation and Conditional Random Fields. *Remote Sensing of Environment* (submitted)**