



Agricultural Crop Height Retrieval From ICESat-2

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Acknowledgments:

- ***supported by ICESat-2 team and Dr. Thorsten Markus of NASA HQ.***

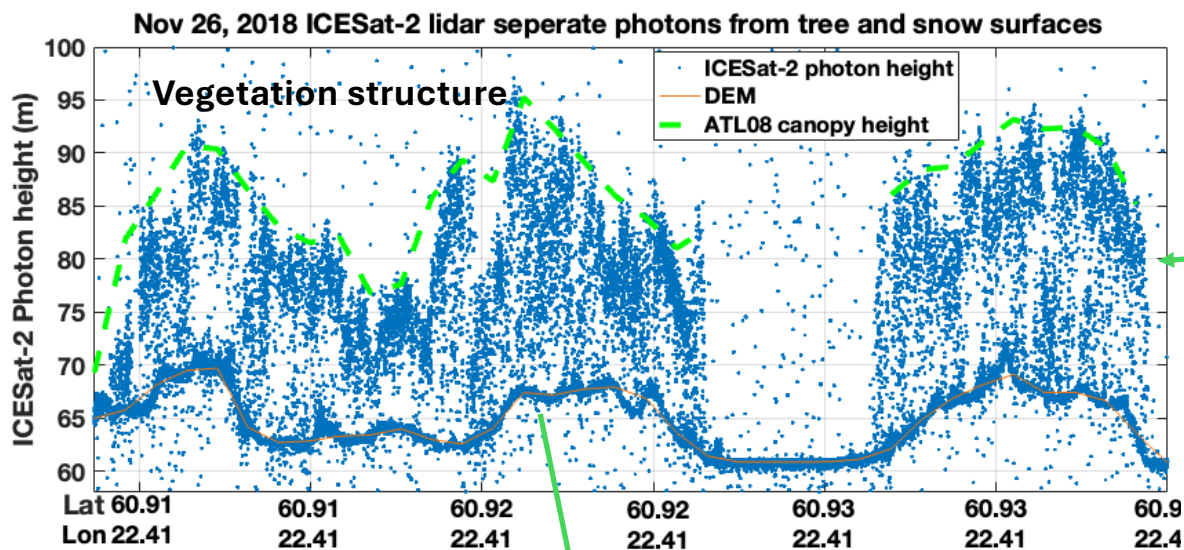
Outline

- CALIOP/CALIPSO, ATLAS/ICESat-2, ATLID/EarthCARE
- The revised Density-Dimension Algorithm (DDA)
(identify crop and land surface photons to get crop height)
- Crop results
(Spring Crops, Fall Crops)
- Summary and Future work

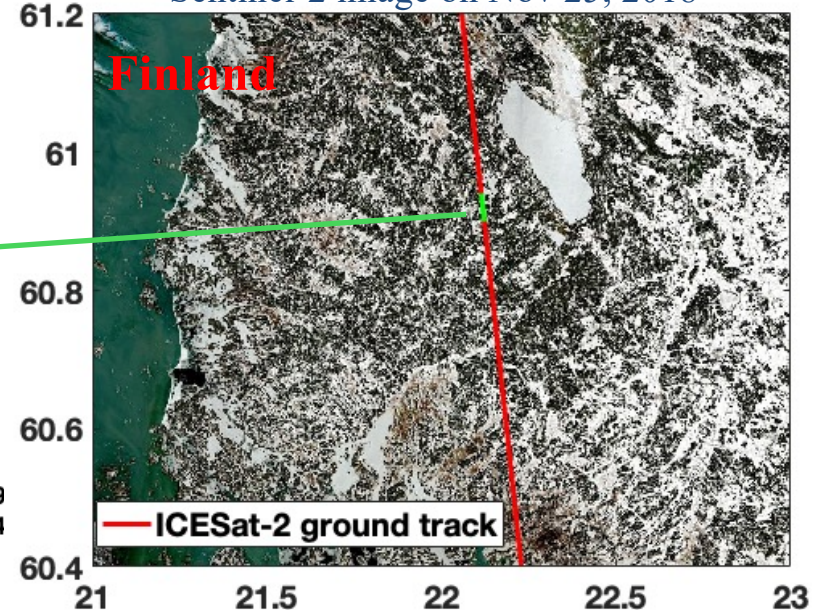
CALIPSO => ICESat-2 => EarthCARE =>

Lidar	CALIPSO 2006 ~ 2023	ICESat-2 2018 ~	EarthCARE 2024 ~	CALIGOLA under consider ~2032
Wavelength (nm)	532, 1064	532	355	355, 532, 1064
Channels	Polarization	Elastic	HSRL, Polarization	Polarization, Raman (407.5, 650). Fluorescence(450,685)
Vert. Res.	30 m	Photon counting	~103 m	~ 1.25m
Spatial Res.	1/3 km	0.7 m	285 m	75~150 m
Off angles	0.3°, 3°, 30°	up to 5°	3°	12°

ICESat-2 separate photons from canopy and snow surfaces



Sentinel-2 image on Nov 25, 2018



Current work:
Snow depth retrieval below Trees

Hu et.al, 2022, Lu et.al., 2022

Can ICESat-2 provide crop height?

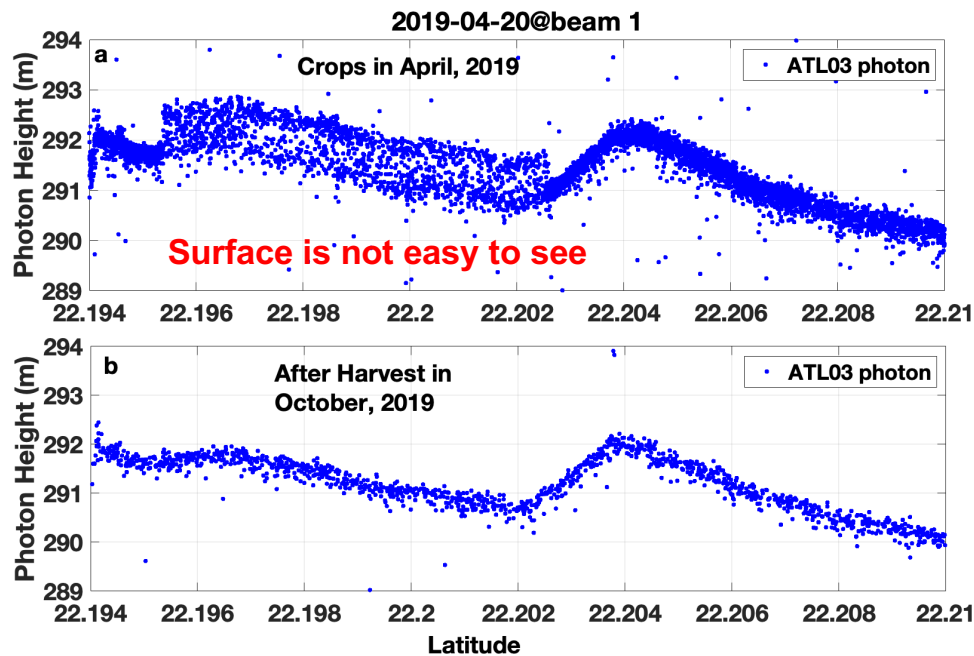
- Accurate crop height measurements can help estimate yield potential and overall agricultural productivity
- Monitoring crop height is crucial for optimizing agricultural practices and ensuring food security.



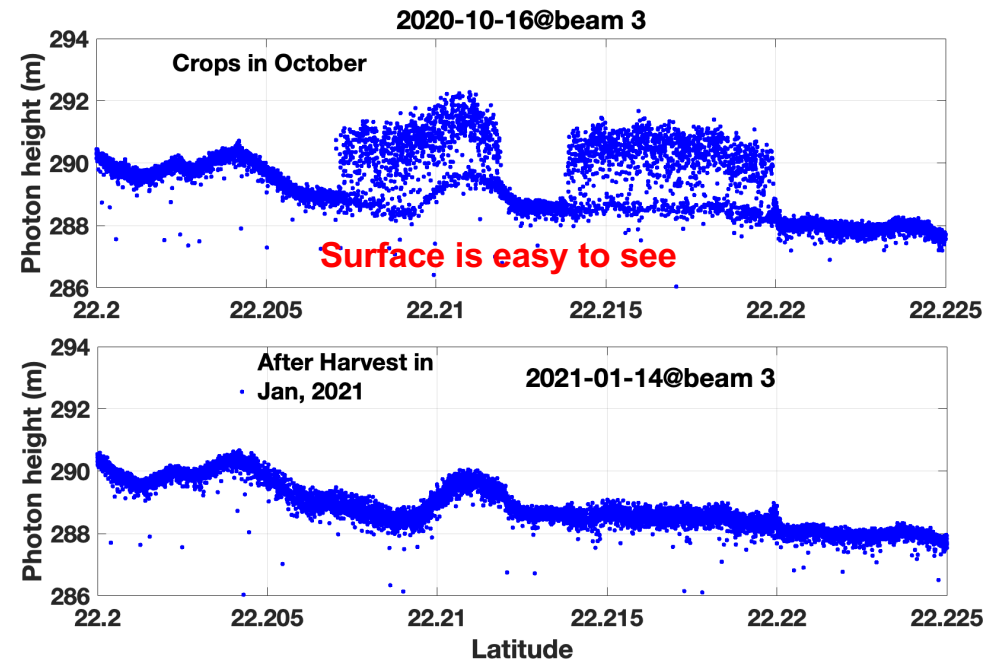
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Spring Crop

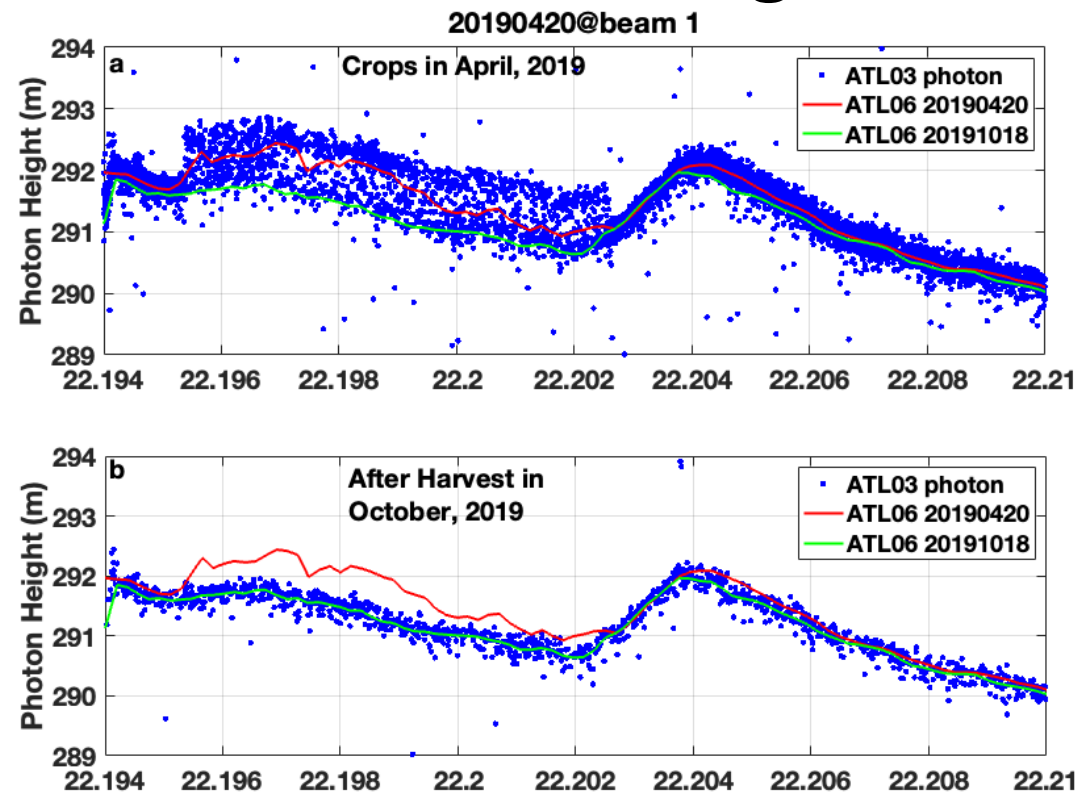


Fall Crop

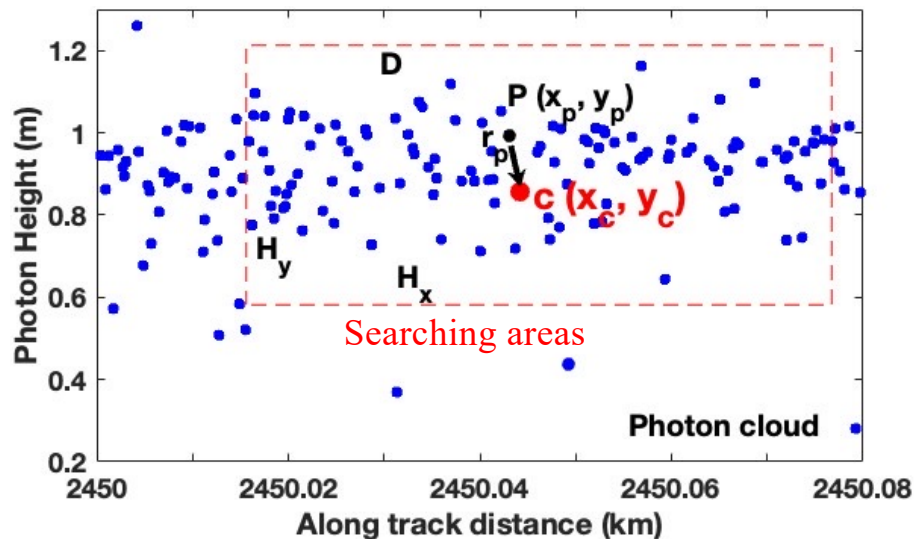


Crops introduce bias in surface height in ATL06

Surface bias due to crop: ~0.5m



The revised Density-Dimension Algorithm (DDA)



Distance between photons (p, c):

$$r_p = \sqrt{\left[\frac{(x_p - x_c)}{\alpha}\right]^2 + (y_p - y_c)^2}$$

Weight function: $w(p) = e^{-\left(\frac{r_p}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)^2}$ (0,1)

Density of photon c : $f(c) = \sum_{p \in D} w(p)$

α is an anisotropy parameter used to change the relative weights of the contributions made to r_p in the along-track and vertical directions.

σ is the standard deviation, controlling contributions of r_p to $w(p)$ and $f(c)$.

H_x, H_y are defined searching areas in two directions.

- U. C. Herzfeld et.al., 2014, 2017, 2023
- Lu et.al., 2024 under review

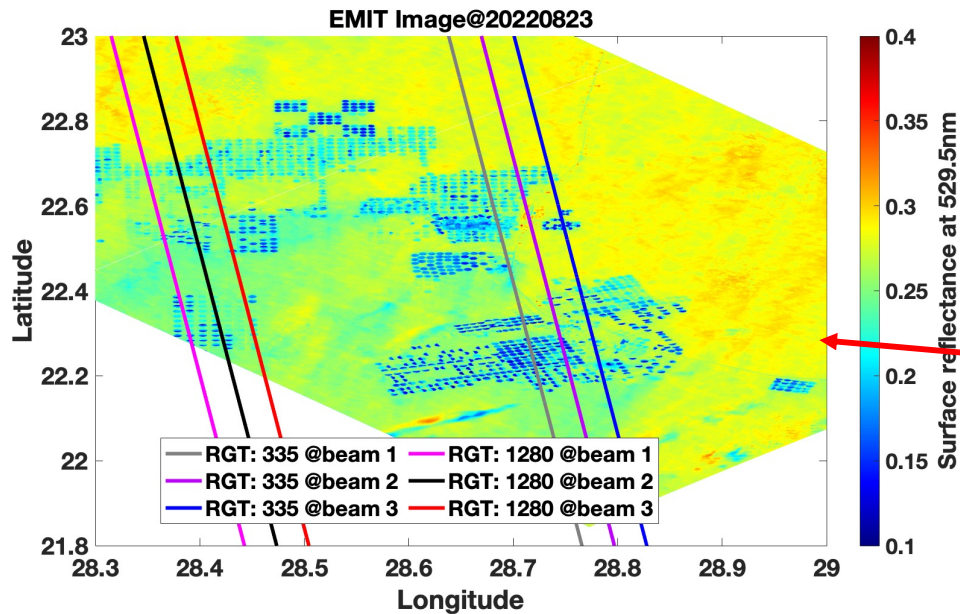
Typical values used in DDA-bathymetry and DDA-crop

Parameters	DDA-bathymetry		DDA-crop
	Local peak method	Threshold method	
α	300	10	150 - 300
Hx (m)	2000	2000	50 - 100
Hy (m)	1	0.3	0.3
σ (m)	3	1	1

Sensitivity studies of parameter values for bathymetry and crop

Parameter	Lower	Higher
α	0.5	300
Hx (m)	20	2000
Hy (m)	0.3	3
σ (m)	0.5	5
q-quantile	0.02	0.40

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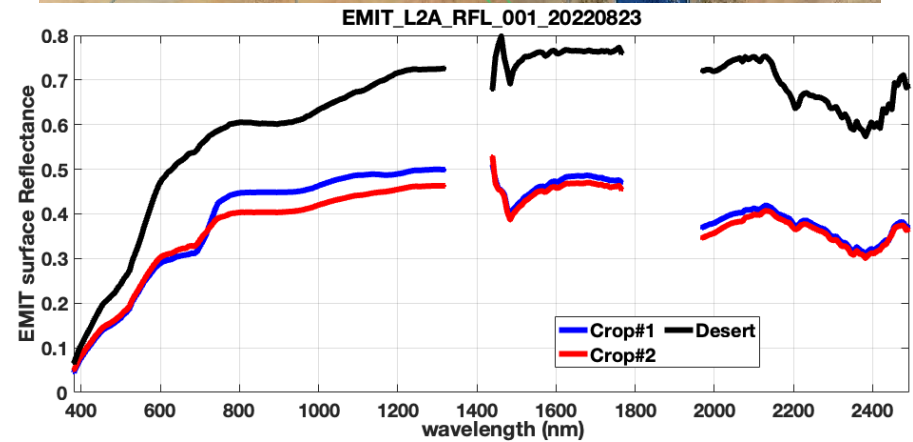
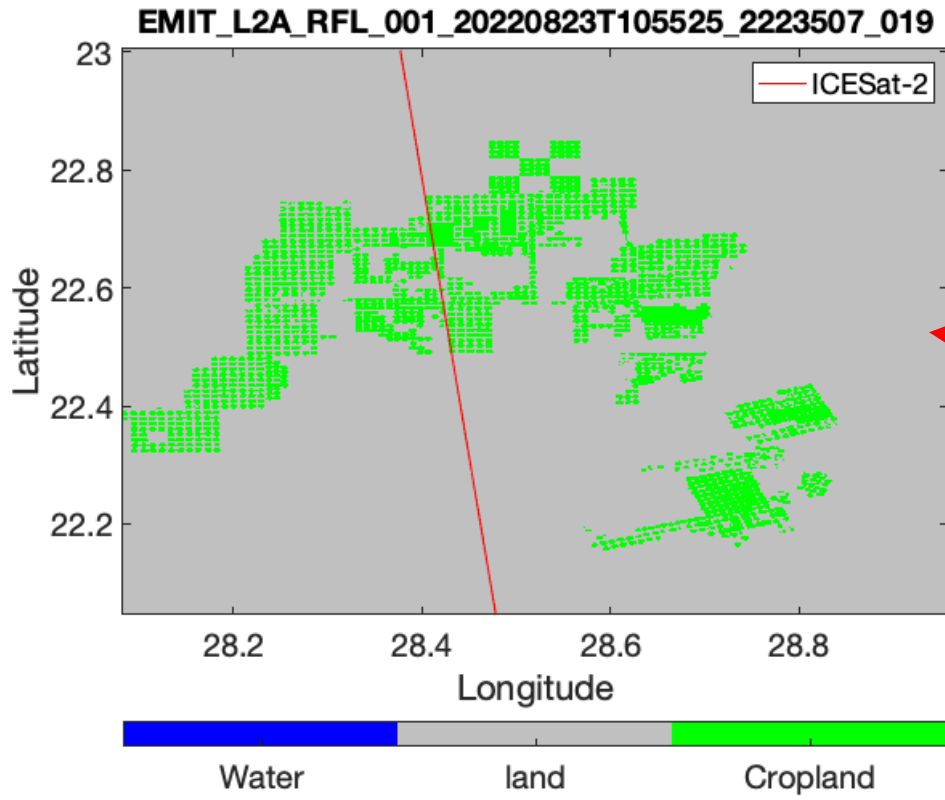
EMIT measures the radiance in spectral bands from 381 nm to 2493 nm,

- In total 285 bands with ~ 7.4 nm resolution;
- 60m spatial resolution ;
- A view swath of 75km;
- Between 52° North and South.

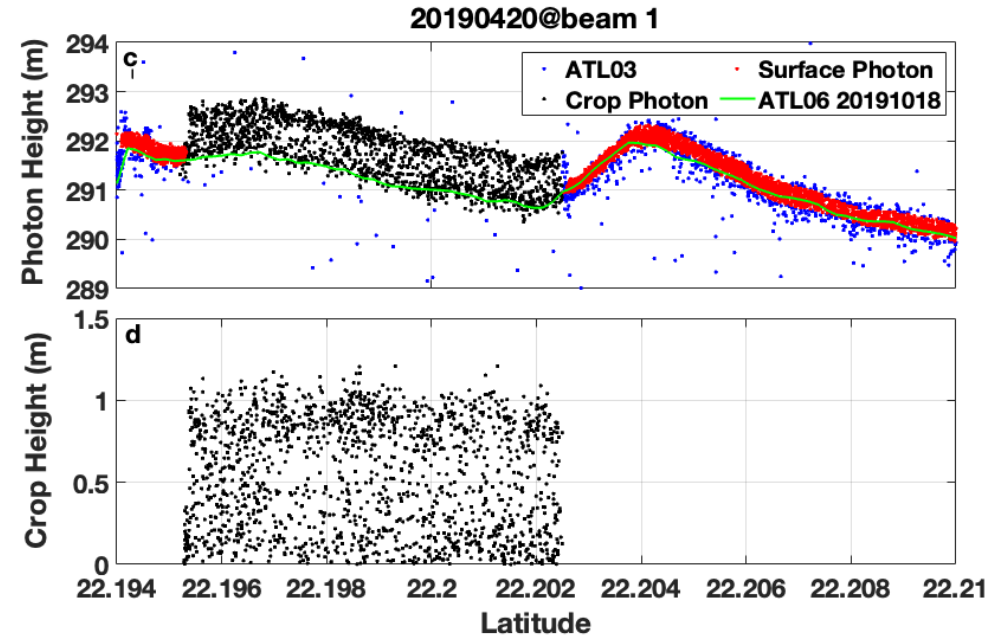
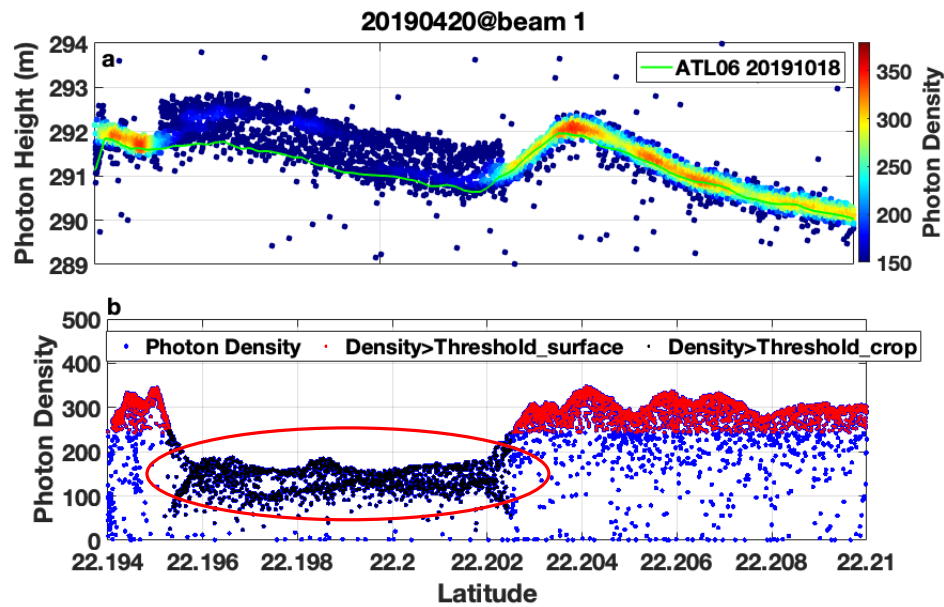
EMIT primary purpose:

To determine the sources of dust in the atmosphere

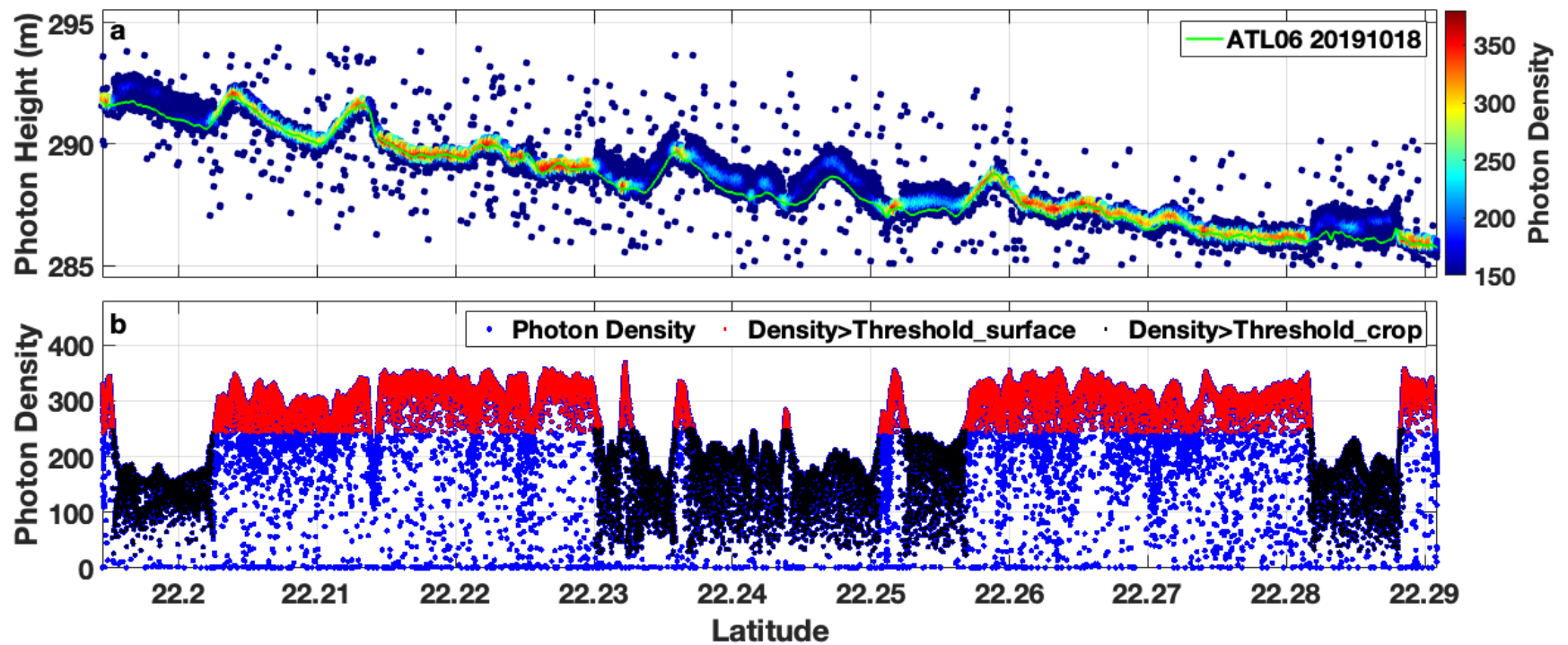
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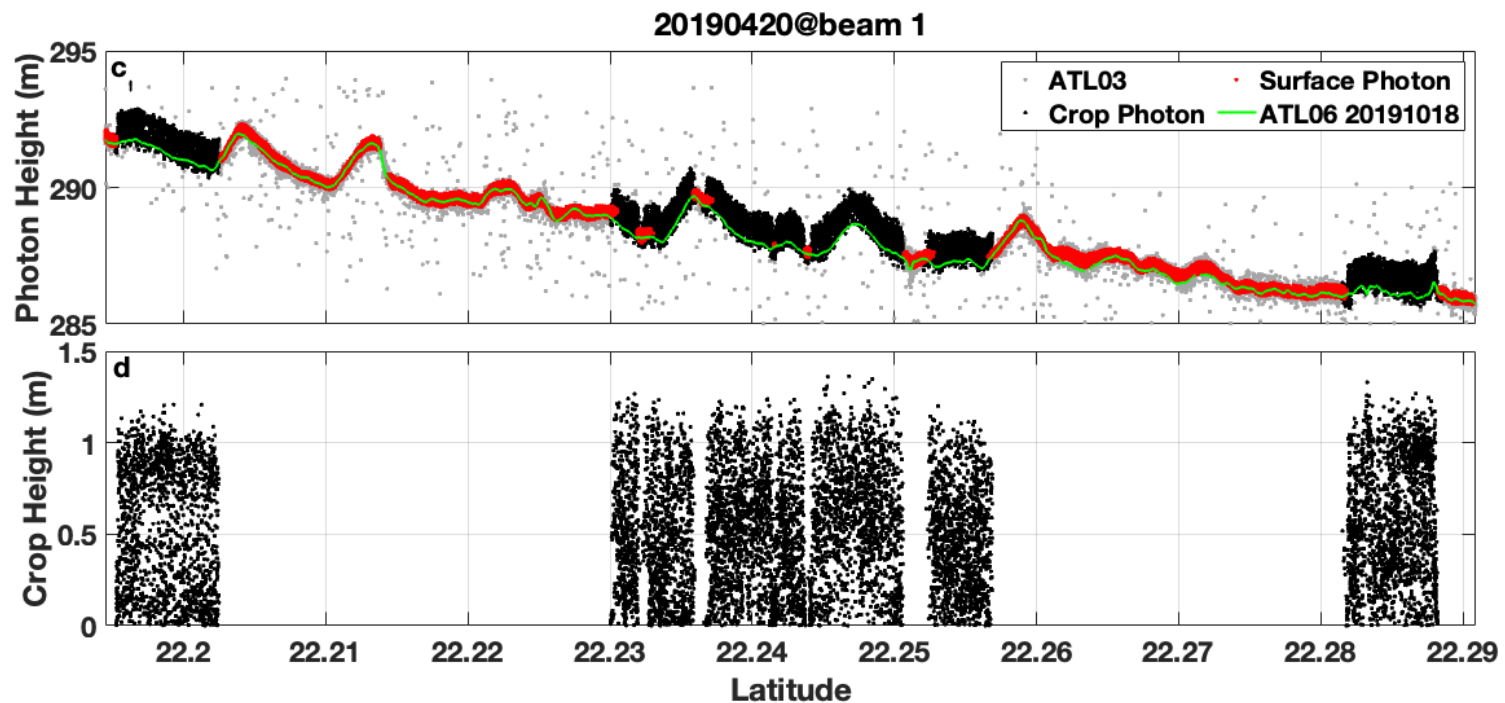
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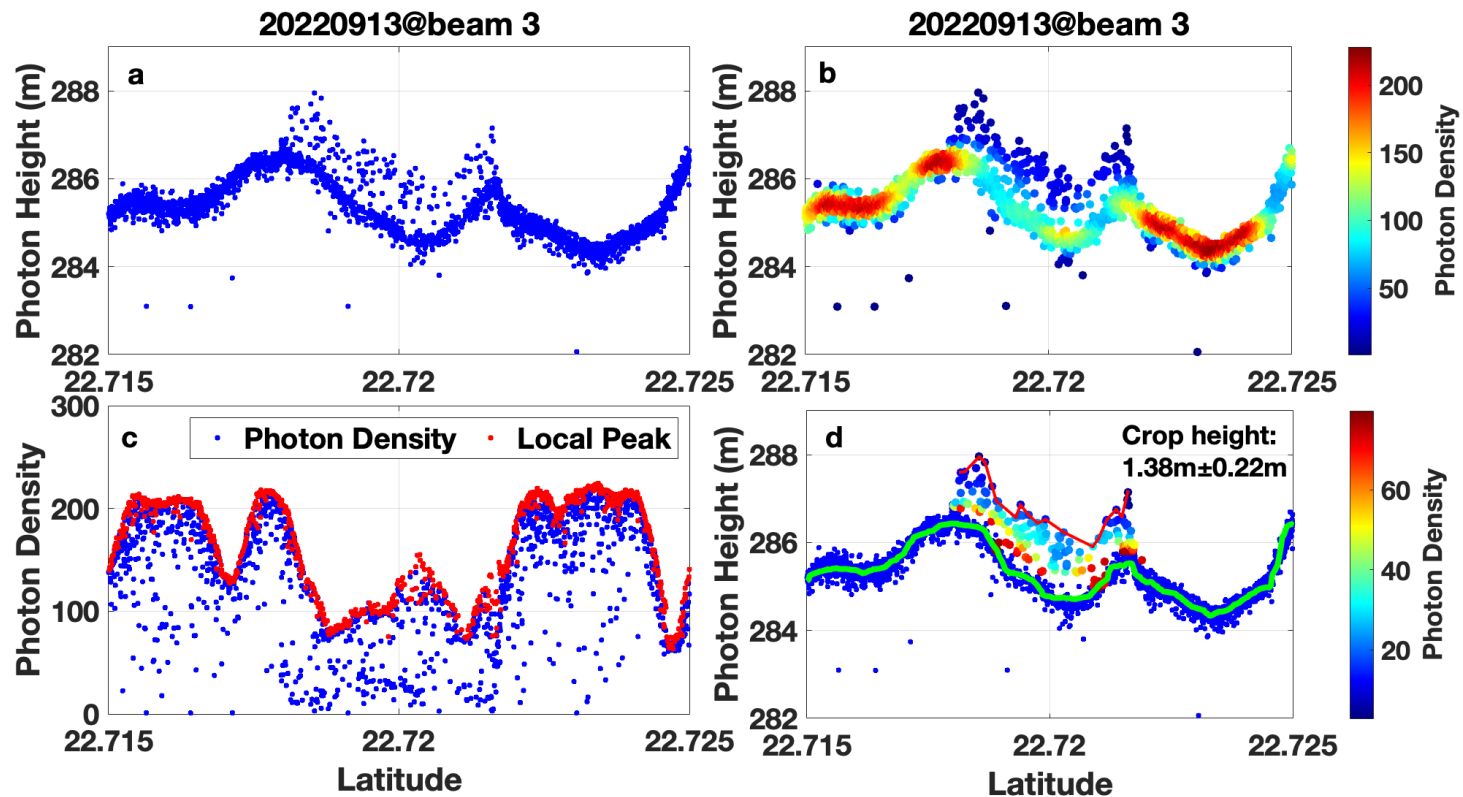
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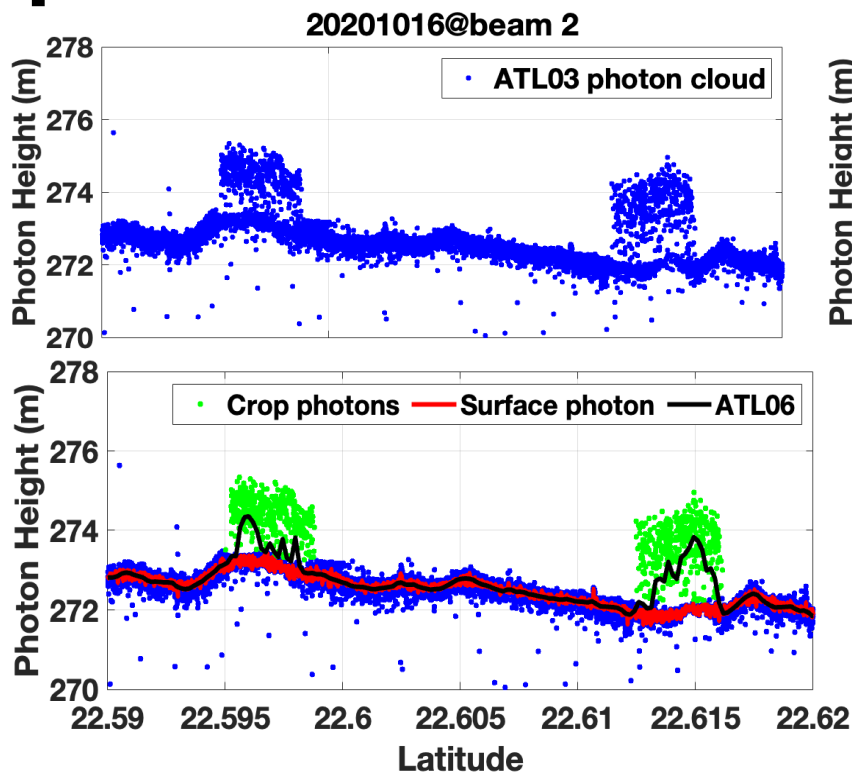
Crop results – in Spring



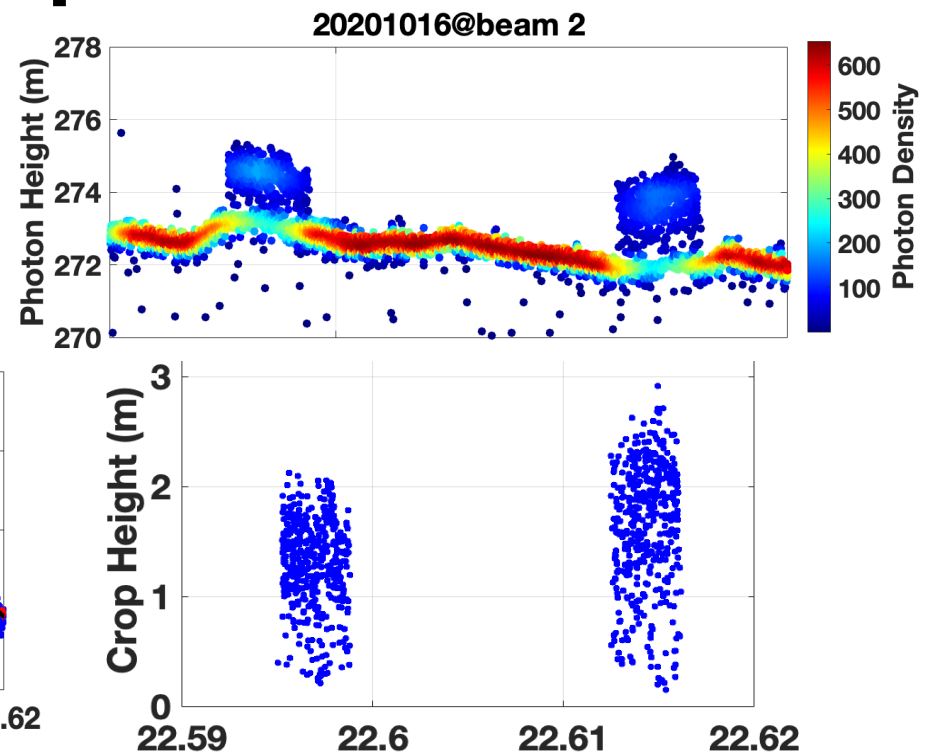
Crop results – Fall crop



Crop results – Fall crop



Surface bias up to 1.92m



Lu et. al., 2024, under review

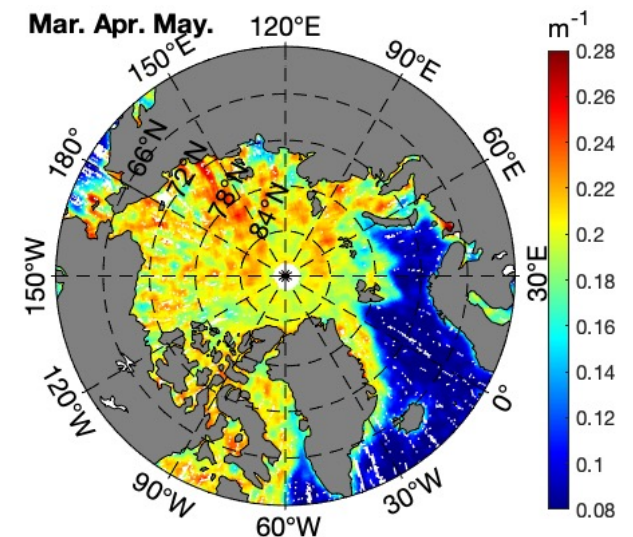
Summary and Future work

1. Unique measurements of ICESat-2 lidar for

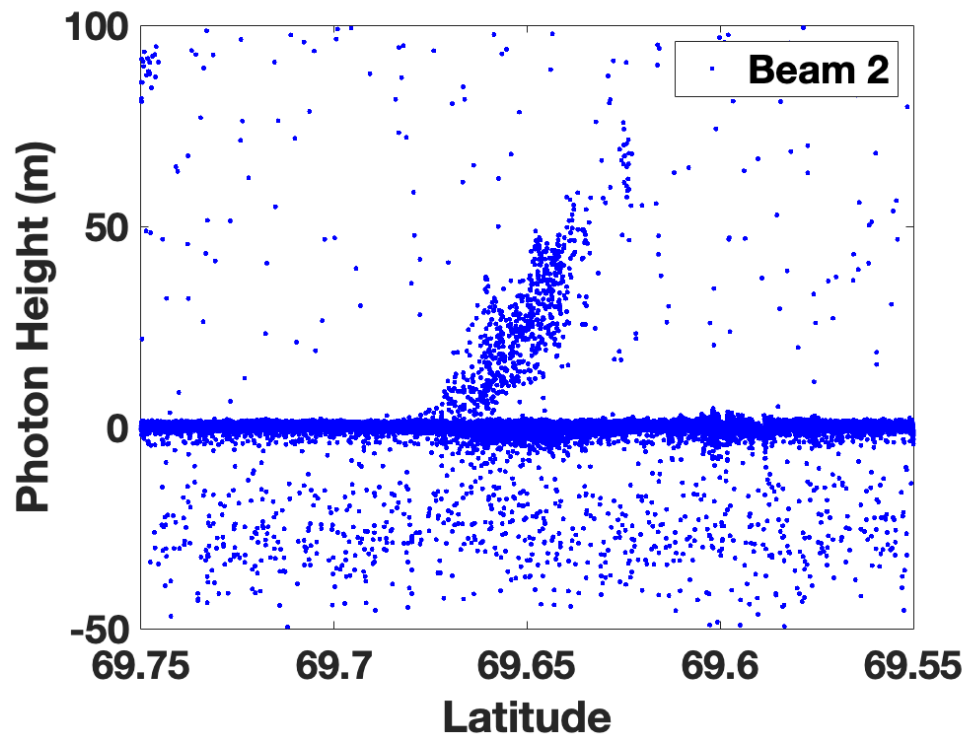
- **Direct measure of Crop height**
- **Direct measure of water properties in upper ocean layers**

2. Future work

- **Combine Images (Landsat, EMIT, Sentinel) with ICESat-2 => Global crop study, e.g., crop height, crop density, crop biomass.**



ICESat-2 detect geothermal eruption?



References

1. U. C. Herzfeld, B. W. McDonald, B. F. Wallin, T. A. Neumann, T. Markus, A. Brenner, and C. Field, "Algorithm for Detection of Ground and Canopy Cover in Micropulse Photon-Counting Lidar Altimeter Data in Preparation for the ICESat-2 Mission," *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.* **52**(4), 2109–2125 (2014).
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4. U. C. Herzfeld, T. M. Trantow, H. Han, E. Buckley, S. L. Farrell, and M. Lawson, "Automated Detection and Depth Determination of Melt Ponds on Sea Ice in ICESat-2 ATLAS Data—The Density-Dimension Algorithm for Bifurcating Sea-Ice Reflectors (DDA-Bifurcate-Seaice)," *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.* **61**, 1–22 (2023).
5. Lu et.al., 2024, "**Bathymetry and Agricultural crop studies from ICESat-2: the Density-Dimension Algorithm**", under review.