









GLACIER MONITORING IN SOUTH AMERICAN TROPICS USING ALOS –PRISM SATELLITE IMAGES AND PHOTOGRAMMETRIC TECHNIQUES

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- Temperature in the tropical Andes between 1939 and 1998 -











1975 MAYOR San Andrés

UNIVERSIDAD MAYOR DE SAN ANDRÉS





1987

UNIVERSIDAD MAYOR DE SAN ANDRÉS

ihh



Landsat satellite image



2000

Universidad Mayor de San Andrés

ihh



Landsat satellite image



Universidad Mayor de San Andrés

2009



Landsat satellite image



Chacaltaya Glacier

Geographical position: 16°21'S-68°07'W Altitude range: **4700-5396 m** Catchment area: 0.52 km² Glacier area in 2007: 0.003 km² General exposure: South



Ramirez et. al 2001; Journal of Glaciology

Photos: B.Francou (IRD)© E.Ramirez (IHH-UMSA) ©



MASS BALANCE – CHACALTAYA GLACIER



Source: IRD-IHH

Studied glaciers in Bolivia

Lake Titicaca

Zongo & Chacaltaya (Glacier monitoring since 1991)

La Paz

El Alto

Illimani

MAIN OBJETIVE

• Glacier surface reconstruction using ALOS-PRISM stereo-models capabilities.

METHODOLGY

•Using the capabilities of PRISM sensor in the stereoscopic mode made possible the acquisition of digital elevations models applying photogrammetric techniques. Two ALOS scenes were treated for the years 2007 and 2009 in order to quantify the loss of ice volume of the Illimani Mountain in Bolivia (16°39'11.42"S, 67°46'53.39"W) for this period.

• Using a double frequency differential GPS twelve ground control points (GCP) were obtained in order to calibrate rigorous stereoscopic models. A permanent GPS base of bolivian army was used to relate with absolute values or orthometric heights.

Creating a DEM from stereo pairs



Photogrammetry techniques uses image correlation to extract matching pixels in the two images and then uses the sensor geometry from the computed math model to calculate x, y, and z positions.

Source: PCI-Gematica user manual





•ALOS-PRISM Satellite Images (Triplet Mode: Nadir, Backward, Forward) 2007 and 2009 provided by RESTEC and ASF.

- DGPS L2 (THALES Z-max)
- •Photogrammetric Software (LPS).
- PLANAR System (LCD Screen).



AUTOMATIC DEM EXTRACCTION FOR NON GLACIATED REGIONS

CITY OF LA PAZ - BOLIVIA



ALOS-PRISM Satellite Image

Associated DEM (Triplet mode)

Pixel DEM Resolution: 7.5 m

Digital Elevation Model from ALOS-Satellite for the city of La Paz



Digital Elevation Model from ALOS-Satellite for the city of La Paz



Digital Elevation Model from ALOS-Satellite for the city of La Paz







ALOS-PRISM

Use of phtogrammetric techniques measuring small details observed on the glacier surface.

Internal orientation:

- •Focal Length (mm) = 1939.0
- •Principal Point x0 (mm) = 0.0000
- •Principal Point y0 (mm) = 0.0000
- •Xpixel Size (mm) = 0.007
- •Ypixel Size (mm) = 0.007

•Incidence Angle Along Track = 0.0° at Nadir / 23.8° (Backward) / -23.8° (Forward)

•Incidence Angle Across Track = 0.0°

•Sensor Line Along Axis = X

EXTERNAL ORIENTATION

- * 12 GCP were obtained with a DGPS L2 THALES Z-max.
- •Time of acquisition: 1 hour.
- Orthometric elevations related with a permanent DGPS of Bolivian Army.

ALOS-PRISM Satellite Image

2007

ALOS-PRISM Satellite Image 2009

ELEVATION LOSSES MEASURED WITH A PHOTOGRAMMETRIC

FIELD VALIDATION

Very realistic for glacier boundaries but maybe not enough for volume.

COMPARISON BETWEEN ALOS-PRISM IMAGES AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OBTEINED AT THE SAME PEROD.

A photogrammetric flight carried out at the same time ,in 2009 by the Bolivian Air Force have allowed to make a comparison between the use of aerial photographs and stereoscopic high resolution satellite images.

COMPARISON BETWEEN ALOS IMAGES AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

ALOS - PRISM

Aerial Photograph

CONCLUSIONS

•Since the middle of the 70's the glacier retreat increase about three times compared with precedent years according to glaciological studies in the Andes.

 It is important to improve the glacier – monitoring network for massbalance quantification, however classical methods are difficult to apply mainly because de accessibility and high cost.

For non glaciated zones, the application of DEM extraction using ALOS-PRISM images is possible with an accuracy about ±5m, however it is related with optimal contrast of the image and the slope.
For glaciated zones it is not recommended to use an automatic DEM extraction.

For glacier surface reconstruction using PRISM sensor it is recommended to apply photogrammetric techniques considering very accurate GCP and orthorectified points using photogrammetric stations. The elevation accuracy obtained is 3-5m, however it depends also of the visual sensitivity of the operator.
ALOS-PRISM images are a good alternative mainly for glacier inventories, but at the moment it is not enough for mass balance quantification in the case of small glaciers.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES FOR 2011

• Glacier inventory up-grade (may 2011)

Zongo glacier, BOLIVIA

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Thank you very much for your attention.

Photo: E.Ramirez