



Cassini RADAR at Titan : Latest Results through T65

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The Cassini RADAR investigation continues to yield novel insights into the surface of Titan. T64 (December 2009) acquired SAR over Ligeia Mare and other north polar terrain : these recent data are being studied to search for changes since this area was observed in 2007. The T64 image indicates a class of terrain features not seen widely before. T65 (acquired but not yet processed at the abstract deadline) features new observations of Ontario Lacus, where seasonal changes have already been hinted at in comparisons between radar observations (T57,T58) in summer 2009 and earlier optical observations.

Accumulating topography data (notably T55-T61, considerably enhancing the coverage of the deep southern hemisphere) also enables new insights, for example into Titan's hypsogram, which will be compared with other bodies. The hypsogram is remarkably narrow compared with the terrestrial planets. It is unimodal overall, although the possibility of local bimodality will be explored.