An aerial photograph of Europe with a red dot marking a location in Italy. The text is overlaid on the image.

# Continental scale SBAS-DInSAR processing for the generation of Sentinel-1 deformation time series within a cloud computing environment: achieved results and lessons learned

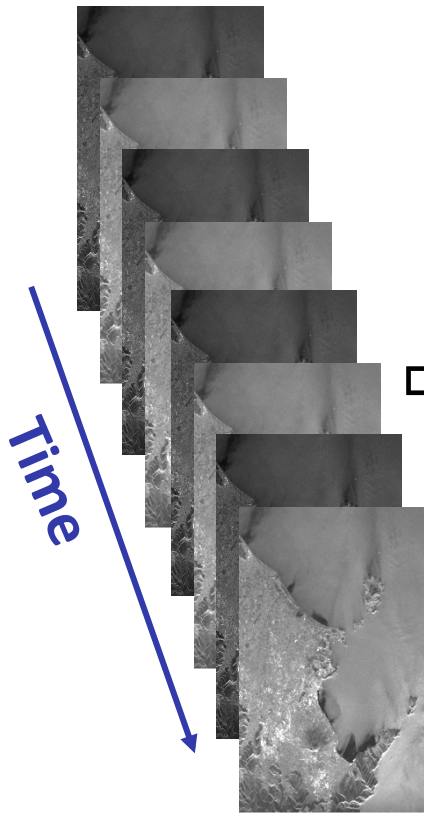
R. Lanari, M. Bonano, S. Buonanno, F. Casu, C. De Luca,  
A. Fusco, M. Manunta, M. Manzo, G. Onorato, G. Zeni, I. Zinno

IREA-CNR, Napoli, Italy  
IMAA-CNR, Potenza, Italy

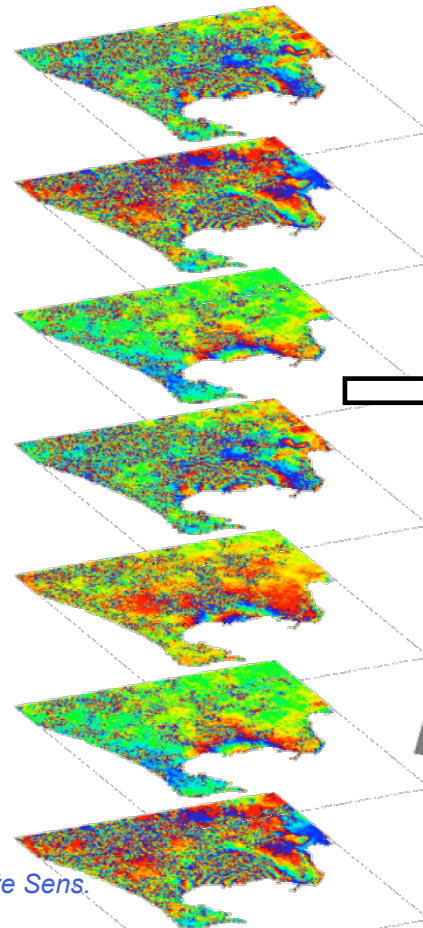


# Exploited advanced DInSAR technique: Small BAseline Subset (SBAS) approach

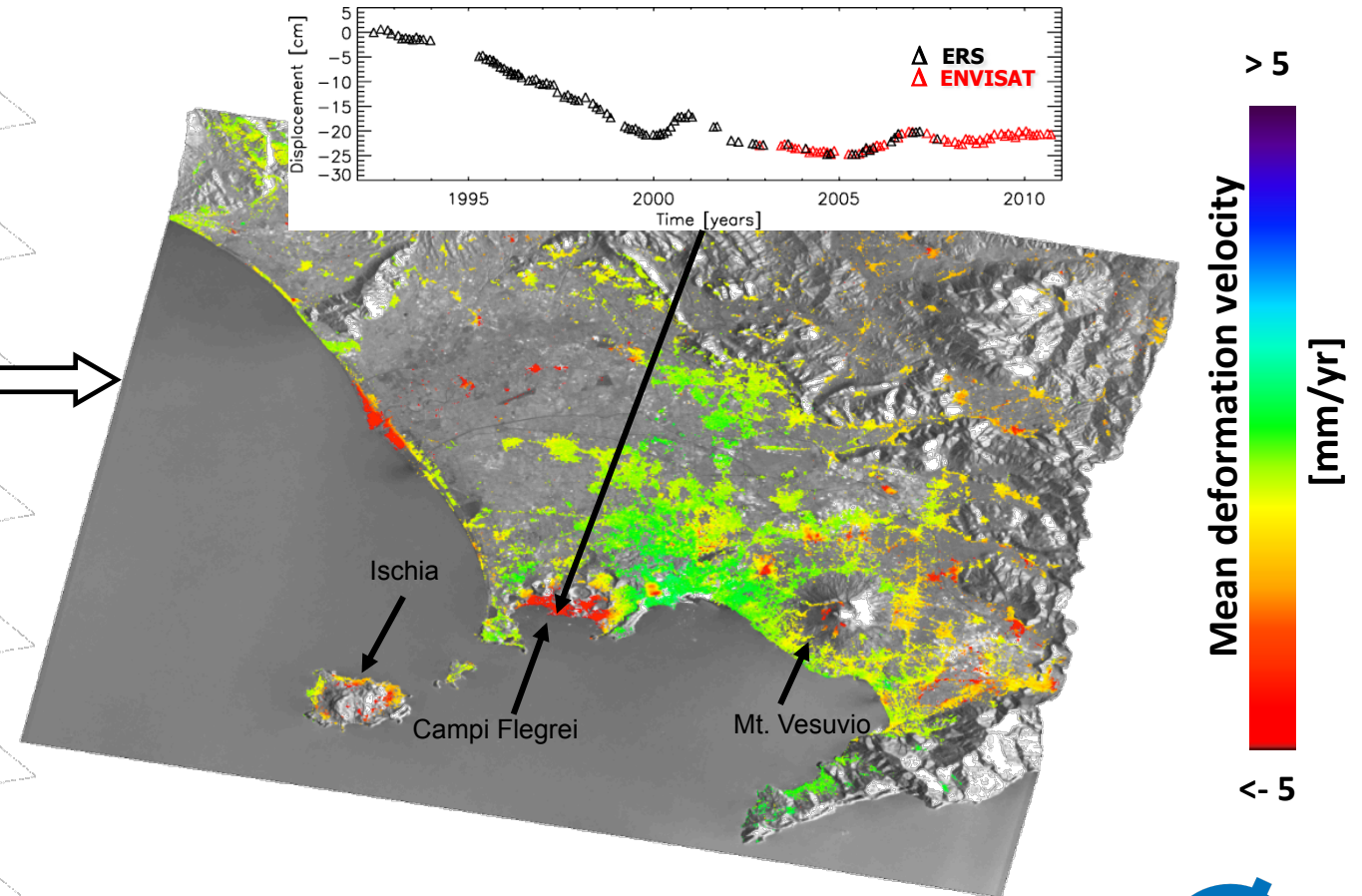
SAR Images



SB Interferograms



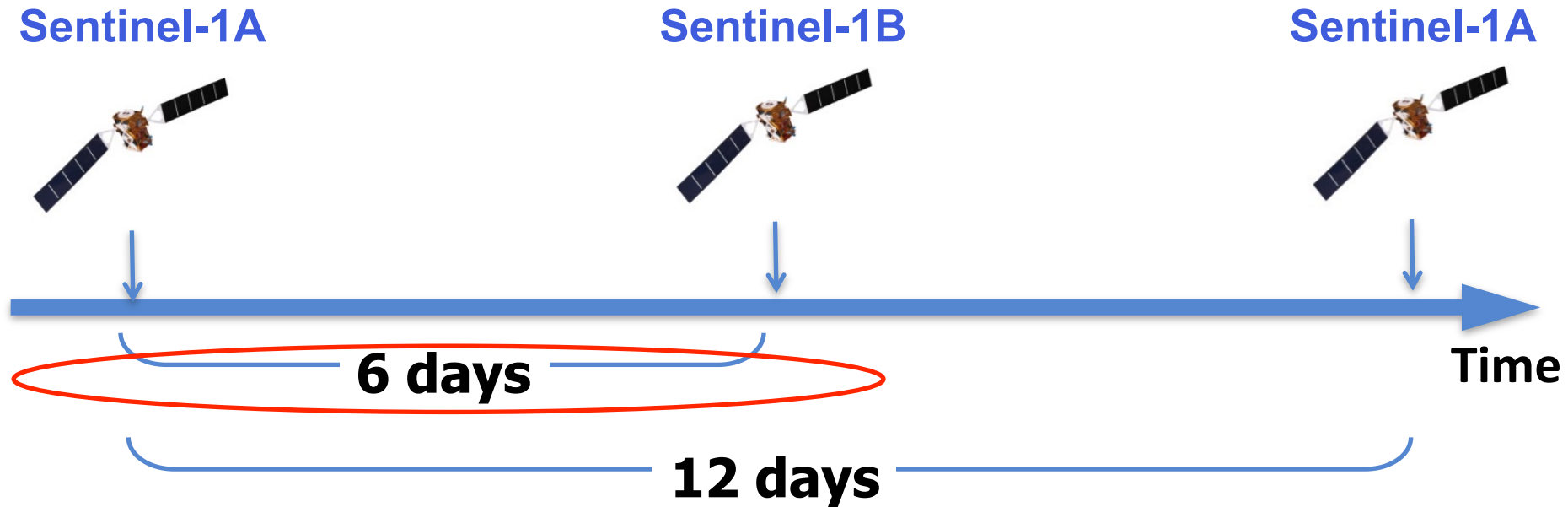
ERS/**ENVISAT** images (1992 – 2010)



Berardino et al., 2002, *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*

Pepe et al., 2005, *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*

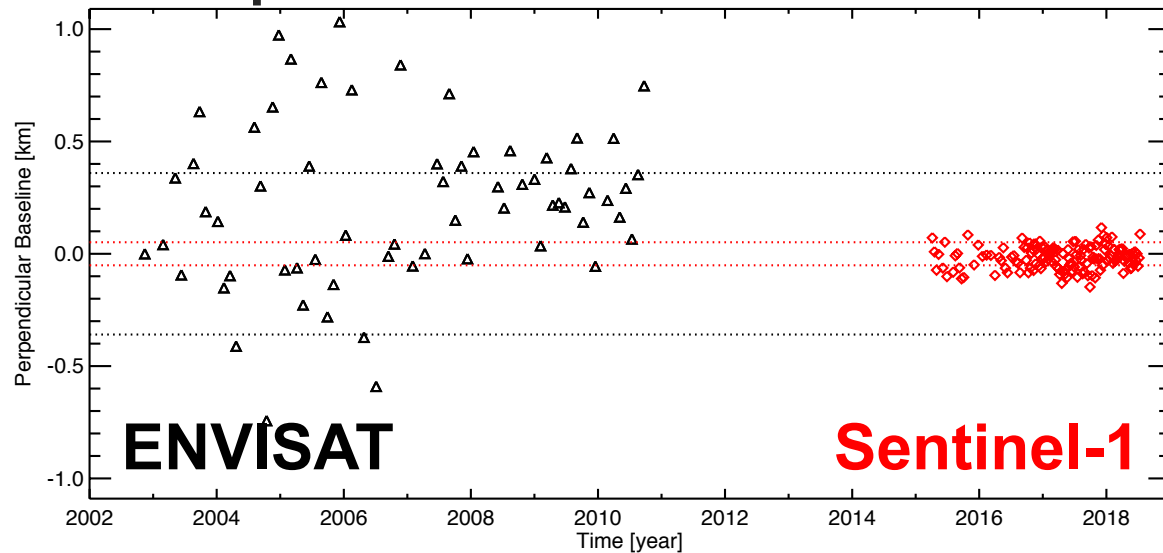
# Exploited SAR sensors: Sentinel-1 constellation



- IWS mode spatial resolution: 15 m x 4 m
- IWS mode swath extension: 250 km
- C-band
- Global coverage
- Free and open data access

# Sentinel-1 constellation characteristics

## Perpendicular baseline distribution

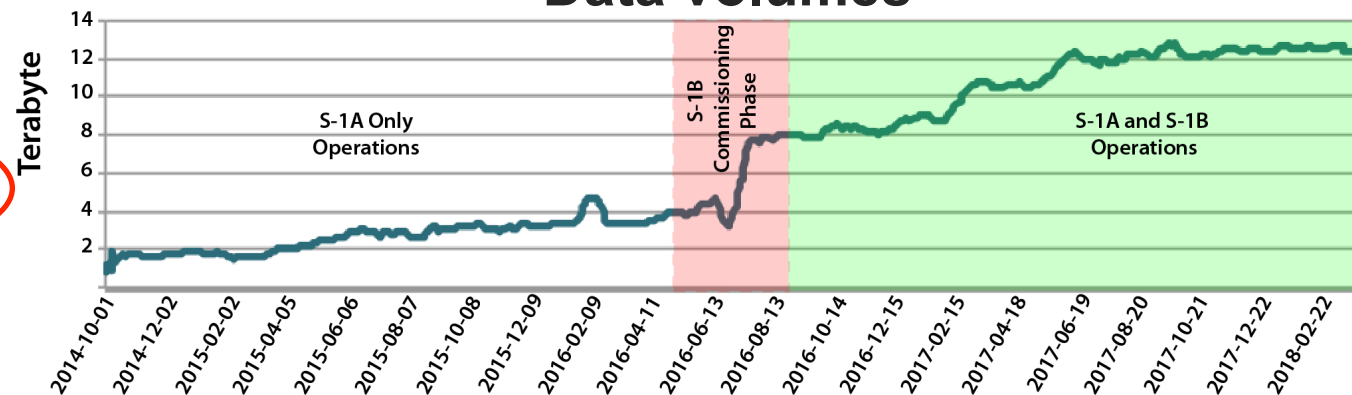


A “small baseline”  
constellation

with very large  
data volumes

Courtesy of ESA

## Data volumes





# Main requirements for massive DInSAR processing of Sentinel-1 data archives

## ***Efficient Processing Tools:***

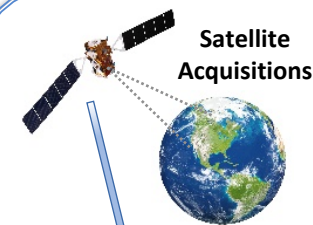
parallel algorithms for HPC platforms  
to minimize the processing times



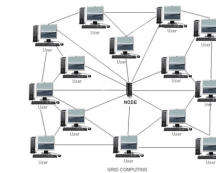
**P-SBAS  
DInSAR**

## ***Computing Resources & Data Proximity:***

distributed HPC infrastructures and in  
proximity to data



**SAR Data Archives**



**High Performance  
Computing Resources**

# Sentinel-1 Parallel SBAS (P-SBAS) workflow

The parallelization strategy is based on **Multi-Node** and **Multi-Core** architectures

The granularity is essentially based on two levels:

- Burst Level
- Interferograms Level

The PhU step uses a dedicated parallelization strategy (Open MP)

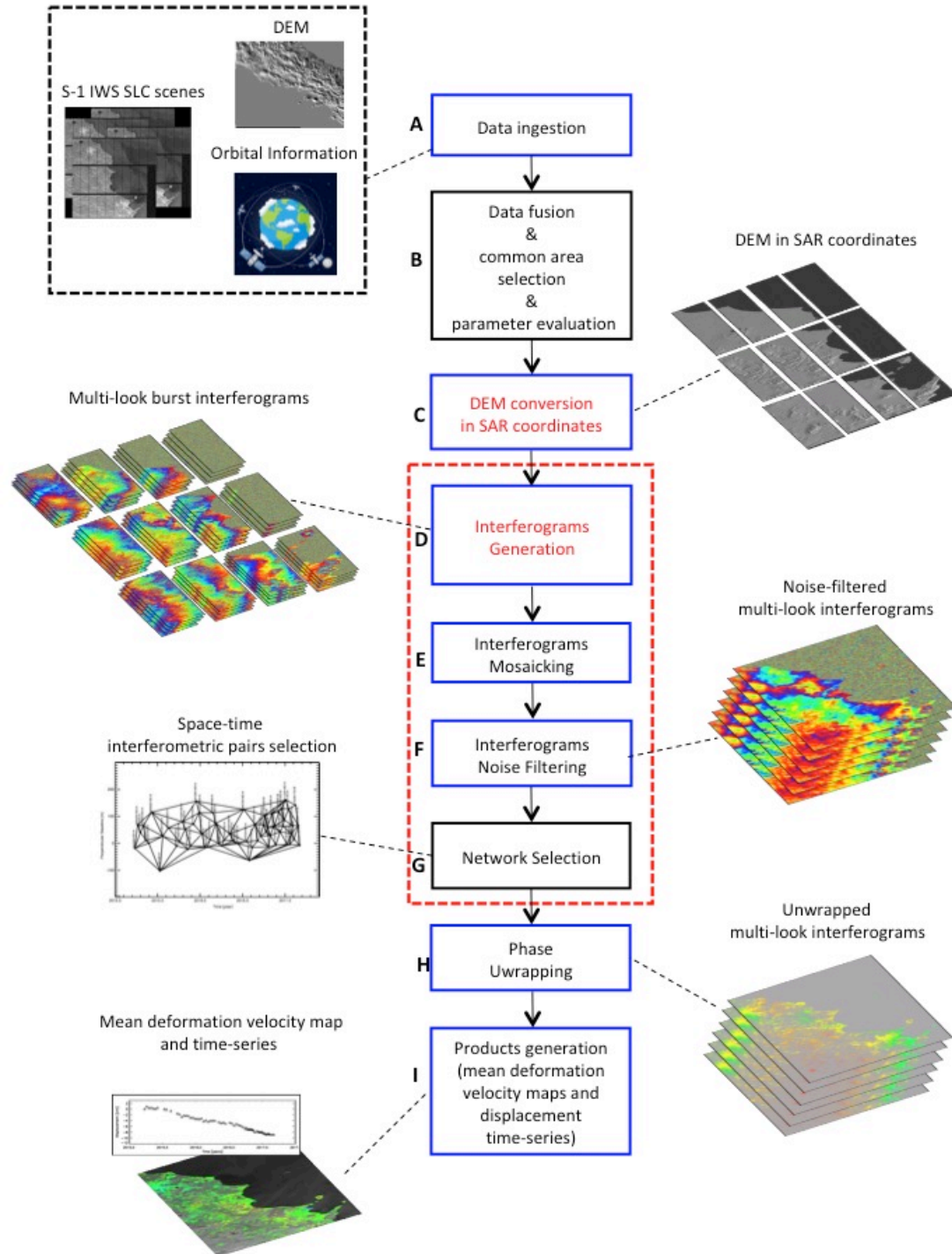
*Casu et al., 2014, IEEE JSTARS*

*Pepe et al., 2015, IEEE TGRS*

*Zinno et al., 2015, IEEE JSTARS*

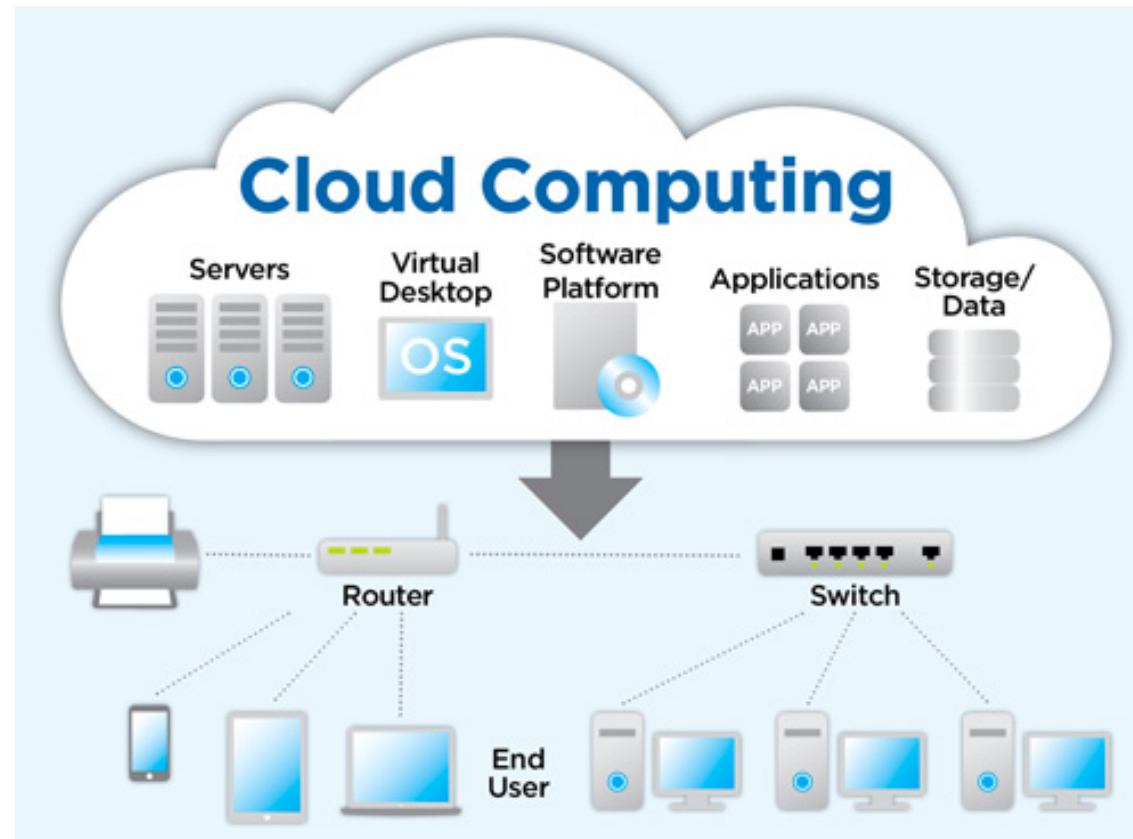
*Zinno et al., 2015, IEEE Trans. Cloud Computing*

*Manunta et al., 2019, IEEE TGRS*



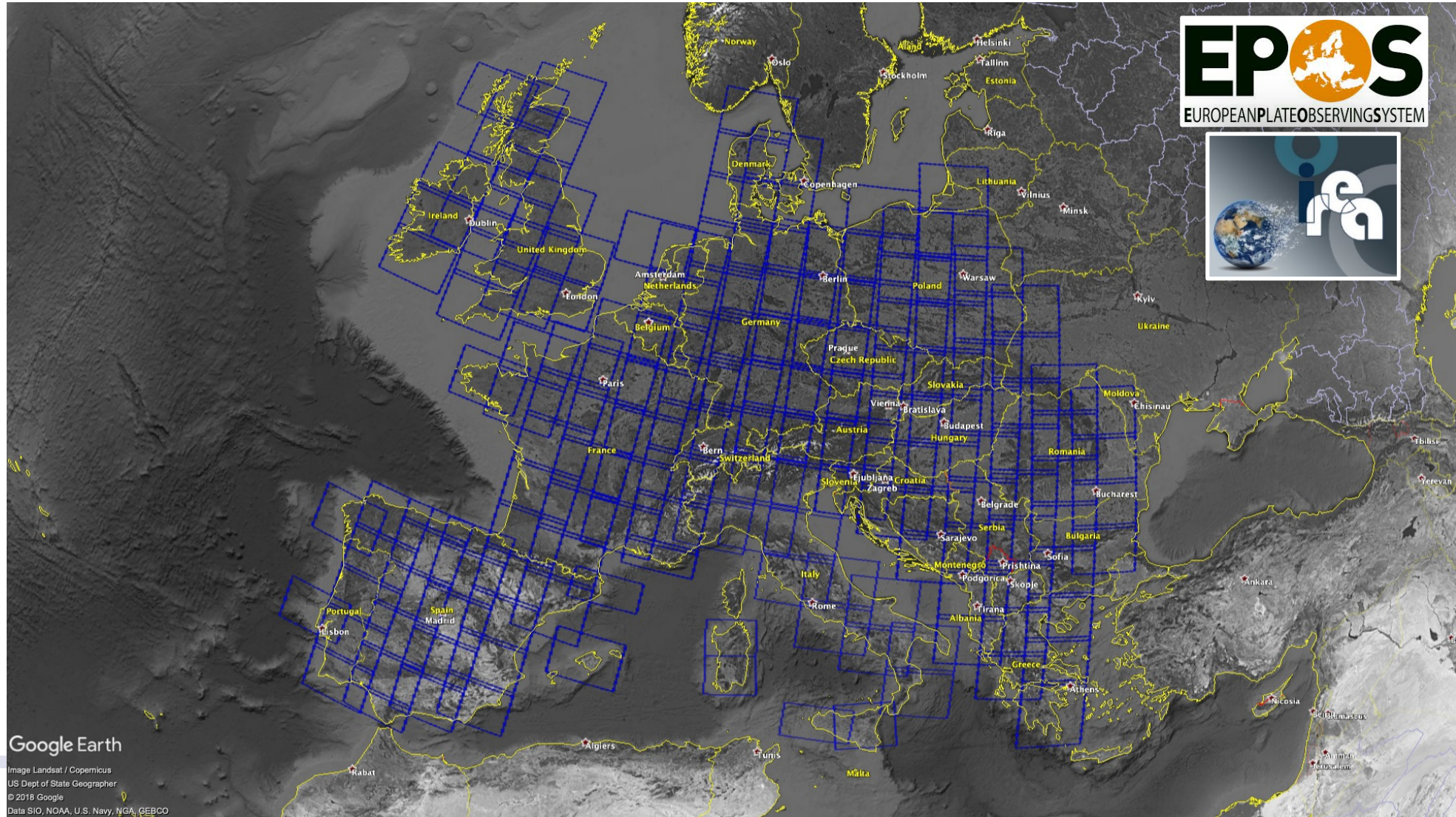


# Cloud Computing basic rationale



**Cloud Computing is a computing paradigm that provides flexible resource allocation on demand with the key objective to realize elastic, Internet-accessible, computing on a pay-per-use basis (Zeid et al., 2014, DOI: 10.4018/978-1-4666-5788-5.ch002)**

# Continental scale Sentinel-1 P-SBAS DInSAR analysis: investigated area





# Continental scale Sentinel-1 P-SBAS DInSAR analysis: computing resources

How to do that?



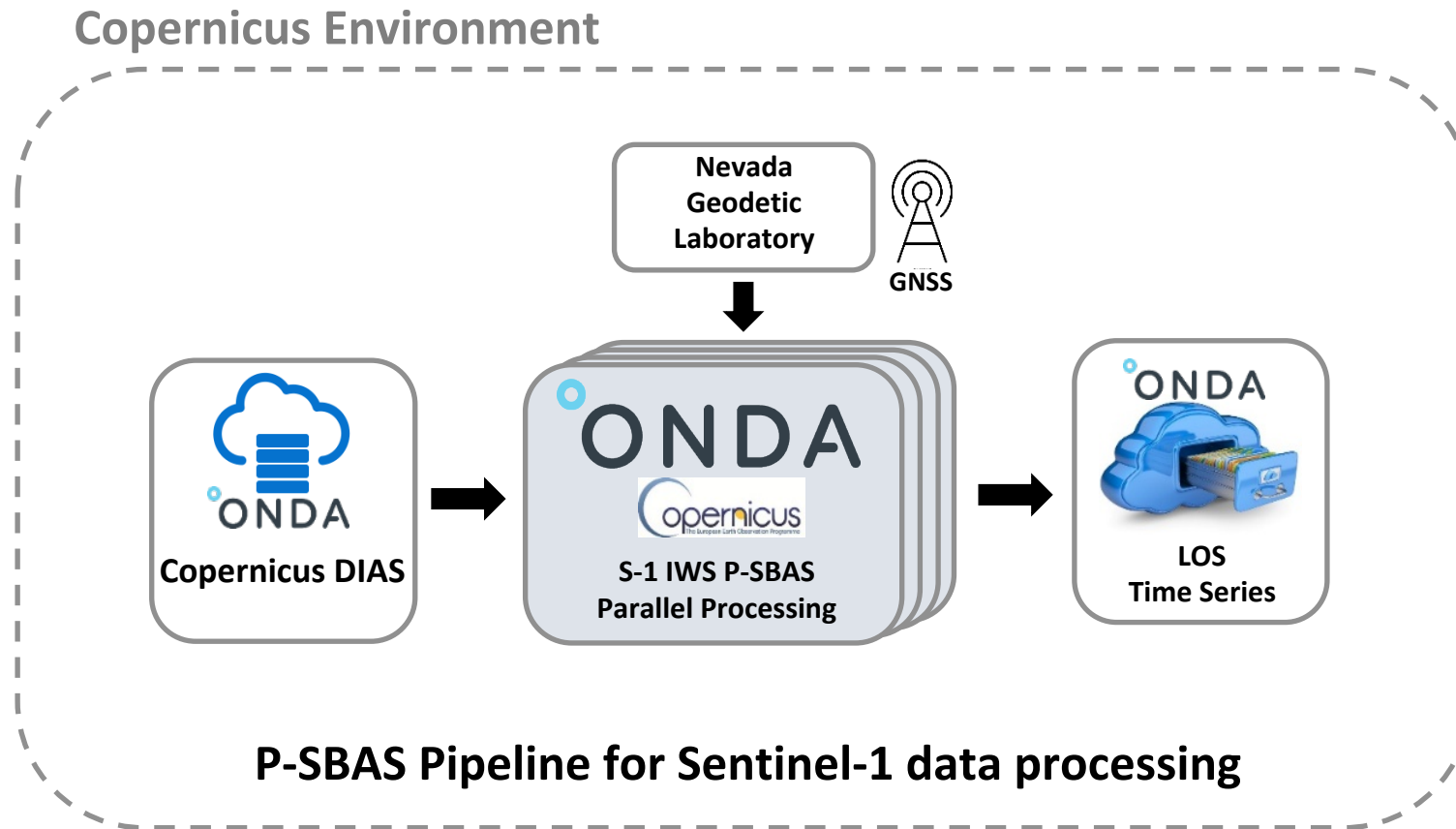
6 Nodes each one equipped with:  
CPU's: 64  
RAM: 512 GB RAM  
Storage: 20 TB

Experiments Start Date: 14/01/2019  
Experiments duration: ~6 months

Google Earth

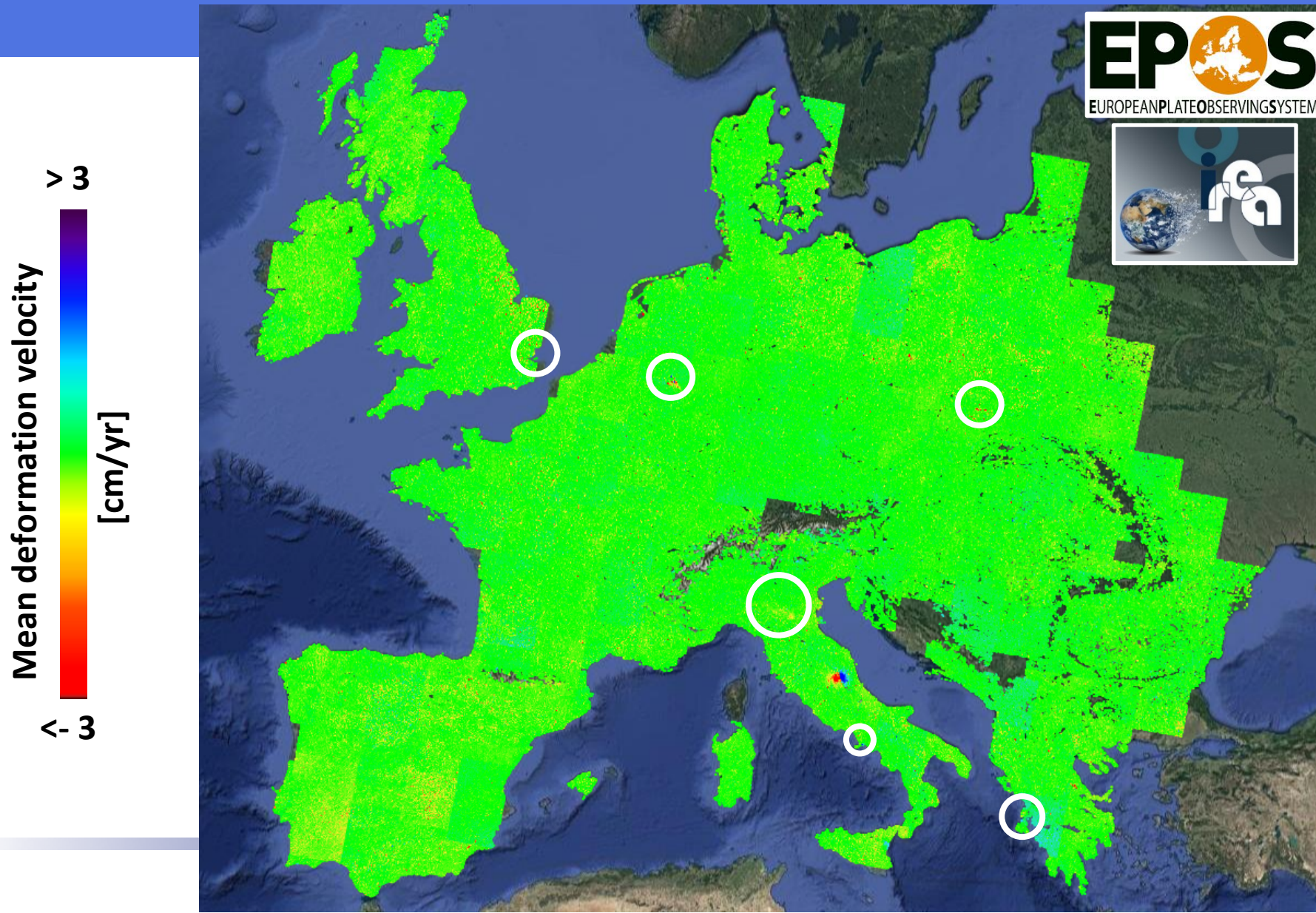
Image Landsat / Copernicus  
US Dept of State Geographer  
© 2018 Google  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

# Exploited Cloud Computing scenarios for massive P-SBAS DInSAR processing



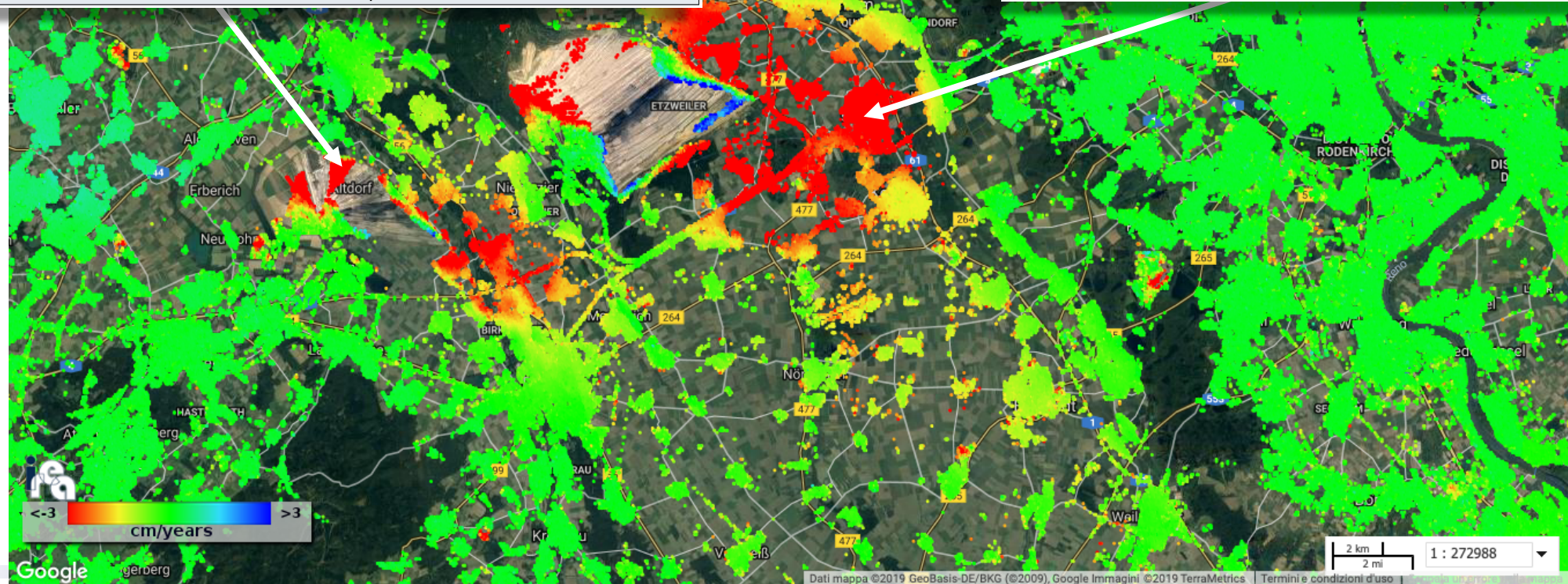
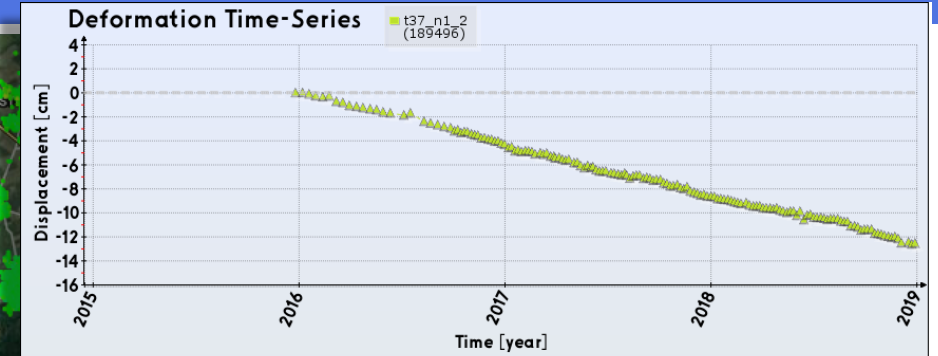
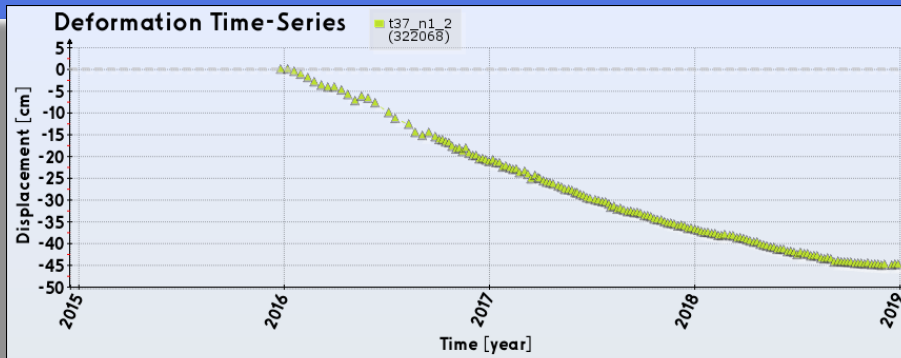


# Continental scale Sentinel-1 P-SBAS DInSAR results



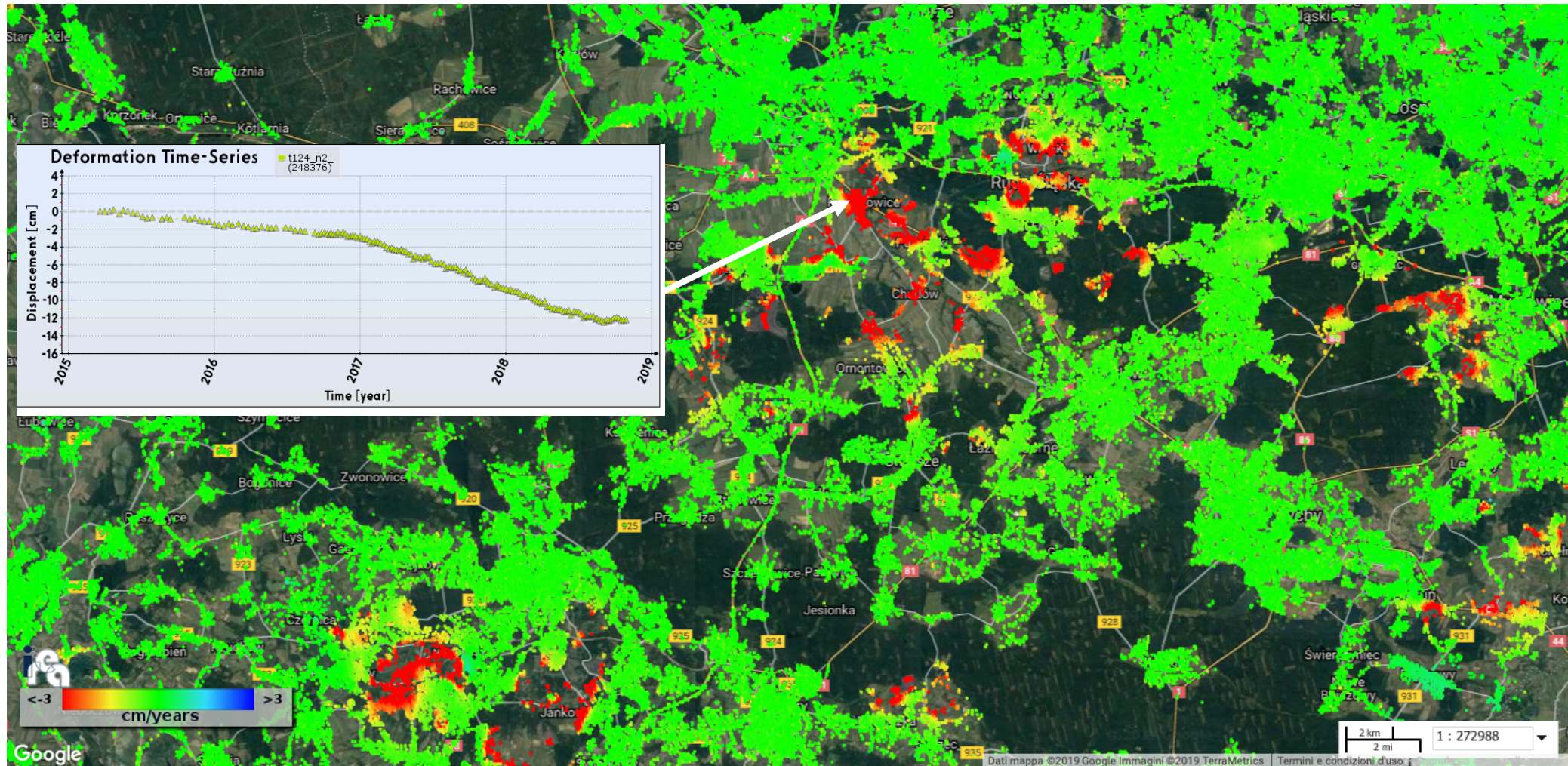


# Deformations due to mining activities in western Germany



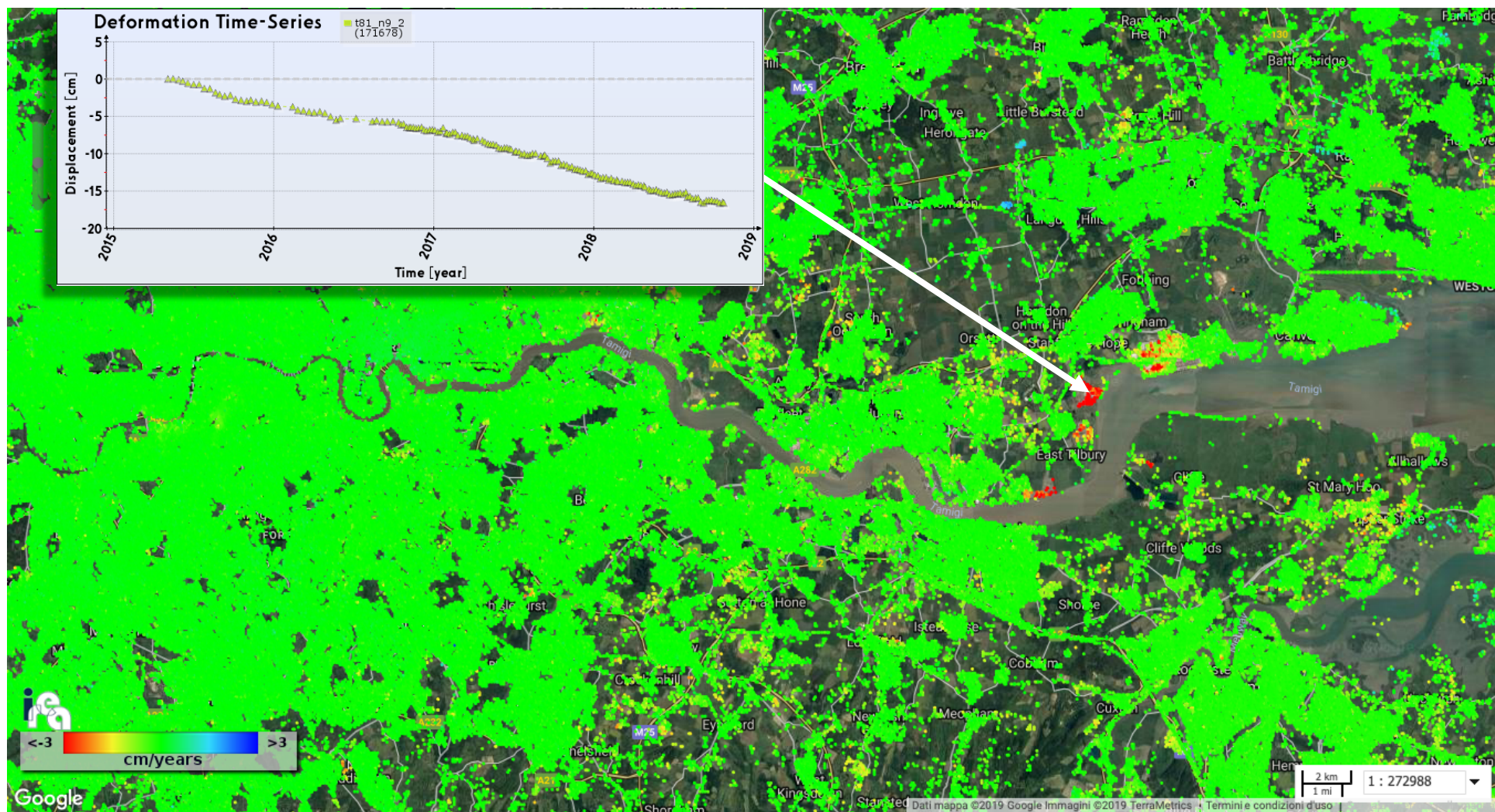


# Deformations due to mining activities in southern Poland



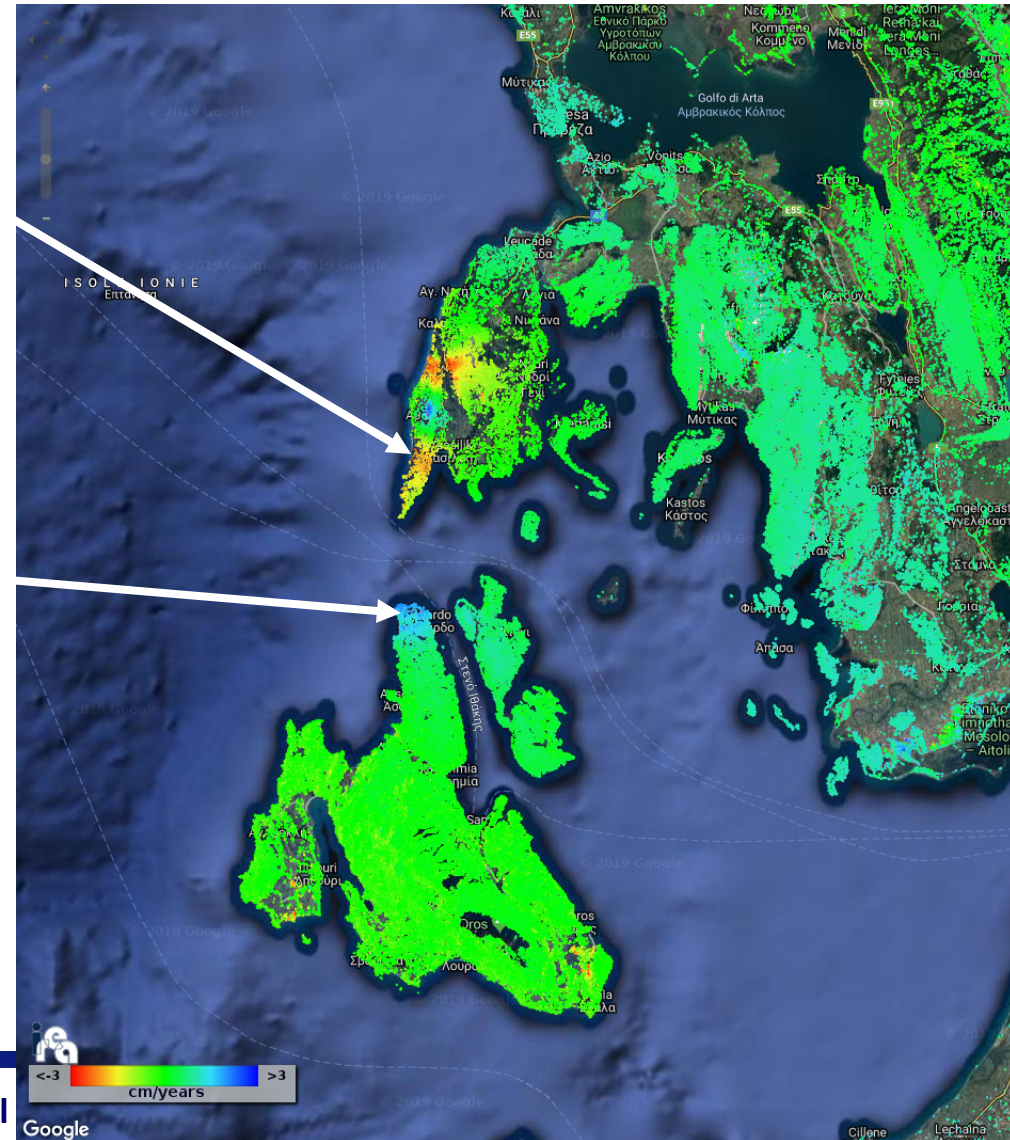
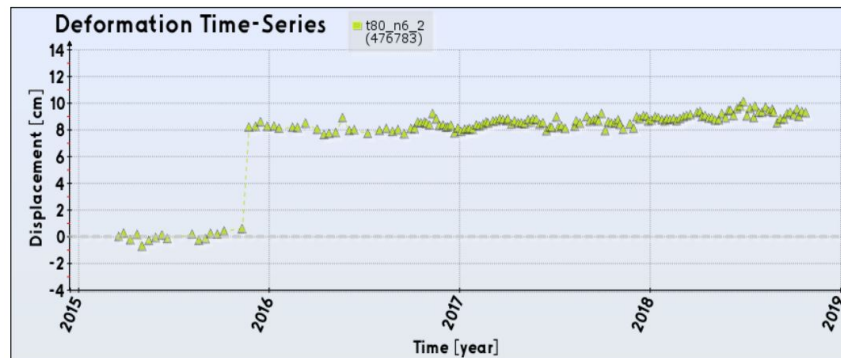
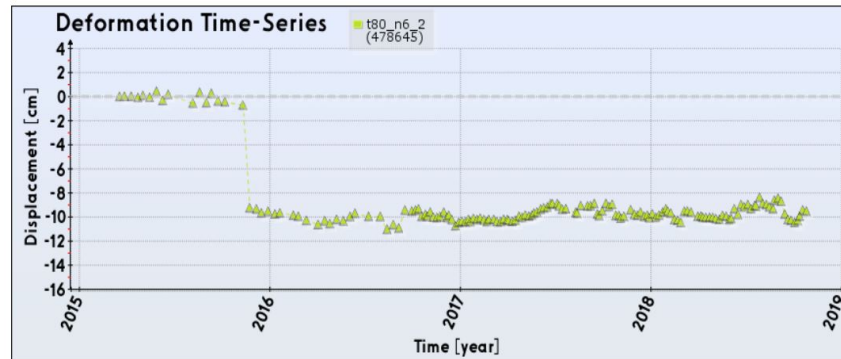


# Deformations along the banks of the Thames river (United Kingdom)



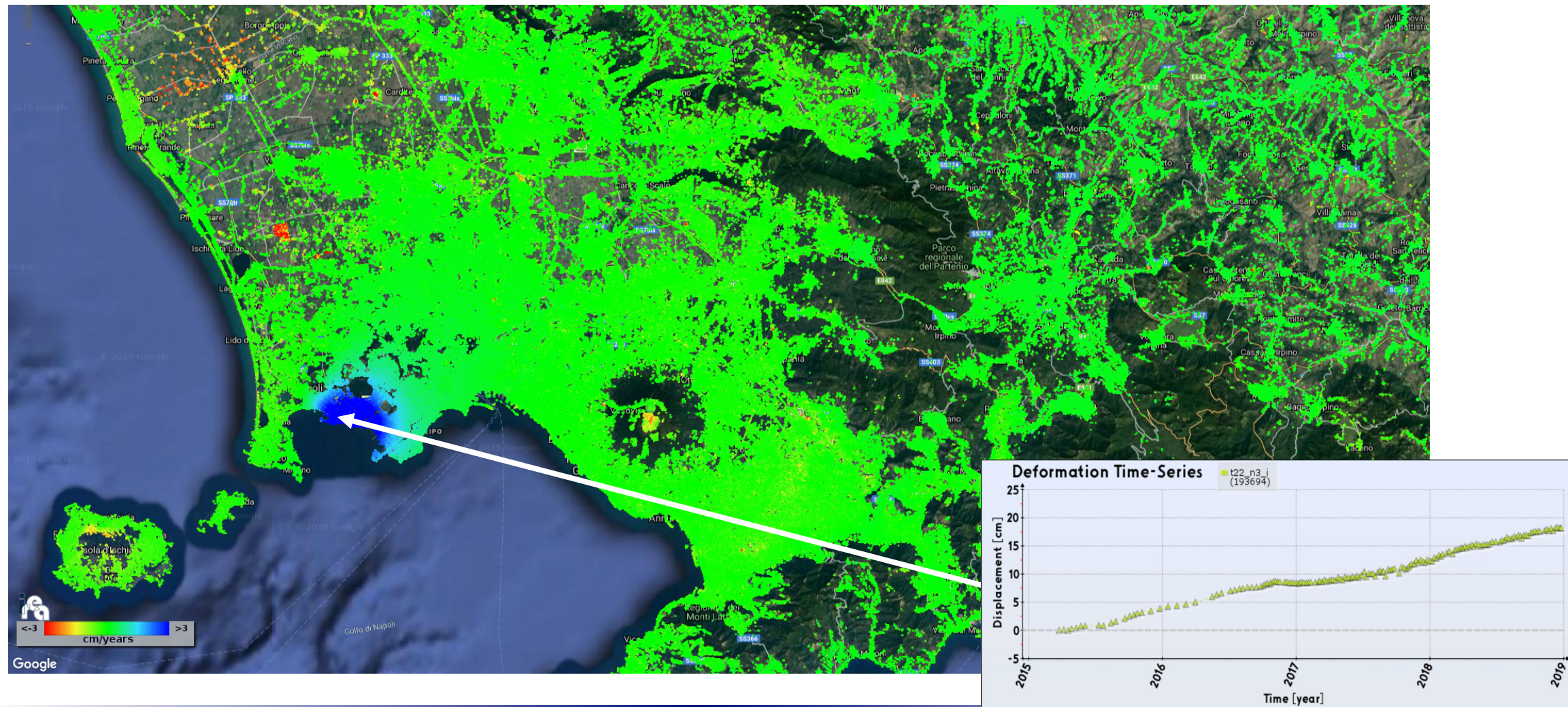


# Deformations related to the November 2015 Lefkada earthquake (Greece)



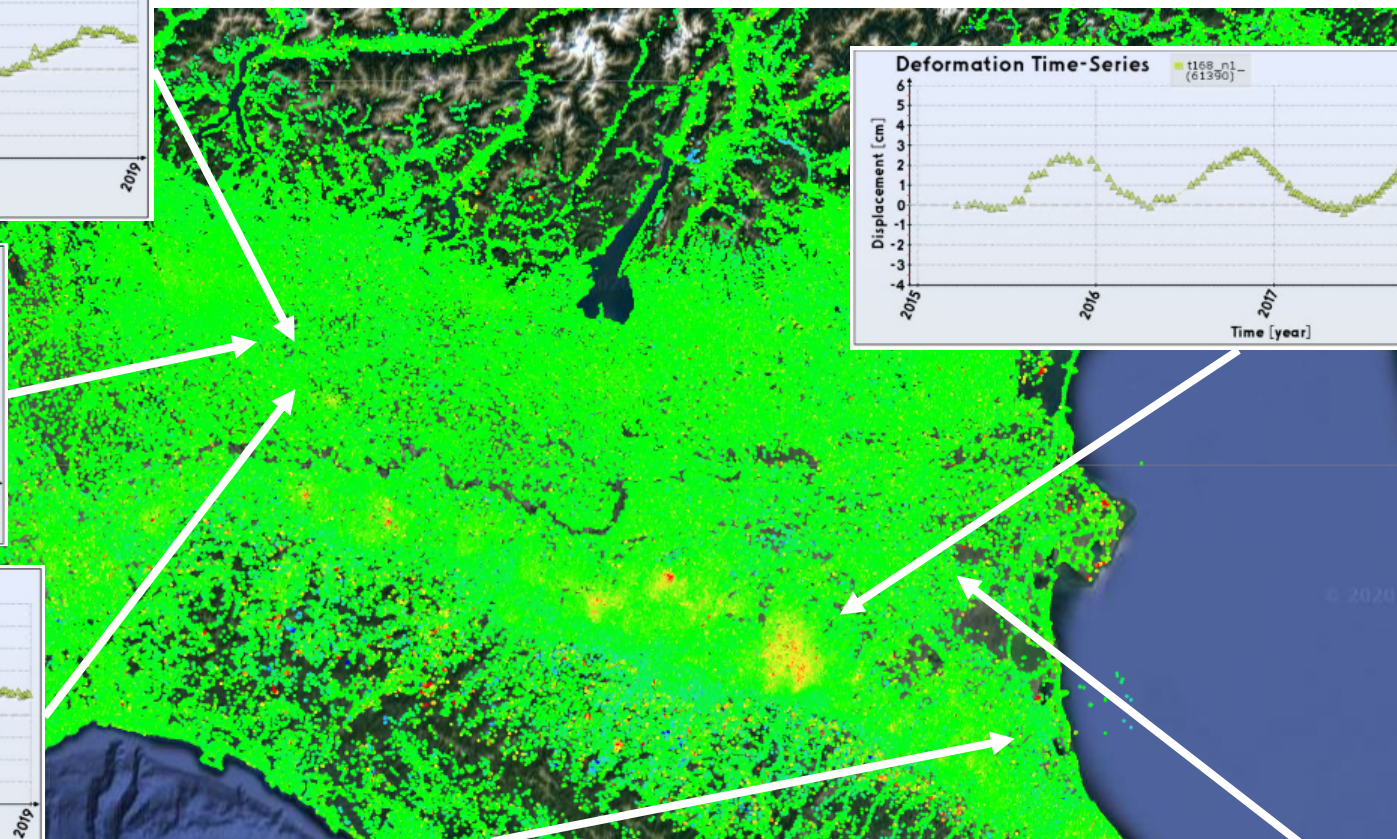
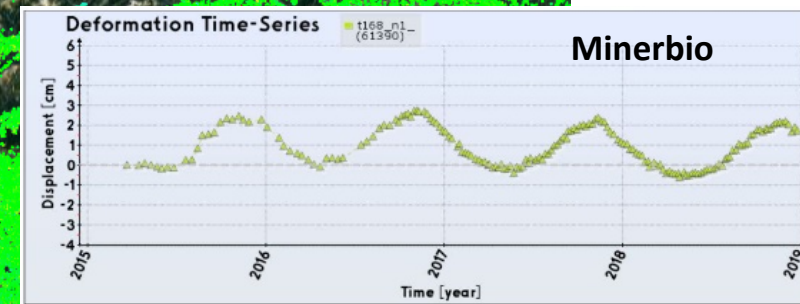
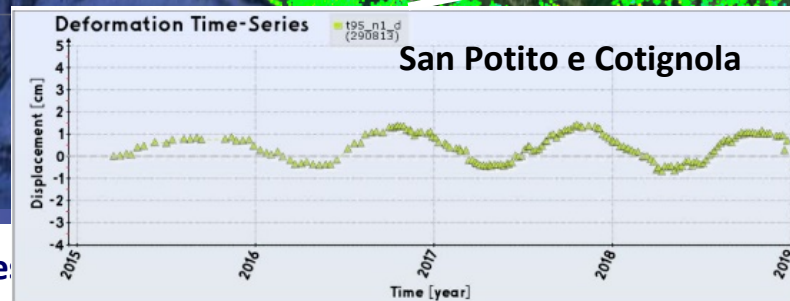


# Deformations due to volcanic activity at Campi Flegrei caldera (Southern Italy)

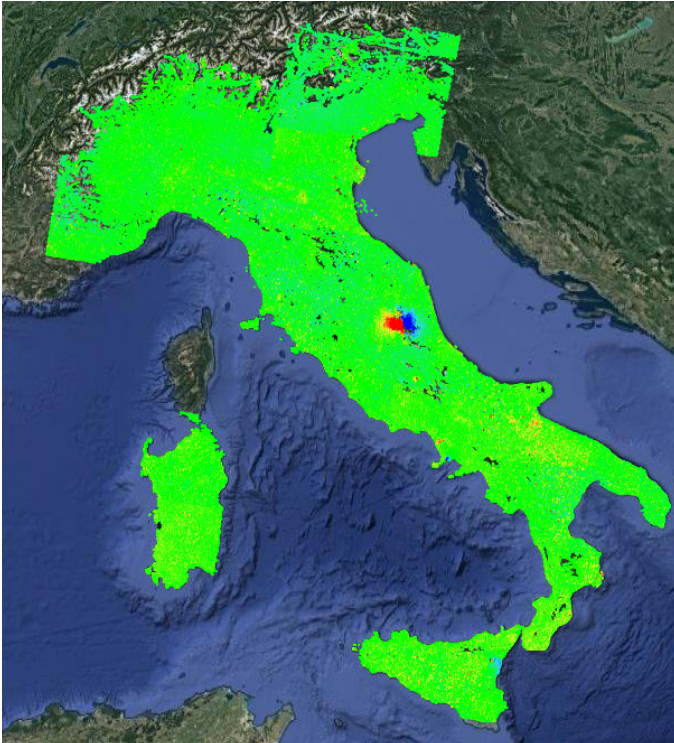




# Deformations related to natural gas storage activities (Northern Italy)



# Sentinel-1 DInSAR time series validation: comparison with 434 GPS stations (NLG processing)



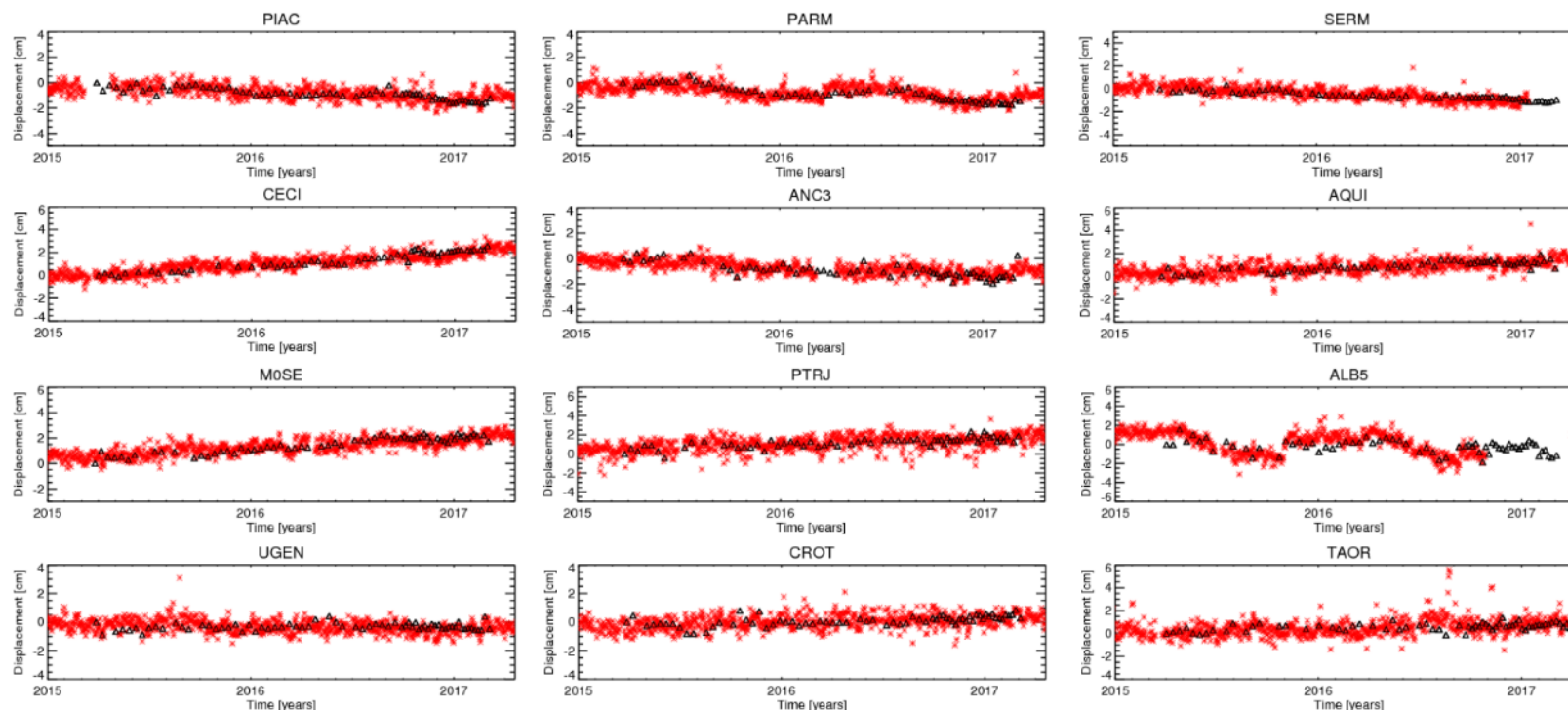


# Sentinel-1 DInSAR time series validation: comparison with 434 GPS stations (NLG processing)



$$\sigma_{\text{def}} \sim 4 \text{ mm}$$

$\Delta$  SAR  
\* GPS



Manunta et al., 2019, IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.





## **P-SBAS processing summary**

**Processing flows: 154 tiles**

**Sentinel-1 exploited data : ~72,000**

**Final product pixel dimension: ~80 m**

**Covered Area: ~4,500,000 km<sup>2</sup>**

**Coherent (multilook) pixels: ~120,000,000**

**Elapsed time : ~6 months**

**Processing costs: ~ 60,000 euro**

Mean deformation velocity  
[cm/yr]

> 3

< -3



# Conclusions

- The availability of *i)* efficient processing tools and *ii)* distributed HPC infrastructures in proximity to data confirmed to be essential for massive DInSAR processing of Sentinel-1 data archives
- The reliability and compliance with defined formats of the Sentinel-1 data has proved to be suitable for automatic massive DInSAR processing
- The Parallel SBAS (P-SBAS) workflow has shown to be fully suitable for continental scale Sentinel-1 DInSAR time series generation
- The presented analysis has been carried out by exploiting averaged (multilooked) interferograms but it can be efficiently extended to the full resolution spatial scale by also using Graphics Processing Units (GPUs)
- The DIAS infrastructure (ONDA, in particular) has confirmed to be a very effective option to carry out continental scale Sentinel-1 DInSAR analysis, at least through the P-SBAS approach
- The presented results are relevant for the Satellite Data Thematic Core Service of the European Plate Observing System (EPOS), implemented within the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructure (ESFRI), and may have a positive impact on the future development of the European Ground Motion Service, which is expected to start in the near future



Google Earth

Image Landsat / Copernicus  
US Dept of State Geographer  
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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO