



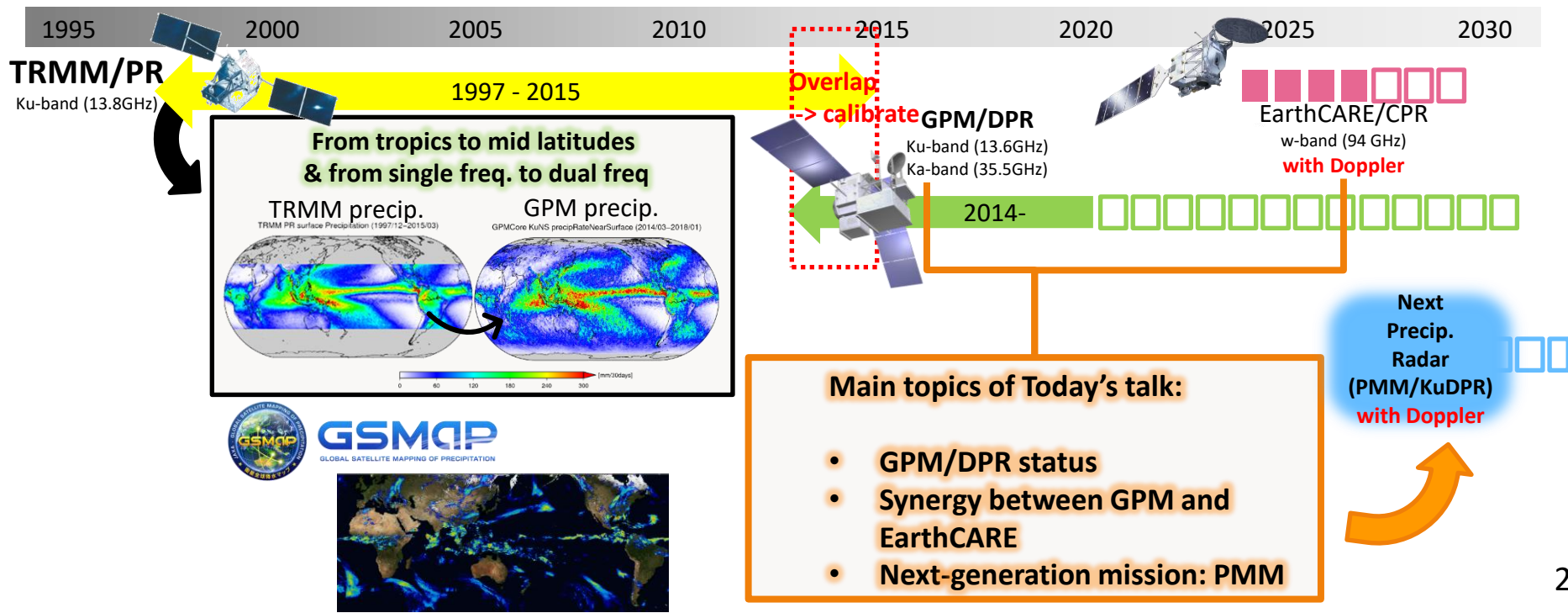
Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) mission in Japan and future Japanese Precipitation Measuring Mission (PMM)

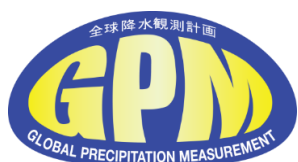
Takuji Kubota

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IPWG-12@Kraków, Poland, July 2026

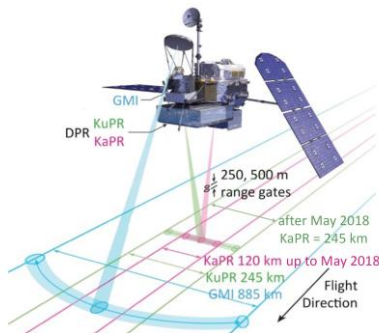
1. **Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM)** mission status
2. Recent Spaceborne **“Doppler” Cloud radar** (EarthCARE/CPR) : focus on synergy between GPM and EarthCARE/CPR
3. **Next-generation** Spaceborne **“Doppler” Precipitation radar**: PMM/KuDPR





GPM Core Observatory by NASA-JAXA

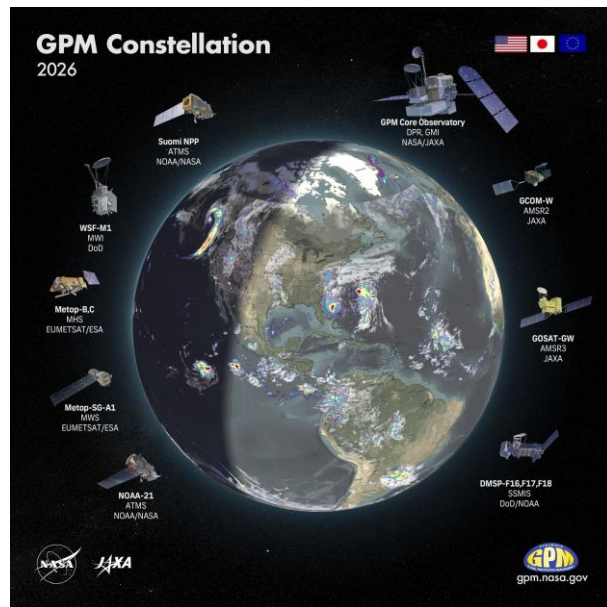
launched in Feb. 2014,
and has been **in operation for 12 years!**



- The GPM is an international mission consisting of the **GPM Core Observatory by NASA-JAXA and constellation satellites by international partners** for high-precision and high-frequency global precipitation observation.
- The GPM Core Observatory satellite performed orbit-boost maneuvers in November 2023, increasing its altitude from 407 km to 442 km and extending its **expected operational lifetime into the early 2030s**.
- We have provided global merged precipitation products, such as **JAXA's GSMaP and NASA's IMERG** that integrate the GPM Core Observatory and constellation satellites.

Updated GPM Constellation diagram is now available in NASA homepage!

<https://gpm.nasa.gov/missions/GPM/constellation>



See 3.1 talk for IMERG
See 3.2 talk for GSMaP

All data collection is nominal and instruments are in good condition.



JAXA and NASA **released DPR Version 8 (V08)** products in **March 2026** (GMI's V08 was also released at the same time).

Major Update points in DPR-L2 precipitation algorithm:

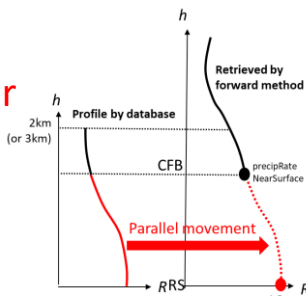
- [PRE] (Kanemaru, Masaki & Kubota)
 - Introduction of adjustment factor for KuPR in Level 1
 - Improvement of ClutterFreeBottom estimation by using dual frequency power method (Shimizu et al., 2023)
- [CSF] (Awaka, Chandra & Le)
 - (new product) Hydrometeor type profile (hydroClass)
- [SRT] (Meneghini, Kim) **See 5.8 talk by Dr. Minda Le**
 - Improvement of PIAhybrid (piaHY)
- [SLV] (Seto)
 - New surface precipitation estimation (precipRateSurface) by using the low-level precipitation profile database developed by Hirose et al. (2021, 2026)
 - Improvement of extremely high precipitation over high altitude region

See 4.3 talk by Prof. Seto

Main features in **DPR Version 8 (V08)** products

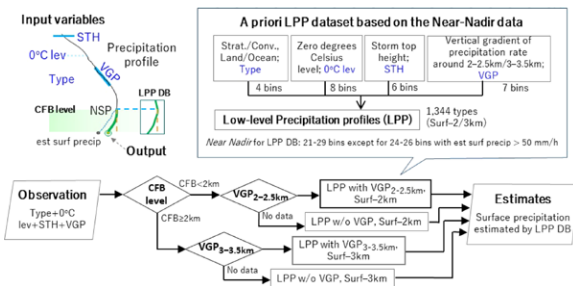
New surface precipitation estimation (precipRateEsurface) by using the low-level precipitation profile database developed by Hirose et al. (2021, 2026)

Issues of spaceborne radar in blind zones near the surface

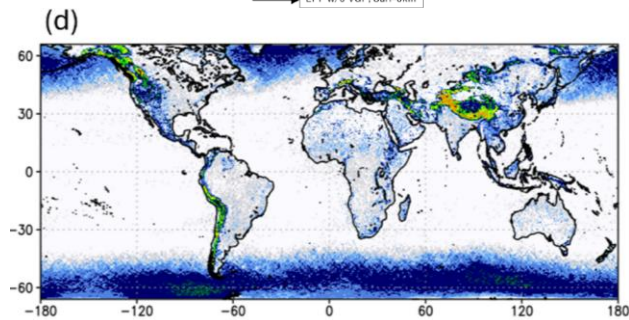


Construction of low-level precipitation profile (LPP) database using the DPR observations (Hirose et al. 2021)

<https://doi.org/10.2151/jmsj.2021-060>

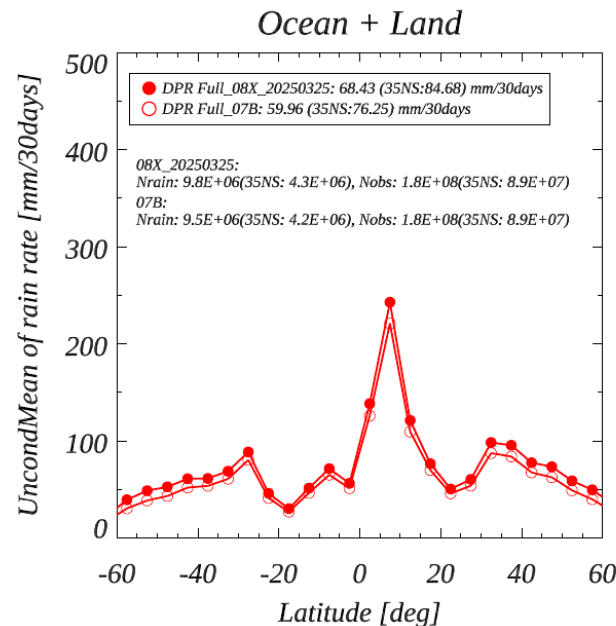


LPP database was used in the Solver module for estimating surface precipitation



Increase in estimated surface precipitation resulting from the LPP correction at swath-edge (Hirose et al. 2026)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s44394-026-00025-4>

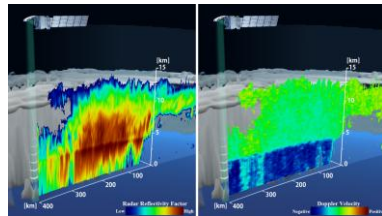
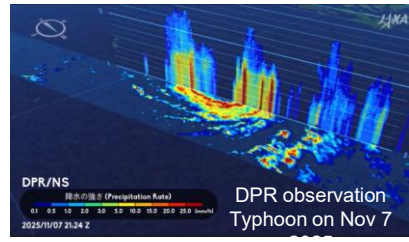
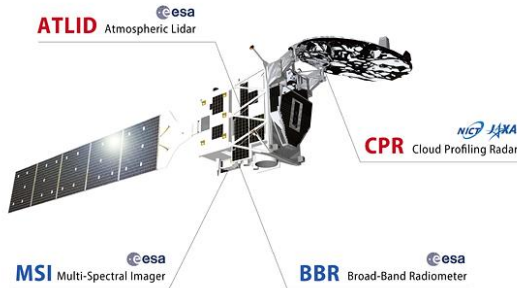


It significantly effected surface precipitation intensity at high latitudes in the new version V08.

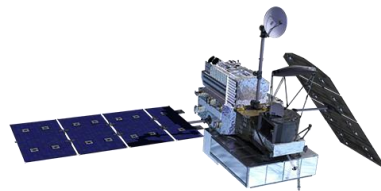
Synergy between Spaceborne Cloud and Precipitation Radar Observations by EarthCARE and GPM



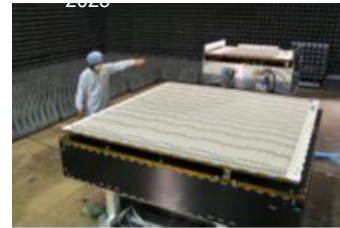
- The **Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar (DPR; Ku-band (13GHz) & Ka-band (35GHz))** onboard the **GPM** Core Observatory have continued observations for more than 12 years.
- EarthCARE/CPR launched in May 2024 observes cloud profiles with the **world's first spaceborne W-band (94GHz) Doppler velocity measurements**.
- JAXA has constructed a coincident observation dataset for the EarthCARE and the GPM as “**EarthCARE–GPM Coincidence Dataset**” and provided it in the JAXA server.
 - Exploring vertical motions from EarthCARE and GPM coincidence dataset (Aoki et al. 2026, AMT, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-19-79-2026>)



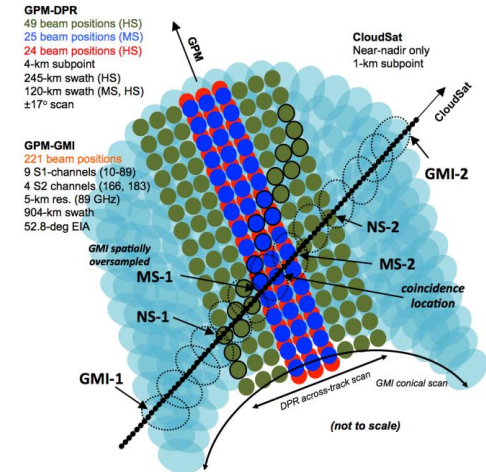
CPR first images (JAXA/NICT)



GPM Core Observatory
(NASA/JAXA)



DPR (JAXA/NICT)



EarthCARE Cloud Profiling Radar (CPR) developed by JAXA and NICT



EarthCARE

Earth Cloud Aerosol and Radiation Explorer

EarthCARE is an ESA Earth Explorer jointly developed and operated by ESA and JAXA to observe cloud, aerosol and radiation (Illingworth et al. 2015, Wehr et al. 2023, Kubota et al. 2026).



Observation Instruments on EarthCARE

CPR	Cloud Profiling Radar	NICT JAXA
ATLID	Atmospheric Lidar	ESA
MSI	Multi-Spectral Imager	ESA
BBR	Broadband Radiometer	ESA



Synergetic Observation by 4 sensors

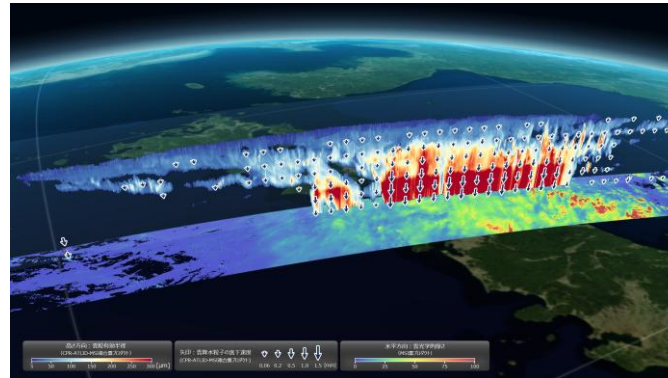
Cloud Profiling Radar CPR (JAXA/NICT)

High Power 94GHz Doppler Radar

- Cloud & Precipitation profiles, particle vertical velocity



All JAXA and ESA standard products have been since Dec. 2025.
(Kubota et al. 2026, JEMS, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.emets.2026.100037>)

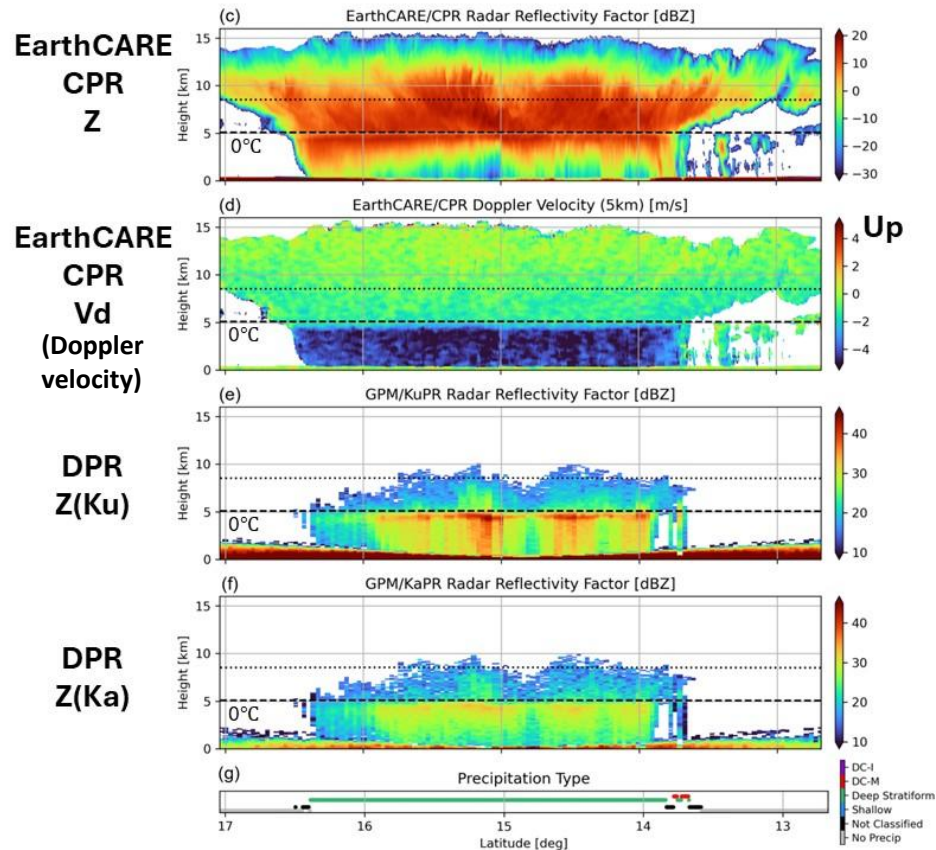


EarthCARE–GPM Coincidence Dataset



- Due to the difference in orbits (GPM: inclined, EarthCARE: near-polar), the orbits of **both satellites intersect at the same timing**, and such combined observational data can be utilized.
- Dataset for more than 1-year since Aug 2024 (**>4500 cases**), and more in the future.
- **Now, publicly available with the Data DOI on the JAXA website!**
 - ✓ <https://doi.org/10.57746/EO.01ka7xakvwj6pcthxkvgt0vr0y>

See 9.14 poster by Dr. Joe Turk



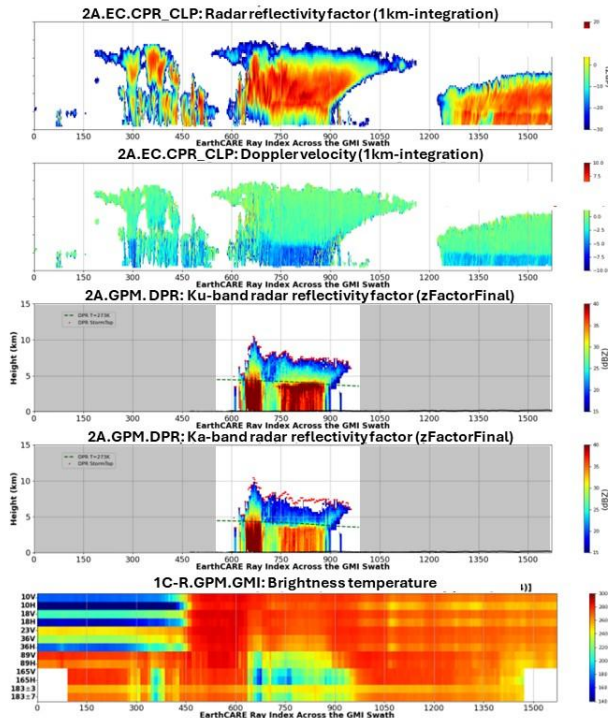
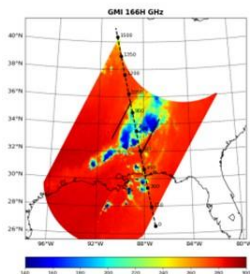
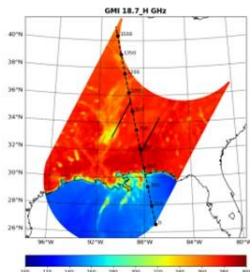
GSMaP snowfall estimation by the ML trained by the EarthCARE–GPM Coincidence Dataset



EarthCARE and GPM coincidence dataset

(<https://doi.org/10.57746/EO.01ka7xakvwj6pcthxkvg0vr0y>)

2B.ECAREGPM.COIN(OL1)
Center=(33.7, -88.73) $\Delta T = -144$ sec
GPM
2025/10/19 073336-073632 UTC
Orbits=[66064]
EarthCARE
2025/10/19 073030-073415 UTC
Orbits=[79108]



2-Step Retrieval developed by Prof. G. Liu (FSU)
XGBoost Classification for yes/no precipitation
XGBoost Regression for TB to snowfall rate conversion

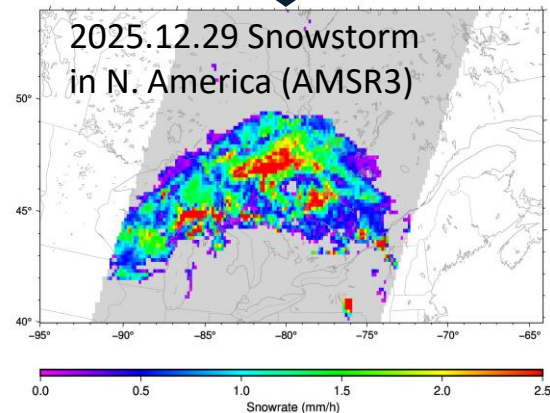


Figure by
Prof. G. Liu
(FSU)

This ML (XGBoost) method is applied for AMSR3 snowfall product and GSMaP v9.

See 2.4 (AMSR3) & 3.2 (GSMaP) talks

PMM (Precipitation Measuring Mission)

Ku-band Doppler Precipitation Radar
(KuDPR) will focus on advanced
observation of precipitation:

**Doppler velocity observation &
High sensitivity observation**

PMM specifications

Instrument	Ku-band Doppler Precipitation Radar Microwave radiometer (CNES)
Weight	2900kg (Max)
Mission life	5 years after launch
Power	4000W (Max)
Launcher	TBC (NASA)
Orbit	Altitude is similar to GPM, 55° inclined



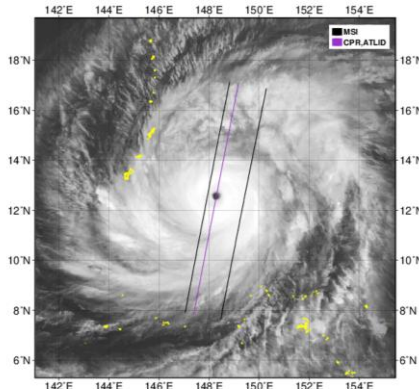
KuDPR major characteristics

Frequency	13.6 GHz
Observation modes	▪ Doppler obs. mode ▪ Dense sampling obs. mode ▪ Normal scan obs. mode

The KuDPR will be two-antenna system that adopts Displaced Phase Center Antenna (DPCA) approach (Durden et al. 2007, Tanelli et al. 2016).

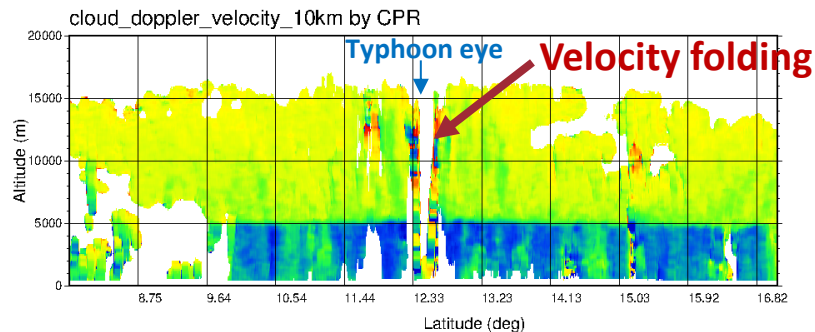
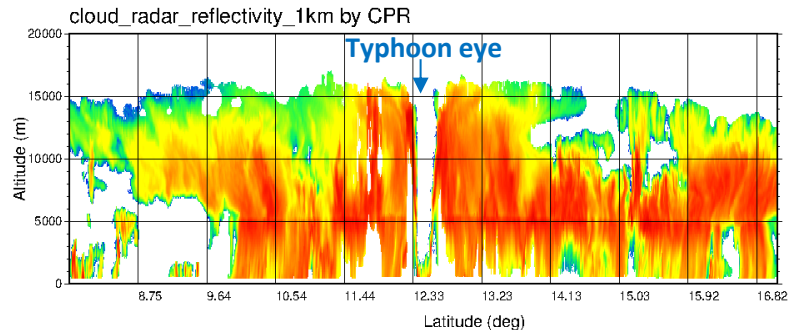
→ The DPCA approach can lead to **more accurate Doppler measurement.**

Velocity folding or aliasing is inherent to Doppler radar.



- For the EarthCARE/CPR (W-band radar), **velocity folding occurs at around 5–6 m/s** (e.g., Hagihara et al. 2023).
- In contrast, the folding for the KuDPR (Ku-band radar) occurs at approximately **28 m/s**, allowing more reliable observations under **strong vertical motion conditions such as typhoons and intense convective rainfall**.

An example of the Doppler velocity folding in the EarthCARE/CPR observations (Typhoon Sinlaku case)



SINLAKE (04W) T2604

2026-04-13 04:09 (UTC)

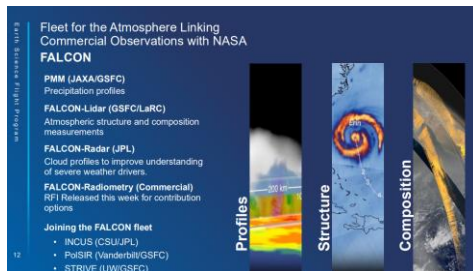
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Doppler Velocity by CPR

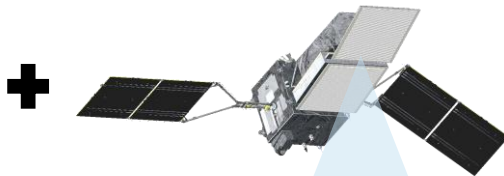
Orbit Frame 10646E



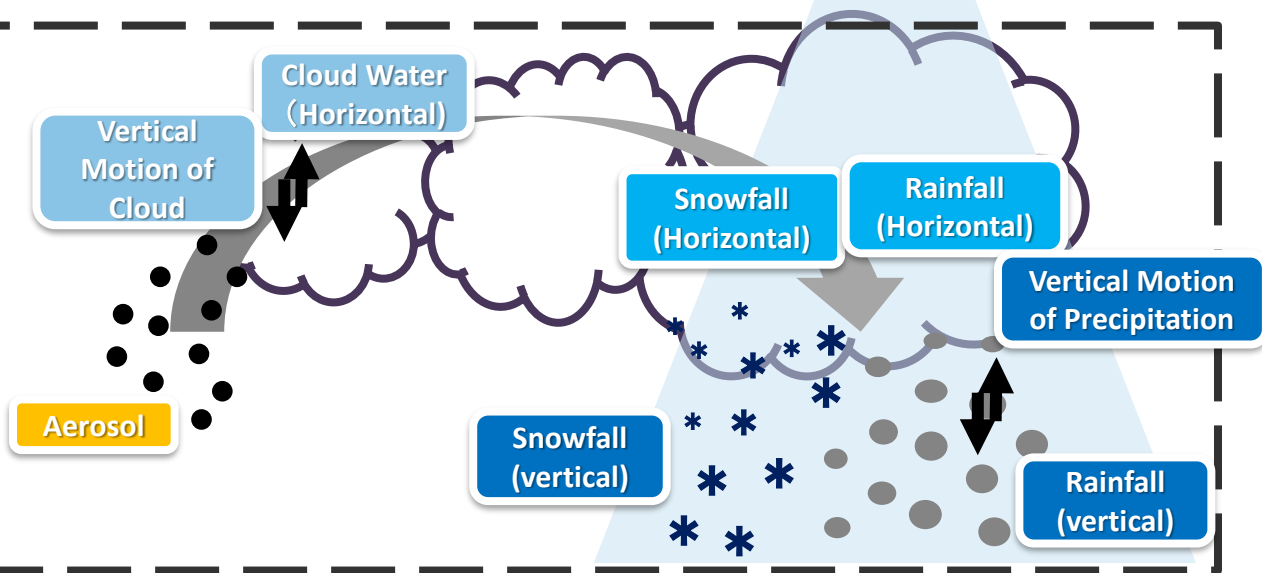
NASA FALCON



JAXA PMM KuDPR



- Ku-band Doppler Precipitation Radar (KuDPR)
 - Doppler velocity obs.
 - High sensitivity
- Collaboration with **NASA FALCON** for understanding of Aerosol~Cloud~Precipitation processes
- Improving weather/climate models



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 - The **EarthCARE-GPM coincidence dataset** has been released Nov 2025 in the JAXA server (<https://doi.org/10.57746/EO.01ka7xakvwj6pcthxkvgt0vr0y>).
 - Snowfall estimation in the GSMaP trained by the EarthCARE–GPM Coincidence Dataset
- Future Mission: Precipitation Measuring Mission (PMM)
 - Ku-band Doppler Precipitation Radar (KuDPR): **Doppler velocity obs.& High sensitivity**
 - Collaboration with **NASA FALCON** for understanding of Aerosol~Cloud~Precipitation processes
 - Improving weather/climate models