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פרופ' ארנון קרניאלי

המעבדה לחישה מרחוק
המכונים לחקר המדבר ע"ש יעקב בלאושוטיין
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<http://www.bgu.ac.il/BIDR/research/phys/remote>

Science from Above

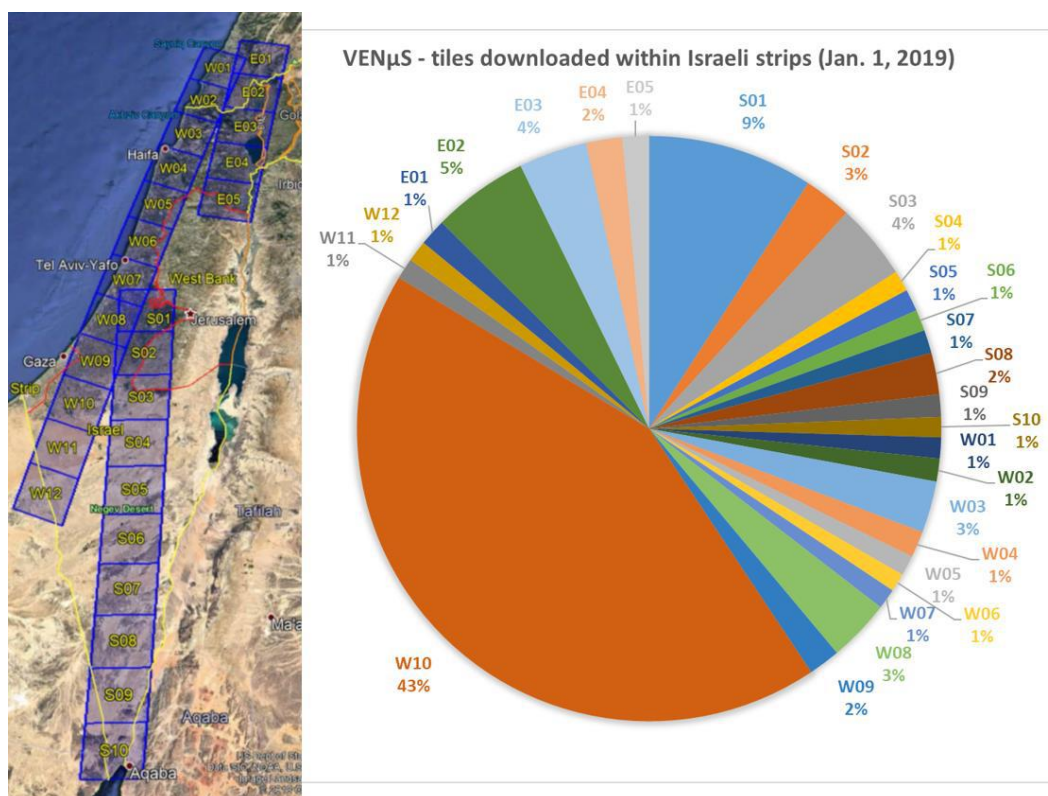
January 7, 2019

Dear colleagues,

Re: VEN μ S periodic news – 06 January 2019

The VEN μ S program is progressing well as expected.

1. Our statistics show that until January 1, 2019, 5448 images were downloaded over Israel. These are used for 21 registered projects. Their main topics are agriculture, forestry, water quality, and ecology. The tiles' distribution can be seen in the chart below:



2. Since December 13, 2018, CNES introduced version 2.0 of VEN μ S products, with the following improvements:

2.1 Product registration:

Multi-temporal registration with an enhancement of the correlation with the reference image.

Multi-spectral registration is improved with the correction of radiometric sliding. This affected in particular B01 and B02 bands (which have a large number of TDI stages) on sites acquired with high roll/pitch.

2.2 Cloud detection and quantification:

Corrections of over-detection due to repetitive landscape patterns or cloud shadows, global improvements on cloud detection using stereoscopy.

An anomaly triggered by the previous cloud detection parameters (randomly wrong cloud percentages values) is corrected, which should lead to more valid products overall.

2.3 Level 2 products:

Level 2 parameters now use real instead of estimated spectral response and benefit from all the above Level 1 improvements.

3. Presentations from the 1st International End-users Conference and Workshops that was held at Sede Boker Campus of Ben Gurion University are located at the VEN μ S website. Link: <https://venus.bgu.ac.il/venus/>

4. The 4th COSPAR Symposium on "Small satellites for sustainable Science and Development" will be held on November 4-8, 2019, at Hotel Daniel, Herzliya, Israel. Link: <http://www.cospar2019.org/>.

Sessions will be devoted to "Scientific results of the VEN μ S Earth observation mission". Abstract submission is now open with a deadline on April 30, 2019.



Call for Papers

"Small Satellites for Sustainable Science and Development"

Final deadline for abstract submission: April 30, 2019

[Submit Your Abstract](#)

COSPAR recently initiated a new series of scientific meetings, the Symposia, aimed at promoting space research at a regional level and to be organized in countries with medium or small size space infrastructures.

The upcoming 4th COSPAR Symposium will be held in Israel, on 4-8 November 2019, and will address the broad topic of "Small satellites for sustainable Science and Development". It will feature plenary lectures as well as parallel sessions and poster sessions.

In parallel to the Symposium, there will be a teacher training event with talks and hands-on activities for local school teachers. A COSPAR Capacity Building Workshop on "Small Satellites" will take place during the week preceding the Symposium. Participants will be young professionals and post-docs from Southern Europe, North Africa and the Middle-East and will be selected by application.

Regards,

Manuel and Arnon

