

The Potential of ALOS PALSAR

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The H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 8 (H-IIA F8) with the Advanced Land Observing Satellite, Daichi (ALOS), onboard was launched at 10:33 a.m. JST on 24 January 2006. Phased Array type L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (PALSAR) instrument boarded on the ALOS. Compared to successful JERS-1 satellite operated from 1992 to 1998, the ALOS has advantages, such as better attitude and orbit control, precise orbit information, variable off-nadir angle, high resolution, and better interferometric coherence. We will introduce specification of ALOS PALSAR, differences compared to other satellites, expected products, and observation areas from the viewpoint of crustal deformation and volcano monitoring. If possible, PALSAR images will be displayed.