First Experiences with Chinese Gaofen-3 SAR Sensor

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The Chinese Gaofen-3 (GF-3) satellite was launched on 10 August, 2016, by the China Academy of Space Technology (CAST), and has been in operation since January, 2017. With its C-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) sensor, featuring a large radar antenna that is 15 m in length, GF-3 is able to image the Earth’s surface in all weather conditions, regardless of whether it is day or night. Circling the Earth in a sun-synchronous dusk-dawn orbit at 755 km in altitude, GF-3 can operate in 12 different working modes, from high-resolution (1 m) to extremely-wide-swath (650 km), from single to full polarization. Due to its wide incidence angles and both-sidelooking capability, GF-3 has a quick site access time of 3.5 days at most (1.5 day at 90% probability) to any point of the Earth.

Submissions are encouraged to cover a broad range of topics, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Mission status and planned/operational products
- Satellite System Design/Manufacture
- Calibration and validation activities of Gaofen-3 and instrument characteristics
- Status of collaborative ground segments (CGS)
- SAR polarimetry
- SAR interferometry
- Marine and maritime applications
- Land cover/Land use
- Geohazards and disaster monitoring
- Critical infrastructure surveillance
- Target detection
- Tools, toolboxes and algorithms for analyzing Gaofen-3 data.

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Message from the Editorial Board

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