

Denoising of Soil Moisture from InSAR Phase Closure

Elizabeth Wig

Original work in collaboration with Howard Zebker and Roger Michaelides

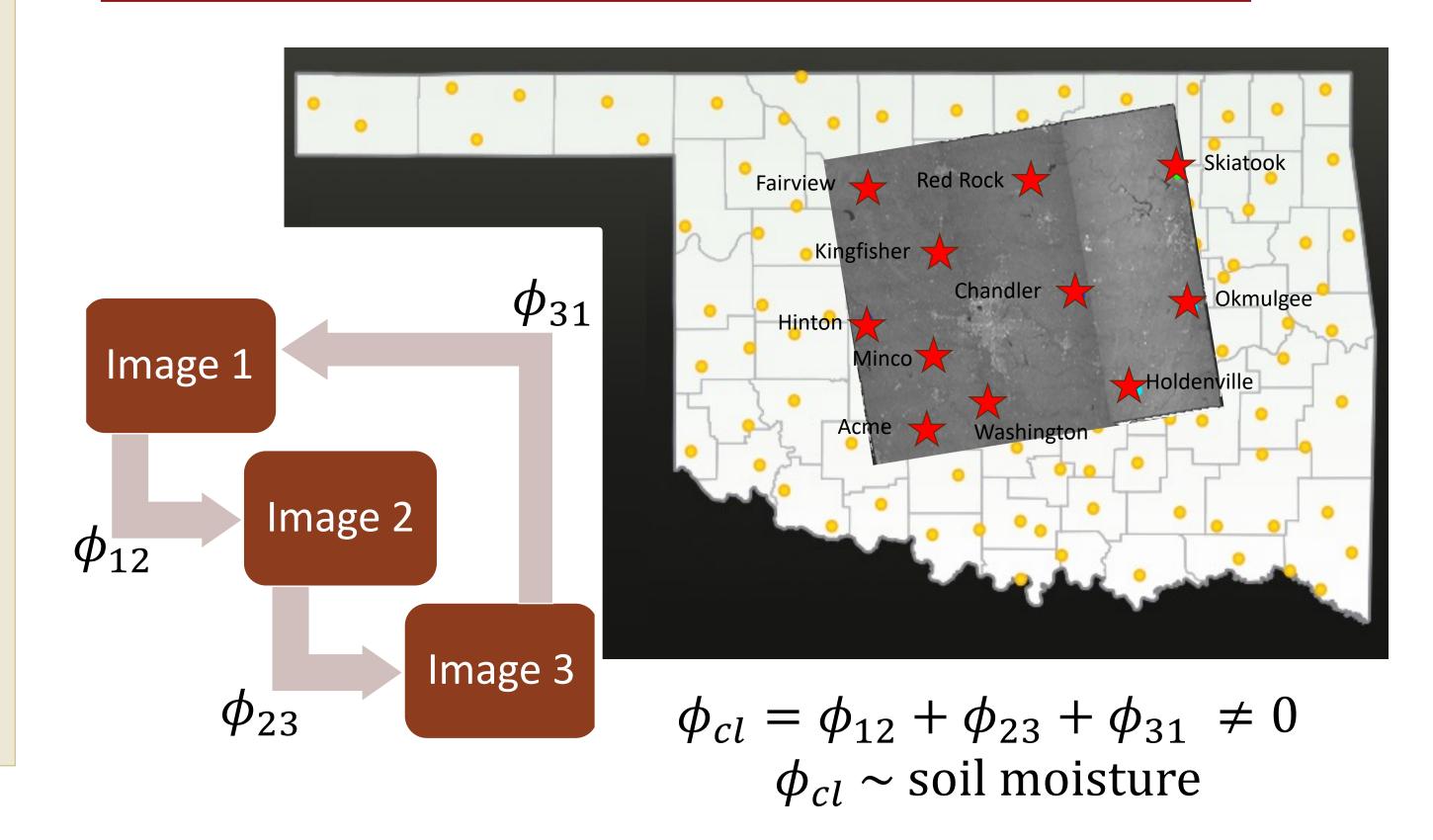
Stanford
Electrical Engineering

1. Abstract

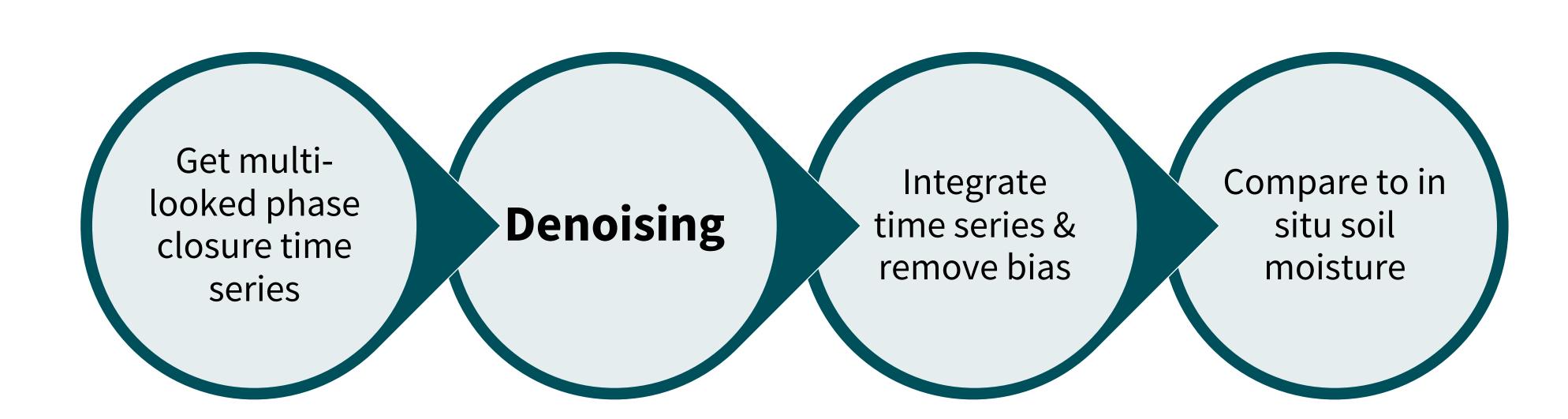
Goal: high-resolution soil moisture data in remote regions

- Interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) phase closure corresponds to in situ soil moisture data
- Noisy. Currently, only linear averaging.
- Test other types of denoising.
- Challenge: no real training data

2. Background

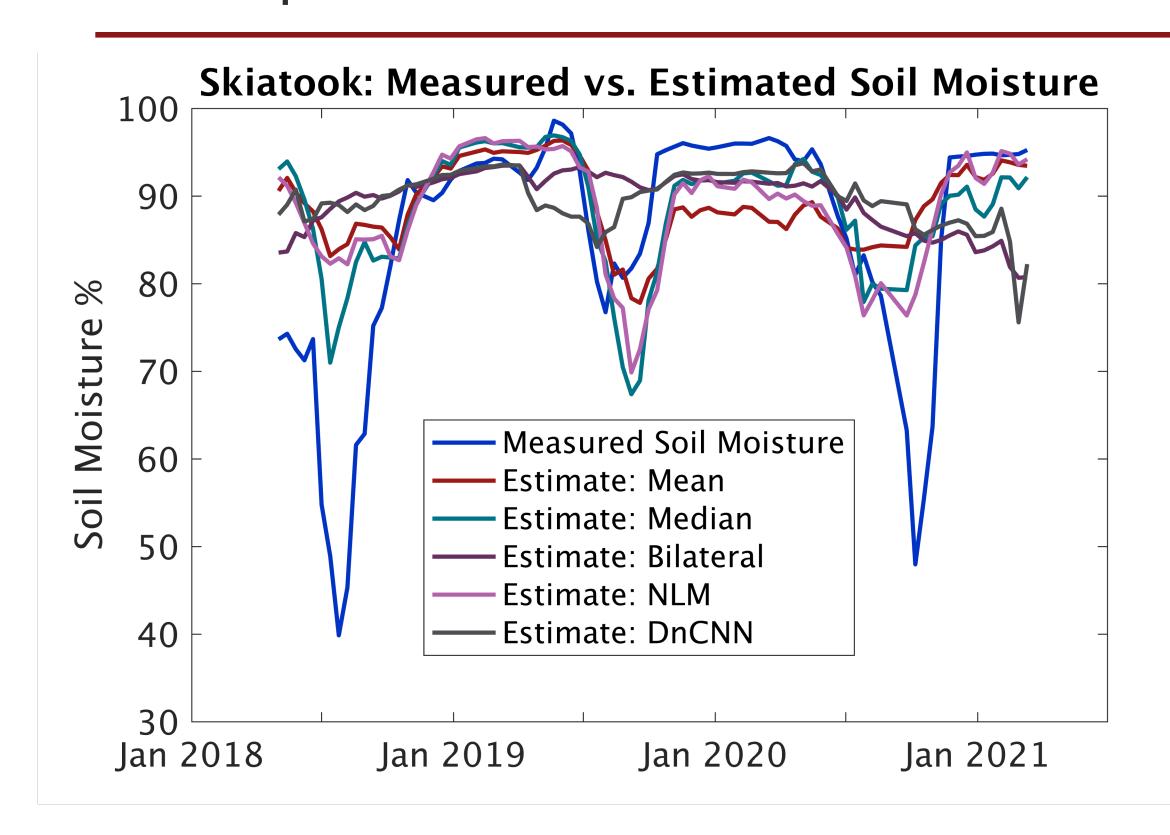


3. Method

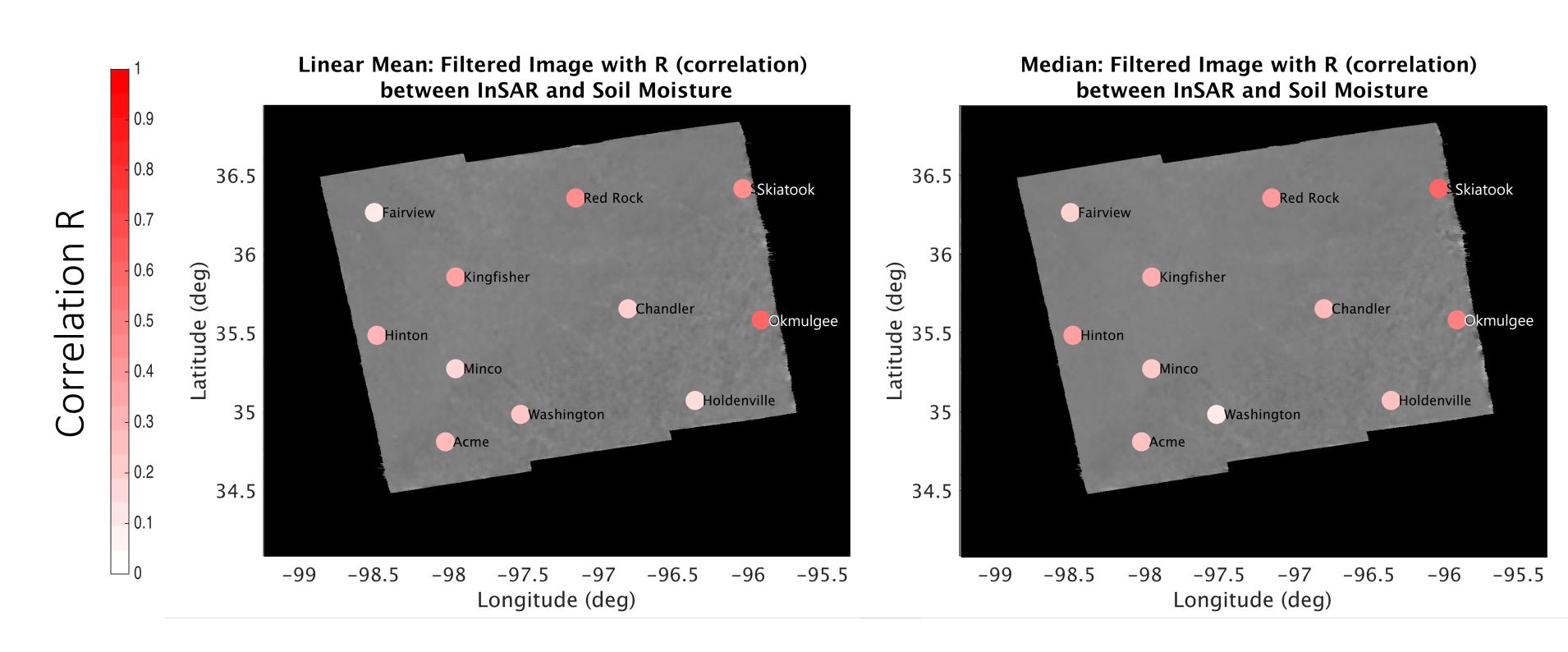


- Sentinel-1 C-band satellite data, soil moisture from Oklahoma Mesonet⁴ sites
- Five Denoising methods:
- Mean, Median, Bilateral, Non-local Means, DnCNN

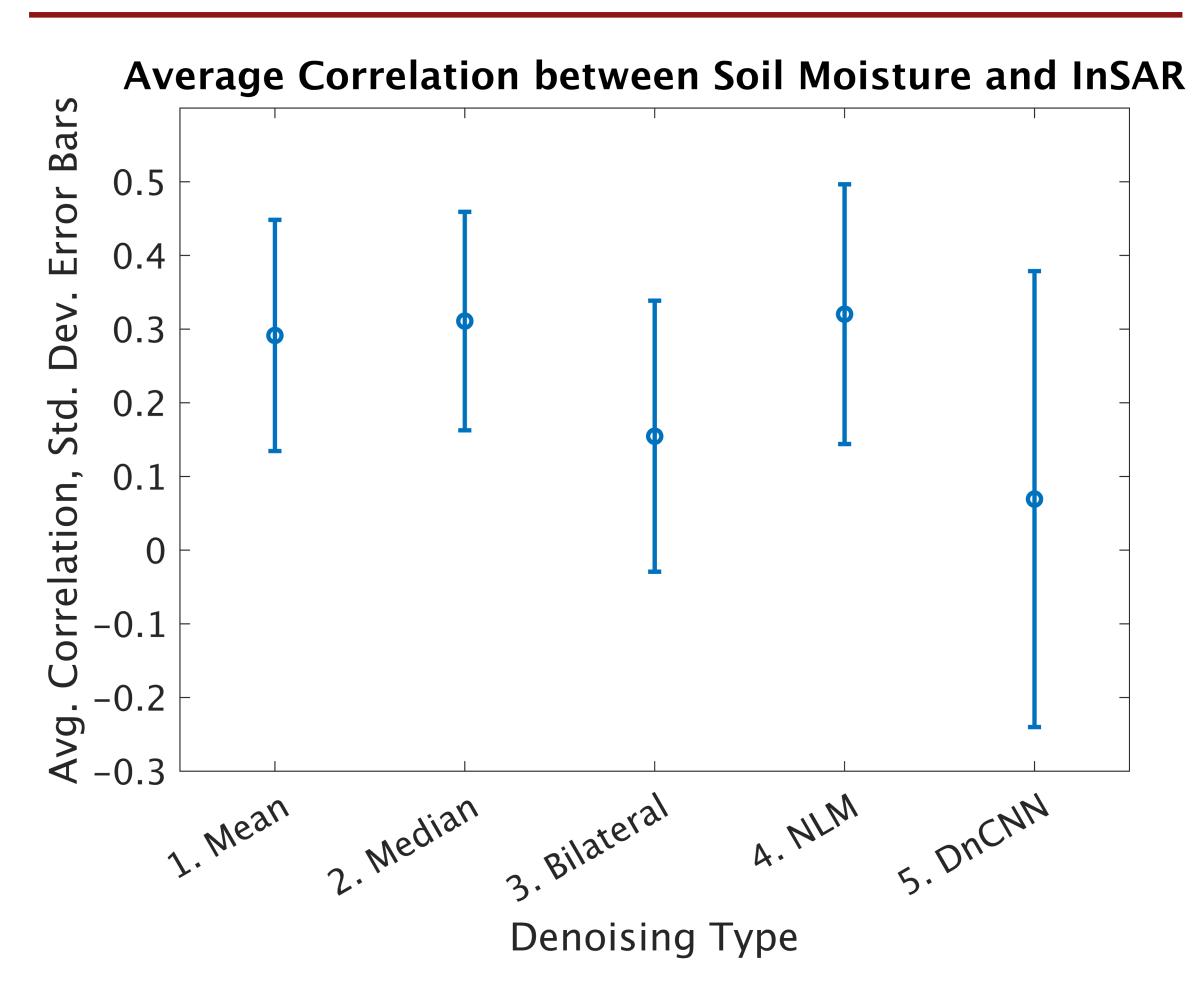
4. Sample Timeseries



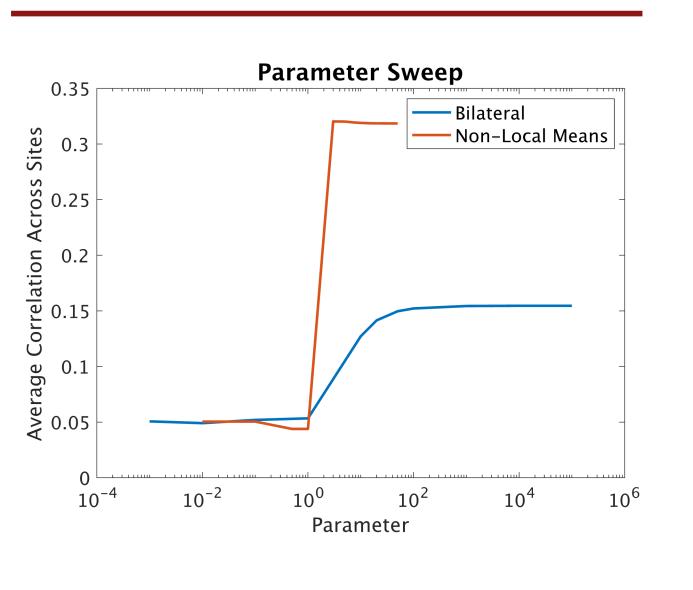
6. Results: Filtered Images at t=1 with site-by-site correlation



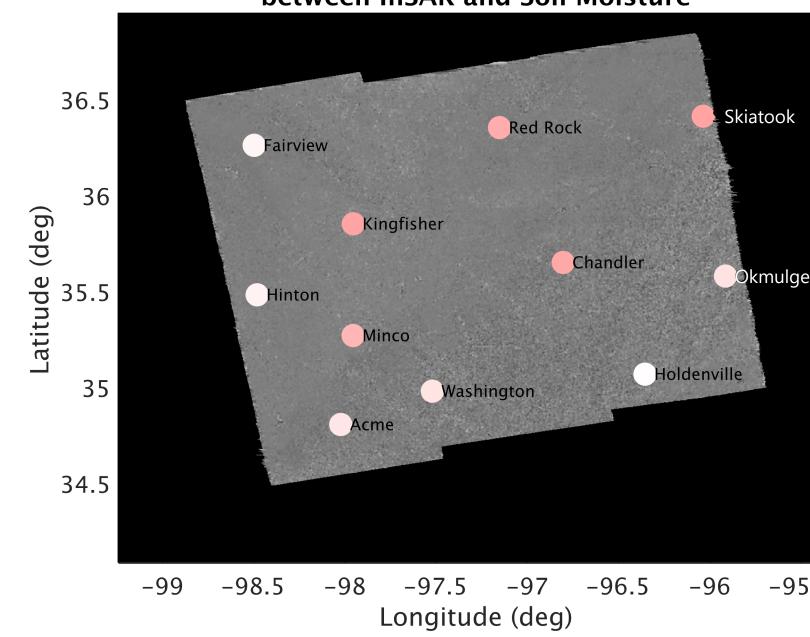
7. Method comparison



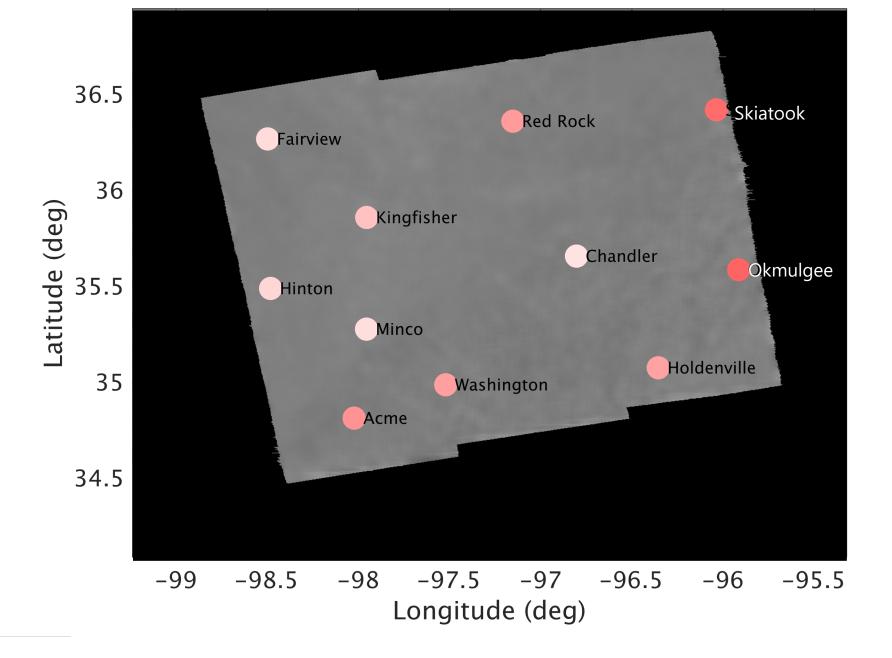
5. Parameter Sweep



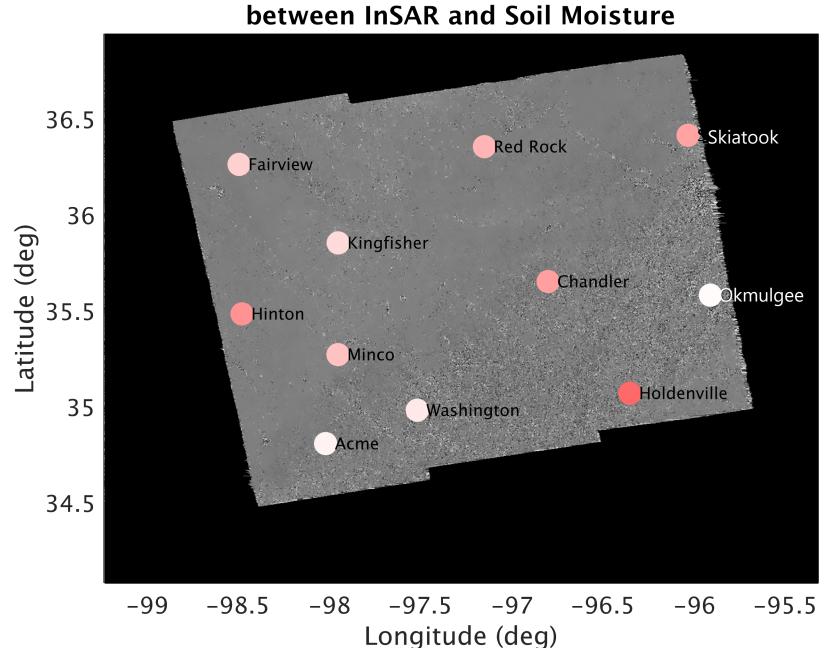
Bilateral: Filtered Image with R (correlation) between InSAR and Soil Moisture



NLM: Filtered Image with R (correlation) between InSAR and Soil Moisture



DnCNN: Filtered Image with R (correlation)



8. Conclusion

- Conventional image filters not optimized for radar, needs more specific training data
- Non-local means best likely able to pull statistics from similar image areas (e.g. wheat fields)
- Given processing time, mean and median best
- No magic bullet here!

References:

- 1. F. De Zan, A. Parizzi, P. Prats-Iraola and P. López-Dekker, "A SAR Interferometric Model for Soil Moisture," in *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, vol. 52, no. 1, pp. 418-425, Jan. 2014,
- 2. H. Ansari, F. De Zan and A. Parizzi, "Study of Systematic Bias in Measuring Surface Deformation With SAR Interferometry," in *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, vol. 59, no. 2, pp. 1285-1301, Feb. 2021, 3. R. J. Michaelides, H. A. Zebker and Y. Zheng, "An Algorithm for Estimating and Correcting Decorrelation Phase From InSAR Data Using Closure Phase Triplets," in *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*.
- 4. Oklahoma Mesonet dataset F. V. Brock, K. C. Crawford, R. L. Elliott, G. W. Cuperus, S. J. Stadler, H. L. Johnson, et al., "The Oklahoma Mesonet: A technical overview", *J. Atmos. Ocean. Technol.*, vol. 12, no. 1, pp. 5-19, Feb. 1995. Template credit: njwfish on Github