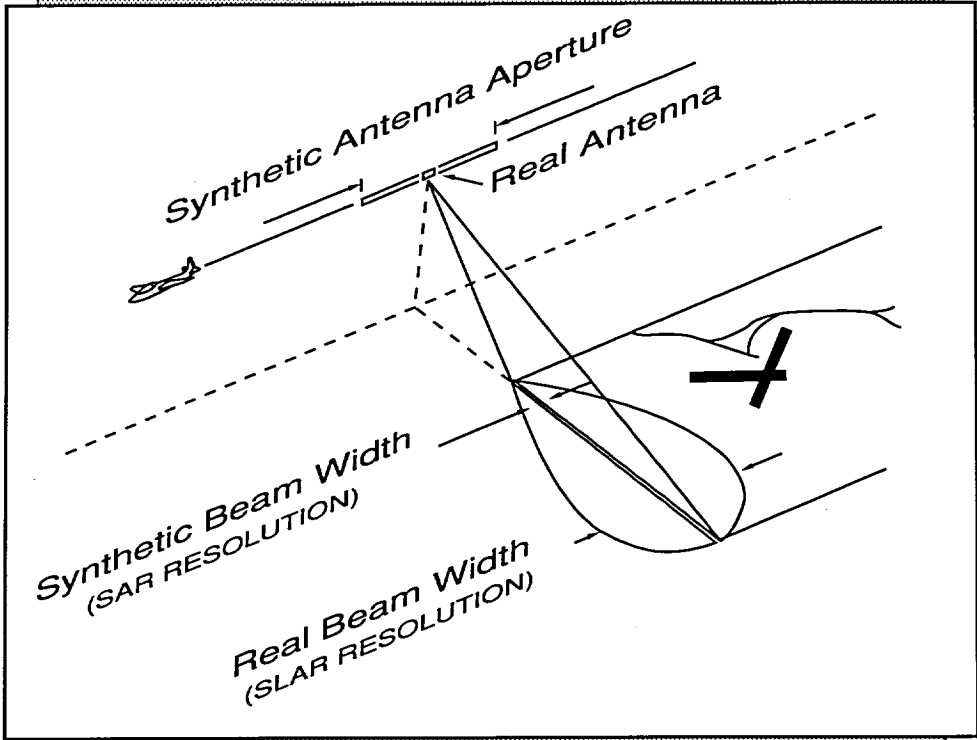


Figure 5 Resolution Determination for Synthetic and Real Aperture Radar Systems



Real aperture radars provide limited spatial resolution because of limitations on the size of antenna that can be mounted onto the aircraft. Synthetic aperture radar systems use the forward motion of the aircraft to create the effect of an antenna hundreds of metres long using a physical antenna size of only one metre. (Courtesy of MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd.)

Aerial platforms

Civilian aircraft may be suitable for many tasks related to verification and peacekeeping. These aircraft come with a wide range of capabilities and cost. Aircraft that cost more to purchase and operate are typically able to operate in larger envelopes. They will have better all-weather capability, a higher altitude ceiling and better navigation systems. At the same time, the cost of operating the aircraft should not be prohibitively expensive.