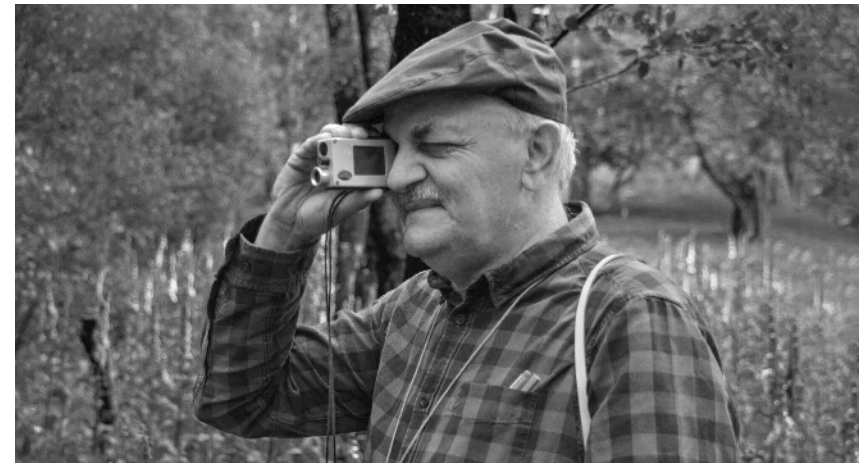


KI in der Forst- und Holzwirtschaft – Hype oder Game-Changer?

KI im Waldmonitoring

Prof. Dr. Teja Kattenborn
Professur für Sensorgestützte Geoinformatik (geosense)
www.geosense.uni-freiburg.de



KI in der Forst- und Holzwirtschaft

– Hype ~~oder~~ und Game-Changer?

KI im Waldmonitoring

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1. **KI und Computer Vision** in der Fernerkundung
2. **Waldinventur** mit KI + Drohnen + 3D-LiDAR
3. **Waldzustandserhebung** mit KI + Drohnen + Erdbeobachtungssatelliten



Professur für Sensorgestützte Geoinformatik (geosense)

Überblick

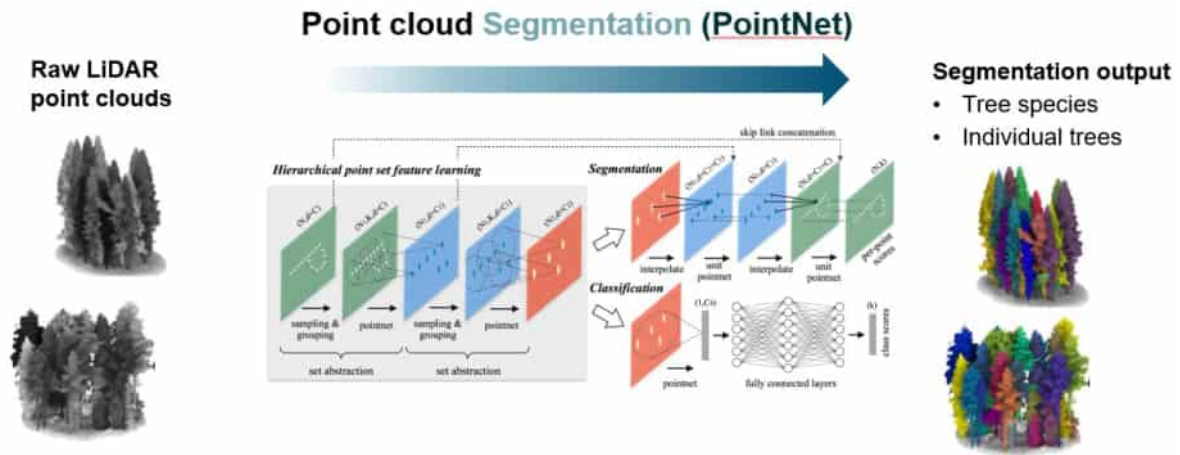
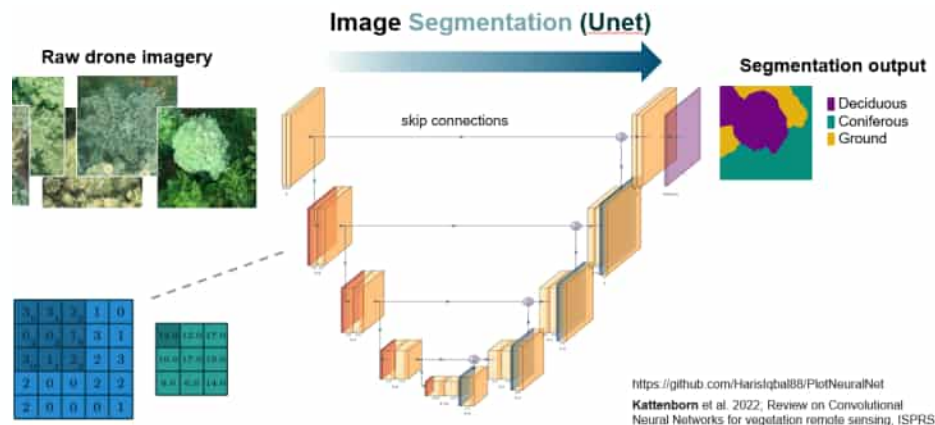
- KI, Data Science, Geoinformatik, Remote Sensing, Vegetationsmonitoring
- 8 Laufende Forschungsprojekte zu Vegetationsmonitoring
- Das Team: Jung + bunt + talentiert + motiviert

Wissenswertes

- Deadtrees.earth (größtes Drohnendaten Archiv)
- Emmy Noether Gruppe PANOPS zum Globalen Biodiversitätsmonitoring
- Drohnen-Service Pool der Fakultät UNR
- DFG-Sonderforschungsbereich ECOSENSE zu Walddynamiken



KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



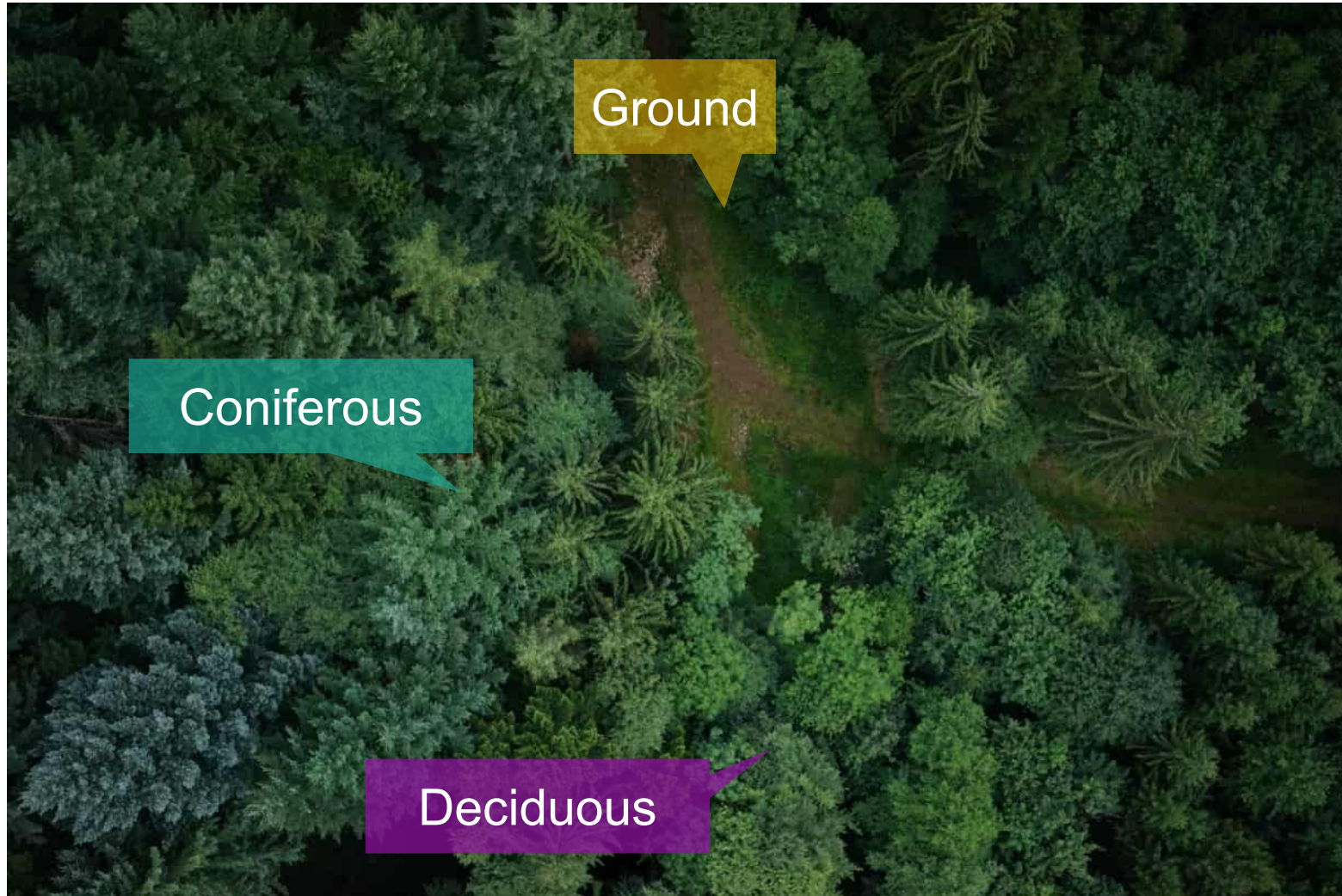
KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung

RGB Drone image

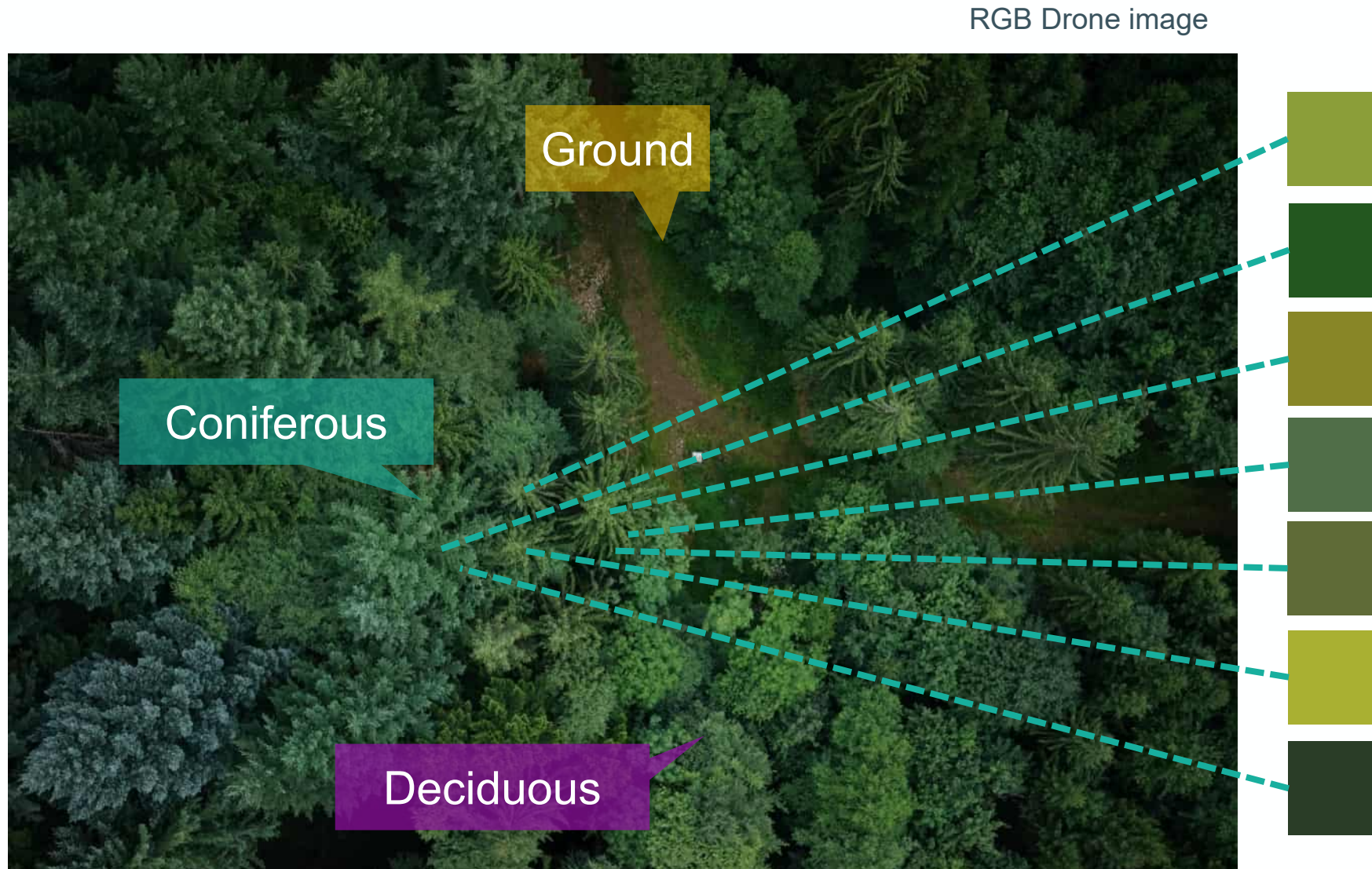


KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung

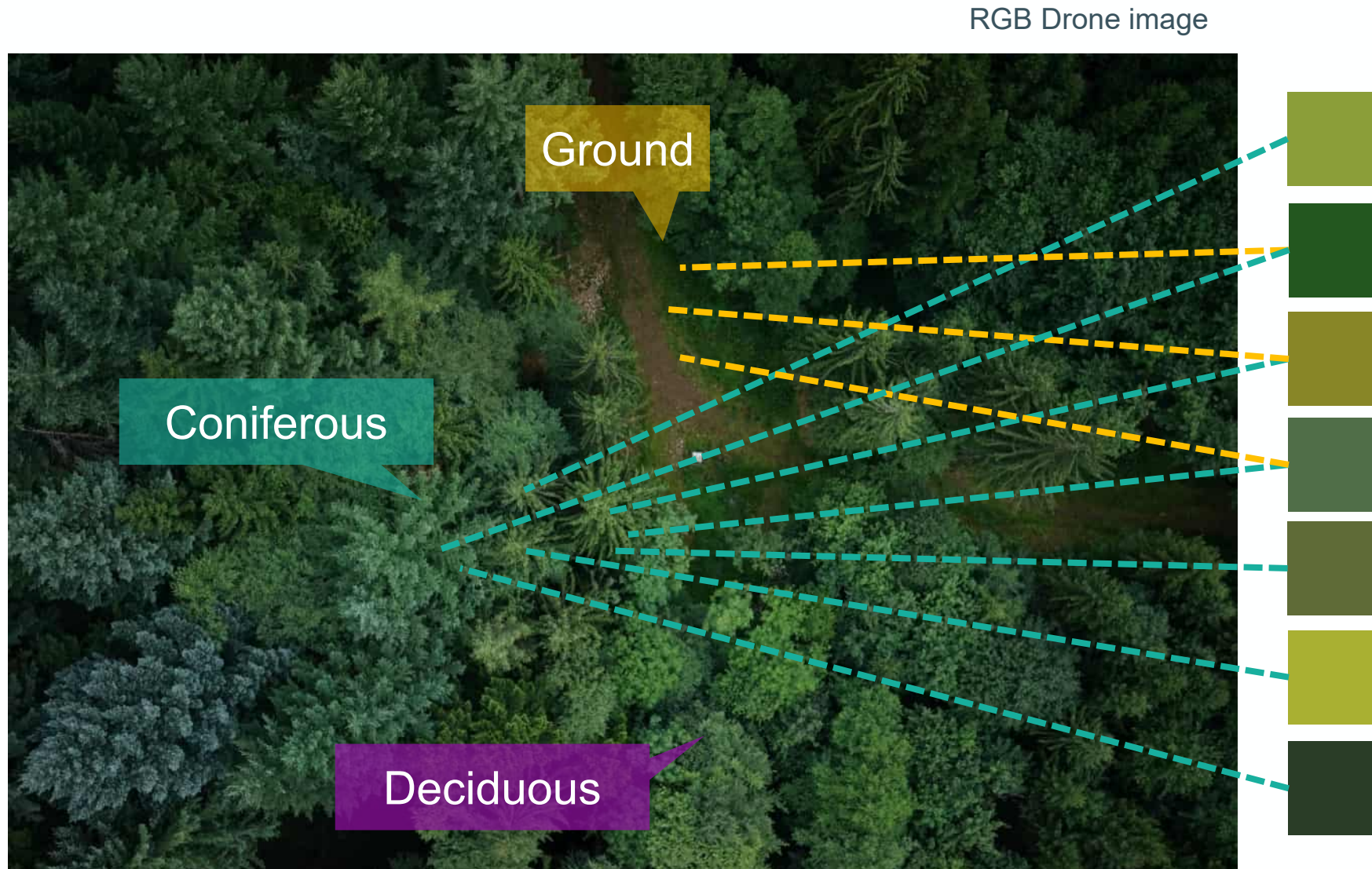
RGB Drone image



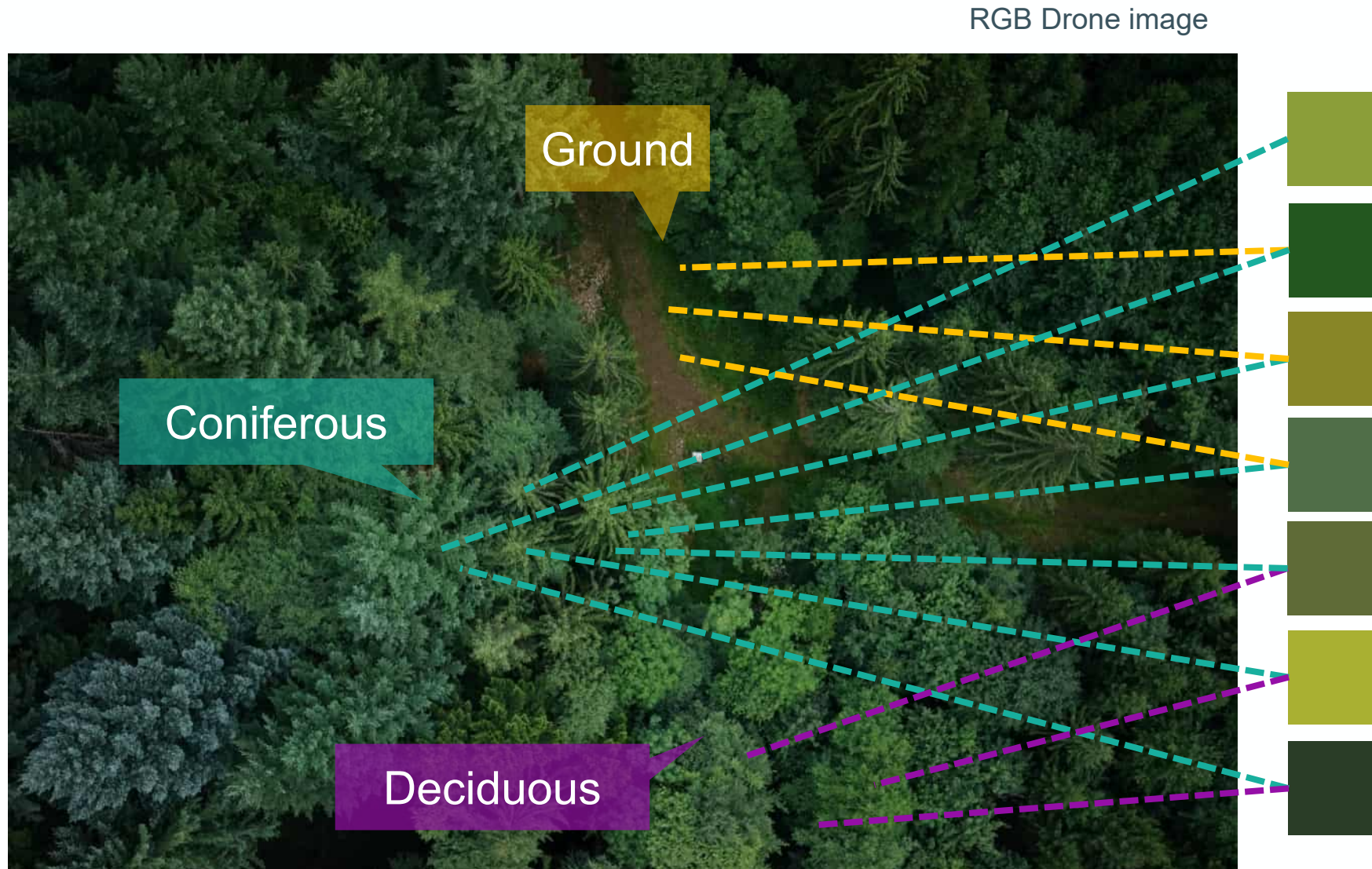
7 KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



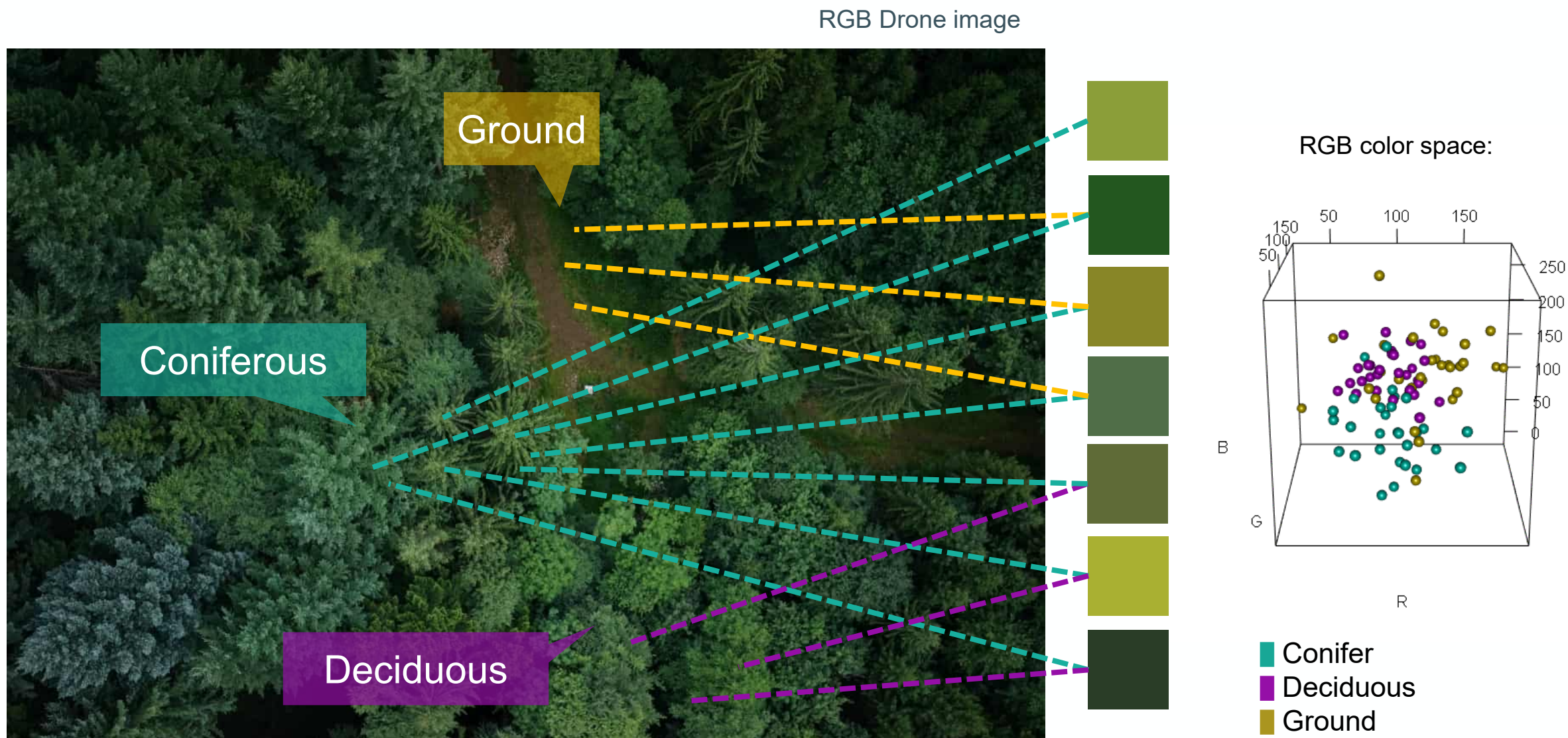
KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



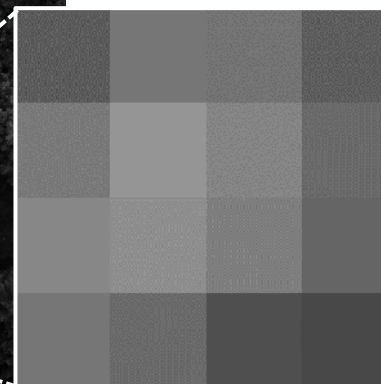
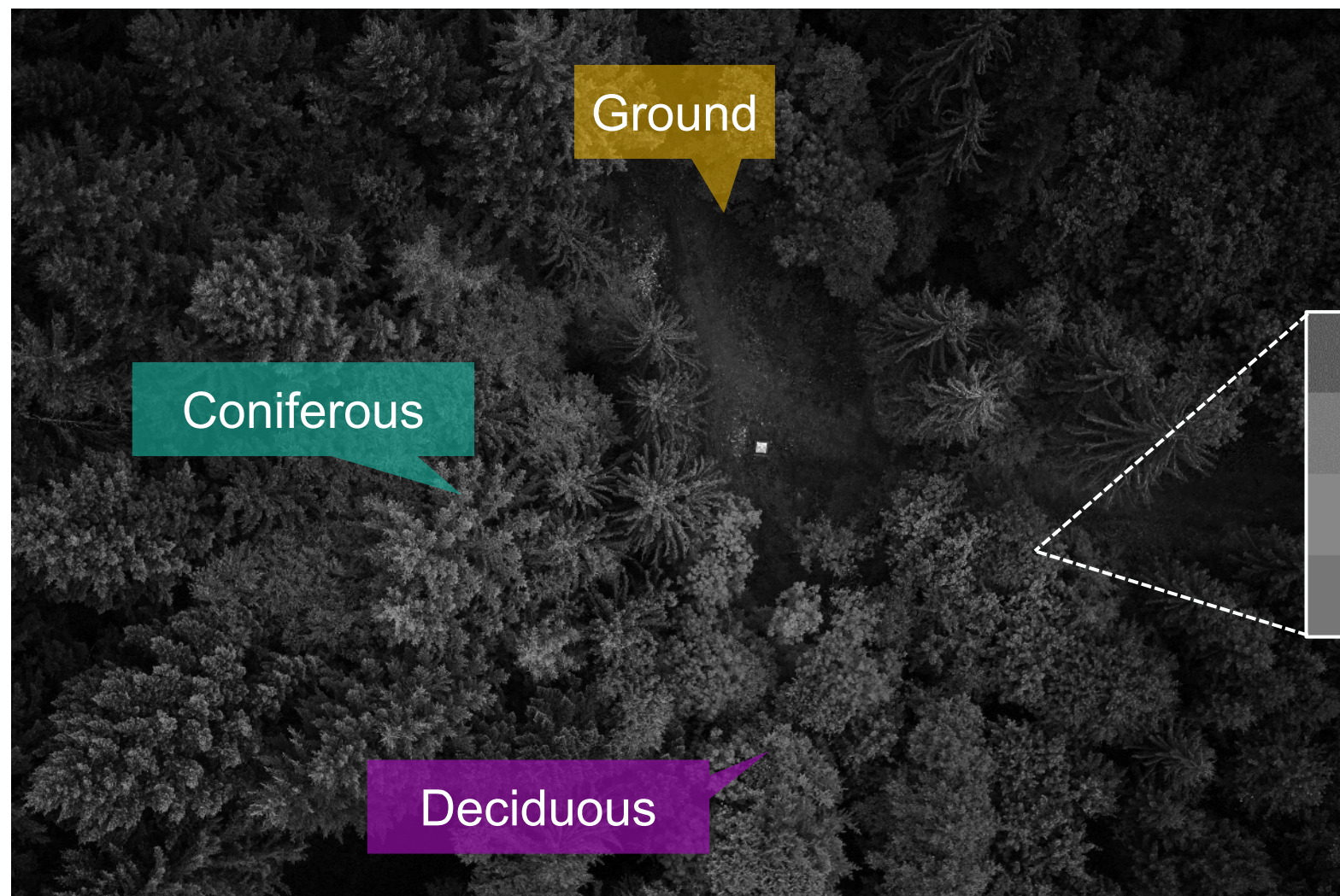
KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



089 110 105 075

112 175 125 097

125 167 155 102

131 103 069 052

4 x 4 pixel matrix

KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



Texture Metrics

- Entropy
- Variance
- Mean
- Homogeneity
- etc...

input

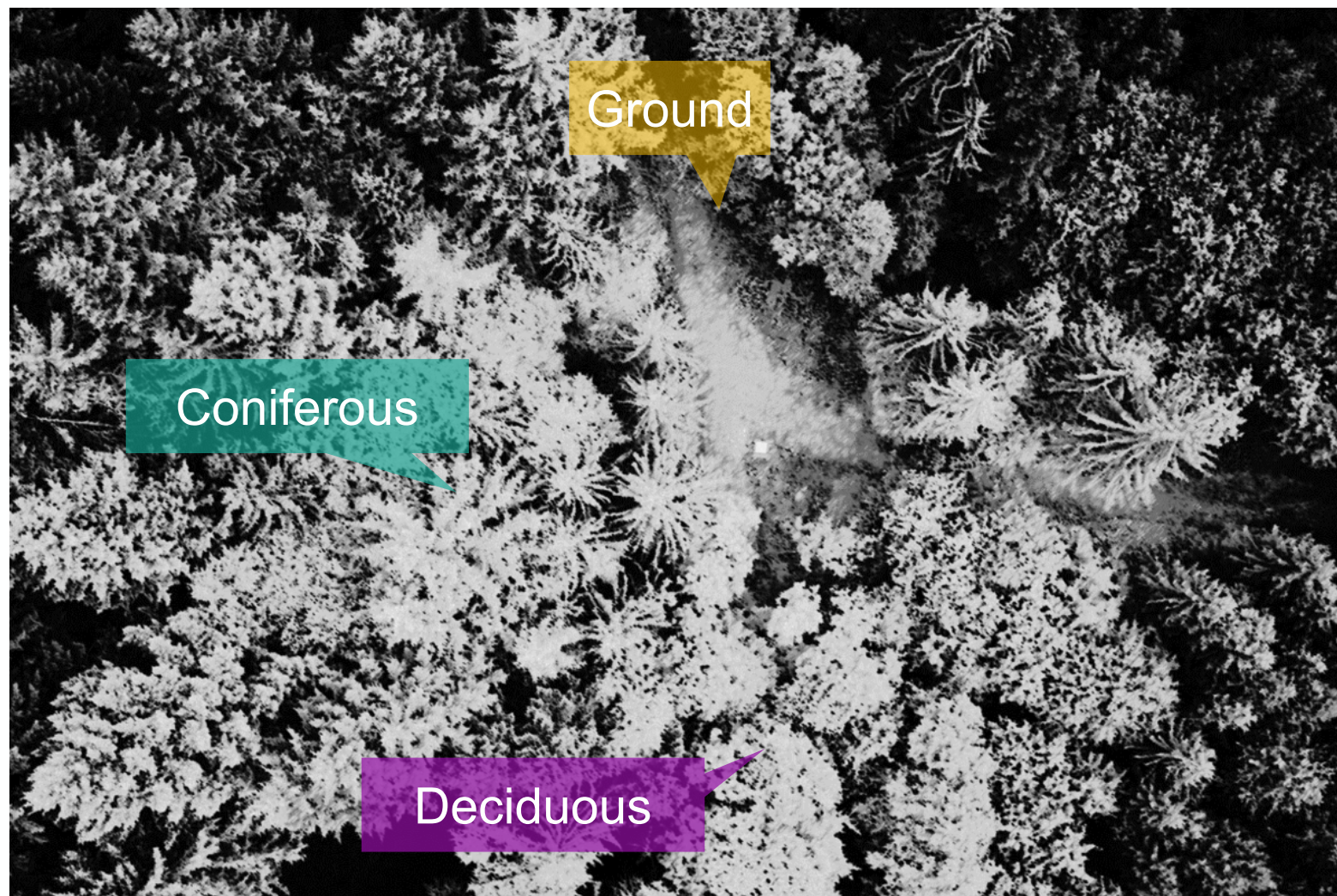
3 ₀	3 ₁	2 ₂	1	0
0 ₂	0 ₂	1 ₀	3	1
3 ₀	1 ₁	2 ₂	2	3
2	0	0	2	2
2	0	0	0	1

output

12.0	12.0	17.0
10.0	17.0	19.0
9.0	6.0	14.0

Haralick, R. M., & Shanmugam, K. (1973). Textural features for image classification. *IEEE Transactions on systems, man, and cybernetics*, (6), 610-621.

KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung



Texturmetriken

- Entropy
- Variance
- Mean
- Homogeneity
- etc...

input

3 ₀	3 ₁	2 ₂	1	0
0 ₂	0 ₂	1 ₀	3	1
3 ₀	1 ₁	2 ₂	2	3
2	0	0	2	2
2	0	0	0	1

output

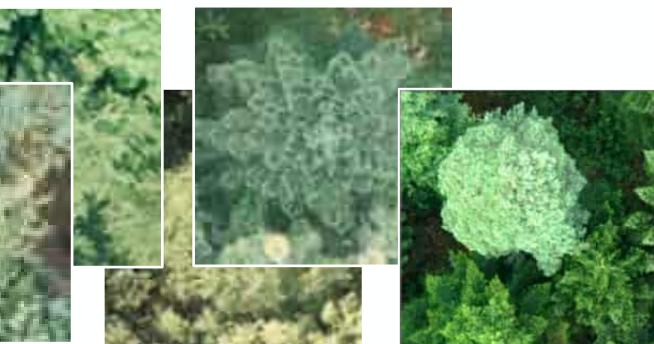
12.0	12.0	17.0
10.0	17.0	19.0
9.0	6.0	14.0

Haralick, R. M., & Shanmugam, K. (1973). Textural features for image classification. *IEEE Transactions on systems, man, and cybernetics*, (6), 610-621.

KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung

Image Segmentation (Unet)

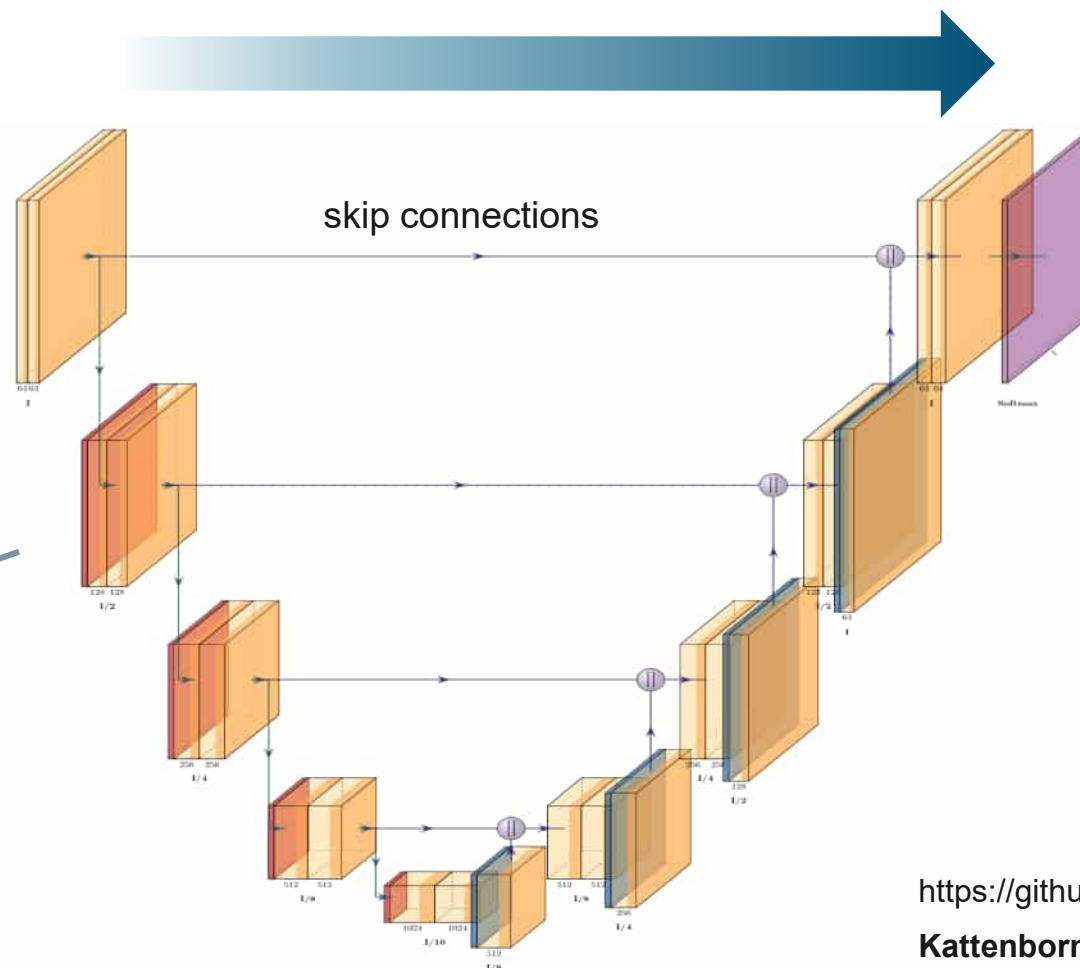
Raw drone imagery



Segmentation output



- Deciduous
- Coniferous
- Ground



3 ₀	3 ₁	2 ₂	1	0
0 ₂	0 ₂	1 ₀	3	1
3 ₀	1 ₁	2 ₂	2	3
2	0	0	2	2
2	0	0	0	1

12.0	12.0	17.0
10.0	17.0	19.0
9.0	6.0	14.0

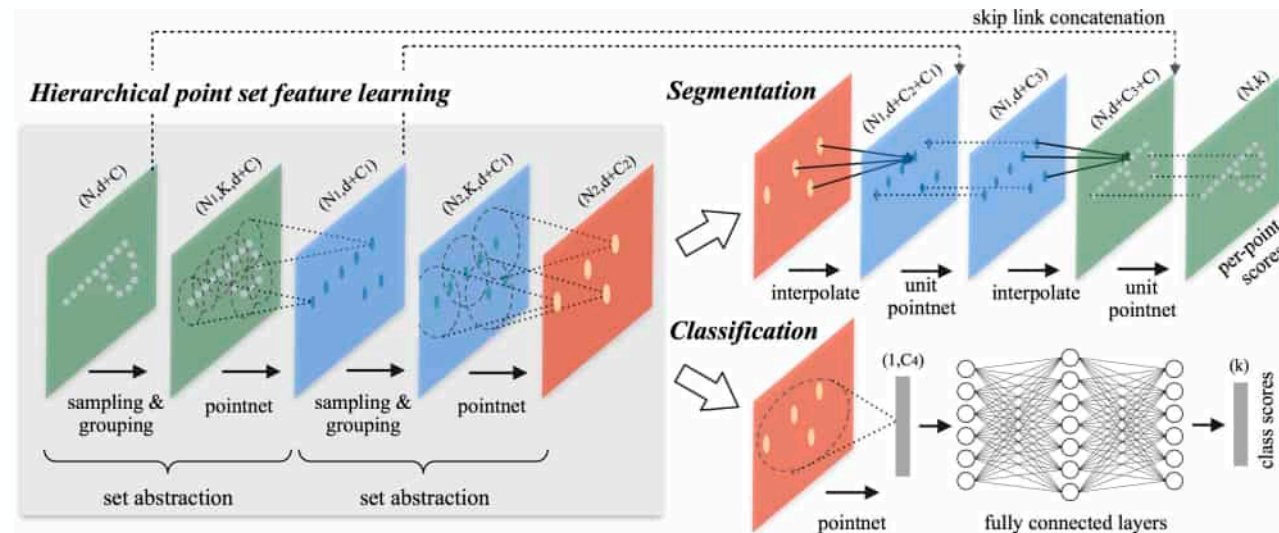
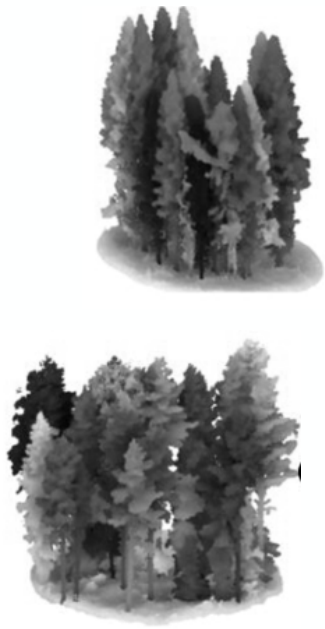
<https://github.com/HarisIqbal88/PlotNeuralNet>

Kattenborn et al. 2022; Review on Convolutional Neural Networks for vegetation remote sensing, ISPRS.

KI und Computer Vision in der Fernerkundung

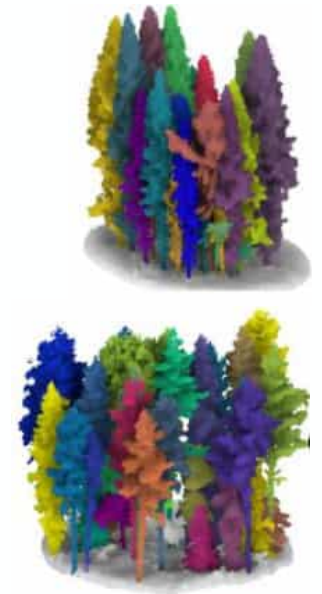
Point cloud Segmentation (PointNet)

Raw LiDAR
point clouds



Segmentation output

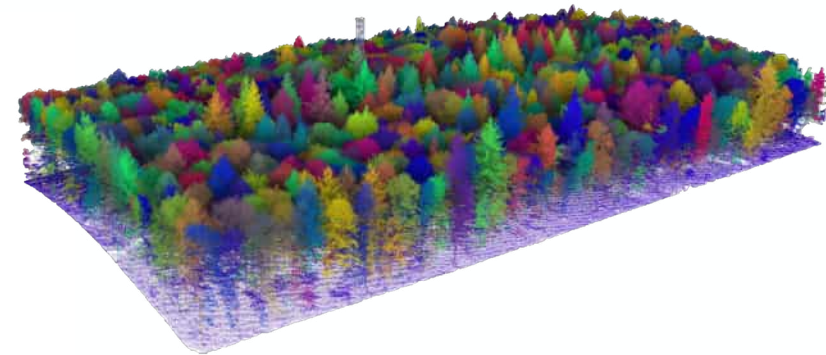
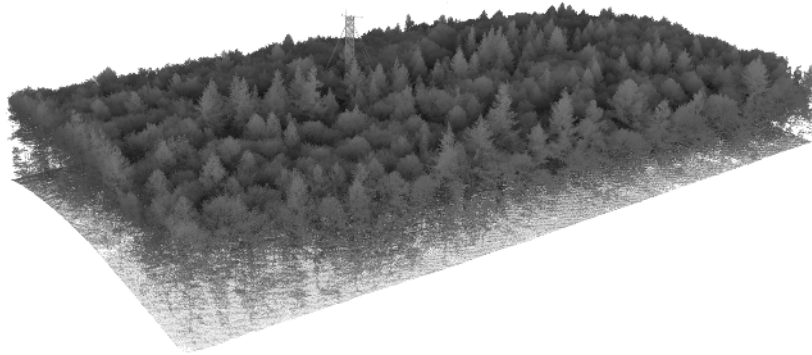
- Tree species
- Individual trees



<https://stanford.edu/~rqi/pointnet2/>

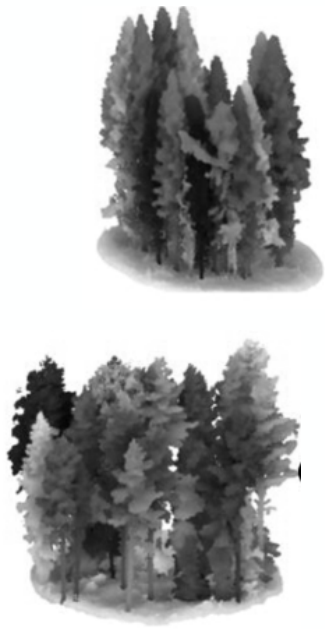
Kattenborn et al. 2022; Review on Convolutional Neural Networks for vegetation remote sensing, ISPRS.

Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

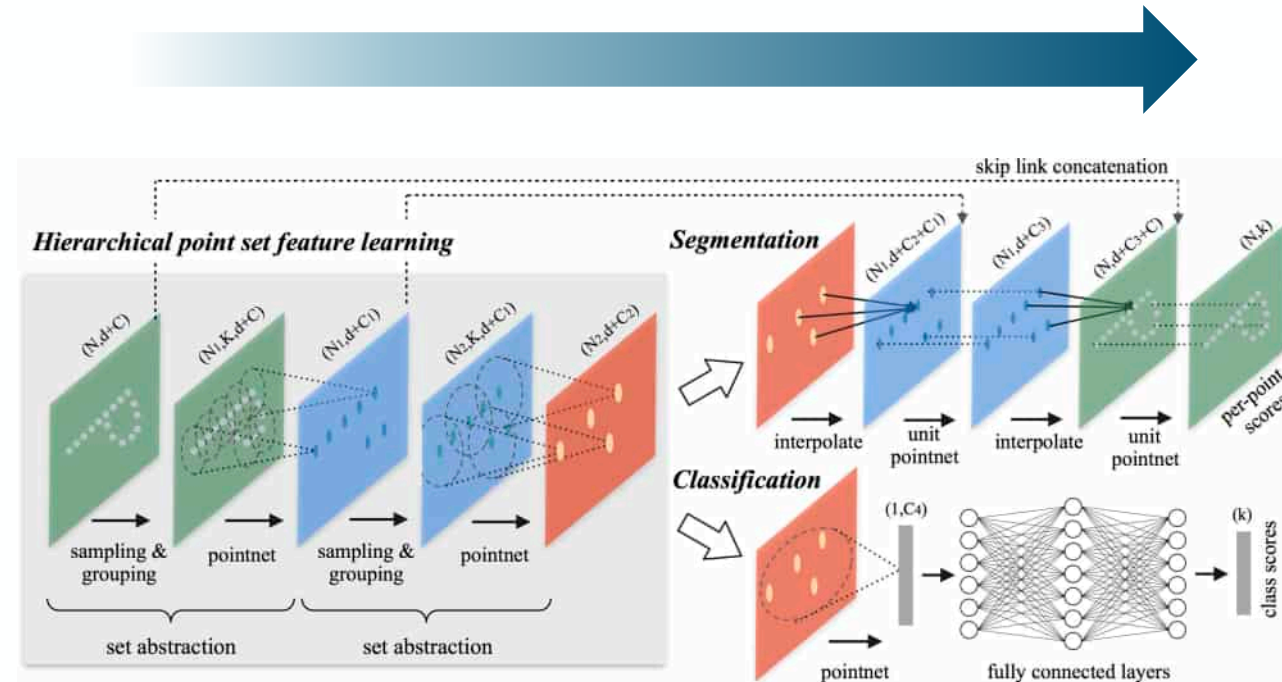


Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

Raw LiDAR
point clouds

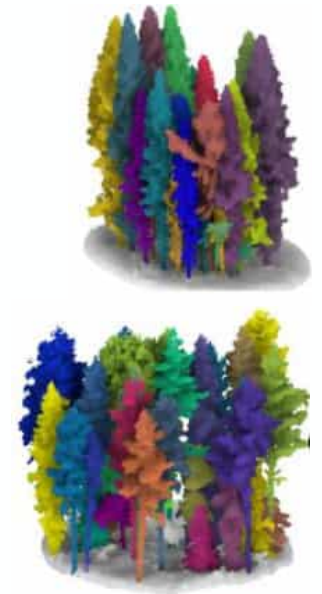


Point cloud Segmentation (PointNet)



Segmentation output

- Tree species
- Individual trees

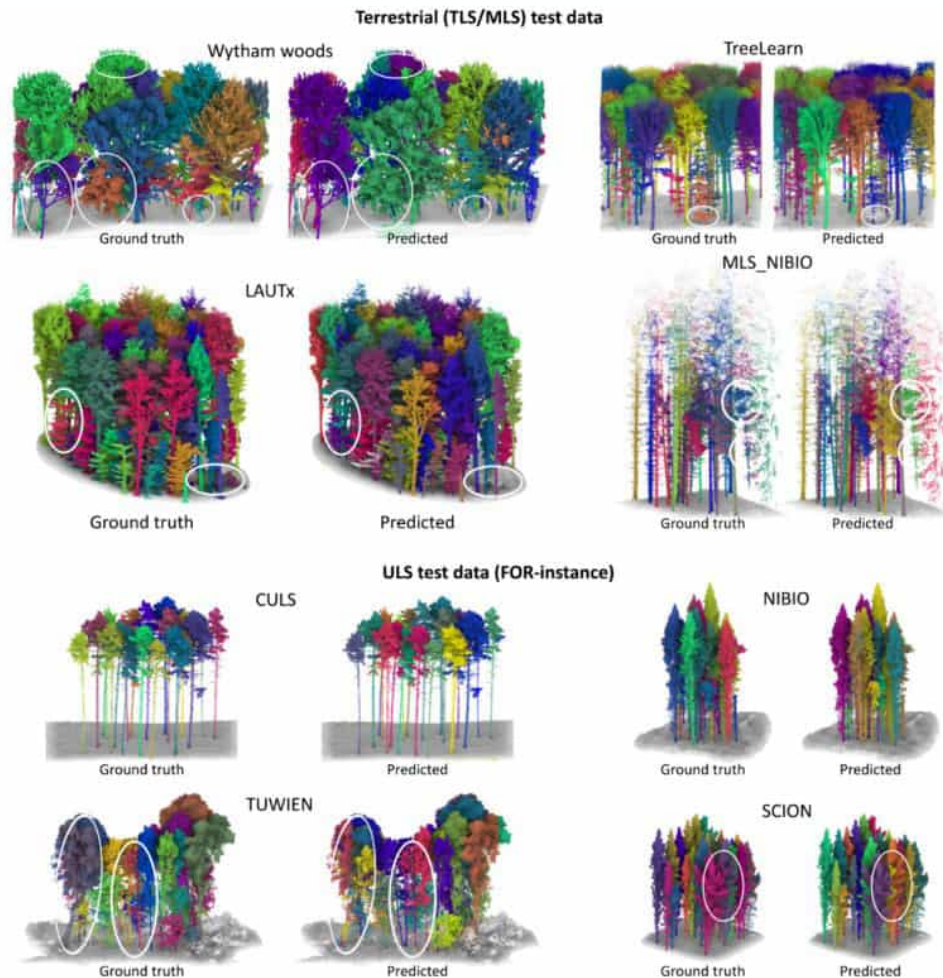


<https://stanford.edu/~rqi/pointnet2/>

Kattenborn et al. 2022; Review on Convolutional Neural Networks for vegetation remote sensing, ISPRS.

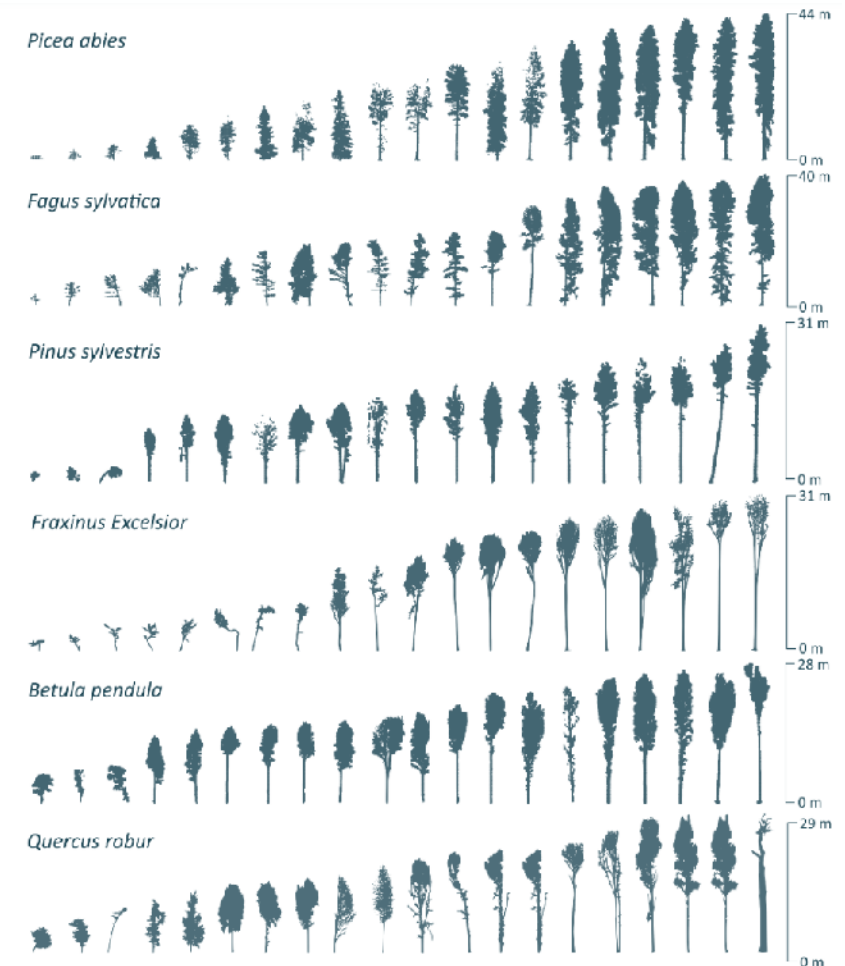
Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

Trainingsdaten Einzelbaumerkennung



Wielgosz et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2024.114367>

Trainingsdaten Baumartenarten



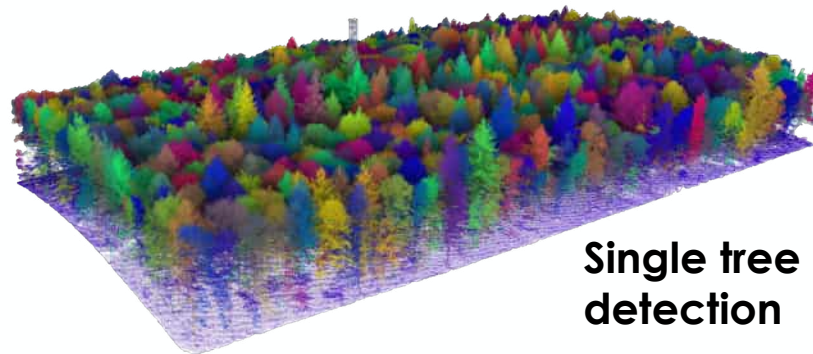
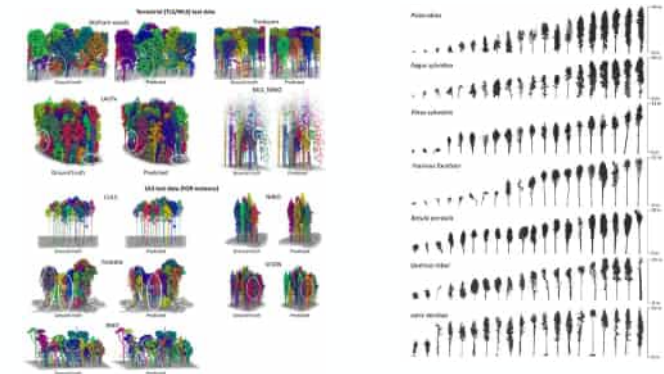
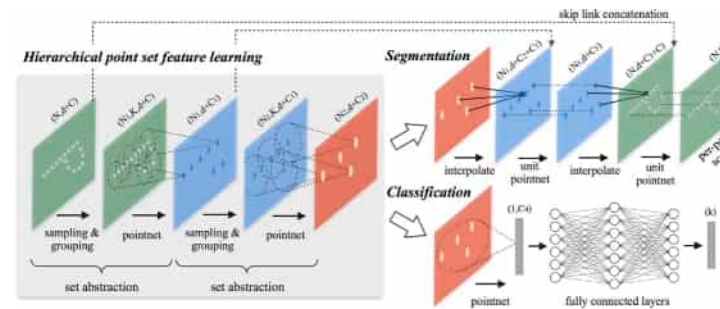
Frey et al. 2024, <https://github.com/JulFrey/DetailView>
Puliti et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2408.06507>

Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

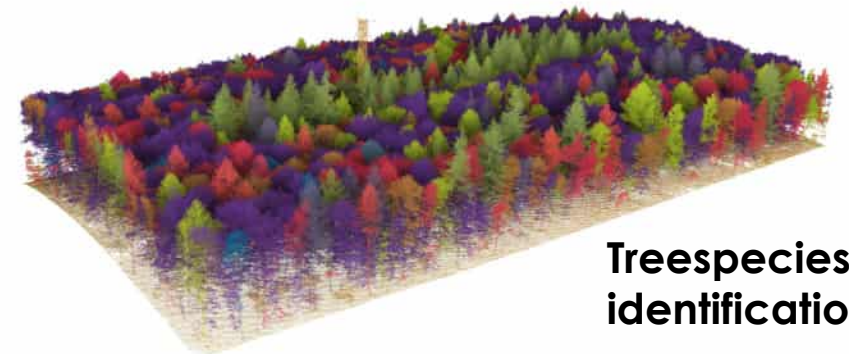


Raw LiDAR
point cloud

Point cloud Segmentation (PointNet)



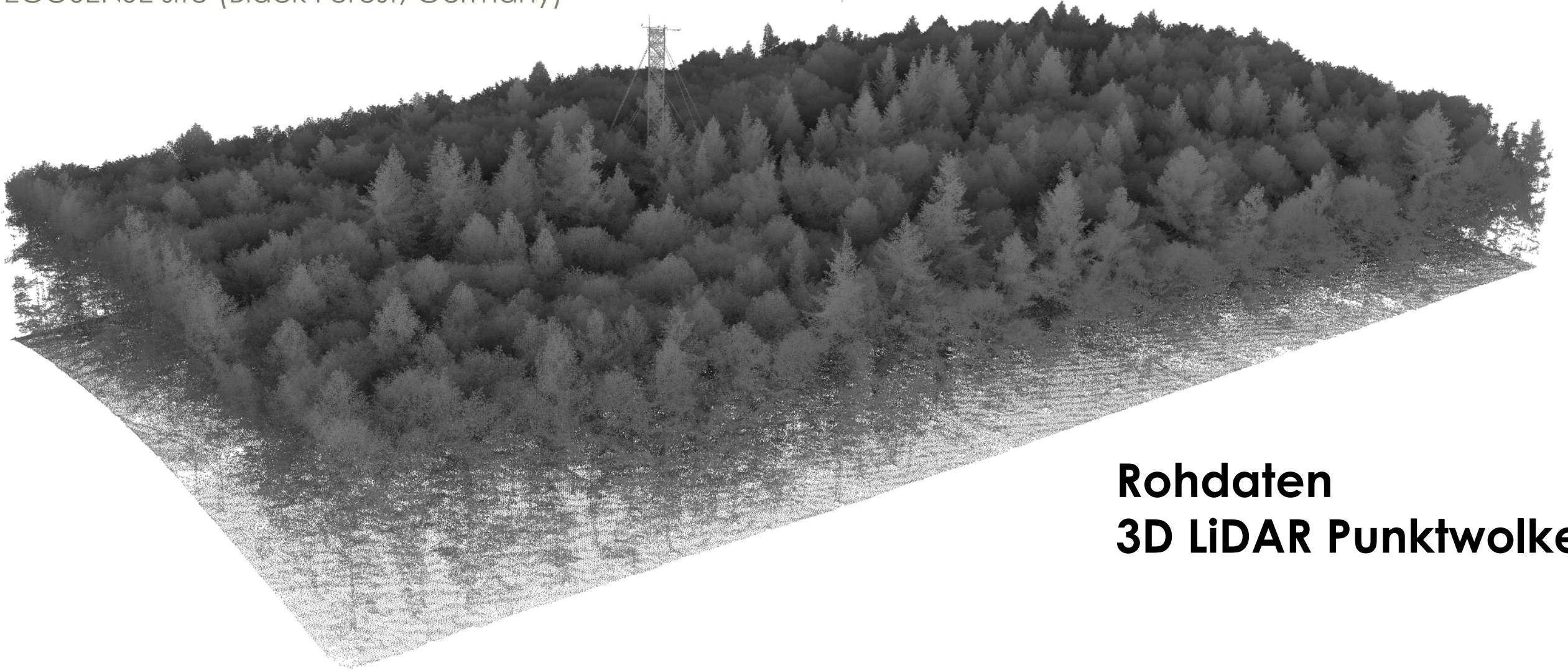
Single tree
detection



Treespecies
identification

Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

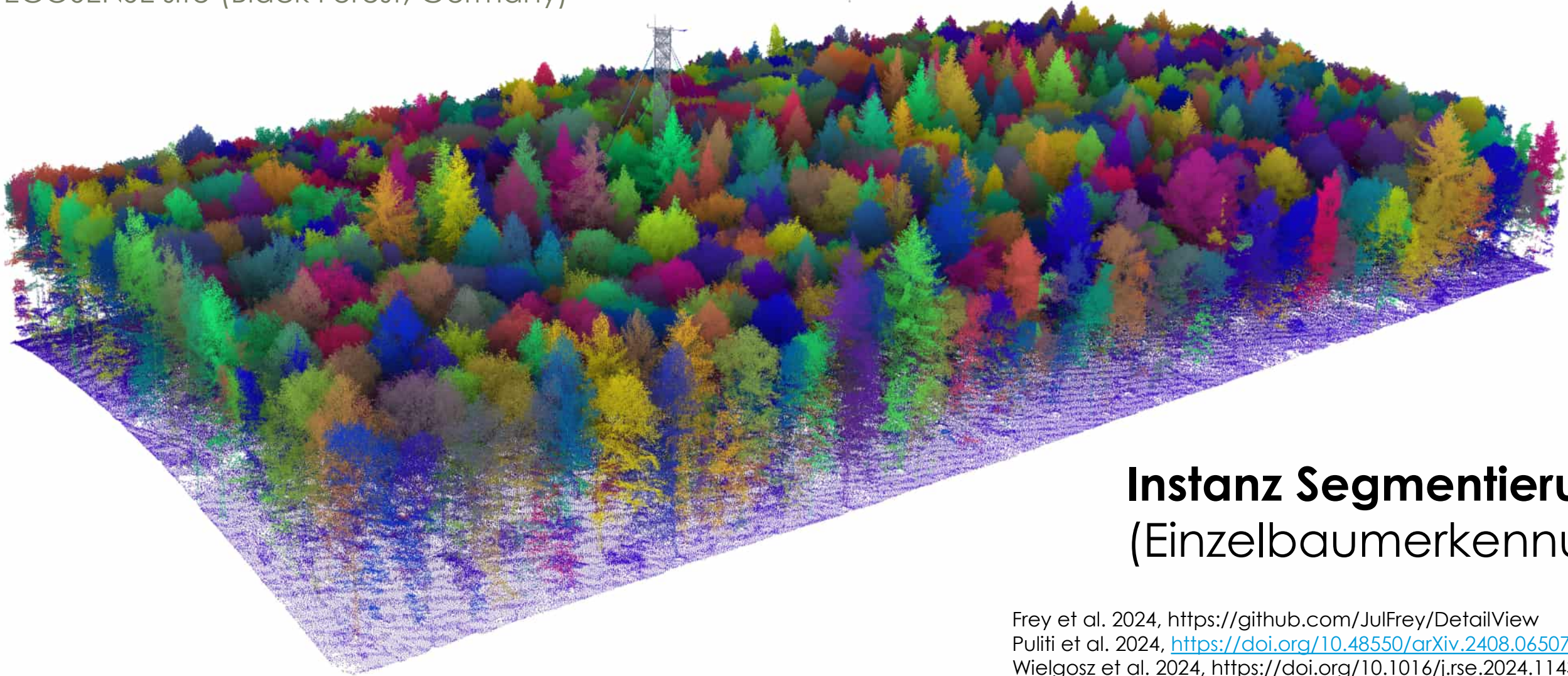
ECOSENSE site (Black Forest, Germany)



Rohdaten
3D LiDAR Punktwolke

Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

ECOSENSE site (Black Forest, Germany)



Instanz Segmentierung
(Einzelbaumerkennung)

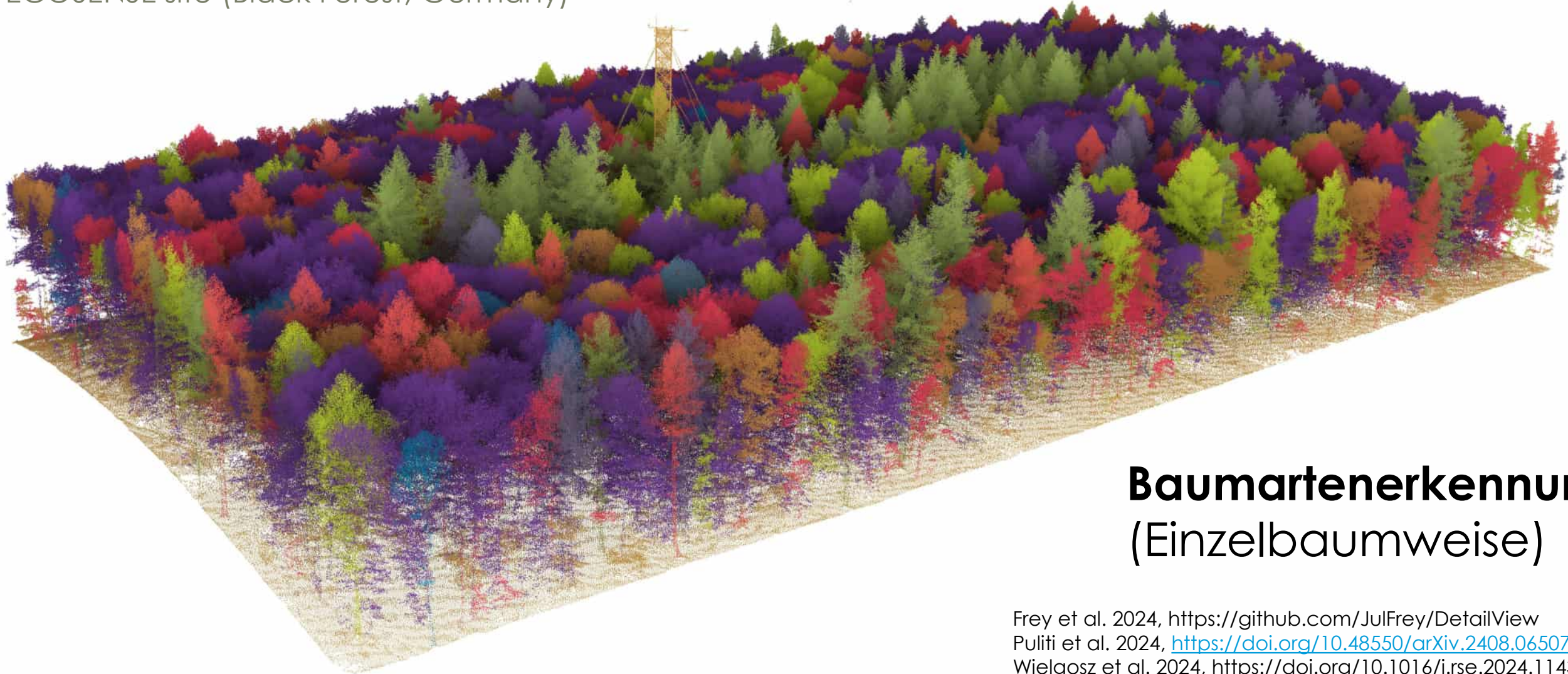
Frey et al. 2024, <https://github.com/JulFrey/DetailView>

Puliti et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2408.06507>

Wielgosz et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2024.11436>

Waldinventur mit KI + Drohnen + 3D LiDAR

ECOSENSE site (Black Forest, Germany)



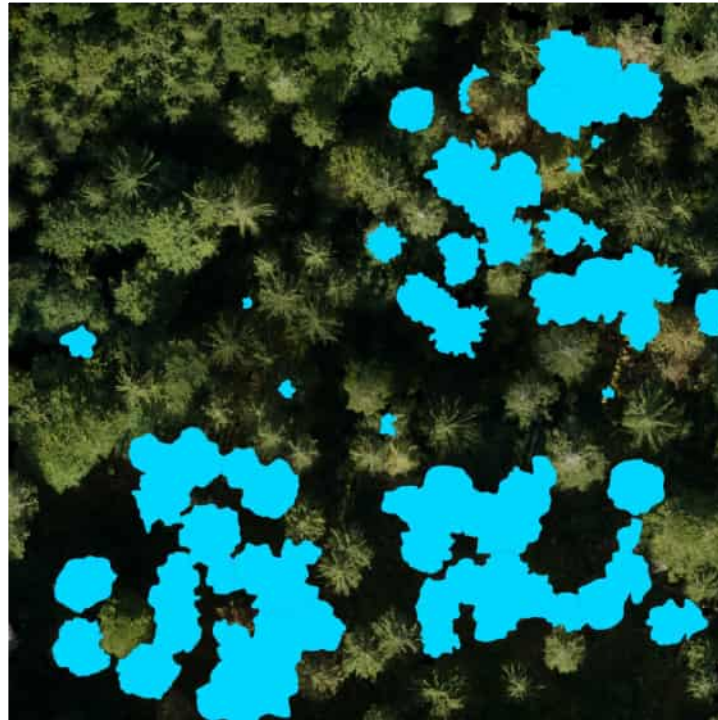
Baumartenerkennung
(Einzelbaumweise)

Frey et al. 2024, <https://github.com/JulFrey/DetailView>

Puliti et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2408.06507>

Wielgosz et al. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2024.11436>

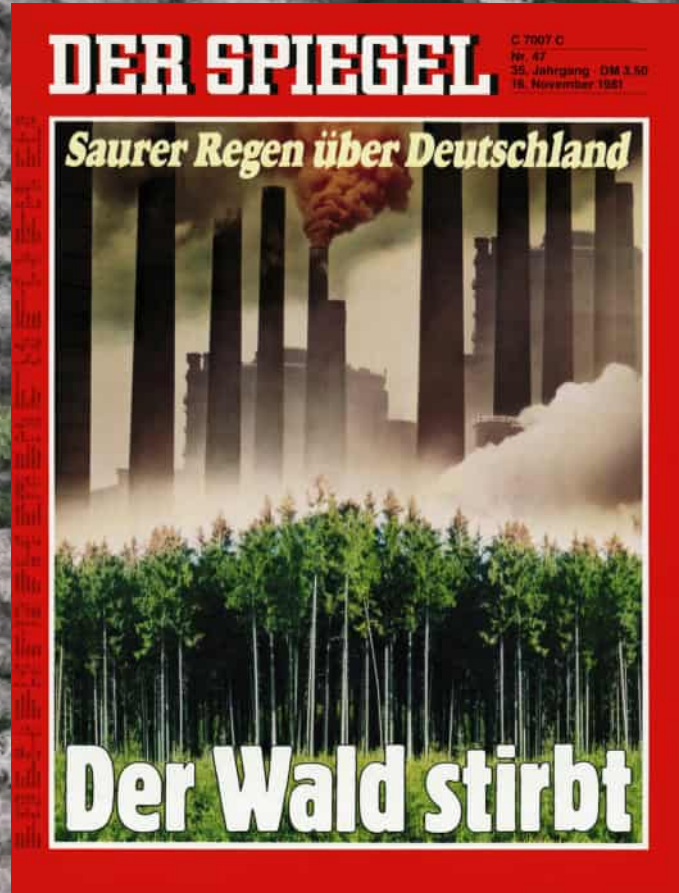
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



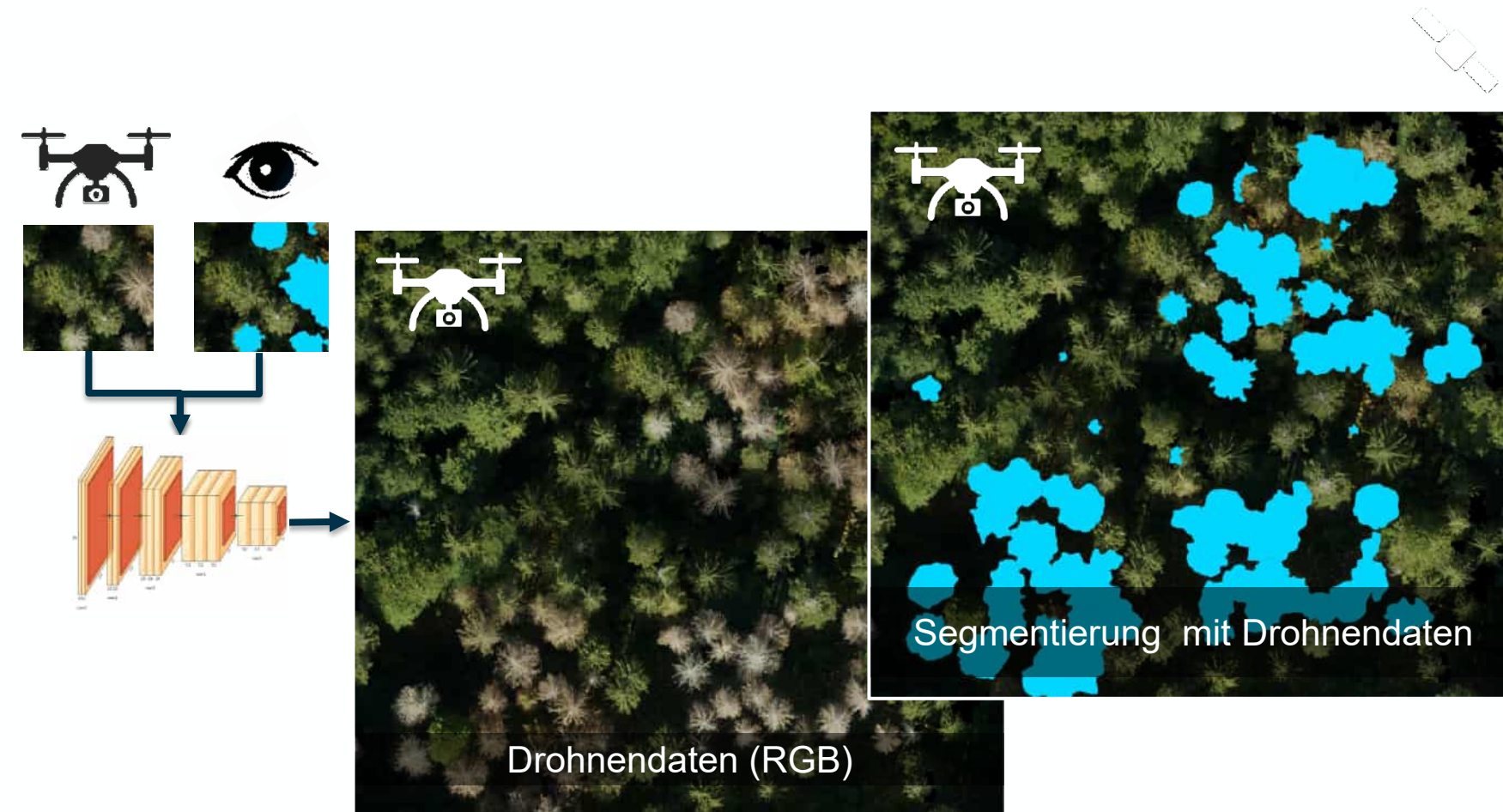
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



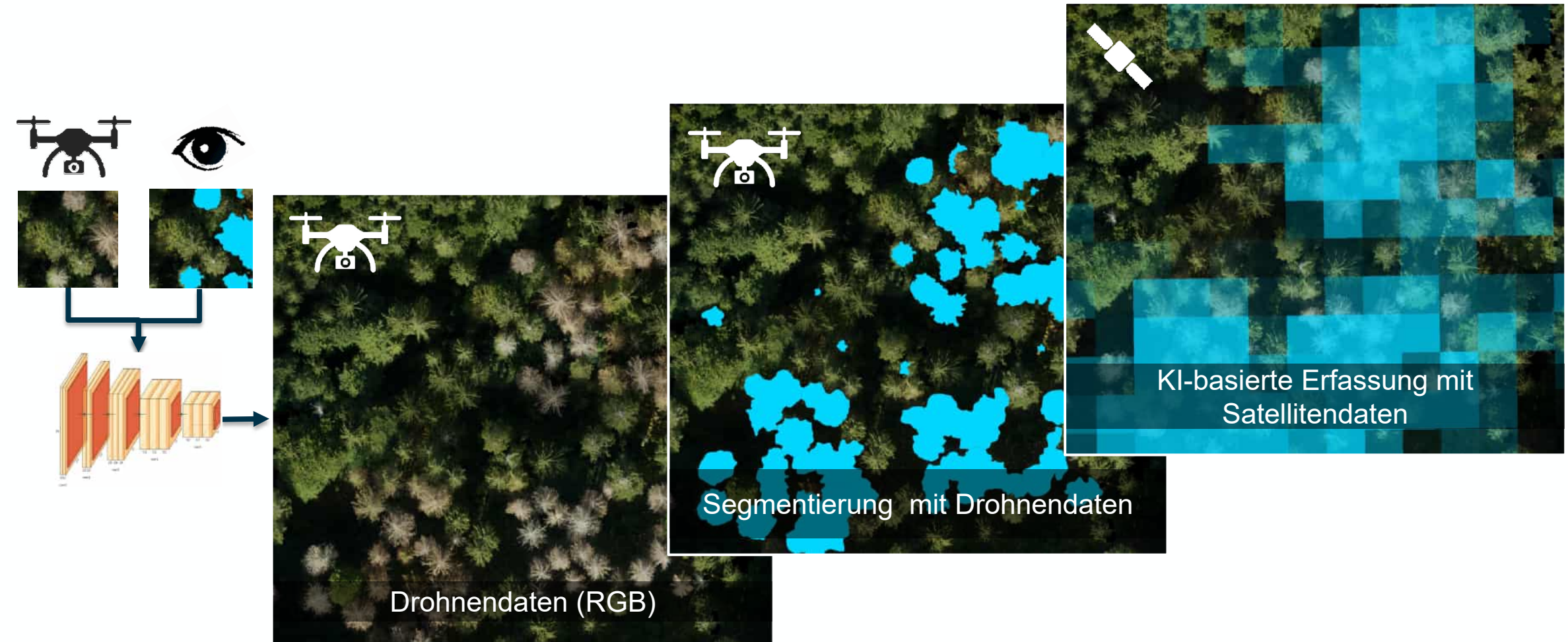
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



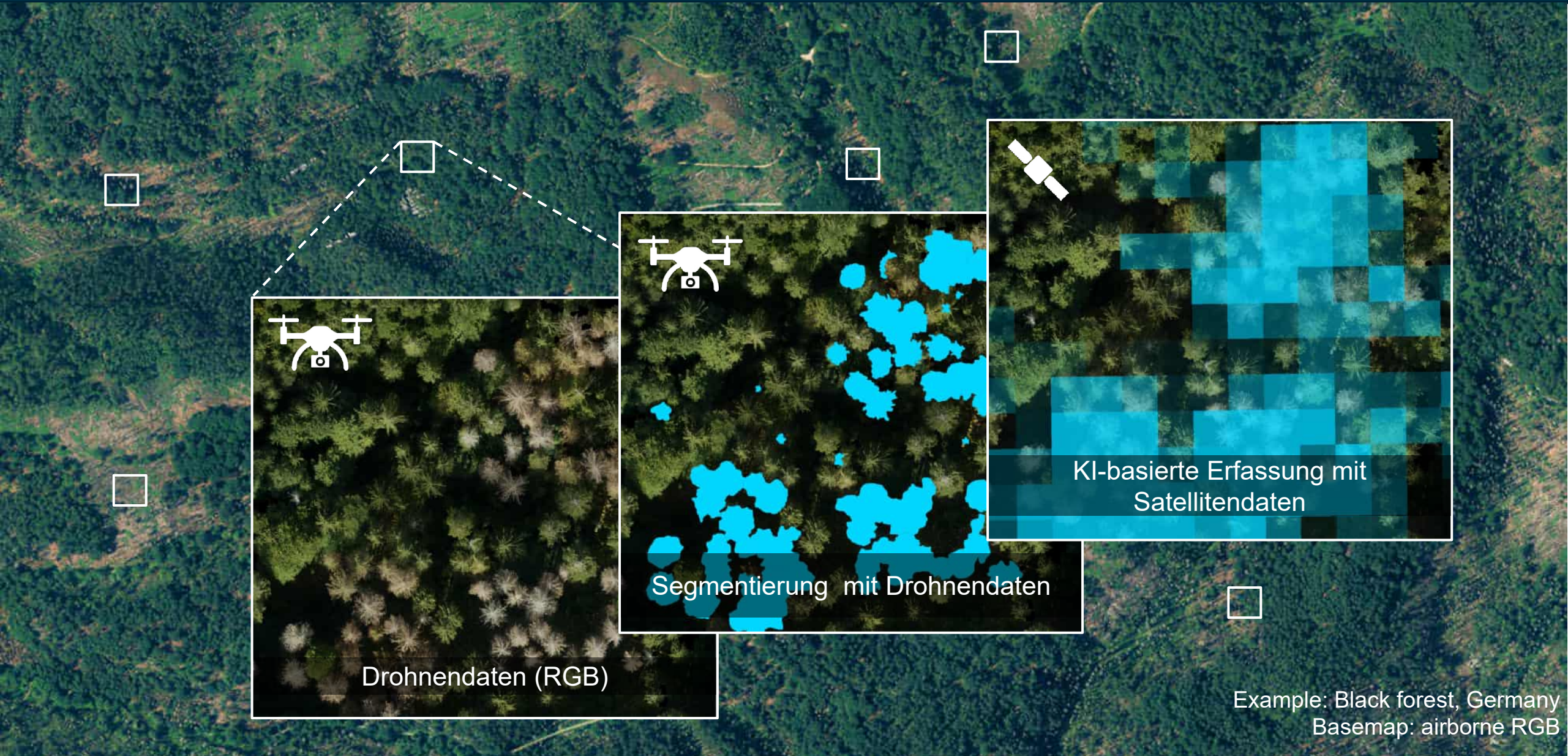
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



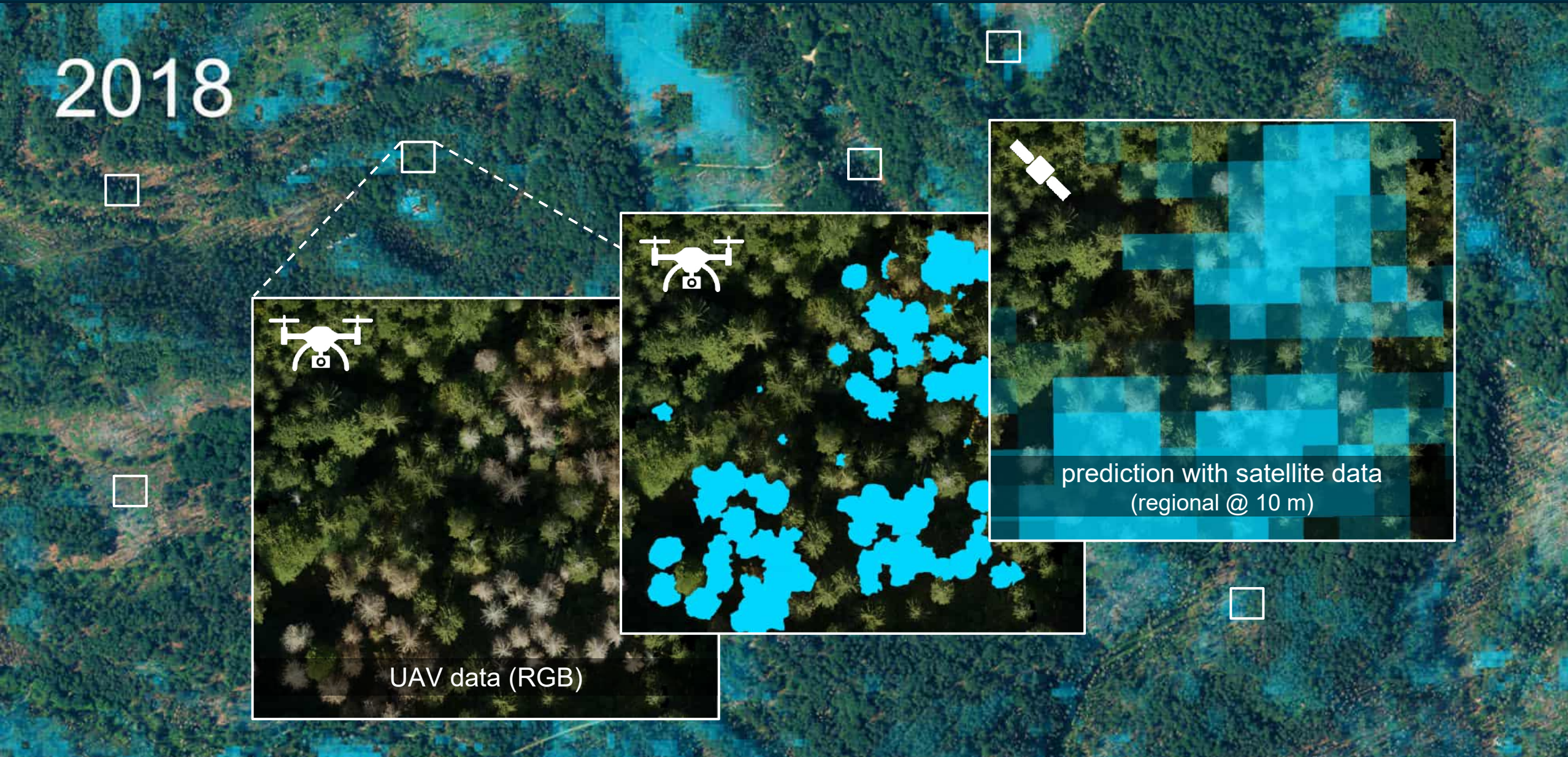
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten

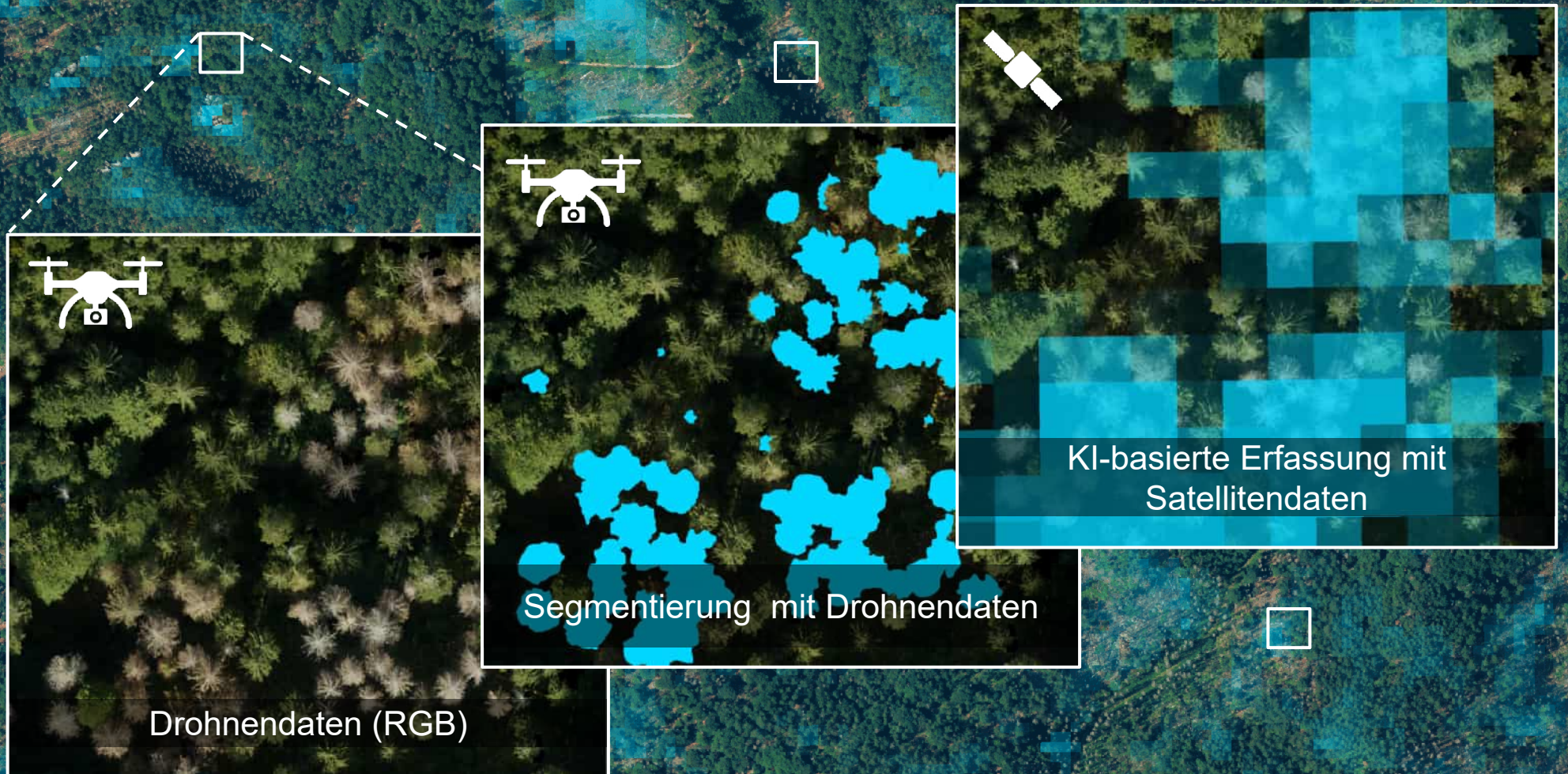


Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



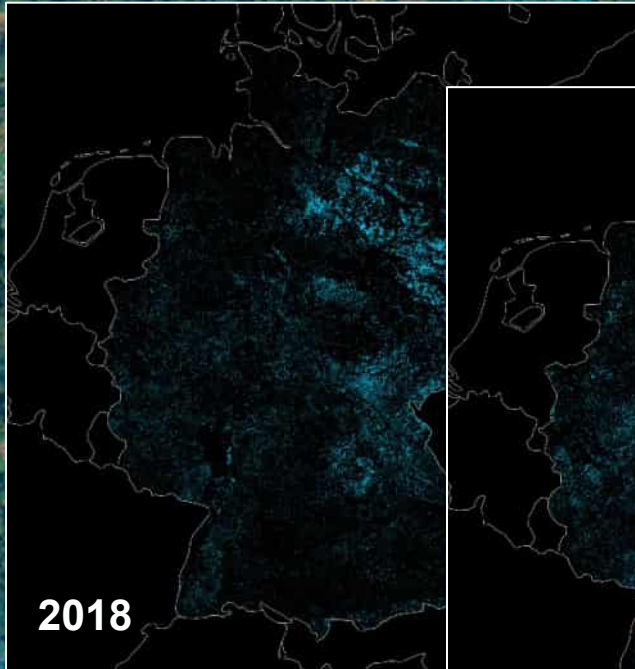
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten

2018

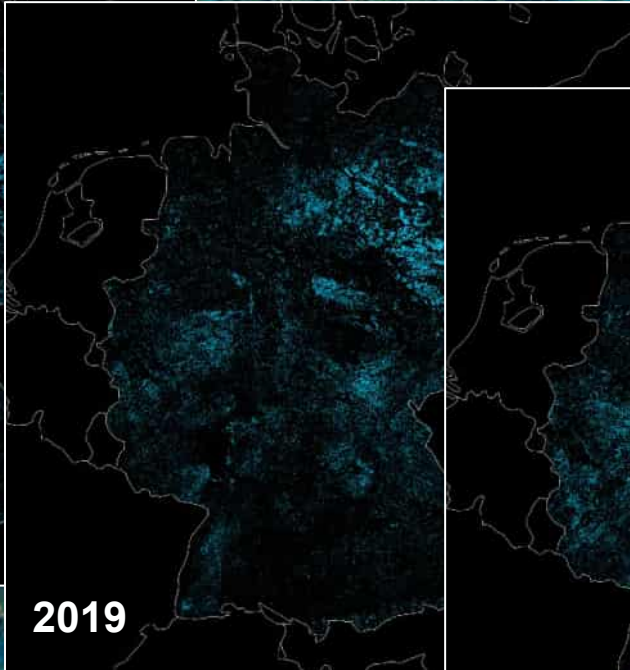


Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten

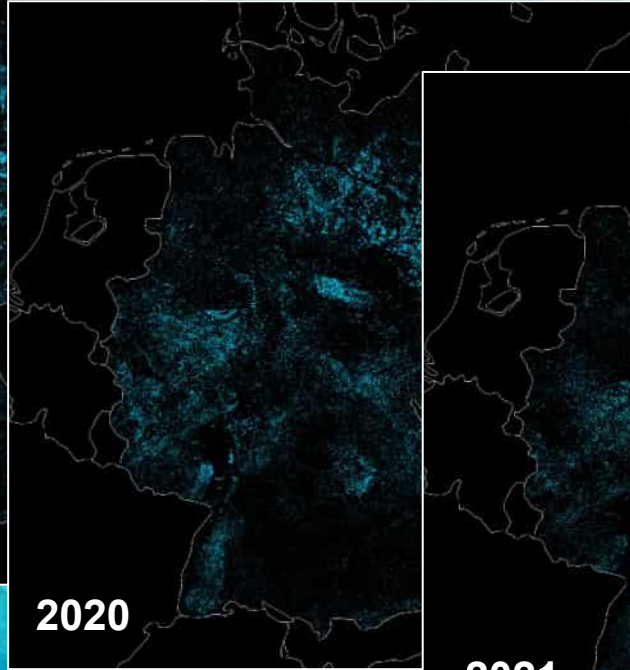
2018



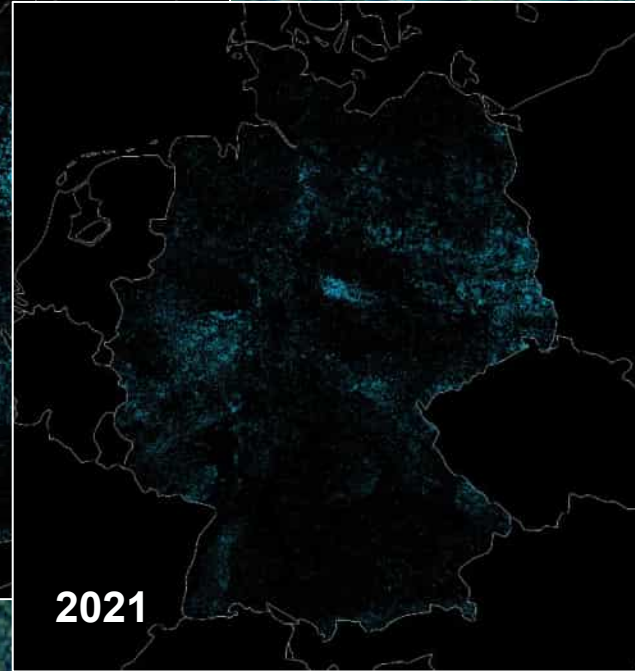
2019



2020



2021



Stehendes Totholz

0% cover 100%

- Schiefer et al. 2023
- Jährliches Produkt
- 2018-2023
- 10 m Auflösung
- Nationale Abdeckung

Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



Institute of
Chartered Foresters

Forestry: An International Journal of Forest Research, 2024, 1–15

<https://doi.org/10.1093/forestry/cpae062>

Original Article

Large-scale remote sensing reveals that tree mortality in Germany appears to be greater than previously expected

Felix Schiefer ^{1,*}, Sebastian Schmidlein ¹, Henrik Hartmann ^{2,3,4}, Florian Schnabel ⁵, Teja Kattenborn ⁶

¹Institute of Geography and Geoecology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Kaiserstr. 12, 76131 Karlsruhe, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

²Institute for Forest Protection, Julius Kühn-Institute - Federal Research Center for Cultivated Plants, Erwin-Baur-Str. 27, 06484 Quedlinburg, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany

³Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen, Niedersachsen, Germany

⁴Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry, Hans-Knöll-Str. 10, 07745 Jena, Thüringen, Germany

⁵Chair of Silviculture, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Freiburg, Stefan-Meier-Str. 76, 79104 Freiburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

⁶Chair of Sensor-based Geoinformatics, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Freiburg, Tennenbacher Str. 4, 79116 Freiburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

*Corresponding author. Institute of Geography and Geoecology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Kaiserstr. 12, 76131 Karlsruhe, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

E-mail: felix.schiefer@kit.edu

Abstract

Global warming poses a major threat to forests and events of increased tree mortality are observed globally. Studying tree mortality often relies on local-level observations of dieback while large-scale analyses are lacking. Satellite remote sensing provides the spatial coverage and sufficiently high temporal and spatial resolution needed to investigate tree mortality at landscape-scale. However, adequate reference data for training satellite-based models are scarce. In this study, we employed the first maps of standing deadwood in Germany for the years 2018–2022 with 10 m spatial resolution that were created by using tree mortality observations spotted in hundreds of drone images as the reference. We use these maps to study spatial and temporal patterns of tree mortality in Germany and analyse their biotic and abiotic environmental drivers using random forest regression. In 2019, the second consecutive hotter drought year in a row, standing deadwood increased steeply to 334 ± 189 kilohectar (kha) which corresponds to $2.5 \pm 1.4\%$ of the total forested area in Germany. *Picea abies*, *Pinus sylvestris*, and *Fagus sylvatica* showed highest shares of standing deadwood. During 2018–2021 978 ± 529 kha ($7.9 \pm 4.4\%$) of standing dead trees accumulated. The higher mortality estimates that we report compared to other surveys (such as the ground-based forest condition survey) can be partially attributed to the fact that remote sensing captures mortality from a bird's eye perspective and that the high spatial detail (10 m) in this study also captures scattered occurrences of tree mortality. Atmospheric drought (i.e. climatic water balance and vapor pressure deficit) and temperature extremes (i.e. number of hot days and frosts after vegetation onset) were the most important predictors of tree mortality. We found increased tree mortality for smaller and younger stands and on less productive sites. Monospecific stands were generally not more affected by mortality than average, but only when interactions with damaging insects (e.g. bark beetles) occurred. Because excess tree mortality rates threaten many forests across the globe, similar analyses of tree mortality are warranted and technically feasible at the global scale. We encourage the international scientific community to share and compile local data on deadwood occurrences (see example: www.deadtrees.earth) as such a collaborative effort is required to help understand mortality events on a global scale.

Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten



Institute of
Chartered Foresters

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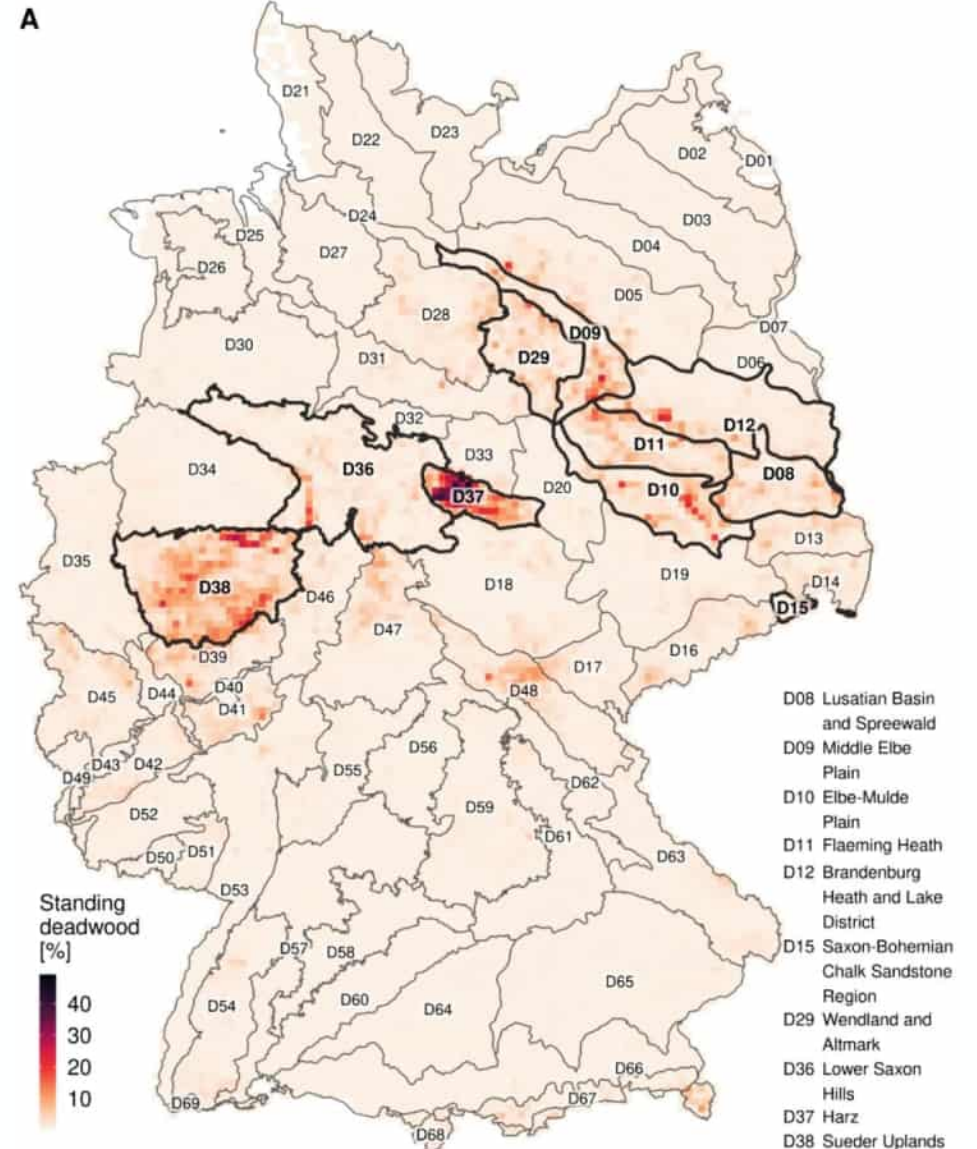
⁶Chair of Sensor-based Geoinformatics, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Freiburg, Tennenbacher Str. 4, 79116 Freiburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

*Corresponding author. Institute of Geography and Geoecology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Kaiserstr. 12, 76131 Karlsruhe, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

E-mail: felix.schiefer@kit.edu

Abstract

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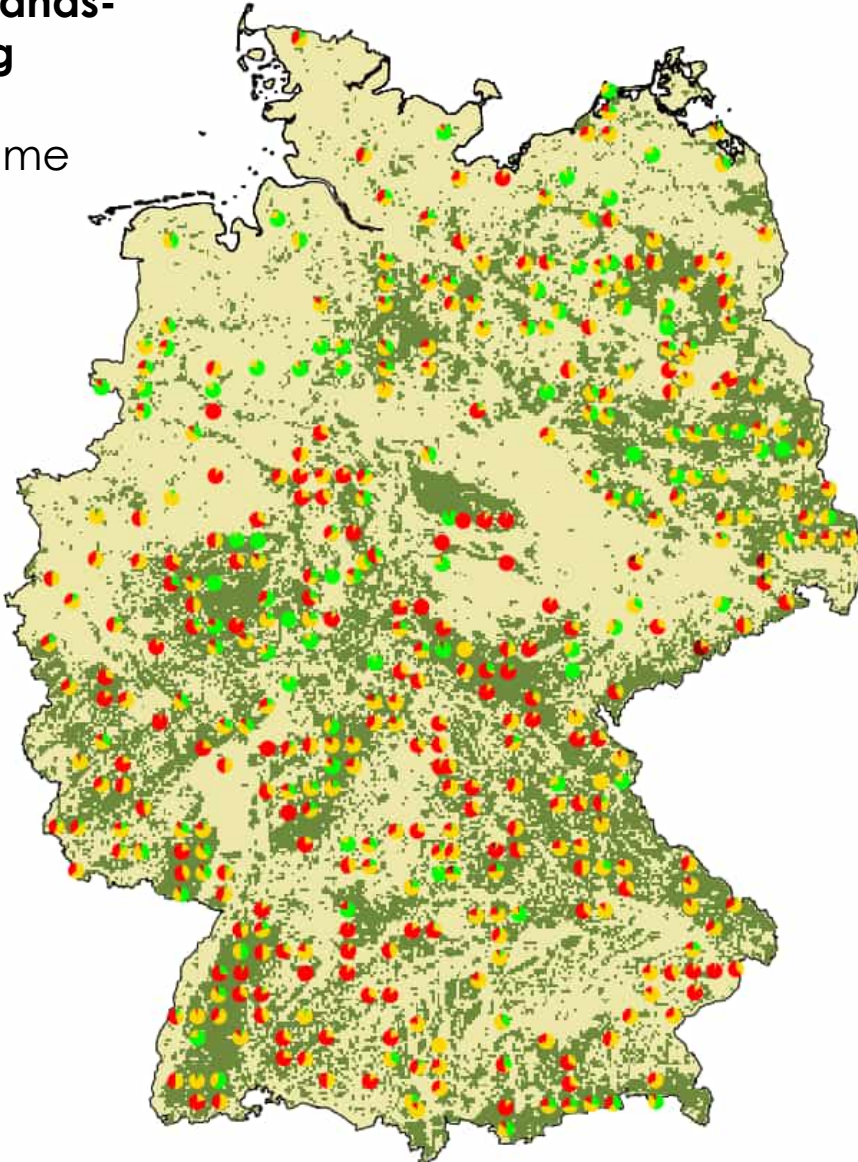


Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten

Waldzustands- erfassung

402 Plots

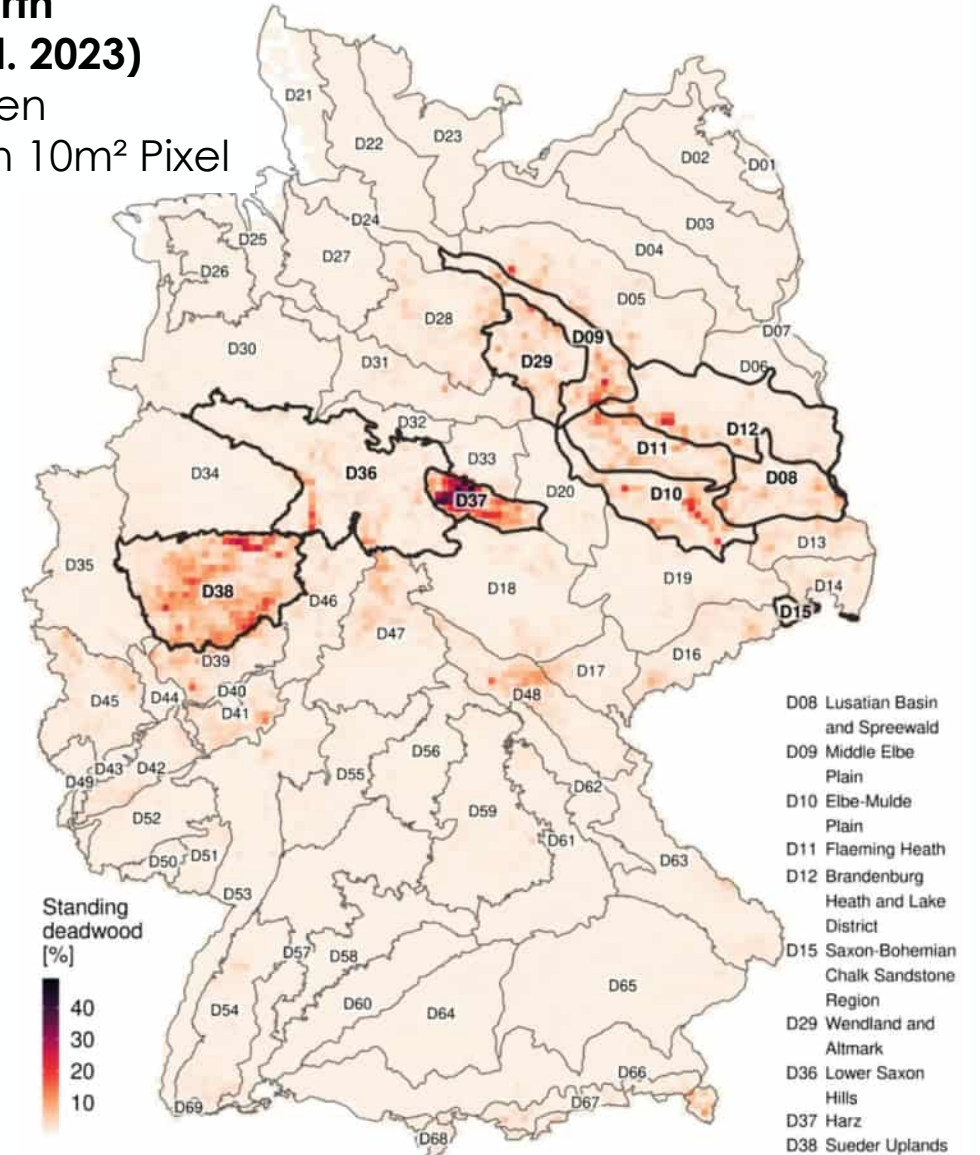
9688 Bäume



Deadtrees.earth (Schiefer et al. 2023)

Flächendecken

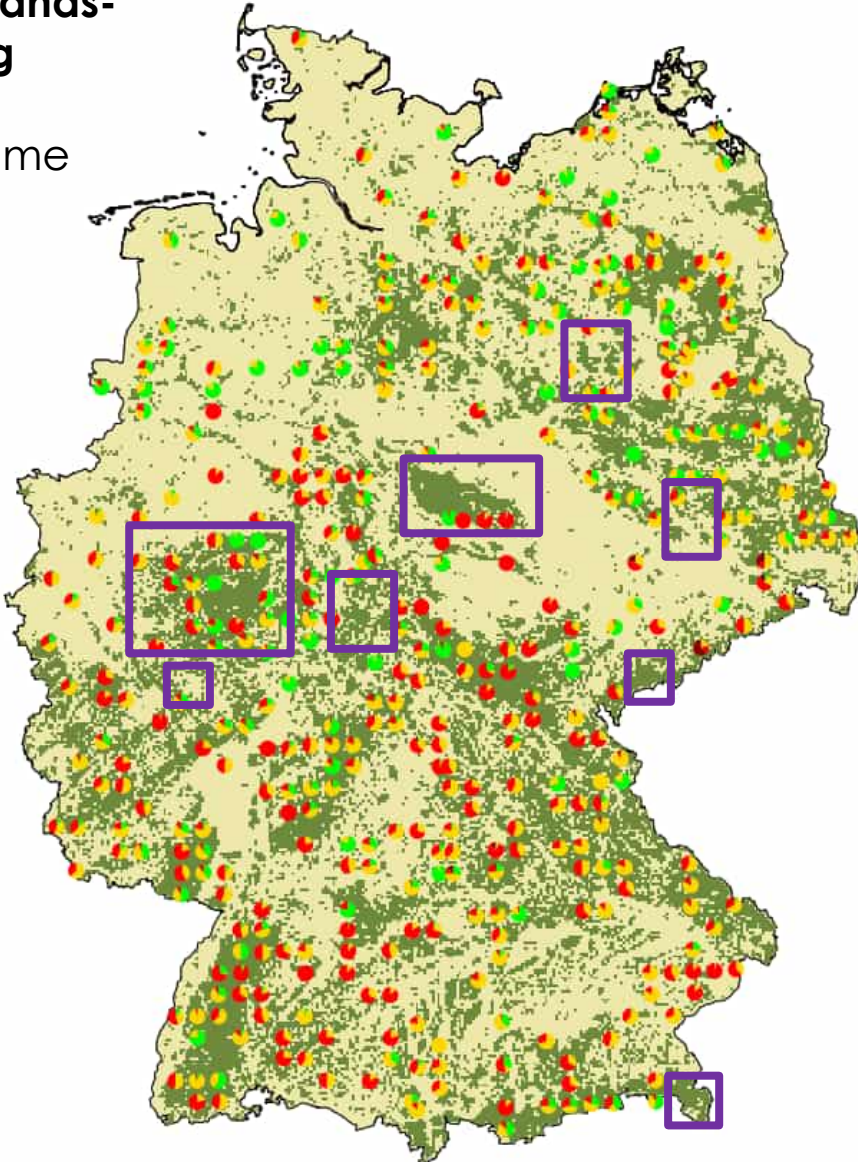
1.14 Milliarden 10m² Pixel



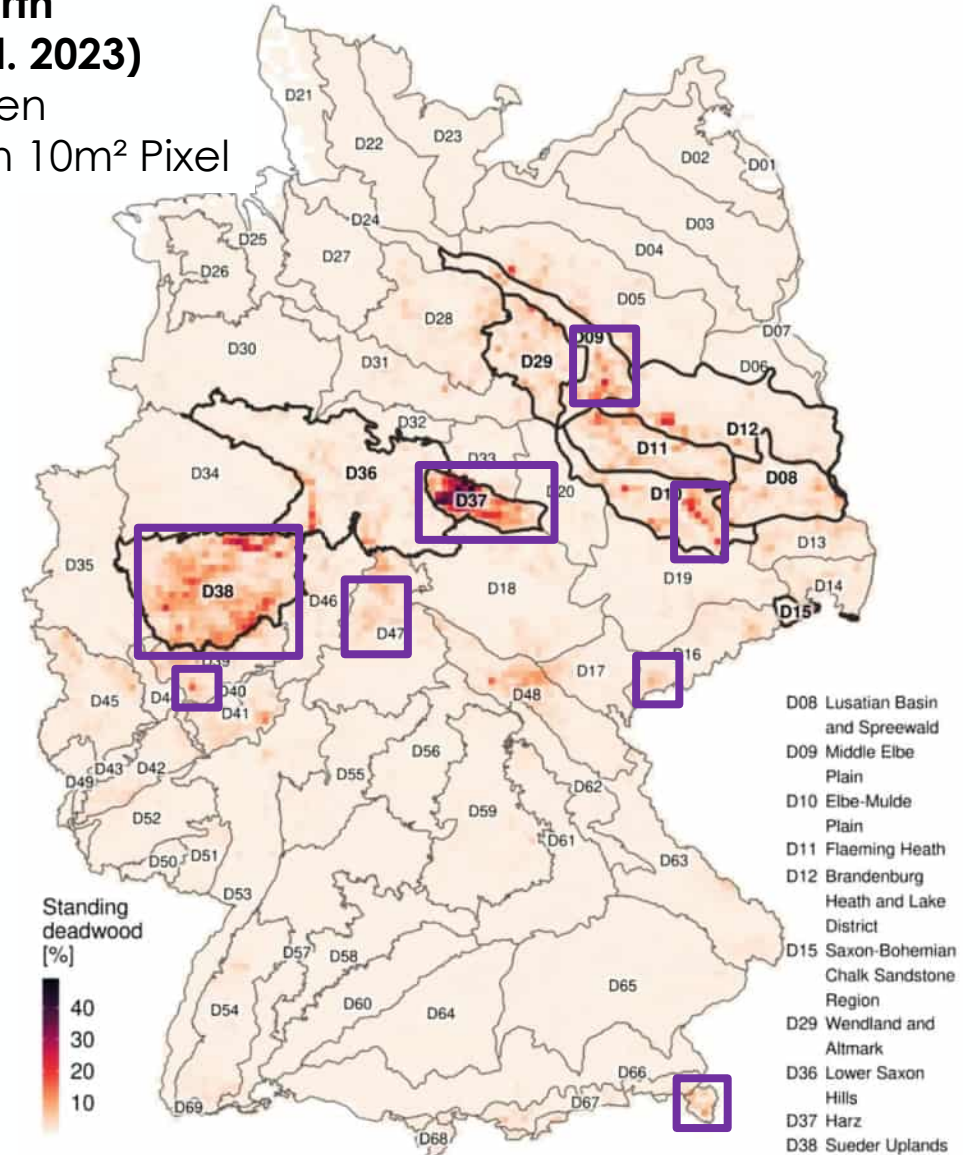
Waldzustandserhebung mit KI + Drohnen + Satelliten

Waldzustands- erfassung

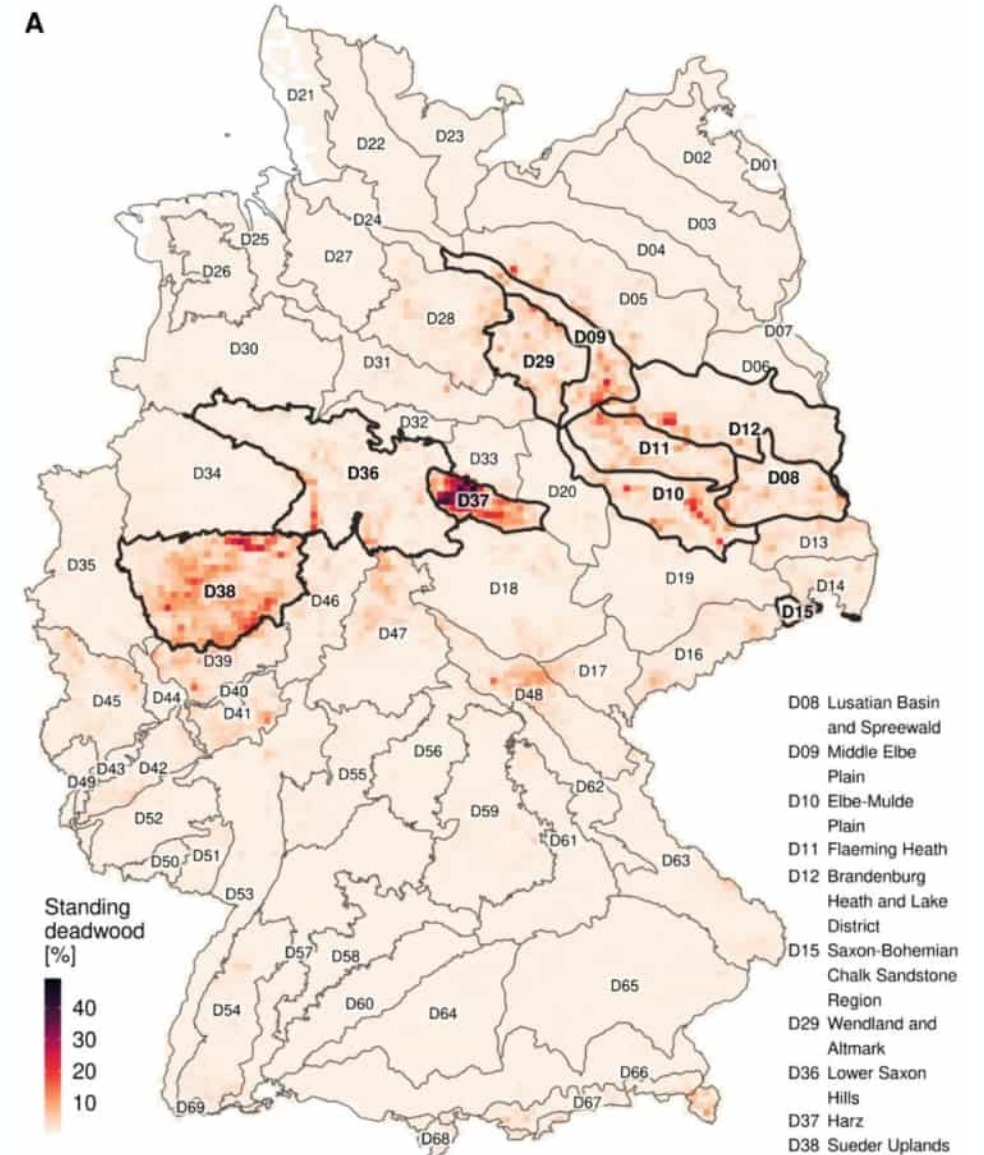
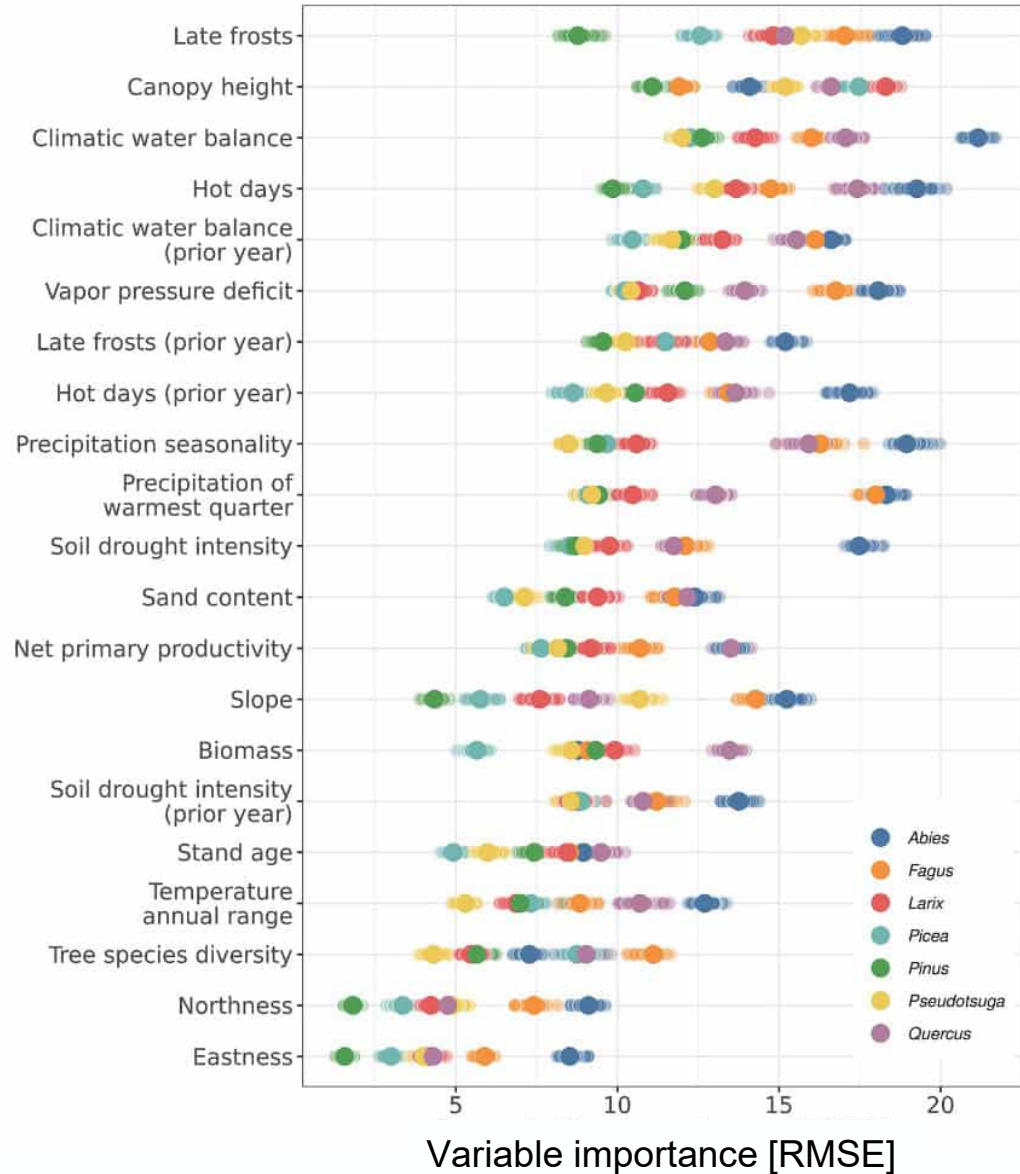
402 Plots
9688 Bäume



Deadtrees.earth
(Schiefer et al. 2023)
Flächendecken
1.14 Milliarden 10m² Pixel



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An open database for accessing, contributing, analyzing, and visualizing remote sensing-based tree mortality data.

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OUR SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

Revealing tree mortality patterns

By integrating Earth observation, machine learning, and ground-based data sources, this initiative aims to bridge the existing gaps in understanding global tree mortality dynamics, fostering a comprehensive and accessible resource for researchers and stakeholders alike.



Open access community effort

Upload and download your aerial imagery with optional delineations of standing deadwood. Every contributor will be credited and invited to collaborate.



Automatic dead tree detection

Automatic detection (semantic segmentation) of dead trees in uploaded aerial imagery through a generic detection computer vision model.



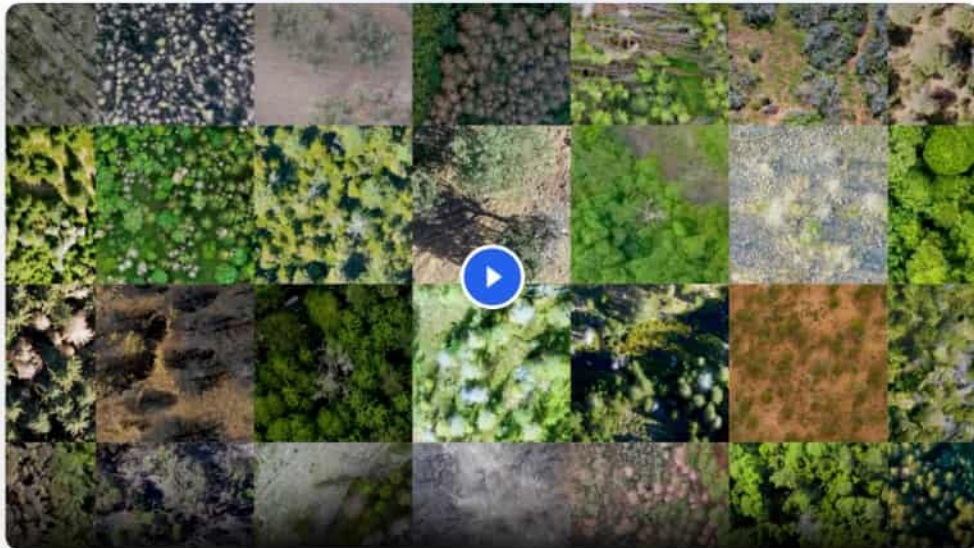
Large-scale tree mortality map

Embedded visualization and download of extensive spatiotemporal tree mortality products derived from extrapolating standing deadwood using Earth observation data.

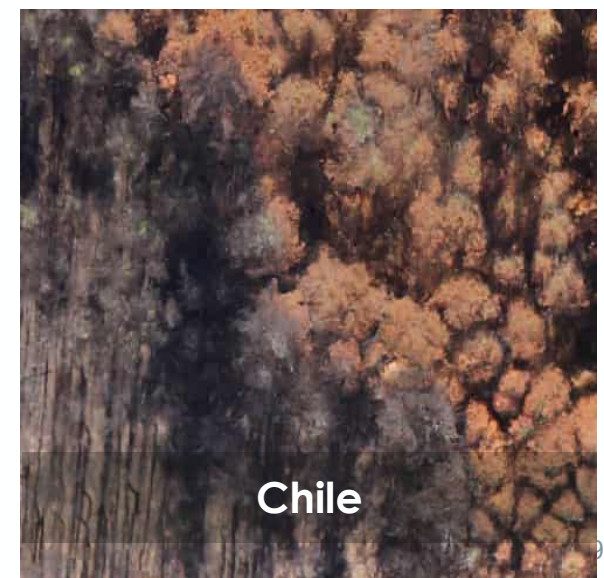
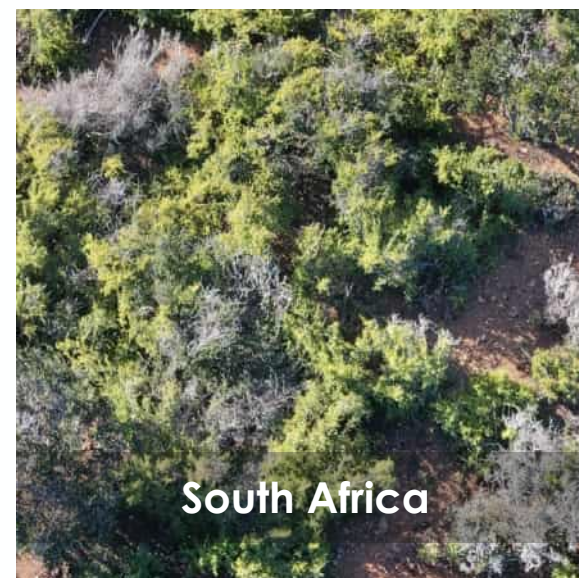
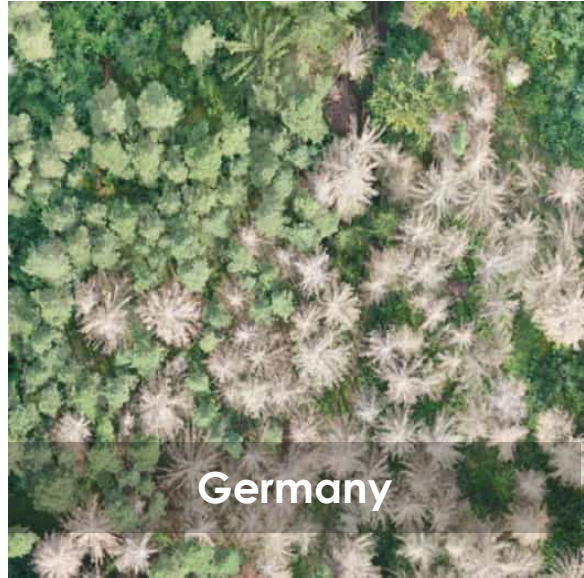


Analysis ready training data

High-resolution aerial imagery of forests worldwide together with delineated standing deadwood which can be used for training your own AI models.



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6/8/2010

Contributors of Op...

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Author: Teja Kattenborn and Clemens Mo...

Acquisition Date: July 19, 2023

Platform:

drone

File Size:

1.9 GB

Spectral Properties :

RGB

Label Source:

visual_interpretation

Label Type:

instance_segmentation

Label Quality:

3

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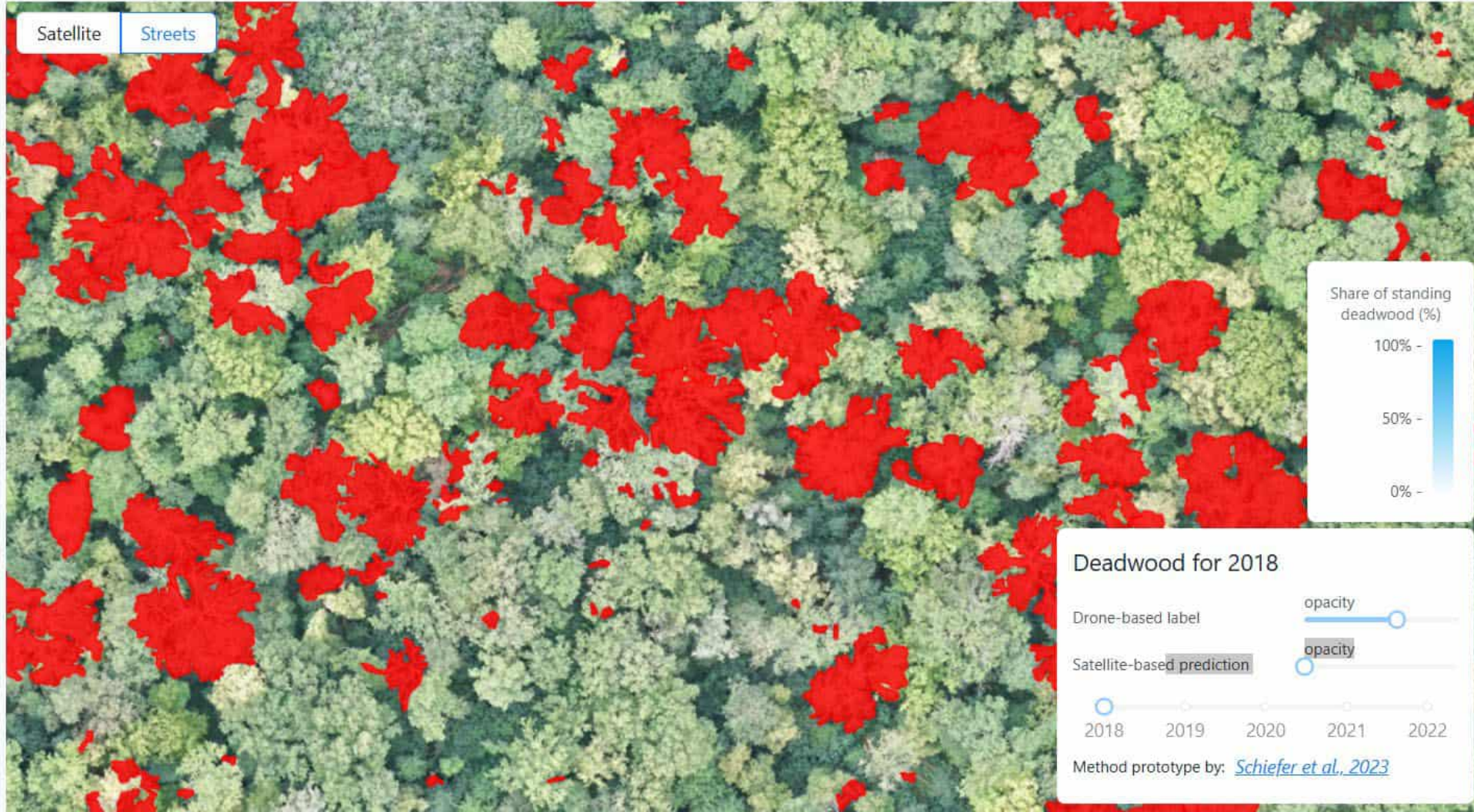
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Author: Clemens Mosig

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Deadwood for 2018

Drone-based label

opacity

Method prototype by: [Schiefer et al., 2023](#)

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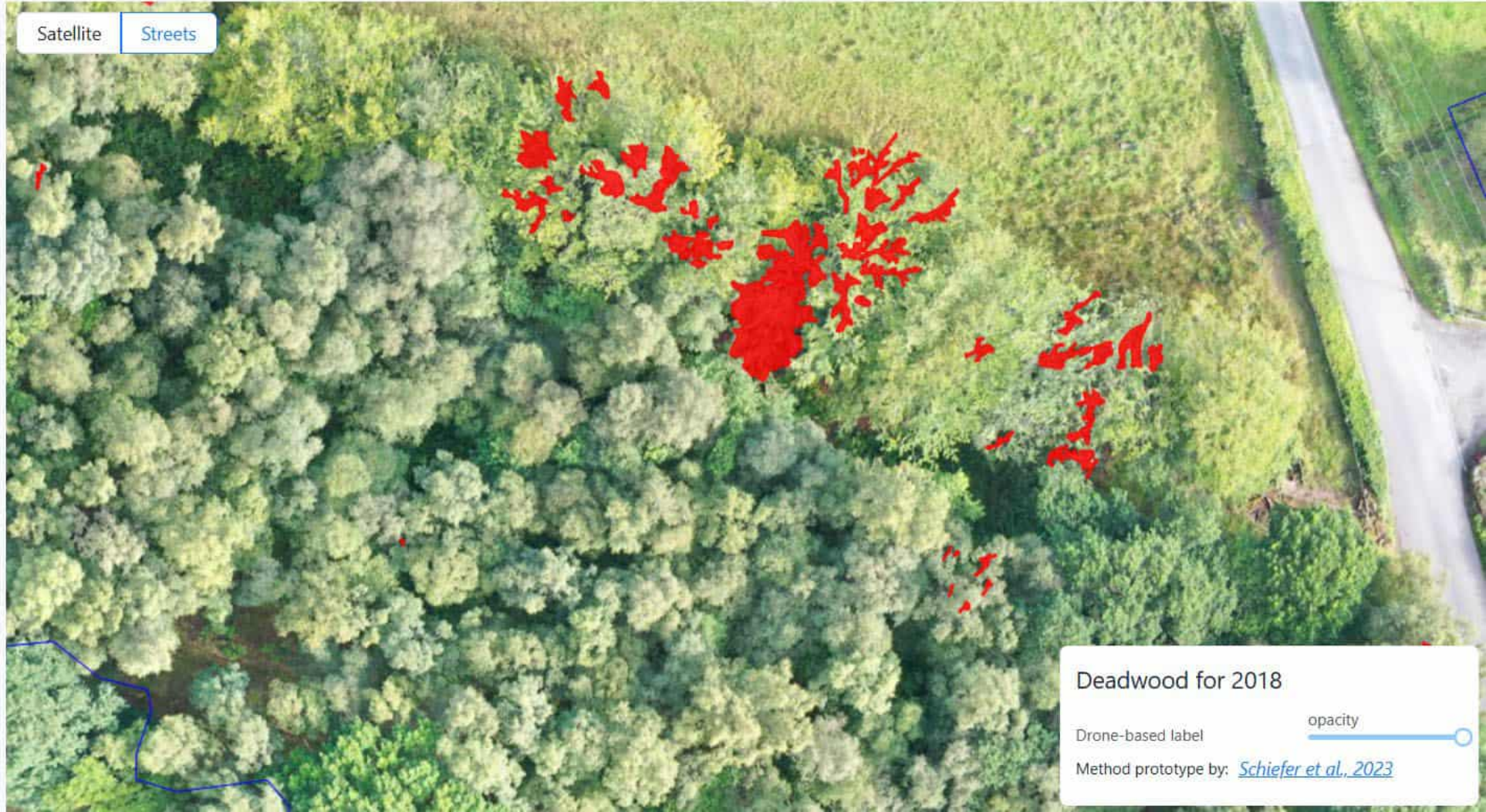
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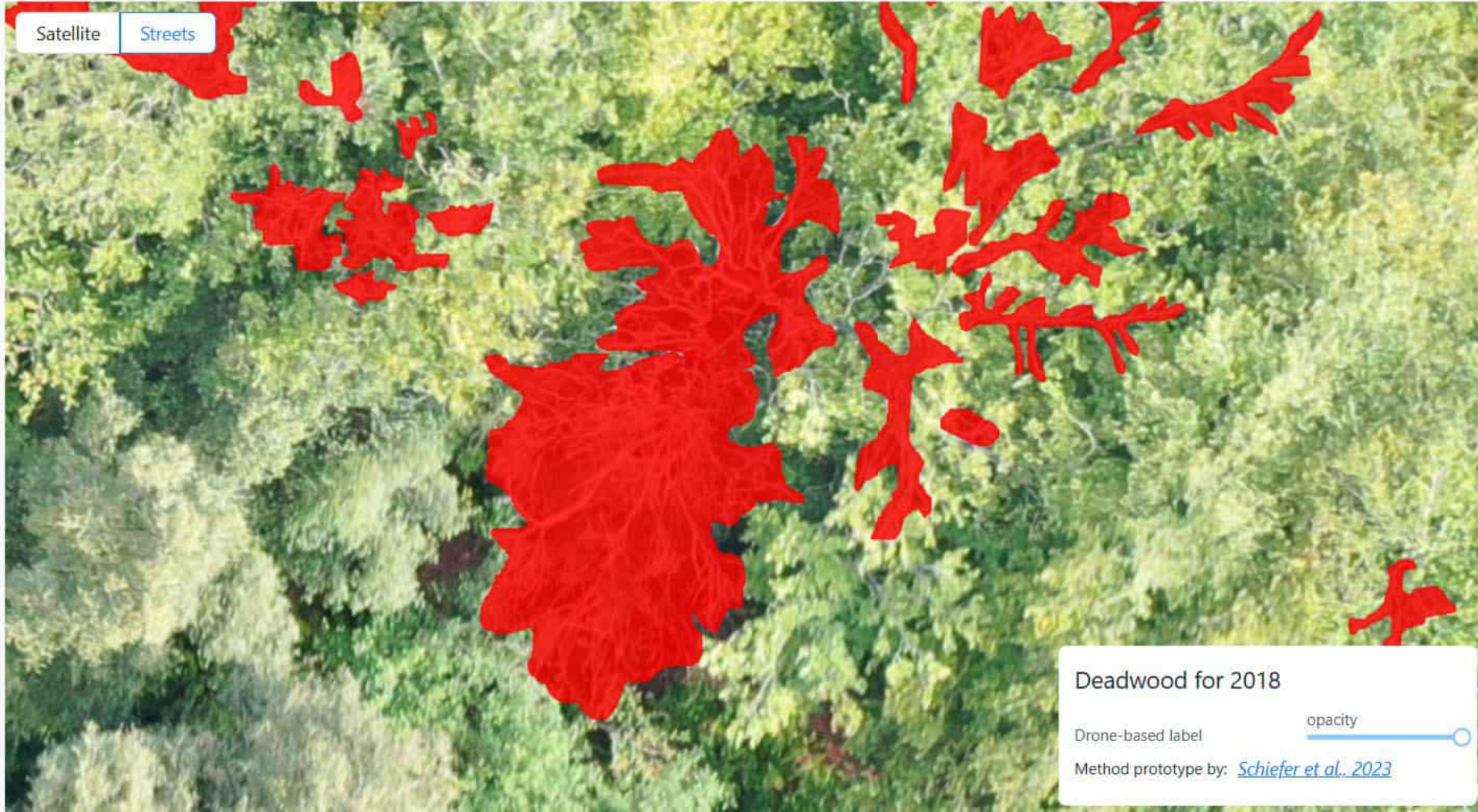
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Author: Naturpark Schwarzwald

Acquisition Date: 2020

Platform: [airborne](#)

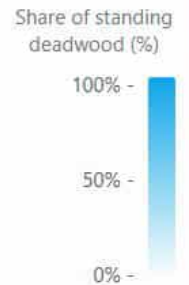
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Deadwood for 2020

Satellite-based prediction



Method prototype by: [Schiefer et al., 2023](#)

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Share of standing
deadwood (%)

100% -

50% -

0% -

Deadwood for 2020

Satellite-based prediction

opacity

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

Method prototype by: [Schiefer et al., 2023](#)

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Deadwood for 2020

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2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

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- Mehr als 60 Institutionen
- Daten aller Kontinente
- Daten aller Biome

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 - Simpler Ansatz, aber Rechenintensiv
- **KI = Hype UND Game Changer**
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