

Monitoring Bio- Geodiversity and Ecosystem health by Traits, Remote Sensing (RS) and Data Science approaches



Spaceborne



Airborne



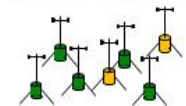
UAV - Drone



Camera trap



Wireless-Sensor-Network (WSN)



PD Dr. Angela Lausch

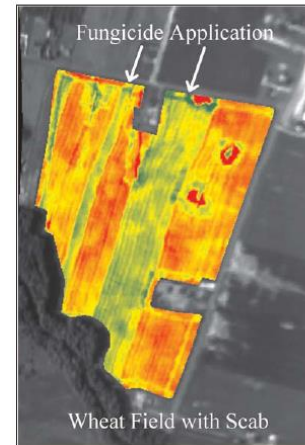
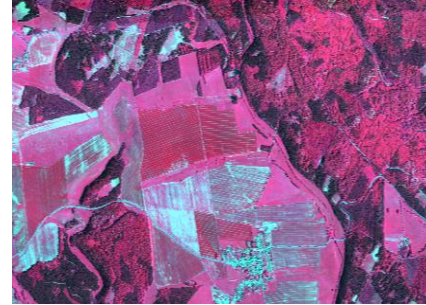
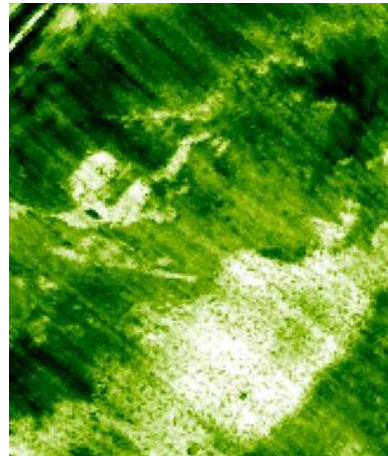
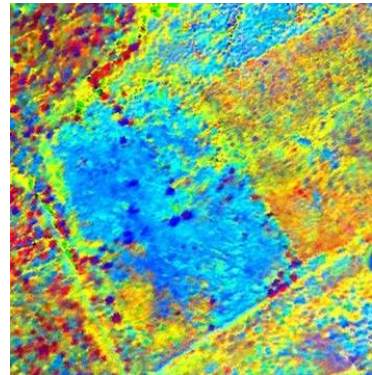
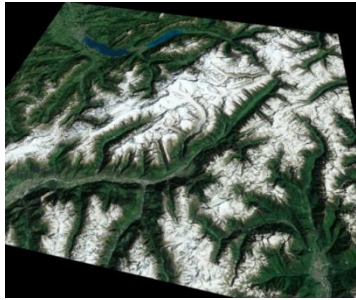
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Germany

Angela.Lausch@ufz.de



HELMHOLTZ
ZENTRUM FÜR
UMWELTFORSCHUNG
UFZ

How can RS measure, assess Bio-and Geodiversity & and ESS?



Spaceborne



Airborne



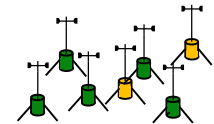
UAV - Drone



Camera trap

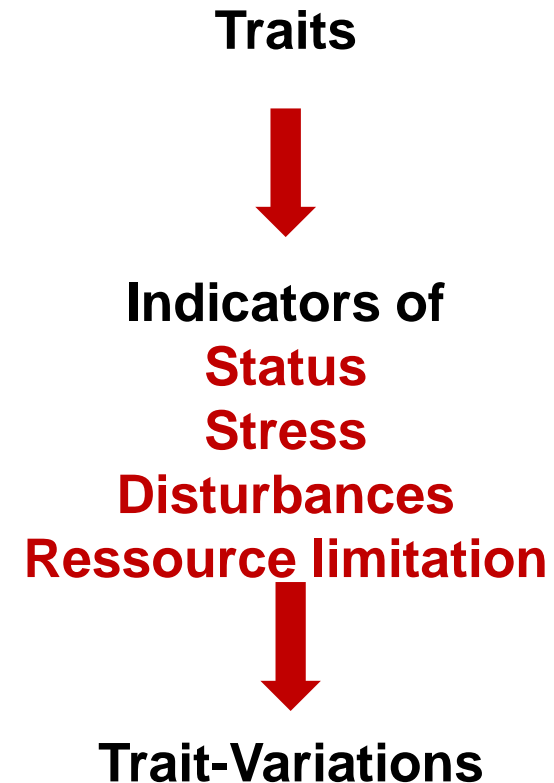
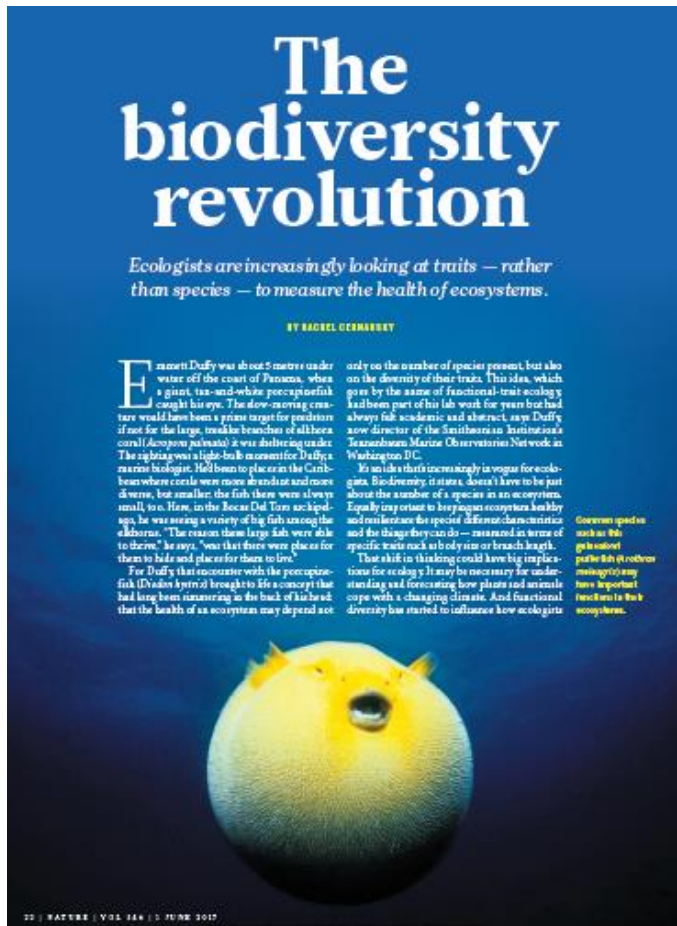


Wireless-Sensor-Network (WSN)



Trait concept of species – Indicators / Filters of stress

“Ecologists are increasingly looking **at traits - rather than species** - to measure the health of ecosystems”



Cernansky, R. Biodiversity moves beyond counting species. *Nature* 2017, 546, 22–24

**Species traits allowed us to go a
“complete new way in understanding of
fundamental questions of biodiversity”**

(Green et al., 2008)

Traits help us to understand:

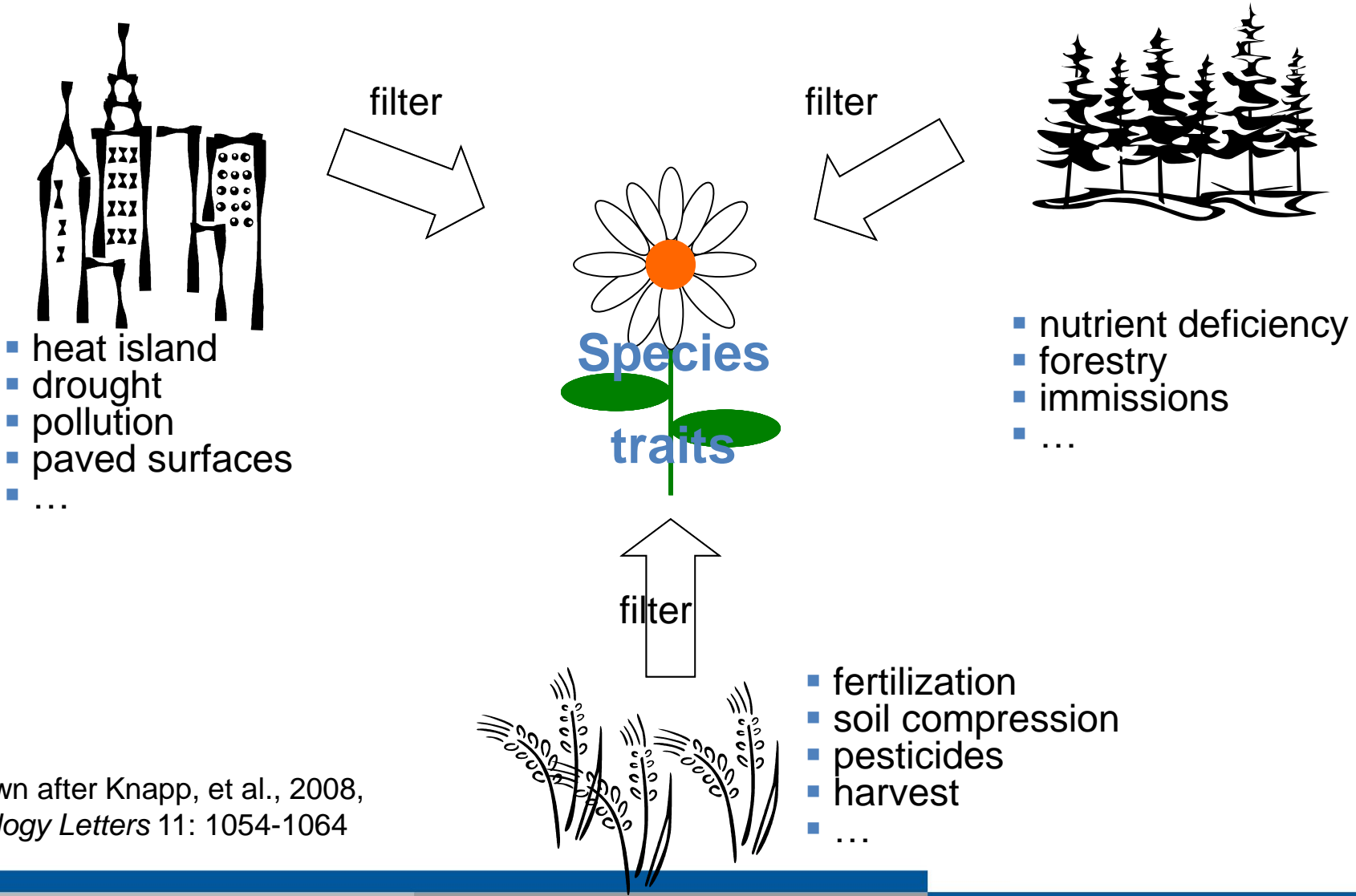
➤ **“Why organisms live where they do and how they will respond to environmental change”**

(Green et al., 2008)

➤ **And how they interact to different stressors, disturbances, resource limitations and drivers**

Approach: „In-situ-species traits“ - concept

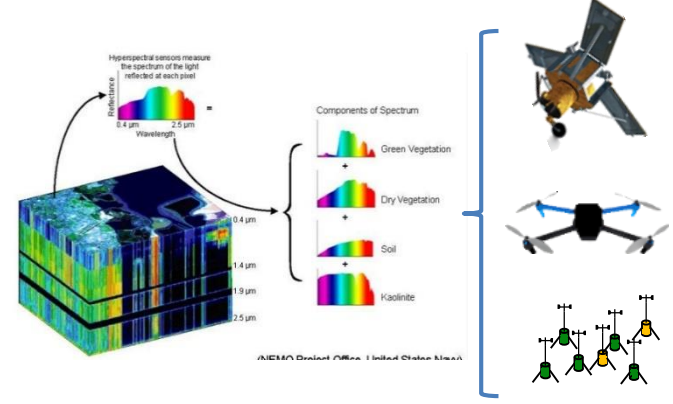
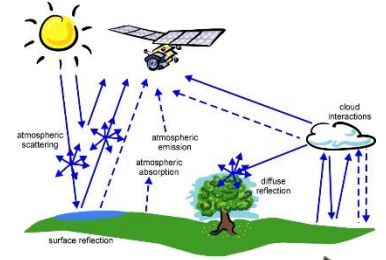
Traits = Filters of status, stress, processes, disturbances and resource limitations



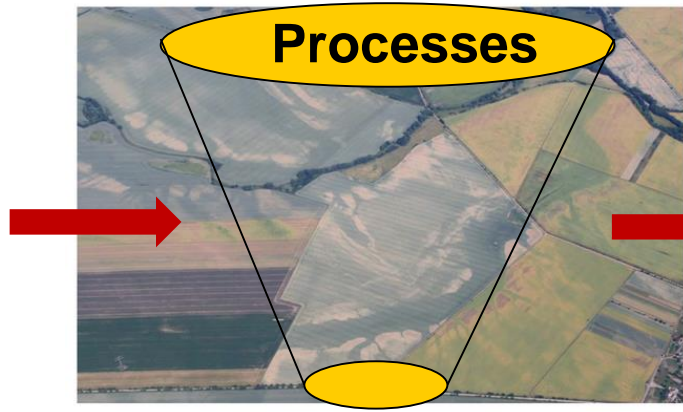
Drawn after Knapp, et al., 2008, *Ecology Letters* 11: 1054-1064

Approach: Remote Sensing – Trait concept

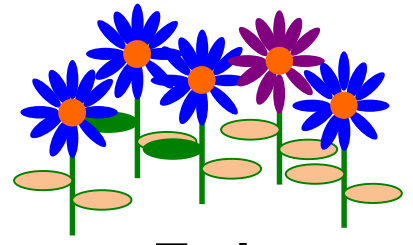
- RS record „Traits and Trait variations“ of surface, vegetation, soil, water ..
- **Bio-and Geodiversity and their interactions!**
- Spectral answer, is a reaction on
 - status, process,
 - disturbances,
 - ressource limitations
 - pattern process interaction



Traits



spectral answer by RS



Trait-variation

Biodiversity

In-situ approaches

Knowledge-based by taxonomist

Plant species, populations, communities, habitats
biomes, ecosystems, landscapes

Species Concepts

Phylogenetic Species Concept (PSC)

Phylogeny

co-ancestry
allelic diversity
population genetic differentiation
breed and variety diversity

Phylo-Diversity

Biological Species Concept (BSC)

Taxonomy

species distribution
population abundance
population structure by age/ size class

Taxonomic Diversity

Morpho-Species Concept (MSC)

Traits

chemical/ biochemical traits
phenotypical/ morphological traits
physiological/ functional traits etc.

Trait Diversity

Remote Sensing approaches

Physical-based by techniques

Close-range RS

Remote-Sensing - spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (RS-ST/STV-C)

Close-Range-Remote-Sensing - Spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (CR-RS-ST/STV-C)

Air-/Spaceborne RS

Air- and Spaceborne Remote-Sensing - Spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (AS-RS-ST/STV-C)

**Spectral Traits (ST)
Spectral Trait Variations (STV)**

chemical/ biochemical traits
phenotypical/ morphological traits
physiological/ functional traits etc.

**Discrimination of
plant species, populations, communities,
habitats
biomes, ecosystems, landscapes**

Trait Diversity

Phylo Diversity

Taxonomic Diversity

Structural Diversity

Functional Diversity

Constraints of RS for monitoring BD & health

Characteristics of remote sensing sensors

- Spatial resolution
- Spectral resolution
- Radiometric resolution
- Temporal resolution
- Angular resolution

Characteristics of classification approaches

- Pixel-based
- Spectral-based
- Geographic objects based - GEOBIA

Characteristics of composition & configuration of Spectral Traits (ST) / Spectral Trait Variation (STV)

- Composition
- Configuration
- Abundance
- 2D/3D structure
- Patterns
- Heterogeneity

Characteristics of diversity

- Phylo Diversity
- Taxonomic Diversity
- Trait Diversity
- Structural diversity
- Functional Diversity

Characteristics of processes, stress, disturbances and resource limitations

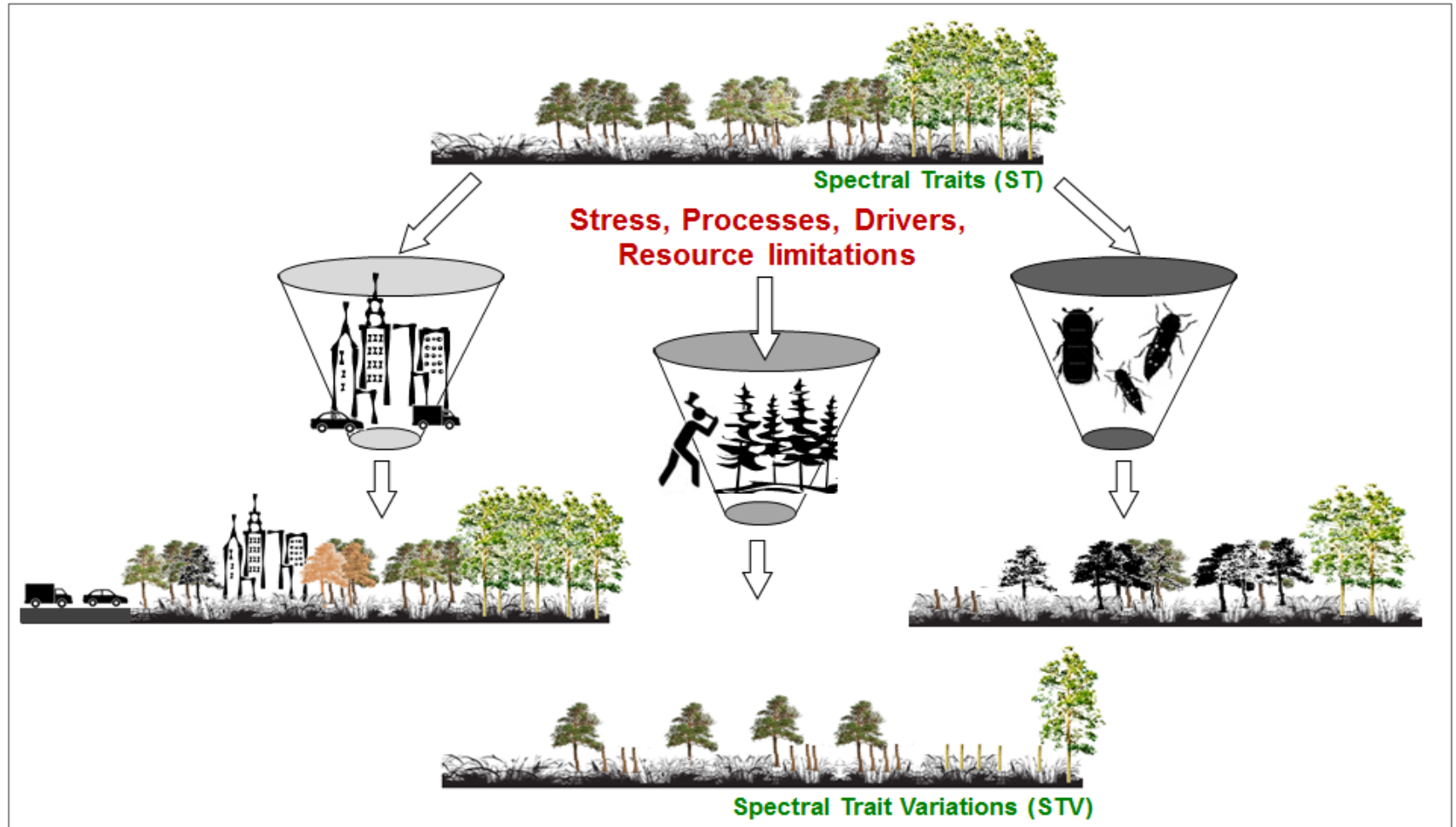
- Scope, length, intensity
- consistency, dominance, overlay

Status, Processes, Stress, Disturbances & Resource Limitations

Lausch, A. et al., 2018.
Remote Sensing

Trait concept – Indicators / Filters of stress

Traits = Filters for stress, processes, disturbances and resource limitations

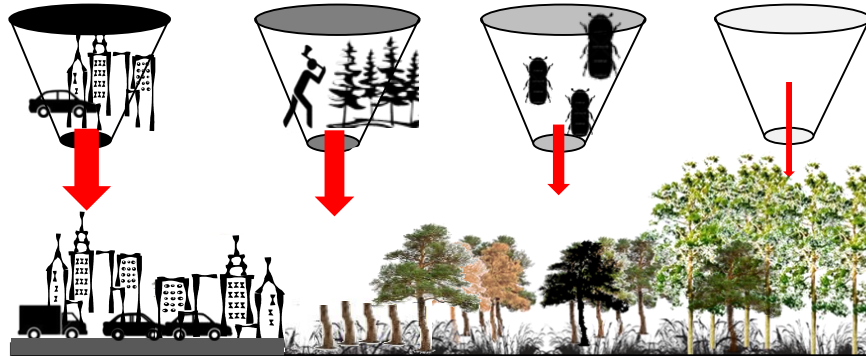


Process (a) → vegetation reactions → **changes in traits** → leading to **trait variations (b)**
 → **spectral responses in RS** - data (c), example of hyperspectral spectrum response for
 → vegetation health(d)

Traits in forest



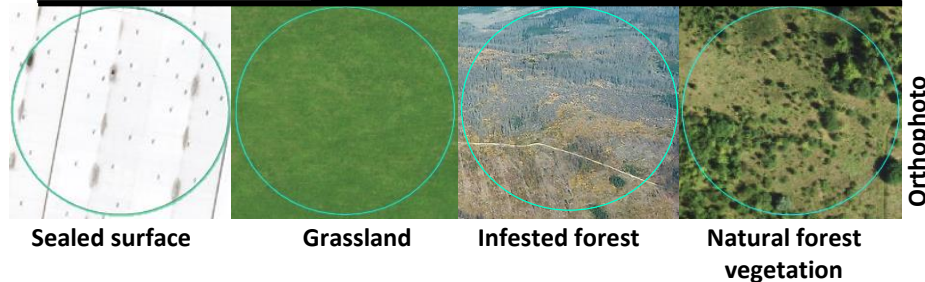
Intensive High Medium Low



(a) Processes

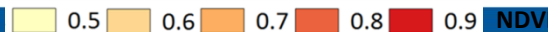
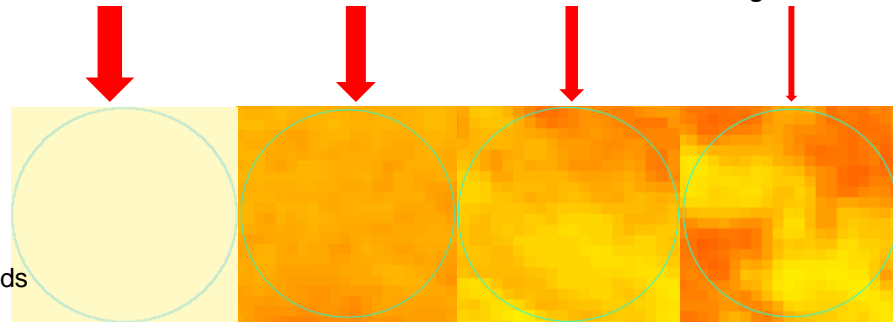
Land-Use Intensity (LUI)
 logging, fragmentation,
 disturbances,
 infestations

(b) Trait variations



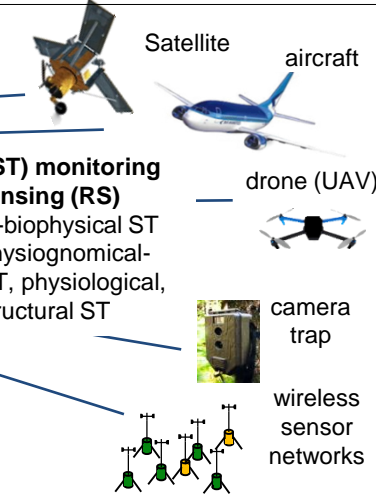
Sealed surface Grassland Infested forest Natural forest vegetation

(c) Spectral response



Spectral Trait (ST) monitoring with Remote Sensing (RS)

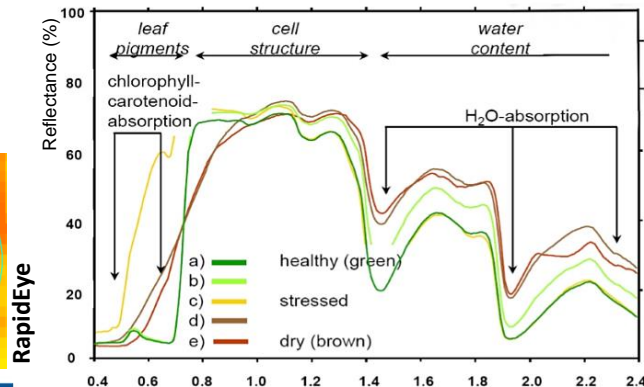
e.g. biochemical-biophysical ST
 phenotypical / physiological-morphological ST, physiological, functional ST, structural ST



Spectral Trait Variations (STV) - monitoring with Remote Sensing (RS)

Variation in e.g. biochemical-biophysical STV, phenotypical STV, physiological-morphological STV, physiological, functional STV, structural STV

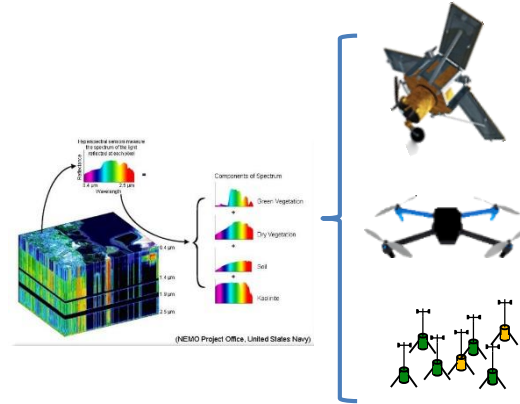
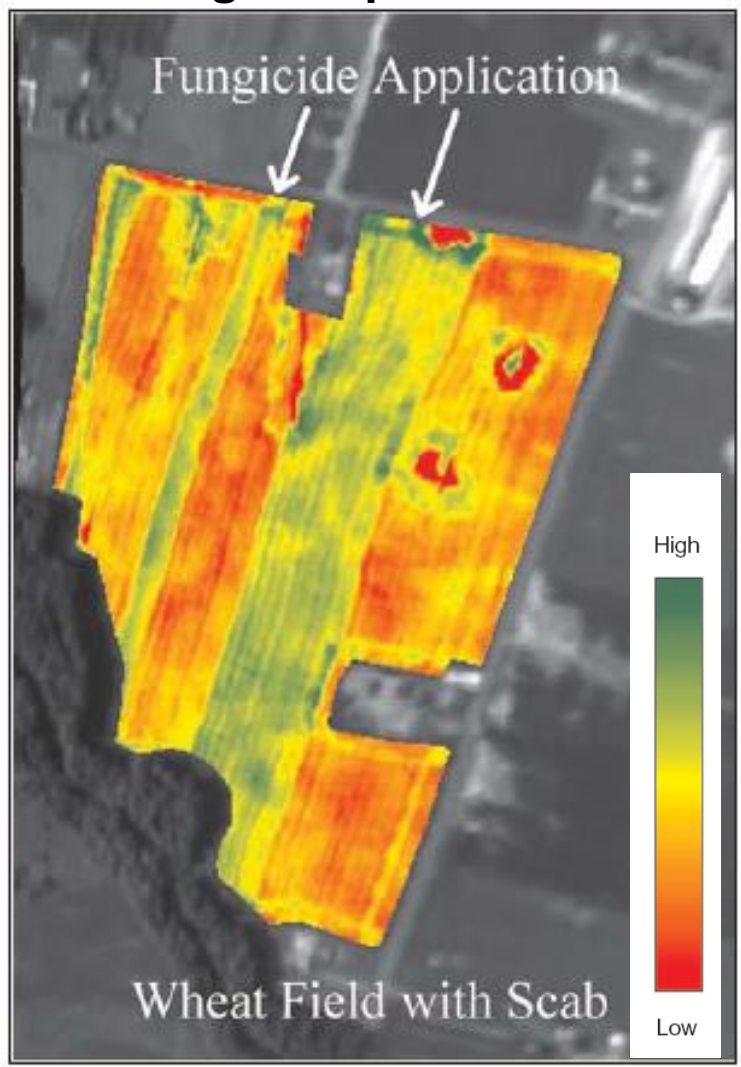
(d) Hyperspectral spectrum response for vegetation health



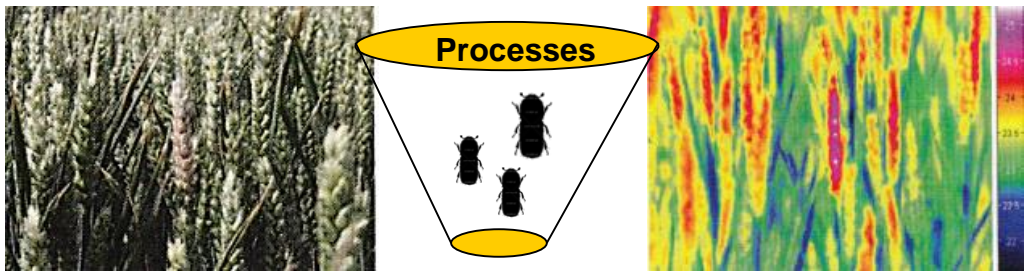
Trait concept - Understanding - Processes – Pattern – Interaction

Monitoring and quantification of fungicide, pesticide applications

- Healthy status of vegetation
- Changes of plant traits based on human pressures



spectral answer by RS



Traits



Trait-variation

Wheat – Infection by phytopathogens (*Fusarium head scab.*)

Trait concept of species - Traits - Animals

Opinion

Cell
PRESS

Special Issue: Ecological and evolutionary informatics

Time to change how we describe biodiversity

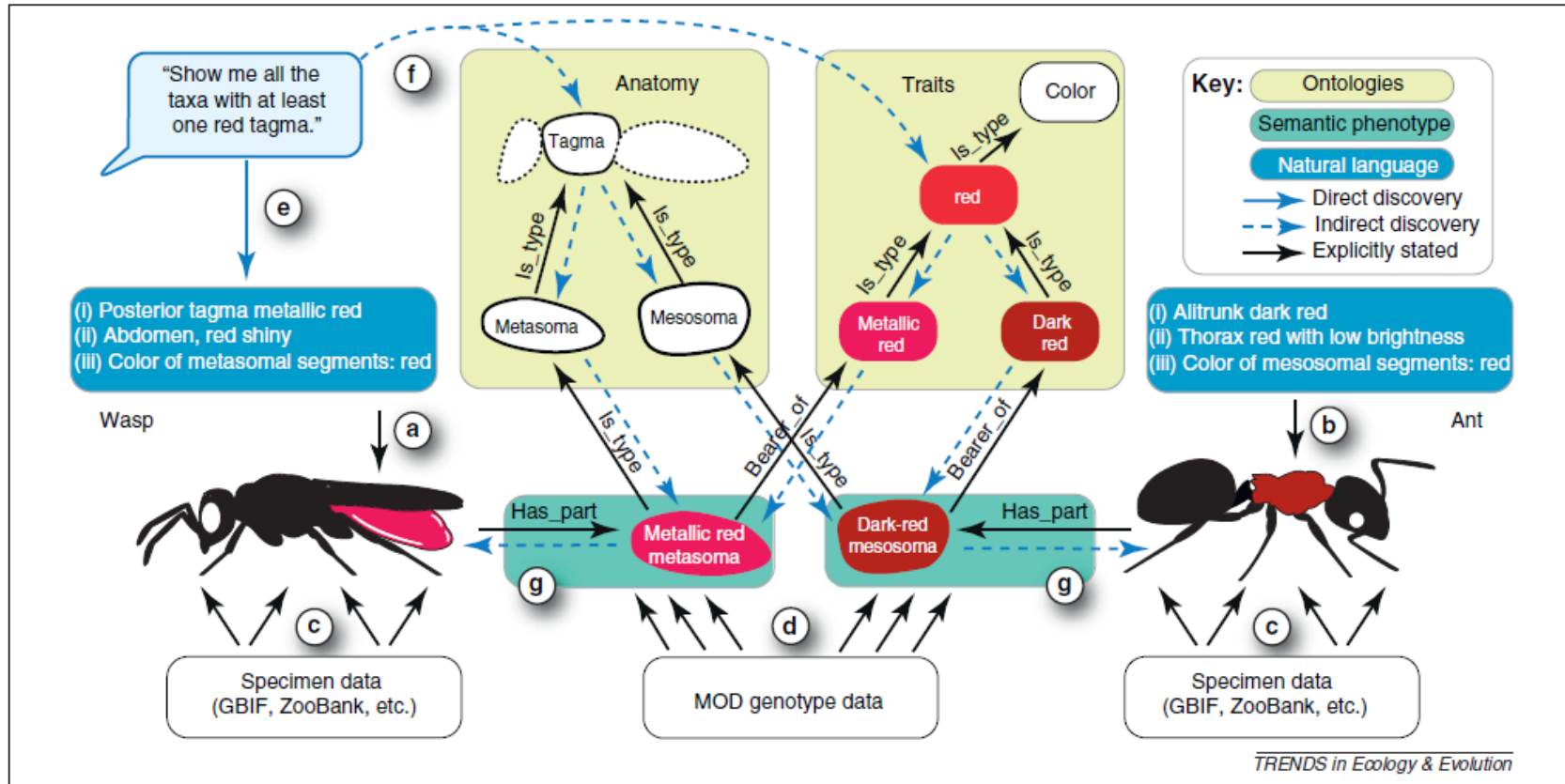
Andrew R. Deans¹, Matthew J. Yoder¹ and James P. Balhoff^{2,3}

¹ Department of Entomology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, USA

² National E

³ Departmer

➔ Semantic Web/
Linked Open Data

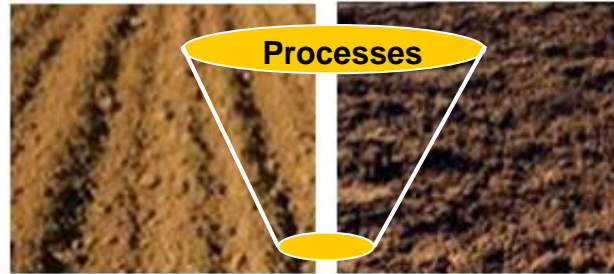


Trait concept – Traits of Geodiversity

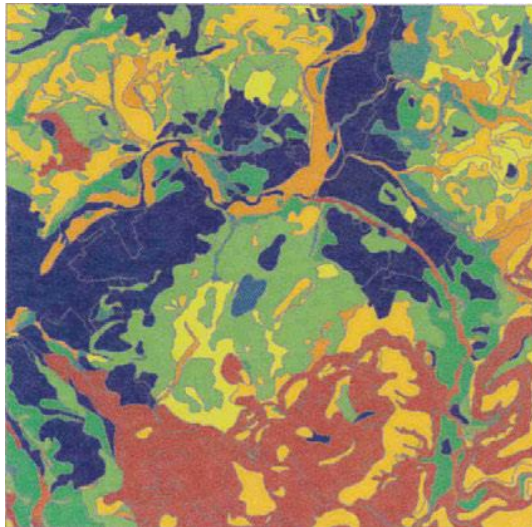
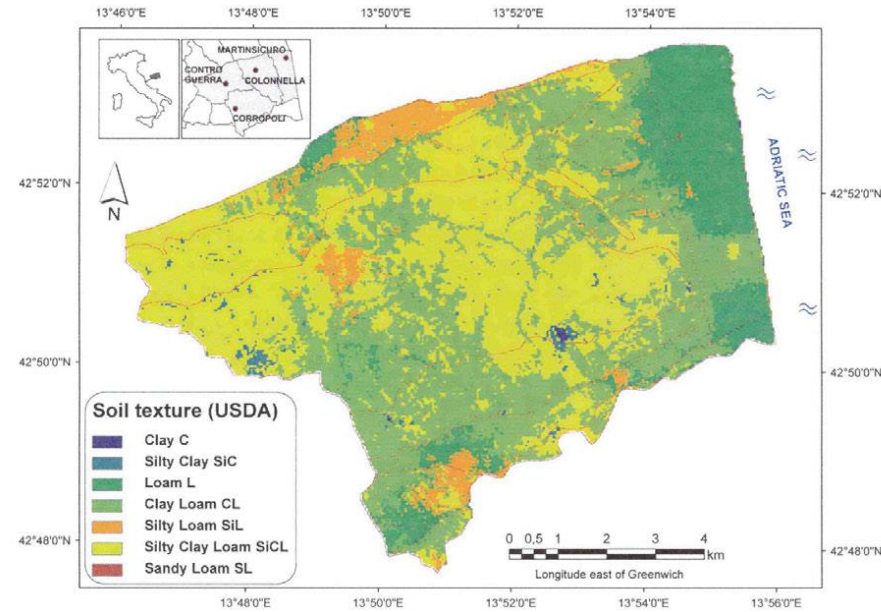
Soil texture



Soil texture



Soil management

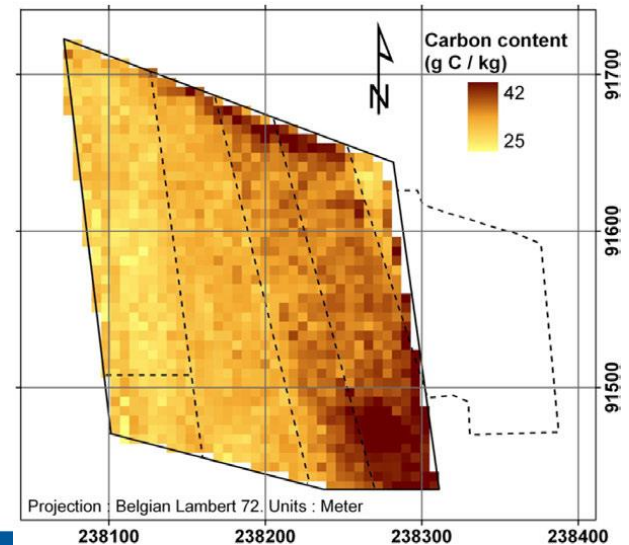


Clay content

Clay content %

- 5 - 10
- 10 - 15
- 15 - 20
- 20 - 25
- 25 - 30
- 30 - 35
- 35 - 40
- 40 - 45
- 45 - 50
- 50 - 55
- 55 - 60

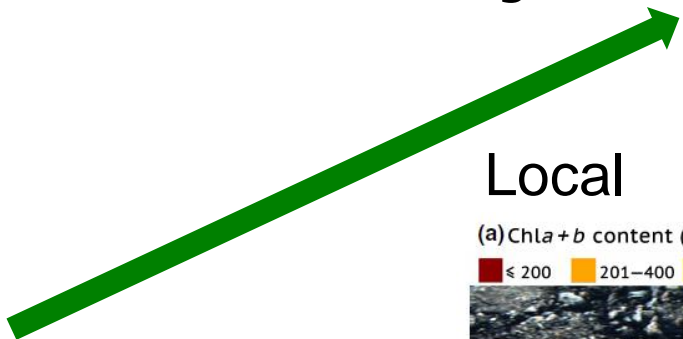
Carbon content



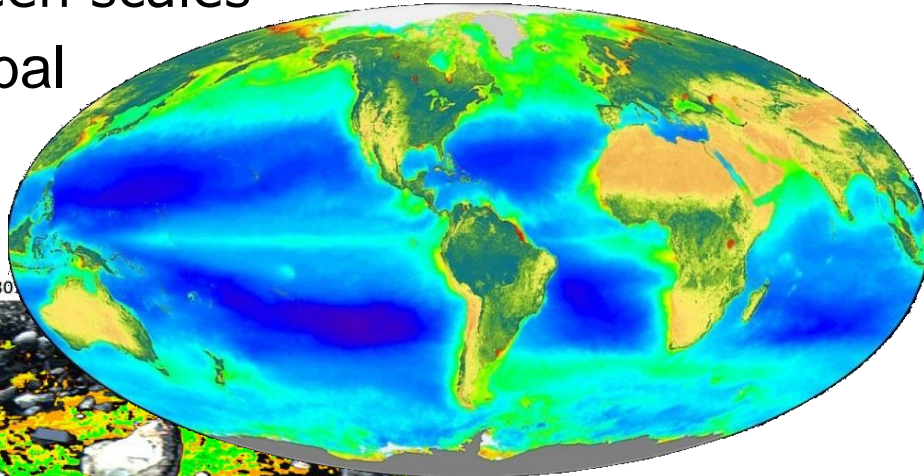
Wulf, H., Mulder, T., Schaepman, M. E., Keller, A., & Jörg, P. (2014). Remote Sensing of Soils. Zurich, Switzerland, 71.

Trait concept - Understanding - Processes – Pattern – Interaction

- Traits → Exist on all spatial and temporal scales
- Important: Linking of traits between scales

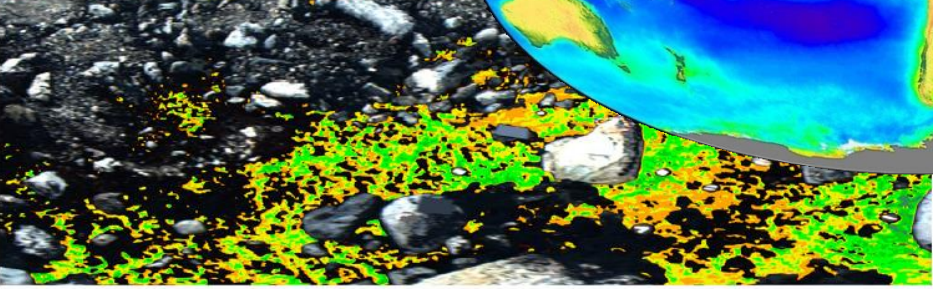


Global



Local

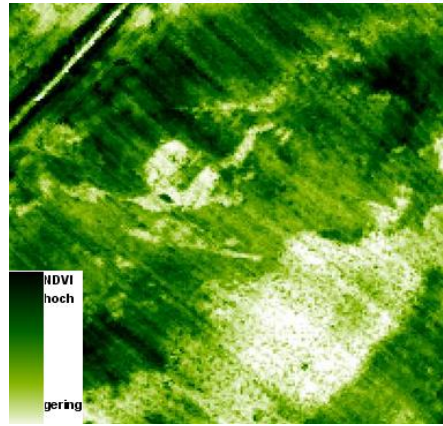
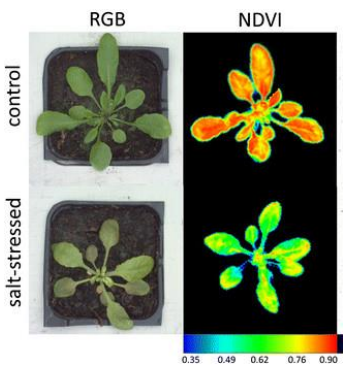
(a) Chl a + b content (nmol g⁻¹ DW)
■ ≤ 200 ■ 201–400 ■ 401–600 ■ 601–800 ■ 801–1000



Plot

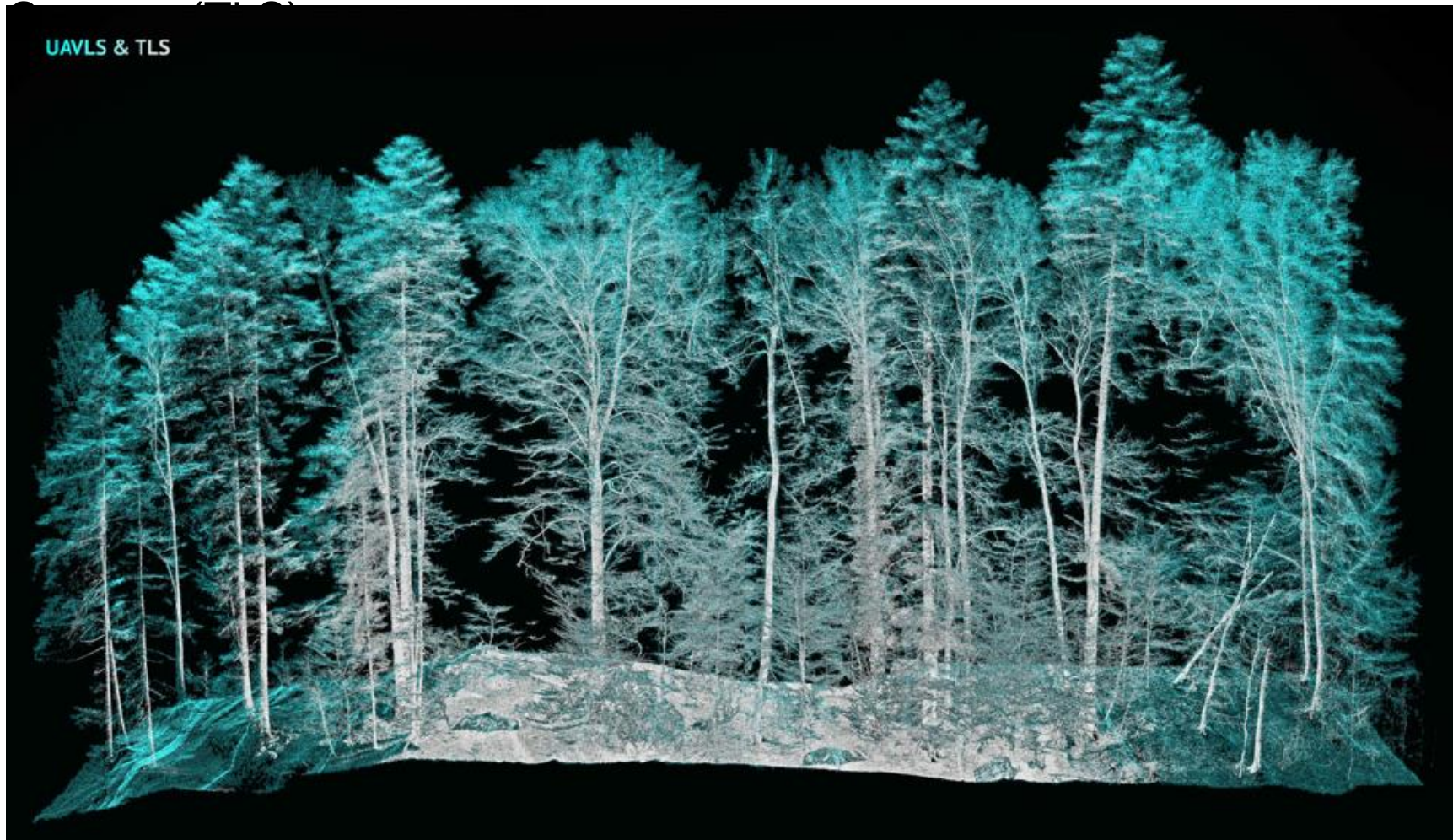
Chlorophyll-Concentration

Individual



Ecosystem health by RS 2-4D Structural Diversity

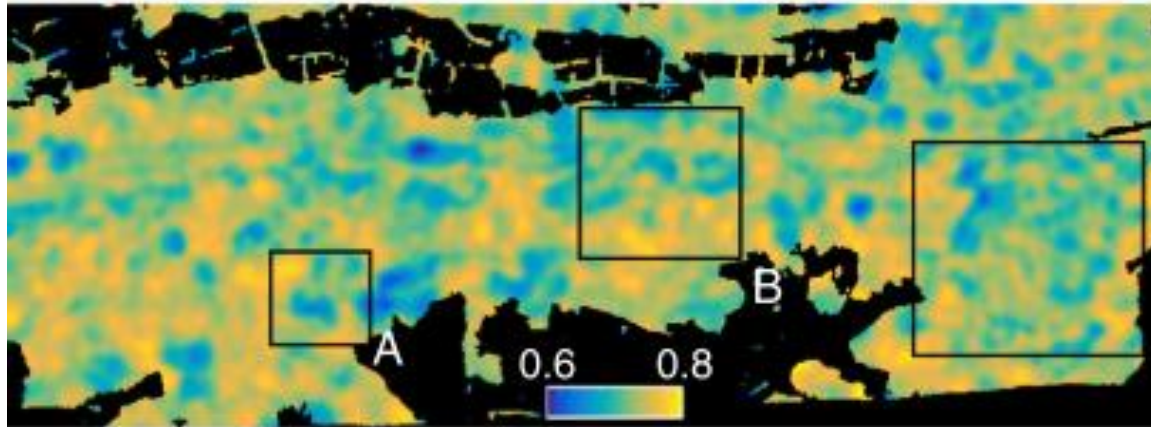
Coupling - Laserscanning (UAVLS) & Terrestrial Laser



Laegeren Forest, Switzerland

Morsdorf, F., Kükenbrink, D., Schneider, F.D., Abegg, M., Schaepman, M.E., 2018. Close-range laser scanning in forests: towards physically based semantics across scales. *Interface Focus* 8, 20170046. doi:10.1098/rsfs.2017.0046

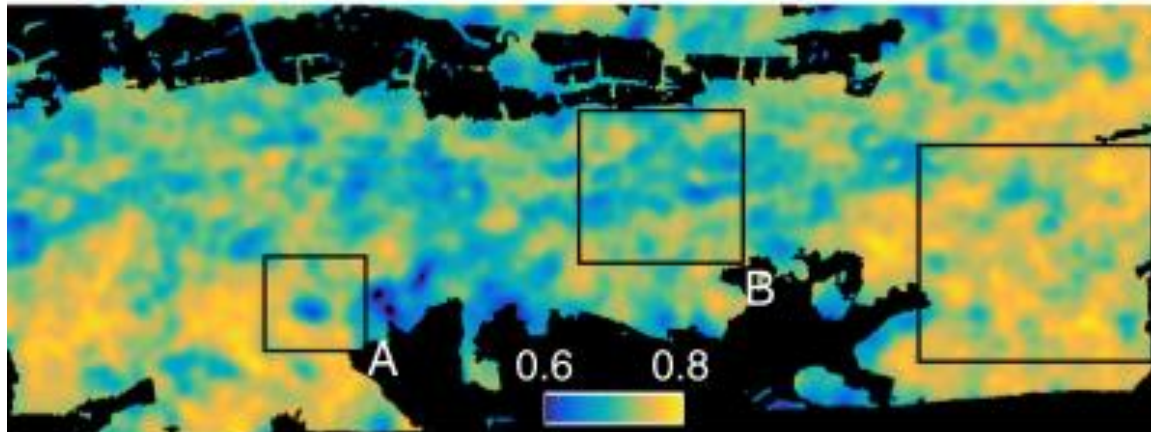
Ecosystem health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity



Morphological forest traits

Plant area index (PAI, blue),
Canopy height (CH, red)
Foliage height diversity (FHD, green)

→ **Morphological Evenness**



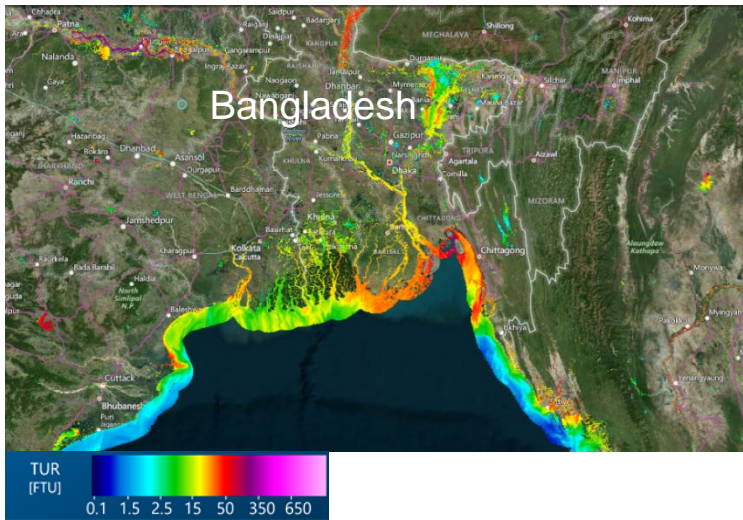
Physiological forest traits

Water thickness (EWT, blue)
Carotenoids (CAR, red)
Chlorophyll (CHL, green)

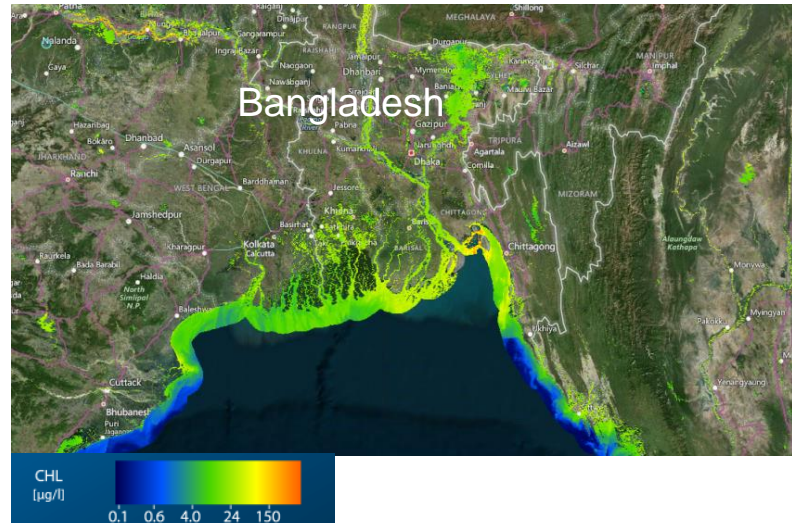
→ **Physiological Evenness**

Ecosystem health by RS – Water characteristics and water quality indicator

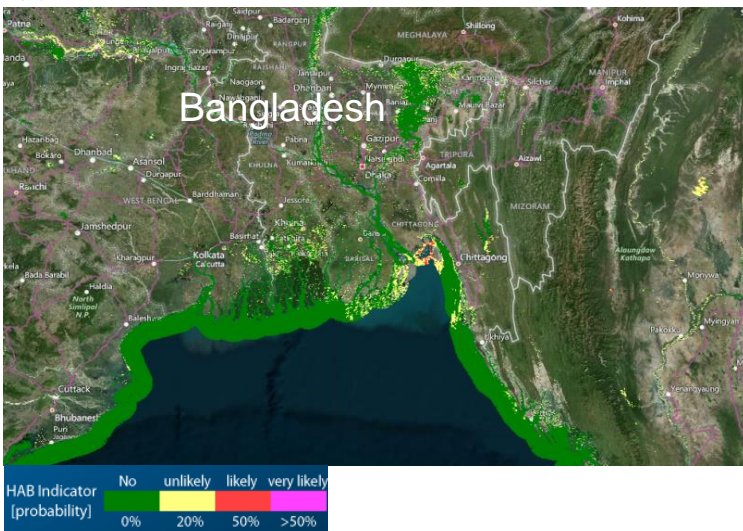
(a)



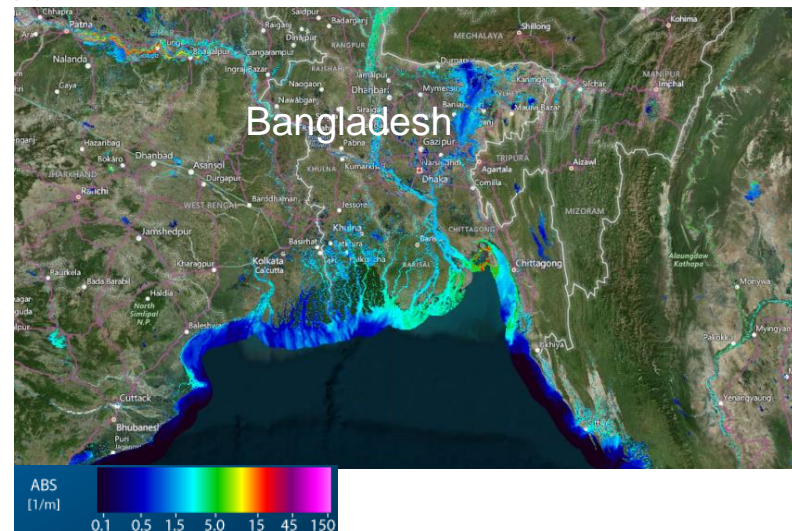
(b)



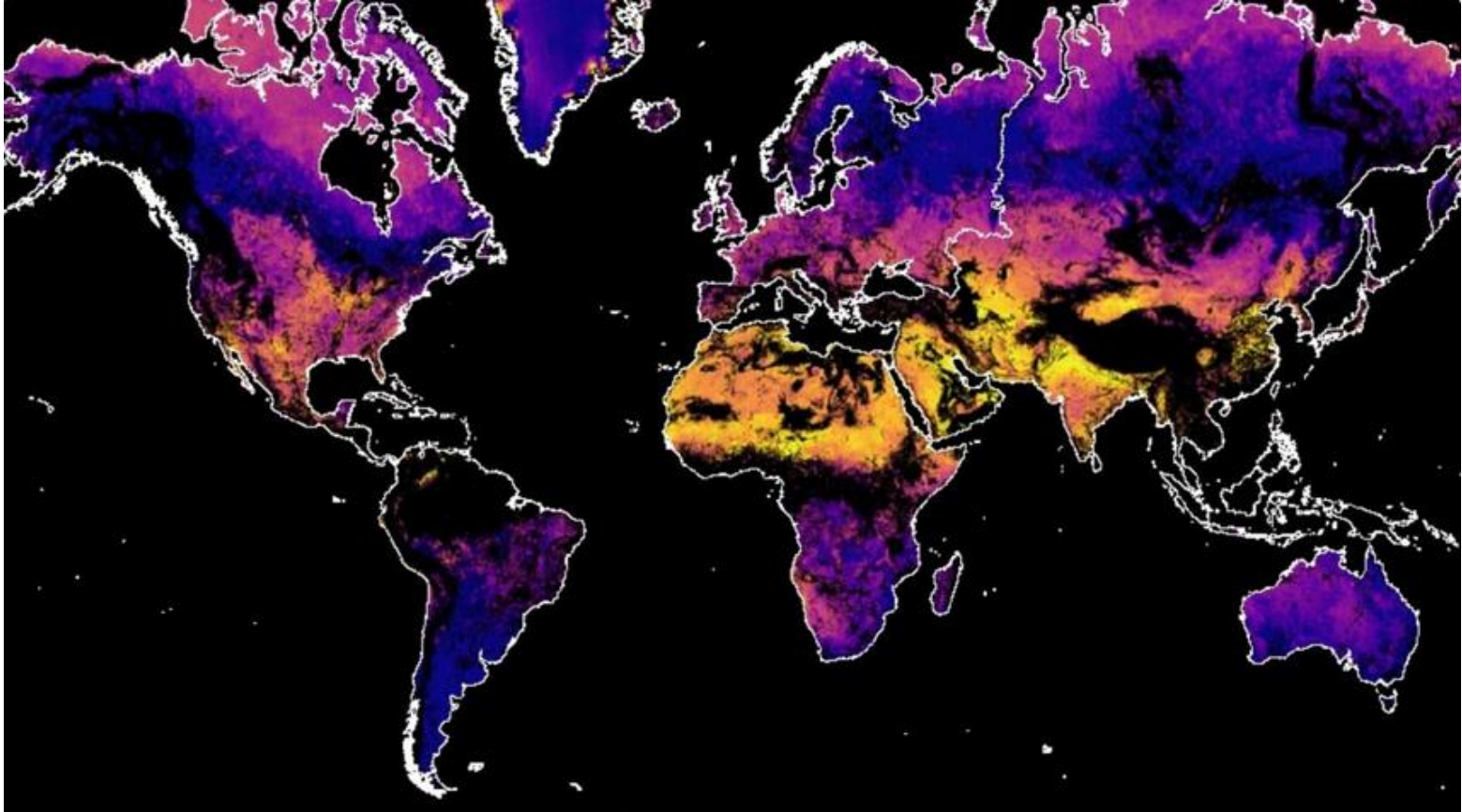
(c)



(d)



Earth Engine's public data archive includes more than forty years of historical imagery and scientific datasets, updated and expanded daily.



Sentinel-5P Methane

Atmospheric methane (CH₄) concentration. After carbon dioxide (CO₂), it is the most important contributor to the anthropogenically enhanced greenhouse effect. It enters Earth's atmosphere through both natural and anthropogenic processes, though the majority is of anthropogenic origin.

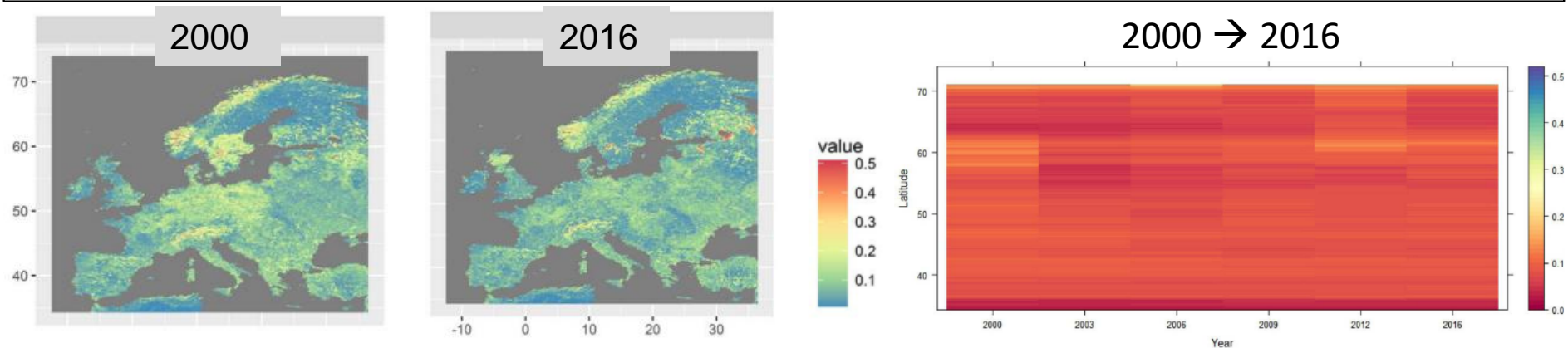
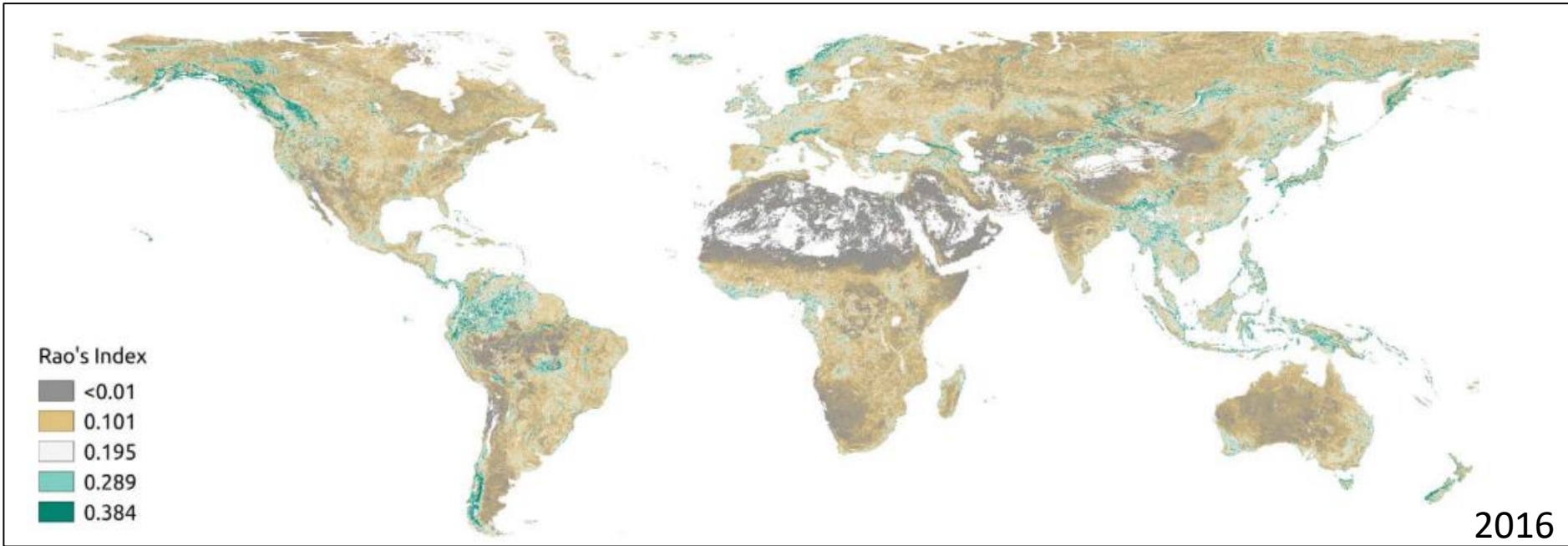
Dataset availability: 2019-02-08 – Present

<https://developers.google.com/earth-engine/datasets>

Ecosystem health by RS – Rao's quadratic diversity metric

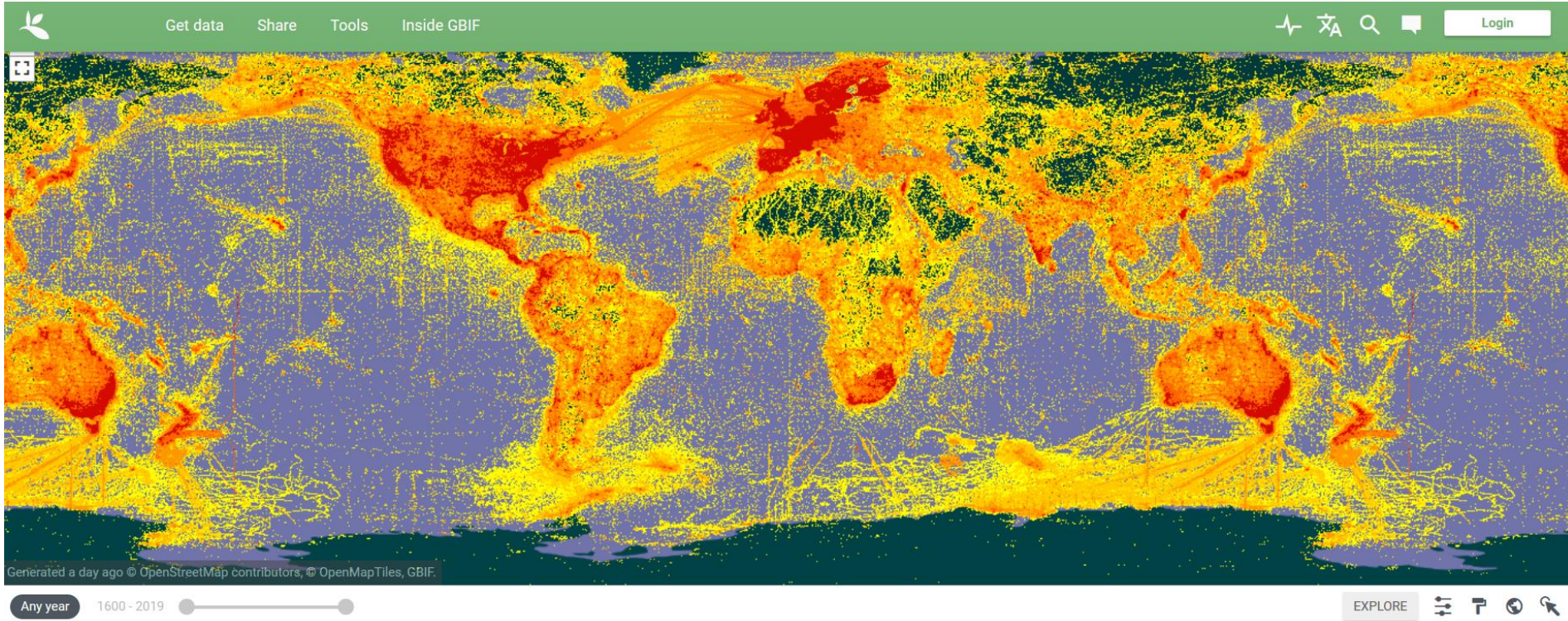
Rao's quadratic diversity metric - NDVI map of the world

2016 - <http://land.copernicus.eu/global/products/ndvi>



Rocchini, D., et al., 2018. Remotely sensed spatial heterogeneity as an exploratory tool for taxonomic and functional diversity study. *Ecol. Indic.* 85, 983–990. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.09.055>

—is an **international network** and research infrastructure funded by the world’s governments and aimed at providing anyone, anywhere, **open access** to data about all types of life on Earth.



GBIF—the Global Biodiversity Information Facility



And what is the problem – in Monitoring Bio- Geodiversity and ESS ?



Spaceborne



Airborne



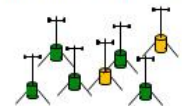
UAV - Drone



Camera trap



Wireless-Sensor-Network (WSN)

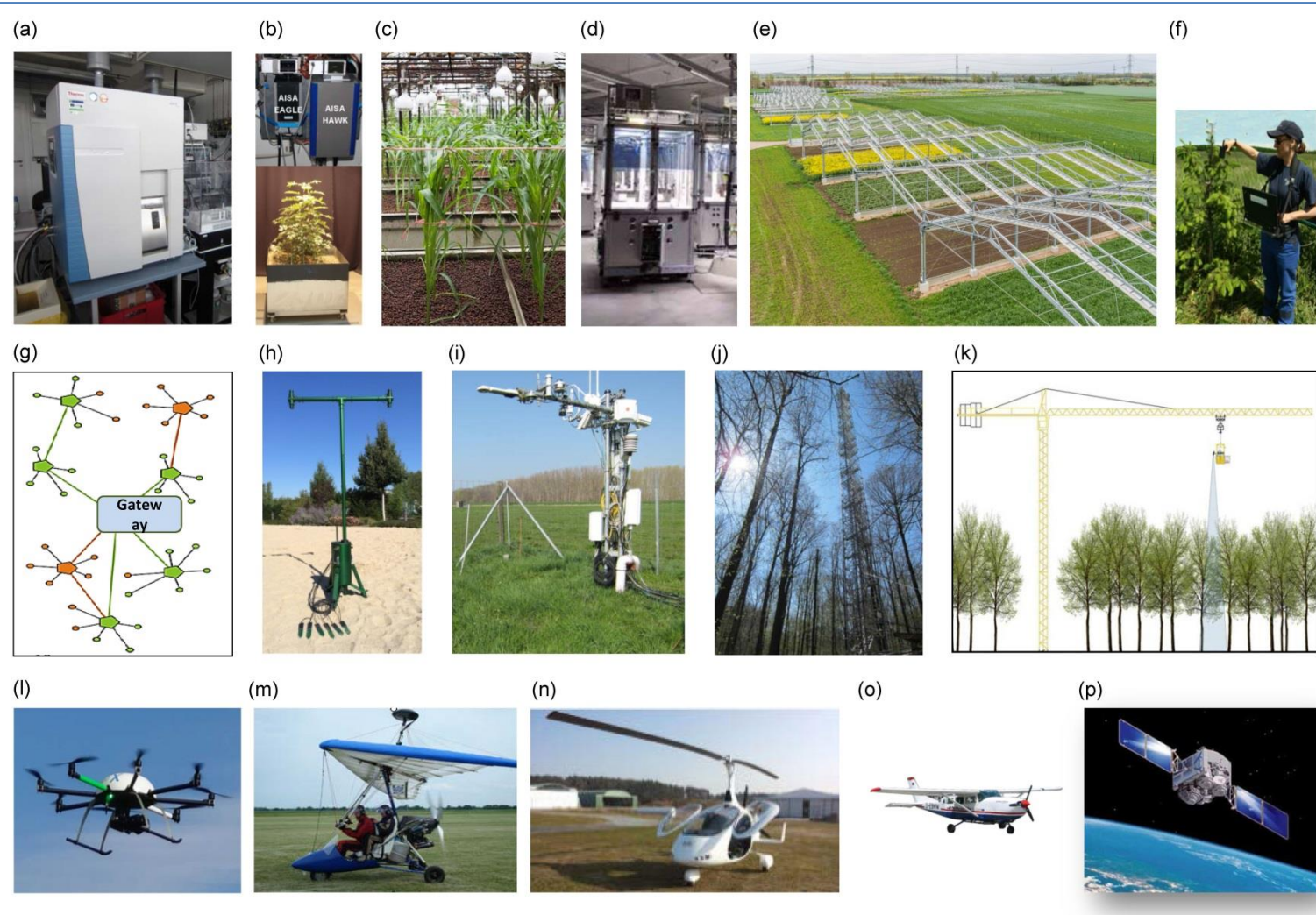


Data Science for Bio-Geodiversity - Challenges

- Landscapes, Ecology, Bio-and Geodiversity, Processes & Functions are:
Complex, multidimensional, multi-scale and mostly non-linear
- **Not one** monitoring approach, monitoring platform, model, space-time scale, tool or data **alone is sufficient to explain the complexity** of landscapes, processes or functions
- We have to look for necessary **requirements** – dealing of **Complexity, Multidimensionality ...**,



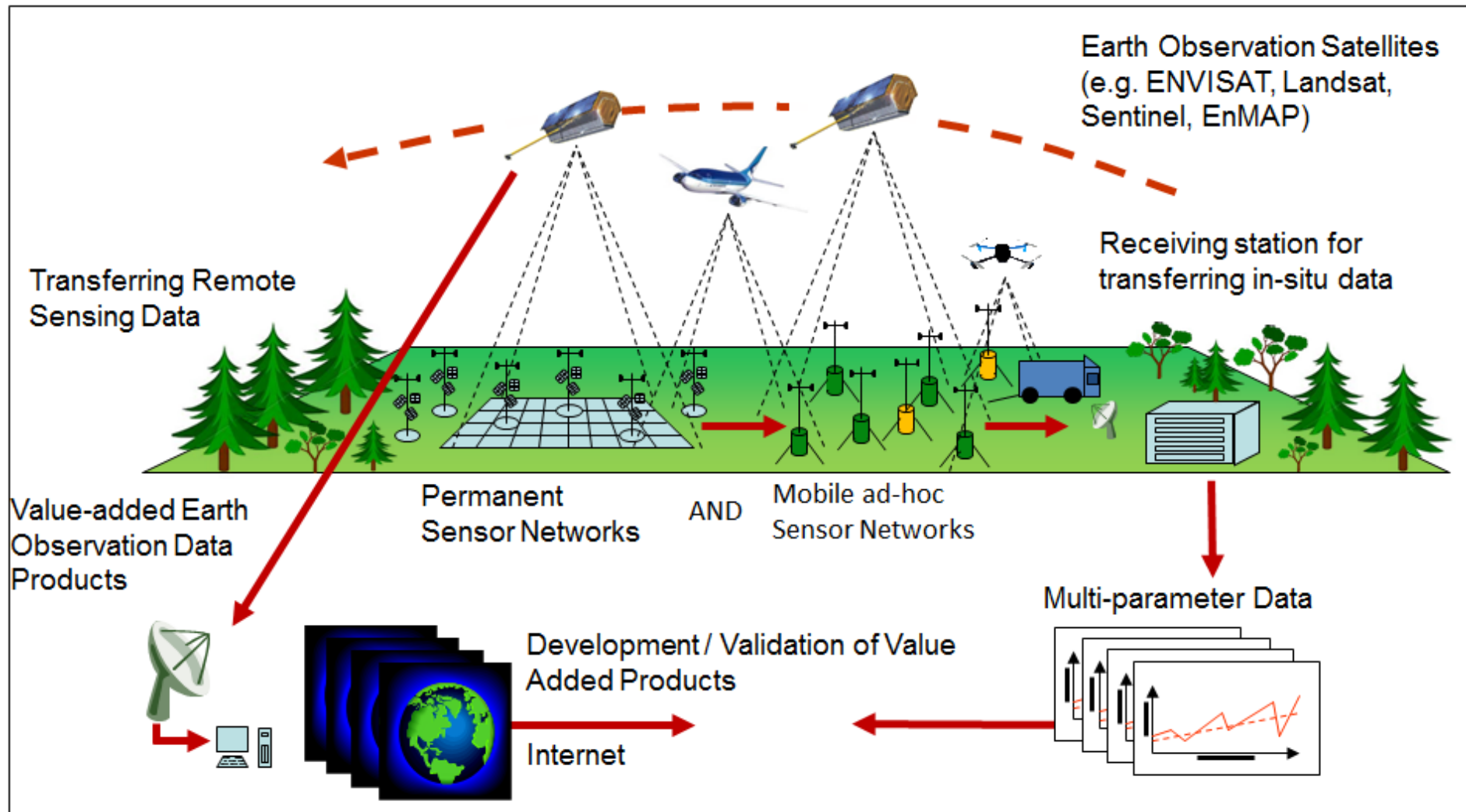
Data Science – Requirement – Remote Sensing



use & couple
different
platforms

Lausch et al., 2020. A range of Earth Observation techniques for assessing plant diversity Jeannine Cavender-Bares, John Gamon, Philip Townsend (eds): *The nature of biodiversity: prospects for remote detection of genetic, phylogenetic, functional and ecosystem components and importance in managing Planet*, Jeannine Cavender-Bares, John Gamon, Philip Townsend, Springer (in press)

Data Science – Requirement – Coupling RS Platforms



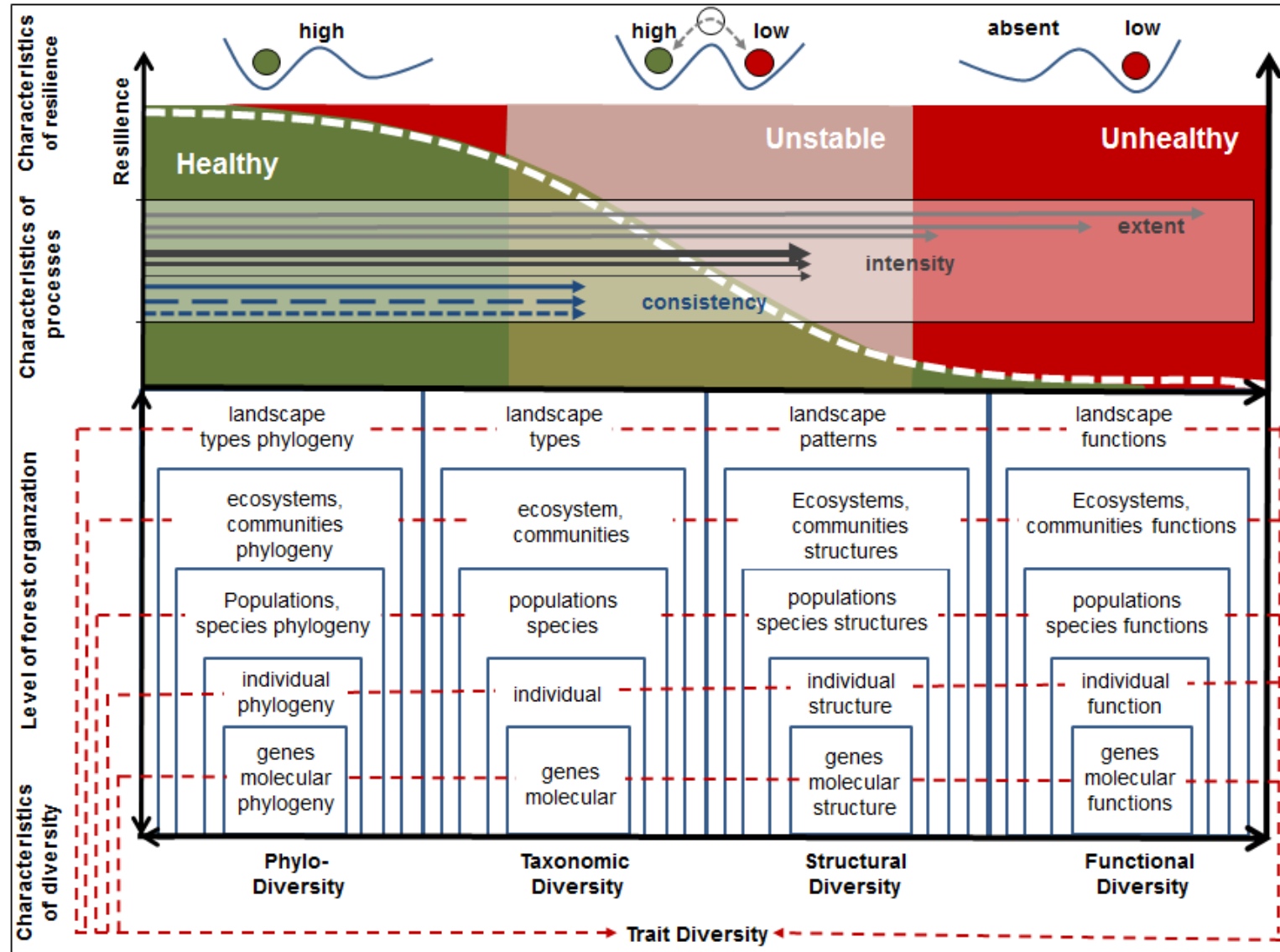
Lausch, A. et al., 2018. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing, Part III: Requirements for a Scalable Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network Based on Data Science Approaches. Remote Sensing, 10, 1120

Approaches, scale, processes → Biodiversity and their resilience

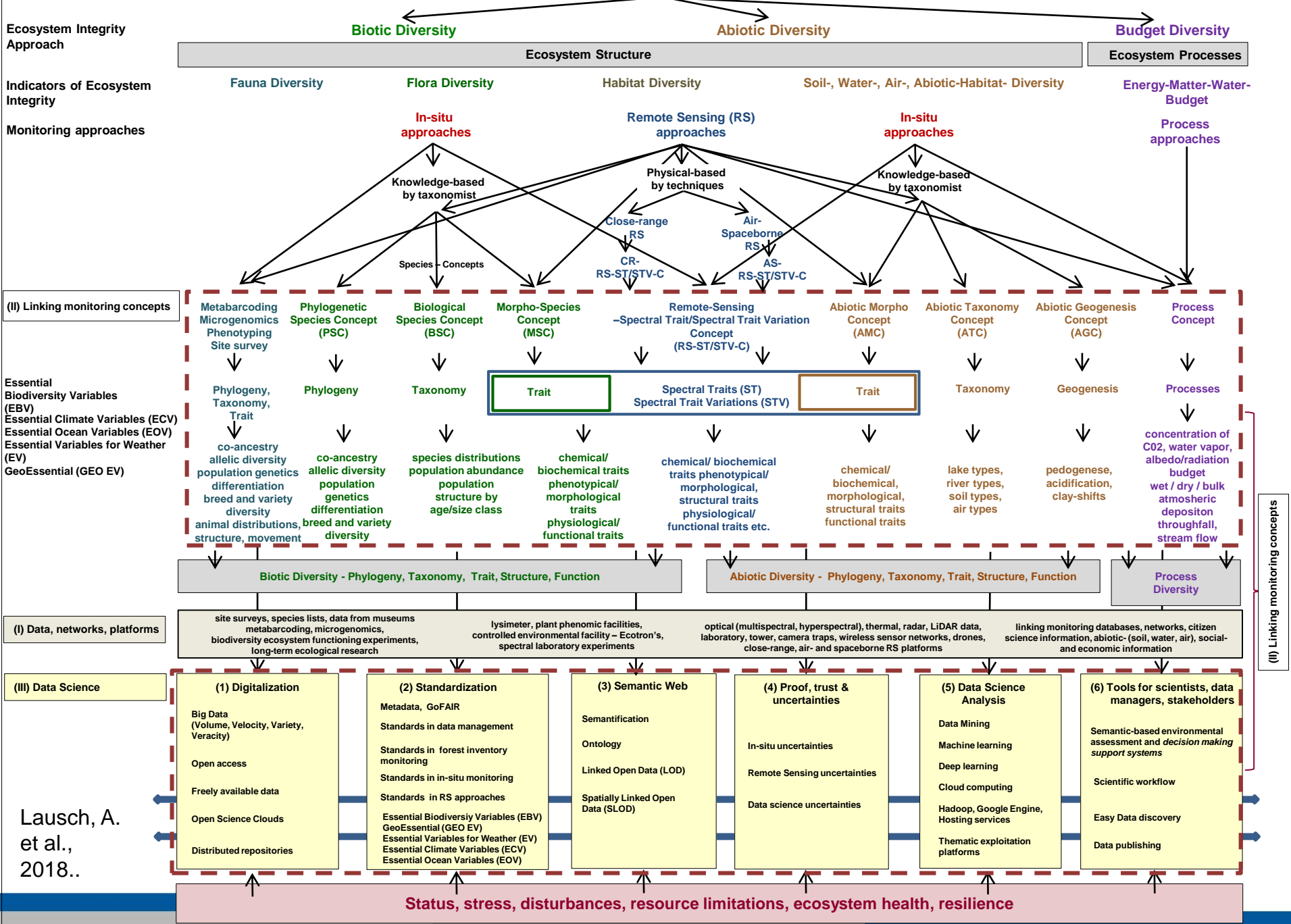
Processes

Scale
(level of organization)

Approaches



Vegetation health Multi-Source Vegetation Health Monitoring Network (MUSO-VH-MN)



Data Science – Challenge - Digitalization

Ecology and Evolution

Open Access

The PREDICTS database: a global database of how local terrestrial biodiversity responds to human impacts

Lawrence N. Hudson^{1*}, Tim Newbold^{2,3*}, Sara Contu¹, Samantha L. L. Hill^{1,2}, Igor Lysenko⁴, Adriana De Palma^{1,4}, Helen R. P. Phillips^{1,4}, Rebecca A. Senior², Dominic J. Bennett⁴, Hollie Booth^{2,5}, Argyrios

Global Change Biology

Global Change Biology (2011) 17, 2905–2935, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2011.02451.x

TRY – a global database of plant traits

J. KATTGE*, S. DÍAZ†, S. LAVOREL‡, I. C. PRENTICE§, P. LEADLEY¶, G. BÖNISCH*,
E. GARNIER|| M. WESTOBY§ P. B. REICH** †† J. L. WRIGHT§ L. H. C. CORNELISSEN††

World database of protected areas (WDPA)

Movebank – For Animal Tracking data
www.movebank.org

Encyclopedia of life (EOL)



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Biological Conservation

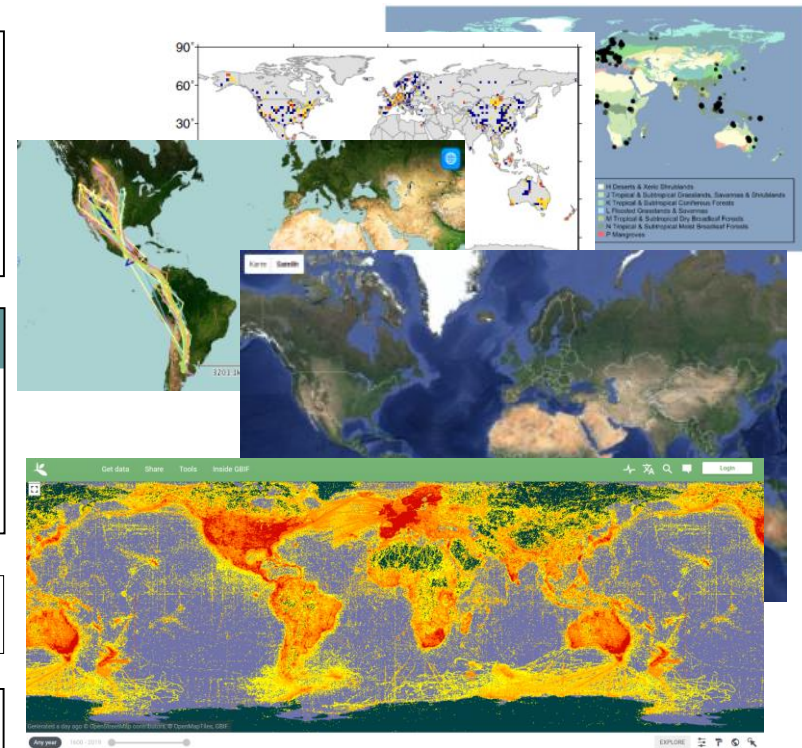
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/biocon

Perspective

Free and open-access satellite data are key to biodiversity conservation



W. Turner^{a,*}, C. Rondinini^b, N. Pettorelli^c, B. Mora^d, A.K. Leidner^{a,e}, Z. Szantoi^f, G. Buchanan^g,



Big Data
Free Data
Open Data
Complex Data



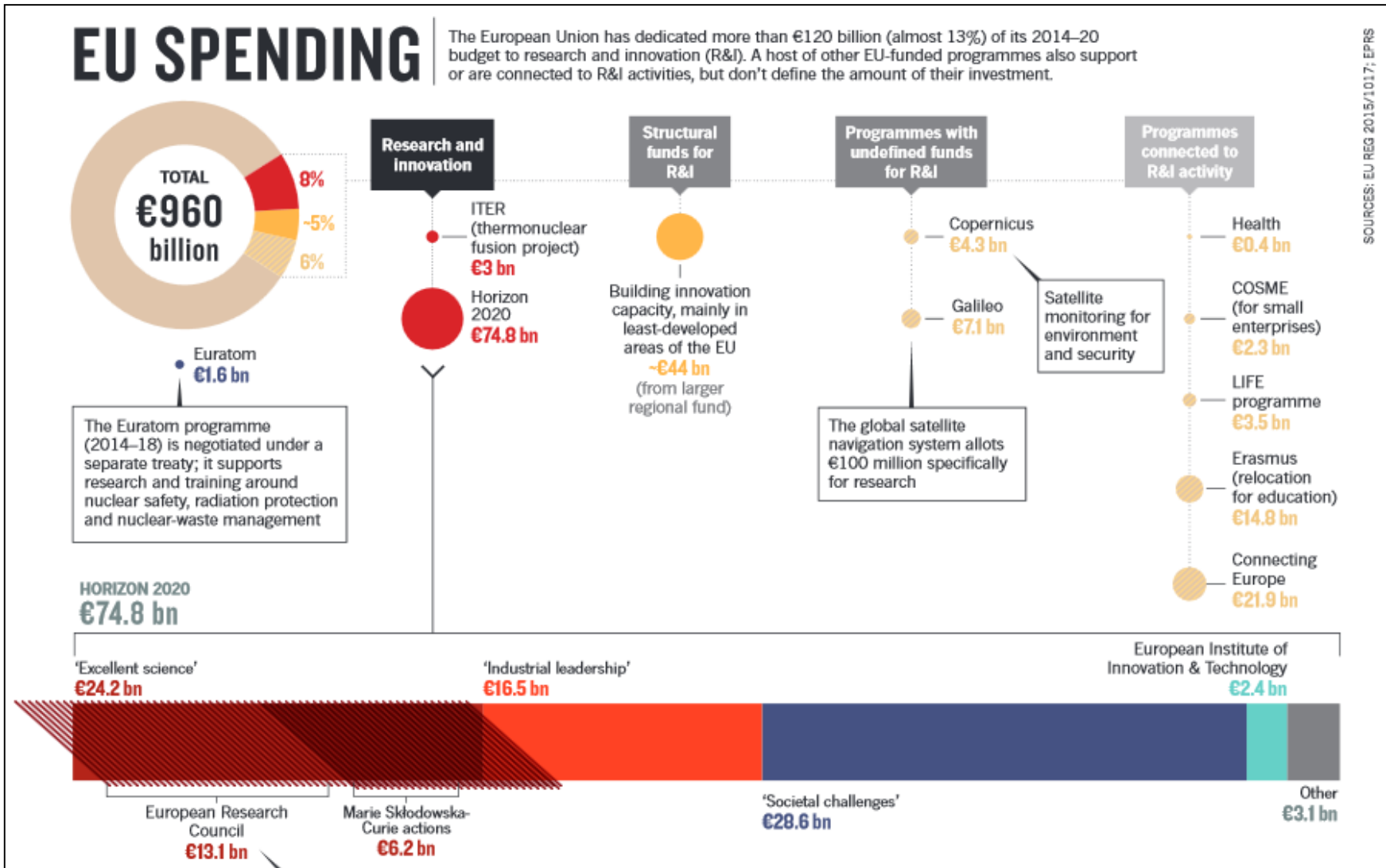
Data Science – Challenge - Digitalization



Roche, D.G., Lanfear, R., Binning, S.A., Haff, T.M., Schwanz, L.E., Cain, K.E., Kokko, H., Jennions, M.D., Kruuk, L.E.B., 2014. Troubleshooting Public Data Archiving: Suggestions to Increase Participation. PLoS Biol. 12. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1001779

Data Science – Challenge - Digitalization

Investitions/EU - Data-Generation 2014-2020 → 120B €



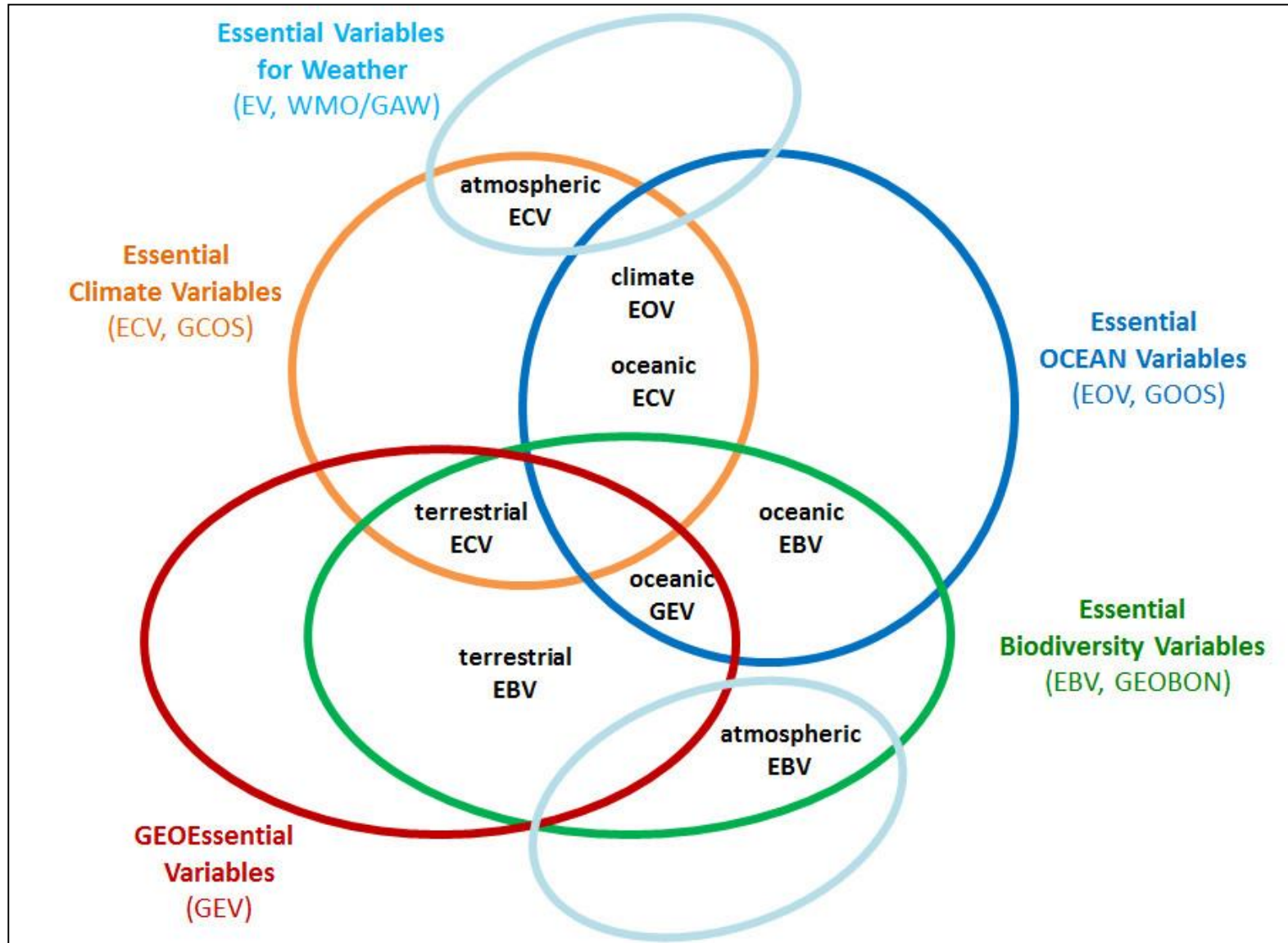
Abbott, A.; Butler, D.; Gibney, E.; Schiermeier, Q.; Van Noorden, R. Boon or burden: done for science? Nature 2016, 534, 307–309.

Although **90%** of the world's data was generated over **two years**, around

→ “**50%** of all research and experiment data (= US\$28B/year) **are never found again !**

→ and over **80%** of it never makes it to a trusted and sustainable repository” (Ayrís et al., 2016)

Data Science – Standardization in Monitoring



Data Science – Requirement – Metadata/Data - FAIR

Box 2 | The FAIR Guiding Principles

To be Findable:

- F1. (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- F2. data are described with rich metadata (defined by R1 below)
- F3. metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
- F4. (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

To be Accessible:

- A1. (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communication protocol
 - A1.1 the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
 - A1.2 the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
- A2. metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

To be Interoperable:

- I1. (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- I2. (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- I3. (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

To be Reusable:

- R1. meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
 - R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
 - R1.2. (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance
 - R1.3. (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards



Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable

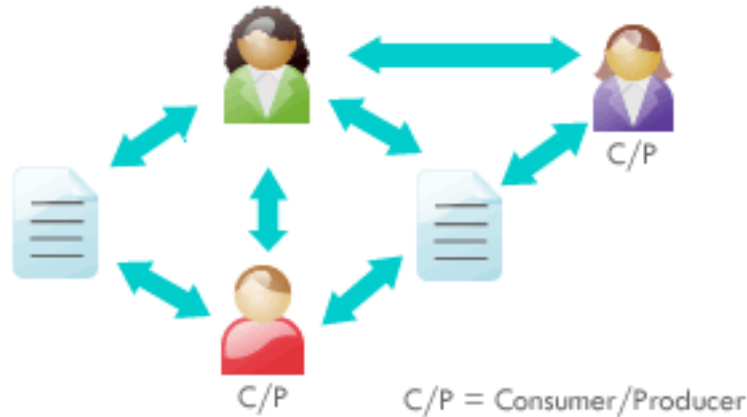
Wilkinson, M.D., Dumontier, M., Aalversberg, I.J., Appleton, G., Axton, M., 2016. Comment : The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. Nat. Commun. 3:160018, 1–9.

Data Science – Requirement - Semantification

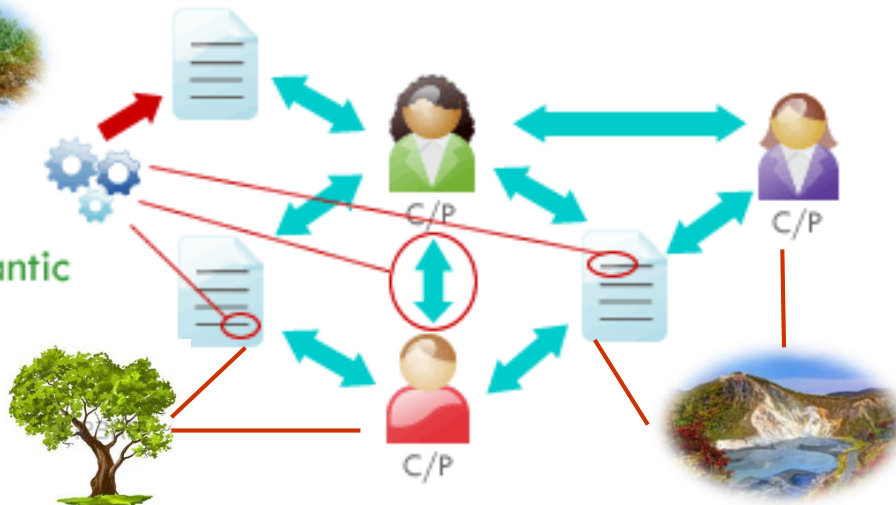
Web 1.0



Web 2.0



The Semantic Web



Semantic Web / Linked Open Data

Handling:

➤ Complex-Data

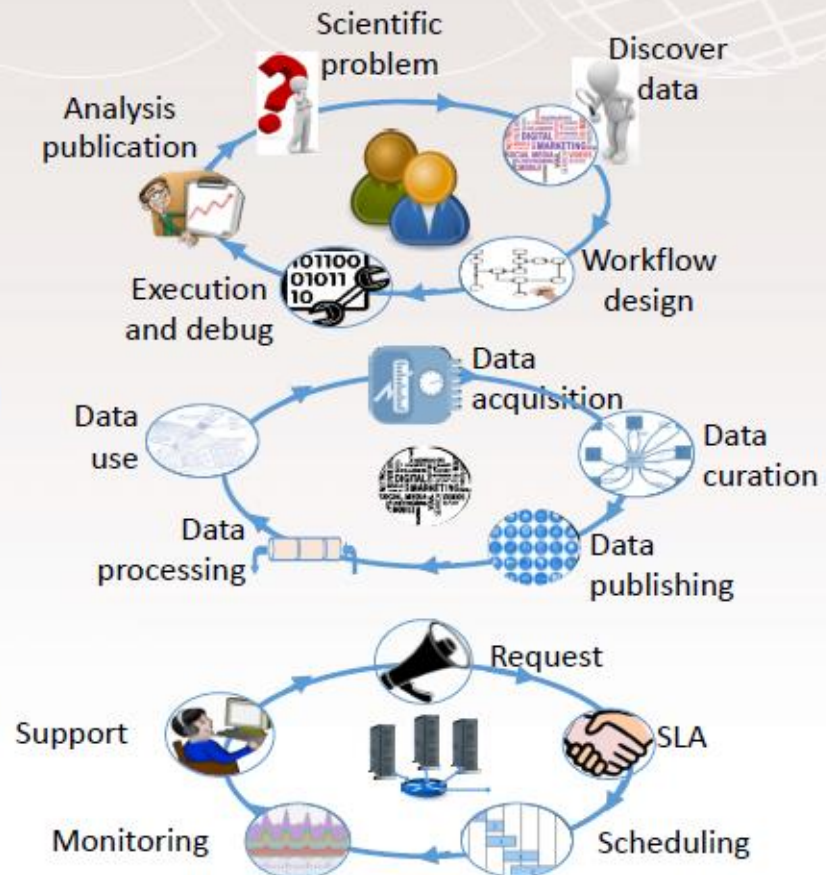
Data Science – Requirements

– Information Management



Environmental Research
Infrastructures Providing Shared
Solutions for Science and Society

- **Need to** support user centered research activities
- **Need to** manage data in its lifecycle
- **Need to** manage infrastructure resources, e.g., computing, storage and networks



Data Science – Requirements

Coupling to the Research infrastructure in environmental and earth sciences

<http://www.envriplus.eu/>



Environmental Research
Infrastructures Providing Shared
Solutions for Science and Society



Data Science – Requirements – for ESS

- **Good Indicators** for ESS, environmental changes, stress & disturbances
- **Coupling in-situ and RS approaches**
- **Digitalization**

(Big Data (Volume, Velocity, Variety, Veracity), Open Access, Freely available data, Open Science Clouds, Distributed repositories, TEP – Thematic Exploitation Platform – ESA)

- **Comparable Data and Data bases**

(Google Engine, GBIF—the Global Biodiversity Info Copernicus RS Data, DEM

- **Standardization**

(Metadata, GoFAIR, Concept of Essential Variables

- **Semantification**

(Semantic Web/Web 4.0, Ontology; Linked Open Da

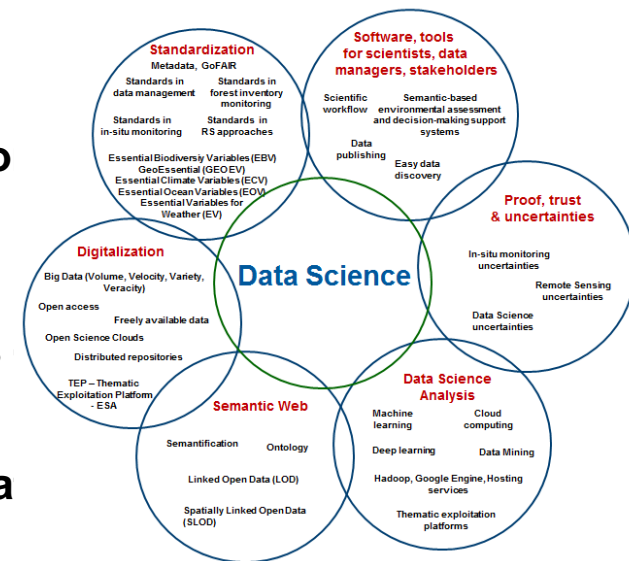
- **Data Science Analysis**

(Machine Learning, Deep learning, Cloud Computing, Data Mining, Hadoop, Google Engine, Hosting services)

- **Proof, trust & uncertainties**

(In-situ monitoring, Remote Sensing & Data Science uncertainties)

- **Easy software, tools for data manager, stakolders & for politics**



Lausch, A. et al., 2018..
Remote Sensing

Lausch, A., Schmidt, A., Tischendorf, L., **2015**. Data mining and linked open data – New perspectives for data analysis in environmental research. *Ecol. Modell.* 295, 5–17. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2014.09.018>

Lausch, A. et al., **2016**. Linking Earth Observation and taxonomic, structural and functional biodiversity: Local to ecosystem perspectives. *Ecol. Indic.* doi:10.1016/j.ecolind.2016.06.022

Lausch, A., et al., **2016**. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing -Part I—A Review of Spectral Traits, Processes and Remote-Sensing Characteristics. *Remote Sens.* 2016, Vol. 8, Page 1029 8, 1029. doi:10.3390/RS8121029

Lausch, A., et al., **2017**. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing-Part II—A Review of Approaches and Data Models. *Remote Sens.* 9, 129. doi:10.3390/rs9020129

Lausch, A. et al., **2018**. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing, Part III: Requirements for a Scalable Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network Based on Data Science Approaches. *Remote Sensing*, 10, 1120; doi:10.3390/rs10071120.

Lausch, A. et al., **2018**. Understanding and assessing vegetation health by in-situ species and remote sensing approaches. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 00: 1–11. doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13025.

Lausch, A. et al., **2019**. Linking Remote Sensing and Geodiversity and Their Traits Relevant to Biodiversity—Part I: Soil Characteristics. *Remote Sens.* 11, 2356. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs11202356>



Monitoring Bio- Geodiversity and Ecosystem health by Traits, Remote Sensing (RS) and Data Science approaches

Thank you for your attention !



Spaceborne



Airborne



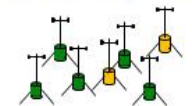
UAV - Drone



Camera trap



Wireless-Sensor-Network (WSN)



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Geodiversity

Lausch, A. et al., 2019.
Remote Sensing

Remote Sensing (RS) approaches

In-situ approaches

Physically based (technologies)

Expert knowledge based

Close-Range RS

Air-/Spaceborne RS

Remote-Sensing - Spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (RS-ST/STV-C)

Close-Range-Remote-Sensing - Spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (CR-RS-ST/STV-C)

Air- and Spaceborne Remote-Sensing - Spectral Trait/Spectral Trait Variation Concept (AS-RS-ST/STV-C)

anorganic/organic elements/compounds, minerals/texture, aggregate, layer/horizon, geotope (morphotope, pedotope, climatope, hydrotape), geochores (microchores, mesochores, macrochores, megachores), georegion, zone, geosphere, landscapes

Geo-Trait (Morpho) Concept (GTC)

Geo-Taxonomic Concept (GTaxC)

Geo-Structural Concept (GSC)

Geo-Functional Concept (GFC)

Geo-Genesis Concept (GGC)

Geo-Traits

Geo-Taxonomy

Geo-Structures/Patterns

Geo-Functions

Geo-Genesis

Spectral Traits (ST)
Spectral Trait Variations (STV)

Geo-Traits

bio-/geo-chemical, bio-/geo-optical, chemical, physical, morphological structural, textural, functional traits

Discrimination of minerals, geotypes, geotopes, geochores, georegion, zones, geospheres

Geo-Trait Diversity (Geo-Spectranometric approach)

Geo-Genesis Diversity

Geo-Functional Diversity

Geo-Structural Diversity

Geo-Taxonomic Diversity

elements, minerals, molecules
bio-/geo-chemical/ bio-/geo-optical/ chemical, physical, morphological structural, textural, functional traits and others

minerals, clay, sand soil, lake, river type, and others

composition, configuration, landforms, ridges, slopes, texture, spurs, peaks, hollows, valleys river length, lakes areal, structure type and others

vertical, lateral sorption, dissolution functions trophic-levels, and others

pedogenesis, acidification, clay illuvation, humification, salinization, and others

Geo-Trait Diversity

Geo-Genesis Diversity

Geo-Taxonomic Diversity

Geo-Structural Diversity

Geo-Functional Diversity

Status, Processes, Stress, Disturbances & Resource Limitations