Deep Learning in Remote Sensing

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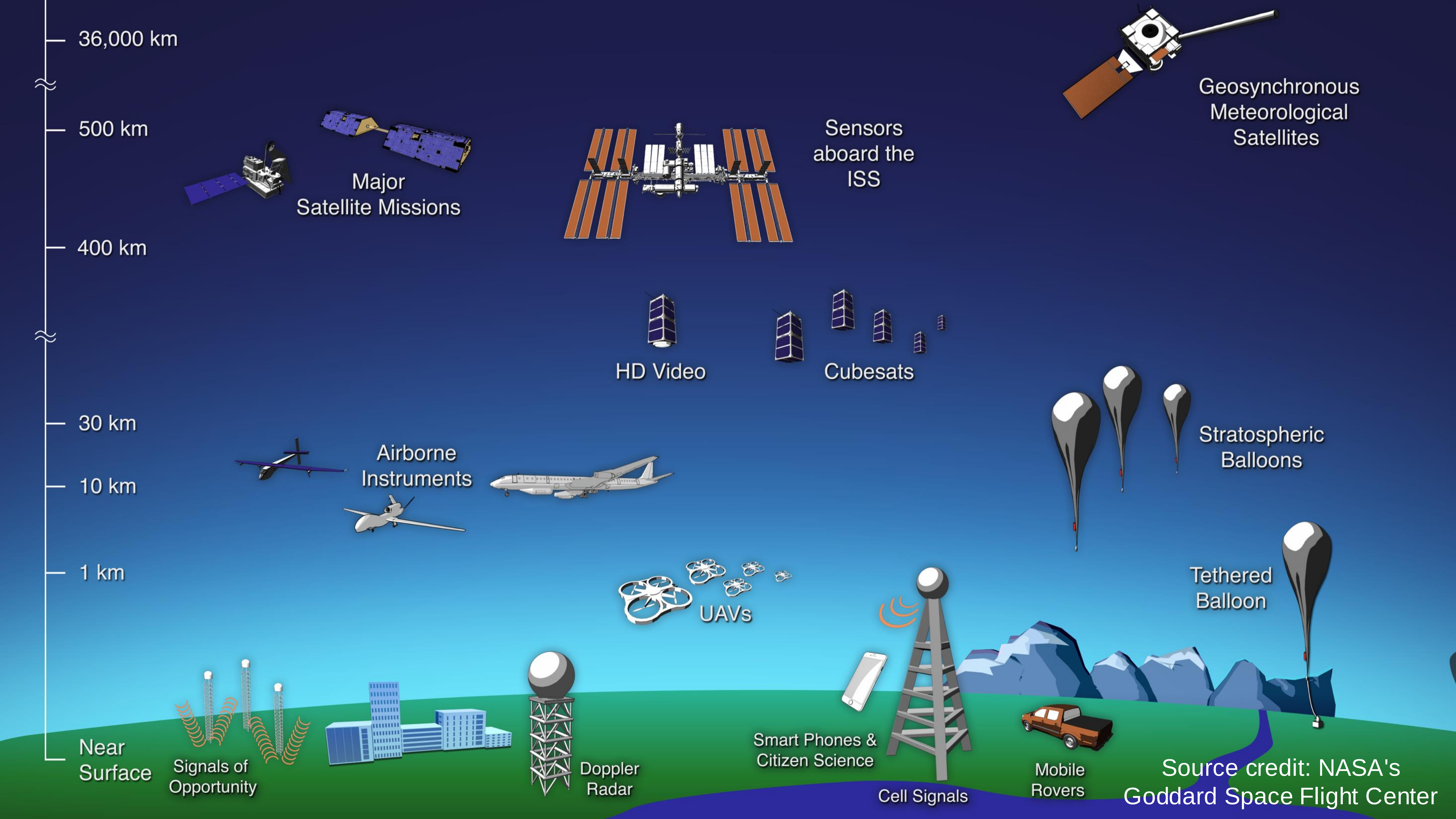
Computer Vision Laboratory
Department of Electrical Engineering
Linköping University

Sensing without physical contact

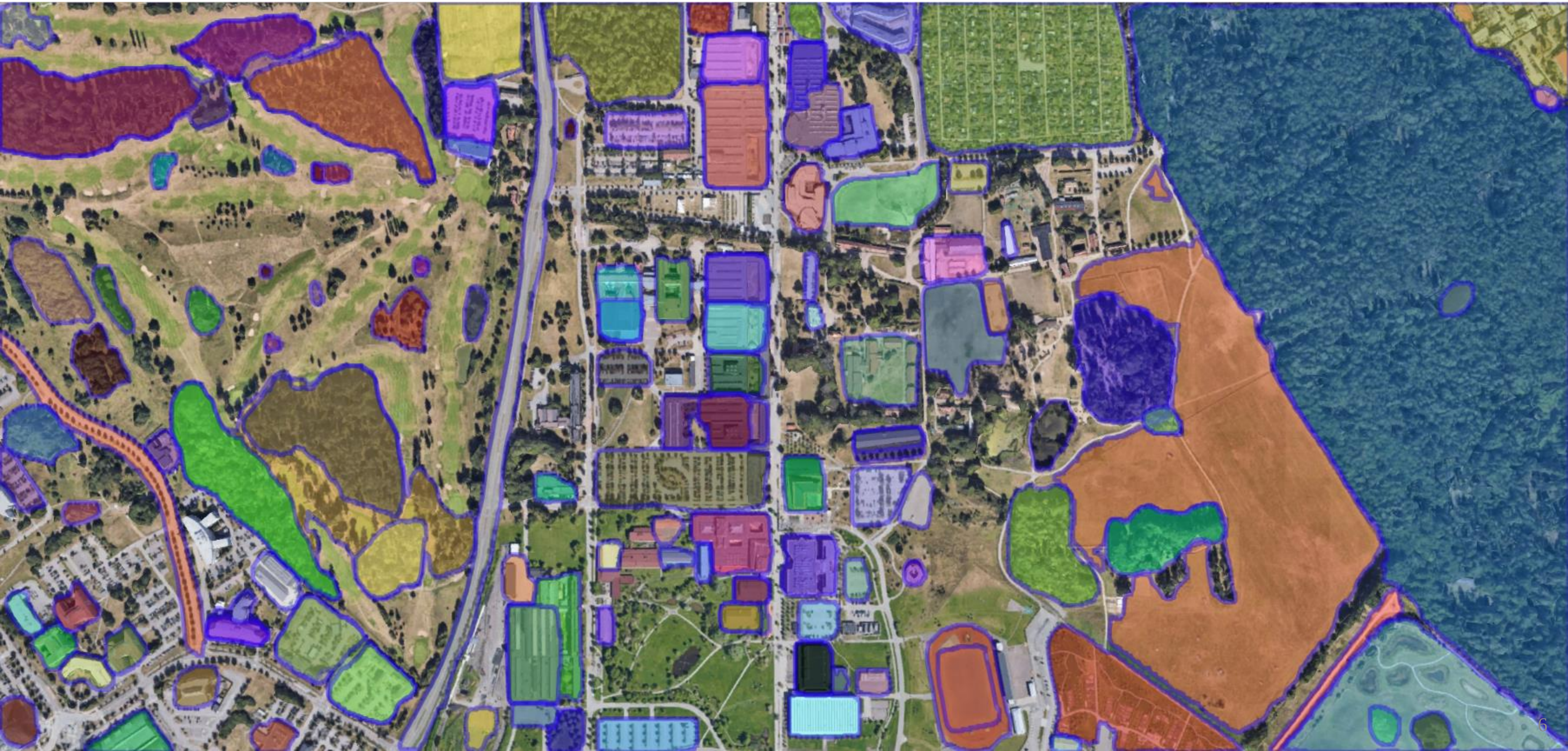
Source credit: ESA


36,000 km
500 km
400 km
30 km
10 km
1 km
Near Surface
Major Satellite Missions
Sensors aboard the ISS
Geosynchronous Meteorological Satellites
HD Video
Cubesats
Airborne Instruments
Stratospheric Balloons
Tethered Balloon
UAVs
Signals of Opportunity
Doppler Radar
Smart Phones & Citizen Science
Cell Signals
Mobile Rovers
Source credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center


Middelgrunden, Denmark
1984
Google Earth Timelapse

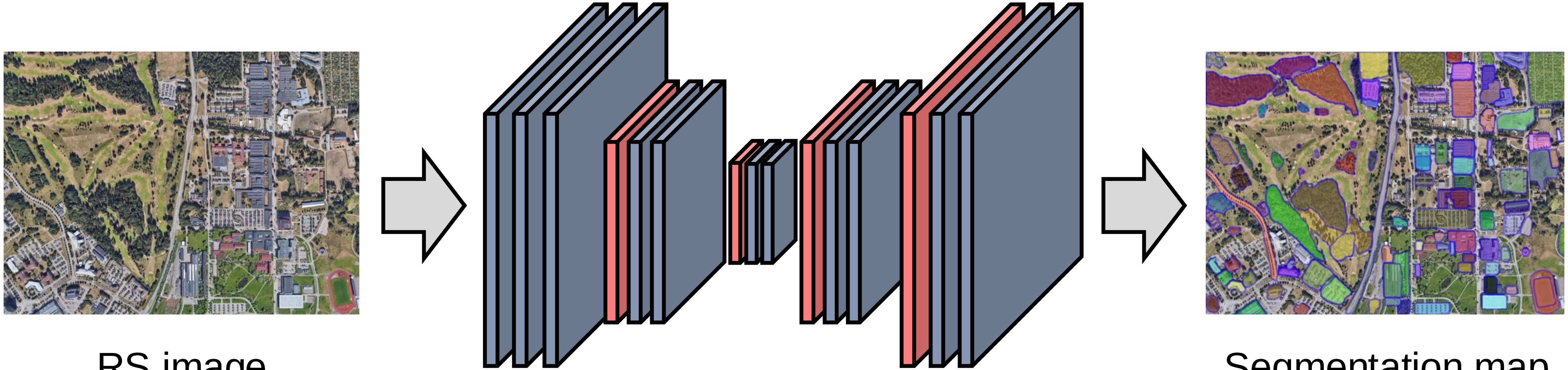
From Data to Information

Land Cover Mapping



AI-Driven Remote Sensing Data Interpretation

- Data in and insights out



RS image

Segmentation map

Deep neural network

AI-Driven Remote Sensing Data Interpretation

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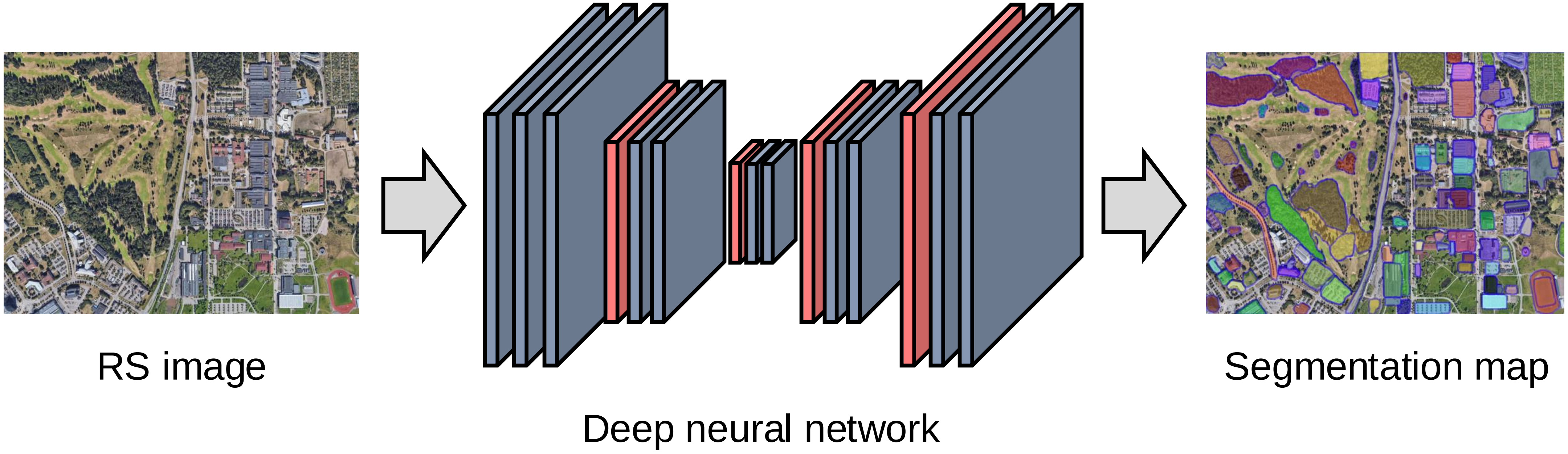


- Challenge

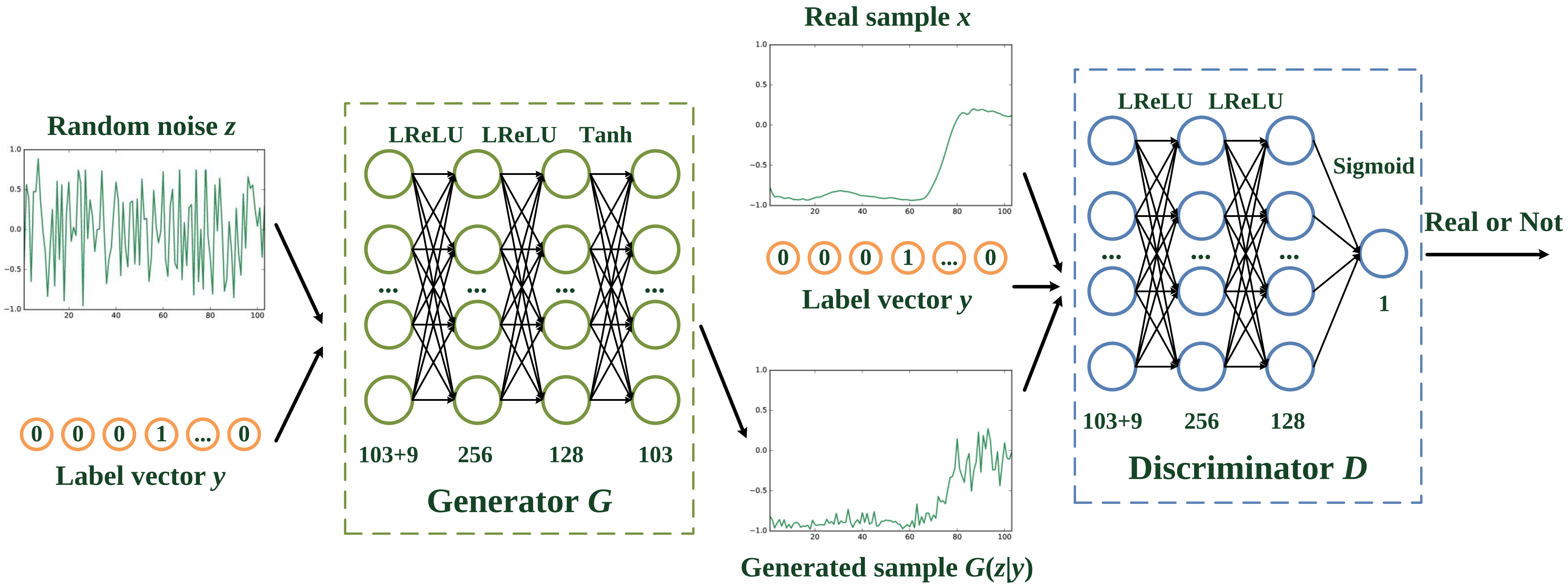
Deep neural networks are **data-hungry**

The collection of high-quality annotations is **time-consuming**!

Unsupervised Learning

- Spectrum data synthesis with GAN

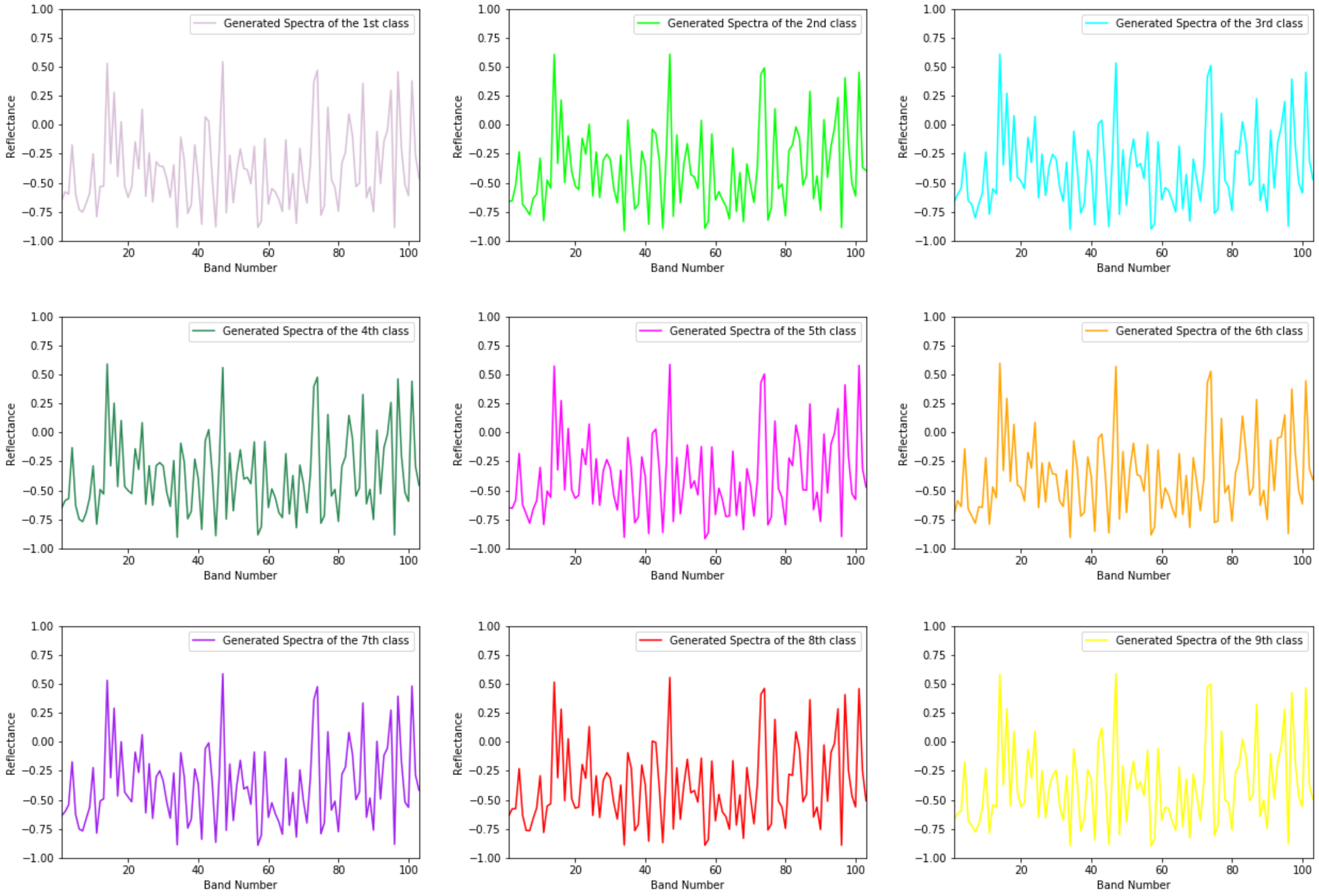
$$\min_G \max_D V(D,G) = \mathrm{E}_{x\sim p_x(x)} \log D(x|y) + \mathrm{E}_{z\sim p_z(z)} \log(1 - D(G(z|y)))$$

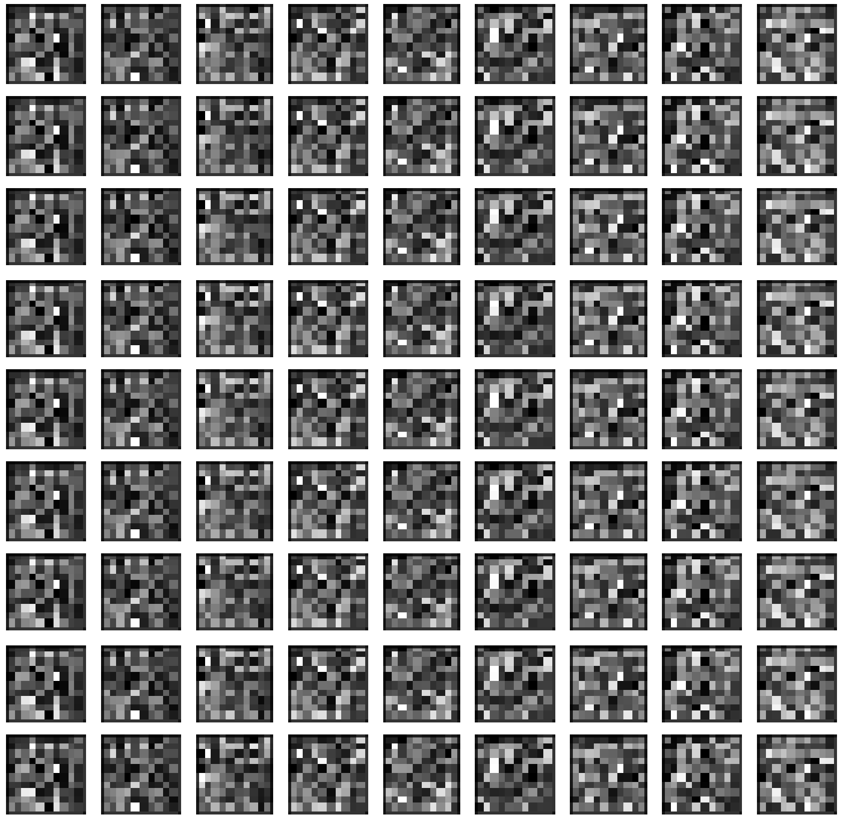


Y. Xu, B. Du, and L. Zhang, "Can we generate good samples for hyperspectral classification?—A generative adversarial network based method," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Geosci. Remote Sens. Symp.*, 2018.

Unsupervised Learning

- Spectrum data synthesis with GAN



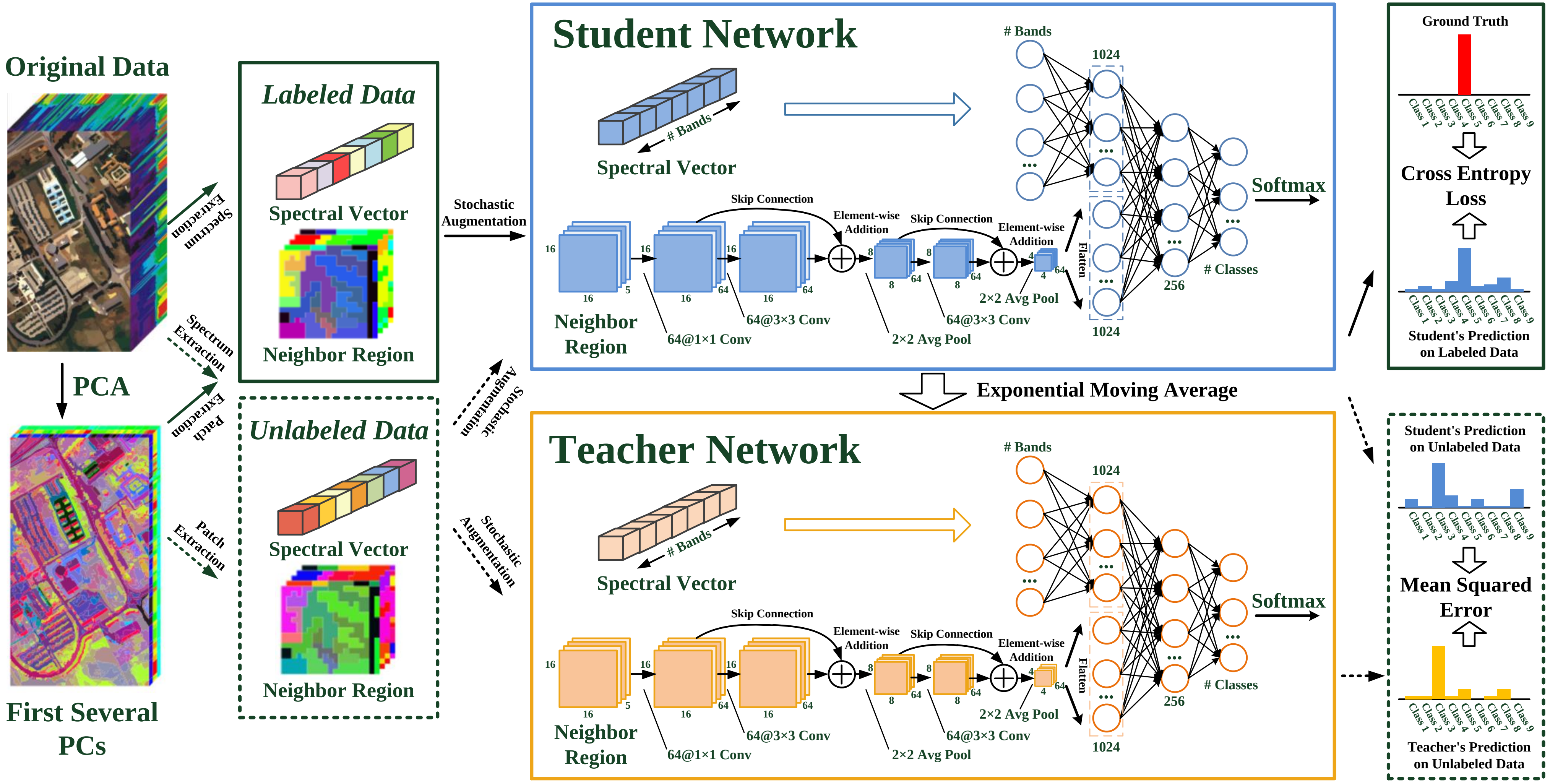


The first 100 wavebands are reshaped into a 10×10 image for visualization

Y. Xu, B. Du, and L. Zhang, "Can we generate good samples for hyperspectral classification?—A generative adversarial network based method," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Geosci. Remote Sens. Symp.*, 2018.

Semi-supervised Learning

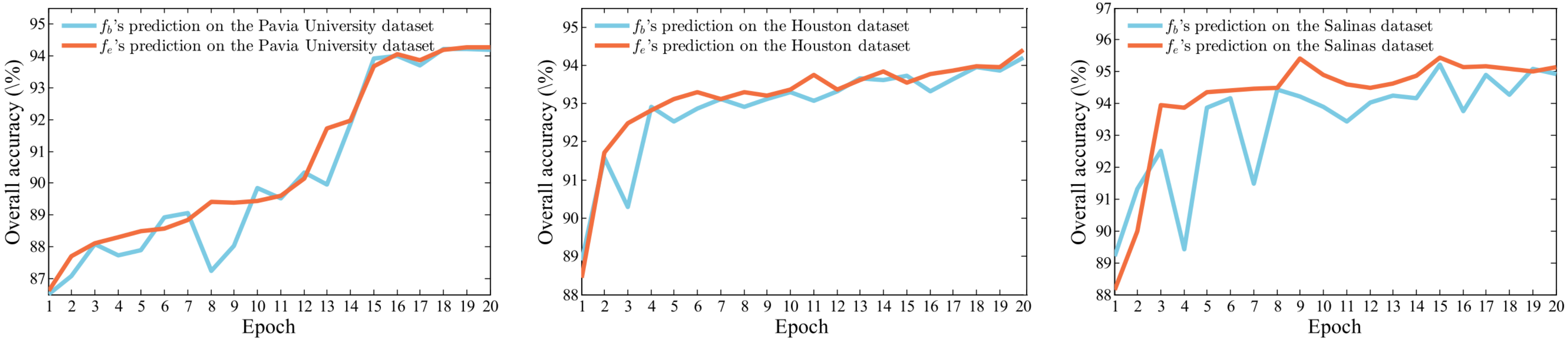
- Learning with unlabeled data



Y. Xu, B. Du, and L. Zhang, "Robust self-ensembling network for hyperspectral image classification," in *IEEE Trans. Neural Netw. Learn. Syst.*, vol. 35, no. 3, pp. 3780-3793, 2022.

Semi-supervised Learning

- Performance of teacher and student nets over time



Y. Xu, B. Du, and L. Zhang, "Robust self-ensembling network for hyperspectral image classification," in *IEEE Trans. Neural Netw. Learn. Syst.*, vol. 35, no. 3, pp. 3780-3793, 2022.

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Semi-supervised Learning

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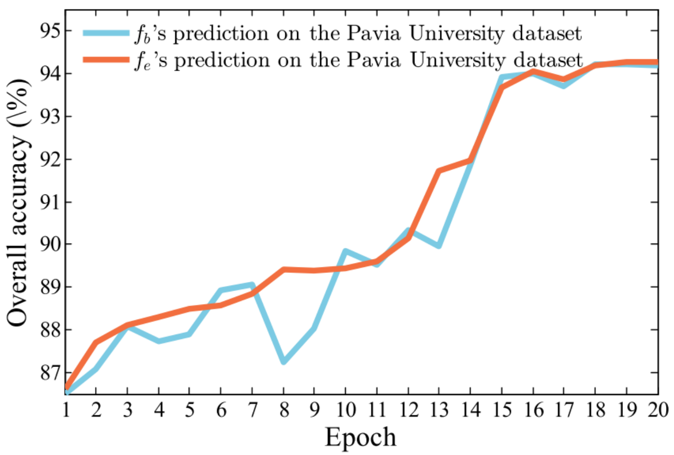
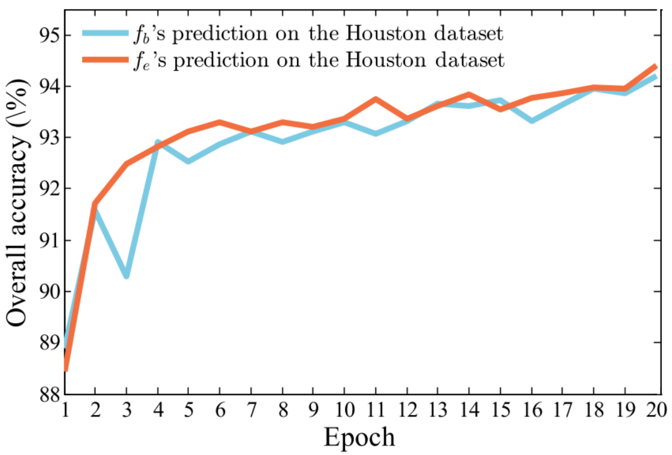
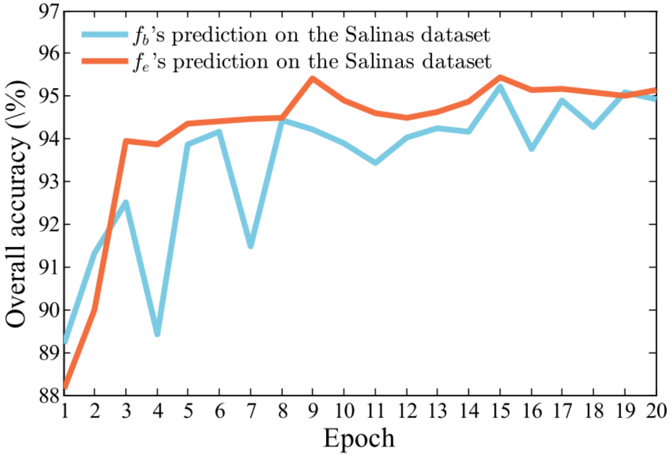
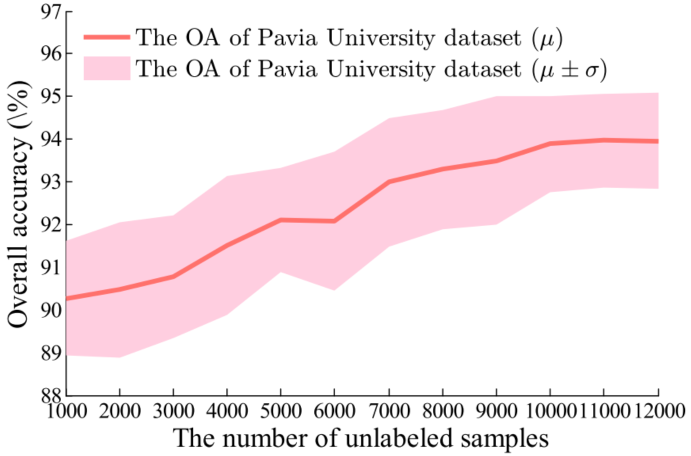
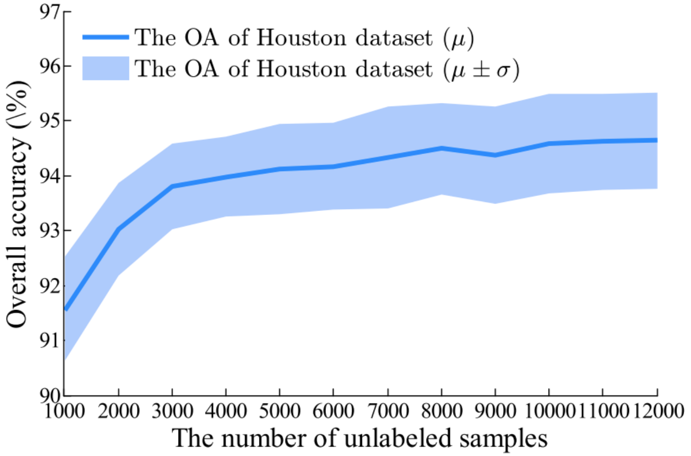


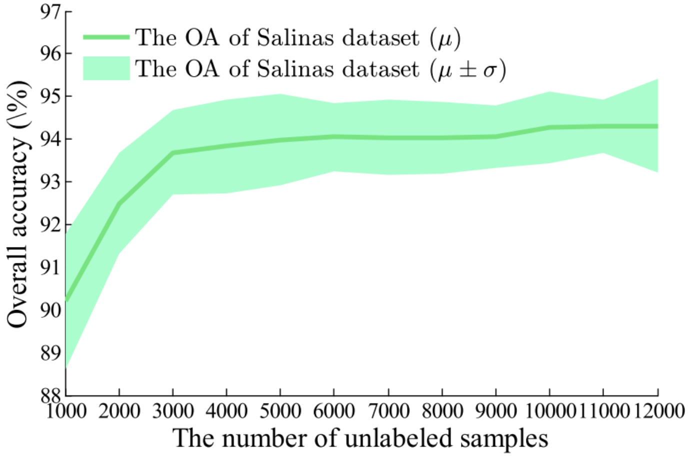




- Performance with different numbers of unlabeled samples







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Weakly Supervised Learning

- Reduce the annotation burden?

VHR image

Point-level annotations

Dense annotations

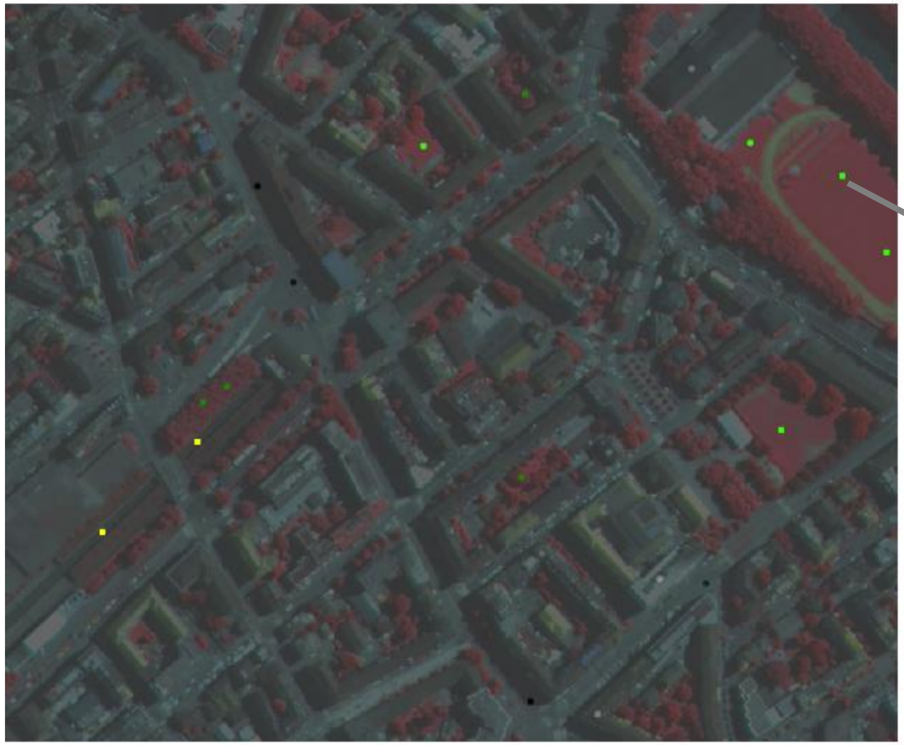
Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, “Consistency-regularized region-growing network for semantic segmentation of urban scenes with point-level annotations,” *IEEE Trans. Image Process*., vol. 31, pp. 5038–5051, 2022.

Weakly Supervised Learning

- The spatial continuity of ground objects:

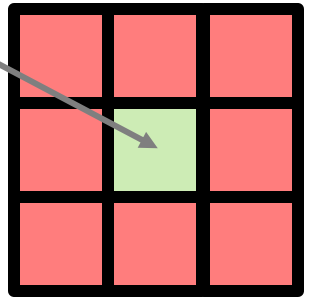
  Adjacent pixels are likely to belong to the same category

VHR image



Point-level annotations

8-connectivity neighborhood

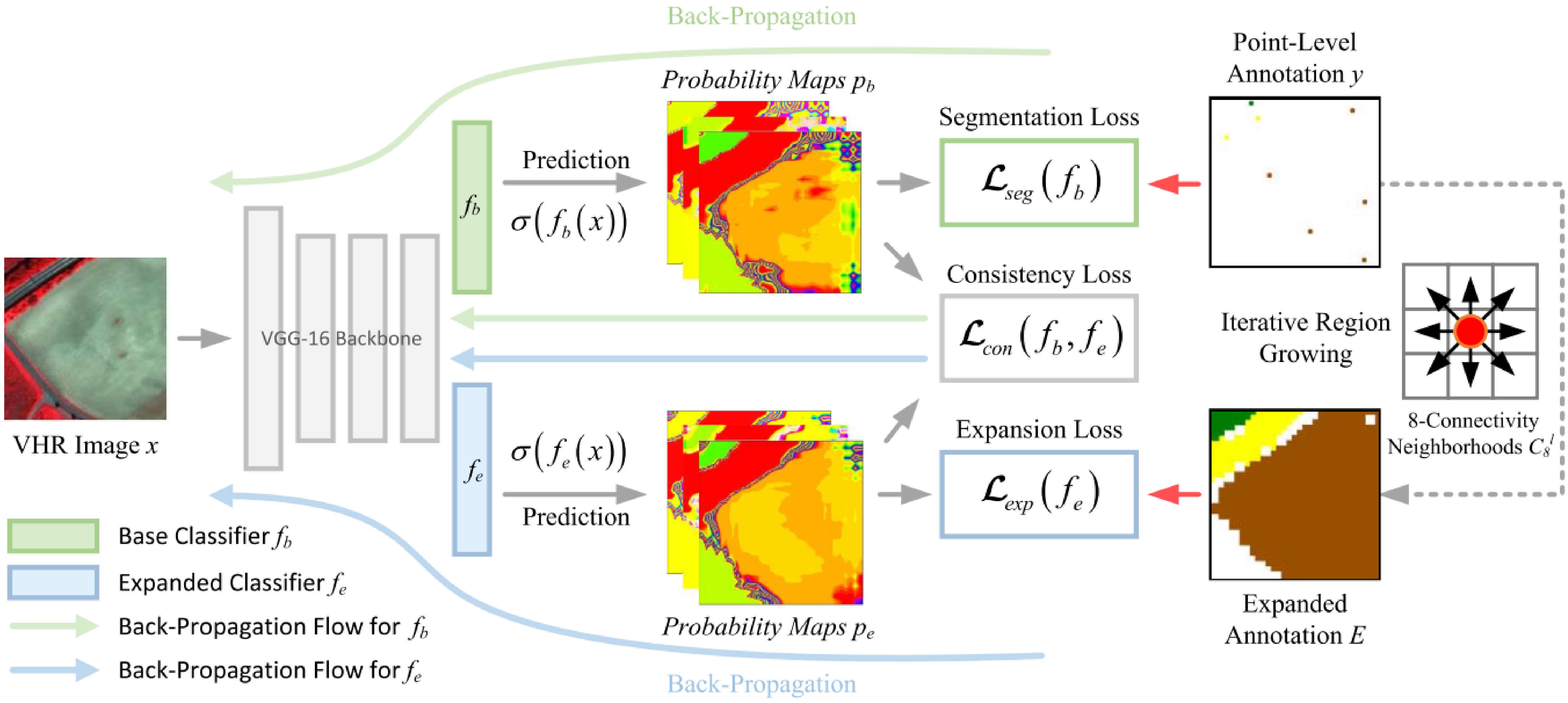


Neighborhood pixels are likely to belong to the grass

Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, “Consistency-regularized region-growing network for semantic segmentation of urban scenes with point-level annotations,” *IEEE Trans. Image Process.*, vol. 31, pp. 5038–5051, 2022.

Weakly Supervised Learning

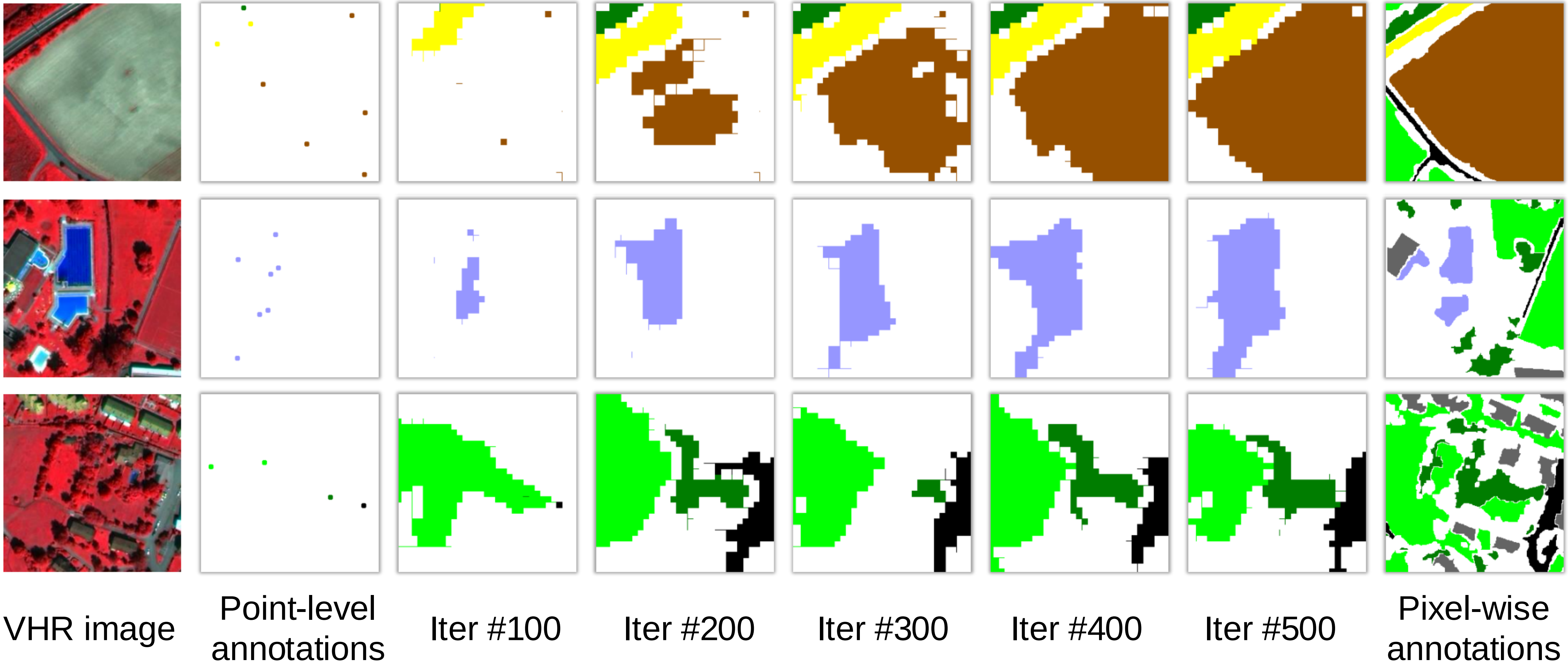
- Consistency-regularized region-growing network



Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, "Consistency-regularized region-growing network for semantic segmentation of urban scenes with point-level annotations," *IEEE Trans. Image Process.*, vol. 31, pp. 5038–5051, 2022.

Weakly Supervised Learning

- Dynamically expanded annotations at different iterations



Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, “Consistency-regularized region-growing network for semantic segmentation of urban scenes with point-level annotations,” *IEEE Trans. Image Process.*, vol. 31, pp. 5038–5051, 2022.

AI-Driven Remote Sensing Data Interpretation

- Challenge: Deep neural networks are **data-hungry**
  - ✓ Developing specially designed machine learning algorithms
    - Unsupervised learning
    - Semi-supervised learning
    - Weakly supervised learning
    - ……

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AI-Driven Remote Sensing Data Interpretation

- Challenge: Deep neural networks are **data-hungry**
  - ✓ Developing specially designed machine learning algorithms
    - Unsupervised learning
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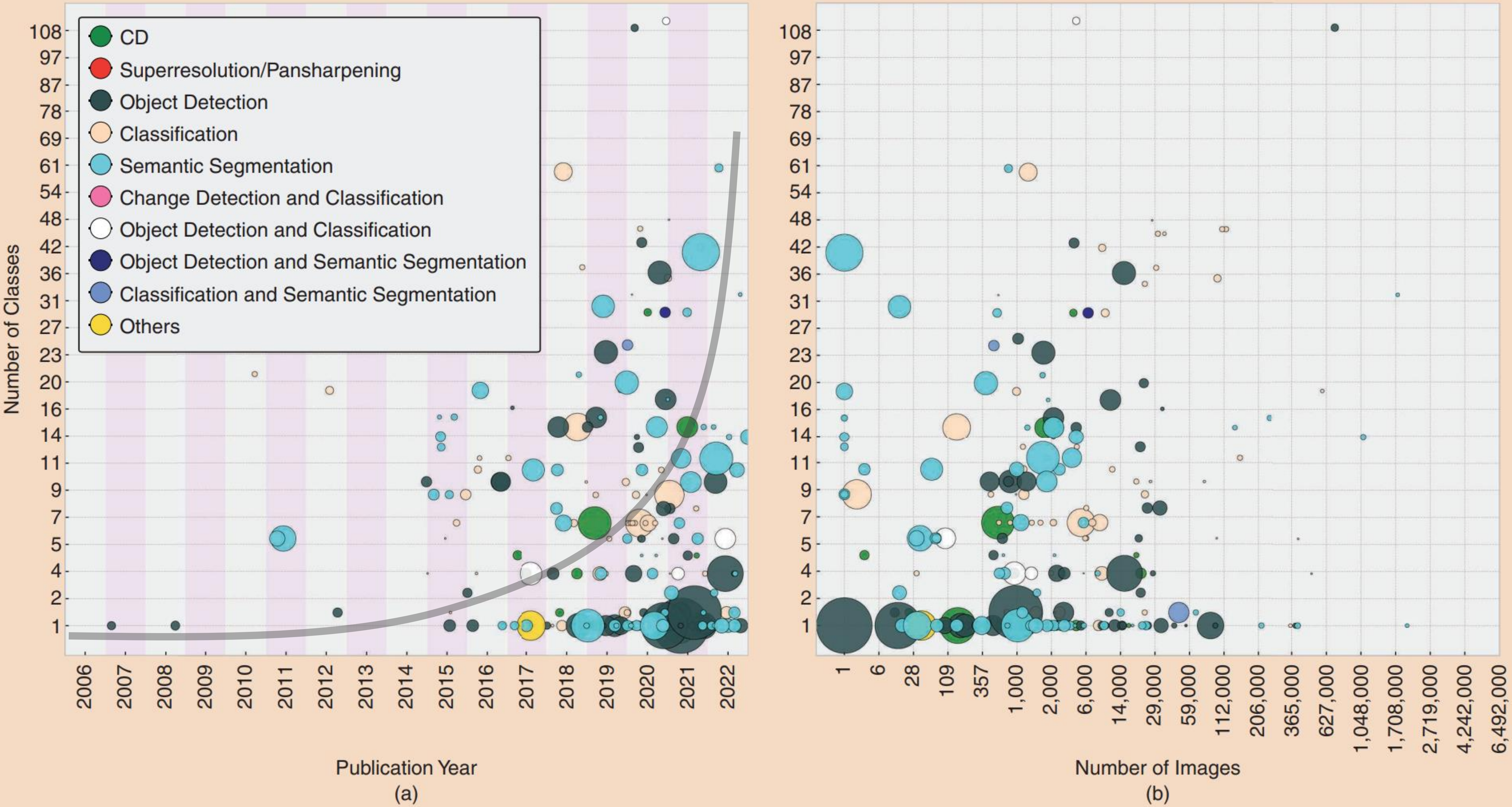
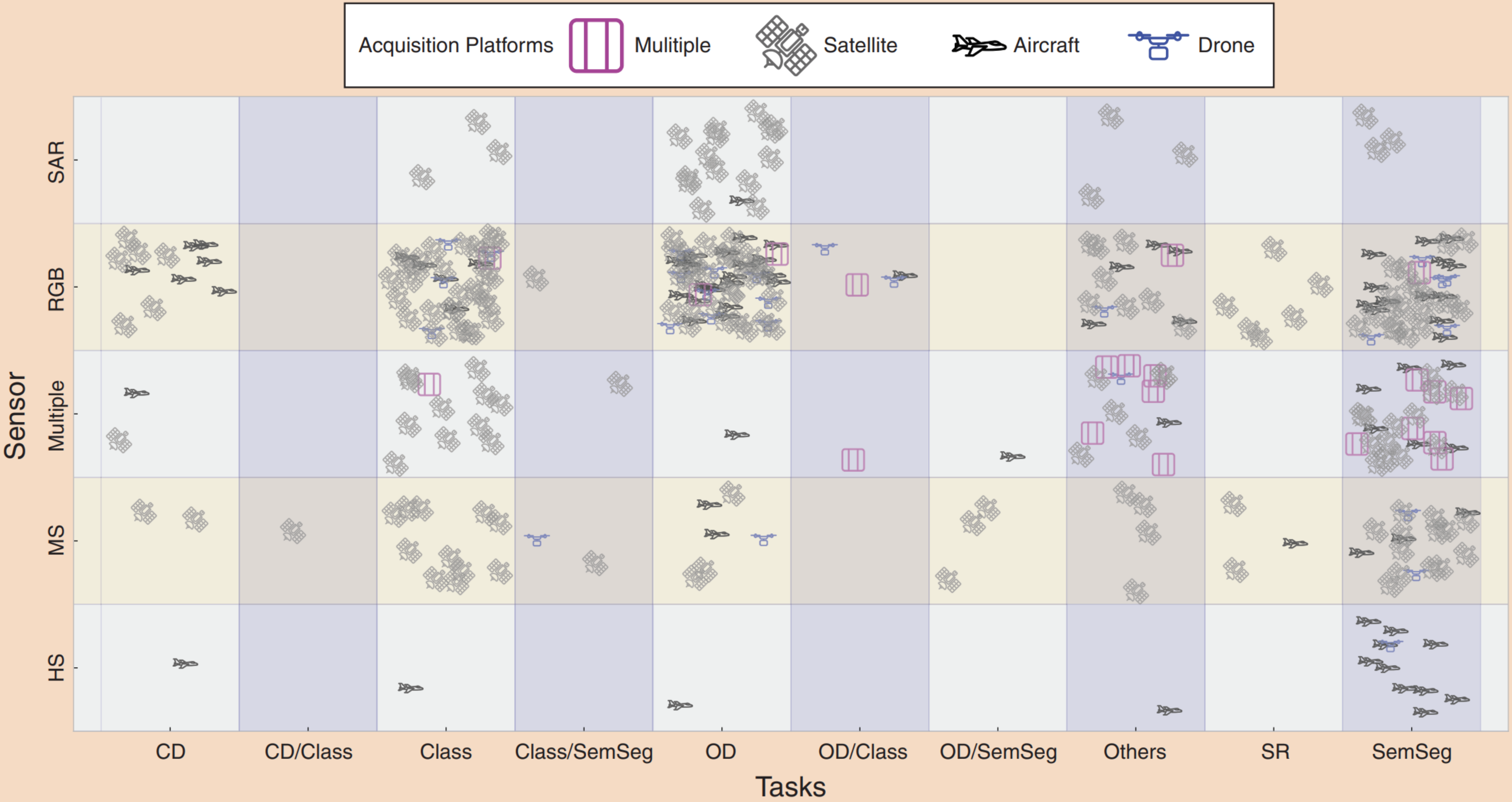
    - Weakly supervised learning
    - ……
  - ✓ Collecting high-quality annotated benchmark datasets



M. Schmitt, S. Ahmadi, Y. Xu, G. Taşkin, U. Verma, F. Sica, and R. Hänsch, "There are no data like more data: Datasets for deep learning in earth observation," *IEEE Geosci. Remote Sens. Mag.*, vol. 11, no. 3, pp. 63-97, 2023.



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Data Fusion

- Advantages of different types of RS data
  - Hyperspectral image: Rich spectral information
  - Very high-resolution image: Precise spatial details
  - LiDAR data: Elevation information

Data Fusion

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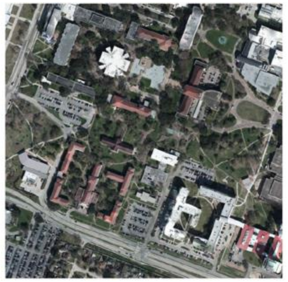
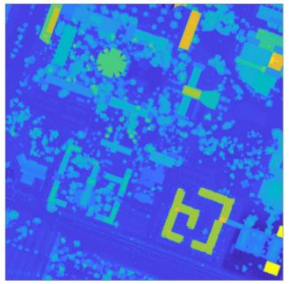
  - Hyperspectral image: Rich spectral information
  - Very high-resolution image: Precise spatial details
  - LiDAR data: Elevation information

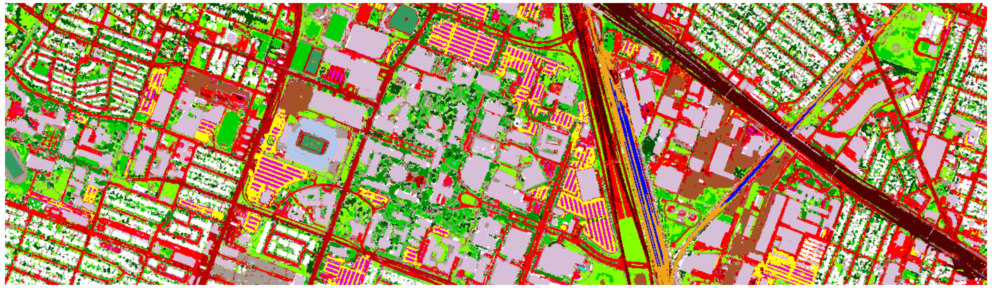
HSI



VHRI



LiDAR

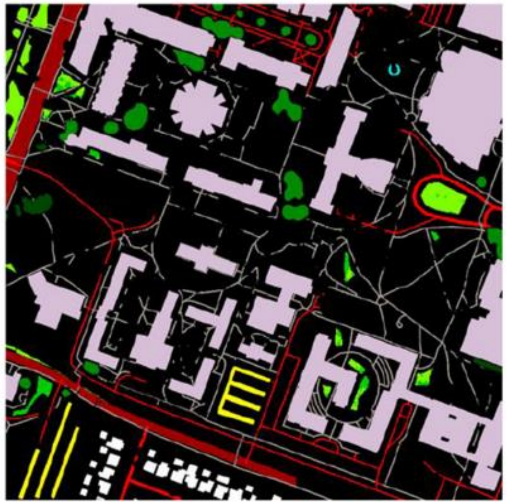


Multi-sensor land cover mapping

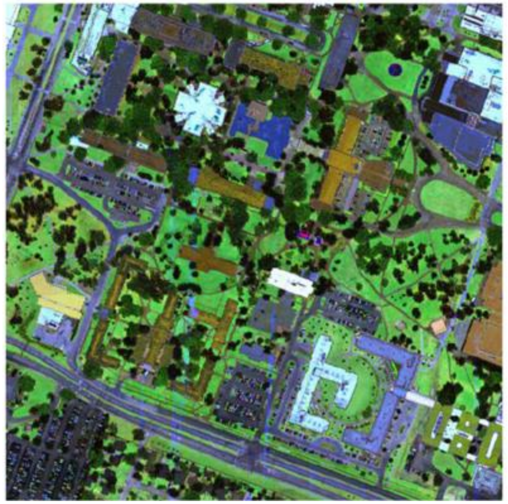
Y. Xu, B. Du, L. Zhang, D. Cerra, et al., "Advanced multi-sensor optical remote sensing for urban land use and land cover classification: Outcome of the 2018 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest," in *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Appl. Earth Obs. Remote Sens.*, vol. 12, no. 6, pp. 1709-1724, 2019.

Data Fusion

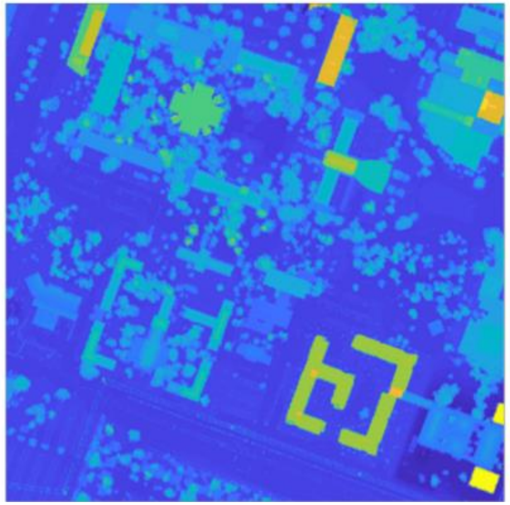
Training (red) and test (entire imagery except red) areas



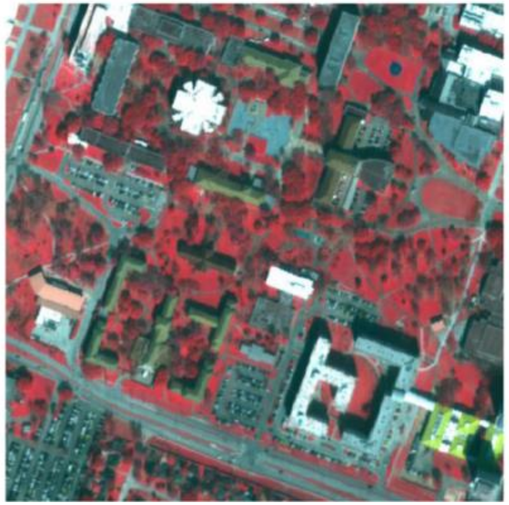
GT



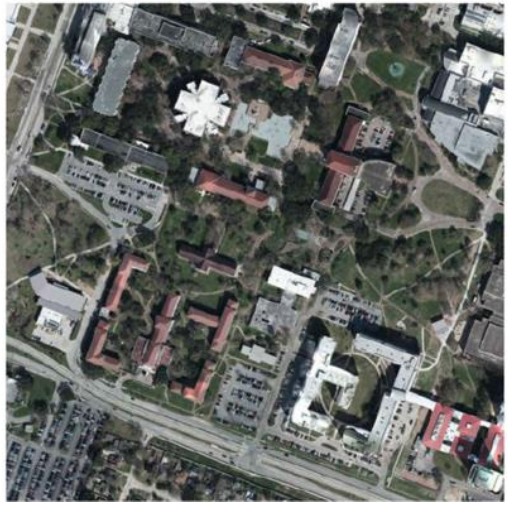
Multispectral LiDAR



DSM



HSI

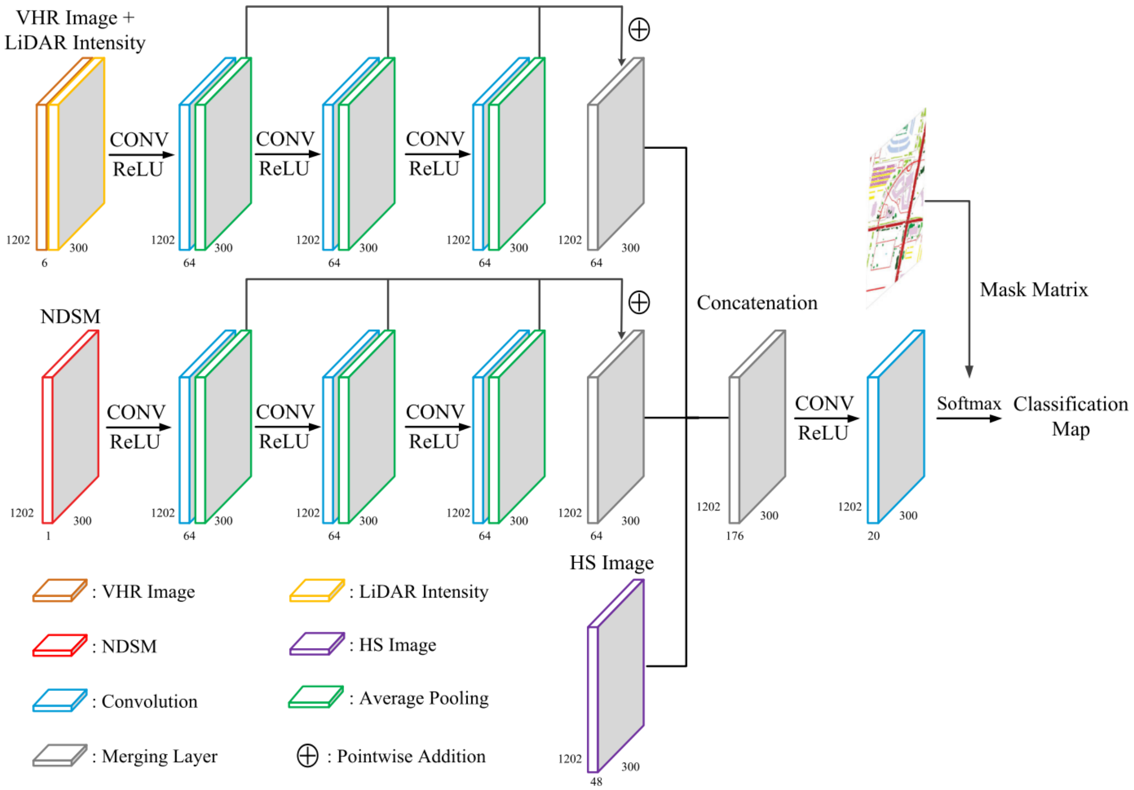


VHR

Y. Xu, B. Du, L. Zhang, D. Cerra, et al., “Advanced multi-sensor optical remote sensing for urban land use and land cover classification: Outcome of the 2018 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest,” in *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Appl. Earth Obs. Remote Sens.*, vol. 12, no. 6, pp. 1709-1724, 2019.

Data Fusion

- End-to-end network



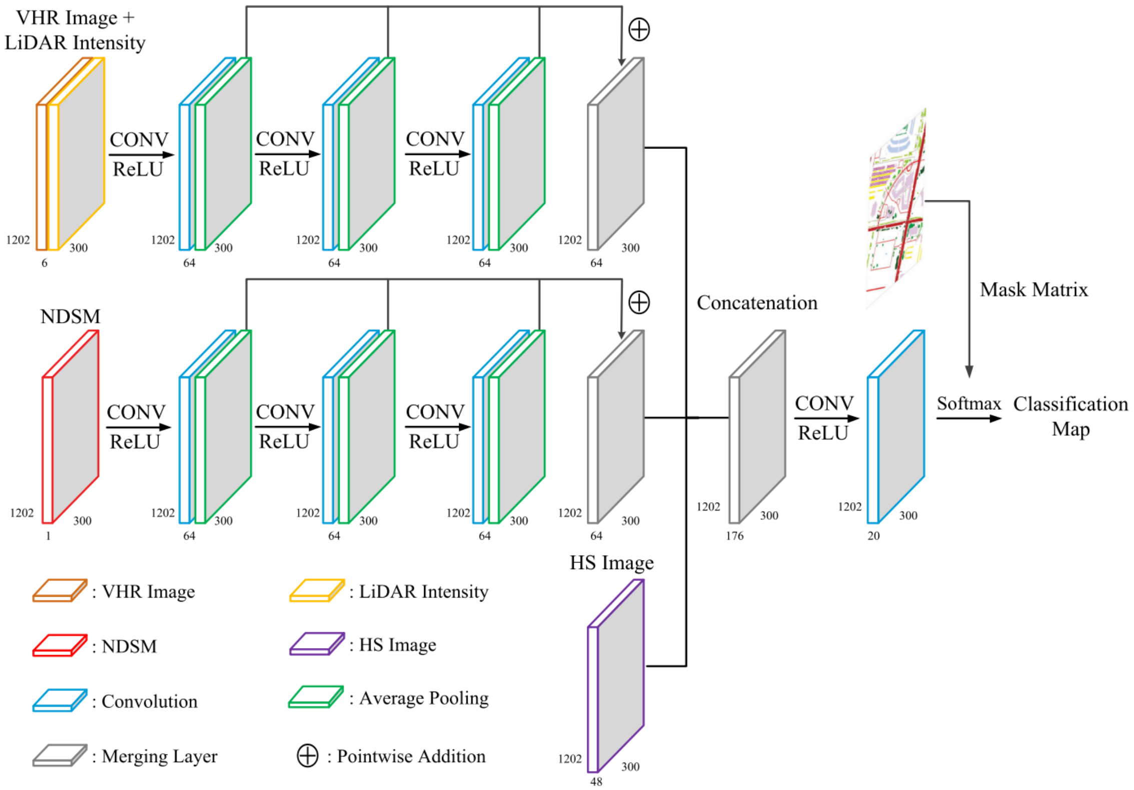
Fusion-FCN

(1st place in IEEE Data Fusion Contest 2018)

Y. Xu, B. Du, L. Zhang, D. Cerra, et al., "Advanced multi-sensor optical remote sensing for urban land use and land cover classification: Outcome of the 2018 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest," in *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Appl. Earth Obs. Remote Sens.*, vol. 12, no. 6, pp. 1709-1724, 2019.

Data Fusion

- End-to-end network
- Base classifier + detectors



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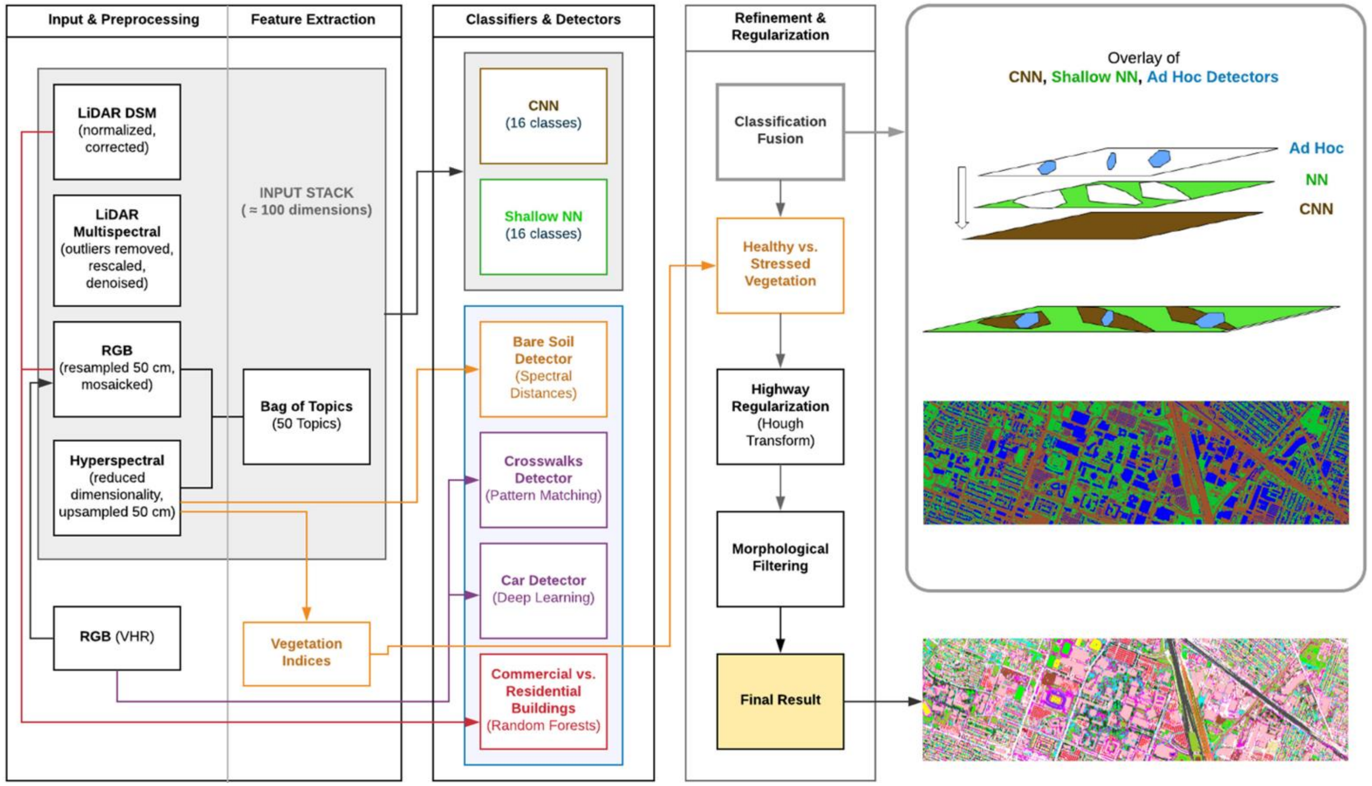

Ensemble with ad hoc detectors

(2nd place in IEEE Data Fusion Contest 2018)

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Y. Xu, B. Du, L. Zhang, D. Cerra, et al., "Advanced multi-sensor optical remote sensing for urban land use and land cover classification: Outcome of the 2018 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest," in *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Appl. Earth Obs. Remote Sens.*, vol. 12, no. 6, pp. 1709-1724, 2019.

AI Security

- Are deep neural networks robust to perturbation?

Airplane

Perturbation

Runway

96.56% confidence

Storage tanks

Perturbation

Intersection

99.99% confidence

Y. Xu, B. Du, and L. Zhang, "Assessing the threat of adversarial examples on deep neural networks for remote sensing scene classification: Attacks and defenses," *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote. Sens.*, vol. 59, no. 2, pp. 1604–1617, 2021.

AI Security

- Are deep neural networks robust to perturbation?

Adversarial patch on the roof of a car

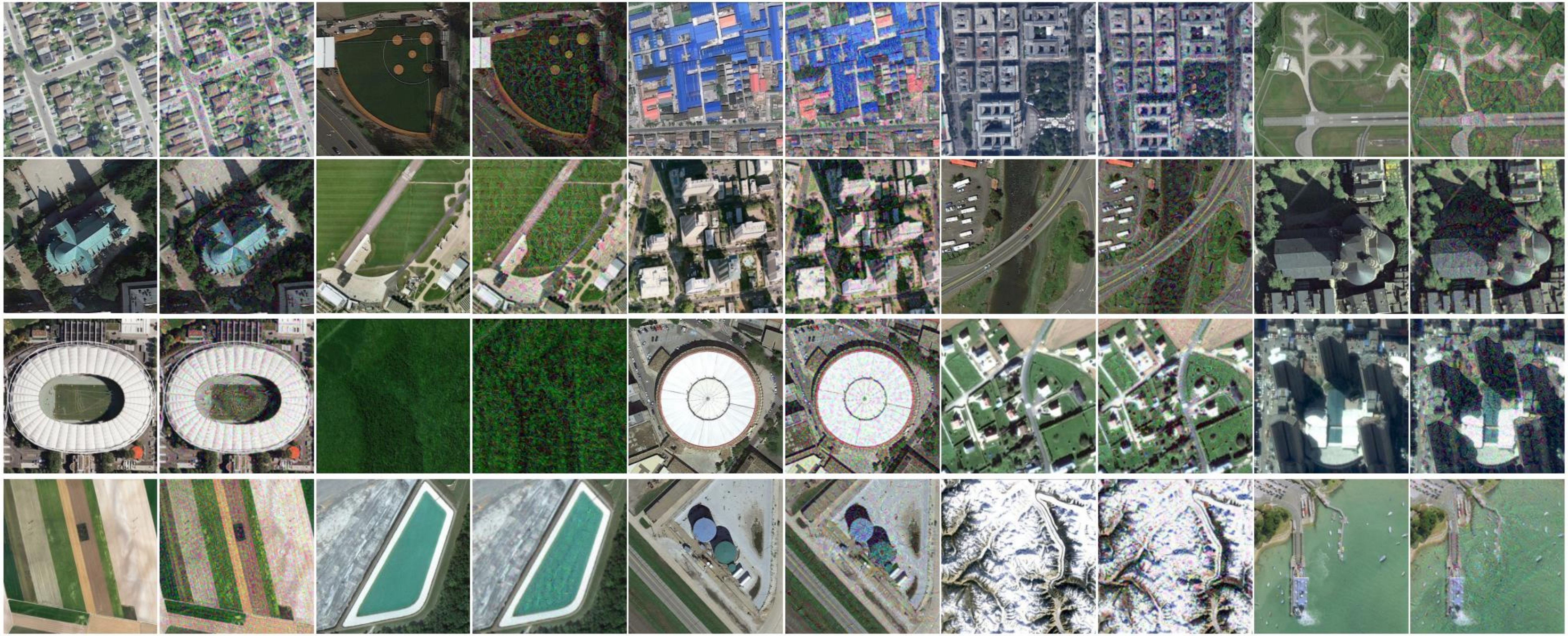
Without adversarial patches

Adversarial patch off-and-around a car

With adversarial patches

Du, A., Chen, B., Chin, T.J., Law, Y.W., Sasdelli, M., Rajasegaran, R. and Campbell, D., Physical adversarial attacks on an aerial imagery object detector. In *WACV*, 2022.

UAE-RS Dataset



Example images in the AID dataset and the corresponding adversarial examples in the UAE-RS dataset

Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, “Universal adversarial examples in remote sensing: Methodology and benchmark,” *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*, vol. 60, pp. 1−15, 2022.

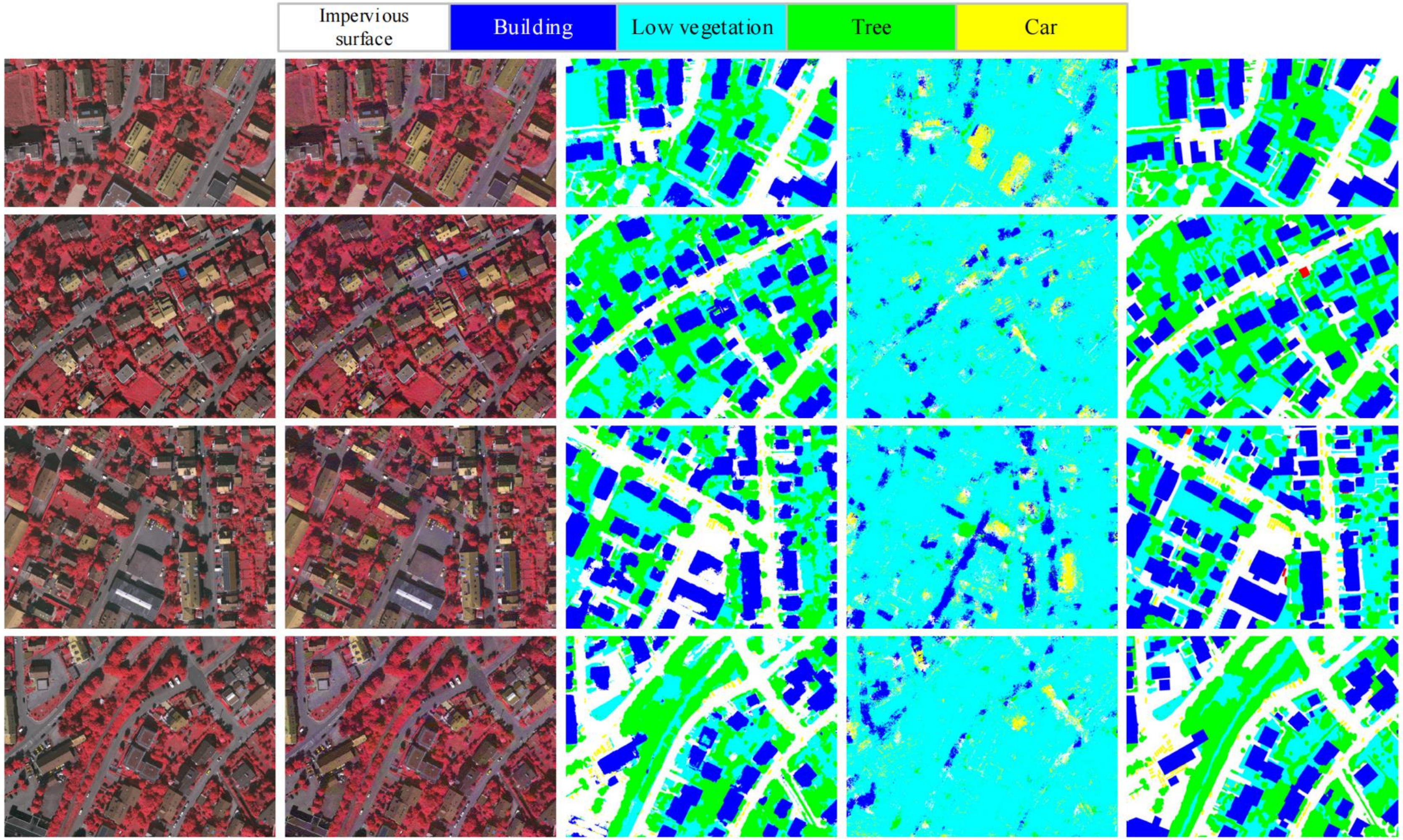
Quantitative Results on UAE-RS Dataset

QUANTITATIVE SCENE CLASSIFICATION RESULTS OF DIFFERENT DEEP NEURAL NETWORKS ON THE CLEAN AND UAE-RS TEST SETS.

Model	UCM Clean Test Set	UCM UAE-RS Test Set	UCM OA Gap	AID Clean Test Set	AID UAE-RS Test Set	AID OA Gap
AlexNet [48]	90.28	30.86	-59.42	89.74	18.26	-71.48
VGG11 [56]	94.57	26.57	-68.00	91.22	12.62	-78.60
VGG16 [56]	93.04	19.52	-73.52	90.00	13.46	-76.54
VGG19 [56]	92.85	29.62	-63.23	88.30	15.44	-72.86
Inception-v3 [57]	96.28	24.86	-71.42	92.98	23.48	-69.50
ResNet18 [49]	95.90	2.95	-92.95	94.76	0.02	-94.74
ResNet50 [49]	96.76	25.52	-71.24	92.68	6.20	-86.48
ResNet101 [49]	95.80	28.10	-67.70	92.92	9.74	-83.18
ResNeXt50 [58]	97.33	26.76	-70.57	93.50	11.78	-81.72
ResNeXt101 [58]	97.33	33.52	-63.81	95.46	12.60	-82.86
DenseNet121 [50]	97.04	17.14	-79.90	95.50	10.16	-85.34
DenseNet169 [50]	97.42	25.90	-71.52	95.54	9.72	-85.82
DenseNet201 [50]	97.33	26.38	-70.95	96.30	9.60	-86.70
RegNetX-400MF [51]	94.57	27.33	-67.24	94.38	19.18	-75.20
RegNetX-8GF [51]	97.14	40.76	-56.38	96.22	19.24	-76.98
RegNetX-16GF [51]	97.90	34.86	-63.04	95.84	13.34	-82.50

Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, "Universal adversarial examples in remote sensing: Methodology and benchmark," *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*, vol. 60, pp. 1−15, 2022.

UAE-RS Dataset

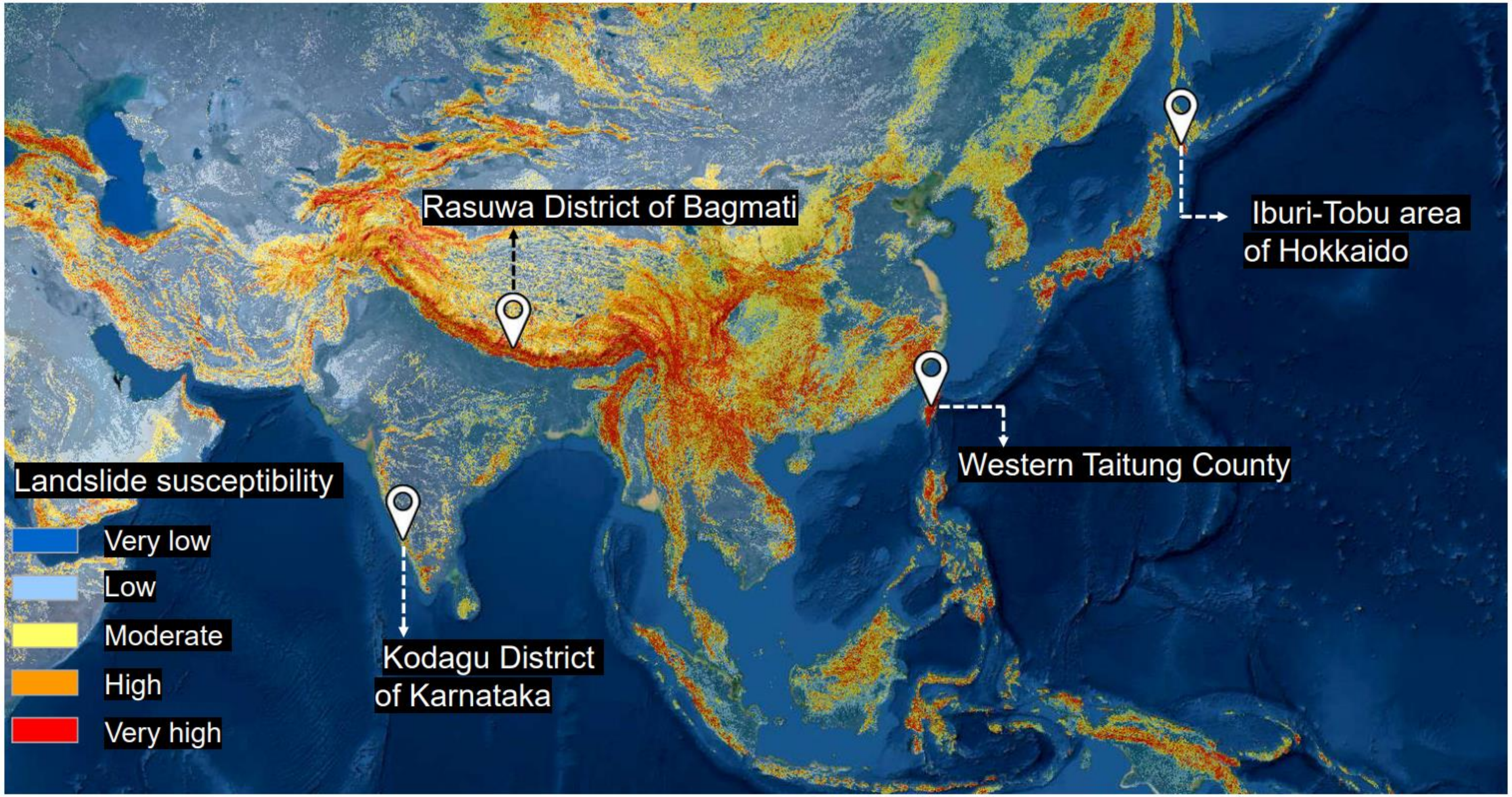


Qualitative results of the black-box adversarial attacks from FCN-8s → SegNet on the Vaihingen dataset

Y. Xu and P. Ghamisi, "Universal adversarial examples in remote sensing: Methodology and benchmark," *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*, vol. 60, pp. 1−15, 2022.

Application

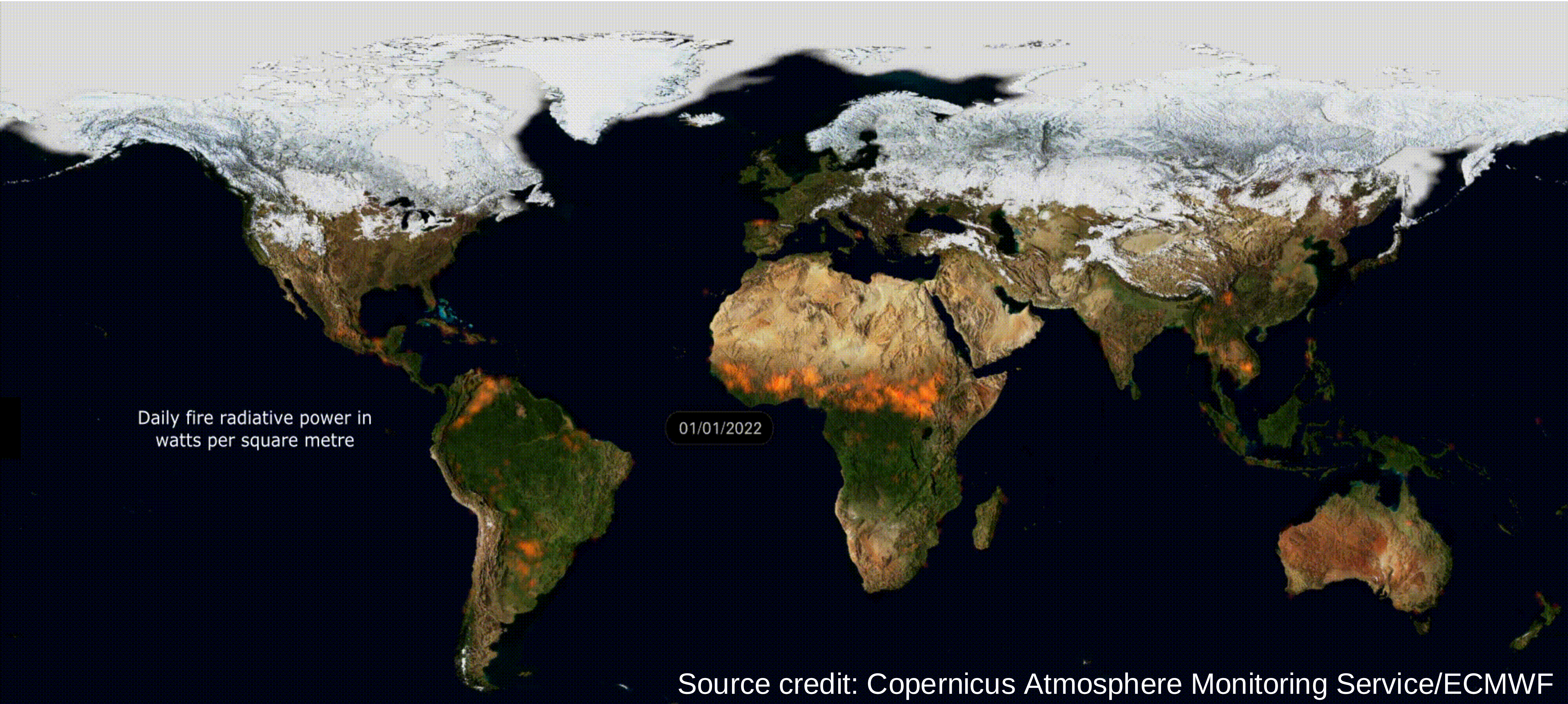
- AI for environmental monitoring



O. Ghorbanzadeh, Y. Xu, P. Ghamisi, M. Kopp, and D. Kreil, “Landslide4sense: Reference benchmark data and deep learning models for landslide detection,” *IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens.*, vol. 60, pp. 1-17, 2022.

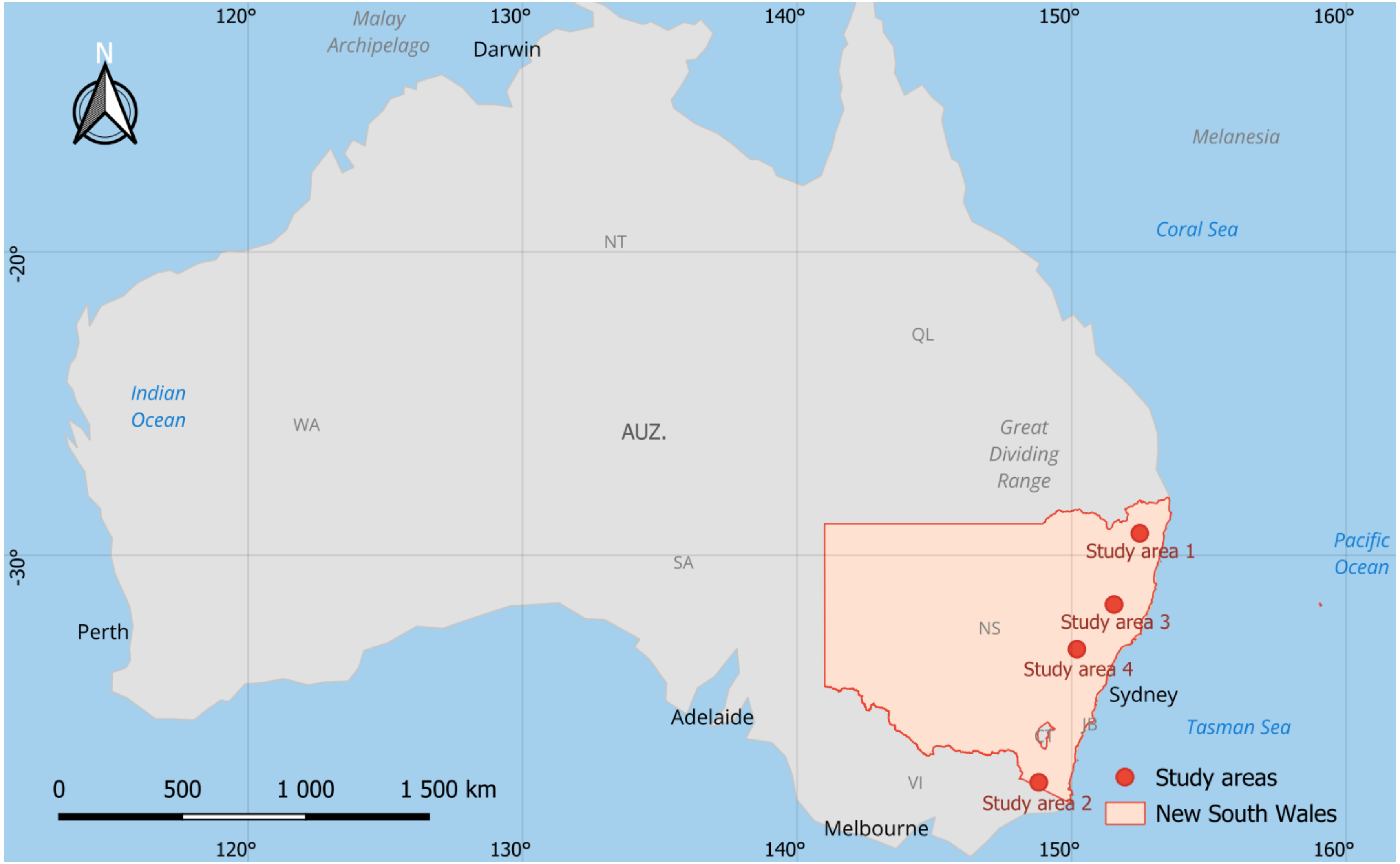
Application

- Satellite remote sensing for global wildfire observation

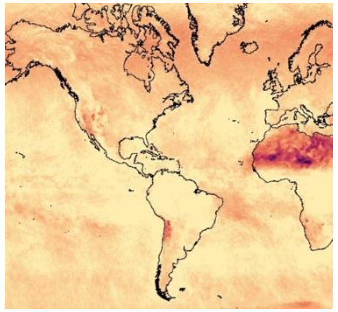


Source credit: Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service/ECMWF

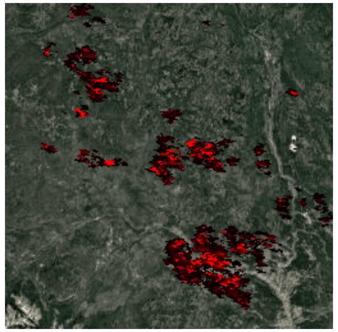
Application



Sentinel-2



Sentinel-5P



MOD14A1

Four bushfires happened in the 2019–2020 Australian bushfire season

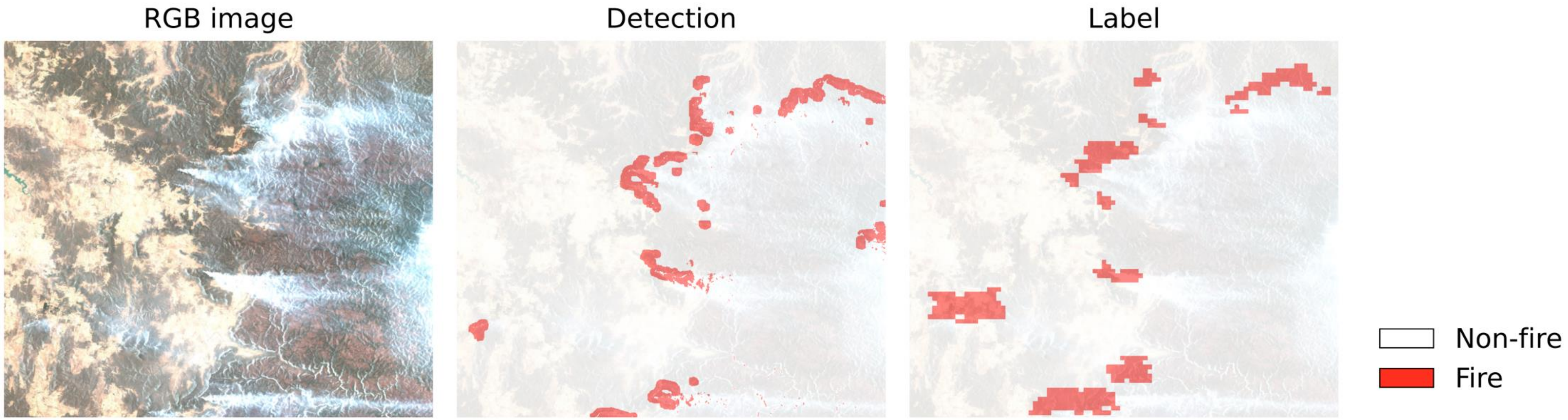
Y. Xu, A. Berg, and L. Haglund, “Sen2Fire: A Challenging Benchmark Dataset for Wildfire Detection using Sentinel Data,” *IGARSS*, 2024.

Preliminary Experiments

- Input Strategies

RGB composite: `B4,B3,B2.`
SWIR composite: `B12,B8,B4.`
NBR composite: `NBR,B4,B3.`
NDVI composite: `NDVI,B4,B3.`
RGB+SWIR+NBR+NDVI: `B4,B3,B2,B12,NBR,NDVI.`
Vanilla input: `B1,B2,B3,...,B10,B11,B12.`

Input strategies	Precision	Recall	F1 score
RGB composite	11.8	18.3	14.4 (*)
+aerosol	14.7	21.3	17.4 $_{\uparrow 3.0}$
SWIR composite	43.9	20.5	27.9 (*)
+aerosol	39.7	21.8	28.1 $_{\uparrow 0.2}$
NBR composite	26.0	24.1	25.1 (*)
+aerosol	20.6	23.9	22.1 $_{\downarrow 3.0}$
NDVI composite	13.4	13.0	13.2 (*)
+aerosol	11.4	23.1	15.2 $_{\uparrow 2.0}$
RGB+SWIR+NBR+NDVI	38.6	17.1	23.7 (*)
+aerosol	35.5	19.1	24.8 $_{\uparrow 1.1}$
Vanilla input	22.4	29.5	25.5 (*)
+aerosol	37.4	20.1	26.1 $_{\uparrow 0.6}$

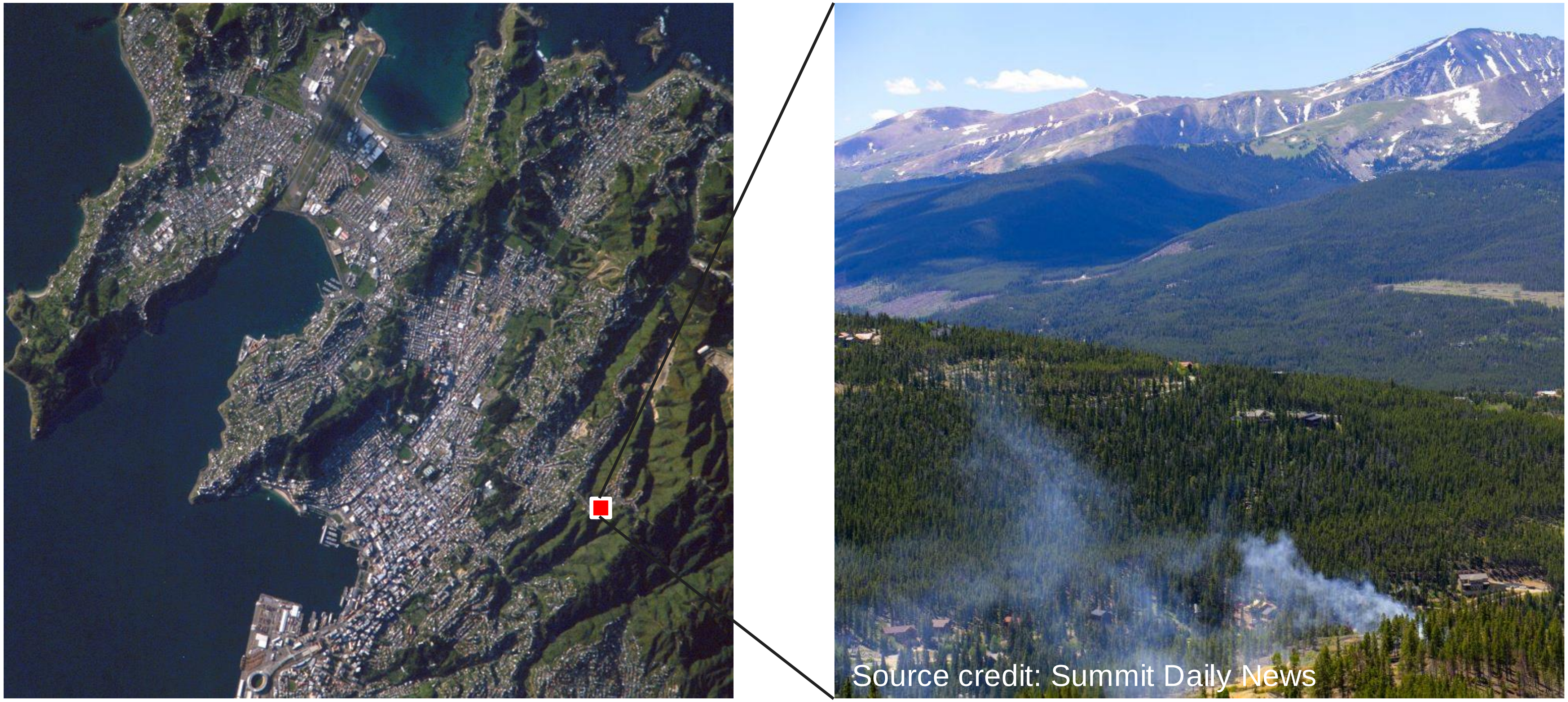


Wildfire detection result on the test set. The input patches are concatenated to reconstruct the complete image tile

Y. Xu, A. Berg, and L. Haglund, "Sen2Fire: A Challenging Benchmark Dataset for Wildfire Detection using Sentinel Data," *IGARSS*, 2024.

Application

- Satellite remote sensing alone is insufficient for early local fire detection



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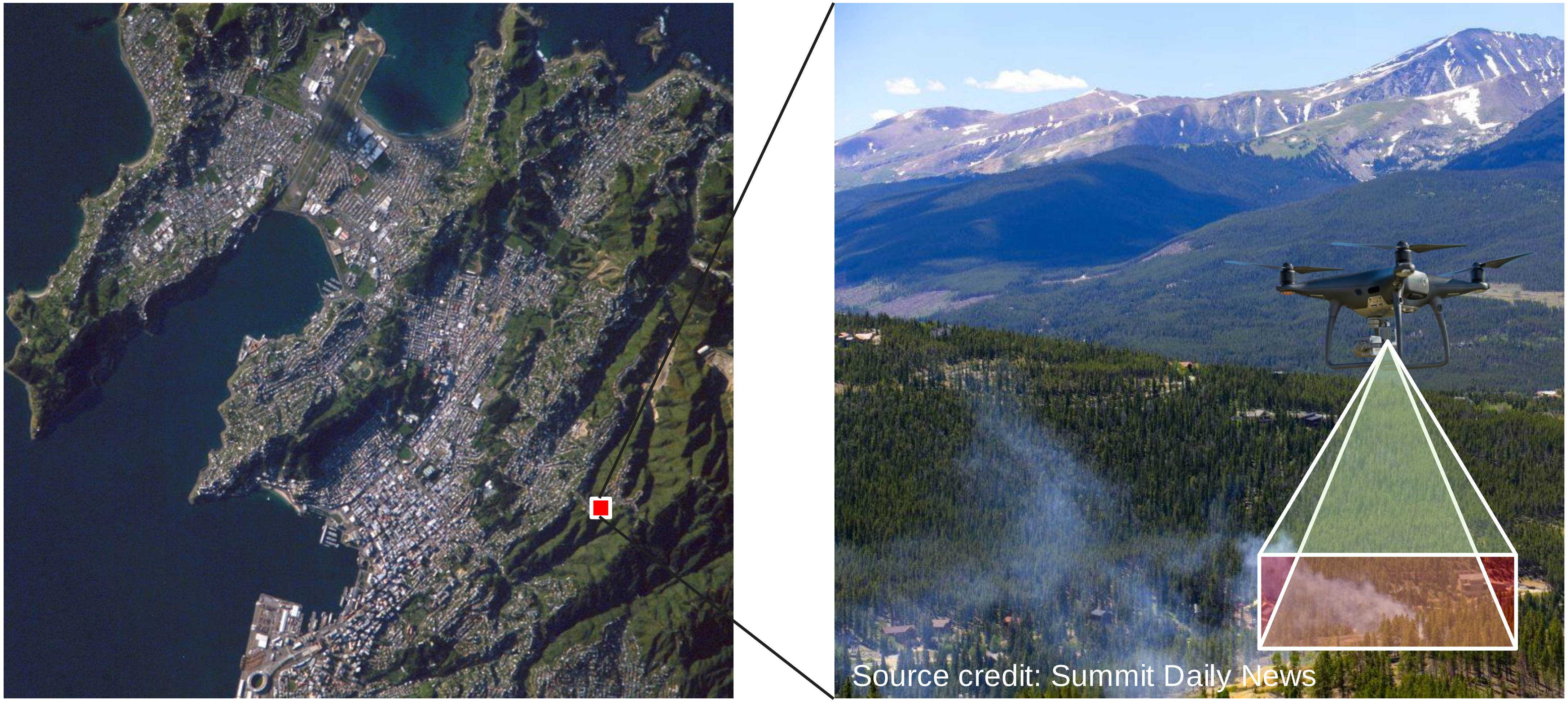
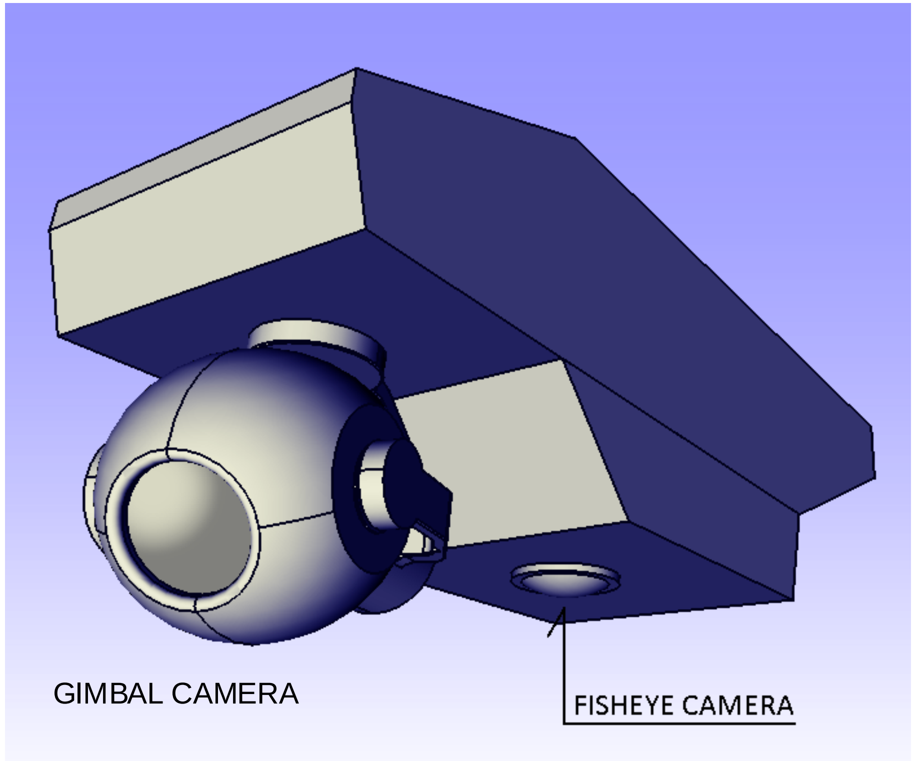


Dual-Camera AI

- Real-time autonomous wildfire detection system with dual-camera AI

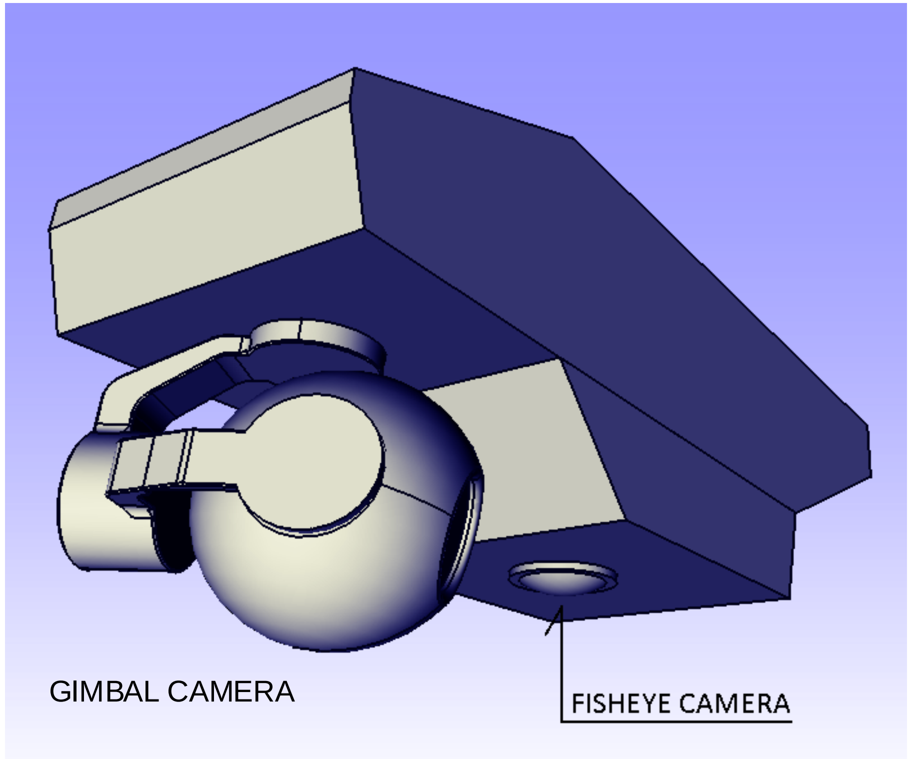


Dual camera system

The camera interface highlights regions of interest via a user or **a learnable detector**

Dual-Camera AI

- Real-time autonomous wildfire detection system with dual-camera AI



The gimbal panned to zoom in on the region of interest

The user receives a more detailed picture of the region of interest

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Future Directions

- Vision and language for remote sensing
  - ✓ Remote sensing image captioning, text to image generation...

Many green trees and buildings are in a dense residential area

Many people are in a piece of yellow beach near an ocean

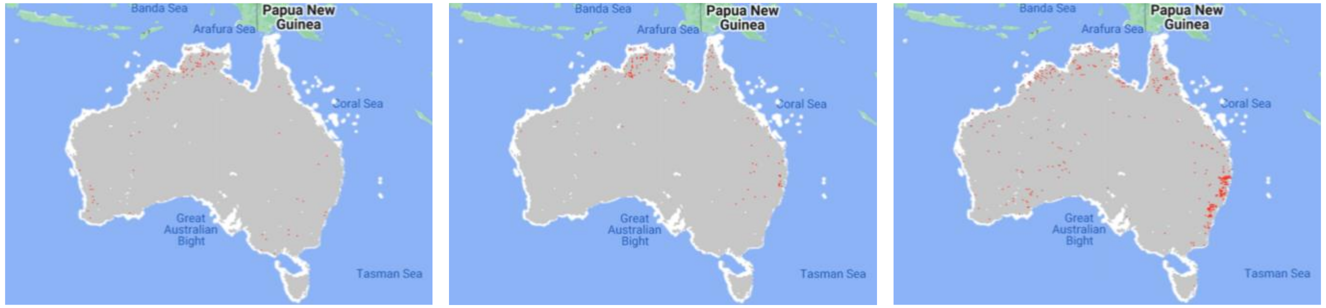
Some white storage tanks are in a piece of bareland

The polygonal pond is surrounded by tiny villas

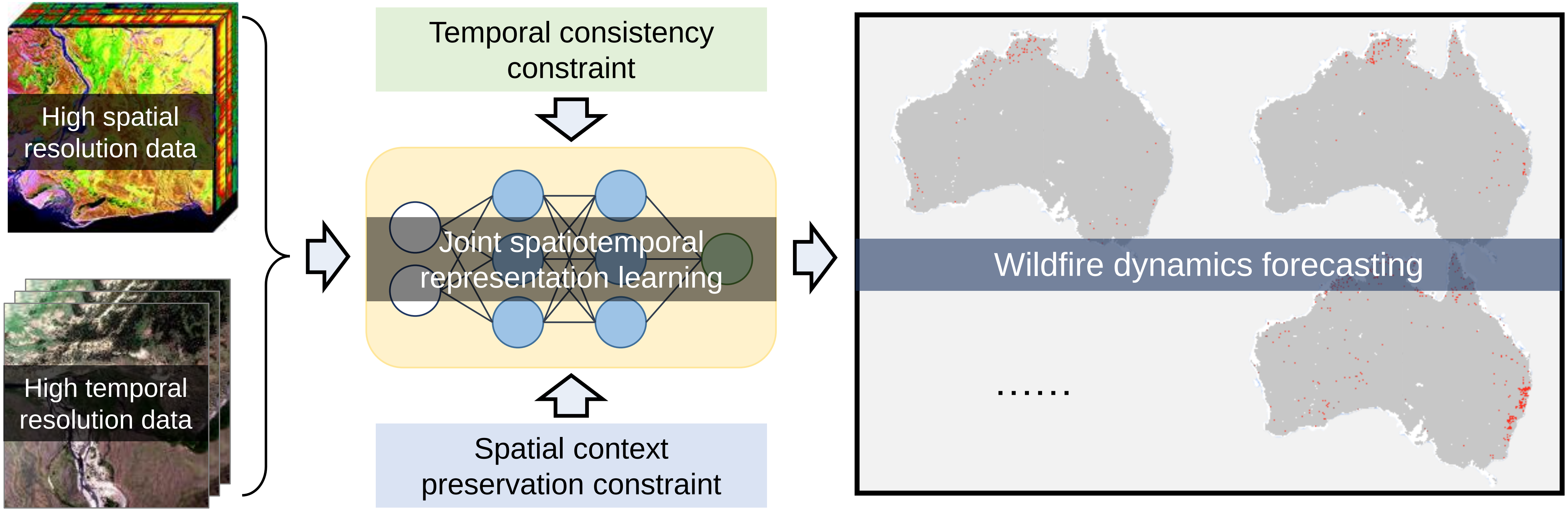
Y. Xu, W. Yu, P. Ghamisi, M. Kopp, and S. Hochreiter, “Txt2Img-MHN: Remote sensing image generation from text using modern hopfield networks,” *IEEE Trans. Image Process.*, vol. 32, pp. 5737-5750, 2023.

Future Directions

- Earth dynamics modeling



(a) April 2019 – June 2019 (b) July 2019 – September 2019 (c) October 2019 – December 2019



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Thank You!

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