

Understanding Forest health by Remote Sensing (RS)



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Forest health by RS - Paper



Review

Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing -Part I—A Review of Spectral Traits, Processes and Remote-Sensing Characteristics

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⁵ Bavarian Forest National Park, Department of Conservation and Research, Freyunger Straße 2, D-94481 Grafenau, Germany; marco.heurich@npv-bw.bayern.de

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Lausch, A., Erasmi, S., King, D.J.D., Magdon, P., Heurich, M., 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



Review

Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing-Part II—A Review of Approaches and Data Models

Angela Lausch^{1,2,*}, Stefan Erasmi³, Douglas J. King⁴, Paul Magdon⁵ and Marco Heurich⁶

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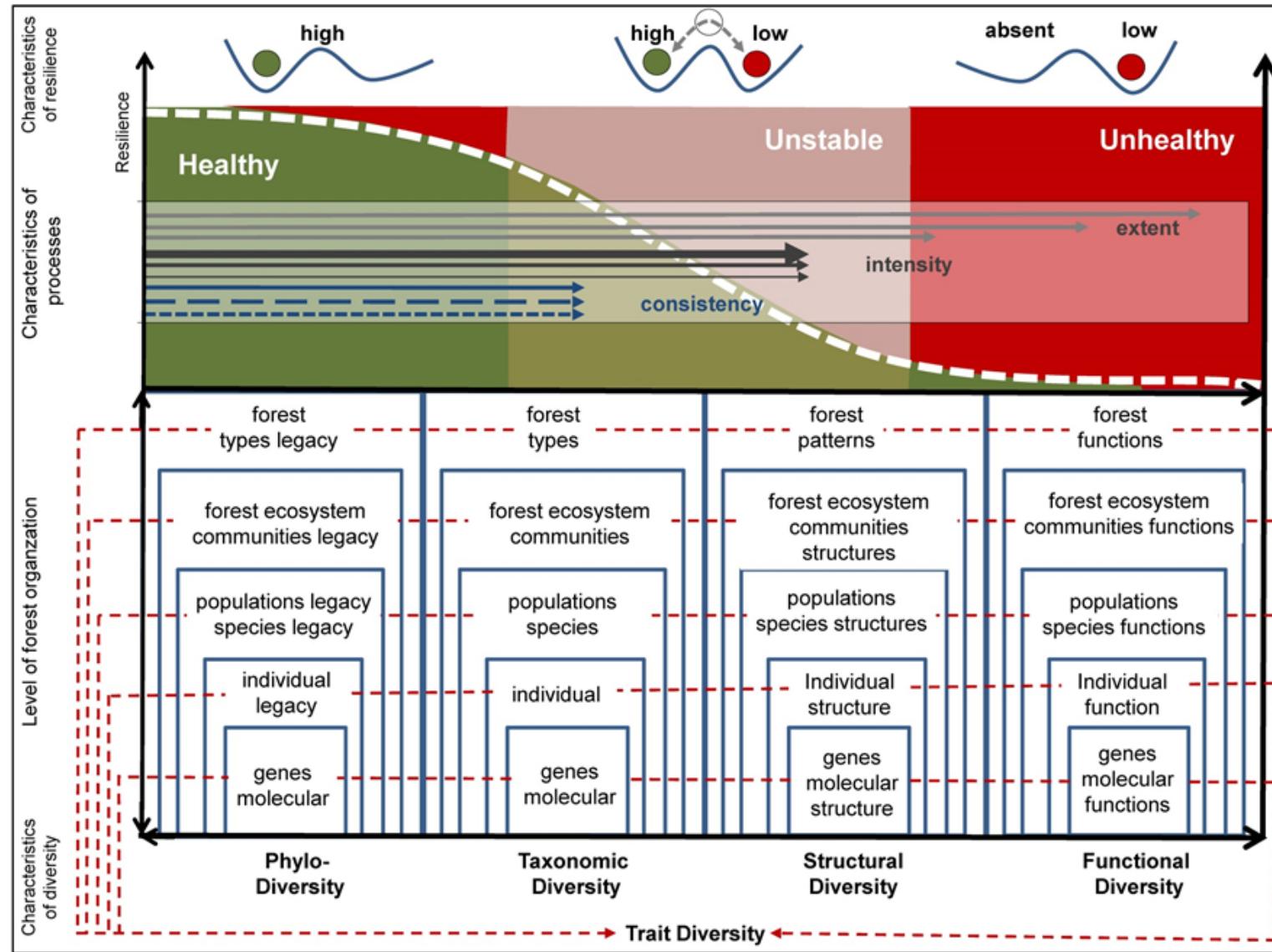
Lausch, A., Erasmi, S., King, D., Magdon, P., Heurich, M., 2017. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing-Part II—A Review of Approaches and Data Models. Remote Sens. 9, 129. doi:10.3390/rs9020129

Understanding Forest health by Remote Sensing

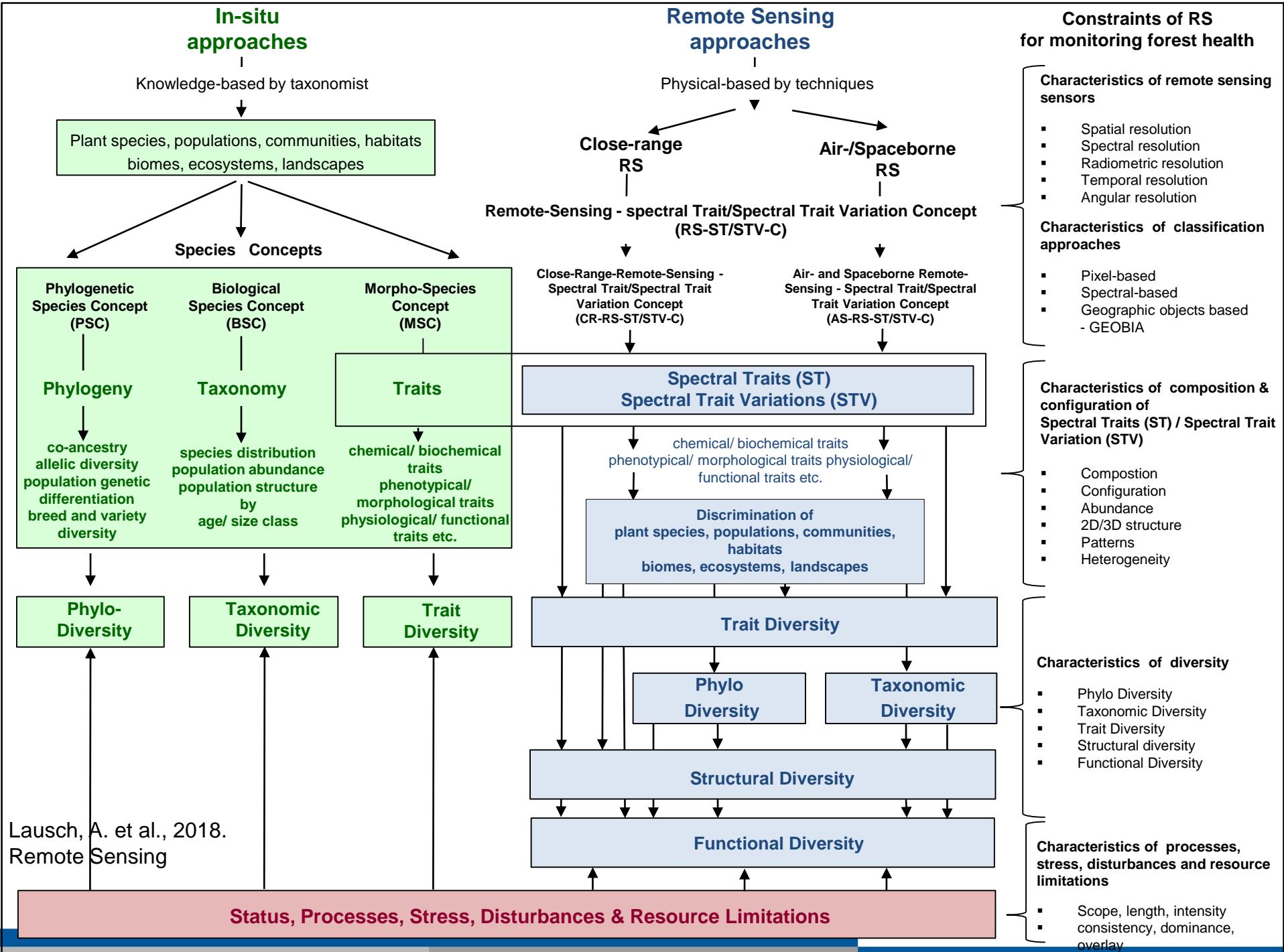
“**Healthy forest ecosystems** can be defined as **diverse systems** that are characterized by **a high resilience on different levels of biotic organization** from the **gene, molecular, individual, and community level** to that of **forest ecosystems**, with the ability to **quickly return to an initial state...**”

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.

Characteristics of Forest Health Diversity

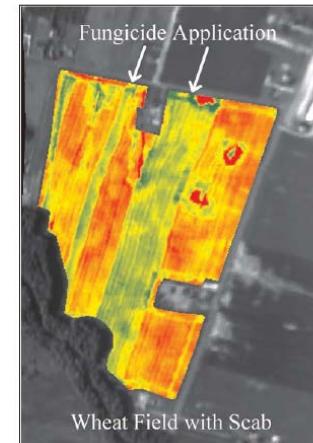
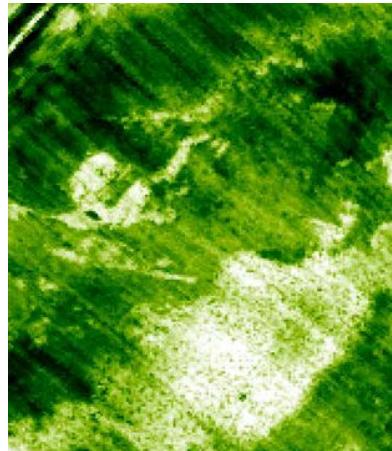
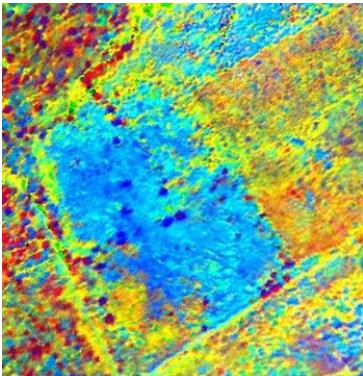
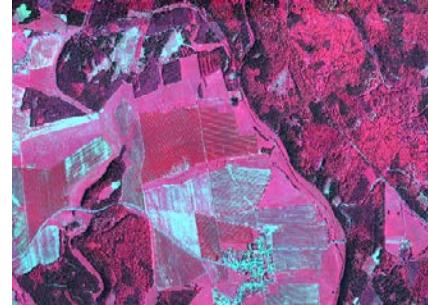
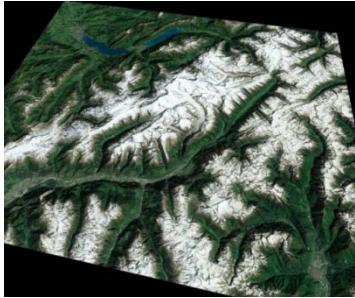


Lausch, A. et al., 2018. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing, Part III: Requirements for a Scalable Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network Based on Data Science Approaches. *Remote Sensing*, 10, 1120; doi:10.3390/rs10071120.



Approach: Remote Sensing

How can RS measure
status, stress, disturbances and resource
limitations of ecosystems?



Airborne



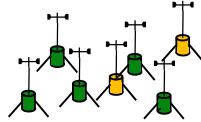
UAV - Drone



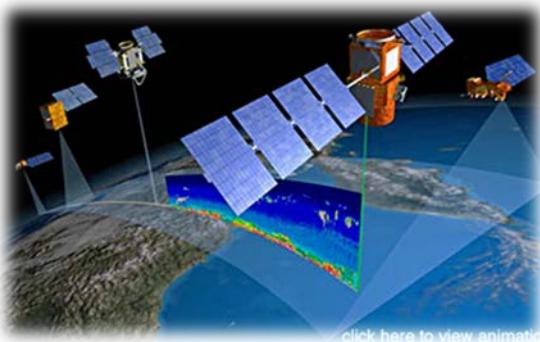
Camera trap



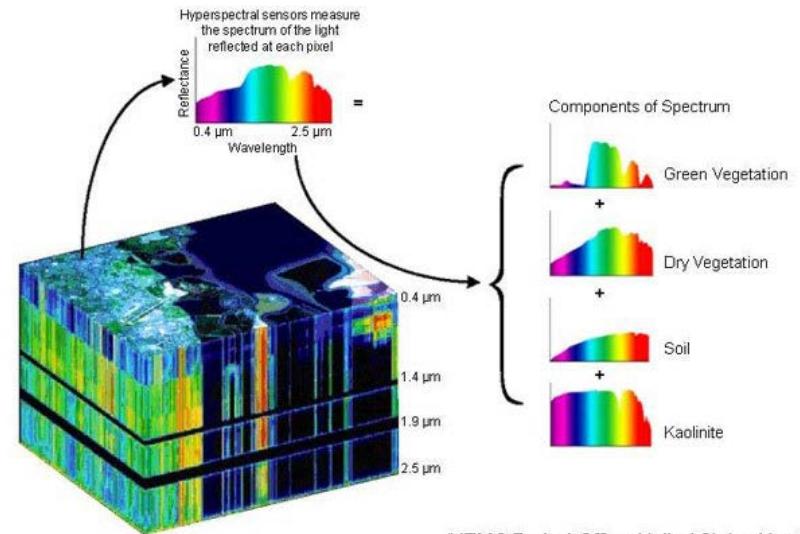
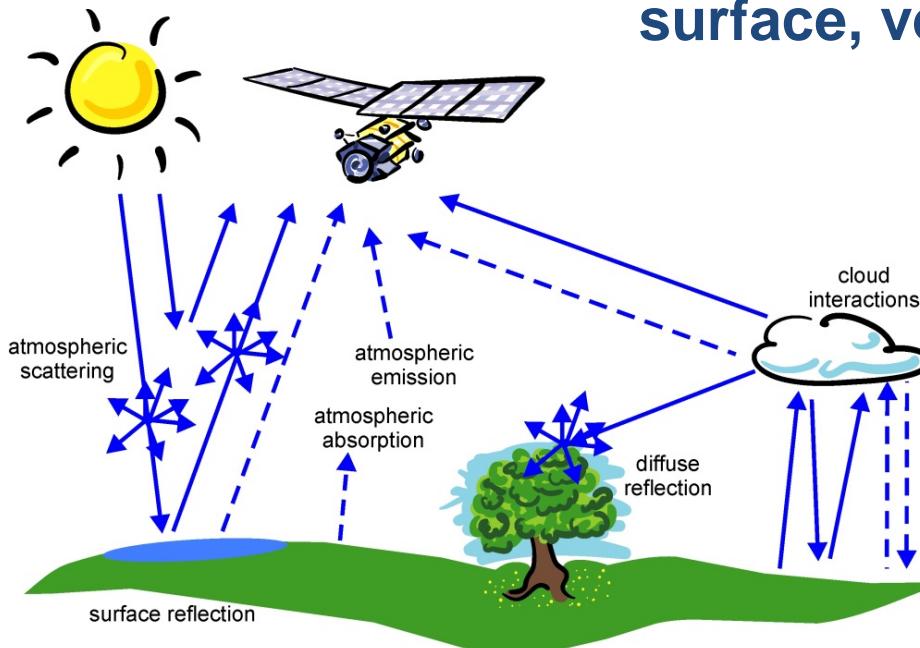
Wireless-Sensor-Network (WSN)



Approach: Remote Sensing



- Remote Sensing (RS)
 - Physical based system
 - Recording of electromagnetic spectrum
 - Reflection, absorption, surface scattering
-
- RS record „**Traits and Trait variations**“ of surface, vegetation, soil, water ..



(NEMO Project Office, United States Navy)

Approach: Trait concept of species

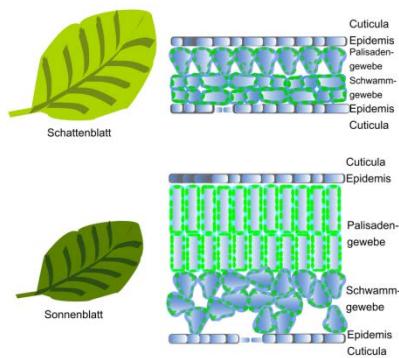
➤ **Plant traits** = „Anatomical, morphological, biochemical, physiological, structural or phenological characteristics of individuals, plants, populations, communities“

(modified after Kattge et al., 2011)

Growth-characteristics



Leaf-morphology



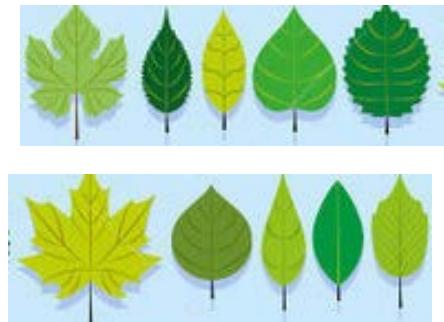
Flower-colour



Flower-shape



Leaf-shape



Approach: Trait concept of species

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

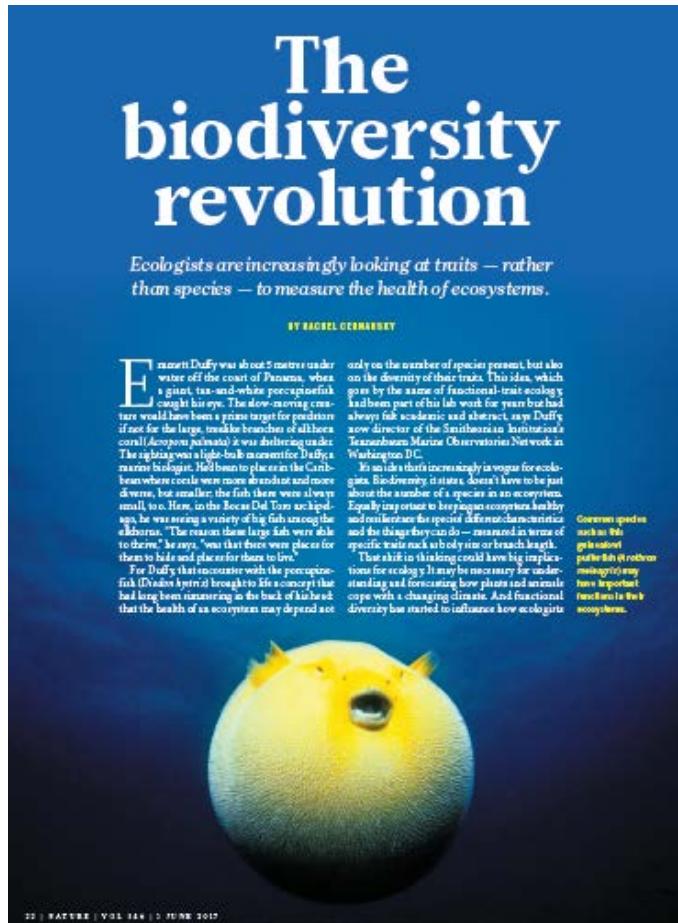
(Green et al., 2008)

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

Trait concept of species – Indicators / Filters of stress

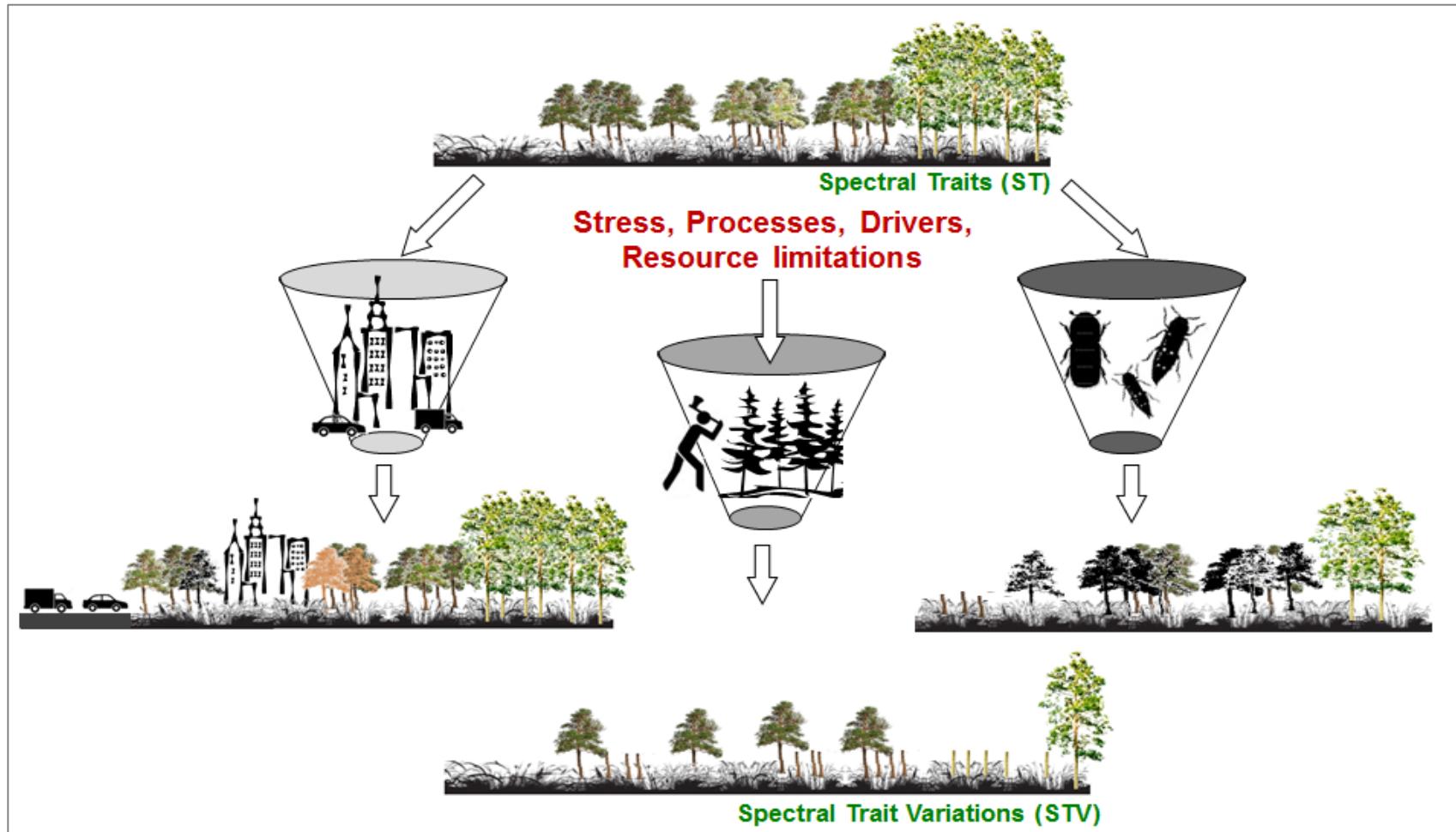
“Ecologists are increasingly looking **at traits - rather than species** - to measure the health of ecosystems”



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

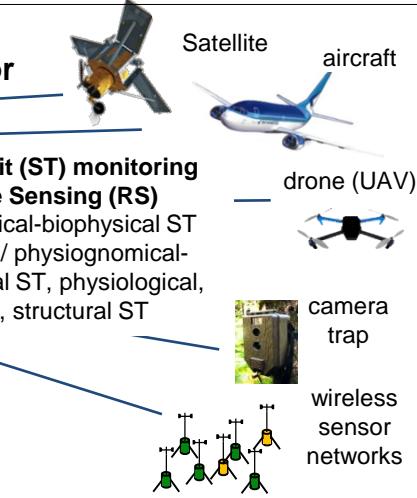
Trait concept – Indicators / Filters of stress

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



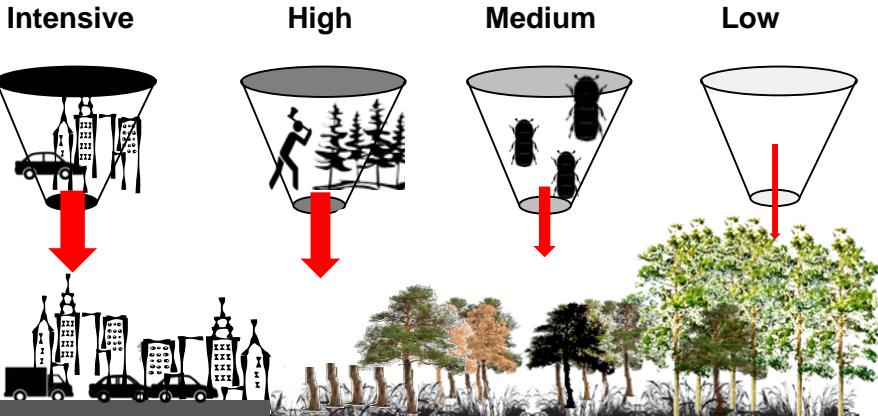
Process (a) → vegetation reactions → changes in traits → leading to trait variations (b)
→ spectral responses in remote sensing data (c), example of hyperspectral spectrum response for
→ vegetation health(d)

Traits in forest



(a) Processes

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



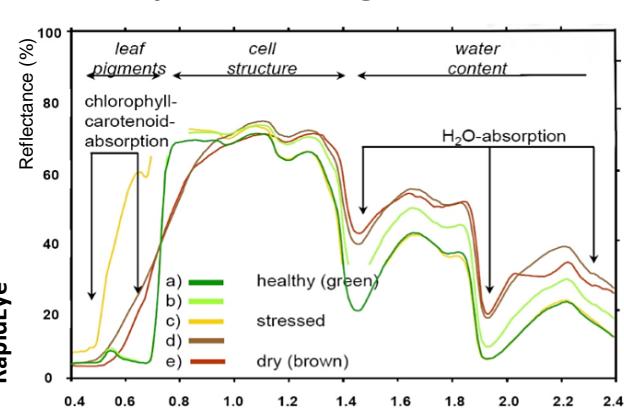
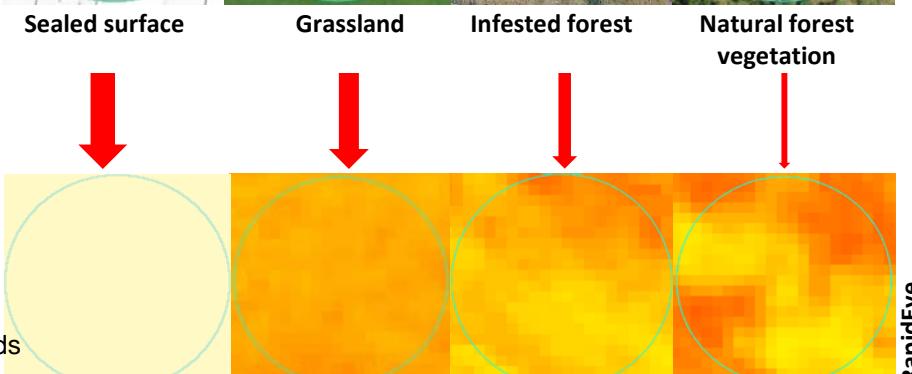
Spectral Trait Variations (STV) - monitoring with Remote Sensing (RS)
 Variation in e.g. biochemical-biophysical STV, phenotypical STV, physiognomical-morphological STV, physiological, functional STV, structural STV

(b) Trait variations



Orthophoto

(d) Hyperspectral spectrum response for vegetation health

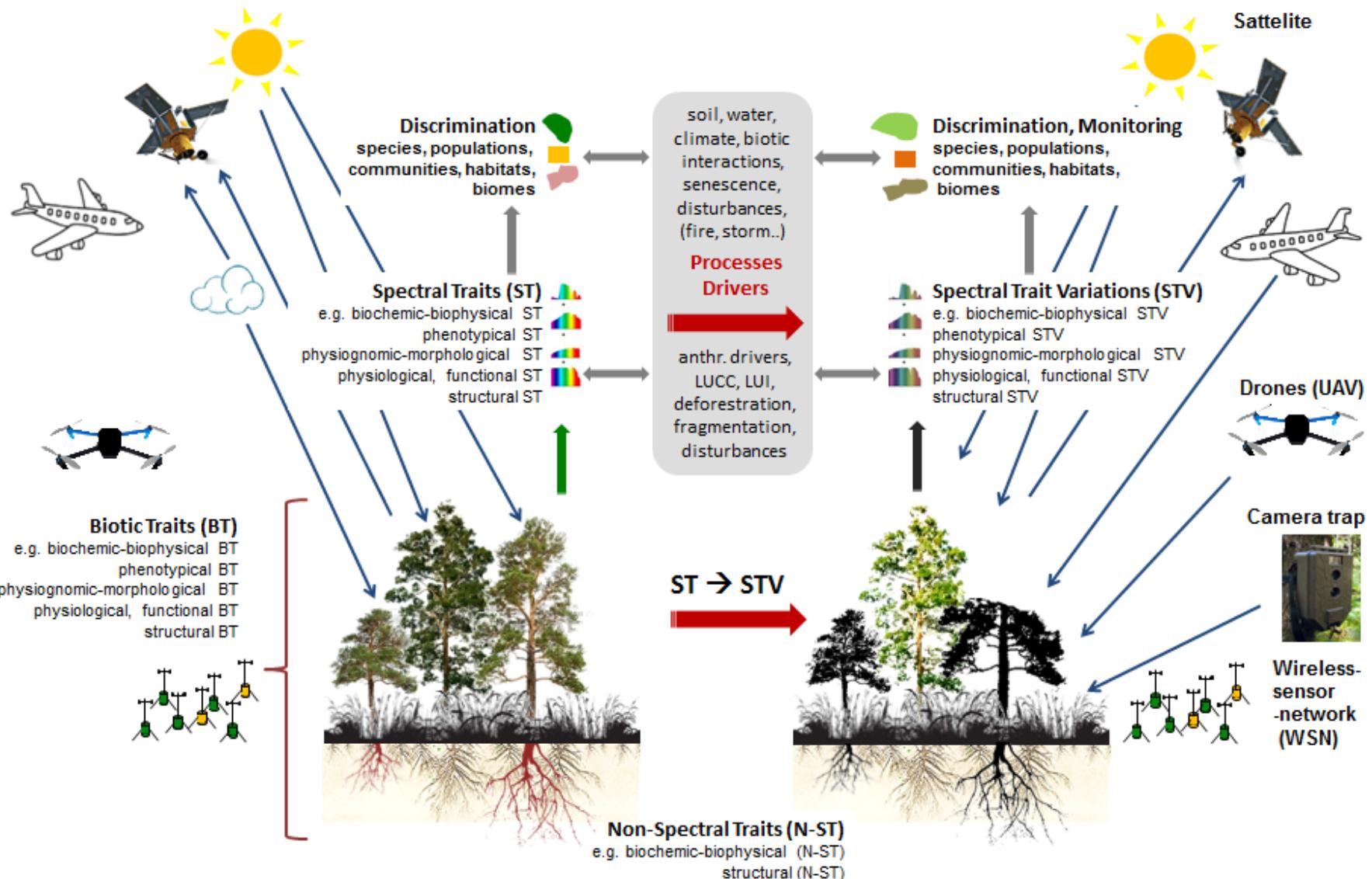


(c) Spectral response

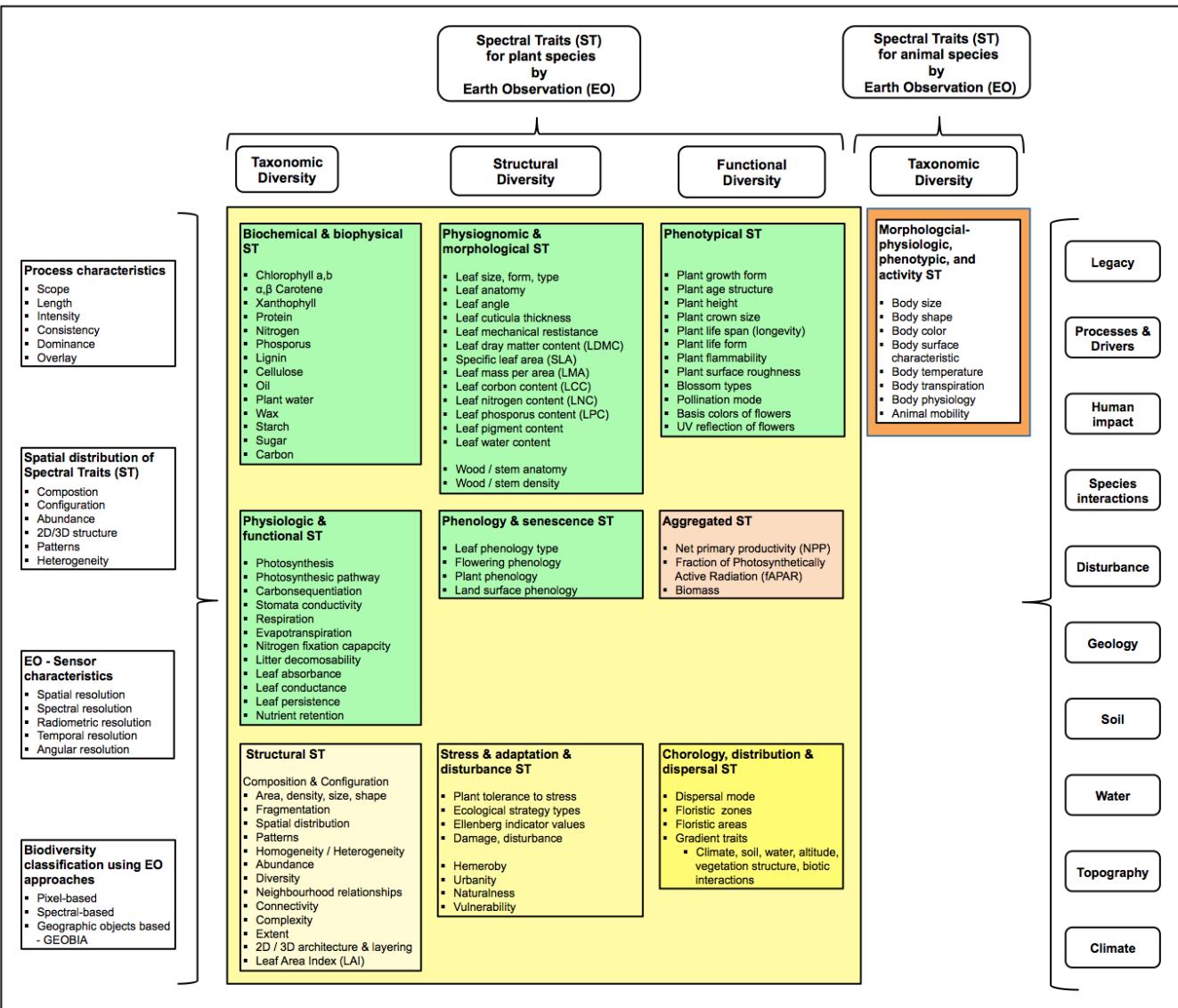
Lausch, A. et al., 2018. Methods
 Ecology and Evolution

NDVI

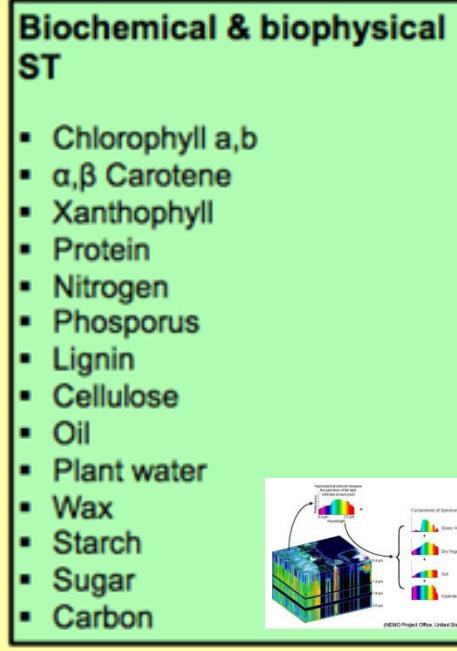
Approach: „Remote Sensing can measure ST/STV“



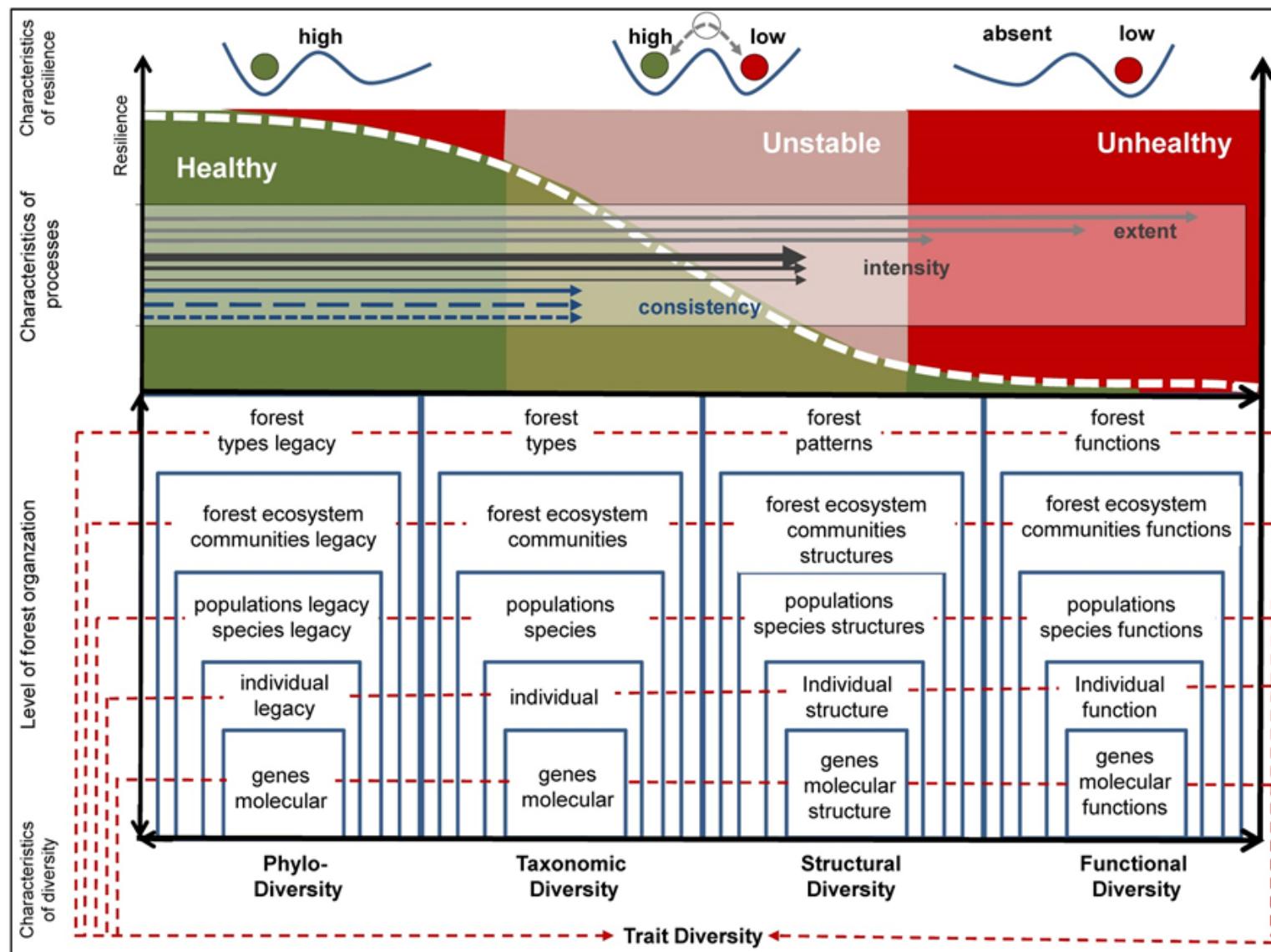
Approach: „Remote Sensing can measure ST/STV“



Examples for monitoring with hyperspectral RS

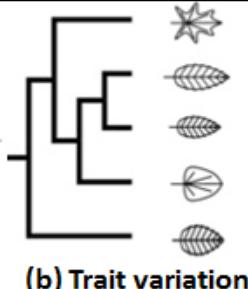
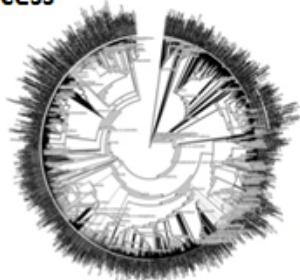


Characteristics of Forest Health Diversity



Forest health by RS – Phylogenetic – Stress & Diversity

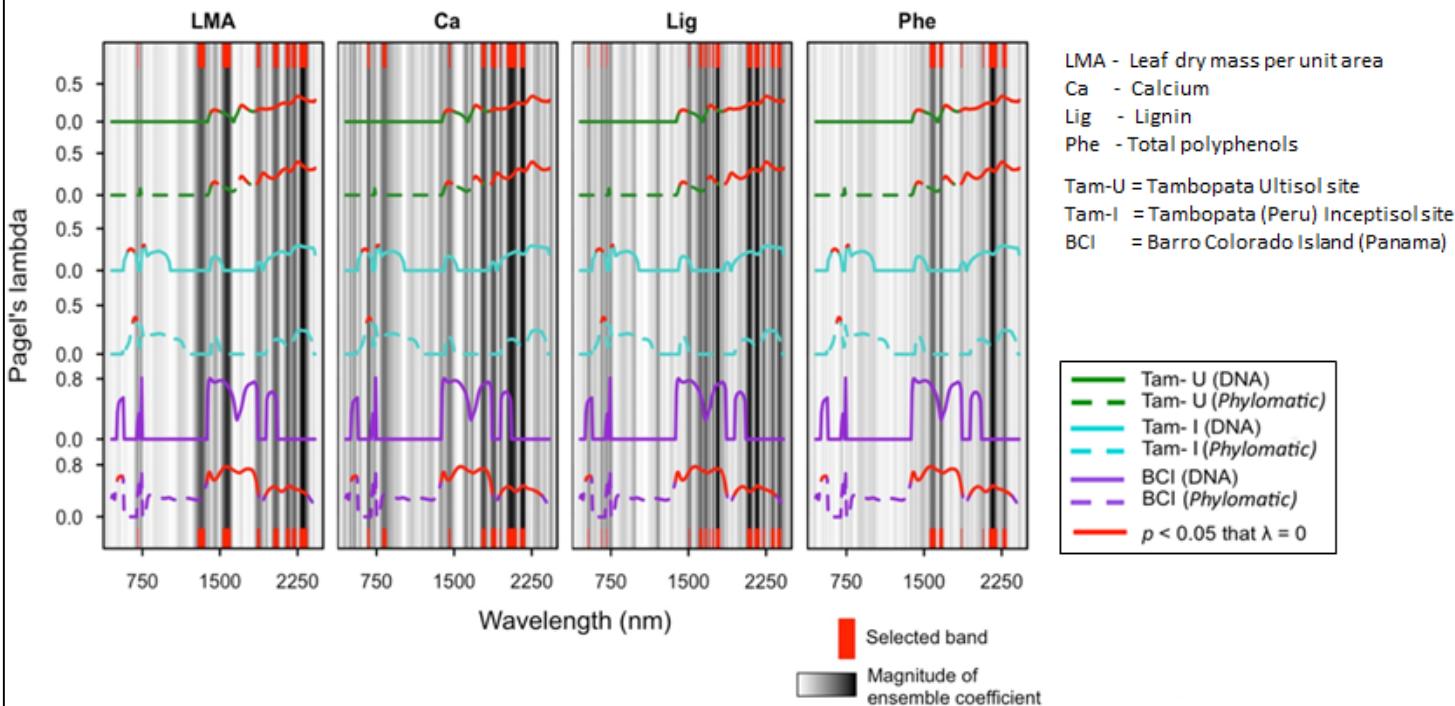
(a) Process



Phylogenetic and epigenetic processes (a)
→ Vegetation reactions (biochemical, morphological adaptations) → Change in traits → Trait variations
(b) → Spectral response (c)

(b) Trait variation

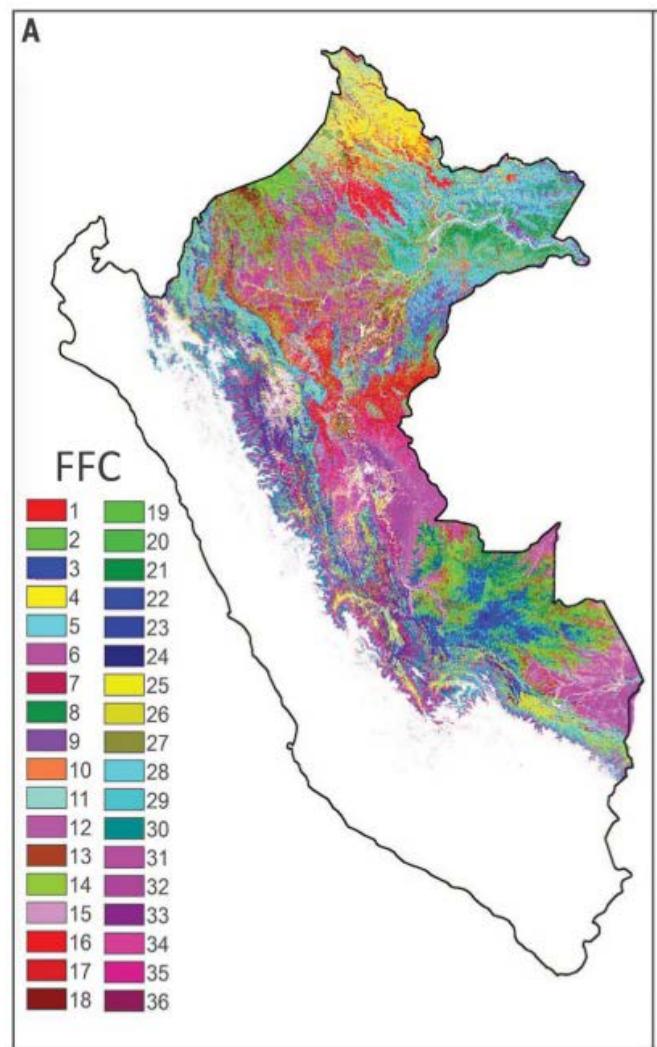
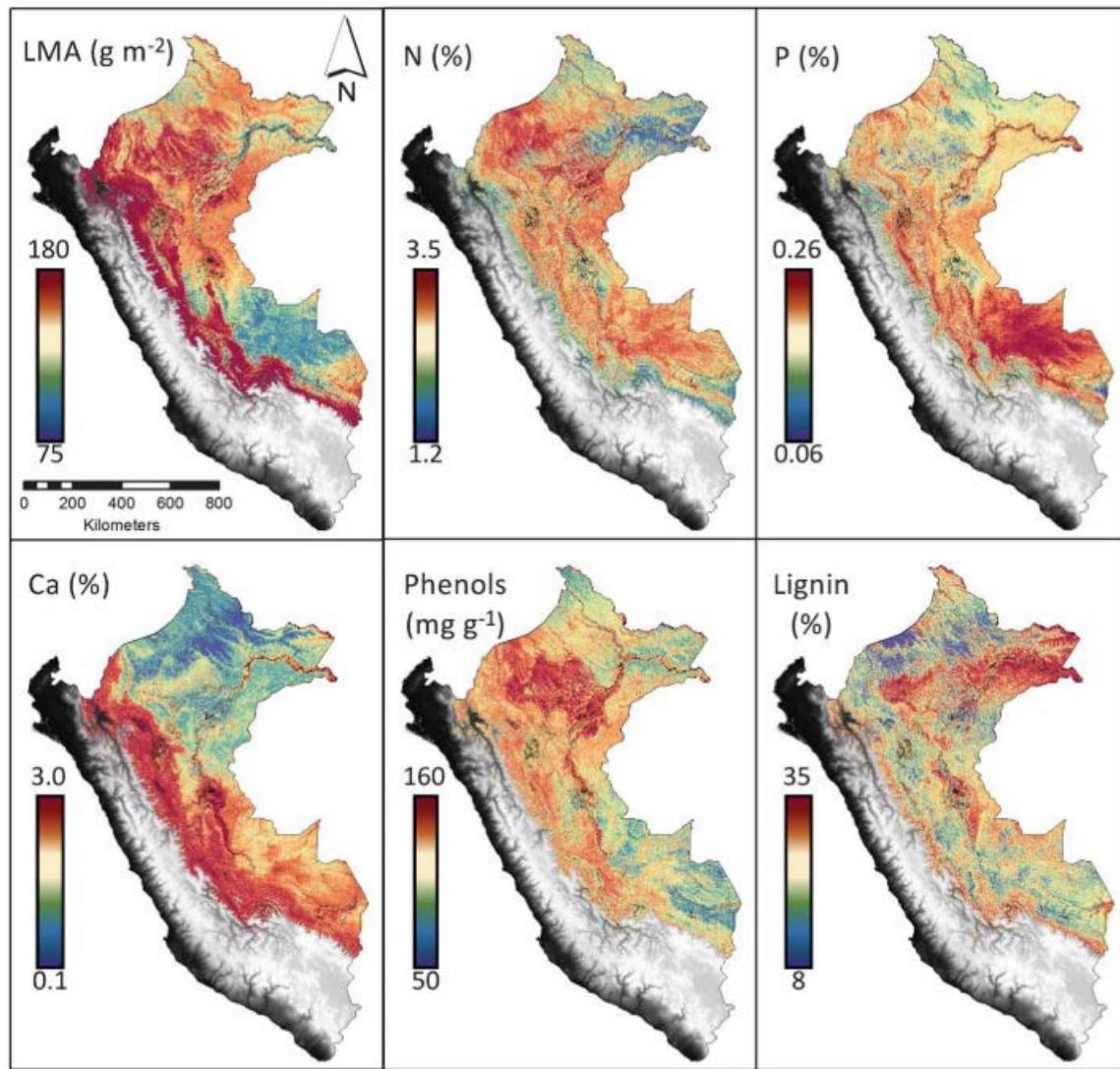
(c) Spectral response



Lausch, A., Leitão, P.J., Monitoring Vegetation Diversity and Health through Spectral Traits and Trait Variations Based on Hyperspectral Remote Sensing . Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops. Prasad S. Thenkabail, John Lyon, Alfredo Huete (eds.) Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops, (second edition), 2018, in press TAYLOR & FRANCIS.

Forest health by RS – Phylo & functional Diversity

Forest functional diversity



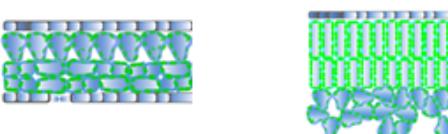
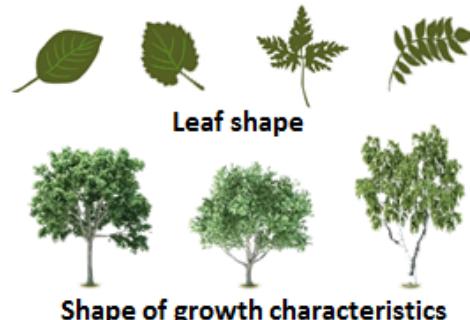
Asner, G.P., Martin, R.E., Knapp, D.E., Tupayachi, R., Anderson, C.B., Sinca, F., Vaughn, N.R., Llactayo, W., 2017. Airborne laser-guided imaging spectroscopy to map forest trait diversity and guide conservation. *Science* (80-.). 355, 385–389.
doi:10.1126/science.aaj1987

Forest health by RS – Taxonomic – Stress & Diversity

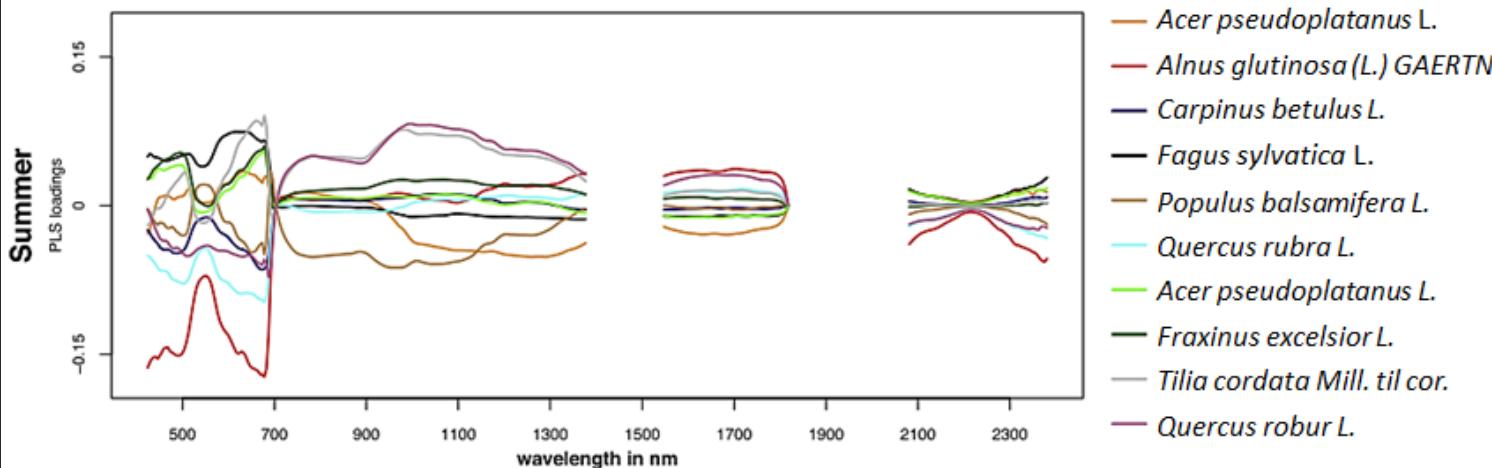
(a) Process

Phylogenetic and epigenetic processes (a) → Vegetation reactions (biochemical, morphological adaptations) → Change in traits → Trait variations (b) → Spectral response (c) - discrimination of taxonomic plant species

(b) Traits / Trait variations



(c) Spectral response

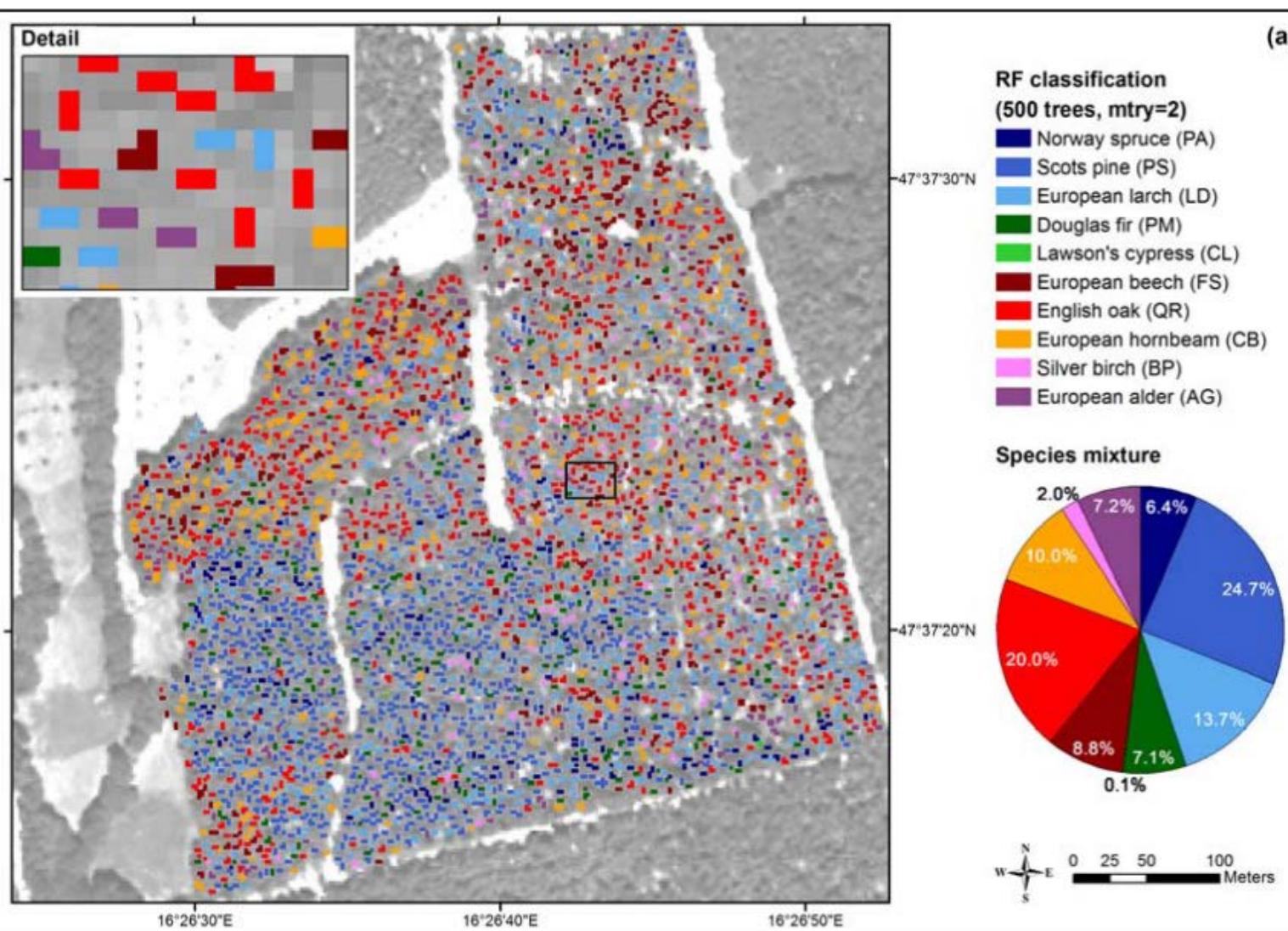


Tree Species Classification

RS:
Hyperspectral
(HySpex)

Lausch, A., Leitão,P.J., Monitoring Vegetation Diversity and Health through Spectral Traits and Trait Variations Based on Hyperspectral Remote Sensing . Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops. Prasad S. Thenkabail, John Lyon, Alfredo Huete (eds.) Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops, (second edition), 2018, in press TAYLOR & FRANCIS.

Forest health by RS – Taxonomic – Stress & Diversity



Tree Species Classification

RS:
8-Band
WorldView-2

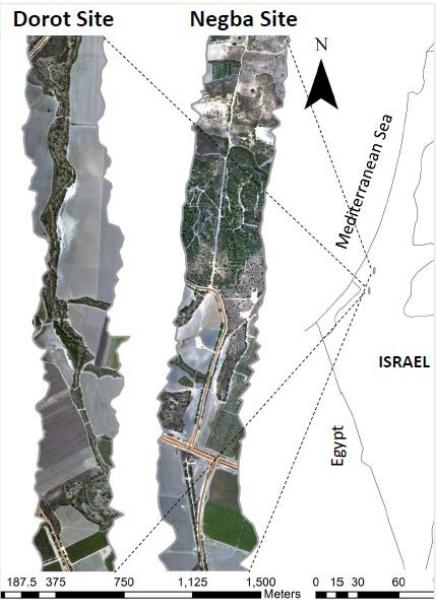
East of Austria
(47°38'N,
16°26'E) in

Immitzer, M., Atzberger, C., Koukal, T., 2012. Tree species classification with Random forest using very high spatial resolution 8-band worldView-2 satellite data. *Remote Sens.* 4, 2661–2693. doi:10.3390/rs4092661

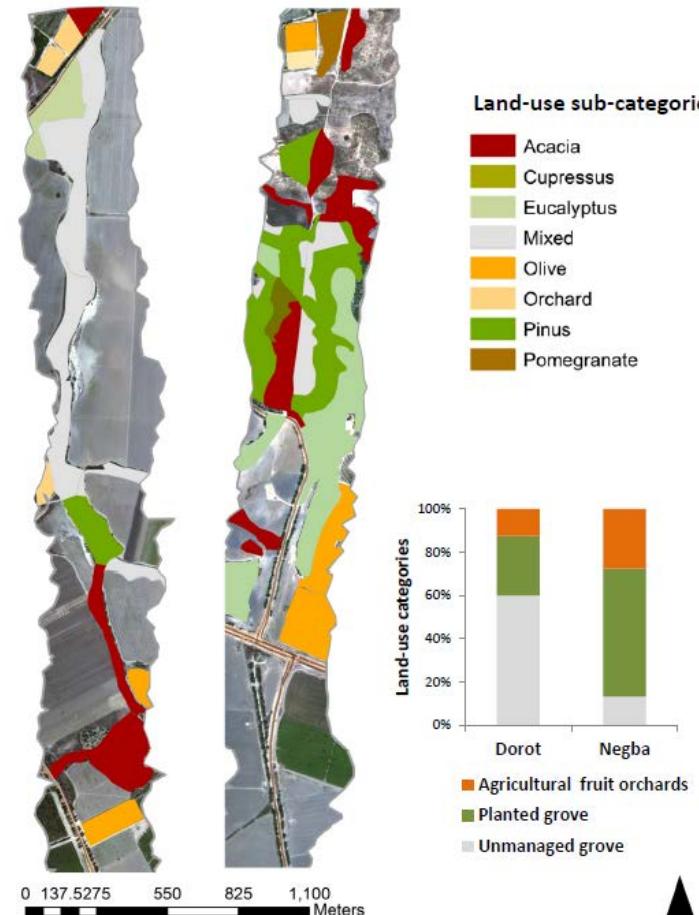
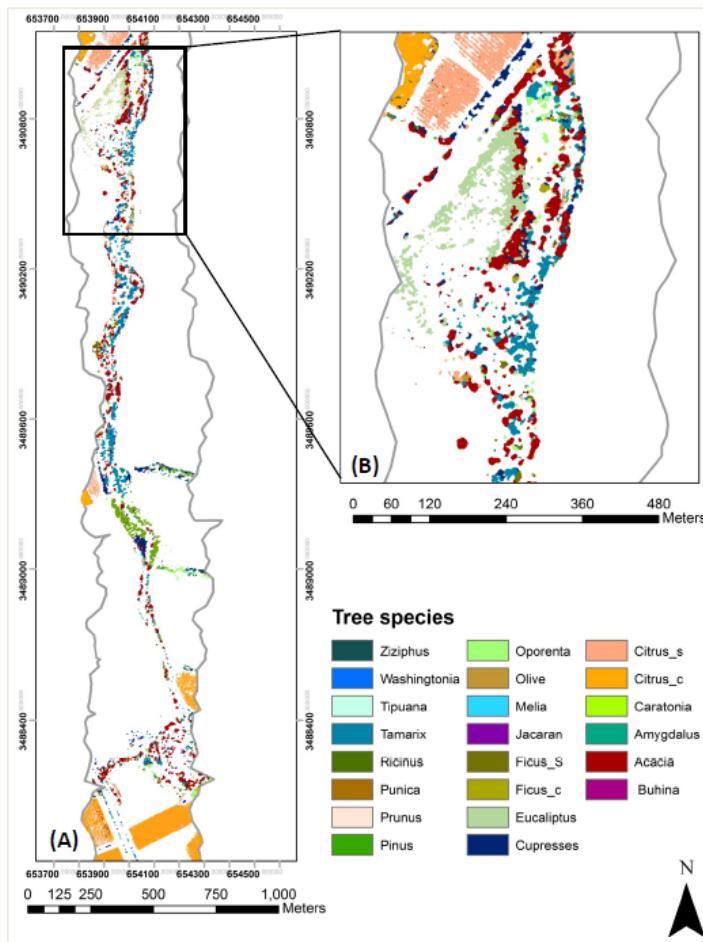
Forest health by RS – Taxonomic – Stress & Diversity

Biochemical & biophysical ST

- Chlorophyll a,b
- α,β Carotene
- Xanthophyll
- Protein
- Nitrogen
- Phosphorus
- Lignin
- Cellulose
- Oil
- Plant water
- Wax
- Starch
- Sugar
- Carbon



Traits of plants - important for discrimination of plants by RS



Paz-Kagan, T., Caras, T., Herrmann, I., Shachak, M., Karnieli, A., 2017. Multiscale mapping of species diversity under changed land use using imaging spectroscopy. *Ecol. Appl.* 27, 1466–1484. doi:10.1002/eap.1540

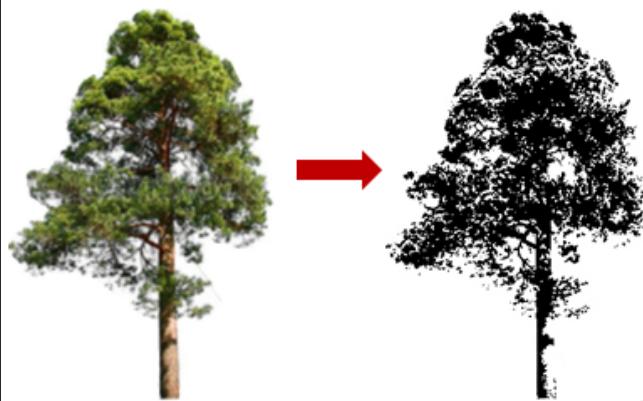
Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity

Process (a) → Vegetation reactions → Changes in traits → lead to trait variations (b) → Spectral response (c)

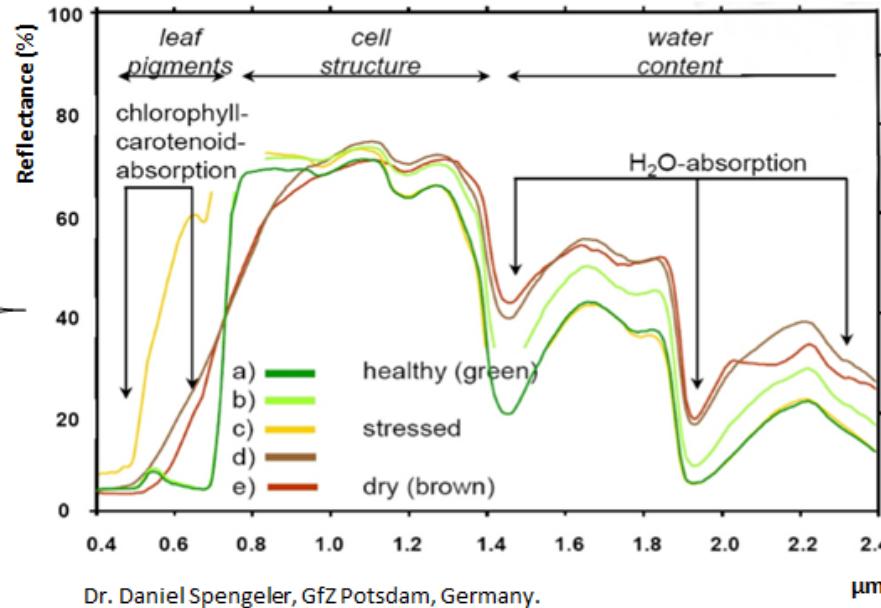
(a) Process



(b) Trait variation

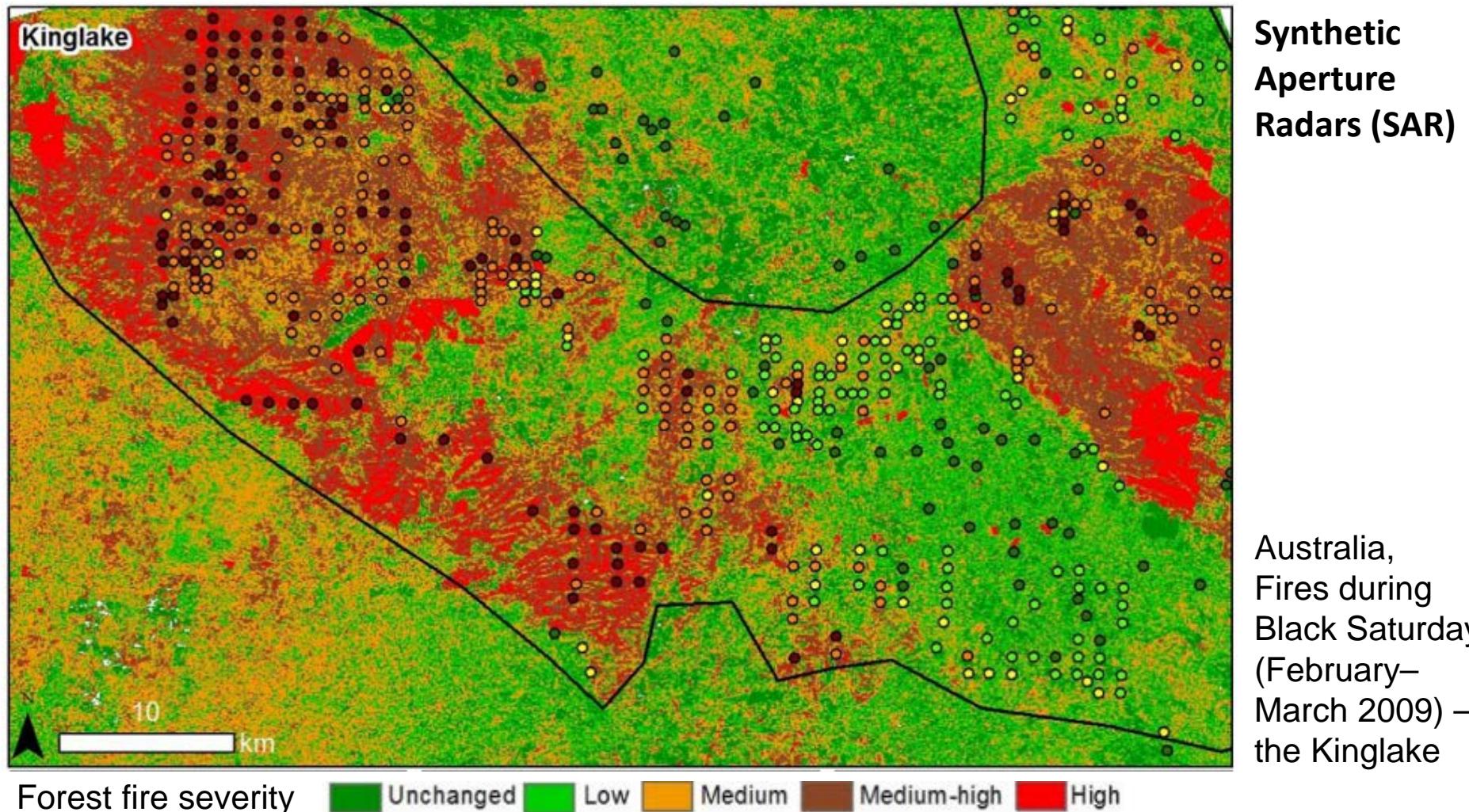


(c) Spectral response



Lausch, A., Leitão,P.J., Monitoring Vegetation Diversity and Health through Spectral Traits and Trait Variations Based on Hyperspectral Remote Sensing . Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops. Prasad S. Thenkabail, John Lyon, Alfredo Huete (eds.) Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops, (second edition), 2018, in press TAYLOR & FRANCIS.

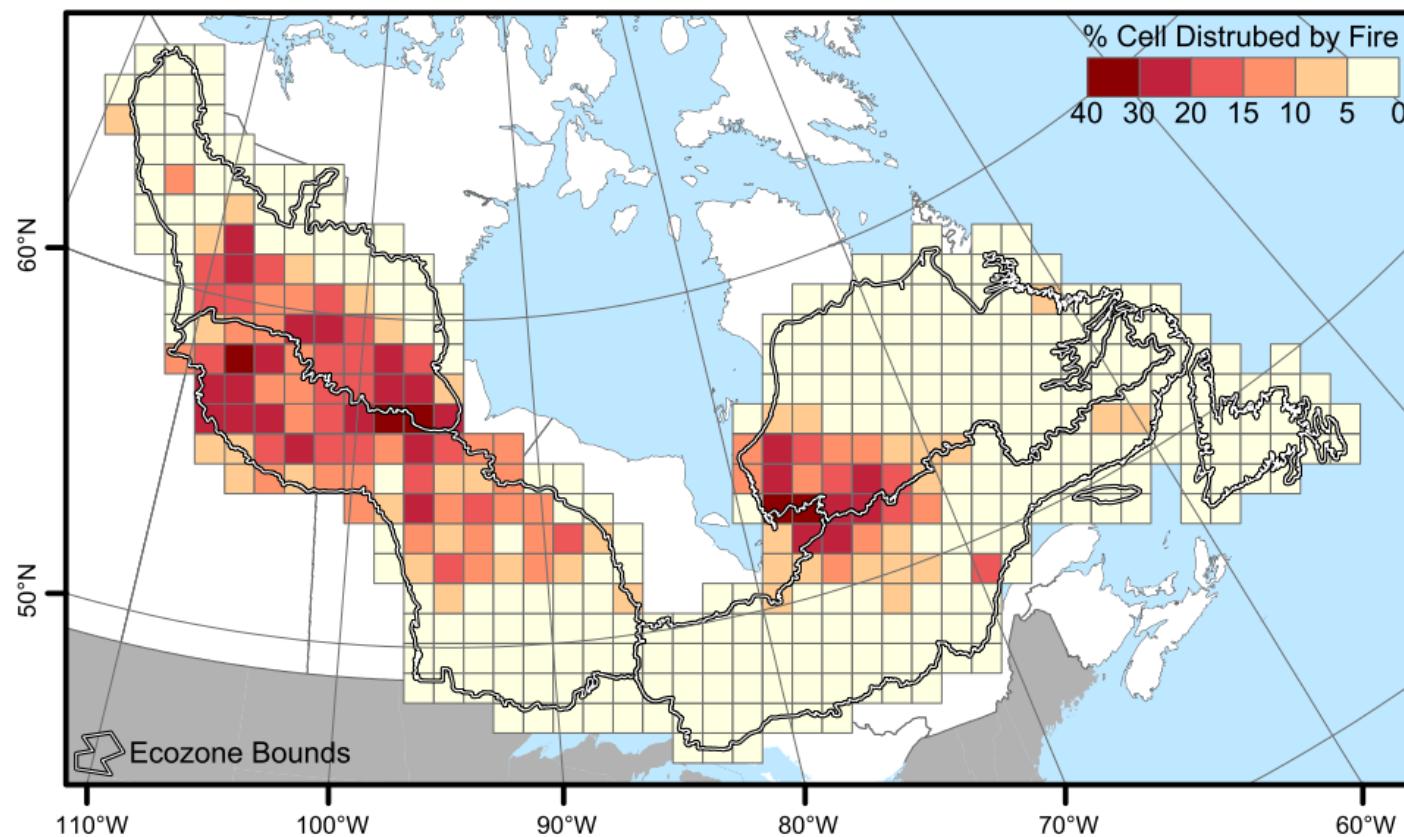
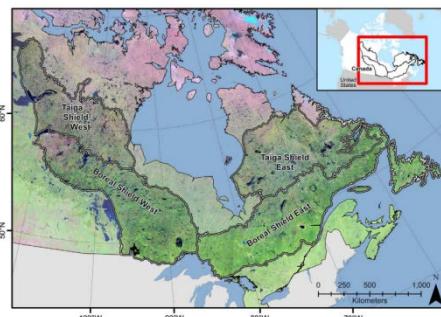
Forest health by RS – Forest fire severity estimation



Tanase, M.A., Kennedy, R., Aponte, C., 2015. Radar Burn Ratio for fire severity estimation at canopy level: An example for temperate forests. *Remote Sens. Environ.* 170, 14–31. doi:10.1016/j.rse.2015.08.025

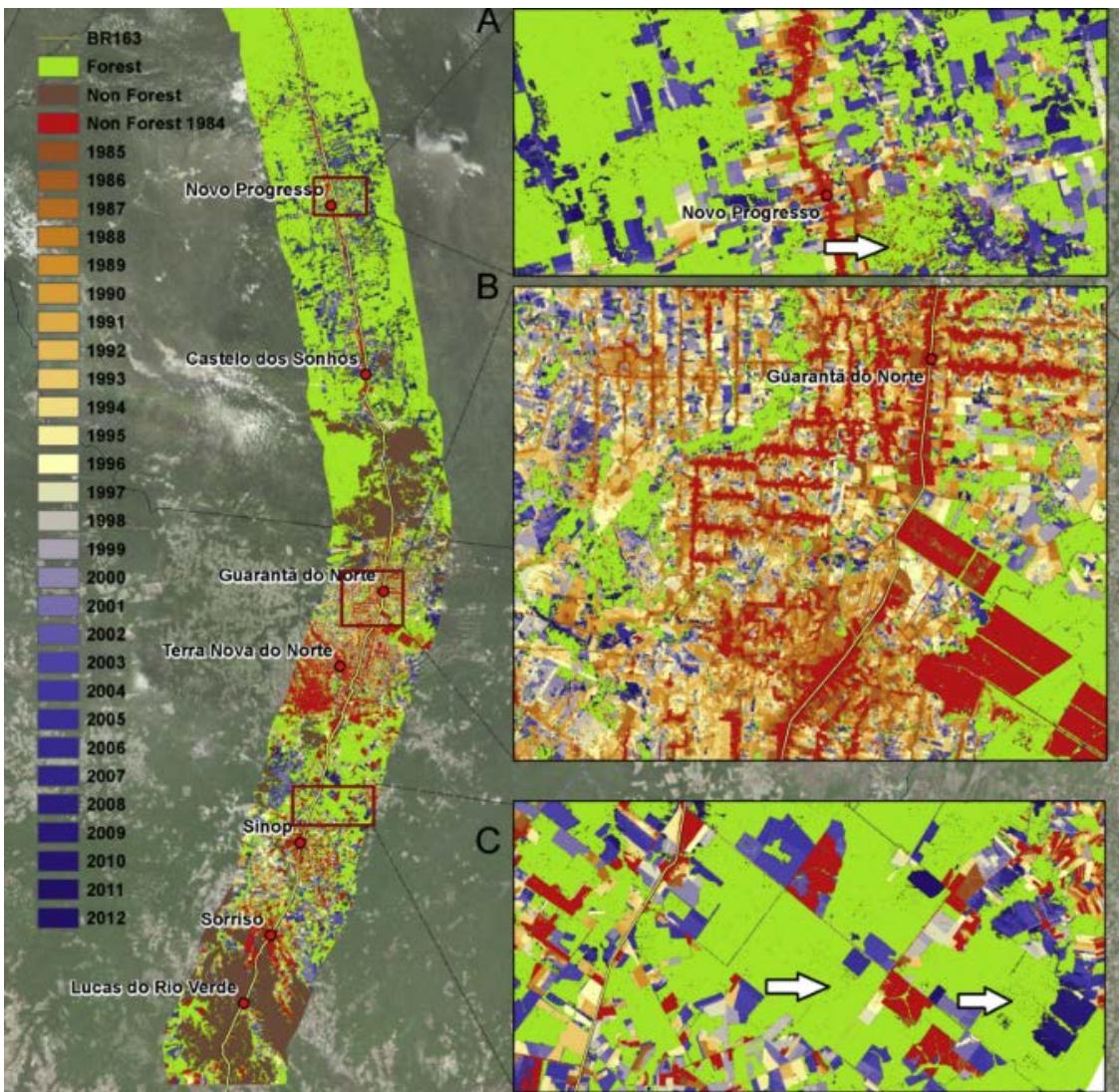
Forest health by RS – Forest fire severity estimation

Time Series –
Landsat (1986-2006)



Frazier, R.J., Coops, N.C., Wulder, M.A., Hermosilla, T., White, J.C., 2018. Analyzing spatial and temporal variability in short-term rates of post-fire vegetation return from Landsat time series. *Remote Sens. Environ.* 205, 32–45.
doi:10.1016/j.rse.2017.11.007

Forest health by RS – Long-term deforestation, fragmentation

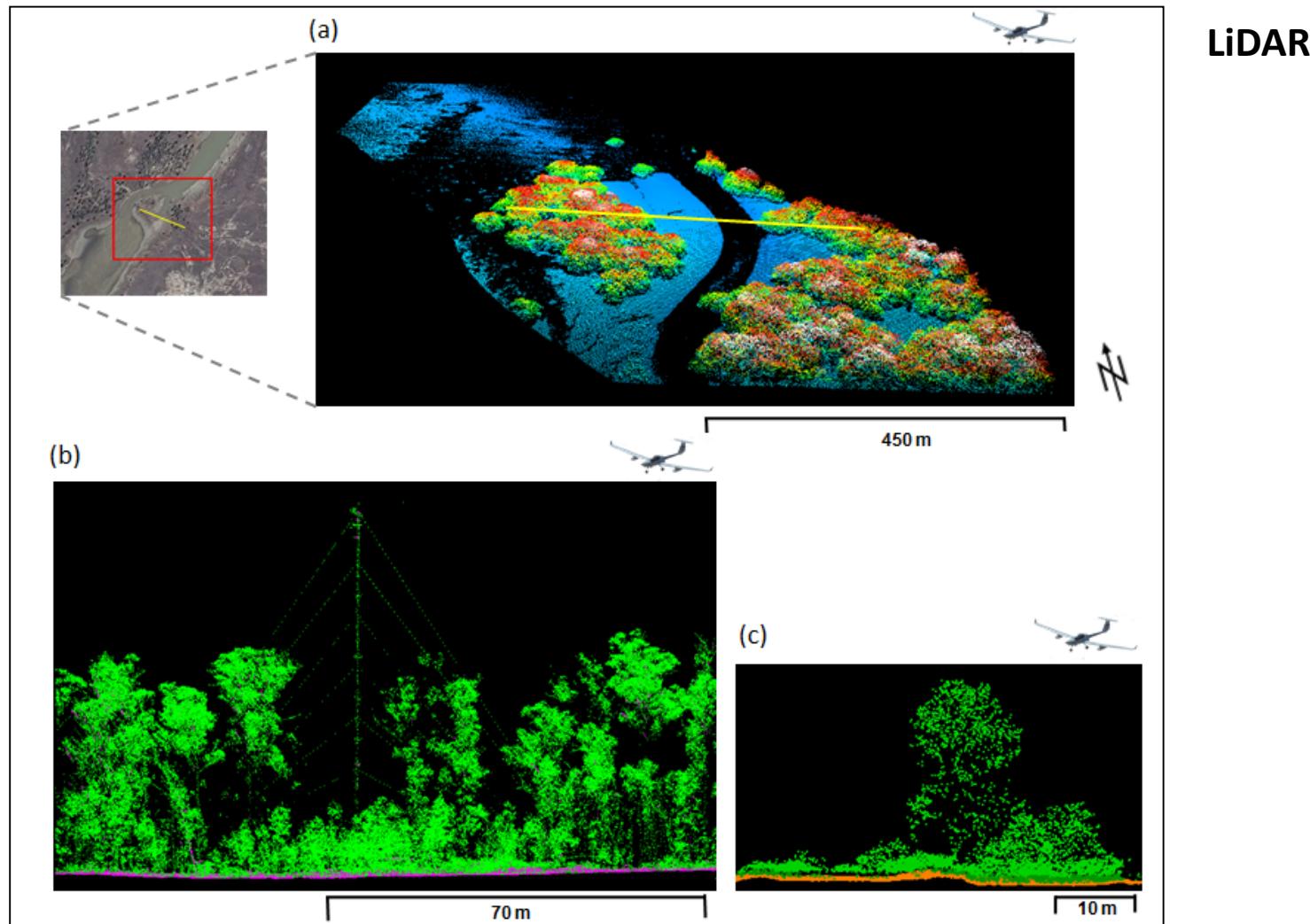


Time Series –
Landsat (1984-1912),
Brazilian

Müller, H., Griffiths, P., Hostert, P., 2016. Long-term deforestation dynamics in the Brazilian Amazon — Uncovering historic frontier development along the Cuiabá – Santarém highway. Int. J. Appl. Earth Obs. Geoinf. 44, 61–69.
doi:10.1016/j.jag.2015.07.005

Forest health by RS – 2/3 D Structural Diversity

➤ Traits → Structural traits



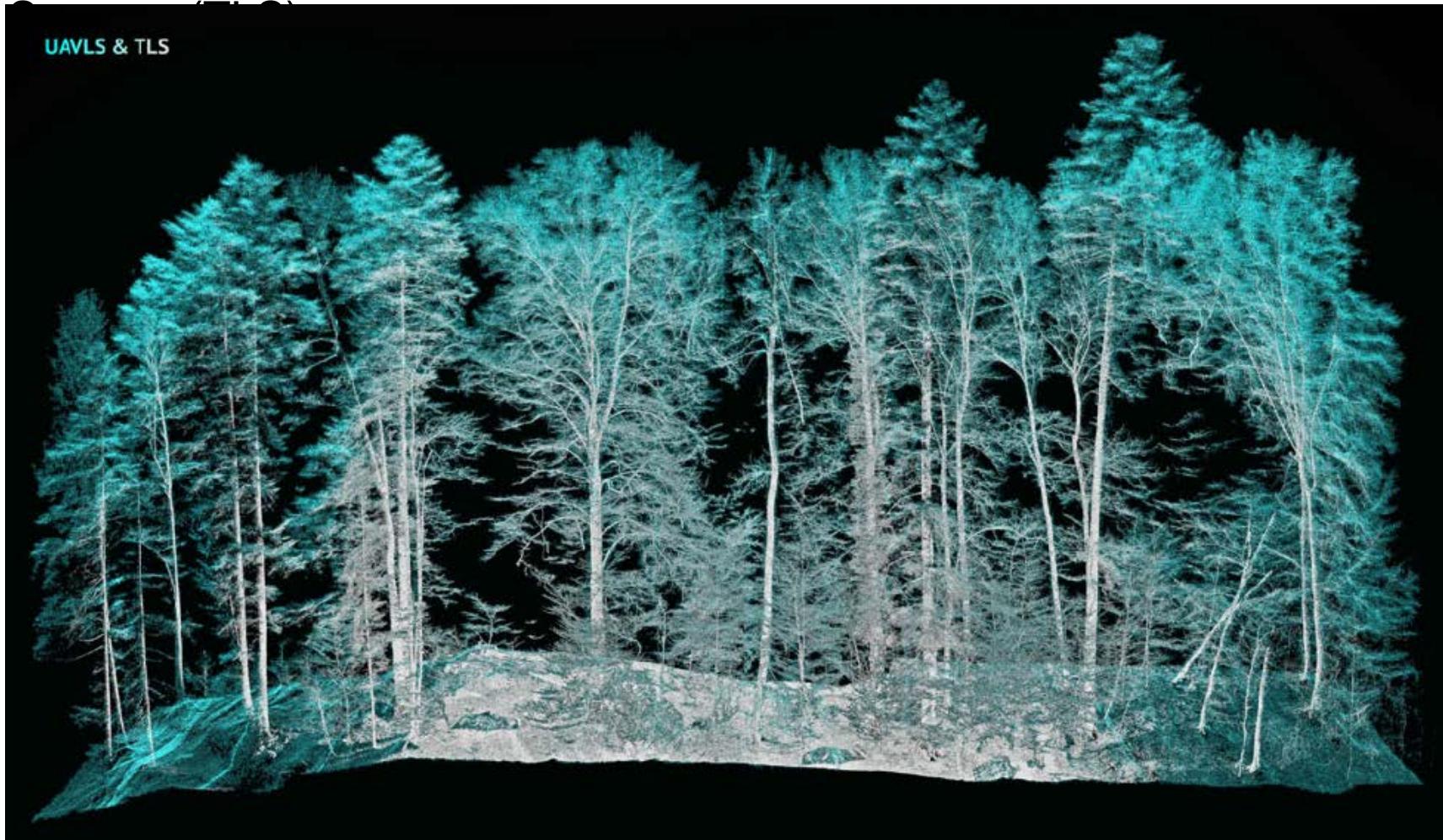
Lausch, A., et al., 2016. Linking Earth Observation and taxonomic, structural and functional biodiversity: Local to ecosystem perspectives. Ecological Indicators 70., 317-339., doi: 10.1016/j.ecolind.2016.06.022.

Forest health by RS – 2/3 D Structural Diversity

Coupling - Laserscanning (UAVLS) & Terrestrial Laser

(TLS)

UAVLS & TLS

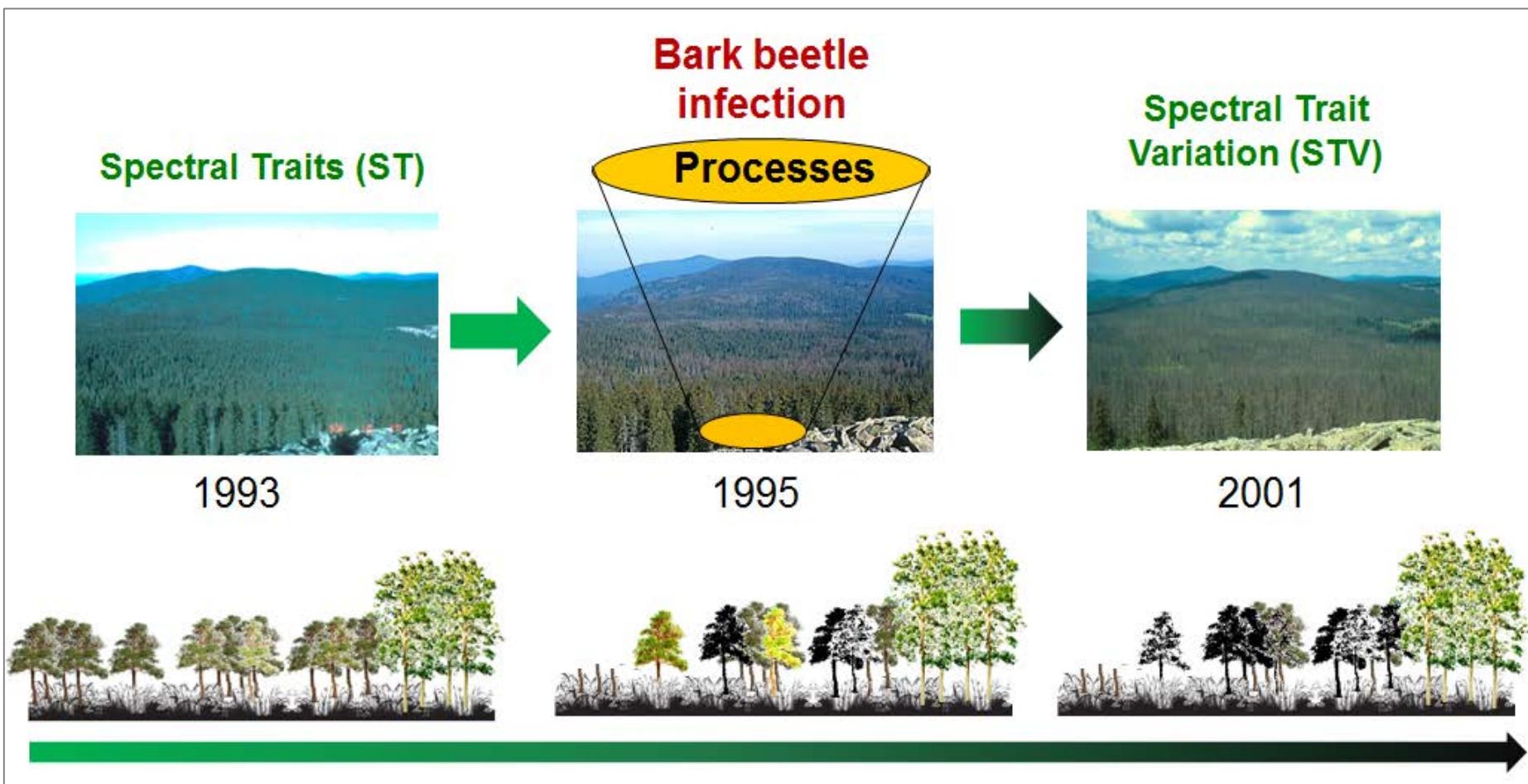


Laegeren Forest, Switzerland

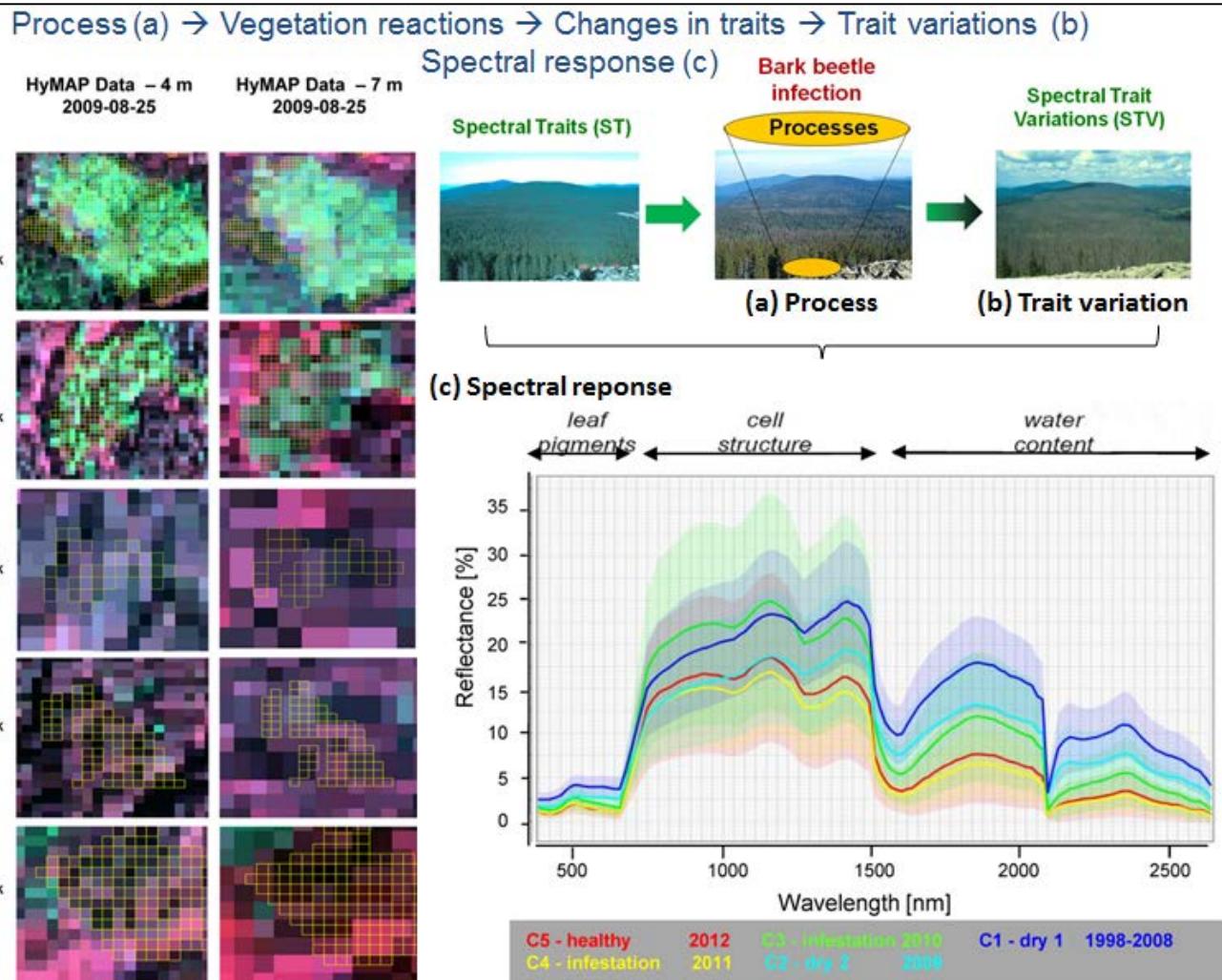
Morsdorf, F., Kükenbrink, D., Schneider, F.D., Abegg, M., Schaepman, M.E., 2018. Close-range laser scanning in forests: towards physically based semantics across scales. Interface Focus 8, 20170046. doi:10.1098/rsfs.2017.0046

Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity

Traits/ Trait variations = Proxy / filter for status, stress, disturbances, processes & resource limitations



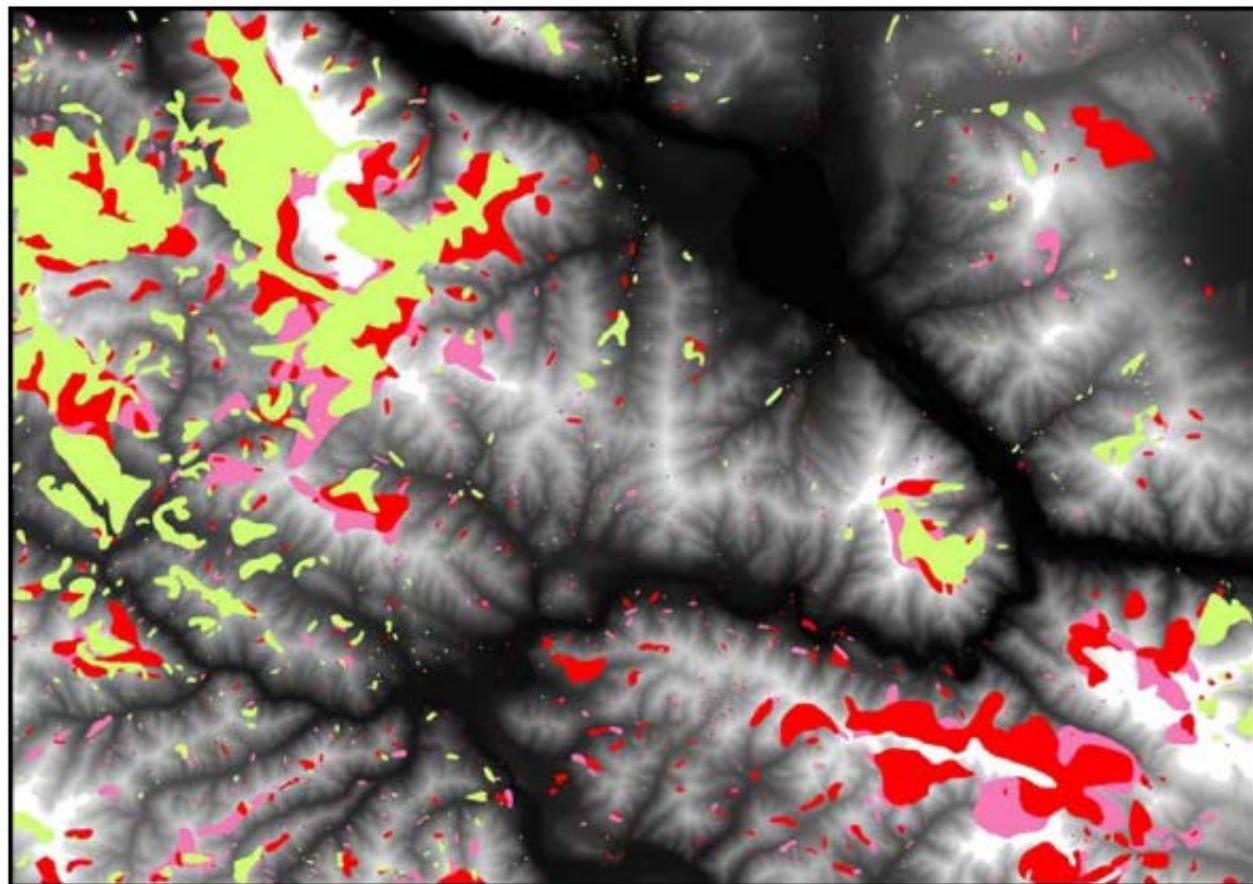
Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity



Bark beetle infection

Lausch, A., Leitão,P.J., Monitoring Vegetation Diversity and Health through Spectral Traits and Trait Variations Based on Hyperspectral Remote Sensing . Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops. Prasad S. Thenkabail, John Lyon, Alfredo Huete (eds.) Hyperspectral Remote Sensing of Vegetation and Agricultural Crops, (second edition), 2018, in press TAYLOR & FRANCIS.

Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity



Aerial Overview Survey Data: Location of Mountain Pine Beetle Red-Attack

2001 2002 2003

N
1:215,000

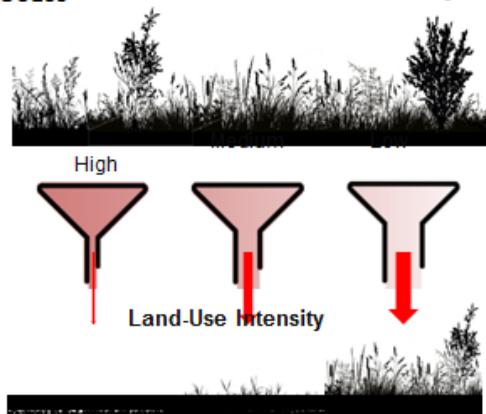
Wulder, M.A., White, J.C., Bentz, B., Alvarez, M.F., Coops, N.C., 2006. Estimating the probability of mountain pine beetle red-attack damage. *Remote Sens. Environ.* 101, 150–166. doi:10.1016/j.rse.2005.12.010

Mountain pine beetle
red-attack
Landsat

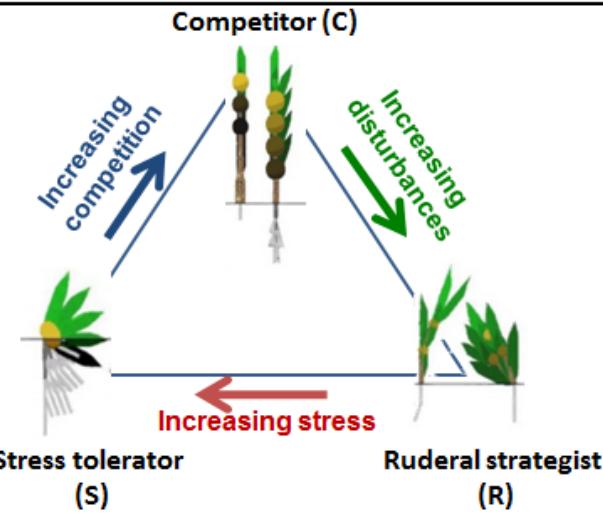
Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity

Process (a) → Vegetation reactions → Changes in traits → lead to trait variations (b)

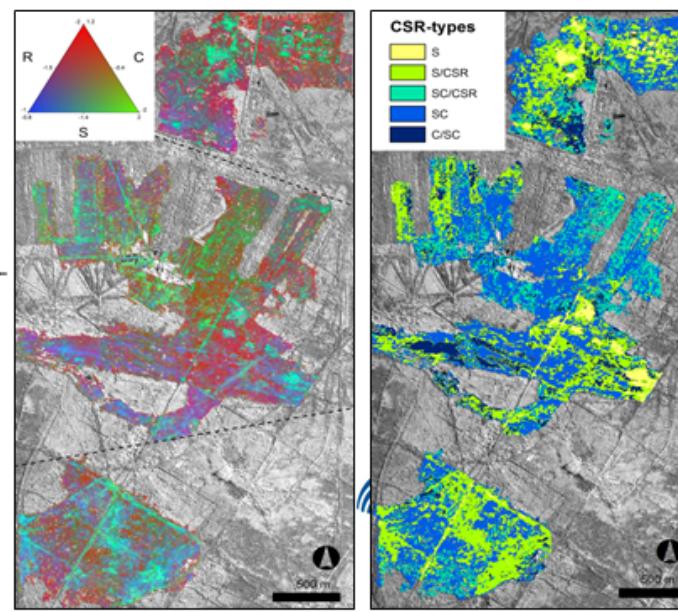
(a) Process



(b) Trait variation



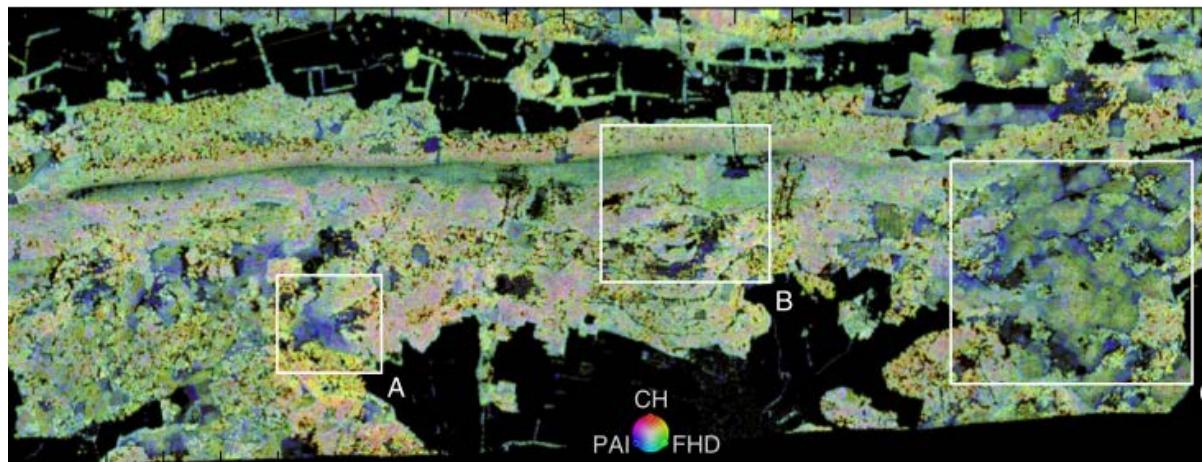
(c) Spectral response



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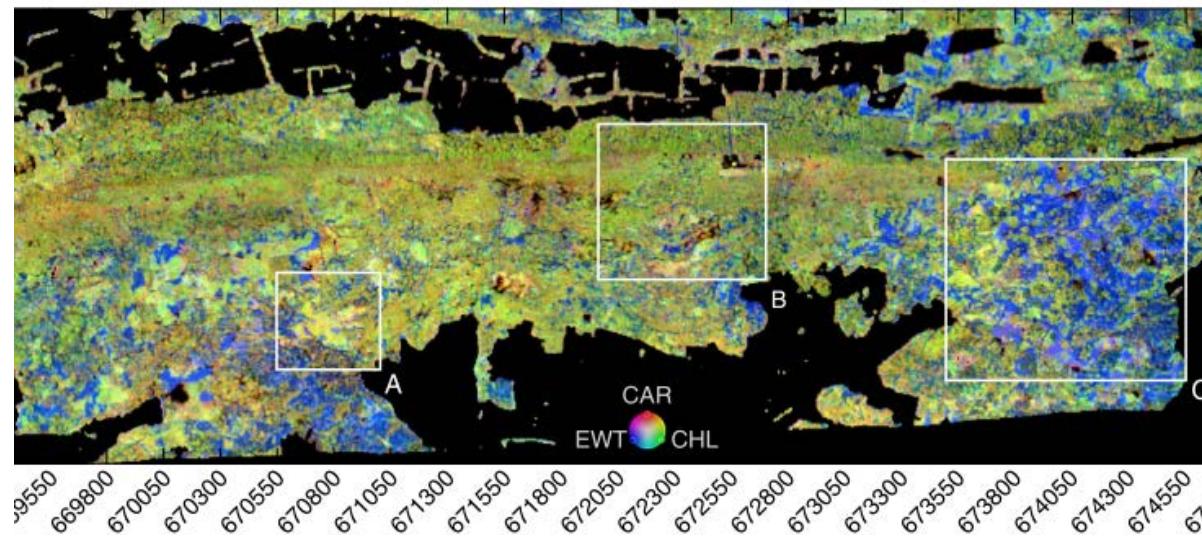
Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity

Spatial composition of morphological, physiological traits to derivate FH diversity



Morphological forest traits

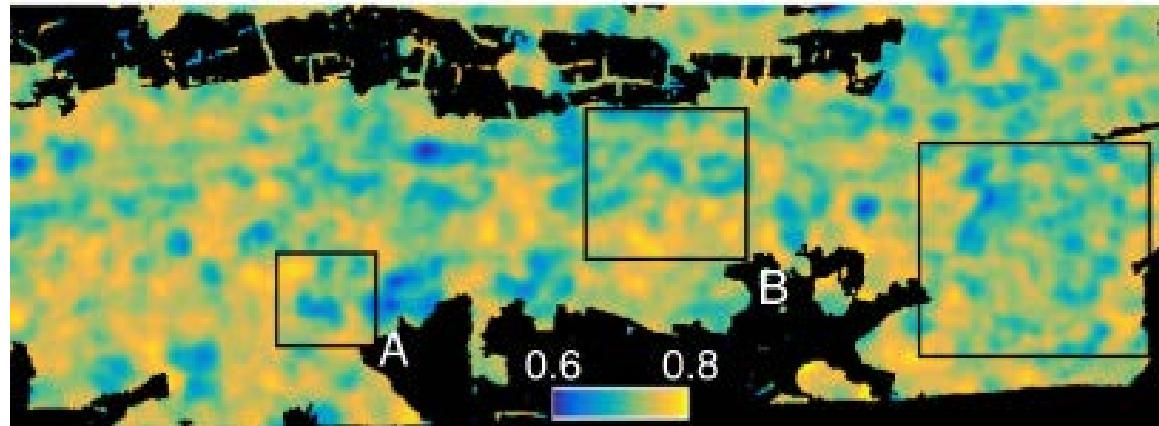
Plant area index (PAI, blue),
Canopy height (CH, red)
Foliage height diversity (FHD, green)



Physiological forest traits

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

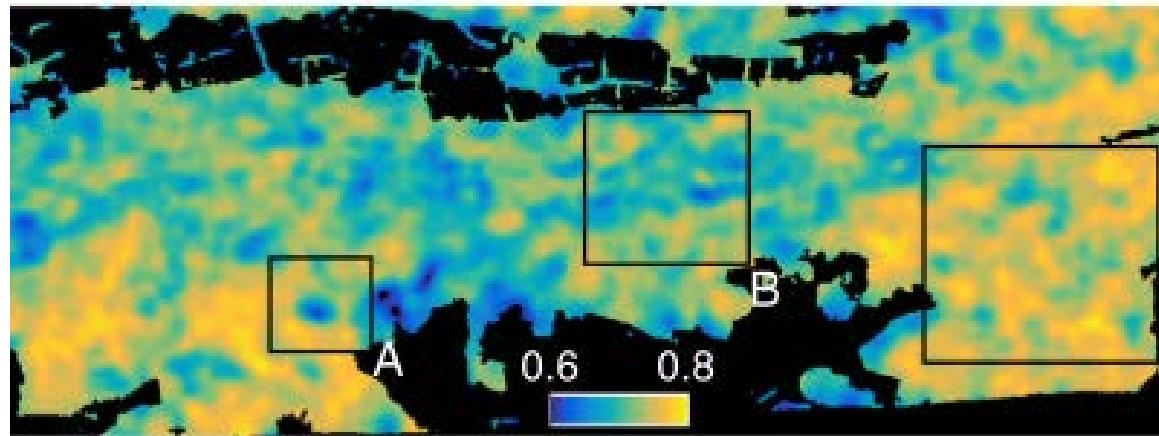
Forest health by RS – Structural & Functional Diversity



Morphological forest traits

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

→Morphological Evenness

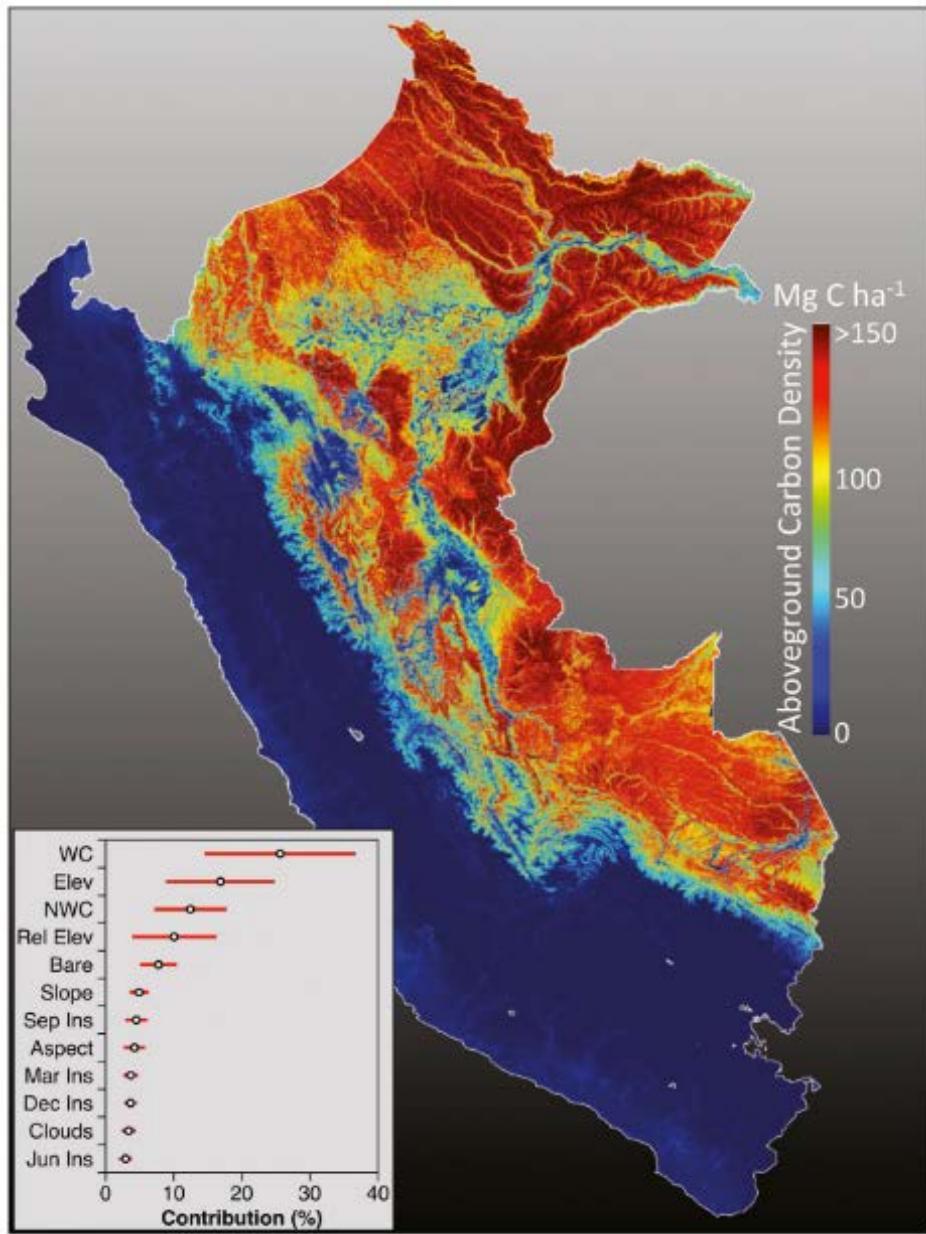


Physiological forest traits

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

→Physiological Evenness

Forest health by RS – Functional Diversity



Aboveground carbon density (ACD)

ACD were define by faktors:

- fractional cover of woody plants (WC),
- elevation,
- nonwoody plant cover (NWC),
- relative elevation above nearest water body (Rel Elev),
- bare substrate cover,
- topo- graphic slope and aspect,
- solar insolation at four points of the year (e.g., Jan Ins),
- cloud cover

Asner, G.P., et al., 2014. Targeted carbon conservation at national scales with high-resolution monitoring. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 111, E5016-5022.
doi:10.1073/pnas.1419550111

Forest health by RS – Paper – Data Science as a bridge

Multi-Source-Forest / Vegetation health - Monitoring Network (MU-SO-FH-MN)



Review

Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing, Part III: Requirements for a Scalable Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network Based on Data Science Approaches

Angela Lausch^{1,2,*} , Erik Borg³, Jan Bumberger⁴, Peter Dietrich^{4,5}, Marco Heurich^{6,7}, Andreas Huth⁸, András Jung^{9,10}, Reinhard Klenke¹¹ , Sonja Knapp¹² , Hannes Mollenhauer⁴, Hendrik Paasche⁴, Heiko Paulheim¹³ , Marion Pause¹⁴, Christian Schweitzer¹⁵, Christiane Schmulius¹⁶, Josef Settele^{11,17} , Andrew K. Skidmore^{18,19}, Martin Wegmann²⁰, Steffen Zacharias⁴, Toralf Kirsten²¹ and Michael E. Schaepman²²

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IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY MONITORING
USING SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING

Methods in Ecology and Evolution

Understanding and assessing vegetation health by in situ species and remote-sensing approaches

Angela Lausch^{1,2*} | Olaf Bastian³ | Stefan Klotz⁴ | Pedro J. Leitão^{2,5} | András Jung^{6,7} | Duccio Rocchini^{8,9,10} | Michael E. Schaepman¹¹ | Andrew K. Skidmore^{12,13} | Lutz Tischendorf¹⁴ | Sonja Knapp¹⁵

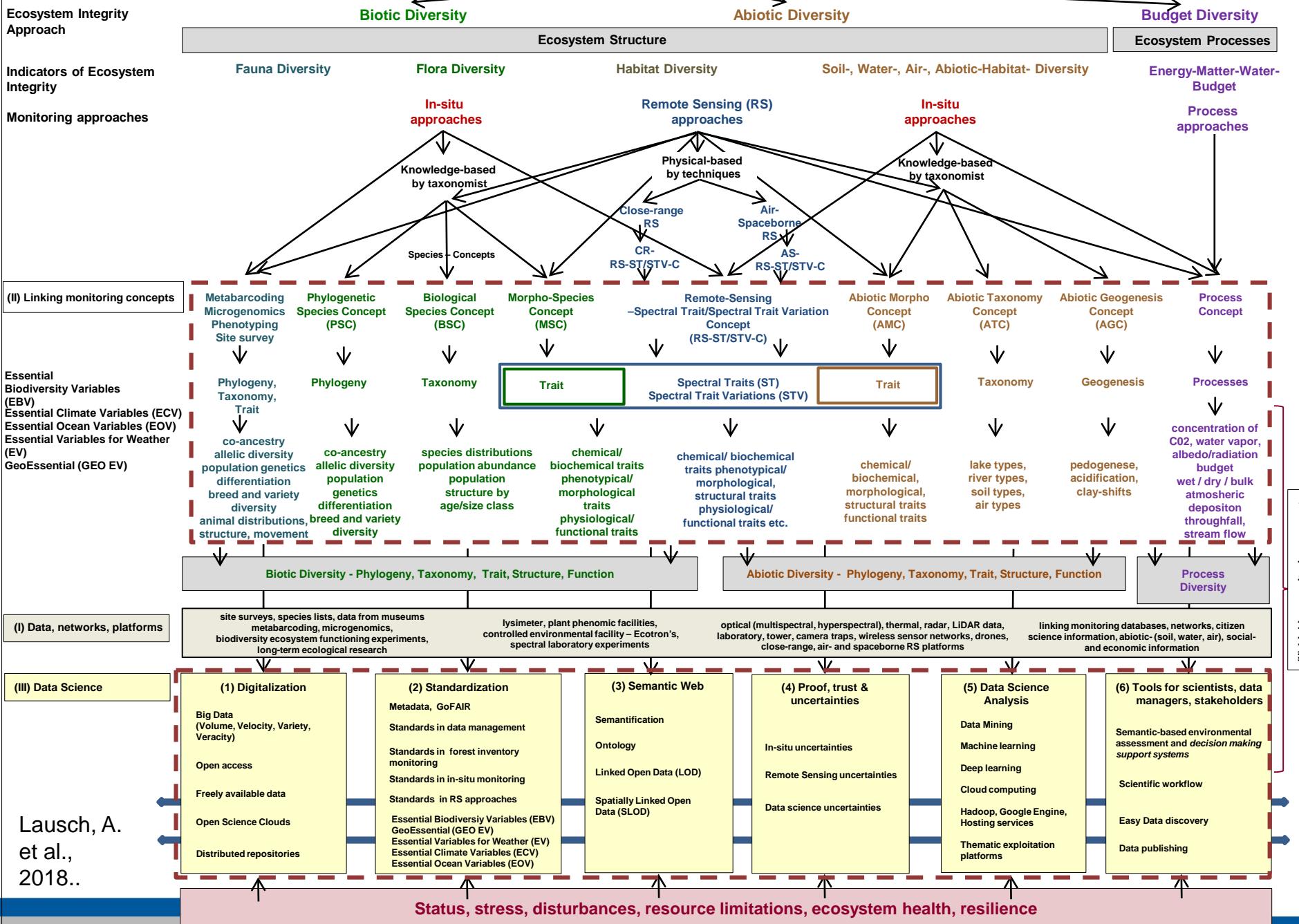
¹Department of Computational Landscape Ecology, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research—UFZ, Leipzig, Germany; ²Geography Department, Humboldt University Berlin, Berlin, Germany; ³OT Boxdorf, Moritzburg, Germany; ⁴Department of Community Ecology, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research—UFZ, Halle, Germany; ⁵Department Landscape Ecology and Environmental Systems Analysis, Technische Universität Braunschweig,

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.

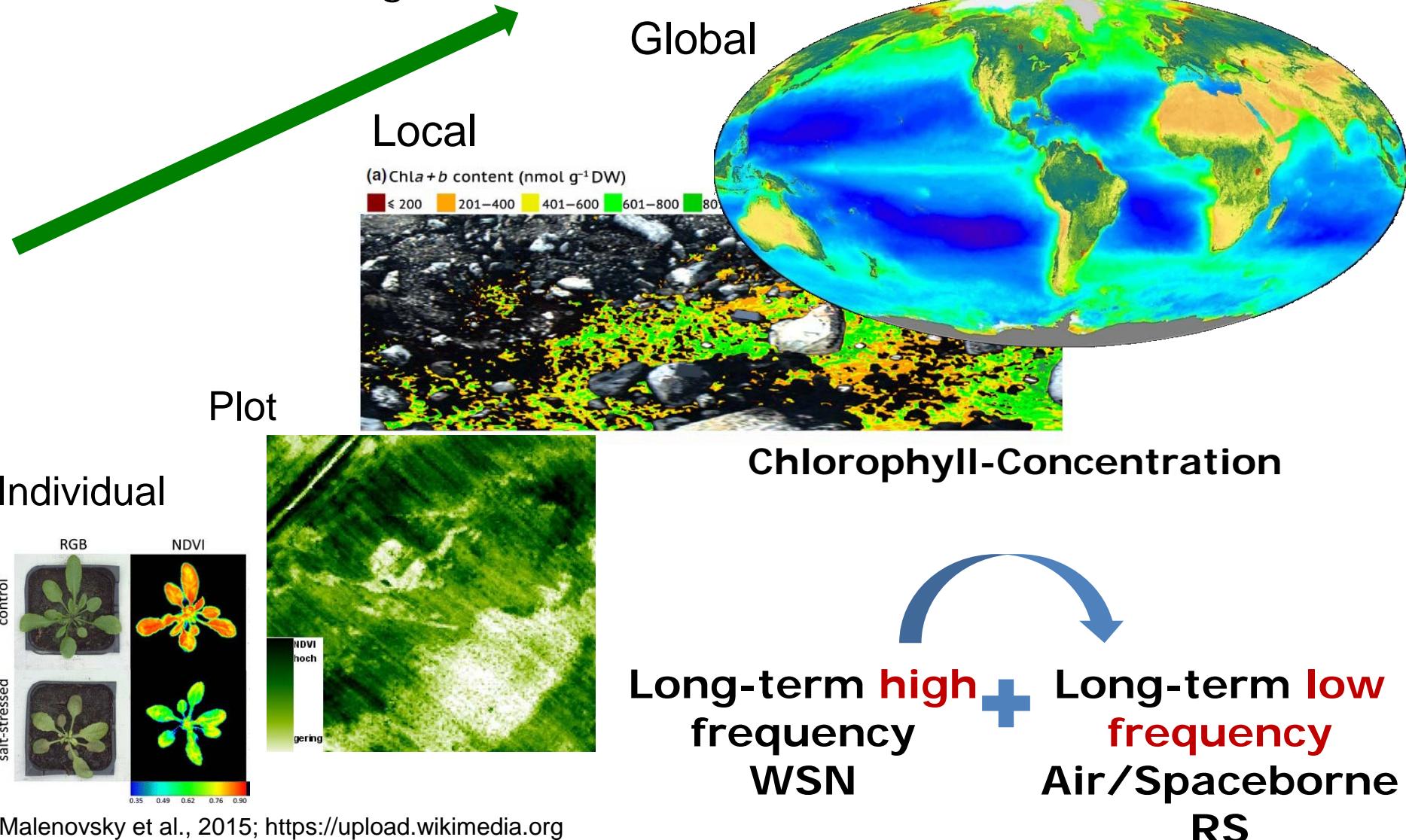
Forest health

Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network (MUSO-VH-MN)



Understanding - Processes – Pattern – Interaction

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



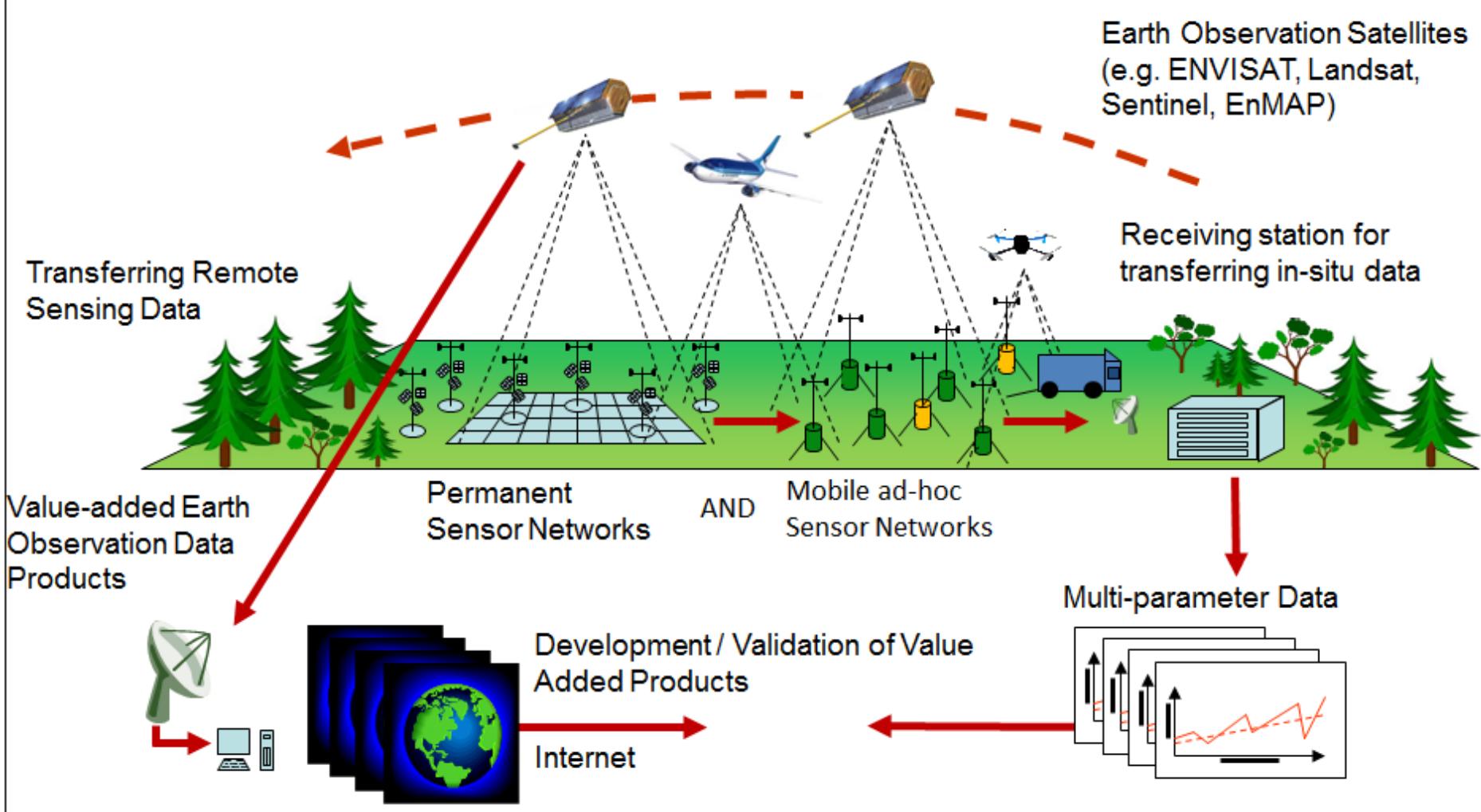
Data Science – Requirement – Remote Sensing



Different Platforms

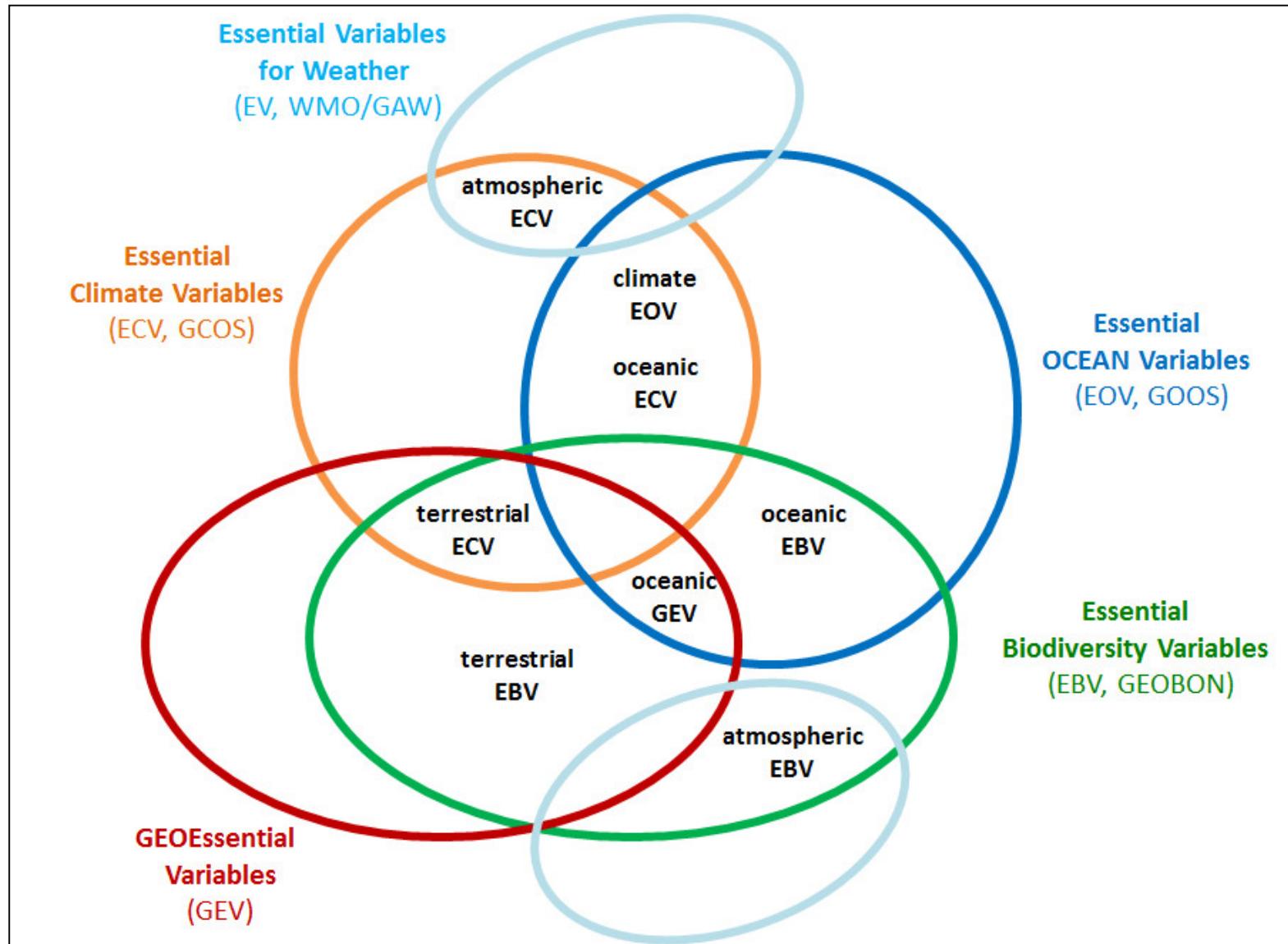
Lausch et al., A range of Earth Observation techniques for assessing plant diversity Jeannine Cavender-Bares, John Gamon, Philip Townsend (eds): The nature of biodiversity: prospects for remote detection of genetic, phylogenetic, functional and ecosystem components and importance in managing Planet, Jeannine Cavender-Bares, John Gamon, Philip Townsend, Springer, 2018/2019 (in press)

Data Science – Requirement – Coupling RS Platforms

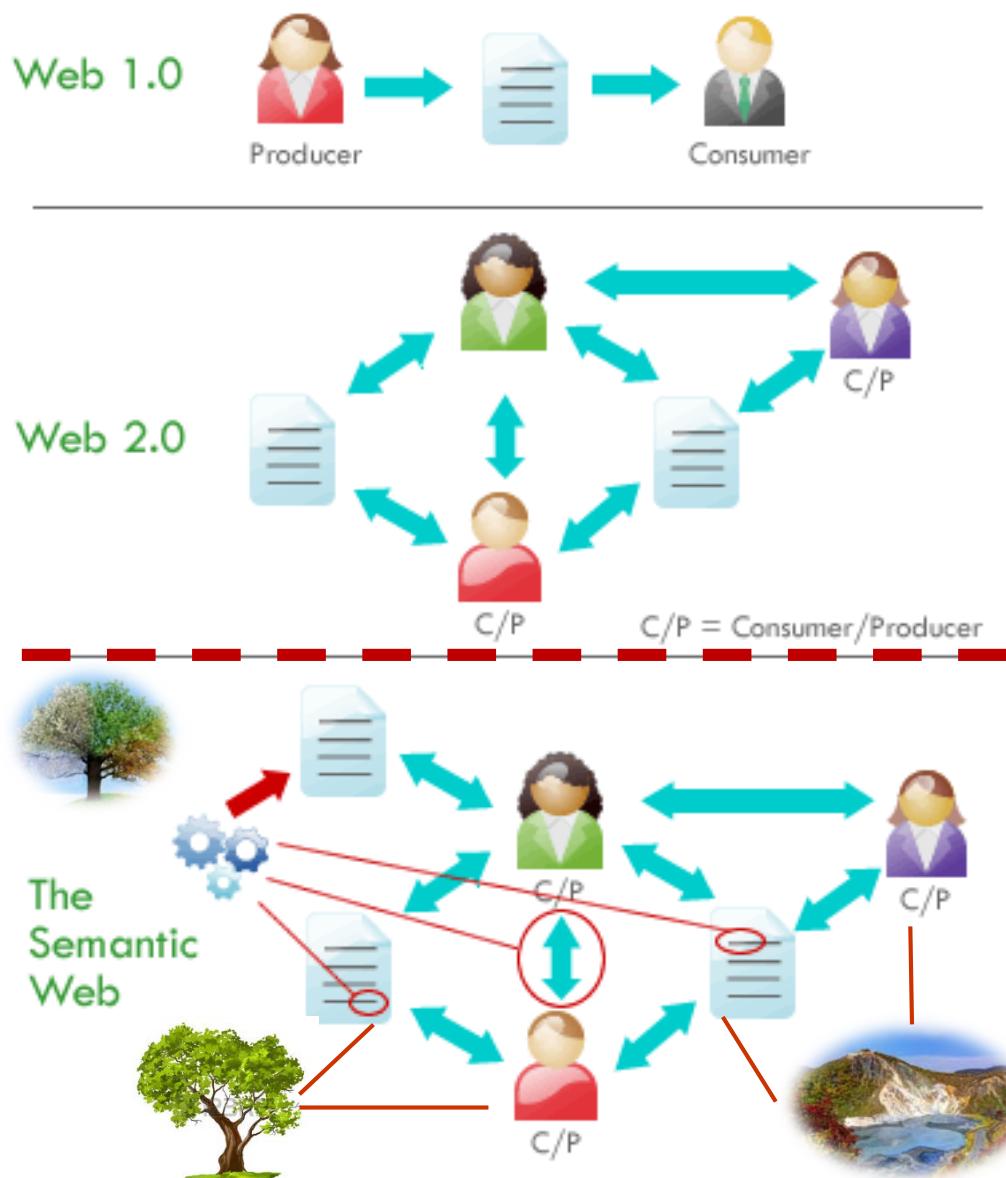


Lausch, A. et al., 2018. Understanding Forest Health with Remote Sensing, Part III: Requirements for a Scalable Multi-Source Forest Health Monitoring Network Based on Data Science Approaches. *Remote Sensing*, 10, 1120

Data Science – Standardization in Monitoring



Data Science – Requirement - Semantification



Semantic Web / Linked Open Data

Handling: ➤ Complex-Data

Data Science – Requirement – Metadata/Data - FAIR

www.nature.com/scientificdata

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 communications 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

SCIENTIFIC DATA

OPEN

Comment: The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship

Mark D. Wilkinson et al.¹

There is an urgent need to improve the infrastructure supporting the reuse of scholarly data. A diverse set of stakeholders—representing academia, industry, funding agencies, and scholarly publishers—have come together to design and jointly endorse a concise and measurable set of principles that we refer to as the FAIR Data Principles. The intent is that these may act as a guideline for those wishing to enhance the quality of their data holdings. Distinct from peer initiatives that focus on the human aspects of the FAIR Principles, our principles emphasize the ability of machines to automatically find and use the data, in addition to supporting its reuse by individuals. This Comment is the first formal publication of the FAIR Principles, and includes the rationales behind them, and some exemplar implementations in the community.

Findable

Accessible

Interoperable

Reusable

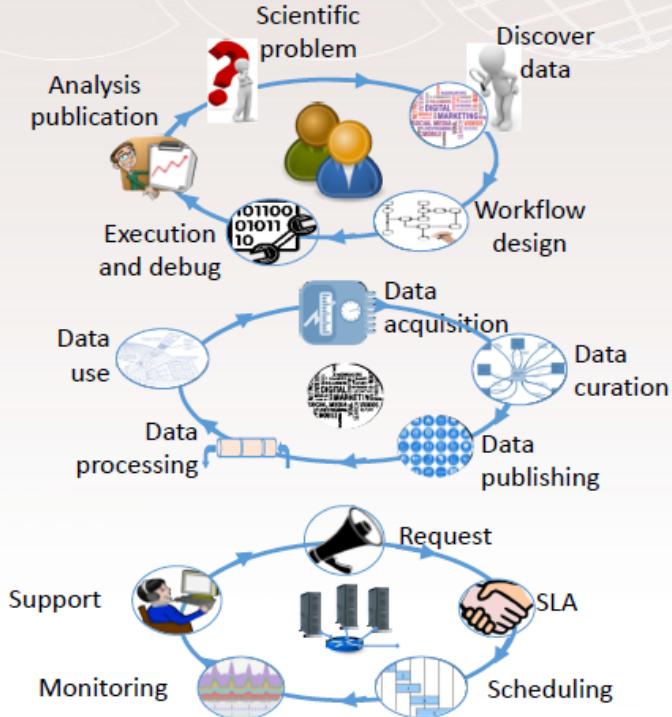


Environmental Research
Infrastructures Providing Shared
Solutions for Science and Society

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

Research support environments

- **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



Forest health – Data Science as a bridge

Multi-Source-Forest / Vegetation health - Monitoring Network (MU-SO-FH-MN)

Good Indicators for environmental health, changes, stress & disturbances, SDG's

Digitalization

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

Standardization

(Metadata, GoFAIR, Concept of Essential Variables – EV
Essential Biodiversity Variables)

Semantification

(Semantic Web/Web 4.0, Ontology; Linked Open Data –LOD)

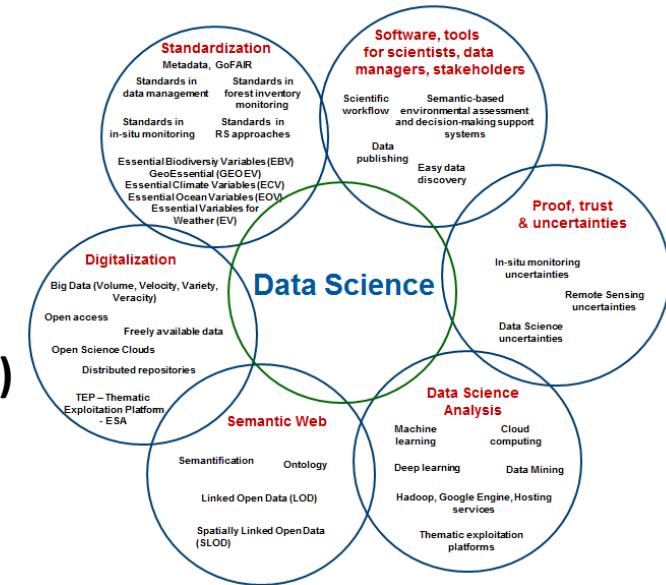
Data Science Analysis

(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, stakeholders



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

Understanding Forest health by Remote Sensing (RS)

Thank you very much for your attention !



PD Dr. Angela Lausch

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Angela.Lausch@ufz.de