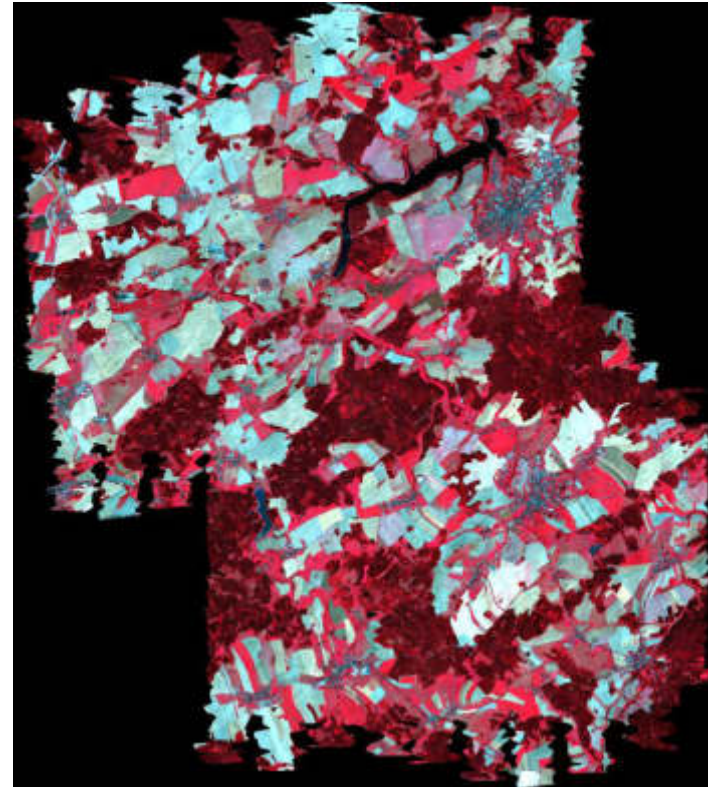


# UFZ's remote sensing based land-cover/use mapping activities

Leipzig, iDiv, 15.01.2020  
sMon workshop

Daniel Doktor	Group leader, Principal Investigator, <a href="mailto:daniel.doktor@ufz.de">daniel.doktor@ufz.de</a>
Sebastian Preidl	Methods for data compositing and classification, <a href="mailto:sebastian.preidl@ufz.de">sebastian.preidl@ufz.de</a>
Maximilian Lange	Processing, phenology + intensity derivation, <a href="mailto:maximilian.lange@ufz.de">maximilian.lange@ufz.de</a>
Andreas Schmidt	Co-registration of satellite time series, <a href="mailto:andreasdd.schmidt@ufz.de">andreasdd.schmidt@ufz.de</a>



UFZ sensor, CIR image, Zeulenroda, Summer 2012

# Available spatial information

## Status quo:

- land-cover maps of spatially and thematically low resolution
- Sentinel-2 offers new possibilities towards a plot based classification down to species level

## Agriculture (1961-1999)

Increase of 106% of overall food crop yield per unit area

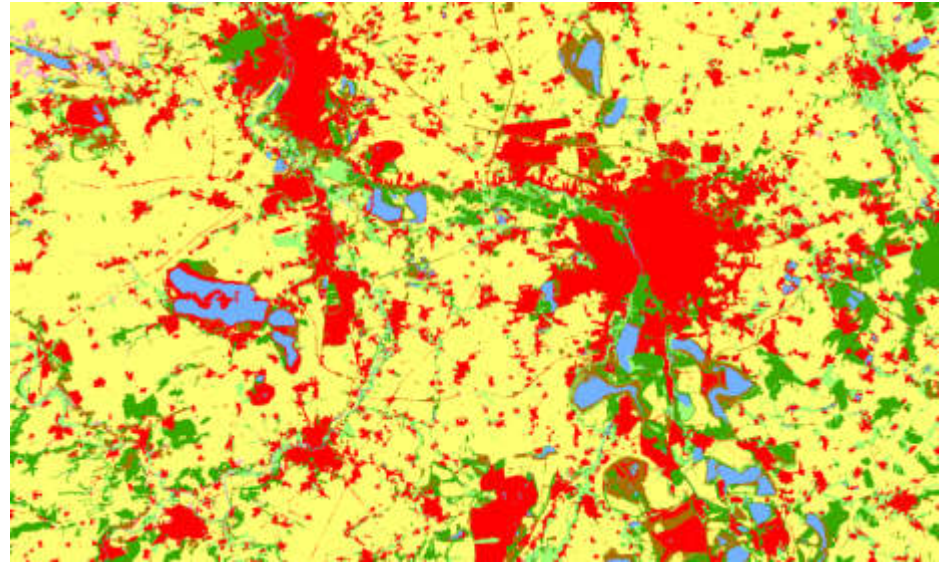
12% increase in cropland

10% rise in permanent pasture

97% rise in irrigated land

638%, 203%, and 854% increase, in the use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides

Source: ATKIS 2015, Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy, Area Leipzig-Halle

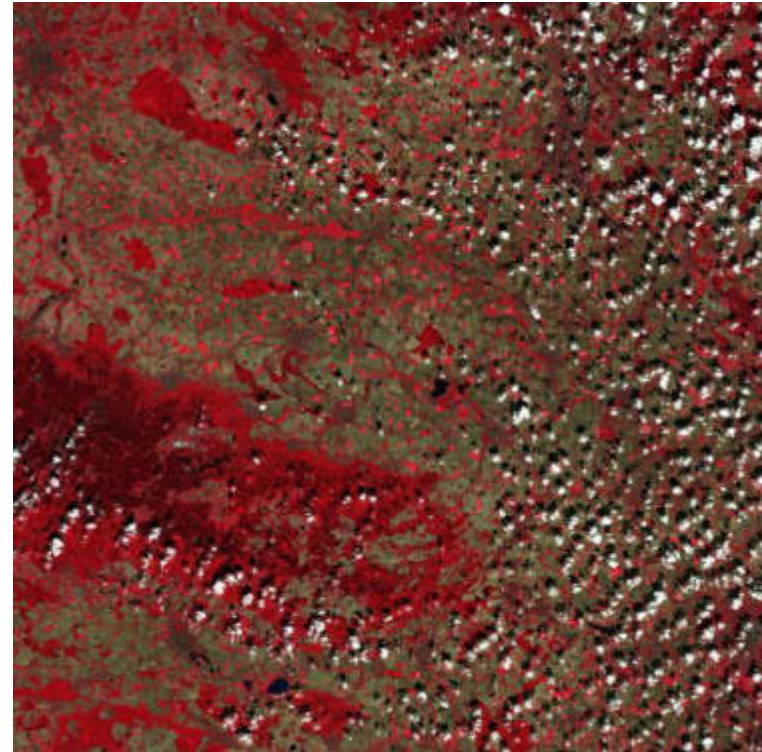


Foley et al. (2005) Nature  
Green (2005) Science  
Haberl et al. (2007) PNAS

# (Spectral) data base

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- Sentinel-2 satellite data
- Spatial resolution: 10/20 m
- Spectral resolution: 13 bands (9 bands at 20 m)
  
- Global repetition rate: 5 days, Germany 2-3 days
- Vegetation Monitoring, Phenology
- Masking of clouds
- Big Data
  
- **Sentinel-2 archive is kept up-to-date at UFZ**
  
- **Data processing at UFZ or prospective in Jülich**



Sentinel 2 a CIR image, 30th of August 2016

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# Adaptable pixel-based compositing and classification

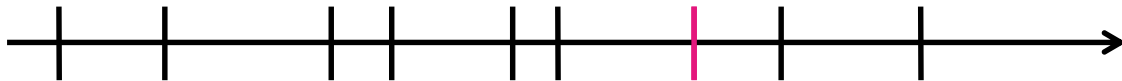
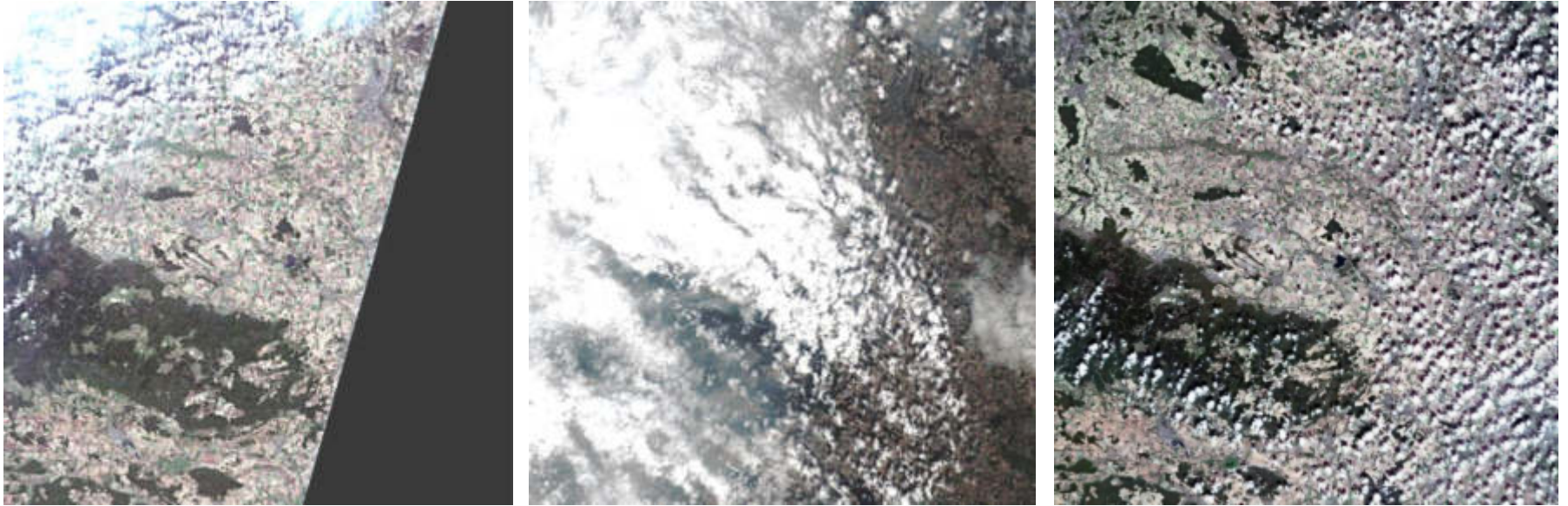
- Automised and purely data-driven approach to best capture crop phenology
- Satellite data is composited at flexible time intervals based on cloud-cover and training data
- Derivation of model uncertainties
- Germany divided into 6 bio-geographical regions similar in plant phenology for regionalised classification
- InVeKoS data for training & validation



Preidl, S., Lange, M., Doktor, D. (2019). Introducing APiC for regionalised land-cover mapping on the national scale using Sentinel-2A imagery. REMOTE SENSING OF ENVIRONMENT (accepted)

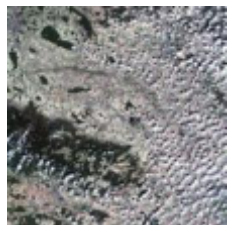
# Land-use classification – cloud cover

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**t**

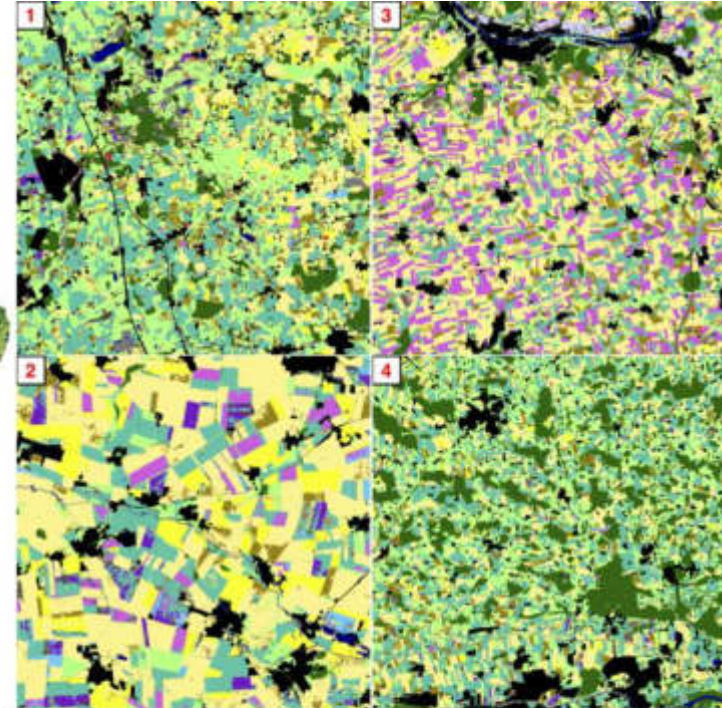
# Land-use classification – pixel-based compositing



# Classified crop types and grassland

- 19 crop types incl. grassland could be classified
- Field parcels clearly identifiable
- Difference in plot size and cultivated crop between regions

<http://ufz.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Styleer/index.html?appid=84a36f4e815e4aa88f38a6d0f8382590>



Forest	Winter Rye	Legumes	Stone fruits
Other Vegetation	Winter barley	Rapeseed	Vines
Waters	Spring wheat	Leeks	Hops
Urban Area	Spring barley	Potatoes	Asparagus
Winter wheat	Spring oat	Sugar beets	Grassland
Spelt	Maize	Strawberries	

Preidl, S., Lange, M., Doktor, D. (2019). Introducing APIC for regionalised land-cover mapping on the national scale using Sentinel-2A imagery. REMOTE SENSING OF ENVIRONMENT (accepted)

Courtesy of Sebastian Preidl / UFZ

# Classification accuracy

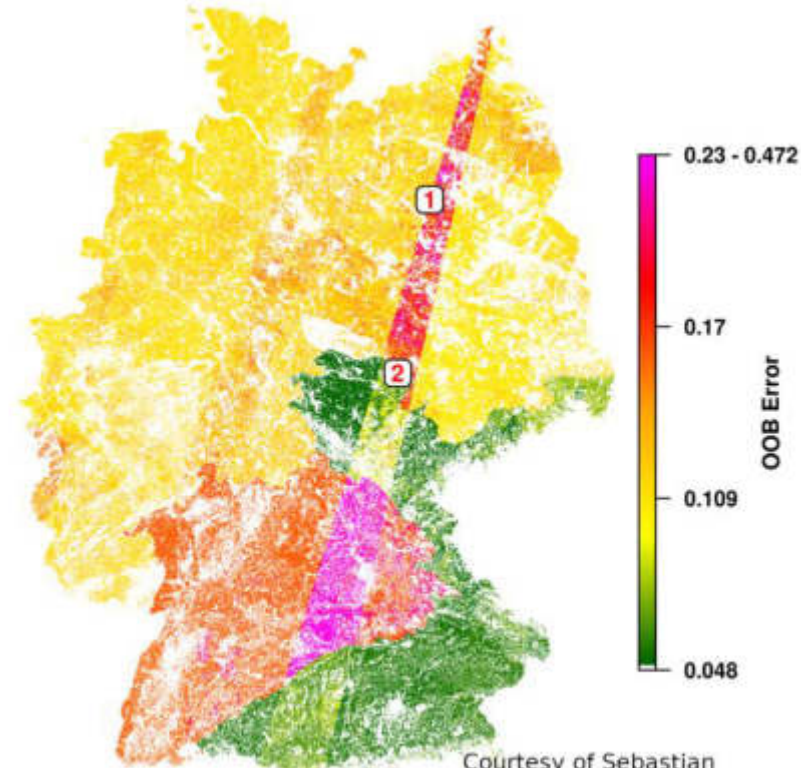
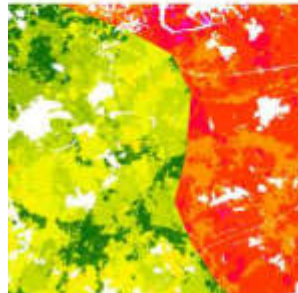
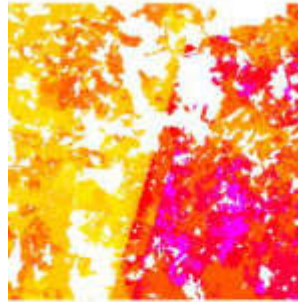
- Overall accuracy of 87 %
- Main crop types (winter wheat, maize and raps) over 90 %
- Small classes & small field sizes less well classified

Land-Use Classes	Alpine Foreland		SW-Uplands		W-Uplands		E-Uplands		NE-Lowlands		NW-Lowlands	
	PA	UA	PA	UA	PA	UA	PA	UA	PA	UA	PA	UA
Winter wheat	92.95	89.68	91.35	88.55	89.84	86.69	90.90	89.99	89.73	79.80	88.69	84.11
Spelt			26.63	77.83	22.40	30.49	16.81	70.87	33.05	71.59	28.63	38.25
Winter Rye			43.74	73.37	17.71	45.66	14.76	72.45	64.16	78.23	38.09	78.33
Winter barley	74.62	84.73	77.04	80.99	72.07	87.03	79.52	81.42	63.99	90.78	74.98	79.63
Spring wheat					18.37	23.73	14.90	75.01	40.29	32.87	12.51	28.54
Spring barley	56.96	87.15	82.88	82.66	59.20	62.75	84.42	75.00	49.81	55.17	51.29	61.16
Spring oat			50.04	64.91	45.19	33.45	39.50	57.36	31.22	40.60	33.27	26.69
Maize	90.54	91.02	87.23	90.58	89.65	94.33	93.87	95.85	94.45	92.08	95.53	94.48
Legumes			71.18	75.82	59.87	62.83	67.36	81.55	73.41	69.27	56.69	45.58
Rapeseed	74.57	86.85	91.64	93.07	92.61	93.22	95.65	96.27	94.24	98.48	91.04	96.47
Leeks			64.55	60.46					76.21	25.21	50.57	43.18
Potatoes	93.57	95.35	74.82	79.18	72.67	56.37	67.82	66.86	53.16	71.56	78.53	84.71
Sugar beets	93.19	96.29	93.06	91.20	91.57	89.28	87.43	91.60	85.14	88.53	83.42	94.31
Strawberries			55.60	48.29	75.57	21.90			56.27	13.90	56.88	36.88
Stone fruits	52.30	83.01	29.21	74.97	44.11	35.01	31.95	87.30	34.16	82.56	63.20	64.30
Vines			94.73	91.89	81.51	62.34						
Hop	78.12	93.31										
Asparagus			63.20	64.23					46.04	43.67	38.73	44.01
Grassland	96.46	90.25	92.38	86.72	97.05	94.93	97.71	91.47	96.66	88.72	97.13	90.44
<b>Overall Accuracy</b>	<b>90.38</b>		<b>87.4</b>		<b>89.52</b>		<b>89.78</b>		<b>85.94</b>		<b>87.76</b>	
<b>Kappa Coefficient</b>	<b>0.877</b>		<b>0.853</b>		<b>0.854</b>		<b>0.871</b>		<b>0.83</b>		<b>0.846</b>	



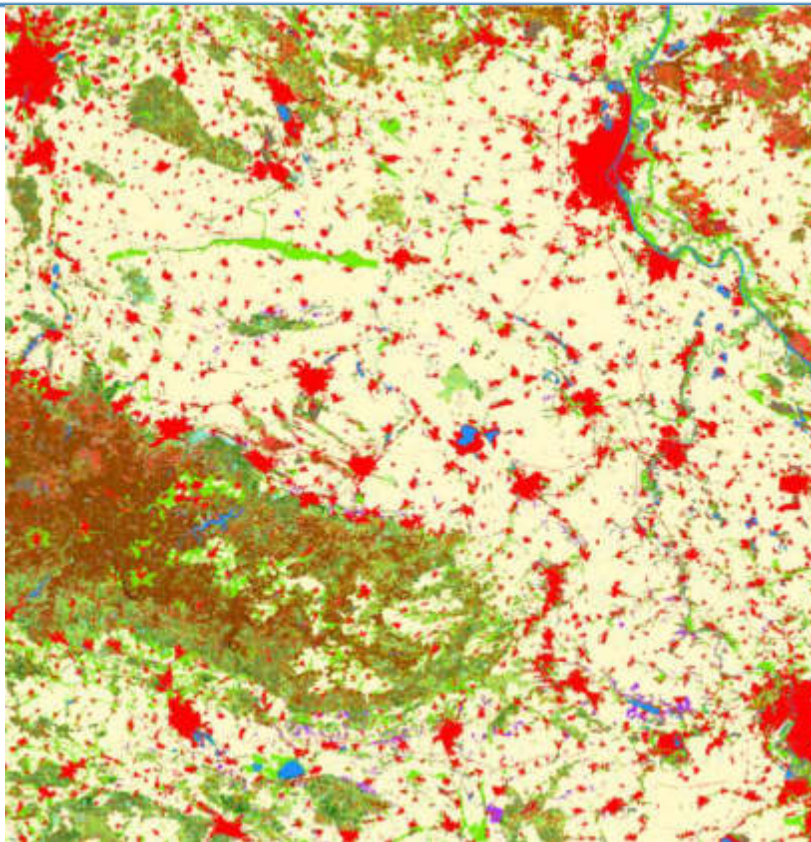
# Classification performance

- Pixel-wise prediction error which can be associated with classification
- Clear regional differences based on satellite data and InVeKoS data availability
- Even single clouds in satellite time series are exhibited as increased prediction error



# Coming-up: Tree species classification

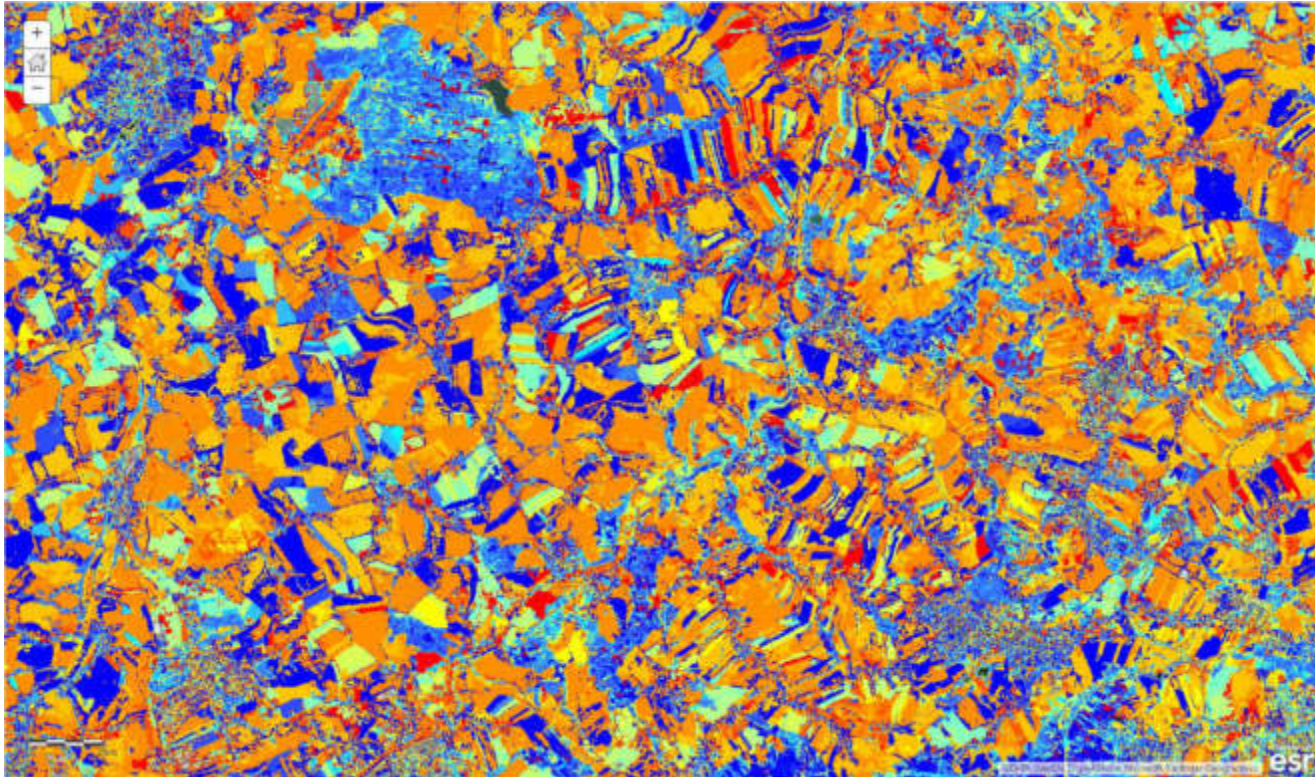
- The methodology presented can be translated to classify tree species: BfN-project “Wakanaka” (<https://forschung-sachsen-anhalt.de/project/wakanaka-ermittlung-naturschutzbezogener-20953>)
- Local forest inventories are used for training / validation
- Robust differentiation of 4 deciduous and 4 conifer tree species



Kyffhäuser, Harz mountains and Elm (South to North)

# Ripeness / Senescence, Sachsen, Chemnitz

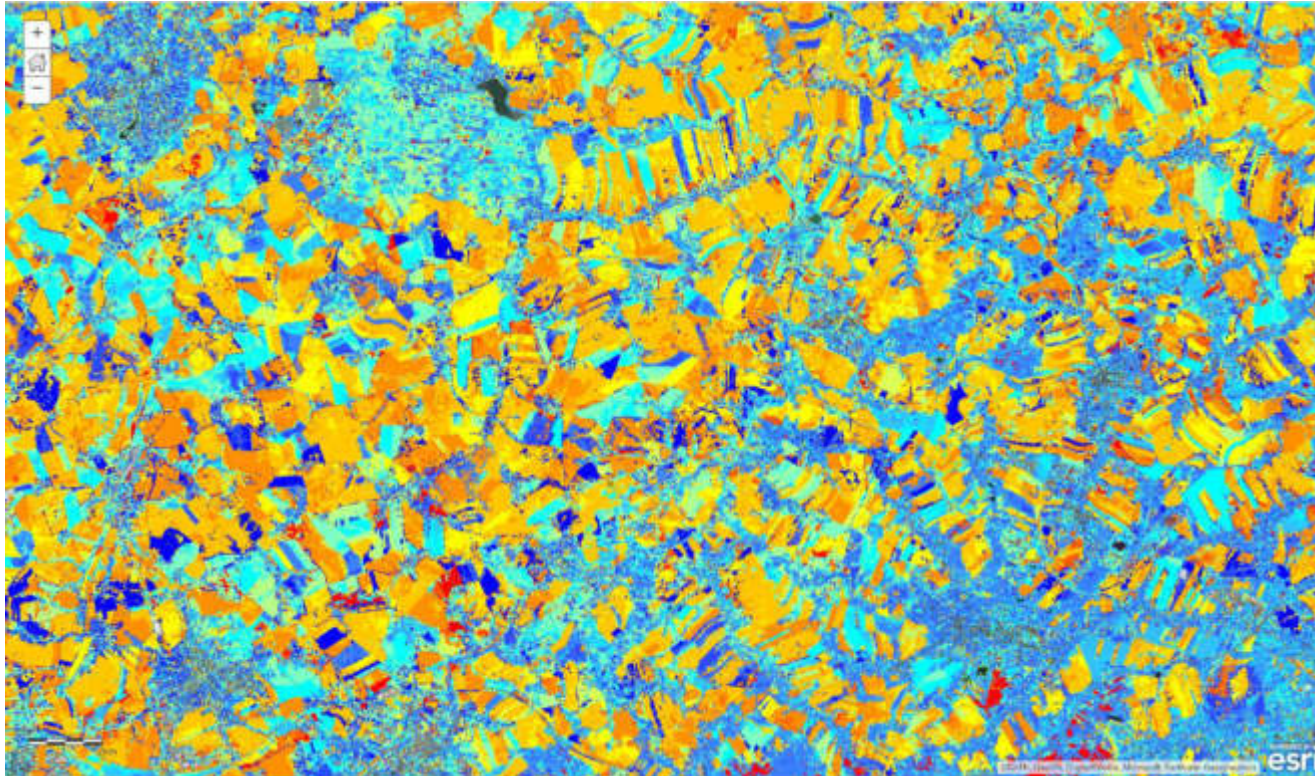
Year 2018



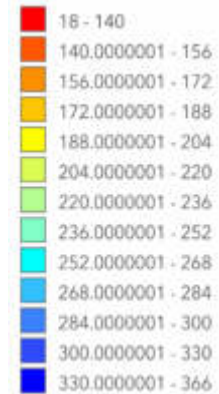
Many crops already ripe/senescent in June due to warm temperatures / drought

# Ripeness / Senescence, Sachsen, Chemnitz

Year 2017



Day of Year



Later ripeness/senescence in 2017  
due to average weather patterns

# Matching satellite products and ground observations



Article

## Optimising Phenological Metrics Extraction for Different Crop Types in Germany Using the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS)

Xingmei Xu <sup>1,\*</sup>, Christopher Conrad <sup>2</sup> and Daniel Doktor <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Computational Landscape Ecology, Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research—UFZ, Leipzig 04315, Germany; daniel.doktor@ufz.de

<sup>2</sup> Department of Remote Sensing, Institute of Geography and Geology, University of Würzburg, 97074 Würzburg, Germany; christopher.conrad@uni-wuerzburg.de

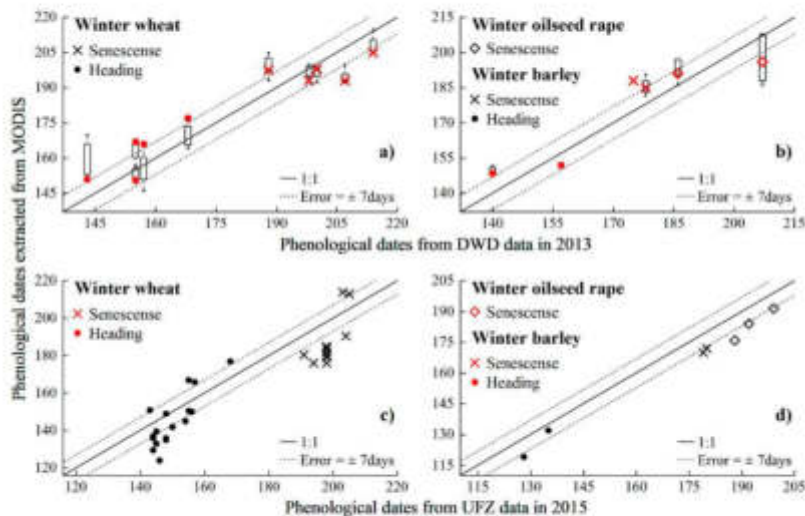
\* Correspondence: xingmei.xu@ufz.de; Tel: +49-341-235-1010

Academic Editors: Jose Moreno and Prasad S. Thenkabail

Received: 2 January 2017; Accepted: 6 March 2017; Published: 9 March 2017

Good match between satellite derived phenology and ground observations despite sparse ground network and high intra-field variability

RMSE (Days)	Year	Green-Up	Heading	Senescence
Winter wheat	2013, 2015	20.37 (6)	10.48 (17)	13.59 (17)
Winter barley	2013, 2015	6.17 (2)	6.84 (4)	9.53 (4)
Oilseed rape	2013, 2015	5.10 (2)		9.06 (5)
Sugar beet	2013, 2015	14.17 (4)		



**Figure 6.** Validated satellite-derived phenological dates for different crops in: (a,b) 2013 versus DWD data; (c,d) 2015 versus UFZ data. Red-coloured symbols indicate fields which were closest to DWD stations. Each box represents phenostages of all fields which were within 3 km around one DWD station.

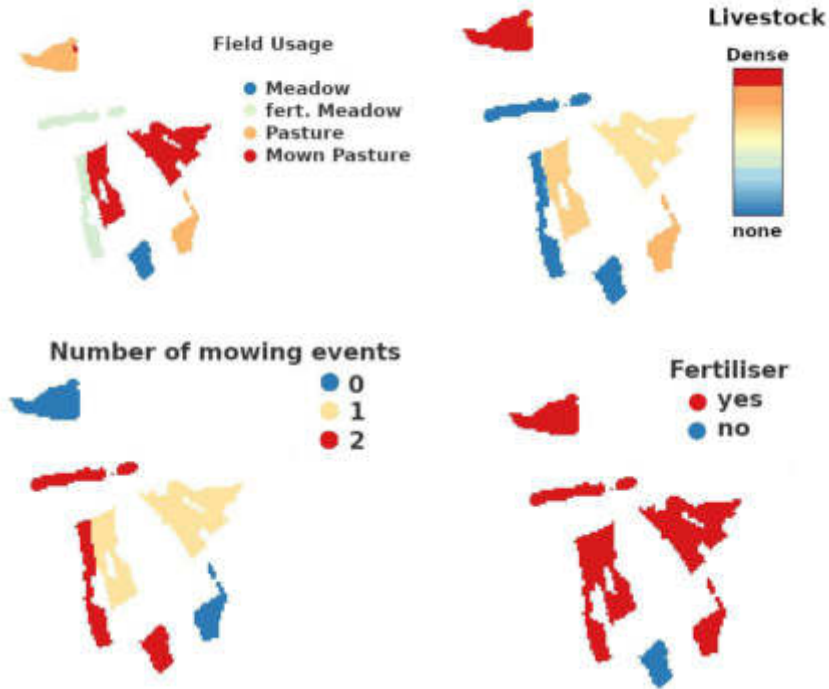
# Land-use intensity of grasslands

## Intensity measures

- Mowing frequency
- Livestock density
- Fertiliser amount



# Data Overview



- 7 pastures/meadows in central Germany
- Data includes:
  - Mowing dates
  - Fertilisation type, amount and dates
  - Livestock number

# Methodology

## Land-use intensity metrics (from EVI evolution)

### Mowing

- Number of rapid decrease events
- First decrease event related to number of mowing events?



Source: UFZ Department CHS

### Fertilisation

- Number of rapid increase events
- Statistical values: mean, trend



Source: Westdeutsche Zeitung 2018,  
[www.wz.de](http://www.wz.de)



Source: BauernZeitung.at 2016

### Livestock

#### (Grazing and droppings)

- Statistical values: variance, mean, trend
- Number of decrease/increase events
- Sum of index increase or decrease



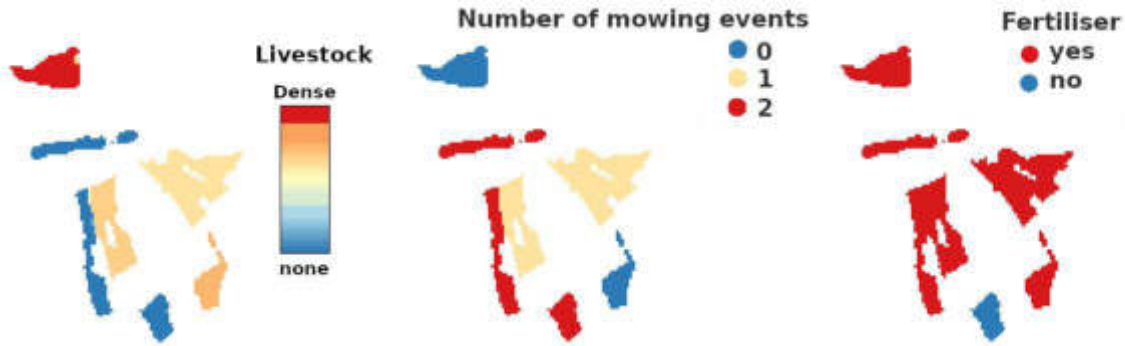
Source: br.de, picture-alliance/dpa  
2018



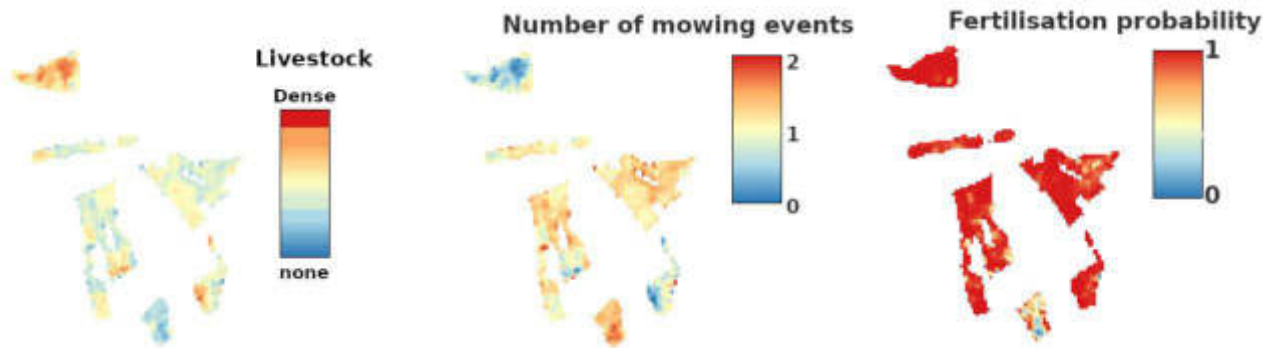
# First results

## (GLM) Modelling of land-use intensity

Data



Model



### Metrics

- ✓ Date of first decrease event
- ✓ Number of decrease events
- ✓ Variance (NDVI)
- ✓ Sum of index increase
- ✓ Index mean (EVI)
- ✓ Index intra-year trend (EVI)
- ...

# First results

## Modelling of land-use intensity



Non-linear interactions (between mowing frequency and livestock density) hamper prediction.



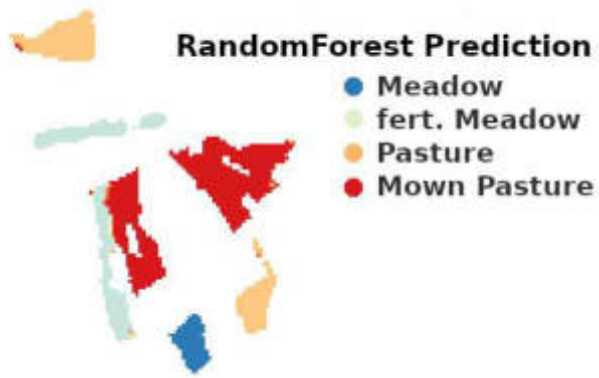
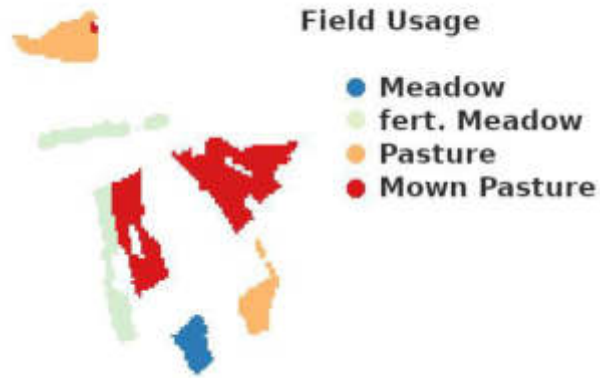
Image Source: Google Earth (2019/04)

# Methodology

## Supervised classification

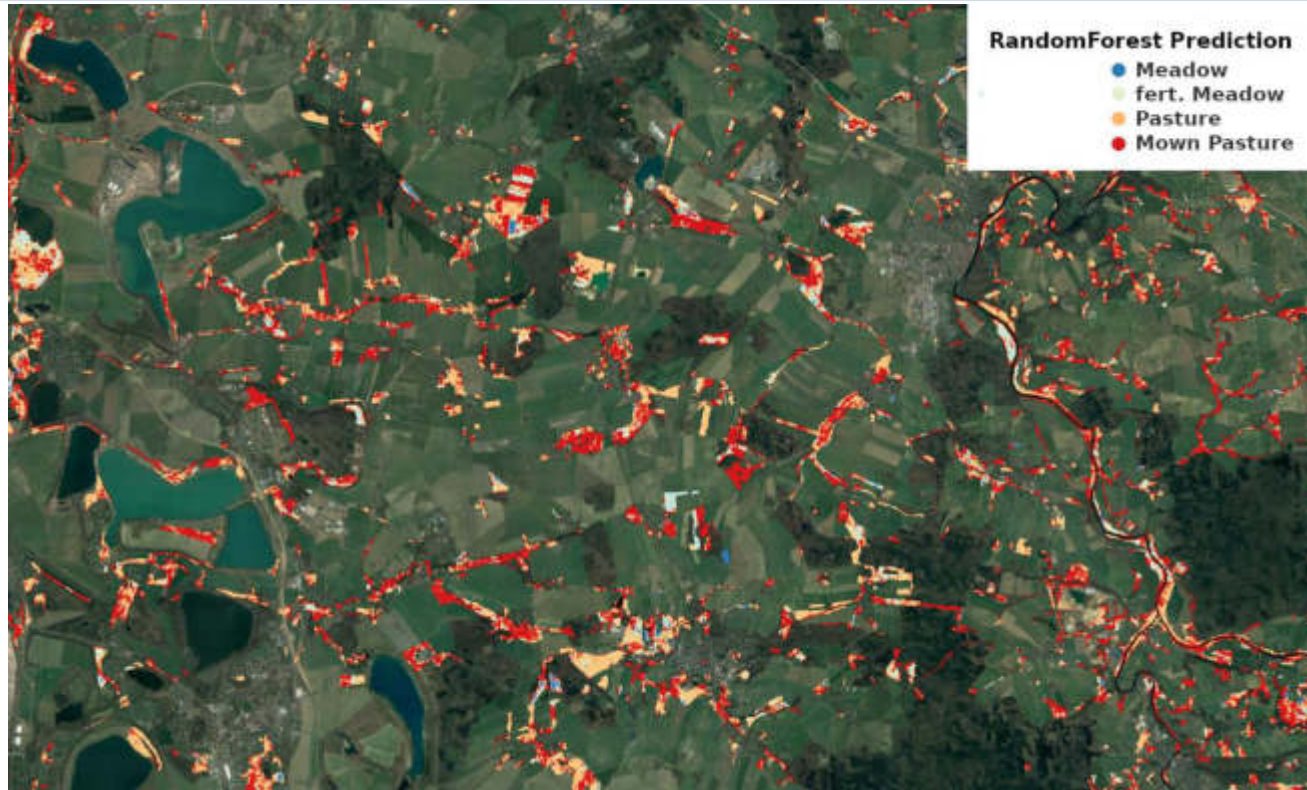
- Training / Validation  
20% / 80%

Supervised machine learning methods facilitate almost perfect prediction.



# Supervised classification

## “Extrapolation“

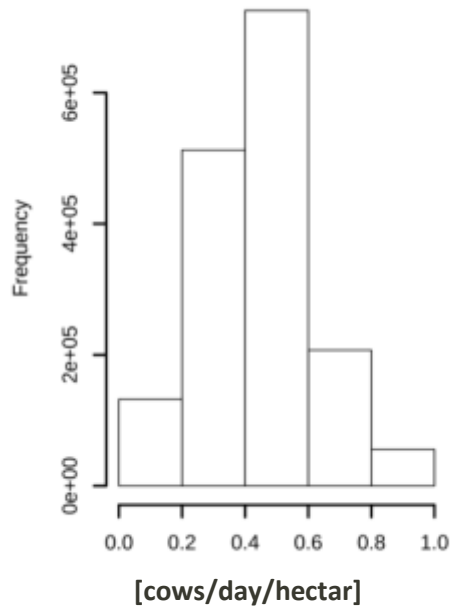


Extrapolation possible, but too few validation data yet available for robust evaluation of method.

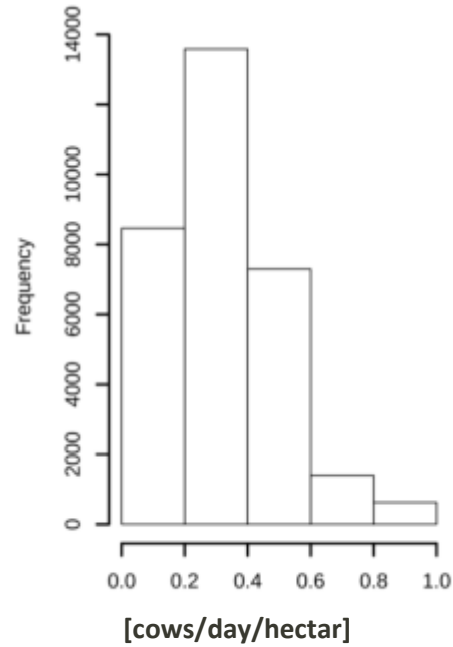
# Extrapolation: Method comparison

## Livestock density comparison

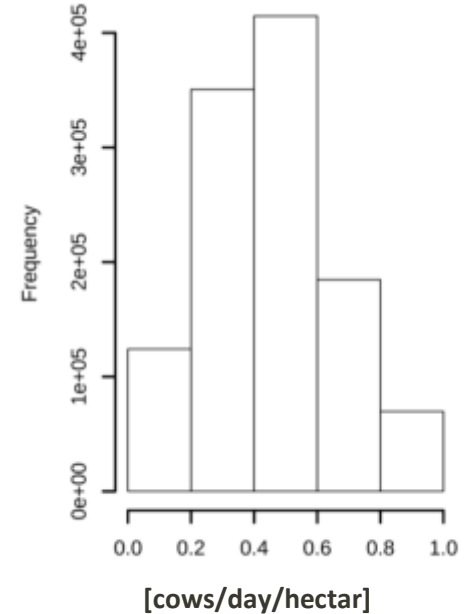
Allgäu



Leipzig



Nordfriesland



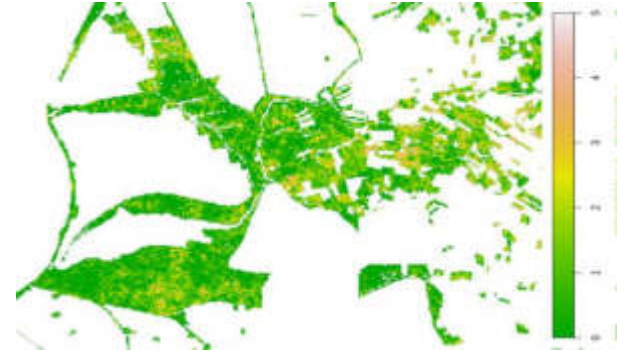
# Extrapolation: Method comparison

## Grassland at Wadden sea



Image Source: Google Earth (2019/08)

Metric: Number of NDVI decreases



Modelled livestock density



Land-use intensity classification

