



## DEMMIN

Durable Environmental Multidisciplinary Monitoring Information Network

-  
Agricultural Research at the TERENO German Northeastern  
Lowlands Observatory



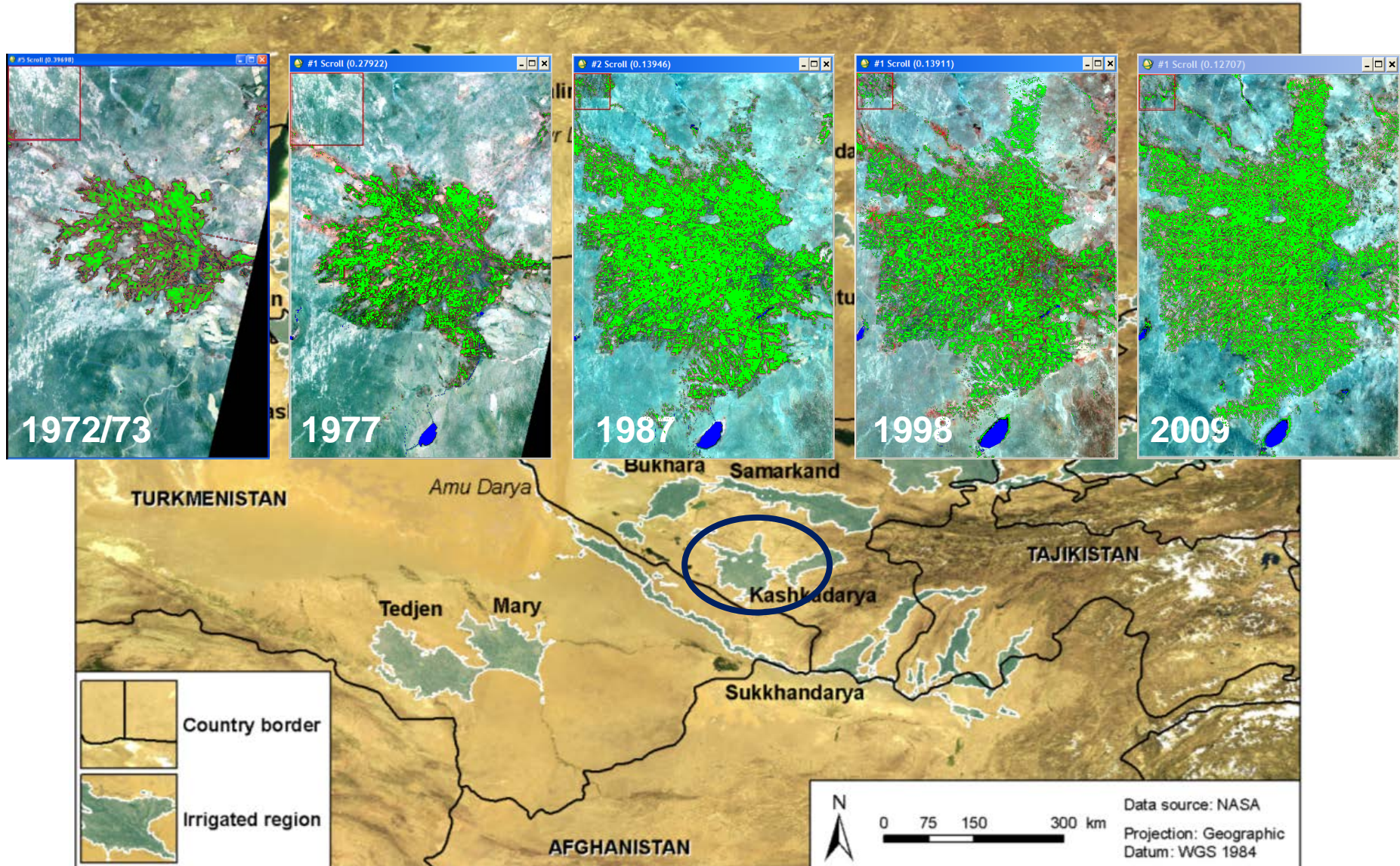
D. Spengler<sup>1</sup>, E. Borg<sup>2</sup>, F. Renke<sup>2</sup>, C. Conrad<sup>3</sup>, C. Hohmann<sup>1</sup>, T. Sachs<sup>1</sup>, S. Itzerott<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Helmholtz-Centre Potsdam - GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

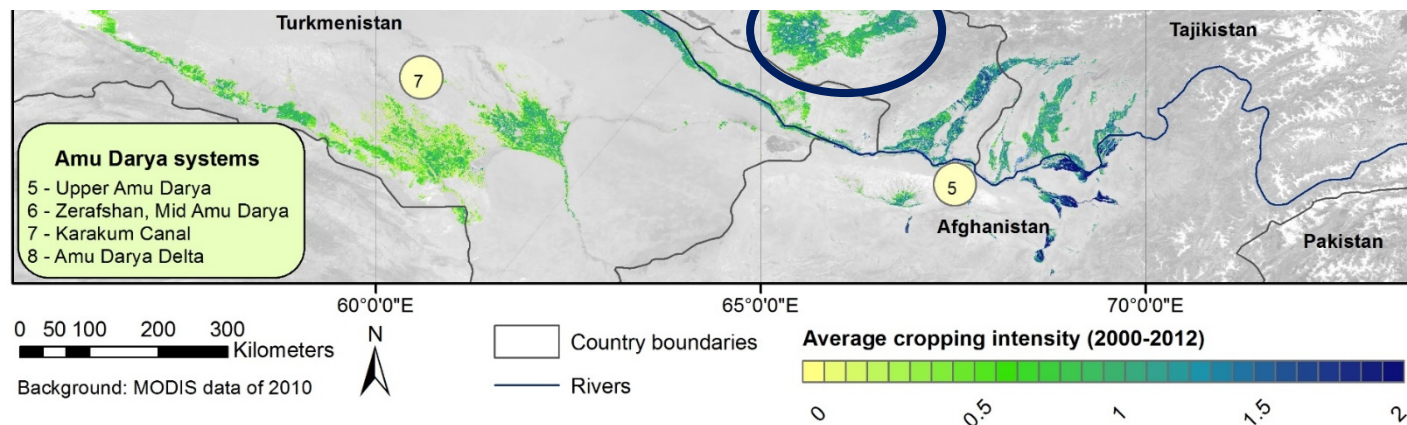
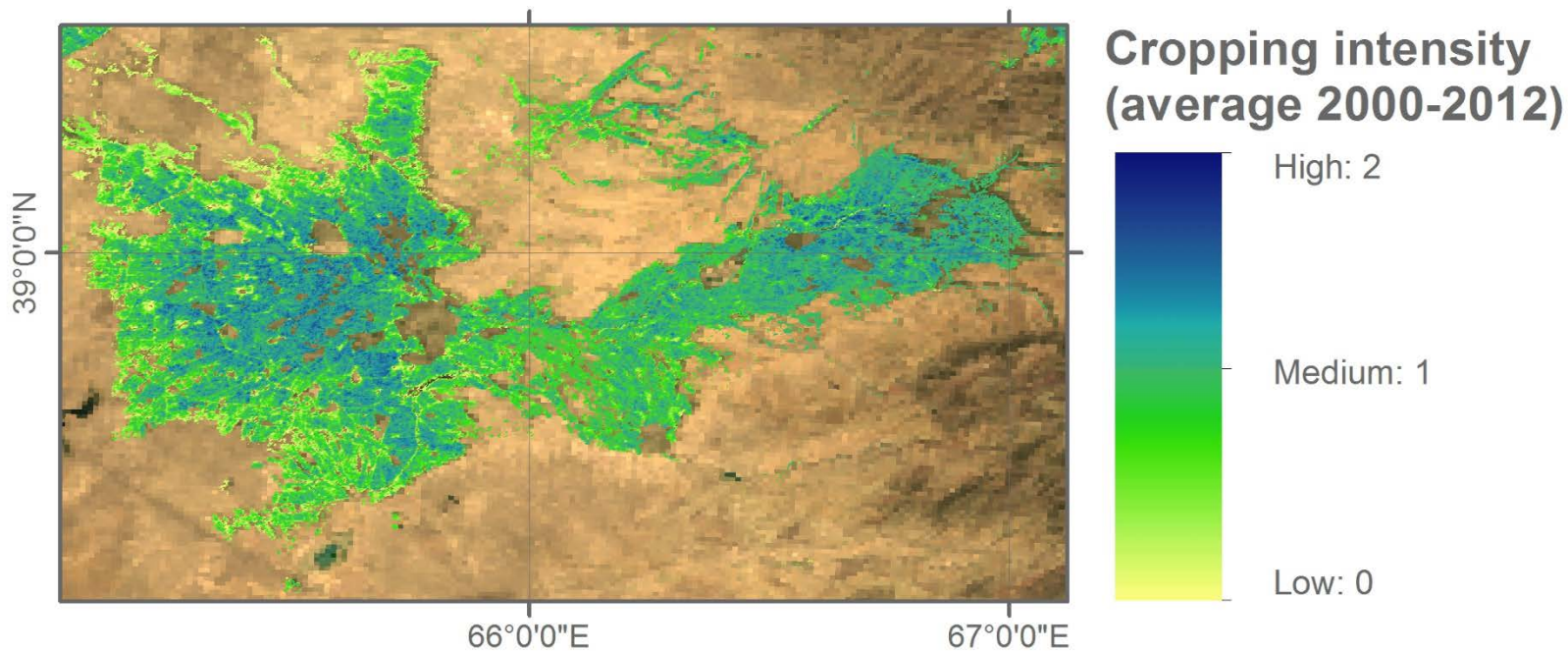
<sup>2</sup> German Aerospace Center (DLR)

<sup>3</sup> Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg

# Background – Agricultural Production



# Background - Cropping Intensity as Indicator for Agricultural Production



## Information requirements of users:

- Repetition rate is often too low for time-critical applications,
- Duration of processing of value added product is often too long,
- Continuous quality of value added products is often insufficient
- Standardization of information is insufficiently developed

## Calibration/Validation aspects concerning remote sensing:

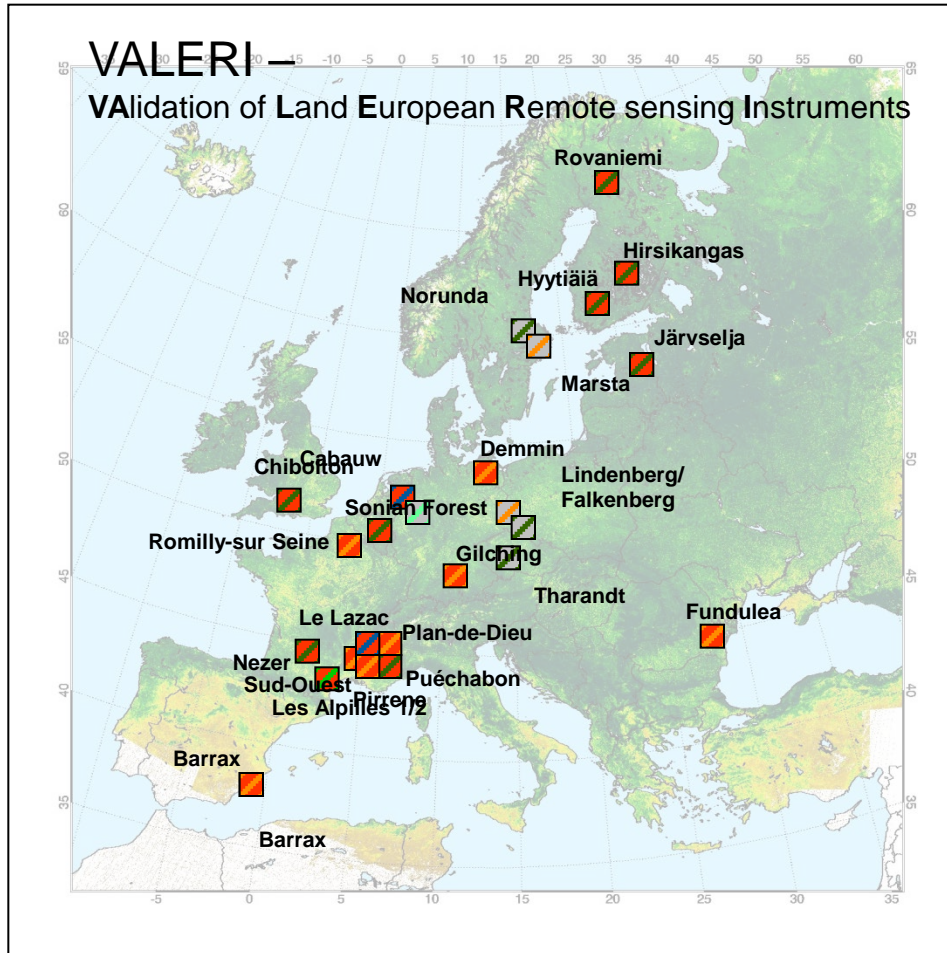
- Insufficient standardization of in-situ data (statistical basis is often too small)
- Insufficient amount of available in-situ-data (in kind and quantity)
- Unequal measuring strategies for calibration / validation of remote sensing data

## Operational stage of applications in the remote sensing:

- Processors are often prototypically (insufficient operationally usable),
- Insufficient validation strategies for operational processors



**Calibration and Validation Sites  
support solving these open issues**

# Test sites for Remote Sensing



## Operational Test Sites In Europe

### Thematic Objective

-  Meteorology
-  Remote Sensing

### Land Use

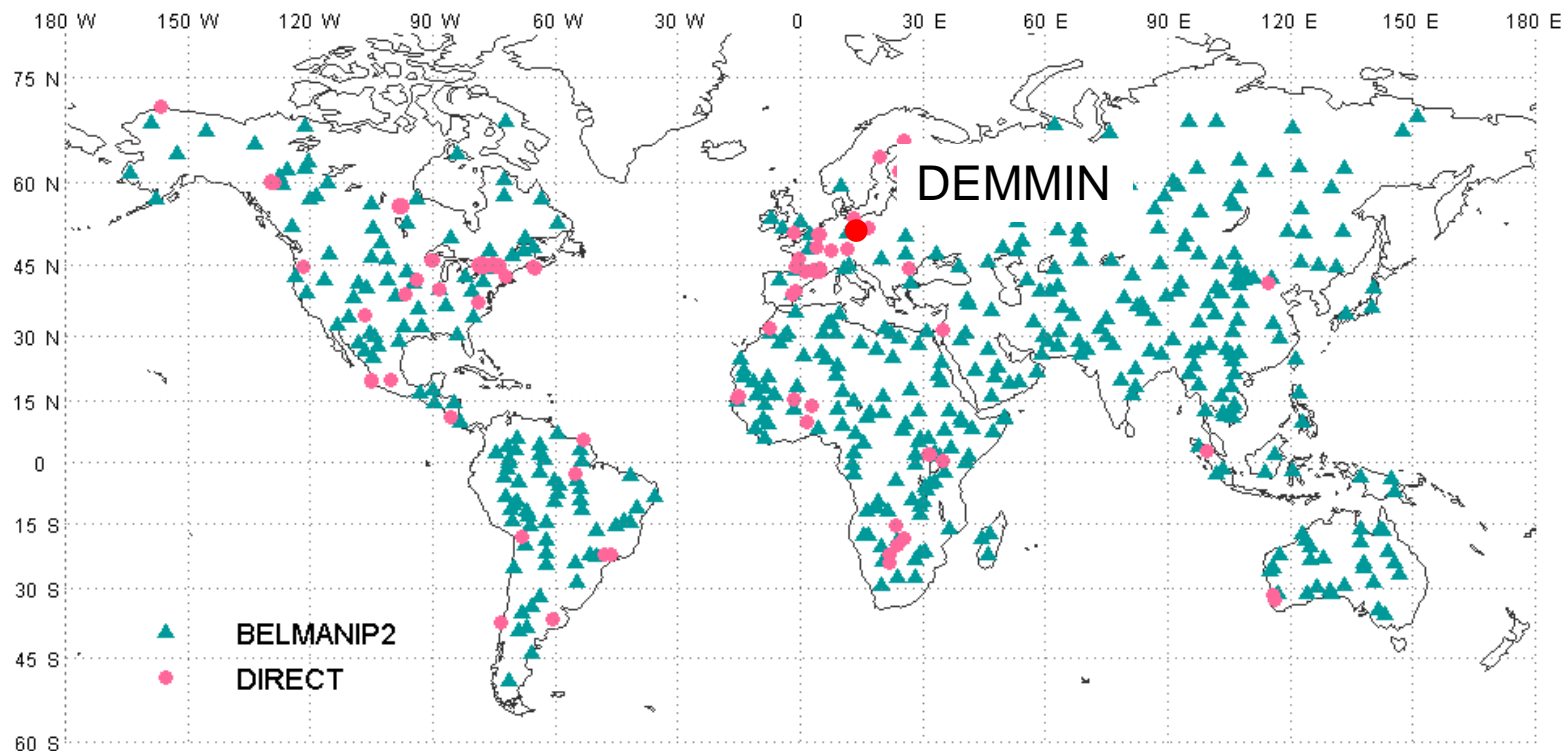
-  Meadow / Pasture
-  Wood / Forest
-  Natural Vegetation
-  Crops

### Analysis Moment

2009

# Test sites for Remote Sensing

## BELMANIP2 + DIRECT



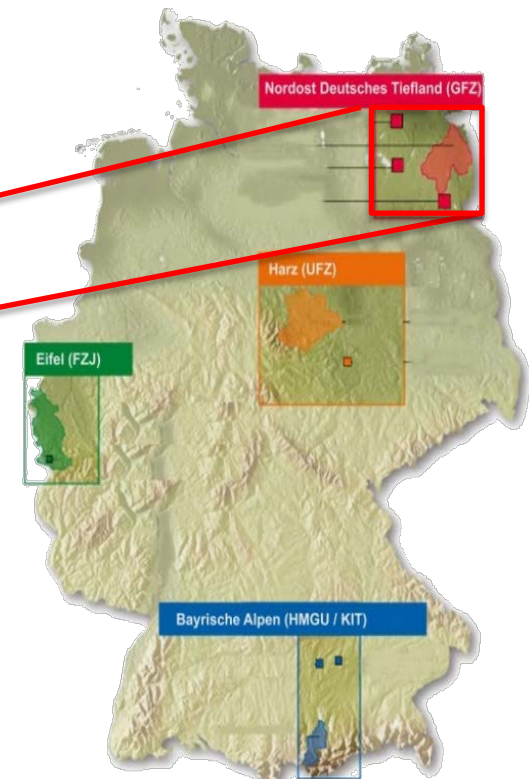
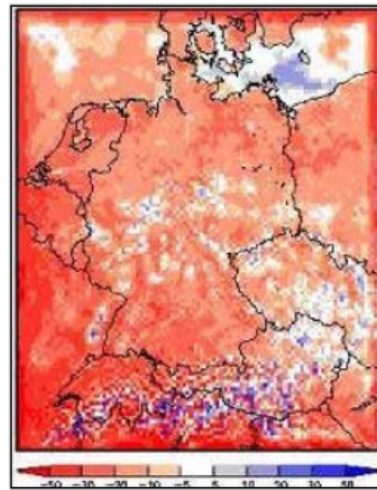
Baret, F., Morisette, J., Fernandes, R., Champeaux, J.L., Myneni, R., Chen, J., Plummer, S., Weiss, M., Bacour, C., Garrigues, S. and Nickeson, J.E., 2006. Evaluation of the representativeness of networks of sites for the validation and inter-comparison of land biophysical products. proposition of the CEOS-BELMANIP. *IEEE Trans. Geosc. Remote Sens.*, 44(7): 1794-1803

Garrigues, S., Lacaze, R., Baret, F., Morisette, J.T., Weiss, M., Nickeson, J.E., Fernandes, R., Plummer, S., Shabanov, N.V., Myneni, R.B., Knyazikhin, Y. and Yang, W., 2008. Validation and intercomparison of global Leaf Area Index products derived from remote sensing data. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 113, G02028: doi:10.1029/2007JG000635

# TERrestrial ENvironmental Observatories (TERENO)

Climatological models forecast a significant climate change (Period: 100 years)

- increase of annual mean temperature between 2.5 to 3.5 C°,
- decrease of annual mean precipitation of up to 30 %



Spatial distribution of climate change on regional scale

**DEMMIN is part of TERENO – German North-Eastern Lowlands Observatory**  
**Free data access via TERENO data portal: <http://teodoor.icg.kfa-juelich.de>**  
**(GFZ stations)**



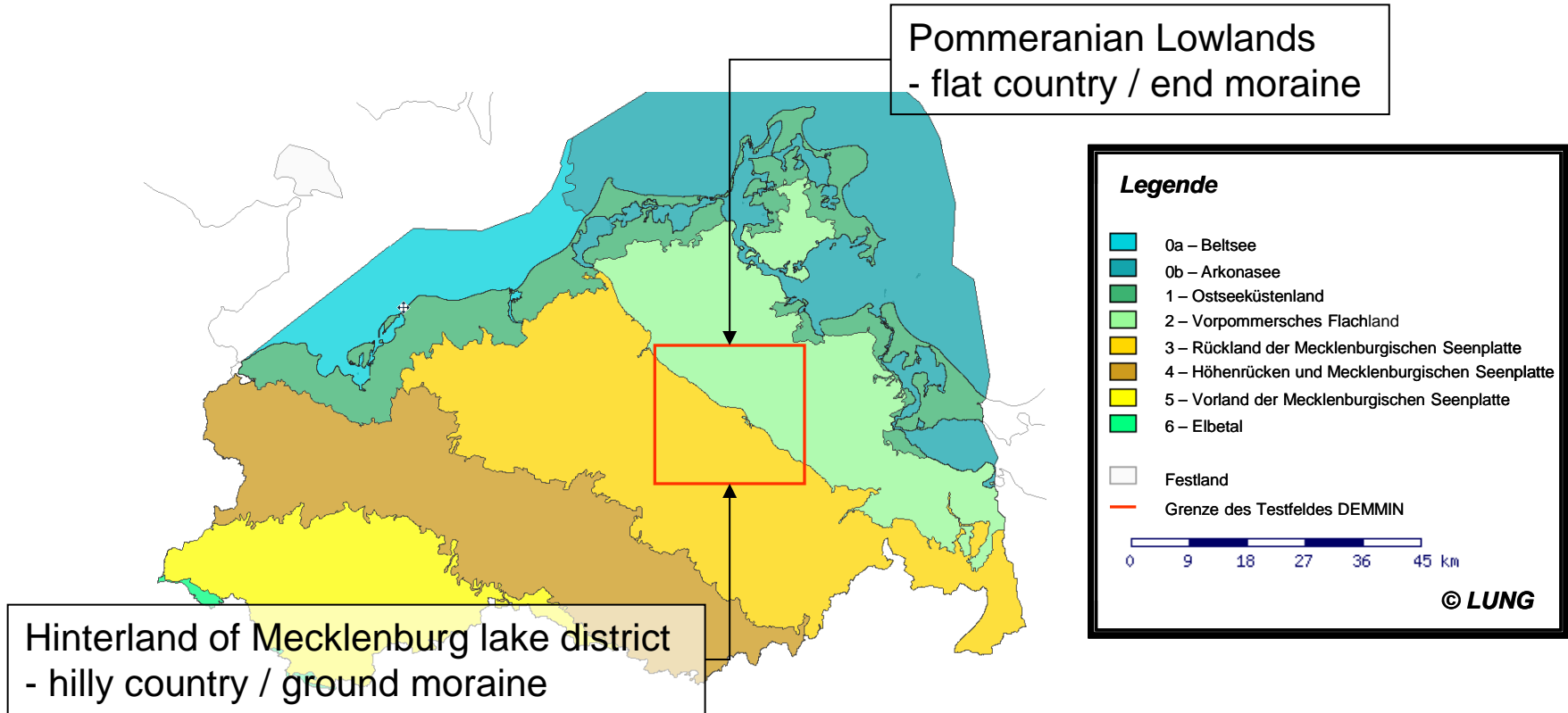
- CAL/VAL site for remote sensing missions and methods at agricultural areas (since 2000)
- Cooperation with farmers managing approx. 30,000 ha
- Test-site region has an dimension of 30 to 30 km<sup>2</sup>
- Mean Size of fields is 80 ha and in maximum 300 ha

## DEMMIN Objectives

- Combination of in-situ data and remote sensing data analysis for:
  - Crop parameter estimation (crop type, crop status, crop pattern)
  - Soil parameter retrieval (soil moisture, organic matter)
  - Evapotranspiration modelling
- High resolution data analysis (automatic data processing and analysis of multi sensor data (e.g. TSX, Sentinel-1 & 2, Landsat-8 + in-situ + modelling)
- Cal/Val site for new sensors and missions



# Landscape Zones



Formation of observatory DEMMIN with respect to landscape zones

(<http://www.umweltkarten.mv-regierung.de/script/>)





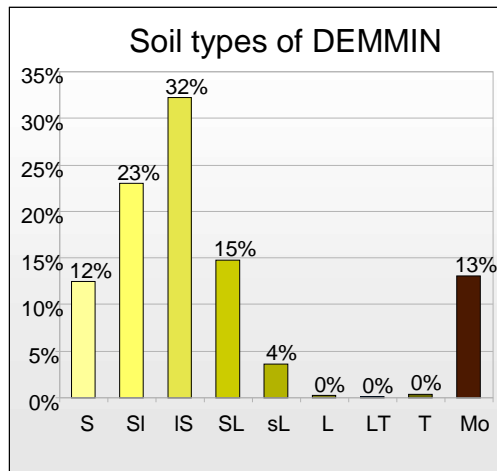
## Hydrological Characterization:

- diffuse, undeveloped water network,
- innumerable lakes and water filled hollows (germ: Sölle)
- Peat bogs along the rivers

Rivers: Trebel, Tollense, Peene

Lakes: Kummerower lake - 0.2 m above sea level Baltic See  
Malchiner lake - 0.6 m above sea level Baltic See

Peene: approx. depth 2 - 3 m; approx. slope 0.03%



## Pedological Characterization:

- Sand to sandy-loam soils
- Heterogeneous soil cover

# DEMMIN - permanent data infrastructure

## Data infrastructure

### Environmental network\*:

43 (+8) environmental stations (DLR: 23 (+ 8 add small stations, GFZ: 20)

### Soil moisture network\*:

63 gauging stations (below agricultural fields)

4 Radar Reflectors

2 Eddy Flux Towers (1 operation, 1 in constr.)

1 Crane Platform

1 Lysimeter-Hexagon

7 Stations for radiation measurements \*\*

### Data Transfer

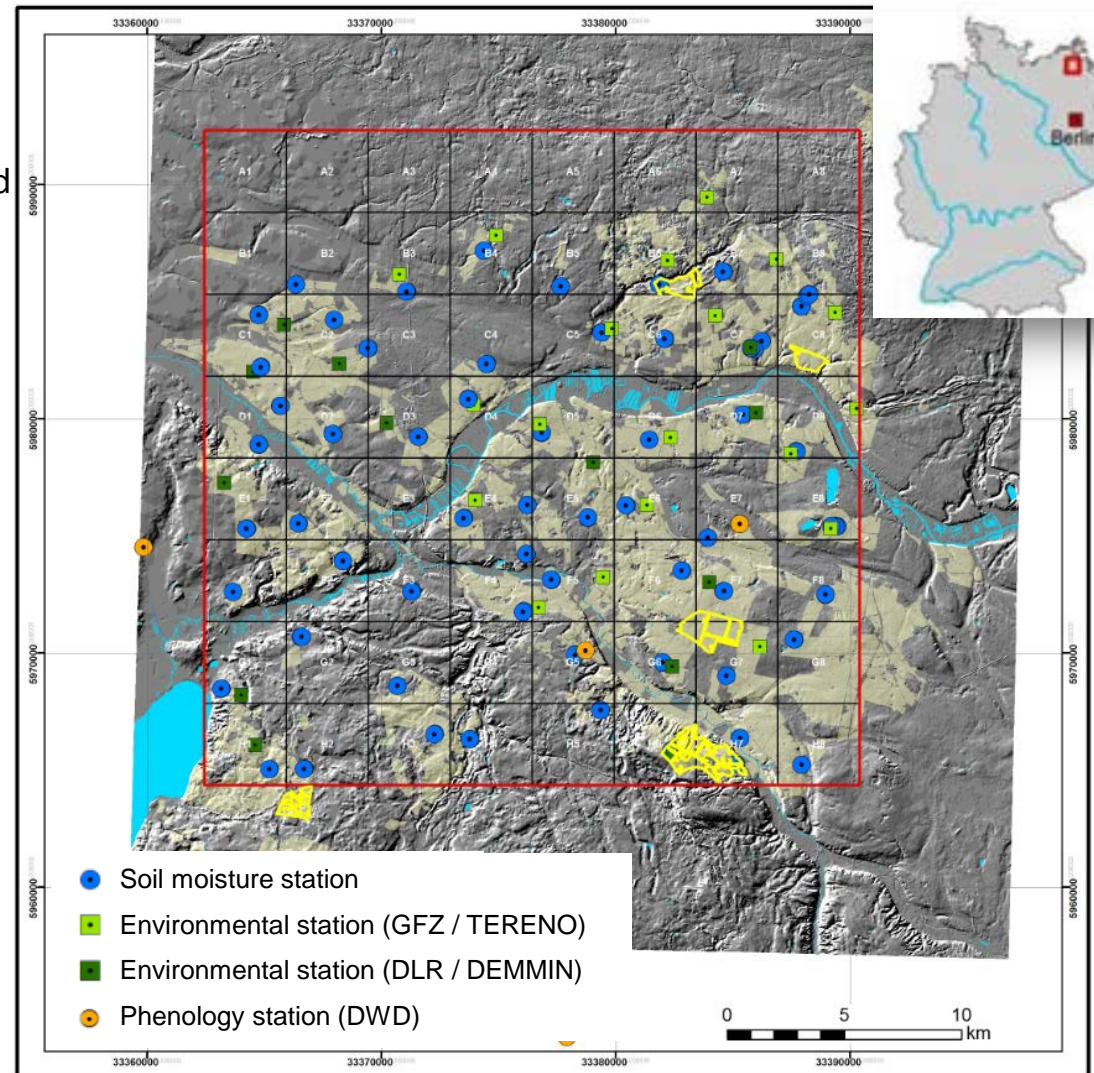
1 Basis station + Basis station gateway

3 Frequencies

4 Relay-Stations

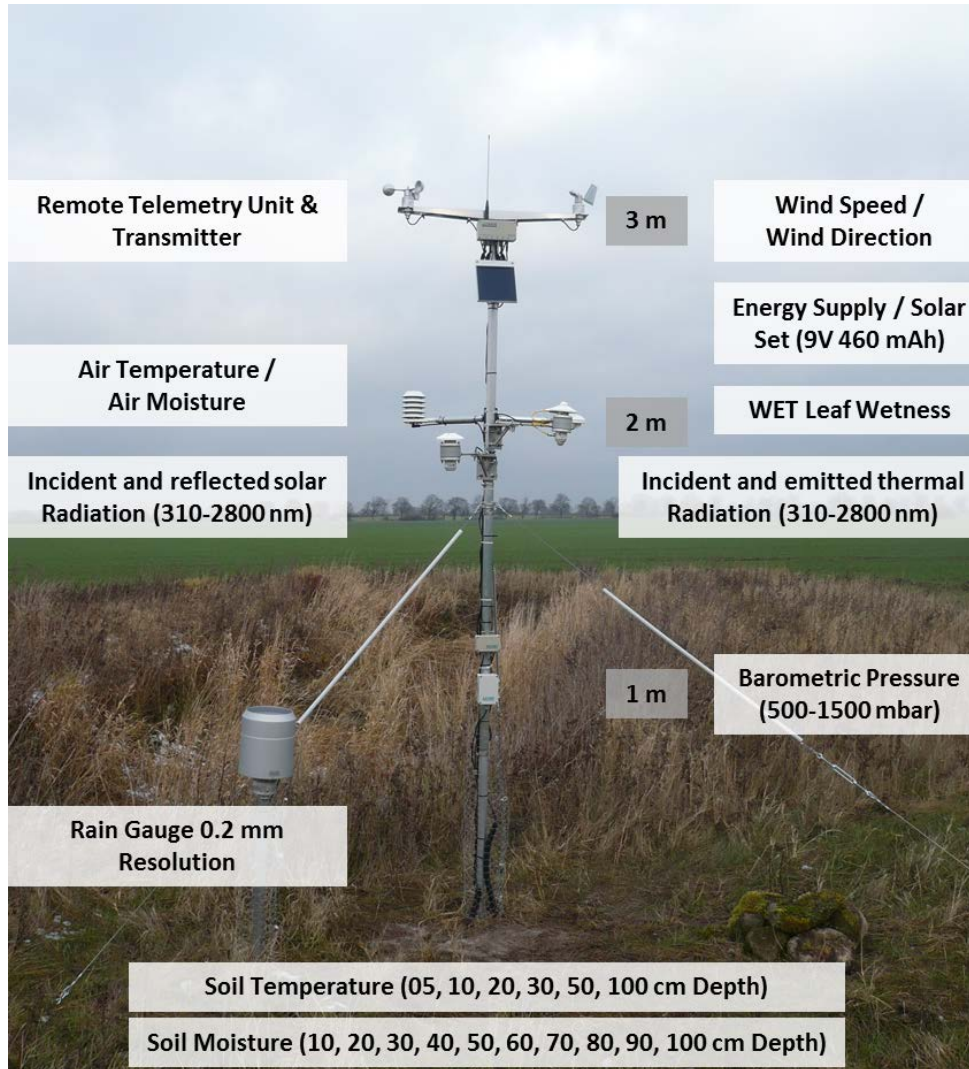
\* 15' data interval / Web-based data access

\*\* 1' data interval



# DEMMIN - permanent data infrastructure

## Environmental measurement stations

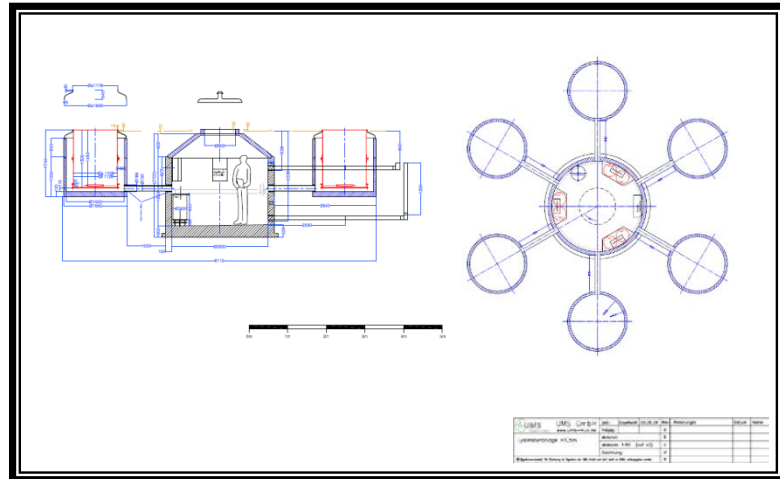
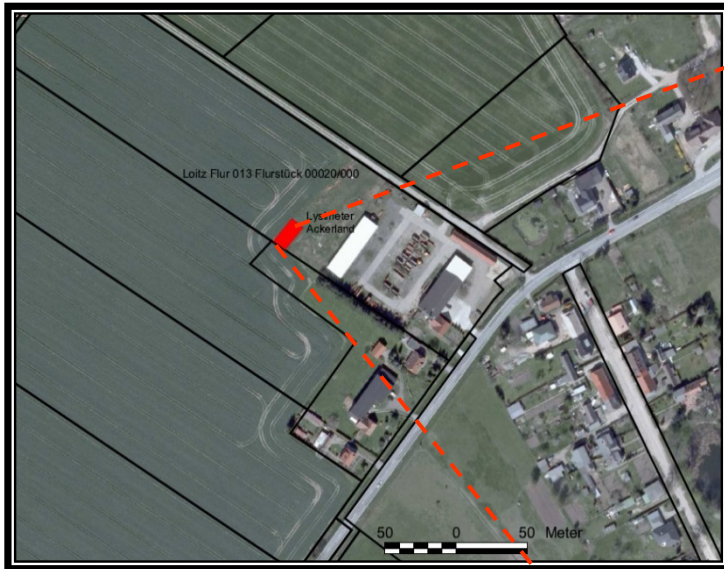


## Soil moisture network

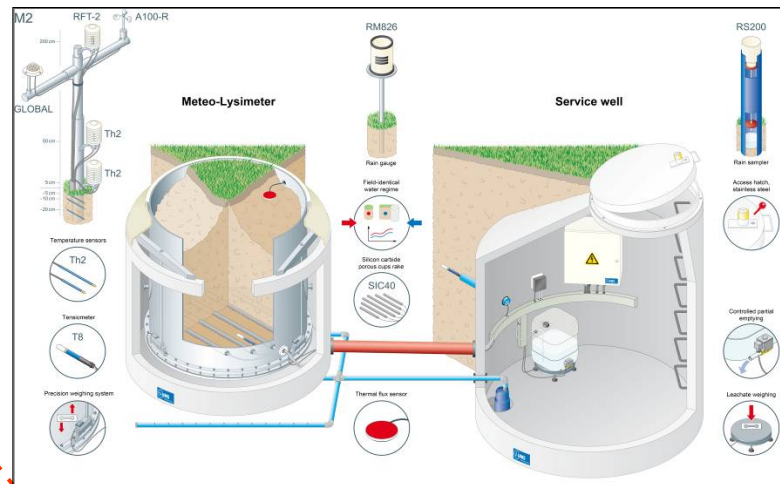


→ Input data for Soil Moisture and Evapotranspiration modelling

# Lysimeter Station: Context TERENO SoilCAN



- Automated lysimeter station Rustow –
- 6 medal cylinder filled with undamaged soil monoliths placed on a balance



Von Unold, G. (2011): [http://www.ums-muc.de/lysimeter\\_systeme/lysimeter/meteo\\_lysimeter.html](http://www.ums-muc.de/lysimeter_systeme/lysimeter/meteo_lysimeter.html) (last access: 18.08.2013)

# Monitoring of vegetation with research crane

## Scope

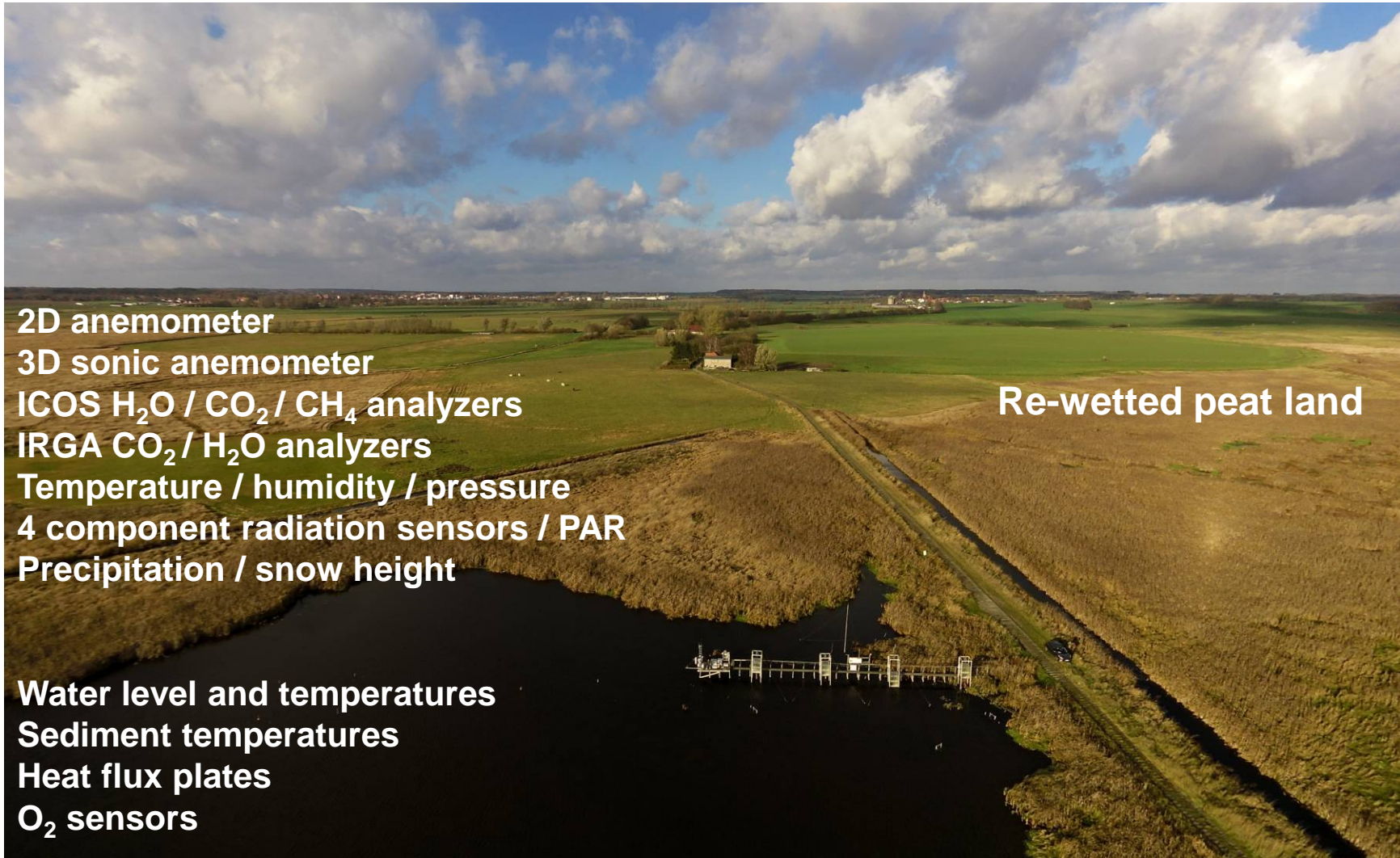
Derivation of structural components of tree canopies and biophysical parameters within the changing phenology from remote sensing data.



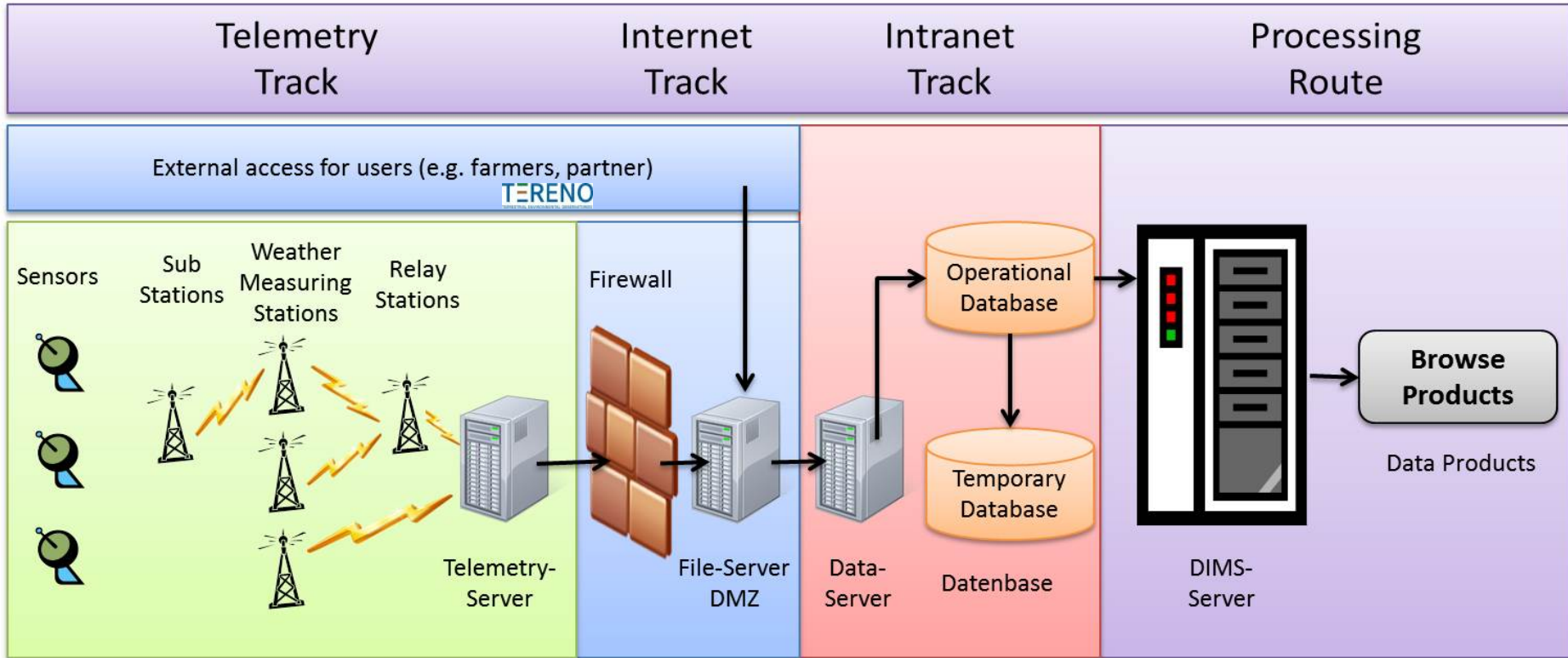
## Parameters of interest:

- Crown components (leaf, bark, soil)
- Spectral reflectance,
- Chlorophyll a+b,
- Carotenoid,
- Leaf water content,
- Vitality,
- Leaf area index





# Operative Processing Chain for In-situ-Data



**1 Base station + Base station gateway**

**3 Frequencies**

**4 Relay-Stations**

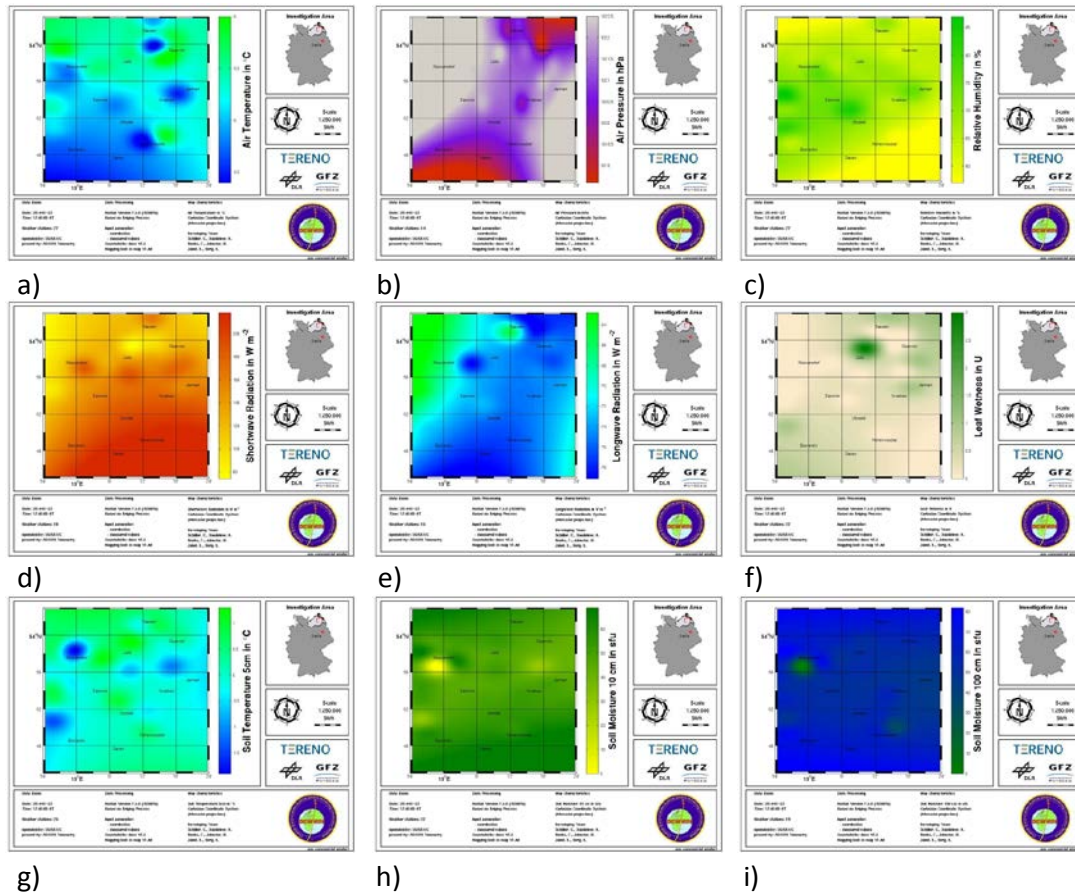
**\* 15' data interval / Web-based data access**

**\*\* 1' data interval**





# In-situ-Data Browse Products



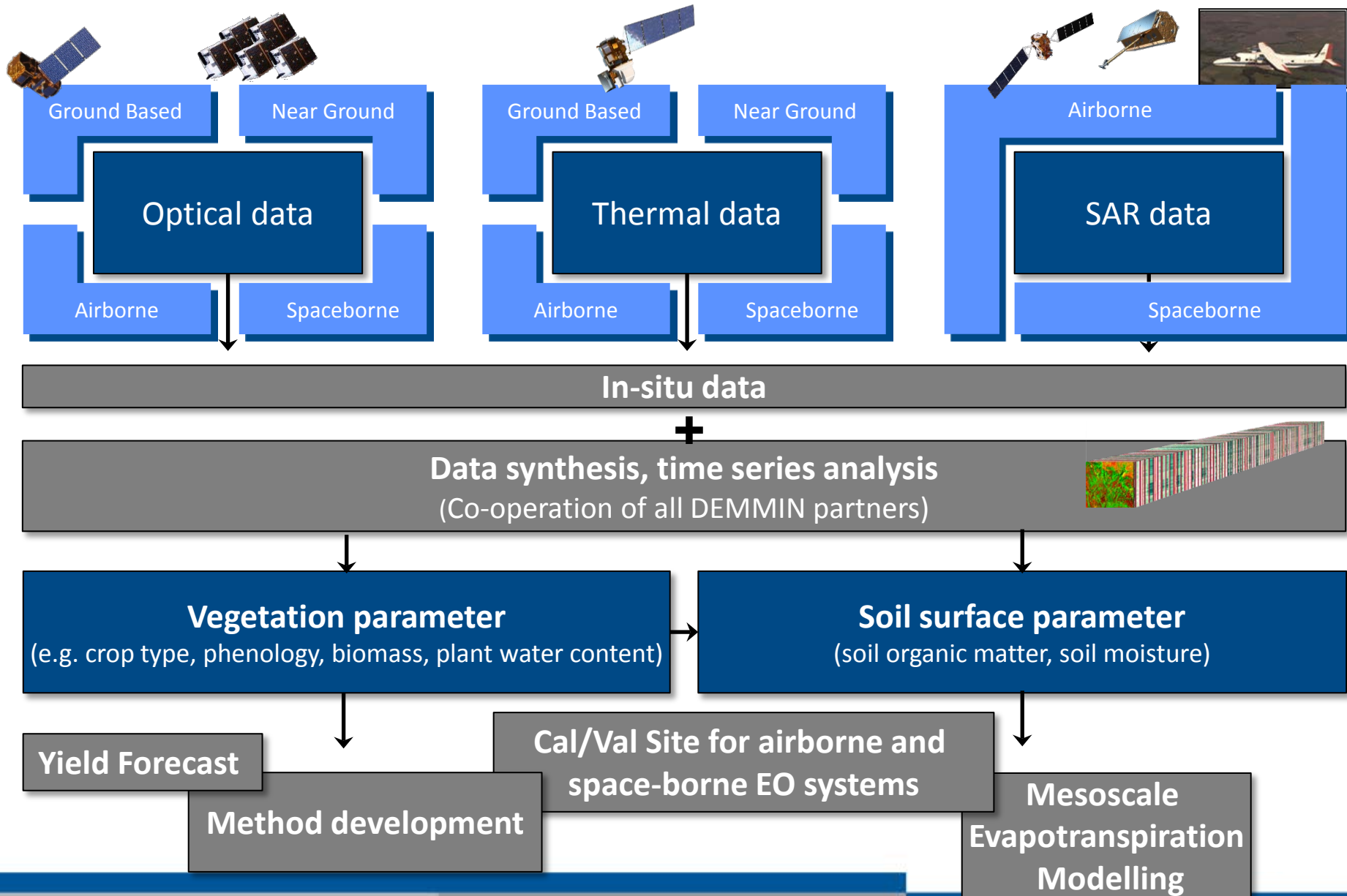
Sample products showing parameter distribution of a) air temperature, b) air pressure, c) relative humidity, d) shortwave, e) longwave radiation, f) leave wetness, g) soil temperature – 5 cm, h) soil moisture – 10 cm, i) soil moisture – 100 cm (<http://demminweb.dlr.de>)

# Monitoring / Field Campaigns / Experiments

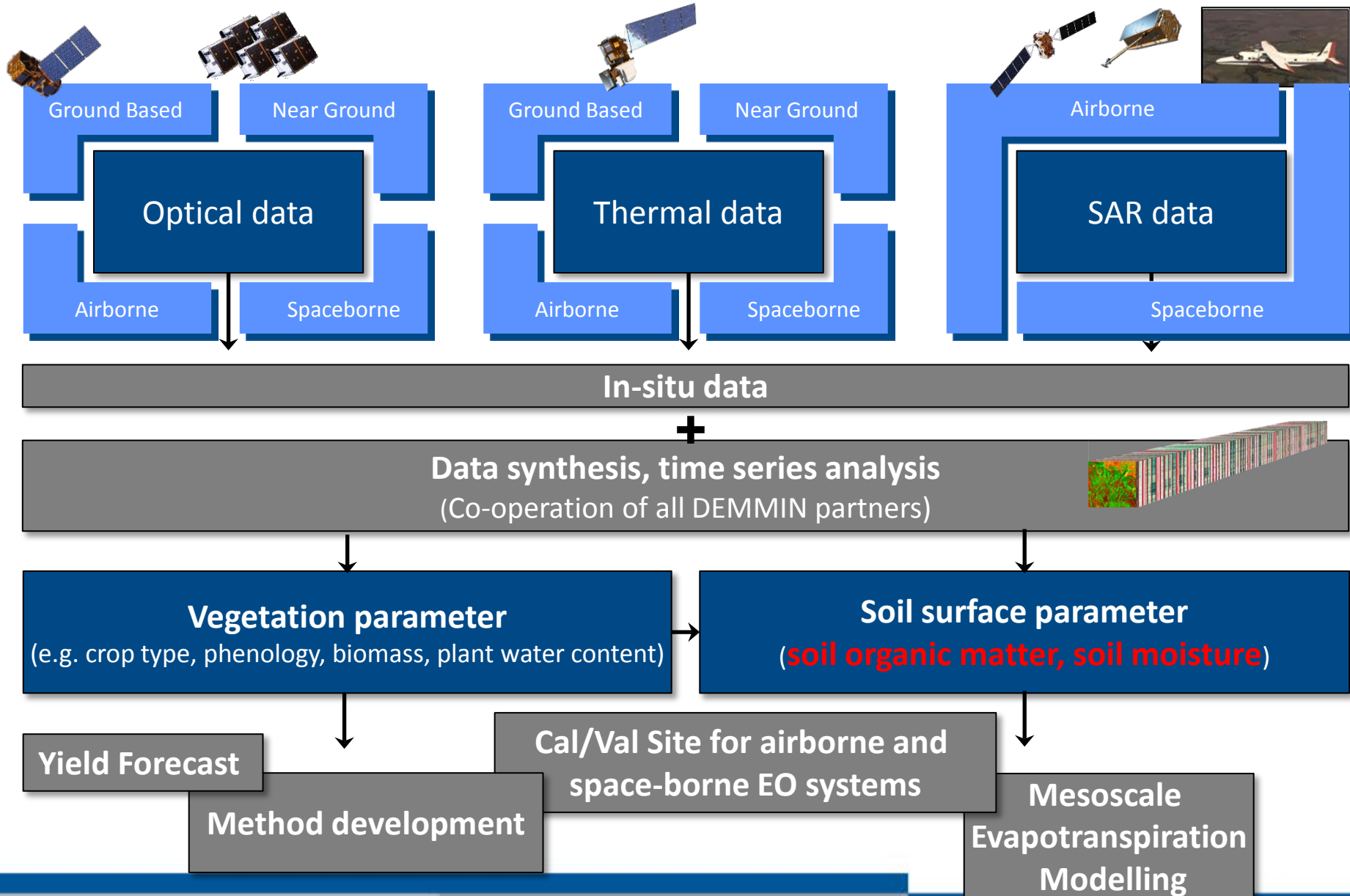
- Measurements of soil and vegetation data at TerraSAR-X data acquisitions
- ASD-spectral measurements
- Soil moisture analysis
- Vegetation parameter (LAI, cover, crop type, phenology, height, chlorophyll, biomass , yield)
- Soil analysis (geophysical measurements, soil parameter)
- Experiments for new sensors/mission (e.g. TET, Sentinel, Landsat)
- Experiments for in-situ equipment



# DEMMIN Research Objectives – Interim Recap



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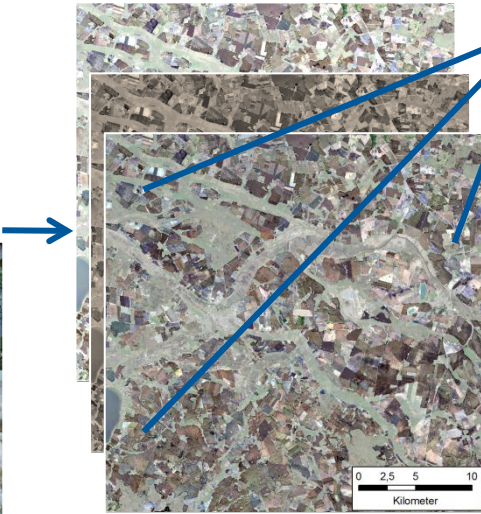
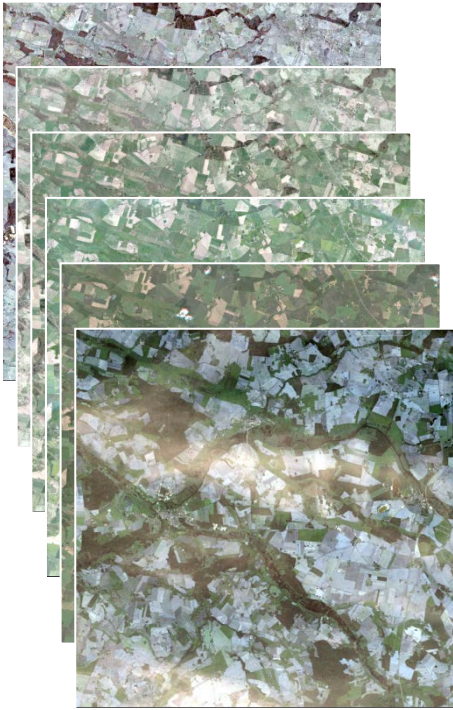
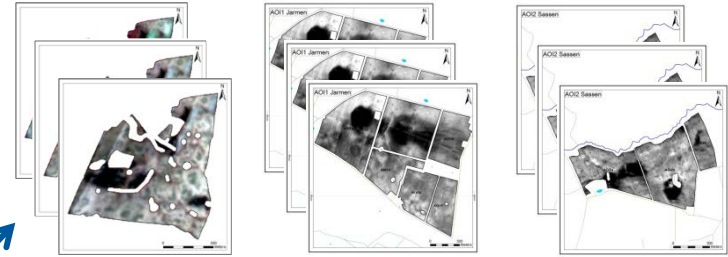


# Soil Pattern Analysis for Organic Matter Determination at Regional Scale (TERENO-NO)

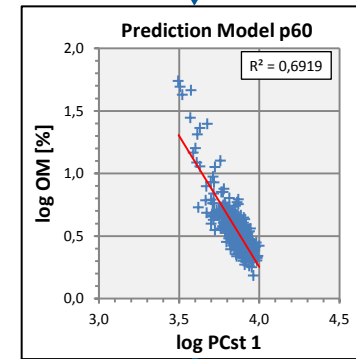
Multitemporal remote sensing data

Selection of bare soil fields →  
Multitemporal synthetic bare soil data

Soil pattern detection at different test fields

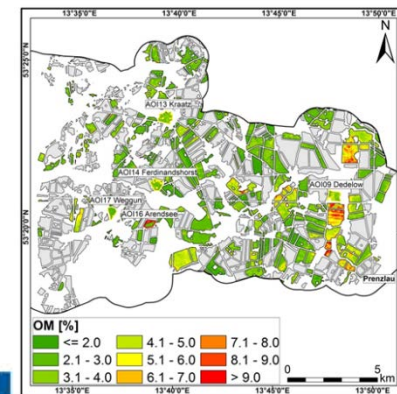


(based on NDVI + in field homogeneity)



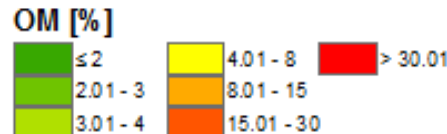
Regional regression model based on laboratory analysis

$R^2: 0.692;$   
 $RMSE: 7.487 \%$



Soil map generation (test site Qentlow)

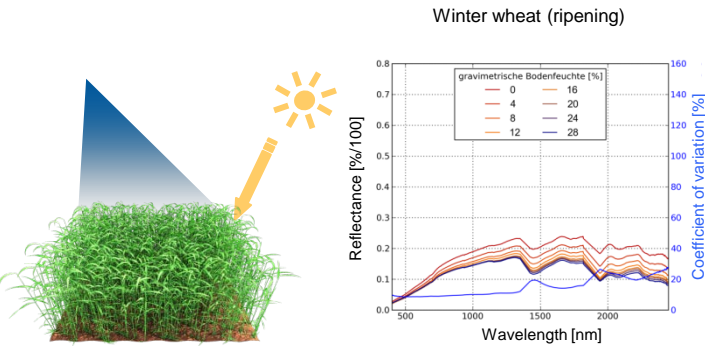
RapidEye



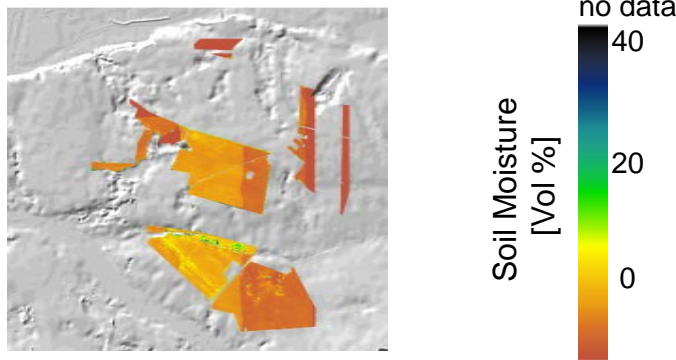
# Soil Moisture Analysis Based on Multisensoral RS Data

## Hyperspectral Data

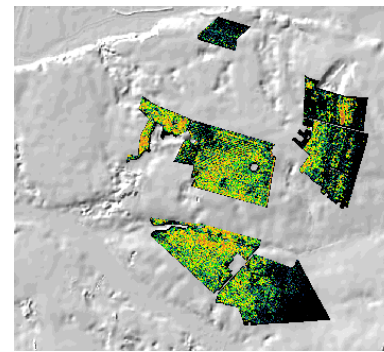
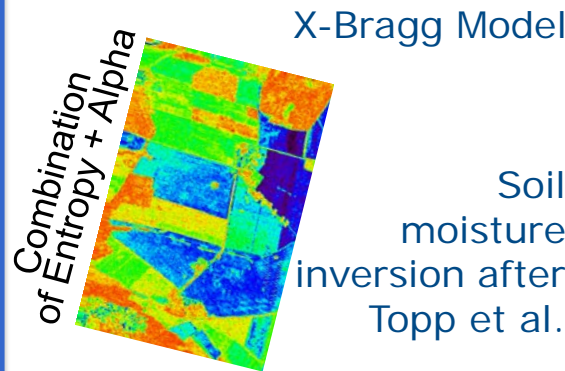
5D modelling of canopy reflectance with varying soil moisture content



Minimisation of vegetation influences on soil moisture index

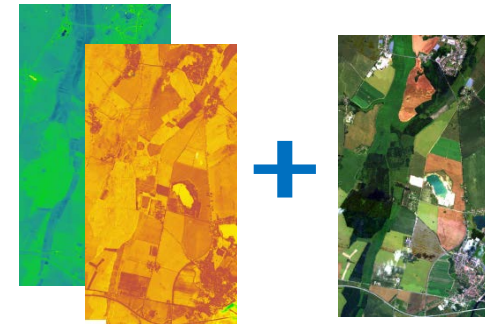


## Microwave Data



## Thermal Data

Combination of multitemporal thermal data with HS data



Calculation of Apparent Thermal Inertia for Soil Moisture Estimation



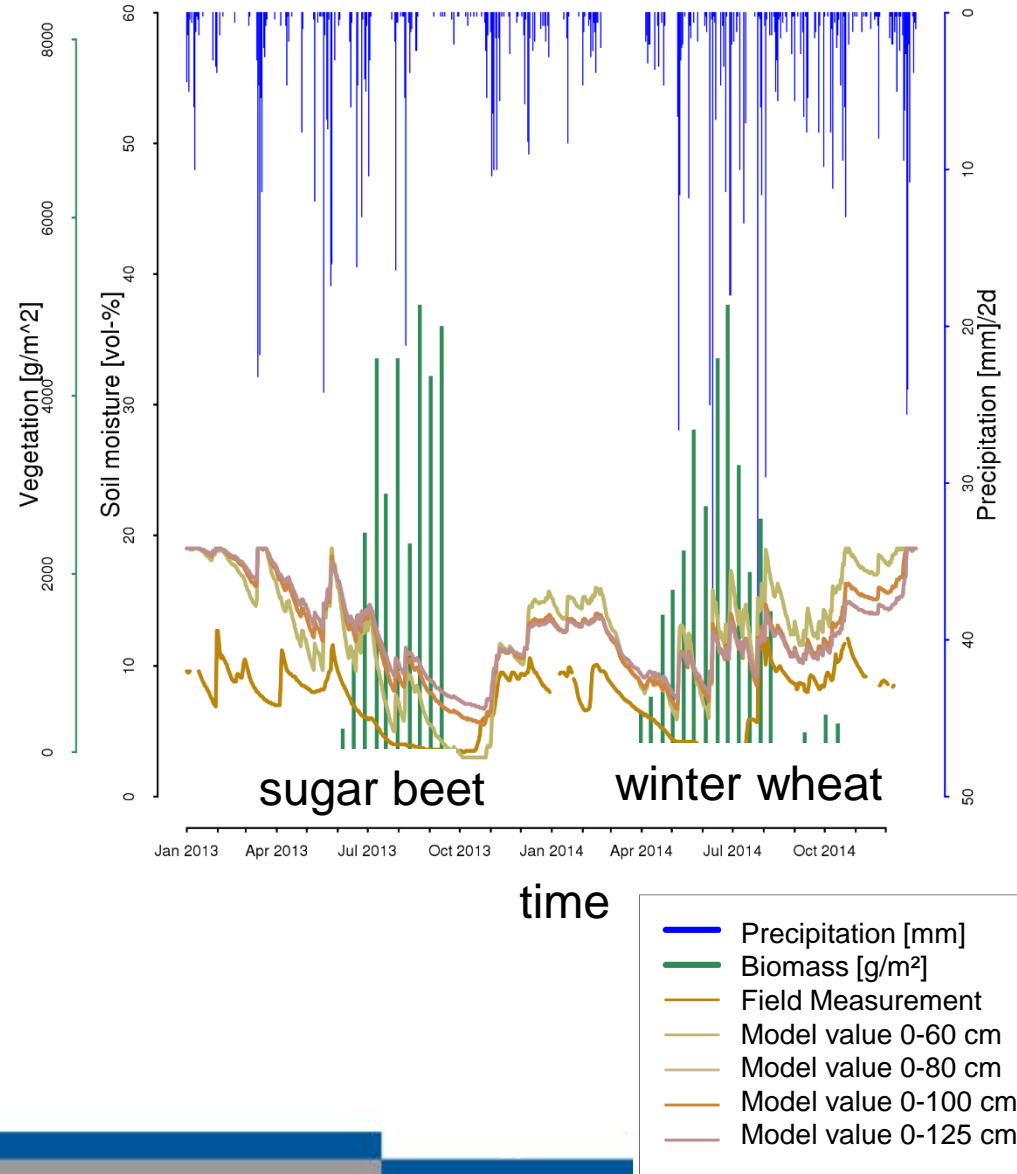
**Synergetic Data Analysis, going beyond field scale**

# Soil Moisture Modelling (in cooperation with DWD)



- Measuring of soil moisture under crops
- Simulation of water balance for different depths (METVER)
- Results show higher dynamic compared to field measurements, especially at growing period
- Water is detracted (e.g. transpiration, plant use) before reaching sensors in 50/70cm depth

→ Input data for Evapotranspiration modelling



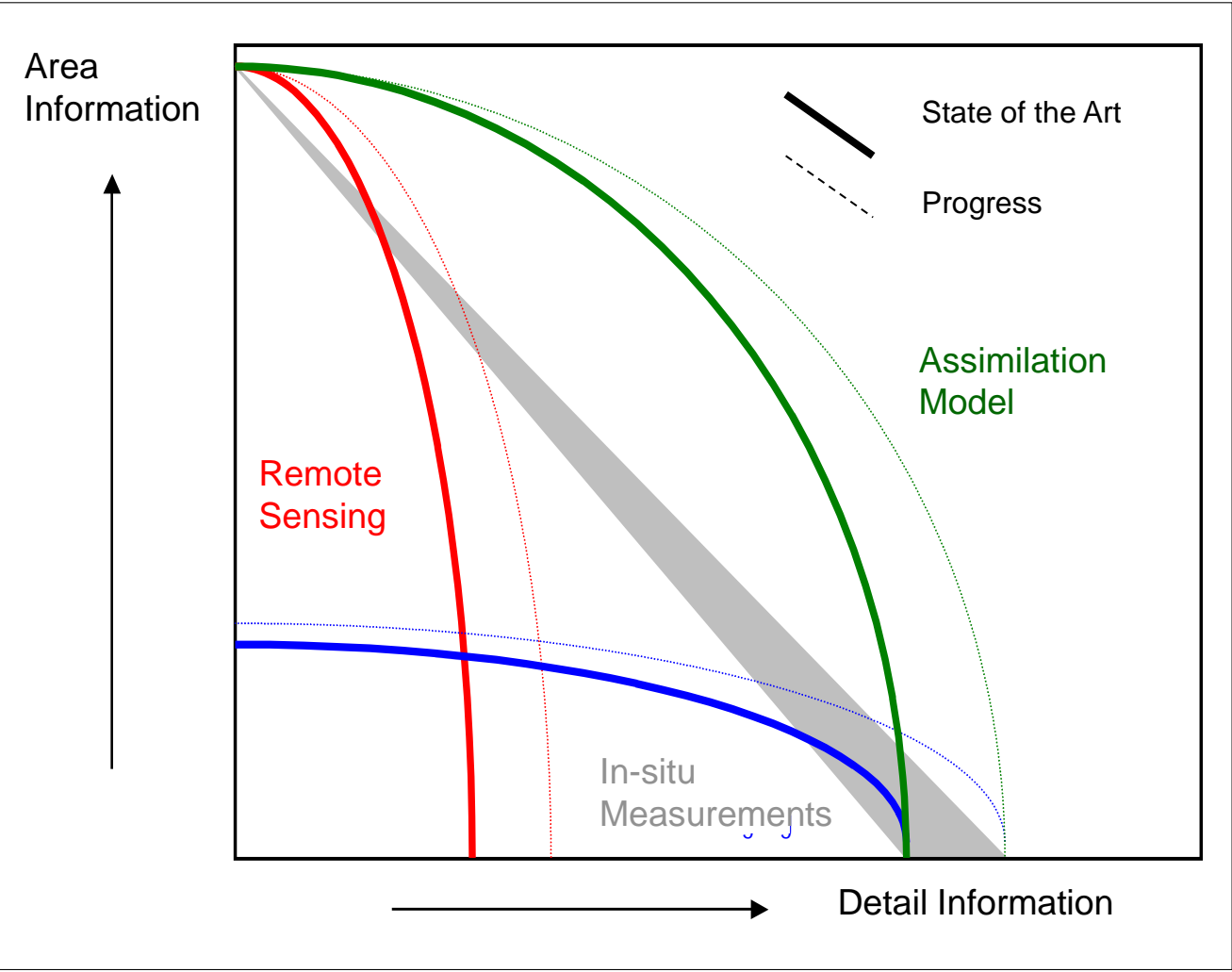
# CAL / VAL Site DEMMIN - Effect of Combined Measurements (EO+in-situ) with Models

DEMMIN combines in-situ and EO data analysis with expert knowledge (scientist + farmers)

DEMMIN is one of the best observed agricultural areas in Germany (> 100 RS data sets / year)

DEMMIN / TERENO data are free to access via TERENO data portal

**DEMMIN welcomes you for joint research**





- Baret, F., Morisette, J., Fernandes, R., Champeaux, J.L., Myneni, R., Chen, J., Plummer, S., Weiss, M., Bacour, C., Garrigues, S. and Nickeson, J.E., 2006. Evaluation of the representativeness of networks of sites for the validation and inter-comparison of land biophysical products. proposition of the CEOS-BELMANIP. *IEEE Trans. Geosc. Remote Sens.*, 44(7): 1794-1803
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- Blasch, G., Spengler, D., Itzerott, S., Wessolek, G. (2015): Organic Matter Modeling at the Landscape Scale Based on Multitemporal Soil Pattern Analysis Using RapidEye Data. - *Remote Sensing*, 7, 9, p. 11125-11150.
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- Borg, E., Fichtelmann, B. (2014): DEMMIN - Test Site for Remote Sensing in Agricultural Application. SMOS Quality Working Group, 06. Okt. - 08. Okt. 2014, Frascati, Italy, [http://elib.dlr.de/91142/1/Presentation\\_Frascati\\_2014\\_3.pdf](http://elib.dlr.de/91142/1/Presentation_Frascati_2014_3.pdf).
- Borg, E., Fichtelmann, B., Schiller, C., Kuenlenz, S., Renke, F., Jahncke, D., Wloczyk, C. (2014): DEMMIN - Test Site for Remote Sensing in Agricultural Application. Remote sensing calibration and validation test site useable for agriculture.- In: *Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring (JECAM) - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*.- Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 21-23 July 2014.- 28 p. [http://www.jecam.org/1650\\_DEMMIN\\_Test\\_Site\\_for\\_Remote\\_Sensing\\_in\\_Agricultural\\_Application\\_JECAM\\_2014.pdf](http://www.jecam.org/1650_DEMMIN_Test_Site_for_Remote_Sensing_in_Agricultural_Application_JECAM_2014.pdf)

- Borg, E., Vajen, H.-H., Fichtelmann, B., Kühnlenz, S., Renke, F., Jahnke, D. (2015) DEMMIN - Test Site for Remote Sensing in Agricultural Application. JECAM Science Meeting, 16.-17. Nov. 2015, Brüssel, Belgien.
- Clasen, A., Somers, B., Pipkins, K., Tits, L., Segl, K., Brell, M., Kleinschmit, B., Spengler, D., Lausch, A. and Förster, M. (2015). Spectral Unmixing of Forest Crown Components at Close Range, Airborne and Simulated Sentinel-2 and EnMAP Spectral Imaging Scale. *remote sensing*, 26.
- Conrad, C., Schönbrodt-Stitt, S., Löw, F., Sorokin, D., & Paeth, H. (2016). Cropping Intensity in the Aral Sea Basin and Its Dependency from the Runoff Formation 2000–2012. *Remote Sensing*, 8(8), 630.
- Garrigues, S., Lacaze, R., Baret, F., Morisette, J.T., Weiss, M., Nickeson, J.E., Fernandes, R., Plummer, S., Shabanov, N.V., Myneni, R.B., Knyazikhin, Y., and Yang, W., 2008. Validation and intercomparison of global Leaf Area Index products derived from remote sensing data. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 113, G02028: doi:10.1029/2007JG000635
- Küster, T., Spengler, D., Barczy, J.-F., Segl, K., Hostert, P., Kaufmann, H. (2014): Simulation of Multitemporal and Hyperspectral Vegetation Canopy Bidirectional Reflectance Using Detailed Virtual 3-D Canopy Models. - *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 52, 4, p. 2096-2108.
- Spengler, D., Küster, T., Frick, A., Scheffler, D., Kaufmann, H. (2013): Correcting the influence of vegetation on surface soil moisture indices by using hyperspectral artificial 3D-canopy models - *Proceedings of SPIE, Image and Signal Processing for Remote Sensing XV, 88870Y, SPIE Remote Sensing Conference (Dresden 2013)*.
- Von Unold, G. 2011): [http://www.ums-muc.de/lysimeter\\_systeme/lysimeter/meteo\\_lysimeter.html](http://www.ums-muc.de/lysimeter_systeme/lysimeter/meteo_lysimeter.html) (last access: 18.08.2013)



**Thank you very much for your attention**

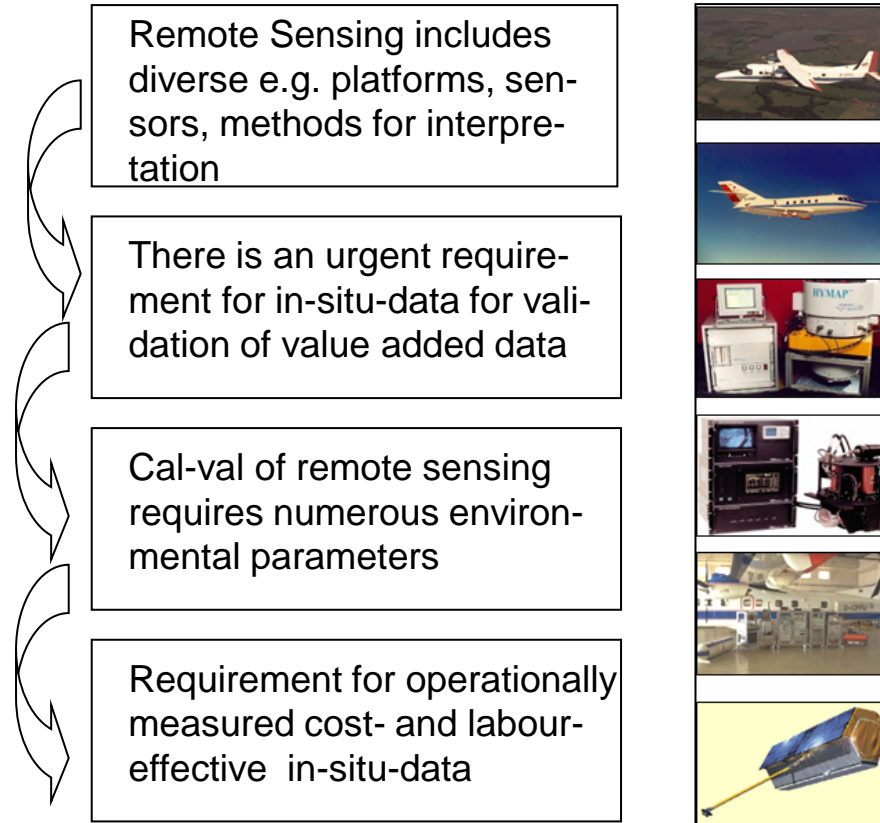


**D. Spengler<sup>1</sup>, E. Borg<sup>2</sup>, F. Renke<sup>2</sup>, C. Conrad<sup>3</sup>, C. Hohmann<sup>1</sup>, T. Sachs<sup>1</sup>, S. Itzerott<sup>1</sup>**

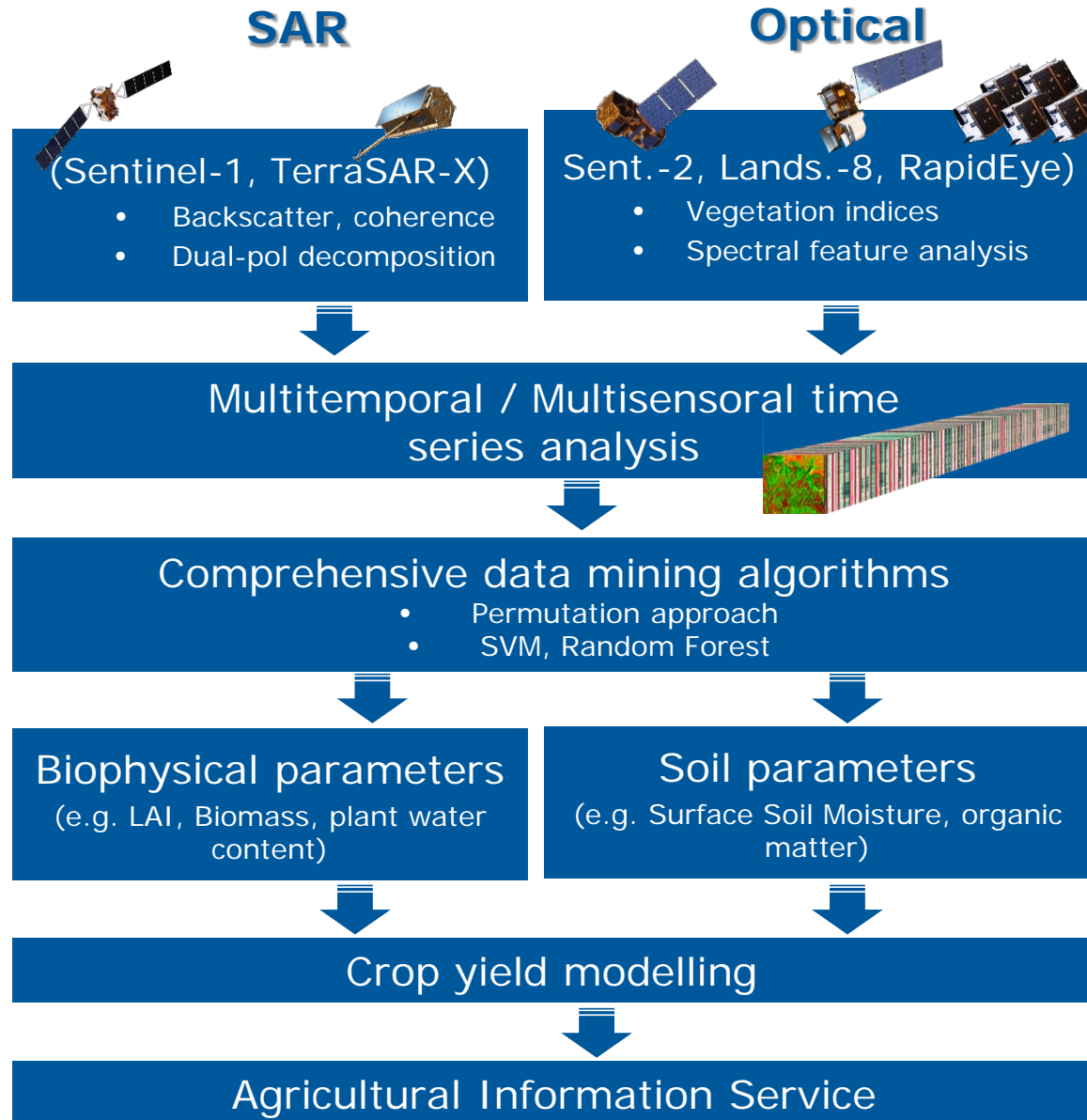
Contacts [daniel.spengler@gfz-potsdam.de](mailto:daniel.spengler@gfz-potsdam.de), [erik.borg@dlr.de](mailto:erik.borg@dlr.de), [sibylle.itzerott@gfz-potsdam.de](mailto:sibylle.itzerott@gfz-potsdam.de)

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<sup>2</sup> *German Aerospace Center (DLR)*  
<sup>3</sup> *Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg*

# Why do we need a calibration and validation test site for Earth observation?



# Data Uses



# Performed and Planned Cooperations / Campaigns (Selection)

## Performed / Planned Cooperations:

- **TERENO** <http://www.tereno.net>,
- **ESA** <ftp://pcf:Ciqcsp01@uranus.esrin.esa.int/PH/Deliverables/>,
- **NEREUS** <http://www.nereus-regions.eu/home>,
- **USGS** [http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/sites\\_catalog\\_template.php?site=demm](http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/sites_catalog_template.php?site=demm),
- **SMOS** Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity
- **TerraSAR-X, Tandem-X, Sentinel-1, Tandem-L, LANDSAT 8, SMAP, TET**
- **JECAM**

## Performed / Planned Cooperations:

- **AGRISAR 2006 / Eagle 2006:**
  - Objective: assessment of Sentinel missions-1 /-2 and improving of interpretation methods for radar and optical data, generation of in-situ and airborne data (weekly), simulation of prospective sentinel data and information products
  - Partner: >15 national and international research centers.
- **TERENO (SoilCAN)**
  - Objective: Measurement and documentation of climate-relevant parameters , climate research and climate impact consulting for regional development of climate-sensitive regions
  - Partner: 6 research centers (e.g. Research Center Jülich – FZJ, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology – KIT, German Research Centre for Geosciences – GFZ, German Aerospace Center - DLR) and partners.
- **TechnologieErprobungsTraeger (TET) 2013:**
  - Objective: Validation of the fire detection system onboard the TET Mission
- **PHENOS (funded by Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy (BMWi), DLR Project Management Agency ):**
  - Objective: development and validation of algorithms / models for the operational detection of optimal phenological time slots for an cost optimized land use classification for Sentinel 2 data
- **Tech4Times (funded by Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy (BMWi), DLR Project Management Agency ):**
  - Objective: Development of remote sensing based value added products for sustainable agriculture.