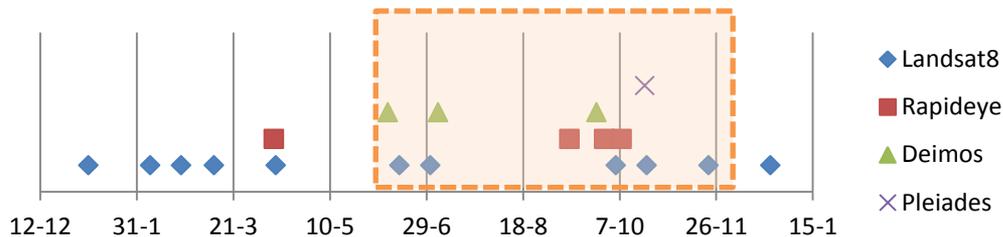


## STUDY SITE

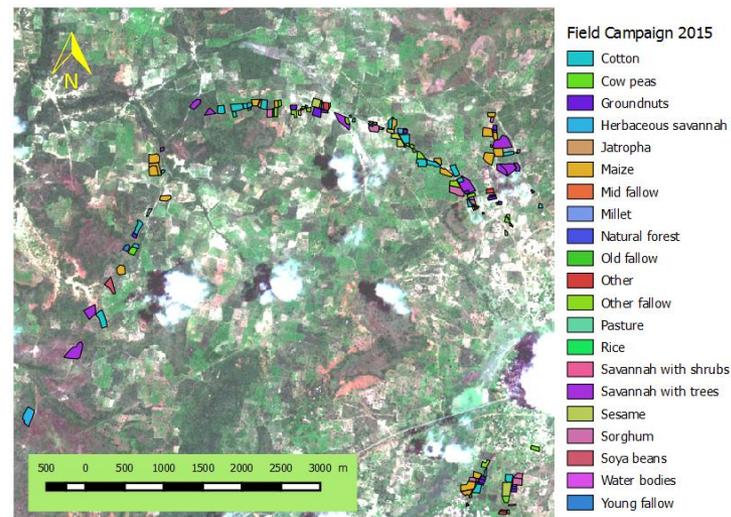
- **Topography:** Peneplains with few isolated hills (average altitude around 200m)
- **Soils:** Mostly sandy, somewhere gravelly
- **Crop types:** Cotton, maize, sorghum, millet, groundnut, *niébé* (cowpeas), sesame, soja – all rainfed
- **Crop calendar:** May/June to October/November
- **Climate and weather:** Tropical dry (sudano-sahelian), mostly cloudy in the growing season
- **Agricultural methods used:** Manual or animal-powered tillage / Hoeing / Possible use of fertilizers
- **Main challenging issues:** Lack of valid satellite data during growing season (cloud coverage), small-sized crops, heterogeneity of practices, intra- and inter-plot diversity



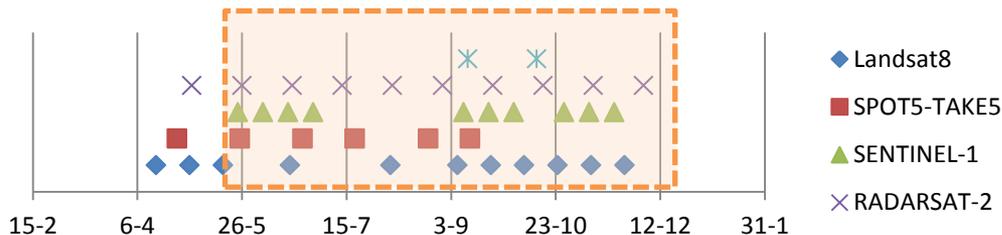
## Calendar of satellite data for 2014



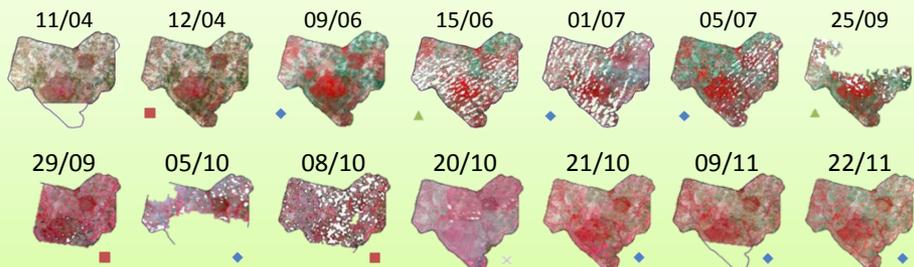
## Annual field campaigns

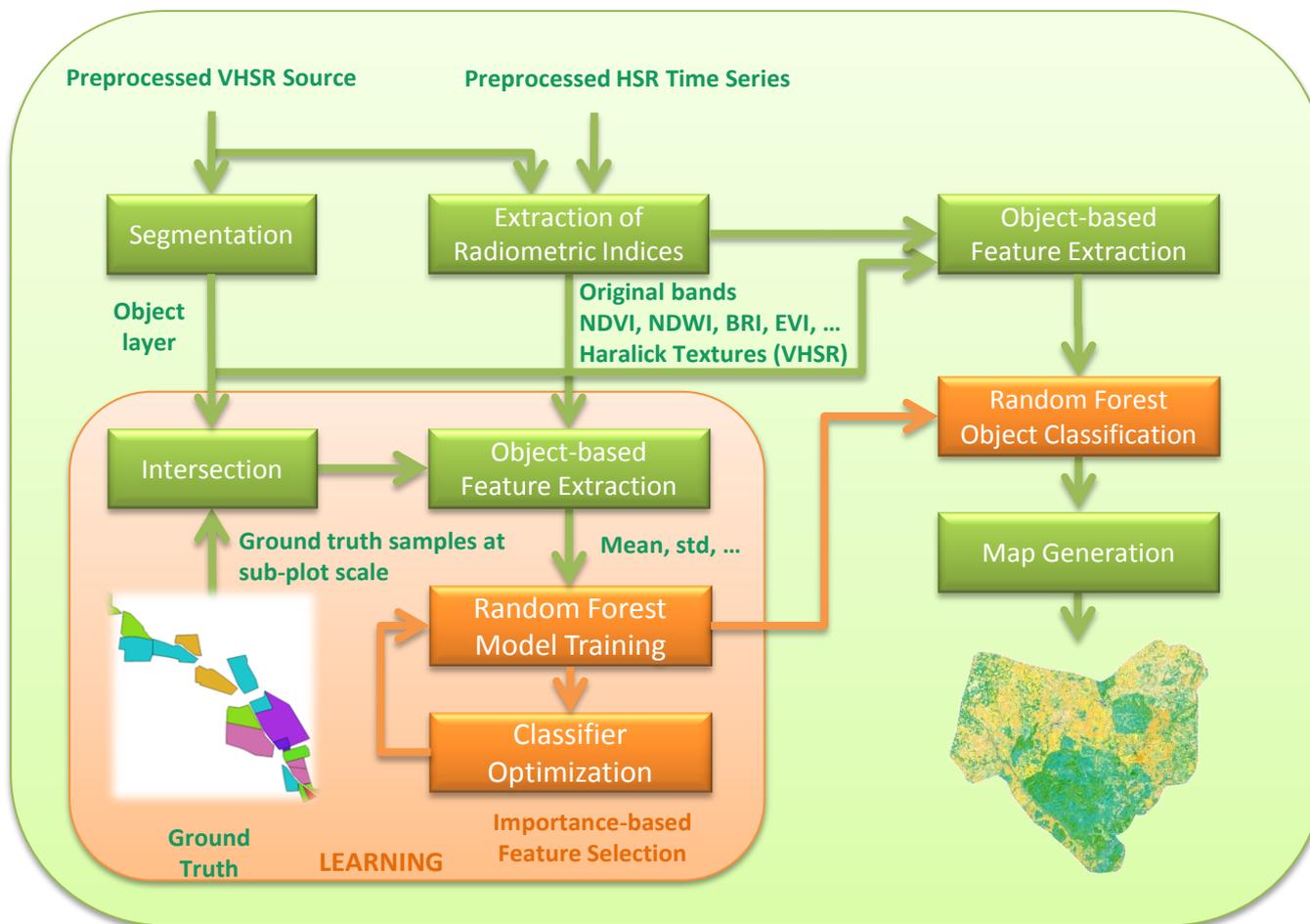


## Calendar of satellite data for 2015

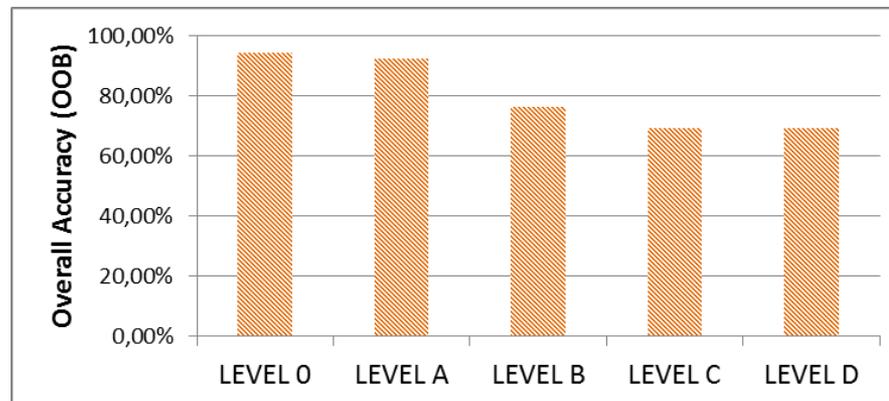
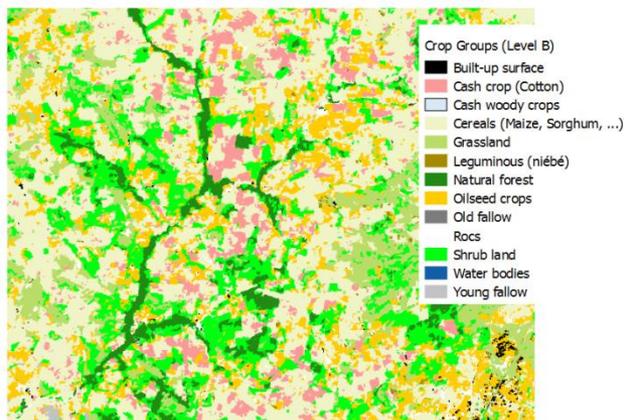


## Quicklooks of 2014 dataset





- **OBIA (Object-Based Image Analysis) approach** for the fusion of multi-sensor data , **ensemble classifier (Random Forest)**, multiple classification strategies (“flat”, top-down and bottom-up hierarchical)



- Preliminary results are promising, despite **intra-class dissimilarities**, **complexity of landscape** and **cloudy images** (at season peak)
  - All sources concur to the achievement of current accuracies
- **Ongoing improvements** to improve data-fusion strategy
  - Assessing the **potential of Sentinel-1/Radarsat-2 data**
  - Improve **low-level multi-sensor feature extraction**
  - **Optimize object layer extraction** (segmentation)