



JECAM 2020 Annual Science Meeting

Virtual meeting and interactive sessions



10:00 UTC – 11:45 UTC Eastern Session (Chair: Miao Zhang, JECAM co-lead) 12:00-13:45 CEST / 06:00-07:45 EDT / 20:00-21:45 AEST

12:15 UTC – 14:30 UTC Central Session (Chair: Pierre Defourny, JECAM co-lead) 14:15-16:30 CEST / 08:15-10:30 EDT / 22:15-00:30 AEST

15:00 UTC – 16:45 UTC Western Session (Chair: Andrew Davidson, JECAM co-lead) 17:00-18:45 CEST / 11:00-12:45 EDT / 01:00-02:45 AEST

23 June 2020

Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) : UTC +10 Central European Summer Time (CEST) : UTC +2 Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) : UCT-4

IECAM JECAM 2020 Annual Science Meeting

12:15 UTC – 14:30 UTC Central Session (Chair: Pierre Defourny, JECAM co-lead) 14:15-16:30 CEST / 08:15-10:30 EDT / 22:15-00:30 AEST

- Welcome
- Achievements of the JECAM SAR cross-site intercomparison Talk (25 min) + Q&A
- JECAM guidelines for validation call for update in AI era Is my cross-validation representative of my site ? + Q&A
- JECAM guidelines and Essential Agriculture Var. & exchanges Interactive session on padlet
- Update on the Mission opportunities + Q&A
 Venus Mission Data Exploitation (CNES)
 NISAR Mission Call for opportunity (NASA-ISRO)
- JECAM site interests for future experiments: earlier discussion synthesis and continuation: priority topics and opportunities Interactive session on padlet
- Survey for the next JECAM 2021 Annual Science Meeting Live survey

14:30– 15:00 Breakfast/Coffee break/Lunch/Dinner Next session: 15:00 UTC – 16:45 UTC Western Session (Chair: Andrew Davidson, JECAM co-lead) 17:00-18:45 CEST / 11:00-12:45 ED26 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020

JECAM Co-lead Pierre Defourny, UCLouvain (Belgium) JECAM Experiment leads Heather Mc Nairm, Laura Dingle Robertson, Mehdi Hosseini AAFC (Canada)

JECAM Co-lead Pierre Defourny, UCLouvain (Be) JECAM partner François Waldner (Australia)

All JECAM partners Pierre Defourny, UCLouvain (Be)

JECAM partners

Eric Ceschia, Gerard Dedieu (CESBIO) Heather Mc Nairn (AAFC)

JECAM Co-lead Miao Zhang, AIRCAS (China)

All JECAM partners Andrew Davidson, AAFC (Canada)

JECAM annual science meetings

JEACAM Annual science meetings – presentation available on line

- 2011 Calgary Training workshop hosted by AAFC
- 2014 Ottawa (Canada) hosted by AAFC (AAFC support)
- 2015 Brussels (Belgium) hosted by UCLouvain (ESA Sen2-Agri support)
- 2016 Kiev (Ukraine) hosted by SRI (FP7-SIGMA support)
- 2017 Rome (Italy) hosted by FAO (FP7-SIGMA support)
- 2018 Taichung City (Taiwan) hosted by Taiwan Ag. Res. Inst. (TARI support)
- 2019 JECAM dinner at the ESA Living Planet Symposium (Milan, Italy)
- ...2020 Ottawa (Canada) planned by AAFC (AAFC support) to into 2020 Virtual Meeting



2020 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020





and Monitoring

The JECAM-SAR Experiment

• 3-year research project (2017-2020)

Objectives

- 1. develop best practices for use of SAR for crop type mapping
 - C-band single-frequency SAR
 - SAR-optical comparisons 🚽
 - CP assessment
 - multi-frequency-SAR comparison
- strengthen the parameterization of the Water Cloud Model to estimate Leaf Area Index and biomass from SAR, and to expand the WCM to other economically important crops
- Principal Investigators (Heather McNairn; Andrew Davidson)
- Science leads (Mehdi Hosseini (LAI/biomass) and Laura Dingle Robertson (classification))
- Funding for Laura and Mehdi's salary: CSA



Global network of over 25 voluntary JECAM sites

· 25km x 25km · long term research

Progress and Next Steps

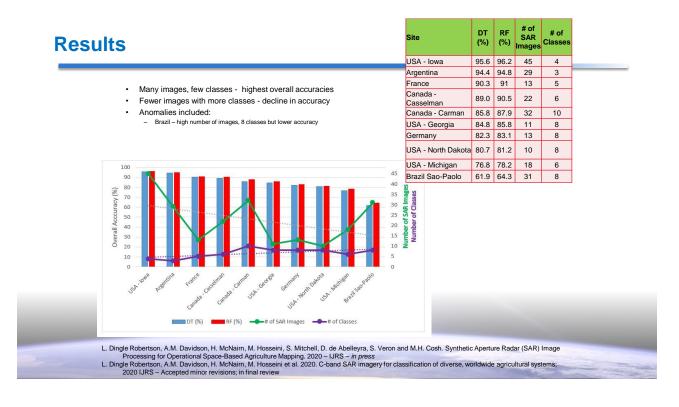
- · Thousands of SAR images were collected over multiple years and multiple sites
- Demonstrated a clear understanding of how C-Band SAR behaves over diverse agro-ecosystems; delivered very promising results
- Delivered inter-comparisons of methods for crop classification and LAI/biomass retrievals
- · Documented in a number of journal publications
- Funding to AAFC for JECAM-SAR research has ended; have other project funding for SAR research focused on Canadian sites (SAR-VI; phenology; early season classification)
- AAFC research team will complete analysis of CP for crop classification to meet internal needs and will pursue (unfunded) analysis of multi-frequency SAR over select sites under bilateral collaboration
- Need to determine a new model to continue broader collaborative work

JECAM Project - Crop Type Identification & Mapping

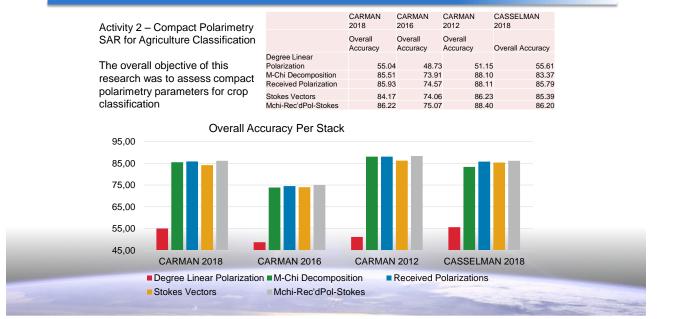
Activity 1 - Applying Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Earth Observation Crop Inventory Method to other JECAM Sites

- The overall objective of this research was to test how AAFC's existing operational DT crop classification system compared to a soon-to-be implemented RF system.
- The secondary objective of this research was to determine if SAR-only C-band data stacks could be utilized as a surrogate to optimized optical and SAR imagery combinations for operational crop inventory and mapping.



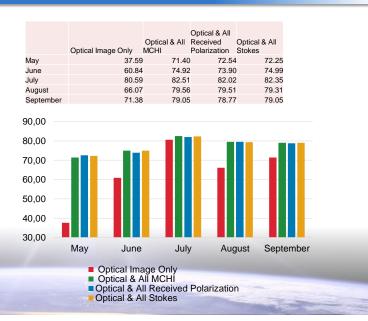


Activity 2 - Compact Polarimetry SAR – Canadian Sites



Changes Through the Growing Season

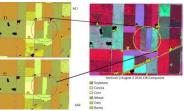
 When only one optical image (cloud free, full AOI) is available, CP images improve overall classification accuracies from 1.5% up to 34% depending on the month



Multi-frequency SAR Classification Next wave of Satellite Classification Excellence

Activity 3 – Multi-Frequency SAR for Agriculture Classification

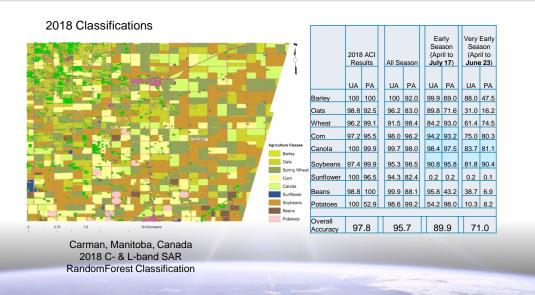
The overall objective of this research was to assess multifrequency SAR for crop classification Visual comparison of subset of SAR to optical only (ACI) 2016



2016 Classifications

Optical Only		Multi-Frequency SAR Combination Scenarios								
AAFC Crop Inventory	All Season	Early Season	Late Season	Top 10 Bands	C & X Only	C & L Only	L & X Only			
97.6	95.9	93.0	82.4	91.3	92.1	92.9	92.1			
96.2	92.9	89.4	75.3	86.0	87.3	89.8	86.2			
	AAFC Crop Inventory 97.6	AAFC Crop All Inventory Season 97.6 95.9	AAFC Crop All Early Inventory Season Season 97.6 95.9 93.0	AAFC Crop All Early Late Inventory Season Season 97.6 95.9 93.0 82.4	AAFC Crop All Early Late Top 10 Inventory Season Season Bands 97.6 95.9 93.0 82.4 91.3	AAFC Crop InventoryAll SeasonEarly SeasonLate SeasonTop 10 BandsC & X Only97.695.993.082.491.392.1	AAFC Crop InventoryAll SeasonEarly SeasonLate SeasonTop 10 BandsC & X OnlyC & L Only97.695.993.082.491.392.192.9			

Multi-frequency SAR Classification Next wave of Satellite Classification Excellence



Highlights From the JECAM SAR Inter-Comparison Project - Classification

SUMMARY TO-DATE:

- Encouraging results for wider application of crop mapping with C-band SAR only.
- Best practices for C-band SAR image preprocessing for crop type mapping now available.
- Best practices for compact polarimetry disseminated to AAFC Operational Team
- Working with multiple space agencies to obtain multisite multi-frequency imagery focusing on Central and South America



JECAN Joint Experiment for Crop A

ment and Monitoring

JECAM Project: LAI & Biomass

- Test AAFC methods at other JECAM sites
- Make the models stronger using available data over Canadian and international JECAM sites.
- Test JECAM member sites' methodologies at multiple sites
- Extend the model to other interested crop types such as rice.
- Adapt the model to multi-frequency and Compact-Pol SAR.



SAR and Ground Data

Ground data

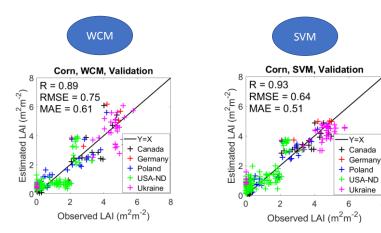
JECAM Sites	Crops	Parameters
Argentina	Soybean	LAI
Canada	Corn, Wheat, Soybeans, Canola	LAI, Biomass, Soil Moisture
Germany	Wheat, Corn	LAI, Biomass, Soil Moisture
India	Rice	LAI
Poland	Corn, Wheat	LAI, Biomass, Soil Moisture
Ukraine	Corn, Wheat, Soybeans	LAI
USA-North Dakota	Corn	LAI, Biomass, Soil Moisture

SAR imagery

- RADARSAT-2 & Sentinel-1
 - Radiometric Conversion
 - Speckle Filtering (GAMMA 5 by 5)
 - Range Doppler Terrain Correction

LAI Estimation Results - Corn

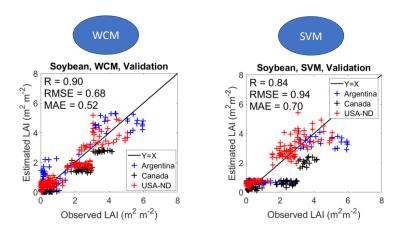
- Sentinel-1 & Radarsat-2 (VV-VH)
- 65 Calibration points and 237 validation points



8

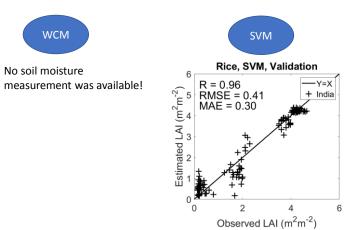
LAI Estimation Results - Soybean

- Sentinel-1 & Radarsat-2 (VV-VH)
- 100 Calibration points and 345 validation points



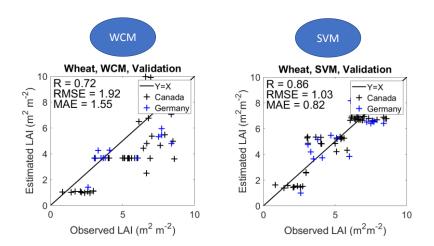
LAI Estimation Results - Rice

- Sentinel-1 & Radarsat-2 (VV-VH)
- 119 Calibration points and 120 validation points



LAI Estimation Results - Wheat

- Sentinel-1 & Radarsat-2 (VV-VH)
- 60 Calibration points and 59 validation points



Conclusions

- The C-band SAR sensors have high potential for monitoring crop LAI.
- The SVM model is very promising if high amount of training data that covers the whole LAI range is available.
- The WCM is less sensitive to the number of calibration points. It provides promising results with limited number of calibration points.

Lessons Learned From the JECAM LAI/Biomass Analysis

- For crops such as soybean, corn and rice, SAR sensors is a primarily source of data for crop LAI/Biomass/Yield monitoring. Integration of SAR and optical data would help to improve the accuracies.
- Crop biophysical modeling would usually be more accurate if we have crop type and crop phenology information.
- Processing of S1 data specifically the SLC products is very slow. Need to develop a memory friendly software or provide ARD data.
- Given the importance of the ground data for the modeling specifically for training the machine learning algorithms, it would be very helpful that the data from all the JECAM sites stored in a shared database.
- It would be helpful to develop a guideline for preprocessing the satellite data and each JECAM partner process the time-series of SAR and optical data over their sites and store the extracted satellite parameters in the shared database.

Acknowledgements

This study was funded in part by the Canadian Space Agency Government Related Initiatives Program (GRIP) (Project: An international comparison of Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) based methods for crop type and crop condition monitoring: Developing an operational monitoring capability for Canada, and beyond; McNairn and Davidson Principal Investigators).

ALOS-2 data were provided by JAXA. TerraSAR-X data were provided by DLR. RADARSAT-2 data were provided by CSA.

Appreciation and Thanks to all the agencies for providing field and satellite data including AAFC, CSA, ESA, JAXA, DLR, USDA and other agencies and universities as shown, without which this research and results found would be not possible.



ECAMM 2020 Annual Science Meeting

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JECAM guidelines for validation – call for an update in AI era Annex II: The CEOS WGCV Land Product Validation Hierarchy

CAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring	Stage 1 Validation		is assessed from a small (typically < 30) set of locations and omparison with in situ or other suitable reference data.
ME CHARTER SCIENCE PLAN REFERENCE DOCUMENTS MAP STUDY REGION	Stage 2 Validation	by comparison Spatial and tempo been evaluated	is estimated over a significant set of locations and time periods with reference in situ or other suitable reference data. oral consistency of the product and with similar products has over globally representative locations and time periods. hed in the peer-reviewed literature.
Reference Documents JECAM Guidelines: JECAM Guidelines: Definition of the Minimum Earth Observation Dataset Requirements	Stage Stage Stall	comparison with r are characterised periods Spatial and tempo been evaluated	te product and its associated structure are well quantified from efference in situ or or ther suitable reference data. Uncertainties in a statistically robust way over multiple locations and time representing global conditions. oral consistency of the product and with similar products has over globally representative locations and periods. shed in the peer-reviewed literature.
JECAM Guidelines for Cropland and crop Type Definition and Field Data Collection FAO Crop Classification System	Stage 4 Validation		ts for stage 3 are systematically updated when ons are released and as the time-series expands.
Reference Documents for JECAM sites Guidelines for a field campaign (FP7-Imagines) Soll Moleture and Vegetation Measurement FAO Crop Classification System BBCH Staging Manual (SMAP-12) Useful Tools Land Cover Meta-Langage Sen2Agri system		valicule road secondary road	The proposed sampling strategy consists "windshield survey" along the roads from motorized vehicle. This approach allows a data collector to easily and rapidly captur the entire crop diversity from all visible fi



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JECAM Terminology to clarify ?

Model or method verification » can be based calibration dataset only to evaluate the performance of a classification model or an inversion algorithm
 => to support model parametrization, model calibration, etc. or as quality control procedure

 Wodel, method or product benchmarking » based on reference data targeting disagreement areas to compare the performances of different processing methods/products

=> to support the selection of a model or of a method

 « EO product or map accuracy assessment (validation) » based on validation dataset to quantify the accuracy of the information based on a statistically-sound strategy

=> to support the decision to be made from this EO product

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UCLouvain 🖱

1. « Model or method verification » can be based calibration dataset only

to evaluate the performance of a classification model or an inversion algorithm

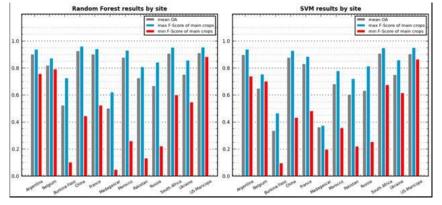
=> to support model parametrization, model improvement, etc. or as quality control procedure

Example: calibration assessment of Random Forest model for crop type mapping

- All available training samples are used to train the RF model
- Confusion matrix using the training samples to assess the model performance and/or the training dataset performances (i.e. 100 % in situ for calibration)
 - => evaluation of the features set used as input,
 - => evaluation of the model parametrization,
 - => identification of poor representativity of training data for some classes,
 - => assessment of the classification of marginal or less frequent classes

JECAM 1. « Model or method verification »

Results of the RF verification and benchmarking exercise between Random Forest and SVM over 12 sites



The RF classifier yields better results for most of the sites. SVM produces good results comparable to RF when the number of classes is small, as shown by the results of Argentina and China, and specially in South-Africa where results are much better.

However, as the SVM is very sensitive to a balanced share of samples between the classes, it has to be parameterized in such a way tha all classes are equally represented. This means that majority classes will be under-sampled. For this reason and for these classes, lower results are obtained if they are compared with the RF results, whilst for minority classes results may be better.

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2. « Model, method or product benchmarking » targeting disagreement areas

to compare the performances of different processing methods/products

Example: comparison of four global waterbodies maps

Stratification according to the disagreement between products:

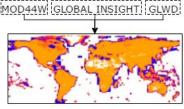
- Stratum 1: high confidence in correctly mapping the land class
 => 25 % of reference points selected by random sampling
- Stratum 2 : high confidence in correctly mapping the water class
 => 25 % of reference points selected by random sampling
- Stratum 3 : error-prone areas

UCLouvain

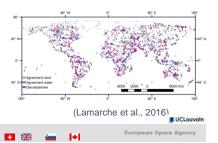
=> 50 % of reference points selected by random sampling in the error-prone stratum

ESA Advanced Training in Land RS – Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium) - 16-20 Sept. 2019

=> Total number of reference points : 2110 samples



3 STRATA



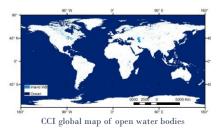
2. « Model, method or product benchmarking » targeting disagreement areas

Example: comparison of three four global waterbodies maps

• Overall Accuracy with all samples (2110 points) => no difference !

L

		Non-W		Water				
SAR-WBI* GIW v1.0* GFC-datamask* CCI global map	(LAT) 84°N - 60° S 90° N - 60° S 80° N - 57° S 90° N - 90° S	OA (%) 98 98 99 99	PA (%) 99 99 100 99	UA (%) 99 99 99 99 100	F-Score (%) 99 99 100 100	PA (%) 62 78 79 92	UA (%) 84 77 97 86	F-Score (%) 71 77 87 89



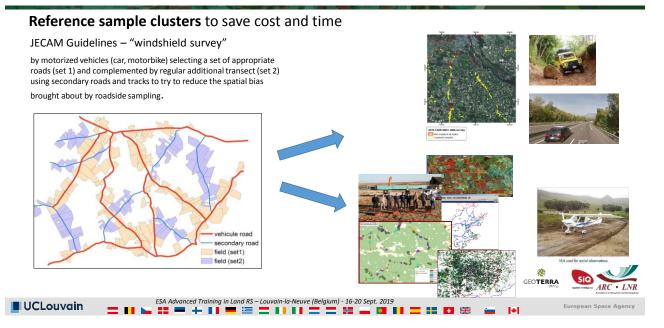
 Overall accuracy using samples of the error-prone stratum (1030 points) => very discriminant ! Non-Water

_		OA	PA	UA	F-Score	PA	UA	F-Score				
	SAR-WBI	74	90	79	84	23	43	30				
	GIW v1.0	86	92	90	91	67	72	70				
G	FC-datamask	89	98	89	93	61	89	73				
С	CI global map	89	93	92	93	75	78	77				
-										(Lamarche	e et al., 2016)
UCLouvain					vain-la-Neuve (B						_	European Space Agency
	= •• ► •• =	+	-						*	•		

JECAM 3. Thematic accuracy – case of categorical variables



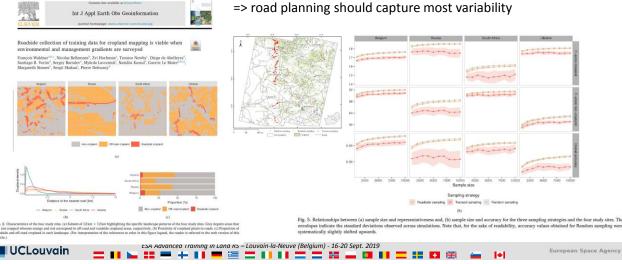
3.1 Sampling design – sample clustering



3.1 Sampling design – JECAM guidelines assessed !

Reference sample clusters "windshield survey" validated by JECAM for cropland mapping by comparing results in 4 countries





JECAM 3. Thematic accuracy – case of categorical variables

- > Key components of any quantitative accuracy assessment
 - The sampling design (see above)
 - The response design
 - ground survey from motorbike, car or in the field using apps like GeoODK
 - drones (CIMMYt, BMGF STARS, WFP)
 - very light aircrafts (South Africa)
 - on screen interpretation DANGER due to correlation between cal. data errors and validation data errors (typically for cropland) !!!
 - The analysis and reporting (UA, PA, F-Score, ...?)

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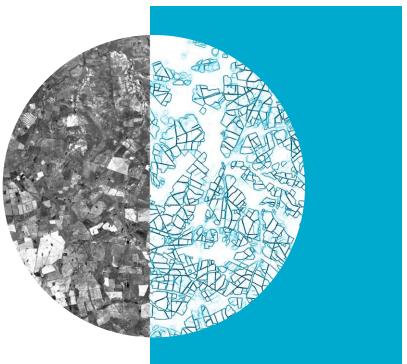




The *T* index: Can I trust my cross-validation?

Franz Waldner

JECAM Meeting | 19 June 2020 Australia's National Science Agency



What do we mean by accuracy?

Accuracy is the degree of correctness of a *map*.

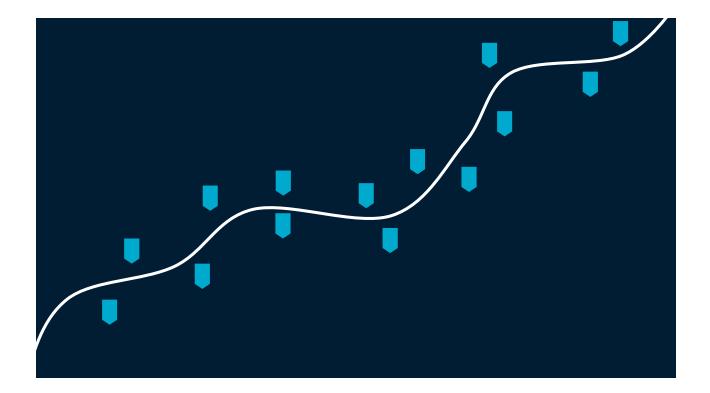














Cross-validation is common when an independent probability sample is not available

Cross-validation estimates accuracy on hold-out samples.

Cross-validation is common when an independent probability sample is not available Cross-validation estimates accuracy on hold-out samples.



Cross-validation at the rescue

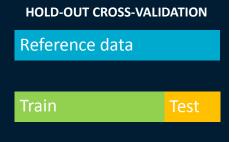
The reference set **is not** a probability sample of the map population.

Even though the test set **is** a probability sample of the reference set, it **is not** a probability sample of the map population.

 \rightarrow Cross-validated accuracy estimates may be biased.

Simple cross-validation would be representative of the population if the reference data was a **random sample**.





Can we identify how far/close we are from an ideal random hold-out sample?

The *T* index indicates the probability of a sample to be random.

The rationale is that:

1. Remote sensing images the whole map population.

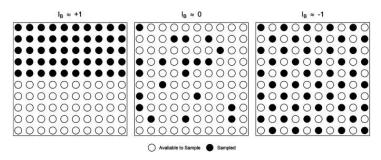
2. We can characterise the spread of data using the normalised Moran's I index.



The normalised Moran's I

Moran's / is a well-known measure of spatial auto-correlation.

The normalised Moran's I (IB) is bounded between -1 and 1. IB can characterise the spread of data in the feature space. IB = 0 for random samples and correlates with classification accuracy.





Tillé et al. "Measuring the spatial balance of a sample: A new measure based on Moran's I index." *Spatial Statistics* 23 (2018): 182-192. Fowler, Waldner and Hochman. "All pixels are useful, but some are more useful: Efficient in situ data collection for crop-type mapping using sequential exploration methods." *JAG*. 91 (2020): 102114.

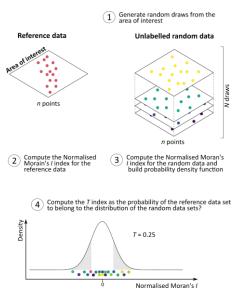
Introducing the *T* index

The T index

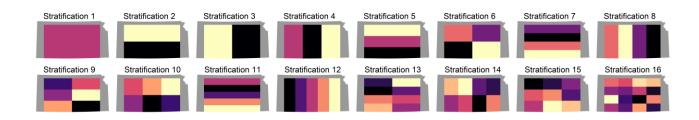
It is built using reference data and random unlabelled data.

Consistent interpretation is proposed through the empirical rule.

T index	Representative?	Interpretation
0-0.05	No	Biased
0.05-0.32	Fair	Likely biased
0.32-1	Substantial	Can be trusted







Reference data

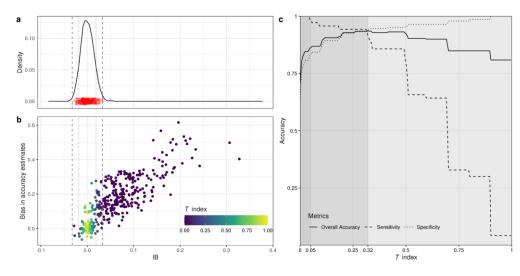
6 classes from the Cropland Data Layer 5 reference sets per stratification layer 1000 data points per reference set (25% validation) 125 random samples (250 pixels) Classifier Random forest

Satellite data Harmonised Landsat Sentinel

illh

siro

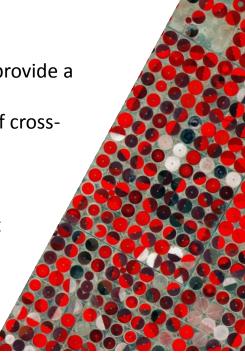
Accuracy metric Overall accuracy



The case study validates the rationale

Conclusions

- Cross-validation does not necessarily provide a measure of map accuracy.
- The *T* index indicates the probability of crossvalidated accuracy estimates to be representative.
- Report T index in accuracy assessment







Thank you



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Franz Waldner

Australia's National Science Agency

JECAM JECAM 2020 Annual Science Meeting

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JECAM JECAM proposition for Essential Agriculture Variables & exchanges

3 JECAM guidelines available at jecam.org/documents/ endorsed by the network since 2014

- JECAM Guidelines: Definition of the Minimum Earth Observation Dataset Requirements
- JECAM Guidelines for cropland and crop type definition and field data collection
- FAO Classification of crops
- \Rightarrow **GREAT SUCCESS** IN TERMS OF USE AND REFERENCE IN THE LITTERATURE
- ⇒ "Annual Cropland" definition used as an international standard with reference to JECAM
- NEED FOR UPDATE AS EO HAS CHANGED COMPLETELY: EO TIME SERIES ON CONTINUOUS BASIS (Sentinels, Planet,)
 MACHINE LEARNING CLOUD COMPUTING EXPANDS OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO LARGE SCALE

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JECAM

Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

Development of requirements for a set of GEOGLAM "Essential Agriculture Variables (EAVs)" to leverage and complement other community efforts to define their thematic "essential variables."

On-going process at GEOGLAM level with some working sessions planned this week

http://earthobservations.org/geoglam.php?t=eo_data_coordination&s1=eodc_eav_wg

	Core EAVs	Supporting EAVs	Cross-Community EVs for GEOGLAM
Definition	Remotely-sensed, policy- relevant indicators of state and change of agricultural land use and productivity from national to global scales.	Remote sensing-derived "building blocks" that can be combined with other information or data to provide Core EAVs.	Supporting EAVs that explicitly leverage work already done by other EV communities

2020 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020





UCLouvain



GEOGLAM EAV Workshop Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium | 23-24 October 2019

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Late	at Exce			۰.

nt Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

Essential Agric. Variables

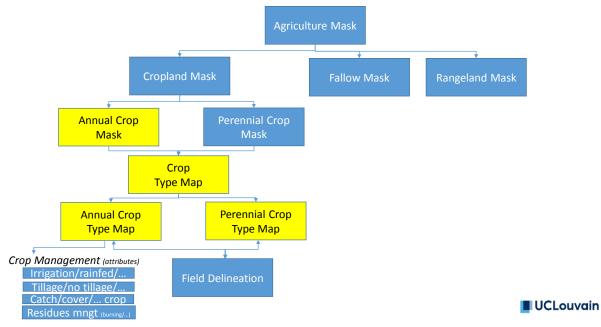
	Core EAVs	Definition	Agricultural Land Type Covered	Application or Policy Supported
	Utilized agricultural areas mask	Binary determination of currently cultivated lands	all annual and perennial, including permanent (>5 years grass), nonpermanent, and managed grassland	Land cover/use state & change; Broad brush monitoring, especially in early months, to narrow analysis, mask products for general assessment
AM	Annual Crop Mask	Binary determination of all lands with active agricultural development	all annual crops (JECAM definition)	Land cover/use state & change; Broad brush monitoring to narrow analysis, mask products for general assessment
JECAM	Crop type map	Determination of locations currently growing crop types, expressed as a map	Each nationally relevant crop, accounting for ~80% of total area under production	
	Crop type area estimate	Determination of areal extent of currently growing crop types, expressed as a unit of area		Production; interannual land cover/use change
	Crop Yield estimation	Harvestable weight* of commodity per unit area* (*definitions must be declared)	Each nationally relevant crop type, accounting for ~80% of total area under production	Productivity, markets & trade, insurance, humanitarian
	Crop yield forecast	Within season, pre-harvest forecast of harvestable weight* of commoity per unit area* (*definitions must be declared)	Each nationally relevant crop group or crop type, as appropriate, accounting for ~80% of total area under production	Productivity, markets & trade, insurance, humanitarian
	Crop condition assessment	Measure (quantitative? qualitative?) of crop status relative to short-term reference* (*definition must be declared)	For crop group or crop type, as each season progresses	Productivity, markets & trade, insurance, humanitarian, pest and disease detection
JECAM	Cover crop	Determination of cultivation of a crop between main cropping seasons, not for the purpose of harvesting		
	a	The sequence of crop groups or crop type cultivated for the purpose of harvesting, within or between years		

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JECAM

IVI nent for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables



JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables

a piece of arable land that is sowed or planted at least once within a 12 months period.

JECAM Guidelines for cropland and crop type definition and field data collection (2014)

The **annual cropland** from a remote sensing perspective is a piece of land of minimum 0.25 ha (min. width of 30 m) that is sowed/planted and harvestable at least once within the 12 months after the sowing/planting date. The annual cropland produces an herbaceous cover and is sometimes combined with some tree or woody vegetation.* **

*the herbaceous vegetation expressed as fcover (fraction of soil background covered by the living vegetation) is expected to reach at least 30 % while the tree or woody (height >2m) cover should typically not exceed a fcover of 15%.

**There are 3 known exceptions to this definition. The first concerns the sugarcane plantation and cassava crop which are included in the cropland class although they have a longer vegetation cycle and are not yearly planted. Second, taken individually, small plots such as legumes do not meet the minimum size criteria of the cropland definition. However, when considered as a continuous heterogeneous field, they should be included in the cropland. The third case is the greenhouse crops that cannot be monitored by remote sensing and are thus excluded from the definition

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JECAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring



JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables

Towards an <u>Updated JECAM Guidelines for cropland and crop type definition</u> submitted for interactive discussion and possible JECAM endorsement (June 2020 ?)

The **annual crop mask** from a remote sensing perspective is defined by all pieces of land of -minimum 0.25 ha (min. width of 30 m) where at least one crop is sowed/planted and harvestable once within the 12 months after the sowing/planting date. The annual croplandproduces an herbaceous cover and is sometimes combined with some tree or woody

vegetation.* **

*the herbaceous crop vegetation expressed as fcover (fraction of soil background covered by the living vegetation) is expected to reach at least 30 % while the tree or woody (height >2m) cover should typically not exceed a fcover of 15%.

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Update 1 – Wording change

Proposition to change Annual Cropland for Annual Crop Mask : the crops are annual while the annual cropland could be ambiguous these days.

Update 2 - Spatial Scale

Proposition to remove the minimum from the definition but add this info: The minimum mapping unit of the annual crop mask varies from 25 m² (0,0025 ha) for VHR imagery (1-2m resolution) to 100-900 m² (0,01 to 0,09 ha) for HR imagery (3 to 10m resolution).

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JECAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables



The **Annual Crop Mask** is defined by all pieces of land where at least one crop is sowed/planted and harvestable within the 12 months after the sowing/planting date, <u>and refers to a season or</u> <u>any given reference period corresponding the growing cycle of the targeted crops</u>. The annual crop produce an herbaceous cover and is sometimes combined with tree, woody vegetation or perennial crops.

Update 3 – Temporal Scale

Proposition: add a temporal reference as the intense use of time series, mask of annual crop could refer to different periods as a field cultivated for a given period can be turned into fallows for the following season "refers to a season or any given reference period corresponding the growing cycle of the targeted crops. ." ex. Annual Crop Mask for the so called Summer Grain Season in Western Cape (SAF)

Annual Mask of Annual Crops for 2018-2019 spanning from August 2018 to November 2019

The **Agricultural Year Mask of Annual Crops** is the cumulated areas of all the possible Annual Crop Masks over an agricultural year corresponding to 12 months or more.

Add-on concept – Agricultural Year

Proposition to refer to the official wording of the so called 'Agricultural Year' used by national statistics offices to clarify what was intuitively often referred to as the *former* JECAM annual cropland

JECAM

oint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring



JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables

Towards an <u>Updated JECAM Guidelines for cropland and crop type definition</u> submitted for interactive discussion and possible JECAM endorsement (June 2020 ?)

The **Crop Type Map** corresponds to the piece of land identified either as annual crop area or as perennial crop area (see definition below) and shall refer to a time period ranging from any given period of time to maximum an agricultural year. In case of multiple cycle over an agricultural year, either only the primary crop or the sequence of crops is reported; in case of intercropping and mixed crops in the same field, the species association is reported as long as the least developed crop contributes to at least a quarter of the overall agricultural vegetation fCover.

<u>Annual crop types</u> are sowed/planted at least once a year, produces an herbaceous cover reaching at least a fCover (fraction of soil background covered by the living vegetation) of 30 % and is harvestable within the 12 months after the sowing/planting date; it is sometimes combined with some tree or woody vegetation and while the tree or woody (height >2m) cover should typically not exceed a fCover of 15%.

Perennial crop types are multi-annual plant (crops, forages, shrubs and trees) able to regrow without being replanted for several years (at least two years) and continue to produce grains, seeds, fruits, and biomass after a single harvest for up to 10 years for crops and much longer for forages, shrubs and trees. The first harvest usually take place after one year or later.

JECAM for Essential Agric. Variables

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JECAM

The common hierarchical typology with common aggregation levels, as proposed by JECAM (JECAM 2014. Guidelines for field data collection) and adopted by several international initiatives, should be updated.

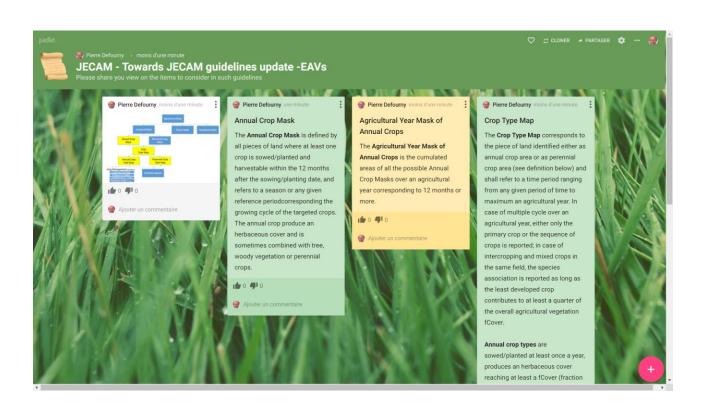
The proposed general legend gathers the global diversity of crop types and follows a hierarchical grouping of crops to share common aggregation levels (level 1 = land cover; level 2= crop group; level 3= crop class; level 4 = sub-class). Here below, an example for levels 1 and 2, including the proposed perennial types:

Annual crops

Fallow Mask Rangeland Mask

for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

Cereals Vegetables and melons Oilseed crops Root / tuber crops with high starch or inulin content Beverage and spice crops Leguminous crops Sugar crops Other crops Perennial crops Fruits and berries (all excluding strawberries which are not perennial) Nuts Oil-bearing crops (permanent only) Spices, condiments and aromatic herbs Other perennial crops (coffee, cocoa, tea, natural rubber, hops, sisal, agave, hemp, asparagus, miscanthus, others) 2020 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020



JECAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

NISAR Mission opportunity for JECAM

contact person for agriculture application : Paul Siqueira (NASA/U.Mass.) JECAM contact: Heather McNairn (AAFC)

- > Active L- and S-band synthetic aperture radar (SAR) instruments
- > To be launched jointly by NASA and ISRO in 2022.
- Consistent coverage twice every 12 days over most global land surfaces, primarily using the L-band instrument in HH/HV mode.
- Cal/Val partners would be involved in pre and early postlaunch activities, helping to refine algorithms and final Level 3 products.
- > NISAR cal/val partners will be able to receive data earlier



Letter of Interest request for the NISAR Agriculture Calibration/Validation Network

1. Scope

This is a together the element of energy densities of participations in the calibrations are arbitration (LAVM). The calibration of the calibratio

website the NLBA measure is concerned source devices the number of the set of the set of the intervent of the set of the number of the set of the NLBA measure of the set of the spin of white NLBA measure at the one hexters scale. Constraint with product requires converge a versus of one spinse, advanced products and settors, measure of the set of the set of the settors are setter of the setter setters and the setter setters are setter and the setter setters are setter as the setter setter setters are setter and the measure setter setters and the setter setters are setter and the setters are required and the setters and the setters are required as the setter setters and the setters are required as the setters are required as the setters are setters and the setters are setters are setters and the setters are setters are setters and the setters are setters are setters and the setters are setters are setters are setters and the setters are se

2. NISAR Mission

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2.1. NISAR Agricultural Science Requirement

JECAM Second Sec

NTRE NATIONAL INDES SPATIALES

The VENµS mission: a tool for the scientists, a contribution to prepare the next generation of Sentinel 2



• ¹ CESBIO, Unité mixte CNES-CNRS-IRD-UPS, Toulouse University, France

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² The Remote Sensing Laboratory, Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

• ³ Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, Toulouse, France

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Venµs Uniqueness

- Temporal resolution
 - 2 days revisit time for monitoring rapid changes
- Spectral resolution
 - Super spectral sensor 12 spectral bands VIS-NIR for land applications (Blue to NIR)
- Spatial resolution
 - Pixel size : 5 m Registration requirement: 3 m rmse
- Swath: 27.56 km
- View angle
 - Constant view angle, at constant local solar time (10h30)
- Stereo pairs with a small angle difference at 620nm
 - Cloud screening based on altitude, DEM generation
- Tilting capability
 - 30 deg across and along track



23/06/2020

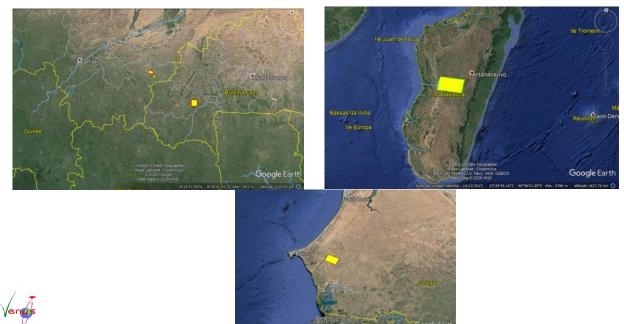
Venµs sites

- 123 acquisitions
- 159 sites,

Venus 70

- 27 over Israel
- 9 over France
- And 123 over the rest of the world
- And also 28 more for calibration but not available to users

Joint Venµs/JECAM sites



Joint Venµs/JECAM sites



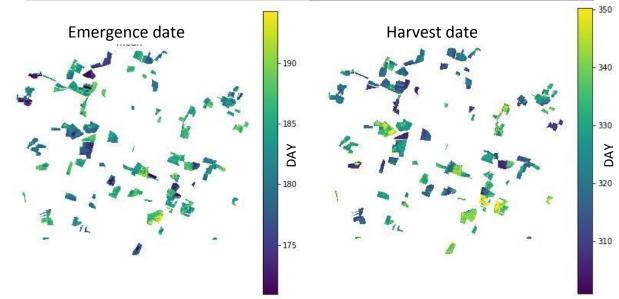


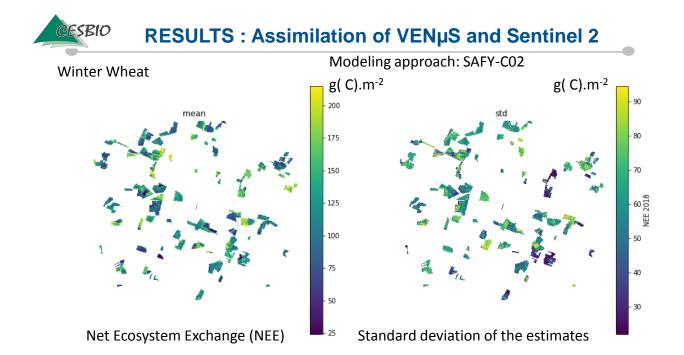






Crop calendar: Winter wheat (2018) 8 x 8 km window





Product portal



Venus Multiangular acquisitions: an example

For now, only one site is acquired under 3 different angles from the same overpass (Gallo, California)





Venus Multiangular acquisitions: an example



RGB composite of the same "green" spectral band under 3 directions

Blue : forward direction (close to sunglint) hence the blue color for water), Green for Nadir Red for backward.

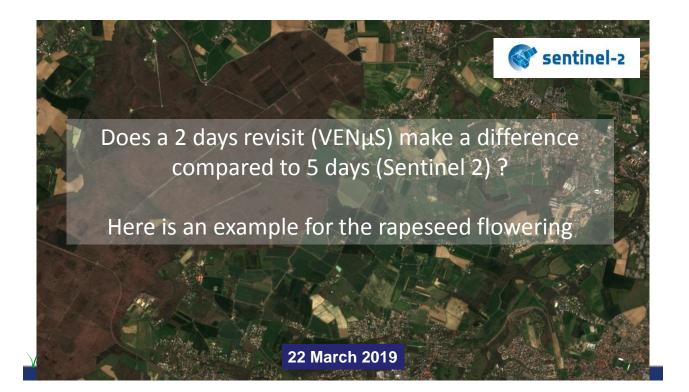
Vineyards with E-W ranks appear in Bordeaux while vineyards with N-S ranks appear in gray/green.

Venµs plan until 2022

- Current acquisitions (2 days revisit, 720 km altitude) will continue until late October 2020
- From November 2020 to October 2021, the satellite will go down to 410 km, stay there for several months and then will go up to 560 km. No image acquisition for scientists during this period
- From November 2021 and for at least one year, the satellite will stay at 560 km and it will acquire image every day, with constant view angles and about 4m resolution => image acquisitions for scientists
- For this period starting Nov. 2021, a new call for proposal of sites will be issued within a couple of months
- We expect to perform multiangular acquisitions over more sites, so you will be able to request such acquisitions in your proposal







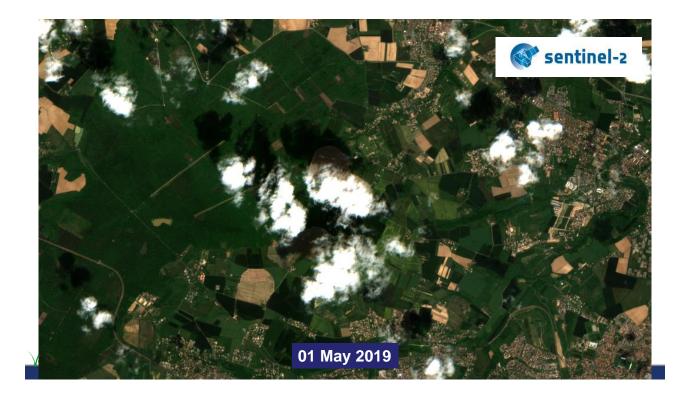




























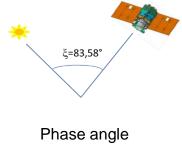


October 15, 2019

Solar zenith angle	47.39
Solar azimut angle	168.48
View zenith angle	36.21
View azimut angle	346.17

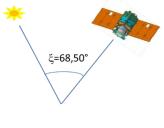
Forward

Venus



October 15, 2019

Solar zenith angle			
Solar azimut angle			
View zenith angle			
View azimut angle			



Phase angle

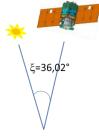
enus



October 15, 2019

Solar zenith angle Solar azimut angle View zenith angle View azimut angle

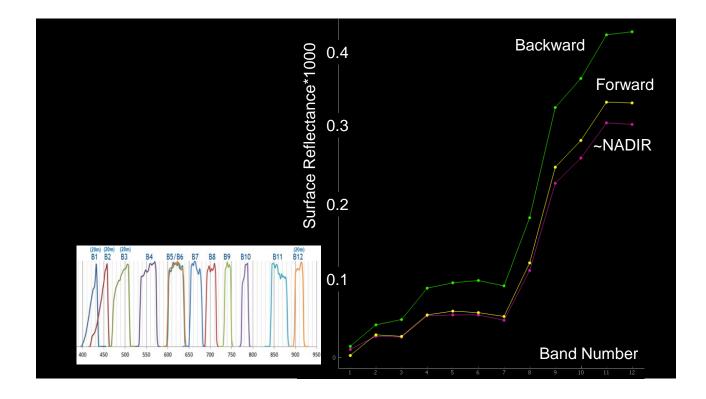
Backward

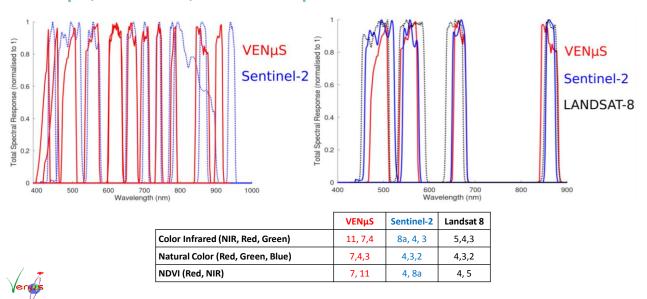


Phase angle

ven**u**s







VENµS, Sentinel 2, Landsat 8 spectral bands

JECAM ESA Advanced Training on Land RS – Agriculture (16-20 Sept. 2019), Louvain-la-Neuve (Be) AGRO







GEO Knowledge Hub

Single place to discover, access and reuse the knowledge and results developed by the GEO Work Programme.





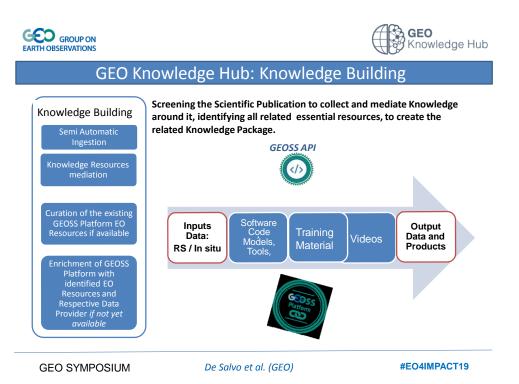


Mediation: is the process of joint work by the GEO Secretariat and the Knowledge Hub contributors to ensure inclusion of trusted information

GEO SYMPOSIUM

De Salvo et al. (GEO)

#EO4IMPACT19







GEO Knowledge Hub: resources identification **Resource types** Sources Post-prints with DOI stored GEO Work **Publications** Programme Code, models, software & Open source in Github with DOI. Community Backups. tools **Operational Environment** Virtual machine access (AWS for GEO) **GEOSS** Platform and/or Cloud **Remote sensing data** descriptions (e.g., STAC) Knowledge **GEOSS** Platform, Data Repository, In situ data Resources and/or KH database Identification **Results and products GEOSS** Platform, Data Repository, and Collection and/or KH database Directly stored in the Knowledge Videos, Other Hub (preferably). #EO4IMPACT19 GEO SYMPOSIUM De Salvo et al. (GEO)





The first pilot case presented at GEO symposium 2020: the Sen2-Agri system developed thanks to JECAM

GEOGLAM

Software

Github link - to Sent2Agri software code https://github.com/Sen2Agri/Sen2Agri-System

Technical documents

http://www.esa-sen2agri.org/resources/technical-documents/

Training material

http://www.esa-sen2agri.org/training-beginners/ http://www.esa-sen2agri.org/training-1/

De Salvo et al. (GEO)

#EO4IMPACT19





The first pilot case presented at GEO symposium 2020: the Sen2-Agri system developed thanks to JECAM

GEOGLAM

Scientific Publications

Building a Data Set over 12 Globally Distributed Sites to Support the Development of Agriculture Monitoring Applications with Sentinel-2 <u>http://www.esa-sen2agri.org/wp-content/uploads/Bontemps-et-al.-2015-Building-a-Data-Set-over-12-Globally-Distributed-S.pdf (DOI: 10.3390/rs71215815)</u>

Tools/Methods/Software

http://www.esa-sen2agri.org/

Input Remote sensing data:

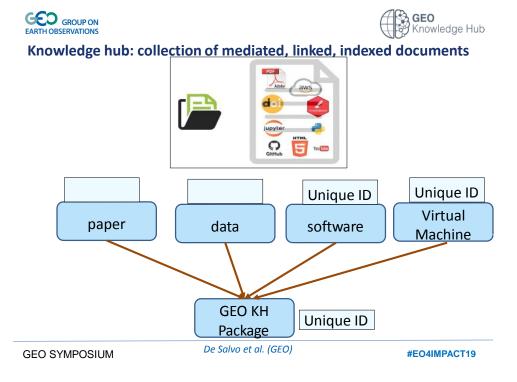
Sentinel 2,https://scihub.copernicus.eu/dhus/#/home Access to Sentinel 2 from <u>GEOSS Plattform</u> DIAS, AWS, Google Landsat 8: <u>http://landsat.usgs.gov/</u> Access to Landsat 8 <u>GEOSS Platform</u> DIAS, AWS, Google

In situ Data: Not yet publically available

GEO SYMPOSIUM

De Salvo et al. (GEO)

#EO4IMPACT19



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JECAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring

Survey for the next JECAM 2021 Annual Science Meeting

All JECAM partners Andrew Davidson, AAFC (Canada)

Mentimeter

What is your preferred timing for the 2021 JECAM Meeting?

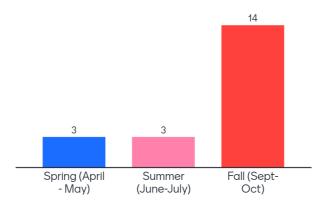


🞽 Mentimeter

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Go to www.menti.com and use the code 28 11 23

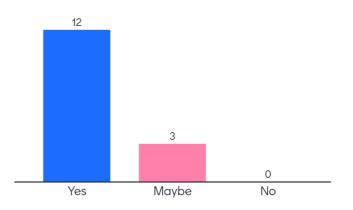
What is your preferred timing for the 2021 JECAM Meeting?



20

🞽 Mentimeter

Do you have interest in attending a SAR for agriculture training (2 - 3 days) after the JECAM annual meeting ?



15

JECAM

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 93 67 77

Do you have a preferred format for the 2021 meeting?



20

🞽 Mentimeter

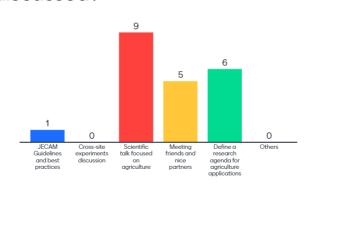
2020 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020

21 •



Go to www.menti.com and use the code 93 67 77

What particular interests do you have that you may want to see discussed?



²⁰²⁰ JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020



JECAM JECAM 2020 Annual Science Meeting

15:30 UTC – 16:45 UTC Western Session (Chair: Andrew Davidson, JECAM co-lead) *17:00-18:45 CEST / 11:00-12:45 EDT / 01:00-02:45 AEST*

- Introduction of the new sites
- Review of the existing JECAM achievements

JECAM Co-lead Andrew Davidson, AAFC (Canada)

JECAM Co-lead Pierre Defourny for the lead authors

- JECAM site interests for future experiments interactive session All JECAM partners turning priority topics and opportunities into actions *Interactive session on padlet*
- Review of the website update status for each JECAM site JECAM Co-lead Andrew Davidson, AAFC (Canada)

- Concluding remarks

JECAM Co-lead Pierre Defourny, UCLouvain (Belgium)

2020 JECAM Annual Meeting - 23 June 2020





Review of the existing JECAM achievements

Miao Zhang, Pierre Defourny, Andrew Davidson JECAM co-leads with inputs from co-authors of the existing experiments 23 June 2020

2020 online JECAM Annual Meeting

Achievements and activities of joint experiments

Achieved experiments

- → Large field cropland mapping experiment
- \rightarrow Crop type mapping experiment
- ightarrow Crowd/expert sourcing experiment for cropland validation
- → Calibration dataset experiment
- \rightarrow SAR experiments

Ongoing experiments and activities

- → Experiment on the comparison of different training data sources for cropland mapping
- → Smallholder cropping system experiment
- ightarrow Crop type and biomass mapping based optical and SAR synergy

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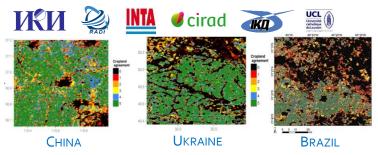


Large field experiment



JECAM benchmarking of 5 cropland methods over 5 sites

5 partners testing 5 different methods to map cropland over 5 sites using the same 250 m MODIS time series and same in situ cal/val datasets



ightarrow MODIS 250m imagery is capable to identify fields down to 20 ha

ightarrow The site effect was found to persistently dominate the method effect

ightarrow A subset of 20% of the training data would reach similar accuracy

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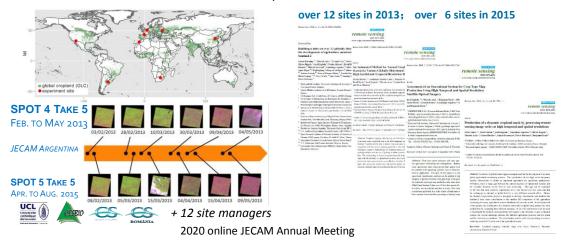


Crop type experiment



JECAM – cropland and crop types methods benchmarking

SPOT4(TAKE5) experiment uses SPOT4 at its end of life as a simulator to give us a hint of the time series that Sentinel-2 mission will provide

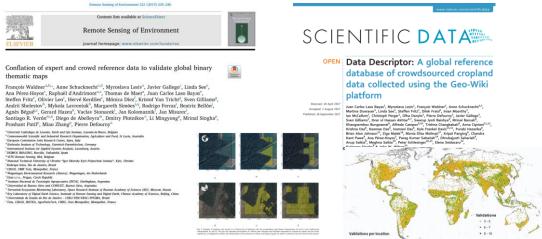




Crowd/expert sourcing experiment

JECAM – SIGMA global cropland validation data collection

Integration of expert interpreted and crowdsourced data for cropland validation



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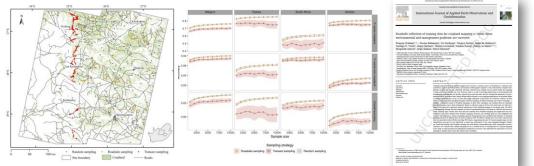


Calibration dataset experiments

Assess roadside sampling (windshield survey) for cropland mapping

The potential biases of roadside, random, and transect sampling was analyzed

- \rightarrow Roadside sampling were significantly less representative than random sampling
- ightarrow The resulting maps using roadside samples were only 2% less accurate
- → Roadside sampling can be a viable source of training data for cropland mapping if the range of environmental and management gradients is surveyed



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SAR Cross-Sites Inter-comparison

Crop type and biomass mapping based optical and SAR synergy (ongoing)

19 sites sharing in situ data for a large experiment led by AAFC

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect Int J Appl Earth Obs Geoinformation ELSEVIER journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jag		ELSEVIER	Int J Appl	nts lists available at Science Earth Obs Geoin repage: www.elsevier.co	nformation	
Synthetic aperture radar and optical satellite data for estimating the biomass of corn Contents line available at ScienceOfficer Int J Appl Earth Obs Geoinformation	Quad and compact multitempora characterization and monitoring remote sensing			C-BAND SYNTH THE CLASSIF Journal:	TETIC APERTURE RADAR (SAR)	
A She		L 4		Manuscript ID		
ELSEVIER journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jag		Article	C CI 1	Manuscript Type: Date Submitted by the Author:	1JRS Research Paper 24-Apr-2020	
An investigation of inversion methodologies to retrieve the leaf area index of corn from C-band SAR data Dipunkar Manda ^{11,1} , Medil Hossein ^{11,1} , Henther McNaim ^{21,1} , Vineet Kumar ^{21,1} , Avik Bhattacharya ^{21,1} , S. Rao ¹ , Scott Mitchel ^{11,1} , Lanre Diugle Robertson ^{11,1} , Andrew Davidson ^{11,1} , Kataryma Dabrowska Zellenka ^{11,1} ¹¹		Compact Radarsat	on Crop Classif , and Full-Pola Constellation N npari ¹ , Fariba Mohamme n ² , Mohammad Rezaee ³ , 1	Complete List of Authors:	Dogs Relations, Lours, Apriculture and A Approvements Device and ApriFo University and ApriFo April 2012, Institute de Carl Vers, Shines, Castlo, Universitad de Buena A A Mallerga, Dury (La Catal Vers, Shines, Castlo), Vers, Shines, Castlo), Vers, Shines, Castlo), Vers, Shines, Castlo), Vers, Shines, Castlo), Vers, Shines, Castlo), Castl, Referent, Apricature Marketing, Shines Based, Buena Marketing, Shale Marketing, Castl, Referent, Apricature Marketing, Shines, Sales, Revue, Neurophila, Shale Marketing, Shines, Shines, Nazary, USDA, Agrouthure Reservi- Sales, Revue, Neurophila, Shale Marketing, Shines, Kastlo, Shines, Nazary, USDA, Agrouthure Reservi- Sales, Revue, Neurophila, Shale Nazary, Shines, Kastlo, Shines	d Canada; Carleton od Canada; Carleton University pathy & Environmental aphy & Environmental Service, Southeast Watershed Service, Southeast Watershed Service, Southeast Watershed Coulded States Department and had Environmental areach Service, Northern Great
2020 online	ΙΕΓΔΜ		leeting	Keywords:	RADARSAT, decision tree, random forest, o	rops
2020 online JECAM Annual Meeting			Keywords (user defined):	JECAM, Sentinel-1		

JECAM Joint Experiment for Crop Assessment and Monitoring



JECAM SAR Cross-Sites Intercomparison – Crop type and biomass mapping based optical and SAR synergy (ongoing) 19 ! sites sharing in situ data for a large experiment led by AAFC

	Article	sensing	Outcome of a value of
Int J Appl E	arth Obs Geoinformation	ati isi	ion in Preparation for the on (RCM) sh ¹ , Heather McNaim ² , Salehi ⁴ and Saeid Homayouni ^{5,*}
of corn Mehdi Hosseini ^{15,4} , Heather McNaim ^{12,5} , Scott M Andrew Davidson ^{23,5} , Saeid Homayouni ⁷	Č.		
Canadä	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada 2020 JECA	Agriculture et a Agroalimentaire Canada M Annual Meeting -	Led by Heather McNairn, Andrew Davidson, Dingle- Robertson Laura and Mehdi Hosseini (AAFC)

EO and IT (r)evolutions have changed the game in many cropping syst.

