



Artificial Intelligence Methods for Oil Palm Remote Sensing Applications

Presented by:

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Cartagena, Colombia
26-28 September 2018



PALMA DE ACEITE

19th International Oil Palm Conference

**INNOVACIÓN Y SOSTENIBILIDAD
EN PALMA DE ACEITE**

Nutriendo Personas y Protegiendo el Planeta

26, 27 y 28 de septiembre de 2018
Centro de Convenciones Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

Outline

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ Industrial Revolution 4.0
- ❑ AI & Machine learning
- ❑ Remote sensing
- ❑ Case Studies
 - Field spectroscopy
 - Airborne
 - Spaceborne
- ❑ Conclusions and Future Outlook

Introduction

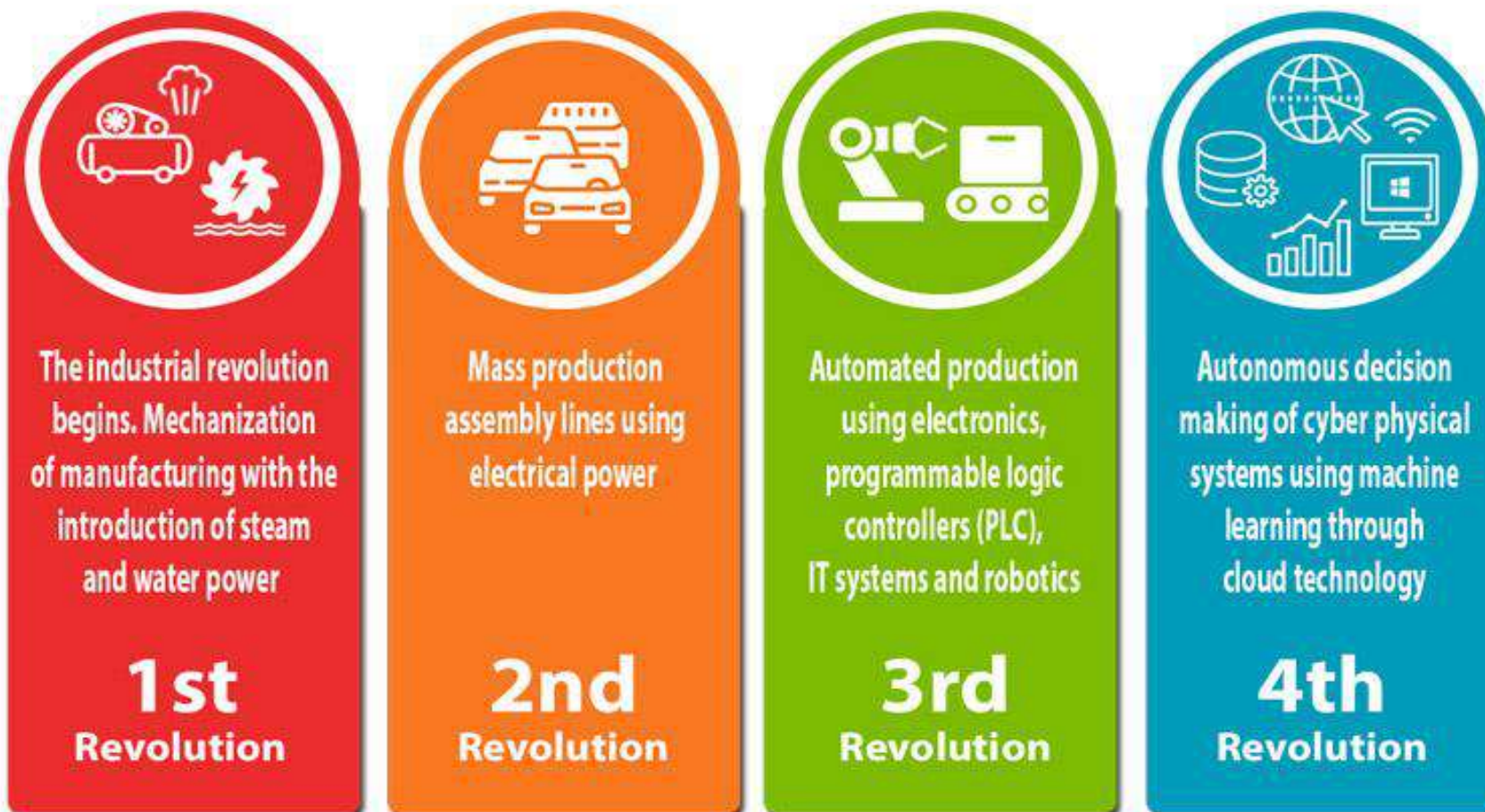
- Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR4.0) and Agriculture 4.0
- Precision agriculture and automation
- Remote sensing as an integral technology to provide data and images.
- Artificial intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science that aims to create intelligent machines/systems. It has become an essential part of the technology industry.
- Machine Learning (ML) is one of the core areas of AI – provides the brain to the AI (via algorithms).
- AI is blending with remote sensing imagery in different industries to improve efficiency and open new possibilities.
- ML enables computers to learn from data to automatically recognize objects, cluster an image by similarity or classify, among others.
- AI and ML capabilities are embedded inside applications and provide users with functionality such as automation or predictive capabilities
- AI and ML in plantation management using remote sensing will be the focus of this session.

 #1 Artificial Intelligence AI /Machine Learning / Deep Learning	 #2 Internet of Things IOT , IIOT, Sensors & Wearables	 #3 Mobile/Social Internet Advancements - Search/Social/ Messaging/Livestreams	 #4 Blockchain Distributed Ledger Systems, Cryptocurrencies & DApps	 #5 Big Data Apps, Infrastructure, Technologies + Predictive Analytics
 #6 Automation Information, Task, Process, Machine, Decision & Action	 #7 Robots Cons.,/Comm./Indus., Robots, Drones & Autonomous Vehicles	 #8 Immersive Media - #VR/ #AR/ #MR/ 360°/ Video?Gaming	 #9 Mobile Technologies Infrastructure, networks, standards, services & devices	 #10 Cloud Computing SaaS, IaaS, PaaS & MESH Apps
 #11 3D Printing Additive Manufacturing & Rapid Prototyping	 #12 CX Customer Journey, Experience Commerce & Personalization	 #13 EnergyTech Efficiency, Energy Storage & Decentralized Grid	 #14 Cybersecurity Security, Intelligence Detection, Remediation & Adaptation	 #15 Voice Assistants Interfaces, Chatbots & Natural Language Processing
 #16 Nanotechnology Computing, Medicine, Machines + Smart Dust	 #17 Collaborative Tech. Crowd, Sharing, Workplace & Open Source Platforms & Tools	 #18 Health Tech. Advanced Genomics, Bionics & Health Care Tech.	 #19 Human-Computer Interaction Facial/Gesture Recognition, Biometrics, Gaze Tracking	 #20 Geo-spatial Tech. GIS, GPS, Mapping & Remote Sensing, Scanning, Navigation
 #21 Advanced Materials Composites, Alloys, Polymers, Biomimicry, Nanomanufacturing	 #22 New Touch Interfaces Touch Screens, Haptics, 3D Touch, Paper, Feedback & Exoskeletons	 #23 Wireless Power Bio-/Enviro-Materials + Solutions, Sustainability, Treatment & Efficiency	 #24 Clean Tech. Bio-/Enviro-Materials + Solutions, Sustainability, Treatment & Efficiency	 #25 Quantum Computing + Exascale Computing
 #26 Smart Cities + Infrastructure & Transport	 #27 Edge/Computing + Fog Computing	 #28 Faster, Better Internet Broadband incl. Fiber, 5G, Li-Fi, LPN and LoRa	 #29 Proximity Tech Beacons, .RFID, Wi-Fi, Near-Field Communications & Geofencing	 #30 New Screens TVs, Digital Signage, OOH, MicroLEDs & Projections

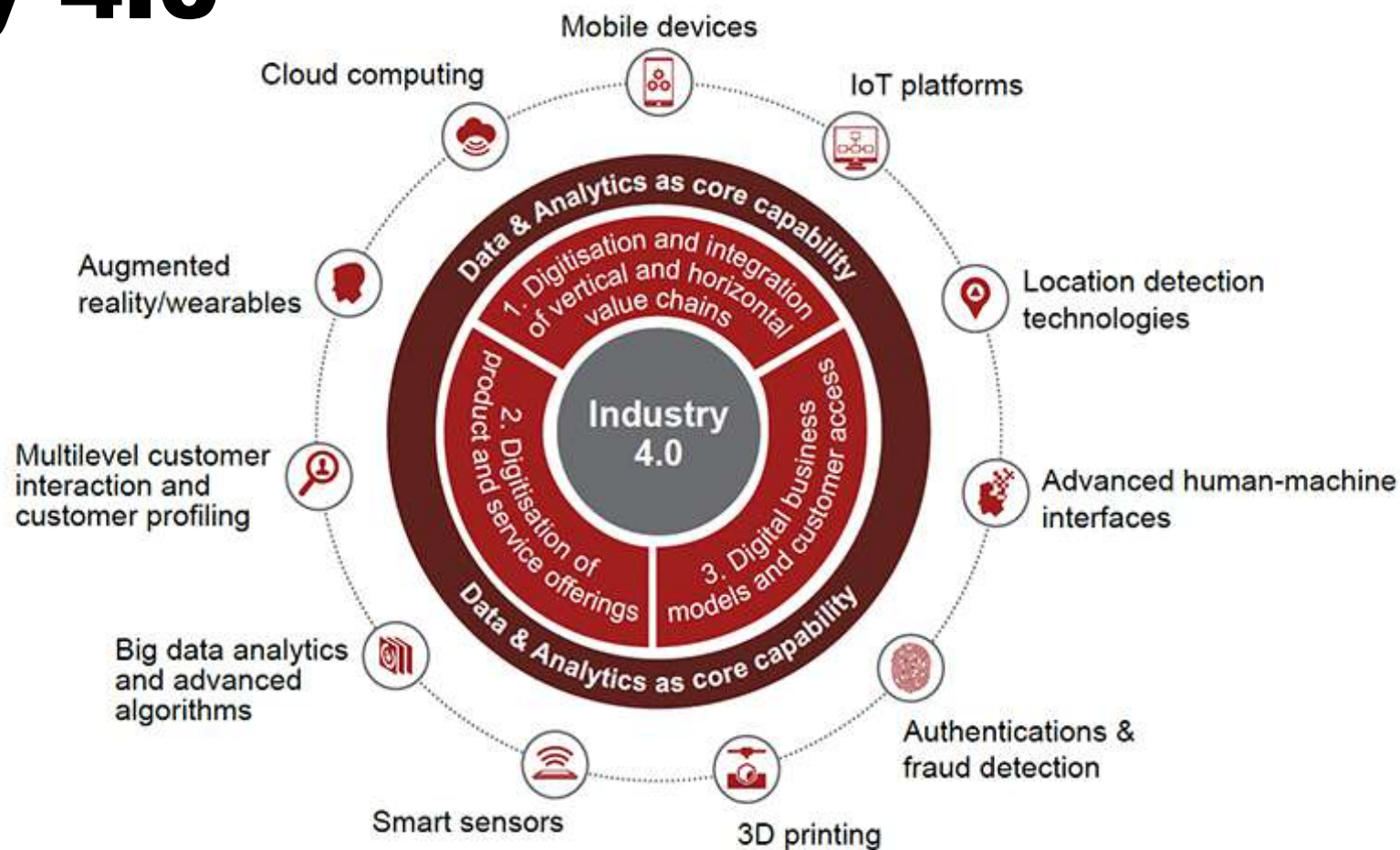
THE 30 TECHNOLOGIES OF THE NEXT DECADE

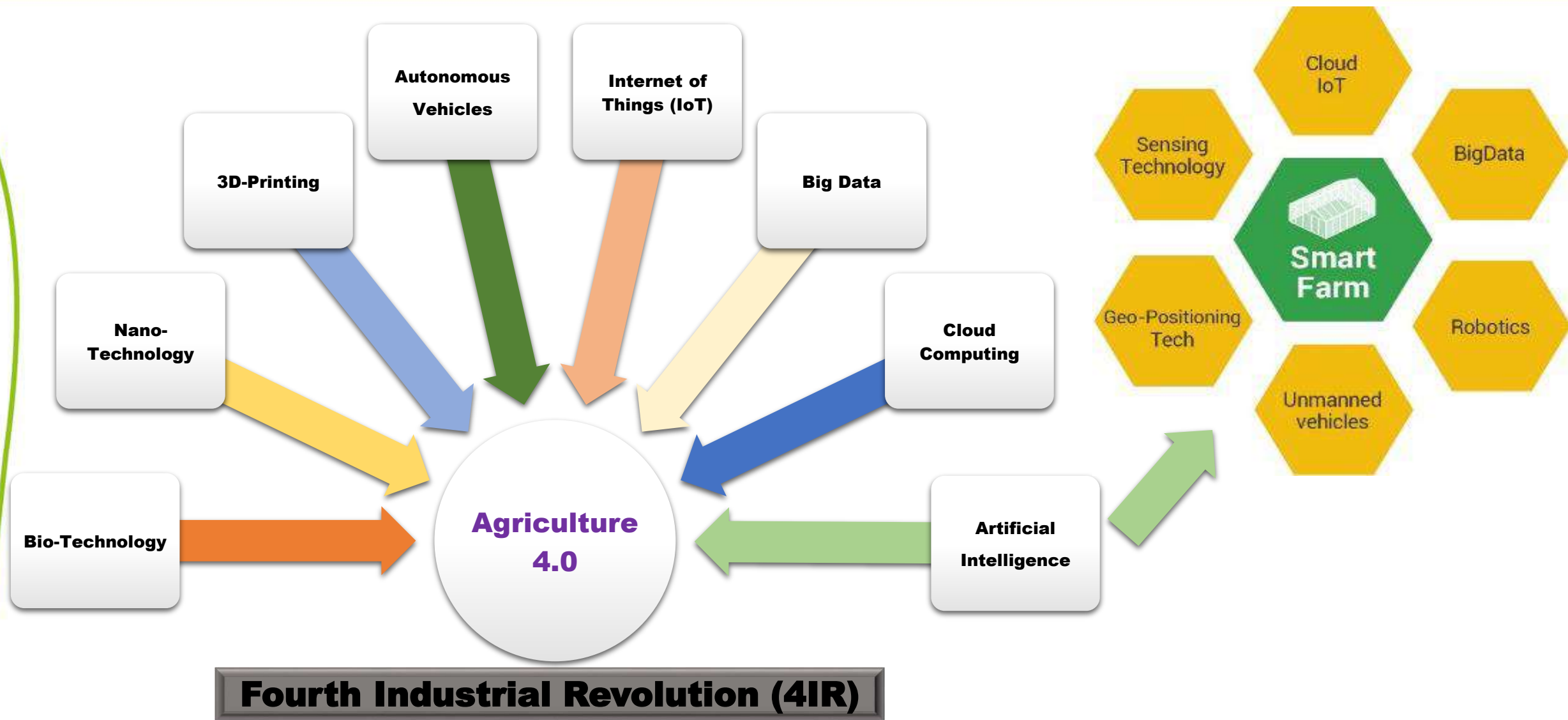

 Created by: Sean Moffitt @seanmoffitt , Managing Director, @Wikibrands
 

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



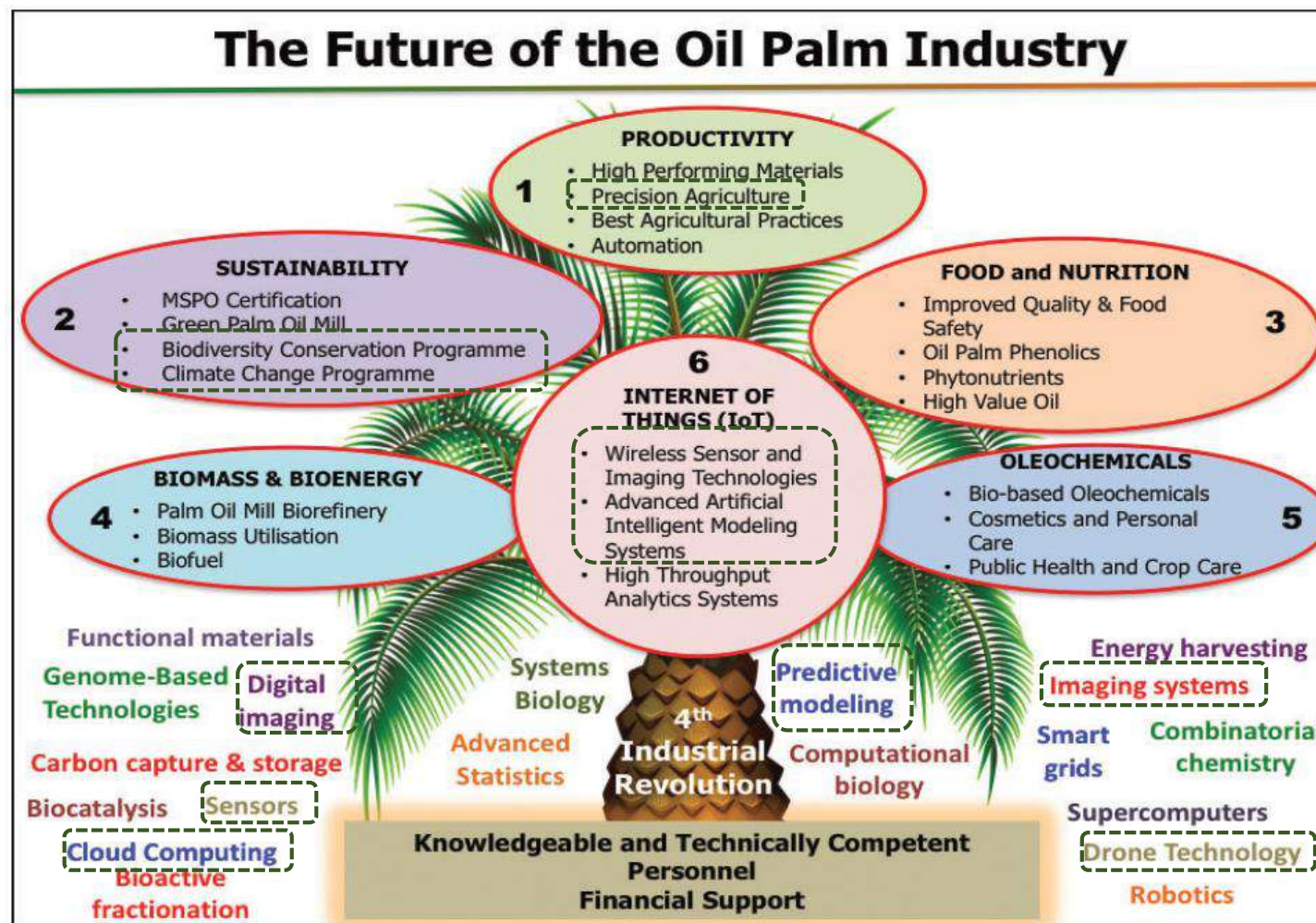
Industry 4.0





Transformative Technologies

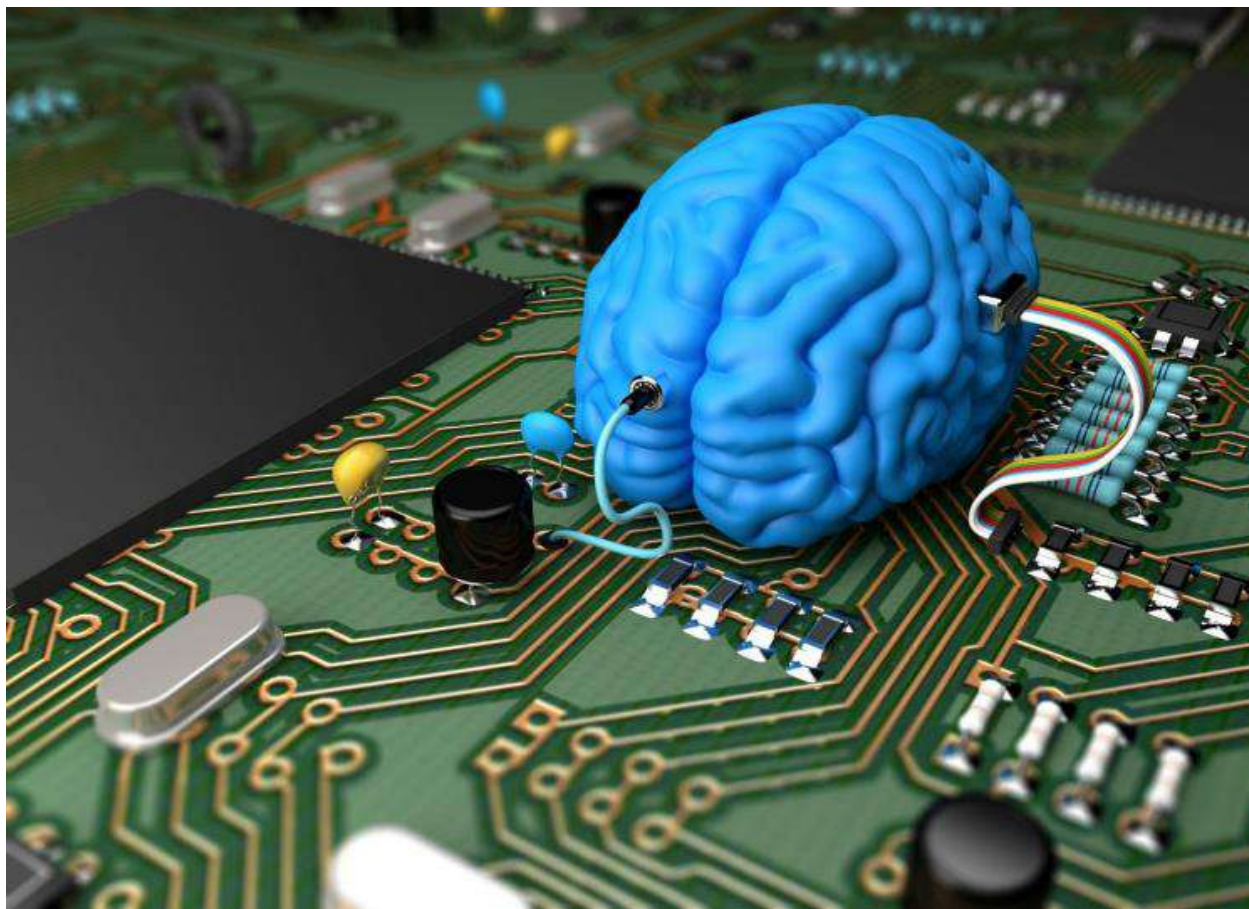
Transformative technologies are crucial for the oil palm industry to remain viable and sustainable. Among others include RS, cloud computing, advanced algorithms, big data etc.



Associated with
Remote Sensing
Technology

Source: Kushairi et al, 2017

Artificial Intelligence - The Brain behind Industry 4.0

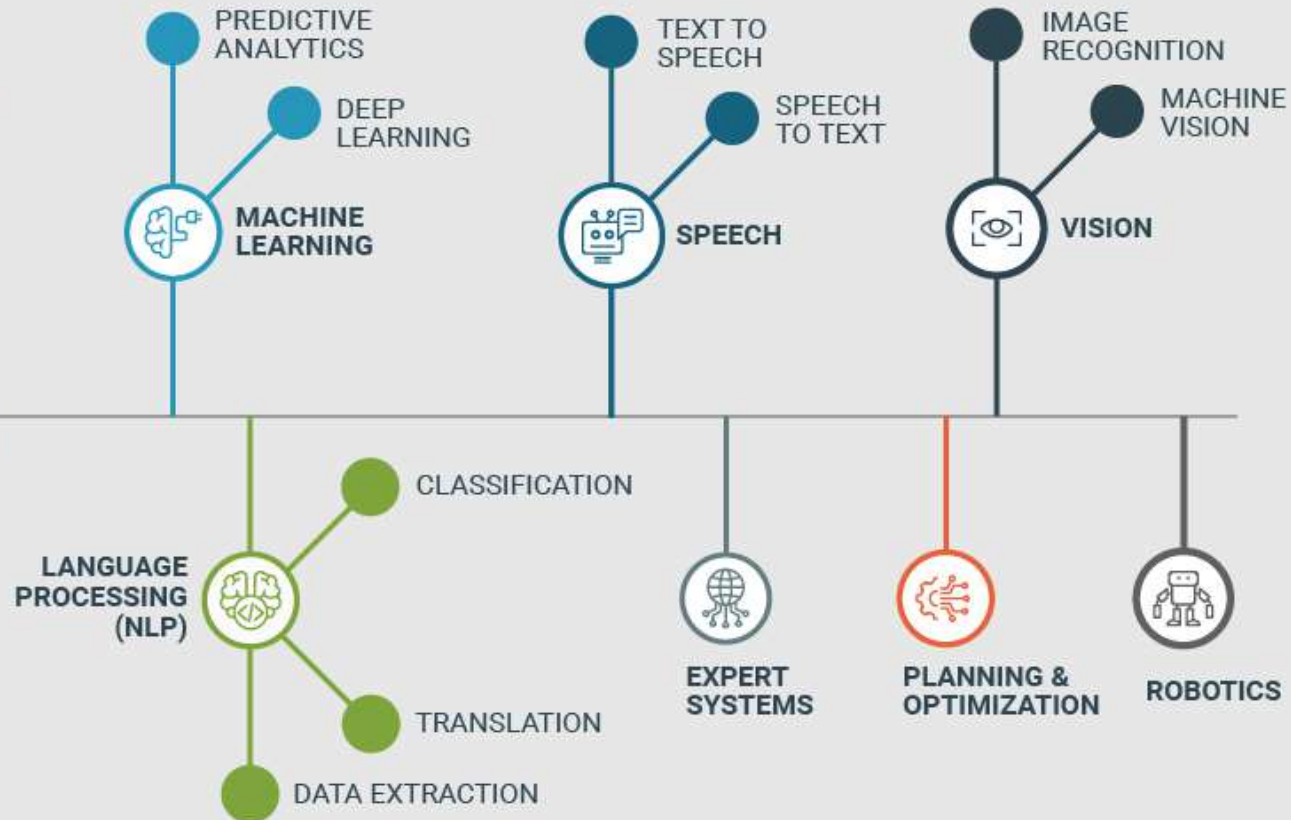


ML is the
brain
behind AI

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

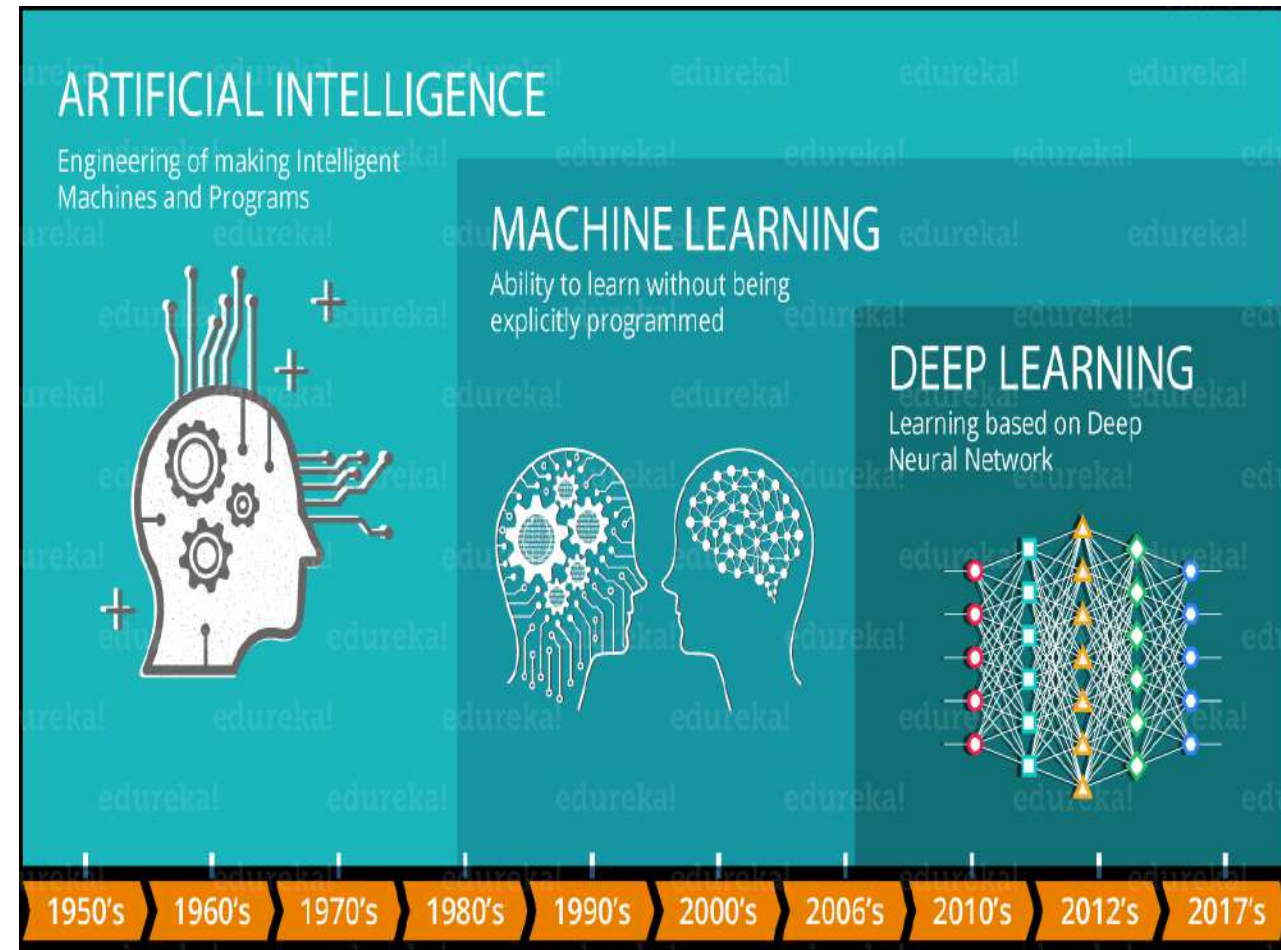


G² CROWD



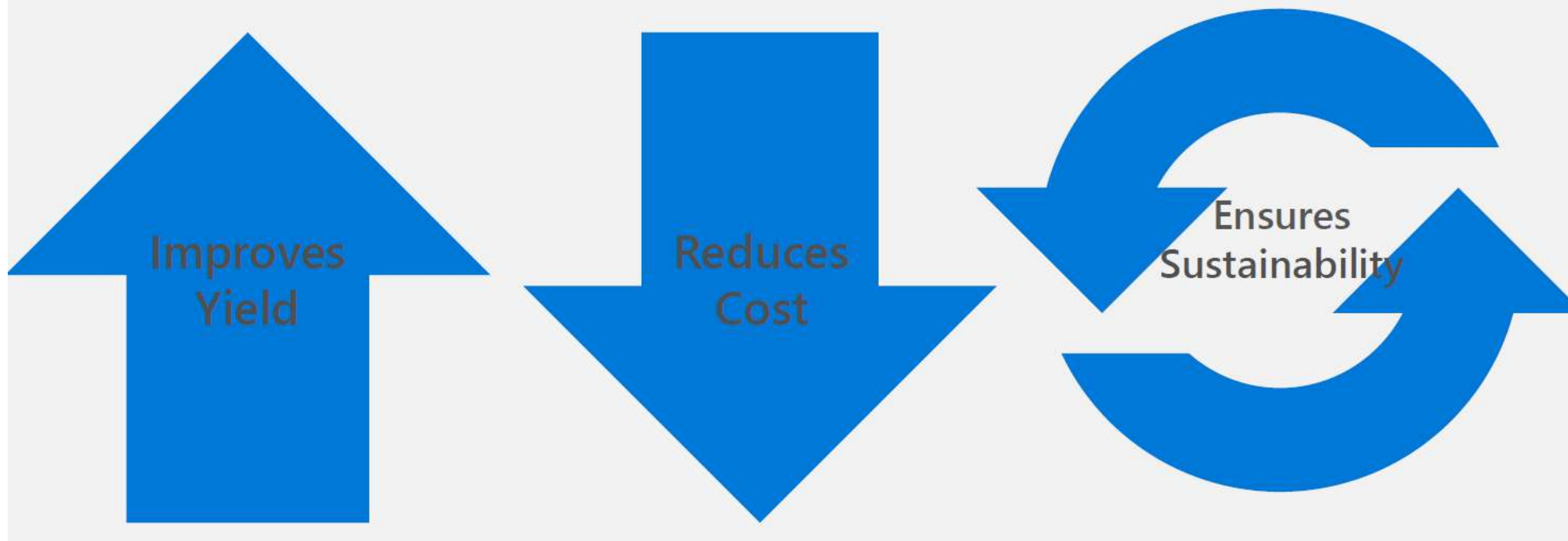
AI and ML

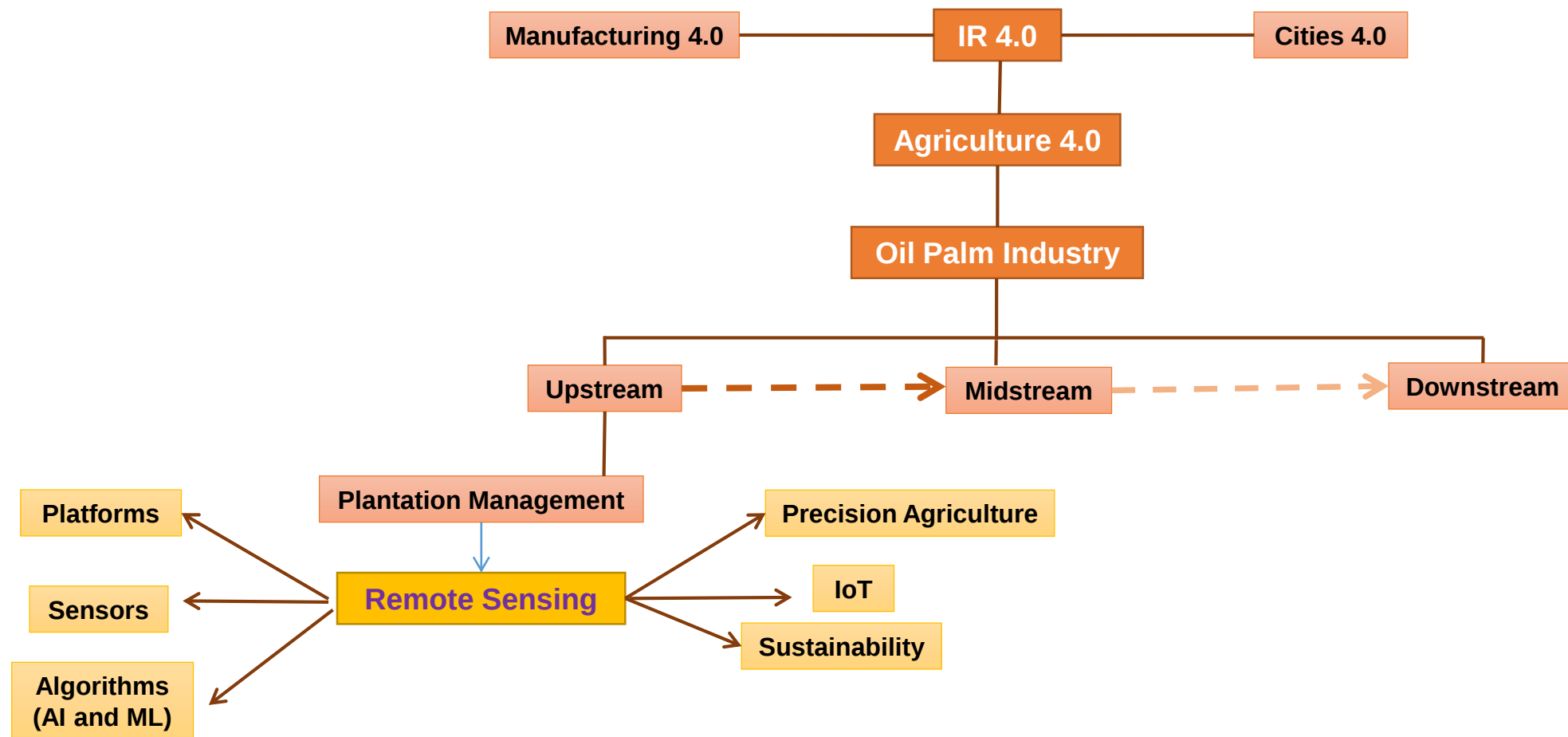
- AI involves machines/software that can perform tasks that are characterise of human intelligence.
- AI was catalyzed by breakthroughs in an area known as machine learning.
- Machine learning is simply a way of achieving AI.



Data-Driven Agriculture

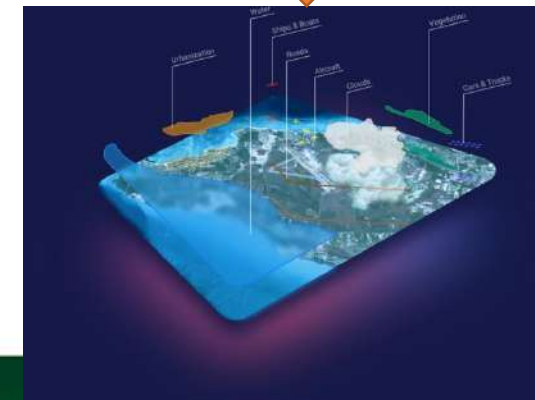
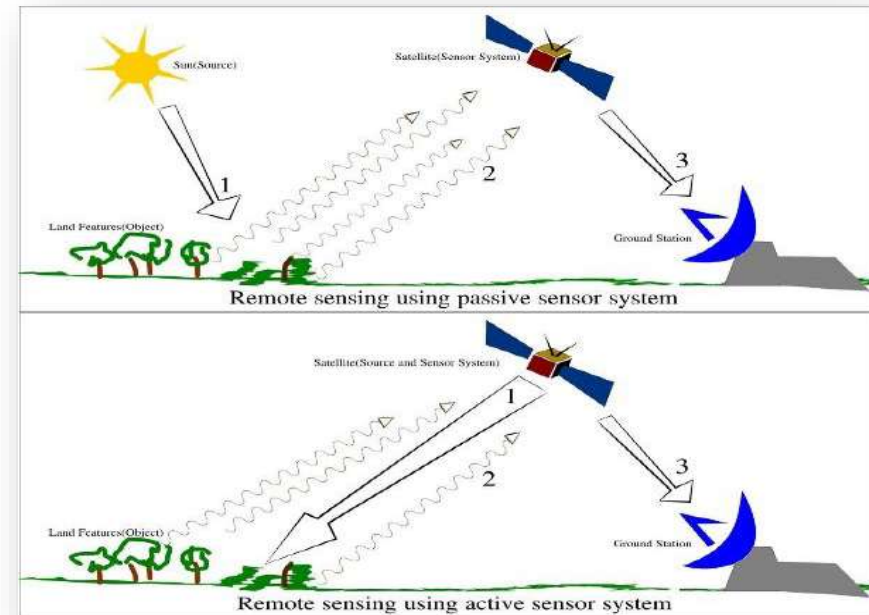
Ag researchers have shown that data-driven agriculture:

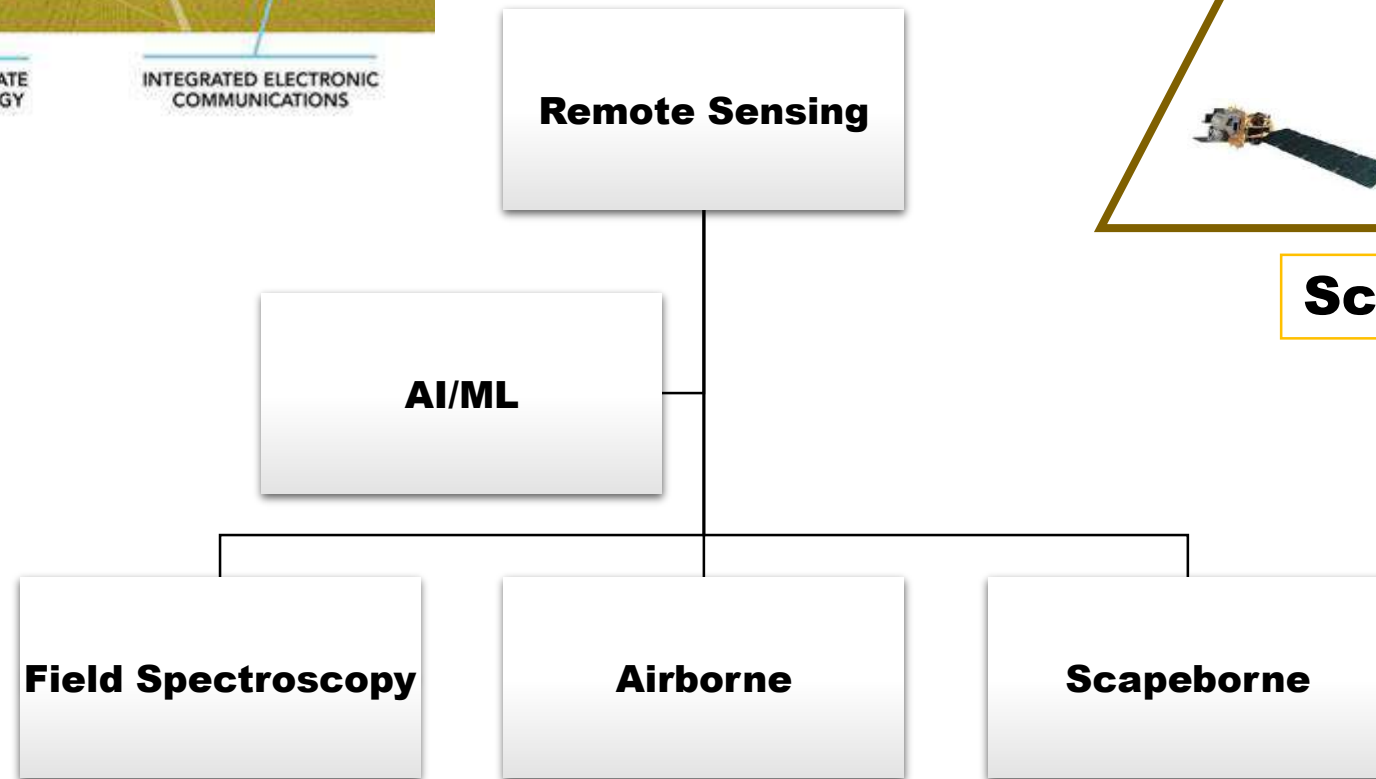
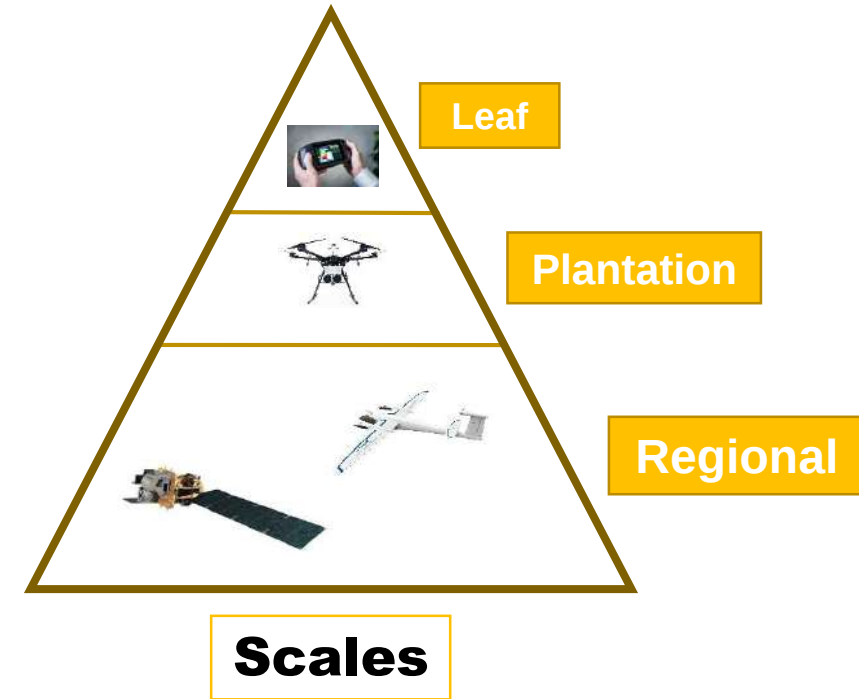
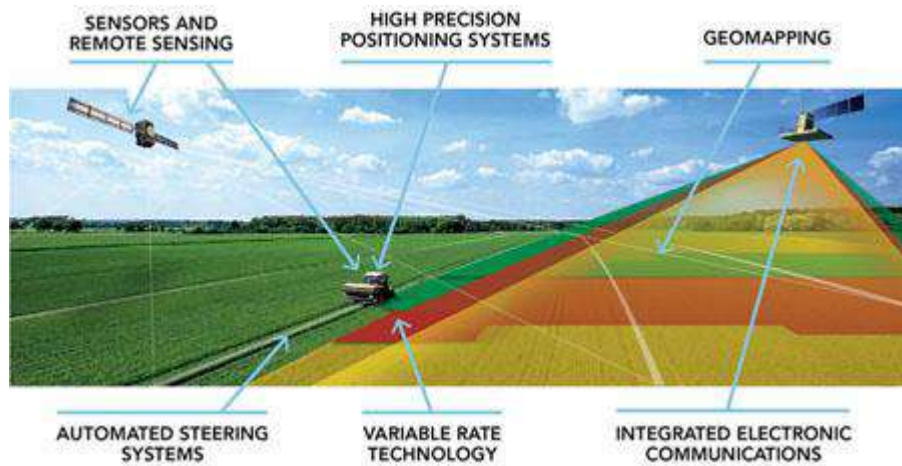




Remote Sensing

- Remote sensing is generally defined as the technology of measuring the characteristics of an object or surface from a distance.
- Divided into active and passive systems.
- Active – Lidar, Radar
- Passive – Multispectral, Hyperspectral



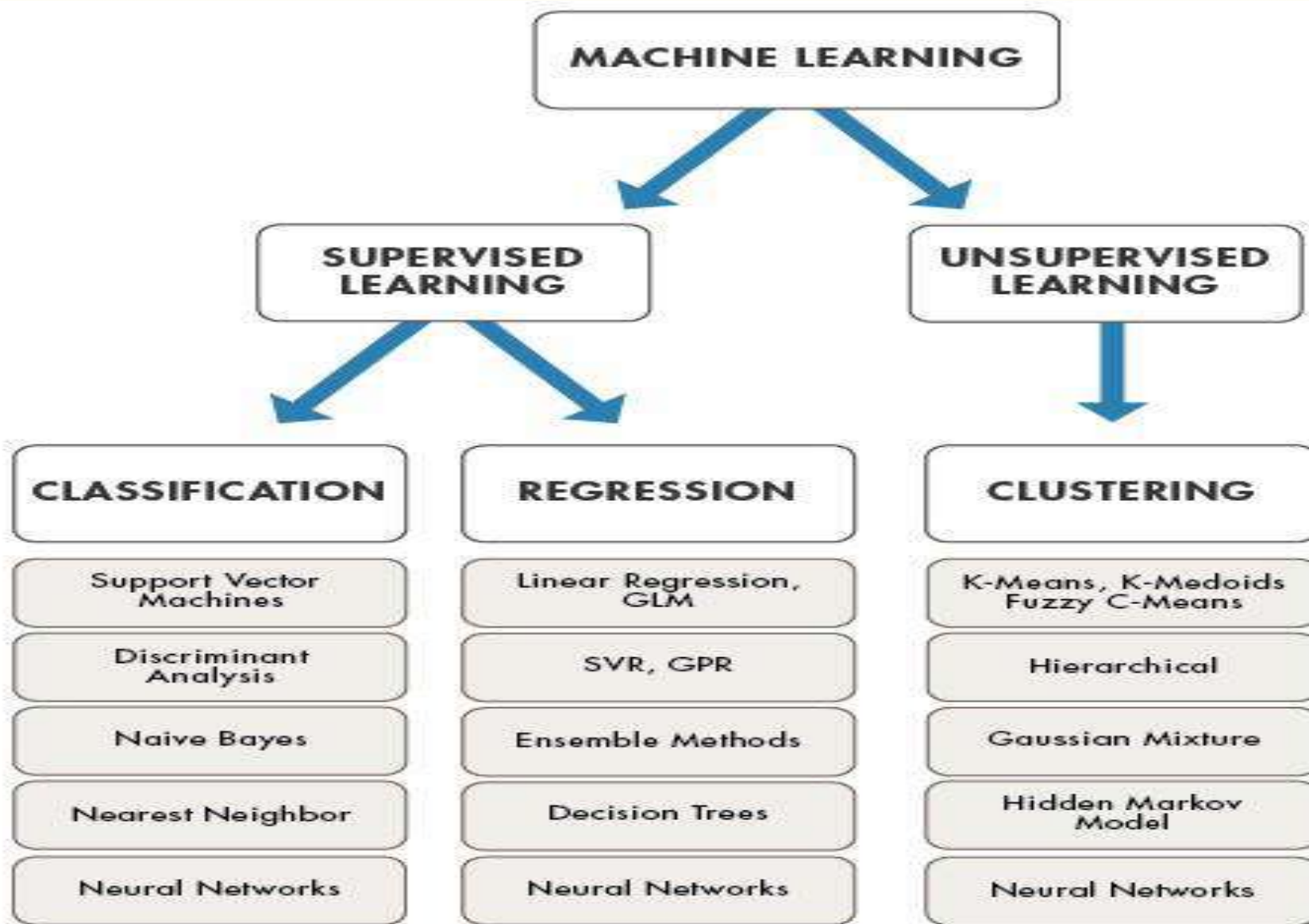


Machine Learning in Remote Sensing



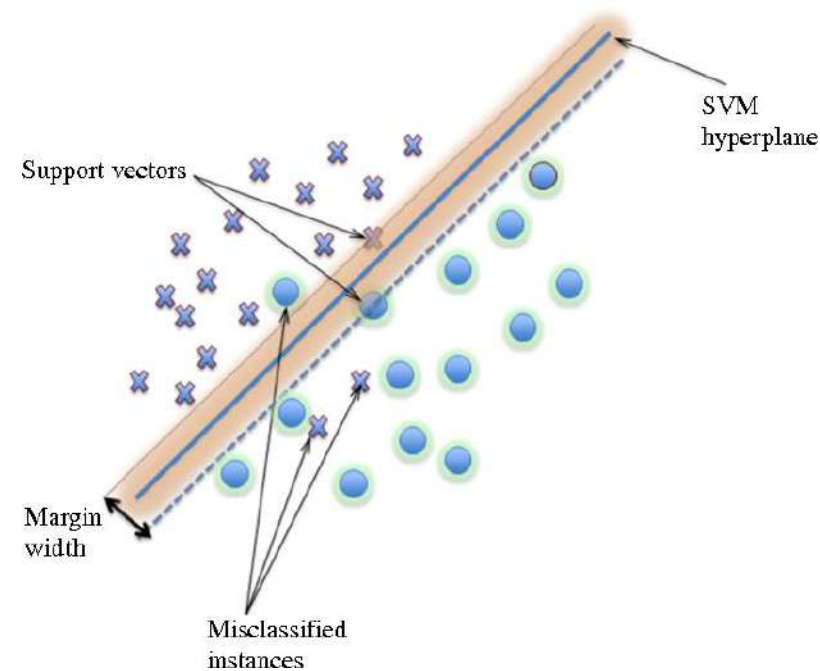
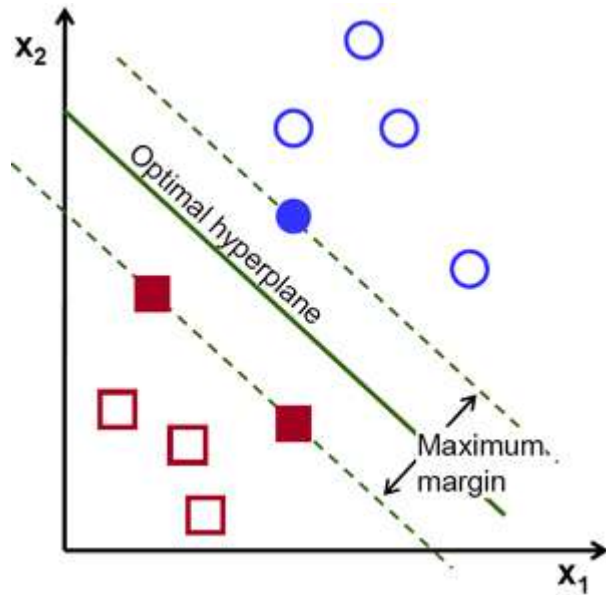
What is Machine Learning?

- ❑ Machine learning is a subdivision of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and also covers data mining/classification approaches.
- ❑ These algorithms do not assume specific class distributions and well suited for complex environments or approaches using fused data sets.
- ❑ Example of machine learning algorithms that have been widely utilized in remote sensing applications:
 - Random Forest (RF)
 - Support Vector machines (SVM)
 - Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

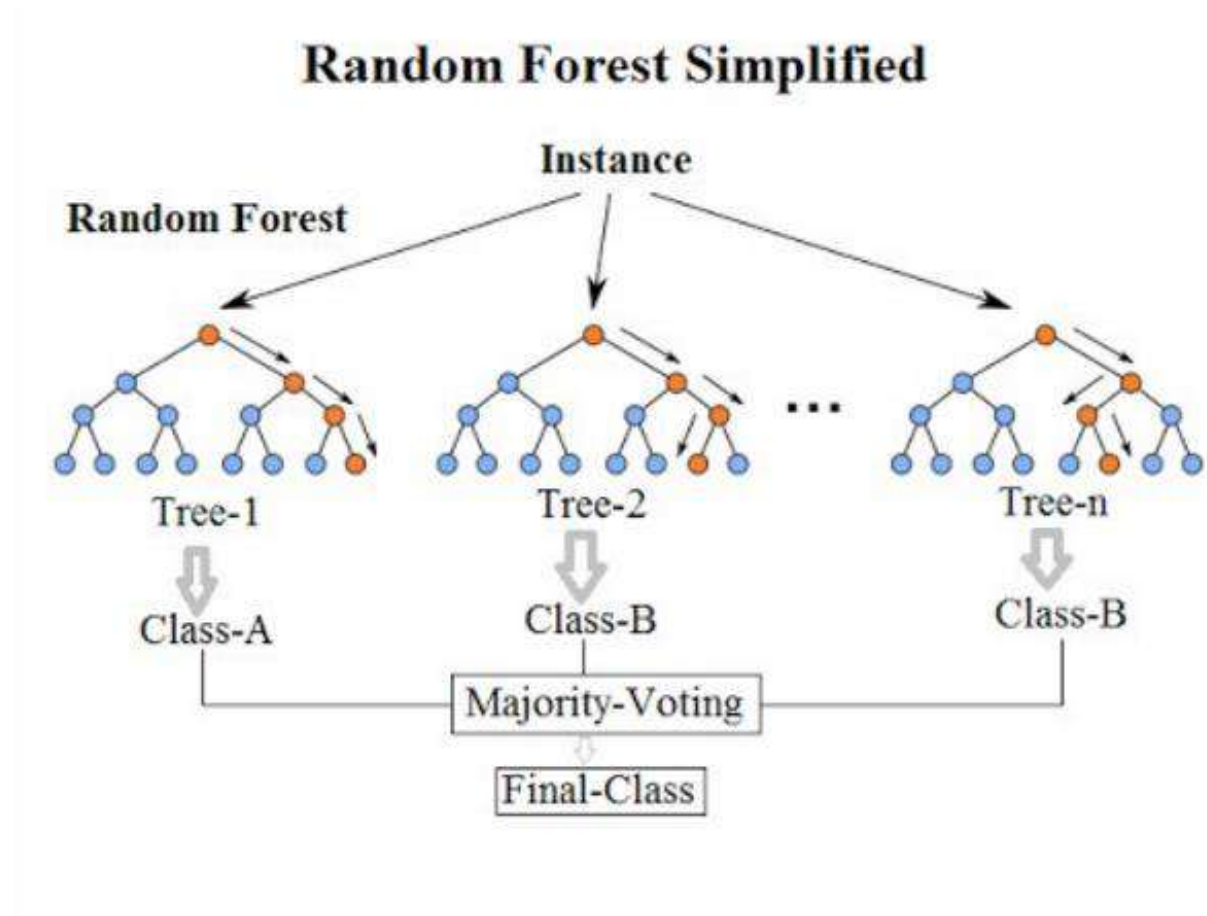


Support Vector Machine (SVM)

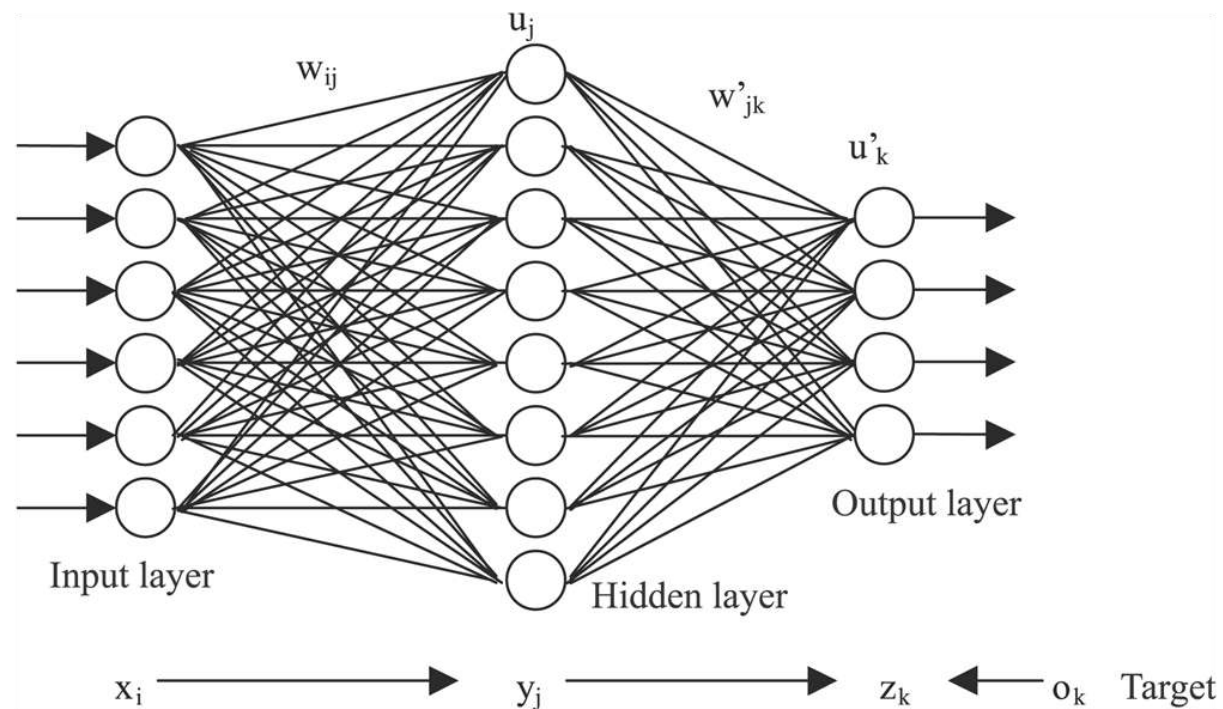
- supervised learning models with associated learning algorithms that analyze data used for classification and regression.



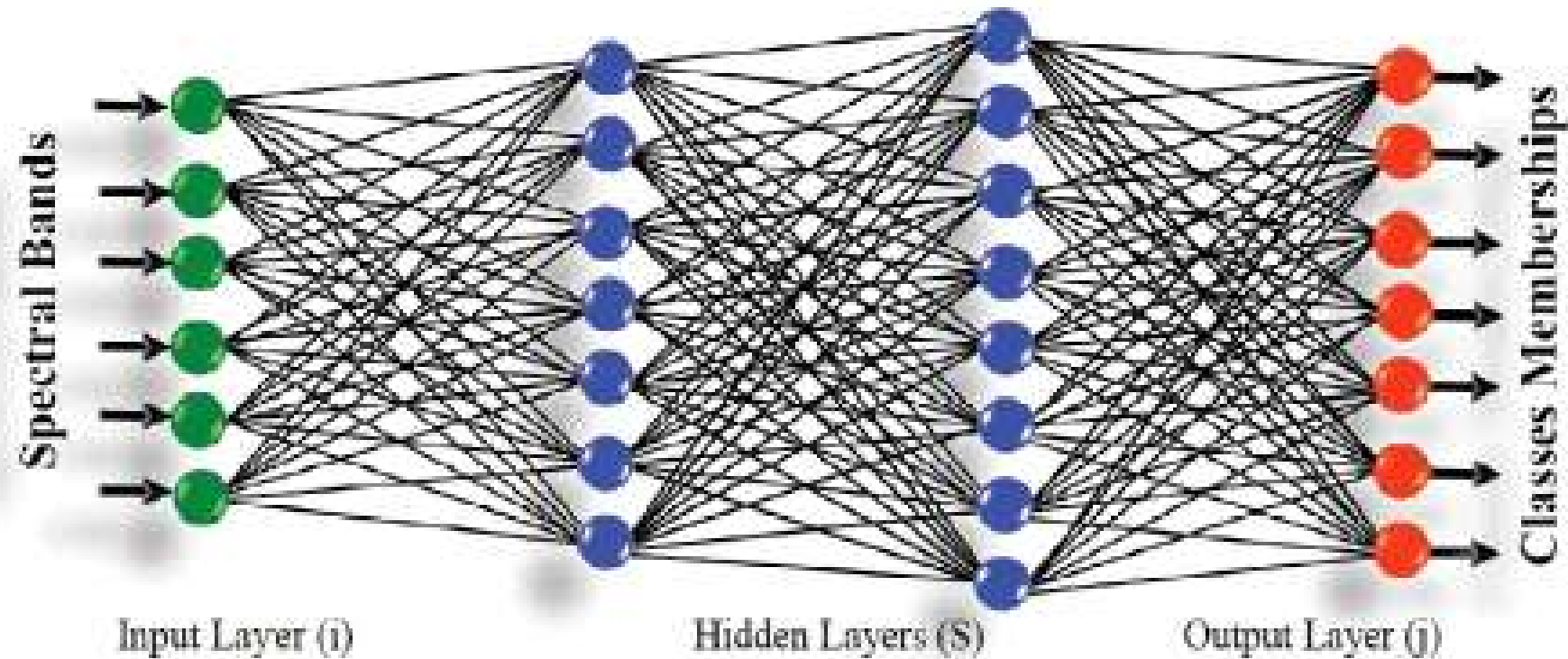
Random Forest



Artificial Neural Network (ANN)



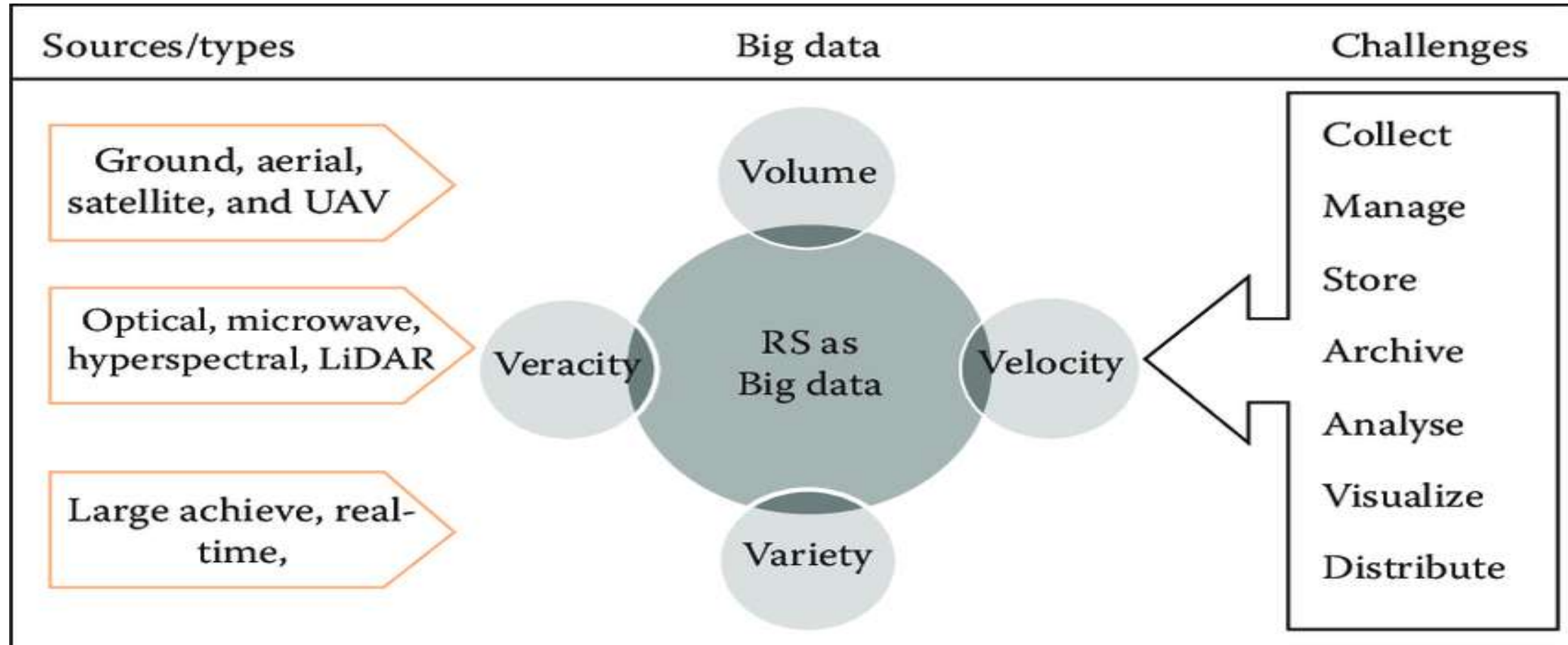
Deep Learning (DL)



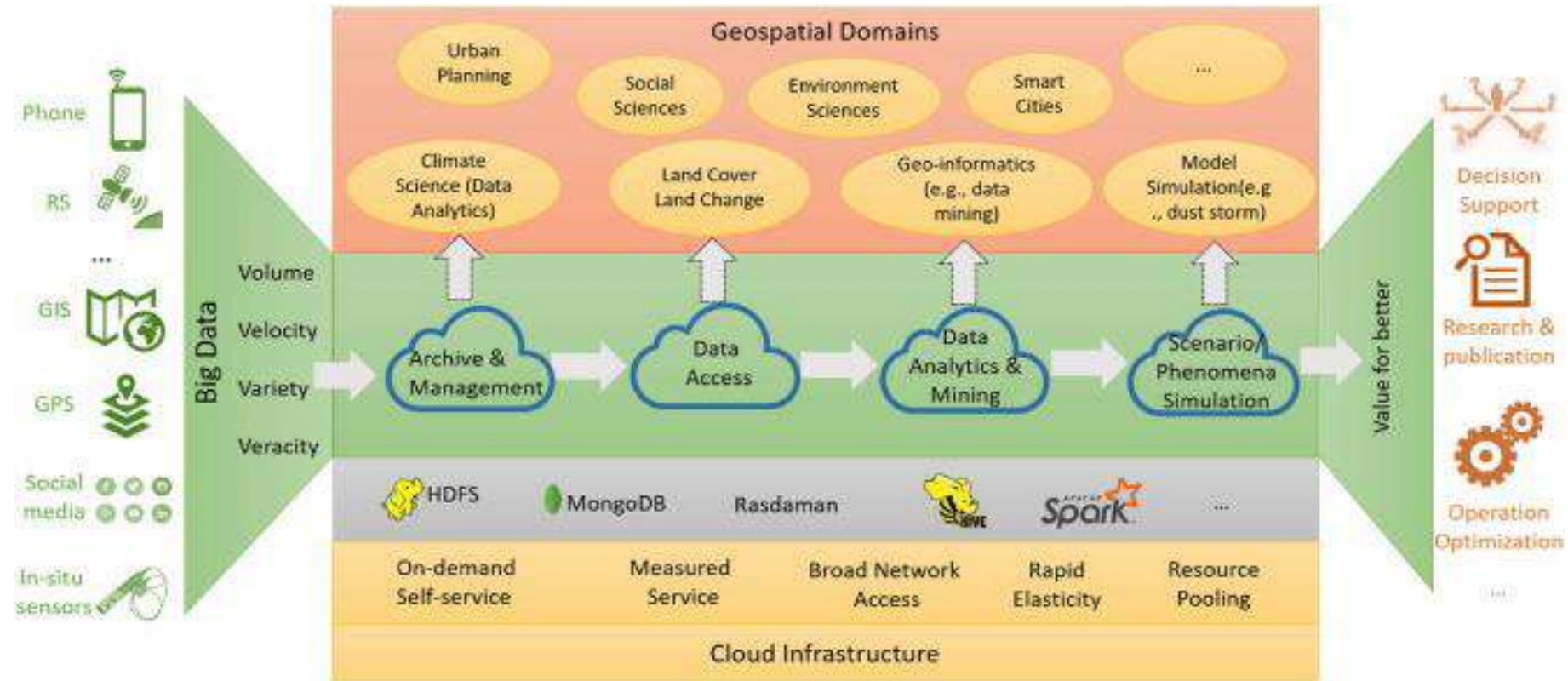
ML + Big Data + Cloud Computing

Machine Learning is an approach to make algorithms “**smarter**” as they “**learn**” from more examples. That’s one of the reasons why **Big Data and AI** seem to be evolving together. Cloud computing enables an infrastructure for big data storage and analysis more effectively.

RS Big Data



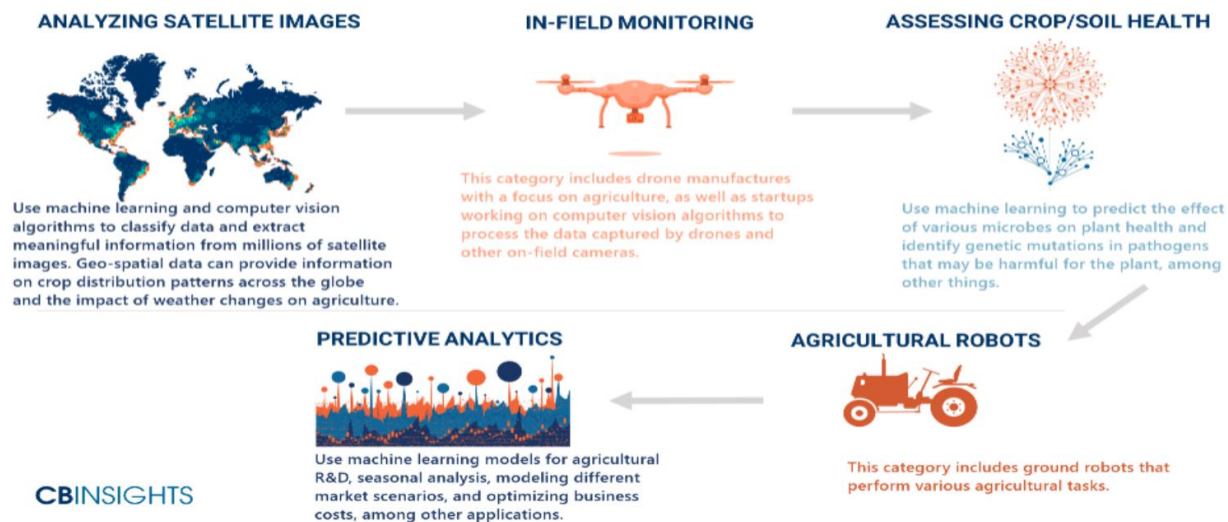
Cloud Computing



Source: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0198971516303106>

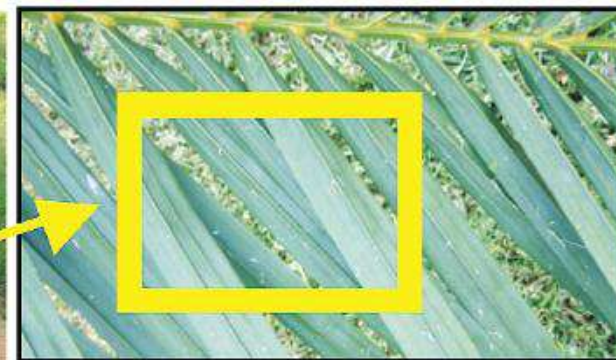
CASE STUDIES

- Field/Lab Spectroscopy
- Airborne
- Satellite

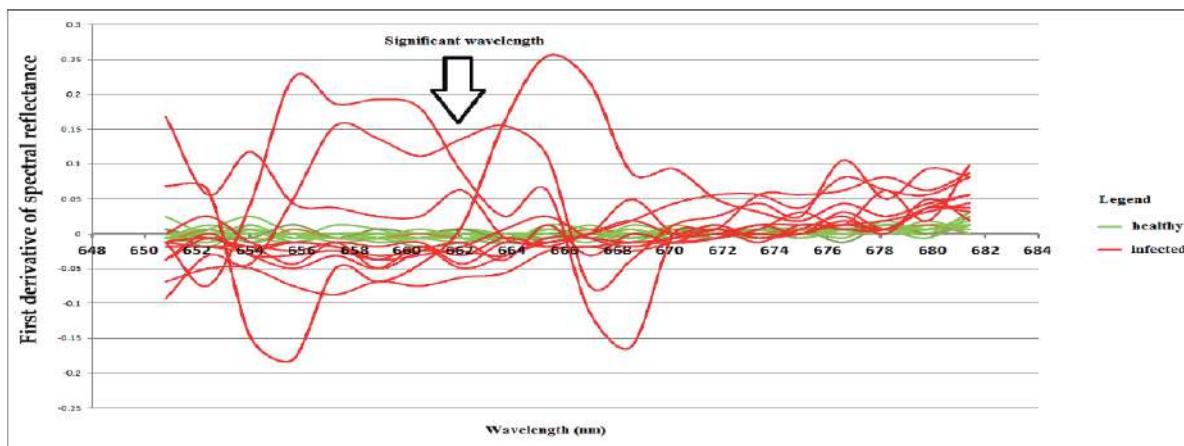


Field Spectroscopy

- Important to study the fundamental response towards disease severity and nutrient deficiency.
- Also for the development of spectral library.
- Studies have indicated some success (Shafri et al., 2011; Liaghat et al., 2014; Izzuddin et al., 2017; Ahmadi et al., 2017) but further improvements are needed.

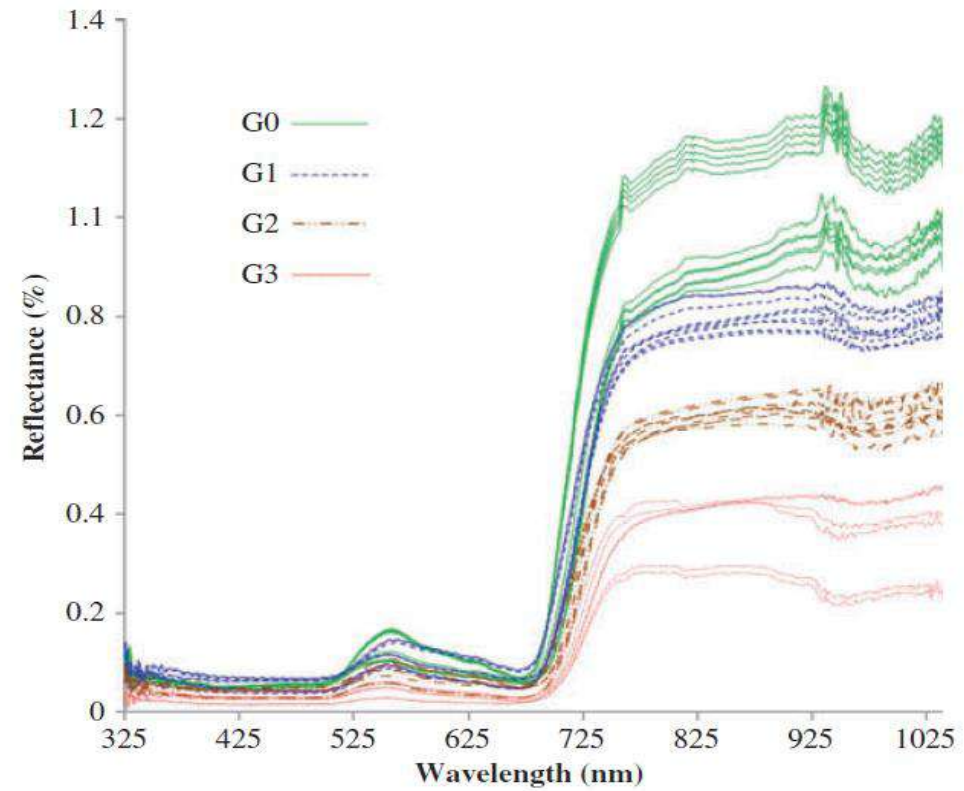
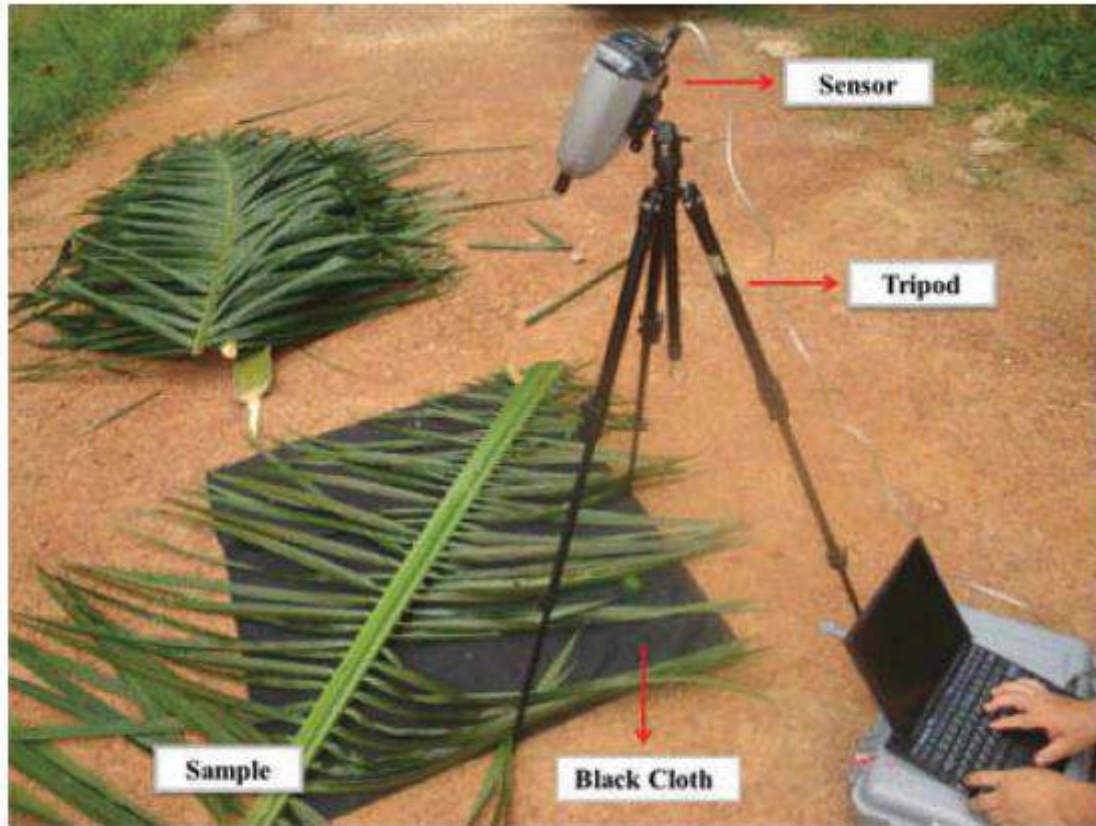


Spectral measurement
on leaves (yellow box)



Source: (Izzuddin et al.,
2013)

ML on field data



Healthy (G0) and Ganoderma-infected (G1, G2, and G3)

- Linear discriminant analysis (LDA), quadratic discriminant analysis (QDA), vs k-nearest neighbour (kNN), and Naïve–Bayes (NB) ML classifiers
- Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with a 5% level of significance ($\alpha = 0.05$) was performed to study the effect of different classification models (LDA, QDA, kNN, and NB) and different datasets (raw, first, and second derivatives) on classification accuracies
- Overall accuracy rate of 97% (without false-negatives) when the kNN-based classification model was used

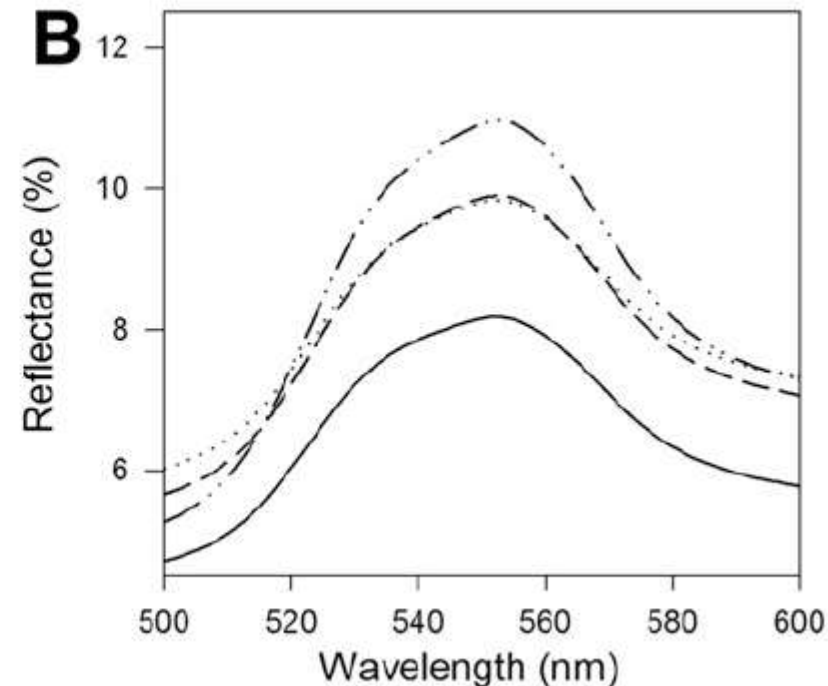
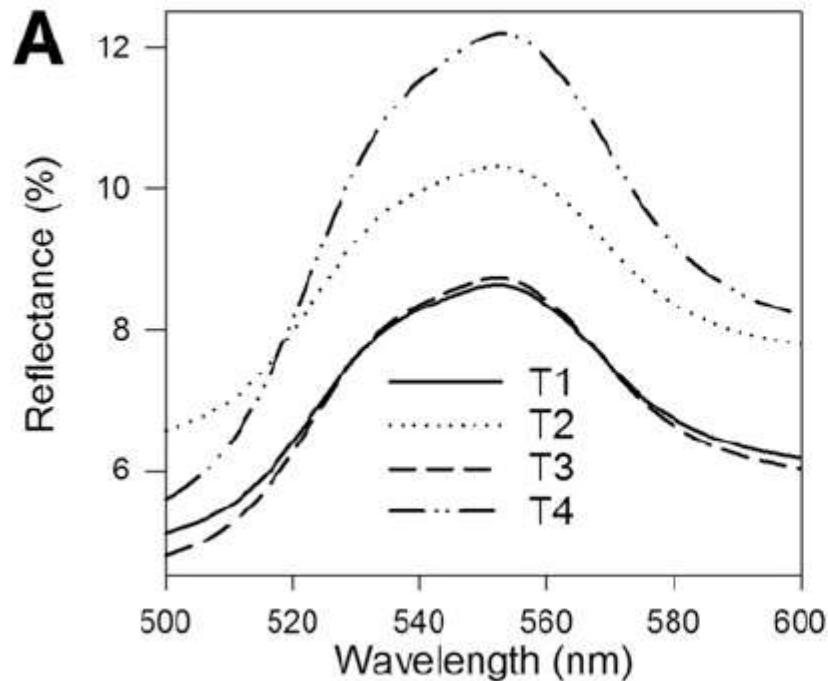
Table 2. Average overall and individual class classification accuracies obtained from preprocessed data sets using LDA-, QDA-, kNN-, and NB-based models.

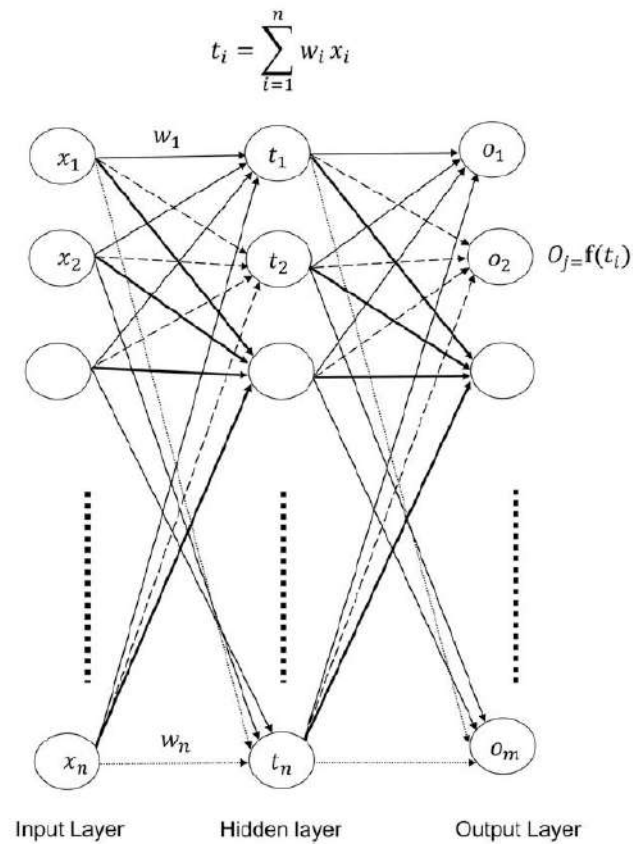
	No. of PCs	Average classification accuracies (%)					<i>k</i>	SD (%)
		Overall	G0	G1	G2	G3		
LDA								3.5
Raw	6	95.6	96.8	95.5	96.9	94.8		0.9
First D	15	93.1	96.8	89.6	93.7	92.6		2.6
Second D	23	89.3	86.4	90.9	87.0	93.1		2.8
QDA								8.5
Raw	6	85.0	86.3	84.9	83.9	83.5		1.1
First D	15	92.3	96.9	91.0	93.6	87.1		3.6
Second D	23	86.8	98.5	95.5	87.4	62.6		14.1
kNN								5.6
Raw	6	86.5	84.5	91.2	88.7	81.2	1, 2	3.8
First D	15	96.4	96.8	97.1	95.3	96.8	1, 2	0.7
Second D	23	97.3	98.5	95.6	96.9	98.5	1, 2	1.2
NB								10.5
Raw	6	96.0	96.9	98.5	91.9	96.6		2.5
First D	15	83.5	84.2	94.0	81.1	71.4		8.1
Second D	23	78.9	76.5	91.0	82.1	62.7		10.3

Note: D – derivative; SD – standard deviation.

- Ahmadi et al (2017) used ANN to investigate the hyperspectral capability to discriminate severity levels

Severity level	Symptoms
T1 (healthy)	Negative GSM ^a test Healthy leaves and normal palm canopy
T2 (mild)	Positive GSM test Presence of mycelium in the stem bark, or brittle wood Healthy leaves and normal palm canopy
T3 (moderate)	Positive GSM test Presence of mycelium in the stem bark, and fruiting body Less than 50% foliar symptoms
T4 (severe)	Presence of fruiting body at the bottom of the rotten stem More than 50% foliar symptoms





Discrimination accuracy ^a (%)							
Dataset	Wavelengths (nm)	Frond 9			Frond 17		
		Healthy (T1)	Mildly infected (T2)	Overall	Healthy (T1)	Mildly infected (T2)	Overall
RAW	553, 557, 562	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.0	85.0	82.8
RAW	550 to 560	66.7	100.0	83.3	66.7	100.0	83.3
FDR	550 to 560	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	83.3
SDR	540 to 550	66.7	66.7	66.7	100.0	100.0	100.0

^a The accuracies were derived for 46 spectral leaf measurements of T1 and 46 spectral leaf measurements of T2 for each frond number.

Airborne/UAV RS

- Acquired data using piloted aircraft and UAV for oil palm plantation analysis.
- Previous campaigns were flown using ALSA sensors
- Utilised spectral indices developed from field studies.
- Current research going towards UAV utilisation due to piloted aircraft limitations (cost, maintenance, schedule etc).

Data Acquisition and Equipment

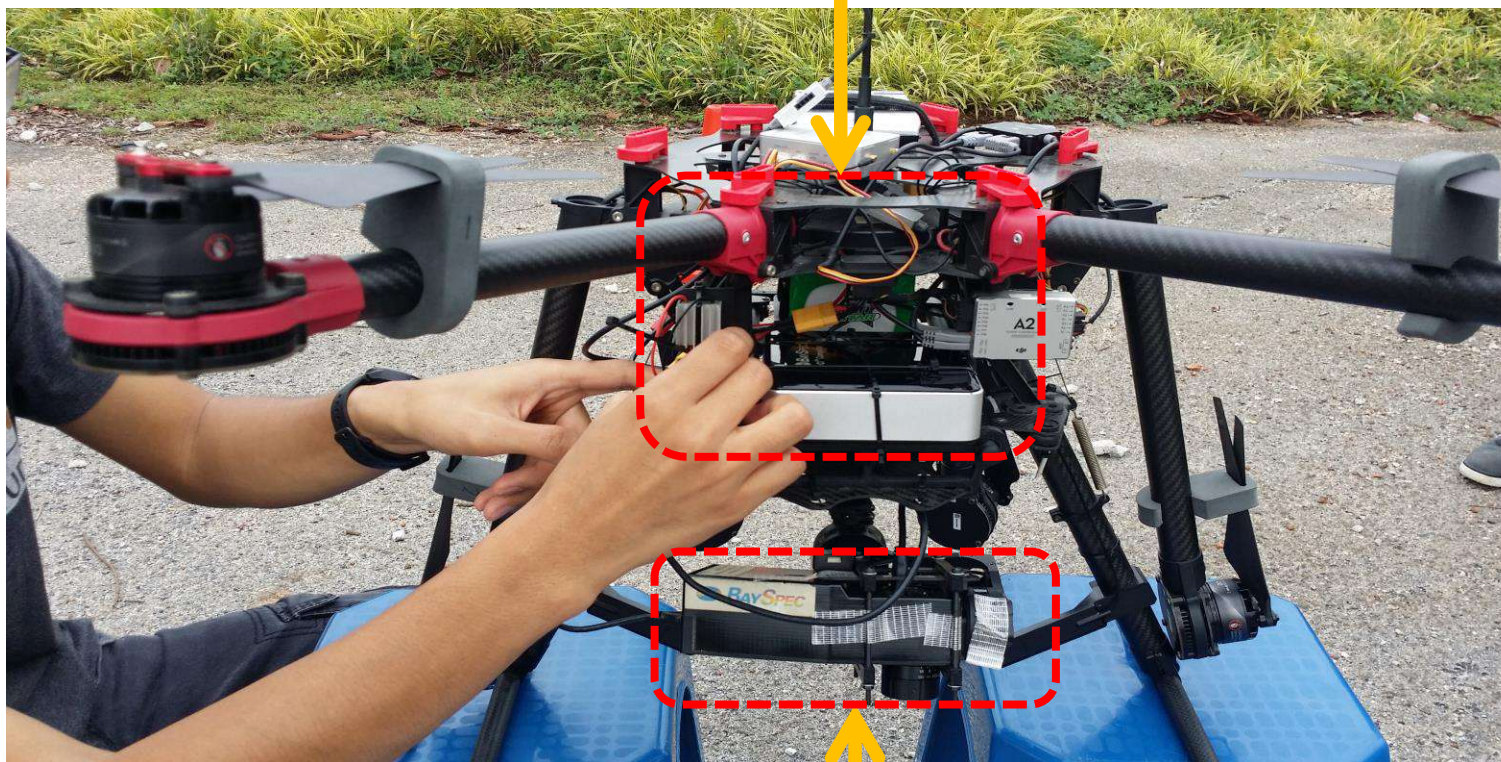


Piloted aircraft with
AISA sensor



Hexacopter UAV

UAV with OCI
hyperspectral
sensor

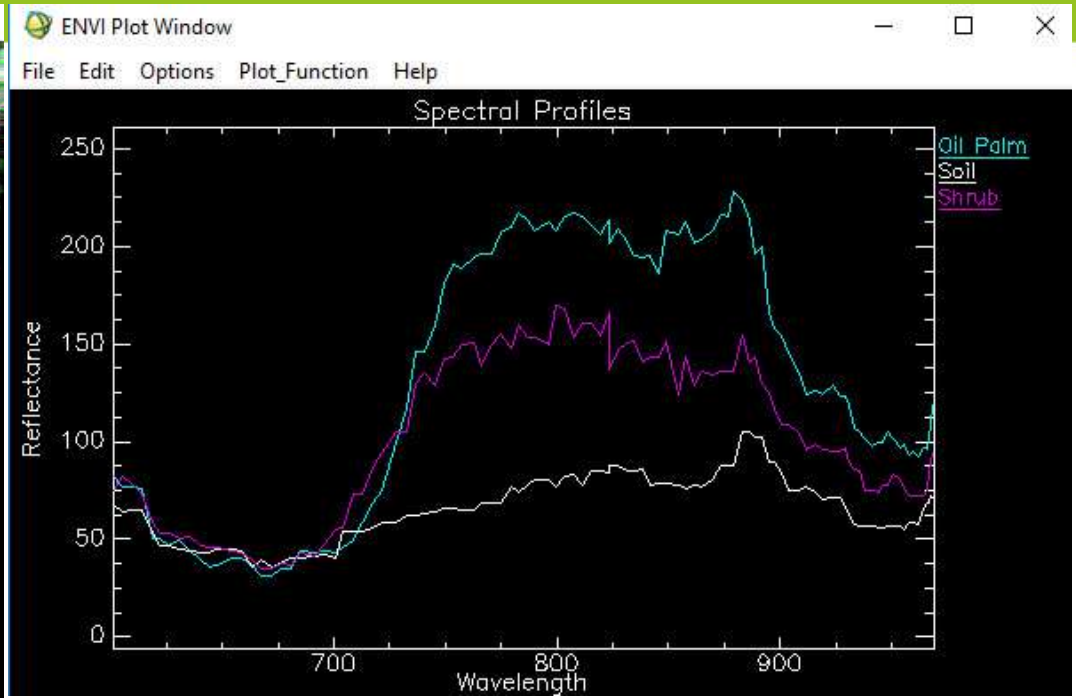
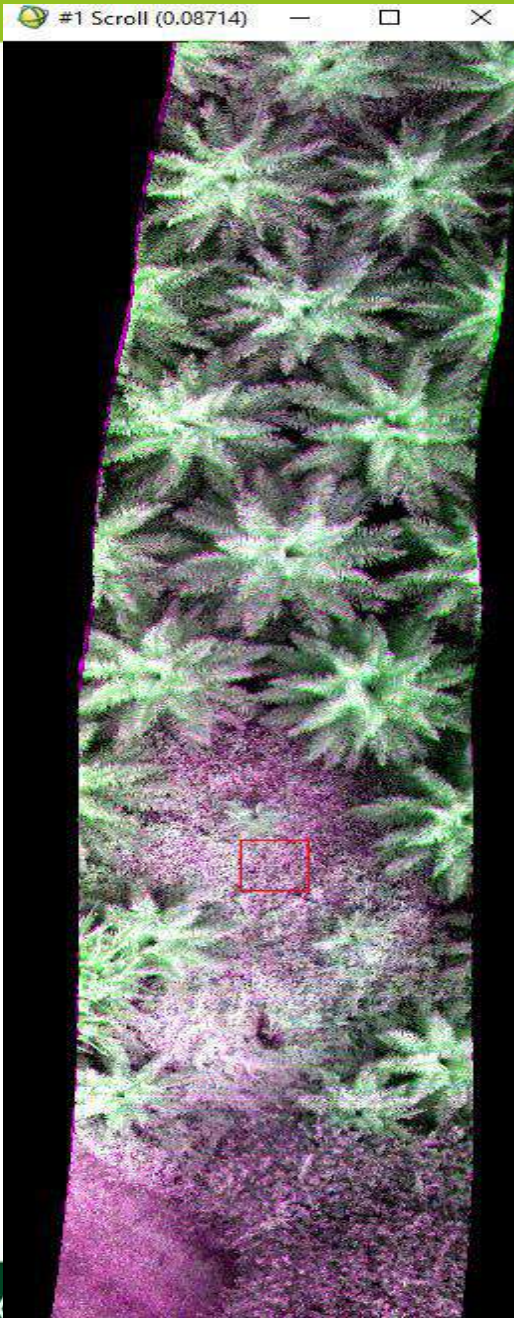


On-board Computer

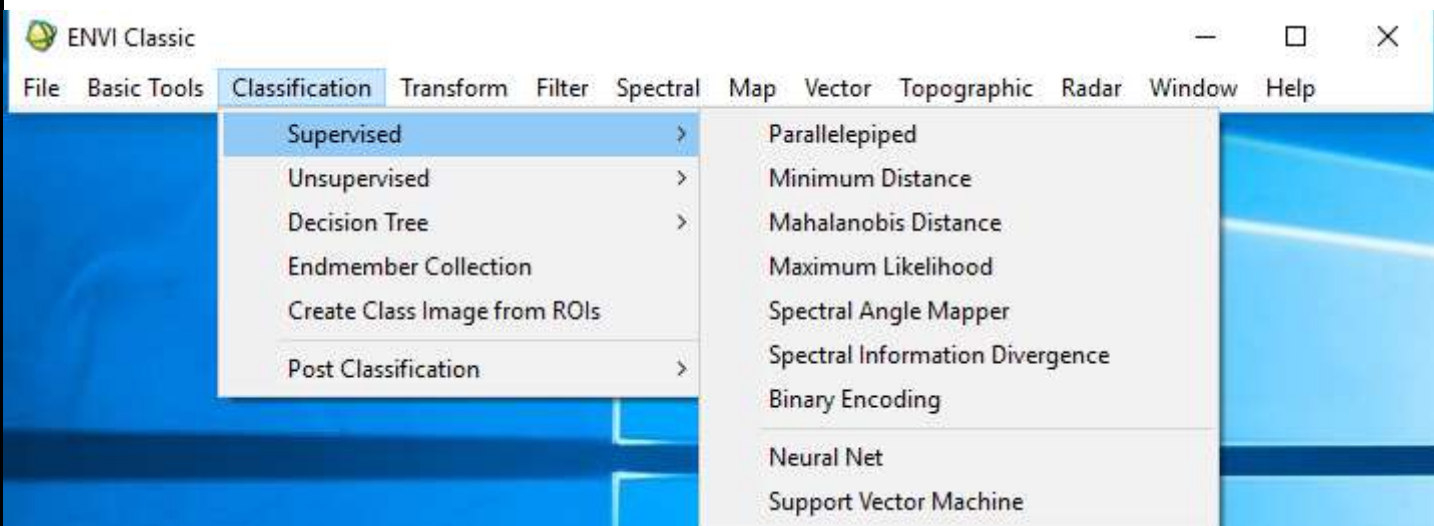
Bayspec Hyperspectral OCI UAV



UPM Test site

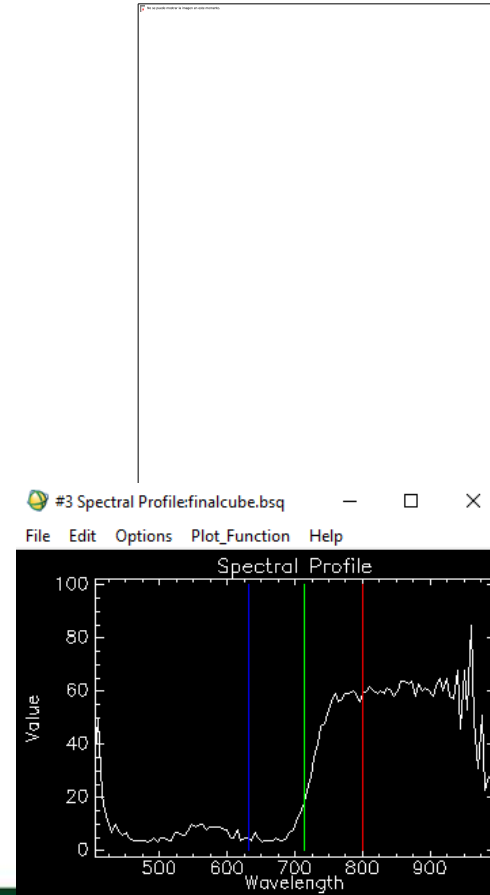


Wavelength range: 600-1000 nm, 103 bands



Challenges with UAV-based hyperspectral systems

- Risk
- Complexity of device integration
- Stability of platform
- Data distortion
- Data processing complexity



Bayspec OCI-F-1000

Multispectral UAV

❑ Model:-

- MicaSense RedEdge

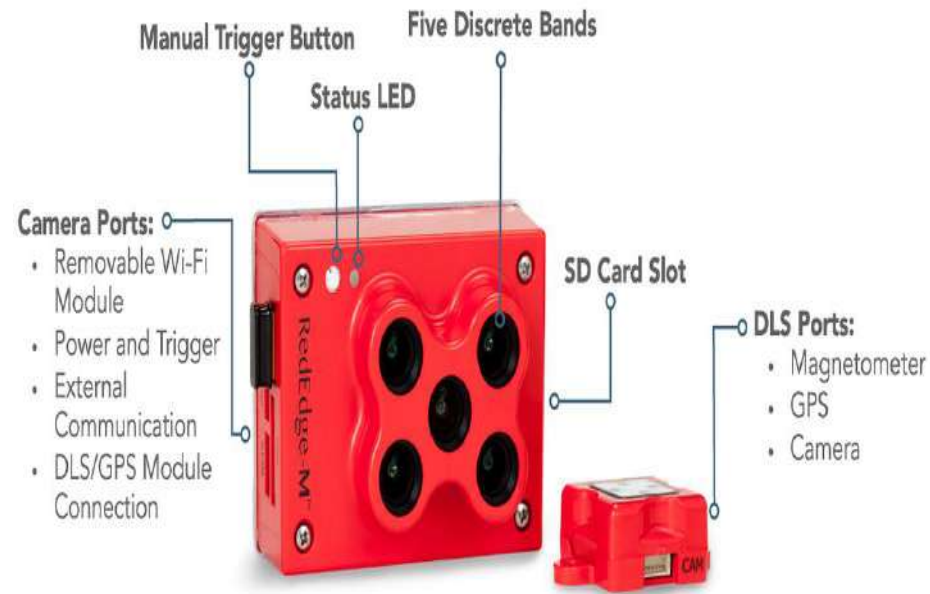
❑ Benefits:-

- Easier to handle
- Cheaper
- 5 bands



RedEdge-M™

Specifications



Weight:	170 grams (6 oz) (includes DLS and cables)
Dimensions:	9.4 cm x 6.3 cm x 4.6 cm (3.7 in x 2.5 in x 1.8 in)
External Power:	4.2 V DC - 15.6 V DC 4 W nominal, 8 W peak
Spectral Bands:	Blue, green, red, red edge, near-IR (global shutter, narrowband)
RGB Color Output:	Global shutter, aligned with all bands
Ground Sample Distance (GSD):	8 cm per pixel (per band) at 120 m (~400 ft) AGL
Capture Rate:	1 capture per second (all bands), 12-bit RAW
Interfaces:	Serial, 10/100/1000 ethernet, removable Wi-Fi, external trigger, GPS, SDHC
Field of View:	47.2° HFOV
Triggering Options:	Timer mode, overlap mode, external trigger mode (PWM, GPIO, serial, and Ethernet options), manual capture mode

Near Real-time Data Analysis

SERVICE PROVIDER

FARM MANAGER

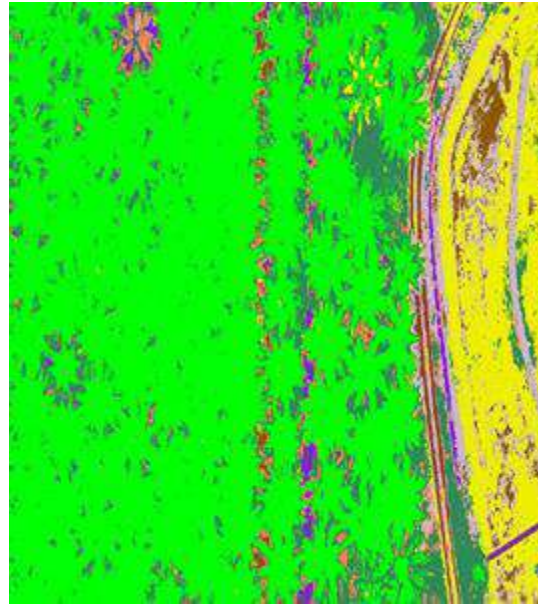


ML Application for UAV Data Analysis

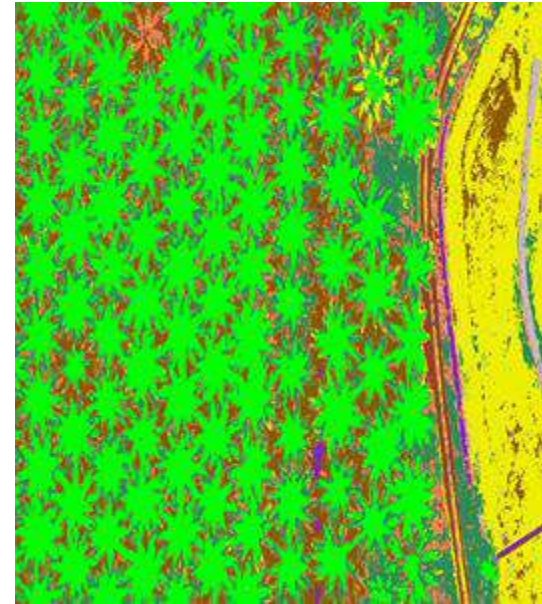
Classification of plantation land cover (1st level):- Original 5 bands



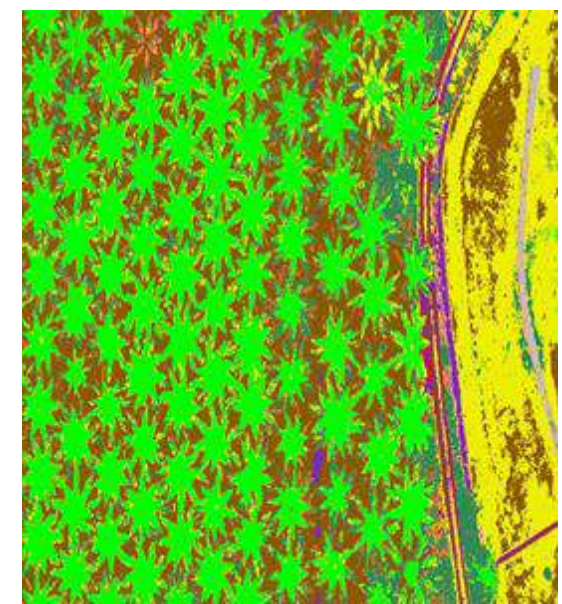
Original image



Maximum
Likelihood –
85%



SVM – 89%



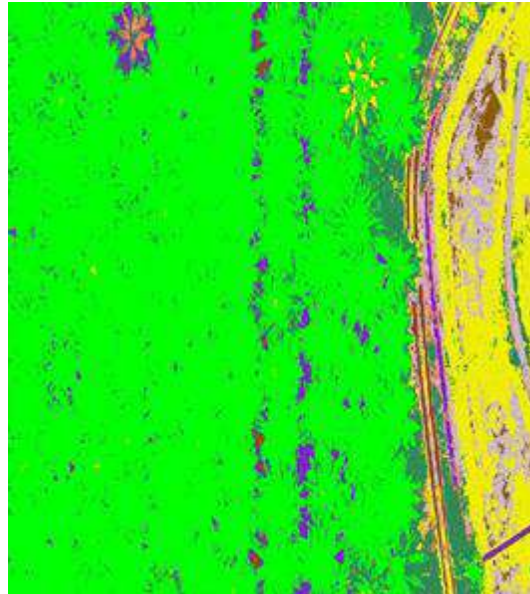
ANN- 85%

- 0: Unclassified
- 1: healthy op
- 2: bare soil
- 3: stress op
- 4: bushes
- 5: grass
- 6: shrubs
- 7: roof/building
- 8: drainage
- 9: road
- 10: bare soil2

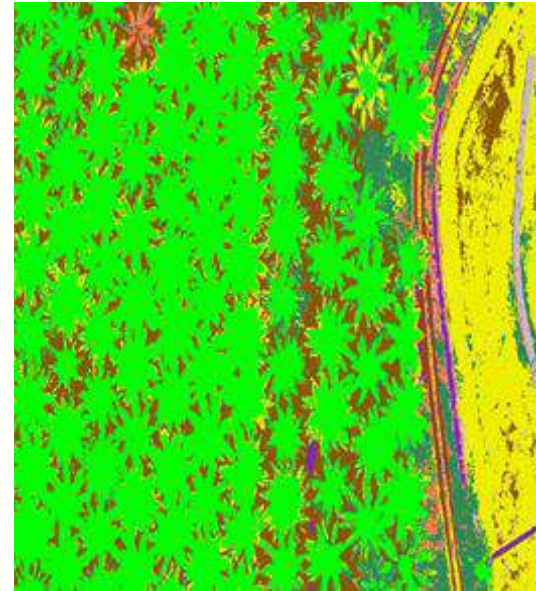
Using the Normalized Difference Red Edge Index (NDRE) and ML



NDRE



Maximum
Likelihood –
83%



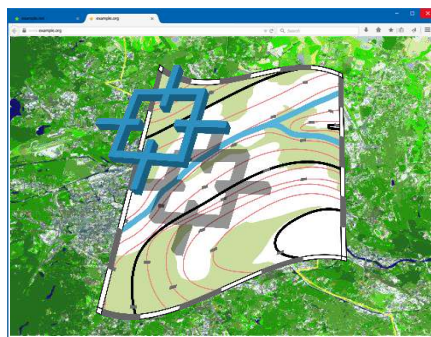
SVM– 90%



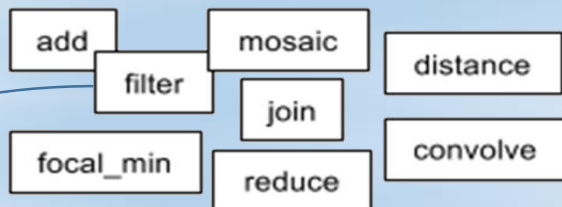
ANN– 86%

Spaceborne (Satellite)

- Issues such as biodiversity loss, deforestation, protection of high conservation value areas.
- Satellite remote sensing plays an important role in monitoring oil palm plantations.
- Traditional methods require storage of huge amount of data and in-house processing capabilities.
- Recent trend has been to perform image processing using cloud computing such as Google Earth Engine (GEE).
- The advantages of cloud computing include the availability of a large volume of satellite data already stored in the cloud. This will avoid the need of an external hard disk and facilitate easy data access.
- Using parallel computing, users will have unlimited computer processing capabilities. Moreover, code and classification algorithms can be shared and discussed in the shared platform.



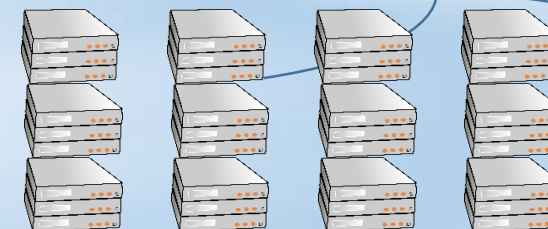
Web GUI
– e.g.
REMAP



Algorithms

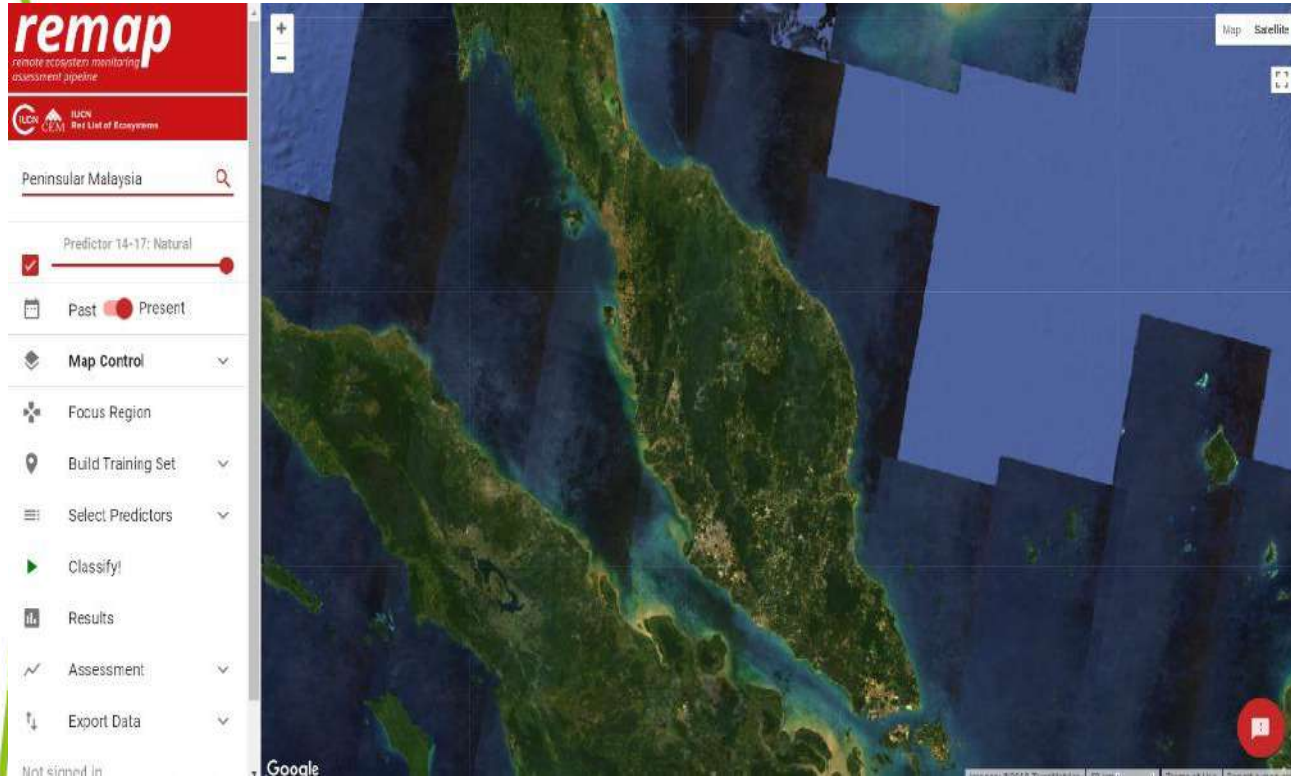


**Geospatial
Database**



**Storage and Computing
Servers**

REMAP (Remote Ecosystem Assessment & Monitoring Pipeline)

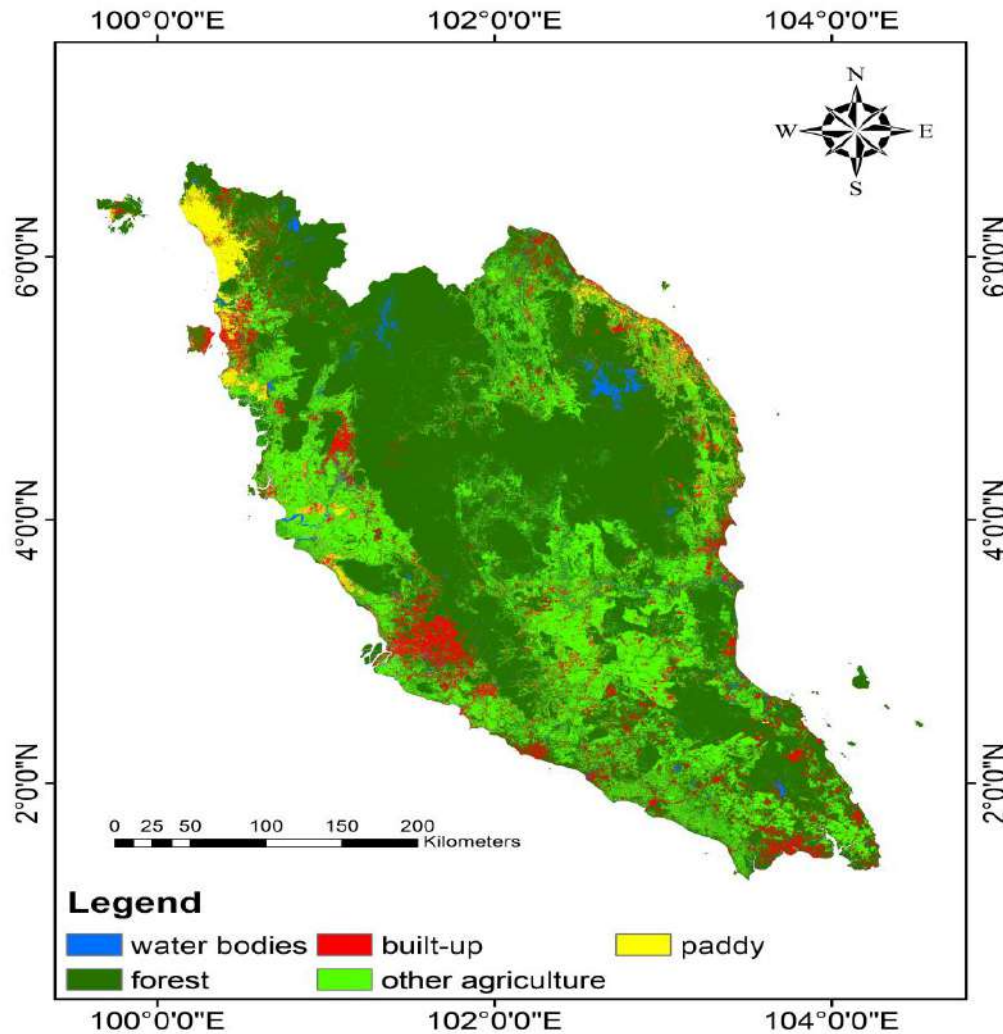


-A free **online** mapmaking tool that allows users to detect environmental change over time using satellite images.

-National level cloud computing with REMAP powered by Google Earth Engine.

-Years of desktop computing = Days of cloud computing

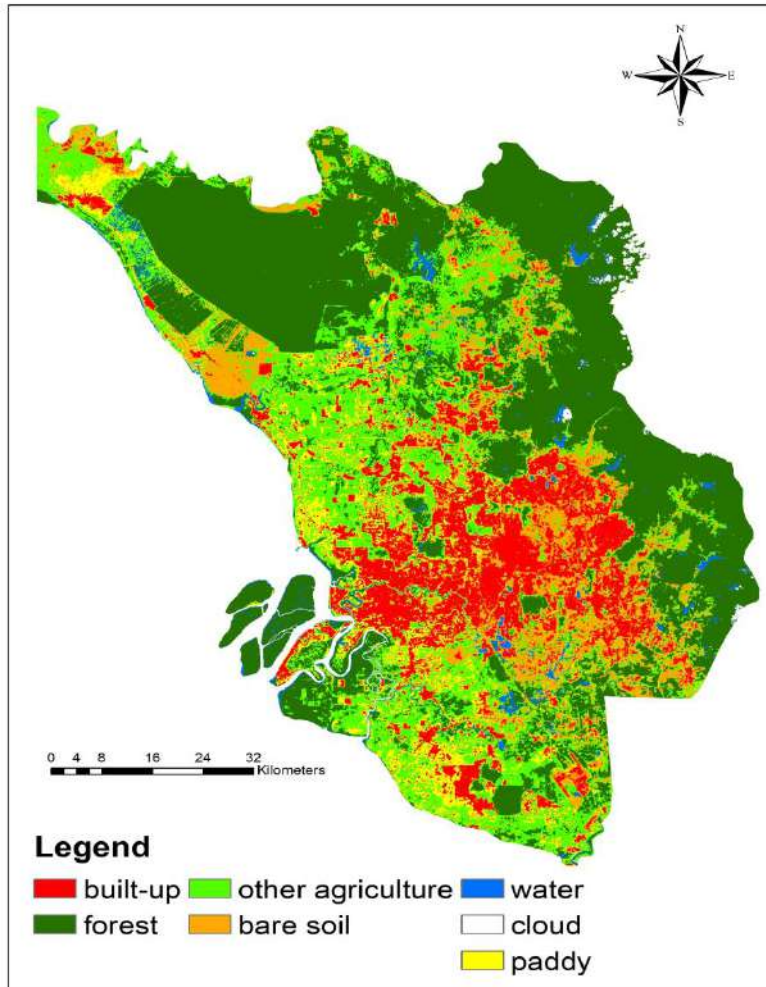
Land Cover Map Generated by REMAP 2017



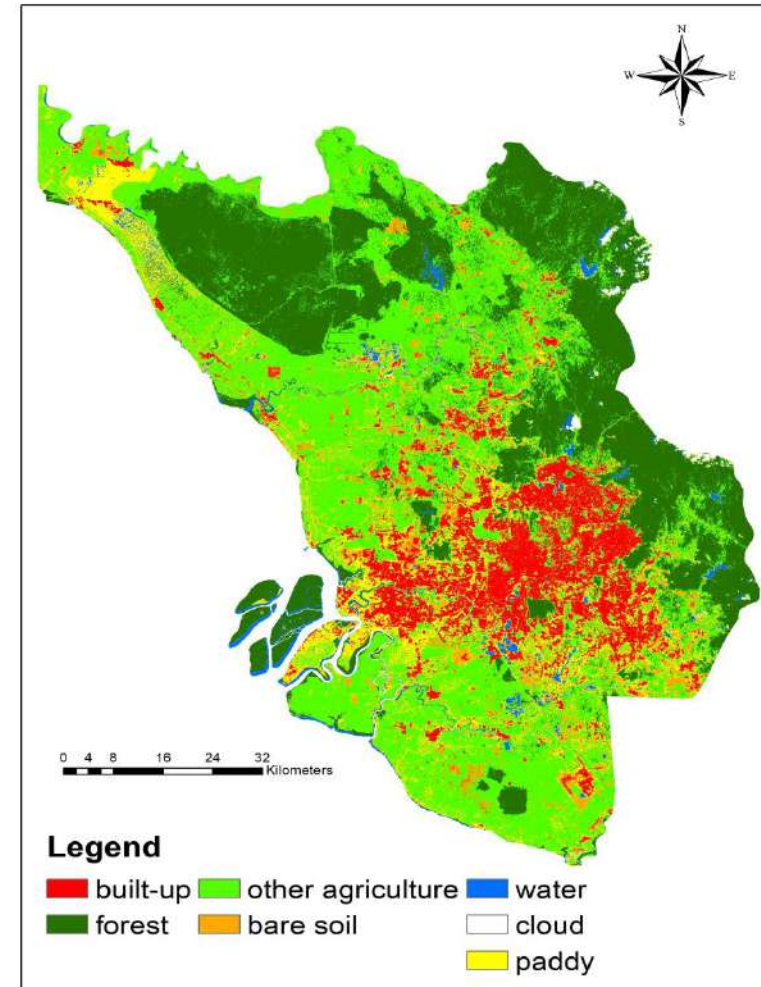
- Accuracy = 90%

Peninsular Malaysia -132,156 square kilometres

Google Earth Engine (GEE) for Selangor



SVM =
93%



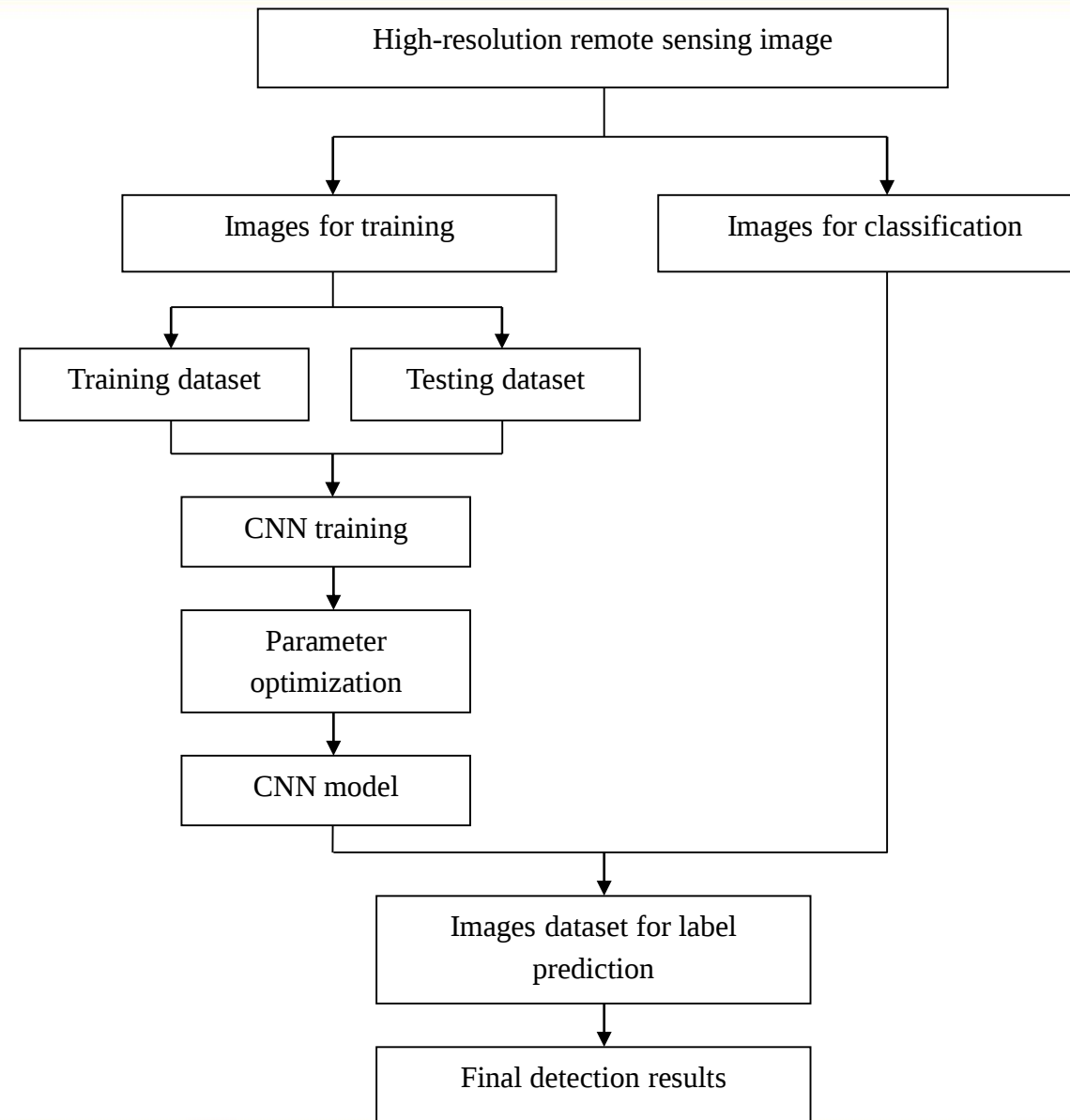
RF =
95%

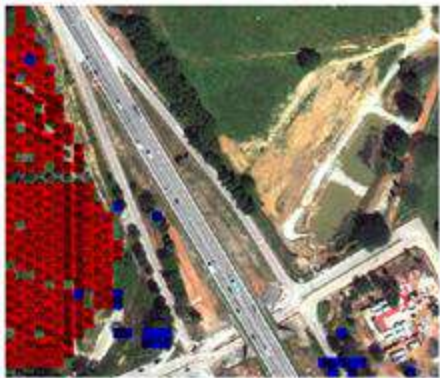
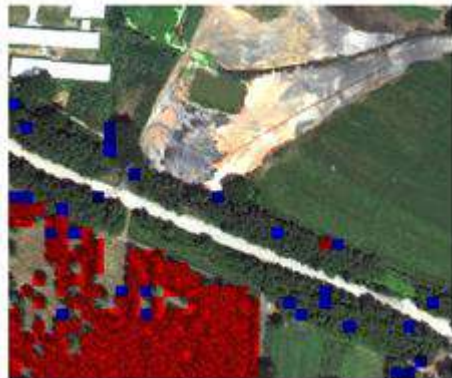
Discussions

- REMAP allows **quick and accurate** way of mapping over wide area.
- GEE allows more control over the **algorithms** and **tuning**.
- Both methods are making large scale mapping more manageable as users are not required to store/download **big data**/perform **complex algorithm** development.

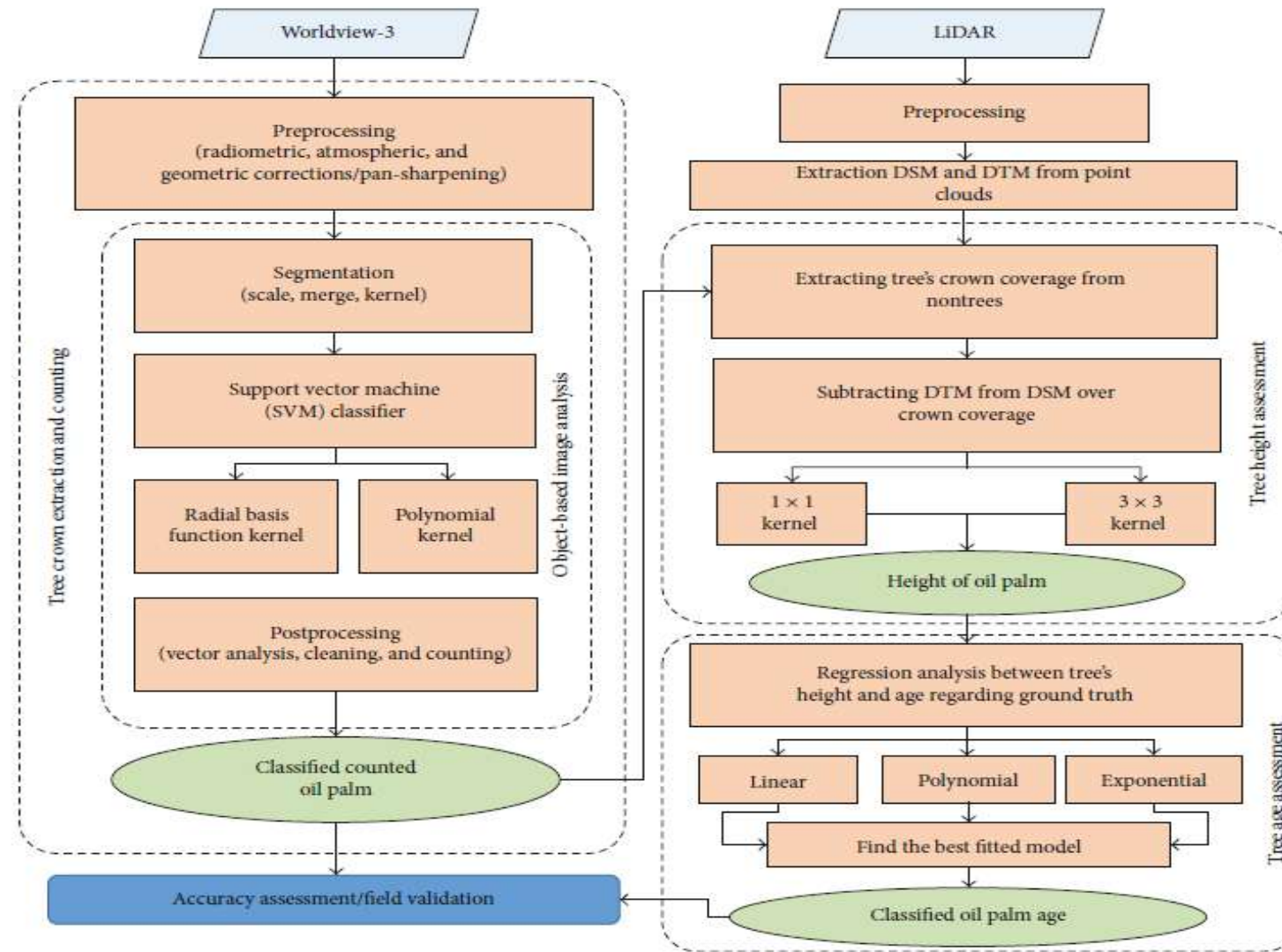
Very High Resolution Satellite Data

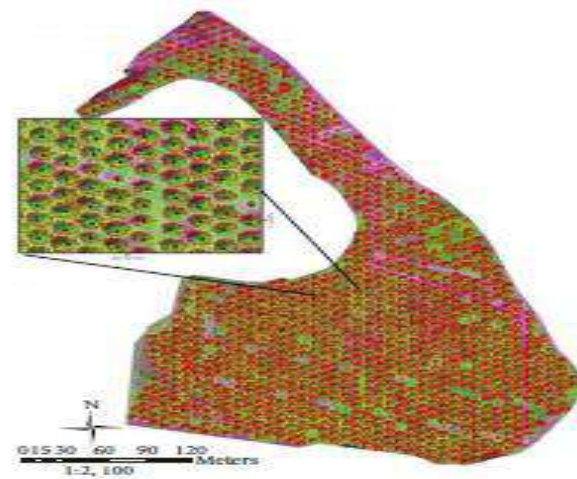
- Tree detection and counting relies on high resolution datasets.
- Deep learning can effectively perform this repetitive task.
- More efficient than the use of Object-based Image Analysis (OBIA) (Guirado et al., 2017) for vegetation crown detection.
- DL-based approach is based on open-source software (Python).



Types of Oil Palm	Classification of Oil Palm Detection and Background	Accuracy (%)
Young		94
Matured		88

Fusion of VHR and LiDAR Data for Counting and Age Estimation

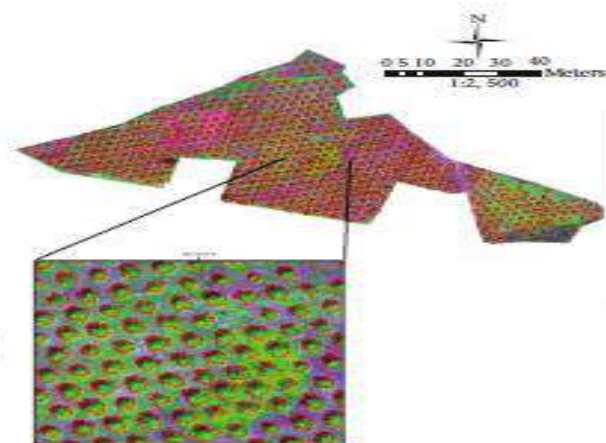




Class name
Oil palm segments

WorldView-3
RGB
Band 2
Band 7
Band 5

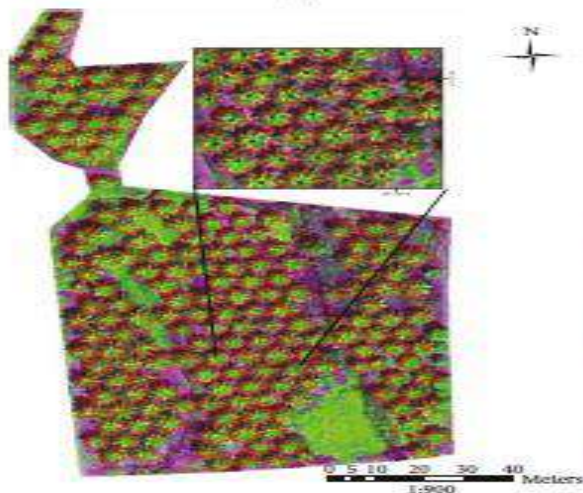
(a)



Class name
Oil palm segments

WorldView-3
RGB
Band 1
Band 8
Band 5

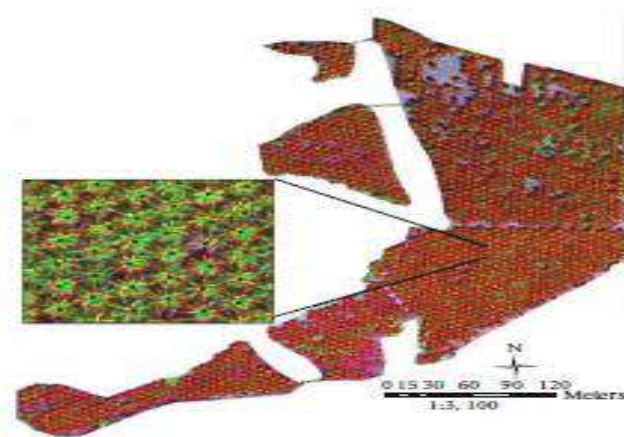
(b)



Class name
Oil palm segments

WorldView-3 RGB
Band 1
Band 7
Band 5

(c)



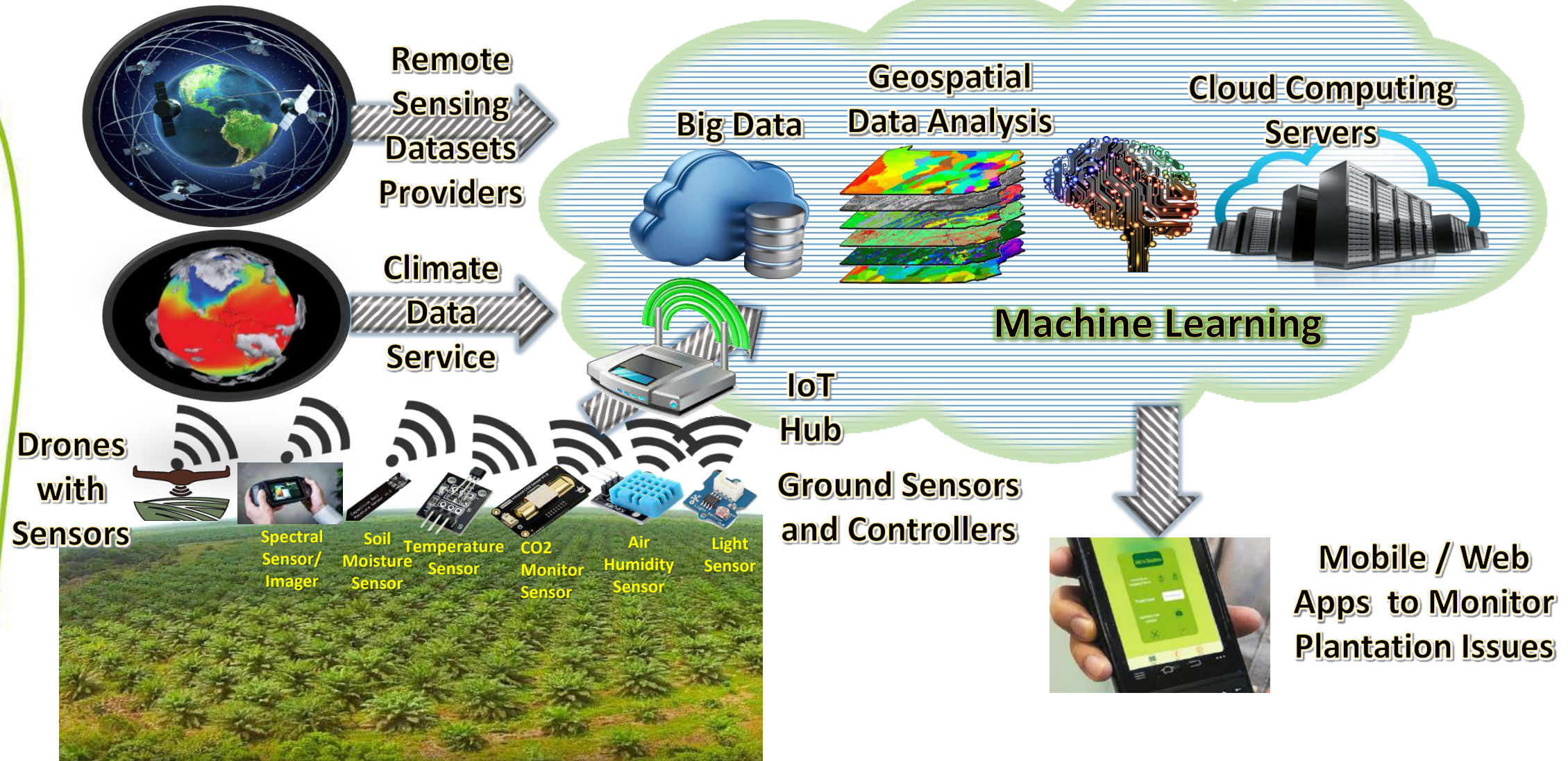
Class name
Oil palm segments

WorldView-3
RGB
Band 1
Band 7
Band 3

(d)

No	Methods of data acquisition	ML algorithms	Summary
1	Field spectroscopy – ASD (Liagath et al, 2014)	KNN, Bayes	High level of discrimination
2	Field spectroscopy – GER (Ahmadi et al 2017)	ANN	High level of discrimination
3	Airborne (Piloted) - on going	SVM, ANN, RF	Most studies applied spectral indices with no comparisons with ML
4	Airborne – RGB UAV (Kalantar et al 2017)	SVM OBIA	Oil palm tree counting
5	Airborne - Multispectral UAV – on going	ANN, SVM combined with NDREi	Good accuracy for diseased oil palm detection
6	Satellite – Quickbird (Santoso et al 2017)	RF, SVM, CART	ML classified healthy vs unhealthy palms better than spectral index but no early detection
7	Satellite - Quickbird (Li et al 2017)	Deep Learning	High accuracy for tree counting
8	Satellite – WorldView-3 (Rizaei et al 2018)	SVM	High accuracy for counting and age estimation
9	Satellite – Landsat (on-going, under review)	REMAP/GEE cloud computing	High accuracy and efficiency for large scale mapping (national)

Proposed Framework for Oil Palm Plantation



FUTURE FARMS

small and smart

SURVEY DRONES

Aerial drones survey the fields, mapping weeds, yield and soil variation. This enables precise application of inputs, mapping spread of pernicious weed blackgrass could increase wheat yields by 2-5%.

FLEET OF AGRIBOTS

A herd of specialised agribots tend to crops, weeding, fertilising and harvesting. Robots capable of microdot application of fertiliser reduce fertiliser cost by 99.9%.

FARMING DATA

The farm generates vast quantities of rich and varied data. This is stored in the cloud. Data can be used as digital evidence reducing time spent completing grant applications or carrying out farm inspections saving on average £5,500 per farm per year.

TEXTING COWS

Sensors attached to livestock allowing monitoring of animal health and wellbeing. They can send texts to alert farmers when a cow goes into labour or develops infection increasing herd survival and increasing milk yields by 10%.

SMART TRACTORS

GPS controlled steering and optimised route planning reduces soil erosion, saving fuel costs by 10%.

Conclusions

- Remote sensing is a useful tool for oil palm plantation management.
- AI and ML have important roles in remote sensing of oil palm plantation management.
- AI + RS formed core components of modern agriculture.
- Applicable at different spatial scales – field, airborne, spaceborne and used to complement each other.
- Input and interpretation from experts in the field produce the best decision making process.

Future work

- AI/ML algorithms are advancing and further testing required in order to increase accuracy, robustness and automation.
- More integration with cloud computing, IoT, new generation platforms and sensors will be interesting to explore.
- Data fusion (optical/radar/lidar etc).

AI Technology to make a crucial impact on Agritech

Deep learning application to identify potential defects and nutrient deficiencies in the soil



AI Sowing App which sends sowing advisories to participating farmers on the optimal date to sow



Machine learning technology enabling farmers to reduce the use of herbicides by spraying only where weeds are present



AI for Precision Farming to develop a crop yield prediction model using AI to provide real time advisory to farmers



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Thank you!!

Muchas Gracias!!