

AI for Sustainable Earth Sciences

Gustau Camps-Valls

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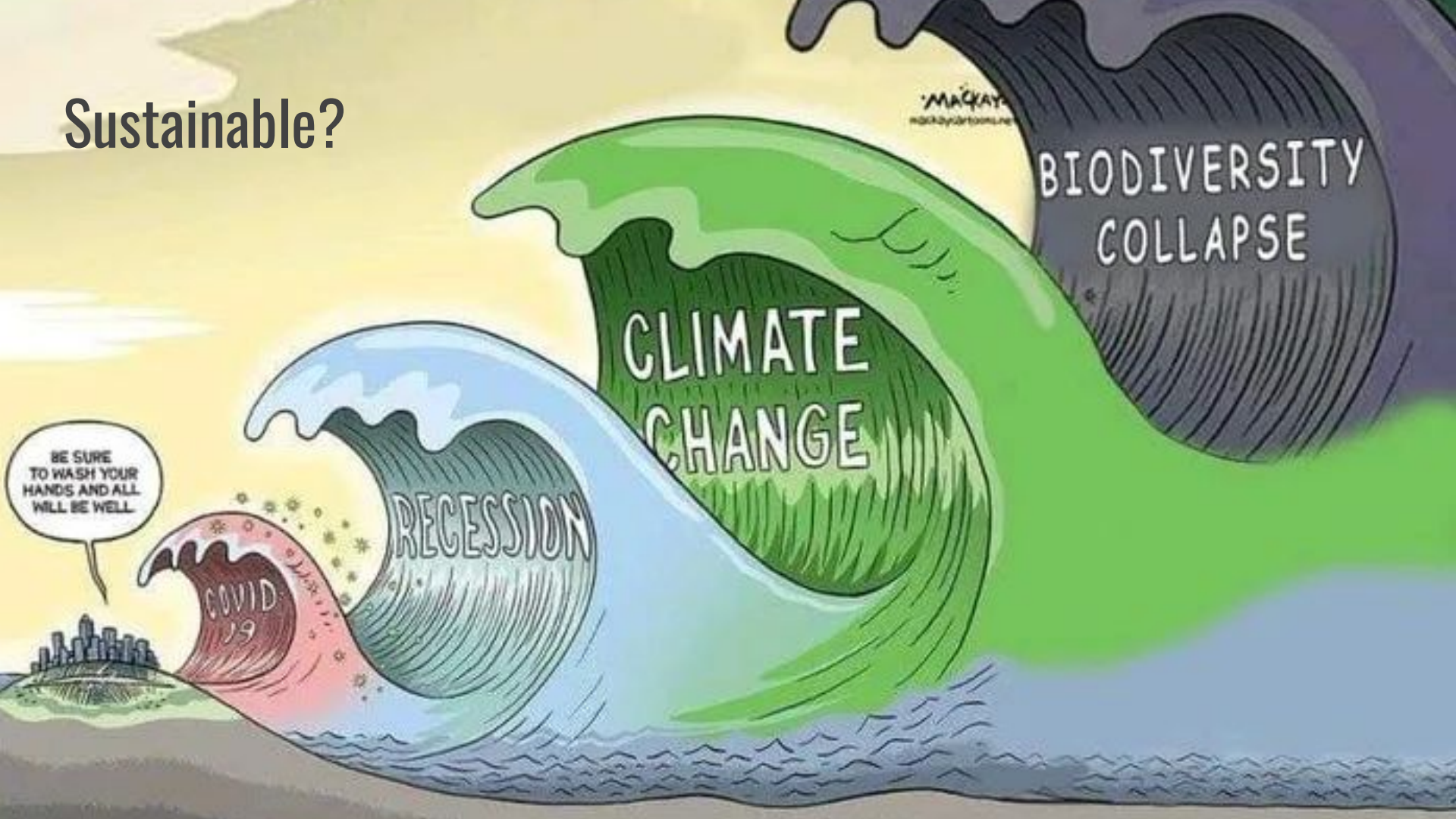


gustau.camps@uv.es

Sustainability ...



Sustainable?





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

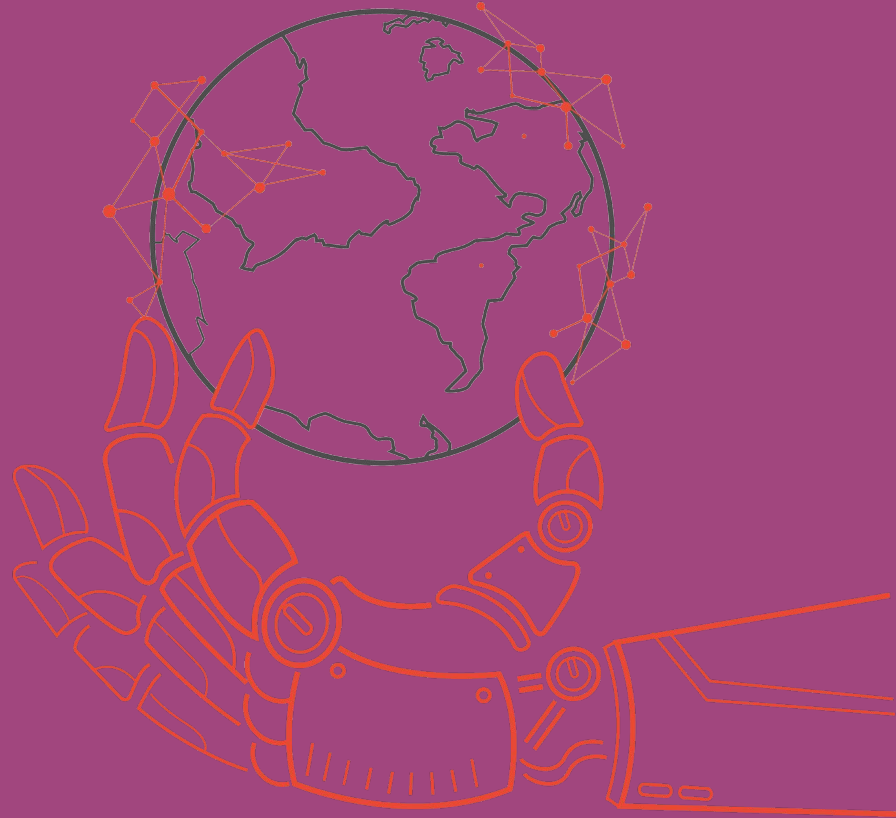
15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



AI for SDGs?



AI can provide ...

- Better **weather prediction**, and better climate projections
- Better **impact assessment** and extreme event detection
- Better **forecasting models on land, agriculture, water bodies and air quality**
- Deeper **understanding** of the relations between humans and the planet
- **Resources allocation & optimization:**
 - power consumption,
 - location of solar panels,
 - quantify emissions for fitted carbon budget

AI for SDGs






PERSPECTIVE

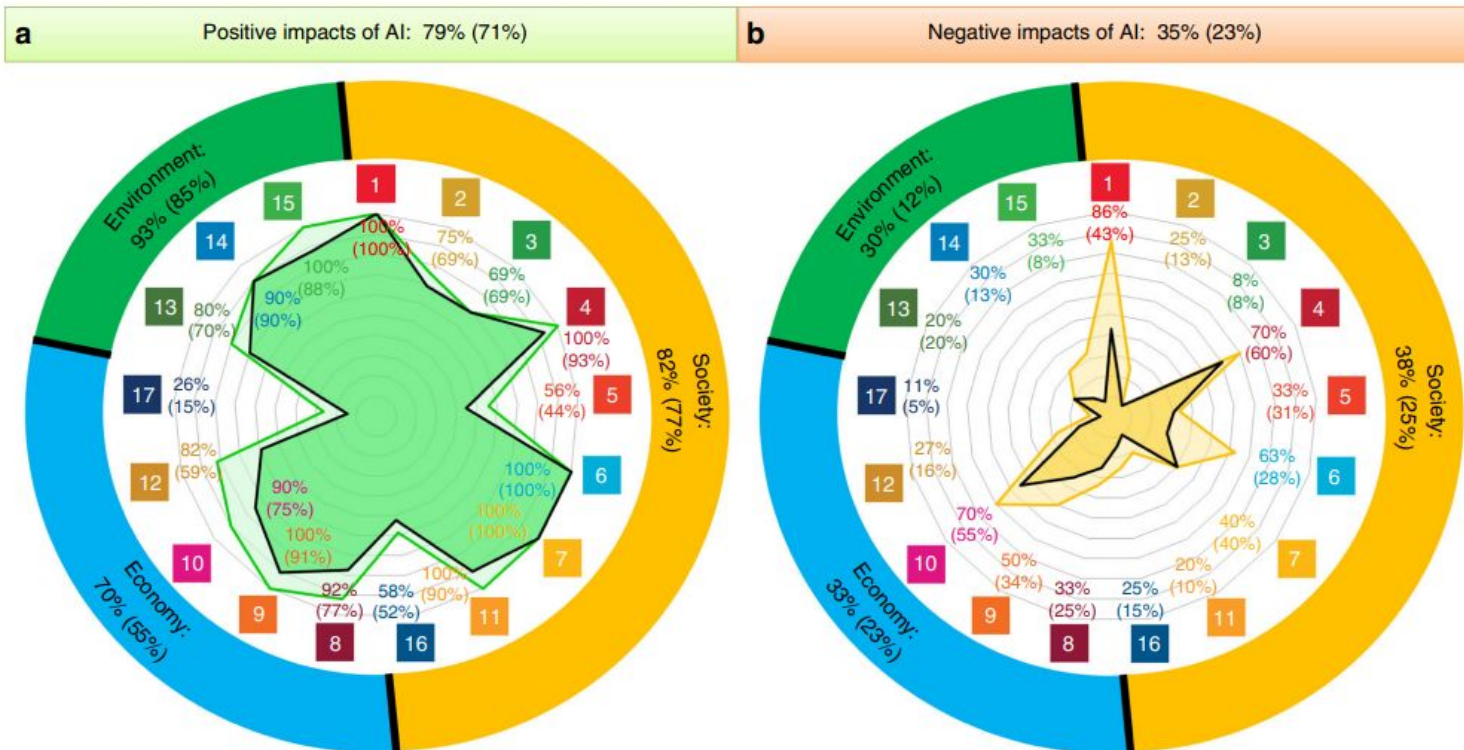
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-14108-y>

OPEN

The role of artificial intelligence in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Ricardo Vinuesa ^{1*}, Hossein Azizpour ², Iolanda Leite², Madeline Balaam³,
Virginia Dignum⁴, Sami Domisch ⁵, Anna Felländer⁶, Simone Daniela Langhans^{7,8},
Max Tegmark⁹ & Francesco Fuso Nerini ^{10*}

AI for SDGs



AI for Good



AI for Good
Neural Network

*AI-powered networking
community platform*

aiforgood.itu.int



10 IN PARTNERS
ITU

Earth science



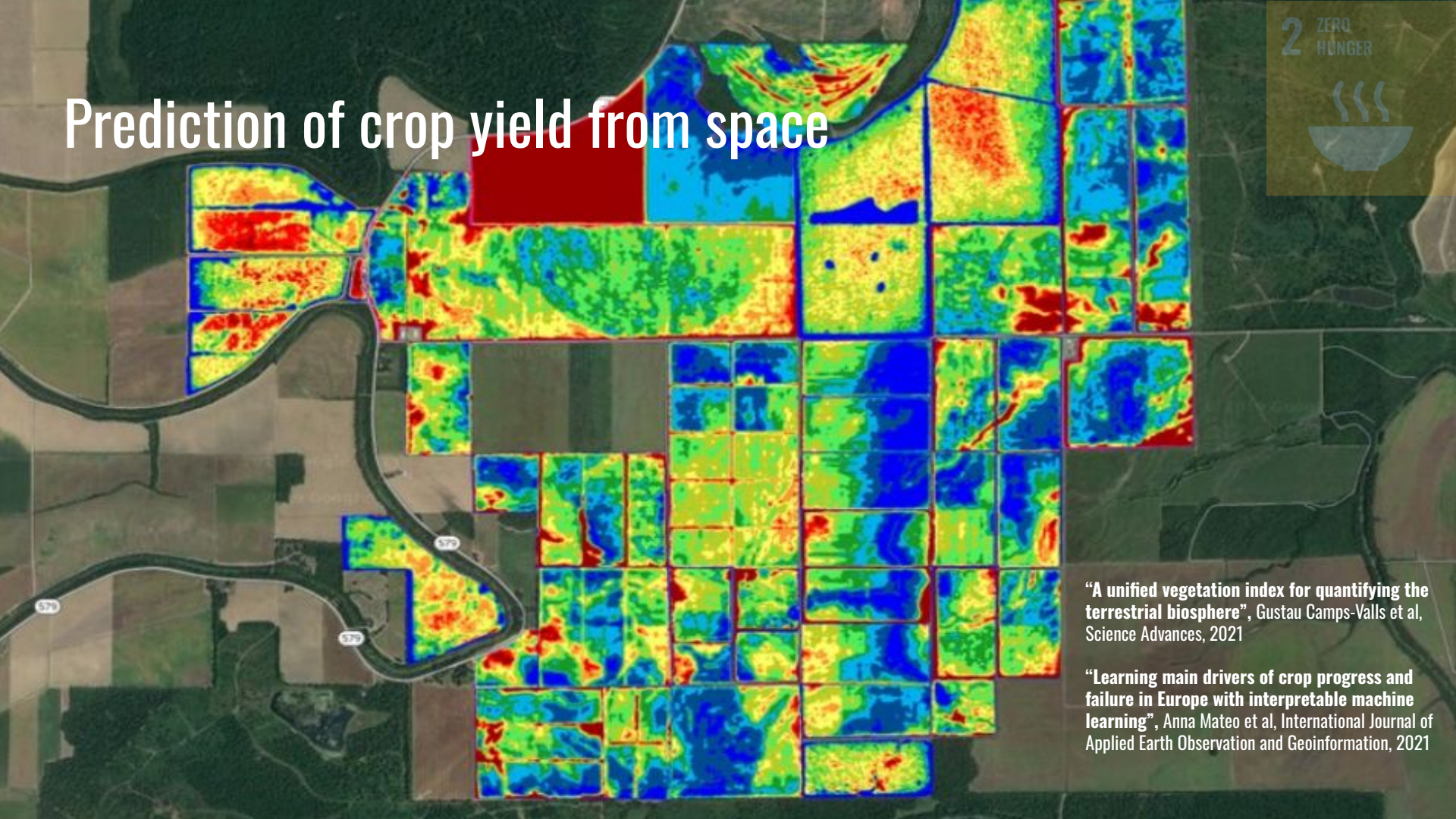
Earth observation





Prediction of crop yield from space

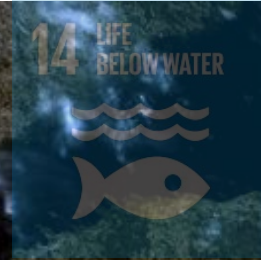
2 ZERO HUNGER



“A unified vegetation index for quantifying the terrestrial biosphere”, Gustau Camps-Valls et al, Science Advances, 2021

“Learning main drivers of crop progress and failure in Europe with interpretable machine learning”, Anna Mateo et al, International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation, 2021

Coastlines, water bodies and oceans?



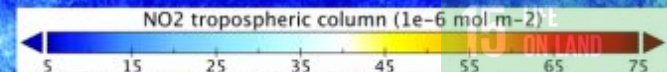
“Learning Relevant Features of Optical Water Types” Blix, K. and Ruescas, A. and Johnson, E. and Camps-Valls, G. IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters, 2022

“Estimation of Oceanic Particulate Organic Carbon with Machine Learning” Sauzède, R and Johnson, J Emmanuel and Claustre, H and Camps-Valls, G and Ruescas, AB. ISPRS Annals of the Photogrammetry, 2 :949–956, 2020

“Predicting regional coastal sea level changes with machine learning”, V Nieves, C. Radin & G. Camps-Valls, Scientific Reports, 2021

TROPOMI NO2 tropospheric column

June 2018



Koninkrijk Nederlands
Meteorologisch Instituut
Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Waterstaat



What about the atmosphere and air quality?

“Transferring deep learning models for cloud detection between Landsat-8 and Proba-V”.
Mateo-García, Gonzalo and Laparra, Valero and López-Puigdollers, Dan and Gómez-Chova, Luis
ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing 160 :1-17, 2020

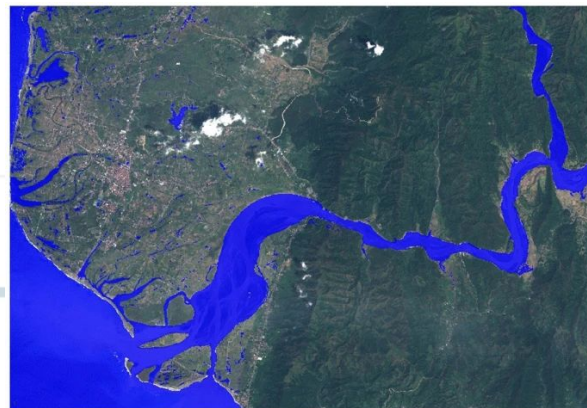
“Mapping methane point emissions with the PRISMA spaceborne imaging spectrometer”.
L. Guanter et al, Remote Sensing of Environment, 2021

Towards global flood mapping onboard low cost satellites with machine learning

[Gonzalo Mateo-Garcia](#) , [Joshua Veitch-Michaelis](#), [Lewis Smith](#), [Silviu Vlad Oprea](#), [Guy Schumann](#), [Yarin Gal](#), [Atılım Güneş Baydin](#) & [Dietmar Backes](#)

[Scientific Reports](#) **11**, Article number: 7249 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

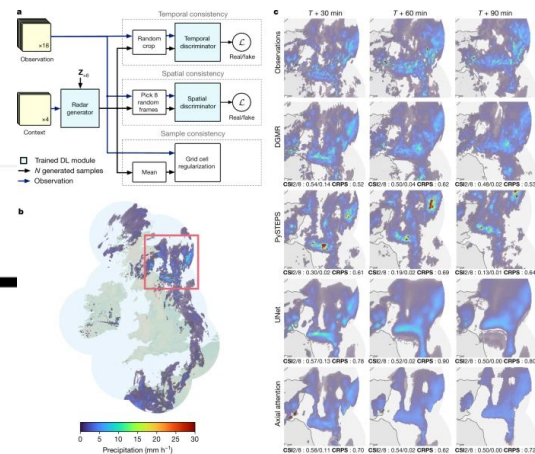
13k Accesses | **31** Citations | **97** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



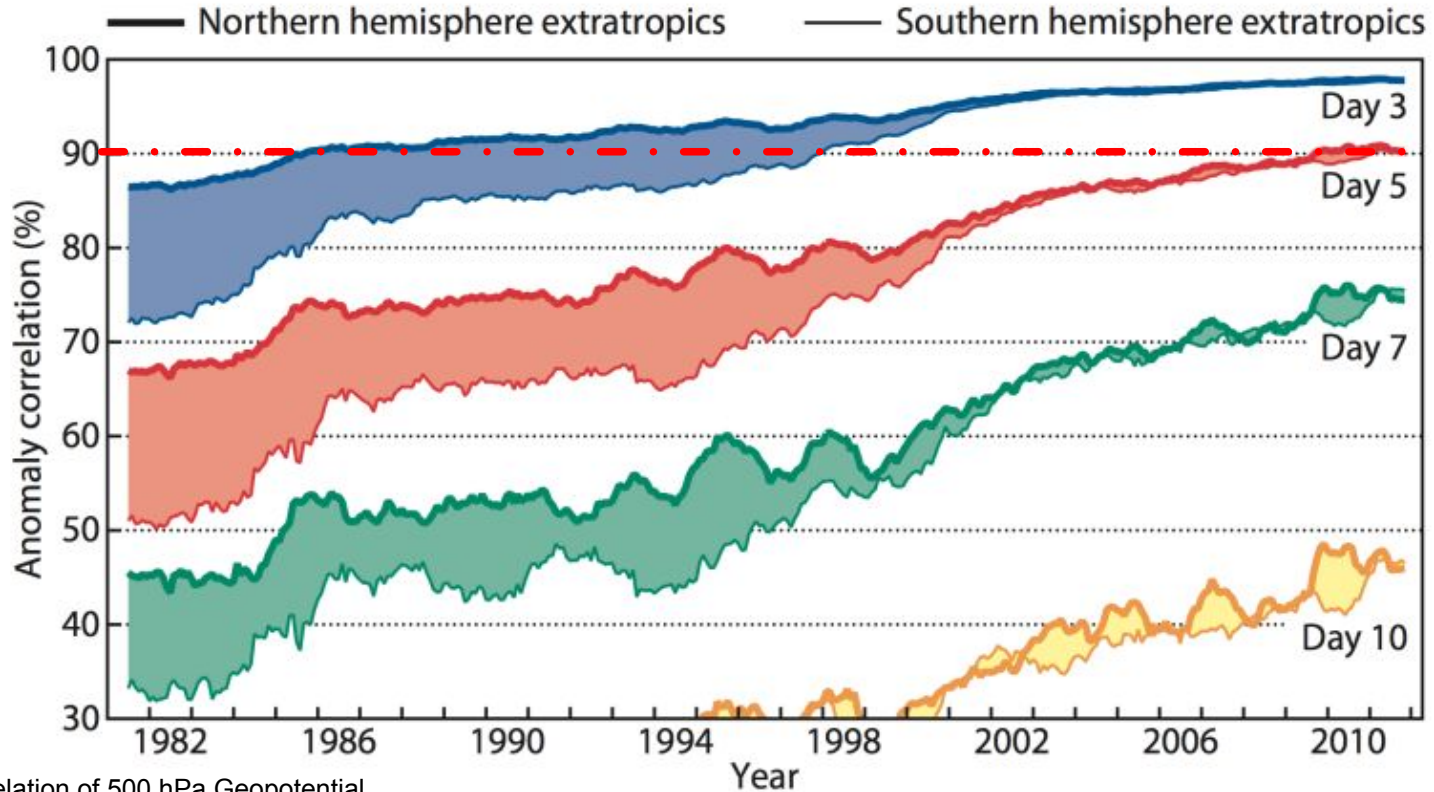
Skilful precipitation nowcasting using deep generative models of radar

[Suman Ravuri](#), [Karel Lenc](#), [Matthew Willson](#), [Dmitry Kangin](#), [Remi Lam](#), [Piotr Mirowski](#), [Megan Fitzsimons](#),
[Maria Athanassiadou](#), [Sheleem Kashem](#), [Sam Madge](#), [Rachel Prudden](#), [Amol Mandhane](#), [Aidan Clark](#),
[Andrew Brock](#), [Karen Simonyan](#), [Raia Hadsell](#), [Niall Robinson](#), [Ellen Clancy](#), [Alberto Arribas](#) & [Shakir Mohamed](#) ✉

[Nature](#) **597**, 672–677 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)



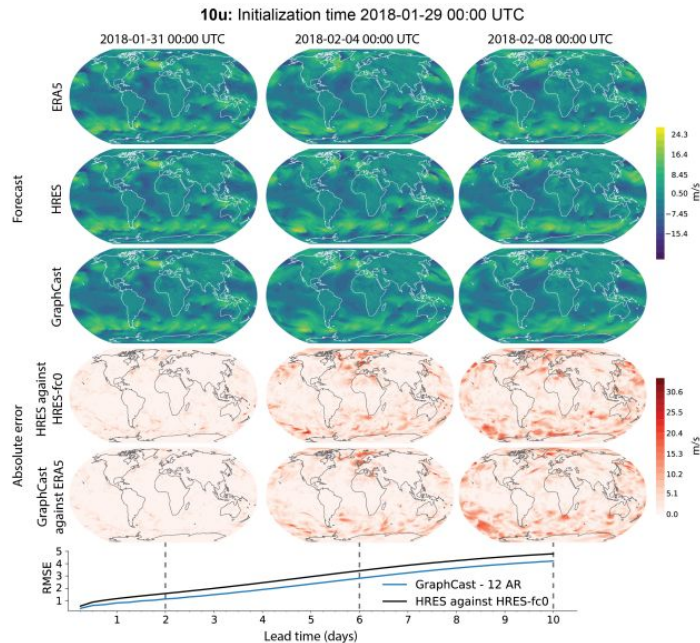
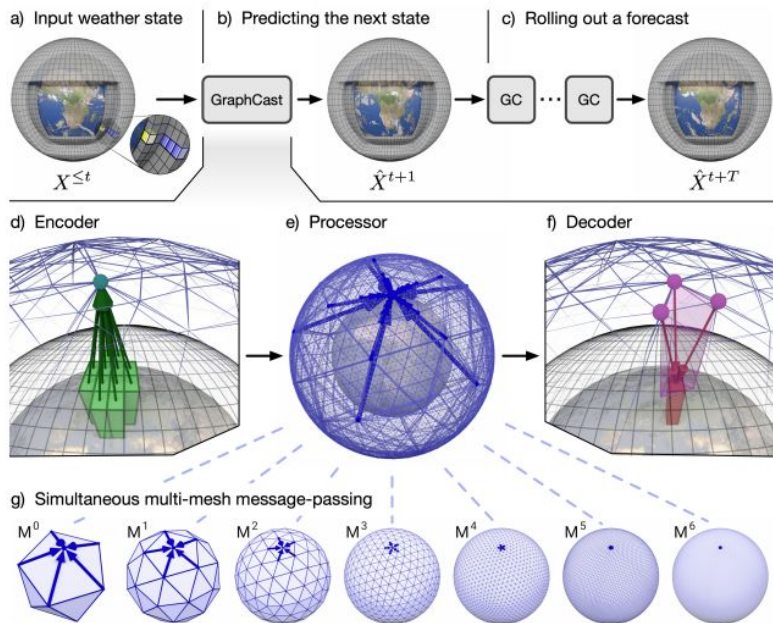
Better forecasts...

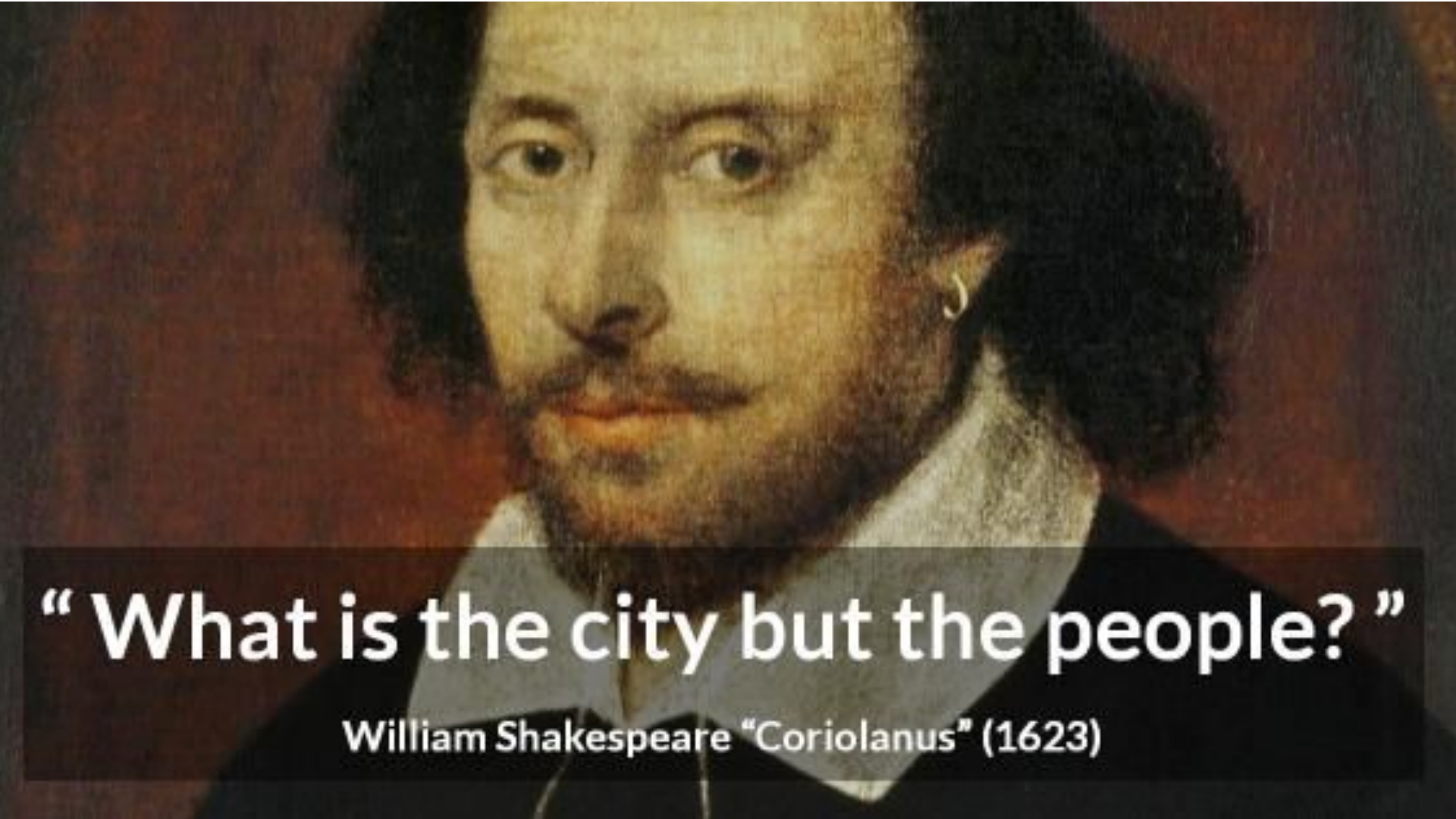


GraphCast: Learning skillful medium-range global weather forecasting

Remi Lam^{*,1}, Alvaro Sanchez-Gonzalez^{*,1}, Matthew Willson^{*,1}, Peter Wirnsberger^{*,1}, Meire Fortunato^{*,1}, Alexander Pritzel^{*,1}, Suman Ravuri¹, Timo Ewalds¹, Ferran Alet¹, Zach Eaton-Rosen¹, Weihua Hu¹, Alexander Merose², Stephan Hoyer², George Holland¹, Jacklynn Stott¹, Oriol Vinyals¹, Shakir Mohamed¹ and Peter Battaglia¹

^{*}equal contribution, ¹DeepMind, ²Google

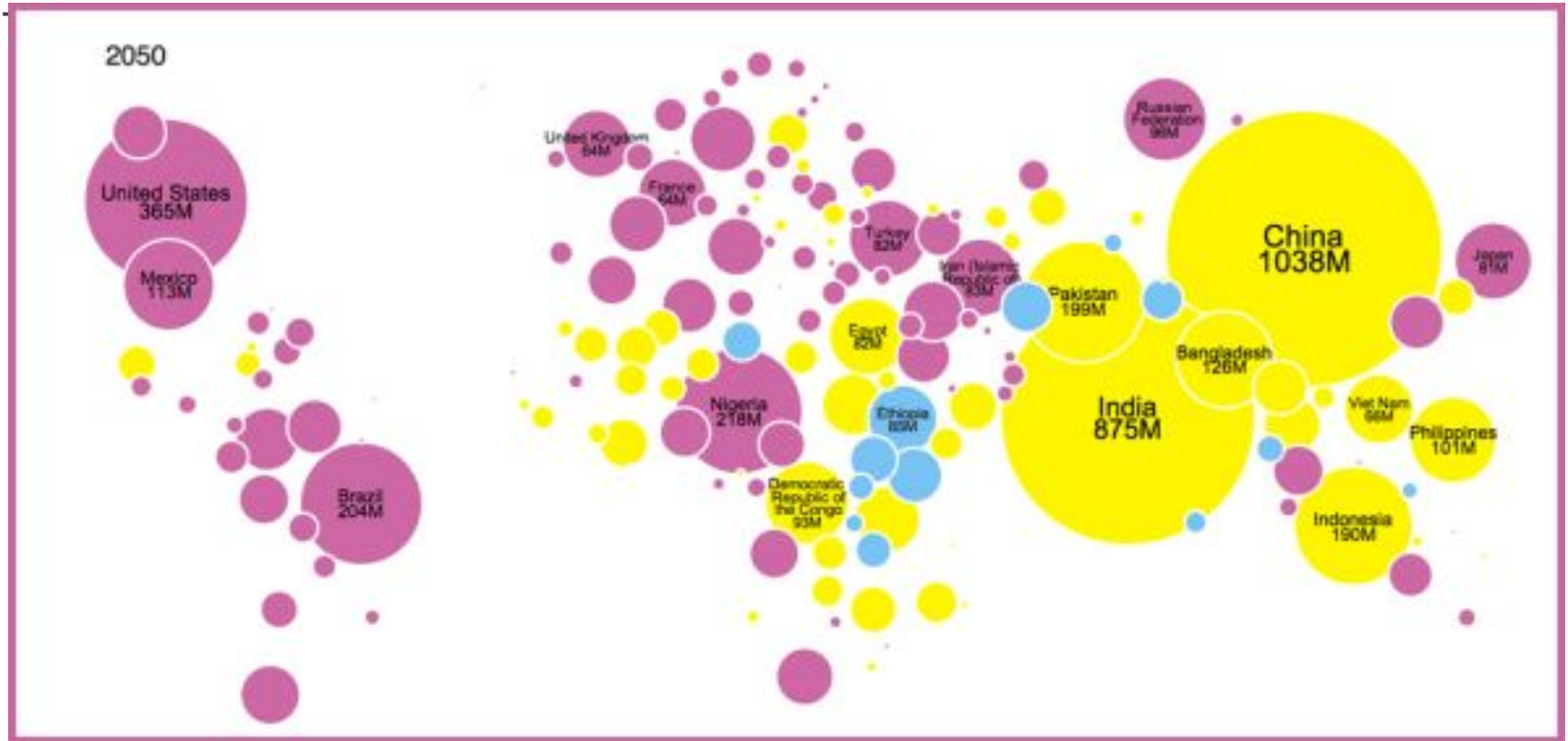




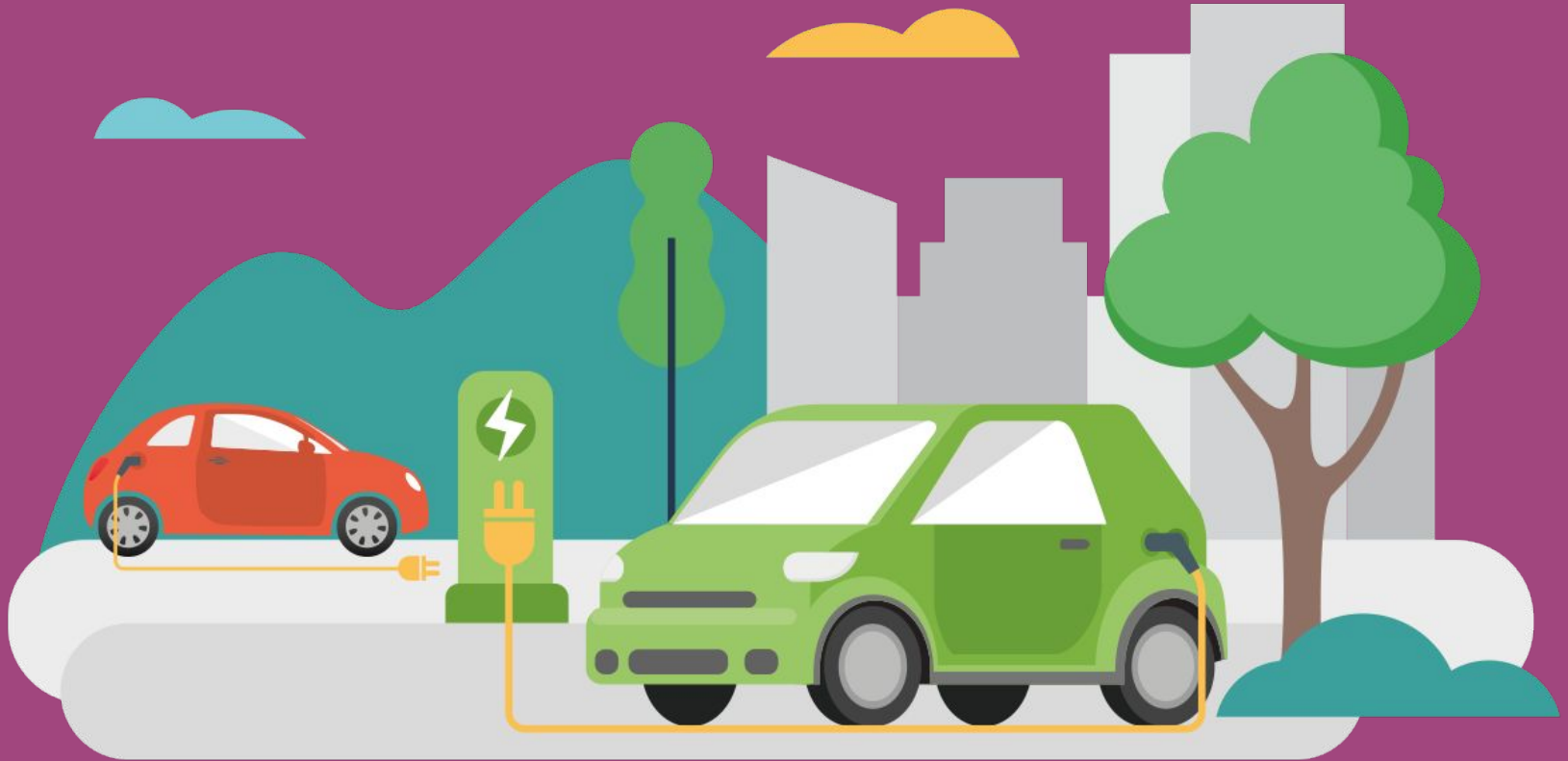
“What is the city but the people?”

William Shakespeare “Coriolanus” (1623)

By 2050, 70% Of The World's Population Will Be Urban



DL for the city - climate change mitigation & adaptation



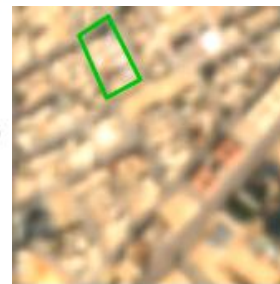
DL for **urban sustainability**

- DL may catalyze food, health, water & energy services to the population
- DL+EO unique to monitor cities with high spatial and temporal resolution
- DL exploits data to accurately estimate key SDG urban indicators: air quality, energy fluxes, urbanization, poverty, ...



Multi-spectral multi-image super-resolution of Sentinel-2 with radiometric consistency losses and its effect on building delineation

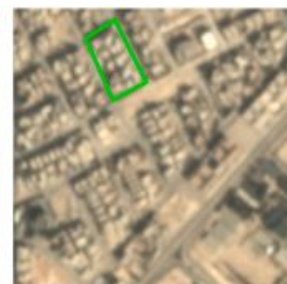
Muhammed T. Razzak^a  , Gonzalo Mateo-García^b , Gurban Lecuyer^c ,
Luis Gómez-Chova^b , Yarin Gal^a , Freddie Kalaitzis^a  



(a) Low-res (S-2, 10m)



(b) Super-res (4.7m)



(c) High-res (Planet, 4.7m)



DL for climate change mitigation



Research Paper

Roofpedia: Automatic mapping of green and solar roofs for an open roofscape registry and evaluation of urban sustainability

Abraham Noah Wu^{a,1}, Filip Biljecki^{a,b,*},²

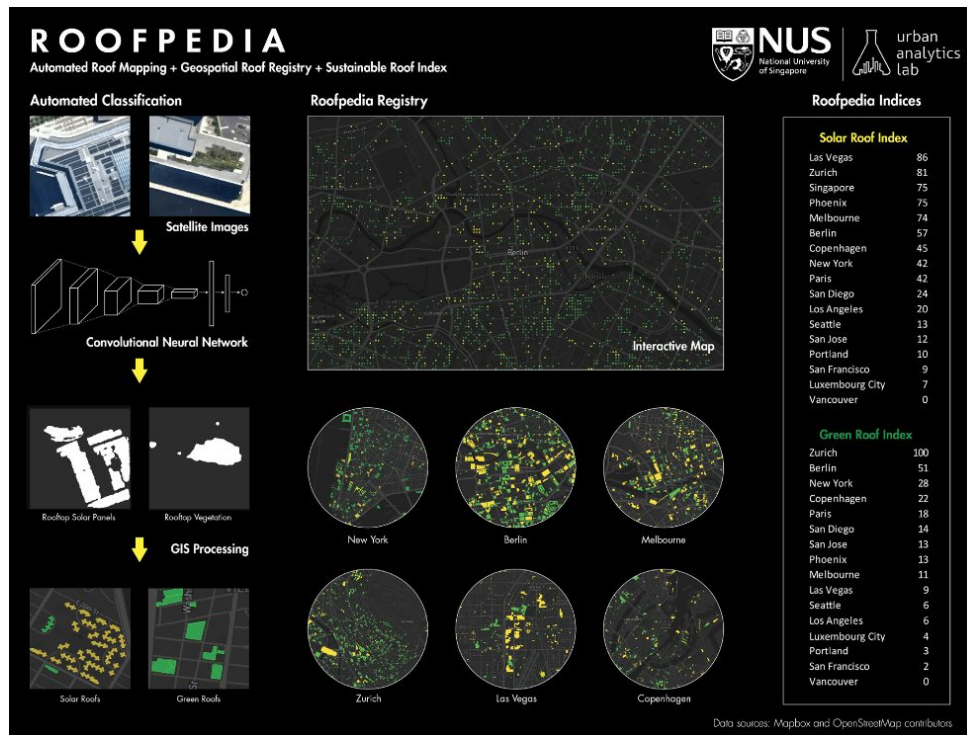
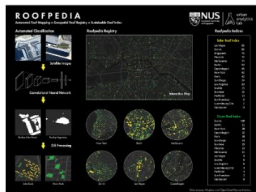
^a Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore, Singapore

^b Department of Real Estate, National University of Singapore, Singapore

HIGHLIGHTS

- There is a lack of open data on urban rooftop typology and current use of roofs.
- A deep learning and GIS workflow to map and quantify green and solar roofs.
- A generated dataset that covers 17 cities, scalable to include more locations.
- An index to benchmark the proliferation of green and solar roofs in cities.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



"Roofpedia: Automatic mapping of green and solar roofs for an open roofscape registry and evaluation of urban sustainability."
Wu, Abraham Noah, and Filip Biljecki. Landscape and Urban Planning 214 (2021): 104167.

DL for climate change mitigation

Truck Traffic Monitoring with Satellite Images

Lynn H. Kaack^{1, 2}, George H. Chen³, and M. Granger Morgan¹

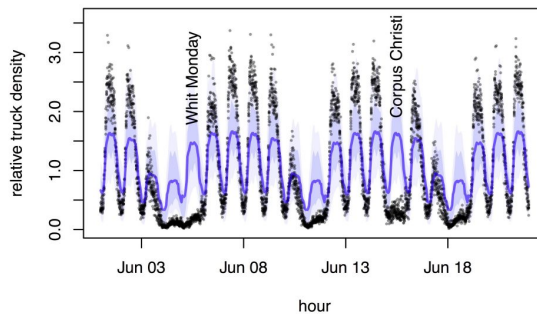
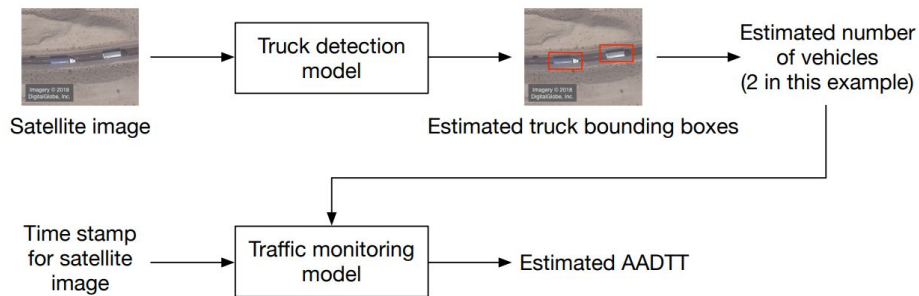
¹Department of Engineering and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University

²Energy Politics Group, ETH Zürich

³Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University

Abstract

The road freight sector is responsible for a large and growing share of greenhouse gas emissions, but reliable data on the amount of freight that is moved on roads in many parts of the world are scarce. Many low- and middle-income countries have limited ground-based traffic monitoring and freight surveying activities. In this proof of concept, we show that we can use an object detection network to count trucks in satellite images and predict average annual daily truck traffic from those counts. We describe a complete model, test the uncertainty of the estimation, and discuss the transfer to developing countries.



"Truck traffic monitoring with satellite images." Kaack, Lynn H., George H. Chen, and M. Granger Morgan. Proceedings of the 2nd ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies. 2019.

DL for climate change adaptation

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY A

MATHEMATICAL, PHYSICAL AND ENGINEERING SCIENCES

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Opinion piece

Can deep learning beat numerical weather prediction?

M. G. Schultz, C. Betancourt, B. Gong, F. Kleinert, M. Langouth, J. H. Laufen, A. Mozaffari and S. Stadler

1520

Published: 15 February 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsta.2020.0301>

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Article | Open Access | Published: 31 March 2021

Towards global flood mapping onboard low cost satellites with machine learning

Gonzalo Mateo-Garcia, Joshua Veitch-Michaels, Lewis Smith, Silviu Vlad Oprea, Guy Schumann, Yarin Gal, Atılım Güneş Baydin & Dietmar Backes

Scientific Reports 11, Article number: 7249 (2021) | Cite this article

3105 Accesses | 66 Altmetric | Metrics

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON GEOSCIENCE AND REMOTE SENSING, VOL. 45, NO. 6, JUNE 2007

Satellite Image Analysis for Disaster and Crisis-Management Support

Stefan Voigt, Thomas Kemper, Torsten Riedlinger, Ralph Kiefl, Klaas Scholte, and Harald Mehl

Abstract—This paper describes how multisource satellite data and efficient image analysis may successfully be used to conduct rapid-mapping tasks in the domain of disaster and crisis-management support. The German Aerospace Center (DLR) has set up a dedicated crosscutting service, which is the so-called

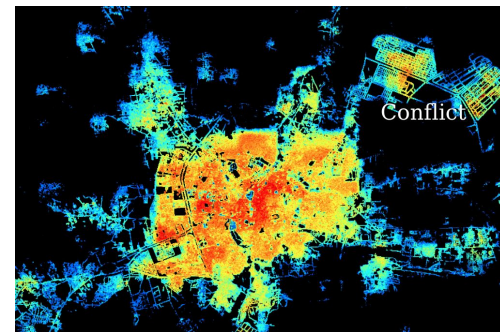
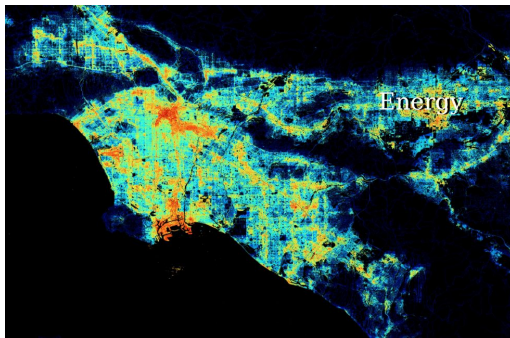
event has improved substantially. There are several factors which have lead to this fact. First of all, ground pixel spacing of civil Earth-observation systems has developed to the meter domain for optical and radar systems and to the decameter

g valuable
nall, nano

Behavior, wealth and health



DL for wealth, energy & activity analysis



NASA's black marble – <https://blackmarble.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Poverty Prediction with Public Landsat 7 Satellite Imagery and Machine Learning

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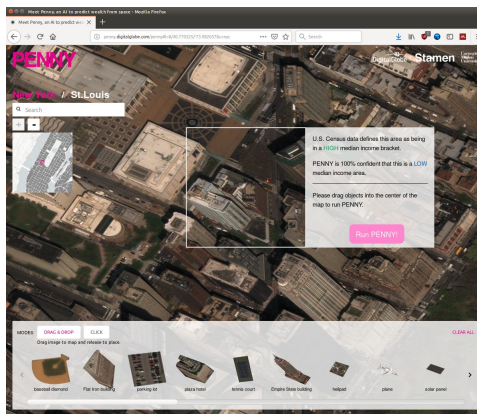
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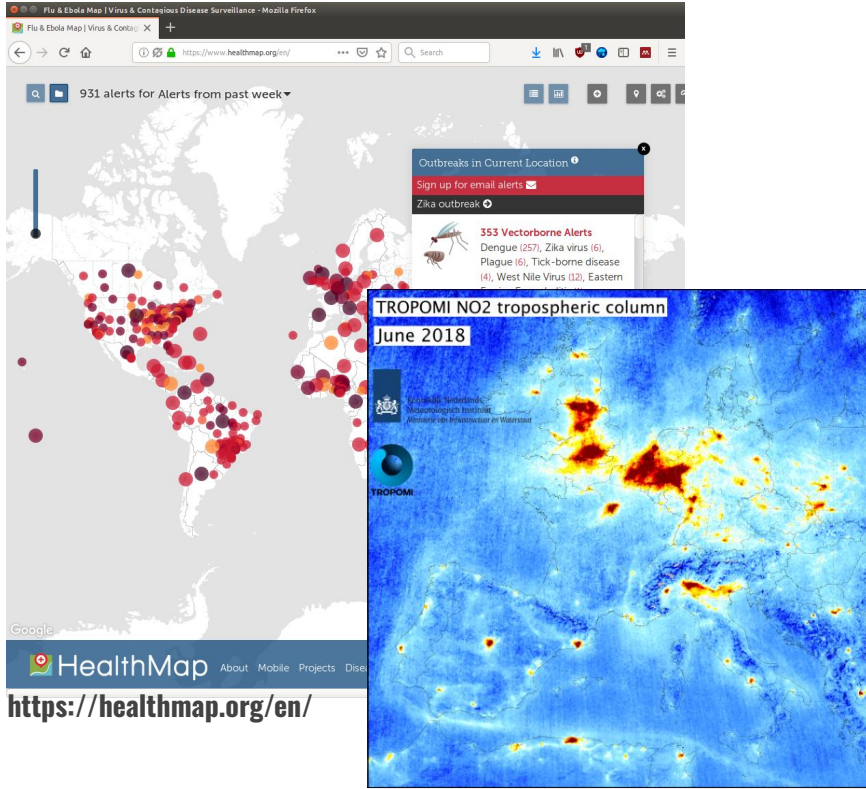
Model	Mean Train r^2	Mean Test r^2	Aggregate Residual r^2
Nightlights / GBT	0.63	0.66	1.0
VGG-F, RGB / ridge	0.71	0.64	0.69
VGG-F, 9 Band / ridge	0.68	0.63	0.70
ResNet-18, 9 Band / ridge	0.69	0.64	0.73
ResNet-34, 9 Band / ridge	0.70	0.65	0.74
Jean et al. [8]	0.53	0.54	0.76



Global wealth map
<http://penny.digitalglobe.com>

"Poverty prediction with public Landsat 7 satellite imagery and machine learning." Perez, Anthony, et al. arXiv:1711.03654 (2017).

DL for health analysis



Flu & Ebola Map | Virus & Contagious Disease Surveillance - Mozilla Firefox

Flu & Ebola Map | Virus & Contagious Disease Surveillance - Mozilla Firefox

931 alerts for Alerts from past week

Outbreaks in Current Location

Sign up for email alerts

Zika outbreak

353 Vectorborne Alerts

Dengue (257), Zika virus (6), Plague (6), Tick-borne disease (4), West Nile Virus (12), Eastern

TROPOMI NO₂ tropospheric column

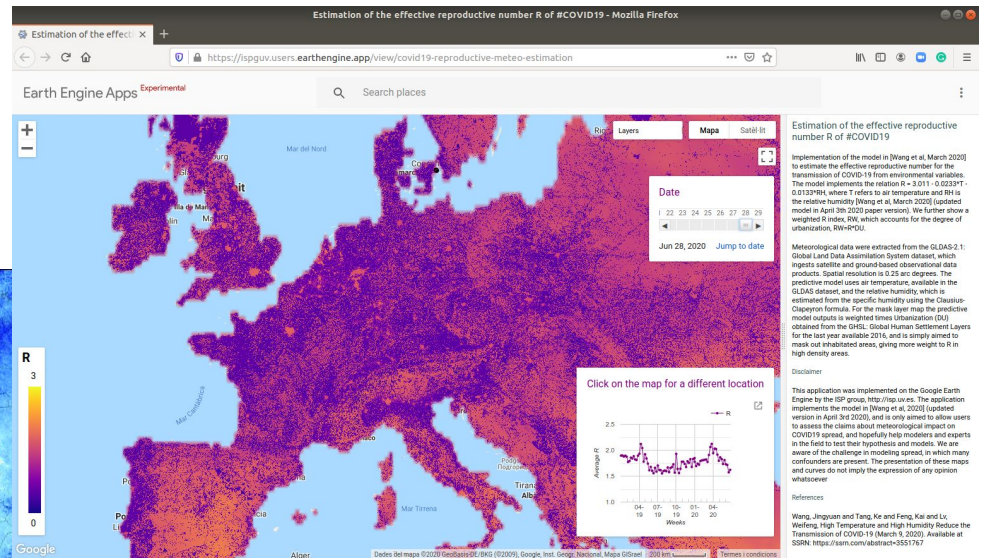
June 2018

Google Earth Engine

HealthMap About Mobile Projects Dis

<https://healthmap.org/en/>

<https://ispguv.users.earthengine.app/view/covid19-reproductive-meteo-estimation>



Estimation of the effective reproductive number R of #COVID19 - Mozilla Firefox

Estimation of the effective reproductive number R of #COVID19 - Mozilla Firefox

Earth Engine Apps Experimental

Search places

Layers Mapa Satélit

Date

Jun 28, 2020 Jump to date

Estimation of the effective reproductive number R of #COVID19

Implementation of the model in [Wang et al, March 2020] to estimate the effective reproductive number for the transmission of COVID-19 from environmental variables. The model implements the relation $R = 2.011 - 0.02337T - 0.0133RH$, where T refers to air temperature and RH is the relative humidity [Wang et al, March 2020] (updated model in April 3th 2020 paper version). We further show a weighted R index, RW, which accounts for the degree of urbanization, RW-RU.

Meteorological data were extracted from the GLDAS-2.1: Global Land Data Assimilation System dataset, which ingests satellite and ground-based observational data products. Spatial resolution is 0.25 arc degrees. The predictive model uses air temperature, available in the GLDAS dataset, and the relative humidity, which is estimated from the specific humidity using the Clausius-Clapeyron formula. For the mask layer map, the predictive model outputs is weighted times Urbanization (UX) obtained from the GHSL, Global Human Settlement Layers for the last year available 2016, and is simply aimed to mask out uninhabited areas, giving more weight to R in high density areas.

Disclaimer

This application was implemented on the Google Earth Engine by the ISPG group. <http://ispg.uv.es>. The application implements the model in Wang et al, 2020 (updated version in April 3th 2020), and is only aimed to allow users to assess the claim about meteorological impact on COVID19 spread, and hopefully help modelers and experts in the field to test their hypothesis and models. We are aware of the challenge in modeling spread, in which many confounders are present. The presentation of these maps and curves do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever.

References

Wang, Jingxuan and Tang, Ke and Feng, Kai and Li, Weileng. High Temperature and High Humidity Reduce the Transmission of COVID-19 (March 9, 2020). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3551767>

AI ... problem solved?



AI promises to transform scientific discovery ...



Deep learning challenges

- Do Models respect Physics Laws?
- What did the ML model learn?
- Do they get cause-effect relations?

The End of Science

The quest for knowledge used to begin with grand theories. Now it begins with massive amounts of data. Welcome to the Petabyte Age.



The New York Times

Opinion

OP-ED CONTRIBUTORS

Eight (No, Nine!) Problems With Big Data

By Gary Marcus and Ernest Davis

nature

International weekly journal of science

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NATURE | NEWS FEATURE

Can we open the black box of AI?

Artificial intelligence is everywhere. But before scientists trust it, they first need to understand how machines learn.

[Davide Castelvecchi](#)

Deep learning challenges

- Do Models respect Physics Laws? **Physics-aware ML**
- What did the ML model learn? **Explainable AI**
- Do they get cause-effect relations? **Causal inference**



The New York Times

Opinion

OP-ED CONTRIBUTORS

Eight (No, Nine!) Problems With Big Data

By Gary Marcus and Ernest Davis

nature

International weekly journal of science

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NATURE | NEWS FEATURE

Can we open the black box of AI?

Artificial intelligence is everywhere. But before scientists trust it, they first need to understand how machines learn.

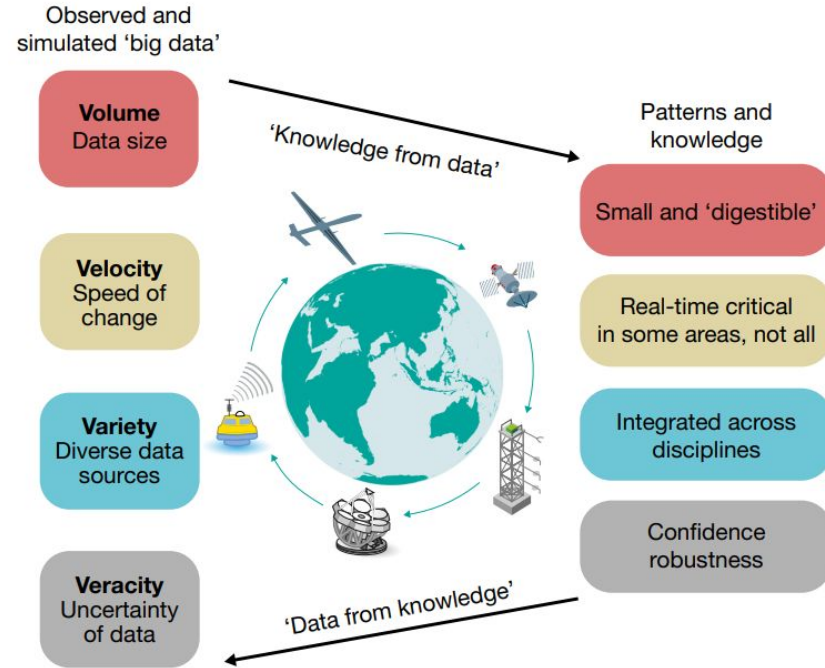
[Davide Castelvecchi](#)

Machine learning

$$F(X) = y$$

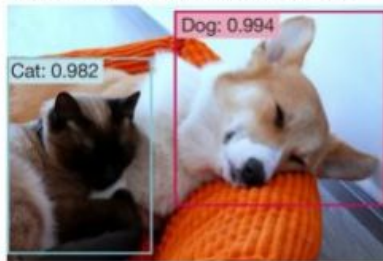
Why does machine learning work?

- Regression, classification, clustering, ...
- Deals well with heterogeneous spatio-temporal multidim. big data
- Can incorporate inductive priors by new losses & architectures
- Now a democratized commodity tool

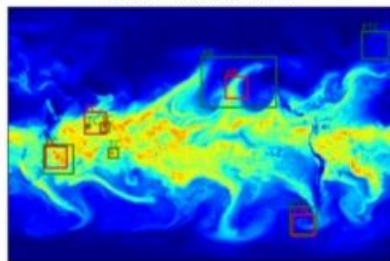


And don't forget analogies!

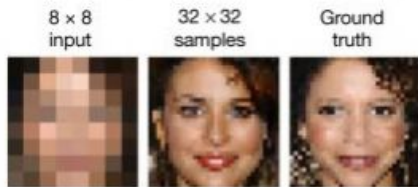
a Object classification and localization



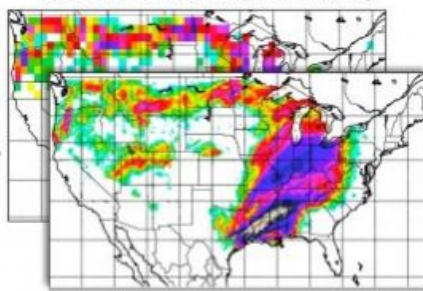
Pattern classification



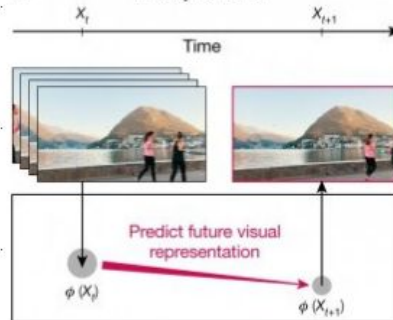
b Super-resolution and fusion



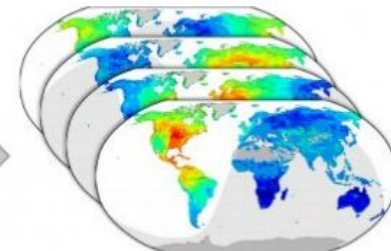
Statistical downscaling and blending



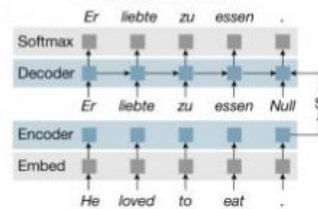
c Video prediction



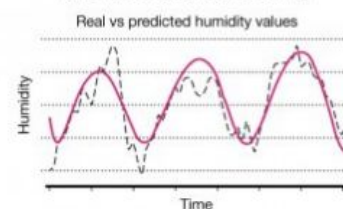
Short-term forecasting



d Language translation



Dynamic time series modelling



Reichstein, Camps-Valls et al, Nature, 2019

Camps-Valls, Tuia, Xiang, Reichstein. Wiley & Sons book, 2021

Machine learning for the Earth sciences

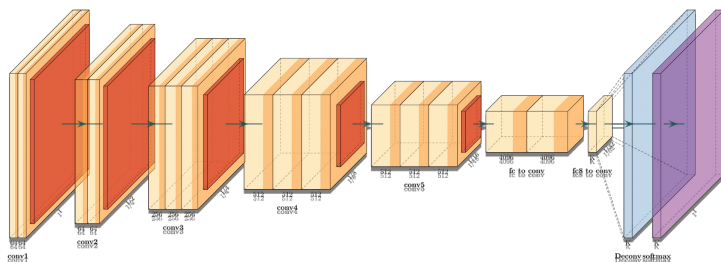
PERSPECTIVE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-0912-1>

Deep learning and process understanding for data-driven Earth system science

Markus Reichstein^{1,2*}, Gustau Camps-Valls³, Bjorn Stevens⁴, Martin Jung¹, Joachim Denzler^{3,5}, Nuno Carvalhais^{1,6} & Prabhat⁷

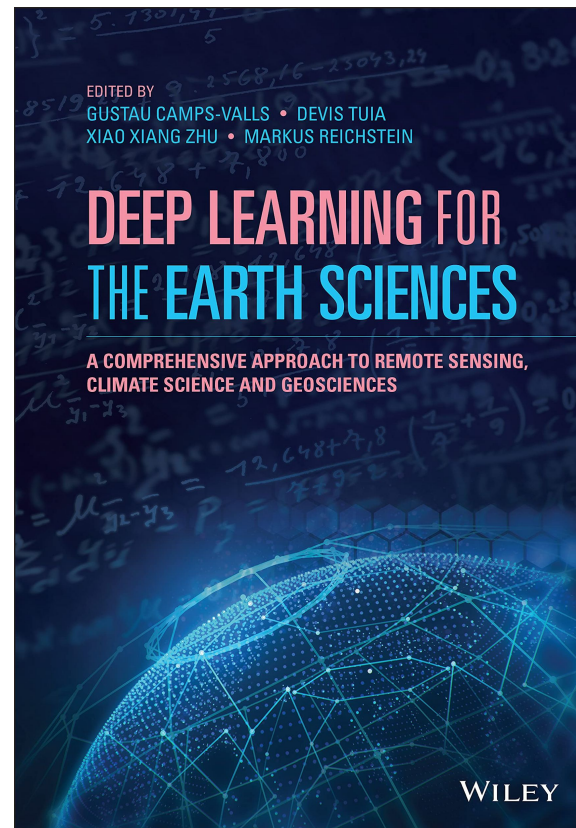
Machine learning approaches are increasingly used to extract patterns and insights from the ever-increasing stream of geospatial data, but current approaches may not be optimal when system behaviour is dominated by spatial or temporal context. Here, rather than amending classical machine learning, we argue that these contextual cues should be used as part of deep learning (an approach that is able to extract spatio-temporal features automatically) to gain further process understanding of Earth system science problems, improving the predictive ability of seasonal forecasting and modelling of long-range spatial connections across multiple timescales, for example. The next step will be a hybrid modelling approach, coupling physical process models with the versatility of data-driven machine learning.



Reichstein, Camps-Valls et al, Nature, 2019

Camps-Valls & Bruzzone. Wiley & Sons book, 2012

Camps-Valls, Tuia, Xiang, Reichstein. Wiley & Sons book, 2021



ML needs domain knowledge

$$F\left(X, \begin{array}{l} u = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} y^2 + Ay + B \\ w = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} y^2 + Cy + D \end{array} \right) = y$$

* physics-aware ML, aka physics-guided, physics-informed, physics-constrained, science-guided, ...

Living in the **ML-Physics interplay**

A **Data-model blending**
Joint Gaussian processes
Distribution regression

B **Surrogate modeling**
Gaussian processes
Bayesian optimization

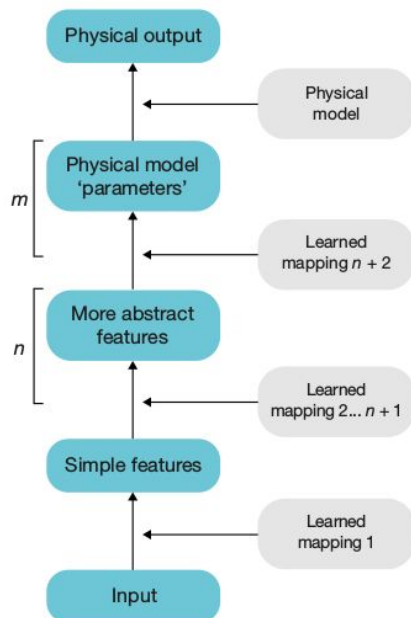
C **Learning to parameterize**
Variational inference
Monte Carlo, Gibbs

D **Learning physics**
Sparse regression
Latent force models

A- Hybrid machine learning

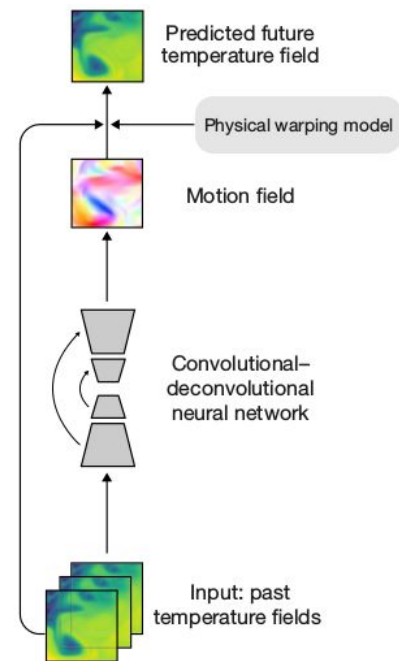
- ML that learns laws of physics (e.g. model-data consistency, mass and energy conservation)

A: “Physicizing” a deep learning architecture by adding one or several physical layers after the multilayer neural network



“Deep learning and process understanding for data-driven Earth System Science”
Reichstein, Camps-Valls et al. Nature, 2019.

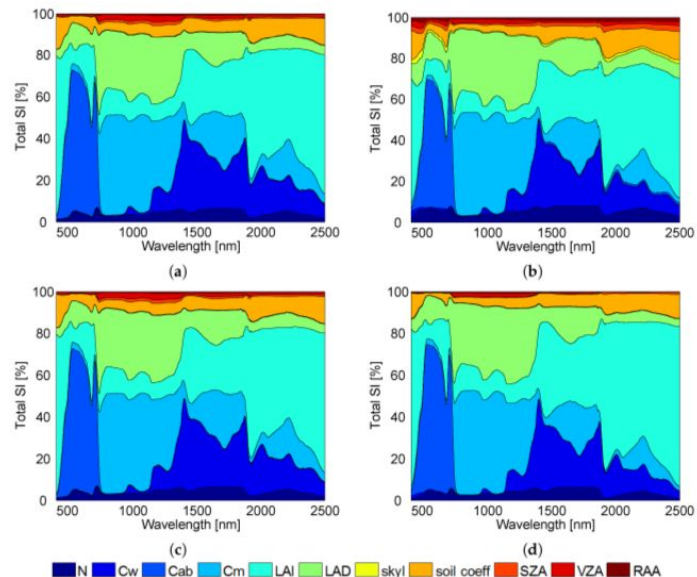
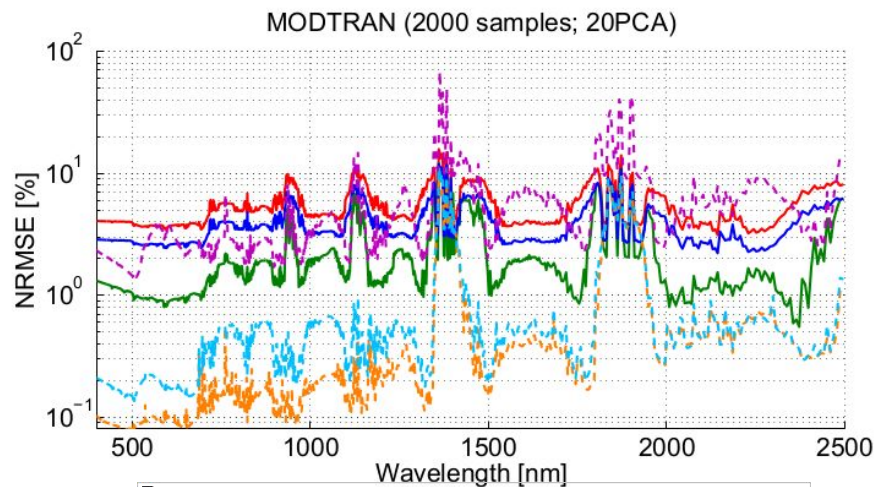
B: A motion field is learned with a convolutional-deconvolutional net, and the motion field is further processed with a physical model



“Deep Learning for Physical Processes: Incorporating Prior Scientific Knowledge”.
de Bezenac, Pajot, & Gallinari, arXiv:1711.07970 (2017).



B- Emulating complex codes

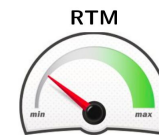


“Emulation of Leaf, Canopy and Atmosphere Radiative Transfer Models for Fast Global Sensitivity Analysis”,

Verrelst, Camps-Valls et al Remote Sensing of Environment, 2016

“Emulation as an accurate alternative to interpolation in sampling radiative transfer codes”,

Vicent and Camps-Valls, IEEE Journal Sel. Topics Rem. Sens, Apps. 2018



2.3–24.5 s/pix

0%



0.1–1.3 ms/pix

RMSE = 0.1 – 5%

C- Learn parametrizations with variational inference



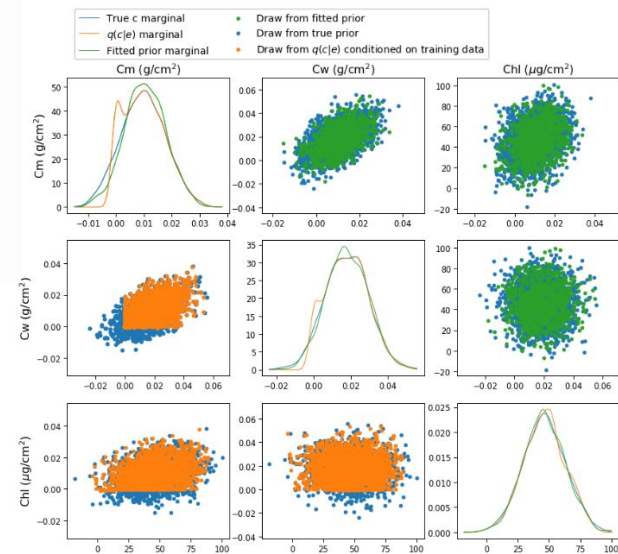
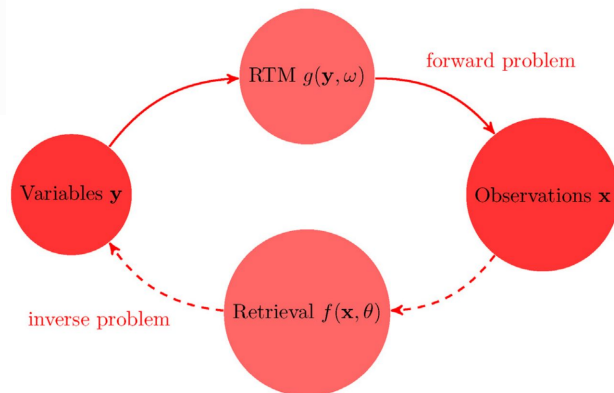
Published: 08 June 2021

Inference over radiative transfer models using variational and expectation maximization methods

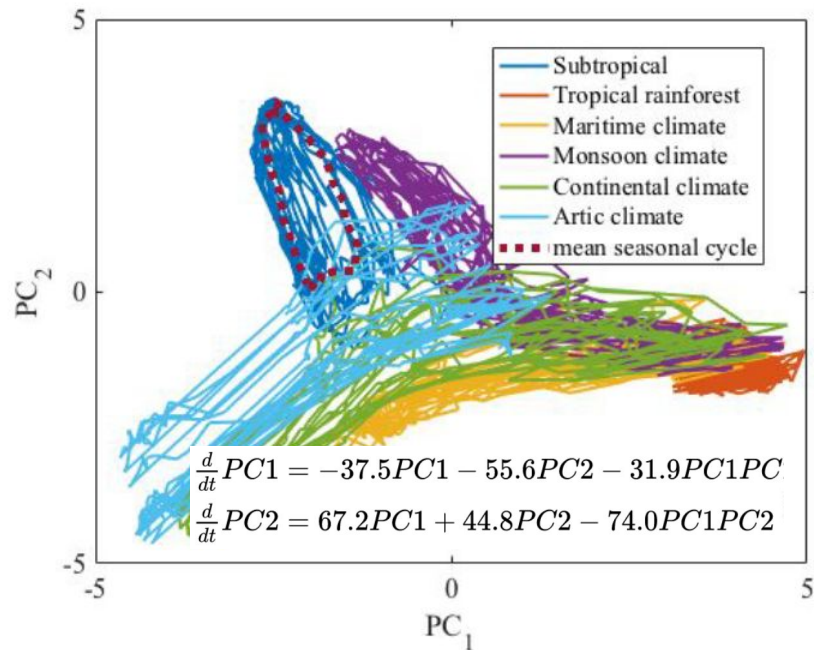
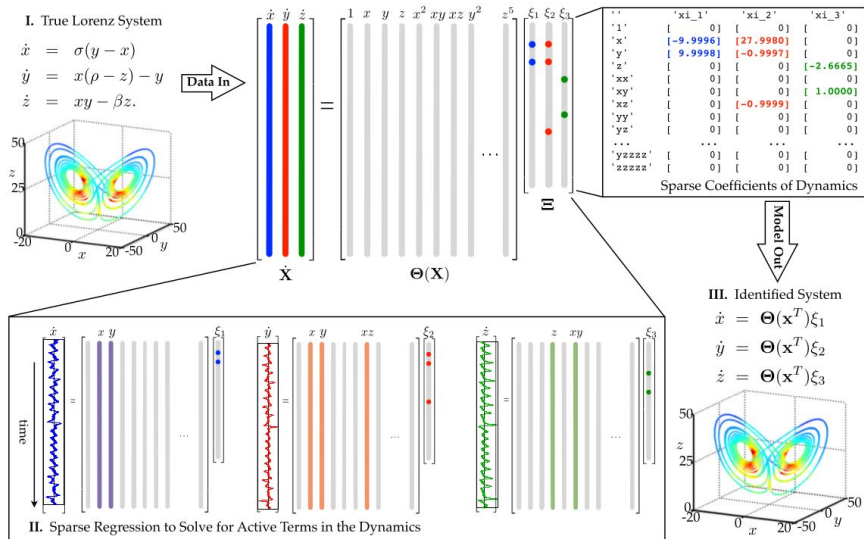
[Daniel Heestermans Svendsen](#) ✉, [Daniel Hernández-Lobato](#), [Luca Martino](#), [Valero Laparra](#), [Álvaro Moreno-Martínez](#) & [Gustau Camps-Valls](#)

[Machine Learning](#) (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

460 Accesses | 4 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

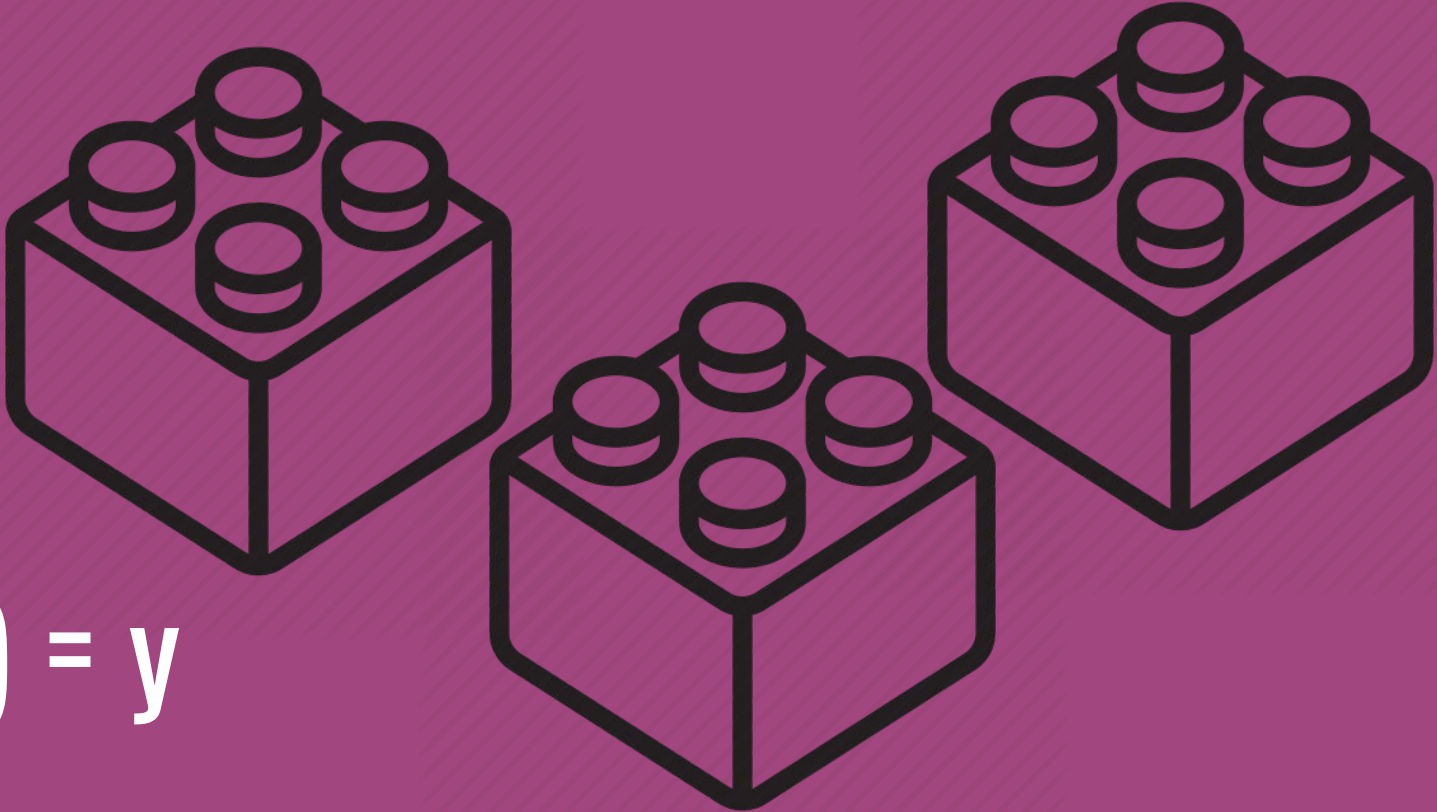


D- Discover equations from data



“Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems” Brunton, Proctor, Kutz, PNAS 2016
 “Discovering Differential Equations from Earth Observation Data” Adsuara, J.E.; Camps-Valls, G.; Reichstein, M. and Mahecha, M. IGARSS 2020

DL decisions should be *explainable* and *accountable*



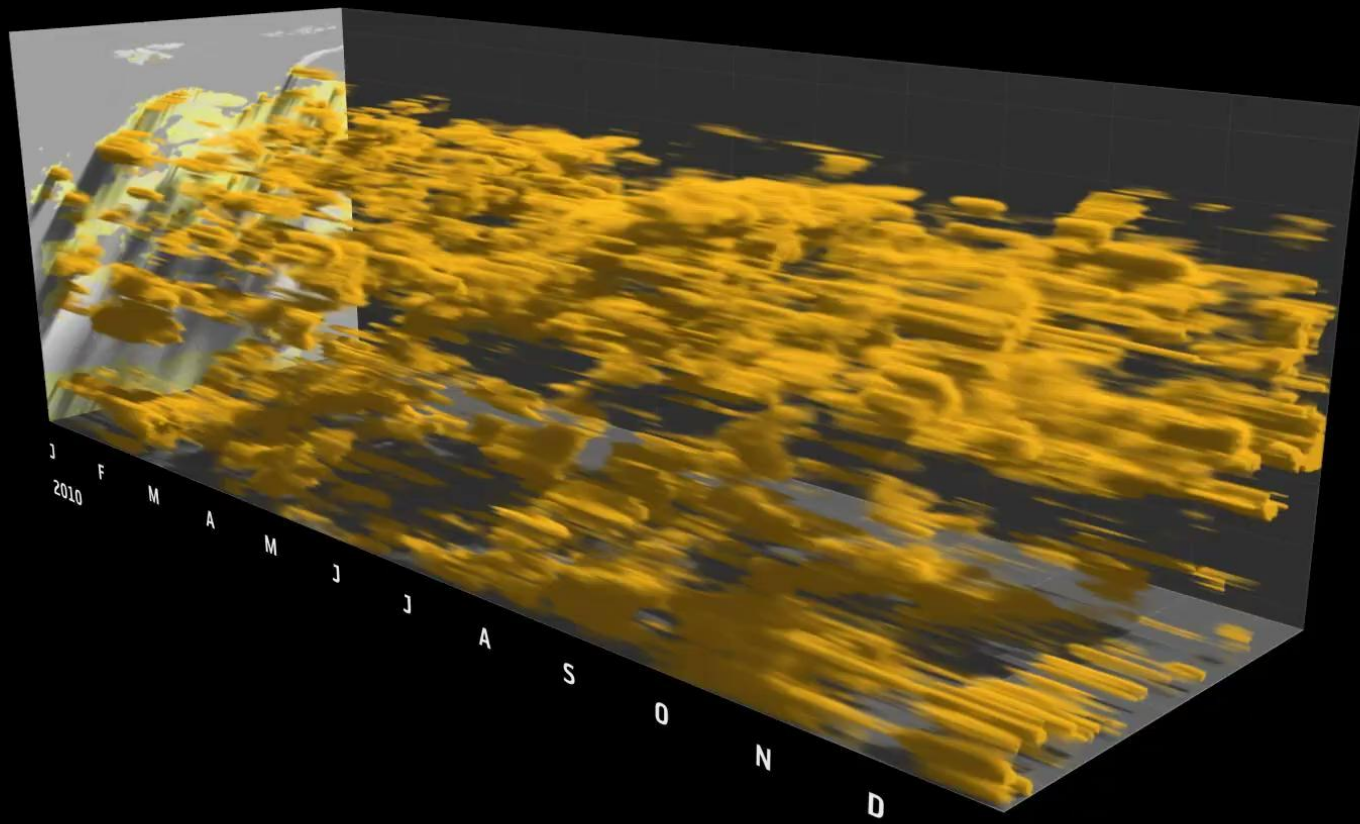
$$F(X) = y$$

A full family of XAI

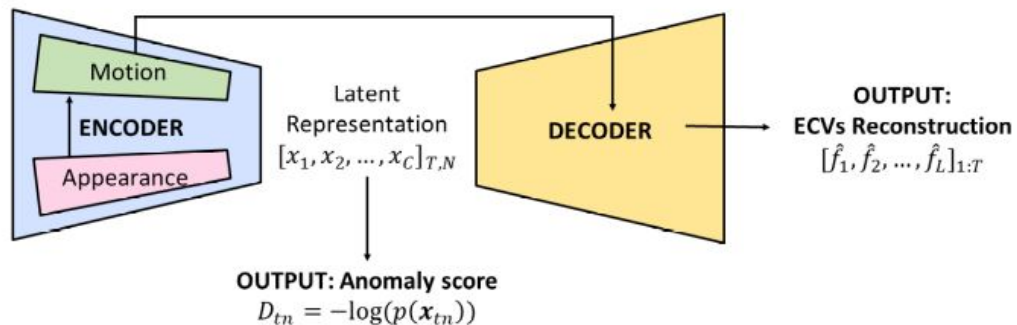
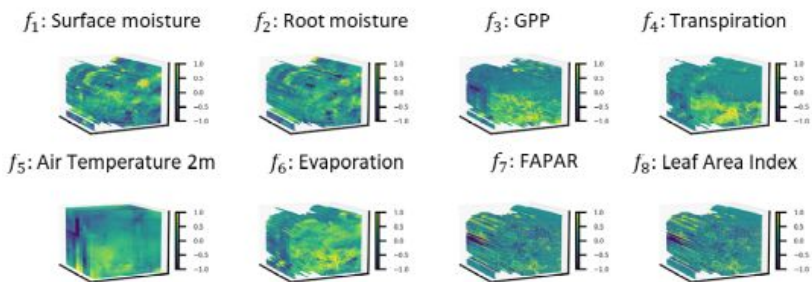
Methods	HSI	ANN	Mechanism		
CAM with global average pooling [41], [90]	✓	✓	Decomposition	Saliency	Perceptive Interpretability
+ Grad-CAM [42] generalizes CAM, utilizing gradient	✓	✓			
+ Guided Grad-CAM and Feature Occlusion [67]	✓	✓			
+ Respond CAM [43]	✓	✓			
+ Multi-layer CAM [91]	✓	✓			
LRP (Layer-wise Relevance Propagation) [13], [52]	✓	N.A.			
+ Image classifications. PASCAL VOC 2009 etc [44]	✓	✓			
+ Audio classification. AudioMNIST [46]	✓	✓			
+ LRP on DeepLight. fMRI data from Human Connectome Project [47]	✓	✓			
+ LRP on CNN and on BoW(bag of words)/SVM [48]	✓	✓			
+ LRP on compressed domain action recognition algorithm [49]	✓	✓			
+ LRP on video deep learning, selective relevance method [51]	✓	✓			
+ BiLRP [50]	✓	✓			
DeepLIFT [56]	✓	✓			
Prediction Difference Analysis [57]	✓	✓			
Slot Activation Vectors [40]	✓	✓			
PRM (Peak Response Mapping) [58]	✓	✓			
LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) [14]	✓	✓	Sensitivity		
+ MUSE with LIME [84]	✓	✓			
+ Guidelinebased Additive eXplanation optimizes complexity, similar to LIME [92]	✓	✓			
# Also listed elsewhere: [55], [68], [70], [93]	N.A.	N.A.	Others		
Others. Also listed elsewhere: [94]	N.A.	N.A.			
+ Direct output labels. Training NN via multiple instance learning [64]	✓	✓			
+ Image corruption and testing Region of Interest statistically [65]	✓	✓			
+ Attention map with autofocus convolutional layer [66]	✓	✓	Inversion		
DeconvNet [71]	✓	✓			
Inverting representation with natural image prior [72]	✓	✓			
Inversion using CNN [73]	✓	✓			
Guided backpropagation [74], [90]	✓	✓			
Activation maximization/optimization [37]	✓	✓	Optimization		
+ Activation maximization on DBN (Deep Belief Network) [75]	✓	✓			
+ Activation maximization, multifaceted feature visualization [76]	✓	✓			
Visualization via regularized optimization [77]	✓	✓			
Semantic dictionary [38]	✓	✓			
Decision trees	N.A.	N.A.	Verbal		
Propositional logic, rule-based [81]	✓	✓			
Sparse decision list [82]	✓	✓			
Decision sets, rule sets [83], [84]	✓	✓			
Encoder-generator framework [85]	✓	✓			
Filter Attribute Probability Density Function [86]	✓	✓			
MUSE (Model Understanding through Subspace Explanations) [84]	✓	✓			

“A Survey on Explainable Artificial Intelligence(XAI): towards Medical XAI”, Tjoa 2019

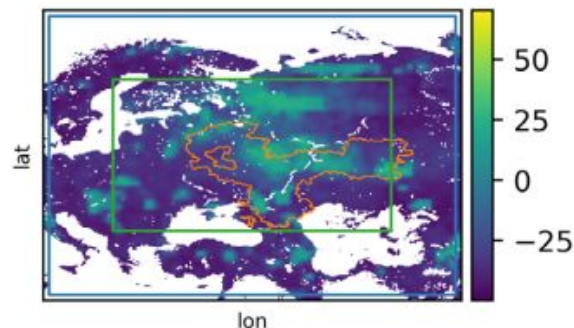
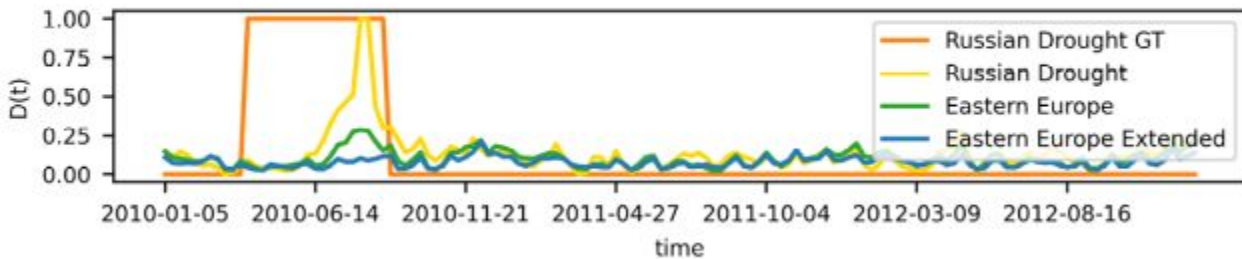
“Advancing Deep Learning For Earth Sciences: From Hybrid Modeling To Interpretability”, Camps-Valls, G. and Reichstein, M. and Zhu, Z. and Tuia, D. IEEE IGARSS (2020)



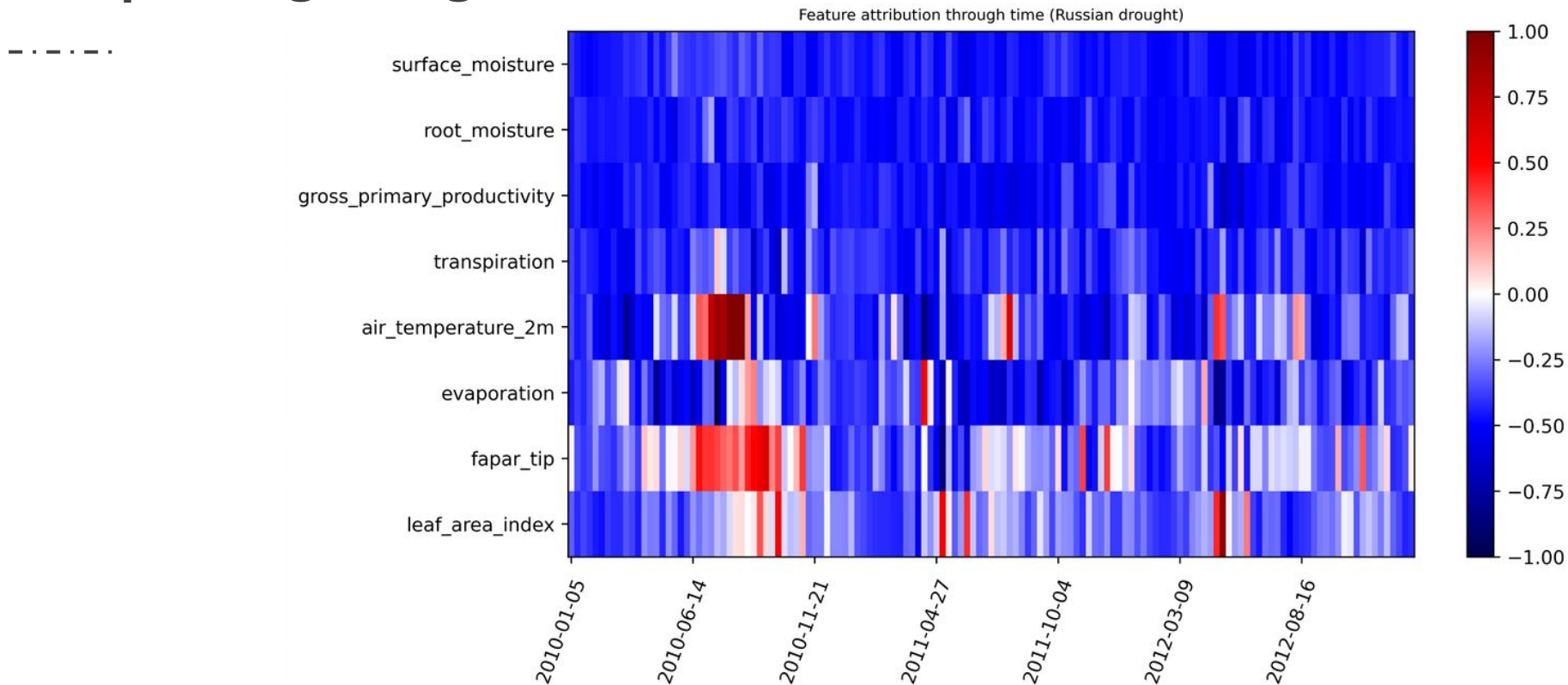
1- Explaining droughts with XAI



Spatio-temporal drought detection: Russian heat wave in 2010

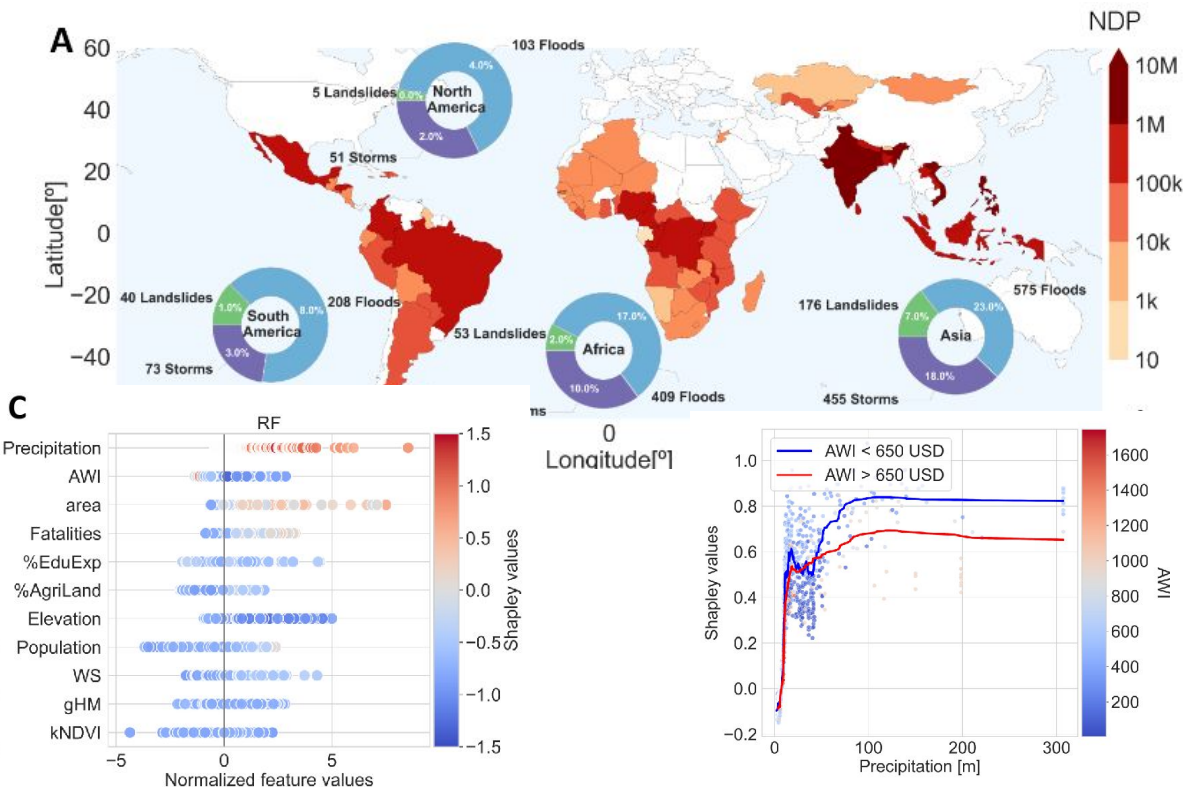


1- Explaining droughts with XAI

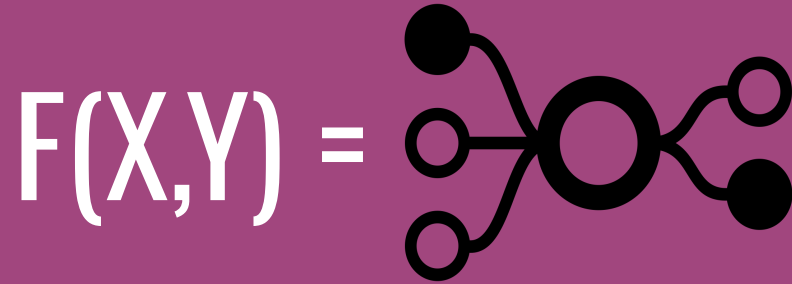


2- XAI explains climate-induced migrations

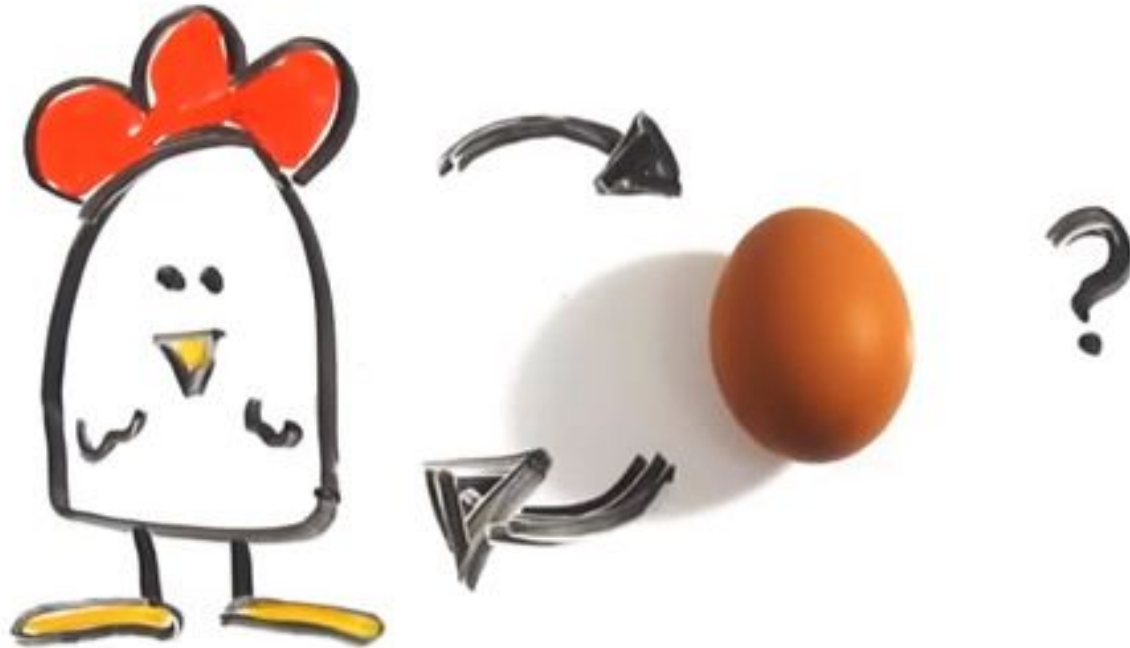
- Large, harmonized, global database of disaster-induced movements in the presence of floods, storms & landslides
- RF is accurate
- SHAP: displacements attributed to the combo of poor household conditions & intense precipitation



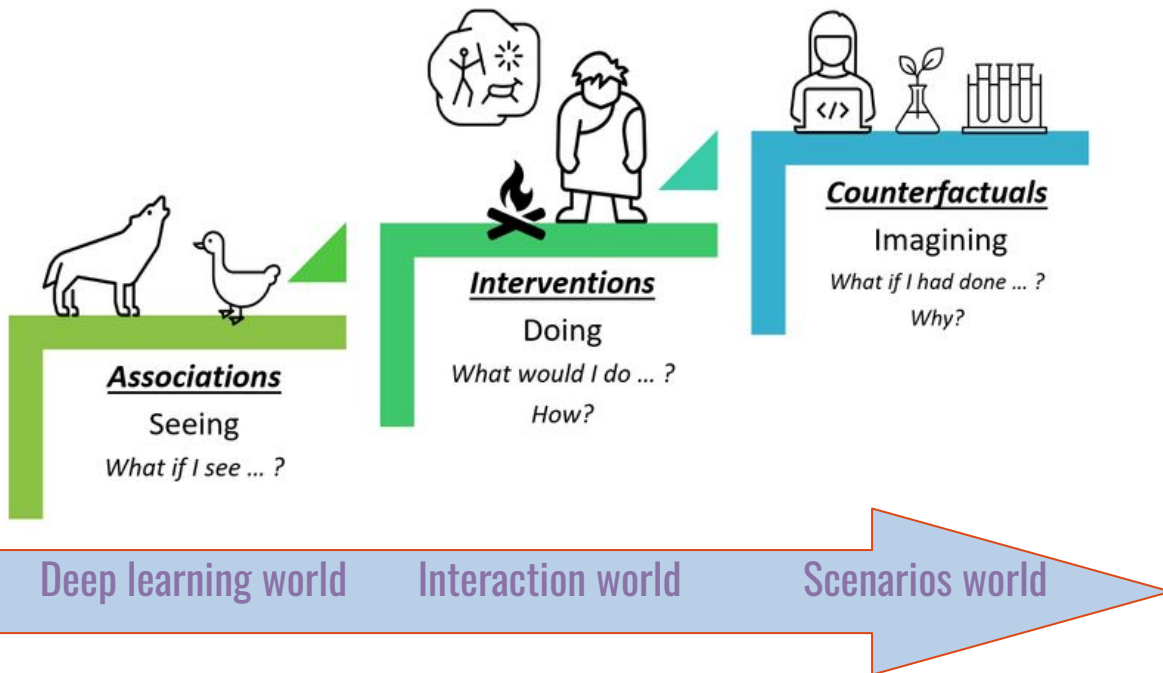
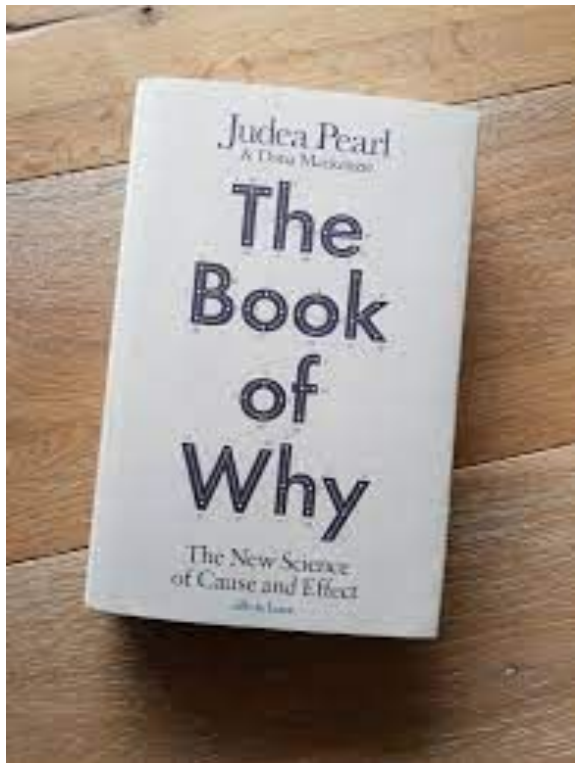
DL needs to be *causal*



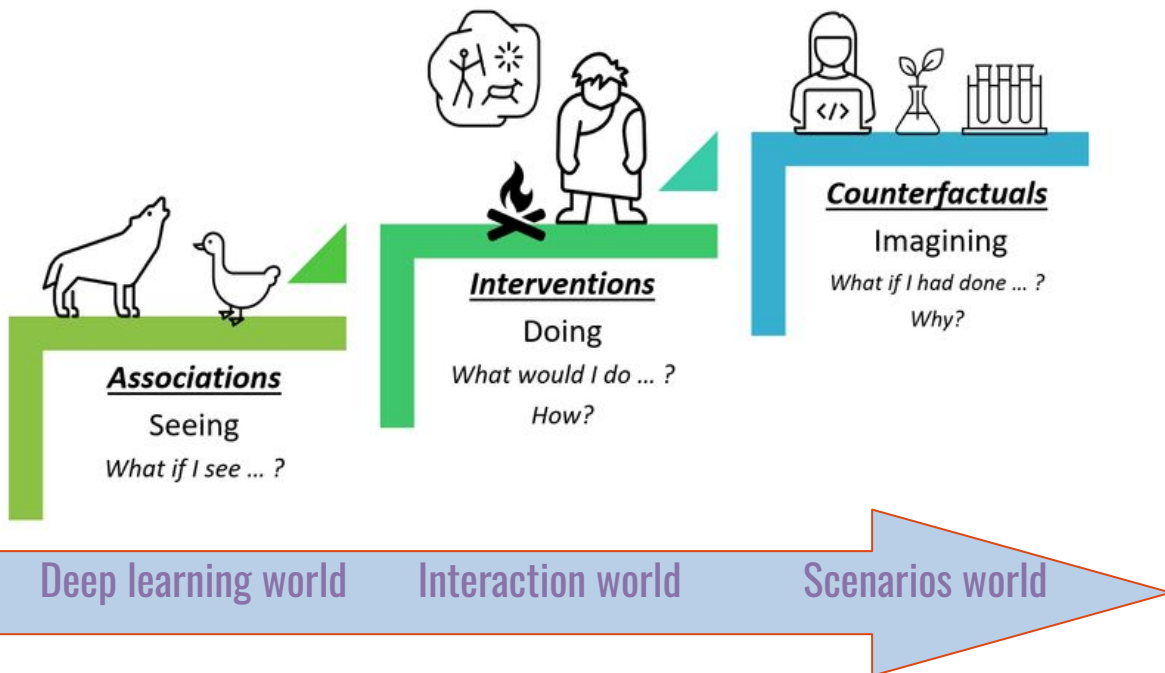
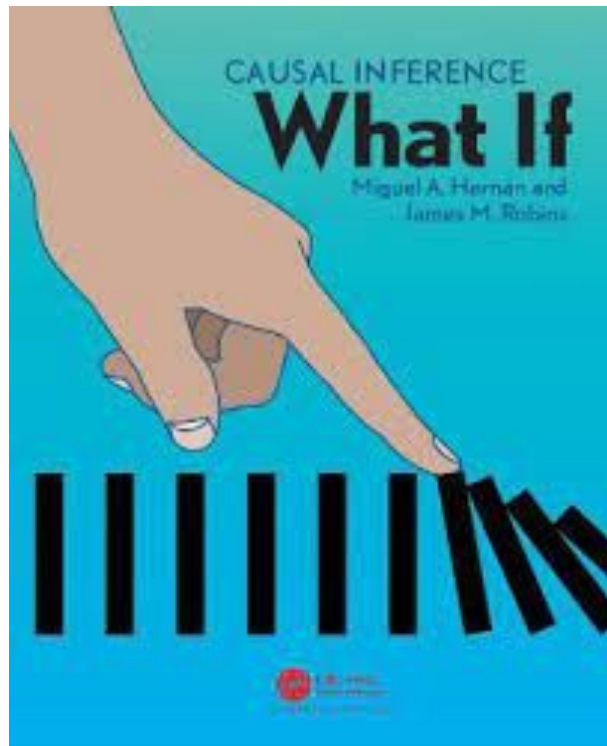
Causal inference



The rungs of inference ...



The rungs of inference ...



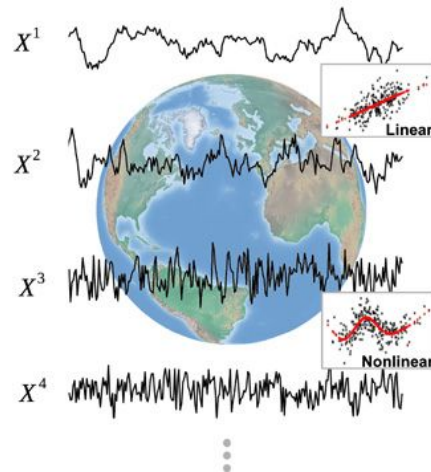
Causality & Disasters



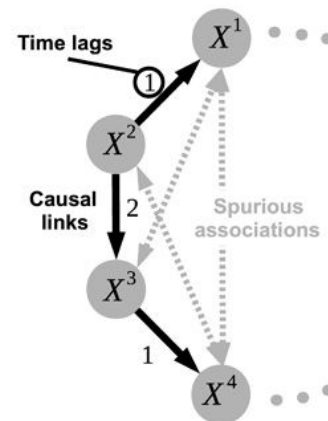
Understanding Disasters *is about* answering causal queries

- **Causal inference:** draw conclusions about causal relations
- **Causal discovery:** learn relations from data & assumptions
- **Cause-effect estimation:** quantify impacts of interventions

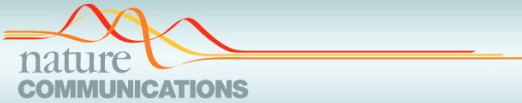
A Large-scale time series dataset



B Causal discovery



Causal discovery from data



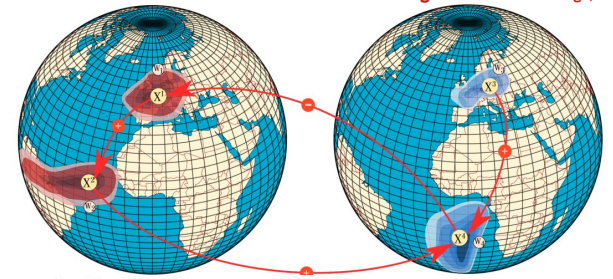
PERSPECTIVE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-10105-3>

OPEN

Inferring causation from time series in Earth system sciences

Jakob Runge^{1,2}, Sebastian Bathiany^{3,4}, Erik Bollt⁵, Gustau Camps-Valls⁶, Dim Coumou^{7,8}, Ethan Deyle⁹, Clark Glymour¹⁰, Marlene Kretschmer⁸, Miguel D. Mahecha¹¹, Jordi Muñoz-Mari⁶, Egbert H. van Nes⁴, Jonas Peters¹², Rick Quax^{13,14}, Markus Reichstein¹¹, Marten Scheffer⁴, Bernhard Schölkopf¹⁵, Peter Spirtes¹⁰, George Sugihara⁹, Jie Sun^{5,16}, Kun Zhang¹⁰ & Jakob Zscheischler^{17,18,19}



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Technical Review | [Published: 27 June 2023](#)

Causal inference for time series

[Jakob Runge](#) , [Andreas Gerhardus](#), [Gherardo Varando](#), [Veronika Eyring](#) & [Gustau Camps-Valls](#)

IEEE

[Nature Reviews Earth & Environment](#) (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

Causal Inference in Geoscience and Remote Sensing From Observational Data

Adrián Pérez-Suay¹⁰, *Member, IEEE*, and Gustau Camps-Valls⁶, *Fellow, IEEE*

Abstract—Establishing causal relations between random variables from observational data is perhaps the most important challenge in today's science. In remote sensing and geosciences, this is of special relevance to better understand the earth's system and the complex interactions between the governing processes.

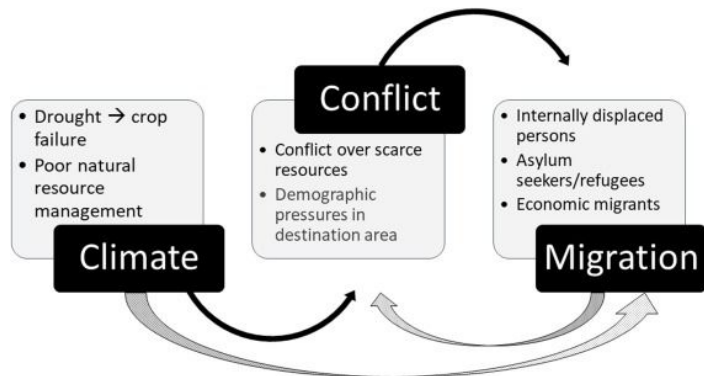
with societal, economical, and environmental challenges, such as climate change [2], [3]. There is an urgent need for tools that help us to observe and study the earth system. Nowadays, machine learning and signal processing play a crucial role in

“Inferring causation from time series with perspectives in Earth system sciences”, Runge, Bathiany, Bollt, Camps-Valls, et al. Nat Comm., 2019

“Causal Inference in Geoscience and Remote Sensing from Observational Data,” Pérez-Suay and Camps-Valls, IEEE Trans. Geosc. Rem. Sens, 2018

“CauseMe: An online system for benchmarking causal inference methods,” Muñoz-Mari, Mateo, Runge, Camps-Valls. In preparation (2019). **CauseMe:** <http://causeme.uv.es>

1- Learning drivers of displacement



nature
climate change

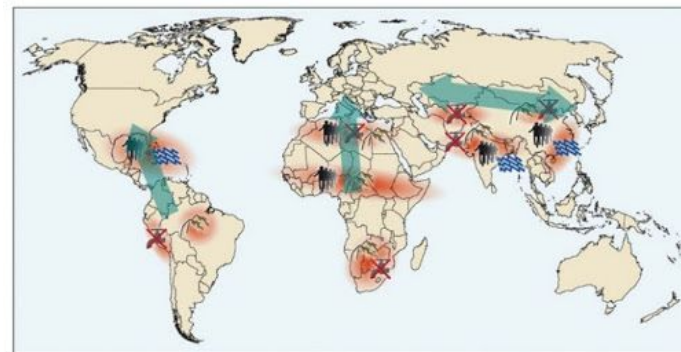
Comment | Published: 26 November 2019

Climate migration myths

Ingrid Boas , Carol Farbotko, [...] Mike Hulme

Nature Climate Change 9, 901–903(2019) | Cite this article

476 Accesses | 114 Altmetric | Metrics

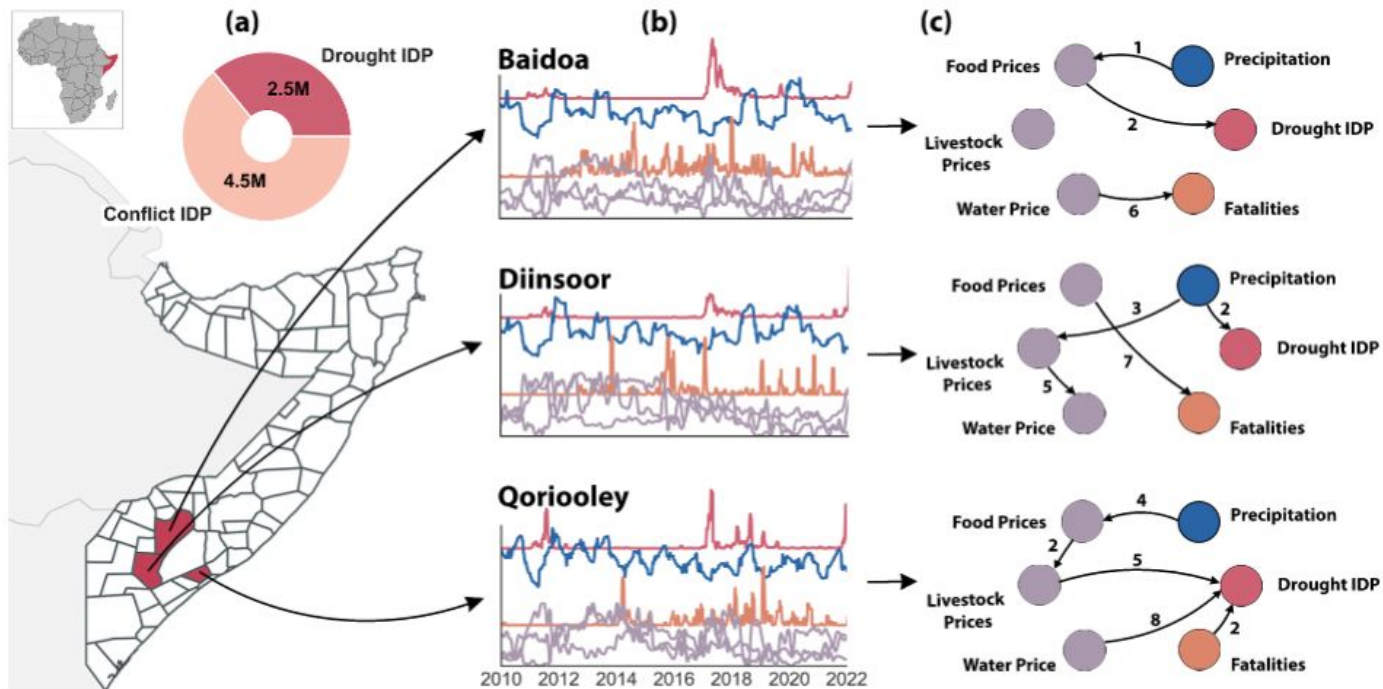


Conflict constellations in selected hotspots



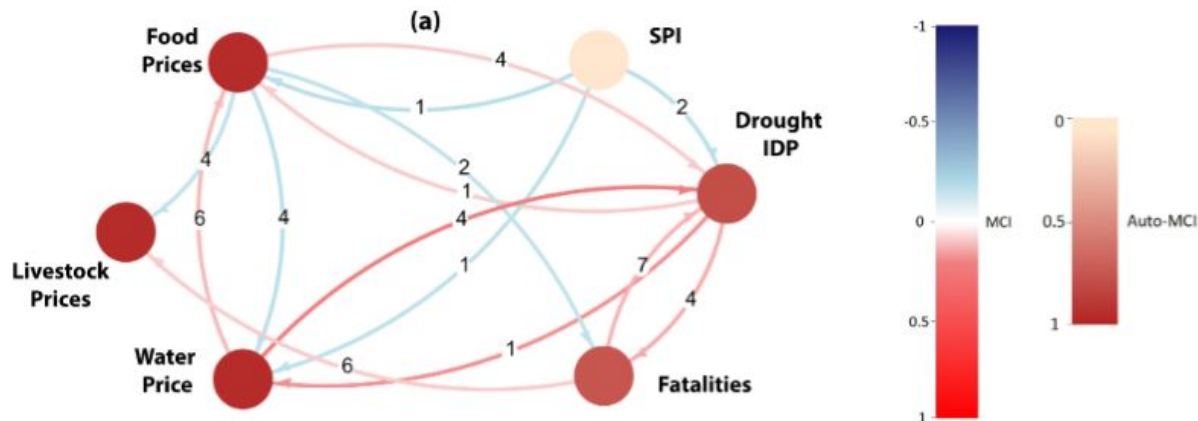
Fig. 11.1 A map of conflict and migration induced by environmental stressors (source: German Advisory Council on Global Change WBGU (2007): Climate Change as a Security Risk arrows added by UNU-EHS)

1- Learning drivers of displacement

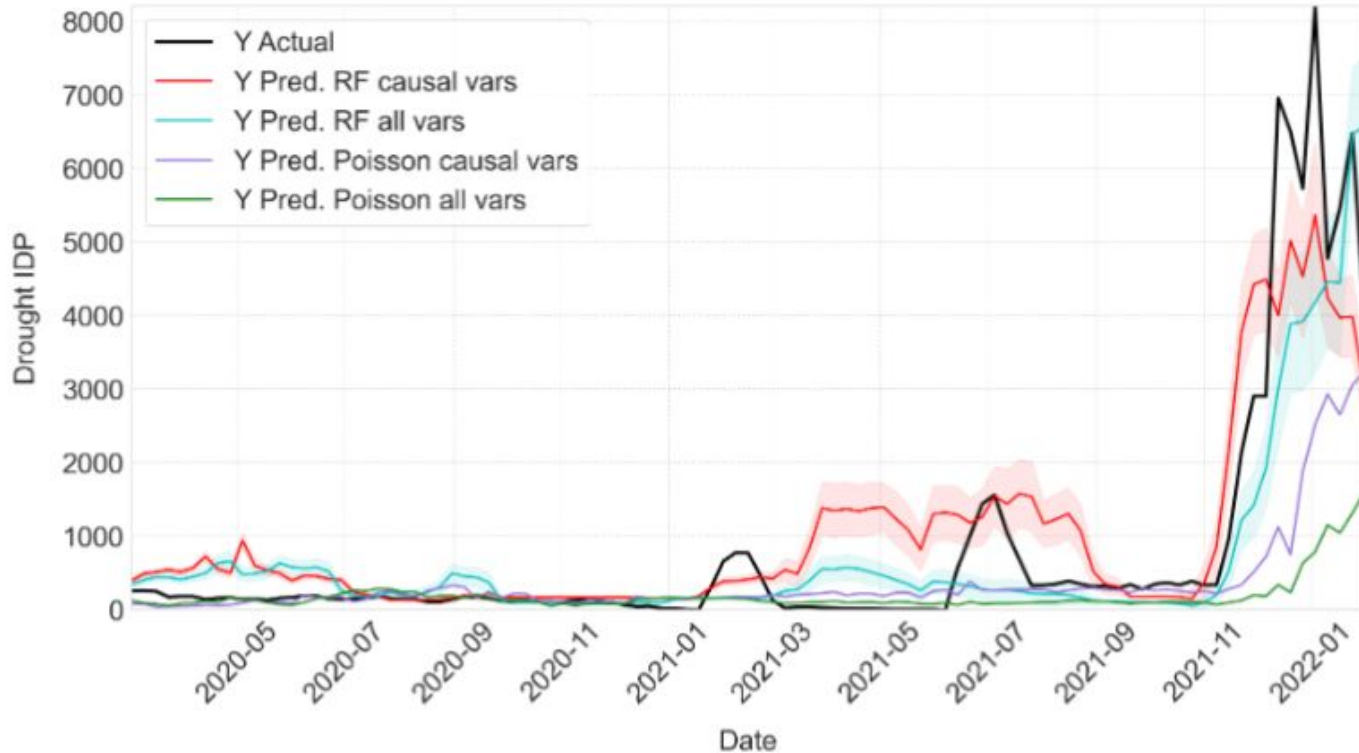


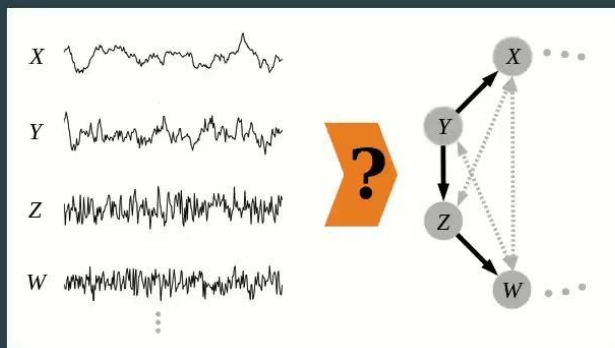
1- Learning drivers of displacement

Variable	Source	Spatial Resolution	Temporal Resolution
Mean Precipitation	CHIRPS (Chris et al., 2015)	0.05 ^o	Daily
Median NDVI	MODIS TERRA (Didan and Huete, 2015)	1 km	Daily
Mean LST	MODIS TERRA (Wan et al., 2015)	1 km	Daily
Violent Conflict	ACLED (Clionadh et al., 2010)	Geolocated Event	Hourly
Local Market Prices	FSNAU (FSNAU, 2021)	District	Monthly
Drought Displacement	UNHCR PRMN (UNHCR Somalia ID)	District	Weekly
Somalia Districts	UNDP (UNDP)	District	Static
Livelihood Zones	FEWS NET (Fews Net)	Sub-national	Static



1- Learning drivers of displacement





CAUSEME

A platform to benchmark causal discovery methods

CAUSAL DISCOVERY

Detecting causal associations in time series datasets is a key challenge for novel insights into complex dynamical systems such

GRANGER2D

Compare with



Heatmap

Network Graph

Hierarchical Edge Bundling

Narrative

Role:

Expert in the field of migrations in Somalia

Explain it!



The proposed causal graph shows a set of interconnected relationships between various factors and their corresponding time lags in the context of migrations in Somalia. The relationships outlined in the graph make sense within the context of the given time lags. Precipitation influences the number of Internally Displaced People (IDP) with a 1-week lag, reflecting the impact of weather conditions on displacement patterns. Fatalities lead to increased water prices with a 2-week lag, likely due to supply disruptions or increased demand during periods of conflict. Water prices affect livestock prices after 1 week, which subsequently impact food prices with a similar 1-week lag. This chain of events reflects how economic and environmental factors contribute to food price fluctuations. IDP numbers have a 1-week lagged effect on food prices, indicating that population movements influence market dynamics rapidly. The relationships between food prices and water prices, precipitation and water prices, and IDPs and precipitation with 1-week lags also align with the logical flow of influence. The longer 7-week lag from water prices to IDPs and 5-week lag from IDPs to water prices capture the delayed effects of economic and displacement factors on each other, indicating that these relationships are not immediate but develop over time. Overall, this causal graph presents a coherent and scientifically plausible representation of the interplay of factors in the context of migrations in Somalia.

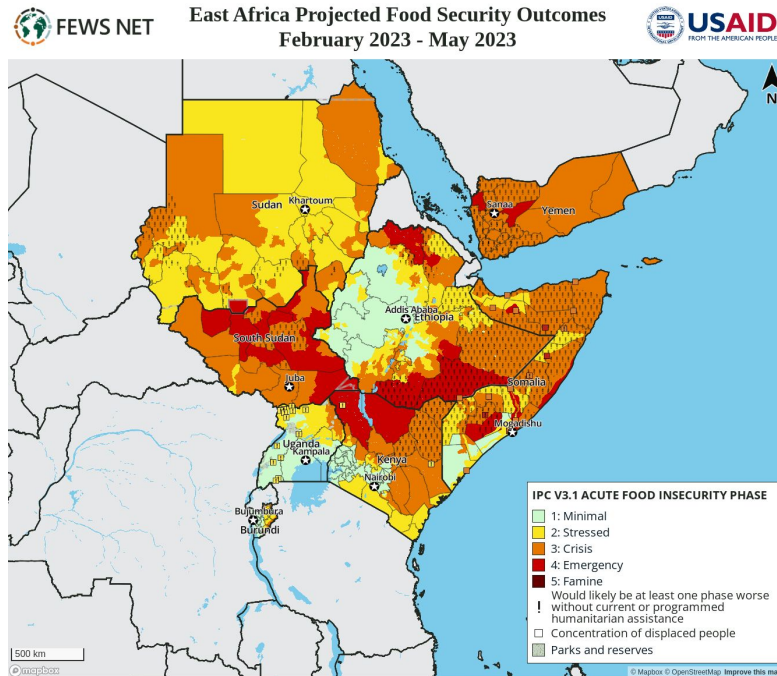
Done

- Your methods
- Register method
- Your results
- Upload results
- Your experiments

2- Impact on food insecurity

“A total of 6.5 million people face acute food insecurity amid the driest conditions in 40 years(...) A total of 1.84 million children under 5 face acute malnutrition. (...) over 1.5 million drought-driven displacements since the start of the climate crisis.”

World Food Programme, Jan 2023

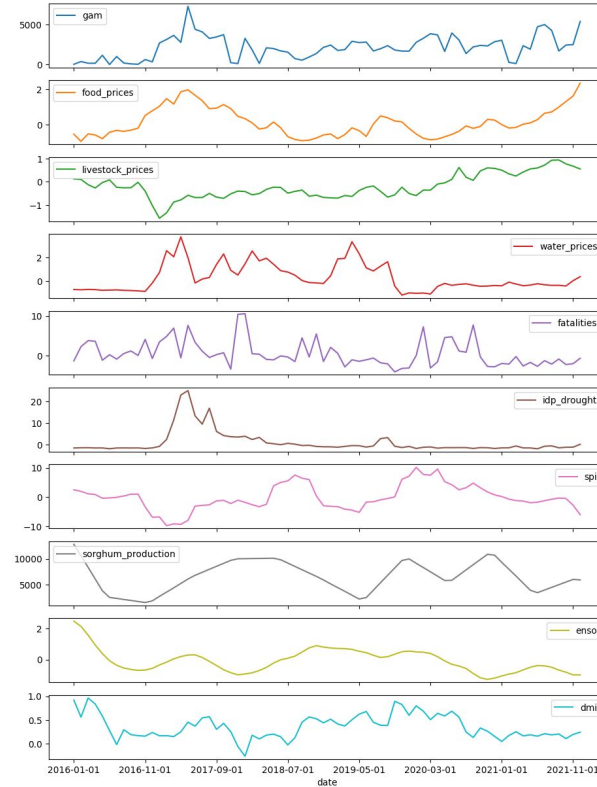


FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols, but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity. The content of this graphic does not necessarily reflect the view of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

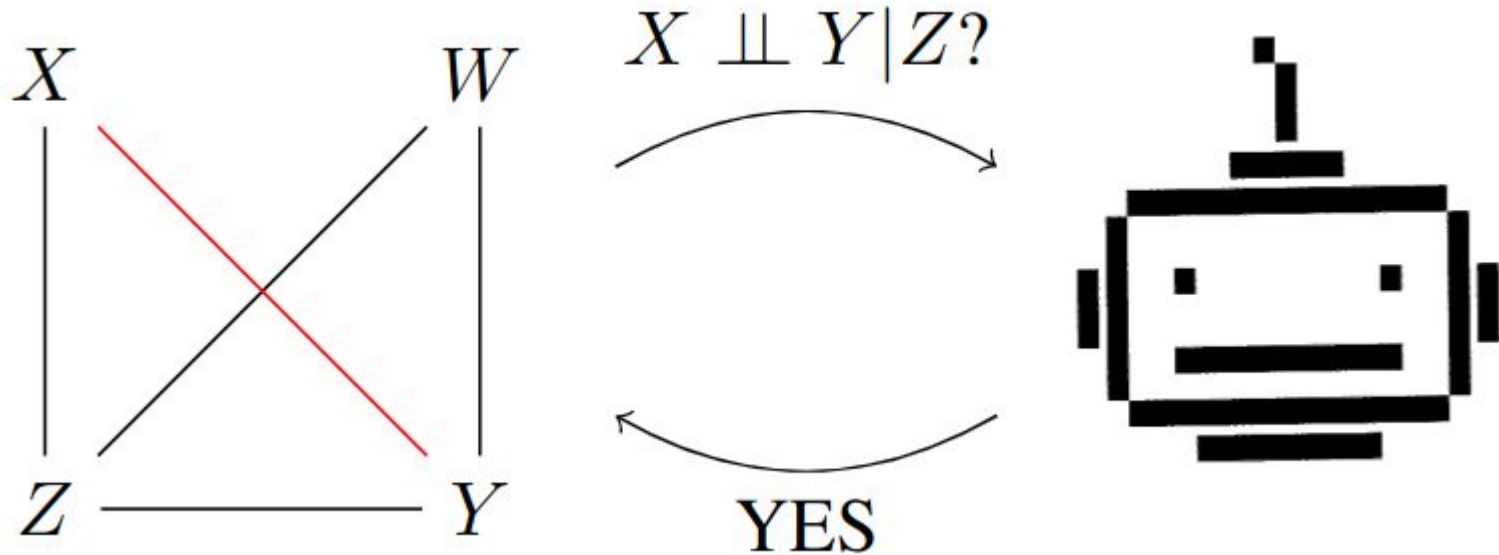
2- Impact on food insecurity

- Monthly data
- 2016 - 2021
- 37 districts
- N~70
- Market/food/livestock/water prices, displaced people, fatalities, climate variables, humanitarian aid
- Target: malnutrition

Baidoa District



2- chatGPT for Constrained-Based Causal Discovery



2- chatGPT for Constrained-Based Causal Discovery

Persona specification
Instructions
Context
Variables description
CI Statement question
Response template

```
system: You are a helpful expert in {field}
and willing to answer questions.
```

```
system: You will be asked to provide your
best guess and your uncertainty on the
statistical independence between two
variables potentially conditioned on a set
of variables. Your answer should not be
based on data or observations but on
available knowledge. Even when unsure or
uncertain, provide your best guess (YES or
NO) and the probability that your guess is
correct. Answer only in the required format.
```

```
user: {context} Consider the following
variables:
{variables list and description}
is {x} independent of {y} given {z}?
```

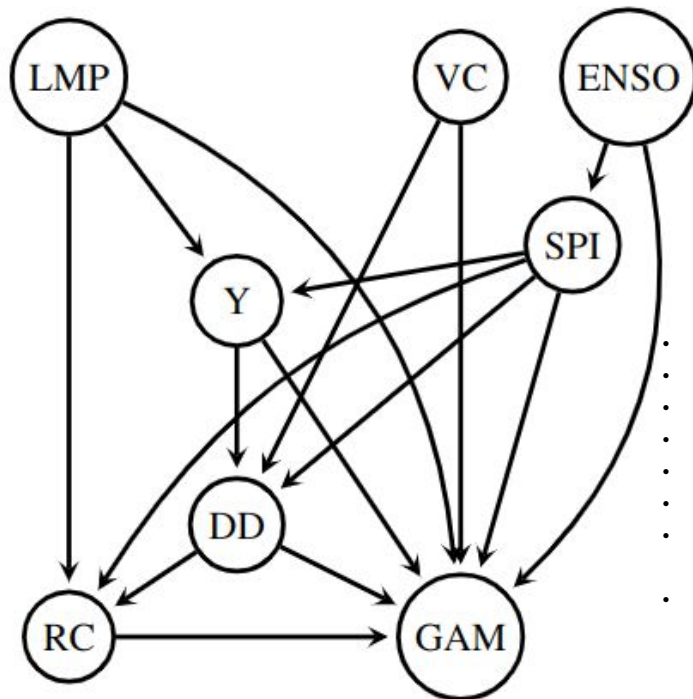
```
system: Work out the answer in a
step-by-step way to be as sure as possible
that you have the right answer. After
explaining your reasoning, provide the
answer in the following form: [<ANSWER>
(<PROBABILITY>)] where ANSWER is either YES
or NO and PROBABILITY is a percentage
between 0% and 100%.
YES stands for "{x} is independent of {y}
given {z}" and NO stands for "{x} is not
independent of {y} given {z}".
```

```
For example [NO (50%)] or [YES (50%)].
```

**“Large Language
Models for
Constrained-Based
Causal Discovery”** K-H
Cohrs, G. Varando, G.
Camps-Valls, AAAI 2024

2- chatGPT for Constrained-Based Causal Discovery

- Find traces of causal reasoning in model's answers
- Promising, alternative avenue for automated causality
- Useful for fast response, scarce data regimes



- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)
- Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)
- Fatalities due to conflicts (VC)
- Local market prices (LMP)
- Sorghum yield production (Y)
- Drought-induced IDP (DD)
- People receiving cash from humanitarian aid (RC)
- Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM).

Outlook

.....



Take-home messages

- All models are wrong, some are useful → Physics-informed AI!
- Prediction is not enough → Explainable AI!
- You can be right for the wrong reason → Causality!

On the quest for “Educated AI”



<http://isp.uv.es>



@isp_uv_es



gustau.camps@uv.es