

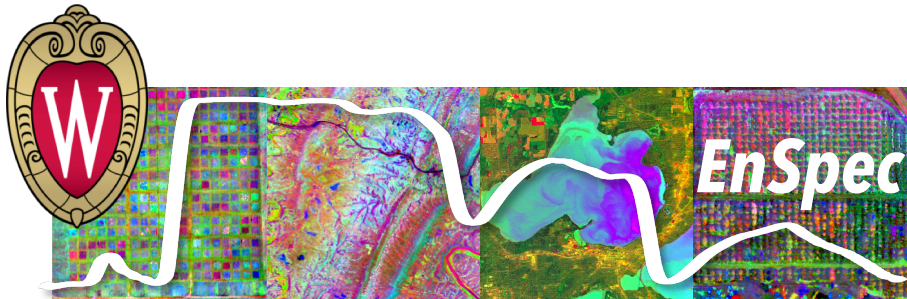
# Imaging Spectroscopy from Space

Phil Townsend

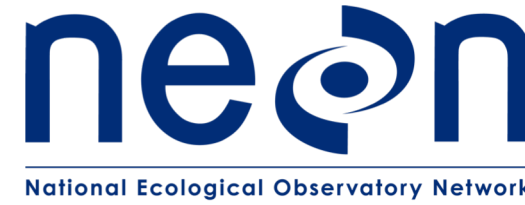
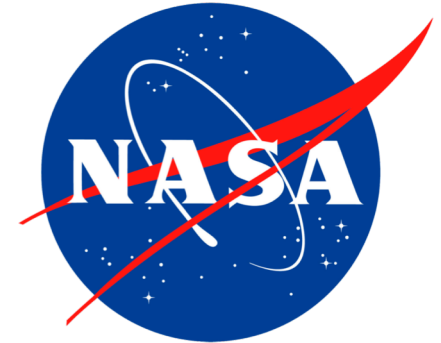
University of Wisconsin

*Contributors:*

Zhihui Wang, Adam Chlus, Ting Zheng, Aditya Singh, Shawn Serbin, Sean DuBois  
Erin Hokanson Wagner, Justin Merz, Clayton Kingdon, John Chapman  
Ankur Desai, Eric Kruger, Jeannine Cavender-Bares, José Mereiles, Mike Madritch  
Fabian Schneider, Ryan Pavlick, Natasha Stavros, David Thompson, David Schimel

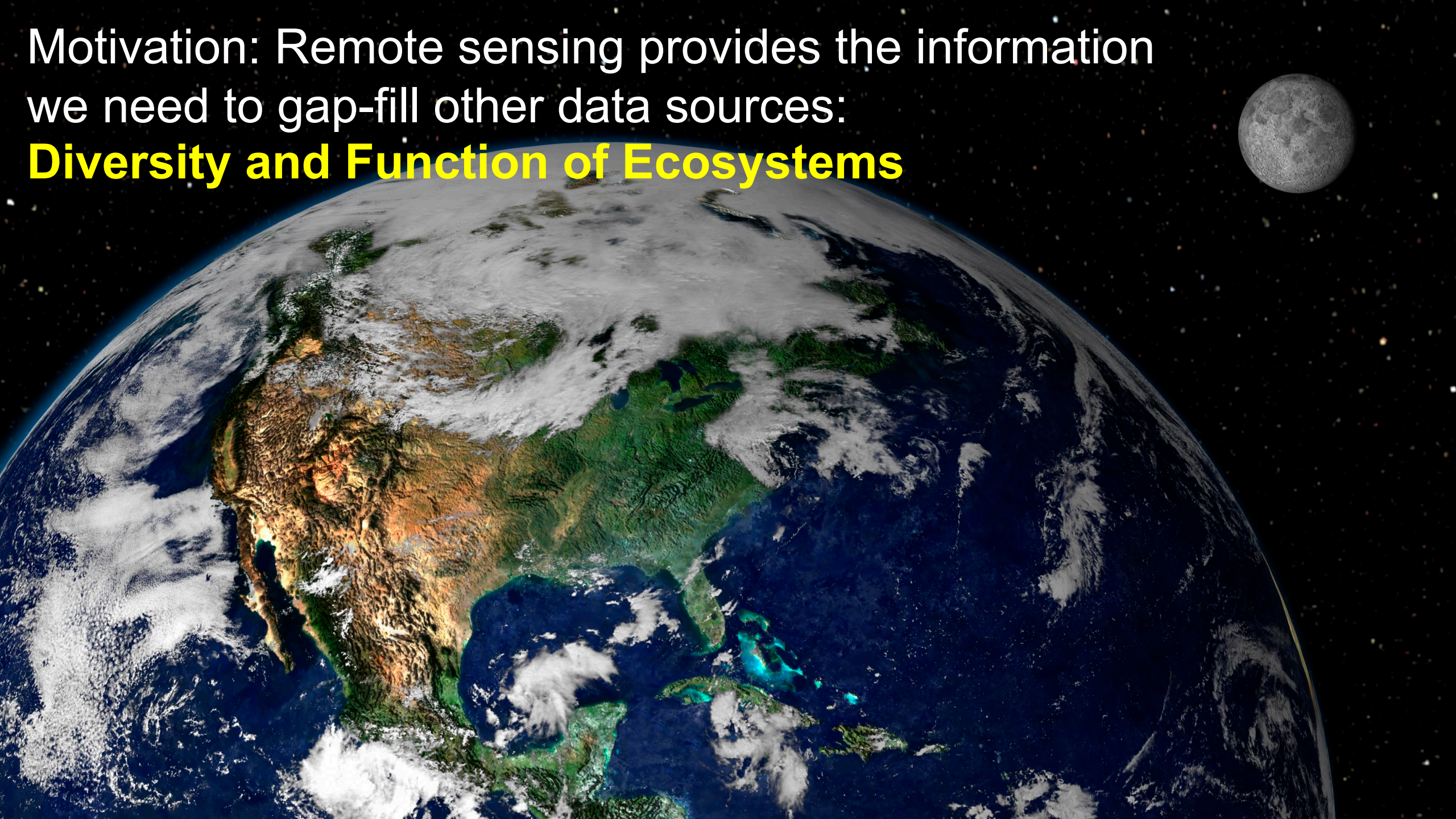


**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
California Institute of Technology



Motivation: Remote sensing provides the information we need to gap-fill other data sources:

## **Diversity and Function of Ecosystems**

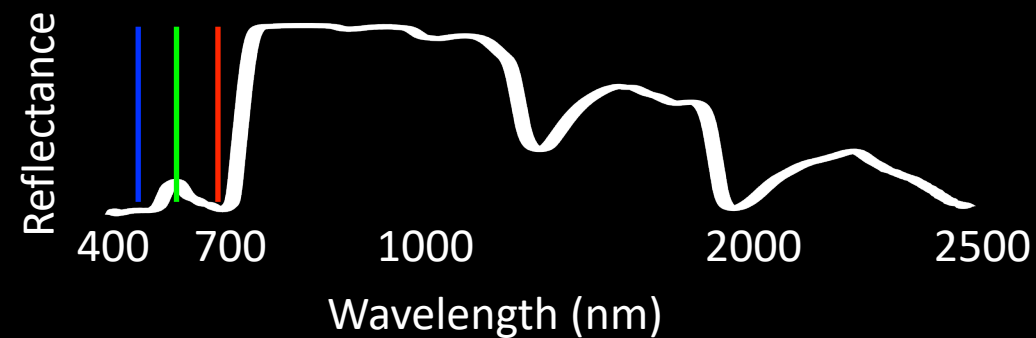
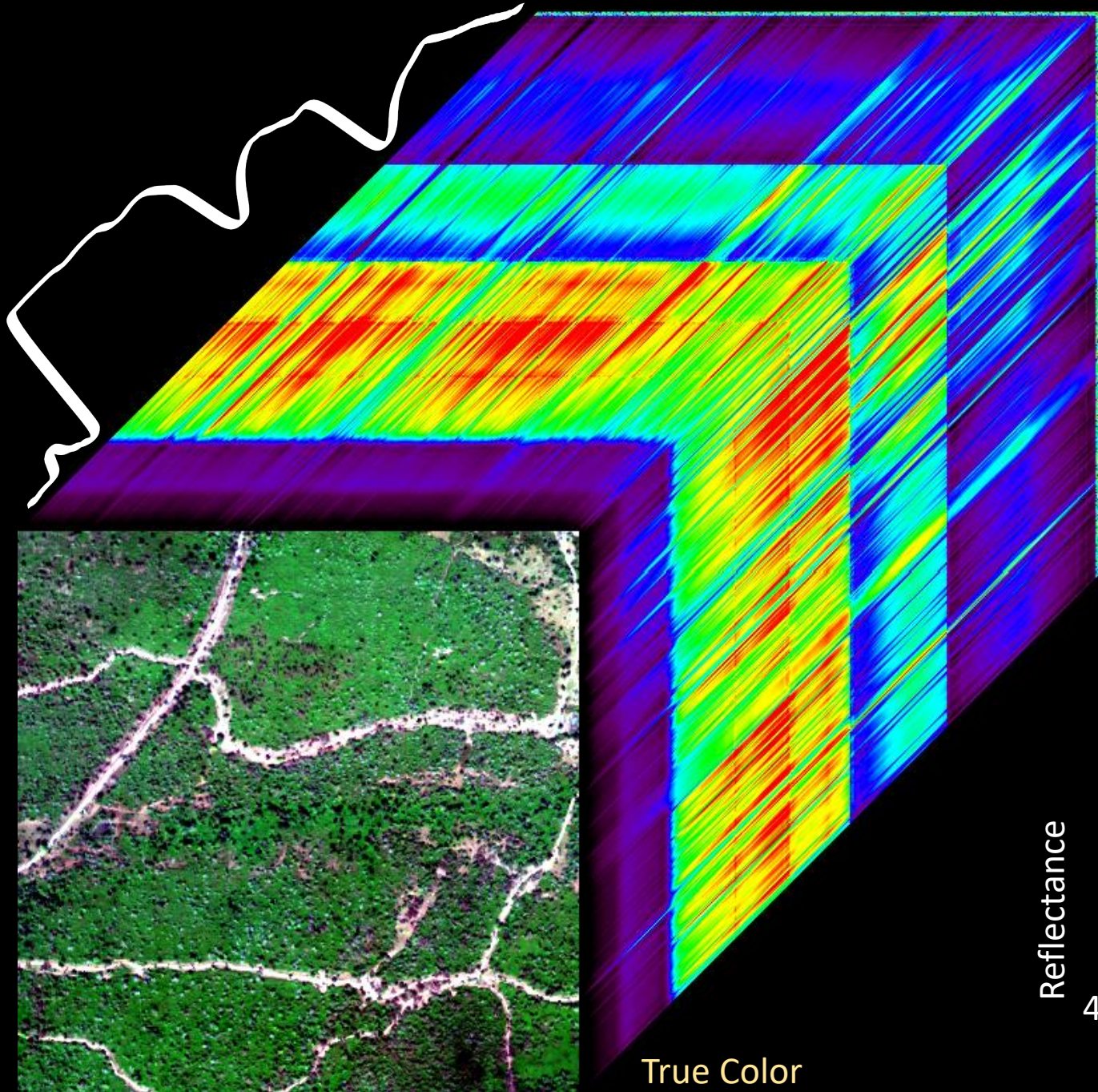


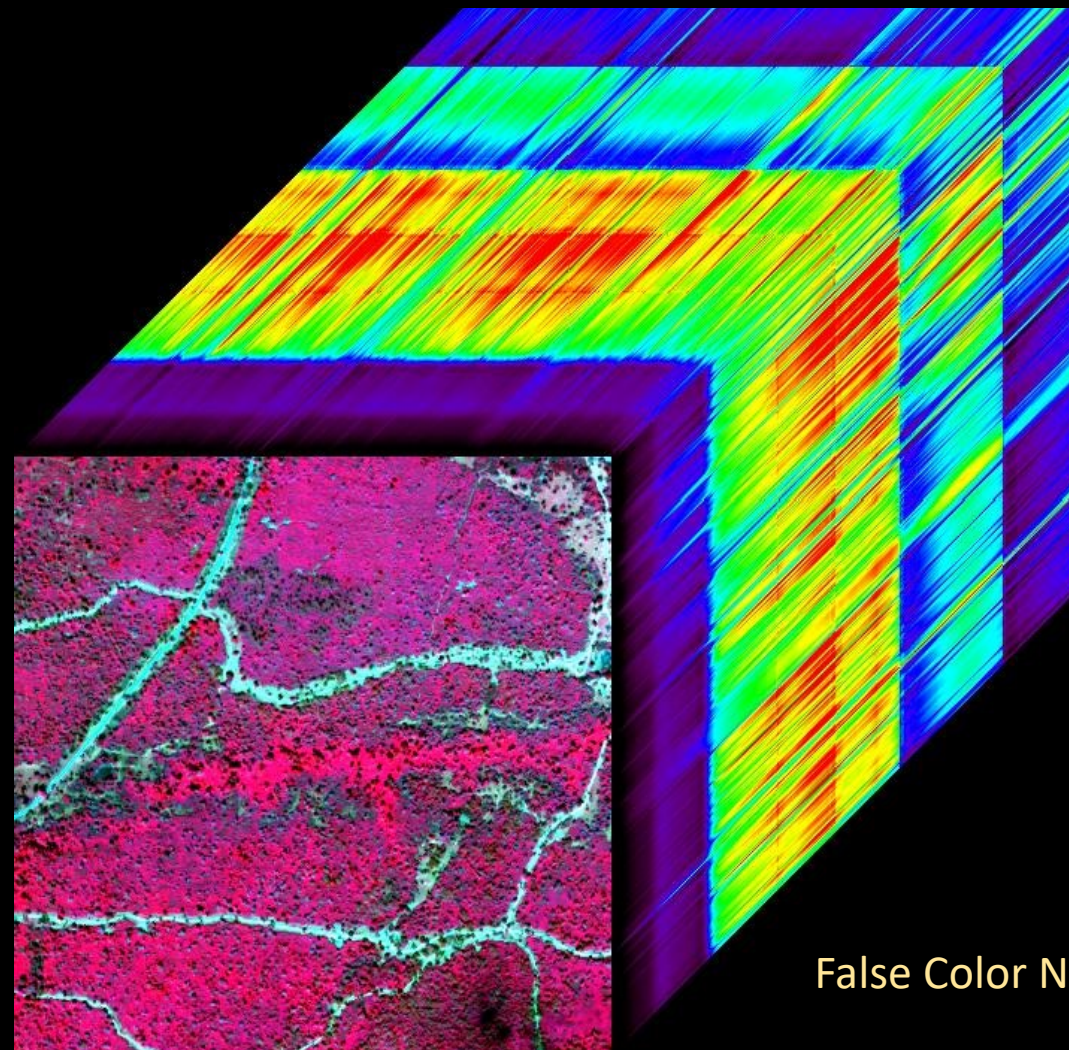
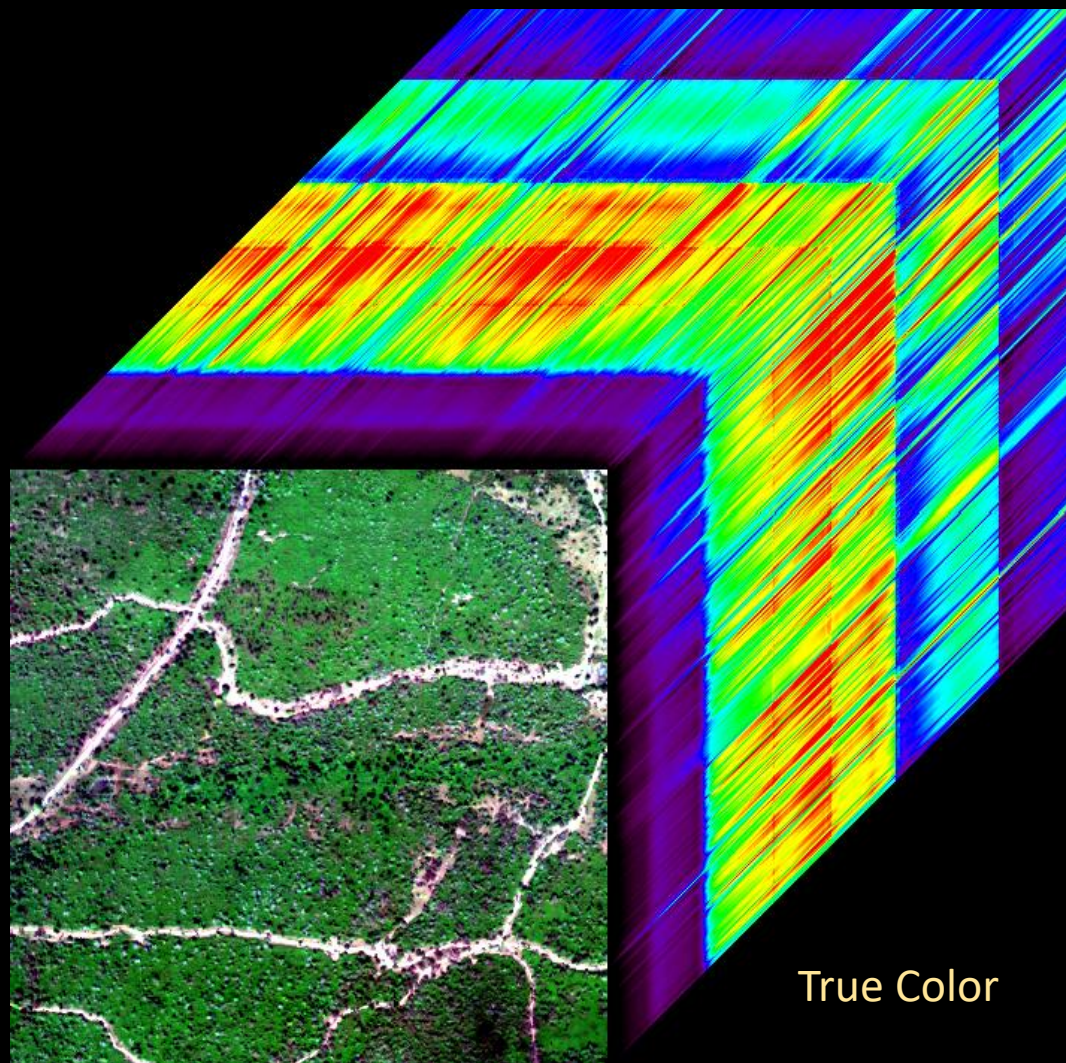
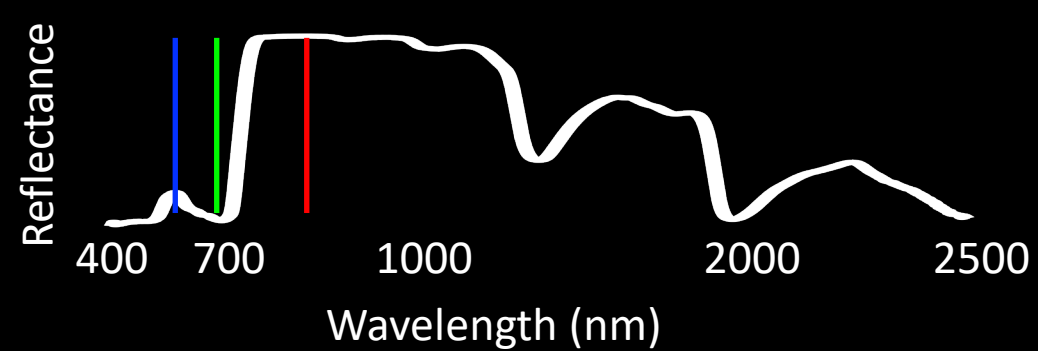
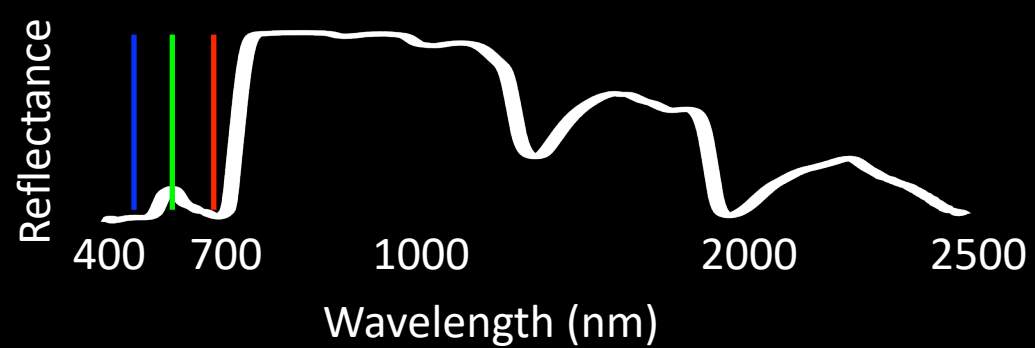
Motivation: Remote sensing provides the information we need to gap-fill other data sources:

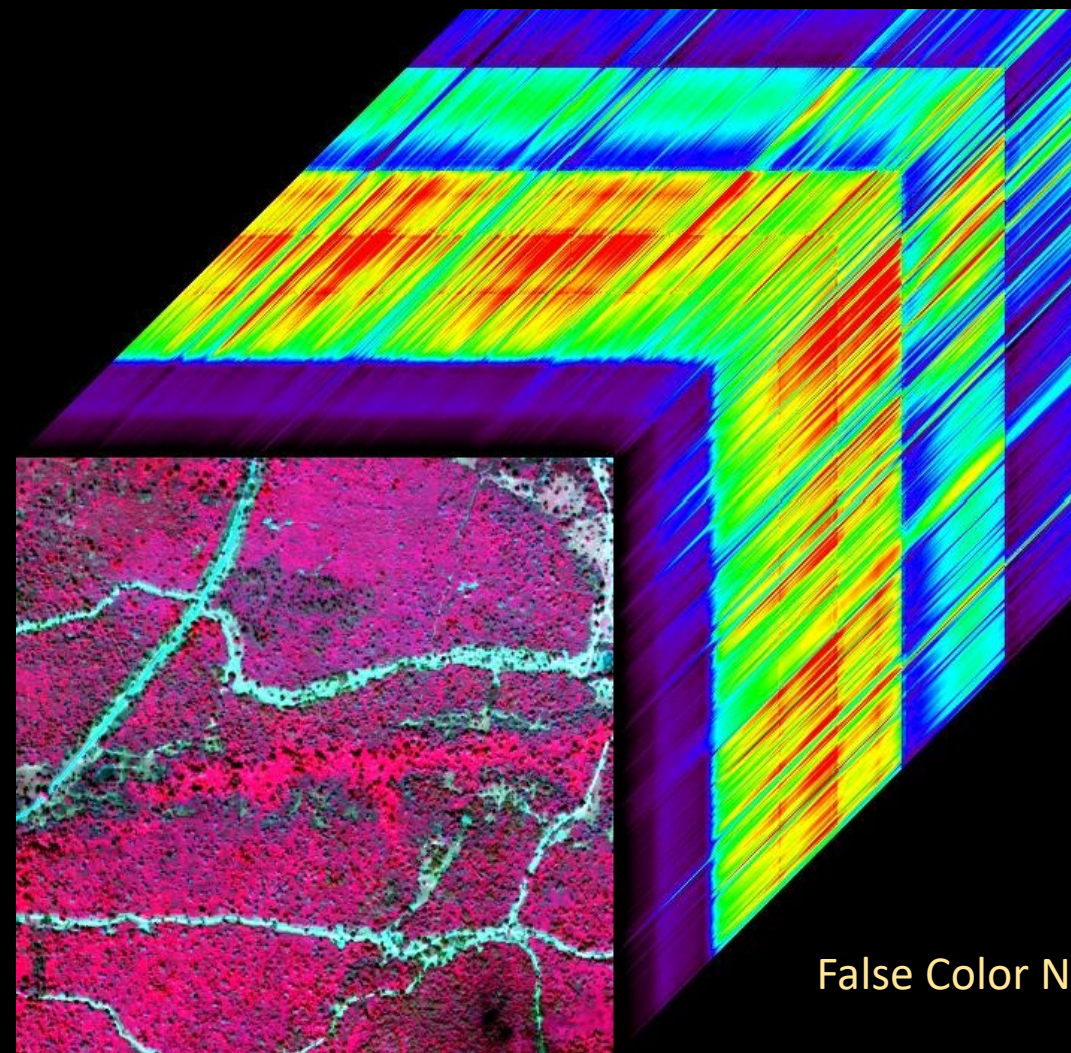
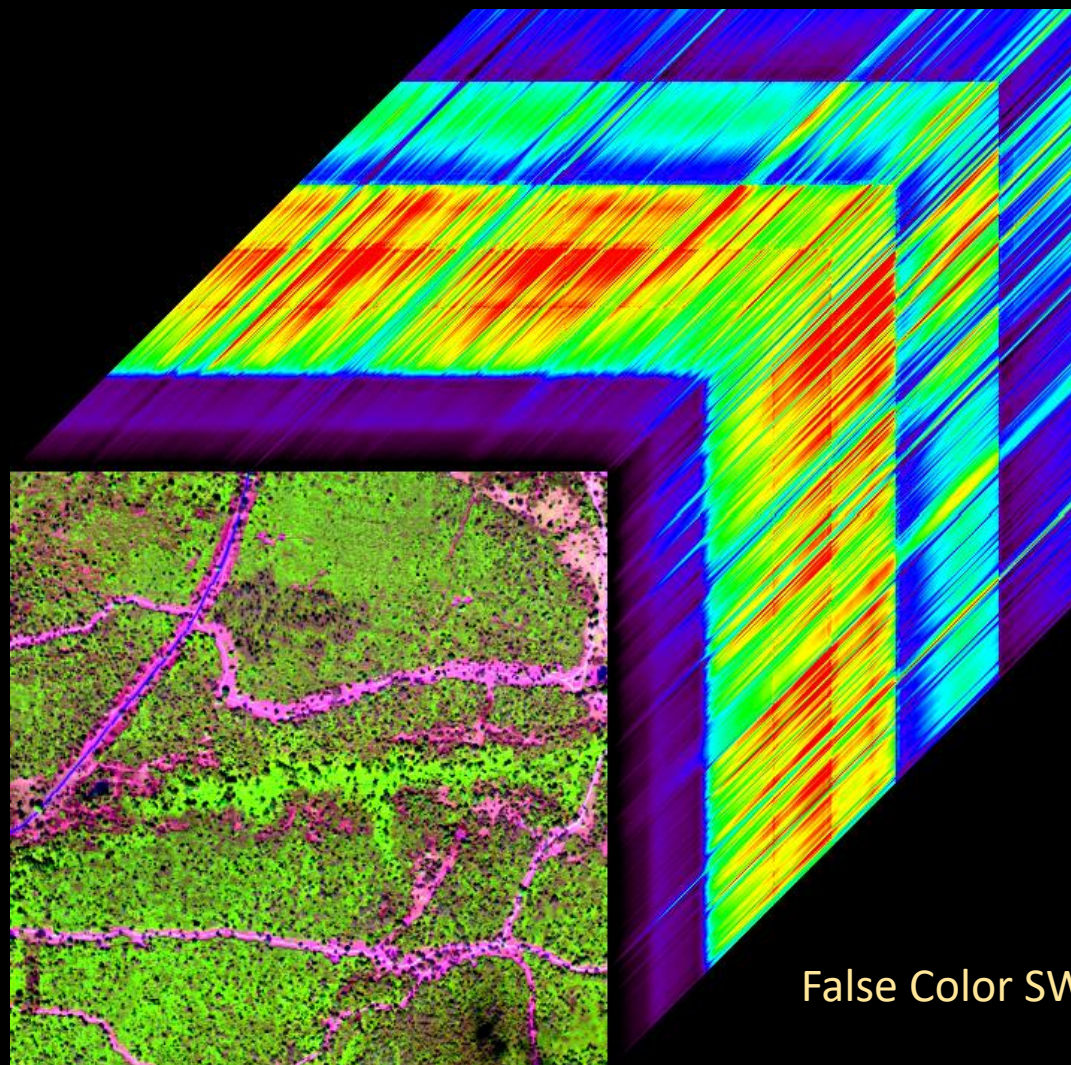
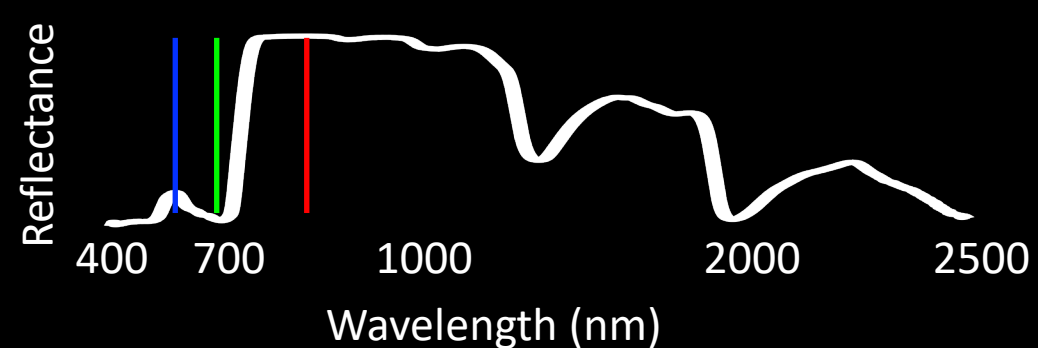
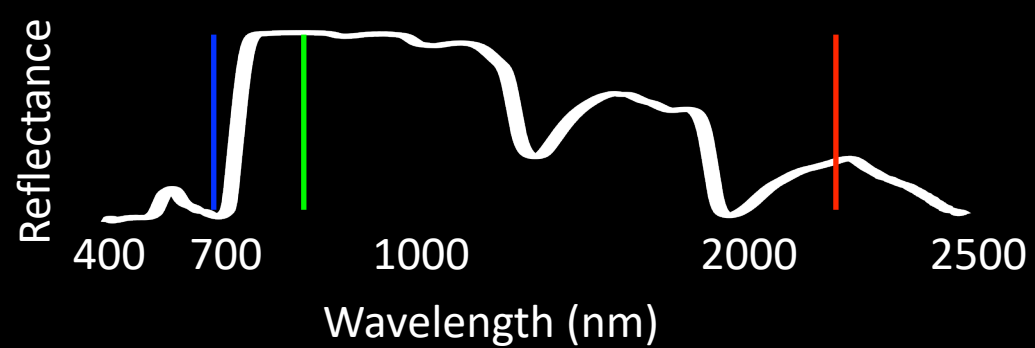
## **Diversity and Function of Ecosystems**

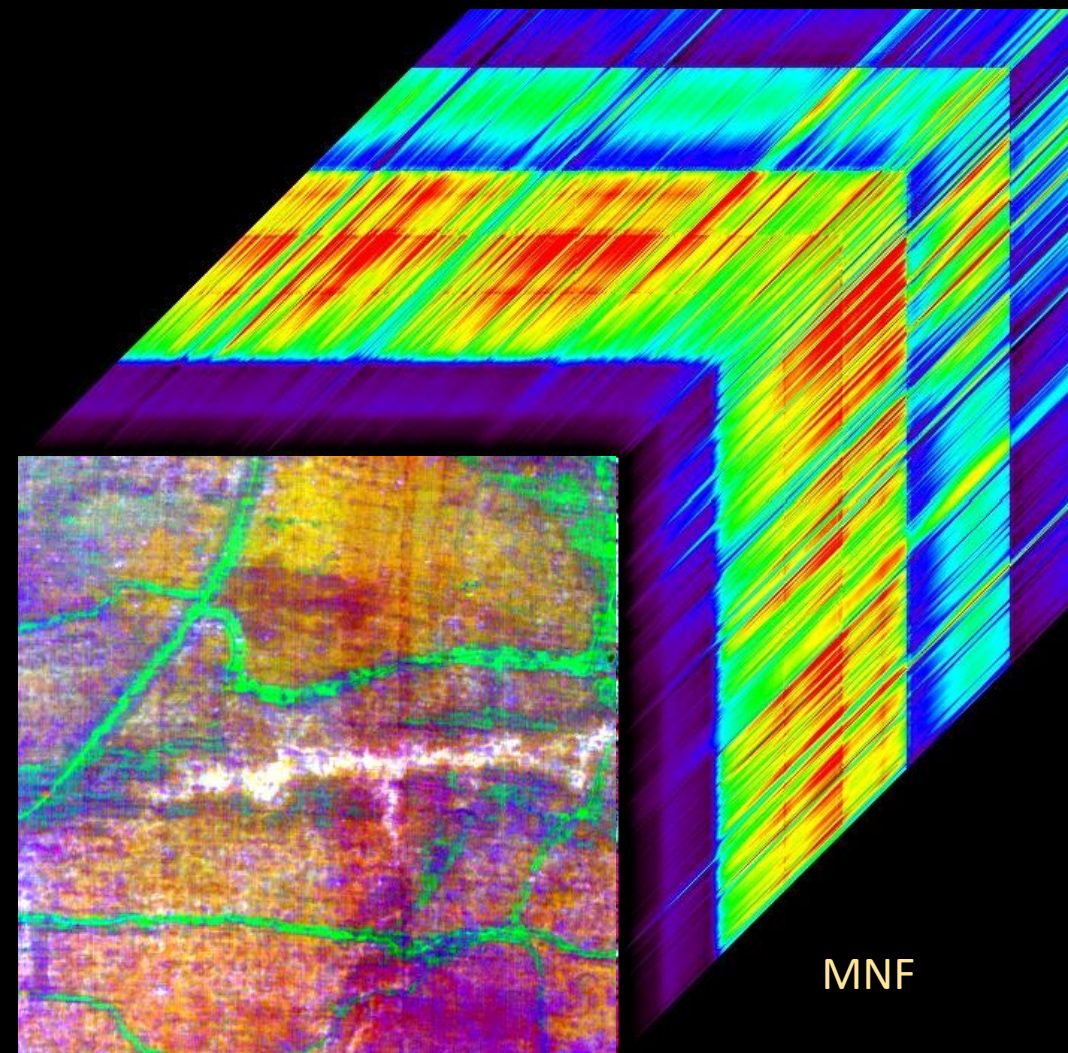
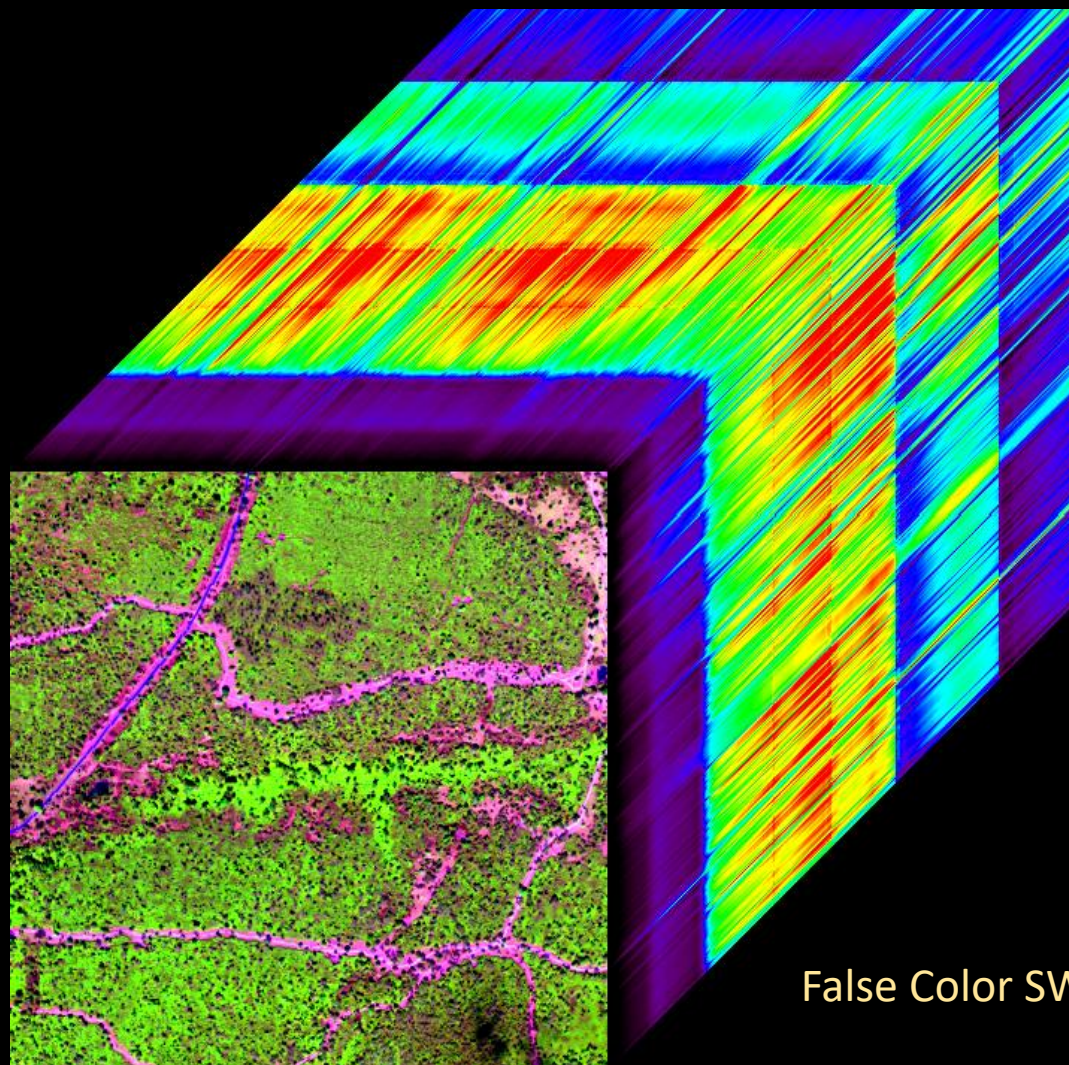
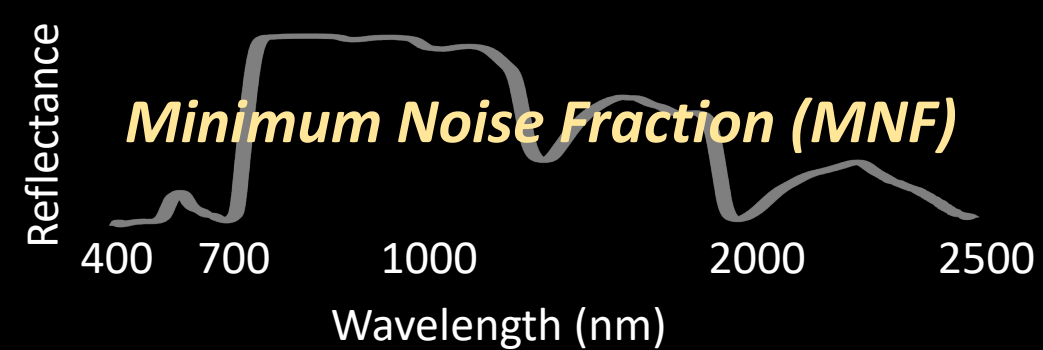
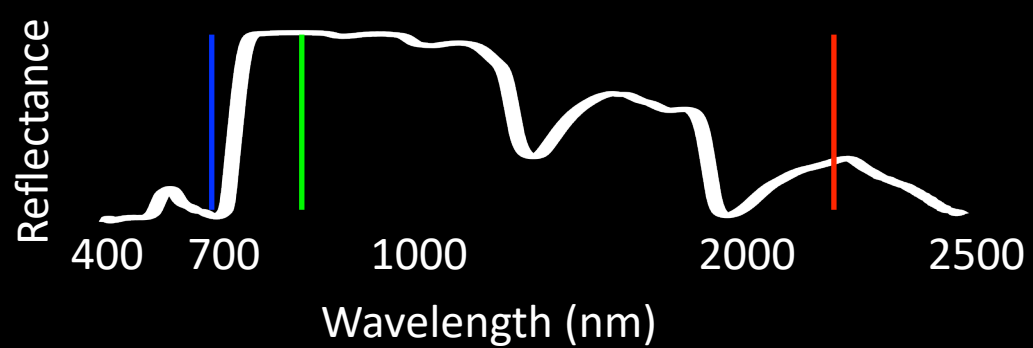
- What is imaging spectroscopy?
- Foliar functional traits and imaging spectroscopy
- Ecosystem function and imaging spectroscopy
- Imaging spectroscopy contributions to biodiversity

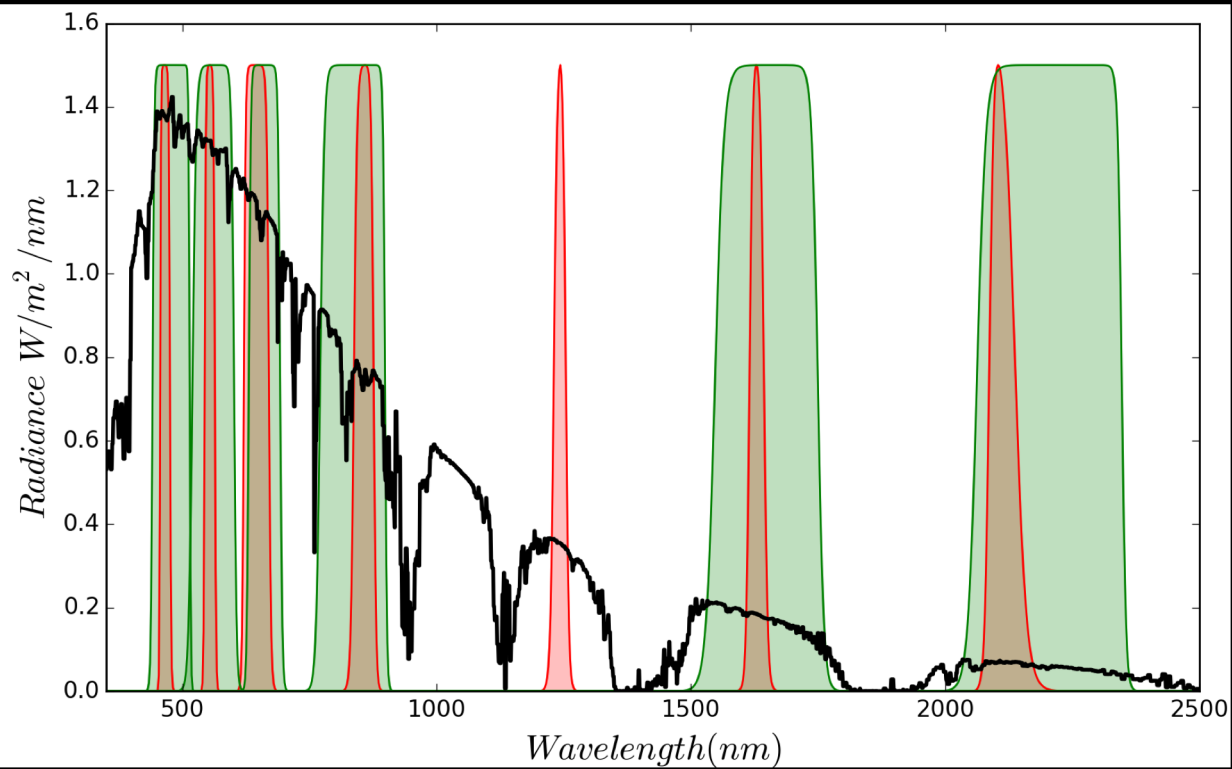
# Representing Imaging Spectroscopy ("Hyperspectral") Data



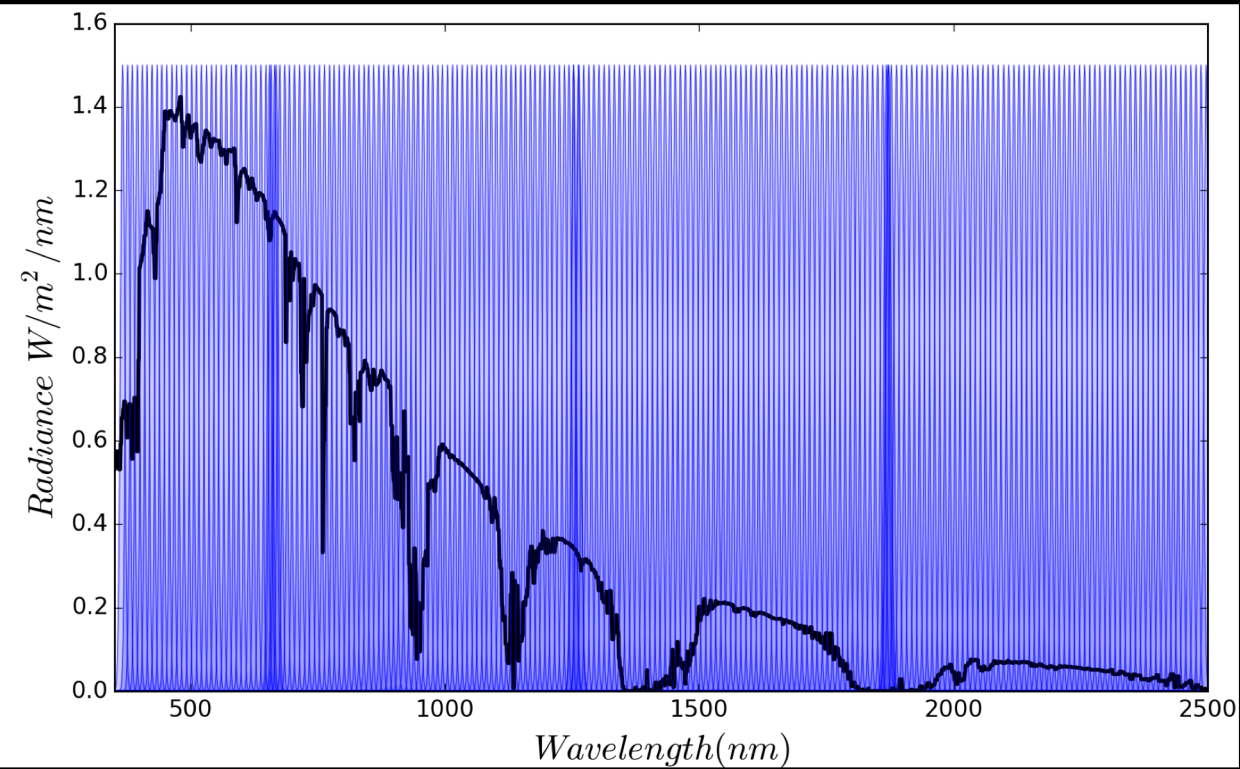








Multispectral



“Hyperspectral”



Censuses



Traits, Fluxes



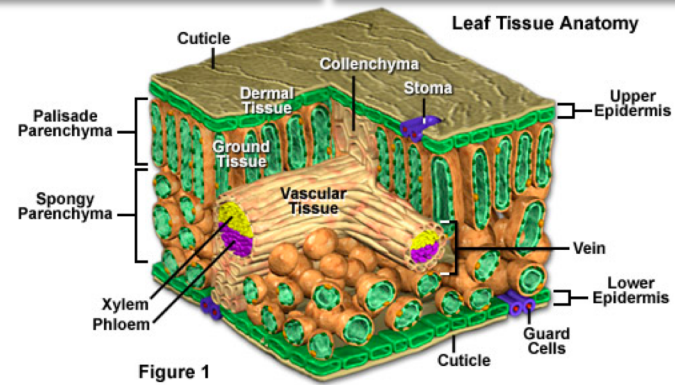
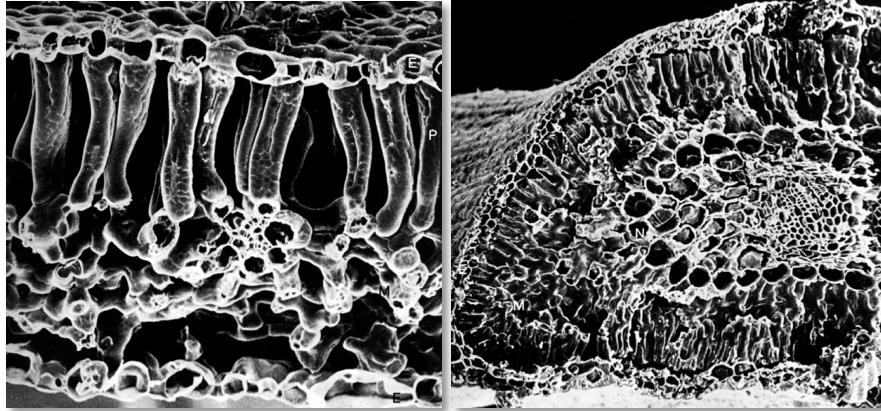
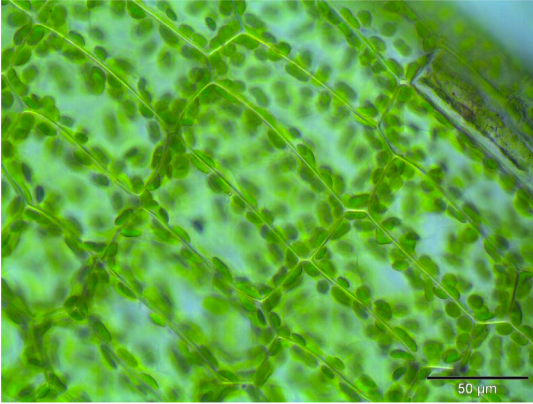
Censuses



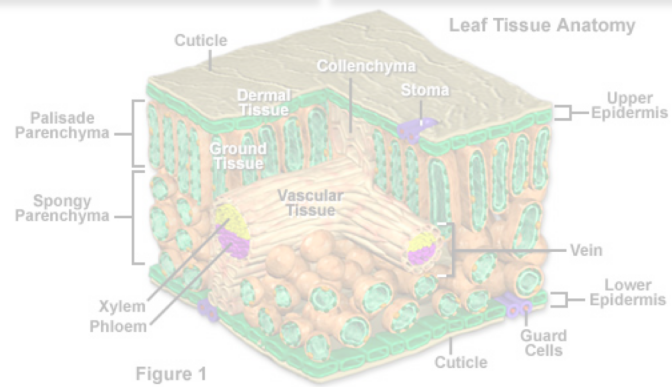
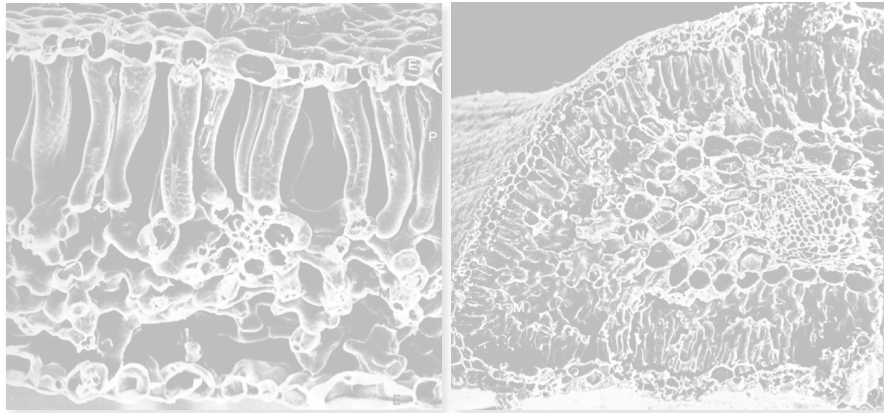
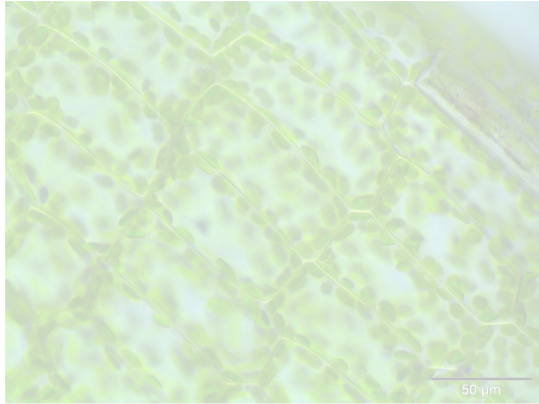
Traits, Fluxes



What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

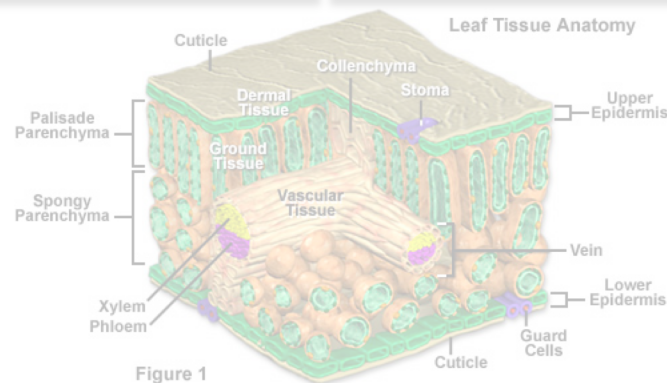
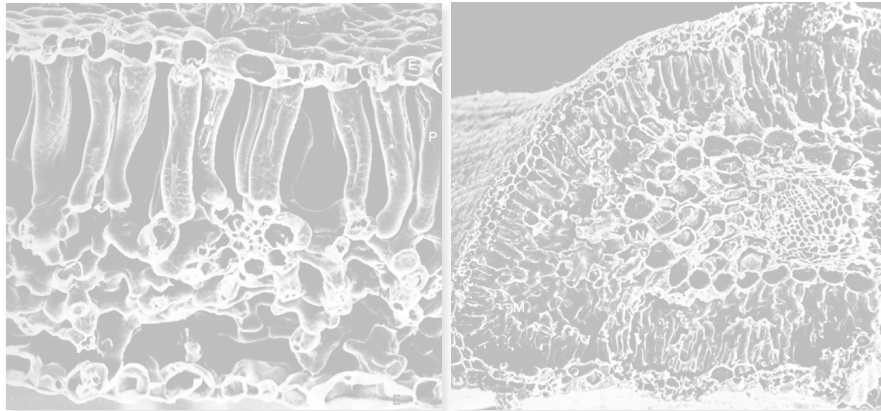
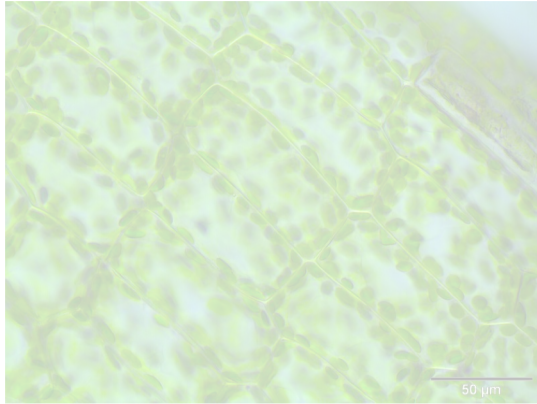


What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?



What are foliar functional traits  
and why do we care?

What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?



### *Photosynthesis*

$\text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{carbohydrates}$

Nitrogen

Leaf Mass per Area (LMA)

Sugars and Starches

Chlorophyll, Pigments

Water

P, K, Ca, Mg

### *Decomposition*

Structural Compounds

Lignin

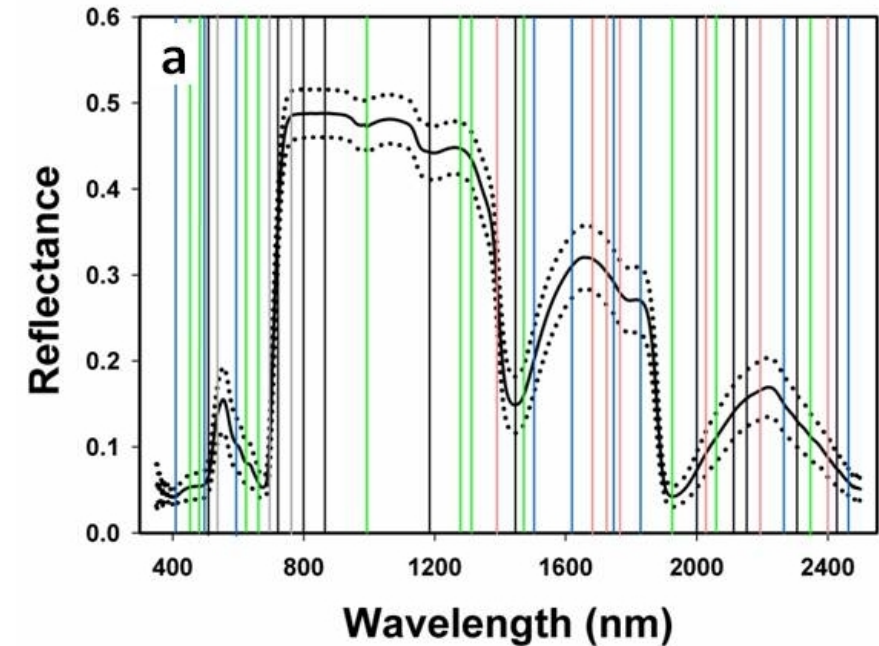
Cellulose

### *Defense*

Tannins

Phenolics

What are foliar functional traits  
and why do we care?



What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

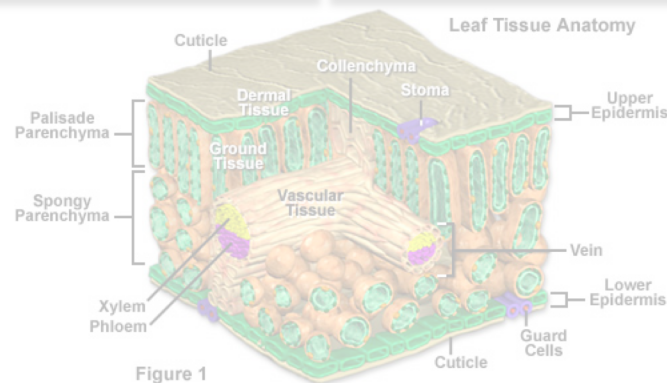
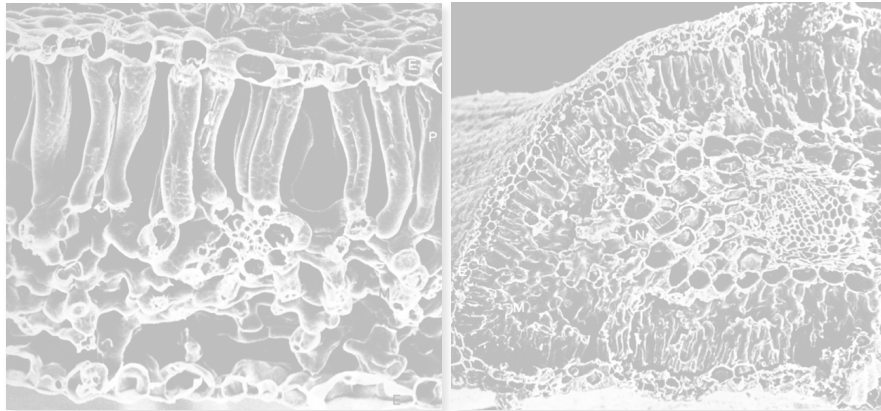
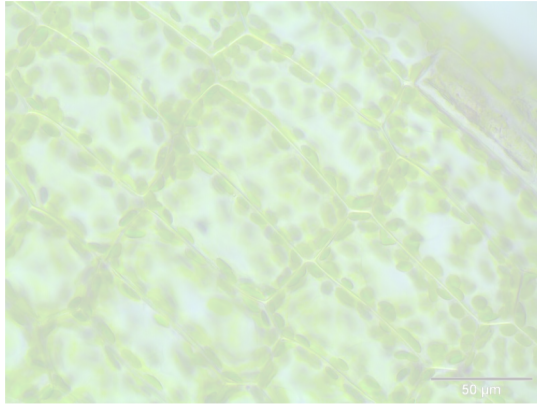
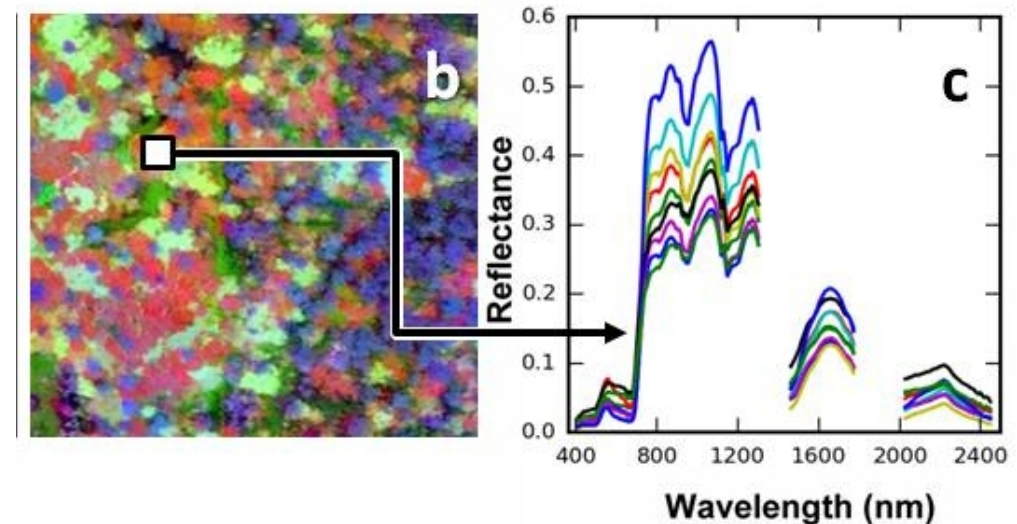
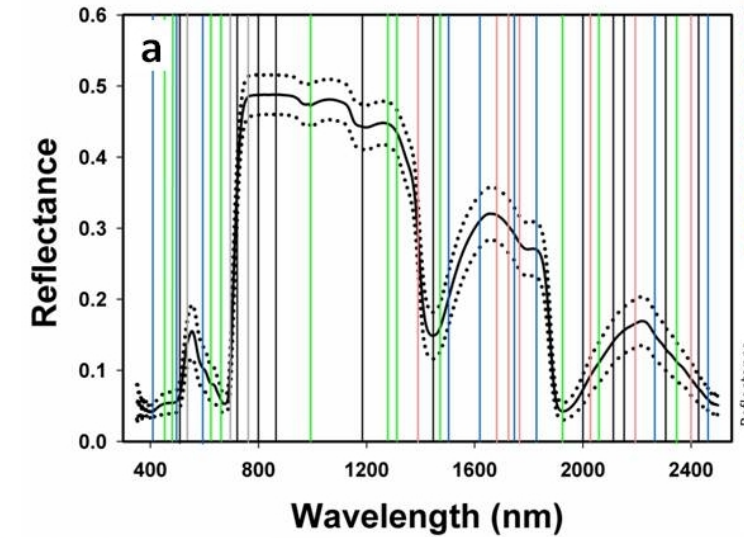


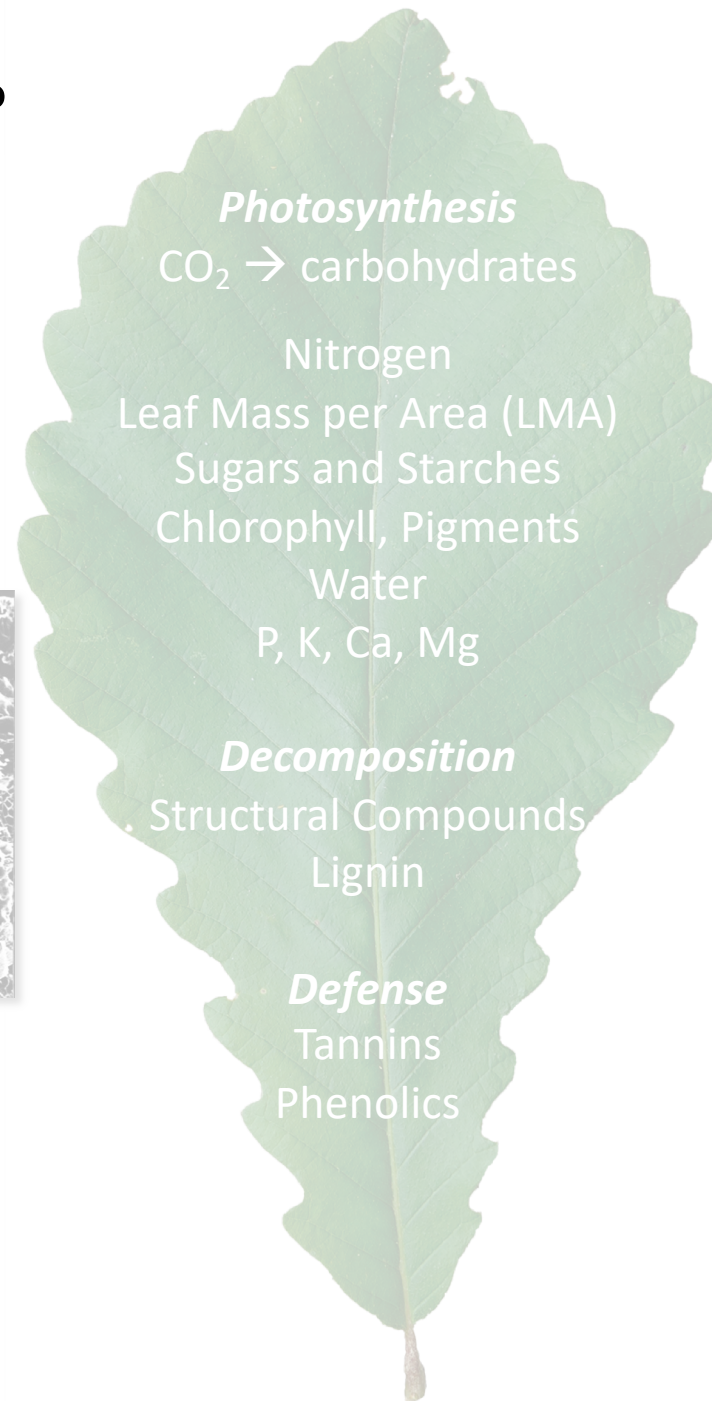
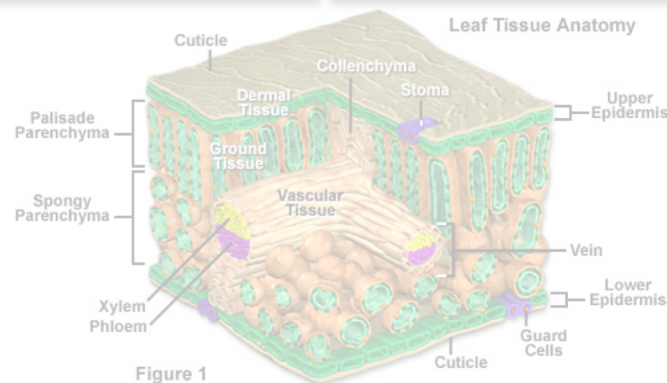
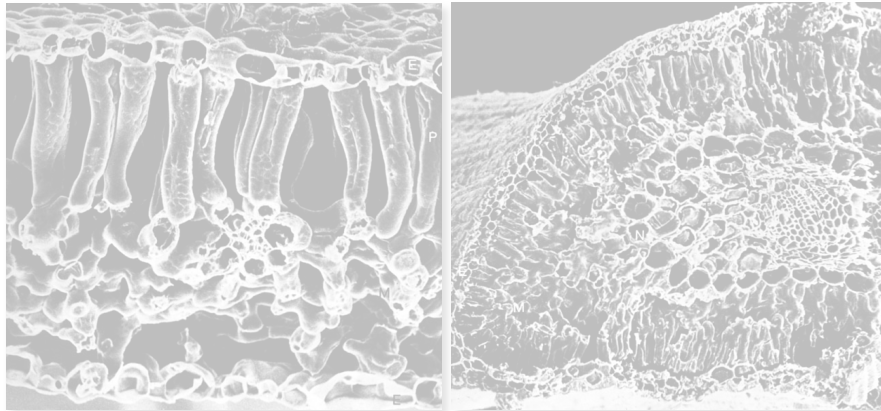
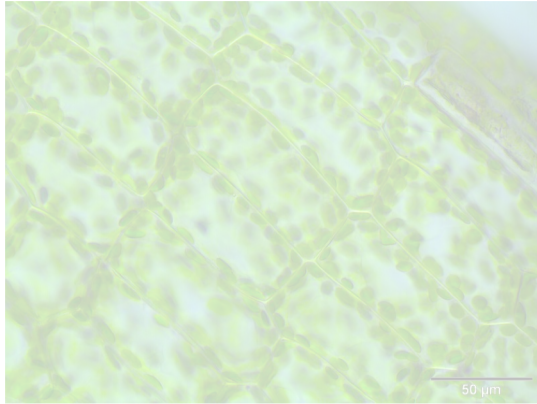
Figure 1



What are foliar functional traits  
and why do we care?



# What are plants doing? What's different among plants?

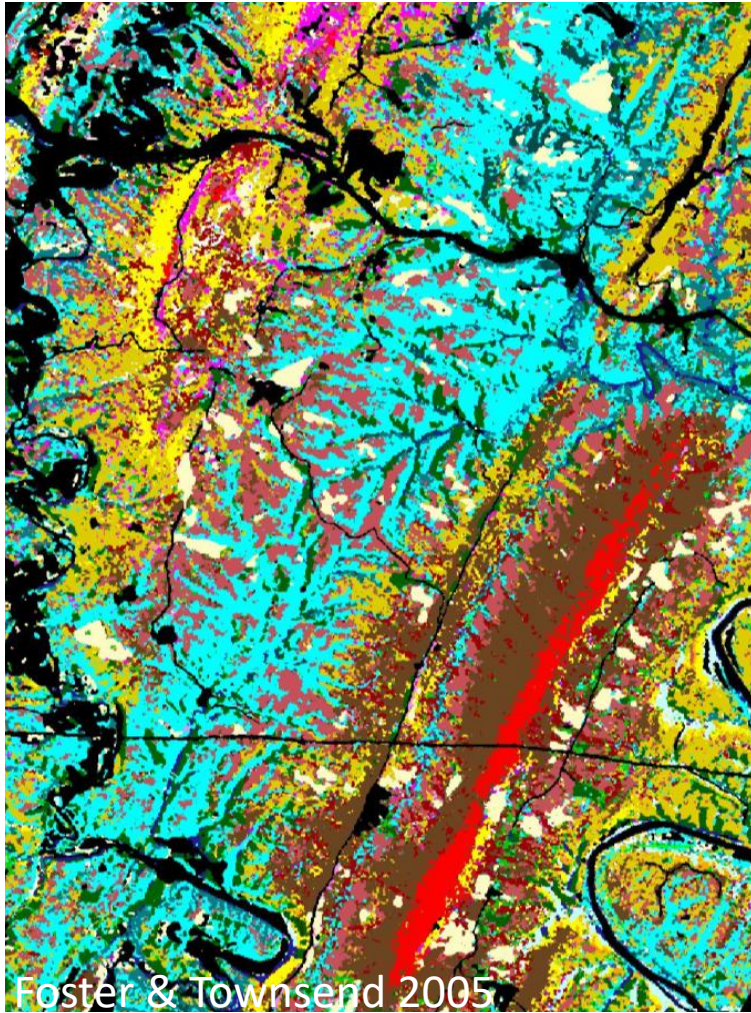


# What are foliar functional traits and why do we care?



What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

What are the causes?  
How will plants respond to change?



Species  
Diversity

What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

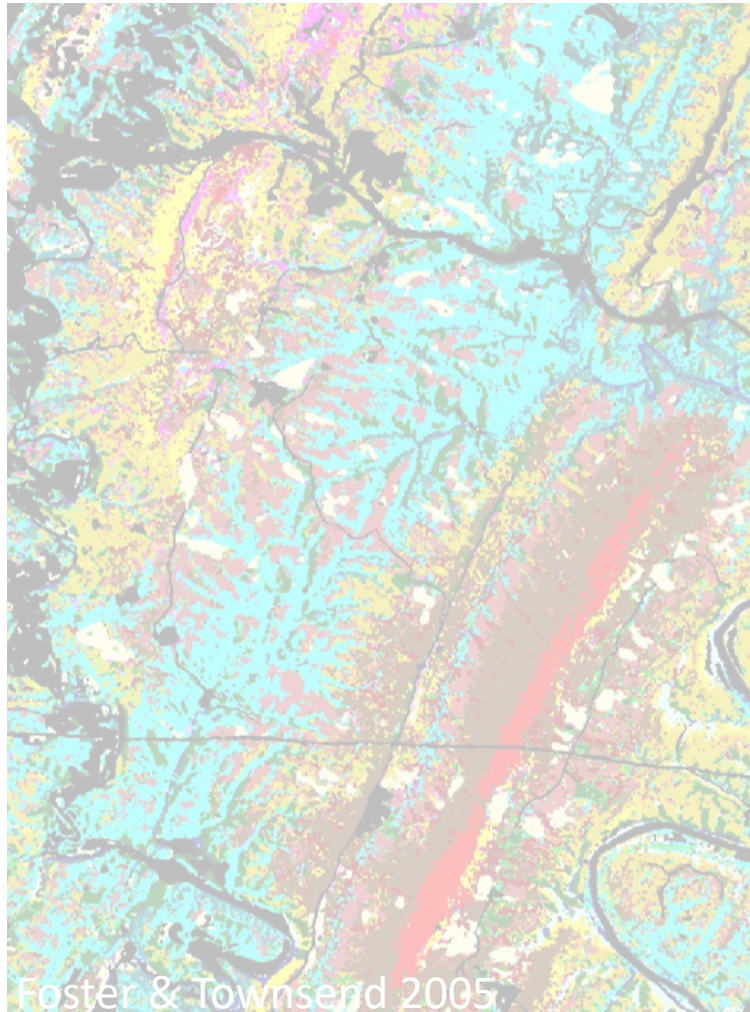
What are the causes?  
How will plants respond to change?



Species

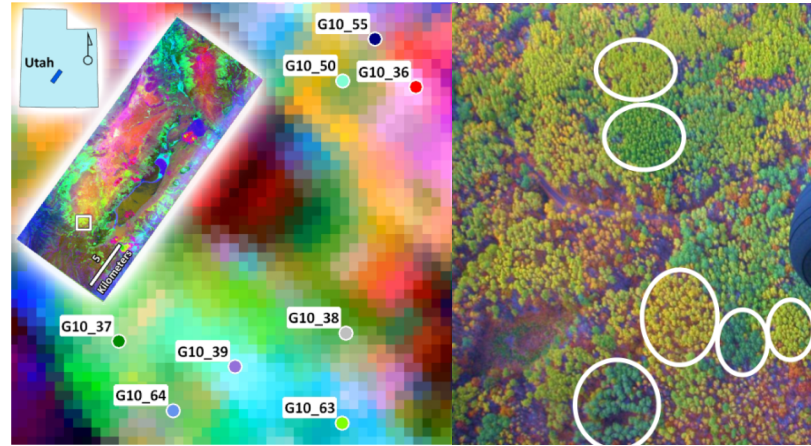
Diversity

What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

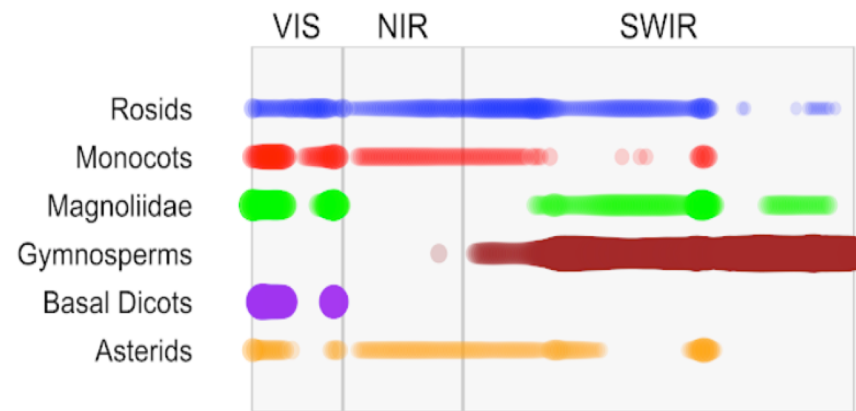


Species  
Diversity

What are the causes?  
How will plants respond to change?



Madritch et al. 2014

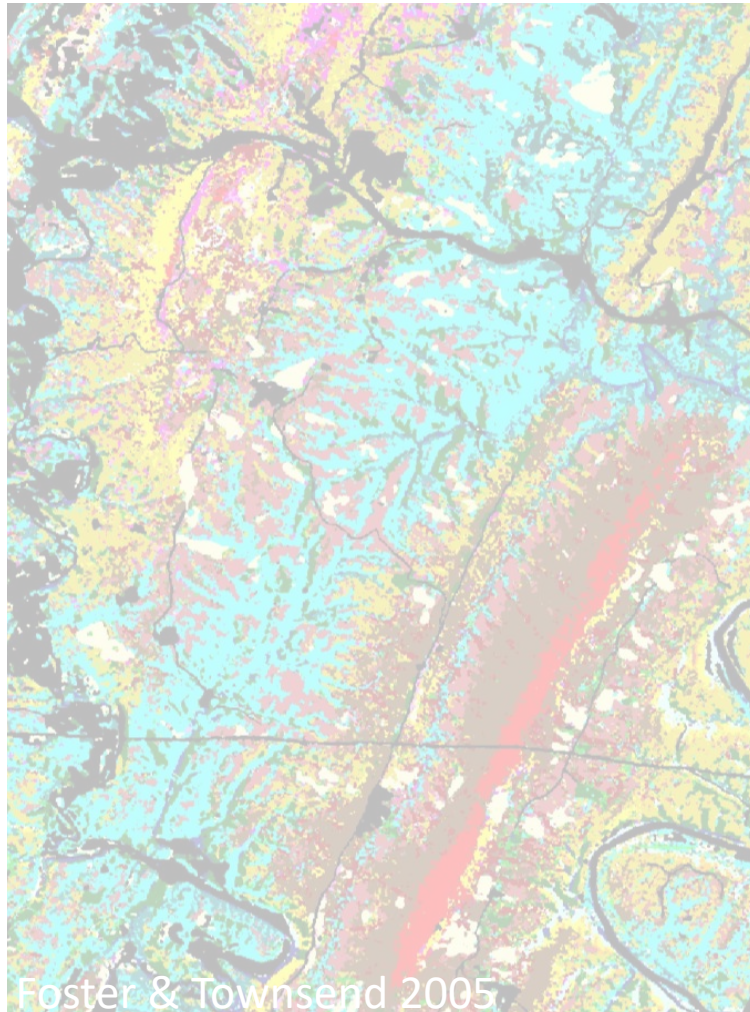


Mereiles, Cavender-Bares et al.

Genotype

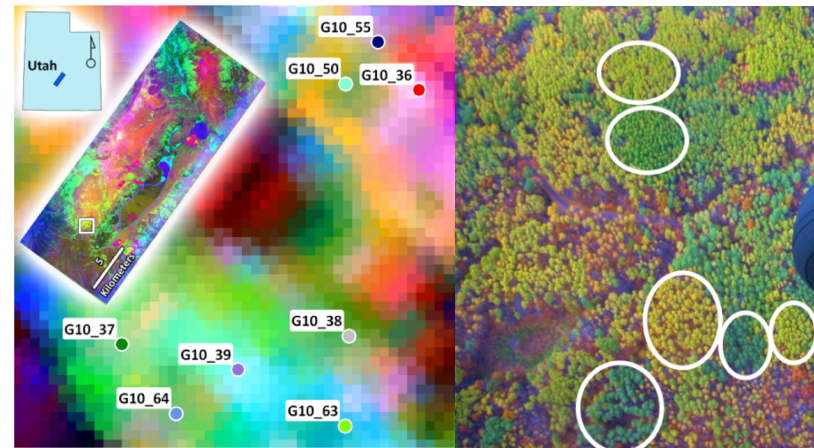
Evolutionary Drivers (selection & phylogeny)

What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

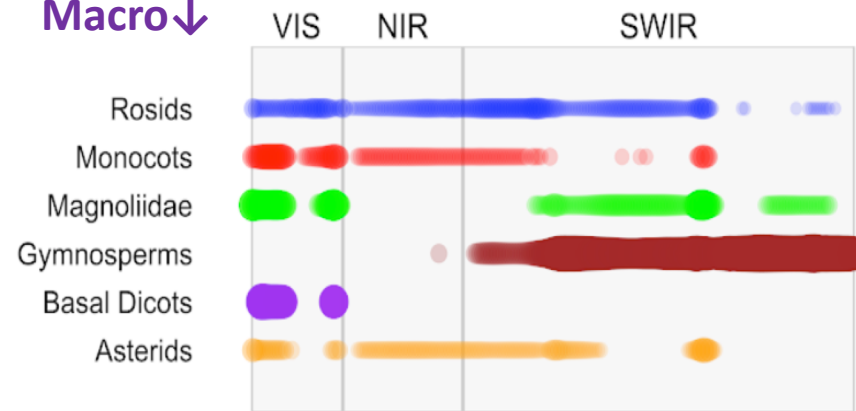


Species  
Diversity

What are the causes?  
How will plants respond to change?



Micro ↑  
Macro ↓  
Madritch et al. 2014

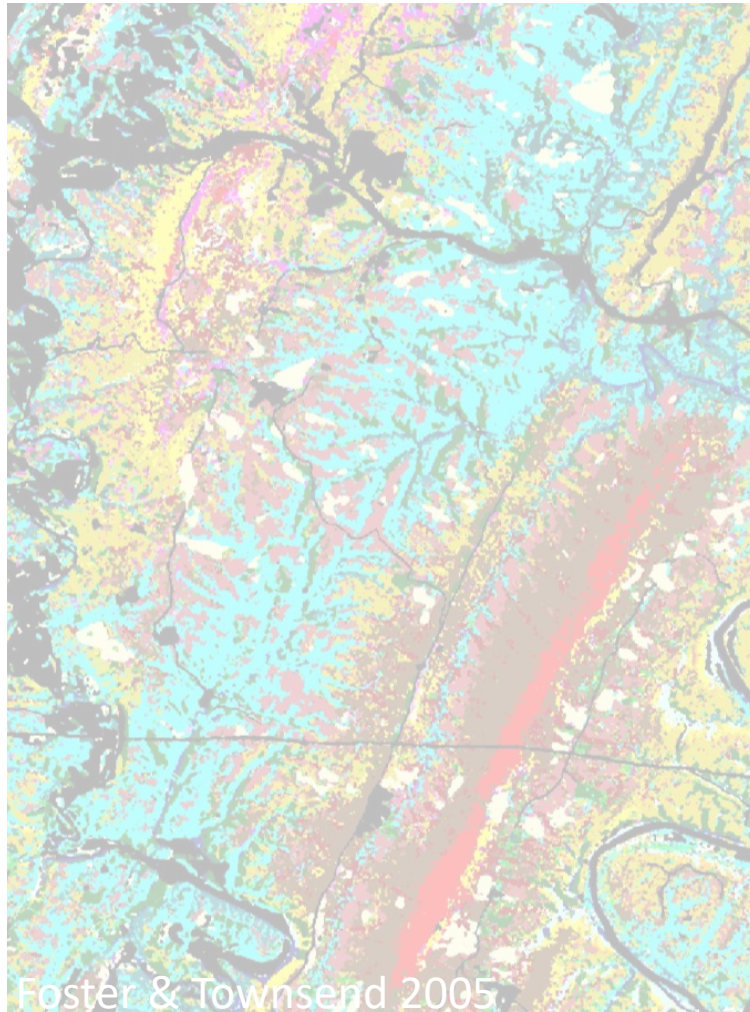


Mereiles, Cavender-Bares et al.

Genotype

Evolutionary Drivers (selection & phylogeny)

What are plants doing?  
What's different among plants?

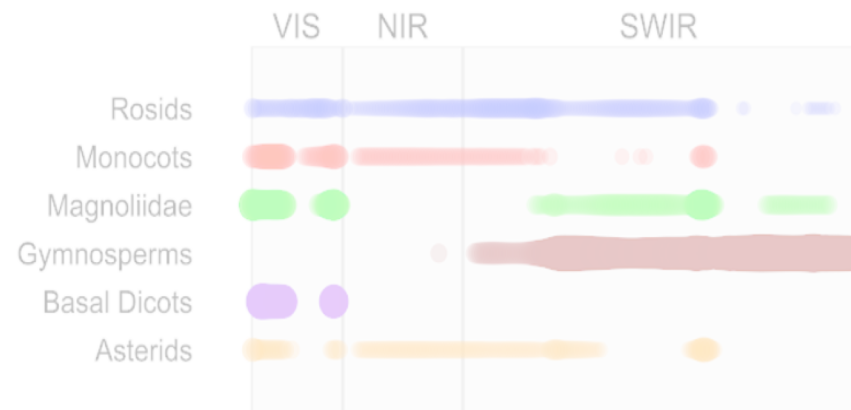


Species

Diversity



Madritch et al. 2014



Mereiles, Cavender-Bares et al.

Genotype

Evolutionary Drivers (selection & phylogeny)

What are the causes?  
How will plants respond to change?



Phenotype

Environment

NATURE

NATURE VOL. 335 8 SEPTEMBER 1988

## Remote sensing of canopy chemistry and nitrogen cycling in temperate forest ecosystems

Carol A. Wessman<sup>\*||</sup>, John D. Aber<sup>†¶</sup>,  
David L. Peterson<sup>‡</sup> & Jerry M. Melillo<sup>§</sup>

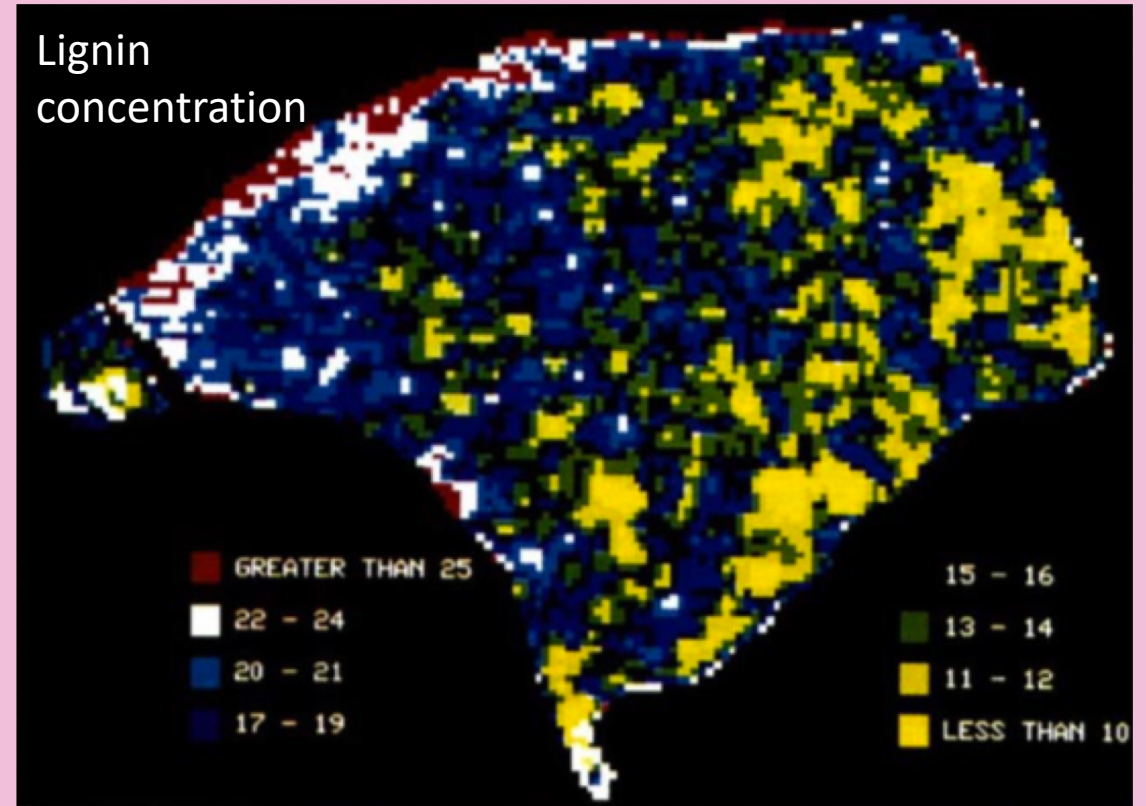
<sup>\*</sup> Department of Forestry and the Environmental Remote Sensing Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA

<sup>†</sup> Department of Forestry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA

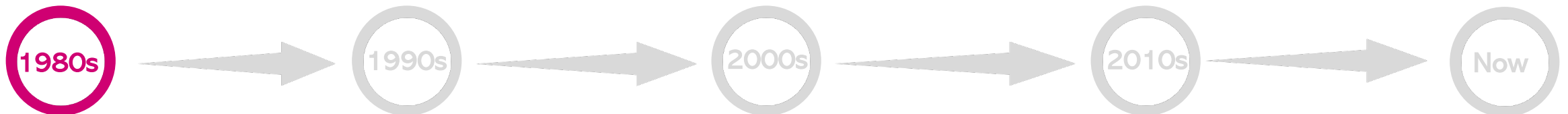
<sup>‡</sup> Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Moffett Field, California 94035, USA

<sup>§</sup> Ecosystems Center, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, USA

Lignin concentration



Wessman et al. 1988



NATURE

NATURE VOL. 335 8 SEPTEMBER 1988

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Carol A. Wessman\*||, John D. Aber†¶, David L. Peterson‡ & Jerry M. Melillo§

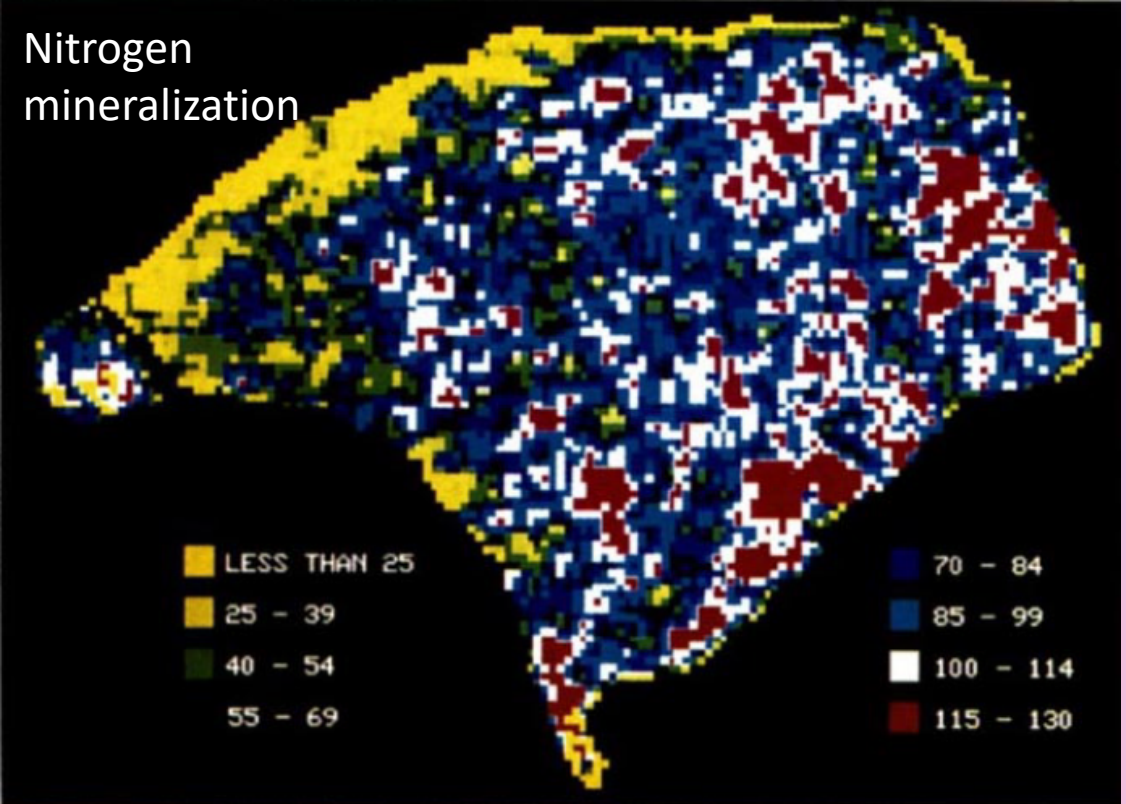
\* Department of Forestry and the Environmental Remote Sensing Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA

† Department of Forestry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA

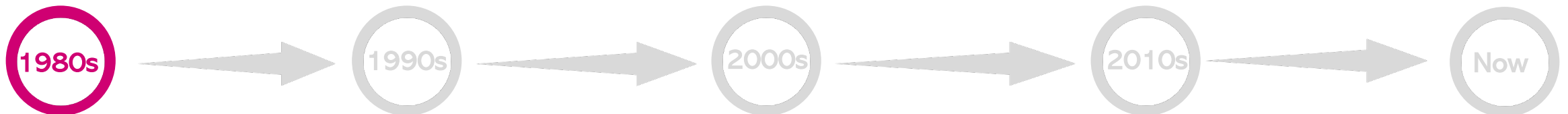
‡ Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Moffett Field, California 94035, USA

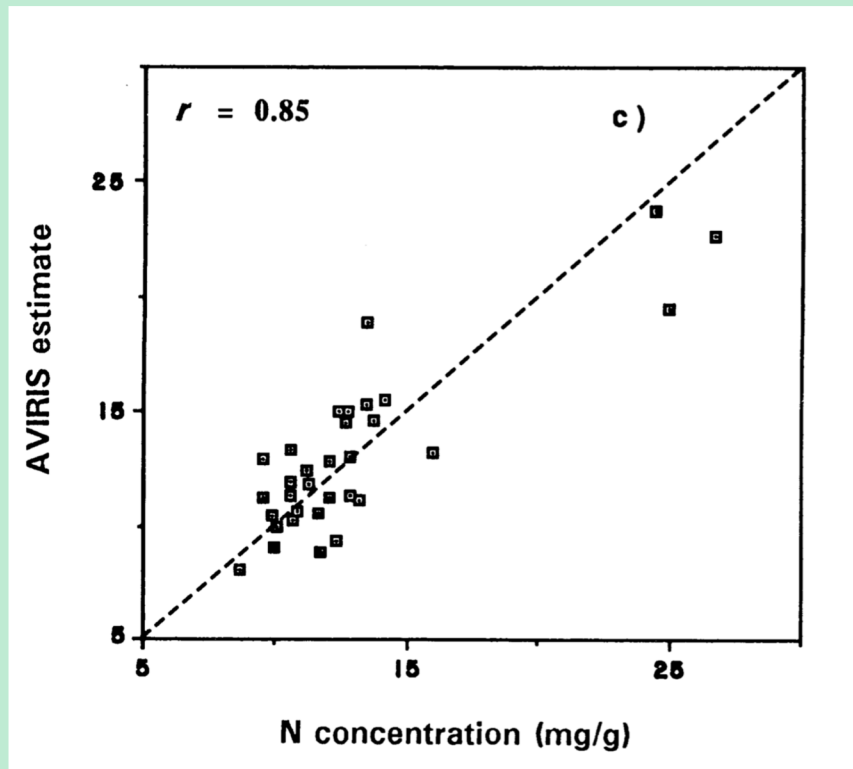
§ Ecosystems Center, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, USA

Nitrogen mineralization

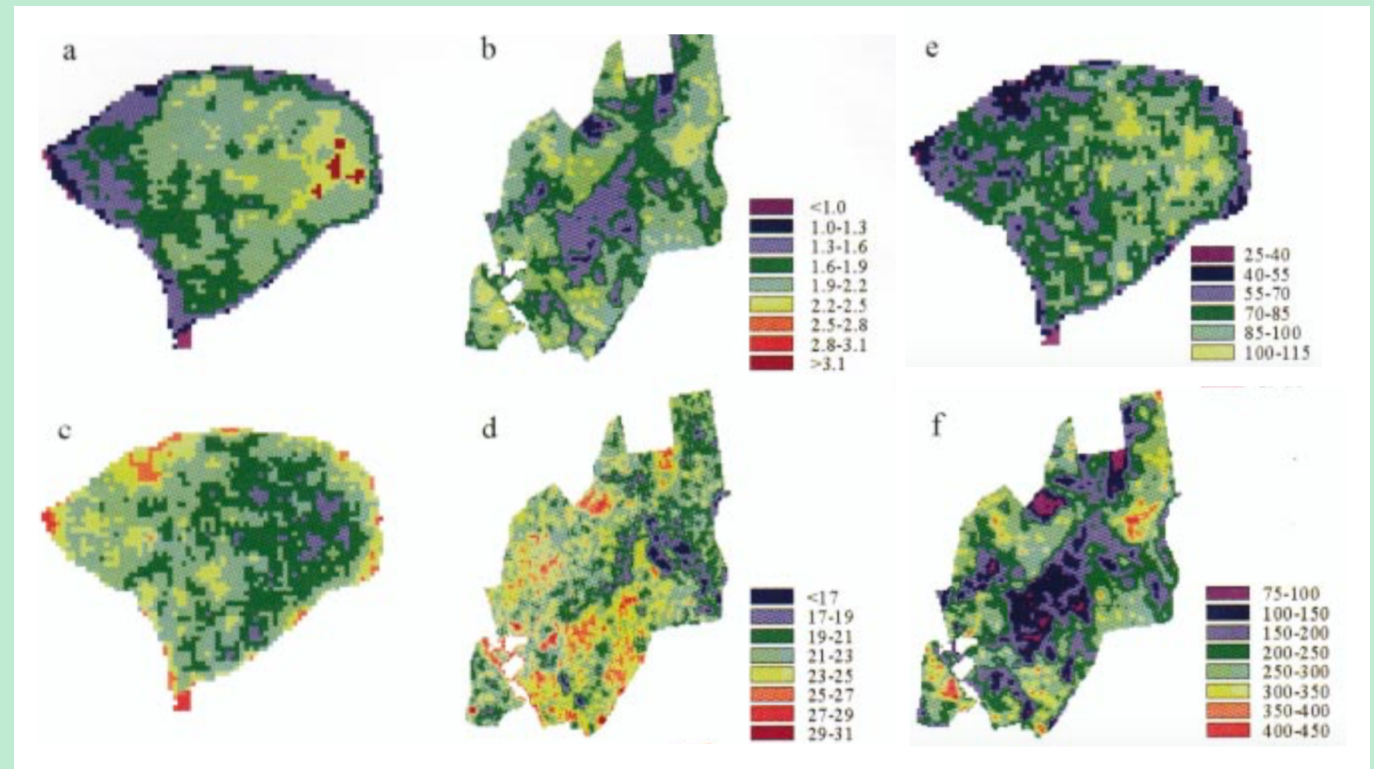


Wessman et al. 1988

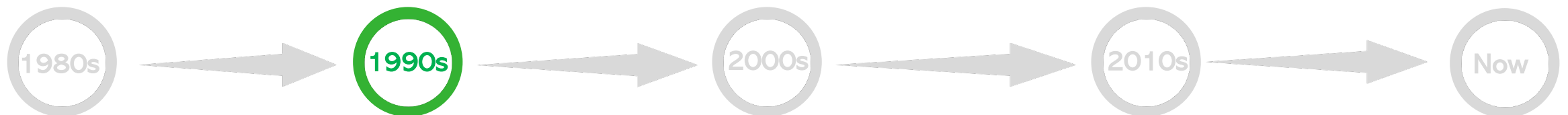




Matson et al. 1994



Martin and Aber 1997



*Botanical Gazette*, Vol. 87, No. 5 (Jun., 1929), pp. 583-607

A SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC STUDY OF REFLECTION OF LIGHT FROM LEAF SURFACES

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE HULL BOTANICAL LABORATORY

CHARLES A. SHULL

*American Journal of Botany*, Vol. 38, No. 5 (May, 1951), pp. 327-331

REFLECTION OF VISIBLE AND INFRARED RADIATION FROM LEAVES OF DIFFERENT ECOLOGICAL GROUPS<sup>1</sup>

W. D. Billings and Robert J. Morris

January 1965 / Vol. 4, No. 1 / APPLIED OPTICS

**Spectral Properties of Plants**

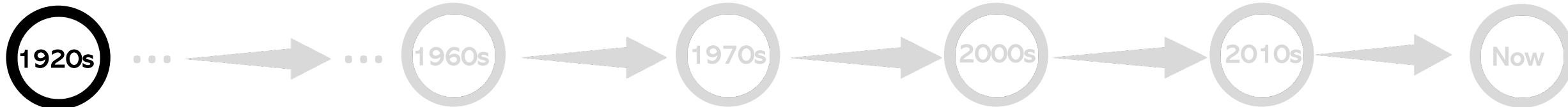
David M. Gates, Harry J. Keegan, John C. Schleter, and Victor R. Weidner

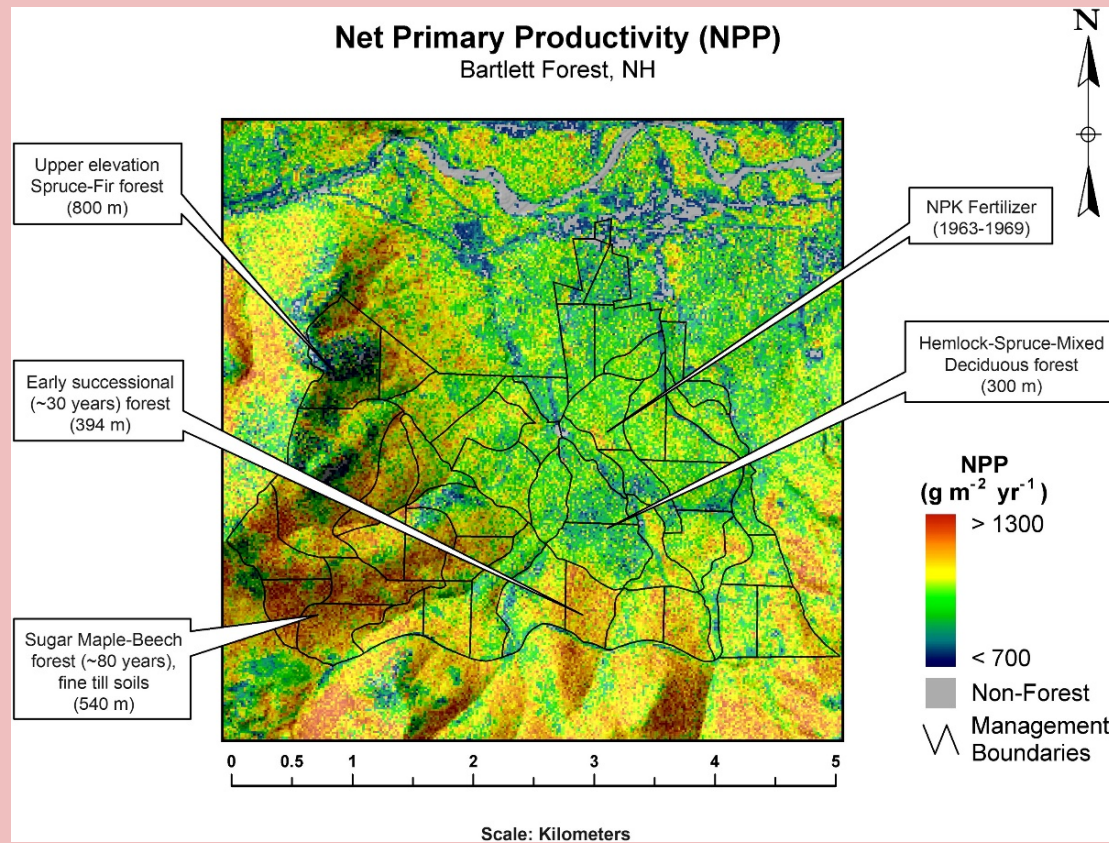
JOURNAL OF ANIMAL SCIENCE, Vol. 43, No. 4 (1976)

**PREDICTING FORAGE QUALITY BY INFRARED REFLECTANCE SPECTROSCOPY<sup>1</sup>**

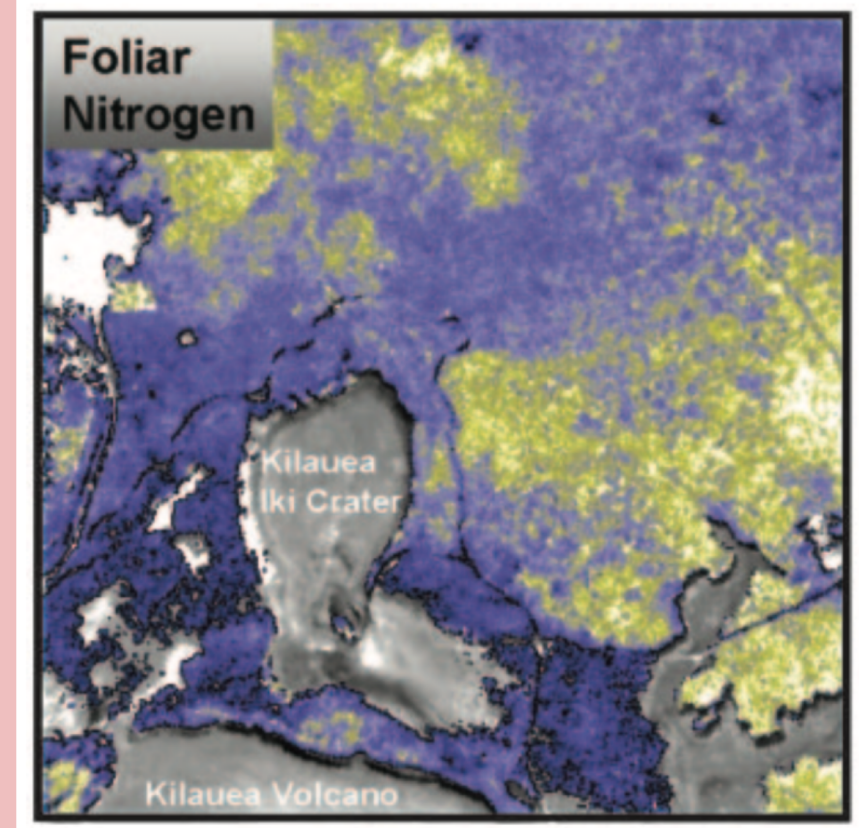
K. H. Norris<sup>2</sup>, R. F. Barnes<sup>3</sup>, J. E. Moore<sup>4</sup> and J. S. Shenk<sup>5,6</sup>

*Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705 and University Park, Pennsylvania 16802;  
The University of Florida, Gainesville 32611; and  
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park 16802*



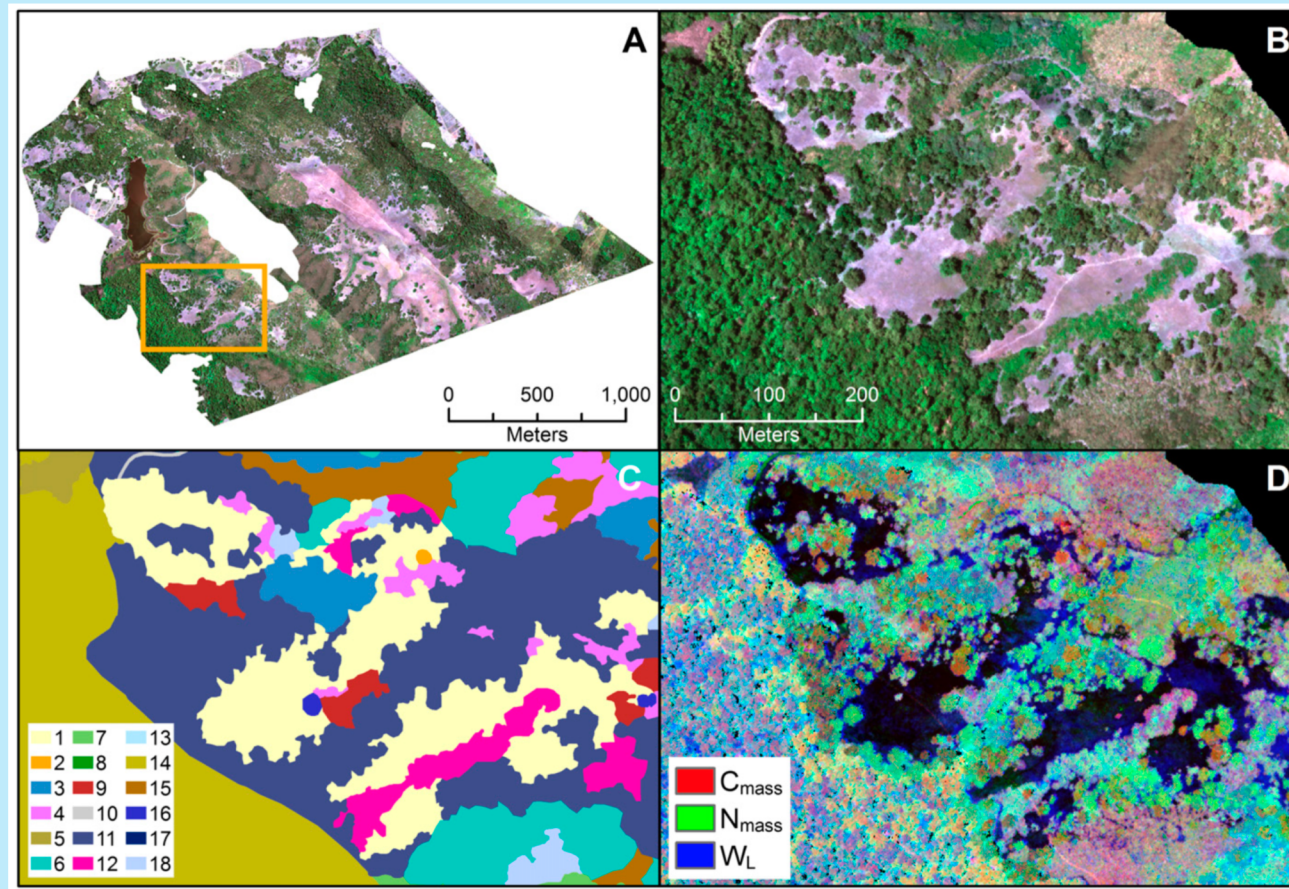


Smith et al. 2002; Ollinger et al. 2005

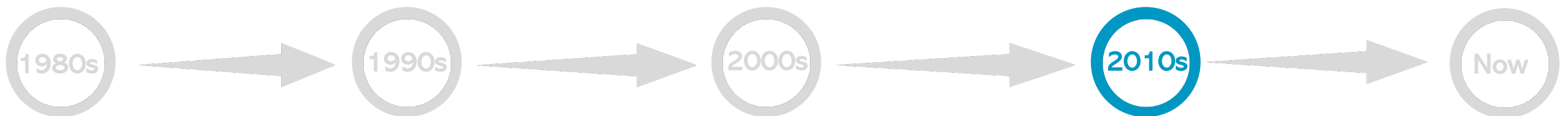


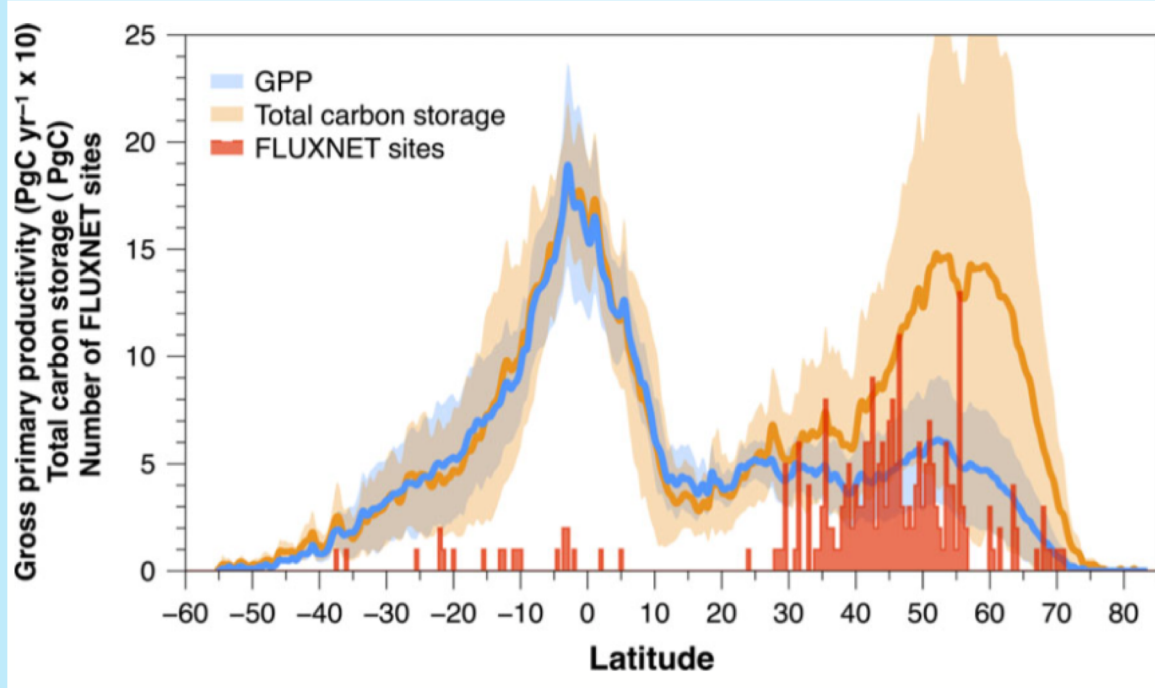
Asner and Vitousek 2005



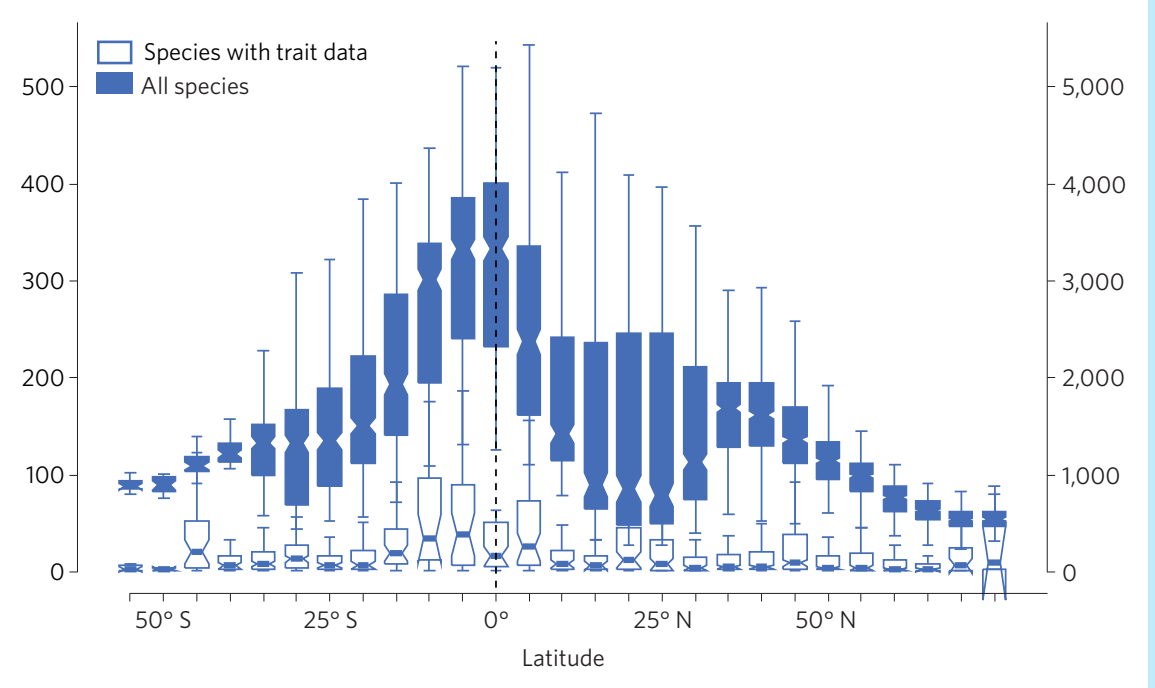


Dahlin et al. 2013

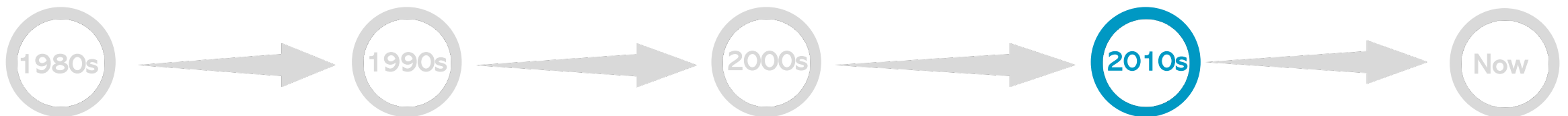


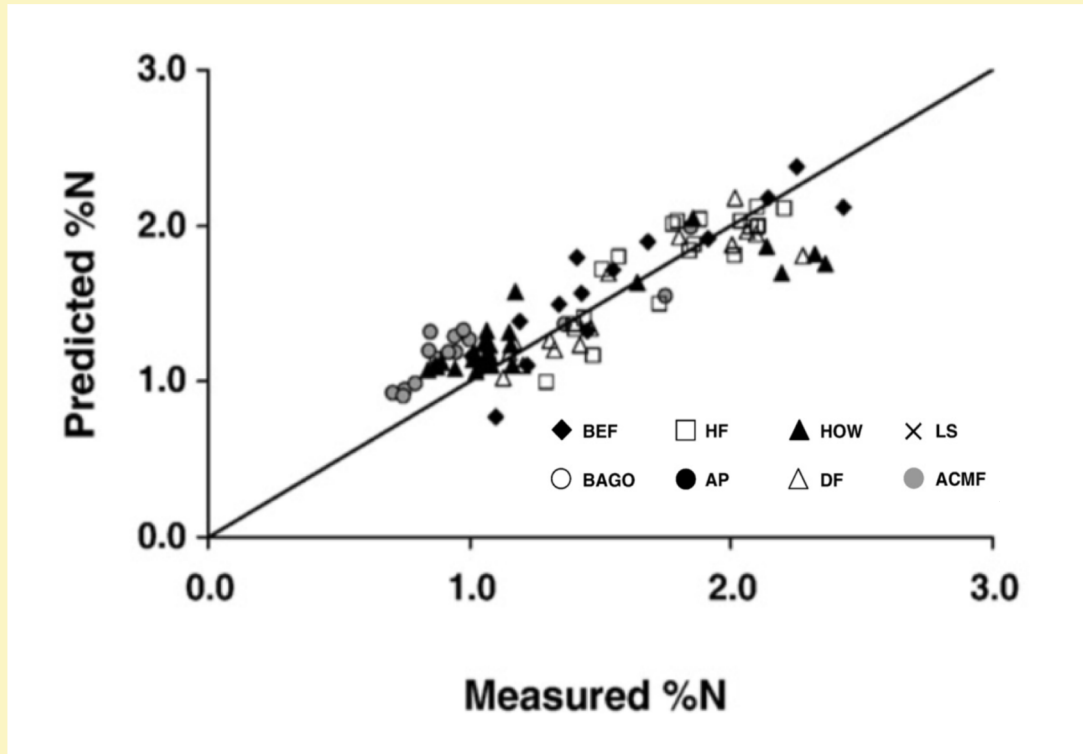


Schimel et al. 2015

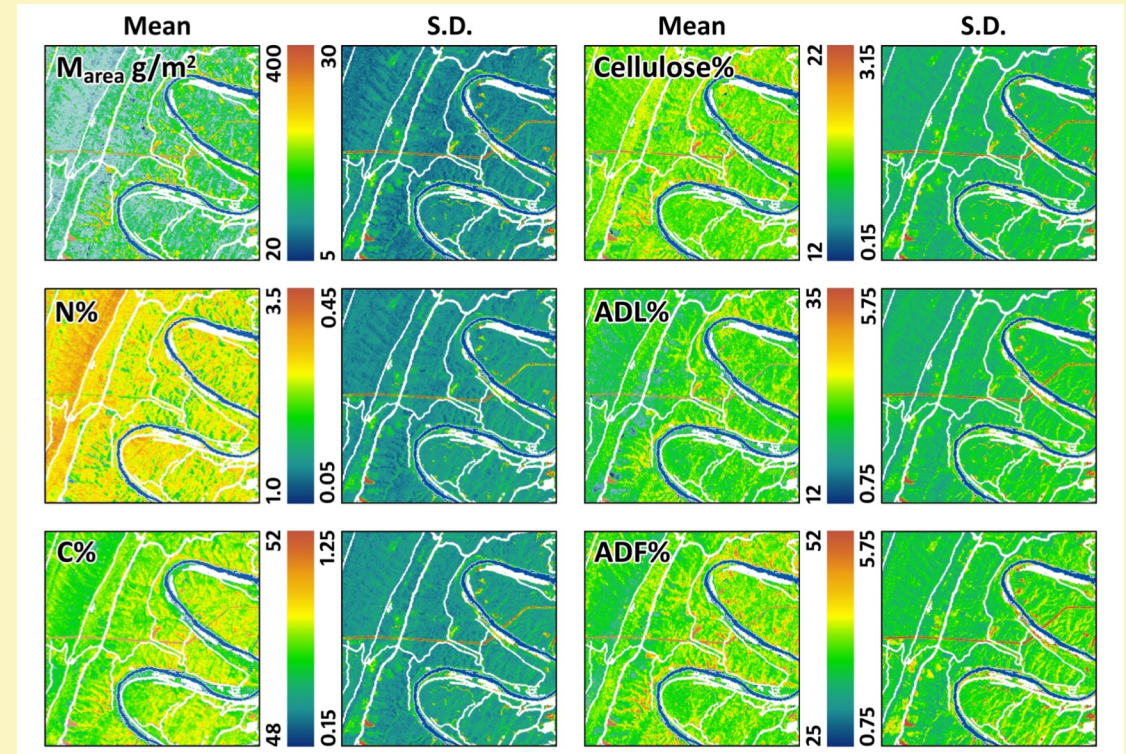


Jetz et al. 2016

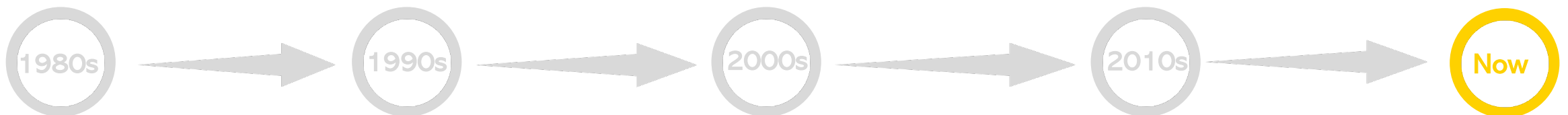




Martin et al. 2008



Singh et al. 2015




Remote Sensing of Environment 158 (2015) 15–27

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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/rse](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rse)

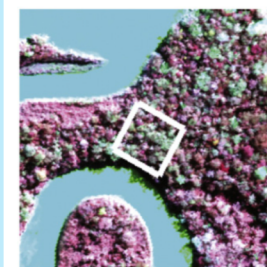
 **ELSEVIER**

**Quantifying forest canopy traits: Imaging spectroscopy versus field survey**

Gregory P. Asner\*, Roberta E. Martin, Christopher B. Anderson, David E. Knapp

Department of Global Ecology, Carnegie Institution for Science, 260 Panama Street, Stanford, CA 94305, USA

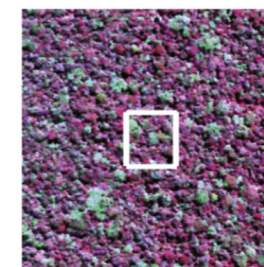




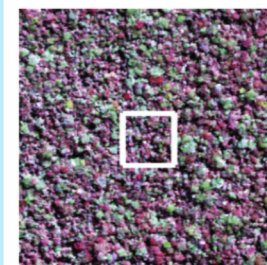
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219m (TAM-09)



223m (TAM-05)



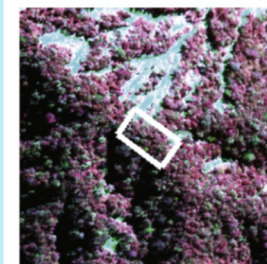
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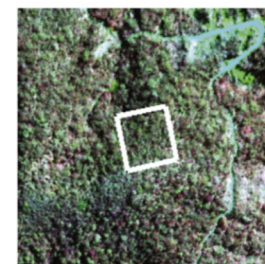
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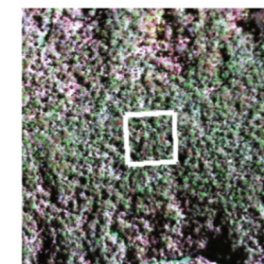
1494m (SPD-02)



1713m (SPD-01)



1832m (TRU-08)



2990m (TRU-03)



Asner et al., *Science* **355**, 385–389 (2017) 27 January 2017

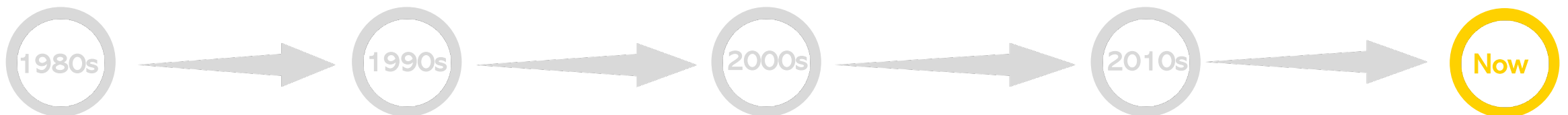
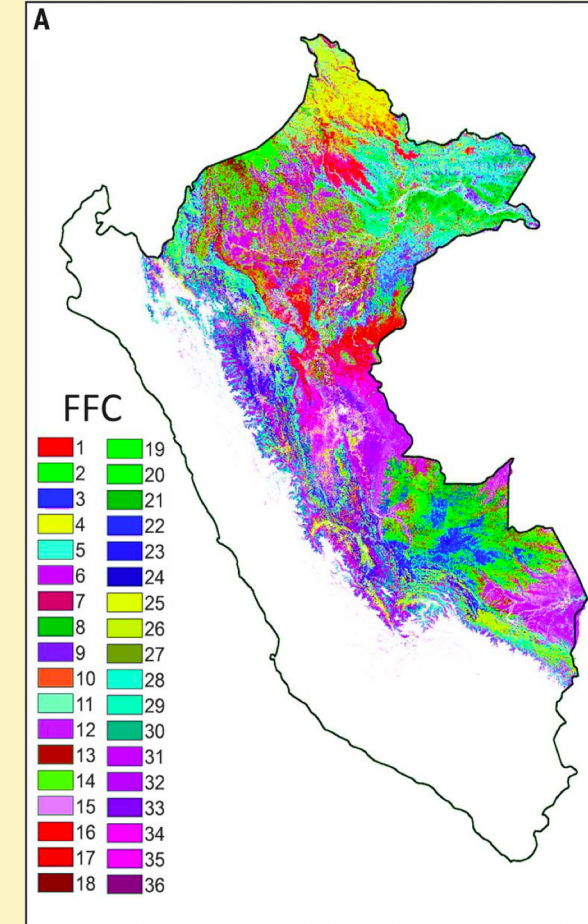
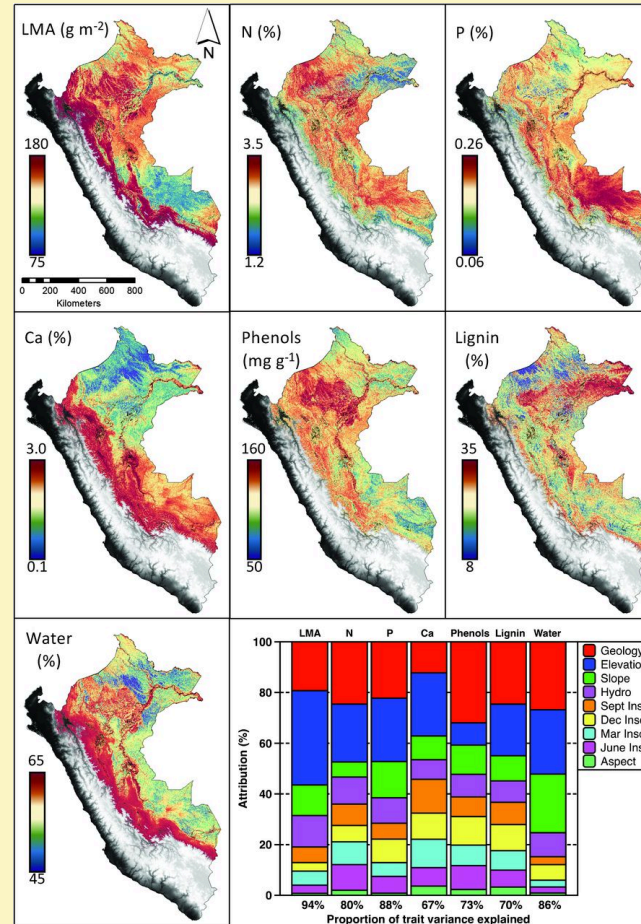
RESEARCH

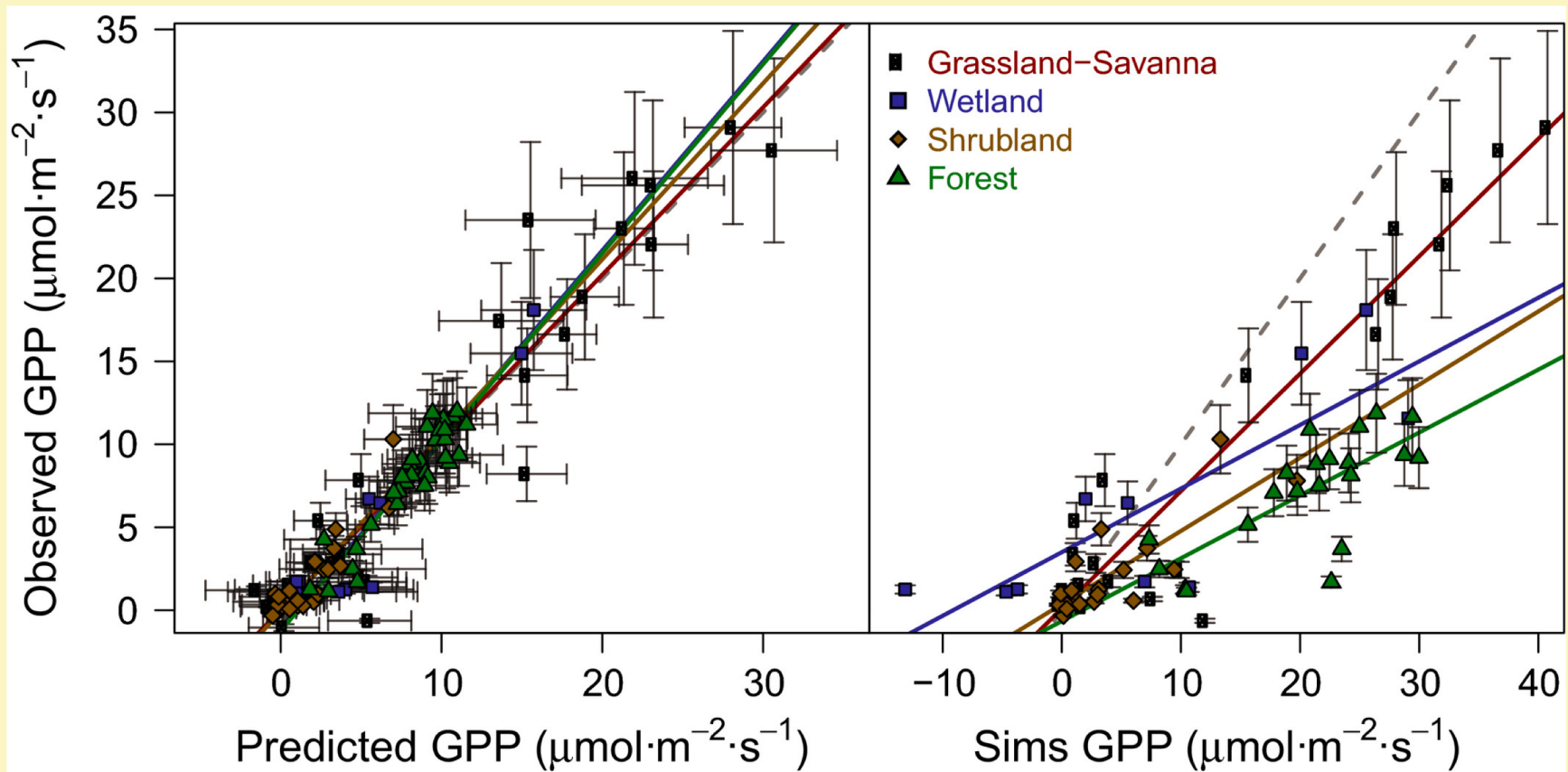
REPORT

FOREST CONSERVATION

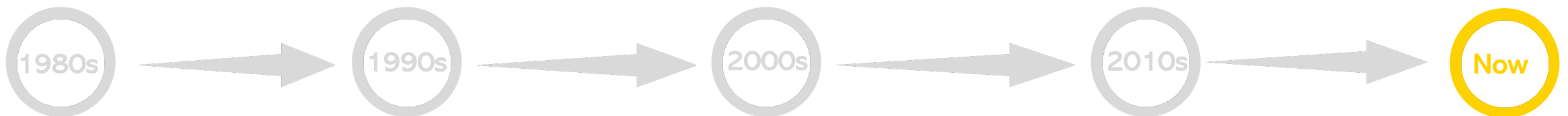
# Airborne laser-guided imaging spectroscopy to map forest trait diversity and guide conservation

G. P. Asner,<sup>1\*</sup> R. E. Martin,<sup>1</sup> D. E. Knapp,<sup>1</sup> R. Tupayachi,<sup>1</sup> C. B. Anderson,<sup>1</sup> F. Sinca,<sup>1</sup> N. R. Vaughn,<sup>1</sup> W. Llacayo<sup>2</sup>



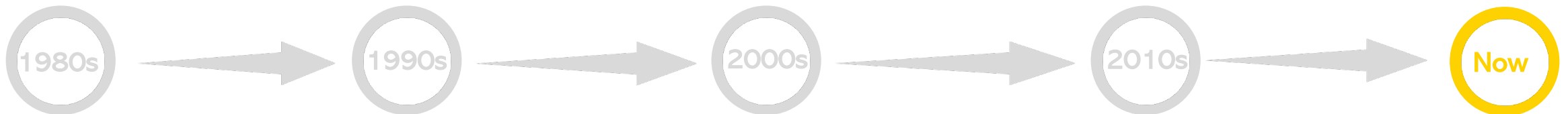


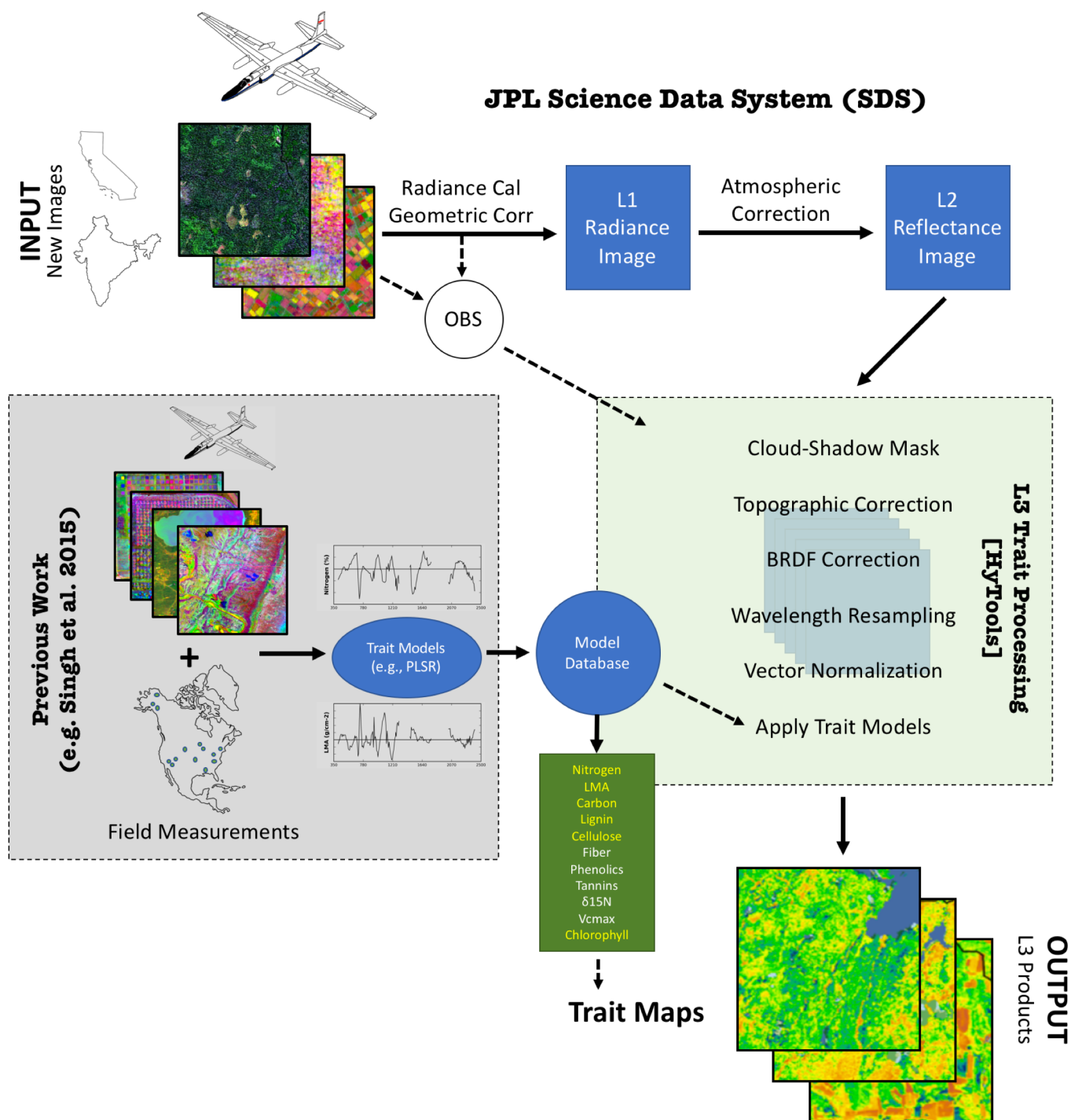
Dubois et al. 2018



# Where are we now?

- Strong foundation of science and application for imaging spectroscopy from space
- Spatial, temporal, spectral resolution → functional resolution
- Address urgent questions about Earth's biosphere, and model phenotypic, genotypic, and ecological community response to environmental / climate change





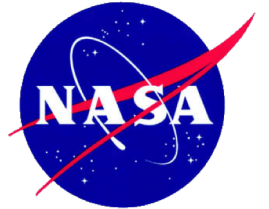
Barriers to entry:

Workflow

Operational with  
AVIRIS



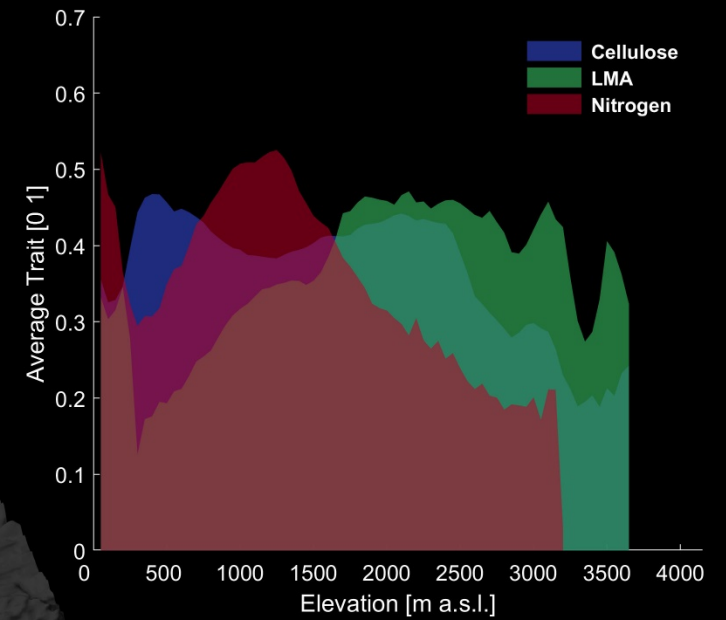
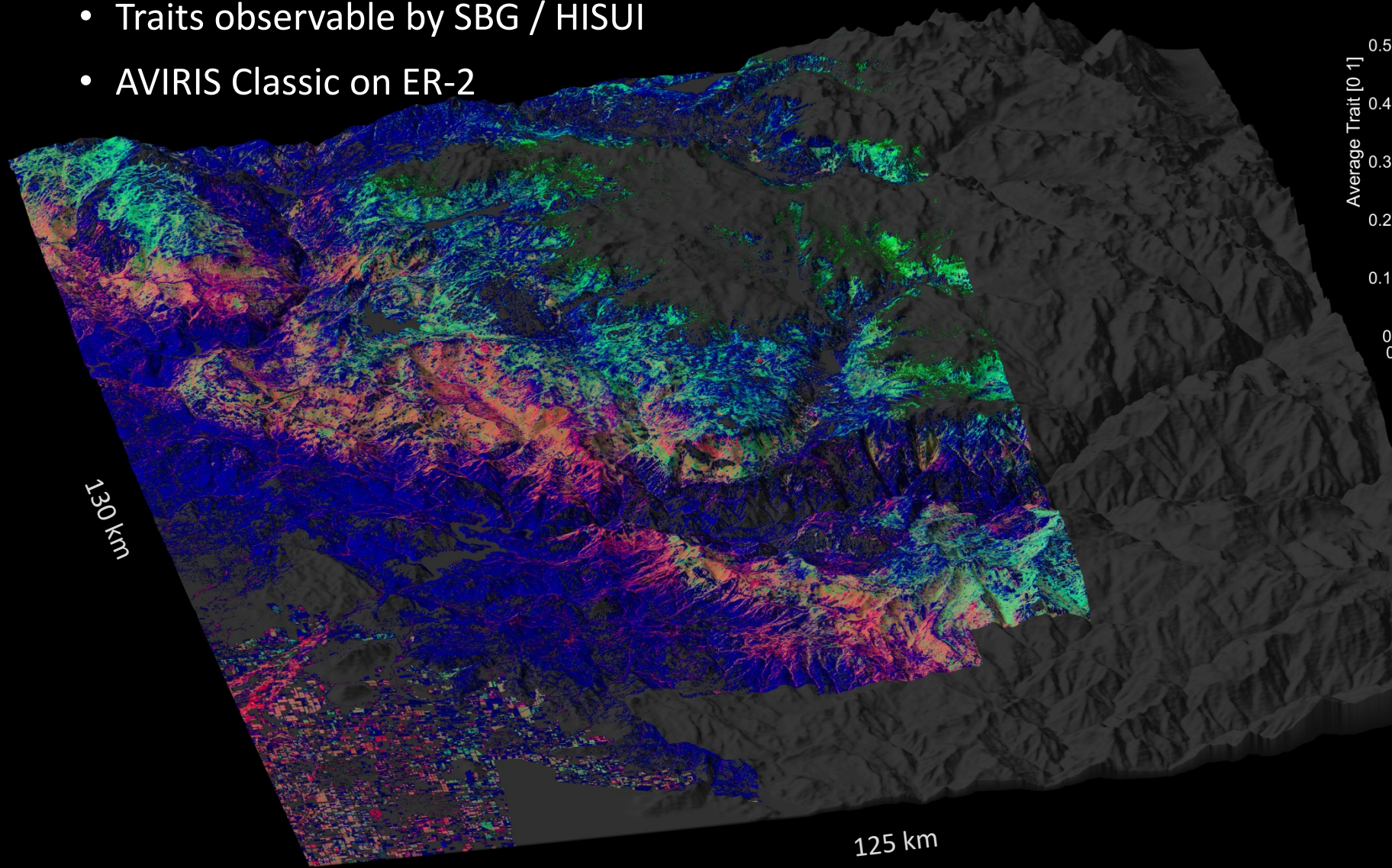
**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
California Institute of Technology



**neon**  
National Ecological Observatory Network

# Preliminary Results

- Traits observable by SBG / HISUI
- AVIRIS Classic on ER-2

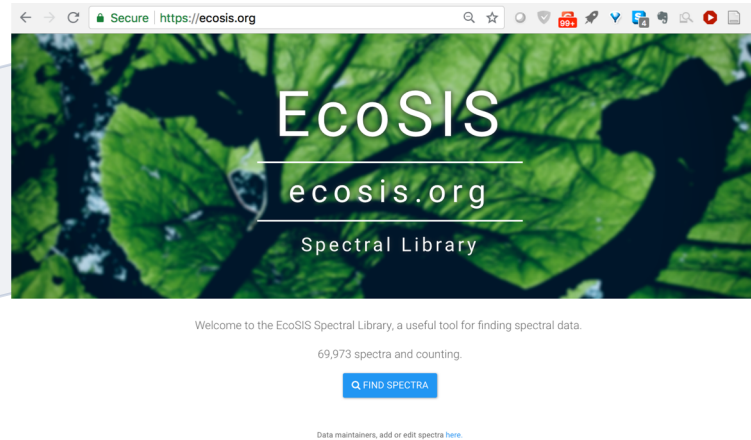


Townsend et al. in prep., Singh et al. 2015; figure by Fabian Schneider

# Emerging tools for synthesis and implementation

## Data Life Cycle

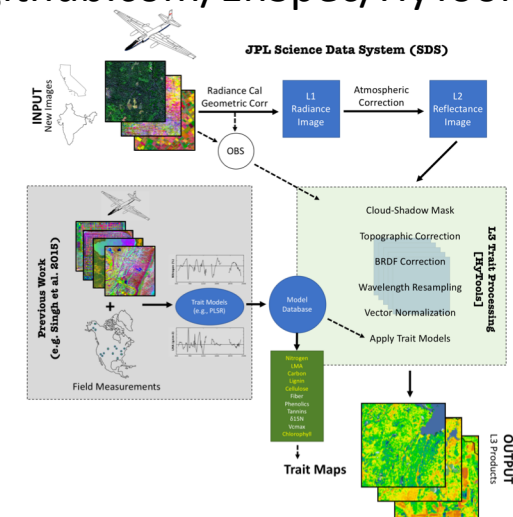
EcoSIS.org – get your DOI, archive spectral data and measurements

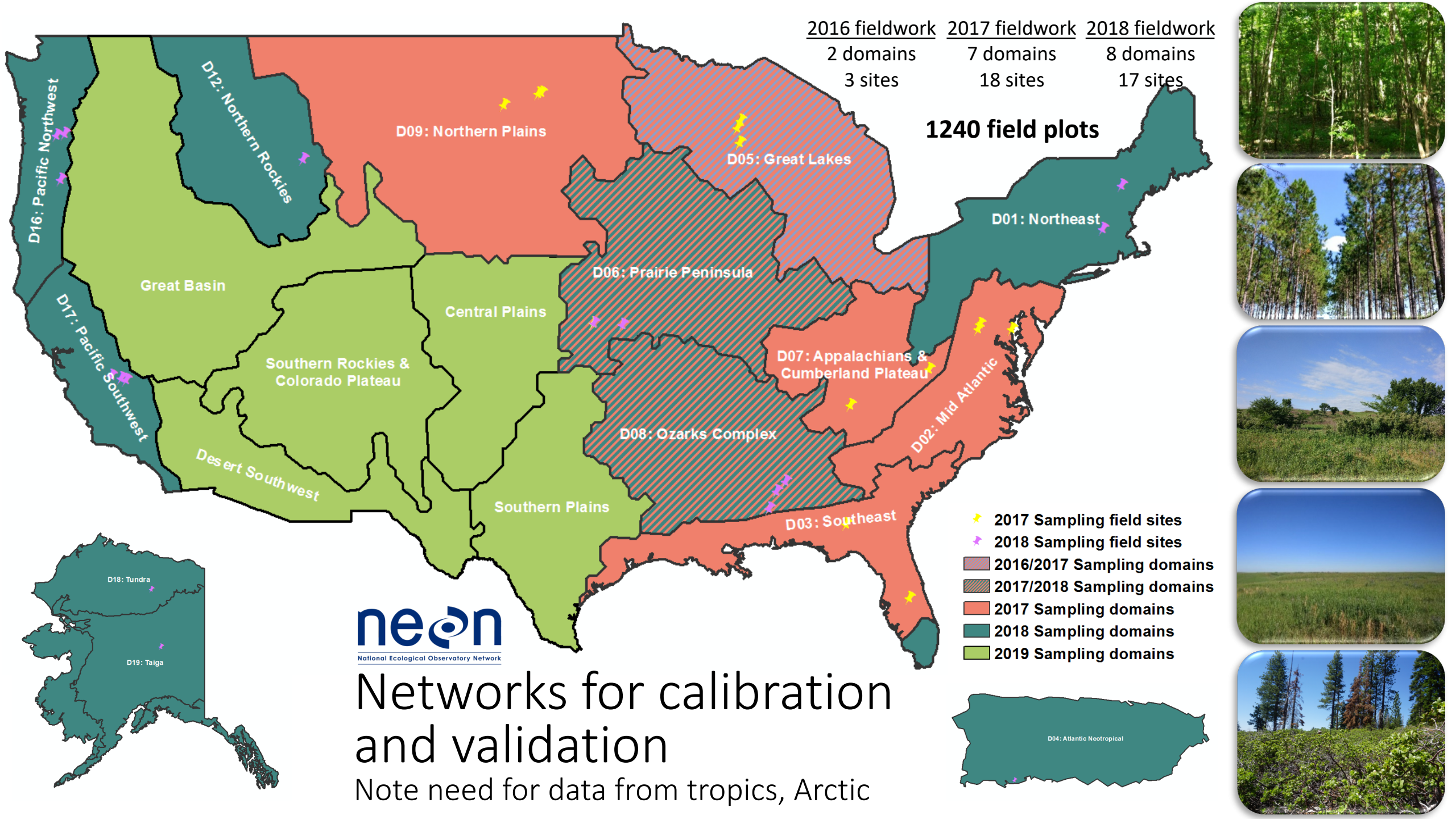


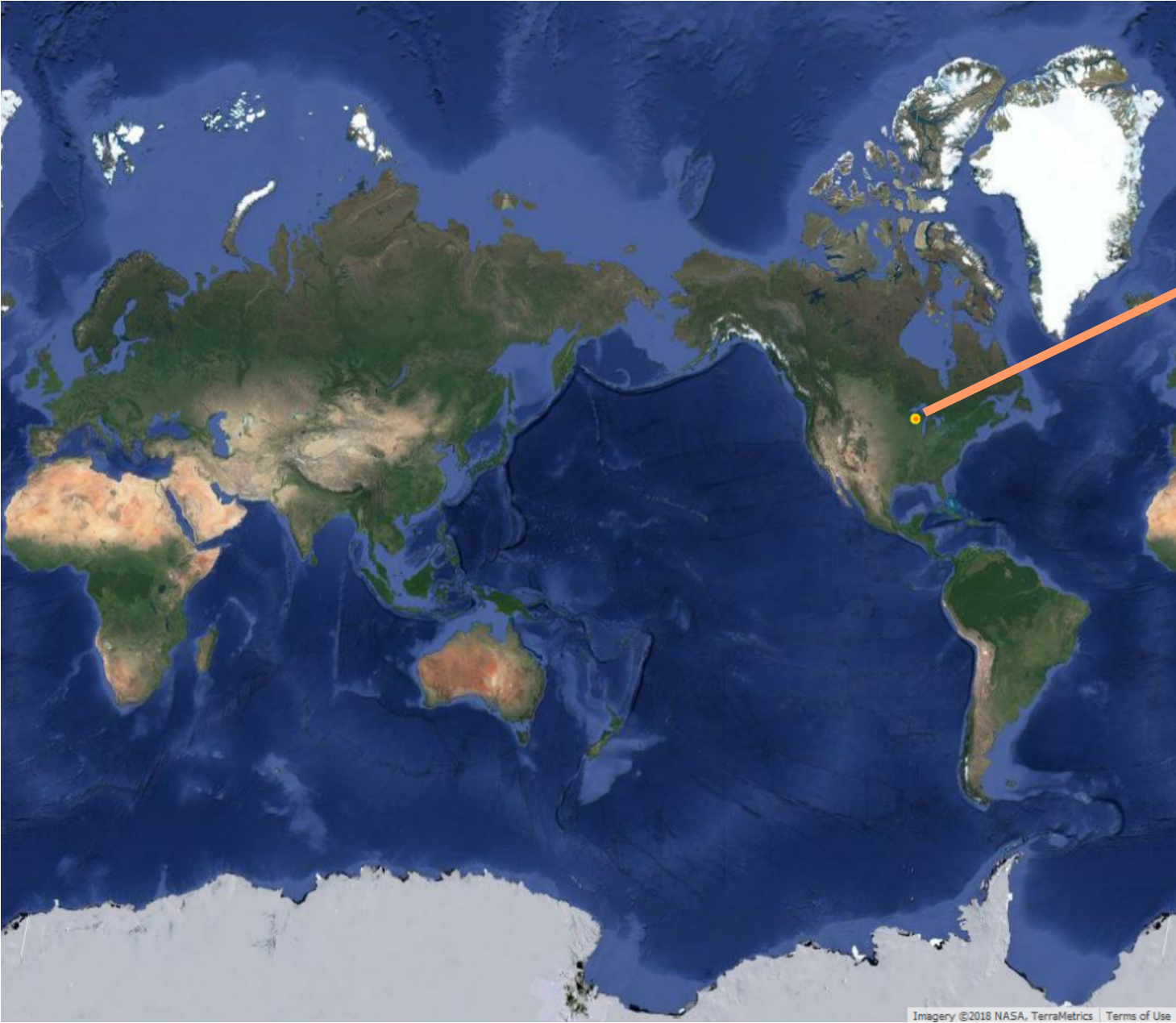
EcoSML.org  
Spectral Model Library



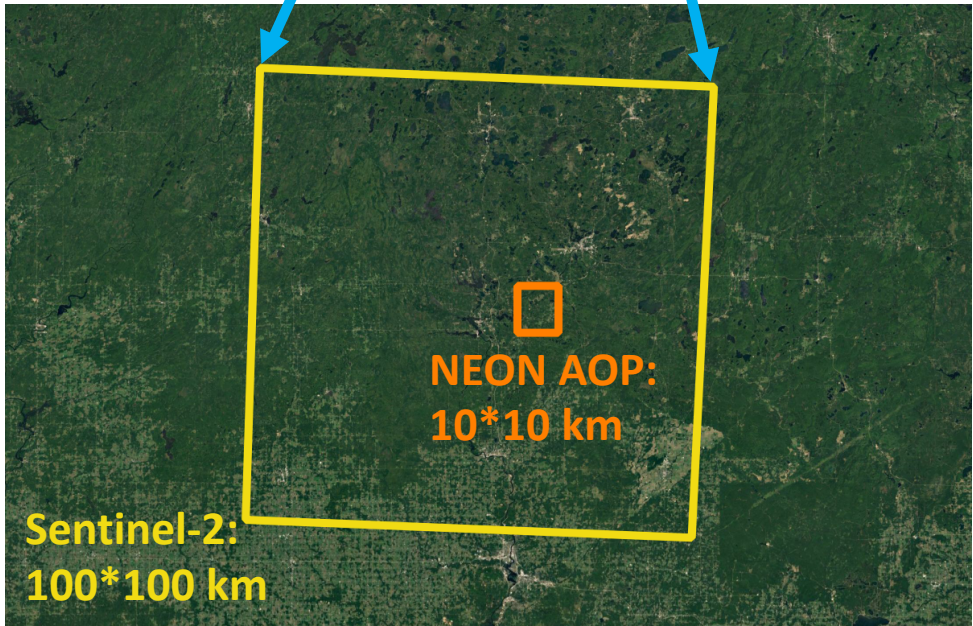
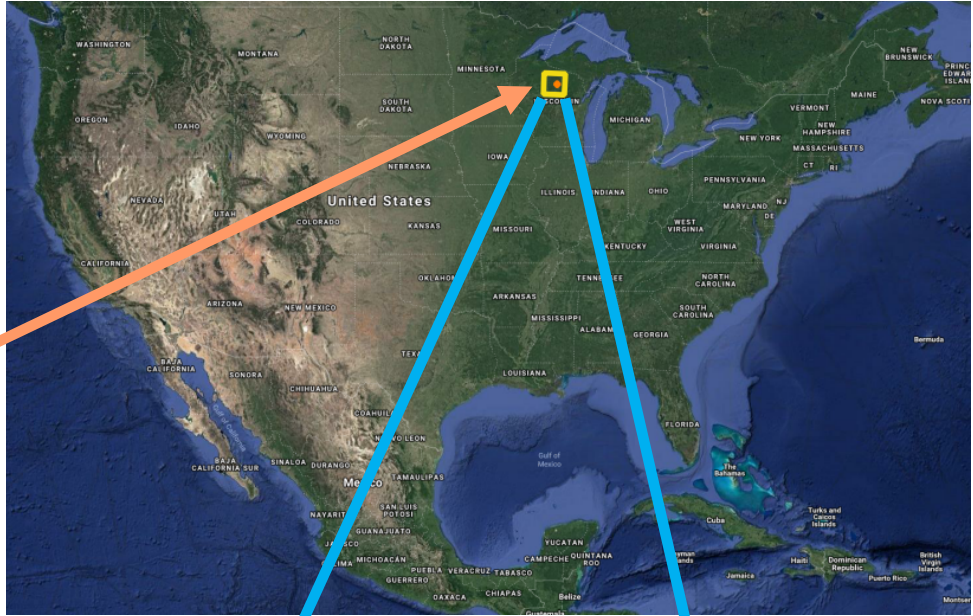
**HyTools workflow**  
<https://github.com/EnSpec/HyTools-sandbox>

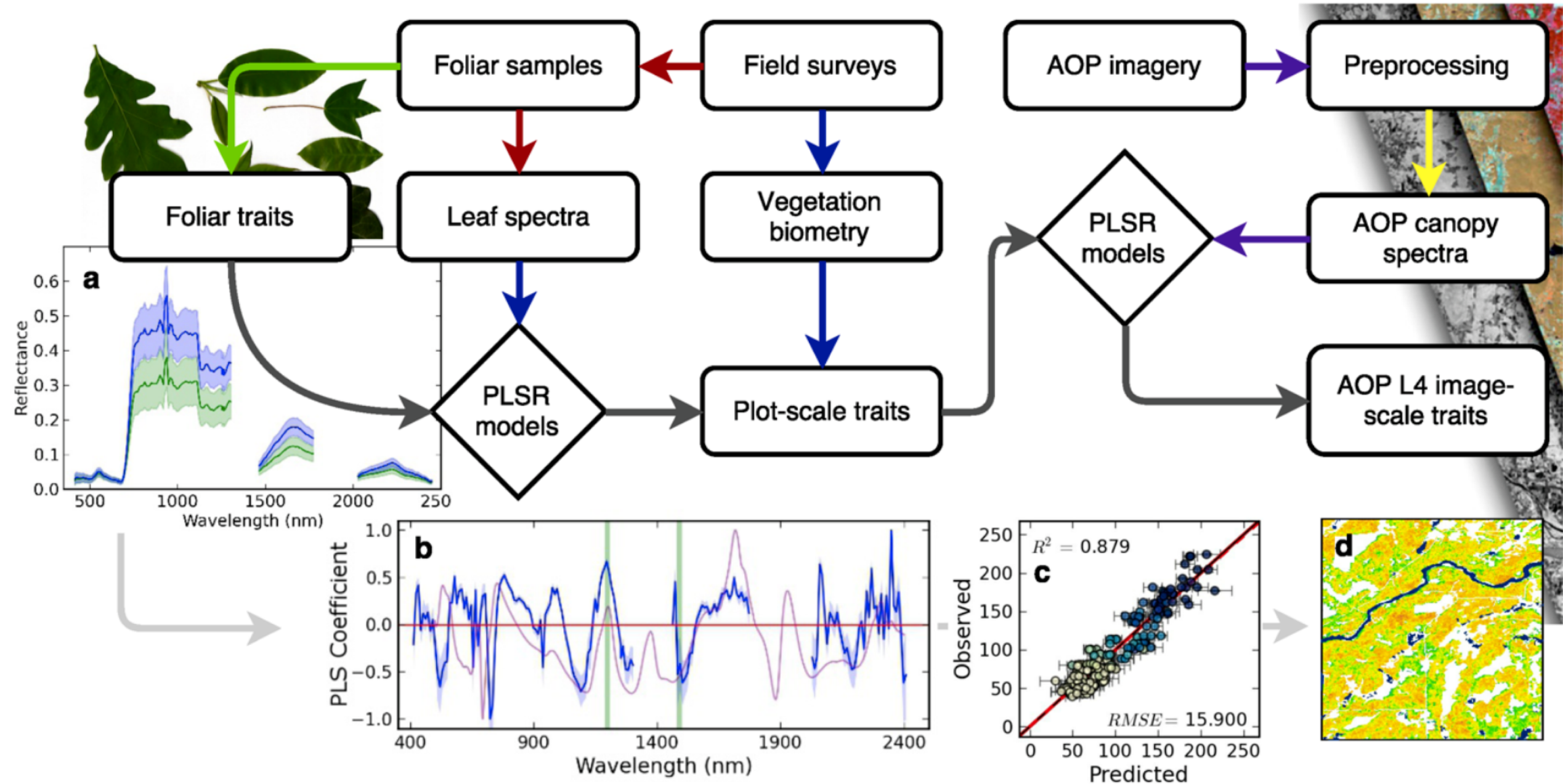






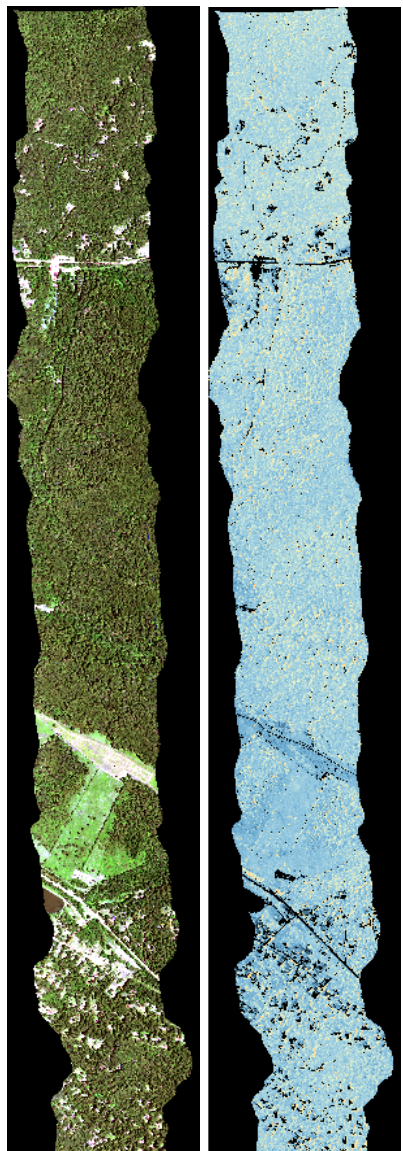
Imagery ©2018 NASA, TerraMetrics | Terms of Use



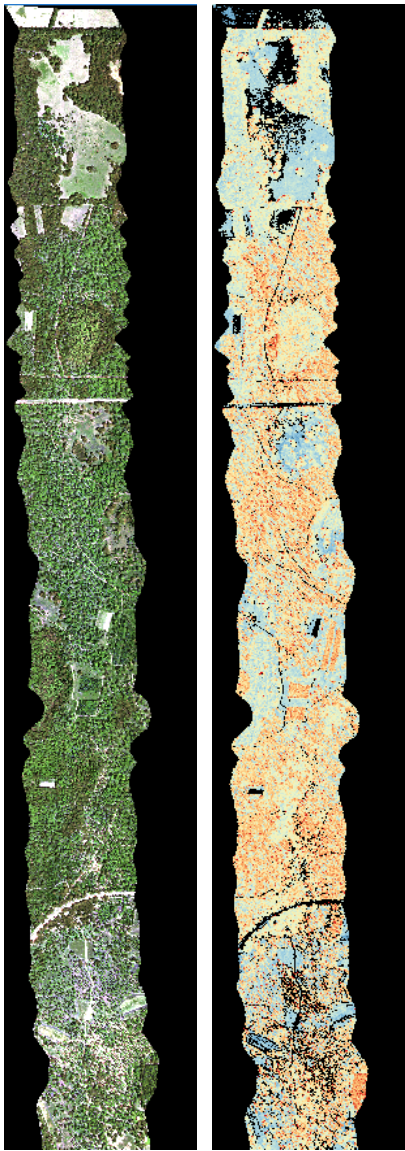


Trait mapping workflow using field data and AOP images, (a) canopy reflectance, (b) PLSR coefficients, (c) model validation, (d) trait map (Singh et al. 2015).

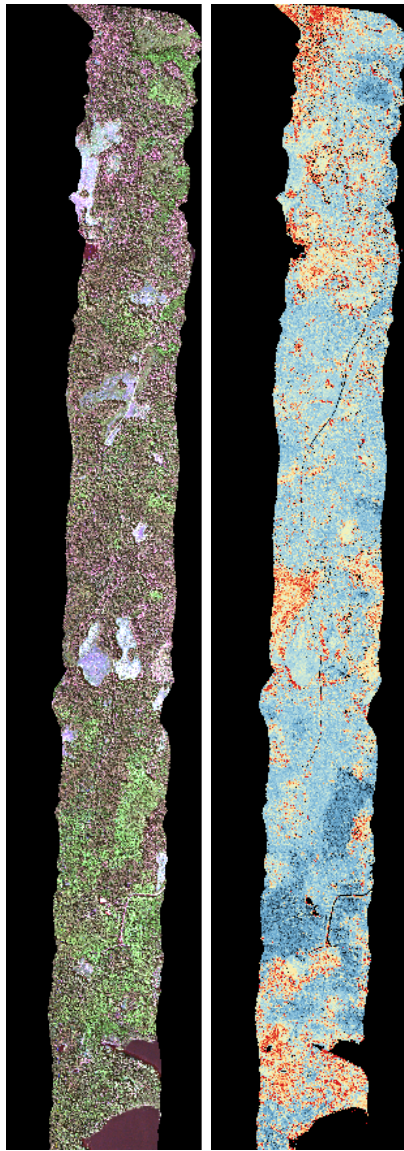
Mid-Atlantic  
(D02):  
Smithsonian (VA)



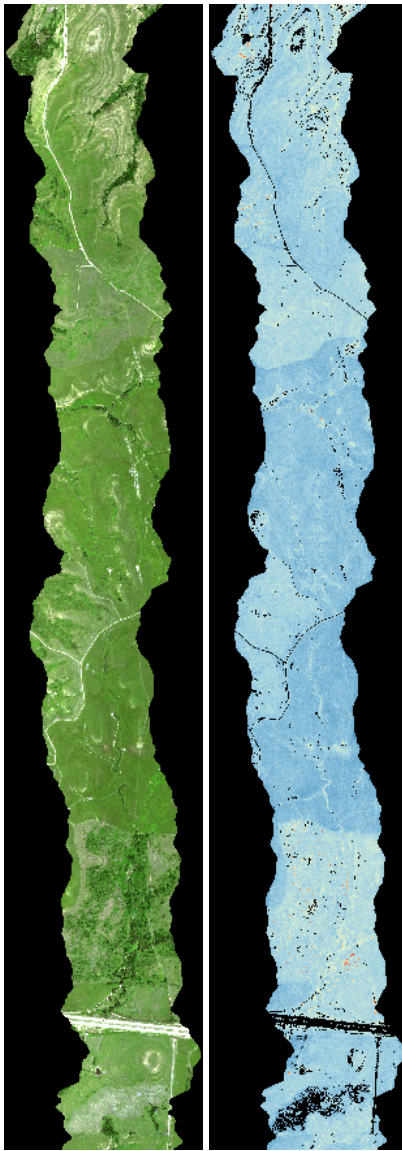
Southeast  
(D03):  
Jones (GA)



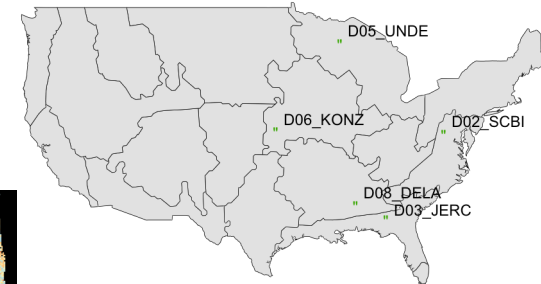
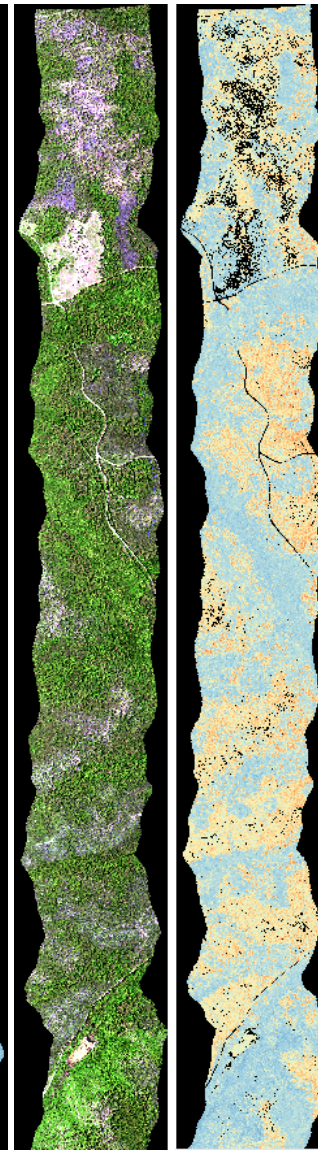
Great Lakes  
(D05):  
UNDERC (WI)



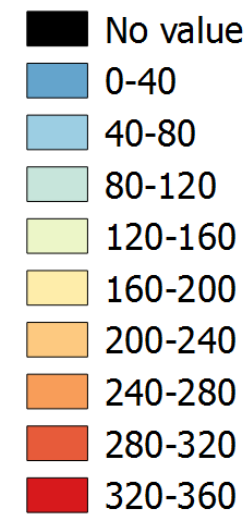
Prairie Peninsula  
(D06):  
Konza (KS)



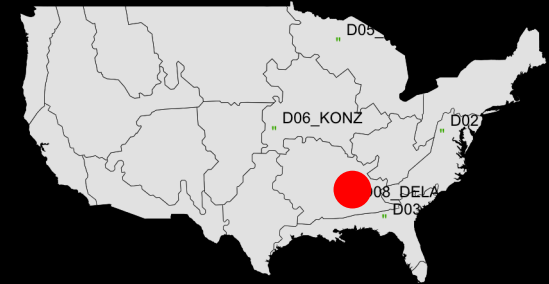
Ozarks Complex  
(D08):  
Talladega (AL)



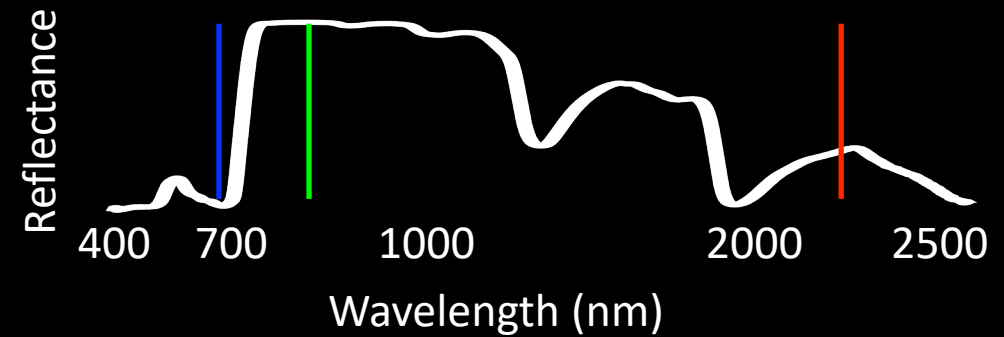
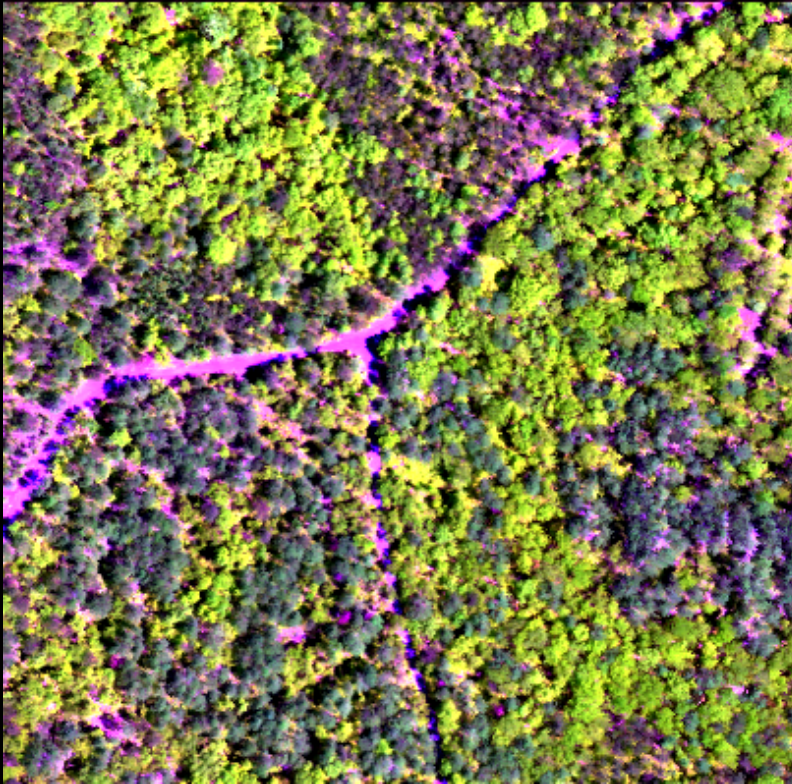
LMA (g/m<sup>2</sup>)

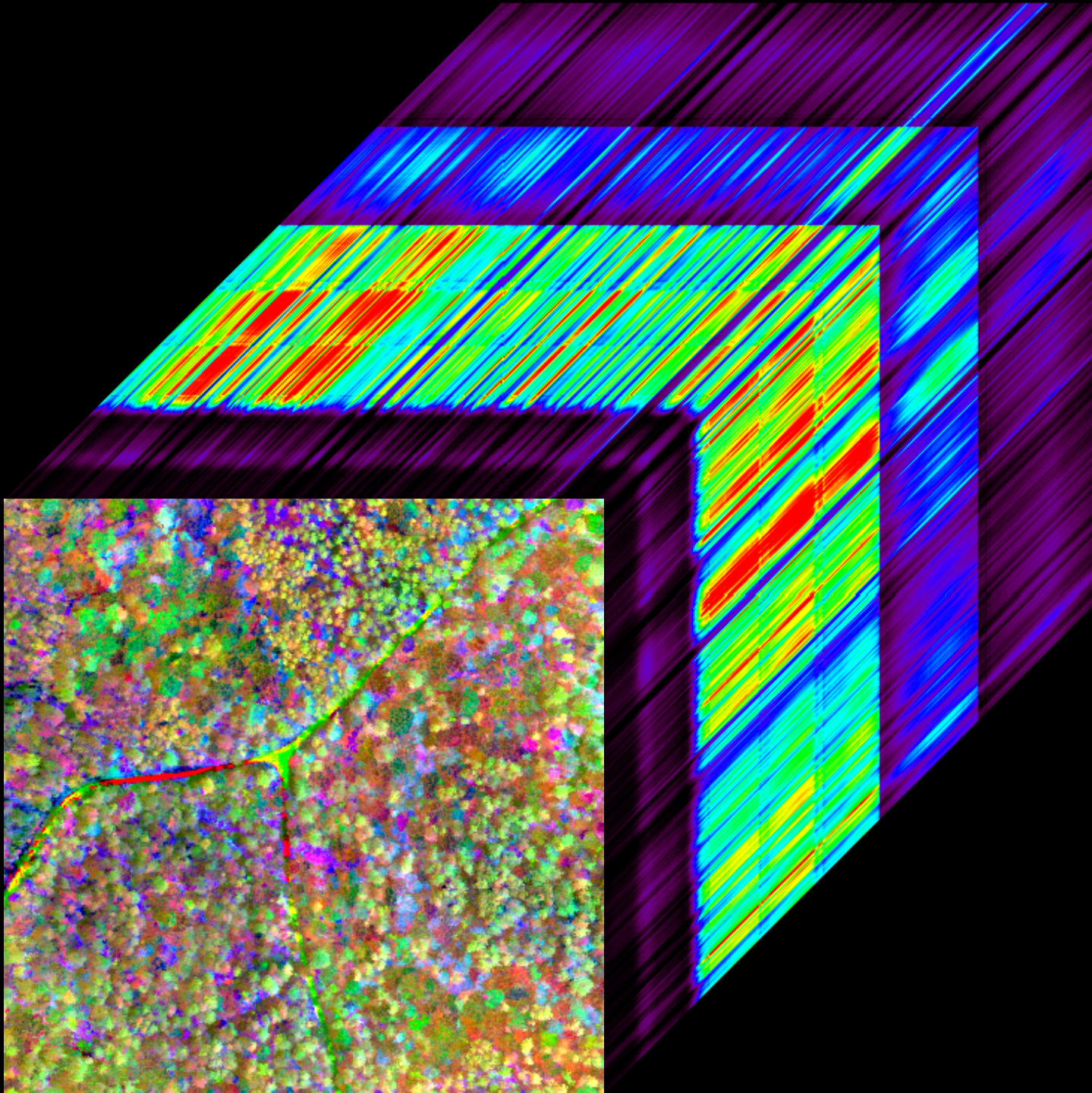


# Foliar Traits in NEON Domains



Domain 6 – Talladega National Forest





Traits	R <sup>2</sup> (val)	% RMSE
%C	0.63	13.06
Aluminum	0.55	10.4
Carotenoids_area	0.57	11.92
Carotenoids_area	0.59	13.3
Cellulose_DS	0.6	12.11
Chlorophyll_area	0.64	11.14
Chlorophyll_mass	0.58	13.85
d13C	0.63	13.12
EWT	0.62	14.13
Flavonoids	0.53	14.5
Iron	0.51	15.03
Lignin	0.57	13.37
LMA	0.78	10.2
Manganese	0.62	12.99
Nitrogen	0.55	13.44
Phosphorous	0.5	12.93
Potassium	0.66	10.74
Starch	0.61	12.73
Sugar	0.45	16.37
TotPhen	0.82	8.4
Water_percent	0.58	11.86
Zinc	0.54	16.12

RGB: LMA, Chlorophyll, Nitrogen  
(black: shadows, non-vegetated)

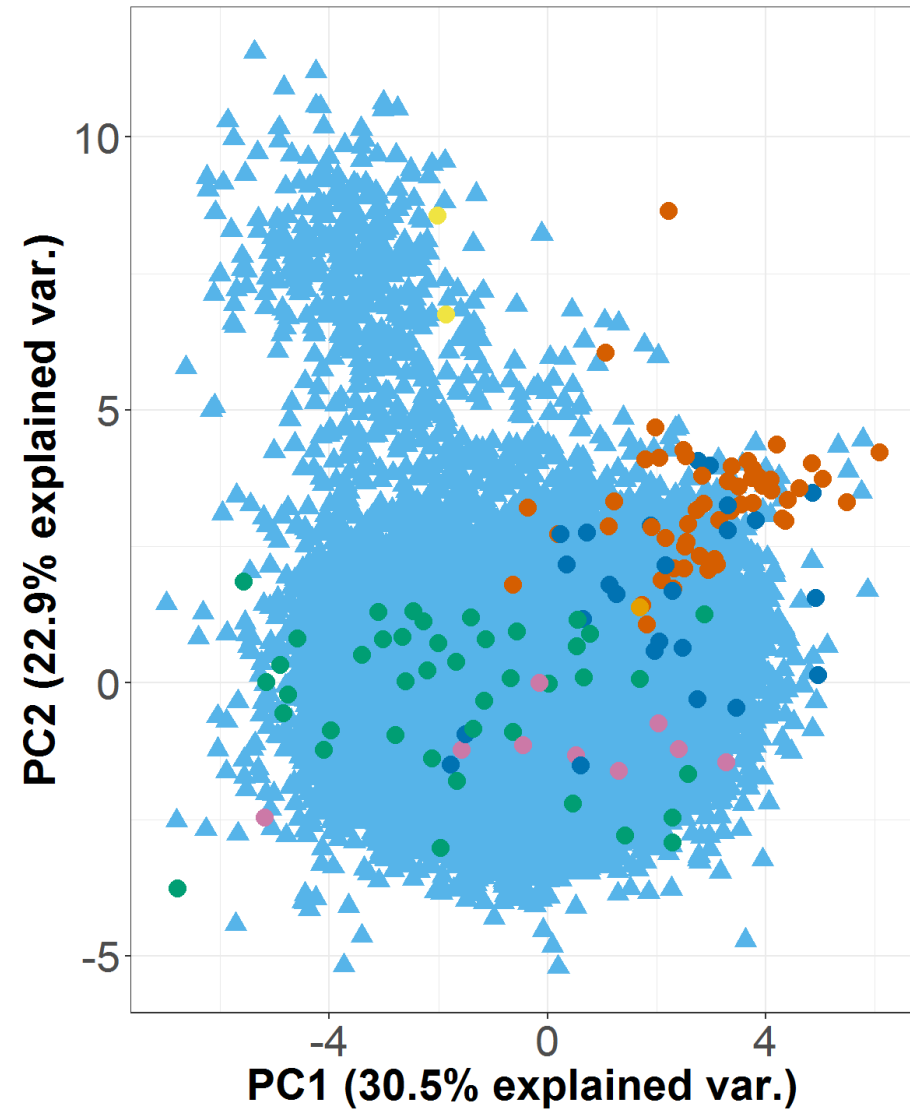
Traits	R <sup>2</sup> (val)	% RMSE
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Starch	0.61	12.73
Sugar	0.45	16.37
TotPhen	0.82	8.4
Water_percent	0.58	11.86
Zinc	0.54	16.12

# Domain 06: Prairie Peninsula



Visualizing  
“Trait Space”

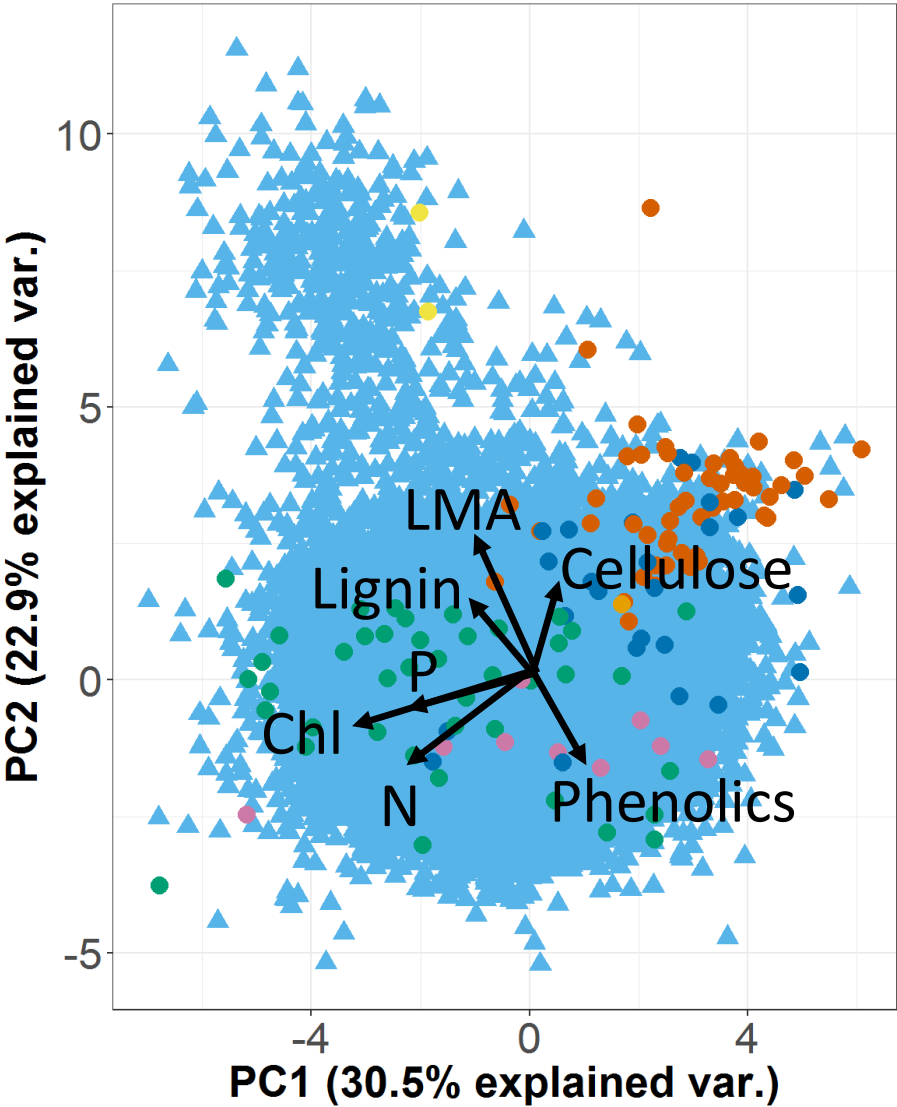
● Field ▲ Imagery    ● Agriculture ● Conifer ● Grass ● Shrub  
● Broadleaf ● Forb ● Imagery



# Domain 06: Prairie Peninsula



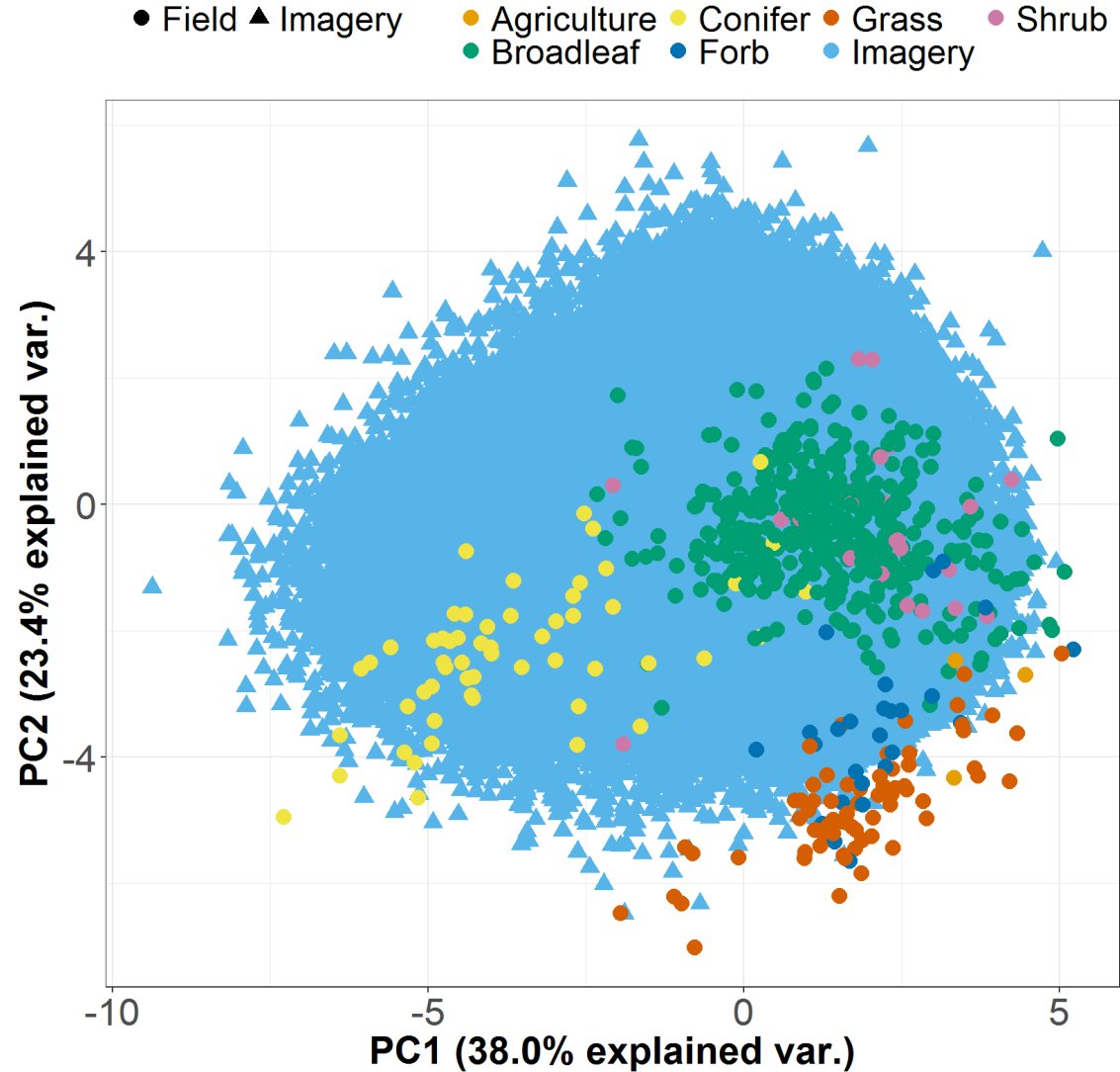
● Field ▲ Imagery    ● Agriculture ● Conifer ● Grass ● Shrub  
● Broadleaf ● Forb ● Imagery



# All domains:

## Physiognomic types

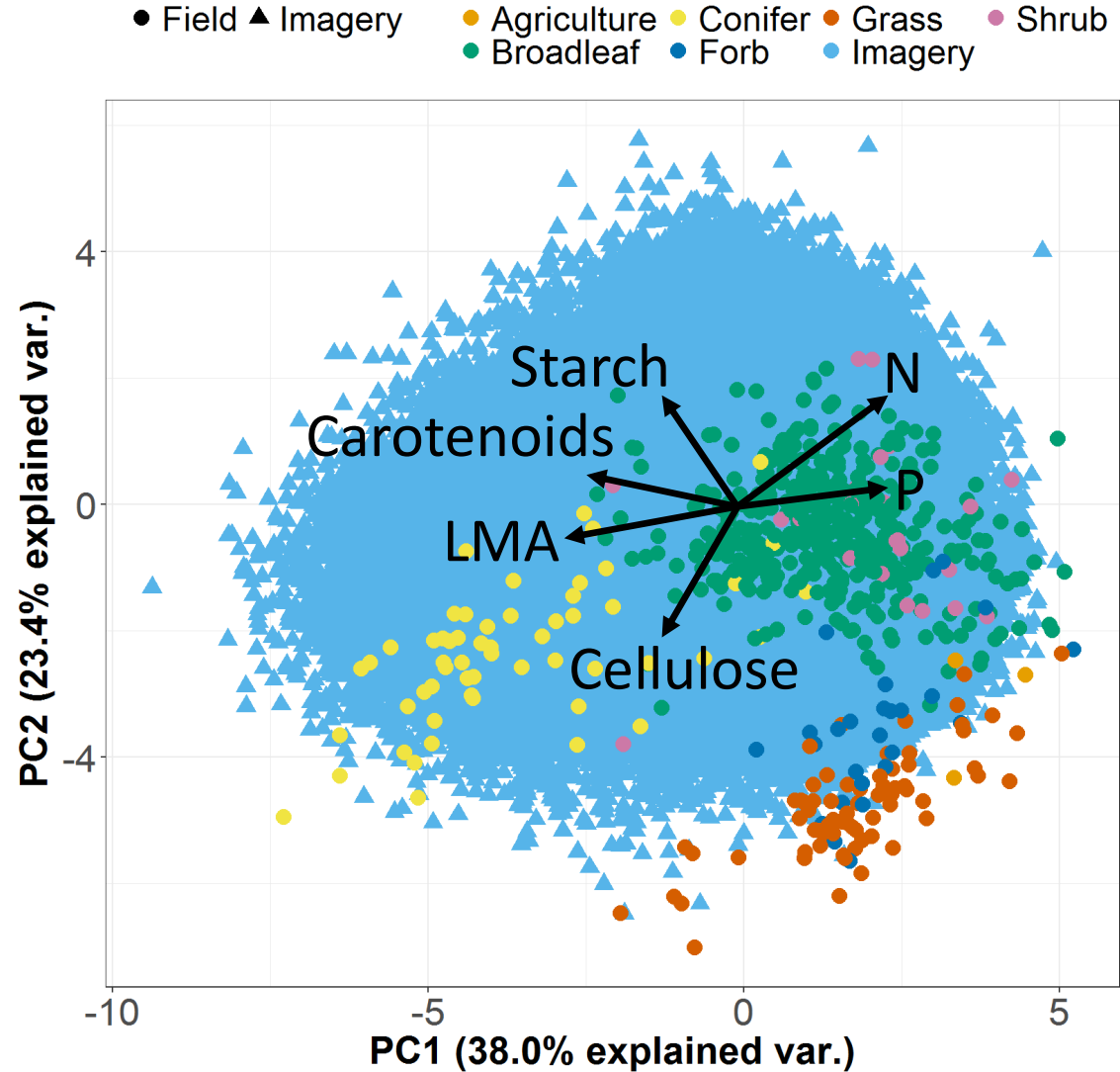
## Key Species



# All domains:

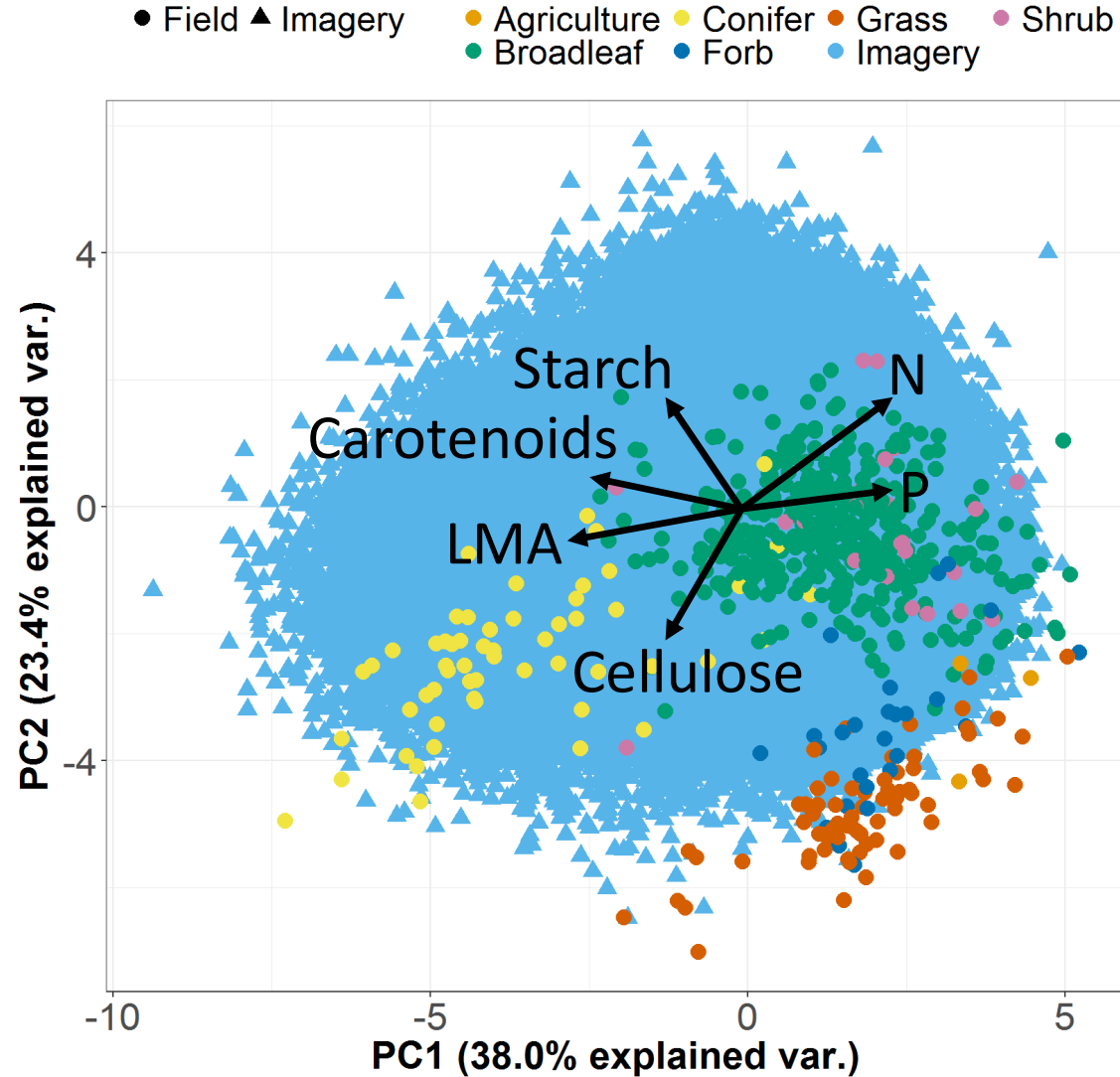
## Physiognomic types

## Key Species

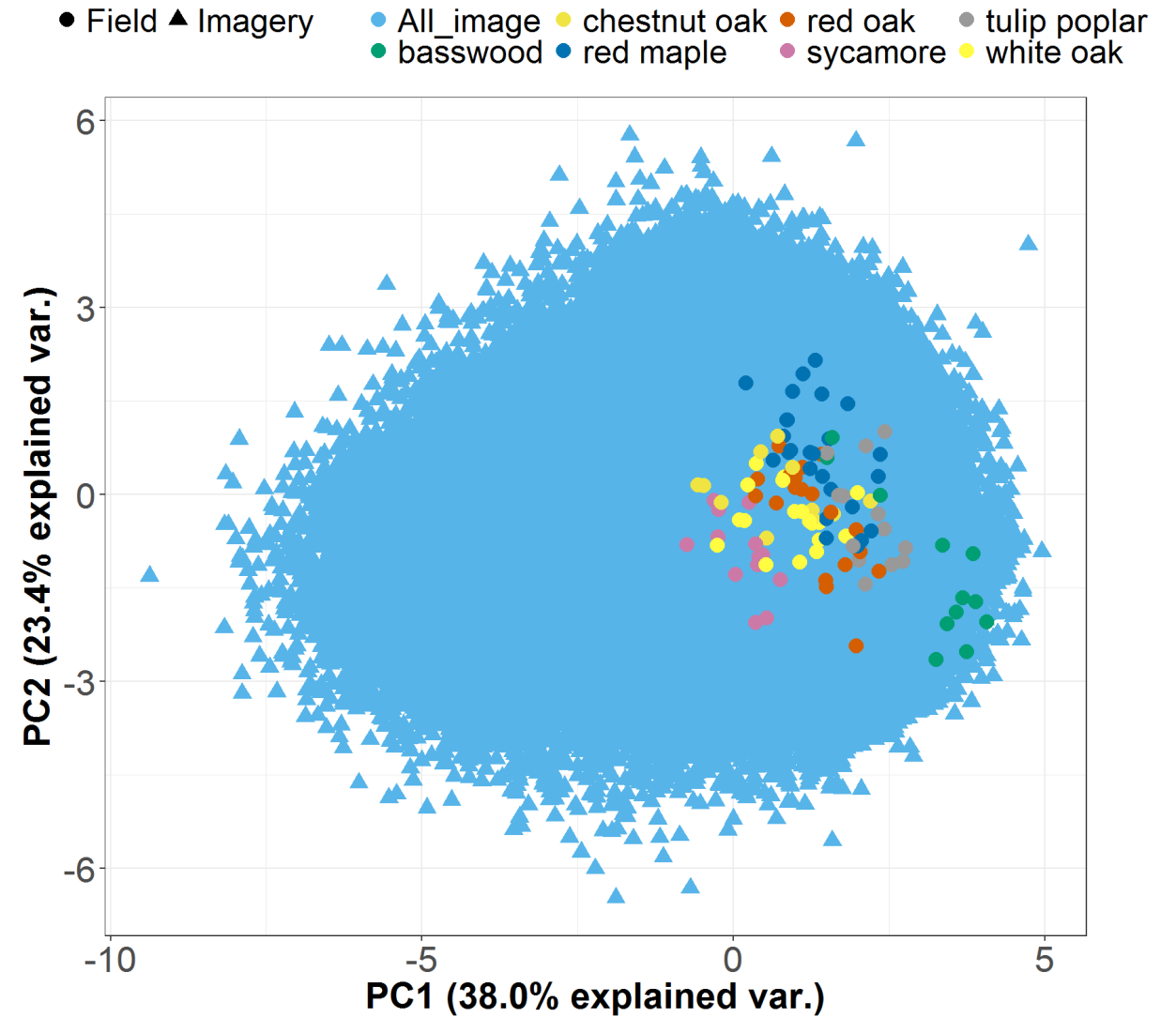


# All domains:

## Physiognomic types

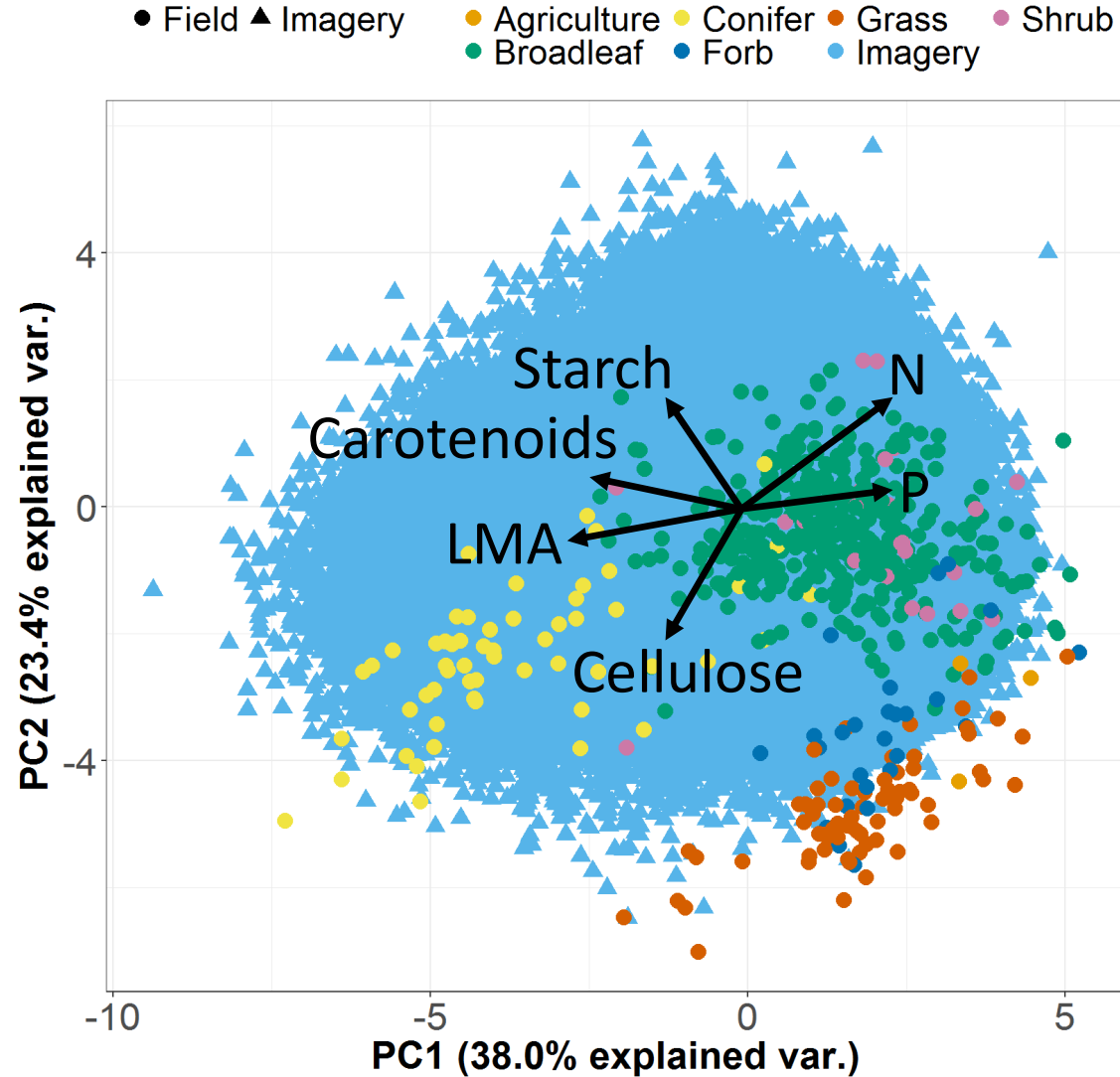


## Key Species

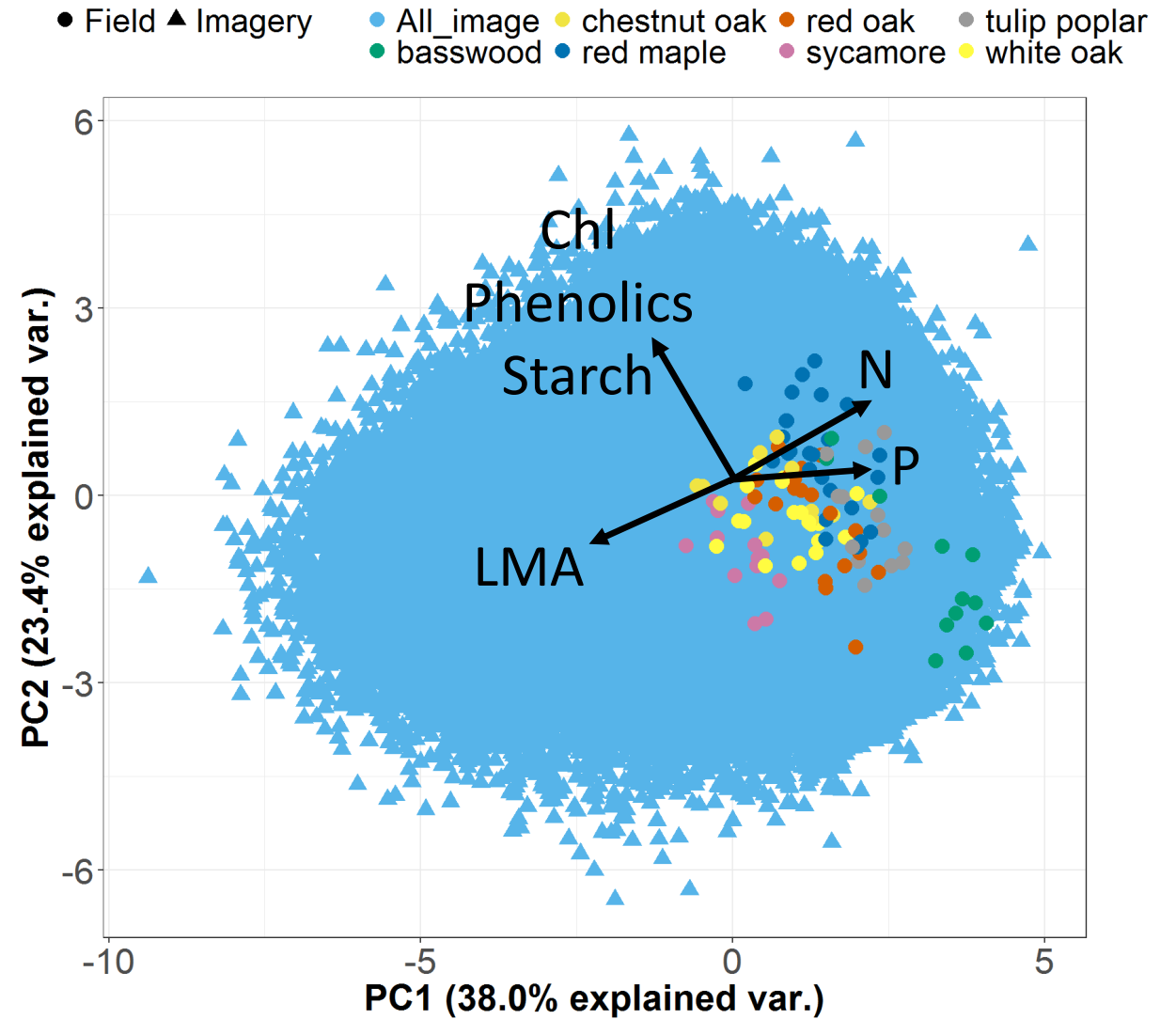


# All domains:

## Physiognomic types



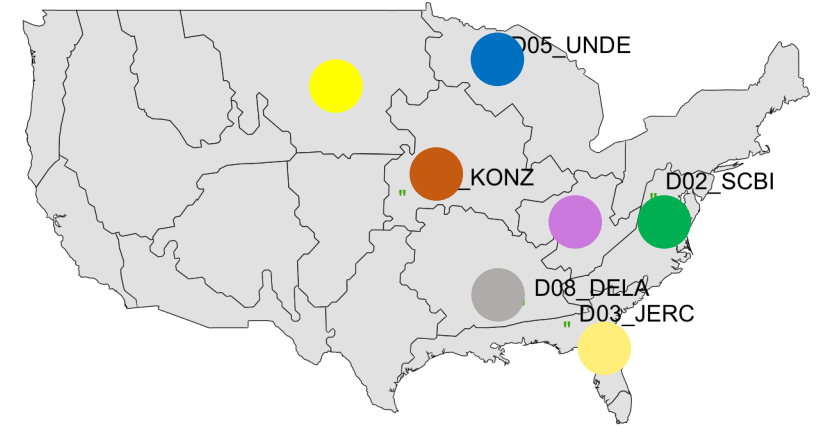
## Key Species



● D02 ● D05 ● D07 ● D09 ● Imagery ● Field ▲ Imagery  
● D03 ● D06 ● D08 ● Field

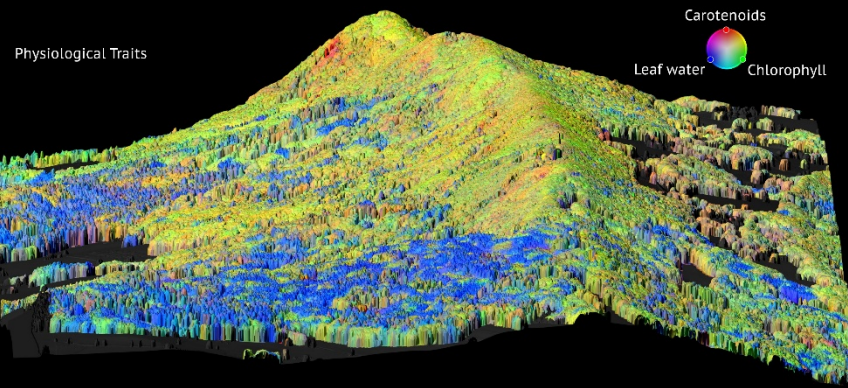
PC2 (23.4% explained var.)

PC1 (38.0% explained var.)

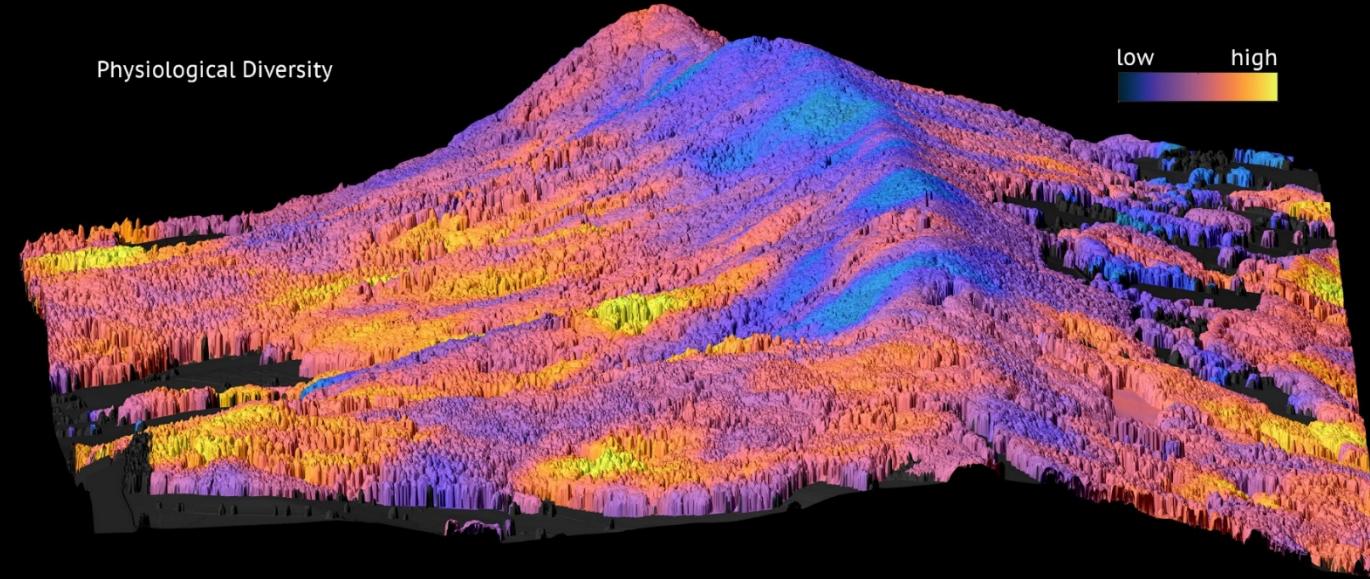


# Mapping of Plant Functional Diversity

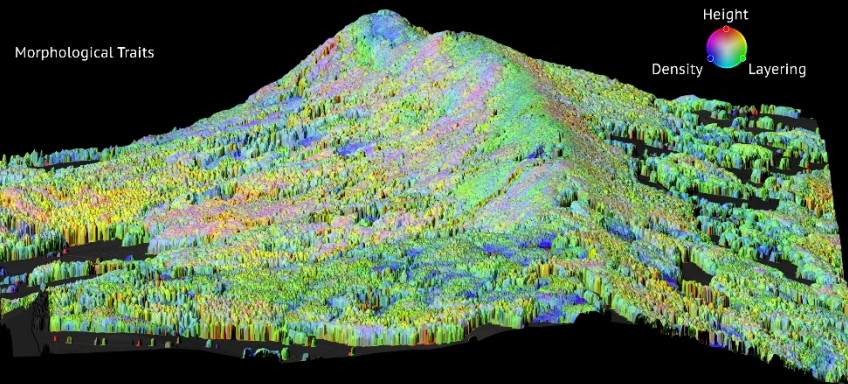
## Leaf Biochemistry from Spectroscopy



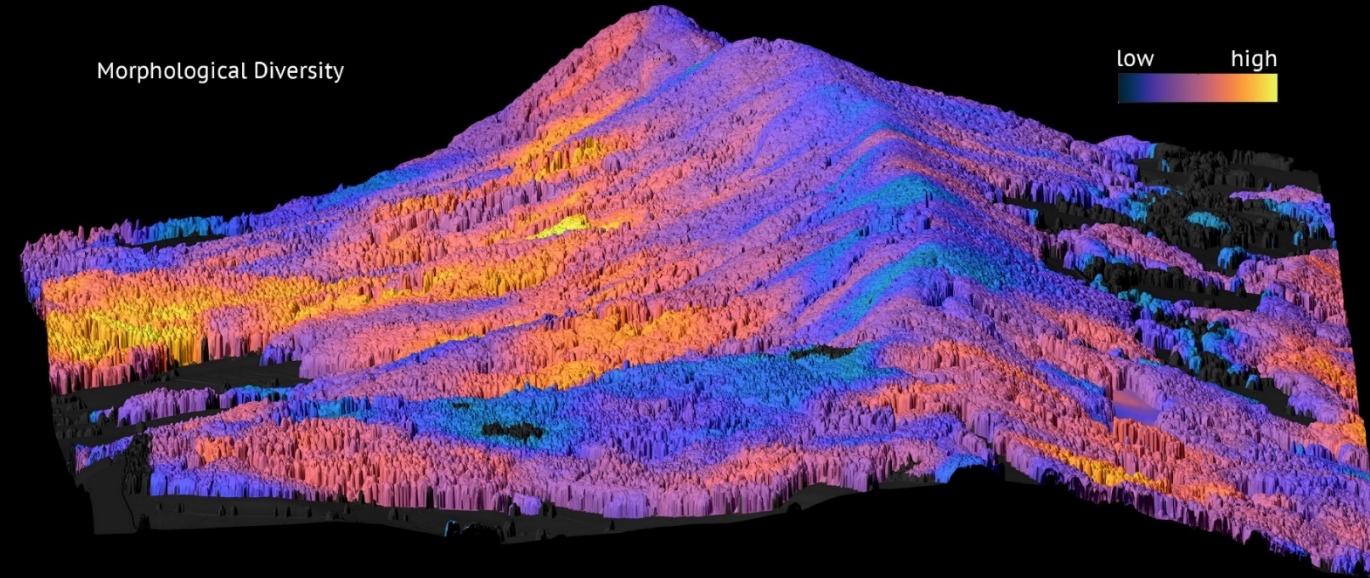
## Physiological Diversity



## Canopy Structure from LiDAR



## Morphological Diversity

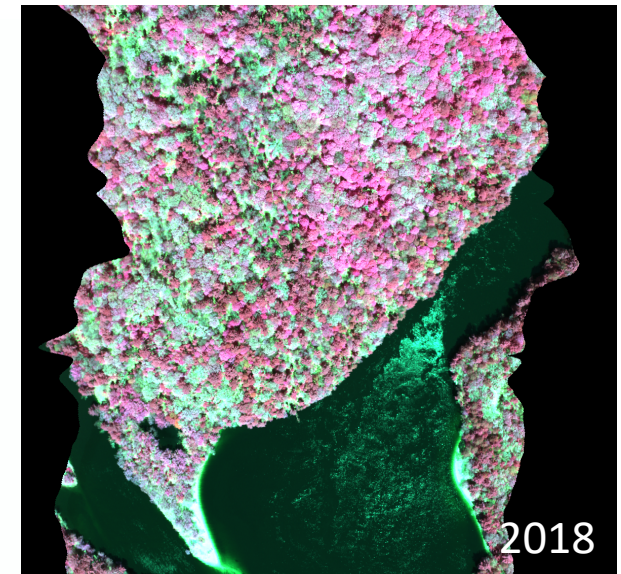
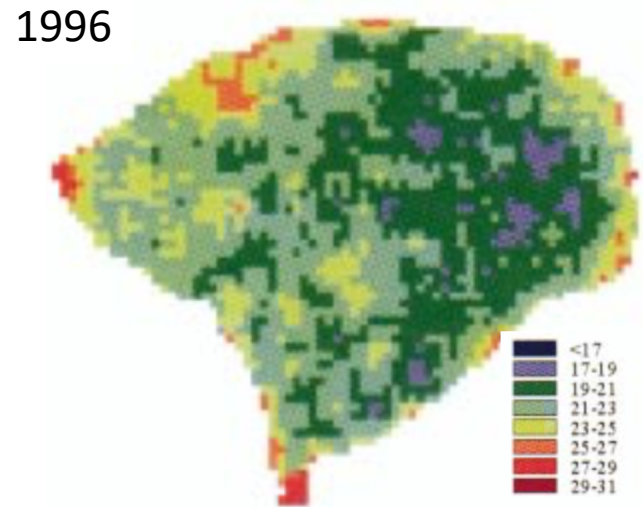
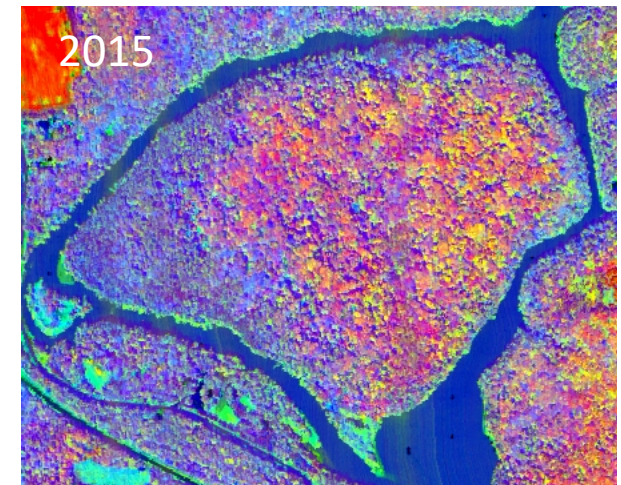
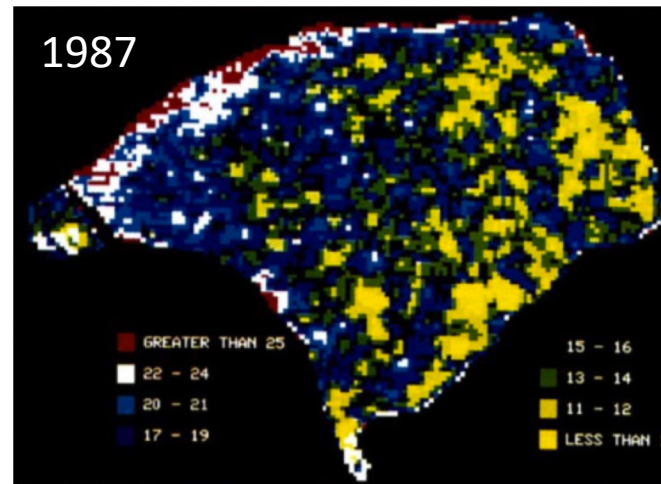
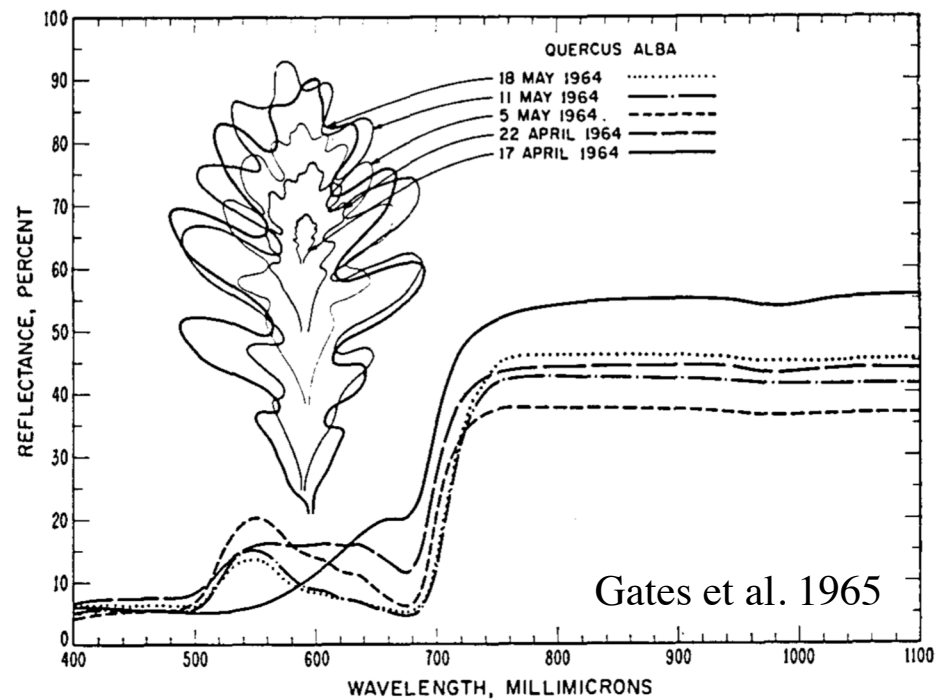


*Botanical Gazette*, Vol. 87, No. 5 (Jun., 1929), pp. 583-607

# A SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC STUDY OF REFLECTION OF LIGHT FROM LEAF SURFACES

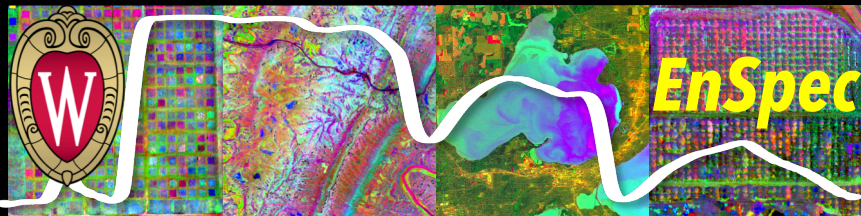
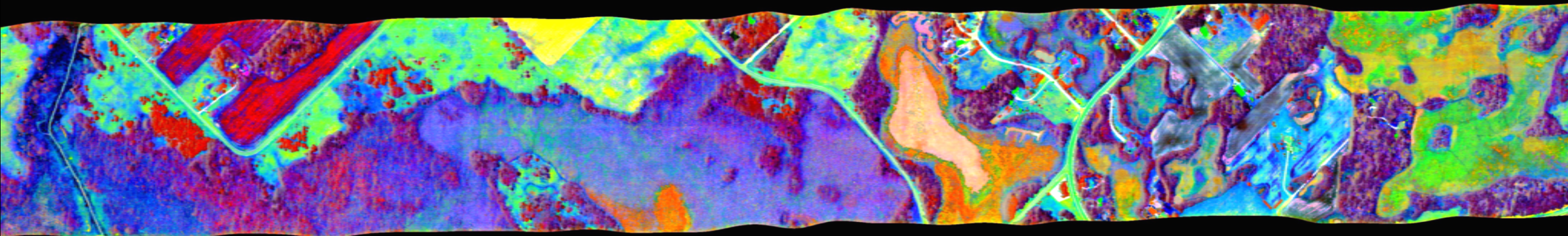
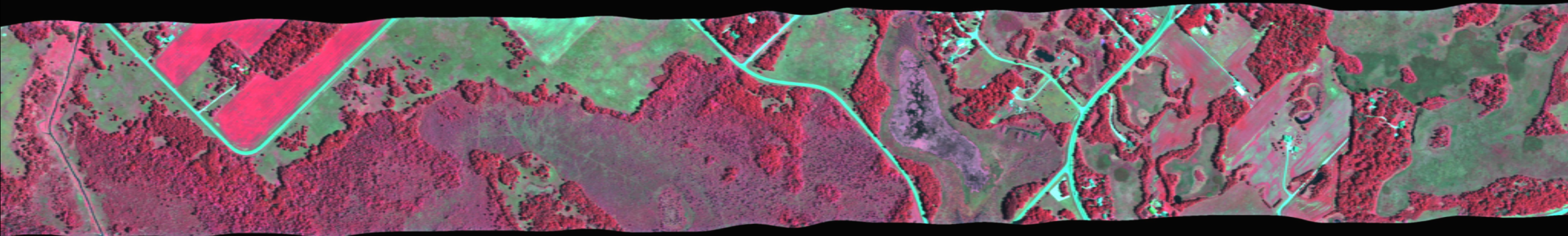
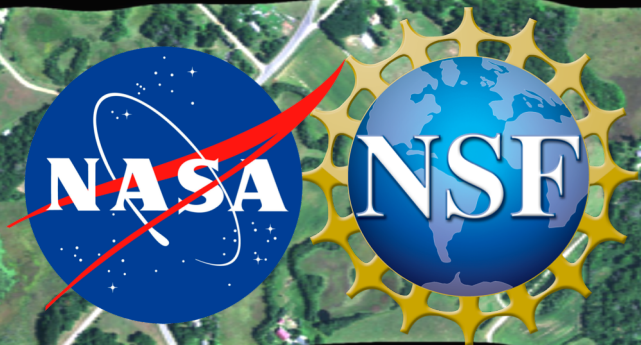
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE HULL BOTANICAL LABORATORY

CHARLES A. SHULL



We've come a long way. With spaceborne imaging spectroscopy, we will be able to measure vegetation function and its variability globally, and through time.

Thank you!  
[ptownsend@wisc.edu](mailto:ptownsend@wisc.edu)



Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology