

Website



Toolbox



Climate from Space



Open Data Portal

Knowledge  
Exchange  
Climate  
Change  
Initiative

# Machine learning in (and beyond) the ESA Climate Change Initiative

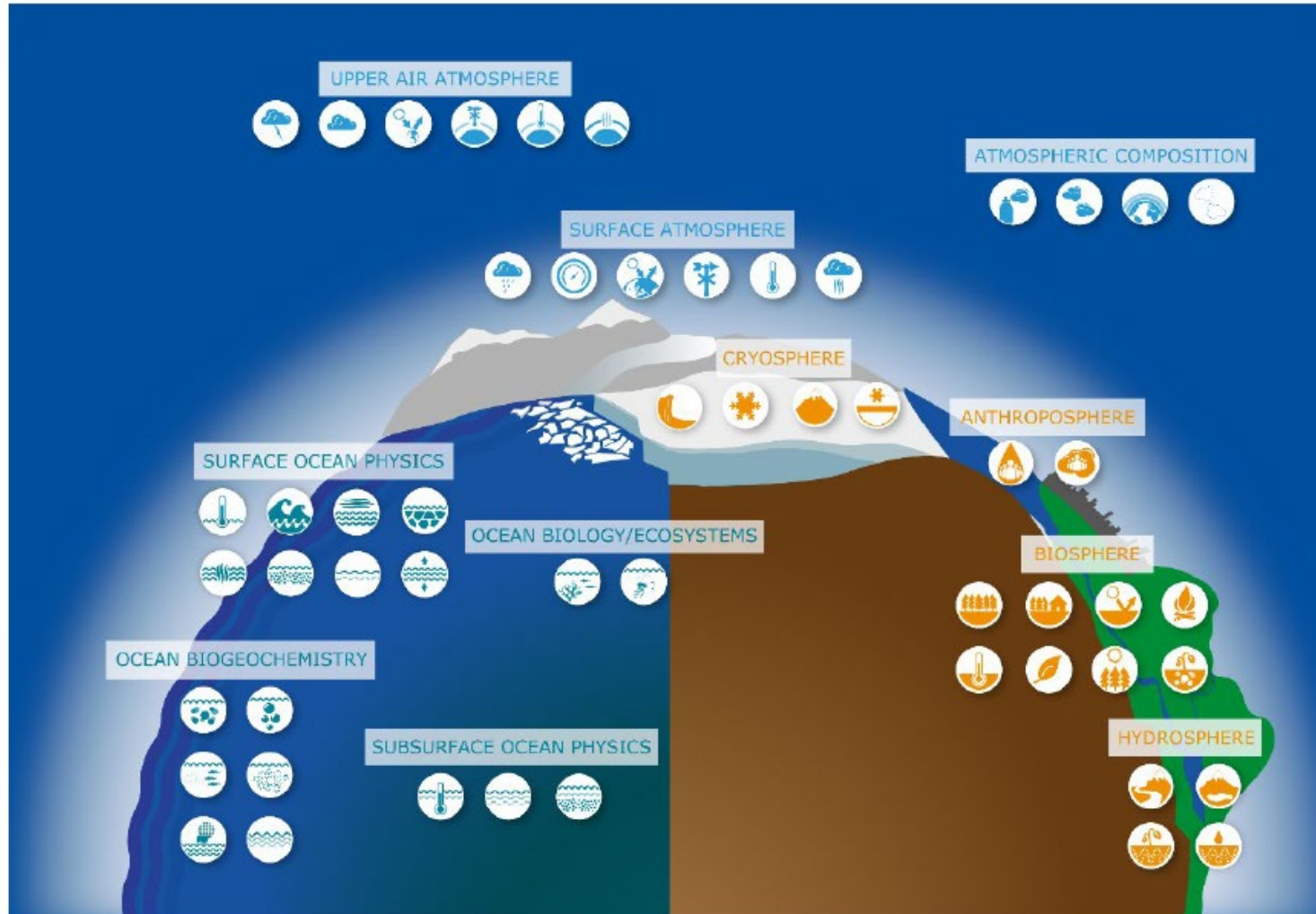
Carsten Brockmann<sup>1</sup>, CCI Knowledge Exchange Coordinator

With contributions from S. Mecklenburg<sup>2</sup>, Ed Pechorro<sup>2</sup>, P. Kershaw<sup>3</sup>, R. Doerffer<sup>1,4</sup>, D. Müller<sup>1</sup>, R. Quast<sup>1</sup>,  
J. Wevers<sup>1</sup>, L. Bock<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Brockmann Consult GmbH, <sup>2</sup>ESA, <sup>3</sup>UKRI-STFC CEDA, <sup>4</sup>HEREON, <sup>5</sup>DLR



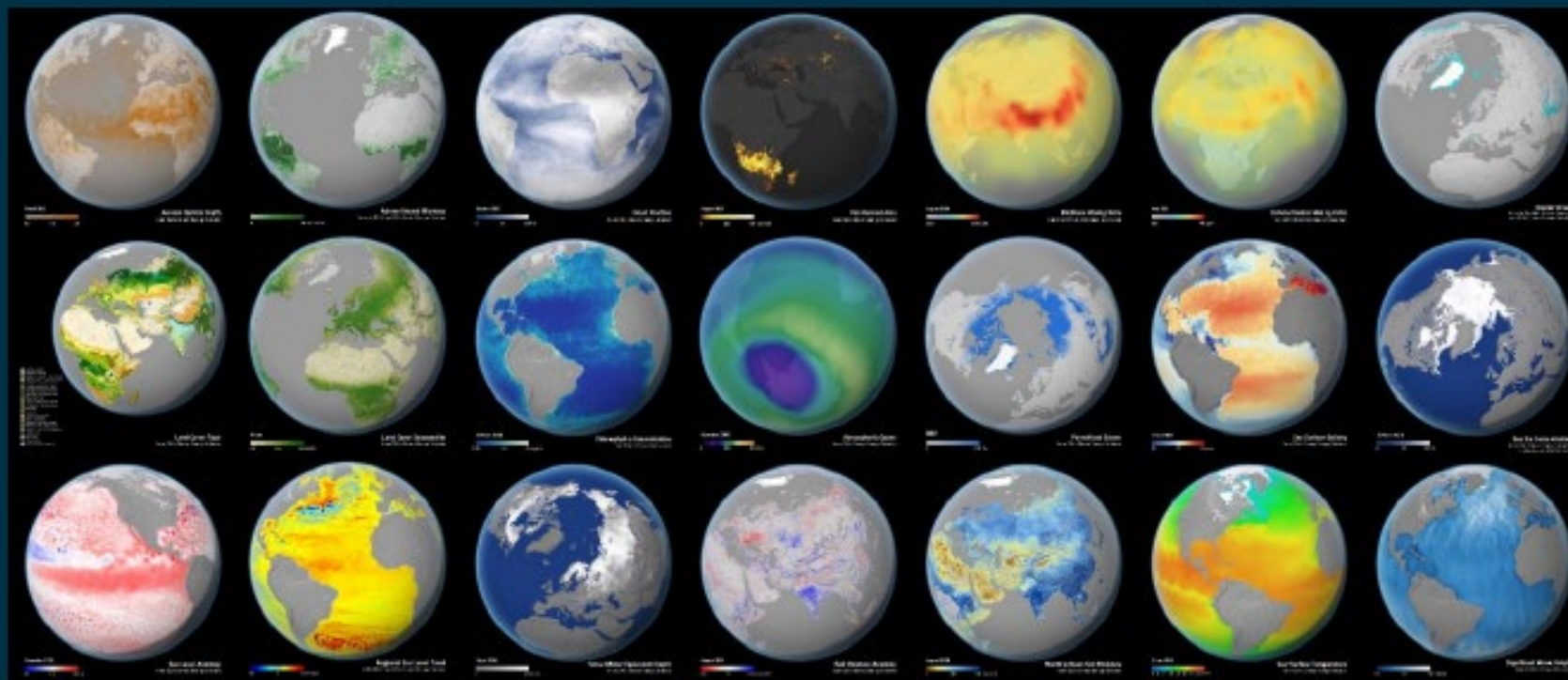
# Essential Climate Variables (ECV)



- An **ECV** is a physical, chemical or biological variable or a group of linked variables that critically contribute to the the characterisation of the Earth's climate
- ECV datasets provide the **empirical evidence** needed to understand and predict the **evolution of climate**, to guide **mitigation** and **adaptation** measures, to assess risks and enable attribution of climate events to underlying causes, and to underpin climate services. They are required to **support the work of the UNFCCC and the IPCC**
- ECVs need to be
  - **Relevant**
  - **Feasible**
  - **Cost effective**

# ESA Climate Change Initiative (CCI)

WMO defined 54 Essential Climate Variables  
36 benefit from space observations  
21 generated by ESA Climate Change Initiative



climate modelling  
user group  
cci



sea level  
budget closure  
cci

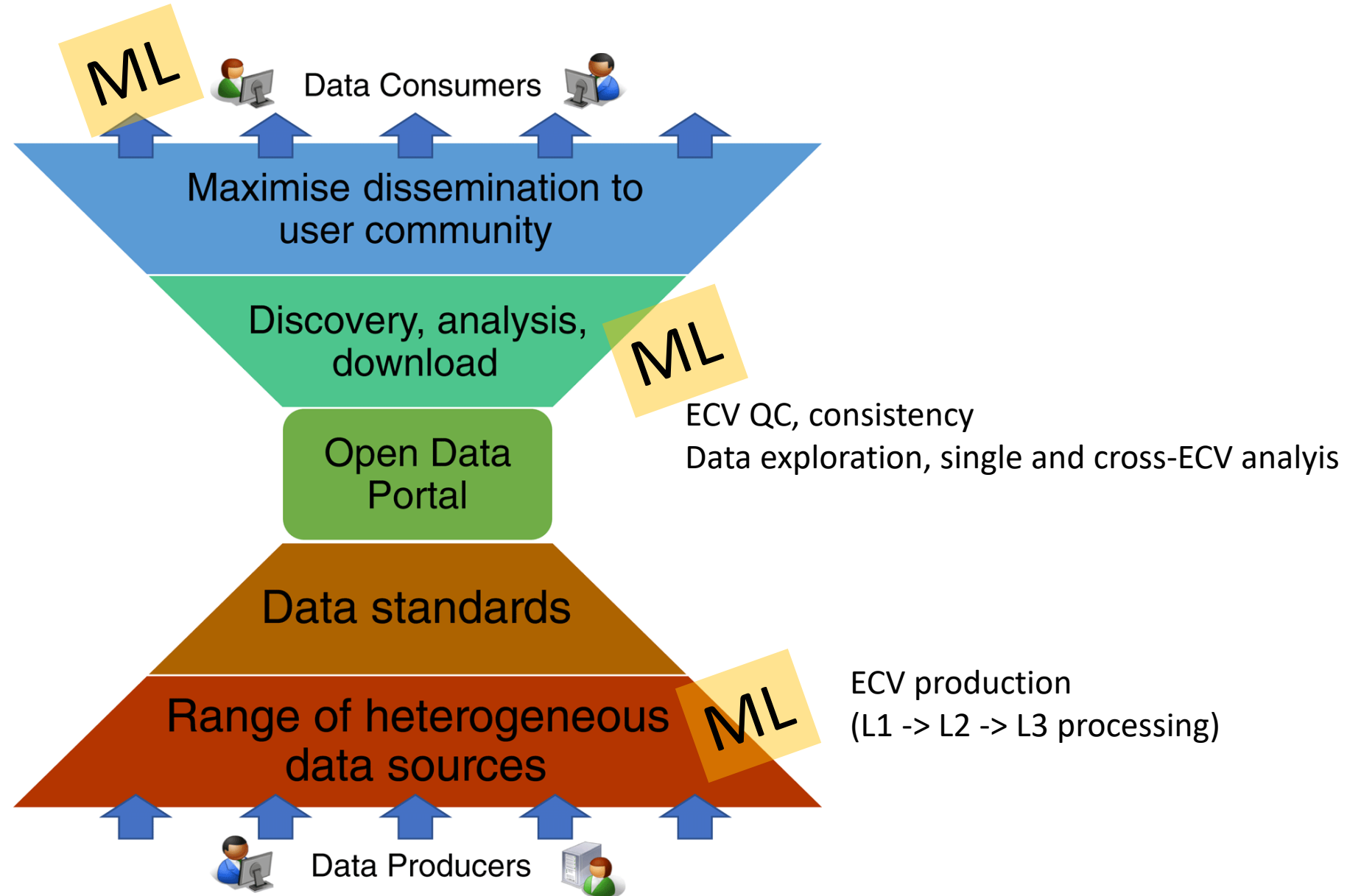


reccap-2  
cci

From S. Mecklenburg (ESA Climate Office)

# CCI Open Data Portal and Opportunities for ML

Combination with non ESA data, Climate analysis, forecasting and scenarios

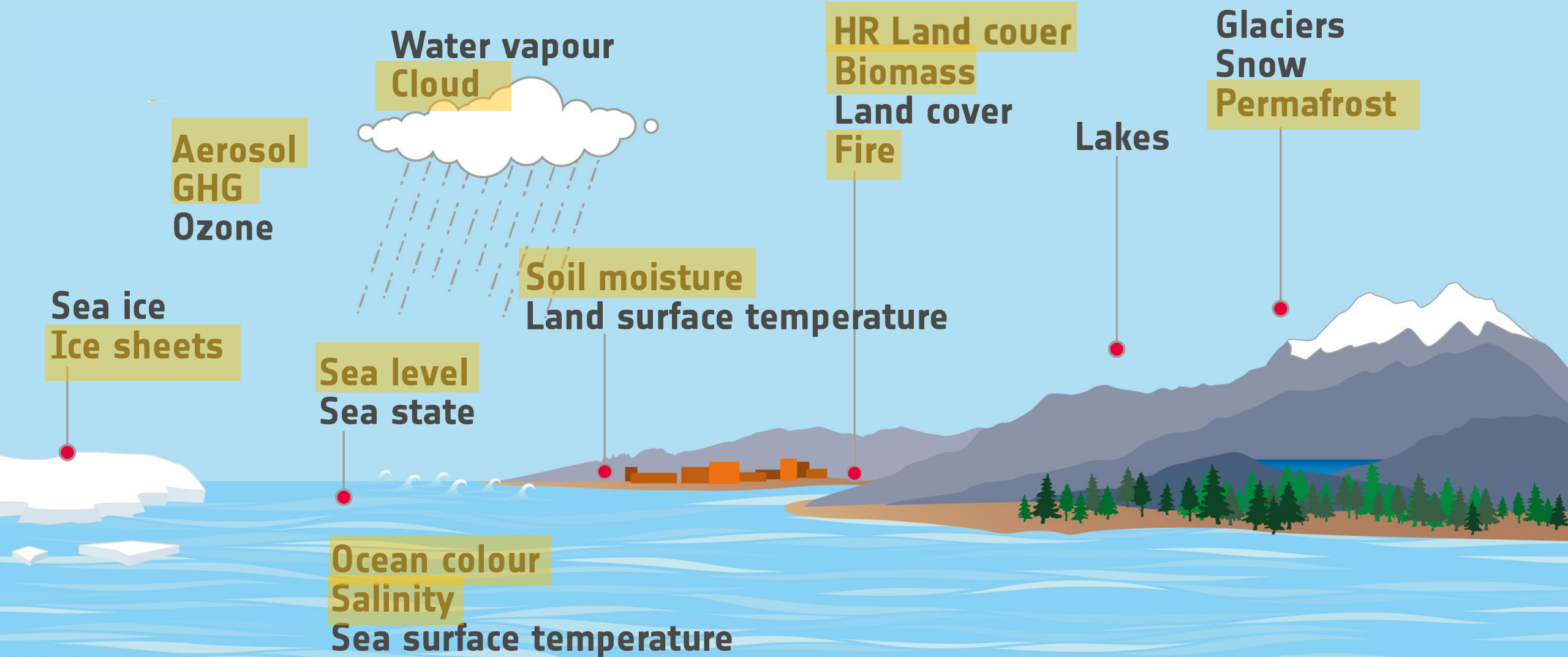


# CCI ECV Projects

ML

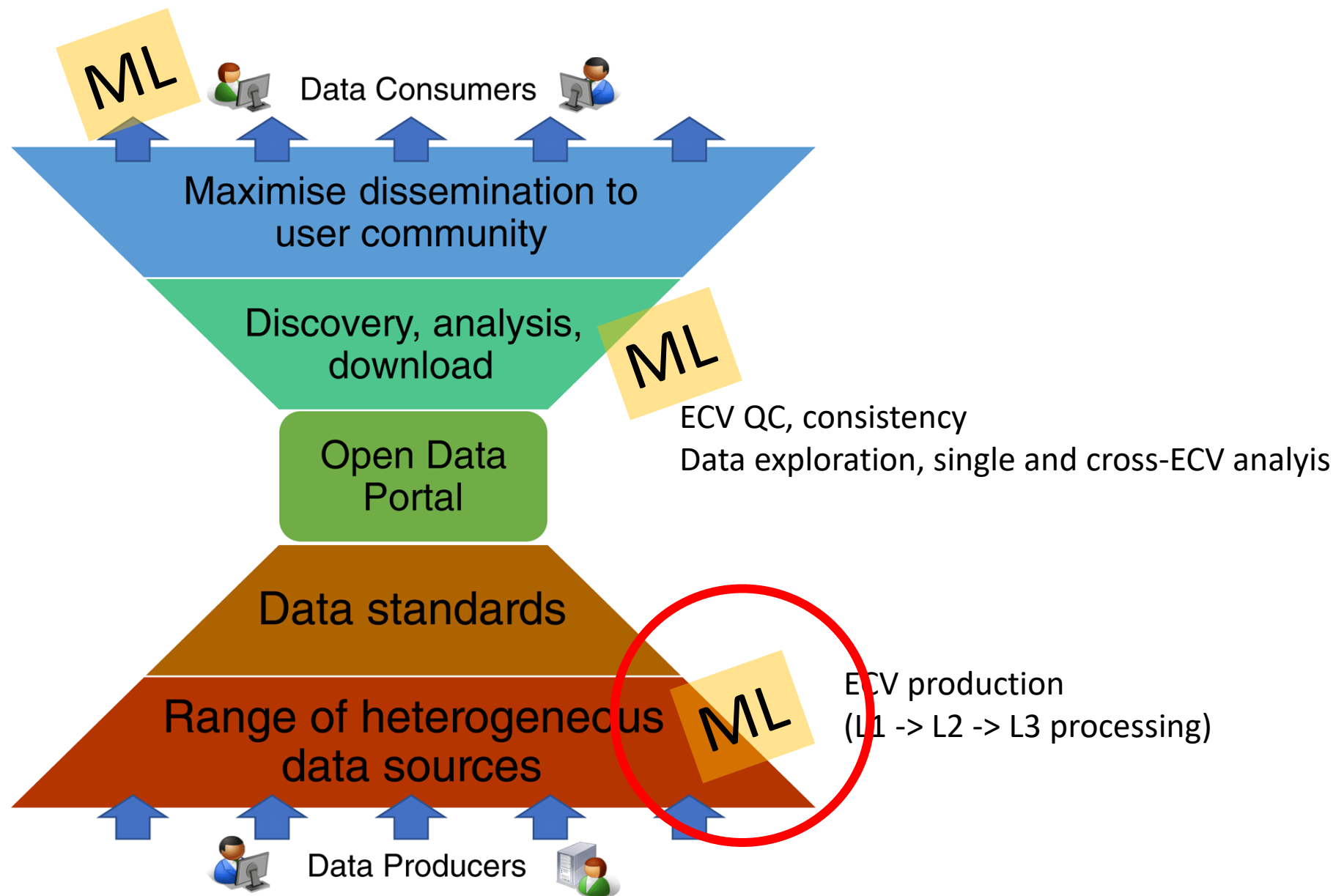
From ESA Climate Office *Note on CCI & AI 2019 Q4 (v0.23) & 2021 Q4 (v1.0)*

- Includes - Current use ; Planned use ; Resource gaps for AI ; Future Concepts



# CCI Open Data Portal and Opportunities for ML

Combination with non ESA data, Climate analysis, forecasting and scenarios



# ML in ECV Production Algorithms – Cloud Masking

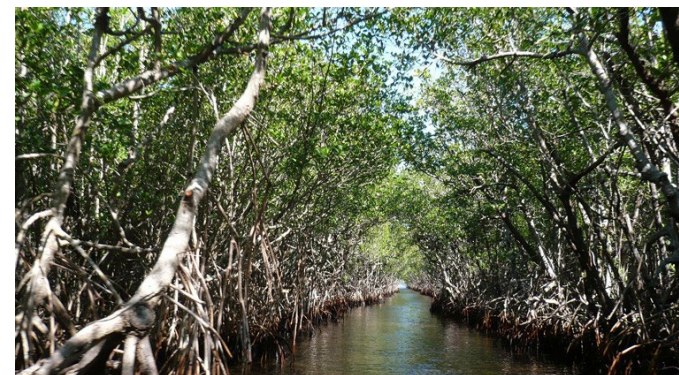
- More than Cloud Masking – Pixel Identification as first step in a processing chain
  - cloud, snow, land, water, ...
  - critical cases: semi-transparent clouds, fractional snow cover, mangroves, muddy water, ...
  - relevant for basically all ECVs using optical EO data: ECVs: Clouds, Aerosols, LandCover, Fire, Snow, Ocean Colour,



Axel Rohkohl, fotocommunity

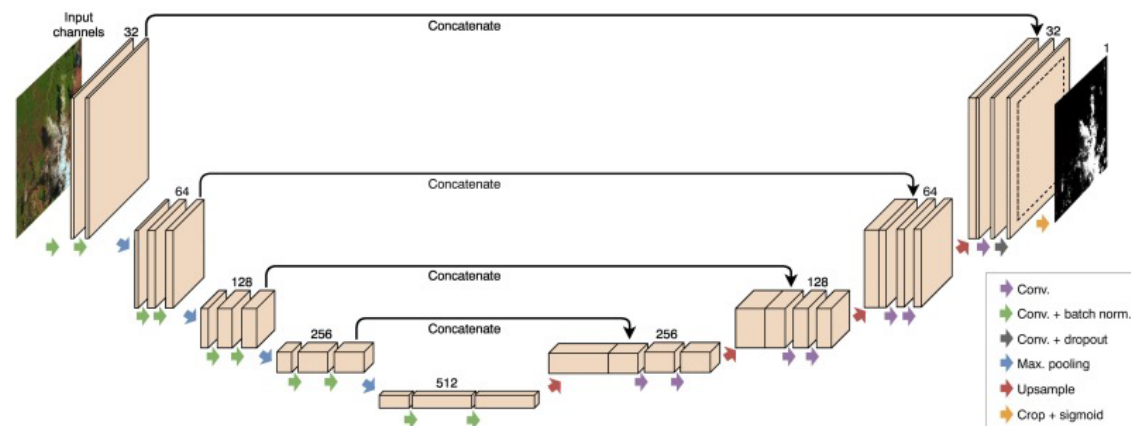


www.beyondarctic.com



© pixabay.com | Ravini

- Classical ML task:
  - Training data set with labelled pixels
  - Various methods applied: DL, NNs, RF, SVM, ...
- Most important: training dataset



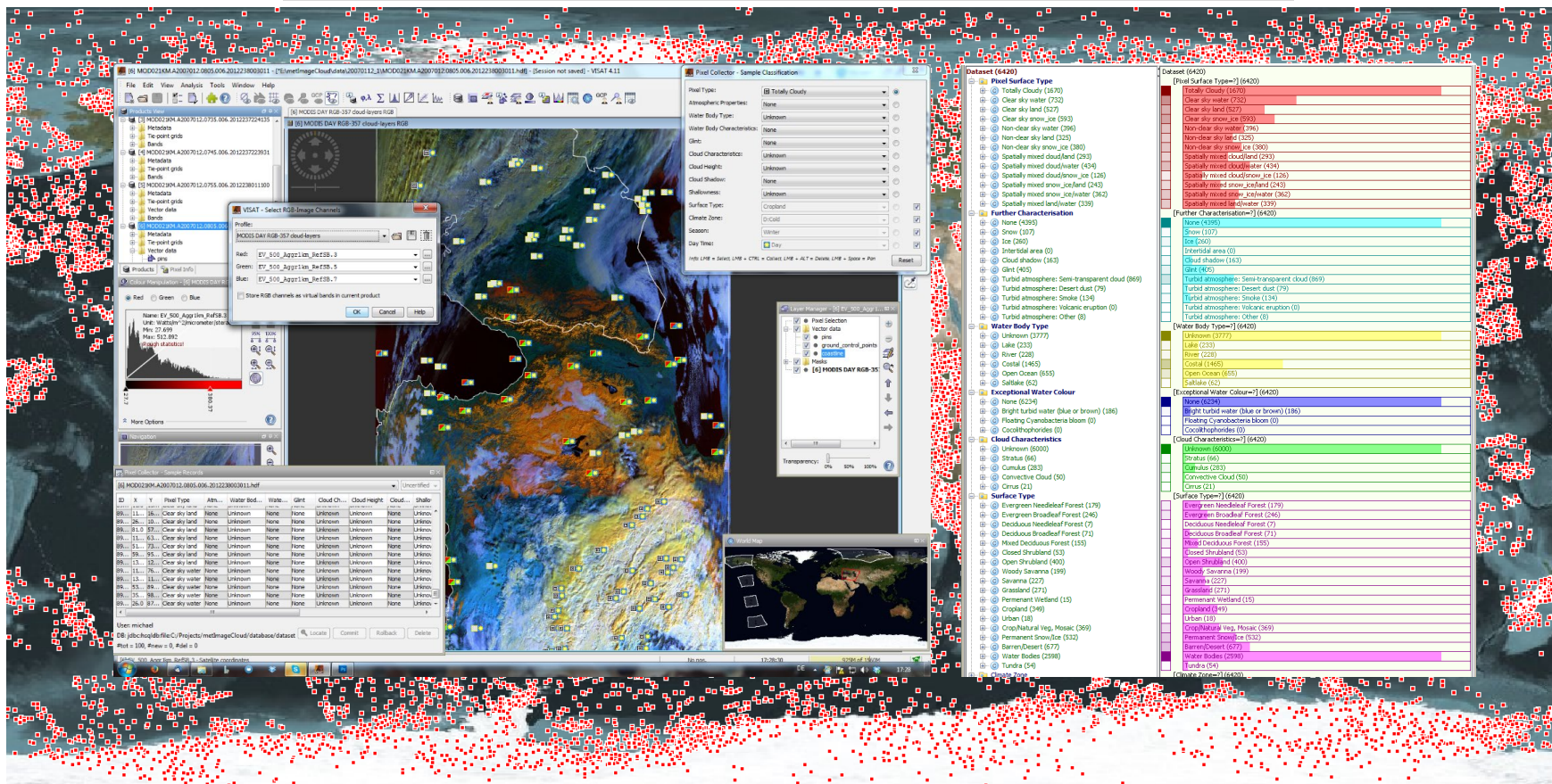
Jepsen et al, 2019

# PixBox – Manually Selected Pixel Collection

## SLSTR night time collection

44.500 night time pixels collected

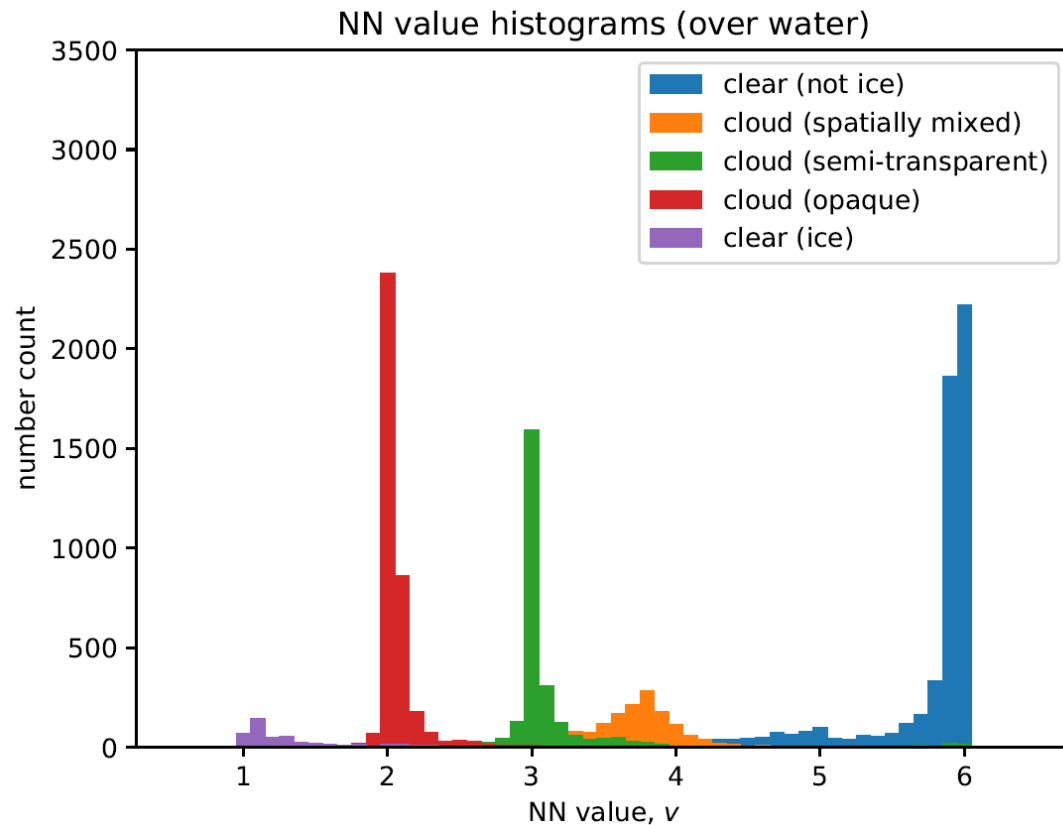
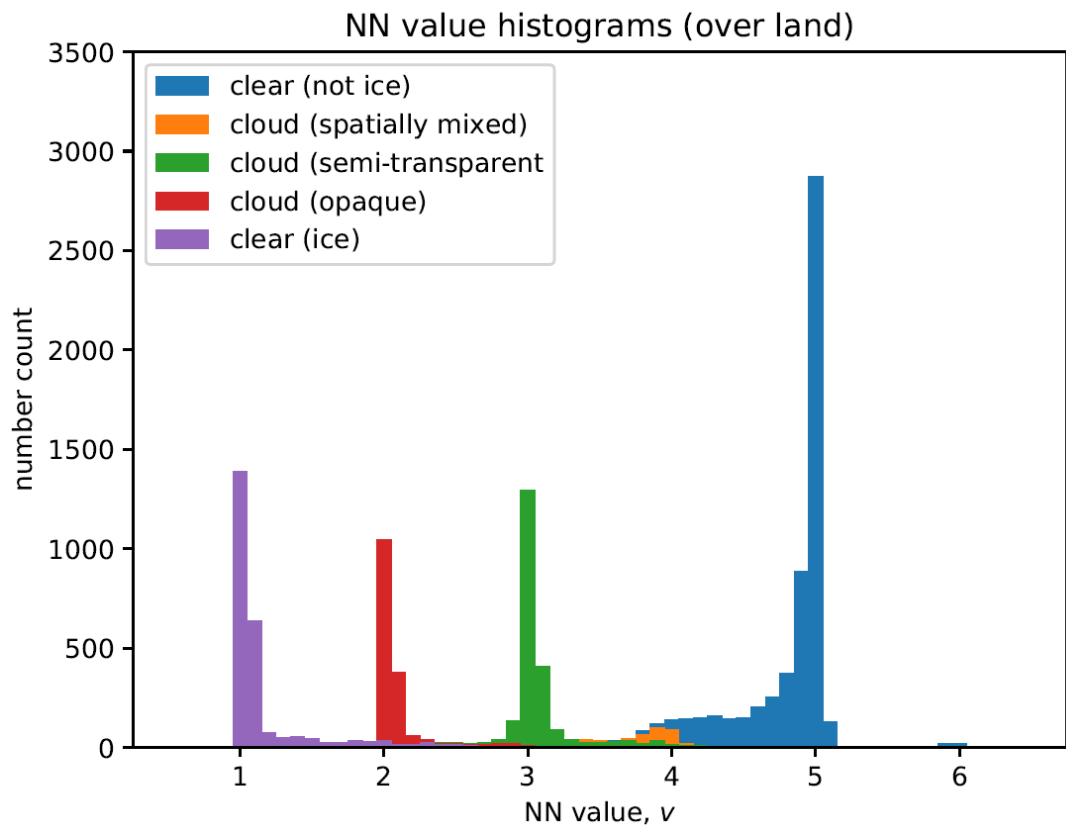
194 products from 44 different orbits from 3 different day  
(15.12.2016, 15.03.2017, 15.06.2017)





# NN Training - Separability

Sentinel-3 OLCI



# Validation

PixBox (validation sample)

EO

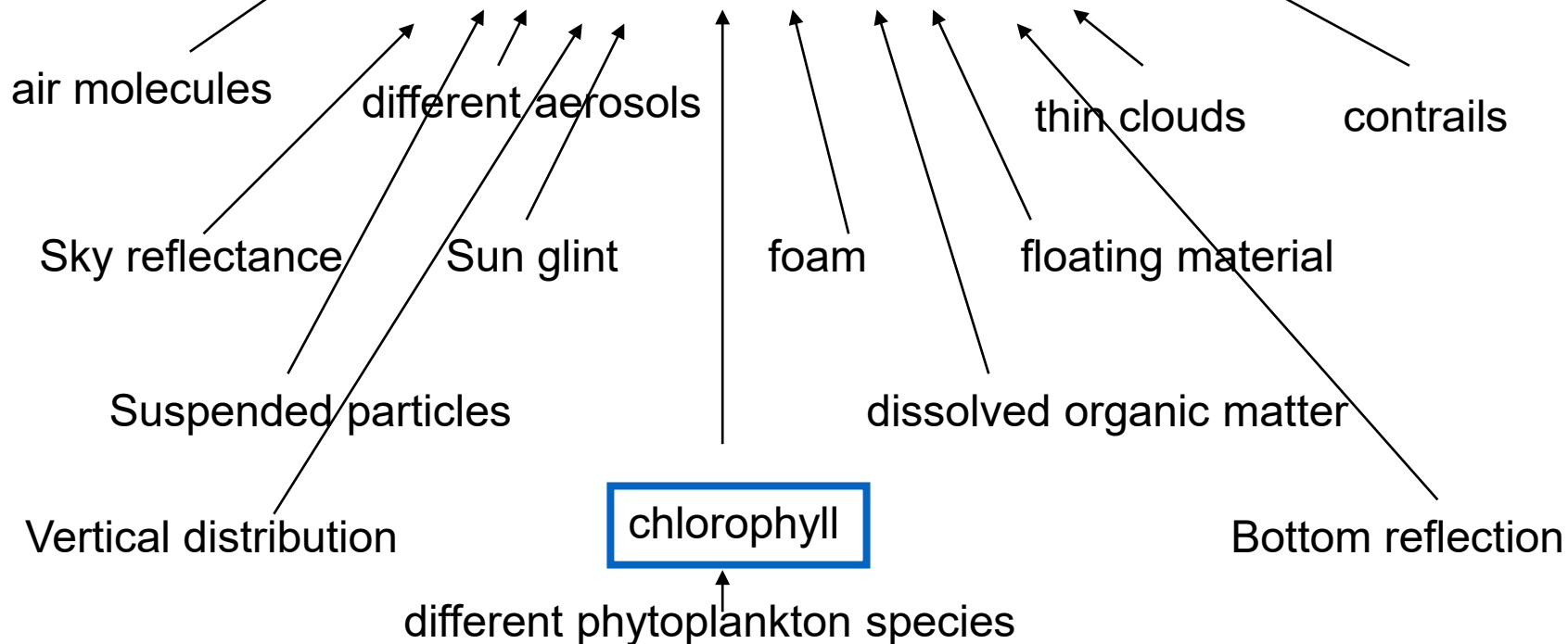
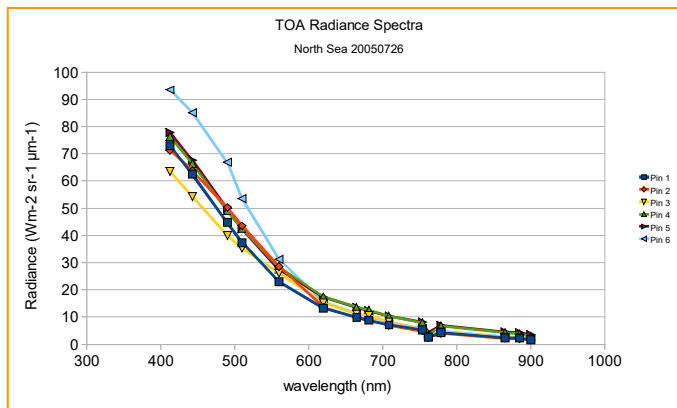
Class	Clear all Land	Clear Mountain	Clear Urban	Clear Desert	Clear Salt-Lake	Clear Other Land	Cloud	Sum
CLEAR	2841	160	116	450	8	2107	267	5949
CLOUD	717	289	65	60	29	274	4282	5716
Sum	3558	449	181	510	37	2381	4549	11665

EO

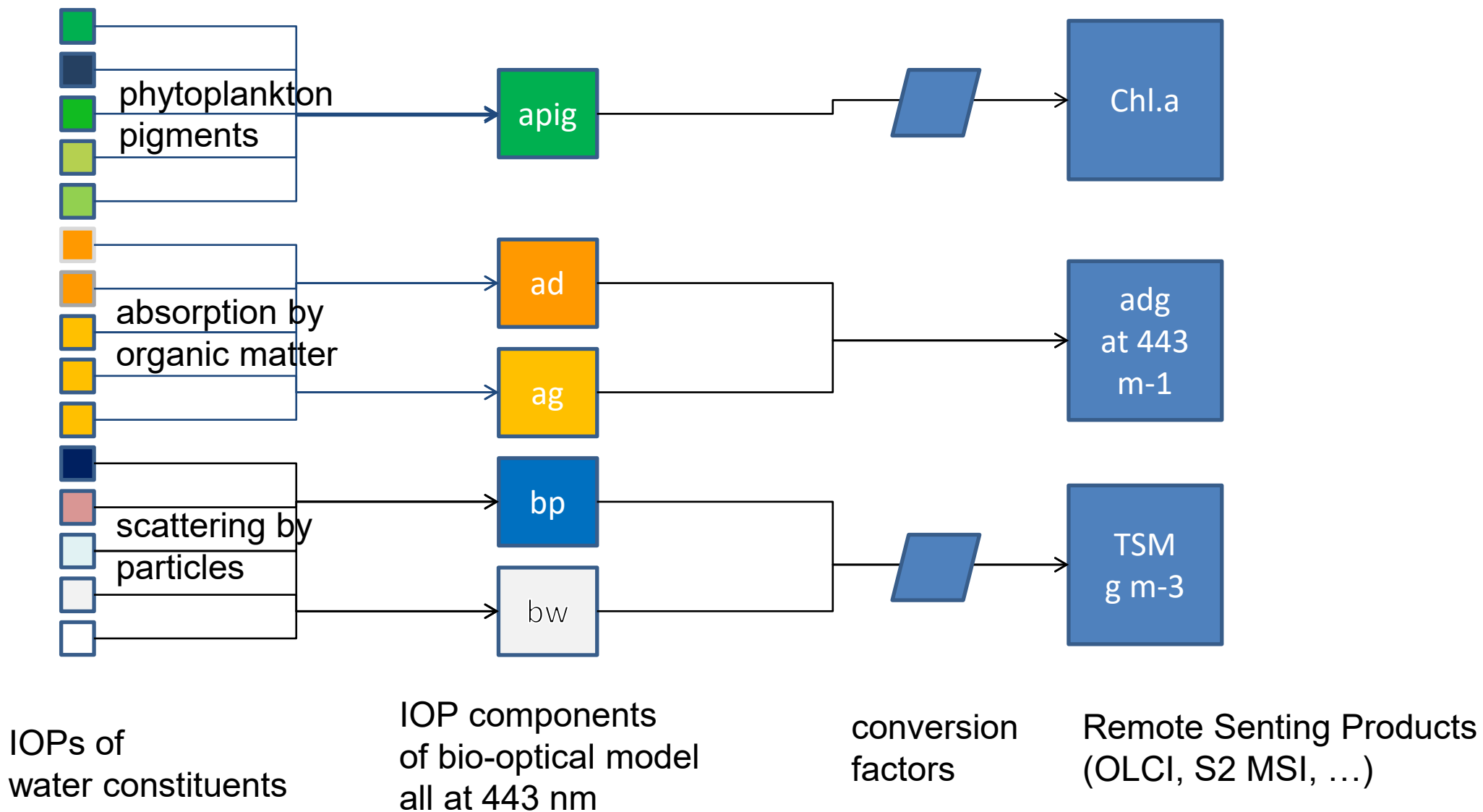
Class	Clear	Opaque	Thick	Med	Thin	Sum
CLEAR	3688	1277	74	1010	746	6795
CLOUD	306	3912	394	1499	268	6379
Sum	3994	5189	468	2509	1014	13174

# Ocean Colour - Physically based ML

The problem:  
Inversion of underdetermined  
highly non-linear radiative  
transfer equation

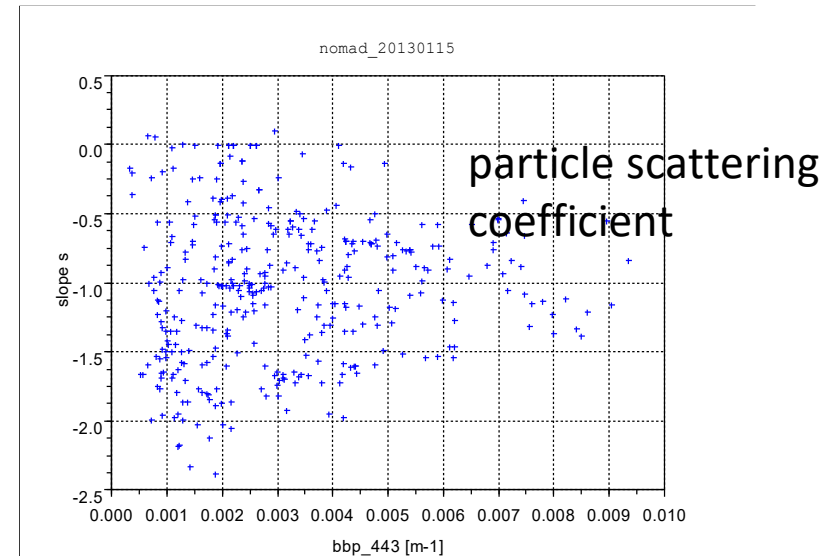
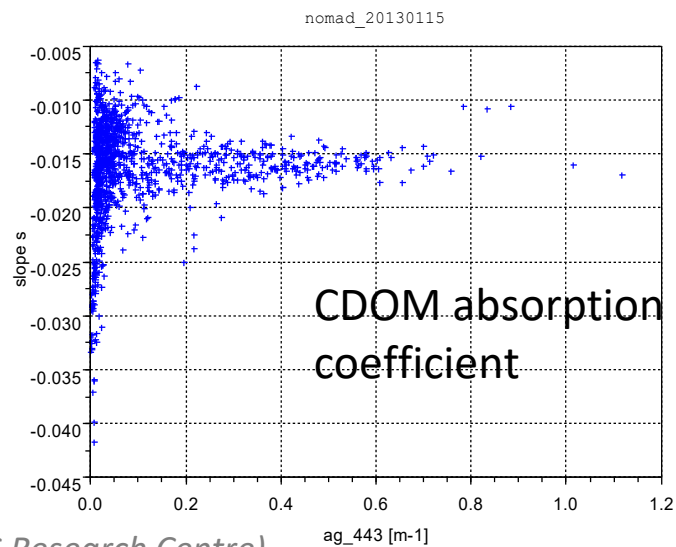
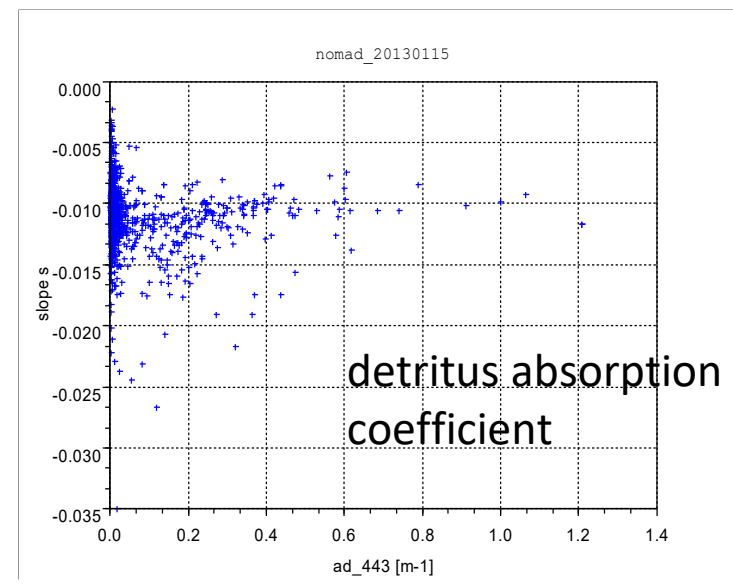
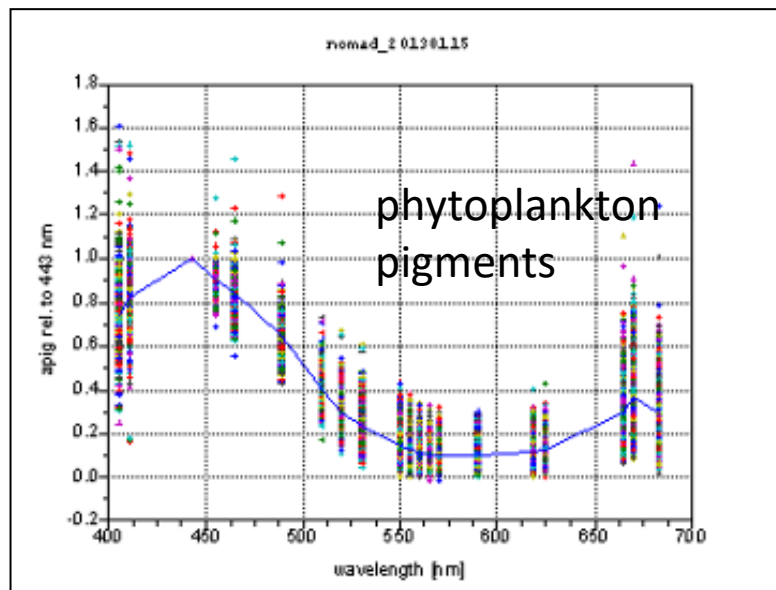


# Bio-Optical Model



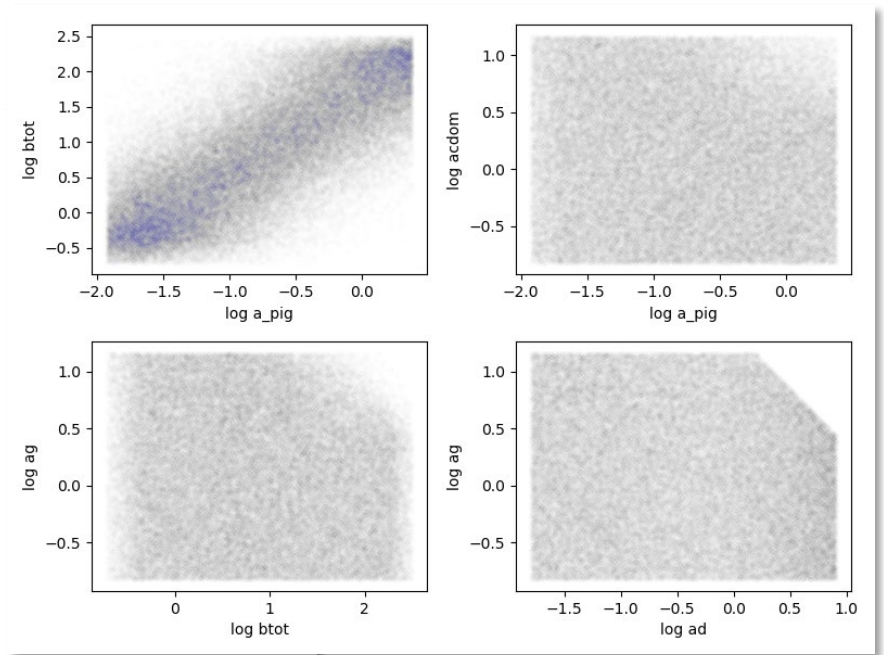
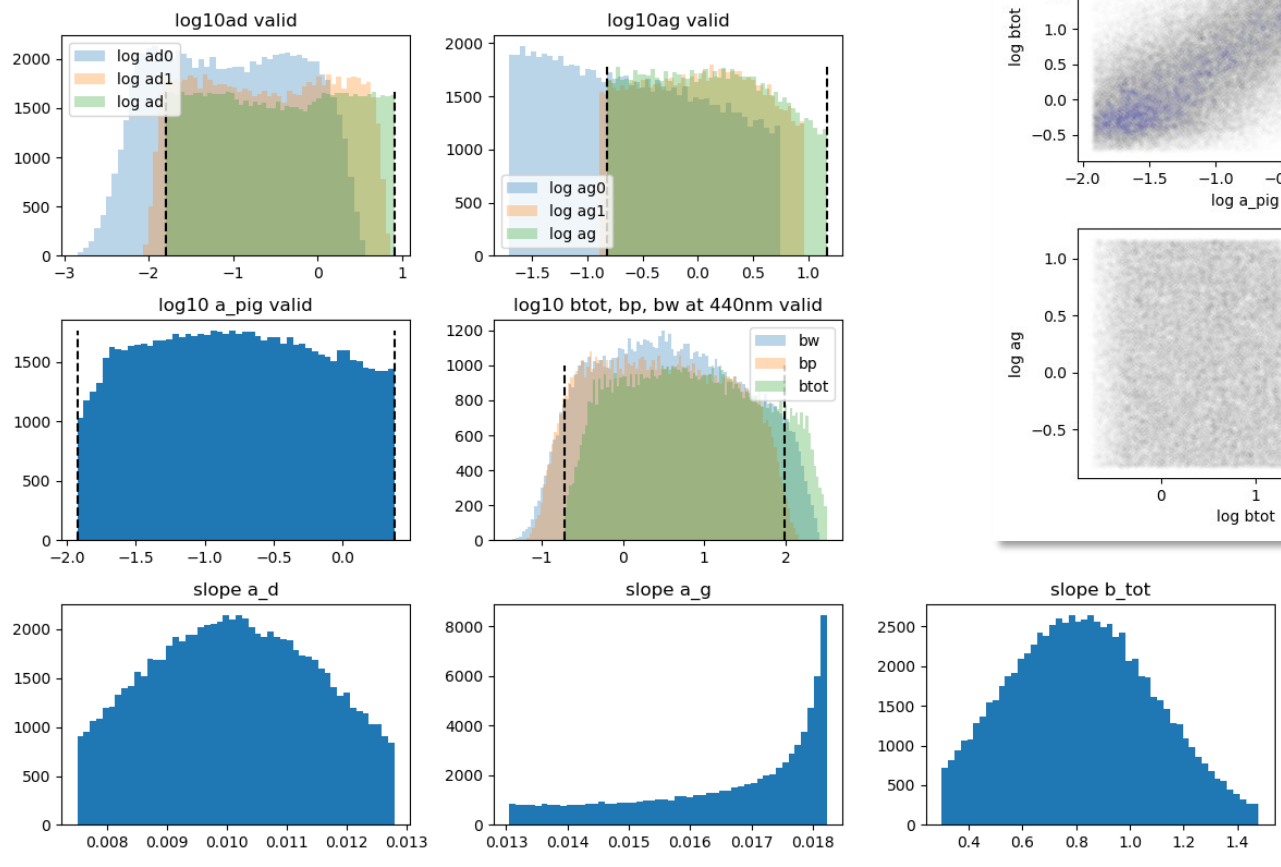
# Natural Variability and Covariance of Optical Properties

*Relative absorption/  
scattering from the  
NOMAD data set  
(NASA)*



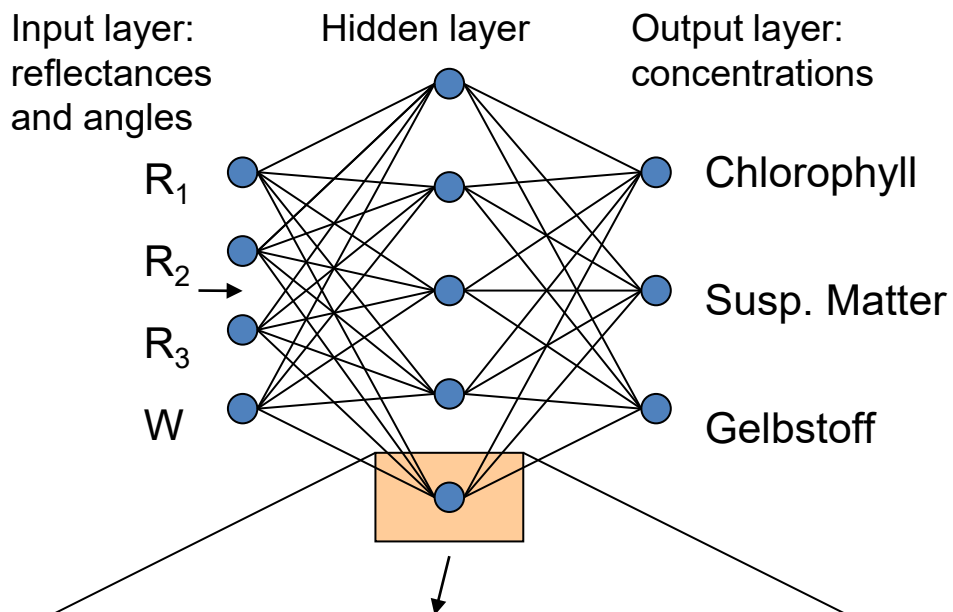
# Training Dataset: Radiative Transfer Simulations

## Distributions



## Covariances

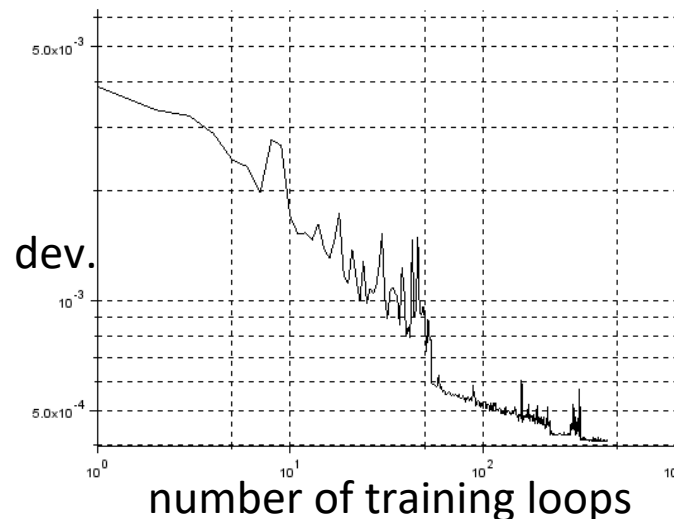
# Simplified scheme of MLP - NN



$$y_l = s\left(-d_l + \sum_{k=1}^3 w_{kl} \cdot s\left(-c_k + \sum_{j=1}^5 v_{jk} \cdot s\left(-b_j + \sum_{i=1}^4 u_{ij} x_i\right)\right)\right)$$

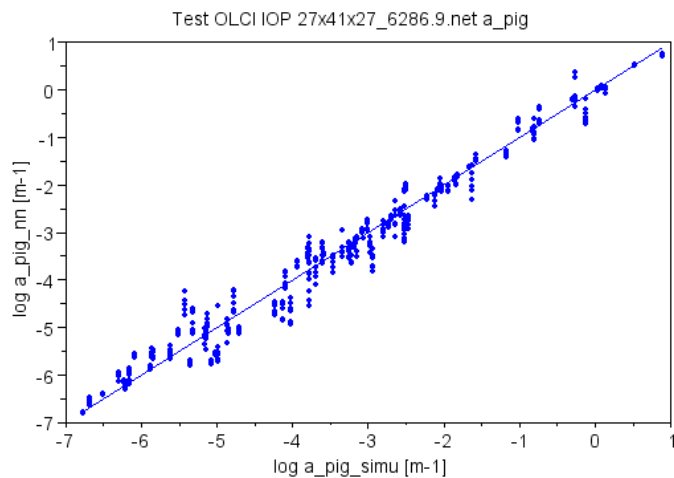
s: sigmoid function, u,v,w: weight, b,c,d: bias

training progress rw-> 5 iops (OLCI)

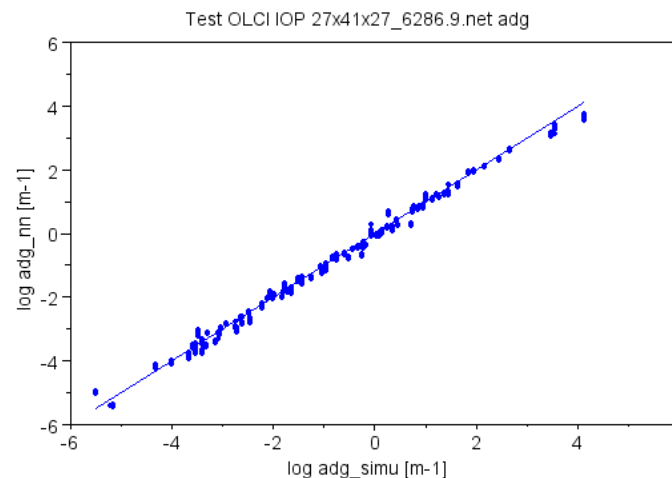


trainings samples: 1 350 882 points  
 test samples: 399 118 points  
 #planes=5: 17, 97, 77, 37, 5  
 average of residues:  
 training =0.000410 test =0.000413  
 ratio avg.train/avg.test=0.993550

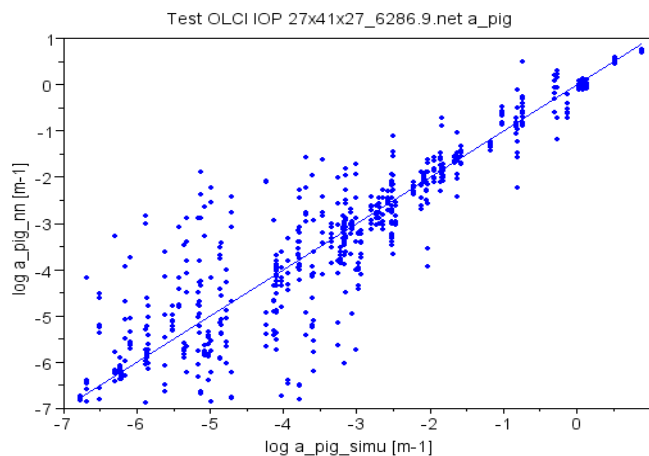
# Training Performance / Sensitivity Tests of NNs



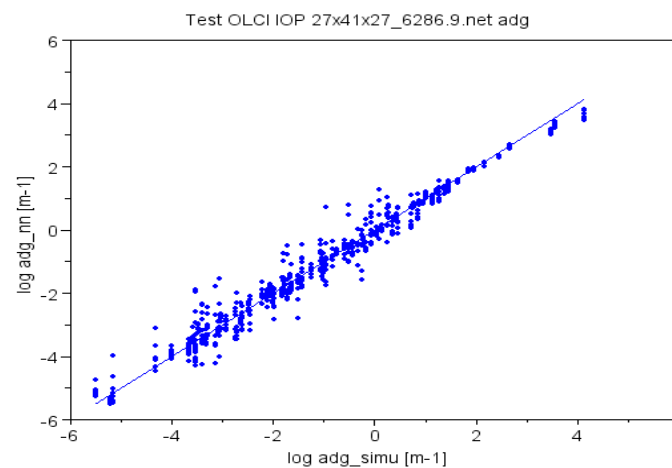
Test of a\_pig, no additional error



Test of adg, no additional error



Test of a\_pig with an extra random error with a standard deviation of 3%

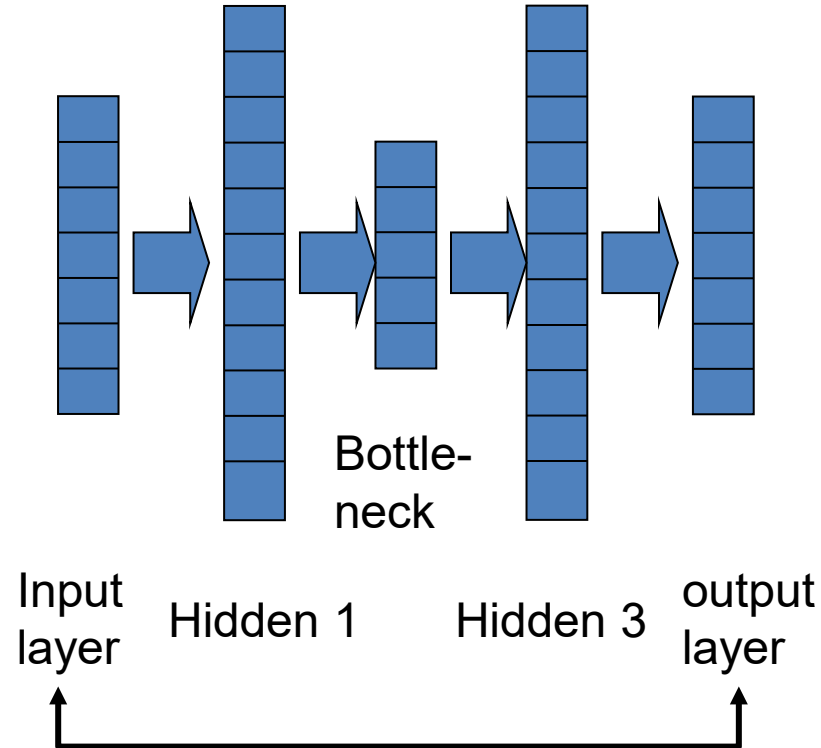


Test of adg with an extra random error with a standard deviation of 3%



# Applicability Test („Out-of-Scope“)

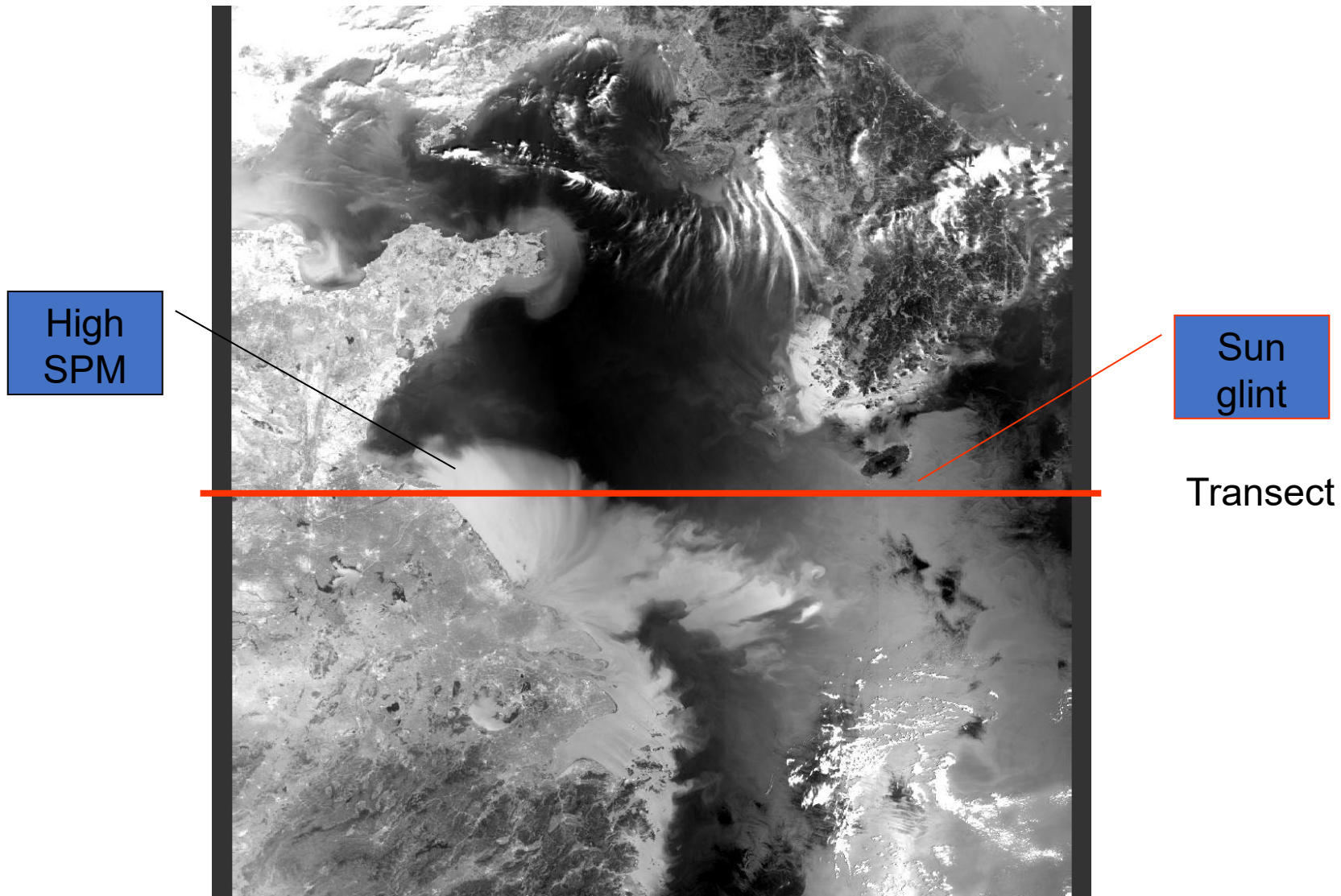
- Important to detect toa radiance spectra which are not in the simulated training data set
- These are out of scope of the atmospheric correction algorithm
- Autoassociative neural network with a bottle neck layer



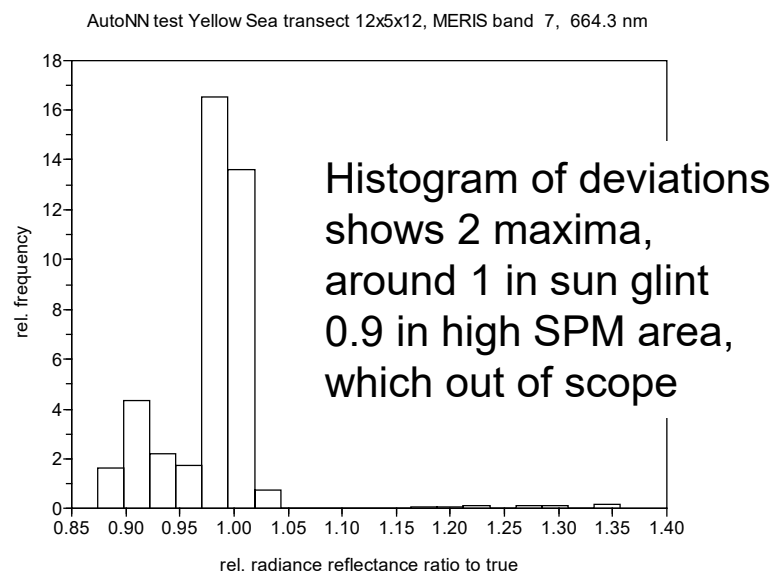
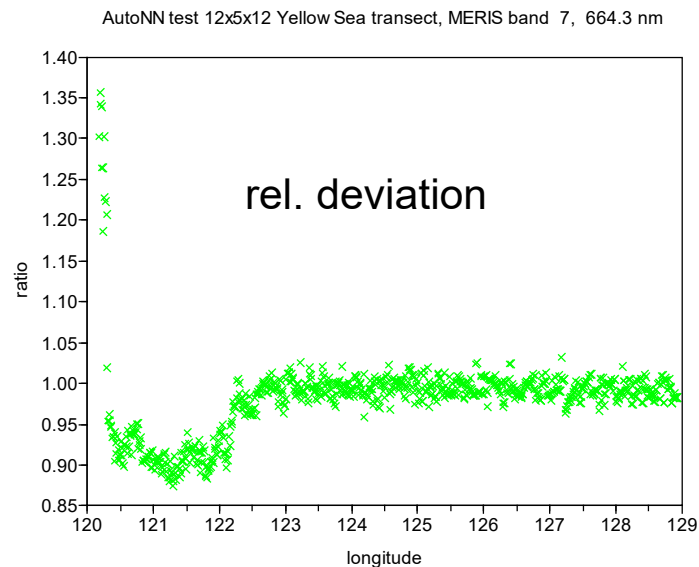
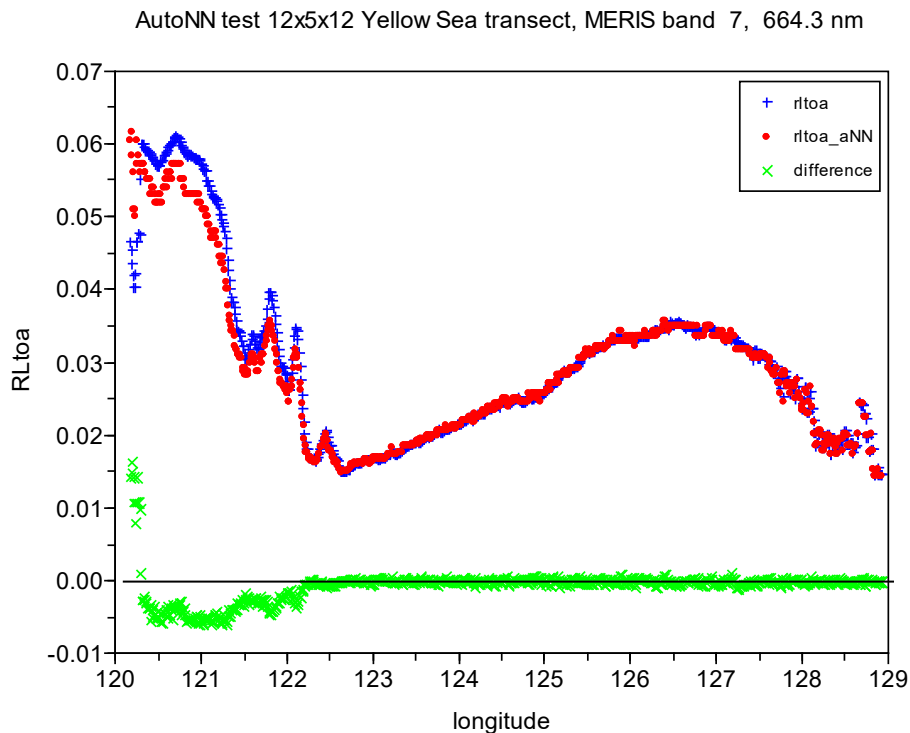
Functions also  
as nonlinear PCA  
i.e. bottle neck number of  
neurons  
Provide estimate of  
Independent components

For the GAC training data  
Set of ~ 1Mio. Cases  
Bottleneck minimum was 4-5

# OoS example

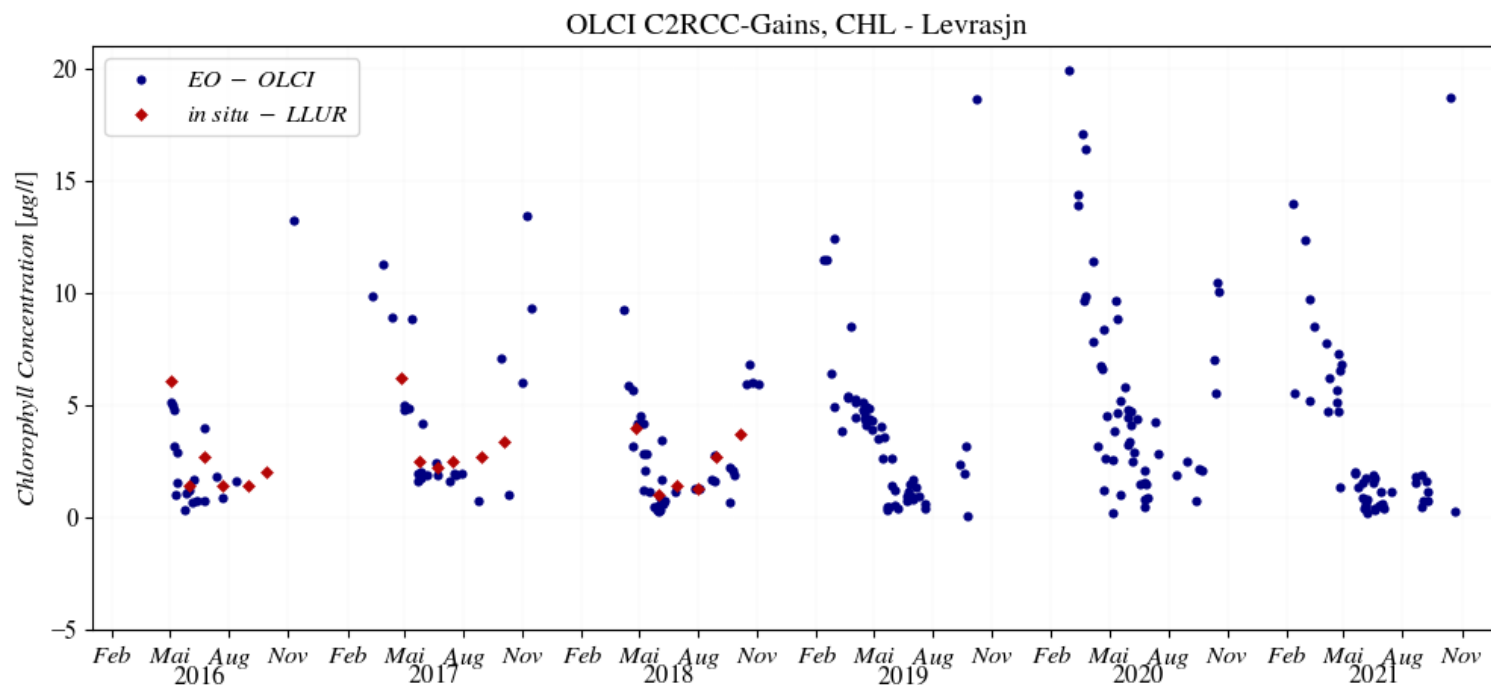
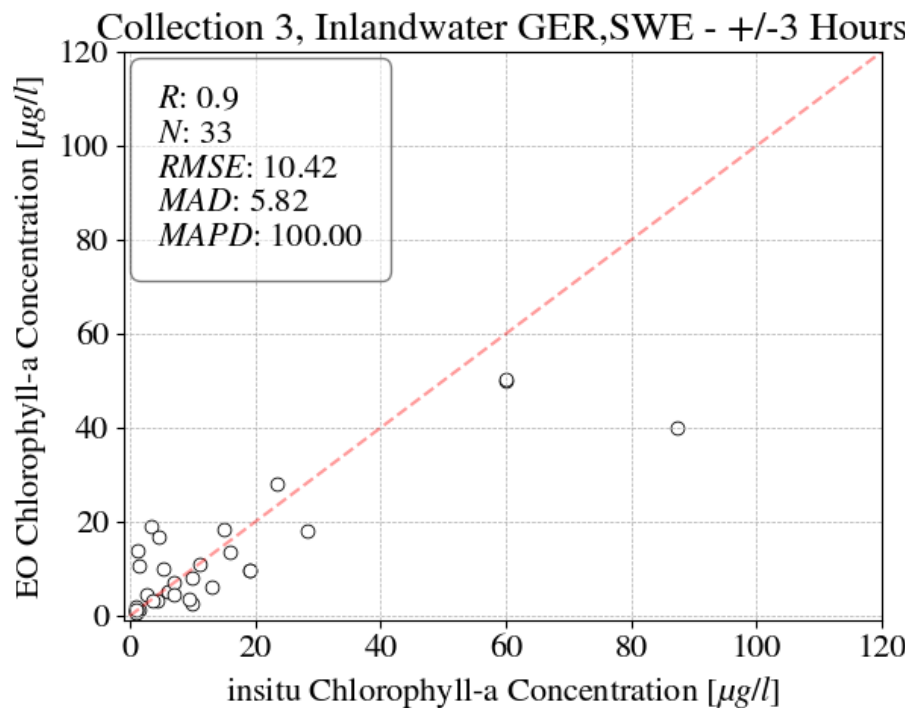


# OoS example



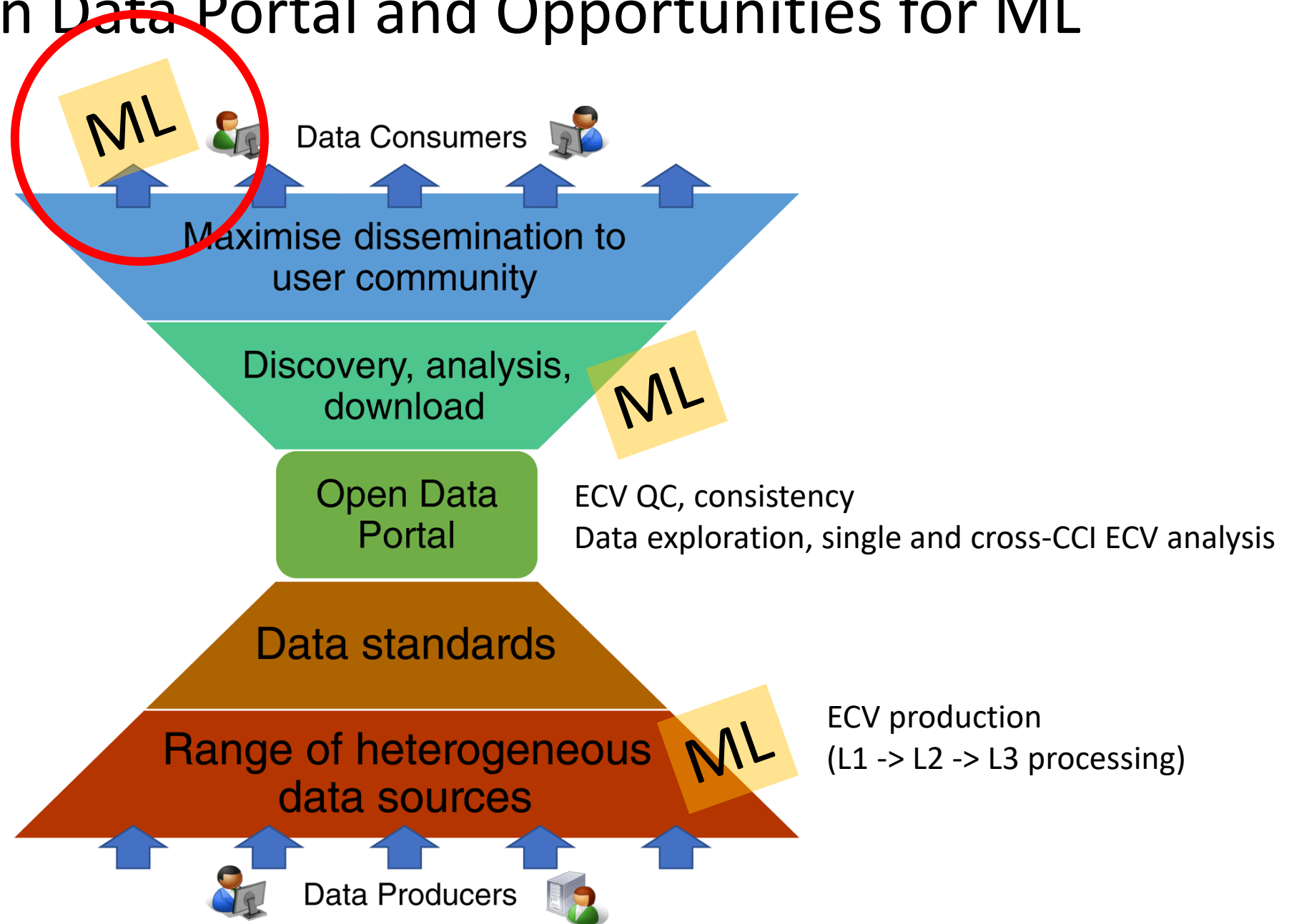
significant deviation in area with high SPM concentrations, but not in sun glint area

# Validation with in-situ



# CCI Open Data Portal and Opportunities for ML

Combination with non ESA data, Climate analysis, forecasting and scenarios



# AI Downstream From CCI ECV Production - Example.

## Forecasting Environmental Cholera Risk in Coastal India



Estimated 2.9 million cases per year worldwide (WHO, 2017), 57% in Northern Indian Ocean countries

*Vibrio cholerae* (pathogenic bacteria responsible for cholera disease) found in coastal & estuarine waters

Established relationships between Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) and coastal distribution/ seasonal dynamics of *Vibrio cholerae*

AM Campbell<sup>1</sup>, M-F Racault<sup>2,3</sup>, S Goult<sup>2,3</sup>, A. Laurenson<sup>2</sup>, Cholera Risk: A Machine Learning Approach applied to Essential Climate Variables. *Submitted to Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health*

<sup>1</sup>ESA Climate Office, <sup>2</sup>Plymouth Marine Laboratory, <sup>3</sup>National Centre for Earth Observation

Exploring potential of using multiple CCI-ECVs in a cross-ECV approach within a machine learning application to understand these complex relationships and forecast when outbreaks would occur

Study site: India coastal districts, monthly resolution, 2010-2018 based on cholera outbreak data availability

CCI ECV Datasets used – SST, Sea Surface Salinity, Ocean Colour, Sea Level, Soil Moisture, Land Surface Temperature.  
With AVISO SLA, ERA Interim Precipitation, IDSP Cholera Outbreaks.

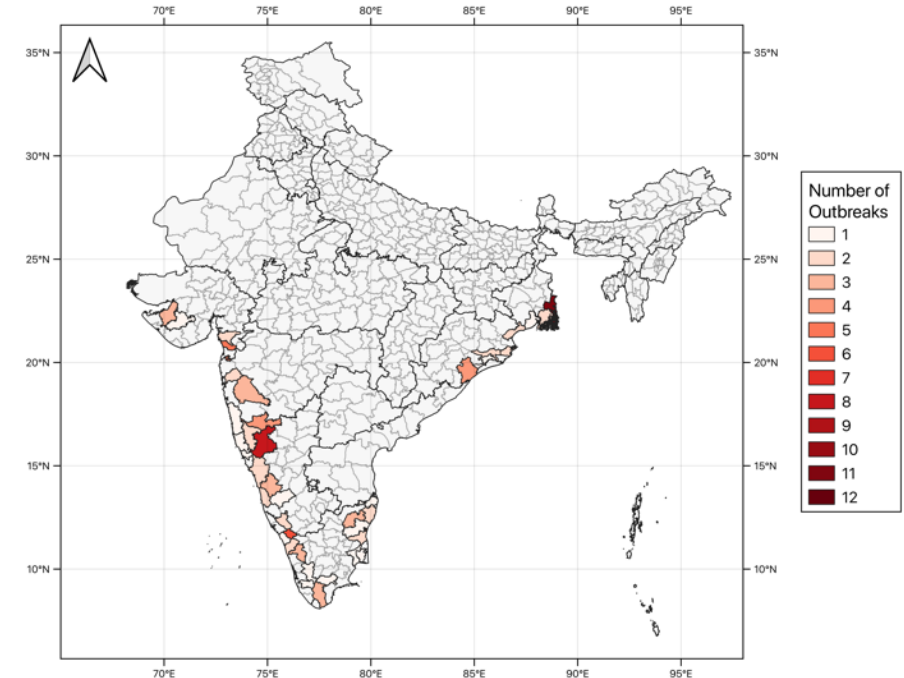
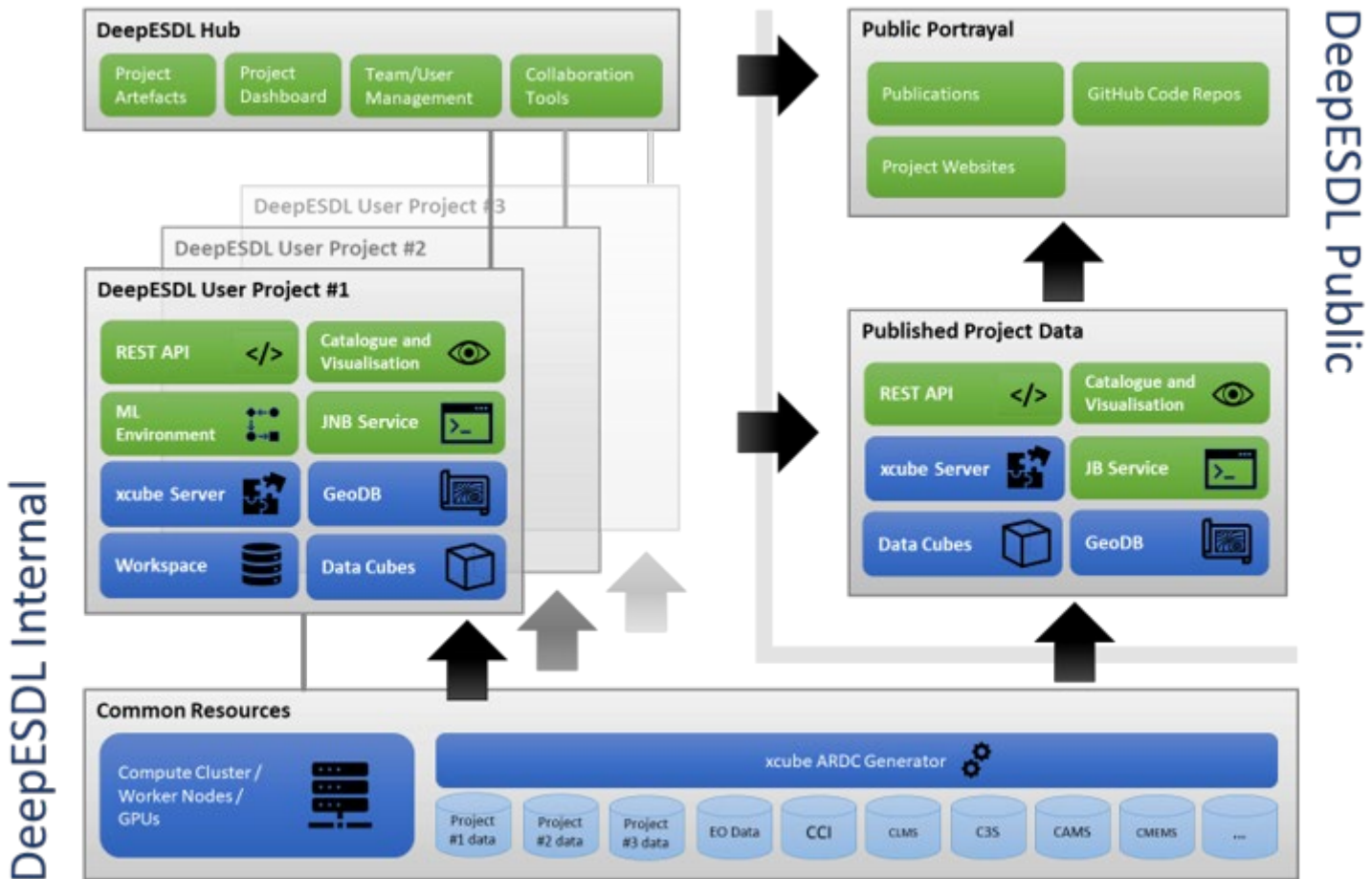


Figure 1: Cholera outbreaks recorded in coastal India districts within the study period 2010-2018



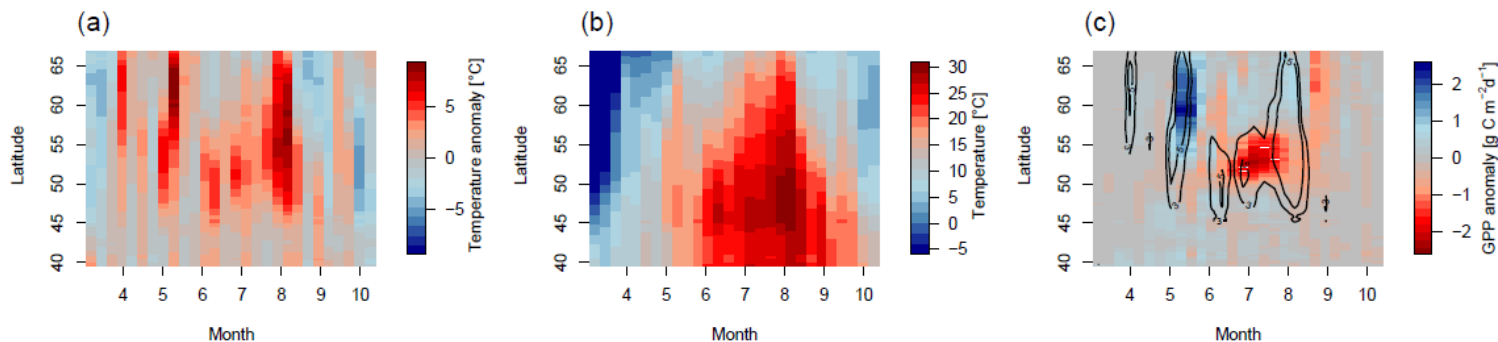
# ESA Deep Earth System Data Lab

- Integrator of **Earth System and Climate data** from different ESA activities and other data owners into a single infrastructure.
- A **platform for collaborative research with focus on AI** allowing different scientists and teams to work collectively sharing data, tools and expertise.
- Support for **implementation and execution of individual projects** from ESA, particularly from the Science Clusters or from the scientific community.

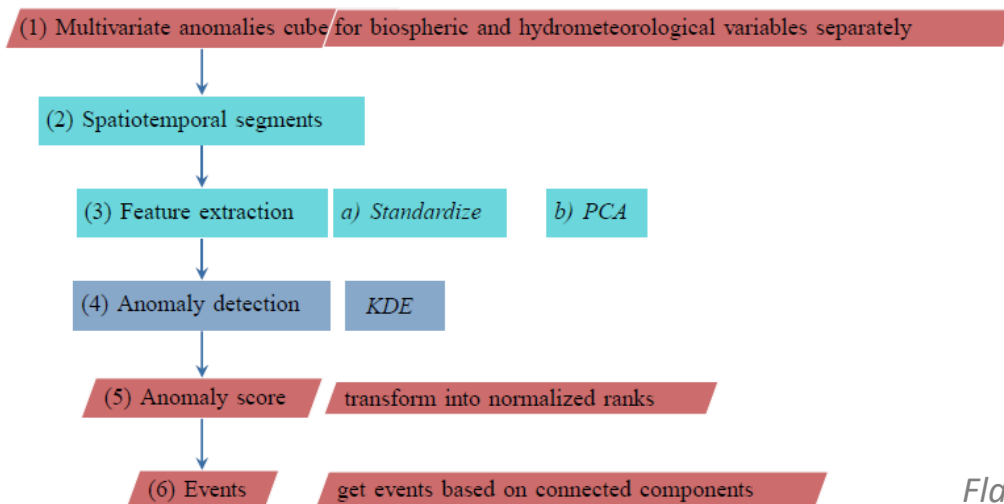


# Feature Selection and Anomaly Detection with the Cube

## Russian Heat Wave 2010



**Figure 1.** Longitudinal average (30.25 to 60.0° E) of (a) temperature anomalies (reference period: 2001–2011), (b) absolute temperature, and (c) GPP anomalies in 2010 with a contour of temperature anomalies (+3, +5 K).



**Figure 2.** Data processing for detecting multivariate anomalies.

*Flach et al, 2018: Contrasting biosphere responses to hydrometeorological extremes: revisiting the 2010 western Russian heatwave*

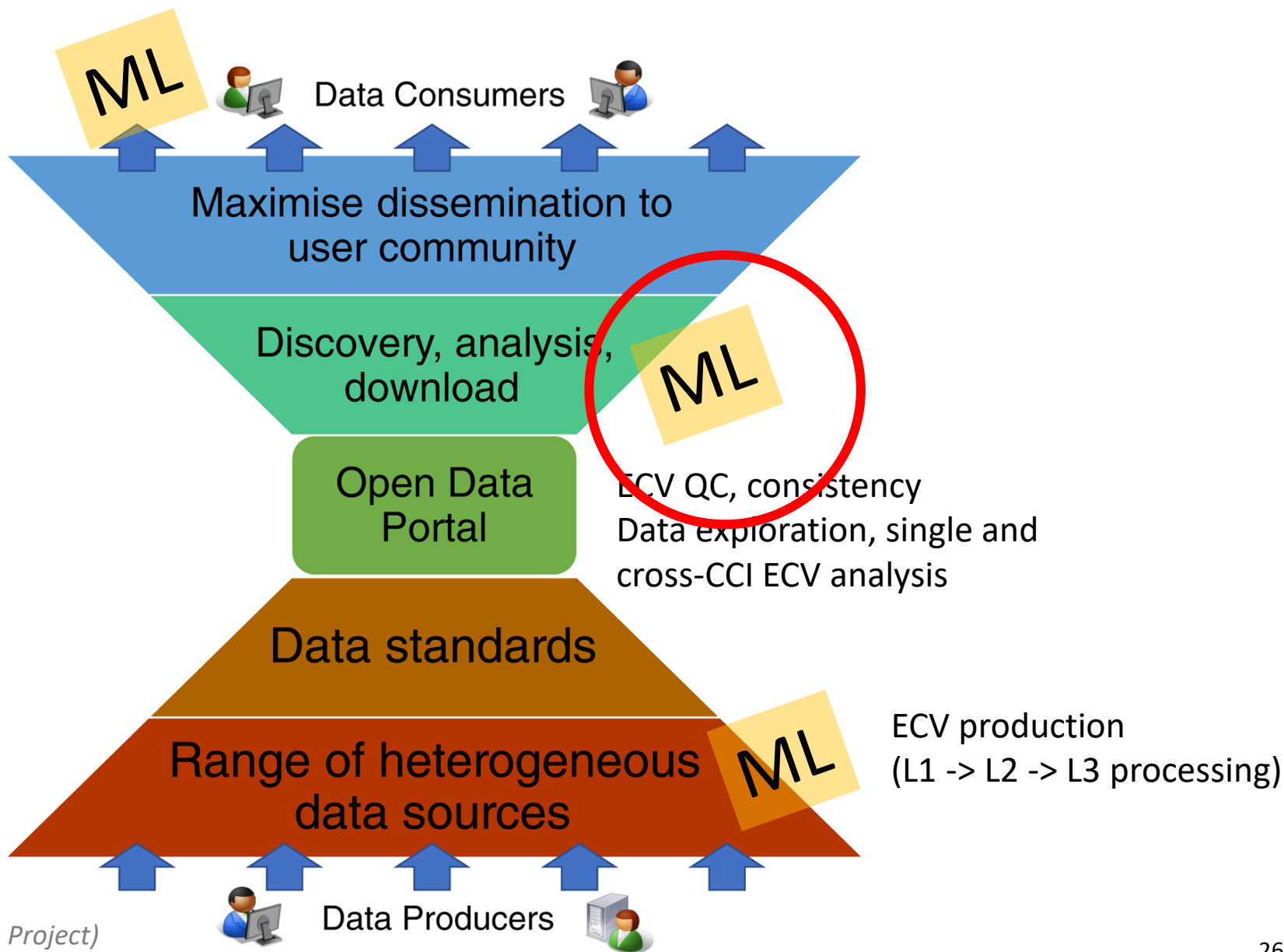


# What's next in CCI?

## Machine learning to advance climate model evaluation and process understanding

*A study performed by the ESA CCI Climate Modelling Group (CMUG).*

*Study will be undertaken by DLR and IUP (Univ. Bremen)*

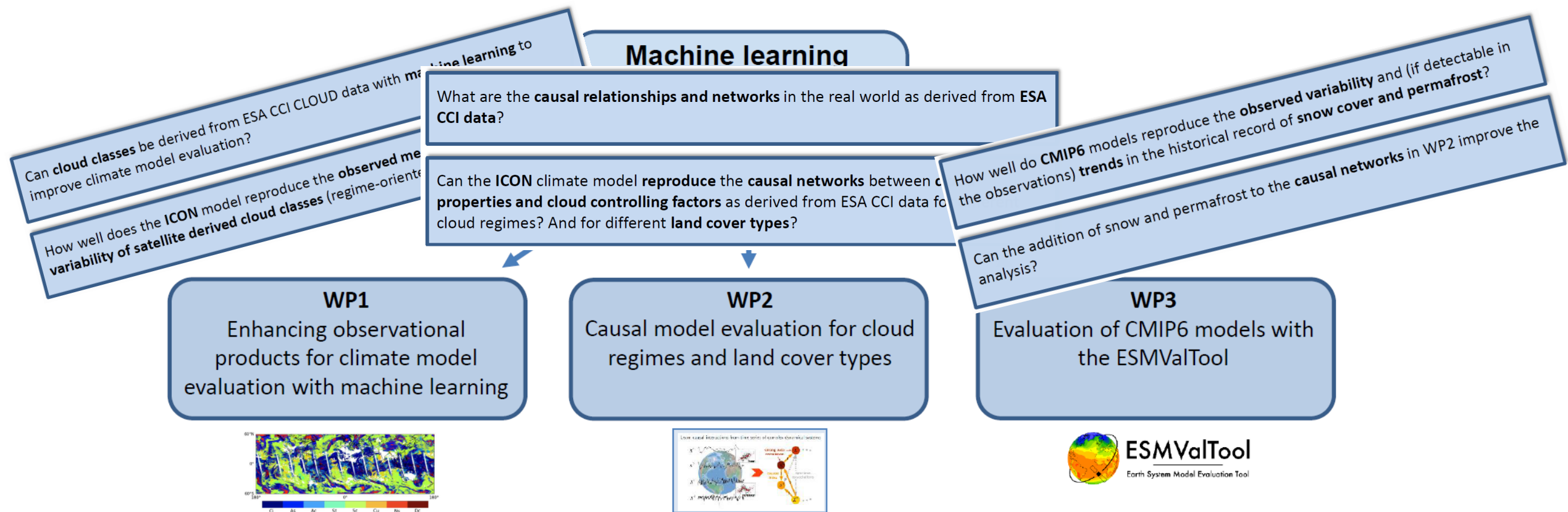


# CCI CMUG: Machine learning to advance climate model evaluation and process understanding

Developing and applying machine learning (ML) techniques for advanced climate model evaluation and process understanding with ESA CCI data

→ Creating enhanced ML-based observational products **from observations and climate models**

→ **Causal networks** derived from observations will be compared to those from state-of-the-art global climate models (CMIP6 and ICON model) to enhance process-oriented model evaluation with ESA CCI data



# Thank you for your attention

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