

# Explainable AI

ML Training Course

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# Outline

1. What is XAI and why do we care about it?
2. How is explainability measured?
3. Different XAI methods
  - I. Model agnostic
  - II. Model specific
4. Assessment of XAI Metrics
5. Conclusions

# What is XAI and why do we care about it?

# eXplainable AI techniques

## Explainable

A machine learning method is **explainable** if the reason why it predicted the result can be understood by experts in that field (in our case domain weather and climate scientists)

# Motivation

Machine learning methods suffer as decision-making tools because they **lack the ability** to explain how they reach their prediction, making them potentially untrustworthy.

A method is **trustworthy** if its results are explainable and interpretable

In the context of weather, in a changing climate, the underlying physics of a problem may alter and it is important to **understand whether methods trained on historical data are still fit-for-purpose on future data**

Furthermore new laws passed in EU and US say that AI methods must be explainable when used for decision making.

# XAI techniques

Suppose we have a neural network which correctly predicts the image below is a horse



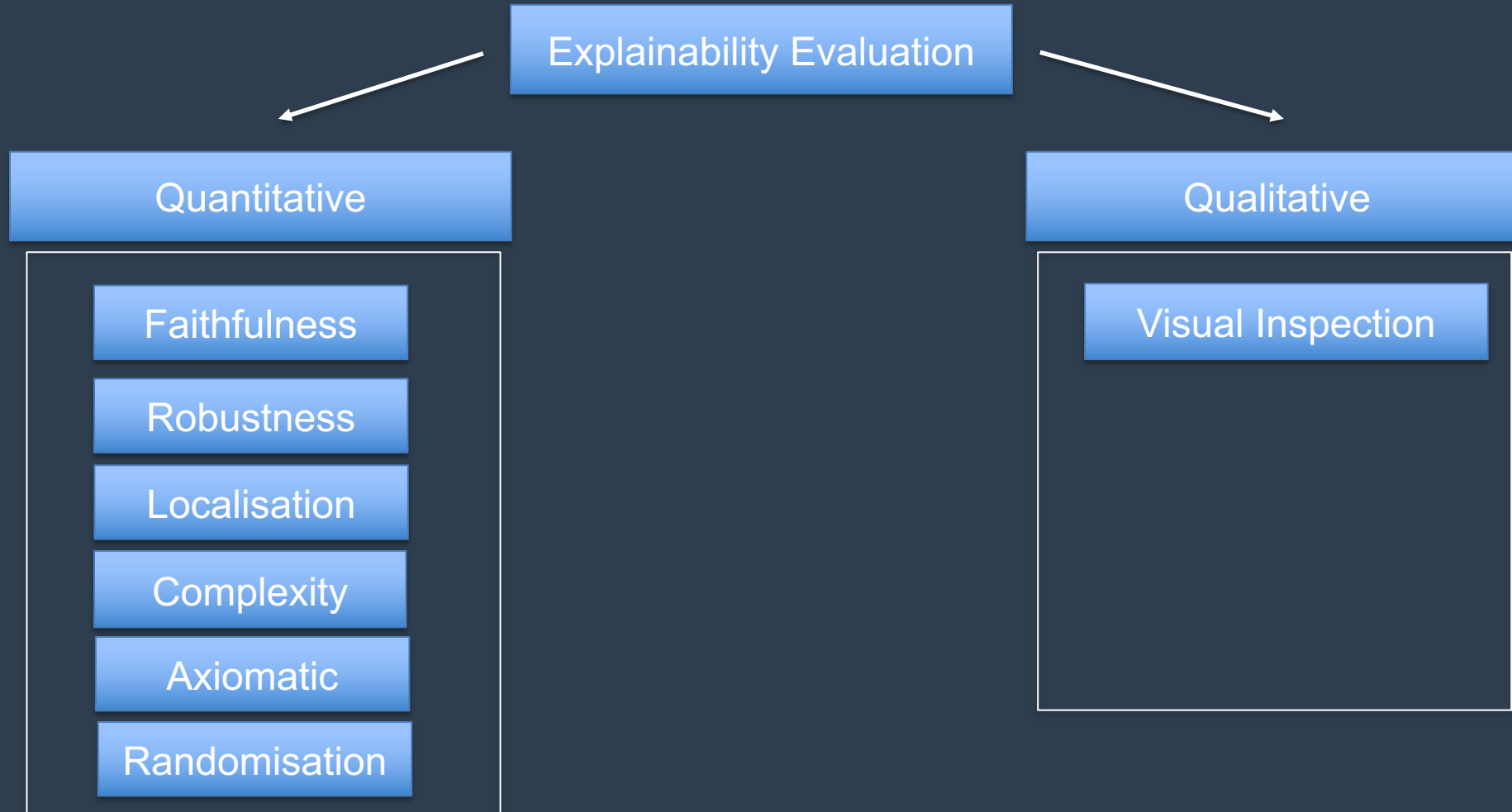
XAI techniques explain **WHY** the neural network has predicted this image is a horse



The neural network incorrectly finds the text helpful

# How is explainability measured?

# How is explainability measured?



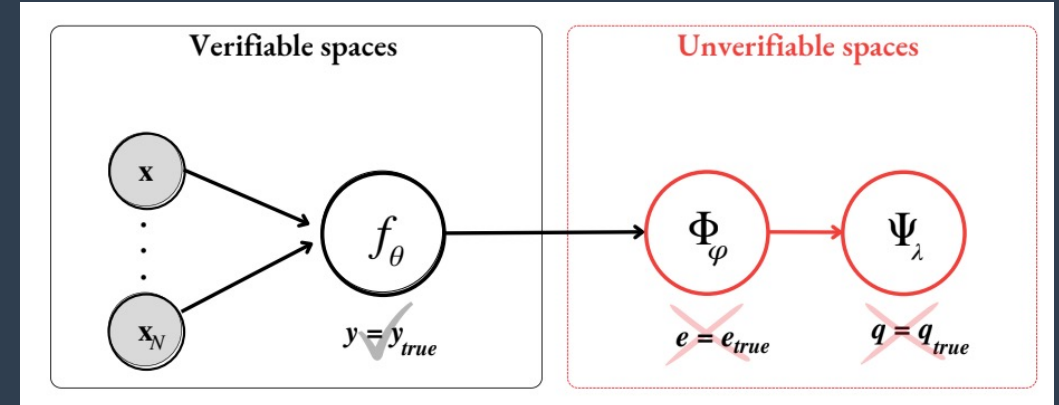
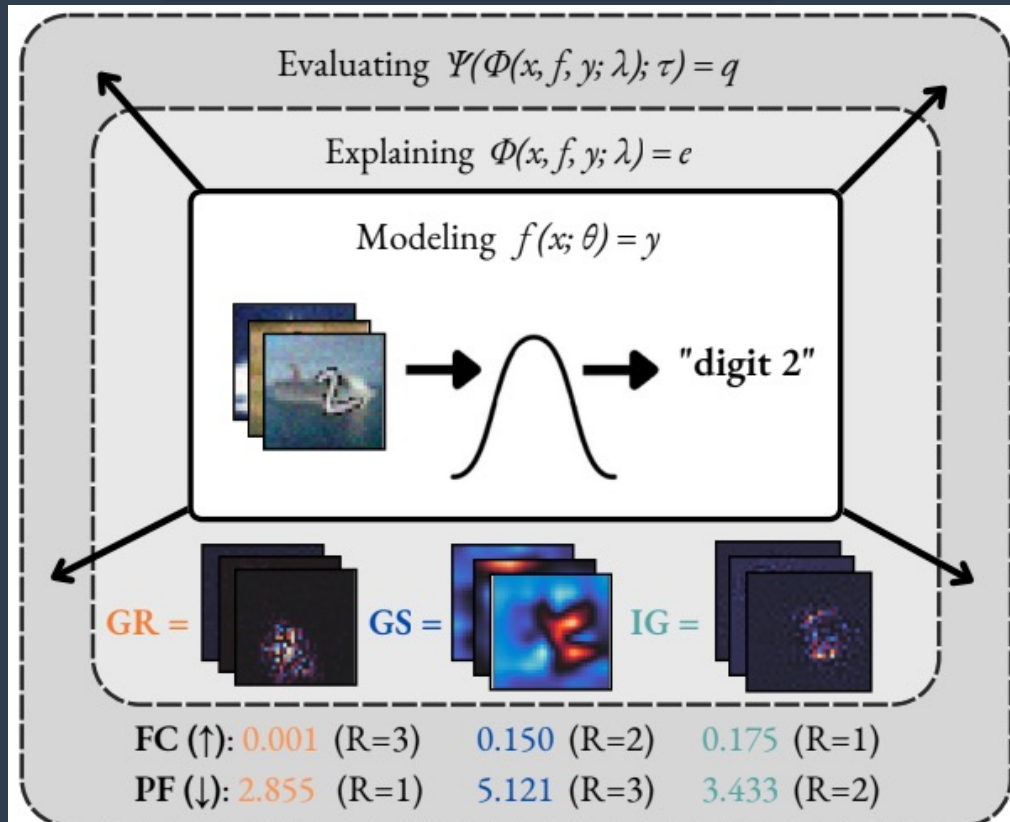


# How is explainability measured?

Quantitative



Challenging



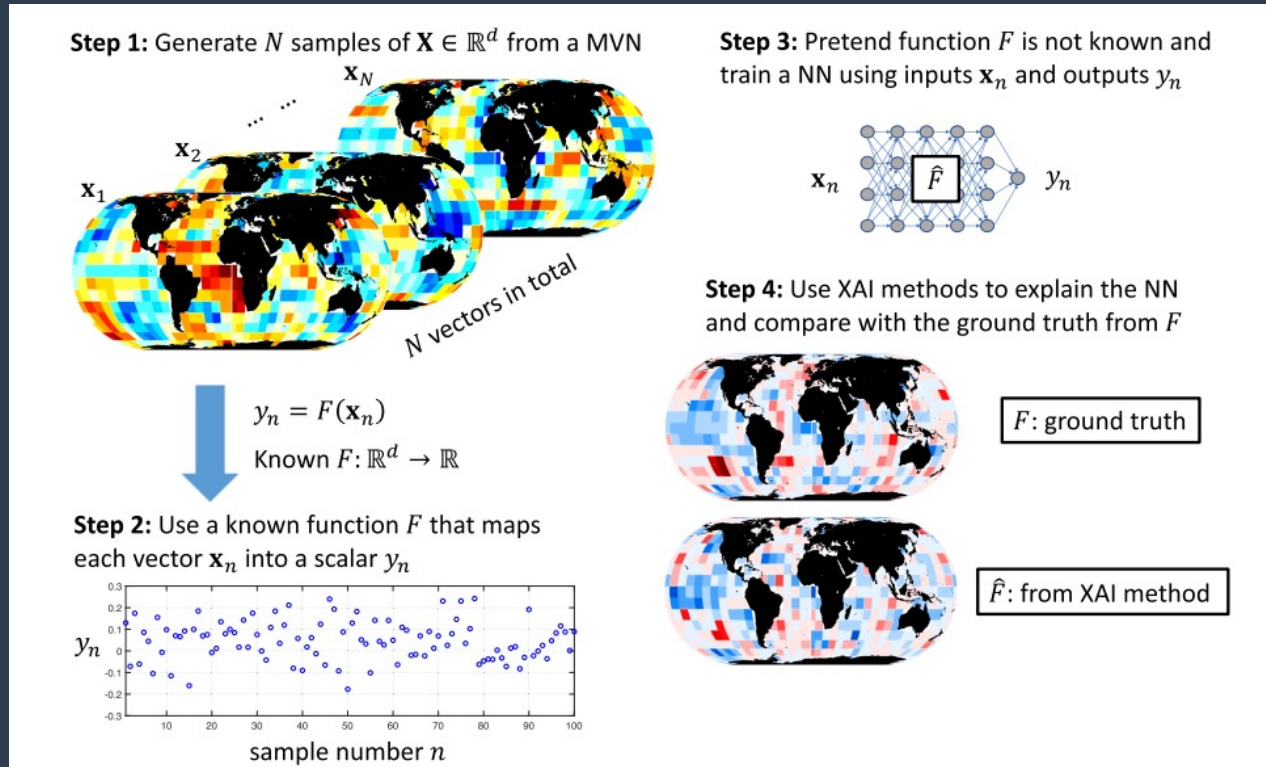
The Meta-Evaluation Problem in Explainable AI: Identifying Reliable Estimators with MetaQuantus, Hedström.A, Bommer.P et. al

# How is explainability measured?

Quantitative



Attribution benchmark datasets



*Neural Network Attribution Methods for Problems in Geoscience: A Novel Synthetic Benchmark Dataset. Mamalakis A., Ebert-Uphoff I, Barnes E.A.*

# Different XAI Methods

# XAI Methods

## Stage

Post-hoc

Model analysed after being trained

Intrinsic

Model is explainable by itself

## Applicability

Model-Agnostic

Applicable to any model

Model-Specific

Applicable to a specific model

## Scope

Global

Focus on the model – understanding of the decision process

Local

Focus on the data – individual explanations

# XAI Methods Taxonomy

Stage

Post-hoc

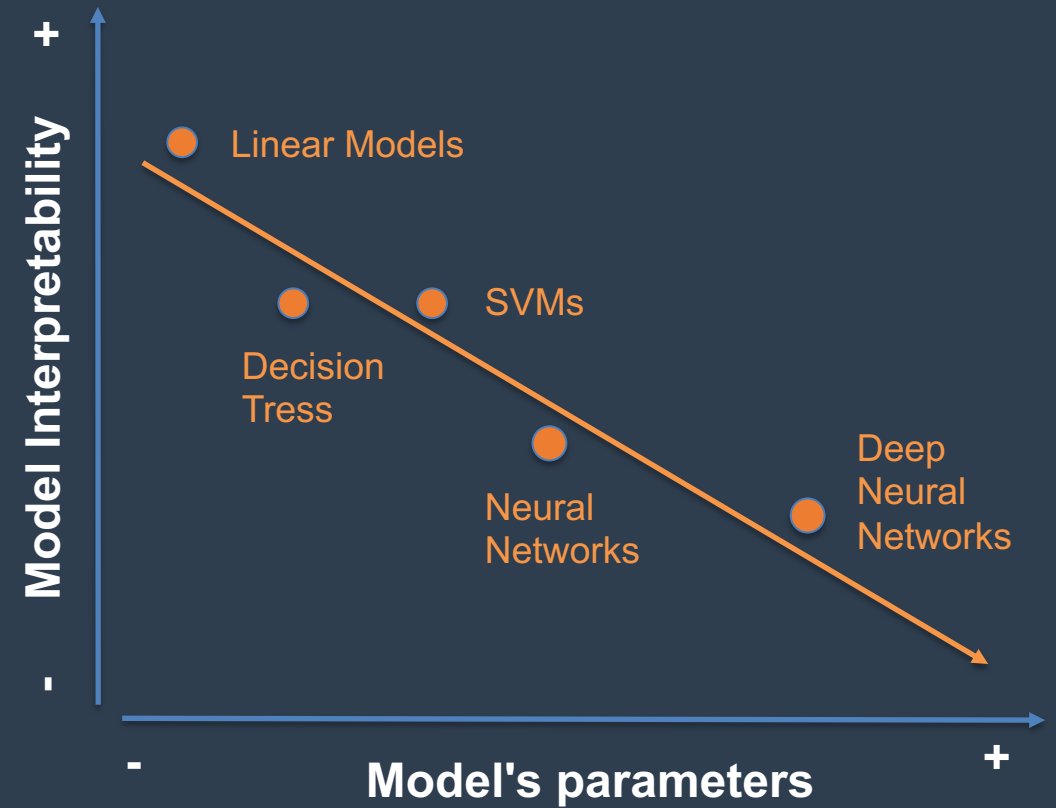


"Black-box" models

Intrinsic



Linear Models  
Shallow Decision Trees



# XAI Methods Taxonomy

Post-Hoc

"Black-box" models

Model-Agnostic

Global

Activation-  
Maximisation  
PDP  
Permutation  
Feature  
Importance

Local

**SHAP**  
LIME  
Occlusion  
Sensitivity

Model-Specific

**Saliency-Maps**  
Attention Visualization  
**LRP**

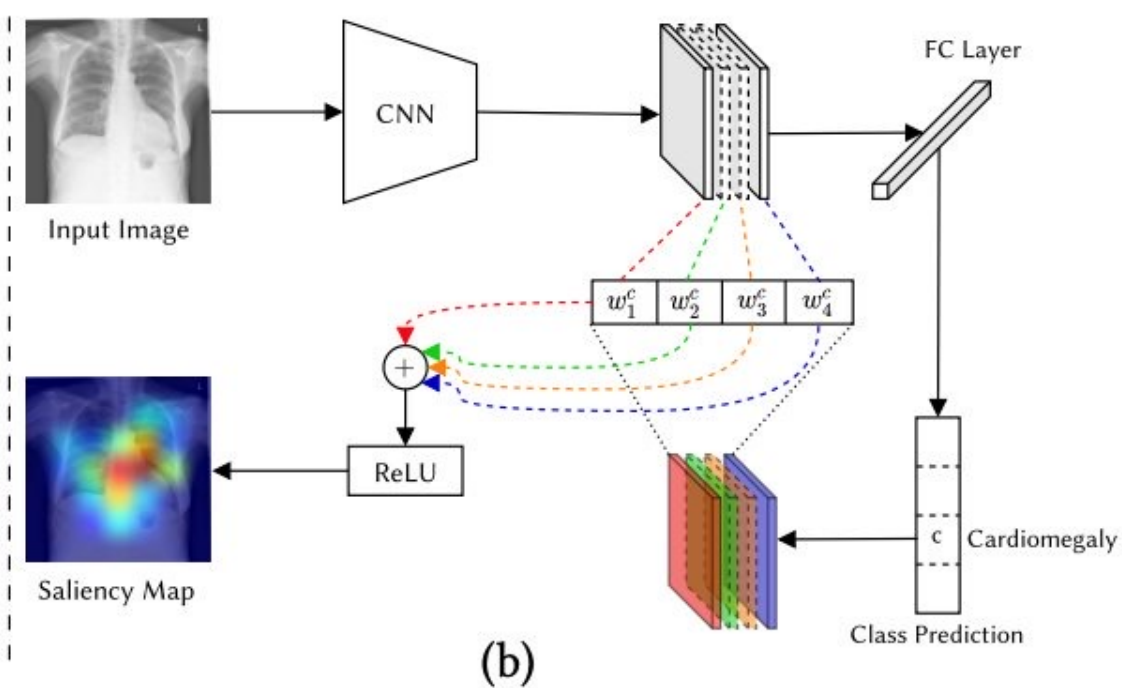
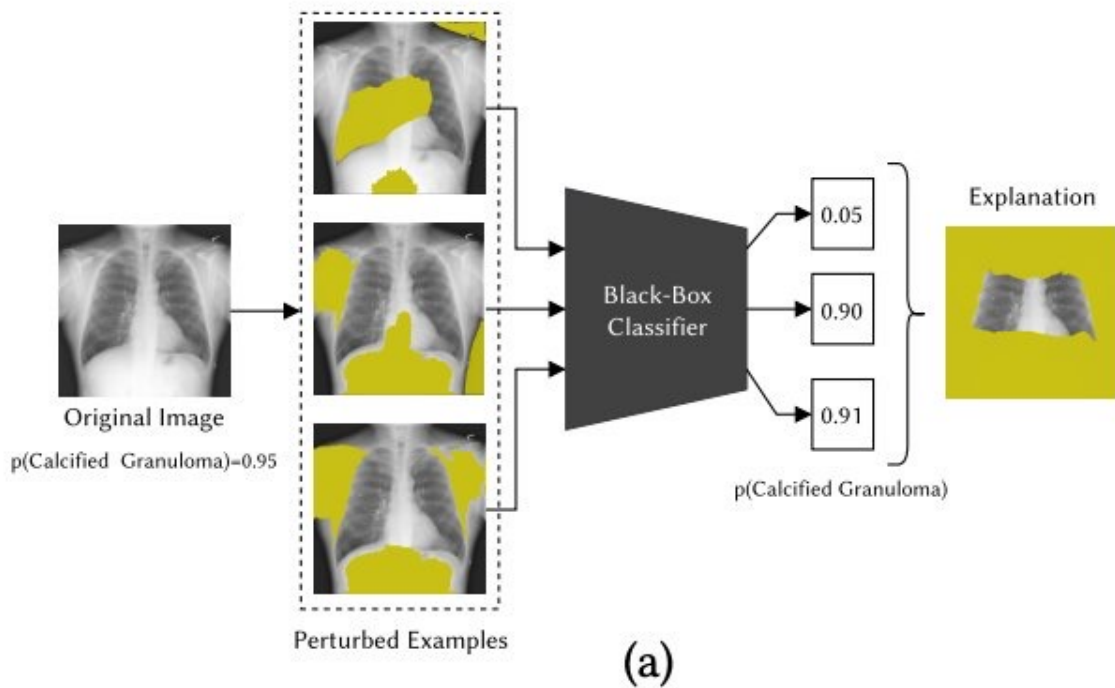
Local

Intrinsic

Linear/Logistic Regression  
Shallow Decision Trees

<https://courses.minnalearn.com/en/courses/trustworthy-ai/preview/explainability/types-of-explainable-ai/>

## Attribution-based Methods



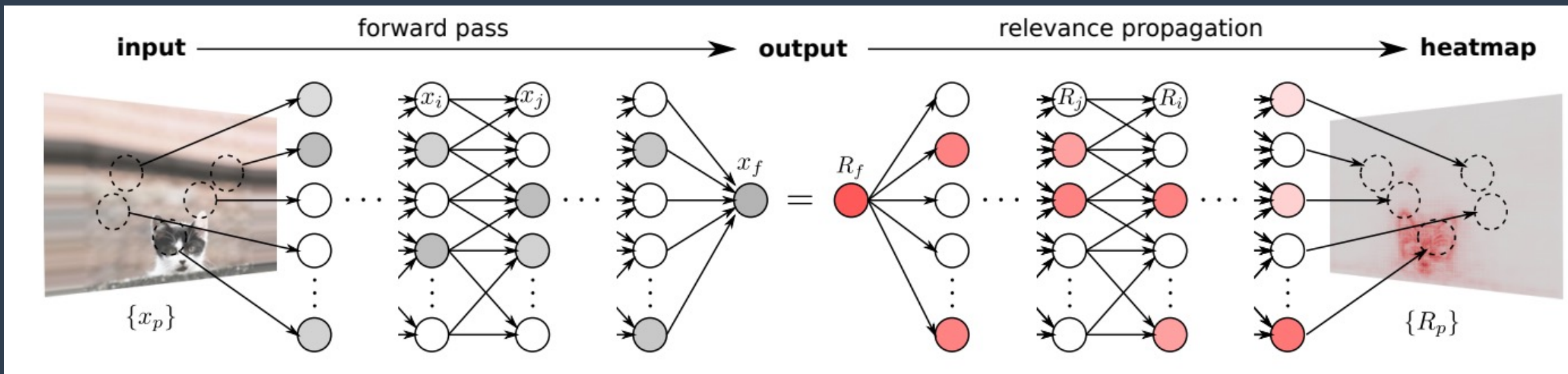
Perturbation-based Method (Occlusion)

Gradient-Based Methods

# *Model Specific*



# LRP (Layerwise Relevance Propagation)



Montavon, G., Lapuschkin, S., Binder, A., Samek, W., & Müller, K. R. (2017). Explaining nonlinear classification decisions with deep Taylor decomposition. *Pattern recognition*, 65, 211-222.

# Using LRP

There is more than one LRP rule to compute the relevance on each node e.g.

LRP-0

*Relevance for new layer*

$$R_j = \sum_k \frac{a_j w_{jk}}{\sum_{0,j} a_j w_{jk}} R_k$$

*Relevance for previous layer*

LRP- $\epsilon$

$$R_j = \sum_k \frac{a_j w_{jk}}{\epsilon + \sum_{0,j} a_j w_{jk}} R_k$$

LRP- $\gamma$

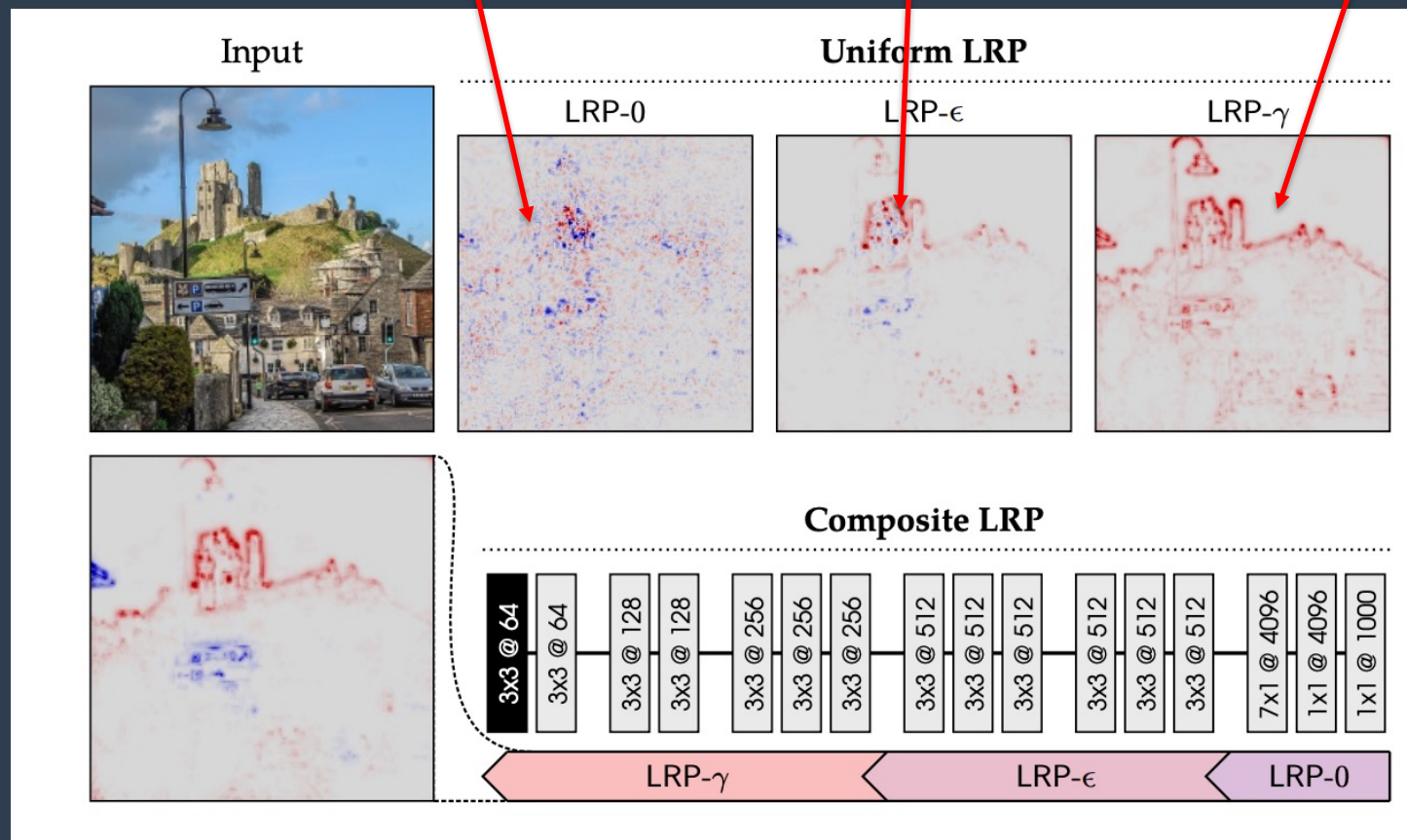
$$R_j = \sum_k \frac{a_j \cdot (w_{jk} + \gamma w_{jk}^+)}{\sum_{0,j} a_j \cdot (w_{jk} + \gamma w_{jk}^+)} R_k$$

# Using LRP

Gradient Shattering

Removes noise and faithful explanation but too sparse

Densely highlights features but picks unrelated concepts



LRP composite combines approaches and overcomes these disadvantages

# Advantages and Disadvantages of LRP

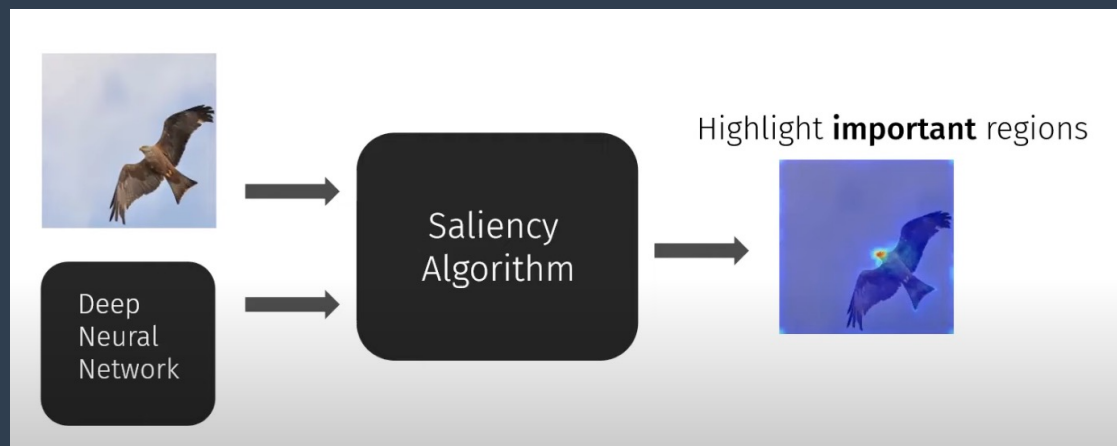
## *Advantages*

- Calculates relevance for all outputs jointly meaning relatively inexpensive
- Creates easily interpretable maps of relevance

## *Disadvantages*

- Can be tricky to apply as the right combination of relevance formulae must be found and there are hyperparameters to tune
- Can only be applied to neural networks

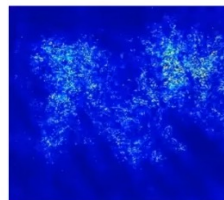
# Saliency Maps (Gradient-based Methods)



Input-gradient Saliency: Sensitivity as Importance



Input ( $x$ )



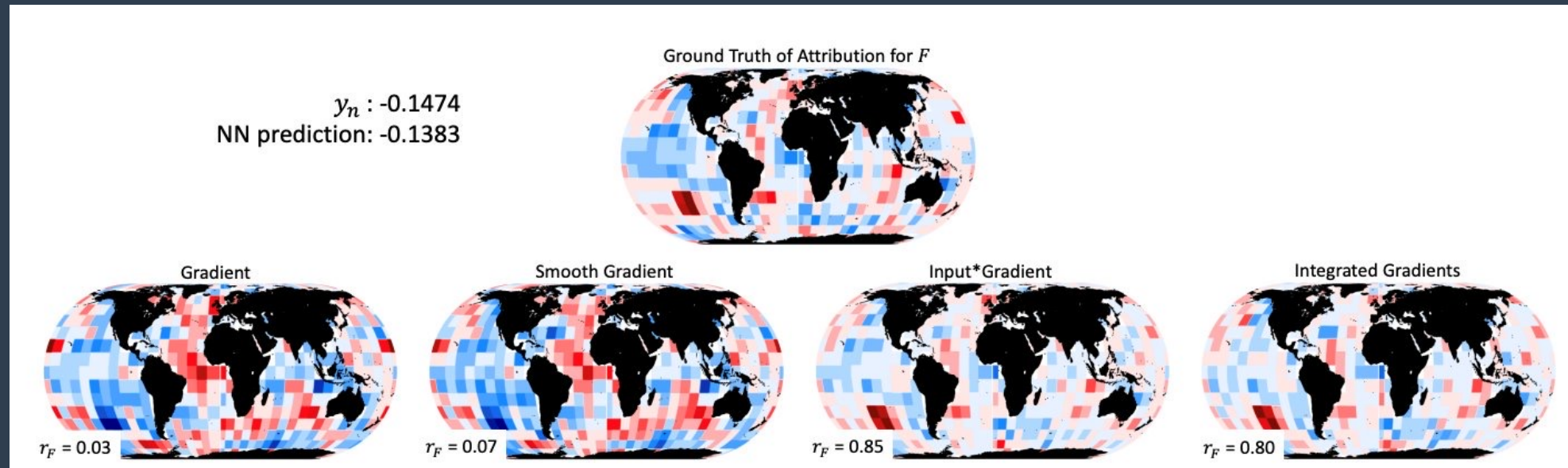
Saliency map ( $S$ )

Neural network

$$\uparrow$$
$$y = f(x)$$

$$S = \nabla_x f(x)$$

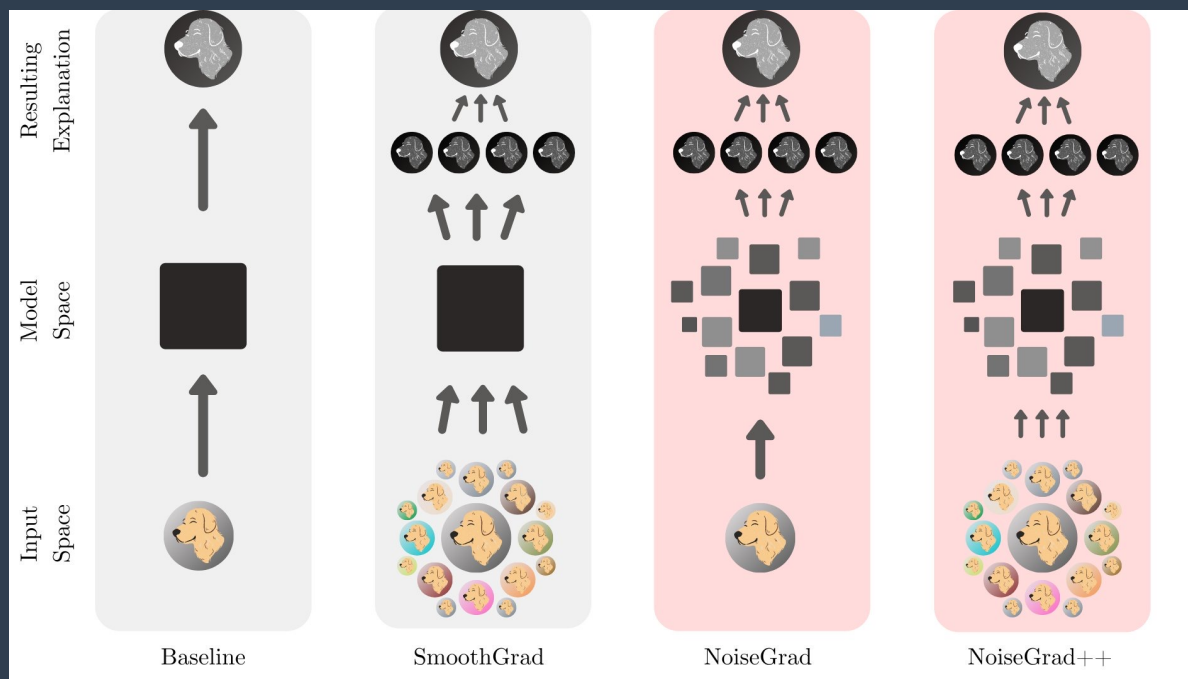
# Saliency Maps



*Neural Network Attribution Methods for Problems in Geoscience: A Novel Synthetic Benchmark Dataset. Mamalakis A., Ebert-Uphoff I, Barnes E.A.*

# Saliency Maps

## Smooth Gradients



$$\Phi_{SG}(f_c, x) = \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [\Phi(f_c, x + \epsilon)]$$

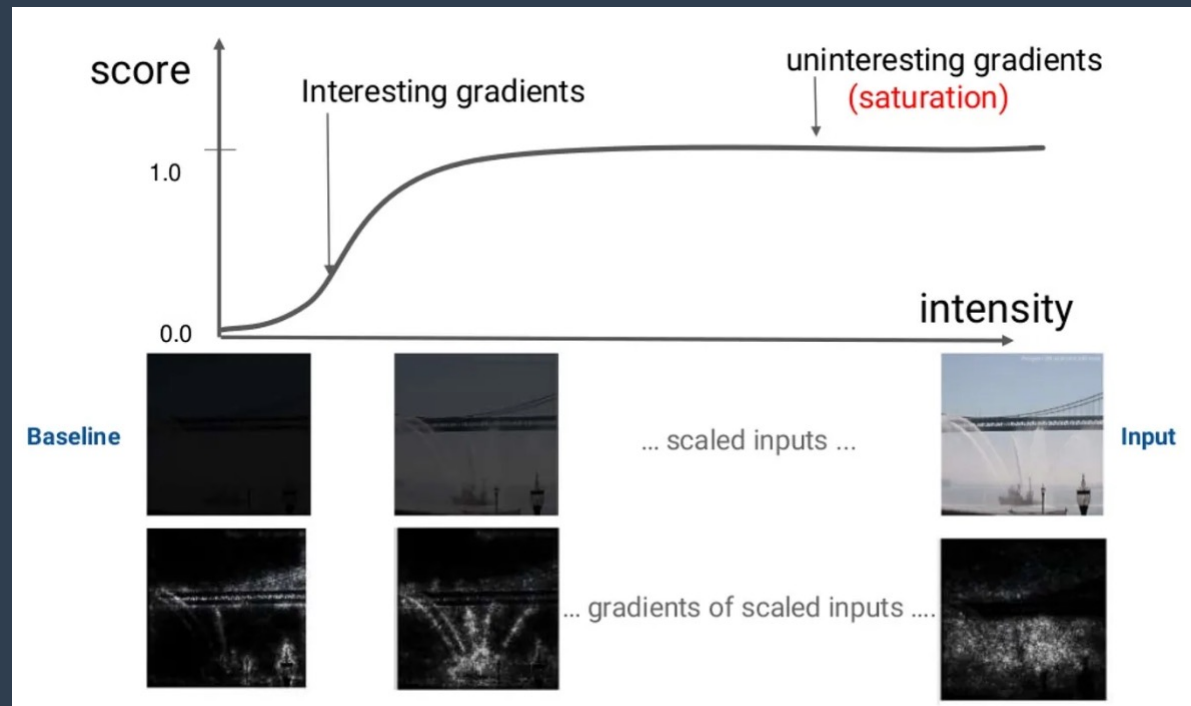


# Saliency Maps

## Input x Gradient

$$\Phi_{Input \times Grad}(f_c, x) = x \odot \nabla f_c(x)$$

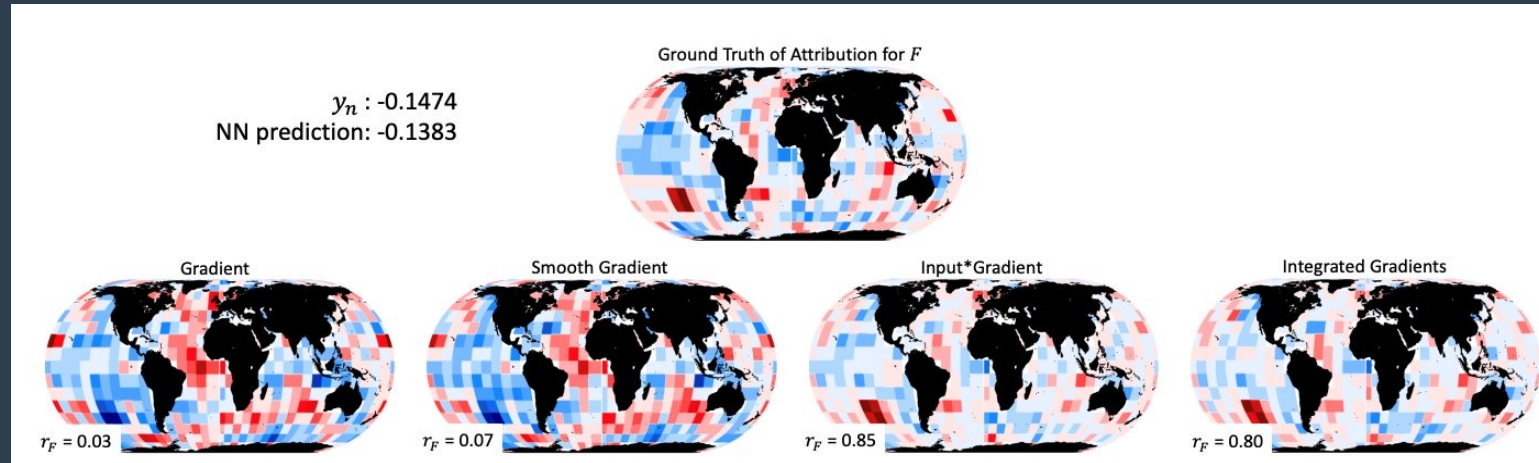
## Integrated Gradients



$$\Phi_{IG}^d(f_c, x) = (x_d - x'_d) \times \int_0^1 \frac{\partial f_c(x)}{\partial x_d} \Big|_{x=x'+a(x-x')} da \quad \forall d \in \{1, \dots, D\}$$



# Saliency Maps



Sensitivity

Vanilla Gradients  
Smooth Gradients

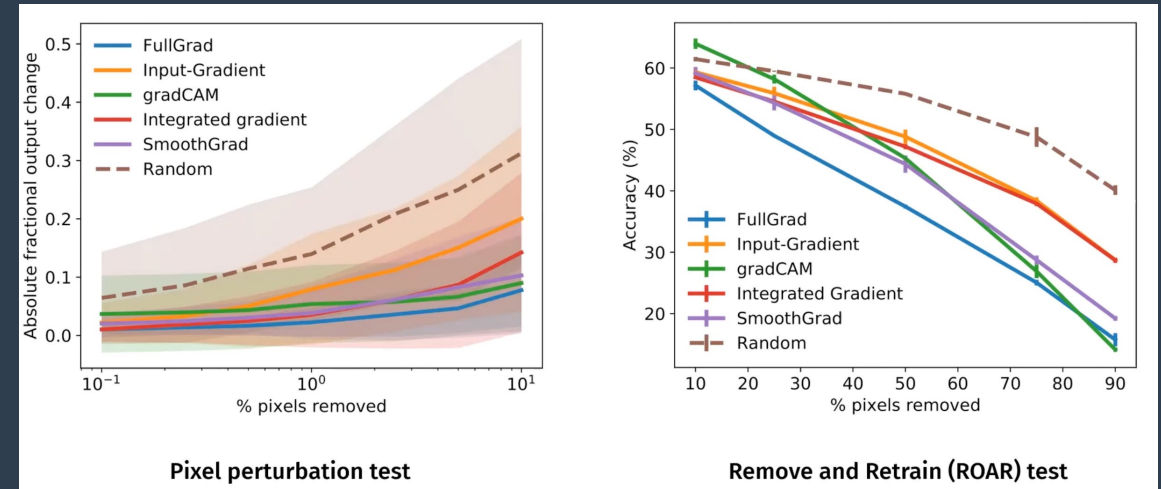
Attribution

Integrated Gradients  
Input x Gradient

# Advantages and Disadvantages of Gradient-Based Methods

## Advantages

- Computationally fast
- Generated explanation maps are robust in terms of input perturbation



*Pitfalls of Saliency Map Interpretation in Deep Neural Networks - Suraj Srinivas*

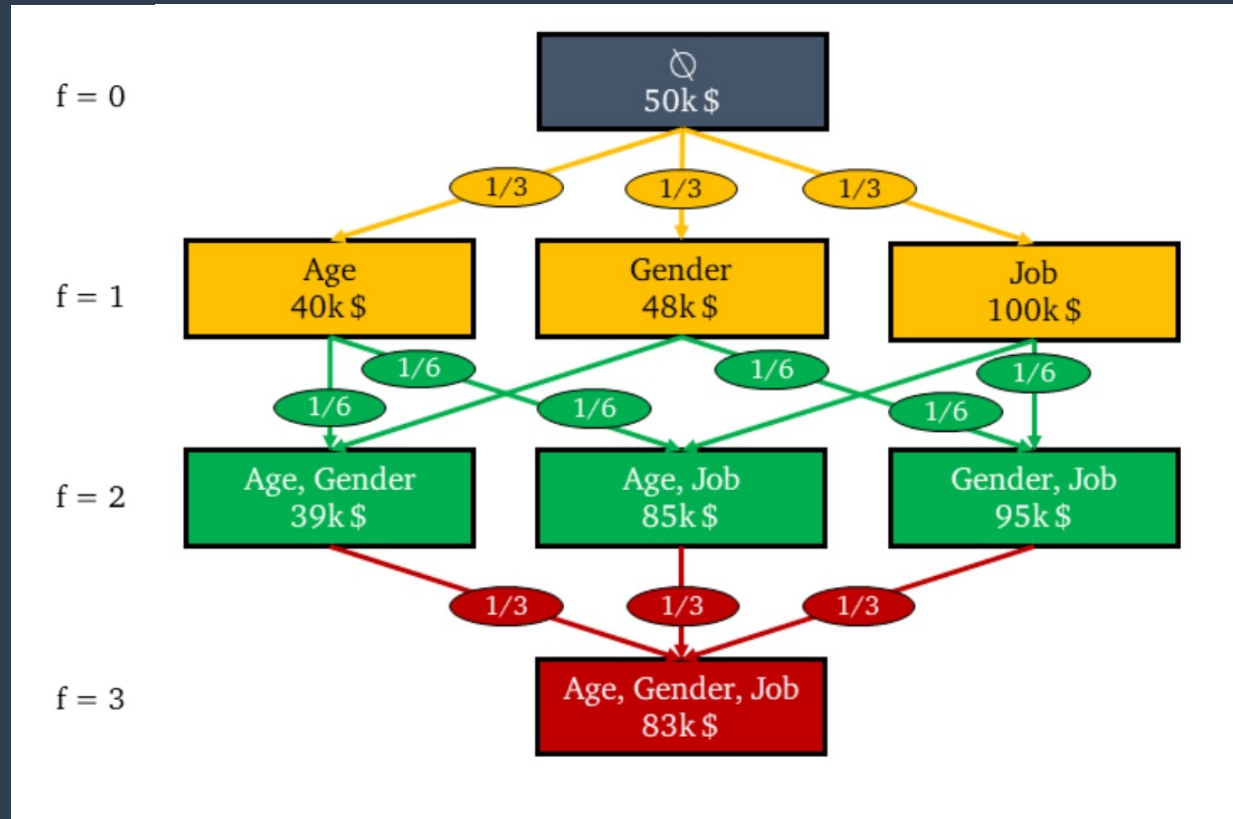
## Disadvantages

- Applied to just a single example or few examples – results obtained may be too brittle and could lead to a false conclusion about the performance of the model
- There is no 'one size fits all' gradient-method (class invariant, input transformation, etc)
- Difficult to quantitatively evaluate

# *Model Agnostic*

# SHAP (SHapley Additive explanation) values

Suppose we want to calculate the SHAP value of the input age for a given prediction of salary



*Marginal contribution for this output from adding age only*

$$MC_{Age, \{Age\}}(x_0) = Predict_{\{Age\}}(x_0) - Predict_{\emptyset}(x_0) = 40k\$ - 50k\$ = -10k\$$$

*SHAP value – sum of weighted marginal contributions from adding age in each feature combination*

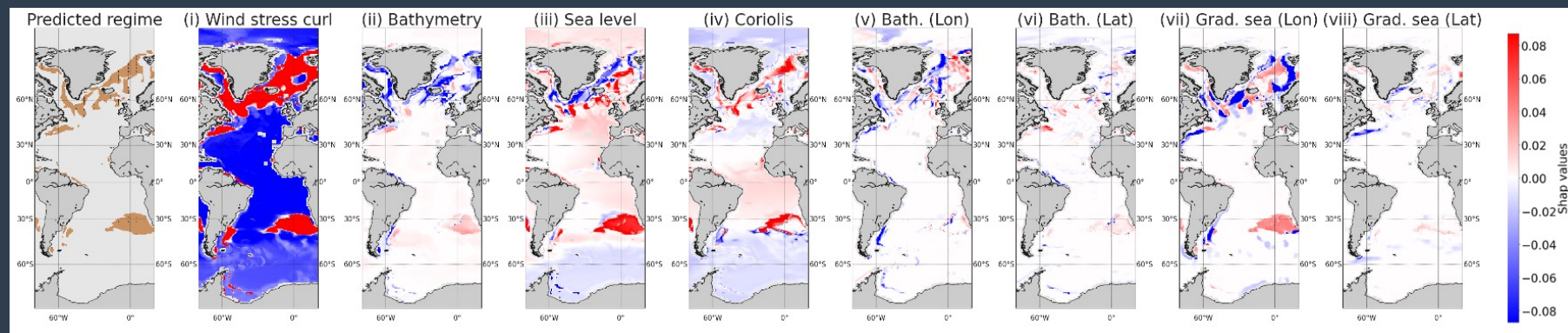
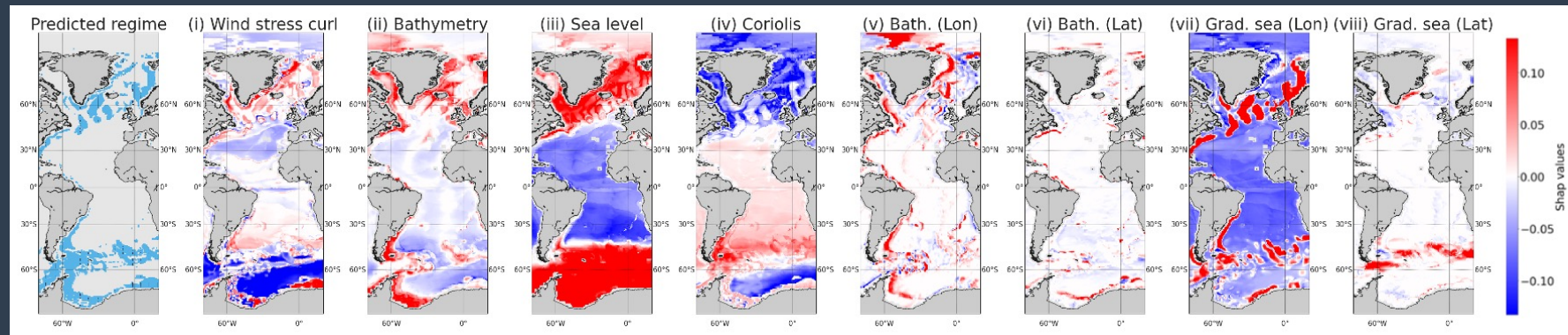
$$\begin{aligned} SHAP_{Age}(x_0) &= [(1 \times \binom{3}{1})^{-1} \times MC_{Age, \{Age\}}(x_0) + \\ &\quad [(2 \times \binom{3}{2})^{-1} \times MC_{Age, \{Age, Gender\}}(x_0) + \\ &\quad [(2 \times \binom{3}{2})^{-1} \times MC_{Age, \{Age, Job\}}(x_0) + \\ &\quad [(3 \times \binom{3}{3})^{-1} \times MC_{Age, \{Age, Gender, Job\}}(x_0) + \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \times (-10k\$) + \frac{1}{6} \times (-9k\$) + \frac{1}{6} \times (-15k\$) + \frac{1}{3} \times (-12k\$) \\ &= -11.33k\$ \end{aligned}$$

All possible combinations of input features to be included in the model

# SHAP values

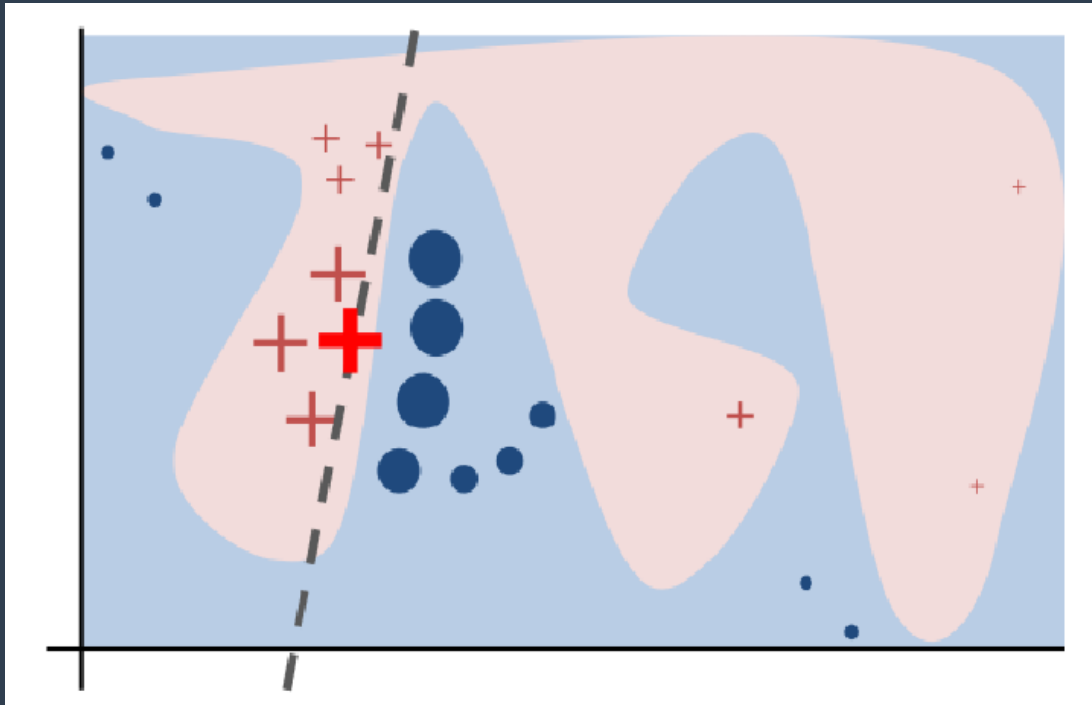
SHAP sees problem as binary for each output: including a feature either increases the probability of the specific output being considered there or decreases it.

Therefore have many more values than e.g. LRP and takes much longer to compute



# Kernel SHAP

LIME + SHAP



LIME

- Create a set of coalition vectors based on the features. If features have a corresponding value of 1 in the vector, they are replaced in the vector by their actual values, and if they have a corresponding value of 0, replaced by different feature values.
- Weight of each feature is calculated and a linear model is trained (LIME).
- Coefficient values of the linear model correspond to Shapley Values for each feature.



# Advantages and Disadvantages of SHAP

## *Advantages*

- Measures the impact of each feature on model predictions which is helpful for feature engineering and model optimisation, as well as showing potential biases
- Can be applied to any type of model

## *Disadvantages*

- Computationally expensive to compute and provides a lot of information to the user which can be difficult to digest
- *Correlation does not imply causation*: SHAP shows relationships between variables but does not explain their causal nature

# Assessment of XAI metrics



# Key components to measure explainability

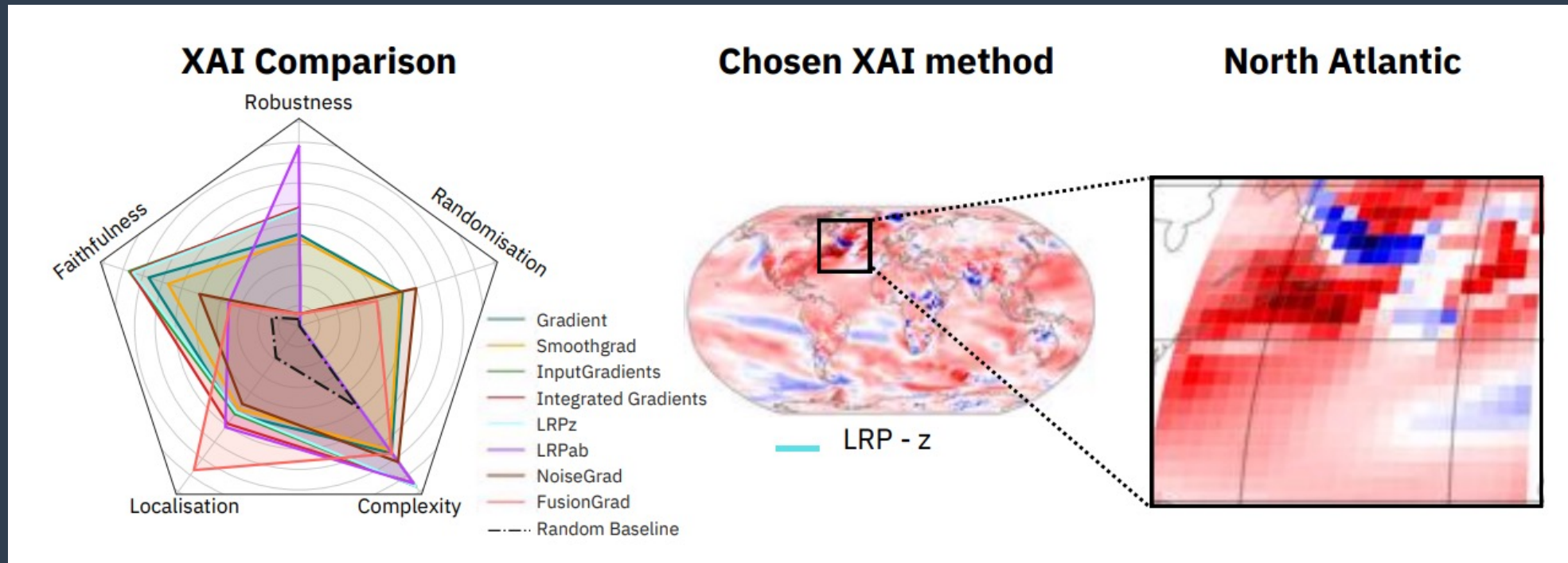
Faithfulness

Robustness

Localisation

Complexity

Randomisation



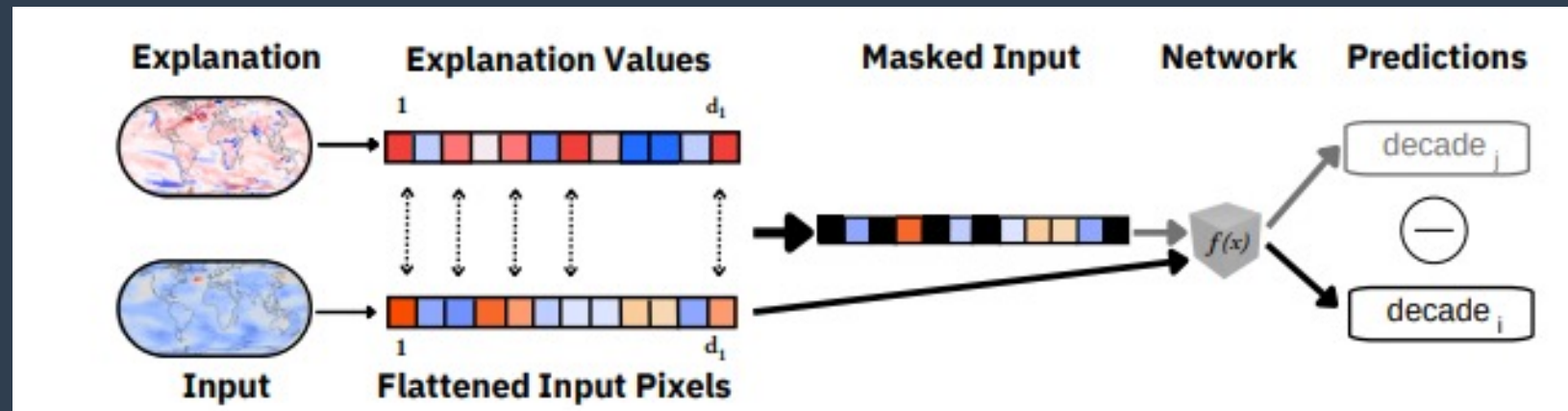
Throughout this section following from:

Bommer, P., Kretschmer, M., Hedström, A., Bareeva, D., & Höhne, M. M. C. (2023). Finding the right XAI method--A Guide for the Evaluation and Ranking of Explainable AI Methods in Climate Science. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.00652*.

# Key components to measure explainability

Faithfulness

Measures whether a feature that the XAI method assigned high relevance actually changes the prediction

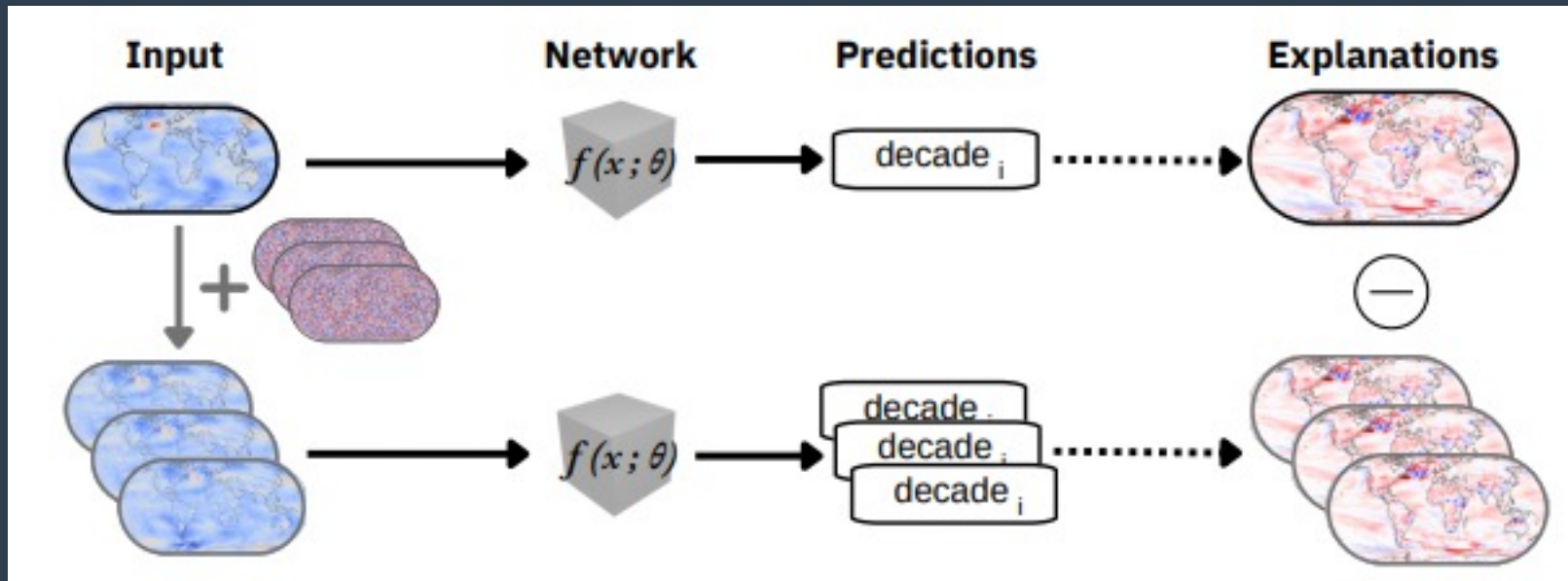


*If the masking is based on a faithful feature, then prediction of masked input should be different to prediction of full input*

# Key components to measure explainability

Robustness

Measure stability of an explanation with respect to small changes in the input  $x + \delta$   
i.e. perturb inputs and compare explanation maps

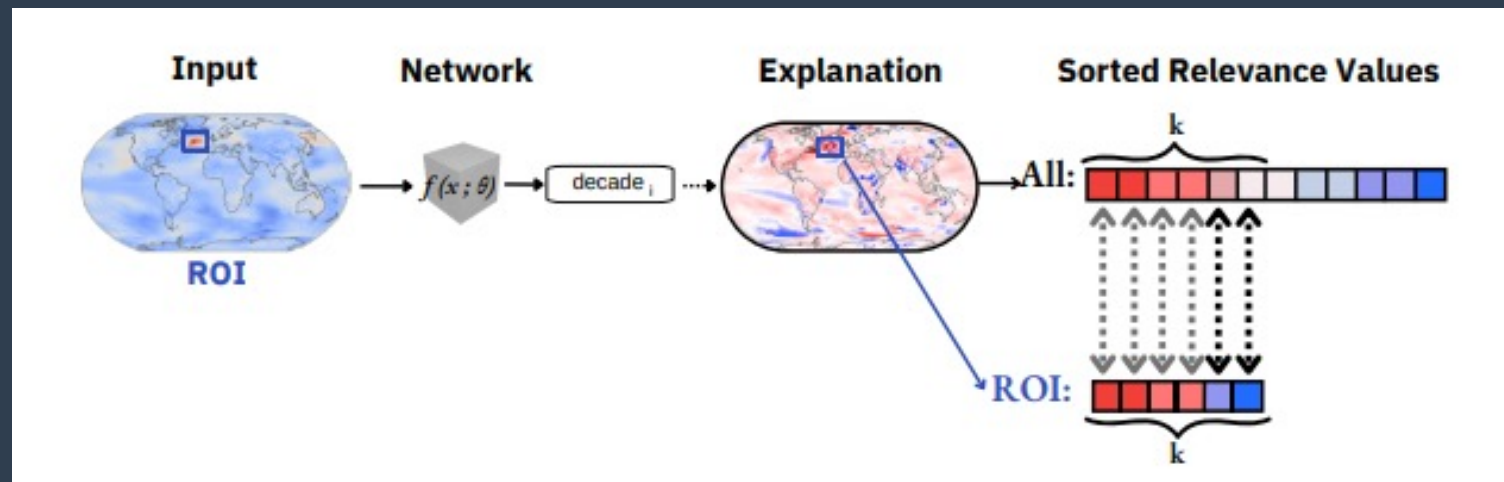


*If the method is robust, the difference between the perturbed and unperturbed explanations should be small*

# Key components to measure explainability

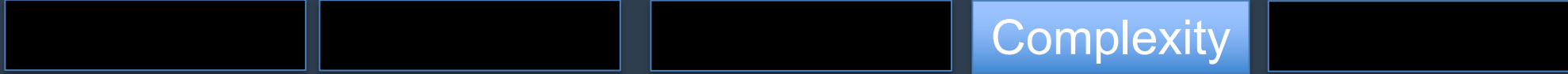
Localisation

Measures quality of an explanation based on user-defined region of interest

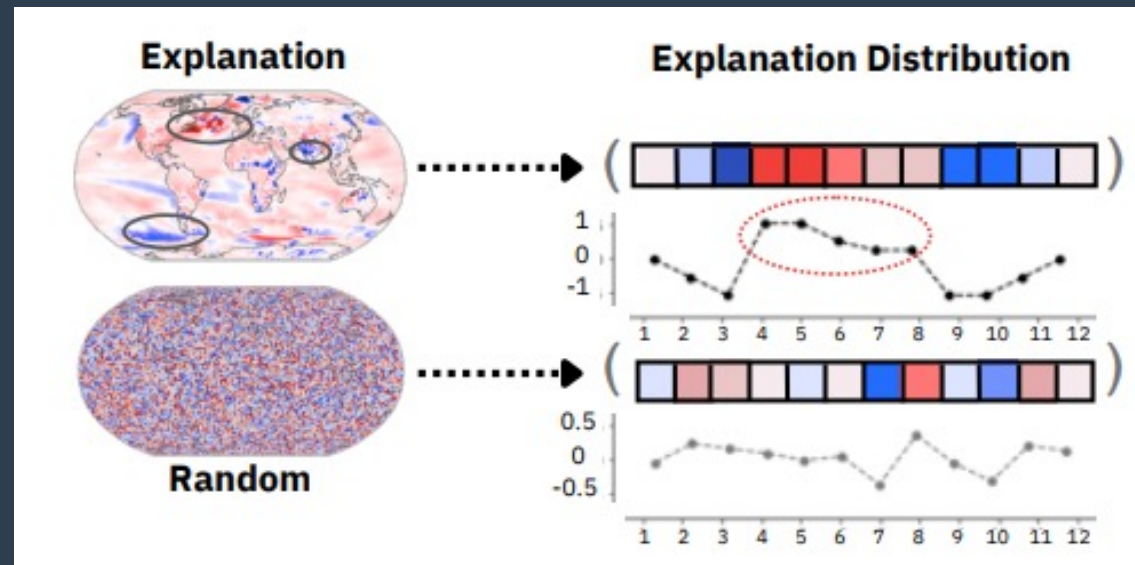


*If the method has strong localisation, the explanation values for the ROI should be the highest values of the sorted explanation values across all pixels*

# Key components to measure explainability

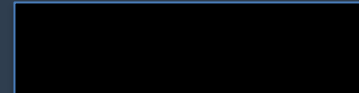


Measures conciseness of an explanation i.e. should consist only of a few strong features



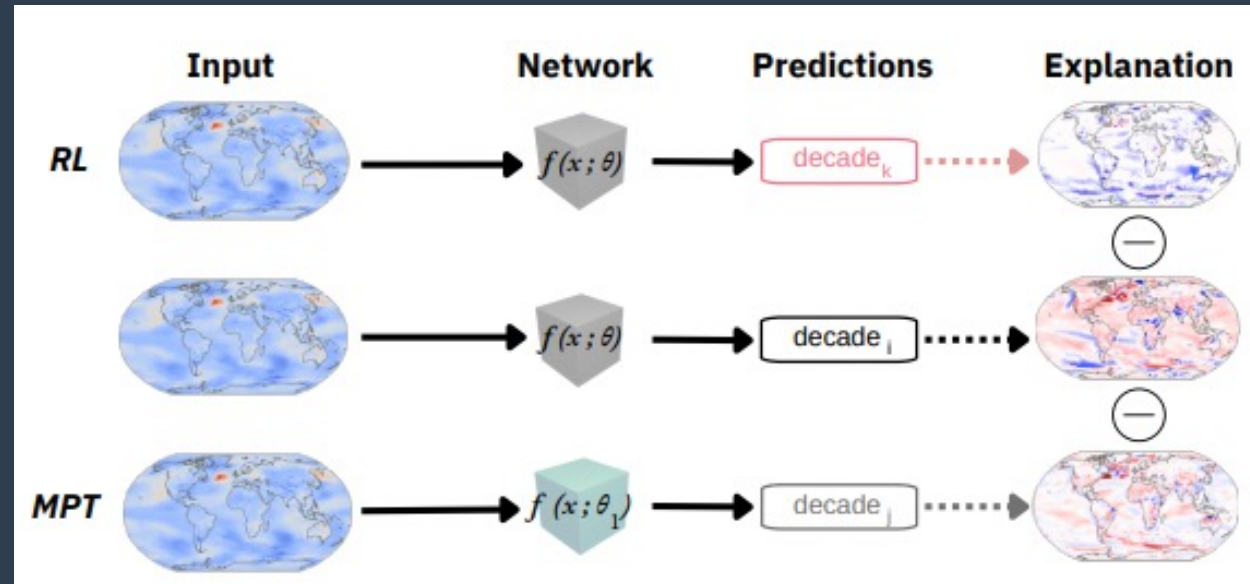
*Explanation distribution should have clear max/min compared to sampling from uniform distribution*

# Key components to measure explainability



Randomisation

Measures effect on the explanation of a random perturbation scenario



*Explanation should differ when random parameters are perturbed or noise is added*



# Key components to measure explainability

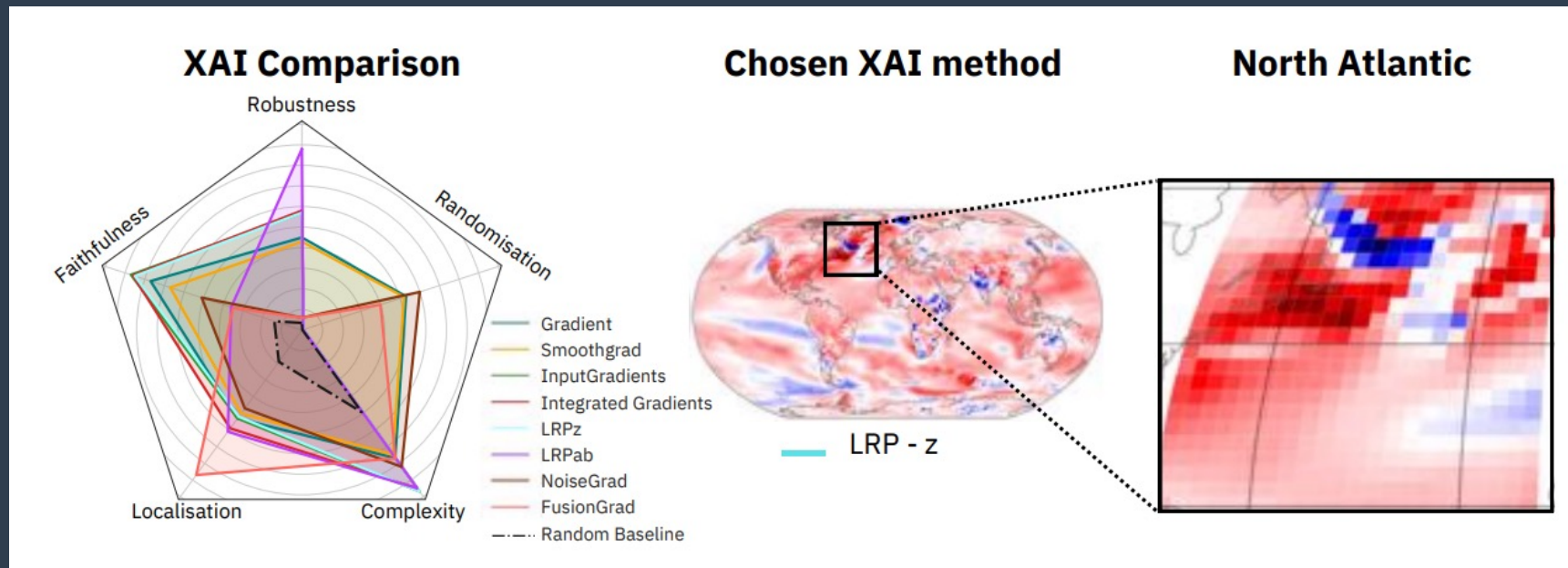
Faithfulness

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Complexity

Randomisation



Bommer, P., Kretschmer, M., Hedström, A., Bareeva, D., & Höhne, M. M. C. (2023). Finding the right XAI method--A Guide for the Evaluation and Ranking of Explainable AI Methods in Climate Science. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.00652*.

# How is explainability measured?

## Quantitative

### Faithfulness

- Faithfulness Correlation
- Faithfulness Estimate
- Pixel-Flipping Region segmentation
- Monotonic-Arya
- Monotonic-Nguyen
- Selectivity
- Sensitivity
- IROF
- Infidelity
- ROAD
- Sufficiency

### Robustness

- Local Lipschitz Estimate
- Max-Sensitivity
- Avg-Sensitivity
- Continuity
- Input independence Rate
- Consistency
- Relative Input Stability
- Relative Output Stability
- Relative Representation Stability

### Localisation

- Pointing Game
- Attribution Localisation
- TKI
- Relevance Rank Accuracy
- Relevance Mass Accuracy
- AUC

### Complexity

- Sparseness
- Complexity
- Effective Complexity

### Randomisation

- Model parameter Randomisation
- Random Logit

### Axiomatic

- Completeness
- Non-sensitivity
- Input variance

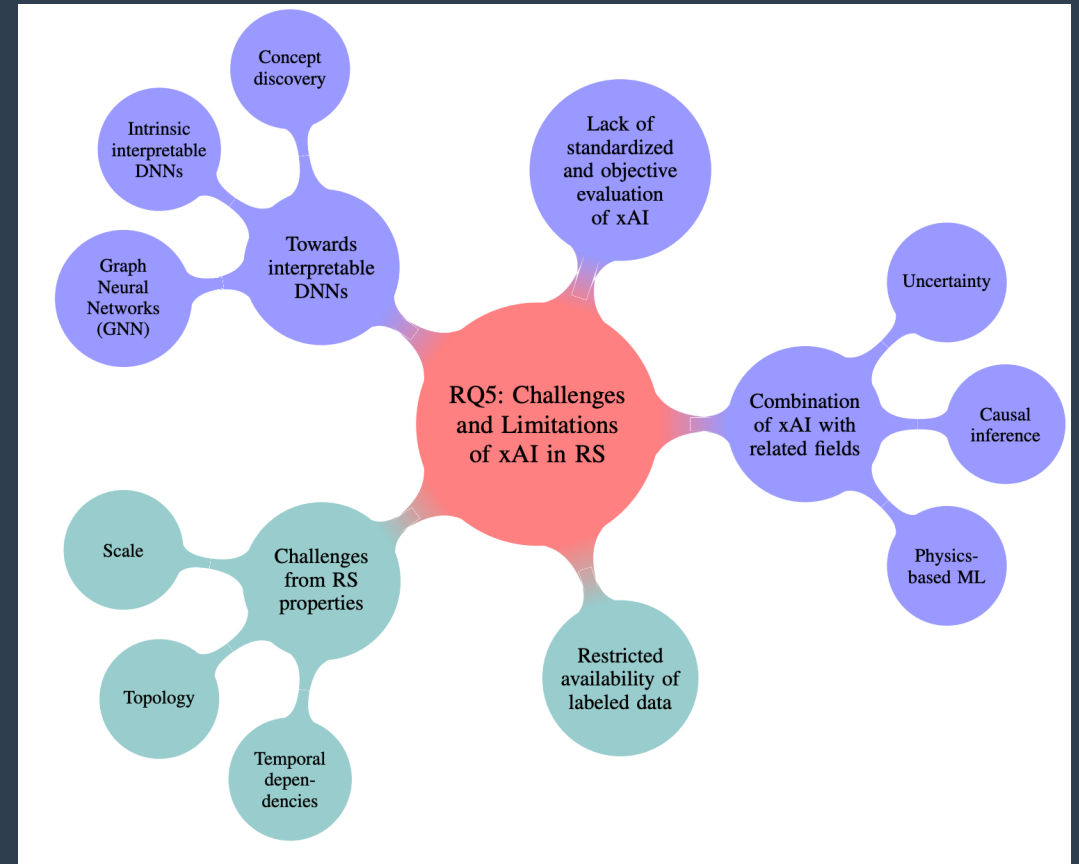
*Quantus: An Explainable AI Toolkit for Responsible Evaluation of Neural Network Explanations and Beyond*  
Hedström.A , Bommer.P et. al



**Conclusions "XAI is the answer"**

# Conclusions

- Active research field → new models being developed and frameworks that facilitate its usage (SHAP, CAPTUM, QUANTUS, iNNvestigate, IntepretDL)
- XAI quantification and evaluation → more complex due to the lack of "ground truth" in the explanation space
- Applicability of XAI methods – more commonly seen in classification problems – further development needed to understand how to apply it to regression problems
- Model specific methods – new methods being developed to 'catch-up' with latest DL architectures based on transformers or graphs. Also worth pointing out – methods applicable also to other types of data like NLP



*Opening the Black-Box: A Systematic Review on Explainable AI in Remote Sensing*  
arXiv:2402.13791

# XAI for Regression (XAIR)

## Challenges

Regression



Quantities with Units (Physical Meaning)

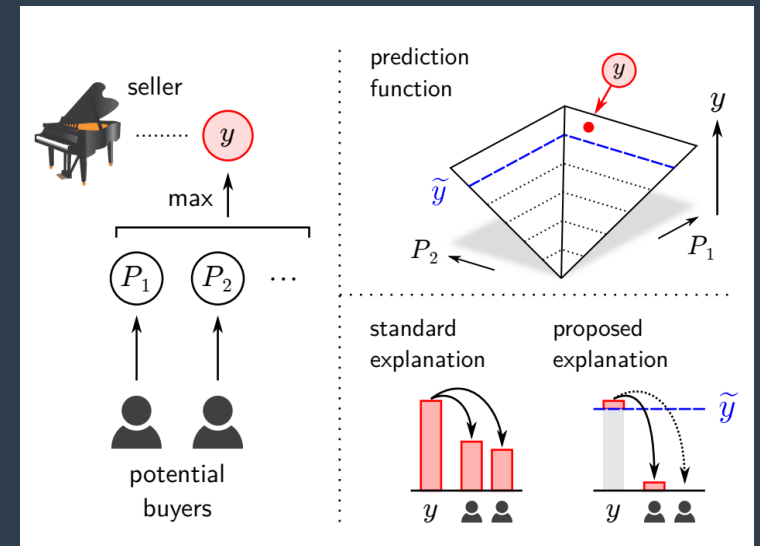
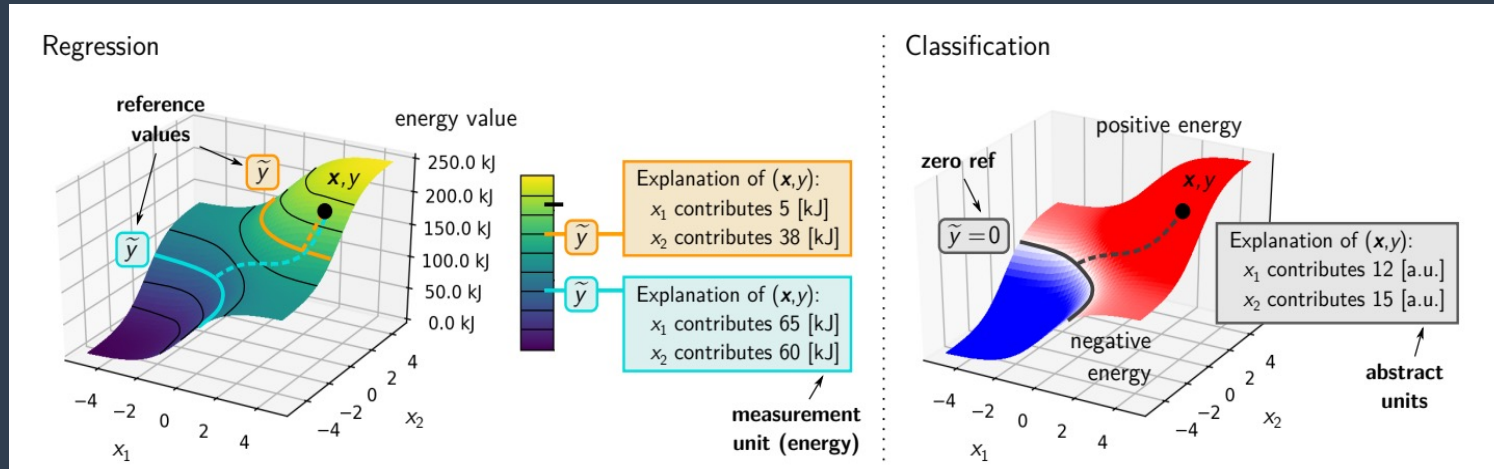
Fixed Baseline/Reference Scenario



## Proposed Solutions

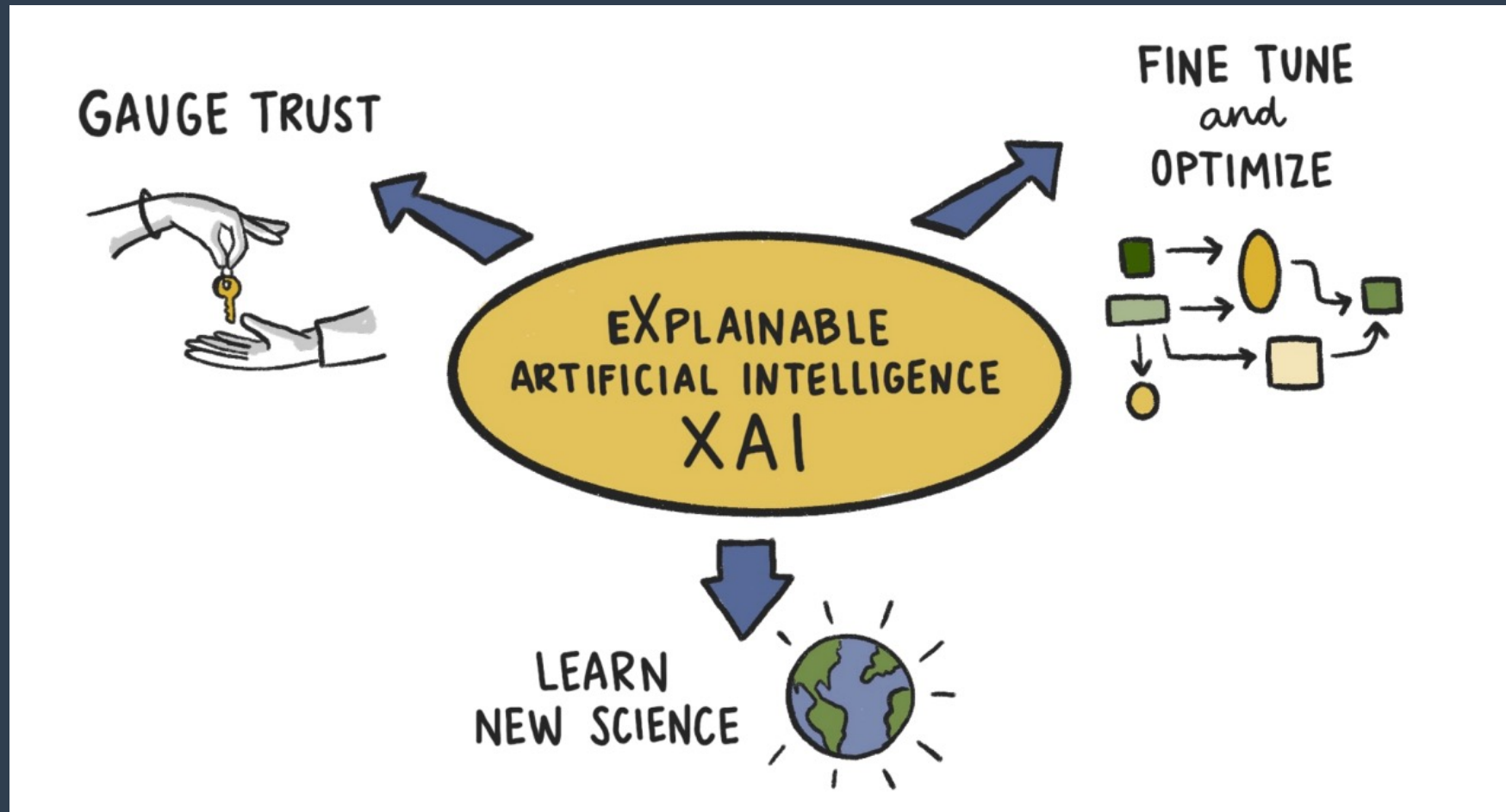
user-provided reference values

$$g(x) = f(x) - \tilde{y}$$



Toward Explainable AI for Regression Models  
 arXiv:2112.11407

# Take home message



# References

- A Höhl, Dengel.A, Zhu X.X., *Opening the Black-Box: A Systematic Review on Explainable AI in Remote Sensing*, arXiv:2402.13791v1, 2023
- H. R. Tamaddon-Jahromi, N. K. Chakshu, I. Sazonov, L. M. Evans, H. Thomas, and P. Nithiarasu. *Data-driven inverse modelling through neural network (deep learning) and computational heat transfer*. *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 369:113217, 2020.
- F. Kratzert, M. Herrnegger, D. Klotz, S. Hochreiter, and G. Klambauer. *Neuralhydrology - interpreting Istms in hydrology*. In *Explainable AI*, volume 11700 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 347–362. Springer, 2019.
- A. Mamalakis, I. Ebert-Uphoff, and E. Barnes, “Explainable artificial intelligence in meteorology and climate science: Model fine-tuning, calibrating trust and learning new science,” *Lecture Notes in Computer Science (including subseries Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence and Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics)*, vol. 13200 LNAI, pp. 315
- P. W. Keys, E. A. Barnes, and N. H. Carter, “A machine-learning approach to human footprint index estimation with applications to sustainable development,” *Environmental Research Letters*, vol. 16, no. 4, p. 044 061, Apr. 2021, ISSN: 1748-9326. DOI: 10.1088/1748-9326/abe00a.
- Z. Labe and E. Barnes, “Predicting slowdowns in decadal climate warming trends with explainable neural networks,” *Geophysical Research Letters*, vol. 49, no. 9, 2022. DOI: 10.1029/2022GL098173.
- <http://www.heatmapping.org/>