

EARTH IMAGERY FOR IMPACT



## THE DRAMATIC PACE OF INNOVATION IN GEOSPATIAL ANALYTICS FOR LAND, SEA AND SPACE

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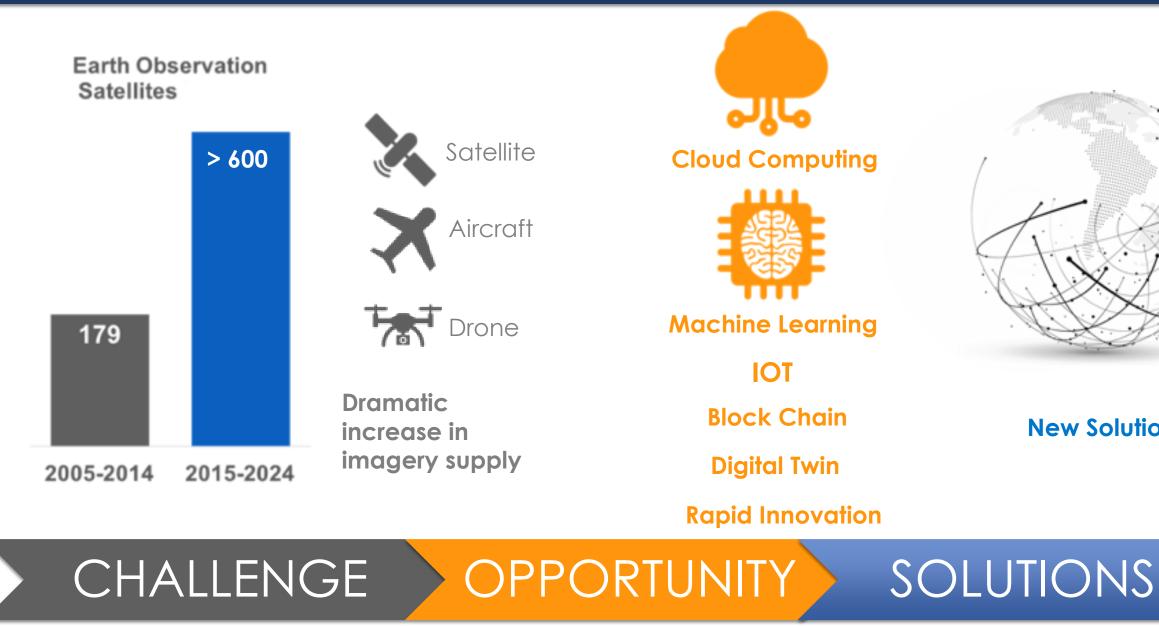


# Outline

- Good to be back
- New sensors
- New hardware
- New analysis approaches
- Old problems
- ► New problems
- Conclusion



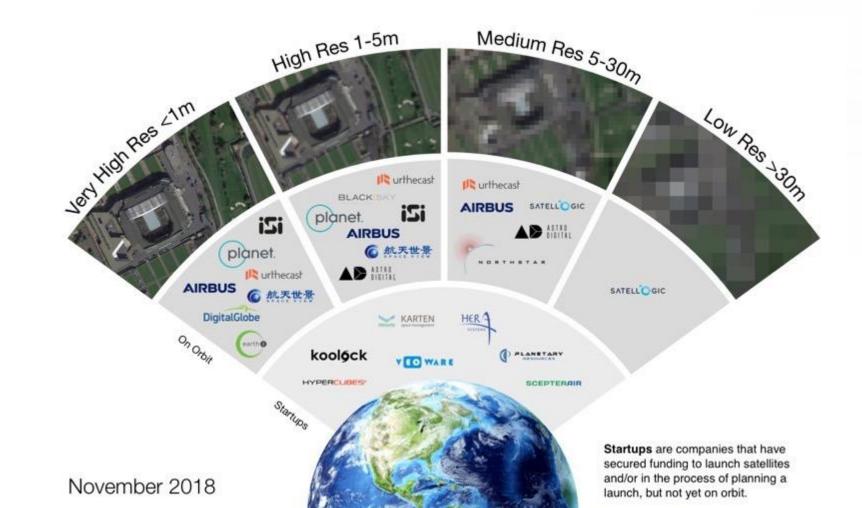
**New Solutions** 



# Commercial Visible EO Satellites

#### Radiant Earth Foundation

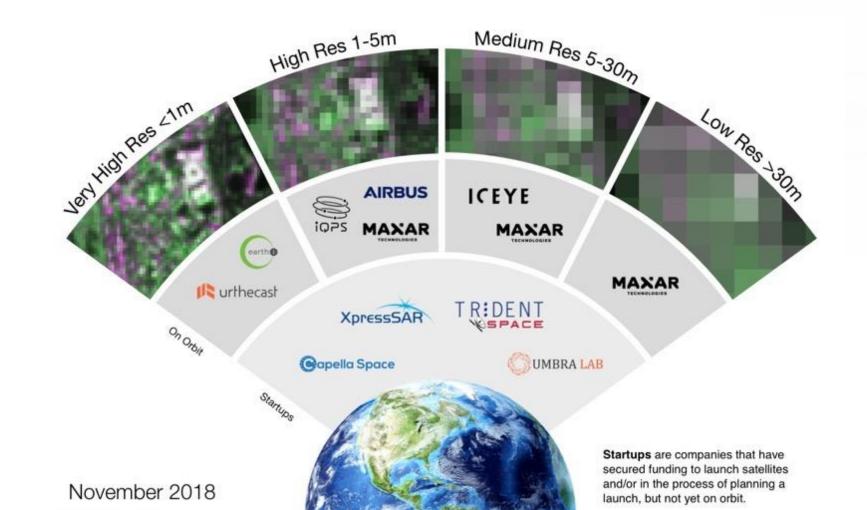
The era of commercial EO satellites took off in the US after the passage of the Land Remote Sensing Policy Act in 1992 allowing the private sector to operate space systems.



# **Commercial Radar Satellites**

Radiant Earth Foundation

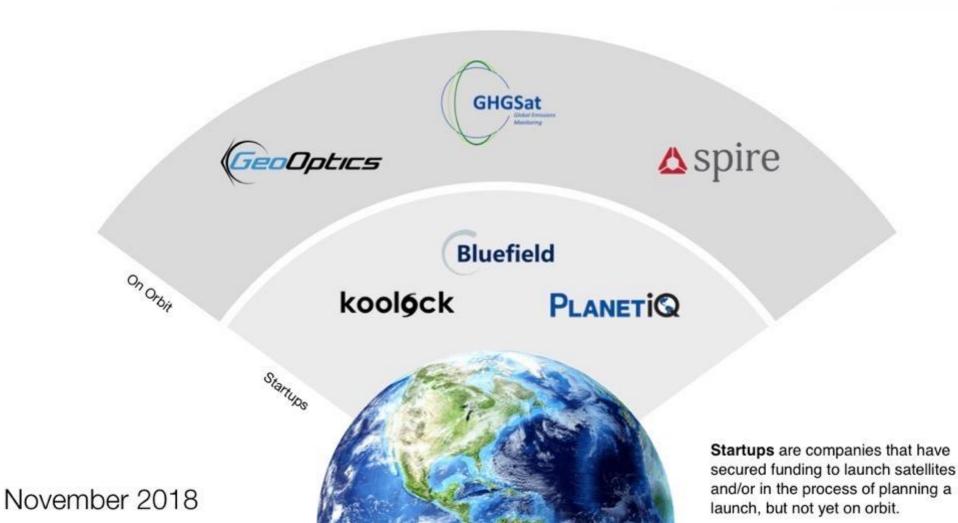
Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellites are active sensors that penetrate through clouds and darkness to monitor Earth surface physical properties.



# **Commercial Weather Satellites**

#### Radiant Earth Foundation

Weather satellites provide information on Earth's climate and atmospheric conditions.





#### EACH SAILDRONE IS CAPABLE OF LONG RANGE AUTONOMOUS MISSIONS OF UP TO 12 MONTHS

15 feet tall

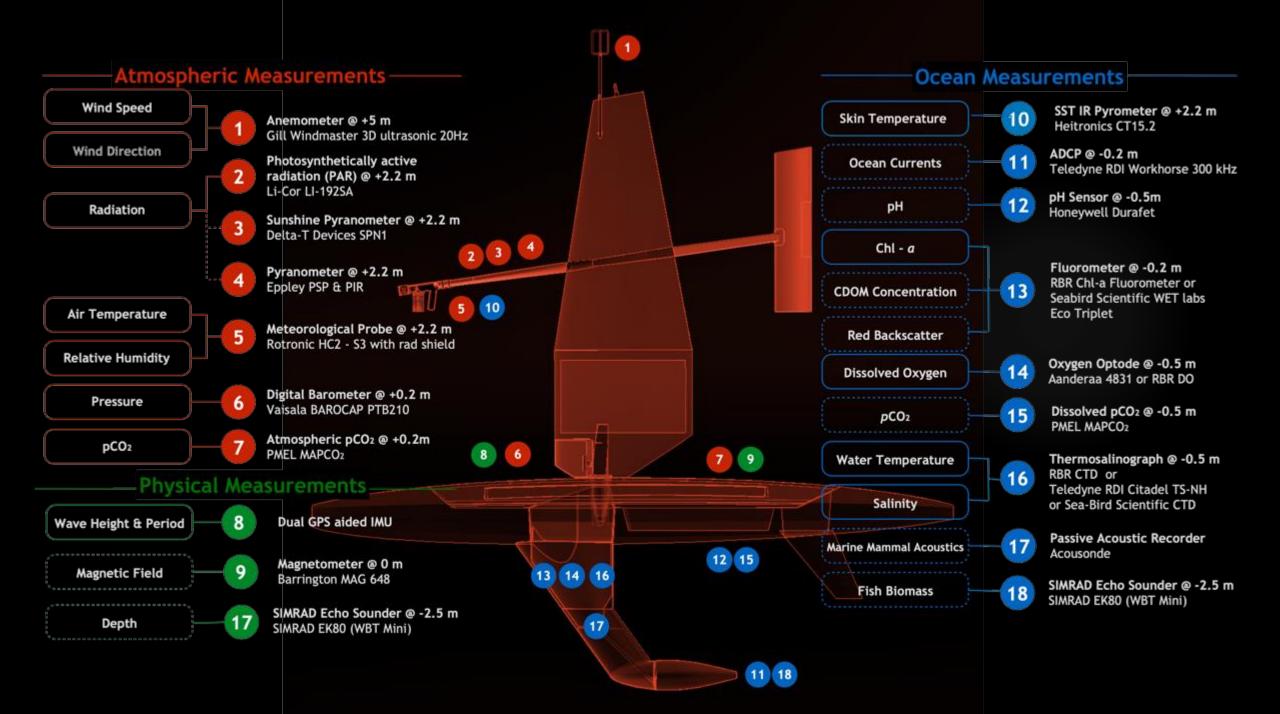
23 feet long

wind power for propulsion

solar power for electronics

satellite link for live data



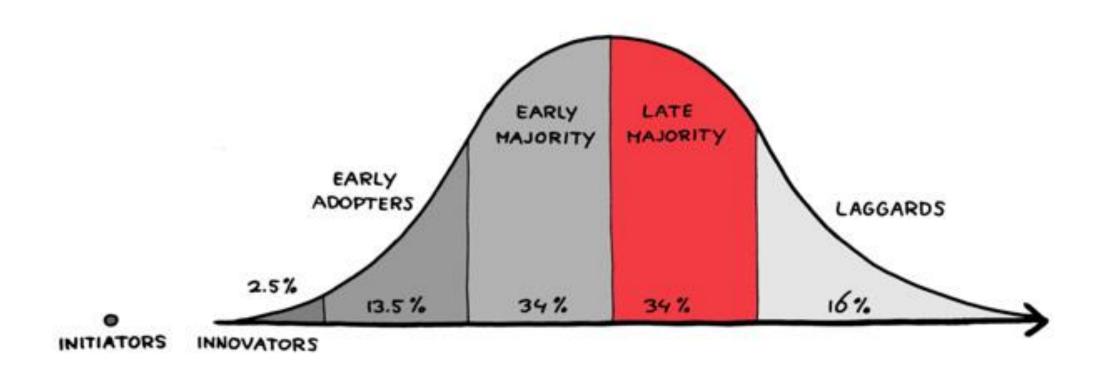




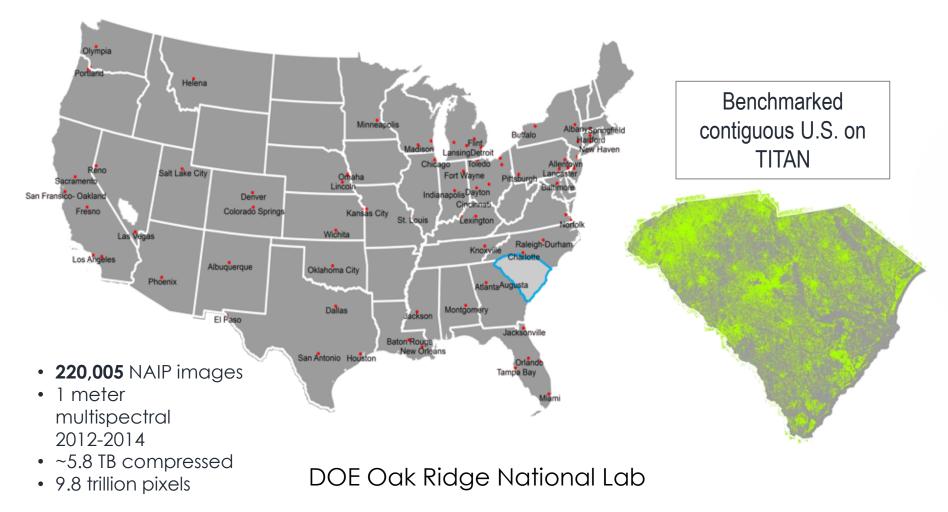
# Machine Learning and Earth Observation Data



# **Technology Adoption Cycle**



# Mapping Buildings for CONUS using DCNN



Need to identify a systematic method for analyzing the accuracy of various model outputs across the U.S.

Portland, OR (25,393 m<sup>2</sup>) Imagery: June – July 2012 Lidar: September 2010



Frankfort, KY (14,801 m<sup>2</sup>) Imagery: June 2012 Lidar: June 2011



Part of Knox County, TN (18,527 m<sup>2</sup>) Imagery: June 2012 Lidar: October 2014

### Timeline of DOE ORNL Support: 2017 Hurricane Season

Buildings: AL POI: USVI, Puerto Rico, Bahamas, Caicos Delivery of Landscan Usa population and buildings data for 28 TX counties Nighttime lights change analysis for Buildings: SC, GA Solid Waste sites: 9 southern states Currently providing weekly updates FEMA/DHS Request for support Daily between September 12-18 tracking electricity restoration Buildings: US Virgin Island Buildings: Puerto Rico Buildings: AL Buildings: FL Island 25 24 12 8 5 7 9 6 8 11 August September

## Digital Globe Examples – Mozambique



## Sanitation Team at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

- Independent estimates of sewage processing operations in developing countries are needed to monitor and verify SDG 6.
- We built and tested two models using Sentinel 1 (3 locations) and Sentinel 2 (2 locations) open source satellite imagery with a machine learning technique.
- We concluded that the spatial and temporal resolution of available open imagery demands a larger amount of training data to improve the model fit. Alternate locations offering less cloud cover and more training data is recommended.



**Radiant** Earth

Foundation

#### DRONE

Original Drone Image

The World Bank



#### COMBINING DRONE AND STREET VIEW

# Soft-story predictions

#### Drone images

Single Story. Two Story. >Two Stories.

#### Street view images

★ Logos/Sings.Garage.+ Large Window.

The World Bank



ORLD BANK GROUP

#### THE RESULTS



Of the 560 structures identified by the structural engineers as being soft-story.

The accuracy of our method to match the experts' eyes was 89%.

The World Bank

Mixco Engineer tap Villa Nueva Satellite derived footprint is Single Story. calling this building 7.32 Two Story. meters high, >Two Stories. 3.4 meters Logos/Sings. wide and 20 meters deep.



Goal

Establish community focused on advancing the application of EO data to solve challenges in the Global South using ML techniques

Open Source ML "Hub" for Earth observation

Educate & Inform

Services

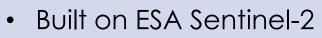
Training Data, Open Models & Standards Crowdsourc ed Ground-Truth Image Labels Technical Groups, Fellowships, Convenings Market Analytics, Trends and Thought Leadership



## **Current ML Hub Training Datasets**

Radiant Earth Foundation

Training Datasets in the Works

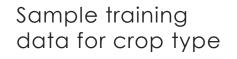


- 10 m resolution
- Crowdsourcing and citizen science to validate labels
- Hosted on AWS
- Available via API to public with Creative Commons license



#### SCHMIDT FUTURES





Major

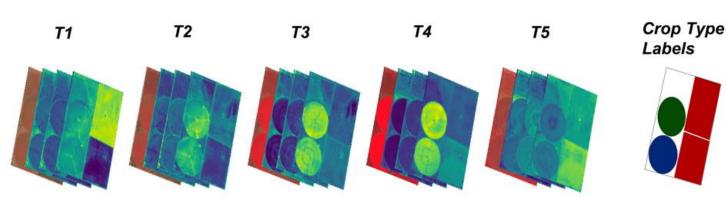
African Crop

Туре

Global

Land

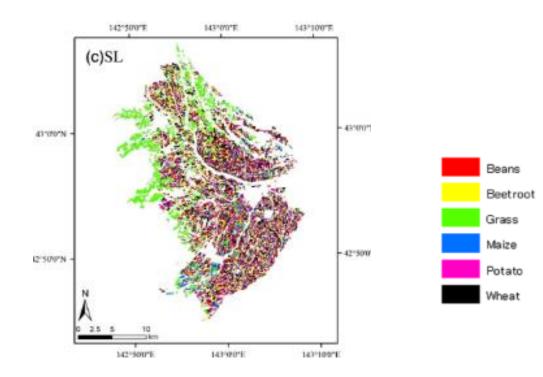
Cover



## Machine Learning Signature Libraries

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#### Open Training Library of African Crops Using Sentinel-2





Using Convolutional Neural Networks and crowdsourcing to label imagery of major crops

- Phase I: Define the appropriate regionspecific crop classes through community engagement
- Phase II: Generate a set of labeled images for each crop class based on Sentinel-2 and Landsat 8
- Phase III: Develop an online crowdsourcing platform to verify the Phase II-generated labels
- Collaborate w/ local partners to organize events, marketing and maximize partner networks
- Coordinating w/ African Regional Data Cube



## **Old Problems Persist**

- Connectivity
- Collaboration and data sharing from an institutional perspective not a technical perspective
- Capacity Development
- Messaging on the solution and not the technology
- Funding

# **New Problems Emerge**

- Privacy and Ethics in Geolocation and Machine Learning
- Training data standards & access
- COG, STAC & ARD adoption
- ML Accuracy Assessment
- Staying abreast of a rapidly changing landscape from a technical and market perspective.



# Conclusions

- Never been a more exciting and innovative period in the geospatial sciences
- This is a global phenomena and markets across the globe are responding.

#### ► The profession is rapidly diversifying

- There are serious issues of privacy and ethics that need to be addressed by this community that have largely been ignored
- Commercial Data Suppliers are rapidly changing their business model and moving from selling data to selling services off of their platforms
- The European Union is leading the way for supplying and supporting Open Data Innovation