

Improving Seagrass Detection Through A Novel Method For Optically Deep Water Masking

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Aims

Commercialization of Cloud-native service for Seagrass Extent and Carbon Stock Mapping

Methods and Applications:

Cloud-native, Scalable and Operational Seascape Mapping



Nature-based Solution for Climate Change Mitigation



Sustainable Development Goals

100 million

Seagrasses provide coastal protection to more than 100 million people.

Seagrasses reduce wave strength and protect the coast from erosion.

159

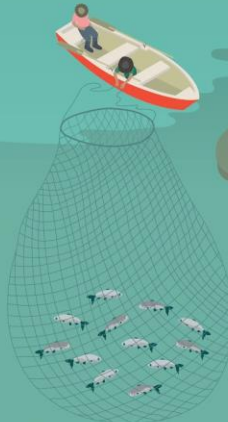
The countries which have seagrasses in their coastal extent.

350,000 km²

The approximate total global seagrass extent, almost the size of Germany.

25-50%

Reduction of Tidal Height



20%

The percentage of global fisheries supported by seagrasses.

50%

The reduction of marine pathogenic bacteria by seagrasses.

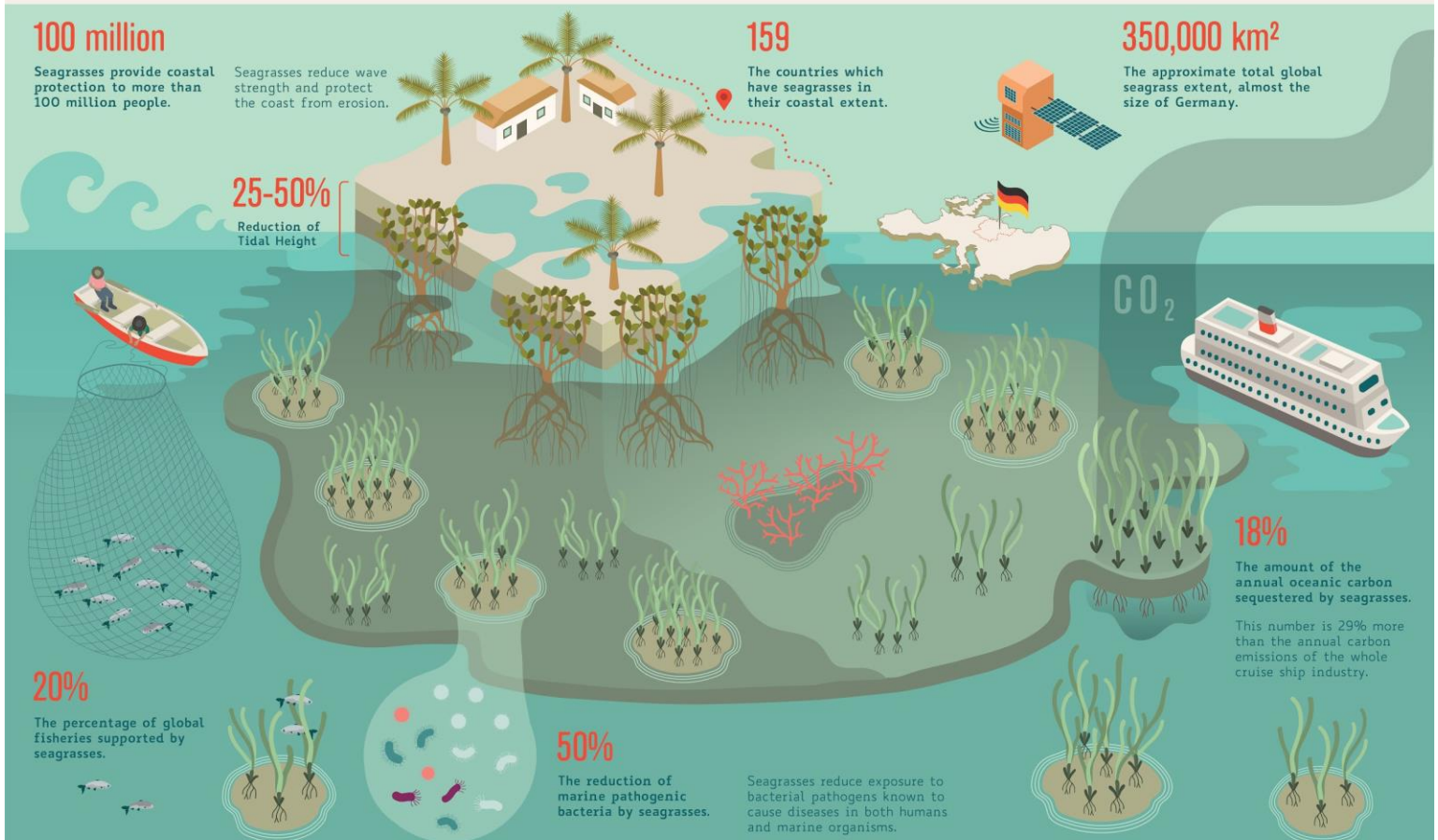
Seagrasses reduce exposure to bacterial pathogens known to cause diseases in both humans and marine organisms.

CO₂

18%

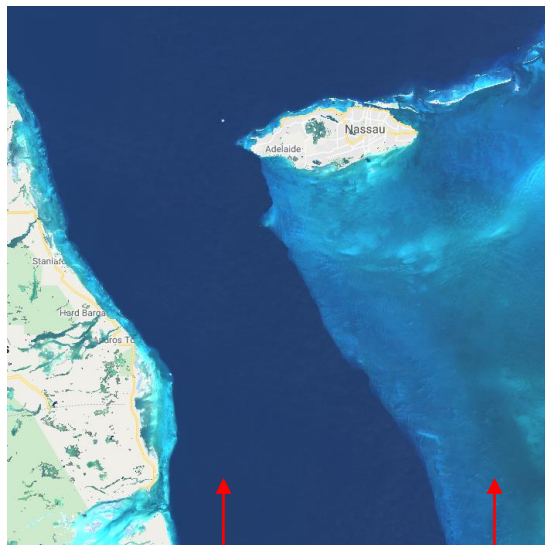
The amount of the annual oceanic carbon sequestered by seagrasses.

This number is 29% more than the annual carbon emissions of the whole cruise ship industry.



Seagrass mapping

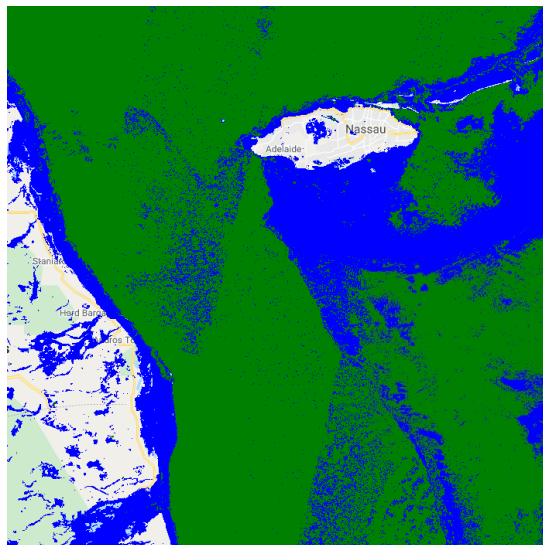
Sentinel-2 L1C RGB



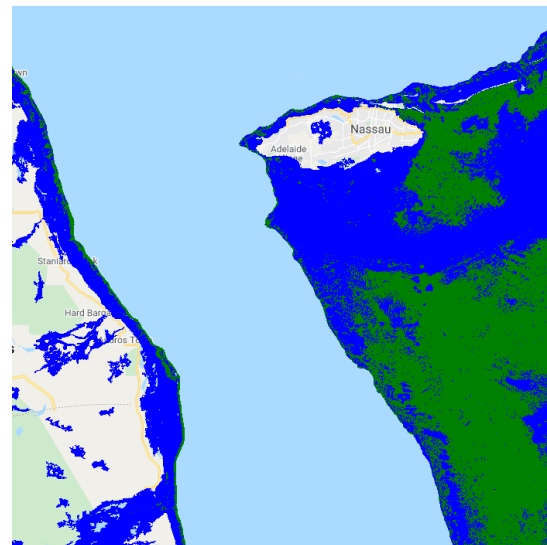
Optically deep
(water)

Optically shallow
(seabed)

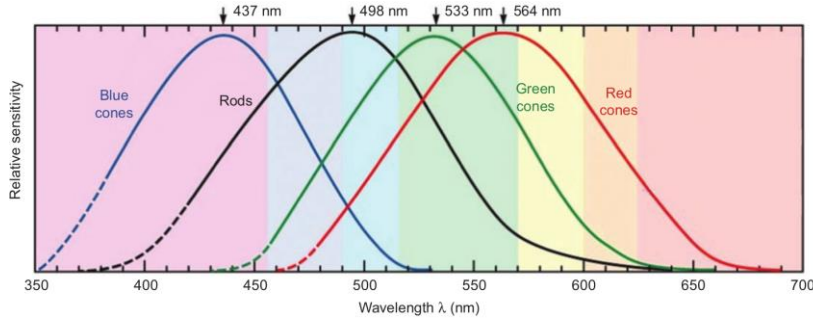
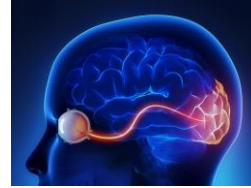
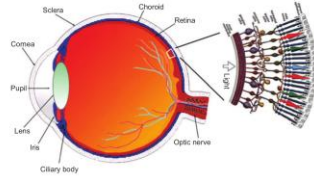
Seagrass map



Seagrass map (masked)



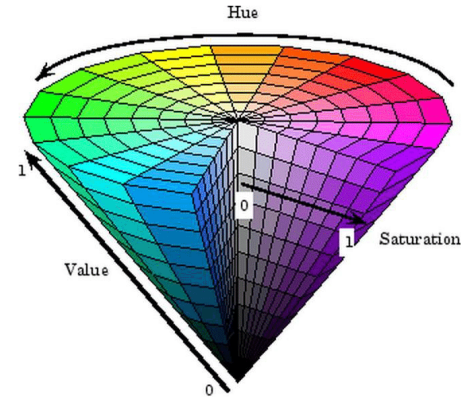
Colorimetry and colour spaces



RGB colour space



RGB to HSV
transformation



HSV colour space

Combining concepts

HSV colour
model



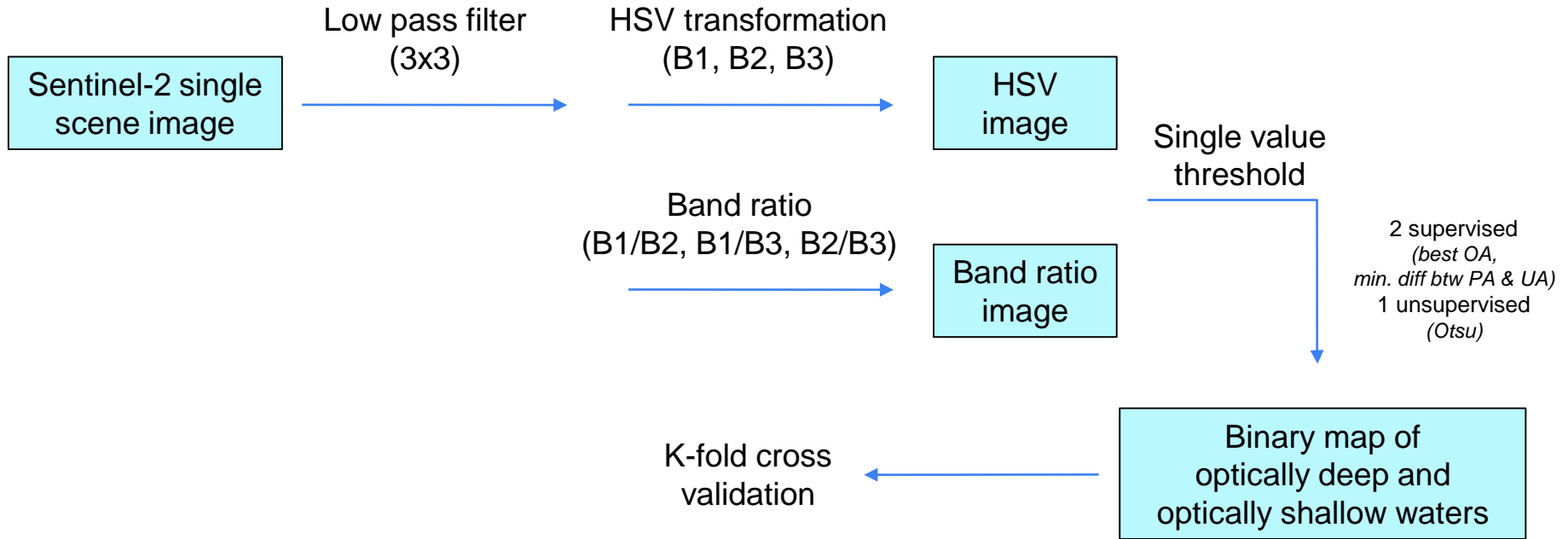
False colour
image



Best penetration into water column:
Ultra blue (B1), Blue (B2), Green (B3)

Could a false colour HSV image distinguish the optically deep from optically shallow waters in Sentinel-2 images?

Workflow



Results (Sentinel-2 L1C)

Site	Ranking by best overall accuracy (with 95% confidence interval)							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bahamas	B1B2 bestOA 0.985 ± 0.002	B1B2 crossPAUA 0.983 ± 0.004	Value bestOA 0.949 ± 0.019	Value crossPAUA 0.945 ± 0.028	Hue bestOA 0.944 ± 0.011	Saturation bestOA 0.932 ± 0.012	B1B3 bestOA 0.932 ± 0.013	Hue crossPAUA 0.925 ± 0.016
Caspian Sea	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.788 ± 0.049	B2B3 bestOA 0.772 ± 0.047	Saturation bestOA 0.769 ± 0.064	B1B3 bestOA 0.769 ± 0.064	Saturation crossPAUA 0.708 ± 0.056	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.708 ± 0.056	B1B3 Otsu 0.659 ± 0.042	Saturation Otsu 0.616 ± 0.042
Tanzania	Saturation Otsu 0.856 ± 0.035	B1B2 Otsu 0.819 ± 0.035	B2B3 bestOA 0.81 ± 0.038	B2B3 Otsu 0.79 ± 0.043	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.788 ± 0.048	Saturation bestOA 0.786 ± 0.04	B1B3 bestOA 0.785 ± 0.039	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.779 ± 0.043
Wadden Sea	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.942 ± 0.019	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.935 ± 0.02	Saturation crossPAUA 0.934 ± 0.021	B2B3 bestOA 0.928 ± 0.019	Saturation bestOA 0.925 ± 0.017	B1B3 bestOA 0.923 ± 0.016	B2B3 Otsu 0.91 ± 0.039	B1B2 bestOA 0.905 ± 0.02

bestOA

crossPAUA

Otsu

– Supervised classification, using threshold from the best OA from the training dataset

– Supervised classification, using threshold from the minimum difference between PA & UA (shallow water) of the training dataset

– Unsupervised classification, similar to foreground-background classification

Results (Sentinel-2 L2A)

Site	Ranking by best overall accuracy (with 95% confidence interval)							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bahamas	Hue bestOA 0.98 ± 0.00	Hue crossPAUA 0.97 ± 0.01	B1B2 bestOA 0.97 ± 0.00	B1B2 crossPAUA 0.96 ± 0.01	B1B2 Otsu 0.96 ± 0.01	Value bestOA 0.95 ± 0.02	Value crossPAUA 0.93 ± 0.03	B1B3 best OA 0.90 ± 0.02
Caspian Sea	B2B3 bestOA 0.92 ± 0.02	Hue bestOA 0.91 ± 0.02	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.91 ± 0.02	Hue crossPAUA 0.90 ± 0.02	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.85 ± 0.04	B1B3 bestOA 0.84 ± 0.03	Value crossPAUA 0.66 ± 0.05	B1B2 crossPAUA 0.65 ± 0.06
Tanzania	Hue bestOA 0.87 ± 0.03	B1B3 best OA 0.87 ± 0.03	Hue crossPAUA 0.85 ± 0.04	B2B3 bestOA 0.85 ± 0.04	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.84 ± 0.04	Hue Otsu 0.83 ± 0.03	B1B2 crossPAUA 0.82 ± 0.03	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.81 ± 0.04
Wadden Sea	Value crossPAUA 0.93 ± 0.02	B2B3 bestOA 0.93 ± 0.02	Hue crossPAUA 0.93 ± 0.01	Value bestOA 0.93 ± 0.03	Hue bestOA 0.93 ± 0.01	B2B3 crossPAUA 0.92 ± 0.01	B1B3 bestOA 0.90 ± 0.04	B1B3 crossPAUA 0.88 ± 0.03

bestOA

crossPAUA

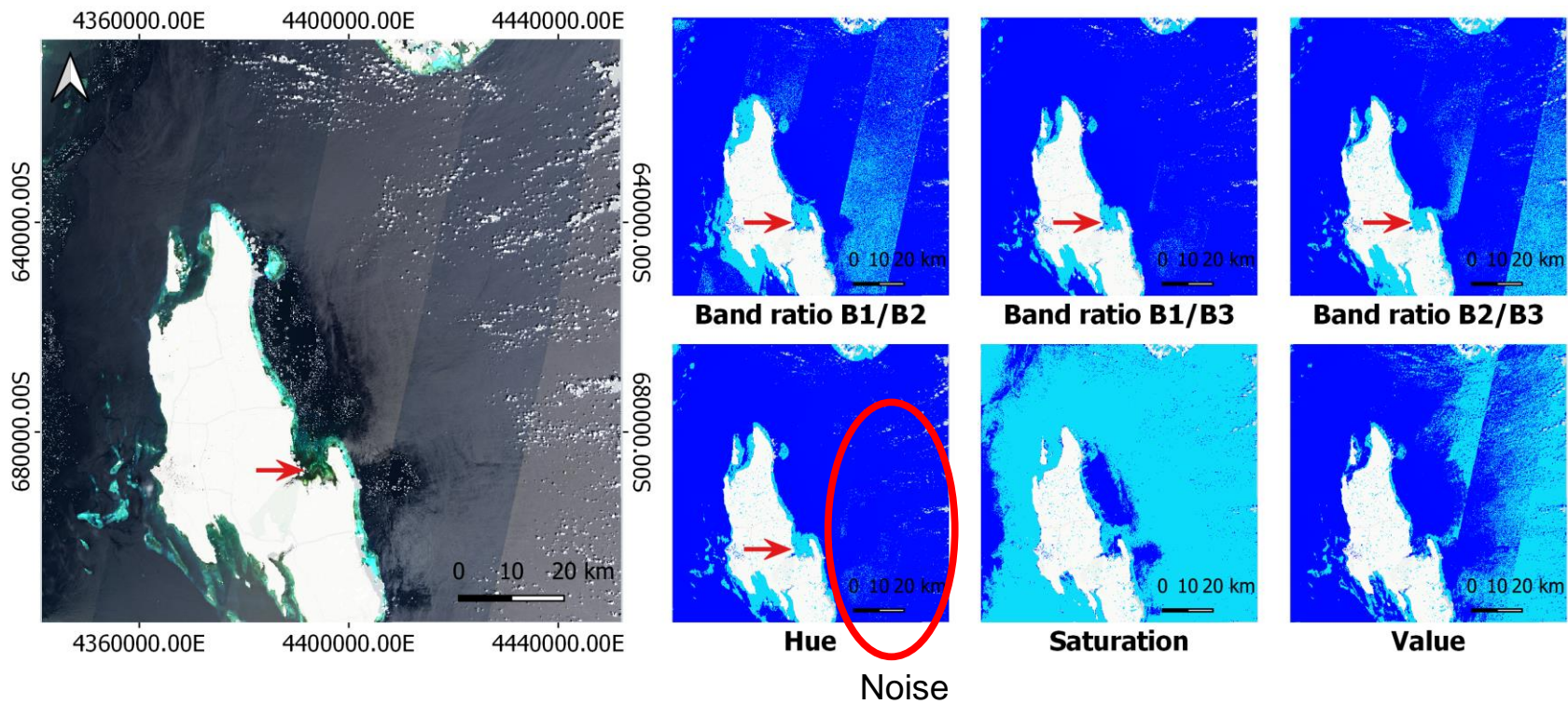
Otsu

– Supervised classification, using threshold from the best OA from the training dataset

– Supervised classification, using threshold from the minimum difference between PA & UA (shallow water) of the training dataset

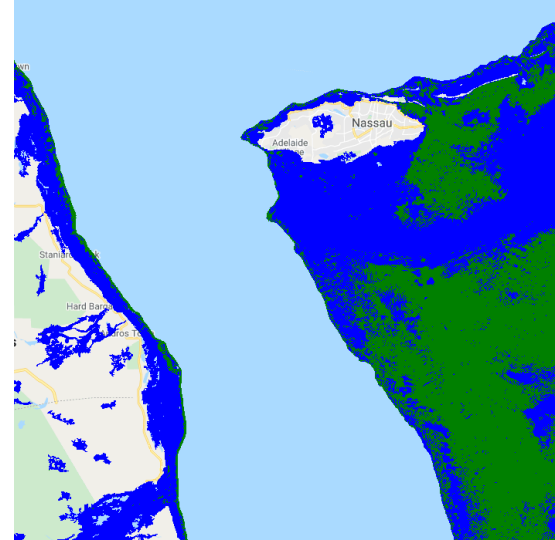
– Unsupervised classification, similar to foreground-background classification

Results (Sentinel-2 L2A)



Summary

- Thresholding a false colour HSV layer produces **consistently good** deep water mask **across different sites**
 - Saturation for Sentinel-2 L1C (Top of Atmosphere)
 - Hue for Sentinel-2 L2A (Surface Reflectance)



Thank you for your attention.

Any questions? Contact me at chengfa.lee@dlr.de!

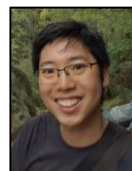
**GLOBAL
SEAGRASS
WATCH**
serverless is more



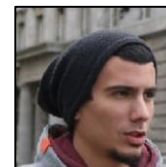
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