





Deutsches Zentrum für integrative Biodiversitätsforschung (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig



Multi-sensor approach to monitor the urban landscape – refined mapping of urban structure types and vegetation patterns by means of DOP, LiDAR and UAV data

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The urban landscape – human-induced environment

Quantifying the complex urban environment

- Nature-related, built, social environment
- Social, technical and natural sciences
- Fine scale surveys & data in time and space

Challenges for Remote Sensing (RS)

- High heterogeneity of patterns and processes (high variability – small patches / objects)
- High spatial and temporal dynamics
- Strongly intertwined structures (grey, green, and blue)

→ Need for a hybrid RS approach

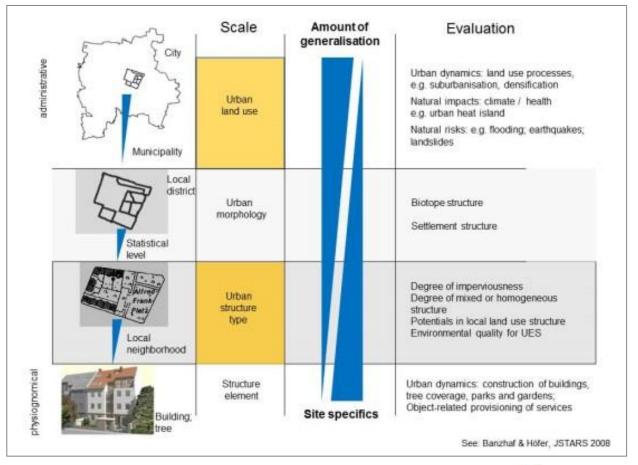






Scale-dependent analysis

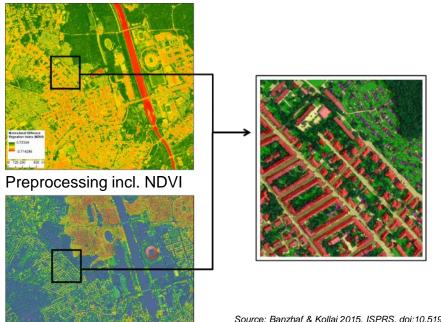
- degree of spatial urban information
- socio-ecological processes & benefits







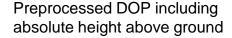
Urban tree cover and structure types - Leipzig



Material and Methods

- ✓ Digital Orthophotos (DOP) 2012
- ✓ LiDAR derivates (DEM & DSM) in 2012
 - => three-dimensional model
- ✓ Object-based image analysis techniques (OBIA)

Source: Banzhaf & Kollai 2015, ISPRS, doi:10.5194/isprsarchives-XL-7-W3-301-2015.





Preliminary results from DOP and LiDAR data

- ✓ Quantifying urban tree cover for the entire city at 60 cm ground resolution
- ✓ Distinguishing mature trees (EEA convention), young trees and bushes, and meadows / lawns
- ✓ Measuring tree cover for different urban districts
- ✓ Structuring residential areas by types of buildings incl. their height to delineate UST
- Accuracy assessment still to be done!

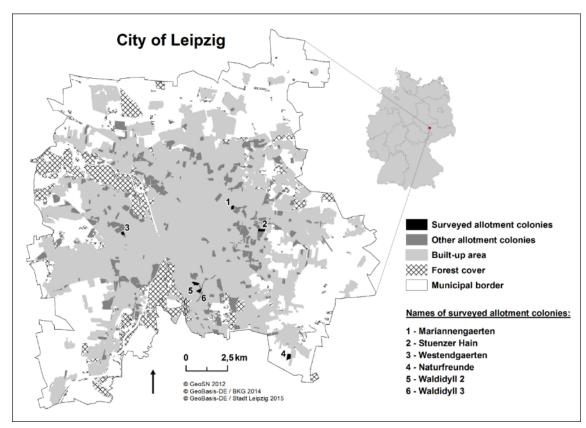
Next steps – integrating selective VHR+ data







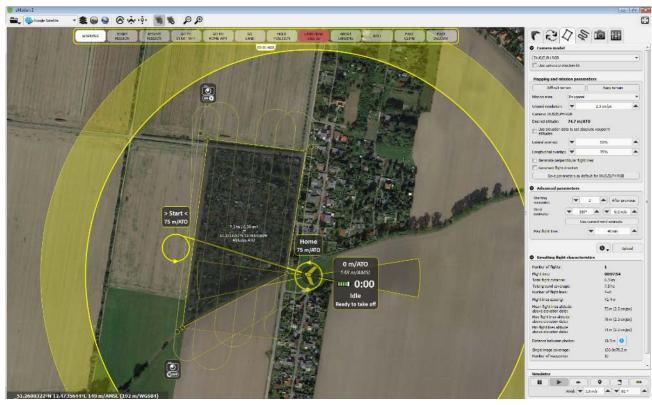
Project on Urban Gardens in Leipzig



- 275 allotment colonies (843 ha; 9% of built-up area)
- 15 m² of gardening area per capita
- Colonies´ age from50 150 years



Cabral et al. 2016 Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, in review



"eBee" drone by Sensefly



- 700 g
- RGB, NIR, MultiSpec
- Max. 1.5 cm GSD/res.
- 40-90 km/h cruise speed
- Max. 45 min. flight
- Post-processing software







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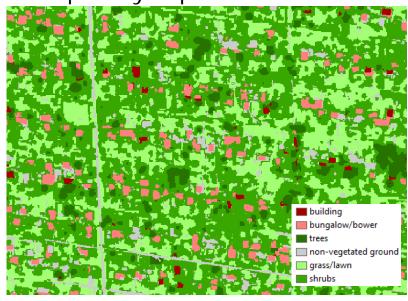
Outlook: Integrating remote sensing data

→ improving all products

UAV data/products (selective)



Airborne products (DOP & LiDAR), spatially explicit



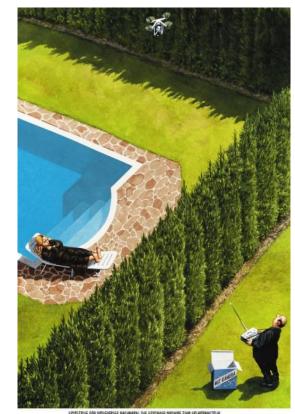
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Outlook / Final remarks

- Joining and calibrating hybrid remote sensing data needed for urban areas but challenging
- Remote sensing alone not sufficient in coupled natural-built-social system (only a proxy for landuse)
- **Interdisciplinarity** needed: social surveys, (mobile) sensors, environmental (point) data, biological surveys, statistics
- Scientific UAV application still needs big effort (and public acceptance)







Thank you

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Photos: Stumpe, Krämer



