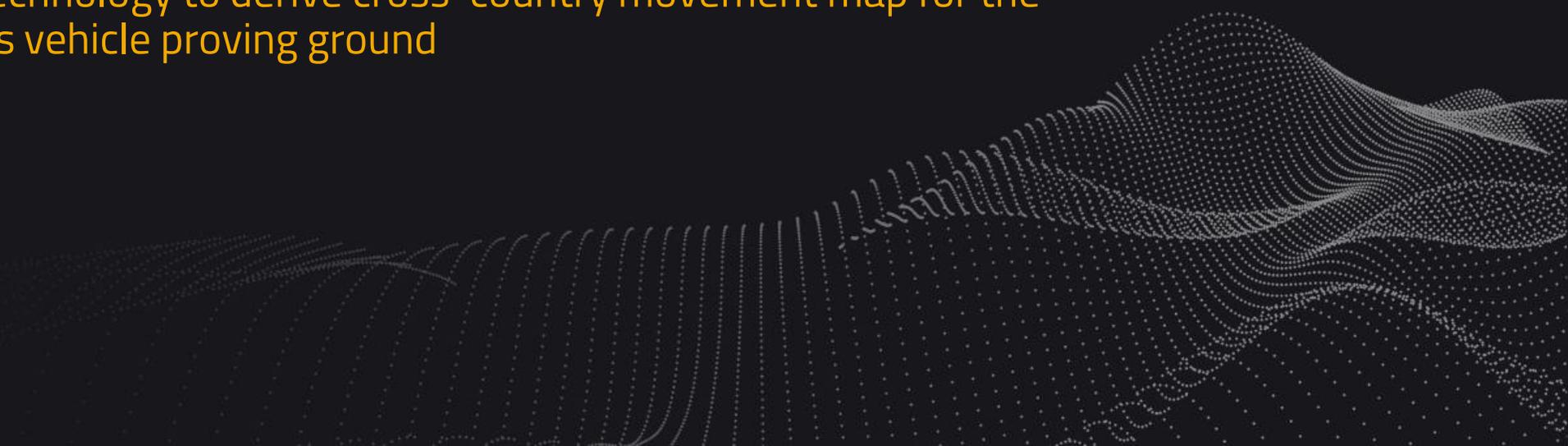


# Szilárd burkolatú utakon kívüli off-road mozgékonyági térkép meghatározás és azon alapuló pályatervezés.

Application of LiDAR technology to derive cross-country movement map for the ZalaZONE autonomous vehicle proving ground



## Authors.

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Deputy Director, Systems and  
Control Lab Hun-REN Sztaki



**Bence Hrutka**  
Budapest University of  
Technology and  
Economics



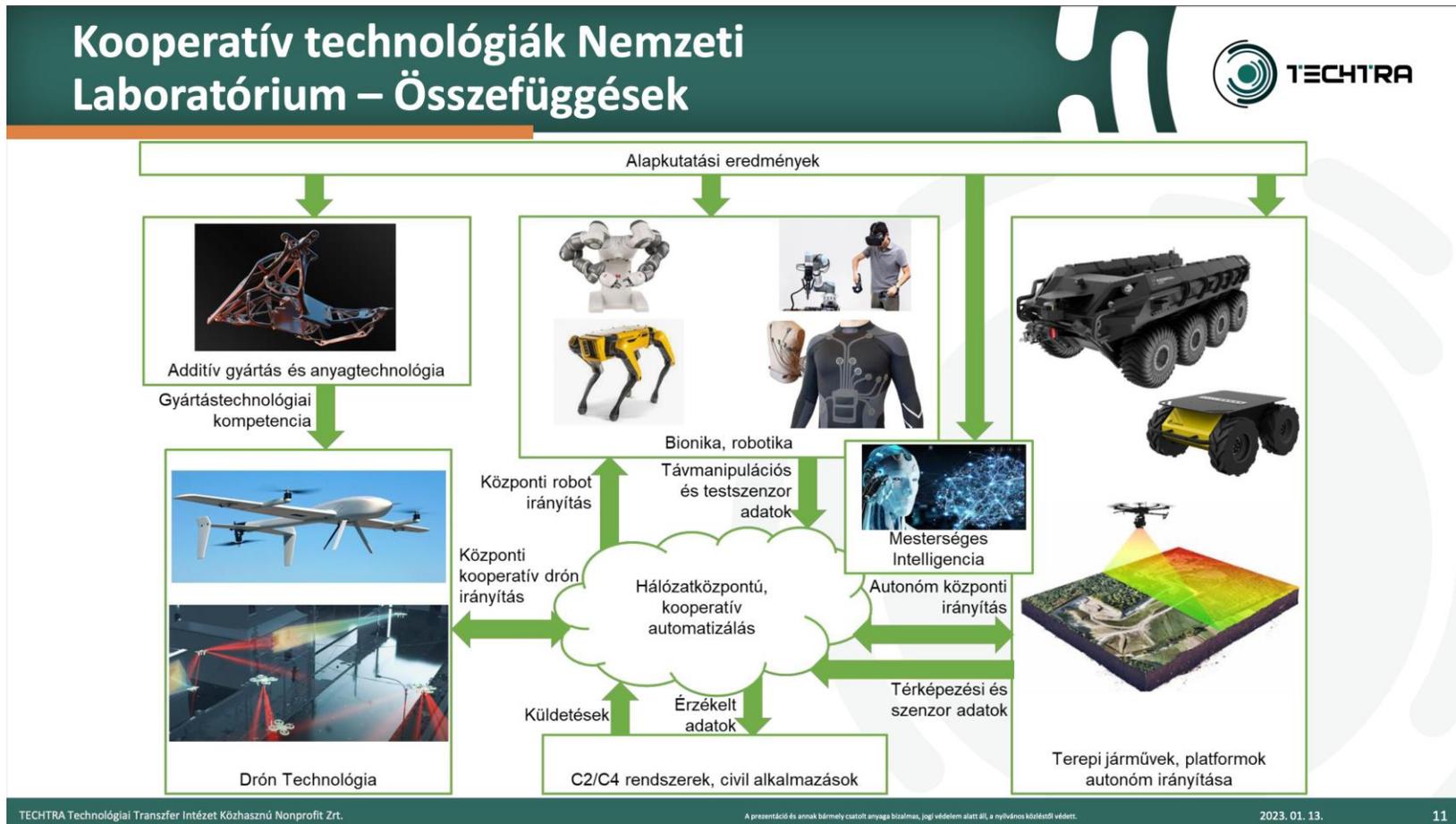
## About HUN-REN SZTAKI.

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- Established in 1964, as Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA)
- Staff of 300, +90 have PhD or higher degree
- Bridge the gap between Theoretical Results and Industry Needs
- Membership in the European Res. Cons. For Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM), 1994
- EU CoE in IT, Computer Science and Control, 2001
- Virtual Inst. on Production and Business Management, PBM, 2002
- Fraunhofer Project C. for Production Management and Informatics PMI, 2010
- EU CoE in Production Informatics and Control, EPIC), 2017
- Common legal entity with Fraunhofer, EPIC InnoLabs Ltd, 2018
- 45 FP7 projects, 22 H2020 projects, ERC advanced grant
- Eötvös Loránd Research Network (ELKH), 2019
- Autonomous Systems National Laboratory, 2020
- Artificial Intelligence National Laboratory, 2020
- HUN-REN Hungarian Research Network, 2023

# ➤ Cooperative Technologies Nat. Lab

- Motivation and funding: dual-use technology for autonomous offroad vehicles



## ➤ AGV - CPR Husky A200

- Medium sized AGV
  - 75 kg payload
  - 3-4 hour uptime
- Unique equipment
  - 3D LiDAR
    - 300 m range
  - 2x 3-band RTK-s GPS
    - Location (<cm)
    - Orientation (<0.2°)
  - Stereo camera
  - Companion Computer
- Future plan: Hydrogen power



## ➤ Cross Country Movement (CCM) models

- Military approach
- In a traditional sense:
  - Static approach
- In case of automation:
  - Realistic approach →
  - Dynamic approach
- To model it needs some criteria

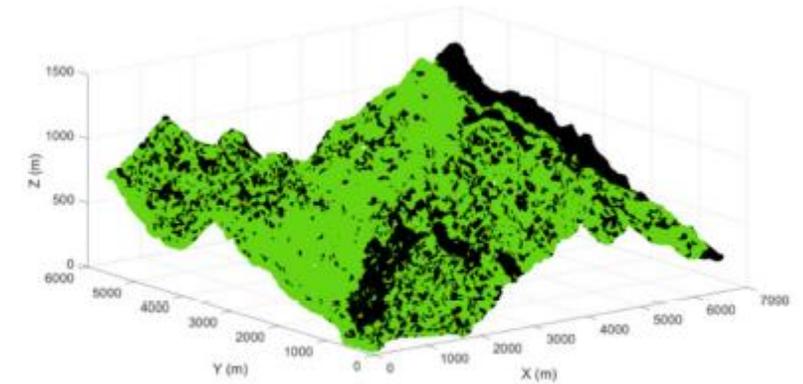


# ➤ Criteria for route planning

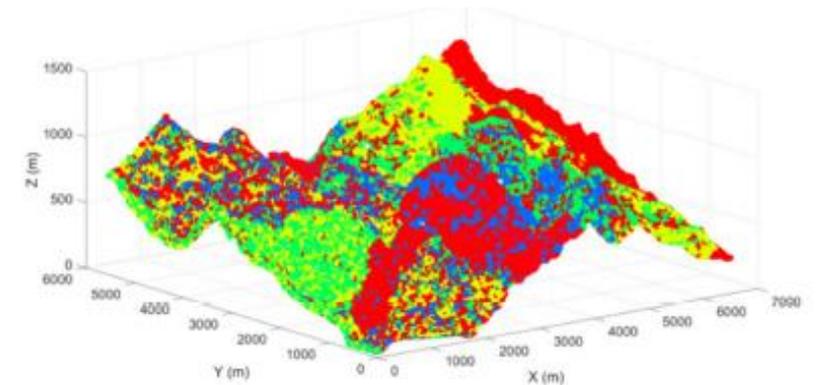
- Slope of terrain relief
- Vegetation
- Hydrology
- Soil Conditions
- Climate conditions
- Urban areas
- Roads
- Natural and man-made objects

## CCM levels:

- **GO terrain**
- **SLOW GO terrain**
- **NO GO terrain**



GO NOGO



0-10 km/h 10-20 km/h 20-30 km/h >30 km/h



# Principle of route planning

## Inputs

Existing database



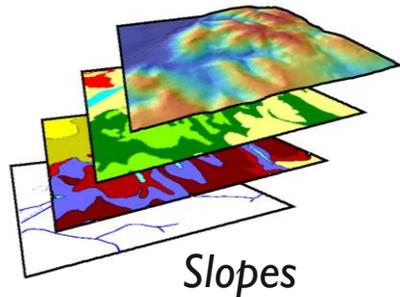
Sensor data



Vehicle parameters



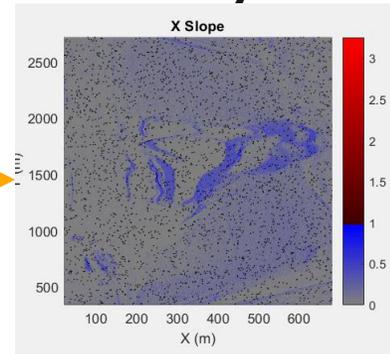
Multi-layer map



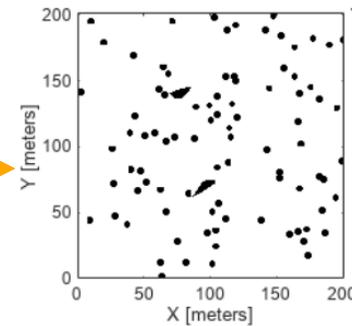
Slopes  
Obstacles  
Soil conditions  
Land cover  
Etc...

## GIS analysis

Cost layers



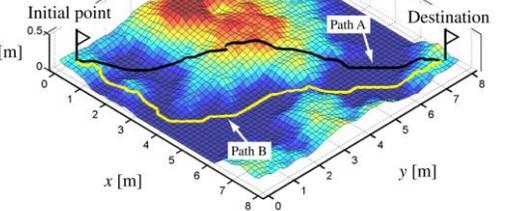
Obstacles



$f(x)$

Route planning

## Output



# ➤ Route Planning

- $V(\text{km/h}) = F1 \times F2 \times F3 \times F4_{D/W} \times F5$
- F1 is **slope factor** as it determines the extent that any slope will deteriorate the vehicle's speed without consideration for any other physical factor;
- F2 is **slope-intercept-frequency (SIF) factor**. SIF is the number of times the ground surface changes between positive and negative slopes over a 1km distance;
- F3 is **vegetation factor** that determine impact of the vegetation density and distributing pattern on the mobility of vehicle's movement;
- F4 is **soil factor** that informs impact of the soil characteristics on vehicle's mobility. The analysis is normally separated into wet (W) and dry (D) conditions; and
- F5 is **surface roughness factor** that depends on the surface materials.

Factor	Formula	Note
F1	$F1(\text{kph}) = \frac{\text{Max off- road gradability } (\%) - \text{Surface slope } (\%)}{\text{Max on- road gradability } (\%)} \times \text{Max road speed } (\text{kph});$ <p>Max = maximum,</p>	If $F1 \leq 0$ , $F1 = 0$ (No Go).
F2	$F2 = (-0.0008888) [\text{slope}] + 1$	–
F3	$F3 = V_R \times \max(V_1, V_2);$ $V_1 = V_F \times V_C; V_C = \frac{SS - SD}{W},$ $V_2 = 1 - \left[ V_T \times \frac{SD^2}{OD^2} \right]; V_T = \frac{(W + SD)}{SS},$	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If <math>V_1 \leq 0</math>, <math>V_1 = 0</math>,</li> <li>2. If <math>V_1 \geq 1</math>, <math>V_1 = 1</math>,</li> <li>3. If <math>F3 \geq 1</math>, <math>F3 = 1</math>,</li> <li>4. If <math>F3 \leq 0</math>, <math>F3 = 0</math> (No Go),</li> <li>5. If values of SS/SD are not available, <math>F3 = V_R</math>.</li> </ol> <p><math>V_R</math> = Vegetation roughness factor, <math>V_F</math> = Vehicle factor, <math>W</math> = Vehicle width (m),  <math>SS</math> = Stem spacing (m), <math>SD</math> = Stem Diameter (m), <math>OD</math> = Override diameter of the vehicle.</p>
F4	$F4_{D/W} = \frac{RCI_{D/W} - VCI_1}{VCI_{50} - VCI_1};$ <p><math>RCI_D</math> = RCI value for dry condition,  <math>VCI_1</math> = Vehicle cone index (1 pass),</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If <math>F4 \leq 0</math>, <math>F4 = 0</math> (No Go),</li> <li>2. If <math>F4 \geq 1</math>, <math>F4 = 1</math>.</li> </ol> <p><math>RCI_W</math> = RCI value for wet condition,  <math>VCI_{50}</math> = Vehicle cone index (50 pass).</p>
F5	$F5 = \text{Surface roughness factor } (0 - 1)$	–



# ZalaZONE



**SZÉCHENYI  
EGYETEM**  
UNIVERSITY OF GYŐR



- AVL ZalaZONE is a brand-new, 250-hectar vehicle proving ground in Hungary.
- AVL ZalaZONE offers complete test solutions with engineering services, technical equipment, workshops and offices.
- Member of the Széchenyi University



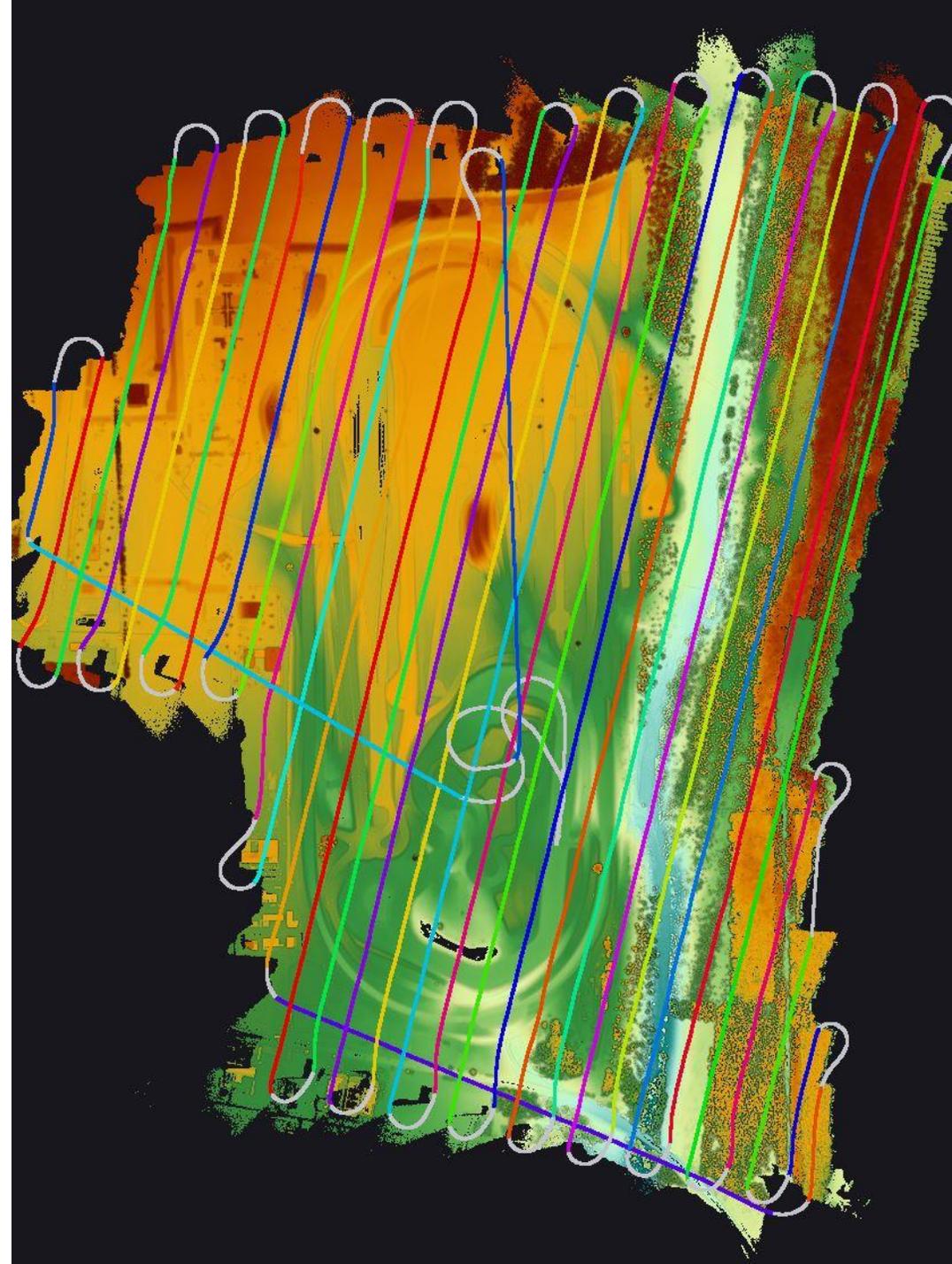
## ➤ Fighter Fixed Wing Platform



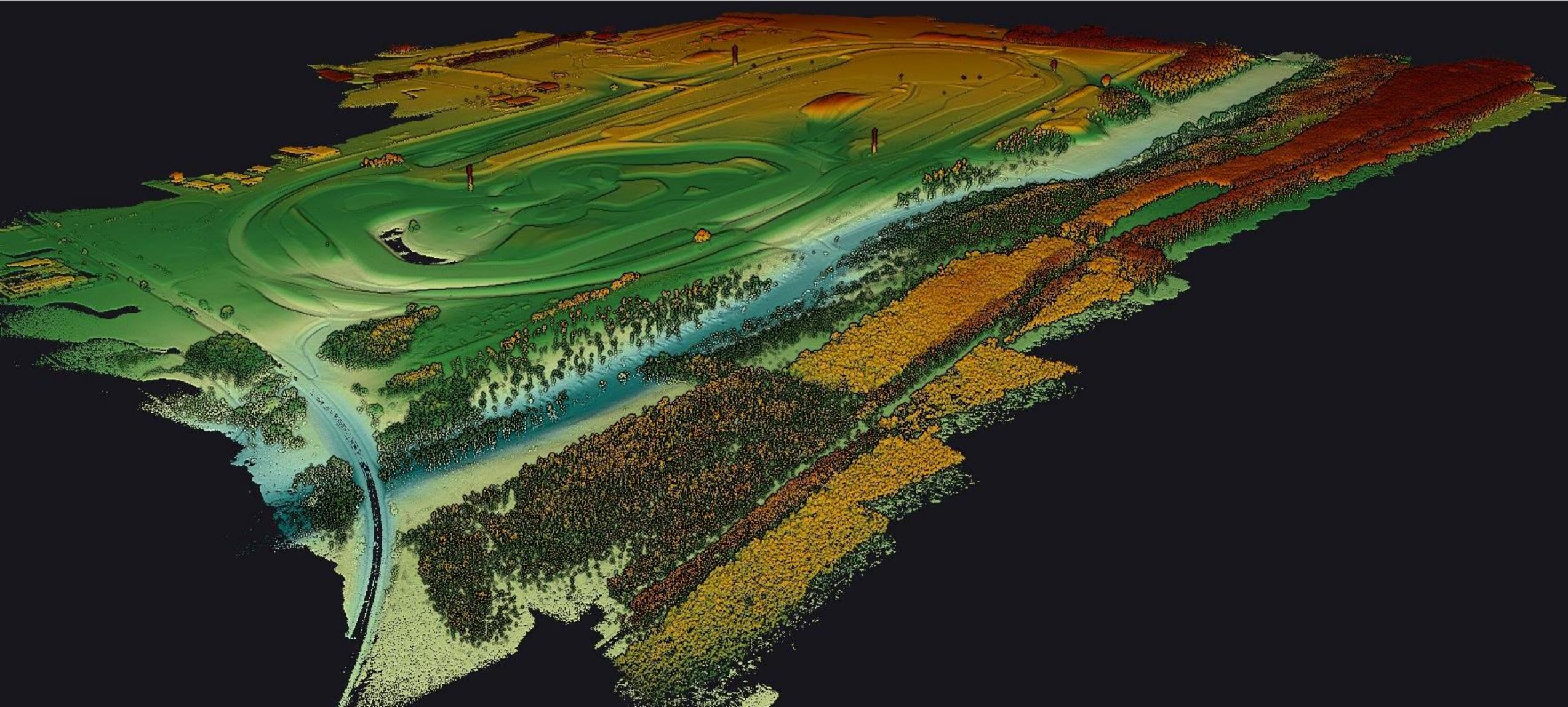
- Custom LIDAR payload bay

## ➤ YellowScan CloudStation

- 3.9 km<sup>2</sup>: 609 million pt, 150 pt/m<sup>2</sup>
- 34 lines @90-100 m AGL
- 4.4 cm error after line matching
- Offroad area on the South side
- Fixed wing flight post processing is more demanding than multicopter



# ➤ YellowScan CloudStation



## ➤ Post Processing for CCM

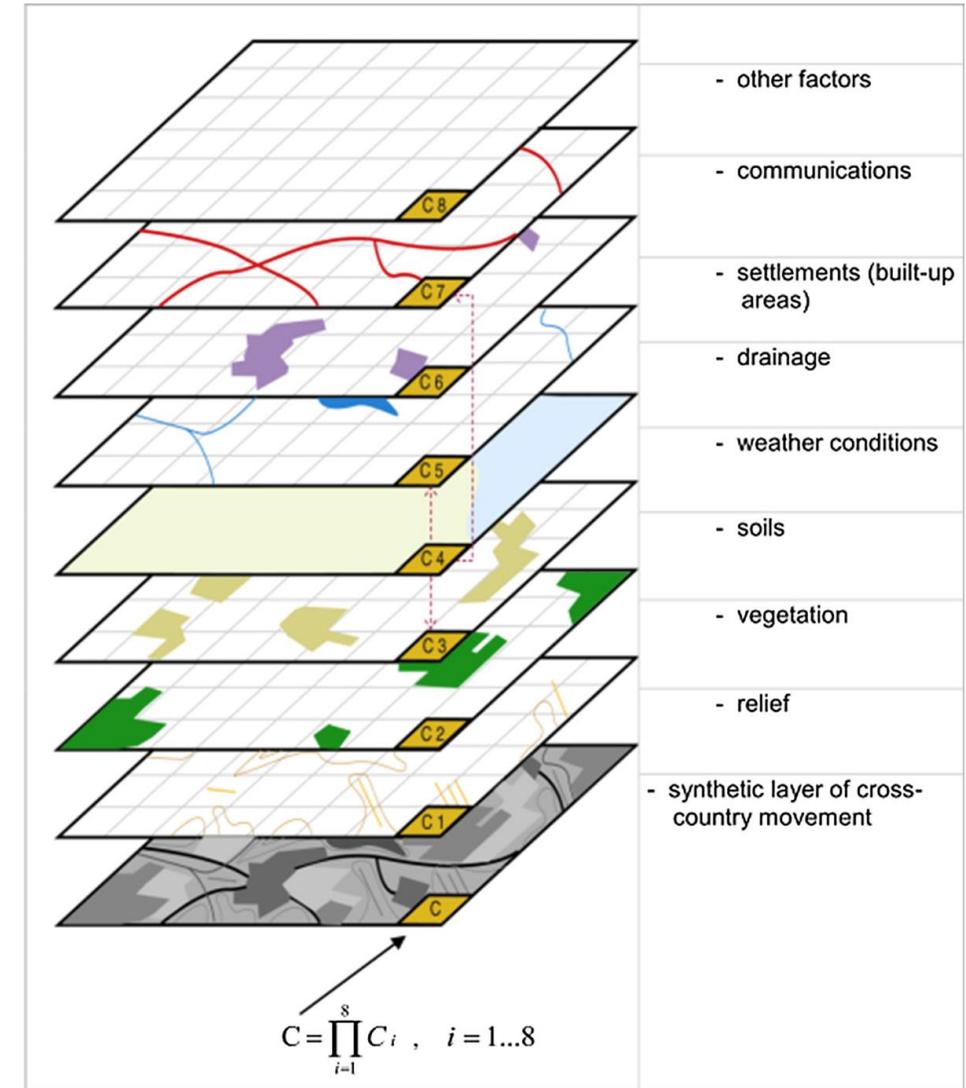
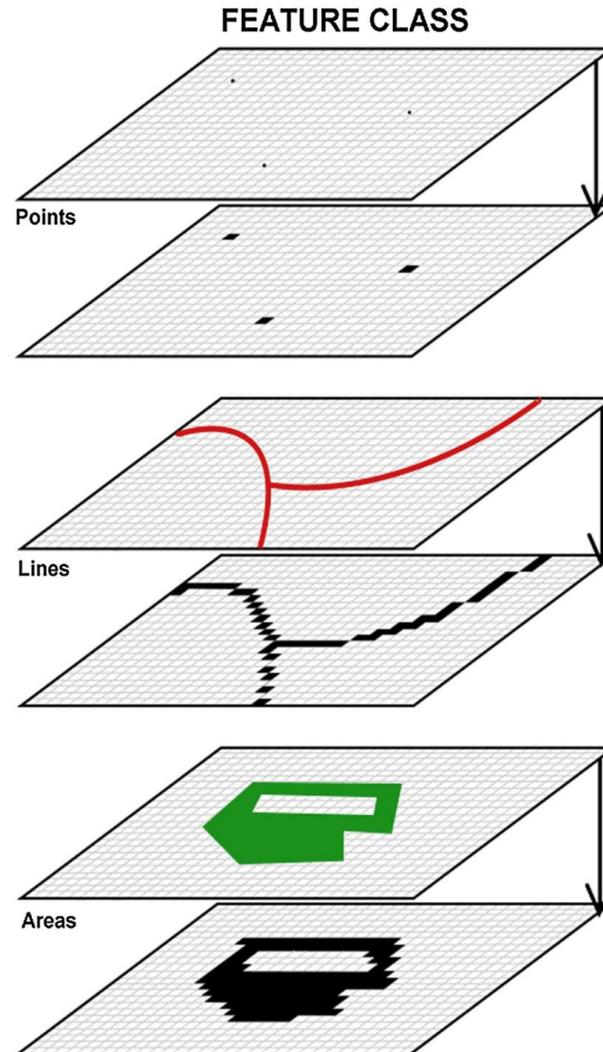
- Raster DTM
- Pixel size and interpolation methods do matter
- Central part of off-road track



# ➤ Transformation of vector layers into raster layers

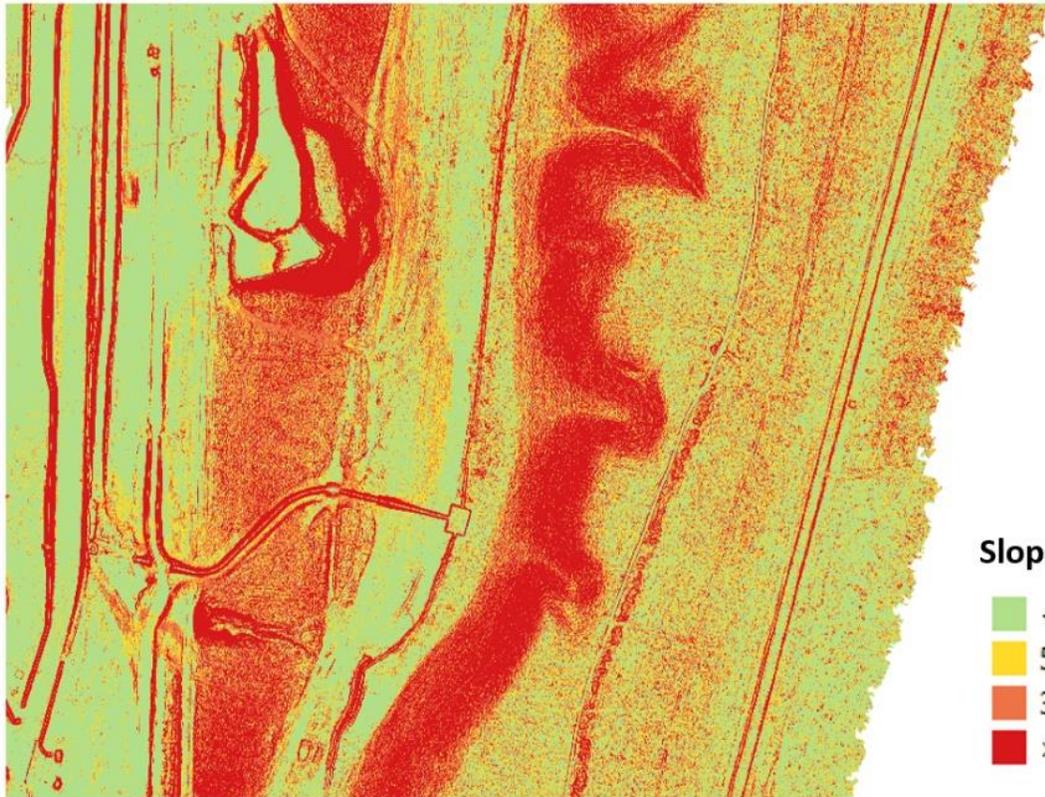
- Gather all the data
- Transform them to raster layers
- Generate non-vehicle specific base maps

- M. Rybansky et al.:  
Environ Earth Sci  
(2015) 74:7049–7058



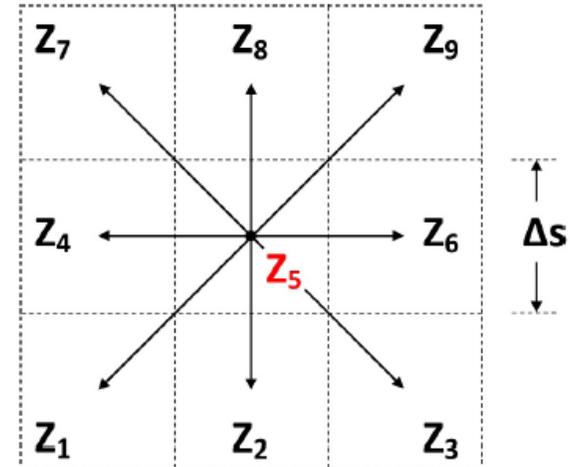
# ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Slopes
  - Horn method



Slopes [%]

- ≤ 5
- 5 - 30
- 30 - 50
- > 50



$$\left[ \frac{dz}{dx} \right] = \frac{(z_3 + 2z_6 + z_9) - (z_1 + 2z_4 + z_7)}{8\Delta}$$

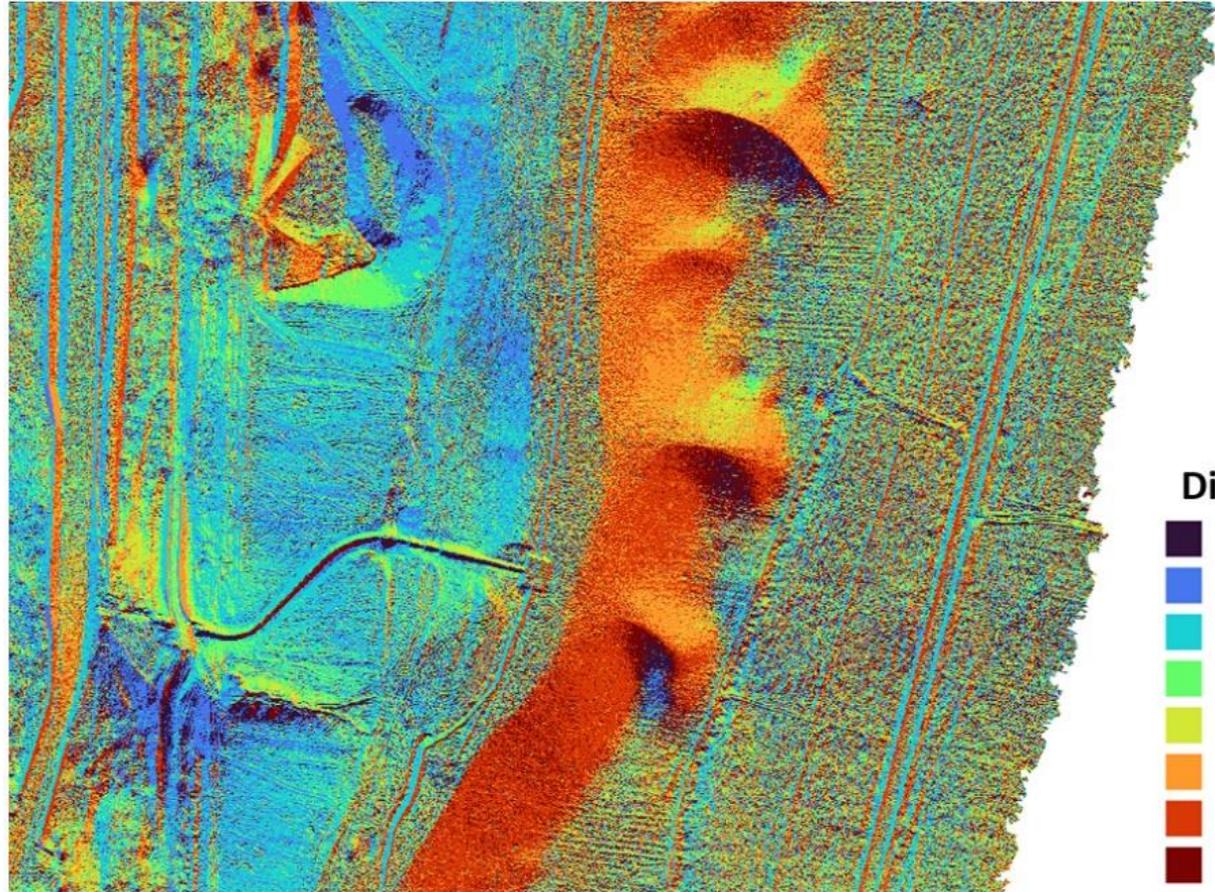
$$\left[ \frac{dz}{dy} \right] = \frac{(z_7 + 2z_8 + z_9) - (z_1 + 2z_2 + z_3)}{8\Delta}$$

$$m = \sqrt{\left[ \frac{dz}{dx} \right]^2 + \left[ \frac{dz}{dy} \right]^2}$$

Source: Badora – Wawer 2022.

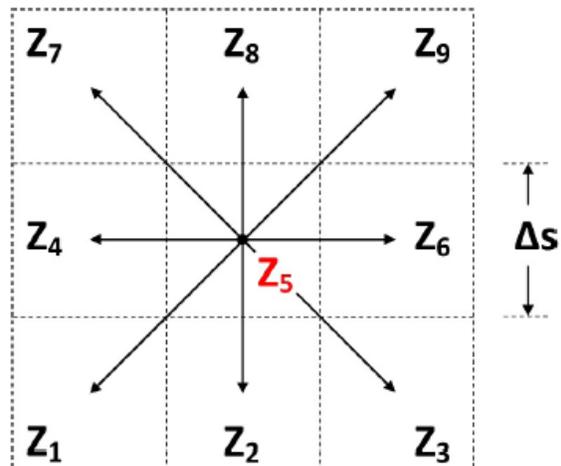
## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Aspect
  - Direction of slopes

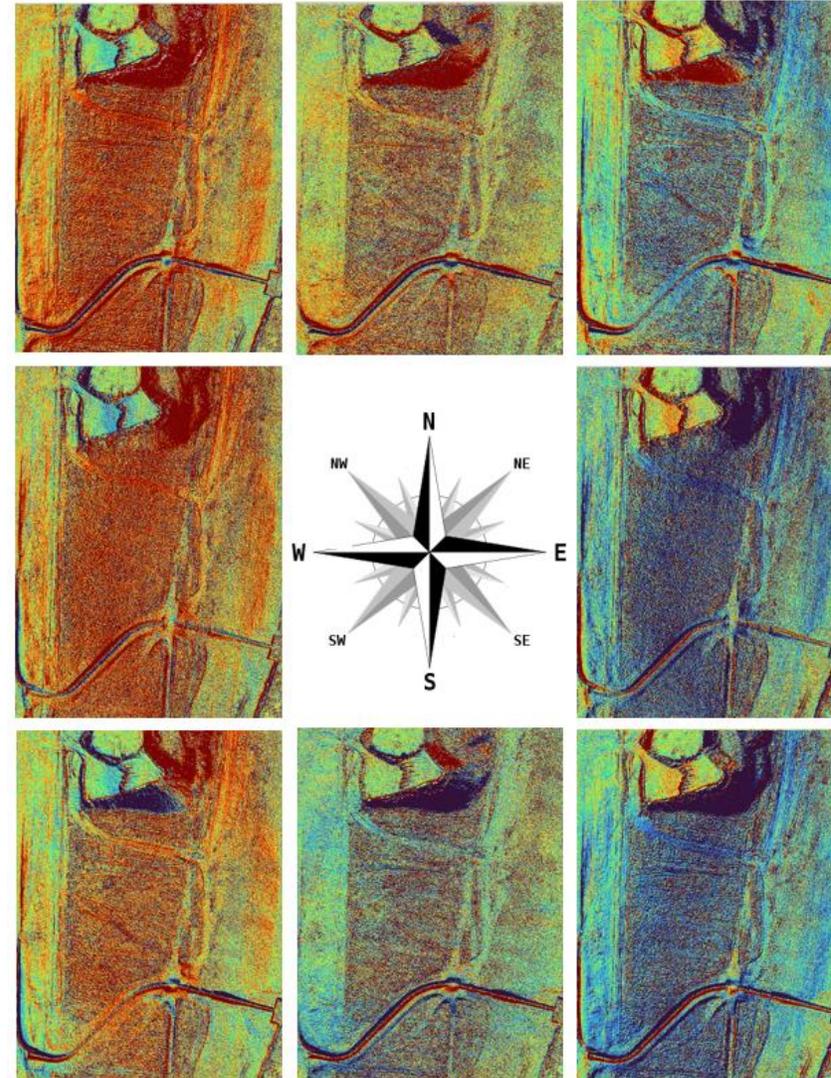


## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

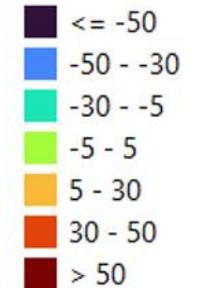
- Directionality of Slopes
  - 8 (4?) directions
  - From neighboring points



- Longitudinal and lateral aspects

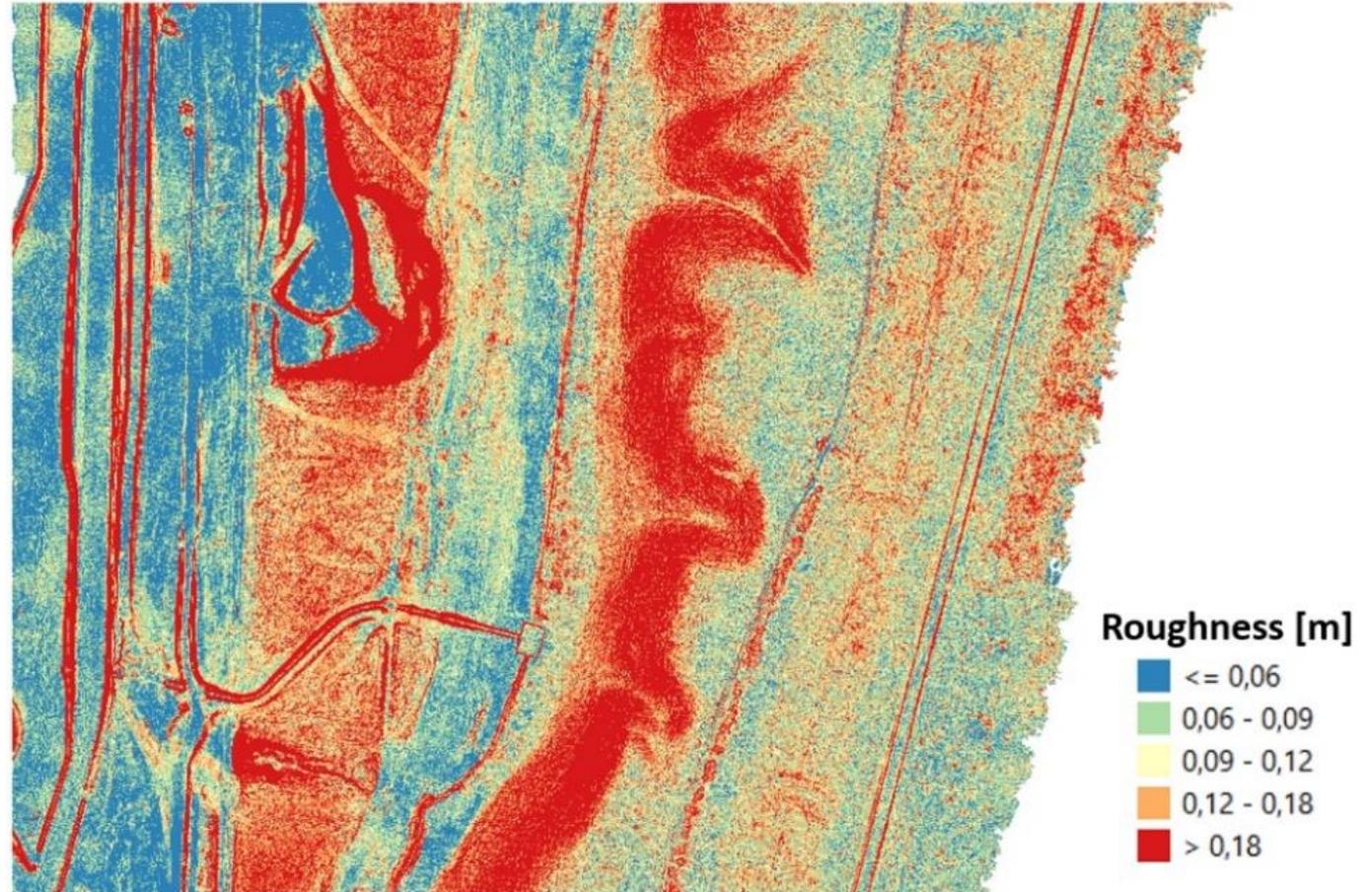
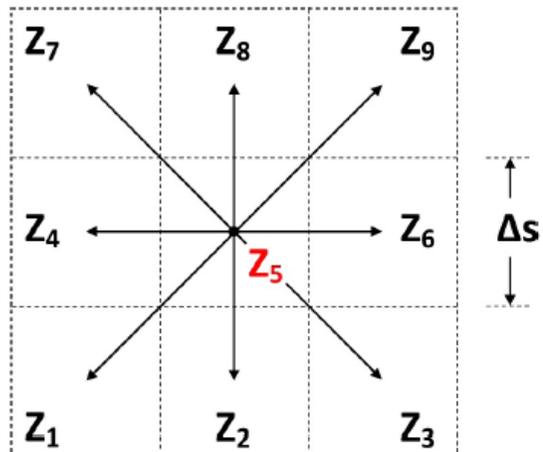


### Slopes [%]



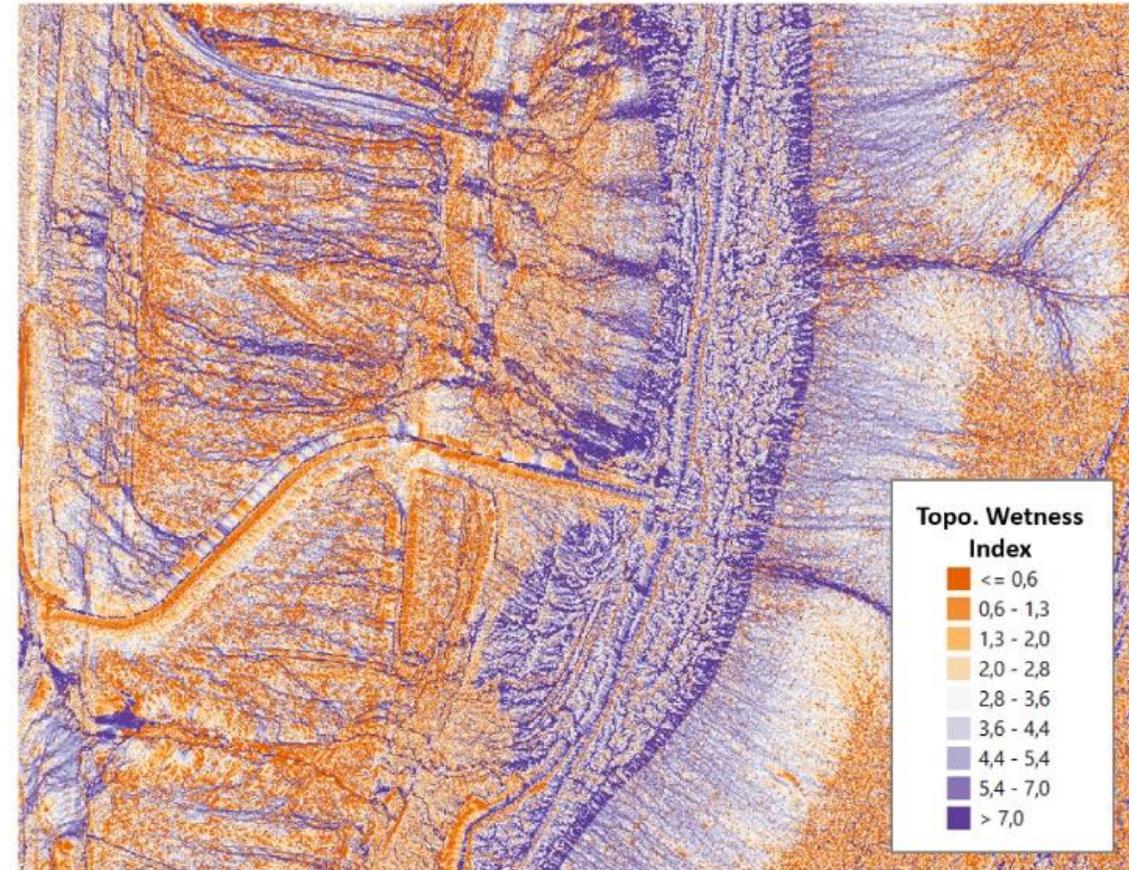
## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Roughness
  - Degree of irregularity
  - From elevation
  - Surrounding cells
  - Largest difference



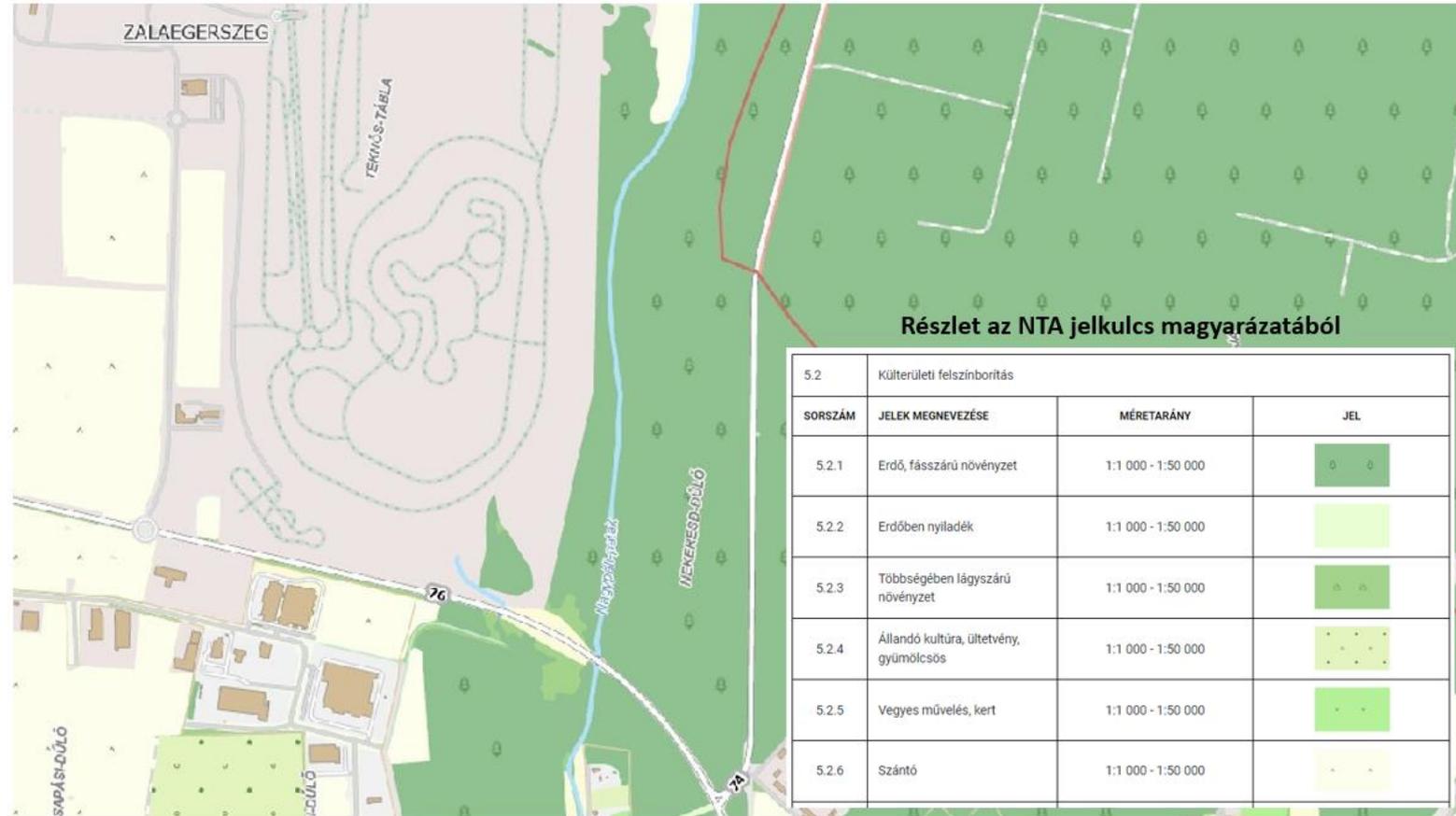
## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Hydrology and weather conditions
  - Water surfaces
    - Land coverage
  - Weather conditions
    - Possible catchment areas
    - Topographic Wetness Index



## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Vector data
  - Roads
  - Powerlines
  - Buildings
  - Water
- Land coverage
  - Data from other sources
    - National GIS Map (NTA)



Source: <https://nta.lechnerkozpont.hu>

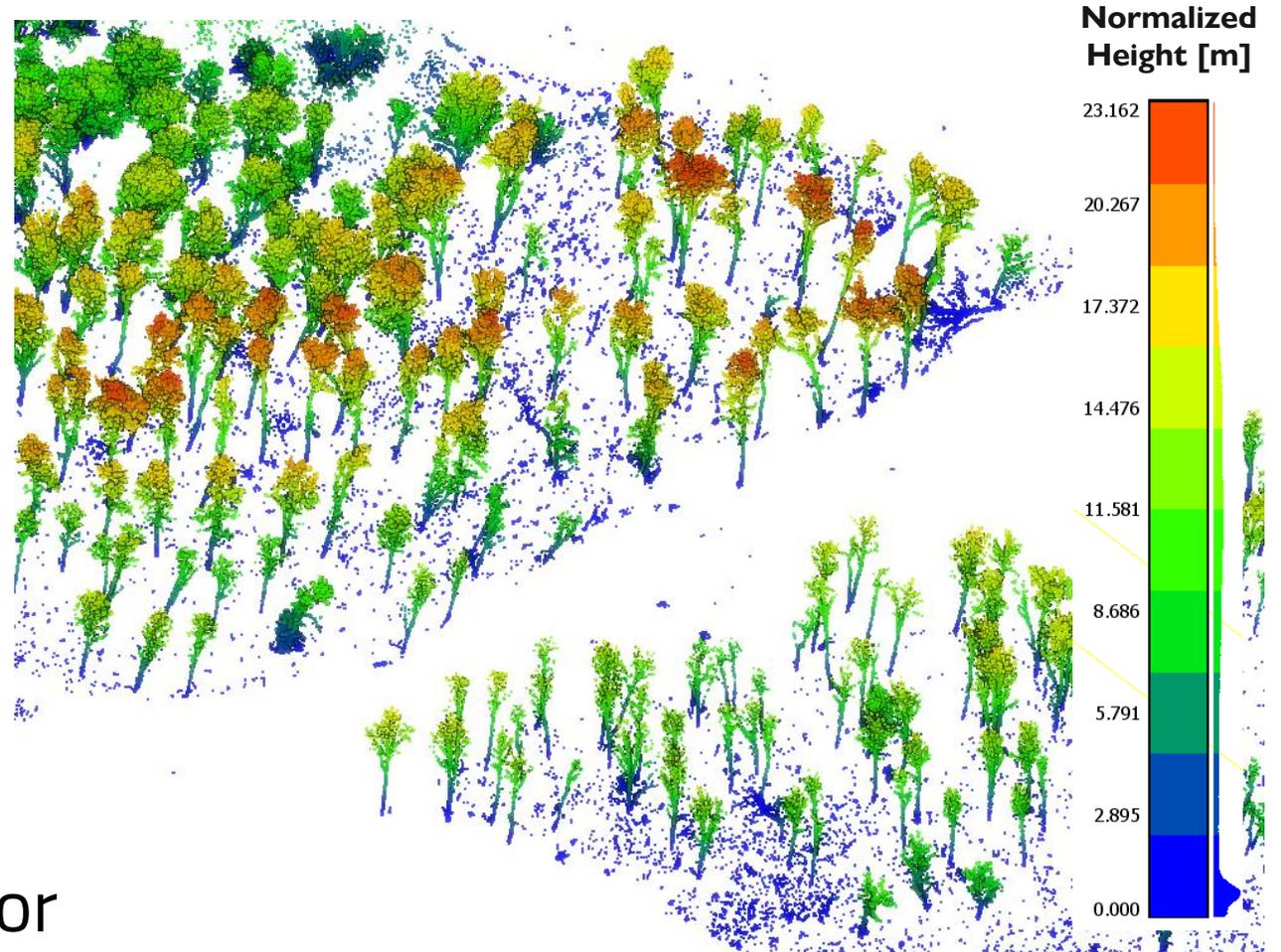
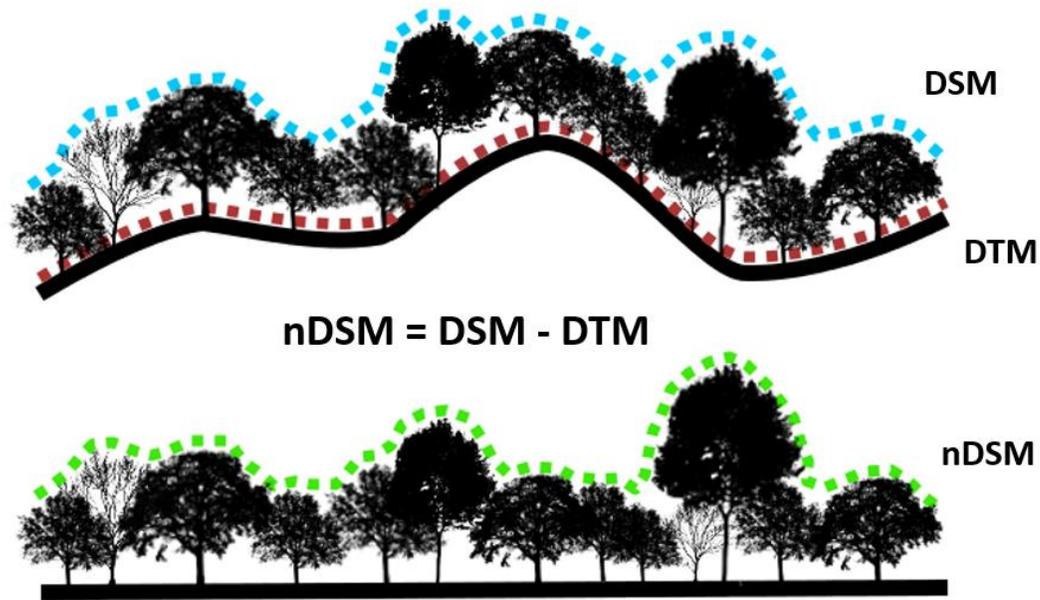
## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Land coverage
  - From orthophoto
    - Orthophoto
    - Multispectral data
    - Machine Learning



# ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

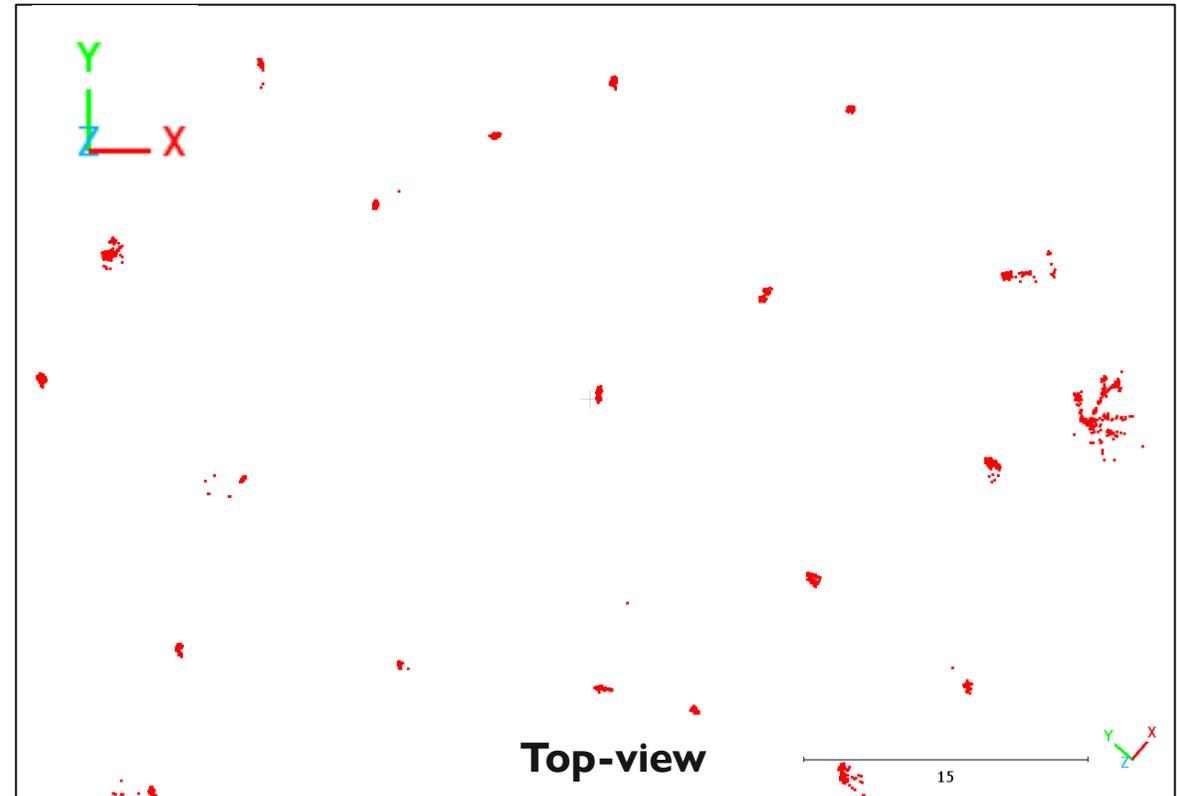
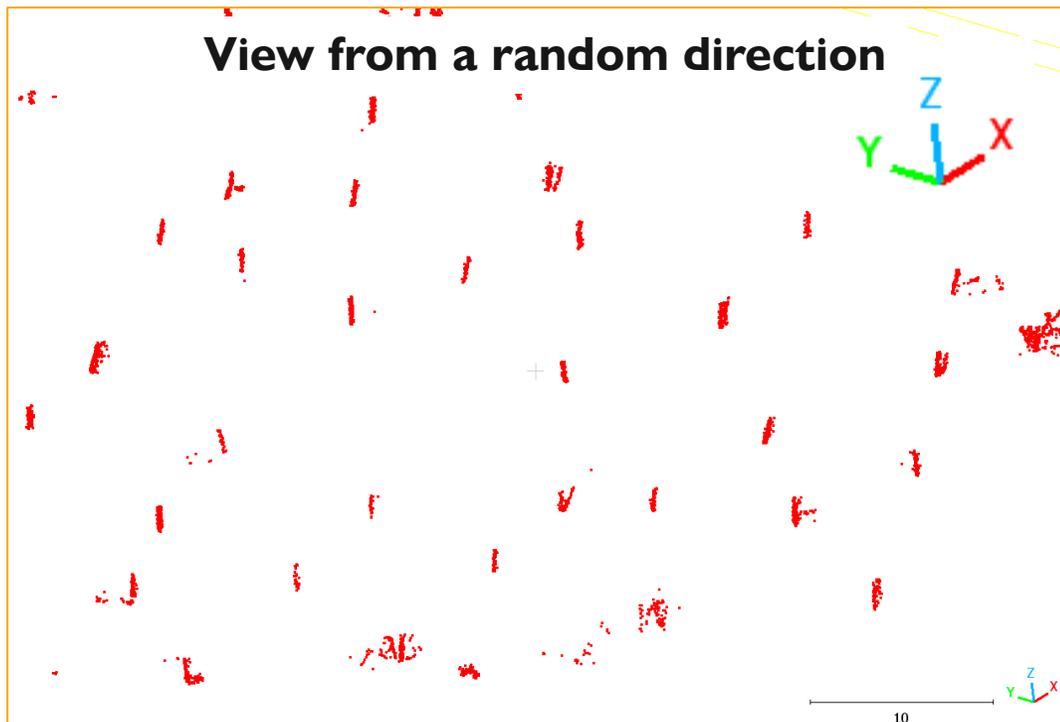
- Vegetation



- Obtained from earlier YS Surveyor flight (40-50 m AGL, 45 deg cutoff)

## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

- Vegetation
  - Section (1 – 2.5 meters)
  - DBSCAN



- Obtained from earlier YS Surveyor flight (40-50 m AGL, 45 deg cutoff)

## ➤ GIS layers of off-road capability

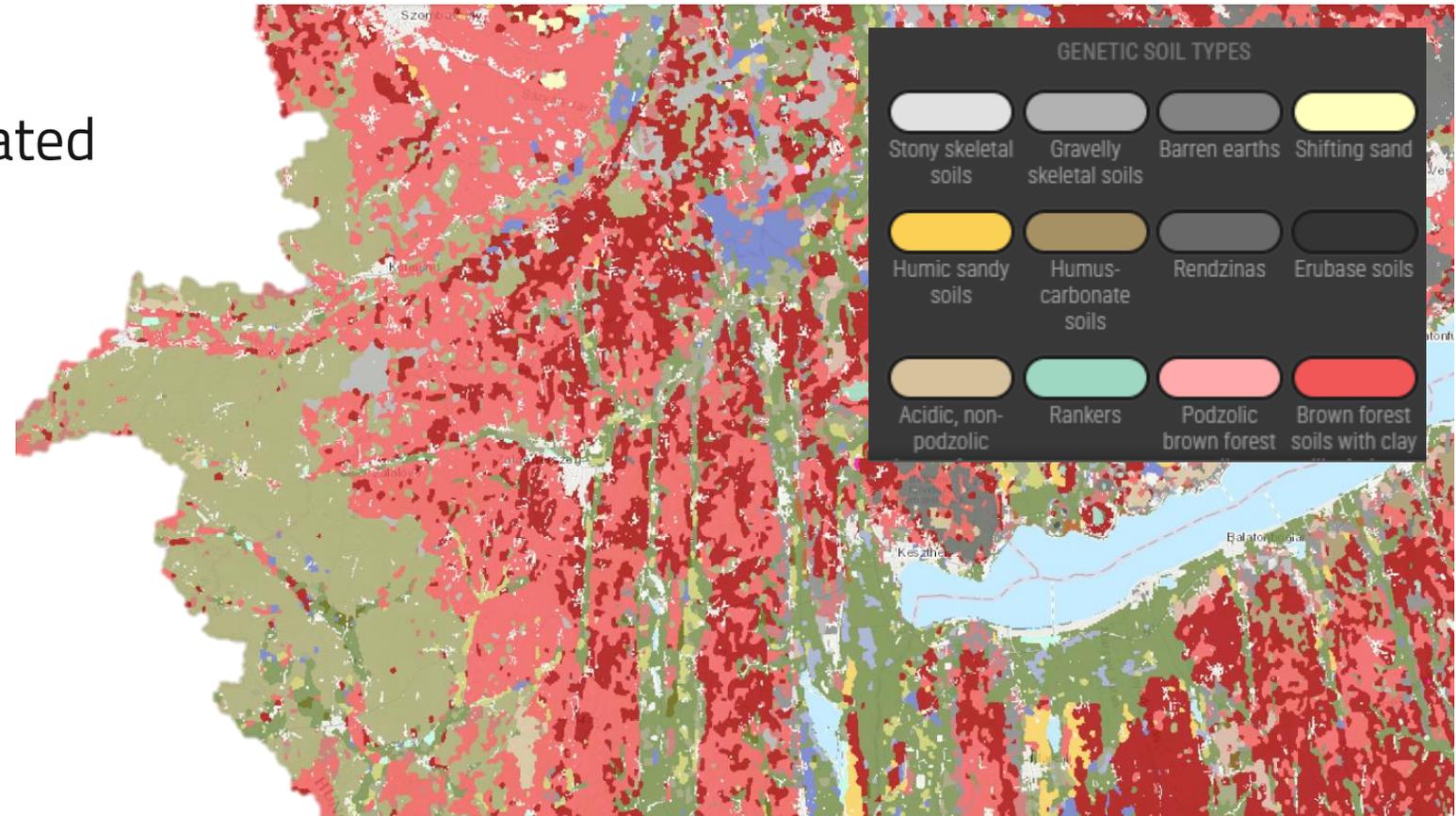
- Vegetation
  - Raster layer
    - Relative height of low-vegetation
    - Position of trunks





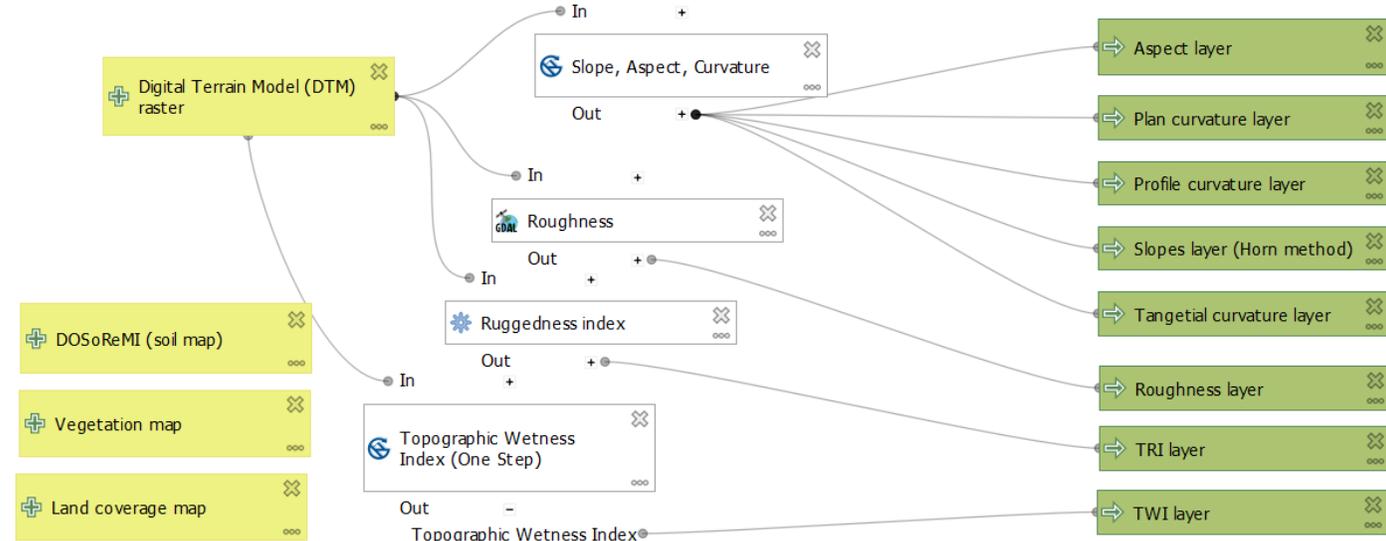
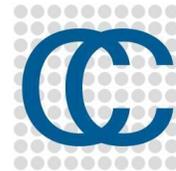
# Further GIS layers of off-road capability

- Soil model
  - Static
  - **Digital, Optimized, Soil Related Maps and Information**
  - = **DOSoReMI**
- In-site measurements
  - Dynamic
  - Focused on:
    - Soil compaction
    - Soil moisture



# ➤ Processing with open-source tools

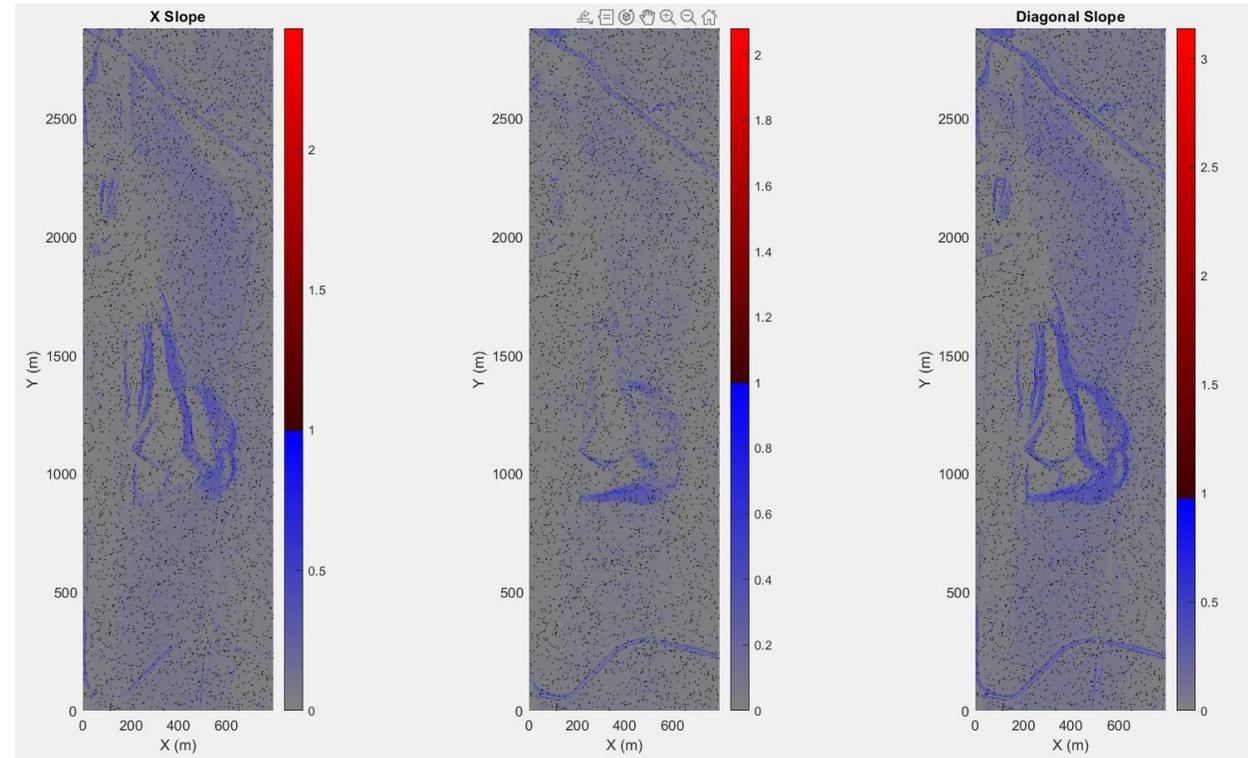
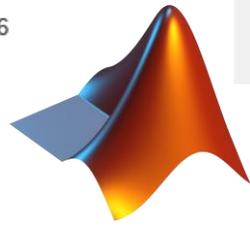
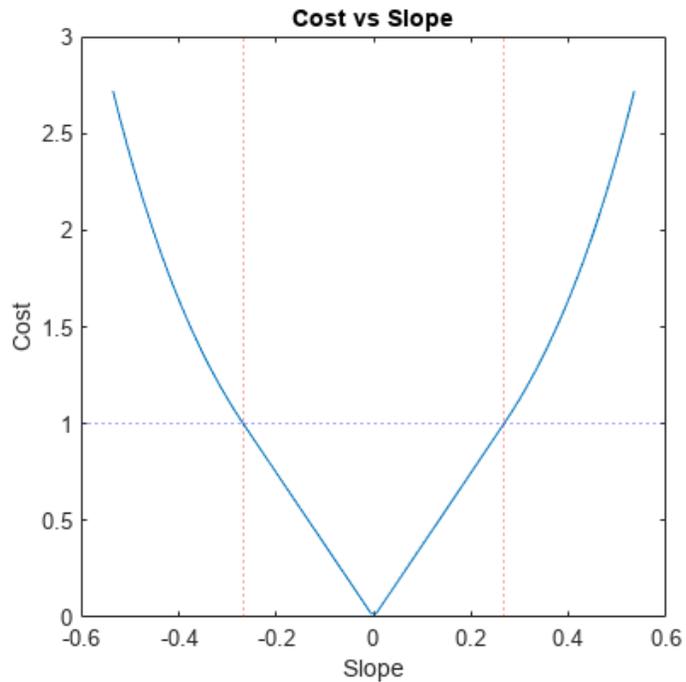
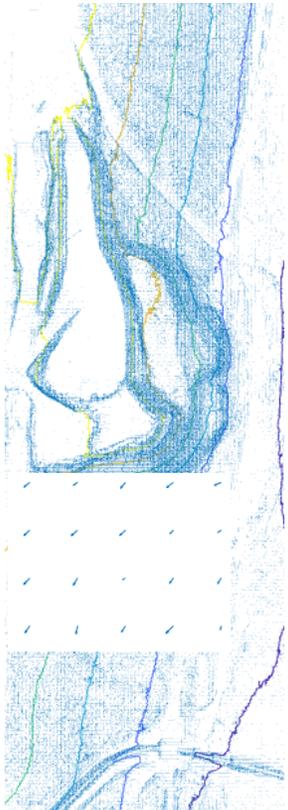
- Point cloud processing
  - CloudCompare
  - Python scripts
  - → DTM
  - → Vegetation
- GIS analysis
  - QGIS
    - GRASS GIS
    - SAGA GIS
  - Python



```
*Untitled Script - Processing Script Editor
4 Group : :
5 With QGIS : : 32811
6 """
7
8 from qgis.core import QgsProcessing
9 from qgis.core import QgsProcessingAlgorithm
10 from qgis.core import QgsProcessingMultiStepFeedback
11 from qgis.core import QgsProcessingParameterRasterLayer
12 from qgis.core import QgsProcessingParameterMapLayer
13 from qgis.core import QgsProcessingParameterRasterDestination
14 import processing
15
16
17 class Ktnl_modeldesigner_v2(QgsProcessingAlgorithm):
18
19     def initAlgorithm(self, config=None):
20         self.addParameter(QgsProcessingParameterRasterLayer('digital_terrain_model_dtm_raster', 'Digital Ter
21         self.addParameter(QgsProcessingParameterMapLayer('dosoremi_soil_map', 'DOSoReMI (soil map)', default
```

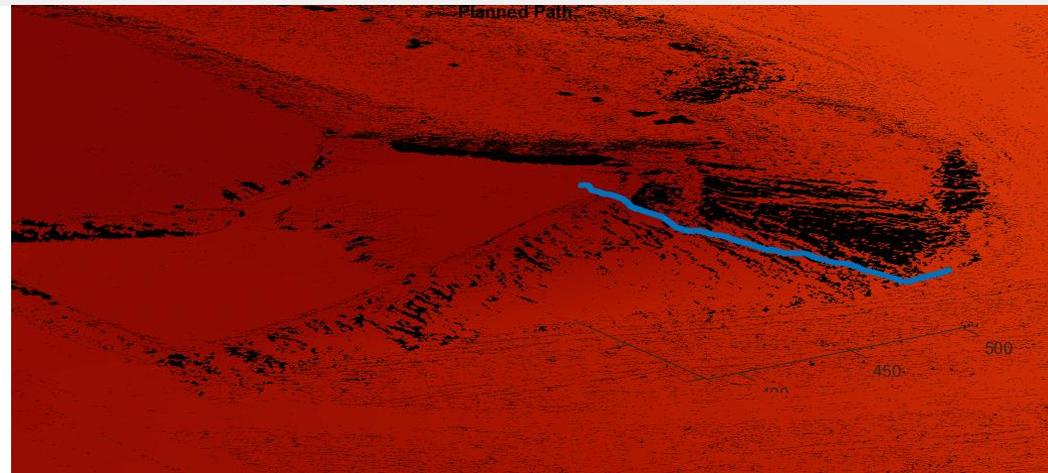
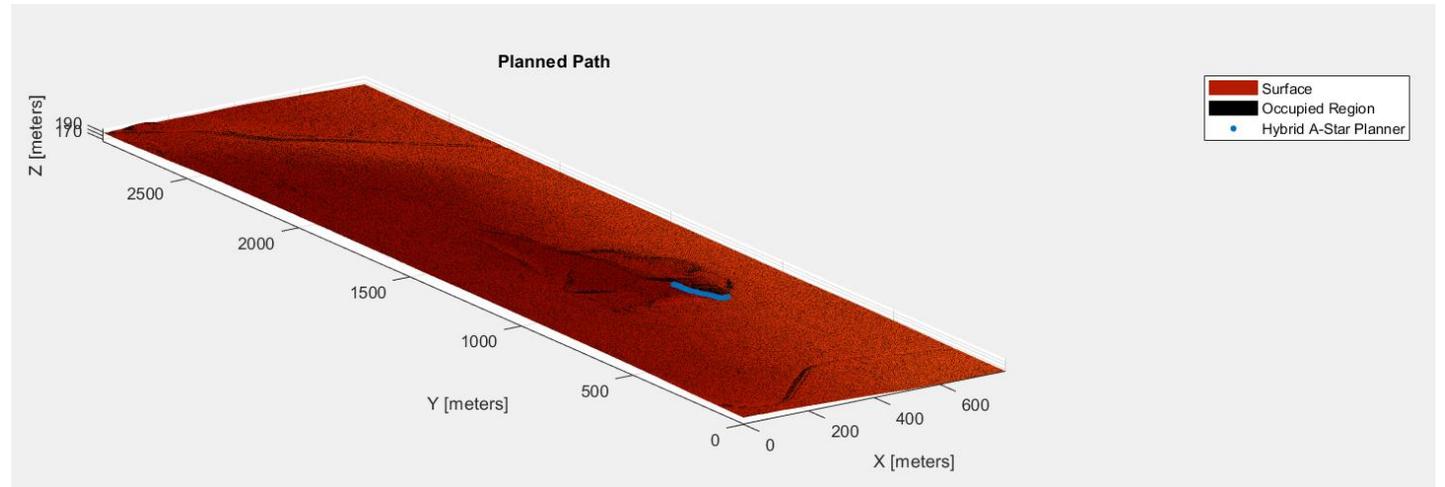
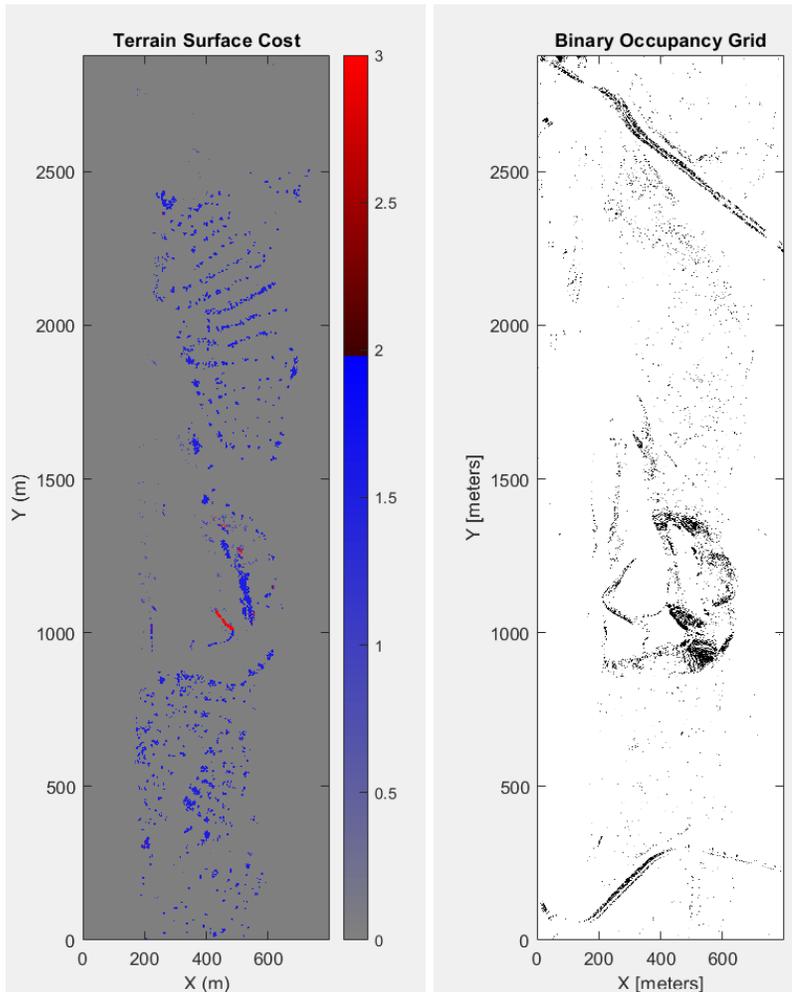
# ➤ Preliminary results for CCM route planning

- Most data and corresponding weights required are available



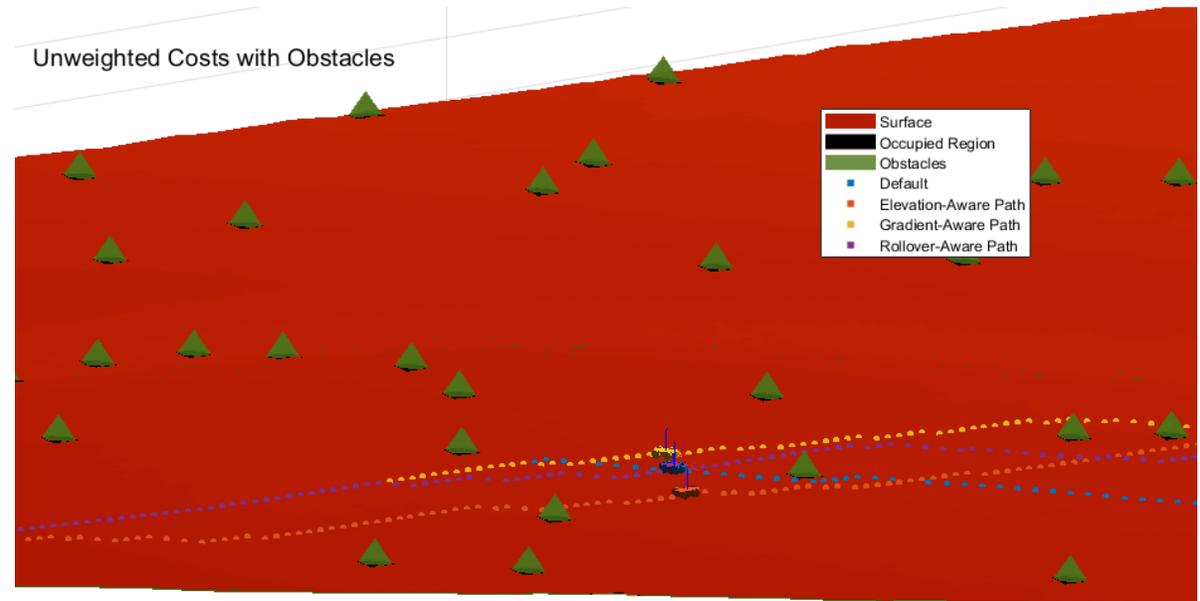
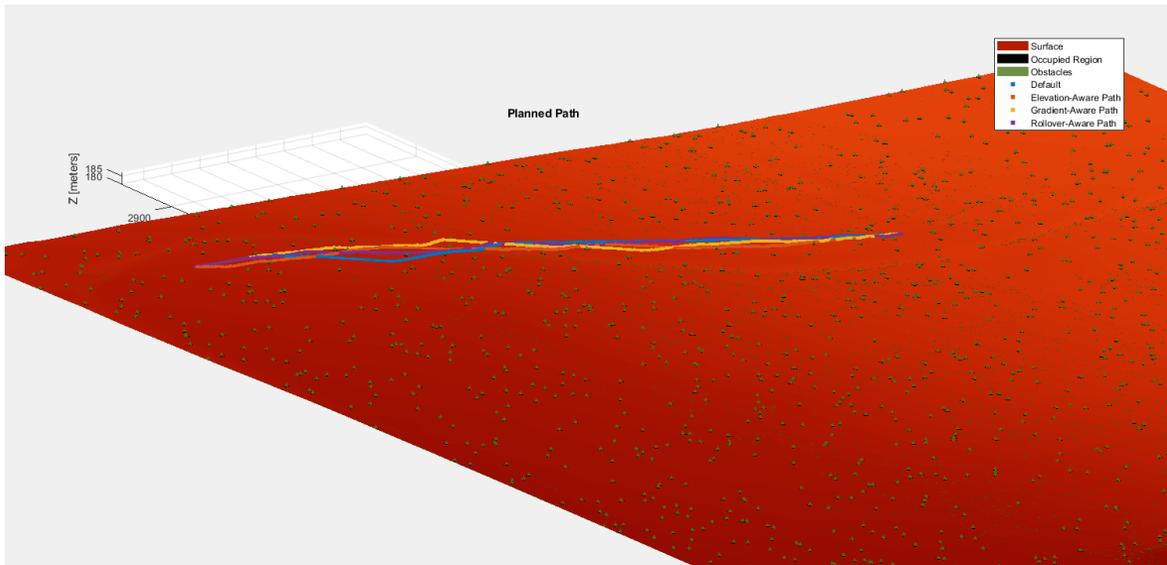
# ➤ Preliminary results for route planning

- Hybrid A-start algorithm for trajectory planning (D. Dolgov et. al. Darpa Urban Challenge)



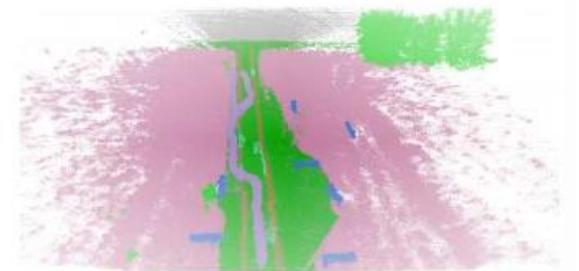
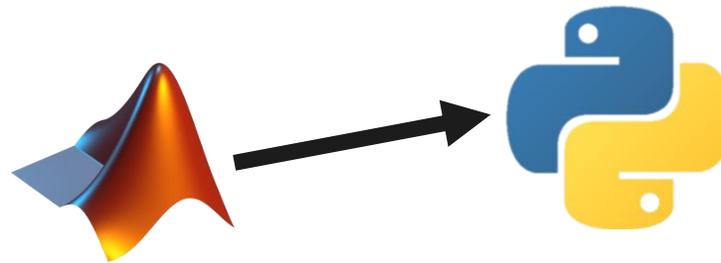
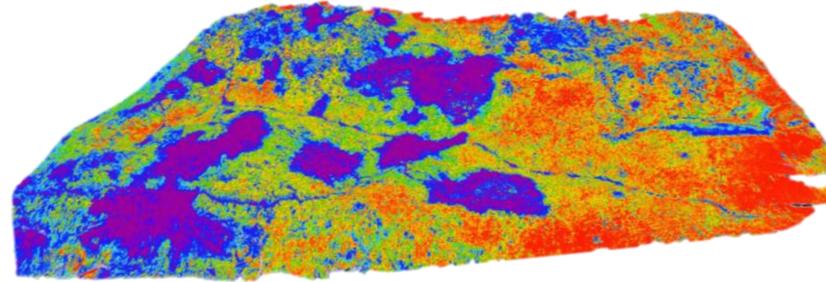
## ➤ Examples

- Different weights and vehicle parameters lead to (slightly) different routes



## ➤ Future plans

- Real-time UAV-UGV cooperation
- Point cloud processing
  - ML-based object detection
  - Change detection
  - Updating map
- Other layers
  - From multispectral data
- Connection between layers
  - Based on vehicle parameters
  - Cost functions
- Automated processing
  - In Python environment



Source: <https://github.com/unmannedlab/RELLIS-3D>



Q&A.

---



# Used materials

- Badora, D., Wawer, D. 2022. Effect of DTM resolution on the determination of slope values in an upland catchment using different computational algorithms. Polish Journal of Agronomy 2022, 51, 11-32. <https://doi.org/10.26114/pja.iung.460.2022.51.02>
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- M. Rybansky et al.: Environ Earth Sci (2015) 74:7049–7058
- Rybansky, M. 2003. Effect of the geographic factors on the cross country movement. Proceedings of the 21st International Cartographic Conference (ICC). [https://icaci.org/files/documents/ICC\\_proceedings/ICC2003/Papers/525.pdf](https://icaci.org/files/documents/ICC_proceedings/ICC2003/Papers/525.pdf)
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