



# Earth Observation & Weather Data Federation With AI Embeddings



**EUSPA AI week 2026**

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IBM Research Europe



# Data Gravity in Earth & Weather Data

**10 years**

Global flood mapping with Sentinel-1&2.

**22PB**

Data volume per modality.

**eGres  
\$8Mio**

... and 520 days download time at 10Gbit/s.

**Compute  
\$280k**

... for TerraMind on A100 requires 3'000 GPU/days.

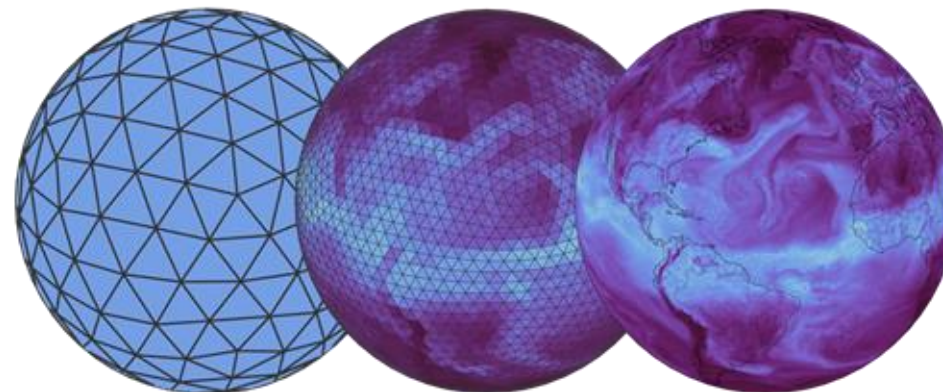


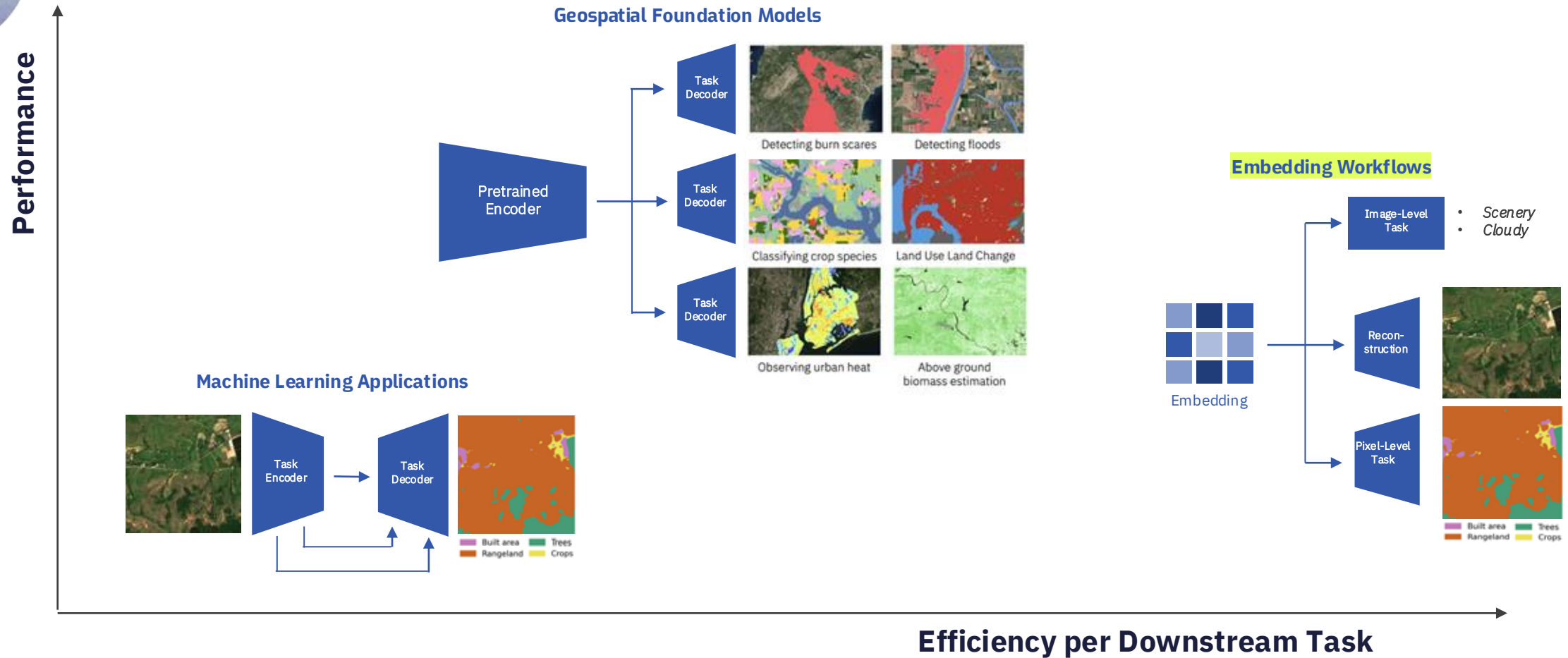
Image source: <https://easy.gems.dkrz.de/>



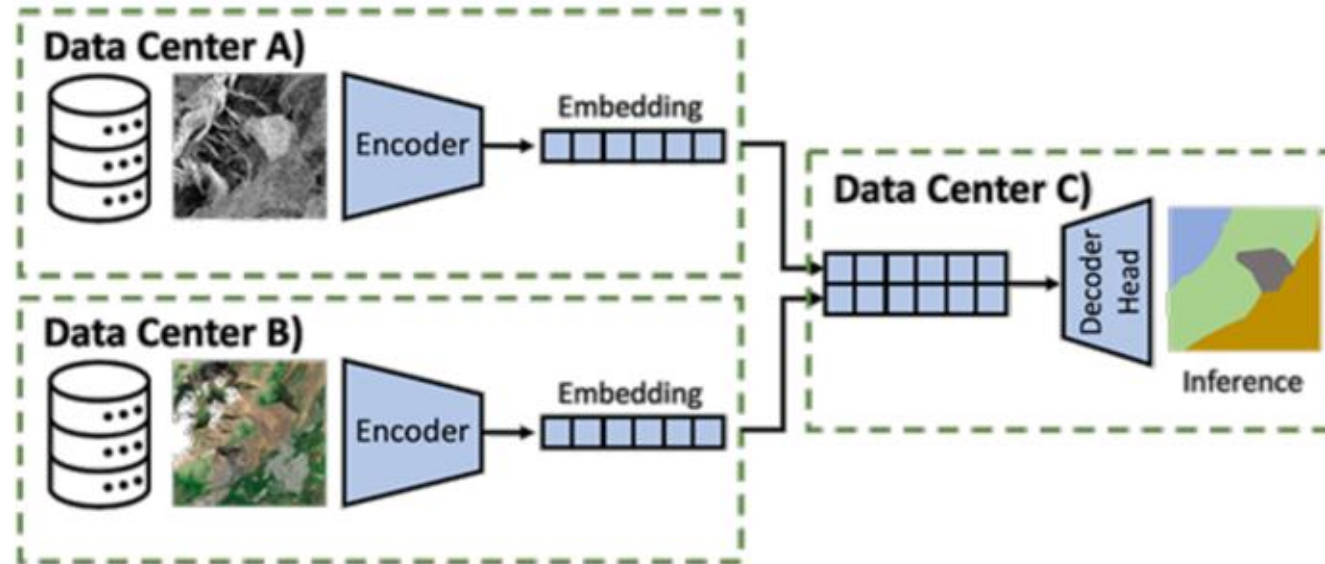
**Data archive reaches one exabyte**

ECMWF Annual Report 2024

# Evolution of AI in Earth Observation



# Embedding Federation



## Embed2Store

Computer once,  
request many times

## Embed2Infer

Light-weight decoders  
and reduced compute

## Embed2Transfer

Decentralised  
applications

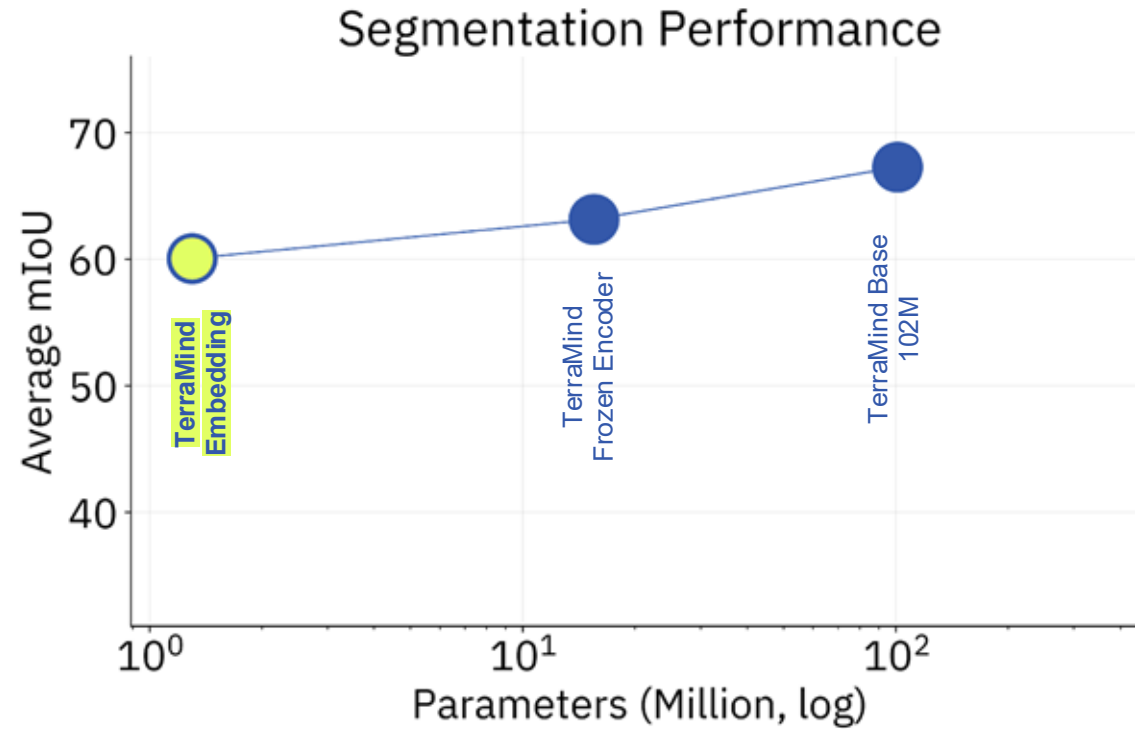
## Embed2Find

Image retrieval from  
petabyte scale data

# Meet the **E2S** EMBED 2SCALE Consortium



# Performance of Embedding Workflows



*Average over 3 Segmentation Task: HLS Burnscars, Sentinel-2 Scene Classification Layer, FLAIR2*

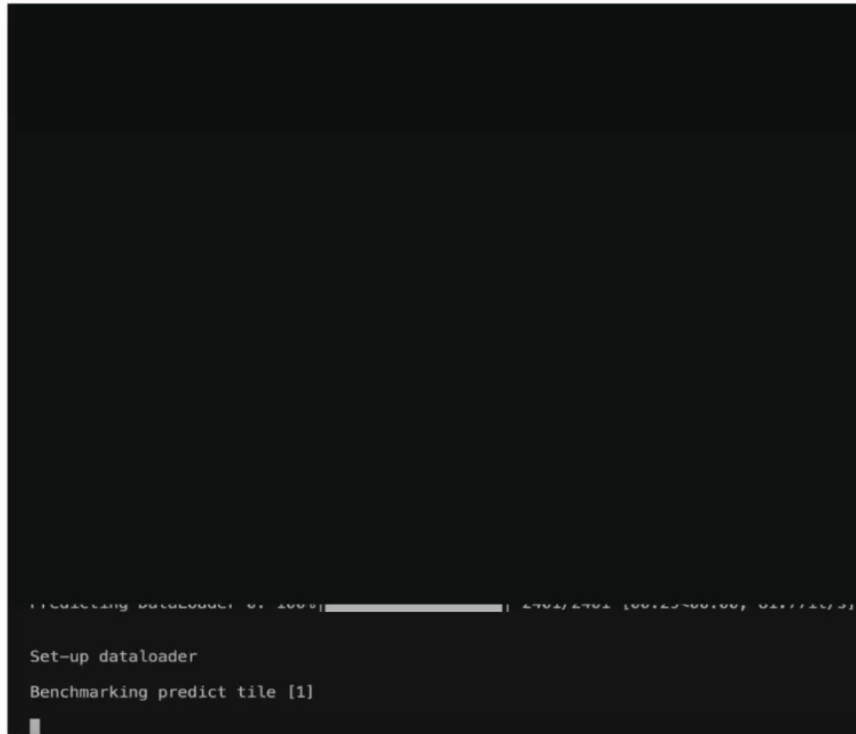
Embeddings need

- **200x fewer** modelling parameters
- **4x smaller** data size



# Inference Speed-Up of Embedding Workflows

## Embedding Workflow

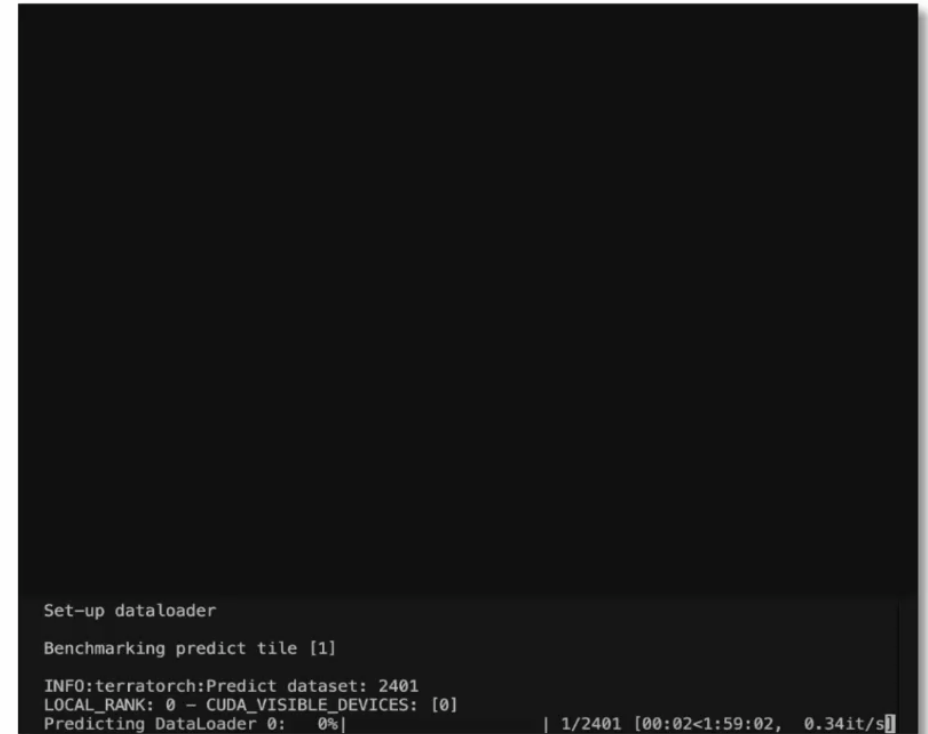


A terminal window showing the execution of an embedding workflow. The output is mostly blacked out, but the bottom section is visible, showing the following text:

```
Predicting DataLoader 0: 100% | 2704/2704 [00:00:00.00, 0.44it/s]  
Set-up dataloader  
Benchmarking predict tile [1]
```

1 Tile Inference in 22s

## Foundation Model Workflow



A terminal window showing the execution of a foundation model workflow. The output is mostly blacked out, but the bottom section is visible, showing the following text:

```
Set-up dataloader  
Benchmarking predict tile [1]  
INFO:terratorch:Predict dataset: 2401  
LOCAL_RANK: 0 - CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES: [0]  
Predicting DataLoader 0: 0% | 1/2401 [00:02<1:59:02, 0.34it/s]
```

1 Tile Inference in 6min

*On a A100 GPU, embeddings and raw images are both read in as single file tiffs*

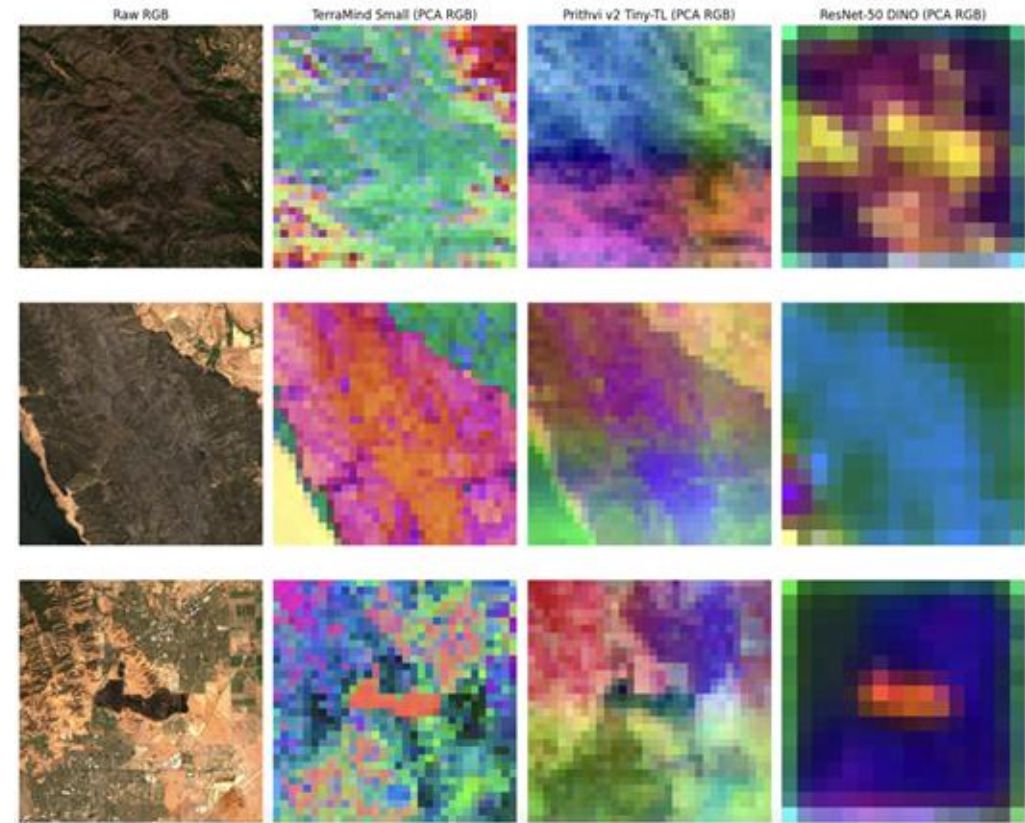
# TerraTorch Extension for Embedding Workflows

## No-/Low-Code Embedding Generation

```
model = terratorch.tasks.EmbeddingGenerationTask(  
    model='prithvi_eo_v2_300',  
    model_args={},  
  
    output_format='tiff',  
    output_dir=dataset_path / 'embeddings/',  
  
    layers=[-1],  
    embedding_pooling=None,  
    has_cls=True  
)  
trainer = pl.Trainer(  
    accelerator="auto",  
    strategy="auto",  
    max_epochs=0  
)  
  
# Generate Embeddings  
trainer.predict(model, datamodule=datamodule)
```

[26]

## PCA Embeddings of Different Backbones



<https://github.com/terrastackai/terratorch/tree/main/examples>



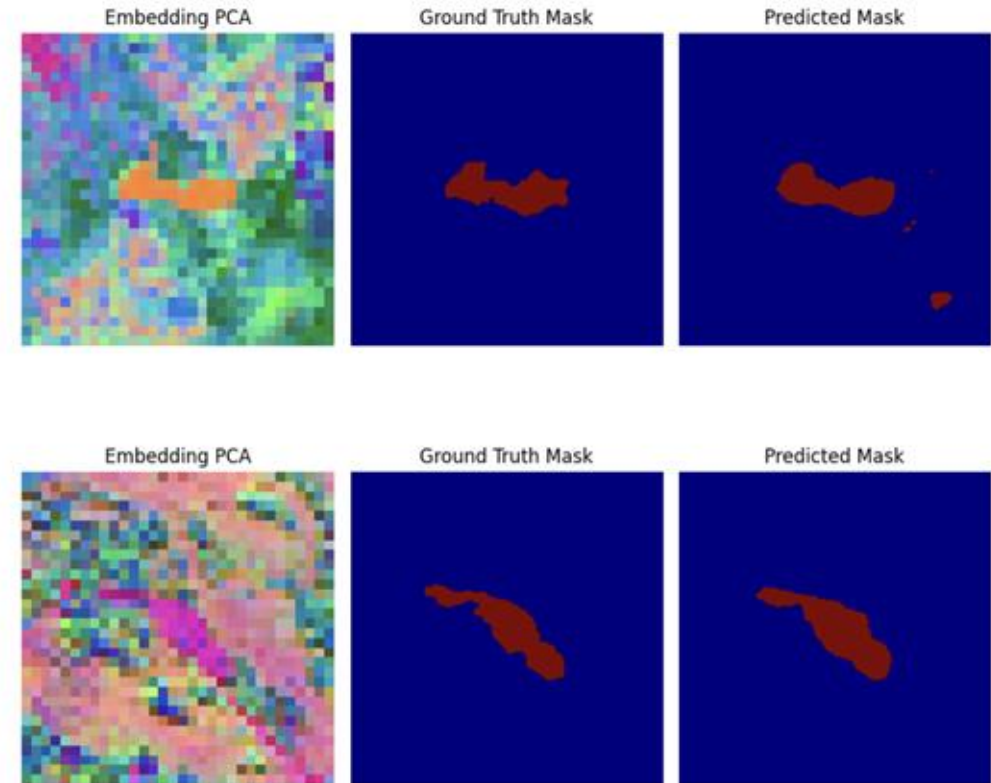
# TerraTorch Extension for Embedding Workflows

## Embedding Downstream Tasks

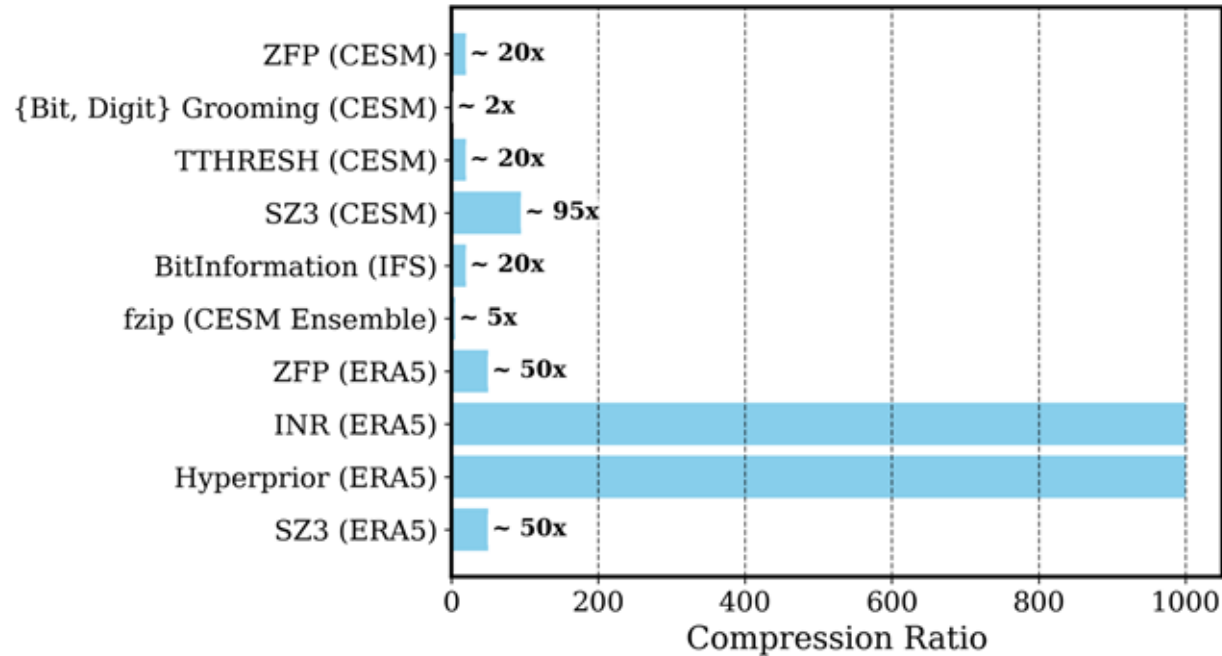
```
model = terratorch.tasks.SemanticSegmentationTask(  
    model_factory="EncoderDecoderFactory",  
    model_args={  
        "backbone": "IdentityBackbone",  
        "backbone_out_channels": [768],  
        "necks": [  
            {...}  
        ],  
        "decoder": "FCNDecoder",  
        "decoder_channels": 128,  
        "head_dropout": 0.1,  
        "head_channel_list": [128],  
        "num_classes": 2,  
    },  
  
    loss="ce",  
    optimizer="AdamW",  
    lr=1e-4,  
    freeze_decoder=False,  
    class_names=['no burned', 'burned'])
```

[119]

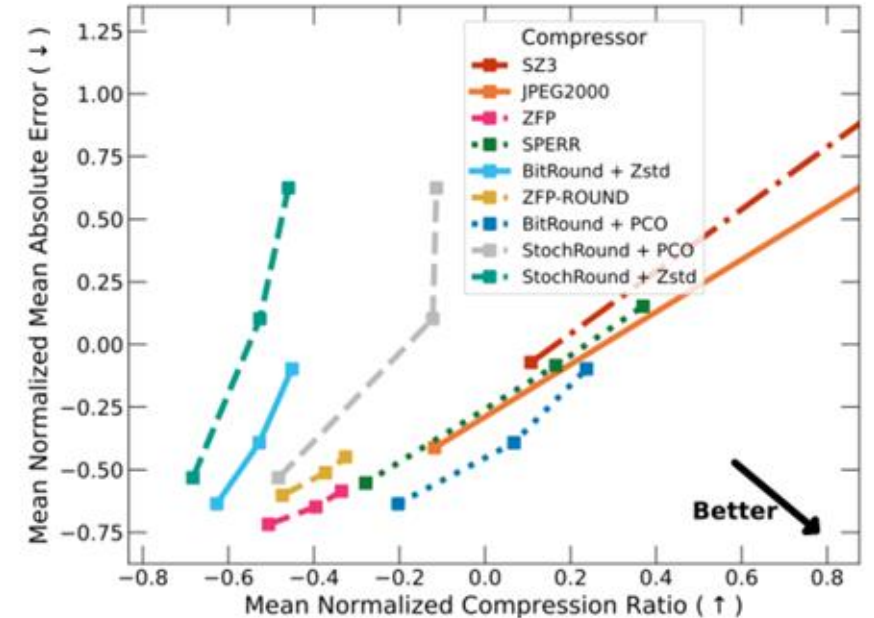
## Prediction Performance after Two Epoch Training



# ClimateBenchPress for Weather and Climate Models



Compression ratios, variables, error thresholds  
and data **varies** in published literature



<https://github.com/climatebenchpress>

# NeuCo-Bench: Benchmarking Earth Observation Embeddings



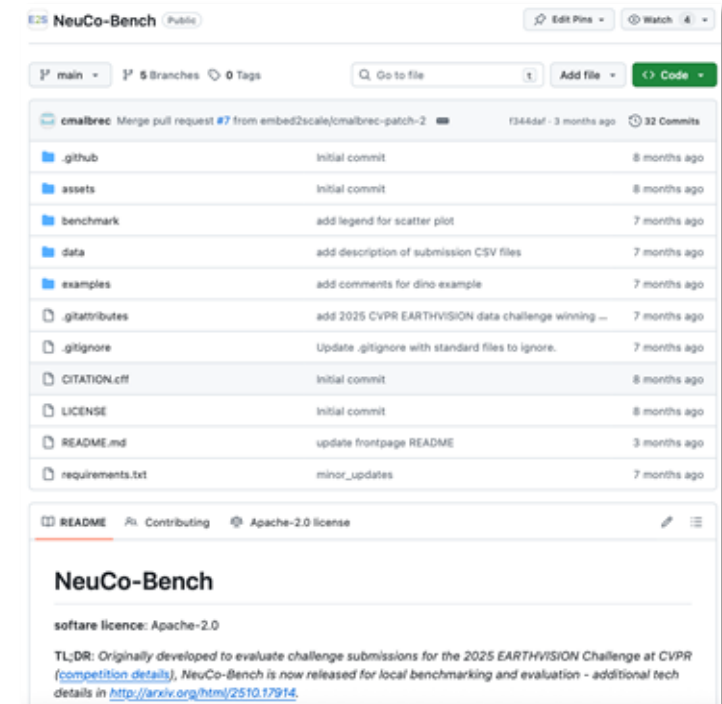
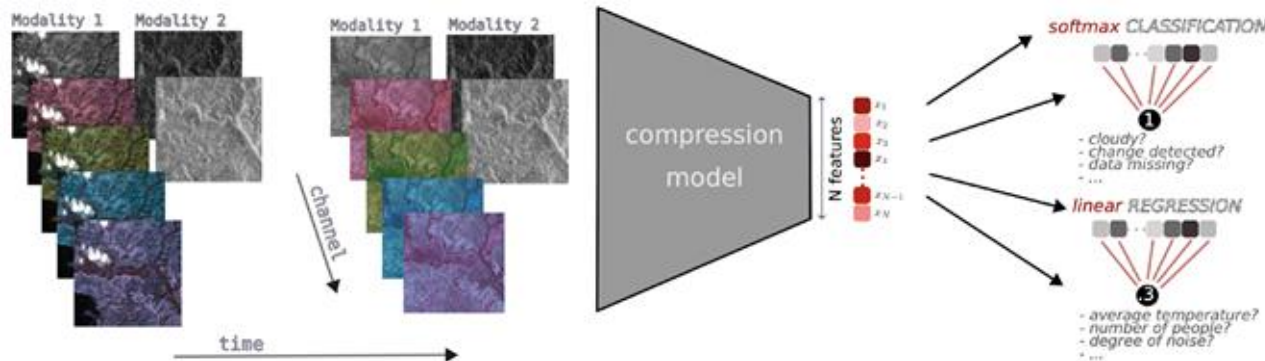
Participant Teams

23

Total Submissions

465

~7000x  
compression



<https://github.com/embed2scale/NeuCo-Bench>

# Earth2Vec Community



IBM Research Europe



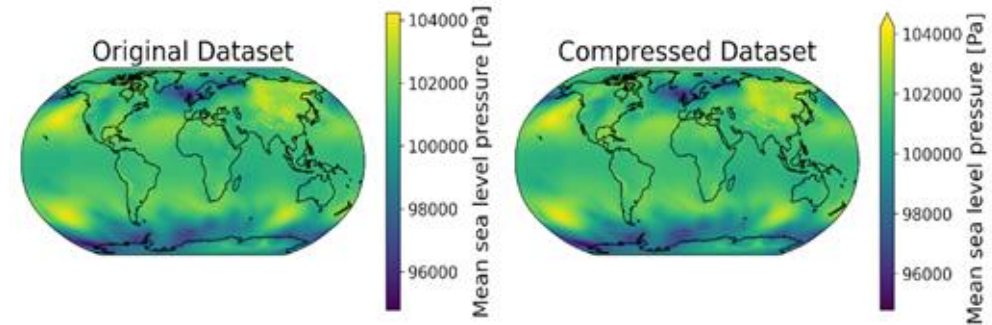


# Outlook Embedding Use Cases



## Above Ground Biomass

Embedding Upsampling for Dense Predictions



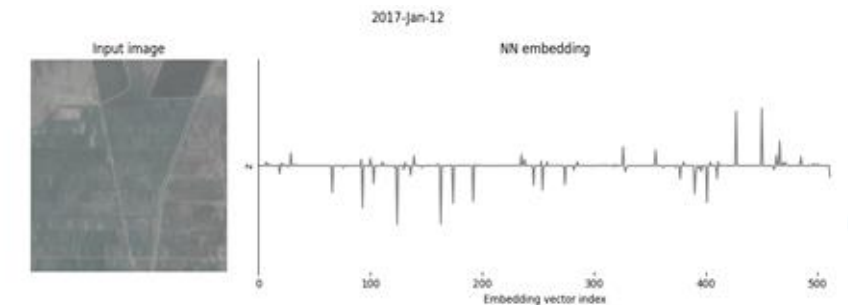
## Climate and Air Pollution Prediction

Next-Gen Climate Model Evaluations in Embedding Spaces



## Maritime Awareness

Compressed SAR Data Vessel Detection



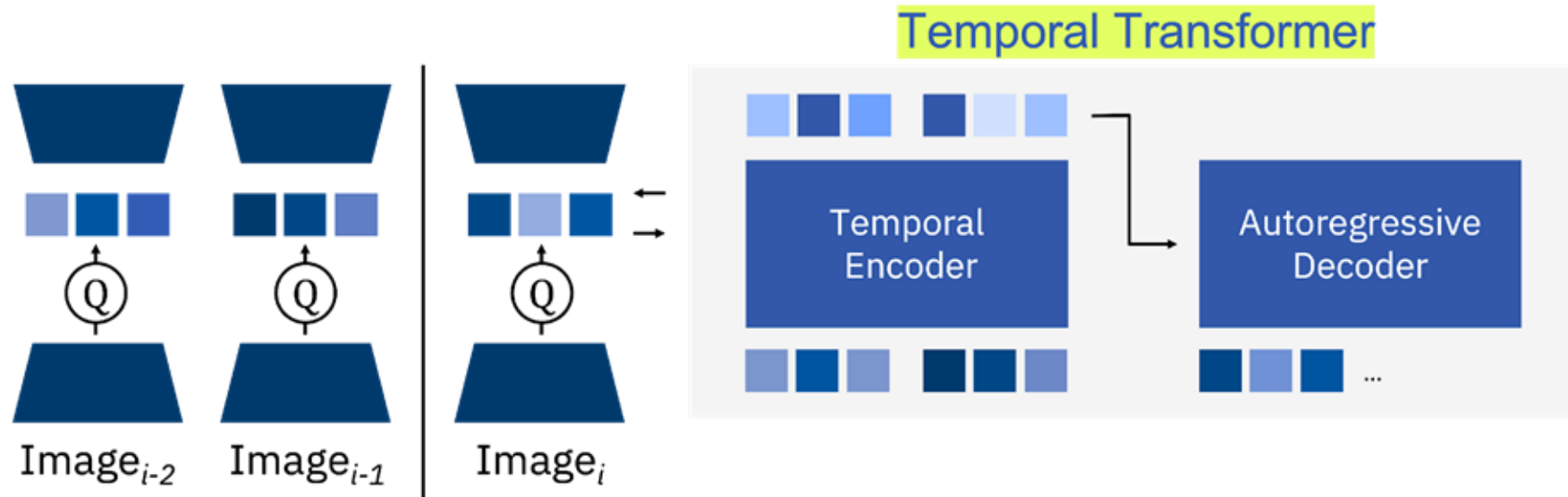
Credit: <https://element84.co/machine-learning/exploring-unsupervised-change-detection-with-sentinel-2-vector-embeddings/>

## Crop Stress and Yield Prediction

TerraMind Embeddings for CDSE



# Outlook Learned Temporal Compression for EO



## TerraCodec Release:

First public neural codecs pretrained **on multi-spectral & multi-temporal** Sentinel-2 data.

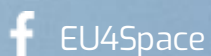
#EUSpace



Linking space to user needs

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# EUSPA AI WEEK 2026

E2S EMBED  
2SCALE



## Lossy Neural Compression for Geospatial Analytics

*A review*

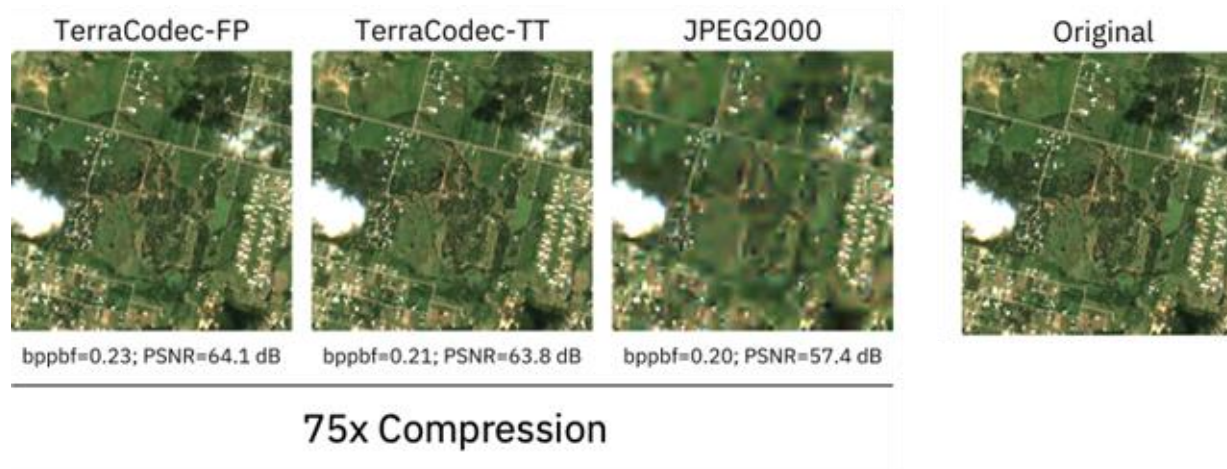
CARLOS GOMES<sup>①</sup>, ISABELLE WITTMANN<sup>②</sup>, DAMIEN ROBERT<sup>③</sup>, JOHANNES JAKUBIK<sup>④</sup>,  
TIM REICHEL<sup>⑤</sup>, STEFANO MAUROGIOVANNI<sup>⑥</sup>, RIKARD VINGE<sup>⑦</sup>, JONAS HURST<sup>⑧</sup>,  
ERIK SCHEURER<sup>⑨</sup>, ROCCO SEDONA<sup>⑩</sup>, THOMAS BRUNSCHWILER<sup>⑪</sup>, STEFAN KESSELHEIM<sup>⑫</sup>,  
MATEJ BATIČ<sup>⑬</sup>, PHILIP STIER<sup>⑭</sup>, JAN DIRK WEGNER<sup>⑮</sup>, GABRIELE CAVALLARO<sup>⑯</sup>, EDZER PEBESMA<sup>⑰</sup>,  
MICHAEL MARZALEK<sup>⑱</sup>, MIGUEL A. BELENGUER-PLOMER<sup>⑲</sup>, KENNEDY ADRIKO<sup>⑳</sup>,  
PAOLO FRACCARO<sup>㉑</sup>, ROMEO KIENZLER<sup>㉒</sup>, RANIA BRIQ<sup>㉓</sup>, SABRINA BENASSOU<sup>㉔</sup>,  
MICHELE LAZZARINI<sup>㉕</sup>, AND CONRAD M. ALBRECHT<sup>㉖</sup>

Published in *IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Magazine*, 2025

# Outlook TerraCodec Results

3-10x lower bitrate at equal image quality

Up to 380× compression with  
<1pp drop in task performance

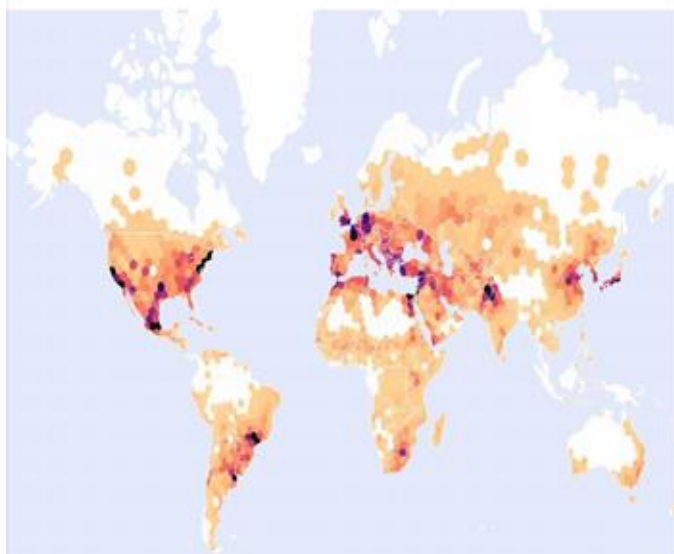


Compression	Sen1Floods11	
	mIoU	IoU <sub>Flood</sub>
Original data	87.77	78.75
170×	87.31 (-0.46)	78.02 (-0.73)
380×	87.27 (-0.50)	77.97 (-0.78)
940×	86.76 (-1.01)	77.06 (-1.69)

# Embed2Scale Datasets

## SSL4EO-S12 v1.1

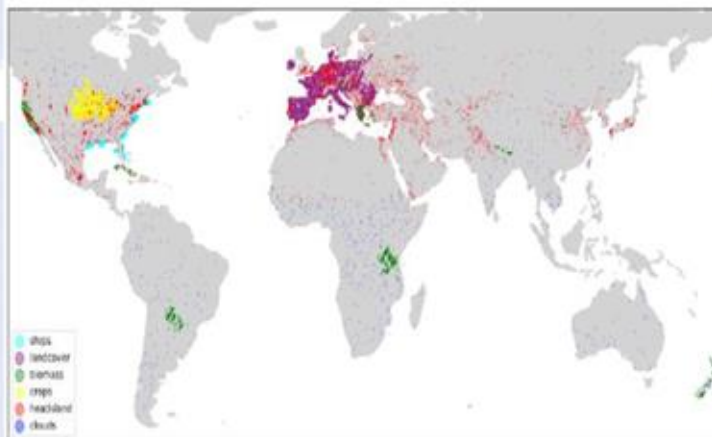
an update with bugs fixed, served in >2GB of cloud-computing-ready ZARR format with integration into *TerraTorch*



<https://github.com/DLR-MF-DAS/SSL4EO-S12-v1.1>

## SSL4EO-S12-downstream

200GB of SSL4EO-S12 data labeled for a diverse set of classification and regression tasks relevant to WP4



<https://huggingface.co/datasets/embed2scale/SSL4EO-S12-downstream>

## SSL4Eco

200GB of SSL4EO-S12 data labeled for a diverse set of classification and regression tasks relevant to WP4



<https://github.com/PlekhanovaElena/ssl4eco>



# Open-Source Model Zoo

- **GeoFE** (CVPR data challenge winner) <https://github.com/torchgeo/torchgeo/pull/2868>
- **FMFuse** (CVPR data challenge runner-up) <https://github.com/KerekesDavid/embed2scale-solution>
- **Temp-MOSAICS** (CVPR data challenge) <https://github.com/isaaccorley/temporal-mosaiks>
- **SeCo-Eco** (SSL4Eco top model) <https://github.com/PlekhanovaElena/ssl4eco>
- **GSR4B** (biomass super-resolution) <https://github.com/kaankaramanofficial/GSR4B>
- **GSQ4EO** (in-house ViT tokenizer) <https://github.com/embed2scale/GSQ4EO>
- **S2-JEPA** (in-house, I-JEPA for Sentinel-2) *to be open-sourced*
- **TerraCodec** (in-house timeseries compression) *to be open-sourced*



# Crop Stress and Yield Prediction

- Use county-level mean embeddings for the yield prediction (regression task).
- Baseline model used multimodality, so unfair comparison with Clay and Prithvi.
- However, we see comparable performance with AlphaEarth embeddings.

