

ROBFORISK, Robot assistance for characterizing entomological risk in forests under climate constraints

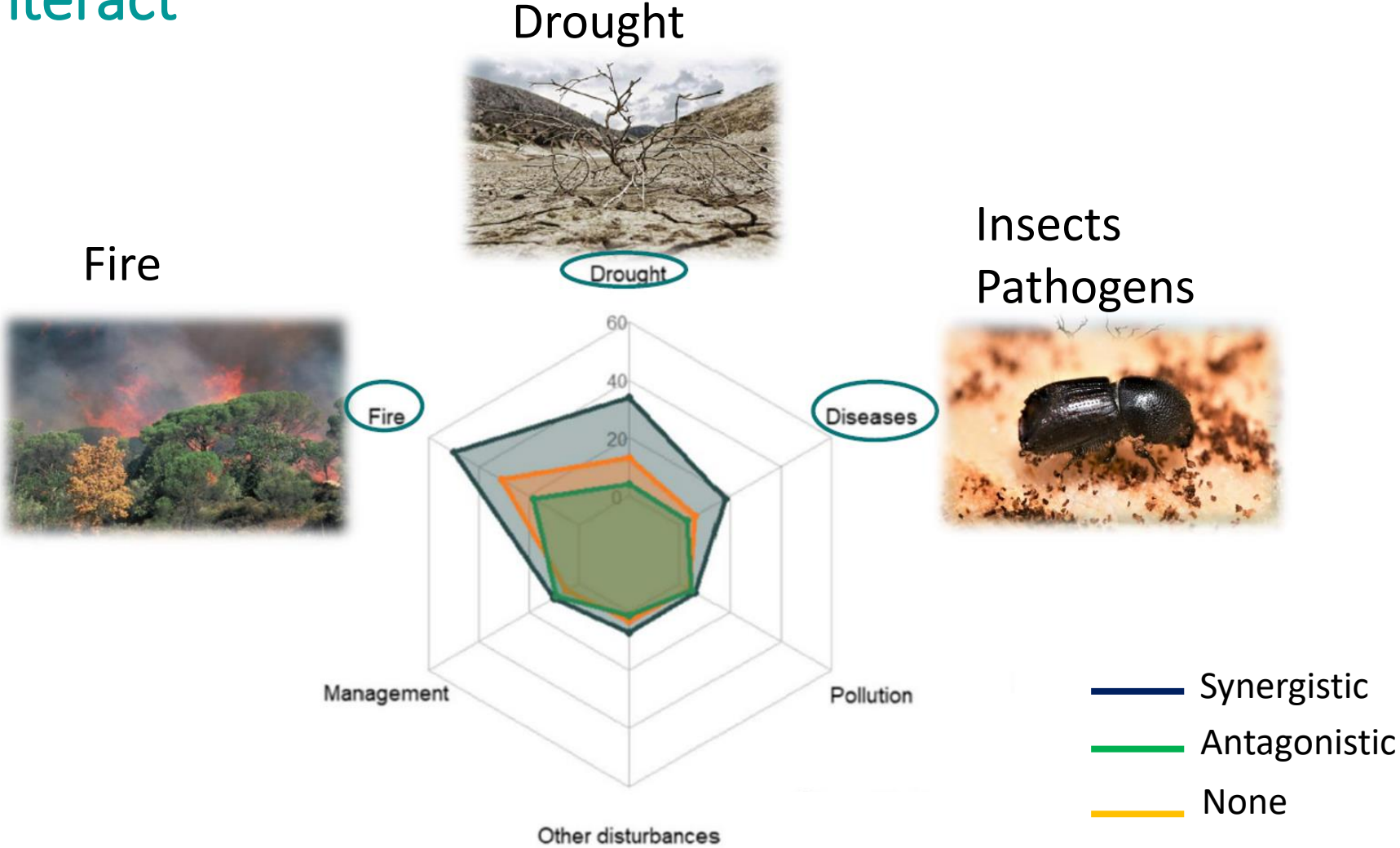
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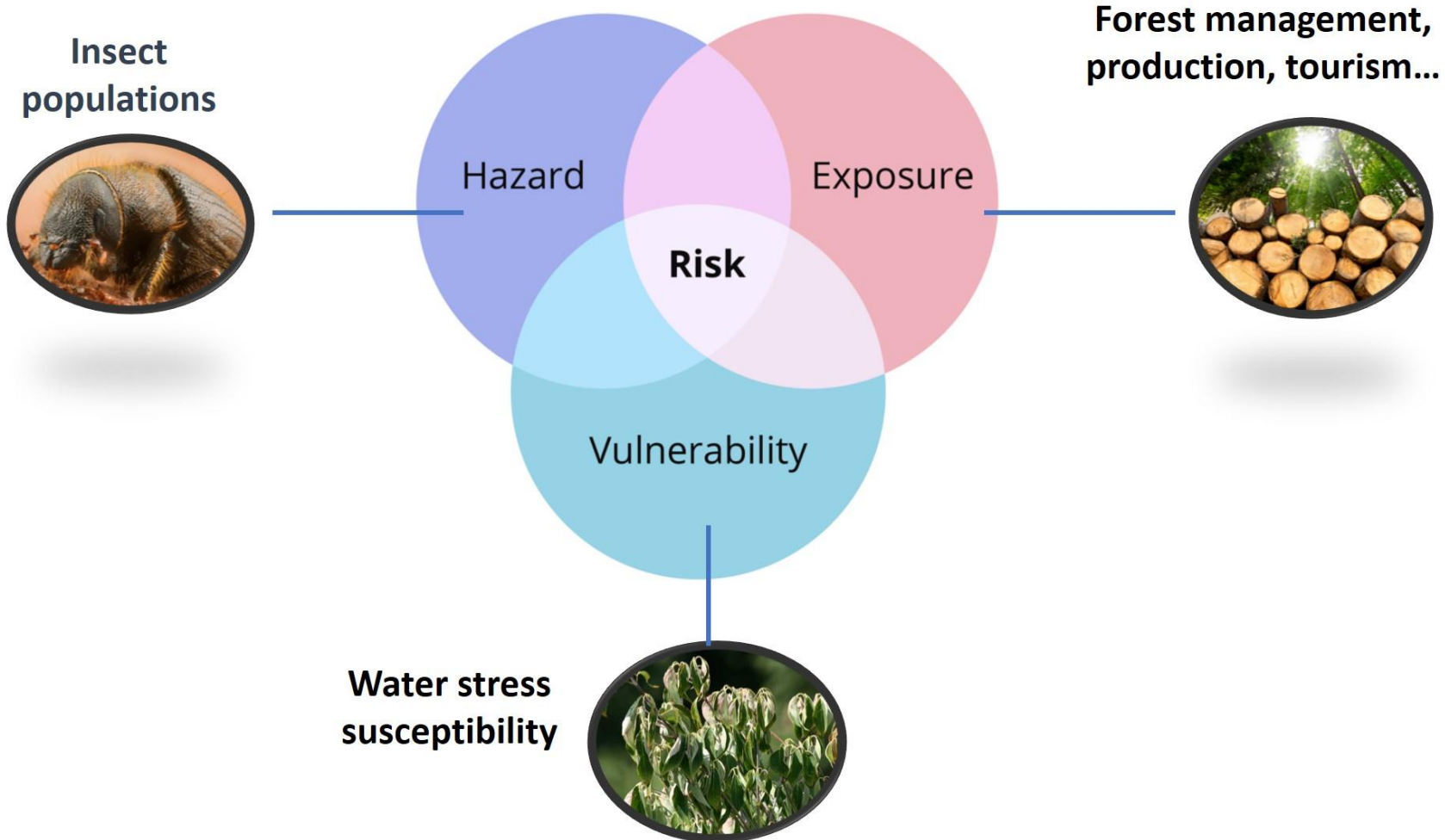
Forests, insects and climate change

Disturbances likely interact

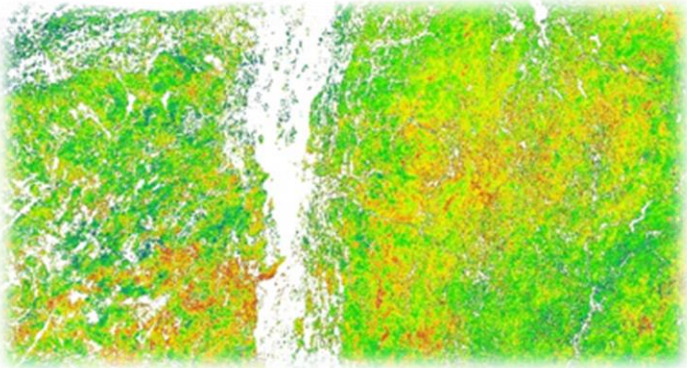


What is entomological risk in forests?

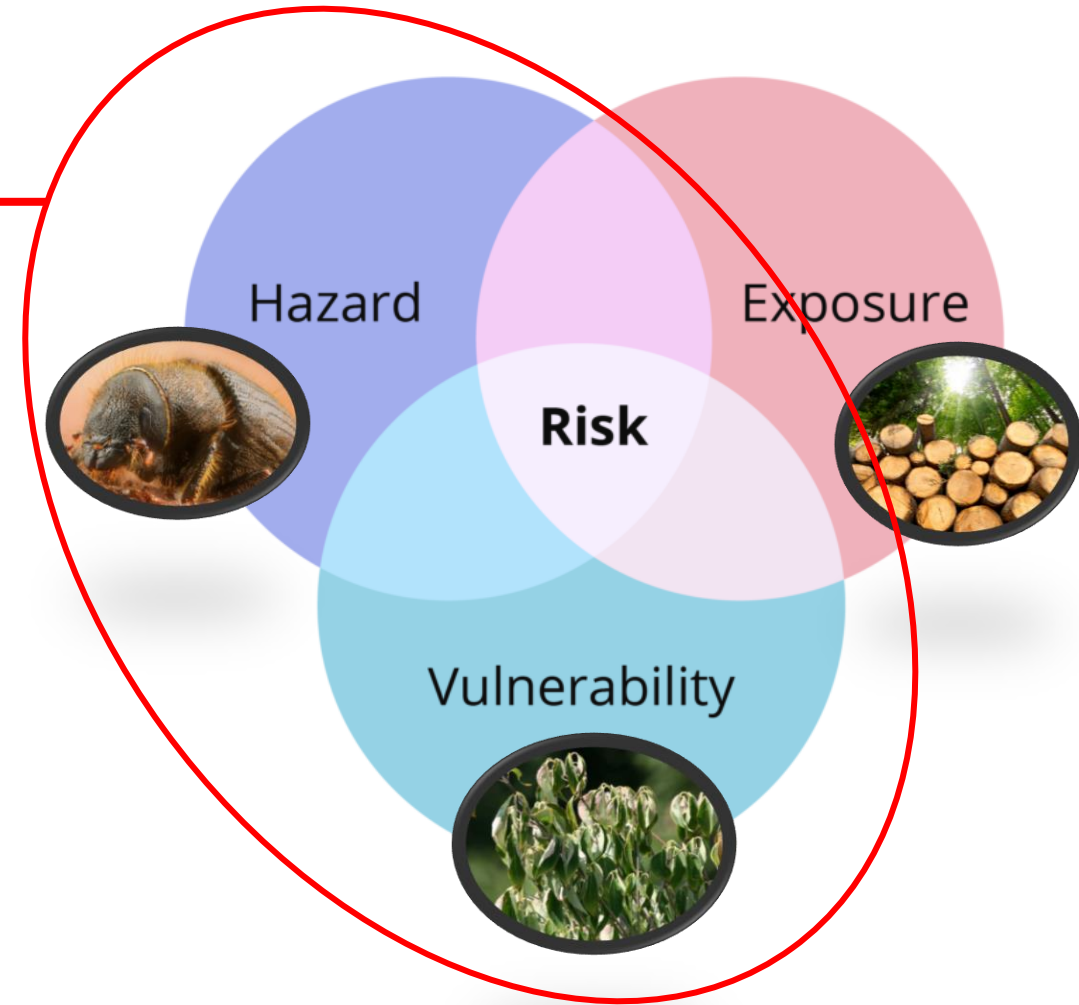
RISK = Hazard x Vulnerability x Exposure



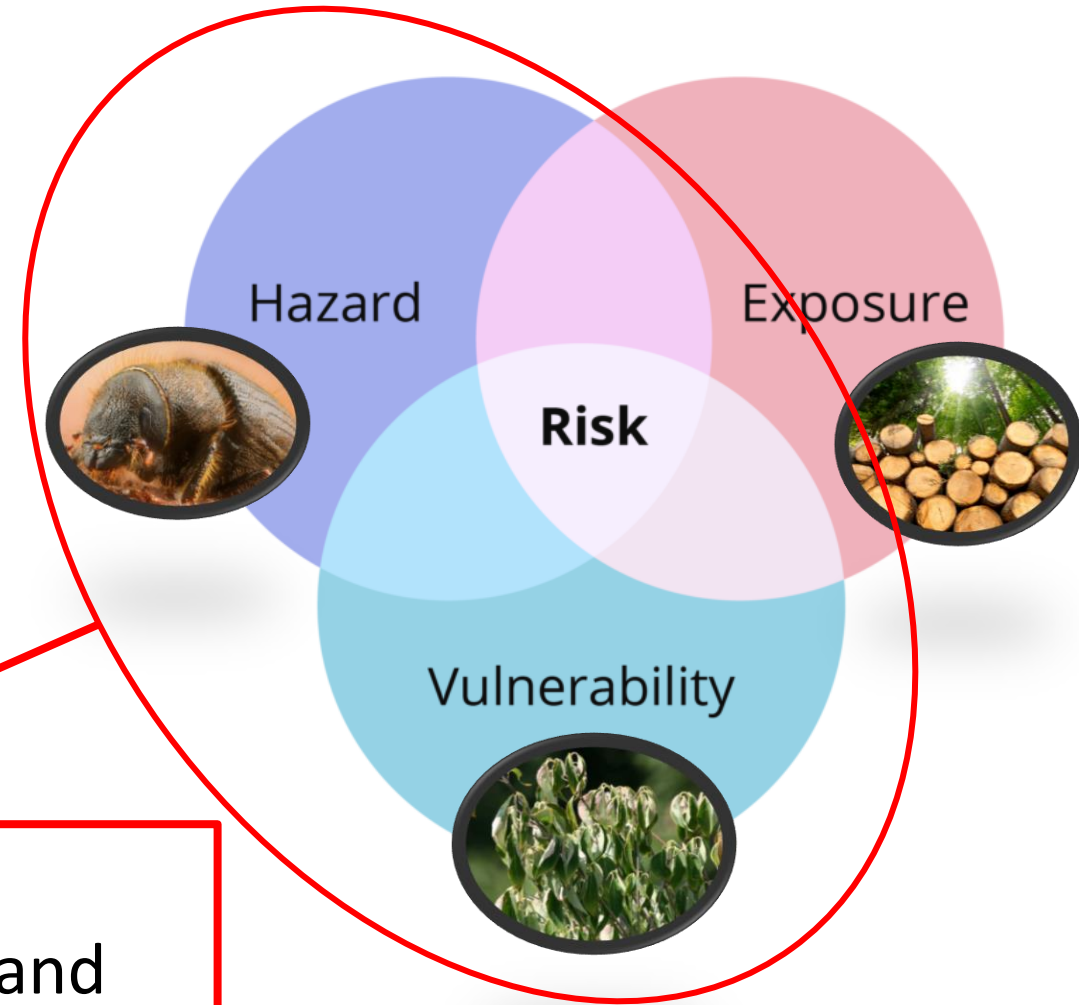
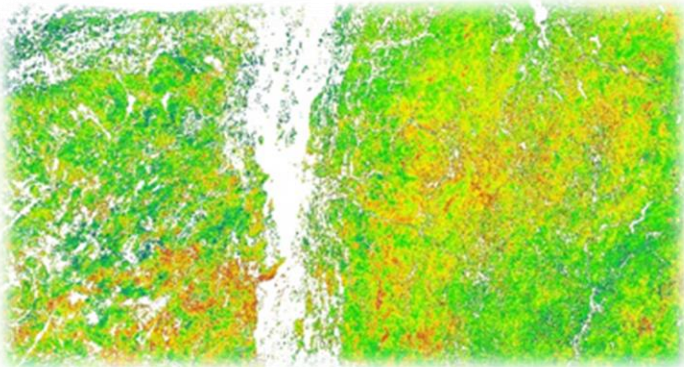
Characterizing entomological risk in forests



- Visual observations, remote sensing
 - Most of the damage already occurred
- = a constraint on forecasting entomological risk**



Characterizing entomological risk in forests



Expected progress

= early indicators of tree responses to biotic and abiotic stressors (individual and population scales)

Characterizing entomological risk in forests

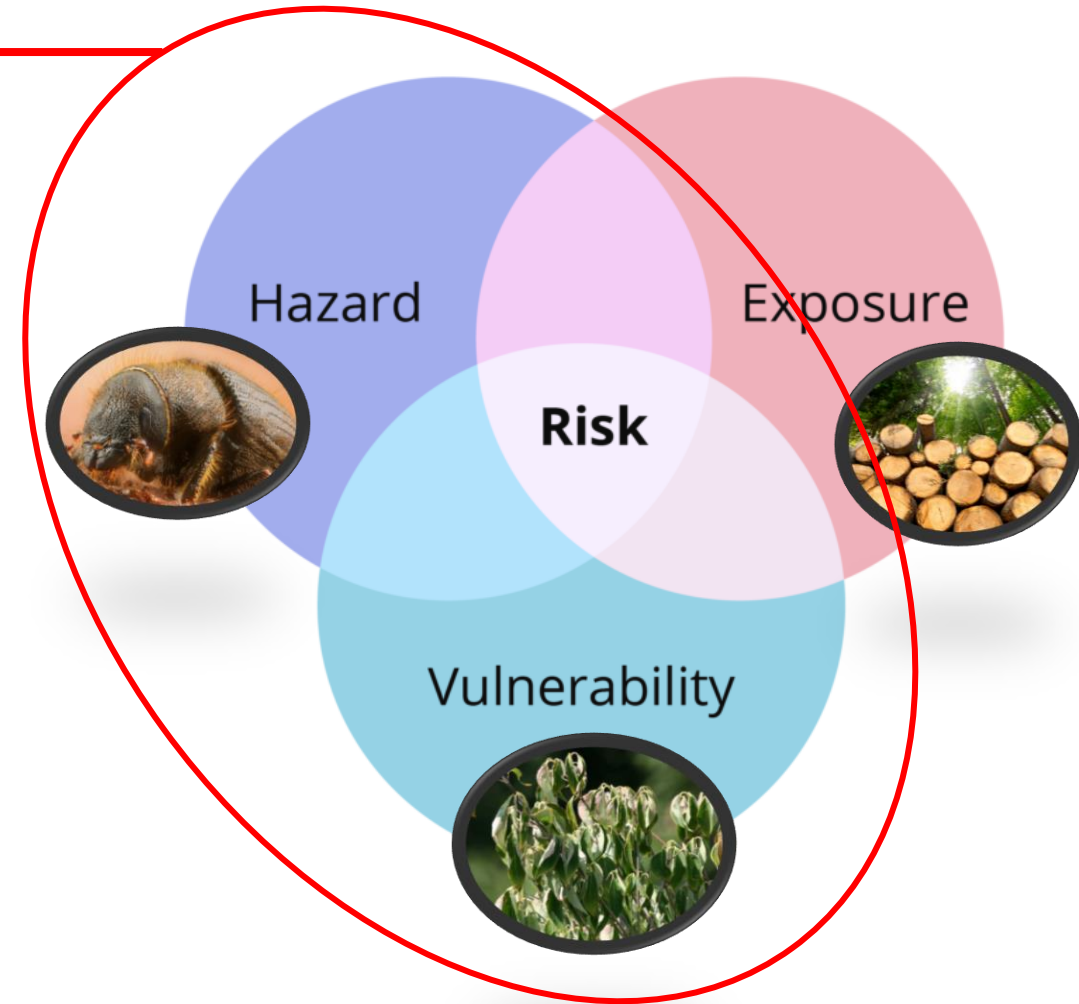
ROBFORISK

1. Improved knowledge of pre-determinants of insect hazard and tree vulnerability

→ *new indicators (multispectral imagery & chemistry)*

2. Novel technology for in situ spatial and temporal measurements

→ *On-board sensors for drones*

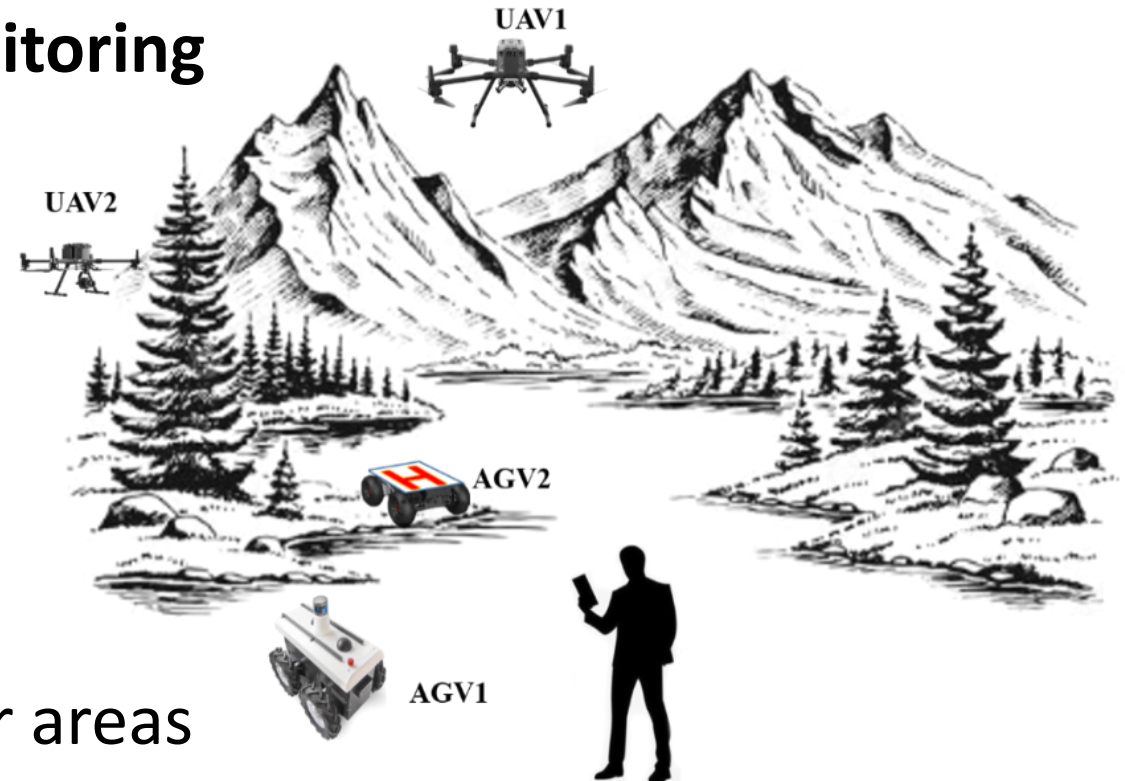


The ROBFORISK objectives

Robot assistance for forest health monitoring

- Targeted information collection
- High spatial resolution
- Time optimization

➔ lower monitoring costs across larger areas



Scientific challenges

Increasingly developing in agricultural crops, a gap of knowledge in forests

CHALLENGE #1

Functional links between multispectral/chemical characteristics and tree response to stress?

Can we measure them?



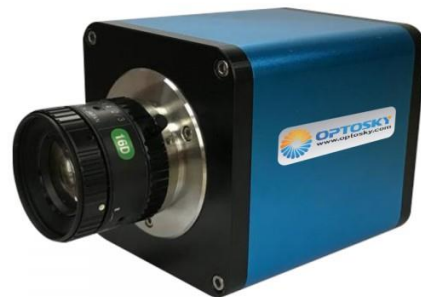
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CHALLENGE #1

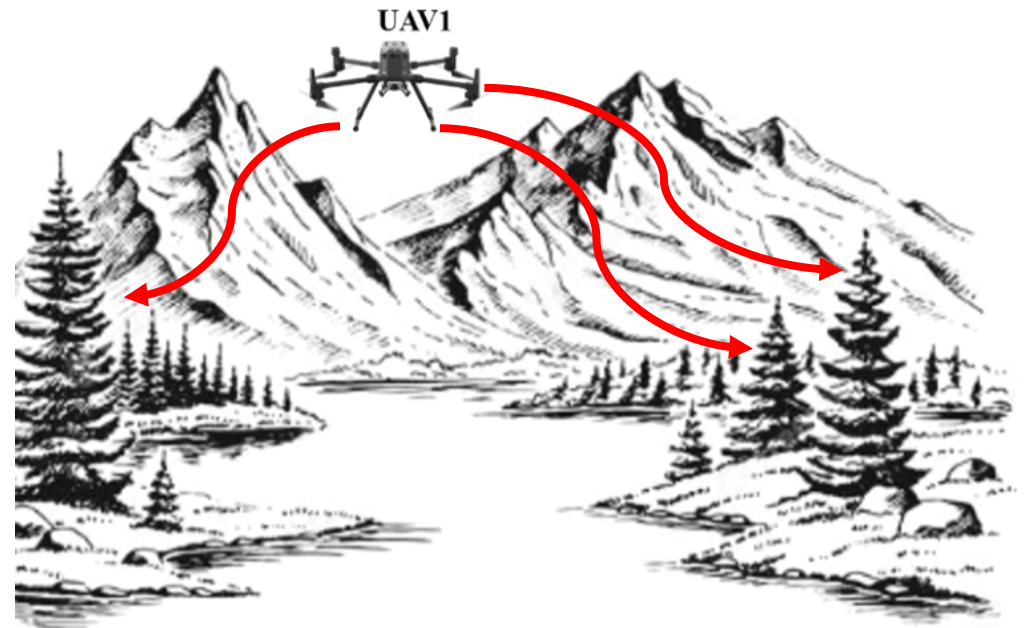
Functional links between multispectral/chemical characteristics and tree response to stress?

Can we measure them?



CHALLENGE #2

Automated positioning tasks using information from a multispectral camera is groundbreaking



Model system

Silver fir (*Abies alba*) dieback in Région Sud (France)

- Dieback dynamics since 2017
- Concomitant drought episodes and forest insect outbreaks: *Epinotia subsequana* (Lepidoptera)
- Individual and stand scales of damage
- Regional expansion



Epinotia subsequana



Research axes & INRAE - *Inria* complementarity

1. Functional links between water stress, *Epinotia* attacks and Silver fir physiology

Experiment in progress (March-July 2023)
under controlled conditions:

Watered trees, water-stressed trees

→ No insects, Insects attacks

Effects of drought, of insects, and of [drought x insects]

Insect performance, leaf metabolomics



Research axes & INRAE - *Inria* complementarity

2. Measures of tree response to stressors with a multispectral camera

- From the controlled experiment (July 2023)
- To field conditions on stressed and non-stressed trees (Sept-Nov 2023)

SHARED INRAE-Inria engineer (2 years)

- Multispectral camera
- Detection and annotation algorithms for critical captured informations



Research axes & **INRAE** - *Inria* complementarity

3. Robotics using multispectral camera and UAVs

Multispectral data

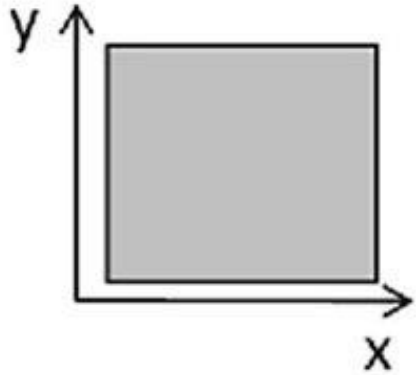
Visual servoing

3D reconstruction Géoréférencement

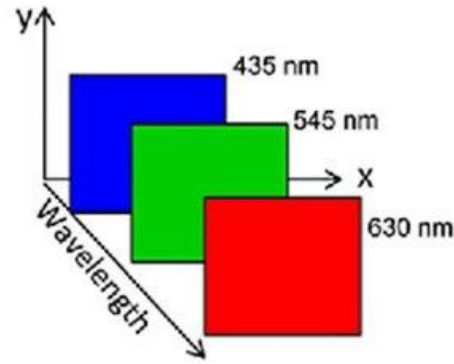
Takeoff/Landing/recharging Autonomously

Research axes & INRAE - *Inria* complementarity

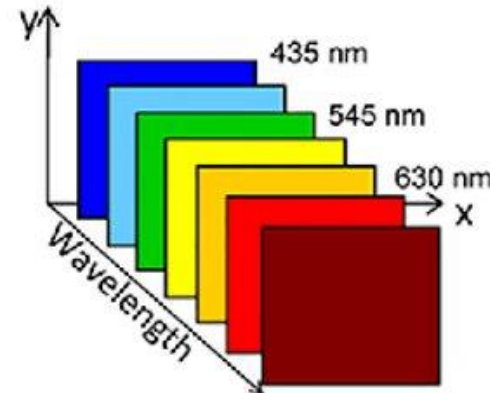
Overview – Camera's spectrum



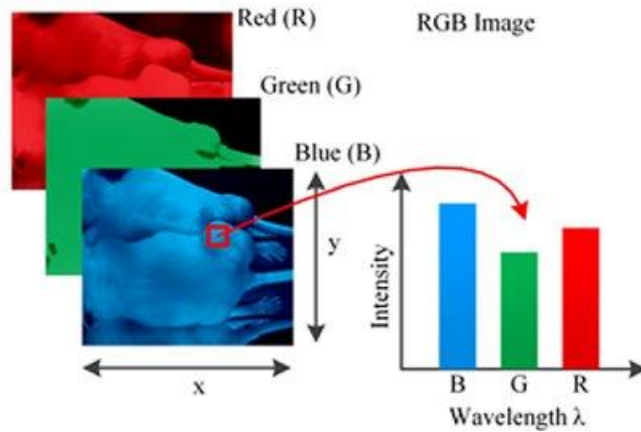
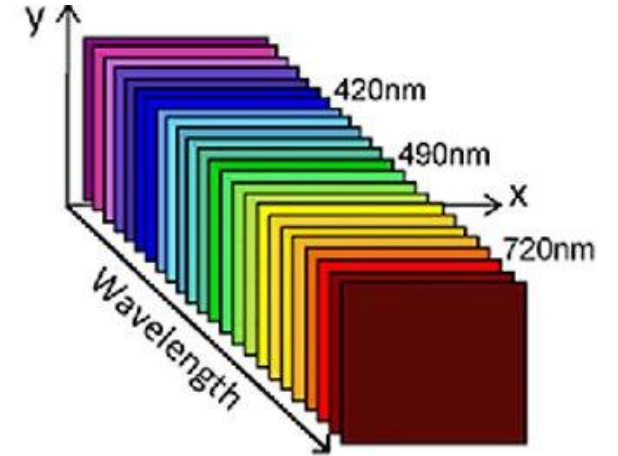
Monochrome spectrum



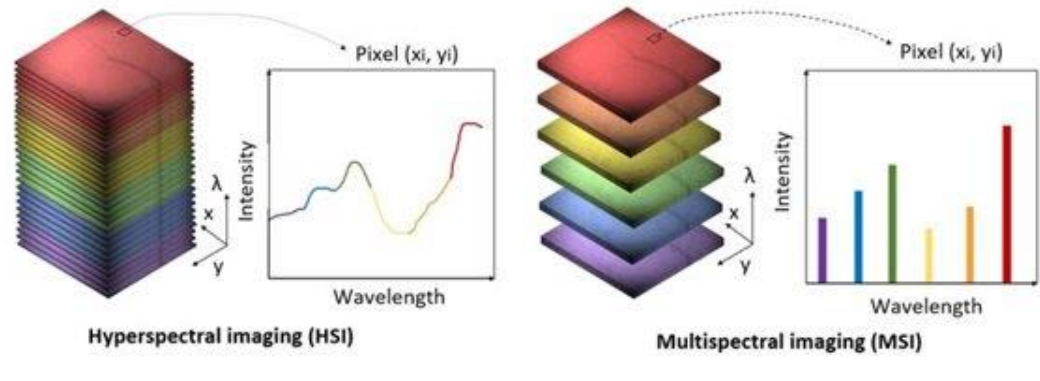
RGB spectrum



Multispectral and Hyperspectral spectrum



RGB Image



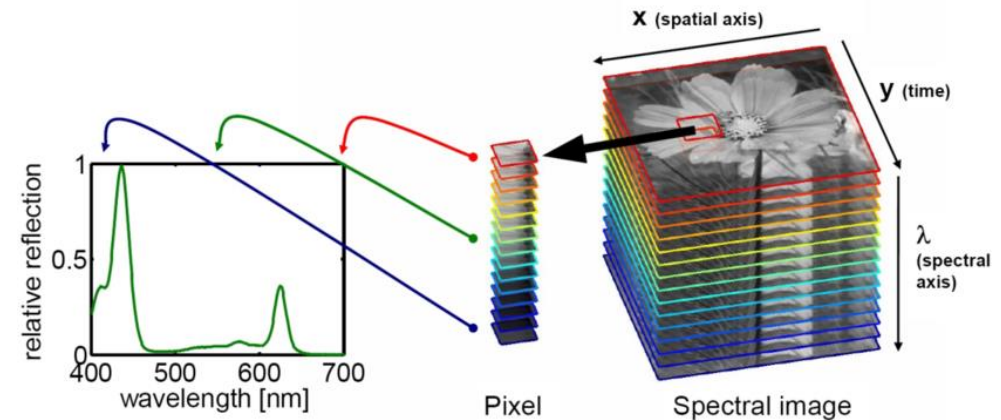
Multispectral/Hyperspectral Image

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Importance of dimensionality reduction

Objective:

- Hyperspectral camera in conjunction with Visual Servoing
- **Efficiency**
 - It is computationally demanding and time consuming;
- **Redundant data**
 - Due to the high spectral resolution;
- **Noise reduction**
 - It often contains sensors noise and other effects;



Hyperspectral cube

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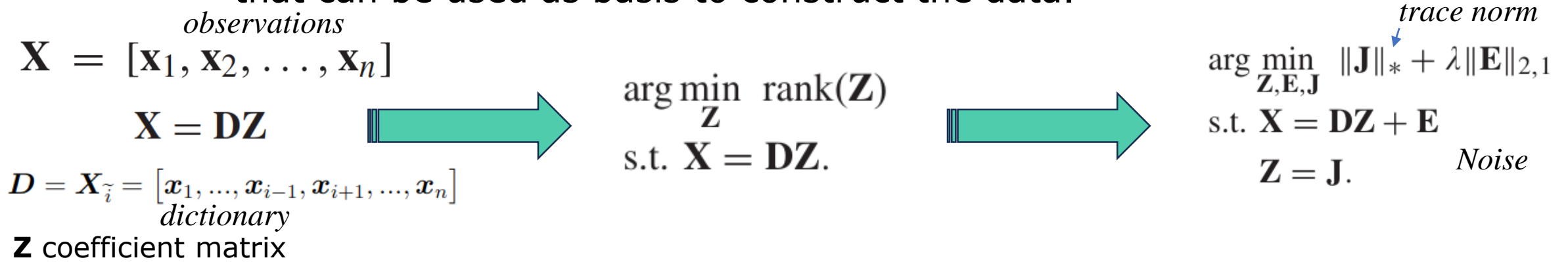
Band Selection

- **Selects set of bands**
 - It preserves the spectral meaning of the channels
- **Noise reduction and Data-Compression**
 - Reduction of redundancy, it improves signal-to-noise ratio
- **Interpretability and Visualization**
 - Reduction of redundancy improve the interpretability of the spectral information
- **Two different methods**
 - Supervised and unsupervised methods

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Importance of dimensionality reduction

The aim is to find a representation matrix with the lowest rank that can be used as basis to construct the data.



Problem solved using the *augmented Lagrange multiplier*:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{J}, \mathbf{\Lambda}, \mathbf{\Gamma}) = & \|\mathbf{J}\|_* + \lambda \|\mathbf{E}\|_{2,1} \\
 & + \frac{\mu}{2} (\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{E}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{J}\|_F^2) \\
 & + \langle \mathbf{\Lambda}, (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{E}) \rangle + \langle \mathbf{\Gamma}, (\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{J}) \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

Weight of the bands

$$\mathbf{W}_i = \frac{\sum_{\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbf{C}} \mathbf{E}_i}{RE_j} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbf{C}, j \neq i} \mathbf{A}_{ij}$$

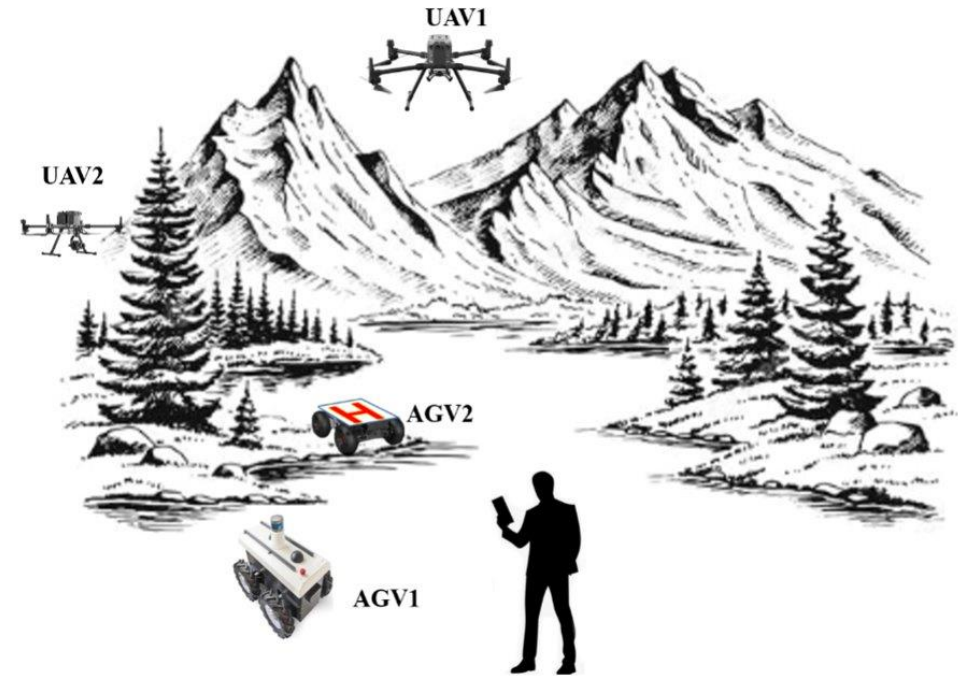
affinity matrix
Number of bands

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Multi-Robot System

The robots have to collaborate to collect data and map the environment.

It is challenging due to the complexity of the environment.



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Scientific issues

Constraints:

- One of the drones will be manually controlled by an operator;
- GNSS denied environment;
- Communication denied environment;
- Important to have precise localization of the robot;
- Need to geo-reference the scanned trees on the forest map;

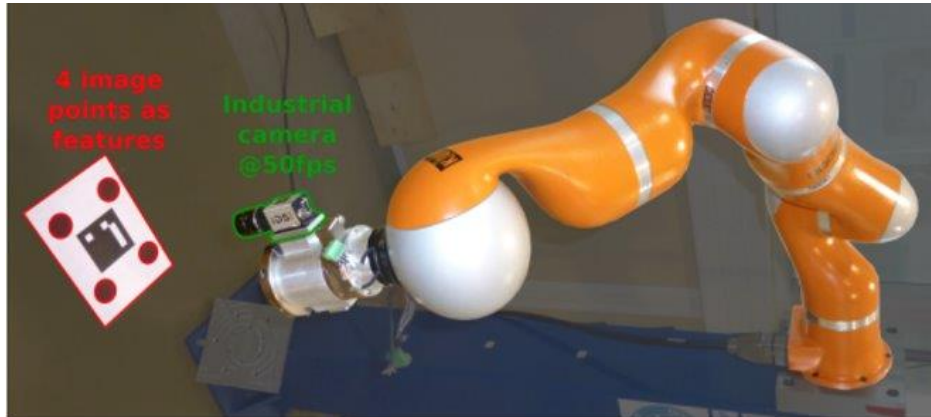
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Acquisitions steps

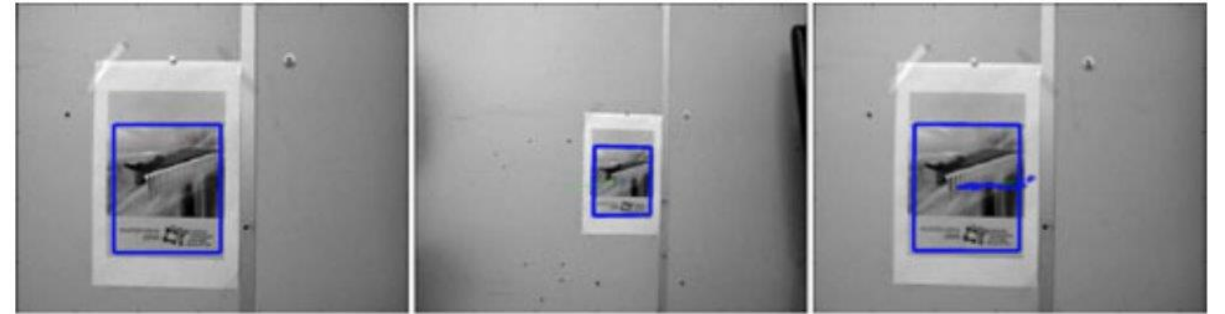
1. Snapshots in the forest;
2. From the model we extract the bands useful to detect the illness;
3. We use the Visual Servoing approach with the drone in the forest, using the selected bands to get new complementary data;
4. Every 3 months, we extract a new model of the illness, and we update the useful bands;

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Visual Servoing



Kuka arm used for Visual Servoing



Direct Visual Servoing using a camera mounted in a mobile robot

[6] - Fusco, Franco, Olivier Kermorgant, and Philippe Martinet. "Integrating features acceleration in visual predictive control." *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters* 5.4 (2020): 5197-5204.

[7] - G. Silveira and E. Malis, Direct Visual Servoing: Vision-Based Estimation and Control Using Only Nonmetric Information, *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 28 (4), pp.974-980, 2012.

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Visual Servoing – Hyperspectral camera

No research in the state-of-the-art using VS and Hyperspectral camera

Similar existing works:

- Visual Servoing based on the colors of the image;
- Frequency based Visual Servoing;

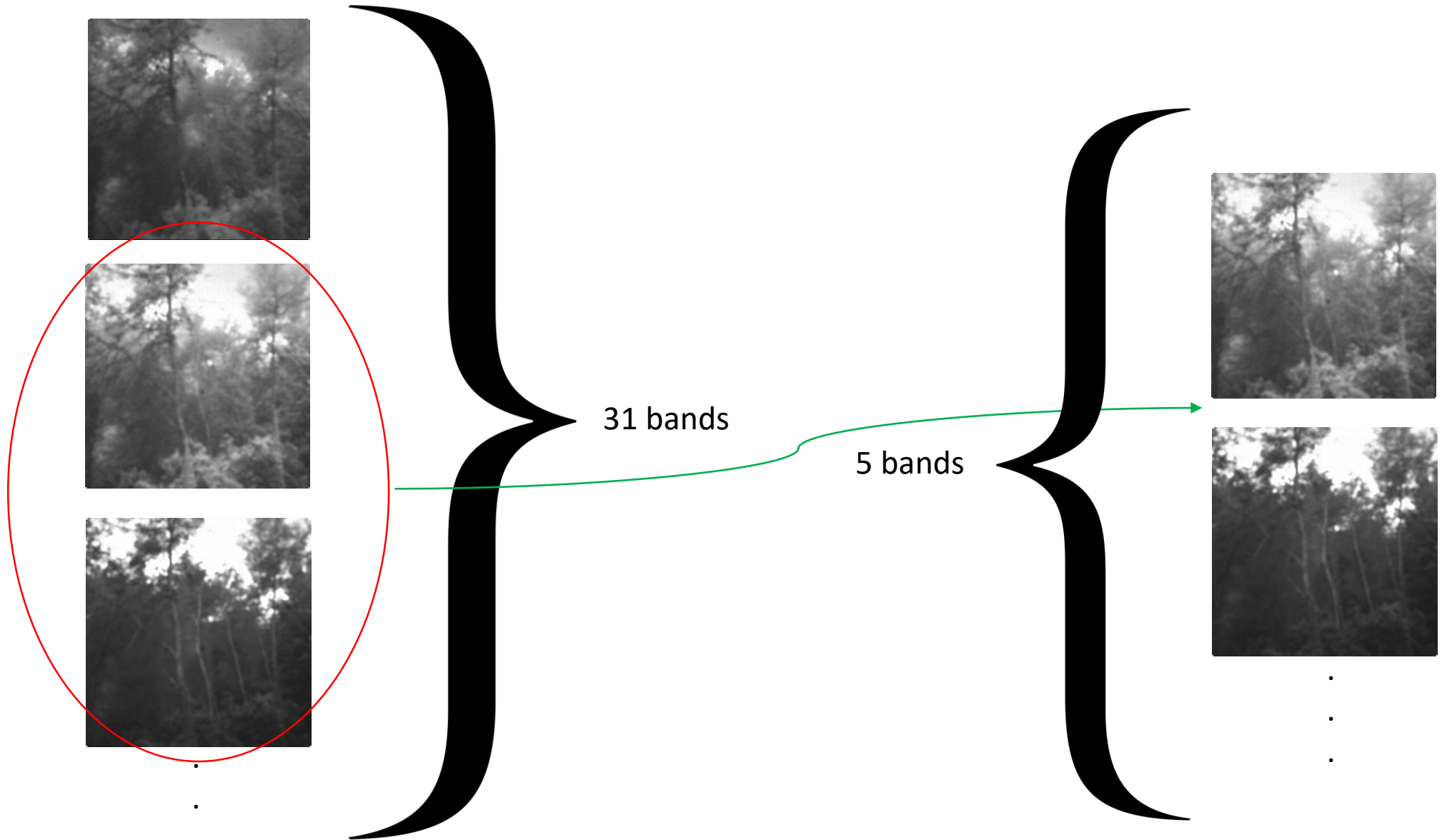
[8] - C. Collewet and E. Marchand, "Colorimetry-based visual servoing," *2009 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems*, St. Louis, MO, USA, 2009, pp. 5438-5443.

[9] - G. Silveira and E. Malis, "Visual servoing from robust direct color image registration," *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems*, St. Louis, MO, USA, 2009, pp. 5450-5455.

[10] - E. Marchand, "Direct Visual Servoing in the Frequency Domain," in *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 620-627, 2020.

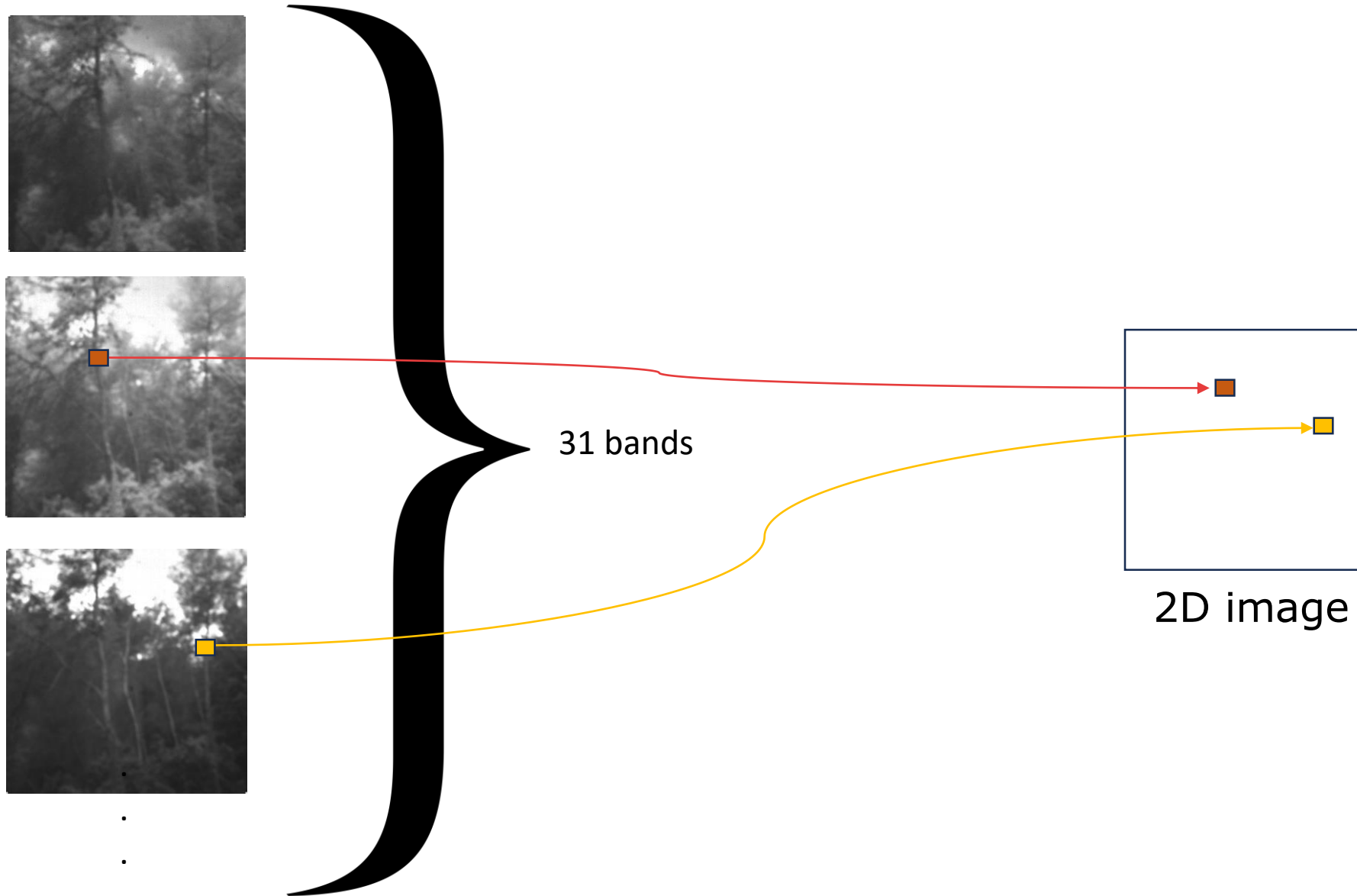
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State-of-the-art band selection



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Novel approach



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Novel approach



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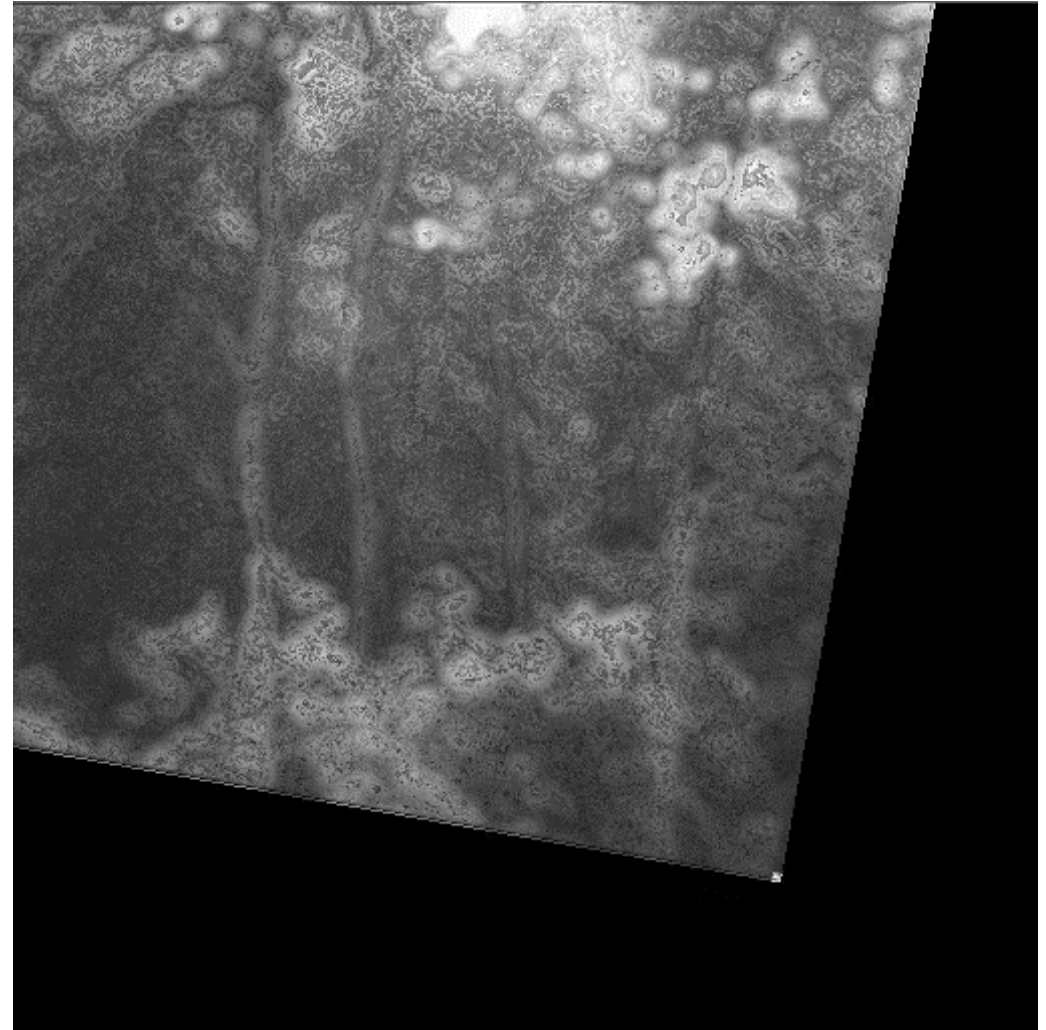


New 2D image

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Simulation

Reference Image



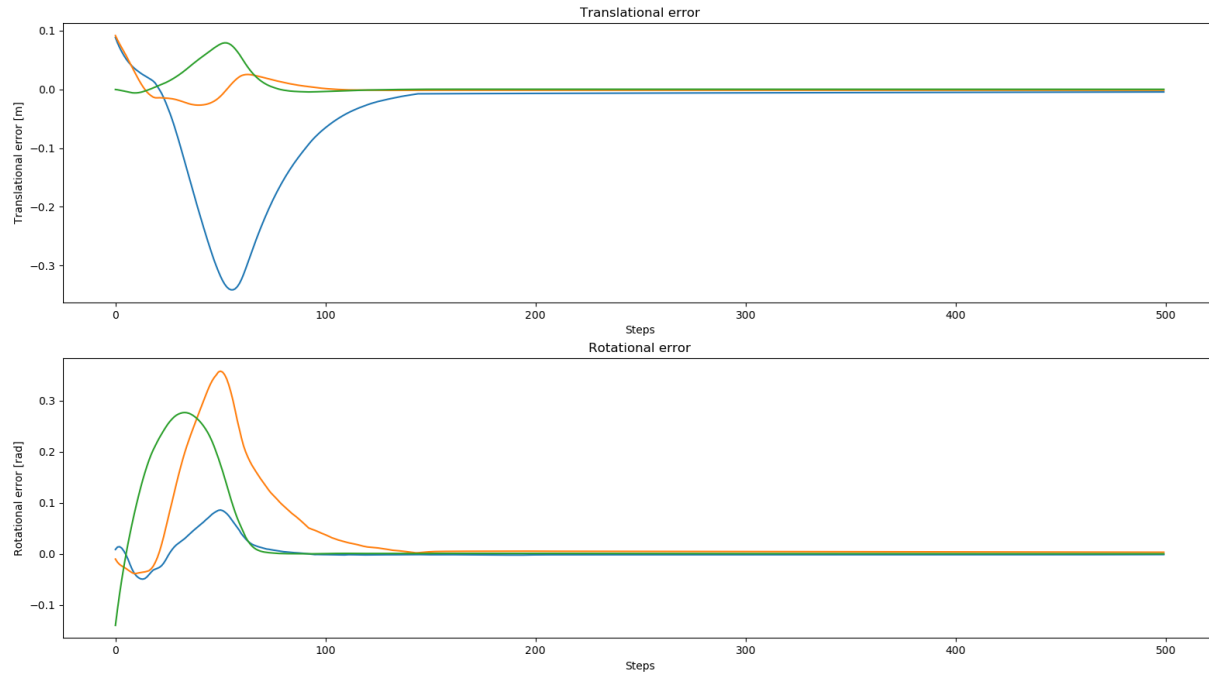
Control error used:

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_v \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\omega \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{m}^{*'} + \rho^* \mathbf{e}' \\ \vartheta \boldsymbol{\mu} \end{bmatrix}$$

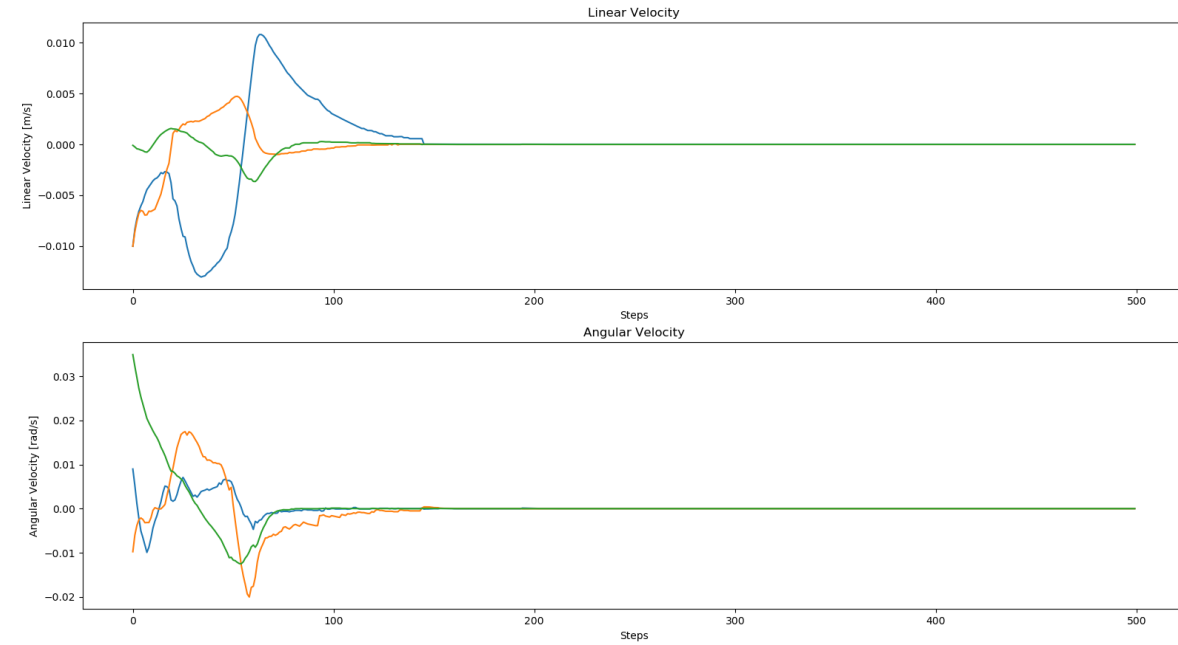
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Results

Translational and rotational error



Linear and angular velocities



The ROBFORISK expectations

- INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO INSECT HAZARD AND TREE VULNERABILITY IN FORESTS
- TACKLE THE CHALLENGE OF DRONE VISUAL SERVOING USING MULTISPECTRAL CAMERA INFORMATION IN NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS
- INNOVATIVE RESEARCH ON PRE-SYMPTOMATIC STRESS TESTS OF INTEREST TO FOREST MANAGERS AND STAKEHOLDERS