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The rasdaman Array DBMS: Concepts, Architecture, and What People Do With It

SSDBM, Copenhagen, 2022-07-08

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Jacobs University | rasdaman GmbH



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Array DB Research @ Jacobs U

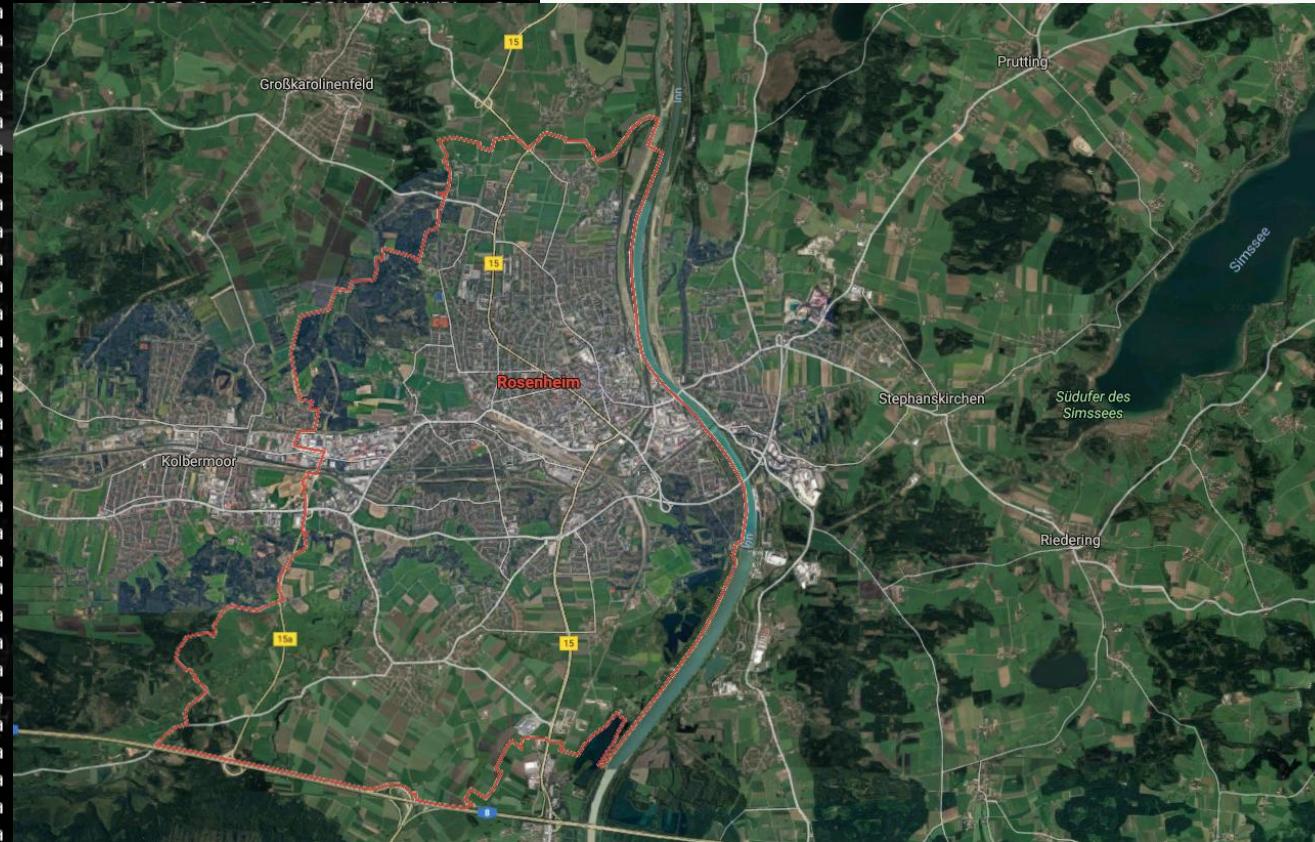
- Large-Scale Scientific Information Systems research group
 - large-scale n-D raster services & beyond
 - <https://l-sis.org>
- Spin-off company: [rasdaman GmbH](#)
- Main visible results:
 - pioneer Array DBMS, rasdaman
 - Datacube standards



```
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4251NW.ASC
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 640432 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGW.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 779368 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGW.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWRL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 712492 Oct 13 2004 4251NWRL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWML.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 62830 Oct 13 2004 4251NWML.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1498 Oct 13 2004 4251SO.ASC
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251S0GR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1076750 Oct 13 2004 4251S0GR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251S0GW.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 197142 Oct 13 2004 4251S0GW.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251S0RL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 936348 Oct 13 2004 4251S0RL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251S0WL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 119990 Oct 13 2004 4251S0WL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4251SW.ASC
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-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252N0RL.tif
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-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 46714 Oct 13 2004 4252N0WL.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4252NW.ASC
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 1445064 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGR.tif
-rwx--x--- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGW.tif
```



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-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4251NW.ASC
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGR.tfw
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 640432 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGR.tif
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGW.tfw
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 779368 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGW.tif
```



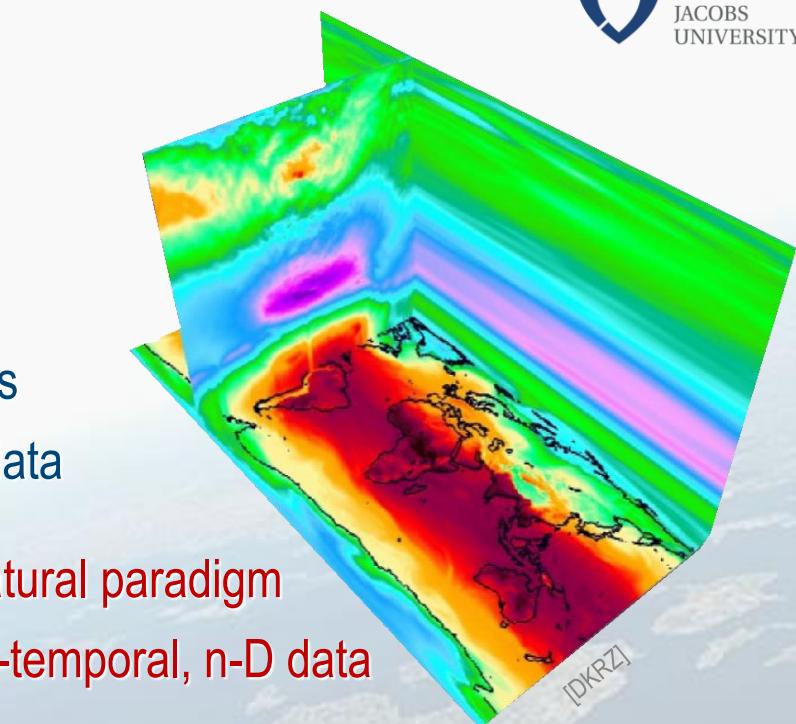
```
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4252NW.ASC
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGR.tfw
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 1445064 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGR.tif
-rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252NWGW.tfw
```



Datacubes?

```

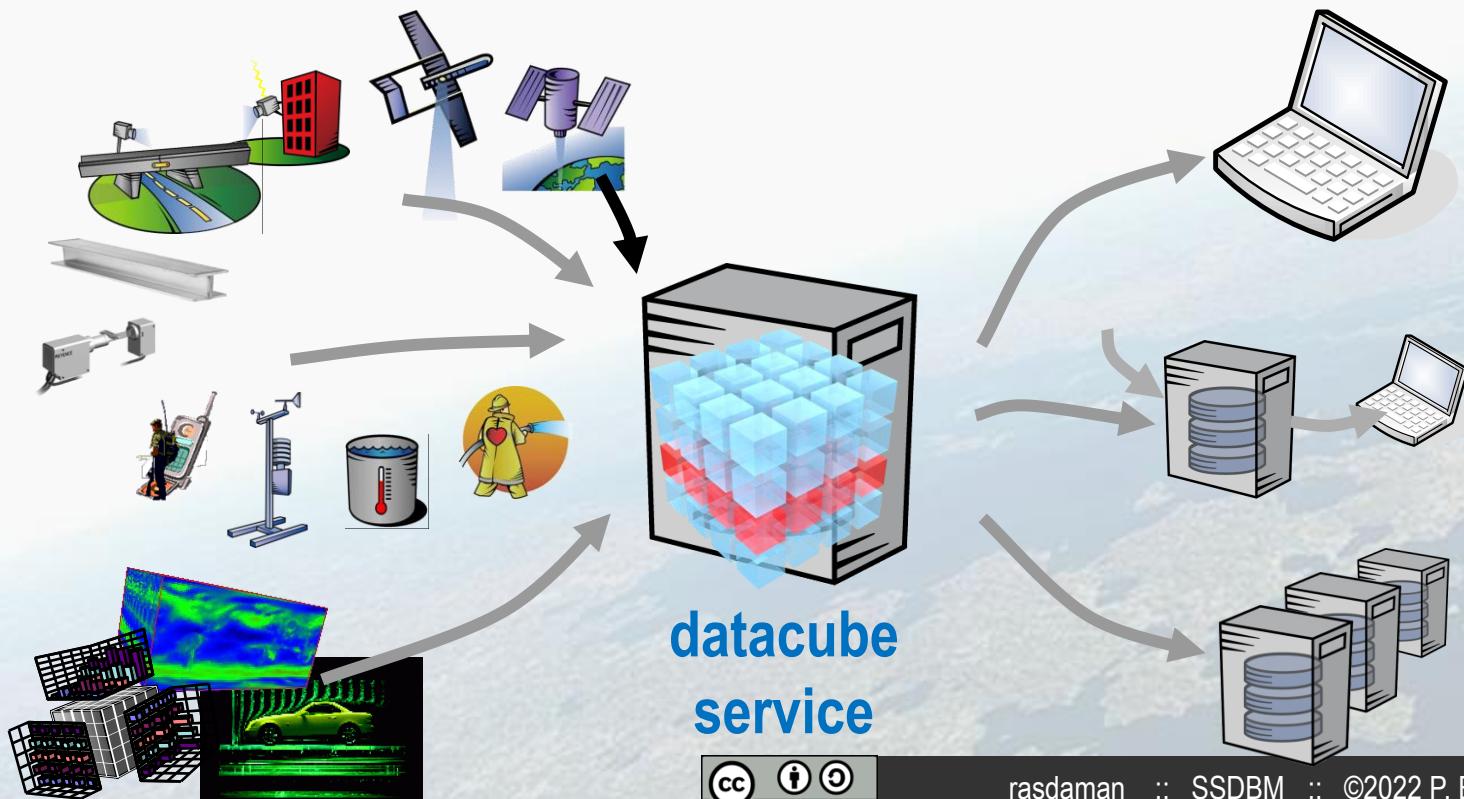
rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 1485 Oct 13 2004 4251NW.ASC
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rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 640432 Oct 13 2004 4251NWGR.tif
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rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 216 Oct 13 2004 4252SO0 RL.tif
rwx--x-- 1 rasdata users 632172 Oct 13 2004 4252SO0 RL.tif
  
```



- Sensors & simulations
-> gridded („raster“) data
- Datacubes are the natural paradigm
to interact with spatio-temporal, n-D data
- Avoid undue complexity
-> data + service on high semantic level



Homogenized, Analysis-Ready Datacubes



An Array Databases Perspective

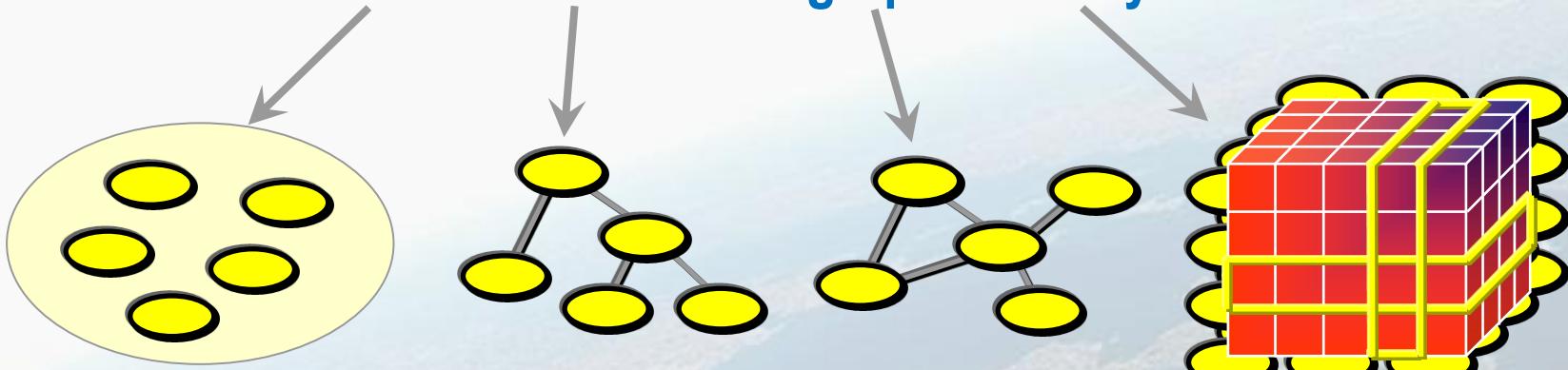
Arrays: Sensor, Image, Model, Statistics Data

- **Life Sciences:** Pharma/chem, healthcare / bio research, bio statistics, genetics, ...
- **Earth Sciences:** Geodesy, geology, hydrology, oceanography, meteorology, remote sensing, ...
- **Space Sciences:** Astronomy, planetary science, astrobiology, ...
- **Engineering:** Simulation & experimental data in automotive / shipbuilding / aerospace industry, turbines, process industry, ...
- **Management/Controlling:** Decision Support, OLAP, Data Warehousing, fintech, ...



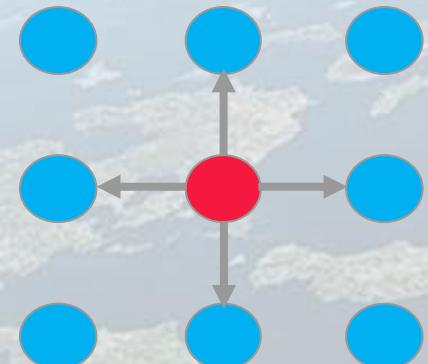
Fundamental Information Categories

sets + hierarchies + graphs + arrays

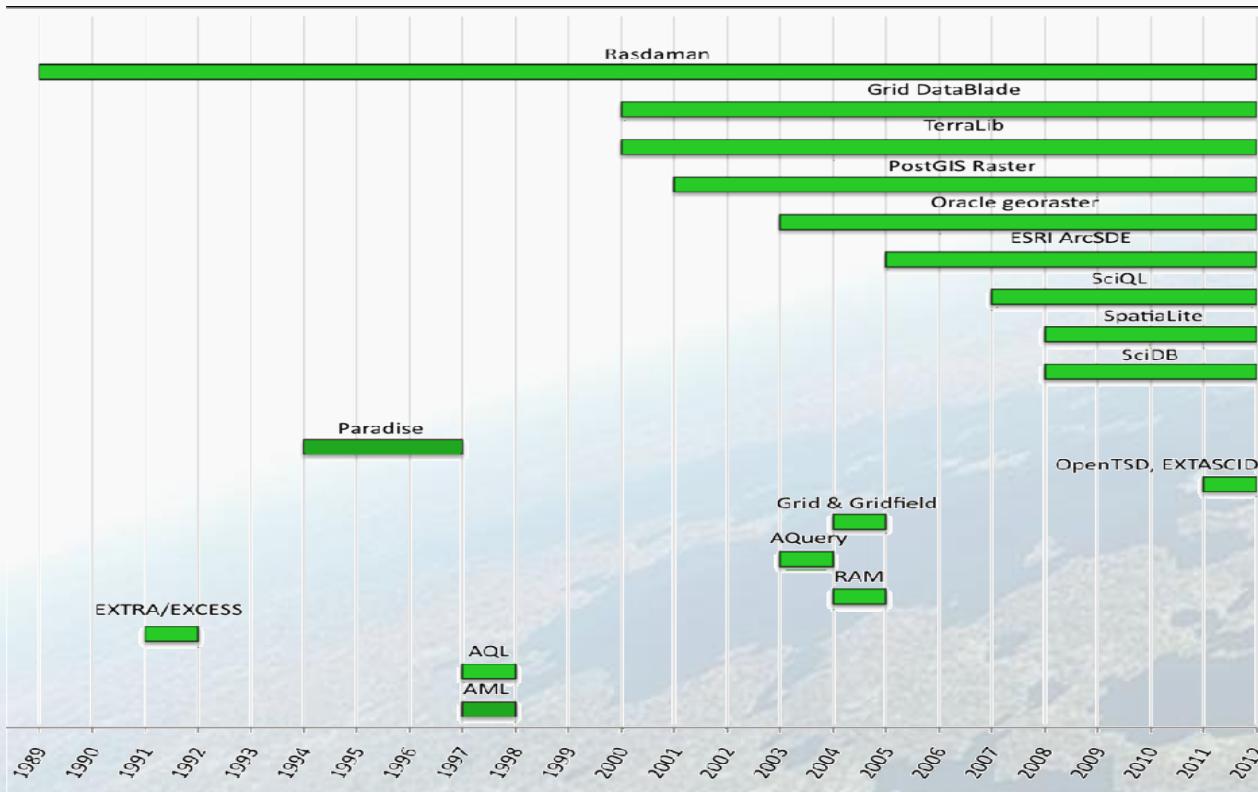


Array Analytics

- Array Analytics :=
Efficient analysis on multi-dimensional arrays of a size orders of magnitude above evaluation engine's main memory
- Essential **data** property: n-D Euclidean neighborhood
 - Secondary: #dimensions, density, ...
- Operations: Linear Algebra++



A Brief History of Array DBMSs



State of the Art

- Actionable datacubes: Baumann 1991, 1994
- OLAP: Business & statistics datacubes: Inmon 1992
- Today:
 - Array Databases
 - *rasdaman, SciQL, SciDB, Oracle GeoRaster, PostGIS Raster, EXTASCID, Teradata Arrays, ...*
 - Libraries & programming tools
 - *Xarray: OpenDataCube, CubeX, ...*
 - *Wendelin.core, boost::geometry, Ophidia, Google Earth Engine, ...*
 - MapReduce based: SciHadoop, GeoTrellis, ClimateSpark, SciSpark, ...
- Research Data Alliance report: 19 tools deep-comparison, 4 benchmarked
 - https://rd-alliance.org/system/files/Array-Databases_final-report.pdf

rasdaman 1: Concepts



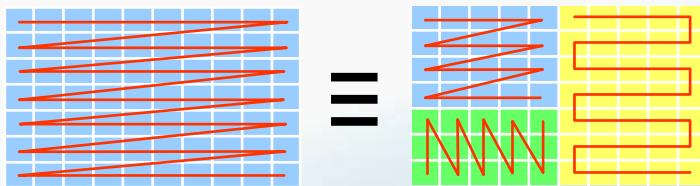
rasdaman

- = „raster data manager“: n-D datacubes in SQL
 - pioneered actionable datacubes; publications & patents
- massively scalable **Big Datacube Management & Analytics** engine, aka **Array DBMS**
 - full-stack implementation
- standards blueprint, reference implementation, awards



QL Foundation: Array Algebra

- Minimal algebra for model, QL, storage mapping, optimization
 - Array constructor & condenser & sorter
 - Array iteration implicit → no explicit loops → declarative, safe



- Array QL = SQL with array expressions
 - Expressiveness up to, eg, Discrete Fourier Transform

Array Algebra Ops: Constructor

- Generate new array, initialize:

$$\text{MARRAY}_{X,x}(e|_x) := \{ (x,f) : f = e|_x, x \in X \}$$

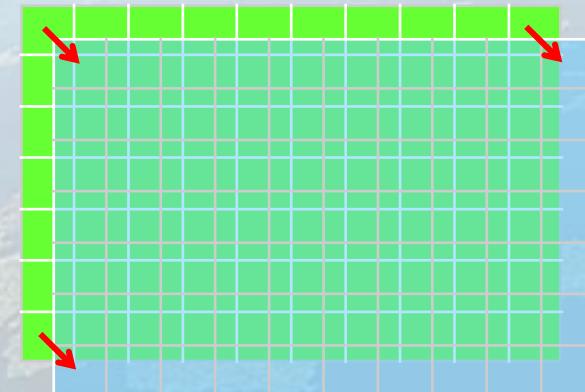
- expression $e|_x$ potentially containing occurrences of x , of result type F

- Ex: image addition

- $a + b := \text{MARRAY}_{X,x}(a[x] + b[x]) := \{ (x,f) : f = a[x] + b[x], x \in X \}$

```
marray x in [0:99], y in [0:99]
values a[x,y] + b[x,y]
```

addition of cells



- Shorthands: $a[x0:x1,y0:y1,t]$

$a.\text{red} + 5$

Array Algebra Ops: Constructor

- Summarize over (part of) an array:

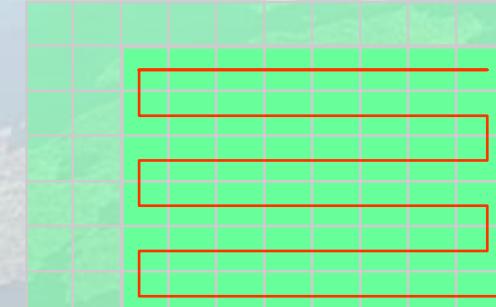
$$\text{COND}_{0,X,x}(e|_{a,x}) := e|_{a,p_1} \circ e|_{a,p_2} \circ \dots \circ e|_{a,p_n}$$

- x visits each coordinate in $X = \{ p_1, \dots, p_n \}$ exactly once, accessing array a
- \circ Monoid

```
condense +
over      x in [0:99], y in [0:99]
[ where   P ]
using    a[x,y]
```

- Shorthands: `max_cells(a)`

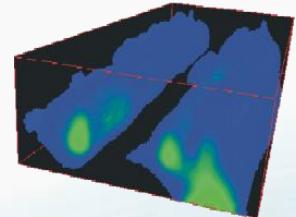
[VLDBJ 1994, NGITS 1998]



From Algebra to SQL: Operations

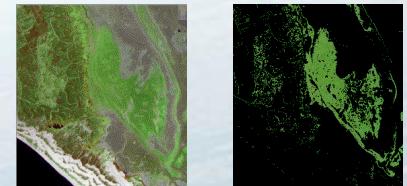
- selection & section

```
select c.data[ *:* , 100:200 , *:* , 42 ]
      from ClimateSimulations as c
```



- result processing

```
select ls.img * (ls.img.green > 130)
      from LandsatArchive as ls
```



- search & aggregation

```
select mri.data
      from MRI as img, masks as am
    where some_cells( mri.data > 250 and m.valid )
```



- data format conversion

```
select encode( c.data[ *:* , *:* , 100 , 42 ] , „image/png“ )
      from ClimateSimulations as c
```



Linear Algebra Beginnings in Array Queries

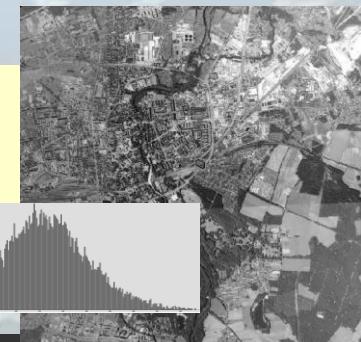
- Matrix multiplication

```
select mdarray i in [0:m], j in [0:p]
      values condense +
             over     k in [0:n]
             using   a [ i, k ] * b [ k, j ]
from    matrix as a, matrix as b
```

$$(\mathbf{AB})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^m A_{ik} B_{kj}$$

- Histogram

```
select mdarray bucket in [0:255]
      values count_cells( img = bucket )
from    img
```



User-Defined Functions (UDFs)

- external code dynamically linked into server, callable from query
- UDF API = client API + auto-generated adapter → easy to use
- integrated with server-side tile management, parallelization, ...
- Ex: use OpenCV for histogram equalization on RGB image

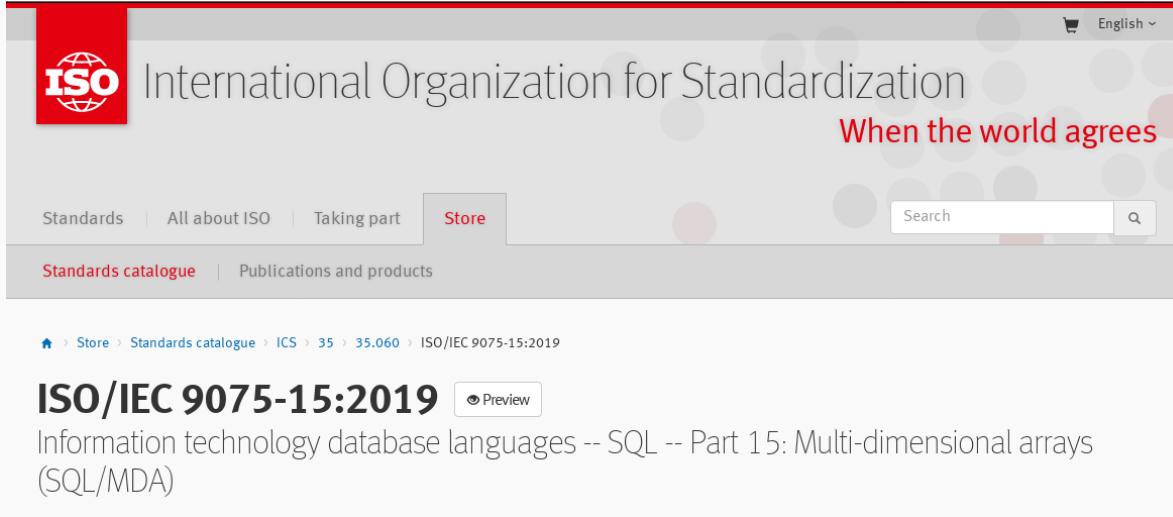
```
select encode( cv.equalize_hist( c[0:999,0:999]/16) ) , "png" )
from AGDC_2D as c
```



Standardization



ISO SQL/MDA



The screenshot shows the official ISO website. At the top left is the ISO logo. To its right is the text "International Organization for Standardization" and the slogan "When the world agrees". Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for "Standards", "All about ISO", "Taking part", "Store" (which is highlighted in red), and "Search". Underneath this is a secondary navigation bar with "Standards catalogue" and "Publications and products". A breadcrumb trail at the bottom left indicates the path: Home > Store > Standards catalogue > ICS > 35 > 35.060 > ISO/IEC 9075-15:2019. The main content area displays the title "ISO/IEC 9075-15:2019" and the subtitle "Information technology database languages -- SQL -- Part 15: Multi-dimensional arrays (SQL/MDA)".

```
create table LandsatScenes(
```

```
    id: integer not null, acquired: date, scene: row( band1: integer, ..., band7: integer ) mdarray [ 0:4999,0:4999 ] )
```

```
select id, encode(scene.band1-scene.band2)/(scene.band1+scene.band2), „image/tiff“ )
```

```
from LandsatScenes
```

```
where acquired between „1990-06-01“ and „1990-06-30“ and avg( scene.band3-scene.band4)/(scene.band3+scene.band4)) > 0
```

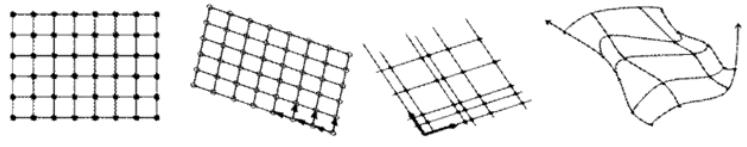
OGC WCPS: Space/Time Datacubes

- Web Coverage Processing Service (WCPS)

- spatio-temporal datacube analytics language

```
A[ Lat(10.2), Long(8.4), date("2017-12-04") ]
```

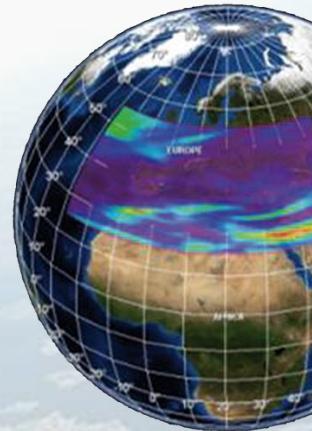
- space & time, regular & irregular grids



- "From MODIS scenes M1, M2, M3: difference red & nir, as TIFF"

- “...but only those where nir exceeds 127 somewhere”

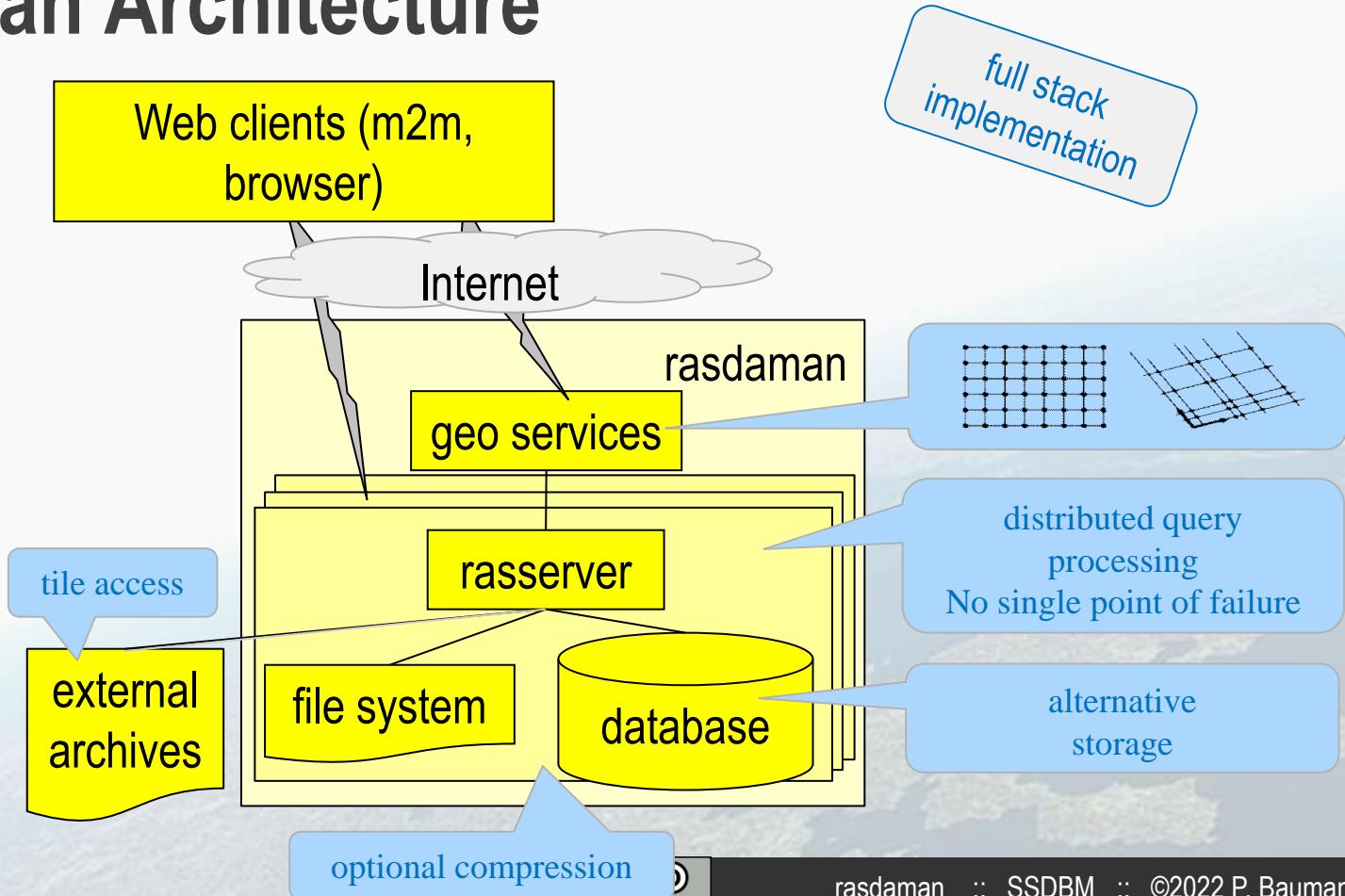
```
for $c in ( M1, M2, M3 )
  where some( $c.nir > 127 )
  return encode( $c.red - $c.nir, "image/tiff" )
```



rasdaman 2: Architecture

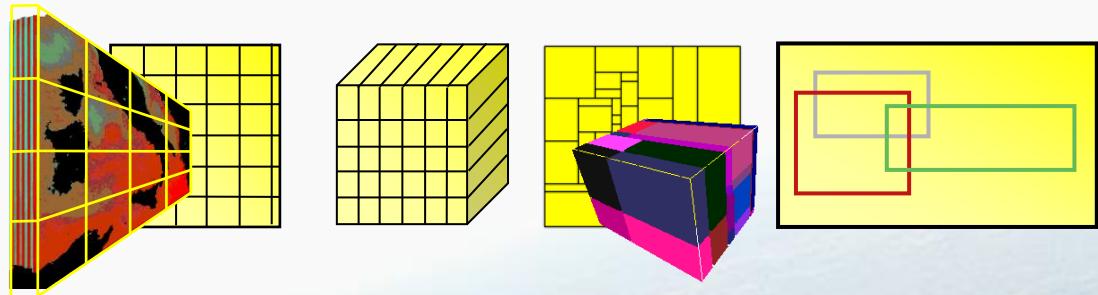


rasdaman Architecture



Adaptive Partitioning („Tiling“)

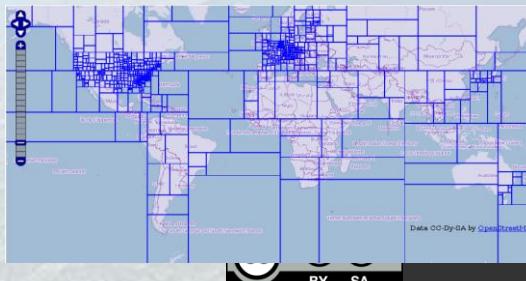
- Any tiling [Furtado 1999]
 - strategies



- rasdaman storage layout language

```
insert into MyCollection
  values ...
  tiling
    area of interest [0:20,0:40], [45:80,80:85]
    tile size 1000000
    index d_index storage array compression zlib
```

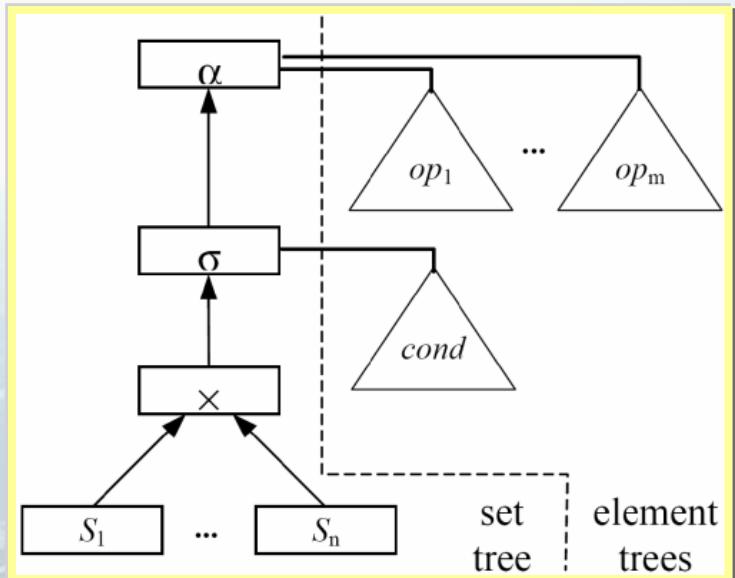
- Why irregular tiling?



[OpenStreetMap]

Array QL Embedding

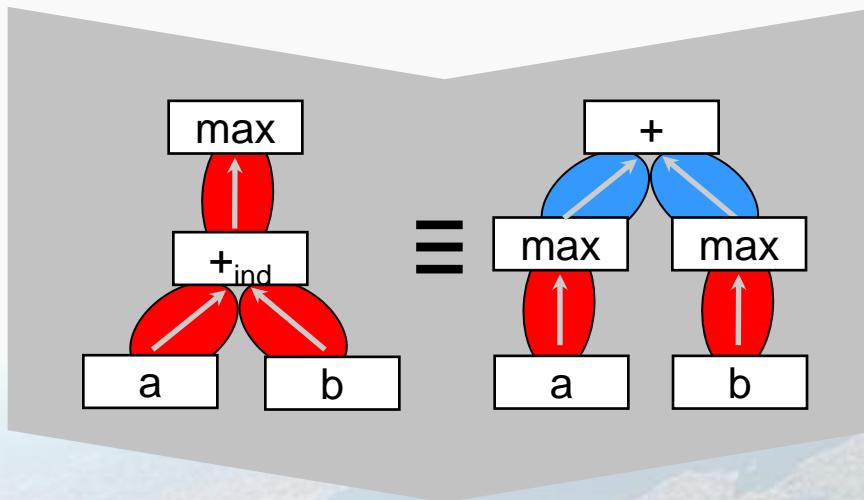
- Clear separation
 - SQL set tree
 - Array attribute („element“) tree
- Cf: „array-as-table“ vs „array-as-attribute“



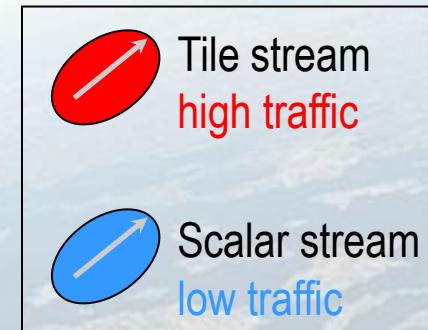
Sample Optimization: Query Rewriting

- = find most efficient phrasing for given query
- Algebra based
- 150+ rules, ex:

```
select max_cells( a + b )
from   a, b
```

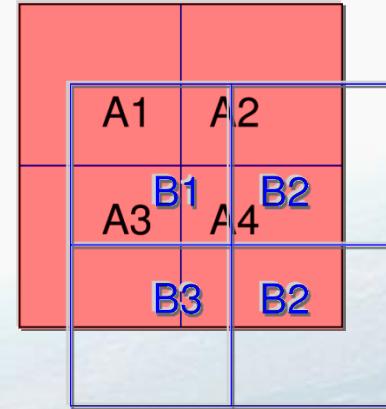


```
select max_cells( a ) + max_cells( b )
from   a, b
```



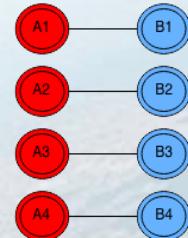
Array Joins

- „A θ B“ in presence of partitioned arrays A, B
 - Challenge: partitions shifted, different size, heterogeneous
 - inefficient multiple reads of sub-arrays
- Goal: optimal partition loading sequence
- Approach: bi-partite graph traversal [Baumann, Merticariu 2015]



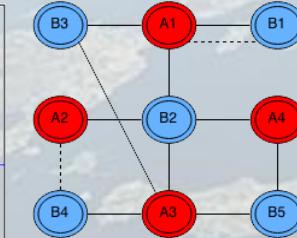
A1	A2
A3	A4

B1	B2
B3	B2



A1	A2
A3	A4

B1	
B3	
B4	



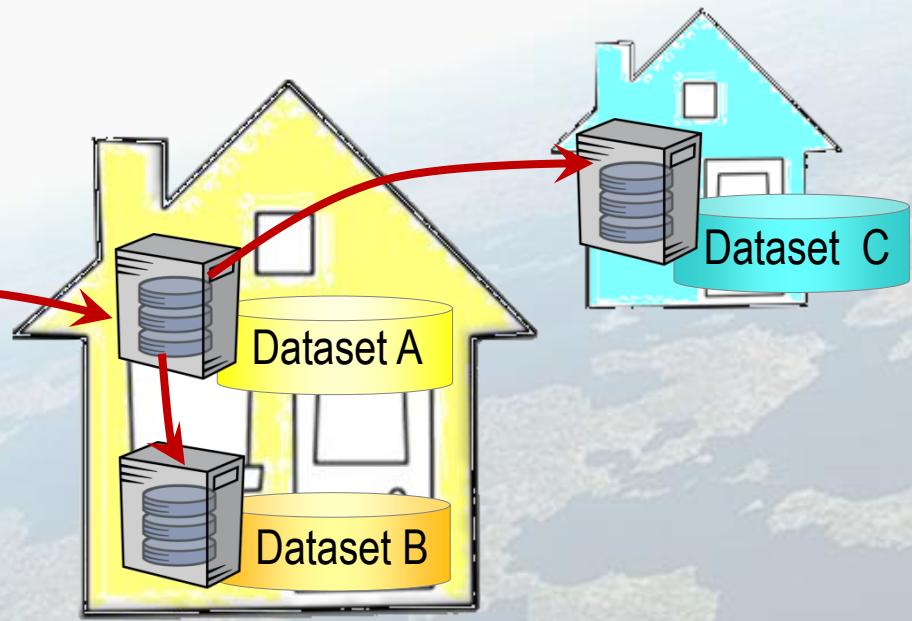
- Also useful for buffer mgmt, parallelization

Parallel, Distributed Processing: Query Splitting

```
max( (A.nir - A.red) / (A.nir + A.red) )  
+ avg( B.green )  
+ max( (C.red + C.green + C.blue) / 3 )
```

1 query → 1,000+ cloud nodes

[VLDB BOSS 2016]
[ACM SIGMOD DanaC 2014]



Federation Demo



EarthServer

- datacube provider federation
 - 30+ PB location-transparent data space
 - Open standards, zero-coding
- Open, free, transparent, democratic
 - Open & private; free & commercial



<https://earthserver.xyz>



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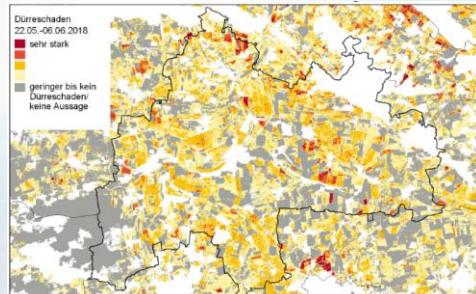
Projects



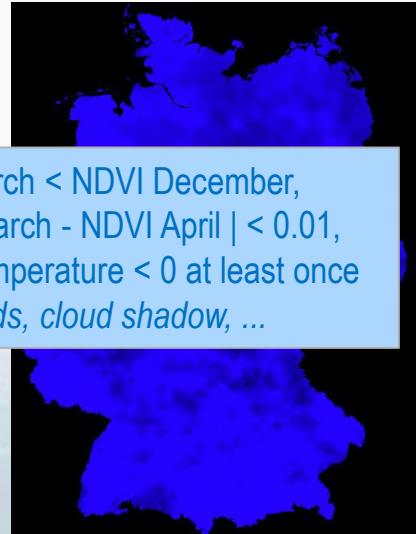


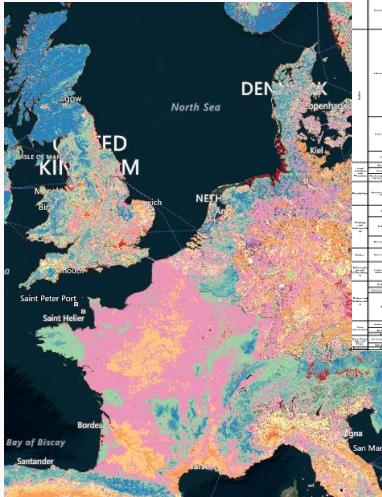
BigPicture

- Rule-based classification of field health, per crop type
 - In-field anomalies, frost, drought
 - complex criteria on timeseries: Sentinel-2a, CORINE land cover, soil data, climate water balance
 - WCPS → flexible, self-documenting
- Lead: Spatial Business Integration, Germany
- Using rasdaman in realtime; Germany ~1h

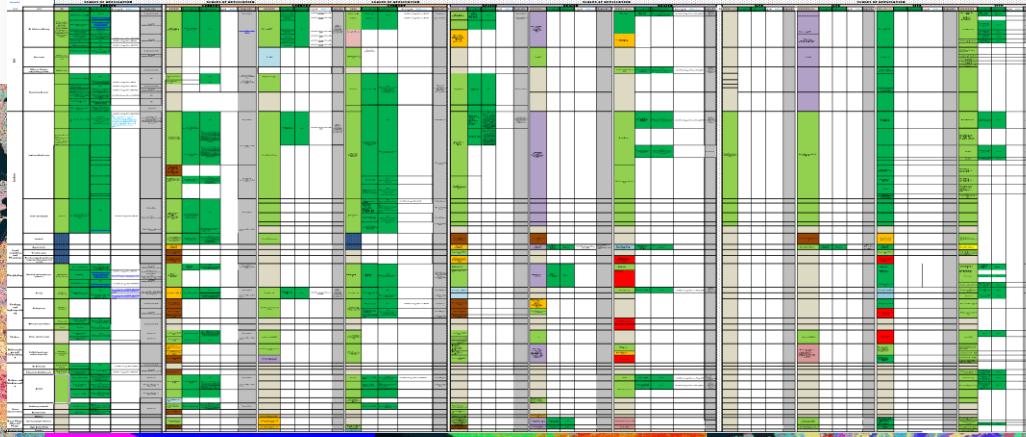


With support from
Federal Ministry of Food
and Agriculture
by decision of the
German Bundestag



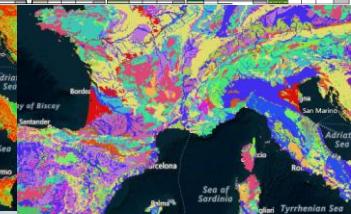


Soil organic carbon

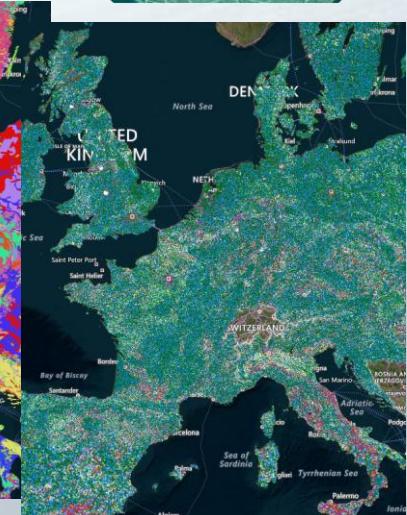


Imperviousness

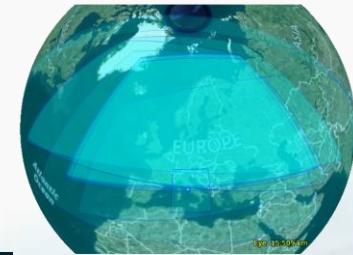
Landslides
susceptibility



Lithology



Soil erosion



Radio-Networks Planning

- Telefonica:
Several 3D x/y/t datacubes
of their German mobile networks
 - original resolution
 - space/time coverage analysis
- Analytics & marketing (!)

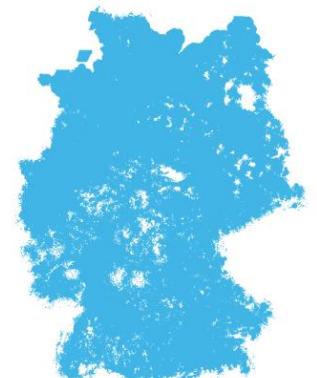


Warum wollen wir über das Netz sprechen?
Das O₂ Netz ist so gut wie noch nie.

Beim größten 4G-Ausbau der Unternehmensgeschichte hat O₂ alleine im Jahr 2020 11.000 zusätzliche 4G-Sender installiert.

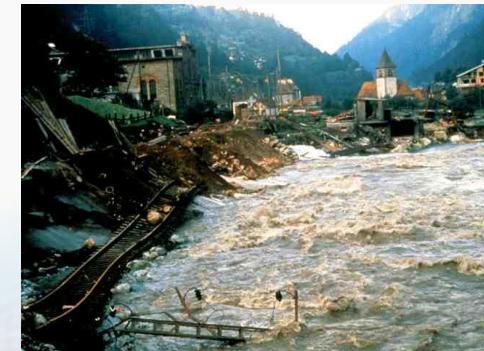
Dank dieser Investitionen versorgt das O₂ Netz bundesweit zusätzliche 7 Millionen Menschen mit schnellem 4G und erreicht insgesamt 99 Prozent der Haushalte in Deutschland.

Überzeuge dich selbst und sieh hier die Entwicklung der LTE-Versorgung über alle Frequenzen, die Telefónica für LTE einsetzt. Die Daten beziehen sich auf den Zeitraum vom Januar 2020 bis April 2021. Je dunkler die Flächen desto länger liegt LTE-Verfügbarkeit vor.

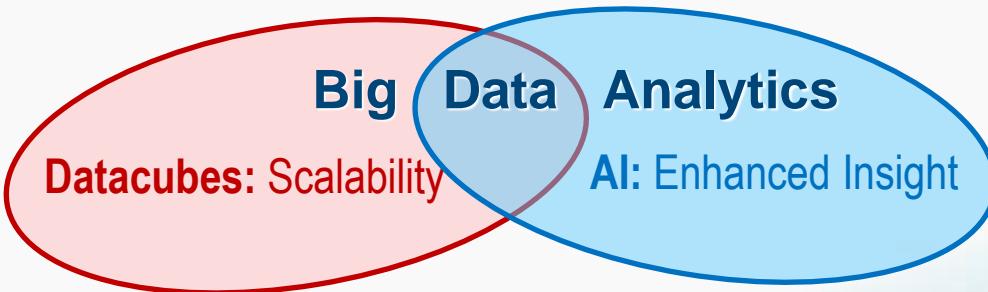


DeepRain: ML for Rain Forecast

- Goal: improve rain prediction for mountaneous areas
- Approach: ML + Array DBMS
 - numerical weather forecast models + precipitation radar + lightning + station measurements + topography
- Lead: Jülich Research Centre, Germany



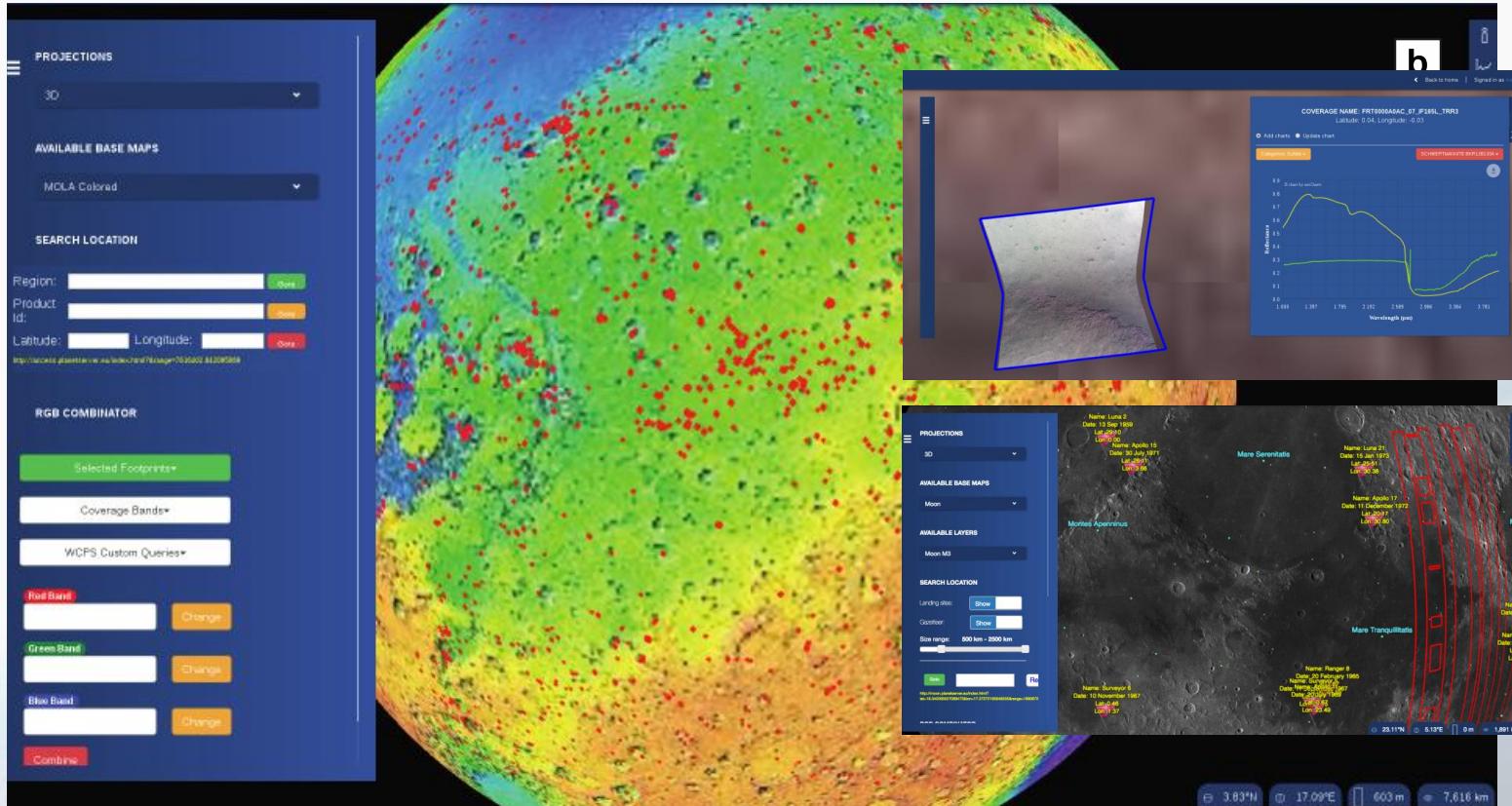
AI-Cube



- Jacobs U, TU Berlin, rasdaman GmbH
- Selected challenges:
 - Huge training base: BigEarthNet <http://bigearth.net>, 590000 tagged S1/S2 patches
 - Query language + NLP integration
 - Space/time training, ex: 3D CNN
- User benefit: easier, faster, more flexible

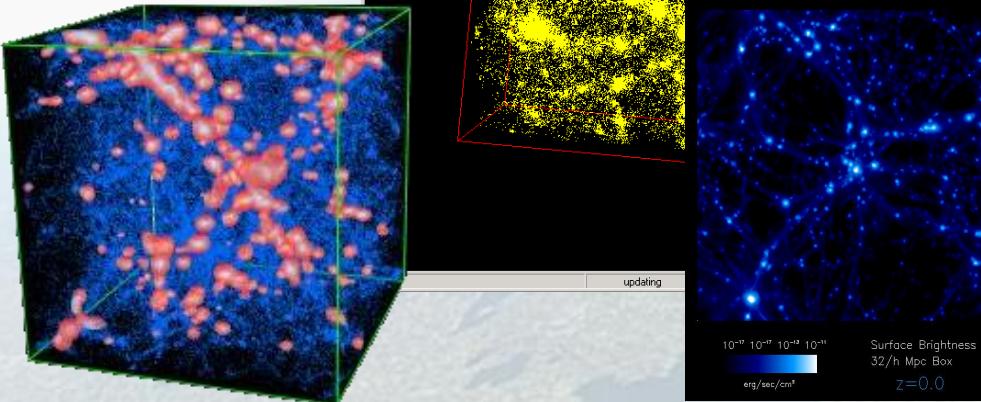


PlanetServer



Cosmological Simulation

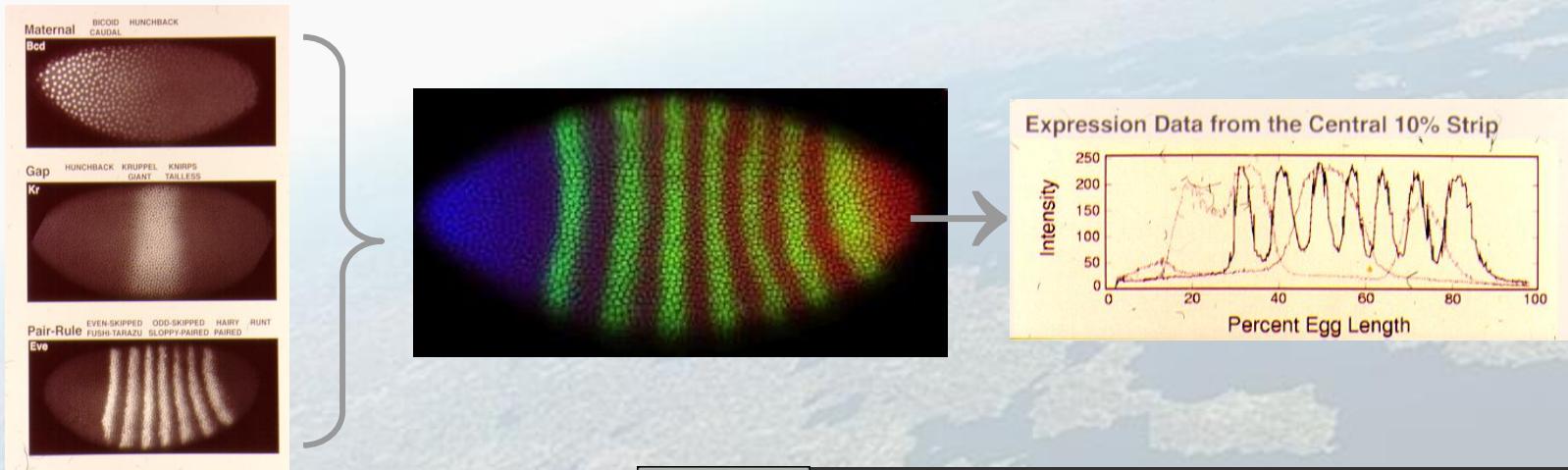
- 3D/4D regions from the universe
- Screenshots: AstroMD
[Gheller, Rossi 2001]



Gene Expression Analysis

[Samsonova et al]

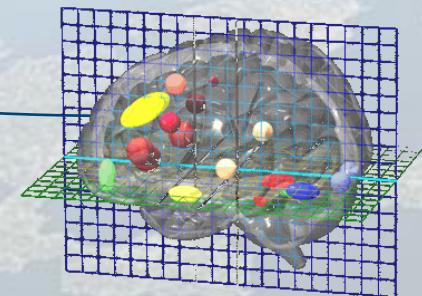
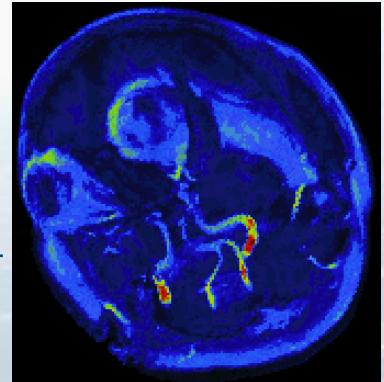
- Gene expression = reading out genes for reproduction
- Goal: capture spatio-temporal expression patterns in Drosophila genes



Human Brain Imaging

- Goal: structural-functional relations in human brain
- Experiments (PET, fMRI) → activation maps
- Ex: “*a parasagittal view of all scans containing critical Hippocampus activations, TIFF-coded.*“

```
select tiff( ht[ $1, *:* , *:* ] )
from HeadTomograms as ht,
Hippocampus as mask
where count_cells( ht > $2 and mask )
/ count_cells( mask )
> $3
```



ORBiDANSe

- = *Orbital Big Data Analytics Service*
- Big Data idea: „Process close to source“
 - datacube engine on satellite
 - Answer analytics = avoid full download
- rasdaman → ESA OPS-SAT
 - ARM 1-core, 1 GB, 16 GB



Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Climate Action



Conclusion



Conclusion & Outlook

- **Arrays**, aka **datacubes**, everywhere: science, engineering, business, ...
- **Databases** are primary Big Data tools – for management and analytics
- **rasdaman**: management & analytics = database approach
 - High-level datacube query language
 - DBMS goodies: Optimization, parallelization, distributed processing, federation, self-tuning
 - Performance competitive over silo solutions
- Ongoing research:
 - Array Database support for Machine Learning / Linear Algebra
 - Satellite swarm federations
 - Optimization
 - ...and more



Selected Further Projects

- Societal Benefit:

- **AgriCube** (Germany / Taiwan): climate & vegetation analytics
- **DeepRain** (FZ Juelich): ML for Improved local rain prediction for mountaneous areas
- **DynAWI** (JKI): Weather Indicators for Extreme Weather Forecasts in Agriculture
- **LANDSUPPORT** (U Napoli): Land Management



- AI:

- **AI-Cube** (TU Berlin): space/time CBIR
- **ML-Cube** (NASA): ML on US/EU federated sat datacubes
- **CENTURION** (OPT/NET): AI Knowledge Packs on Datacubes

