



Pacific Institute *for the*
Mathematical Sciences

Deforestation Detection using Satellite images



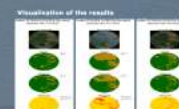
2024 Math to Power Industry Workshop



Team 3 (Finite Carbon)

Advisor: Prof. Dr. Michael J. Griffin, University of Waterloo

Members: Prof. Dr. Michael J. Griffin, University of Waterloo
Prof. Dr. Michael J. Griffin, University of Waterloo
Prof. Dr. Michael J. Griffin, University of Waterloo
Prof. Dr. Michael J. Griffin, University of Waterloo



Pipeline

1. Data Acquisition

2. Preprocessing

3. Splitting the Data

4. Cross Validation and
Hyperparameter Optimization

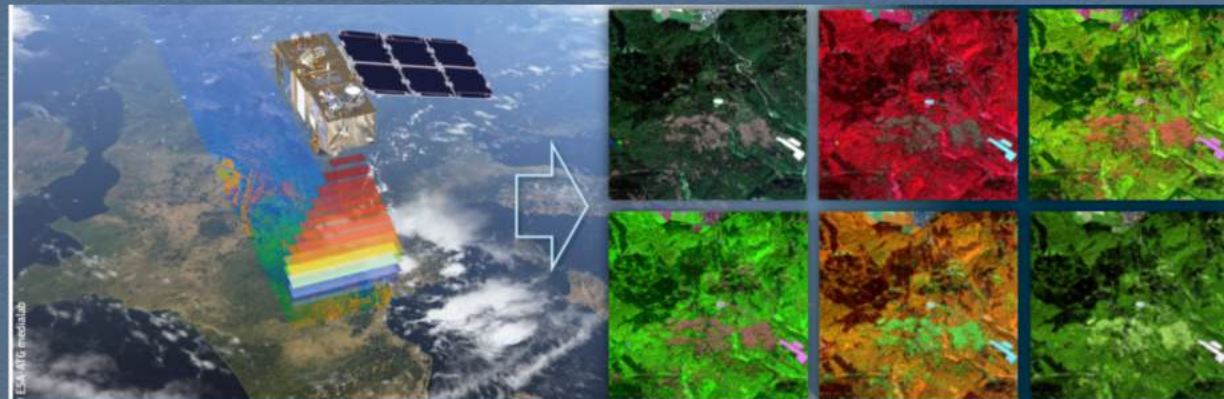
Team 3 (Finite Carbon)

- **Mentor**

- Bahareh Yekkehkhany (Applied Remote Sensing Scientist, Finite Carbon)

- **Members**

- Isaac Asamoah (University of Saskatchewan)
- Patrik Coulibaly (University of British Columbia)
- Arman Jahangiri (University of Calgary)
- Yasaman Shahhosseini (University of Victoria)
- Brian Zambrano (University of Alberta)



Problem Statement

The objective of this project is to implement a machine learning algorithm for distinguishing between forest and non-forest regions in Canada using satellite imagery.



Bulkley-Nechako District, Central B.C.

Our approach

- **Image source:**
ESA Sentinel-2 Satellite images from the Google Earth Engine (GEE) (higher resolution, revisiting frequency)
- **Methodology:**
Training a Random Forest Classifier based on F1 and Recall scores



Pipeline

1. Data Acquisition

2. Preprocessing

3. Splitting the Data

**4. Cross Validation and
Hyperparameter Optimization**

1. Data Acquisition

1. Data Acquisition

- Time (May-September 2021, 2022, and 2023)
- Manually Selected Region

Pipeline

1. Data Acquisition

- Time (May-September 2021, 2022, and 2023)
- Manually Selected Region

2. Preprocessing

3. Splitting the Data

4. Cross Validation and Hyperparameter Optimization

2. Preprocessing

2. Preprocessing

- Cloud Percentage Selection
- Feature Engineering (NDVI, NDMI)
- Cropping the area of interest
- Cloud Masking
- Creating reference label
- Normalization (MinMax Scaling)

Pipeline

1. Data Acquisition

- Time (May-September 2021, 2022, and 2023)
- Manually Selected Region

2. Preprocessing

- Cloud Percentage Selection
- Feature Engineering (NDVI, NDMI)
- Cropping the area of interest
- Cloud Masking
- Creating reference label
- Normalization (MinMax Scaling)

3. Splitting the Data

4. Cross Validation and Hyperparameter Optimization

3. Splitting the Data

3. Splitting the Data

- Create Train/Test Dataset

Pipeline

1. Data Acquisition

- Time (May-September 2021, 2022, and 2023)
- Manually Selected Region

2. Preprocessing

- Cloud Percentage Selection
- Feature Engineering (NDVI, NDMI)
- Cropping the area of interest
- Cloud Masking
- Creating reference label
- Normalization (MinMax Scaling)

3. Splitting the Data

- Create Train/Test Dataset

4. Cross Validation and Hyperparameter Optimization

Results

Metrics	Train	Test
Precision	0.98	0.97
Recall	0.99	0.98
F1	0.99	0.98

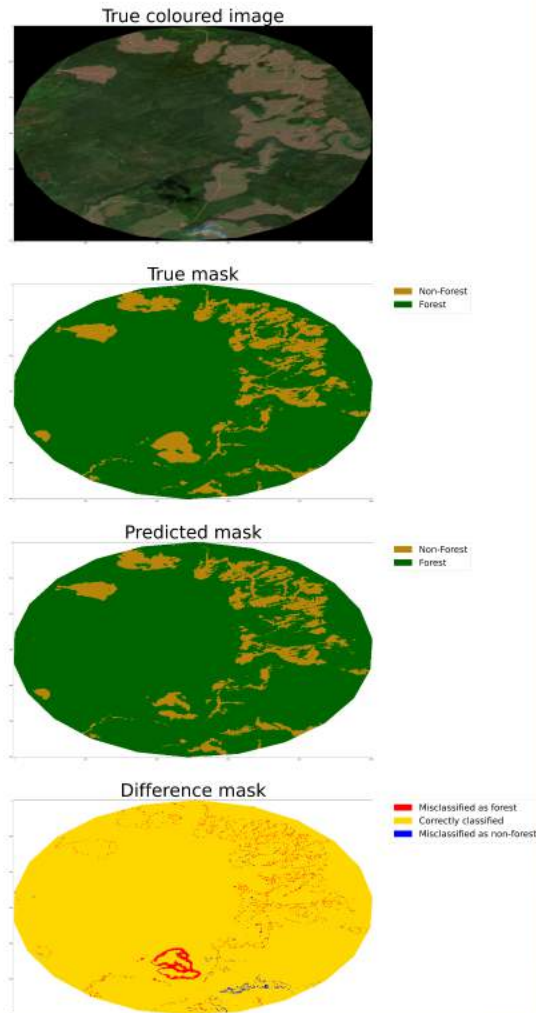
Validation Table: Train size: 20% (3,896,557) . Test size: 80% (15,586,228)

Feature	NDVI	RED	BLUE
Feature Importance	28%	14%	12%

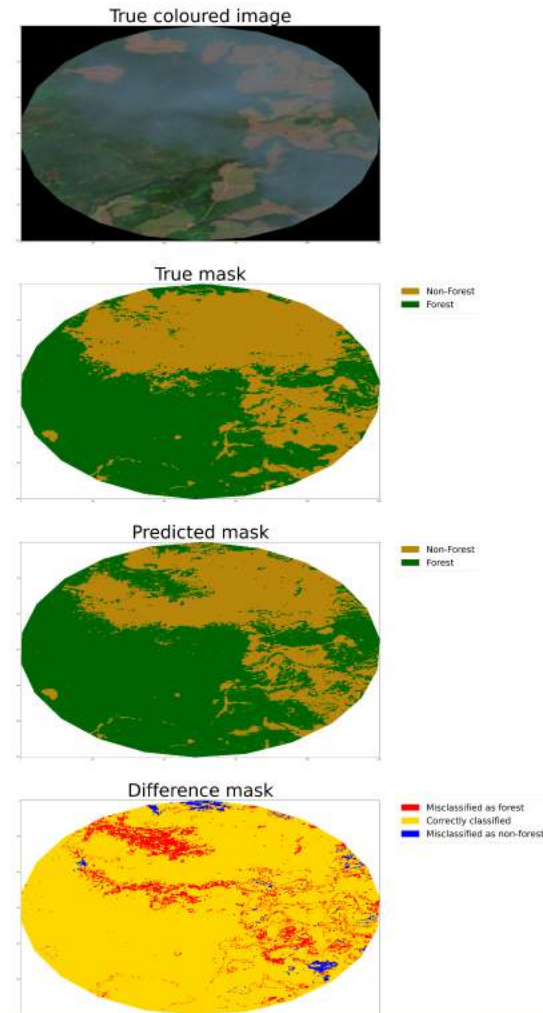
Feature Importance Table

Visualization of the results

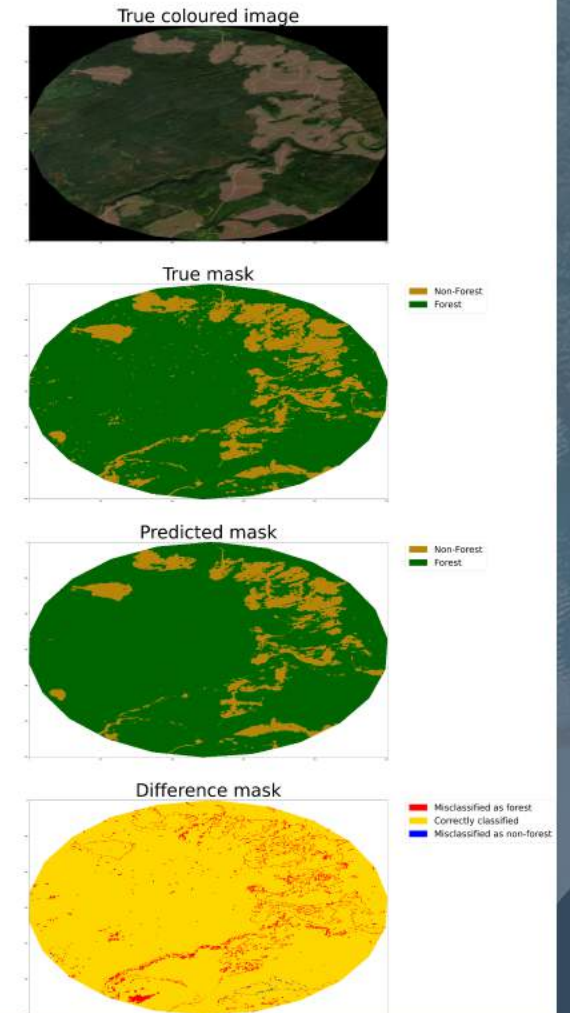
Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 07/20/2023



Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 07/12/2023

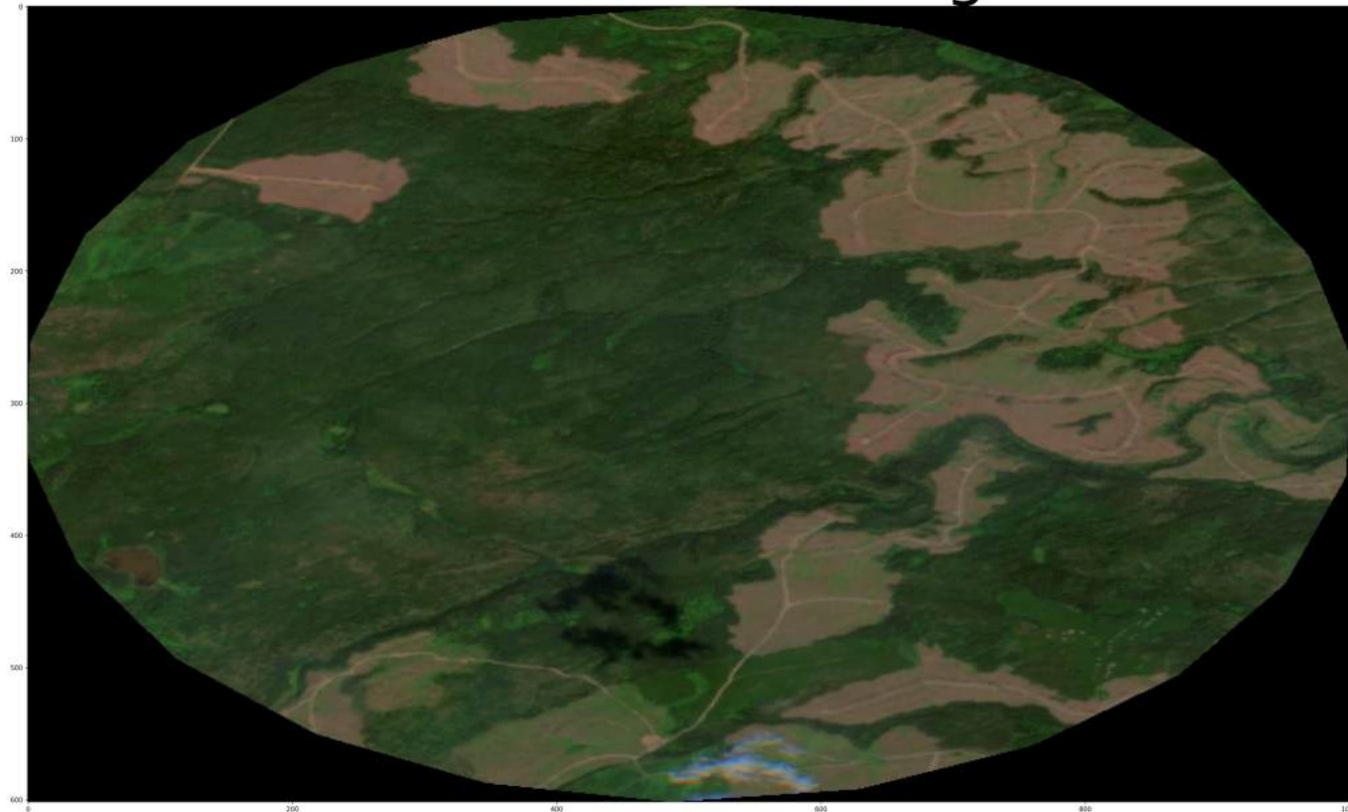


Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 09/10/2023

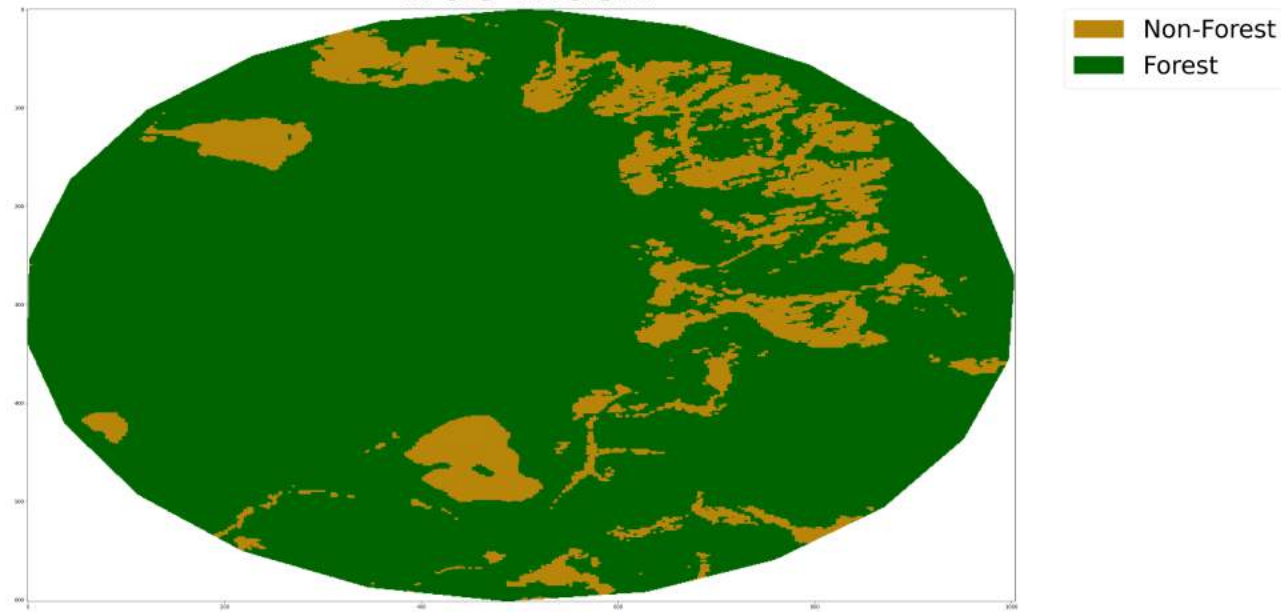


Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 07/20/2023

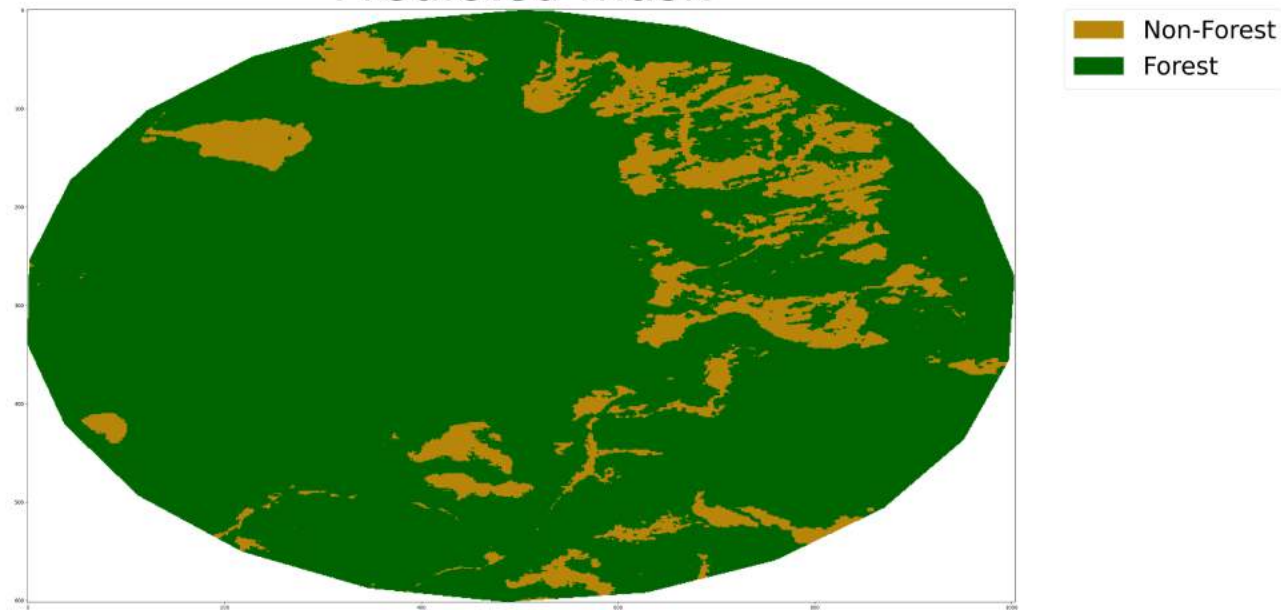
True coloured image



True mask

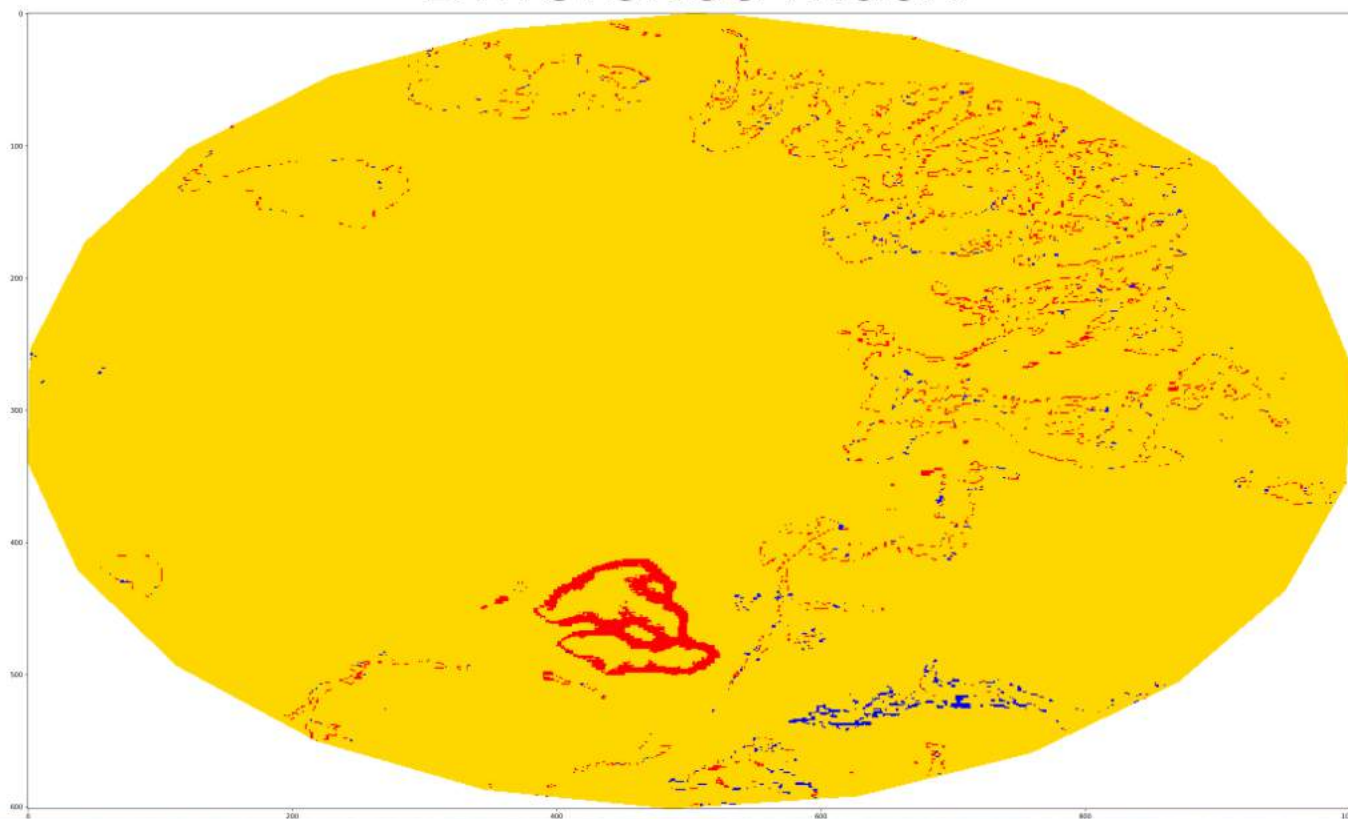


Predicted mask





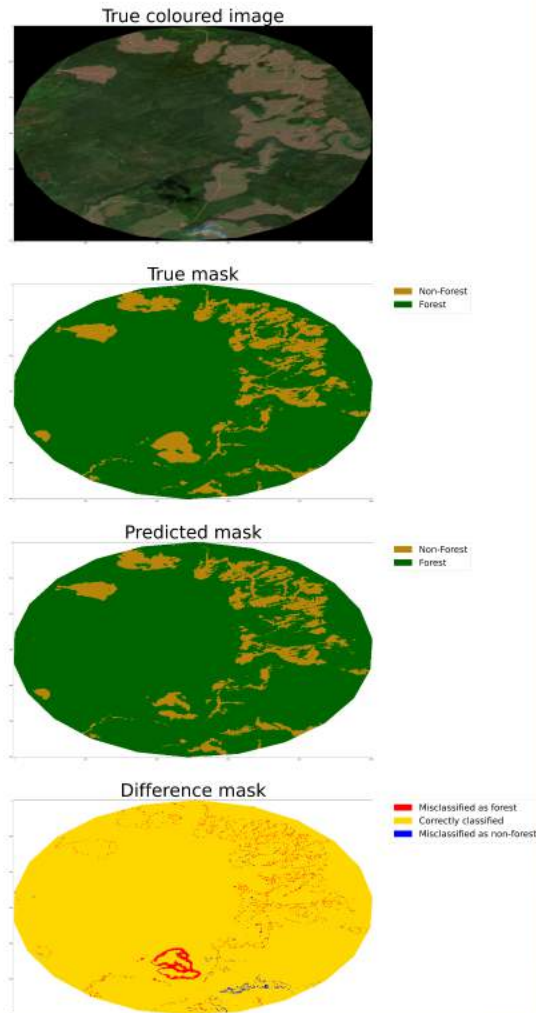
Difference mask



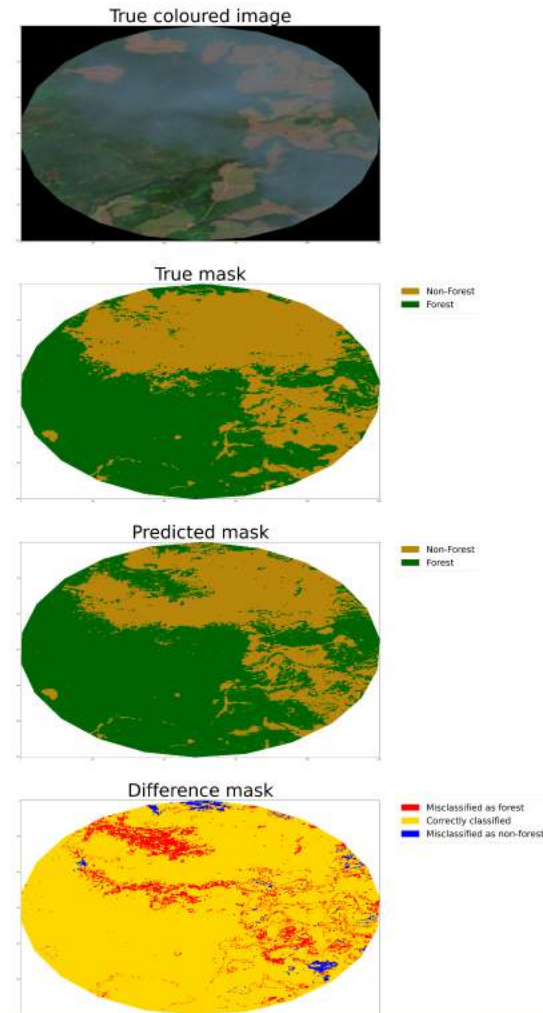
- Misclassified as forest
- Correctly classified
- Misclassified as non-forest

Visualization of the results

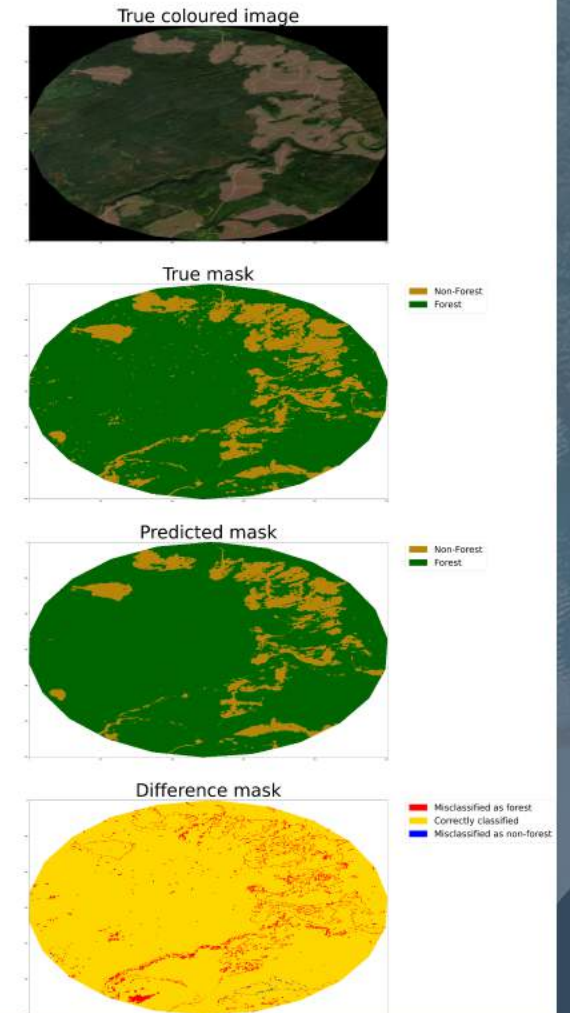
Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 07/20/2023



Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 07/12/2023



Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 09/10/2023

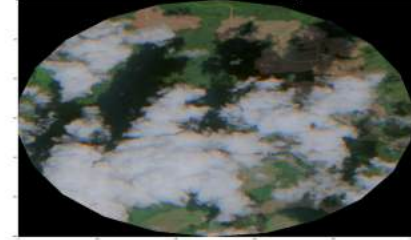


Possible Improvements/Future Works

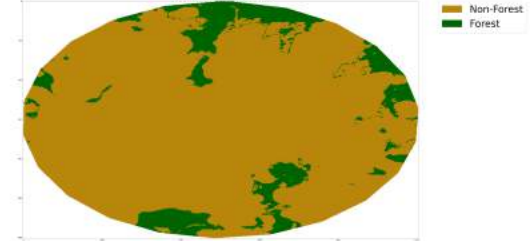
- Forest Change Detection
- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN)
- Satellite Integration
 - Landsat 8/9
 - MODIS
- Improve Cloud Cover
- Classify to human/nature-based deforestation

Location: 53°26'50"N 124°38'13"W (3km radius)
Acquisition date: 06/27/2023

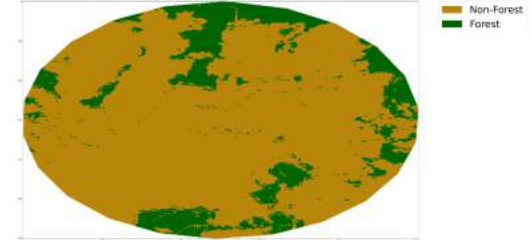
True coloured image



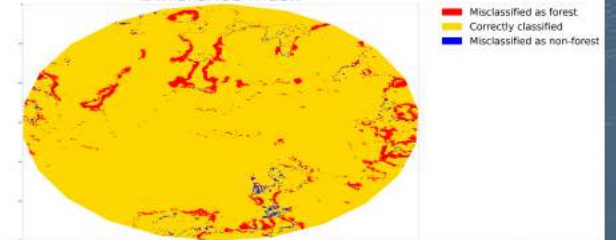
True mask



Predicted mask



Difference mask





Thank you for your attention!