

# Eya Cherif

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I am a PhD candidate at Leipzig University. My PhD project is at the interface of remote sensing of vegetation and machine learning. I am particularly interested to explore Deep Learning techniques using hyperspectral data for vegetation properties estimation.

## Education

June 2021 – Present	<b>Leipzig University, Germany</b> <i>PhD Candidate in Earth sciences and geophysics</i>
October 2018 – January 2021	<b>University of Passau, Germany</b> <i>Master of Science in Computer Science</i> Double degree program with Erasmus+ scholarship
September 2016 – January 2021	<b>Higher School of Communication of Tunis (SUPCOM), Tunisia</b> <i>Engineering Degree in ICT</i> Double Degree Program in Telecommunication Systems (Systel)
September 2014 – June 2016	<b>University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia</b> <i>Undergraduate Diploma in Mathematics and Physics</i> <b>Ranked 143/2280</b> in the national entrance examination to engineering schools

## Practical Experience

June 2021 – Present	<b>Scalable Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Center (ScaDS.AI) and Remote Sensing for Earth System Research (RSC4Earth), Leipzig, Germany</b> <i>Researcher</i>
February 2024 – June 2024	<b>Mila - Quebec AI Institute, Canada</b> <i>Research Intern</i>
May 2020 – December 2020	<b>Esri Deutschland GmbH, Germany</b> <i>Master Thesis –Intern</i>
November 2019 – May 2020	<b>Quicket GmbH, Germany</b> <i>Working Student</i>
June 2018 – August 2018	<b>Standard Sharing Software (3S), Tunisia</b> <i>Engineering Intern</i>

July 2017 – August 2017

**Tunisie Telecom, Tunisia**  
*Intern*

## Scientific Publications

- **Cherif, E.**, Ouaknine, A., Brown, L. A., Dao, P. D., Kovach, K. R., Lu, B., Mederer, D., Feilhauer, H., Kattenborn, T., Rolnick, D. (2025). GreenHyperSpectra: A multi-source hyperspectral dataset for global vegetation trait prediction, *In NeurIPS 2025*
- Mederer, D., Feilhauer, H., **Cherif, E.**, Berger, K., Hank, T. B., Kovach, K. R., ... & Kattenborn, T. (2025). Plant trait retrieval from hyperspectral data: Collective efforts in scientific data curation outperform simulated data derived from the PROSAIL model. *ISPRS Open Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*.
- **Cherif, E.**, Feilhauer, H., Berger, K., Dao, P. D., Ewald, M., Hank, T. B., ... & Kattenborn, T. (2023). From Spectra to Plant Functional Traits: Transferable Multi-Trait Models from Heterogeneous and Sparse Data. *Remote Sensing of Environment*.
- **Cherif, E.**, Hell, M., & Brandmeier, M. (2022). DeepForest: Novel Deep Learning Models for Land Use and Land Cover Classification Using Multi-Temporal and Modal Sentinel Data of the Amazon Basin. *Remote Sensing*.

## Scholarships & Awards

- **Finalist** – EARSeL Young Scientist Award Poster Presentation (2022, Germany)
- **STIBET Scholarship** – DAAD (2019, Germany)
- **Finalist (Top 8 teams)** – Atos IT Challenge: Machine Learning for Sustainability (2019, Germany)
- **Erasmus+ Scholarship** – (2018, Germany)

## Technical Skills

- **Languages:** Python, MATLAB, C, C++
- **Machine Learning:** PyTorch, TensorFlow/Keras (*Coursera-certified*)
- **Containerization & Deployment:** Docker (*Nvidia NCG*)
- **Databases:** SQL, Neo4j, MongoDB
- **GIS Tools:** QGIS, ArcGIS Pro (*Esri-certified in Spatial Data Science*)
- **Satellite Data Processing:** Sentinel-2 (Multispectral), Hyperspectral Data
- **Azure Microsoft certificated:** Azure Fundamentals

## Languages

- **German:** B1
- **English:** B2
- **French:** C1
- **Arabic:** C2 (*Native speaker*)

## **Conferences & talks**

- **Invited talk** at the Rolnick Lab at Mila, 2025 (Remote)
- **Invited talk** at the Plant Functional Ecology Lab of the Université de Montréal, 2024 (Montreal, Canada)
- **CEOS Workshop on Biodiversity, 2024** (UN CBD, Montreal, Canada)
- **GFÖ, 2023** – Volunteer & Participant (Leipzig, Germany)
- **EGU, 2023** – Participant (Austria)
- **ELLIS Doctoral Symposium, 2022** – Participant (Spain)
- **EARSeL Workshop, 2022** – Participant (Germany)
- **Living Planet Symposium, 2022** – Participant (Germany)
- **ESA EO Φ-WEEK, 2020** – Participant (Online)
- **Gastrohackathon, 2019/2020** – Participant (Salzburg)

## **Personal Interests**

- **Music Diploma**
- **Chorbeau – German-French Choir**