# Automatic construction of 3D tree models from airborne LiDAR data in multiple levels of detail



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3dfier output (3D Geoinformation Group, 2019)

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### **Research Questions**

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How can 3D tree models at varying Levels of Detail be automatically constructed from airborne LiDAR point cloud data?



### **Research Questions**

How can 3D tree models at varying Levels of Detail be automatically constructed from airborne LiDAR point cloud data? Introduction What applications require what type or Level of Detail (LOD) 1. of 3D tree models? Methodology 2. What LODs are most fitting for which type of tree models (single vegetation object or vegetation group)? **Results** 3. How can a final implementation be made to fit into the 3dfier pipeline? Conclusions 4. Is it possible to determine which tree type a tree belongs to, based on features that can be extracted from trees in airborne LiDAR point cloud data?



# Approach



## Proposal

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LOD Specifications (Biljecki et al., 2016)

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LOD Proposal (Ortega-C'ordova, 2018)

### Proposal







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Height from ground







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Watershed segmentation (Roudier et Al., 2008)



Watershed segmentation (Roudier et Al., 2008)

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#### Introduction

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**Results** 

<b>DEM resolution</b>	Underseg.	Overseg.	Good segmentation
0.25m	4.3%	20.6%	75.0%
0.50m	10.6%	8.6%	80.8%
0.75m	12.5%	4.0%	83.6%
1.00m	13.3%	3.4%	83.2%
1.25m	17.3%	1.2%	81.4%
1.50m	18.5%	2.3%	79.3%



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**Results** 

Threshold	Trees recognized	Underseg.	Overseg.	Good segmentation
1.00m	91.6%	9.1%	7.7%	83.2%
1.10m	89.7%	10.4%	6.7%	82.9%
1.20m	88.0%	11.2%	5.7%	83.1%
1.30m	85.7%	12.3%	4.5%	83.2%
1.40m	84.5%	12.5%	3.7%	83.8%
1.50m	82.8%	12.5%	4.0%	83.6%
1.60m	81.8%	12.6%	3.2%	84.2%
1.70m	81.8%	12.6%	3.2%	84.2%
1.80m	81.3%	13.3%	3.5%	83.2%
1.90m	80.6%	13.1%	2.2%	84.6%
2.00m	79.9%	13.5%	2.2%	84.2%



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Threshold	Trees recognized	Underseg.	Overseg.	Good segmentation
1.00m	91.6%	9.1%	7.7%	83.2%
1.10m	89.7%	10.4%	6.7%	82.9%
1.20m	88.0%	11.2%	5.7%	83.1%
1.30m	85.7%	12.3%	4.5%	83.2%
1.40m	84.5%	12.5%	3.7%	83.8%
1.50m	82.8%	12.5%	4.0%	83.6%
1.60m	81.8%	12.6%	3.2%	84.2%
1.70m	81.8%	12.6%	3.2%	84.2%
1.80m	81.3%	13.3%	3.5%	83.2%
1.90m	80.6%	13.1%	2.2%	84.6%
2.00m	79.9%	13.5%	2.2%	84.2%

84.5% \*83.8% ≈ 70%



# Data Cleaning

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# **Data Cleaning**



# Filter

Rules:

- A segment needs to consist of at least 50 points
  - A segment's average intensity value needs to be below 100
- A segment's average number of returns should be above 1.5
- A segment's maximum height is 50m



#### Max height: 70m

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# 

Avg. Intensity: 1460





Avg. nr of returns: 1.3

# **Planarity Check**

#### Random Sample Consensus (RANSAC)

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# **Planarity Check**

### Remove:



Distance < 100mm



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# **Planarity Check**

### Do not remove





Distance > 100mm



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# Sub-Planarity Check

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Low number of returns to identify planes within segments



5

3

4

# Sub-Planarity Check

10000

8000

6000

4000

2000

83000.0 82000.

78000

77000

76000

9,402475000







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9.4016 9.4018

9.4020

9.4022

le7



9.4022

77000

12000

-10000

8000

6000

4000

2000

76000

9.402475000

9.4020







# **Outlier Removal**

Density-Based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise (DBSCAN)

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DBSCAN (Pedregosa et Al., 2008)



# **Outlier Removal**

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# Modelling Parameters

	Tree Top
Introduction	Higher Periphery
Methodology	Periphery
Results	Lower Periphery Crown Base
Conclusions	
<b>ŤU</b> Delft	Tree Base, Ground Height

# Modelling

Vertex	X	Y	Z
vo	x = a	x = b	x = c
V1	x = a - r	x = b	x = c
V2	$x = a - \cos(60) * r$	$x = b + \sin(60) * r$	x = c
<b>v</b> 3	$x = a + \cos(60) * r$	$x = b + \sin(60) * r$	x = c
<b>v</b> 4	x = a + r	x = b	x = c
<b>v</b> 5	$x = a + \cos(60) * r$	$x = b - \sin(60) * r$	x = c
<b>v</b> 6	$x = a - \cos(60) * r$	$x = b - \sin(60) * r$	x = c

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# Modelling



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**Convex Hull** 



Alpha Shape

Alpha shape (Eich et Al., 2008)



# Modelling





# **Type Classification**



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# **Type Classification**





Acer Acesculus = Ailanthus = Alnus = Populus = Carpinus = Corylus = Crataegus = Frazinus = Gleditsia = Liquidambar = Malus = Pinus = Platanus = Populus = Prunus = Robinia = Tilia = Ulmus



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# Type Classification

Clades

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Angiospermae Coniferae

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Good examples





Outliers



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#### Remaining inaccuracies



**Under-segmentation** 

**Misclassification** 



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![](_page_48_Picture_6.jpeg)

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![](_page_49_Picture_5.jpeg)

Penetrating the irregular ground

Open Gap Penetration

![](_page_49_Picture_8.jpeg)

### Comparison

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

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# Comparison

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Conclusions

How can 3D tree models at varying Levels of Detail be automatically constructed from airborne LiDAR point cloud data?

- This implementation shows how
- 85% trees recognized
- 70% is modelled correctly
- Multiple LODs supported

How can a final implementation be made to fit into the 3dfier pipeline?

- For simple visualization, it fits
- For a seamless fit, more work needs to be done

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![](_page_52_Picture_13.jpeg)

## **Future Work**

- Introduction
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- Ground Truth for AHN3
- Post-Segmentation improvements
- Tree trunks
- Seamless integration 3dfier

![](_page_53_Picture_9.jpeg)

# Automatic construction of 3D tree models from airborne LiDAR data in multiple levels of detail

![](_page_54_Picture_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_54_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_4.jpeg)

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