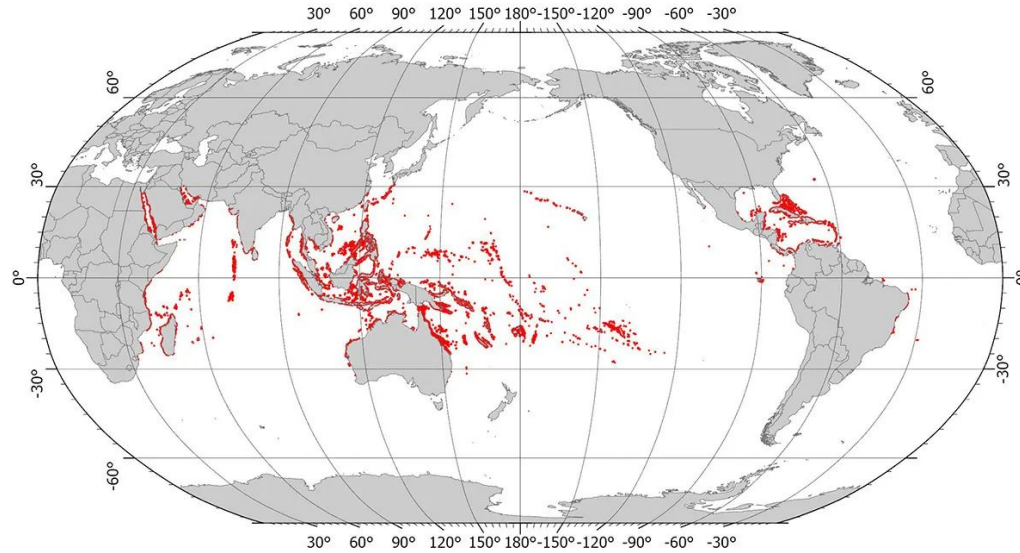




← *Acropora valida*



Background & Incentive > Spoiler > Structure of the next ½

Coral Reefs



< 0.1% of the ocean floor,

BUT...

support 25% of marine life,

protect coastlines,

are really beautiful!

colonies of small animals (polyps)

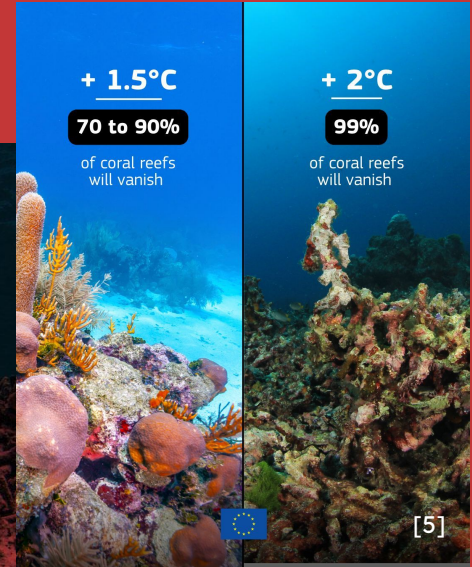
that are building structures

of many different shapes



[2]

Threats

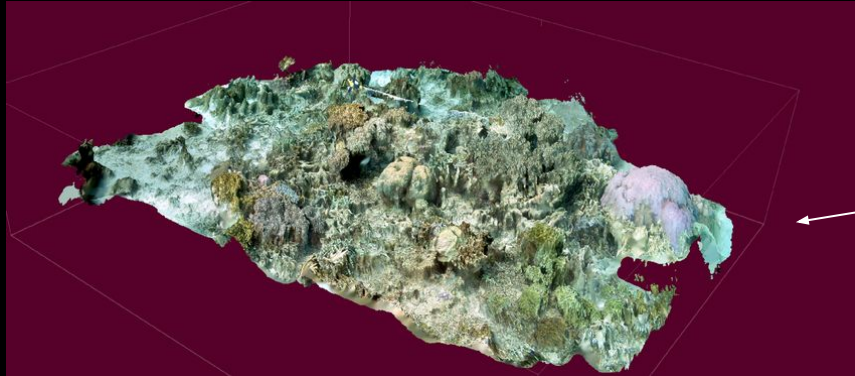




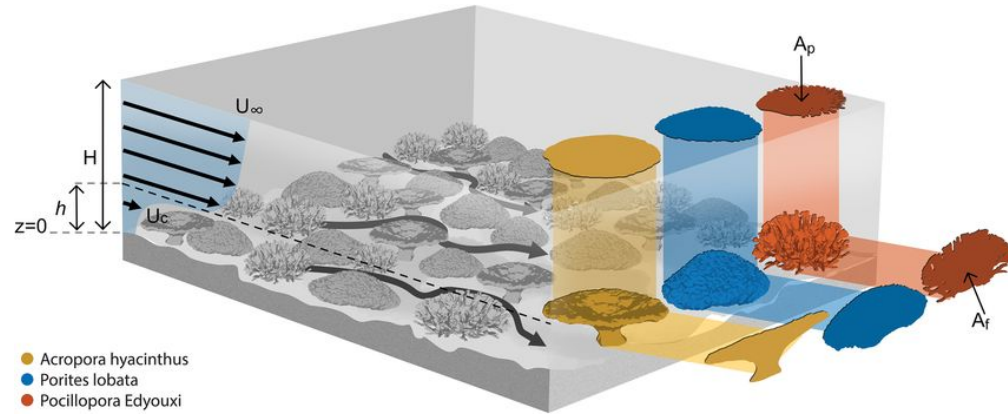
Technological Advancements



Computer Vision



3D Scanning



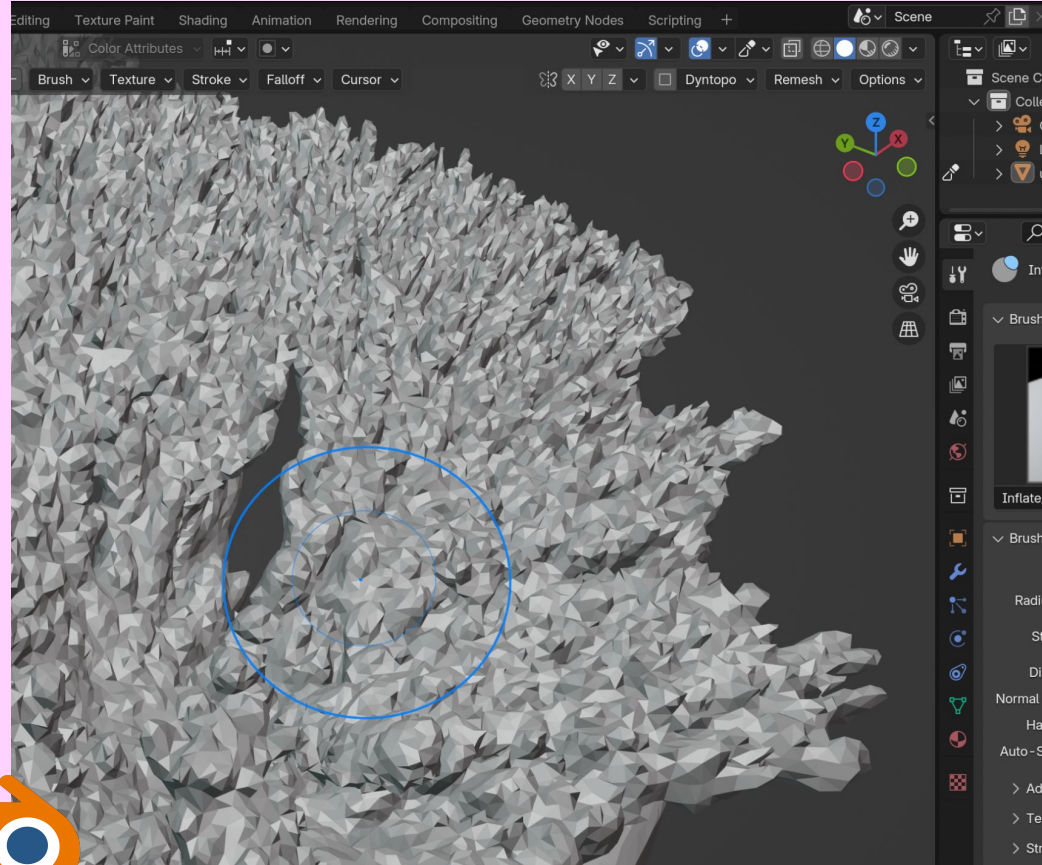
[7]

3D Models

Photogrammetry

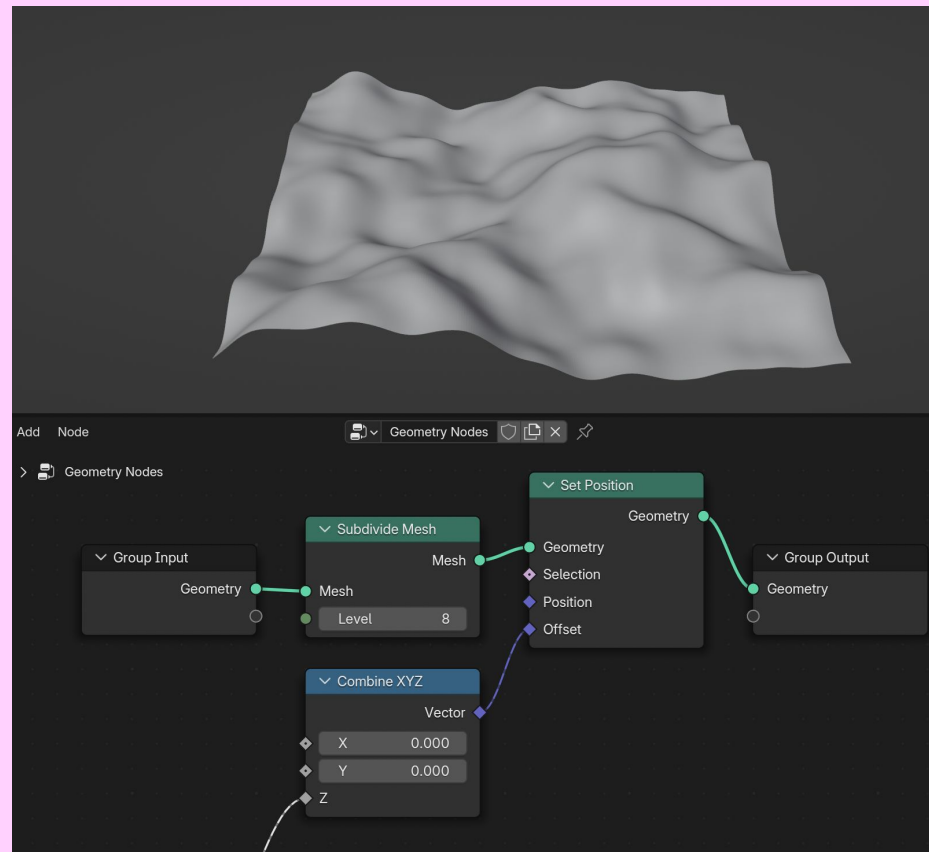


If you have sufficient
Time & Expertise...



If you have sufficient

~~Time & Expertise...~~





Geomatics – for the Built Environment

The science of Geomatics concerns the acquisition, modelling, analysis, management and visualisation of geographic data with the aim of gaining knowledge and a better understanding of the built and natural environments.

The programme at TU Delft differs from other Geomatics programmes in its broad and interdisciplinary nature and technical depth as well as its close connection to the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment. With increasing amounts of geographic data being collected and growing insight into how value can be added through analysis of this data, the demand for experts in the field is rapidly growing. Hence Geomatics graduates easily find jobs in companies, universities and governmental institutes locally and abroad.

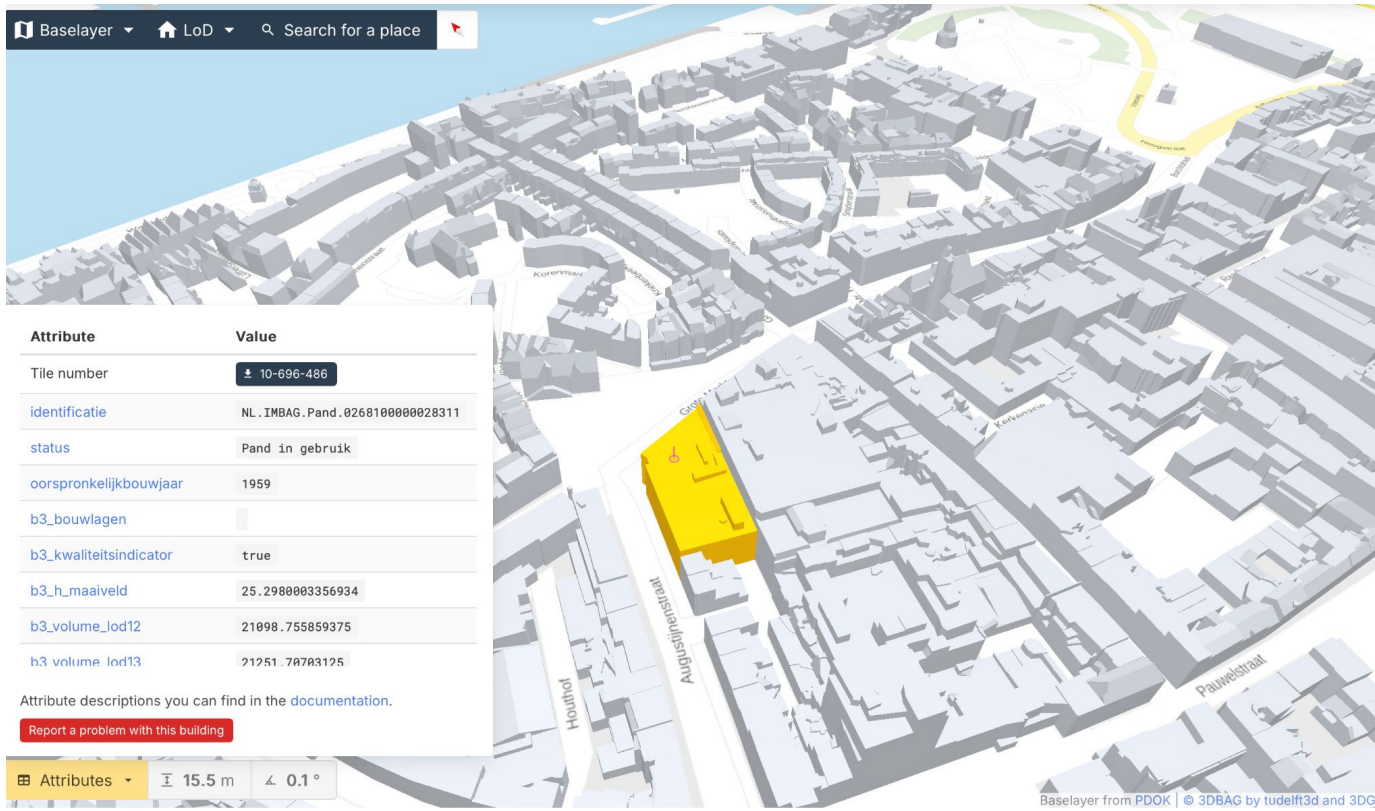
At Geomatics we host a high percentage of international students with very diverse academic backgrounds. The fact that the programme is relatively small contributes to a communal group feeling among the students and a close connection to the lecturers. Additionally, the student association GEOS regularly organises career-related and social activities such as the annual trip to the INTERGEO conference in Germany.

What will you learn

Baselayer

LoD

Search for a place



A 3D perspective view of a city model. A specific building is highlighted in yellow. The building is rectangular and has a flat roof. It is situated on a street corner. The surrounding area includes other buildings, streets, and a body of water in the background. The interface shows a search bar at the top and a list of attributes for the selected building on the left.

Attribute	Value
Tile number	10-696-486
identificatie	NL.IMBAG.Pand.0268100000028311
status	Pand in gebruik
oorspronkelijkbouwjaar	1959
b3_bouwlagen	
b3_kwaliteitsindicator	true
b3_h_maaiveld	25.2980003356934
b3_volume_lod12	21098.755859375
b3 volume lod13	21251.70703125

Attribute descriptions you can find in the [documentation](#).

[Report a problem with this building](#)

Attributes

15.5 m

0.1 °

Baselayer from PDOK | © 3DBAG by tudelft3d and 3DG

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Coral reefs are among the most diverse and ecologically significant ecosystems on Earth (Fisher et al., 2015), often referred to as the "cities of the sea" (Wicks, 2016) due to their complex structures and the vast number of species they support. Despite covering less than 0.1% of the ocean floor, coral reefs provide habitat for approximately 25% of all marine species (Spalding et al., 2001). Corals, which are actually colonies of small animals called polyps, form the foundation of these ecosystems by secreting calcium carbonate to create a hard skeleton. Different coral species grow into many different shapes—such as branching or massive growth forms, as shown in **Figure 1.1**—each contributing to the overall structure of the reef. This diversity in shape and structure adds to the habitat complexity of the reef and helps support a wide range of marine life.

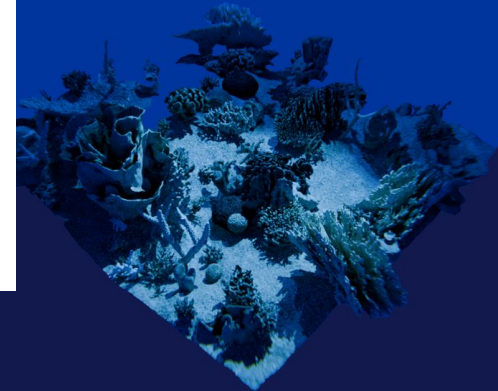
ologically significant ecosystems
as the "cities of the sea" (Wicks
vast number of species they
the ocean floor, coral reefs provide
species (Spalding et al., 2001).

MSc thesis in Geomatics for the Built Environment

Automated Data-Driven Classification
of Coral Reef Models
Assessing and Integrating
Empirical Data Sources

Brouwer

2024



TU Delft

MSc thesis in Geomatics for the Built Environment

Automated Data-Driven Generation of 3D Coral Reef Models: Assessing and Integrating Empirical Data Sources

Gees Brouwer

2024

Data-driven perspective

- ▷ Systematic, quantitative
- ▷ Spatial patterns/relationships?

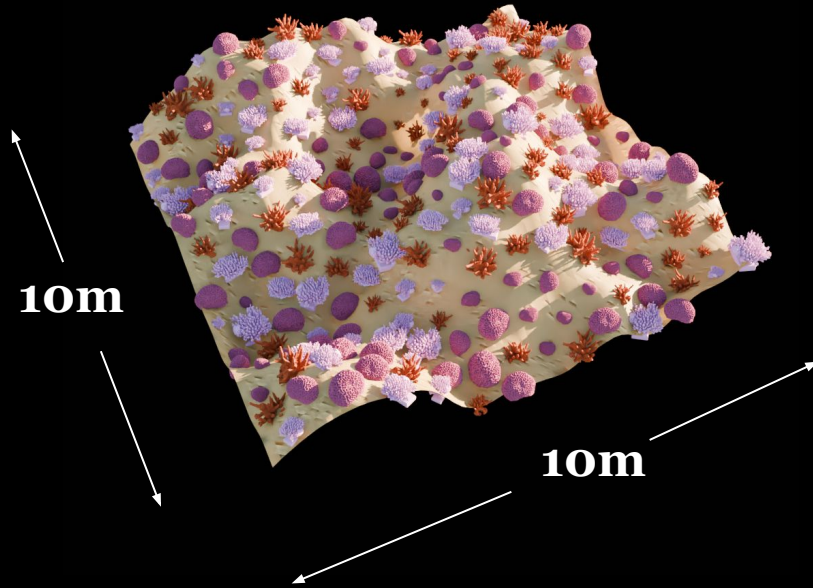
Dynamic and adaptable

- ▷ Rapidly growing data!

Integrative

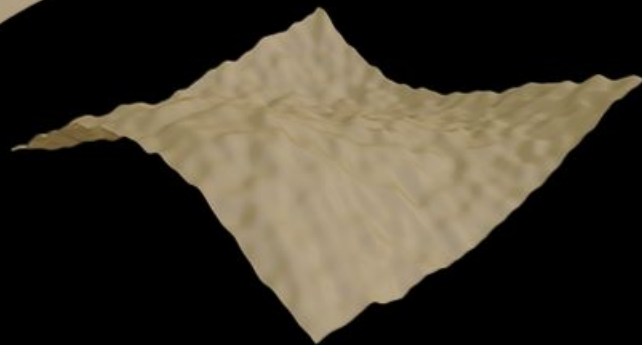
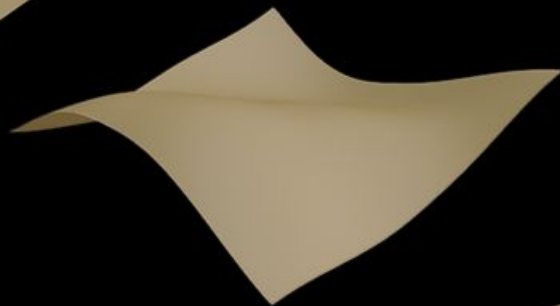
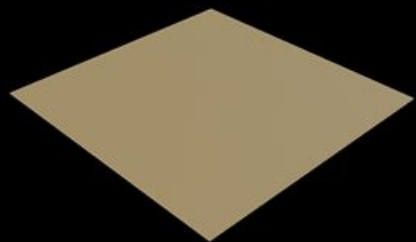
- ▷ Fusion of data from multiple origins

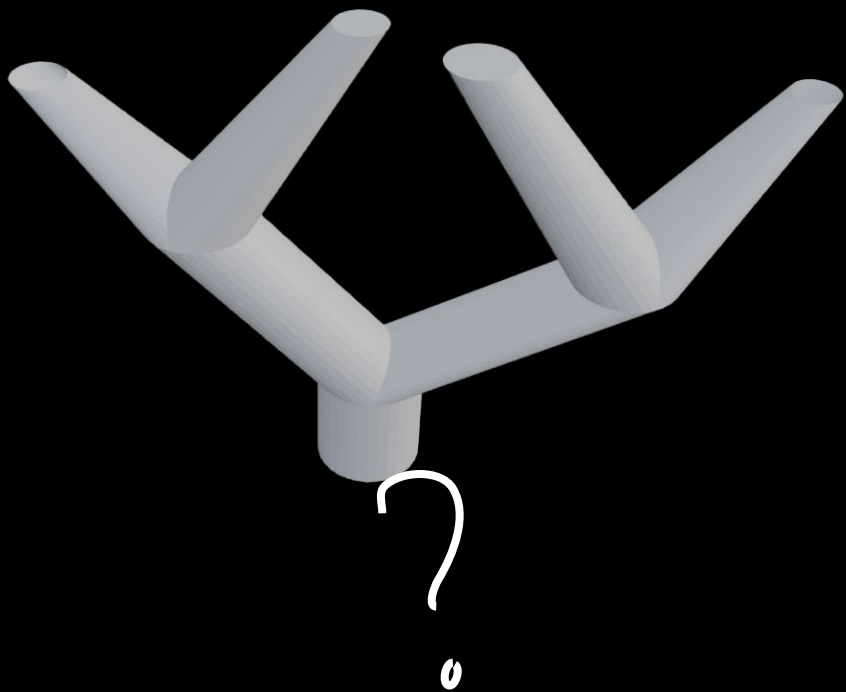


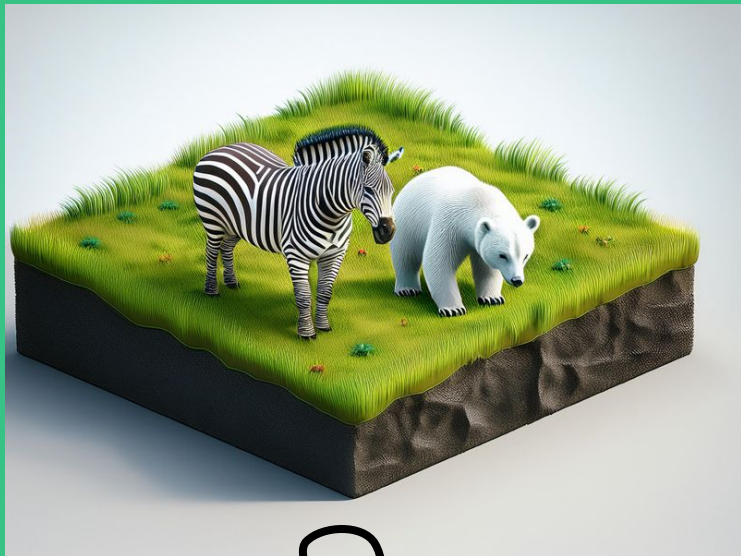


- ▷ Pipeline for automated modelling
- ▷ Extract information from data sources
- ▷ *"Ecologically plausible"* models

Ecologically plausible? ➤

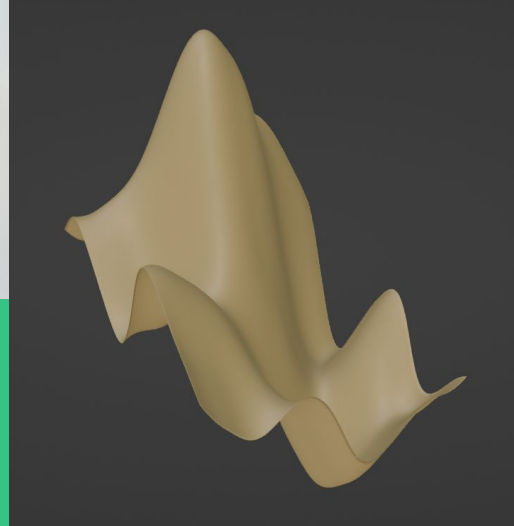
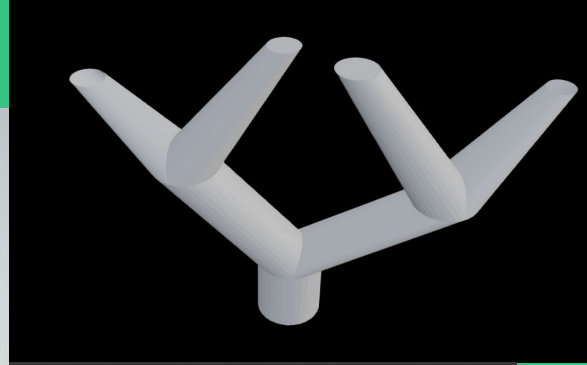




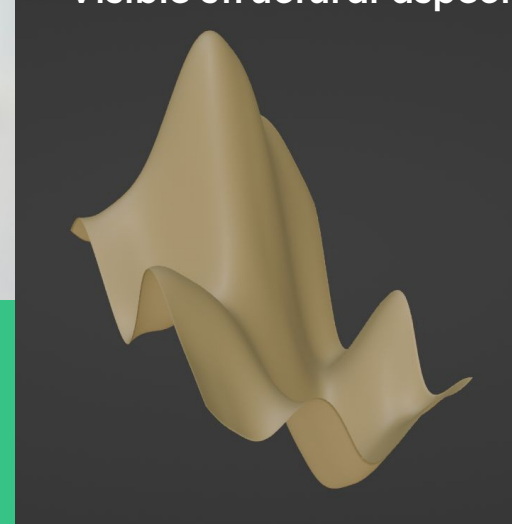
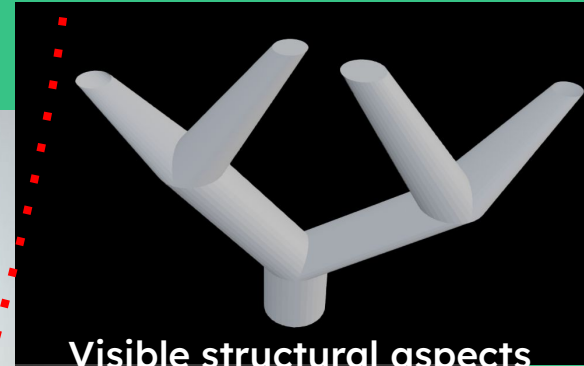
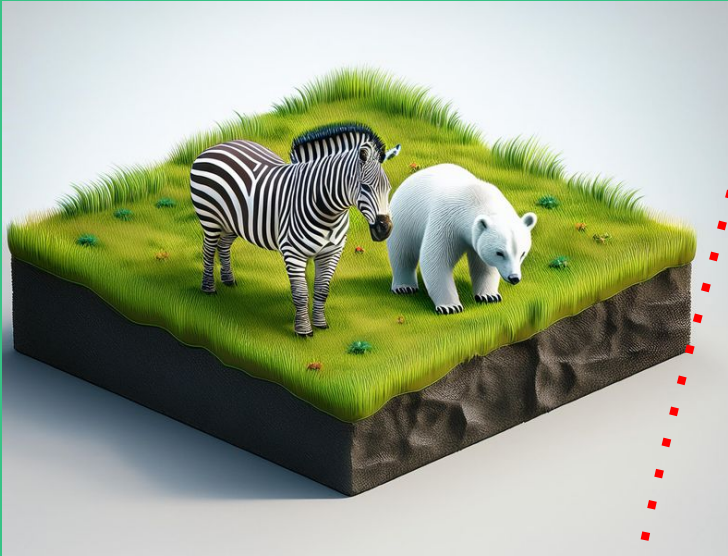


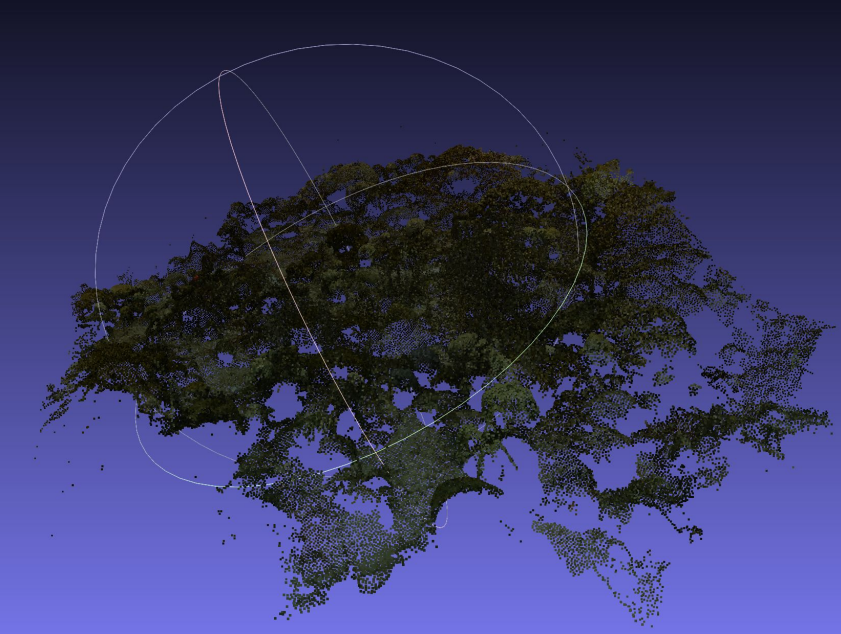
?





Deeper foundational aspects





567

Branch diameter

👁 145 ☐

560

Branching architecture

👁 1294 ☐

558

Calyx height

👁 189 ☐

565

Calyx width

👁 150 ☐

104

Colony area

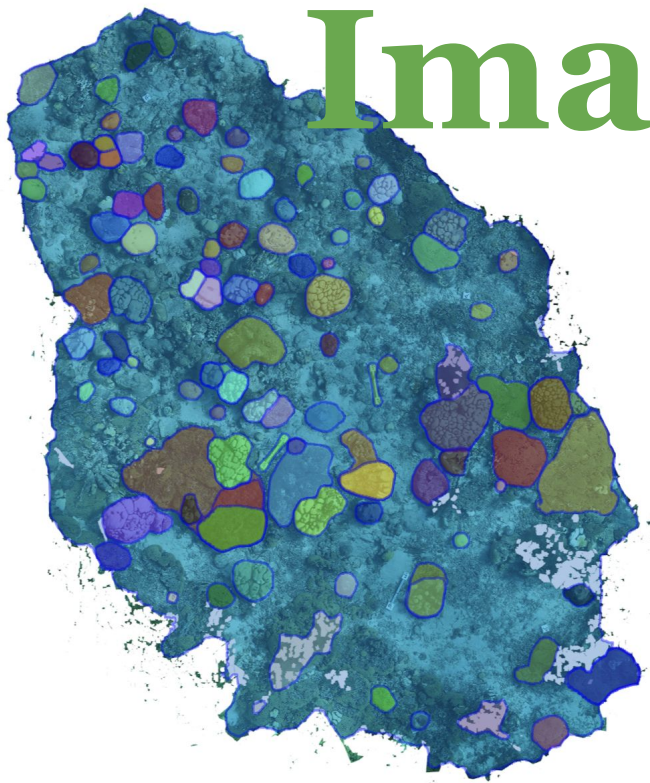
👁 4433 ☐

155

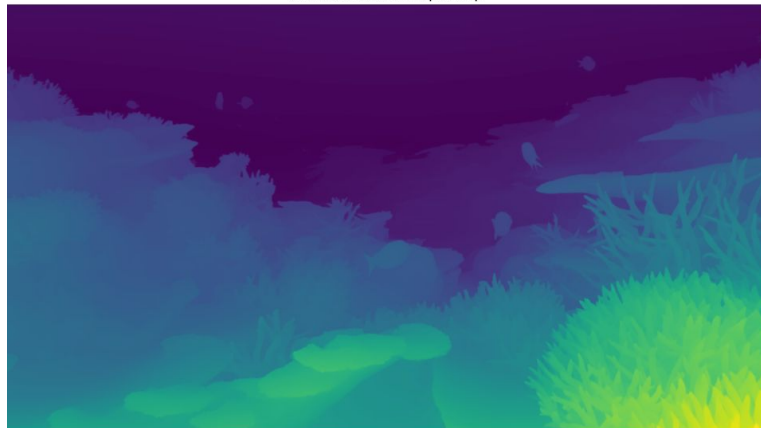
Colony area

3D Data

Images



Predicted Inverse Depth Map



0.8

0.7

0.6

0.5

0.4

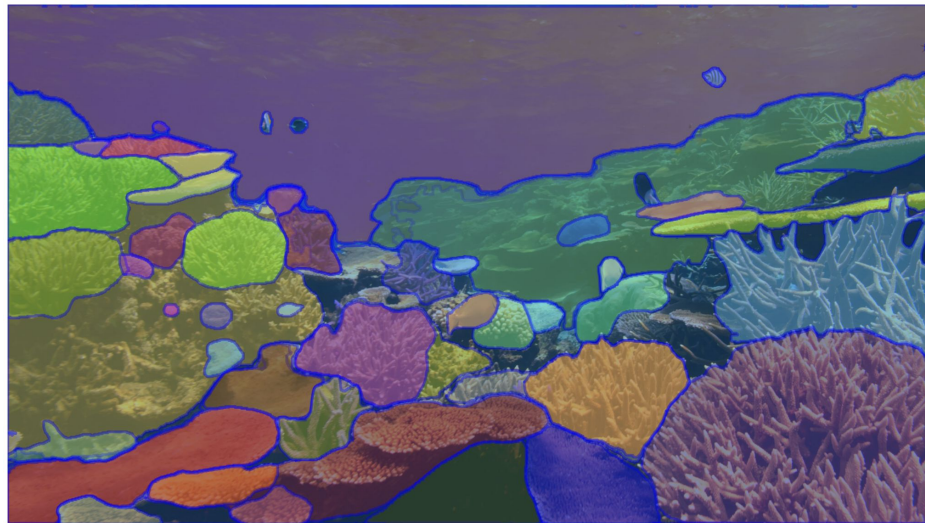
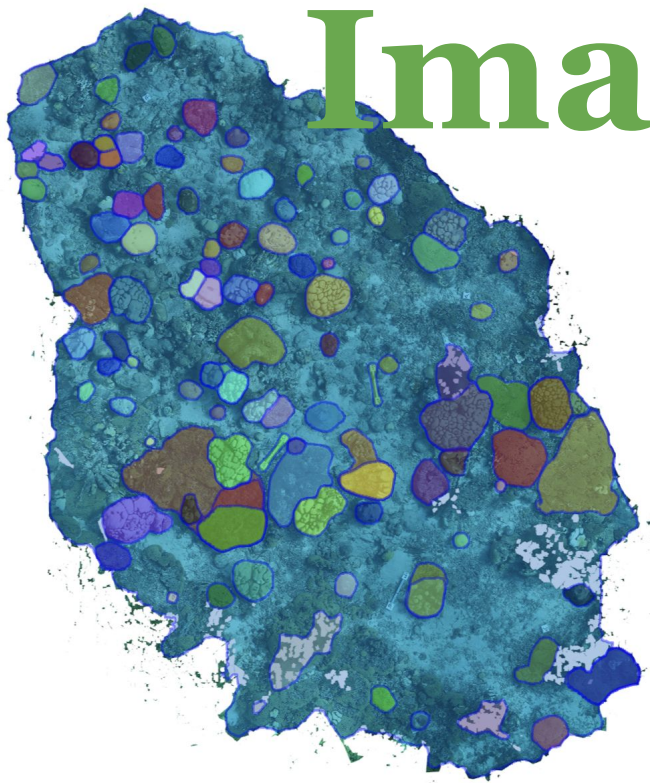
0.3

0.2

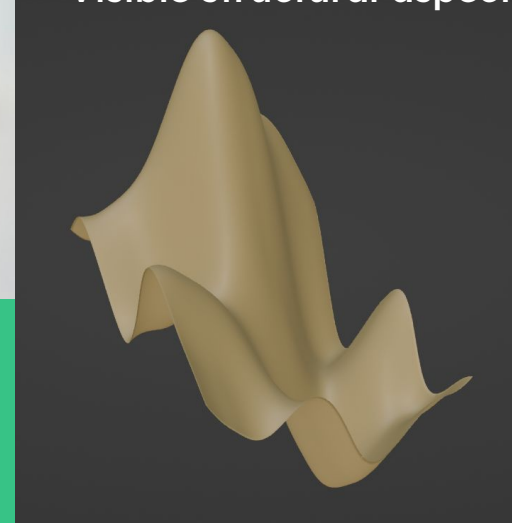
0.1

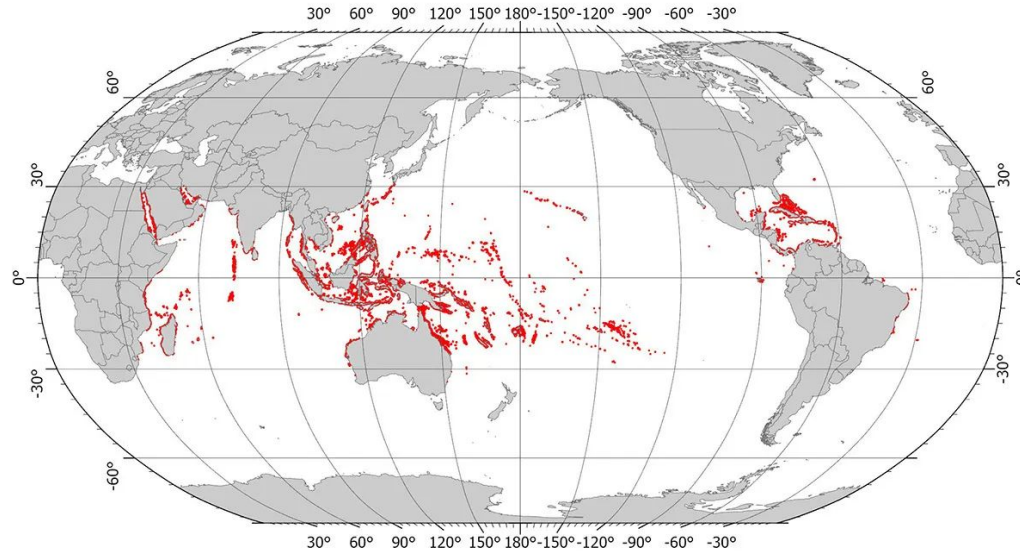
Inverse Depth

Images

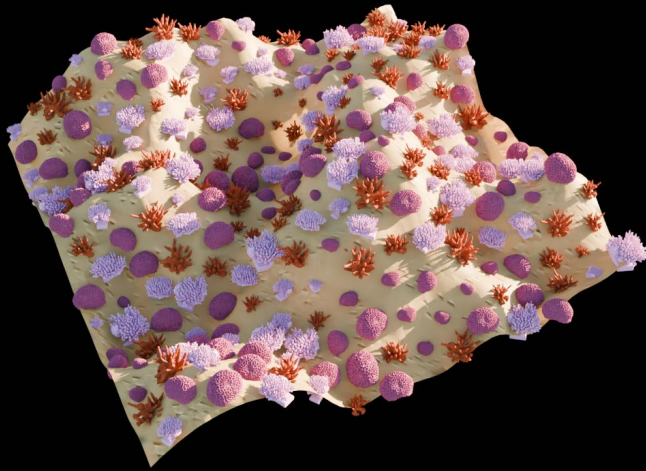


Deeper foundational aspects





Research Question(s) > Their answers > Limitations > Q&A



- ▷ **What** data sources are relevant?
- ▷ **How** to process and extract information?
- ▷ **How** to turn *that* into modelling?
- ▷ **What** can we achieve for automated modelling?
/ overall conclusion

Limitations + Future work

Q&A

▷ **What** data sources are relevant?

▷ **How** to process and extract information?

▷ **How** to turn *that* into modelling?

▷ **What** can we achieve for
automated modelling?

▷ 3D data

▷ Segmented Images

▷ CoralNet (images)

▷ GBIF (observations)

▷ Allen Coral Atlas (zones)

▷ Smithsonian Institution's 3D model collection

▷ Coral Traits Database



Smithsonian Institution



Acropora cervicornis



Acropora prolifera



Acropora valenciennesi



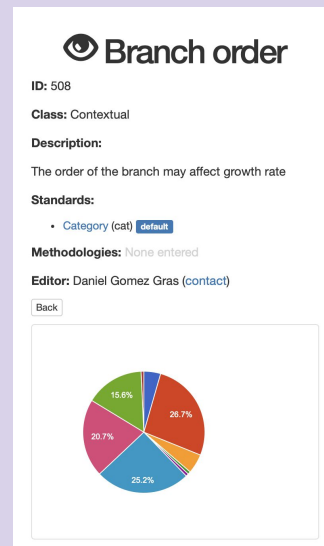
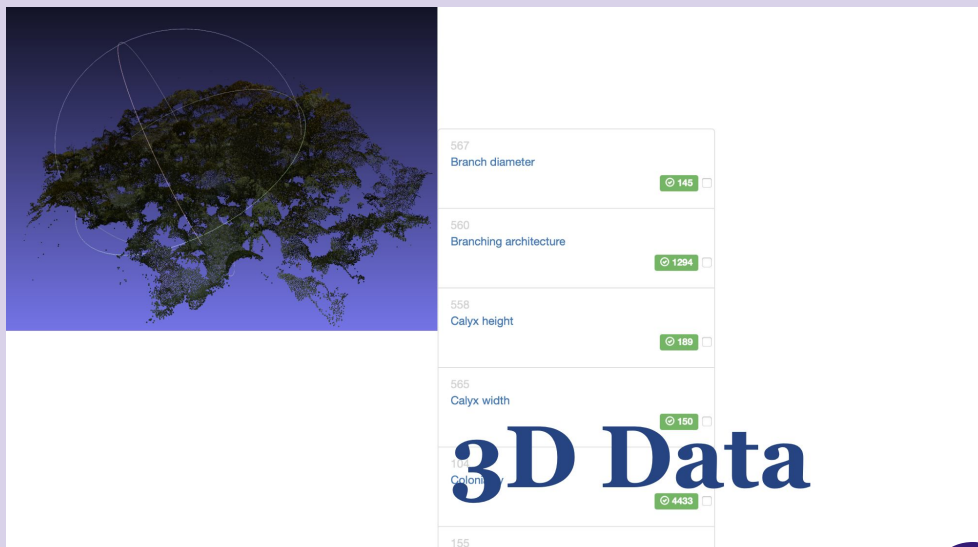
Heliopora coerulea



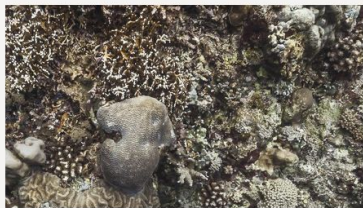
Goniastrea favulus



Corallium sp.



Coral Trait Database



CORALNET

A WEB SOLUTION FOR CORAL REEF ANALYSIS

Upload coral reef images, organize and annotate images, and view annotation statistics.

[Sign In](#)[Register](#)[About](#)

SITEWIDE STATISTICS

Number of sources: 4,730

Number of images: 3,975,620

Number of point annotations: 192,125,314

4



Public source



Private source



2 Multiple sources

Leaflet | Map data from OpenStreetMap

SITEWIDE STATISTICS

Number of sources: 4,524

Number of images: 3,818,493

Number of point annotations: 184,463,218

SITE NEWS

Classifying images with a different source's classifier

New dashboard for monitoring background jobs

CoralNet now estimates carbonate production rates

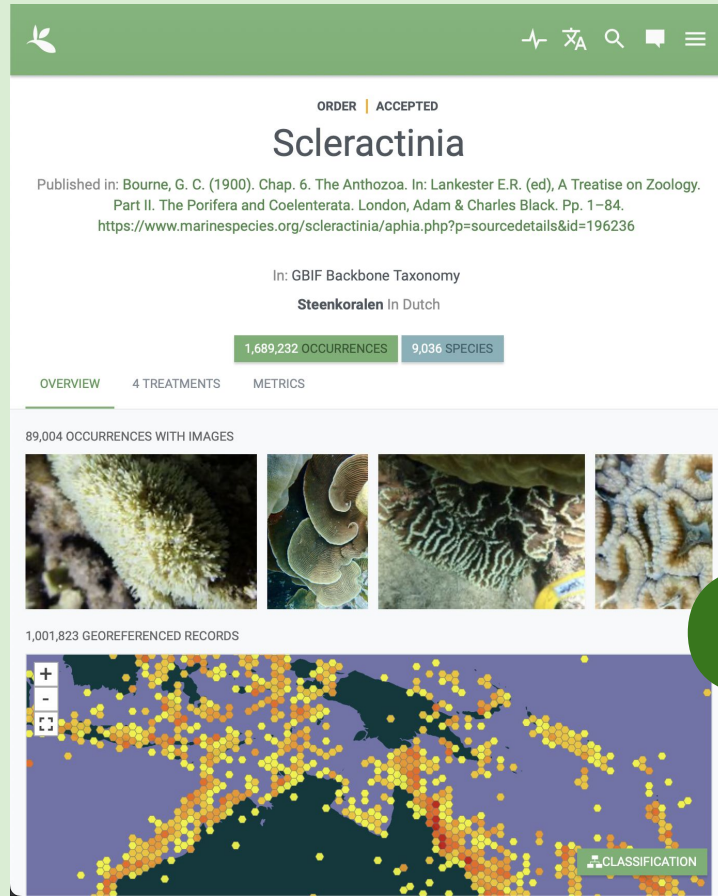


*Acropora
cerv.*

*Flebo seris
cucullata*

??
..

CoralNet



The screenshot shows the GBIF web interface for the taxon Scleractinia. At the top, there's a green header with navigation icons. Below it, the taxon name 'Scleractinia' is prominently displayed, followed by its publication details and a URL. A green button indicates '1,689,232 OCCURRENCES' and a blue button shows '9,036 SPECIES'. Navigation tabs for 'OVERVIEW', '4 TREATMENTS', and 'METRICS' are visible. A section titled '89,004 OCCURRENCES WITH IMAGES' features four photographs of various coral species. Below this, a map displays '1,001,823 GEOREFERENCED RECORDS' as numerous yellow and orange dots across the world's oceans. A 'CLASSIFICATION' tree is partially visible at the bottom right.

ORDER | ACCEPTED

Scleractinia

Published in: Bourne, G. C. (1900). Chap. 6. The Anthozoa. In: Lankester E.R. (ed), A Treatise on Zoology. Part II. The Porifera and Coelenterata. London, Adam & Charles Black. Pp. 1–84.
<https://www.marinespecies.org/scleractinia/aphia.php?p=sourcedetails&id=196236>

In: GBIF Backbone Taxonomy
Steenkoralen In Dutch

1,689,232 OCCURRENCES 9,036 SPECIES

OVERVIEW 4 TREATMENTS METRICS

89,004 OCCURRENCES WITH IMAGES

1,001,823 GEOREFERENCED RECORDS

CLASSIFICATION

+ Quantity

+ Taxonomy

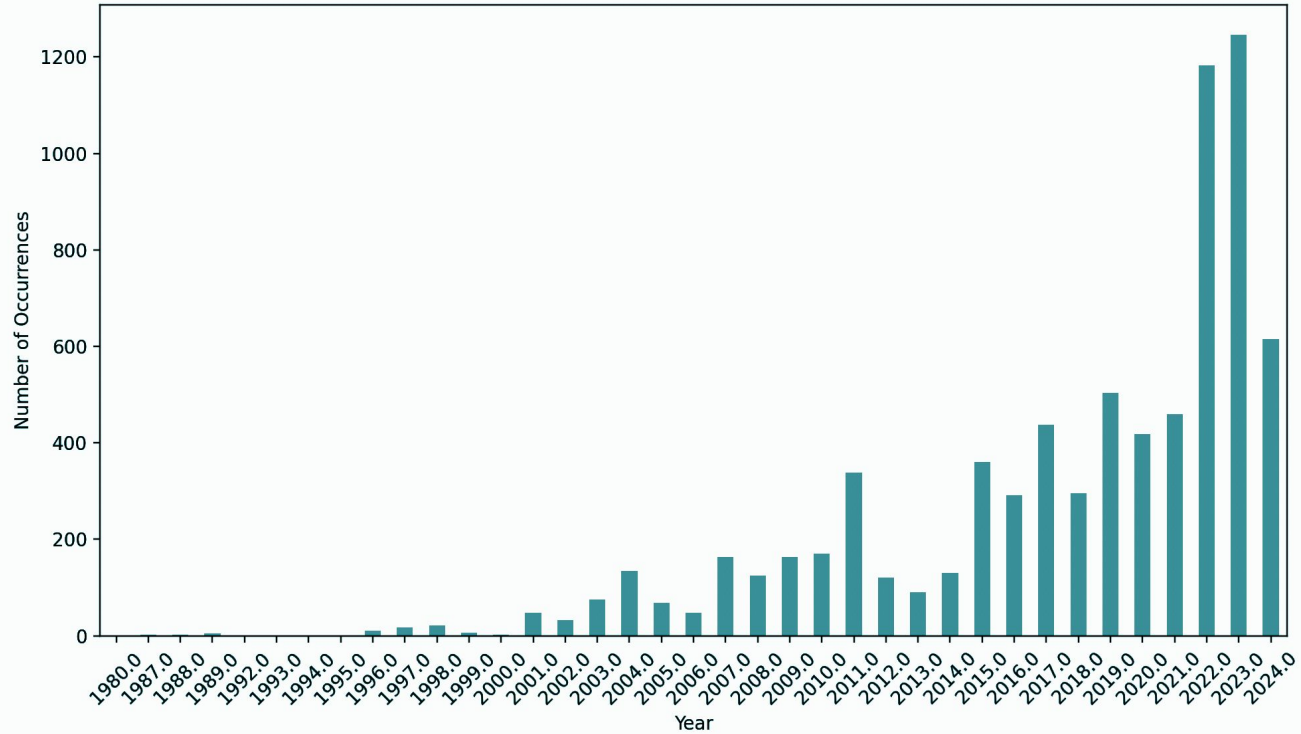
- Coordinate Errors

- Spatial Bias

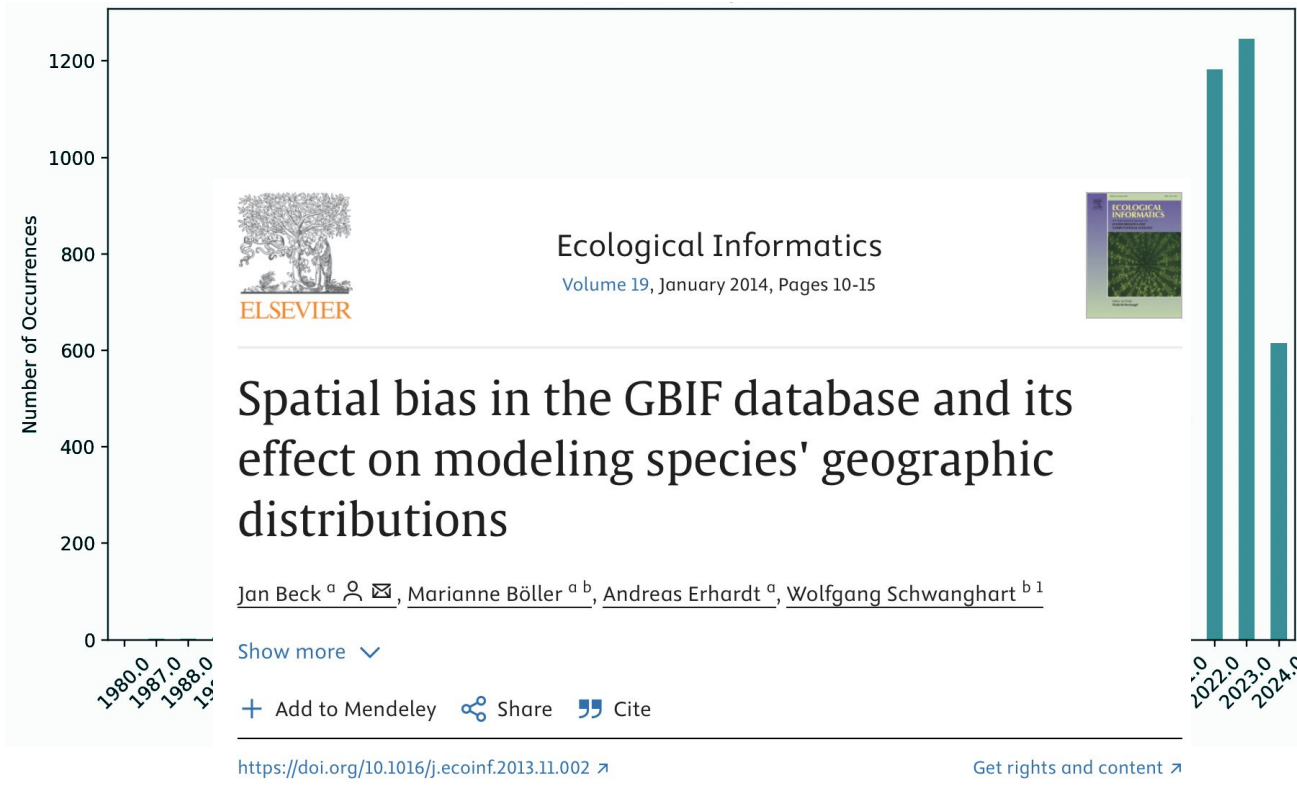
GBIF

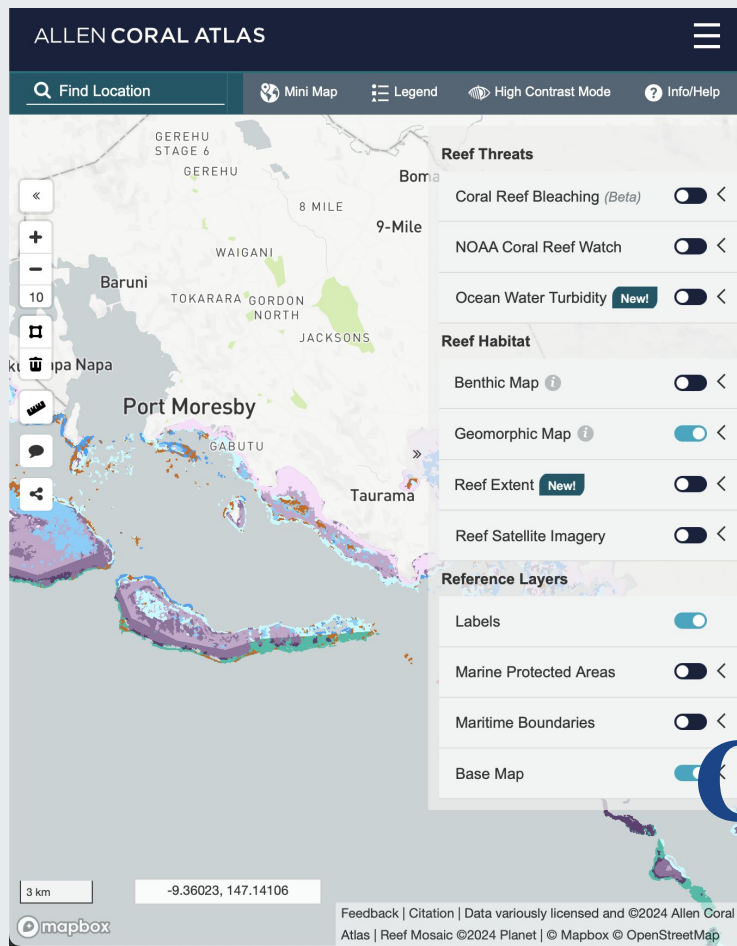
Global Biodiversity Information Facility

GBIFs (coral) occurrences per year



GBIFs (coral) occurrences per year





- + Coverage
- + Classification System
- No indiv. corals

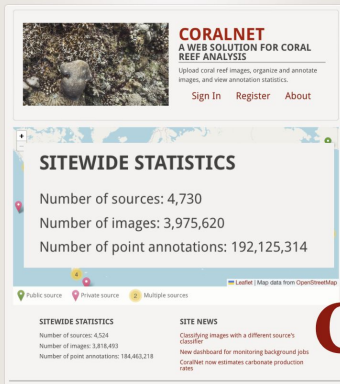
Allen Coral Atlas

- ▷ **What** data sources are relevant?
- ▷ **How** to process and extract information?
- ▷ **How** to turn *that* into modelling?
- ▷ **What** can we achieve for automated modelling?

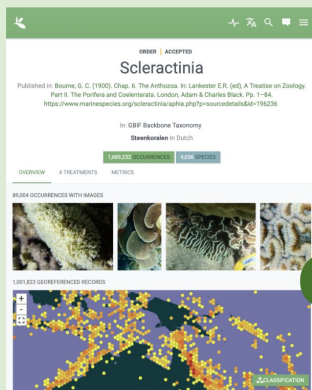
- ▷ 3D data
- ▷ Segmented Images
- ▷ CoralNet (images)
- ▷ GBIF (observations)
- ▷ Allen Coral Atlas (zones)
- ▷ Smithsonian Institution's 3D model collection
- ▷ Coral Traits Database

- ▷ **What** data sources are relevant?
- ▷ **How** to process and extract information?
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- ▷ 3D data
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- ▷ GBIF (observations)
- ▷ Allen Coral Atlas (zones)
- ▷ Smithsonian Institution's 3D model collection
- ▷ Coral Traits Database



CoralNet



- + Quantity
- + Taxonomy
- Coordinate Errors
- Spatial Bias

GBIF

Global Biodiversity Information Facility

8.167 images with "zebra" & "giraffe"

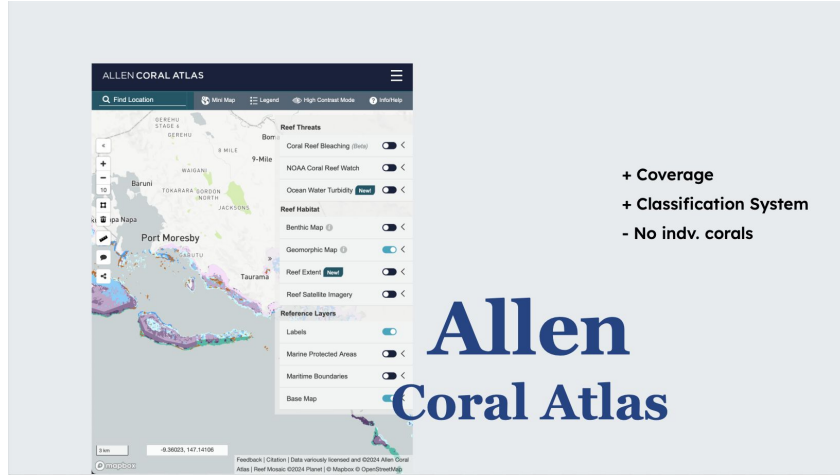
0 images with "zebra" & "polar bear"

▷ zebras & polar bears never co-occur

9.893 zebra observations

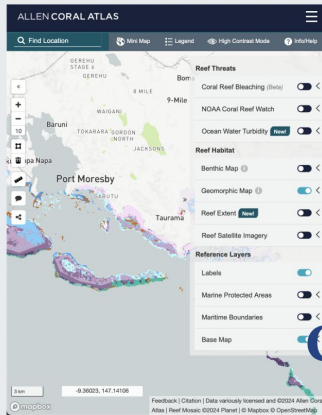
21 polar bear observations

▷ zebras occur (way) more often in **Area A**



12.000 km2 "savanna" ▷ zebras?

1.600 km2 "arctic" ▷ polar bears?

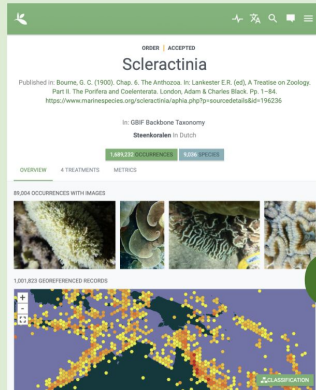


Allen Coral Atlas

- + Coverage
- + Classification System
- No indiv. corals

12.000 km2 "savanna" ▷ zebras?

1.600 km2 "arctic" ▷ polar bears?



GBIF

Global Biodiversity Information Facility

- + Quantity
- + Taxonomy
- Coordinate Errors
- Spatial Bias

9.893 zebra observations

21 polar bear observations

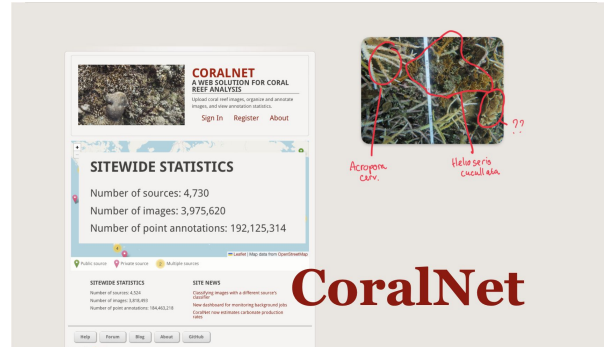
▷ zebras occupy 20% of savanna

▷ zebras occupy 0% of arctic

Large



Medium



Small

Coral Reefs (2017) 36:1291–1305
DOI 10.1007/s00338-017-1624-3



REPORT

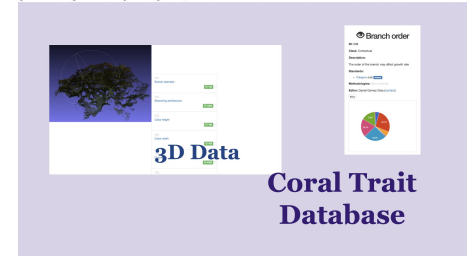
Large-area imaging reveals biologically driven non-random spatial patterns of corals at a remote reef

Clinton B. Edwards¹ · Yuan Eynaud¹ · Gareth J. Williams^{1,2} · Nicole E. Pedersen¹ · Brian J. Zgliczynski¹ · Arthur C. R. Gleason¹ · Jennifer E. Smith¹ · Stuart A. Sandin¹

Received: 9 May 2016 / Accepted: 14 September 2017 / Published online: 12 October 2017
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Abstract For sessile organisms such as reef-building corals, differences in the degree of dispersion of individuals across a landscape may result from important differences in life-history strategies or may reflect patterns of habitat availability. Descriptions of spatial patterns can thus be useful not only for the identification of key biological and physical mechanisms structuring an ecosystem, but also by providing the data necessary to generate and test ecological theory. Here, we used an in situ imaging technique to create large-area photomosaics of 16 plots at Palmyra Atoll, central Pacific, each covering 100 m² of benthic habitat. We mapped the location of 44,008 coral colonies and identified each to the lowest taxonomic level possible. Using metrics of spatial dispersion, we tested for

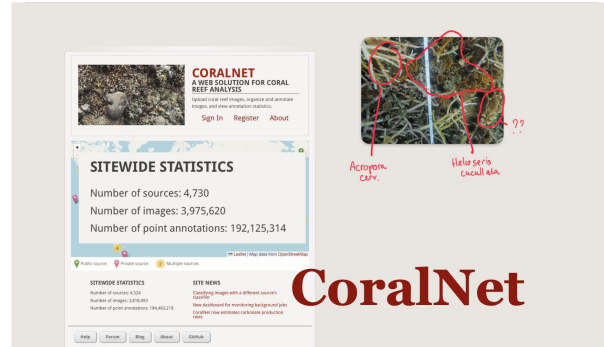
clustered and the degree of clustering varied by taxon. A small number of taxa did not significantly depart from randomness and none revealed evidence of spatial uniformity. Importantly, taxa that readily fragment or tolerate stress through partial mortality were more clustered. With little exception, clustering patterns were consistent with models of fragmentation and dispersal limitation. In some taxa, dispersion was linearly related to abundance, suggesting density dependence of spatial patterning. The spatial patterns of stony corals are non-random and reflect fundamental life-history characteristics of the taxa, suggesting that the reef landscape may, in many cases, have important elements of spatial predictability.



Large



Medium



Small

Coral Reefs (2017) 36:1291–1305
DOI 10.1007/s00381-017-1624-3



REPORT

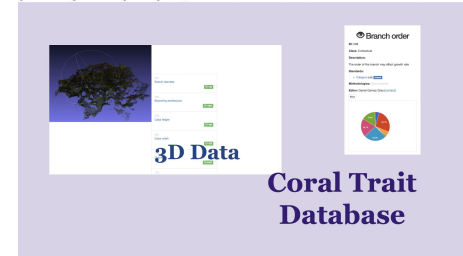
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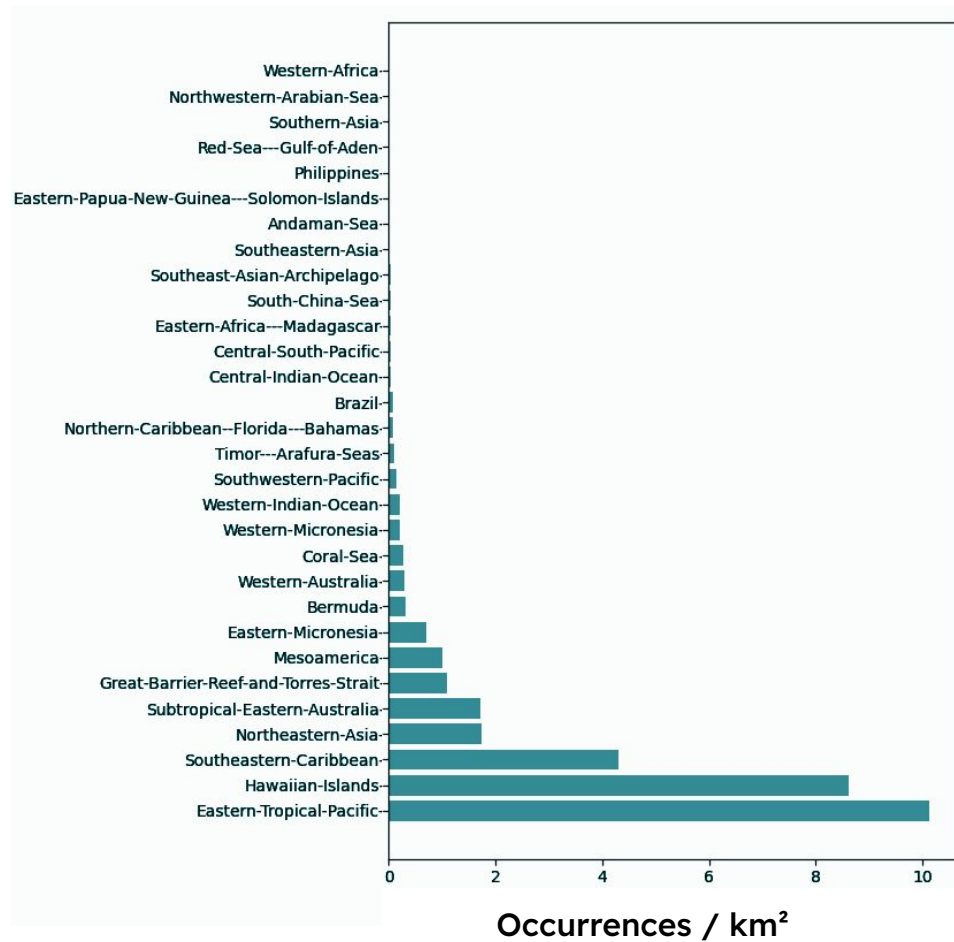
Abstract For sessile organisms such as reef-building corals, differences in the degree of dispersion of individuals across a landscape may result from important differences in life-history strategies or may reflect patterns of habitat availability. Descriptions of spatial patterns can thus be useful not only for the identification of key biological and physical mechanisms structuring an ecosystem, but also by providing the data necessary to generate and test ecological theory. Here, we used an in situ imaging technique to create large-area photomosaics of 16 plots at Palmyra Atoll, central Pacific, each covering 100 m² of benthic habitat. We mapped the location of 44,008 coral colonies and identified each to the lowest taxonomic level possible. Using metrics of spatial dispersion, we tested for

clustered and the degree of clustering varied by taxon. A small number of taxa did not significantly depart from randomness and none revealed evidence of spatial uniformity. Importantly, taxa that readily fragment or tolerate stress through partial mortality were more clustered. With little exception, clustering patterns were consistent with models of fragmentation and dispersal limitation. In some taxa, dispersion was linearly related to abundance, suggesting density dependence of spatial patterning. The spatial patterns of stony corals are non-random and reflect fundamental life-history characteristics of the taxa, suggesting that the reef landscape may, in many cases, have important elements of spatial predictability.



91 co-occurrences
21 species combinations
6 single occ. species comb.

Mapped Area (by *Allen Coral Atlas*)



- ▷ ***What*** data sources are relevant?
- ▷ ***How*** to process and extract information?
- ▷ ***How*** to turn *that* into modelling?
- ▷ ***What*** can we achieve for automated modelling?

- ▷ 3D data
- ▷ Segmented Images
- ▷ CoralNet (images)
- ▷ GBIF
- ▷ Allen Coral Atlas
- ▷ Smithsonian Institution's 3D model collection
- ▷ Coral Traits Database

Synonyms



Acropora cervicornis (Lamarck, 1816)

X *Madrepora cervicornis* Lamarck, 1816

X *Acropora muricata* var. *cervicornis* (Lamarck, 1816)

X *Madrepora attenuata* Brook, 1893

X *Acropora attenuata* (Brook, 1893)

Synonyms

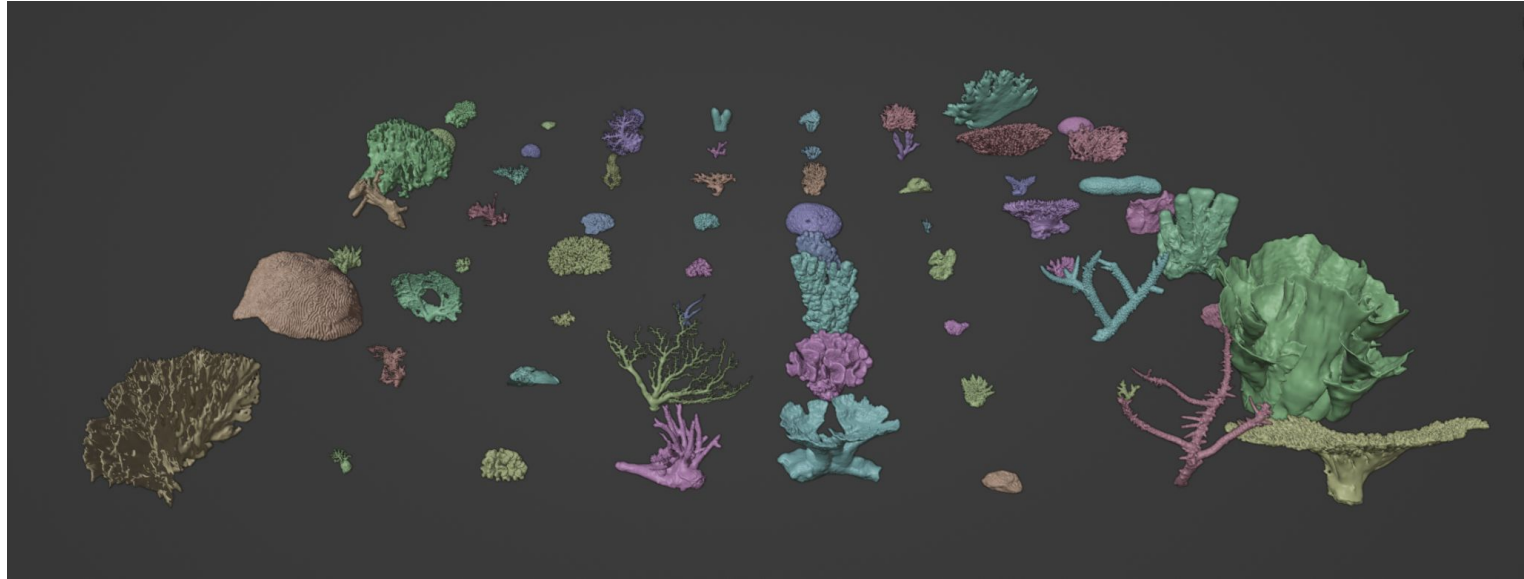


Acropora cervicornis (Lamarck, 1816)

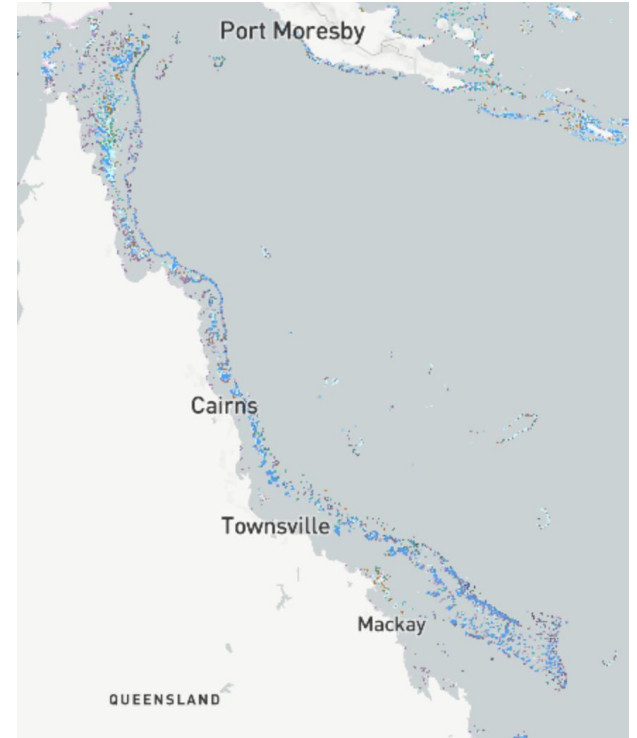
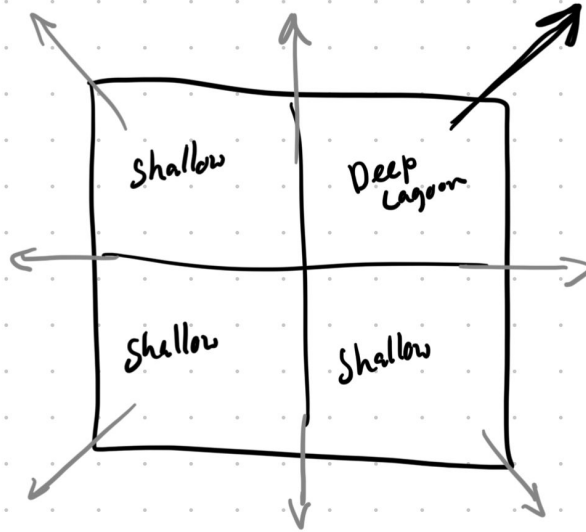


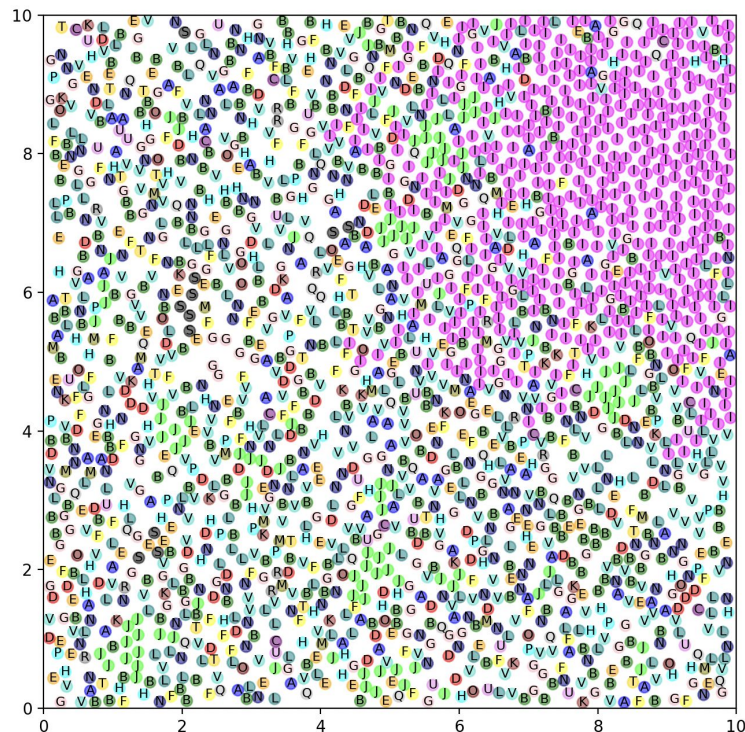
Broch, 1936", "Porites sanctithomae Bernard, 1906", "Madrepora cervicornis Lamarck, 1816", "Astraea (Fissicella) favulus

3D Model Collection

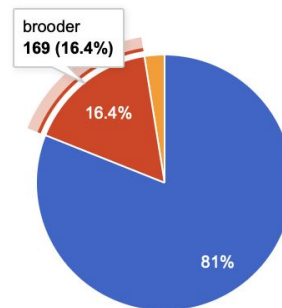


Zone Analysis





Mode of larval development

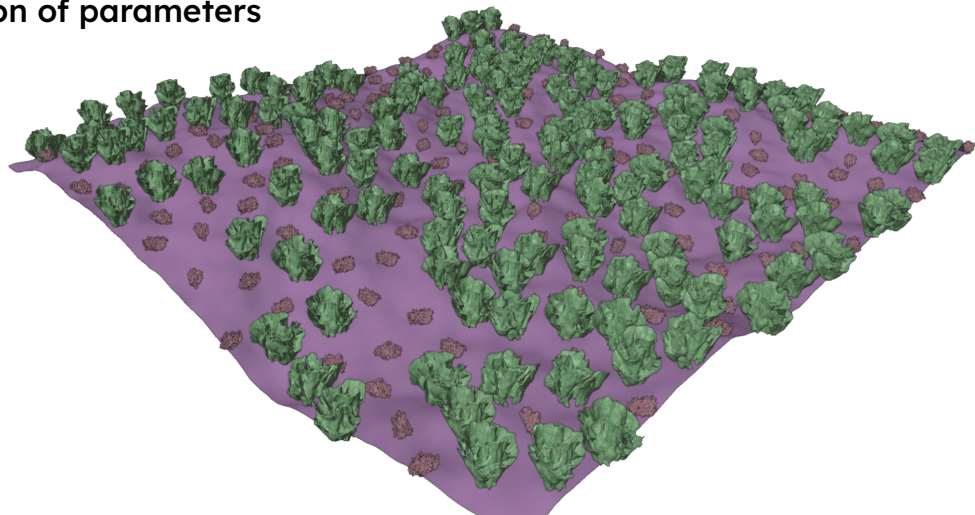


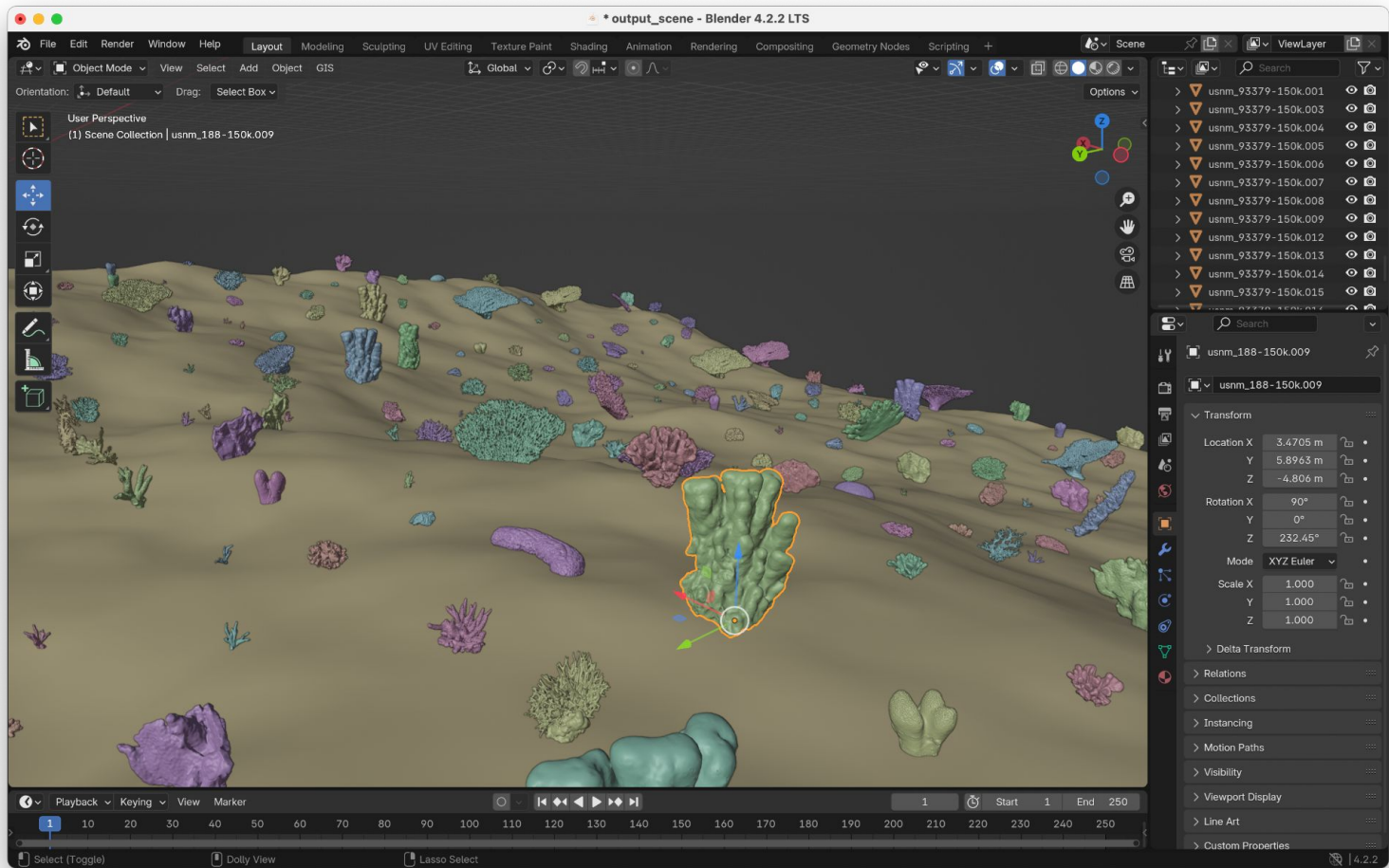
- ▷ ***What*** data sources are relevant?
- ▷ ***How*** to process and extract information?
- ▷ ***How*** to turn *that* into modelling?
- ▷ ***What*** can we achieve for automated modelling?

- ▷ 3D data
- ▷ Segmented Images
- ▷ CoralNet (images)
- ▷ **GBIF**
- ▷ **Allen Coral Atlas**
- ▷ **Smithsonian Institution's 3D model collection**
- ▷ **Coral Traits Database**

Limitations of the Pipeline

- ▷ "building-blocks": no structural variation
- ▷ "density": could not be extracted, manual parameter
- ▷ ***Terrain generation*** relies on manual configuration of parameters
- ▷ The models are 2D + 2.5D + 3D
- ▷ What species ... ?

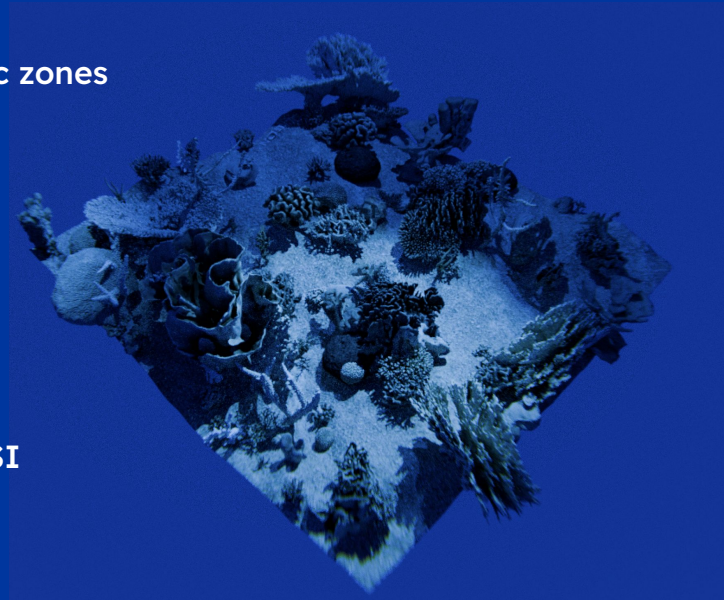




Conclusions & Future Work

Contributions

- Combined **Allen Coral Atlas** with GBIFs occurrence data
- Analyzed **directional patterns** in Allen Coral Atlas' geomorphic zones
- Revealed (severe) spatial bias in GBIFs data for corals
- Failed experiments: CoralNet, **Image + AI**
- Natural **clustering** algorithm
- Solution for ensuring taxonomic compatibility
- Taxonomic assessments for GBIF, CoralNet, Coral Traits DB, SI
- Laid **foundation** for modelling pipeline

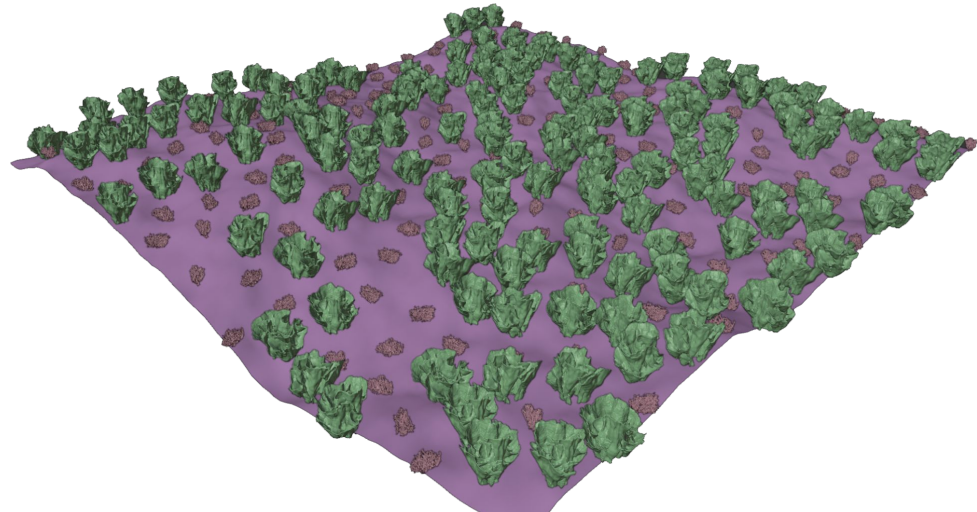


Limitations of Research

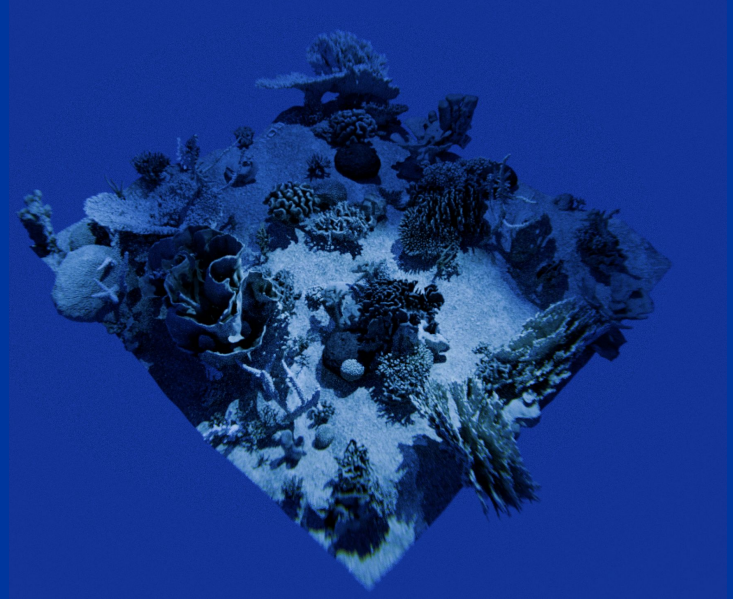
- ▷ Analysis done with 51 species
- ▷ Choice for Geomorphic zones
- ▷ Terrain features
- ▷ Clustering *behaviour*?

"What can be achieved *now*?"

"How to lay a *foundation*?"



Q&A



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Automated classification of three-dimensional reconstructions of coral reefs using convolutional neural networks

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OPEN ACCESS

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Editor: Atsushi Fujimura, University of Guam, GUAM

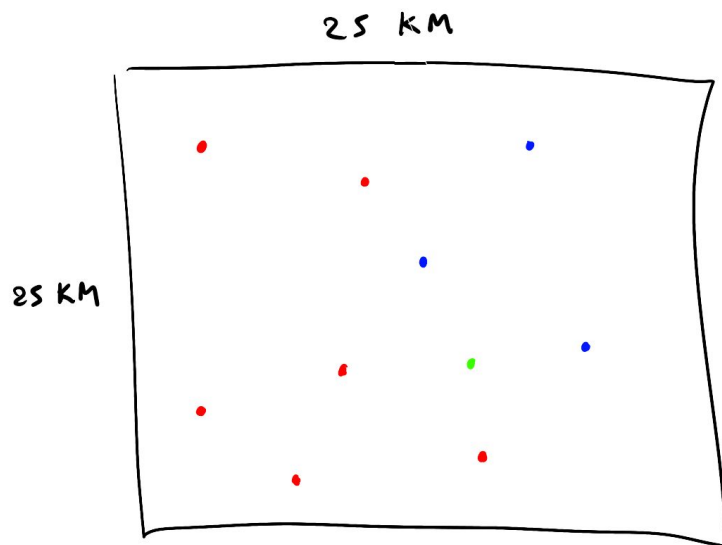
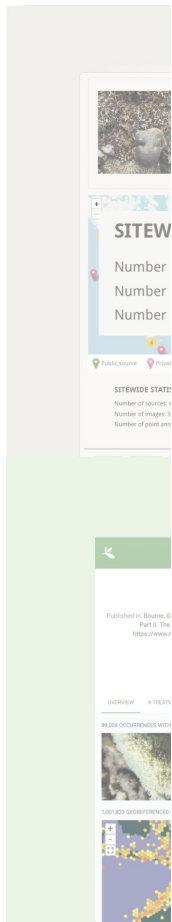
Received: September 6, 2019

Accepted: March 5, 2020

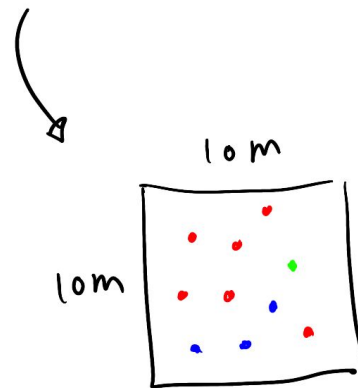
Published: March 24, 2020

Abstract

Coral reefs are biologically diverse and structurally complex ecosystems, which have been severely affected by human actions. Consequently, there is a need for rapid ecological assessment of coral reefs, but current approaches require time consuming manual analysis, either during a dive survey or on images collected during a survey. Reef structural complexity is essential for ecological function but is challenging to measure and often relegated to simple metrics such as rugosity. Recent advances in computer vision and machine learning offer the potential to alleviate some of these limitations. We developed an approach to automatically classify 3D reconstructions of reef sections and assessed the accuracy of this approach. 3D reconstructions of reef sections were generated using commercial Structure-from-Motion software with images extracted from video surveys. To generate a 3D classified map, locations on the 3D reconstruction were mapped back into the original images to extract multiple views of the location. Several approaches were tested to merge information from multiple views of a point into a single classification, all of which used convolutional




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1 Area A



SITEW

Number
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Public source

SITEWIDE STATUS
Number of sources: 1
Number of images: 1
Number of point ans


Published in: *Biology*, 0
Part 5: The
Himalayans

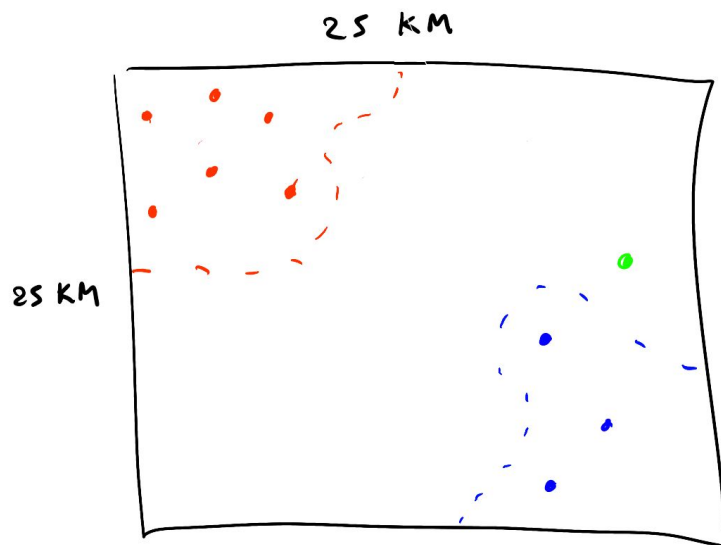
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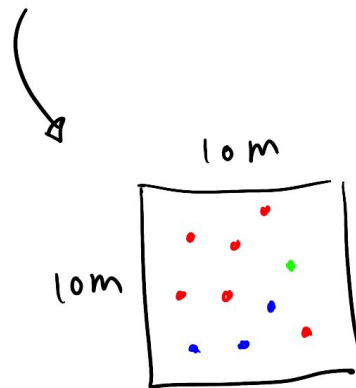


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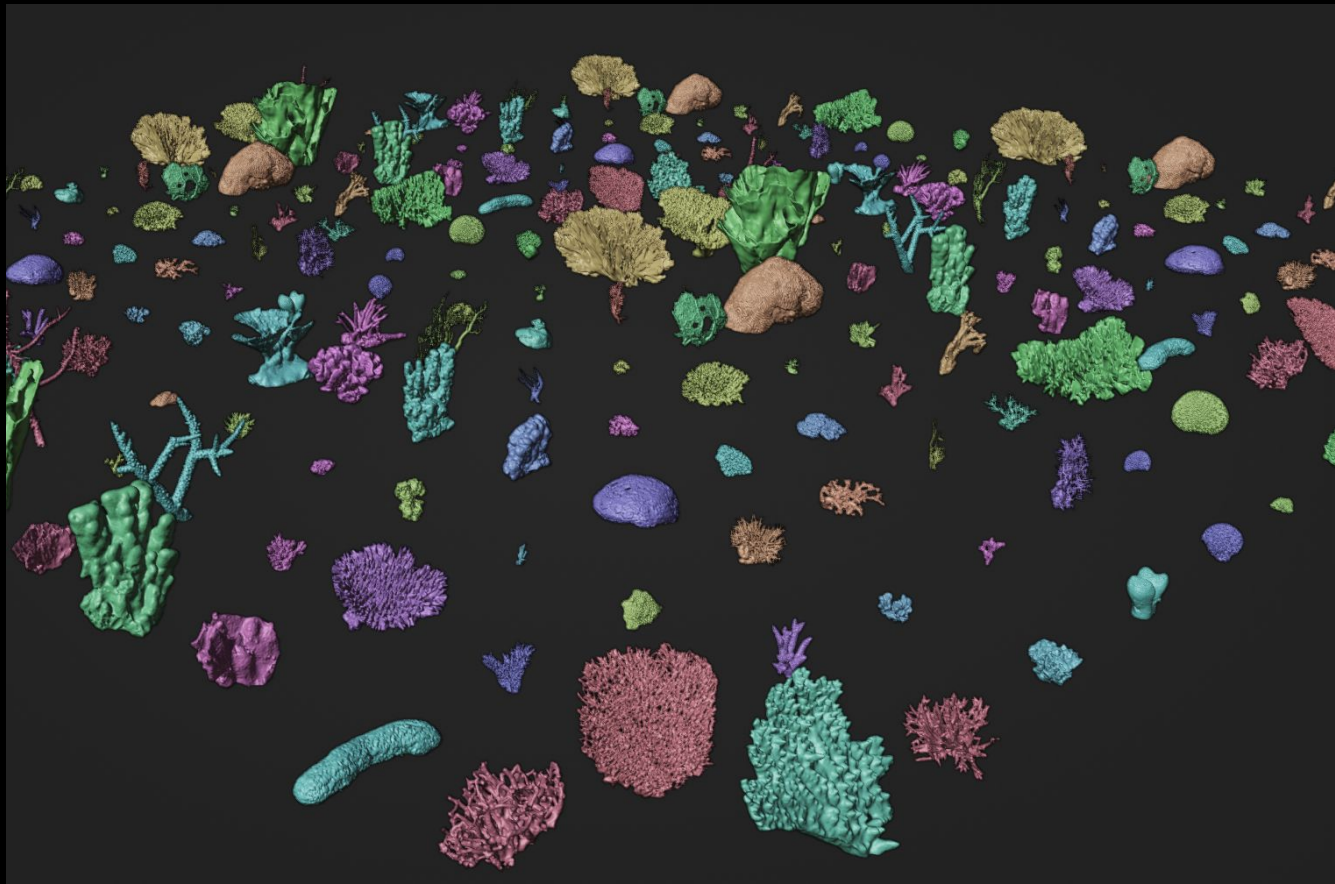
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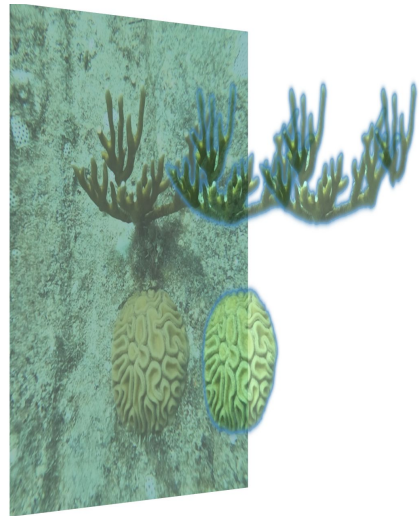
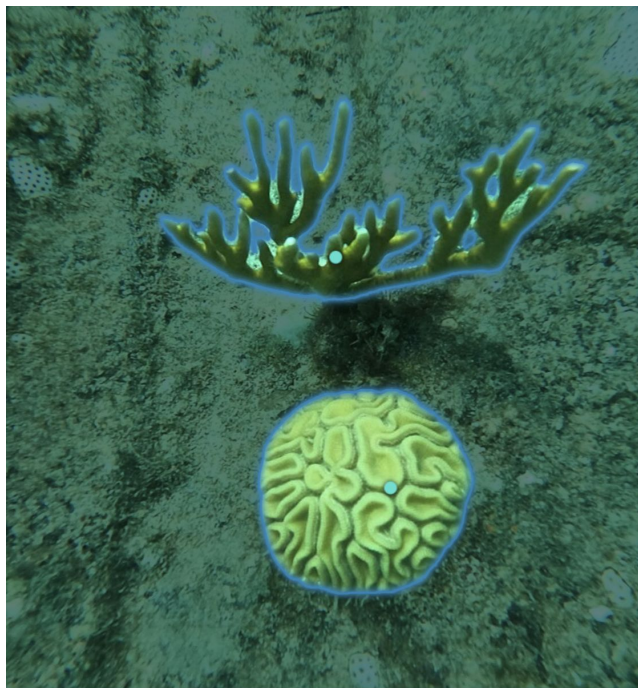


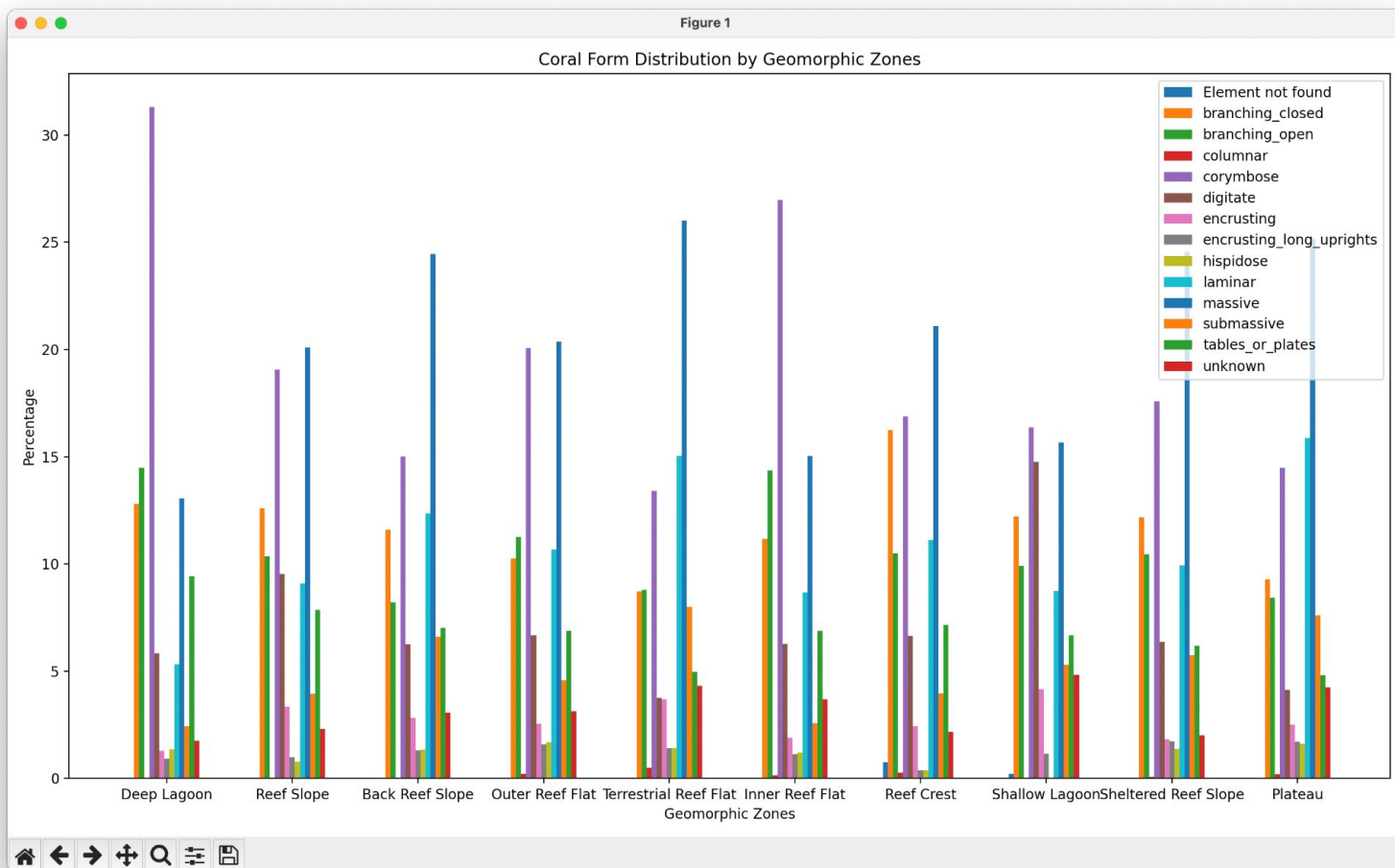
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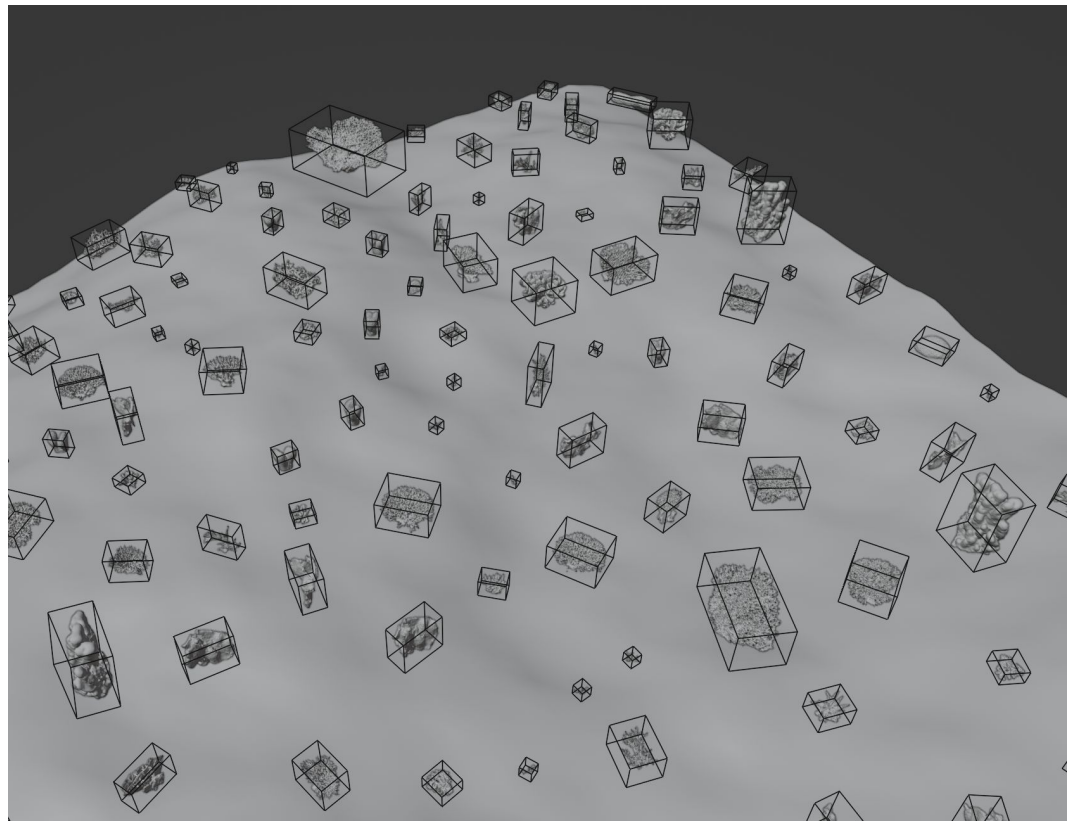
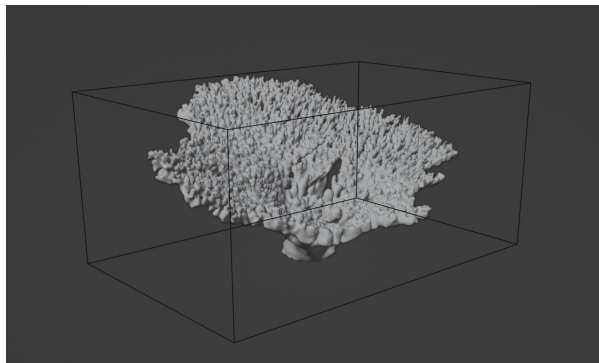
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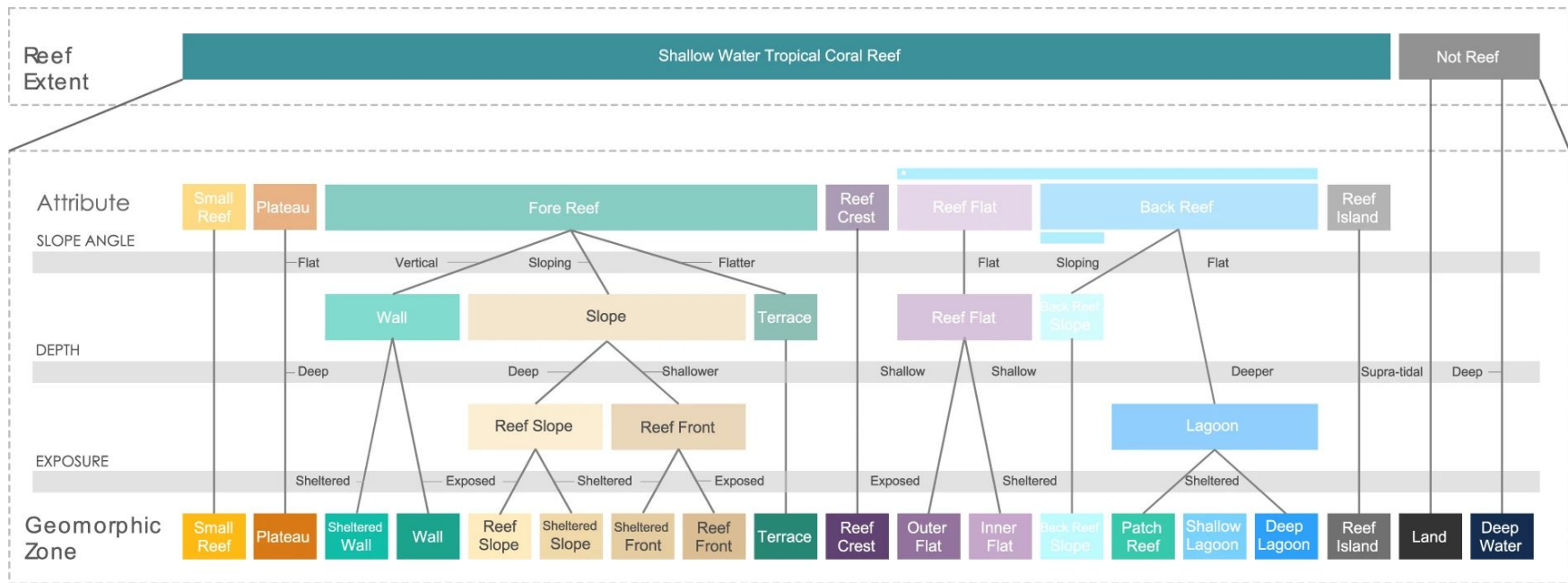
1 Area A



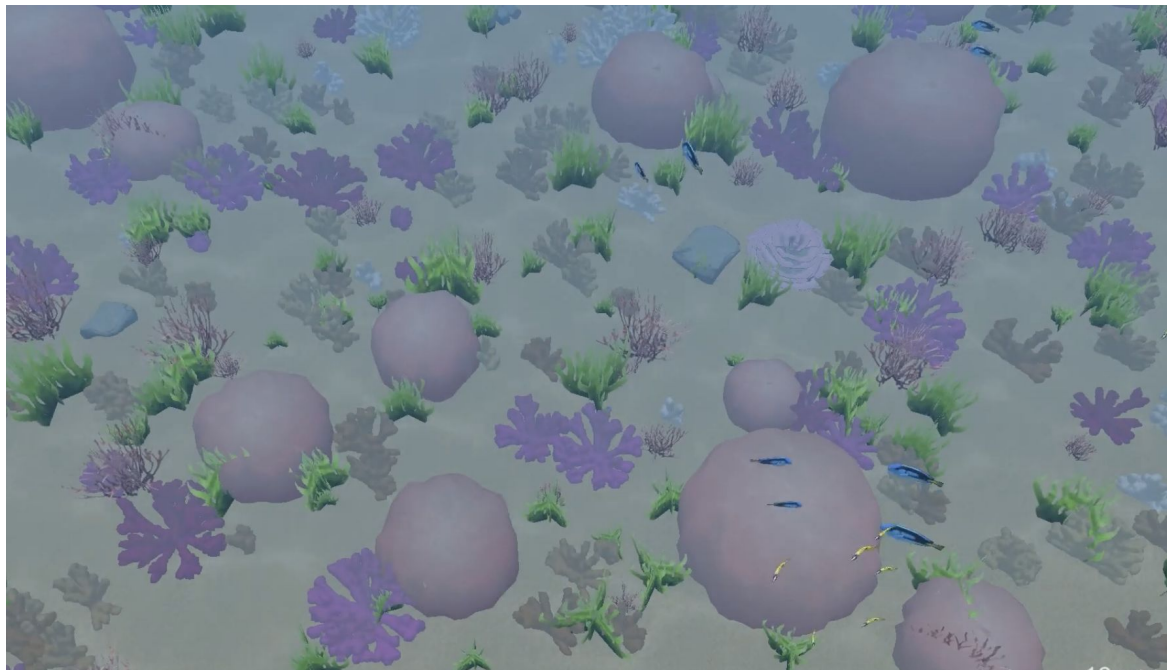








*BACK REEF (alternative definitions)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSLKv7TnjSg>

Automated 3D Classification

Transferability

Resolution (no fine details)

Texture-based

Few taxa

CoralVOS classification

Transferability?

Few taxa