

SynRS3D: A Synthetic Dataset for Global 3D Semantic Understanding from Monocular Remote Sensing Imagery



Jian Song^{1,2} Hongruixuan Chen^{1,2} Weihao Xuan^{1,2} Junshi Xia² Naoto Yokoya^{1,2}

¹The University of Tokyo, Japan

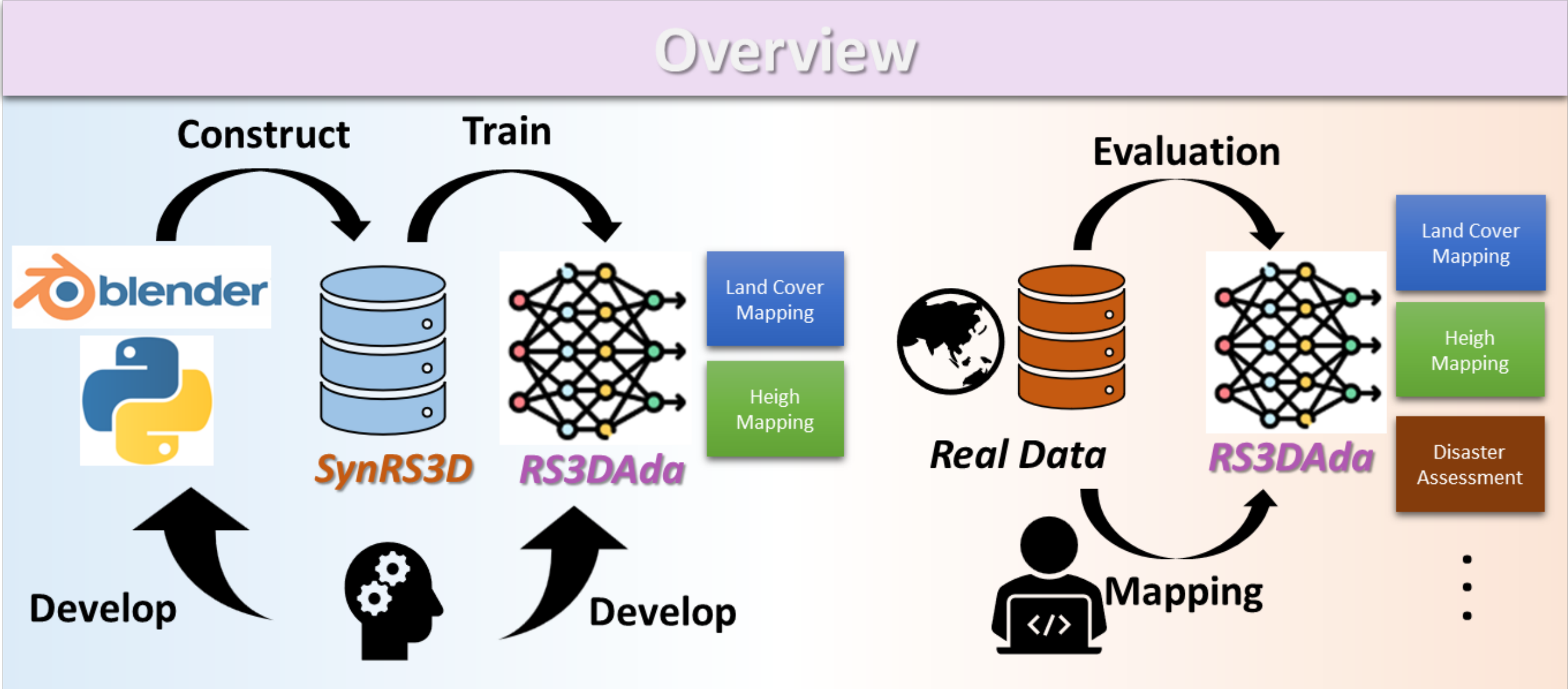
²RIKEN, Japan



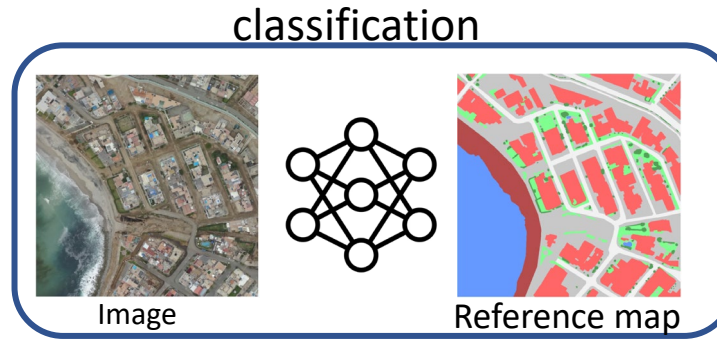
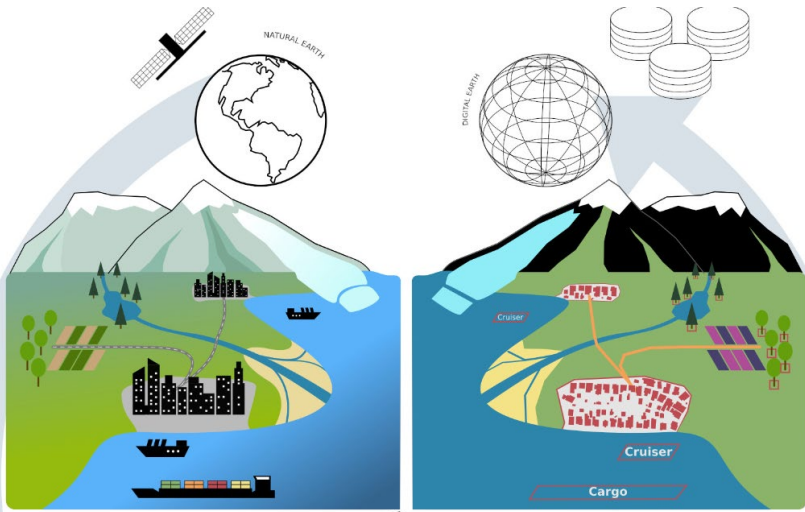
東京大学
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



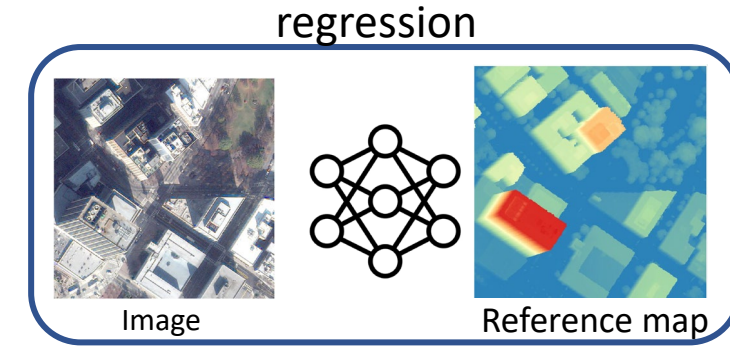
Overview



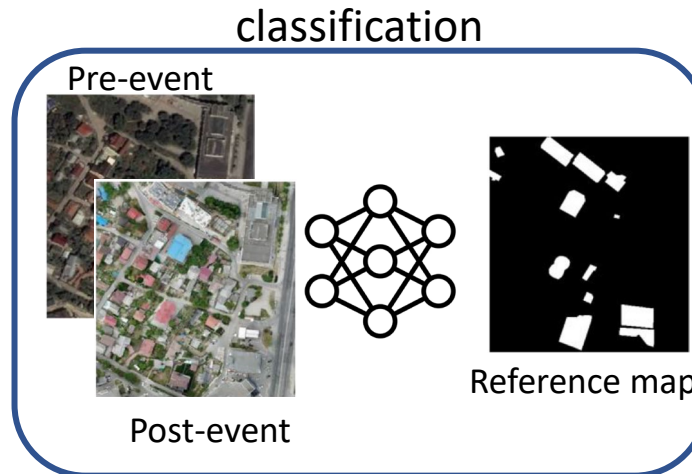
Remote Sensing Image Processing



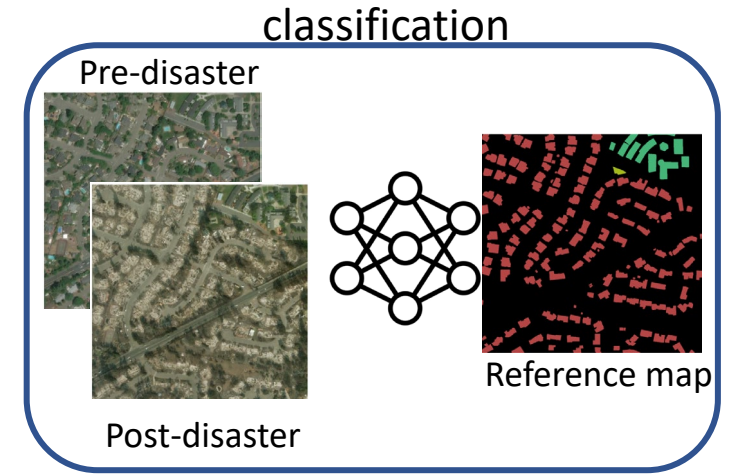
Task 1: Land Cover Mapping



Task 2: Height Estimation



Task 3: Building Change Detection



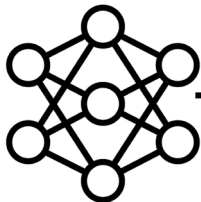
Task 4: Disaster Mapping

Challenges

- Expensive to build a real-world remote sensing benchmark dataset

- Lack of publicly available open-source data.
- Commercial data is expensive.
- Regional policies restrict data access.

High-Resolution RGB

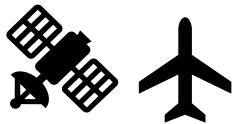


Labels of Land Cover Maps
Elevation Data

- Requires expert knowledge.
 - Time-consuming.
 - Expensive.
- Requires extremely expensive equipment.
 - Noise exists.
 - Lack of publicly available open-source data.



- Domain shift & Covariate Shift



Different sensors



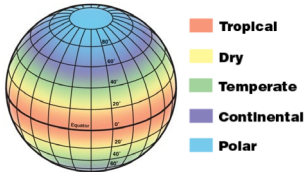
Different continents



Different districts



Different seasons



Different climate zones

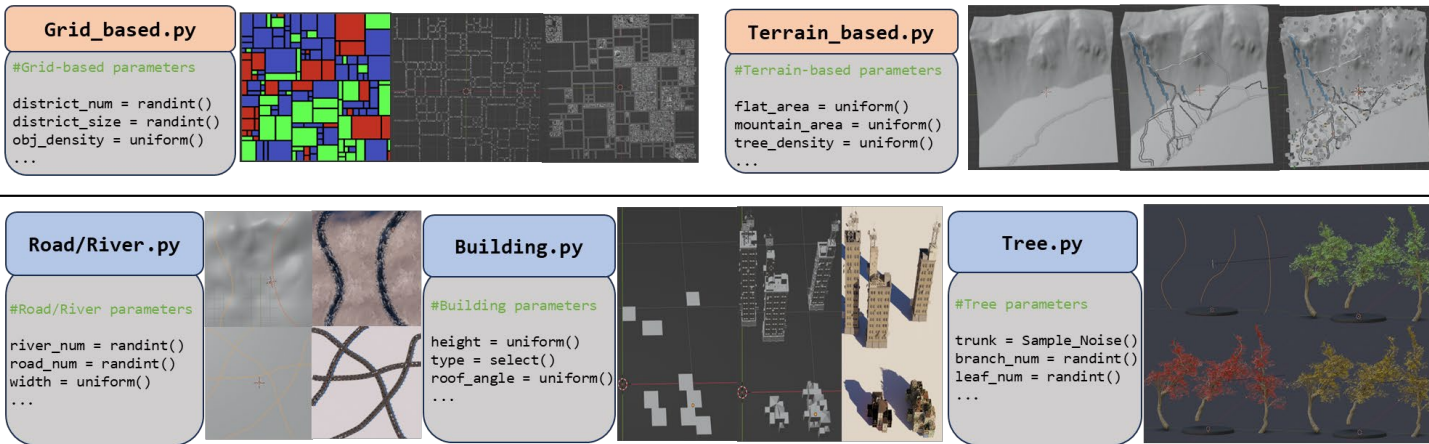
**Way to Solve the Challenges:
Synthetic Dataset with UDA**



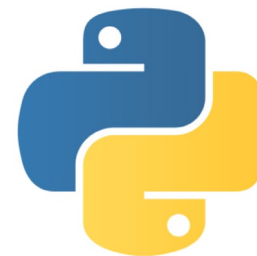
Fig1: <http://www.mychimneyprofessional.com/blog>
 Fig2: <https://sciencetrek.org/sciencetrek/topics/climate/facts.cfm>

The SynRS3D Acquisition Protocol

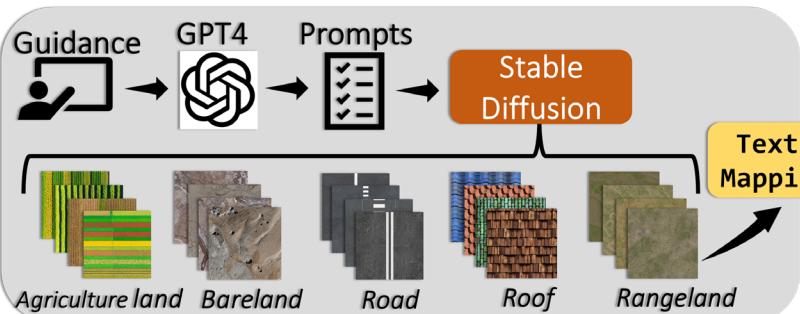
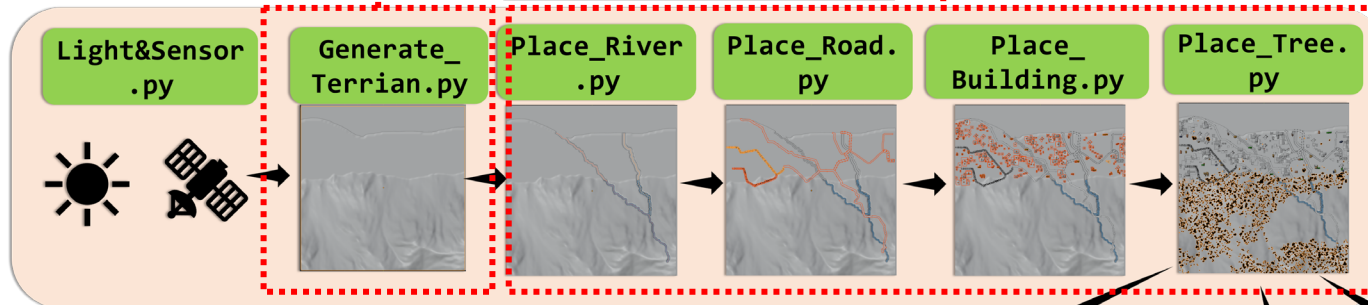
Layout



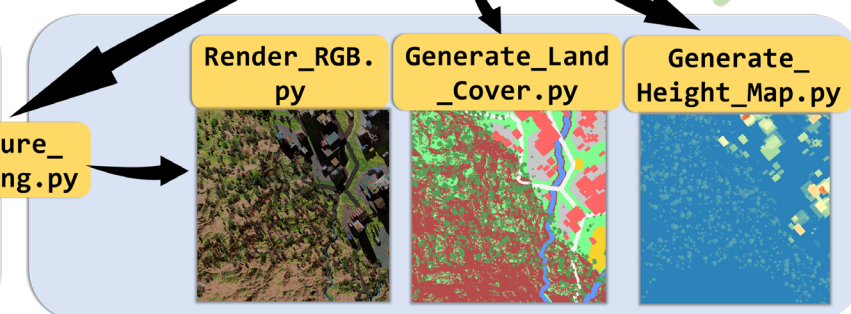
Geometry



Scene Construction

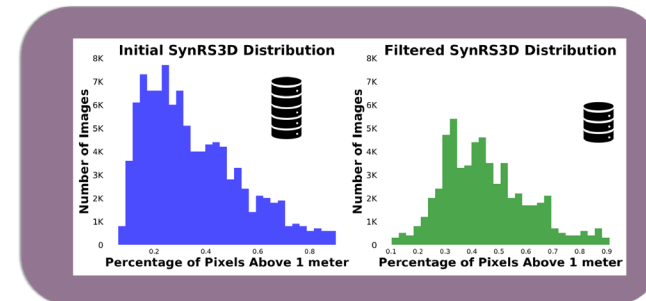
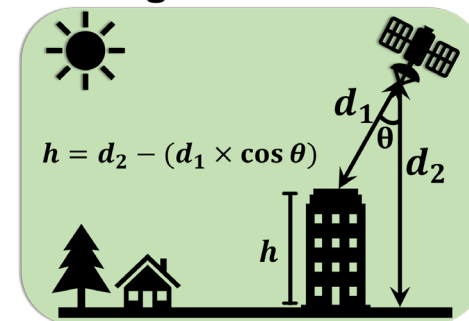


Texture Generation



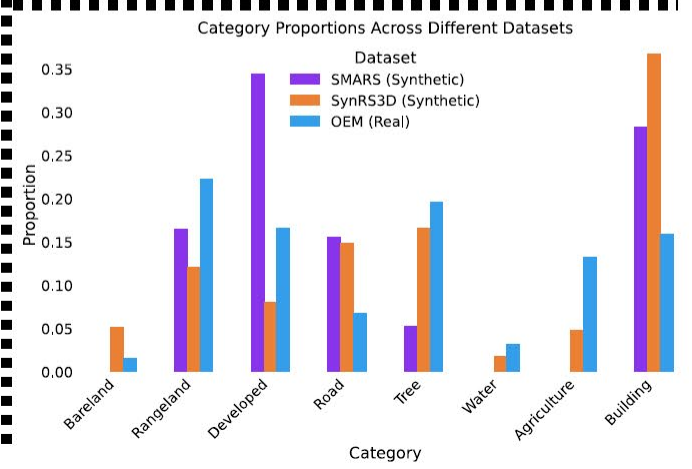
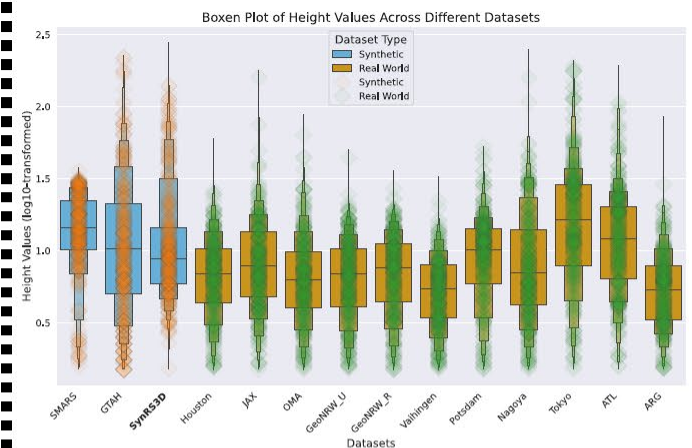
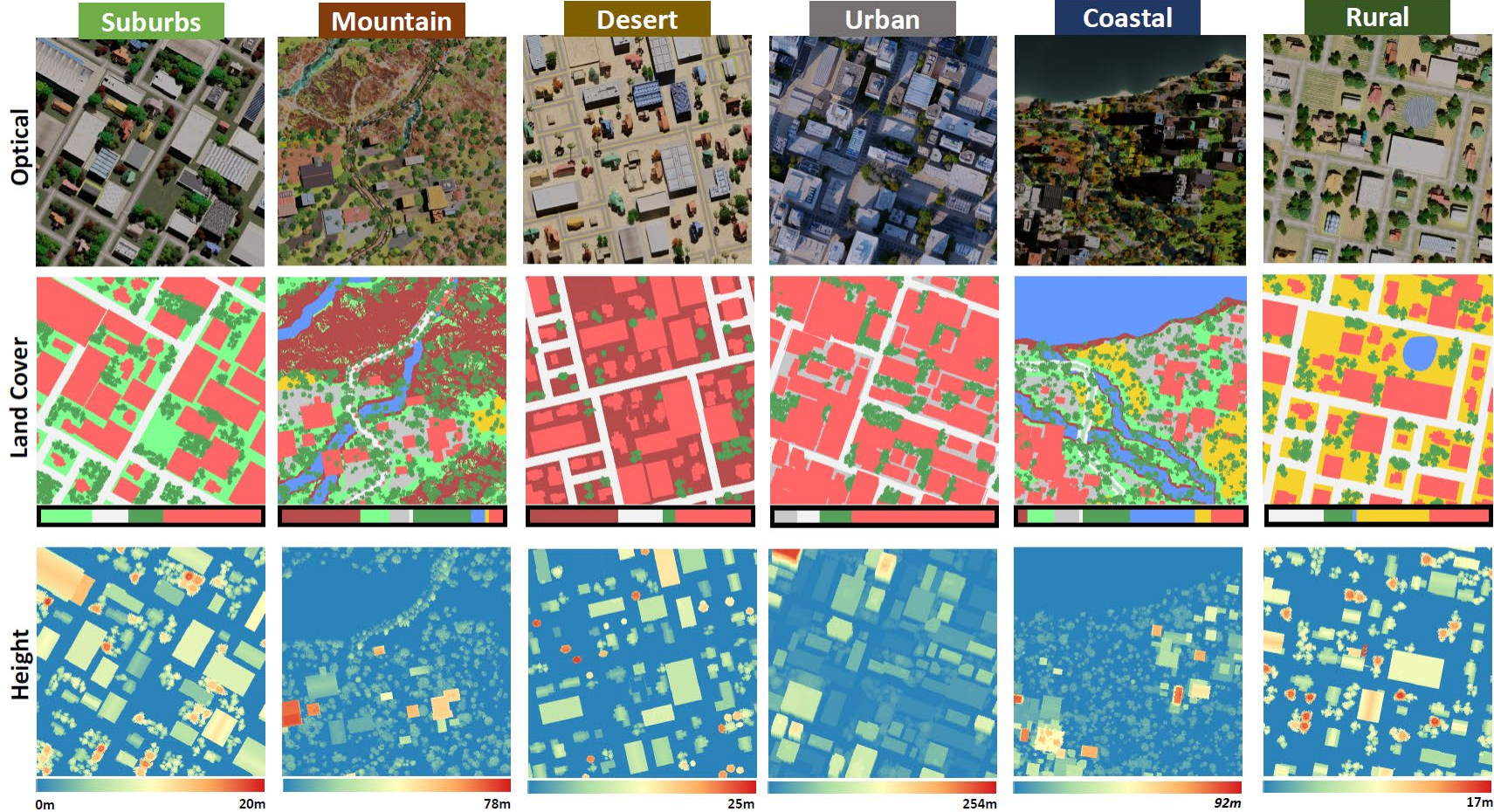
Functional Process

Height Calculation



Outliers Filter

Examples of SynRS3D Dataset & Statistics

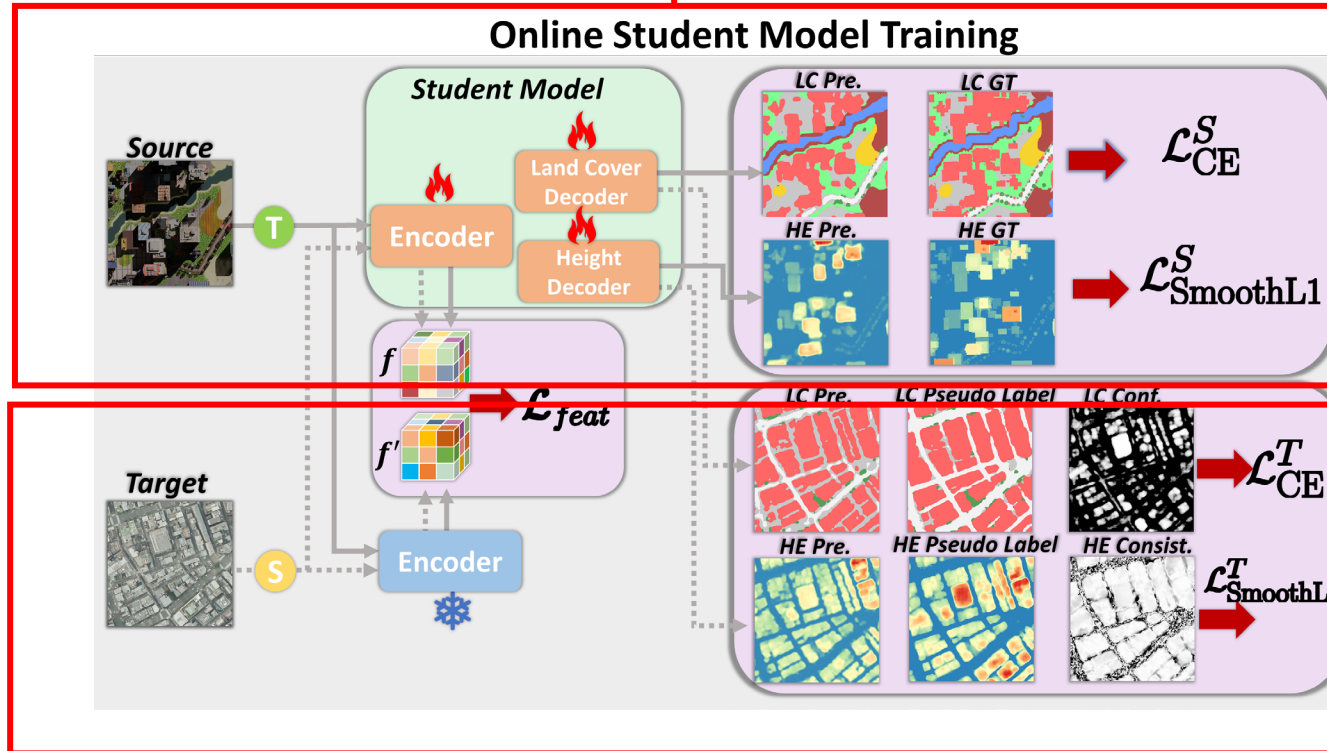


Main Characteristics

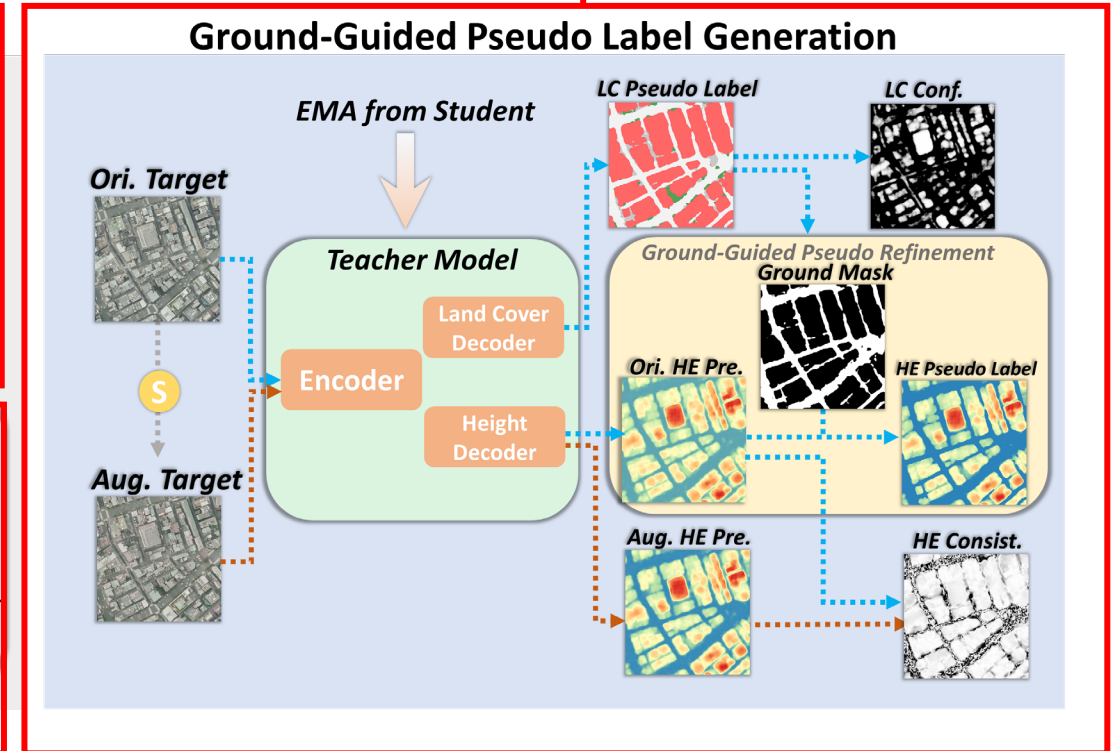
- Mimicking six city styles from around the world.
- Height distribution and land cover category distribution more closely resembling Real-World data.

RS3DAda: Unlock the Potential of the SynRS3D:

Step 1: Train on source domain dataset (Synthetic)



Step 2: Generate pseudo labels from target dataset (Real-World)

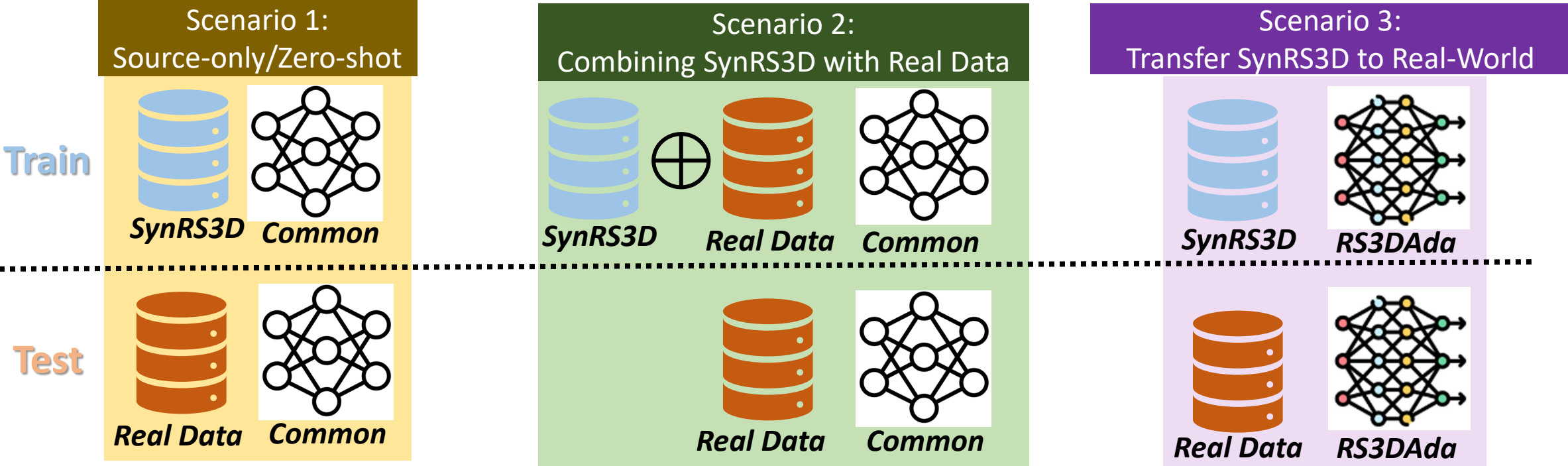


Step 3: Train on target dataset with pseudo labels

Key Ideas

- Unleashing the power of large-scale unlabeled Real-World data.
- Forcing cooperation between land cover mapping and height estimation tasks.
- Utilizing prior knowledge of remote sensing images.

Experimental Setting & Evaluation Datasets



Relatively easy to access and simple real-world datasets. →

Difficult to access and more challenging real-world datasets. →

Real-World Height Estimation Datasets				
Types	Datasets	Region	Height mean&std	Channel
Target Domain 1	Houston [103]	US	[3.07, 5.02]	RGB
	JAX [42]	US	[4.73, 9.02]	RGB
	OMA [42]	US	[2.37, 5.27]	RGB
	GeoNRW_Urban [4]	Germany	[2.46, 4.31]	RGB
	GeoNRW_Rural [4]	Germany	[2.03, 4.21]	RGB
Potsdam [77]	Germany	[3.02, 5.68]	RGB	
Target Domain 2	ATL [12]	US	[8.40, 13.41]	RGB
	ARG [12]	Argentina	[3.90, 4.29]	RGB
	Nagoya [14]	Japan	[7.36, 11.84]	RGB
	Tokyo [14]	Japan	[15.73, 22.77]	RGB
	Vaihingen [77]	Germany	[2.36, 3.57]	NIR, G, B

(a) Real-world height estimation datasets.

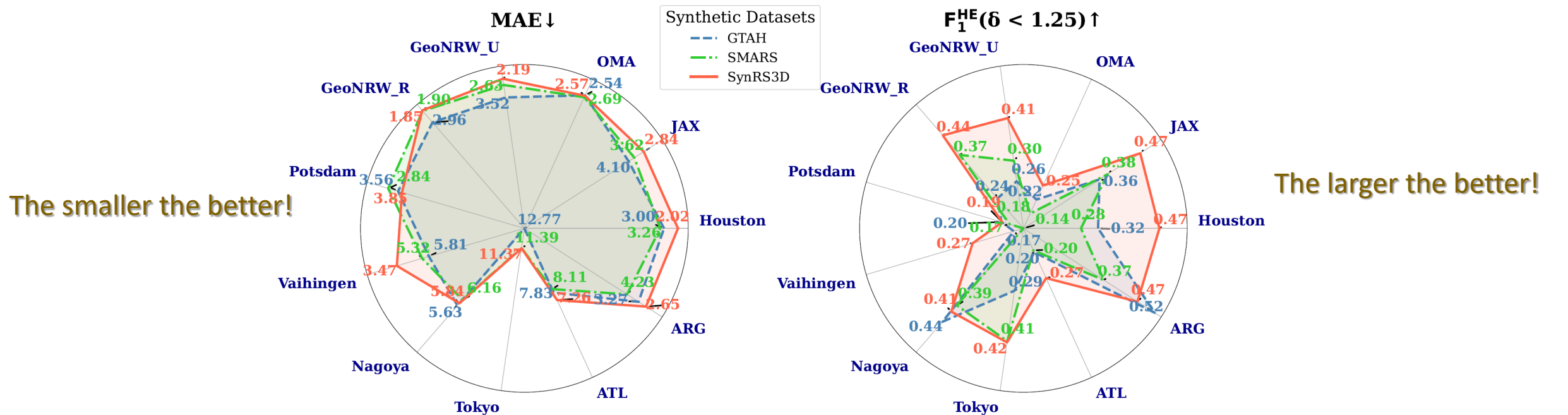
Real-World Land Cover Mapping Datasets			
Types	Datasets	Region	Categories
Target Domain	OEM [98]	Global	8
	Vaihingen [77]	Germany	6
	Potsdam [77]	Germany	6
	JAX [42]	US	6
	OMA [42]	US	6

OEM spans 77 regions across 44 countries on six continents! →

(b) Real-world land cover mapping datasets.

Scenario 1: Source-only/Zero-shot

Task: Height Estimation



Task: Land Cover Mapping

The larger the better!

Datasets	JAX [42]				OMA [42]				Vaihingen [77]				Potsdam [77]			
	Ground	Tree	Building	mIoU	Ground	Tree	Building	mIoU	Ground	Tree	Building	mIoU	Ground	Tree	Building	mIoU
SMARS [73]	76.02	43.13	61.28	60.14	82.17	17.25	59.94	53.12	74.10	58.40	74.35	68.95	68.56	5.35	57.51	43.81
SyntheWorld [83]	74.63	54.74	64.18	64.52	81.29	45.83	56.56	61.23	72.69	68.09	75.67	72.15	69.09	32.49	55.88	52.49
SynRS3D	77.69	57.03	68.96	67.89	83.96	41.08	62.28	62.44	75.66	68.58	79.61	74.61	74.26	35.34	69.46	59.69

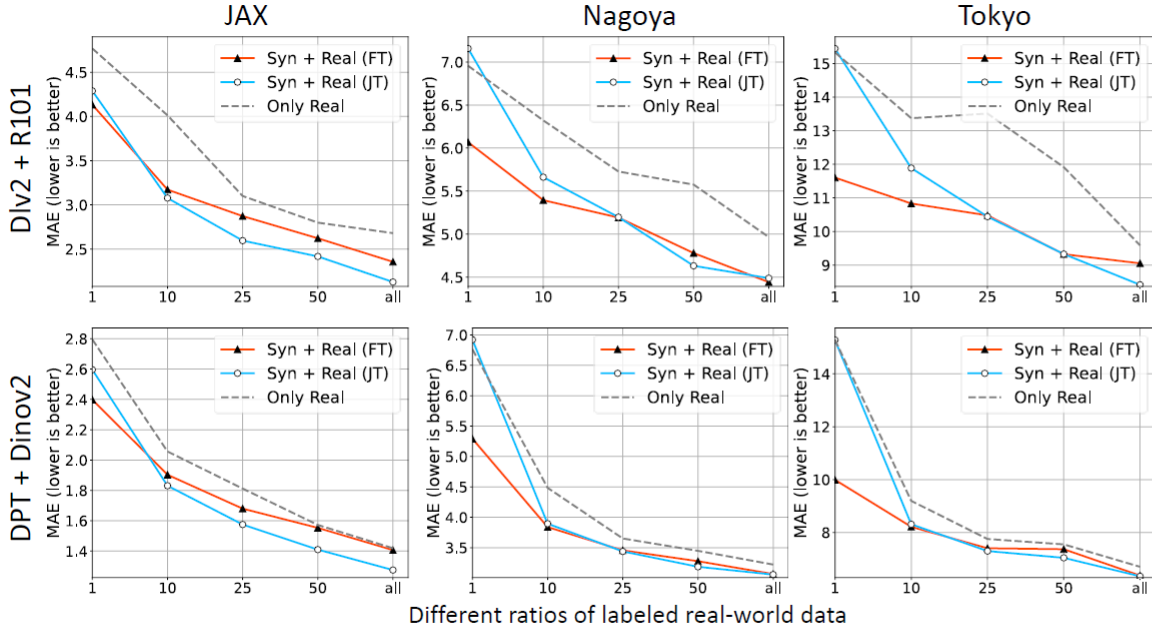
Takeaway

➤ The SynRS3D dataset outperforms all existing RS synthetic datasets.

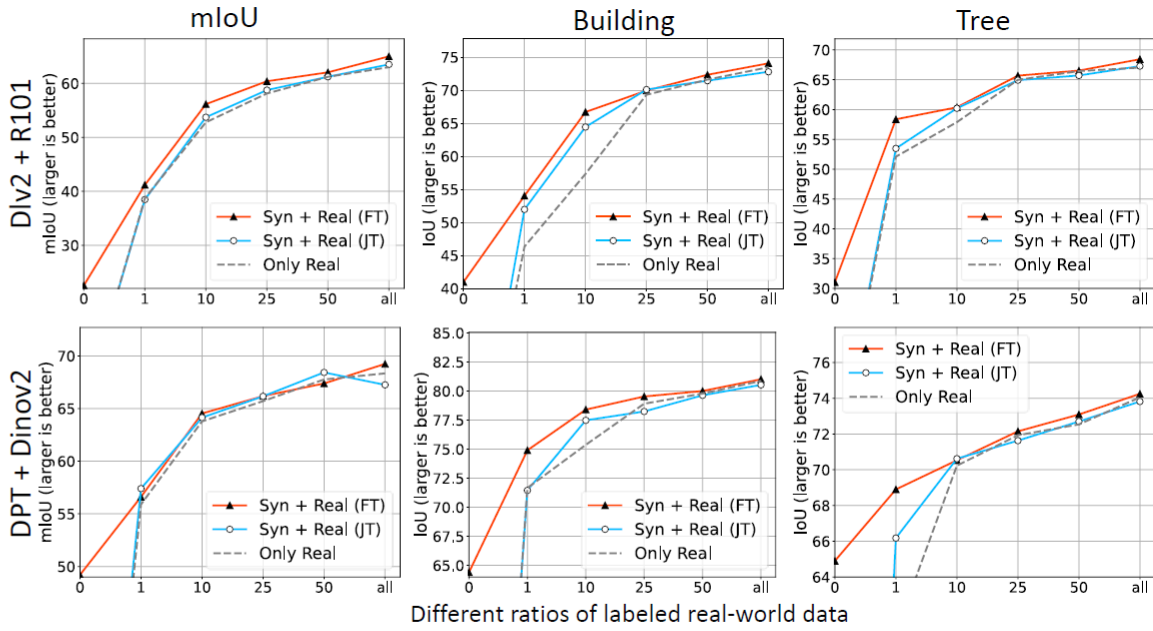
Scenario 2: Combining SynRS3D with Real Data

The smaller the better!

The larger the better!



(a) Height Estimation.



(b) Land Cover Mapping.

Takeaway

➤ The SynRS3D dataset serves as a valuable complement to real-world datasets, especially when available data is limited.

Scenario 3: Transfer SynRS3D to Real-World (RS3DAda)

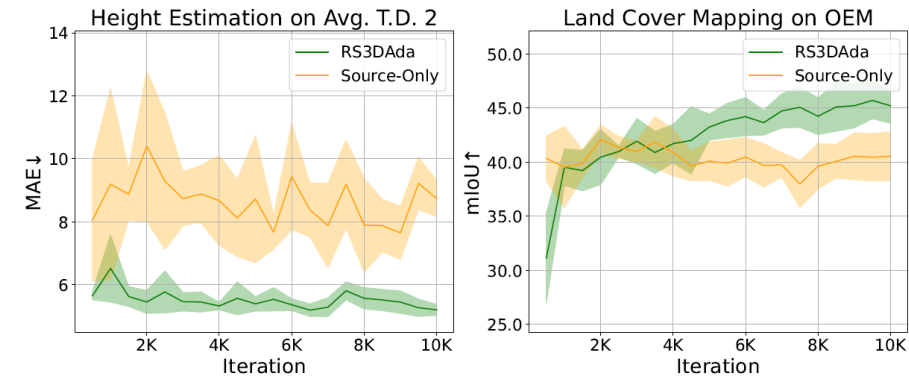
Task: Land Cover Mapping

Model	Bareland	Rangeland	Developed	Road	Tree	Water	Agriculture	Buildings	mIoU
Source-only	8.69	37.95	22.54	49.05	60.16	46.64	35.40	65.19	40.70
DAFormer [33]	12.54	41.16	10.88	43.88	62.56	77.55	62.62	59.10	46.29
RS3DAda	19.92	47.61	18.41	44.06	61.04	71.66	63.73	59.42	48.23
Train-on-OEM	50.04	59.10	58.18	65.39	73.07	83.65	76.36	80.88	68.34

Task: Height Estimation

Model	MAE ↓		RMSE ↓		Accuracy Metrics [17] ↑			F_1^{HE} ↑		
	Whole	High	Whole	High	$\delta < 1.25$	$\delta < 1.25^2$	$\delta < 1.25^3$	$\delta < 1.25$	$\delta < 1.25^2$	$\delta < 1.25^3$
Avg. T.D.1	1.272	3.363	2.381	4.329	0.379	0.463	0.510	0.617	0.710	0.742
Train-on-T.D.1	1.272	3.363	2.381	4.329	0.379	0.463	0.510	0.617	0.710	0.742
Source Only	2.557	5.617	4.128	6.705	0.123	0.192	0.246	0.372	0.491	0.552
RS3DAda	2.148	4.921	3.593	6.024	0.185	0.258	0.318	0.418	0.554	0.623
Avg. T.D.2	5.378	8.302	8.301	10.714	0.146	0.244	0.336	0.384	0.535	0.627
Train-on-T.D.1	5.378	8.302	8.301	10.714	0.146	0.244	0.336	0.384	0.535	0.627
Source Only	6.117	8.923	9.221	11.443	0.125	0.223	0.312	0.365	0.514	0.601
RS3DAda	4.866	7.227	7.584	9.594	0.182	0.299	0.389	0.485	0.621	0.689

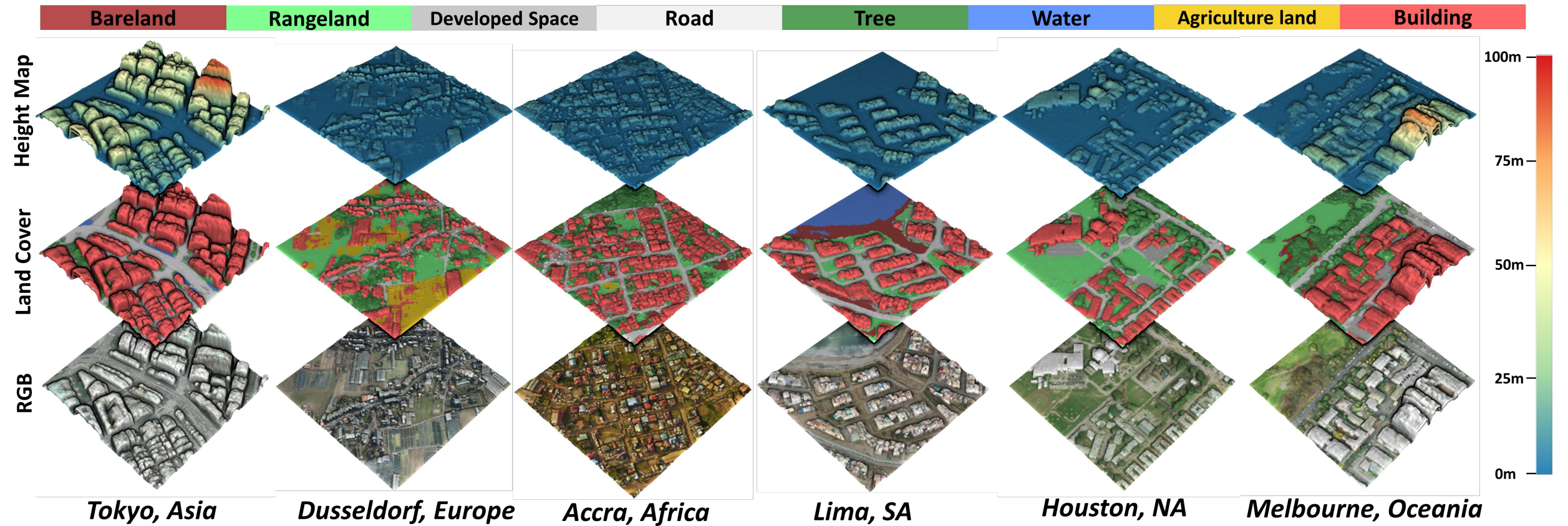
Training curves



Takeaway

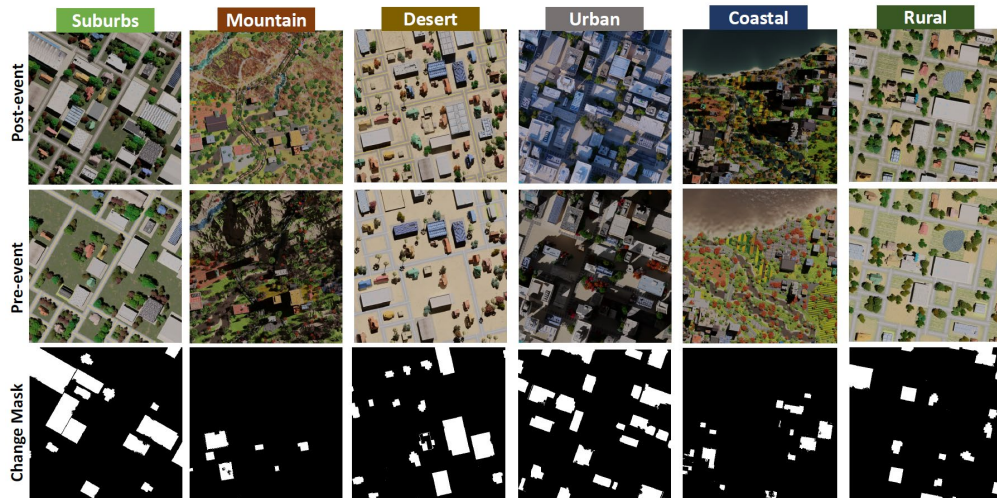
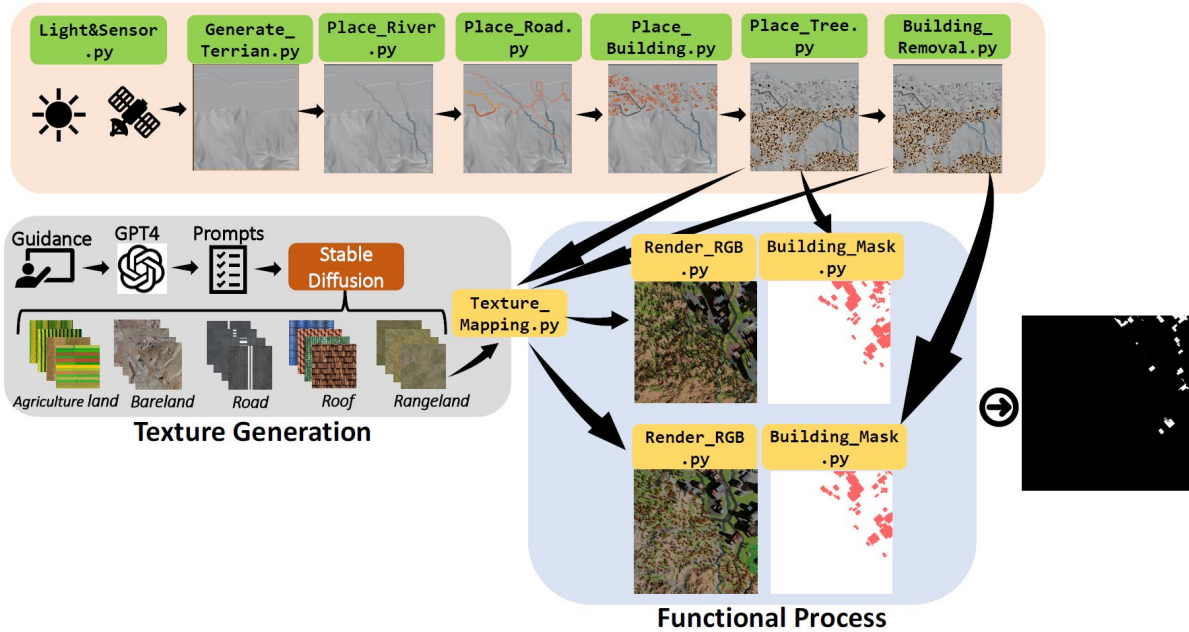
- RS3DAda has greatly unlocked the potential of the SynRS3D dataset.
- RS3DAda has significantly stabilized the training process of the SynRS3D dataset.

3D Semantic Reconstruction Outcomes



By-Product 1: Building Change Detection

Scene Construction



Performance evaluation of building change detection task on WHU-CD [38] dataset.

Train on	DTCDSN [55]		ChangeFormer [5]		ChangeMamba [9]		DinoMamba	
	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1
SMARS [73]	26.84	42.55	18.67	31.88	42.50	59.63	48.11	64.87
SyntheWorld [83]	30.17	46.53	41.73	58.87	47.26	64.10	54.20	70.14
SynRS3D	33.09	49.84	35.00	51.94	52.94	69.08	61.60	76.00
Real	58.31	73.67	79.98	88.88	88.44	93.87	87.57	93.38

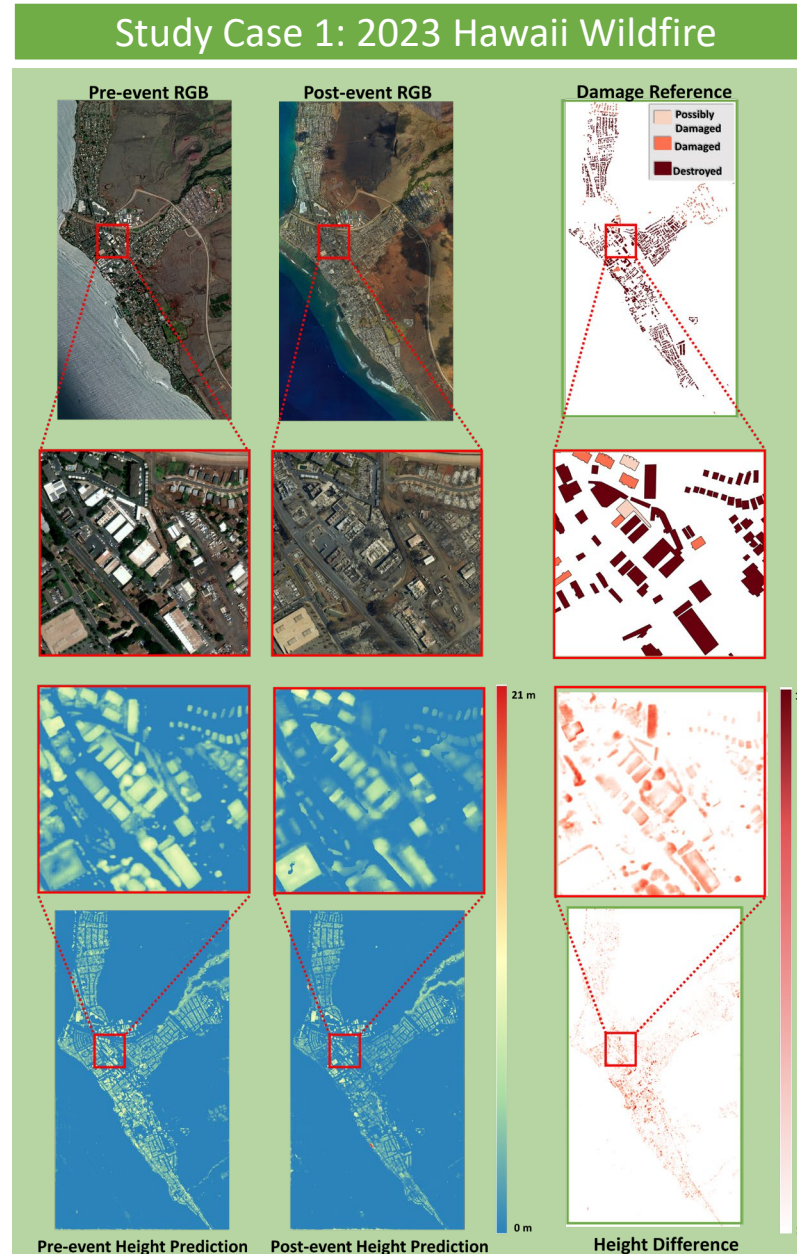
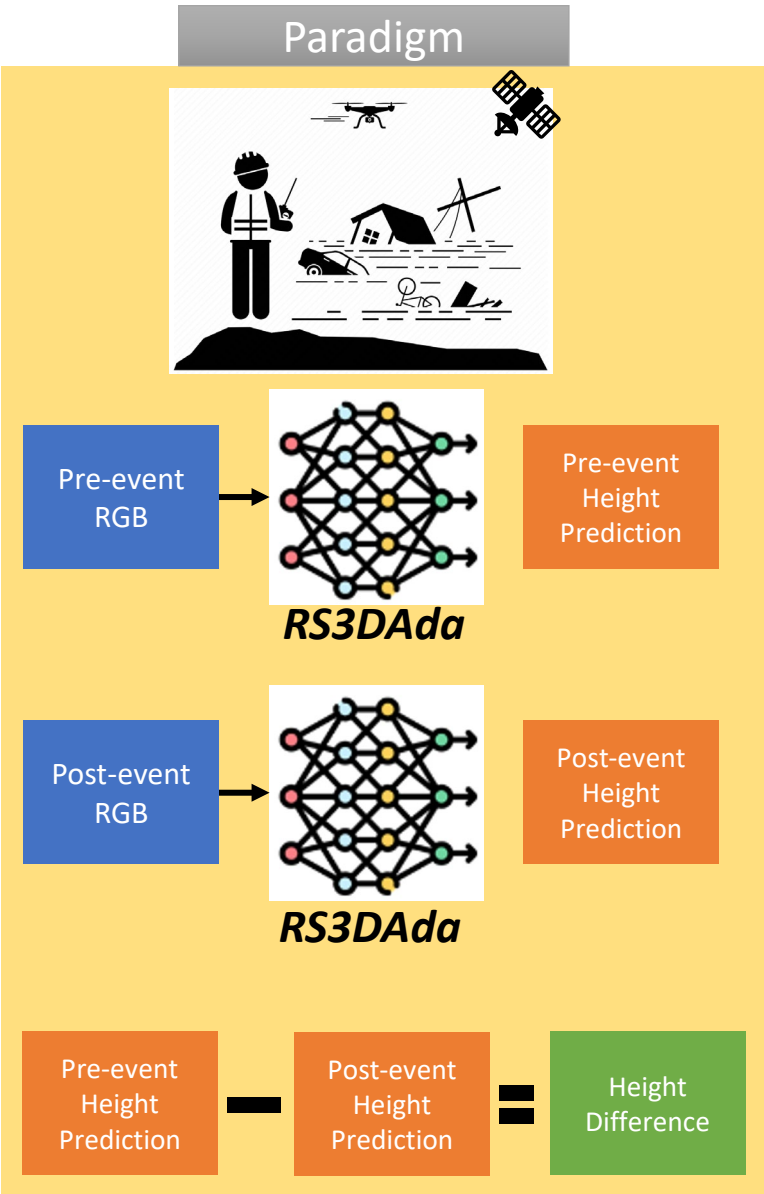
Performance evaluation of building change detection task on LEVIR-CD+ [8] dataset.

Train on	DTCDSN [55]		ChangeFormer [5]		ChangeMamba [9]		DinoMamba	
	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1
SMARS [73]	11.70	21.53	15.67	27.58	27.50	42.50	30.85	47.31
SyntheWorld [83]	21.16	35.28	23.31	38.12	28.28	44.30	48.78	65.46
SynRS3D	25.82	41.30	23.33	38.14	30.39	46.78	49.63	66.23
Real	63.44	77.63	67.48	80.58	77.39	87.25	74.12	85.14

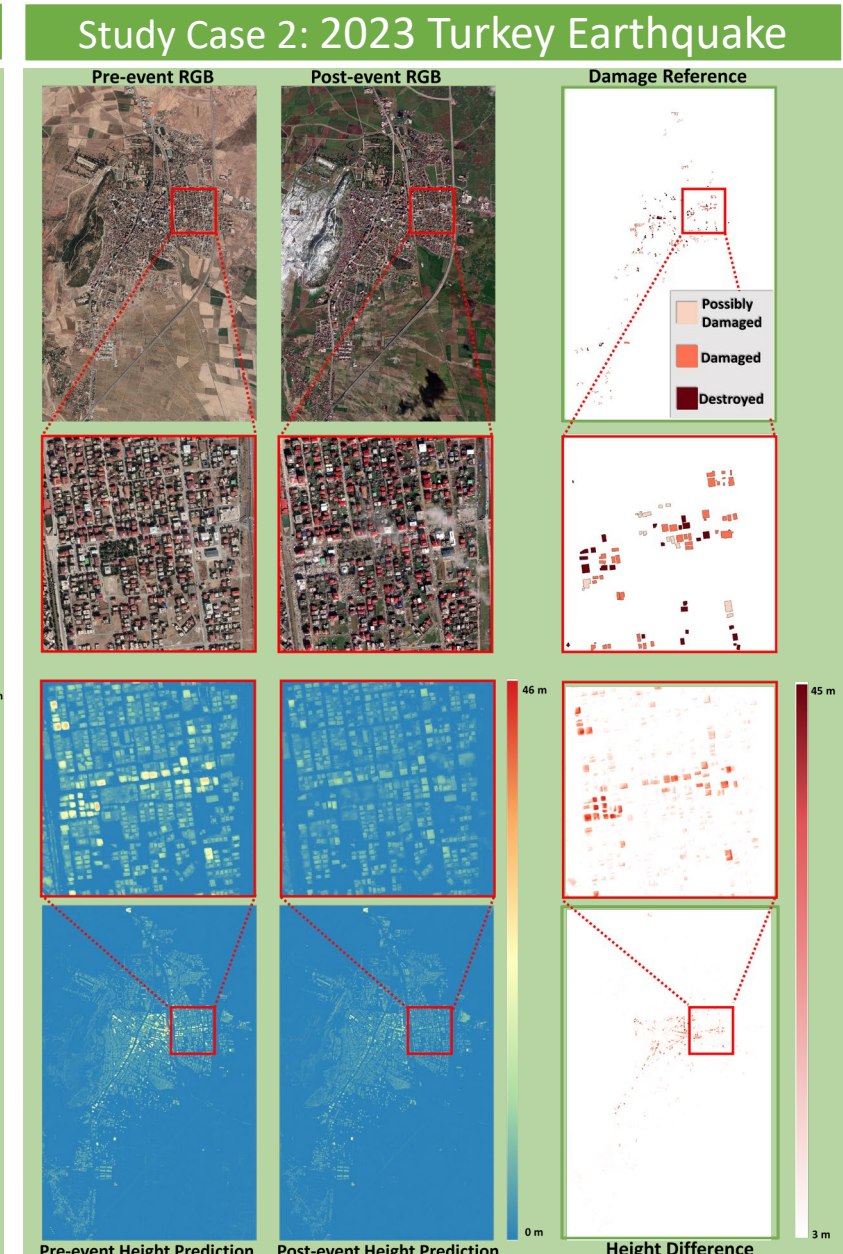
Performance evaluation of building change detection task on the SECOND [105] dataset.

Train on	DTCDSN [55]		ChangeFormer [5]		ChangeMamba [9]		DinoMamba	
	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1	IoU	F1
SMARS [73]	17.26	29.88	23.30	38.09	29.85	46.15	35.20	51.07
SyntheWorld [83]	21.00	35.07	26.44	42.06	27.23	43.02	37.61	54.71
SynRS3D	33.52	50.32	31.36	47.90	38.88	56.02	39.18	56.33
Real	58.78	74.04	60.08	75.06	67.61	80.68	67.65	80.71

By-Product 2: Disaster Mapping



Images@Google Satellite & Bing Satellite.



Images@CNES/Airbus, Maxar Technologies.

Summary

- **Dataset**

- SynRS3D – the largest synthetic dataset for remote sensing, with high-res RGB images, land cover classes, and height references.

- **Method**

- RS3DAda – the first multi-task UDA model for RS syn-to-real adaptation.

- **Real-world Validation**

- Benchmarked in 3 scenarios on real RS datasets, showing strong performance gains.

- **Broad Applicability**

- Building change detection
- Disaster mapping