

ESA Living Planet Symposium 2022
C1.07 ML4Earth: Machine Learning for Earth

Mapping glacier calving fronts by deep learning: assessing multi-spectral, textural and topographic input features

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²Alfred-Wegener-Institut Helmholtz Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung, Sektion Glaziologie, Bremerhaven, Germany

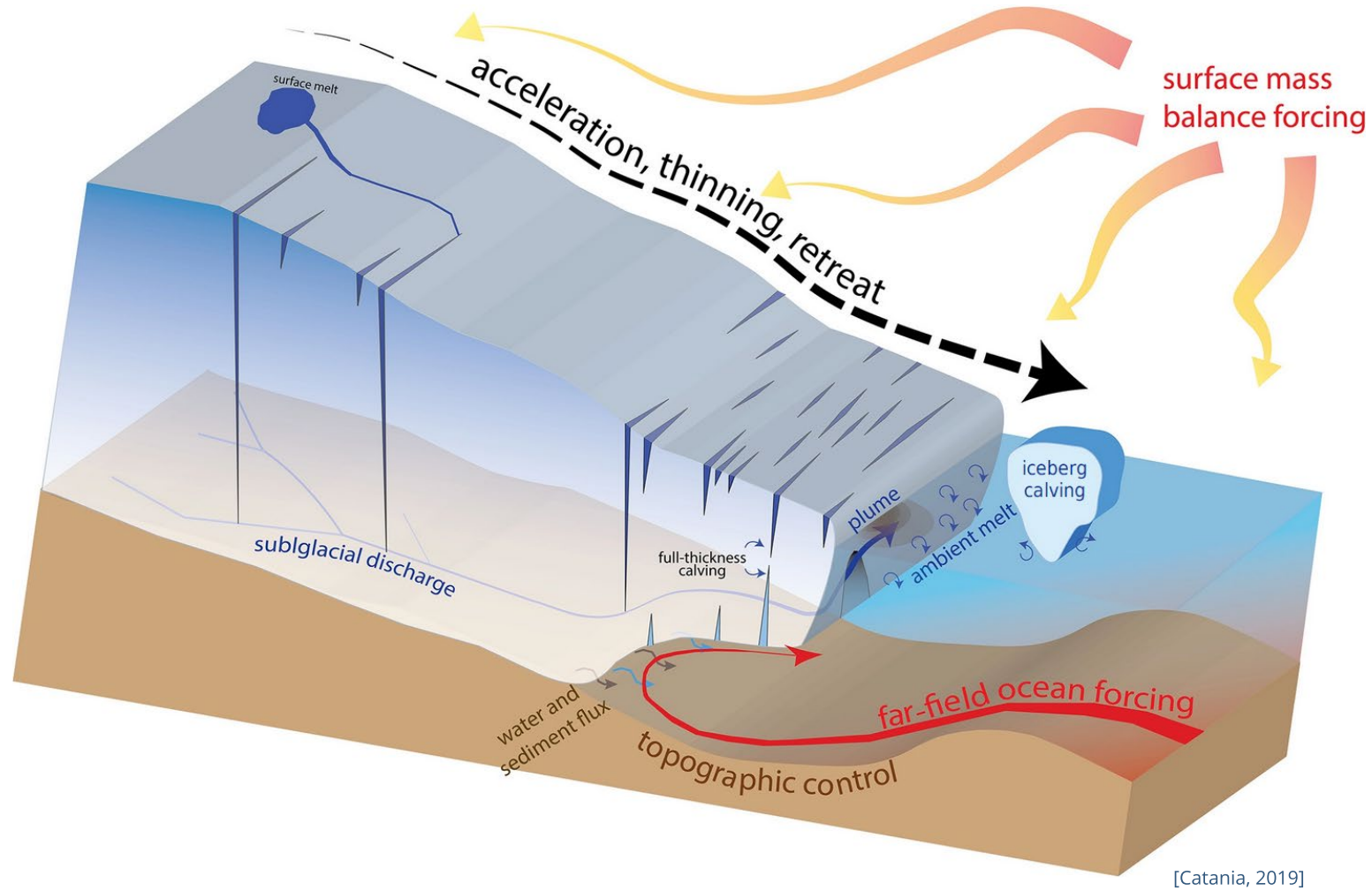
³Technische Universität Kaiserslautern, Lehrstuhl für Technische Mechanik, Kaiserslautern, Germany

⁴Technical University of Munich, Data Science in Earth Observation, Munich, Germany

⁵German Aerospace Center, Remote Sensing Technology Institute, Wessling, Germany

⁶Universität Bremen, Fachbereich Geowissenschaften, Bremen, Germany

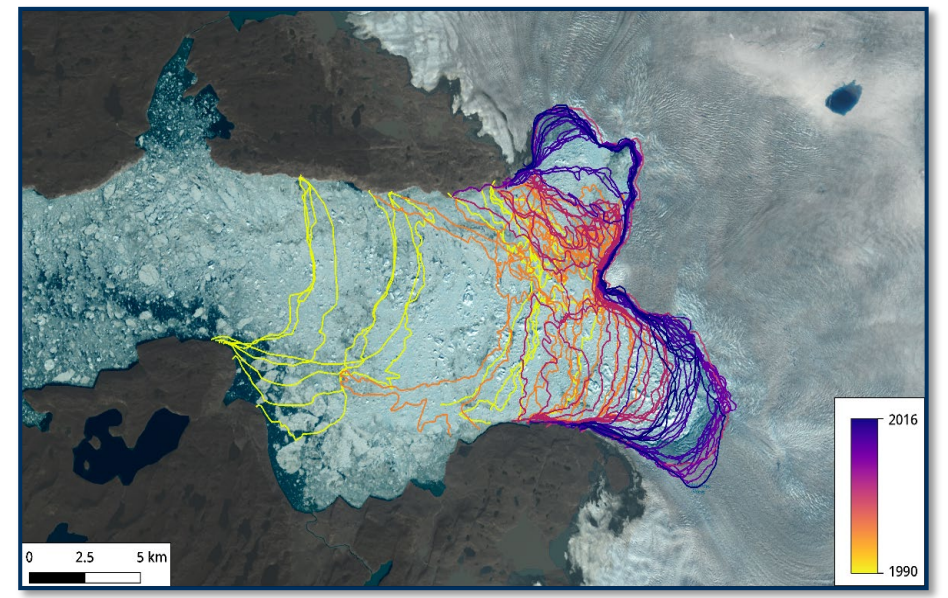
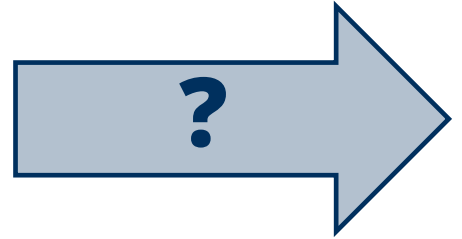
Motivation



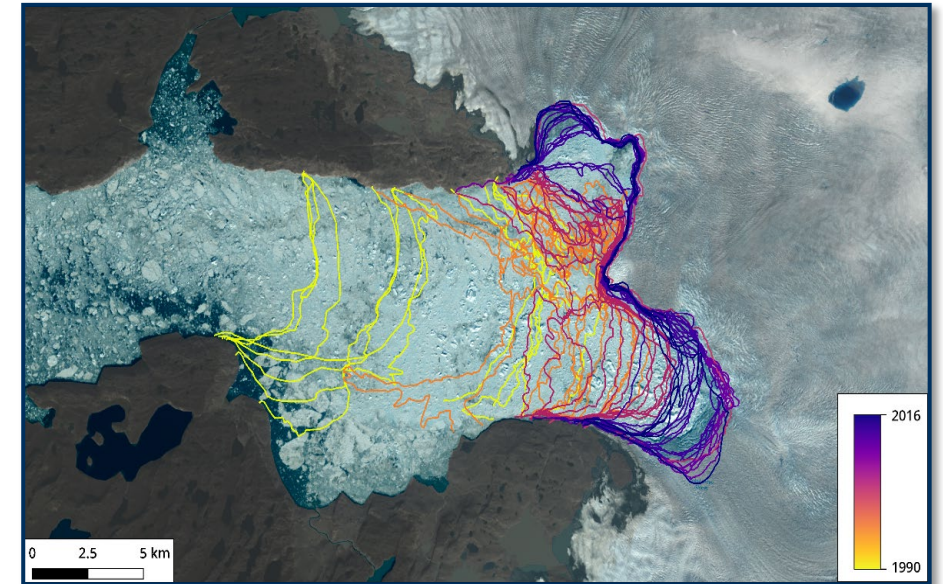
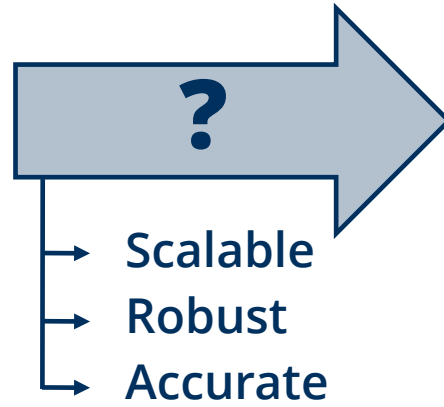
Motivation

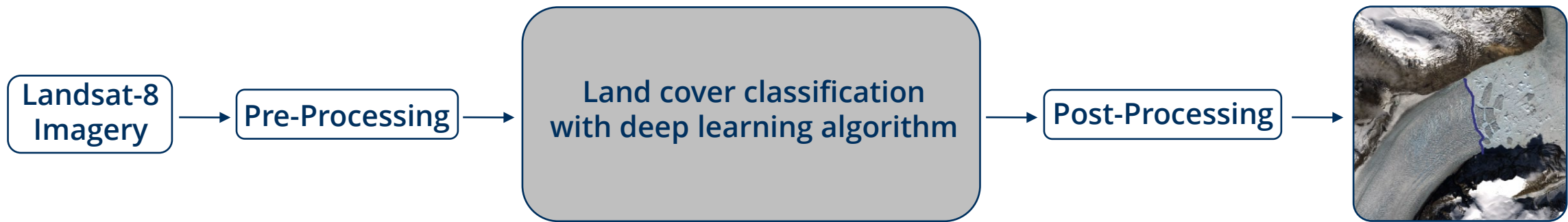


Motivation



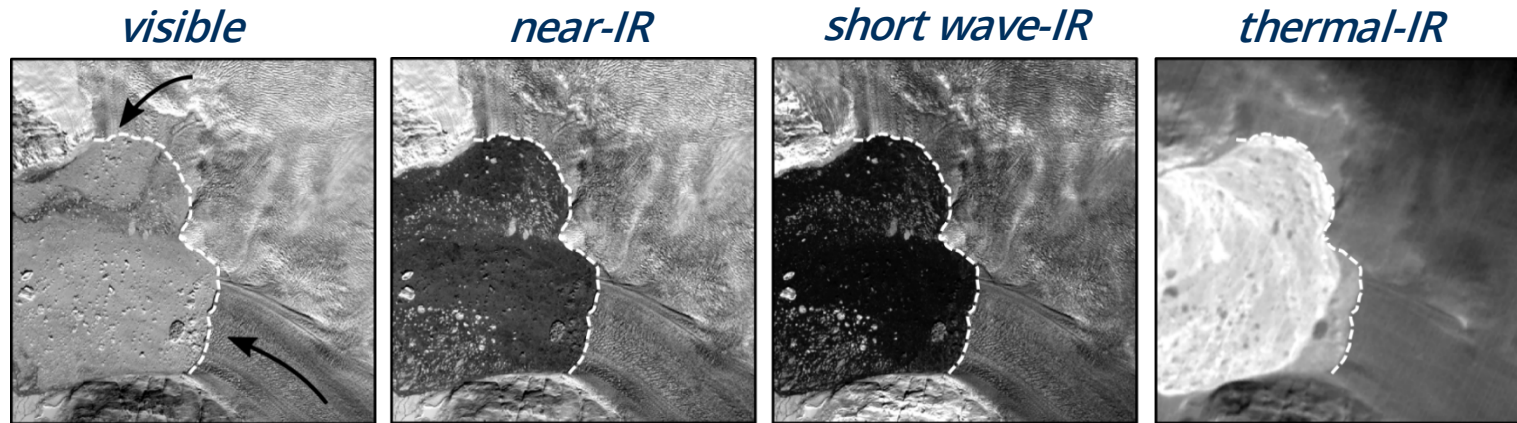
Motivation





Input data:

- Multi-spectral bands



Landsat-8
Imagery

Pre-Processing

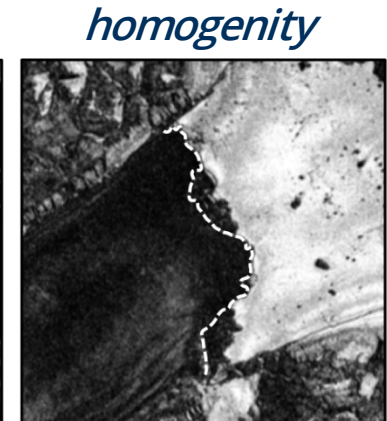
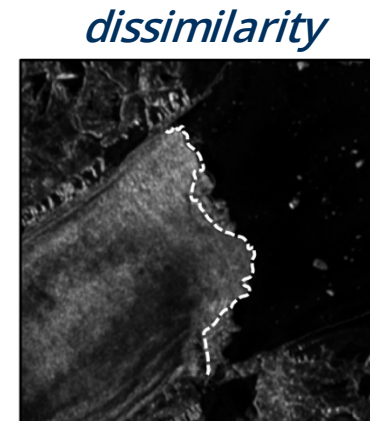
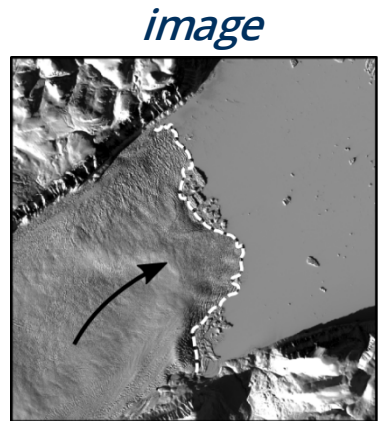
Land cover classification
with deep learning algorithm

Post-Processing



Input data:

- Multi-spectral bands
- Textural features



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Landsat-8
Imagery

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Land cover classification
with deep learning algorithm

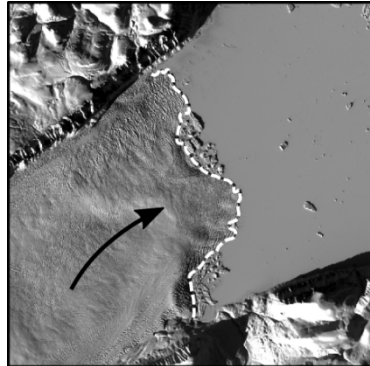
Post-Processing



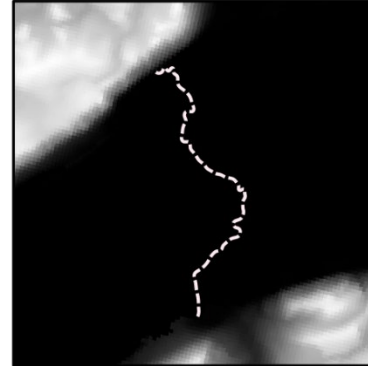
Input data:

- Multi-spectral bands
- Textural features
- Topography data

image



bedrock topography



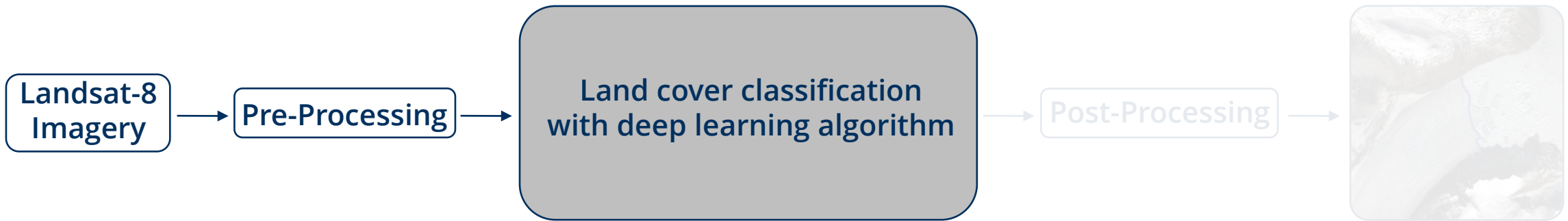
Landsat-8
Imagery

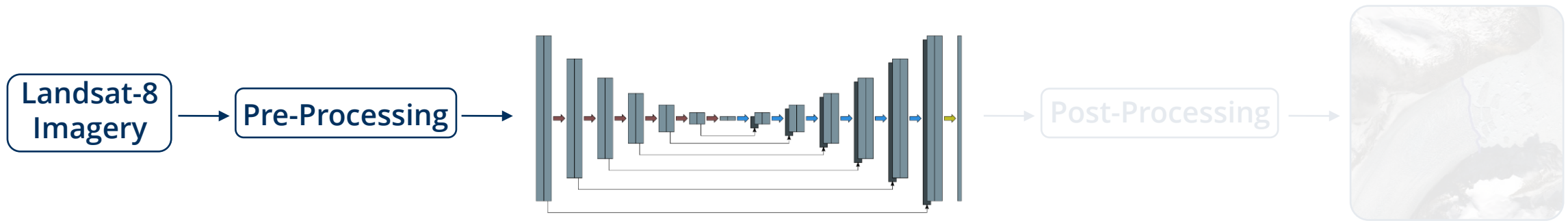
Pre-Processing

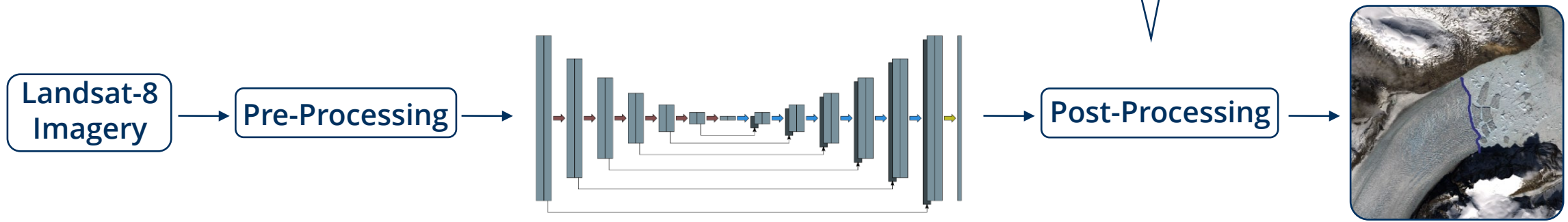
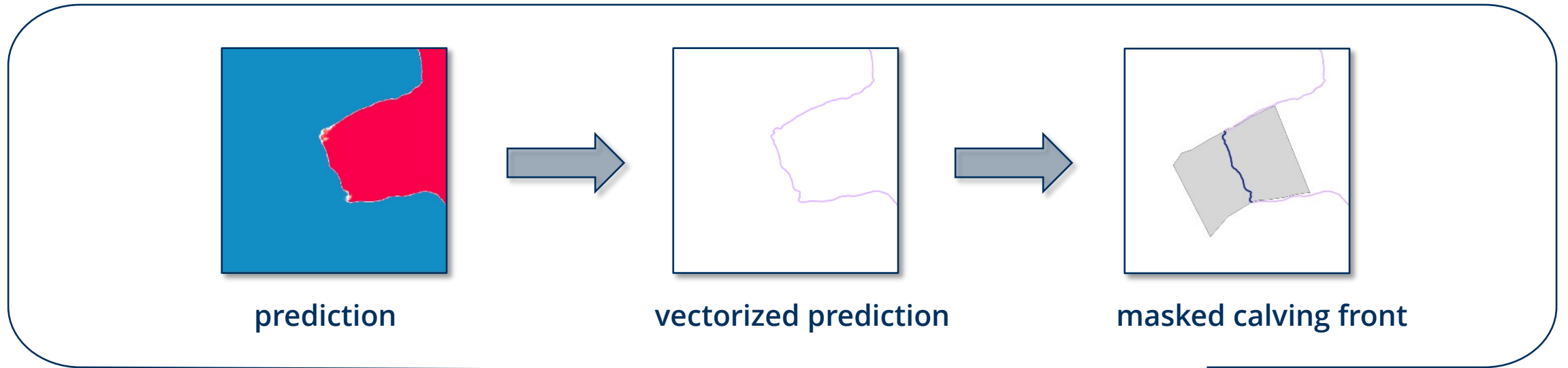
Land cover classification
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Post-Processing









Reference dataset

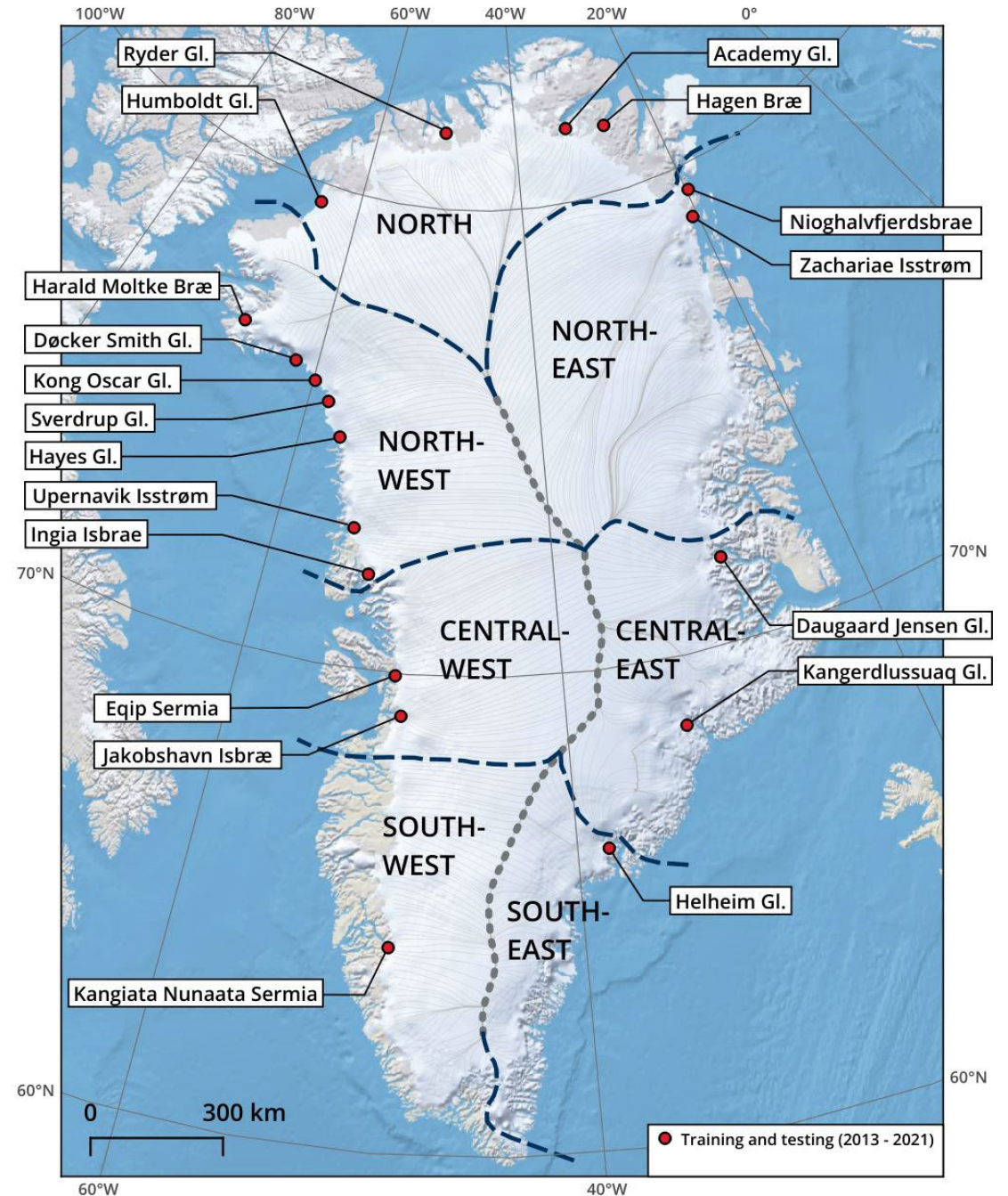
↳ Algorithm is **trained** and **validated** using **manual delineation**

Reference dataset

Algorithm is **trained** and **validated** using **manual delineation**

Training

- 698 images over 18 glaciers from 2013 to 2019



Reference dataset

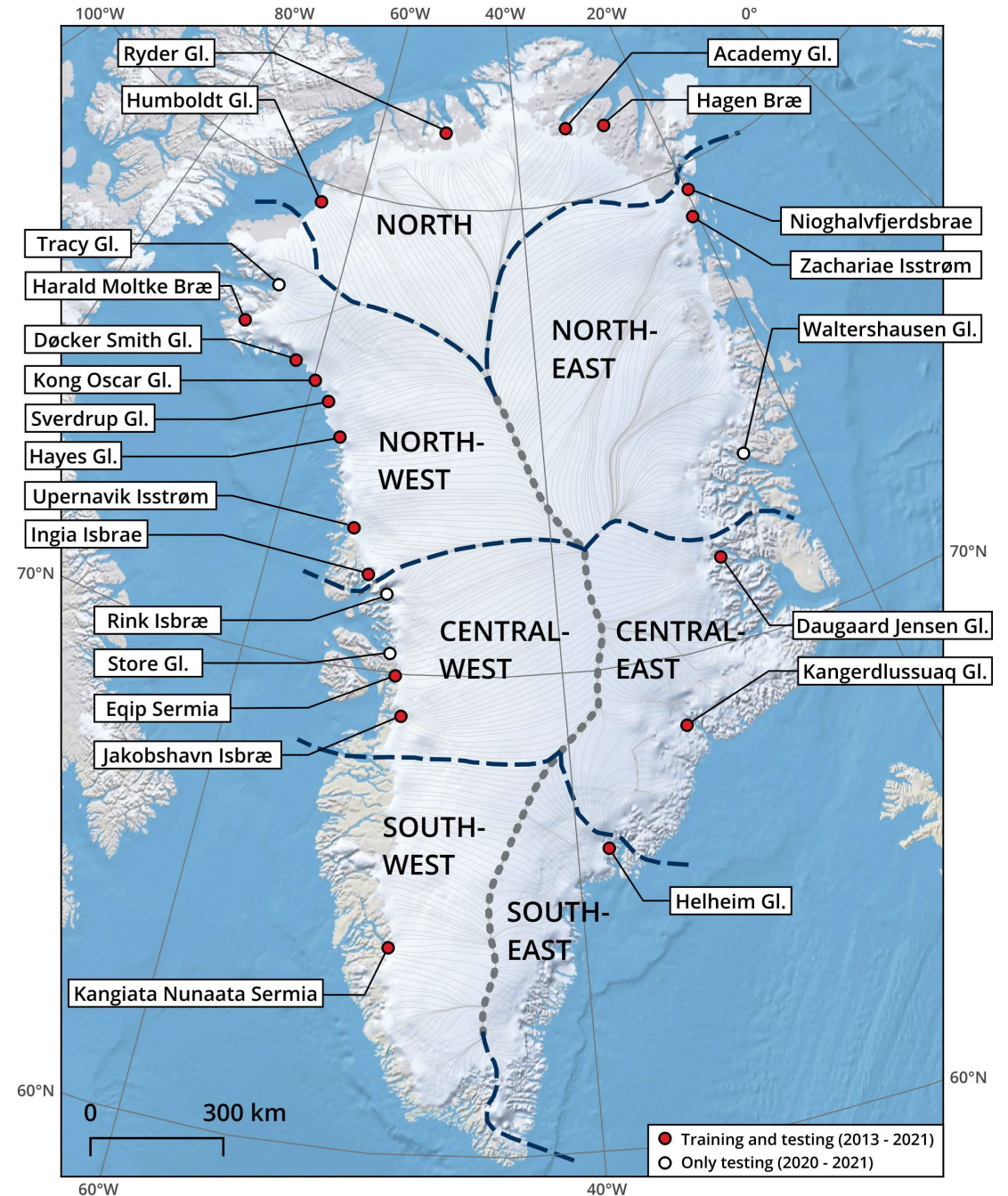
Algorithm is **trained** and **validated** using **manual delineation**

Training

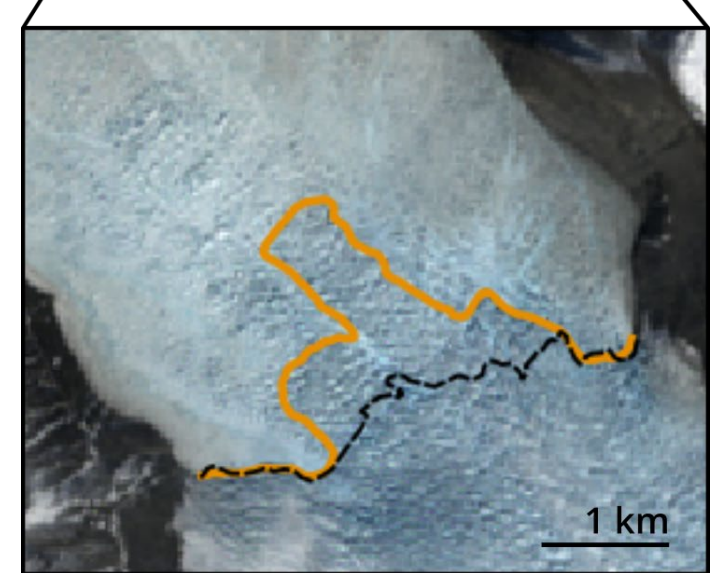
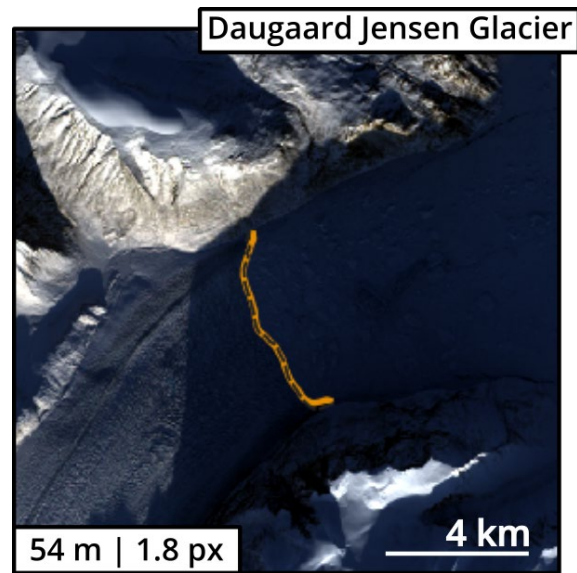
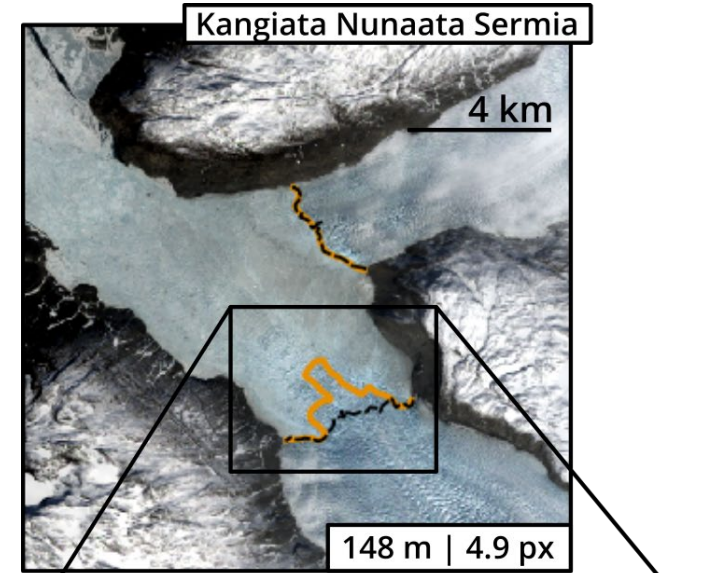
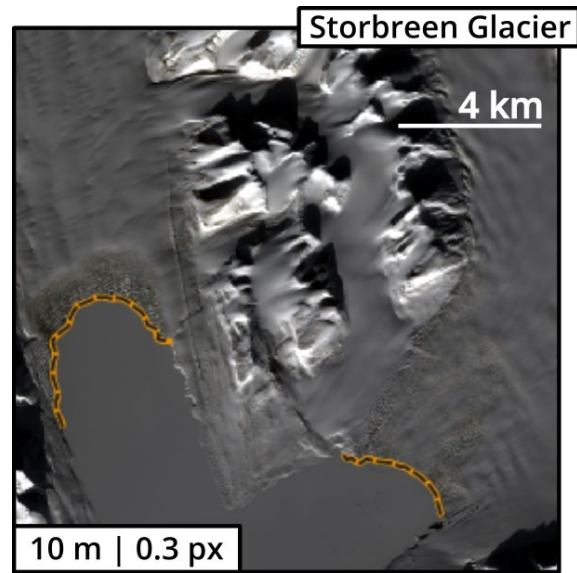
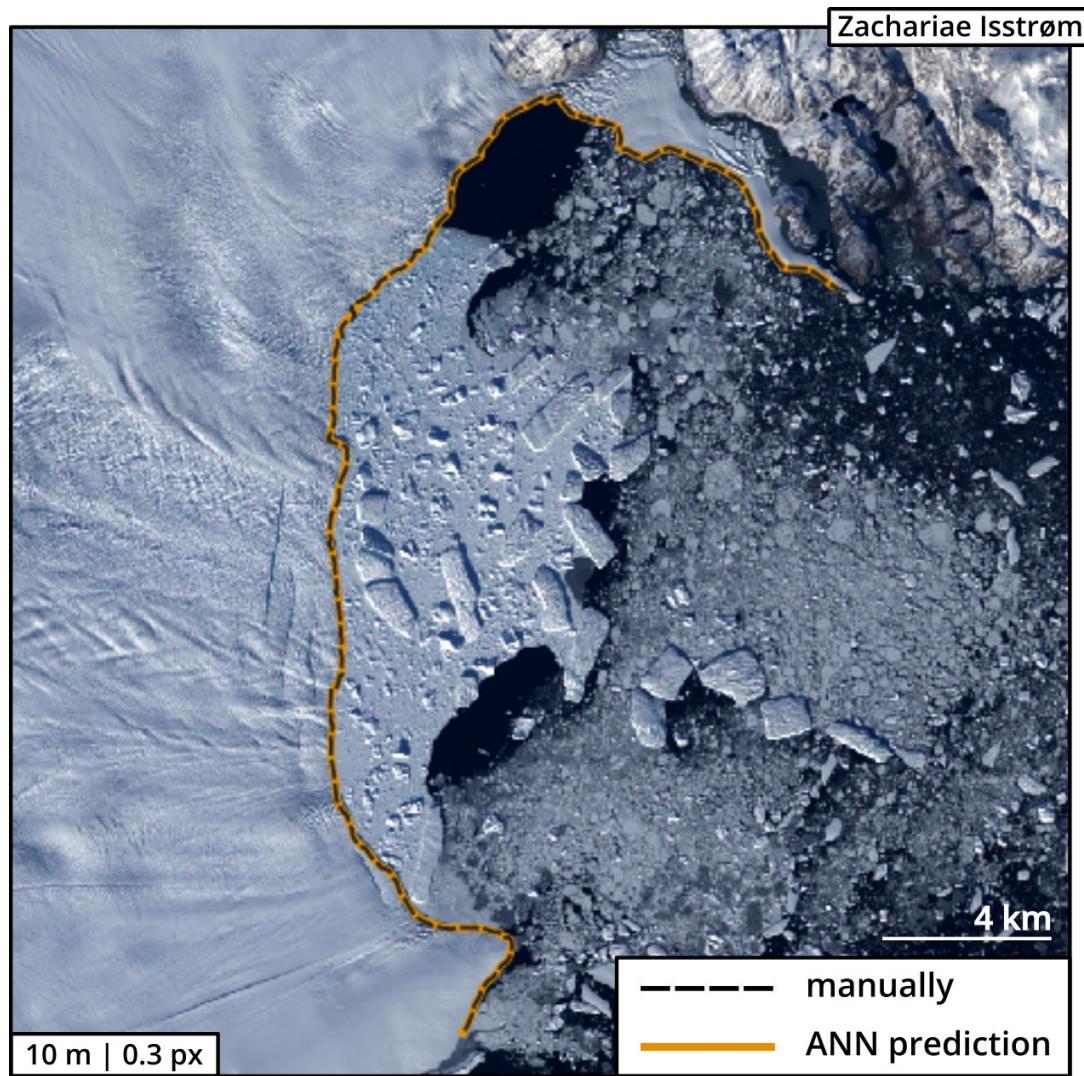
- 698 images over 18 glaciers from 2013 to 2019

Testing

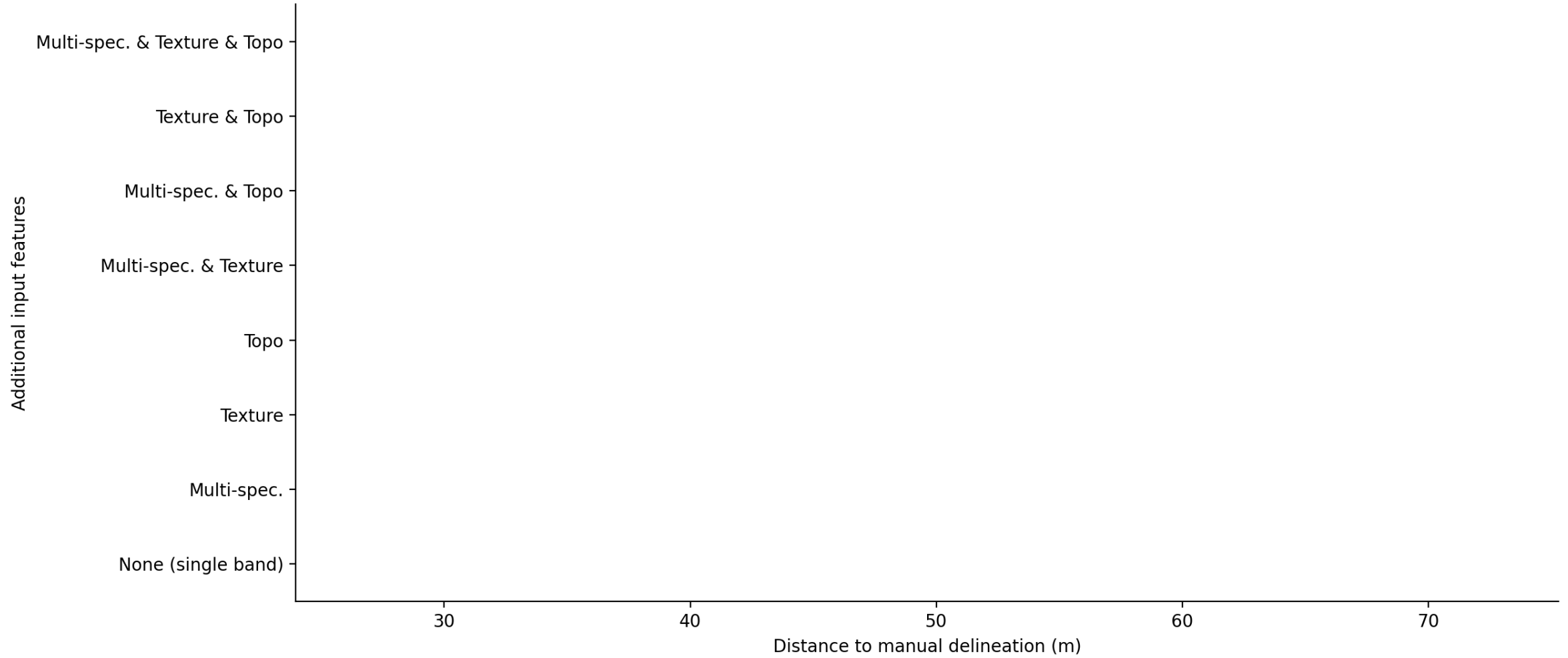
- 200 images over 25 glaciers from 2020 and 2021



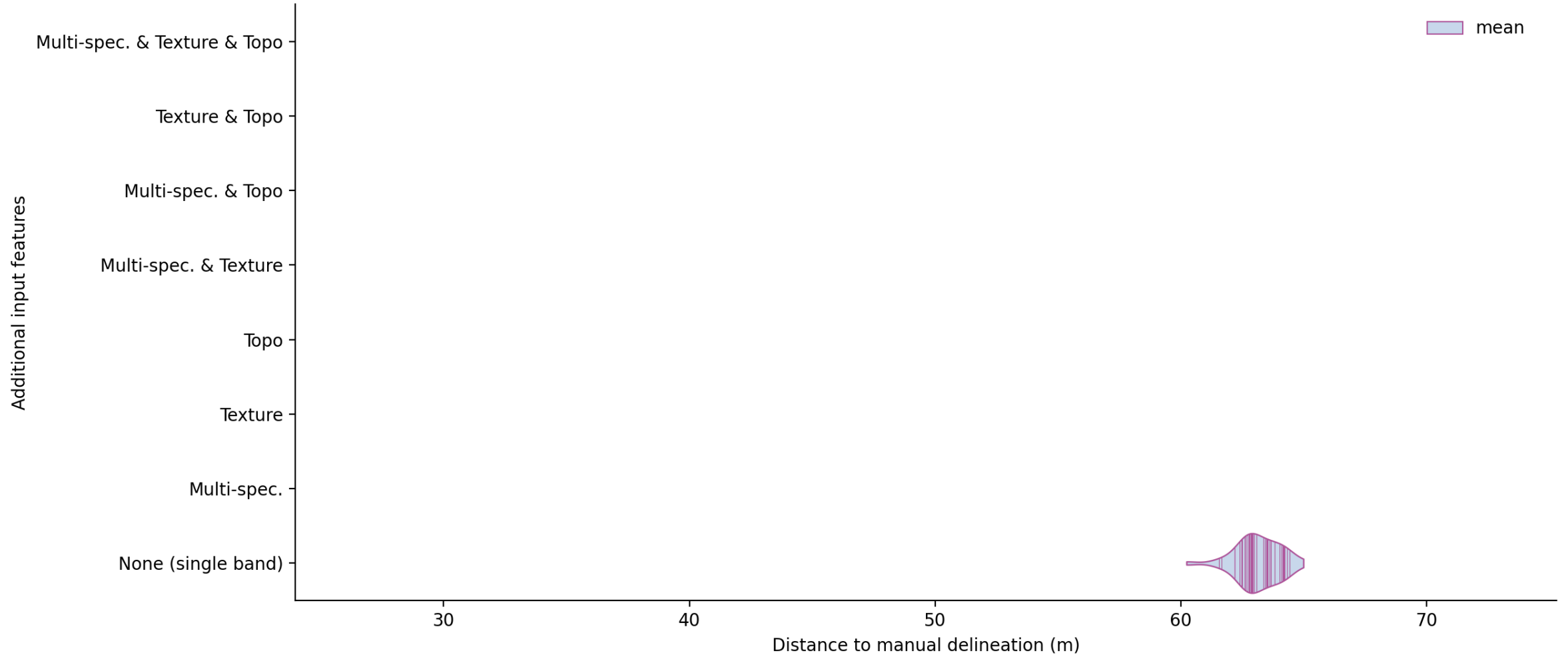
Model validation



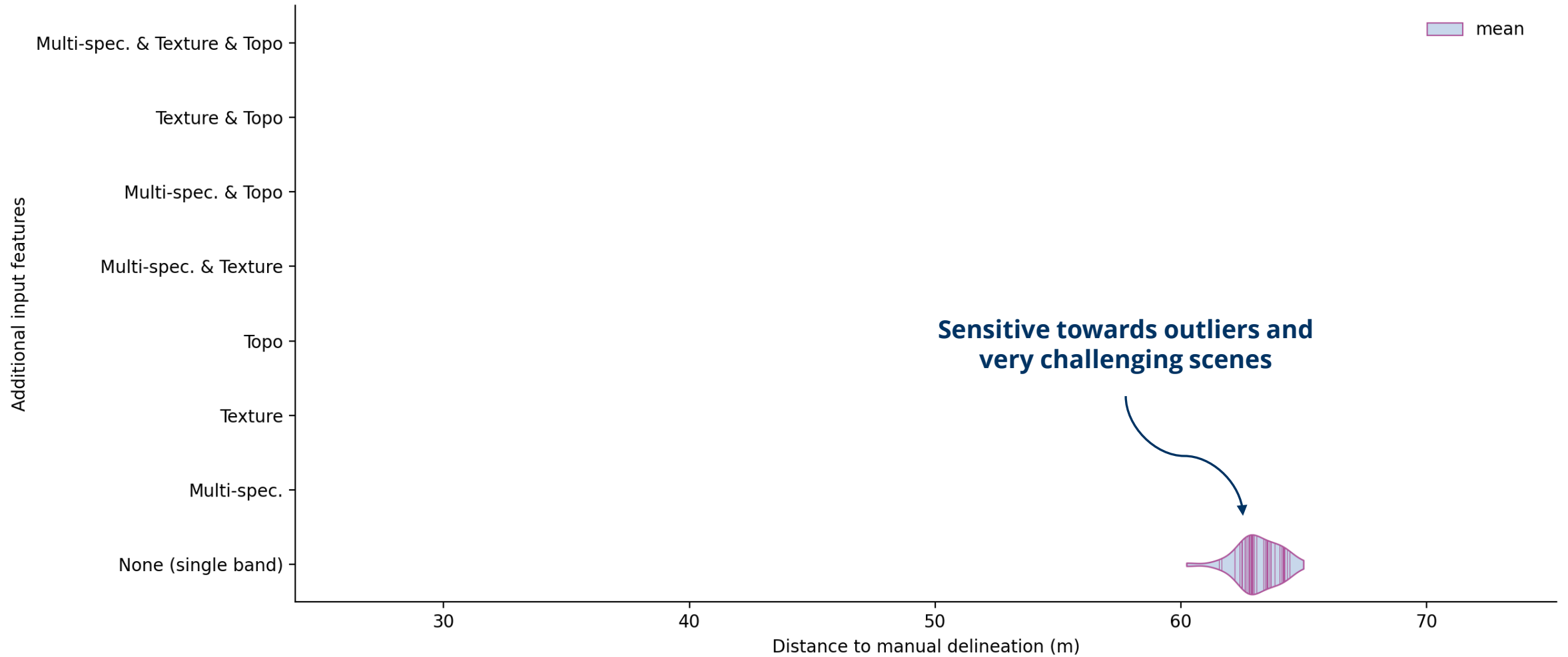
Feature importance



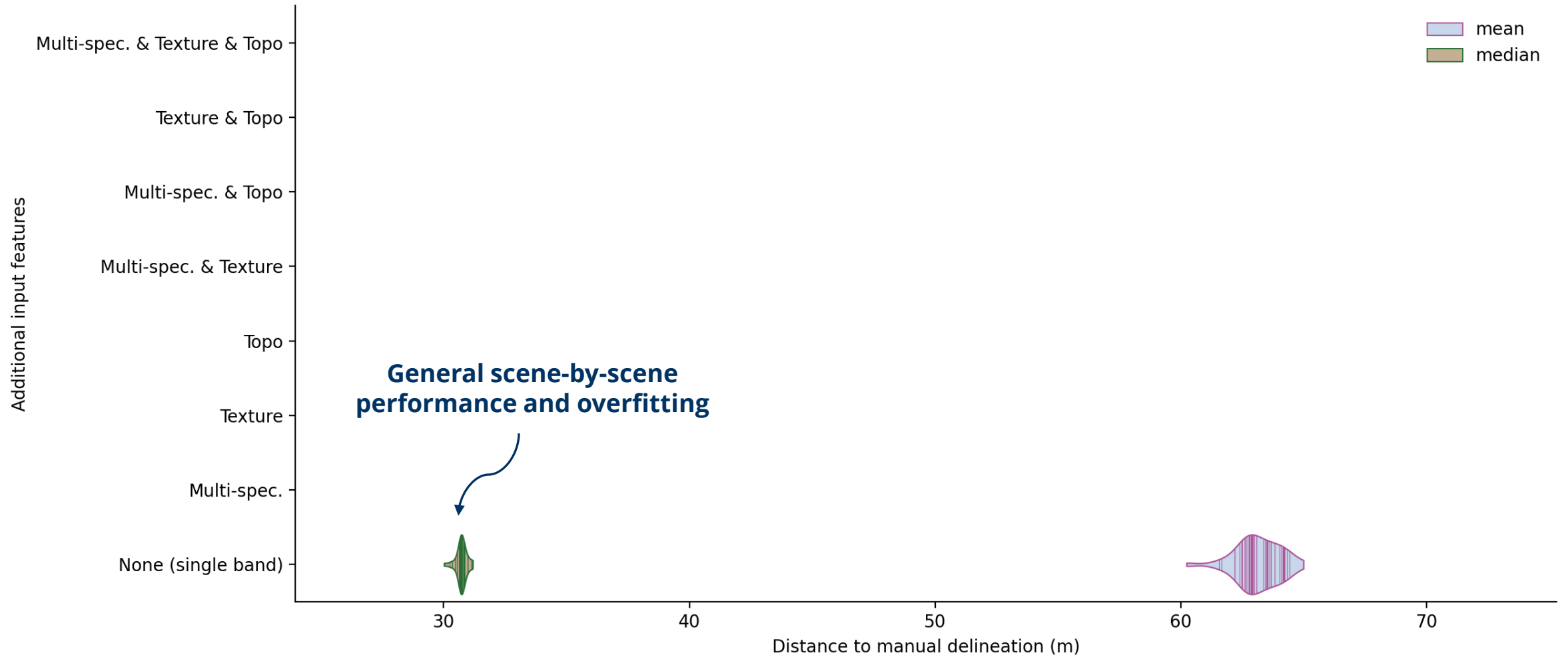
Feature importance



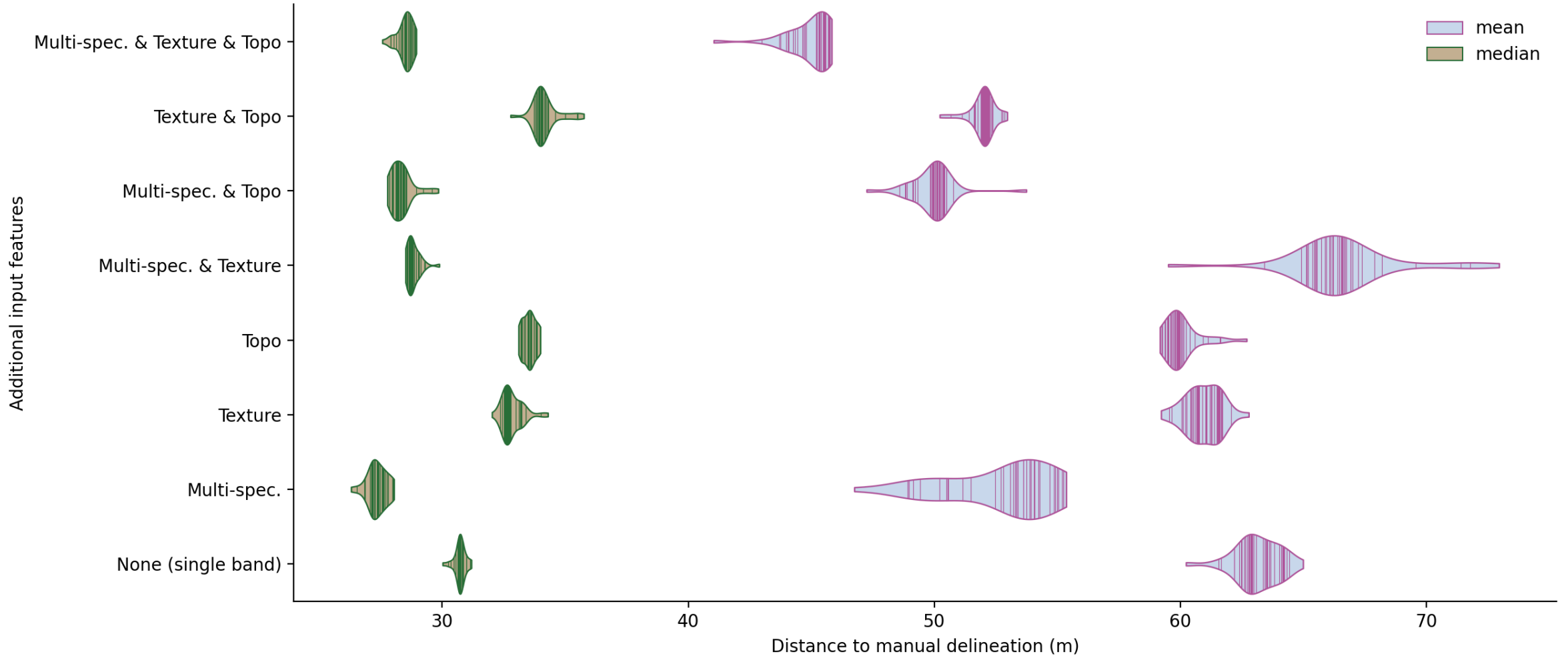
Feature importance



Feature importance

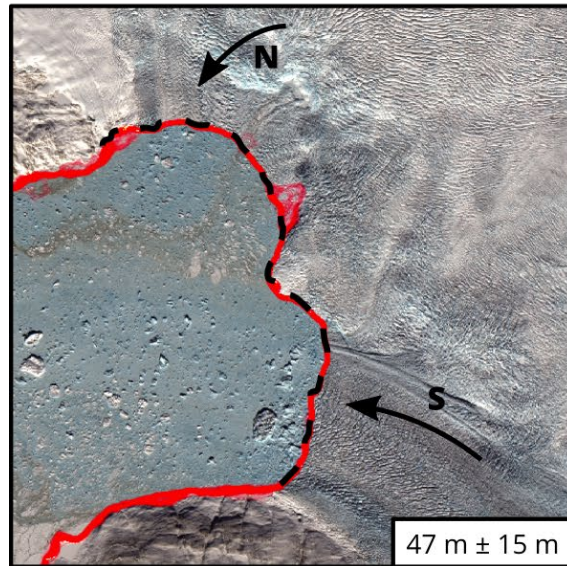


Feature importance

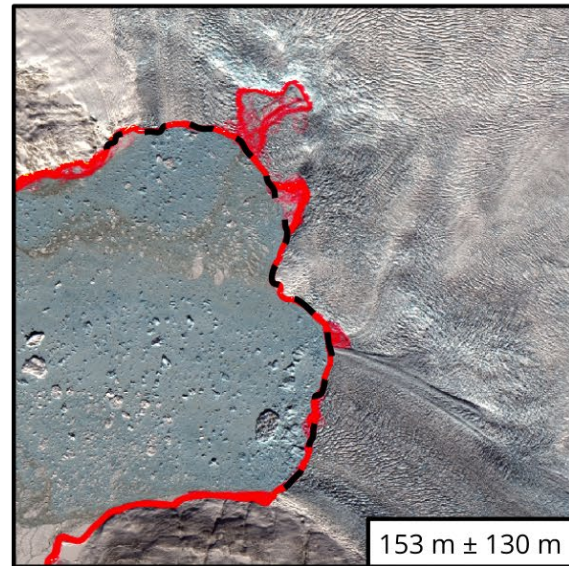


Feature importance

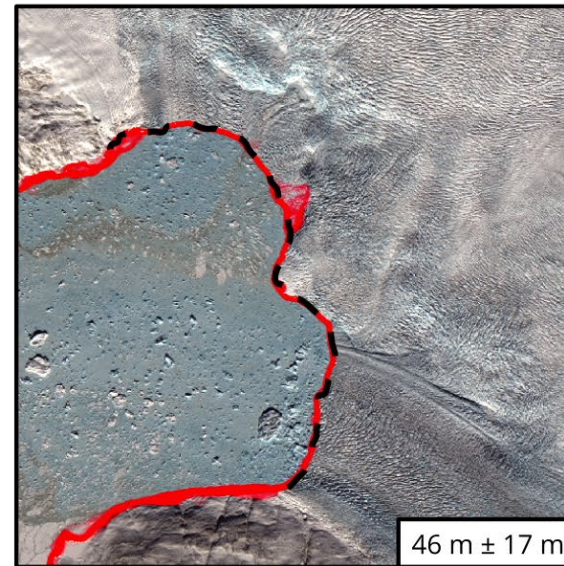
multi-spec. & texture & topo



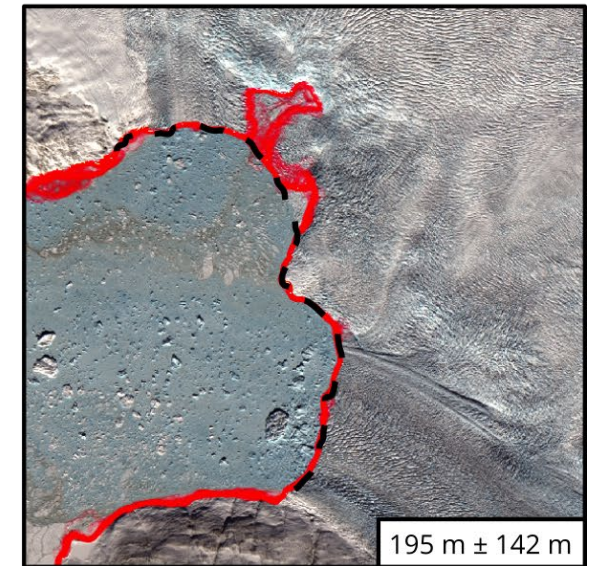
texture & topo



multi-spec.

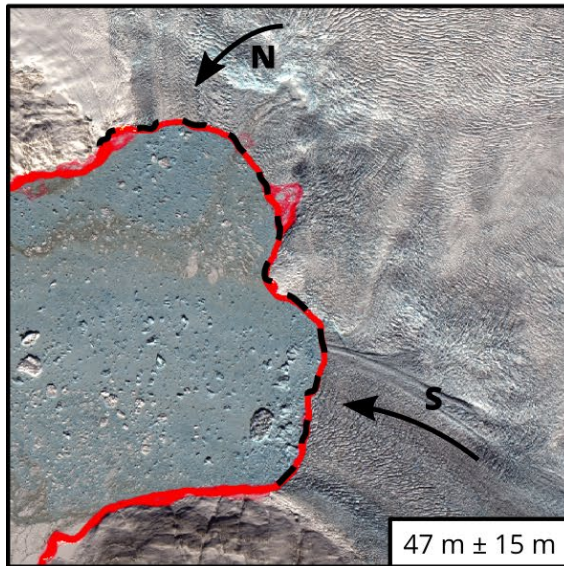


none (only B8)

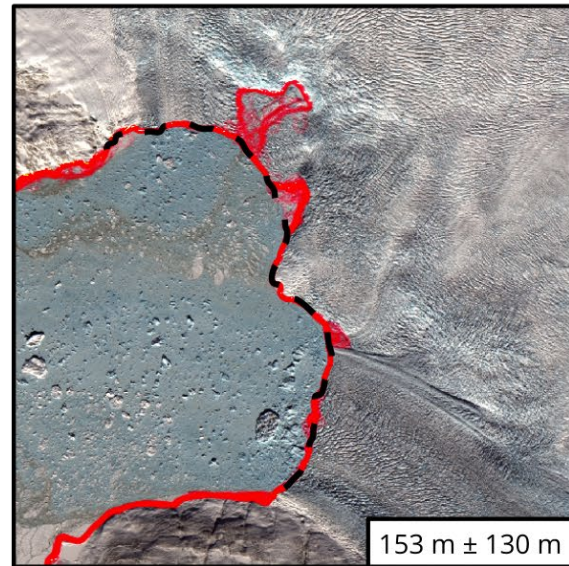


Feature importance

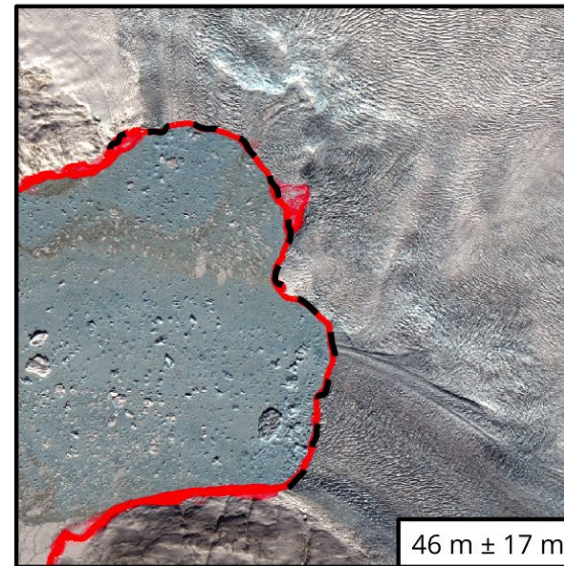
multi-spec. & texture & topo



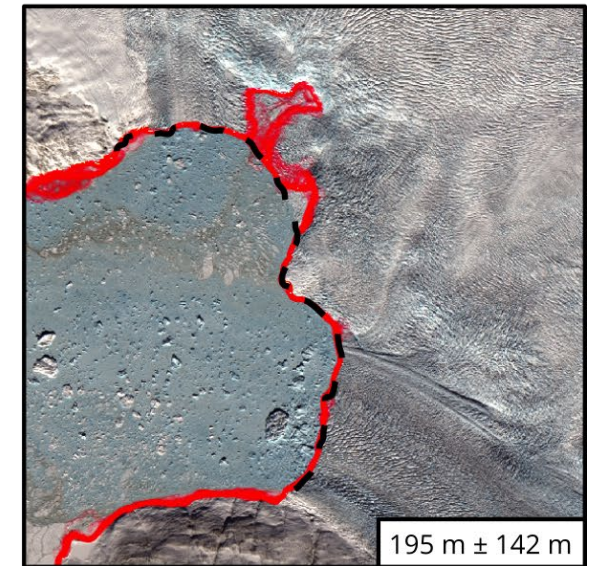
texture & topo



multi-spec.

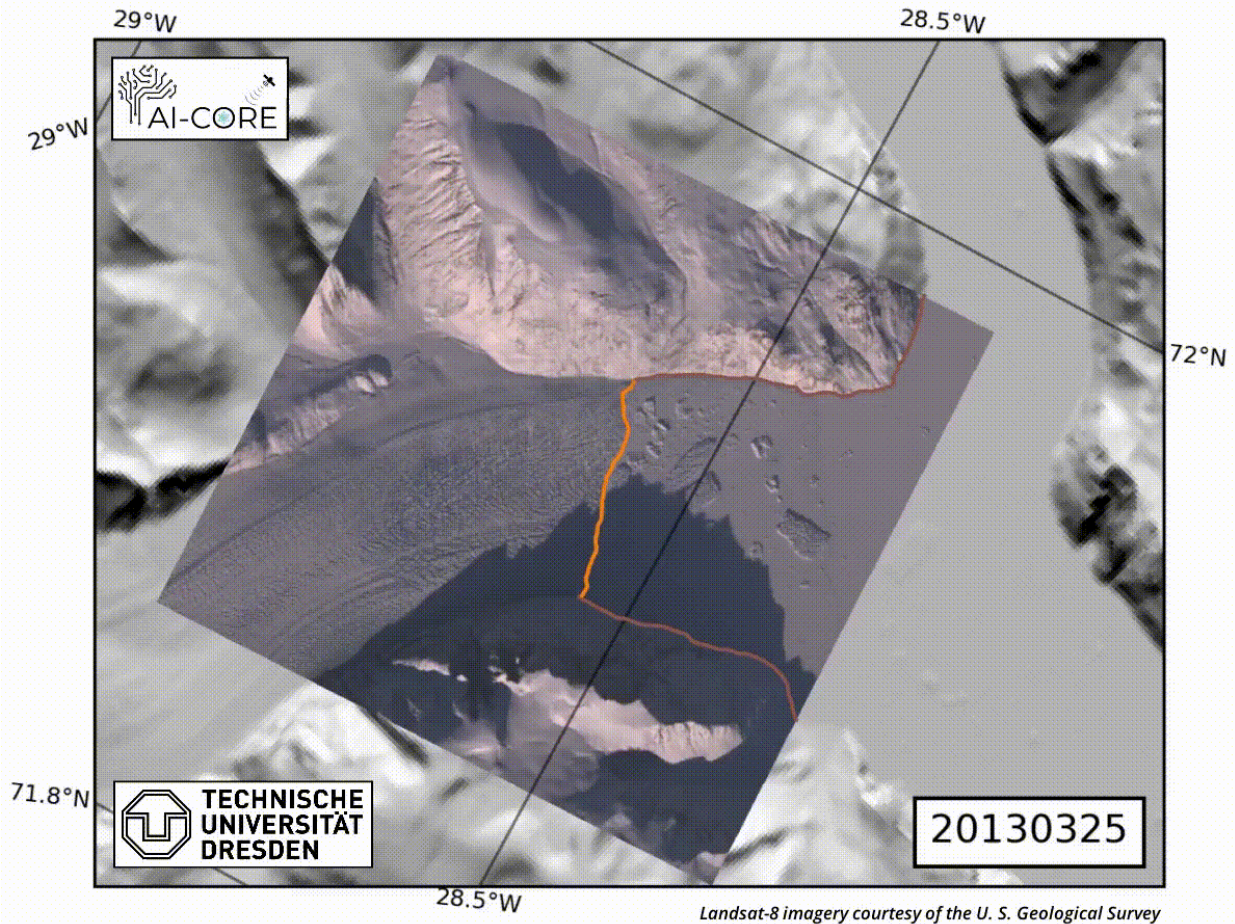


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Loebel, E., Scheinert, M., Horwath, M., Heidler, K., Christmann, J., Phan, L., Humbert, A., Zhu, X. (2022): **Extracting glacier calving fronts by deep learning: the benefit of multi-spectral, topographic and textural input features**, *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, (under review).

Product for Greenland 2013 – 2021



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<i>Kanglata Nunaata Sermia</i>	5	23	19	17	13	17	15	13	23
<i>Helheim Glacier</i>	13	33	24	29	27	17	35	29	31
<i>Kangerdlussuaq Glacier</i>	19	42	29	38	39	40	47	40	43
<i>Jakobshavn Isbræ</i>	15	29	29	26	25	25	34	25	30
<i>Eqip Sermia</i>	13	33	32	29	32	35	37	31	29
<i>Store Glacier</i>	18	40	39	38	36	40	43	35	33
<i>Rink Isbræ</i>	20	43	45	44	40	37	46	37	52
<i>Daugaard Jensen Glacier</i>	13	30	26	38	30	29	43	28	56
<i>Ingia Isbræ</i>	18	30	33	44	41	38	49	47	44
<i>Upernavik Isstrøm</i>	6	19	40	33	36	35	46	43	37
<i>Waltershausen Glacier</i>	13	20	27	28	29	39	46	34	41
<i>Hayes Glacier</i>	13	33	42	46	40	46	64	40	46
<i>Sverdrup Glacier</i>	14	38	53	48	46	45	60	56	59
<i>Kong Oscar Glacier</i>	9	26	44	38	44	34	48	44	48
<i>Døcker Smith Glacier</i>	4	25	42	42	38	37	57	53	45
<i>Harald Molke Bræ</i>	16	41	51	51	50	53	54	55	52
<i>Tracy Glacier</i>	19	46	58	54	47	54	51	58	49
<i>Humboldt Glacier</i>	7	34	39	45	39	40	50	48	33
<i>Zachariae Isstrøm</i>	15	46	42	60	68	60	73	52	42
<i>Nioghalvfjærdsbræ</i>	20	38	41	64	65	51	63	48	66
<i>Hagen Bræ</i>	51	66	119	127	126	135	104	97	116
<i>Academy Glacier</i>	55	60	128	127	113	119	108	97	111
<i>Ryder Glacier</i>	43	53	100	105	88	114	98	107	96

> 9000 calving front positions with sub-weekly sampling outside polar night

Key takeaways

- Parameterizing calving is essential for understanding glacier dynamics and for constraining our model projections
- Deep learning provides effective tools for automated mapping of calving front locations
 - robust: mean distance error < 60 m
 - accurate: median distance error < 30 m
 - scalable: delineation in under 1 second
- Inputs matter! Multi-spectral information lead to more accurate predictions compared to single bands inputs

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