



SWEDISH  
SPACE  
DATA LAB

# Experience from using the Swedish Space Data Lab

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# Overview

## Introduction

- Who we are
- What we do

## Experience working with...

- Data
- Algorithms
- Beneficiaries

## Questions



# Who we are

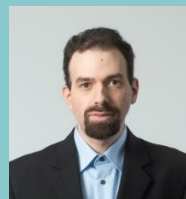
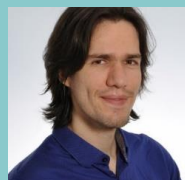
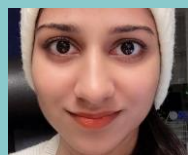
LULEÅ  
TEKNISKA  
UNIVERSITET



VINNOVA  
Sweden's Innovation Agency

SMHI

RI.  
SE



AI


SWEDEN



Rymdstyrelsen  
Swedish National Space Agency



# What we (plan to) do at the SDL

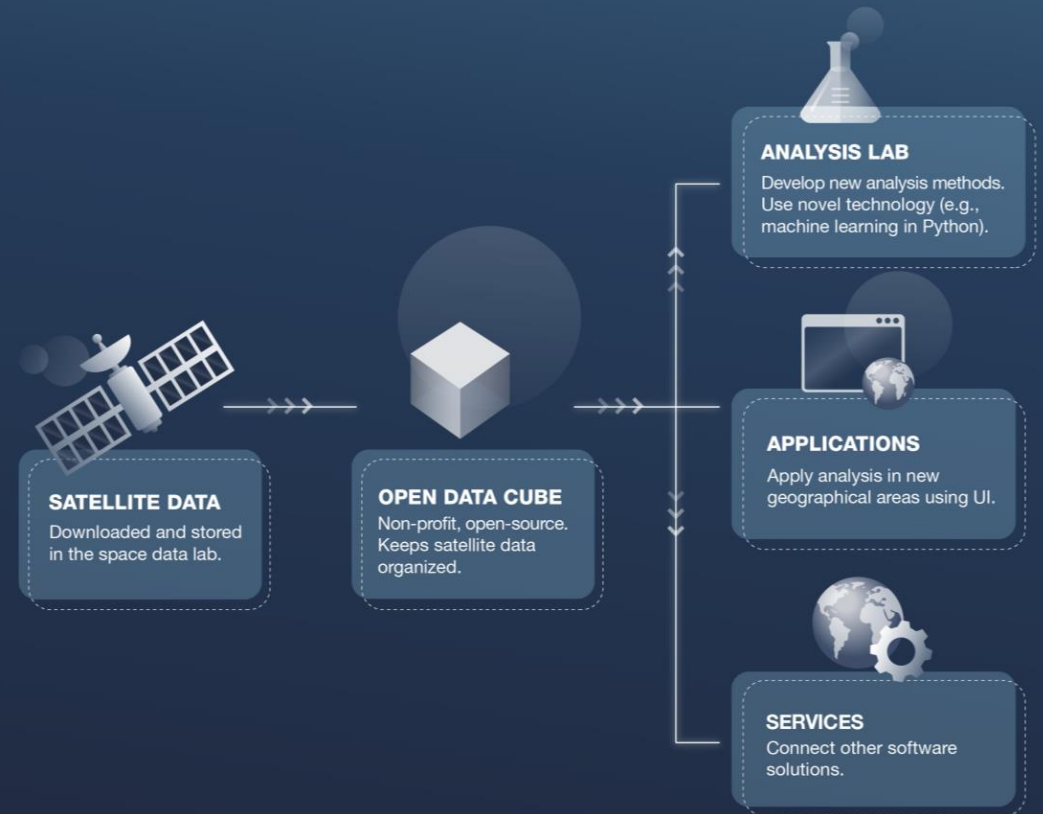


“ Swedish Space Data Lab is a resource that makes data from space available to everyone. ”

# SDL pipeline

Have a pipeline for various needs

- Everything starts with Satellite data (Sentinel)
- Data accessible through ODC
  - For developing new analysis methods
  - For applying the methods in new geographical areas using a User Interface
  - For providing services, and connecting them to already existing solutions



# Pilots in SDL

1. Drought in Mälardalen
2. Water levels in Vänern
3. Marine Habitats
4. Coastal Zones
5. AI for good
6. API
7. Where and when is the water
8. AI Areal
9. AI Shallow water

Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management  
 GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

SKOGSSTYRELSEN

Jordbruksverket



Länstyrelsen Kalmar län



Länstyrelsen Västra Götaland



Länstyrelsen Västerbotten



Länstyrelsen Västmanlands län



Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency



Statistiska centralbyrån  
 Statistics Sweden

# Facilitate AI development - Hackathons

*"The hackathon format is a fantastic way to create value in a short amount of time. It is also a way to gather and engage the AI-community, and give the opportunity for like-minded peers to meet and learn from each other."*

Participated in the organisation of two hackathons

- [Space Data Hackathon 2020](#)
- [Copernicus Hackathon Sweden](#)

Support provided in both cases

- Task description
- Mentoring (if required)
- Satellite data and computational platform
- Jury



Difference: provided labeled validation and test data in one case

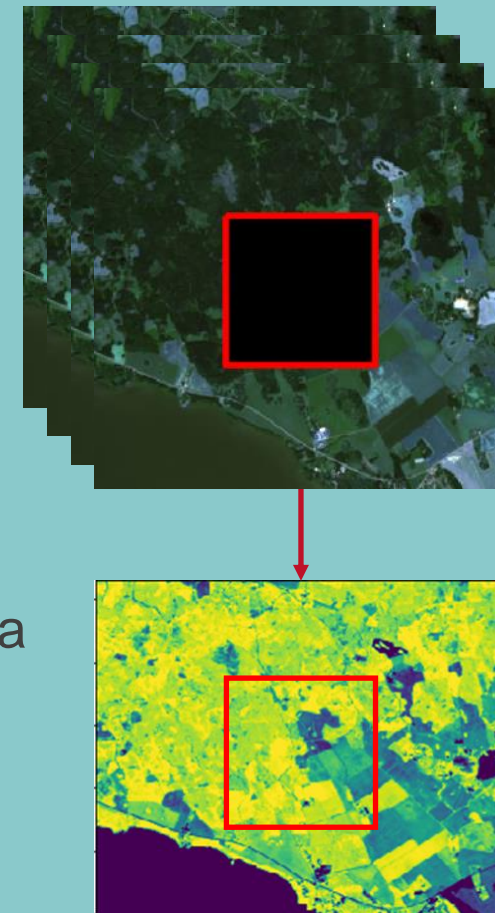
# Space Data Hackathon 2020

## Two-fold task

- Simple time-series prediction
  - Input: a series of dates with average NDVI values
  - Output: average NDVI for a date in the series with missing value
- Spatio-temporal prediction
  - Input: a series of satellite images with an area masked in one
  - Output: prediction of NDVI values for all pixels in the masked area

## Take-away:

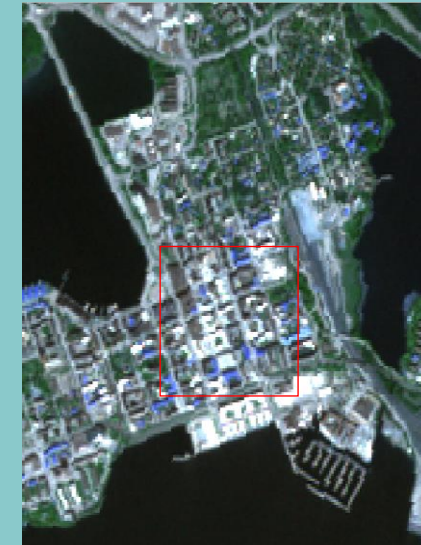
- The unreasonable effectiveness of permanence model





# Copernicus Hackathon Sweden

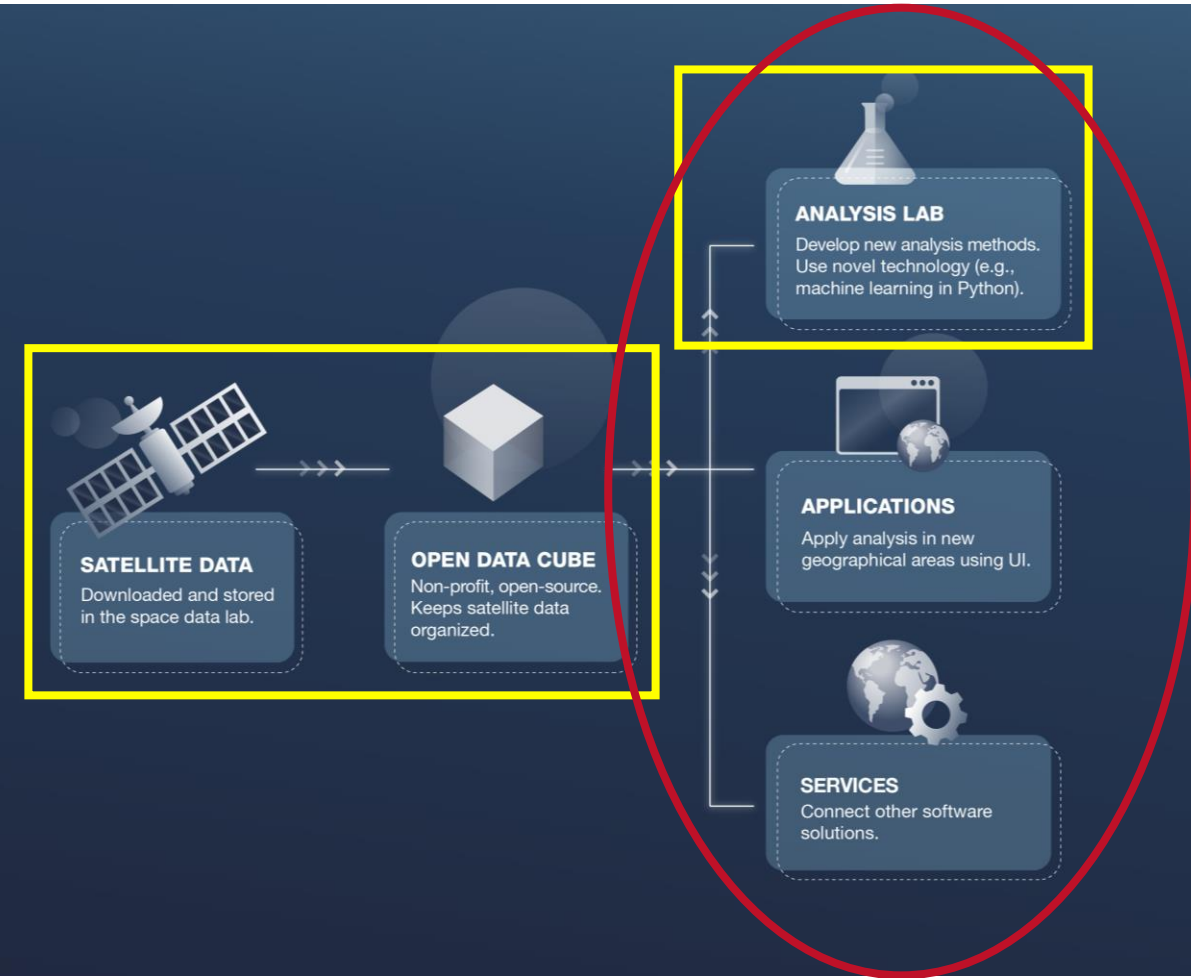
- Snow/Cloud detection
  - Climate change monitoring
  - Differentiation between cloud cover and snow
  - Based on Sentinel-2 data
- Classification of areas
  - Size: 500m X 500m
  - From COVID-19 perspective
  - Create a useful categorization
- Take-away
  - Less defined tasks, more freedom, more deep learning (ResNet and Unet)



# Experience from using the SDL

Different lessons learned from each part of the pipeline

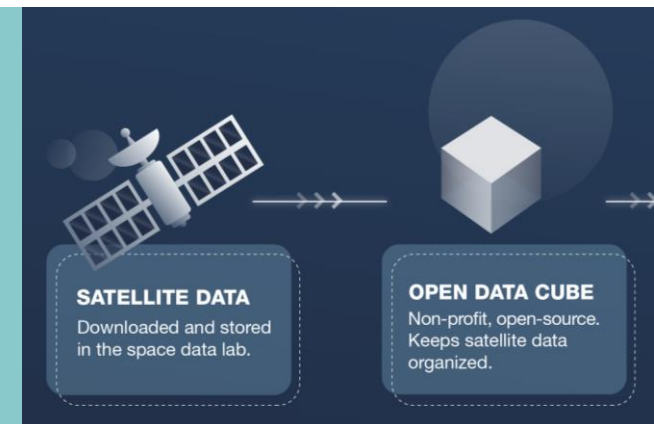
- Working with the data
- Working with algorithms
- Working with users



# Working with the data – infrastructure

The underlying infrastructure is crucial

- Large demand on IO-performance
- Many potential bottlenecks in the system
  - Hard drives
  - Networking
  - Load balancing
  - CPU
- Has to be designed ground-up with these considerations in mind

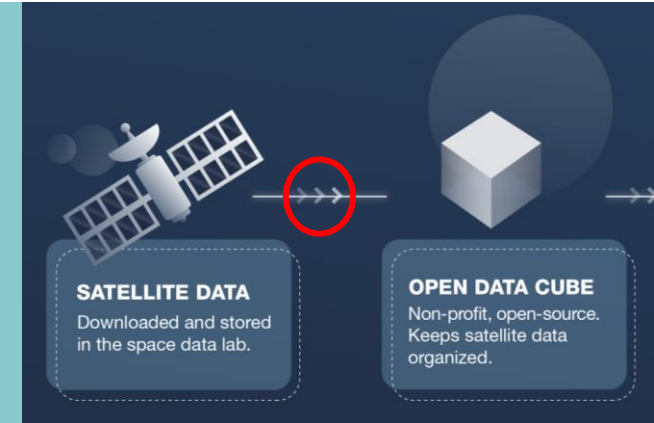


**kubernetes**

# Working with the data – leap to ODC

## Satellite to ODC: more than a simple step

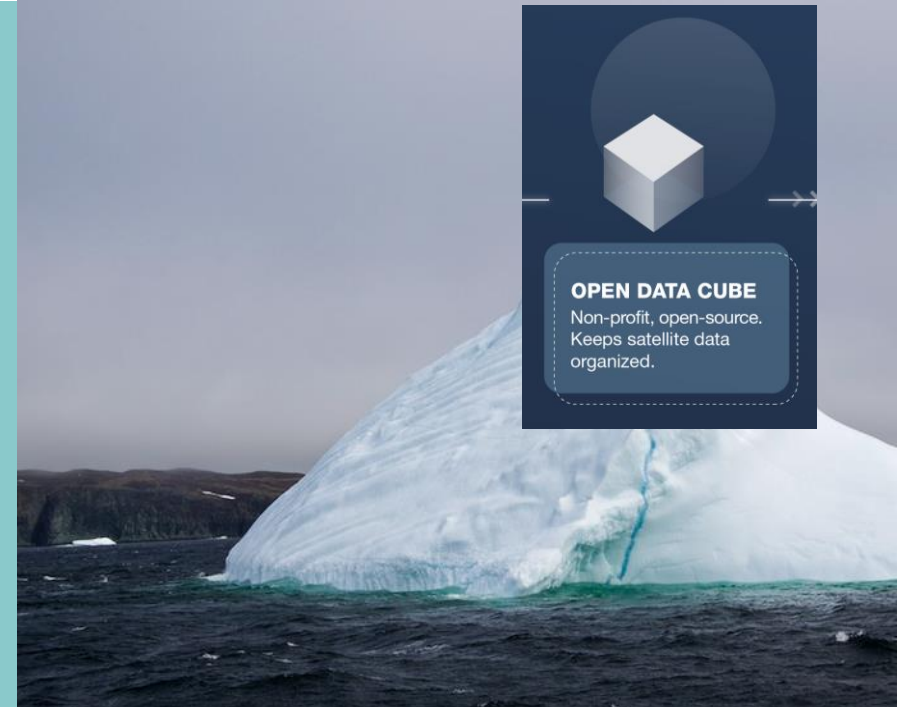
- For data science, this is the first step, but for data engineering, the last step of a long process
- Much work goes into handling the data up until it is indexed and ready for use (long processing chain)
  - For one product maybe 5 minutes, but we want 100Ks of products
  - The process may have to be repeated
  - Parallelization is important
  - Automatization is a must (manual handling of data does not scale well)



# Working with the data – beyond ODC

## The ODC is just the tip of the iceberg

- Metadata
  - Each satellite source needs its own
  - Manual production unfeasible, scripts not fully available
- Coordinate-systems
  - Want to store our data in SWEREF99 TM when possible
- File format
  - Specific file format needed to increase the performance
- The ODC does not handle this, we have to produce the workflows to take care of it



"Iceberg in Newfoundland Canada" by [natalielucier](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

# Working with algorithms – data access

Can be done through JupyterLab

- Makes analysis interactive
- Possible to visualize and manually check images
- Facilitates the use of Python developed libraries, such as gpytorch, tensorflow, keras



## ANALYSIS LAB

Develop new analysis methods. Use novel technology (e.g., machine learning in Python).

```
[3]: lat = (65.590962, 65.638668)
lon = (22.043322, 22.175764)

query = {
  "product": "sentinel_s2_l2a_zips",
  "output_crs": "epsg:3006",
  "lat": lat,
  "lon": lon,
  "resolution": (10, -10),
  "time": ["2019-07-01", "2019-08-01"],
  "measurements": [
    "B02_10m",
    "B03_10m",
    "B04_10m",
    "B08_10m"
  ]
}
```

## Load data

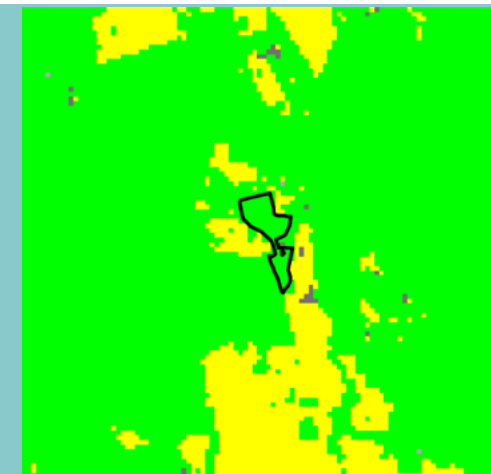
Once the datacube knows *what* data, *where* and *when*, we can use the `dc.load()` function to load the data of interest. The cell below shows an example of how to load using a progress bar. Another option would be to run the line `ds = dc.load(progress_cbk = progress, **query)` only, and wait until the cell status changes from `[*]` to `[number]`. It may take some time.

```
[ ]: def progress(processed, total):
      print(f'\rProcessing {processed} of {total}...', end='', flush=True)
      ds = dc.load(progress_cbk = progress, **query)
```

Processing 51 of 76...

# Working with algorithms – ground truth

- Creating ground truth data for algorithms
  - Can create a widget for it
  - Visualize the data
  - Manual labelling based on visual information and automatic suggestion



2020-08-09 10:22:22

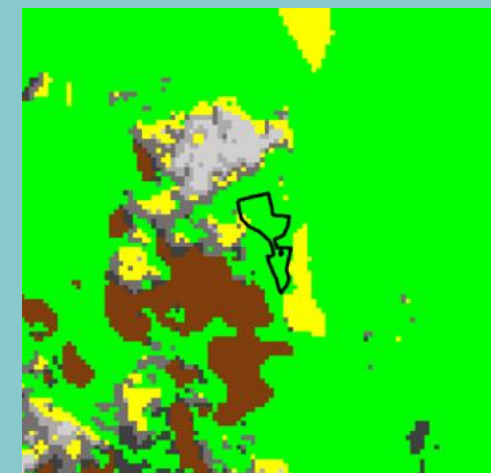
Select score:

Reject

Accept

N/A

Suggest: Accept



2020-07-03 10:32:20

Select score:

Reject

Accept

N/A

Suggest: Accept

# Working with algorithms – future work

- The data available for algorithms is still limiting what can be done (Sentinel-2 coverage for Sweden from 2018)
- Data handling by the OpenDataCube library
  - Using specific data structures
  - Create example notebooks/documentation to help new users
  - Collaborate with other datacubes on the algorithms
- Use pilot outcomes as basis for development



**OPEN DATA CUBE**



# Experience working with beneficiaries

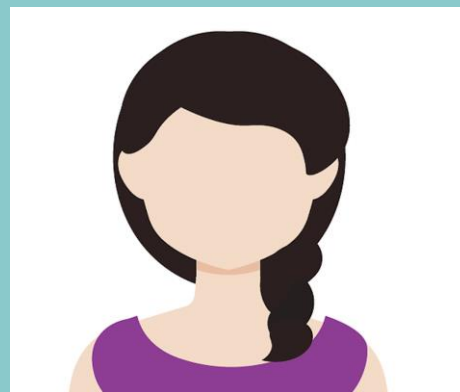
Difficulties when technical staff directly has to work with beneficiaries

Help of specialized background knowledge

Identified 3 prominent roles or "personas" of interest



Albert  
Preparedness Coordinator  
County Board



Camilla  
Consultant  
Enterprise



Ebba  
Geographic Information Officer  
Governmental Agency

# Experience working with beneficiaries - methodology

Distinction between people interacting with SDL

- Beneficiaries: take decisions to adopt new solutions
- Users: work hands-on with satellite data

Working with beneficiaries

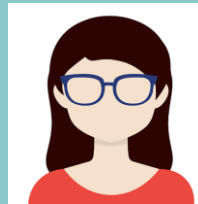
- Following Kim Goodwin's guidelines
- 10 in-depth interviews conducted
- 3 personas as result, representing attributes and behaviours



# Experience working with beneficiaries - personas



- Coordinator on county board
- Focus on specific phenomena (climate adaptation, flooding, etc.)
- Geographical interest in own county
- Interested in change detection, long-term temporal analysis
- Wants to keep some data private
- Some technical skills

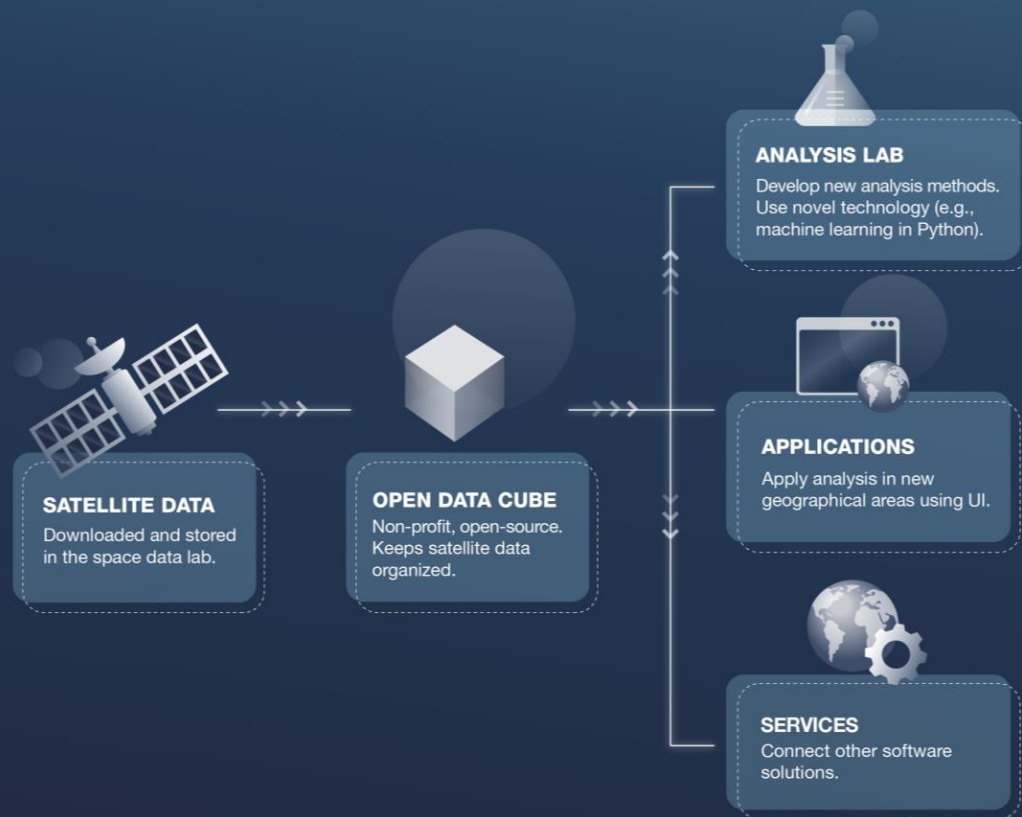


- Consultant/business associate
- Focus on specific phenomena meeting end-user needs
- Geographical interest extensive
- Interested in the technical infrastructure of SDL
- The more data the better
- Identifies as "space actor", having the most technical skills of the three



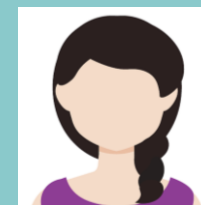
- Geographic Information Officer
- Focus on natural resources and their use
- Geographical interest is Sweden
- Interested in change detection, long-term temporal analysis
- The more data the better
- Advanced technical skills

# Experience working with beneficiaries – access point for all beneficiaries



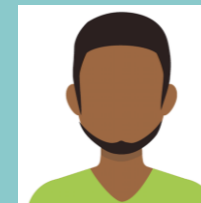
## Analysis lab

- For Python programmers
- Take advantage of ML methods



## GUI

- Readily computed data models



## Integration services

- Connect EO data with other software



# Thank you - questions

