

STUDENT RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

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Information Technologies**

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Terrestrial Laser Scanning of short- rotation plantations for the determination of above-ground biomass

STRUCTURE

1. Terrestrial laser scanning
2. Current inventory practice
3. Methodology
4. Lessons learned
5. Conclusion

.TERRESTRIAL LASER SCANNING

TERRESTRIAL LASER SCANNING

- Working in most real world environments
- Standard for 3D modeling of complex scenes
- Fast, efficient and automatic tool for the determination of basic forest inventory parameters
- Methods for estimating biomass potential of dense coppice in a fast and objective way are currently rare.**

TERRESTRIAL LASER SCANNING

- Inventory parameters may include
 - Number and position of trees,
 - Diameter at breast height (DBH), tree height
 - Stem and crown shape parameters
 - Taper, sweep, number of branches etc.

CURRENT INVENTORY PRACTICE

- Manually with sample plot size 40m²
- Measurement of all shoots at a height of 1 m
- Merging the diameter with species specific biomass functions
- Extrapolation to Kg per hectare

.METHODOLOGY

IN A NUTCASE

- Scan of SRPs in multiple-scan mode
- Stem detection with software (3 in Trial)
- *Volume extraction*
- *Biomass calculation*
- *Comparison of results with ground truthed data*

GLS - 1500

- 20 Kg (“One-man system”)
- 360° hor., 70° ver.
- 500m distance
- 30.000 points/s
- +/- 4mm precision (150m)
- Camera

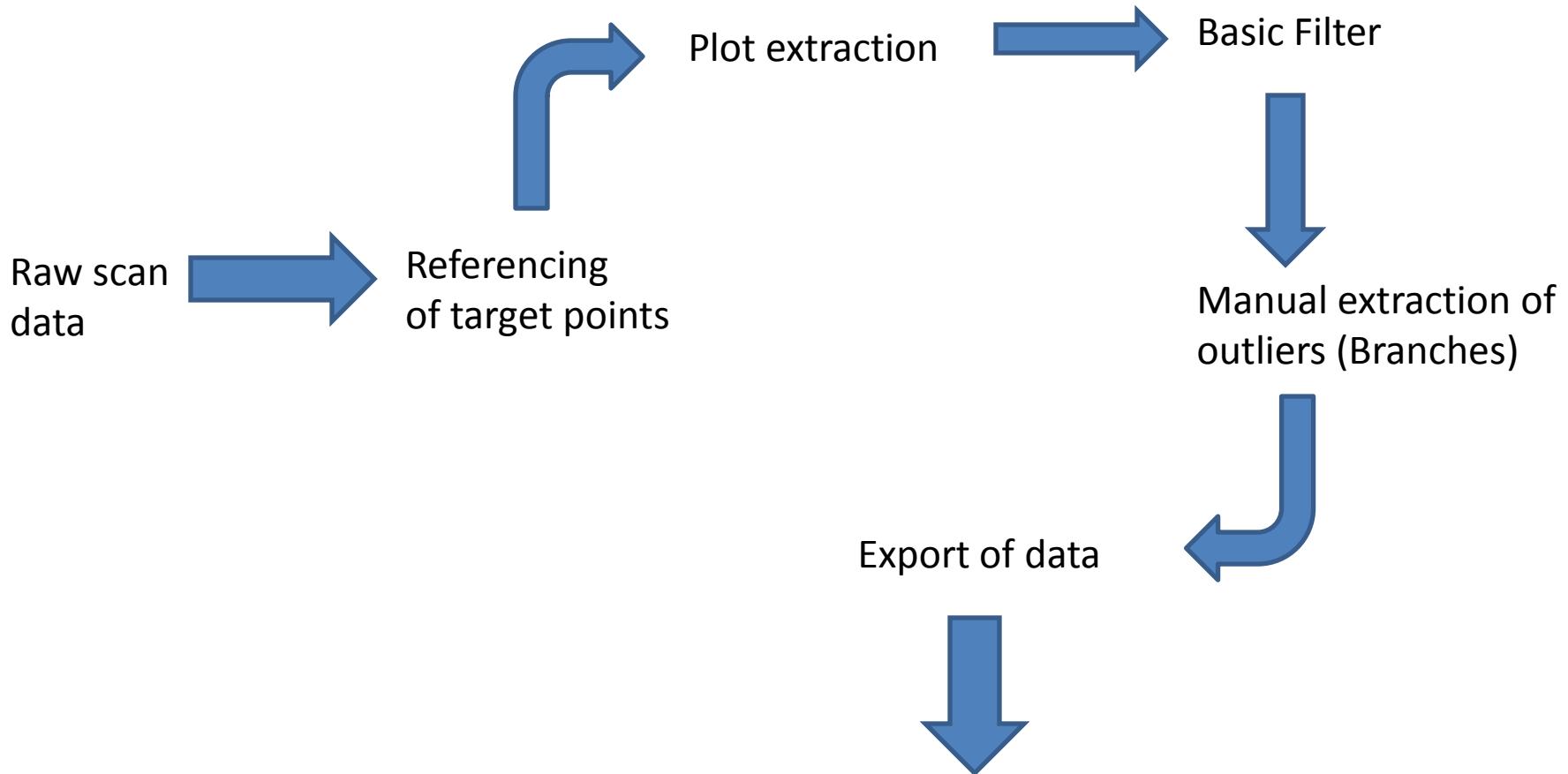


Source: Topcon Corporation

STUDY SITES

- All located on research fields of the ZIM Agroforst project
 - Long-term sites
 - Presence of classic inventory data
- Wartin, Schönholz, Kummerow, Blumberg
 - Extremely dense *populus* spec., and or *salix* spec. coppice research plots
 - Max. stem density 14,000 stems per hectare

PRE-PROCESSING IN SCANMASTER SOFTWARE



STEM DETECTION SOFTWARE

- Inbuilt mesh function of ScanMaster software (TIN)
- Tscan software from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences
- Autostem Forest™ from Treemetrics

.RESULTS

RESULTS

- Acquisition, preparation and pre-processing of data was successful
- ScanMaster software
 - Inbuilt mesh function not suitable for trees

RESULTS

Autostem Forest™

 Usually works with bigger plot sizes

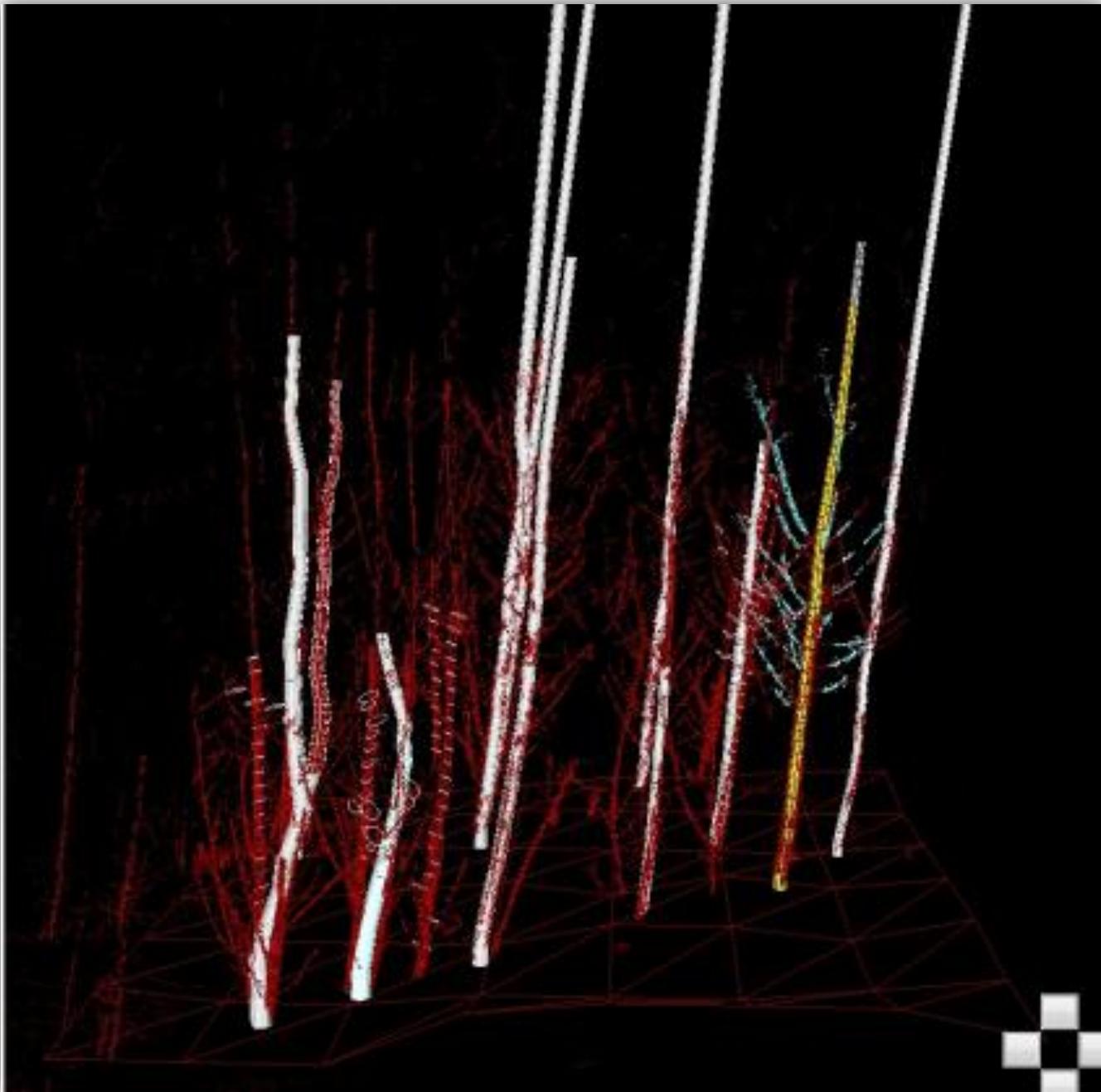
 Real forests

→ Software not able to distinguish objects

Tscan software

 Stems and branches too small for suitable detection

→ No clear classification possible



Object classification with Tscan software

RESULTS

Networking

 ZIM Agroforst, Topcon Europe, WULS, Treemetrics inc.,
HNEE

Guideline for future implementation

FACTORS

- Scan mode
- Tie points
- Wind
- Stem recognition
- Shadow effect
- Edge effect



CONCLUSION.

CONCLUSION

- Coppice systems build a huge challenge for accurate stem recognition
- Focus mainly on forest inventory and quality assessments
- Stem detection software will further develop

CONCLUSION

- Multiple-scan approach incorporates bias and complicates stem detection
- Shadow effects must be minimized

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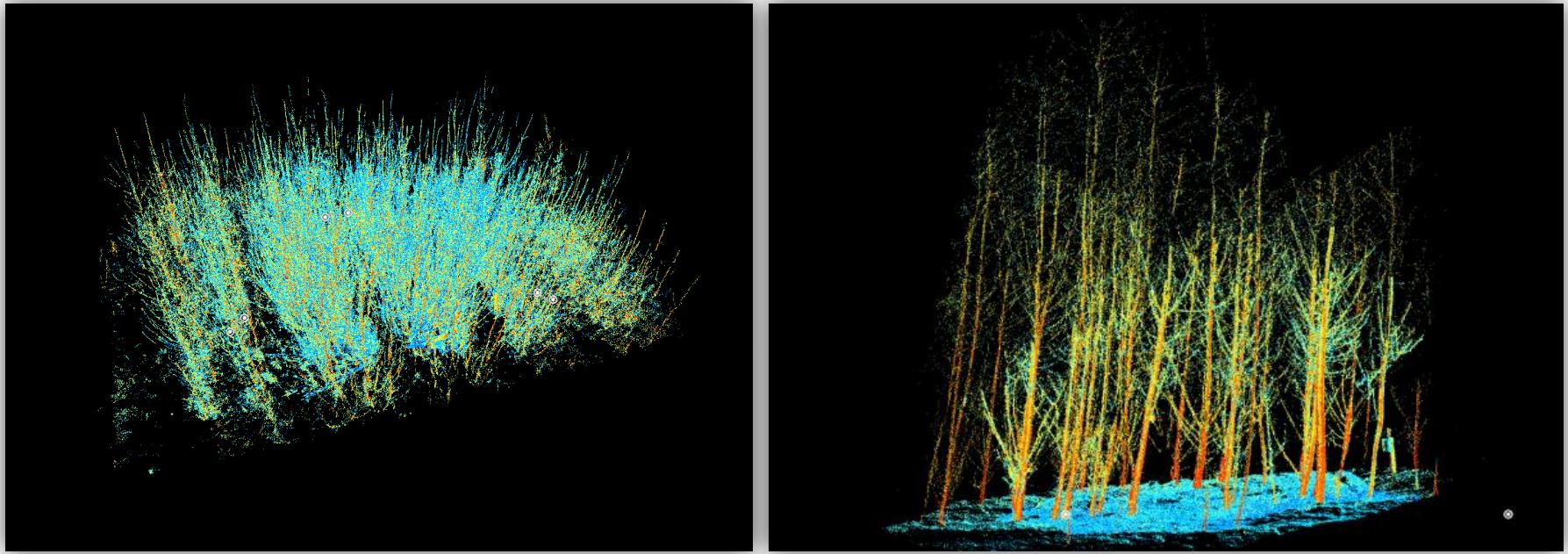
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Thank you for your attention!

POINT CLOUDS



Pre-processed sample scan plots of SRP at Schönholz (left) and Wartin (right)