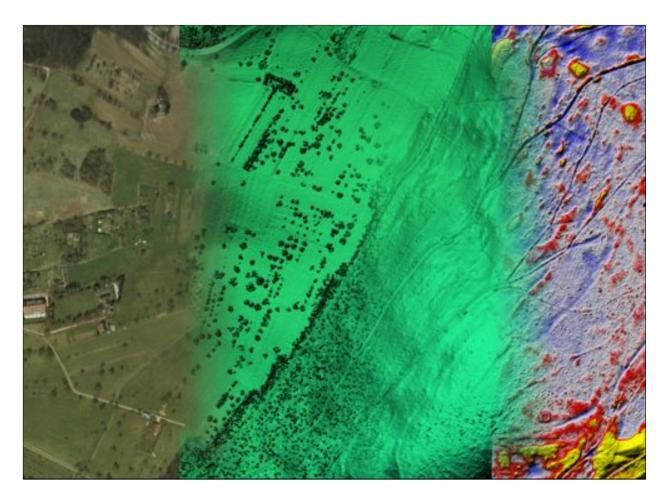
The potential of LIDAR-based DEM and LRM for the archaeological prospection of large areas







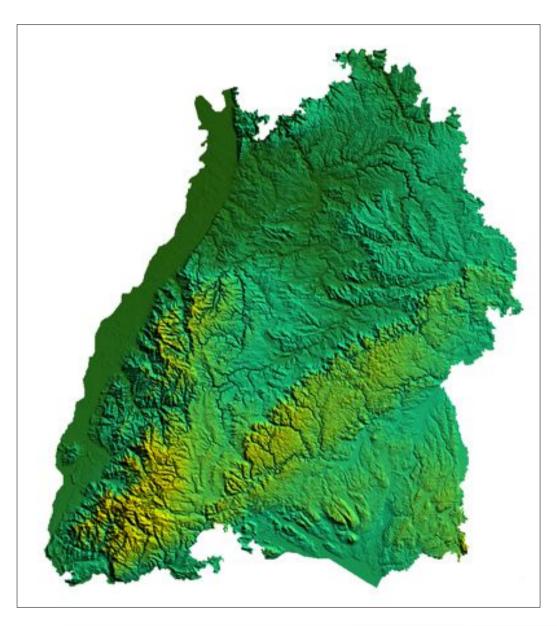
Introduction



Aims:

- archaeological prospection of Baden-Württemberg
- verification and extension of archaeological site database

Introduction



LIDAR data:

- State Surveying Office
- vegetation-filtered point cloud
- ~1 point/m²
- costs: annually 50 €/km²
 (split among all users: several ministeries and subsidiary institutions)

Project details:

- persons: 1
- access to results: in-house

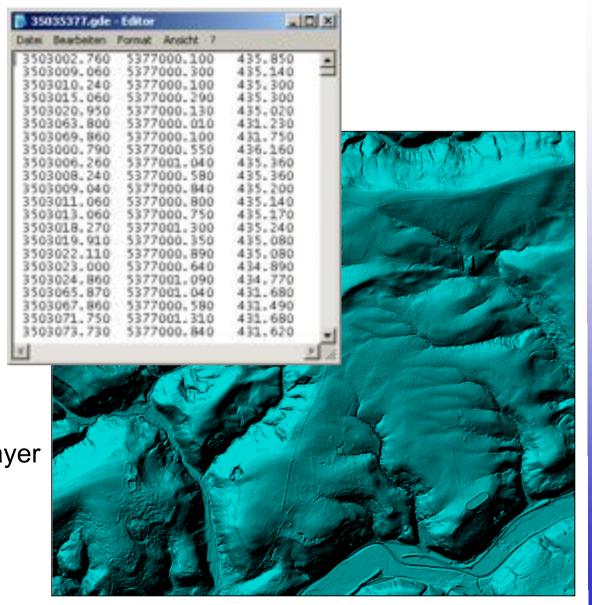
Challenge 1: data management

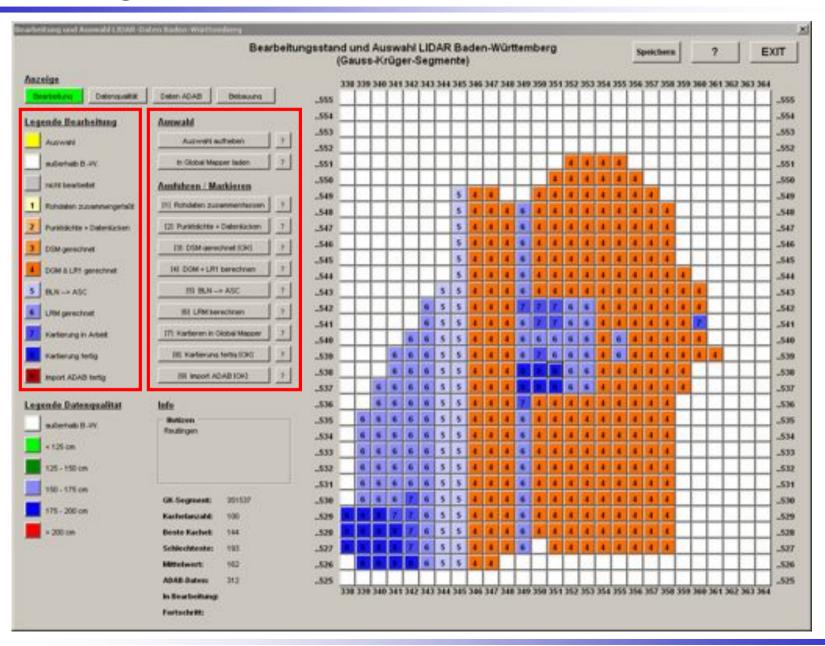
Data amount

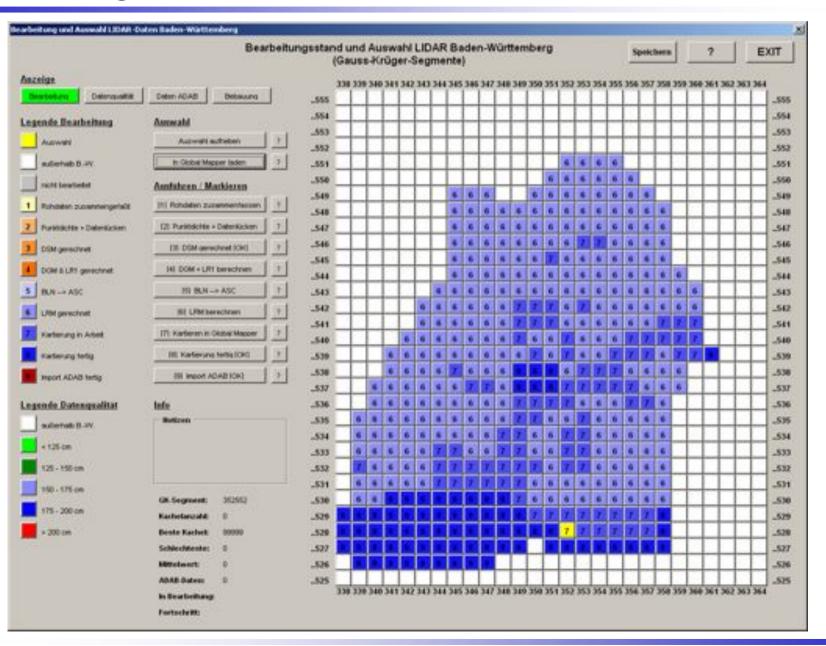
- 35 751 km²
- raw data:
 - >1 TB in ~160 000 files

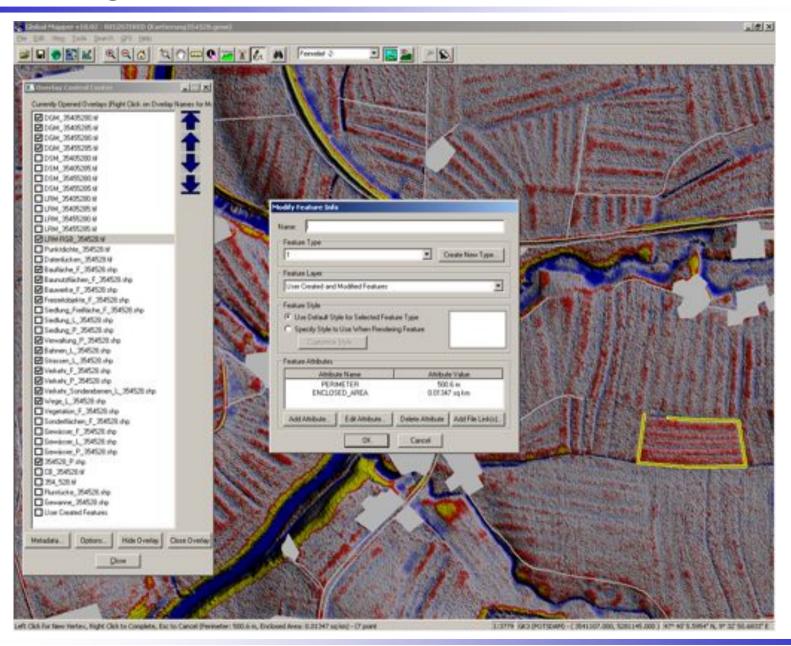
File sizes

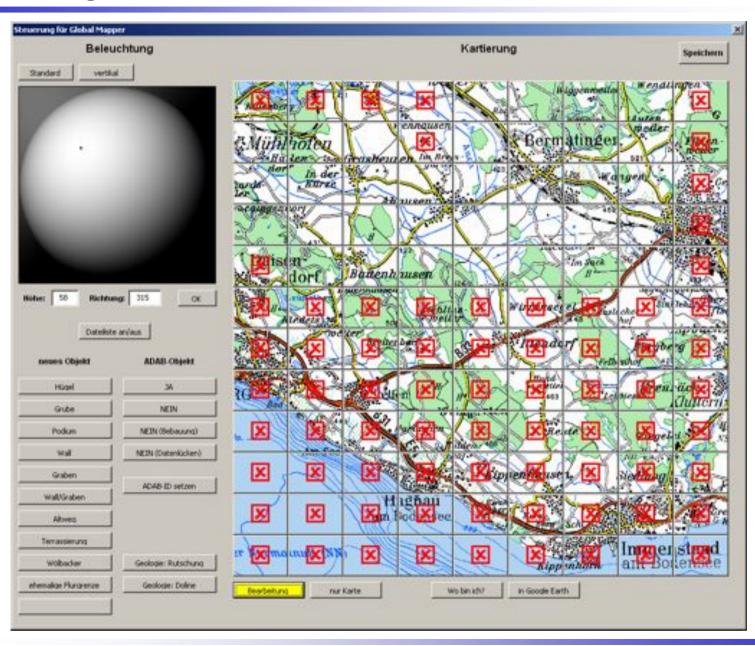
- combine files
- max. ~0.5 GB
- 25-100 km² per file
- 400-1600 files per raster layer
- 8-9 raster layers
- up to 22 vector layers







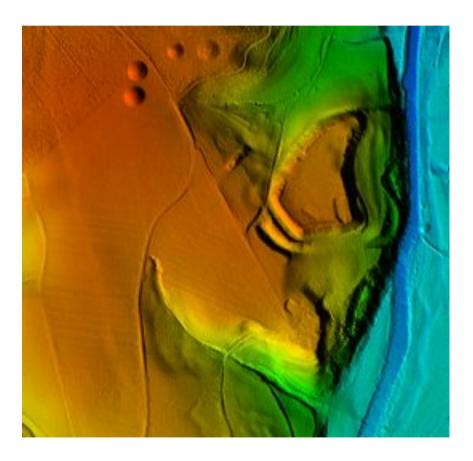




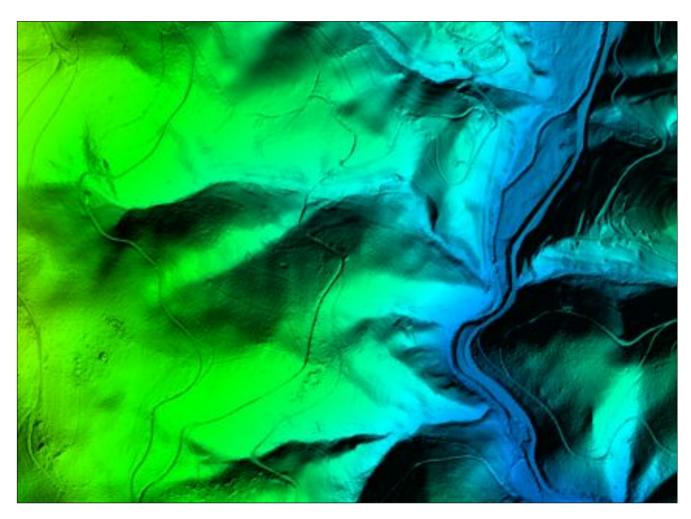
Challenge 2: finding hills in the mountains

- conventional hill shading
- visibility depends on illumination

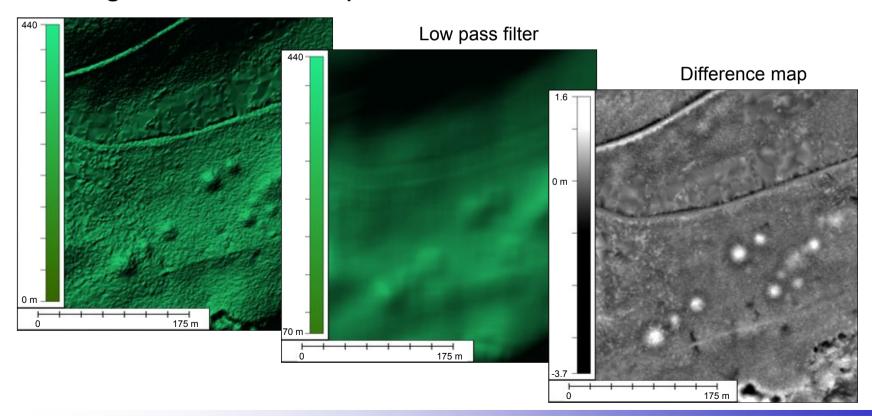




• optical illusion: relief inversion

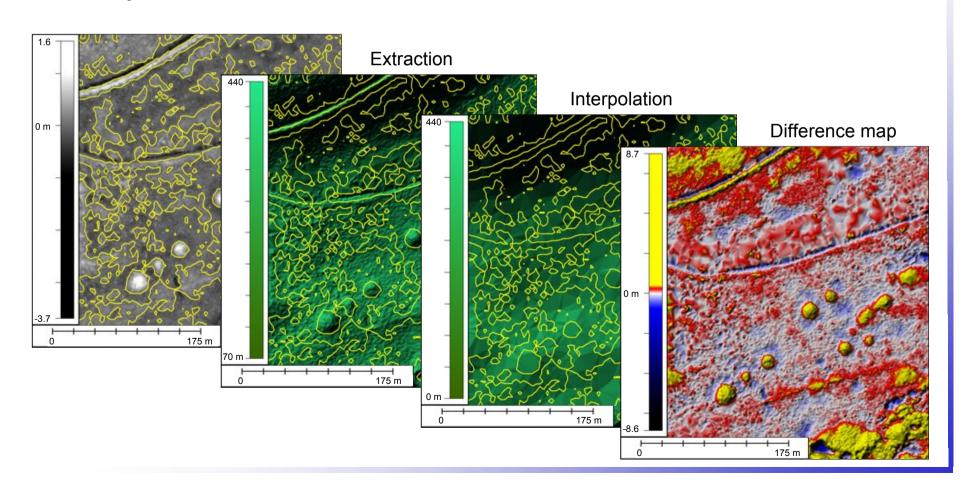


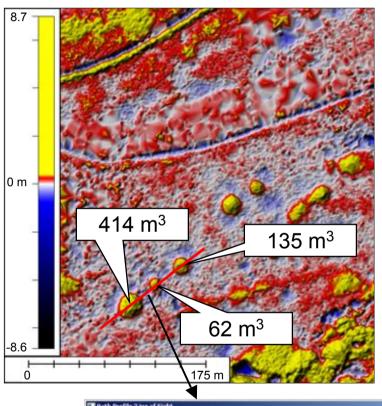
- What is interesting, what isn't?
 - + small-scale surface structures
 - + small elevation differences (mostly ~0.1 to 1.0 m)
 - large-scale landscape forms



Difference map

- adavantages/disadvantages
- improvement





Local Relief Model

Advantages:

- local topographic anomalies
- independent of illumination
- morphometry applications

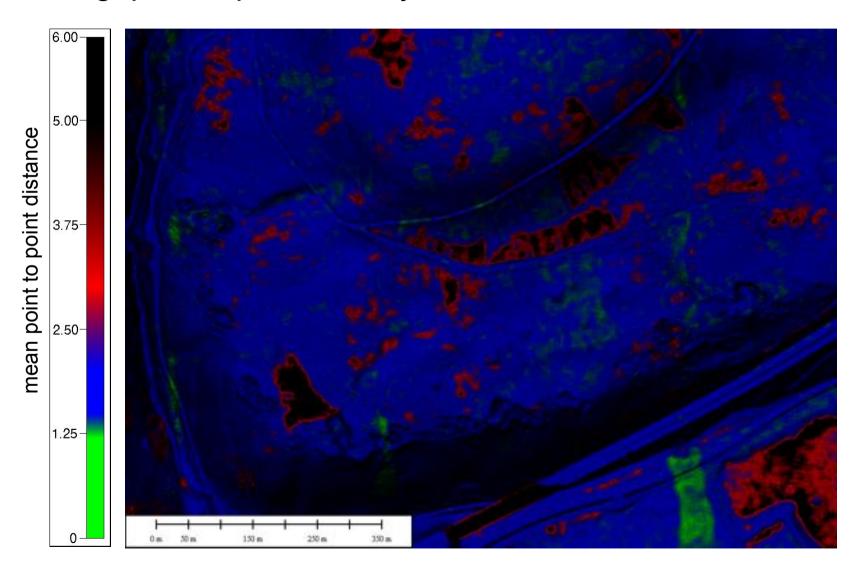
Disadvantage:

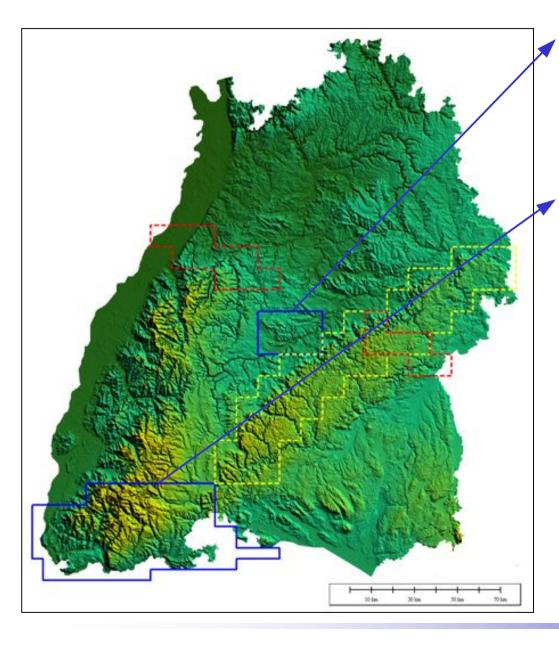
computation



Supplementary data

data gaps and point density





Schönbuch

- 600 km²
- 1966 known sites
- 2513 LIDAR results

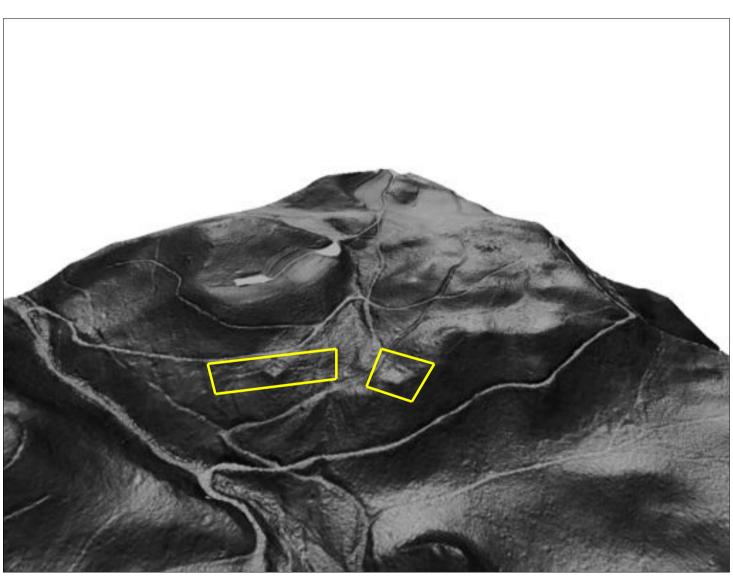
Southern Black Forest

- 2750 km²
- 3760 known sites
- 59337 LIDAR results

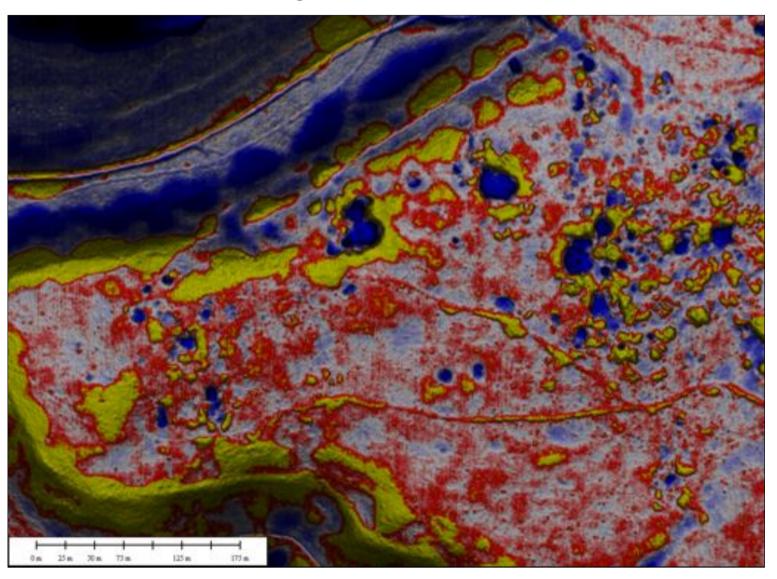
Results

- charcoal kiln sites
- terraces, ridge and furrow
- mining traces
- sunken roads
- (burial) mounds
- earthworks

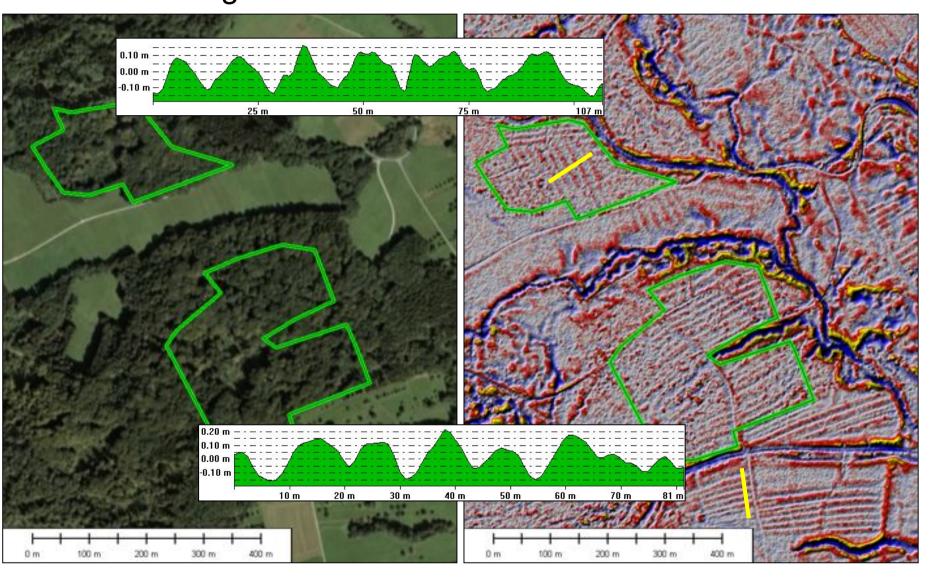
Upper Rhine area: fortifications



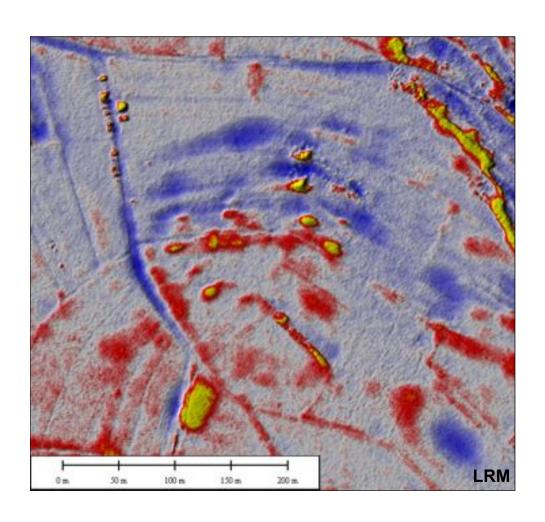
Upper Rhine area: mining traces

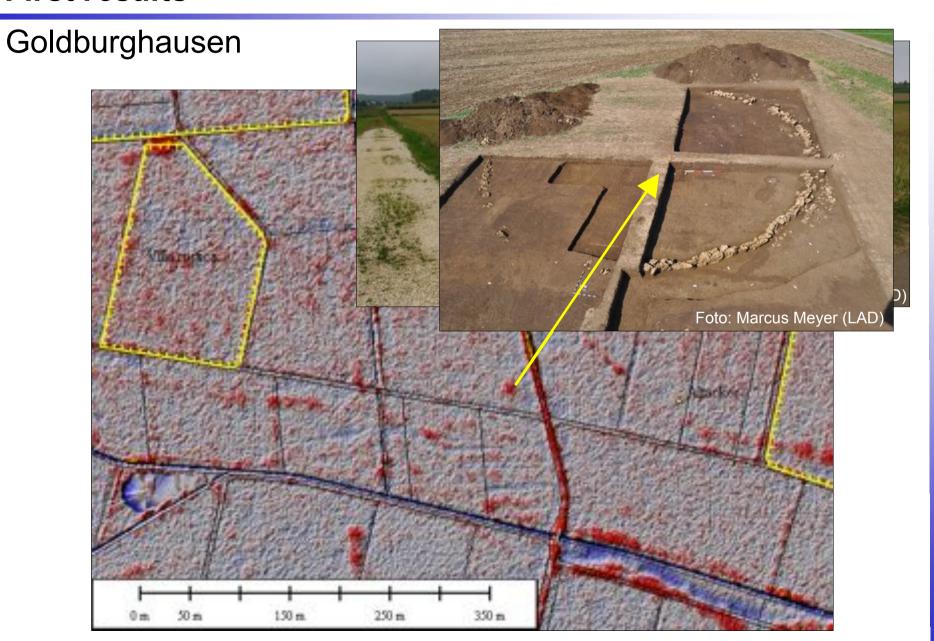


Schönbuch: ridge and furrow

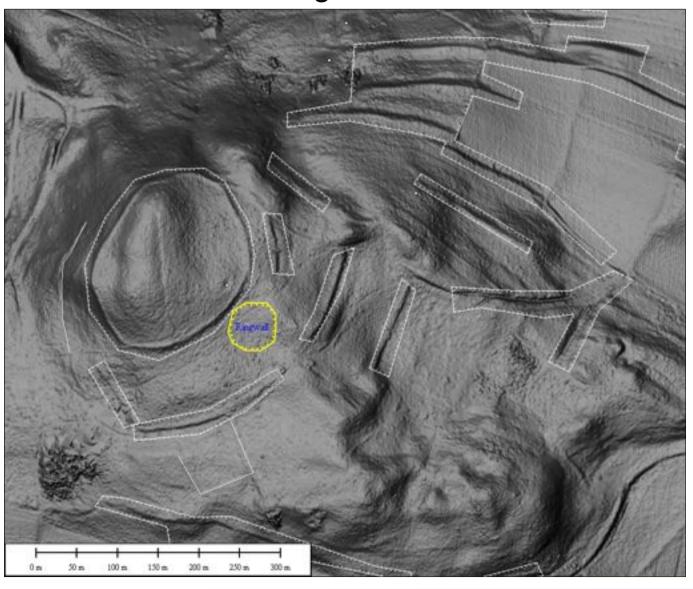


Southern Black Forest: burial mounds

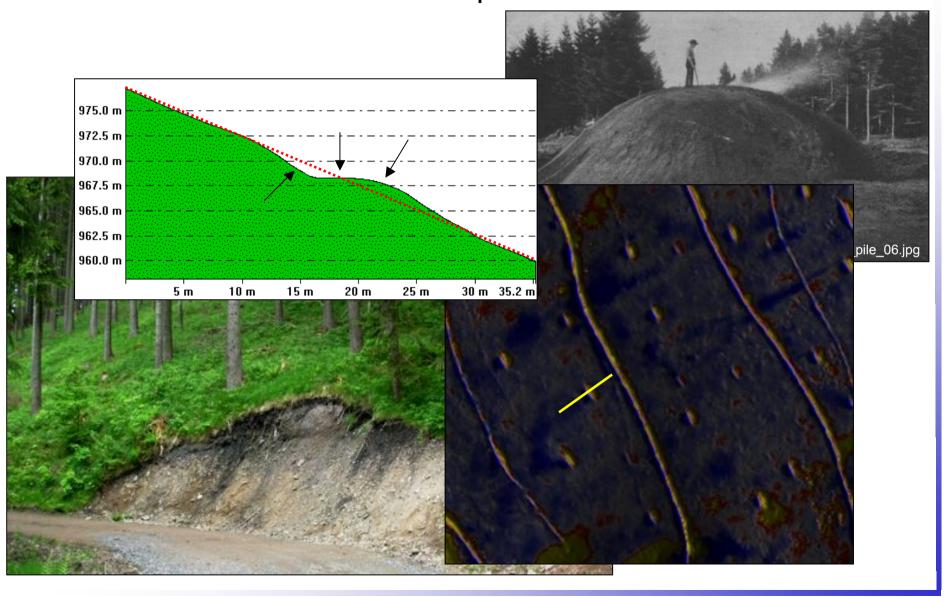




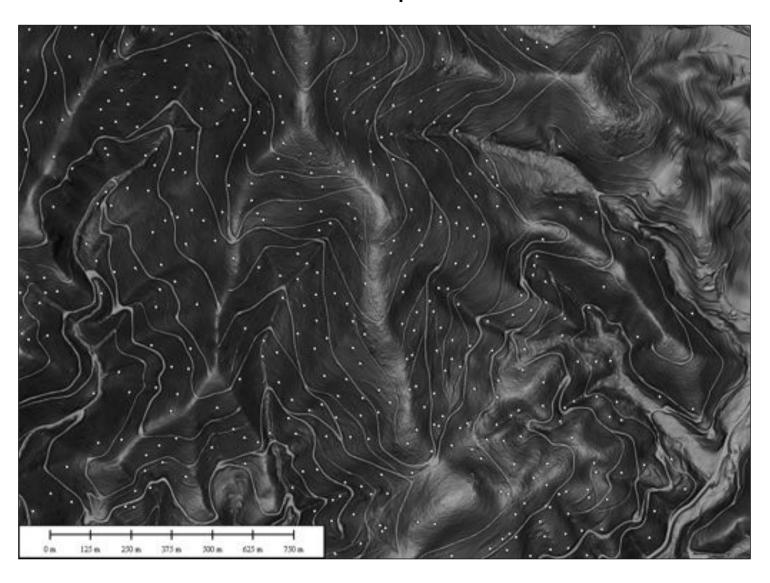
Upper Rhine area: neolithic ring fort



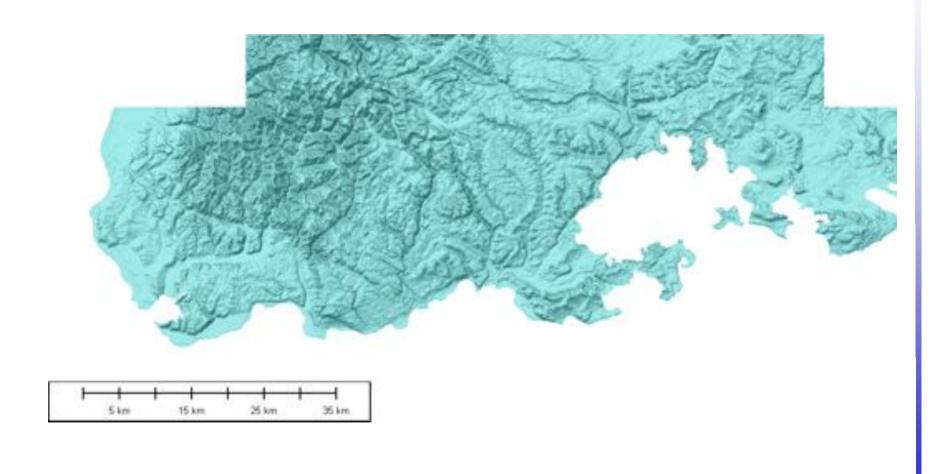
Southern Black Forest: charcoal production



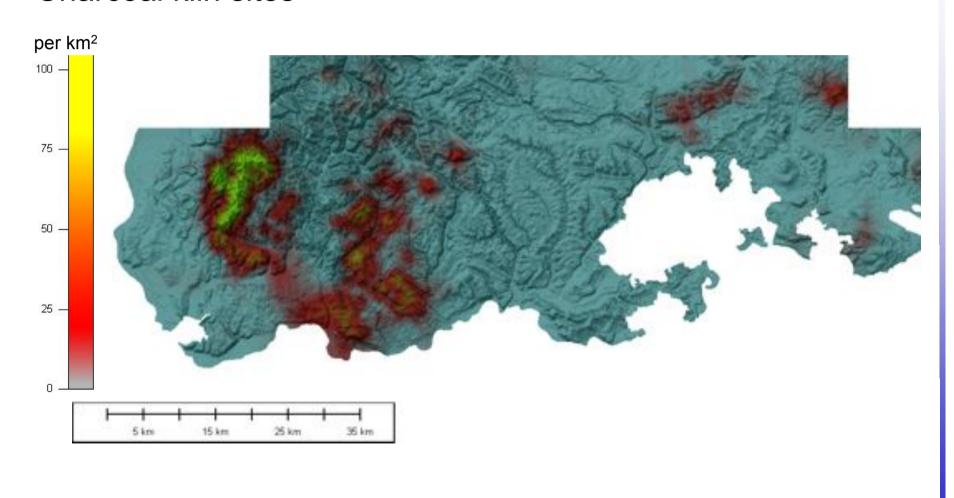
Southern Black Forest: charcoal production



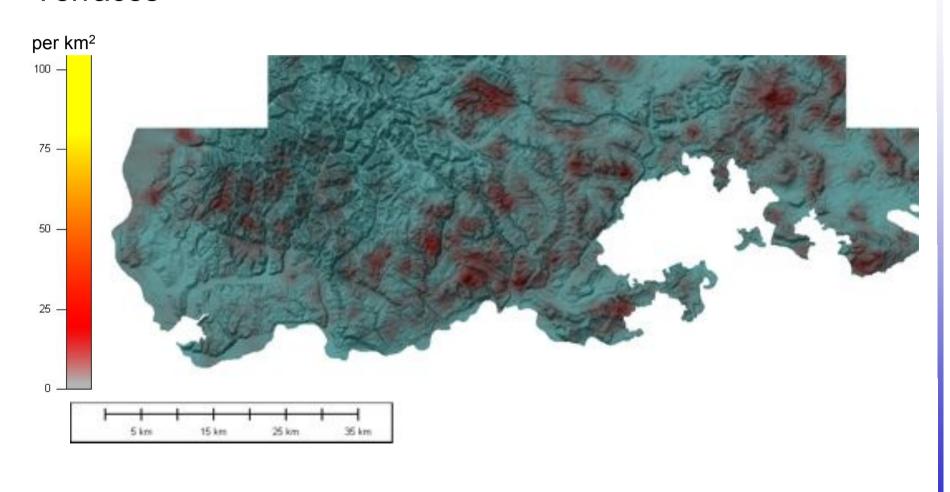
→ comparing site types



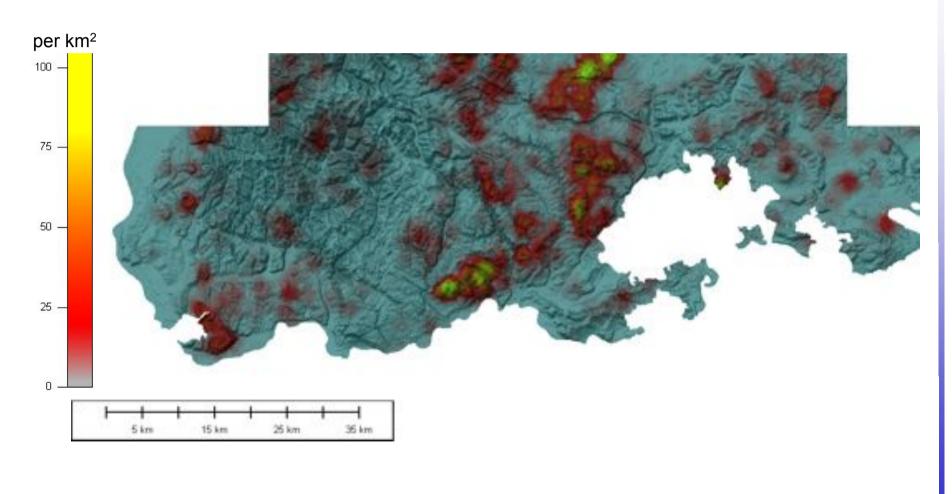
- → comparing site types
- Charcoal kiln sites



- → comparing site types
- Terraces



- → comparing site types
- Mounds



Conclusions

- LIDAR as a tool for archaeological prospection
- coverage of large areas with single method
- land cover bias: dense vegetation, preservation
- large amount of prospection results
- potential for site distribution analysis

