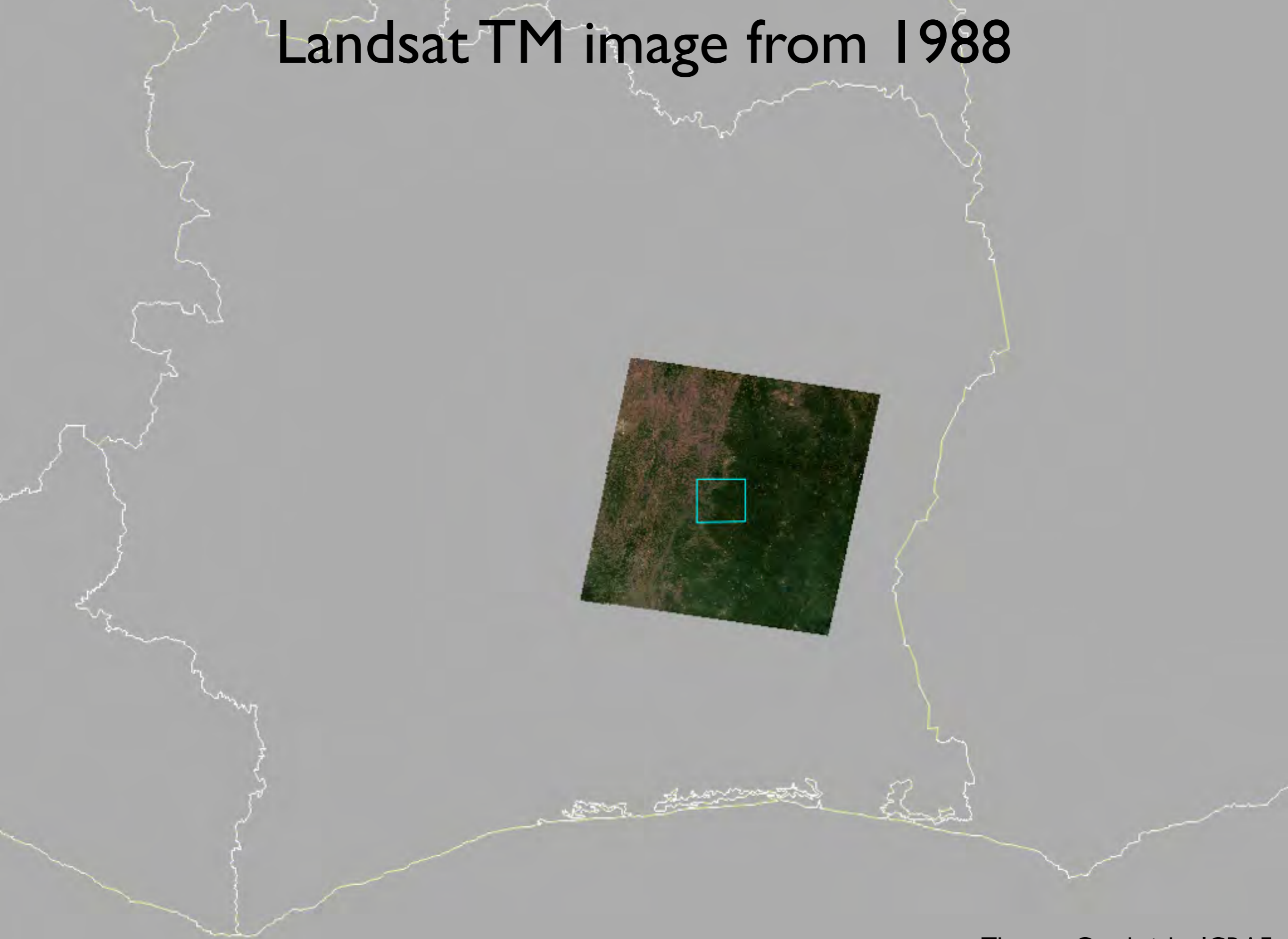


Vegetation and land cover changes in the **cocoa** belt in **Ivory Coast** using time series of high resolution satellite images



The illustration site was chosen to represent the transition zone between open land and forest.

Landsat TM image from 1988



Landsat TM image from 1988

The image is corrected for sun-earth geometry and atmospheric disturbances. The colors are then derived from the corrected image bands.

The reflectance data of the image can be used for mapping biophysical ground conditions - notably in combination with a spectral library derived from ground sampling in the region of study.



Landsat TM image from 2002

This image is taken 14 years later, but in the same season (December). The anniversary image pair can be used for studying changes in vegetation (e.g. forests and tree cover) and other land cover changes.

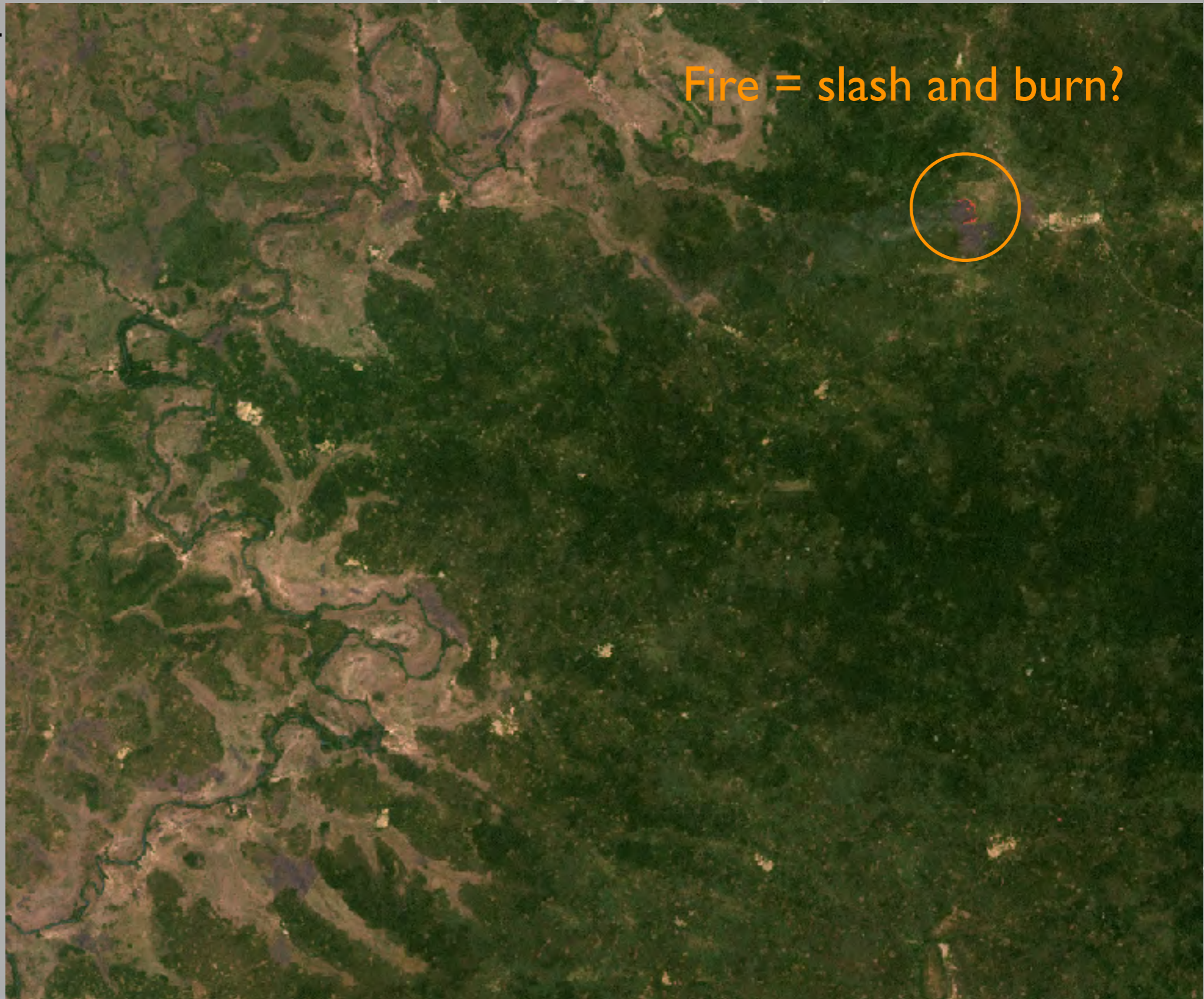
Let us look at some changes that can be easily detected from this image pair....



Landsat TM image from 2002

This image is taken 14 years later, but in the same season (December). The anniversary image pair can be used for studying changes in vegetation (e.g. forests and tree cover) and other land cover changes.

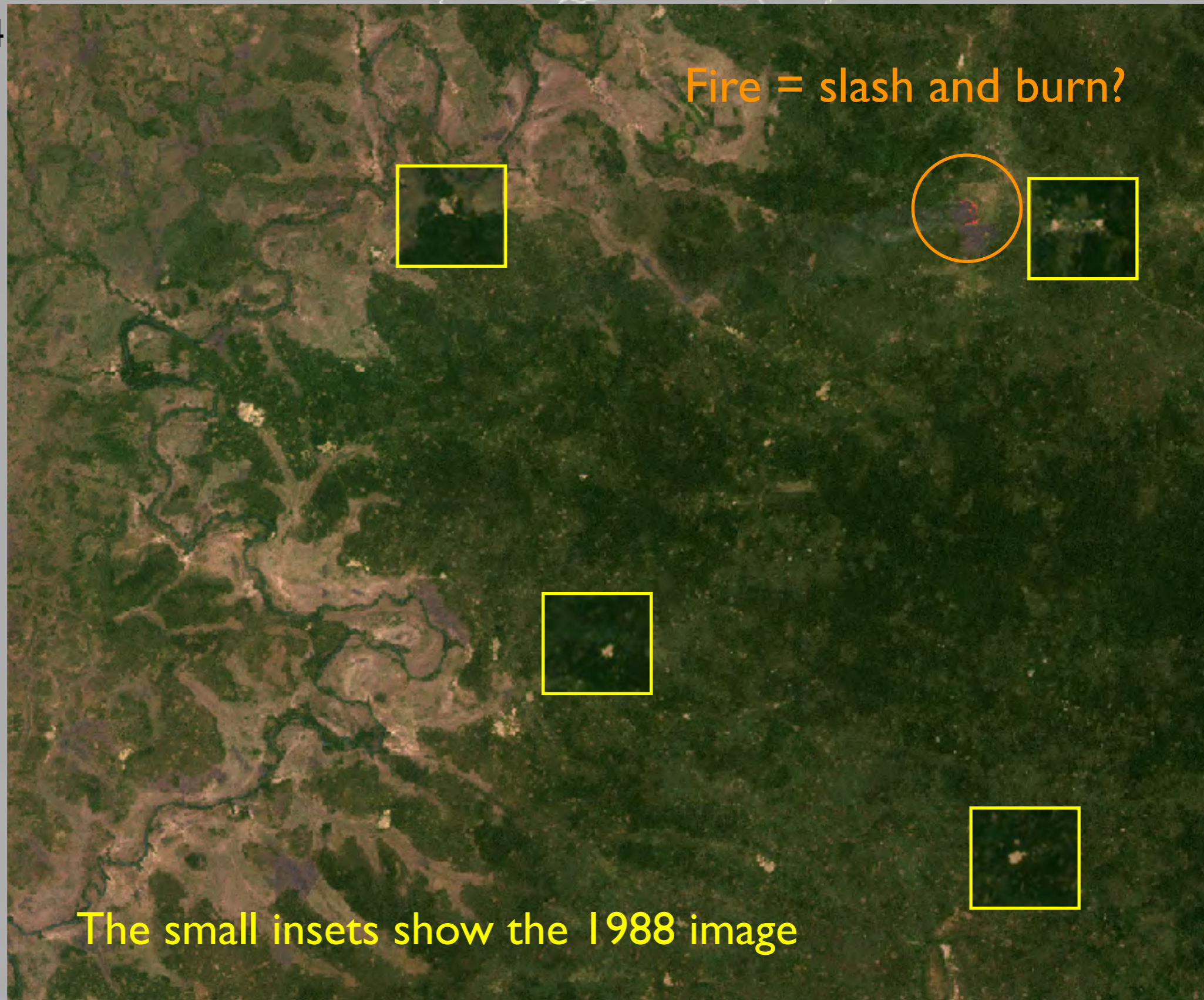
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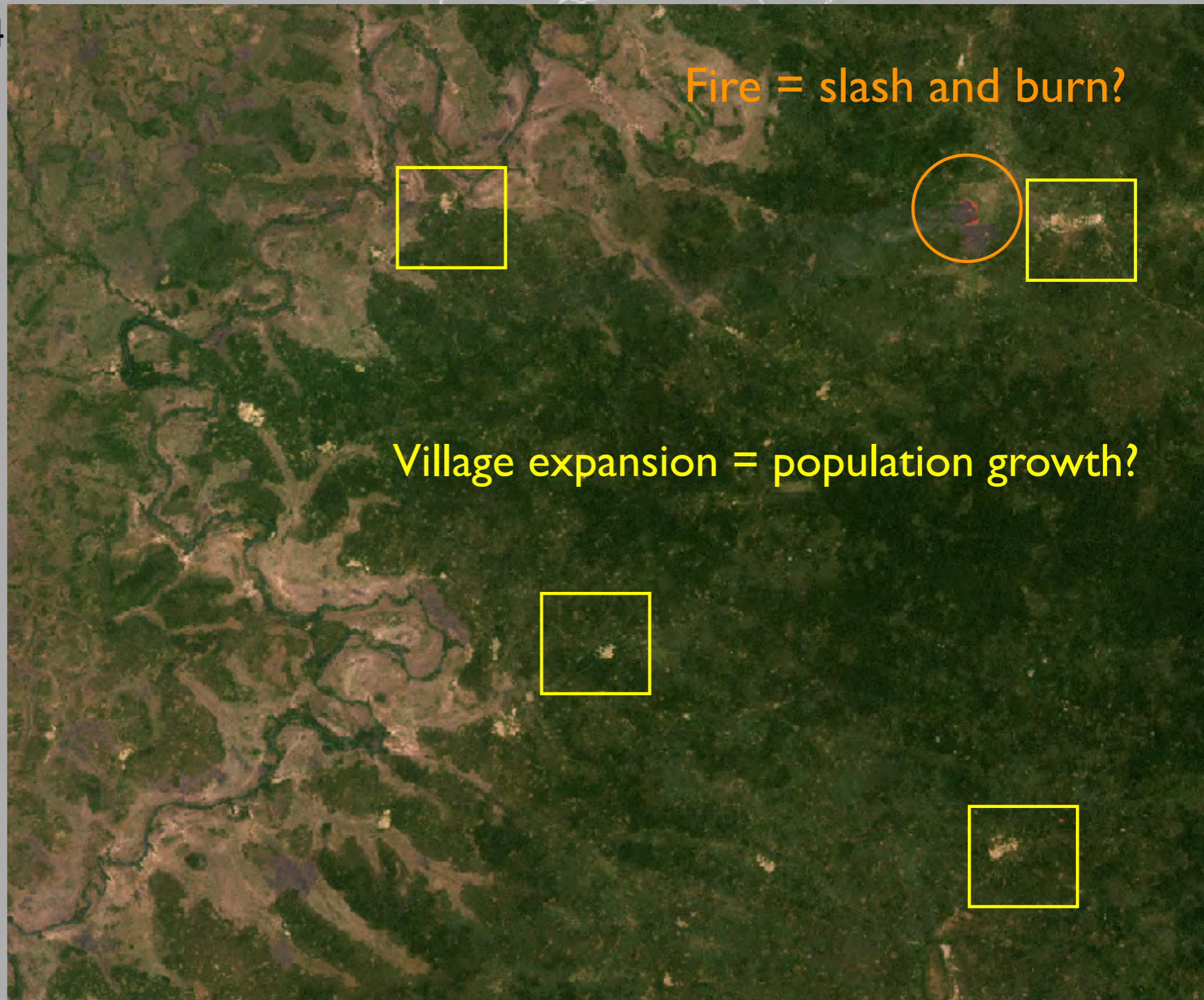
Let us look at some changes that can be easily detected from this image pair....



Landsat TM image from 2002

This image is taken 14 years later, but in the same season (December). The anniversary image pair can be used for studying changes in vegetation (e.g. forests and tree cover) and other land cover changes.

Let us look at some changes that can be easily detected from this image pair....



Forest losses from 1988 to 2002

This image illustrates the forest cover in 1988 (green-yellow) compared with 2002 (green). The yellowish areas were forested in 1988, but not in 2002.

The forest cover is calculated from global standards in forest reflection. To evaluate the accuracy of the forest cover maps, site specific field data is needed. It would then also be possible to estimate the losses in biomass - and in carbon storage.

