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# Supplementary Material

## What a MESS: Multi-Domain Evaluation of Zero-Shot Semantic Segmentation

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The supplementary material is organized as follows:

- We detail the taxonomy development in Section A.
- The benchmark datasets are analyzed in Section B.
- We provide details about the evaluated models in Section C.
- Additional experiments are presented in Section D.
- Exemplary predictions are included in Section E.

### A Taxonomy development

The taxonomy and the characterized datasets serve as a basis for the selection of the benchmark datasets. Therefore, we describe the taxonomy development in this section in detail. We applied the taxonomy development method proposed by Nickerson et al. [94] to analyze the task space of semantic segmentation. The method aims to develop a framework based on deduction and induction rather than *ad-hoc* decisions. We initialize the development by selecting our meta-characteristic (i.e., the goal): *identify visual and language characteristics of downstream tasks influencing the performance of zero-shot semantic segmentation models*.

We apply multiple empirical-to-conceptual or conceptual-to-empirical cycles until the ending conditions are reached. In an empirical-to-conceptual iteration, new objects are examined, and common characteristics are identified. The characteristics must derive from the meta-characteristic and discriminate between the objects to be of use for the taxonomy. In the conceptual step, the characteristics are grouped into dimensions. In contrast, a conceptual-to-empirical cycle starts by deducting potential dimensions and characteristics for the meta-characteristic based on prior knowledge. Next, the concept is evaluated by classifying objects. If a dimension does not differentiate between the objects or a characteristic has no real examples, it might not be appropriate. To fulfill the subjective ending conditions, the taxonomy must be concise, robust, comprehensive, extendible, and explanatory. Further, the objective ending conditions include, among others, dimension uniqueness and characteristic uniqueness within the dimension. We refer to Nickerson et al. [94] for more detailed information.

Starting with a first conceptual-to-empirical cycle, we analyzed other benchmarks and literature to initialize the taxonomy. The RF100 object detection benchmark [26] clusters the datasets into seven categories, representing different image types. We analyzed the literature of the RF100 categories to identify visual or language features relevant to these images. Aerial and satellite imagery has many important characteristics, such as the *sensor type* with different bands that can be mapped to true or false *color maps*, the *spatial resolution*, and *metadata* like time and location [97]. Electromagnetic images are often medical modalities using different sensor types, different *sensor directions* and having a domain-specific *vocabulary* that describes the anatomy [71]. Various sensors are also used in underwater imagery, and *preprocessing* plays an essential role in this image domain [81]. The spatial resolution is an important factor in microscopy, besides sensor types and specific hardware such as

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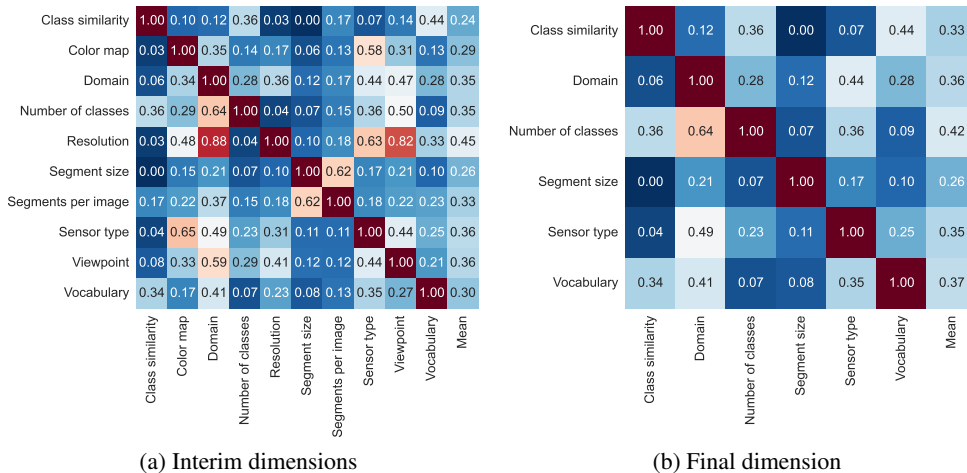


Figure 1: Pearson correlation between dimensions based on the classified datasets for an interim status (a) and the final taxonomy (b).

phase contrast or fluorescence [80]. Images from documents or video games are often synthetic but use the same visual spectrum as real-world images. Segmentation in documents does include very fine *segment sizes*. We further added a *domain* dimension because the image and labels are often domain-specific. Therefore, we select domains inspired by the major subject areas from Scopus<sup>2</sup> but shorten the labels to improve the usability of the taxonomy. We added a domain "General" for everyday images, which we did not associate with any subject area. Based on this research, we used all identified dimensions relevant to at least two domains as domain-specific dimensions lead to redundancy in the taxonomy. The initial characteristics of each dimension are selected based on the literature review and complemented through the following empirical step.

We refine the taxonomy in multiple empirical-to-conceptual iterations. Therefore, we reviewed overall 500 datasets, including all semantic segmentation datasets on Papers with Code<sup>3</sup>, Kaggle<sup>4</sup>, and test datasets from other segmentation models like SAM [66]. We classified 120 datasets within our taxonomy which are presented in Table 1. Note, that different versions of a dataset are classified if they lead to varying characteristics. We did not classify all datasets of similar use cases as we aim for a diverse collection of datasets (e.g., seven driving datasets out of 30+). Other criteria for exclusion are deviating tasks (e.g., 3D data) and missing data availability. Also, we discarded use cases that seem to be very unique, like galaxy segmentation. If only a few reviewed datasets covered specific use cases, e.g., crack segmentation, we analyzed additional datasets from other sources. Based on the datasets, we added dimensions regarding the segmentation mask and language-related dimensions like the *class similarity*. We repeatedly reduced the dimensions in conceptual phases to the most meaningful ones for the meta-characteristic.

Finally, we utilized a statistical analysis to identify similar dimensions, specifically, the Pearson correlation between each pair of dimensions using the empirical data from the classified datasets. We applied one-hot encoding for categorical dimensions and scaled each ordinal dimension by the number of characteristics. Figure 1 visualize multiple pairs with high correlation, e.g., *segment size* and *number of segments*. We reduced the interim dimensions based on the statistical analysis and the meta-characteristic. The final taxonomy passes all ending conditions in [94].

<sup>2</sup>List of subject areas: <https://www.scopus.com/sources>

<sup>3</sup>Semantic segmentation datasets: <https://paperswithcode.com/datasets?task=semantic-segmentation>

<sup>4</sup>Search results for "semantic segmentation": <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets?search=semantic+segmentation>

Table 1: All 120 classified semantic segmentation datasets within the taxonomy.

Dataset	Task	Domain	Sensor type	Segment size	Number of classes	Class similarity	Vocabulary	
COCO Stuff [77]	Common	General	Visible spectrum	Medium	171 (Many)	Low	Generic	
Pascal VOC 2012 [37]	Common		Visible spectrum	Medium	20 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
ADE20K-150 [147]	Common		Visible spectrum	Medium	150 (Many)	Low	Generic	
ADE20K-847 [147]	Common		Visible spectrum	Medium	847 (Many)	High	Generic	
Pascal Context-59 [92]	Common		Visible spectrum	Medium	59 (Many)	Low	Generic	
Pascal Context-459 [92]	Common		Visible spectrum	Medium	459 (Many)	High	Generic	
LVIS [48]	Common		Visible spectrum	Small	1203 (Many)	High	Generic	
FSS-1000 [74]	Common		Visible spectrum	Large	1000 (Many)	High	Generic	
Mapillary Vistas v1 [93]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Small	66 (Many)	Low	Generic	
Mapillary Vistas v2 [93]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Small	124 (Many)	Low	Task-spec.	
Cityscapes [29]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Small	30 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
BDD100K [140]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Medium	19 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
Dark Zurich [105]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Medium	20 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
SYNTHIA [102]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Small	13 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
WoodScape [139]	Driving		Visible spectrum	Small	40 (Medium)	High	Generic	
MVTec D2S [40]	Checkout		Visible spectrum	Medium	60 (Many)	Low	Generic	
EgoHands [6]	Ego hands		Visible spectrum	Medium	5 (Few)	High	Task-spec.	
WorkingHands [111]	Ego hands		Visible spectrum	Medium	16 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
EgoHOS [143]	Ego hands		Visible spectrum	Medium	8 (Few)	High	Task-spec.	
EYTH [124]	Ego hands		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
VISOR [30]	Ego hands		Visible spectrum	Small	257 (Many)	High	Generic	
Open Surfaces [9]	Materials		Visible spectrum	Medium	37 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.	
MINC [10]	Materials		Visible spectrum	Medium	23 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
DMS [123]	Materials		Visible spectrum	Small	52 (Many)	High	Generic	
DeepFashion2 [45]	Clothing		Visible spectrum	Small	13 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
ModaNet [146]	Clothing		Visible spectrum	Small	13 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
MHP v1 [72]	Body parts		Visible spectrum	Small	18 (Medium)	High	Task-spec.	
MHP v2 [72]	Body parts		Visible spectrum	Small	58 (Many)	High	Task-spec.	
FoodSeg103 [135]	Ingredients		Visible spectrum	Medium	103 (Many)	High	Generic	
TACO [98]	Trash		Visible spectrum	Medium	60 (Many)	High	Domain-spec.	
RailSem19 [141]	Rail		Visible spectrum	Small	11 (Medium)	High	Task-spec.	
ATLANTIS [36]	Maritime		Visible spectrum	Small	56 (Many)	Low	Generic	
Aircraft Context [115]	Aerial vehicles		Visible spectrum	Medium	8 (Few)	Low	Generic	
RELLIS-3D [64]	Robotics		Visible spectrum	Small	20 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
SketchyScene-7k [148]	Sketches		Visible spectrum	Small	45 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
DRAM [28]	Paintings		Visible spectrum	Medium	12 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
iSAID [134]	Objects		Earth Monitoring	Visible spectrum	Small	15 (Medium)	Low	Generic
DSTL Satellite [59]	Objects			Multispectral	Small	10 (Medium)	High	Generic
ISPRS Potsdam [16]	Land use			Multispectral	Small	6 (Few)	Low	Generic
LandCoverNet [4]	Land use			Multispectral	Medium	7 (Few)	Low	Generic
LoveDA [129]	Land use			Visible spectrum	Small	7 (Few)	Low	Generic
Deep Globe [32]	Land use			Visible spectrum	Medium	7 (Few)	Low	Generic
GID-5 [120]	Land use			Multispectral	Small	5 (Few)	Low	Generic
GID-15 [120]	Land use			Multispectral	Small	16 (Medium)	High	Task-spec.
Dubai [57]	Land use			Visible spectrum	Small	6 (Few)	Low	Generic
Sen1Floods11 [13]	Floods			Electromagnetic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
WorldFloods [84]	Floods			Multispectral	Medium	3 (Binary)	Low	Generic
HR-GLDD [87]	Landslides			Multispectral	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
Antarctic fracture [67]	Ice fractures			Multispectral	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
Active fire [31]	Wildfires			Multispectral	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
xBD [49]	Buildings	Visible spectrum		Small	5 (Few)	High	Task-spec.	
MSAW [110]	Buildings	Electromagnetic		Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
3D PV Locator [85]	PV	Visible spectrum		Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
AgricultureVision [24]	Agriculture	Multispectral		Medium	9 (Few)	Low	Domain-spec.	
PASTIS [44]	Agriculture	Multispectral		Small	18 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.	
CalCROP21 [47]	Agriculture	Multispectral		Small	29 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.	
Arctic Sea Ice [117]	Sea ice	Multispectral		Medium	8 (Few)	High	Task-spec.	
ELAI Dust Storm [7]	Dust storm	Visible spectrum		Large	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
FloodNet [101]	Floods	Visible spectrum		Medium	10 (Few)	Low	Task-spec.	
SDD [60]	Objects	Visible spectrum		Small	21 (Medium)	Low	Generic	
UDD [22]	Objects	Visible spectrum		Medium	6 (Few)	Low	Generic	
UAVid [82]	Objects	Visible spectrum		Small	6 (Few)	High	Task-spec.	
PV thermography [132]	PV	Electromagnetic		Small	6 (Binary)	High	Domain-spec.	
CholecSeg8k [122]	Surgery	Medical Sciences		Visible spectrum	Medium	13 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.
RoboTool [43]	Surgery			Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
Kvasir-Instrument [62]	Surgery			Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
ROBUST-MIS 2019 [103]	Surgery		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
Kvasir SEG [63]	Surgery		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.	
Vocalfolds [68]	Surgery		Visible spectrum	Medium	7 (Few)	Low	Domain-spec.	
CHASE DB1 [41]	Retina scan		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.	
HRF [69]	Retina scan		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.	
STARE [55]	Retina scan		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.	
Intraretinal C. Fluid [2]	Retinal OCT		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.	

Dataset	Task	Domain	Sensor type	Segment size	Number of classes	Class similarity	Vocabulary
GLaS [113]	WSI	Medical Sciences	Microscopic	Medium	2 (Binary)	High	Domain-spec.
Gleason [95]	WSI		Microscopic	Large	6 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.
CryoNuSeg [83]	WSI		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
BBBC038v1 [17]	WSI		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
Vector-LabPics [35]	Lab vessels		Visible spectrum	Medium	58 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.
vesselNN [118]	Brain vessel		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
MTNeuro [99]	Brain vessel		Microscopic	Small	3 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.
Neuronal Cells [53]	Brain cells		Microscopic	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
BraTS 2015 [88]	Brain tumor		Electromagnetic	Medium	5 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.
ISIC2018 Task1 [27]	Lesions		Visible spectrum	Large	2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
PAXRay-166 [108]	X-Ray		Electromagnetic	Small	166x2 (Binary)	High	Domain-spec.
PAXRay-4 [108]	X-Ray		Electromagnetic	Large	4x2 (Binary)	Low	Domain-spec.
Pulmonary Chest [18]	X-Ray		Electromagnetic	Large	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
US segmentation [125]	Ultrasound		Electromagnetic	Medium	9 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.
Severstal [109]	Surface defect		Engineering	Visible spectrum	Medium	4 (Few)	High
KolektorSDD2 [14]	Surface defect	Visible spectrum		Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
EMPS [138]	Particles	Electromagnetic		Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
LIB-HSI [50]	Building facade	Multispectral		Medium	44 (Medium)	High	Generic
Corrosion CS [11]	Corrosion	Visible spectrum		Medium	4 (Few)	High	Task-spec.
LCW [12]	Cracks	Visible spectrum		Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
DeepCrack [79]	Cracks	Visible spectrum		Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
ZeroWaste-f [8]	Conveyor	Visible spectrum		Medium	4 (Few)	High	Generic
Thermal Dog [104]	Thermal	Electromagnetic		Medium	3 (Few)	Low	Generic
PST900 [112]	Thermal	Electromagnetic		Small	5 (Few)	Low	Generic
TAS-NIR [91]	Thermal	Electromagnetic		Medium	22 (Medium)	High	Generic
PIDRay [127]	Security	Electromagnetic		Small	12 (Medium)	Low	Generic
TTPLA [1]	Powerlines	Visible spectrum		Small	5 (Few)	High	Generic
Vale [56]	Terrain	Visible spectrum		Medium	5 (Few)	High	Task-spec.
AI4MARS [116]	Terrain	Visible spectrum		Small	4 (Few)	High	Generic
TrashCan [54]	Trash	Agriculture and Biology	Visible spectrum	Medium	4 (Few)	Low	Generic
SUIM [61]	Underwater		Visible spectrum	Medium	8 (Few)	Low	Generic
DeepFish [106]	Fish		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
NDD20 [121]	Fish		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
Cion17 [42]	Maritime species		Visible spectrum	Large	4 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.
CUB-200 [126]	Bird species		Visible spectrum	Medium	201 (Many)	High	Domain-spec.
Oxford-IIIT Pet [96]	Animal species		Visible spectrum	Large	28 (Medium)	High	Domain-spec.
Plittersdorf [51]	Animals		Electromagnetic	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
CAMO [70]	Animals		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Medium)	Low	Domain-spec.
COD [38]	Animals		Visible spectrum	Medium	78 (Many)	Low	Domain-spec.
CropAndWeed [114]	Plants		Visible spectrum	Small	100 (Many)	High	Domain-spec.
WGISD [107]	Plants		Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
PPDPS [90]	Plants		Visible spectrum	Large	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic
Plant seg. [34]	Plants		Visible spectrum	Small	3 (Few)	High	Task-spec.
CWFID [52]	Crops		Visible spectrum	Small	3 (Few)	High	Generic
PPDLS [90]	Leafs	Visible spectrum	Medium	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
Leaf disease [3]	Leaf disease	Visible spectrum	Small	2 (Binary)	Low	Generic	
Rice Leaf dis. [75]	Leaf disease	Visible spectrum	Small	5 (Few)	High	Domain-spec.	

## B Benchmark datasets

### B.1 Overview

We selected 22 out of the 120 classified datasets for the MESS benchmark. The links, licenses, selected splits, and a sample of the class labels of the datasets are provided in Table 2. We specified some label names for better performances of the models similar to [73]. E.g., we use *crop seedling* instead of *crop* for the CWFID dataset. We refer to our implementation for all class labels.

We shortly introduce each dataset in the following: The general datasets include datasets with everyday scenes but more specific use cases and niche image themes in comparison to the standard evaluation datasets. Specifically, the use cases include two driving datasets with one covering nighttime images. Further, MHP v1 covers classes of body parts and clothes while FoodSeg103 requires the segmentation of different ingredients. The ATLANTIS dataset focuses on classes related to maritime environments and DRAM covers common classes in paintings. The selected earth monitoring datasets include iSAID, which requires the segmentation of 15 object categories in satellite images, e.g., a tennis court or a helicopter. ISPRS Potsdam and WorldFloods provide multispectral data, and our main evaluation uses an IRRG false color mapping. Near-infrared radiation is visualized in red and highlights vegetation. ISPRS Potsdam provides very high-resolution images of an urban area with multiple classes, while WorldFloods has a 10-meter resolution and focuses on

Table 2: Details for the 22 MESS datasets including the links and licenses. Nearly all datasets require attribution and many only allow non-commercial use.

Dataset	Link	Licence	Split	No. of classes	Classes
BDD100K [140]	berkeley.edu	custom	val	19	[road; sidewalk; building; wall; fence; pole; traffic light; traffic sign; ...]
Dark Zurich [105]	ethz.ch	custom	val	20	[unlabeled; road; sidewalk; building; wall; fence; pole; traffic light; ...]
MHP v1 [72]	github.com	custom	test	19	[others; hat; hair; sunglasses; upper clothes; skirt; pants; dress; ...]
FoodSeg103 [135]	github.io	Apache 2.0	test	104	[background; candy; egg tart; french fries; chocolate; biscuit; popcorn; ...]
ATLANTIS [36]	github.com	Flickr (images)	test	56	[bicycle; boat; breakwater; bridge; building; bus; canal; car; ...]
DRAM [28]	ac.il	custom (in download)	test	12	[bird; boat; bottle; cat; chair; cow; dog; horse; ...]
iSAID [134]	github.io	Google Earth (images)	val	16	[others; boat; storage tank; baseball diamond; tennis court; bridge; ...]
ISPRS Potsdam [16]	isprs.org	no licence provided <sup>a</sup>	test	6	[road; building; grass; tree; car; others]
WorldFloods [84]	github.com	CC NC 4.0	test	3	[land; water and flood; cloud]
FloodNet [101]	github.com	custom	test	10	[building-flooded; building-non-flooded; road-flooded; water; tree; ...]
UAVid [82]	uavid.nl	CC BY-NC-SA 4.0	val	8	[others; building; road; tree; grass; moving car; parked car; humans]
Kvasir-Inst. [62]	simula.no	custom	test	2	[others; tool]
CHASE DB1 [41]	kingston.ac.uk	CC BY 4.0	test	2	[others; blood vessels]
CryoNuSeg [83]	kaggle.com	CC BY-NC-SA 4.0	test	2	[others; nuclei in cells]
PAXRay-4 [108]	github.io	custom	test	4x2	[others, lungs], [others, bones], [others, mediastinum], [others, diaphragm]
Corrosion CS [11]	figshare.com	CC0	test	4	[others; steel with fair corrosion; ... poor corrosion; ... severe corrosion]
DeepCrack [79]	github.com	custom	test	2	[concrete or asphalt; crack]
PST900 [112]	github.com	GPL-3.0	test	5	[background; fire extinguisher; backpack; drill; human]
ZeroWaste-f [8]	ai.bu.edu	CC-BY-NC 4.0	test	5	[background or trash; rigid plastic; cardboard; metal; soft plastic]
SUIM [61]	umn.edu	MIT	test	8	[human diver; reefs and invertebrates; fish and vertebrates; ...]
CUB-200 [126]	caltech.edu	custom	test	201	[background; Laysan Albatross; Sooty Albatross; Crested Auklet; ...]
CWFID [52]	github.com	custom	test	3	[ground; crop seedling; weed]

<sup>a</sup>Upon request, the naming of the data provider and project is required.

water segmentation. We selected two drone datasets with similar use cases. UAVid includes urban scenes, and FloodNet covers flooded buildings and roads. The medical datasets cover four different modalities: Endoscopy (RGB images), retinal scans, whole slide imagery (WSI), and X-ray scans. Each binary segmentation task focuses on a specific object or anatomical structure, like blood vessels or lungs. The multi-label segmentation dataset PAXRay is a special case. We do not use each of the 166 annotated classes but only the four superclasses. Because of the mask overlay, each class is predicted in a binary setting, and we average the resulting metrics. Next, we selected four diverse engineering datasets. Corrosion CS includes images of corrosion on bridges and other infrastructure with four different condition states. DeepCrack consists of close-up images of crack. PST900 consists of thermal imagery with firefighter-related objects. We use a gray-scale color map in our main evaluation to visualize the thermal data. The Zero-Waste-f dataset includes images of a conveyor belt with annotations for four types of recyclable trash. The final three datasets cover biological-related datasets: SUIM is an underwater imagery dataset with fish, aquatic plants, and others. CUB-200 is a widely used dataset of 200 bird species. The images of CUB-200 are relatively easy to segment, but assigning the correct species is challenging. CWFID includes crop seedlings and weeds.

We looked up the current fully supervised performance to provide an upper threshold for each dataset and present them in Table 3. We did not find any mIoU results for the MHP v1 dataset as it is originally annotated for instance segmentation. Therefore, we trained MaskFormer [23] to provide a reference. We trained the model for 100K steps using the Swin-B ADE20K-150 settings and evaluated the best model based on the val mIoU.

## B.2 Dataset analysis

The classified datasets are visualized in Figure 2 by applying a Principal Component Analysis (PCA) along the taxonomy’s dimensions. An analysis of the principal components reveals that, apart from the domain, mainly language-related features differentiate the datasets within the taxonomy. The PCA has two big clusters covering all domains – one cluster of datasets (top) with mostly domain-specific vocabulary and high class similarity and another one (bottom) with tasks of easily distinguishable generic classes. The PCA emphasizes the importance of these two dimensions for all domains. The datasets visualized in the center between these clusters have either a domain-specific vocabulary with low class similarity, which is often the case for medical datasets, or the opposite, often observed in

Table 3: Supervised mIoU results for the datasets.

Dataset	Model	Year	mIoU
BDD100K	Two-branch Enet [89]	2023	44.8
Dark Zurich	Refign (HRDA) [15]	2023	63.9
MHP v1	MaskFormer (Swin-B) [23]	2021	53.18 <sup>a</sup>
FoodSeg103	SeTR-MLA (ViT-16/B) [145]	2021	45.1
ATLANTIS	AQUANet [36]	2021	42.22
DRAM	DRAM model [28]	2022	45.71 <sup>b</sup>
iSAID	IMP-ViTAEv2-S-UperNet [128]	2022	65.3
ISPRS Potsdam	DC-Swin [130]	2022	87.56
WorldFloods	UNet [84]	2021	92.71
FloodNet	SegFormer [5]	2023	82.22
UAVid	UNetFormer [131]	2022	67.8
Kvasir-Instrument	U-Net [62]	2021	93.7
CHASE DB1	RV-GAN [65]	2021	97.05
CryoNuSeg	TransUNet [21]	2022	73.45
PAXRay-4	Unet-R50 [108]	2022	93.77
Corrosion CS	DeepLabV3+ [11]	2021	49.92
DeepCrack	DeepCrack-GF [79]	2019	85.9
ZeroWaste-f	DeepLabV3+ [8]	2022	52.5
PST900	SpiderMesh [39]	2022	82.3
SUIM	LOCA [19]	2022	74.0
CUB-200	GFN [144]	2022	84.6
CWFID	Unet-Resnet-50 [119]	2022	87.23

<sup>a</sup>Own experiment because mIoU results are not reported in MHP v1 literature.

<sup>b</sup>The DRAM model is not trained on a labeled training set but self-supervised on generated images.

general datasets. Furthermore, medical datasets have few classes, while general use cases have many classes, with the other three domains in between.

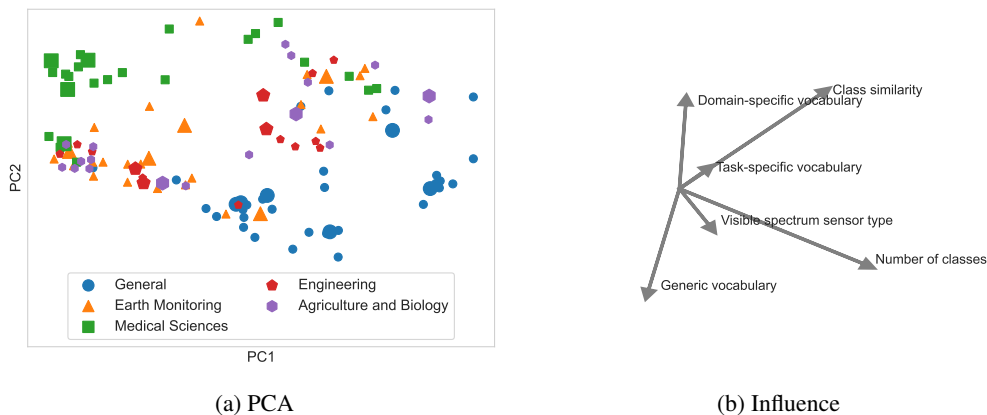


Figure 2: PCA of the classified datasets, clustered by their domain (a), and the highest influencing factors apart from the domains (b). An increased size visualizes selected datasets. Some noise was added to visualize similar classified datasets.

Following Xu et al. [136], we conducted an analysis of the similarity between the labels of each dataset and the training labels from COCO-Stuff [77] which is used by most evaluated models. The similarity between two labels is computed using the cosine similarity between their CLIP text embeddings. Next, we select the maximum similarity value for each text label (i.e., the minimal distance of this label to the training labels). To calculate the similarity between a test set and the training set, we can select the minimum value among the test labels. This represents a Hausdorff

Distance between these two sets, i.e., the maximum distance in the embedding space [136]. However, this calculation is sensitive to outliers and we also report the mean similarity over all test labels.

The analysis in Figure 3 visualizes that most datasets do include classes with a low train similarity that are not related to the train labels. Some datasets have a high mean similarity (i.a., BDD100K, DRAM, ISPRS Potsdam, ZeroWaste-f). Therefore, most classes in these datasets are equal or similar to a training label from COCO-Stuff. The medical and engineering datasets often have a low mean train similarity and include labels that are not present in the training labels.

Additionally, Figure 3 includes the similarity values within each dataset. The similarity is calculated using the maximum cosine similarity for each label to the rest. Selecting the maximum value from all labels results in the inner max similarity, and a high value indicates that at least two labels in the task have very close embeddings. It corresponds to a high class similarity within our taxonomy. Therefore, these classes are challenging to differentiate, even without considering the image features (e.g., classes in MHP v1, Corrosion CS, and CUB-200).

Minimum train similarity	83	83	79	65	76	90	79	95	90	84	95	89	77	76	77	84	84	83	87	75	34	82
Mean train similarity	96	96	87	85	91	99	90	99	93	92	97	92	86	85	89	88	88	91	96	80	66	91
Minimum intra similarity	82	82	76	69	74	76	76	84	83	84	84	89	77	76	76	75	78	75	84	73	56	79
Mean intra similarity	88	88	89	86	87	87	87	87	84	89	89	89	77	76	82	92	78	82	89	80	84	83
Maximum intra similarity	93	93	99	96	95	90	91	88	85	95	92	89	77	76	88	98	78	87	94	85	97	85
	BDD100K	Dark Zurich	MHP v1	FoodSeg103	ATLANTIS	DRAM	iSAID	ISPRS Potsdam	WorldFloods	FloodNet	UAVid	Kvasir-Instrument	CHASE DB1	CryoNuSeg	PAXRay-4	Corrosion CS	DeepCrack	PST900	ZeroWaste-f	SUIM	CUB-200	CWFID

Figure 3: Class similarity to the COCO-Stuff training labels and within each dataset.

## C Models

We provide an overview of the tested zero-shot semantic segmentation models in Table 4 including their modules and training datasets. We only include the datasets used for training the segmentation model and not the pre-training datasets of a utilized FM. We want to point out that the public versions of X-Decoder and OpenSeeD are using different FMs than the larger, non-public versions.

We utilize Grounded-SAM based on a re-implementation inspired by the demo code in [58]. To our knowledge, other implementations of Grounded-SAM are limited to demo scripts and do not apply semantic segmentation. The model combines bounding box predictions from Grounding DINO [78] with instance segmentations from SAM [66]. Grounding DINO is an open-vocabulary object detection model. The model predicts bounding boxes for all class labels in the label set. The labels also include the background class, as we noticed better results in prior experiments compared to discarding the background class. Next, SAM predicts one instance segmentation mask for each bounding box, and the pixel-wise confidence values are scaled by the confidence score of the bounding box. The instance masks of each class are combined by the maximum confidence value of each pixel, resulting in semantic masks. Negative values represent background predictions. Therefore, pixels with only negative values are predicted as background or no-object for datasets without a background class.

We noticed that Grounding DINO has a limited capability to predict non-general classes. SAM can also be combined with other open-vocabulary object detection models to improve performance. We refer to the oracle bounding box results for an upper bound.

## D Additional results

We provide further experiments and detailed dataset-wise results in this section. Specifically, we analyze classes of interest, the similarity between evaluation and training classes, and the influence of the segment size.

Table 4: Overview of the evaluated models.

Name	Versions	Year	Modules	Training datasets
ZSSeg [137]	Base	2021	CLIP ViT-B & text encoder, Resnet 101	COCO-Stuff
ZegFormer [33]	Base	2022	CLIP ViT-B & text encoder, Resnet 101	COCO-Stuff-156
OVSeg [76]	Large	2022	CLIP ViT-L & text encoder, Swin-B	COCO-Stuff, COCO Caption
X-Decoder [149]	Tiny	2023	Focal-T/L, UniCL text encoder, ViT-decoder	COCO2017, 4M corpora
OpenSeeD [142]	Tiny	2023	Swin-T, UniCL text encoder, ViT-decoder	COCO2017, Objects365
SAN [136]	B/L	2023	CLIP ViT-B/L & text encoder, ViT-adapter	COCO-Stuff
CAT-Seg [25]	B/L/H	2023	CLIP ViT-B/L/H & text encoder, Swin-B, ViT-decoder	COCO-Stuff
Grounded-SAM [58]	B/L/H	2023	SAM ViT-B/L/H, DINO Swin-B, BERT-B	SA-1B, COCO, O365, GoldG, Cap4M, OpenImage, ODinW-35, RefCOCO

### D.1 Classes of interest

For several datasets in the benchmark, a subset of the annotated classes is particularly relevant. We refer to this subset as Class(es) of Interest (CoI). E.g., binary segmentation tasks typically include a CoI (like pixels depicting a flood event) and a background class. In many cases, the model performance varies between CoI and background. To better understand the actual performance for these classes, we report the mIoU on the CoI subset (CoI-mIoU). With  $CoI \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ , and  $IoU_i$  being the intersection over union for class  $i$ , we calculate the metric  $CoI\text{-}mIoU = \frac{\sum_{i \in CoI} IoU_i}{|CoI|}$ . In binary segmentation tasks, this is similar to the  $IoU_{pos}$  of the positive class [86].

Figure 4 visualizes the CoI-mIoU compared to the mIoU of all predicted classes. On average, none of the models is able to segment classes of interest as well as all classes. Models like ZSSeg, OpenSeeD, and Grounded-SAM have a particularly strong bias toward misclassifying CoI than the other models. Also, CAT-Seg tends to misclassify classes of interest. For example, SAN-L has on average only a 3.18pp lower CoI-mIoU than the best-performing model CAT-Seg-L while the mIoU difference is 8.08pp. The differences between the mIoU and the CoI-mIoU vary between the datasets and domains. Figure 5 visualizes the mIoU and CoI-mIoU for all datasets and model architectures. The differences between both class sets are most evident for medical, engineering, and biological datasets (except for the datasets Kvasir-Instrument and SUIM). The CoI seem to be challenging for all models. These classes often include characteristics such as small segments, a high class similarity, or domain-specific labels. Furthermore, several model architectures tend to predict no or very few pixels as CoI, resulting in very low or zero scores. These architectures include X-Decoder, OpenSeeD, and Grounded-SAM. The models do not make use of CLIP, which may limit their capability to generalize to the domain-specific classes.

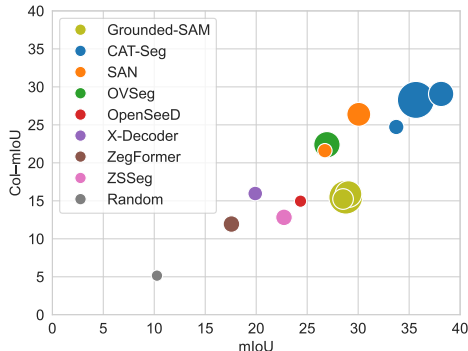


Figure 4: mIoU for Class(es) of Interest (CoI) in comparison to the mIoU of all classes. The size represents the parameter count of the models.



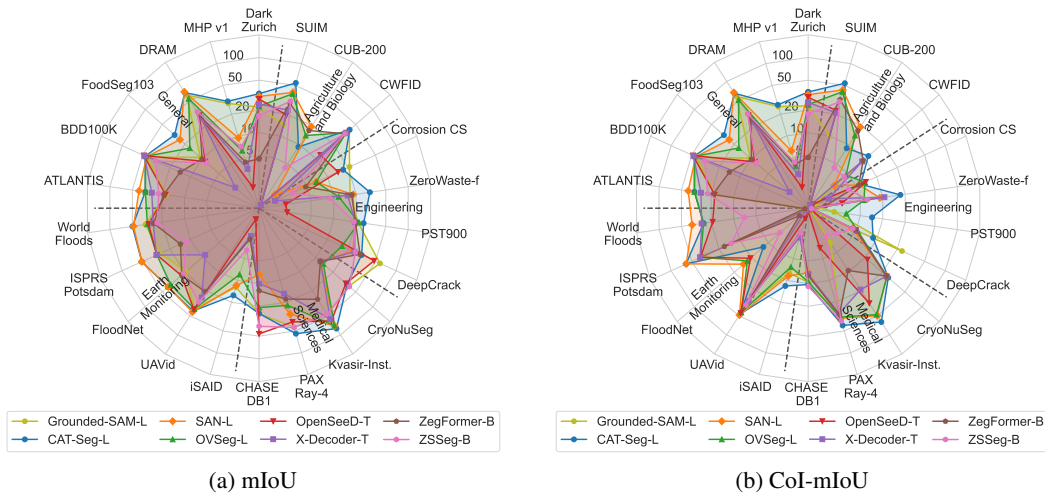


Figure 5: mIoU (a) and CoI-mIoU (b) results for all model architectures on a log scale.

## D.2 Similarity to training classes

The generalized zero-shot transfer setting does allow an overlap between the training labels and the evaluation labels. We analyze this overlap and the influences on the model performance by calculating the embedding similarity of each label to the training labels in COCO-Stuff. A high similarity corresponds to the concept being present in the training dataset. Figure 6 presents the correlation between the similarity and the class-wise IoU for the three large models which are trained on COCO-Stuff. The results indicate a positive correlation between the similarity of the training labels and the performance. We also observe a comparable correlation for all other model architectures (except ZegFormer) which are partly trained on more diverse datasets. The similarity of the training labels for the segmentation modules is not the only explanation. The correlation could be influenced by the open-vocabulary capabilities of the underlying FM. CLIP’s understanding of common concepts, such as the training classes, is better than the understanding of domain-specific concepts [100].

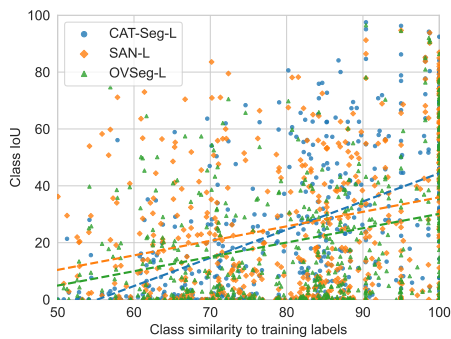


Figure 6: Class IoU in comparison to the class similarity with the labels in COCO-Stuff, represented by the maximum cosine similarity.

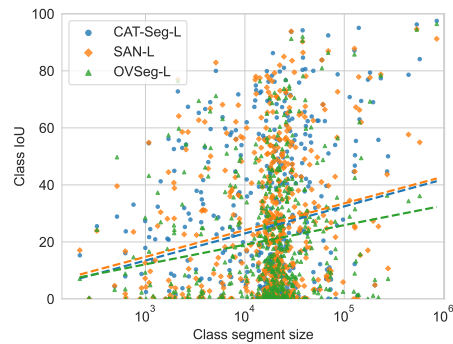


Figure 7: Class IoU in comparison to the class segment size on a log scale. The segment size is the class-wise average pixel count of a segment.

## D.3 Segment size

Our benchmark includes multiple datasets with small segments, like WSI images with nuclei in cells or cars in satellite images. However, many models cannot correctly segment these small objects. We compare the average class segment size with the class IoU in Figure 7. The analysis considers all connected segments over 10 pixels to filter out potential annotation inaccuracies. Overall, all three large models have a positive correlation between segment size and mIoU—which also applies to

other models. Therefore, the models have on average a lower performance on classes with small segments. We want to point out that the 200 CUB-200 classes are mostly correctly segmented but wrongly classified due to the challenging species labels. The correlation is higher without considering the CUB-200 classes. Visual inspection leads to a second insight: Some models, e.g., CAT-Seg-L and SAN-L, are able to locate small objects but fail to correctly segment the boundaries. Therefore, nearby instances, like cars in satellite images, are often included in one segment.

#### D.4 In-domain datasets

We present the results of the five commonly used in-domain evaluation datasets in Table 5. Some values differ from the officially reported performance, mostly within  $\pm 1\%$ , which may be due to repeated runs [136]. It is worth noting that we could not reproduce the results from CAT-Seg on Pascal Context-459 and report a 4.2% lower mIoU [25]. The results for Pascal VOC differ from the reported values in [25, 76, 136] because of a different evaluation setting. We included a 21st *background* class and did not ignore the background pixels during evaluation. We find it misleading to ignore wrong predictions in the background, even if some objects are potentially not annotated. Other works assign the Pascal Context-59 labels that are not in PASCAL VOC to the background class [25, 46]. This may lead to better results than using the uniform label *background*.

Grounded-SAM has a very strong performance on Pascal VOC and nearly matches the fully-supervised result. However, the predictions become very noisy with an increasing number of classes, resulting in low mIoU scores. The CAT-Seg and SAN architectures produce the best results for the ADE20K and Pascal Context datasets.

Table 5: mIoU results for all evaluated models on commonly used in-domain evaluation datasets.

Model	ADE20K-150	ADE20K-847	Pascal Context-59	Pascal Context-459	Pascal VOC	Mean
<i>Random (LB)</i>	<i>0.16</i>	<i>0.02</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.03</i>	<i>1.15</i>	<i>0.39</i>
<i>Best supervised (UB)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>62.9</i>	<i>17.4</i>	<i>70.3</i>	-	<i>84.56</i>	-
ZSSeg-B	19.85	4.91	47.5	8.81	42.27	24.67
ZegFormer-B	11.79	4.16	28.85	4.61	43.88	18.66
X-Decoder-T	25.13	6.37	54.19	9.72	38.13	26.71
SAN-B	<b>27.56</b>	<b>10.22</b>	54.07	<u>12.42</u>	44.21	<u>29.7</u>
OpenSeeD-T	23.85	6.08	<u>56.79</u>	12.19	39.17	27.61
CAT-Seg-B	<u>27.52</u>	<u>8.99</u>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>13.47</b>	<u>60.45</u>	<b>33.59</b>
Grounded-SAM-B	14.75	2.58	41.65	10.05	<b>77.19</b>	29.25
OVSeg-L	29.58	9.11	55.32	12.07	40.82	29.38
SAN-L	<u>31.93</u>	<u>12.92</u>	57.53	<b>16.31</b>	50.16	<u>33.77</u>
CAT-Seg-L	31.14	11.39	<b>61.97</b>	<u>16.2</u>	63.97	<b>36.93</b>
Grounded-SAM-L	15.18	2.58	44.02	10.75	<b>82.36</b>	30.98
CAT-Seg-H	<b>34.52</b>	<b>13.08</b>	<u>61.2</u>	16.03	43.53	33.67
Grounded-SAM-H	15.36	2.62	43.95	10.88	<u>81.51</u>	30.86

<sup>a</sup>The supervised models are InternImage-H [133] (ADE20K-150 and Pascal Context-59), MaskFormer [23] (ADE20K-847), and DeepLabv3+ (Xception-JFT) [20] (Pascal VOC). Pascal Context-459 is rarely used in supervised settings and has, to our knowledge, not been evaluated with recent models.

#### D.5 Dataset-wise results

Table 6 presents the mIoU results for all datasets. The best-performing model varies between the datasets. CAT-Seg is overall the best-performing model architecture, while SAN, Grounded-SAM, and OpenSeeD are better in some specific use cases. Table 7 presents the CoI-mIoU results for each dataset. As discussed above, models without using CLIP often predict background instead of domain-specific classes which leads to a very low or zero CoI-mIoU.

Table 6: mIoU results for all datasets grouped by their domain.

	General						Earth Monitoring					Medical Sciences				Engineering				Agri. and Biology			
	BDD100K	Dark Zurich	MHP v1	FoodSeg103	ATLANTIS	DRAM	iSAID	ISPRS Pots.	WorldFloods	FloodNet	UAVid	Kvasir-Inst.	CHASE DB1	CryoNuSeg	PAXRay-4	Corrosion CS	DeepCrack	PST900	ZeroWaste-f	SUIM	CUB-200	CWFID	Mean
<i>Random (LB)</i>	1.48	1.31	1.27	0.23	0.56	2.16	0.56	8.02	18.43	3.39	5.18	27.99	27.25	31.25	31.53	9.3	26.52	4.52	6.49	5.3	0.06	13.08	10.27
<i>Best sup. (UB)</i>	44.8	63.9	50.0	45.1	42.22	45.71	65.3	87.56	92.71	82.22	67.8	93.7	97.05	73.45	93.77	49.92	85.9	82.3	52.5	74.0	84.6	87.23	70.99
ZS-Seg-B	32.36	16.86	7.08	8.17	22.19	33.19	3.8	11.57	23.25	20.98	30.27	46.93	<u>37.0</u>	<b>38.7</b>	44.66	3.06	25.39	18.76	8.78	<u>30.16</u>	4.35	32.46	22.73
ZegFormer-B	14.14	4.52	4.33	10.01	18.98	29.45	2.68	14.04	25.93	22.74	20.84	27.39	12.47	11.94	18.09	4.78	29.77	19.63	17.52	28.28	<u>16.8</u>	32.26	17.57
X-Decoder-T	<u>47.29</u>	24.16	3.54	2.61	27.51	26.95	2.43	31.47	26.23	8.83	25.65	55.77	10.16	11.94	15.23	1.72	24.65	19.44	15.44	24.75	0.51	29.25	19.8
SAN-B	37.4	24.35	8.87	<u>19.27</u>	<b>36.51</b>	49.68	4.77	<u>37.56</u>	31.75	<b>37.44</b>	<b>41.65</b>	<u>69.88</u>	17.85	11.95	19.73	3.13	<u>50.27</u>	19.67	<b>21.27</b>	22.64	<b>16.91</b>	5.67	26.74
OpenSeeD-T	<b>47.95</b>	<b>28.13</b>	2.06	9.0	18.55	29.23	1.45	31.07	30.11	23.14	39.78	59.69	<b>46.68</b>	33.76	37.64	13.38	47.84	2.5	2.28	19.45	0.13	11.47	24.33
CAT-Seg-B	44.58	<u>27.36</u>	<u>20.79</u>	<b>21.54</b>	<u>33.08</u>	<b>62.42</b>	<b>15.75</b>	<b>41.89</b>	<b>39.47</b>	<u>35.12</u>	<u>40.62</u>	<b>70.68</b>	25.38	25.63	<b>44.94</b>	<u>13.76</u>	49.14	<u>21.32</u>	<b>20.83</b>	<b>39.1</b>	3.4	<b>45.47</b>	<b>33.74</b>
Gr-SAM-B	41.58	20.91	<b>29.38</b>	10.48	17.33	<u>57.38</u>	<u>12.22</u>	26.68	<u>33.41</u>	19.19	38.34	46.82	23.56	<u>38.06</u>	41.07	<b>20.88</b>	<b>59.02</b>	<b>21.39</b>	16.74	14.13	0.43	<u>38.41</u>	<u>28.52</u>
OVSeg-L	45.28	22.53	6.24	16.43	33.44	53.33	8.28	31.03	31.48	35.59	38.8	71.13	20.95	13.45	22.06	6.82	16.22	<u>21.89</u>	11.71	38.17	14.0	33.76	26.94
SAN-L	43.81	<u>32.08</u>	9.34	24.46	<b>40.66</b>	<b>68.44</b>	11.77	<b>51.45</b>	<u>48.24</u>	39.26	<b>43.41</b>	<u>72.18</u>	7.64	11.94	29.33	6.83	23.65	19.01	18.32	40.01	<u>19.3</u>	1.91	30.06
CAT-Seg-L	<u>45.83</u>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>30.03</b>	<b>30.47</b>	33.6	<u>66.54</u>	<b>16.09</b>	<u>51.42</u>	<b>49.86</b>	<u>39.84</u>	<u>42.02</u>	<b>79.4</b>	24.99	35.06	<b>54.5</b>	16.87	31.42	<b>25.26</b>	<b>30.62</b>	<b>53.94</b>	9.24	<u>39.0</u>	<b>38.14</b>
Gr-SAM-L	42.69	21.92	<u>28.11</u>	10.76	17.63	60.8	12.38	27.76	33.4	19.28	39.37	47.32	<b>25.16</b>	<b>38.06</b>	<u>44.22</u>	<b>20.88</b>	<b>58.21</b>	21.23	16.67	<b>14.3</b>	0.43	38.47	29.05
CAT-Seg-H	<b>48.34</b>	29.72	23.53	<u>29.06</u>	<u>40.43</u>	56.78	9.04	49.37	47.92	<b>40.98</b>	41.36	70.7	13.37	12.82	41.72	12.17	<u>57.69</u>	19.61	<u>26.71</u>	<u>47.8</u>	<b>19.49</b>	<b>45.99</b>	<u>35.66</u>
Gr-SAM-H	42.95	22.09	28.05	9.97	17.68	60.86	<u>12.44</u>	27.79	33.23	19.31	39.41	46.97	<u>25.13</u>	<b>38.06</b>	43.64	<b>20.88</b>	53.74	21.34	16.68	14.3	0.43	38.29	28.78

Table 7: CoI-mIoU results for all datasets grouped by their domain.

	General						Earth Monitoring					Medical Sciences				Engineering				Agri. and Biology			
	BDD100K	Dark Zurich	MHP v1	FoodSeg103	ATLANTIS	DRAM	iSAID	ISPRS Pots.	WorldFloods	FloodNet	UAVid	Kvasir-Inst.	CHASE DB1	CryoNuSeg	PAXRay-4	Corrosion CS	DeepCrack	PST900	ZeroWaste-f	SUIM	CUB-200	CWFID	Mean
<i>Random (LB)</i>	1.48	1.28	1.06	0.22	0.56	1.62	0.18	8.87	15.35	1.83	4.84	8.38	6.22	19.28	21.58	4.46	4.15	0.67	3.33	4.53	0.06	3.38	5.15
ZS-Seg-B	32.36	17.75	4.33	8.16	22.19	30.71	2.2	13.35	7.13	3.12	33.74	2.77	<b>10.93</b>	3.25	<u>36.3</u>	3.92	4.49	0.93	6.24	29.63	4.35	4.29	12.83
ZegFormer-B	14.14	4.72	4.08	9.91	18.98	25.6	2.2	16.72	0.0	1.42	23.81	9.63	7.89	23.88	29.75	<u>5.49</u>	4.96	0.24	1.71	<u>31.8</u>	<u>16.6</u>	<u>9.24</u>	11.94
X-Decoder-T	<u>47.29</u>	25.3	2.98	2.13	27.51	22.55	2.54	37.71	<b>26.84</b>	0.77	28.95	19.25	7.54	23.88	28.73	2.0	4.98	0.0	<b>10.52</b>	22.28	0.07	7.96	15.99
SAN-B	37.4	25.63	6.32	<u>19.16</u>	<b>36.51</b>	47.7	4.55	<u>45.0</u>	<u>20.01</u>	<b>14.41</b>	<b>46.08</b>	<u>45.69</u>	8.86	<u>23.89</u>	30.18	3.48	6.5	1.35	7.0	25.52	<b>16.82</b>	3.17	<u>21.6</u>
OpenSeeD-T	<b>47.95</b>	<b>29.7</b>	2.03	8.81	18.55	29.62	1.41	37.28	19.26	<u>10.32</u>	<u>45.46</u>	31.38	0.0	8.97	3.69	<b>5.8</b>	0.0	0.17	2.85	22.16	0.13	1.19	14.85
CAT-Seg-B	44.58	<u>28.8</u>	<u>17.05</u>	<b>21.28</b>	<u>33.08</u>	<b>60.26</b>	<b>13.16</b>	<b>50.07</b>	5.74	6.74	45.09	<b>47.66</b>	<u>10.35</u>	<b>25.98</b>	<b>39.78</b>	5.12	<u>17.63</u>	<u>2.38</u>	<u>7.84</u>	<b>37.49</b>	2.93	<b>20.88</b>	<b>24.72</b>
Gr-SAM-B	41.58	21.75	<b>26.7</b>	10.01	17.33	<u>54.66</u>	<u>7.73</u>	30.7	0.0	0.0	39.42	2.71	9.71	0.0	26.52	0.0	<b>23.72</b>	<b>2.42</b>	1.39	9.99	0.0	8.9	15.24
OVSeg-L	45.28	23.72	3.8	16.56	33.44	51.07	6.54	37.13	25.27	<u>11.67</u>	<u>44.02</u>	47.77	9.46	<u>24.29</u>	32.13	<b>6.75</b>	5.29	<u>3.25</u>	5.61	40.75	14.06	4.64	22.39
SAN-L	43.81	<u>32.08</u>	6.22	24.37	<b>40.66</b>	<b>66.81</b>	<u>8.71</u>	<u>60.17</u>	<b>36.03</b>	<b>13.65</b>	<b>48.67</b>	<u>49.69</u>	7.18	23.88	33.44	5.54	4.42	0.96	9.16	43.17	<u>19.0</u>	2.86	26.39
CAT-Seg-L	<u>45.83</u>	<b>34.84</b>	<b>26.91</b>	<b>30.26</b>	33.6	<u>64.89</u>	<b>11.92</b>	<b>60.53</b>	25.28	6.11	<u>46.32</u>	<b>62.54</b>	<b>10.33</b>	<b>25.49</b>	<b>41.91</b>	5.82	8.85	<b>7.19</b>	<b>17.24</b>	<u>53.47</u>	8.82	<u>11.4</u>	<b>29.07</b>
Gr-SAM-L	42.69	22.8	<u>25.44</u>	10.28	17.63	58.18	7.89	32.0	0.0	0.0	40.35	3.52	<u>9.63</u>	0.0	32.92	0.0	<b>23.39</b>	2.24	1.34	10.18	0.0	8.99	15.89
CAT-Seg-H	<b>48.34</b>	31.29	20.61	<u>28.92</u>	<u>40.43</u>	55.02	8.31	58.91	<u>26.92</u>	11.49	45.88	46.67	8.04	23.74	<u>33.47</u>	4.09	<u>19.4</u>	1.27	<u>14.08</u>	<b>53.92</b>	<b>19.42</b>	<b>22.02</b>	<u>28.28</u>
Gr-SAM-H	42.95	22.97	25.4	9.49	17.68	58.25	7.85	32.02	0.0	0.0	40.44	2.86	<u>9.63</u>	0.0	31.75	0.0	16.47	2.35	1.34	10.18	0.0	8.81	15.47

## E Qualitative examples

An example of each dataset with predictions from the four large models is presented in Figure 8 and 9. CAT-Seg-L has visually the best predictions, which is in line with the quantitative results. The mask-based approaches SAN-L and OVSeg-L tend to segment very large areas with one class, e.g., in MHP v1, CryoNuSeg, and CWFID. Sometimes, they also fail to recognize the background as visualized in SUIM and CUB-200. This can happen when masks of the background include the predicted class itself. The prediction quality from Grounded-SAM-L varies the most. E.g., the model has a good prediction for UAVid but insufficient predictions for all other earth monitoring datasets.



Figure 8: Predictions for datasets of the domains general and earth monitoring.

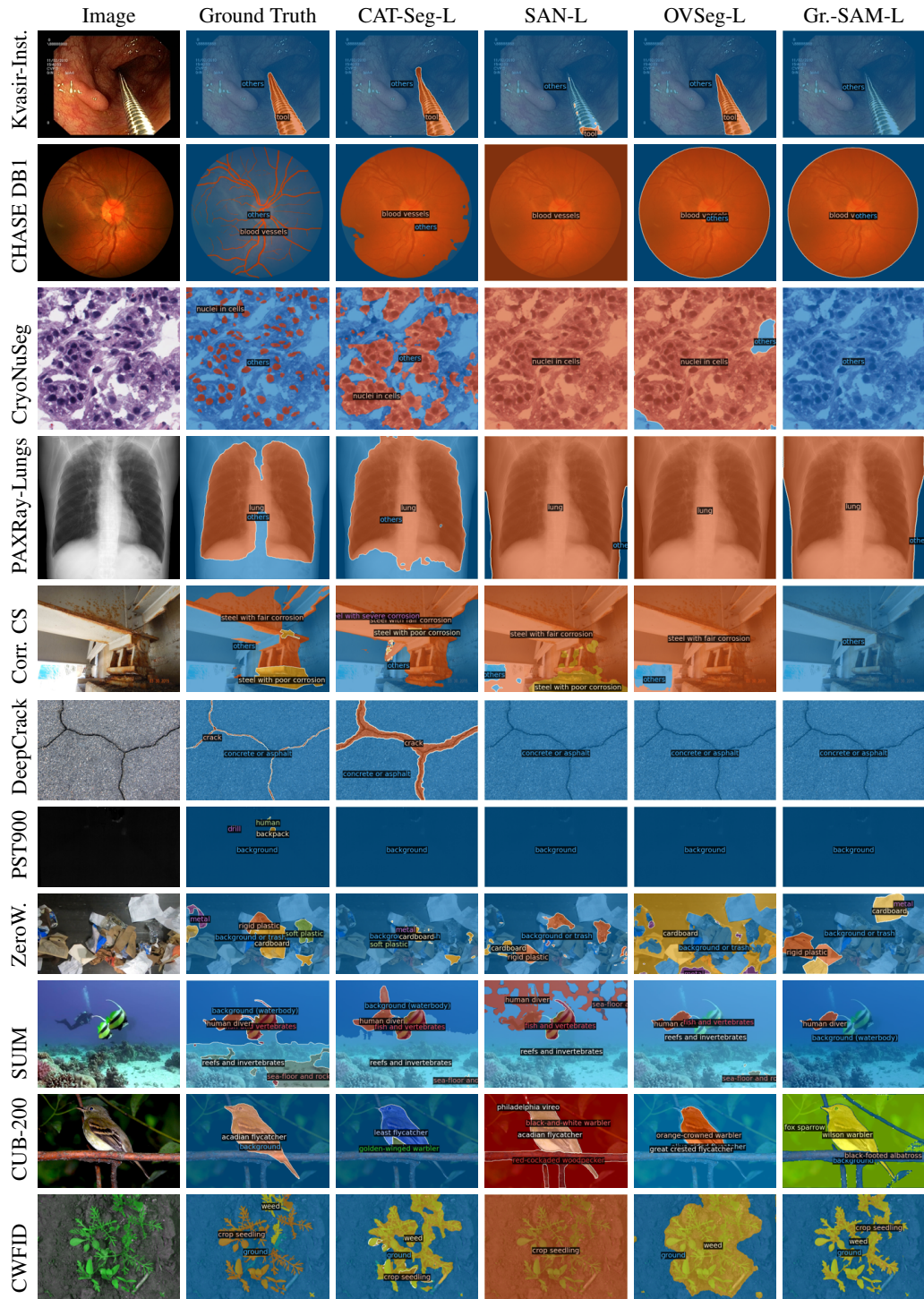


Figure 9: Predictions for datasets from medical sciences, engineering, and agriculture and biology.

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