3DForEcoTech

“When something is in the way, it’s in the way.”

Insights from the Unseen - Occlusion in Forest Laser Scanning

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

In their preprint Insights from the Unseen – Occlusion in Forest Laser Scanning, Kükenbrink et al. (2025) offer the most comprehensive exploration to date of this often-overlooked issue. The paper establishes a framework for defining, measuring, and mitigating occlusion, laying the groundwork for more reliable forest structural analysis across terrestrial, mobile, and aerial laser scanning platforms. The work turns an invisible problem into a quantifiable one, and, in doing so, reframes how researchers think about what LiDAR doesn't see.

Kükenbrink, D., Gassilloud, M., Brede, B., Bornand, A., Calders, K., Cherlet, W., Eichhorn, M.P., Frey, J., Gretler, C.M., Höfle, B., Kattenborn, T., Klinger, L., Mokros, M., Pitkänen, T., Saarinen, N., Terryn, L., Weiser, H., Göritz, A., 2025. Insights from the Unseen - Occlusion in Forest Laser Scanning. Preprint.