

# Advanced Heavy Rain Forecasting: Artificial Intelligence-Driven Insights from High-Density Optical Rain Sensor Networks





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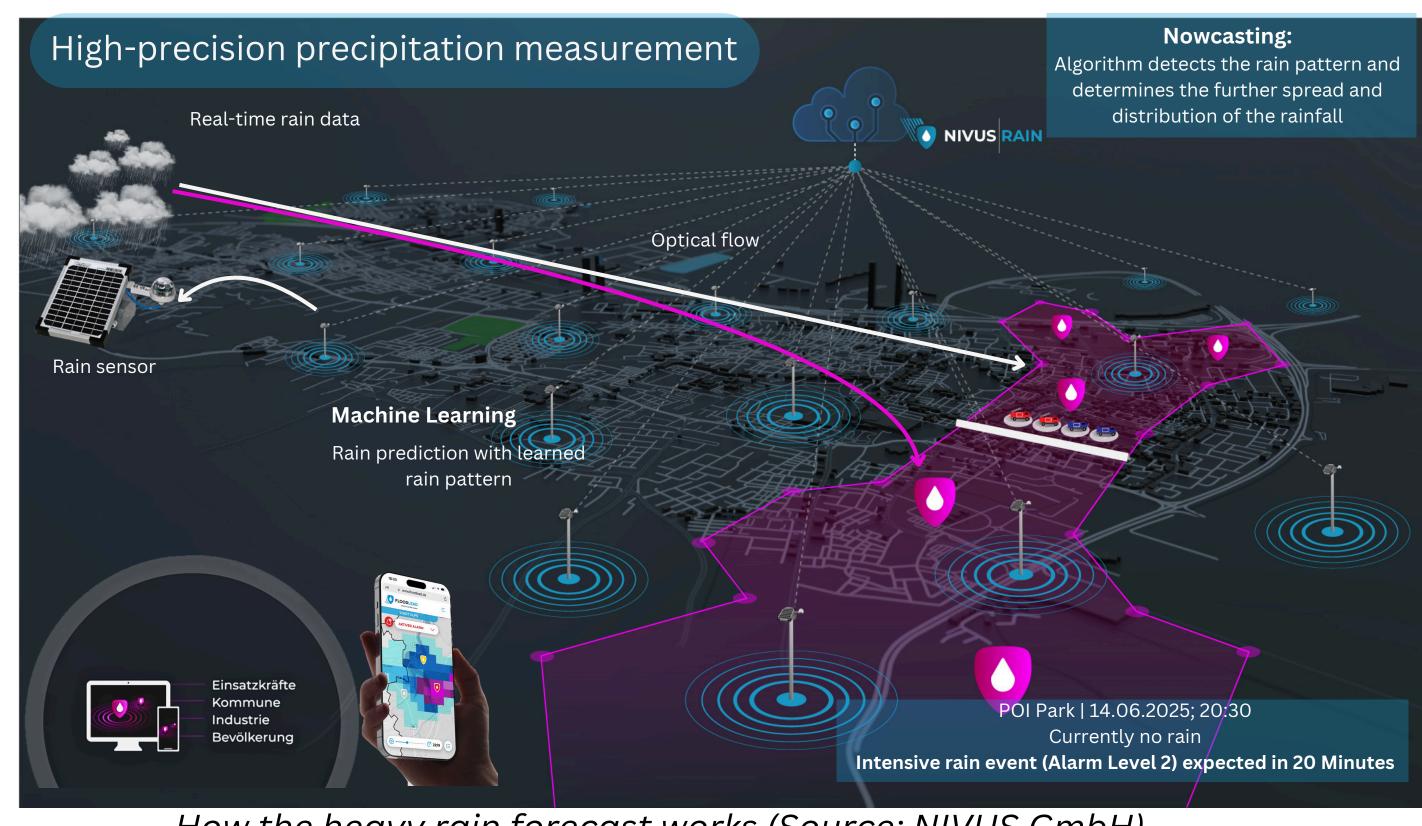
### Why Heavy Rain Forecasting?

- Undetected heavy rainfall events significantly increase the risk of widespread damage to residents, urban areas, and industrial infrastructure.
- Climate change is expected to further exacerbate this situation, leading to more frequent and intense convective rainfall events.
- Weather radar and climate model often tend to underestimate or overlook extreme convective precipitation.
- An early warning time of up to one hour before catastrophic rainfall events is crucial to minimize the chaos phase and improve emergency response.



Source: AI-generated picture (snipki.de)

### How it works

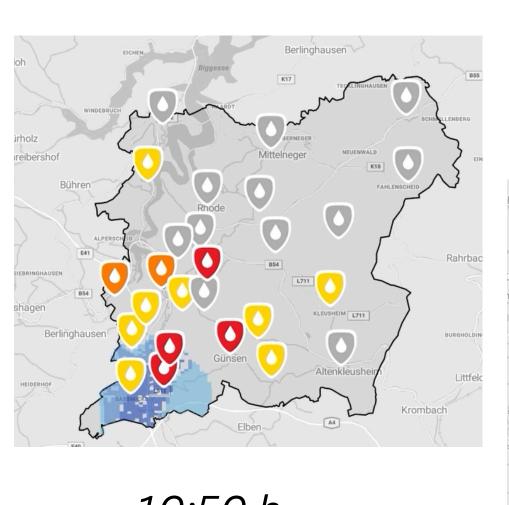


How the heavy rain forecast works (Source: NIVUS GmbH)

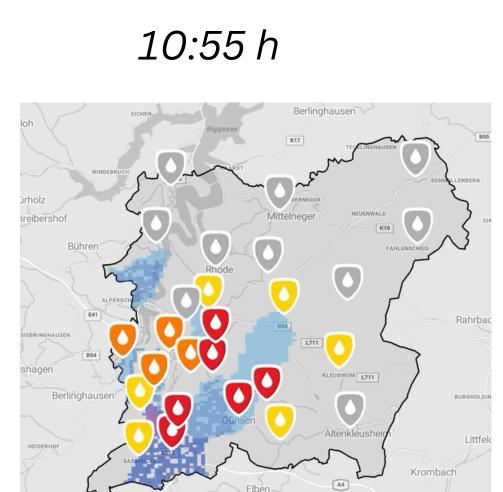
- Low-cost, energy-efficient, self-sufficient and maintenance-free optical rain sensors are distributed in a dense swarm network
- Three projects: Liederbach am Taunus, Olpe, OOWV Oldenburg
- Utilisation of LPWAN technology to transfer rain data to the cloud and further on to Al
- Optical flow method for immediate prediction of the rain pattern
- Artificial intelligence (AI) to predict heavy rainfall events up to 60 minutes in advance
- Strategically placed water level sensors on rivers, streams and in the sewer network to **monitor water levels**
- Developed as a digital service where rain information is available for freely selectable points of interest (POIs) via messages and preferred digital platforms

## Running Projects and Results

#### Rainfall event in Olpe on 07 November 2024

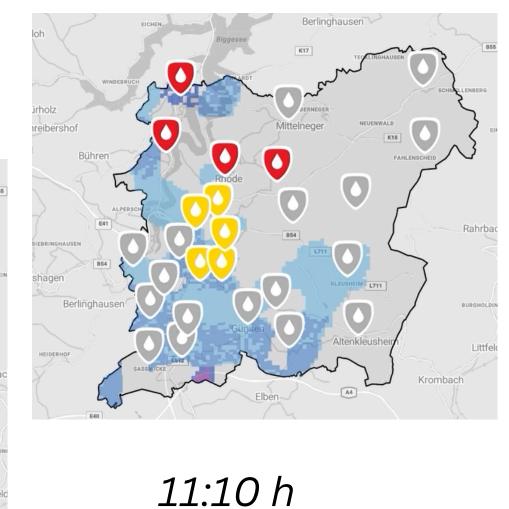


10:50 h



11:00 h

11:05 h



11:15 h

Check the live status in Olpe

Rain event display in the NIVUS RAIN frontend (Source: NIVUS GmbH)

#### **Current Status**

- The ongoing projects in the three locations with over 100 rain sensors in total have been providing **heavy rain alerts** to the rescue forces and general public.
- Artificial intelligence continuously learns with each rain event to comprehend the rain pattern better
- The warning and hazard water levels for the user-defined critical river locations are set up and used to generate alarms
- Case study from Liederbach am Taunus shows how the system worked during the heavy rain event on **16th August 2023**

#### 1,75 1,50 1,25 0,75 0,50 0,25 evel gauging stations at Liederbach river = water level gauging sensor

### **Future Perspectives**

- Implementation of the project in other municipalities with the potential for inter-municipal network
- Integration of ICON D2-Model data to monitor the approaching weather conditions
- Improvement of the alarm concept with DWA heavy rain index and other findings
- Potential for expansion as a global SaaS (Software as a Solution) through international partnerships with engineering companies

