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Riverscape Classification by Using Machine Learning in Combination with Satellite and UAV Images

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INTRODUCTION Background and Purpose



Kurobe River @3k, 28th, Nov, 2017



Kurobe River @3k, 28th, Nov, 2017

Vegetation overgrowth and forest expansion have become a serious engineering problem for river management in Japan and around the world.

- decreasing Water Flow Capacity at Flooding
- Groundwater Levels, changing Hyporheic Processes, Sediment and Nutrient Cycles, **Riparian Ecosystems and Original Riverine Landscapes**

From both viewpoints of flood control and ecological conservation, it would be necessary to continuously monitor the vegetation dynamics for a long period of time.

- Technical Development :
 - AI Technology

UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) Measurement

 High Availability: Satellite Images

This presentation examined a new method for classifying riverine land covers by using the machine learning technique applied to both the satellite and UAV images in a Kurobe River channel.









FIELD SITE AND IMAGES (1) River



 ✓ The UAV images were taken in the <u>Kurobe</u> <u>River</u> channel on November 28th, 2017, which was <u>a braided channel with a well-</u> <u>vegetated gravel bed</u>.





FIELD SITE AND IMAGES (2) Images



Satellite Image, 7th Nov., 2017 (from Planet Company)



UAV Image, 28th Nov., 2017

- ✓ RGB, Near Infrared
- ✓ Spatial Resolution: 3.0m × 3.0m

- ✓ RGB, Near Infrared
- ✓ Spatial Resolution:
 3.5cm × 3.5cm







METHODS (1) Outline



Creating the Training and Validation Image Data

Land Cover Classification by a Machine Learning

Evaluating Accuracy of the Present Methods







METHODS (2)Random Forest and F-measure



- > The machine learning Algorithm used here was **RF (Random Forest)** in the scikit-learn.
- ➤ The F-measure was used to evaluate the accuracy and compare the results of the land cover classification with different combination of the UAV and Satellite images.







RESULTS AND DISCUSSION (1)

AI Land Cover Classification using only Satellite Images





Land cover classification by RF with Satellite Images (RGB+NDVI)

Table. Evaluation of Accuracy by F-measure

Land Cover	Data Set used in the Machine Learning		
	RGB	NDVI	RGB+NDVI (shown in left)
Water	0.48	0.57	0.58
Gravel & Sand	0.82	0.82	0.83
Vegetation	0.89	0.92	0.92
All	0.78	0.80	0.81

- ✓ Land covers classified into water, gravel & sand, and vegetation.
- ✓ Overall F-measure was 0.81 for the RGB+NDVI usage.
- Difficult to classify trees and grass from only satellite image information due mainly to low spatial resolution.







RESULTS AND DISCUSSION (2)

AI Land Cover Classification using UAV & Satellite Images



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RF with UAV & Satellite Images (RGB+NDVI)

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- This presentation examined a new method for classifying riverine land covers by using the machine learning technique applied to both the satellite and UAV images in a Kurobe River channel.
- The method used Random Forests (RF) for the classification with RGBs and NDVIs of the images in combination.
- In the process, the high-resolution UAV images made it possible to create accurate training data for the land cover classification of the low-resolution satellite images.
- The results indicated that the combination of the high- and low-resolution images in the machine learning could effectively detect waters, gravel/sand beds, trees, and grasses from the satellite images with a certain degree of accuracy.
- These results could actively support the effectiveness of the present machine learning method in the combination of satellite and UAV images to grasp the most critical areas in riparian vegetation management.











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