

# Groundwater level prediction method using deep learning for evaluating a nature restoration project in Kushiro wetland, Japan

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# Research Background

The development of social infrastructure in and around rivers has a significant impact on the natural environment and landscape.



**Nature restoration projects** are planning to maintain a balance between social infrastructure development and nature conservation, and have restored precious aquatic landscapes.

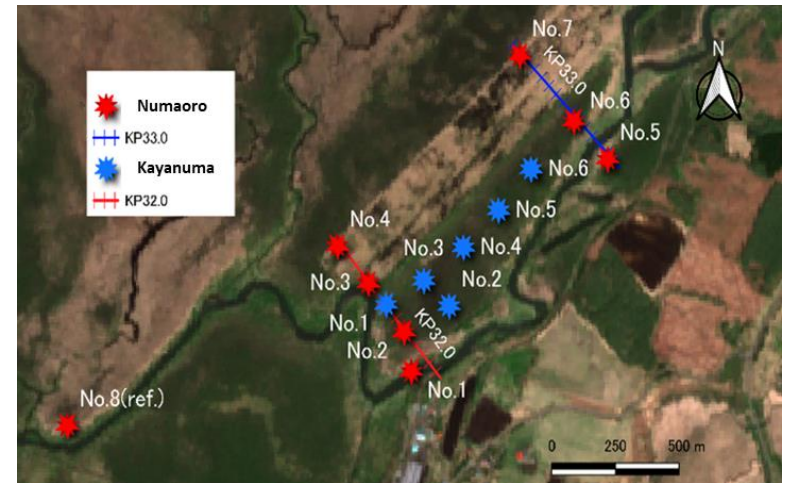
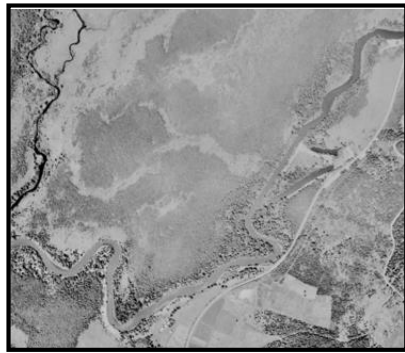


Fig 1 Kushiro wetland

# Research Background

Nature restoration projects



1948

original state

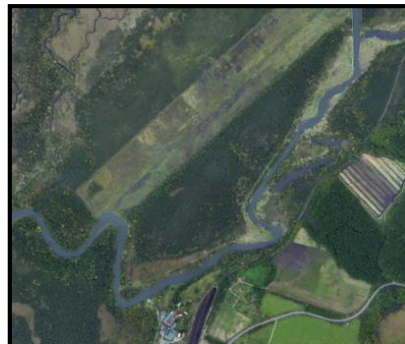


1977

straightening



2010 Natural  
restoration Project



2013

re-meandering

Advance Research

Groundwater level is critical.

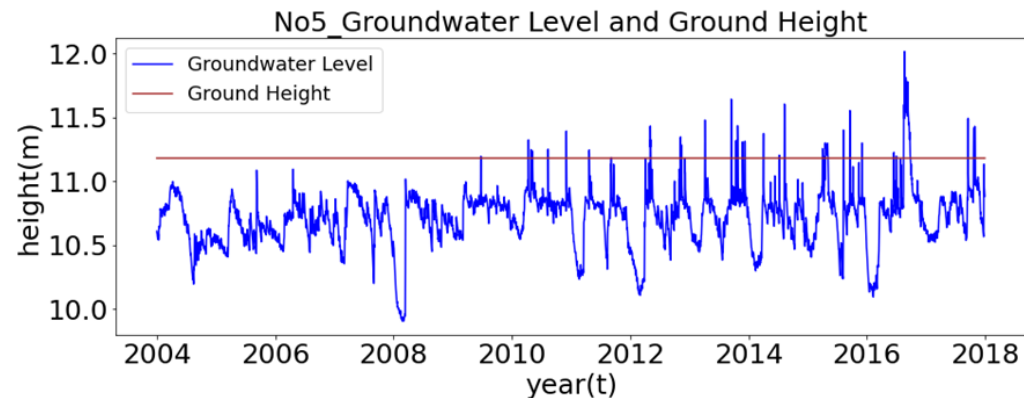


Fig 2 Time series of groundwater levels

# Research Purpose

(1) Create a model to reproduce the groundwater level using the **LSTM**

(2) Propose the new method of importance analysis  
*"Applied Wrapper Method"*

# Research Method - (1) -

## Model creation with **LSTM**

### Before Restoration

Prediction period : 2004~2008

Evaluation period : 2009



## Variables used

### Explanatory variables

- Daily precipitation
- Daily average temperature
- Daylight hours
- Deepest snow of the day
- NDVI
- River discharge

### After Restoration

Prediction period : 2012~2016

Evaluation period : 2017



### Objective variable

- Groundwater level

# Research Method - (2) -

6-variable  
model's  
RMSE<sub>6</sub>

**VS**

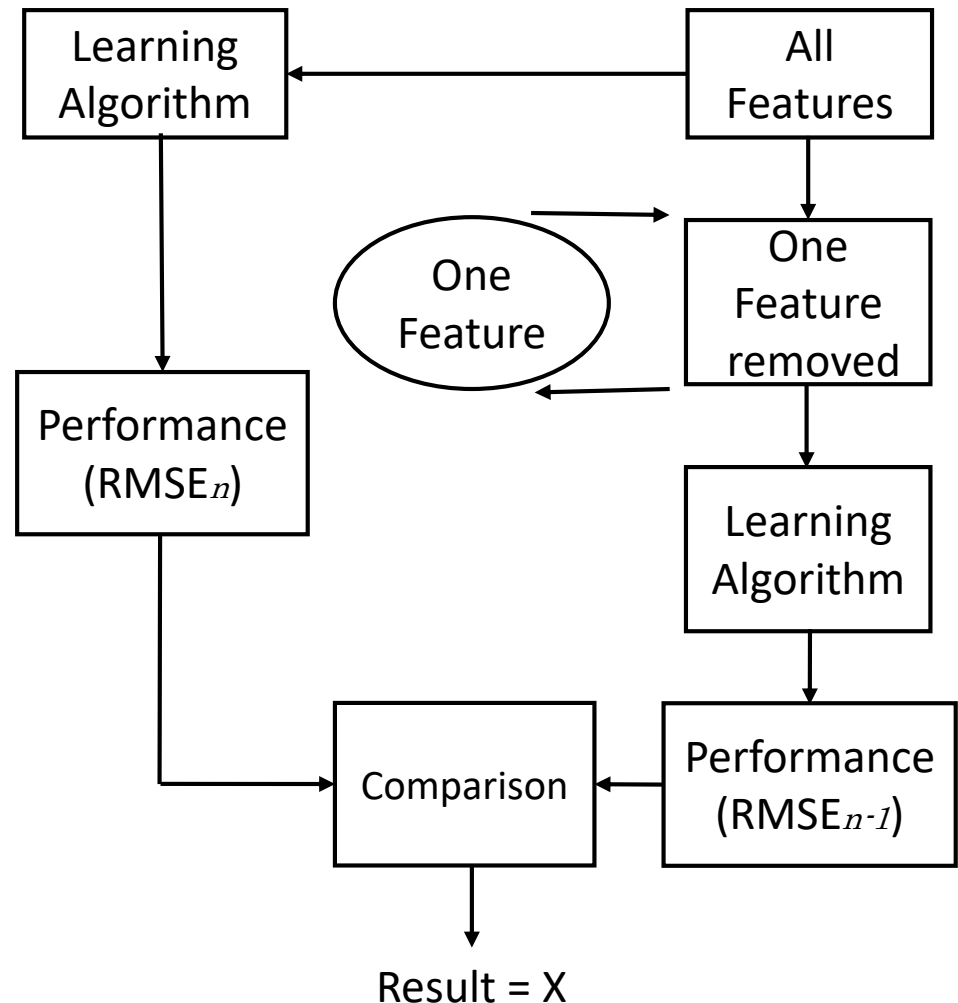
One  
Feature  
removed  
model's  
RMSE<sub>5</sub>

$$X = \frac{RMSE_5 - RMSE_6}{RMSE_6} \times 100$$

The larger the difference, the  
greater the impact of the factor.

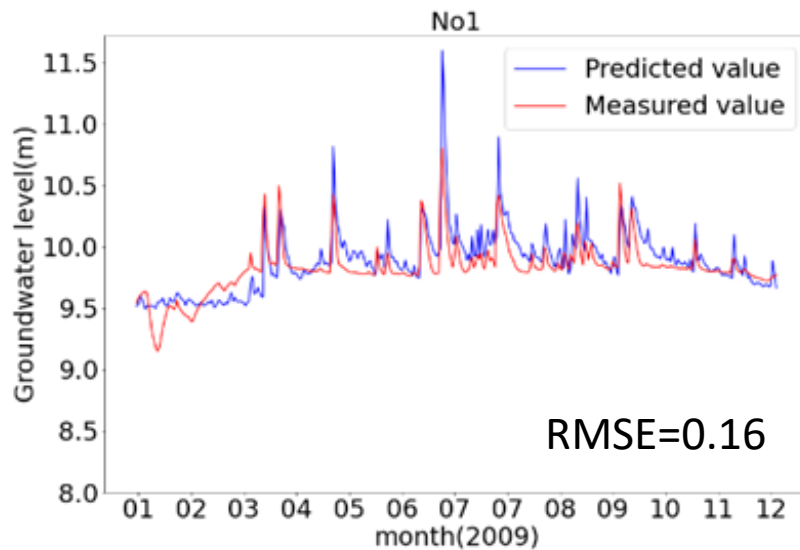
**Positive:** Necessary factor  
**Negative:** Unnecessary factor

## Applied Wrapper Method's flowchart



# Research Results - (1) -

Before Restoration



After Restoration

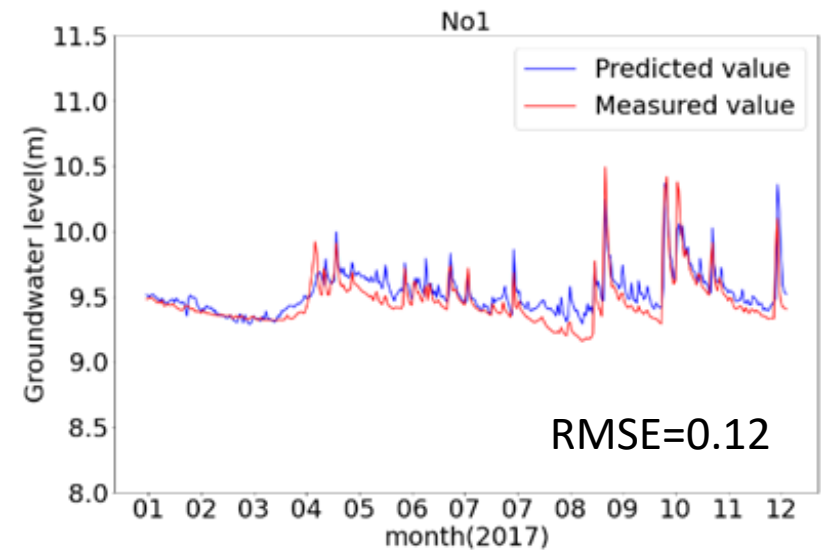


Fig 3 Measured and reproduced LSTM values.

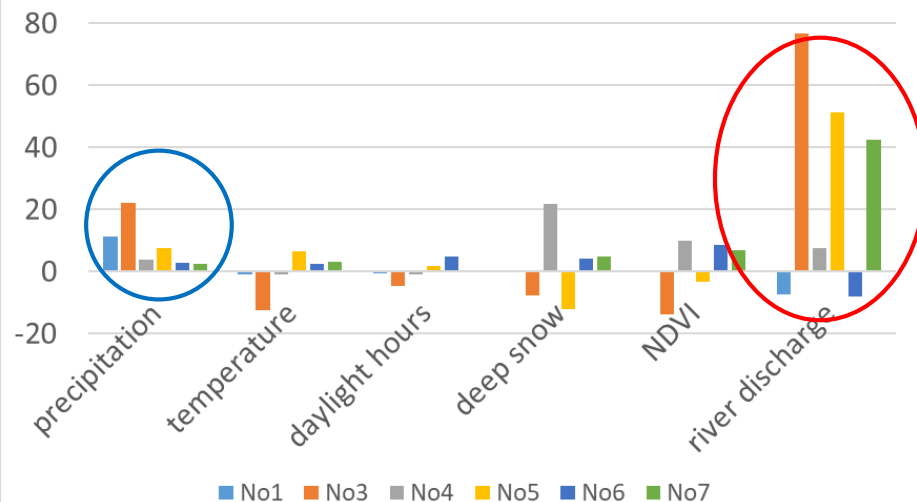
RMSE : 0.05-0.16 m.



# Research Results - (2) -

## Before Restoration

RMSE result before restoration



## After Restoration

RMSE result after restoration

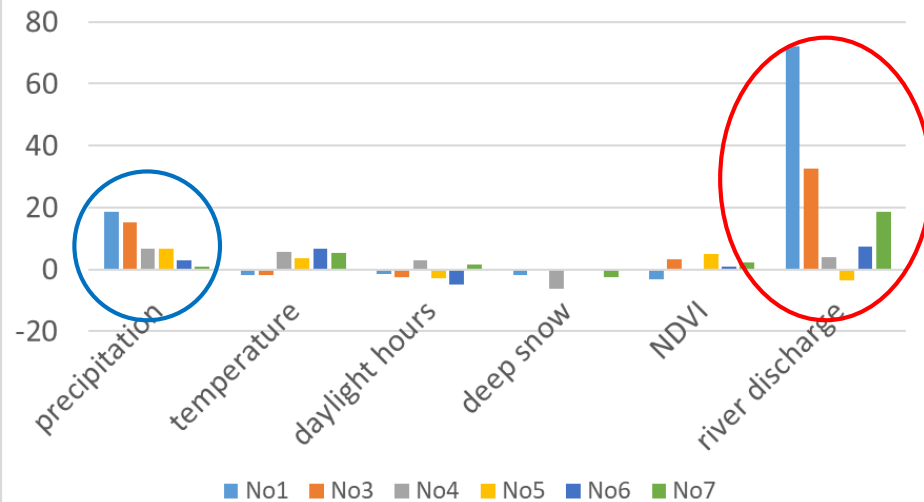


Fig 4 AWM Results

# Conclusions

- Create a model to reproduce the groundwater level

- ✓ Modeled groundwater levels using **LSTM**.
- ✓ The issue is to examine the preprocessing methods and the selection of explanatory variables.

- Analyze the importance of natural factors

- ✓ A high applicability of the new "**Applied Wrapper Method**" was confirmed.
- ✓ The primary factor is **river discharge** and the secondary is **precipitation**

A model for the alder overgrowth phenomenon has not been introduced in the LSTM algorithm, which will be a future research issue.

*Thank you very much for  
your attention*

