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# Fluvial land cover classification by using CSC deep learning method with UAV airborne images

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# Introduction

# Research background: riparian vegetation management

- Vegetation overgrowth in fluvial floodplains and sand bars has become a serious problem for river management worldwide.
  - Decreasing Flood Flow Capacity
  - Changing Groundwater Levels,
    - Hyporheic Processes,
    - Sediment and Nutrient Cycles,
      - Riparian Ecosystems and
        - **Original Riverine Landscapes**

 Long-term monitoring of fluvial geomorphological changes, including sediment and vegetation dynamics



Miyamoto & Kimura, *WRR*, 2016, DOI: (10.1002/2015WR018528)

### Research purposes: developing a deep learning method

- To investigate <u>a deep learning method</u> for fluvial land cover classification using aerial imagery of <u>UAV</u> (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles)
  - Modifying/applying the deep learning method, <u>CSC<sup>\*</sup></u> (CNN-Supervised Classification)
  - Examining <u>its applicability</u> for the fluvial land cover classification in the Kinu River, Japan



Carbonneau et al., Remote Sensing of Environment, 2020, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2020.112107

# **UAV Measurements**

## Target river basin: the Kinu River

- ✓ River basin area: 1,760km<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Main river channel length: 177km
- ✓ UAV measurements in 2015-2019
- ✓ 51 river sections of RGB orthorectified images were taken aerially
- The spatial resolution of images: 4 cm per pixel



PHANTOM3 ADVANCED (DJI)



eBee (senseFly)



## UAV orthorectified RGB images: the Kinu River, 2016





## Deep learning: CSC (CNN Supervised Classification)



### Land cover classes in CSC

#### ✓ 7 land cover classes

✓ Image tiles extracted from the UAV images in 200 \* 200 pixels (7m)

	Water surface	Gravel	Sand	Farm- land	Grass	Tree	Artificial land	Total
#	3,095	2,608	1,369	3,067	2,981	3,055	1,935	21,450

✓ The image tiles in a total of 85,800 through data augmentation for finetuning in the CSC first stage



# CNN fine-tuning in the CSC first stage



#### **VGG16** MaxPooling Existing MaxPooling weights MaxPooling MaxPooling Updating weights Dense Dense Dense

# Mini-CNN development in the CSC second stage

 Investigated the structure of mini-CNN and its hyper-parameters that can classify image class with high accuracy



Water surface Gravel Sand Grass Tree Farmland Artificial land

**True labels** 

Unclassified

Image mosaic

# **Results and Discussion**

# CNN fine-tuning in the CSC first stage

✓ Best hyper-parameters:
 Patch size: 200x200pixel, Freeze layer: 7 Learning late: 10<sup>-6</sup>

#### ✓ Classification report

	Precision	Recall	F1-score	Support	Training loss
Water surface	0.994	0.988	0.991	2497	0.8
Gravel	0.982	0.958	0.969	2106	4 -:
Sand	0.924	0.927	0.926	2178	<sub>ට</sub> 0.6 1
Grass	0.910	0.917	0.914	2380	
Tree	0.946	0.926	0.936	2443	₹ 0.4
Farmland	0.938	0.976	0.957	2486	2
Artificial land	0.962	0.960	0.961	3070	0.2
					1 Training accuracy
Accuracy			0.951	17160	
Macro avg.	0.951	0.950	0.950	17160	0 10 20 0 10 20
Weight. Avg.	0.951	0.951	0.951	17160	Learning curves

# Mini-CNN development in the CSC second stage

#### ✓ Best hyper-parameters:

- Patch size: 21pixel
- ➤ Learning late :10<sup>-3</sup>
- CNN samples :4.0x10<sup>5</sup>
- Filter size: 100pixel



Unclassified
Water surface
Gravel
Sand
Grass
Tree
Farmland
Artificial land







CNN result F1 = 87.0



True labels



CSC result F1 = <u>90.4</u>%

# Land cover classification in the Kinu River (1)



The Kinu River at 92k in 2018

## Land cover classification in the Kinu River (2)





## Concluding remarks

- Investigating <u>a deep learning method</u>, <u>CSC</u>, for fluvial land cover classification using aerial imagery of <u>UAV</u>
  - The weighted average F-measure for the optimised CSC model was <u>90.4%</u>. This confirmed that the optimised CSC could reproduce the land cover classes with enough accuracy.
  - The CSC application to the RGB orthorectified images of the Kinu River in Japan showed that <u>the CSC deep learning method could accurately</u> <u>classify temporal changes in fluvial geomorphologies</u>, including the significant differences before and after the severe floods.
  - Future work would be needed to <u>improve some land cover</u> classifications with lower accuracy and to verify further <u>the applicability</u> of the method <u>to other</u> <u>rivers with different fluvial characteristics</u>.

# Thank you for your kind attention!