PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Geoinformatics 2008 and Joint Conference on GIS and Built Environment Classification of Remote Sensing Images

Lin Liu Xia Li Kai Liu Xinchang Zhang Editors

28–29 June 2008 Guangzhou, China

Organized by Sun Yat-sen University (China) • University of Cincinnati (USA) • CPGIS—The International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences

Co-organized by Guangzhou Institute of Geography (China) • South China Normal University (China) • Guangdong Institute of Eco-Environmental and Soil Sciences (China) • Guangdong Association of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (China)

Sponsored by NSFC—National Natural Science Foundation of China

Published by SPIE

Volume 7147

Proceedings of SPIE, 0277-786X, v. 7147

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Author(s), "Title of Paper," in Geoinformatics 2008 and Joint Conference on GIS and Built Environment: Classification of Remote Sensing Images, edited by Lin Liu, Xia Li, Kai Liu, Xinchang Zhang, Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 7147 (SPIE, Bellingham, WA, 2008) Article CID Number.

ISSN 0277-786X ISBN 9780819473899

Published by **SPIE** P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445 SPIE.org

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Printed in the United States of America.

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Contents

- ix Symposium Committees
- xiii Introduction

SESSION 1 REMOTE SENSING IMAGE CLASSIFICATION

- 7147 02 Study on classification method of TM image with artificial neural network [7147-01] Z. Liu, W. Ya, J. Xu, South China Agricultural Univ. (China)
- 7147 03 Thematic information extraction and background parameters analysis in remote sensing classification [7147-02]
 X. Wei, Shanxi Agricultural Remote Sensing Application Institute (China); Y. Qiao, Taiyuan Univ. of Technology (China); S. Zhao, Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography (China)
- 7147 04 **Feature matching algorithm based on spatial similarity** [7147-03] W. Tang, Y. Hao, Y. Zhao, N. Li, Harbin Engineering Univ. (China)
- 7147 05 Land cover classification based on typical indices combinations of MODIS NDVI time series [7147-04]

Z. Du, Y. Zhan, C. Wang, Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China)

- 7147 06 New methods of H-SVMs for the classification of multi-spectral remote sensing imagery
 [7147-05]
 H. Bin, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 7147 07 Extraction of ore-searching information of uranium deposit based on high spatial resolution satellite data [7147-06]

X. Yang, D.-C. Liu, J.-L. Zhang, Beijing Research Institute of Uranium Geology (China)

- A software tool for calculating the urban compactness from remote sensing classification image [7147-07]
 J. Zhang, South China Normal Univ. (China); X. Fu, China Univ. of Geosciences (China);
 X. Wang, South China Normal Univ. (China); S. Hu, Guangdong Land and Resources Information Ctr. (China)
- 7147 09 Classification of airborne laser scanning data based on statistics of height information [7147-08]
 H. Wu, Tongji Univ. (China); C. Liu, Tongji Univ. (China) and Key Lab. of Advanced Engineering Surveying of SBSM (China)
- 7147 0A The application of mixed GA-BP algorithm on remote sensing image classification
 [7147-09]
 W. Zhou, East China Univ. of Technology (China); G. Xie, South China Agricultural Univ.

W. Zhou, East China Univ. of Technology (China); G. Xie, South China Agricultural Univ. (China); B. Liu, East China Univ. of Technology (China)

- Potential application of remote sensing in monitoring informal settlements in South Africa where complimentary data does not exist [7147-10]
 K. Busgeeth, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa); F. van den Bergh, Meraka Institute, CSIR (South Africa); J. Whisken, A. Brits, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)
- An integrated approach using ISODATA and SVR to land cover classification: an example of wheat [7147-11]
 J. Zhang, Y. Pan, C. Yi, Beijing Normal Univ. (China); Q. Ma, Renmin Univ. of China (China); C. Xu, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)
- An evaluation of classification methods for level II land-cover categories in Ohio [7147-12]
 R. C. Frohn, L. Liu, R. A. Beck, N. Chaudhary, O. Arellano-Neri, Univ. of Cincinnati (United States)
- 7147 0E Classification of land cover from remote sensing fused image based on ICA-SVM and D-S evidence theory [7147-13]
 M. Chen, Capital Normal Univ. (China); Y. Fu, South China Normal Univ. (China); T. Sun, D. Li, Q. Qin, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 7147 OF The application of high spatial resolution remote sensing image for vegetation type recognition in Dagou Valley [7147-14]

A. Yang, Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research (China) and Graduate Univ. of Chinese Academy of Sciences (China); C. Liu, Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research (China); J. Fan, Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (China); J. Zhao, J. Tan, Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research (China) of Chinese Academy of Sciences (China)

- 7147 0G Endmembers extraction of wheat based on time series of MODIS-NDVI and TM samples data [7147-15] X. Liu, K. Zhong, W. Liu, Guangzhou Institute of Geography (China); Y. Pan, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 0H Comparison of land cover classification methods based on single-temporal MODIS data [7147-16] I. Han. Ching Meteorological Administration (Ching): X. Yu. Lapzhou. Univ. (Ching): X. Li

T. Han, China Meteorological Administration (China); X. Xu, Lanzhou Univ. (China); Y. Li, China Meteorological Administration (China); Y. Xie, Lanzhou Univ. (China)

Beijing-1 small satellite multi-spectrum image classification based on neighborhood EM algorithm and its uncertainty assessment [7147-17]
 B. He, Univ. of Electronic Science and Technology of China (China) and Beijing Landview Mapping Information Technology Cooperation (China)

SESSION 2 SPATIAL ALGORITHMS FOR FEATURE EXTRACTION AND PATTERN DETECTION

Semi-automatic extraction of ribbon roads from high resolution remotely sensed imagery by T-shaped template matching [7147-18]
 X. Lin, Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping (China) and Wuhan Univ. (China);
 J. Zhang, Z. Liu, Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping (China); J. Shen, Wuhan Univ. (China)

- 7147 0K **Detection of clusters and outlying nodes in spatial networks** [7147-19] J. Zhou, Beijing Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences (China) and Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China); C. Zhao, J. Wang, L. Qi, W. Huang, Beijing Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences (China)
- A comparison of several raw data compression algorithms for acquisition of remotely sensed data [7147-20]
 M. Zhou, Academy of Opto-Electronics (China); Y. Deng, Z. Zhang, Institute of Electronics (China); L. Tang, C. Li, Academy of Opto-Electronics (China)
- Building detection and extraction from monocular imagery by pose clustering and matrix search algorithm [7147-21]
 S. Cui, Q. Yan, Z. Liu, Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping (China); M. Li, Shandong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- A sub-pixel based method to extract and interpret information from image and its preliminary application [7147-22]
 H. Li, Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry (China) and South China Normal Univ. (China);
 Y. Wang, Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry (China); Y. Cao, South China Normal Univ. (China); X. Wang, Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry (China) and South China Normal Univ. (China); (China)
- Road extraction from high resolution remote sensing image based on mathematics morphology [7147-23]
 H. Ma, Y. Zhao, Y. Chen, Northeastern Univ. (China)
- 7147 OP **Extraction of information of targets based on frame buffer** [7147-24] L. Han, Q. Kong, X. Zhao, Shandong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 7147 0Q Extracting shelter forest in semi-arid sandy area based on Landsat ETM+ imagery [7147-25] X. Qi, F. Huang, Y. Qi, Northeast Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 OR Feature extraction and scale analysis based on Quickbird image using object-oriented approach [7147-26] Y. Qi, F. Huang, X. Qi, Northeast Normal Univ. (China)

SESSION 3 REMOTE SENSING IMAGE PROCESSING

- Acquiring height distribution information about high-rises in Beijing using shadow in SPOT-5 [7147-27]
 Z. Ye, Capital Normal Univ. (China); C. Deng, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China); H. Gong, Capital Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 0T A raster: relation-vector: entity integrated approach for spatial geographic feature retrieval [7147-28] L. Huang, L. Fei, B. Zheng, Wuhan Univ. (China)

E. Hoang, E. Fol, B. Zhong, Wohart only. (China)

 7147 0U High-accuracy ellipse feature extraction algorithm based on line diffusion function model [7147-29]
 S. Zheng, C. Li, Wuhan Univ. (China)

- High Quality Prime Farmland extraction pattern based on object-oriented image analysis
 [7147-30]
 Y. Liu, M. Li, Z. Chen, F. Li, Y. Zhang, B. Zhao, L. Tan, Nanjing Univ. (China)
- 7147 0W Research on texture feature of RS image based on cloud model [7147-31]
 Z. Wang, Chongqing Univ. of Posts and Telecommunications (China) and Peking Univ. (China); L. Xue, Chongqing Univ. of Posts and Telecommunications (China)
- 7147 0X **Research on edge detection algorithm of RS image** [7147-32] L. Xue, Z. Wang, Chongqing Univ. of Posts and Telecommunications (China)
- 7147 0Y A robust registration method for high resolution remote sensing images [7147-33] Y. Wu, Y. Ming, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 7147 0Z Image mosaicking from aerial unmanned airplane [7147-34] T. Wang, J. Gong, Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China)
- 7147 10 Cloud detection in MODIS data based on spectrum analysis and snake model [7147-35] W. Li, D. Li, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- A rigorous attitude estimation method for satellite attitude determination based on star sensor [7147-36]
 J. Xie, J. Gong, W. Jiang, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 7147 12 Comparison research of algorithms about ortho-rectification for remote sensing image [7147-37]
 Q. Luan, H. Liu, X. Wang, W. Huang, X. Zhou, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 13 A new remotely sensed image fusion using wavelet packet transform with the best basis [7147-38] 7. Wang, H. Wang, A. Zhang, M. Wu, Ludong Univ. (Ching)

Z. Wang, H. Wang, A. Zhang, M. Wu, Ludong Univ. (China)

- A variational image restoration with spatially varying noise [7147-39]
 Z. Bao, East China Normal Univ. (China); H. Bai, Shanghai Remote Sensing and Applied Measurement Ctr. (China); R. Liu, Chongqing Institute of Technology (China); C. Shen, East China Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 15 Variational method of speckle reduction and boundary detection in SAR imagery [7147-40] Z. Xia, X. Tang, F. Li, G. Zhang, East China Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 16 **The qualitative analyses of cloud cover on optical satellite image** [7147-41] C.-H. Liu, M.-L. Yeh, T.-Y. Chou, L.-S. Yang, Feng Chia Univ. (Taiwan)
- 7147 17 **The atmospheric correction algorithm for HY-1B/COCTS** [7147-42] X. He, Y. Bai, D. Pan, Q. Zhu, State Oceanic Administration (China)
- 7147 18 The quasi-analytic remote sensing algorithm of CDOM in the China Yellow Sea and East Sea [7147-43]
 Y. Bai, D. Pan, X. He, F. Gong, State Oceanic Administration (China)

SESSION 4 HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGE ANALYSIS

- 7147 19 Incorporating spectral, texture, and shape information for high spatial resolution satellite imagery classification [7147-44]
 Y. Zhao, China Univ. of Mining and Technology (China) and Jiangsu Key Lab. of Resources and Environmental Information Engineering (China); P. Du, China Univ. of Mining and Technology (China)
- Flat-earth phase removal algorithm improved with frequency information of interferogram [7147-45]
 B. Ai, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China); K. Liu, Guangzhou Institute of Geography (China); X. Li, D. H. Li, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China)
- 7147 1B **A method based on interest operator to transform LiDAT data into grey image** [7147-46] Q.-J. Gang, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China) and Guangdong Univ. of Business Studies (China); Z.-H. Xia, Guangdong Univ. of Business Studies (China)
- 7147 1C High resolution surface sediment type mapping using hyperspectral image and field data in muddy intertidal flat area [7147-47]
 D. Zhang, Y. Zhang, H. Li, Y. Xu, Nanjing Normal Univ. (China)
- 7147 1D On the performance of endmember extraction algorithms for hyperspectral image analysis
 [7147-48]
 Q. Du, N. Raksuntorn, Mississippi State Univ. (United States)
- 7147 1E Remote sensing-based study on the relationship between land brightness temperature and vegetation abundance in Wuhan city [7147-49]
 C. Zhang, H. Yu, P. Gong, W. Ju, H. Pei, Nanjing Univ. (China)
- F Estimation of the spring wheat water and chlorophyll content in rainfed agriculture areas of Loess Plateau based on the spectral absorption feature of the liquid water and chlorophyll [7147-50]
 X. Wang, N. Guo, K. Zhang, H. Zhao, Lanzhou Institute of Arid Meteorology (China)
- 7147 1G Research of image preprocessing methods for EO-1 Hyperion hyperspectral data in tidal flat area [7147-51]
 H. Li, D. Zhang, Y. Zhang, Y. Xu, Nanjing Normal Univ. (China)
- A partial least square regression method to quantitatively retrieve soil salinity using hyper-spectral reflectance data [7147-52]
 Y. Qu, Beijing Normal Univ. (China); S. Jiao, Beijing Vocational and Technical Institute of Industry (China); X. Lin, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)
- Semi-supervised classification for hyperspectral remote sensing image based on PCA and kernel FCM algorithm [7147-53]
 X. Liu, Univ. of Electronic Science and Technology of China (China) and Sichuan Univ. of Science and Engineering (China); B. He, X. Li, Univ. of Electronic Science and Technology of China (China)

A genetic algorithm based wrapper feature selection method for classification of hyperspectral images using support vector machine [7147-54] L. Zhuo, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China); J. Zheng, Guangdong Climate Ctr. (China); X. Li, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China); F. Wang, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China) and Guangzhou Univ. (China); B. Ai, J. Qian, Sun Yat-sen Univ. (China)

Author Index

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Introduction

All papers included in this volume are selected from the 16th International Conference on GeoInformatics and the Joint Conference on GIS and Built Environment organized by Sun Yat-sen University and the University of Cincinnati and held 28–29 June 2008 in Guangzhou, China. The Geoinformatics conference series was initiated by the International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences (CPGIS) in 1992. The Joint Conference on GIS and Built Environment is a new conference series initiated by Sun Yat-sen University and the University of Cincinnati.

The central theme of the combined conference is GIS, Built Environment, and Geo-simulation. The main topics included geo-simulation and virtual GIS environments, the built environment and its dynamics, the monitoring and assessment of natural resources and environments, advanced spatial data models and analyses, and classification of remote sensing images.

This combined conference provided a unique forum for exchanging ideas and knowledge on geo-information sciences between GIS professionals worldwide. This year's GeoInformatics conference is the largest ever. Over 800 participants came from 15 countries and regions, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Turkey, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan. The organizers received more than 900 abstracts, and nearly 600 full papers. The conference program consists of 212 oral presentations and over 300 posters.

All papers in this volume are selected through a rigorous peer-review process. We believe that you will find these papers useful.

Finally, we would like to thank all authors and reviewers for their contributions to this volume.

Lin Liu and Xia Li Conference Co-Chairs Editors-In-Chief