

# Remotely Sensing Cities and Environments

Lecture 6: Classification The Big Questions (Lecture 5 continued) and Accuracy

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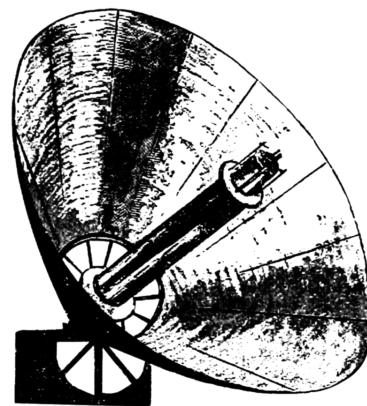
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# Lecture outline

Part 1: Landcover classification  
(continued)

Part 2: Accuracy



Source: Original from the British Library. Digitally enhanced by rawpixel.

What do we need (current or historic) landcover data for?

Can we just used pre-classified data

# Pre-classified data

- GlobeLand30 - 30m for 2000, 2010 and 2020:  
[http://www.globallandcover.com/home\\_en.html?type=data](http://www.globallandcover.com/home_en.html?type=data)
- European Space Agency's (ESA) Climate Change Initiative (CCI) annual global land cover (300 m) (1992-2015): <https://climate.esa.int/en/projects/land-cover/data/>
- Dynamic World - near real time 10m: <https://www.dynamicworld.app/explore/>
  - A major benefit of an AI-powered approach is the model looks at an incoming Sentinel-2 satellite image and, for every pixel in the image, estimates the degree of tree cover, how built up a particular area is, or snow coverage if there's been a recent snowstorm, for example
- MODIS: <https://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/dataproducts/mod12.php>
- Google building data: <https://sites.research.google/open-buildings/>

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Semi-supervised approach
  - Divided World into regions (Western Hemisphere (160°W to 20°W), Eastern Hemisphere-1 (20°W to 100°E), and Eastern Hemisphere-2 (100°E to 160°W))
  - Divided them into 14 Biomes
  - Stratified samples based on NASA MCD12Q1 land cover for 2017 + others

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Expert group labeled approximately 4,000 image tiles
- Non-expert - 20,000
- 409 image tiles were held back
- minimum mapping unit of  $50 \times 50$  m ( $5 \times 5$  pixels) used Labelbox
- label at least 70% of a tile within 20 to 60 minutes
- skill differential between the non-expert and expert groups
- linearly interpolating the distributions per-pixel from their one-hot encoding, weight on 0.2 experts and 0.3 non-experts

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Use SR for labelling BUT used TOA (level L1C) for the model as SR only from 2017
- Masked clouds and shadows
- Weights for each pixel (I think these are the probabilities for each pixel based on the user weights)
  - They work out the
- Augmentations - rotation of image (rotate them) bands (band ratioing) to improve model

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- We first log-transform the raw reflectance values to equalize the long tail of highly reflective surfaces
- remap percentiles of the log-transformed values to points on a sigmoid function
- use these output values which reduce the value ranges

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Fully Convolutional Neural Network (FCNN)
- Learns a mapping from estimated probabilities back to the input reflectances (synthesis model gradient)
  - basically means it is re-learning from the output data "the backward" model
- Pass all normalized bands except B1, B8A, B9 and B10 after bilinear upscaling to ee.Model.predictImage.
- Runs automatically after each new image
- It looks blobby as the training data is 50x50m and also CNN\*

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	<b>CNN</b>
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Convolution Neural Network (ConvNet/CNN) form of **deep learning**
- Deep learning is a sub section of machine learning focused on neural networks with big datasets
- The potential issue here is with the convolution = a moving window filter (see next tab)
- This is the start of the CNN process
- Similar to texture, using a moving window.

Further reading: [A Comprehensive Guide to Convolutional Neural Networks – the ELI5 way](#)

# Dynamic World

[Data](#)[Training](#)[Pre-processing](#)[Normalisation](#)[Classification](#)[CNN](#)[CNN 2](#)[Accuracy](#)[Example](#)[Notes](#)[Radiant MLHub](#)

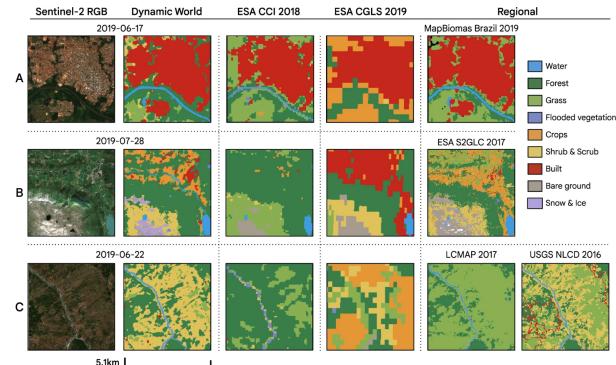
# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- Accuracy is assessed through a **Confusion matrix** - see next slides
  - This is a common approach in classification
- However, they note that this might not be appropriate:
  - Different products
  - Live updates

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	



Visual comparison of Dynamic World (DW) to other global and regional LULC datasets for validation tile locations in (A) Brazil ( $-11.437^{\circ}$ ,  $-61.460^{\circ}$ ), (B) Norway, ( $61.724^{\circ}$ ,  $6.484^{\circ}$ ), and (C) the United States ( $39.973^{\circ}$ ,  $-123.441^{\circ}$ ). Datasets used for comparison include 300 m European Space Agency (ESA) Climate Change Initiative (CCI); 100 m Copernicus Global Land Service (CGLS) ProbaV Land Cover dataset; 10 m ESA Sentinel-2 Global Land Cover (S2GLC) Europe 2019; 30 m MapBiomas Brazil dataset; and 30 m USGS National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD). Each map chip represents a 5.1 km by 5.1 km area with corresponding true-color (RGB) Sentinel-2 image shown in the first column. All products have been standardized to the same legend used for DW. Note differences in resolution as well as differences in the spatial distribution and coverage of land use land cover classes. Source: [Brown et al. 2022](#)

# Dynamic World

Data      Training      Pre-processing      Normalisation      Classification      CNN

CNN 2      Accuracy      Example      Notes      Radiant MLHub

- The training data is online and also used in the ESRI LULC 2020 map:  
<https://doi.pangaea.de/10.1594/PANGAEA.933475?format=html#download>
- The code is online - see the paper.

# Dynamic World

Data	Training	Pre-processing	Normalisation	Classification	CNN
CNN 2	Accuracy	Example	Notes	Radiant MLHub	

- At the same time (sadly) **Radiant MLHub** launched the first open library dedicated to EO training for machine learning...

LandCoverNet Africa

LandCoverNet is a global annual land cover classification training dataset with labels for the multi-spectral satellite imagery from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 missions in 2018. LandCoverNet Africa contains data across Africa, which accounts for ~1/5 of the global dataset. Each pixel is identified as one of the seven land [read more...](#)

[land cover](#) [landsat 8](#) [segmentation](#) [sentinel-1](#) [sentinel-2](#)

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LandCoverNet Asia

LandCoverNet is a global annual land cover classification training dataset with labels for the multi-spectral satellite imagery from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 missions in 2018. LandCoverNet Asia contains data across Asia, which accounts for ~32% of the global dataset. Each pixel is identified as one of the seven land [read more...](#)

[land cover](#) [landsat 8](#) [segmentation](#) [sentinel-1](#) [sentinel-2](#)

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LandCoverNet Australia

LandCoverNet is a global annual land cover classification training dataset with labels for the multi-spectral satellite imagery from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 missions in 2018. LandCoverNet Australia contains data across Australia, which accounts for ~7% of the global dataset. Each pixel is identified as one of the seven land [read more...](#)

[land cover](#) [landsat 8](#) [segmentation](#) [sentinel-1](#) [sentinel-2](#)

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LandCoverNet Europe

LandCoverNet is a global annual land cover classification training dataset with labels for the multi-spectral satellite imagery from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 missions in 2018. LandCoverNet Europe contains data across Europe, which accounts for ~9.5% of the global dataset. Each pixel is identified as one of the seven land [read more...](#)

[land cover](#) [landsat 8](#) [segmentation](#) [sentinel-1](#) [sentinel-2](#)

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LandCoverNet North America

LandCoverNet is a global annual land cover classification training dataset with labels for the multi-spectral satellite imagery from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8 missions in 2018. LandCoverNet North America contains data across North America, which accounts for ~13% of the global dataset. Each pixel is identified as one of the seven land [read more...](#)

[land cover](#) [landsat 8](#) [segmentation](#) [sentinel-1](#) [sentinel-2](#)

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LandCoverNet South America

Source: [Radiant MLHub](#)

# Before we progress....thoughts on this?

What was the data (SR, TOA)

How was it trained

What are the issues

Do you think it's any good

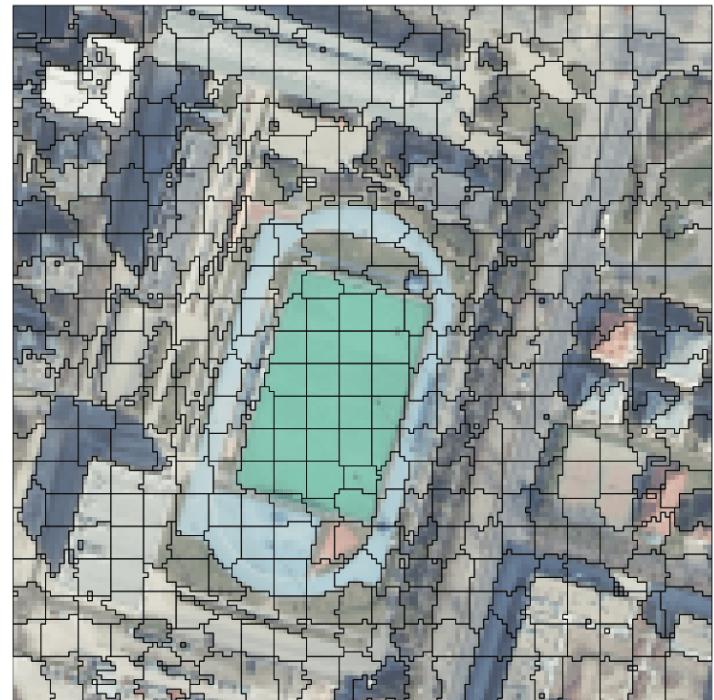
Next up

Object based image analysis and sub pixel  
analysis

# Object based image analysis (OBIA)

- Does a raster cell represent an object on the ground?
- Instead of considering cells we consider shapes based on the similarity (homogeneity) or difference (heterogeneity) of the cells = **superpixels**
- **SLIC** (Simple Linear Iterative Clustering)  
Algorithm for Superpixel generation is the **most common method**
  - regular points on the image
  - work out spatial distance (from point to centre of pixel) = **closeness to centre**
  - colour difference (RGB vs RGB to centre point) = **homogeneity of colours**

Iteration: 1



Supercells Source: Nowosad 2021

# Object based image analysis (OBIA) 2

- Each iteration the centre moves- 4-10 is best (based on original paper)
- The values can change and the borders move (like k-means?)
- Doesn't consider connectivity = very small cells
- Can enforce connectivity (remove small areas and merge them)
- $S$  = distance between initial points
- $m$  = compactness = balance between physical distance (larger value) and colour (spectral distance, then smaller  $m$ )
- Can only use Euclidean distance in SLIC



Supercells Source:[Darshite Jain](#)

# Object based image analysis (OBIA) 3

- **Supercells** package can use any distance measure (e.g. dissimilarity)
- $k$  = number of super pixels
- *compactness* = impact of spatial (higher value) vs colour (lower value)
- *transform* = not on raw data, but to LAB colour space
- We can then take the **average values per object** and classify them using methods we've seen
- Other metrics can also be computed - e.g. length to width ratio (see Jensen p.418)



Supercells Source: [Nowosad 2021](#)

# Object based image analysis (OBIA) 3

Note that there are many OBIA classifiers, they all do similar, but slightly different processes - see Jensen page 415

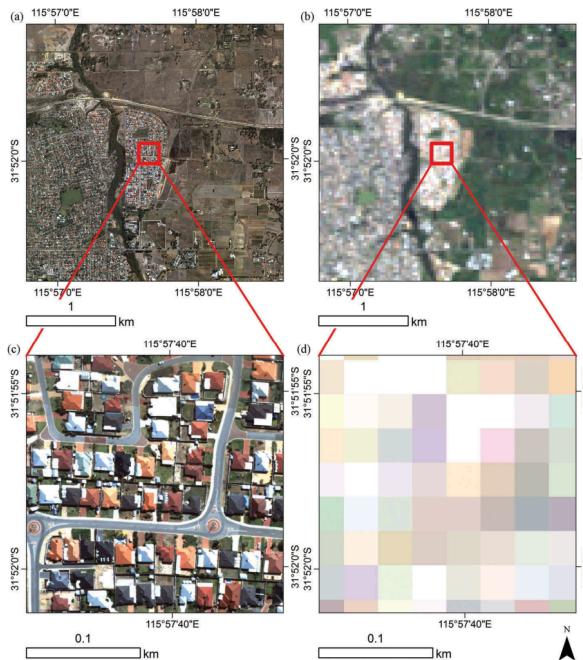
A more advanced package would be **SegOptim** that can use algorithms from other software



SegOptim Source: João Gonçalves 2020

# Sub pixel analysis

If you have a pixel composed of a range of land cover types should it be classified as one landcover or should we calculate the proportions ?

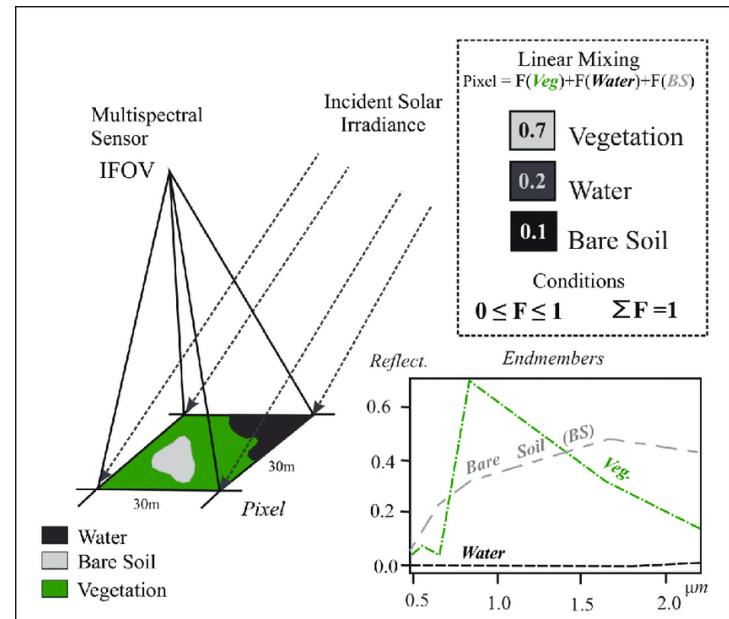


Comparison of true colour high spatial resolution data (a) (acquired from 14 March 2007) and Landsat surface reflectance (b) (acquired on 6 October 2007 [path 112]), highlighting the spatial detail captured by high-resolution imagery (c) and the same areas as observed by Landsat (d) for the subset East Beechboro used within this study Source:[MacLachlan et al. 2017](#)

# Sub pixel analysis

Termed (all the same): Sub pixel classification, Spectral Mixture Analysis (SMA), Linear spectral unmixing

- SMA determines the **proportion or abundance** of landcover per pixel
- the assumption that reflectance measured at each pixel is represented by the linear sum of endmembers weighted by the associated endmember fraction
- Typically we have a few endmembers that are **spectrally pure**



Source: Machado and Small (2013) 2017

In R we can use MESMA from the package RStoolbox

# Sub pixel analysis 2

- Sum of end member reflectance \* fraction contribution to best-fit mixed spectrum

$$p_{\lambda} = \sum_{i=1}^n (p_{i\lambda} * f_i) + e_{\lambda}$$

$p_{\lambda}$  = The pixel reflectance

$p_{i\lambda}$  = reflectance of endmember  $i$

$f_i$  = fractional cover of end member  $i$

$n$  = number of endmembers

$e_{\lambda}$  = model error

See, Jensen page 480 - following example taken from there

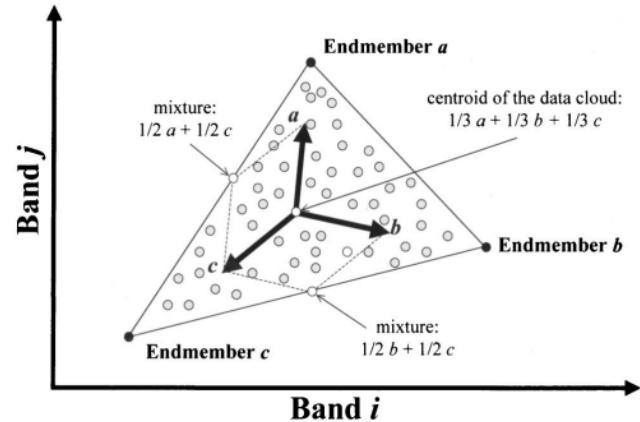


Fig. 1. Scatterplot of two-dimensional spectral data illustrating the physical interpretation of a mixture model based on endmembers.

Source: Plaza et al. (2002)

# Sub pixel analysis 3

Not as complicated as it looks...here are some end members for bands 3 and 4

Band	Water	Vegetation	Soil
3	13	22	70
4	5	80	60

We take the **inverse matrix** of them ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} 13 & 22 & 70 \\ 5 & 80 & 60 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -0.0053 & -0.0127 & 1.1322 \\ -0.0145 & 0.0150 & 0.1137 \\ 0.0198 & -0.0024 & -0.2460 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Sub pixel analysis 4

Then solve ... if our values for the pixel are **25** (band 3) and **57** (band 4) the rows of the first matrix are multiplied by the columns of the second one

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_{water} \\ f_{veg} \\ f_{soil} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -0.0053 & -0.0127 & 1.1322 \\ -0.0145 & 0.0150 & 0.1137 \\ 0.0198 & -0.0024 & -0.2460 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 57 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This looks like...(from [matrix calculator](#))

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{-53}{10000} * 25 + \frac{-127}{10000} * 57 + \frac{5661}{5000} * 1 \\ \frac{-29}{2000} * 25 + \frac{3}{200} * 57 + \frac{1137}{10000} * 1 \\ \frac{99}{5000} * 25 + \frac{-3}{1250} * 57 + \frac{-123}{500} * 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Sub pixel analysis 5

And gives...

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.27 \\ 0.61 \\ 0.11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -0.0053 & -0.0127 & 1.1322 \\ -0.0145 & 0.0150 & 0.1137 \\ 0.0198 & -0.0024 & -0.2460 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 57 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This means that within this pixel we have:

- 27% water
- 61% vegetation
- 11% soil

# Sub pixel analysis 6

Issues / considerations:

- Pixel purity ?
- Number of End members
  - simplify the process and use the **V-I-S model** in urban areas:  
Vegetation-Impervious surface-Soil (V-I-S) fractions
- Multiple endmember spectral analysis (MESMA)
  - Increase computation
  - or use a spectral library

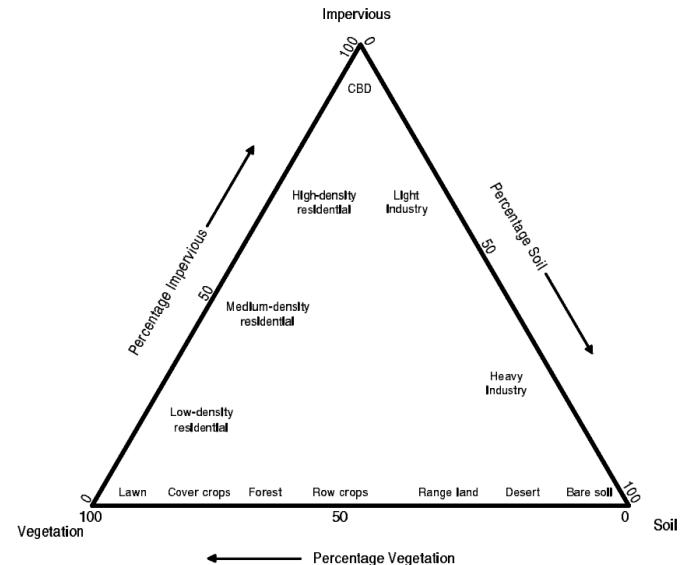


Figure 1. VIS—Vegetation–Impervious surface–Soil—model of Ridd (1995).

Source: Phinn et al. (2002) Monitoring the composition of urban environments based on the vegetation-impervious surface-soil (VIS) model by subpixel analysis techniques,

# Accuracy assessment

After producing and output we need to assign an accuracy value to it (common to machine learning).

In remote sensing we focus on:

- PA Producer accuracy (recall or true positive rate or sensitivity)
- UA User's accuracy (consumer's accuracy or precision or positive predictive value)
- OA the (overall) accuracy

		Actual			
		Class C	Not Class C		
Classified	Class C	TP 510	FP 228	UA 69.1%	CE 30.9%
	Not Class C	FN 111	TN 4624	NPV 97.7%	FOR 2.3%
		PA 82.1%	TNR 95.3%	OA 93.8%	
		OE 17.9%	FPR 4.7%		

Table 1. Binary confusion matrix (Example data are taken from Campbell, 1996)

Source: Barsi et al. 2018 Accuracy Dimensions in Remote Sensing

# Accuracy assessment 2

	Predicted: Abnormal	Predicted: Normal
Actual: Abnormal	True Positive	False Negative
Actual: Normal	False Positive	True Negative

Source:PICO

		Actual			
		Class C	Not Class C		
Classified	Class C	TP 510	FP 228	UA 69.1%	CE 30.9%
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Table 1. Binary confusion matrix (Example data are taken from Campbell, 1996)

Source:Barsi et al. 2018 Accuracy Dimensions in Remote Sensing

# Accuracy assessment 3

- **producer's accuracy** defined as the fraction of correctly classified pixels (TP) compared to ground truth data (TP+FN)  $\frac{TP}{TP+FN}$
- **user's accuracy** defined as the fraction of correctly classified pixels (TP) relative to all others classified as a particular land cover(TP+FP)  $\frac{TP}{TP+FP}$
- **overall accuracy** that represents the combined fraction of correctly classified pixels (TP +TN) across all land cover types (TP+FP+FN+TN)  $\frac{TP+TN}{TP+FP+FN+TN}$

		Actual			
		Class C	Not Class C		
Classified	Class C	TP 510	FP 228	UA 69.1%	CE 30.9%
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Table 1. Binary confusion matrix (Example data are taken from Campbell, 1996)

Source: [Barsi et al. 2018 Accuracy Dimensions in Remote Sensing](#)

# Accuracy assessment 4

## Example

	Expert Majority										
		Water	Trees	Grass	Flooded Vegetation	Crops	Shrub & Scrub	Built Area	Bare Ground	Snow/Ice	Precision/ User's:
Dynamic World	Water	7801513	49529	39511	187484	511166	59061	46461	197843	4178	87.70%
	Trees	127510	20225220	1280463	963384	2835774	3215029	293635	150630	8956	69.50%
	Grass	6465	135888	1415436	170294	1917310	405560	41812	151648	695	33.30%
	Flooded Veg.	54365	73337	56852	764482	133162	72474	6878	40949	6	63.60%
	Crops	23790	144438	261750	36363	10821384	707154	134486	328916	38	86.90%
	Shrub & Scrub	18649	1034643	551074	99947	1476117	4498630	157166	708463	32079	52.50%
	Built Area	11187	156117	57647	3935	666712	104009	6620303	82974	744	85.90%
	Bare Ground	178304	16203	40275	8835	400529	1022049	198274	2722023	48658	58.70%
	Snow & Ice	68319	199018	8656	550	59786	109192	14527	214993	1422556	67.80%
	Recall/Producer's:	94.10%	91.80%	38.10%	34.20%	57.50%	44.10%	88.10%	59.20%	93.70%	71.30%

**Table 8.** Confusion matrix of Dynamic World to Expert Majority, i.e. valid where, amongst labels, there was consensus or only one expert labeled (n = 78,916,422).

Source:Brown et al. 2022 Dynamic World, Near real-time global 10m land use land cover mapping ]

# Accuracy assessment 5

- Errors of omission (100-producer's accuracy)
  - Have been omitted from correct class
  - Type 1 error
  - Urban = 1/23, 4%
  - Urban producer = 22/23, 95.65%
- Errors of commission (100- user's accuracy)
  - Reference sites left out from classification
  - Urban = 9/31, 29%
  - Urban user = 7/31, 22.58%
- Kappa coefficient

		Reference Data			
		Water	Forest	Urban	Total
Classified Data	Water	21	6	0	27
	Forest	5	31	1	37
	Urban	7	2	22	31
	Total	33	39	23	95

Source:Earth Systems Science and Remote Sensing

# Accuracy assessment 6

Producer accuracy ...

i am pleased that 95.65 % of the urban area that was identified in the reference is urban in the classification

User accuracy ...

as a user i only find that only 22.58% of the time when i visit an urban area is it acutally urban

Overall accuracy is 77.89%

- is this acceptable for the user?
- there is no single right choice for accuracy measurements

		Reference Data			
		Water	Forest	Urban	Total
Classified Data	Water	21	6	0	27
	Forest	5	31	1	37
	Urban	7	2	22	31
	Total	33	39	23	95

Source:Earth Systems Science and Remote Sensing

- This can also be changed to a fuzzy matrix (e.g. Deciduous forest classified as evergreen forest - see Jensen p.575)

# Accuracy assessment 8

## To Kappa or not to Kappa?

- Designed to express the accuracy of an image compared to the results by chance
- Ranges from 0 to 1

"Sadly the calls to abandon the use of the kappa coefficient in accuracy assessment seem to have fallen on deaf ears. It may be that the kappa coefficient is still widely used because it has become ingrained in practice and there may be a sense of obligation to use it"

$$k = \frac{p_o - p_e}{1 - p_e}$$

$p_o$  is the proportion of cases correctly classified (accuracy)

$p_e$  expected cases correctly classified by chance (further equations in [Foody 2020](#))

Source:Explaining the unsuitability of the kappa coefficient in the assessment and comparison of the accuracy of thematic maps obtained by image classification. Foody 2020

# Kappa issues

- What is a good value?

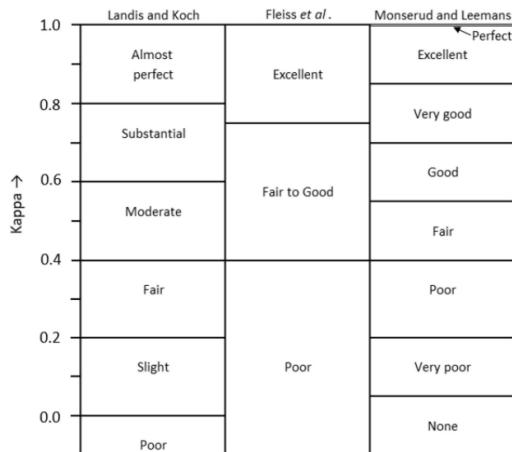


Fig. 3. Three scales for the interpretation of the kappa coefficient (adapted and updated from Czaplewski, 1994). The scales are those provided by Landis and Koch (1977, page 165); Fleiss et al. (2013, page 604) and Monserud and Leemans (1992, page 285). Note that the full scale of measurement does extend to -1 but the focus is usually on positive values only.

6

- How Kappa values can we have for different levels of accuracy (on x axis )

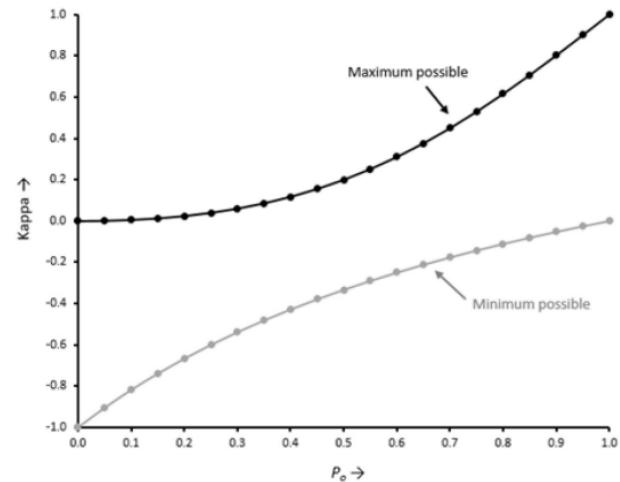


Fig. 4. Relationships between the maximum and minimum possible kappa coefficient with overall accuracy ( $p_o$ ).

Source:Explaining the unsuitability of the kappa coefficient in the assessment and comparison of the accuracy of thematic maps obtained by image classification. Foody 2020

# Have i used Kappa?

See Jensen page 570

In remote sensing this is typically where we'd stop...but not necessarily in machine learning

# A brief overview...

# Beyond remote sensing

Beyond traditional remote sensing accuracy assessment...

Problem with recall (Producer accuracy) vs Precision (User accuracy)

False positives (Producer) or false negatives (User) more important?

- model with high recall = true positives but some false positives (predicted urban but land cover that isn't urban)
- Model with high precision = (actual urban but predicted other landcover)
- See [MLU-explain](#) for an interactive example

	Predicted: Abnormal	Predicted: Normal
Actual: Abnormal	True Positive	False Negative
Actual: Normal	False Positive	True Negative

Source: [PICO](#)

		Actual			
		Class C	Not Class C		
Classified	Class C	TP 510	FP 228	UA 69.1%	CE 30.9%
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Table 1. Binary confusion matrix (Example data are taken from Campbell, 1996)

Source: [Barsi et al. 2018 Accuracy Dimensions in Remote Sensing](#)

# F1



The F1-Score (or F Measure) combines both recall (Producer accuracy) and Precision (User accuracy):

- $F1 = \frac{TP}{TP + \frac{1}{2} * (FP + FN)}$
- Value from 0 to 1, where 1 is better performance

Source:[MLU-EXPLAIN](#)

		Actual			
		Class C	Not Class C		
Classified	Class C	TP 510	FP 228	UA 69.1%	CE 30.9%
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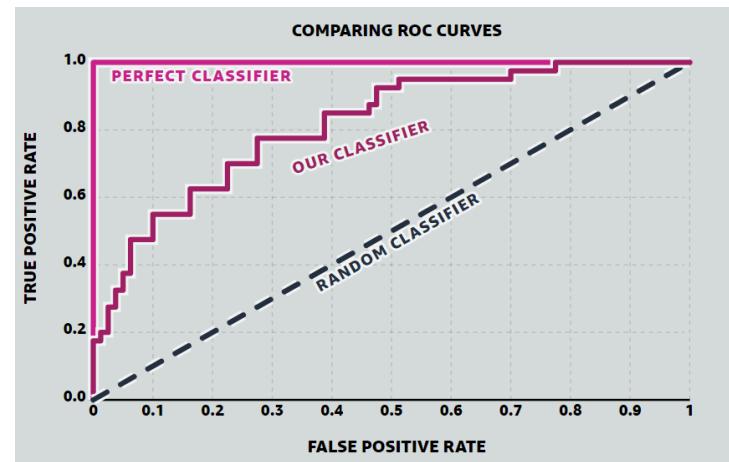
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# Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve

Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve (the ROC Curve)

- Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve (the ROC Curve)
- Originates from WW2, USA wanted to minimize noise from radar to identify (true positives) and not miss aircraft
- **Changing the threshold value of classifier** will change the True Positive rate
- Closer to 1 is what we want, below the random means the classifier is not any better than random.



Source:[MLU-EXPLAIN](#)

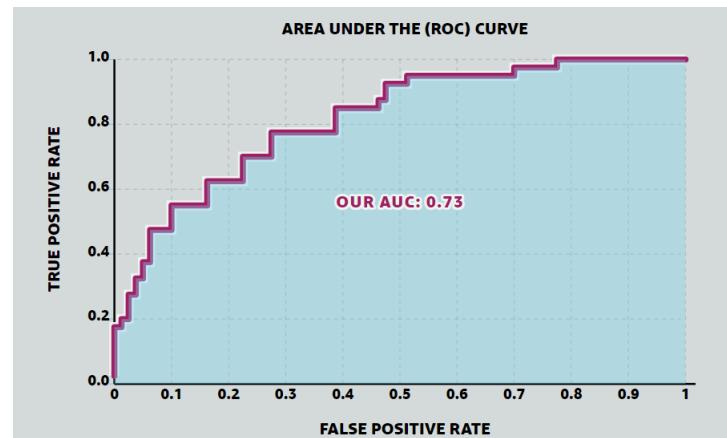
# Area Under the ROC Curve

## Area Under the ROC Curve (AUC, or AUROC)

- Simply the area under the curve
- Compare models easily (no need to look at the ROC curve)
- Perfect value will be 1, random will be 0.5

"The AUC is the probability that the model will rank a randomly chosen positive example more highly than a randomly chosen negative example..."

e.g. model always give positive from true negative = AUC 0



Source:[MLU-EXPLAIN](#)

How to we get test data for the accuracy assessment?

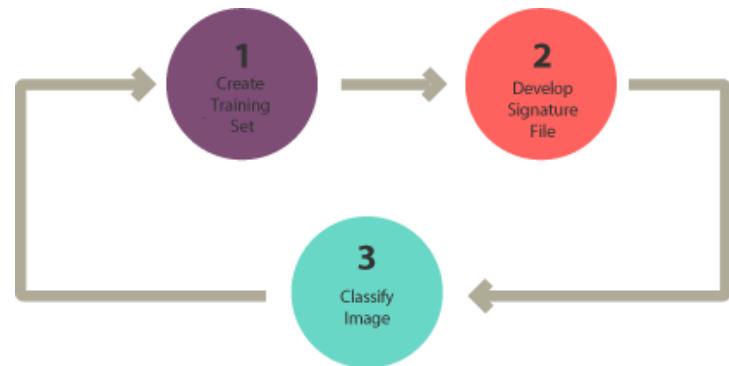
# Remote sensing approach (sometimes)

Same process for all:

- class definition
- pre-processing
- training
- pixel assignment
- accuracy assessment

## Guidelines

- Collect training data - suggested as around 250 pixels per class (Foody and Mather, 2006)
- Simply go and collect (or use Google Earth) ground truth data - 50 per class (Congalton, 2001).
- Produce an error matrix



Source: [GIS Geography](#)

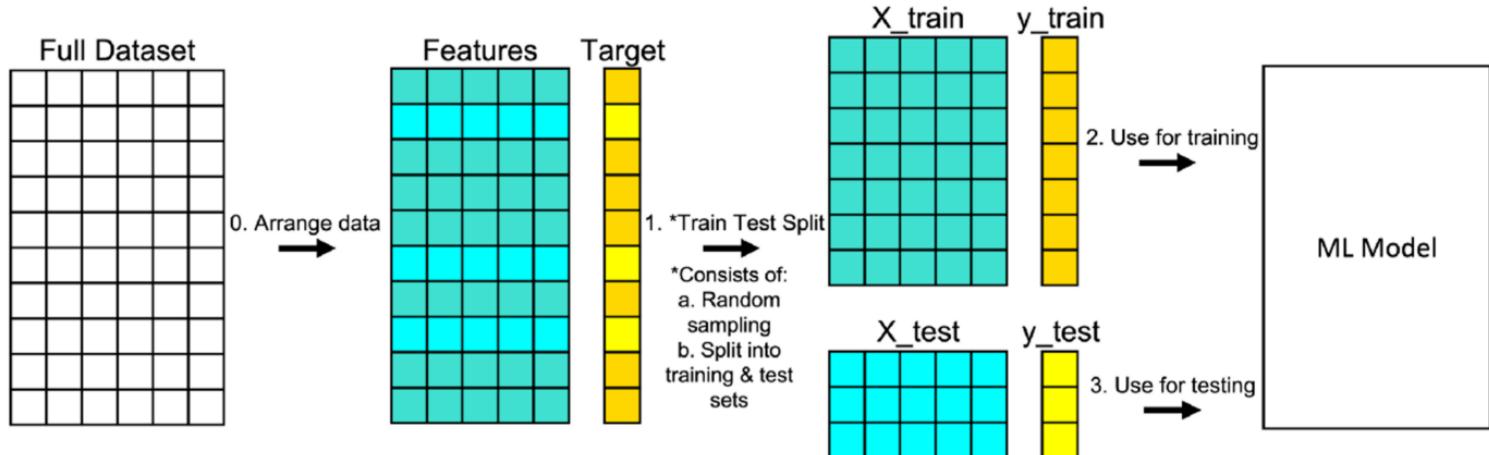
- You would need to consider a **sampling strategy**
  - Random sampling
  - Systematic sampling
  - Stratified sampling
  - Jensen p. 565

# Problems?

Chapter 13 in Jensen (p.557) cover accuracy assessment...but not the following

# Good approach - train and test split

- This is simply holding back a % of the original data used to train the model to then test it at the end
- See the validation section (10.6.7) for an example in linear regression



Source: Michael Galarnyk

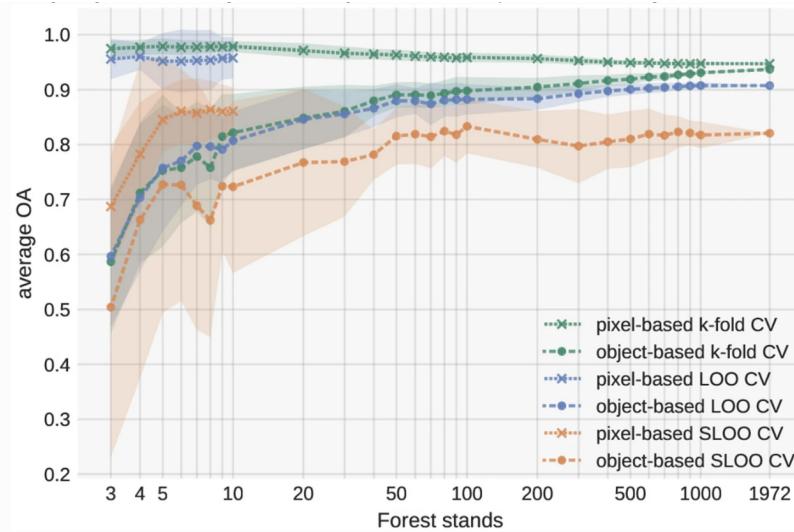
BUT... "Spatial autocorrelation between training  
and test sets"

Remember spatial autocorrelation?

A measure of similarity between nearby data...

# Spatial dependence....

Karasiak et al. 2022, Spatial dependence between training and test sets: another pitfall of classification accuracy assessment in remote sensing



Average overall accuracy based on the RF classifier for each cross-validation strategy (k-fold CV, LOO CV, SLOO CV) at pixel and object levels. Models were fitted with reference samples of Héault-34 and repeated 10 times (i.e. the y-axis provides the average OA value  $\pm$  standard deviation). The premature stopping of the pixel-based LOO and SLOO CV approaches was due to excessive computational time  
Source: Karasiak et al. 2022

- (1) a k-fold cross-validation (k-fold-CV) based on random splitting
- (2) a non-spatial leave-one-out cross-validation (LOO CV)
- (3) a spatial leave-one-out cross-validation (SLOO CV) using a distance-based buffer relying on Moran's I statistics.

Why do the objects perform better than the pixels?

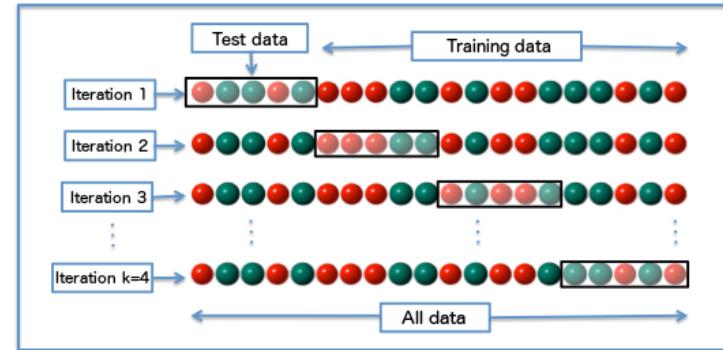
# Best approach - cross validation

Really classification of imagery is a machine learning task...

..So why can't we apply the same methods?

Perhaps as it is meant to be iterative...

...e.g. the classifier underpredicts urban then you can go and adjust the training data...



Source: [Wikipedia](#)

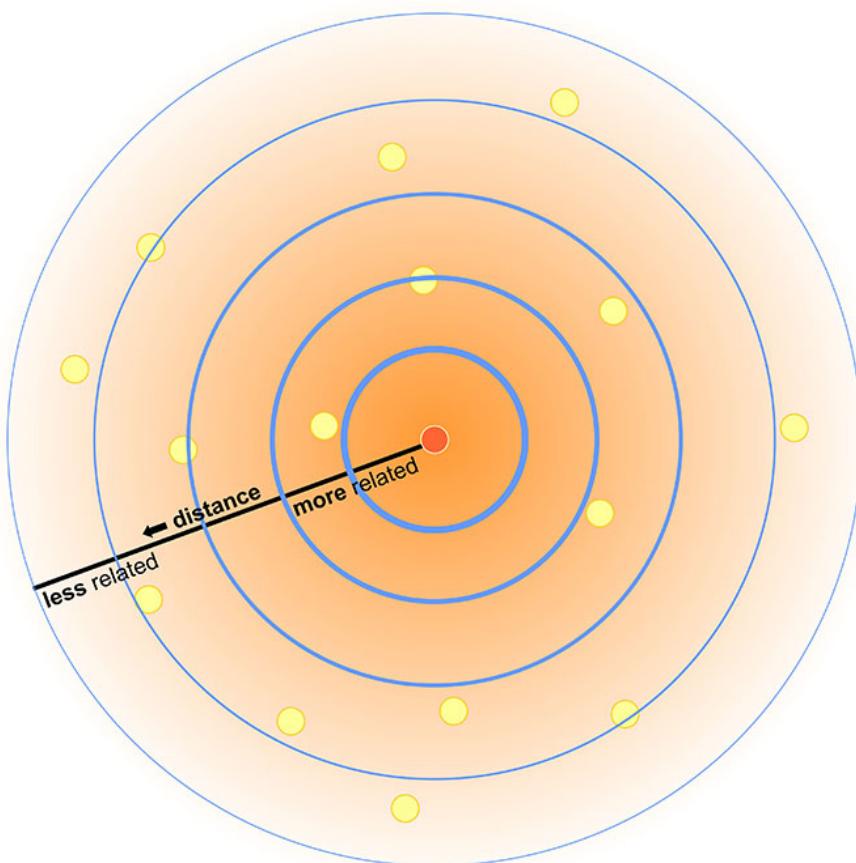
# Best approach - cross validation 2

Waldo Tobler's first Law of Geography...

"everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things."

- Are training and testing points too close in geographic space?
- How can we deal with taking a sample of training data for testing when they are possibly from the same polygon of training data...
  - 'Training' observations near the 'test' observations can provide a kind of 'sneak preview': information that should be unavailable to the training dataset.

Source:Lovelace et al. 2022

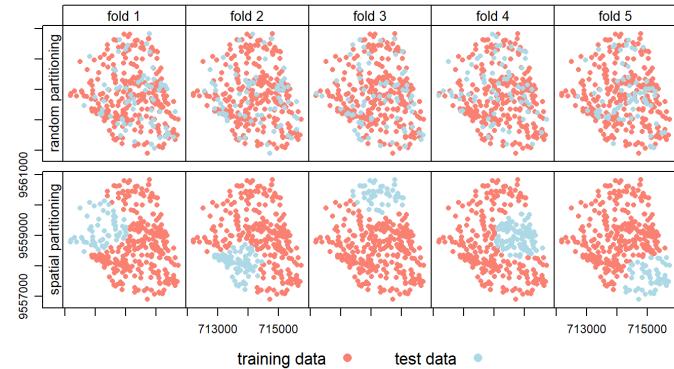


Source:Spatial is Special

# Spatial cross validation

# Spatial cross validation 2

- spatially partition the folded data
- disjoint using k -means clustering
- same as cross validation but with clustering to the folds...



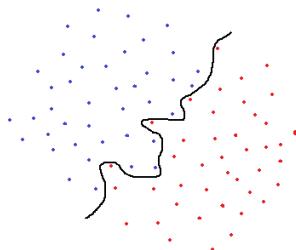
Spatial visualization of selected test and training observations for cross-validation of one repetition. Random (upper row) and spatial partitioning (lower row). Source: [Lovelace et al. 2022](#)

# Spatial cross validation 3

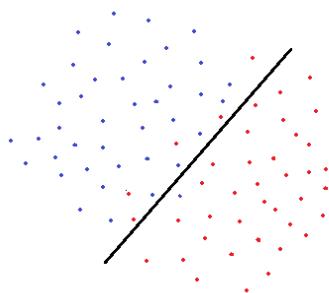
Lovelace et al. (2022) use a Support Vector Machine classifier that requires hyperparameters (set before the classification)

Standard SVM then the classifier will try to **overfit** = perfect for the current data but useless for anything else...

Cortes and Vapnik - **soft margin**, permit classifications = controlled with **C**



Source:Soner Yildirim



Source:Soner Yildirim

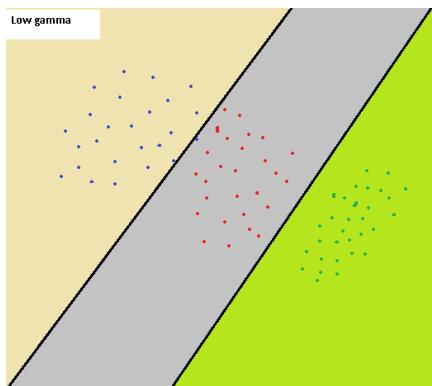
- **C** = adds penalty (proportional to distance from decision line) for each classified point. Small = image on right, large = image on left

Source:Soner Yildirim

# Spatial cross validation 4

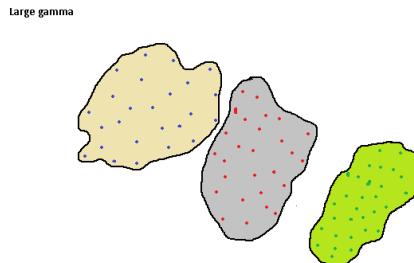
Lovelace et al. (2022) use a Support Vector Machine classifier that requires hyperparameters (set before the classification)

- **Gamma (or also called Sigma)** = controls the influence of a training point within the classified data
  - low = big radius and many points in same group
  - high = low radius and many groups



Source:Soner Yildirim

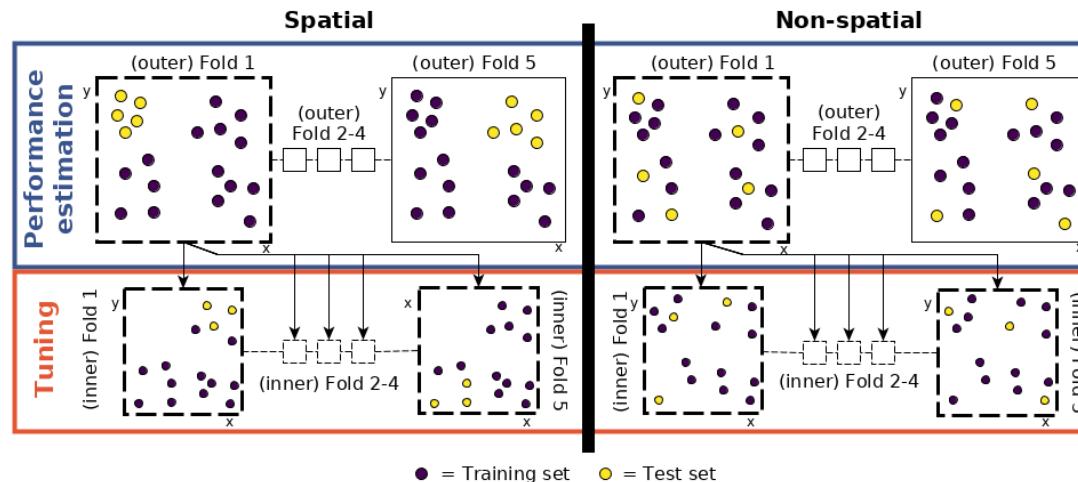
Source:Soner Yildirim



Source:Soner Yildirim

# Spatial cross validation 5

- **Performance level** each spatial fold (taken from our first k-means cross validation fold division). = Top row below
- **Tuning level** each fold (outer) is then divided into 5 again (inner fold).= Bottom row below
- **Performance estimation** we fit 50 models with random C and Gamma use the best values to outer fold = AUROC



Schematic of hyperparameter tuning and performance estimation levels in CV. (Figure was taken from Schratz et al. (2019)..  
Source:Lovelace et al. 2022

# Spatial cross validation 6

Here we have...

- 1 outer fold has 5 inner folds with 50 models = 250 models for **C** and **Gamma**

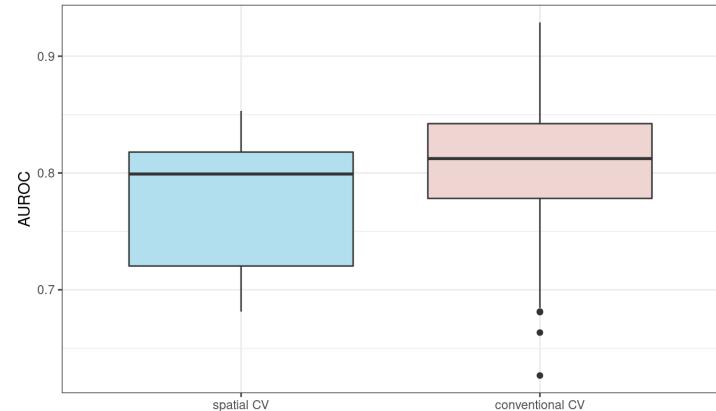
It's 5 (outer fold)

- Each repetition = 1,250 ( $250 * 5$ )

It's 100 times repeated (5 fold cross validation)

- 125,000 models for best hyperparameters

So .... what



Boxplot showing the difference in GLM AUROC values on spatial and conventional 100-repeated 5-fold cross-validation.  
Source: [Lovelace et al. 2022](#)

Question: What happens if a classification model doesn't consider spatial autocorrelation ?

Question: What methods can we use to deal with it?

# Summary

- How should we consider / process EO data, **objects, pixels, mixels (mixed pixel), mixed objects** ?
- What **data should we use assess the accuracy** of our classification models
  - New dataset to test the output with
  - Train / split the training data
  - Cross validation
- When we have a test dataset **how do we assess the accuracy**
  - Error matrix
  - Kappa
- When training and testing our classification models do we need to **consider spatial autocorrelation?** Do the following help
  - Object based image analysis
  - Spatial cross validation

# Task

For the individual assignment of the module you are required to produce a online portfolio of independent study and response questions.

For the task this week you need to:

- Select two academic or policy papers / policy targets that have performed some form of classification on earth observation data. In a maximum of three paragraphs:
  - Briefly state what classification method was used
  - Outline how accuracy was assessed
  - Critically reflect on if it was the best approach to assess the accuracy within that paper and (if necessary) explain and justify possible improvements
  - **Note**, it is fine to consider papers/policies may have included a classified product as part of another model such as we saw in lecture 4.

# Reading

## Land Use Cover Datasets and Validation Tools

<https://doodles.mountainmath.ca/blog/2019/10/07/spatial-autocorrelation-co/>

<https://geocompr.robinlovelace.net/spatial-cv.html>

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10994-021-05972-1>

<https://geocompr.robinlovelace.net/spatial-cv.html>

[https://machinelearningmastery.com/loocv-for-evaluating-machine-learning-algorithms/#:~:text=fold%20Cross%2DValidation,Leave%2Done%2Dout%20cross%2Dvalidation%2C%](https://machinelearningmastery.com/loocv-for-evaluating-machine-learning-algorithms/#:~:text=fold%20Cross%2DValidation,Leave%2Done%2Dout%20cross%2Dvalidation%2C%20)

<https://machinelearningmastery.com/k-fold-cross-validation/>

