

# Deep Learning for Flood Monitoring Challenges

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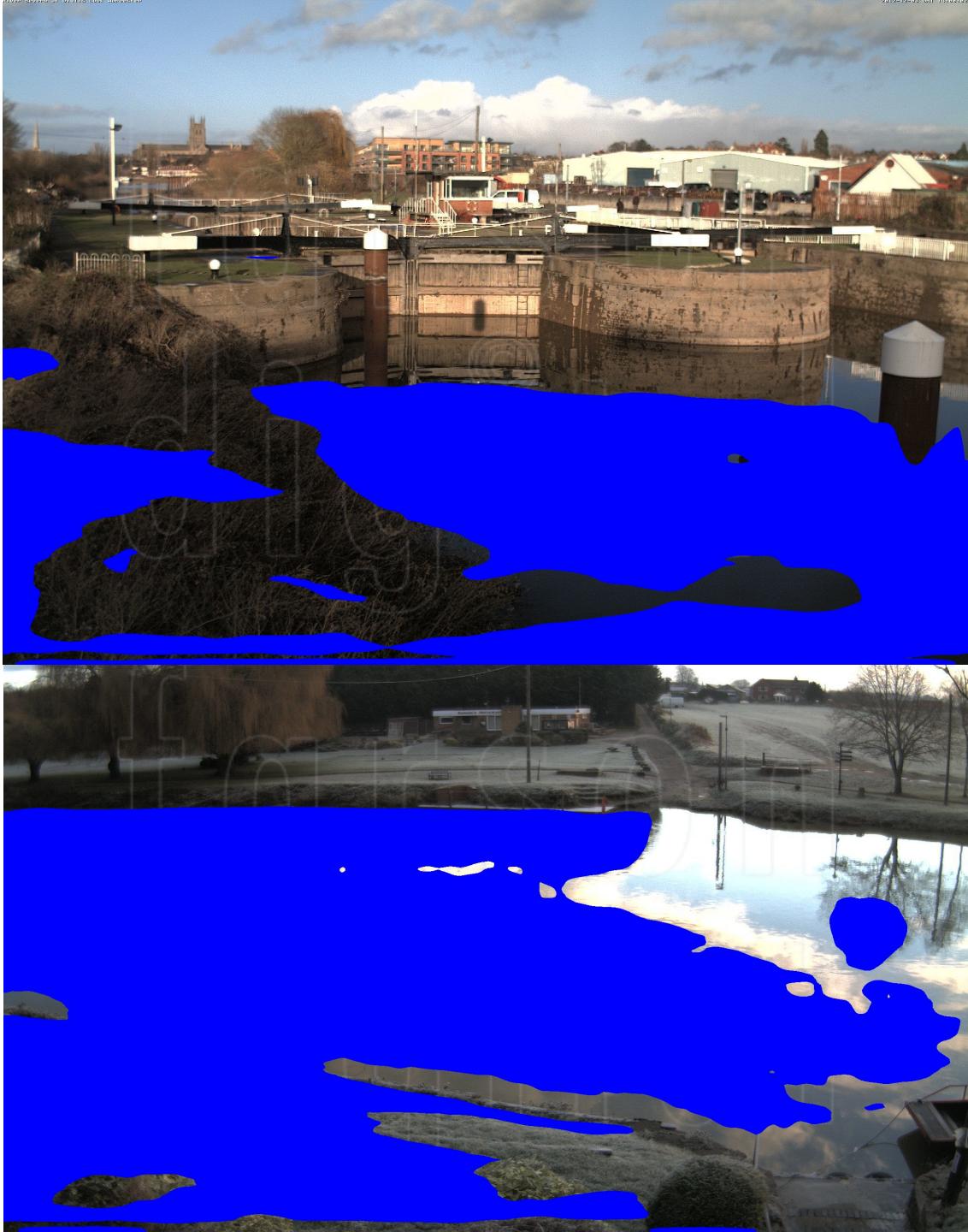
*and collaborators*

Remy Vandaele and Sarah L. Dance, University of Reading

at

Department of Computer Science, Durham University

01 Nov 2023



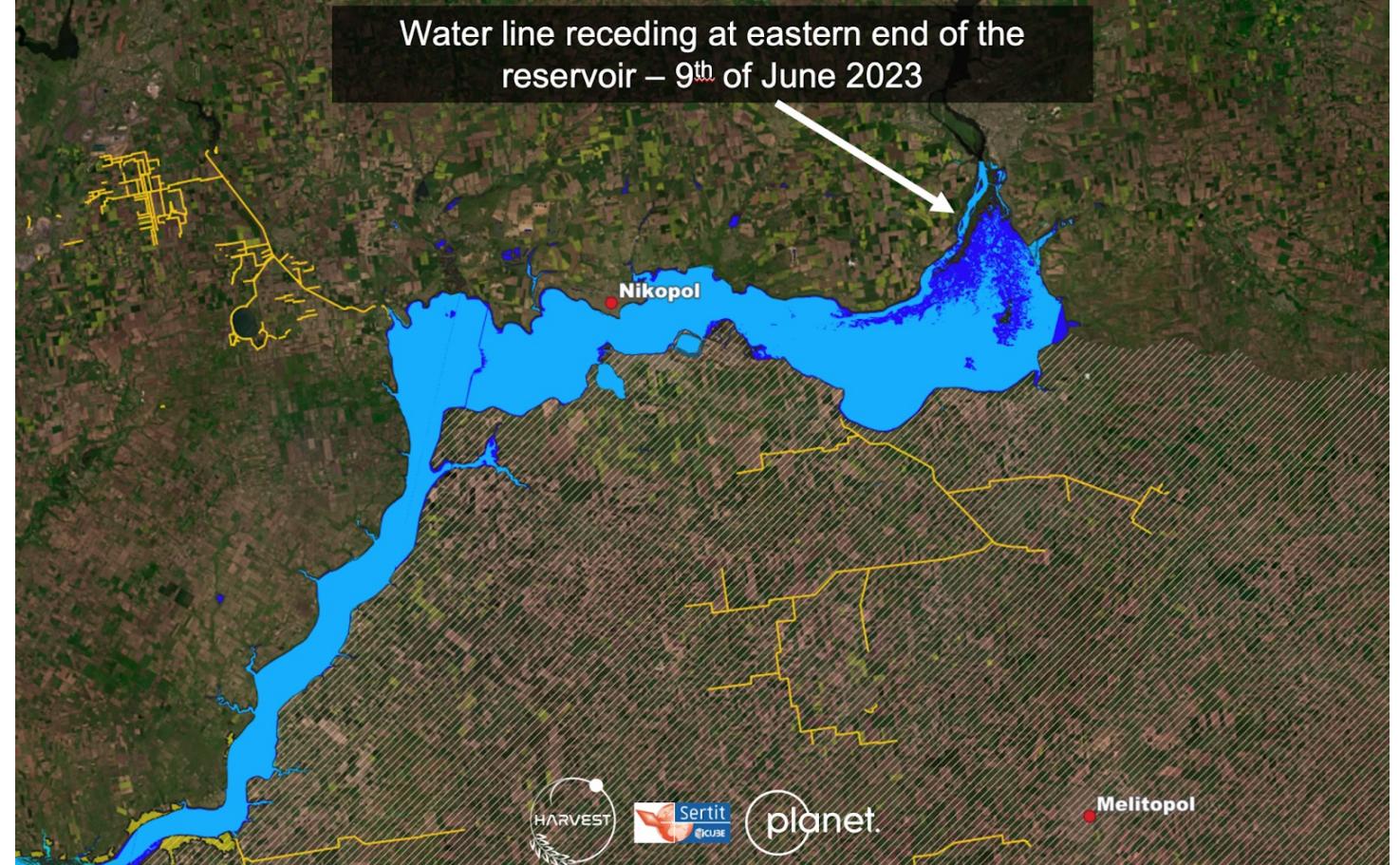
## Part 1

**river water level monitoring**

# How we currently monitor river water level

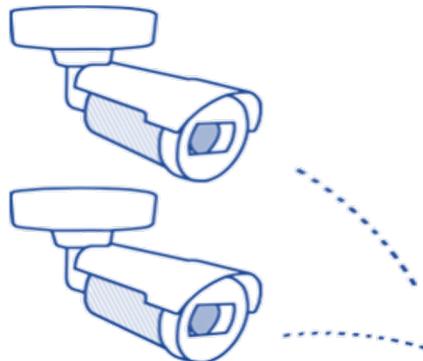


Use of river gauge



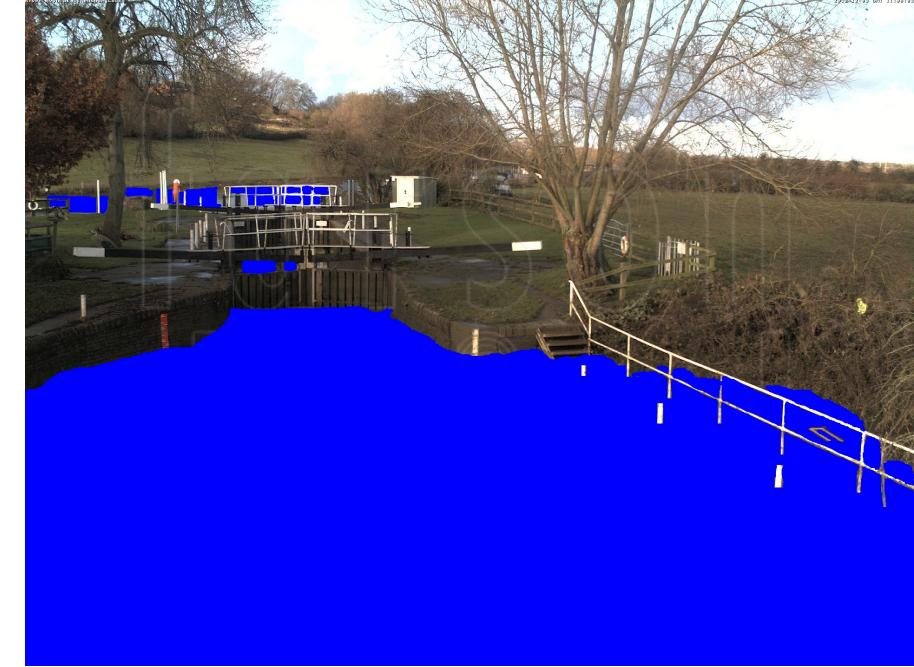
Use of satellite images

# Our approach: use of river cameras



We could use CCTV camera

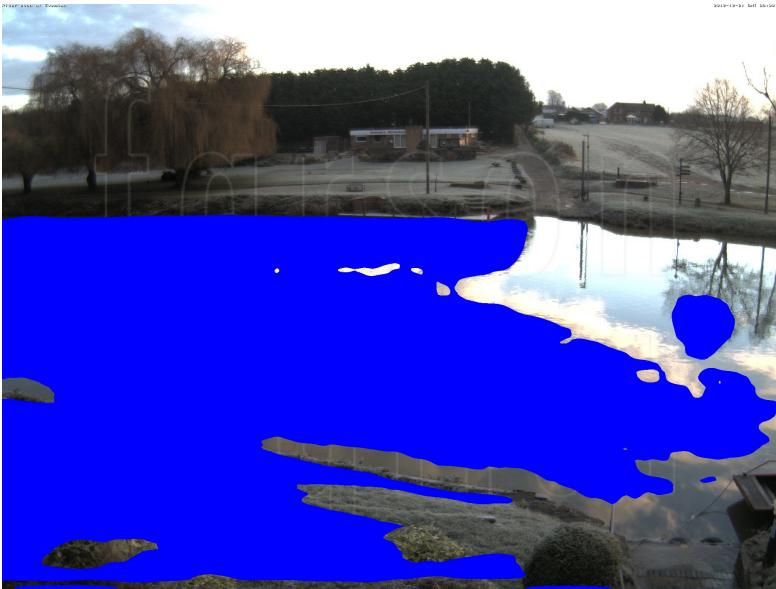
# Deep Learning for water level estimation



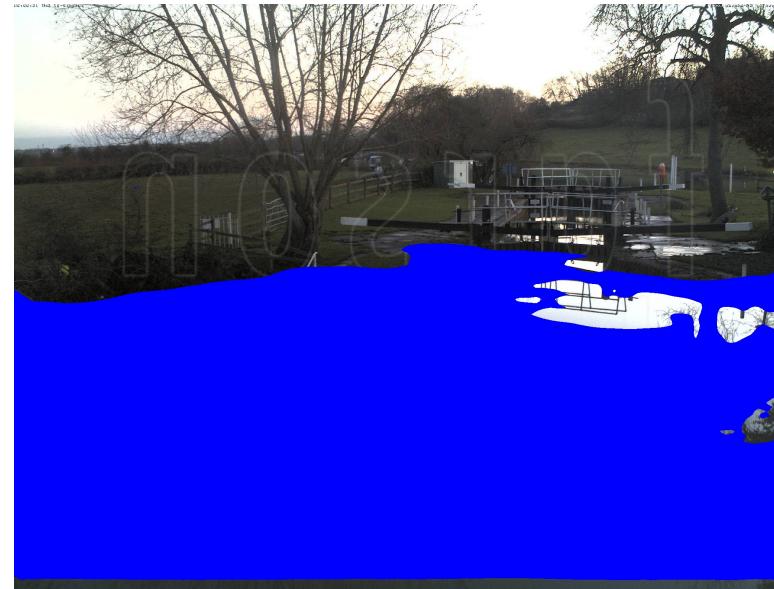
Pixel-wise water segmentation of RGB images for river water-level or flood monitoring

# Water semantic segmentation

Challenges with current state of the art water segmentation networks



Water reflection



Varied weather and varied field of view



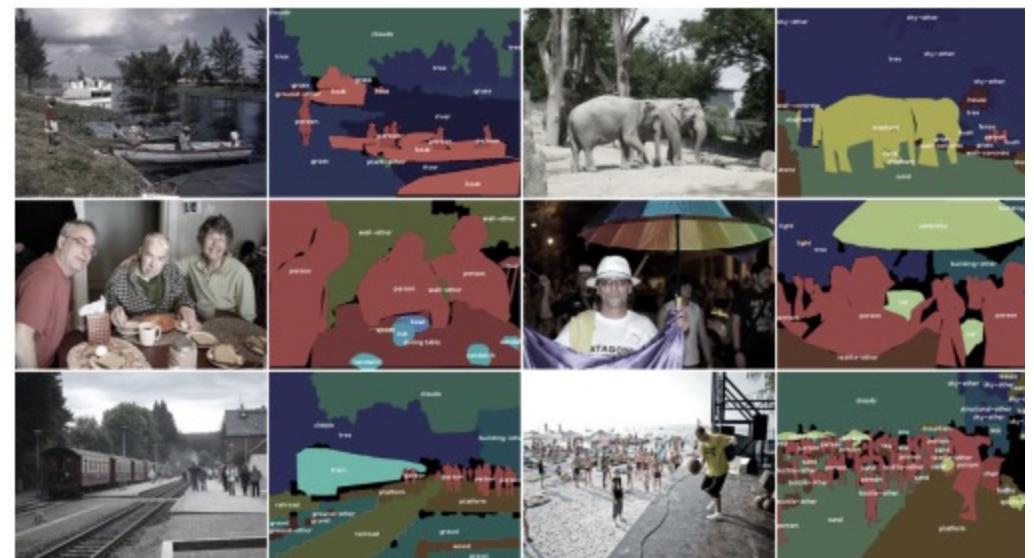
Shadows and vegetation

And very few to no labelled dataset

# We can use transfer learning



ADE20k samples

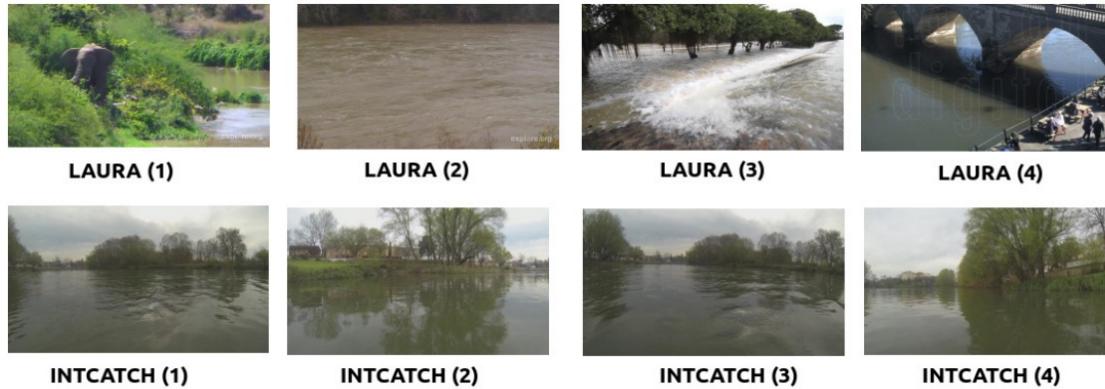


COCO-stuff samples

Use transfer learning to harness the predictive power of segmentation networks  
trained on large databases of natural images

# Automated water segmentation

Fine-tuning over the smaller water segmentation datasets.



Dataset 1: 75 water-segmented images dataset from Lopez-Fuentez et al., 2017

Dataset 2: 39 water-segmented images dataset from Steccanella et al., 2018

	LAURA data	INTCATCH data
State of the art*	90.2	97.5
Pre-trained	95.5	98.8
Fine-tuning (External data)	96.5	99.5
Fine-tuning (COCO/ADE20k water data)	96.9	99.5

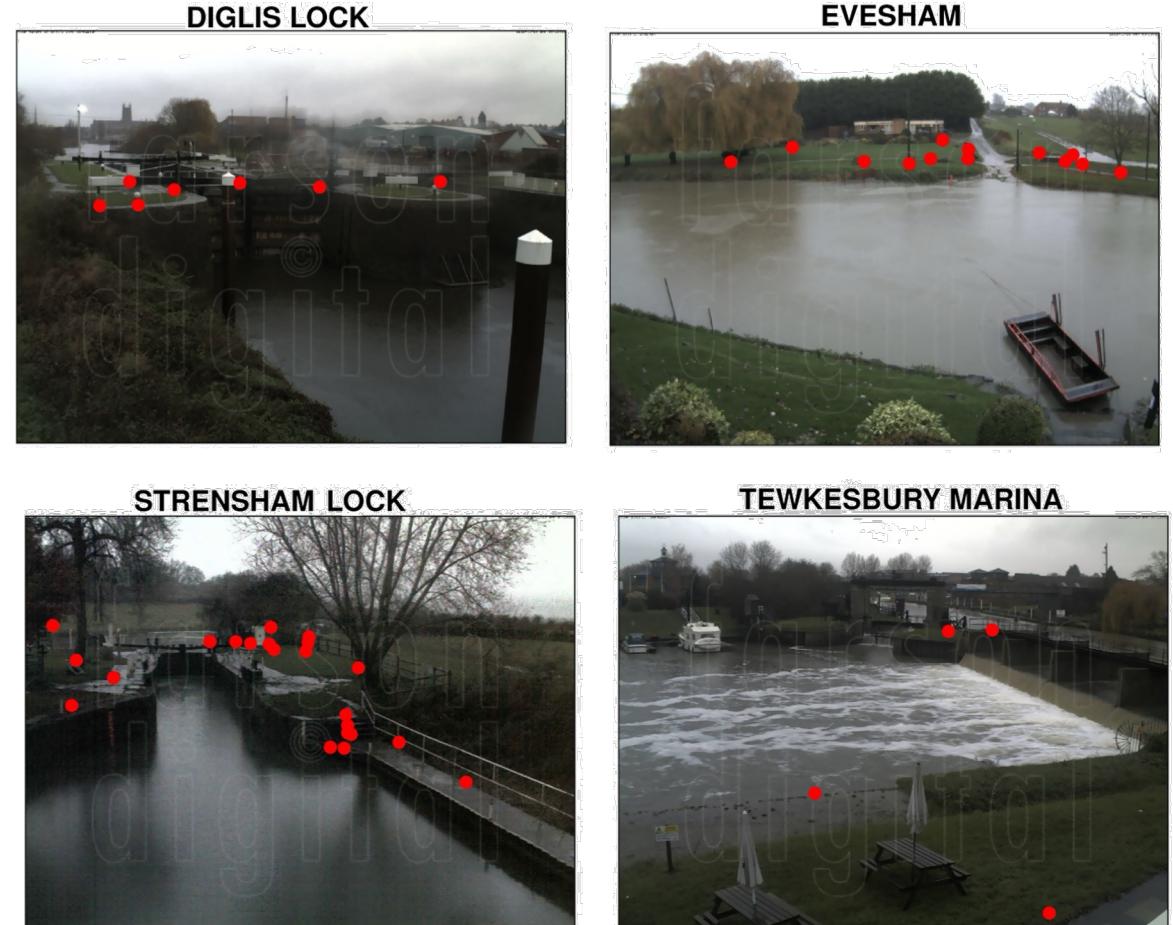
Fine tuning of only water-annotated images of the large datasets



\* ResNet50 with UpperNet decoder on COCO stuff and DeepLab (V2) on ADE20k data

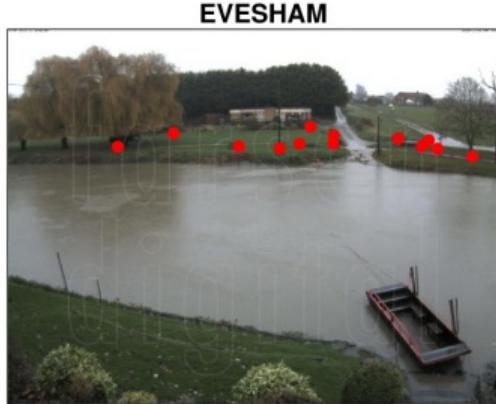
# Flood monitoring

Flood Prediction using Deep Convolutional Neural Network



Customized dataset: Landmark annotation of waterline

# River water level detection

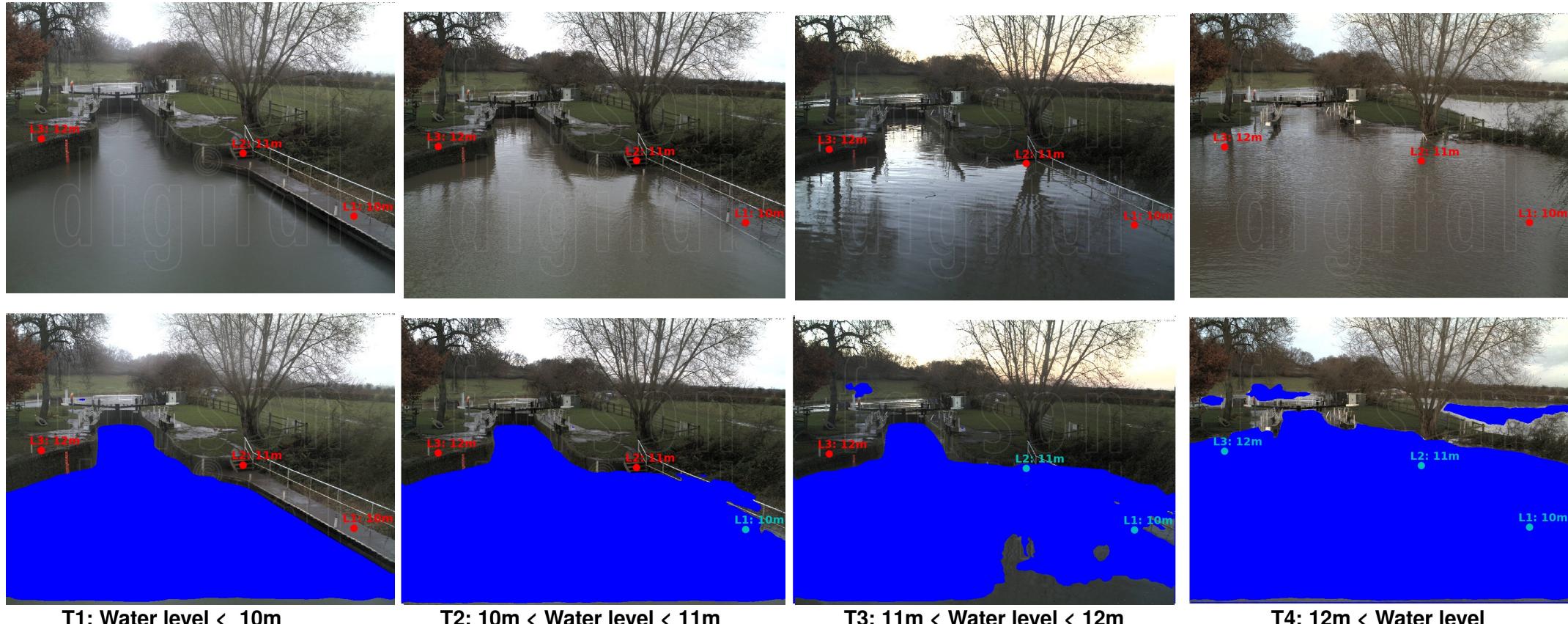


Method	Accuracy on River Camera data
Pre-trained	87.4
Fine-tuning (COCO/ADE20k water data)	91.3

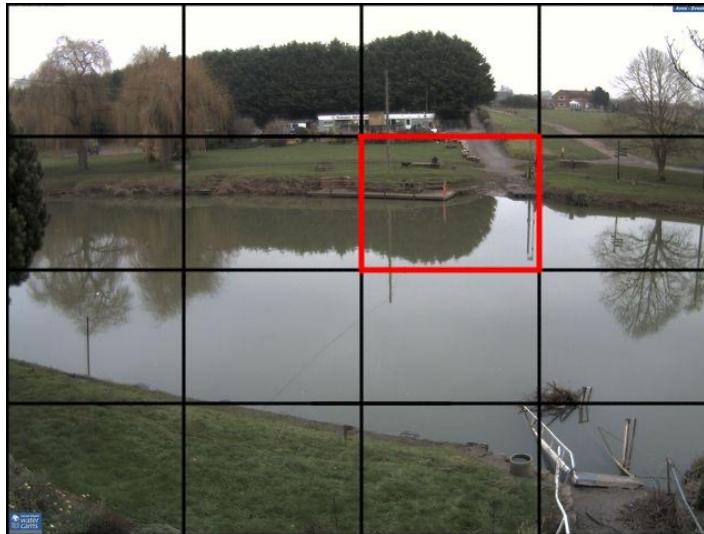
## Flood Monitoring

# Automated flood monitoring

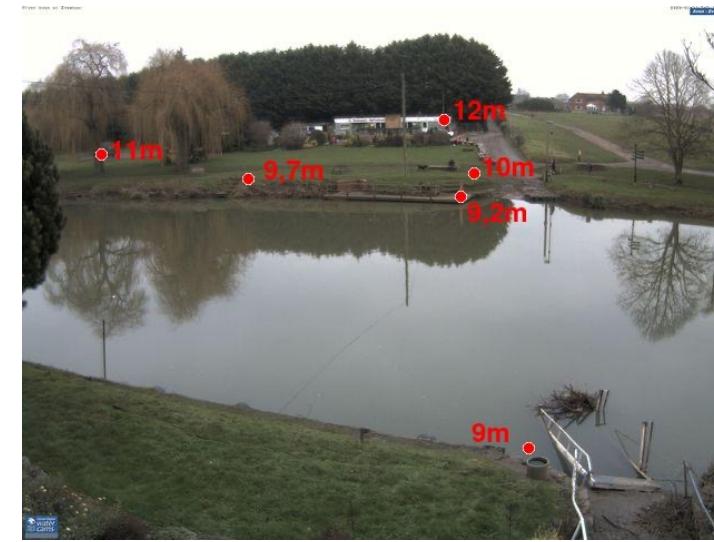
Time-series sequence of images of river.



# Flood monitoring using % pixels flooded



Static observer flooding index  
**(SOFI) index:** % of water pixels in a region of the image flooded



**Water level index:** height of the highest landmark reached by water

# Extraction of river level data (of 2 weeks image streams)

**Test set.** 4 Cameras captured images during a 2-week flood event in 2012:

Camera name	# images	# landmarks	% flooded landmarks
Diglis Lock	141	7	24.11
Evesham Lock	134	13	30.94
Strensham Lock	144	24	37.15
Tewkesbury Marina	138	4	43.66

# Extraction of river level data

*Blance Accuracy*

$$= 0.5 \frac{TP}{TP + TN} + 0.5 \frac{FP}{FP + FN}$$

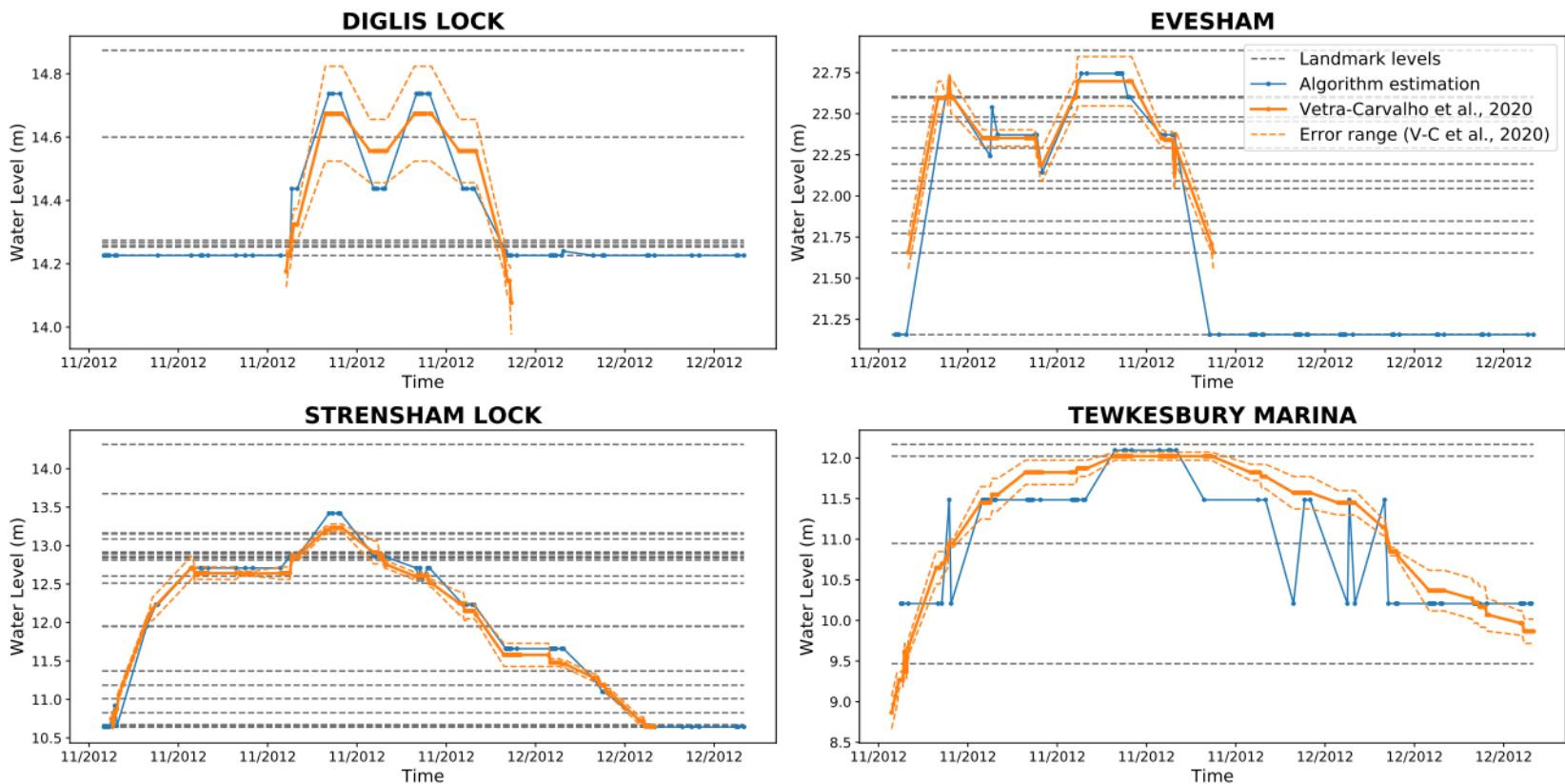
where

**TP** pixels flooded predicted as flooded

**TN** pixels unflooded predicted as unflooded

**FP** pixels unflooded predicted as flooded

**FN** pixels flooded predicted as unflooded



Diglis  
Lock

**0.94**

Evesham  
Lock

**0.98**

Strensham  
Lock

**0.94**

Tewkesbury  
Marina

**0.97**

# Extraction of river level data (of 1 year image streams)

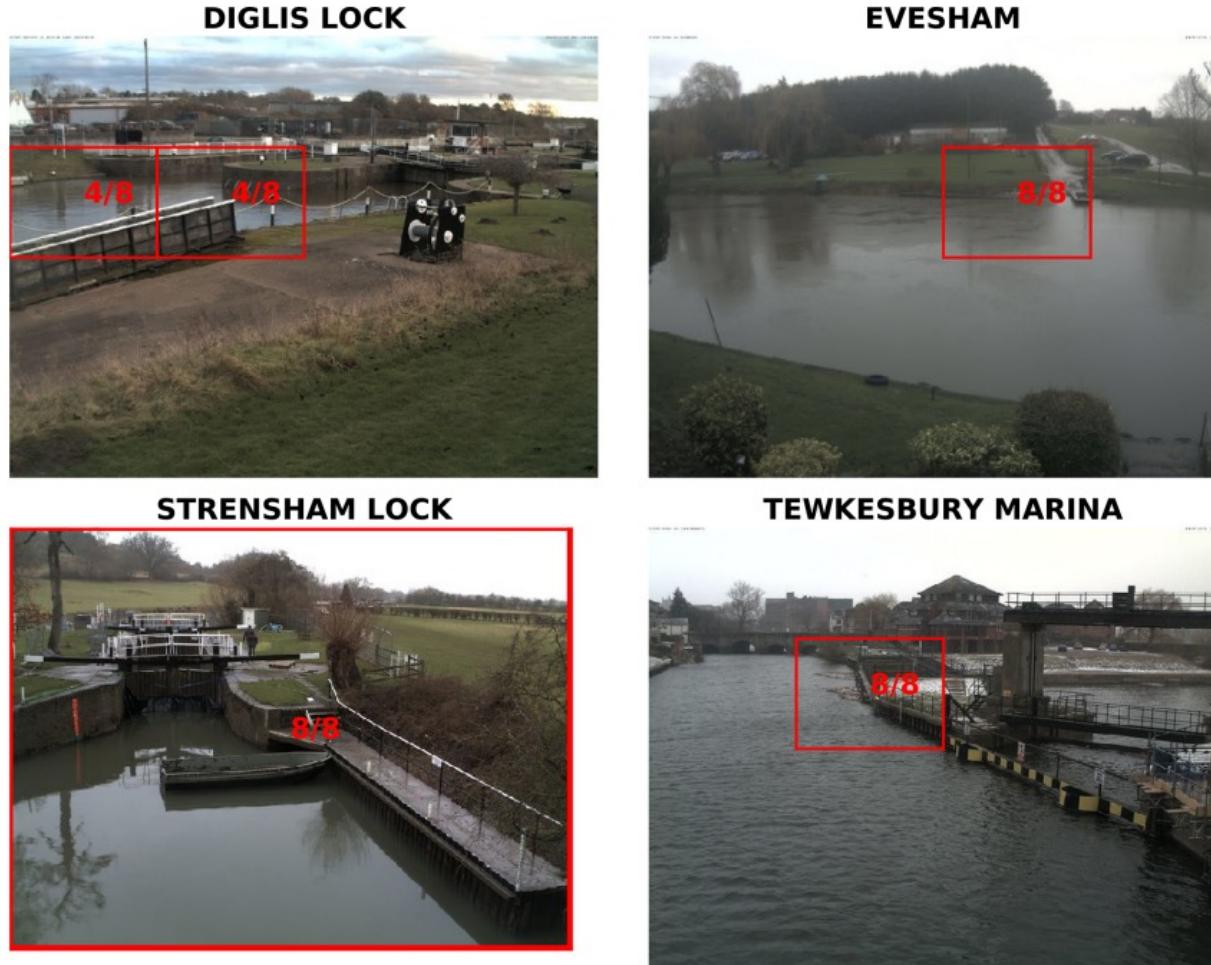
**Test set.** 4 Cameras captured images between 01/06/2019 and 31/05/2020, annotated with gauge data:

Camera name	# images	Distance to gauge station (m)
Diglis Lock	3081	94
Evesham Lock	3012	120
Strensham Lock	3067	820
Tewkesbury Marina	3147	1112

# Extraction of river level data (1 Year)

16

SOFI index/Water level estimation from the window selected by majority voting from 8 trained nets that offers best correlation

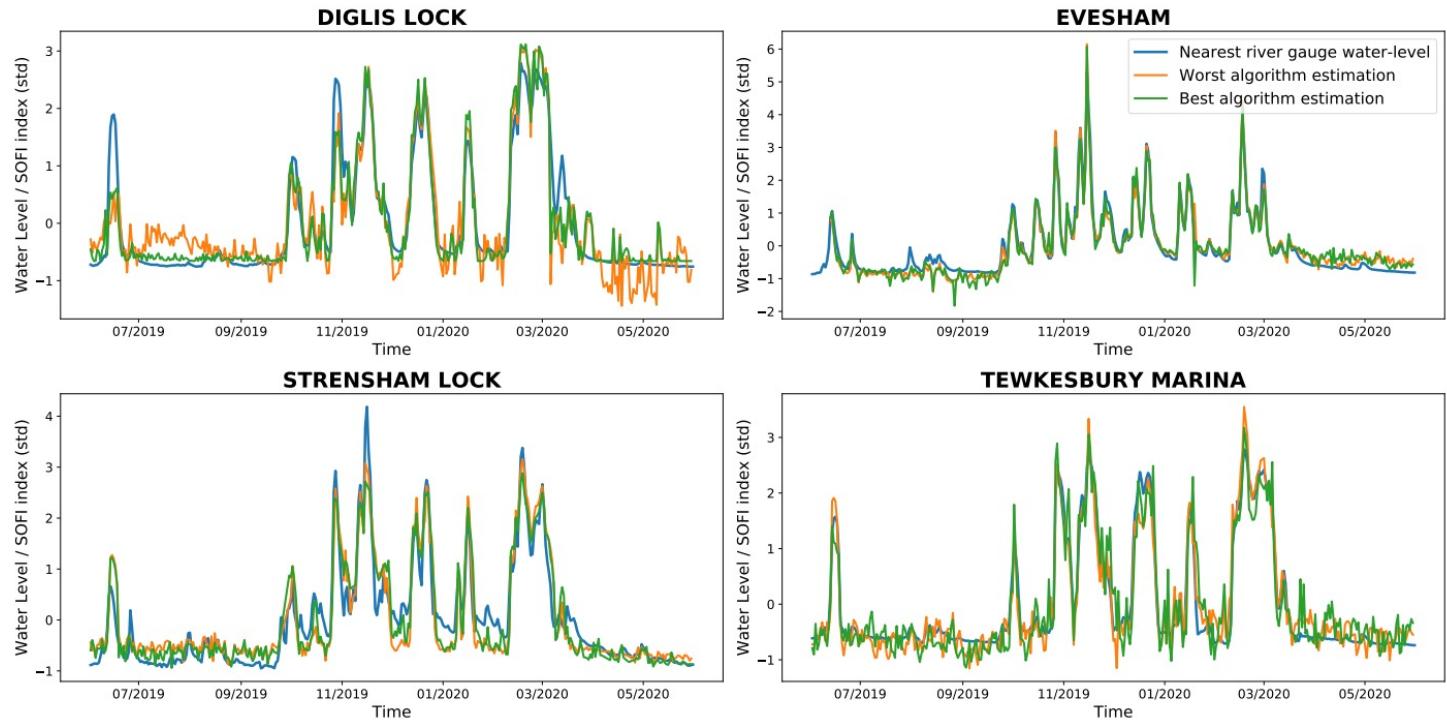


# Extraction of river level data

*Correaltion*

$$= \frac{\sum_i^N (w_i - \bar{w})(g_i - \bar{g})}{\sqrt{\sum_i^N (w_i - \bar{w})^2 (g_i - \bar{g})^2}}$$

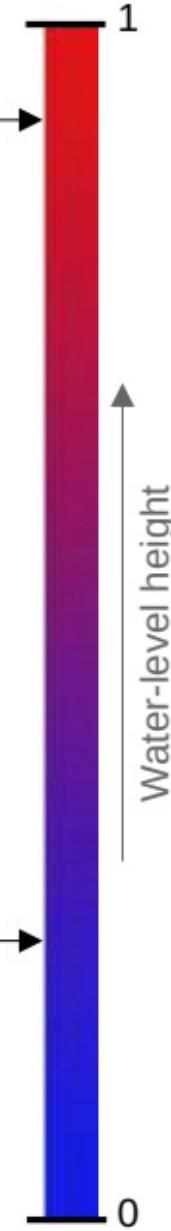
where  $w_i$  is the gauge water level,  
 $g_i$  the estimated water level.



	Diglis Lock	Evesham Lock	Strensham Lock	Tewkesbury Marina
<i>Correlation</i>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.97</b>

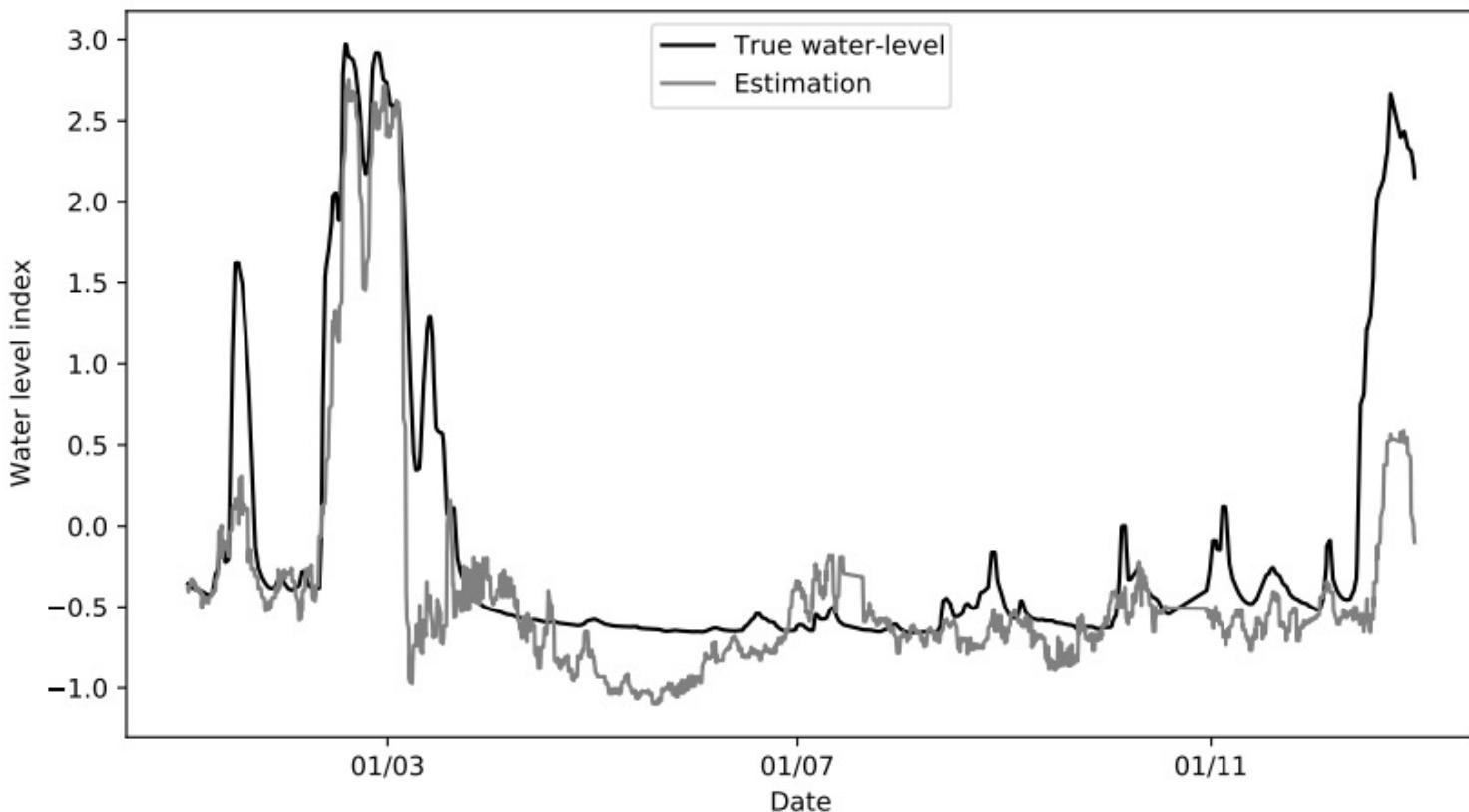
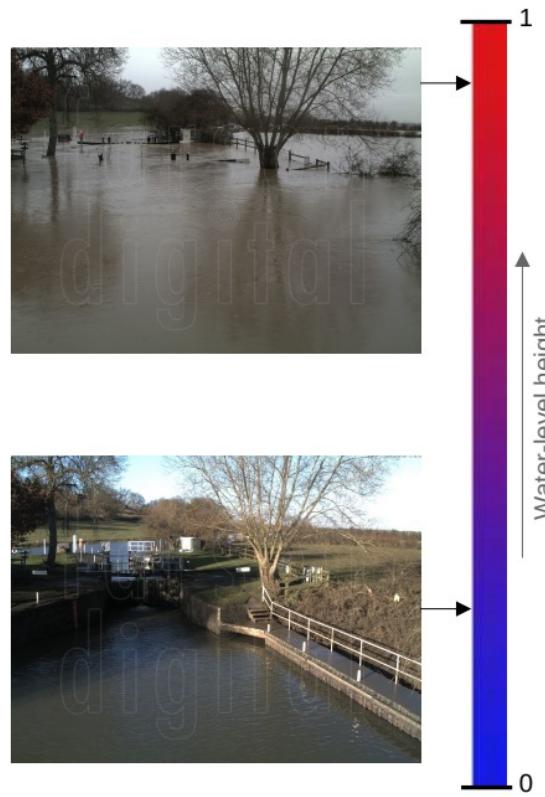
# Image Regression

- Creation of a large dataset of 32,715 images annotated with river levels:
  - Matching of a camera with a river gauge (closest gauge > 50km)
  - Matching of an image with a gauge measurement
  - 95 camera locations across UK and Northern Ireland consist of **32,715 images**



# Image Regression: Estimation

Training of a deep regression network on this dataset to estimate the calibrated river level

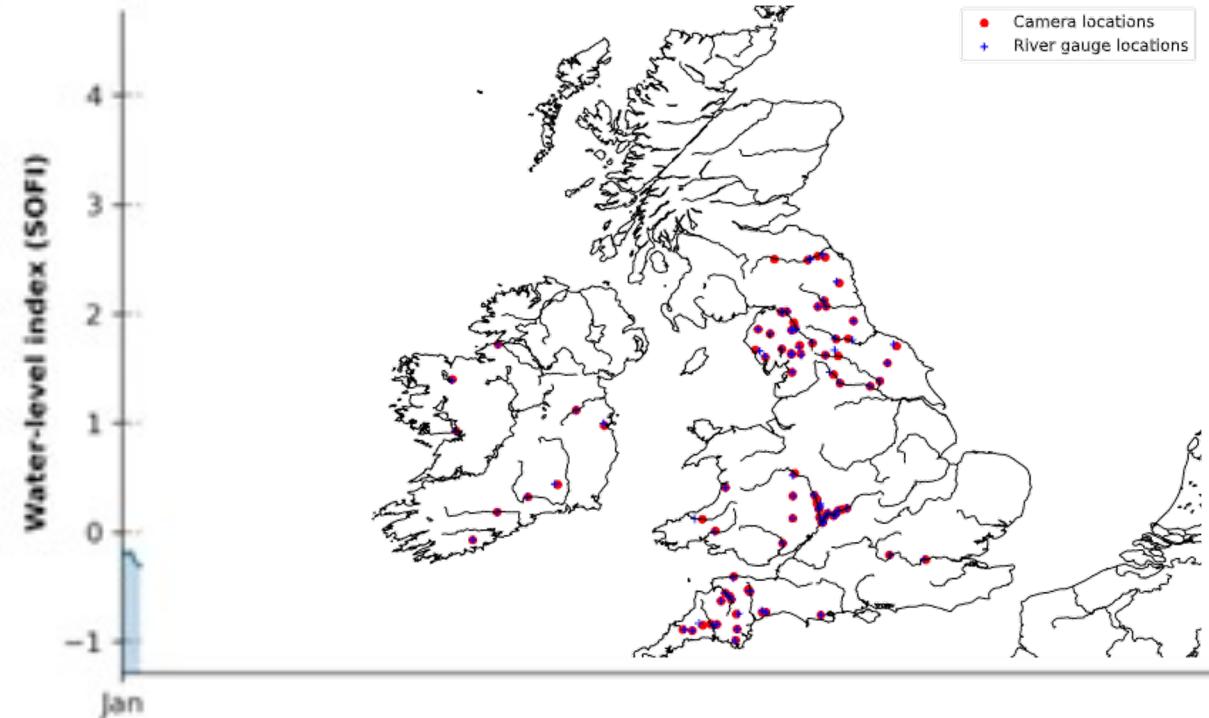


# Flood tracking

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Vandaele, Dance, and Ojha, (2021) *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*

Evesham Lock, 2020-01-07 10:00:00

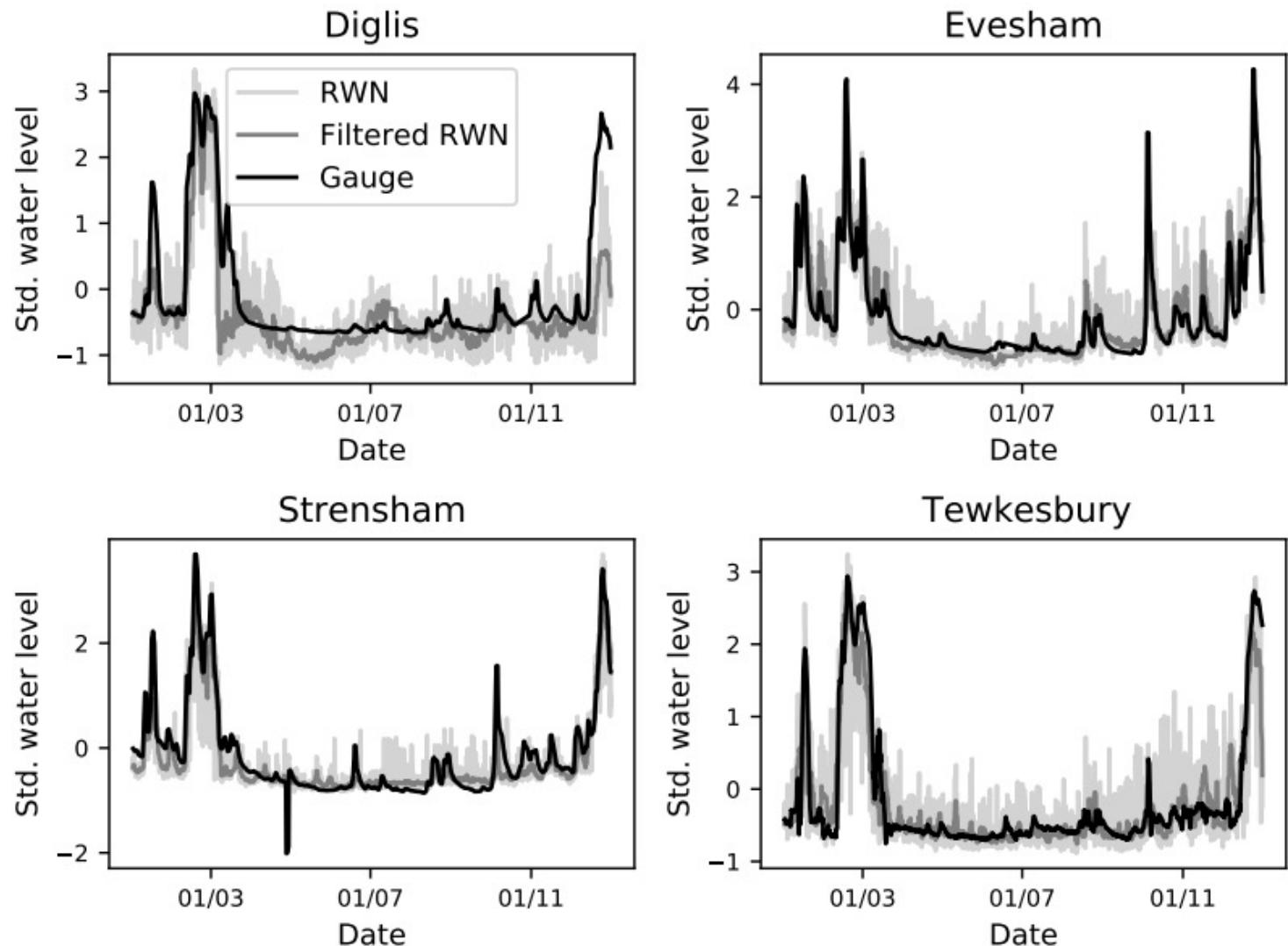


We achieve 94% accuracy in correctly predicting real flood events.

Video Credit: Remy Vandaele

# Image regression

Correlation between actual and estimation	
Diglis Lock	<b>0.8</b>
Evesham Lock	<b>0.94</b>
Strensham Lock	<b>0.87</b>
Tewkesbury Marina	<b>0.86</b>

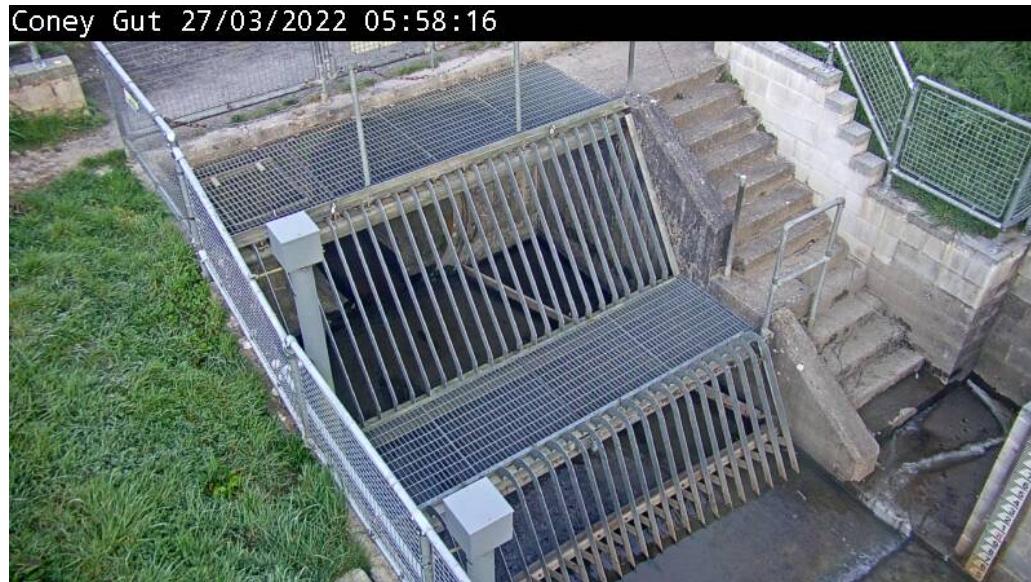


## Part 2

**trash screen monitoring**

# Trash screen monitoring

Trash screens prevent debris from entering critical parts of river networks but debris buildup can lead to floods  
Clean trash screen Blocked trash screen



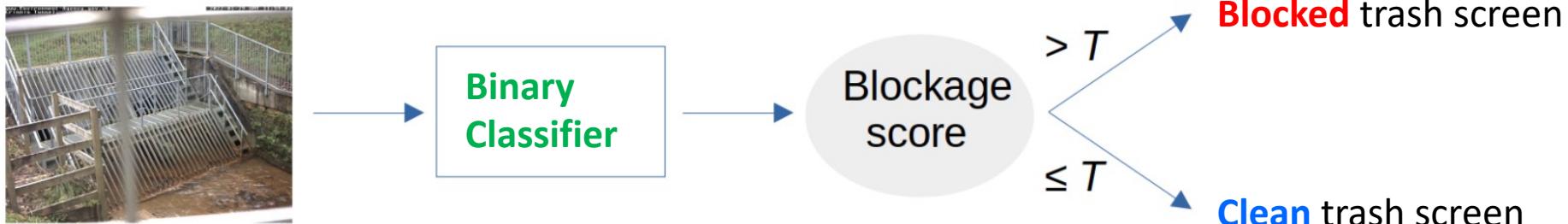
**Clean** trash screen



**Blocked** trash screen

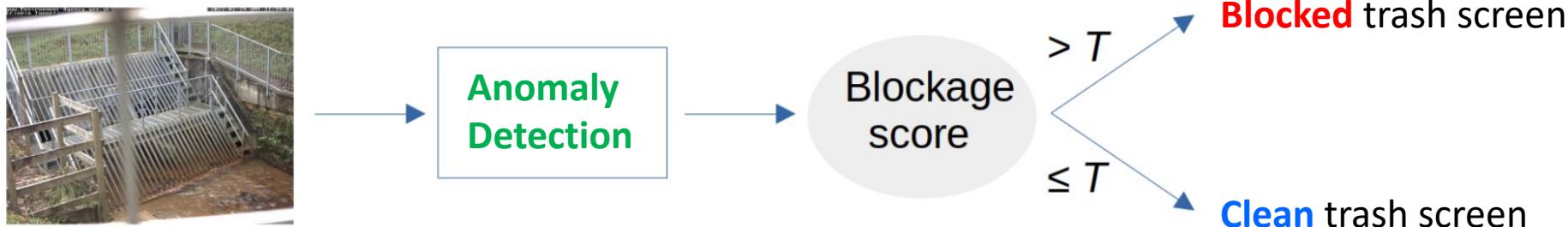
54 trash screens with CCTV camera feed: 80,452 images downloaded over 10 months

# Trash screen monitoring: Binary classifier



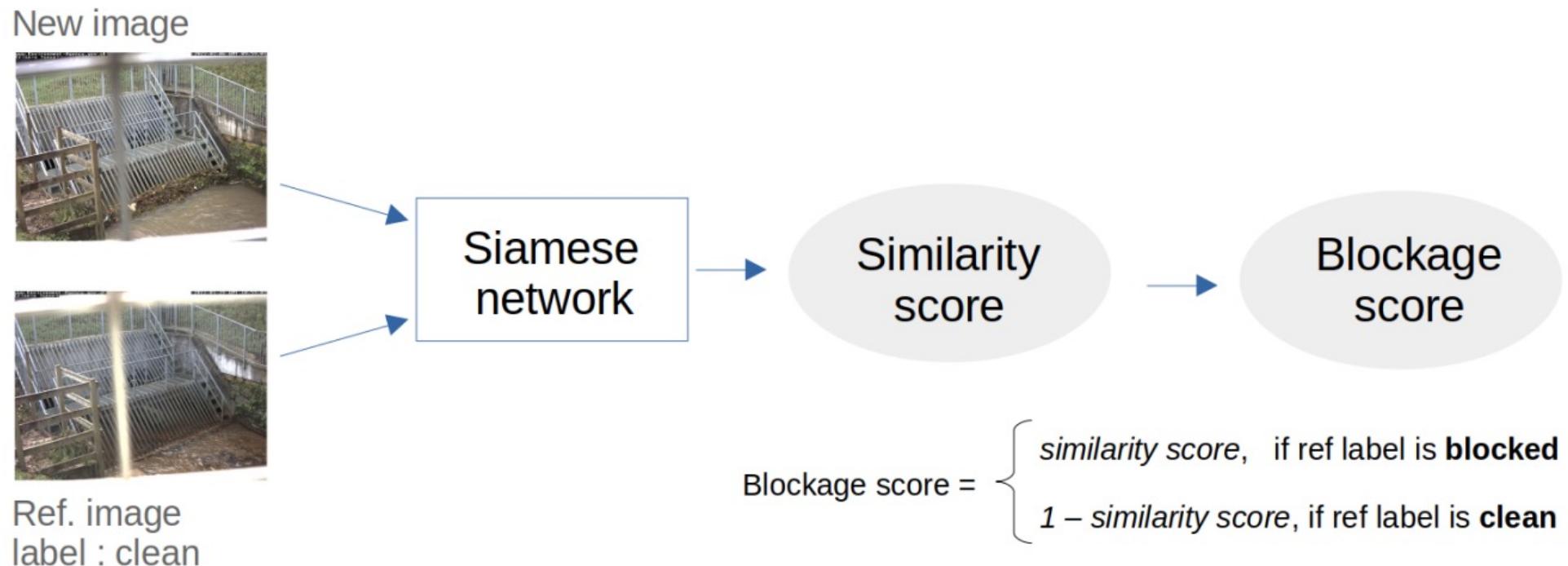
- Advantage – Could give high accuracy
- Disadvantage – Manual data labelling is required
- ResNet-50 backbone
- Blockage score (softMax)

# Trash screen monitoring: Anomaly Detection



- Advantage – No manual data labelling is required
- Constraint – Trash should be an anomaly
- Images are represented by a vector of features extracted from a pre-trained network
- A multivariate Gaussian fits the training vectors with parameters
- Anomaly score is the *Mahalanobis distance between a multivariate gaussian and a new data*

# Trash screen monitoring: Image similarity



- The similarity score (softMax) can be transformed in a blockage score

# Evaluation

46 training cameras, 4 validation cameras, 4 test cameras -> 80K images



Crinnis



Mevagissey

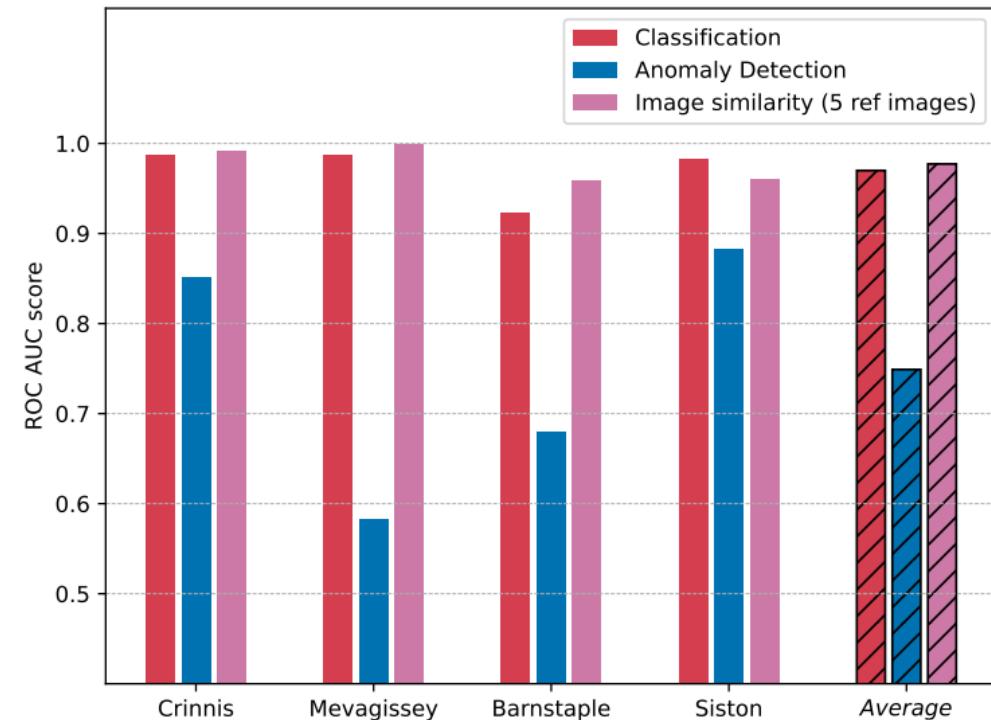
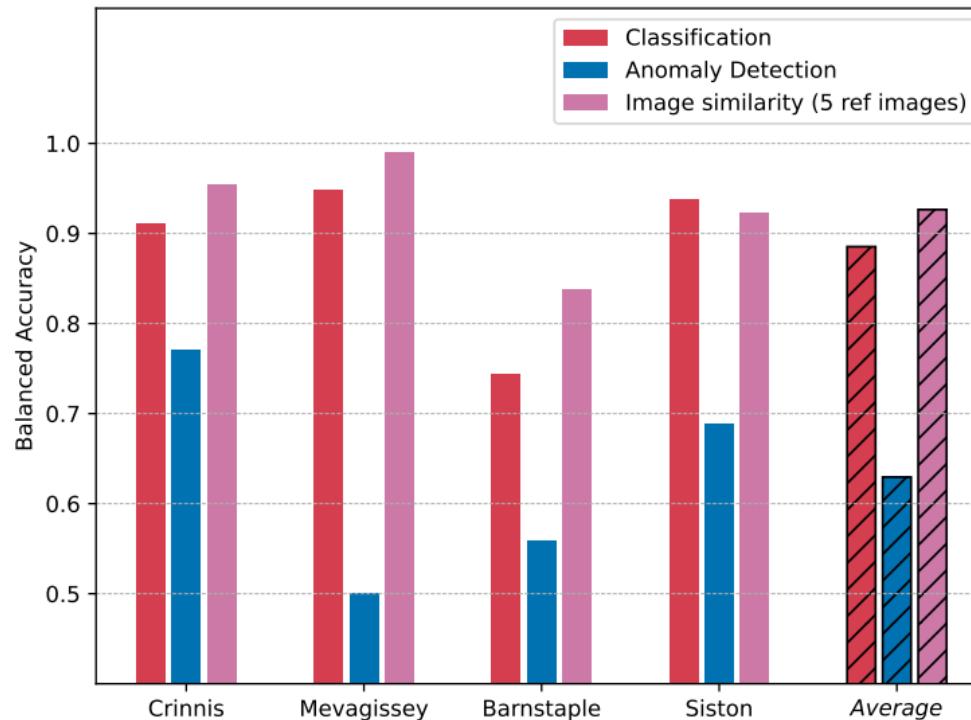


Barnstaple



Siston

# Blockage detection results



- Binary classifier and image similarity have Balanced Accuracy and ROC AUC scores > 0.9 for 3 of the 4 locations
- Anomaly Detection has the worst results
- The Siamese network (image similarity) obtains the best results with only 5 reference images

# References

- Calibrated river-level estimation from river cameras using convolutional neural networks  
*Environmental Data Science*, Cambridge University Press (2023)  
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- Deep learning for automated river-level monitoring through river camera images: an approach based on water segmentation and transfer learning  
*Hydrology and Earth System Sciences* 25(8) 4435–4453 (2021)  
Vandaele R, Dance SL, Ojha V
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*42nd DAGM German Conference on Pattern Recognition, DAGM GCPR*, Tübingen, Germany, *Proceedings* 42 (pp 232–245) Springer, LNCS (2020)  
Vandaele R, Dance SL, Ojha V
- Comparison of deep learning approaches to monitor trash screen blockage from CCTV cameras  
*EGU23* (2023)  
Vandaele, R., Dance, S. L., & Ojha, V.