



# Potential and limitation of using OSM for the creation/validation of Land Use Land Cover (LULC) maps

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# Summary

- Introduction
- Ways to use OSM for LULC mapping
  - Convert OSM data into LULC maps
  - Use OSM data to validate LULC maps
  - Use OSM data to train classifiers to create LULC maps from satellite images
- Conclusions
  - Opportunities/Limitations/Future developments

# Introduction

- Main aim of the work under development
  - Add value to available Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) by either:
    - processing the existing data
    - integrating diverse sources of data
- This work started within COST actions
  - TD1202 (Mapping and the citizen sensor)
  - IC1203 (European Network Exploring Research into Geospatial Information Crowdsourcing: software and methodologies for harnessing geographic information from the crowd - ENERGIC).

(COST EU-funded programme - enables researchers to set up interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond)

# Introduction

## ■ Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI)

- Many **types** of data
- Wide variety of projects with very **diverse objectives**
- Enormous **amounts** of data
- Some enable data **download** / data accessible by APIs.

Panoramio



YouTube



# Introduction



## OSM4LULC

How can OSM contribute  
to the creation / validation  
of LULC maps?

# Introduction

- Production of LULC maps requires
  - The classification of images
  - When supervised classifiers are used **training sets** are needed
- The created maps need to be validated
  - The quality assessment usually requires **reference data**

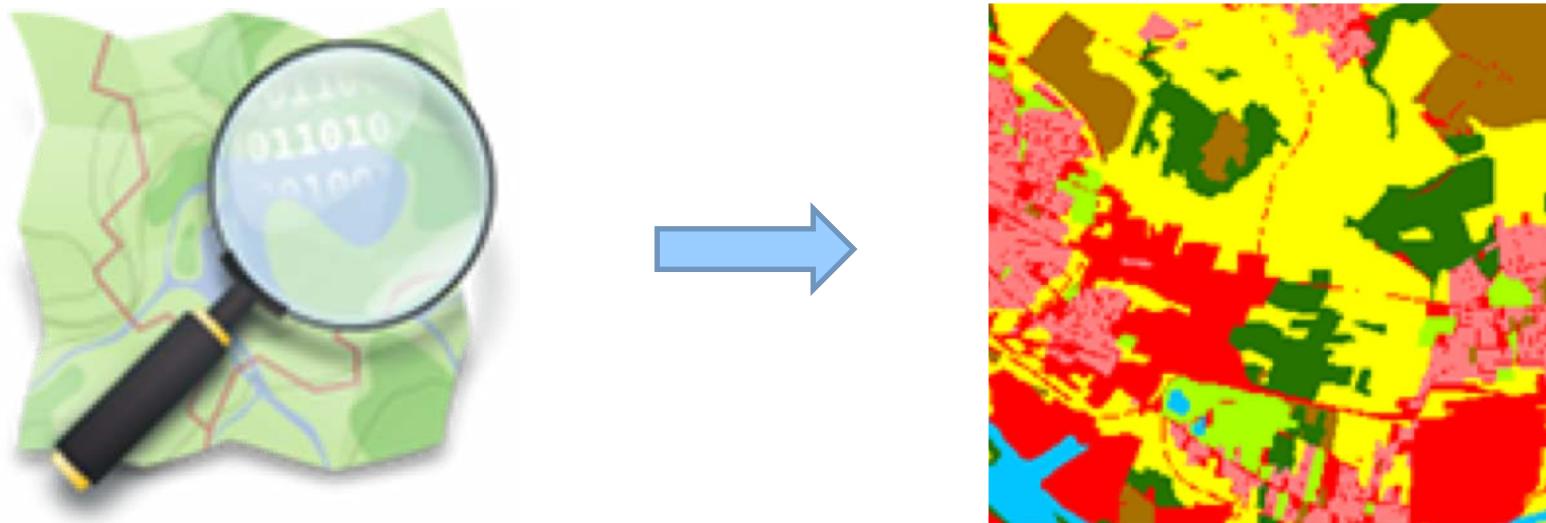
# OSM conversion to LULC maps

- OSM may assist the **creation** and **validation** of Land Use Land Cover (LULC) maps by
  - Direct **creation** of LULC maps from OSM
  - Generating **reference** databases for validation
  - Generating **training** sets

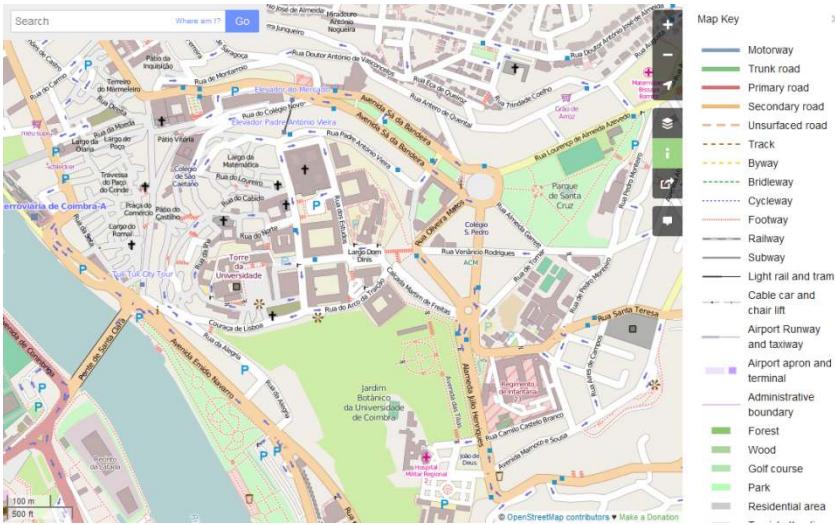
**Speed + lower costs**

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

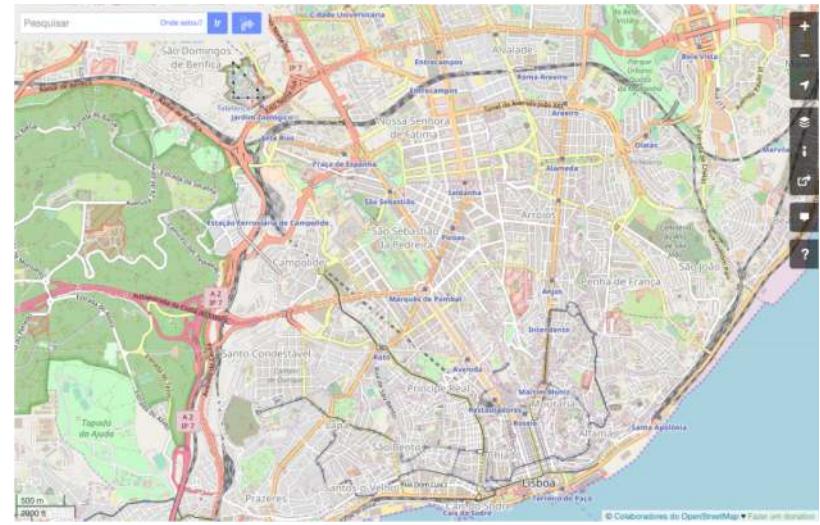
- Web-application to **convert automatically** the data available in OSM into a LULC map



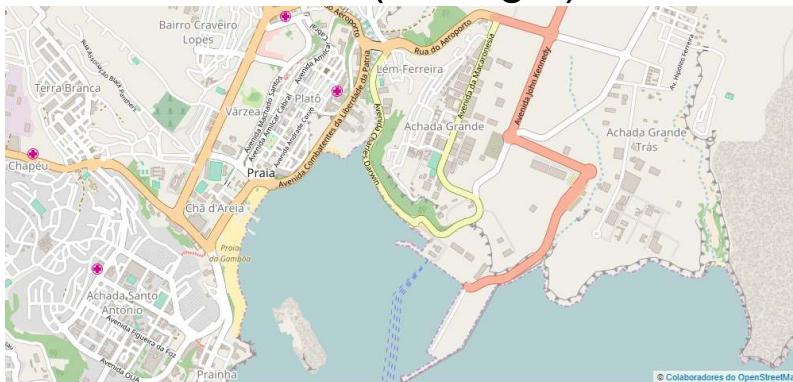
# OSM conversion to LULC maps



OSM – Coimbra (Portugal)



OSM – Lisbon (Portugal)



OSM – Praia (Cape Verde)



OSM – Milan (Italy)

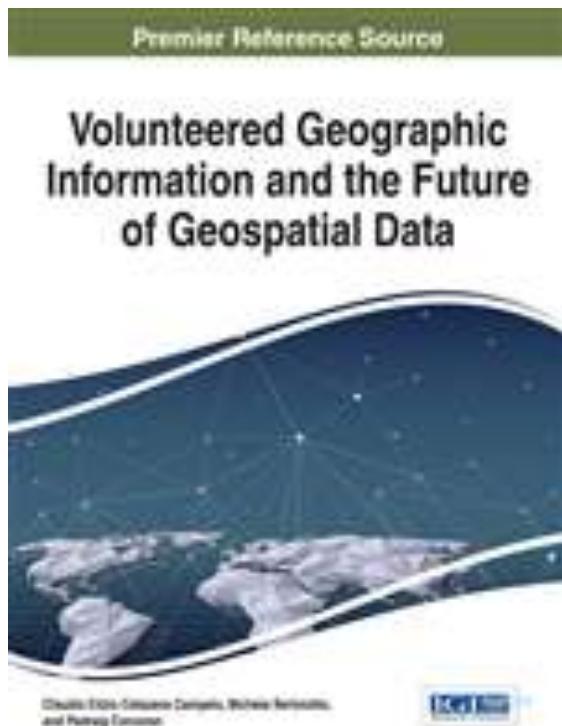
# OSM conversion to LULC maps

- OpenStreetMap (OSM)  
(<http://www.openstreetmap.org/>)



- Geospatial entities available in OSM
  - [http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Map\\_Features](http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Map_Features)

# OSM conversion to LULC maps



## Chapter 7 Using OpenStreetMap to Create Land Use and Land Cover Maps: Development of an Application

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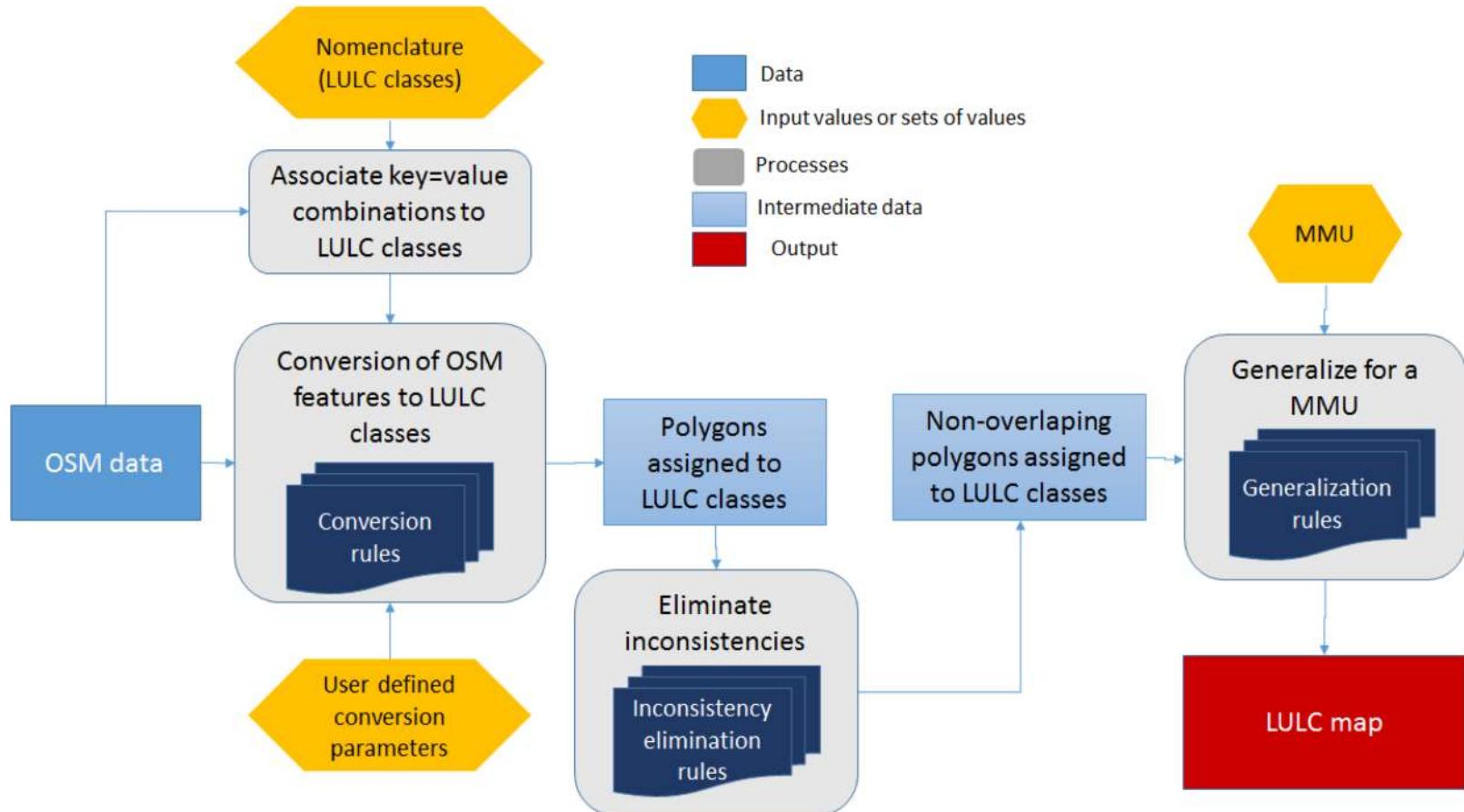
*Politecnico di Milano, Italy*

**Maria Antonia Brovelli**

*Politecnico di Milano, Italy*

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

Methodology of the tool created for the conversion of OSM into LULCM



# OSM conversion to LULC maps

- Nomenclatures
  - **Urban Atlas (UA)** – European product
    - Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Urban Atlas
      - Detailed classification of LULC of the European cities with more than 100 K inhabitants + some cities with more than 50 k inhabitants since 2012
      - 12 thematic classes
  - **Corine Land Cover (CLC)** – European product
    - LULC classification of Europe
      - Minimum mapping Unit of 25 ha
      - 44 thematic classes
  - **GlobeLand 30 (GL30)**
    - Map produced by the “National Geomatic Center of China” from Landsat imagery
      - Global coverage
      - Raster format – spatial resolution of 30m
      - 10 thematic classes

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

## UA and CLC nomenclatures

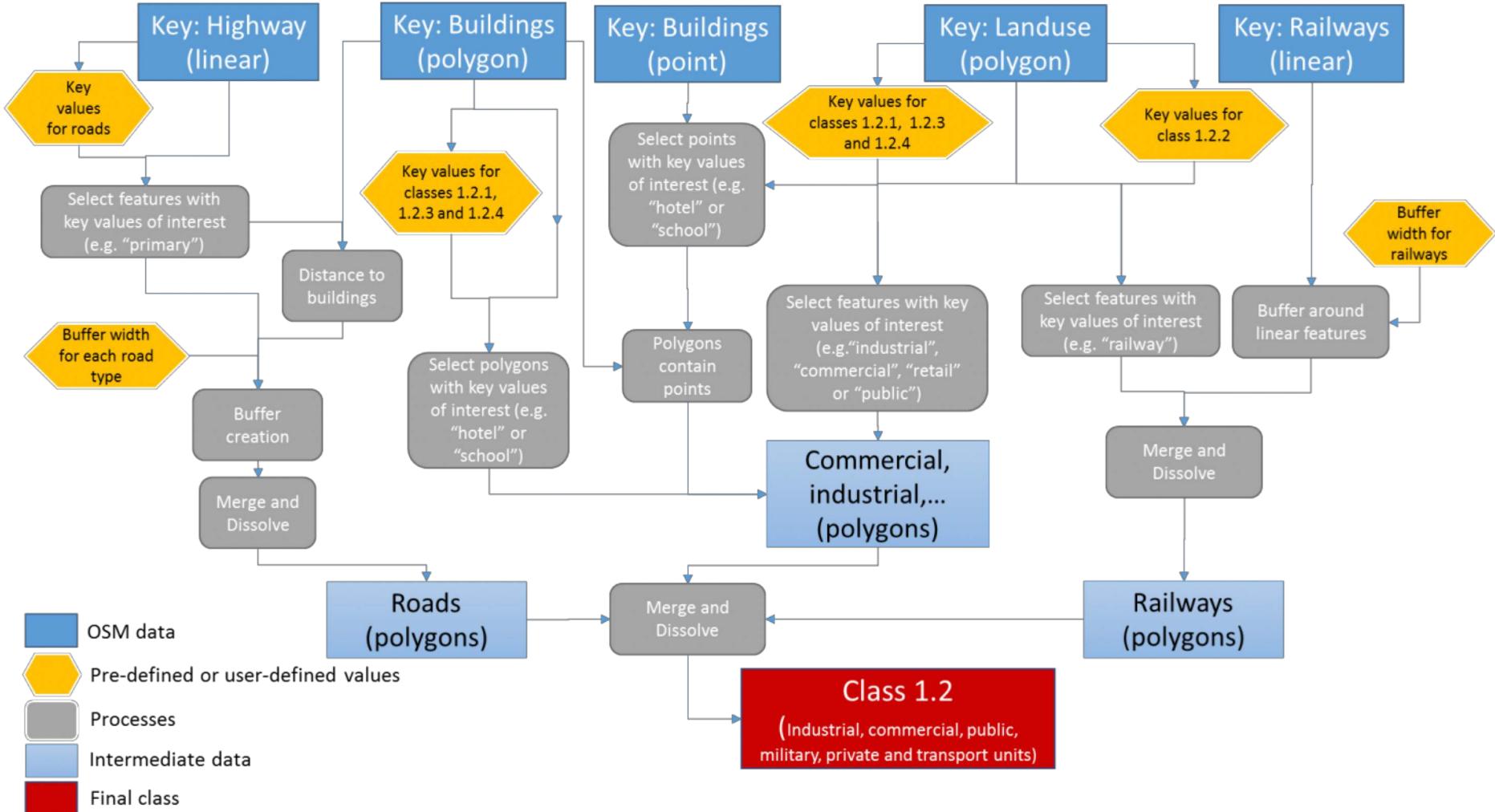
Urban Altas (UA)			CORINE Land Cover (CLC)		
Nível 1	Nível 2	Nível 3	Nível 1	Nível 2	Nível 3
1.Artificial Surfaces	1.1 Urban Fabric  1.2 Industrial, commercial, public, military, private and transport units  1.3 Mine, dump and construction sites  1.4 Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas	1.1.1 Continuous urban fabric 1.1.2 Discontinuous urban fabric 1.1.3 Isolated Structures  1.2.1 Industrial, commercial, public, military and private units 1.2.2 Road and rail network and associated land 1.2.3 Port areas 1.2.4 Airports  1.3.1 Mineral extraction and dump sites 1.3.3 Construction sites 1.3.4 Land without current use  1.4.1 Green urban areas 1.4.2 Sports and leisure facilities	1.Artificial Surfaces	1.1 Urban Fabric  1.2 Industrial, commercial, public, military, private and transport units  1.3 Mine, dump and construction sites  1.4 Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas	1.1.1 Continuous urban fabric 1.1.2 Discontinuous urban fabric  1.2.1 Industrial or commercial units 1.2.2 Road and rail network and associated land 1.2.3 Port areas 1.2.4 Airports  1.3.1 Mineral extraction 1.3.2 Dump sites 1.3.3 Construction sites  1.4.1 Green urban areas 1.4.2 Sports and leisure facilities
2. Agricultural, semi-natural areas, wetlands			2.Agricultural areas	2.1 Arable land  2.2 Permanent crops  2.3 Pastures  2.4 Heterogeneous agricultural areas	2.1.1 Non-irrigated arable land 2.1.2 Permanently irrigated land 2.1.3 Rice fields  2.2.1 Vineyards 2.2.2 Fruit trees and berry plantations 2.2.3 Olive groves  2.3.1 Pastures  2.4.1 Annual crops associated with permanent crops 2.4.2 Complex cultivation patterns 2.4.3 Land principally occupied by agriculture, with significant areas of natural vegetation 2.4.4 Agro-forestry areas
3. Forests			3. Forest and semi natural areas	3.1 Forests  3.2 Scrub and/or herbaceous vegetation associations  3.3 Open spaces with little or no vegetation	3.1.1 Broad-leaved forest 3.1.2 Coniferous forest 3.1.3 Mixed forest  3.2.1 Natural grasslands 3.2.2 Moors and heathland 3.2.3 Sclerophyllous vegetation 3.2.4 Transitional woodland-shrub  3.3.1 Beaches, dunes, sands 3.3.2 Bare rocks 3.3.3 Sparsely vegetated areas 3.3.4 Burnt areas 3.3.5 Glaciers and perpetual snow
-----			4. Wetlands	4.1 Inland wetlands  4.2 Maritime wetlands	4.1.1 Inland marshes 4.1.2 Peat bogs  4.2.1 Salt marshes 4.2.2 Salines 4.2.3 Intertidal flats
5. Water			5. Water	5.1 Inland waters  5.2 Marine waters	5.1.1 Water courses 5.1.2 Water bodies  5.2.1 Coastal lagoons 5.2.2 Estuaries 5.2.3 Sea and ocean

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

## GlobeLand30 (GL30) nomenclature

Class Code	Class Name	Class Description	Minimum Mapping Unit (km <sup>2</sup> )
10	Cultivated land (CL)	Arable land (cropland): dry land, paddy field, land for greenhouses, vegetable fields, artificial tame pastures, economic cropland in which shrub crops or herbaceous crops are planted, and land abandoned with the reclamation of arable land	0.0324
20	Forest (F)	Broadleaved deciduous forest, evergreen broad-leaf forest, deciduous coniferous forest, evergreen coniferous forest, mixed broadleaf-conifer forest	0.0576
30	Grassland (GL)	Typical grassland, meadow grassland, alpine grassland, desert grassland, grass	0.09
40	Shrubland (SL)	Desert scrub, mountain scrub, deciduous and evergreen shrubs	0.09
50	Wetland (WL)	Lake swamp, river flooding wetlands, seamarsh, shrub/forest wetlands, mangrove forest, tidal flats/salt marshes	0.0729
60	Water bodies (WB)	Open water: lakes, reservoirs/fishponds, rivers	0.0009 (Rivers) 0.0081 (Lakes)
70	Tundra (T)	Brush tundra, poaceae tundra, wet tundra, bare tundra, mixed tundra	Not provided
80	Artificial surfaces (AS)	Settlement place, industrial and mining area, traffic facilities	0.0144
90	Bareland (BL)	Saline-alkali land, sand, gravel, rock, microbiotic crust	0.0324
100	Permanent snow/ice (SI)	Permanent snow, ice sheet and glacier	0.0081

# OSM conversion to LULC maps



# OSM conversion to LULC maps

The screenshot shows the homepage of the EXPLORING VGI website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Services', 'Credits', and 'Contacts'. Below the navigation is a large banner featuring a 3D globe with green landmasses and blue oceans. Overlaid on the globe is the text 'EXPLORING VGI' in large white letters, and below it, 'Tools for processing Volunteered Geographical Information' in smaller white text. A circular button with a downward arrow is positioned in the center of the globe. At the bottom left of the page, the URL 'vgi.uc.pt' is displayed.

Open source software:

(Django, Apache, Tweepy, GDAL/OGR, Grass GIS, PostgreSQL, Angular JS, Leaflet, ...)

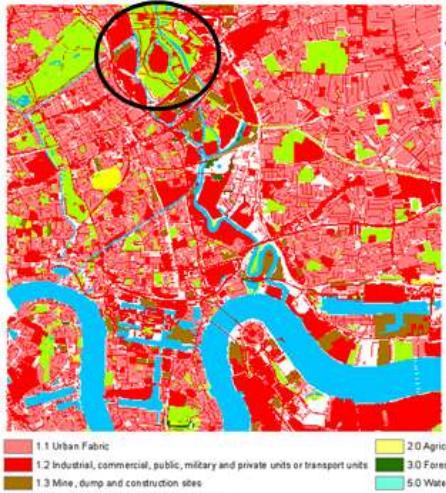
The screenshot shows the 'Our Services' section of the website. It features a grid of service cards. The first card, titled 'OSM to LULC Maps', has a red circle drawn around it. Below the title are two blue buttons: 'Use Service' and 'Publications'. To the right of this card is another service card for 'Mapping Social Network Data', which also includes 'Use Service' and 'Publications' buttons. Each service card has a small icon: a map for OSM to LULC Maps and a camera for Mapping Social Network Data.

# OSM to LULC maps

London



OSM extracted data



Urban Atlas



OSM extracted data



Corine Land Cover



Level 2

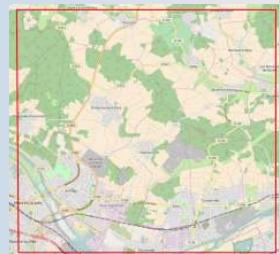
Level 1

Level 2

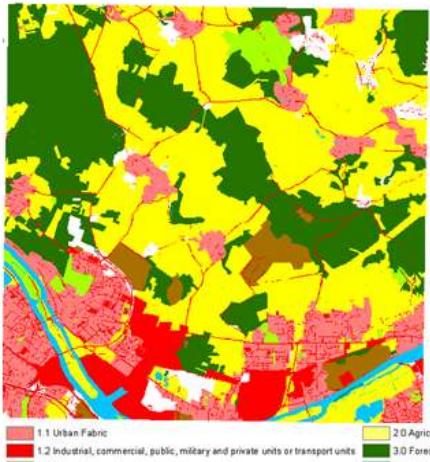
Level 1

# OSM to LULC maps

Paris



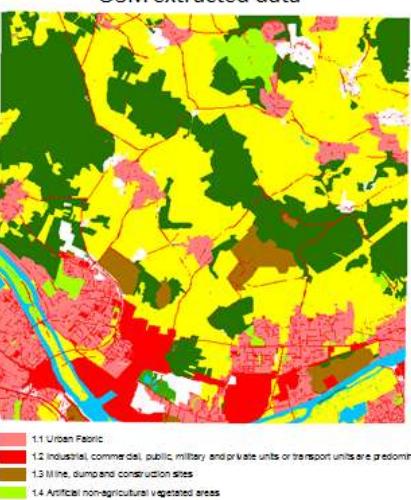
OSM extracted data



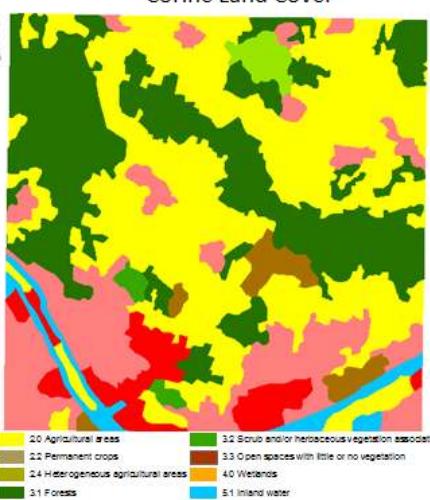
Urban Atlas



OSM extracted data



Corine Land Cover

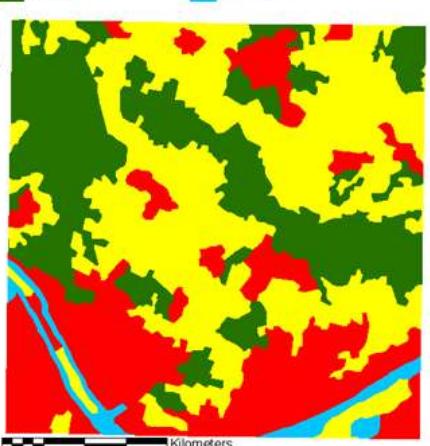
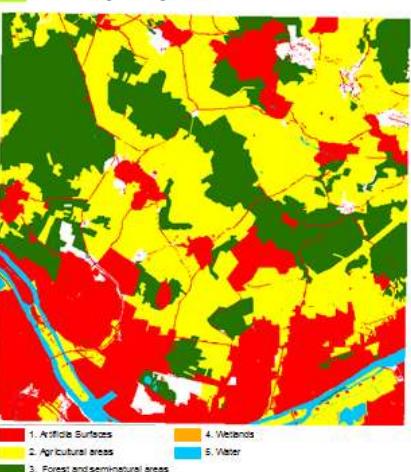
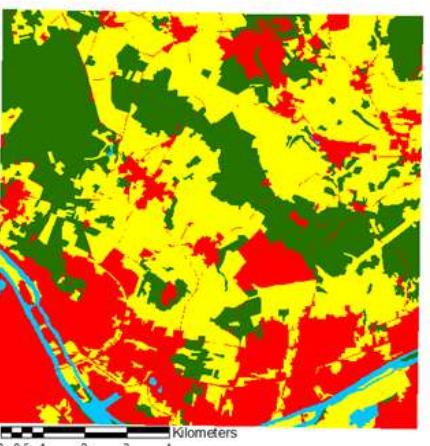
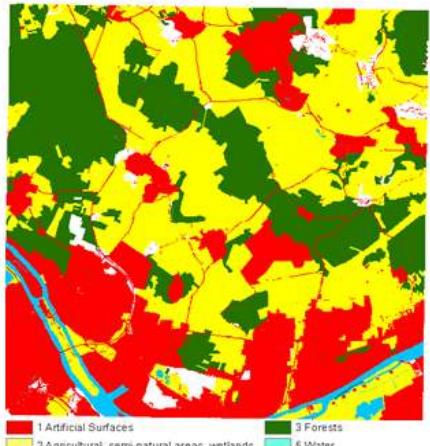


Level 2

Level 1

Level 2

Level 1



# OSM conversion to LULC maps



Article

## Generating Up-to-Date and Detailed Land Use and Land Cover Maps Using OpenStreetMap and GlobeLand30

Cidália Costa Fonte <sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Marco Minghini <sup>3</sup>, Joaquim Patriarca <sup>2</sup>, Vyron Antoniou <sup>4,5</sup>, Linda See <sup>6</sup> and Andriani Skopeliti <sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Schlossplatz 1, A2361 Laxenburg, Austria; see@iiasa.ac.at

<sup>7</sup> School of Rural and Surveying Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, 9 H. Polytechniou, 15780 Zografou, Greece; askop@survey.ntua.gr

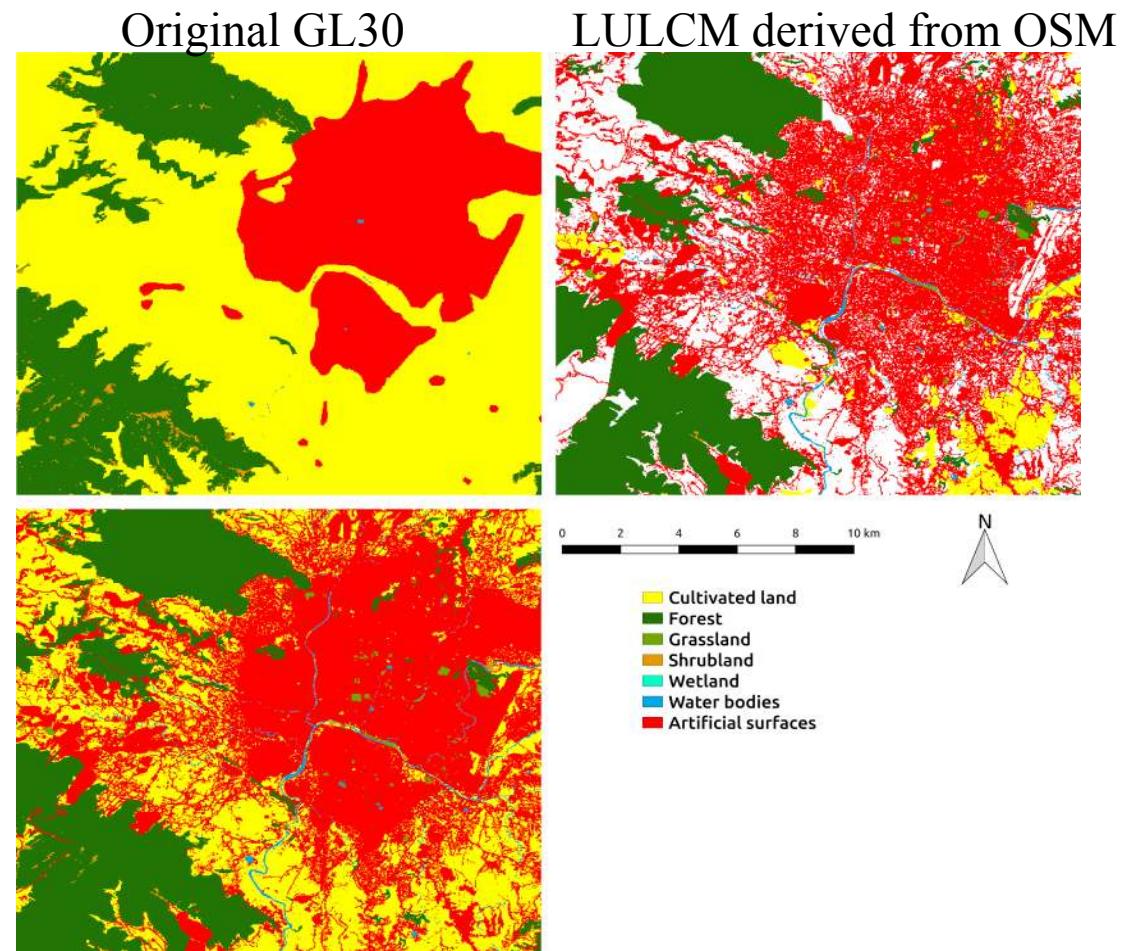
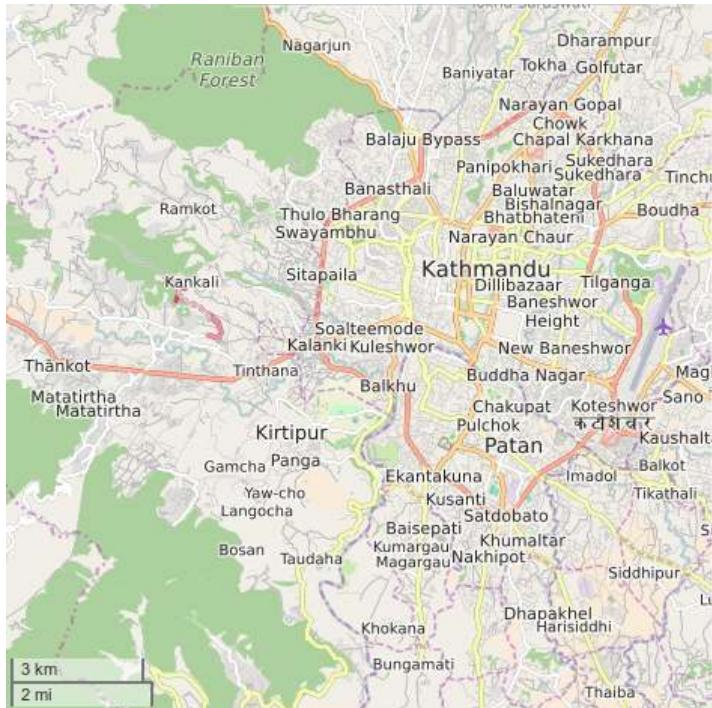
\* Correspondence: cfonte@mat.uc.pt; Tel.: +351-239-791-150

Academic Editor: Wolfgang Kainz

Received: 4 March 2017; Accepted: 17 April 2017; Published: 22 April 2017

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

## Kathmandu

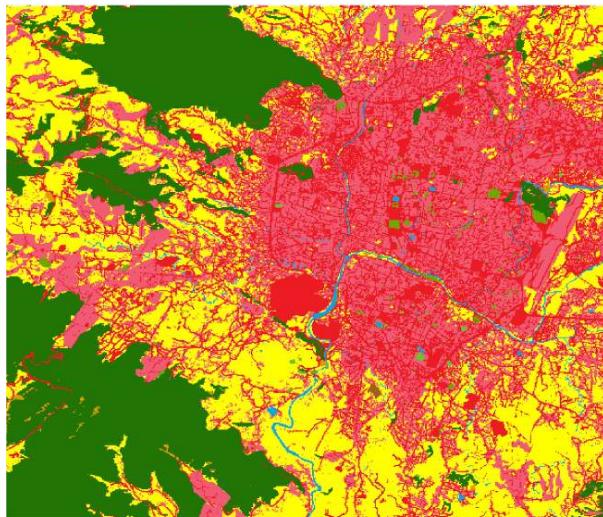


GL30 updated

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

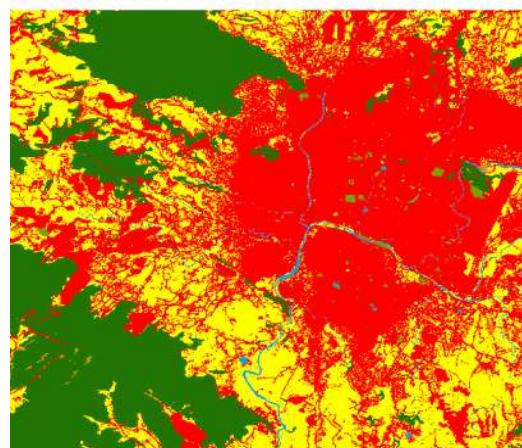
## Kathmandu

GL30 detailed



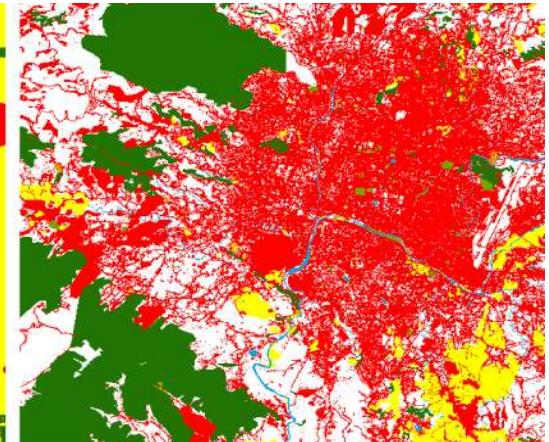
- Urban Fabric
- Industrial, commercial, public, military, private and transport units
- Mine, dump and construction sites
- Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas
- Cultivated land
- Forest
- Water bodies
- Grassland
- Shrubland
- Wetland

Original GL30



GL30 updated

LULCM derived from OSM



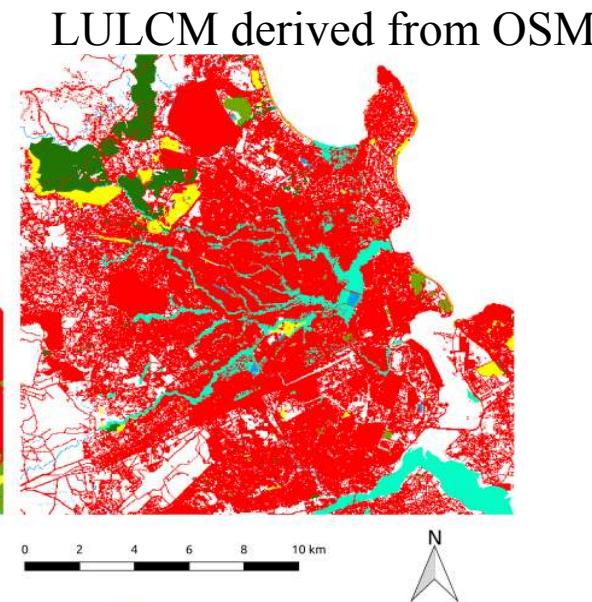
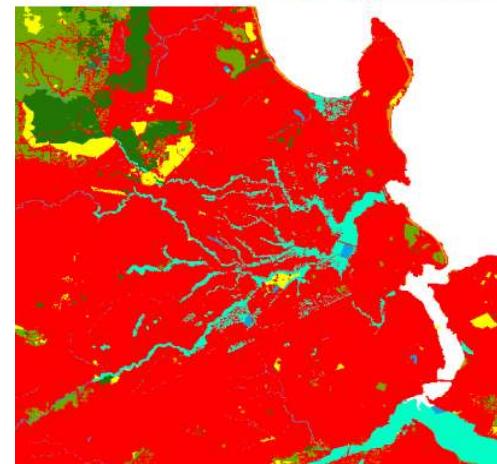
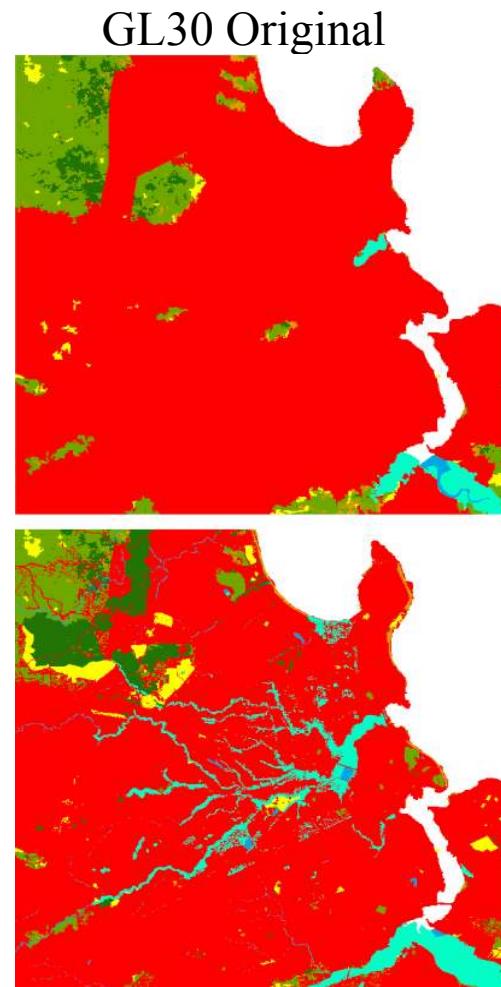
0 2 4 6 8 10 km



- Cultivated land
- Forest
- Grassland
- Shrubland
- Wetland
- Water bodies
- Artificial surfaces

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

## Dar es Salaam

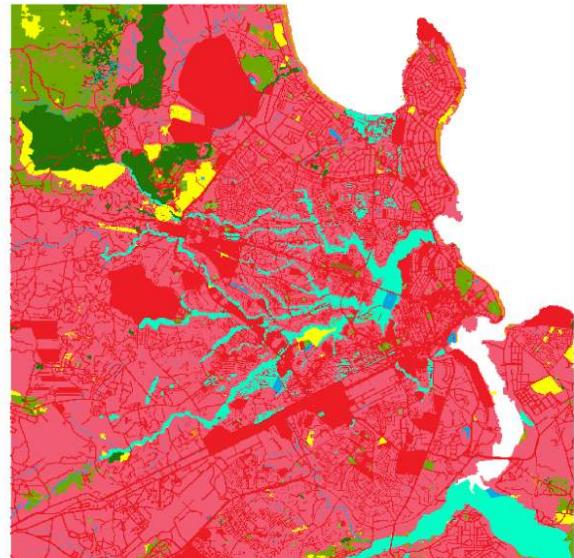


- Cultivated land
- Forest
- Grassland
- Shrubland
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- Artificial surfaces

# OSM conversion to LULC maps

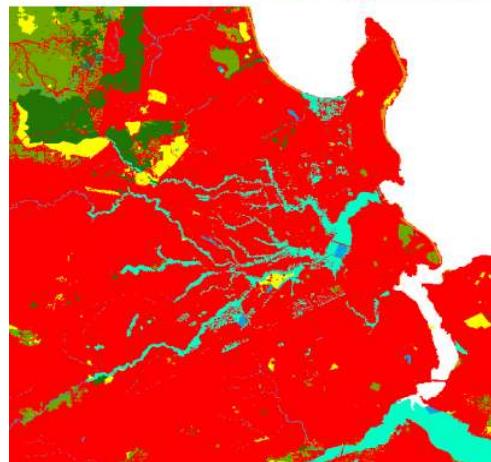
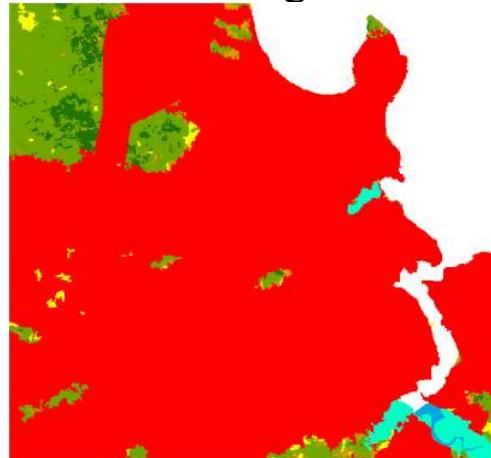
Dar es Salaam

GL30 detailed



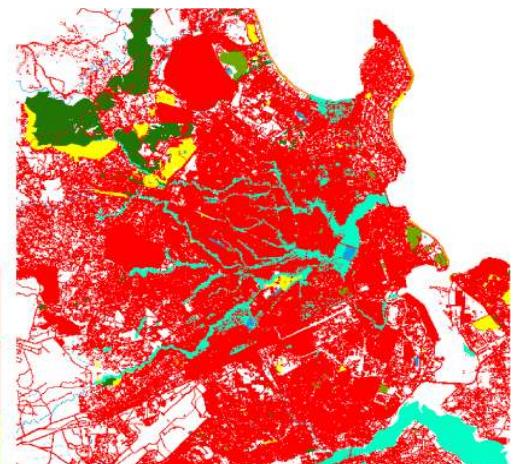
- Urban Fabric
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GL30 Original



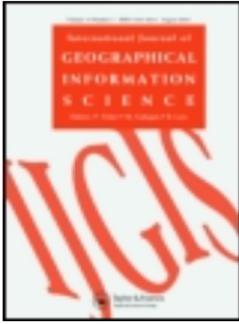
GL30 updated

LULCM derived from OSM



- Cultivated land
- Forest
- Grassland
- Shrubland
- Wetland
- Water bodies
- Artificial surfaces

# LULC map validation with OSM



International Journal of Geographical Information  
Science



ISSN: 1365-8816 (Print) 1362-3087 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tgis20>

## Assessing the applicability of OpenStreetMap data to assist the validation of land use/land cover maps

Cidália C. Fonte & Nuno Martinho

To cite this article: Cidália C. Fonte & Nuno Martinho (2017): Assessing the applicability of OpenStreetMap data to assist the validation of land use/land cover maps, International Journal of Geographical Information Science, DOI: [10.1080/13658816.2017.1358814](https://doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2017.1358814)

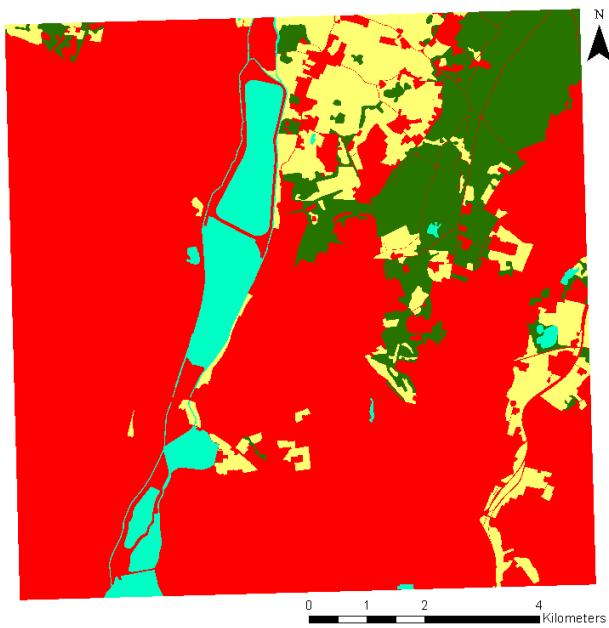
To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2017.1358814>

# LULC map validation with OSM

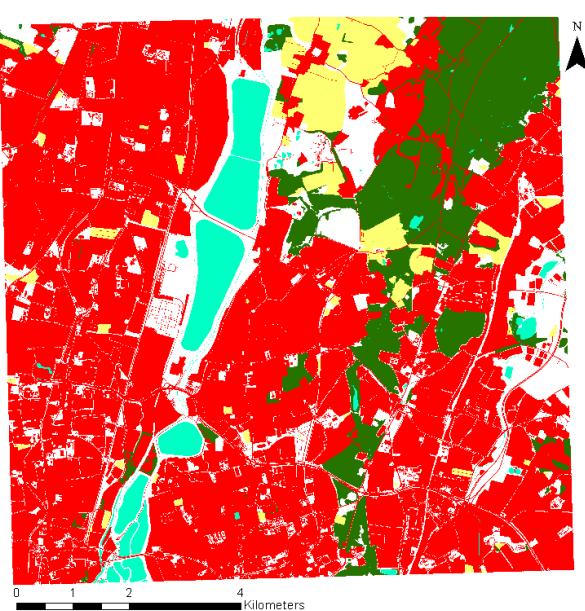
- Possible approaches
  - Direct comparison with a reference map
  - Comparison with a reference sample
    - Creation of a **random** sample of points stratified per class
    - Creation of the **reference** data with:
      - Photointerpretation (PI)
      - Data extracted automatically from OSM + PI
  - **Accuracy** assessment of UA with both reference databases

# LULC map validation with OSM

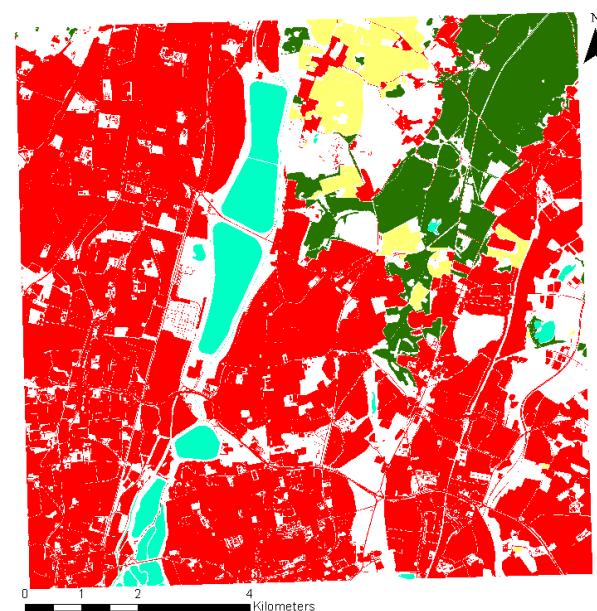
Urban Atlas



OSM extracted LULC



Agreement



Urban Atlas nomenclature – Level 1

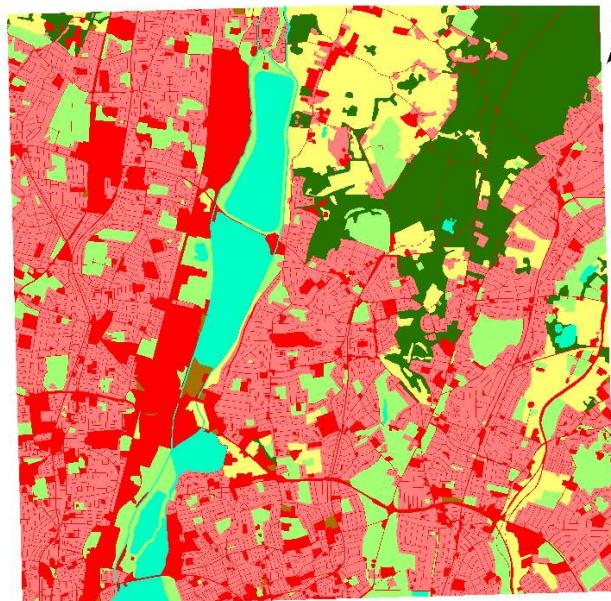
	1 Artificial Surfaces
	2 Agricultural, semi-natural areas, wetlands

	3 Forests
	5 Water

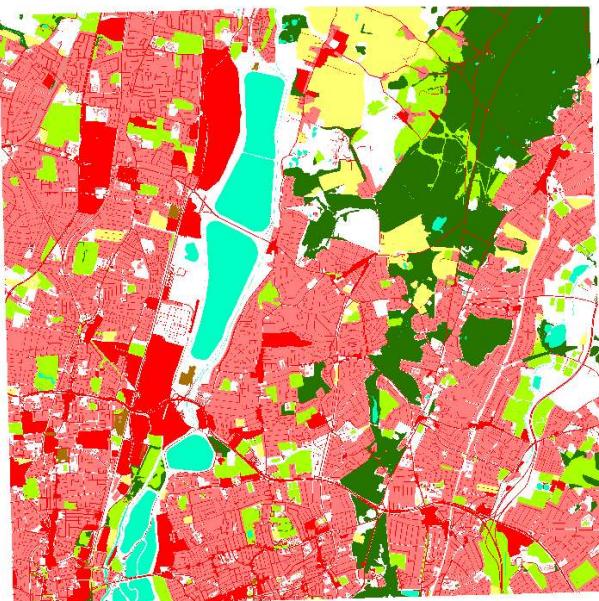
London

# LULC map validation with OSM

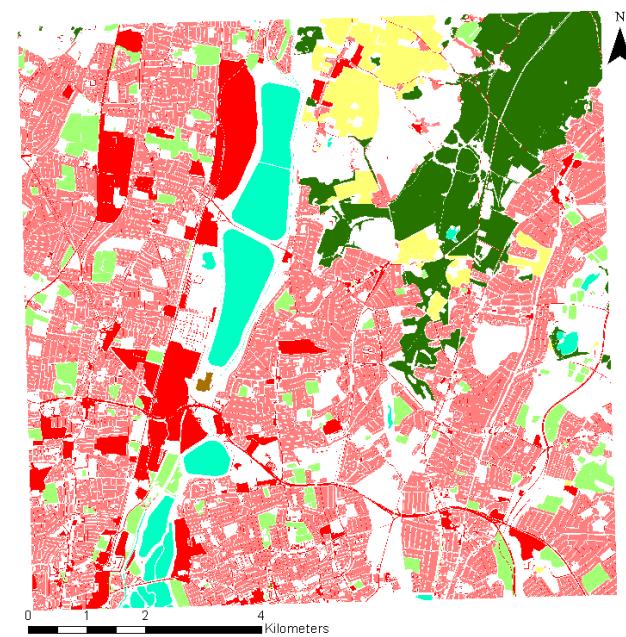
Urban Atlas



OSM extracted LULC



Agreement



Urban Atlas nomenclature – Level 2

- 1.1 Urban Fabric
- 1.2 Industrial, commercial, public, military and private units or transport units
- 1.3 Mine, dump and construction sites
- 1.4 Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas

London

- 2.0 Agricultural, semi-natural areas, wetlands
- 3.0 Forests
- 5.0 Water

# LULC map validation with OSM

Class	UA	OSM	No data in OSM	NoOSM /UA	NoOSM /Area <sub>NoOSM</sub>
		(Area in km <sup>2</sup> )		(%)	(%)
Level 1	1	72.84	60.24	11.52	16
	2	9.99	4.83	3.62	36
	3	11.46	12.91	0.87	8
	5	5.66	4.87	1.12	20
Level 2	1.1	39.51	36.15	2.71	7
	1.2	20.28	15.82	4.79	24
	1.3	0.38	0.26	0.19	50
	1.4	12.68	8.01	3.83	30
	2.0	9.99	4.83	3.62	36
	3.0	11.46	12.91	0.87	8
	5.0	5.66	4.87	1.12	20

NoOSM/UA - Percentage of area per class with no data in OSM relative to class area in UA

NoOSM/Area<sub>NoOSM</sub> - Percentage of area per class with no data in OSM relative relative to the total area of the regions with no data in OSM

# LULC map validation with OSM

UA versus OSM				
	Class	MPA <sub>OvOSM</sub> (%)	MPA <sub>OvUA</sub> (%)	TPA <sub>Ov</sub> (%)
Level 1	1	95	93	
	2	71	54	
	3	74	90	90
	5	92	98	
Level 2	1.1	86	84	
	1.2	63	64	
	1.3	24	33	
	1.4	59	53	76
	2.0	71	54	
	3.0	74	90	
	5.0	92	98	

$$MPA_{OvOSM}(i) = \frac{\text{Area of class } i \text{ in OSM derived data that is in agreement with UA}}{\text{Total area of class } i \text{ in OSM derived data}}$$

$$TPA_{Ov} = \frac{\text{Area of agreement between UA and OSM derived data}}{\text{Total area with data in the OSM derived map}}$$

$$MPA_{OvUA}(i) = \frac{\text{Area of class } i \text{ in UA that is in agreement with the OSM derived data}}{\text{Total area of class } i \text{ in UA where OSM data exists}}$$

# LULC map validation with OSM

Urban Atlas



Data extracted from OSM



Sample points + satellite images



- 1.1 Urban Fabric
- 1.2 Industrial, commercial, public, military and private units or transport units
- 1.3 Mine, dump and construction sites
- 1.4 Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas
- 2.0 Agricultural, semi-natural areas, wetlands
- 3.0 Forests
- 5.0 Water

# LULC map validation with OSM

Class	Producer's accuracy (%)		User's accuracy (%)		Overall accuracy (%)	
	UA vs. PI	UA vs. OSM/PI	UA vs. PI	UA vs. OSM/PI	UA vs. PI	UA vs. OSM/PI
<b>Study area A</b>						
Level 1	1	97 [96,98]	93 [92,94]	83 [80,86]	86 [82,89]	84 [81,87]
	2	65 [47,82]	69 [48,90]	78 [75,81]	59 [56,62]	
	3	58 [44,71]	58 [44,72]	93 [91,95]	88 [86,90]	
	5	76 [54,97]	75 [53,96]	96 [95,97]	96 [95,97]	
Level 2	1.1	83 [79,88]	85 [81,89]	80 [75,85]	84 [79,89]	75 [71,79]
	1.2	70 [60,81]	72 [61,82]	64 [60,68]	65 [61,69]	
	1.3	36 [1,71]	21 [0,46]	43 [42,44]	27 [26,28]	
	1.4	64 [50,78]	52 [42,62]	47 [43,51]	51 [47,55]	
	2.0	67 [57,77]	71 [59,83]	78 [75,81]	59 [56,62]	
	3.0	67 [61,73]	68 [61,74]	93 [91,95]	88 [86,90]	
	5.0	86 [77,95]	84 [75,94]	96 [95,96]	96 [95,97]	
<b>Study area B</b>						
Level 1	1	88 [84,92]	88 [85,92]	79 [77,81]	85 [83,87]	89 [86,92]
	2	88 [83,92]	89 [84,94]	91 [87,95]	88 [84,92]	
	3	91 [84,96]	92 [87,98]	96 [94,98]	95 [93,97]	
	5	100 [100,100]	66 [40,92]	83 [82,84]	92 [91,93]	
Level 2	1.1	86 [80,92]	68 [62,74]	71 [68,74]	84 [81,87]	86 [83,89]
	1.2	64 [52,77]	70 [56,84]	72 [69,75]	60 [57,63]	
	1.3	67 [41,93]	53 [34,72]	49 [47,51]	70 [68,72]	
	1.4	74 [57,91]	53 [0,100]	73 [71,75]	9 [8,10]	
	2.0	89 [86,92]	90 [87,94]	91 [87,95]	88 [84,92]	
	3.0	91 [86,96]	93 [88,98]	96 [94,98]	95 [93,97]	
	5.0	100 [100,100]	68 [43,93]	83 [82,84]	92 [91,93]	

# Training sets creation with OSM

- Possible approaches
  - Training classifiers using **all data** extracted from OSM
  - **Select regions** from OSM to train classifiers
    - Requires quality / reliability assessment

# Training sets creation with OSM

- Approaches tested:
  - Use **NDVI** (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) to identify regions with and without vegetation from the training sets
  - Identify regions where there are more than one possible LULC class in OSM and **exclude** them from the training set
  - Select a **few regions for training** instead of using all obtained data for each class

# Training sets creation with OSM

## ■ Results:

- In some cases the **accuracy** of the LULC maps obtained is **similar** to the ones obtained with the manual identification of training sets
- The results depend a lot on the **nomenclature** (LULC classes) used
- ...

# OSM contribution to LULC mapping Opportunities

- Automate the creation and validation of LULC maps - less expert intervention
  - Faster
  - Cheaper
- Have more current LULC maps
- Facilitate the creation of high resolution LULC for regions of the world where they are not available

# OSM contribution to LULC mapping Opportunities

- OSM
  - Large quantities of available data
  - Low costs associated to data collection
  - The dynamic characteristics of this type of data enables the collection of updated data
  - Citizens may have local knowledge
    - May provide more reliable data

# OSM contribution to LULC mapping

## Limitations

- Main problems:
  - Lack of data in many places where this would be more useful
  - Data Quality
    - Traditional aspects of geospatial data quality
      - Positional accuracy, Thematic accuracy
      - Completeness
      - Logical consistency
      - Temporal consistency
      - ...

# OSM contribution to LULC mapping

## Limitations

- Data **Heterogeneity**
  - The available data may have different levels of quality (detail, accuracy, completeness,...) associated to:
    - Different regions
    - Data provided by different volunteers
    - At different time stamps
    - For different classes
    - ....
- Data **inconsistencies**, such as:
  - Overlapping polygons with different meanings

# OSM contribution to LULC mapping

## Future work

- Improve the tools created so far
  - Conversion process for some types of features / classes
  - Keep working on the extraction of reliable data for classifiers training
- Integration with other sources of data

**GET INVOLVED IN CONTRIBUTING WITH DATA TO OSM!!**

Youthmappers?

A group for HOT?

Mapping parties?

# Conclusions

**Many opportunities!!**



**OSM4LULC**

**Many challenges!!!!**





# Thank you !

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**28-30 July 2018 – Milan - Italy**

