

> Workflow for global 3D building information mapping

1. Google Earth Engine

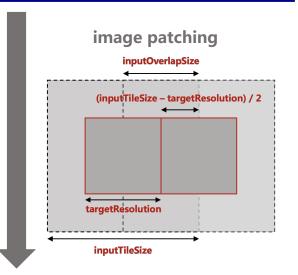
- a. Sentinel-1/2 image
- b. SRTM data



1. Google Earth Engine

a. High Resolution Settlement Layer

Note: The HRSL dataset includes the information of human population at a resolution of 30 m.



3.2 Local machine

a. saved Tensorflow models

3.1 Google Cloud Storage

a. saved Tensorflow models

model loading

2. Google Cloud Storage

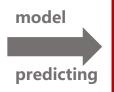
a. patched TFRecord datasets



4. Compute Engine

a. Tensorflow model instances

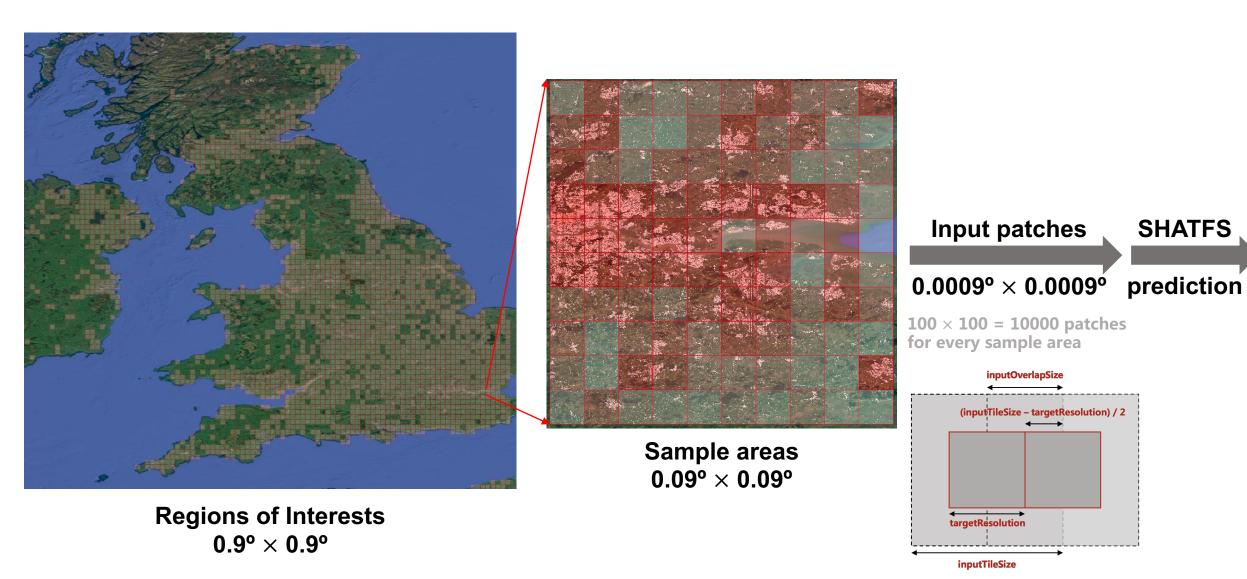
Note: The `Compute Engine` here can be a Google Virtual Machine, a Google Colab notebook or a local machine.



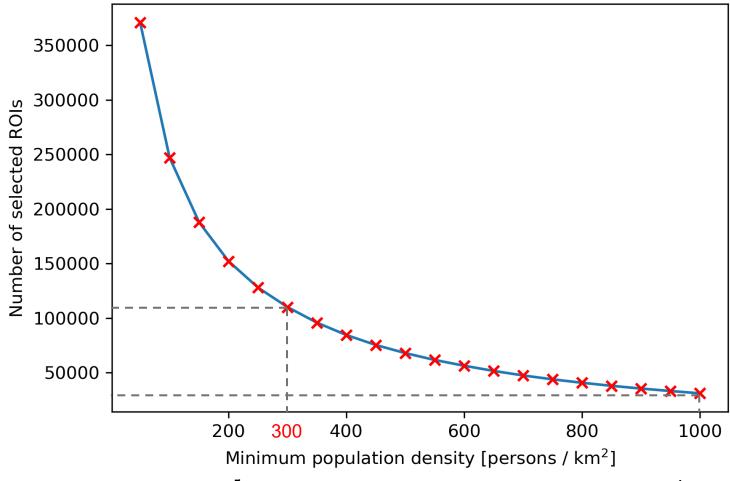
5. Compute Engine

a. Predicted building height and footprint images

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 Test the time of CNN inference on UCL's Research Computing Service

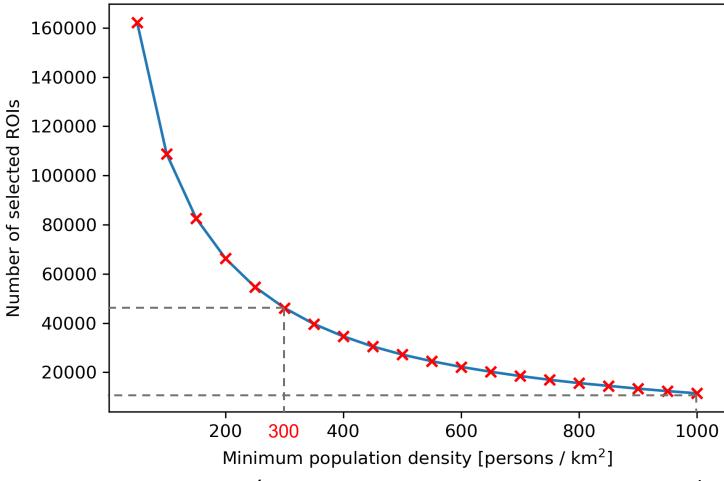
 If we want to finish our task in one week, then we need:

~ 20 s / ROI

• 300 persons / km²: ~ 10^5 ROIs (0.9° × 0.9°) • 1000 persons / km²: ~ 3×10^4 ROIs (0.9° × 0.9°)

Reference population data: https://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/data/set/gpw-v4-population-density-adjusted-to-2015-unwpp-country-totals-rev11

Workflow for global 3D building information mapping



 Test the time of CNN inference on UCL's Research Computing Service

 If we want to finish our task in one week, then we need:

~ 60 s / ROI

• 300 persons / km²: ~ 5×10^4 ROIs (0.9° \times 0.9°) • 1000 persons / km²: ~ 1×10^4 ROIs (0.9° \times 0.9°)

Reference population data: https://ciesin.columbia.edu/data/hrsl/#data

Code Optimization

- Optimization for exporting datasets from Google Earth Engine
 - Select the Sentinel-1 dataset in the natural scale (`S1_GRD_FLOAT` dataset)
 - Improve the efficiency of aggregation analysis:
 - Reduce the kernel size for, e.g., focalMin, reduceNeighborhood
 - Constrain the range of proper images by increasing `S2_CLOUD_PROBABILITY` threshold
 - Replace the `median` with the `mean`
 - Fine-tune the queueing of concurrent tasks
 - Number of concurrent tasks ↑ ⇒ check tasks' status ↑, parallel execution of tasks ↓
 - Parallel submitting tasks by Python's multiprocessing module

- Tasks are blocked and cause nearly 100% memory usage of the GeoServer
- Optimization for inference with TensorFlow's CNN model
 - Use multi-task learning-based models to predict building footprint and height simultaneously
 - Increase the number of workers, `num_parallel_calls`, for parallel loading of remote datasets

