

→ THE ESA EARTH OBSERVATION Φ -WEEK

EO Open Science and FutureEO

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CNN assessment for land cover map production from S2 image time series

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Agenda



- Context
- Method
- Results
- Conclusion

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European Space Agency

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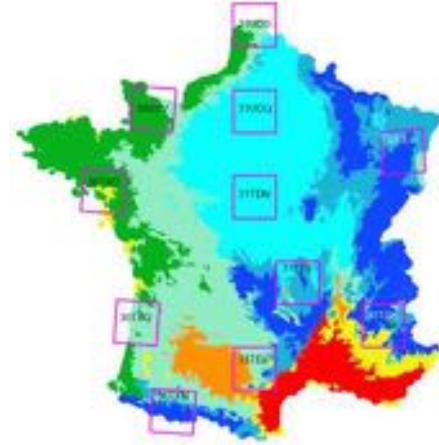
- ❑ Land cover maps
 - Classify ground content into classes
 - Applications in cartography, country and urban planning, agriculture, etc...
 - Need for automation
- ❑ Operational land cover map production by French Space Agency
 - Iota2 processing chain with Random Forest (RF) pixel-based method
 - No use of context
- ❑ Deep learning
 - Impressive results in computer vision applications
 - Requires a huge amount of data

■ Sentinel2 images

- Tiles of 100x100km over France
- Multi-spectral (10 bands at 10m or 20m resolution) and multi temporal (33 dates over year 2016) data
- 11 tiles with 330 channels (33 dates x 10 bands)

■ Reference data

- Used for training and validation
- Fusion of various sources (CLC, Urban Atlas, BD TOPO, RPG, RGI) → Sparse labelled data
- Polygons split in train (66%) and test (34%) datasets
- 17 thematic classes



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Method – Network FG-UNET

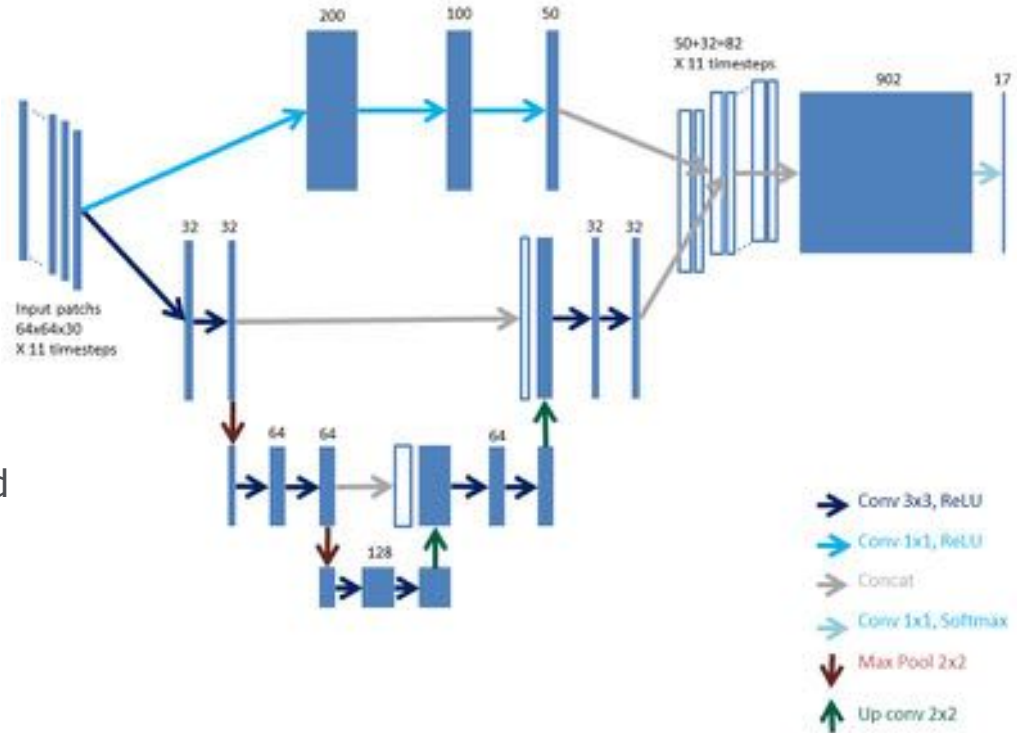
□ Fine Grained UNET (FG-UNET) :

- Adaptation of UNET
- Pixel wise 1x1 path

→ Able to deal with sparse data, to produce detailed land cover maps

□ Configuration :

- Keras with TensorFlow backend
- Horovod to distribute training over a HPC cluster



- ❑ Loss function : weighted categorical cross entropy
 - Weights according to class frequency
 - Unlabelled pixels not taken into account

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{\text{pixels}} \sum_{k=1}^{\text{class_nb}} \text{weight}_k \cdot y_{\text{true}_k} \cdot \log(y_{\text{pred}_k})$$

- ❑ Patch generation
 - 64x64 patches generated on the fly
 - Patch normalisation
 - Class randomly chosen for each patch
 - Data augmentation

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- ❑ Learning on train datasets of 11 tiles, and evaluation on test datasets
- ❑ Classification of tiles 512x512 (memory limitations) with 16 pixels of overlap
- ❑ Evaluation :
 - Statistical measures (Cohen's Kappa coefficient, F-Scores)
 - Visual analysis of the level of detail
- ❑ Comparison with Random Forest (currently used in an operational processing chain)

Method	Parameters	Learning time	Learning time on 1 CPU
Random Forest	-	25h	25h
FG-UNET	525 997	13h	3 300h

Results – land cover maps examples



FG-UNET

RF

Image



Results – land cover maps examples



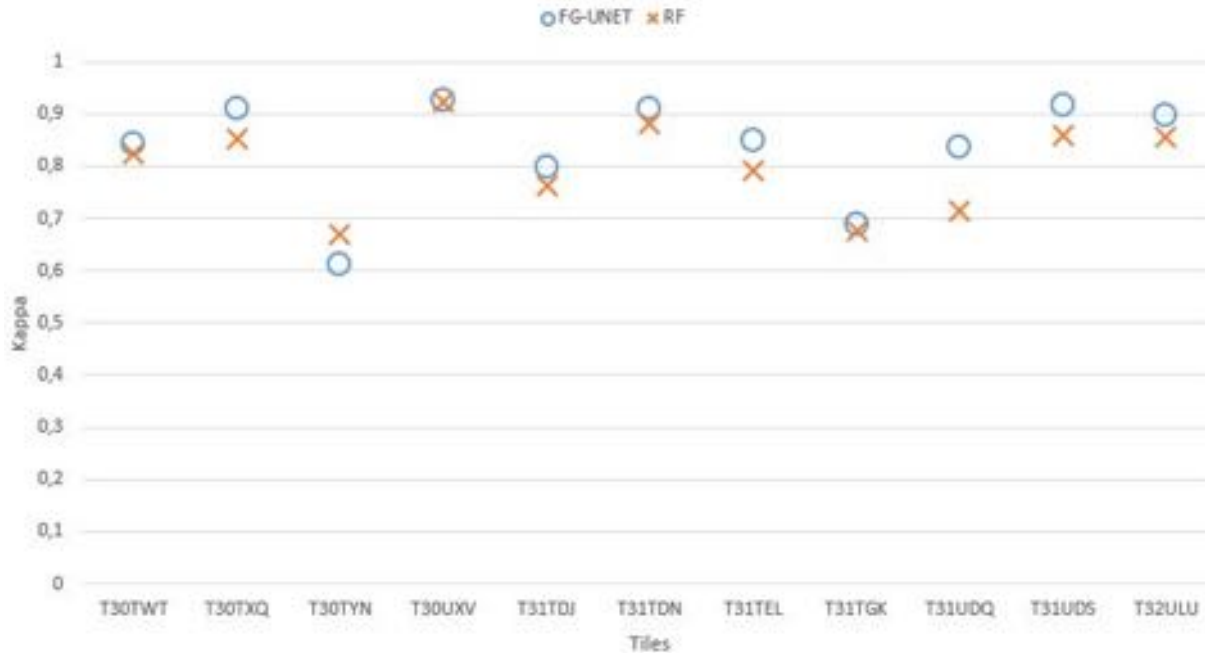
FG-UNET

RF

Image



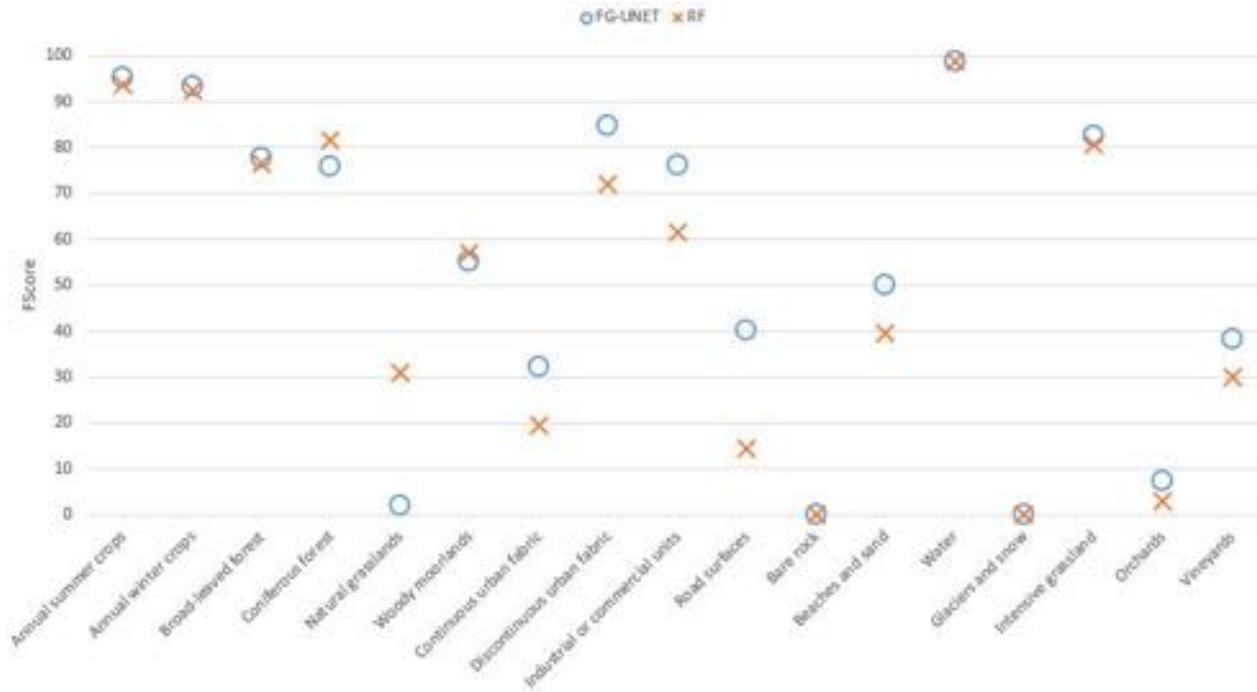
Results – Kappa for each S2 tile



➔ The more the tile contains urban areas, the better is FG-UNET



Results – Fscore for each class



→ FG-UNET significantly better on urban areas, thanks to the use of context



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- ❑ Use of a fully convolutional network to classify S2 time series at the country scale
- ❑ Adaptation of the classical U-Net model to deal with sparse data
- ❑ Results equivalent or better than classical method (RF)
- ❑ Importance of the quality of training data