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Sampling Methods for Validation of Large Area Land Cover Mapping

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Abstract

Validation is an important step of land cover mapping. To find a better sampling method for validation, stratified random sampling, simple random sampling, and use of training data for validation were evaluated using assumed true land cover data and simulated classified results. Evaluation was performed by comparing error matrices that were obtained from various sampling methods using the true error matrix. Stratified random sampling with area weight having a sample size of at least 20-40 per class is recommended from the perspective of statistical rigor and practicality.

Keywords: stratified random sampling, simple random sampling, training data, error matrix

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