

Hierarchical joint classification models for multi-resolution, multi-temporal and multi-sensor remote sensing images. Application to natural disasters

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In collaboration with

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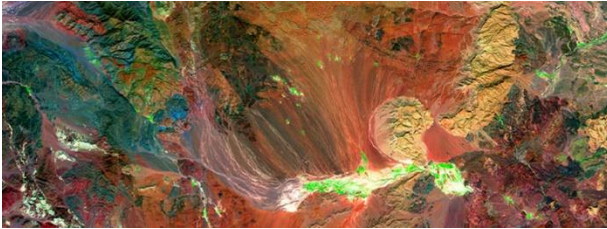
Publications available on <https://team.inria.fr/ayin/publications-hal/>

Introduction and Background

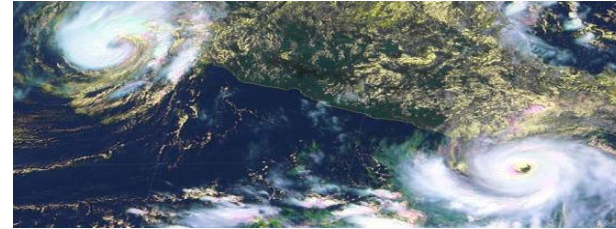
Remote sensing and applications

Remote sensing has extensive applications:

Mineral exploration



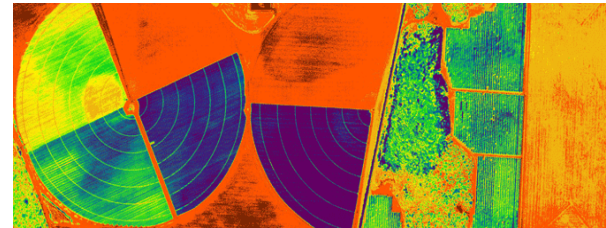
Weather prediction



Risk management



Precision agriculture



Infrastructure management

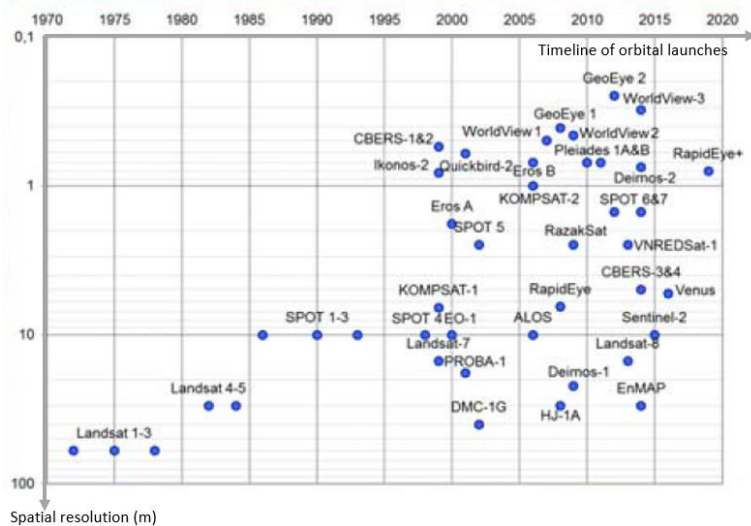


Urban mapping

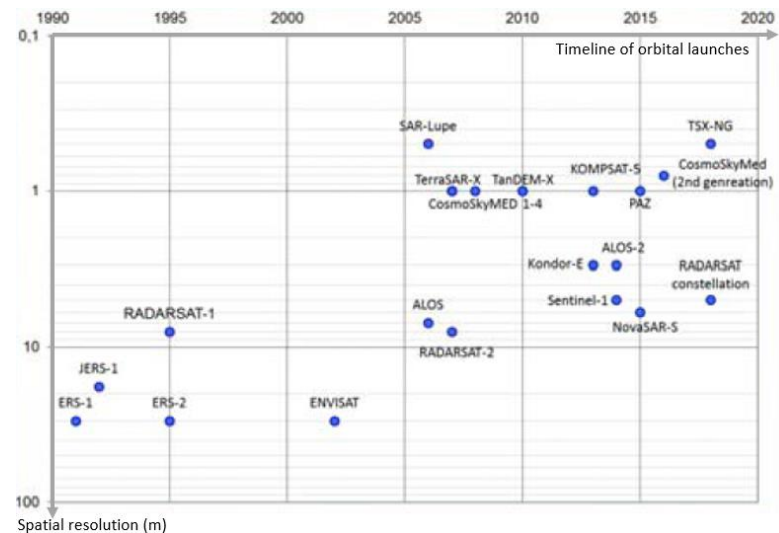


Introduction and Background

Remote sensing and applications



Systems operating in optical spectrum



Systems operating in microwave spectrum

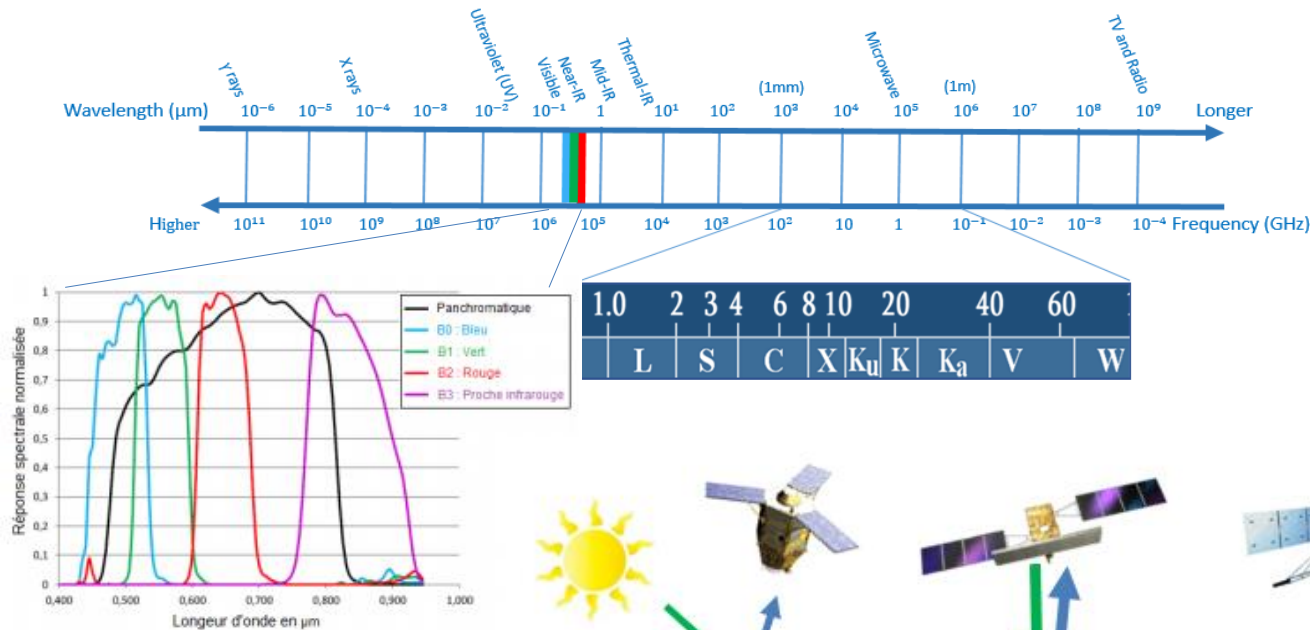
The **proliferation** of data gives rise to the increasing complexity of RS data,
As well as to the **diversity** and **higher dimensionality** characteristic of the data.



Complementary informations

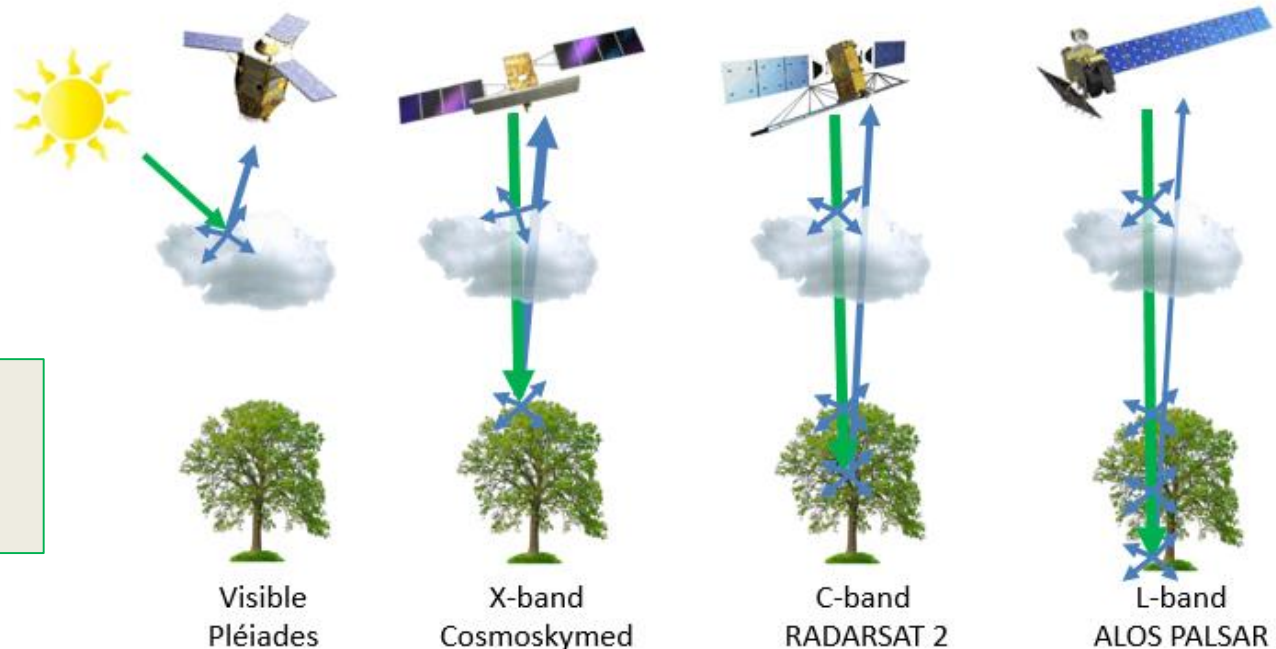
Introduction and Background

Remote sensing data



Scattering intensity has a strong dependence on the **size of the particles**

! valuable spatial information from different sensors



Introduction and Background

Focus on image classification as part of risk management

Risk management



Earthquake in Nepal (2015)

Introduction to the Research Activity

Focus of the talk

Due to the **huge number** and the (short) **revisit** time of high resolution satellites



Huge amount of satellite images can be acquired at different resolutions



valuable spatio-temporal information.

Problem Statement

develop methods to explore such huge data

- **Multiresolution** information
- **Multitemporal** information
- **Multisensor** information

Introduction to the Research Activity

Objectives

- ✓ Joint classification of **coregistered** mono-/multi-band, multi-resolution and/or multi-sensor (SAR, optical) acquisitions into M classes.
- ✓ **Hierarchical graph**: use multi-resolution data.
- ✓ **Flexible** enough and sufficiently **robust** to different types of images at different dates and/or from different sensors.

Key points

- ✓ Focus on **multi-resolution** and **multi-temporal optical** images
- ✓ Extension to **multi-sensor** images (SAR+ optical) and **multi-frequency** SAR

Proposed methods

Three novel **hierarchical methods** have been proposed to fuse **multi-date, multi-resolution, multi-band** and **multi-sensor** remote sensing imagery for multi-temporal classification purposes. Experimentally validated with challenging **multi-modal** imagery from **Haiti** test sites

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Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

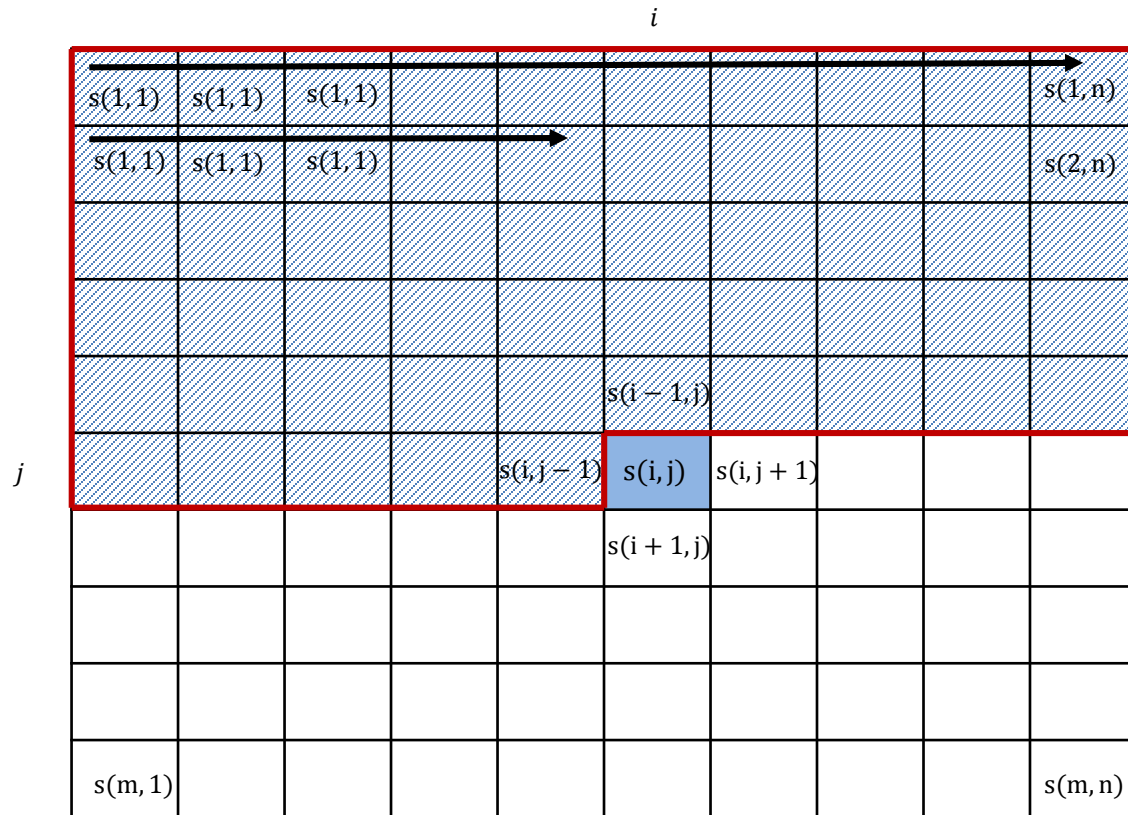
General presentation: Hierarchical method

- ❖ **Classification**: Estimate the labels X *at the finest resolution* given all the observations.
- ❖ **Quad-tree structure**: **causality** that allows to use a **non-iterative algorithm**.
- ❖ **MPM (Marginal Posterior Mode) criterion**: penalizes the errors according to their number and the scale at which they occur.

Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

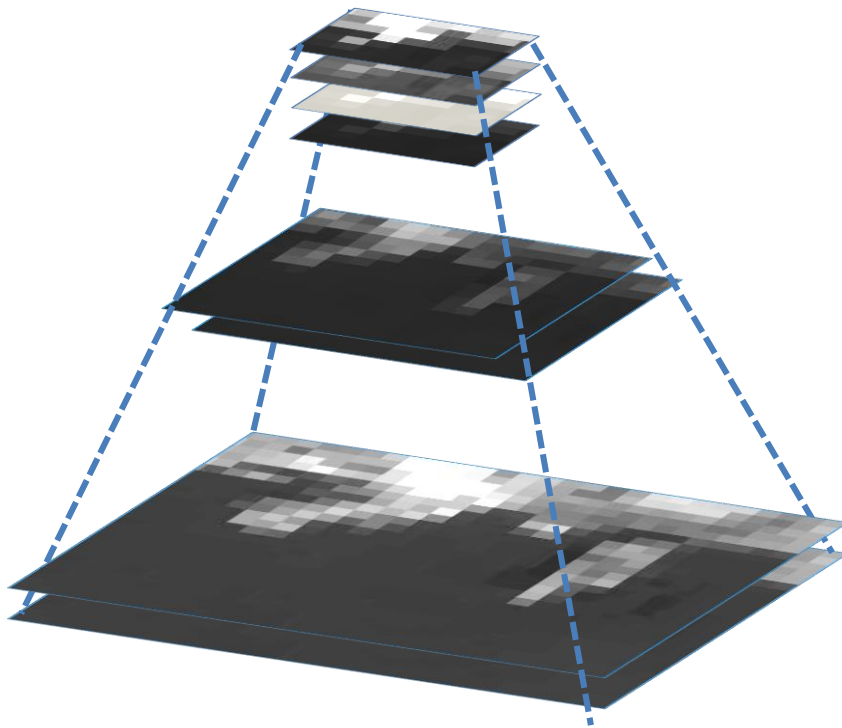
Causality

- Define an **order** over the set of sites S . In such a way, we characterize the **past** of a site $s(i, j)$
- For instance:

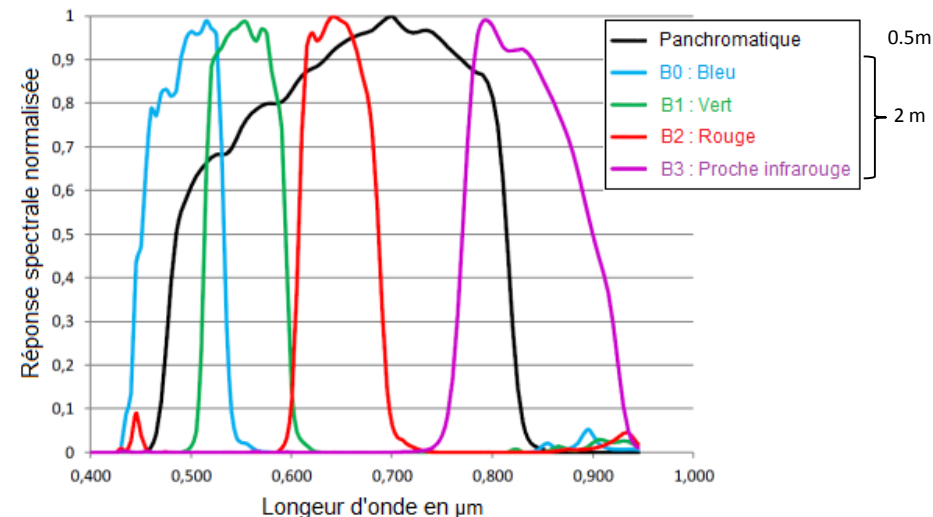


Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

Pyramid structure



Pléiades sensor



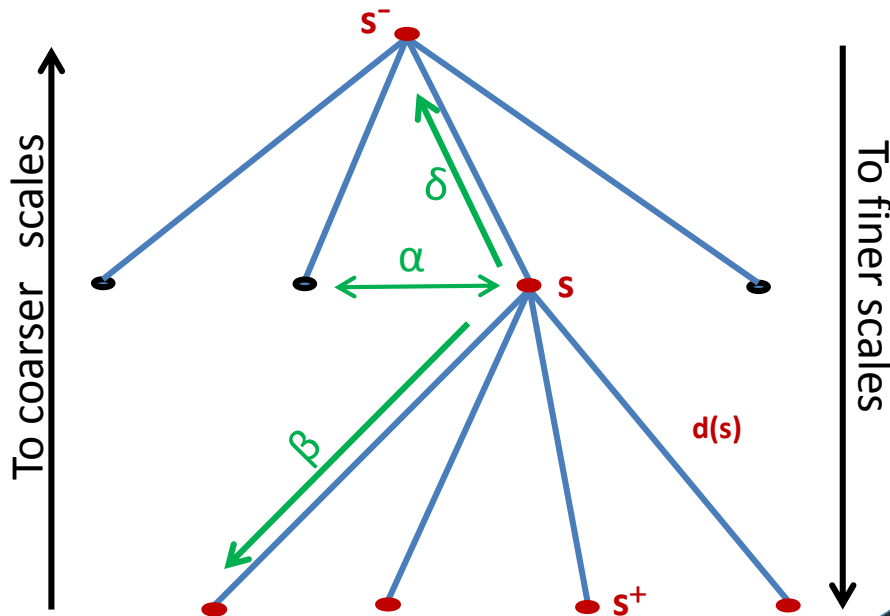
- Images are organized **according to their resolutions** in a pyramid structure

Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

Quad-tree structure

Operators on the quad-tree :

- δ : the backward shift
- α : the interchange operator at the same scale
- β : the forward shift

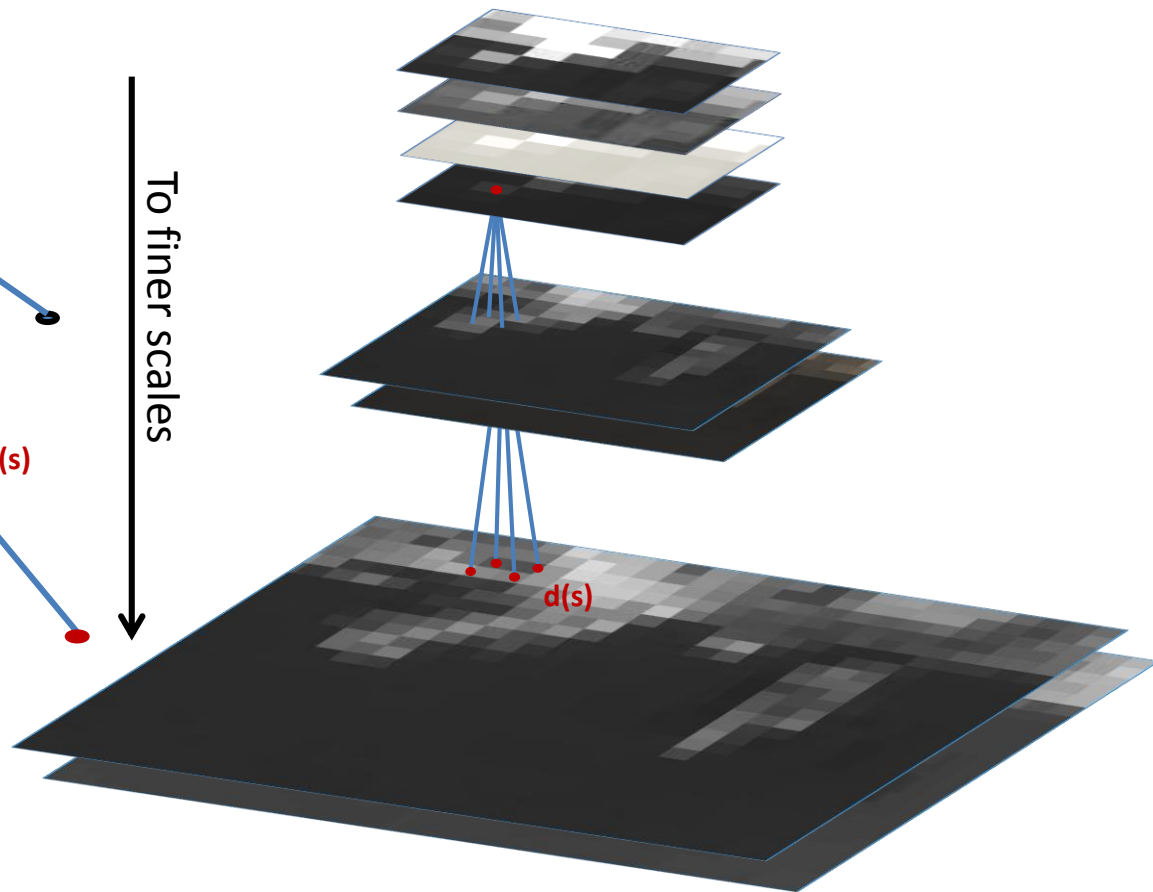


- $s^- = \delta(s)$
- $s^+ = \beta(s)$
- $d(s) = s^+ \cup (s^+)^+ \cup ((s^+)^+)^+ \cup \dots$

Missing levels might appear



wavelets



Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

MPM criterion

$$\hat{x}_s = \arg \max_{x_s \in \omega} P(x_s | y)$$

$$p(x_s | y) = \sum_{x_{s^-}} \left[\frac{p(x_s, x_{s^-} | y_{d(s)})}{\sum_{x_s} p(x_s, x_{s^-} | y_{d(s)})} \cdot p(x_{s^-} | y) \right]$$

Calculate recursively the posterior marginal $p(x_s | y)$ while the probabilities $p(x_s, x_{s^-} | y_{d(s)})$ are made available.

$$\frac{p(x_s | x_{s^-}) \cdot p(x_{s^-})}{p(x_s)} \cdot p(x_s | y_{d(s)})$$

① Prior

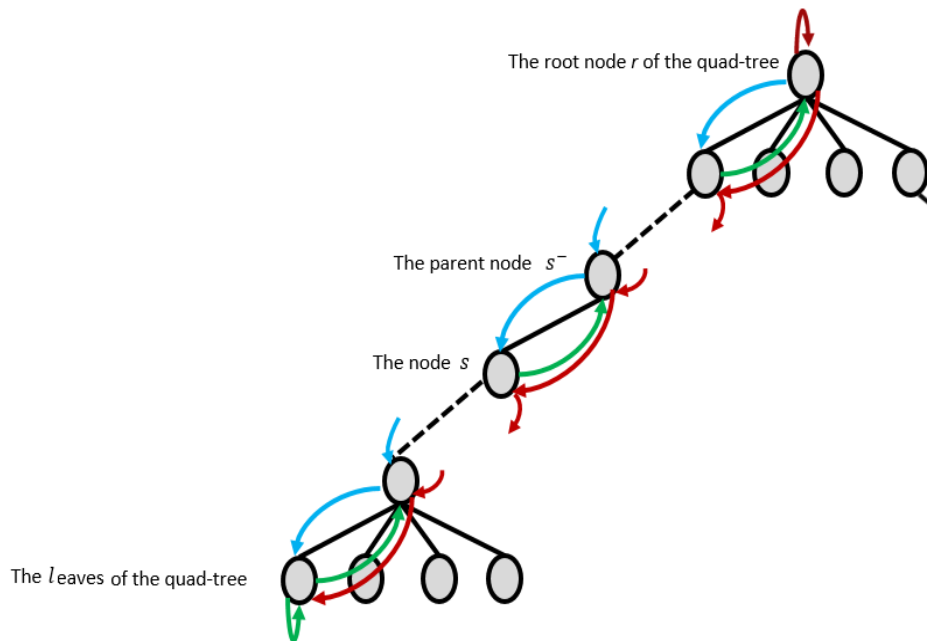
② Posterior marginal

③ Transition Probabilities over scale

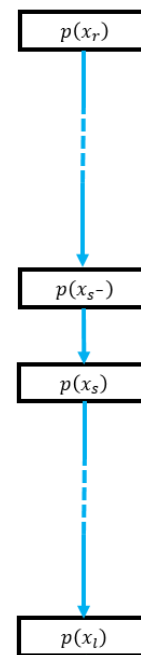
These probabilities are calculated through a MPM algorithm which runs in two passes on a quad tree, referred to as “bottom-up” and “top-down” passes.

Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

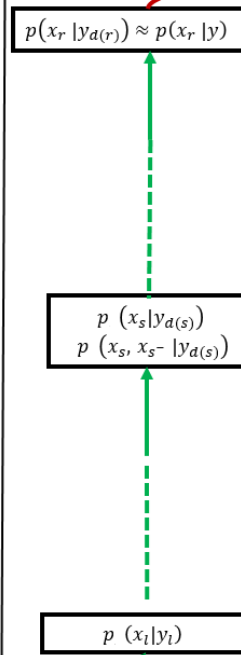
Global scheme



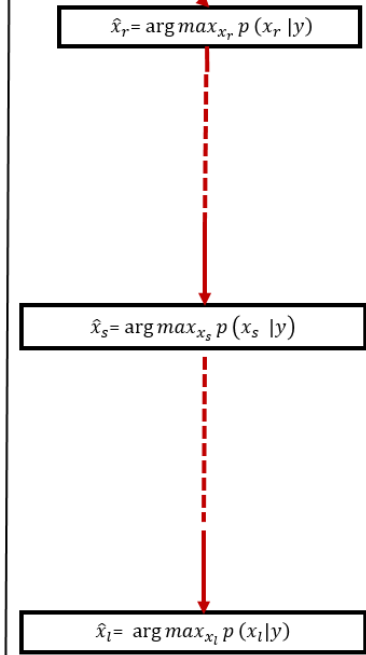
Preliminary pass



Bottom-up pass

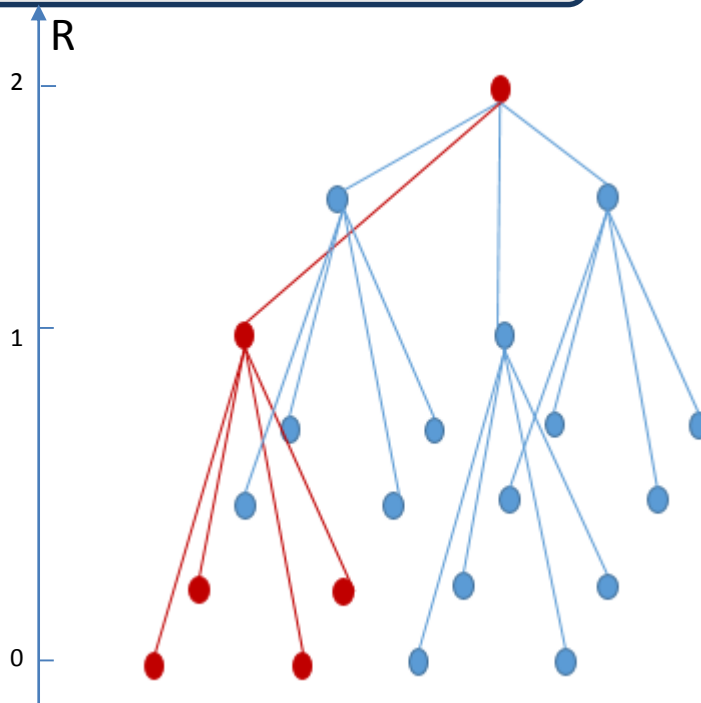


Top-down pass



Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-trees

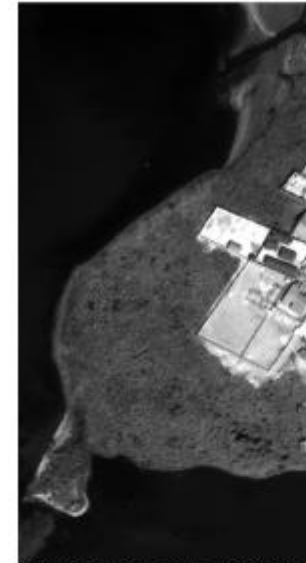
Blocky artifacts



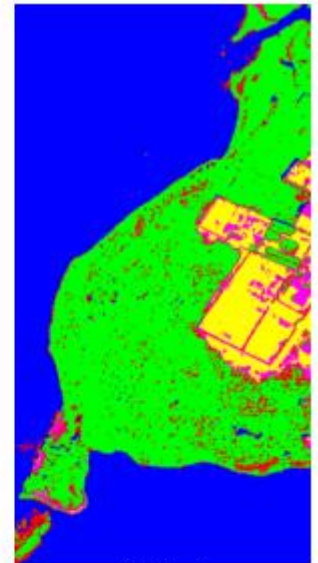
Two neighboring sites at a given scale may not have the same parent.



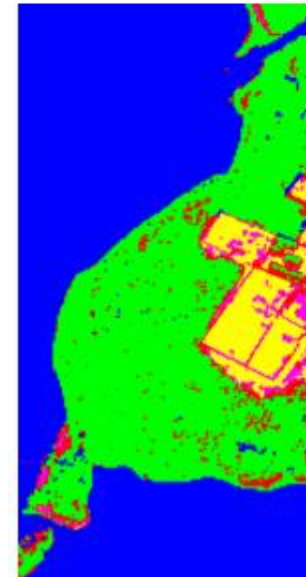
A **boundary** is more likely to appear than when they are linked to the same parent node.



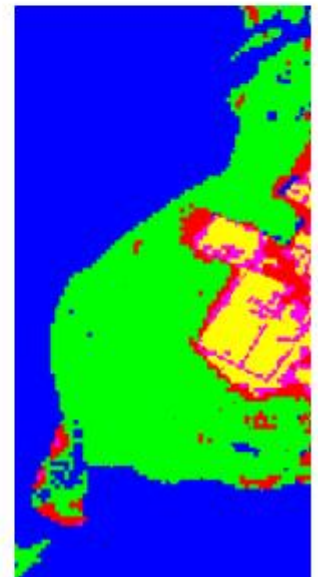
(a) Pléiades data ©CNES distribution, Airbus DS (2011)



(b) $R=2$



(c) $R=3$



(d) $R=4$

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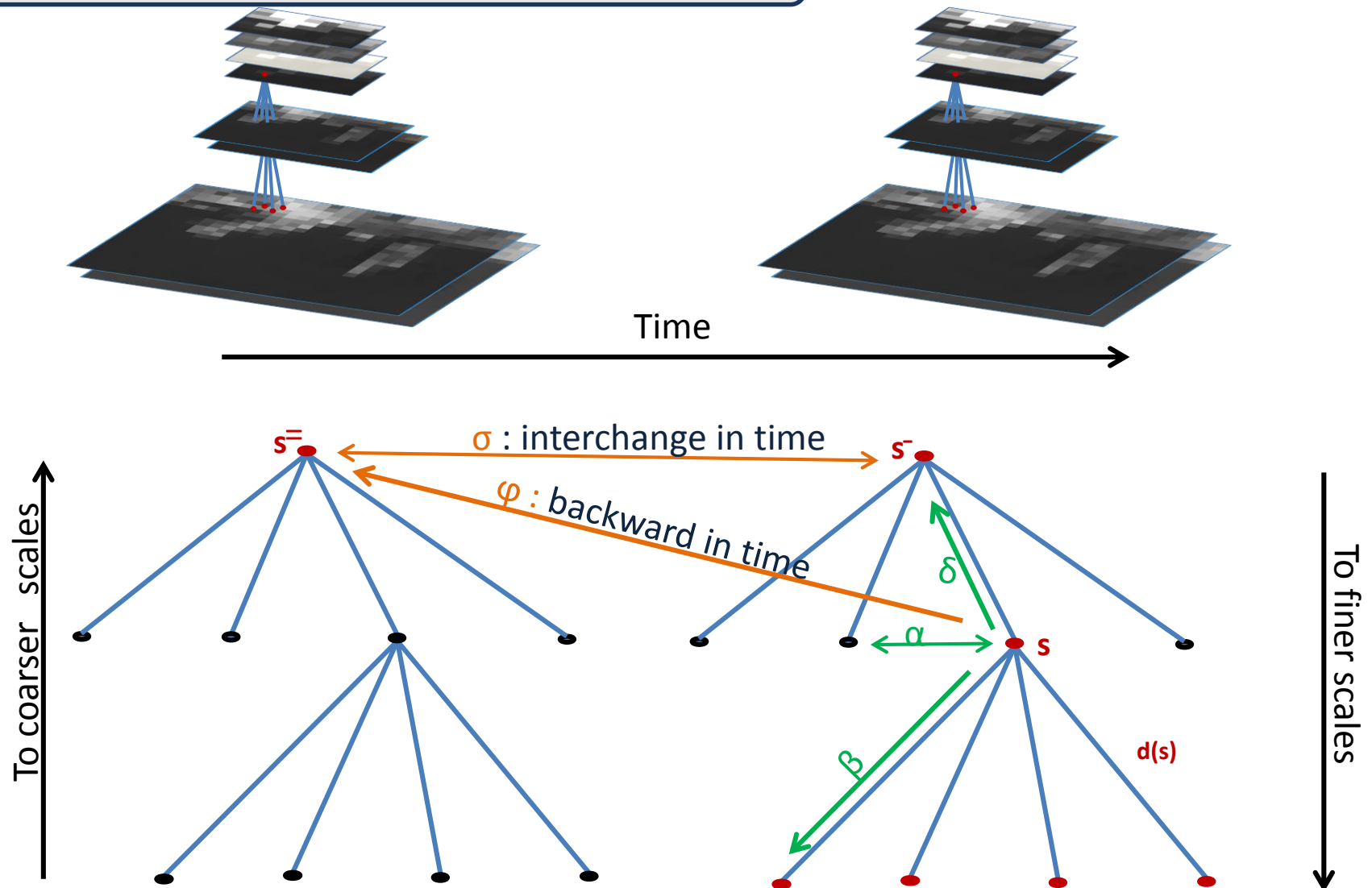
Proposed method 3: Contextual Hierarchical Markov Model

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Conclusion and Perspectives

Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

Novel hierarchical cascade structure



Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

MPM formulation

$$\hat{x}_s = \arg \max_{x_s \in \omega} P(x_s | y)$$

$$p(x_s | y) = \sum_{x_{s^-}, x_{s^+}} \left[\frac{p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{s^+} | y_{d(s)})}{\sum_{x_s} p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{s^+} | y_{d(s)})} \cdot p(x_{s^-} | y) p(x_{s^+} | y) \right]$$

Calculate recursively the posterior marginal $p(x_s | y)$ while the probabilities $p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{s^+} | y_{d(s)})$ are made available.

$$p(x_s | x_{s^-}, x_{s^+}) \cdot \frac{p(x_{s^-} | x_{s^+}) \cdot p(x_{s^+})}{p(x_s)} \cdot p(x_s | y_{d(s)})$$

1 Prior

2 Posterior marginal

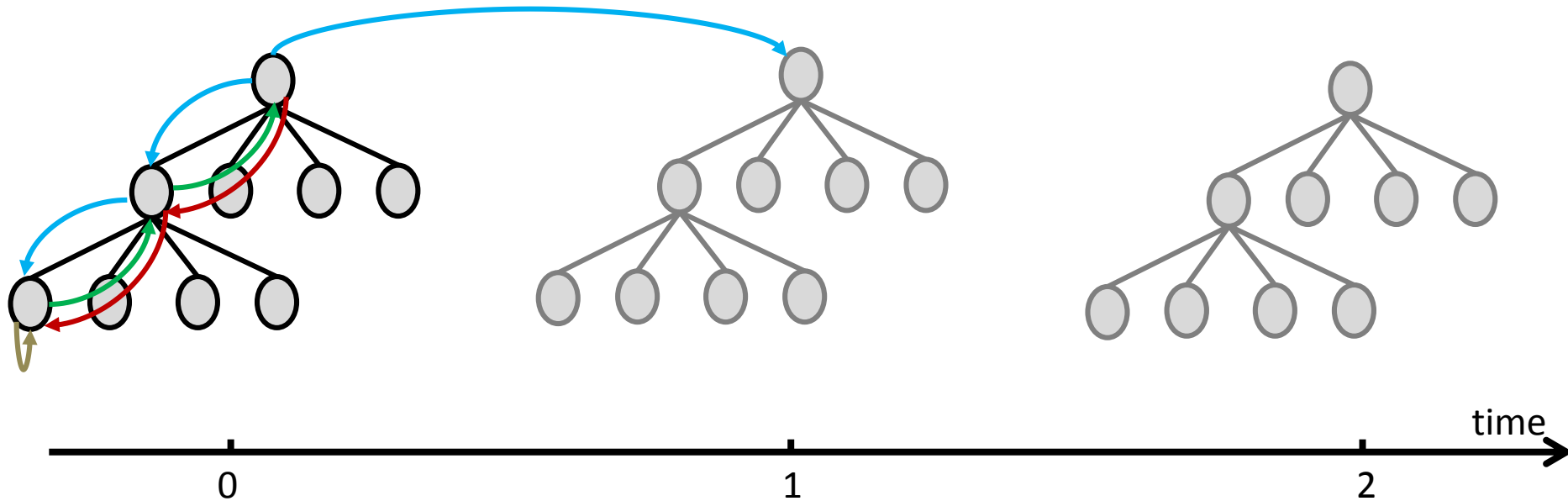
3 } Transition Probabilities over scale and time

4 }

These probabilities are calculated through a MPM algorithm which runs in two passes on a quad-tree, referred to as "bottom-up" and "top-down" passes.

Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

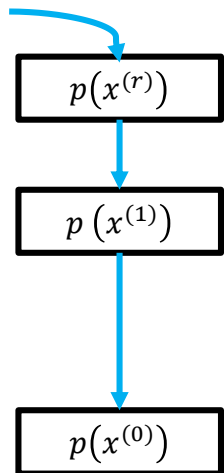
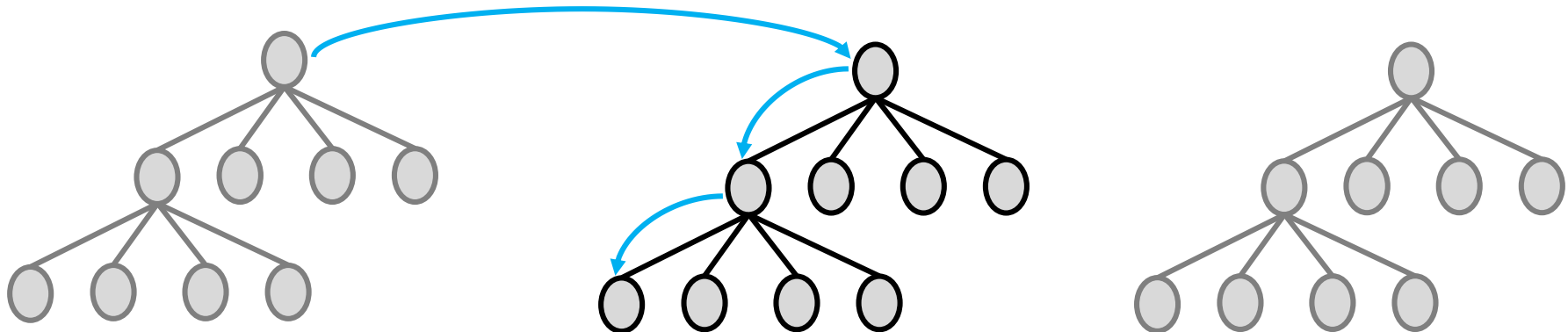
Time $t=0$: single-time MPM



- Classification is performed at time $t=0$ using a single-date MPM
- A case-specific initialization strategy is applied that makes use of a spatial MRF model

Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

Time t=1: first top-down pass



Top-down

①

Prior

$$p(x_s) = \sum_{x_{s-}} [\textcolor{brown}{p}(x_s | x_{s-}) \cdot \textcolor{blue}{p}(x_{s-})]$$

Transition Probabilities over scale*

③

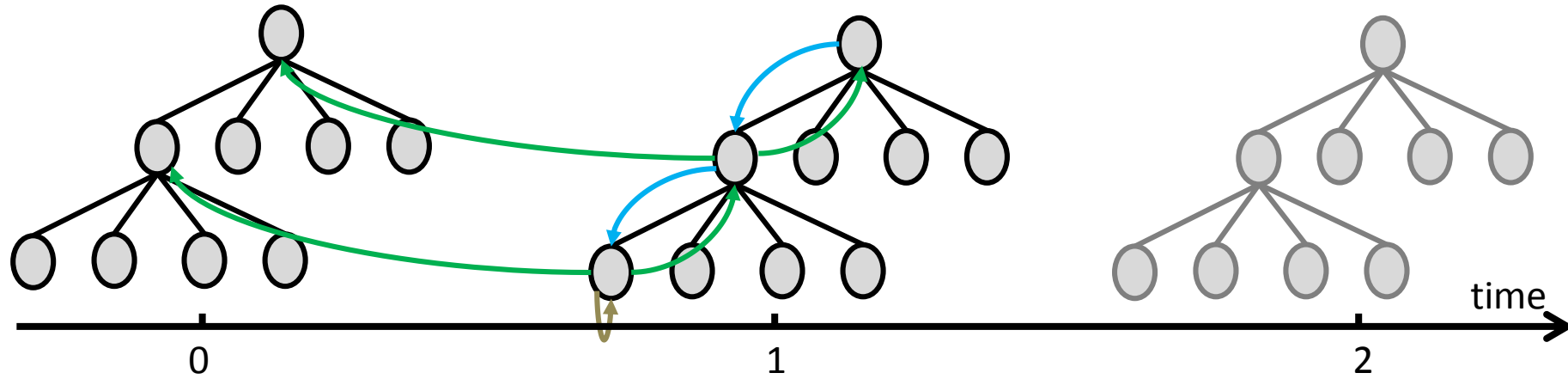
$$p(x_s | x_{s-}) = \begin{cases} \theta & x_s = x_{s-} \\ \frac{1-\theta}{M-1} & x_s \neq x_{s-} \end{cases}$$

Transition Probabilities over scale and time

$$\textcircled{4} \ p(x_s | x_{s-}, x_{s=}) = \begin{cases} \theta & x_s = (x_{s-} = x_{s=}) \\ \varphi & x_s = (x_{s-} \neq x_{s=}) \\ \frac{1-\theta}{M-1} & x_s \neq (x_{s-} = x_{s=}) \\ \frac{1-2\varphi}{M-2} & x_s \neq (x_{s-} \neq x_{s=}) \end{cases}$$

Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

Time t = 1: bottom-up pass

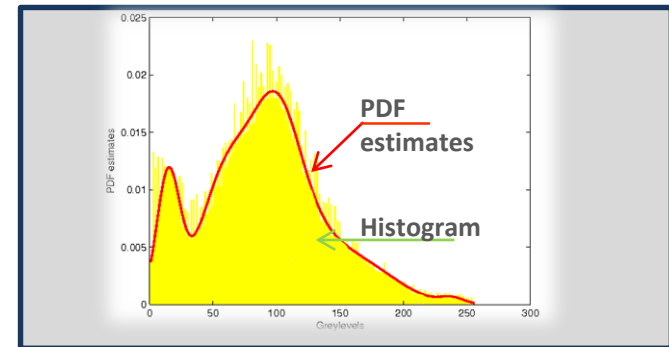


Bottom-up ②

Posterior marginal [4]

$$p(x_s | y_{d(s)}) \propto \frac{p(y_s | x_s) \cdot p(x_s) \cdot \prod_{u \in s^+} \sum_{x_u} \left[\frac{p(x_u | y_{d(u)})}{p(x_u)} \cdot p(x_u | x_s) \right]}{p(y_s)}$$

Likelihood term estimated using Gaussian mixture (SEM to estimate the parameters)

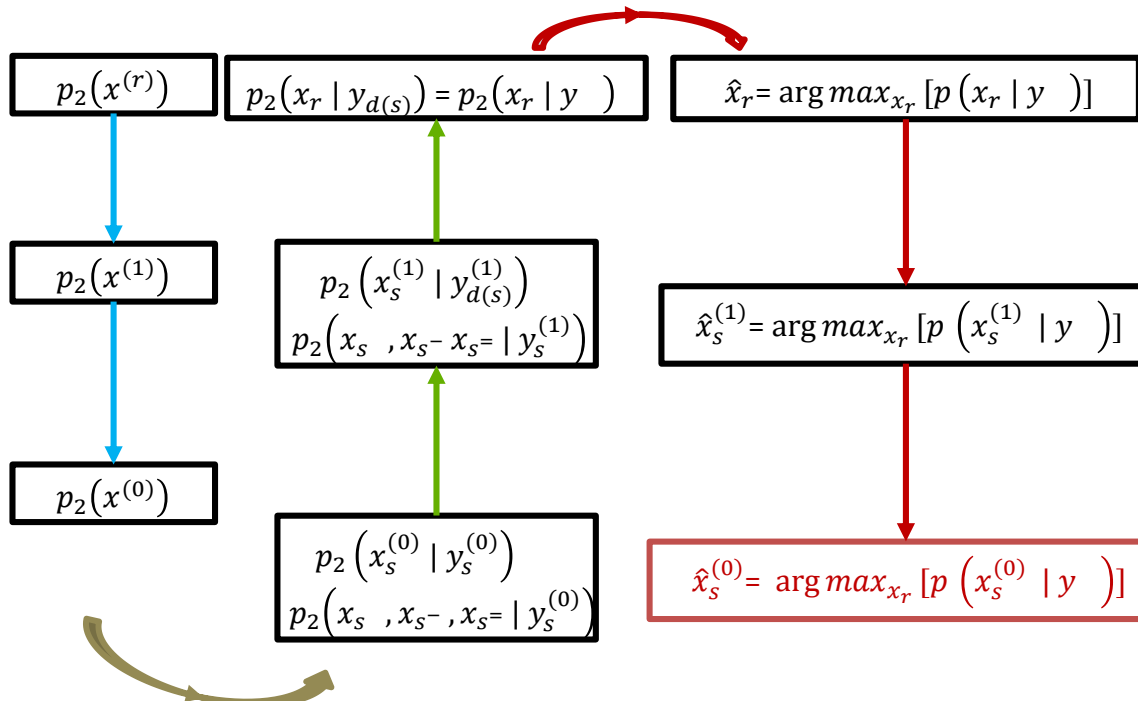
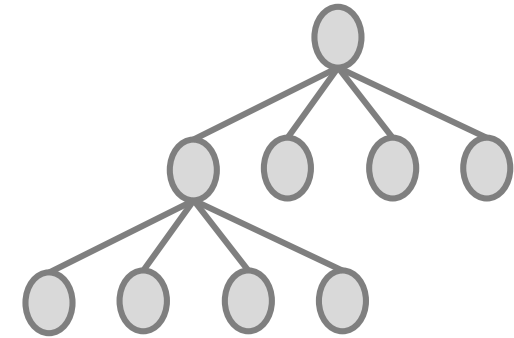
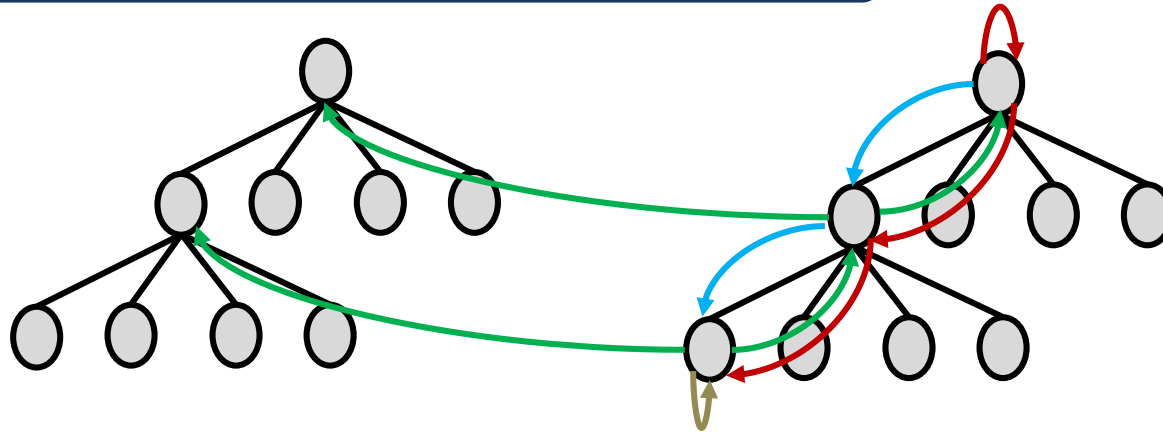


Initialisation: $p(x_s | y_s) \propto p(y_s | x_s) \cdot p(x_s)$

Urban area modeling

Multi-temporal Hierarchical Markov Model

Time t=1: second top-down pass



❖ Need to maximize the posterior probability at each scale.

❖ Several techniques are used in the literature (Metropolis dynamics, ICM, Graph-cut ...)

❖ Tool: **modified Metropolis dynamics.**

Kato, Z. Zerubia, J. and Berthod, M., "Satellite image classification using a modified Metropolis dynamics," IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing. ICASSP., 1992 (Volume:3).

Experimental results

Data sets



Port au Prince
Pléiades ©CNES (2011), distribution
Airbus DS



Port au Prince
Pléiades ©CNES (2012), distribution
Airbus DS



Port au Prince
Pléiades ©CNES (2013), distribution
Airbus DS



Port au Prince
©GeoEye (2009),

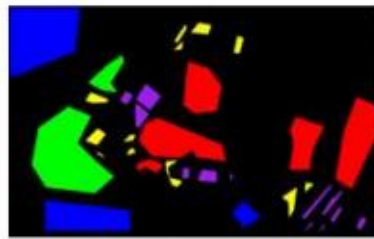


Port au Prince
©GeoEye (2010),

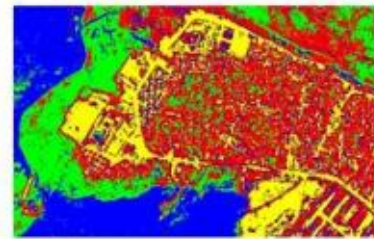
Experimental results



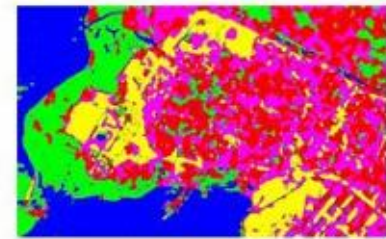
(a) Pléiades image (2013)



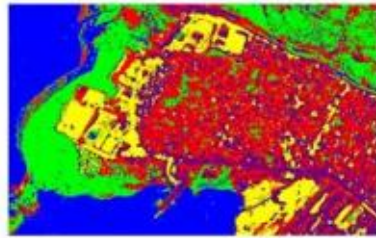
(b) Ground Truth



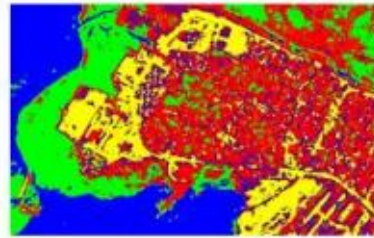
(c) Single scale method (MPM criterion)



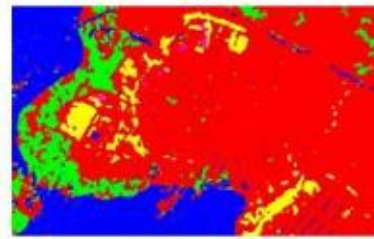
(d) Single scale method (MAP criterion)



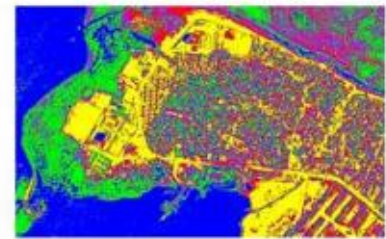
(e) Multi-temporal single scale



(f) The proposed method



(g) KNN-MRF method



(h) Kmeans

	Port-au-Prince, Haiti						computation time
	urban ■	water ■	vegetation ■	bare soil ■	containers ■	overall	
Proposed method	81.62 %	100 %	90.69 %	92.82 %	62.82 %	85,59 %	480 seconds
Single scale method using MPM criterion	77.45 %	88.62 %	72.59 %	86.02 %	57.02 %	76.34 %	160 seconds
Single scale method using MAP criterion	56.14 %	100%	81,90 %	87.02%	73.21%	79.65 %	220 seconds
Multitemporal single-scale method	80.63 %	100 %	86.33 %	87.61 %	69.61 %	84,83 %	≈1 hour
K-NN + MRF	96,84%	92,42%	47.15 %	71.83 %	16.75 %	64,99%	90 seconds
K-means	12.37%	98.63%	59.18%	91.66 %	29.42 %	58.25 %	20s

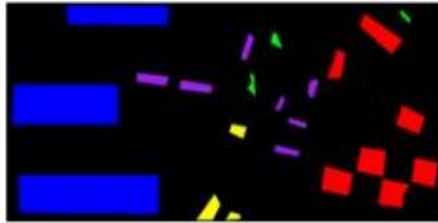
Table 1. Results obtained using the Pléiades dataset: class accuracies (producer's accuracies), overall accuracy, and computation time.

Experiments were conducted using one (1600x1000) image at level 0, one (800x500) image at level 1 and four (400x250) images at level 2 on an Intel i7 quad-core (2.4 GHz) 8-GB-RAM 64-bit Linux system.

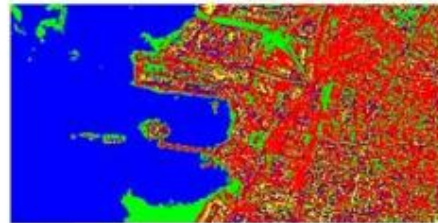
Experimental results



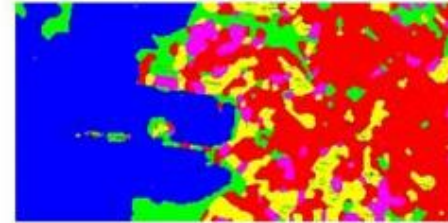
(a) Pléiades image (2013)



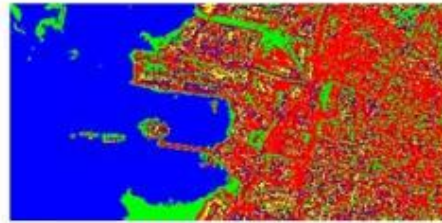
(b) Ground Truth



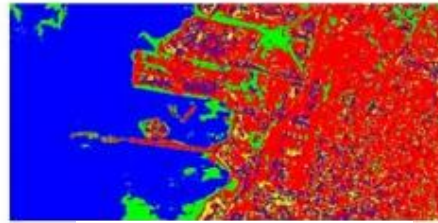
(c) Single scale method (MPM criterion)



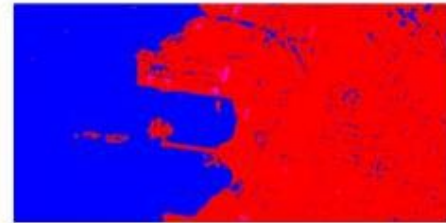
(d) Single scale method (MAP criterion)



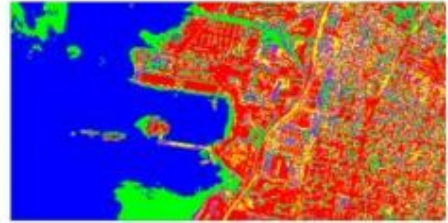
(e) Multi-temporal single scale



(f) The proposed method



(g) KNN-MRF method



(h) Kmeans

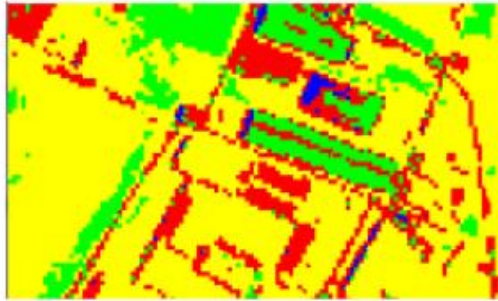
	Port-au-Prince, Haiti					overall	computation time
	urban ■	water ■	vegetation ■	bare soil ■	containers ■		
Proposed method	87.59 %	100 %	98.12 %	72.82 %	82.27 %	88,16 %	345 seconds
Single scale method using MPM criterion	77.45 %	100 %	88.34 %	66.22 %	67.87 %	79.97 %	90 seconds
Single scale method using MAP criterion	64.52 %	100%	92.15 %	85.62%	49.47 %	78.35 %	140 seconds
Multitemporal single-scale method	80.63 %	100 %	89.79 %	70.54 %	74.29 %	83,05 %	≈1 hour
K-NN + MRF	100%	100%	0%	0%	12.28%	42.45 %	40 seconds
K-means	88.97%	100%	88.14%	45.6 %	36.96 %	71.93 %	15 seconds

Table 2. Results obtained using the GeoEye dataset: class accuracies (producer's accuracies), overall accuracy, and computation time.

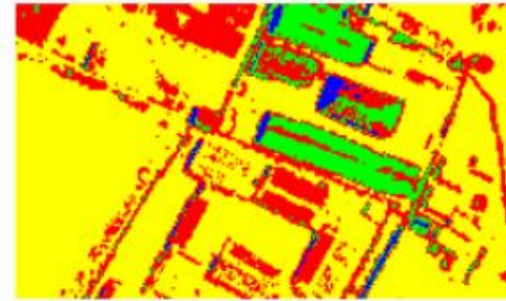
Experiments were conducted using one (1600x800) image at level 0, one (800x400) image at level 1 and one (400x250) image at level 2 on an Intel i7 quad-core (2.4 GHz) 8-GB-RAM 64-bit Linux system.

Experimental results

✓ Blocky artifacts



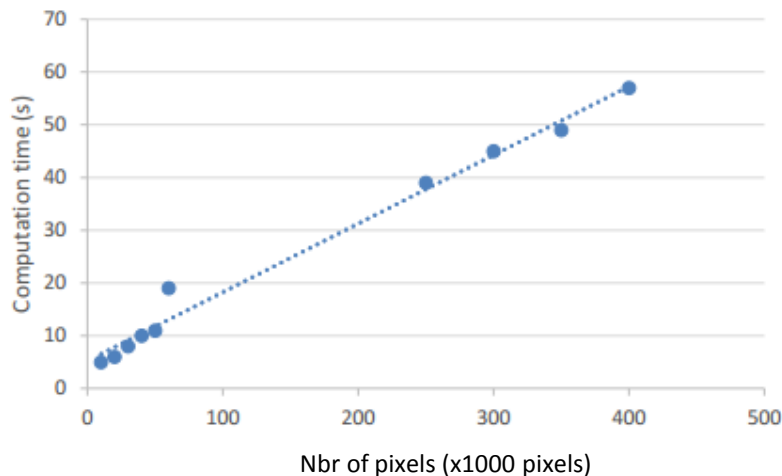
(a)



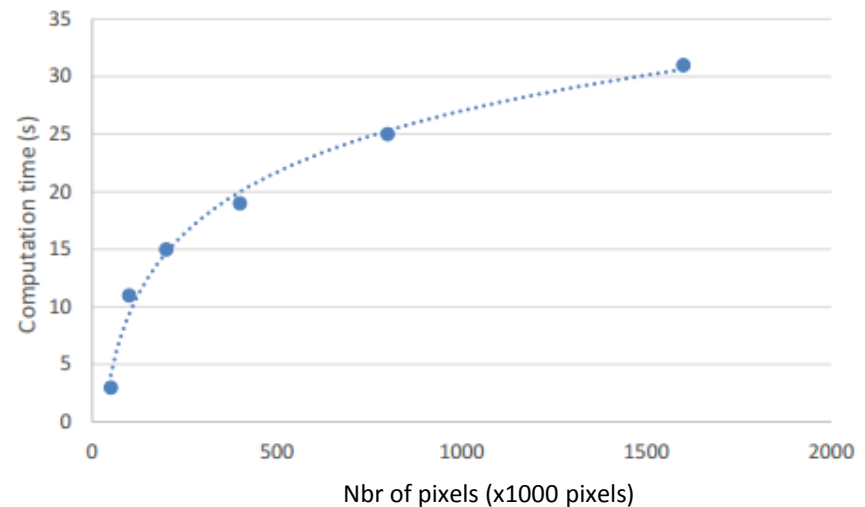
(b)

blocky artefacts using the method with a single quad-tree (MPM criterion) (a)
reduction of these blocky artefacts using the proposed method (b).

✓ Computation time



classification step



PDF estimation step

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Multi-sensor Hierarchical Markov Model



The measurement in SAR and optical bands are very different from each other

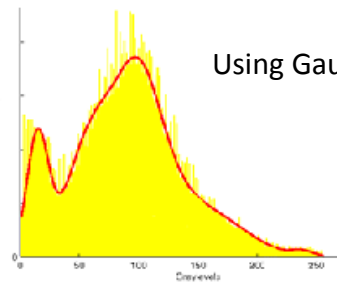
How to address the problem of SAR + optical PDF modeling



- 1 First, estimate the marginal class-conditional statistics of each SAR/optical channel separately via distinct finite mixtures.
- 2 then, model the joint PDF through **multivariate statistics**.



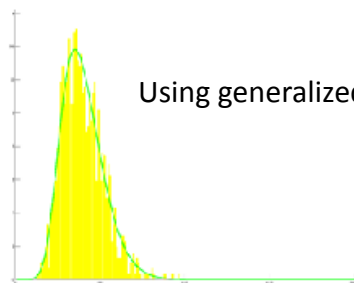
Optical data



Using Gaussian mixture



SAR data



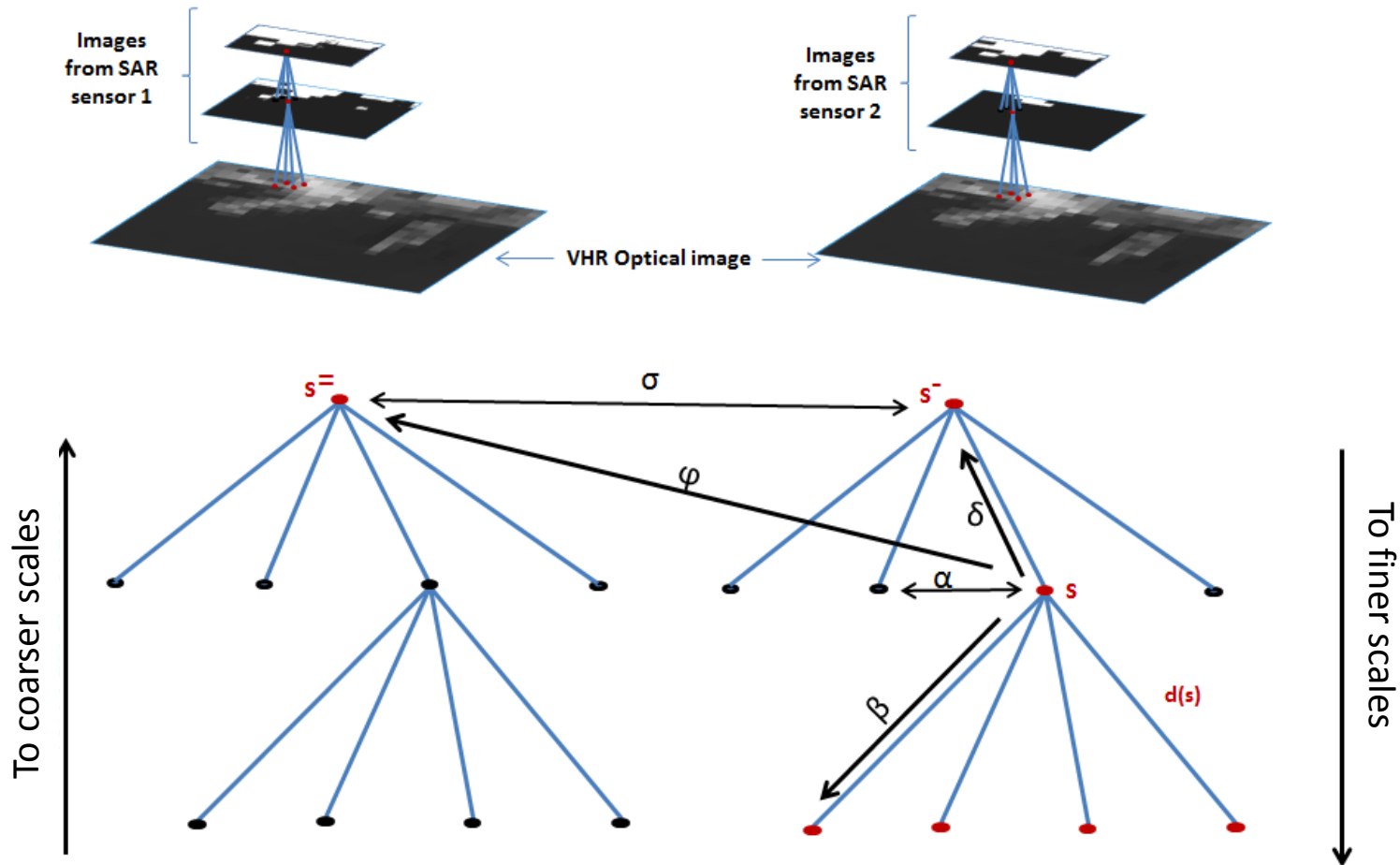
Using generalized Gamma distribution

multivariate statistics

Joint
PDF

Multi-sensor Hierarchical Markov Models

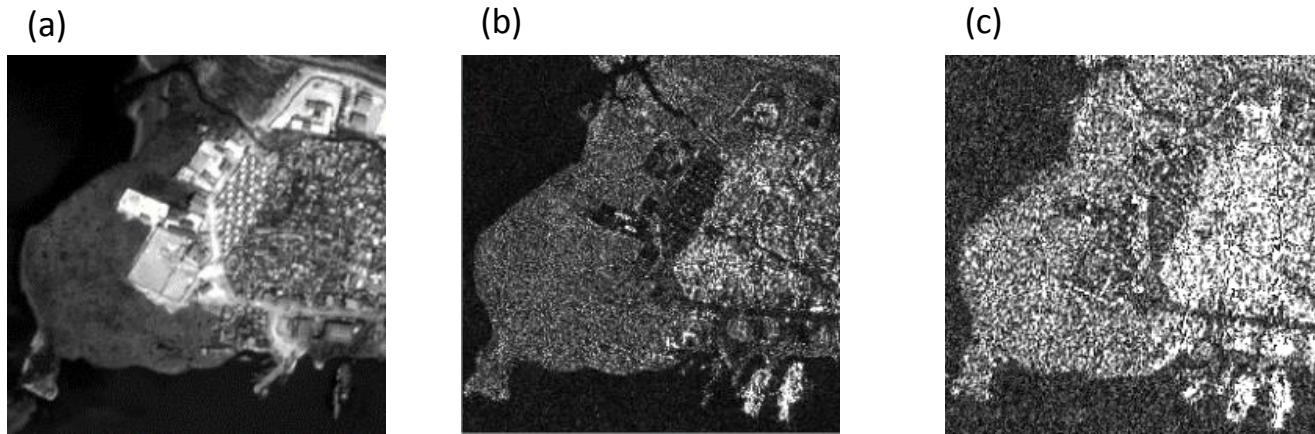
The First proposed method: highlight the synergy between two SAR sensors



Proposed Multi-sensor Quad-tree (case 1).

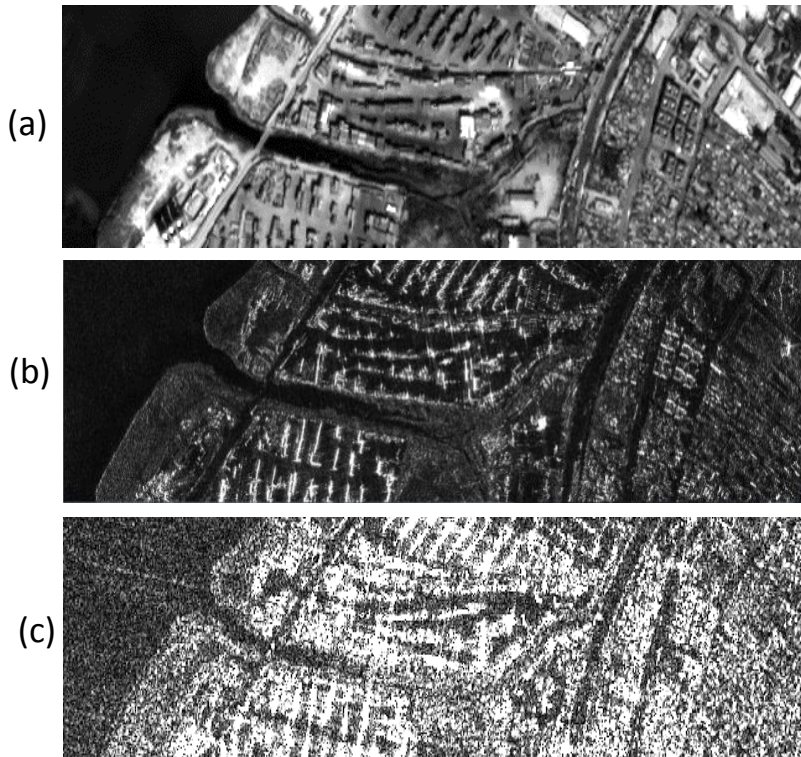
Experimental results on multi-sensor data (case 1).

Figure 1



- (a) Pleiades,
- (b) CSK
- (c) RS2

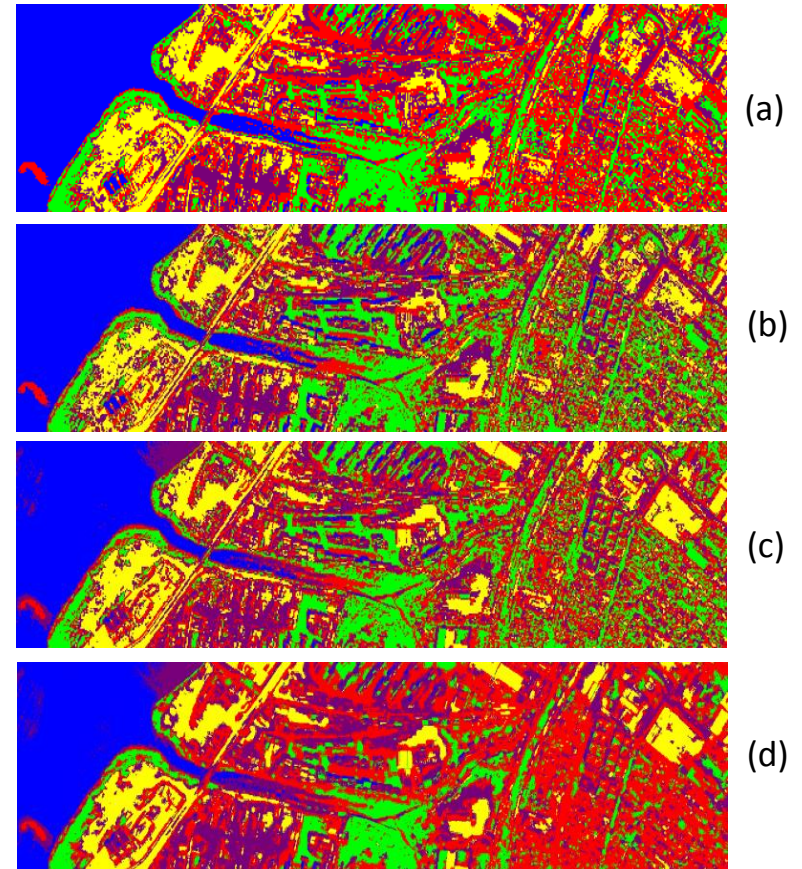
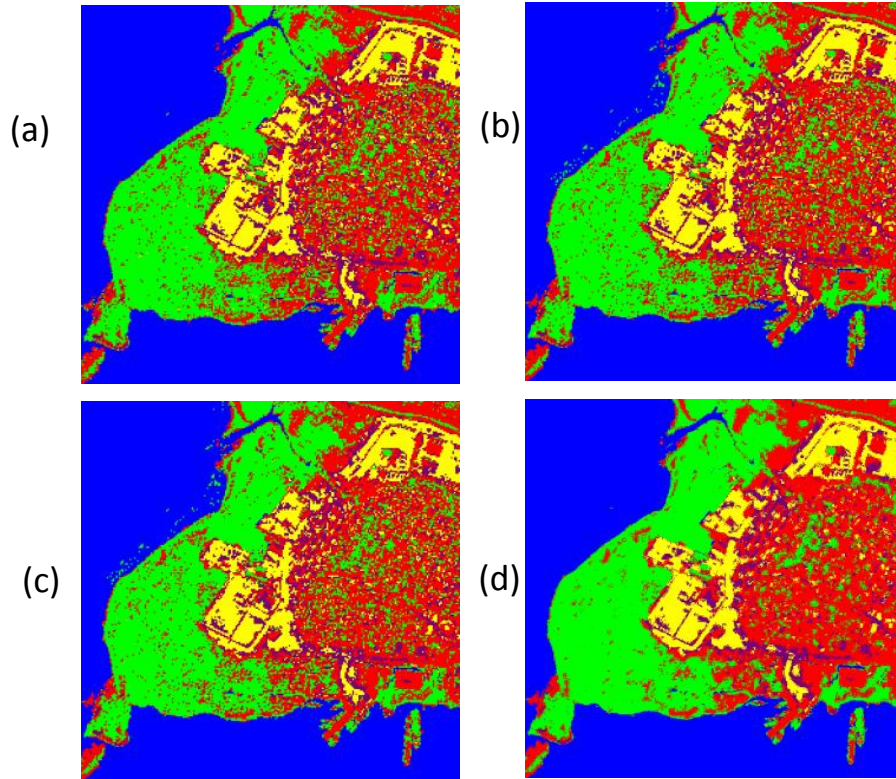
Figure 2



two datasets acquired over Port-au-Prince (Haiti) using:

- a panchromatic Pléiades acquisition at 0.5m resolution (Pléiades, © CNES distribution Airbus DS, 2011), shown in Figures 1(a) and 2(a).
- a CSK image (© ASI, 2011), X band, HH polarization, Spotlight mode (1m pixel spacing), geocoded, single-look, shown in Figures 1(b) and 2(b).
- a RS2 image (© CSA, 2011), C band, HH polarization, Ultra-Fine mode (1.56 m pixel spacing), geocoded, single-look, shown in Figures 1(c) and 2(c).

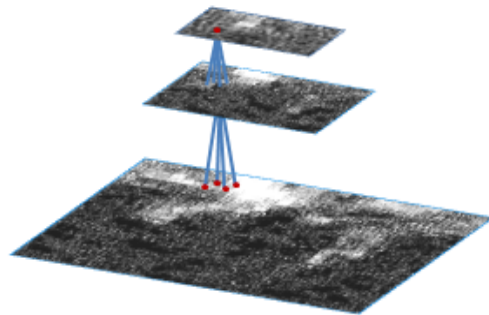
Experimental results on multi-sensor data (case 1).



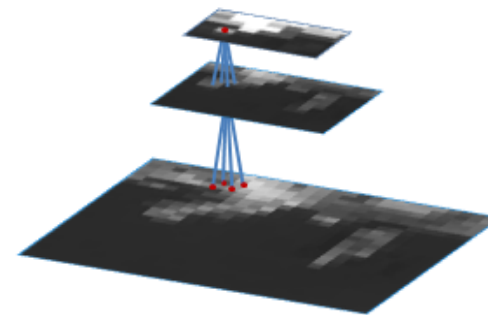
	Water	Urban	Vegetation	Bare Soil	containers	Overall accuracy
(a) Only Pléiades	100 %	61.66 %	81.69 %	82.82 %	56.72%	76.57%
(b) Pléiades + CSK	100%	44.32%	83.54%	74.75%	49.12%	70.34%
(c) Pléiades + RS2	92.56%	44.85%	79.85%	78.62%	42.15%	67.60
(d) Pléiades +CSK+RS2	90.79%	91,45 %	82,59 %	81.02 %	54.85%	80,14 %

Multi-sensor Hierarchical Markov Models

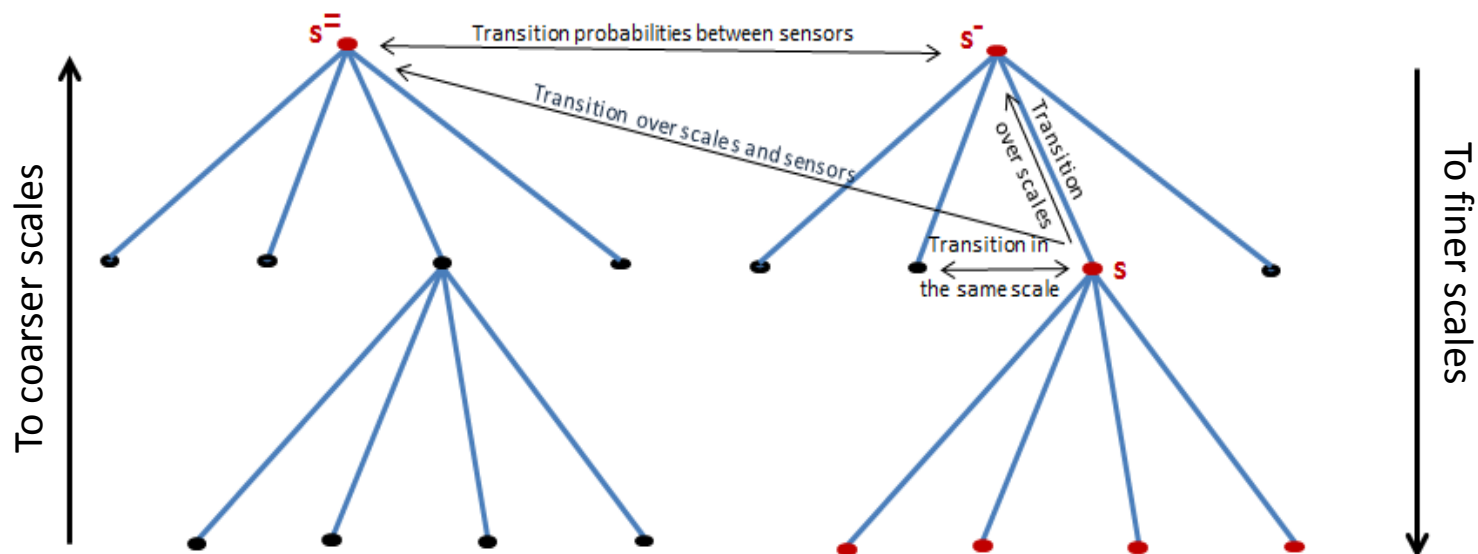
The second proposed method: SAR/optical fusion (cascade method)



Pyramid of SAR Images

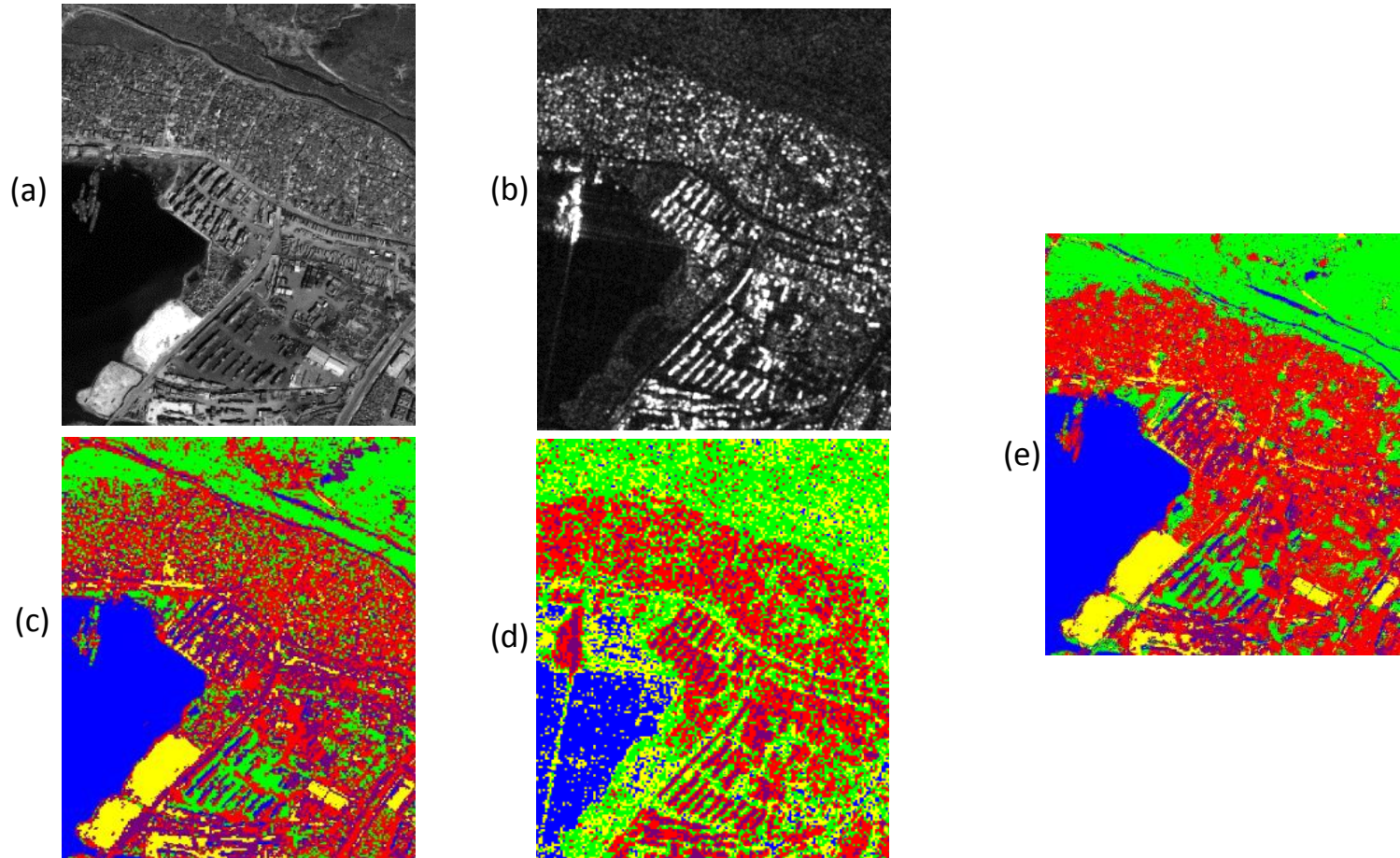


Pyramid of optical Images



Proposed Multi-sensor Quad-tree (case 2).

Experimental results on multi-sensor data (case 2).



- (a) One channel from the optical image (© GeoEye),
- (b) SAR image (© ASI),
- (c) hierarchical MRF-based classification obtained from the optical image,
- (d) hierarchical MRF-based classification obtained for the SAR image,
- (e) hierarchical MRF-based classification obtained by the proposed cascade method.

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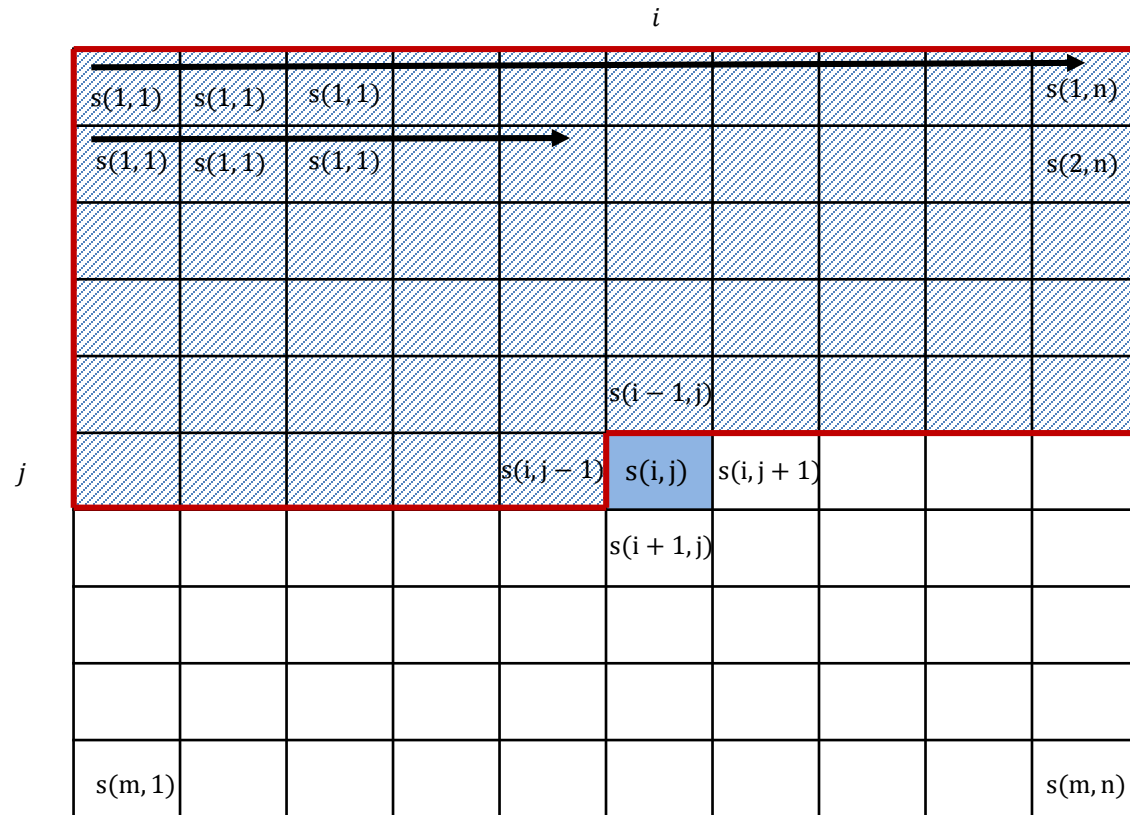
Proposed method 3: Contextual Hierarchical Markov Model

5

Conclusion and Perspectives

Contextual multi-scale classification on quad-tree

Markov Mesh Random Field (MMRF)

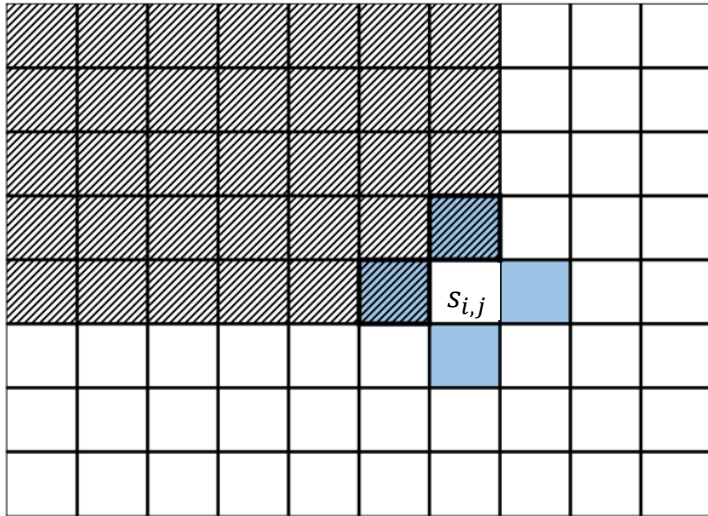


The **past** of the site $s(i,j)$ $pa(s_{i,j})$

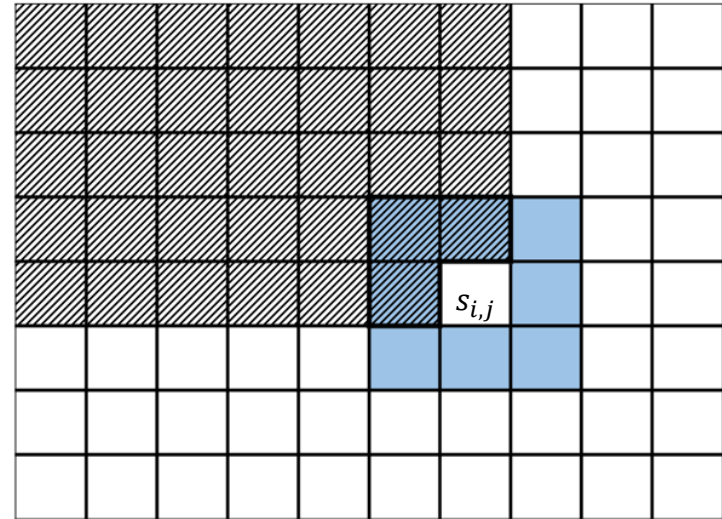
Contextual multi-scale classification on quad-tree

Markov Mesh Random Field (MMRF)

Causal neighborhood $\partial(s_{i,j})$



Second order MMRF



Third order MMRF

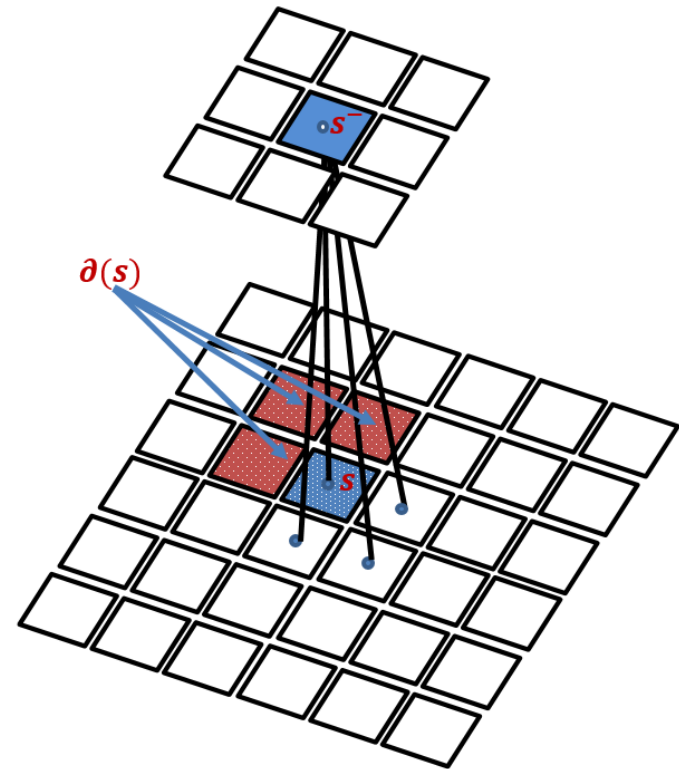
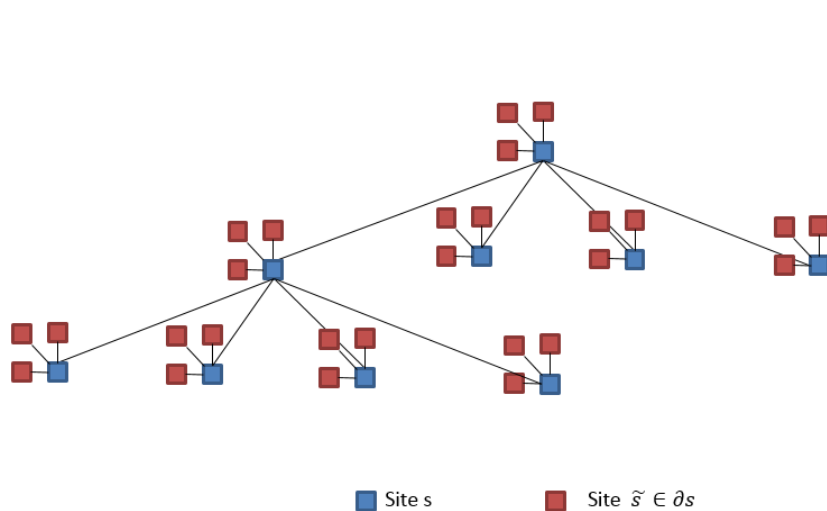
$$p(x_{s_{i,j}} | x_{pa(s_{i,j})}) = p(x_{s_{i,j}} | x_{\partial(s_{i,j})}) \quad (1)$$

(1) is abbreviated to:

$$p(x_s | x_{pa(s)}) = p(x_s | x_{\partial(s)})$$

Hierarchical Markov Model on quad-tree

Combined Structure (MMRF and quad-tree)



Multi-temporal MPM inference

Again , when the **causality** property holds, **non-iterative** classification algorithms can be applied

$$\hat{x}_s = \arg \max_{x_s \in \omega} P(x_s | y)$$

$$p(x_s | y) = \sum_{x_{s^-}, x_{\partial(s)}} \left[\frac{p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{\partial(s)} | y_{d(s)})}{\sum_{x_s} p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{\partial(s)} | y_{d(s)})} \cdot p(x_{s^-} | y) \right] \prod_{\tilde{s} \in \partial(s)} p(x_{\tilde{s}} | y)$$

Calculate recursively the posterior marginal $p(x_s | y)$ while the probabilities $p(x_s, x_{s^-}, x_{\partial(s)} | y_{d(s)})$ are made available.

$$\frac{p(x_s | x_{s^-}) \cdot p(x_{s^-})}{p(x_s)} \cdot \left[\prod_{\tilde{s} \in \partial(s)} \frac{p(x_s | x_{\tilde{s}}) \cdot p(x_{\tilde{s}})}{p(x_s)} \right] p(x_s | y_{d(s)})$$

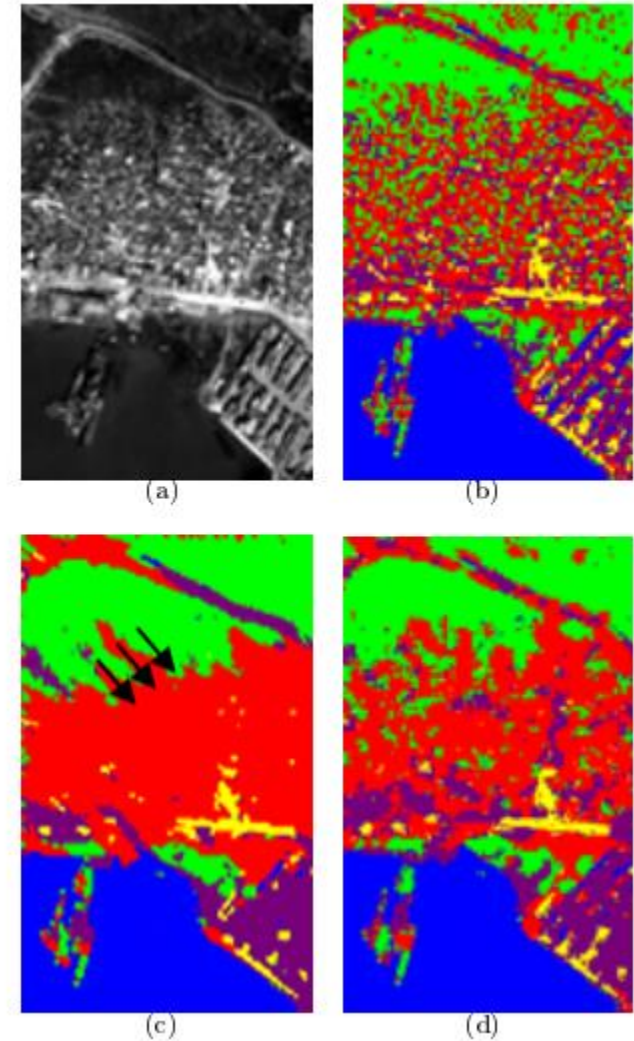
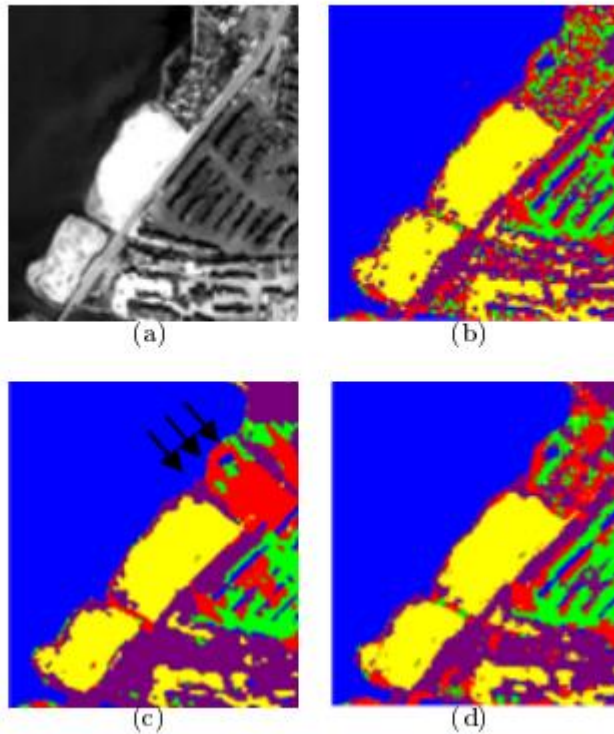
1 Prior

2 Posterior marginal

3 Transition Probabilities over scale

4 Contextual Probabilities

Experimental results



classification maps of optical (Pléiades) image (a) using the original method proposed in [Laferté et al., 2000] (b), the proposed method (c) and method in [Voisin et al., 2014] (d).

	water	urban	vegetation	containers	soil	over all	computation time
Proposed method	100	92	89	81	94	91	147 seconds
method in [Laferté et al., 2000]	100	62	76	72	91	80	120 seconds
method in [Voisin et al., 2014]	100	74	83	86	92	87	154 seconds

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Conclusion and Perspectives

Conclusions

➤ Methodology:

A family of novel techniques, framed in the methodological area of **hierarchical Markov random field models**, has been developed and endowed with efficient decision (**MPM**) and parameter estimation algorithms.

➤ Application:

- The developed methods have been experimentally validated with complex **optical multispectral, X-band SAR, and C-band SAR** imagery taken from the **Haiti** sites.
- The challenging problem of the classification of remote sensing images associated jointly with **multiple resolutions, sensors, frequencies, and times** has been addressed.

➤ Results:

Experimental results and comparison with the state of the art suggests the **effectiveness** of the proposed approaches in **fusing multiple information** sources for **classification** purposes

Perspectives

- Look for an automatic selection of the **wavelet operator**.
- Propose a **new hierarchical model** in order to use a **different number of classes** at each level of the pyramid.
- Incorporate **semantic information** on class meaning at different spatial resolutions.
- Circumvent the drawback of MMRF (**corner dependency**) by using more sophisticated techniques (**QMRF, SMMRF**).
- Further optimize applicability to large data sets through **parallel processing**.

Publications

- **Peer-reviewed papers for international conferences:**

- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia and S. B. Serpico, "Contextual multi-scale image classification on quad-tree", IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), 2016, (submitted).
- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, and S. B. Serpico, "New hierarchical joint classification method of SAR-optical multiresolution remote sensing data", IEEE/EURASIP European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO), Nice, France, Aug 2015.
- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, and S. B. Serpico, New cascade model for hierarchical joint classification of multisensor and multiresolution remote sensing data. IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS), Jul 2015, Milan, Italy. 2015.
- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, and S. B. Serpico, "Fusion of multitemporal and multiresolution remote sensing data and application to natural disasters", in IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS), Québec, Canada, July 2014.
- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, and S. B. Serpico, "New cascade model for hierarchical joint classification of multitemporal, multiresolution and multisensor remote sensing data", in IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), Paris, France, October 2014.

- **Peer-reviewed journals:**

- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, and S. B. Serpico, "A New Cascade Model for the Hierarchical Joint Classification of Multitemporal and Multiresolution Remote Sensing Data", IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing (TGRS) (under revision)
- I. Hedhli, G. Moser, J. Zerubia, Nouvelle méthode en cascade pour la classification hiérarchique multi-temporelle ou multi-capteur d'image satellitaires haute résolution La Revue Française de Photogrammétrie et de Télédétection (under revision)

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- ❖ The Italian Space Agency ([ASI](#), Italy) for providing the COSMO-SkyMed images
- ❖ The Canadian Space Agency ([CSA](#), Canada) for providing the RADARSAT-2 images
- ❖ [GeoEye Inc.](#) and [Google crisis](#) response for providing the GeoEye images.