Measuring regional difference in urban growth of Taipei city (Taiwan, China) by means of ENVI GIS and remote sensing data

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Techniques

ENVI GIS

The research was performed using ENVI GIS software using Landsat TM images for years 1990 and 2005.

K-means Algorithm

The landscapes in the study area at two multi-temporal Landsat TM images were classified using "K-means" algorithm. Different land use types were identified and classified. The area covered by each land cover class is compared for years 1990 and 2005 and dynamics analyzed.

Land Cover Types

Changes in the selected land cover types were analyzed and human impacts on the natural landscapes detected. Classified land cover types were compared at both maps of land cover types for the years 1990 and 2005.

Data



Source

Data: two Landsat TM imagery taken from the USGS website.

Temporal comparison

Study period: imagery for summer periods of 1999-2005

Examples

Spatial Comparison Selected territory focused on 3 different areas: comparison of three districts of southern area of Taipei, Taiwan, along the Tamsui river

Landsat TM image (1990). Bands 1-7 (fragment). Color composites (ENVI)



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Landsat TM image (2005). Bands 1-7 (fragment). Color composites (ENVI)



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- Preliminary data processing: image contrast stretching.
- By default, ENVI displays images with a 2% linear contrast stretch.
- Histogram equalization contrast stretch was applied to the images in order to enhance the visual quality (better contrast)



Methods



Methods used in the current work include following steps:

- Data capture
- Color composition from 3 bands
- Defining Region of Interest (ROI)
- Selection of 3 different regions within the city area Image classification
- Combining classes and re-classification Post-processing
- Spatial analysis for 3 different areas of Taipei city

K-means algorithm procedure has 3 steps:

- Choosing the initial centroids for defined number of land classes
- Assignation of each pixel to the nearest centroid which represent certain land cover class
- Creating new centroids by taking the mean value of all pixels assigned to each previous land cover class (i.e. centroid).

Looping between the other steps 2 and 3:

The difference between the old and the new centroids is 'inertia'. The algorithm repeats (loops) steps until the 'inertia' is less than a threshold. It smoothes iteratively the allocation of pixels until the centroids do not move significantly.



K-Means classification: general idea.

K-Means: a mathematical approach:

$$J(X, C) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{\min}{\mu_i \in C} (||x_j - \mu_i||^2)$$

- K-means is a flat clustering algorithm which is often used in classification techniques.
- The objective of K- means: to minimize the average squared Euclidean distance between the cluster centers (the means).
- K-means analysis allocates pixels into various clusters by defining the mathematical centroids of all clusters - groups of pixel with similar values of spectral reflectance, or digital number (DNs)
- K-means separates raster pixels in n clusters (groups of equal variance) by minimizing the `inertia' criterion.



Classification of the land cover types in the city:

- Forests
- Urban areas 2 (roads)
- Grasslands
- Open fields (little or no vegetation)
- Water areas
- Urban vegetation 1 (bushes)
- Cultivated lands
- Agricultural facilities
- Urban vegetation -2 (parks and squares)
- Urban areas -2 (built-up surfaces)



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ENVI GIS Classification by K-means Method

1990 Landsat TM scene classification (fragment). Random color visualization



2005 Landsat TM scene classification (fragment). Random color visualization



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Subset Data via ROI



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Regional Division of Taipei City



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Statistics of Change Detection: Process



Process workflow:

- Change detection statistics
- Setting options of process
- Choice of 'Initial Stage' image
- Choice of 'Final Stage' Image
- Defining equivalent classes
- Defining pixel size for area statistics
- Change detection statistics output

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- Left: Getis Ord G statistics measures concentration of the emergency values (highest or lowest) for the land cover classes
- Center: Geary statistics measures spatial dependance and autocorrelation of pixels.
- Right: Moran statistics measures spatial features similarity values based on pixels location and values

Results: ROI has changes in land cover classes:



- 1. class "urban areas" increased from 16.9% in 1990 to 21.8% in 2005
- 2. class "urban vegetation" decreased from 3.1% in 1990 to 2.9% in 2005
- 3. class "forests" decreased from 62.4% in 1990 to 60.8% in 2005
- 4. class "grasslands" decreased from 15.6% in 1990 to 10.3% in 2005

Results

Three regions of Taipei have differences in the land cover types:

	1990, %	2005, %
Region I: "urban areas"	17,1	21,9
Region I: "urban vegetation"	5,7	4,1
Region I: "forests"	19,8	18,6
Region I: "grasslands"	21,4	18,3
Region II: "urban areas"	79,3	83,2
Region II: "urban vegetation"	4,3	5,2
Region II: "forests"	32,7	31,8
Region II: "grasslands"	15,9	14,7
Region III: "urban areas"	24,3	38,2
Region III: "urban vegetation"	3,7	4,3
Region III: "forests"	42,4	41,8
Region III: "grasslands"	13,8	12,1

Conclusions



Comparison of regions I, II and III:

- Region I: located on the left bank of Tamsui river, agricultural area. It has significant changes in the land cover types since 1990s.
- Region II is the core, old city area is the most stable region. It has the least changes: this area is already industrialized for a long time.
- Region III is an area located southwards from the core city. It has undergone notable changes caused by intensive relocation of the population to the Taipei area after 1980s. This is regions is dynamically developing since 1990s.

Discussion

Discussion

- Spatial analysis performed by ENVI GIS enabled to process satellite images for urban studies.
- Spatio-temporal analysis was applied to Landsat TM images taken at 1990 and 2005:
- Built-in functions of the mathematical K-means algorithm enabled to classify Landsat TM images and to derive information on land cover types.
- Image classification was used to analyze land cover changes in Taipei which includes built-up areas and natural green areas.
- Results of image processing and spatial analysis show changes in structure, shape and configuration of urban landscapes in Taipei since 1990
- Areas occupied by human activities increased, while natural landscapes undergone modifications.
- Changes in urban landscapes of Taipei are caused by the increased relocation of population, urbanization and occupied lands for urban needs.

Thanks

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