

Applications of AI in flood prediction

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Natural disaster modelling at One Concern





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Compound Flood Prediction



Compound and Scalable Flood Prediction System







Hagibis 2019 flood in Chikuma River, Japan



Predicted flood extent was produced by **1C Japan-wide compound flood model.** The predicted maximum flood map was plotted against the GSI estimated flood map. The overall hit rate for the flood extent is 0.82.



Application of ML in flood modelling

- Generate synthetic riverine levee data
- Improve streamflow prediction



Riverine Levee Generation



Flood defense: riverine levee



Levee generation from DEM and land cover features

Riverine levee data challenges

Levee crest elevation and location is important for accurate flood risk prediction.

Large-scale flood models are run at a **coarse resolution**, not adequate to accurately capture flood defense or require a DEM resampling that **reduces the crest elevation**.

ML to accurately estimate levee location and elevation

The pixel-level levee classifier: A random forest model, trained to produce a pixel-level probability of levees.

The vectorization model: produces a shapefile of levee lines from the probability outputs the river flowlines, and river width data.

Riverine levee: pixel-level levee classification



Estimated (blue) vs manually labelled (green) levee in a city C, Japan



Results from 7 cities in Japan.

- Leave-one-out cross validation was used.
- Precision was given more focus during the pixellevel model training. Recall can be improved using the vector model.

Riverine levee: vector lines





XY distance between labelled and predicted levee lines

XY offset vs elevation offset in City A

- Between 23% and 46% of the true levee labels lie exactly on a predicted levee vector.
- Between 73% and 93% lie within 25 meters (5 pixels) of a vectorized levee output.
- The mode of XY offset is 2.45m and elevation offset is 0.59m.



Riverflow Prediction



Riverine model

- Distributed hydrological model
- High-resolution simulations (1 hr, 1 km)
- Automatic model calibration using Evolutionary Algorithm
- Post-processed using AI (ongoing research)



Post-processed

streamflow (and

water level)

Kumamoto City (Japan) flood in 2012







July 2012 Flood

- 250000 displaced
- 25 dead
- Several buildings flooded

Water level	RMSE (m)	R	NSE
Average (n=10)	0.48 (0.22)	0.93 (0.03)	0.57 (0.22)

Threshold exceedance Hit Rate is 92% (12 out of 13). The False Alarm was 0%



Thank you!

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