



**AI for flood risk warning  
and communication:  
a network of rain gauge  
cameras on a 5G  
telecommunication  
network**

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# Outline

1. Lab Presentation
2. AI for flood risk mapping
3. AI for supporting flood early warning system
4. AI rain gauge cameras on a 5G telecommunication network



UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI  
DELLA **BASILICATA**

# Location



**Potenza**



**Matera**



# School of engineering of the University of Basilicata

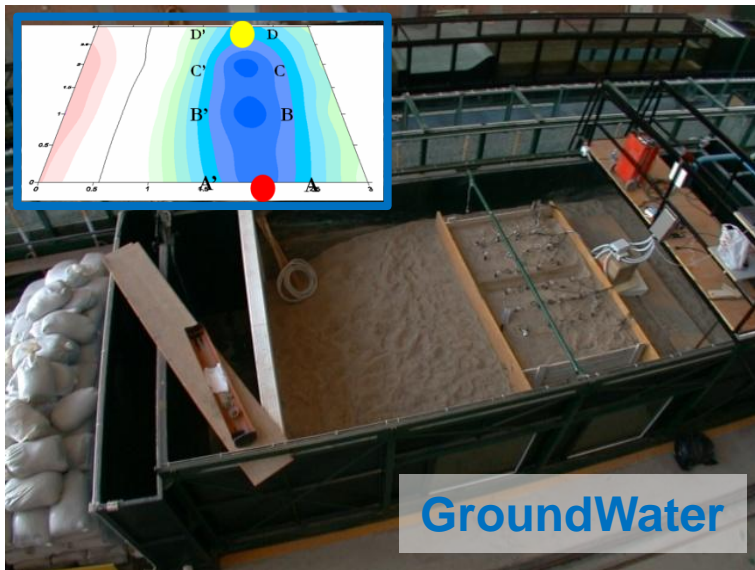
The School of engineering of the of the Basilicata University has a group of researchers that cover a wide range of research activities in the field of Hydraulic Constructions, Hydraulics, Hydrology and Water Resource Management.

## Staff:

Prof. A. Sole, Prof. S. Manfreda, Dr. R. Albano, Dr. D. Mirauda, Dr. B. Onorati, V. Scuccimarra, Eng. L. Mancusi, Dr. A. Cantisani, Dr. Silvano dal Sasso, Dr. Nicla Notarangelo and Eng. Arianna Mazzariello

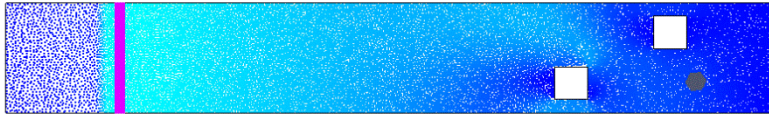
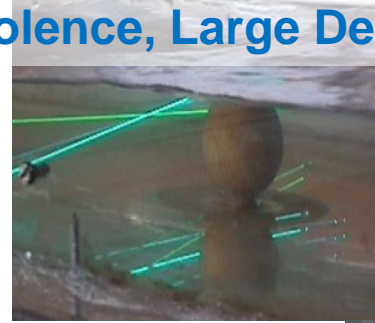
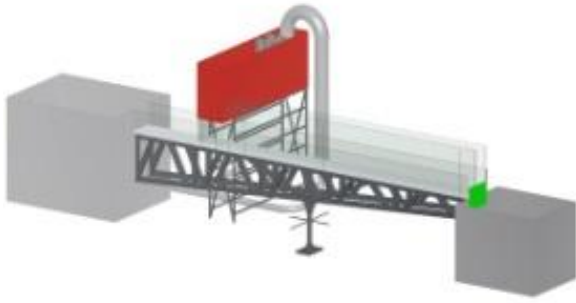


# Laboratory of Hydraulic Construction and Hydraulic



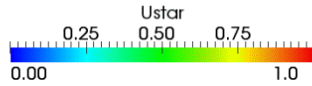


# FLUME – Turbulence, Large Debris transport

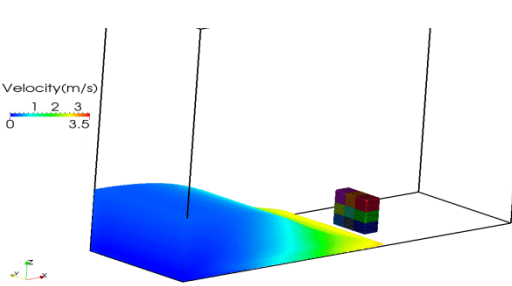


Time: 8.200s

Amicarelli et al. draft  
dam\_break\_body\_UniBas



Velocity(m/s)  
0 1 2 3 3.5



Time: 0.230s

Amicarelli et al. (2015, CAF): 3D dam break with multiple body transport.



## In situ - River Monitoring





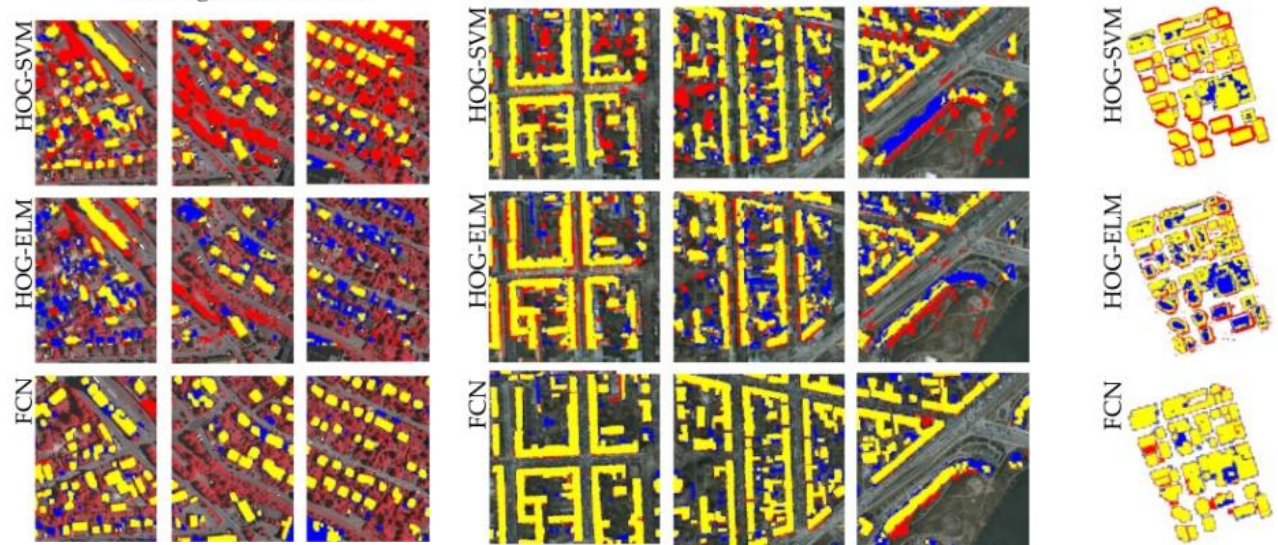
# Flood Risk Mapping

AI for buildings detection and land-use classification

Vaihingen an der Enz

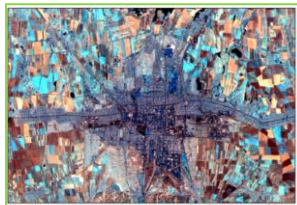
Potsdam

Toronto

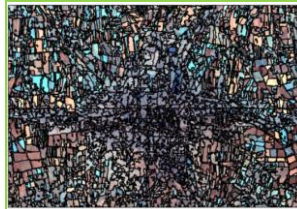


Contingency maps obtained from a pixel-to-pixel comparison between the masks outputted by the models and the ground truth by urban area: true positives are shown in yellow, false positives in red, and false negatives (missed building pixels) in blue.

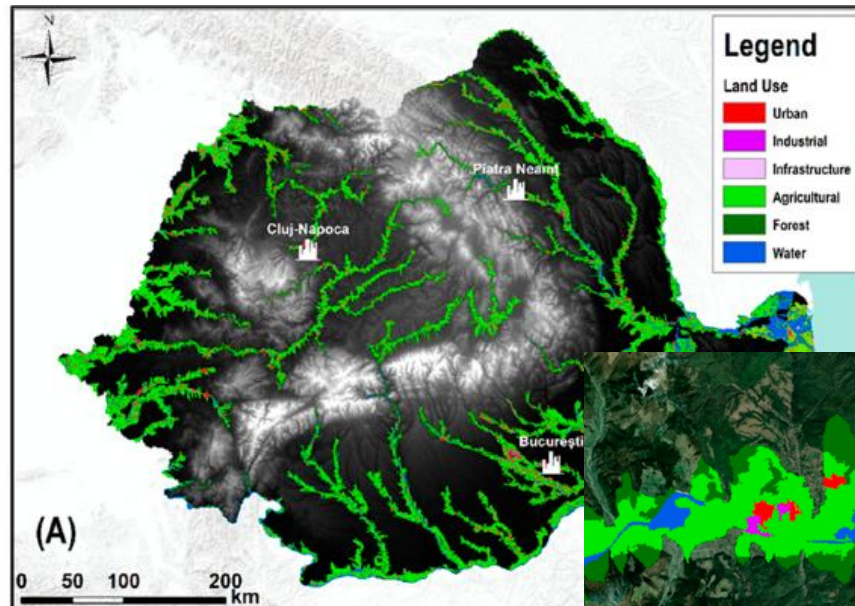
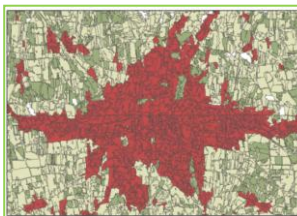
1. Pre-processing



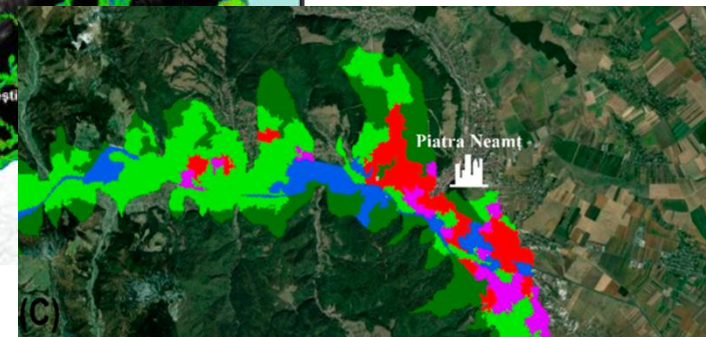
2. Segmentation



3. Feature Description



4. Classification



# Flood Early Warning System

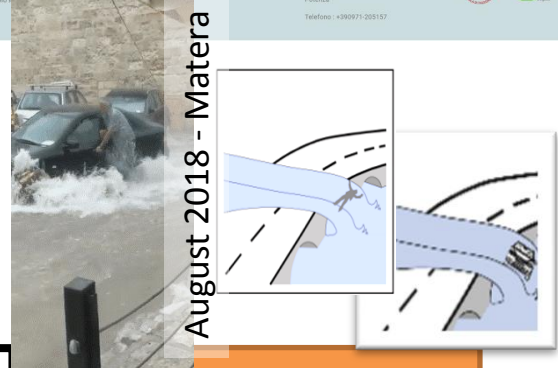
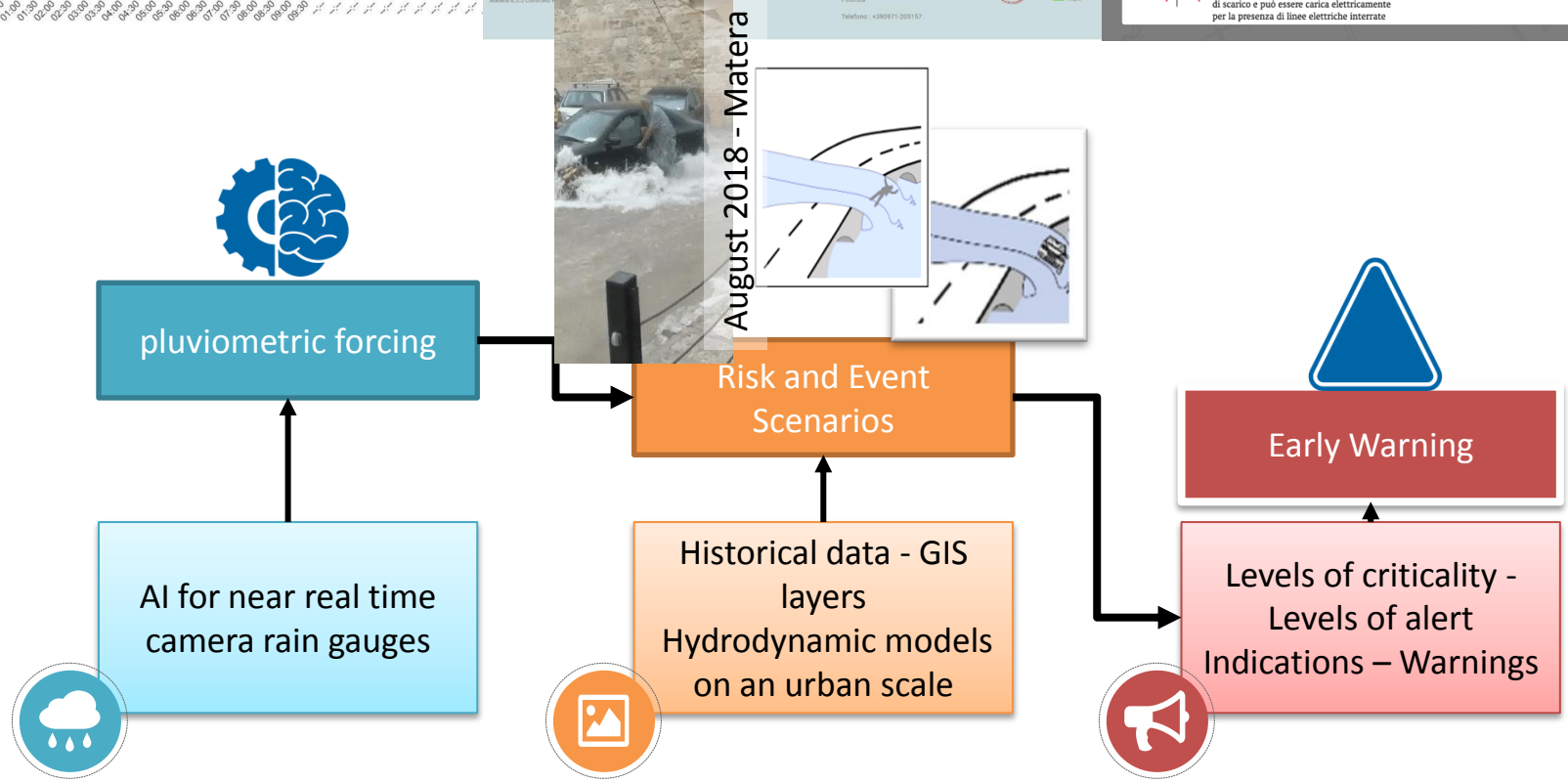
Precipitazioni del 17/12/2019



The screenshot shows the MATEERA website interface. It includes a map of the city of Matera with highlighted flood-prone zones. The website header includes 'HOME', 'PROGETTO', 'PARTNERS', 'LINK UTILI', and 'CONTATTI'. The main content area features 'Real-Time', 'Previsioni', 'Misure di Autoprotezione', 'Eventi Storici', and 'Legenda'. The footer contains contact information and logos for partners like TIM, RSE, and others.

The poster provides safety instructions in Italian for flood conditions. It is divided into 'Norme Generali' and 'In caso di Alluvione'. Key instructions include:
 

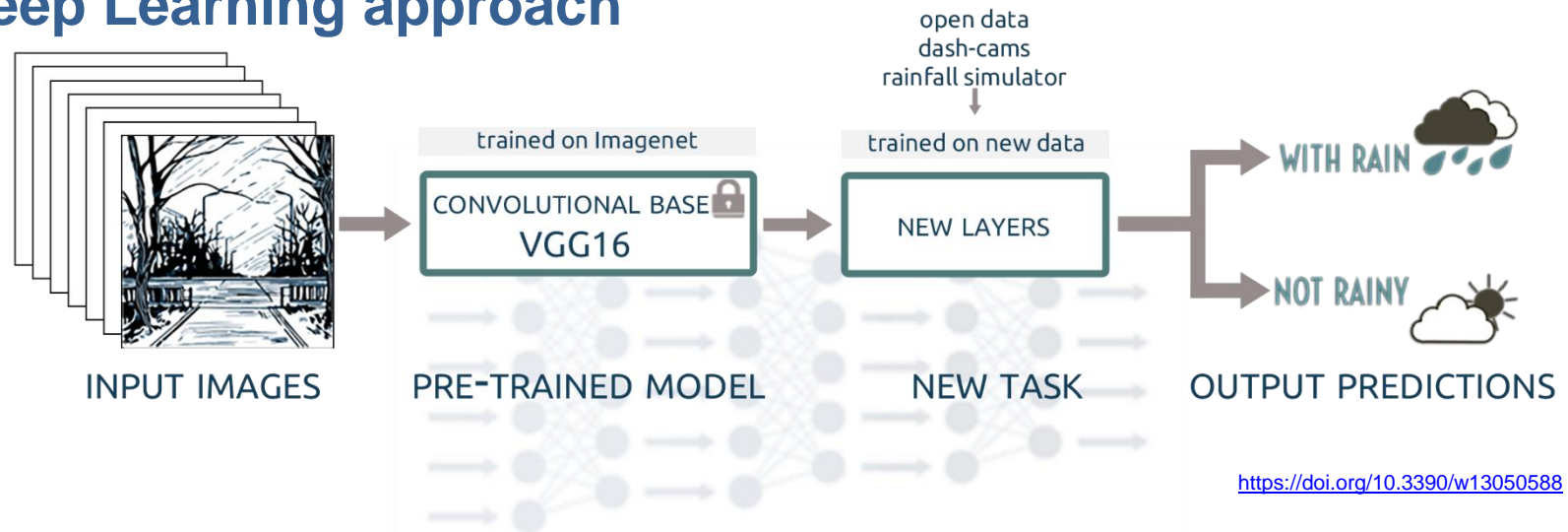
- Do not stay in areas that can be reached by water, avoid getting close to ditches and drains that can become clogged.
- Do not take refuge in basements, garages, or cellars below street level.
- If you live on a high floor, offer hospitality to those on lower floors; ask for hospitality if you live on a low floor.
- Do not try to get your car out of the water or agricultural vehicles, as there is a risk of being blocked by debris and swept away by the current.
- Do not get into cars or underpasses that are points of water accumulation.
- Do not drink water from the tap at home, and avoid contact with water outdoors, as it may be contaminated with oil, petrol, or sewage.
- Do not stand on bridges and overpasses or near riverbanks and torrents.
- In case of flooding, go to upper floors (do not use the elevator).
- Stay at home if you are not in a safe place.
- Do not attempt to reach your destination, but seek shelter in a safe and stable place nearby.
- Do not repair under isolated trees.





# Camera-based rain detectors

## A Deep Learning approach



**Easily available photographing devices serve as AI-based rain detectors** for monitoring the onset and end of rain-related events.

Software\_ **R with Keras and Tensorflow** (Chollet & Allaire, 2018)

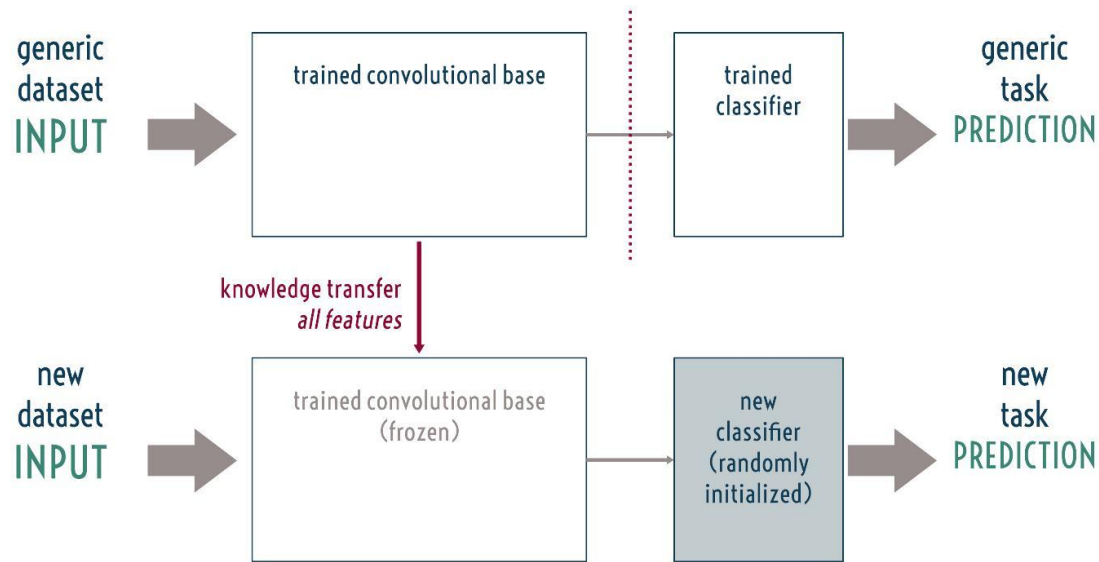
Classes\_ **With Rain (WR)** and **No Rain (NR)**

### Dataset criteria

- Outdoor images
- Presence of natural rain (not digitally synthesized)
- Rainfall visibility
- Heterogeneous sceneries

# Transfer Learning with Feature extraction

## Model Architecture



Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
<b>vgg16 (Model)</b>	(None, 6, 6, 512)	14714688
<b>flatten (Flatten)</b>	(None, 18432)	0
<b>dense (Dense)</b>	(None, 256)	4718848
<b>dropout (Dropout)</b>	(None, 256)	0
<b>dense_1 (Dense)</b>	(None, 1)	257

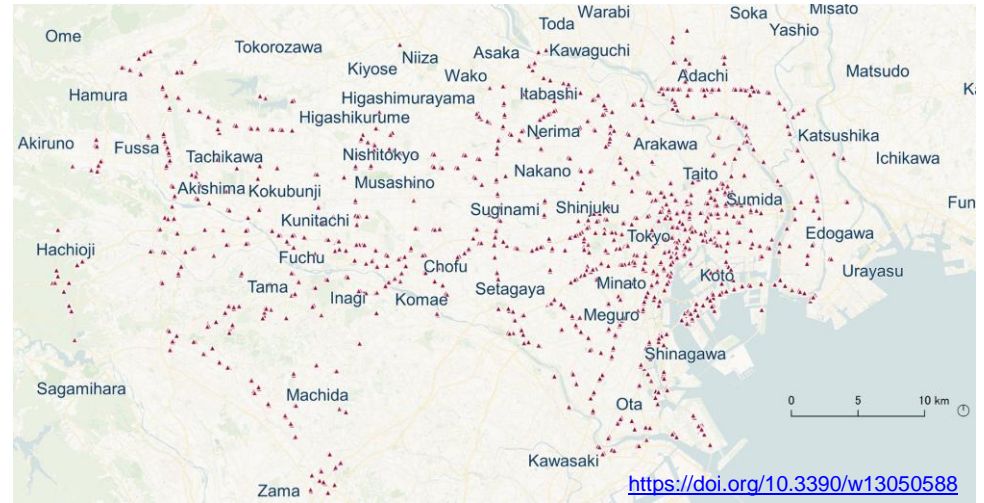
**Total params: 19,433,793 – trainable: 4,719,105**



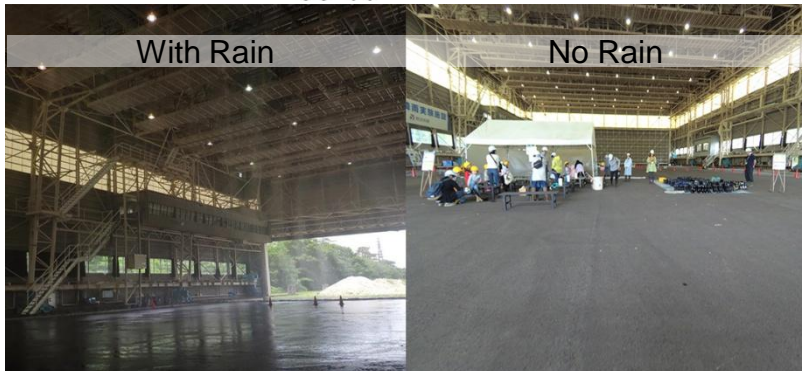
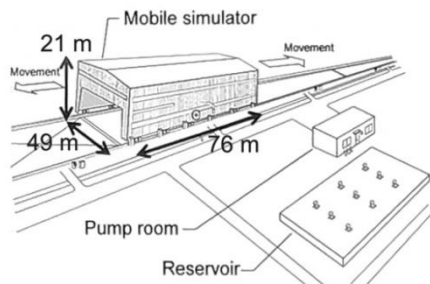
# Dataset



Image2Weather (Chu et al., 2017)



Dashcams moving around Tokyo metropolitan area (©NIED) and XRAIN radar (©NIED, Hirano et al. 2014; Hirano and Maki 2018).

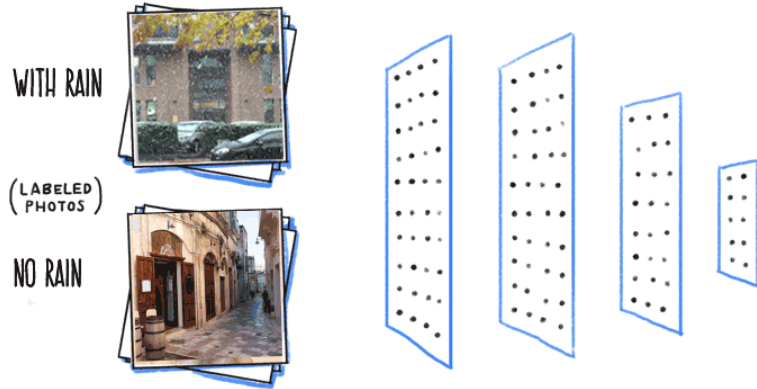


生きる、を支える科学技術  
SCIENCE FOR RESILIENCE



Experiments in Large-scale Rainfall Simulator of the NIED located in Tsukuba, devices: Canon XC10, Sony DSC-RX10M3, Olympus TG-2, XiaoYI YDXJ 2, XiaoMi MI8. 15 minutes intervals with constant produced intensity (20 mm/h - 150 mm/h)

# Training and validation



Data Augmentation

Dropout

Metric: accuracy

Loss: binary cross entropy

RMSprop Optimizer

Dropout

Learning rate:  $lr = 1 \times 10^{-5}$

Training: accuracy **88.95%**

loss **0.27**

Validation: accuracy **85.47%**

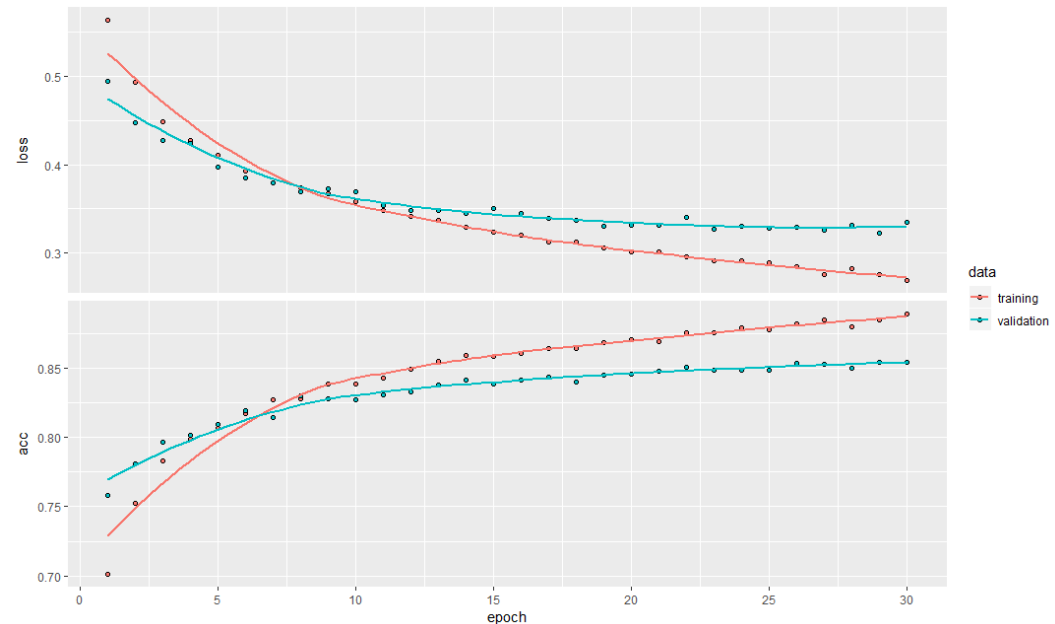
loss **0.33**

$$\text{Binary Cross Entropy} = - \sum_{i=1}^{C'} t_i \log(f(s_i))$$

Where  $t_i$  = groundtruth

$s_i$  = score for the  $C_i$  class

$f(s_i) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-s_i}}$  = sigmoid activation function.

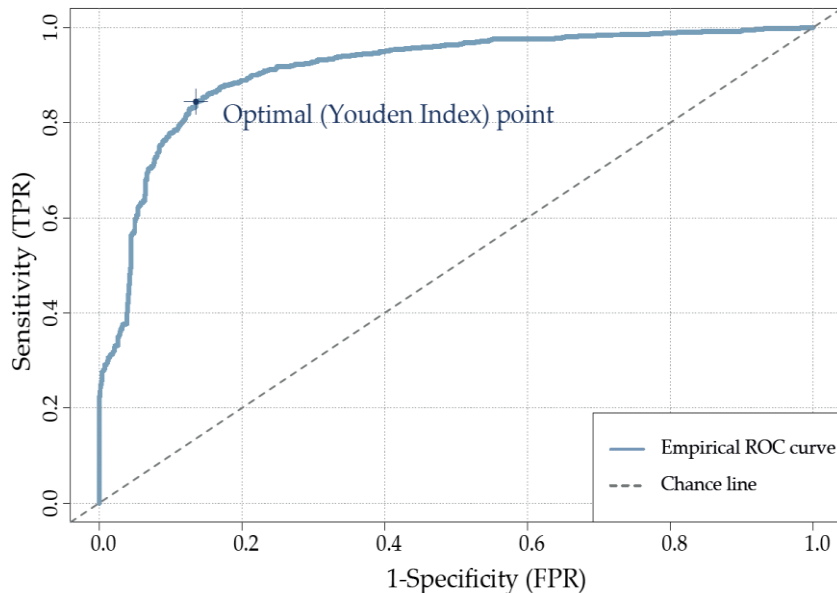




# Use Case



The model was implemented in a real world setting with a Reolink surveillance camera installed by TIM using 5G connectivity. The camera frames piazza Vittorio Veneto - the main square in UNESCO World Heritage Site of Matera (Italy). Being a touristic point, the scene is often populated by moving pedestrians, bicycles, police cars, and service vehicles.



<https://doi.org/10.3390/w13050588>

Metric	Value test set	Value TIM set	Reference Values*
Overall accuracy	85.28%	85.13%	worst=0% best=100%
Cross Entropy Loss	0.3400635	0.3960878	perfect $\approx 0$
Sensitivity - Recall	90.44%	83.14%	worst=0% best=100%
Specificity	80.13 %	87.12%	worst=0% best=100%
Precision	81.98%	86.58%	worst=0% best=100%
$F_1$	0.8600	0.8482	worst=0 best=1
Matthews correlation coefficient MCC	0.7094	0.7031	worst=-1 best=+1

\*Goodfellow et al. 2016; Zheng 2015; Murphy 2012; Chicco and Jurman 2020.

# Use Case



A frame in rainy condition (26th March 2020) and its corresponding Gradient-weighted Class Activation Mapping (**Grad-CAM**) (Selvaraju et al. 2016), a heatmap visualizing the input regions considered more “rainy-like” by the CNN.

	Memory	Time
libraries	0.6	30
	-2.0	610
	0.9	1370
	0.5	10
	-4.2	190
	-60.9	1600
	0.5	20
Model load	0.3	2750
Model weights load	0.1	110
Test data generator	0.3	110
Model compiling	-5.3	120
Prediction	0.4	28590
random sample showing predicted versus actual	0.2	10
	0.7	20
Evaluation of the model (all metrics)	0.5	29210
	-3.2	80

Interval 10 ms - total 64830 ms (100 img)

122600 ms (200 img)

166850 ms (400 img)

275260 ms (700 img)

461180 ms (1100 img)

513740 ms (1600 img)

Algorithm profiling with R Profvis library (Chang and Luraschi 2018)



# Results compared to literature

Method	Model and Features used	Image source	Classes	Overall Accuracy	Sensitivity (Rain)
Yan <i>et al.</i> (2009)	Real AdaBoost with histogram of gradient amplitude, HSV color histogram, road information	In-vehicle vision system	Sunny, Cloudy, Rainy	91.92%	90.41%
		Crawled outdoor scenes, (reported in Zhang <i>et al.</i> 2016)		18.89%	-
Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)	Multiple kernel learning with engineered features (sky, shadow, rain streak, snowflake, dark channel, contrast, saturation)	Crawled outdoor scenes	Sunny, Rainy, Snowy, Haze	71.39%	67%
Chu <i>et al.</i> (2017)	Random Forest with time, RGB color histogram, Gabor wavelet, intensity histogram, local binary pattern, cloud, haze, and contrast features	Crawled outdoor scenes	Sunny, Cloudy, Snowy, Rainy, Foggy.	76.8%	68%
Proposed method	CNN with pre-learned filters	Dash-cams, consumer cameras, outdoor scenes (Chu <i>et al.</i> 2017), smartphone	With Rain, No Rain.	85.28%	90.44%
		Surveillance camera		85.13%	83.14%

Notarangelo, Nicla M., Kohin Hirano, Raffaele Albano, and Aurelia Sole (2021). "Transfer Learning with Convolutional Neural Networks for Rainfall Detection in Single Images" In: *Water*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/w13050588>

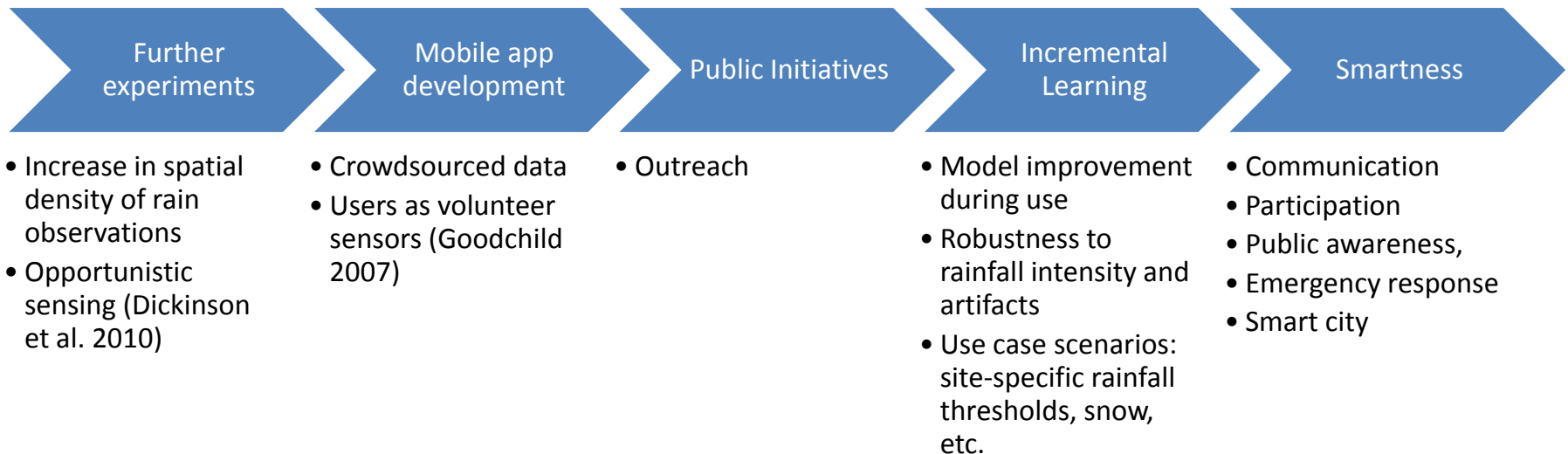
## Work in progress...

The proposed methodology was applied to a second scenario: a multi-class classification describing a range of quasi-instantaneous rainfall intensity.

### **The cameras act as rain estimators.**

The multi-class model reached test average accuracy and macro-averaged F1 score values of 77.71% and 0.73 for a 6-way classifier, and 78.05% and 0.81 for a 5-class. The best performances were obtained in heavy rainfall and no-rain conditions, whereas the mispredictions are related to less severe precipitation.

## Future steps



An aerial, high-angle photograph of a busy city street. The street is filled with various vehicles, including cars, a bus, and a white van. Buildings with tiled roofs are visible on the right side, and a large, dark, possibly excavated area is on the left. The overall scene is somewhat hazy or overcast.

**Thank you for your  
attention**

**Dr. Raffaele Albano**  
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