

## Supervised ART-I Artificial Neural Network for Mapping Burned Area Using Landsat TM Images

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### ABSTRACT

Burned area mapping system based on bands 3, 4, 5, and 7 of Landsat TM has been built. Post-fire and pre-post fire images have been used. Supervised ART-I neural network has been employed.

**Keywords:** ART Artificial Neural Networks, Landsat TM, Mapping Burned Areas, Supervised ART-I ANN.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Mapping burned areas and monitoring forest fires using satellite data is widely used in the last 30 years [1]-[11]. Different approaches have been reported in the literatures for mapping burned areas using Landsat TM images. Maximum Likelihood ML has employed by [2], Regression analysis has been employed by [3], Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) has been employed by [12]-[14]. They used the Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellite. [1] showed that band 7 of Landsat TM plays major rule in mapping burned areas. [15] combined Multi-layer Perceptron Artificial Neural Network with one hidden layer and Spectral Angle Mapper Classifiers. [16] employed C5.1 and C6 for classification MODerate resolution Imaging Spectro radiometer (MODIS) images. They claimed that C6 perform better than C5.1.

This study has been conducted to build burned area mapping system based on bands 3, 4, 5, and 7 of Landsat TM images using artificial neural networks. We will employ Supervised ART-I neural network which has been developed by [17].

### 2. ART-BASED NEURAL NETWORKS

ART-based ANNs are gaining publicity due to their stability, rapidity and accuracy [18], [19]. Moreover, unlike Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP), ART-based ANNs have fixed architectures and can represent subclasses automatically, convergence being assured during the training process. Fuzzy ARTMAP [18] has been employed by [19] for classification remotely sensed data.

The main criticism for ARTMAP [20], and fuzzy ARTMAP as well [18] lie in their complex architectures. Their supervision goes through map field that interfaces two modules of ART. However, Supervised ART-I [17] and Supervised ART-II [21] have been constructed from a single ART module. These two ANNs have, algorithmically speaking, the same classification accuracy of fuzzy ARTMAP. However, they have shorter training time due to their simple architectures. We employed them for classification of a scene of a Landsat TM image [22]. Supervised ART-I ANN will be employed in this study.

### 3. METHOD AND DATA

The network trained with different training sets. It trained with 1000, 2000, and 3000 exemplars. The dynamic learning rate  $\beta(0,1]$  and the vigilance parameter  $\rho(0,1]$  are set to 0.92 and 0.2 respectively. Post-fire images, as well as multi-fire images are used. Bands 3, 4, 5, and 7 employed. The full architecture and algorithm of Supervised ART-I is in [17].

The fire under study is a large fire that occurred in the province of Valencia, Spain, during 4-13 July 1994. The outside border of the fire has been determined using Global Positioning System (GPS) by the Spanish Forestry Services (SFS). While not every pixel inside the determined area is actually burned, all of them are considered burned by SFS since no data is available inside the burned area. Only 50 pixels represent burned area in the training sets. This represents less than 20% of the total training set. Classification of burned pixels will be tested by applying post classification filters. Different sizes of post-classification filters will be applied.

### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The number of category nodes that represents burned area did not change with training size. It is fixed at 3 category nodes. That because the number of pixels that representing burned area in the training set is fixed. The training time is in order of seconds, while the classification time, for more than 1,000,000 pixels, is in order of few minutes, using Alpha Digital Station 5000 computer.

#### 4.1 Post-Fire Images

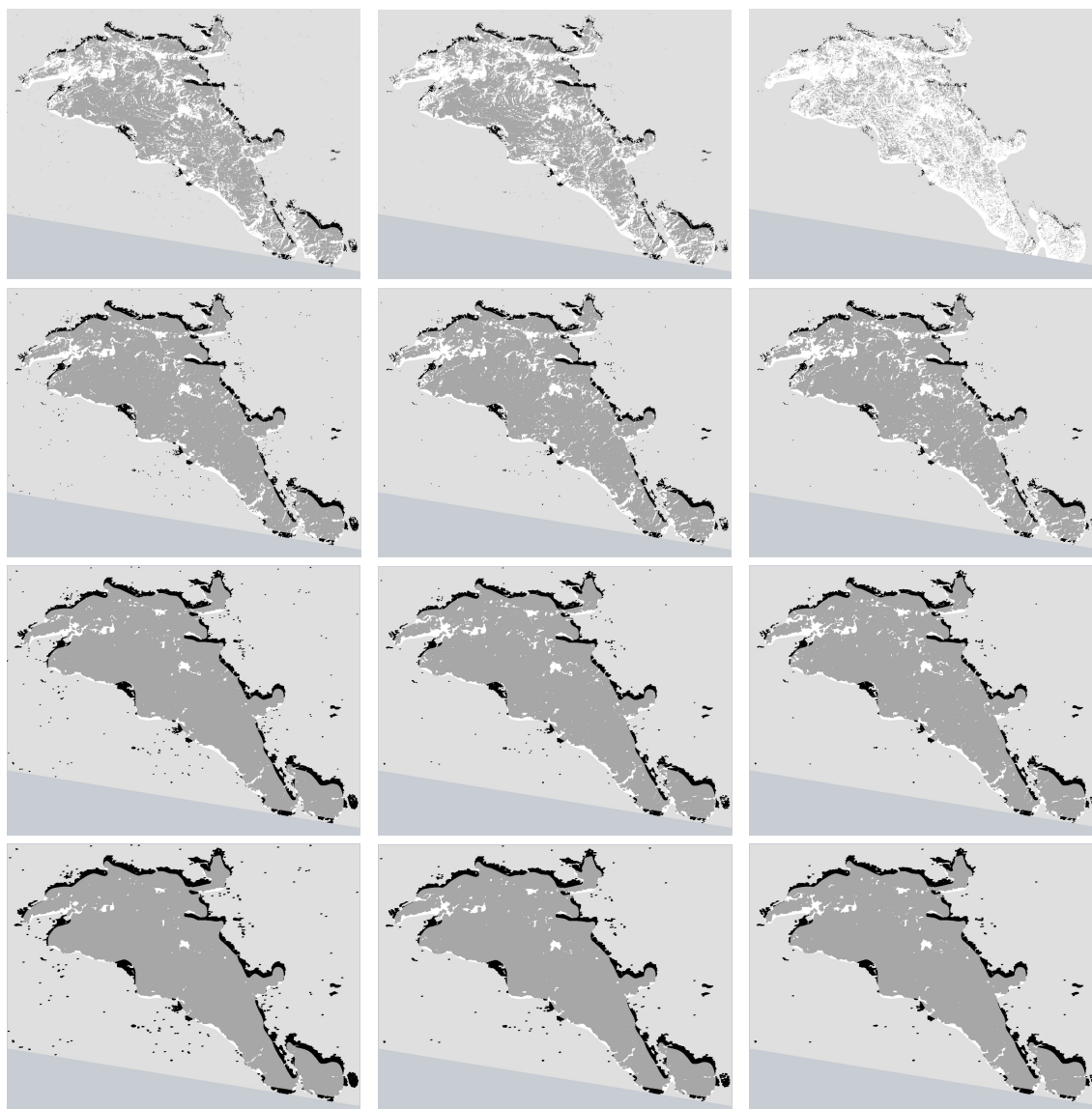
During training phase, the network created 21, 25, and 29 category nodes, for unburned pixels, when it trained with 1000, 2000, and 3000 pixels, respectively. The classification accuracy for burned and unburned pixels are (69.01%,

**Table 1:**The system performance with different training size and different filters using post-fire images.

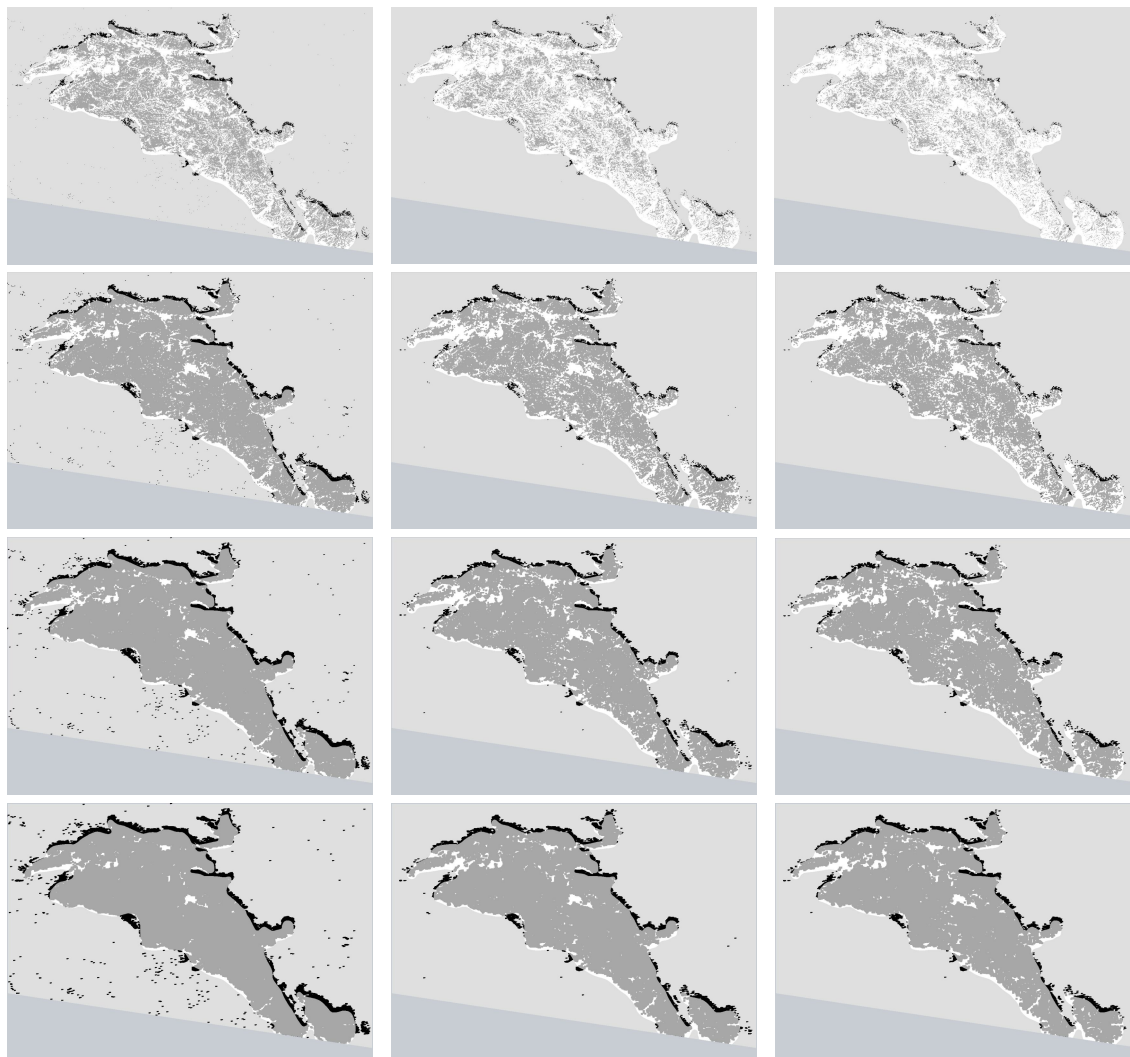
Training Phase						Classification Phase			
training size	filter	No. of Category Nodes			time	Classification Accuracy			time
		unburned	burned	total		unburned	burned	total	
1000	no filter	18	3	21	0.25s	97.11%	69.01%	88.62%	3m 45.06s
	3x3					95.08%	88.21%	93.01%	
	5x5					93.31%	93.66%	93.415	
	7x7					91.60%	96.06%	92.97%	
2000	no filter	22	3	25	0.50s	97.55%	62.01%	85.81%	3m 42.16s
	3x3					95.66%	84.29%	92.22%	
	5x5					94.02%	91.54%	93.27%	
	7x7					92.50%	94.73%	93.17%	
3000	no filter	26	3	29	0.88s	97.73%	59.43%	86.16%	5m 56.18s
	3x3					95.86%	83.00%	91.97%	
	5x5					94.26%	90.83%	93.22%	
	7x7					92.81%	94.31%	93.27%	

**Table 2:** The system performance with different training size and different filters using multi-temporal images.

Training Phase						Classification Phase			
training size	filter	No. of Category Nodes			time	Classification Accuracy			time
		unburned	burned	total		unburned	burned	total	
1000	no filter	17	3	20	0.35s	98.08%	52.64%	84.06%	6m 09.23s
	3x3					93.06%	84.19%	90.38%	
	5x5					91.23%	91.96%	91.45%	
	7x7					89.48%	95.06%	91.17%	
2000	no filter	22	3	25	0.91s	99.06%	31.74%	78.29%	7m 06.16s
	3x3					94.47%	70.89%	87.89%	
	5x5					92.47%	85.43%	90.71%	
	7x7					91.68%	91.24%	91.55%	
3000	no filter	24	3	27	2.51s	99.29%	25.98%	76.66%	8m 16.01s
	3x3					94.80%	65.42%	85.93%	
	5x5					93.36%	82.12%	89.96%	
	7x7					92.07%	89.28%	91.22%	



**Figure 1:** Mapping burned area using Supervised ART-I neural network. Post-fire images have been employed. Bands 3, 4, 5, and 7 have been used. The dynamic parameters used for training are;  $\rho = 0.92$ , and  $\beta = 0.20$ . Images in the first row represent mapped images without applying a filter. Images in second, third, and fourth row represent mapped images after applying 3x3, 5x5, and 7x7 filters, respectively. Images in the first, second, and third columns represent mapped images when the network trained with 1000, 2000, and 3000 pixels, respectively. Grey represents burned pixels, which correctly classified as burned by the system. White represents burned pixels, which mis-classified by the system as unburned. Light grey represents unburned pixels, which correctly classified as unburned. Black represents unburned pixels, which mis-classified as burned. The width and length of the study area are 29.130km and 35.430km, respectively.



**Figure 2:** As figure 1, but multi-temporal images are used.

97.11%), (62.01%, 97.55%), and (59.43%, 97.73%). Such decreases in classification accuracy of burned area with training size compensated by increases classification accuracy of unburned pixels. The classification accuracy of burned pixels has been increased by applying post-classification filters. Different sizes of post-classification filters (3x3, 5x5, and 7x7) are applied. Please see (table-1 and Figure-1) for details.

#### 4.2 Pre-Post Fire Images

During training phase, the network created 20, 25, and 27 category nodes, for unburned pixels, when it trained with 1000, 2000, and 3000 pixels, respectively. The classification accuracy for burned area decreases when training set increases, while it increases for unburned area. The classification accuracy are (52.64%, 98.08%), (31.73%, 99.06%), and (25.98%, 99.29). Please see (table-2 and figure-2) for details.

#### 4.3 Post Classification Filter

The performance of the network for mapping burned area has

(7x7) filter increased the performance of the network for mapping burned area from 25.98% to 89.28%, and increased the overall classification from 76.66% to 91.22%, using multi-temporal images. However, the classification performance for unburned area decreased from 99.29% to 92.07%. The system performance behaves the same way when post-fire images are employed.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

Increasing the number of pixels for training unburned area increases the accuracy for mapping burned area through two causes; better training for their Committed Category Nodes (CCN) by having more pixels for each of them, and more CCN are generated to represent finer classes. The decreasing of the classification accuracy for the burned pixels when the training pixels that represent unburned pixels is influenced by two factors. First, the real data inside the burned area is not known on pixel level, and we have to know that not all pixels inside the burned areas are really effected by the fire due to many factors (meteorological, topological, and vegetation

distribution). The second is due to better training for CCN that represent the unburned pixels and due to the generation of more CCN that represent finer class for unburned pixels. The system have a better performance for unburned pixels inside the boundary of the burned area as unburned rather than consider them as burned which is really not. For these reasons, the burned pixels, which have been mapped by the developed system, represents the real fact rather than considering every pixel inside the boundary of the burned area as burned.

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