



Mapping and classification of crops using high resolution satellite image

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Abstract

In the present study an attempt was made to perform land use land cover classification at Level-III in order to discriminate and map individual crops. IRS Resources at 2 LISS IV sensor imagery (5.0 m spatial resolution) of September 2014 was utilized for the study. A hybrid classification approach of unsupervised classification followed by supervised classification was adopted to identify and map the crop area in Kodumudi block, Erode district of Tamil Nadu. Signature evaluation was carried out to study the class separability and through cross tabulation and the accuracy was assessed by error matrix. The signature separability analysis to classify various land cover classes indicated that the class viz., waterbody, settlement, sandy area and fallow land were better and for vegetation subclasses viz., individual crops were poor, which means classification of individual crops was a challenge. The overall accuracy with three different algorithms varied from 56 to 65 per cent and this low accuracy was due to the problem in discriminating the tonal variation and spectral pattern of individual crops in the study area. Thus, classification of vegetation categories into individual crops using LISS IV data resulted in moderate classification accuracy in areas with multiple cropping.

Keywords: Classification accuracy, LISS IV satellite image, land use land cover, spectral based approach

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INTRODUCTION

Land use refers to the type of utilization to which man has used the land for his daily activities whereas, Land cover refers to the cover by the physical material at the surface of the earth which includes grass, crops, trees, forest, built up area, bare ground, water, lakes, etc. (Jensen and Cowen, 1999). Land use / land cover map of an area is useful information for planning, management and monitoring of natural resources at various levels. Thus, discrimination of crops from other land cover classes and their acreage estimation is essential for in-season management as well as for policy planning. Remote Sensing integrated with Geographical Information System, provides an effective tool for analysis and management of land use land cover (LULC) at cadastral level. Accurately identifying crops using information derived from earth observation satellites can contribute to improved use of resources and aids in timely agricultural planning. Crop type identification and area

estimation being practiced are based on moderate resolution satellite data with a spatial resolution from 23.5 m to 250 m. These data are useful for identification of largely grown crop like rice and wheat and insufficient to give the exact estimation of crops grown in smaller areas. The availability of high resolution multispectral data has given a scope for the identification of multiple crops and their extent. A major advantage of high spatial resolution images greatly reduces the mixed-pixel problem (Lu and Weng, 2009), providing a greater potential to extract much more detailed information on land cover structures than medium or coarse spatial resolution data. Rai *et al.* (2011) attempted land use land cover classification using LISS III data and reported an overall accuracy of 92.7 per cent.

Land use land cover maps generated from IRS-1C LISS III and PAN merged satellite image (Mishra *et al.*, 2012), Landsat TM imagery (Koppad and Pawan Tikhile, 2012) using unsupervised classification resulted in a classification ac-

curacy of 90-94 per cent. Land Use Land Cover map generated from LISS-III and LISS-IV images using MAXLIK and MINPAR supervised classification methods resulted in an overall accuracy between 90 and 95 per cent (Kiran *et al.*, 2014). Sahu *et al.* (2014) delineated landforms and analyzed Land Use Land Cover on basaltic terrain of central India using IRS-P6 LISS IV image and identified six land cover classes *viz.*, single crop, double crop, orchard, land with and without scrub and degraded forest. Kumar and Arya (2014) made an attempt at level III Land Use Land Cover classification using IRS P-6 LISS-IV data at Cadastral level and reported that high resolution satellite data has the potential to provide accurate spatial and temporal information for preparing large scale land use/land cover map of a region. Literature review suggests use of LISS IV data for crop mapping but discrimination and area estimation of crops in a complex cropping environment remain a challenge. In Tamil Nadu cropping system in many districts are mixed and the area extent is small and there is a need to identify and map the area under different crops. The information on crop area at cadastral level would help to plan for better input management like seed, pesticides and fertilizers and also for policy makers. With this background knowledge the present investigation was carried out to prepare Land use / Land cover map from high resolution Resourcesat 2 – LISS IV data in a complex cropping environment in Erode district of Tamil Nadu.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study area was Kodumudi block (consisting of 10 revenue villages), Erode district of South India which lies between 11°10'25.91"N, 77°49'5.67"E and 11°5'1.04"N, 77°52'37.24"E. The total area was 10,509 hectares and cultivated with multiple crops at different seasons under irrigated and rainfed conditions. The dominant land use was irrigated agriculture, grasslands and human settlements. The River Cauvery runs across the area stretches to a length of 6.4 kilometers which is the major source of irrigation. The multispectral orthorectified LISS-IV sensor imagery from Resourcesat-2 (Path/Row: 101/66) with a spatial resolution of 5.0 m acquired on September 11, 2014 was purchased from National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad, for the study. Reconnaissance survey was conducted in the study area followed by ground truth to identify various land cover features and relate them to their tonal variation on the satellite image. Ground truth verification was performed to match with satellite pass date (10 days later) in the study area. Latitude and Longitude values along with the present ground cover and details of previous crops were collected at about 185 locations covering the entire study area. The ground control points were

selected considering type of farming *viz.*, irrigated and rainfed and land cover types (agriculture, fallow, scrub, water body, settlement etc.) and their distribution.

Training samples and signature evaluation:

The image was subjected to unsupervised classification to identify natural groupings of spectral pattern by clustering method (Lillesand *et al.*, 2007). The training samples were collected from different clusters obtained from the above method to perform level II classification. To perform level III classification training samples were collected considering finer visible spectral variations (for example four classes under vegetation and three classes under fallow land). The training signatures were evaluated by signature separability and distance analysis (Swain and Davis, 1978). Signature separability is a statistical measure of the distance between two signatures and this can be calculated for any combination of bands as well as class pairs that is used in the classification and thus enables the ruling out of any bands/class pairs that are not useful in the result of the classification. The separability analysis was performed through Transformed Divergence method in ERDAS software. Using the training signatures collected for level II and level III classes, the image was classified by maximum likelihood classifier algorithm and land use land cover classes were generated. In order to verify whether the signatures collected for level II (course spectral pattern) agree with the level III (finer spectral pattern) a method called cross tabulation was performed.

Image classification: Land use/land cover classification (LULC) was performed on LISS IV image through pixel or spectral based approach. Spectral based classification algorithm utilizes spectral pattern associated with different land cover types having unique or narrow range of digital numbers (DN) for evaluation and to identify typical pattern (Lillesand *et al.*, 2007). Classification was performed to identify different cover classes on the ground *viz.*, vegetation, waterbody, scrubland, settlement and sandy area. The spectral based classification approach was performed by supervised classification techniques and the algorithms tried were maximum likelihood classifier, minimum distance to mean classifier and mahalanobis distance classifier in Erdas software. In supervised classification technique training signatures of various crops and other land cover classes were generated based on the ground truth data collected at various locations. The different classes were identified on the image by their tonal variation and also with the help of GPS value. The land use land cover classification system of NRSC (2006) was used to define the land cover themes. Vegetation, Settlement, Waterbody, Sandy area, and Fallow land are classified under Level II Classes and also an attempt was made to classify the vegetation

into various crops under Level III classes viz., Cassava, Turmeric, Coconut and Sugarcane. The flowchart indicating the methodology for LULC mapping is presented in Fig.1.

Accuracy assessment: Classification accuracy was assessed to define how close the classification agreed with the training sample. Classification accuracy was performed by preparation of a classification error matrix. The class allocation of each pixel in classified image is compared with the corresponding class allocation on reference data to determine the classification accuracy. The pixels of agreement and disagreement are compiled in the form of an error matrix, where the rows and columns represent the number of LULC classes and the elements of matrix represent the number of pixels in the testing dataset (Lillesand et al., 2007). Field checks have been performed for ascertaining the classification accuracy. Error Matrix for accuracy assessment has been generated and finally the land use map and reports have been prepared. The accuracy measures, such as overall accuracy, producer's accuracy and user's accuracy were estimated from the error matrix (Congalton, 1991).

Kappa coefficient: Kappa coefficient, a method of classification accuracy is a measure of the proportional (or percentage) improvement by the classifier over a purely random assignment to classes (Richards, 1993). The kappa coefficient was estimated from the formula given below.

$$\hat{K} = \frac{NA-B}{N^2-B} \dots \text{Eq.1}$$

This is for an error matrix with same number of rows and columns (r)

where,

A = the sum of r diagonal elements, which is the numerator in the computation of overall accuracy
 B = sum of the r products (row total x column total)

N = the number of pixels in the error matrix (the sum of all r individual cell values)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Signature avaluation: The training signatures collected for level II (course spectral pattern) and level III (finer spectral pattern) were subjected to separability distance analysis using Transformed Divergence method. The classes identified at level II classification were riverine sand, land sand, settlement, waterbody, vegetation and fallow land. Transformed Divergence methods resulted in a best separability value of 2000 for the class pairs viz., riverine sand: waterbody and vegetation; settlement: waterbody and vegetation, land sand: waterbody, waterbody: vegetation and land sand: vegetation, whereas, the minimum value was 1778 (settlement: land sand) and average was 1967.

The data on signature separability analysis carried

Table 1. Signature Separability at Level III (Band combination 234).

Class Name	Id	Riverine sand		Land sand		Vegetation 1		Vegetation 2		Vegetation 3		Vegetation 4		Fallow 1		Fallow 2		Fallow 3		Settle-ment		Water		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Riverine sand	1	---	1995	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1996	1996	2000	2000	2000	1996	2000	2000	2000	2000
Land sand	2			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1527*	1975	2000	2000	2000	1778	2000	2000	2000	2000
Vegetation 1	3			2000	2000	1957*	1950*	1957*	1691*	1957*	1950*	1950*	1950*	1999	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Vegetation 2	4			2000	2000	612*	1226*	612*	1691*	612*	1226*	1226*	1226*	1980	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Vegetation 3	5			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1998	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Vegetation 4	6			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1891	1999	1999	1999	1999	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Fallow 1	7			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1845	1999	1845	1999	1999	1999	1989	1999	1999	2000	2000
Fallow 2	8			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1997	1997	1997	2000	2000
Fallow 3	9			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Settlement	10			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1352*	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Water	11			2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	---	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	---

* Poor separability

Table 2. Cross tabulation results of Level II and Level III classification.

Class Name Level III	Level II							Total
	Vegetation	Fallow land	Waterbody	Riverine Sand	Land Sand	Settlement	Unclassified	
Vegetation*	913551 (98.45) [§]	10011 (1.08)	0	0	0	4374 (0.47)	0	927936
Fallow land [#]	100401 (6.13)	1422232 (86.84)	13679 (0.84)	4913 (0.30)	72319 (4.42)	24227 (1.48)	0	1637771
Waterbody	0	85 (0.10)	83210 (99.9)	0	0	0	0	83295
Riverine Sand	0	708 (2.21)	0	31287 (97.79)	0	0	0	31995
Land Sand	0	12444 (6.62)	0	0	175629 (93.38)	0	0	188073
Settlement	32514 (2.46)	71454 (5.41)	0	0	0	1216063 (92.12)	0	1320031
Unclassified	0	0	0	0	0	0	14393 (100)	14393
Total	1046466	1516934	96889	36200	247948	1244664	14393	4203494

*Vegetation = Vegetation 1+Vegetation 2+Vegetation 3+Vegetation 4; # Fallow land = Fallow land 1+Fallow land 2+ Fallow land 3; § Figures in parenthesis indices percentage of correctly classified pixels under each category

Table 3. Area classified from different methods of classification at level III.

S.N.	Class Name	Maximum likelihood Classifier (Area in ha)	Minimum Distance to Mean (Area in ha)	Mahalanobis Distance (Area in ha)	Mean
1	Turmeric	869	1255	1196	1107
2	Sugarcane	905	1037	430	791
3	Cassava	166	127	176	156
4	Coconut	838	474	395	569
5	Scrubland	335	261	350	315
6	Fallow land	3678	3505	4100	3761
7	Waterbody	233	323	223	260
8	Sandy area	125	447	56	209
9	Settlement	641	361	863	622
10	Unclassified	36	36	36	36
Total		7824	7824	7824	
Total vegetation (1 to 5)		3112	3153	2547	
Area Transferred from fallow land to vegetation		598	916	390	

out for the training samples using Transformed Divergence method for Level III is presented in Table 1. The analysis produced similar results for best minimum and best average separability. The values ranged from 612 to 2000 with an average

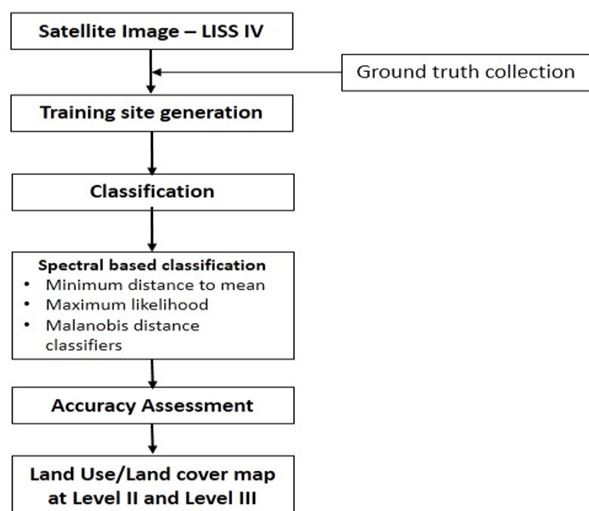


Fig.1. Methodology for land use/land cover mapping.

of 1912. The values were low (<1700) for the pairs land sand: fallow land 1, vegetation 1: vegetation 2, vegetation 2: vegetation 3 and 4, vegetation 3: vegetation 4 and fallow land 3: waterbody (poor separability) and all other class pairs recorded values above 1700. The transformed divergence method yielded a reasonable separability distance between classes as evident from the data given in Table 1. According to Jensen (1996), the scale of the divergence values ranges from 0 to 2000. As a general rule, if the value is greater than 1900 then the classes can be well separated. When it is between 1700 and 1900, the separation is fairly good and below 1700 indicates poor separability. In the present study the separability value obtained for level II classes with transformed divergence method ranged from 1778 to 2000 with an average of 1967, which means at level II the classes were well separated. Whereas, the separability values for level III ranged from 612 to 2000 with an average of 1912. Except the class pairs Land sand: Fallow lands, Vegetation 1 versus 2, 3 and 4 and its combinations, all the other classes were well separated.

Table 4. Error matrix resulting from classifying training set pixels at Level II.

S. N.	Class Name	Maximum likelihood		Minimum Distance to Mean		Mahalanobis Distance	
		Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy	Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy	Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy
1	Vegetation	95	93	95	93	98	89
2	Fallow land	78	80	79	74	72	89
3	Waterbody	100	100	92	100	100	100
4	Sandy area	91	100	53	90	100	80
5	Settlement	90	90	94	75	82	90
Overall accuracy (%)		91		87		89	
Kappa Coefficient		0.86		0.81		0.84	

Table 5. Error matrix resulting from classifying training set pixels for Level III.

Sl. No.	Class Name	Maximum likelihood		Minimum Distance to Mean		Mahalanobis Distance	
		Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy	Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy	Producer's accuracy	User's accuracy
1	Turmeric	25	40	17	40	22	60
2	Sugarcane	27	40	36	40	27	30
3	Cassava	71	50	78	50	71	50
4	Coconut	63	45	52	45	65	26
5	Scrubland	31	50	18	50	31	50
6	Fallow land	78	80	79	80	72	86
7	Waterbody	100	100	92	100	100	100
8	Sandy area	90	100	53	100	100	80
9	Settlement	90	90	94	90	82	90
Overall accuracy (%)		65		56		62	
Kappa Coefficient		0.60		0.50		0.56	

Cross tabulation of Land cover classes obtained from level II and III classification: Supervised classification of LISS IV image performed using the signature collected by considering coarse spectral pattern (level II) and finer spectral pattern (level III) were cross tabulated to check the percentage agreement of classes generated through two different methods. The cross tabulation result regarding number of pixels classified under each category is presented in Table 2. In order to have a meaningful comparison and classification efficiency the classes under the level III category viz., vegetation 1, 2, 3 and 4 and fallow land 1, 2 and 3 were pooled under one name called vegetation and fallow land, respectively. The percentage of pixels classified correctly in each category is given in the parenthesis. It is evident from the Table 2 that 98.45 percentage of pixels were classified as vegetation and only 6.13 per cent pixels as fallow land and 2.46 per cent as settlement. Under fallow land 86.84 percentage of pixels were classified as fallow land and 6.6 per cent goes to Land sand, 5.4 per cent goes to settlement, 2.2 per cent as riverine sand and 1 per cent as vegetation. Waterbody classified as waterbody to the accuracy of 99.9 per cent. The other categories viz., Riverine sand, Land sand and Settlements were classified as the same category with an accuracy of 97.79, 93.38 and 92.12 percentage, respectively.

The idea of the cross tabulation was to know whether the training samples collected considering finer spectral pattern can be used for level III classification and are comparable with level II

classes. The vegetation subclasses (vegetation 1, 2, 3 and 4) and fallow land (fallow land 1, 2 and 3) were pooled for comparison. It is observed that the class vegetation classified as vegetation to the accuracy of 98.45 per cent. Thus, the training samples collected considering finer spectral pattern (varied levels of red tones) can be used as vegetation training samples. This is the case for other categories like fallow land, waterbody, sand and settlement also. Thus, the better accuracies suggest that this method of collection of training samples and classification are reliable.

Land use land cover classification: At level II classification five classes were identified viz., vegetation, fallow land, sandy area, settlement and waterbody. Among all categories fallow land occupy the highest area followed by vegetation. The maximum likelihood classifier classifies 4276 hectare (ha) under fallow land and 2512 ha under vegetation, 642 ha under settlement, 233 ha under waterbody and 125 ha under sandy area. Similar trend was observed with other two classification methods also however, the class viz., settlement and sandy area were not uniformly classified among three methods. The reason for this difference in the area obtained among three methods could be due to overlapping of tonal pattern (otherwise similar digital number in all the three layers) of settlement and sandy area. Ojigi (2006) reported that the classified area from maximum likelihood classifier was reliable and comparable with field data for a Land use land cover classification attempted using Landsat ETM+ data. The algorithms employed for classifying the satellite

data at Level II were also used for Level III classification. The classified output (10 categories) from three methods is presented in Table 3. The area under turmeric was 869 ha (maximum likelihood), 1255 ha (minimum distance) and 1196 ha (mahalanobis distance method) with a mean of 1107 ha. The sugarcane area was 430 ha with mahalanobis method, 905 ha with maximum likelihood and 1037 ha with minimum distance method with a mean of 791 ha. Cassava recorded 166 ha (maximum likelihood), 127 ha (minimum distance) and 176 ha (mahalanobis method) with a mean of 156 ha. The coconut area was 838 ha (maximum likelihood), 474 ha (minimum distance) and 395 ha (mahalanobis method) with a mean of 569 ha. The area under fallow land was 3678 ha (maximum likelihood), 3505 ha (minimum distance) and 4100 ha (mahalanobis method) with a mean of 3761 ha. Scrubland area with maximum likelihood classifier was 335 ha, minimum distance to mean was 261 ha and mahalanobis distance method was 350 ha. The area under waterbody was 233 ha (maximum likelihood), 323 ha (minimum distance) to 229 ha (mahalanobis method) with a mean of 260 ha. The area under sand was 125 (maximum likelihood), 447 ha (minimum distance) and 56 ha (mahalanobis method) with a mean of 209 ha. Settlement recorded 863 ha from mahalanobis distance method, 361 ha from minimum distance and 641 ha from maximum likelihood method with a mean of 622 ha. About 36 ha found unclassified in all the three methods. The total area under vegetation was higher in level III than level II which was 598 ha with maximum likelihood, 916 ha in minimum distance to mean and 390 ha in mahalanobis distance method. That means these areas were transformed from fallow land to vegetation. The area under waterbody, sandy area and settlement remain more or less same as that of level II. Studies by different authors shows that pixel based methods applied to high resolution images results in inaccuracy of the classification due to salt and pepper effect (van de Voorde *et al.*, 2004 and Sailesh Samanta *et al.*, 2011). Since there is no official statistics available for current land use, the area obtained under each vegetation classes were unable to be confirmed. However, the area resulting from maximum likelihood classifier was considered accurate as reported by Murtaza and Romshoo (2014).

At level II the maximum likelihood classifier classified 2512 ha under vegetation whereas which was 3112 ha at level III. A difference of 600 ha was noticed between these two methods and this was the contribution from fallow land, *i.e.*, a reduction of 598 ha was noticed under fallow land at level III. The area under fallow land at level II was 4276 ha and level III was 3678 ha. Whereas, the area under other classes remain unchanged. Similar trend was noticed with other two methods also.

The reason could be overlapping of signatures of training samples collected considering different crop type with fallow land. The fallow land in the study area covered with partial vegetation (weeds growth) could have contributed to signature overlap. The finding was in accordance with Dengsheng *et al.* (2010) where he reported misclassification errors due to spectral confusion among features at higher level.

Classification accuracy: Accuracy assessment is required for evaluating the quality of land cover classification results and also for identifying a suitable classification method. The elements used were overall accuracy, producer's accuracy, user's accuracy and kappa coefficient which are derived from error matrix. The accuracy of the classified output from level II classification was assessed by error matrix (also called confusion matrix or a contingency table). Error matrices compare on a category-by-category basis the relationship between known reference data (ground truth) and the corresponding results of an automated classification. Error matrix indicates how well a classification has categorized a set of pixels used in the training process. The error matrix result from the classification is presented in Table 4 and 5.

The error matrix in Table 4 indicates an overall accuracy of 91 per cent, 87 per cent and 89 per cent for maximum likelihood classifier, minimum distance to mean classifier and mahalanobis distance method, respectively. The kappa co-efficient varied from 0.81 to 0.86. The maximum likelihood classifier resulted in better producer as well as users accuracy followed by mahalanobis distance method. In all the methods, water body classified with 100 per cent accuracy followed by vegetation (89 to 98 %) and settlement (75 to 94 %). These findings are in accordance with Kiran *et al.* (2014), where they reported an overall accuracy of 90-95 per cent using LISS IV data. The reason could be the efficiency of maximum likelihood classifier algorithms than other methods. Patil *et al.* (2012) reported similar findings of higher accuracy with maximum likelihood classifier.

Accuracy assessment was also made for level III land use land cover classification on the LISS IV image involving three algorithms. The error matrix resulting from classifying training set pixels by maximum likelihood classification algorithm is presented in Table 5. There were ten land cover classes generated at level III. The overall accuracy obtained was 65 per cent with a kappa coefficient of 0.60. The vegetation classes *viz.*, turmeric, sugarcane and scrubland recorded very low accuracy percentage of 25, 27 and 31, respectively, whereas, the accuracy percentage with cassava and coconut were 71 and 63, respectively. The classes such as fallow, settlement, sandy area and waterbody resulted in higher producer's accuracy

of 78, 90, 90 and 100 per cent, respectively. The user's accuracy which is an indicator of commission error ranged from 40 per cent to 100 per cent. The user's accuracy for vegetation was low for turmeric (40%), sugarcane (40%), coconut (45%) and cassava (50%) and high for waterbody, settlement, fallow land and sandy area (80% to 100%).

The minimum distance to mean method produced an overall accuracy of 56 per cent and kappa coefficient of 0.50 (Table 5). The producer's accuracy varied from as low as 17 percent with turmeric to 94 per cent with settlement. Turmeric, sugarcane and land with scrub recorded very low accuracy percentage of 17, 36 and 18, respectively. Whereas, the accuracy percentage with cassava, coconut, fallow lands, settlement and water body were 78, 52, 79, 94 and 92 per cent, respectively. The user's accuracy for vegetation classes were low for turmeric (40%), sugarcane (40%), coconut (45%) and cassava (50%) and for classes *viz.*, waterbody, settlement, fallow land and sandy area were higher (80% to 100%).

The overall accuracy obtained with mahalanobis distance method was 62 per cent with a kappa coefficient of 0.55. According to Landis and Koch (1977) a Kappa coefficient equal to 1 indicates perfect agreement and value close to zero indicates poor agreement. In the present study the kappa coefficient of 0.55 indicates moderate agreement (Table 5). The vegetation classes *viz.*, turmeric, sugarcane and scrubland recorded very low accuracy percentage of 22, 27 and 31, respectively which indicates these land cover classes could not be classified effectively. Whereas, accuracy percentage with cassava and coconut were 71 per cent and 65 per cent, respectively indicates the classification approach followed in this study is effective in identifying and classifying the land cover classes *viz.*, cassava and coconut. The settlement, sandy area and waterbody resulted in higher producer's accuracy of 82, 100 and 100 per cent, respectively this was possible with clear image tones. The user's accuracy for vegetation classes were low for turmeric (60%), sugarcane (30%), coconut (26%) and cassava (50%). The user's accuracy for waterbody, settlement, fallow land and sandy area were higher (80% to 100%).

In the present study the overall accuracy was higher (65%) with maximum likelihood classifier and lower (56%) with minimum distance to mean and the mahalanobis distance method recorded 62 per cent. The producer's and user's accuracy were best (100%) for waterbody followed by sandy area (90 to 100%), settlement (around 90%) and fallow land (78-80%). The accuracy with vegetation categories was moderate in all the methods. The producer's accuracy ranged from 22-25 per cent (turmeric) to 63-65 per cent

(coconut) in maximum likelihood method and mahalanobis distance method. Thus, classification of vegetation categories into individual crops using LISS IV data resulted in poor classification accuracy irrespective of types of algorithms used. This is presumably due to overlapping of spectral signatures which as reported by Gao and Mas (2008) and Lu *et al.* (2010). It was also reported that the choice of classification techniques can significantly influence the results from crop inventories, and the accuracy of classification algorithms varies according to landscape units of the study area (Dwivedi *et al.*, 2004) and this is evident in the present study. Jaiswal and Verma (2013) reported a user's accuracy of 66 per cent for multiple crop and Ojigi (2006) obtained poor (21.8%) to moderate (68%) classification accuracy with the use of maximum likelihood and minimum distance method. Thus, the present investigation revealed that discrimination and mapping of individual crops grown in small patches using the LISS IV data resulted in moderate classification accuracy irrespective of type of algorithms used.

Conclusion

Land use land cover classification using LISS IV sensor data was effective for level II classification with an overall accuracy of 91 per cent with maximum likelihood classifier followed by mahalanobis distance (89 %) and minimum distance to mean classifier (87%). The accuracy with level III classification was 65 per cent with maximum likelihood classifier, 62 per cent with mahalanobis distance and 56 per cent with minimum distance to mean classifier. The producer's and user's accuracy were 100 per cent for waterbody followed by sandy area (90 to 100%), settlement (around 90%) and fallow land (78-80%). However, the accuracy with vegetation categories was poor to moderate in all the methods, wherein producer's accuracy ranged from 22-25 per cent (turmeric) to 63-65 per cent (coconut) in maximum likelihood method and mahalanobis distance method. Thus, classification and mapping of individual crops in the present study using LISS IV data resulted in moderate classification accuracy irrespective of types of algorithms used.

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