Automated Benthic Inventories



Ocean Riot

Biomass Estimation

Automating benthic inventories

Case study: The Green Urchin Population of Godbout

Zone of interest: 831 orthomosaics 6.858m² per zone

Canada

FISHERIES AND OCEANS

5699m² in total

Results: 5668 Urchins Detected Under 3 Minutes



Results

Once trained, the AI can detect more urchins than the **average** human eye and alleviate issues due to contrast, illumination and turbidity.

Can you spot them all?





Spatial distribution

The spatial distribution of detected urchins' positions and sizes can be readily exported as a SHP file for further analysis. Each dot represents an urchin over the seafloor's orthomosaic.

These standardized data products can be imported into GIS software for further analysis.



Specimen Size

The AI can estimate specimen size and generate value-added data for the area of study

"the shell of the green urchin can reach a diameter of 100 millimeters, with an average between 50 and 60 millimeters"

-DFO-MPO



Identifying commercially viable specimens

The algorithms yields significant value by quickly identifying commercially viable specimens automatically and extracting their distribution patterns.

This allows for drastic efficiency improvements by reducing the area to prospect specimens over 50mm.



Identifying key recruitment zones for sustainability

Identifying key recruitment areas ensures that marine resource exploitation is compatible with sustainable development objectives.

Juvenile specimens under 30mm can be readily identified by the algorithms.



Setting up protection zones to protect the resource

The outputs from the algorithms can automatically built into practical data-driven decisionmaking tools.

This allows the objective determination of reasonable boundaries to protect the resource, while at the same time protecting future profitability and jobs.



Maximizing profit while minimizing damage to the environment

Ultimately we can combine the analyses to systematically avoid immature specimens while targeting commercially viable individuals.

Work area *before* optimization: 5699m² Work area *after* optimization: 834m²

85.4%

cost savings less benthic destruction



Automated Marine Species Inventories Submarine-based photogrammetry



Automating the process of acquiring seafloor images using marine robotics techniques drastically improves the efficiency of the process.

Photographs are stitched together to build a complete view of the seafloor in the area of interest.



Automated Marine Species Inventories

Submarine-based photogrammetry



Inventaires subaquatiques automatisés Collaboration avec les USA

Nous explorons en ce moment une collaboration avec le Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute et son projet Fathomnet. Ceci permettra de bonifier une immense base de données d'organismes aquatiques afin de faciliter la création de modèles d'IA innovateurs permettant de dénombrer des espèces multiples.



Habitat Characterization

Classifying benthic substrates

Marine Substrate Characterization





1000 DFO Ground Truthing Stations

Process

Seafloor geometry data (MBES, lidar, etc)

Using supervised learning makes it possible to classify benthic habitats using proxy variables derived from seafloor geometry.

Training data from ground truthing data

Artificial Intelligence





Franquelin, North Shore, QC, Canada

Peer-reviewed models

Unsupervised model (No ground truthing)



Supervised model (With ground truthing)



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Thank You