

NEURAL-NETWORK-BASED CLASSIFICATION OF BIOLOGICAL OBJECT IMAGES TAKEN BY UNDERWATER CAMERAS

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This article considers the application of a pre-trained convolutional neural network for classifying marine inhabitants visible with underwater cameras located in the Alekseeva bay, Popov Island, located in the Peter the Great Bay in the Sea of Japan. To test how these methods are applicable, we used the YOLOv5 model, specially trained to detect moving marine species located within underwater cameras' line of sight. We used two types of models with a small (simple) and large (complicated) number of parameters. Before the experiments, we assumed that after the training process, the model could distinguish fishes from shrimps, crabs, jellyfishes and sea stars (a total of six classes of objects). To train the model, we have used a dataset prepared by the University of Aalborg (Denmark), also named Brackish Dataset, which is available free online. Further, the model trained with this dataset has been applied to images obtained from the marine station of Popov Island. These images were obtained during the fall of 2018 (September – October). During the data analysis, the model detected mentioned classes of marine habitats with a different probability. In general, the applied studies have shown that the YOLOv5 trained to detect marine habitats can give adequate results depending on the robustness of the learning process and how deep the learning was. In addition, it showed that it is necessary to pre-train that kind of model on proprietary datasets which can cover peculiar regional properties of Far East marginal seas.

Keywords: underwater video surveillance, Sea of Japan, object detection model YoloV5.

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