

GMM-Based Synthetic Samples for Classification of Hyperspectral Images with Limited Training Data

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Abstract—The amount of training data that is required to train a classifier scales with the dimensionality of the feature data. In hyperspectral remote sensing, feature data can potentially become very high dimensional. However, the amount of training data is oftentimes limited. Thus, one of the core challenges in hyperspectral remote sensing is how to perform multi-class classification using only relatively few training data points.

In this work, we address this issue by enriching the feature matrix with synthetically generated sample points. This synthetic data is sampled from a GMM fitted to each class of the limited training data. Although the true distribution of features may not be perfectly modeled by the fitted GMM, we demonstrate that a moderate augmentation by these synthetic samples can effectively replace a part of the missing training samples. Doing so, the median gain in classification performance is 5% on two datasets. This performance gain is stable for variations in the number of added samples, which makes it easy to apply this method to real-world applications.

Index Terms—hyperspectral remote sensing image classification, limited training data, synthetic data

I. INTRODUCTION

REMOTE sensing is of importance for many applications, including environmental monitoring, urban planning, ecosystem-oriented natural resources management, urban change detection and agricultural region monitoring [1]. In particular, hyperspectral remote sensing (HSRS) uses data with a high spectral resolution. The task of HSRS classification is the construction of a label map of remotely sensed images in which individual pixels are marked as members of specific classes like water, asphalt, or grass. The decision for the region type that is seen in a pixel is typically made by a classifier.

Labeling the remote-sensing data at pixel-level for supervised classification is typically quite expensive and time-consuming. One example consequence of this is that many publicly available datasets contain ground-truth labels for only few pixels per class.

Current work that addresses the limited training data HSRS image classification can be roughly divided into two categories. In the first category the aim is to develop classifiers that are more robust to limited training data, e.g., [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7]. In the second category, the aim is to reduce the feature dimensionality since the limited data problem is less severe in lower-dimensional spaces, e.g. [8], [9], [10], [11], [12], [13]. While dimensionality reduction methods have been proven to be useful in many different problems, current

methods are highly challenged in extreme cases, i.e., when training data is severely limited. For example, when reducing the number of training samples per class from 40 to 13, the average accuracy for a standard pipeline that computes PCA, then extended multi-attribute profiles (EMAP) features, then PCA again drops on the Pavia Centre dataset from about 84% to about 74%.

Probably any machine learning method can benefit from augmentation techniques. However, this typically requires a very accurate model in order to work. If the model is not good enough, transfer learning techniques [14] yield significant improvements. If better simulations can be carried out, it may be possible to apply successive labeling [15]. We observed that it is possible to adapt the data to the classifier by augmenting the data with synthetic samples. We noted this option in a conference paper [16], but a thorough examination is still missing. We report that adding synthetic data yields excellent results at a very low computational cost.

This paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we briefly review the related work on the remote-sensing limited-data classification. The explored approach is detailed in Sec. III. Next, Sec. IV presents the conducted experiments and their results, and puts them in perspective with other works. Finally, Sec. V concludes the paper.

II. RELATED WORK

To our knowledge, only few methods have been proposed to extend the feature space by synthetic samples for HSRS classification. Skurichina *et al.* proposed to inject Gaussian noise in the direction of the k nearest neighborhood of the training data (k -NN DNI) [17]. Neagoe *et al.* proposed virtual sample generation using the weights of concurrent self-organizing maps (CSOM) [18].

There exist several recent works on generative adversarial networks (GANs) for synthetic data generation [19], [20]. However, GANs require huge amounts of data, and are thus not applicable to severely limited training data.

Related work on HSRS limited data classification is organized into robust classification schemes and dimensionality reduction methods. For robust classification, early works use a Gaussian maximum likelihood estimator [2], [3]. However, limited training data leads to inaccurate estimation of the Gaussian means and covariances. This is addressed by modifying the covariance matrix estimation.

Bruzzone *et al.* proposed to introduce transductive and inductive functions as controlling units on the SVM outputs to select semi-labeled training data [4]. Chi *et al.* modified

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a support vector machine (SVM), and performed gradient descent and a Newton-Raphson optimization on its primal representation [5]. Recently, Xia *et al.* proposed a novel ensemble approach called rotation-based SVM (RoSVM) [6], using random feature selection to diversify the classifier. Compared to standard SVM, this approach performs better on limited training data, but it is computationally expensive. Li *et al.* proposed a classification framework based on integrating multiple linear and non-linear features, including EMAP [7] into a more effective classifier.

Dimensionality reduction (DR) is widely used in hyper-spectral remote sensing image classification to reduce the number of spectral channels, thereby directly addressing the Hughes phenomenon. Principle component analysis (PCA) and independent component analysis (ICA) are two common choices in the literature.

In a recent work by Kang *et al.* [21], PCA is used to reduce the dimensionality of edge preserving features (EPFs) prior to classification. It was shown that the combination of EPF and PCA results in a powerful feature vector. Sofolahan *et al.* proposed an algorithm named summed component analysis that uses PCA and principle feature analysis (PFA) [8]. PFA selects a subset of the features, which in contrast to PCA and ICA allows to physically interpret the reduced features.

Supervised DR makes use of labeled data during DR. Some of the most popular approaches are non-parametric weighted feature extraction (NWFE) [9], discriminant analysis feature extraction (DAFE) [10], and decision boundary feature extraction (DBFE) [11]. These approaches were shown to perform equally well or better than unsupervised reduction techniques, and to boost classification performance when used in combination with the unsupervised techniques [12]. The common idea behind these algorithms is reduce the data dimensionality while optimizing the interclass and intraclass distances in the lower dimension. Particularly for NWFE, it has been shown to outperform the more classical LDA in cases of limited training data [13]. Recently, Kianisarkaleh *et al.* proposed nonparametric feature extraction (NFE) [13] for limited training data. It is similar to NWFE, but uses k neighbors in a class to compute the local class mean.

III. ADDITION OF SYNTHETIC DATA FOR CLASSIFICATION

A high-level overview of the proposed method is shown in Fig. 1. We use a standard dimensionality-reduction workflow. Spectral bands are reduced via PCA, and extended multi-attribute profiles (EMAP) [22] are computed as features. These features are again subject to dimensionality reduction. These low-dimensional descriptors are then classified. The key contribution of the method is injected right before the classification: we propose to populate the feature space more densely with synthetic feature points. These feature points are drawn from a Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) that is fitted to the training samples. A GMM from such limited training data is necessarily only a coarse approximation of the underlying distribution. Nevertheless, we show that it is well suited to support the subsequent classification.

The parametrization of the standard pipeline follows dataset-dependent recommendations from the literature, and is re-

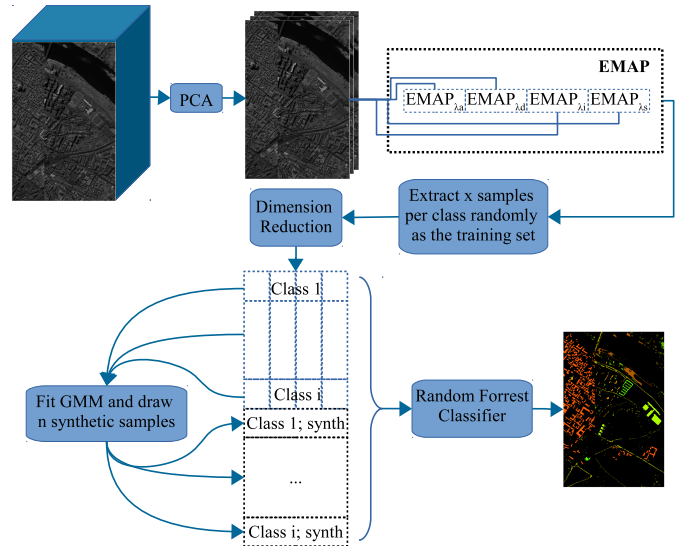


Fig. 1: Proposed workflow.

ported in the experiments in Sec. IV. For the remainder of this section, we expand on our core contribution, which is the addition of synthetic data.

A GMM models the probability density function (PDF) as

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{i=1}^k w_i = 1, \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ denotes a d -dimensional sample, k is the number of mixture components, w_i , $0 \leq w_i \leq 1$, is the weight of the i -th component, and $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i)$ is the a posteriori probability of \mathbf{x} given the multivariate Gaussian distribution with mean vector $\boldsymbol{\mu}_i$ and covariance $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i$.

The Gaussian mixture model is fully parameterized by the coefficients w_i , the mean vectors $\boldsymbol{\mu}_i$ and the covariance matrices $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i$. Thus, the total number of parameters is $k + kd + kd^2$ for k components of dimension d . When facing severely limited data, there may not be enough samples available for estimating a full covariance matrix. As a consequence, we constrain the covariance matrices to diagonal matrices. Such a linear combination of diagonal matrices is sufficient to model correlation between dimensions [23], and the number of model parameters greatly decreases to only $k + kd + kd = k(1 + 2d)$.

To allow for some variability in the number of components of each GMM model, we construct for each class four GMMs with $k = 1$ to $k = 4$ components. The best fitting model is determined using the Akaike information criterion [24], [25].

The GMM parameters are estimated using iterative Expectation-Maximization (EM). To gain some robustness to the choice of initial values, we use the k -means clustering algorithm to provide reasonable initial values for the estimator, where k is set to the selected number of components. We also add a small value to the diagonal of the covariance matrices to support the EM convergence.

IV. EVALUATION

The method is evaluated on the popular Pavia Centre and Salinas datasets. The Pavia Centre dataset has been acquired

by the ROSIS sensor in 115 spectral bands over Pavia, northern Italy. 13 of these bands are removed due to noise and therefore 102 bands are used in this work. The scene image is 1096×715 pixels with a geometrical resolution of 1.3 m. Salinas dataset was acquired by AVIRIS sensor in 224 spectral bands over Salinas Valley, California. 20 water absorption bands were discarded and the remaining 204 bands are used in this work. The image is 512×217 pixels with a geometrical resolution of 3.7 m.

The parameters of the workflow in Fig. 1 are chosen as follows: the PCA components preserve 99% of the total spectral variance. EMAP is computed according to the literature, by using four attributes and four thresholds λ per attribute [22], [26]. More specifically, the thresholds for area of connected components are chosen as $\lambda_a = [100, 500, 1000, 5000]$, and the thresholds for length of the diagonal of the bounding box fitted around the connected components λ_d are chosen as $\lambda_d = [10, 25, 50, 100]$. The thresholds for standard deviation of the gray values of the connected components λ_s and the moment of inertia λ_i are chosen differently per dataset [22], [26], i.e., $\lambda_s = [20, 30, 40, 50]$ and $\lambda_i = [0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5]$ for Pavia Centre, and for Salinas $\lambda_s = [20, 30, 40, 50]$ and $\lambda_i = [0.1, 0.15, 0.2, 0.25]$.

For the second dimensionality reduction, we use in one variant PCA, and in another variant the supervised non-parametric weighted feature extraction (NWFE) [9], [12] to preserve 99% of the feature variance. While PCA considers all classes equally, NWFE is supervised and uses the interclass and intraclass separability as a criterion for dimensionality reduction. On Pavia Centre, PCA and NWFE result in 7 and 6 feature dimensions, respectively. On Salinas, PCA and NWFE result in 4 and 7 dimensions, respectively. In our experiments, we use abbreviations to specify the used pipeline configuration. We use either EMAP, EMAP-PCA, or EMAP-NWFE to distinguish the use of no secondary dimensionality reduction, PCA, or NWFE, respectively. For classification, we use the random forest default parameters as proposed by Breiman [27], i.e. $H = 100$ trees with a tree depth of the square root of the feature dimension, $D = \sqrt{d}$, on EMAP-NWFE, and report Kappa for different numbers of up to 5000 added synthetic samples. Each experiment is repeated 25 times and the mean average accuracy (AA), overall accuracy (OA) and Kappa along with their standard deviations are reported.

Figure 2 shows the performance in dependence on the number of added synthetic samples, computed on the Pavia Centre dataset. The left and right plots show the classification performances using 13 and 40 training samples per class, respectively. Adding only a few synthetic samples leads to a jump in classification performance, for example from about 0.88 to about 0.94 for 13 samples. This performance gain is quite stable with respect to the exact number of added samples, i.e., it does not make much difference whether 500 or 5000 samples are added.

A full quantitative evaluation is performed on EMAP, EMAP-PCA, and EMAP-NWFE which are computed on Pavia Centre and Salinas dataset. Synthetic samples are only added to the dimensionality-reduced features EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE, but not to the high-dimensional EMAP,

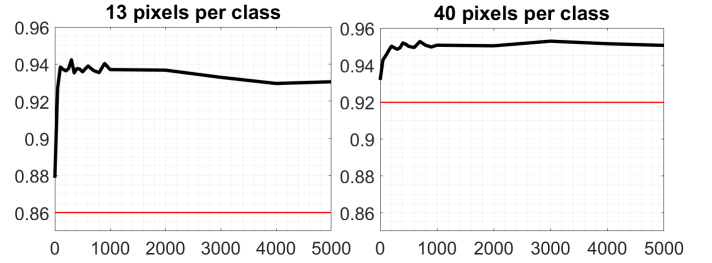


Fig. 2: Classification performance (kappa) vs. the number of synthetic samples added to the original training set. Classification is performed on EMAP-NWFE computed over Pavia Centre dataset. Red line represents the performance of raw EMAP without any synthetic sample addition.

because GMM parameters can not reliably be estimated from very few samples in very high dimensional spaces. Representative results are shown in Table I, further results are shown in the supplemental material. The per-class performances for Pavia Centre and Salinas datasets are listed in Table II and Table III, respectively. The addition of synthetic samples consistently improves the classification performance. Table I allows for two more observations. First, the addition of synthetic samples not only outperforms EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE, but also it results in higher performance than the raw non-reduced EMAP. Second, adding synthetic samples reduces the standard deviation of the classification results. This is particularly interesting, as randomly drawn samples can theoretically also fall in confusion areas at class boundaries, and that way potentially worsen the classifier. It might theoretically also happen that inaccuracies in the drawn samples lead to a bad model, that worsens the classifier. However, from the consistently low standard deviation, we empirically conclude that this is not an issue in practice.

We confirmed these findings also for 20 and 30 training samples per class, and we also repeated and confirmed all experiments with SVM classifier (see supplemental material). Kappa improves on average by 5.84 percent after adding synthetic samples to the training set, with a standard deviation of 3.18. We also evaluated the pipeline on the dimensionality reduced raw hyperspectral datasets without computing EMAP. Analogously to the results on EMAP, adding synthetic samples has positive impact on the classification performance. These results are in Table XIV and Table XV of the supplementary material.

We also compared the proposed method for addition of synthetic samples to other methods that generate synthetic samples [17], [18]. We denote the method by Skurichina *et al.* [17] as k -NN DNI, and the method by Neagoe *et al.* [18] as CSOM. The proposed method outperforms both CSOM and k -NN DNI in all evaluated scenarios. For example, for EMAP-PCA computed on Pavia Centre, our Kappa is almost 3% and 7% higher than CSOM and k -NN DNI, respectively. The detailed results are listed in Table XVI. of the supplementary material.

The addition of synthetic data is also competitive with other methods reported in the literature. For example, the results by Kianisarkaleh *et al.* [13] on limited training samples on

the Salinas dataset are very comparable to ours. Li *et al.* [7] also recently proposed a framework to operate on very limited datasets. The overall accuracy (OA) of their results reported on Pavia Centre dataset for 20, 30, and 40 training samples is slightly higher than our OA. However, their reported average accuracy is comparable to our performance, and the kappa values of our approach are in all cases considerably higher. Aptoula *et al.* [28] use deep learning for classification. Their kappa on Pavia Centre for the full spectral dataset is 0.952, which is very close to the random forest performance EMAP-NWFE-Synth kappa of 0.9528 for 40 samples. Deep learning on area and moment attribute profiles yielded a best-case kappa of 0.983, which is better than our results. However, in all cases, their methods operate on a training set that is, depending on the class, six to 14 times larger than ours. Tao *et al.* use a deep autoencoder to learn the features for hyperspectral image classification [29]. In a feature transfer task, they report on Pavia Centre a kappa of 0.9699 using 50 samples from the dataset, which is somewhat higher than our EMAP-NWFE-Synth on 40 samples (0.9528). However, key to their strong performance is to first learn a sophisticated feature representation from the Pavia University dataset using a considerably higher number of samples. In future work, it would be interesting to investigate whether their feature representation can also benefit from additional synthetic samples.

Furthermore, we run our pipeline on Pavia University dataset in order to quantitatively compare our work with a recent work on limited training data by Xia *et al.* [6]. Our $[OA, AA] = [79.52, 84.78]$ on 13 pixels per class training set size, computed on the EMAP-PCA is higher than their best result using 30 pixels per class training set size, i.e. $[76.06, 82.67]$ and almost equal to their result on 40 pixels per class training set, i.e. $[77.12, 85.12]$ (for the full results, see Table III of the supplemental material).

All in all, it is encouraging that our proposed approach is able to achieve a performance that comes close to a deep learning architecture, which may be very useful in scenarios where there is not the significant amount of training data available that is required to train a deep network.

Fig. 3 shows the selected random forest label maps on Salinas dataset variations with and without adding synthetic samples. The synthetic samples improve the classification accuracy and avoid some misclassification. This improvement can best be observed in the large homogeneous regions. Label maps for the other datasets, and on pixels without ground truth are in Fig. 3 to Fig. 7 in the supplemental material.

Our MATLAB implementation is executed on a desktop PC with a quad-core Intel Core i7-4910MQ CPU with 2.9 GHz and 32 GB RAM. We report the runtime for generating, adding and classifying 5000 synthetic samples. It turns out that our method is computationally cheap. For example, for EMAP-PCA on Pavia Centre, it takes 0.68s to generate, add and classify the synthetic samples. For EMAP-PCA on Salinas dataset, the process takes 1.1 s.

V. CONCLUSION

A common issue in hyperspectral remote sensing image classification is the limited training data, particularly when

TABLE I: Classification performance computed over Pavia Centre and Salinas. $|S|$ denotes the number of added synthetic samples per class, “-” indicates that no samples are added.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Pavia Centre				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	77.87 (\pm 2.97)	90.01 (\pm 3.78)	0.8600 (\pm 0.0495)
EMAP-PCA	-	73.51 (\pm 3.00)	86.38 (\pm 3.61)	0.8089 (\pm 0.0493)
EMAP-PCA	500	84.59 (\pm 1.58)	93.67 (\pm 0.75)	0.9107 (\pm 0.0104)
EMAP-NWFE	-	80.06 (\pm 3.56)	91.37 (\pm 2.67)	0.8787 (\pm 0.0365)
EMAP-NWFE	500	89.57 (\pm 1.15)	95.91 (\pm 0.49)	0.9423 (\pm 0.0069)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	86.80 (\pm 1.47)	94.30 (\pm 0.61)	0.9197 (\pm 0.0086)
EMAP-PCA	-	83.98 (\pm 1.18)	93.49 (\pm 0.69)	0.9082 (\pm 0.0096)
EMAP-PCA	500	88.74 (\pm 0.96)	95.09 (\pm 0.54)	0.9307 (\pm 0.0076)
EMAP-NWFE	-	87.41 (\pm 1.41)	95.18 (\pm 0.61)	0.9318 (\pm 0.0085)
EMAP-NWFE	500	92.39 (\pm 0.75)	96.66 (\pm 0.46)	0.9528 (\pm 0.0063)
Salinas				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	83.84 (\pm 2.06)	76.30 (\pm 2.74)	0.7380 (\pm 0.0292)
EMAP-PCA	-	82.50 (\pm 2.06)	74.96 (\pm 3.63)	0.7230 (\pm 0.0378)
EMAP-PCA	500	90.96 (\pm 0.88)	83.89 (\pm 1.72)	0.8215 (\pm 0.0188)
EMAP-NWFE	-	88.68 (\pm 1.20)	80.42 (\pm 2.34)	0.7838 (\pm 0.0247)
EMAP-NWFE	500	93.17 (\pm 0.68)	87.09 (\pm 1.26)	0.8566 (\pm 0.0138)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	90.75 (\pm 0.86)	84.52 (\pm 1.76)	0.8285 (\pm 0.0192)
EMAP-PCA	-	89.80 (\pm 1.21)	81.73 (\pm 2.51)	0.7981 (\pm 0.0273)
EMAP-PCA	500	93.08 (\pm 0.40)	86.59 (\pm 0.85)	0.8512 (\pm 0.0093)
EMAP-NWFE	-	93.29 (\pm 0.41)	86.09 (\pm 1.86)	0.8462 (\pm 0.0200)
EMAP-NWFE	500	94.52 (\pm 0.30)	89.18 (\pm 0.81)	0.8798 (\pm 0.0089)

TABLE II: Class-wise performance computed over Pavia Centre dataset, with 500 synthetic samples per class.

Class	Train/Test	EMAP-PCA	EMAP-NWFE
Water	13/65958	99.48 \pm 0.37	99.71 \pm 0.28
Trees	13/7585	72.09 \pm 10.12	83.86 \pm 7.19
Asphalt	13/3077	68.25 \pm 9.92	82.25 \pm 9.65
Self-Blocking Bricks	13/2672	72.08 \pm 9.82	81.80 \pm 6.29
Bitumen	13/6571	80.47 \pm 7.48	80.84 \pm 7.68
Tiles	13/9235	92.63 \pm 4.17	96.39 \pm 1.83
Shadows	13/7274	84.12 \pm 5.49	86.01 \pm 4.93
Meadows	13/42813	95.25 \pm 2.04	98.19 \pm 0.96
Bare Soil	13/2850	96.97 \pm 2.06	97.08 \pm 2.02
Average Accuracy		84.59 \pm 1.58	89.57 \pm 1.15
Overall Accuracy		93.67 \pm 0.75	95.91 \pm 0.49
Kappa		0.9107 \pm 0.0104	0.9423 \pm 0.0069

using high dimensional feature vectors. In this work, we propose to compensate this limitation by adding synthetic samples drawn from a Gaussian mixture that is estimated from the limited samples.

We show on simulated data with non-Gaussian distributions that this idea helps on severely limited training data, even if the true underlying distribution is only approximately matched (see supplemental material). On real data, the performance gain on a standard dimensionality-reduction classification pipeline is shown for the Pavia Centre, Pavia University and Salinas datasets. Adding synthetic samples consistently increases OA, AA and kappa coefficient, while the choice for the exact number of added features is not critical. The mean improvement in our experiments is 4.5%, with variations between one percent and almost ten percent. These results are encouraging, as the approach itself is quite straightforward, and can be smoothly integrated into any classification pipeline.

TABLE III: Class-wise performance computed over Salinas dataset, with 500 synthetic samples per class.

Class	Train/Test	EMAP-PCA	EMAP-NWFE
Broccoli green weeds 1	13/1996	95.90 ± 5.47	98.05 ± 3.65
Broccoli green weeds 2	13/3713	95.57 ± 2.77	96.81 ± 3.98
Fallow	13/1963	88.82 ± 6.68	97.28 ± 3.35
Fallow rough plow	13/1381	99.42 ± 0.55	98.81 ± 1.65
Fallow smooth	13/2665	96.61 ± 1.15	94.95 ± 1.84
Stubble	13/3946	96.15 ± 2.04	98.24 ± 1.38
Celery	13/3566	99.41 ± 0.22	99.75 ± 0.05
Grapes untrained	13/11258	58.97 ± 8.98	62.10 ± 9.88
Soil vinyard develop	13/6190	95.79 ± 1.35	98.61 ± 0.86
Corn	13/3265	84.72 ± 4.90	89.49 ± 6.25
Lettuce romaine 4wk	13/1055	92.36 ± 4.35	95.11 ± 1.65
Lettuce romaine 5wk	13/1914	94.89 ± 4.78	99.52 ± 0.57
Lettuce romaine 6wk	13/903	97.85 ± 0.95	98.66 ± 0.65
Lettuce romaine 7wk	13/1057	91.65 ± 4.18	94.62 ± 2.08
Vinyard untrained	13/7255	67.55 ± 6.64	68.76 ± 8.80
Vinyard vertical trellis	13/1794	99.74 ± 0.35	99.97 ± 0.11
Average Accuracy		90.96 ± 0.88	93.17 ± 0.68
Overall Accuracy		83.89 ± 1.72	87.09 ± 1.26
Kappa		0.8215 ± 0.0188	0.8566 ± 0.0138

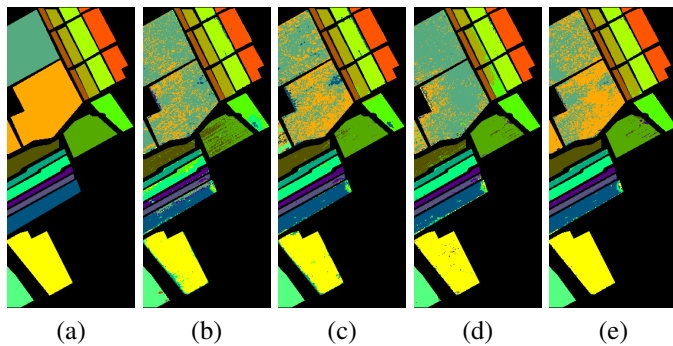


Fig. 3: Label maps on Salinas using 13 training samples per class. (a) ground truth (b) EMAP-PCA, (c) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (d) EMAP-NWFE, (e) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

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GMM-Based Synthetic Samples for Classification of Hyperspectral Images with Limited Training Data

Supplementary Material

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I. OVERVIEW

This document contains the full experimental results to complement the results in the main text. We report results for all combinations of the two considered datasets (Pavia Centre and Salinas), two dimensionality-reduction methods (PCA and NWF), two classifiers (random forests and SVM) with the purpose of either optimizing the classification parameters or adding synthetic samples. For training the classifiers, we used limited datasets of either 13, 20, 30, or 40 samples per class.

When considering an unoptimized random forest, default parameters from the literature are used, i.e., $H = 100$ trees with a tree depth of the square root of the feature dimension, $D = \sqrt{d}$.

Furthermore, random forests are oftentimes used in the literature with a default set of variables rather than optimized parameters. We conducted each of the classification experiments using two versions of the classifiers: optimized and unoptimized. In our work, we denote a classifier as being “unoptimized” if its parameters are taken from reported values instead of being the results of a training protocol. In contrast, optimized classifiers result from a parameter search. In this document, we tabulate the full results to all of our experiments.

II. SIMULATED DATA

Since we are operating on limited training data, we consider a GMM as a reasonable trade-off between the model complexity and the expressiveness of the available samples. This is illustrated with a small simulation experiment. We generate three Gamma distributions with varying shape parameter a and scale parameter b . These distributions are shown in Fig. 1a. 1000, 2000 and 3000 samples are drawn from these distributions to simulate a gamma distributed dataset. From each dataset, 13 samples per class are randomly selected as the training set, and a GMM is fitted to each of these classes (with the same parametrization as for the real-world experiments stated further below). Then, we sample $0 \leq n_s \leq 1000$ additional training samples from the estimated GMMs and add these samples to the original training set. A random forest classifier is trained on these $a+13$ samples. The parameters for random forest were chosen the same as what is popularly used in the hyperspectral remote sensing image analysis community, i.e. 100 trees (H) and square root of number of features as the maximum leaves depth (D), as in [1], [2], [3]. Fig. 1 shows the Cohen’s kappa of the classification result in dependency of the number of added samples n_s . It can be seen that

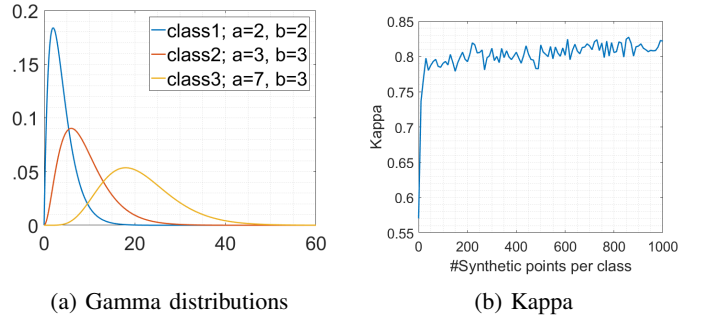


Fig. 1: Simulation example on model accuracy versus classifier support: (a) three different gamma distributions serving as the simulated data’s class distributions, (b) classification performance (kappa value) vs. number of added synthetic samples drawn from the fitted GMM.

the addition of very few synthetic samples already boosts classification performance. These performance gains remain roughly stable for up to 1000 additional samples. The chosen GMM model is not able to accurately represent the Gamma distributions, which contributes to the fact that performance never reaches the optimum. However, it is sufficiently accurate to considerably improve the performance over the baseline with 500 added samples.

III. RANDOM FOREST + SYNTHETIC SAMPLES

Tables I and II contain the classification results using the unoptimized random forest classifier. In Tab. I, features are computed over Pavia Centre dataset and reduced via PCA and NWF.

Analogously, Tab. II presents unoptimized random forest performance for features from EMAP, EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWF, with and without synthetic samples, computed over Salinas dataset. $|S|$ represents the number of added synthetic samples.

As it was mentioned in the main paper, to further evaluate our idea and compare with other works, we conducted our experiments on the commonly used Pavia University dataset. Tab. III presents unoptimized random forest performance for features from EMAP, EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWF, with and without synthetic samples, computed over Pavia University dataset. $|S|$ represents the number of added synthetic samples.

TABLE I: Unoptimized random forest-based classification performance on Pavia Centre dataset with and without adding synthetic features.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Pavia Centre				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	77.87 (\pm 2.97)	90.01 (\pm 3.78)	0.8600 (\pm 0.0495)
EMAP-PCA	-	73.51 (\pm 3.00)	86.38 (\pm 3.61)	0.8089 (\pm 0.0493)
EMAP-PCA	500	84.59 (\pm 1.58)	93.67 (\pm 0.75)	0.9107 (\pm 0.0104)
EMAP-NWFE	-	80.06 (\pm 3.56)	91.37 (\pm 2.67)	0.8787 (\pm 0.0365)
EMAP-NWFE	500	89.57 (\pm 1.15)	95.91 (\pm 0.49)	0.9423 (\pm 0.0069)
20 pix/class				
EMAP	-	81.80 (\pm 2.07)	92.73 (\pm 1.23)	0.8974 (\pm 0.0171)
EMAP-PCA	-	79.07 (\pm 1.69)	90.89 (\pm 1.22)	0.8717 (\pm 0.0169)
EMAP-PCA	500	86.37 (\pm 1.05)	94.16 (\pm 0.47)	0.9178 (\pm 0.0065)
EMAP-NWFE	-	83.32 (\pm 2.24)	93.28 (\pm 1.30)	0.9053 (\pm 0.0181)
EMAP-NWFE	500	90.68 (\pm 1.05)	96.17 (\pm 0.50)	0.9460 (\pm 0.0070)
30 pix/class				
EMAP	-	85.57 (\pm 1.29)	93.95 (\pm 0.59)	0.9148 (\pm 0.0082)
EMAP-PCA	-	82.19 (\pm 1.29)	92.97 (\pm 0.75)	0.9008 (\pm 0.0105)
EMAP-PCA	500	87.91 (\pm 1.09)	94.75 (\pm 0.48)	0.9260 (\pm 0.0067)
EMAP-NWFE	-	86.69 (\pm 1.12)	94.89 (\pm 0.74)	0.9279 (\pm 0.0103)
EMAP-NWFE	500	91.70 (\pm 0.90)	96.53 (\pm 0.56)	0.9510 (\pm 0.0078)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	86.80 (\pm 1.47)	94.30 (\pm 0.61)	0.9197 (\pm 0.0086)
EMAP-PCA	-	83.98 (\pm 1.18)	93.49 (\pm 0.69)	0.9082 (\pm 0.0096)
EMAP-PCA	500	88.74 (\pm 0.96)	95.09 (\pm 0.54)	0.9307 (\pm 0.0076)
EMAP-NWFE	-	87.41 (\pm 1.41)	95.18 (\pm 0.61)	0.9318 (\pm 0.0085)
EMAP-NWFE	500	92.39 (\pm 0.75)	96.66 (\pm 0.46)	0.9528 (\pm 0.0063)

TABLE II: Unoptimized random forest performance on Salinas dataset with and without adding synthetic features.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Salinas				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	83.84 (\pm 2.06)	76.30 (\pm 2.74)	0.7380 (\pm 0.0292)
EMAP-PCA	-	82.50 (\pm 2.06)	74.96 (\pm 3.63)	0.7230 (\pm 0.0378)
EMAP-PCA	500	90.96 (\pm 0.88)	83.89 (\pm 1.72)	0.8215 (\pm 0.0188)
EMAP-NWFE	-	88.68 (\pm 1.20)	80.42 (\pm 2.34)	0.7838 (\pm 0.0247)
EMAP-NWFE	500	93.17 (\pm 0.68)	87.09 (\pm 1.26)	0.8566 (\pm 0.0138)
20 pix/class				
EMAP	-	86.81 (\pm 1.63)	79.74 (\pm 2.56)	0.7756 (\pm 0.0269)
EMAP-PCA	-	86.59 (\pm 1.06)	78.70 (\pm 2.33)	0.7643 (\pm 0.0249)
EMAP-PCA	500	91.76 (\pm 0.97)	85.38 (\pm 1.40)	0.8376 (\pm 0.0154)
EMAP-NWFE	-	90.56 (\pm 1.26)	82.26 (\pm 2.62)	0.8038 (\pm 0.0280)
EMAP-NWFE	500	94.00 (\pm 0.39)	88.28 (\pm 1.01)	0.8697 (\pm 0.0111)
30 pix/class				
EMAP	-	89.01 (\pm 1.10)	81.80 (\pm 2.30)	0.7985 (\pm 0.0248)
EMAP-PCA	-	88.85 (\pm 0.91)	80.96 (\pm 2.15)	0.7895 (\pm 0.0229)
EMAP-PCA	500	92.63 (\pm 0.47)	86.27 (\pm 0.94)	0.8476 (\pm 0.0103)
EMAP-NWFE	-	92.25 (\pm 0.82)	84.76 (\pm 2.38)	0.8314 (\pm 0.0256)
EMAP-NWFE	500	94.35 (\pm 0.43)	88.74 (\pm 1.24)	0.8748 (\pm 0.0138)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	90.75 (\pm 0.86)	84.52 (\pm 1.76)	0.8285 (\pm 0.0192)
EMAP-PCA	-	89.80 (\pm 1.21)	81.73 (\pm 2.51)	0.7981 (\pm 0.0273)
EMAP-PCA	500	93.08 (\pm 0.40)	86.59 (\pm 0.85)	0.8512 (\pm 0.0093)
EMAP-NWFE	-	93.29 (\pm 0.41)	86.09 (\pm 1.86)	0.8462 (\pm 0.0200)
EMAP-NWFE	500	94.52 (\pm 0.30)	89.18 (\pm 0.81)	0.8798 (\pm 0.0089)

IV. SVM + SYNTHETIC SAMPLES

Tab. IV shows the classification results of EMAP, EMAP-PCA, EMAP-NWFE and variants thereof with added synthetic samples, computed over Pavia Centre dataset, using an unoptimized SVM classifier. Similarly, Tab. V exhibits the unoptimized SVM results of the same features, but computed over Salinas datasets.

TABLE III: Unoptimized random forest performance on Pavia University dataset with and without adding synthetic features.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Pavia University				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	70.50 (\pm 2.88)	54.81 (\pm 7.72)	0.4625 (\pm 0.0734)
EMAP-PCA	-	73.77 (\pm 3.56)	65.59 (\pm 8.52)	0.5726 (\pm 0.0879)
EMAP-PCA	500	84.78 (\pm 1.49)	79.52 (\pm 2.98)	0.7376 (\pm 0.0344)
EMAP-NWFE	-	68.33 (\pm 2.97)	62.90 (\pm 6.89)	0.5369 (\pm 0.0671)
EMAP-NWFE	500	82.87 (\pm 1.09)	76.13 (\pm 3.12)	0.6984 (\pm 0.0340)
20 pix/class				
EMAP	-	75.93 (\pm 2.00)	65.12 (\pm 4.74)	0.5691 (\pm 0.0467)
EMAP-PCA	-	78.73 (\pm 2.28)	74.87 (\pm 5.94)	0.6768 (\pm 0.0621)
EMAP-PCA	500	86.75 (\pm 1.16)	82.24 (\pm 3.13)	0.7717 (\pm 0.0364)
EMAP-NWFE	-	76.87 (\pm 2.13)	72.13 (\pm 7.01)	0.6466 (\pm 0.0715)
EMAP-NWFE	500	83.96 (\pm 1.20)	77.84 (\pm 2.57)	0.7183 (\pm 0.0291)
30 pix/class				
EMAP	-	79.63 (\pm 1.56)	70.94 (\pm 3.55)	0.6353 (\pm 0.0375)
EMAP-PCA	-	83.04 (\pm 1.46)	77.76 (\pm 4.75)	0.7156 (\pm 0.0495)
EMAP-PCA	500	87.55 (\pm 0.87)	83.05 (\pm 2.29)	0.7818 (\pm 0.0266)
EMAP-NWFE	-	80.08 (\pm 1.68)	75.16 (\pm 4.95)	0.6819 (\pm 0.0528)
EMAP-NWFE	500	85.61 (\pm 0.83)	80.44 (\pm 2.56)	0.7502 (\pm 0.0296)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	81.72 (\pm 1.52)	71.16 (\pm 3.61)	0.6422 (\pm 0.0379)
EMAP-PCA	-	84.85 (\pm 1.10)	79.71 (\pm 3.42)	0.7392 (\pm 0.0381)
EMAP-PCA	500	88.36 (\pm 1.03)	83.72 (\pm 2.27)	0.7907 (\pm 0.0266)
EMAP-NWFE	-	81.71 (\pm 1.35)	76.47 (\pm 4.36)	0.6996 (\pm 0.0473)
EMAP-NWFE	500	86.07 (\pm 0.93)	80.86 (\pm 2.85)	0.7557 (\pm 0.0329)

TABLE IV: Unoptimized SVM performance on Pavia Centre with and without adding synthetic features. Parameters of SVM are arbitrarily chosen to be $C = 1$ and $\gamma = 5$ for both EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE datasets.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Pavia Centre				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	89.77 (\pm 1.75)	95.37 (\pm 0.89)	0.9348 (\pm 0.0124)
EMAP-PCA	-	75.11 (\pm 2.21)	90.41 (\pm 1.28)	0.8627 (\pm 0.0188)
EMAP-PCA	500	87.01 (\pm 1.08)	94.68 (\pm 0.48)	0.9249 (\pm 0.0067)
EMAP-NWFE	-	77.27 (\pm 1.69)	91.96 (\pm 1.09)	0.8851 (\pm 0.0157)
EMAP-NWFE	500	90.01 (\pm 0.87)	95.32 (\pm 0.35)	0.9341 (\pm 0.0049)
20 pix/class				
EMAP	-	90.92 (\pm 1.23)	96.27 (\pm 0.52)	0.9473 (\pm 0.0073)
EMAP-PCA	-	78.45 (\pm 1.42)	91.87 (\pm 0.72)	0.8844 (\pm 0.0105)
EMAP-PCA	500	87.51 (\pm 1.42)	94.96 (\pm 0.50)	0.9289 (\pm 0.0071)
EMAP-NWFE	-	78.91 (\pm 1.49)	92.37 (\pm 0.71)	0.8915 (\pm 0.0102)
EMAP-NWFE	500	91.14 (\pm 0.64)	95.74 (\pm 0.29)	0.9400 (\pm 0.0040)
30 pix/class				
EMAP	-	93.31 (\pm 0.59)	97.01 (\pm 0.37)	0.9578 (\pm 0.0052)
EMAP-PCA	-	80.79 (\pm 1.71)	92.80 (\pm 0.83)	0.8977 (\pm 0.0119)
EMAP-PCA	500	89.05 (\pm 0.39)	95.63 (\pm 0.36)	0.9382 (\pm 0.0049)
EMAP-NWFE	-	82.63 (\pm 1.23)	94.40 (\pm 0.52)	0.9206 (\pm 0.0073)
EMAP-NWFE	500	91.15 (\pm 0.76)	96.41 (\pm 0.09)	0.9493 (\pm 0.0013)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	93.74 (\pm 0.61)	97.05 (\pm 0.43)	0.9584 (\pm 0.0060)
EMAP-PCA	-	83.52 (\pm 1.38)	93.95 (\pm 0.55)	0.9142 (\pm 0.0078)
EMAP-PCA	500	88.83 (\pm 0.83)	95.39 (\pm 0.25)	0.9348 (\pm 0.0035)
EMAP-NWFE	-	83.52 (\pm 0.98)	93.99 (\pm 0.42)	0.9150 (\pm 0.0060)
EMAP-NWFE	500	92.13 (\pm 0.31)	96.42 (\pm 0.31)	0.9495 (\pm 0.0043)

V. CLASSIFIER PARAMETER SELECTION

When using, e.g., the support vector machine classifier (SVM), it is widely known that parameter selection is a critical preparatory step towards obtaining competitive results. This is the reason why, for example, SVM parameter selection is hardwired into the popular SVM implementation `libSVM`. However, other classification frameworks do not necessarily

TABLE V: Unoptimized SVM performance on Salinas with and without adding synthetic features. Parameters of SVM are arbitrarily chosen to be $C = 1$ and $\gamma = 1$ for EMAP-PCA dataset and $C = 1$ and $\gamma = 5$ for EMAP-NWFE dataset.

Algorithm	$ S $	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
Salinas				
13 pix/class				
EMAP	-	89.47 (\pm 1.13)	80.82 (\pm 1.33)	0.7886 (\pm 0.0146)
EMAP-PCA	-	88.45 (\pm 0.50)	79.60 (\pm 1.95)	0.7749 (\pm 0.0204)
EMAP-PCA	500	92.69 (\pm 0.74)	85.74 (\pm 1.94)	0.8420 (\pm 0.0212)
EMAP-NWFE	-	84.23 (\pm 1.32)	75.21 (\pm 3.23)	0.7266 (\pm 0.0332)
EMAP-NWFE	500	93.21 (\pm 0.69)	86.34 (\pm 1.83)	0.8485 (\pm 0.0202)
20 pix/class				
EMAP	-	91.17 (\pm 0.66)	83.47 (\pm 1.12)	0.8174 (\pm 0.0123)
EMAP-PCA	-	89.87 (\pm 0.83)	83.00 (\pm 1.74)	0.8119 (\pm 0.0187)
EMAP-PCA	500	92.75 (\pm 0.94)	85.90 (\pm 1.63)	0.8438 (\pm 0.0179)
EMAP-NWFE	-	84.15 (\pm 0.64)	75.91 (\pm 2.12)	0.7346 (\pm 0.0223)
EMAP-NWFE	500	93.96 (\pm 0.29)	87.69 (\pm 1.28)	0.8635 (\pm 0.0140)
30 pix/class				
EMAP	-	92.31 (\pm 0.54)	84.80 (\pm 0.92)	0.8320 (\pm 0.0100)
EMAP-PCA	-	90.64 (\pm 0.91)	82.06 (\pm 2.23)	0.8021 (\pm 0.0239)
EMAP-PCA	500	93.76 (\pm 0.44)	87.63 (\pm 0.70)	0.8628 (\pm 0.0078)
EMAP-NWFE	-	84.80 (\pm 0.52)	75.20 (\pm 2.31)	0.7270 (\pm 0.0237)
EMAP-NWFE	500	93.94 (\pm 0.32)	88.57 (\pm 0.35)	0.8730 (\pm 0.0039)
40 pix/class				
EMAP	-	92.88 (\pm 0.45)	85.79 (\pm 1.23)	0.8429 (\pm 0.0134)
EMAP-PCA	-	91.40 (\pm 0.93)	83.60 (\pm 2.47)	0.8190 (\pm 0.0266)
EMAP-PCA	500	93.84 (\pm 0.50)	87.67 (\pm 1.25)	0.8632 (\pm 0.0137)
EMAP-NWFE	-	87.08 (\pm 2.29)	78.00 (\pm 4.44)	0.7580 (\pm 0.0476)
EMAP-NWFE	500	94.13 (\pm 0.33)	88.70 (\pm 0.83)	0.8745 (\pm 0.0092)

include a parameter selection submodule. One notable example is classification with a random forest. Several works [4], [3], [5], [6], [7], [8] rely on the default settings of 100 trees with a tree depth equal to the square root of the feature dimensionality, \sqrt{d} , as originally proposed by Breiman [9]. However, these parameters have been proposed based on training on a relatively large dataset. In the case of classification on severely limited training data, such default parameters yield suboptimal classification performance.

To illustrate how far off the default parameters can be from the optimum solution, we show two example results in Fig. 2. A similar study for large training sets has been done by Rodriguez-Galiano *et al.*[10]. We used limited training sets of size 13 and 40, respectively. The features are extracted from Pavia Centre dataset using PCA-reduced EMAP features, and from Salinas dataset using NWFE-reduced EMAP features, respectively. We color-code the kappa classification performance for different random forest configurations, i.e., different numbers of trees and tree depths. In both examples, considerably smaller number of trees perform significantly better.

A. Optimized Parameters for Random Forest

Classification performance of optimized random forest classifier on EMAP and EMAP-reduced features computed over Pavia Centre and Salinas dataset are shown in Tab. VI and Tab. VII, respectively. The optimized parameters of random forest, H and D , are also listed in the tables.

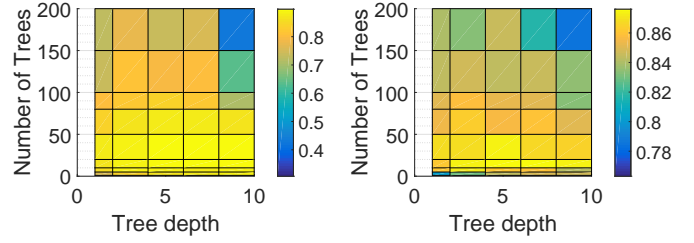


Fig. 2: Random forest kappa performance using different number of trees H and tree depths D . Left: Pavia-EMAP-PCA with training set size of 13 pixels per class. Right: Salinas-EMAP-NWFE with training set size of 40 pixels per class.

TABLE VI: Optimized random forest-based classification performance on Pavia Centre dataset without adding synthetic features. H and D represent the tuned parameters of random forest.

Algorithm	H	D	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
13 pix/class					
EMAP	5	4	86.55 (\pm 1.73)	93.99 (\pm 1.11)	0.9154 (\pm 0.0151)
EMAP-PCA	10	8	84.05 (\pm 1.44)	92.67 (\pm 0.82)	0.8970 (\pm 0.0113)
EMAP-NWFE	10	4	87.38 (\pm 1.04)	94.86 (\pm 0.47)	0.9276 (\pm 0.0066)
20 pix/class					
EMAP	10	10	89.59 (\pm 1.24)	94.94 (\pm 0.76)	0.9289 (\pm 0.0106)
EMAP-PCA	20	10	86.21 (\pm 1.24)	93.80 (\pm 0.53)	0.9128 (\pm 0.0074)
EMAP-NWFE	20	2	88.01 (\pm 0.97)	95.21 (\pm 0.56)	0.9325 (\pm 0.0079)
30 pix/class					
EMAP	10	6	90.84 (\pm 1.08)	95.60 (\pm 0.62)	0.9381 (\pm 0.0087)
EMAP-PCA	10	8	87.47 (\pm 0.79)	94.22 (\pm 0.38)	0.9187 (\pm 0.0053)
EMAP-NWFE	20	4	90.16 (\pm 0.92)	95.86 (\pm 0.51)	0.9416 (\pm 0.0072)
40 pix/class					
EMAP	10	10	92.67 (\pm 0.74)	96.03 (\pm 0.73)	0.9441 (\pm 0.0101)
EMAP-PCA	10	6	88.97 (\pm 0.97)	94.84 (\pm 0.67)	0.9274 (\pm 0.0093)
EMAP-NWFE	20	2	90.90 (\pm 0.96)	96.17 (\pm 0.48)	0.9459 (\pm 0.0068)

B. Optimized Parameters for SVM

Analogously to Sec. V-A, Tab. VIII and Tab. IX show the classification results using an optimized SVM on Pavia Centre and Salinas datasets, respectively. As SVM classifier is by design a two class classifier, we use a one-versus-all approach to multi-class classification. For classifier tuning,

TABLE VII: Optimized random forest-based classification performance on Salinas dataset without adding synthetic features. H and D represent the tuned parameters of random forest.

Algorithm	H	D	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
13 pix/class					
EMAP	5	10	91.54 (\pm 1.06)	86.45 (\pm 2.25)	0.8496 (\pm 0.0250)
EMAP-PCA	10	6	89.29 (\pm 1.10)	82.66 (\pm 1.39)	0.8077 (\pm 0.0153)
EMAP-NWFE	10	4	91.85 (\pm 0.89)	85.21 (\pm 1.18)	0.8357 (\pm 0.0132)
20 pix/class					
EMAP	5	10	93.10 (\pm 0.93)	88.13 (\pm 1.86)	0.8683 (\pm 0.0206)
EMAP-PCA	10	10	90.68 (\pm 0.73)	84.14 (\pm 1.21)	0.8241 (\pm 0.0133)
EMAP-NWFE	20	6	92.75 (\pm 0.54)	86.58 (\pm 0.94)	0.8511 (\pm 0.0103)
30 pix/class					
EMAP	5	10	94.33 (\pm 0.93)	90.32 (\pm 1.40)	0.8926 (\pm 0.0155)
EMAP-PCA	10	10	91.67 (\pm 0.73)	85.58 (\pm 0.68)	0.8399 (\pm 0.0076)
EMAP-NWFE	10	4	93.83 (\pm 0.43)	88.11 (\pm 0.92)	0.8679 (\pm 0.0101)
40 pix/class					
EMAP	5	10	95.13 (\pm 0.71)	91.55 (\pm 1.08)	0.9062 (\pm 0.0119)
EMAP-PCA	10	4	92.43 (\pm 0.33)	86.38 (\pm 0.52)	0.8489 (\pm 0.0058)
EMAP-NWFE	10	6	94.20 (\pm 0.30)	88.83 (\pm 0.88)	0.8760 (\pm 0.0097)

the parameters for each classifier result from a grid-search. Thus, each classifier obtains a unique set of parameters C and γ . Therefore, there is not a single best set of parameters for the overall classifier, which is why these parameters are not reported here.

TABLE VIII: Tuned SVM-based classification performance of EMAP, EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE computed over Pavia Centre dataset without adding synthetic features.

Algorithm	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
13 pix/class			
EMAP	87.20 (\pm 1.53)	94.24 (\pm 1.07)	0.9189 (\pm 0.0148)
EMAP-PCA	86.21 (\pm 2.83)	93.85 (\pm 1.10)	0.9134 (\pm 0.0154)
EMAP-NWFE	88.42 (\pm 1.48)	94.86 (\pm 0.68)	0.9276 (\pm 0.0095)
20 pix/class			
EMAP	90.77 (\pm 1.42)	95.64 (\pm 0.67)	0.9385 (\pm 0.0094)
EMAP-PCA	88.41 (\pm 1.35)	94.82 (\pm 0.64)	0.9269 (\pm 0.0089)
EMAP-NWFE	90.72 (\pm 1.51)	95.60 (\pm 0.70)	0.9380 (\pm 0.0099)
30 pix/class			
EMAP	92.57 (\pm 0.85)	96.16 (\pm 0.39)	0.9459 (\pm 0.0055)
EMAP-PCA	91.46 (\pm 0.96)	95.90 (\pm 0.57)	0.9422 (\pm 0.0080)
EMAP-NWFE	92.27 (\pm 0.89)	96.28 (\pm 0.47)	0.9475 (\pm 0.0065)
40 pix/class			
EMAP	93.61 (\pm 0.84)	96.97 (\pm 0.52)	0.9573 (\pm 0.0073)
EMAP-PCA	92.55 (\pm 1.18)	96.45 (\pm 0.46)	0.9500 (\pm 0.0064)
EMAP-NWFE	93.46 (\pm 0.80)	96.82 (\pm 0.36)	0.9551 (\pm 0.0051)

TABLE IX: Tuned SVM-based classification performance of EMAP, EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE computed over Salinas dataset without adding synthetic features.

Algorithm	AA% (\pm SD)	OA% (\pm SD)	Kappa (\pm SD)
13 pix/class			
EMAP	93.55 (\pm 0.60)	87.41 (\pm 1.35)	0.8604 (\pm 0.0149)
EMAP-PCA	91.73 (\pm 1.01)	84.57 (\pm 1.96)	0.8292 (\pm 0.0213)
EMAP-NWFE	93.78 (\pm 0.90)	87.94 (\pm 1.88)	0.8660 (\pm 0.0208)
20 pix/class			
EMAP	94.69 (\pm 0.64)	89.92 (\pm 1.44)	0.8880 (\pm 0.0160)
EMAP-PCA	93.02 (\pm 0.47)	86.45 (\pm 1.15)	0.8497 (\pm 0.0126)
EMAP-NWFE	94.86 (\pm 0.47)	89.96 (\pm 1.47)	0.8885 (\pm 0.0163)
30 pix/class			
EMAP	95.28 (\pm 0.45)	91.22 (\pm 1.40)	0.9025 (\pm 0.0155)
EMAP-PCA	93.81 (\pm 0.48)	87.57 (\pm 1.18)	0.8621 (\pm 0.0131)
EMAP-NWFE	95.54 (\pm 0.49)	91.91 (\pm 1.25)	0.9101 (\pm 0.0138)
40 pix/class			
EMAP	95.91 (\pm 0.48)	92.20 (\pm 1.15)	0.9134 (\pm 0.0127)
EMAP-PCA	94.08 (\pm 0.60)	87.96 (\pm 1.58)	0.8664 (\pm 0.0173)
EMAP-NWFE	95.79 (\pm 0.43)	92.07 (\pm 1.07)	0.9118 (\pm 0.0120)

C. Performances for Various Random Forest Parameters

Fig. 2 shows that the classical parameters which are used in the literature for random forest classifier, i.e., number of trees $H = 100$, and depth, $D = \sqrt{d}$, are not the optimal parameter values, particularly for severely limited training data sizes. This conclusion was drawn based on the experiments conducted over EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE computed over Pavia Centre and Salinas datasets. Fig. 2 illustrates instances of the numerical analysis which are presented in Tables X, XI, XII, XIII.

D. Performance of the Raw Hyperspectral Data Without the Presence of EMAP

TABLE X: Kappa-based parameter search results for random forest classifier over EMAP-PCA computed on Pavia Centre dataset.

H \ D	1	2	4	6	8	10
13 pix/class						
1	0.7525	0.8343	0.8689	0.8766	0.8861	0.8851
5	0.8594	0.8795	0.8832	0.8784	0.8815	0.8916
10	0.8661	0.8853	0.8945	0.8926	0.8970	0.8967
20	0.8739	0.8820	0.8927	0.8942	0.8958	0.8922
50	0.8351	0.8680	0.8723	0.8755	0.8605	0.8546
80	0.8036	0.8228	0.8353	0.8150	0.7119	0.6854
100	0.7371	0.8121	0.7921	0.7958	0.6362	0.6398
150	0.7298	0.7739	0.7318	0.7503	0.4314	0.4827
200	0.7298	0.7105	0.6883	0.7079	0.3070	0.3065
20 pix/class						
1	0.7484	0.8587	0.8818	0.8891	0.9002	0.9005
5	0.8683	0.8951	0.9043	0.8942	0.8971	0.8983
10	0.8912	0.9047	0.9068	0.9090	0.9040	0.9082
20	0.8899	0.8999	0.9083	0.9037	0.9026	0.9128
50	0.8854	0.8884	0.9029	0.8974	0.8941	0.8983
80	0.8543	0.8707	0.8832	0.8803	0.8676	0.8649
100	0.8475	0.8742	0.8745	0.8574	0.8404	0.8359
150	0.7959	0.8355	0.8348	0.8515	0.7029	0.6732
200	0.8049	0.8195	0.8236	0.7921	0.5885	0.5609
30 pix/class						
1	0.7813	0.8547	0.8957	0.8946	0.9126	0.9142
5	0.8941	0.9070	0.9094	0.9095	0.9093	0.9095
10	0.8988	0.9184	0.9139	0.9182	0.9187	0.9174
20	0.9083	0.9130	0.9123	0.9153	0.9131	0.9177
50	0.8994	0.9067	0.9104	0.9132	0.9074	0.9061
80	0.8945	0.9043	0.9047	0.9083	0.9010	0.9075
100	0.8818	0.8941	0.8978	0.8989	0.8968	0.8959
150	0.8610	0.8884	0.8911	0.8856	0.8438	0.8619
200	0.8437	0.8572	0.8606	0.8697	0.7828	0.7769
40 pix/class						
1	0.8319	0.8676	0.9027	0.9111	0.9186	0.9174
5	0.9004	0.9188	0.9183	0.9176	0.9178	0.9153
10	0.9101	0.9242	0.9262	0.9274	0.9208	0.9247
20	0.9127	0.9208	0.9215	0.9165	0.9216	0.9249
50	0.9066	0.9164	0.9157	0.9152	0.9139	0.9114
80	0.8974	0.9094	0.9132	0.9104	0.9084	0.9084
100	0.8898	0.9068	0.9099	0.9140	0.9085	0.9026
150	0.8904	0.9009	0.9060	0.9028	0.8908	0.8879
200	0.8813	0.8842	0.9018	0.8958	0.8664	0.8563

For completeness, we report performances after dimensionality reduction but without computation of EMAP on the Pavia Centre and the Salinas datasets. Table XIV presents the classification performance computed on the dimensionality reduced Pavia Centre dataset using PCA and NWFE, with and without adding 500 synthetic samples. Analogously, Table XV shows the same classification results for Salinas dataset. The results are consistent with the processing variants that include EMAP, in the sense that addition of synthetic samples increases the classification performance.

VI. COMPARISON WITH SIMILAR METHODS BASED ON SYNTHETIC DATA GENERATION

In our pipeline, we proposed to fit a GMM on each class in the training data and draw samples from the GMM to populate the limited training data. In the literature, there are other methods that use synthetic data generation. For example, Neagoe et al. [11] proposed virtual sample generation by concurrent self-organizing maps (CSOM). In another work on limited training data, Skurichina et al. [12] proposed a method that is based on injecting Gaussian noise in the

TABLE XI: Kappa-based parameter search results for random forest classifier over EMAP-NWFE computed on Pavia Centre dataset.

H \ D	1	2	4	6	8	10
13 pix/class						
1	0.7776	0.8501	0.8576	0.8648	0.8700	0.8607
5	0.8749	0.8985	0.8779	0.8687	0.8701	0.8811
10	0.8963	0.9201	0.9276	0.9026	0.9147	0.9110
20	0.9042	0.9213	0.9276	0.9126	0.9183	0.9097
50	0.9103	0.9057	0.9116	0.8664	0.8702	0.8840
80	0.8894	0.8848	0.8962	0.7640	0.7882	0.7883
100	0.8620	0.8924	0.8896	0.7338	0.7662	0.7743
150	0.8561	0.8819	0.8672	0.6658	0.6528	0.6770
200	0.8145	0.8298	0.8356	0.5222	0.5605	0.5210
20 pix/class						
1	0.8265	0.8721	0.8859	0.8800	0.8949	0.8951
5	0.9025	0.9143	0.8978	0.8912	0.9033	0.8964
10	0.9175	0.9312	0.9320	0.9199	0.9234	0.9262
20	0.9139	0.9325	0.9322	0.9254	0.9277	0.9221
50	0.9099	0.9177	0.9259	0.9135	0.9224	0.9129
80	0.9086	0.9162	0.9228	0.8762	0.8785	0.8826
100	0.9028	0.9119	0.9174	0.8474	0.8495	0.8471
150	0.8999	0.9025	0.9029	0.7952	0.7757	0.7639
200	0.8946	0.8884	0.8914	0.7389	0.7318	0.7202
30 pix/class						
1	0.8463	0.8877	0.9088	0.9133	0.9076	0.9150
5	0.9118	0.9290	0.9168	0.9030	0.9107	0.9135
10	0.9299	0.9379	0.9388	0.9322	0.9334	0.9312
20	0.9330	0.9377	0.9416	0.9337	0.9345	0.9311
50	0.9276	0.9375	0.9380	0.9288	0.9301	0.9318
80	0.9205	0.9314	0.9317	0.9195	0.9190	0.9195
100	0.9205	0.9300	0.9320	0.9124	0.9069	0.9094
150	0.9203	0.9186	0.9197	0.8725	0.8689	0.8791
200	0.9154	0.9160	0.9097	0.8019	0.7994	0.8334
40 pix/class						
1	0.8522	0.8997	0.9095	0.9153	0.9147	0.9181
5	0.9285	0.9359	0.9288	0.9141	0.9183	0.9243
10	0.9353	0.9458	0.9375	0.9361	0.9404	0.9356
20	0.9383	0.9459	0.9433	0.9404	0.9393	0.9404
50	0.9371	0.9413	0.9438	0.9351	0.9364	0.9358
80	0.9337	0.9356	0.9351	0.9272	0.9316	0.9276
100	0.9288	0.9379	0.9373	0.9267	0.9296	0.9257
150	0.9276	0.9319	0.9329	0.9012	0.9101	0.9028
200	0.9183	0.9268	0.9251	0.8697	0.8786	0.8728

k nearest neighbor direction (k -NN DNI). We compare the performance of our approach to these two methods. The results are presented in Table XVI. EMAP-PCA and EMAP-NWFE are used as features. The training data size is 13 pixels per class. Classification is performed with a random forest classifier with 100 trees and square root of number of features as the number of variables. The classification is performed 25 times for each case and the overall accuracy (OA), average accuracy (AA), Kappa and their standard deviations (SD) are reported. In k -NN DNI, the scaling parameter and the variance of the Gaussian noise is optimized separately for each case, to achieve the highest possible performance. For CSOM, the module size for 13 pixels per class was set to a 13×13 grid as it produced the highest performance. The total number of generated synthetic samples are set to approximately 500 per class for all three methods in each scenario. As shown in Table XVI, the proposed method outperforms CSOM and k -NN DNI in all cases.

TABLE XII: Kappa-based parameter search results for random forest classifier over EMAP-PCA computed on Salinas dataset.

H \ D	1	2	4	6	8	10
13 pix/class						
1	0.7350	0.7730	0.7809	0.7840	0.7891	0.7811
5	0.7963	0.7988	0.7873	0.7851	0.7888	0.7793
10	0.7919	0.7963	0.8054	0.8077	0.8066	0.7956
20	0.7841	0.7834	0.7883	0.7910	0.7912	0.7935
50	0.7534	0.7609	0.7596	0.7618	0.7587	0.7512
80	0.7455	0.7357	0.7024	0.7012	0.7187	0.6991
100	0.7259	0.7134	0.6567	0.6726	0.6674	0.6526
150	0.6825	0.7026	0.6043	0.5972	0.6153	0.5930
200	0.6903	0.6741	0.5520	0.5545	0.5609	0.5497
20 pix/class						
1	0.7545	0.7876	0.8051	0.8003	0.7994	0.7987
5	0.8010	0.8135	0.7930	0.7961	0.7993	0.8027
10	0.8104	0.8184	0.8235	0.8099	0.8164	0.8241
20	0.8013	0.8172	0.8117	0.8030	0.8118	0.8050
50	0.7849	0.7817	0.7898	0.7951	0.7826	0.7856
80	0.7699	0.7792	0.7571	0.7621	0.7642	0.7565
100	0.7508	0.7685	0.7437	0.7472	0.7544	0.7411
150	0.7352	0.7453	0.6962	0.6921	0.6850	0.6897
200	0.7251	0.7293	0.6581	0.6392	0.6389	0.6290
30 pix/class						
1	0.7764	0.7998	0.8174	0.8184	0.8197	0.8155
5	0.8287	0.8326	0.8179	0.8153	0.8140	0.8137
10	0.8317	0.8380	0.8380	0.8340	0.8376	0.8399
20	0.8153	0.8287	0.8294	0.8269	0.8323	0.8320
50	0.8040	0.8055	0.8088	0.8058	0.8123	0.8083
80	0.7924	0.7881	0.7907	0.7934	0.7900	0.7877
100	0.7927	0.7861	0.7783	0.7799	0.7791	0.7936
150	0.7621	0.7704	0.7588	0.7482	0.7570	0.7596
200	0.7557	0.7523	0.7220	0.7226	0.7123	0.7248
40 pix/class						
1	0.7904	0.8157	0.8272	0.8216	0.8327	0.8250
5	0.8350	0.8402	0.8210	0.8282	0.8271	0.8252
10	0.8396	0.8489	0.8489	0.8452	0.8477	0.8437
20	0.8334	0.8434	0.8425	0.8421	0.8342	0.8422
50	0.8114	0.8253	0.8103	0.8207	0.8283	0.8262
80	0.8081	0.8146	0.8059	0.8083	0.8129	0.8114
100	0.8083	0.8008	0.7962	0.8017	0.7960	0.8022
150	0.7804	0.7780	0.7876	0.7830	0.7769	0.7899
200	0.7732	0.7805	0.7639	0.7628	0.7657	0.7703

VII. PERFORMANCE

Fig. 3 shows selected random forest label maps on Pavia Centre when adding synthetic samples. Analogously, Fig. 4 shows selected random forest label maps on Pavia University when adding synthetic samples. Synthetic data augmentation improves the classification accuracy and avoids some misclassification.

Furthermore, the behavior of the trained classifiers on the whole image (including unlabeled pixels) is shown for the Salinas dataset, the Pavia Centre dataset, and the Pavia University datasets in Fig. 5, Fig. 6 and Fig. 7, respectively.

TABLE XIII: Kappa-based parameter search results for random forest classifier over EMAP-NWFE computed on Salinas dataset.

H \ D	1	2	4	6	8	10
13 pix/class						
1	0.7471	0.7813	0.8001	0.7941	0.7941	0.7956
5	0.8083	0.8223	0.8221	0.8110	0.7917	0.7933
10	0.8232	0.8312	0.8357	0.8296	0.8258	0.8247
20	0.8171	0.8171	0.8315	0.8208	0.8220	0.8106
50	0.8031	0.7893	0.7967	0.7979	0.7547	0.7587
80	0.7854	0.7755	0.7969	0.7834	0.6499	0.6589
100	0.7820	0.7817	0.7820	0.7714	0.5493	0.5664
150	0.7698	0.7677	0.7756	0.7628	0.4025	0.4156
200	0.7518	0.7458	0.7407	0.7596	0.3003	0.3041
20 pix/class						
1	0.7434	0.8012	0.8135	0.8203	0.8267	0.8220
5	0.8337	0.8447	0.8401	0.8294	0.8243	0.8242
10	0.8349	0.8473	0.8493	0.8497	0.8456	0.8490
20	0.8370	0.8443	0.8457	0.8511	0.8382	0.8345
50	0.8239	0.8233	0.8238	0.8313	0.8153	0.8165
80	0.8035	0.8133	0.8060	0.8248	0.7714	0.7744
100	0.7989	0.8067	0.7946	0.7928	0.7250	0.7318
150	0.7930	0.7933	0.7995	0.8001	0.6332	0.6135
200	0.7885	0.7832	0.7755	0.7842	0.4812	0.4911
30 pix/class						
1	0.7860	0.8146	0.8347	0.8457	0.8380	0.8327
5	0.8542	0.8523	0.8571	0.8422	0.8410	0.8377
10	0.8550	0.8656	0.8679	0.8652	0.8642	0.8675
20	0.8555	0.8565	0.8590	0.8575	0.8586	0.8560
50	0.8357	0.8439	0.8410	0.8487	0.8444	0.8422
80	0.8371	0.8346	0.8392	0.8323	0.8197	0.8283
100	0.8345	0.8340	0.8240	0.8288	0.7964	0.8053
150	0.8134	0.8237	0.8158	0.8215	0.7589	0.7316
200	0.8222	0.8289	0.8058	0.8128	0.6626	0.6791
40 pix/class						
1	0.8019	0.8289	0.8436	0.8488	0.8471	0.8431
5	0.8610	0.8712	0.8612	0.8589	0.8420	0.8483
10	0.8602	0.8728	0.8745	0.8760	0.8741	0.8744
20	0.8676	0.8675	0.8729	0.8665	0.8650	0.8698
50	0.8536	0.8624	0.8551	0.8600	0.8512	0.8537
80	0.8510	0.8568	0.8526	0.8510	0.8336	0.8382
100	0.8434	0.8472	0.8425	0.8449	0.8344	0.8422
150	0.8393	0.8320	0.8445	0.8172	0.7857	0.7957
200	0.8309	0.8264	0.8016	0.8217	0.7631	0.7681

TABLE XIV: Random forest classification performance computed on the dimensionality reduced Pavia Centre dataset, with and without adding synthetic samples.

Algorithm	S	AA%	SD	OA%	SD	Kappa	SD
Pavia Centre							
13 pix/class							
PCA	–	69.34	5.39	85.15	8.18	0.7935	0.1082
PCA	500	84.96	1.27	92.82	1.14	0.8993	0.0155
NWFE	–	72.91	3.76	81.84	8.30	0.7572	0.0962
NWFE	500	87.53	1.44	92.55	2.69	0.8965	0.0359
20 pix/class							
PCA	–	75.55	3.21	89.67	2.04	0.8541	0.0277
PCA	500	86.95	0.66	93.79	0.71	0.9128	0.0097
NWFE	–	80.51	1.76	87.78	4.26	0.8304	0.0564
NWFE	500	89.19	0.77	93.70	1.30	0.9121	0.0177
30 pix/class							
PCA	–	80.97	1.74	91.70	1.22	0.8831	0.0171
PCA	500	88.15	1.12	94.28	0.97	0.9196	0.0133
NWFE	–	84.54	2.00	92.73	0.92	0.8977	0.0126
NWFE	500	89.84	0.61	94.37	0.73	0.9211	0.0099
40 pix/class							
PCA	–	83.26	1.18	92.92	0.42	0.9000	0.0059
PCA	500	88.55	0.90	94.85	0.37	0.9275	0.0051
NWFE	–	86.77	0.92	93.32	2.11	0.9064	0.0284
NWFE	500	90.72	0.46	95.59	0.80	0.9379	0.0109

TABLE XV: Random forest classification performance computed on the dimensionality reduced Salinas dataset, with and without adding synthetic samples.

Algorithm	S	AA%	SD	OA%	SD	Kappa	SD
Salinas							
13 pix/class							
PCA	–	74.15	2.69	66.86	6.32	0.6351	0.0657
PCA	500	87.63	1.05	80.51	0.96	0.7837	0.0108
NWFE	–	76.01	2.57	70.05	2.79	0.6680	0.0286
NWFE	500	89.02	1.28	82.20	1.22	0.8023	0.0136
20 pix/class							
PCA	–	80.52	1.71	73.89	3.42	0.7106	0.0350
PCA	500	88.47	0.55	80.91	1.53	0.7883	0.0166
NWFE	–	82.24	1.84	76.62	3.22	0.7395	0.0340
NWFE	500	90.38	0.55	83.35	0.97	0.8153	0.0106
30 pix/class							
PCA	–	84.88	0.81	78.29	2.39	0.7592	0.0249
PCA	500	89.92	0.41	82.57	0.76	0.8068	0.0082
NWFE	–	85.31	0.69	78.62	1.60	0.7624	0.0166
NWFE	500	91.60	0.48	84.96	1.21	0.8330	0.0132
40 pix/class							
PCA	–	86.25	1.03	79.87	1.29	0.7766	0.0140
PCA	500	90.05	0.40	82.70	0.85	0.8084	0.0093
NWFE	–	86.07	0.95	79.70	2.81	0.7744	0.0295
NWFE	500	91.89	0.38	85.00	1.42	0.8336	0.0155

TABLE XVI: Comparing our proposed method with CSOM [11] and k -NN DNI [12] using random forest classifier. The training data size is 13 pixels per class. Number of added synthetic samples in each method is approximately 500 points per class.

Method	AA%	SD	OA%	SD	Kappa	SD
Pavia Centre						
EMAP PCA						
Proposed	84.59	1.58	93.67	0.75	0.9107	0.0104
CSOM	82.52	2.11	92.12	1.22	0.8893	0.0168
k -NN DNI	75.05	3.51	88.88	2.35	0.8442	0.0314
EMAP NWFE						
Proposed	89.57	1.15	95.91	0.49	0.9423	0.0069
CSOM	86.94	2.02	94.72	1.15	0.9256	0.0160
k -NN DNI	77.56	4.13	88.56	5.36	0.8410	0.0699
Salinas						
EMAP PCA						
Proposed	90.96	0.88	83.89	1.72	0.8215	0.0188
CSOM	89.63	1.63	81.53	1.92	0.7959	0.0208
k -NN DNI	77.36	2.52	70.87	3.14	0.6793	0.0329
EMAP NWFE						
Proposed	93.17	0.68	87.09	1.26	0.8566	0.0138
CSOM	92.39	0.90	85.69	1.39	0.8413	0.0151
k -NN DNI	81.42	3.64	74.65	3.18	0.7191	0.0334

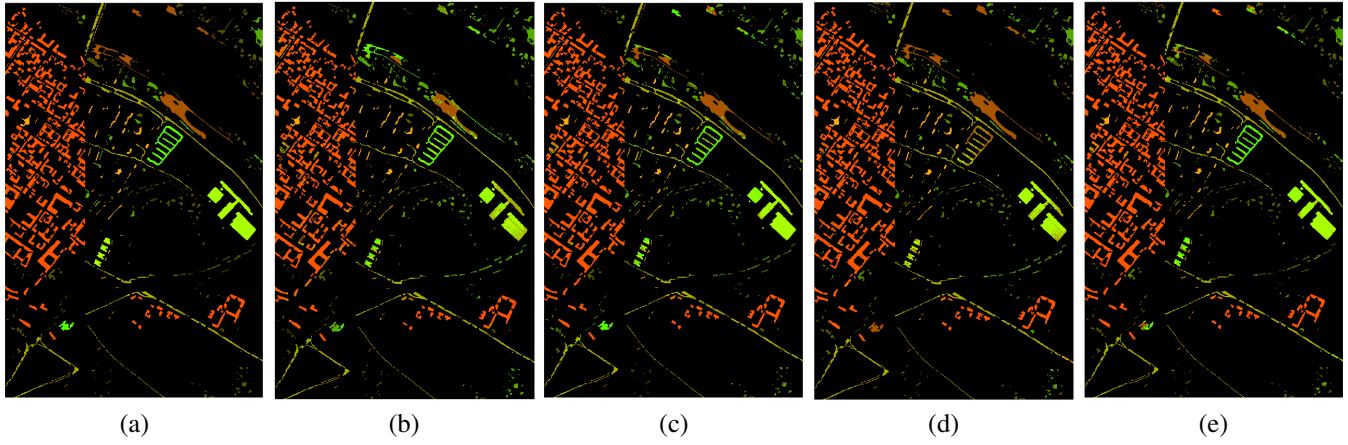


Fig. 3: Label maps on Pavia Centre using 13 training samples per class. (a) ground truth, (b) EMAP-PCA, (c) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (d) EMAP-NWFE, (e) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

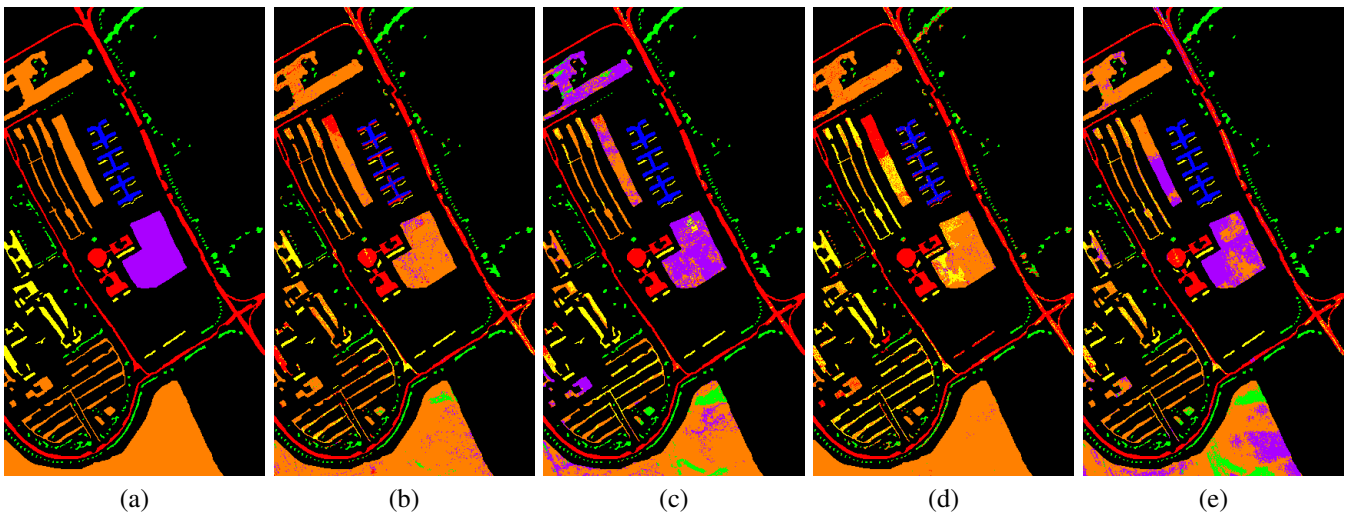


Fig. 4: Label maps on Pavia University using 13 training samples per class. (a) ground truth, (b) EMAP-PCA, (c) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (d) EMAP-NWFE, (e) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

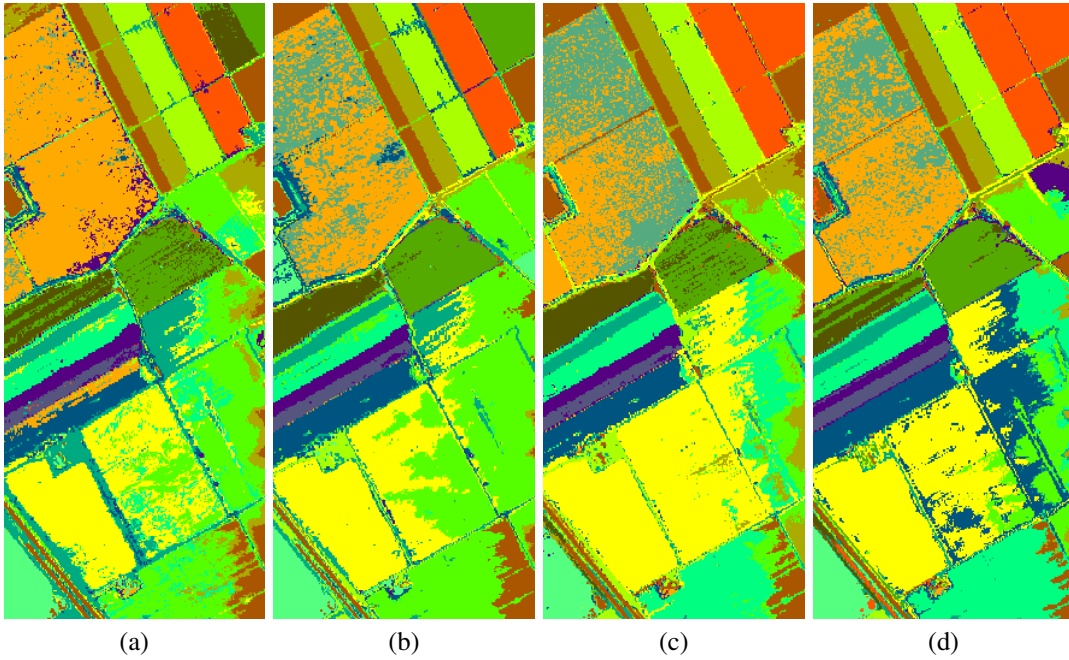


Fig. 5: Full label maps on Salinas dataset using 13 training samples per class. (a) EMAP-PCA, (b) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (c) EMAP-NWFE, (d) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

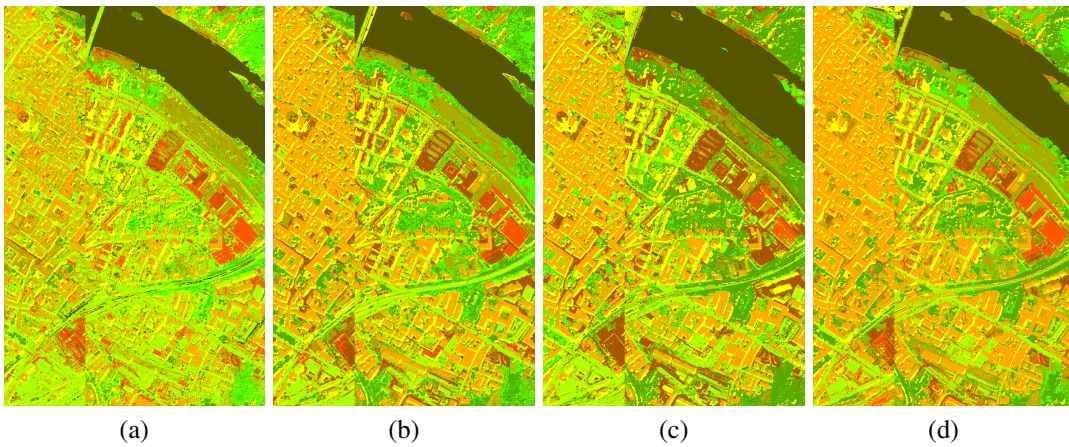


Fig. 6: Full label maps on Pavia Centre dataset using 13 training samples per class. (a) EMAP-PCA, (b) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (c) EMAP-NWFE, (d) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

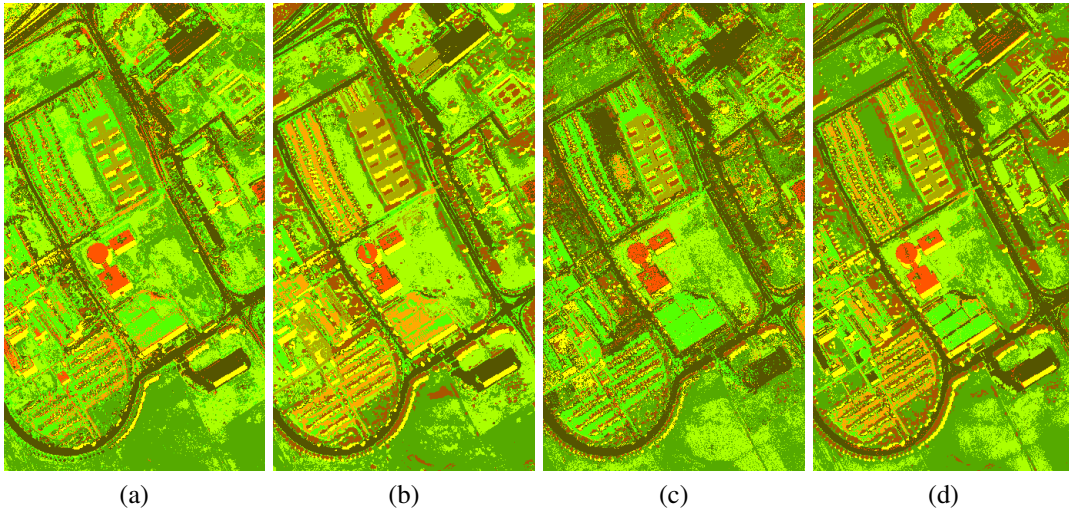


Fig. 7: Full label maps on Pavia University dataset using 13 training samples per class. (a) EMAP-PCA, (b) EMAP-PCA with 500 synthetic samples per class, (c) EMAP-NWFE, (d) EMAP-NWFE with 500 synthetic samples per class.

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