

Supporting Information

Table S1. Parameters of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) and built-in camera

Parameters	Description
Type	quadcopter
Weight	1842 g (aircraft with battery)
Working frequency	2.400-2.483 GHz
Power	a 15.2V, 5350 mAh battery
Endurance	28 min
Imaging sensor	RGB camera
Camera lens	FOV 94°20 mm (35 mm format equivalent) f/2.8 focus at infinity
Photo resolution	4000 * 3000

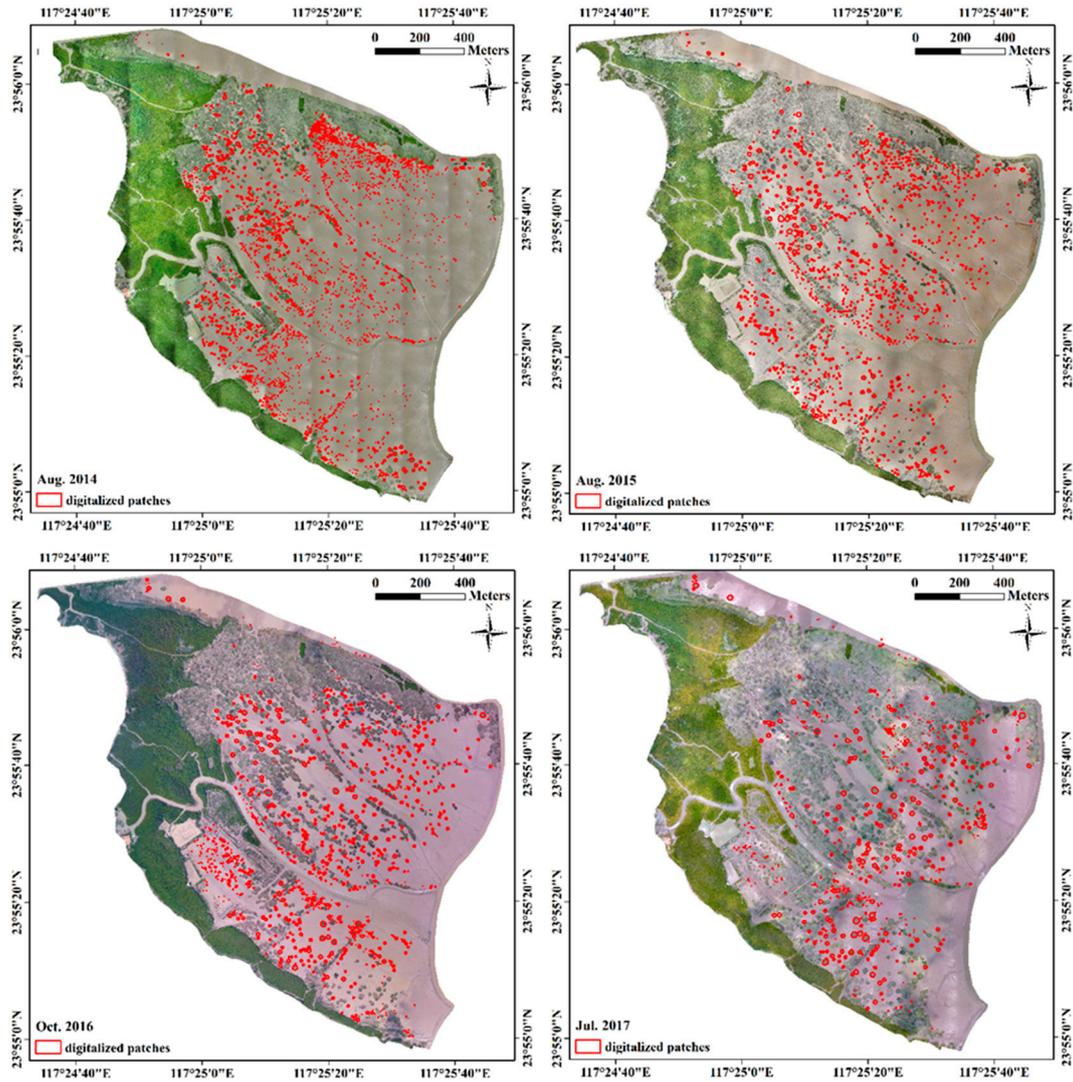


Figure S1. The image digitalization of all identified isolated *Spartina alterniflora* patches (> 0.5 m in diameter) from 2014 to 2017.

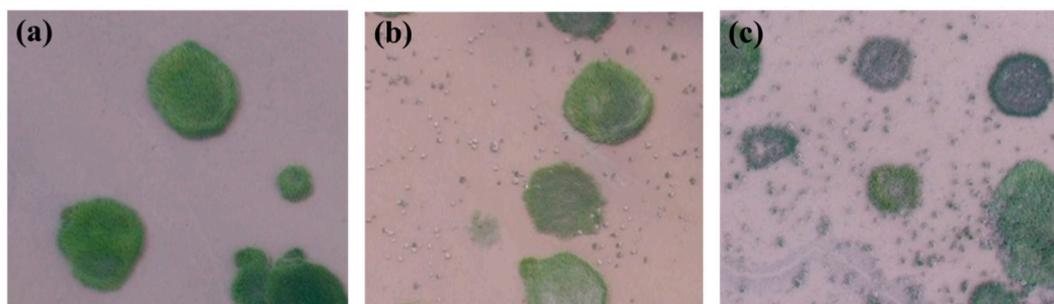


Figure S2. Typical UAV imagery of isolated *Spartina alterniflora* patches (Jul. 14th, 2017) at (a) low, (b) median, and (c) high elevations.

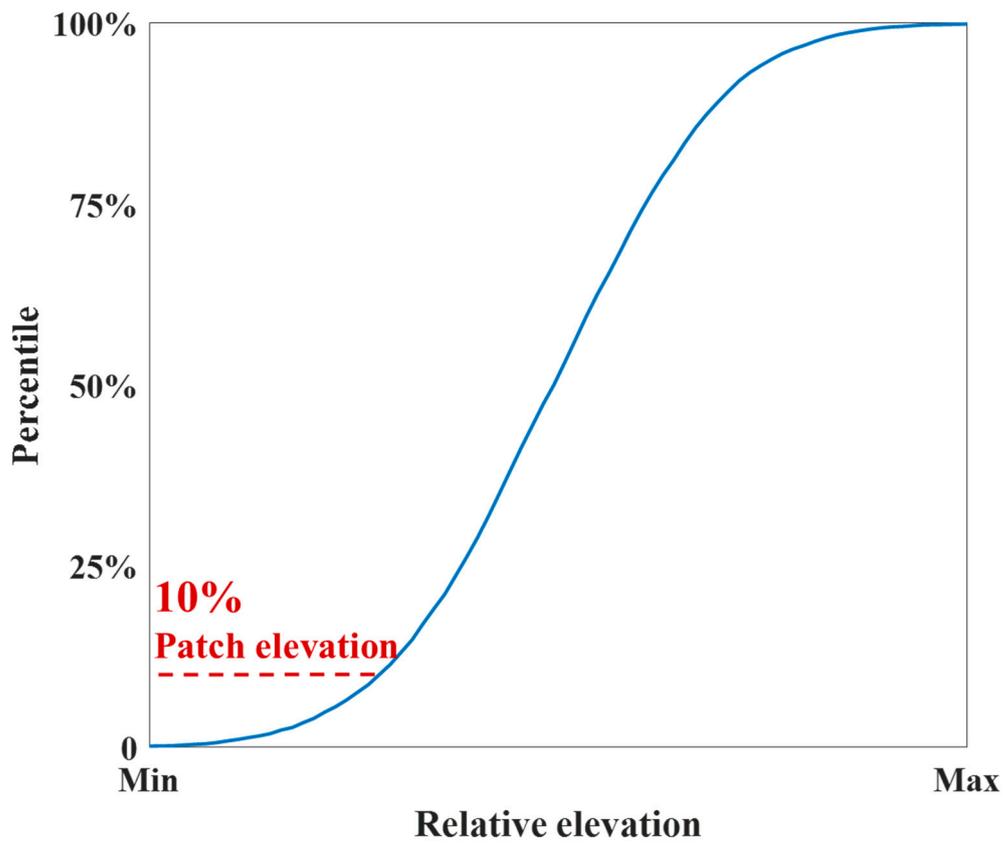


Figure S3. Example illustration of cumulative distribution curve of all LiDAR point elevation values within an isolated *Spartina alterniflora* patch, with a horizontal dashed line indicating the threshold used for calculating mean surface elevation of the patch.

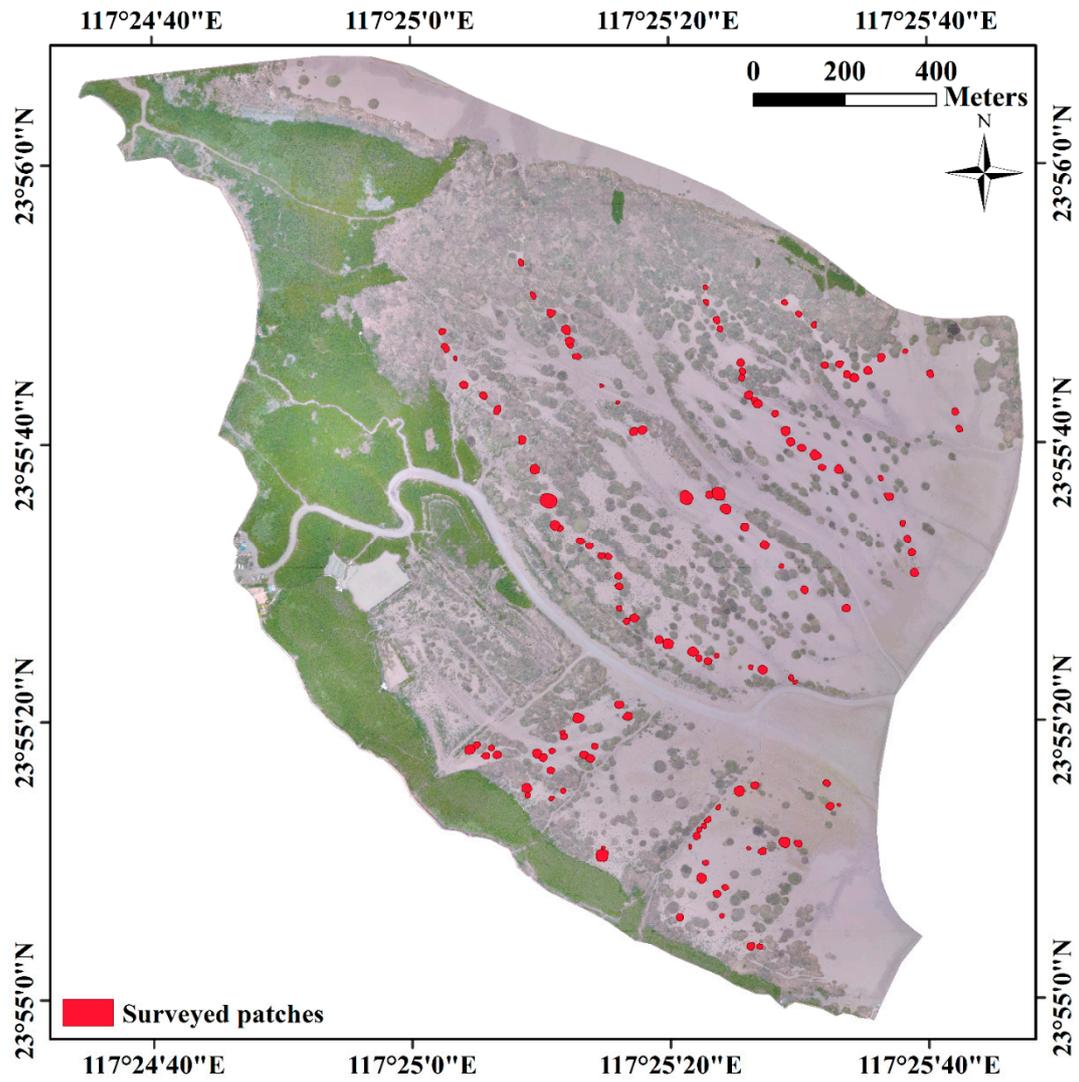


Figure S4. RTK-GPS surface elevation survey and sediment sampling of isolated *Spartina alterniflora* patches over the intertidal wetland in Zhangjiang estuary, Fujian, China.

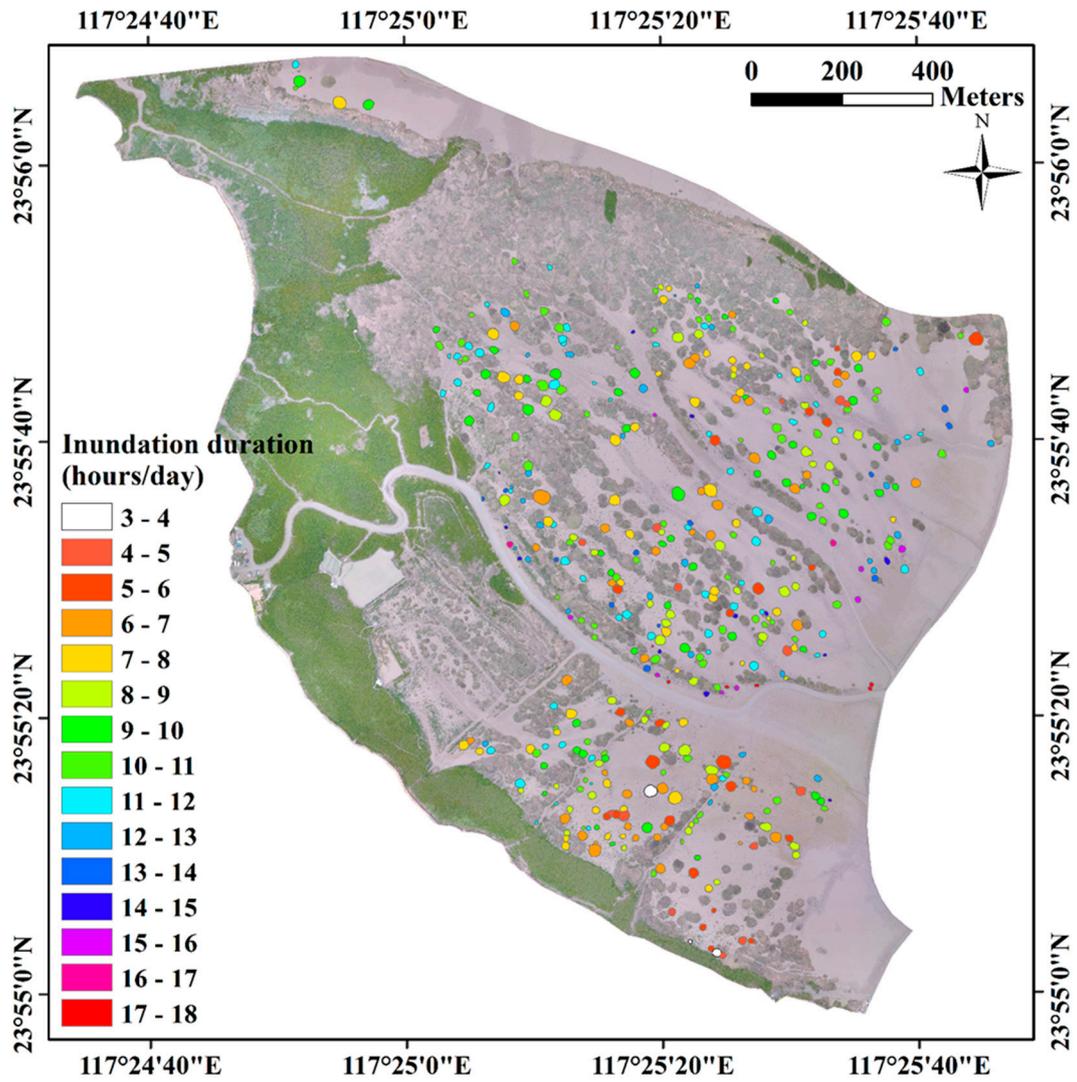


Figure S5. Inundation duration of each isolated *Spartina alterniflora* patches over the intertidal wetland in Zhangjiang estuary, Fujian, China.