

Statistical evaluation of Agricultural terraces control on soil erosion

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► To cite this version:

Pascal Breil, Arnaud Cerbelaud, Gwendoline Blanchet, Laure Roupioz, Xavier Briottet. Statistical evaluation of Agricultural terraces control on soil erosion. Soil Erosion online Workshop 2022 - European Soil Data Centre (ESDAC) - Session on Erosion Mitigation & Management Practices, ESDAC JRC, Jun 2022, Ispra, Italy. hal-03822040

HAL Id: hal-03822040 https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-03822040

Submitted on 20 Oct 2022

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Session on Erosion Mitigation & Management Practices

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30 september 2021 Storm « Alex »





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Working hypothesis : Do agricultural terraces have a mitigating role on the erosive effect of heavy runoff?

With terraces





Without terraces

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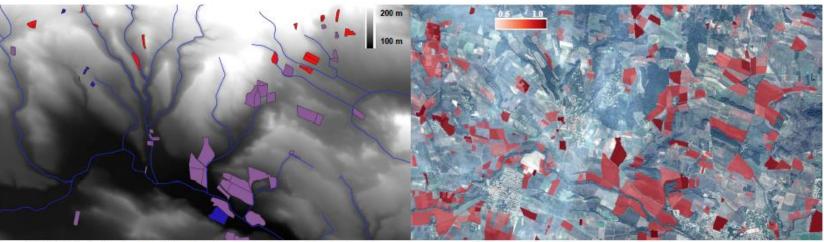


3. Supervised classification methods for automatic damage detection caused by heavy rainfall using multitemporal high resolution optical imagery and auxiliary data *Cerbelaud A. et al, 2021. https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLIII-B3-2021-693-2021.*

- Plot-based supervised classification relying on vector components (*RD^k*)_θ:
 (i) k-NN algorithm; (ii) Multi-Layer Perceptron neural network; (iii) Gaussian process classifier
- Selection of the most reliable and performing combination of indicators



- Most satisfying classifications obtained with a Gaussian process classifier
 > 89% OA with less than 13% false discoveries with : (RD^{NDVI})_{sdev} and (RD^{SAVI})_{mean} or (RD^{NDWI})_{max}
- Processing of the entire 1 150 km² area to produce maps displaying probability of damage classification



(a) DGT training (red), DPI validation (purple) and UDPI learning and validation (blue) plots over elevation map and stream network

(b) Probability of damage classification on land cadastre plots as detected by the classifier over *Pléiades* image

Figure 8. Close-up from the NW of Carcassonne after the 2018 floodings.

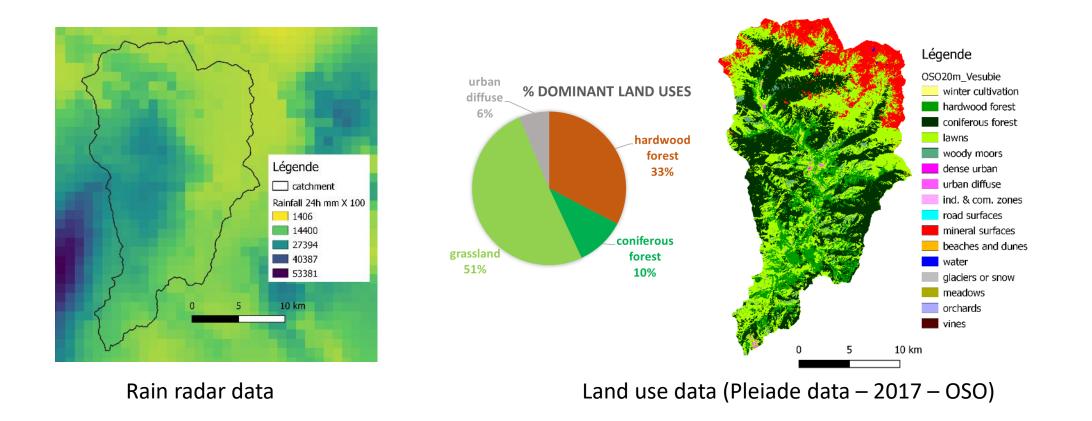








Filtering of "agricultural" plots having received more than 47 mm of rain in 1 hour \rightarrow 1362 plots selected





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Extraction of "terrace walls" and combination with the probability of damage in agricultural plots.



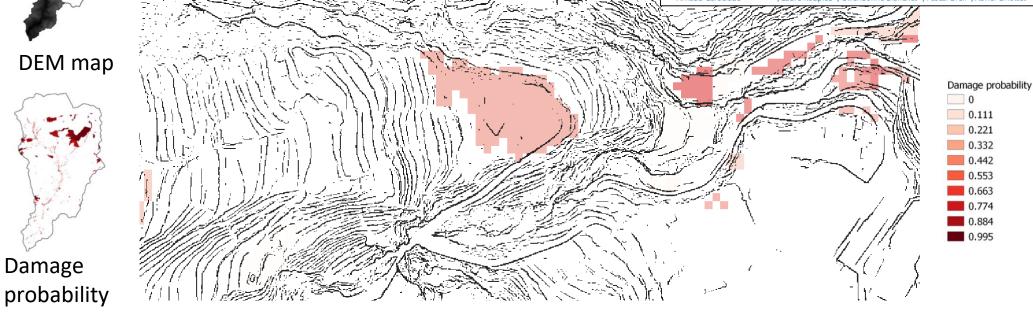
ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Volume 182, December 2021, Pages 153-175



#EUsoil

A repeatable change detection approach to map extreme storm-related damages caused by intense surface runoff based on optical and SAR remote sensing: Evidence from three case studies in the South of France





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map

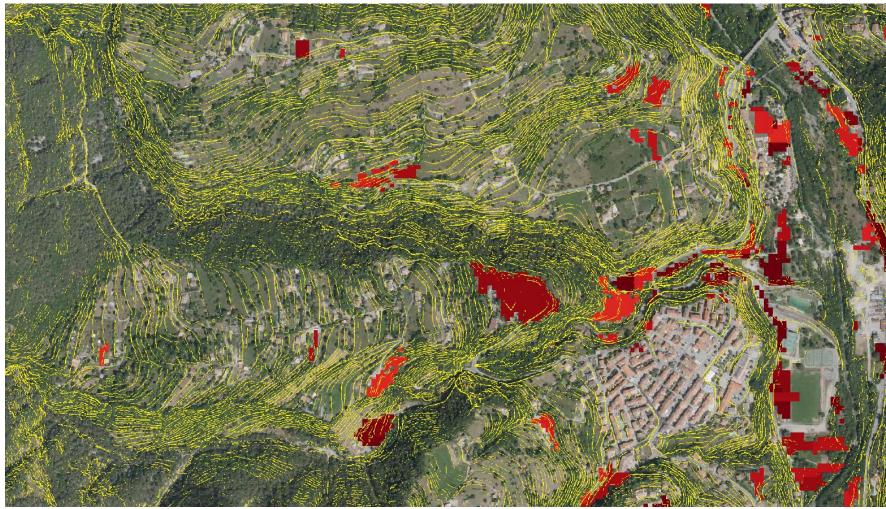
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Do agricultural terraces have a mitigating role on the erosive effect of heavy runoff?



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Do agricultural terraces have a mitigating role on the erosive effect of heavy runoff? ... First results

Quantile distribution of terraces according to the probability of damage.

| | | % terrace wall | | | |
|---------|--------|----------------|------|--|--|
| | | <= 0.1 | >0.1 | | |
| % prob. | <= 0.5 | | | | |
| Damages | >0.5 | | | | |

Confusion matrix Khi2 test

| Probability of dtected damages in agricultural plots | 1.10 1.00 0.90 0.80 0.70 0.60 0.60 0.50 0.40 0.40 0.20 0.20 $R^2 = 0.3872$ $R^2 = 0.8272$ |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pro | 0.00 0.05 0.10 0.15 0.20 0.25 |
| | % surface occupied by terrace walls in agricultural plots |

| Observed distribution | | | Theorical distribution | | | Relative difference | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|------|------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| | <= 0.1 | >0.1 | | | <= 0.1 | >0.1 | | | <= 0.1 | >0.1 |
| <= 0.5 | 920 | 261 | 1181 | <= 0.5 | 934 | 247 | 1181 | <= 0.5 | -0.01 | 0.06 |
| > 0.5 | 157 | 24 | 181 | > 0.5 | 143 | 38 | 181 | > 0.5 | 0.10 | -0.37 |
| | 1077 | 285 | 1362 | | 1077 | 285 | | | | |
| P{KHI2} = | 0.006 | | | | | | | | | |

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Do agricultural terraces have a mitigating role on the erosive effect of heavy runoff?

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In our case, this effect was statistically confirmed.



Example of hilly farmland without terraces - erosion marks can be seen

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