



Seminar on measurement and data processing techniques for hydro-morphological assessment of regulated rivers, lakes and reservoirs
January 9th, 2018, Trondheim

The use of remote sensing to characterize hydromorphological properties of European rivers

Speaker: Simone Bizzi

Co-authors: Francesco Asaro, Barbara Belletti, Andrea Castelletti, Patrice Carbonneau, Luca Demarchi, Matt Kondolf, Giulia Marchetti, Hervé Piegay, Claudio Prati, Rafael Schmitt, Wouter Van de Bund



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MILANO 1863

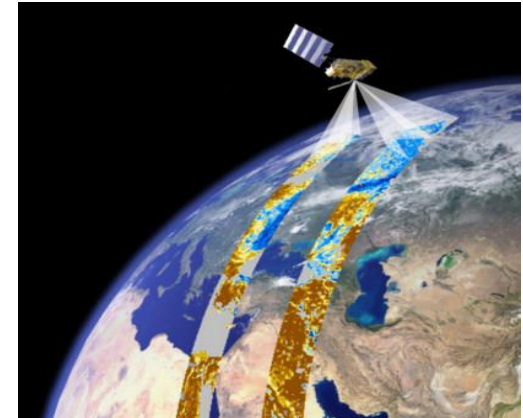


Big Earth Science Data – Boon or bane?

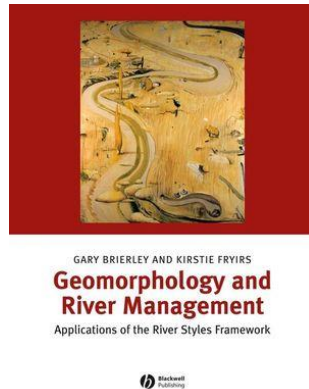
“Currently, a data scientist spends 80% of the time with managing and pre-processing the data and has only 20% for the actual data evaluation. Every stakeholder along the data value chain, from data generator over data provider to data user has to work on innovative approaches to tackle concurrent challenges and to leverage the full potential of Big Earth Science Data. The bane comes into play, if we continue generating and storing massive amounts of data and fail to turn it into value-added content.”

<http://blogs.egu.eu/divisions/essi/2016/07/11/big-earth-science-data-boon-or-bane/>

Bizzi et al. (2016) The use of remote sensing to characterise hydromorphological properties of European rivers for Aquatic Sciences, doi: 10.1007/s00027-015-0430-7



River Survey practices

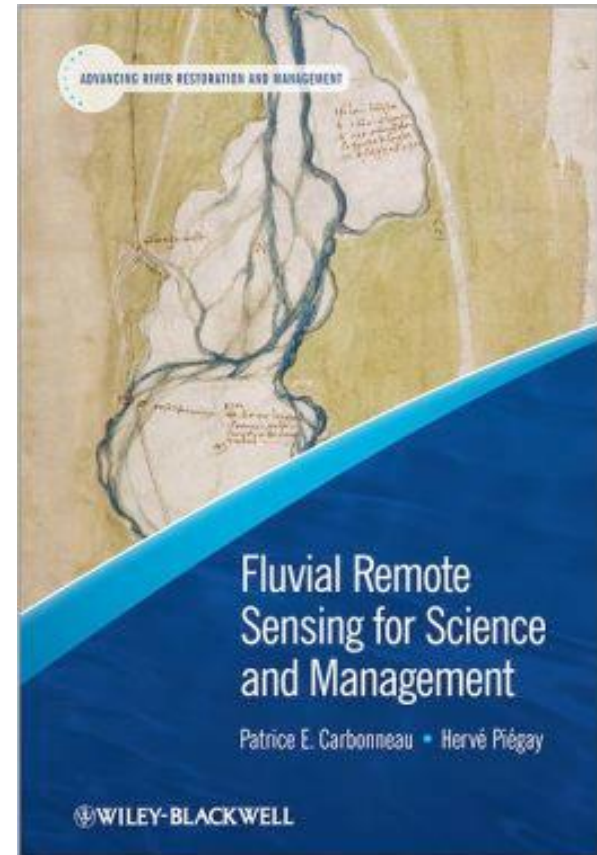


G. J. Brierley, K. A. Fryirs (2005)



In EU, MQI framework from the REFORM project (2015)

Emerging RS technologies



P. E. Carbonneau, H Piégay (2012)

Uptake urgently needed!

Mapping Hydromorphology at Regional Scale

Regional Analysis in Piemonte (15 major rivers, 1556 km)



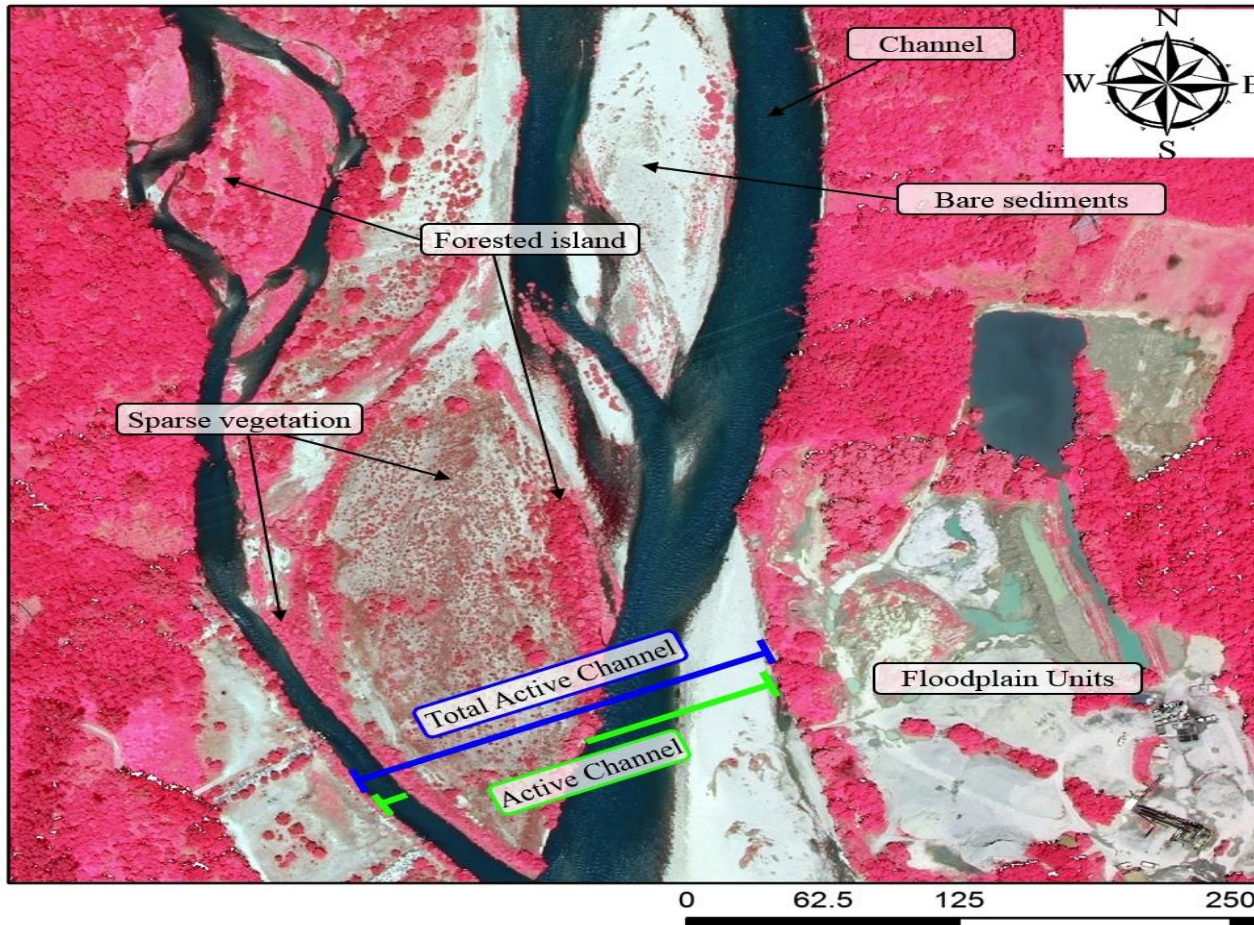
Input RS data

(whole region, 25400 km²
covered in 2009-2010):

- Near infrared imagery (VHR, 0.4 m)
- LiDAR (0.4 pts/m²) → (DTM at 5 m)

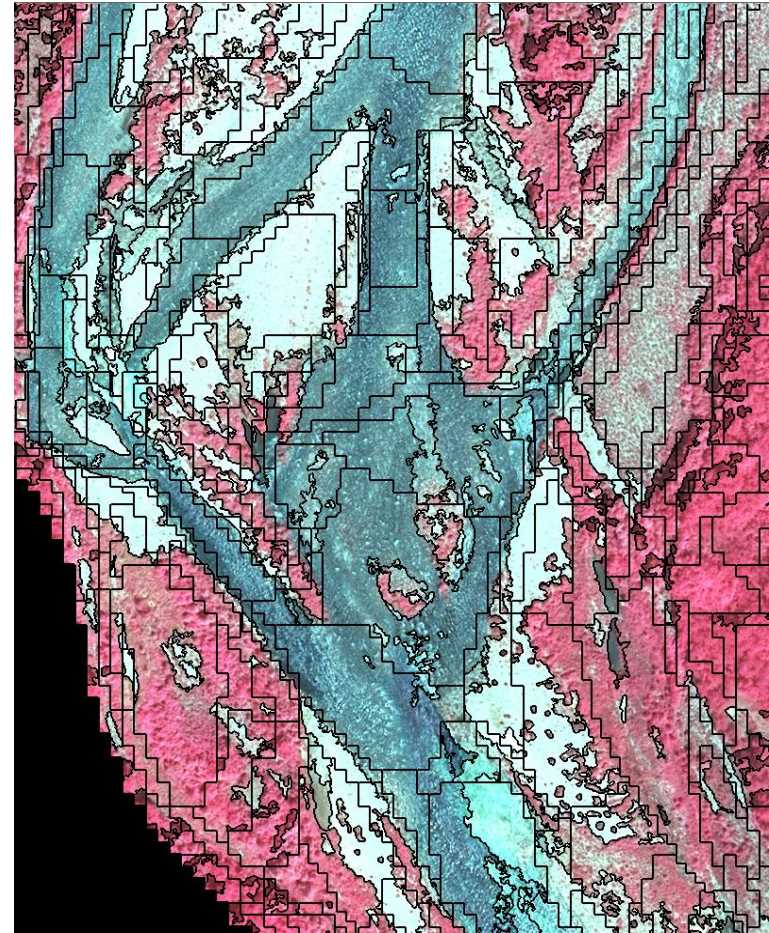
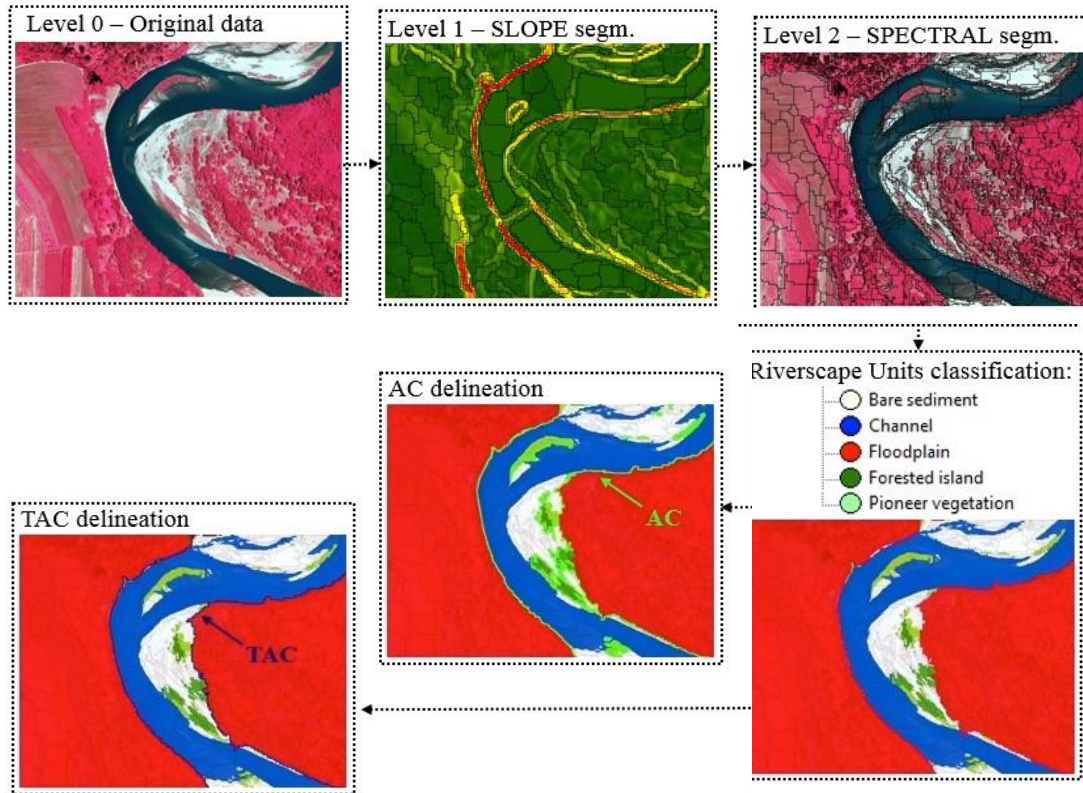


What do we measure by (semi)-automated procedure?



Extent and topographic features of riverscape units for 1556 km of rivers

Method: Multilevel object-based approach



Supervised Machine Learning Classification:

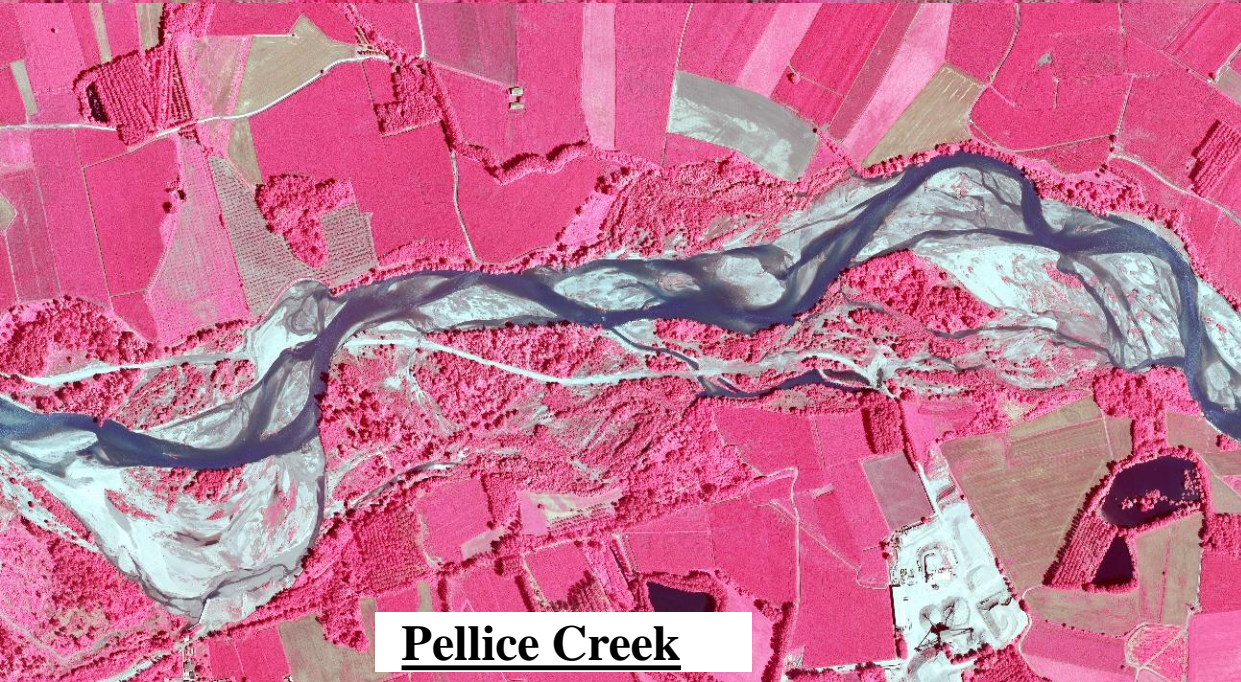
Demarchi et al. (2016) Hierarchical object-based mapping of riverscape units and in-stream mesohabitats using LiDAR and VHR imagery, *Remote Sensing* doi 10.3390/rs8020097

Demarchi et al. (2016) Regional hydromorphological characterization with continuous and automated remote sensing analysis based on VHR imagery and low-resolution LiDAR data *ESPL*, doi 10.1002/esp.4092

Pò/Dora Baltea Junction



Pellice Creek

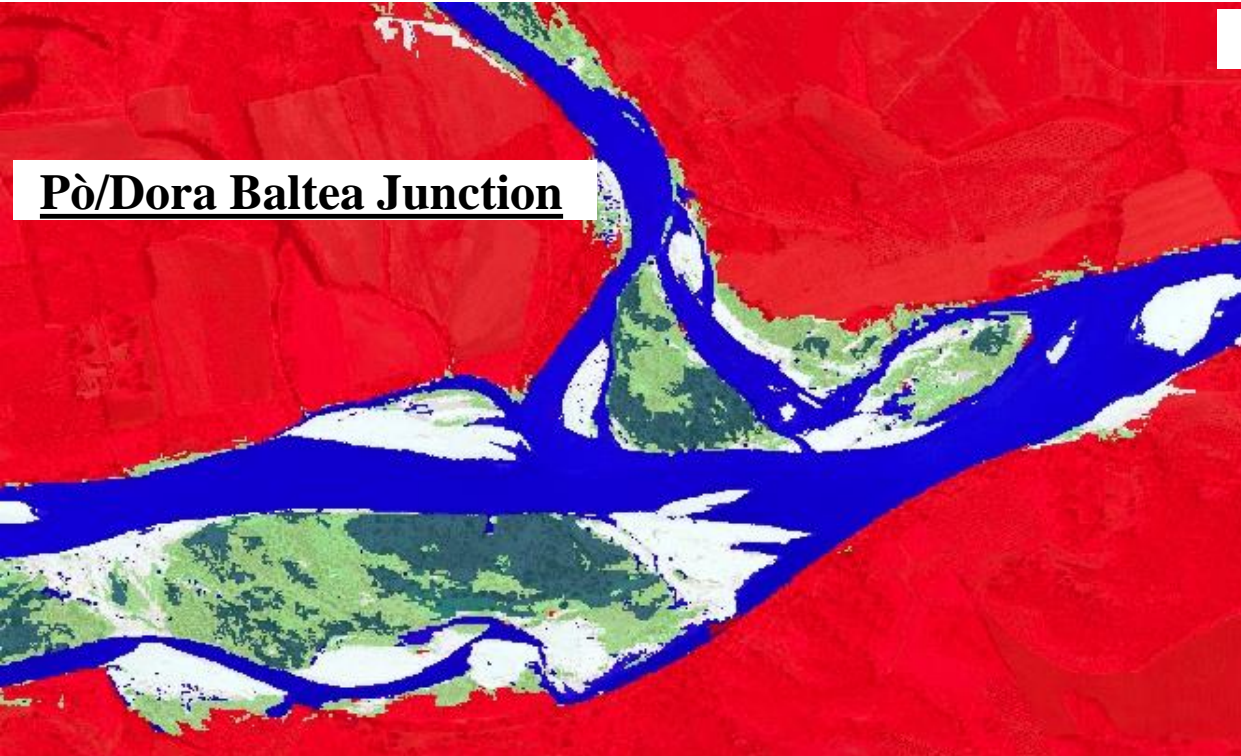


Scrivia Creek

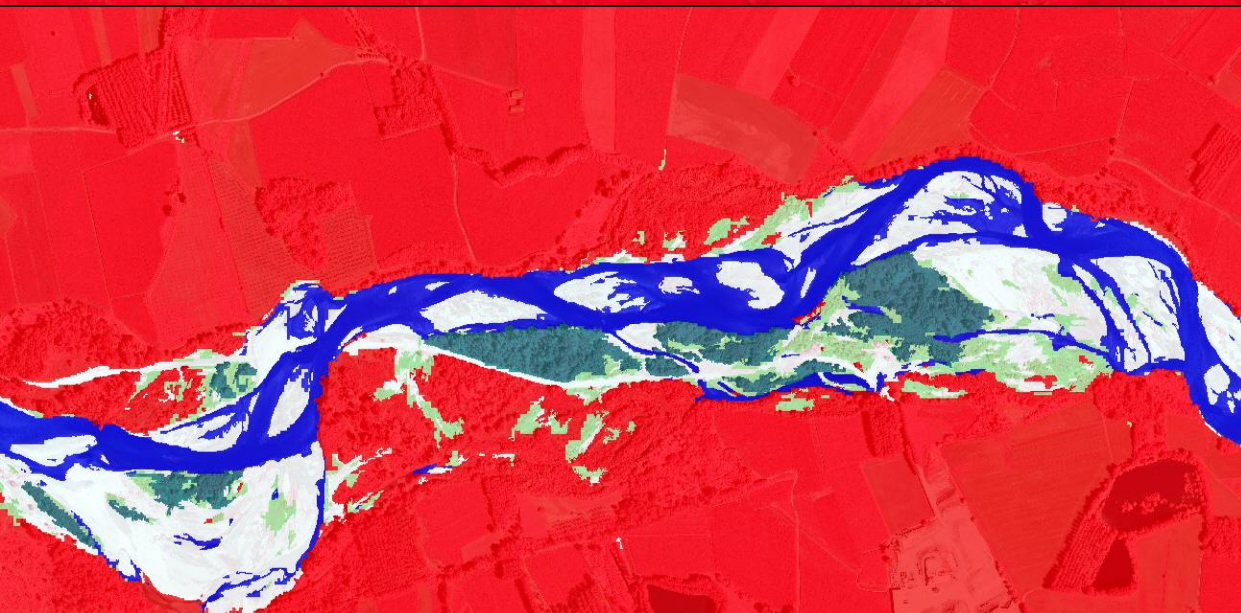


Riverscape Units classification

Pò/Dora Baltea Junction



- Bare sediment
- Channel
- Floodplain unit
- Forested island
- Sparse vegetation



Pellice Creek

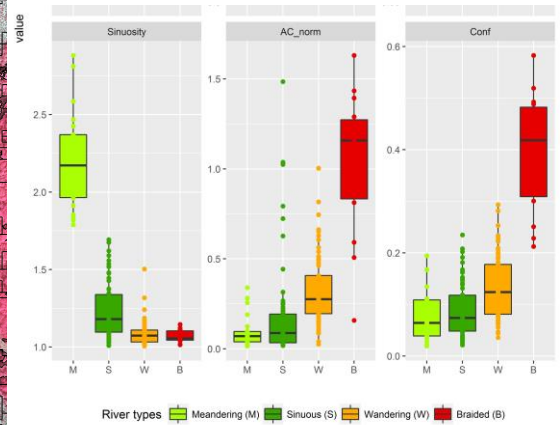
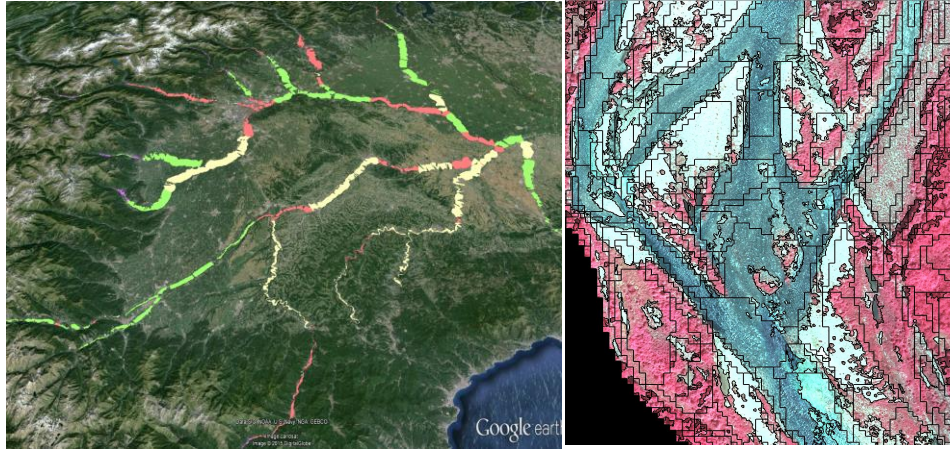


Scrivia Creek

Assess 50-100 yr human induced channel change



Geomorphic DB



Meandering



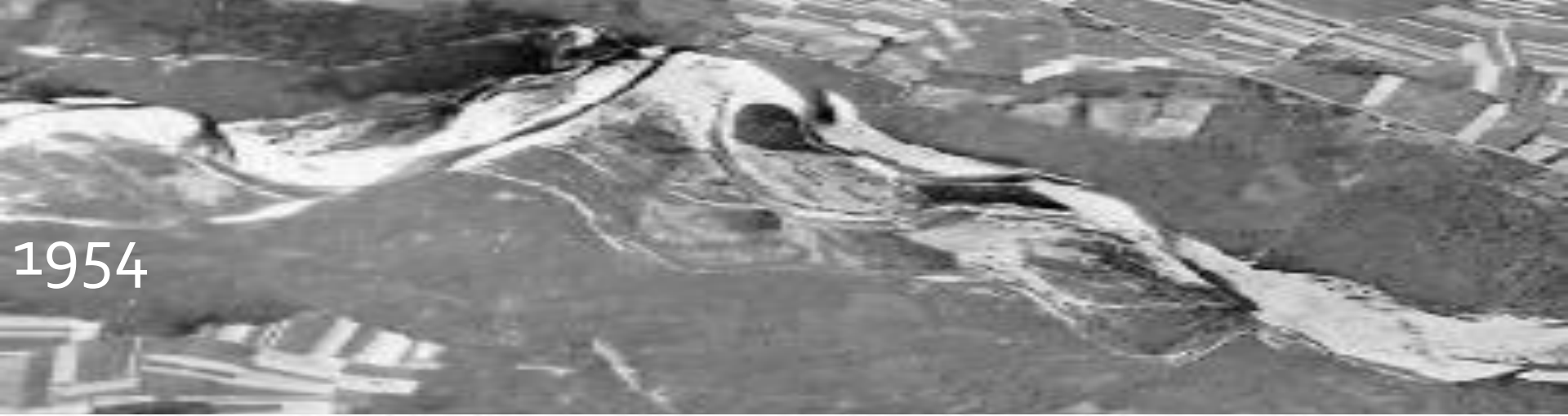
Sinuous



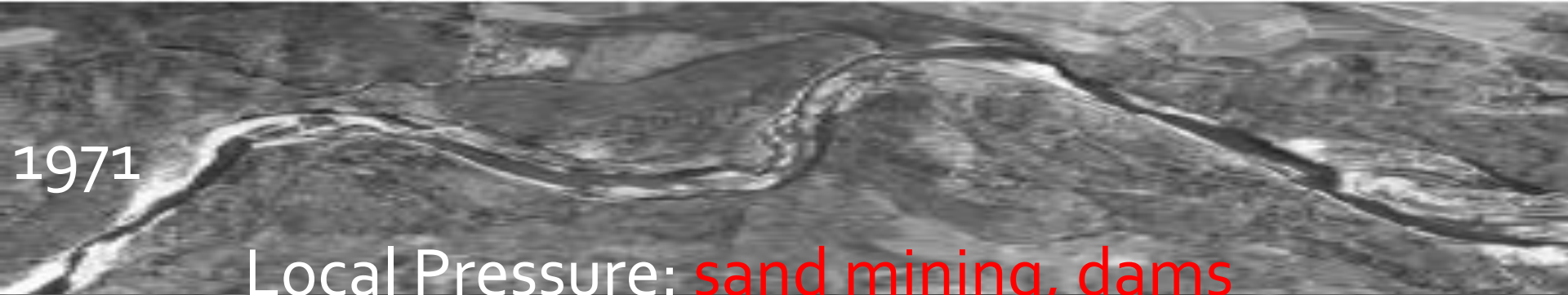
Wandering



Braided

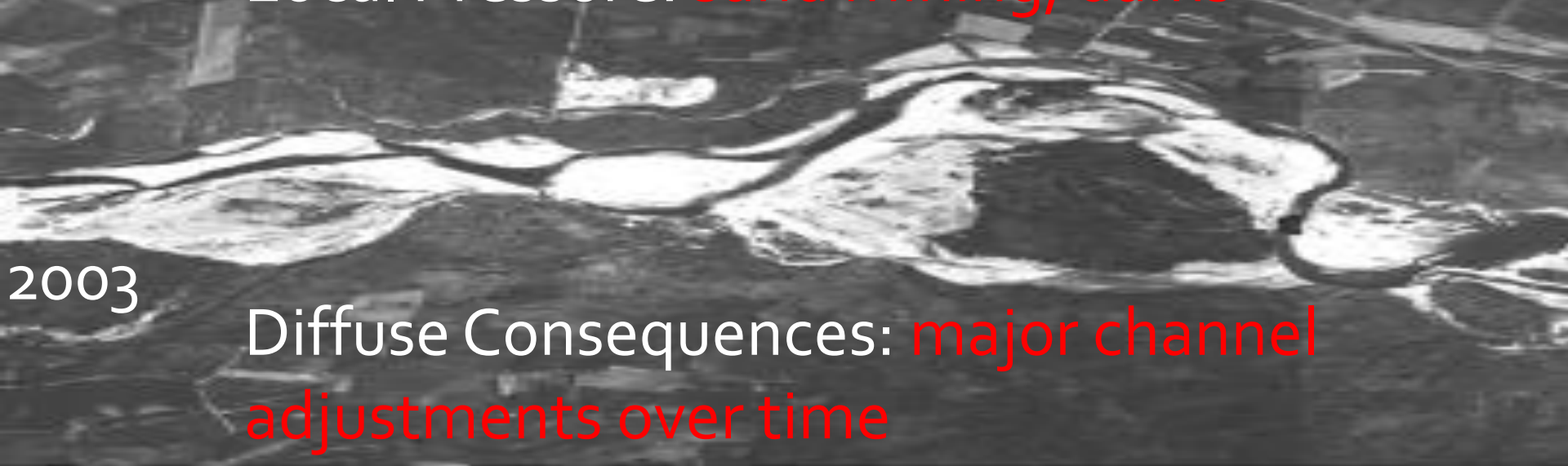


1954



1971

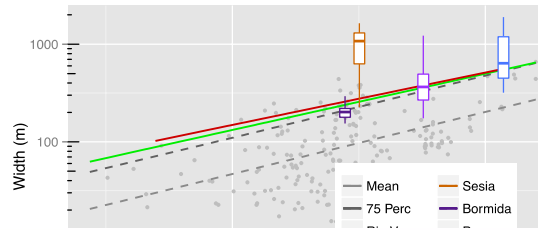
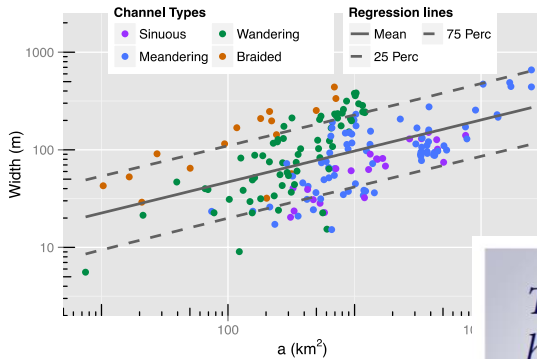
Local Pressure: sand mining, dams



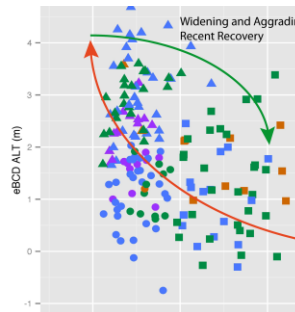
2003

Diffuse Consequences: major channel adjustments over time

Assess 50-100 yr human induced channel change



Historical RS information is a resource!



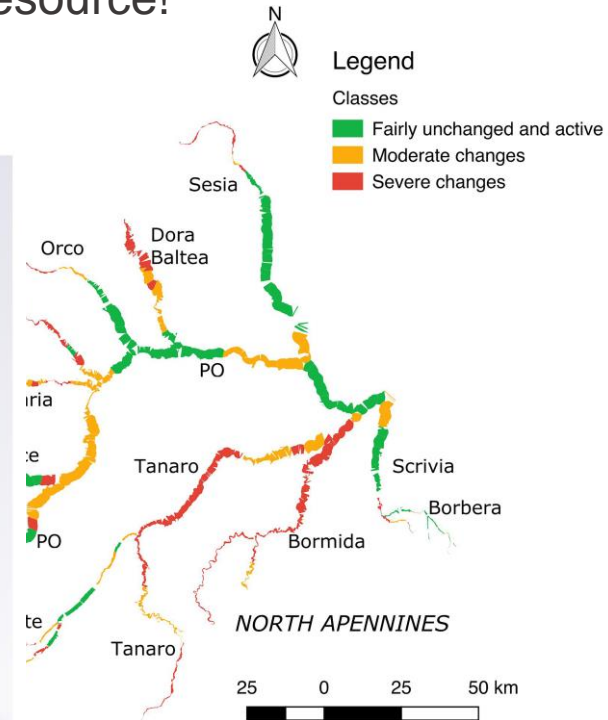
The use of remote sensing to characterise hydromorphological properties of European rivers

S. Bizzi, L. Demarchi, R. C. Grabowski, C. J. Weissteiner & W. Van de Bund

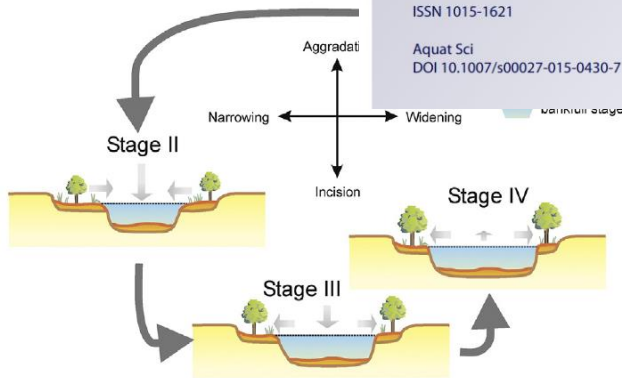
Aquatic Sciences
 Research Across Boundaries
 ISSN 1015-1621
 Aquat Sci
 DOI 10.1007/s00027-015-0430-7

ONLINE FIRST

Aquatic Sciences
 Research Across Boundaries



(A)



Bollati et al. 2014 Geomorphology

- 74% of the river network has a riverbed incision greater than a meter
- 66% of channels have halved their historical widths
- in total 617 ha of land have been subtracted to the active channels

Current Projects



Adaptive **M**anagement of **B**arriers in **E**uropean **R**ivers
Horizon 2020, €6.2 M, 20 partners, 11 countries 2016-2020



Italian Research and development Initiative
for Spaceborne river monitoring



ISPRA

Istituto Superiore per la Protezione
e la Ricerca Ambientale

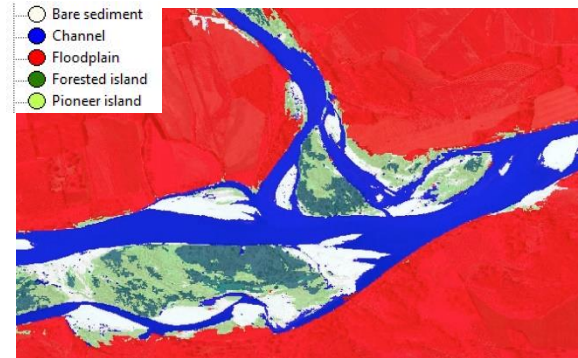
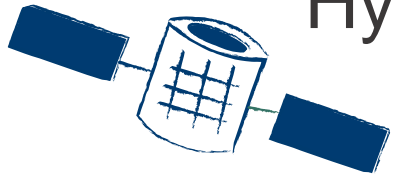


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DIPARTIMENTO DI ELETTRONICA
INFORMAZIONE E BIOINGEGNERIA

2.5 year project, € 178k, 2017-2019

Hydromorphological indicators from drones and satellite remote sensing

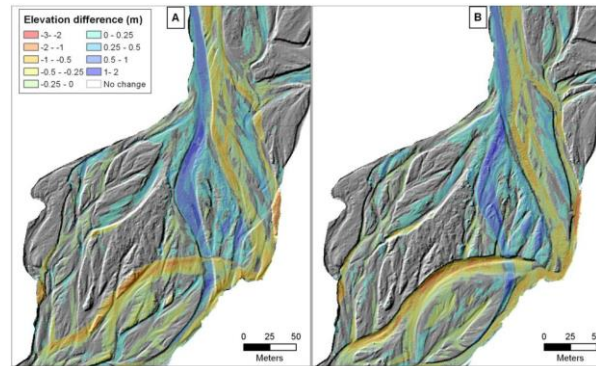


Habitat mapping

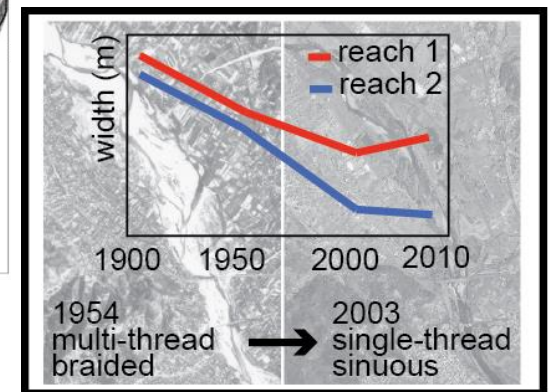
Sediment size



Water extraction



Indicators of processes

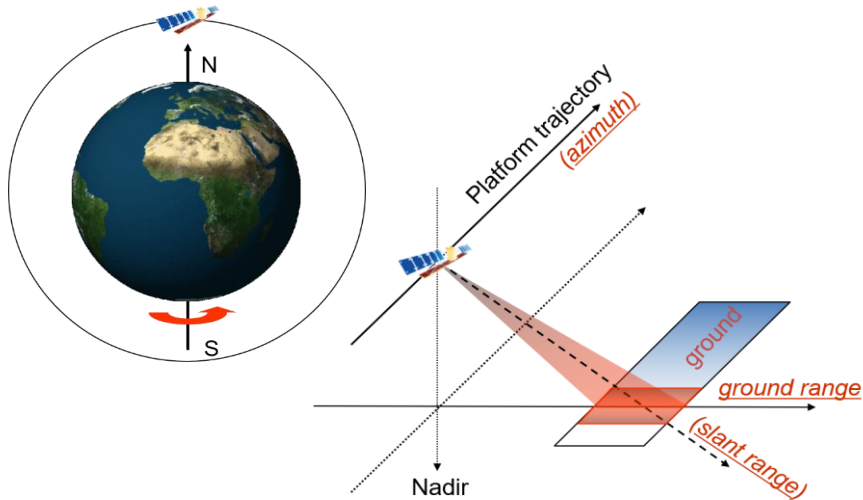


Satellite data – EU Copernicus programme

SENTINEL 1: radar (SAR) C-Band

Pixel 20 x 5 m

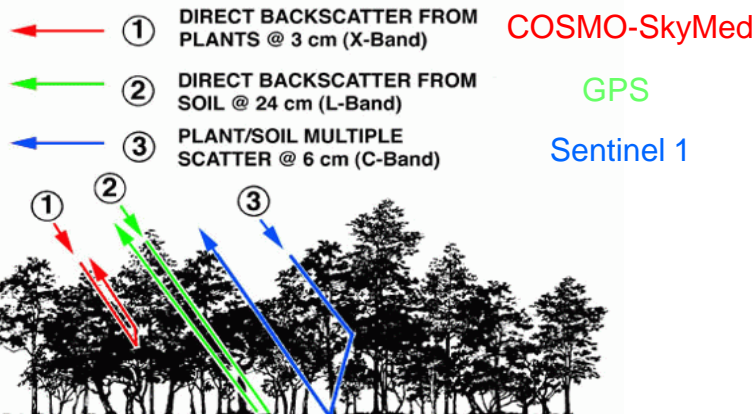
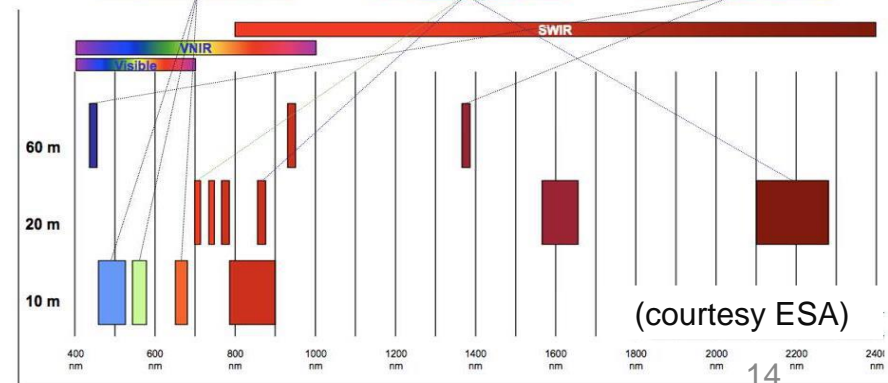
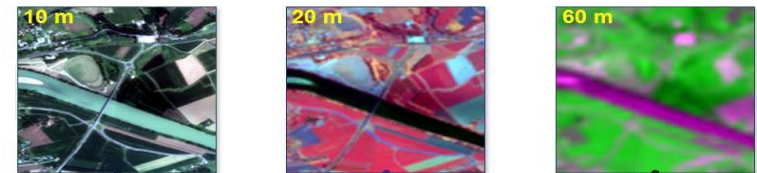
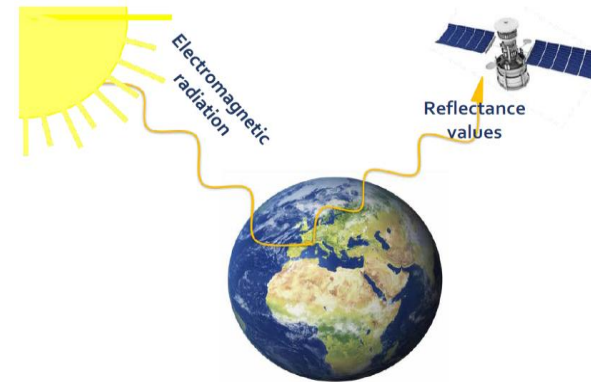
Frequency of acquisition: 6 days



SENTINEL 2: Multispectral optical

Pixel 10x10 or 20x20 m

Frequency of acquisition: 5 days



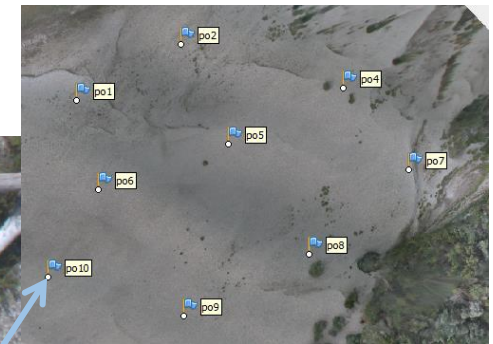
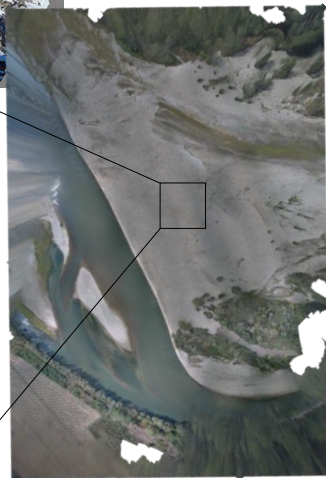
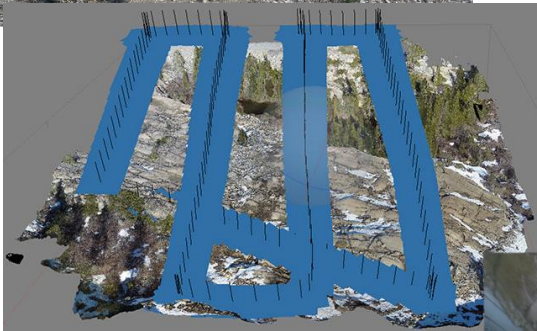
Very high resolution remote sensing data (UAV)



Very high resolution Topographic data (GPS)

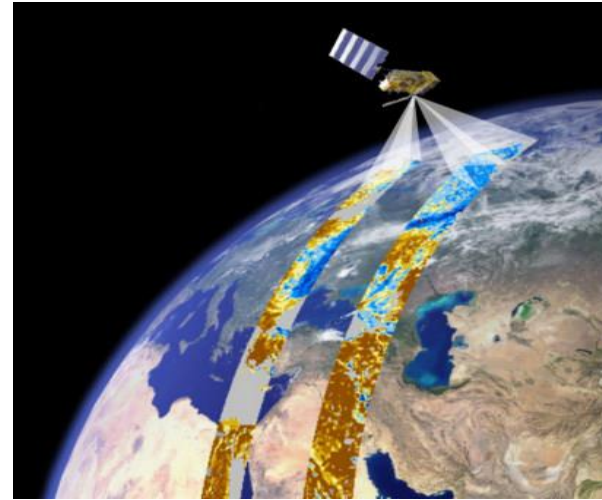


Ground truth to calibrate and validate satellite data

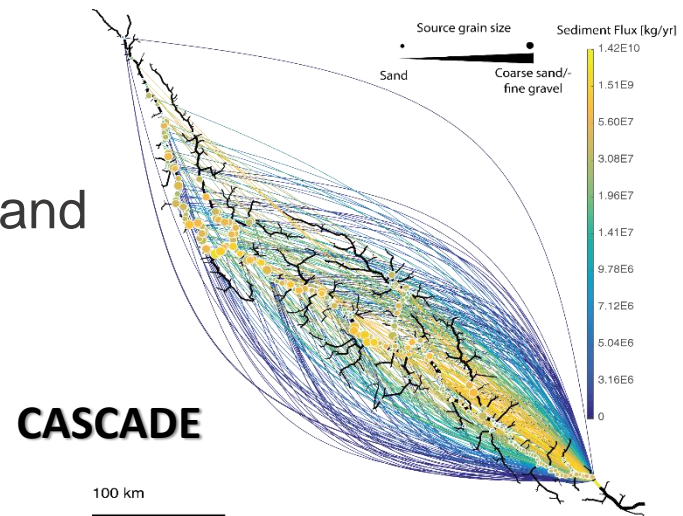


From RS monitoring to modeling at global scale

Low cost global river processes mapping, monitoring and modeling



Multiscale RS for calibration and validation of network-scale models of new generation



CASCADE - A framework for modeling fluvial sediment connectivity and its application for designing low impact hydropower portfolios

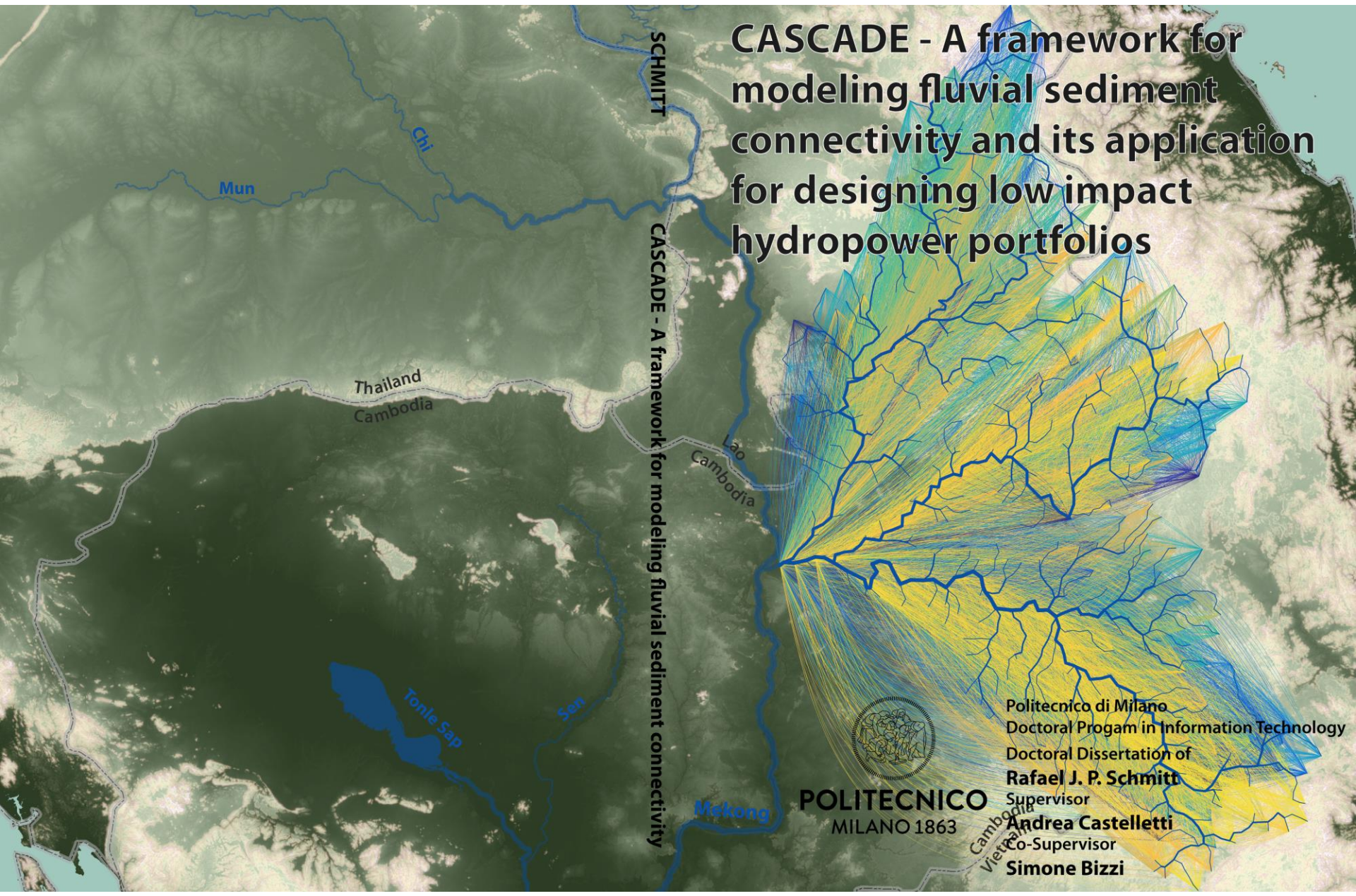
SCHMITT

CASCADE - A framework for modeling fluvial sediment connectivity

Lao
Cambodia

Politecnico di Milano
Doctoral Program in Information Technology
Doctoral Dissertation of
Rafael J. P. Schmitt
Supervisor
Andrea Castelletti
Co-Supervisor
Simone Bizzi

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AIMS TO MODEL SEDIMENT CONNECTIVITY: where CASCADE comes from...

Theory

- Quantifying connectivity in river systems (Heckmann & Schwanghart 2013): magnitude, frequency, typology of fluxes
- Reconciling small scale observations with large scale process evidences (Bracken et al. 2013)
- Linking Sources, Sinks and disclosing pathways (Fryirs et al., 2007)

Opportunities

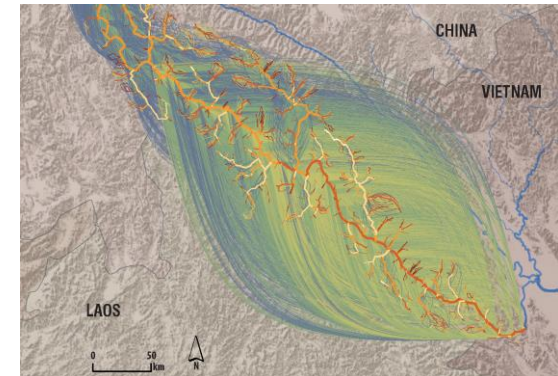
- Flexible to data availability, link to opportunity of Remote Sensing technology (Carbonneau & Piegay 2012, Bizzi et. 2016)

Management urgencies

- Applicable to large river system
- Sensibility to external forces -> support management

Acceptable limitations

- Focus exclusively on fluvial erosion and river sediment transport
- Exploratory tools: aims at map sediment connectivity not a LEM



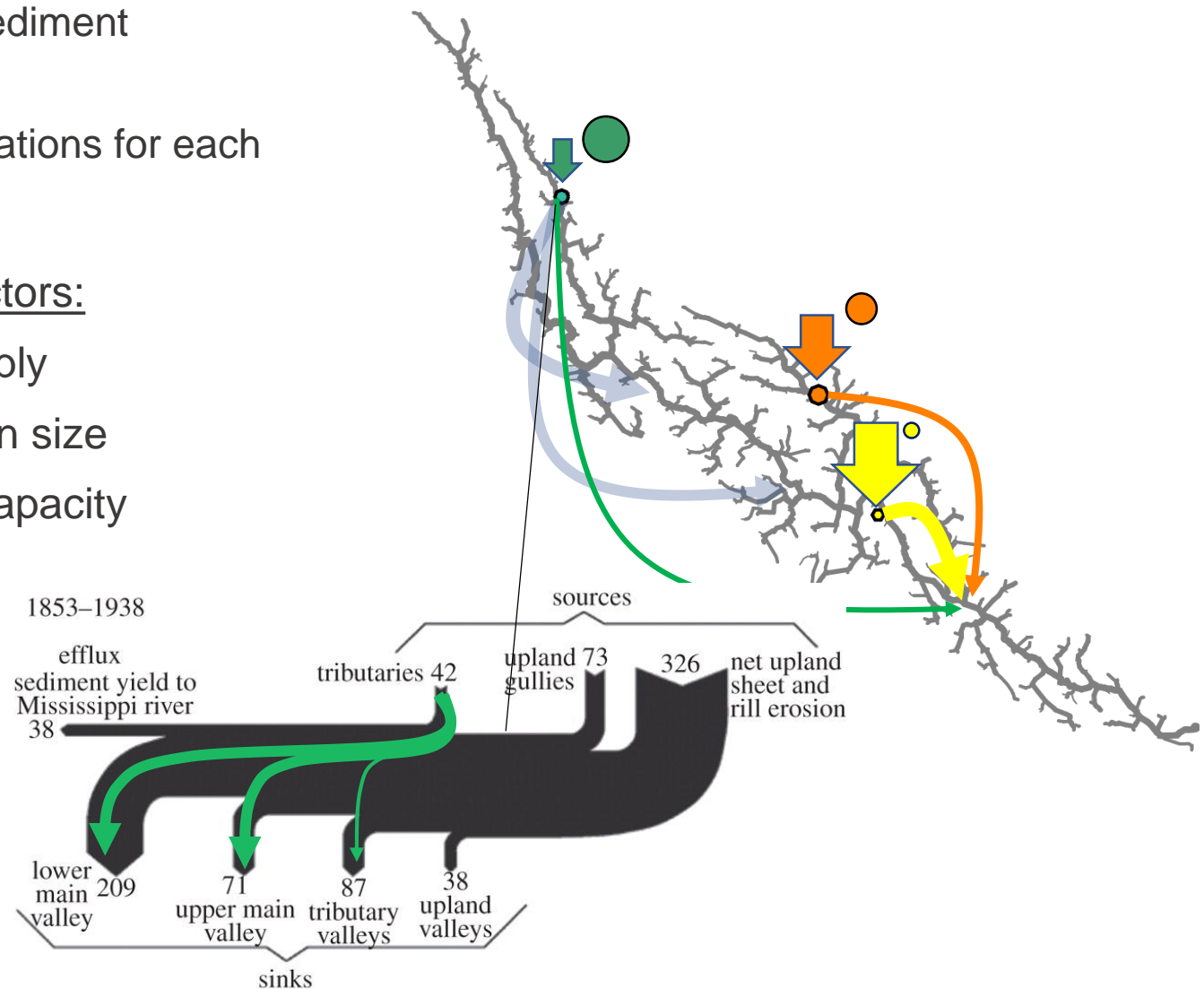
Conceptualizing river network connectivity

Fate of each sediment contribution

Source-sink relations for each reach

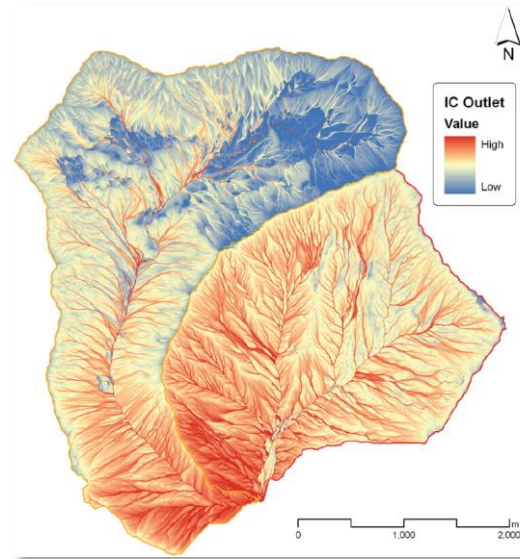
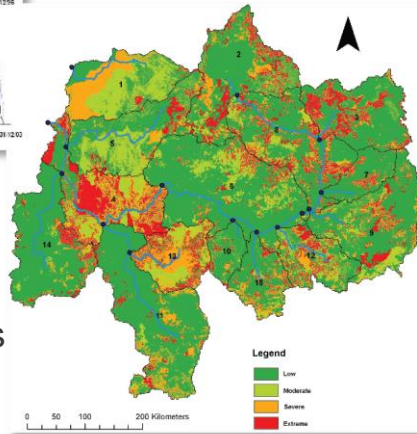
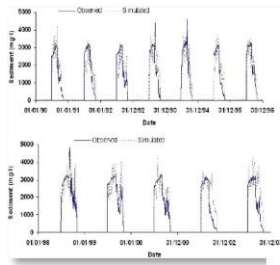
Controlling factors:

- Source supply
- Source grain size
- Transport capacity



State of art on modelling tools available

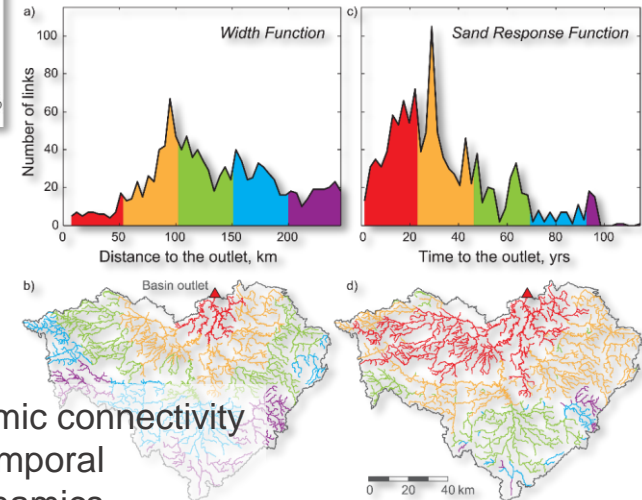
Modelling connectivity



Geomorphic indices

- static / no temporal dynamics
- no process rates

Cavalli et al. 2013, Geomorphology



Dynamic connectivity

- temporal dynamics
- no process rates

Czuba & Foufoula-Georgiou, 2015, WRR

Hydrologic model add-ons

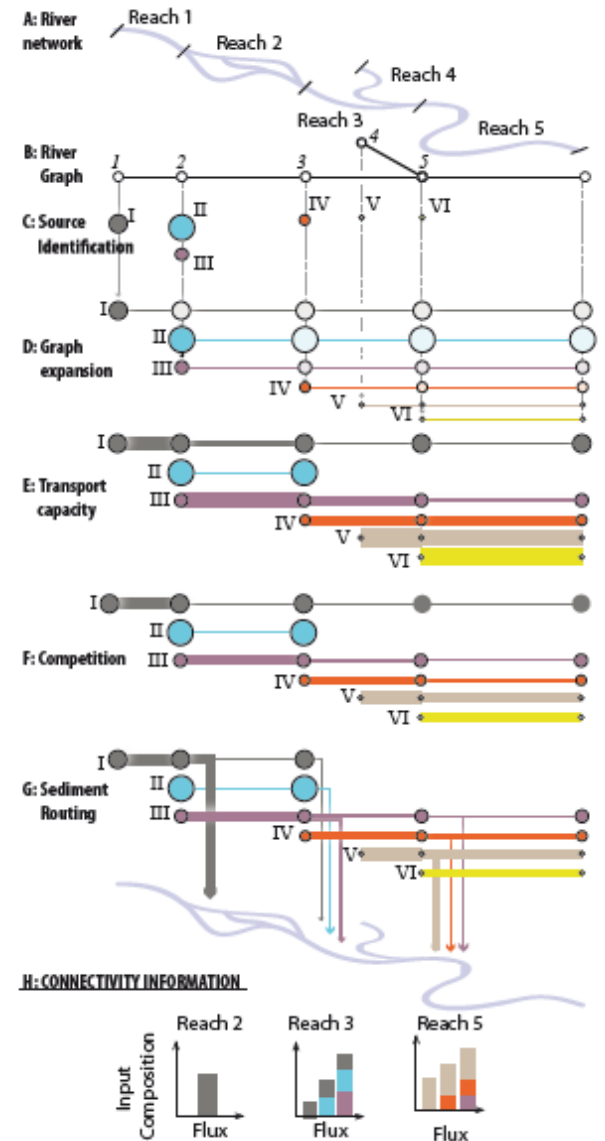
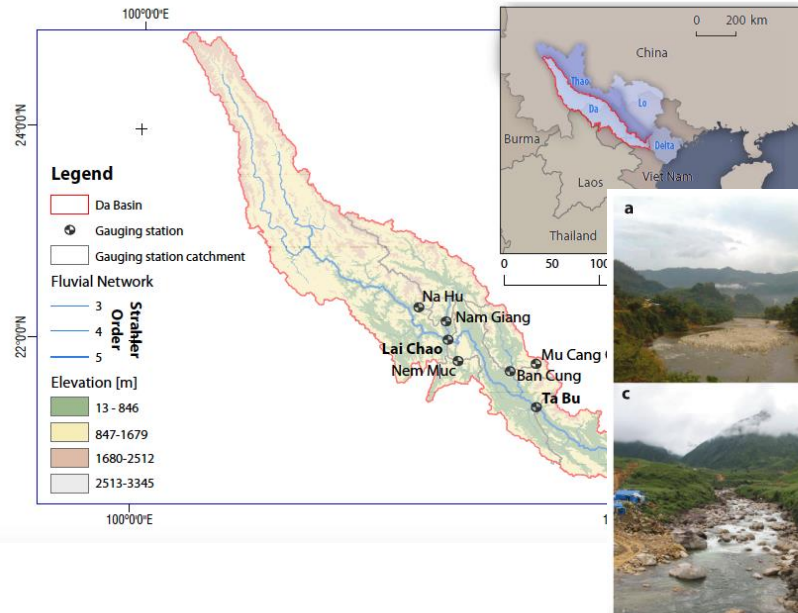
- some process rates and dynamics (TSS)
- no information on connectivity

Bertrie et al., 2011, HESS

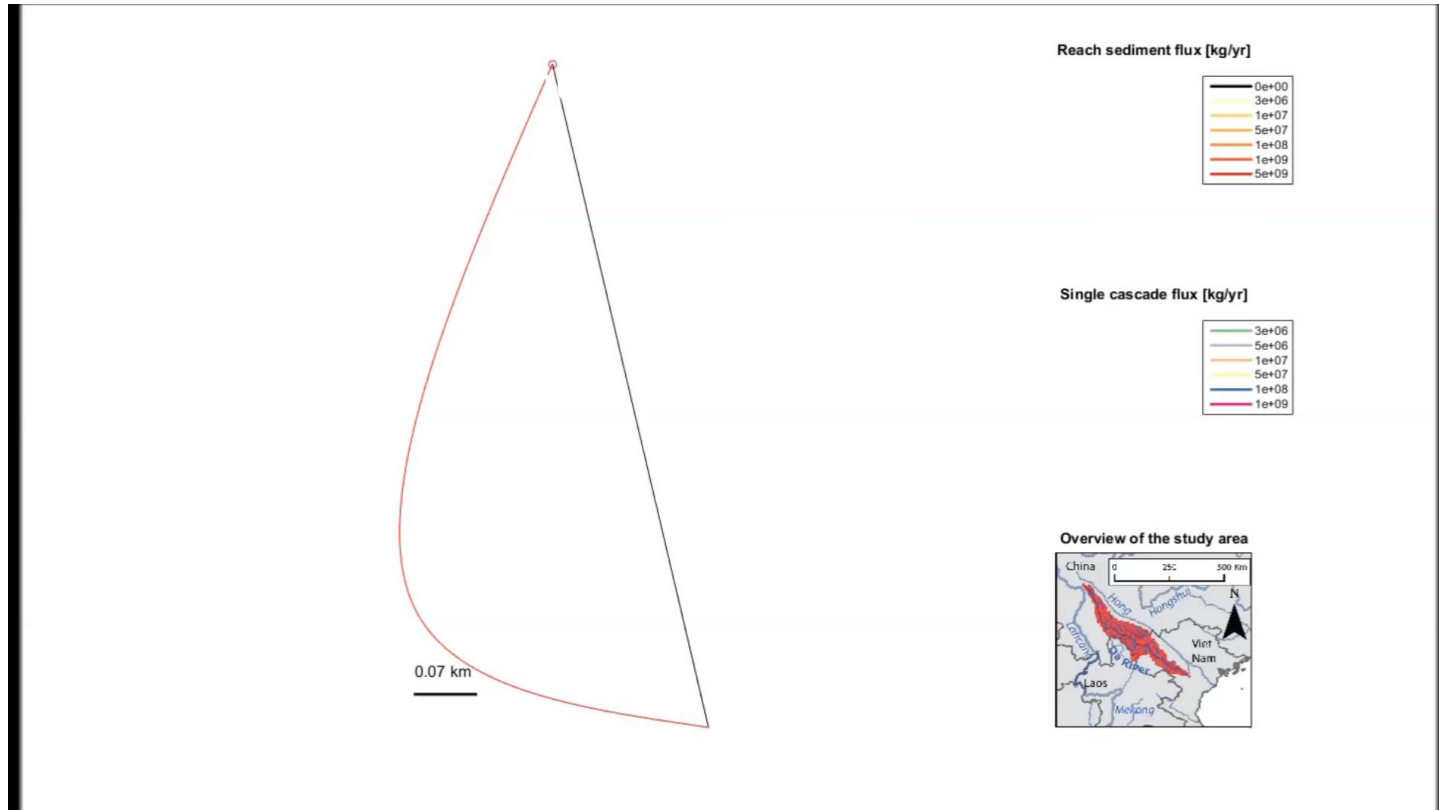
CASCADE (CATCHment SEdiment Connectivity And DELivery)

Inputs

- DEM
- Orthophotos
- Hydrological data
- Sediment Transport observations
- Geomorphological maps



Building the CASCADE model

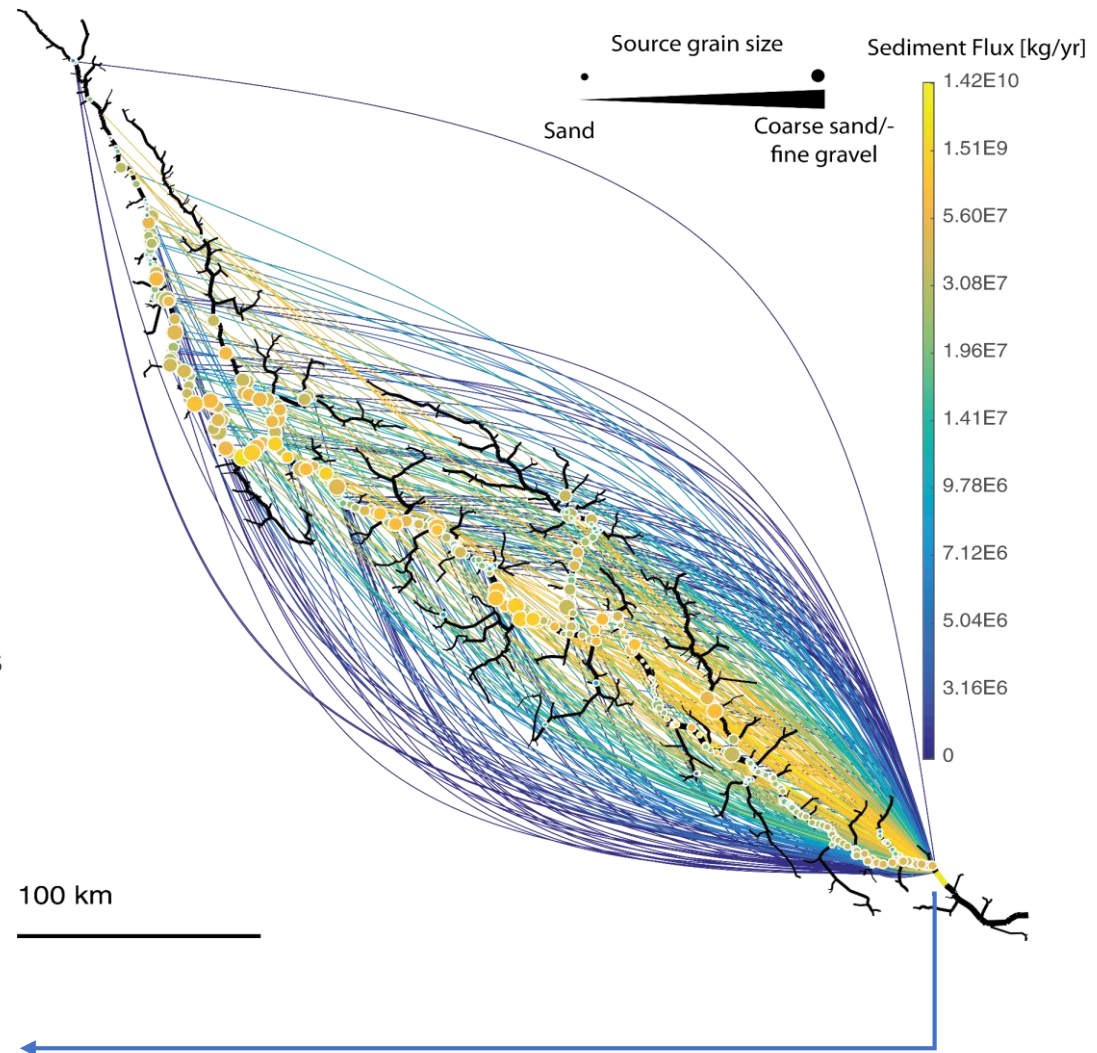


Analyzing reach connectivity

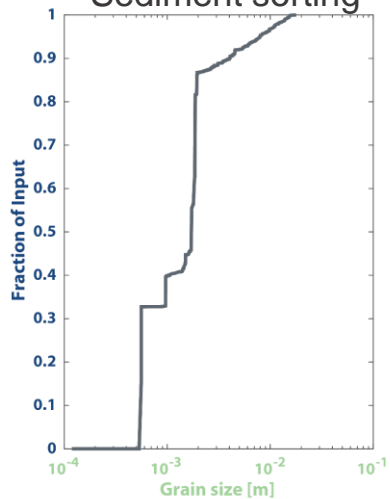
Where are sources located

Source-sink deliveries

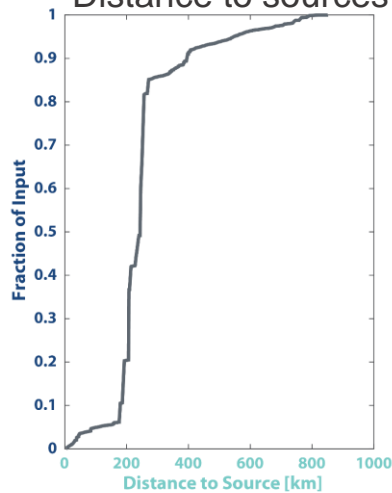
This information is available for all reaches



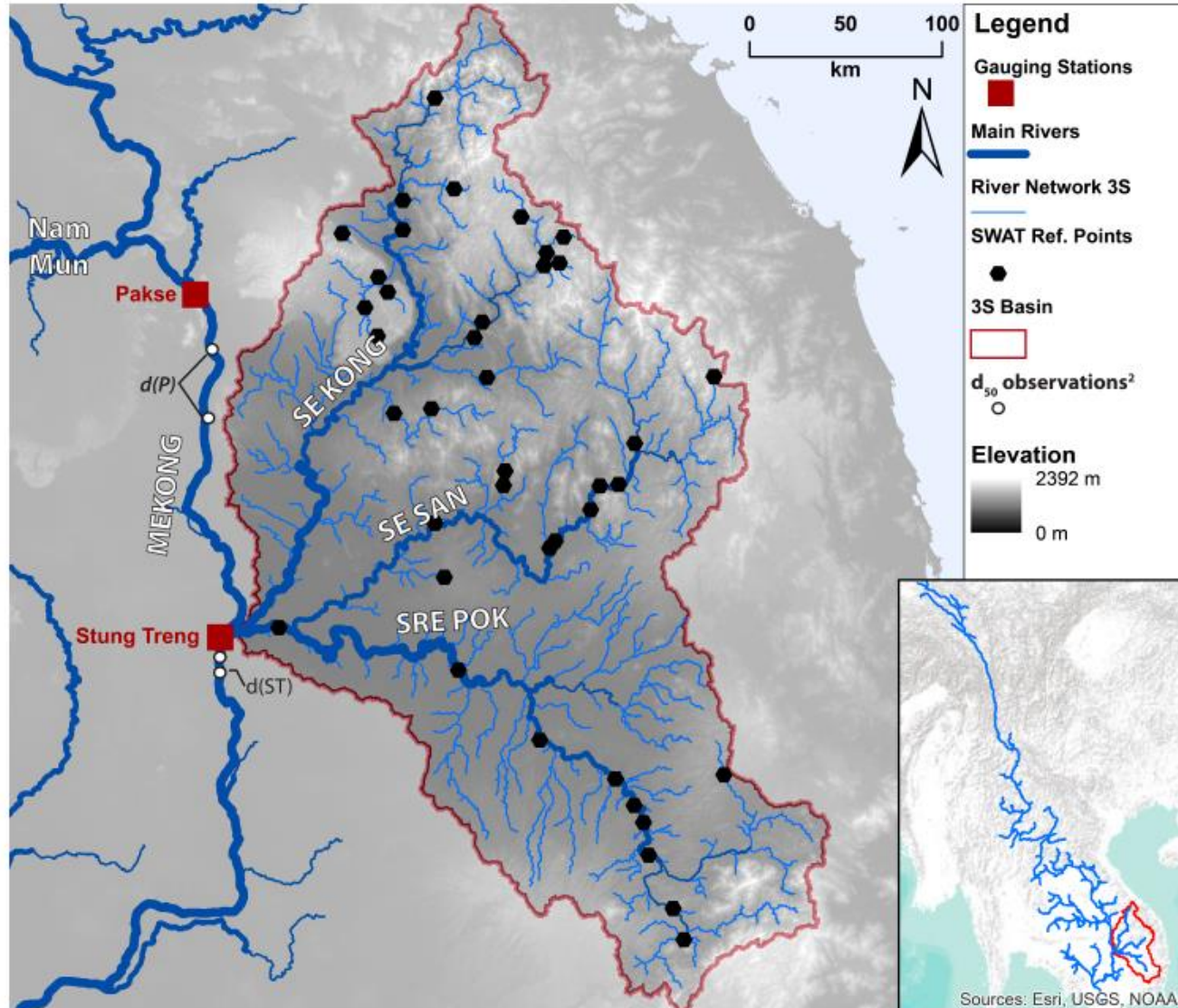
Sediment sorting



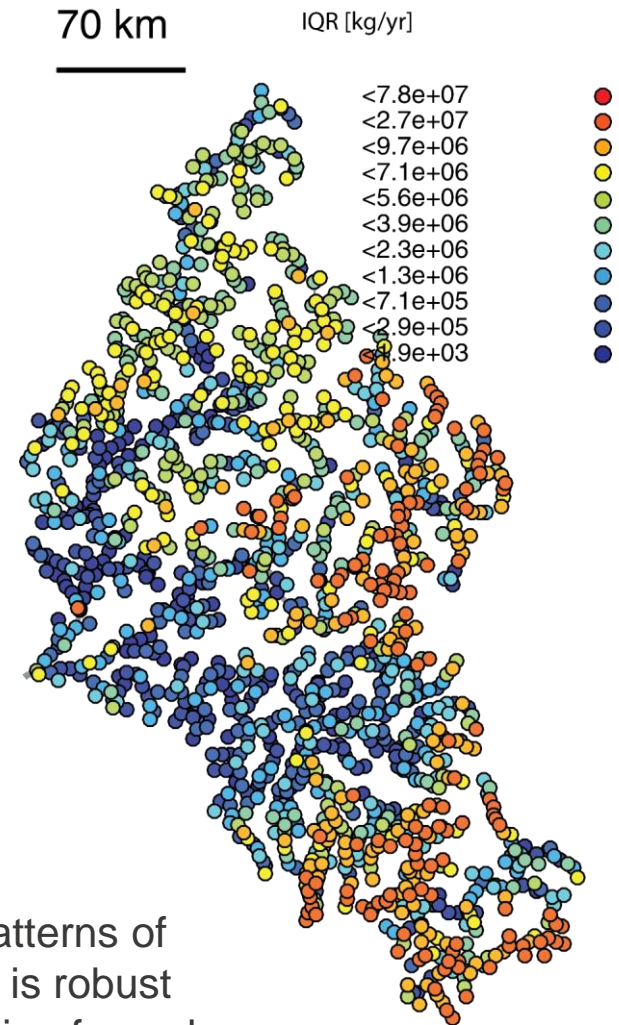
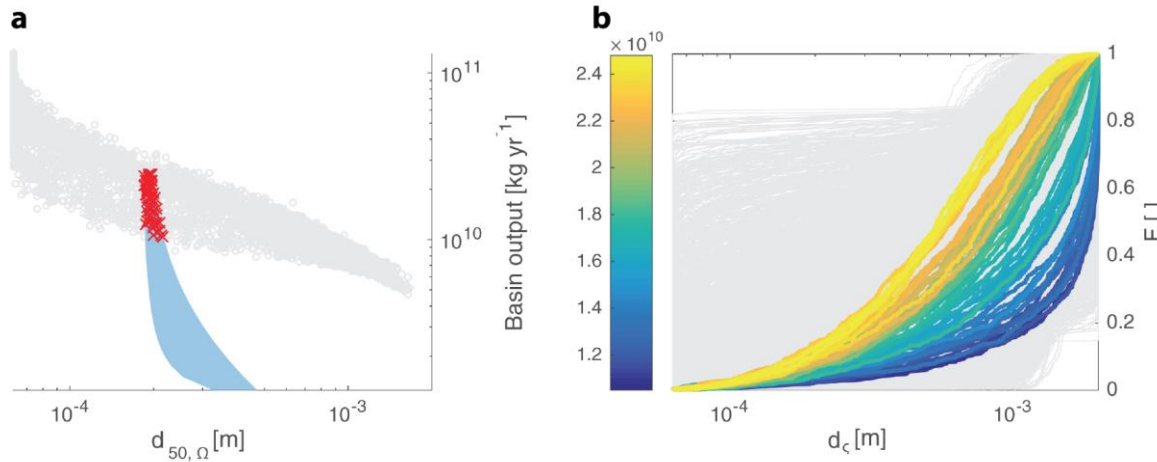
Distance to sources



3S case study

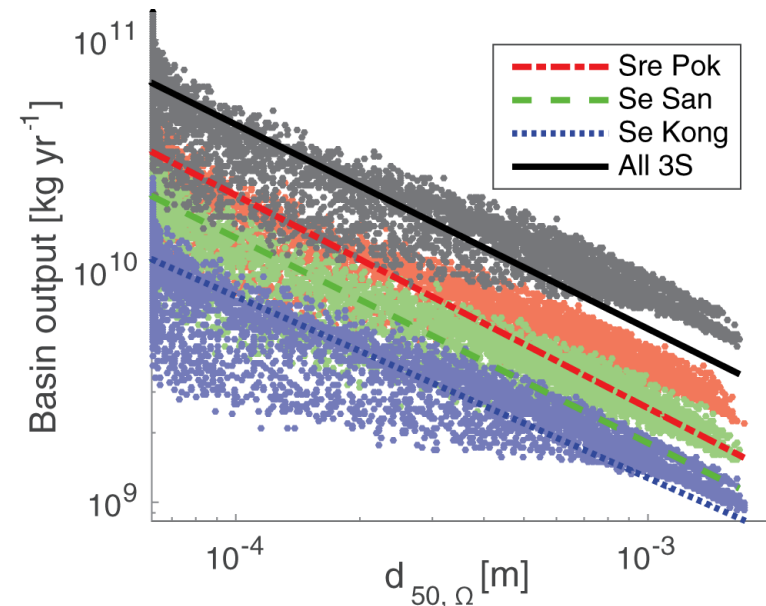


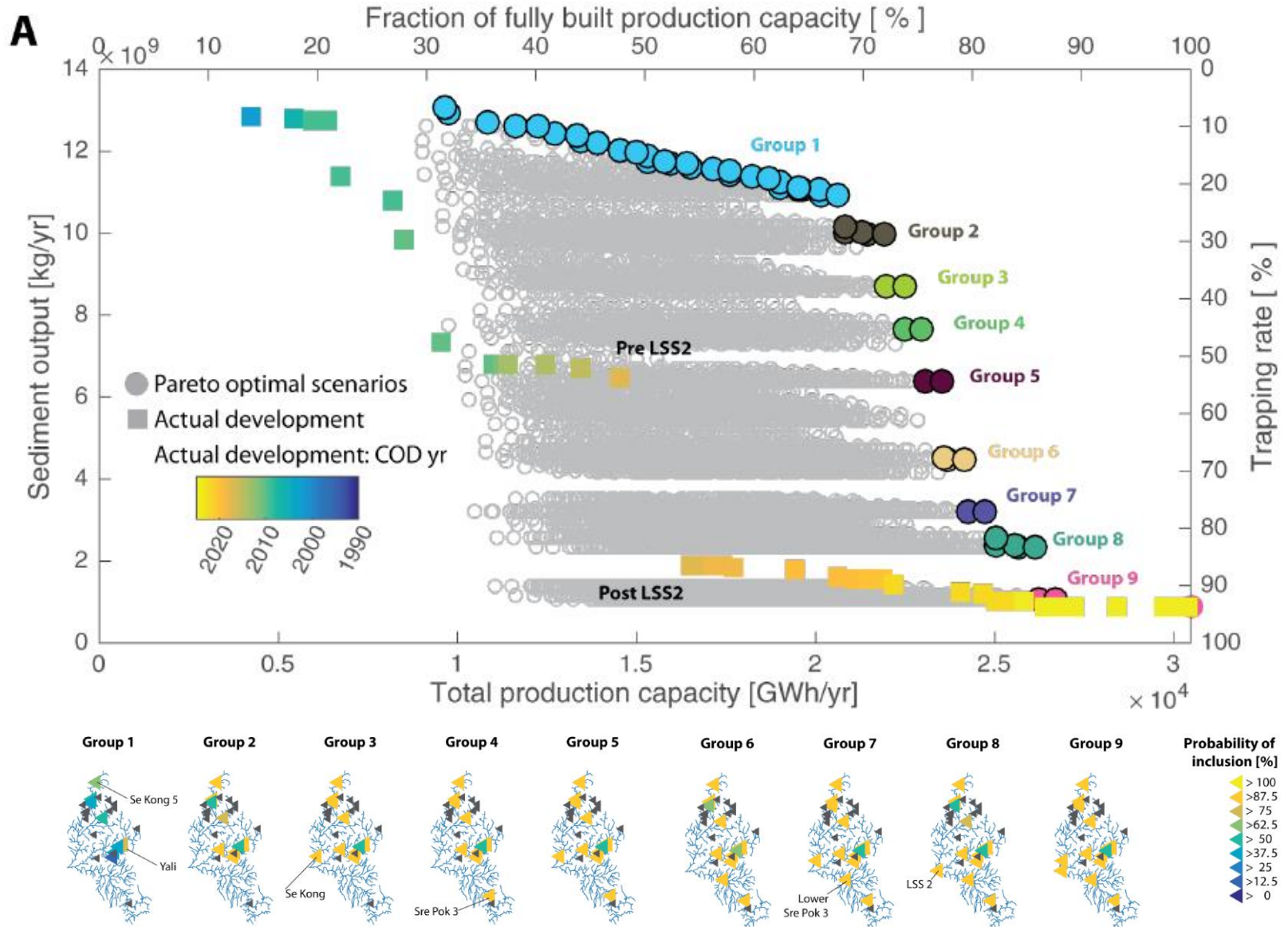
Stochastic modeling of sediment transfers



Characterization of sediment transfers and uncertainty in poorly monitored basins

The relative spatial patterns of sediment connectivity is robust under alternative scenario of supply





On-going applications of CASCADE to support siting of dams at basin scale

3700 major dam sites that await development world-wide!

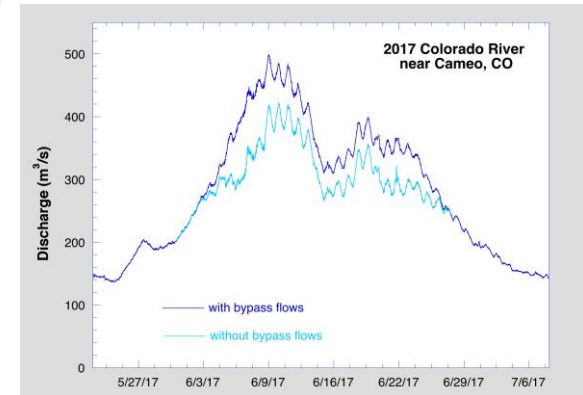
Zarfl, et al.. A global boom in hydropower dam construction. *Aquat Sci* 77, 161–170 (2014)



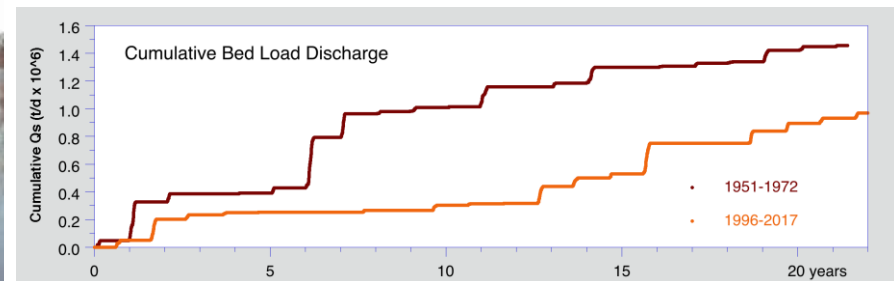
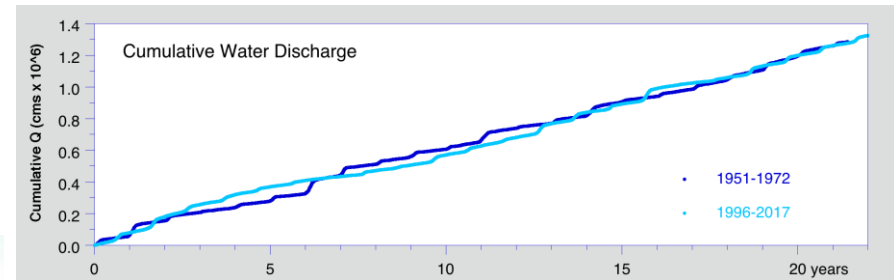
On-going applications of CASCADE to support sediment management



UPPER COLORADO RIVER ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAM



habitats are formed and maintained
by sediment transport
(Pitilick, Bizzi et Schmitt AGU 2017)



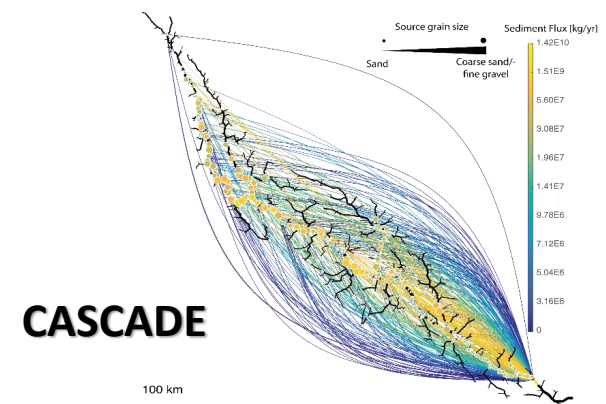
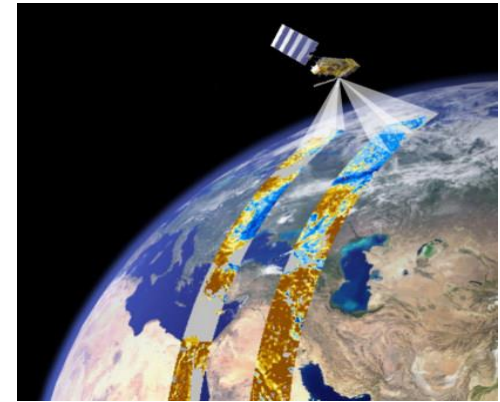
We are on a cusp of something in river science and management

Science

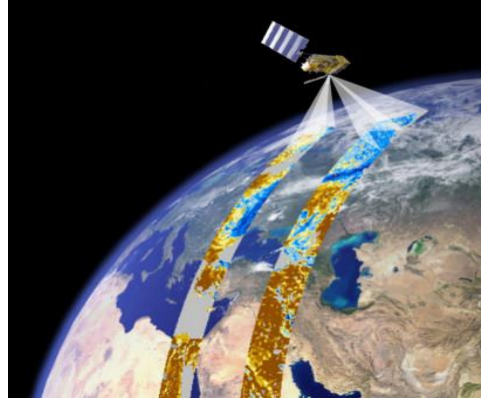
- reframing perspectives from the past (testing conventional theories)
 - Network and Basin perspective
 - linking Local and Global
 - Integrating RS sources from multiple technologies (multi-scales information)
 - Quantifying Connectivity
 - From observing forms to monitoring processes
 - Including ecological processes

Management

- critical need for an information management framework to help structure our understandings and knowledge
- renew river monitoring: integrating operational and more research oriented applications (payoff can be significant!)



Thanks for your attention!



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<http://www.nrm.deib.polimi.it>

<http://amber.international>

