# Multi-temporal remote sensing and GISbased analysis for landslide detection

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## Main research topics of GFZ Remote Sensing Section



#### **Methodological** developments:

- Imaging spectroscopy
  - Sensor development (EnMap)
  - Calibration / validation
  - Material identification
  - Object recognition
  - Change detection
- InSAR- Interferometry
  - Deformation modelling
  - Time series analysis

#### **Applications:**

- Natural hazards
- Soil / vegetation studies
- Dry land degradation
- Mineral exploration
- Mine waste Analysis
- Urban development

Use of multi-sensor data across different parts of electromagnetic spectrum





#### Global occurrence of fatal landslides during period 2002-2012



#### **Global hotspots:**

- Central to SE Asia: (China, India, Sri Lanka, southern edge of Himalayan Arc)
- Indonesia, Phillipines
- Central Carabian Islands
- Mountain chains along the western coast of the Americas





### World-wide reported landslide fatalities during period 2002-2012



- Linear trend

Source: The landslide blog http://blogs.agu.org/landslideblog/





## Why remote sensing based landslide analysis is needed

- Process knowledge is limited for many parts of the world understanding of past landslide occurrence is key for prediction of future landslide activity
- Need for systematic longterm assessment of landslide activity in form of regular multi-temporal landslide inventories
- Due to large size and limited accessibility of many affected areas satellite remote sensing data of suitable spatial and temporal resolution often represent only existing area-wide archive of landslide-related surface changes
- Satellite remote sensing allows assessment of **backdated landslide activity** as well as **monitoring of ongoing landslide activation**
- **Combination of optical and radar remote sensing** enables more complete process analysis in time and space
- Satellite remote sensing can be used for **spatial extrapolation of ground-based observations** in the frame of multi-scale process analysis
- Resulting **improved spatio-temporal process understanding** can be incorporated into various **hazard and risk assessment practices**





## Potential contributions of multi-temporal remote sensing



**Optical Satellite Remote Sensing** 

- Automated identification of landslide failures at regional scale
- Systematic analysis of backdated landslide activity using archived data
- Regular monitoring to assess ongoing landslide activity



#### Radar Satellite Remote Sensing

- □ Identification of ongoing deformation within active landslide prone slopes
- Monitoring of slope activation -> potential precursors for early warning
- Combined analysis of optical and radar data for improved temporal resolution

#### GIS-based Hazard Assessment

- Development of dynamic landslide inventory systems by combining results from remote sensing analysis with data from all available sources
- Derivation of improved spatiotemporal process understanding
- Generation of input information for dynamic hazard and risk assessment







## Overall approach for automated multi-temporal landslide detection

#### **Challenges**

- □ High seasonal and long-term surface variability
- □ Large area of ~12 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- High amount of multi-sensor satellite data
- Automated, efficient and robust techniques needed for multi-sensor time-series-analysis







## Result: object-based multi-temporal landslide identification



Behling, R.; Roessner, S.; Golovko, D.; Kleinschmit, B.. Derivation of long-term spatiotemporal landslide activity – An automated multi-sensor time series approach. Under review Remote Sensing of Environment

Identification of landslide objects and their time period of occurrence

Detection of landslide failures of different shapes, sizes, types, lithology, morphology

Landslide detection based on irregular time-series acquired by different sensors

Enables systematic analysis of spatiotemporal landslide occurrence at regional scale

Provides input information required for objective landslide hazard and risk assessment

#### **Challenges:**

Limited temporal resolution due to cloud coverage and irregular data acquisitions

#### New opportunities:

Combined analysis of optical and radar data with high temporal resolution using Sentinel-1/2 data covering large areas (swath width 250 – 290 km)





#### Multi-sensor analysis of long-term landslide activity



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## Continuation of monitoring with high resolution time series data

	Landsat-8	RapidEye	Sentinel-2
Spectral Resolution	OLI ms bands 1-7,9: OLI pan band 8: TIRS bands 10-11:	R / G / B / RedEdge / NIR 55 – 90 nm	RGB/NIR: 30 – 115 nm   RedEdge/SWIR: 15 – 180 nm   Atm corr. bands: 20 – 30 nm
Spatial Resolution	OLI ms bands 1-7,9:30 mOLI pan band 8:15 mTIRS bands 10-11:100 m	6,5 m	RGB/NIR:10 mRedEdge/SWIR:20 mAtm correction bands:60 m
Swath	185 km (Tiles of 30 x 30km)	77 km (Tiles of 25 x 25km)	290 km
Repetition Rate	16 days	1 day / 5 sats	10 days / 1 sat.; 5 days / 2 sats.
Launch	2013 (design life of 5 years, fuel for 10 years)	2008	S-2A - 06/2015, S-2B - 07/2016
Data Access	http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/ (free of charge)	http://eyefind.rapideye.com/ 1\$/km² / free for scientific use	https://scihub.esa.int/ (free of charge)
Available data level	at sensor radiance/geocoded	at sensor radiance/geocoded	in commissioning phase







## Ground deformation analysis using radar data (InSAR)





Radar (active microwave)

- Independent of weather conditions (clouds)
- □ X-band (Terra-SAR-X)
- □ L-Band ALOS-PALSAR)

#### InSAR:

- Phase differences between two SAR images
- Detection of ground deformation (mm-range relative to sensor: parrallel to line of sight)
- Identification of landslide activation prior to main failures – precursors
- Not suitable for sudden large failures





# Radar Interferometry (InSAR) time series analysis of slope deformation as precursors for larger failures

## (A) TSX velocity map



## (B) RapidEye imagery



Motagh, M., Wetzel, H.-U., Roessner, S., Kaufmann, H. Remote Sensing Letters, 2014, 4, 7, 657-666.



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Workflow for GISbased multi-source landslide inventory and analysis system



Golovko, D., Roessner, S., Behling, R., Wetzel, H.-U., Kleinschmit, B. Development of Multi-Temporal Landslide Inventory Information System for Southern Kyrgyzstan Using GIS and Satellite Remote Sensing. – Photogrammetrie – Fernerkundung – Geoinformation – PFG, 2015, 2, 157-172.





#### Exemplary information contained in multi-source landslide inventory system

30.03.1982, April 2004







# Conclusions and outlook

- The use of **multi-temporal remote sensing** and **GIS based data integration** enables higher level of landslide inventory completeness.
- Resulting multi-temporal landslide inventories allow improved spatiotemporal characterization of landslide occurrence and represent important input information for hazard and risk analysis.
- Analysis of large areas requires development of **automated methods for multitemporal landslide identification** and subsequent hazard and risk analysis.
- Presented methodological experience has been mainly gained from large-area analysis of landslide occurrence in Southern Kyrgyzstan (Central Asia).
- Future work will focus on adaptation of developed methods for longer-term analysis of large-area landslide occurrence related to 2015 Nepal earthquake.
- **Future goal** of developing a **global landslide mapper** for systematic large-area analysis of landslide occurrence based on multi-sensor data (focus Sentinel-1/2).
- Future contribution of methodological expertise to CEOS landslide pilot.



