

Monitoring of Grasslands by Using MODIS & Landsat

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0 50 100 Kilometers



Institute of Landscape Ecology Slovak Academy of Sciences

- **Interdisciplinary scientific institution for basic and applied research in landscape ecology (established in 1965)**
- Total staff: 59 (scientific staff: 39; PhD students: 7)
- ILE SAS covers fields of abiotic, biotic and socio-economic sciences



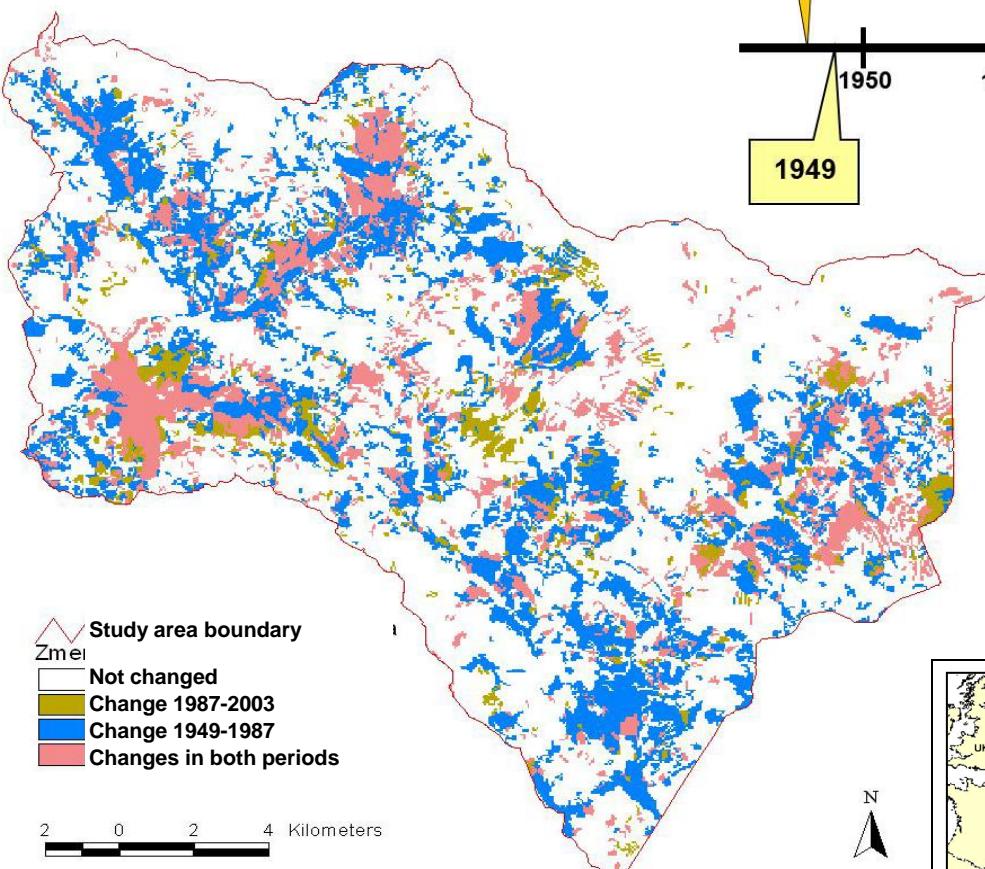
Research related to Remote Sensing



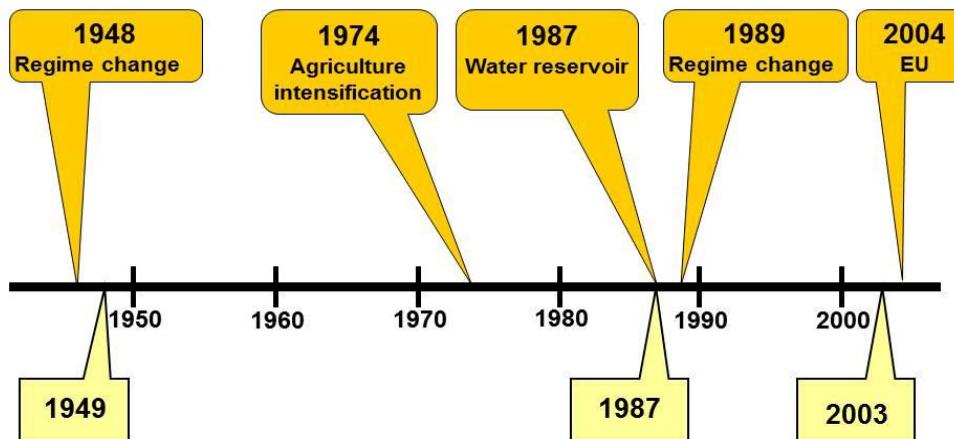
DPSIR concept

Land cover transitions during

1949-1987-2003



Drivers of land use change

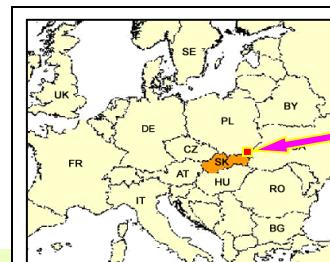


Main changes 1949-1987

from extensive grassland to forest
from mosaics to intensive grassland
from mosaics to extensive grassland
from mosaics to forest
from shrub to forest

Main changes 1987-2003

from ex



biopress



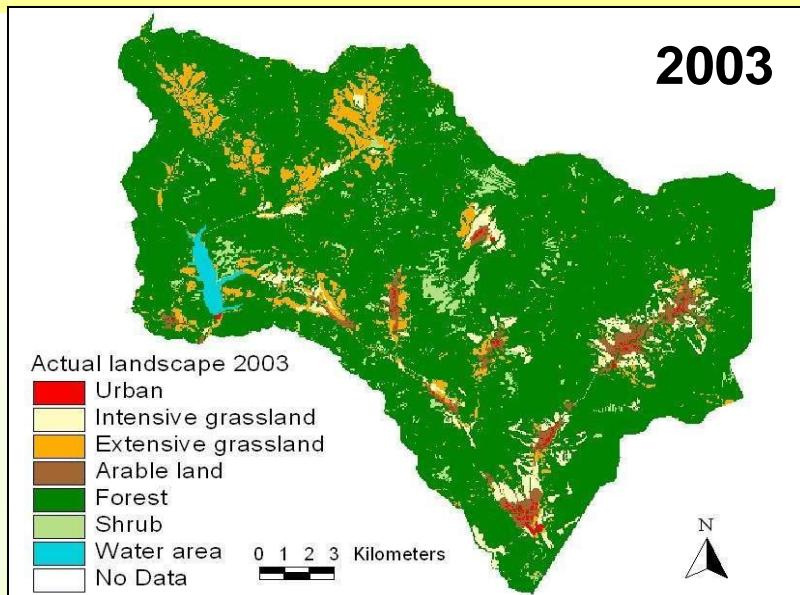


3.Detailed interdisciplinary field research on 3 selected areas

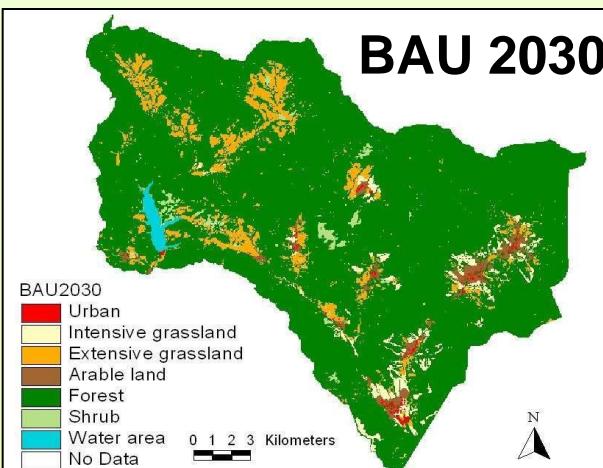
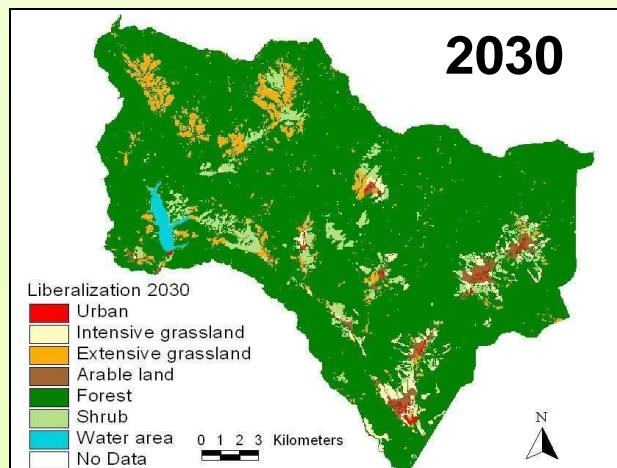
- Land use changes
- Sociological reserach – stakeholders attitude and expetations, history of landuse
- Selected groups of animals (birds, spiders, butterflies, dragonflyes, beetles)
- phytocenological reserach
- Pedological reserach
- Morphometric analyze of georelief
- Elaboration of Strategy for protection and management



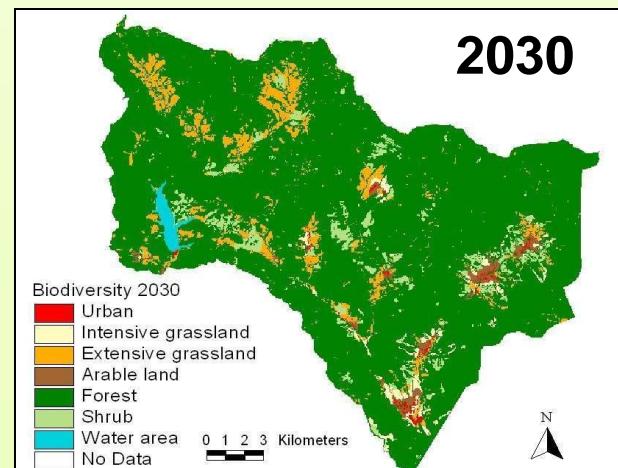
Predictive land cover change modelling



Liberalization

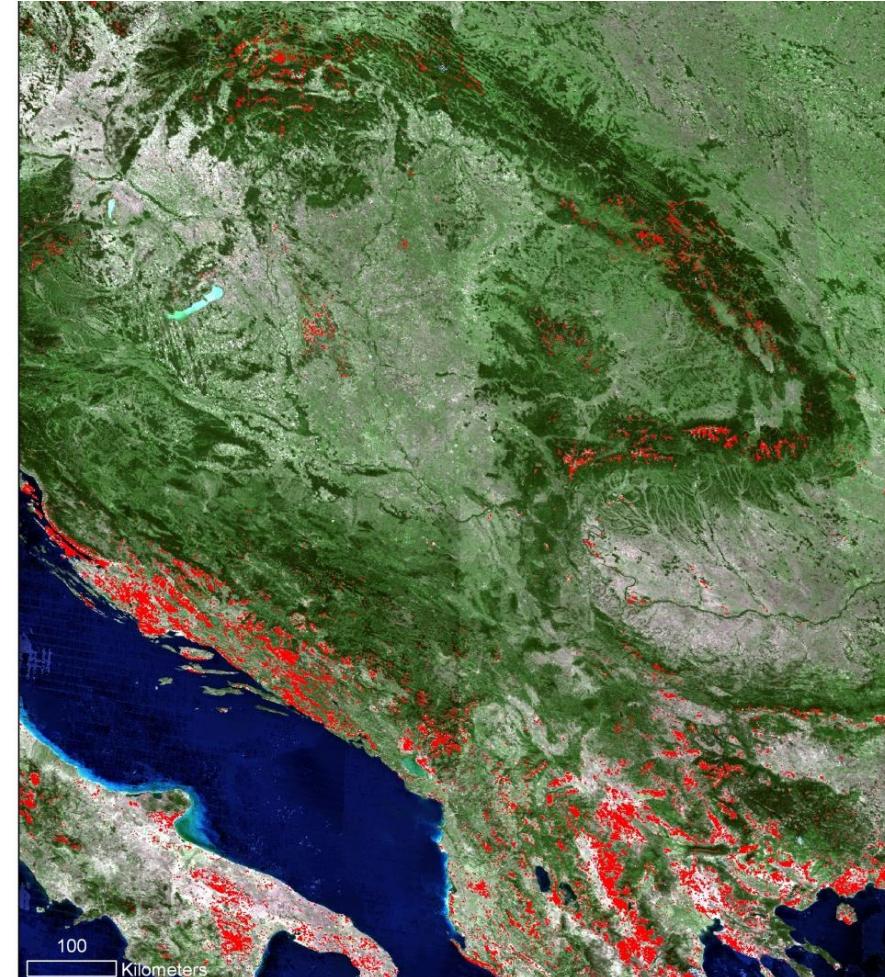


Biodiversity



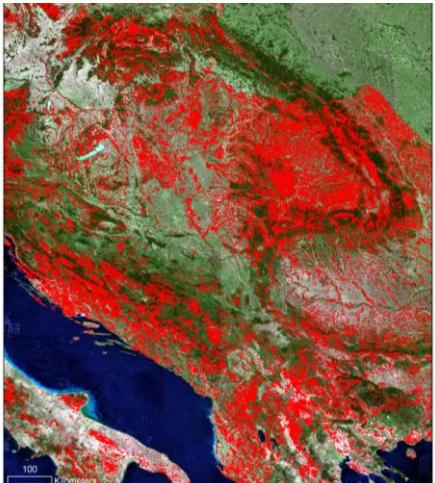
Grassland focus

- Grasslands – important component of landscape and its functioning (production, biodiversity, water retention)
- Lack of consistent spatial data, difficult detection by RS
- **Detection of management practice in grasslands (cutting, grazing, overgrowing, drying, flooding, burning)**

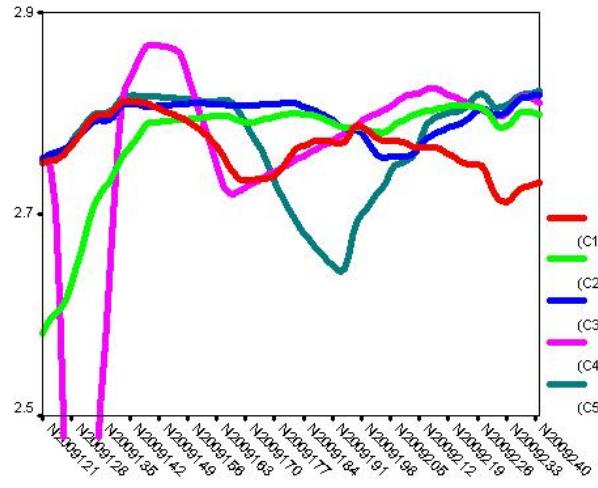


MODIS based analysis of NDVI time series

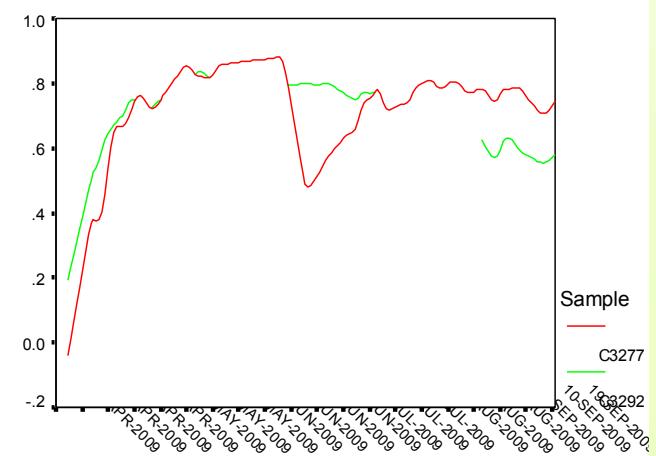
1. Grassland mapping



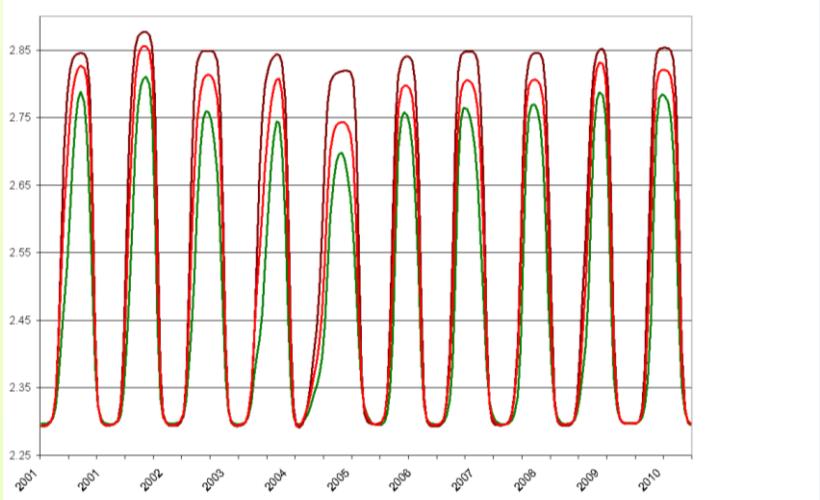
2. Grassland habitat classification



3. Detection of management practices



4. Grassland LSP



1. Grassland mapping

Supervised approach

Landsat:

- Classification using multi-date multispectral signatures
 - Reflects different color and leaf biochemical composition in specific dates
- Final generalization using image segmentation process

MODIS:

- Multi-temporal classification using NDVI temporal profile
 - Reflects seasonality and management practices
- Pixel based

Both approaches need training sites for signature development, exploring of temporal profiles of crops and validation sites for accuracy and reliability assessment

Unsupervised approach

- . Broader scale

Available satellite images

Landsat TM5:

- 2011/06/15, 2011/07/17, 2011/08/02,
2011/09/03

Landsat ETM+:

- 2011/04/20, 2011/05/06; 2011/05/22;
2011/07/09; 2011/08/26; 2011/09/11;
2011/09/27



Sep1



0

25

50

Kilometers

Training sites

- Field research
- Desktop analyses



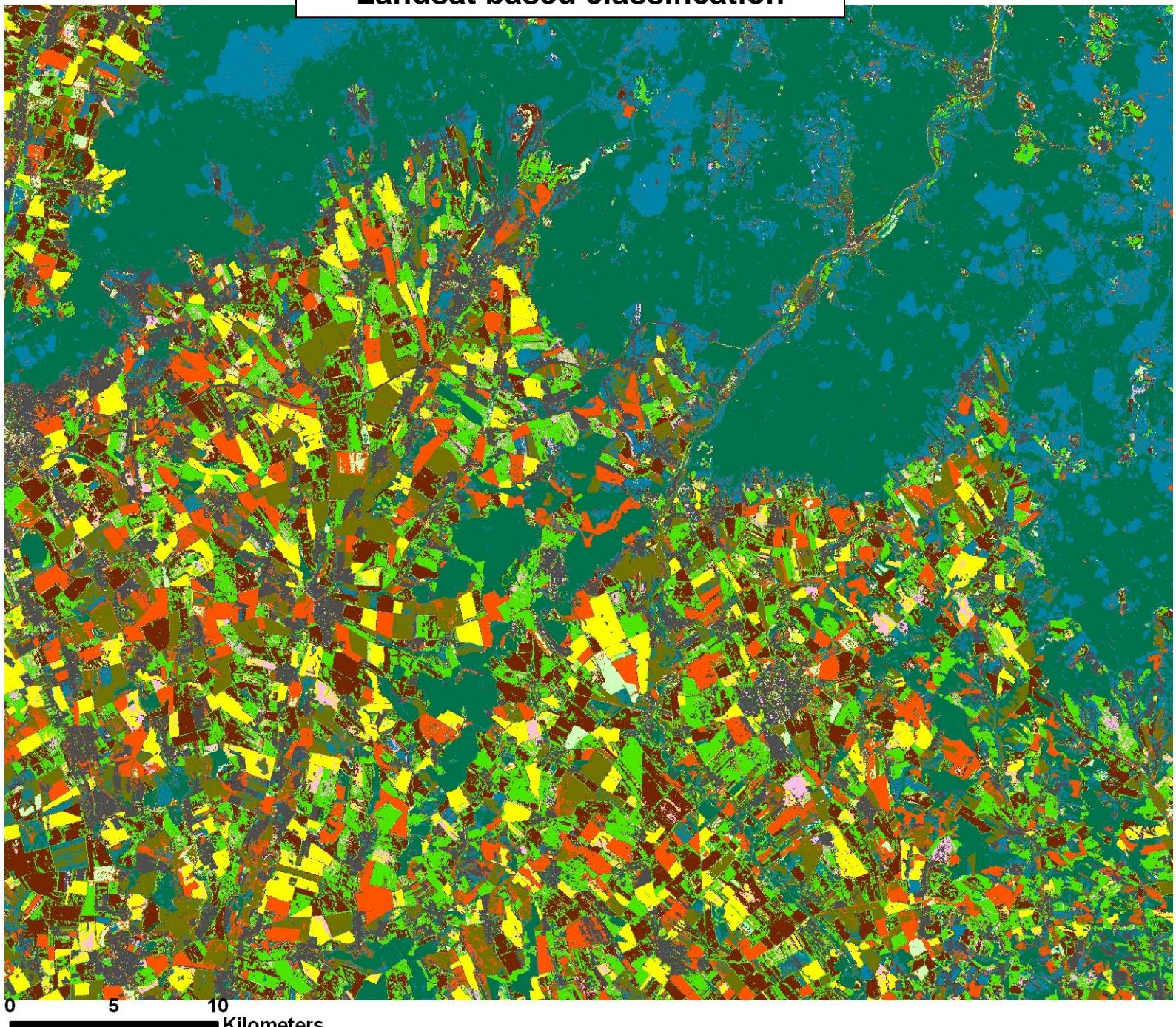
- Radiometric correction and calibration of input Landsat data
- Identification of main crop types
- Spectral libraries of main crops using
- Multitemporal signatures
- Visual interpretation of HR satellite images

Totally: 720 sites

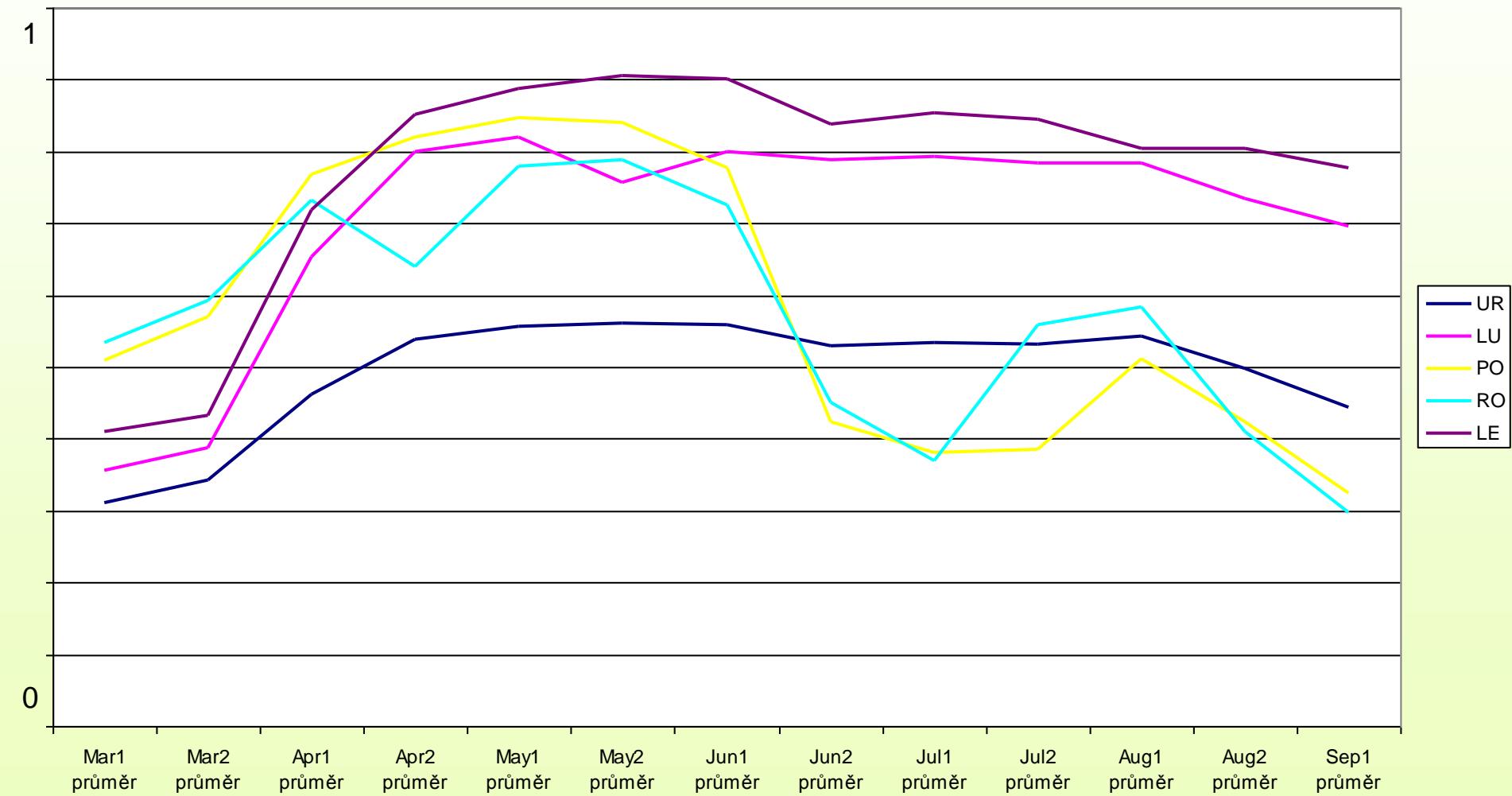


0 5 10 Kilometers

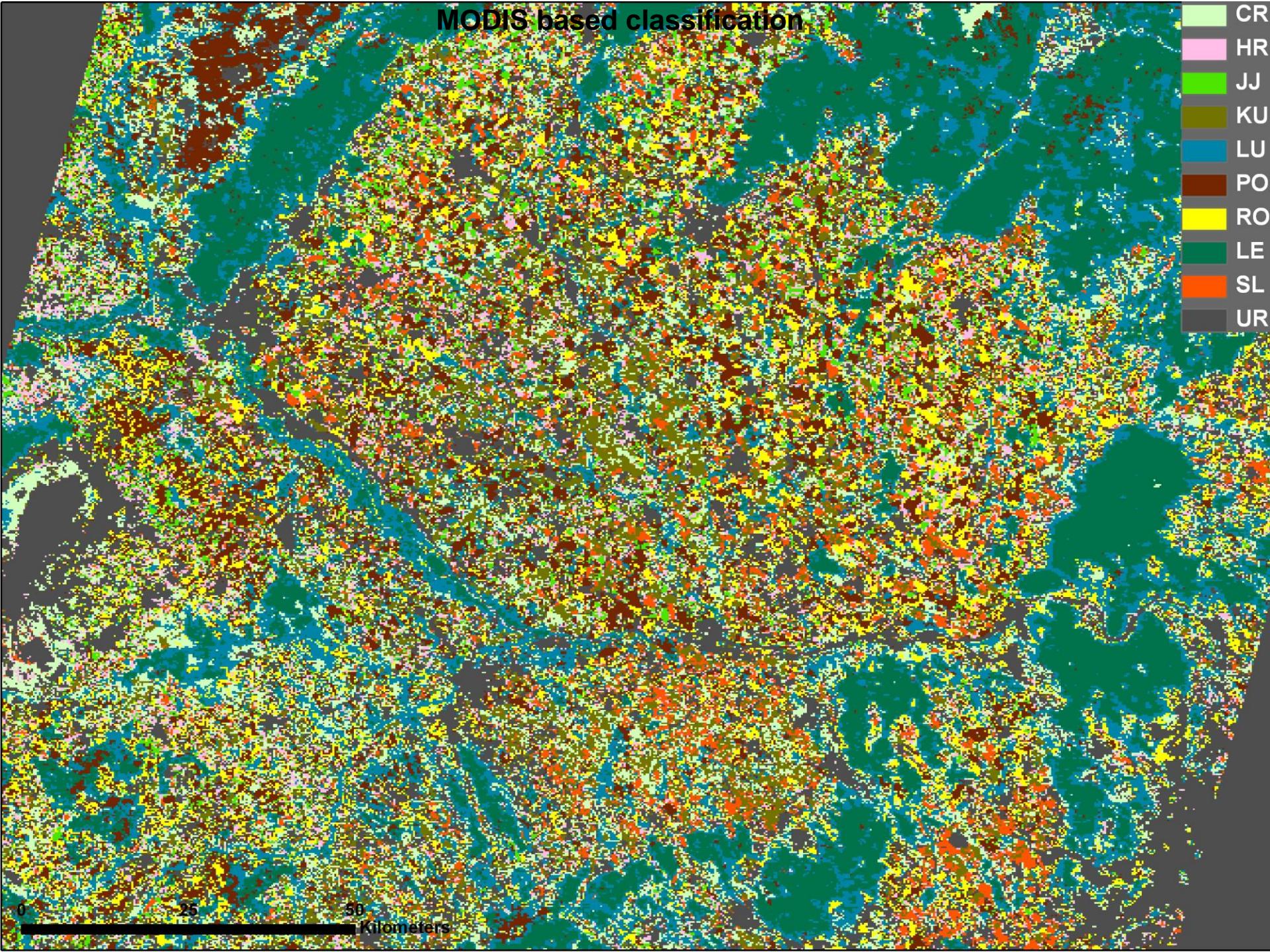
Landsat based classification

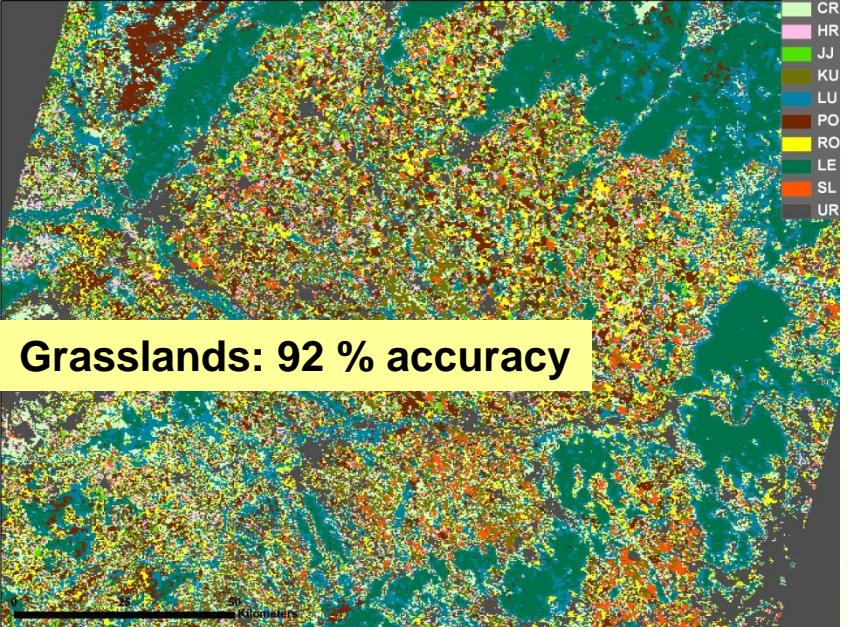


MODIS based approach NDVI profile

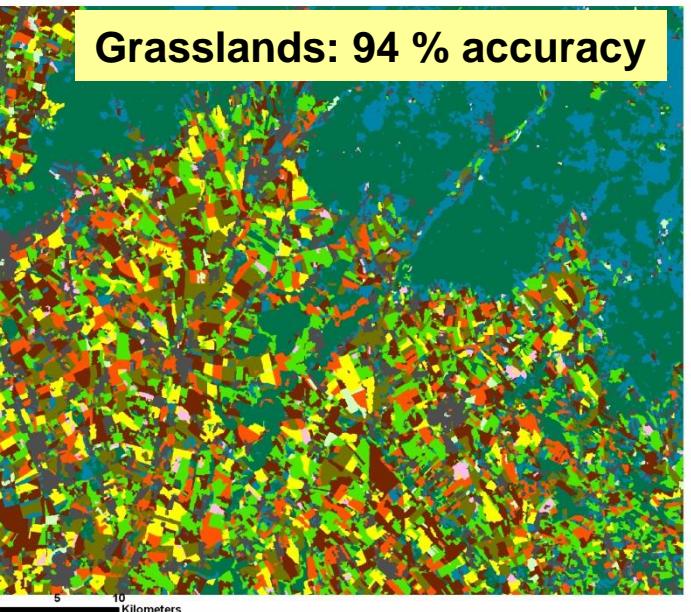


MODIS based classification

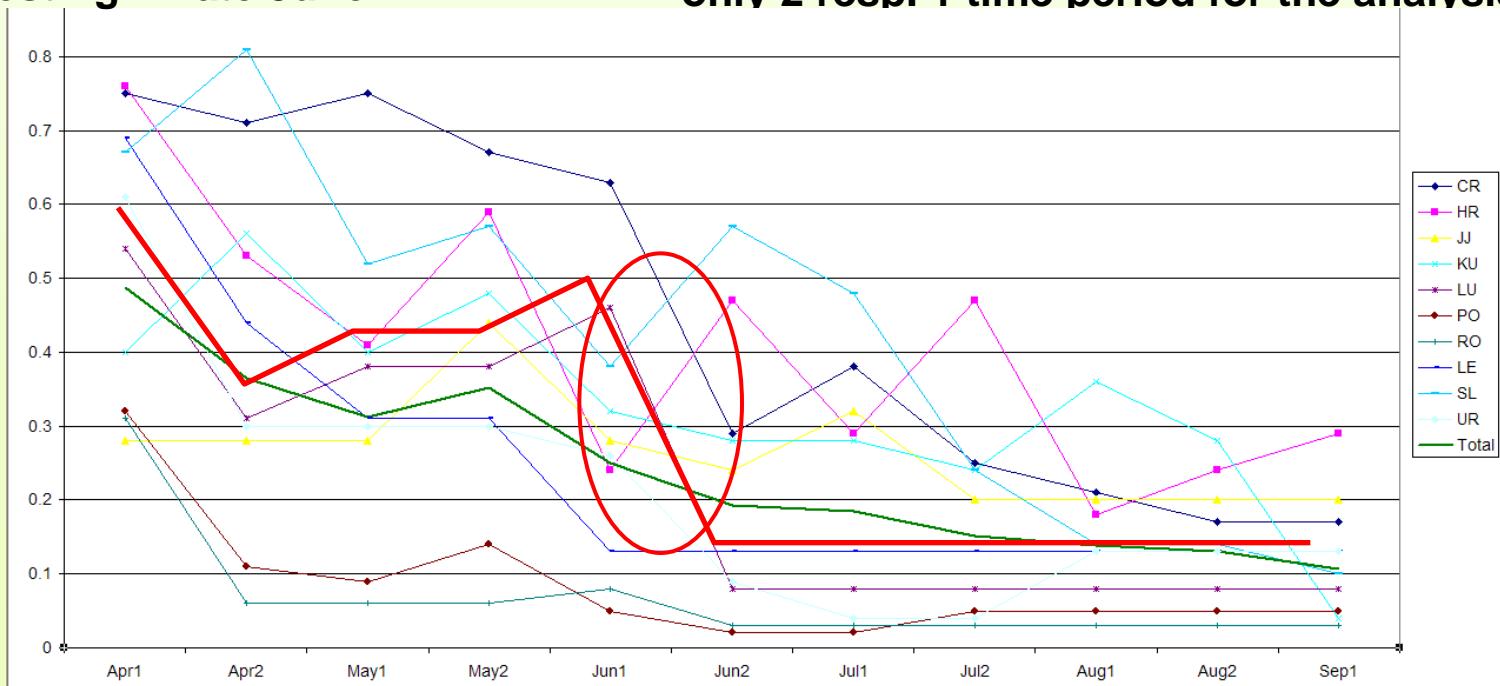




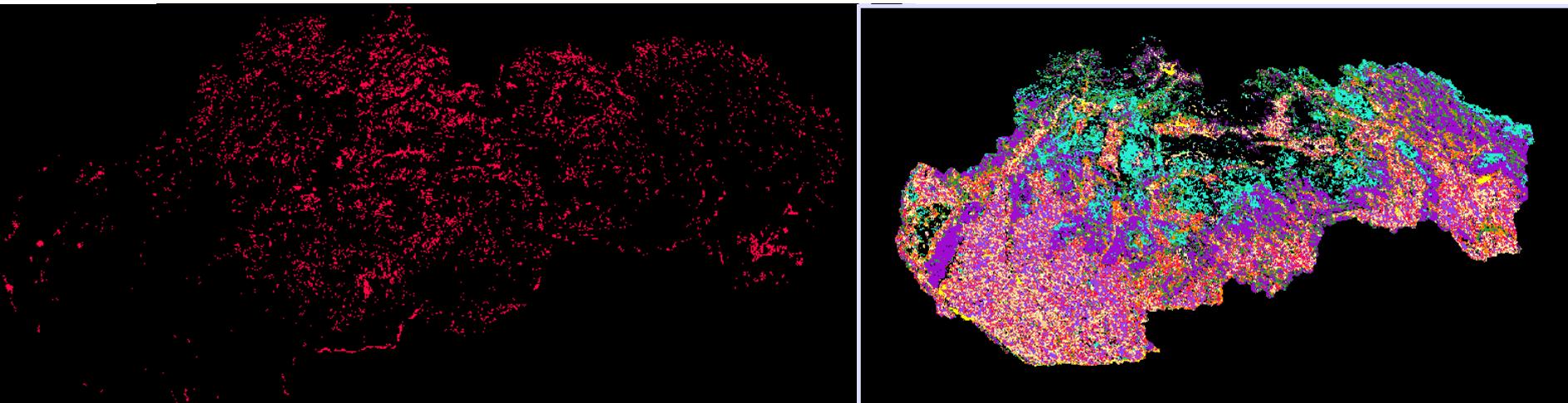
Errors decreased dramatically after the crop harvesting in late June



Accuracy decreased to 85% and 78% when using only 2 resp. 1 time period for the analysis



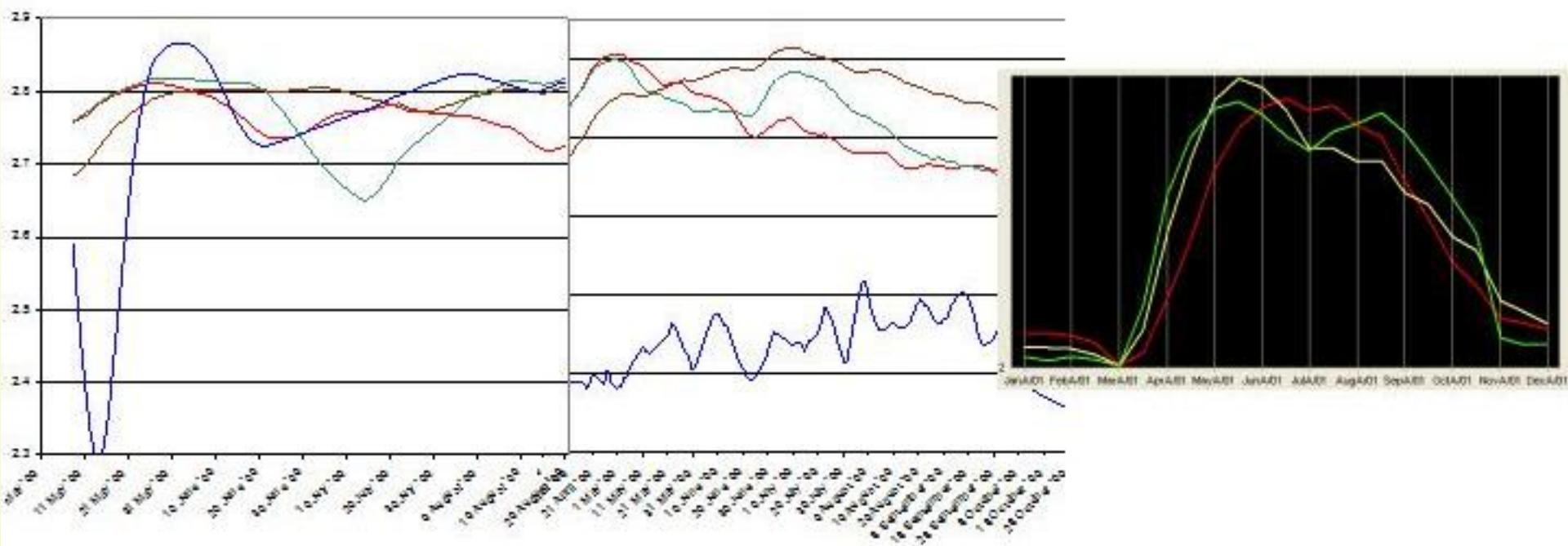
Grassland mapping in Slovakia



		CLC	8d NDVI	16d NDVI
Heterogenous	Prod. acur.	38%		
	Users acur.	58%	30%	51%
Homogenous	Prod. acur.	39%	68%	53%
	Users acur.	77,5%	61%	60%

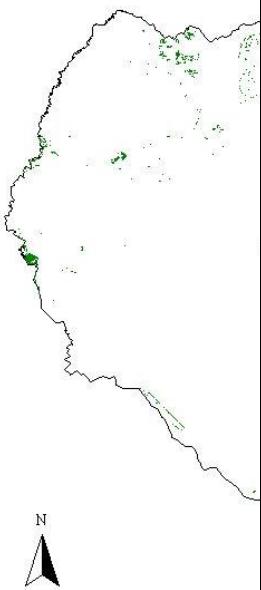
2. Classification of grasslands based on annual profile of NDVI

- 1. Slovak grassland sites** (pure 3758 pixels) – based on GE inspection and LPIS
- 2. Hungarian lowlands** (N2000 grasslands - approx. 32000 pure pixels – GE inspection)
- 3. Slovak grasslands** – approx. 90 000 heterog. pixels without no check



2. Classification of grassland habitat types

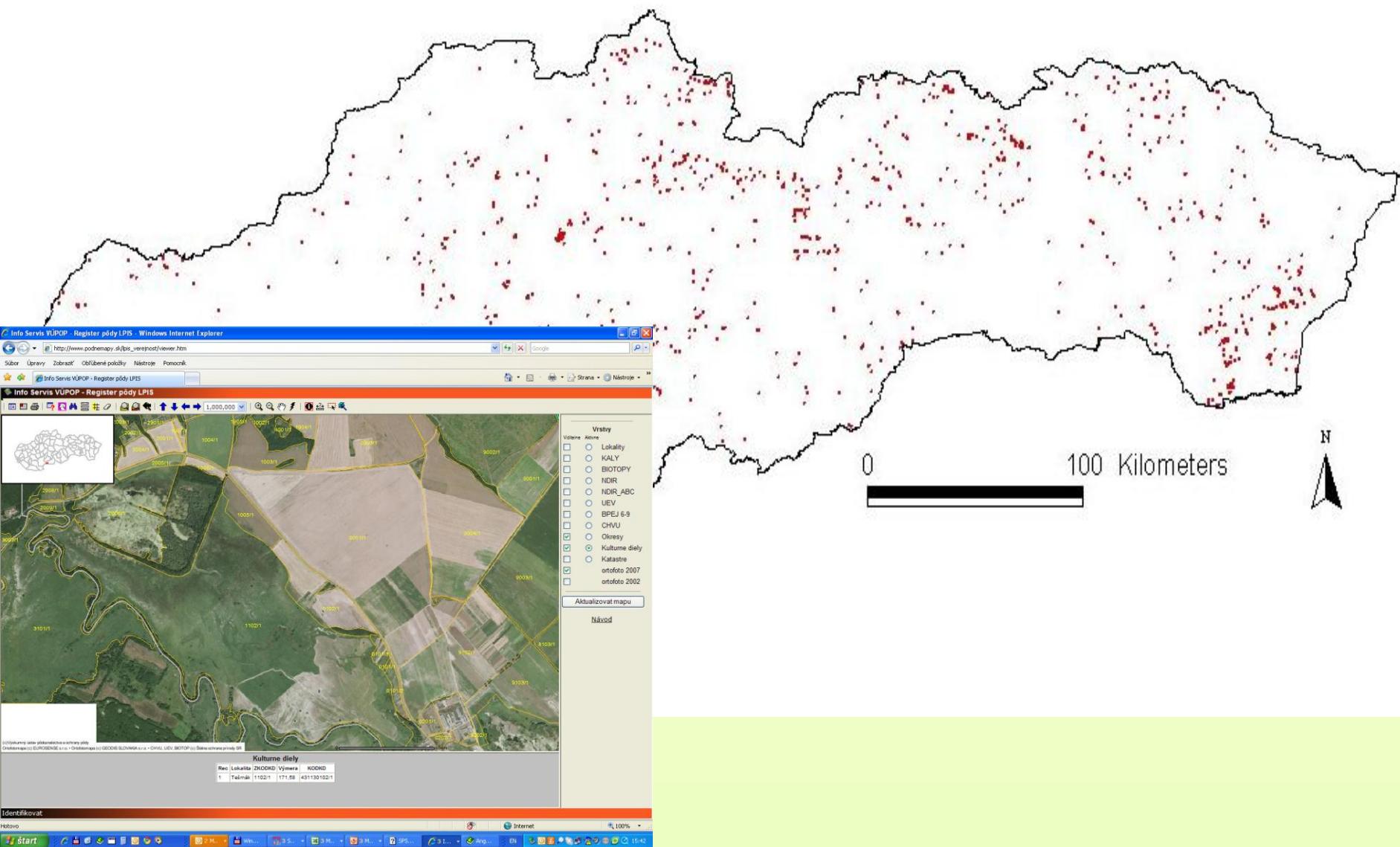
Finally 1185 sites were selected



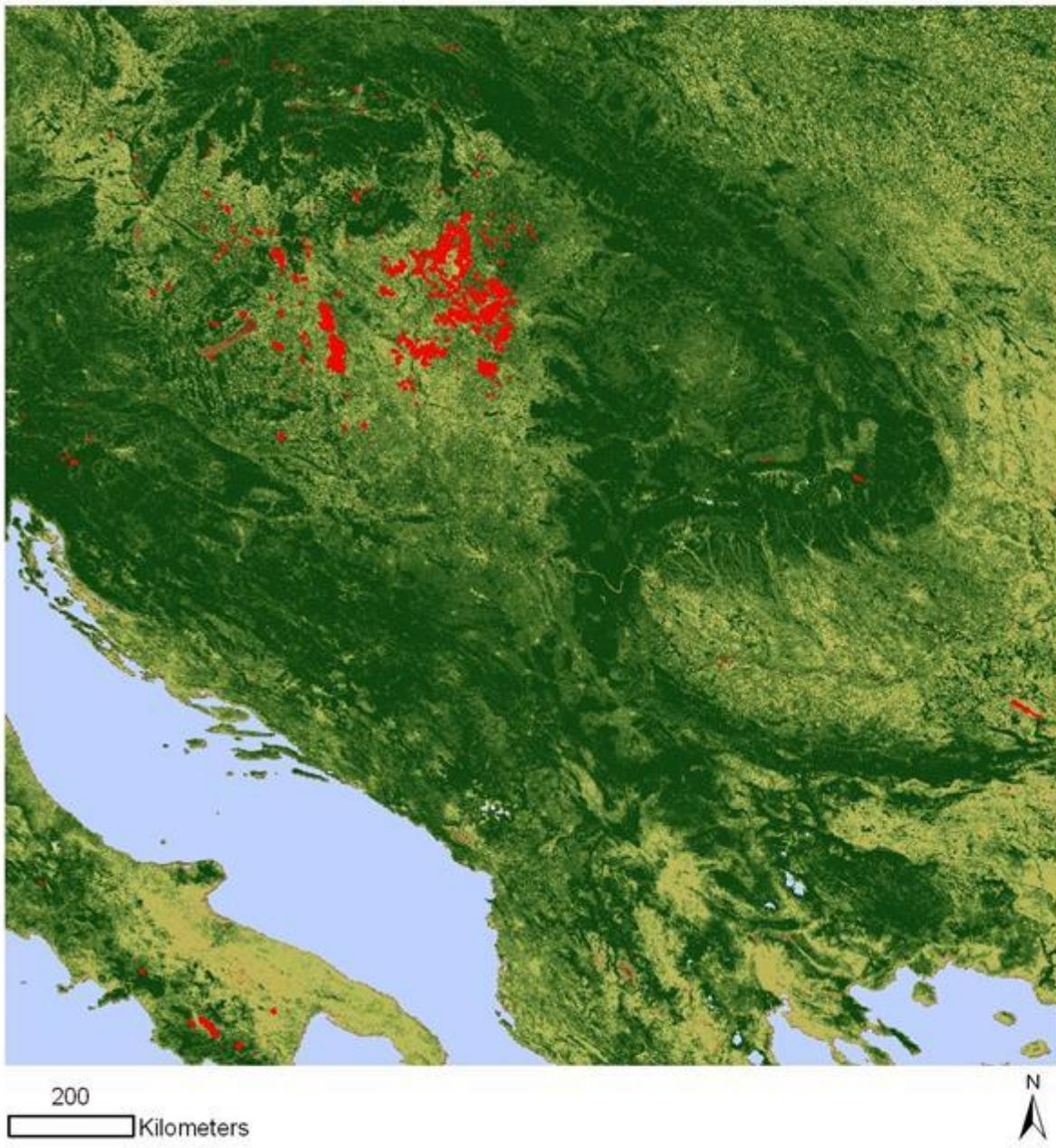
Grassland NATUR

6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	698.23
6170 Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	986.05
6230 * Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)	794.17
6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	15.99
6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	703.56
6440 Alluvial meadows of river valleys of the Cnidion dubii	154.57
6510 Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>)	2291.9
6520 Mountain hay meadows	69.29

3758 pure pixels were selected



Study area: MODIS tile grid h19v4



EEA data set

Habitat code	Description	Count
N11	Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	1
N07	Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	22
N09	Dry grassland, Steppes	79
N25	Grassland and scrub habitats (general)	2
N10	Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	8
N14	Improved grassland	6
N03	Salt marshes, Salt pastures, Salt steppes	75

Total N2000 sites 193

Total 250*250m pixels 32200

- More than 80% of grassland habitats in N2000 site
- Random sampling
- 2830 selected for the study
- Wetlands and grasslands

PCA

- searching for the most informative periods in time series
- selection of the components of particular interest (mapping approaches)

Rotated Component Matrix

	Component				
	1	2	3	4	5
D071117	9.032E-02	7.474E-02	.225	4.694E-02	.806
D071203	-2.57E-02	.336	-.206	.116	.681
D071219	.117	.539	-4.99E-02	9.671E-02	.424
D080101	.273	.156	.195	-1.16E-02	.113
D080117	8.969E-02	.214	4.089E-02	2.065E-03	4.919E-02
D080202	-4.55E-02	.481	-.213	.115	.415
D080218	.222	.788	.143	8.155E-02	.181
D080305	.306	.790	.274	.120	3.146E-02
D080321	.147	.850	.228	.155	1.950E-02
D080405	-7.88E-02	.862	.126	.250	6.386E-02
D080422	-.193	.673	3.880E-02	.421	.188
D080508	1.635E-02	.397	.137	.750	.141
D080524	.181	.242	6.676E-02	.833	.107
D080609	.404	.177	.202	.760	-1.23E-02
D080625	.945	4.391E-02	7.841E-02	-3.50E-02	9.651E-03
D080711	.899	8.416E-03	8.659E-02	.105	2.713E-04
D080721	.945	4.391E-02	7.841E-02	-3.50E-02	9.651E-03
D080812	.718	8.270E-02	5.720E-02	.414	-6.66E-02
D080828	.900	9.634E-02	.150	2.410E-02	6.679E-02
D080913	.883	9.081E-02	.224	9.953E-02	2.616E-02
D080929	.782	5.289E-02	.290	.164	4.134E-02
D081015	.738	8.263E-02	.410	.235	.108
D081031	.561	.131	.635	.223	9.138E-02
D081116	.322	.222	.853	.125	-1.68E-02
D081202	.322	.222	.853	.125	-1.68E-02

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 9 iterations.

Harmonic analysis

-decomposes a time dependent periodic phenomenon into a series of sinusoidal functions,

defined by unique amplitude and phase values

-Permits a complex curve to be expressed as the sum of a series of cosine waves (terms)

and additive terms

-Amplitude – half the height of the wave

-Phase – offset between the origin and the peak

-Per pixel basis

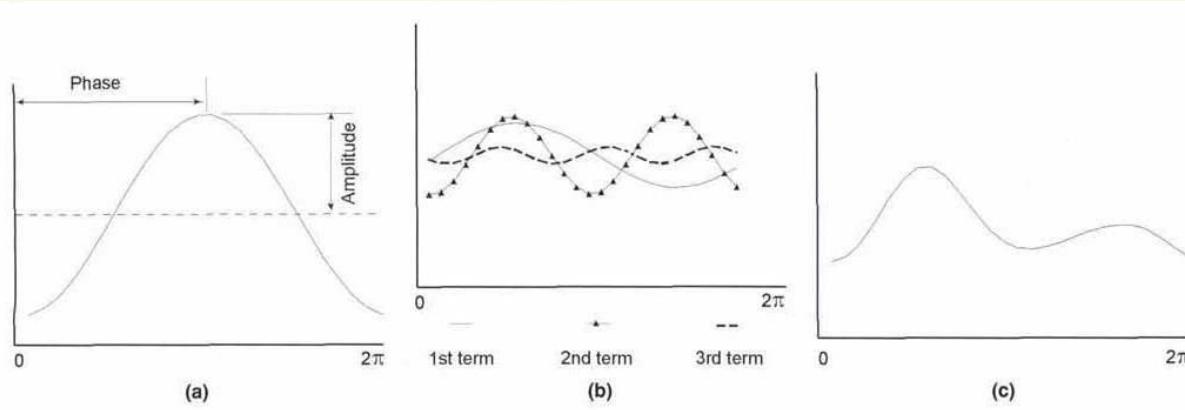
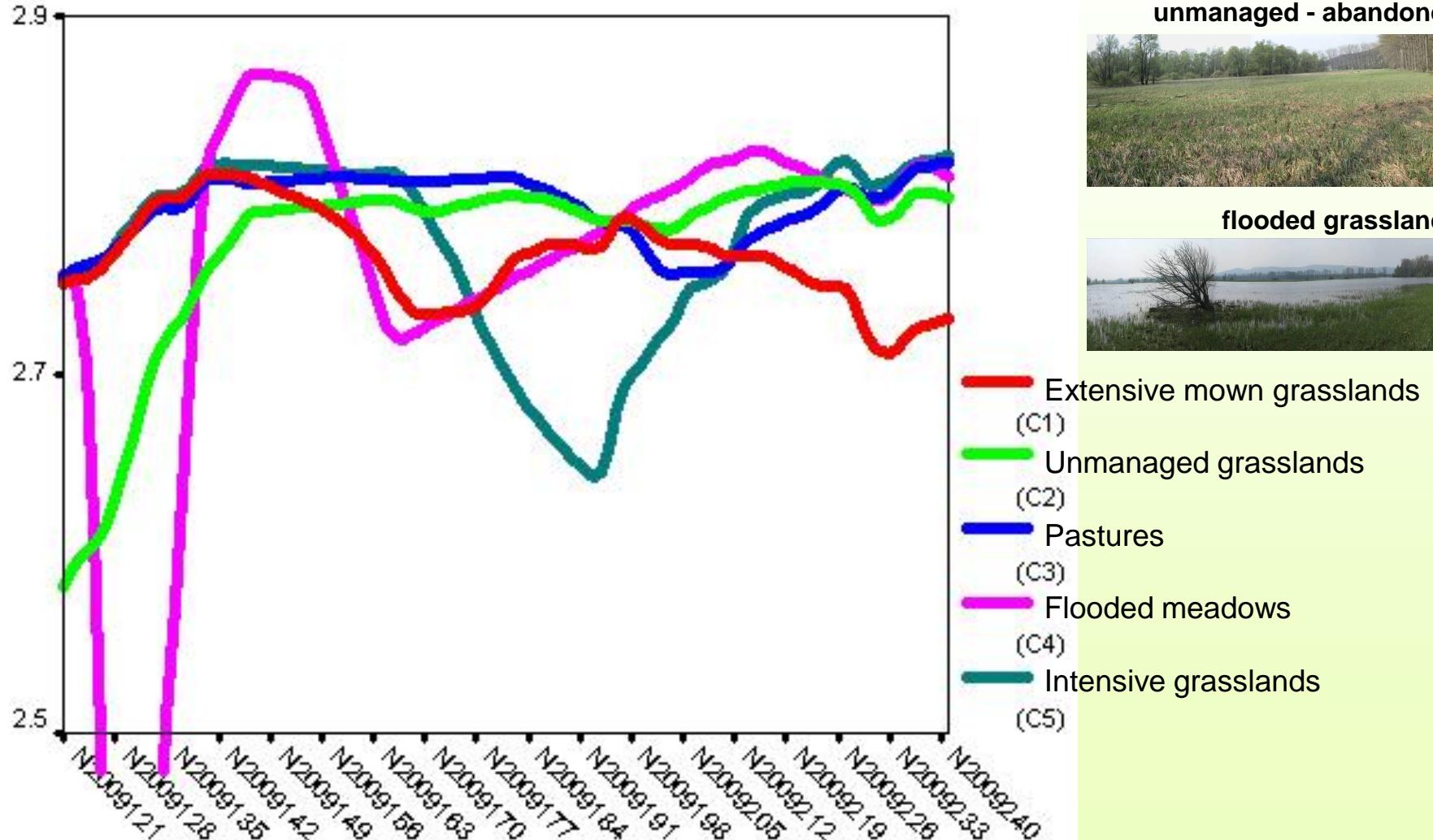


Figure 1. (a) Simple cosine curve representative of the first harmonic. (b) Curves for harmonic terms 1, 2, and 3. (c) Sum of curves in Figure 1b.

Jakubauskas et al., 2001

Classification of BHC grasslands

- Based on within season variability and course of NDVI profile



Intensive grasslands

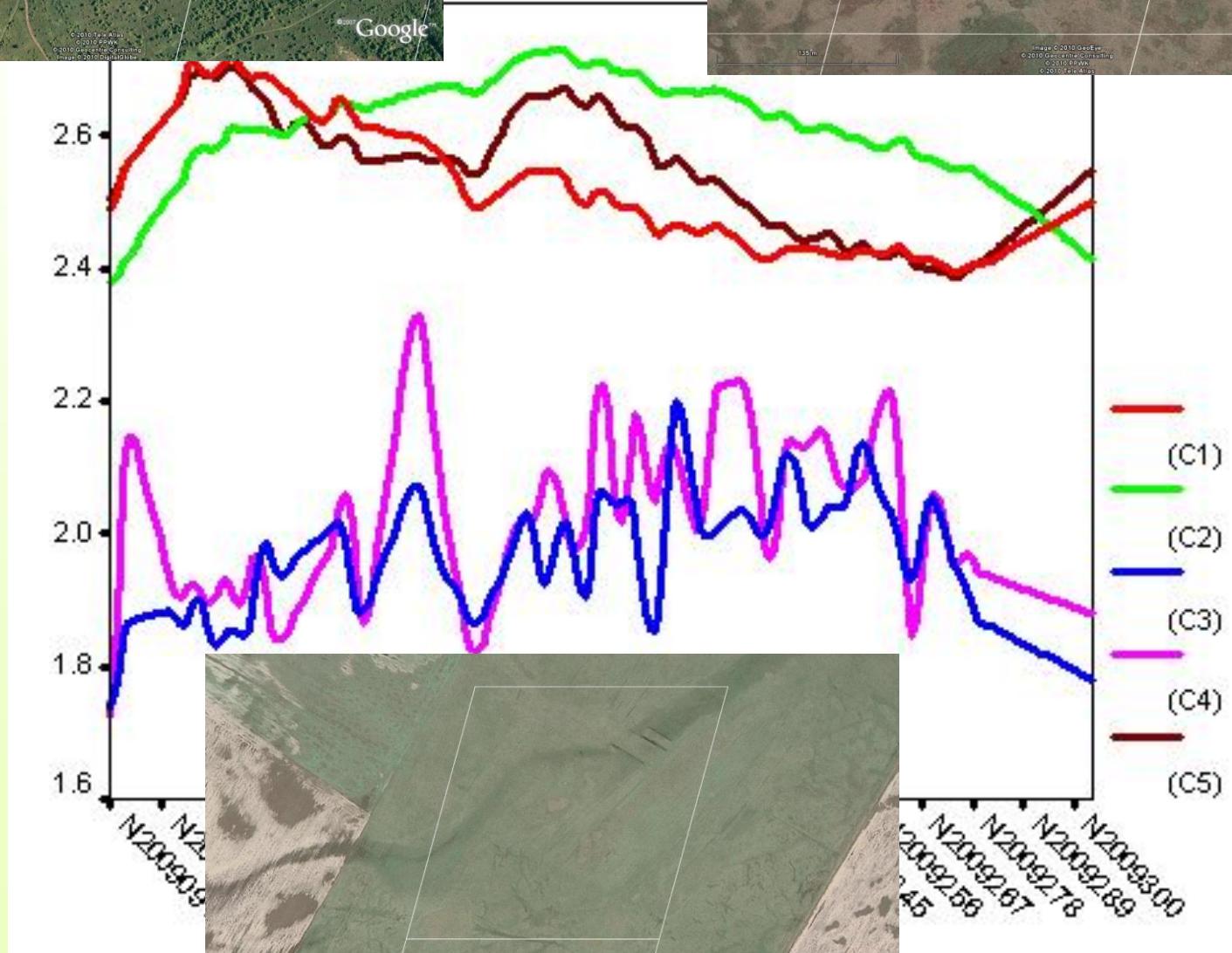


unmanaged - abandoned



flooded grasslands

of Panno



3. Detection of grassland management



Alluvial flooded meadows

Extensive grasslands-cut meadows



Intensive grasslands-pastures

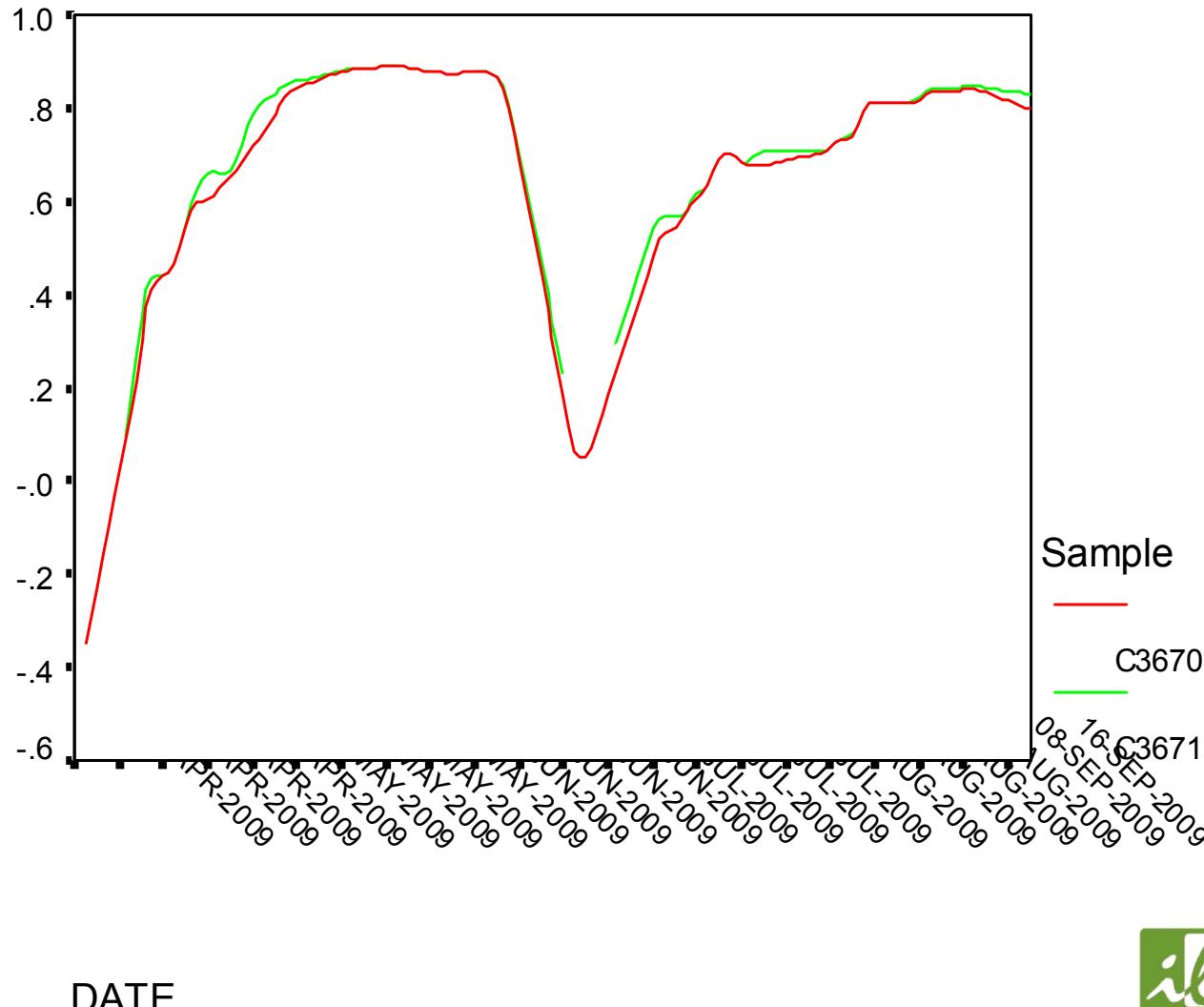




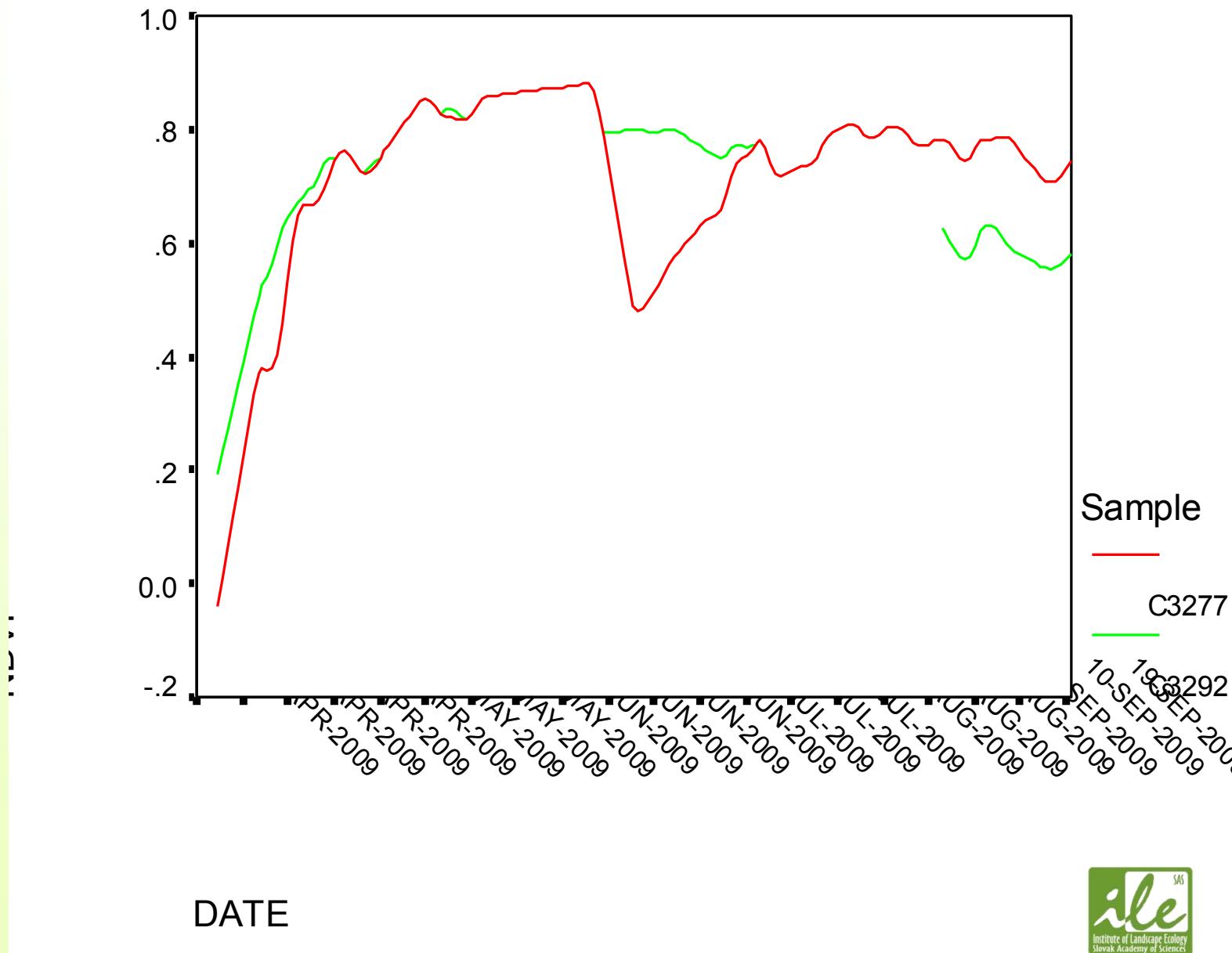
Unmanaged grasslands



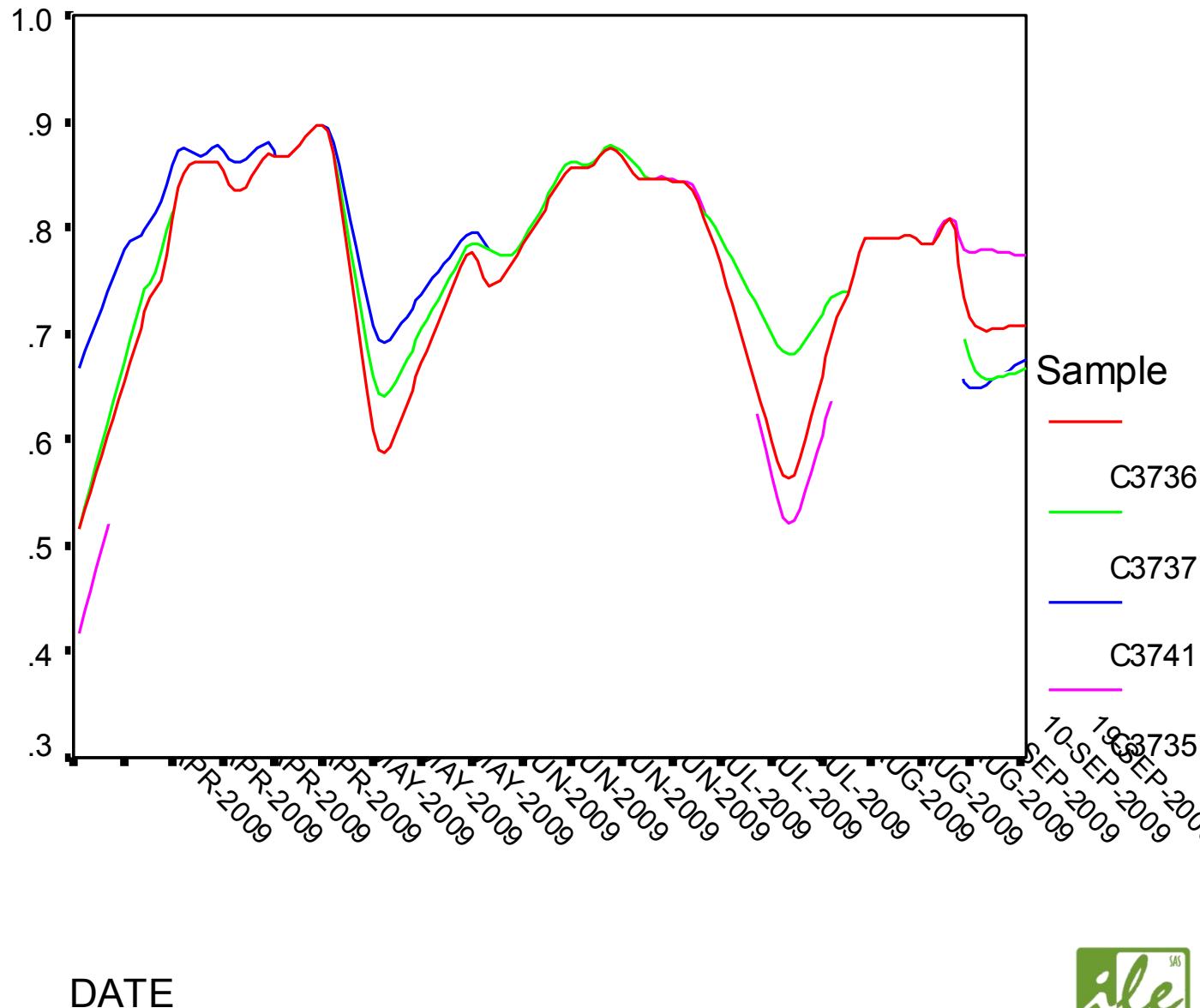
Morava river – flood meadows



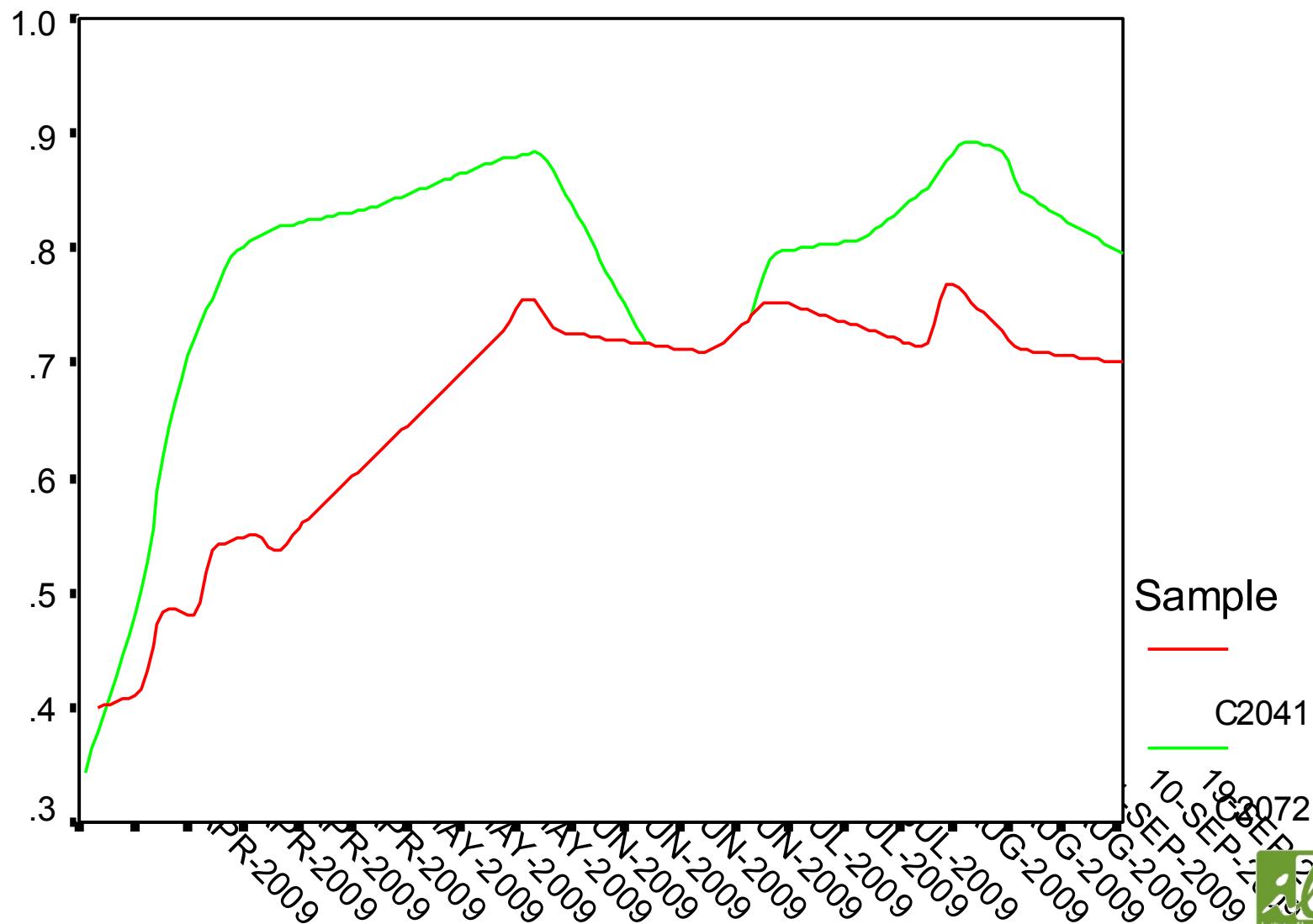
Latorica river – cut vs. uncut meadows



Intensive meadows



Telgárt – managed vs. abandoned

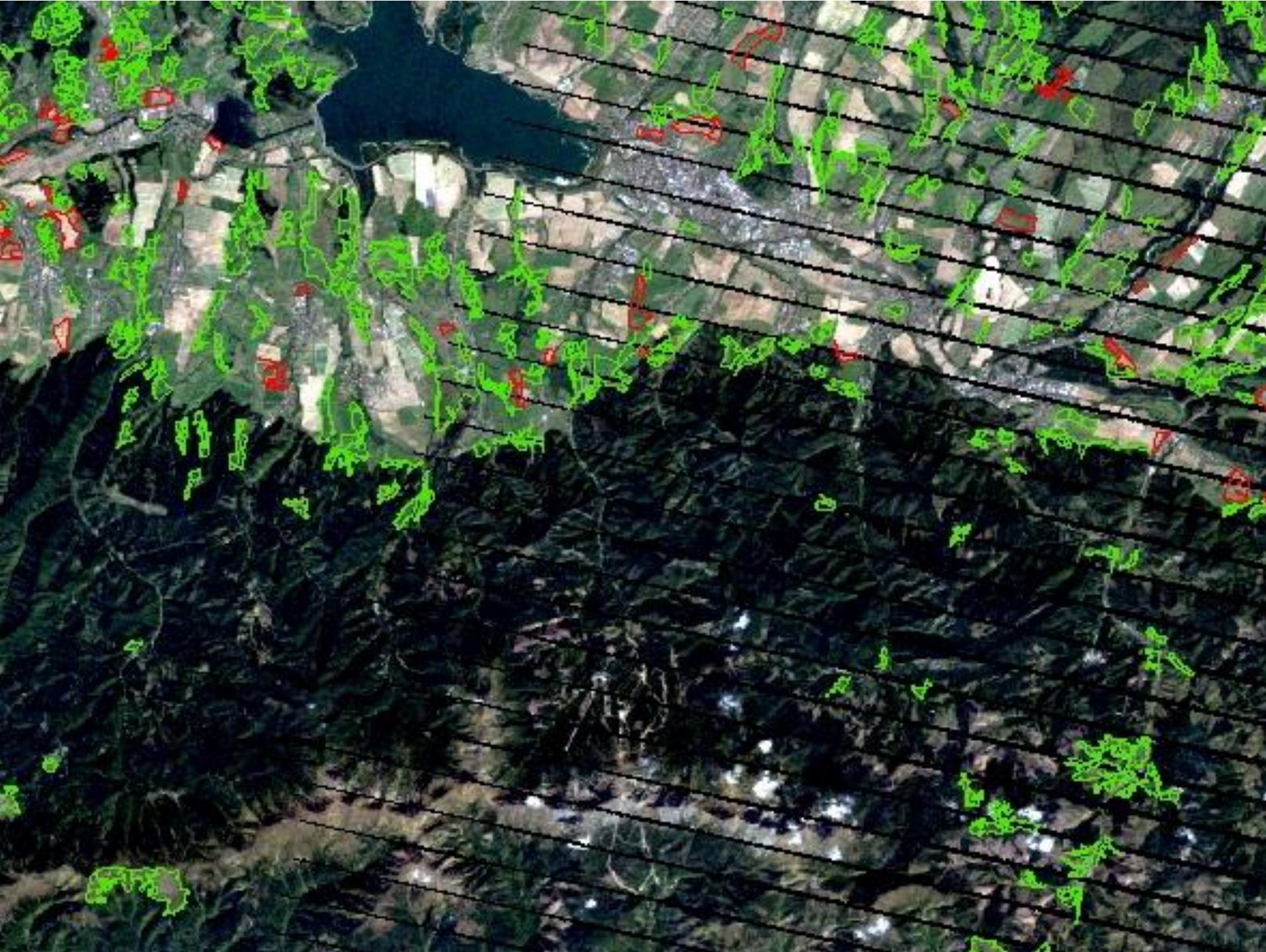


Cutting of hay meadows



TFA



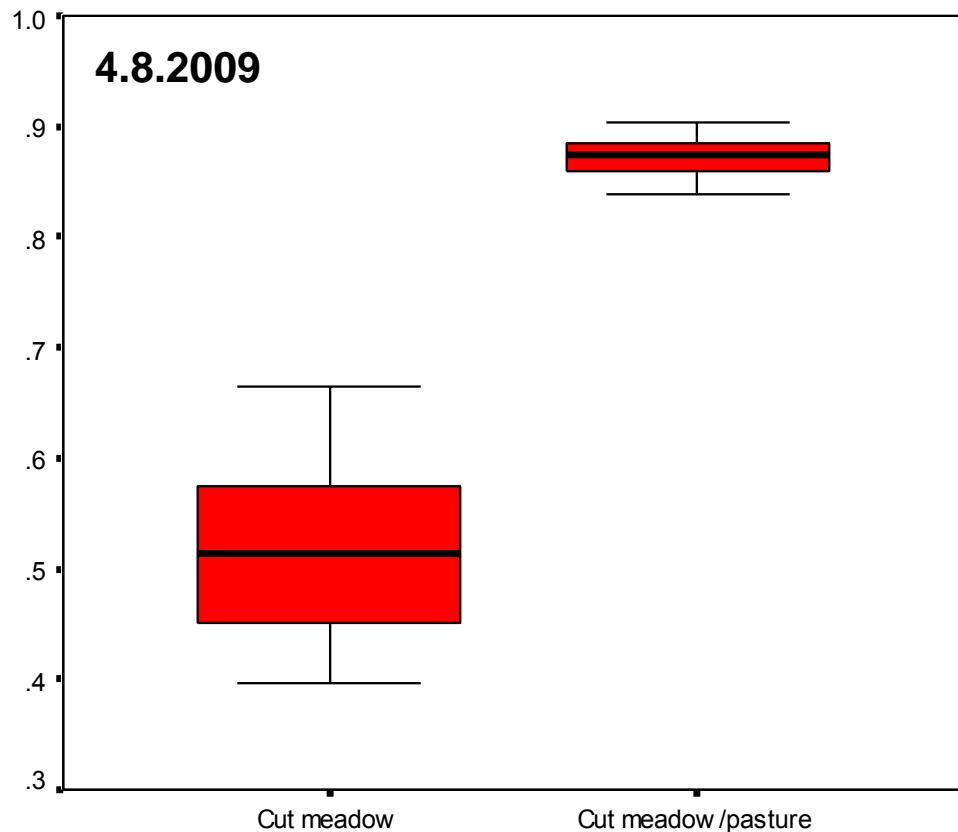




0 25 50 100 Kilometers



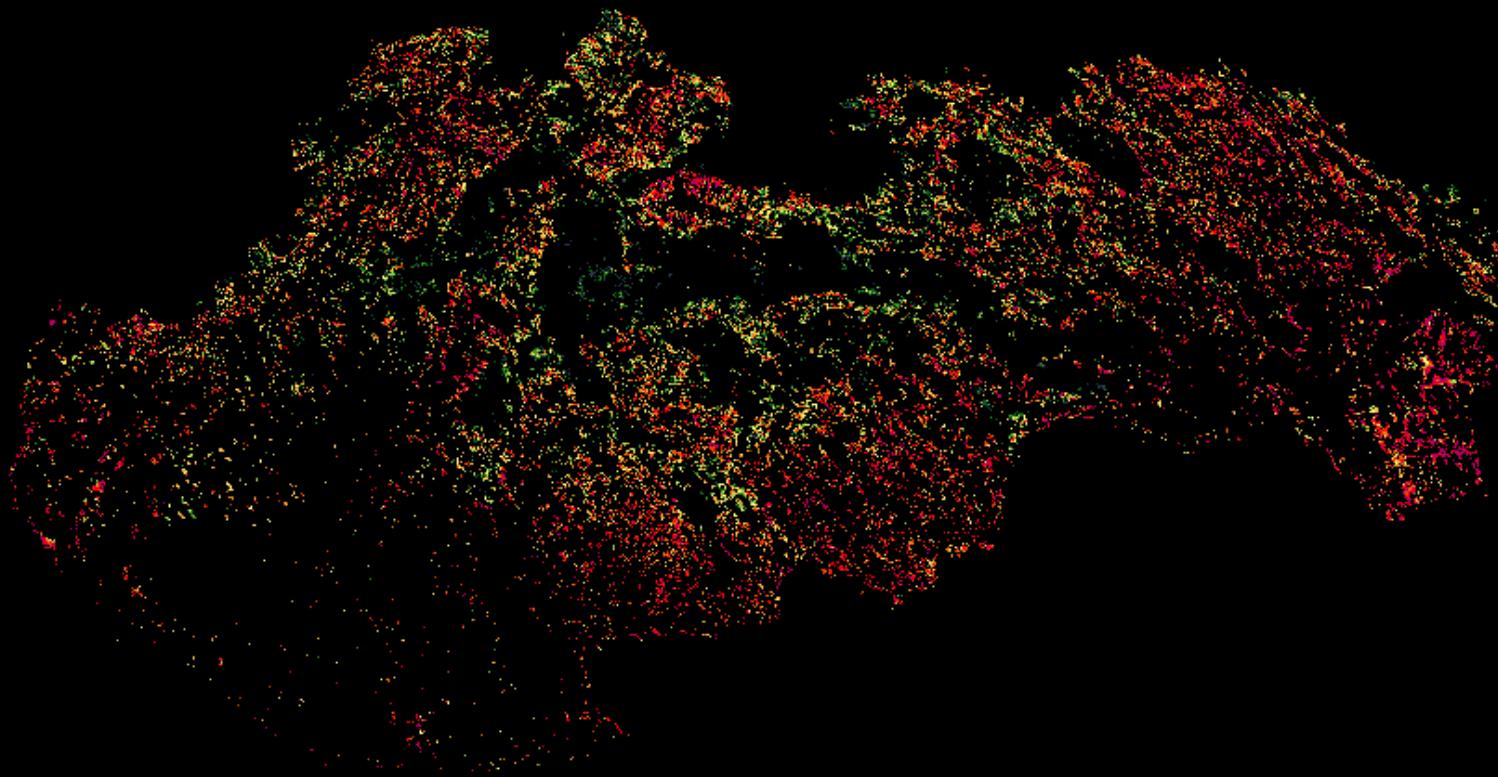
Study site Ipel valey



Cutting of hay meadows

- Mainly remote and mountainous areas
- Further analysis needed including socioeconomic data
- Possible consequences – predictive modelling

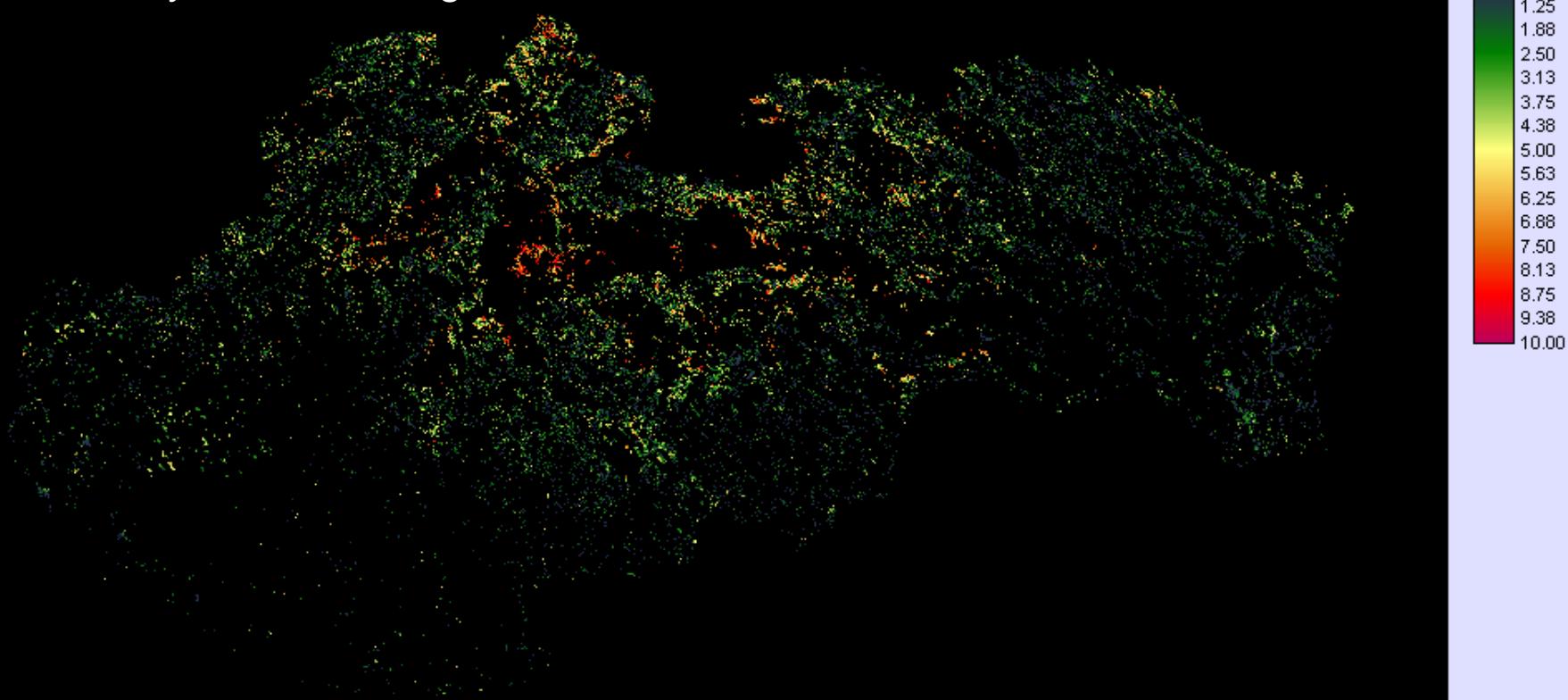
Number of years managed from 2001 - 2010



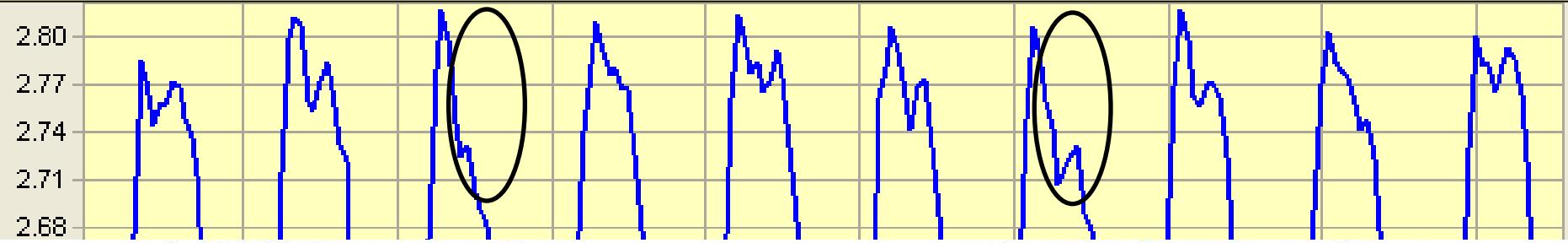
Cutting of hay meadows

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Number of years unmanaged from 2001 - 2010

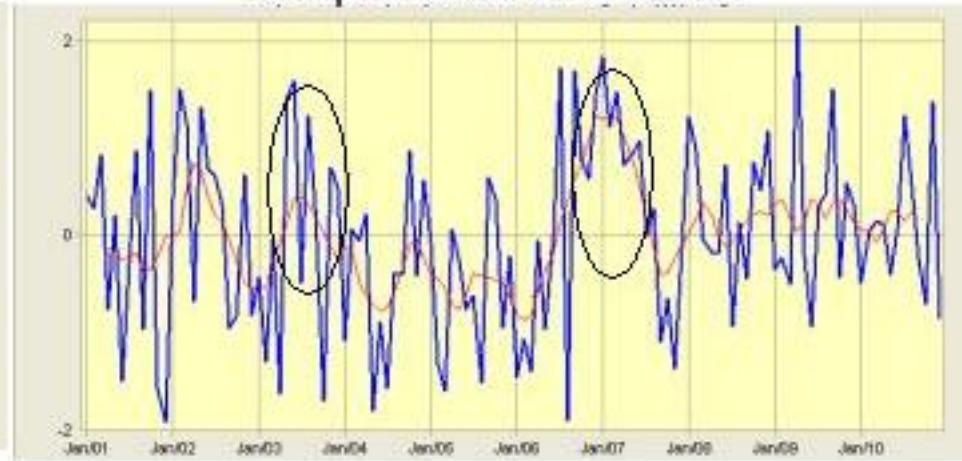
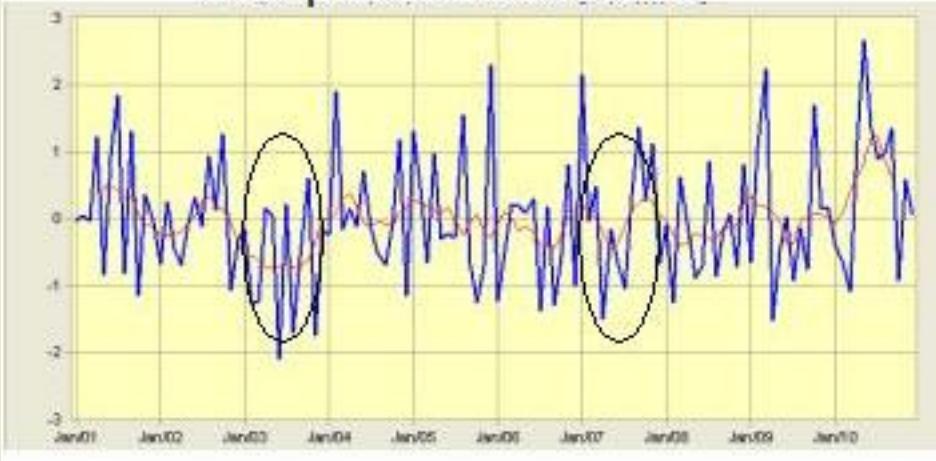


Interaction with climate variability

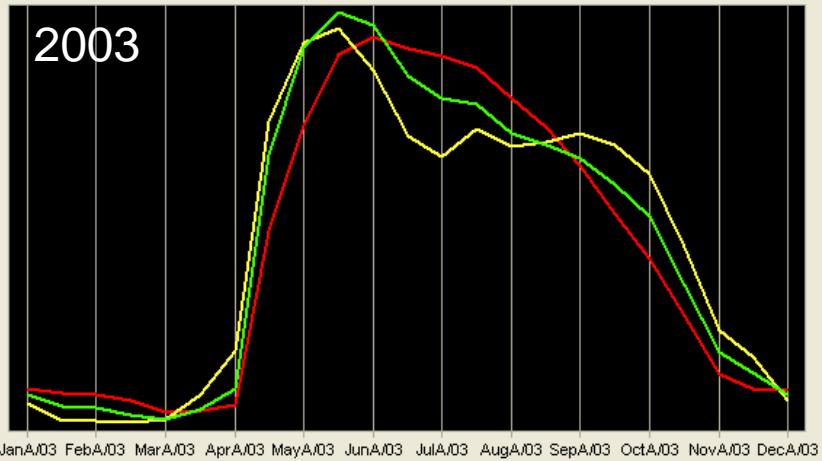


Precipitation anomalies

Temperature anomalies

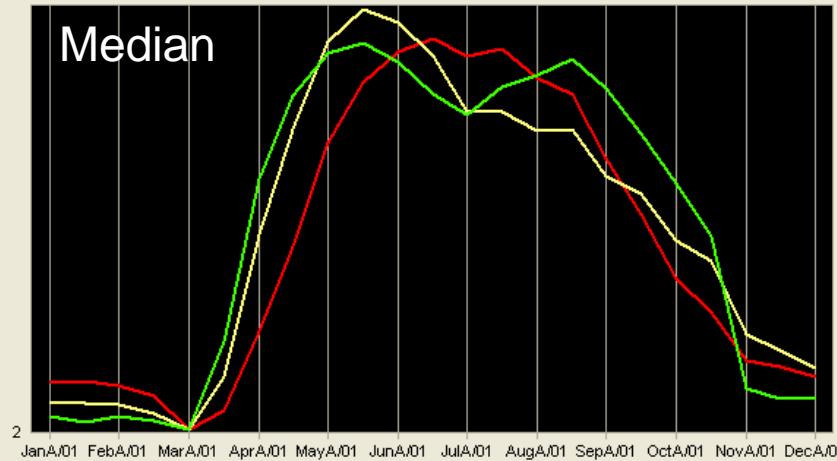


JanA/2001 JanA/2002 JanA/2003 JanA/2004 JanA/2005 JanA/2006 JanA/2007 JanA/2008 JanA/2009 JanA/2010



- Sample 1
- Sample 2
- Sample 3

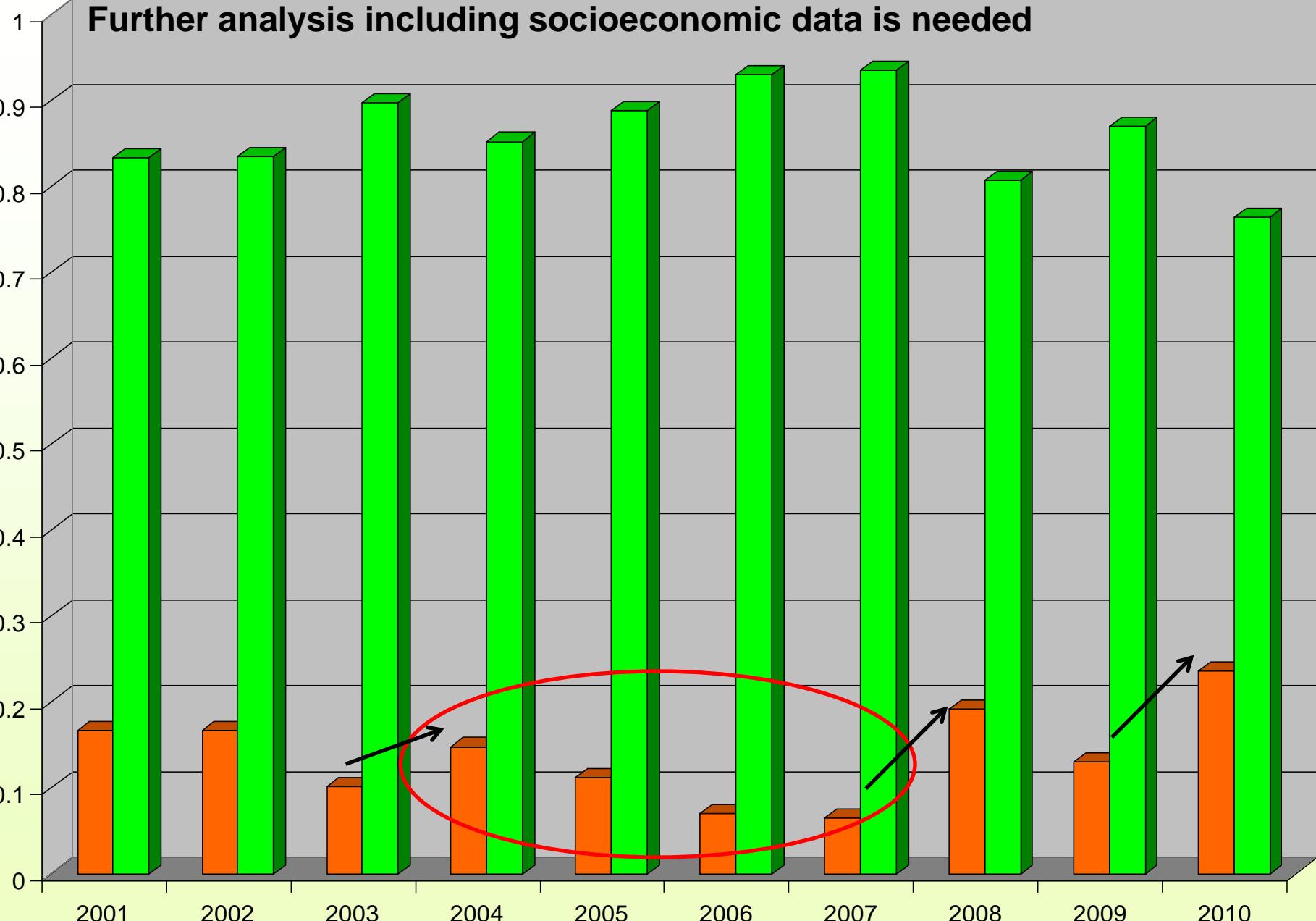
Median



JanA/01 FebA/01 MarA/01 AprA/01 MayA/01 JunA/01 JulA/01 AugA/01 SepA/01 OctA/01 NovA/01 DecA/01

unmanaged managed

Further analysis including socioeconomic data is needed



Current and future research focus

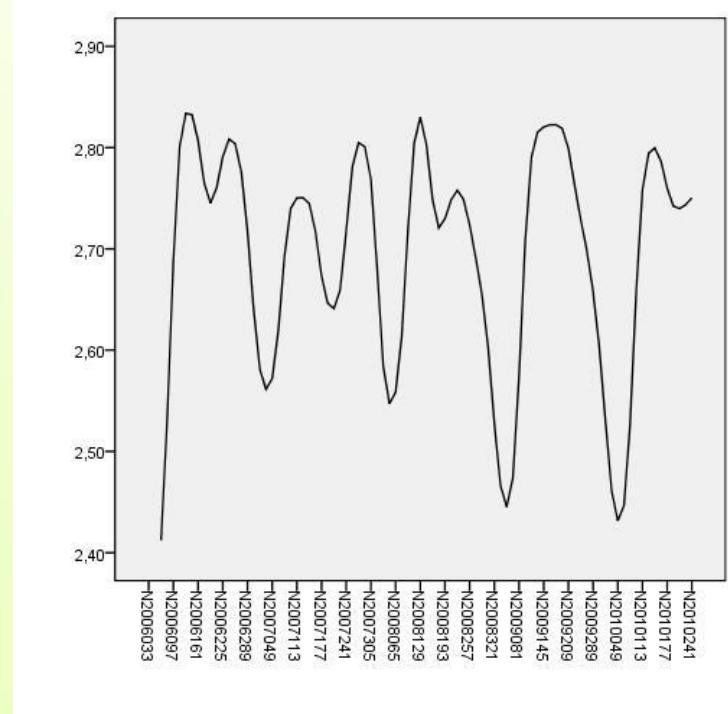
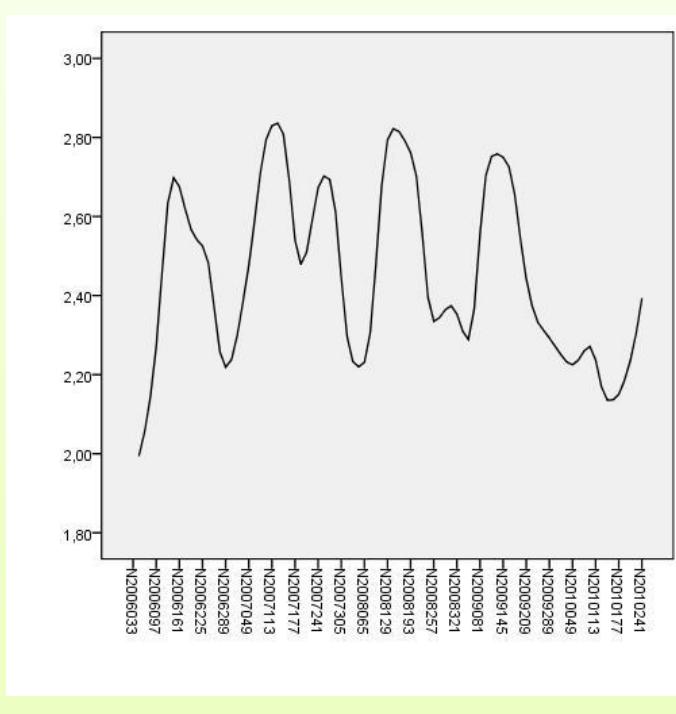
- Optimal filtering of MODIS series for grassland studies
- How to gather the samples for training and validation (Landsat,...)
- Set up of broad habitat grassland categories
- Regional dependent signatures of grasslands

Current and future research focus

- Classification in different landscapes with different agricultural practices (Austria, Hungary, Czech rep.)
- Early season estimates
- Testing of consistent classification methods allowing quarterly crop monitoring
- Optimization and minimalization of field training
- Optimal dates for classification (Landsat)
- Data fusion (prediction of Landsat NDVI series)

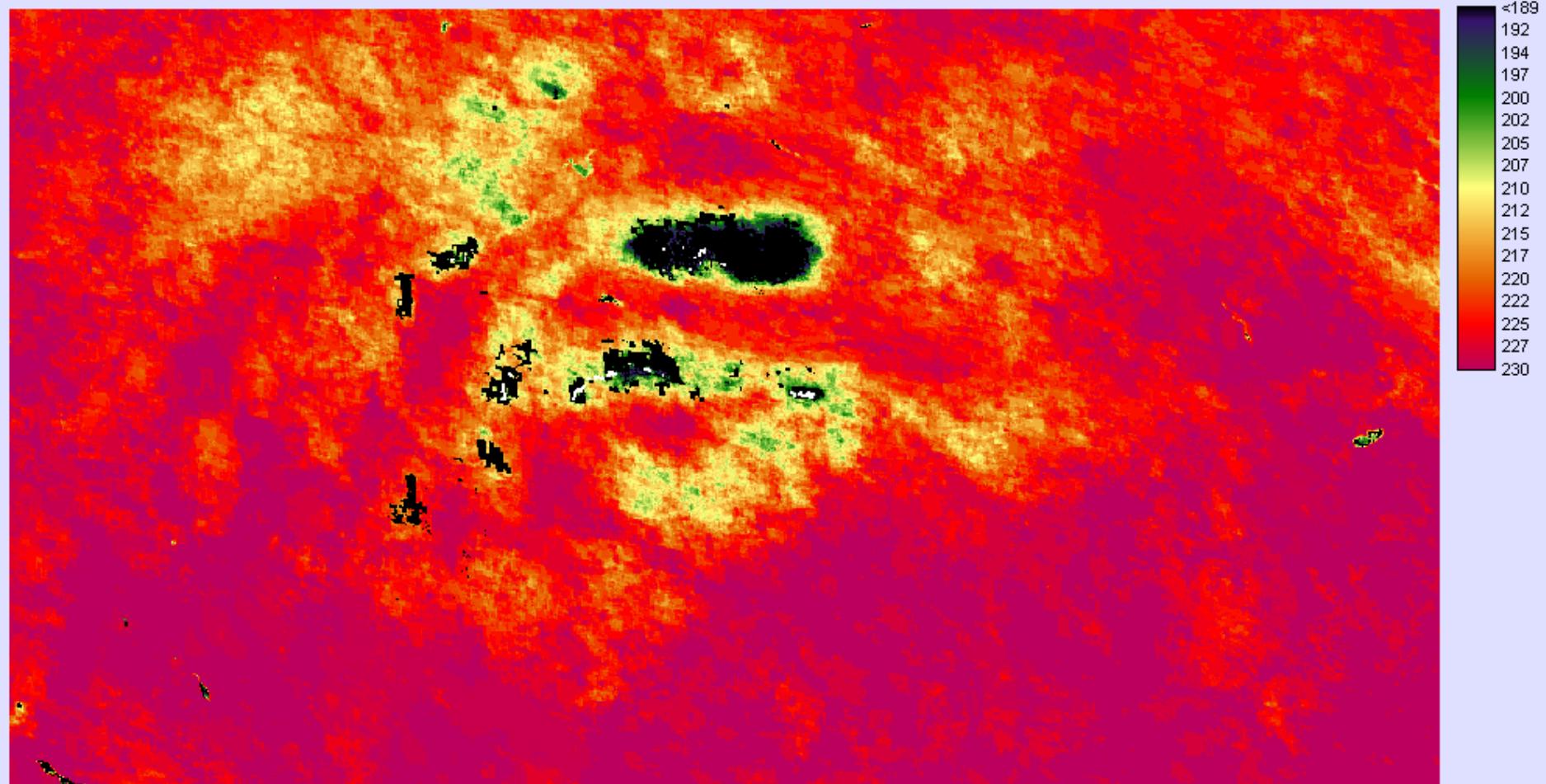
4. Analysis of changes

- Change detection
- Assessments of trends
- Within season and interseason variability
- LSP



Limitations for mountains

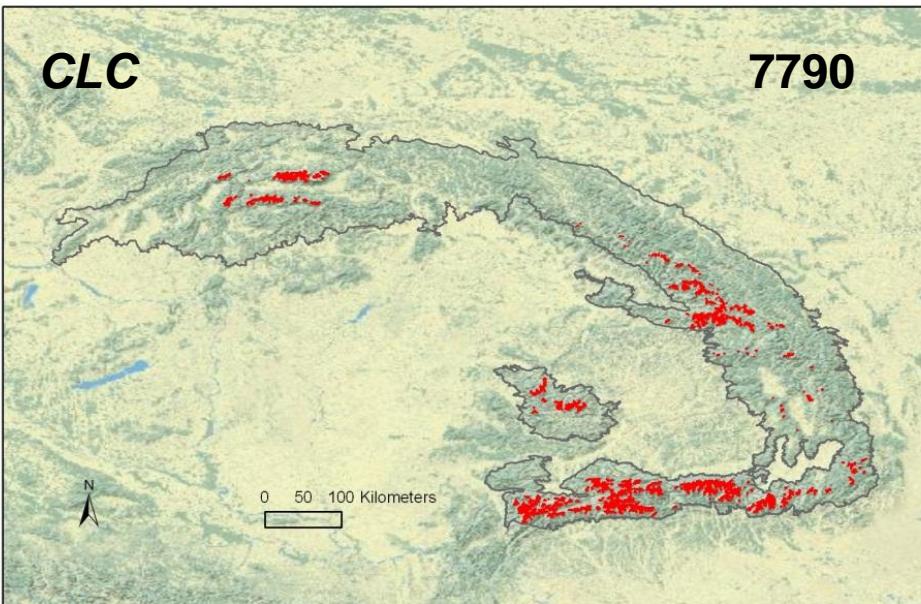
- sharp relief (missing data for sun-target geometry)
- heterogeneity (pixel purity)
- clouds, and shadows (missing data)
- local microclimate vs. regional data available



Selection of mountain grasslands

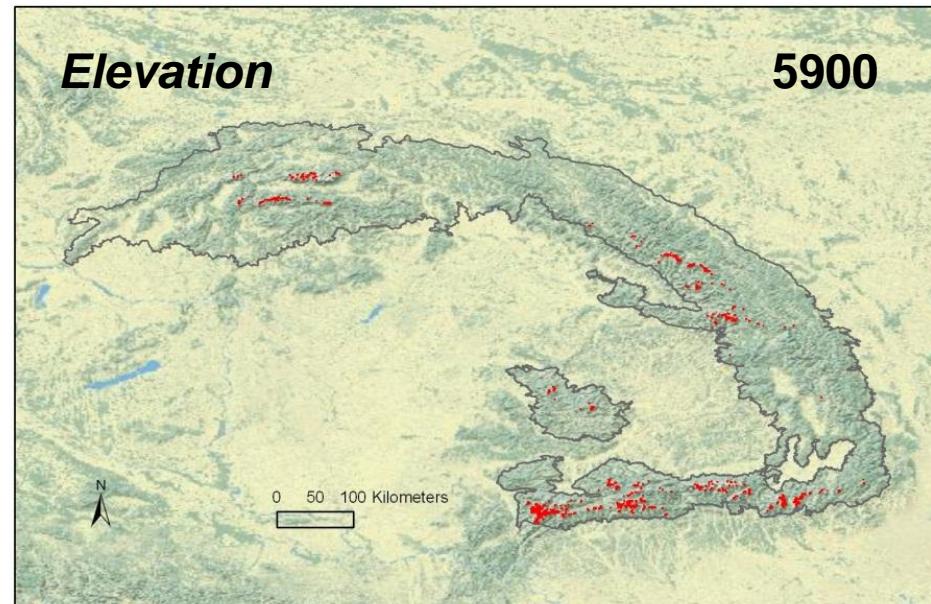
CLC

7790



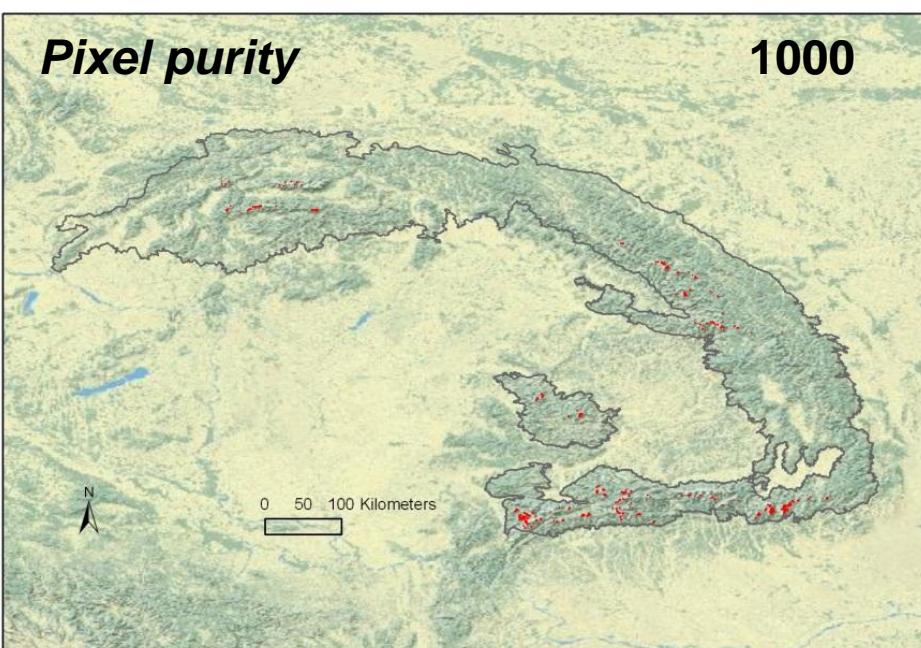
Elevation

5900



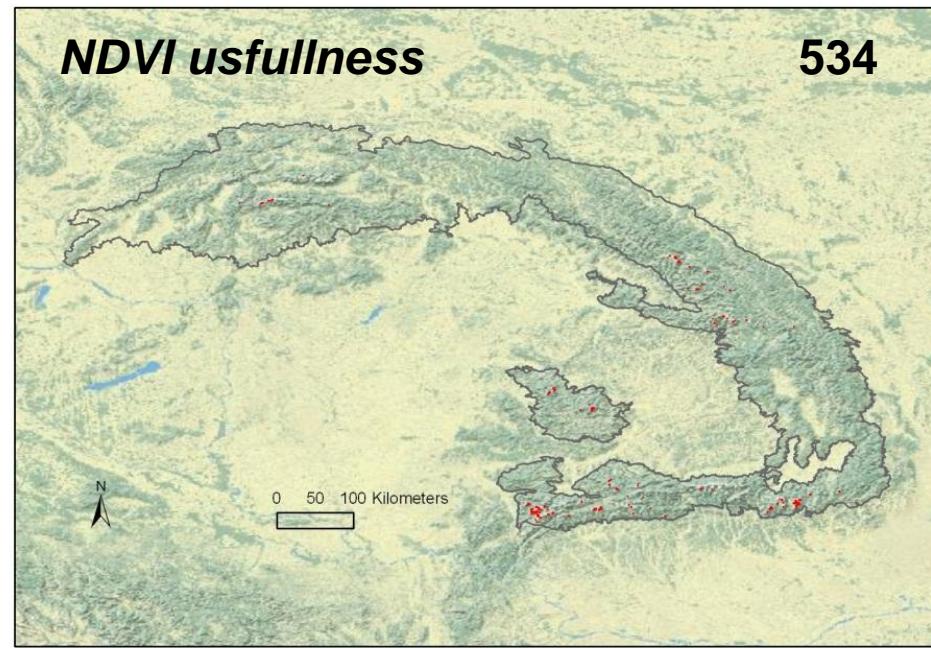
Pixel purity

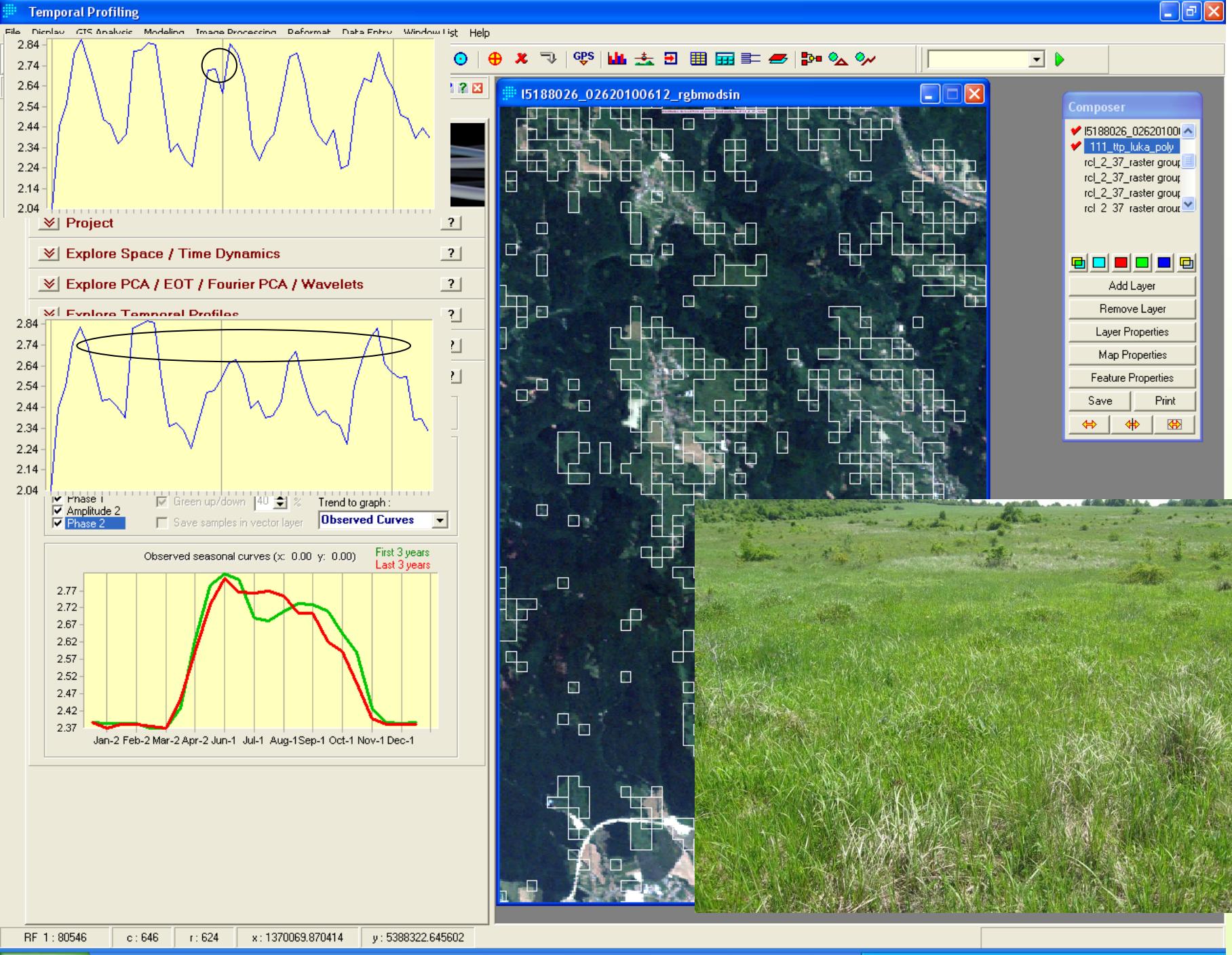
1000



NDVI usefulness

534

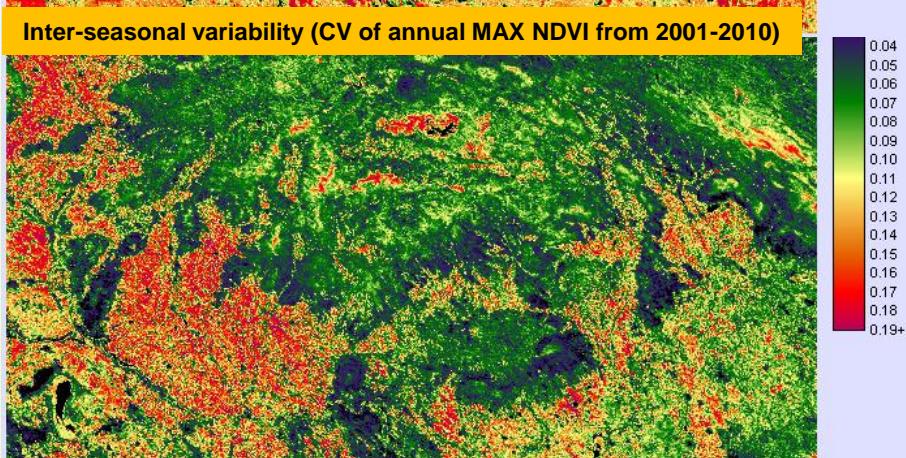
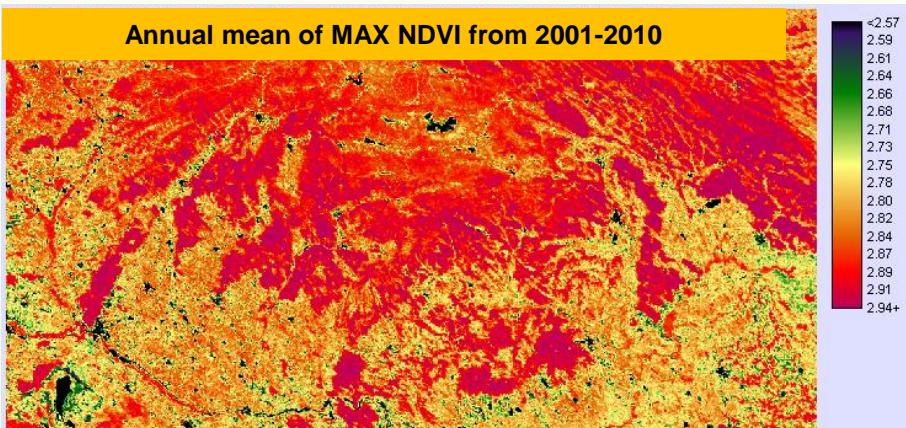




Future development: From land cover change to land cover dynamics

Land cover dynamics

- characterized by seasonal and inter-seasonal variability of vegetation greenness
- reflected in dynamic change of SI signal



- Response to increasing availability of SI
- Increasing temporal resolution (LDCM, Sentinel2,...)

Result:

- multitemporal and time series based land cover classification and land cover dynamics analysis
- time series analysis of vegetation greenness (NDVI)

