

# **AI-Enhanced Multisensor Flood Detection: Integrating Sentinel-1 & Sentinel-2 for Disaster Management**

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## Motivation and context

- Remote sensing offers powerful tools for environmental monitoring, yet traditional flood detection techniques face limitations in cloud obstructed scenarios or other scenarios that could give false positive results<sup>[2]</sup>:
  - Wet soils, sandbanks, reflective coastal areas, recently irrigated fields, etc.
- According with IPCC<sup>[1]</sup>, it is increasing frequency and intensity of floods with high confidence of robust evidence, due to anthropogenic climate change



## Aim and research question

- To design, implement, and evaluate an AI-enhanced flood detection system that integrates Copernicus's Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 imagery for accurate and scalable flood mapping in disaster areas
- How can the integration of SAR and optical imagery improve flood detection performance compared to single-source approaches?
- How can model interpretability and generalization across regions be ensured?



## First step - AOI definition

- **Log-Gaussian Cox Process for proxy model for hotspots detection**
- $P(X | Z(x)) \sim$  no homogenous Poisson with intensity  $\exp(Z(x))$
- Variables:

- Accumulated precipitation, e.g.  $\frac{>30mm}{h} = \frac{\frac{30l}{m^2}}{h}$  (real-time monitoring), relative height
- Digital Elevation Models: Slopes and curvature (concave spaces and slope measure)
- Height Above Nearest Drainage (HAND)
- NDVI (less vegetation, less filtration), land coverage from official data, NDWI
- SAR Interferometry of coherence and intensity

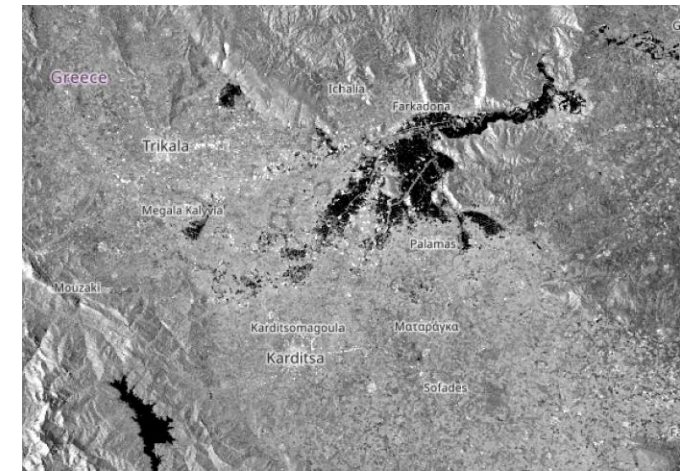
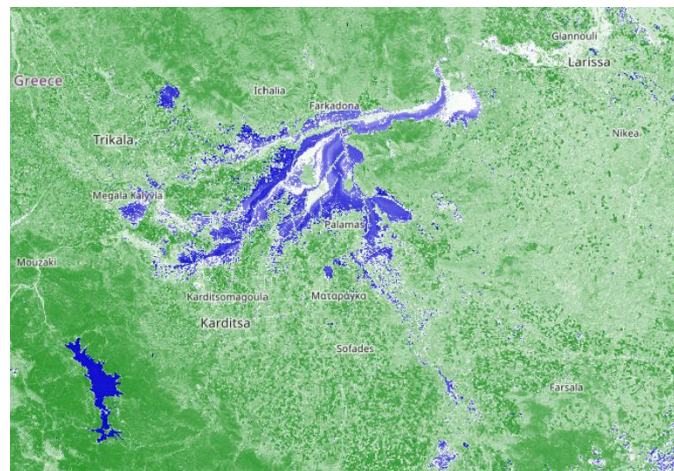
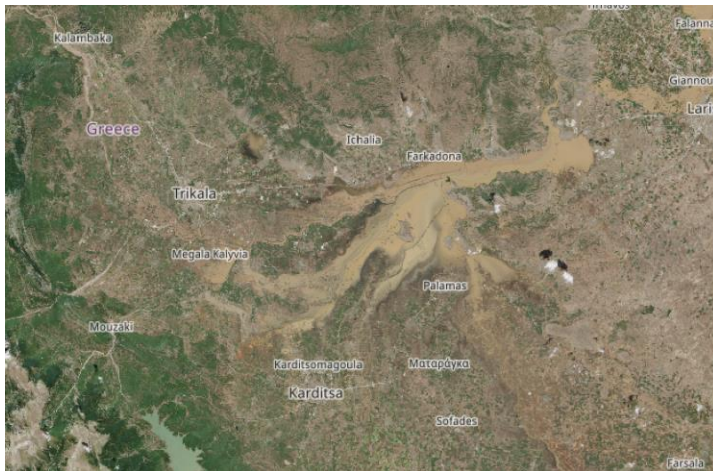
$$\bullet \quad Z(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot HAND(x) + \beta_2 \cdot NDVI(x) + \omega(X) + \dots$$

**If high probability, then...**



# Flood in Central Greece, September 10, 2023

- Source. Copernicus Sentinel 1 and Sentinel 2

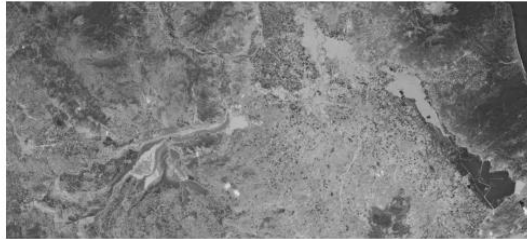


Left to right. S2 True color, S2 NDWI, S1 VV decibel Gamma0

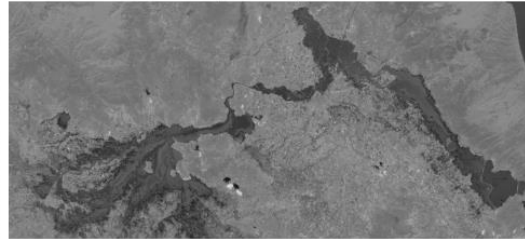


# PCA Analysis – Sentinel 2 bands

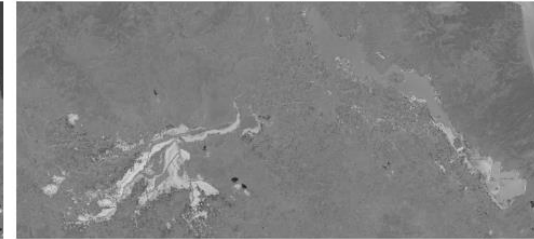
Principal component 1



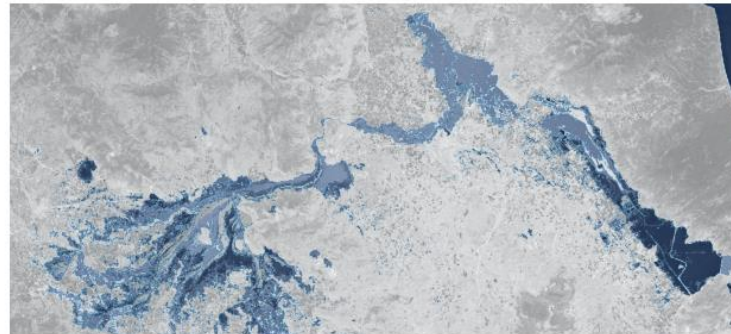
Principal component 2



Principal component 3



Flooded zones (PC < 15)

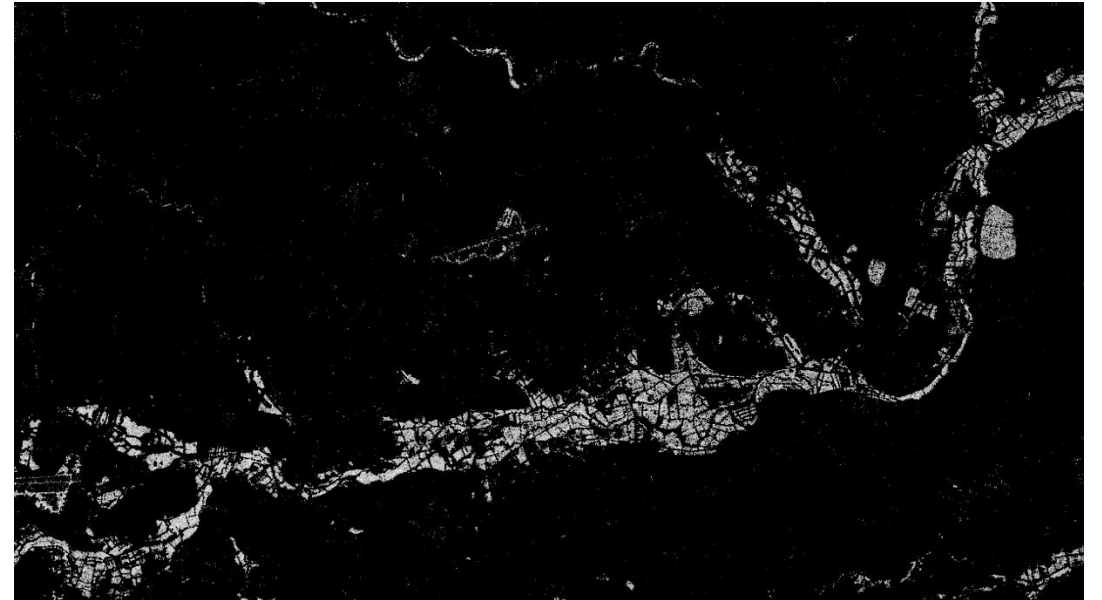






## Sentinel 1 - SAR

- `// Water Surface Roughness Visualization`
- 
- `function setup() {`
- `return {`
- `input: ["VV", "dataMask"],`
- `output: { bands: 4 }`
- `}`
- `}`
- 
- `function evaluatePixel(sample) {`
- `var val = Math.log(0.05/(0.018 + sample.VV*1.5));`
- `return [val, val, val, sample.dataMask];`
- `}`







## Machine Learning Stage

- Desired output:  $c = \{flooded, not-flooded\}$
- $f: a \rightarrow P$
- $a \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n \times b}, P \in [0,1]^{m \times n \times c}$ 
  - $a \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n \times b}$ , denotes a multi-band satellite image of spatial dimension  $m \times n$  and  $b$  spectral bands.
  - $P \in [0,1]^{m \times n \times c}$  represent per-pixel probability distribution}
- PCA Analysis
- Clustering



## References

- [1] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (Ed.). (2023). Water. In Climate Change, 2022 – Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: Working Group II Contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (pp. 551–712). Cambridge University Press;
- [2] Rambour, C., Audebert, N., Koeniguer, E., Le Saux, B., Crucianu, M., & Datcu, M. (2020). FLOOD DETECTION in TIME SERIES of OPTICAL and SAR IMAGES. In International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences—ISPRS Archives (Vol. 43, Issue B2, pp. 1343–1346). <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLIII-B2-20201343-2020>