

Riparian corridors and stream ecological status: relationships and methodologies.

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ECONNECT, Grenoble/Bernin 4-6 november 2009





▶ In memory of J.G. Wasson

- 1. Riparian areas and stream ecological functioning
- 2. Large scale analysis of ecological status (sensu WFD) to land cover in stream corridor
- 3. Future analysis and tools

The Riparian corridor

Key factor of ecological functioning

Morphology

Shelters

Temperature, light

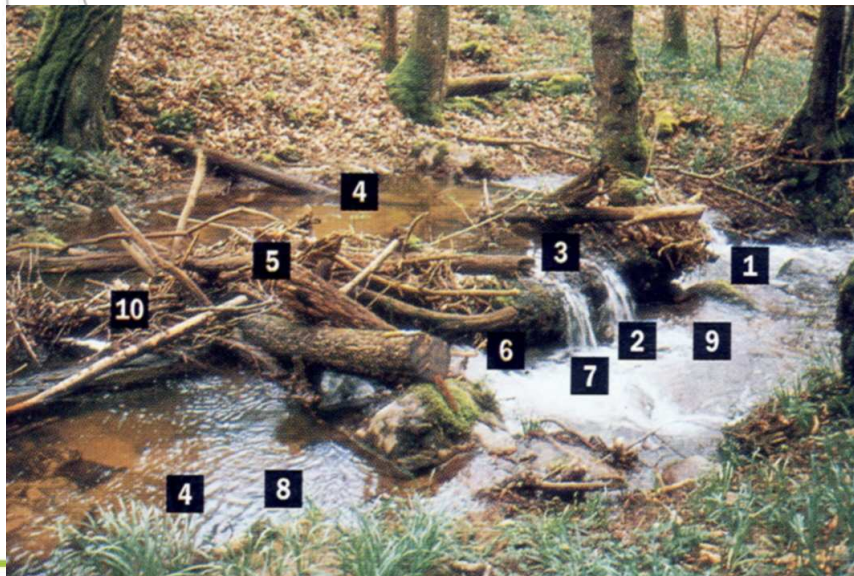
Nutrients

Trophic structure



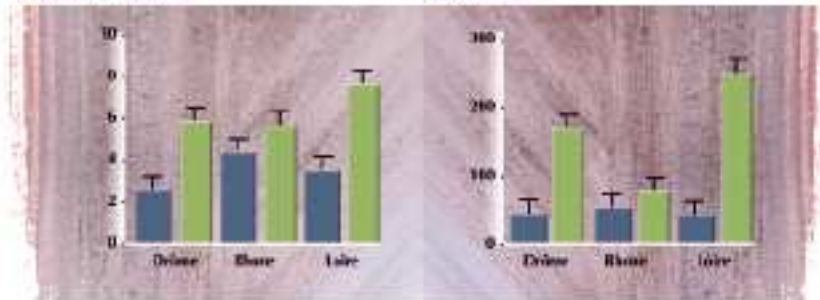
ECONNECT, Grenoble Bernin, 4-6 November 2009

Aquatic habitat Diversification



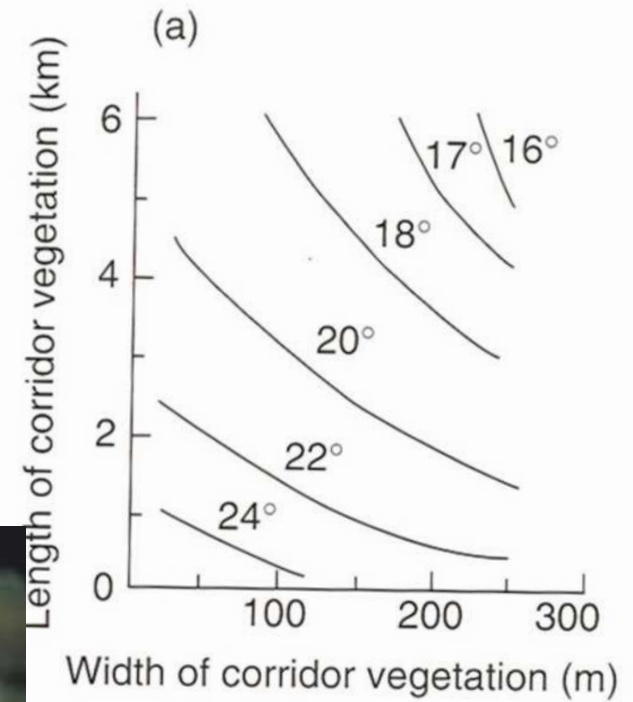
Nombre d'espèces

Abondance



Fish in trees...

Temperature regulation



Water Quality Regulation

- Biochemical processes
Pollutants interception, recycling
 - Protecting buffer zones :
 - **Nitrates**, phosphorus, sediments, **pesticides**
 - **Good agricultural practices already needed!**
 - Purification functions

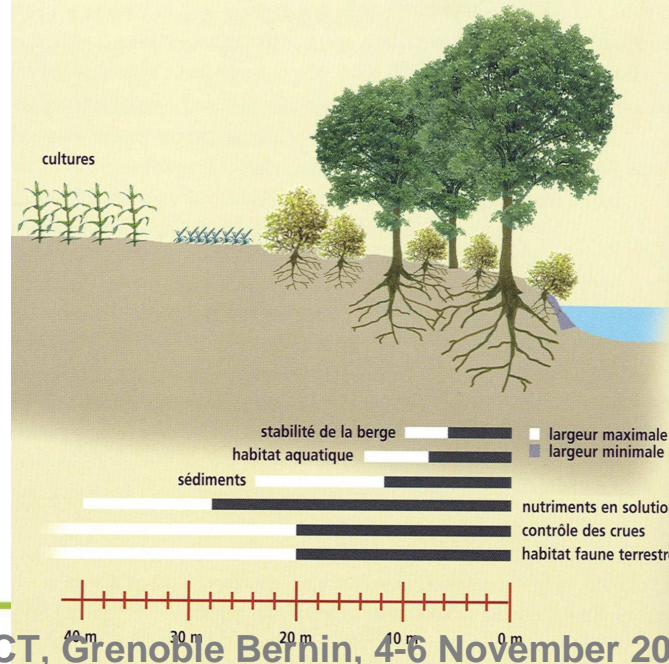
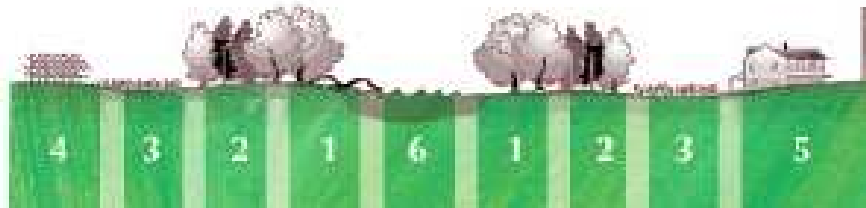


Process optimization



Small brooks make large rivers...

Protect headwaters



**Corridors with
2 to 3 bands**

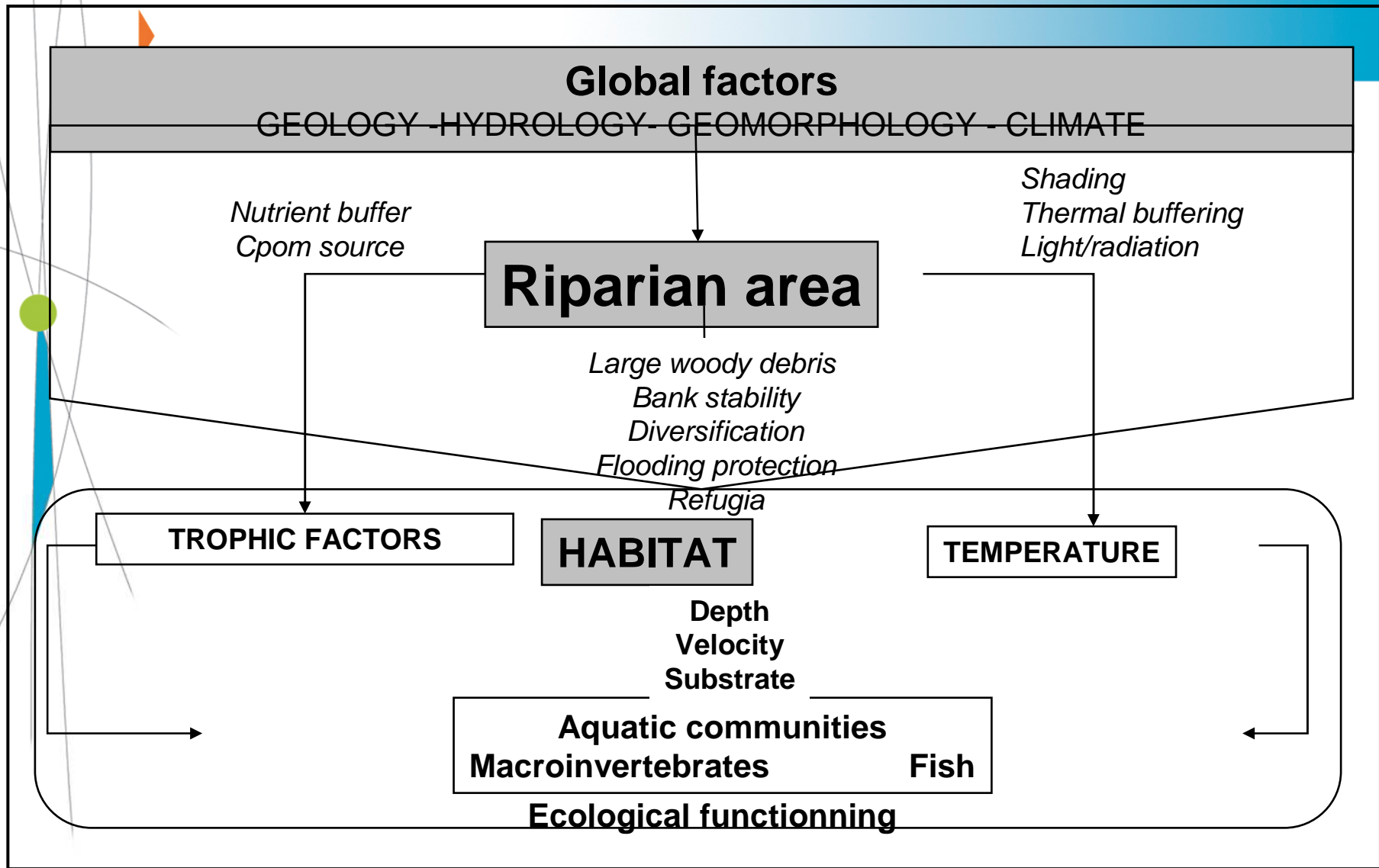
Grass

+

(exploited wood)

+

Natural riparia



Riparian influence on running freshwater ecological functioning (modified from Maridet, 1995).



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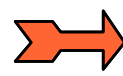
Selection of pressure parameters

Driving forces as proxies

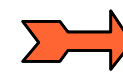
Structures



Pressures



Impact



Status

Population
density
urbanisation

Agriculture
Land use

Industries

Water uses
energy
transport

Tourism

Pollutants Inputs

point

non point

Dams

Abstraction
Derivation

Channelization

Pollution

Organics (MO)
Nutrients N,P
Toxics,
acidification

Physical alterations

Hydrology
Morphology

Bioindicators

Invertebrates

Fish

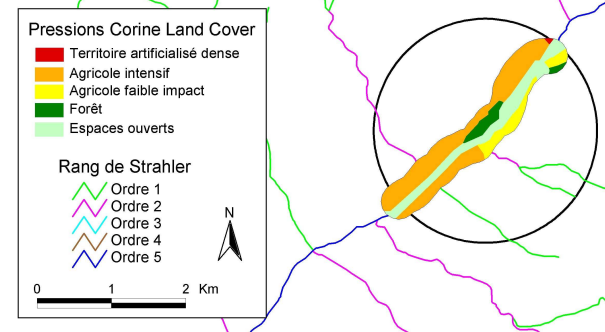
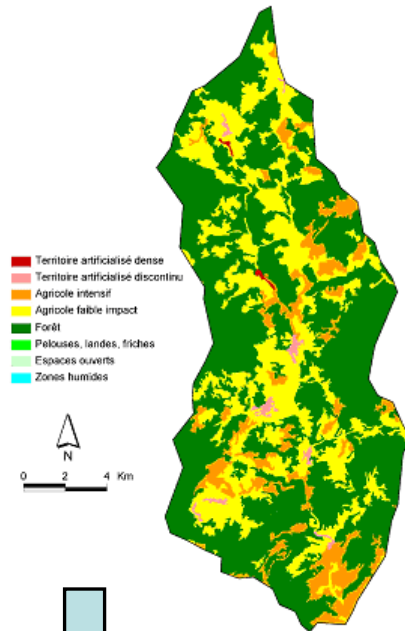
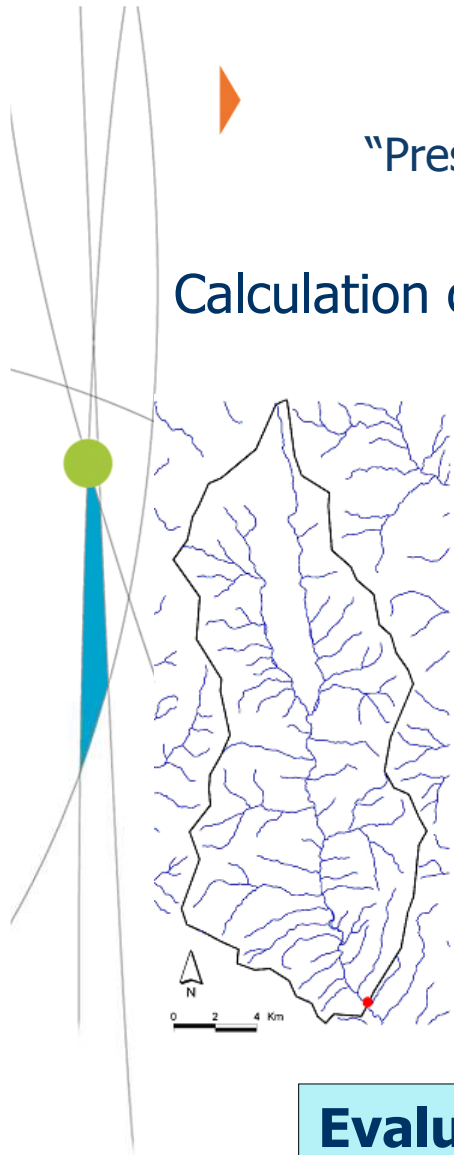
Diatoms

“Pressure” data : Land cover

Calculation of the catchment area

For each biological site (e.g. IBGN)

Delimitation of a « riparian buffer”



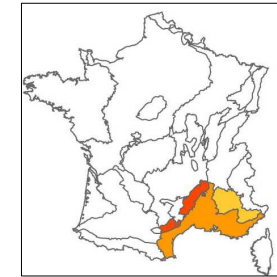
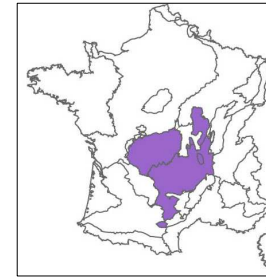
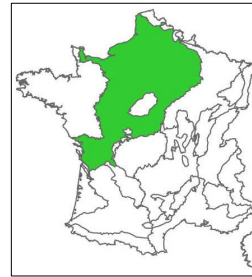
Evaluation of land cover pressure according to CORINE Land Cover

(44 categories

Summarized in 4 principal)

N°11

PLS models: France (IBGN)



France	France - all		Armorican		Calcareous		Central massif		Mediterranean	
<i>PLS model R²</i>	R² = 18 %		R² = 20%		R² = 15 %		R² = 31 %		R² = 38 %	
CORINE Land cover	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>
Continuous urban fabric	-0.09		-0.07		-0.07		-0.13		-0.12	-0.05
Discontinuous urban fabric	-0.16	-0.08	-0.19	-0.09	-0.18	-0.09	-0.18	-0.12	-0.21	-0.07
Industrial-commercial units	-0.10	-0.09	-0.12		-0.10		-0.16	-0.15	-0.16	
Dump sites	-0.04									
Construction sites	-0.04									
Non irrigated arable land	-0.07	-0.05	-0.09							
Vineyards	-0.06		-0.07				-0.09	-0.08		
Fruit trees	-0.04		-0.04	-0.03					-0.11	
Pastures					0.06	0.10			0.10	0.06
Broad-leaved forest	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.11					0.12	
Coniferous forest	0.07						0.10	0.08		
Mixed forest	0.05								0.08	
Moors and heathland									0.07	
Sparsely vegetated areas	0.04									

PLS models: Slovakia (Saprobic Index)



Slovakia	Slovakia - all		Carpathians		Pannonians	
<i>PLS model R²</i>	R² = 44 %		R² = 38 %		R² = 29 %	
CORINE Land cover	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>	<i>basin</i>	<i>riparian</i>
Artificial surfaces	-0.17		-0.15		-0.24	
Agricultural areas	-0.17		-0.16		-0.14	
Forests and semi-natural	0.18		0.17		0.17	
Industrial-commercial units		-0.07		-0.09		
Non irrigated arable land		-0.11		-0.09		
Broad-leaved forest		0.08		0.07		0.14
Coniferous forest		0.12		0.13		
Mixed forest		0.06		0.07		

Wasson, Villeneuve et al., Freshwater Biology, accepted

Pôle hydroécologie
cours d'eau





Riparian corridor

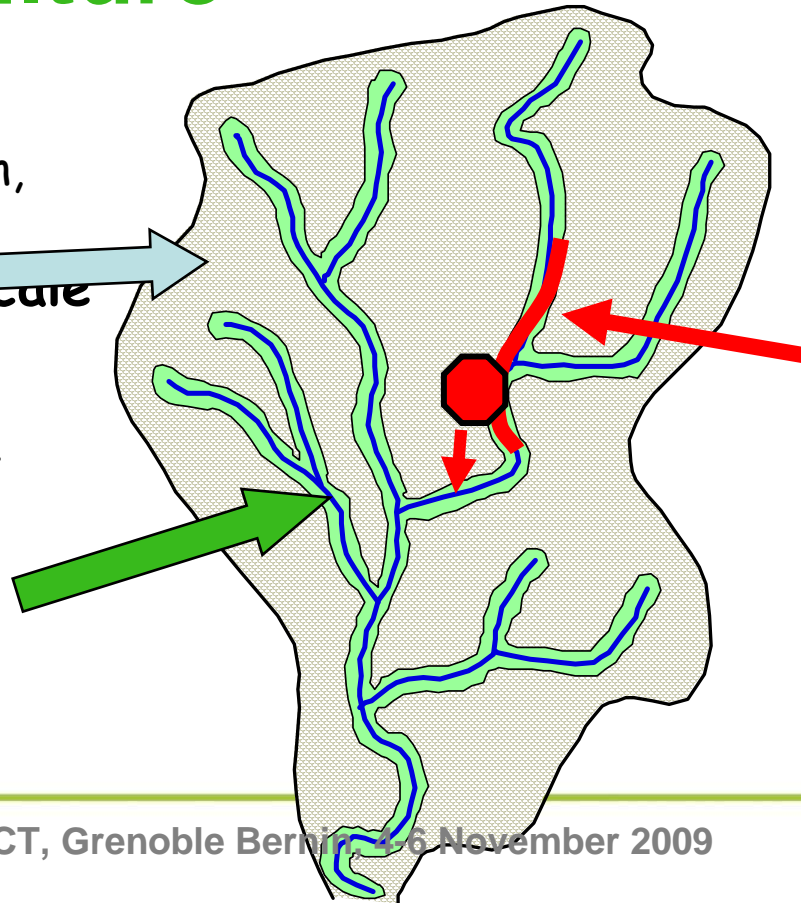
- Clear and general **impact of artificial land cover**
 - in all models
 - Due to Hydro-morphological alterations (not pollution)
- **Negative effect of arable land, vineyards**
 - **But variable according to the regions**
- "Buffering" effect of riparian land cover
 - **Clearly positive and significant for forests**
 - Even with urban pressures
 - **Pastures** : according to the cattle rearing...
 - **Regional variability**

Spatially distinct causes of impact

Agriculture

Pollution
nutrients, erosion,
pesticides
At the basin scale

General
Degradation of
riparian
Corridors
Channelization



Urban

Direct pollution
inputs in the river

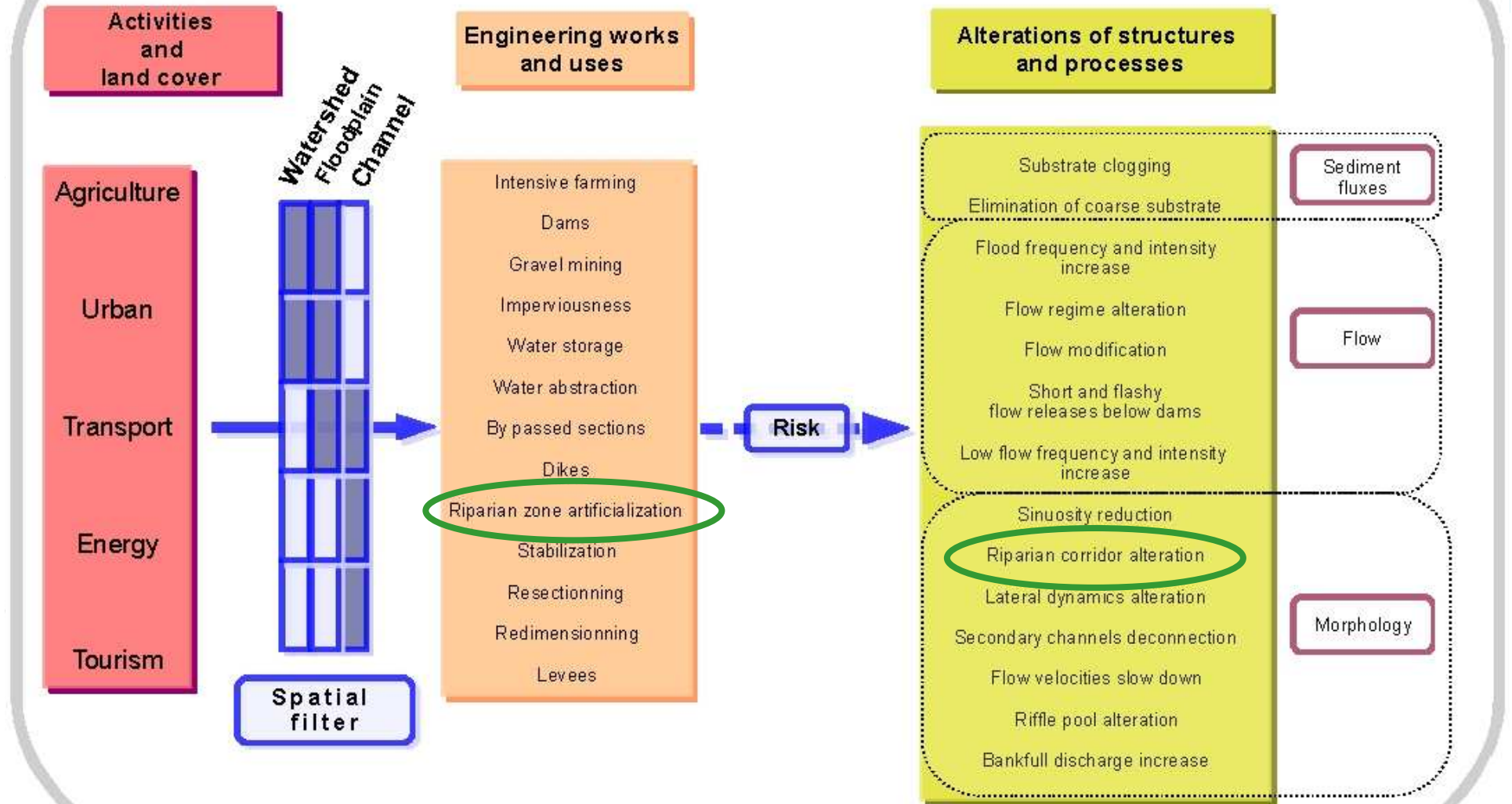
Extended
impacts on
Corridors
and river beds
*Flood defence
Stabilization*



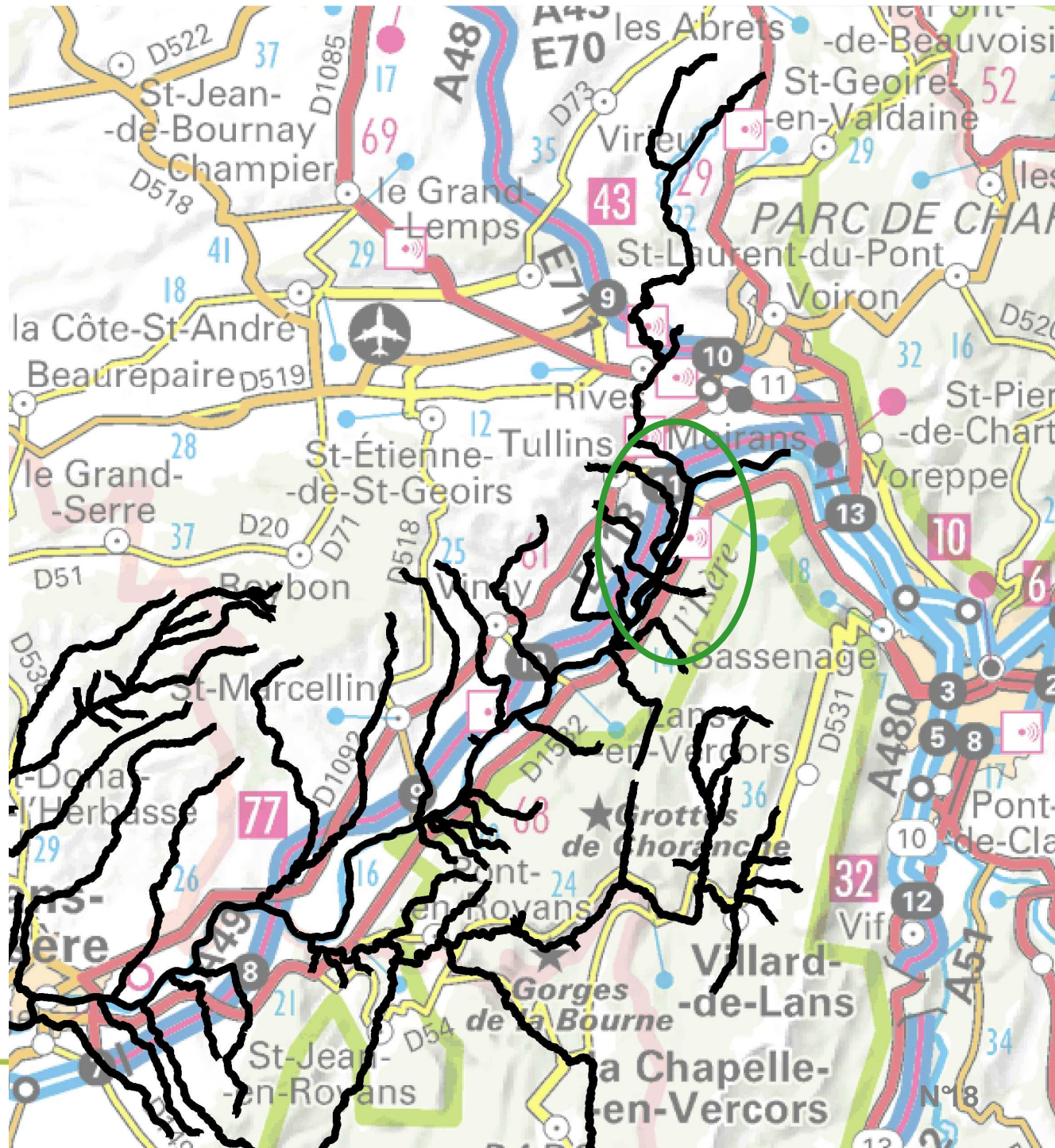
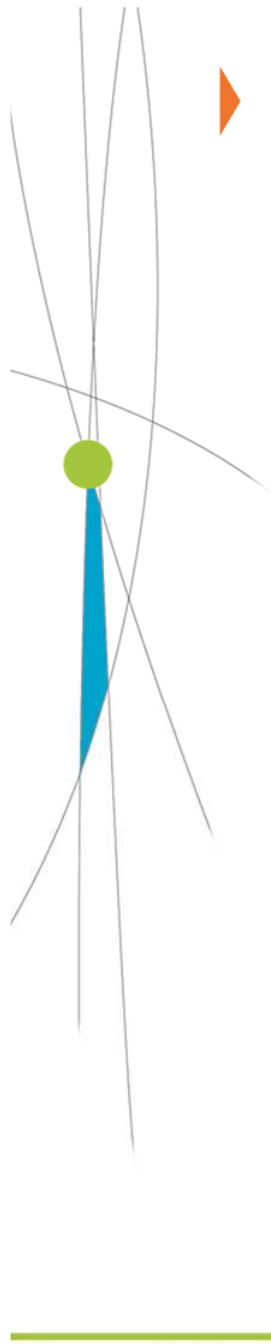
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From pressures variables to risks of degradation



SYRAH_CE System for Auditing Hydromorphology (Chandesris et al., 2009)

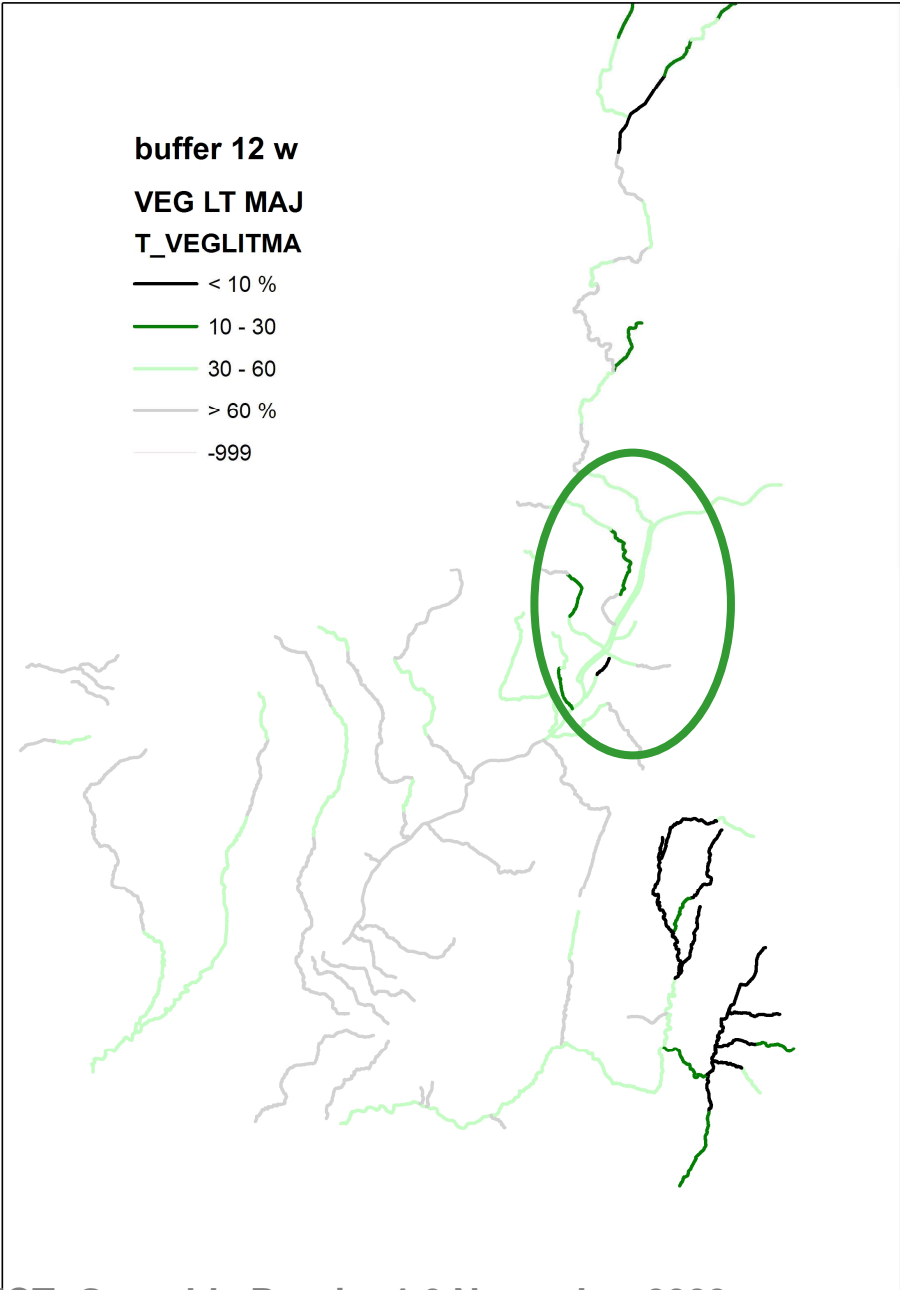
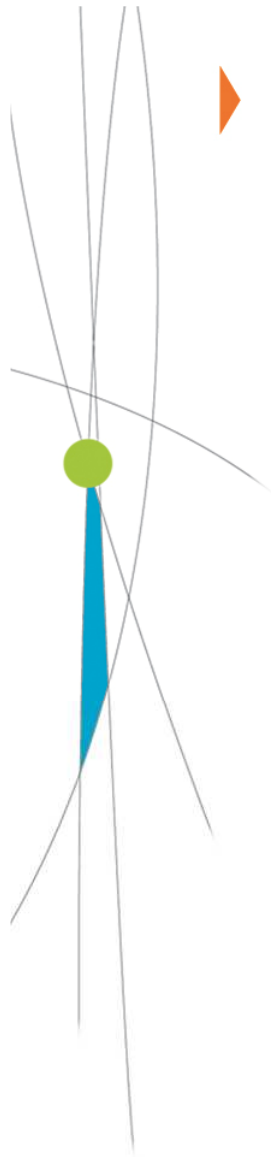


SYRAH_CE

230 000 km
in 2010

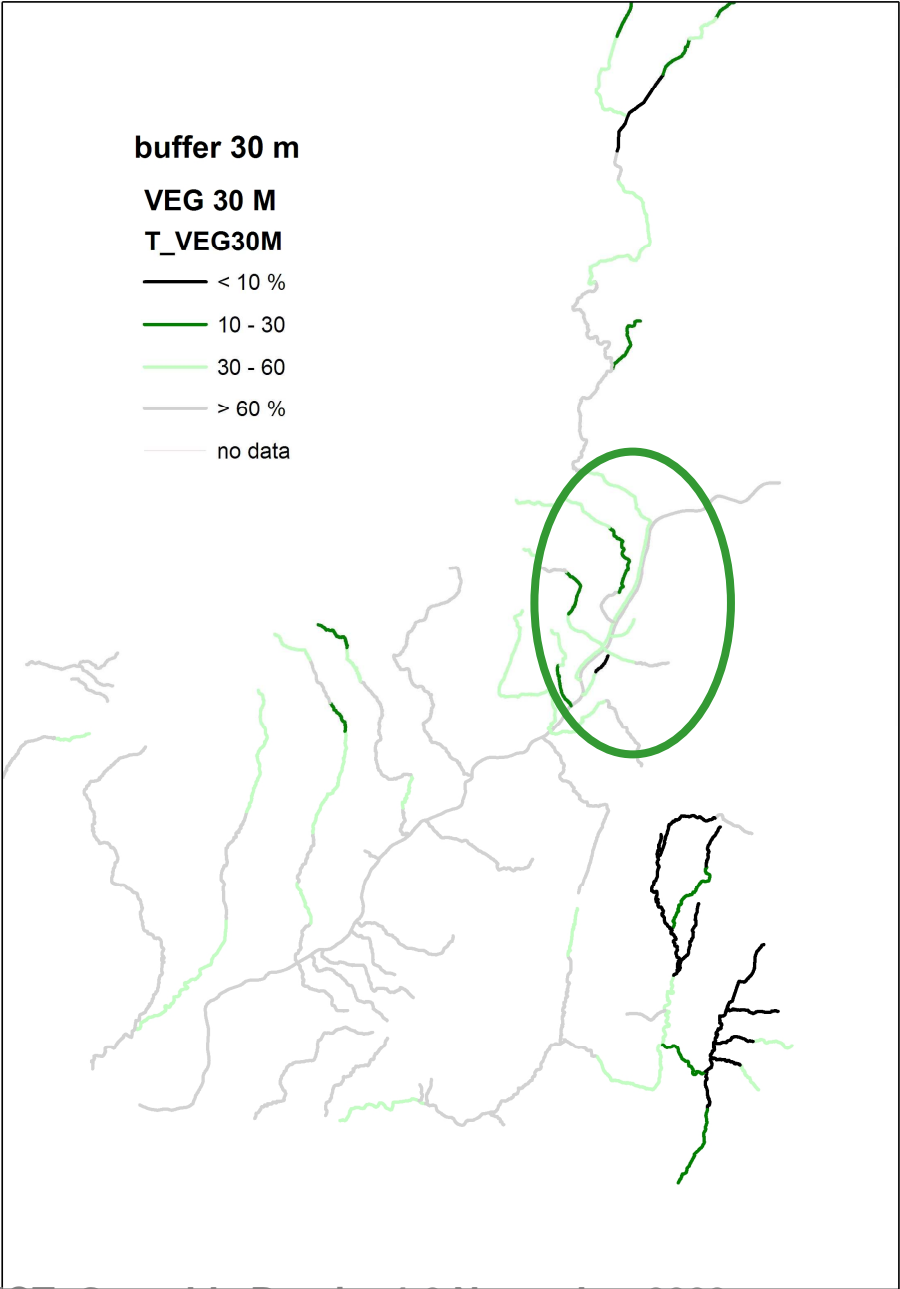
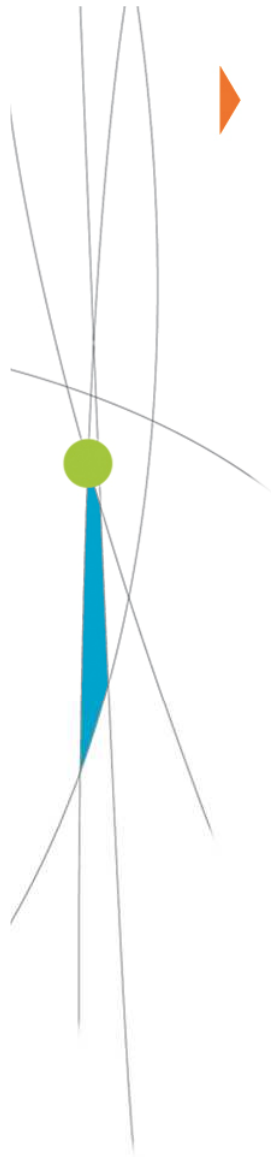


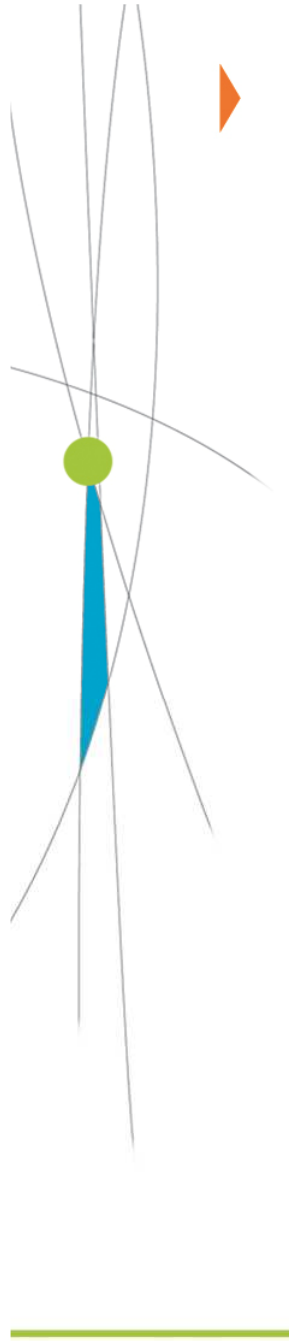
SYRAH_CE



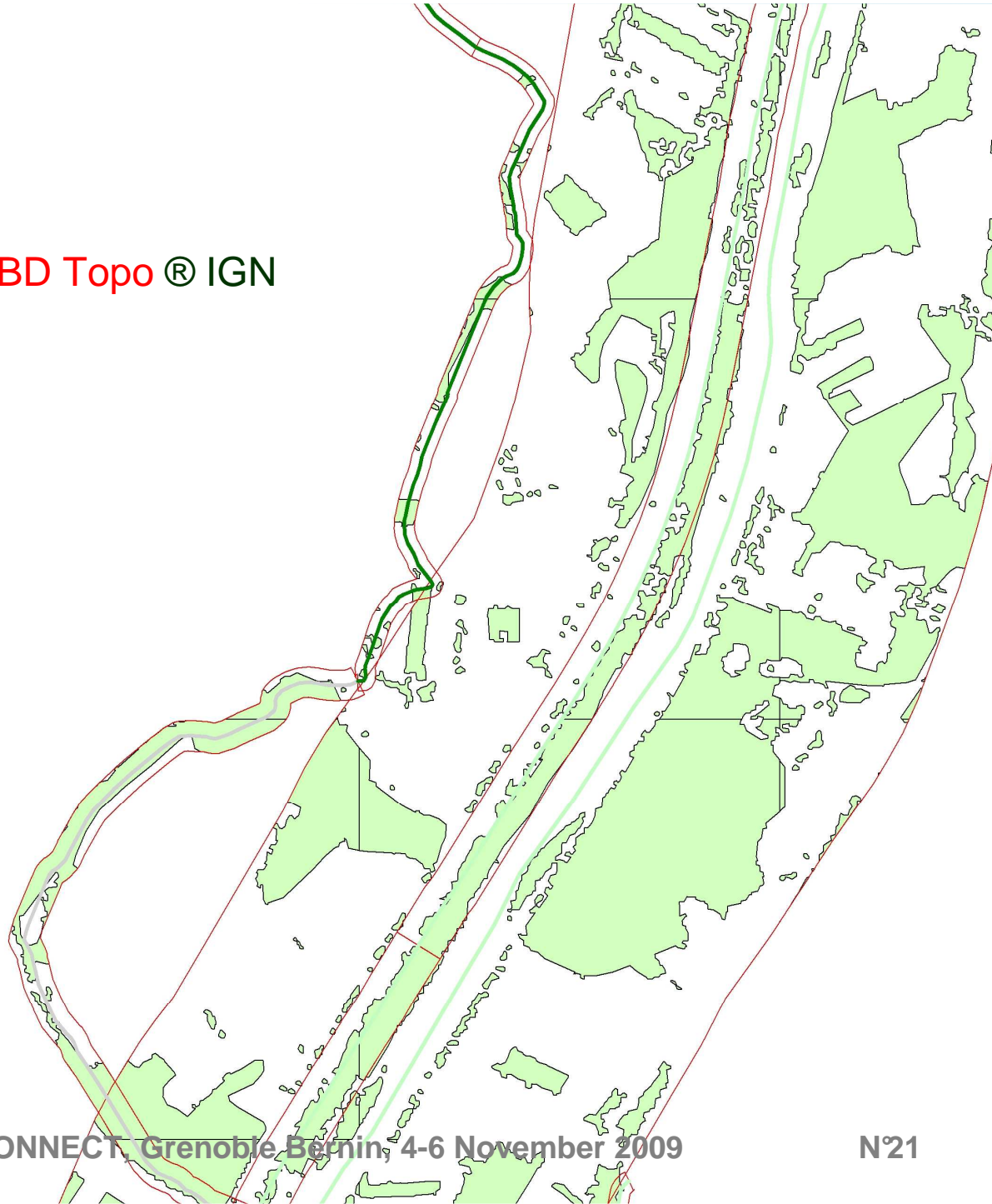


SYRAH_CE





BD Topo® IGN



SYRAH_CE

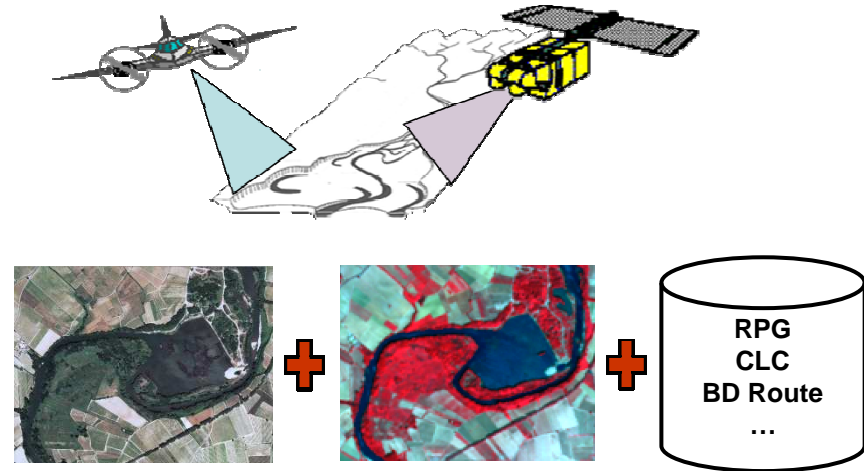
ECONNECT, Grenoble Bernin, 4-6 November 2009

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Other tools (to be vectorized)

- **Data selection:**

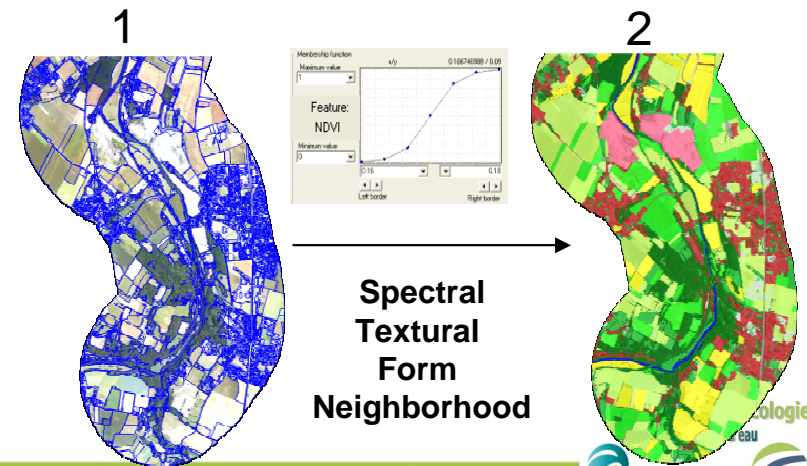
- ❑ **BD Ortho** ® IGN
(0.5 m, B,V,R)
- ❑ **SPOT 5 XS**
(10 m, MIR, PIR, R, V)
- ❑ **Other data**
(RPG, CLC, BDR, ...)



- **Classification methodology:**

- ❑ **Object oriented approach:**
 - 1- Segmentation
 - 2- Classification

Tormos thesis, 2009



Indicators

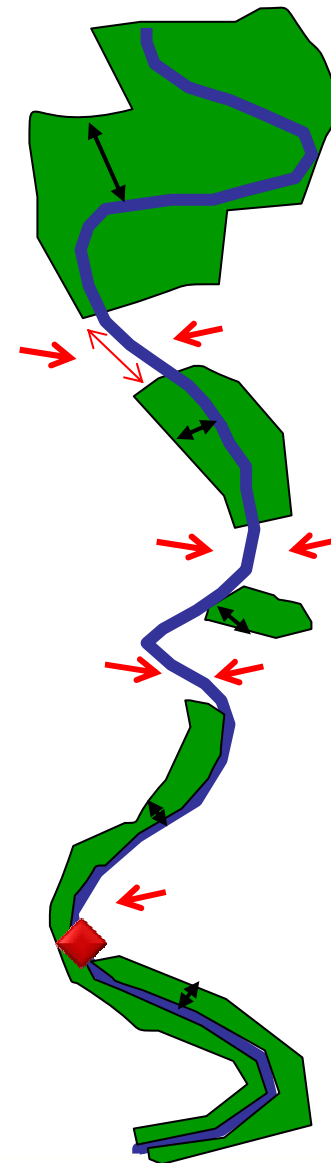
- Objectives :

- Define riparian indicators

Riparian area buffer

- Structure :
 - Average width
 - Width variability
- Connectivity (continuity) :
 - Number of breaks
 - Length of breaks

Tormos thesis, 2009



◆ Biological Study site



Conclusion (1/2)

- **Yes we can... act immediately with sufficient knowledge to improve ecological status**
- **One of the powerful control lever is potentially the restoration of the riparian areas**
- **Due to ecoregional differences in combined pressures, differentiated territory politics of restoration are needed**



Conclusion (2/2)

- **To support research and to define appropriate regional politics it is necessary to build a better spatial framework of natural and disturbance situations (in p. T°C, chemical and hydromorphological elements including riparian areas)**
- **A new era of bioindication has to progress toward better discrimination between sources of impairment**
- **Future Pressure/biological responses models would beneficiate of the two previous advances**
- **Future restoration measures are experimental opportunities to inscrease knowledge; pre and post data have to be carefully designed**



« L'arbre, la rivière et l'homme »



Medad MEEDDM/D4E, 2008, 64 p.

Thank you for attention



- **References**

Chandesris A., Malavoi J.R., Souchon Y., Wasson J.G., Mengin N. (2007). Le système relationnel d'audit de l'hydromorphologie des cours d'eau (SYRAH CE) : un outil multi-échelles d'aide à la décision pour la gestion des cours d'eau. *Ingénieries - Eau Agriculture & Territoires*, **50**, 77-80.

Chandesris, A., Mengin, N., Malavoi, J., Souchon, Y., Pella, H., Wasson, J.G. (2008). SYstème Relationnel d'Audit de l'Hydromorphologie des cours d'eau : principes et méthodes. MEDAD, 64 p.

Chandesris A., Malavoi J.R., Mengin N., Wasson J.G., Souchon Y. (2009). Hydromorphology auditing: A generalized framework at a nation scale to view streams and rivers in their landscape context. Communication au congrès : The 7th International Symposium on Ecohydraulics, 15 jan 2009 – Concepcion - Chile. Communication orale Souchon.

Maridet, L. (1995). Rôle des formations végétales riveraines. Recommandations pour une gestion régionalisée. Rapport final, Cemagref BEA/LHQ, Ministère de l'Environnement, Direction de l'Eau, SDMAP PARIS, 69 p.

Wasson, J.G., Villeneuve, B., Lital, A., Dobiasova, M., Bacikova, S., Pella, H., Mengin, N., Murray-Bligh, J., Timm, H., Chandesris, A. (Accepted). Large scale relationships between basin and riparian land cover and ecological status of European rivers: examples with invertebrate indices from France, Estonia, Slovakia and United Kingdom. *Freshwater Biology*.