## APPLICATIONS OF GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO TERRAIN ANALYSIS

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## Mapping Mass Movements: Past, Present and Future

The 1991 West Lost Trail Creek Sturzstrom Rio Grande National Forest San Juan Mountains, Colorado





 The 1991 West Lost Trail Creek Landslide occurred on the boundary of the Pole Creek Mountain and Finger Mesa 7.5-min quadrangles in the upper Rio Grande watershed.

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• 10 m Digital Elevation Models for the Pole Creek Mountain and Finger Mesa quadrangles, based on September 1998 photos





 Landslide inventory map created on a shaded relief DEM covering 65 km<sup>2</sup> area surrounding the subject landslide (arrow)





#### CROSS-SECTION OF WEST LOST TRAIL CREEK COMPOSITE LANDSLIDE



 Cross section through 1991 sturzstrom after movement ceased, showing the various components of the slide mass

#### CROSS-SECTION OF WEST LOST TRAIL CREEK COMPOSITE LANDSLIDE



- Energy Line Models used for evaluating sturzstroms. Complete detachment only occurred below el. 11,480'
- The lower ELM predicted runout (1926 ft) within 10% of that observed (1739 ft) and should have taken 32 seconds to decelerate (25 to 30 estimated by observer)



 10 m contour map of the slide area showing 1991 slide and larger prehistoric event immediately upstream





 Oblique view of the 1991 West Lost Trail Creek landslide on the10 m DEM prepared from 1998 photos using MicroDEM/Terrabase II



# MAPPING LANDSLIDES USING TOPOGRAPHIC ALGORITMS

### Crowley's Ridge in Missouri and Arkansas



# Crowley's Ridge

- Elevated upland within the Mississippi River Embayment and near the NMSZ
- Over 380 km long
- 32 km wide at widest point
- Over 90 m of relief in areas





## 1811-1812 New Madrid earthquakes

- Over 2000 felt earthquakes in 4 month period
  - 5 quakes with  $M_s \ge 8.0$
  - Felt over an area of 5 million km<sup>2</sup>
  - Damage estimates for similar quakes
    - \$10 -\$20 billion in Central U.S. (1994)





# **Diagnostic Topographic Patterns**

- Use drainage and topographic keys to recognize anomalous site characteristics typical of landslides
  - Divergent contours
  - Crenulated contours
  - Arcuate headscarp evacuation areas
  - Isolated topographic benches



contours



# **Topographic Patterns on Composite Landslides**

- Use drainage and topographic keys to recognize anomalous site characteristics typical of landslides
  - Extended ridges or isolated knobs
  - Sudden turns in hillside contours
  - Convergent drainage





## Topographic Expression of Earthflows





## Topographic Keys to Identify Earthflows

- Opposing contours
- Headscarp evacuation areas
- Necking down at transition between deflation/ inflation zones



### LATERAL SPREADS



Lateral spreads are caused by liquefaction of discrete buried horizons, which allow overlying materials to "raft" towards an adjacent topographic depression



## Seismically-Induced Lateral Spreads





## **Soil Resistivity Profiling**



Unit Electrode Spacing = 5.0 m.

Horizontal scale is 18.72 pixels per unit spacing Vertical exaggeration in model section display = 1.00 First electrode is located at 0.0 m. Last electrode is located at 195.0 m.

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a)

## **Geologic Interpretation**



Unit Electrode Spacing = 5.0 m.

b)

Horizontal scale is 18.72 pixels per unit spacing Vertical exaggeration in model section display = 1.00 First electrode is located at 0.0 m. Last electrode is located at 195.0 m.



# APPLICATION OF GIS METHODS TO GEOFORENSICS

## St. Francis Dam Outbreak Flood March 1928





- St. Francis Dam was a 200-ft high concrete gravity-arch dam constructed by the City of Los Angeles between 1924-26
- It failed near midnight on March 12-13, 1928, killing at least 420 people, making it the worst American civil engineering failure of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century





As the flood moved downstream, the depth of flow diminished. This view shows a saddle 120 feet above the creek bed about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile downstream, which was overtopped by the outpouring waters.





• The flood swept 6 miles down San Francisquito Canyon to it's junction with the much larger Santa Clara River, where it made a right-hand reverse turn through Castaic Junction.





Charles Lee's map of the flooded area, extending 54 miles from the St.
Francis Dam site, through Castaic, Camulos, Filmore, Santa Paula, Saticoy and Montalvo. The smoothed flow distance was 52 miles.



# MAP MOSAIC

Pacific Ocean

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### 1928 St Francis Dam Flood Path

• 19 USGS 1:24,000 scale Digital Raster Graphic (DRGs) quadrangles were stitched to create a flood base map.





Stereopair aerial photos were orthorectified on present-day DRGs to obtain aerial limits of flood waters. This view shows the dam site and immediately downstream.

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• This flood map was created in ArcGIS on USGS 7.5-minute DRGs. It shows the 1928 reservoir in dark blue and the flood limits in light blue. Landslides are shown in red.



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 Orthorectifed local flood map. By applying Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Grid North American Datum (NAD) 1983 (83) geospatial controls, the 1928 planar map is skewed slightly when orthorectified to present-day map projection standards that account for the Earth's actual curvature.





• When our GIS map (blue) was overlain on Charles Lee's flood map (red); it appeared that he greatly overestimated the spatial limits of flooding in the Castaic Junction area.





• The flood limits shown on our new map are very similar to those shown on the damage map prepared for the Newhall Land Company in the Castaic Junction area.





 Comparison between orthorectifeid version of Lee's flood map (red) and our new flood map (blue). Lee's map was prepared on a 1:250,000 scale base map (1 inch = 4 miles).







### Interferrometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (INSAR)



Figure 4: Differential Distance Gives Topography

Radar signals being transmitted and recieved in the SRTM mission (image not to scale).



### Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) Data





In February 2000, the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) used radar instruments to collect data that will be used to produce the most detailed, near-global topographic map of Earth ever made.

SRTM collected data over 80% of Earth's land mass, home to nearly 95% of the world's population. Processing of the data will be completed by early 2002. Scientists will use these data to study flooding, erosion, landslide hazards, ecology and earthquakes.

Mission Coverage

Data can also be used to increase aircraft navigation safety and for improved topographic maps for city planners, firefighters, geologists, and backpackers.



Objects as small as 30 meters across and 10 meters high can be seen in SRTM radar data.

#### **NEW PERSPECTIVES ON PLANET EARTH**

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# Topographic Surface Imaging Using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)

2m LiDAR DEMs Squaxin Island Thurston County, Washington







### USGS 30m DEM





### USGS 10m DEM





### LiDAR 2m DEM

# Topographic Surface Imaging Using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)

2m LiDAR DEMs Sunrise and Sunset Beach Thurston County, Washington







### USGS 30m DEM





### USGS 10m DEM





### LiDAR 2m DEM

## Kaintuck Hollow High-Altitude LiDAR

### Southwest of Newburg, MO







### USGS 10m DEM





# LiDAR 10m Leaf On DEM (Raw)





# LiDAR 10m Leaf On DEM (Clean)





LiDAR 10m from 5m Leaf-Off DEM





### USGS 10m DEM





### LiDAR 5m Leaf-Off DEM

# **3D Modeling of Terrain Using Terragen Software**

### Grand Canyon, AZ





Inner Gorge of the Canyon near Tapeates Amphitheater























# Geophysical Mapping With Magnetic Surveying Methods

Building Site near Ashland, MO (South of Columbia, MO)







Magnetic Surveying gives the ability to see the metallic resonance in the subsurface.

### Identifiable Features:

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- Buried Drums
- Deposit of Shallow Ores
- Utilities Identification

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