### Agricultural land abandonment mapping using Google Earth Engine





### What is agricultural abandonment?







# Why agricultural land abandonment is difficult to map?











### Remote Sensing of Environment

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### Monitoring cropland abandonment with Landsat time series

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## Mapping steps



### **Class definitions**

### Single-year Analyses and classes

- *Active agriculture* is used to grow row crops, and typically tilled resulting in a clear soil signal at some point during the year. Even under no-till cropping, more soil is exposed than in grasslands
- *Herbaceous* areas have no shrub or tree component, and are neither plowed nor harvested for hay. Senescence occurs earlier than for woody herbaceous
- *Woody land* areas have either shrubs or trees, resulting in a longer vegetative period
- *Other land* areas include lands without vegetation cover, e.g. water bodies, barren land etc.





### **Class definitions**

### Multi-year Analyses and classes

- *Permanent agriculture* is active agriculture that was never abandoned nor permanent grassland nor shrubland
- *Abandoned agriculture* is non-woody herbaceous that was once active agriculture, but has been not been plowed for +4 years
- *Fallow fields* are similar to non-woody abandoned agriculture, but were plowed in the prior four years





Step-1: Single-year analyses





Step-1: Single-year analyses

- Image metrics
- Training data generation
- Random forest classifier







#### 2017-09-15

2017-10-01

2017-12-12



DOY	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B7	
55	256	625	454	423	114	422	
68	294	477	554	456	886	125	
126	855	457	457	712	354	421	
225	1600	6500	1637	7129	5193	5004	
298	586	788	991	258	388	585	
Metric							
	B1	<b>B2</b>	<b>B3</b>	B4	B5	B7	
Mean	<b>B1</b> 323	<b>B2</b> 587	<b>B3</b> 610	<b>B4</b> 462	<b>B5</b> 436	<b>B7</b> 388	
Mean Median	<b>B1</b> 323 275	<b>B2</b> 587 661	<b>B3</b> 610 506	<b>B4</b> 462 440	<b>B5</b> 436 371	<b>B7</b> 388 422	
Mean Median Q25	<b>B1</b> 323 275 155	<b>B2</b> 587 661 154	<b>B3</b> 610 506 156	<b>B4</b> 462 440 188	<b>B5</b> 436 371 324	<b>B7</b> 388 422 192	
Mean Median Q25 Q75	<b>B1</b> 323 275 155 367	<b>B2</b> 587 661 154 666	<b>B3</b> 610 506 156 663	<b>B4</b> 462 440 188 520	<b>B5</b> 436 371 324 513	<b>B7</b> 388 422 192 463	



#### Quantile 20

#### Quantile 80

#### Standard deviation



### **Classification based on single-date image**





### **Classification based on metrics**





### Step-1: Single-year analyses

- Image metrics
- Training data generation
- Random forest classifier





### Training data generation

Feature difference

- Spectral
- Temporal









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### Training data generation



### Step-1: Single-year analyses

- Image metrics
- Training data generation
- Random forest classifier





Step-2: Annual mapping

- Generate annual maps





Step-3: Change detection

- Combination of single-year classifications
- Rule-based for each class
- Post-classification processing (e.g., MMU; masking)





### What is Earth Engine?

• "Google Earth Engine is a cloud-based platform for planetary-scale geospatial analysis" Gorelick et al. 2017





### Data catalog



Image: Dave Thau

- Satellite imagery
- Geographical
- Climate
- Demographic
- Vector

SENSLAND Lab

Remote Sensing and Land Science Lab

>200 public datasets
> 5 million images
> 4000 new images per day
> 5 petabytes of data



#### Earth Engine Apps

Q Search places



### What GEE can do?

- Get imagery
- Imagery analysis (spatial; temporal)
- Statistics

Animations

Courtesy: Donchyts





### How to use Google Earth Engine?

#### JavaScript

Interactive JavaScript using the Code Editor, the open source JavaScript library in Node.js (learn more about Earth Engine in Node.js), or Earth Engine Apps.



#### Python

The open source Python library running in Colab, your Python environment, or App Engine (learn more about Earth Engine powered App Engine apps).



#### REST

Authenticated HTTP requests (learn more about the Earth Engine REST API). The REST API contains new and advanced features that may not be suitable for all users. If you are new to Earth Engine, please get started with the JavaScript guide.











### Advantages

- Analysis-ready data available
- Processing power (computation engine)
- Interactive development platforms
- Save and share work routines
- Community support



### **Third-party App**



### The power of Google Earth Engine without coding. A user friendly tool for complex land monitoring

EARTHMAP



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### 2022 Geo for Good Summit

### Geo for Good Summit

Our Geo for Good Summit is an annual conference intended for nonprofits, scientists and other changemakers who want to leverage technology and use mapping tools (such as Google Earth, Earth Engine, Environmental Insights Explorer, and My Maps) for positive impact in the world.

This year, we are planning to return to an in-person format, but with plenty of online, livestream and virtual elements to allow people not there in-person to connect and learn.

When: October 4-6, 2022 Where: Mountain View, CA, USA (with virtual events too!)

The application deadline to attend the summit in person has already passed, but you can still register to attend virtually.



geo for good 2021



- SUMMIT 2022 -

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Geo for Good 2021 : What's New in Earth Engine? 965 views • Streamed 9 months ago

🚫 Google Earth 🥝

A look at year's worth of developments in Earth Engine: new features and partner accomplishments, and a big focus on making ...

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### Let's start!

### https://code.earthengine.google.com/?accept\_repo=us ers/hyinhe/AG\_abandonment



