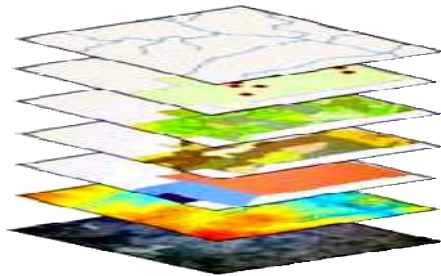


**EXAMPLES OF USE OF SPATIAL DATA FOR
RUNOFF RISK DIAGNOSIS – Tiglione Valley**

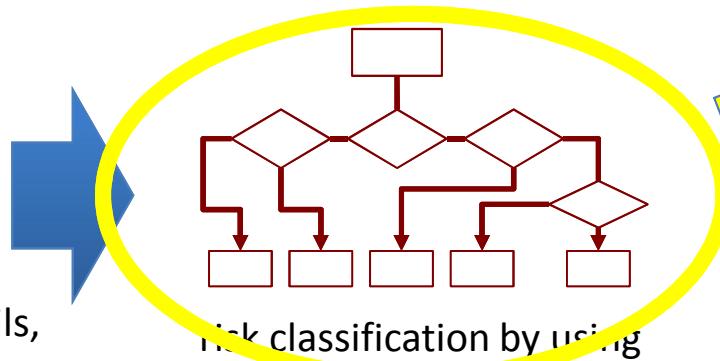
Aldo Ferrero, Francesco Vidotto, Fernando De Palo

RUNOFF team

DIAGNOSIS



collection of territorial data (soils, elevation, slope, water network, field boundaries, etc.)

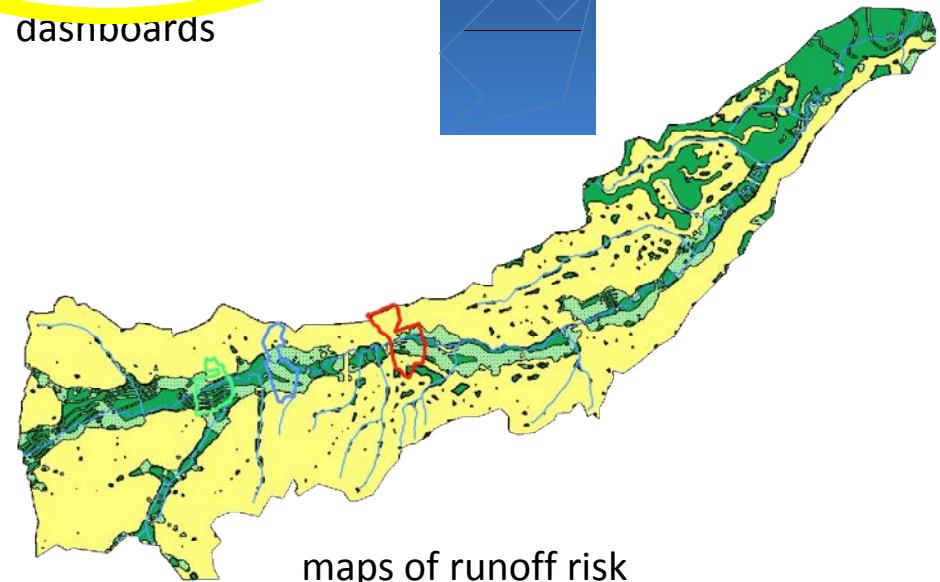


risk classification by using dashboards

what data do we need?



field visits to validate classification and collect additional info



maps of runoff risk

Dashboard 1: Infiltration restriction

Proximity to Surface Water	Permeability of the Topsoil		Steepness of Slope	Risk Class & Scenario	
Field Adjacent to Water Body	LOW	STEEP (>5%)		I 7	
		MODERATE (2-5%)		I 6	
		SHALLOW (<2%)		I 5	
	MEDIUM	STEEP (>5%)		I 4	
		MODERATE (2-5%)		I 3	
		SHALLOW (<2%)		I 2	
	HIGH	STEEP (>5%)		I 3	
		MODERATE (2-5%)		I 2	
		SHALLOW (<2%)		I 1	
Field Not Adjacent to Water Body	Transfer of runoff to downhill	YES	Runoff reaches water body?	YES	T 3
			NO	T 2	
	NO		T 1		

HIGH RISK
MEDIUM RISK
LOW RISK
VERY LOW RISK

Dashboard 2: Saturation excess

Proximity to Surface Water	Drainage Status	Topographic Position	Subsoil Permeability		WHC*	Risk Class & Scenario	
Field Adjacent to Water Body	Not Artificially Drained	Bottom of slope (concave)/Valley bottom (see scenario A)	Plough pan + Permeability disruption		ALL WHCS	S 4	
			Plough pan OR Permeability disruption		<120 MM	S 4	
					>120 MM	S 3	
		No plough pan & Permeability disruption		<120 MM	S 3		
				>120 MM	S 2		
		Upslope/ Continuous slope		Plough pan + Permeability disruption		ALL WHCS	S 4
			Plough pan OR Permeability disruption		<120 MM	S 3	
					>120 MM	S 2	
			No plough pan & Permeability disruption		<120 MM	S 2	
					>120 MM	S 1	
	Artificially Drained		All Positions	Plough pan + Permeability disruption		ALL WHCS	SD 3
				Plough pan OR Permeability disruption		<120 MM	SD 3
				>120 MM	SD 2		
		No plough pan & Permeability disruption		<120 MM	SD 2		
				>120 MM	SD 1		
Field Not Adjacent to Water Body	Not artificially Drained	Transfer of runoff to downhill field?	YES	Runoff reaches water body?	YES	T 3	
					NO	T 2	
			NO		T 1		

HIGH RISK
MEDIUM RISK
LOW RISK
VERY LOW RISK

* WHC = Waterholding capacity

Dashboards: main determining factors

INFILTRATION RESTRICTION

- 💧 soil permeability (cappings)
- 💧 slope

Digital maps may
contain this info?

yes

yes

SATURATION EXCESS

- 💧 plough pan
- 💧 water holding capacity

no

yes

Catchment diagnosis may be performed (at least in part) using GIS

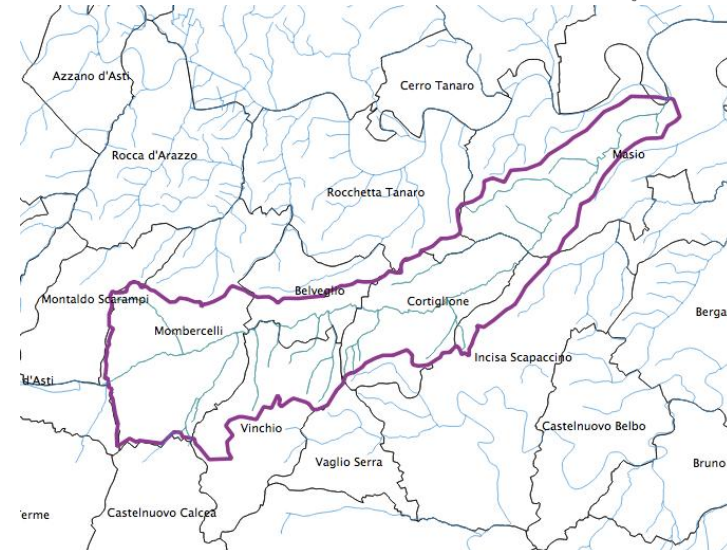
VECTOR maps

geographical entities are represented by

points, lines or polygons

each point/vertex/node is numerically defined in terms of coordinates

water network
administrative boundaries

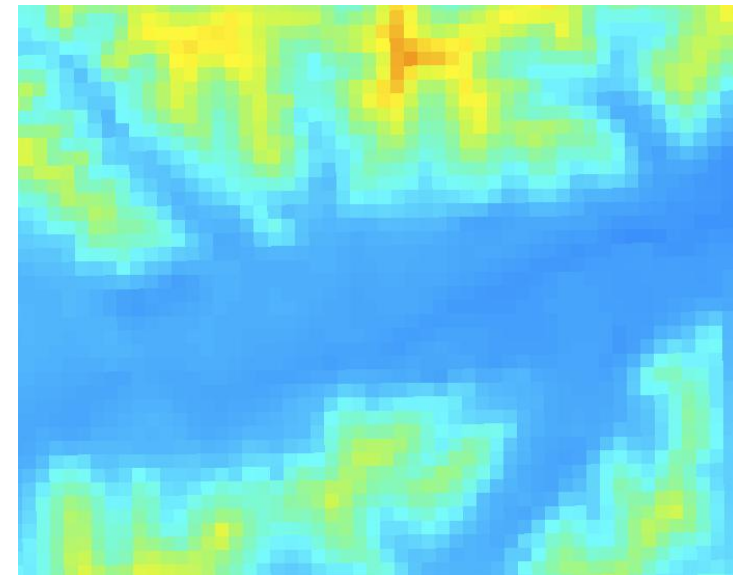


RASTER maps

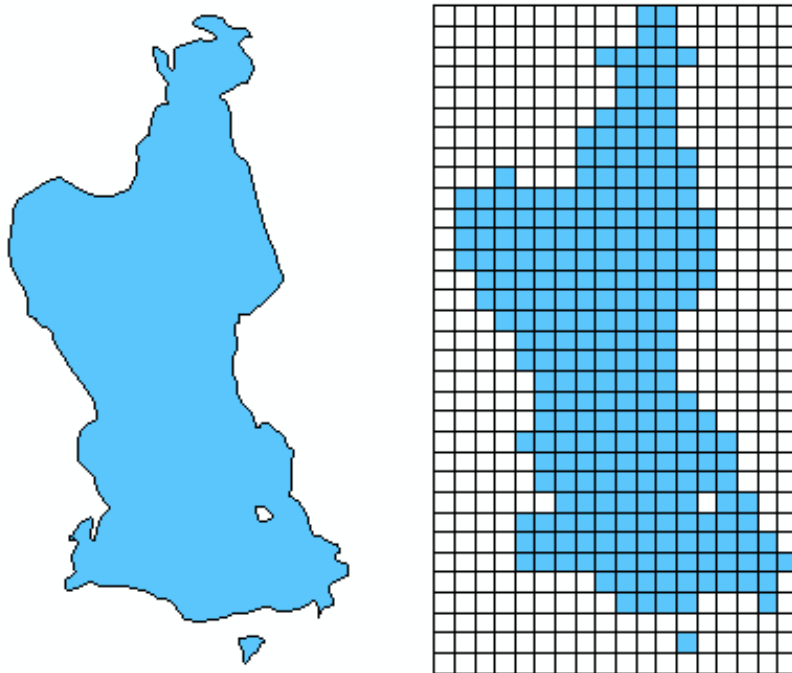
earth surface is divided in to an oriented grid.

Each cell of the grid (pixel) is the minimum geographic entity

DTM



Vector vs Raster representation of a same geographic entity



Vector

good for capturing and storing spatial details

Raster

good for data that vary continuously from location to location (e.g. elevation, temperature, soil pH, etc.)
Also used for aerial and satellite imagery

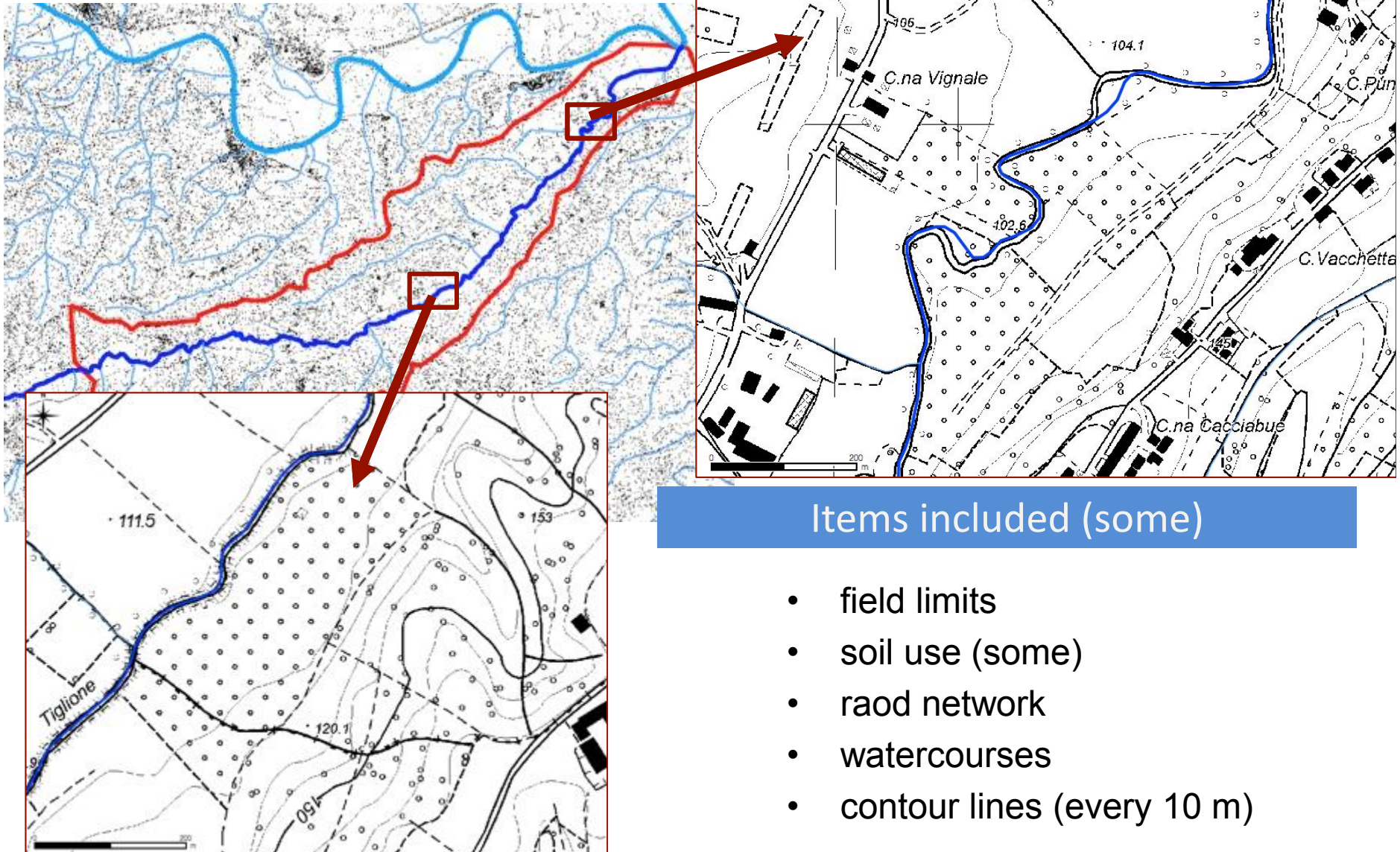
RASTER MAPS

several “image” formats

- **tiff**
- **jpg**
- **png**
- ...



Regional Technical Map

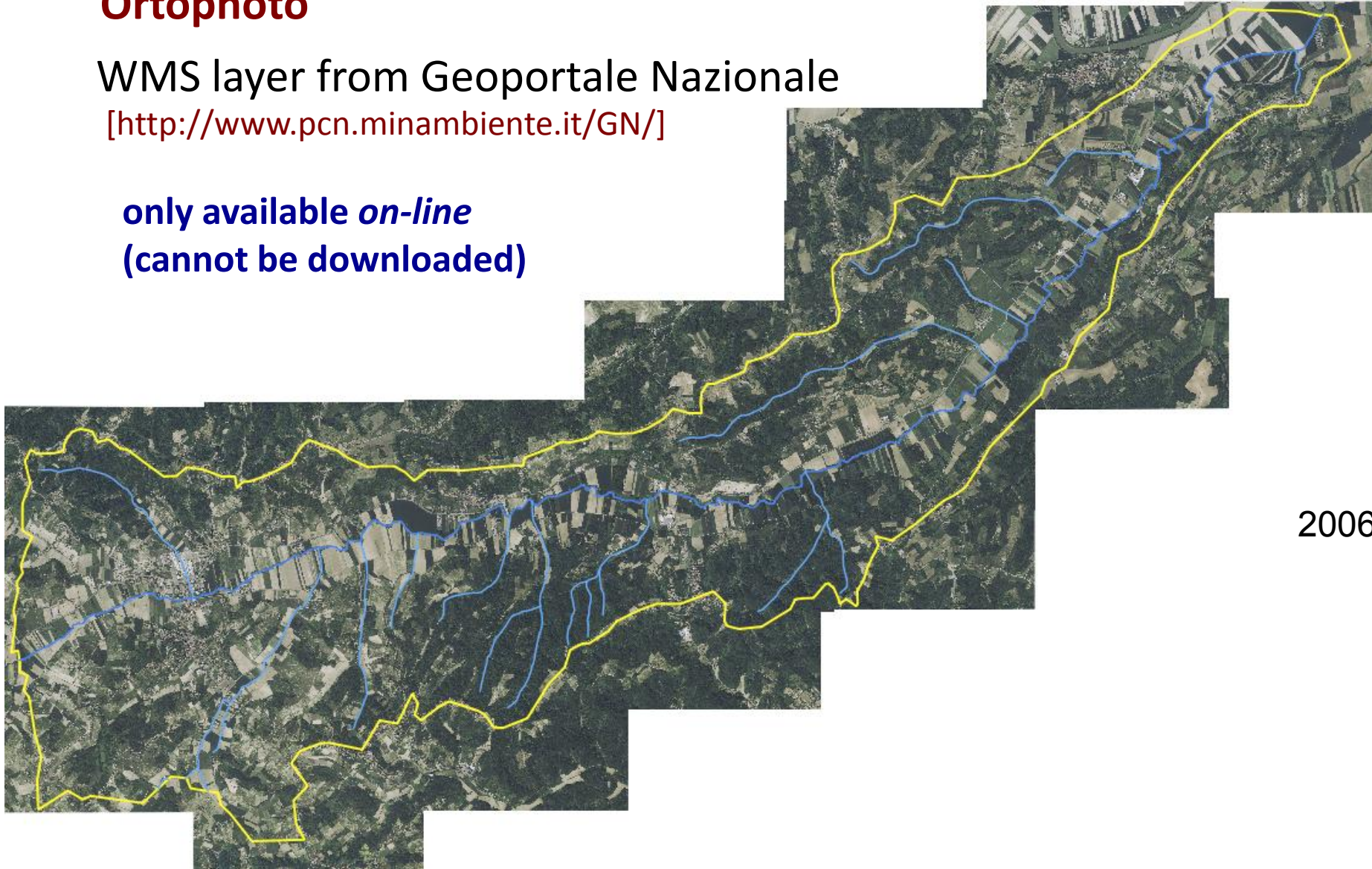


Ortophoto

WMS layer from Geoportale Nazionale

[<http://www.pcn.minambiente.it/GN/>]

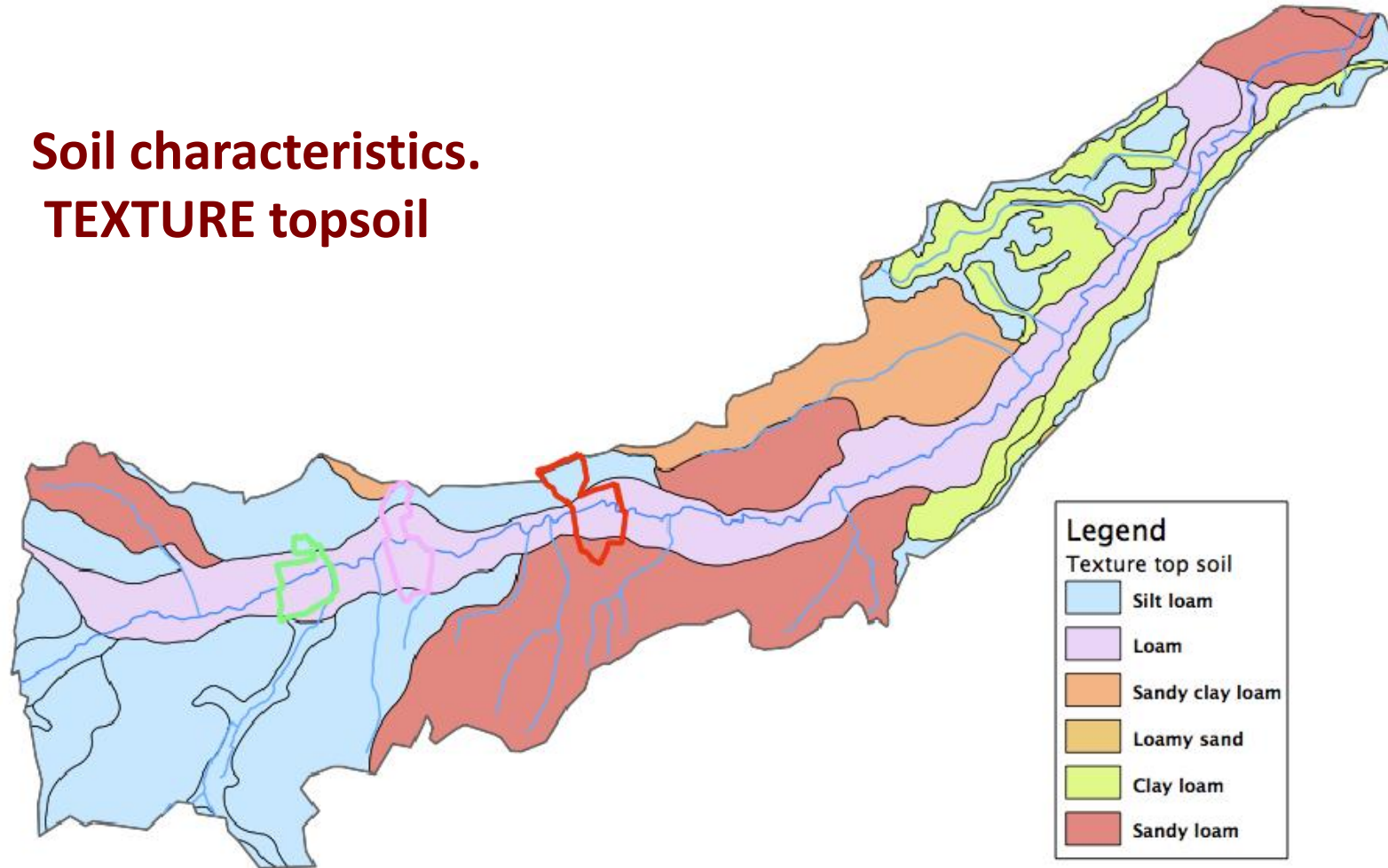
**only available *on-line*
(cannot be downloaded)**



2006

Soil characteristics: PIEMONTE SOIL MAP (1:10000) - vector map

Soil characteristics. TEXTURE topsoil



can be used to obtain

- **capping risk map (for dashboard 1 application)**
- **WHC map (for dashboard 2 application)**

Soil capping

Capping risk is one of the most important indicators of topsoil permeability

- capping risk maps are often not available
- capping risk may be estimated from soil texture

$$R = \frac{(1.5 \times \text{fine silt } \%) + (0.75 \times \text{coarse silt } \%)}{\text{clay } \% + (10 \times \text{organic matter } \%)}$$

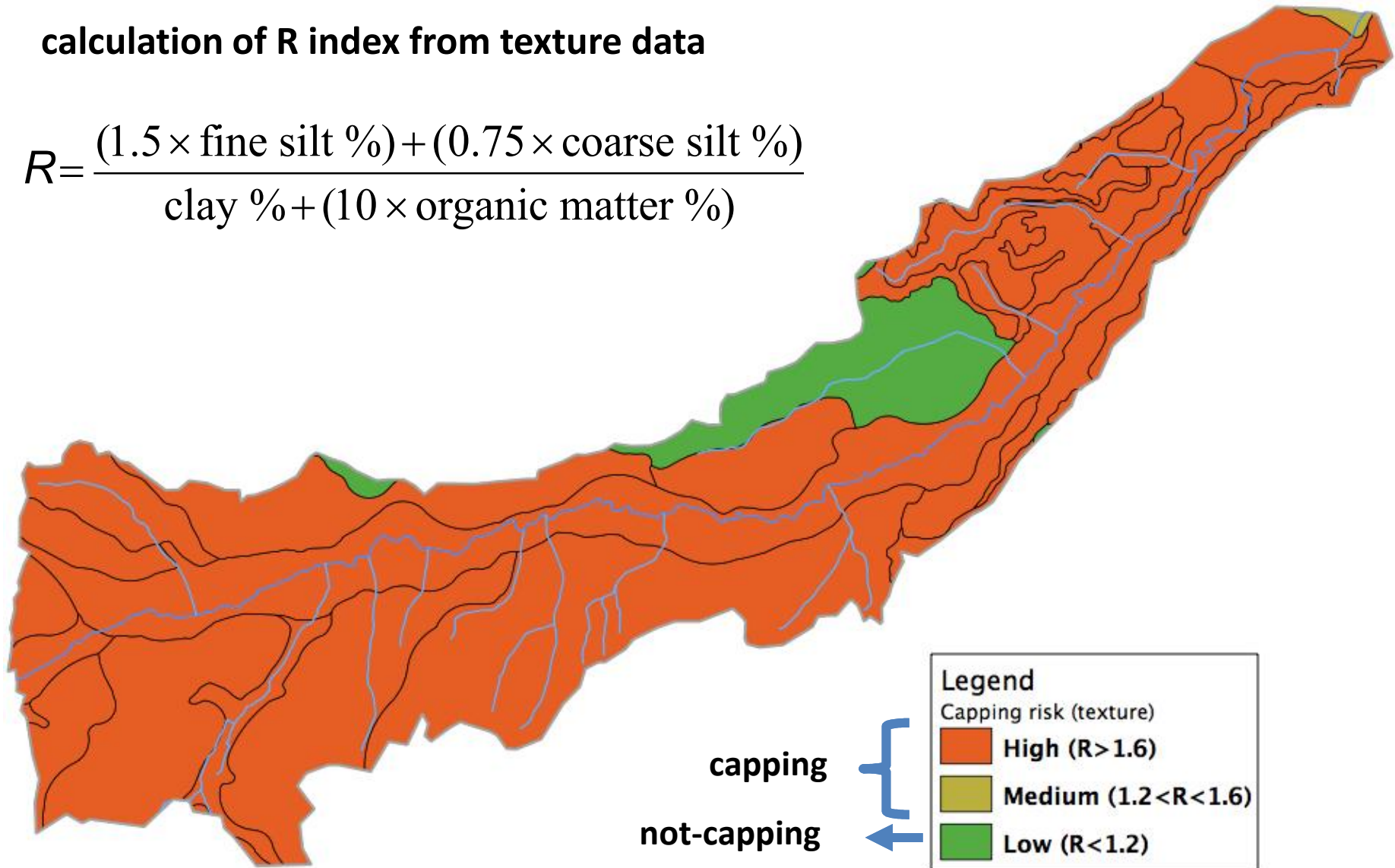
R	capping risk	permeability of the topsoil*
< 1.2	LOW	HIGH
1.2-1.6	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
> 1.6	HIGH	LOW

* for the application of dashboard 1 (infiltration restriction)

Soil capping

calculation of R index from texture data

$$R = \frac{(1.5 \times \text{fine silt \%}) + (0.75 \times \text{coarse silt \%})}{\text{clay \%} + (10 \times \text{organic matter \%})}$$



How to know water holding capacity (WHC)

- some soil maps can already include this info (e.g. PIEMONTE SOIL MAP)
- WHC can be estimated from soil texture

Texture	WHC (mm/cm)
Sand	0.4
Loamy sand (coarse)	0.8
Loamy sand (fine)	1.0
Sandy loam	1.3
Loam	1.7
Silt loam	
Sil	
Clay loam	1.8
Sandy clay loam	
Silty clay loam	
Sandy clay	1.7
Silty clay	
Clay	

Example:

a) texture: **sandy loam**

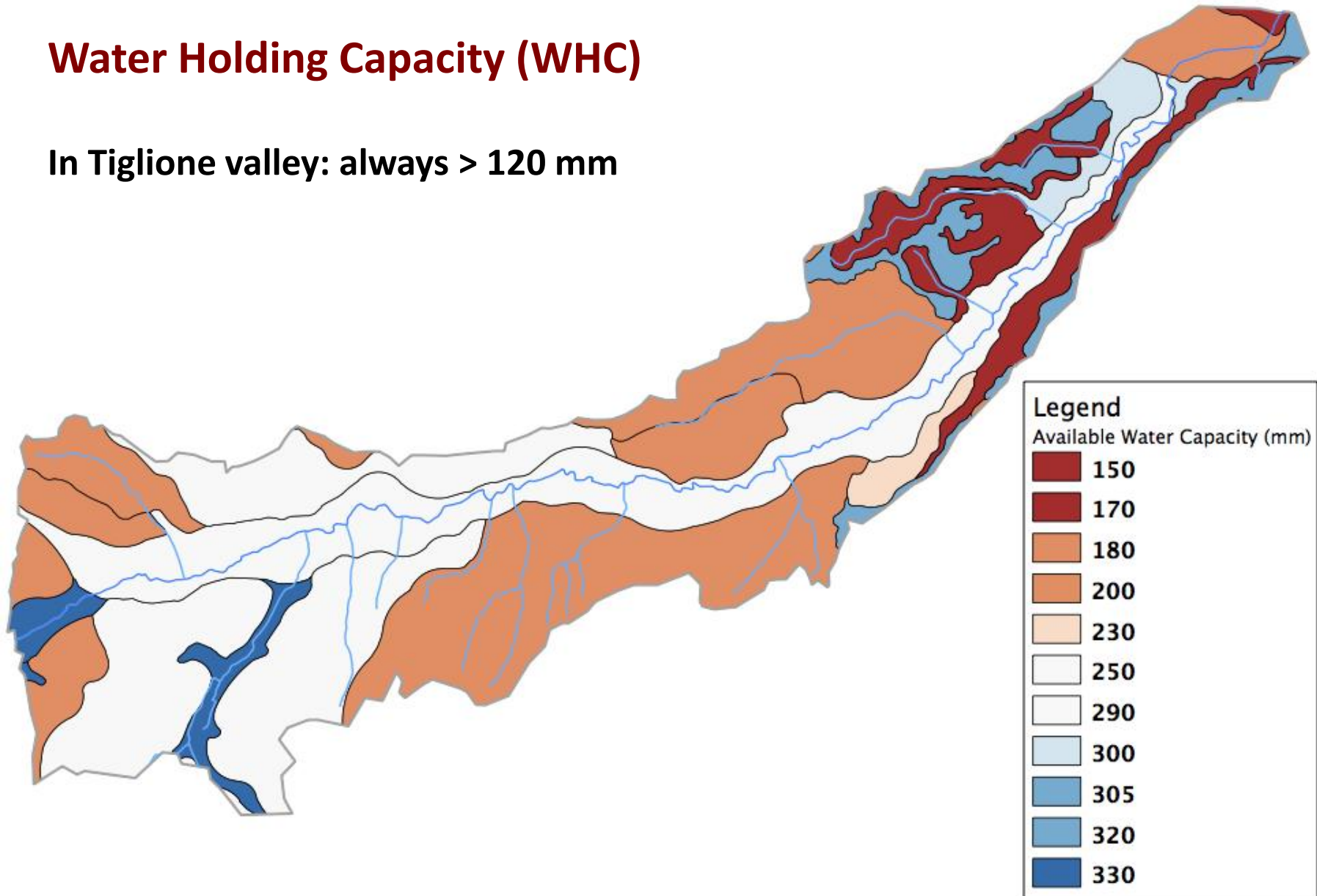
b) depth: **100 cm**

Water holding capacity

1,3 mm/cm x 100 cm = 130mm

Water Holding Capacity (WHC)

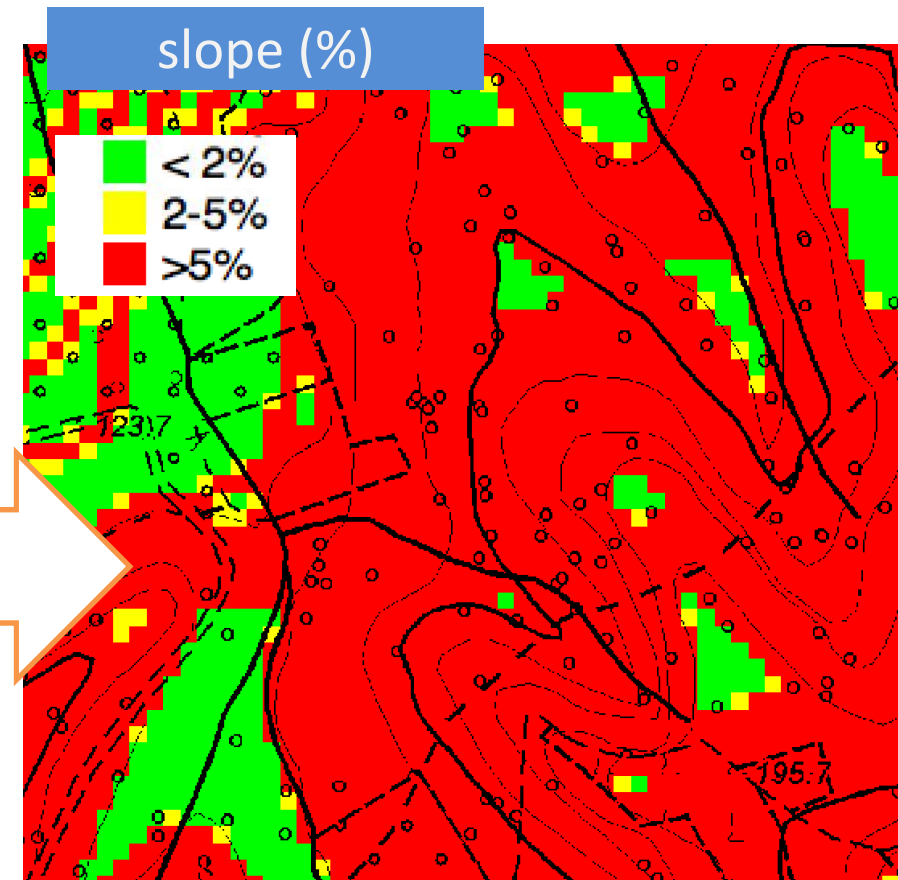
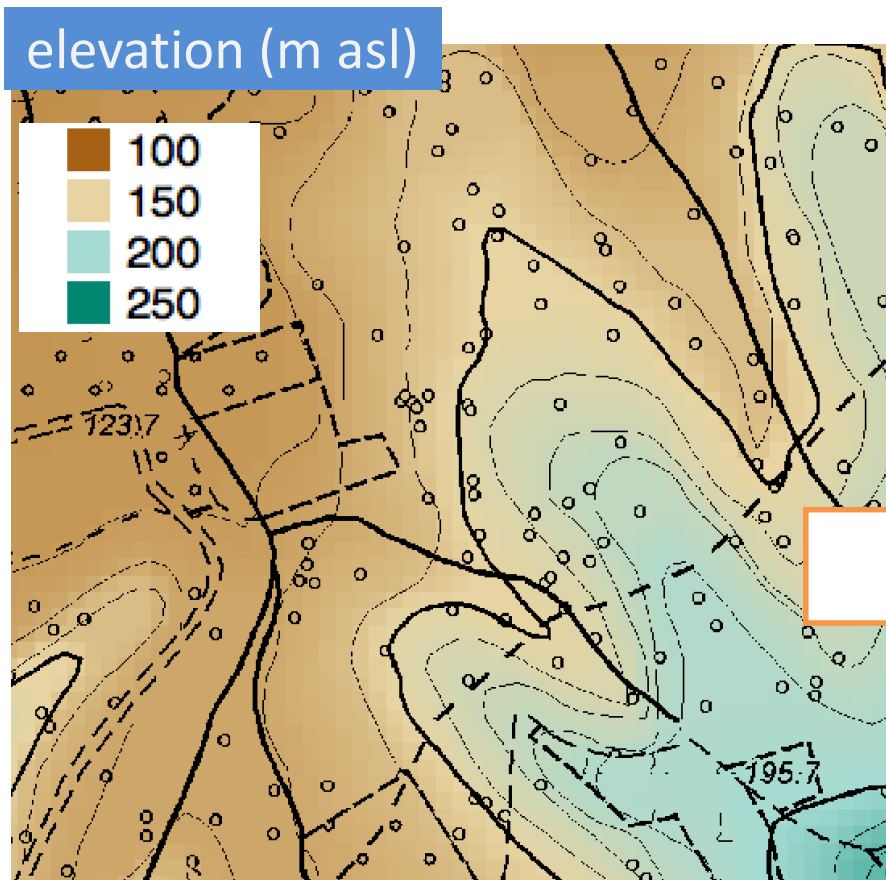
In Tiglione valley: always > 120 mm



Digital terrain model (DTM)

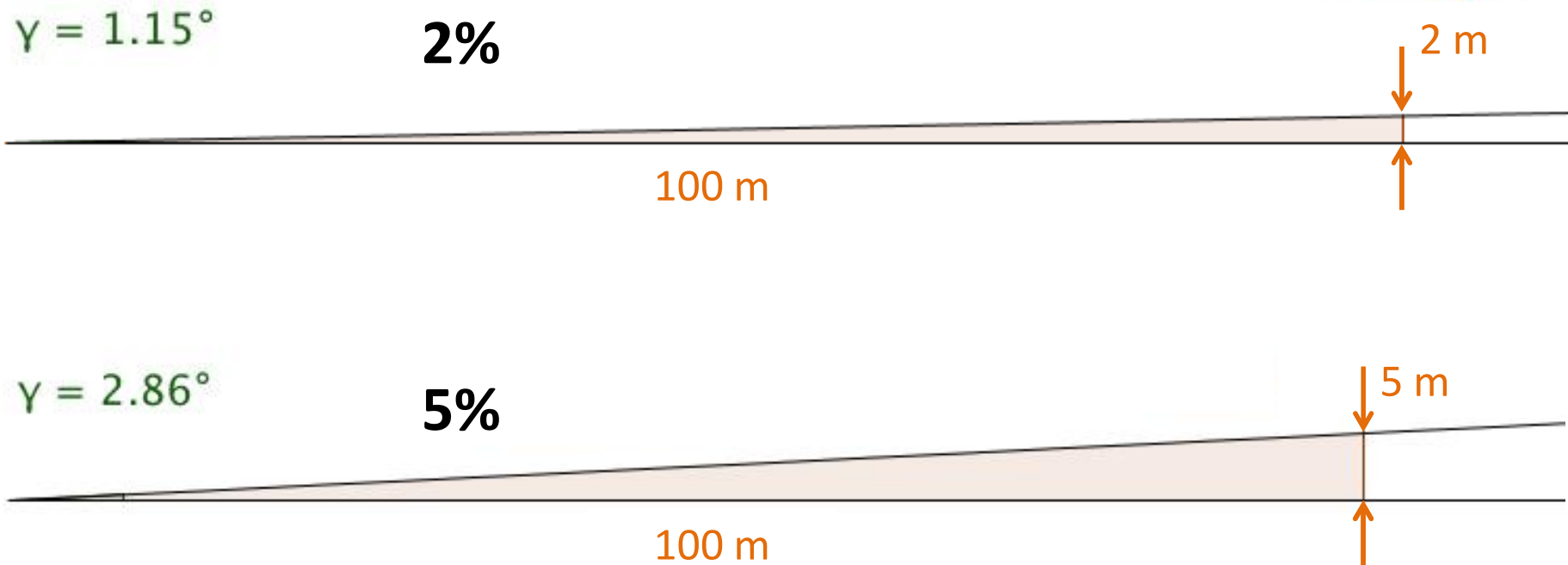
raster map of elevation data

- can be used to obtain **slope map (for dashboard 1 application)**



Slope

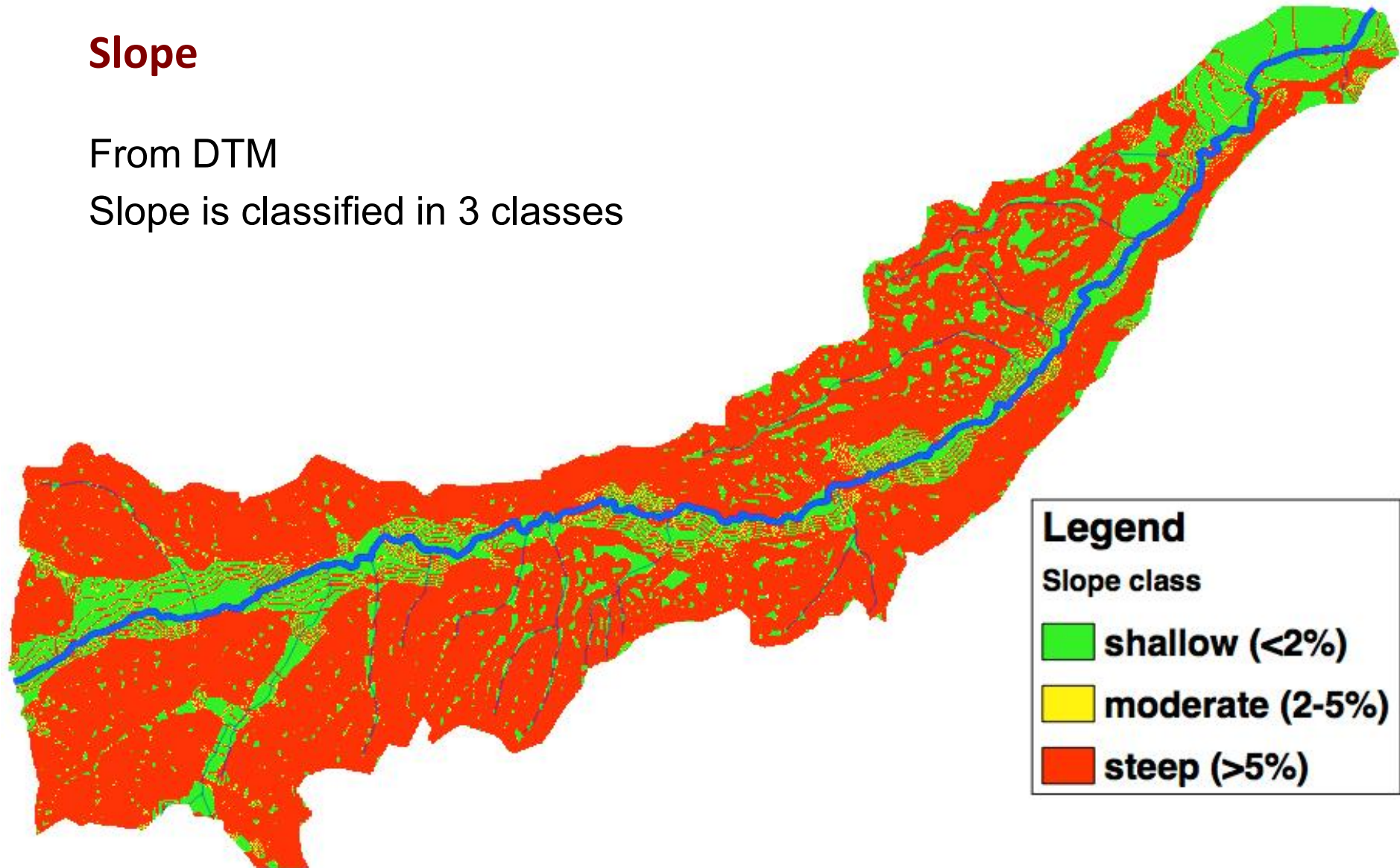
in dashboards, slope is measured as percentage!



Slope

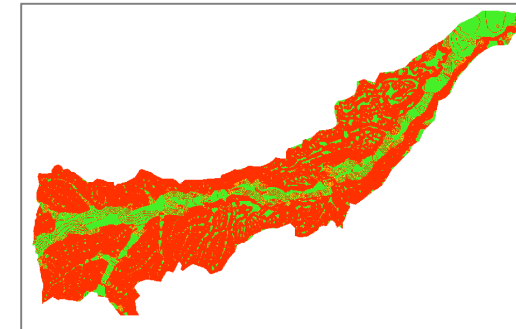
From DTM

Slope is classified in 3 classes

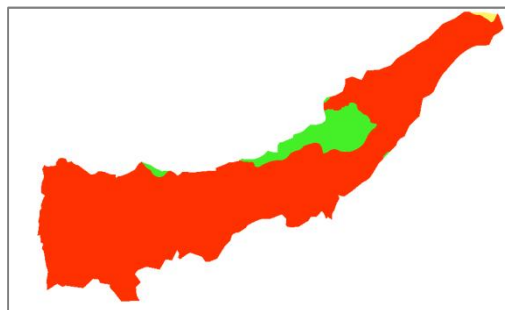


Runoff risk estimation

Runoff risk maps is produced by overlapping raster maps of **SLOPE** and **CAPPING RISK** and applying dashboard 1 criteria on a pixel-by-pixel basis

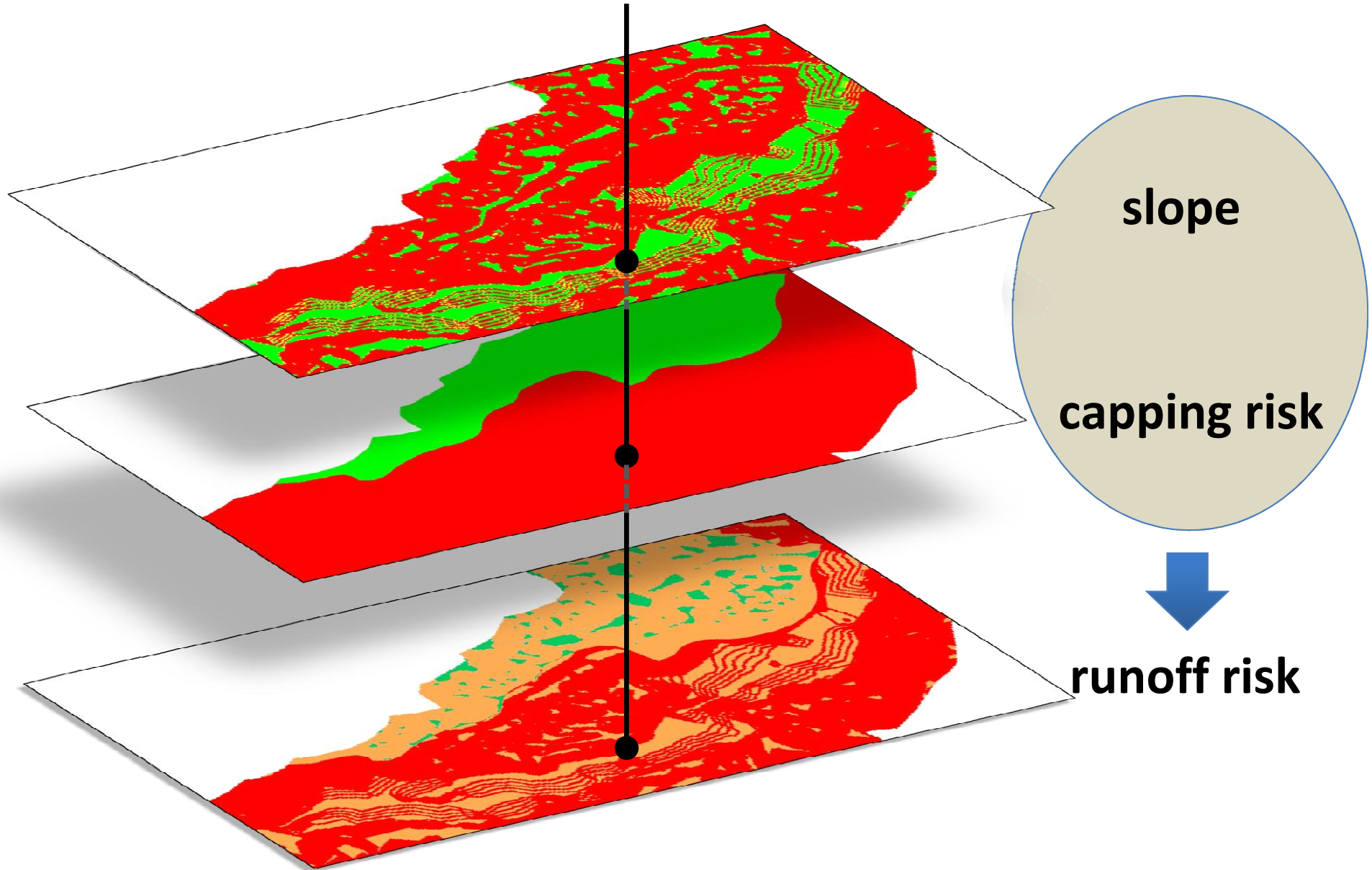


slope

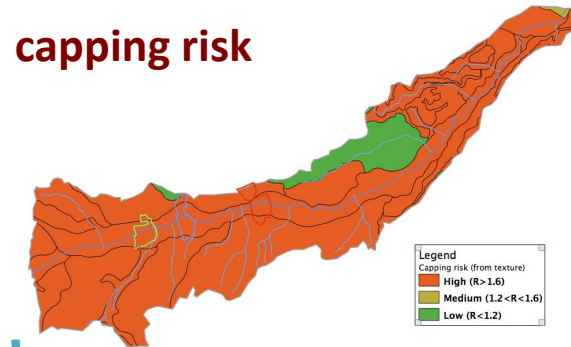


capping risk

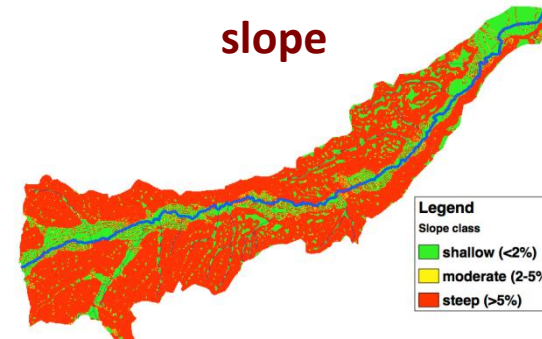
	0-2%	2-5%	>5%
HIGH permeability	very low	low	medium
MEDIUM permeability	low	medium	high
HIGH permeability	medium	high	high



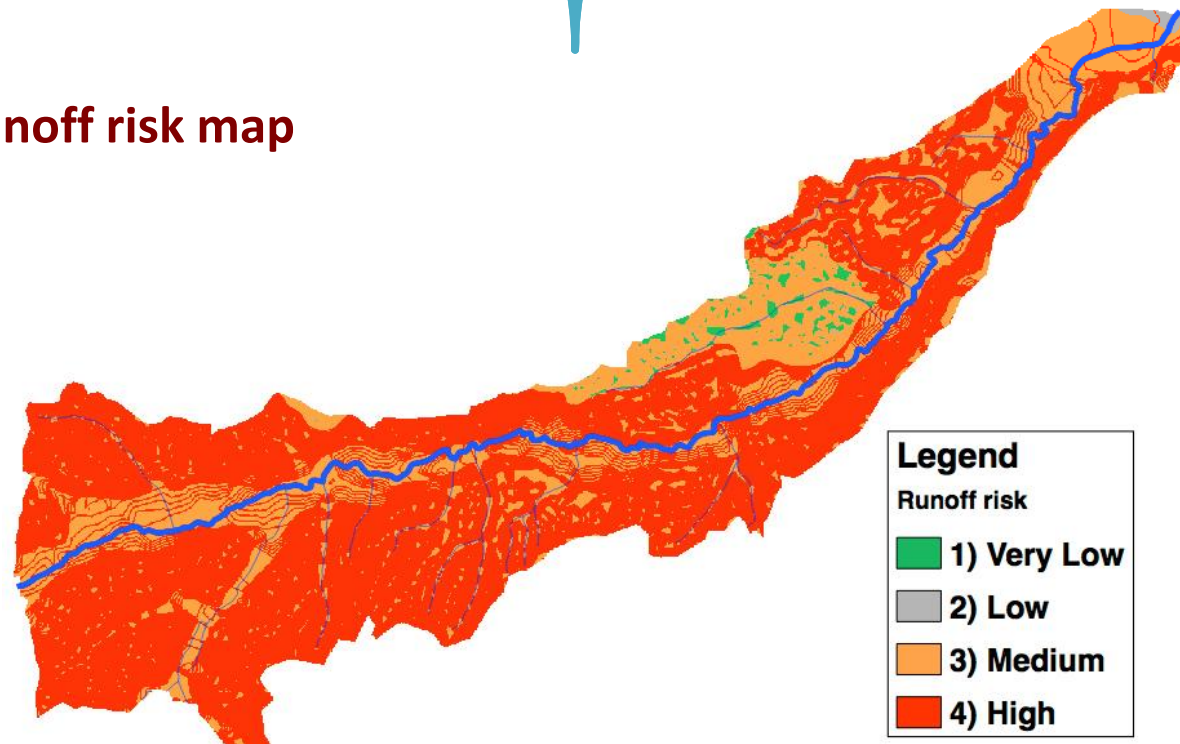
capping risk



slope



runoff risk map



software used



QGIS

<http://www.qgis.org/>

reasons of this choice

- very limited previous experience on GIS
 - need to learn from scratch
 - no previous conditioning to use a specific software
- licence cost elimination: both are free open-source projects
- multi-platform (runs on Windows, MacOSX, Linux)
- very fast increase of users and available plugins
- public authorities largely relying on GIS will use QGIS as future standard productive platform
- largely flexible: new plugins could be developed for specific purposes and distributed as public domain
- technician and stakeholders in general can use a free tool that does not requires (very) expensive licences

