



**Università
di Genova**

DICCA DIPARTIMENTO
DI INGEGNERIA CIVILE, CHIMICA
E AMBIENTALE

MASTER'S DEGREE IN
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Automatic procedure in GIS environment for vulnerability estimation and assessment of expected damage to buildings in flood-prone areas

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Introduction



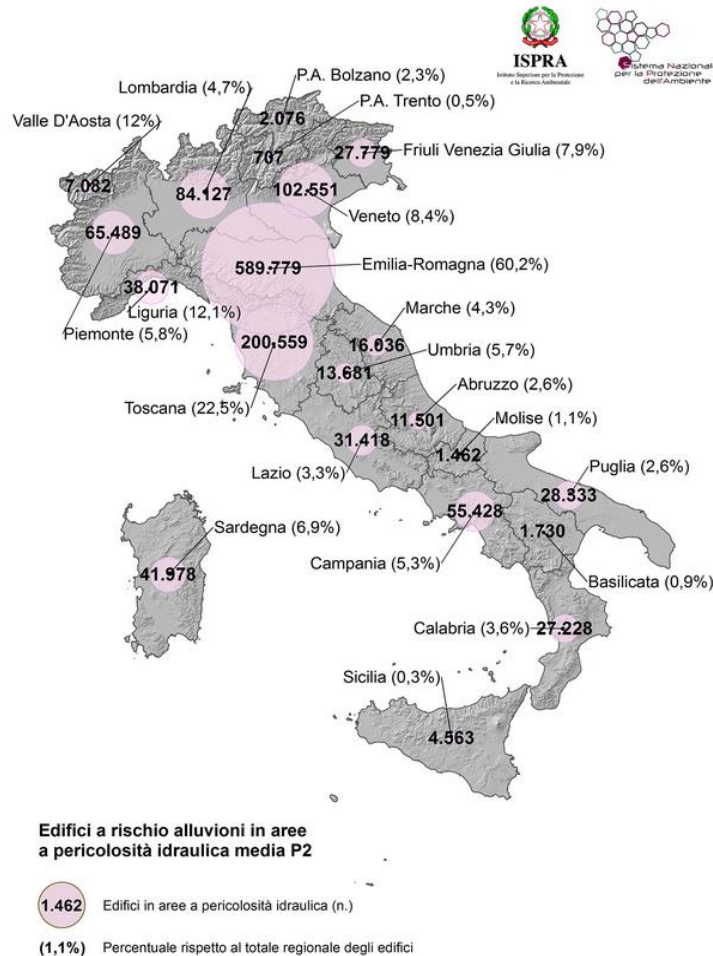
A neighborhood in Jackson, Kentucky, is overwhelmed by flash flooding after heavy rains caused the Kentucky River to overflow in July 2022.

Copyright © 1996-2015 National Geographic Society

Photograph by LEANDRO LOZADA / AFP via Getty Images

Purpose

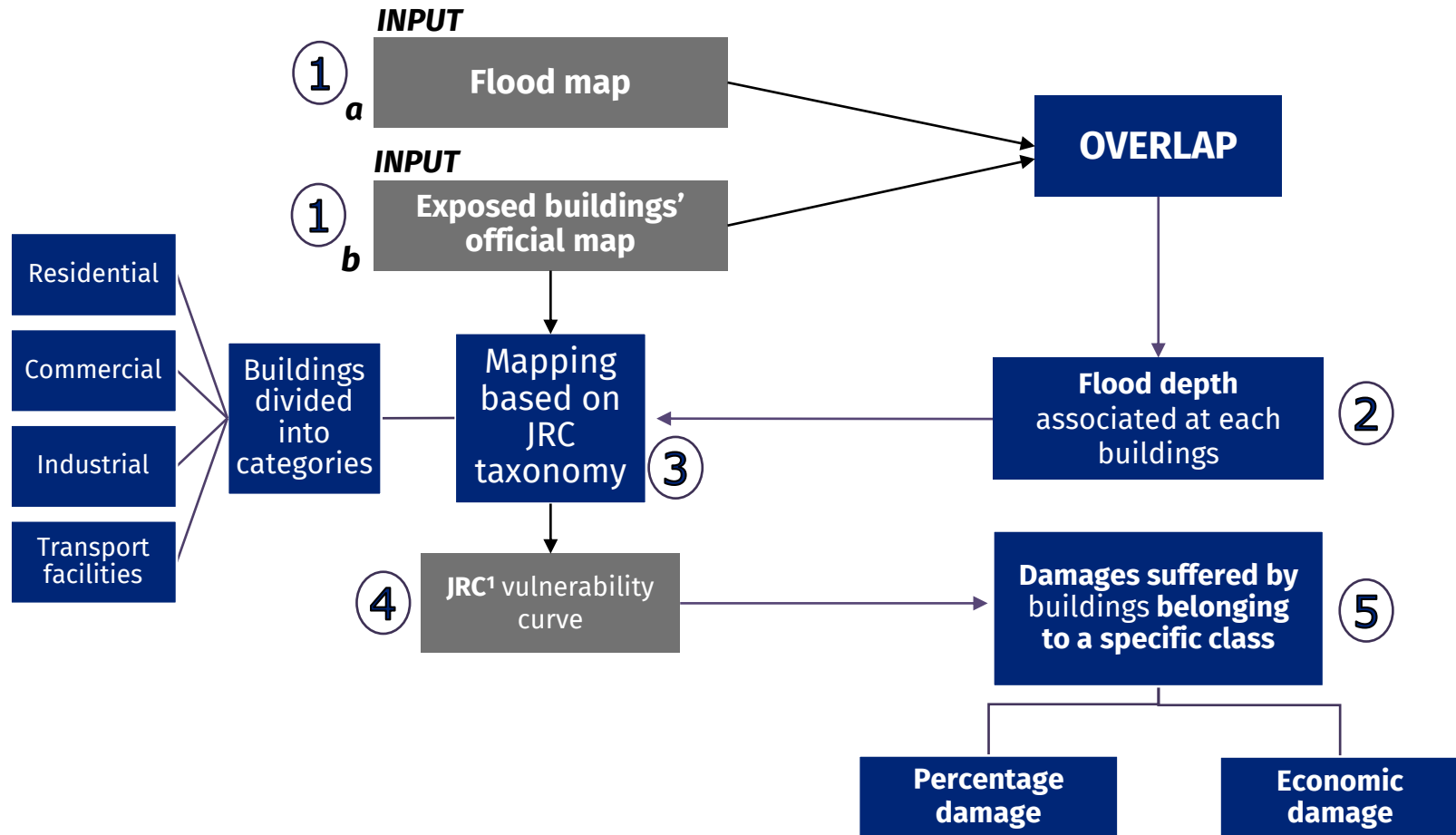
Automatic GIS-based method to estimate the damage caused by floods to buildings in an urban environment



- Plugin implemented in QGIS: detailed and rapid estimation of the **percentage** and the **economic damage** to buildings of a **specific urban area**
- Allow the creation of a **grading map** showing the impact of the damage
- Exploit available **official data** of the **exposed assets** and **official vulnerability models**

Methodology

Automatic GIS-based method to estimate the damage caused by floods to buildings in an urban environment



¹JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE of the European Commission

Methodology

1

Input files necessary to perform the flood damage assessment in GIS environment

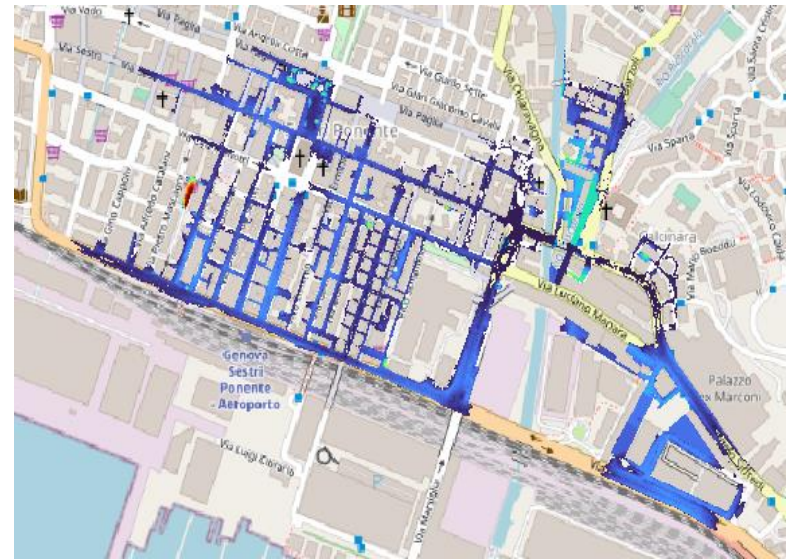
Italian context, Liguria Region - CTR (Carta Tecnica Regionale)

- Mapping all the **exposed** buildings
- Buildings must be composed by **polygons**



Map of the flood hazard scenario

- **Event's extent** and **water depth** in correspondence of the building and the surrounding area



Methodology

2 Procedures to estimate the flood depth reaching each building - in GIS environment



- Hydraulic simulation's result that **cover** the **footprints** of the buildings



- Hydraulic simulations that show the **water flux around the buildings**, taking into account their presence

Methodology

2

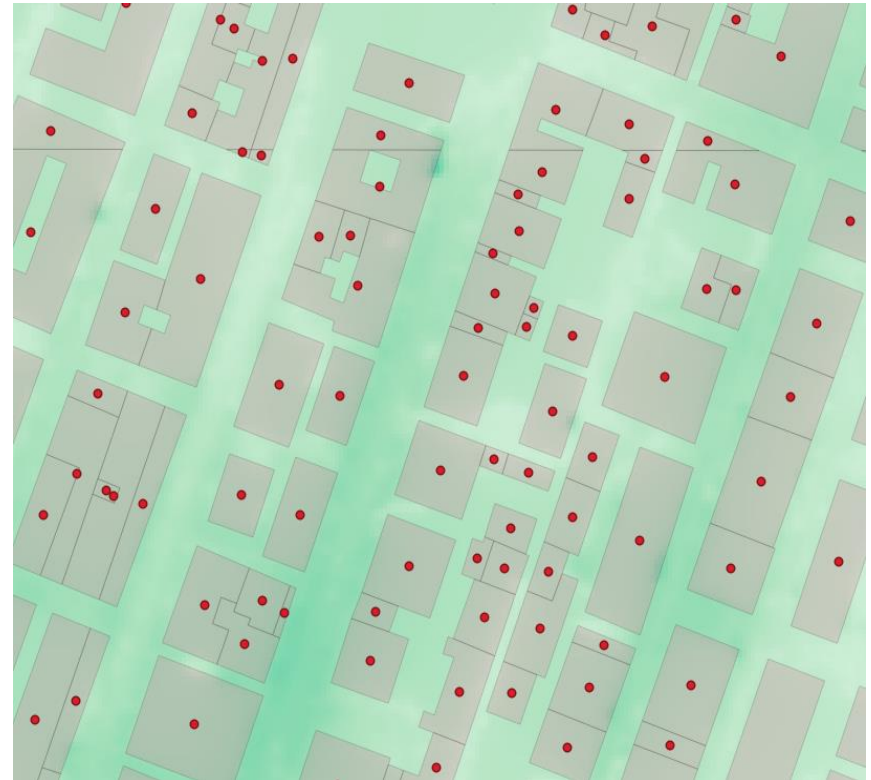
Different methodology to associate flood depth at each buildings

Method 1

Input flood map: «space filling»

Simulation of the water flux that also cover the footprint of the buildings

- Associate to the **CENTROID** of each building a water depth value contained in that point in the pixel of the flood map



Methodology

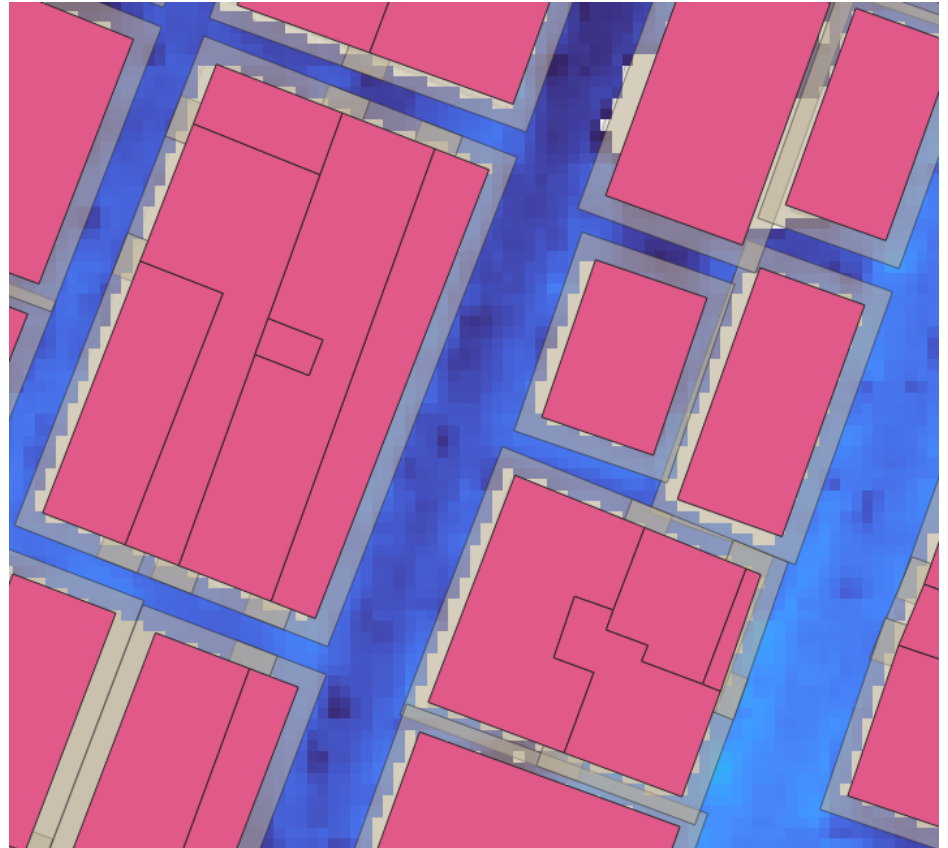
2

Different methodology to associate flood depth at each buildings

Method 2

Input flood map: simulation of the water flux around the buildings

- Water **depth** associated to each building through a **buffer** around each building and an **average** of the values of all the pixels of the flood map inside the **buffer**

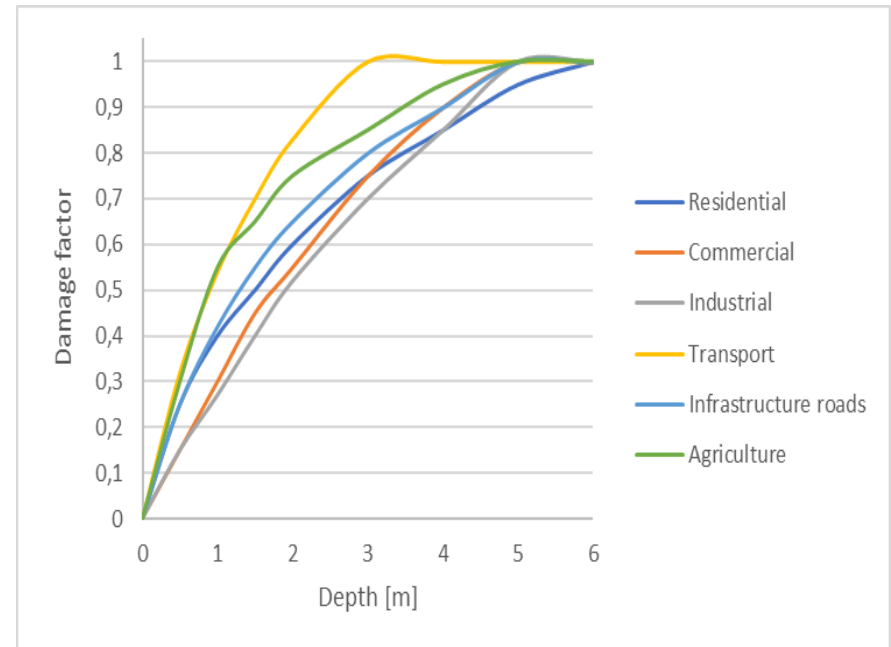


Methodology

3 Flood damage assessment tool: JRC vulnerability curves

JRC global flood depth-damage functions

- Maximum direct tangible physical damage values for 6 impact categories, as a function of water depth, in **percentage** and **economic** terms
- Representative of average European buildings behaviour



Methodology

4 Taxonomy

Mapping based on the JRC taxonomy

- Italian context, Liguria Region - **CTR (Carta Tecnica Regionale)** - geotopographic database of the Liguria Region provides a **layer** called «**EDIFICATO**»

RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL				INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORT
	Religious	Generic commercial	Government	Education		
Residenziale	Luogo di culto	Commerciale	Servizio pubblico-sede di polizia	Servizio pubblico-sede di scuola, università, laboratorio di ricerca	Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-centrale elettrica	Servizi di trasporto aereo
Residenziale-Abitativa	battistero	Commerciale-mercato	Servizio pubblico-sede di tribunale		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-centrale termoelettrica	Servizi di trasporto aereo - Aerostazione
Rudere	campanile	Commerciale-sede di albergo, locanda	Servizio pubblico-sede di vigili del fuoco		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-stazione/sottostazione elettrica	Servizi di trasporto aereo - Stazione eliporto
Palazzo a torre, grattacielo	Minareto, moschea	Commerciale-sede di centro commerciale	Struttura scolastica		Industriale-stabilimento industriale	Servizi di trasporto stradale
Edificio monumentale	Tempio	Commerciale-sede di banca	Amministrativo		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-centrale idroelettrica	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario
Villa	chiesa, basilica	Commerciale-sede di supermercato, ipermercato	Amministrativo-municipio		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-centrale nucleare	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario- stazione passeggeri ferrovia
Villetta a schiera		Commerciale-sede di albergo, locanda	Amministrativo-sede provincia		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-stazione di trasformazione	Servizi di trasporto-altri impianti
Rifugio montano		Commerciale-ostello della gioventù	Amministrativo-sede regione		Industriale-impianto di produzione energia-centrale eolica	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario-casello ferroviario
		Ricreativo-sede di attività culturali	Amministrativo-sede ambasciata		Industriale-stazione di telecomunicazioni	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario-deposito ferroviario per vagoni, rimessa locomotive
		Ricreativo-sede di attività culturali-biblioteca	Servizio pubblico-casello forestale		Industriale-impianto tecnologico	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario-fermata ferroviaria
		Ricreativo-sede di attività culturali-teatro, auditorium	Militare		Industriale-depuratore	Servizi di trasporto ferroviario-scalo merci
		Ricreativo-sede di attività culturali-pinacoteca	Militare-Caserma		Industriale-inceneritore	Servizi di trasporto stradale - Stazione autolinee

Methodology

5

Percentage of damage associated at each building

Depth [m]	Damage factor			
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transport
0	0	0	0	0
0,5	0,25	0,15	0,15	0,32
1	0,4	0,3	0,27	0,54
1,5	0,5	0,45	0,4	0,7
2	0,6	0,55	0,52	0,83
3	0,75	0,75	0,7	1
4	0,85	0,9	0,85	1
5	0,95	1	1	1
6	1	1	1	1

JRC vulnerability curves

Least squares polynomial regression

Determination coefficient

$$R^2 \cong 1$$

JRC curve functions	
Residential	$y = 0,0006x^5 - 0,0103x^4 + 0,0722x^3 - 0,2528x^2 + 0,5873x + 0,0031$
Commercial	$y = -0,0004x^5 + 0,0054x^4 - 0,0247x^3 + 0,0184x^2 + 0,3051x - 0,0013$
Industrial	$y = -0,0007x^5 + 0,0097x^4 - 0,0431x^3 + 0,0537x^2 + 0,255x + 0,0033$
Transport	$y = -0,0007x^6 + 0,0125x^5 - 0,0833x^4 + 0,265x^3 - 0,4939x^2 + 0,8364x - 0,0012$

Colour	Values (%)	Legend
	0	No damage
	0,0001 – 0,1	Very low
	0,1 – 0,2	Low
	0,2 – 0,4	Medium
	0,4 – 0,6	High
	0,6 – 1	Very high

X = depth
reached by the
water
Y = percentage
of **damage**

Methodology

5 Economic damage associated at each building

Average maximum damage economic values – provided by JRC

- **Sum** of the damage to the **contents** and the **structure**
 - based on **construction cost surveys** from multinational construction companies (2010 price levels)
 - statistical regressions with **socio-economic World Development Indicators**

Area of the buildings multiplied by the average maximum damage value calculated for the Italian country

	Average maximum damage value (Italy) [€/m2]
Residential	739
Commercial	1028
Industrial	838
Transport	625

Final result of the methodologies

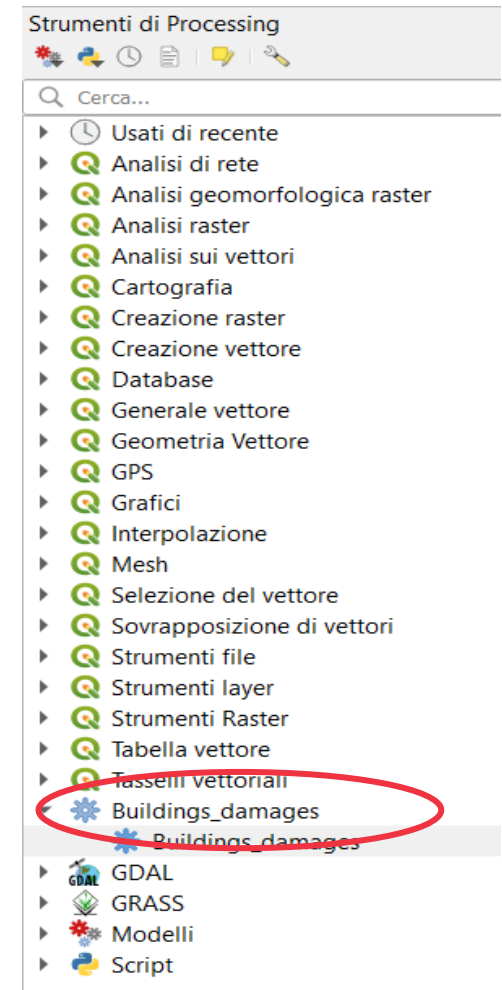
id	cat_uso	def_cat_us	WaterDepth_mean ▼	Building_typology	Area	Max_ec_dam	Perc_damage
213154_0201021018	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	1,8434956701512033	1	371,216	274328,8111	0,573
213153_020102889	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	1,2828875513126452	1	32,644	24123,8456	0,467
213154_0201022766	020102020801	Industriale-stabilimento industriale	1,1312668493815832	3	104,028	87175,1923	0,313
213153_020102154	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	1,1138776499581964	1	145,206	107307,4427	0,429
213153_0201021059	020102020303	Servizio pubblico-sede di scuola, università, laboratorio di ricerca	1,0589701142804375	2	189,902	195219,5776	0,319
213154_0201022765	020102020801	Industriale-stabilimento industriale	1,034236412556445	3	247,583	207474,5620	0,287
213153_020102158	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	1,033378231279347	1	196,221	145007,4360	0,409
213153_0201021057	020102020303	Servizio pubblico-sede di scuola, università, laboratorio di ricerca	1,0296750664710999	2	257,822	265040,7277	0,311
213153_020102157	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	1,0157688679173589	1	146,194	108037,6951	0,404
213153_020102159	020102020101	Residenziale-Abitativa	0,9609385553288133	1	126,175	93243,3966	0,39

Methodology

Processing plugin

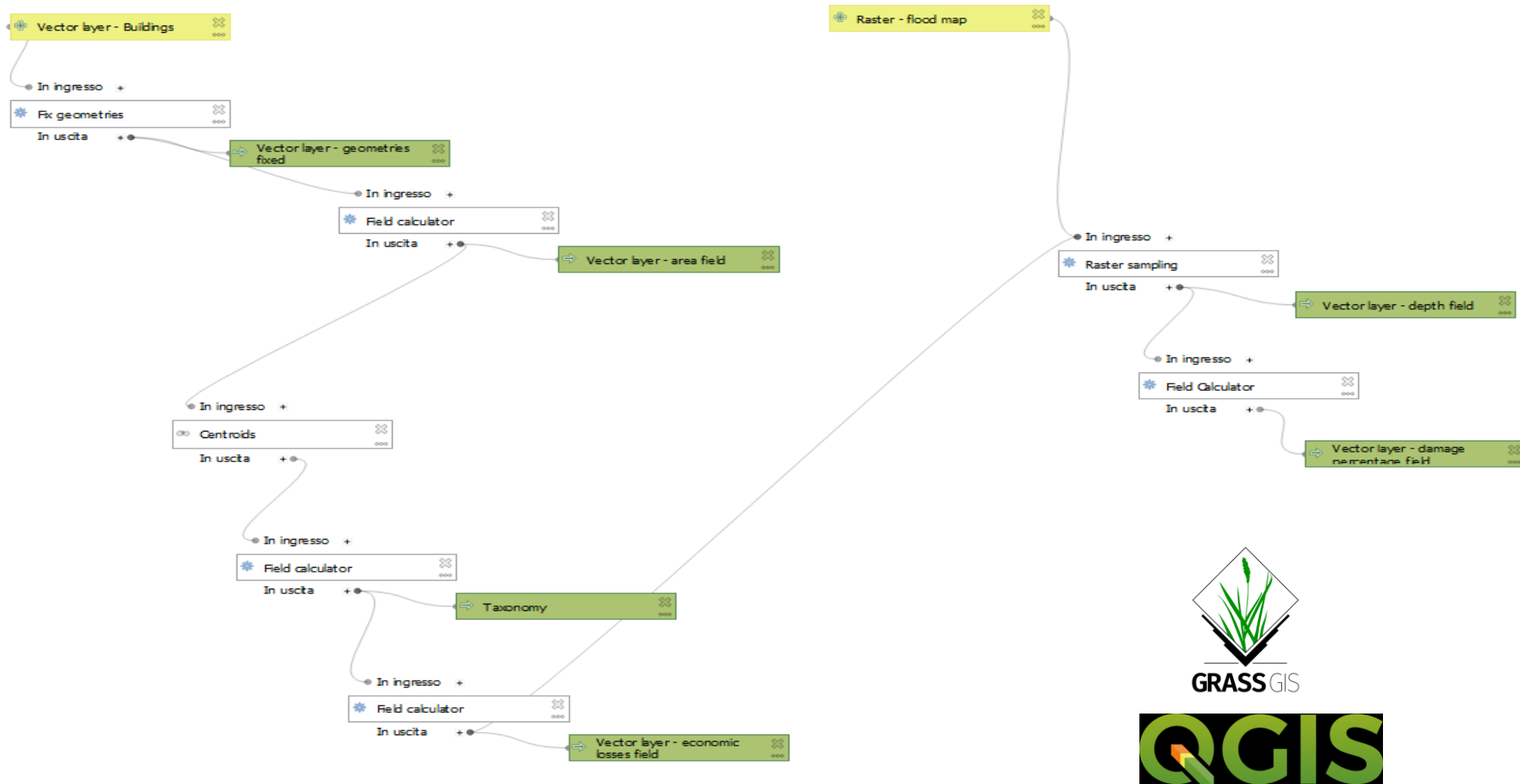
Automate the procedure for determining the damage caused by floods to buildings

- Creating a **processing plugin**, implementable in QGIS
- Allows to associate the JRC vulnerability curves and the flood depth to the buildings as automatically as possible
 - Suitable for the **CTR** (Carta Tecnica Regionale) **official map's** layer "**EDIFICATO**" - geotopographic database of the **Liguria Region**



Methodology

Processing plugin - flowchart



Methodology

Processing plugin interface

Buildings_damages ×

Parametri Log

Raster - flood map

IDW_qgis [EPSG:32632] ...

Vector layer - Buildings

Edificato [EPSG:4326] ...

Taxonomy

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Vector layer - damage percentage field

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Vector layer - area field

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Vector layer - economic losses field

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Vector layer - geometries fixed

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Vector layer - depth field

[Crea layer temporaneo] ...

☒ Apri il file risultante dopo l'esecuzione dell'algoritmo

Results

Application to a case of study

Flooding of the Chiaravagna stream (Genova) - 4 October 2010

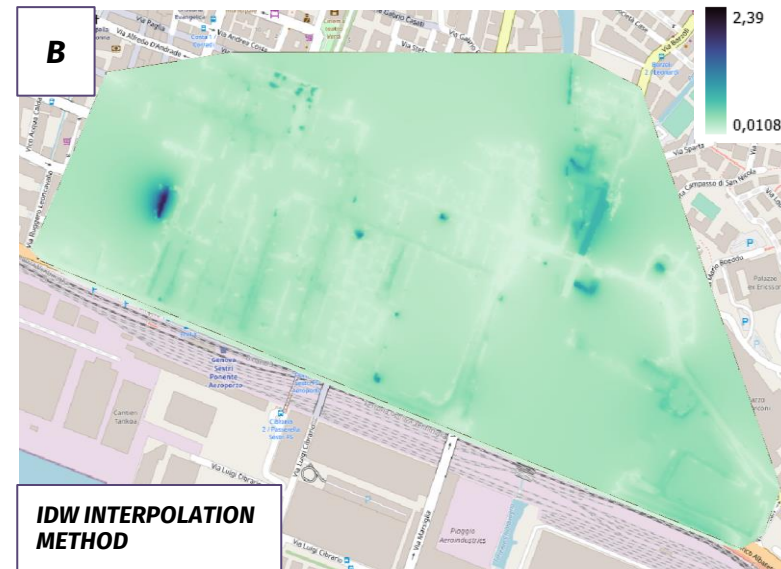
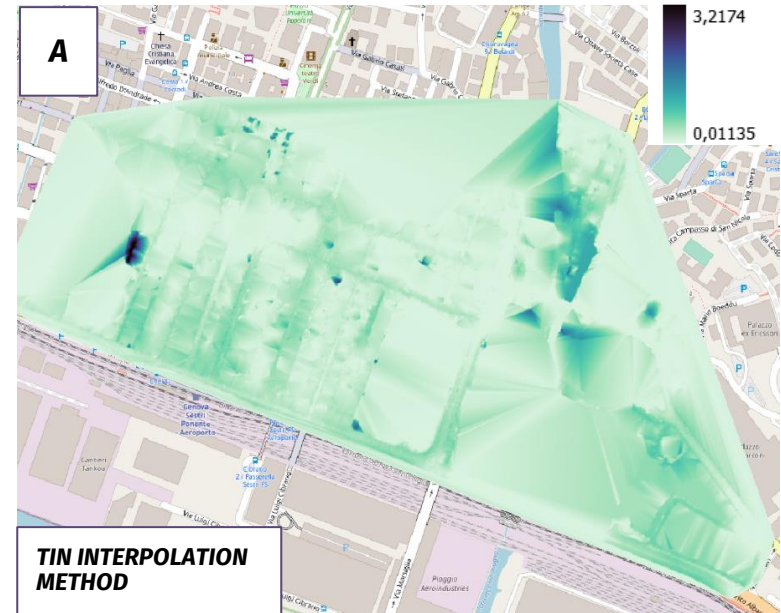
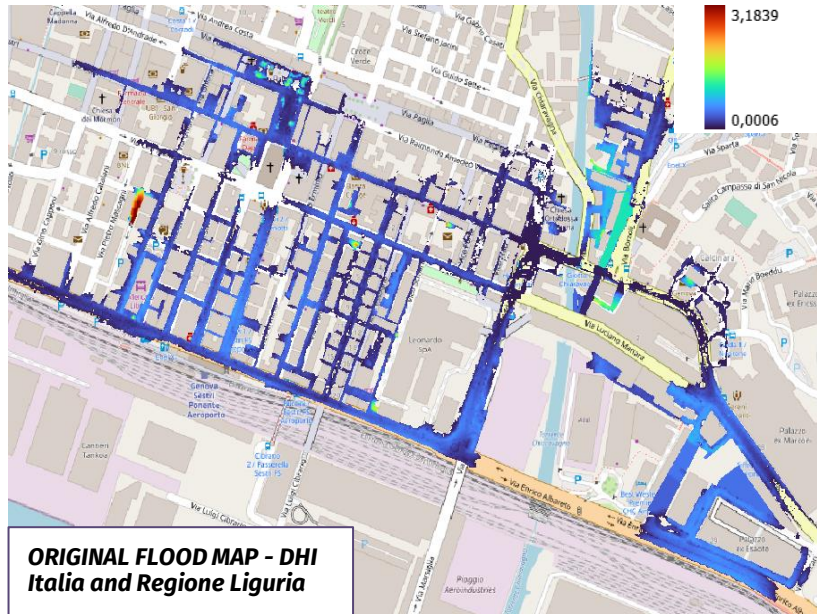
- Caused by rains of **extraordinary intensities**, involving **buildings**, **roads** and **people**



Results

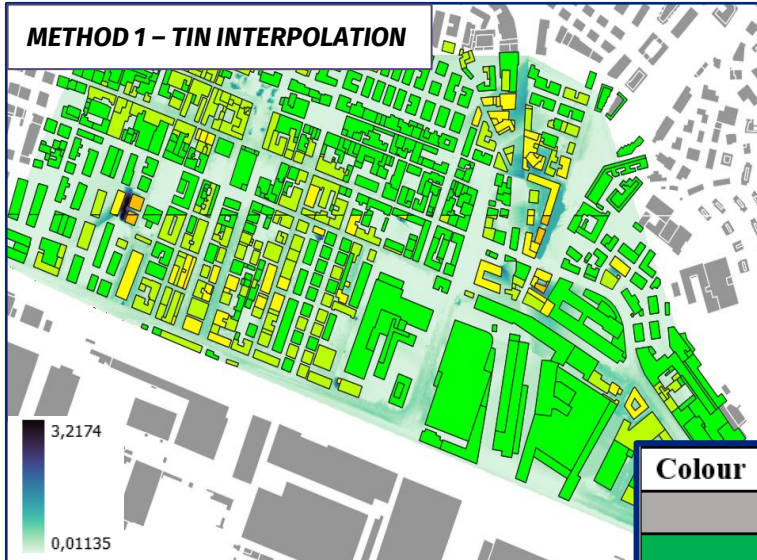
Application to a case of study

Plugin's test - available flood map

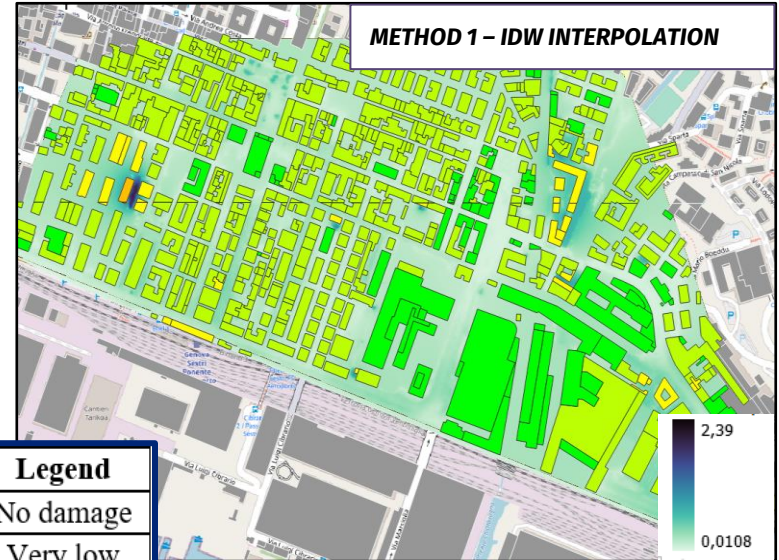


Results

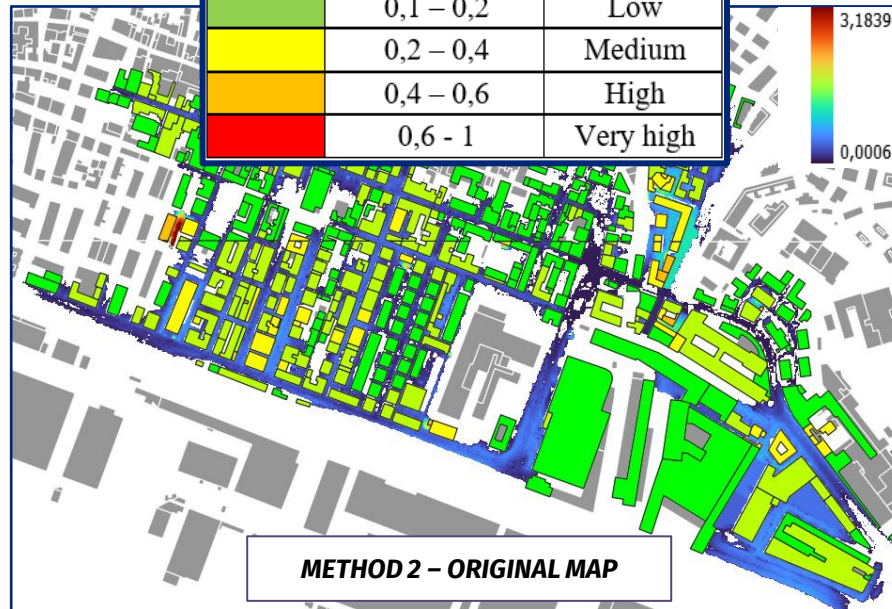
METHOD 1 – TIN INTERPOLATION



METHOD 1 – IDW INTERPOLATION



Colour	Values (%)	Legend
	0	No damage
	0,0001 – 0,1	Very low
	0,1 – 0,2	Low
	0,2 – 0,4	Medium
	0,4 – 0,6	High
	0,6 - 1	Very high

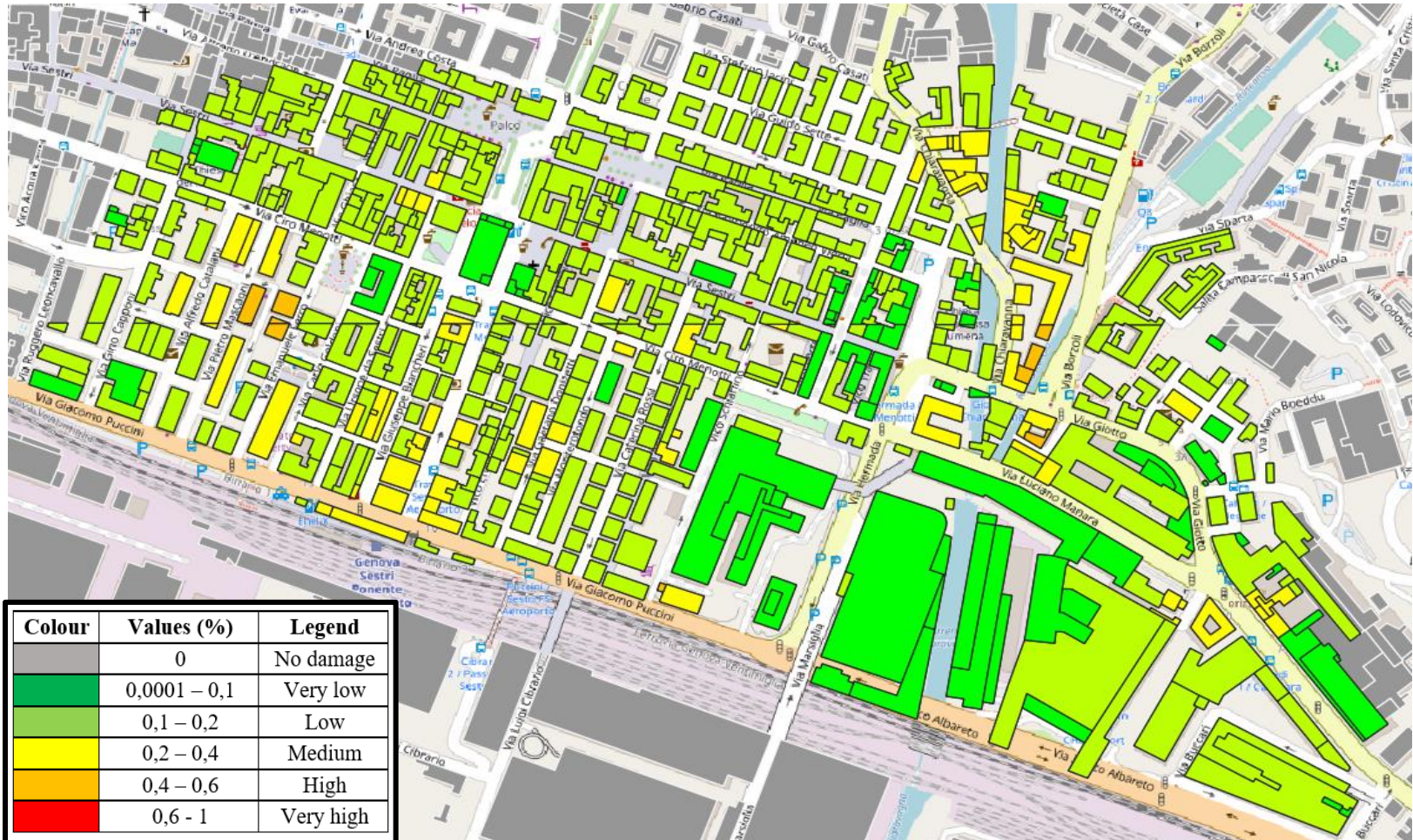


METHOD 2 – ORIGINAL MAP

Results

Application to a case of study

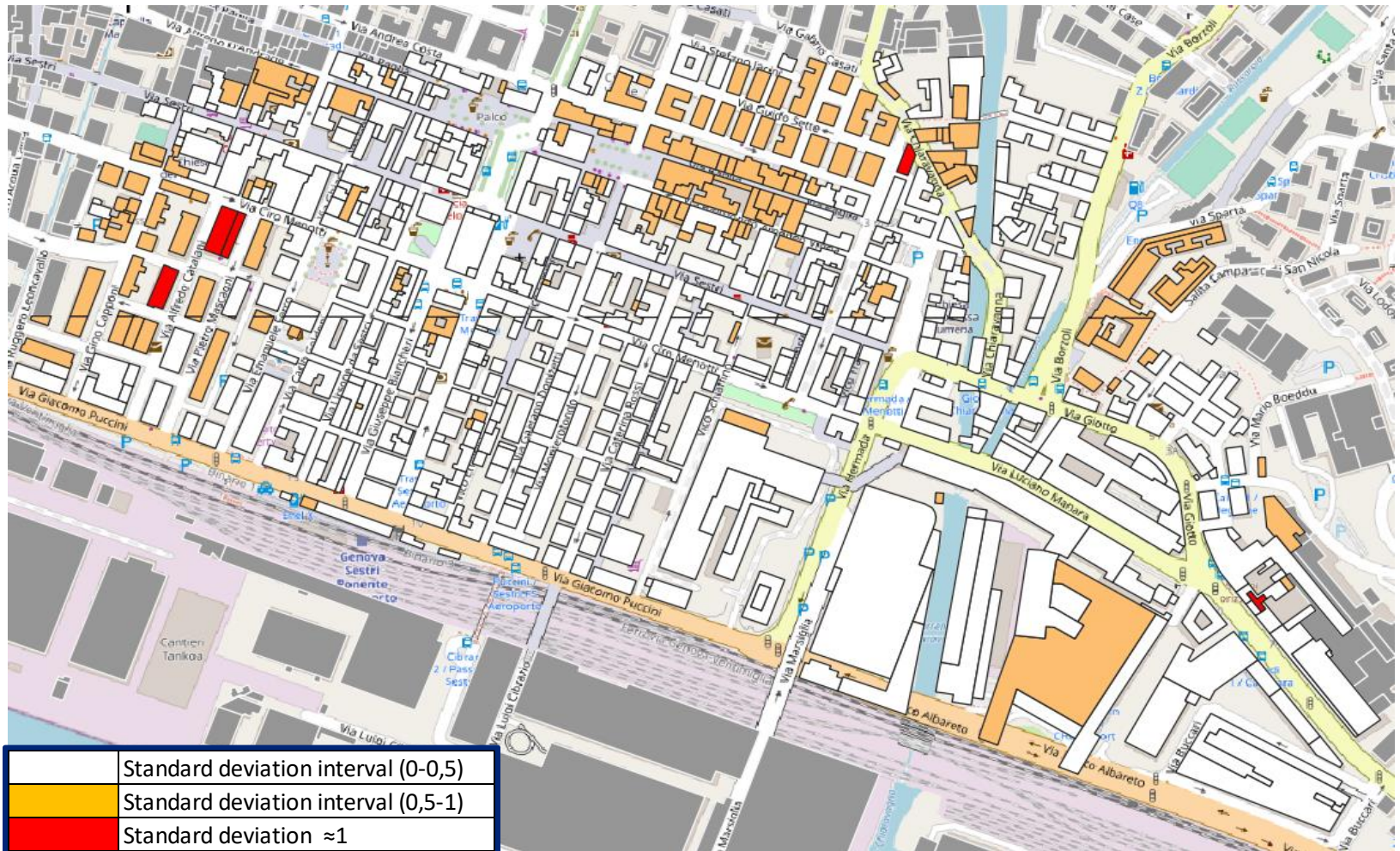
Maximum expected buildings' damage of the different test's output



Results

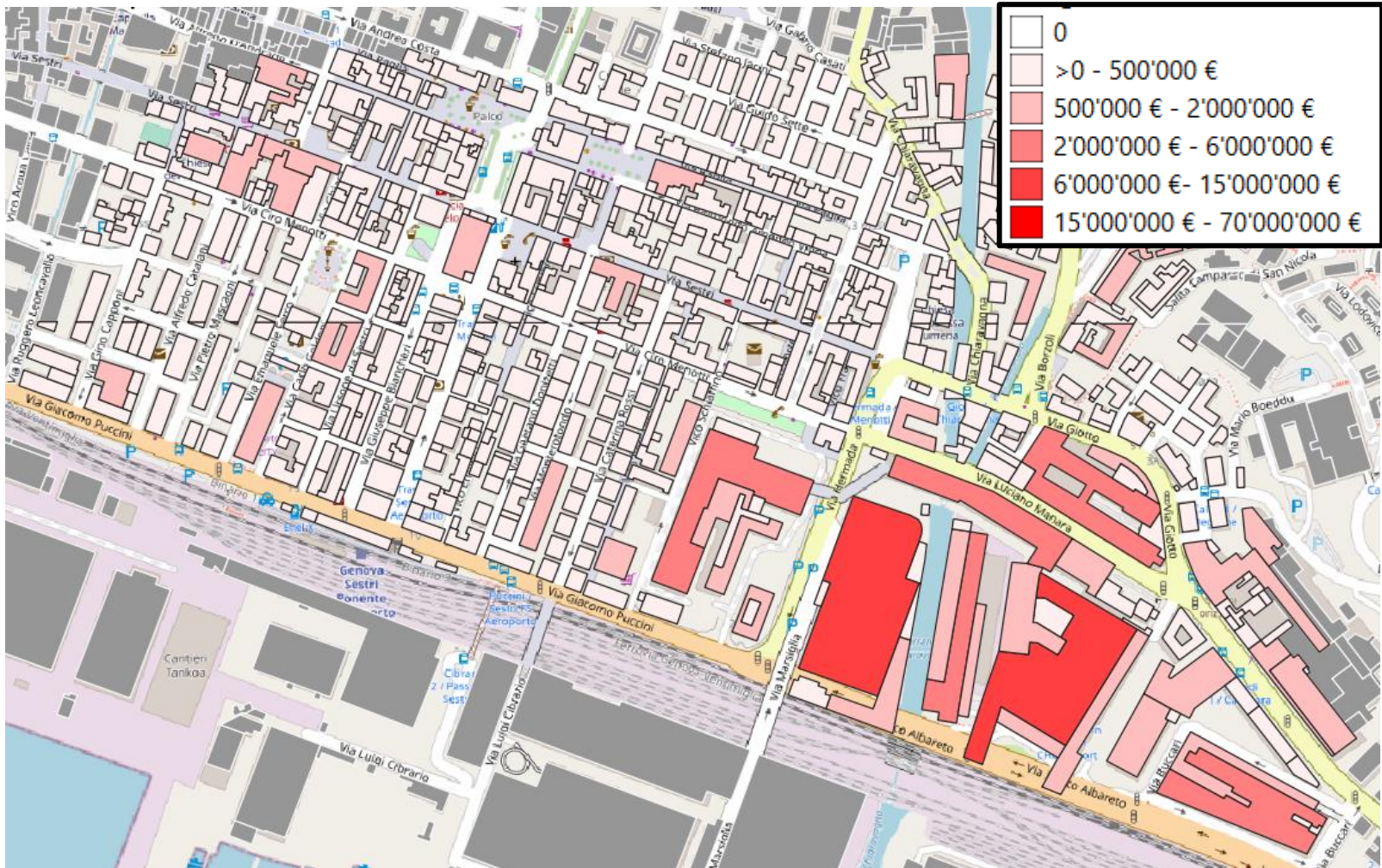
Application to a case of study

Confidence of the results with respect the choice of methodology



Results

Application to a case of study – buildings' maximum economic damage [€]



Conclusions

1

Results

- Buildings flood damage estimation methods
 - Processing **plugin** implemented in **QGIS**
 - Exploit:
1. **official cartography** that contains information of the **buildings' intended use**
 2. Standard **flood map**

2

Application of a vulnerability model

- **Global flood depth-damage functions**, by the JRC, associated in **automatic** way to each buildings allowing to obtain a **grading damage map**
- **Maximum direct tangible physical damage** for the categories of buildings
- **Average values** of the **maximum damage** (€/m²) at **Italy level**

3

The developed plugins...

- ..allows to **utilize** every **simulations of flood map** with an indication of the **depth**:
1. **"Space filling"** flood map : cover the footprints of the buildings
 2. Flood map that **take into account** the presence of the **buildings**

Conclusions

Possible further development...

..of the procedure in order that:

1. Take into account **number of people impacted** for each building;
 2. Be **generalized** to use:
 - **different taxonomy tables**
 - **other vulnerability assessment methods** that take into account the number of floors, presence of basements, etc.
- Future developer can **adapt** the plugin to be used for **various applications** and a wider range of input data
 - **Open Source procedure** available in the **GitHub** page of the **Geomatic Lab – DICCA** – University of Genova

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