

# Agricultural Classification of Multi-Temporal MODIS Imagery in Northwest Argentina Using Kansas Crop Phenologies

September 17, 2014

Jarrett Keifer  
Department of Geography



# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Can I...

- ▶ develop a phenological classification toolset?
- ▶ extract crop signatures from Kansas data?
- ▶ classify an Argentina study area with the Kansas signatures?

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# OUTLINE

1. Background

2. Study Areas

3. Data and Methods

4. Results and Discussion

5. Conclusion

# BACKGROUND



# DEFORESTATION IN ARGENTINA

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- ▶ **1998 to 2002: 940,000 ha deforested**
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  - ▶ Classified red, yellow, and green areas through the *Ordenamiento Territorial de los Bosques Nativos* (Land Management Order for Native Forests, OTBN) passed in 2009

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## Deforestation in Argentina, 2006 to 2011

Time Period	Hectares Deforested
2006 to <i>Ley de Bosques</i> (2007)	573,296
<i>Ley de Bosques</i> to OTBN (2009)	473,001
OTBN to 2011	459,108
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,505,405</b>

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- ▶ Deforestation has remained extremely high
- ▶ Questions the effectiveness of the *Ley de Bosques*

# SOY AND ITS EFFECTS

- ▶ Argentina's soybean cultivation has continually increased
  - ▶ 5 million ha in 1993 to 19 million ha in 2011

## SOY AND ITS EFFECTS

- ▶ Soy production highly mechanized
- ▶ Over 99 percent of Argentine soy is genetically modified
  - ▶ Resistance to glyphosate = heavy pesticide use
- ▶ Capital requirements cut out small producers

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## Questions

- ▶ What if two crops have similar VI values on a single date?
- ▶ How does one determine a crop's VI values?

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## Answer

Use imagery from multiple dates.

# TIME SERIES IMAGES

NASA's Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Sensor

- ▶ Terra and Aqua satellites
- ▶ Each images the Earth once per day
- ▶ Composite 16-day NDVI imagery at 250-meter resolution

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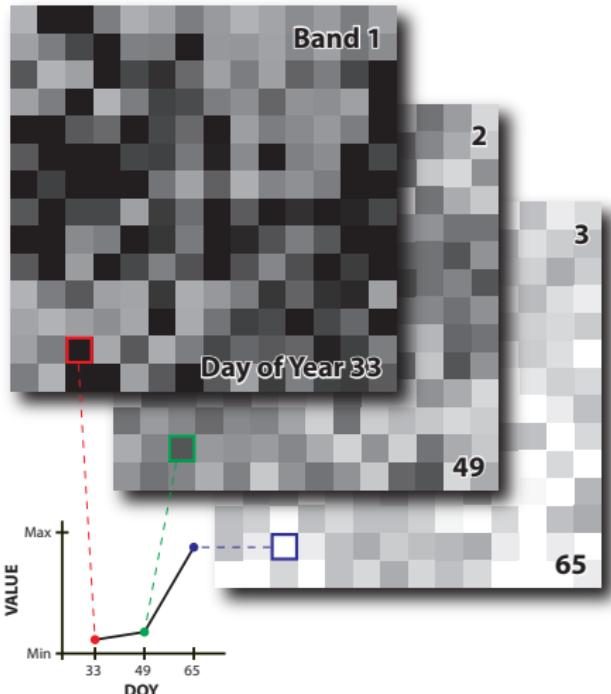
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- ▶ Bands are sequential composites
- ▶ Contains enough bands to cover an entire growing season

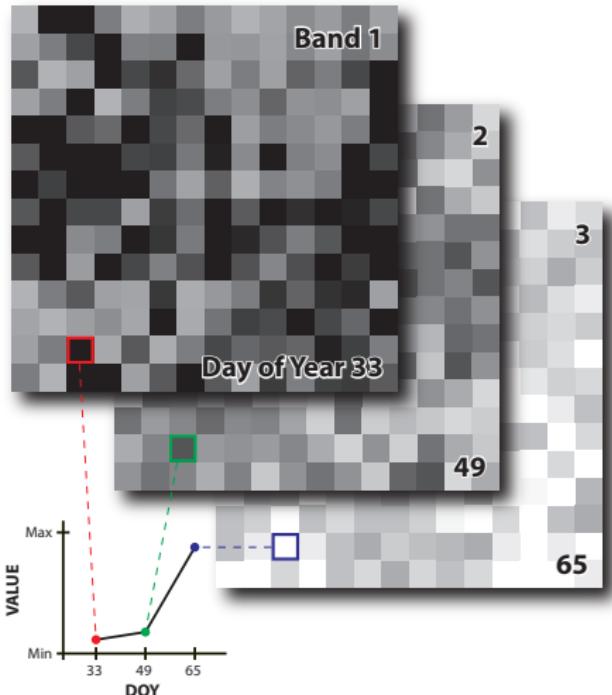


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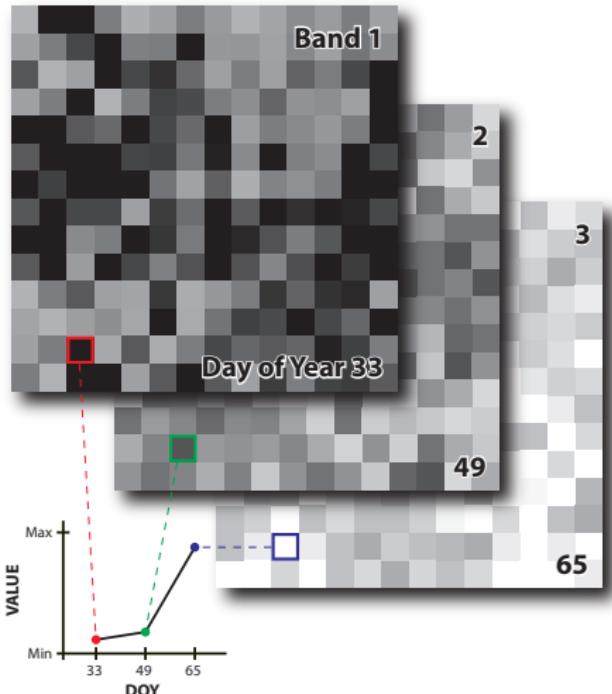


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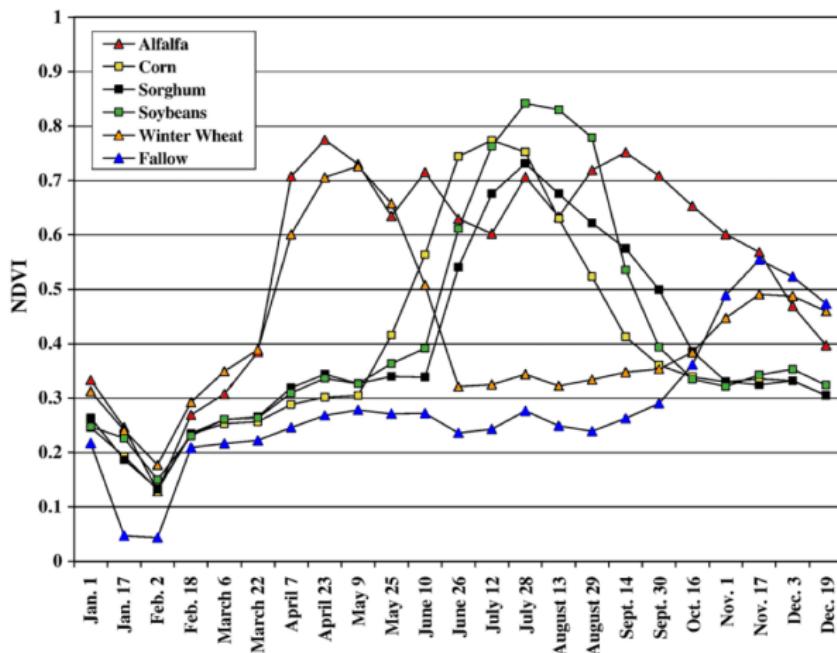
**Time Series Image Band Stack**

# TIME SERIES IMAGES

## Key Points

- ▶ A TSI pixel shows VI values over time
- ▶ Each crop's phenology exhibits a unique temporal signature

# CROP TEMPORAL SIGNATURES



(From Wardlow and Egbert 2005)

# PHENOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

## Question

How does one determine a crop's VI values?

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## Answer

Existing approaches require training sites.

# PHENOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

## Problem

What if you don't have training sites?

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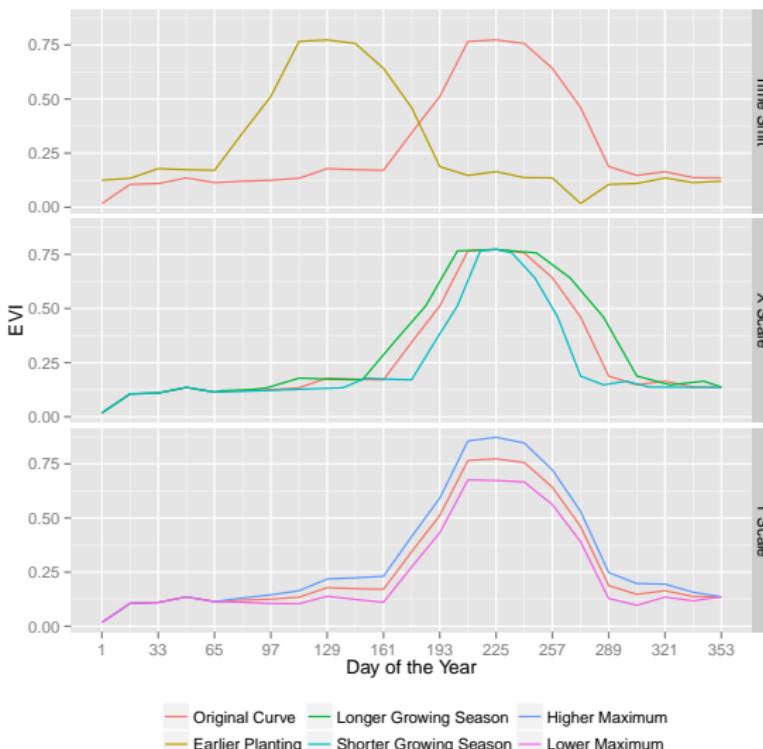
Sounds a lot like hyperspectral remote sensing...

# TIME SERIES IMAGES

## Idea

Could we use a hyperspectral-like method to fit known crop signatures to unknown pixels?

# TIME SERIES IMAGES



# TSF METHOD

Two-Step Filter (TSF) method from Sakamoto et al. (2010)

- ▶ Two steps: (1) wavelet smoothing and (2) curve fitting
- ▶ Curve fitting can fit reference signature to unknown pixels

# TSF METHOD

## TSF Equation 1

$$RMSE = \left[ \frac{1}{365/s} \sum_{x=j(0), j(1)\dots}^n (f(x) - g(x))^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where

- ▶  $n$  is the number of dates in the TSI
- ▶  $f(x)$  is the temporal signature for a given pixel in a dataset
- ▶  $x$  is the DOY, as defined by  $j(y)$

# TSF METHOD

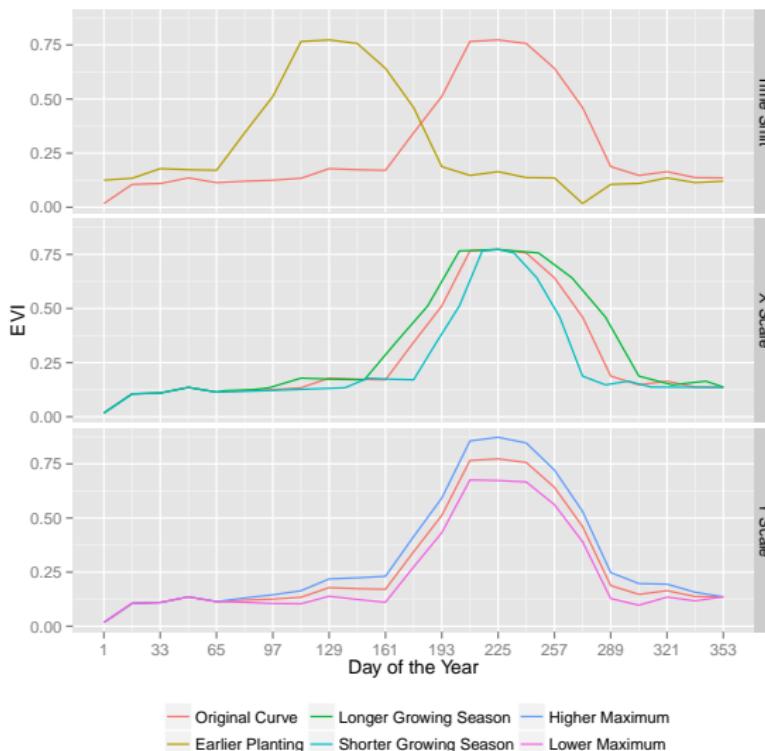
## TSF Equation 2

$$g(x) = \text{yscale} \times h(\text{xscale} \times (x + \text{tshift}))$$

where

- ▶  $\text{yscale}$  and  $\text{xscale}$  are coefficients controlling the vertical and horizontal scaling of a reference signature  $h(x)$
- ▶  $\text{tshift}$  is a constant representing the horizontal shift, in days, of  $h(x)$
- ▶  $x$  is the DOY

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Minimizing Equation 1 with appropriate constraints on *yscale*, *xscale*, and *tshift* will find the fit of a reference signature to a pixel.

The signature with the lowest RMSE provides the most probable identification.

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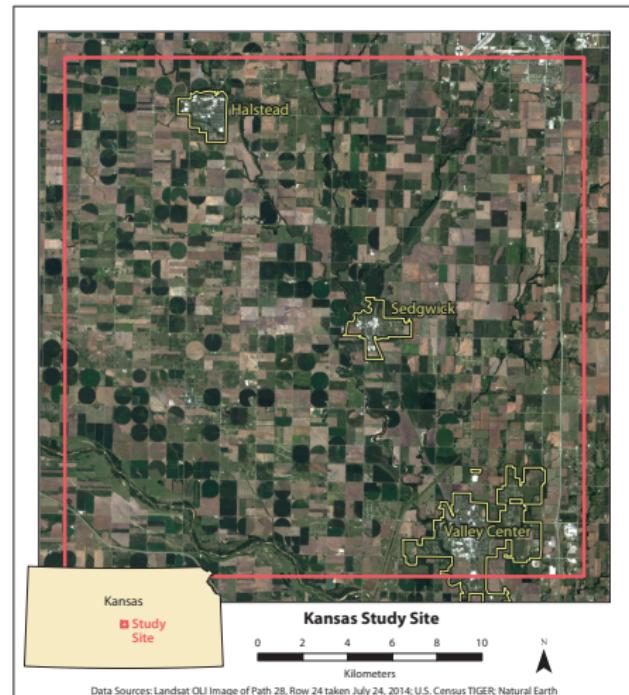
The TSF equations allow the classification of unknown pixels using a library of crop signatures.



# STUDY AREAS

# KANSAS STUDY AREA

- ▶ 2012 Kansas top crops:
  - ▶ Winter wheat
  - ▶ Corn
  - ▶ Soy
- ▶ Ground truth:  
USDA Cropland Data  
Layer

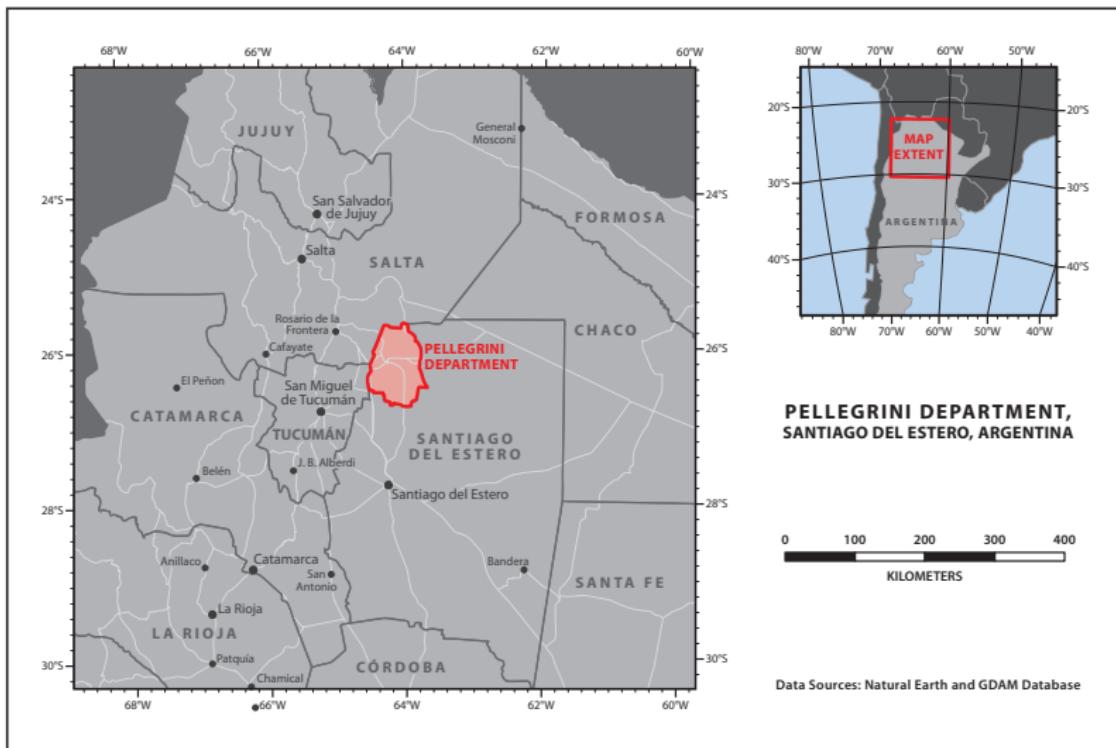


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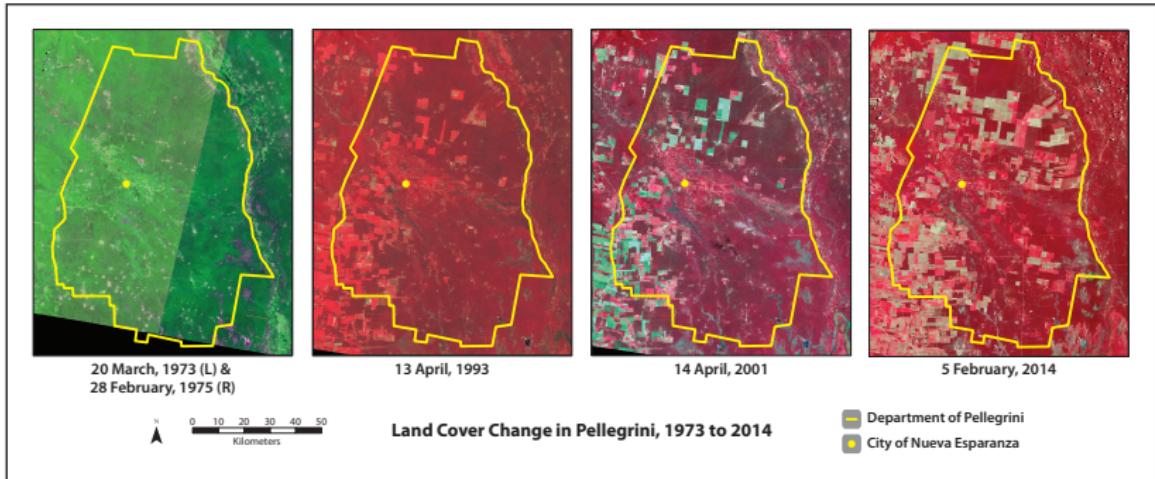
## Kansas Study Site Planting Dates (adapted from Shroyer et al. 1996)

Crop	Planting Date Range
Wheat	25 September to 20 October
Corn	1 April to 10 May
Sorghum	15 May to 20 June
Soybeans	5 May to 10 June

# DEPARTMENT OF PELLEGRINI



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## Deforestation in Pellegrini, 2001 to 2011

Time Period	Hectares Cleared	Percent of Land Area	Hectares per Year
2001 to 2005	5,968	0.9	1,492
2006 to 2011	75,249	10.9	15,050

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Annual rate of clearing increased over 1000%!

# DEPARTMENT OF PELLEGRINI

Top crops in Pellegrini, 2001 to 2005

- ▶ Soy
- ▶ Corn
- ▶ Winter Wheat

(From Volante et al. 2005)

## DATA AND METHODS



# DATASETS

- ▶ 250-meter MODIS 16-day composite VI imagery
- ▶ 30-meter 2012 USDA Cropland Data Layer
- ▶ 30-meter Landsat 8 OLI satellite imagery
- ▶ Pellegrini boundary shapefile

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# DATASETS

- ▶ 2014 Pellegrini Land Cover vector dataset

# PELLEGRINI DATA COLLECTION

- ▶ Data collection in Pellegrini 12 March to 3 April
  - ▶ 400 random sample points
    - ▶ Direct observation
    - ▶ Interviews with farmers
    - ▶ Satellite image interpretation
  - ▶ Agricultural practices and planting/harvesting dates

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# PROCESSING WORKFLOW

1. Reproject the MODIS composite VIs
2. Assemble composite VIs into TSIs
3. Extract crop signatures from the Kansas TSI
  - 3.1 Identify pure pixels (e.g. non-mixels)
  - 3.2 Use the CDL to isolate each crop
  - 3.3 Identify phenological groups using k-means clustering
  - 3.4 Extract pixel values for each group and average
4. Fit the Kansas signatures to the Kansas TSI using the TSF method
5. Classify the Kansas RMSE rasters and assess accuracy
6. Fit the Kansas signatures to the Argentina TSI
7. Classify the Argentina RMSE rasters and assess accuracy

# 1. REPROJECTION

- ▶ Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center's (LPDAAC) MODIS Reprojection Tool

## 2. BUILDING THE TSIs

- ▶ Python command line tool (PCLT) to stack composites
- ▶ Kansas TSI covered 2012 DOY 97 to 2012 DOY 273
- ▶ Argentina TSI covered 2014 DOY -13 to 2014 DOY 161
  - ▶ Aqua DOY 105 composite used in place of DOY 113 composite
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### 3. EXTRACT CROP SIGNATURES

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Now we have crop signatures!

# FITTING SIGNATURES

## 4. 6. Fit Kansas signatures to <insert study area here> TSI using TSF method

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# CLASSIFYING RMSE RASTERS

## 5, 7. Classify <insert study area here> RMSE rasters and assess accuracy

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- ▶ Classification and accuracy rasters with best combination

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## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

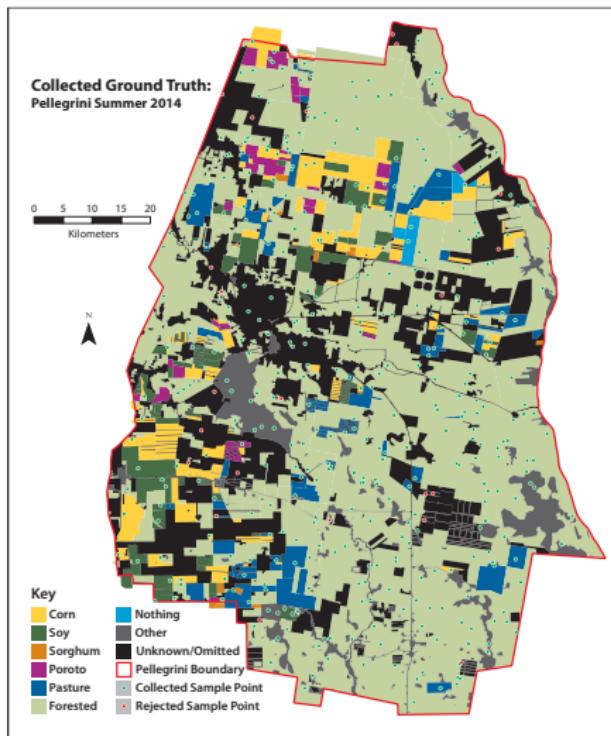


# RESULTS

- ▶ Summer 2014 Pellegrini ground truth
- ▶ Pellegrini agricultural practices
- ▶ Kansas crop signatures
- ▶ Kansas classification
- ▶ Pellegrini classification

# PELLEGRINI GROUND TRUTH

- ▶ 378 of 400 sample points were identified
- ▶ Many additional fields were collected



# PELLEGRINI GROUND TRUTH

## Summer 2014 Pellegrini Land Cover Classes

Cover Type	Hectares	Sample Points
Forested	389,541	247
Other	42,229	22
Corn	41,488	36
Pasture	35,057	37
Soy	27,498	24
Poroto	9,539	7
Nothing	3,057	3
Sorghum	1,646	2
Unknown	92,248	17
Omitted	52,052	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>694,346</b>	<b>400</b>

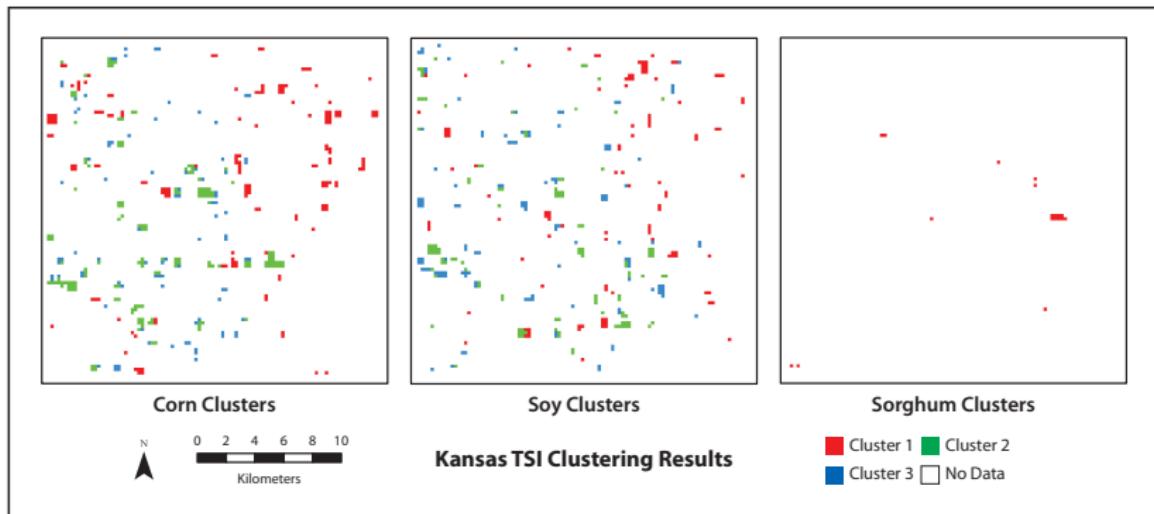
# PELLEGRINI AGRICULTURE

## Key Dates for Pellegrini Summer Crops

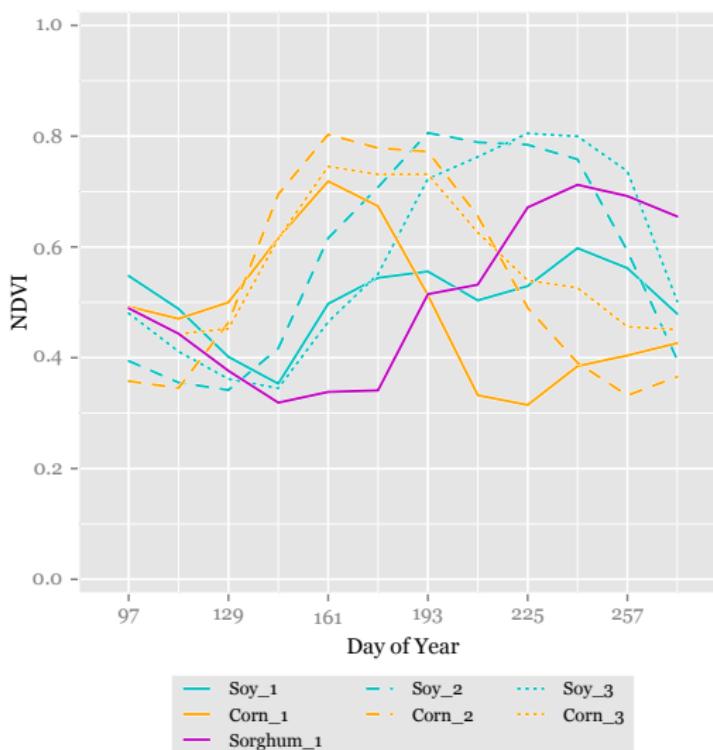
Crop	Ideal Planting Range	Harvesting Begins
Soy	15 December to 15 January	1 May
Corn	15 January to 15 February	1 June
Sorghum	15 January to 15 February	1 June
Poroto	15 January to 20 February	10 May

# KANSAS CROP SIGNATURES

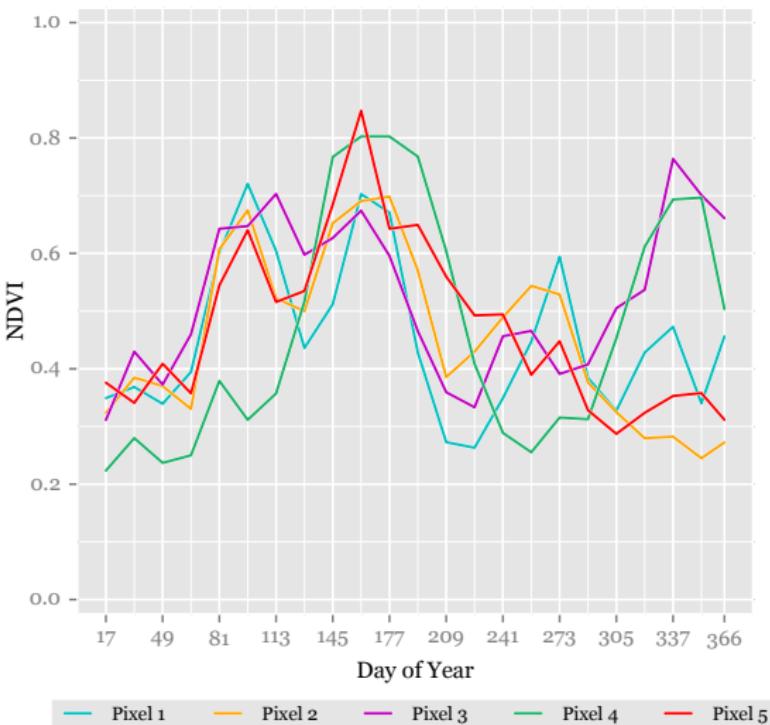
# KANSAS CROP SIGNATURES



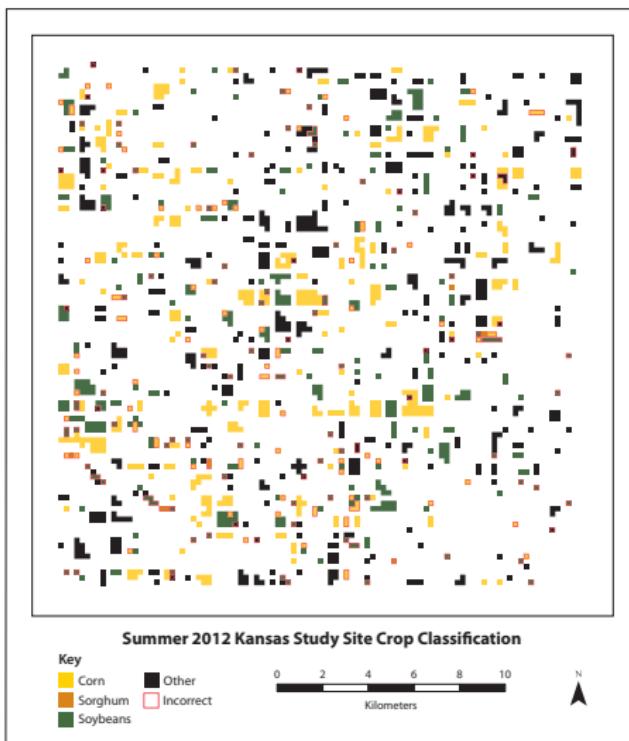
# KANSAS CROP SIGNATURES



# STRANGE KANSAS CORN SIGNATURES



# KANSAS VERIFICATION CLASSIFICATION



# KANSAS VERIFICATION CLASSIFICATION

## Summer 2012 Kansas Classification Accuracy

	Reference Data					User Acc.
	Corn	Soy	Sorghum	Other	Total	
Classified						
Corn	369	65	5	17	456	80.92%
	Soy	32	273	10	362	75.41%
	Sorghum	0	0	2	8	25.00%
	Other	13	16	1	503	94.37%
	Total	414	354	18	573	1359
Producer Acc.	89.13%	77.12%	11.11%	87.78%		
						Overall Accuracy: 84.40%
						Kappa: 0.76

# KANSAS VERIFICATION CLASSIFICATION

## Kansas Classification RMSE Thresholds

Signature	Threshold Value
Corn_1	1000
Corn_2	750
Corn_3	500
Soy_1	750
Soy_2	1300
Soy_3	500
Sorghum	450

# KANSAS VERIFICATION CLASSIFICATION

## Kansas Classification RMSE Thresholds

Signature	Threshold Value
Corn_1	1000
Corn_2	750
<b>Corn_3</b>	<b>500</b>
Soy_1	750
Soy_2	1300
<b>Soy_3</b>	<b>500</b>
Sorghum	450

# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION

## Summer 2014 Pellegrini Classification Accuracy

	Reference Data					User Acc.
	Corn	Soy	Sorghum	Other	Total	
Classified	Corn	24	13	0	8	45 53.33%
	Soy	0	2	1	2	5 40.00%
	Sorghum	0	0	0	0	0.00%
	Other	12	9	1	306	328 93.29%
Total		36	24	2	316	378
Producer Acc.		66.67%	8.33%	0.00%	96.84%	
Overall Accuracy: 87.83%						
Kappa: 0.54						

# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION

## Pellegrini Best Classification RMSE Thresholds

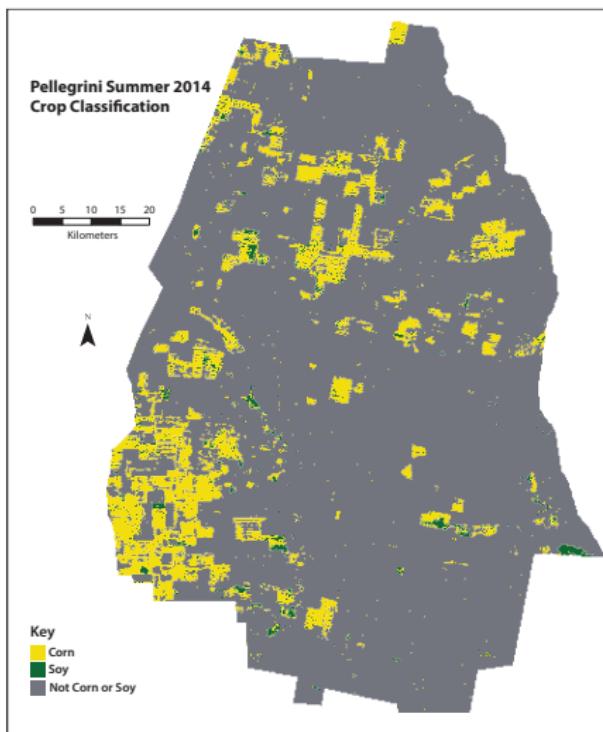
Signature	Threshold Value
Corn_1	550
Corn_2	850
Corn_3	0
Soy_1	0
Soy_2	600
Soy_3	950
Sorghum_1	0

# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION

## Pellegrini Best Classification RMSE Thresholds

Signature	Threshold Value
Corn_1	550
Corn_2	850
Corn_3	0
Soy_1	0
Soy_2	600
Soy_3	950
Sorghum_1	0

# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION



# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION

## Pellegrini Classification Checked Against All Pure Pixels

	Reference Data					User Acc.
	Corn	Soy	Sorghum	Other	Total	
Corn	3283	2076	61	1201	6621	49.58%
Soy	189	313	36	458	996	31.43%
Sorghum	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Other	2234	1523	60	74387	78204	95.12%
Total	5706	3912	157	76046	85821	
Producer Acc.	57.54%	8.00%	0.00%	97.82%		
						Overall Accuracy: 90.87%
						Kappa: 0.51

# PELLEGRINI CLASSIFICATION

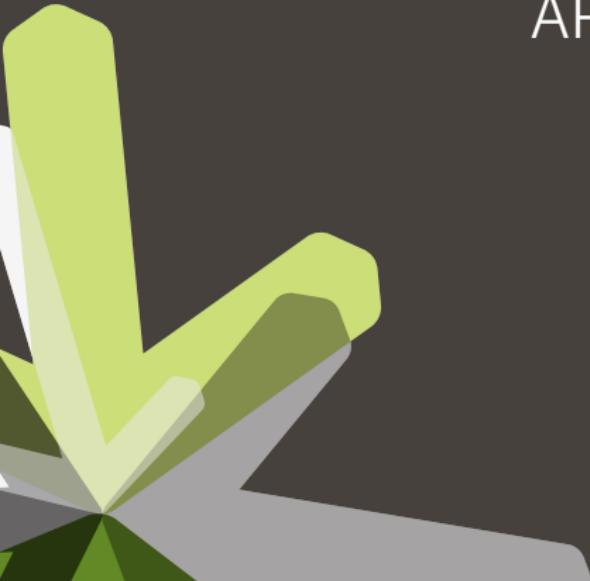
## Pellegrini Corn and Soy Confusion with Other Land Cover Classes

Land Cover	Total Pixels	Confused as Corn	Percent of Total	Confused as Soy	Percent of Total
Forested	63,978	194	0.30	26	0.04
Other	5,393	306	5.67	322	5.97
Pasture	5,252	396	7.54	50	0.95
Poroto	1,369	303	22.13	59	4.31
Nothing	485	2	0.41	1	0.21

# CONCLUSION



# APPENDIX



# APPENDIX CONTENTS

1. Pellegrini Fieldwork

2. TSI Processing Toolset

3. Weird Crop Signatures

# PELLEGRINI FIELDWORK



# PELLEGRINI FIELDWORK

# TSI PROCESSING TOOLSET



# TSI PROCESSING TOOLSET

Python tools with command line interfaces:

- ▶ Build Multidate Image Tool
- ▶ Extract Signatures Tool
- ▶ Find Fit Tool
- ▶ Classify Tool
- ▶ Other python and command line utilities  
(plotting, masking, etc.)

# WEIRD CROP SIGNATURES



# WEIRD CROP SIGNATURES

Hahahahah