A study of the hyperspectral stress response of vegetation to drought situation.

A project for the examination of the Earth Observation course, of Pr. G. Venuti

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Case of study Como lake, summer 2022.

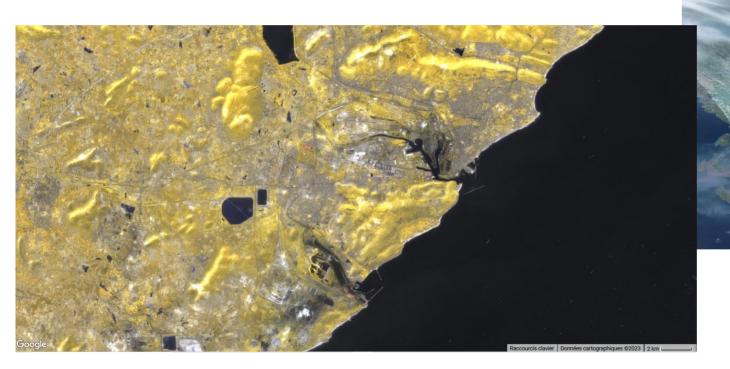


Como lake during the summer 2022. Credits : Giovanni Di Leo

Data

Multispectral satellite imagery from ESA Copernicus

Sentinel 2 mission



NDVI

NDVI = (NIR - VIS)/(NIR+VIS)

NDVI is directly linked to chlorophyll content of the vegetation

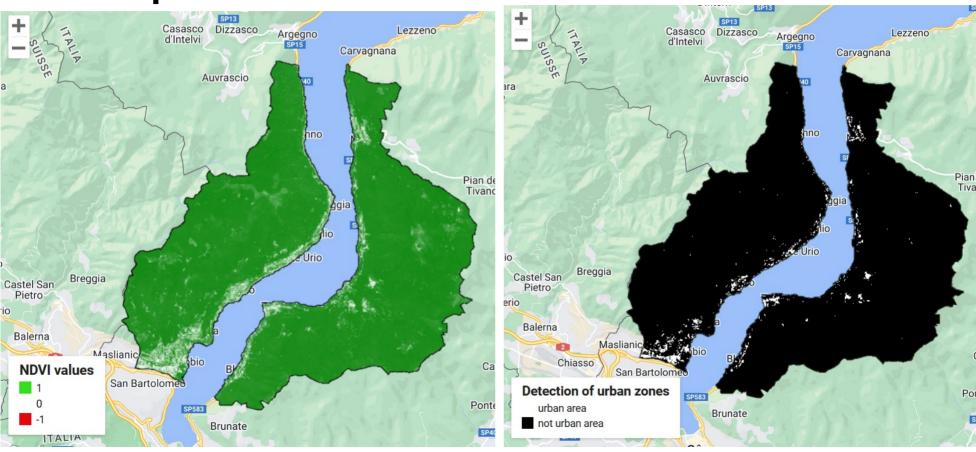


RGB visualisation



Respective NDVI map

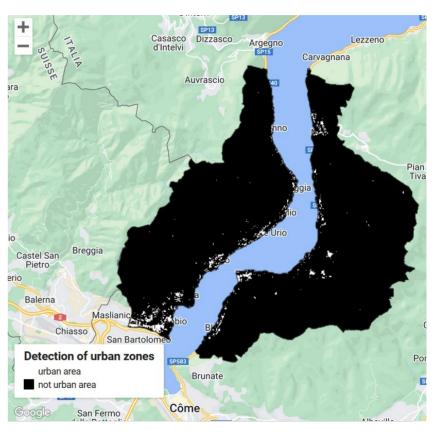
Impact of urbanisation on NDVI



NDBI

Urban index:

NDBI = (SWIR - NIR)/(SWIR + NIR)



In white: pixels with NDBI > 0

Difference between 2021 and 2022

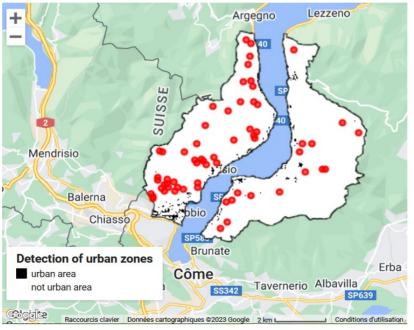




2022 RGB visualisation

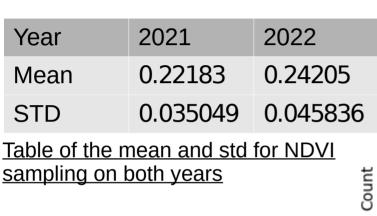
Data sampling:

62 points were selected by hand outside of the urban area



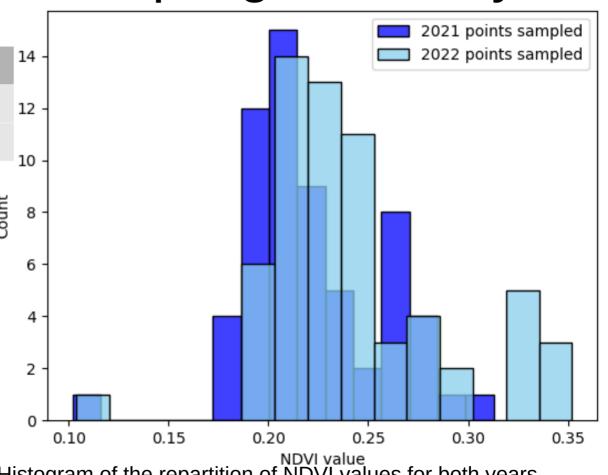
Map of the sampling cloud of points (red)

Results of NDVI sampling for both years



t-statistic	-2.7373
pvalue	0.0071209
df	122.0

Results of the Student's 2 samples t-test on the sampled data



Histogram of the repartition of NDVI values for both years

Conclusion

- We proved that NDVI can be an idicator of stress response to drought for vegetation
- We showed that NDVI is higher in case of drought
- We could validate the hypothesis that stress response to drought increases the chlorophyll content of plants