

Semi-automatic fuel break monitoring with Sentinel-2 imagery

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CM Silves

The Portuguese primary fuel break network

- Interconnected linear strips - 125m width
- 1 600 km already installed
- 11 125 km planned
- Large area for monitoring

125 m



Portuguese fuel break network

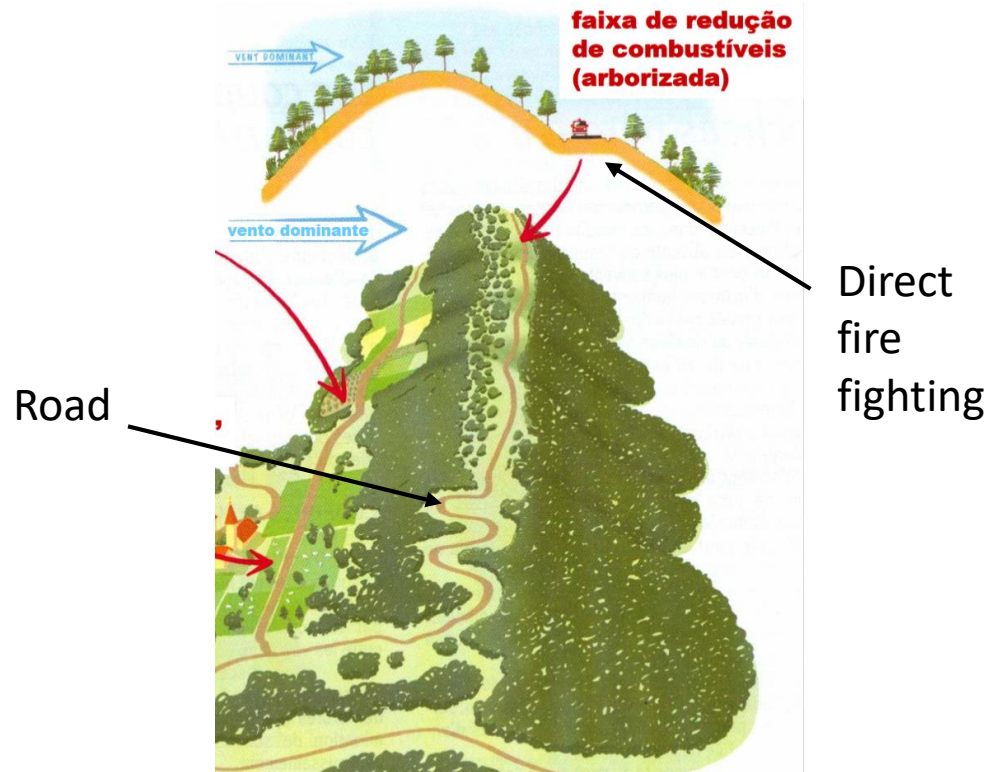
Remove fuel



Reduce fuel amount



The goal of primary fuel breaks is to reduce the risk of fire propagation and help fire fighting



A fuel break is only effective if it is maintained.

The FuelMon project

Remote Fuel Break Monitoring for Forest Fire Protection

Motivation

Country wide monitoring of fuel breaks: the Portuguese Forest Service is not able to perform field monitoring of the status of fuel breaks

Challenge

Mapping fuel treatment and biomass accumulation in the Portuguese primary fuel break network

Scientific objectives

- Exploring new satellite data with high spatial and temporal resolution (Sentinel-2)
- Comparing alternative semi-automatic image classification approaches to map fuel treatments



Only using 10m Sentinel-2 bands

Preprocessing

Cloud and cloud shadow masking

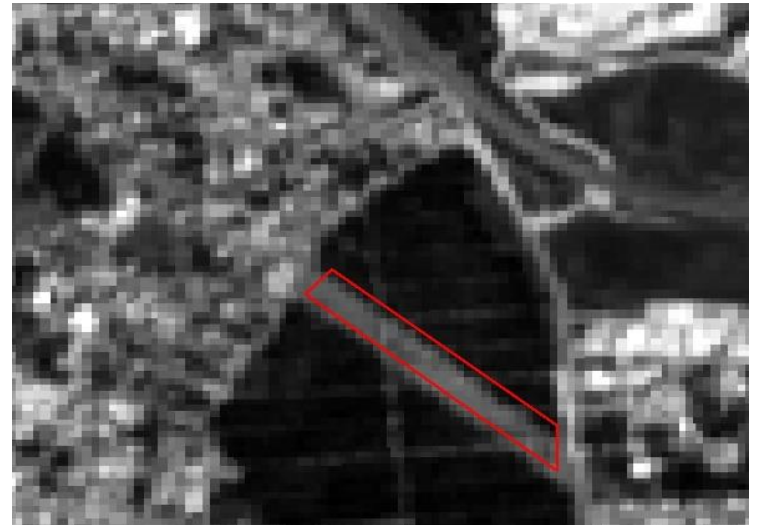
- Cloud masking with Sen2Cor algorithm for Sentinel-2 level-1C images
- Now: using the Level-2A and the cloud and cloud shadow masks provided

- **Improving georeferentiation**

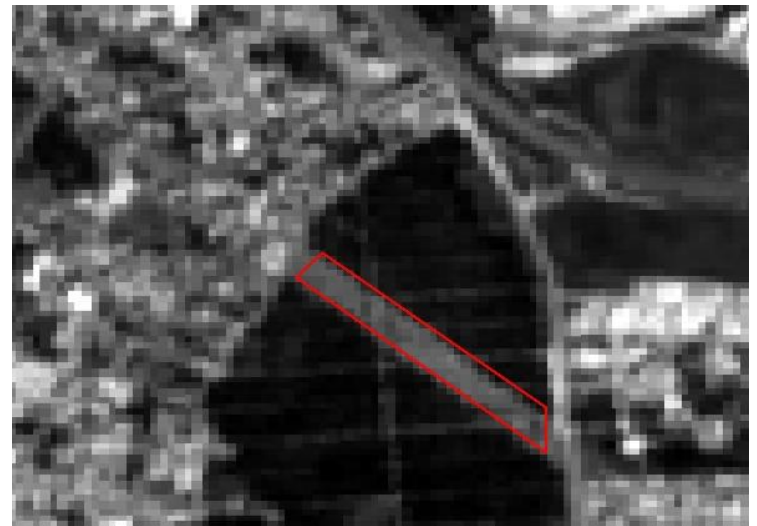
The maximum difference detected is 15 meters = 1.5 pixel for 10-m bands.

The correction technique implies the *Fast-Fourier Transformation* and the correlations between images. (Guizar-Sicairos et al., 2008; Python code available).

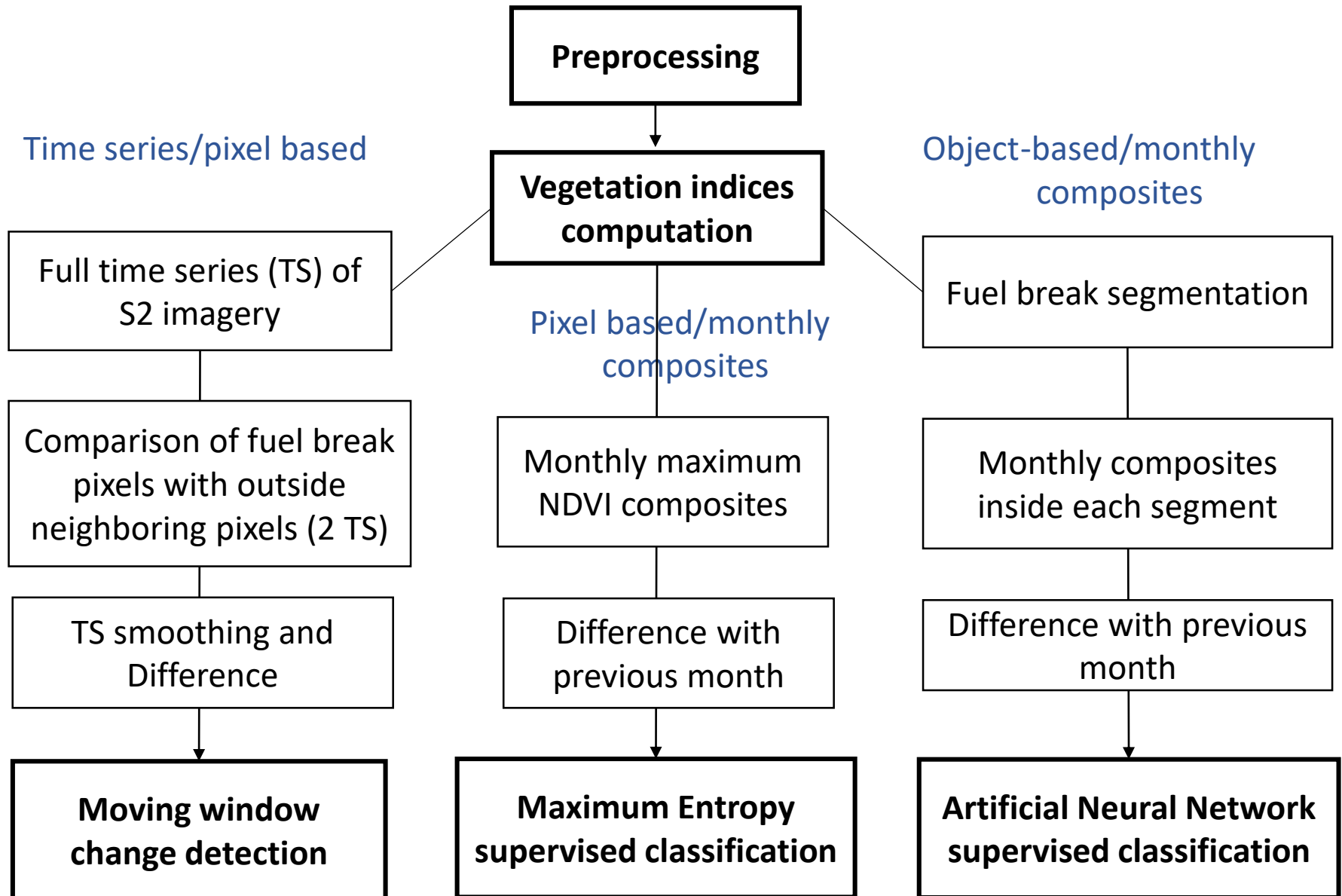
Band 4 (Red) – 10/05/2018



Band 4 (Red) – 15/05/2018

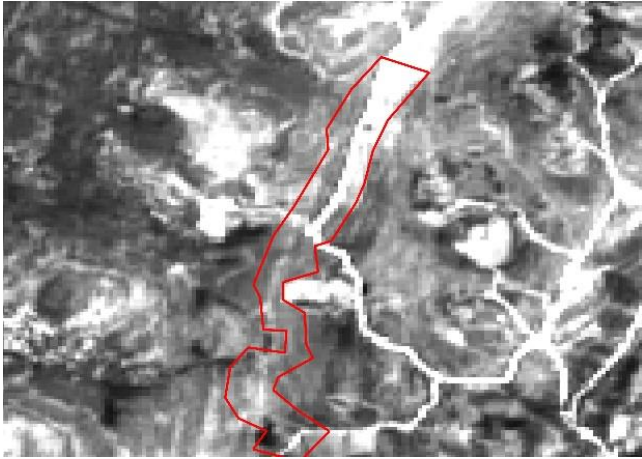


Three methodologies are being tested:

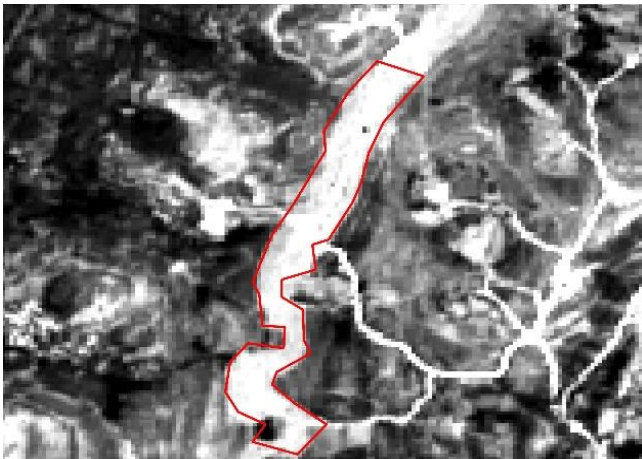


First results: Object-based classification (monthly composites)

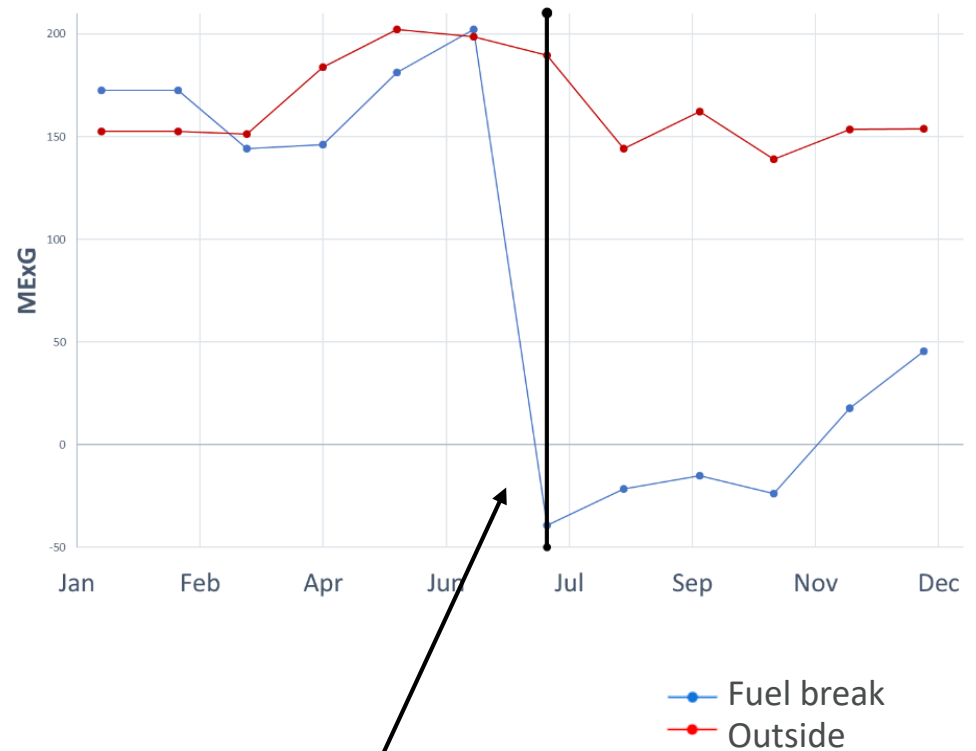
Segment before intervention (June)



Segment after intervention (July)



Temporal Evolution of the Modify Excess of Green (MExG) indice in 2017 with detected month of intervention



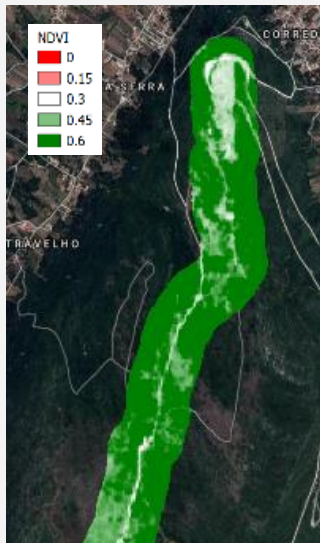
Fuel reduction

First results: Pixel-based classification (monthly composites)

Maximum NDVI composites

May

2017-05-01 to 2017-05-31



June

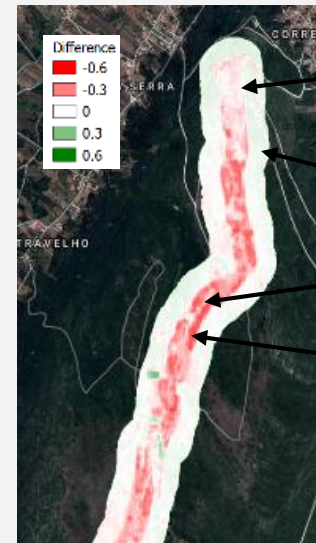
2017-06-01 to 2017-06-30



Maximum NDVI Difference

Difference

June - May



Already cut
before June

Buffer area,
not cut

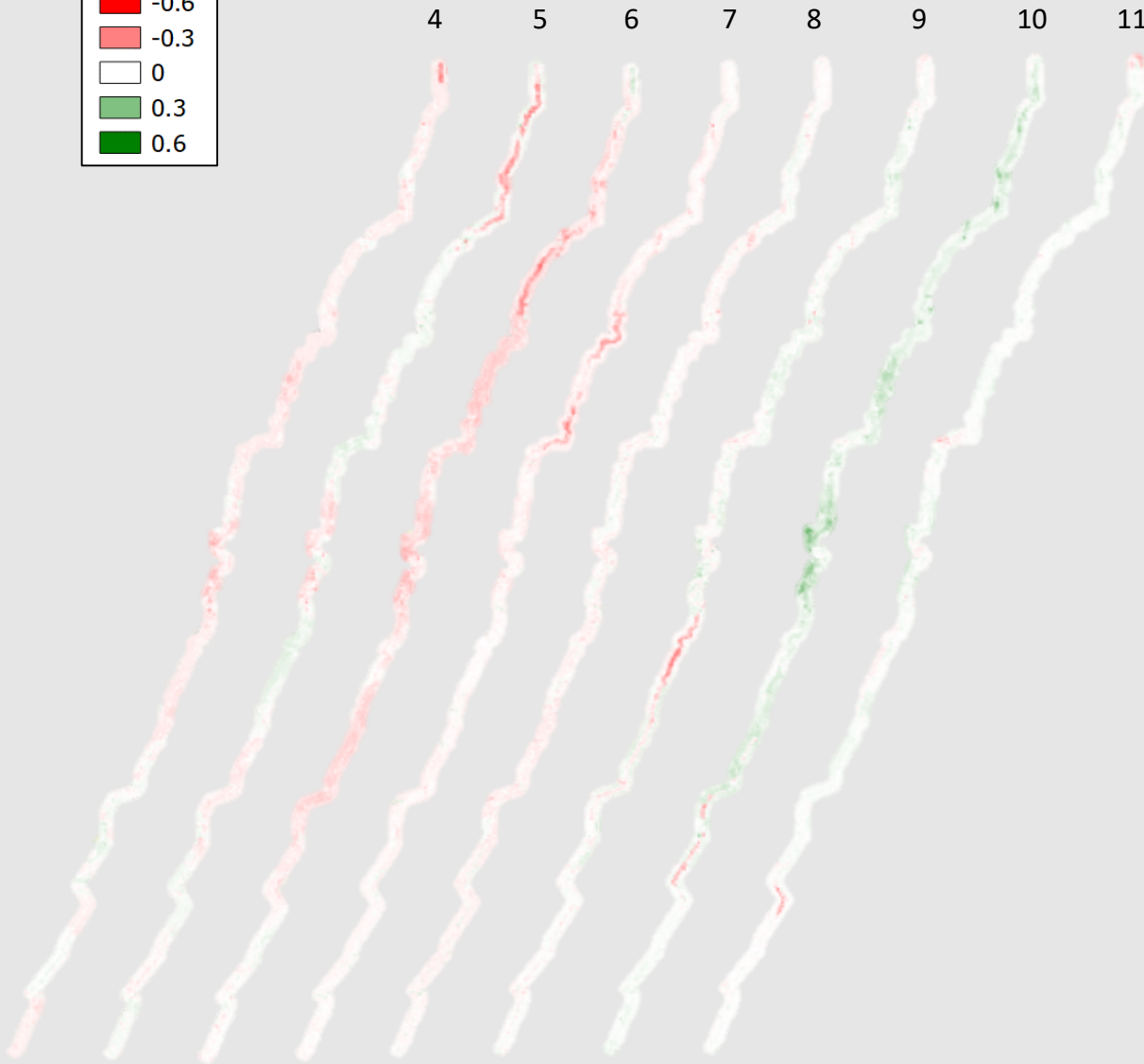
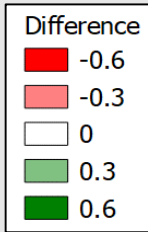
Road (white)

Cut in June 2017

Map of the area cleared in June

Fuel break + buffer of
100m on both sides

Month differences for 2017



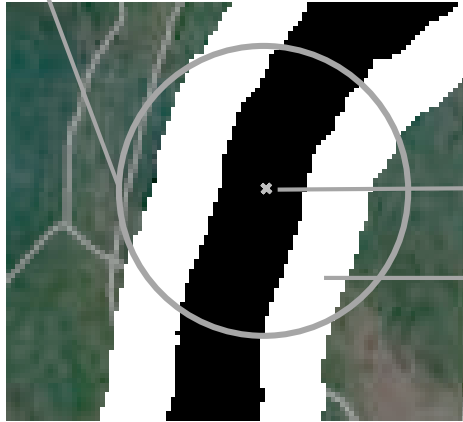
Monthly map of 2017 interventions in Serra de Aires e Candeeiros Natural Park



Fuel break + buffer of
100m on both sides

First results: Time series approach (pixel based, full temporal resolution)

Circle of 230 meters
around the pixel



Fuel break pixel value

Mean value of white 'outside' pixels
inside the circle

100m buffer

Fuel break

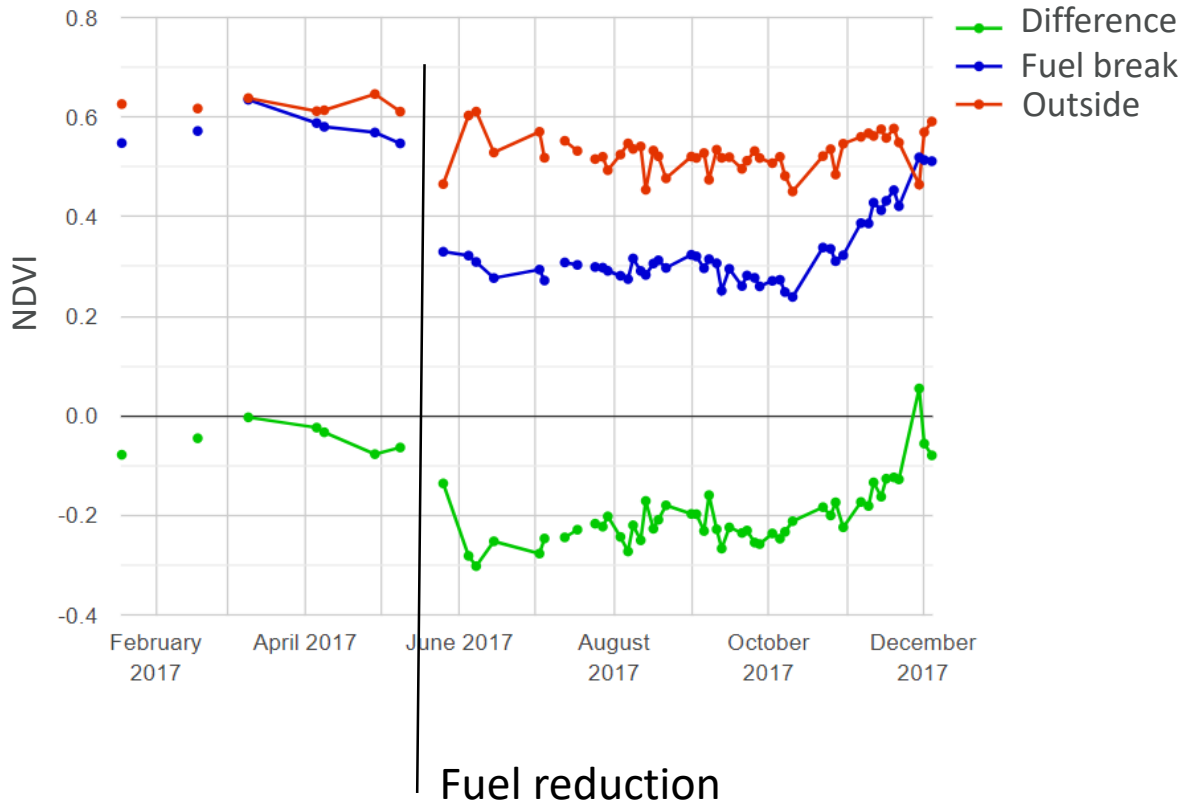
2 time series

Difference

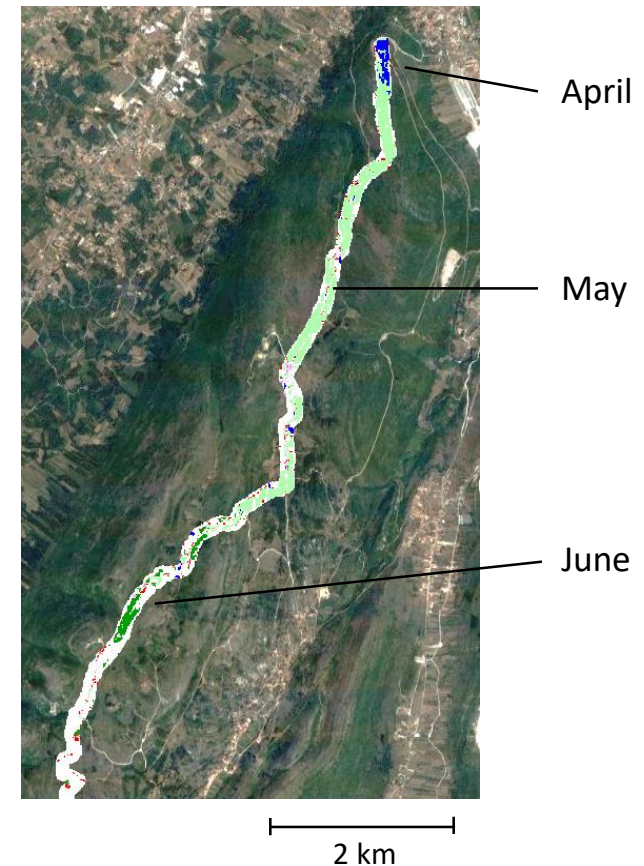
Map fuel reduction

First results: Time series approach (pixel based, full temporal resolution)

NDVI time series of one pixel of the fuel break, the mean of its neighbors (outside) and their difference

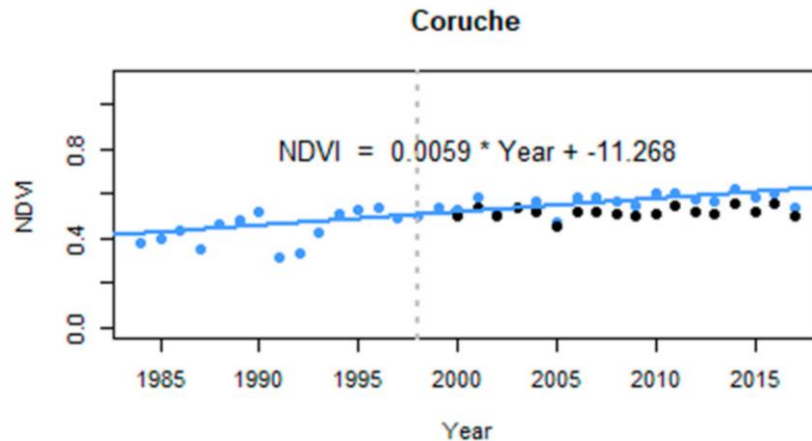


Interventions detected in 2017



Future Work:

Monitoring the biomass accumulation after an intervention inside the fuel break



Non-parametric techniques:

- Theil-Sen slope
- Mann-Kendall significance test



Article

Long-Term Monitoring of Cork and Holm Oak Stands Productivity in Portugal with Landsat Imagery

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Received: 31 January 2019; Accepted: 26 February 2019; Published: 4 March 2019



Funding:

- FUELMON project (Remote Fuel Break Monitoring for Forest Fire Protection), funded by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia I.P. (FCT), Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Ensino Superior, Portugal (PTDC/CCI-COM/30344/2017).
- Forest Research Centre is a research unit funded by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia I.P. (FCT), Portugal (UID/AGR/00239/2019).



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