

Table of contents

Chapter 1	1
Introduction	
1.1. Background	3
1.1.1. <i>The relevance of monitoring urban growth</i>	3
1.1.2. <i>Relationships between urban structure and socio-economic and ecological factors</i>	6
1.1.3. <i>Development of Earth Observation programs and databases</i>	8
1.1.4. <i>Spatio-temporal metrics</i>	12
1.1.5. <i>Tools for computing spatio-temporal metrics</i>	14
1.2. Research justification	17
1.3. Thesis outline	18
1.4. Publications	21
Chapter 2	25
Hypotheses and objectives	
Chapter 3	31
Spatio-temporal analysis of LULC and population in urban areas	
3.1. Introduction	33
3.2. Data	34
3.2.1. <i>Description of datasets</i>	34
3.3. Methods	38
3.3.1. <i>Creation of IndiFrag: An object-based spatio-temporal metrics extraction tool</i>	38
3.3.2. <i>Extraction of land use spatio-temporal metrics</i>	39
3.3.3. <i>Population and urban growing imbalance index (PUGI)</i>	43
3.4. Results	45
3.4.1. <i>Analysis at inter-city level</i>	45
3.4.2. <i>Analysis at intra-city level</i>	49
3.5. Discussion	54
3.6. Conclusions	58
Chapter 4	61
Relationships between spatial patterns of urban structure and quality	

of life	
4.1. Introduction	63
4.2. Data	65
4.2.1. <i>Study area</i>	65
4.2.2. <i>Socio-economic variables</i>	65
4.2.3. <i>Earth observation and ancillary data</i>	66
4.3. Methods	67
4.3.1. <i>Patterns describing the spatial structure of cities</i>	67
4.3.2. <i>Estimating socio-economic and spatial pattern links</i>	69
4.4. Results	70
4.4.1. <i>Spatial analysis of cities</i>	70
4.4.2. <i>Models of socio-economic variables</i>	74
4.4.3. <i>Categorization of cities</i>	75
4.5. Discussion	80
4.6. Conclusions	83
Chapter 5	87
Spatio-temporal metrics for urban growth spatial pattern categorization	
5.1. Introduction	89
5.2. Materials and methods	91
5.2.1. <i>Definition of urban forms and growth spatial patterns</i>	91
5.2.2. <i>Data</i>	94
5.2.3. <i>Land-use/land-cover change models</i>	94
5.2.4. <i>Computing spatio-temporal metrics</i>	101
5.2.5. <i>Urban growth spatial pattern classification</i>	103
5.3. Results	103
5.3.1. <i>Categorization of urban growth spatial patterns</i>	103
5.3.2. <i>Influence of the urban form on growth spatial pattern categorization</i>	107
5.4. Discussion	110
5.5. Conclusions	113
Chapter 6	115
Linking spatio-temporal metrics of built-up areas to socio-economic indicators on a semi-global scale	

6.1. Introduction	117
6.2. Material and methods	120
6.2.1. <i>Socio-economic, EO-derived and ancillary datasets</i>	120
6.2.2. <i>Preprocessing and harmonization of datasets</i>	123
6.2.3. <i>Extraction of spatio-temporal metrics</i>	125
6.2.4. <i>Regression models and identifying spatio-temporal metrics' relevance</i>	127
6.3. Results	128
6.3.1. <i>Estimation of socio-economic variables</i>	128
6.3.2. <i>Estimation of the variation of socio-economic variables</i>	131
6.3.3. <i>Relevance of spatio-temporal metrics</i>	132
6.4. Discussion	134
6.5. Conclusions	140
Chapter 7	143
Conclusions	
7.1. Conclusions	145
7.2. Future research	148
References	151
Appendices	
A. The IndiFrag tool: spatio-temporal metrics	181
B. Ancillary maps, figures and graphs	213