

Landslides

- ◆ Represent a potential threat for people and constructions
- ◆ In most cases they cannot be fully stabilized, and it is essential to monitor their kinematics using geotechnical and geodetic methods

A typical landslide

Landslides represent slope instability of shallow or deeper strata

- ◆ Shallow (usually mud flows), < 1-2m deep
- ◆ Deep-seated, up to 30-40, even 100+ meters deep

Monitoring unstable slopes: A headache for surveyors and geotechnical engineers!

- ◆ surface monuments are easily destroyed
- ◆ conventional geodetic work (systematic, long-term monitoring) is expensive
- ◆ changes in the surveying technology are frequent → GPS landslide records are still short

For these reasons we know very little about the long-term kinematics of major landslides

Questions ...

- ◆ Does the surface movement of various parts of a landslide follow similar displacement trends?
- ◆ Is the movement of control stations linear, chaotic or is characterized by some periodic signals?

In our study we are trying to shed some light to these problems

analyzing the >20 yr!!! long geodetic record of the Mandria landslide, Northern Greece

Mandria Landslide: Geometry

Location:
1km away from the Polyfyton Dam, Northern Greece

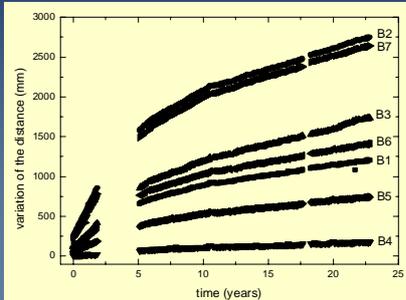
Location map of the Mandria and the Alexis landslide

Geometry: slipping mass of 10⁷m³ tectonized gneiss curvilinear, shear failure plane max depth 35m length 750m width 450m slip rate 15cm/yr

Mandria Landslide: Monitoring Data

- ◆ The geodetic monitoring record consists of > 500 epochs of distance changes and spirit leveling of 7 control points from a stable reference station and covers a period of 23 years

- ◆ Distance changes of control stations B1 to B7 of the Mandria landslide were found representative of the landslide kinematics



Methodology

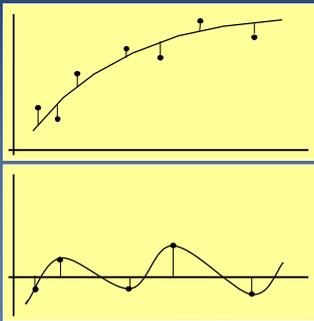
1. Modeling large-scale movements of the Mandria landslide using best fitting curves with a physical significance
2. Test the inferred model of the Mandria landslide to the neighboring Alexis landslide.

- ◆ The Alexis landslide, next to the Polyfytou Dam, corresponds to a larger slipping mass, in similar geologic conditions with those of the Mandria landslide.
- ◆ The monitoring record examined consists of distance changes of 3 control points, covering a period of 17 years.



Methodology (con't)

- ◆ Spectral analysis was applied to the residuals of the curve fitting to all seven control stations of the Mandria landslide



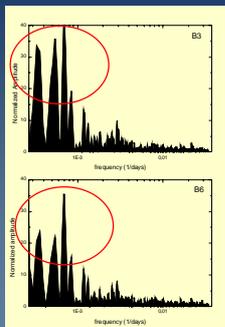
Results of Curve fitting

- ◆ All control stations were found to follow the same trend

$$d = A(1 - e^{-t/B}) + C$$

This is a physically acceptable model.

Results of Spectral Analysis



- ◆ A few statistically significant peaks were obtained from the spectral analysis of the residuals of the Mandria landslide.
- ◆ These peaks correspond to events with periods of 4 to 7.5 years

Representative spectra of the residuals of the distance changes. The statistically significant peaks were common in the spectra of ALL control points

Conclusions

- ◆ The long-term kinematics of all control stations of the Mandria and the Alexis landslides can be described by the same exponential function.
 - For major deep-seated landslides the long-term kinematics of all their parts reflect an overall exponential trend.
- ◆ Events of accelerated movement with a mean return period of 4 to 7.5 years, possibly triggered by meteorological events, are superimposed on this general trend.
- ◆ Monitoring of very few points of such major landslides are representative of their overall movement.