

## ***Interactive comment on “Derivation and evaluation of landslide triggering thresholds by a Monte Carlo approach” by D. J. Peres and A. Cancelliere***

**S. L. Gariano**

gariano@irpi.cnr.it

Received and published: 24 March 2014

This paper focuses on the determination of rainfall thresholds for the forecasting of rainfall induced landslides, and provides interesting food for thoughts. Use of stochastic rainfall data coupled with a slope stability model ensures a good balance between the classical empirical and physically based approaches. The ROC-based criterion offers several quantitative values that contribute to make less subjective the identification of the thresholds.

Concerning the ROC-based analysis, I would like to highlight the following aspects.

In the (wide!) literature on ROC analyses, the same indexes are shown with different names and acronyms. This is unfortunate. To avoid possible misunderstandings,

C624

Barnes et al. (2009) have recommend that Authors consider using the following nomenclature:

- Probability of Detection,  $POD = TP / (TP + FN)$ ,
- Probability of False Detection,  $POFD = FP / (FP + TN)$ , and
- Probability of False Alarms,  $POFA = TP / (TP + FP)$ .

I recommend that the authors adopt this nomenclature, and that they change their “TPR, FPR, and PRE” with “POD, POFD and POFA”.

Further, the index that the authors call “ $\Delta$ ” [capital Delta] is known as the Hanssen-Kuipers discriminant, and was originally introduced by Pierce in 1884. It is also called True Skill Statistic (see e.g., Hanssen & Kuipers, 1965; Wilks, 1995; Stephenson 2000; Accadia et al., 2003). To avoid unnecessary confusion, the authors should consider using the notation “HK” (or “TSS”), instead of “ $\Delta$ ”.

### References

Accadia, C., Mariani, S., Casaioli, M., Lavagnini, A., Speranza, A., 2003. Sensitivity of precipitation forecast skill scores to bilinear interpolation and a simple nearest-neighbor average method on high-resolution verification grids. *Wea. Forecast.* 18, 918–932.

Barnes, L.R., Schultz, D.M., Gruntfest, E.C., Hayden, M.H., Benight, C.C., 2009. COR-RIGENDUM: False Alarm Rate or False Alarm Ratio? 1 *Wea. Forecasting*, 24, 1452–1454.

Hanssen, A.W., Kuipers, W.J.A., 1965. On the relationship between the frequency of rain and various meteorological parameters. *Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Institut, Meded. Verhand.*, 81, 2–15.

Stephenson, D.B., 2000. Use of the “Odds Ratio” for Diagnosing Forecast Skill. *Weather Forecast.*, 15, 221–232.

C625

Wilks, D.S., 1995. Statistical Methods in the Atmospheric Sciences. Academic Press, 467 pp.

---

Interactive comment on *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss.*, 11, 2759, 2014.

C626