

How much are catastrophic losses triggered by floods affected by socio-economic factors of vulnerability?

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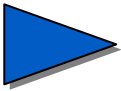


Resilience and vulnerability – ambivalent and „obscure“ economic phenomena ?

C. Pfurtscheller / R. Schwarze

- ▲ introduction
 - ▲ Economic resilience and vulnerability
 - ▲ Flooding 2005 in the province of Tyrol, Austria
- ▲ study design – methods and data
- ▲ results
- ▲ summary and outlook





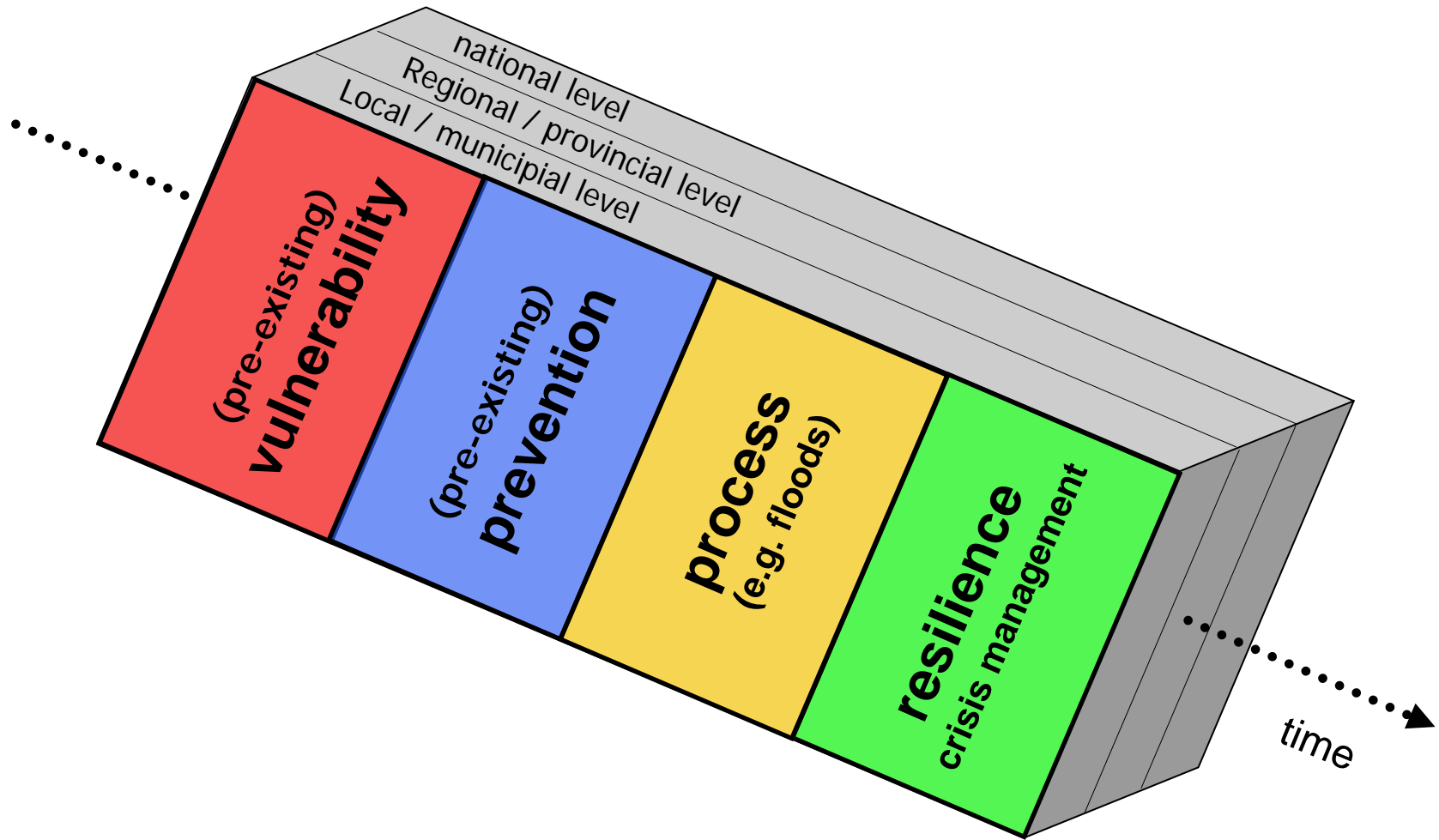
$$\text{Risk} = f [P, DP, S(R, V)]$$



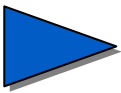
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Economic losses are not part / outcome of a „black box“

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adjusted after Buckle et al. 2001



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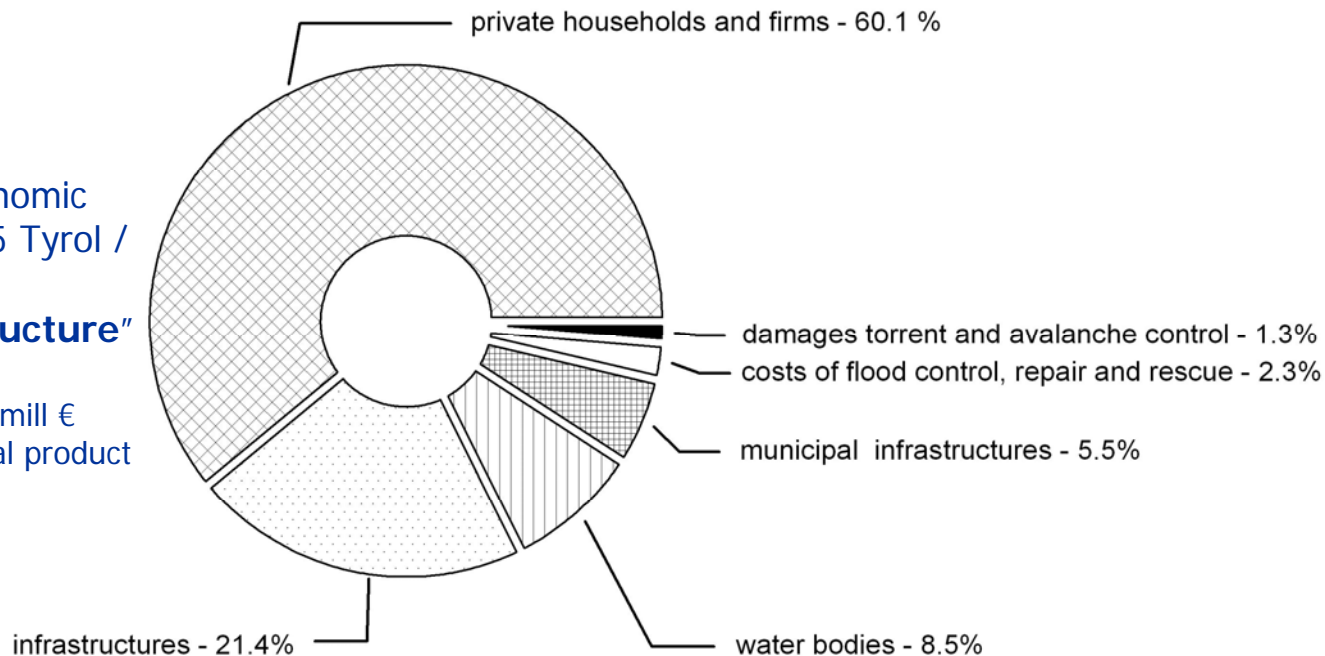
▲ Analysis of (economic) vulnerability and resilience

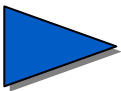
- ▲ basis for recommendations and alternatives in *natural hazard mitigation and management*
- ▲ Austria: quasi-compulsory *cost-benefit-analysis* for protective structures
- ▲ *evacuation plans*
- ▲ prepare *budget* for public hazard and crisis management
- ▲ *risk awareness* at the local / municipal level

Shares of total economic losses – flooding 2005 Tyrol / Austria
 “**alpine damage structure**”

economic loss of 410 mill €
 2.1% of the gross regional product

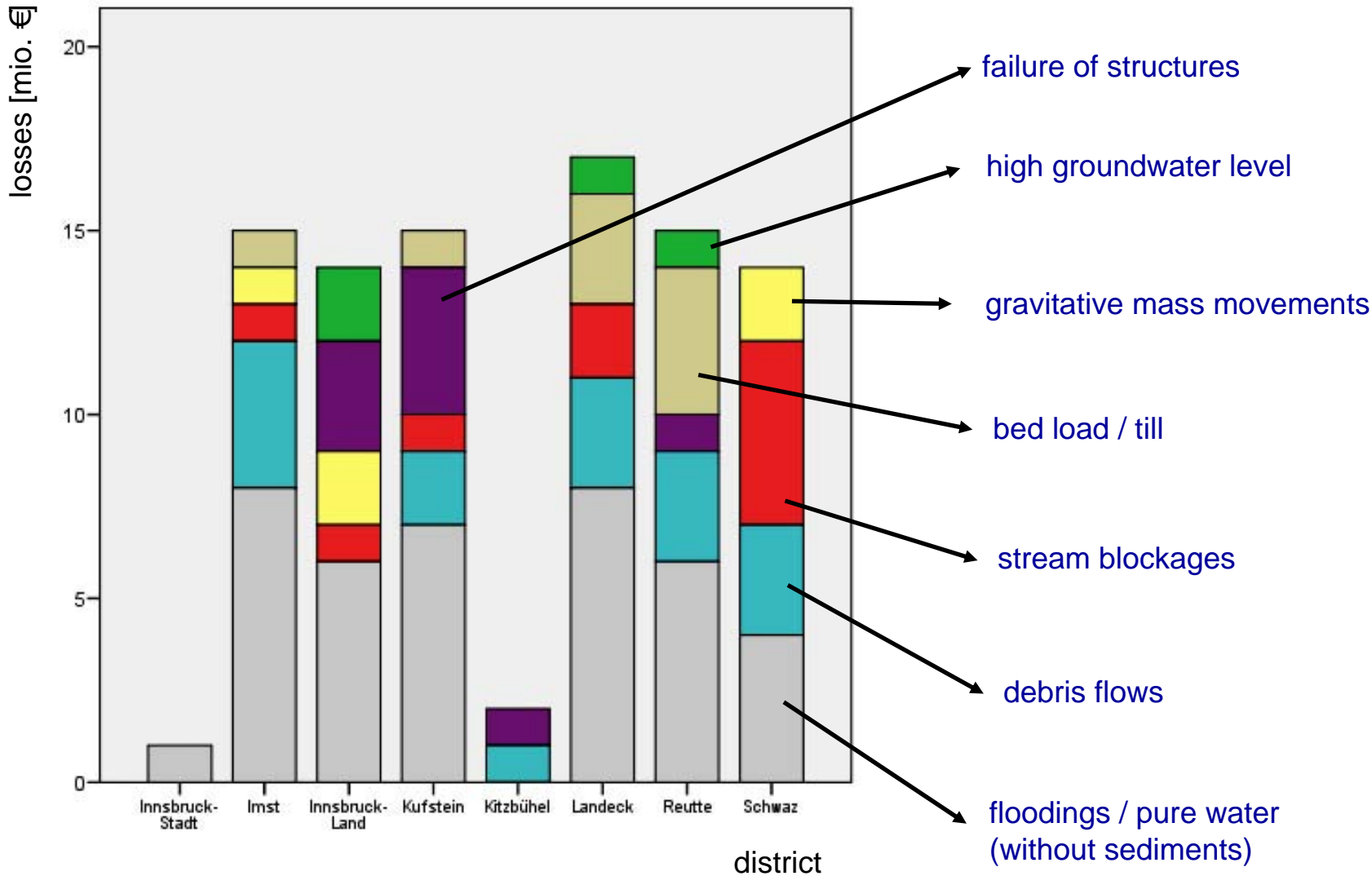
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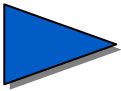




„types“ of most dominant processes and economic losses
 – flooding 2005, Tyrol / Austria

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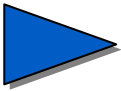
overlapping processes – subsumed under the term „flood“

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- ▲ Estimations for emergency costs - these costs can exceed public funds!
- ▲ costs of emergency services are costs borne by both, statutory and voluntary organizations, that aim to protect property and life from damages due to a natural disaster
- ▲ choice of risk management strategies
- ▲ accounting the avoided cost of emergency services – comprehensive understood cba (tangible and intangible assets)
- ▲ range of publicized percentages of costs for emergency varies from 2.2% up to 14.7 % of total economic losses (Tyrol 2005 – up to 37%)
- ▲ empirical basis for estimating these costs are weak

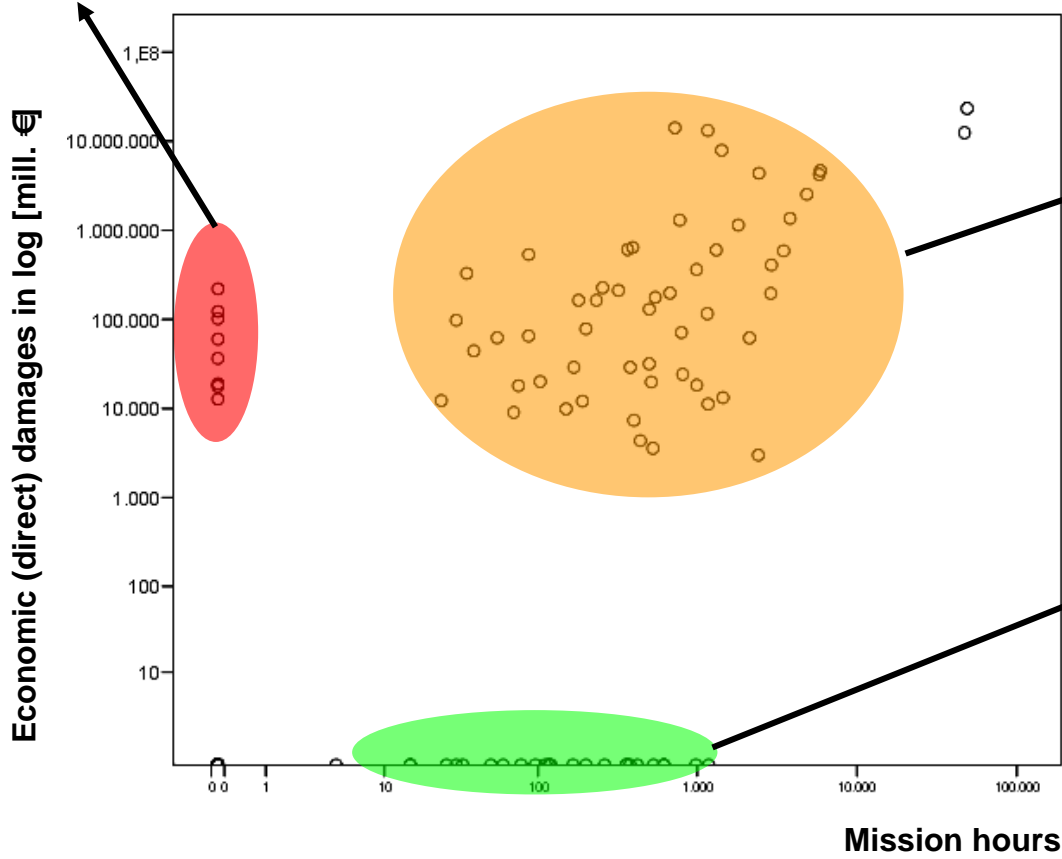




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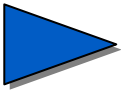
Ineffective and unsuccessful defence

„multihazards“



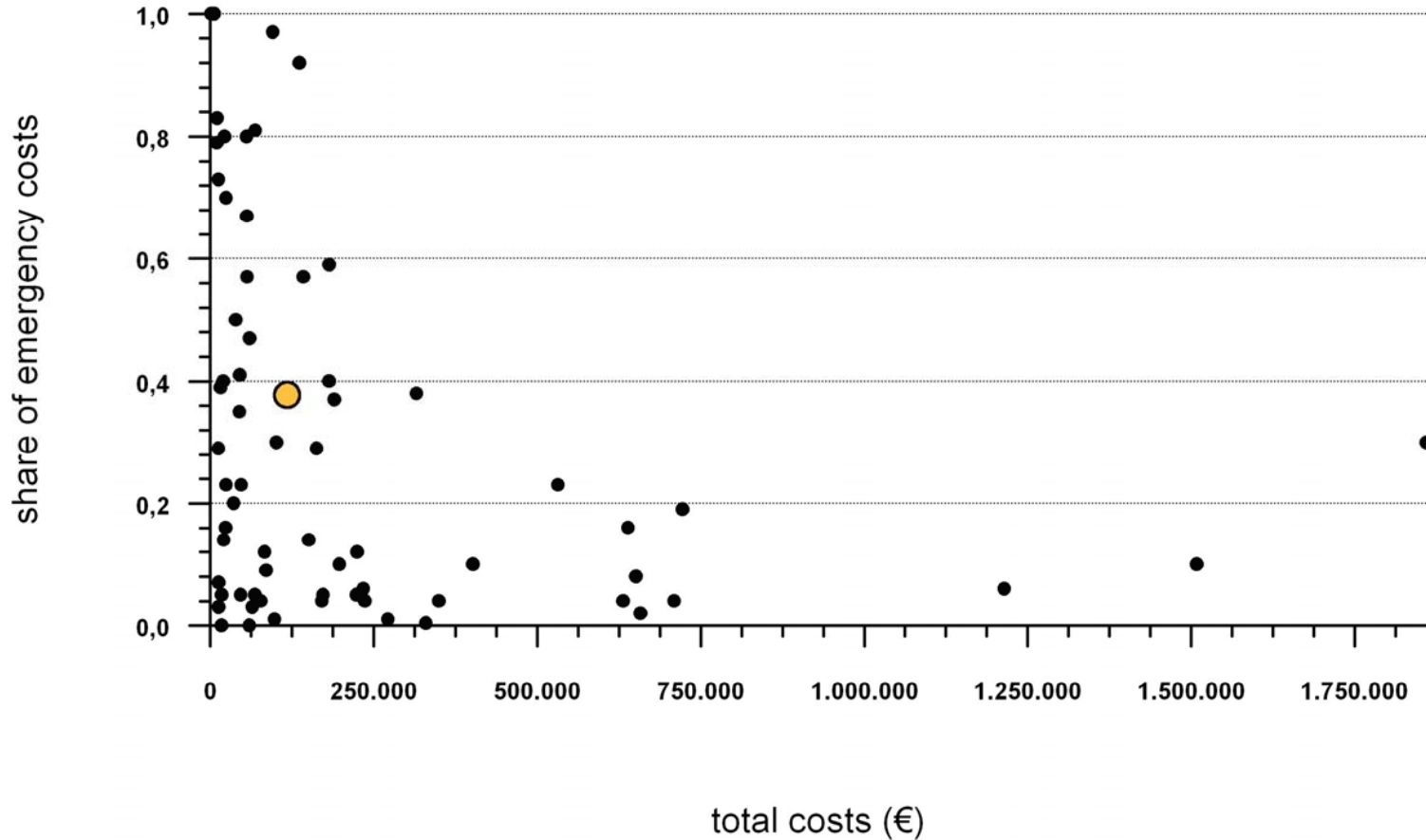
Most cases: moderate defence

Effective and successful defence

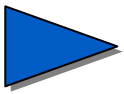


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▲ average values can be misleading as a rule of thumb to establish the costs of emergency services



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- ▲ maximum likelihood estimates to investigate the **regional / local** effects of a single flood event on
 - ▲ 1. total economic losses (vulnerability)
 - ▲ 2. total service hours of emergency service (resilience)
- ▲ based on empirical data
 - ▲ survey – fire brigades: primary resilience-infrastructure
 - ▲ official statistics of emergency services and losses
- ▲ statistics and characteristics of municipality
 - ▲ Austrian danger zone mapping
 - ▲ permanent settlement area
- ▲ description of the process
 - ▲ Return periods of all gauges at major and minor rivers as result of extreme statistics
 - ▲ inundation areas (GIS-data)



▲ e.g.

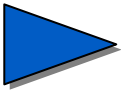
- ▲ $\log(\text{sum_damages}) = 4,99 + 0,003\text{return_per}^{***} + 0,33\text{perm_settle} + 0,02\text{procent} + 3,34\text{multiple}^{***} + 0,19\text{spatial_loc}^{***}$
- ▲ *** significant at the 10%-level, $R^2 = 50,41$

▲ No significant influence

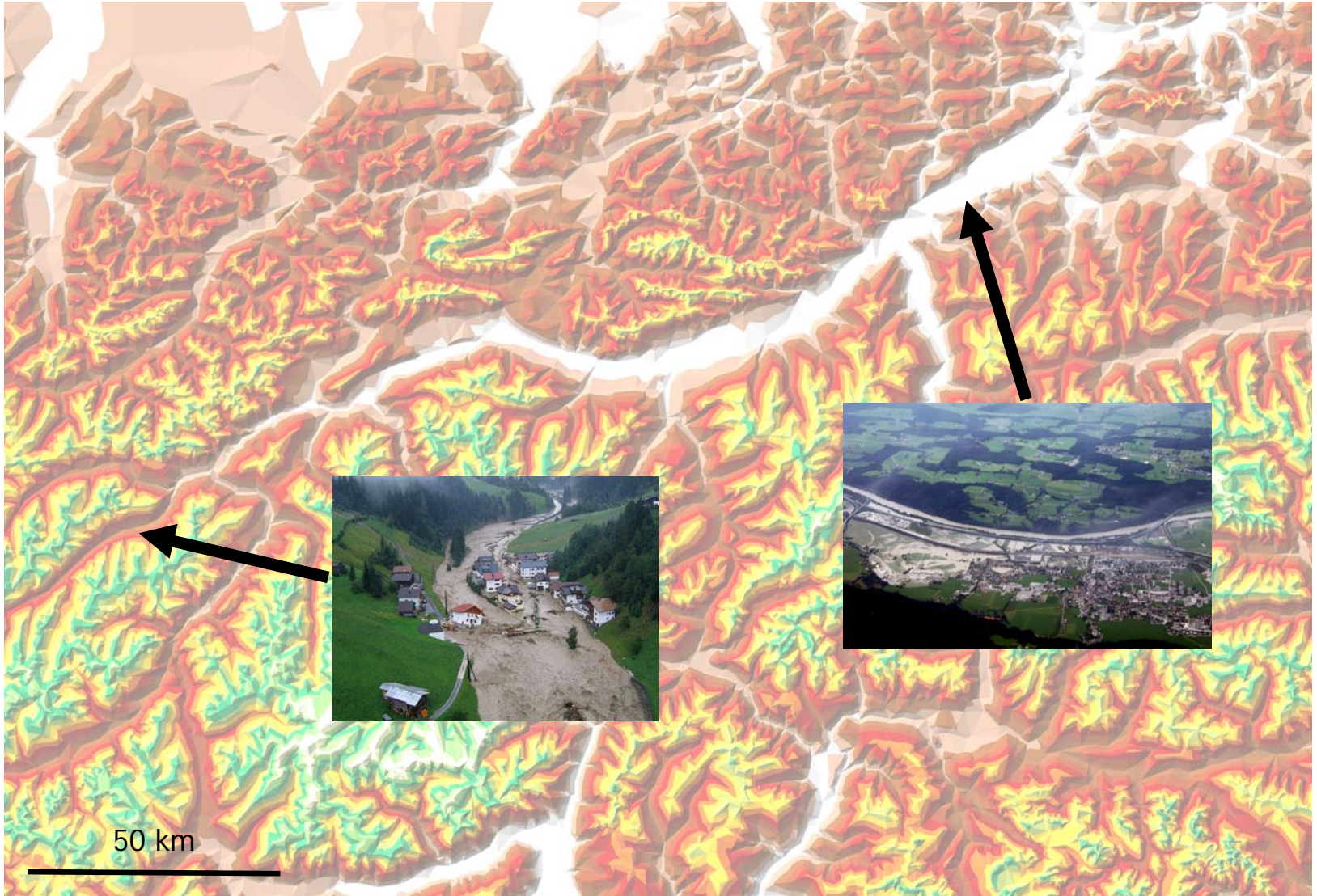
- ▲ quality / actuality of risk mapping
- ▲ inundation areas

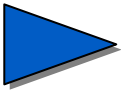
▲ significant influence – strong impact

- ▲ „multihazards“ – the frequent occurrence of multiple hazards (e.g. combination of flooding and debris flows because of high intensities of precipitation, etc.)
- ▲ return periods (100 years, etc.)
 - ▲ But: actual statistics required
- ▲ failure of structures / overwhelming dams
 - ▲ Change of spatial and natural conditions
- ▲ Spatial location
 - ▲ alpine lateral vs. glacialformed low valleys
- ▲ Duration of the flood event

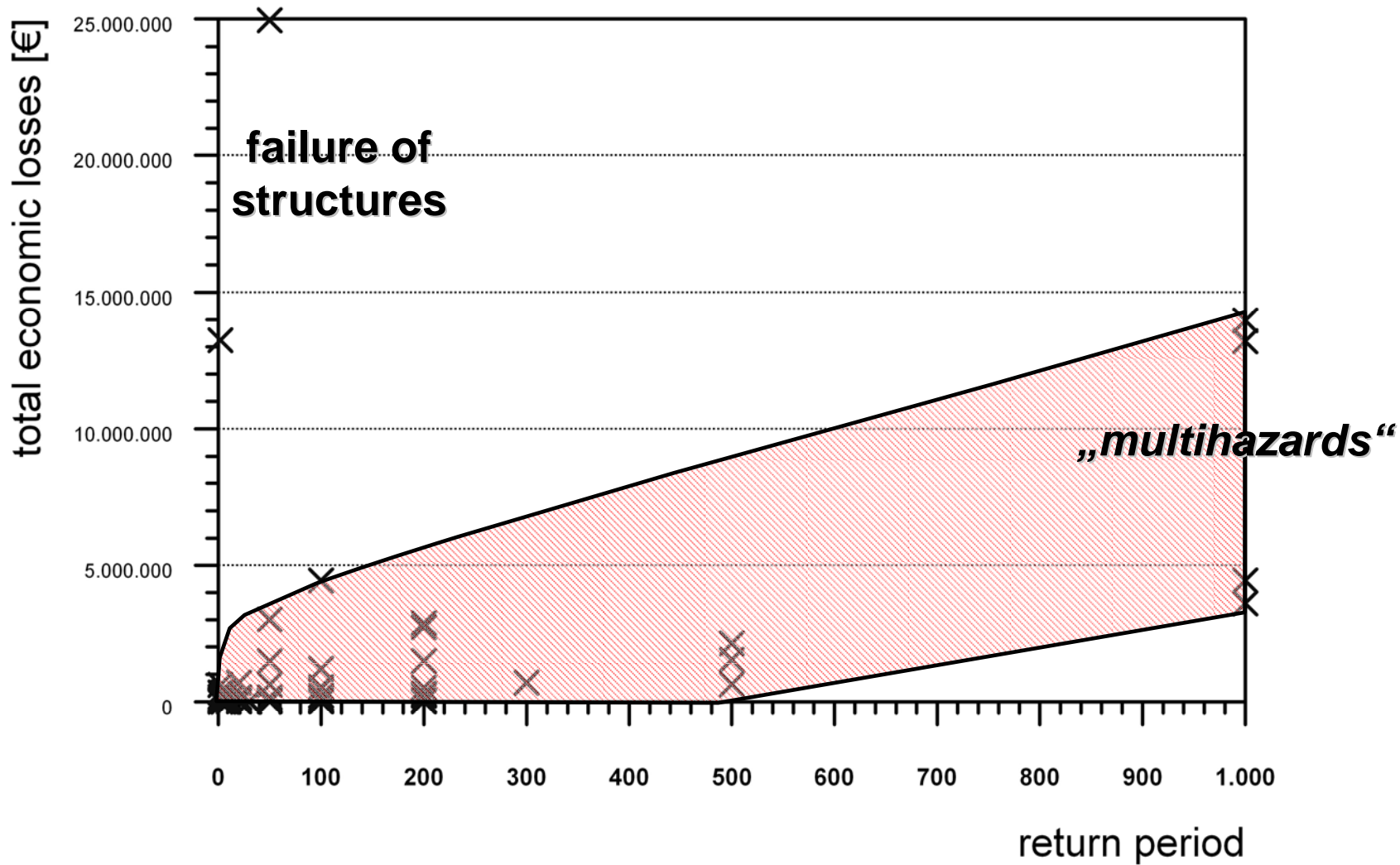


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▲ summary

- ▲ alpine regions are specifically exposed to natural hazards
- ▲ (ex-ante) economic management of risk combines both, resilience *and* vulnerability
- ▲ frequent coincidence of the appearance of *multiple hazards* in alpine lateral valleys
- ▲ increasing quantity and quality of observed losses
- ▲ greater homogeneity of flood measures and loss statistics

▲ outlook

- ▲ improvement of the estimations
- ▲ spatial expansion of the analysis
- ▲ comprehensive survey – flood-affected households, companies and emergency service institutions
- ▲ generation of *alpine damage functions* for structures and public infrastructure which include different processes (bed load, debris flows, etc.)

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