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Discussions

Interactive comment on "Land cover changes and forest landscape evolution (1985–2009) in a typical Mediterranean agroforestry system (High Agri Valley)" *by* T. Simoniello et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper focuses on the transformations of a typical Mediterranean agro- forestry landscape of southern Italy (High Agri Valley – Basilicata region) through the use of satellite remote sensing and landscape metrics techniques. Although this paper seems to be a valuable contribution to spatial analysis science there are some issues within the text that the authors have to resolve (especially the first two of them): 1. The whole "remote sensing" part seems to be rather blurred. The authors do not mention why they choose the specific classification algorithm rather than ISODATA algorithm or even better a supervised classification algorithm. They do not also refer to any of their efforts for applying geometric, radiometric or atmospheric corrections to the images.

Moreover, after the implementation of the classification process, they don't present any statistics concerning its accuracy (e.g. Kappa statistics). 2. The "statistics" part seems to be rather weak. The authors should try incorporate some more statistical approaches to their study such as bivariate or pearson correlation analysis in order to depict the diachronic difference / or not in the LULC status of the study area (they could also relate the LULC changes with changes in socioeconomics, population or changes in fauna and flora regime of the broader area). 3. Please provide more details about the "Forest Map"