Subsidence control on river morphology and grain size in the Ganga Plain

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BSG British Society for Geomorphology

Ganga Plain





West Ganga Plain

- Degrading
- Stable, incised channels
- Low floodplain sedimentation rates



Swath profile - method



Each pixel within the swath is assigned a distance (to the closest point on the channel).





e.g. Yamuna/Ganga

Source: SRTM 90m DEM

Fluvial morphology - controls



Depth to basement



Sources: SRTM 90m DEM & Seismotectonic atlas of India (Geological Survey of India)

Subsidence velocity (V_{sub})



Grain size and fining rates



(Not my legs)

Grain size and fining rates



Incision Vs Aggradation



Incision Vs Aggradation



Conclusions

- Morphology new swath analysis reveals 3D changes
- Along strike variation in subsidence velocity and grain size fining rates

Subsidence is key to determining how sensitive morphology is to regional/global climate change?

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