

## VISIBILITY AND THE LANDSCAPE: AN EXPLORATION OF GIS MODELLING TECHNIQUES?

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ABSTRACT

**M. VAN LEUSEN**

CLASSICAL AND MEDITERRANEAN ARCHAEOLOGY,  
GRONINGEN INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY,  
THE NETHERLANDS

As part of the author's PhD studies, attempts were made to compare and merge the results of several field survey projects which have taken place in the Pontine plain (south Lazio, Italy) since the early 1980s. For most regional studies, field surveys are the only source of diachronic information about settlement and land use. It was found that even basic comparisons between quantitative aspects of field surveys conducted by the same team but during different campaigns are extraordinarily difficult to make. Ensuring the compatibility of field survey methodology and results must therefore become a major international research aim. The paper presents the author's attempts to compare field survey data sets, the reasons for their failure, and potential remedies.