

# PREDisM: Pre-Disaster Modeling With CNN Ensembles for At-Risk Communities



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NeurIPS: Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning, 2021

# Natural Hazards amidst Climate Change



# Natural Hazards amidst Climate Change



Need to adapt to the threats by implementing proper mitigation



Lack of Data

Pre-Disaster



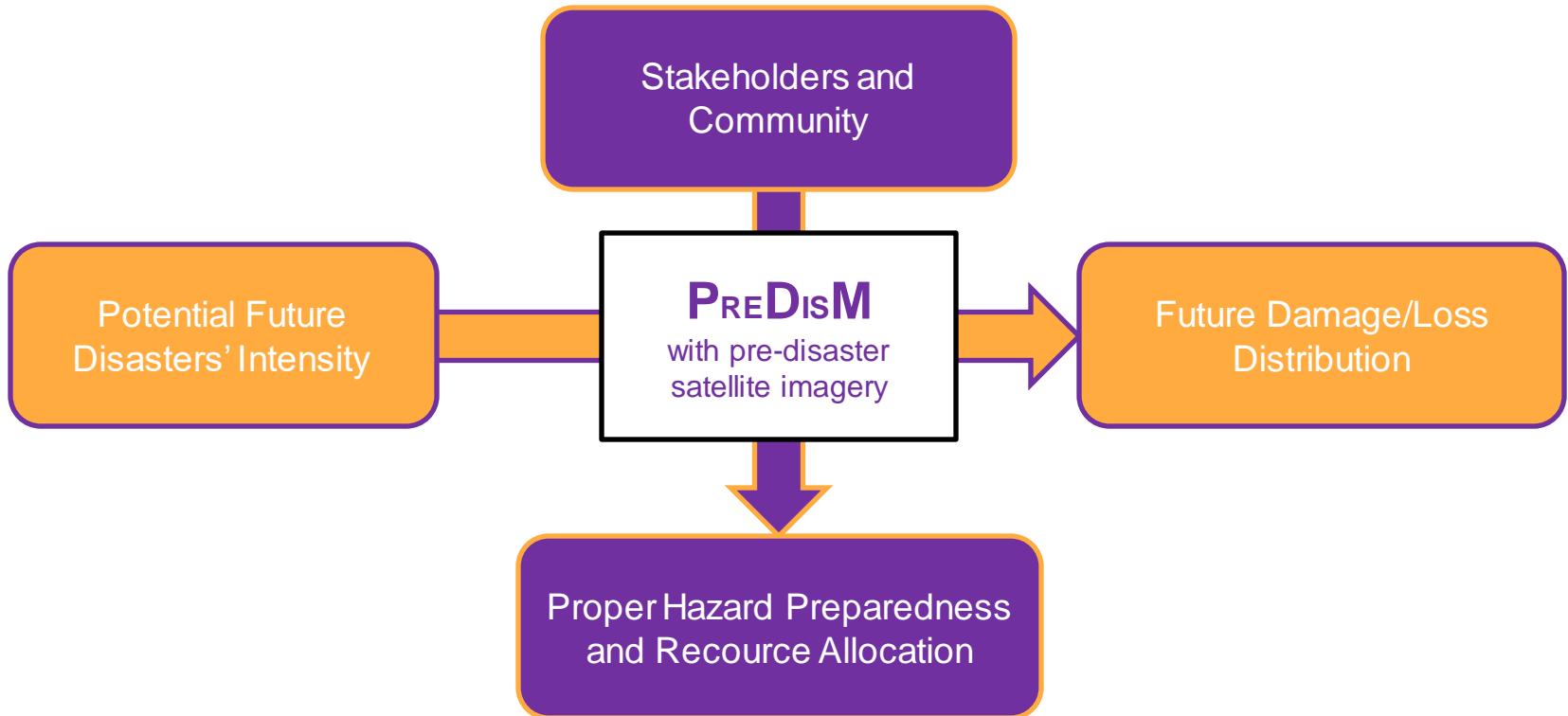
Regions without  
Previous Hazards

# PREDisM

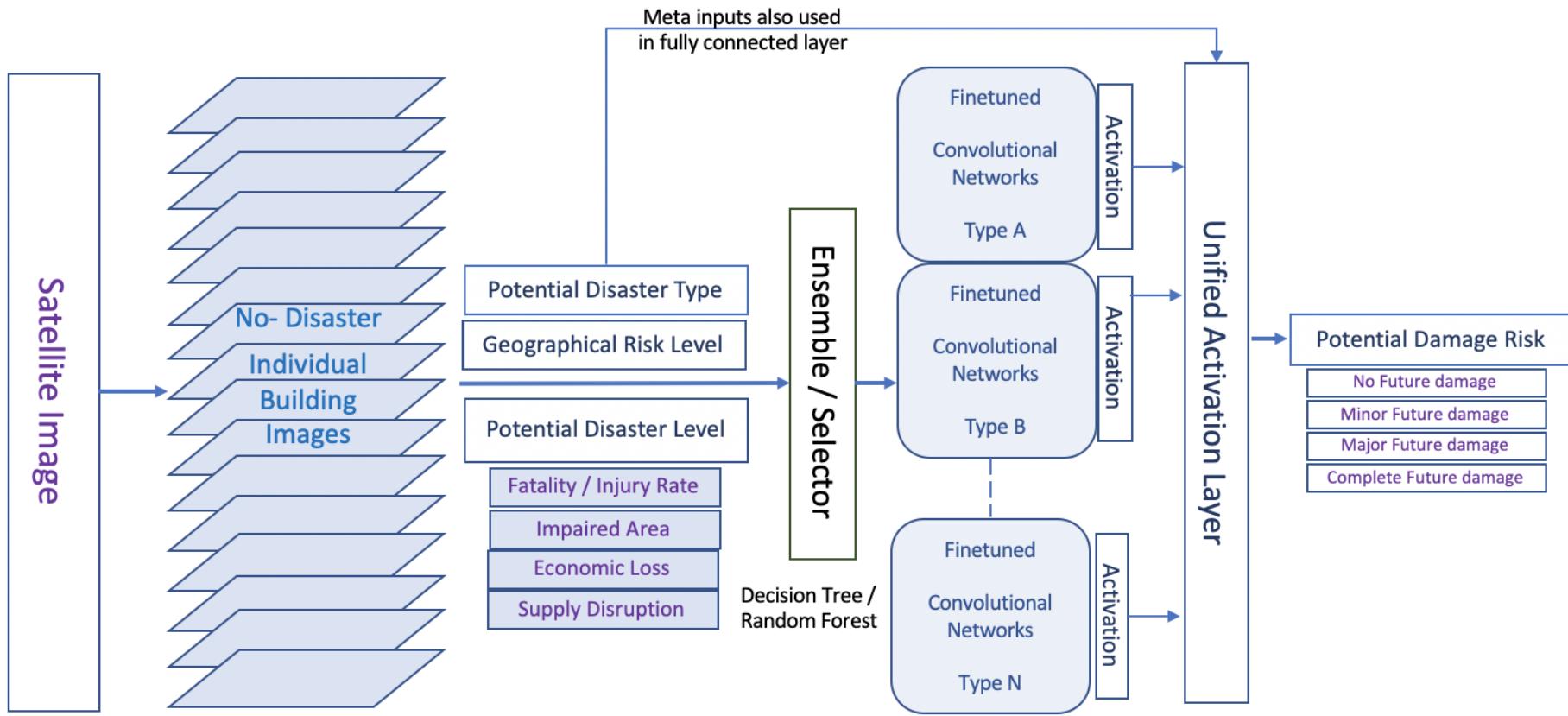
Pre-Disaster **M**odeling of Damages to Civilization



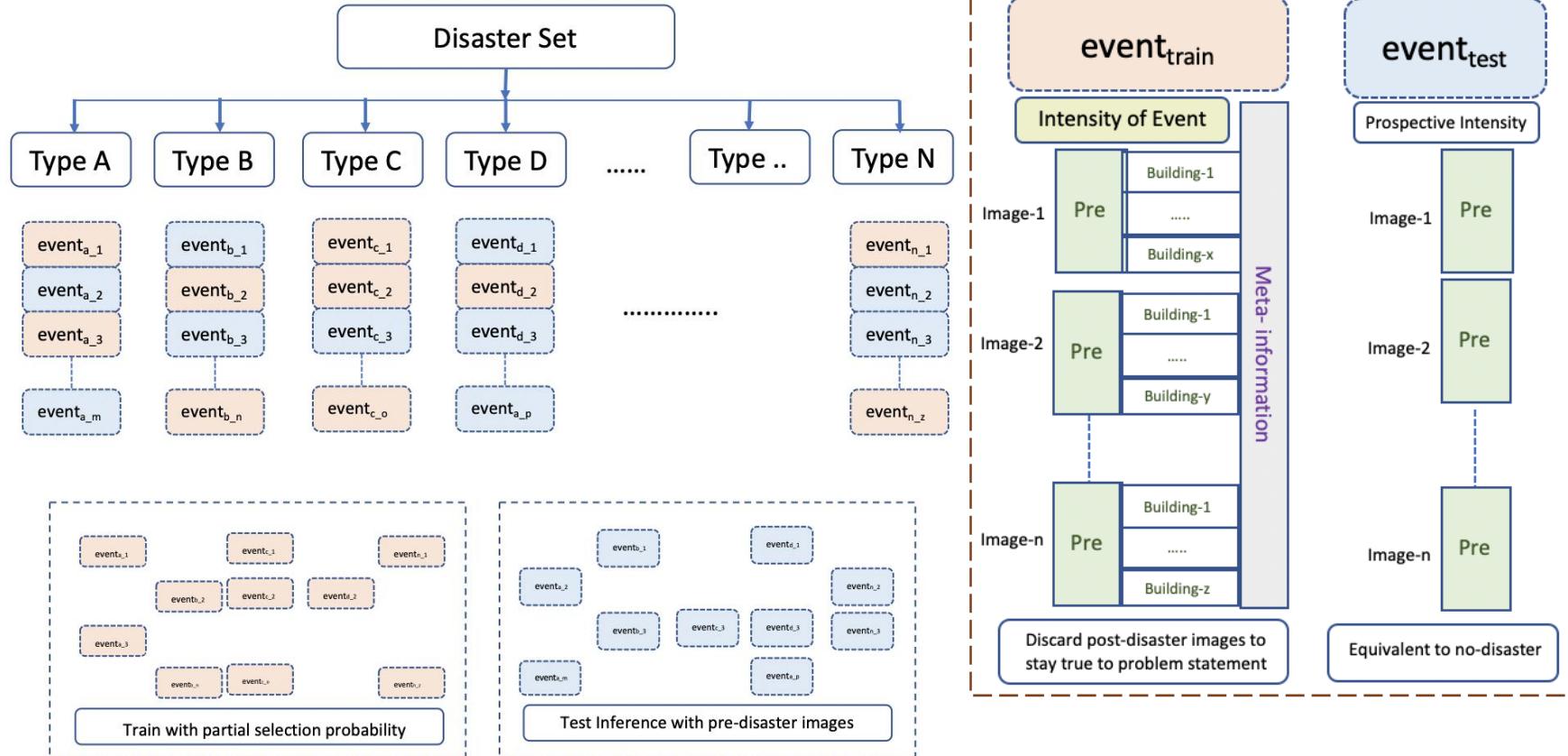
# Problem Introduction and Motivation



# Model



# Model Usage



# Data



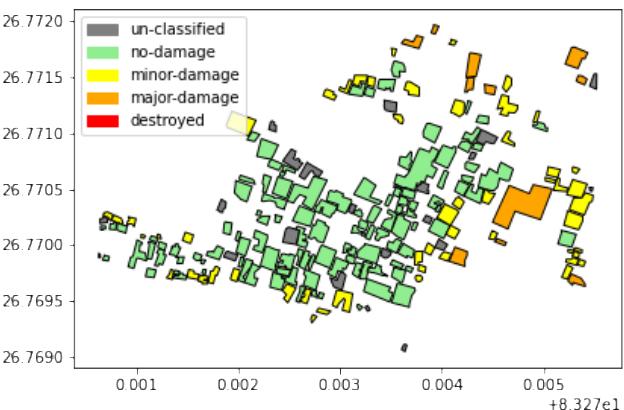
HAZARD TYPE	LOCATION/NAME	YEAR
EARTHQUAKE	MEXICO CITY	2017
WILDFIRE	SANTA ROSA, CA	2017
	PINERY	2015
	PORTUGAL	2017
	WOOLSEY, CA	2018
FLOOD	MIDWEST, US	2019
	NEPAL	2017
HURRICANE	FLORENCE	2018
	HARVEY	2017
	MATTHEW	2016
	MICHAEL	2018
TORNADO	JOPLIN, MO	2011
	MOORE, OK	2013
	TUSCALOOSA, AL	2011
TSUNAMI	PALU, INDONESIA	2018
	SUNDA, INDONESIA	2018
VOLCANIC ERUPTION	GUATEMALA	2018
	LOWER PUNA	2018

# Hazard Level Metric

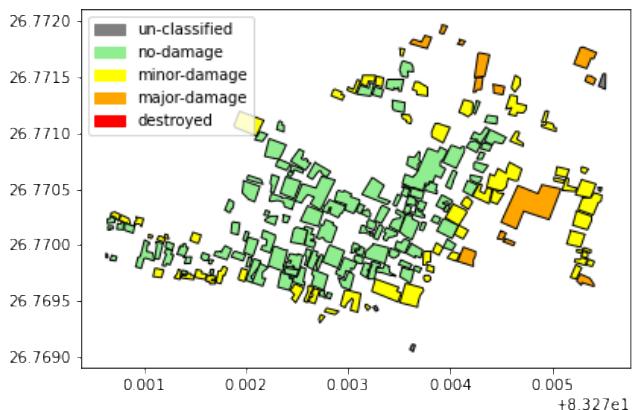
## Hazard Levels as a function of attributes

ATTRIBUTES	HAZARD LEVEL				
	5	4	3	2	1
Fatality	>10000	>1000	>100	>10	>1
Injury	>100000	>10000	>1000	>100	>10
Land Impaired (km <sup>2</sup> )	>500	>100	>50	>10	>1
Direct Damage (billion USD)	>100	>10	>1	>0.1	>0.01
Indirect Damage (billion USD)	>100	>10	>1	>0.1	>0.01
Water Disruption (days)	>30	>14	>7	>3	>1
Energy Disruption (days)	>30	>14	>7	>3	>1

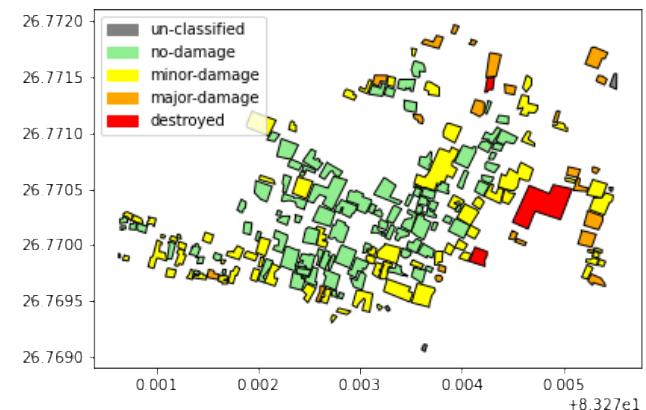
# Example of Model Output



(a) Hazard Level 3



(b) Hazard Level 4



(c) Hazard Level 5

Qualitative flooding damage prediction ( $x = \text{lat}$ ,  $y = \text{lng}$ ) without earlier disasters: Nepal

# Results

MODEL	LOSS-FUNCTION	ACCURACY
PREDISM <sub>RESNET-18</sub>	Cross-Entropy	78.38 %
PREDISM <sub>RESNET-34</sub>	Cross-Entropy	79.24 %
Chen <sub>post</sub>	Cross-Entropy	59.50 %
	Ordinal Cross-Entropy	64.20 %

Prediction inference on non-disaster images

# Takeaways

PREDisM can help society prepare for future hazards amidst climate change (stakeholders, residents, insurance, among others)

## Future Work

1. Adding protective strategies will quantifiably minimize loss
2. Ablation studies on pre-disaster image sets spread across decades
3. Add crowd-sourced data to better process geographical features

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