



Geophysical investigations near the ancient Agora at city of Argos, Hellas.

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Reducing the archaeological risk has been possible by clarifying areas of archaeological potential at an early stage. Towards this scope a non-invasive geophysical survey was carried out at the city of Argos, Argolis Prefecture, which from the beginning of Archaic Times (c. 800 B.C.) and through to Classical Times was one of the most prominent city-states. Based on historical and archaeological evidence three sites were chosen near the ancient Agora of Argos. Gradient and total field magnetic measurements were collected over several grids, with 1m spacing between measurement points. Representative samples were taken for laboratory measurements of the low-field magnetic susceptibility and the natural remanent magnetization. The data management and cartographic representation was performed using Geographic Information Systems, where a geographic database was created, including all available information for the broader Argos area: local geology, topographic features, satellite images and archaeological data. The observed magnetic anomalies, mainly indicating the presence of linear square structures, are mostly related to inhabitance ruins according to data from neighboring excavations. In order to further refine the areas of archaeological interest and to identify specific targets for subsequent evaluation additional geophysical techniques, i.e. ground penetrating radar and electric resistivity tomography, will be implemented.