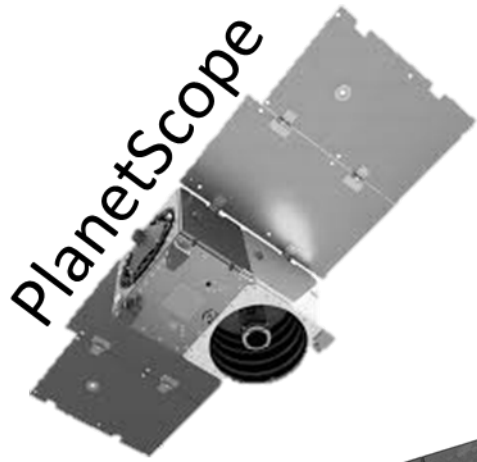
A satellite-derived map of the Duck, NC coastline. The land is shown in shades of orange and brown, the water in blue, and the shoreline in a jagged black line. A horizontal black arrow points from the right side of the map towards the shoreline.

# Satellite-derived shoreline improvements and expansion to inlet shoal detection (new start)

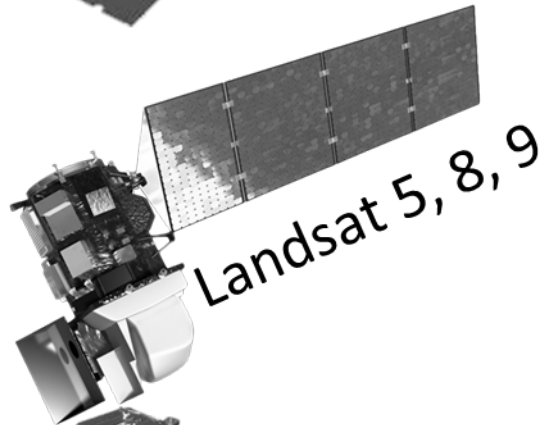
Shannon Brown, Ian Conery, Annika O'Dea,  
Katherine Brodie

Duck, NC

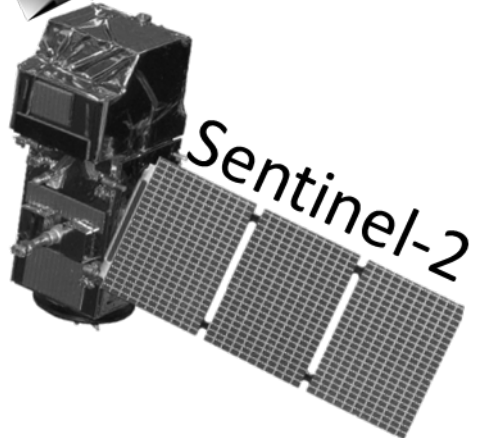
# CoastSat Satellite-Derived Waterlines



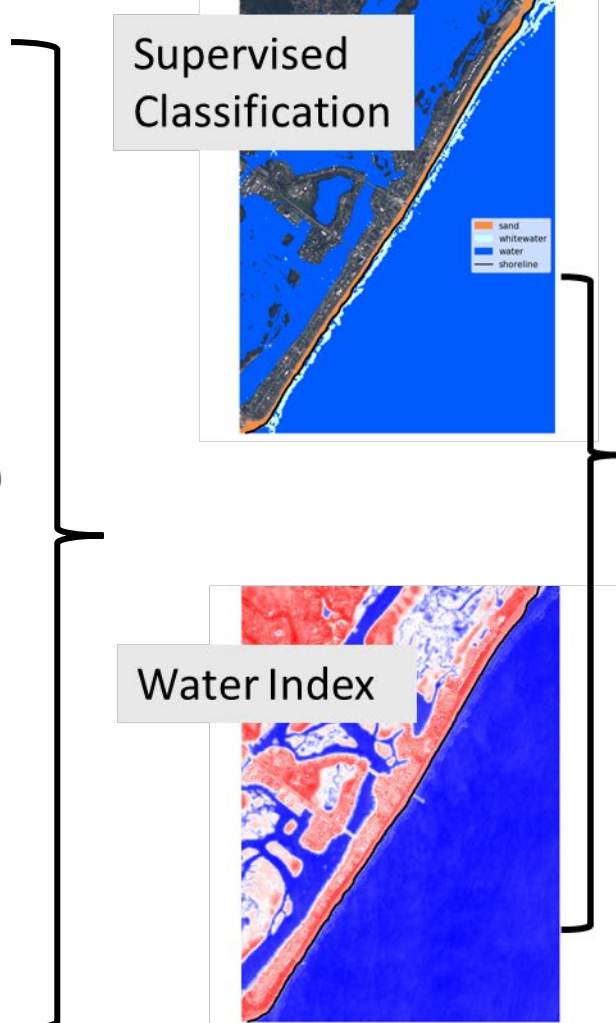
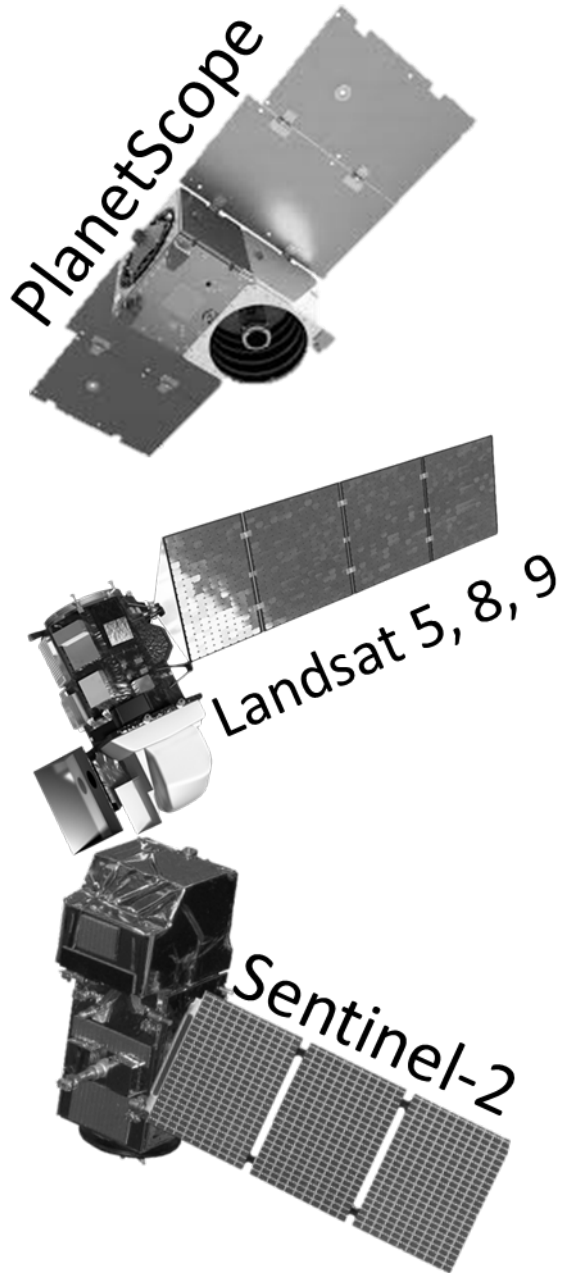
Commercially-available imagery  
available at a daily revisit since 2016



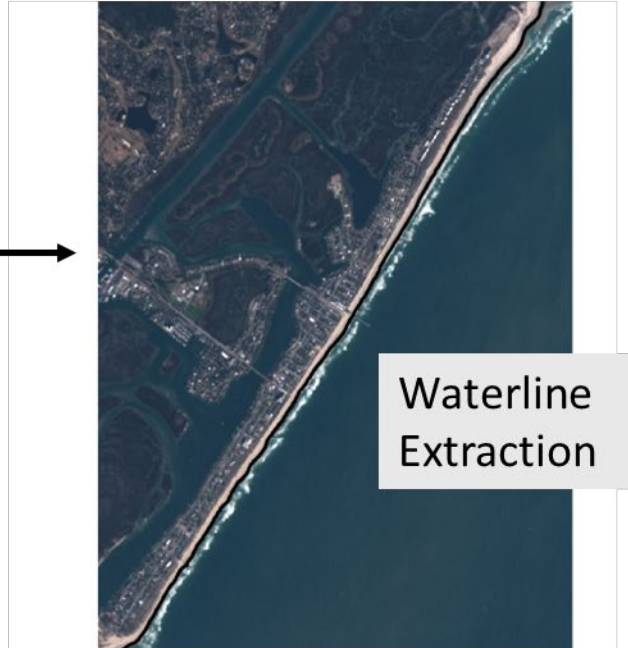
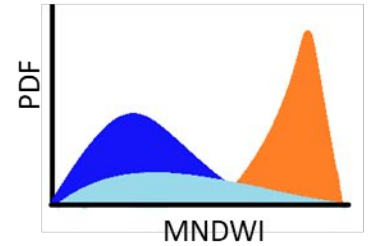
Publicly-available imagery available at  
a revisit rate of 5 – 16 days since 1984



# Waterline Extraction



Thresholding Algorithm



Waterline Extraction

# Satellite Shoreline Mapper



CoastSat

2016-02-18-15-40-57



Satellite\_Shoreline\_Mapper.tbx

Extract\_CoastSat\_Shorelines

DevelopSatelliteShorelinesSite

Parameters Environments

Is this a repeated run?

SiteName?  
TESTARC

Shore Polygon Filename?  
C:\Users\RDCHLNRO\Desktop\waves2021\site\_shapefiles2\varctest.shp

Start Date  
2021-10-01

End Date  
2022-01-01

Contour?

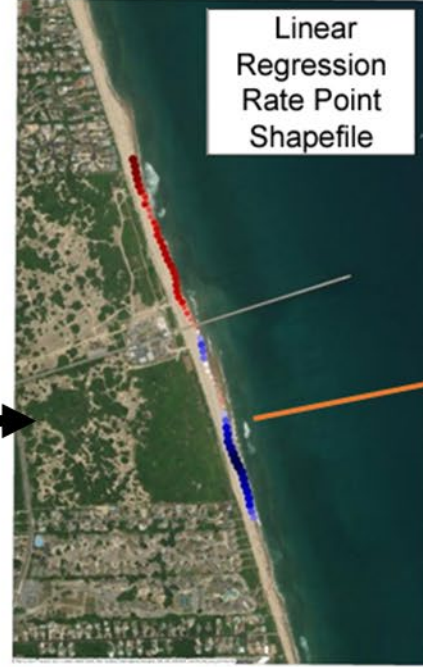
Estimated Slope?  
0.1

Tidal Gage Number?

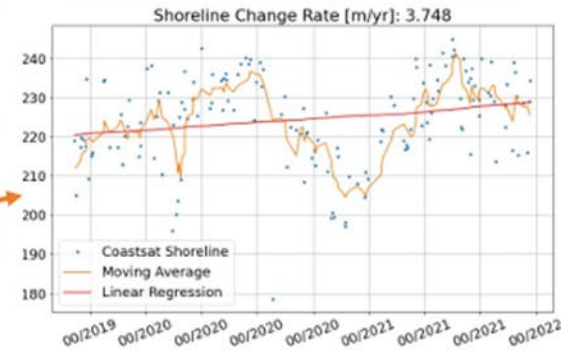
Transect Spacing  
70

Input parameters

LRR [2008 - 2023] Satellite Derived Shorelines



Individual Transect Trend Plots



<https://cirp.usace.army.mil/products/ssm.php>

[Ian.W.Conery@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ian.W.Conery@usace.army.mil)

[Shannon.M.Brown@usace.army.mil](mailto:Shannon.M.Brown@usace.army.mil)



**ERDC**  
ENGINEER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

# Water Level Correction



satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface

( $x, y$ )



$\Delta x$

elevation of  
reference contour

tide

$$\Delta x = \frac{z_{ref} - z_{wl}}{m}$$

average  
beach  
slope



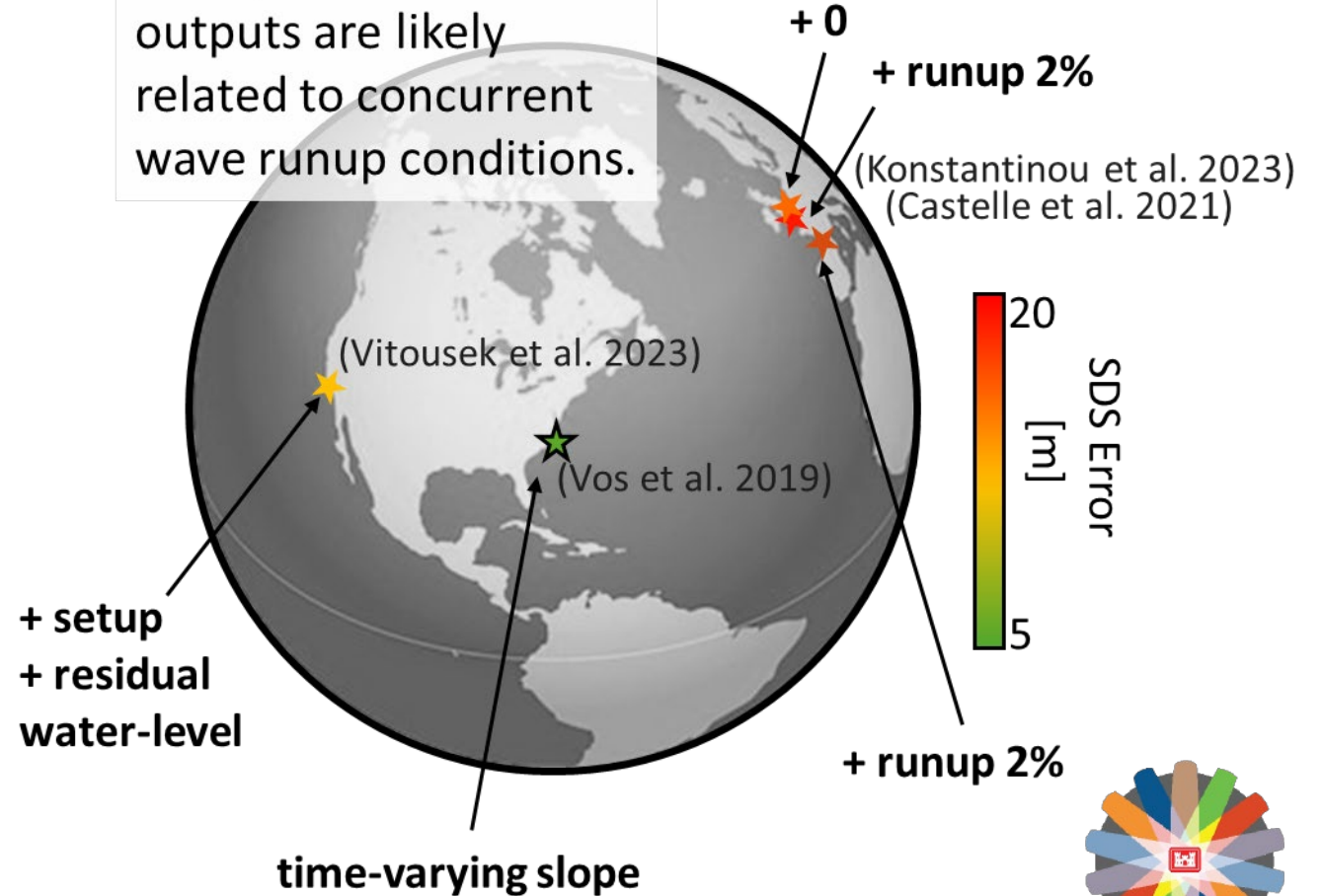
# Water Level Correction, cont.

satellite-derived shoreline  
(x,y,z)



★ Duck, NC

Site-specific errors in outputs are likely related to concurrent wave runup conditions.



# Water Level Correction – 3 questions



satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface  
(x,y)

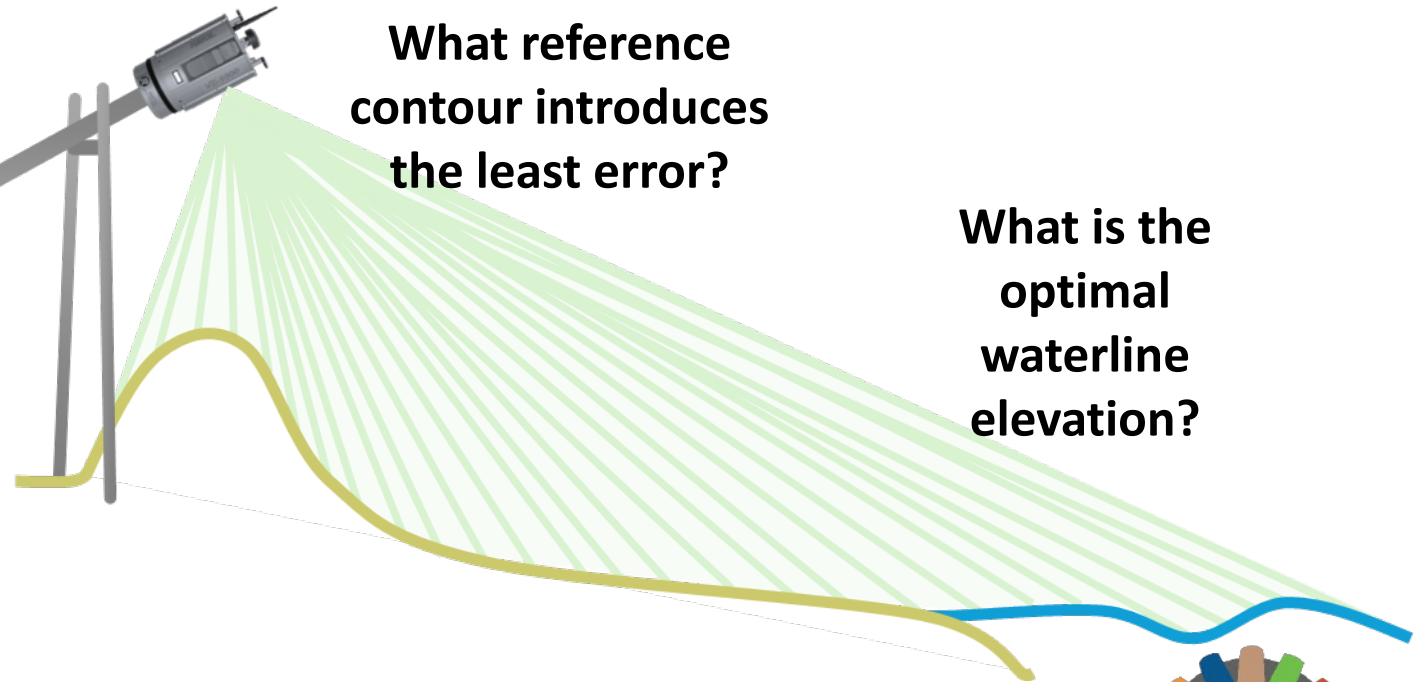


Three main Questions

What reference  
contour introduces  
the least error?

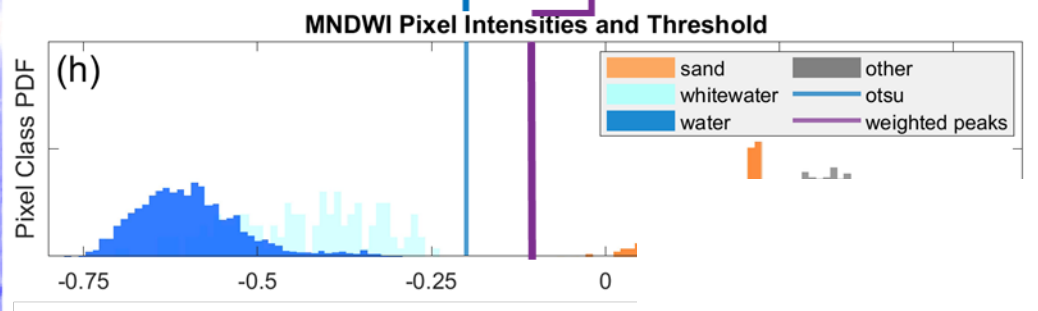
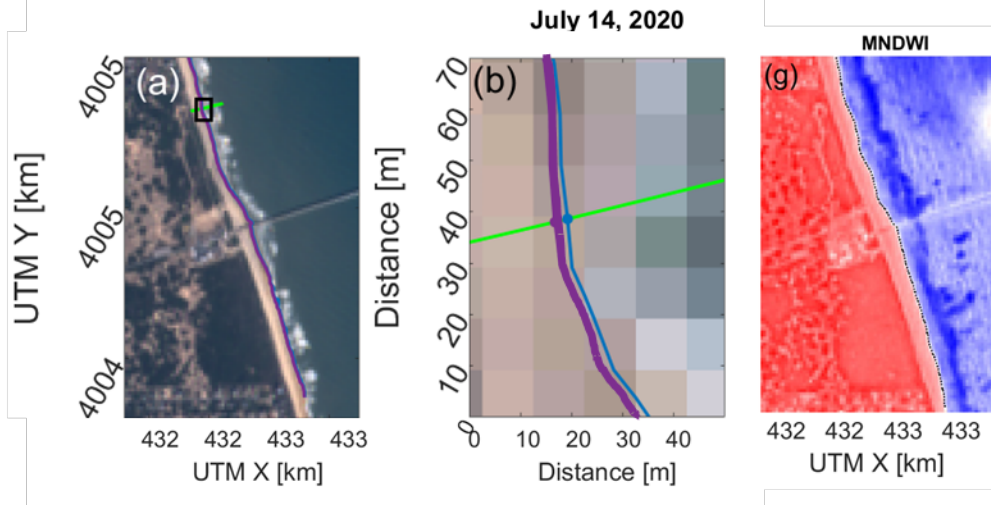
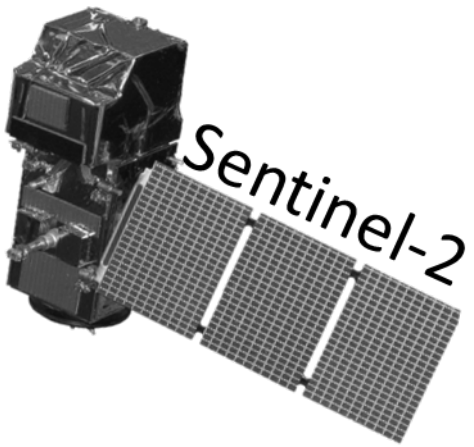
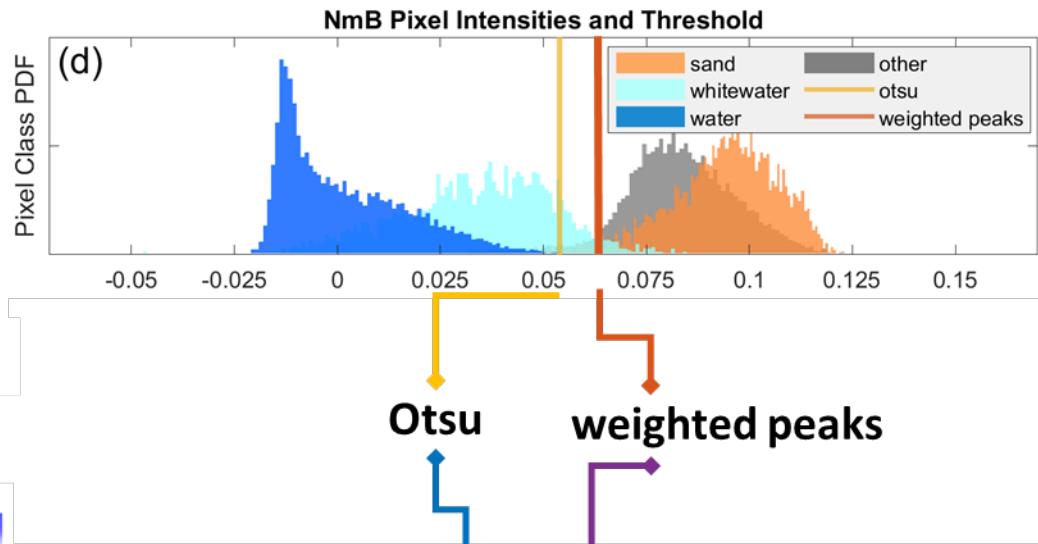
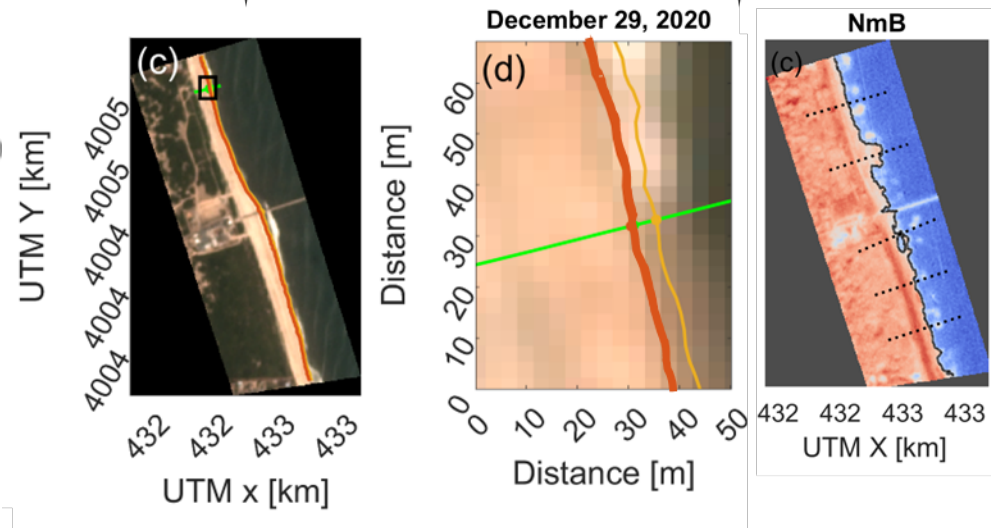
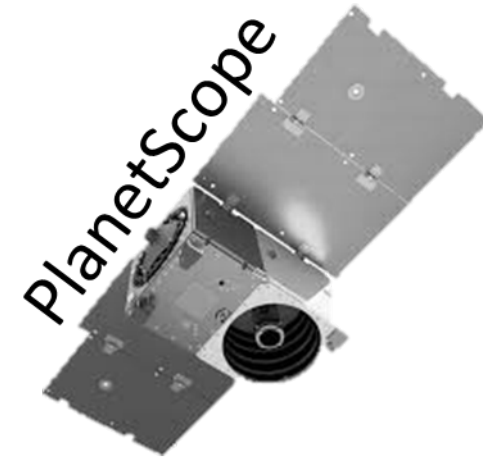
What is the  
optimal  
waterline  
elevation?

How much error does an  
average slope  
introduce?



# Satellite Imagery

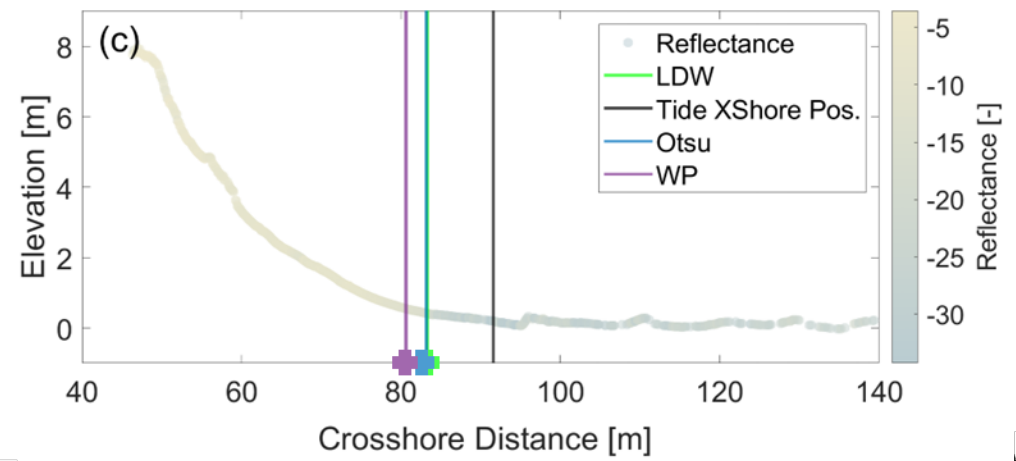
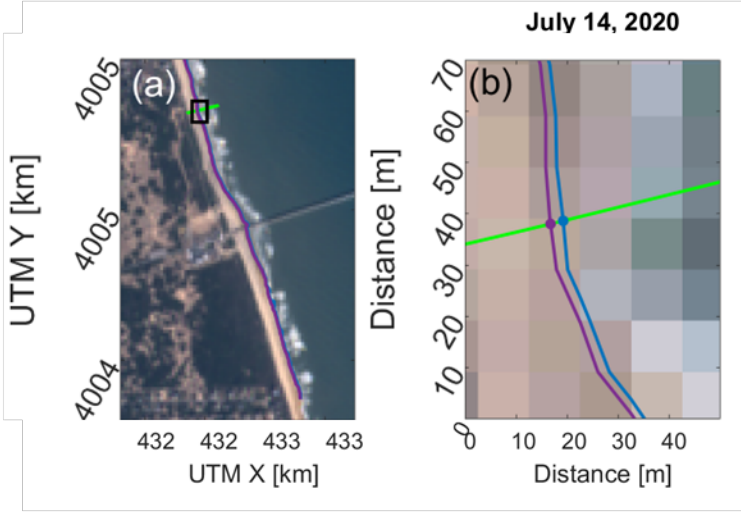
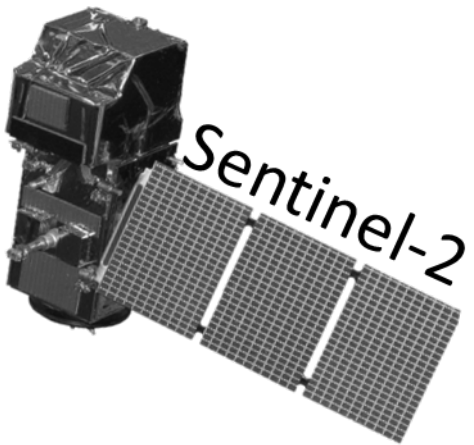
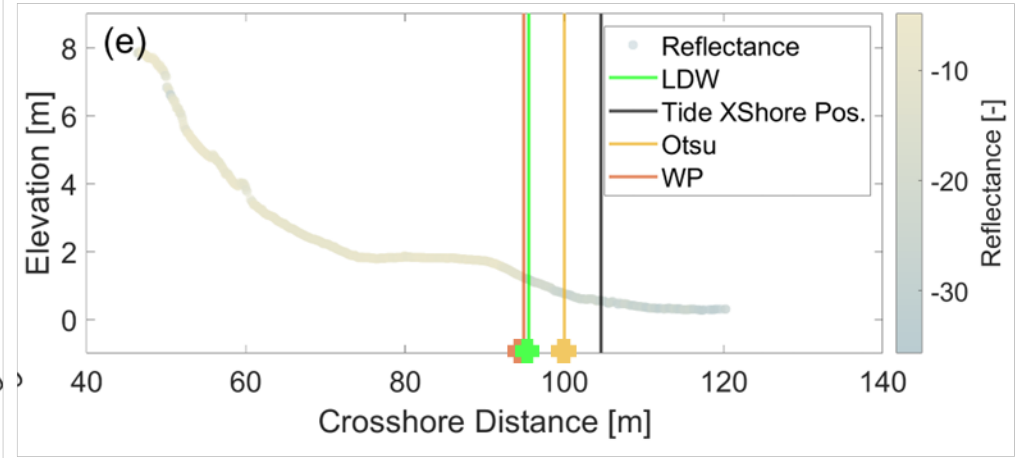
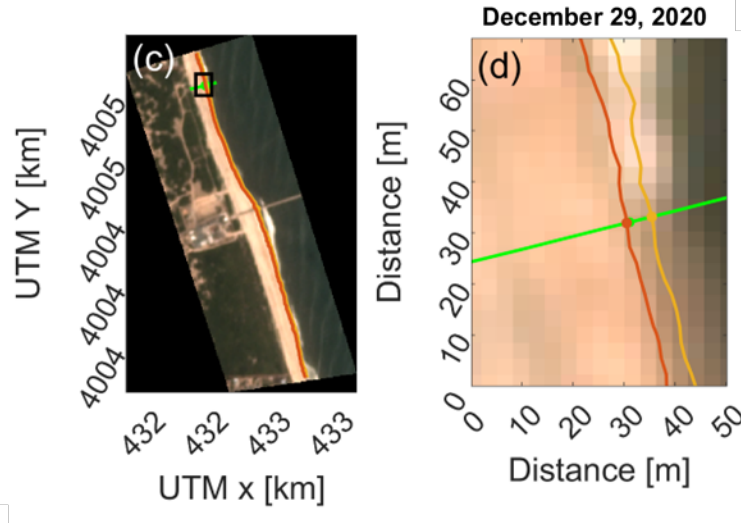
Comparing two image sources, two water indices, and two threshold algorithms





# Comparing Data Types

Can compare instantaneous waterline positions from SDW and LDW along lidar linescan



# SDW vs. LDW

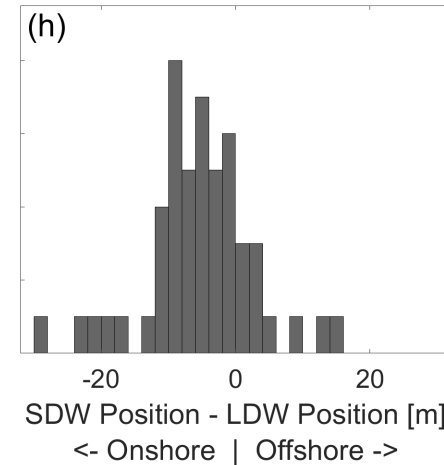
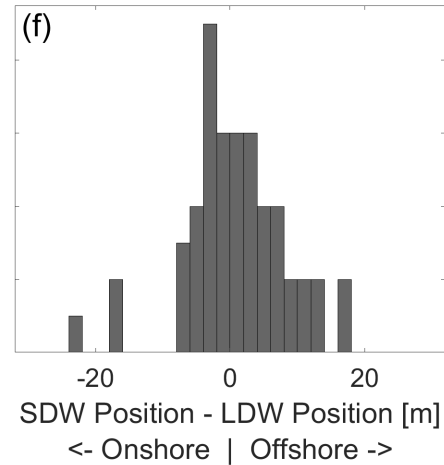
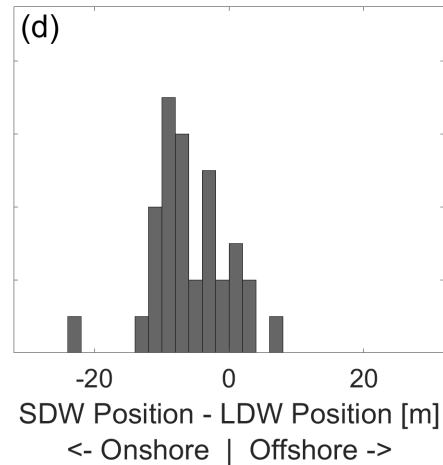
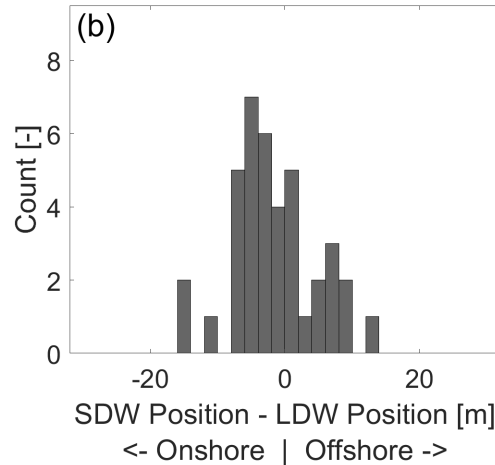
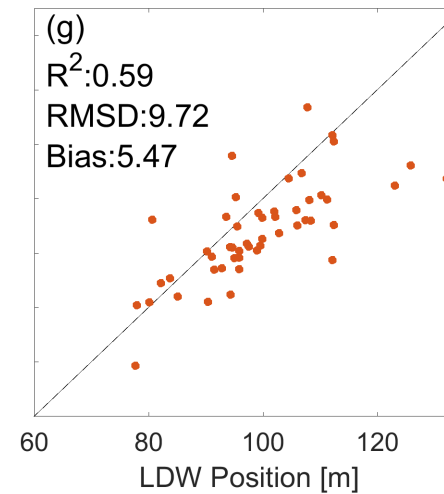
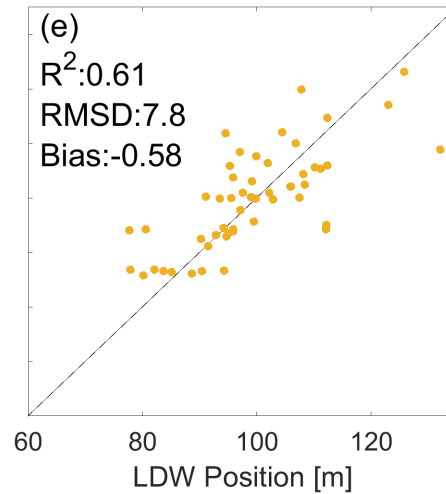
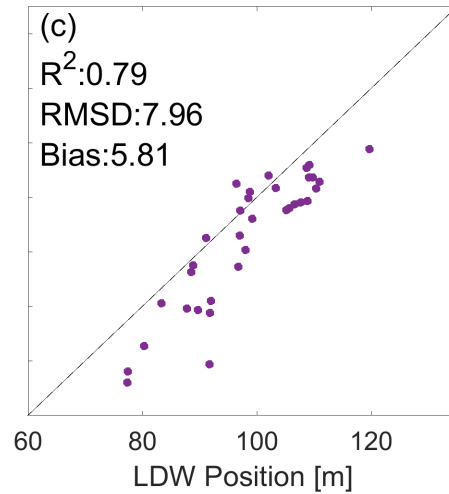
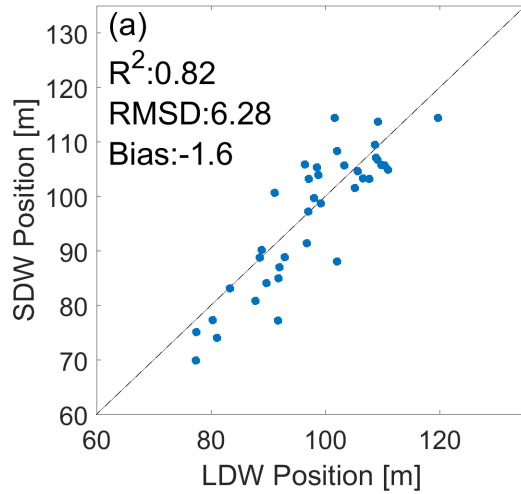


**Sentinel-2  
Otsu**

**Sentinel-2  
weighted peaks**

**PlanetScope  
Otsu**

**PlanetScope  
weighted peaks**



Sentinel-2 SDW correlate better with LDW than PlanetScope SDW

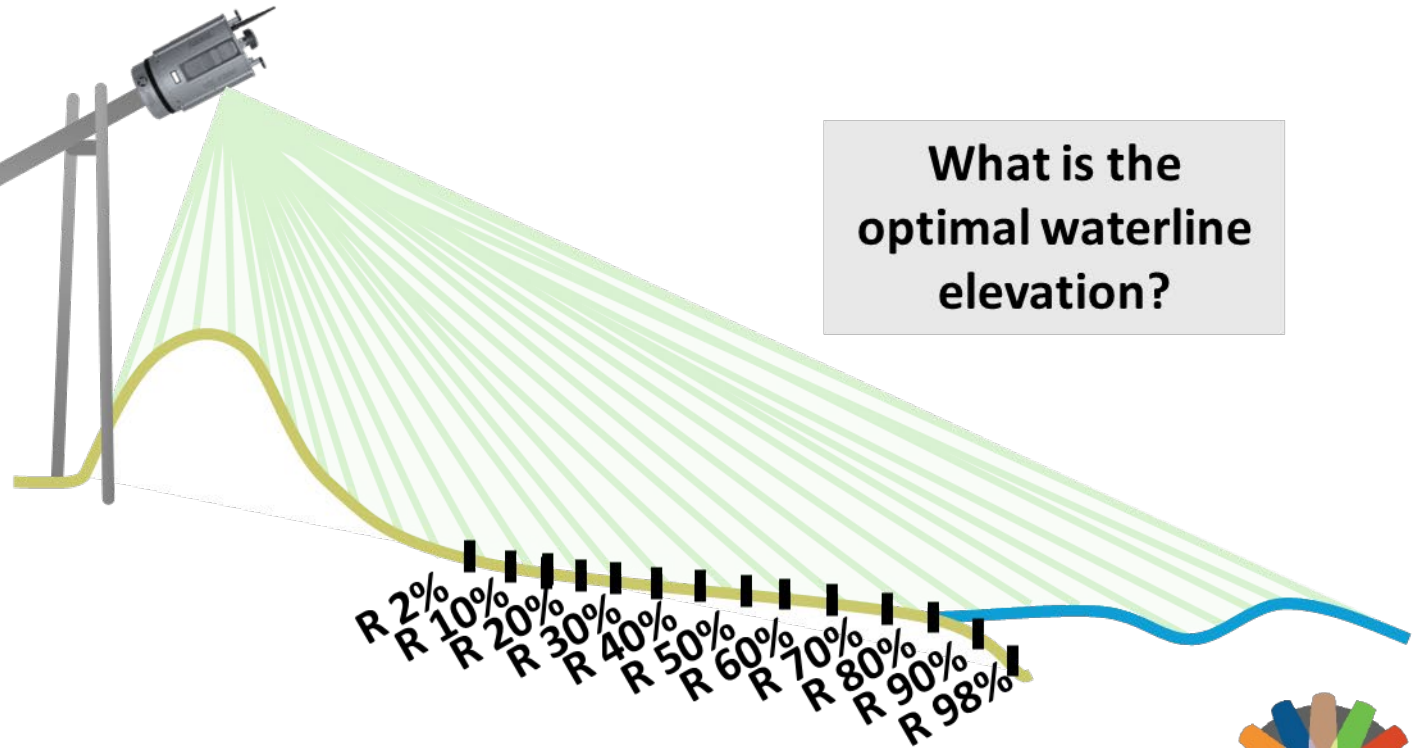
Otsu SDW had reduced error compared to weighted peaks SDW

Weighted peaks SDW had strong onshore bias

# Water Level Correction – 1<sup>st</sup> question



satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface  
(x,y)

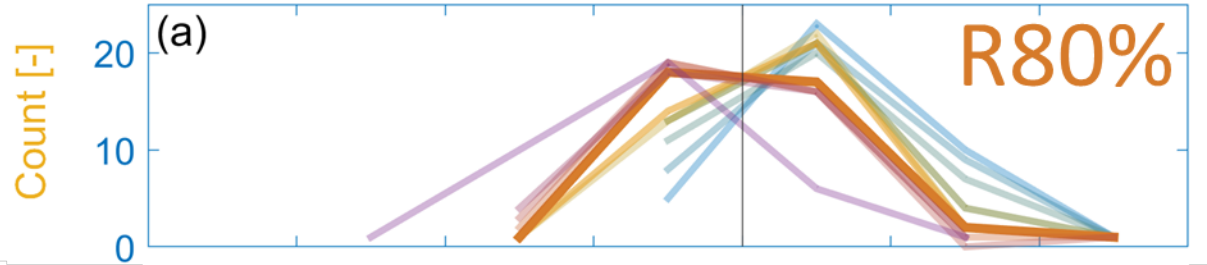


What is the optimal waterline elevation?

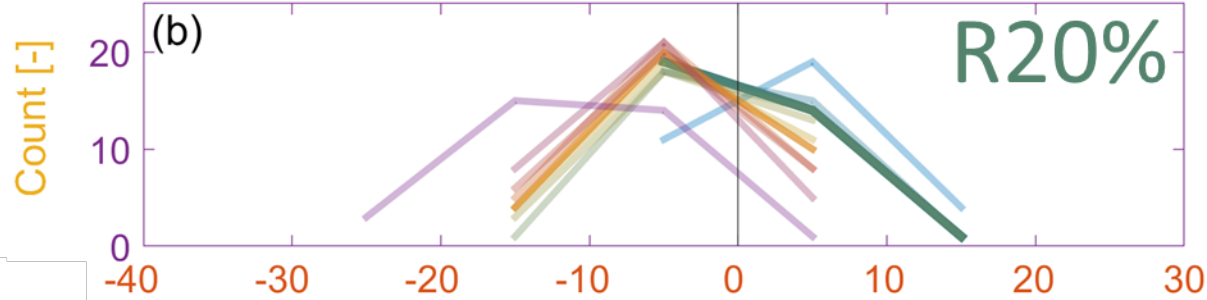


# Measured Bulk Statistics

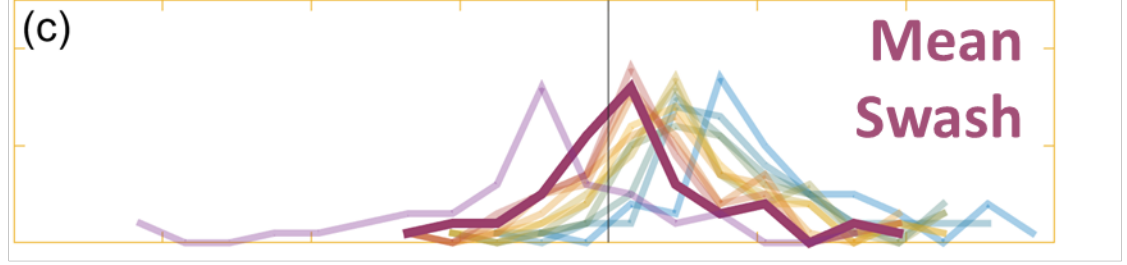
Sentinel-2 Otsu



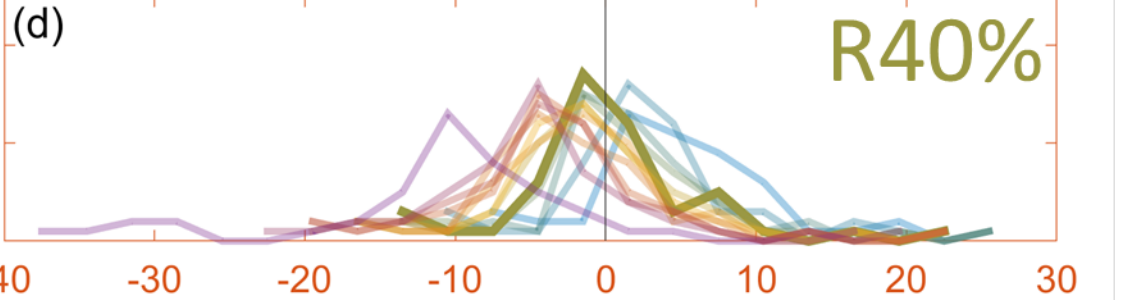
Sentinel-2 weighted peaks



PlanetScope Otsu



PlanetScope weighted peaks



SDW Position - Runup Exceedance Position [m]

<- Onshore      Offshore ->

- R2%    R30%    R60%    R90%    Tide
- R10%   R40%    R70%    R98%
- R20%   R50%    R80%    Mean Swash

Otsu correlate with:

**Mid Swash**

Weighted peaks correlate with:

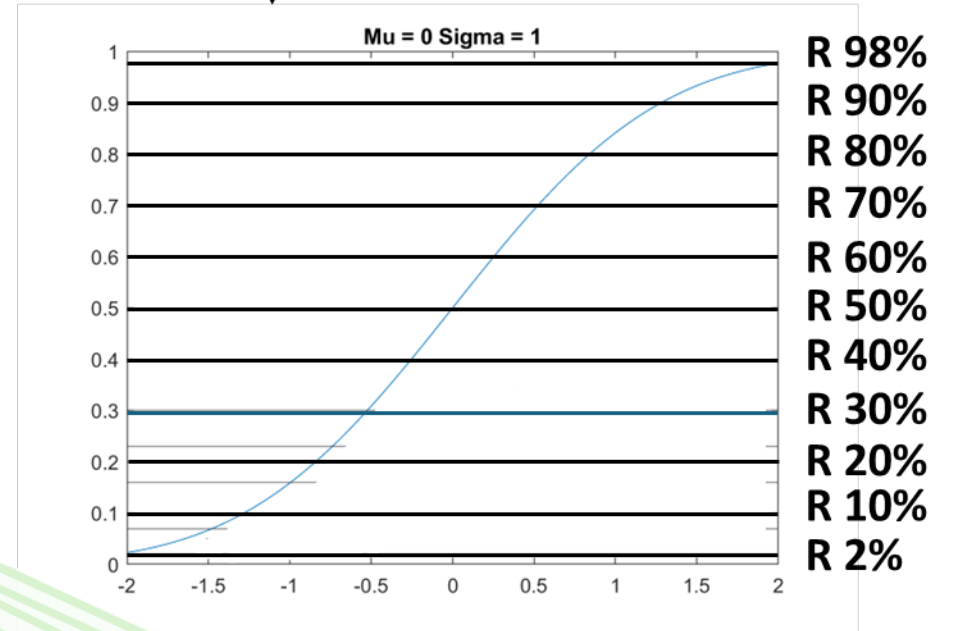
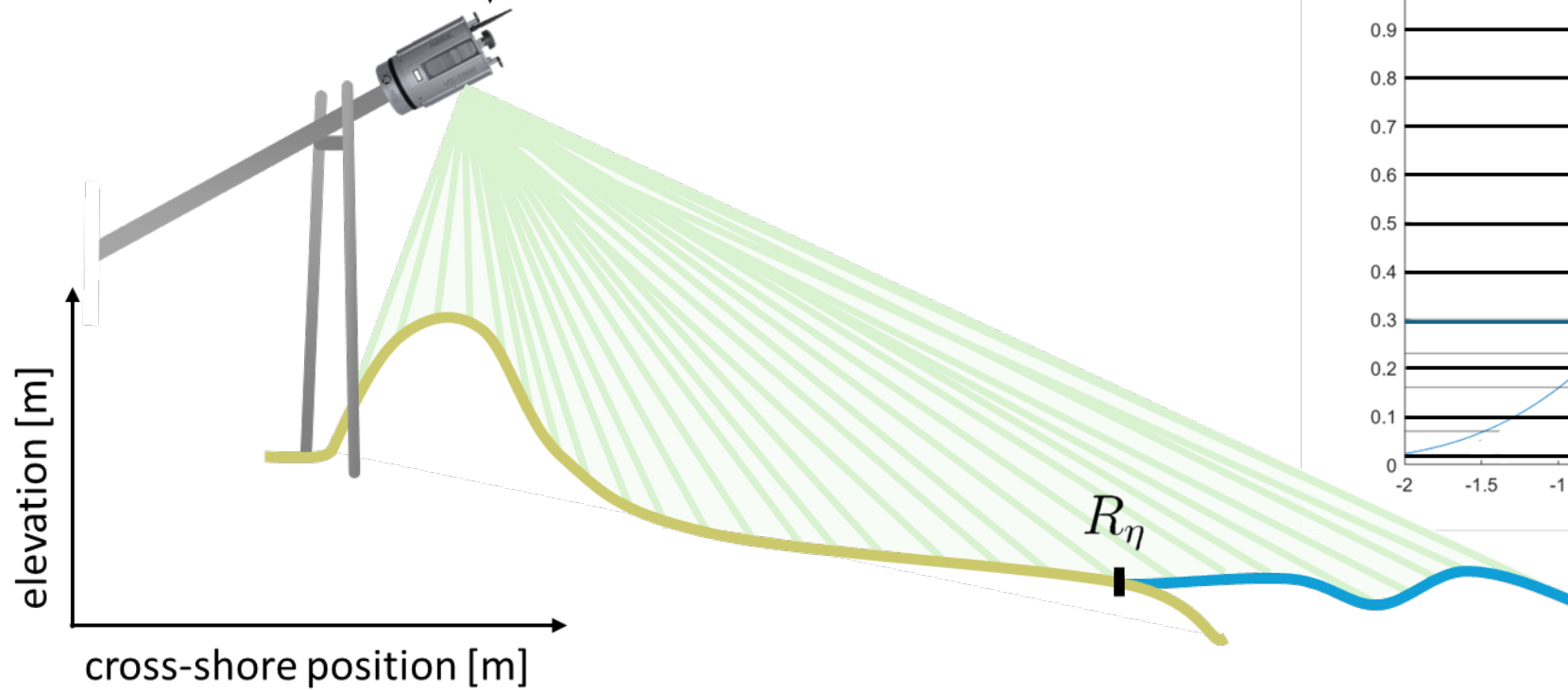
**Upper Extent**



# Bulk Statistics

Parameterized

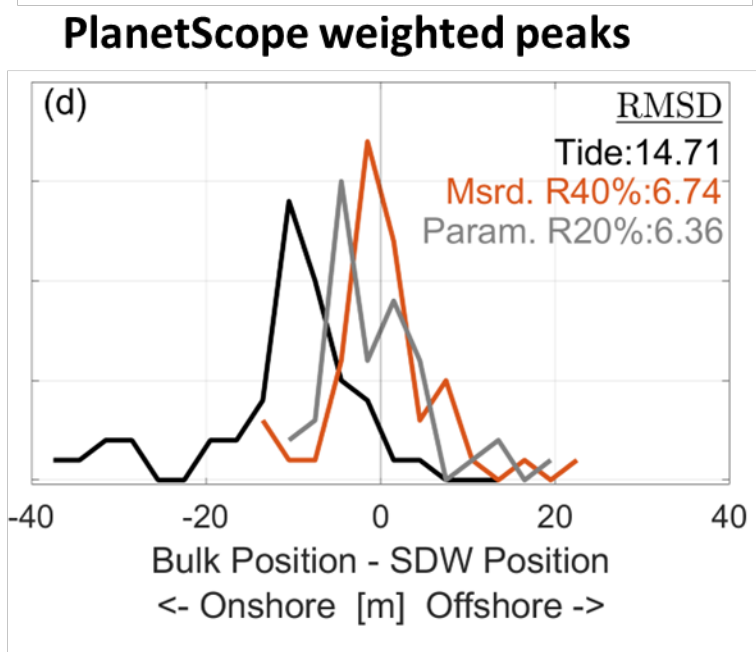
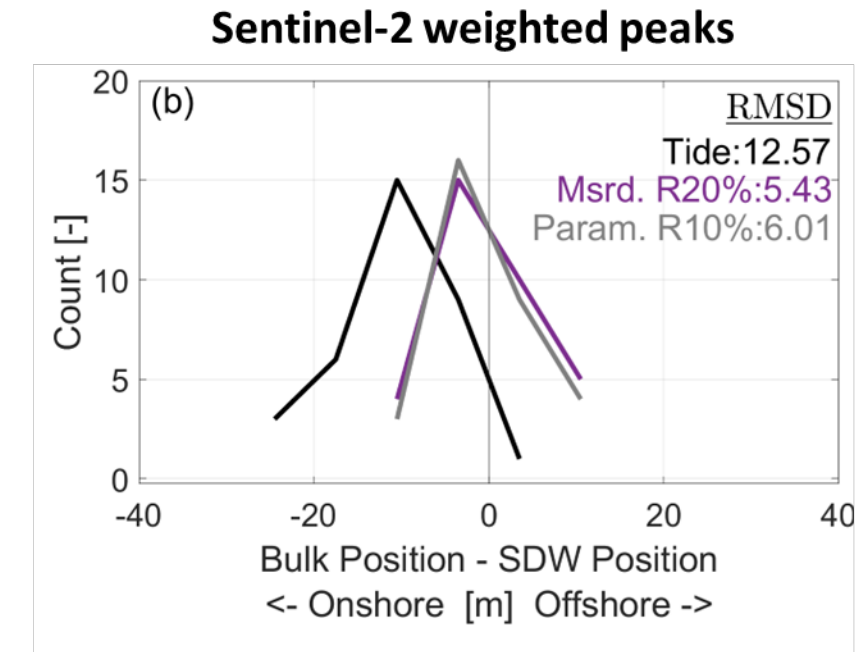
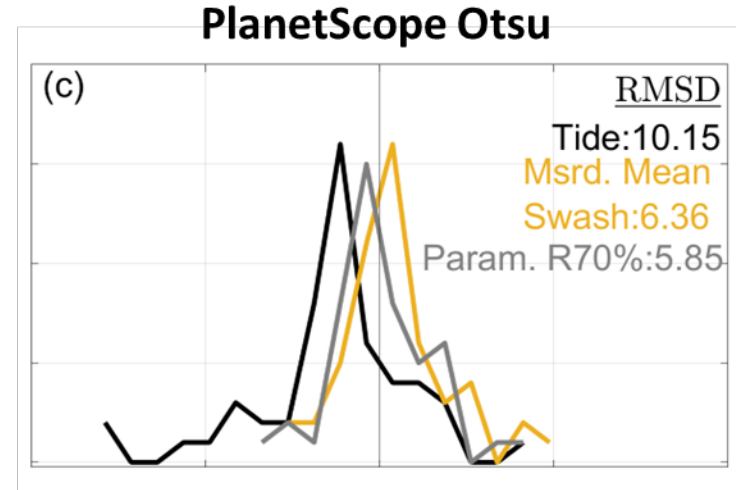
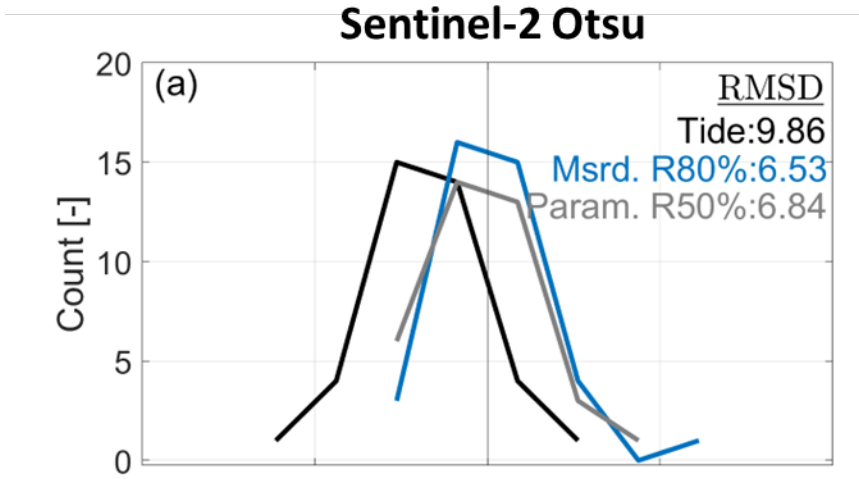
$$R_{\eta} = 1.1 \left( \langle \eta \rangle + \frac{[H_o L_o (0.563 \beta^2 + 0.0004)] \cdot 5 \sqrt{\frac{\eta_{\sigma}}{2}}}{2} \right)$$



**ERDC**

(Stockton et al. 2006; Palmsten and Holman 2012)

# Bulk Statistics - comparison



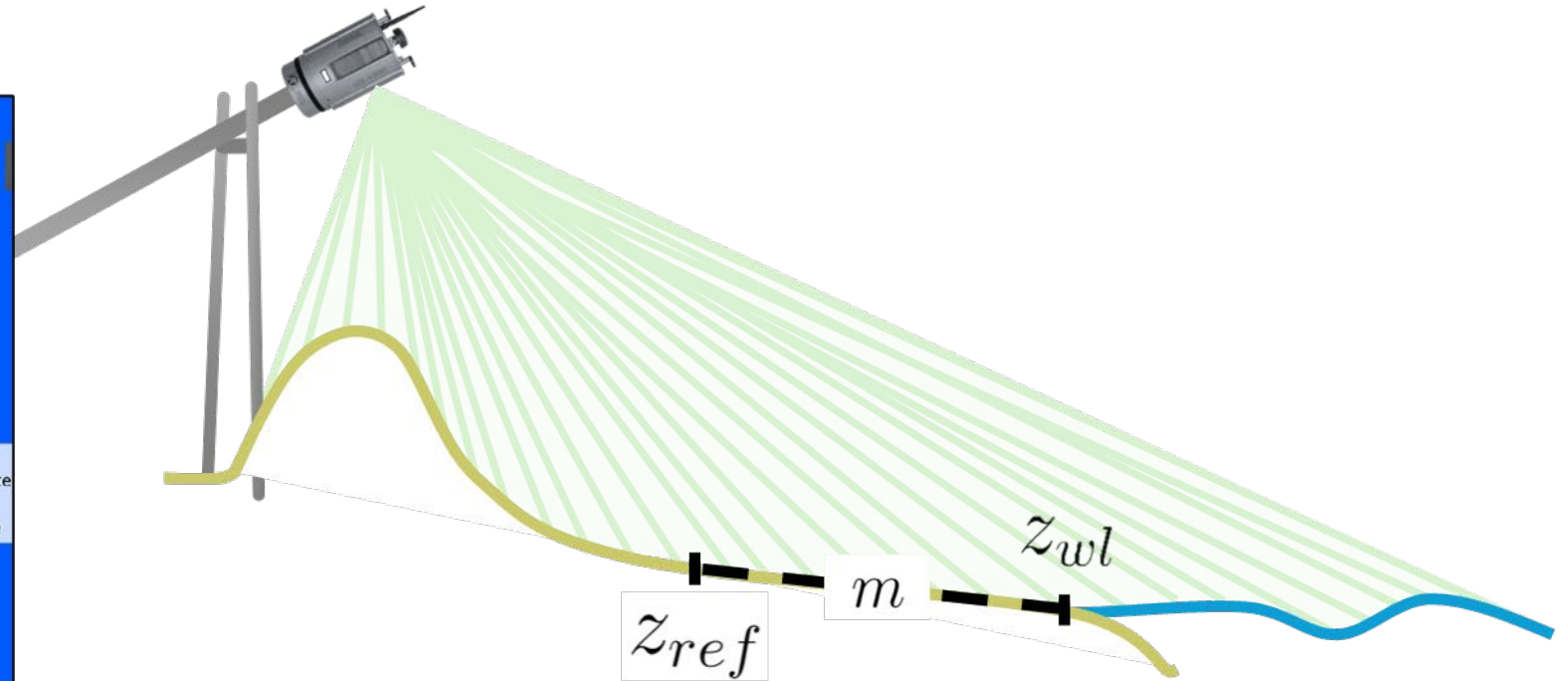
Cross-shore positions of lowest RMSD **measured** and **parameterized** runup excursion both align better with SDW



# Water Level Correction – 2<sup>nd</sup> question

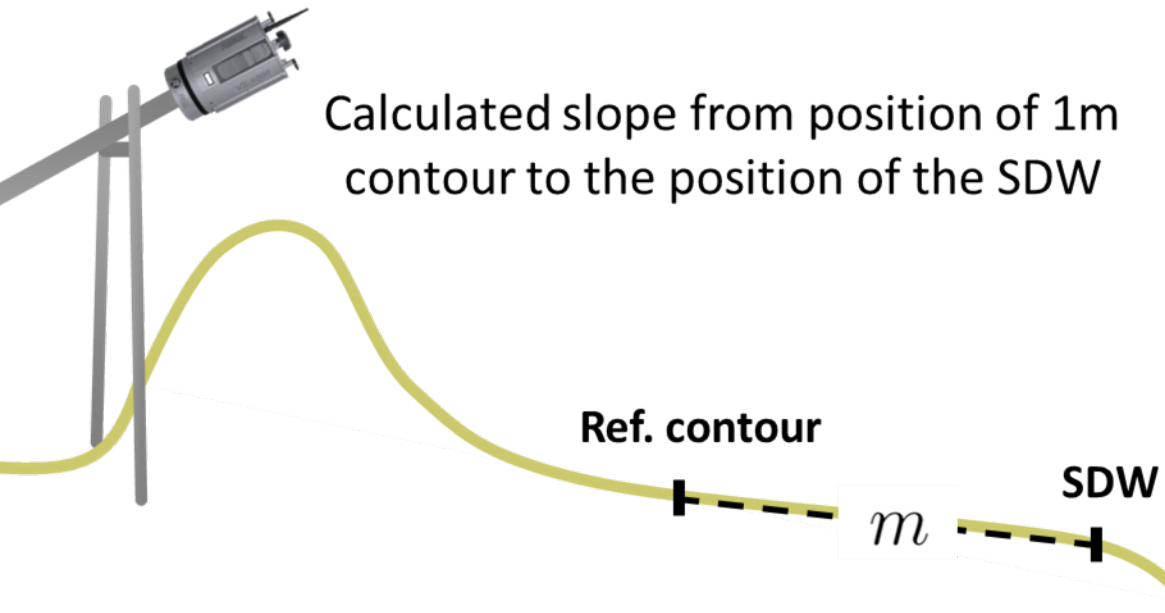


satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface  
(x,y)

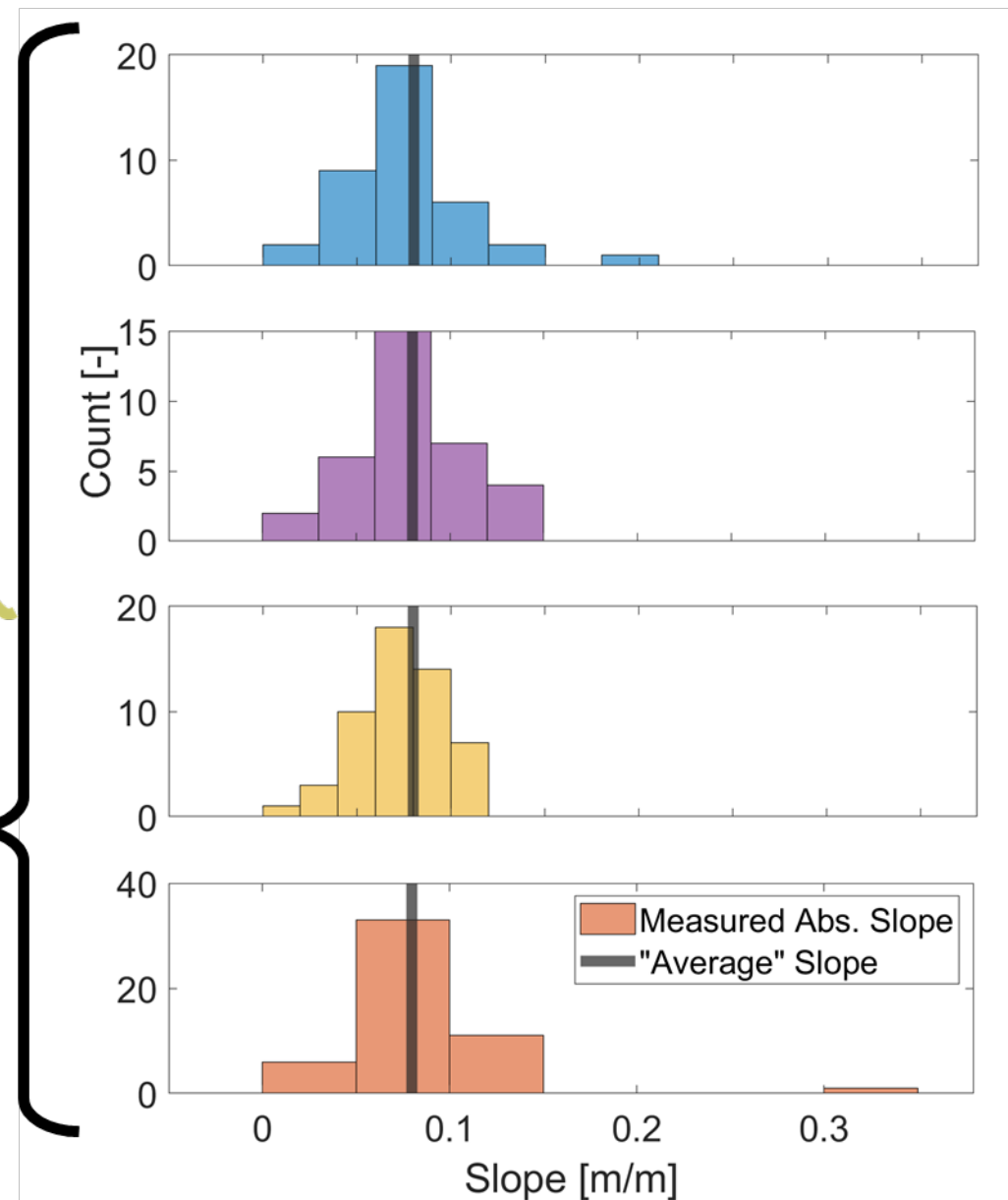


How much error does an average slope introduce?

# Measured Slope



measured slope has a wide variation, not captured using an average (0.08) slope



Sentinel-2  
Otsu

Sentinel-2  
Weighted  
Peaks

PlanetScope  
Otsu

PlanetScope  
Weighted  
Peaks



# Water Level Correction – 3<sup>rd</sup> question



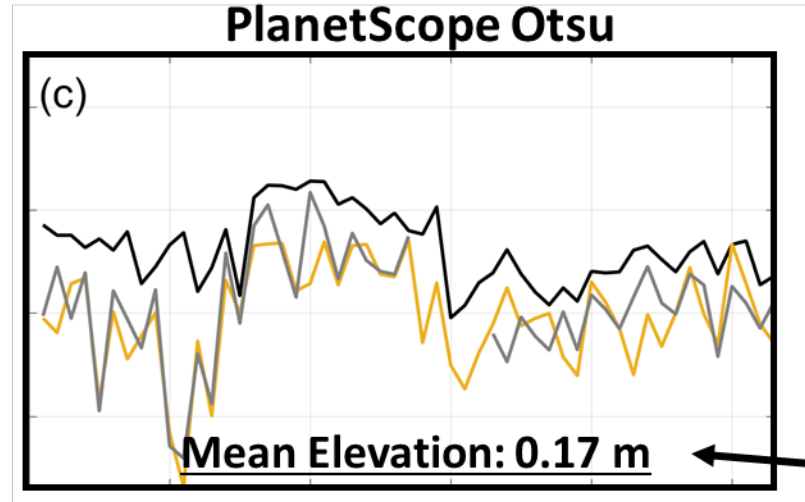
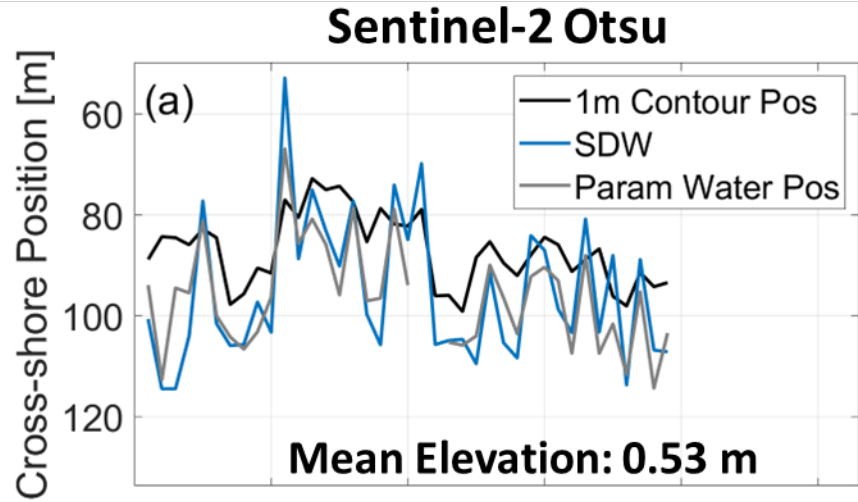
satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface  
(x,y)



What reference  
contour introduces  
the least error?

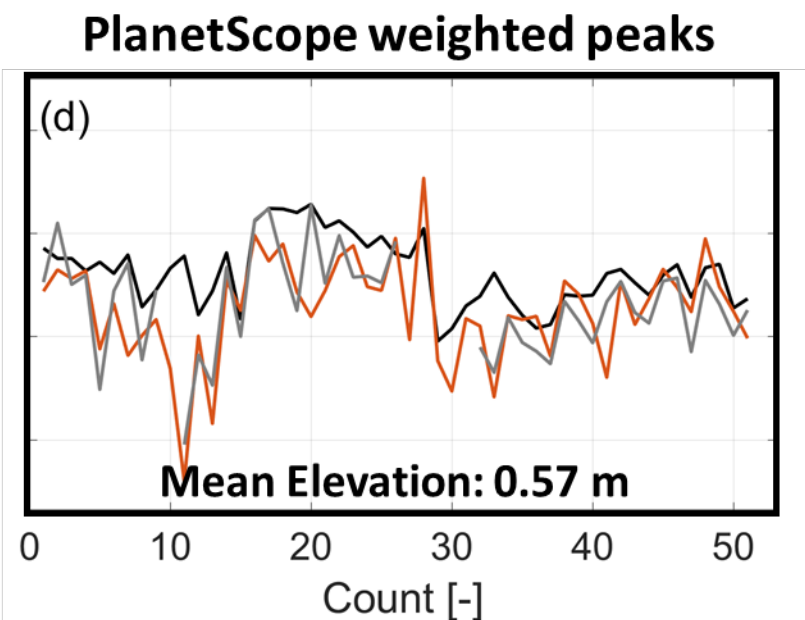
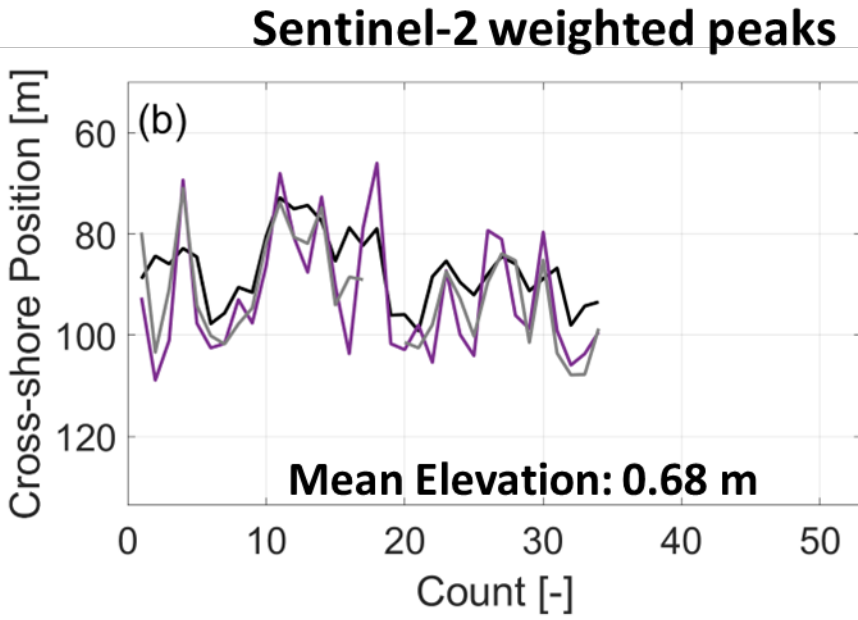
$$\Delta x = \frac{z_{ref} - z_{wl}}{m}$$

# Reference Contour



$$\Delta x = \frac{z_{ref} - z_{wl}}{m}$$

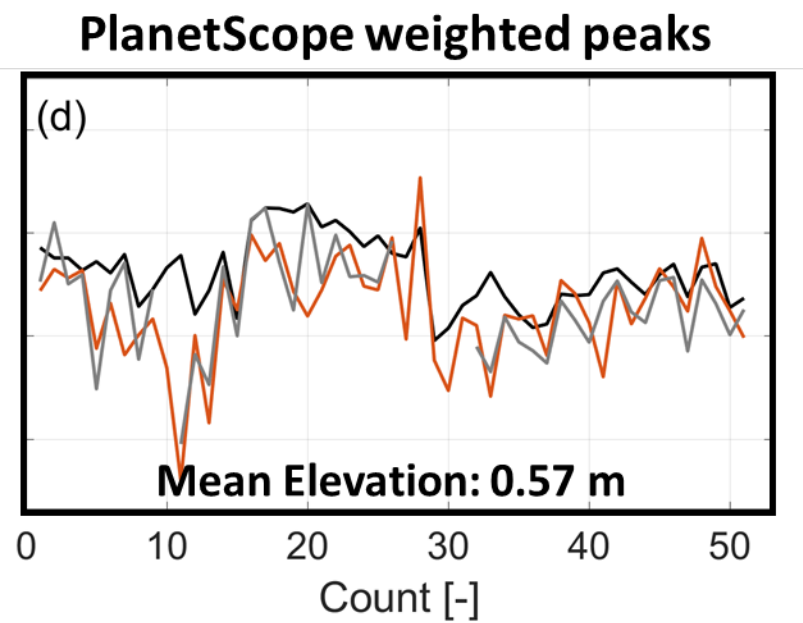
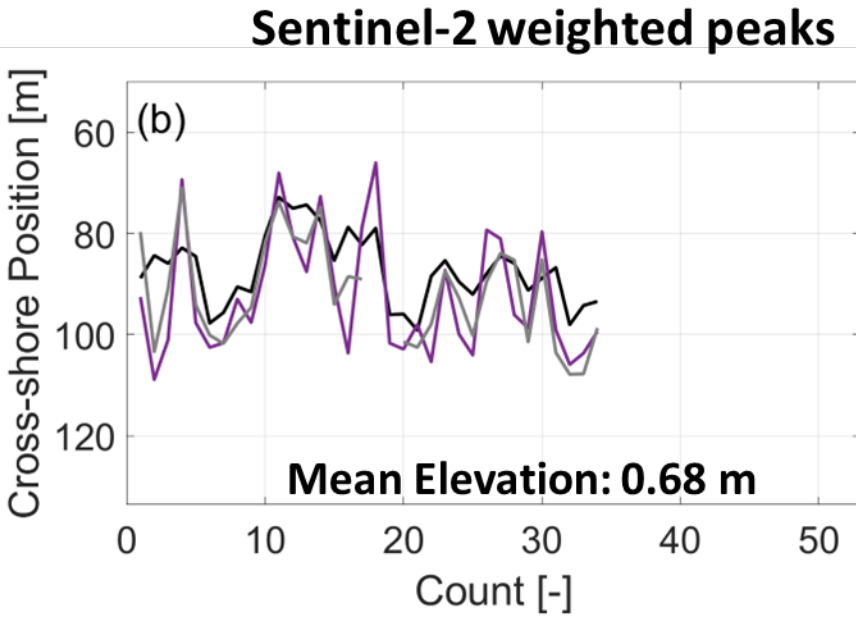
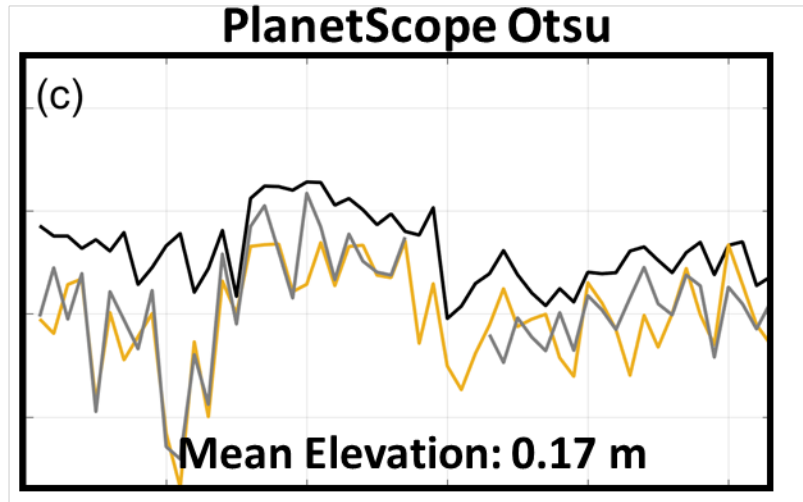
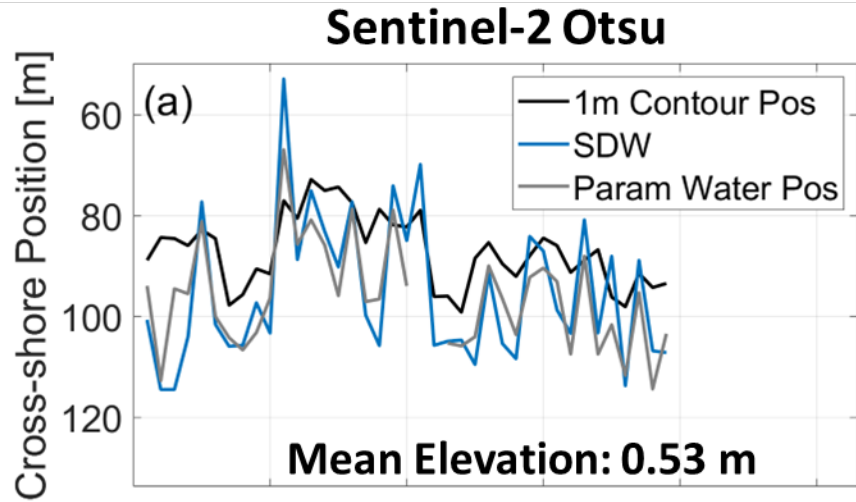
$$\Delta x = \frac{1 - 0.17}{0.08}$$



$$\Delta x = \frac{1 - 0.57}{0.08}$$



# Reference Contour – cont.



$$\Delta x = \frac{z_{ref} - z_{wl}}{m}$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{1 - 0.17}{0.08}$$

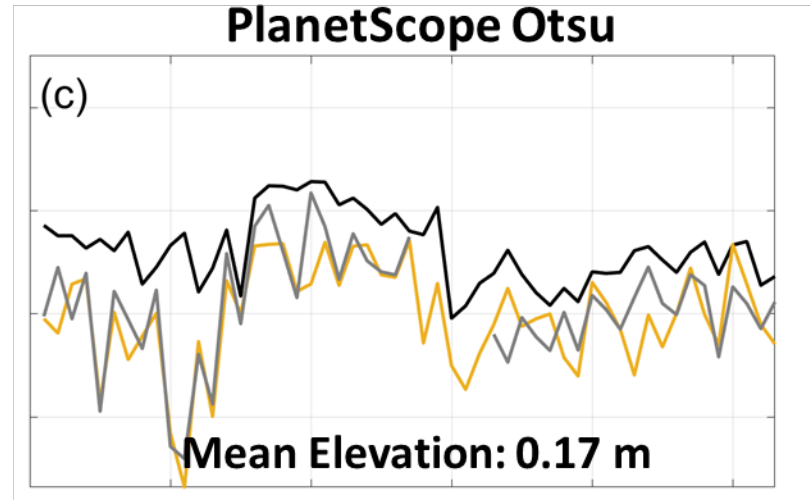
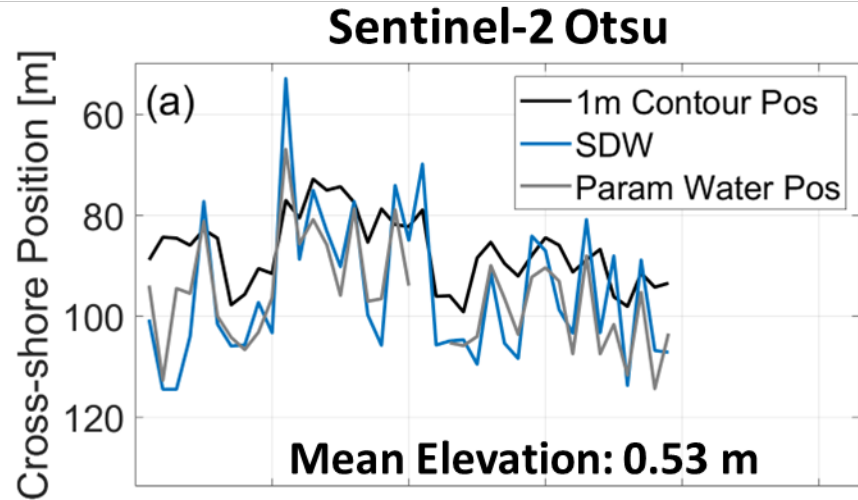
**\*\* 0.08 is not always representative\*\***

**the larger the numerator, the larger the shift error introduced by the same slope error**

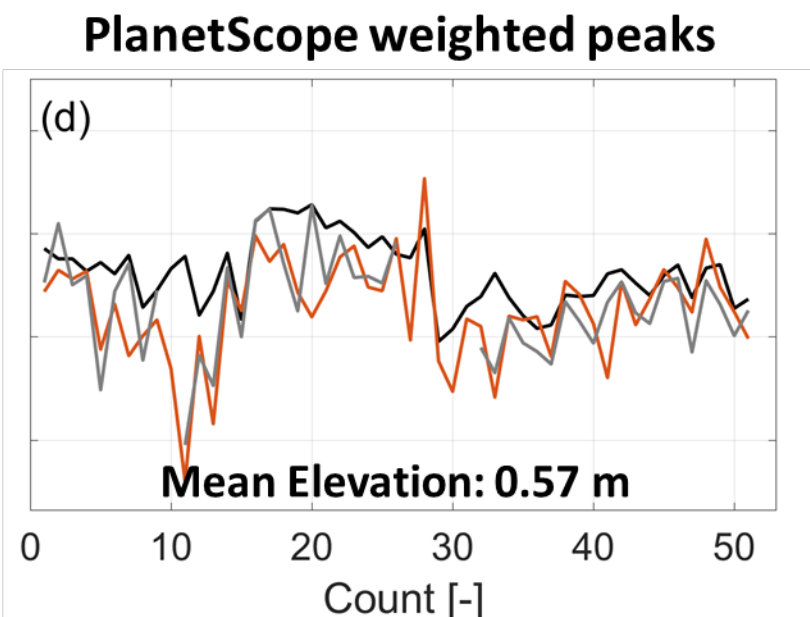
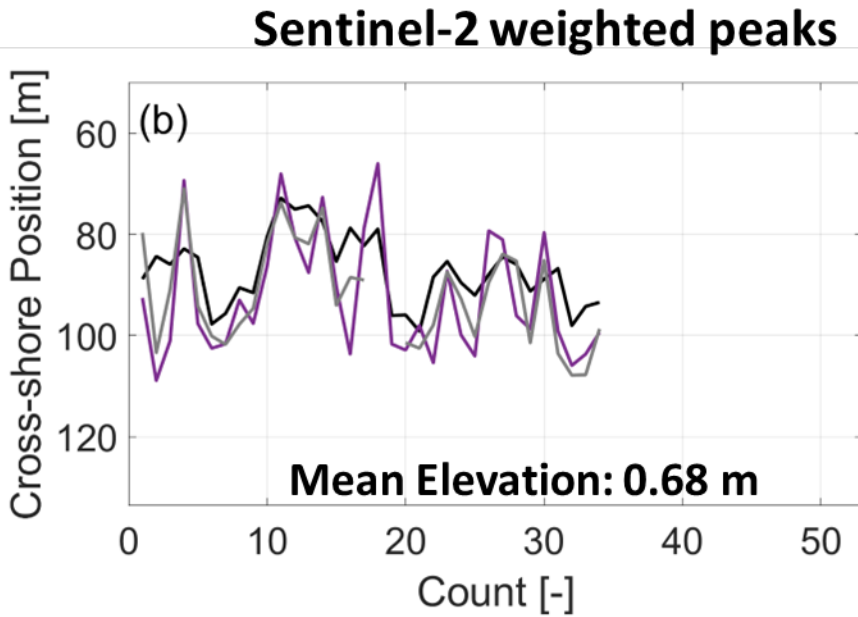
$$\Delta x = \frac{1 - 0.57}{0.08}$$

**\* assuming the assigned waterline elevation error is minimal**

# Reference Contour - complete



Otsu SDW are lower on the beach and should be shifted to the mid swash.



Weighted peaks SDW are consistently in the upper swash and should be shifted to an elevation within that zone.



# Water Level Correction – wrap up

satellite-derived waterline  
water/sand interface  
(x,y)



What reference contour introduces the least error?

- *1 m contour*

What is the optimal waterline elevation?

- *tide*
- *lowest RMSD measured*
- *lowest RMSD parameterized*

$$\Delta x = \frac{z_{ref} - z_{wl}}{m}$$

How much error does an average slope introduce?

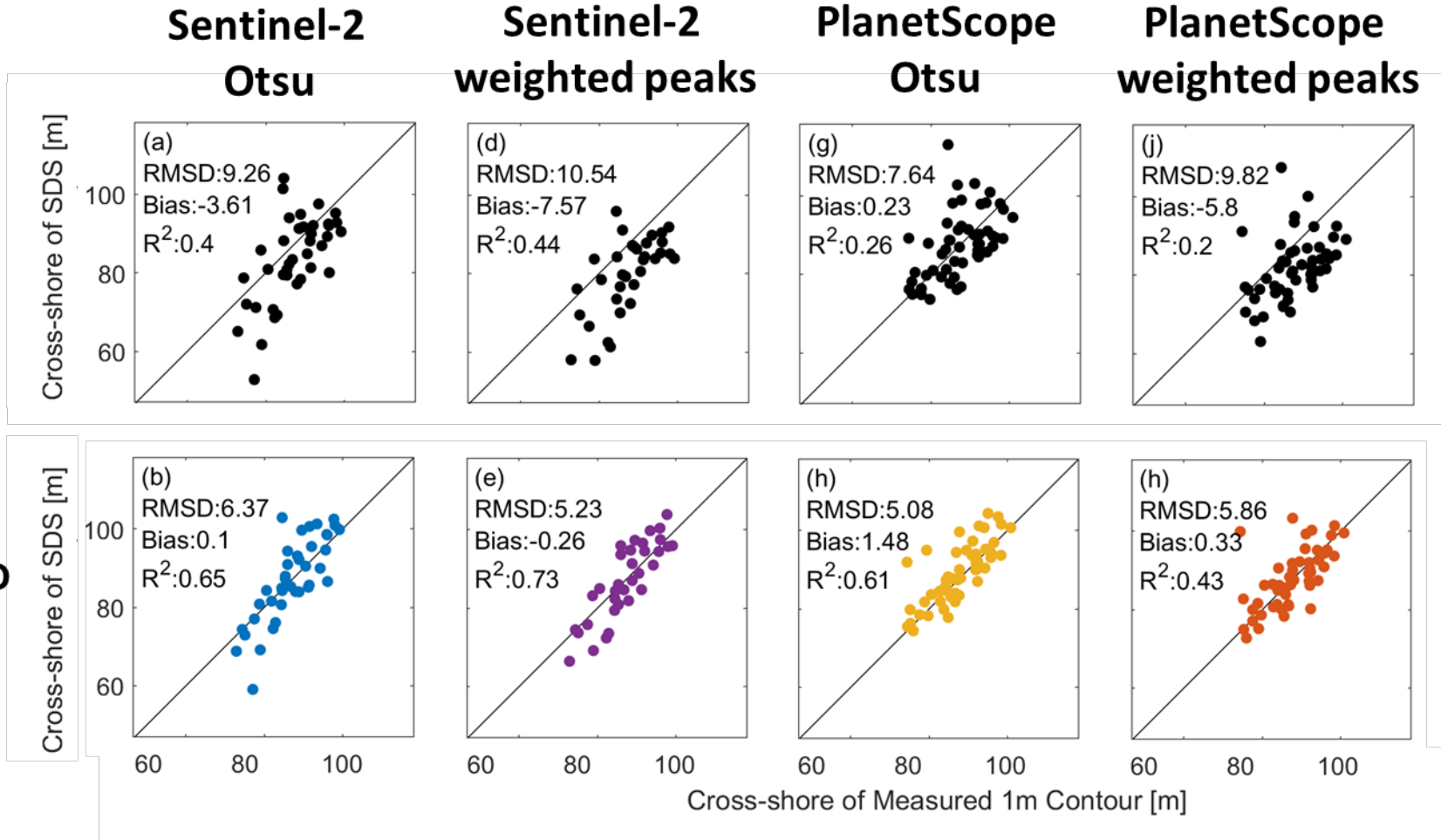
- *average*
- *measured*



# SDS Accuracies - measured

$z_{wl}$  = Tide  
 $m$  = Average

$z_{wl}$  = Lowest RMSD  
 $m$  = Measured



Errors consistent with previous literature

Sentinel-2 SDS RMSD reduced by ~30% and PlanetScope WP by ~40%

RMSD 5 – 6.5 m

RMSD 5 - 6 m



# SDS Accuracies - parameterized

Sentinel-2

Sentinel-2

PlanetScope

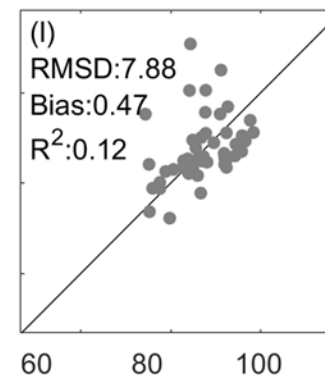
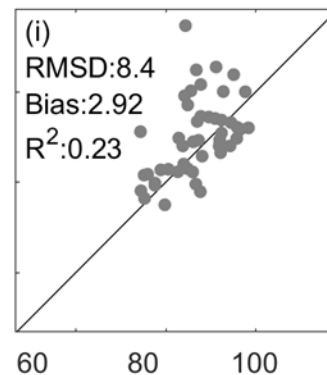
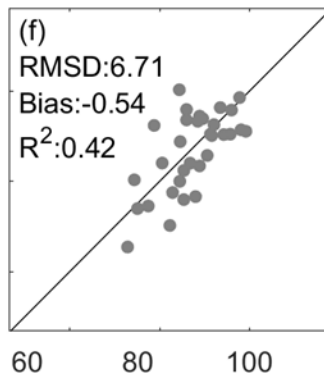
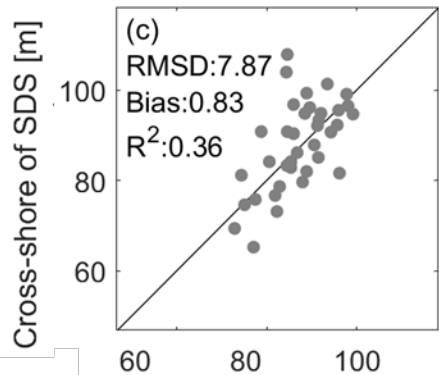
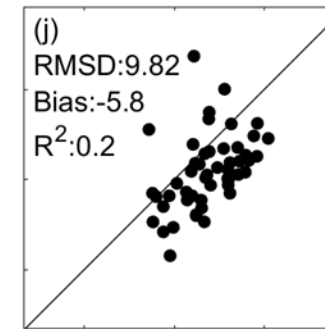
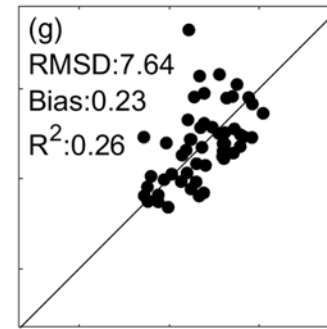
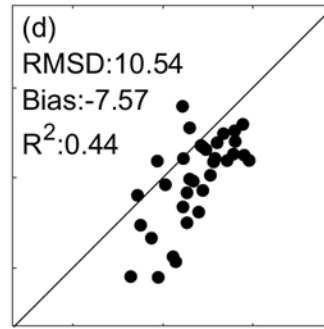
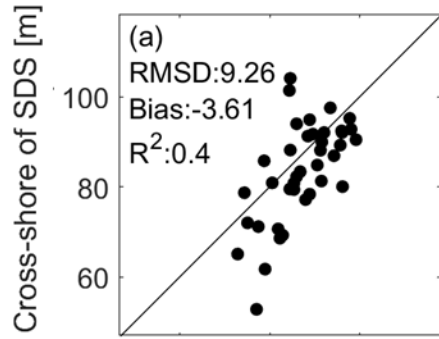
PlanetScope

Otsu

weighted peaks

Otsu

weighted peaks



Cross-shore of Measured 1m Contour [m]

$Z_{wl}$  = Tide  
 $m$  = Average

$Z_{wl}$  = Lowest RMSD  
Parameterized  
 $m$  = Average

Errors consistent with previous literature

Sentinel-2 SDS RMSD reduced by ~35% and PlanetScope WP by ~20%



**ERDC**  
ENGINEER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

# Main Takeaways



1. CoastSat was used to extract 92 Satellite Derived Waterlines (SDW) from 2 image sources and 2 threshold algorithms
2. The Otsu waterline correlates better with the LDW and mean swash statistics, whereas the weighted peaks waterlines correlated with bulk statistics in the upper extent of the swash
3. By using the measured runup bulk statistic and measured beach slope when converting to SDS, SDS RMSD was reduced for this dataset
4. Using the parameterized runup bulk statistic improved SDS RMSD, even while using an average beach slope showing potential at less studied sites

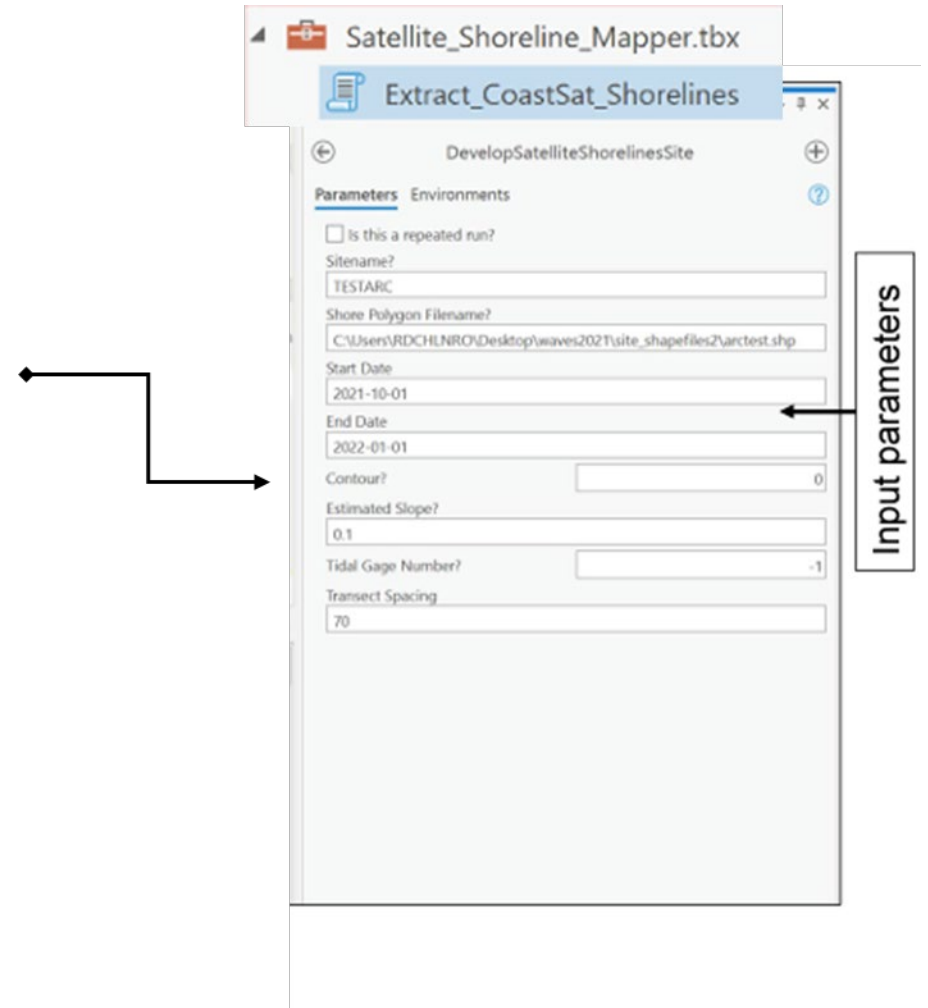




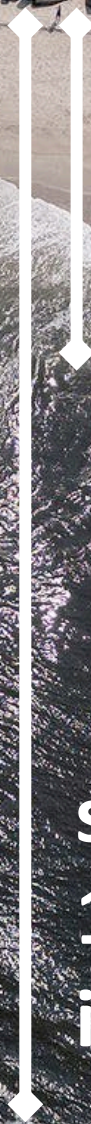
# Management Application

The Satellite Shoreline Mapper tool uses the Otsu threshold algorithm

1. When using the current tool, set the **contour** input parameter to an elevation consistently in the mean swash.
2. Future version of SSM to include additional water level corrections above tide elevation to reflect these findings.



# Shoaling areas



shoal about  
1/3 of the  
inlet width

Manasquan Inlet, NJ

# Additional navigation hazards



Manasquan Inlet, NJ

An aerial photograph of a beach area. A long pier extends from the top of the frame into the ocean. The pier is composed of a concrete section on the left and a stone section on the right. The ocean is dark with white-capped waves breaking onto the sandy beach. A small boat is visible in the water near the pier. The sky is not visible.

# Statements of Need

## **SON 1923 (Chasten)**

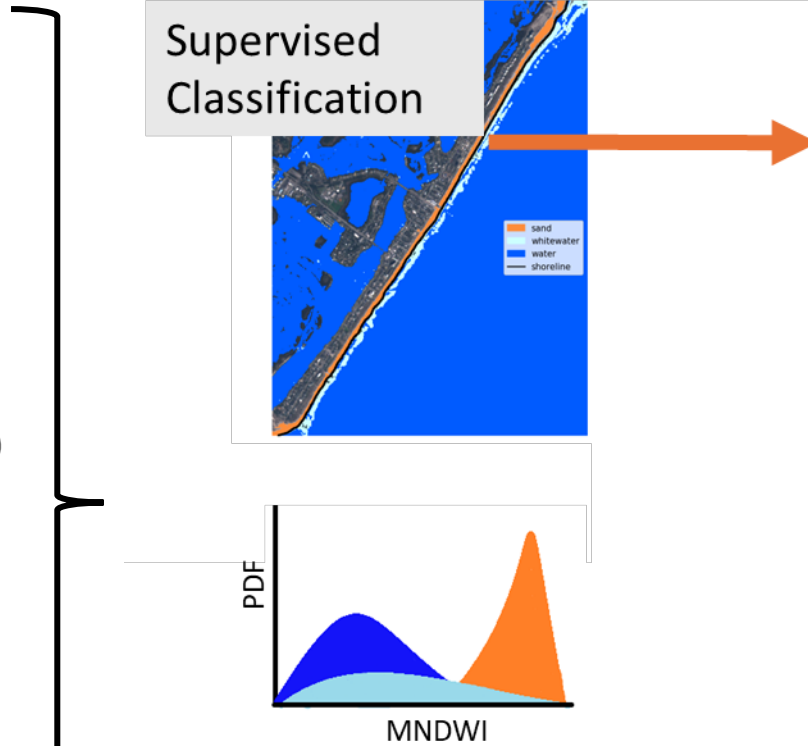
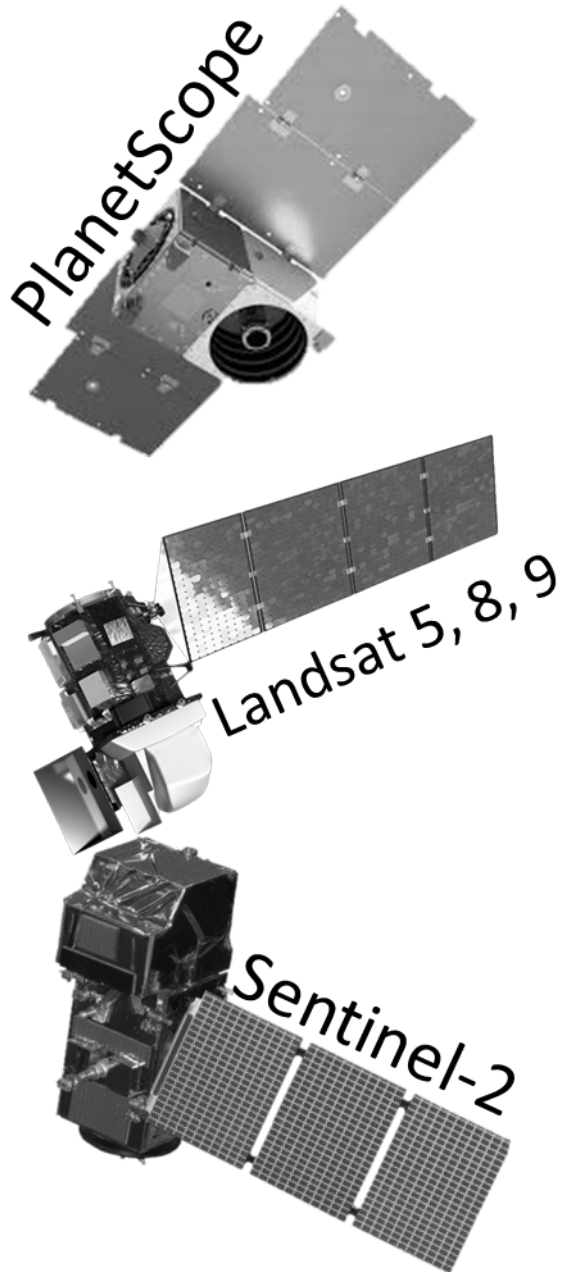
- Understand/predict temporal changes
- New tools to monitor shoals

## **SON 2159 (Malburg)**

- Great Lakes channels
- Remote sensing and local tools
- Near real-time estimates of shoal formation and migration

Manasquan Inlet, NJ

# Satellite-Derived Waterlines



Currently identifies *whitewater* to reduce error.

But can we use this to inform hazardous shoals in wave-dominated inlets?

# Approaches

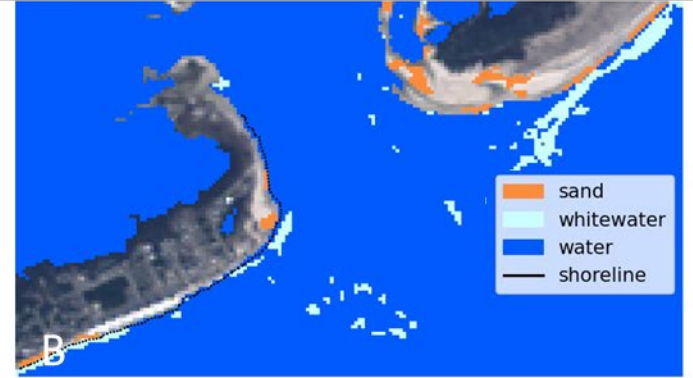
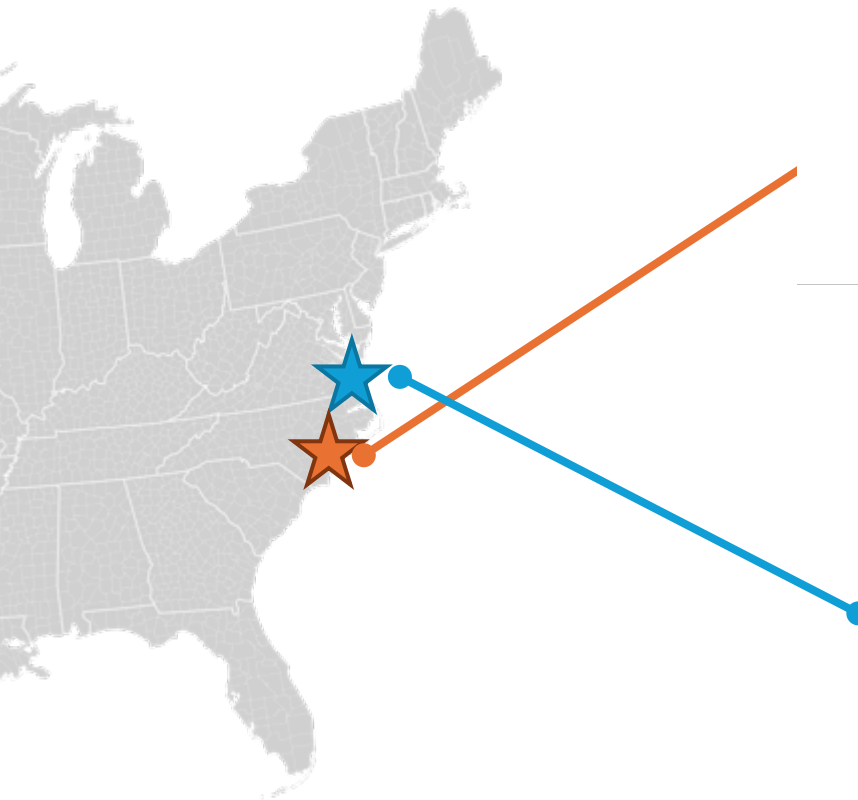


Figure 1. A) Sentinel-2 imagery of New River Inlet, North Carolina on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. B) The classified image using CoastSat's supervised classification overlaid on the satellite image

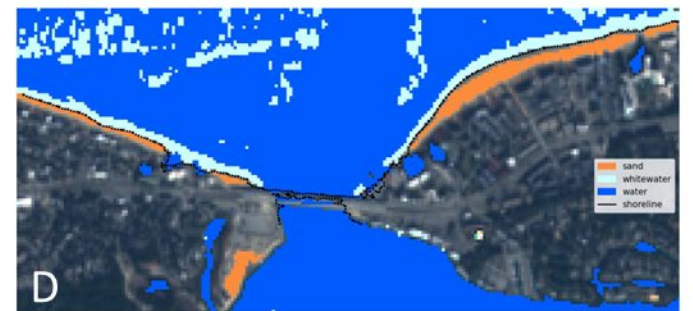


Figure 4. Each row depicts Sentinel-2 imagery of Lynnhaven Inlet, Virginia on the left and the classified image using CoastSat's supervised classification on the right A) January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. C) February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 E) February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021



# Approaches – wave energy

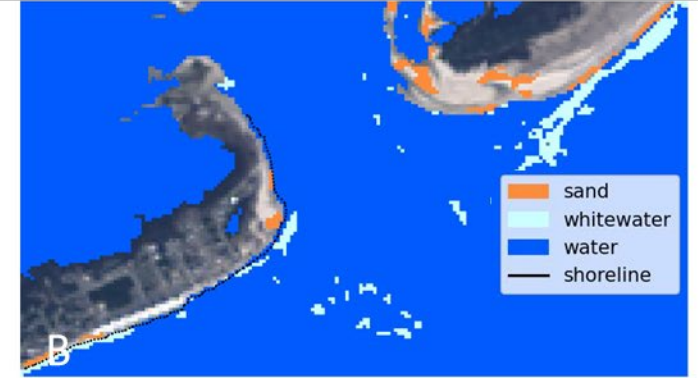
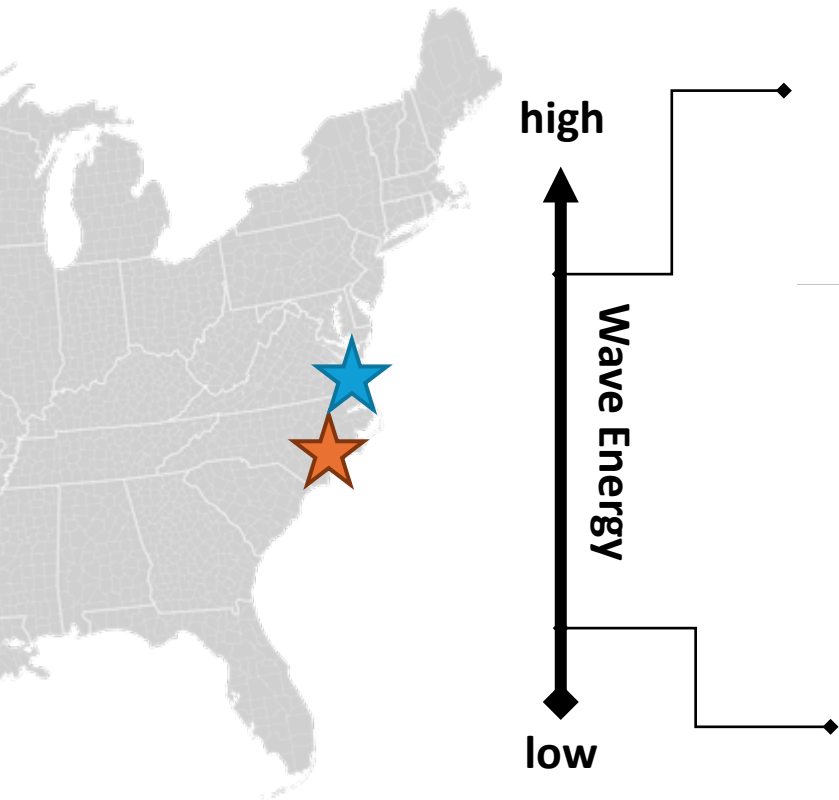


Figure 1. A) Sentinel-2 imagery of New River Inlet, North Carolina on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. B) The classified image using CoastSat's supervised classification overlaid on the satellite image

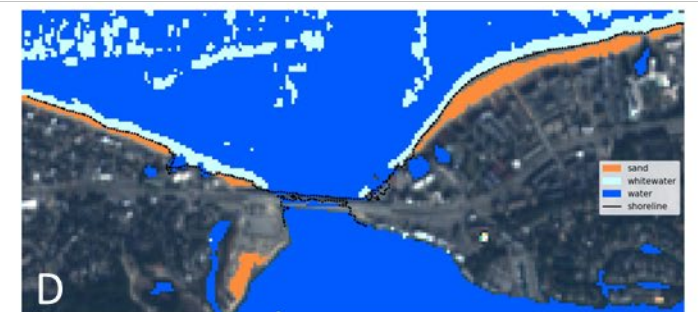
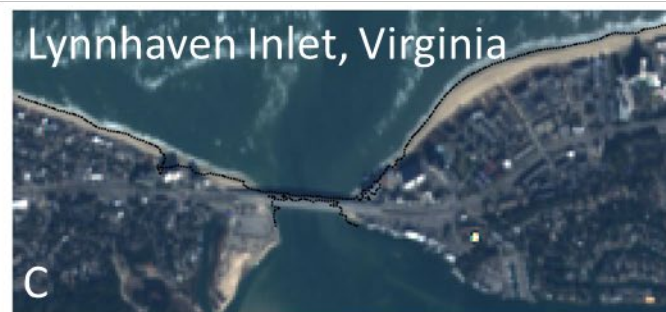


Figure 4. Each row depicts Sentinel-2 imagery of Lynnhaven Inlet, Virginia on the left and the classified image using CoastSat's supervised classification on the right A) January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. C) February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 E) February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

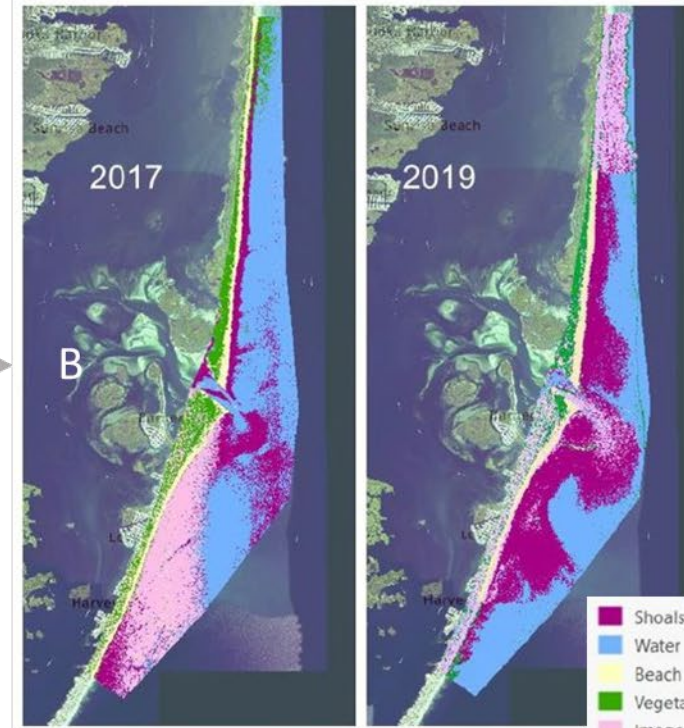
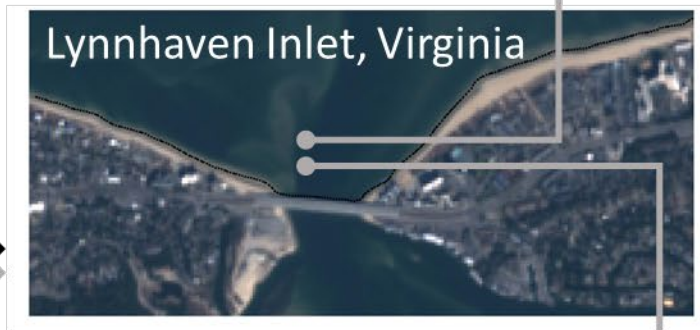


# Approaches - discussion



high  
↑  
Wave Energy  
↓  
low

Define site specific thresholds for when imagery is processed using this workflow and when it is processed using the multispectral delineation of hazardous shoal work unit led by Justin Shawler and Aleks Otsojic

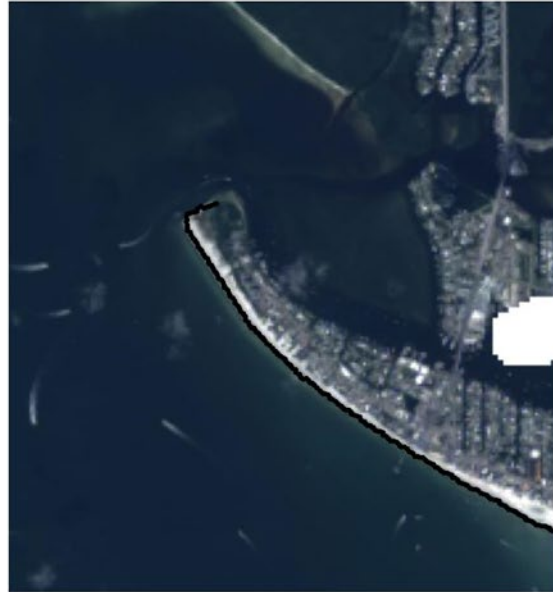




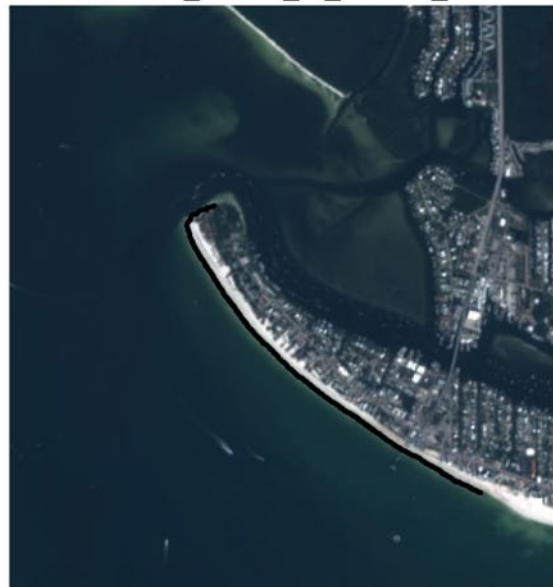
# Matanzas Pass, FL



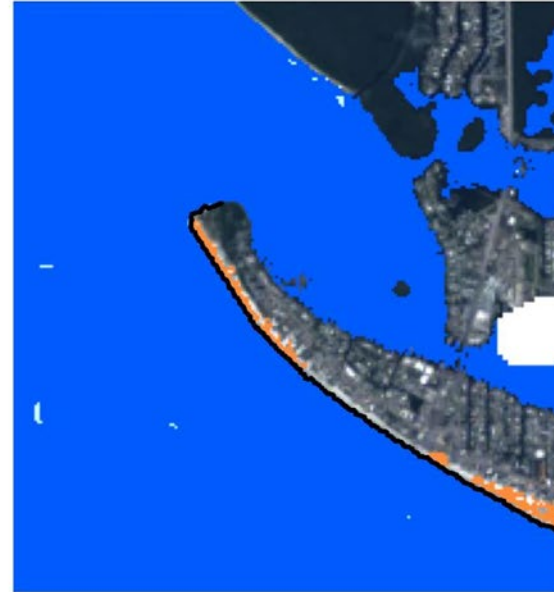
matanza\_inlet\_fl\_2020\_2024



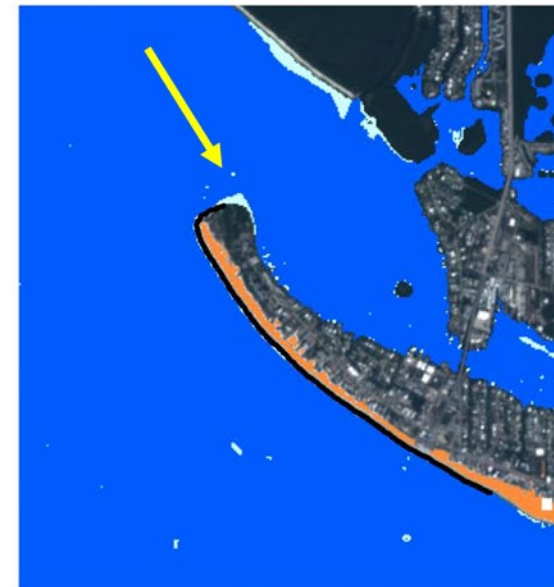
matanza\_inlet\_fl\_2020\_2024



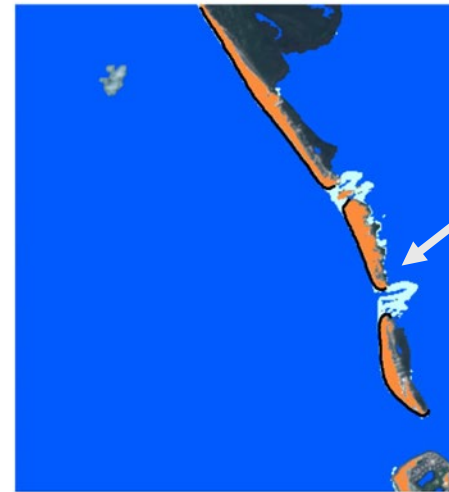
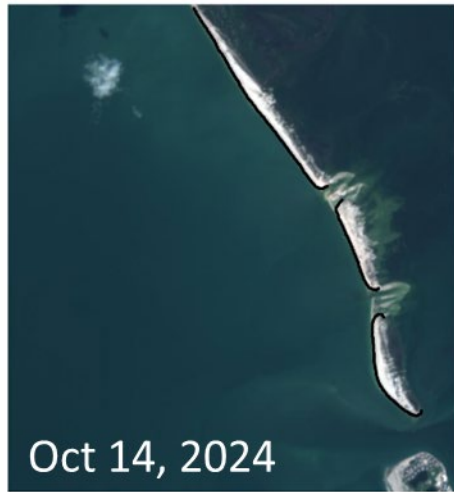
2020-10-24-15-56-32



2021-01-23-16-16-01

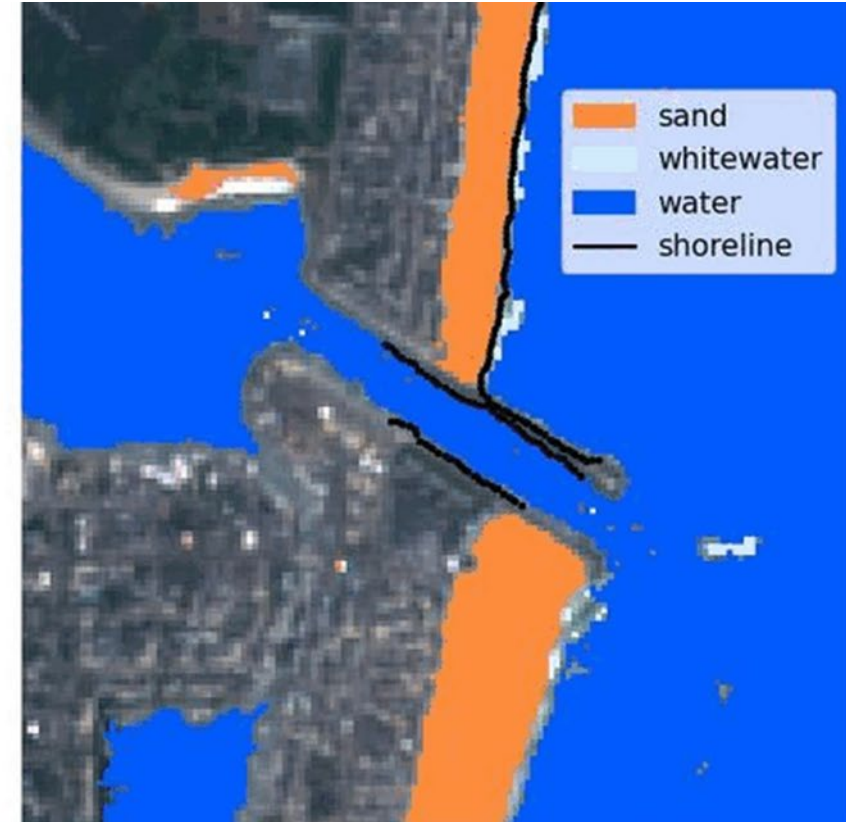
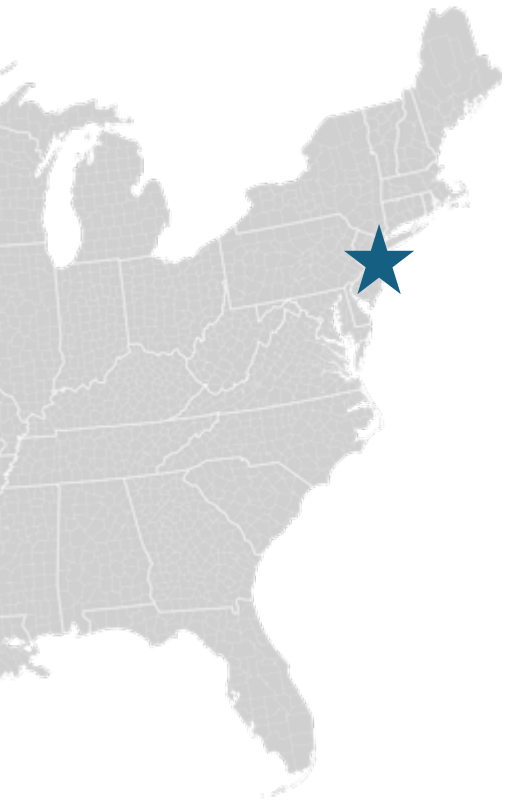


# Hurricane Milton



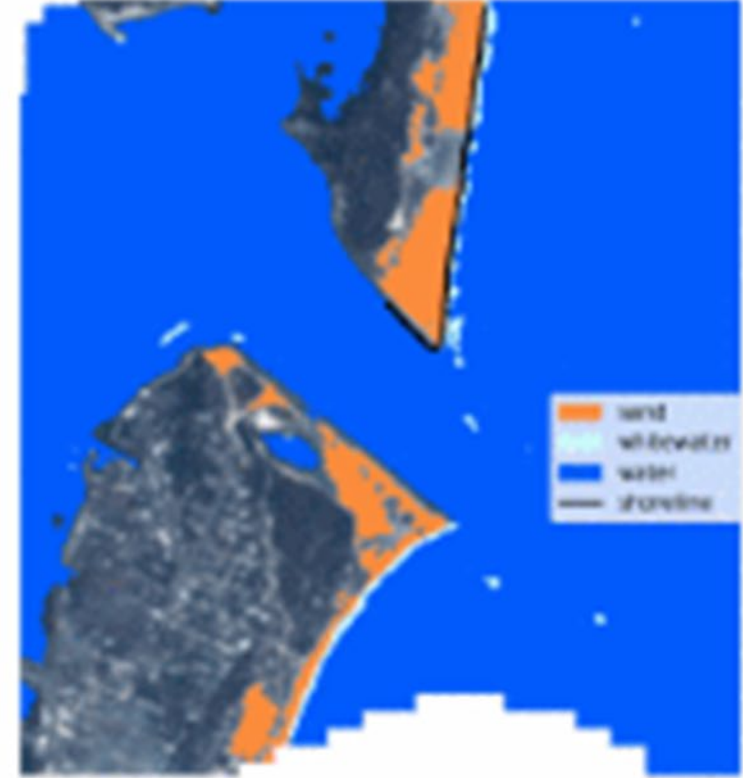
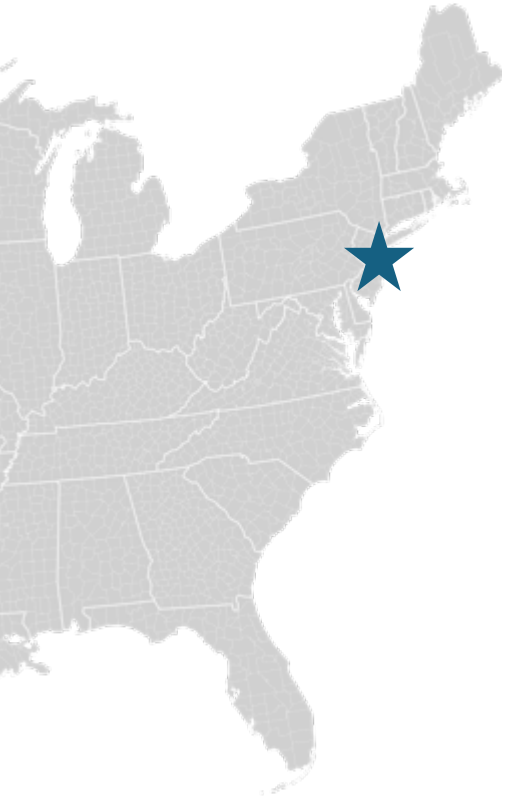
**Captured storm-induced breach events in North Captiva, FL**

# Manasquan Inlet, NJ



**ERDC**  
ENGINEER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

# Barneгат Inlet, NJ



# Temporal Analysis



artifacts from  
cloud masking



4-year composite  
image of brightest  
pixels

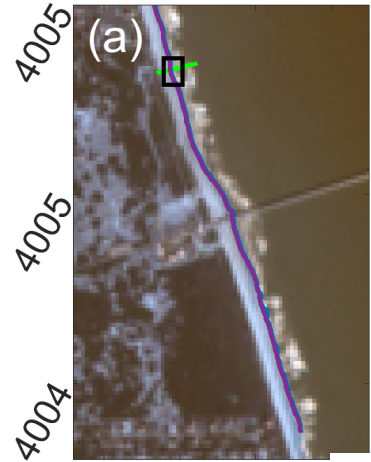
bright locations  
indicate breaking  
waves and  
potential shoal  
locations



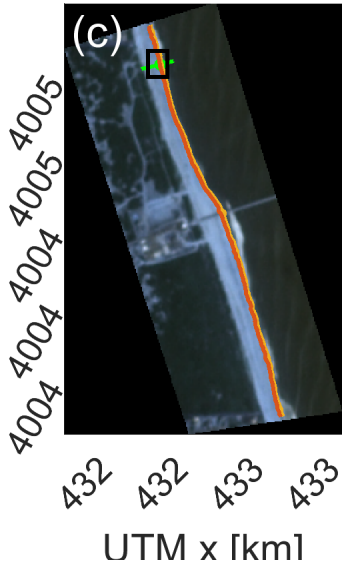
**ERDC**  
ENGINEER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

# Testing Improved Classifier

CoastSat  
10 - 15 m



CoastSat  
PlanetScope  
3 - 4 m, \$\$



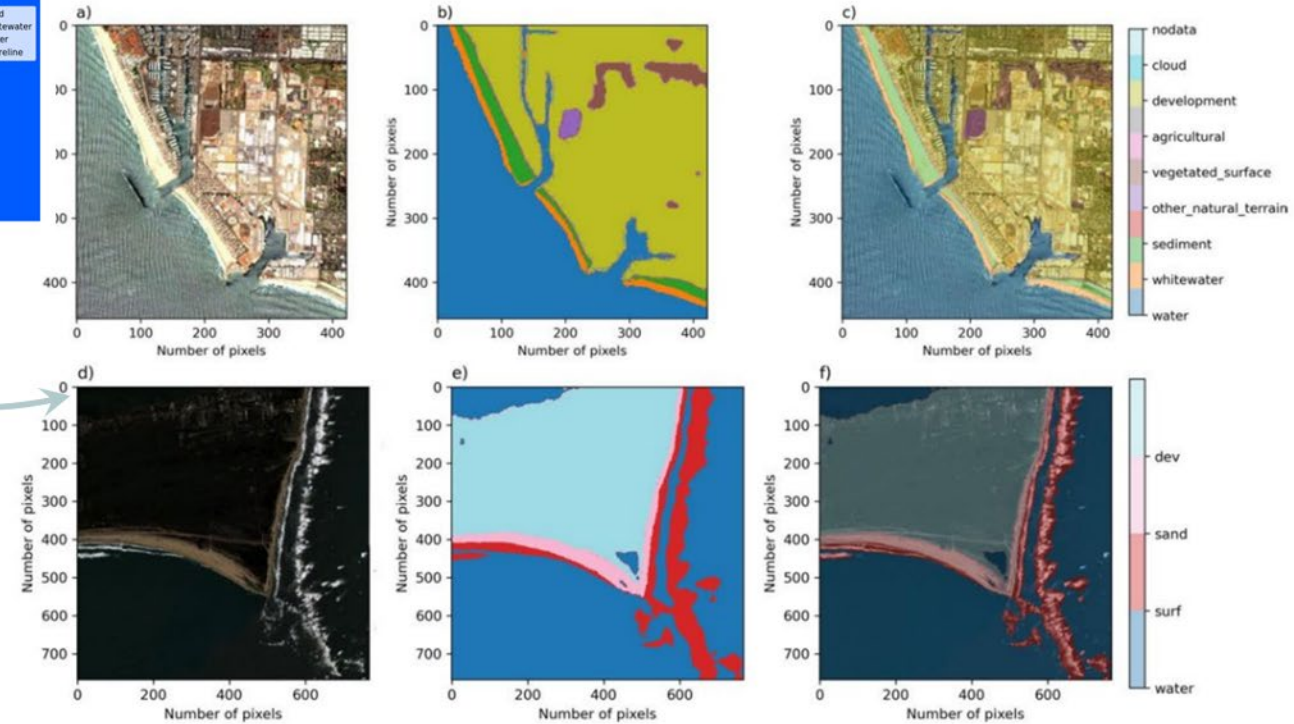
Supervised  
Classification

By using a supervised classification with more classes, can this workflow be used in additional environments?



← classifying sand, water, and whitewater

## Coast Train



**ERDC**  
ENGINEER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

# Potential Products

Add additional functionality in inlets

Geoprocessing

DevelopSatelliteShorelinesSite

Parameters Environments

Is this a repeated run?

Sitename?  
TESTARC

Shore Polygon Filename?  
C:\Users\RDCHLNRO\Desktop\waves2021\site\_shapefiles2\arctest.shp

Start Date  
2021-10-01

End Date  
2022-01-01

Contour?

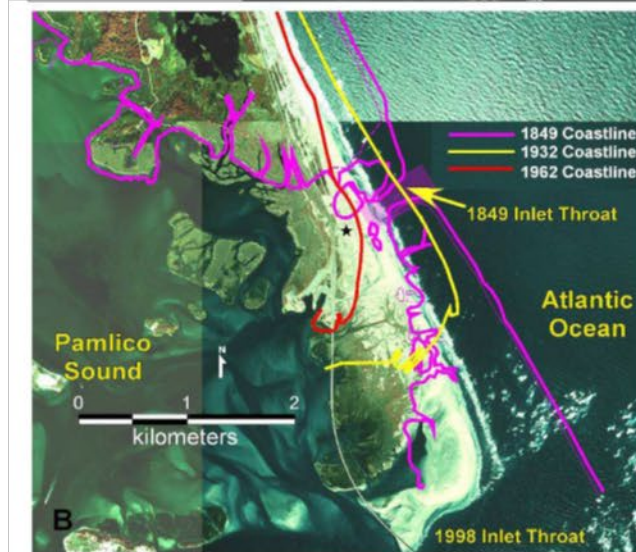
Estimated Slope?  
0.1

Tidal Gage Number?

Transect Spacing  
70

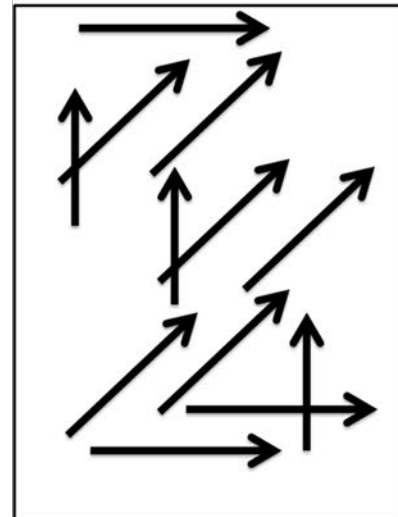
Input parameters

Inlet shoreline geometries



Weekly to decadal shoal recurrence heatmaps

Shoal directional vectors and migration rates



Ideas from field?

# Project Timeline

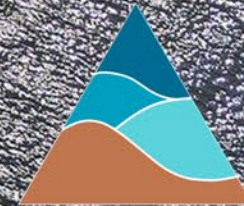


<b>Month</b>	<b>Deliverable/Milestone</b>
Sept., 2025	Single test site selection, shoreline and shoal extraction over 10 year period
Sept., 2026	Up to five site validation, depth contour selection, technical note
Sept., 2027	Tool integration/delivery and tech transfer through training workshop(s)
Sept., 2028	Shoal predictive model, technical report, conference proceedings or journal article



# Questions and Discussion

shannon.m.brown@erdc.dren.mil  
ian.w.Conery@erdc.dren.mil



**CIRP ERDC**

# Questions

- How might a tool like this impact your operations (e.g., survey and dredge timing)?
- What temporal frequency is ideal... weekly, monthly, seasonal?
  - Would time averaged products help?
- Would your district be willing to pay for higher resolution imagery/video?
- Are decadal historic trends useful or do you mostly care about current conditions?
- Any insight on good ground truth data?
- Desktop ArcTool vs web platform