

Long term coastal monitoring along the Yukon Coast indicates acceleration of coastal retreat in the last 20 years



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Background



- **1/3 of all coasts consist of permafrost**
- Permafrost **2 x more carbon than atmosphere**
- Arctic coasts erode up to **30 meters per year**



Source: International Permafrost Association, 1998,
Circumpolar Active-Layer Permafrost System (CAPS), version 1.0.

Study Area



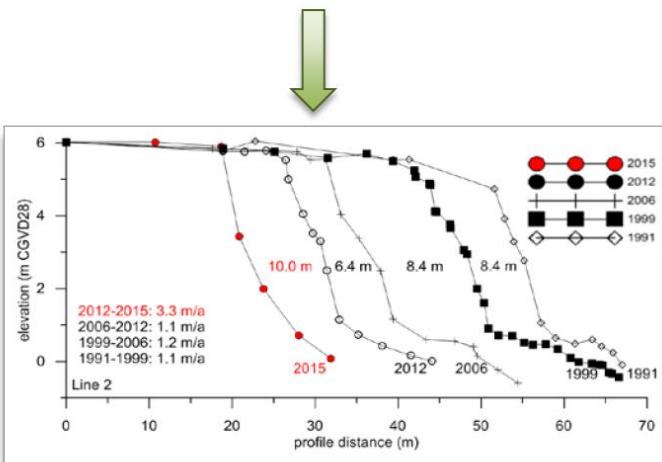
Methods

Field work

1991 - 2015

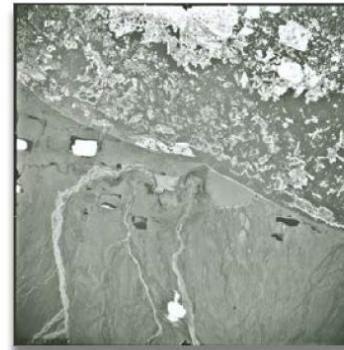


- Theodolite measurements
- RTK & DGPS measurements

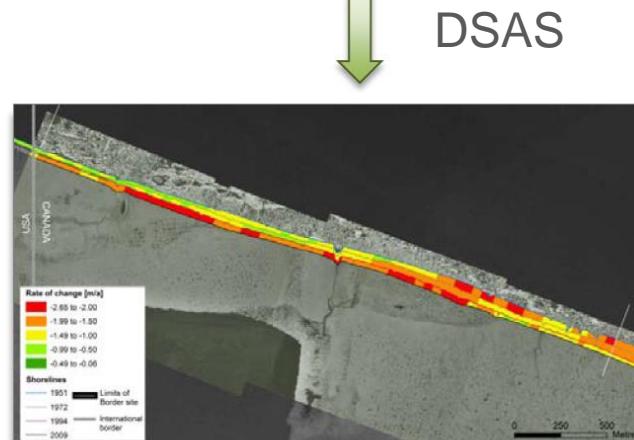


Remote sensing

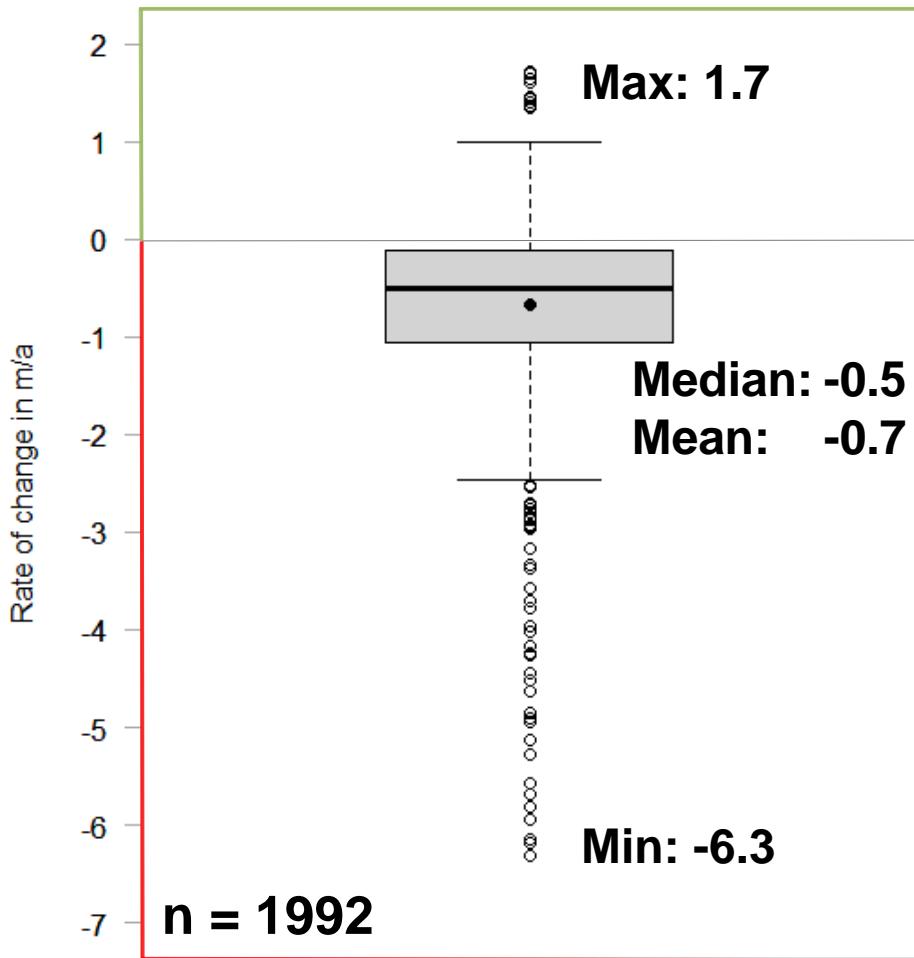
1952 - 2011



- Aerial imagery
- Satellite pictures
- DEMs



Results: temporal analyses



DSAS statistics:

1952 – 2011

Accumulation: 13 %

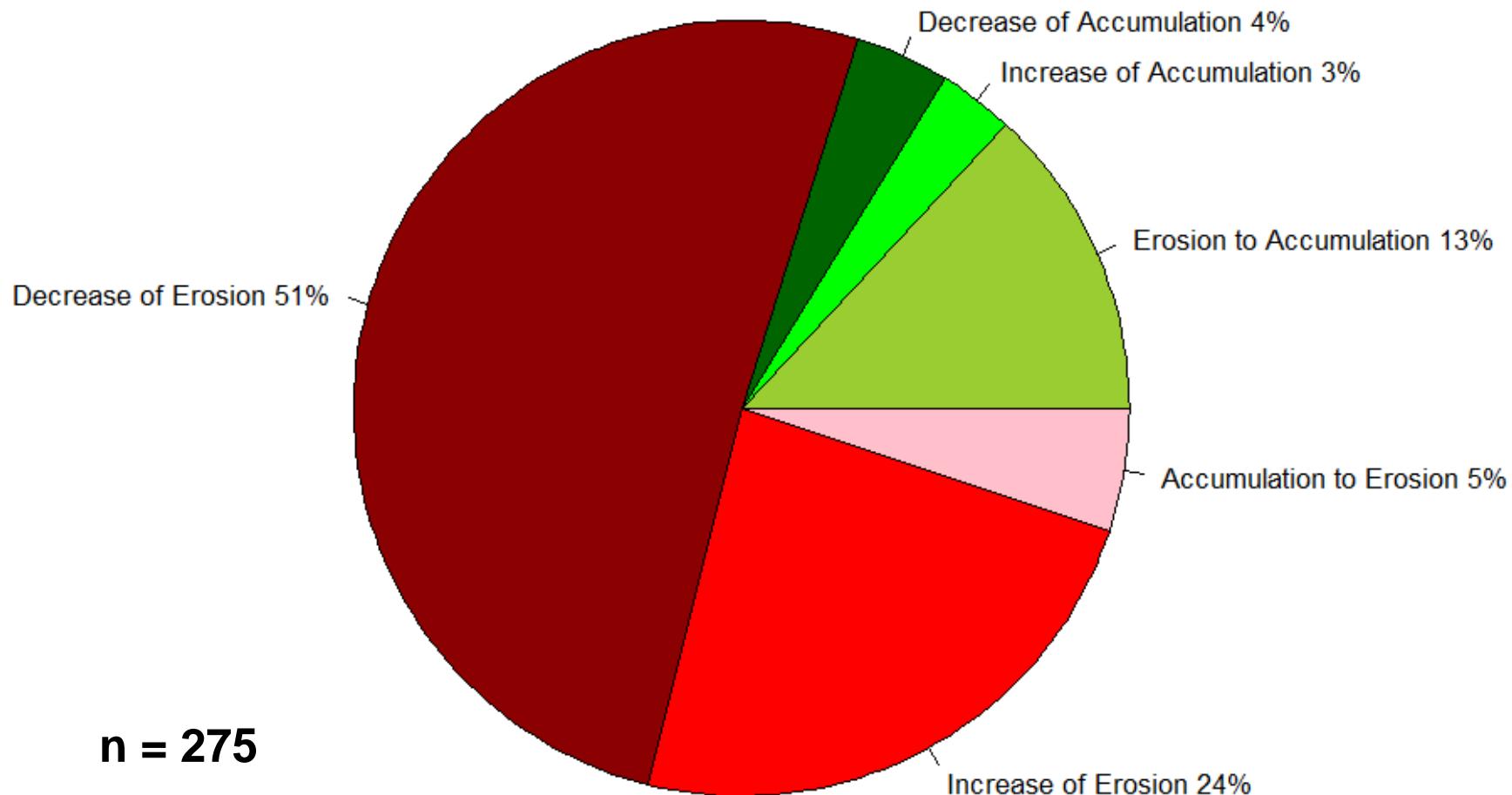
2 % \geq 1 m/a

Erosion: 87 %

30 % \geq 1 m/a

Results: temporal analyses

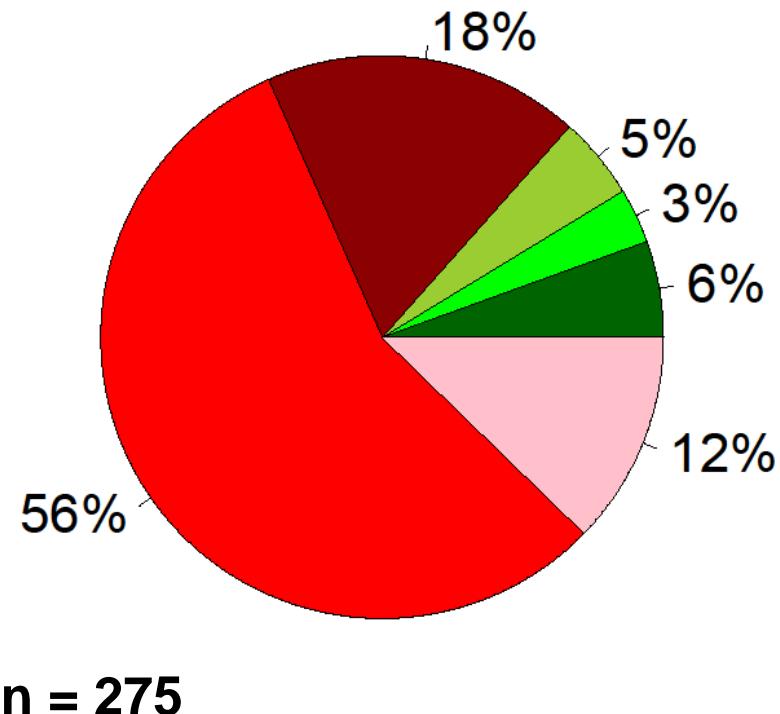
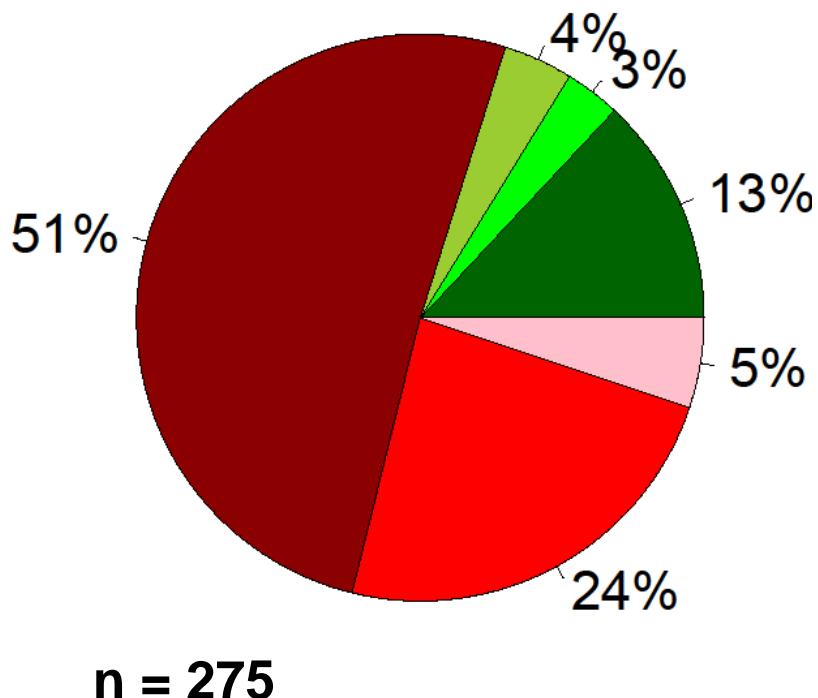
1950 - 1970, 1970 - 1990



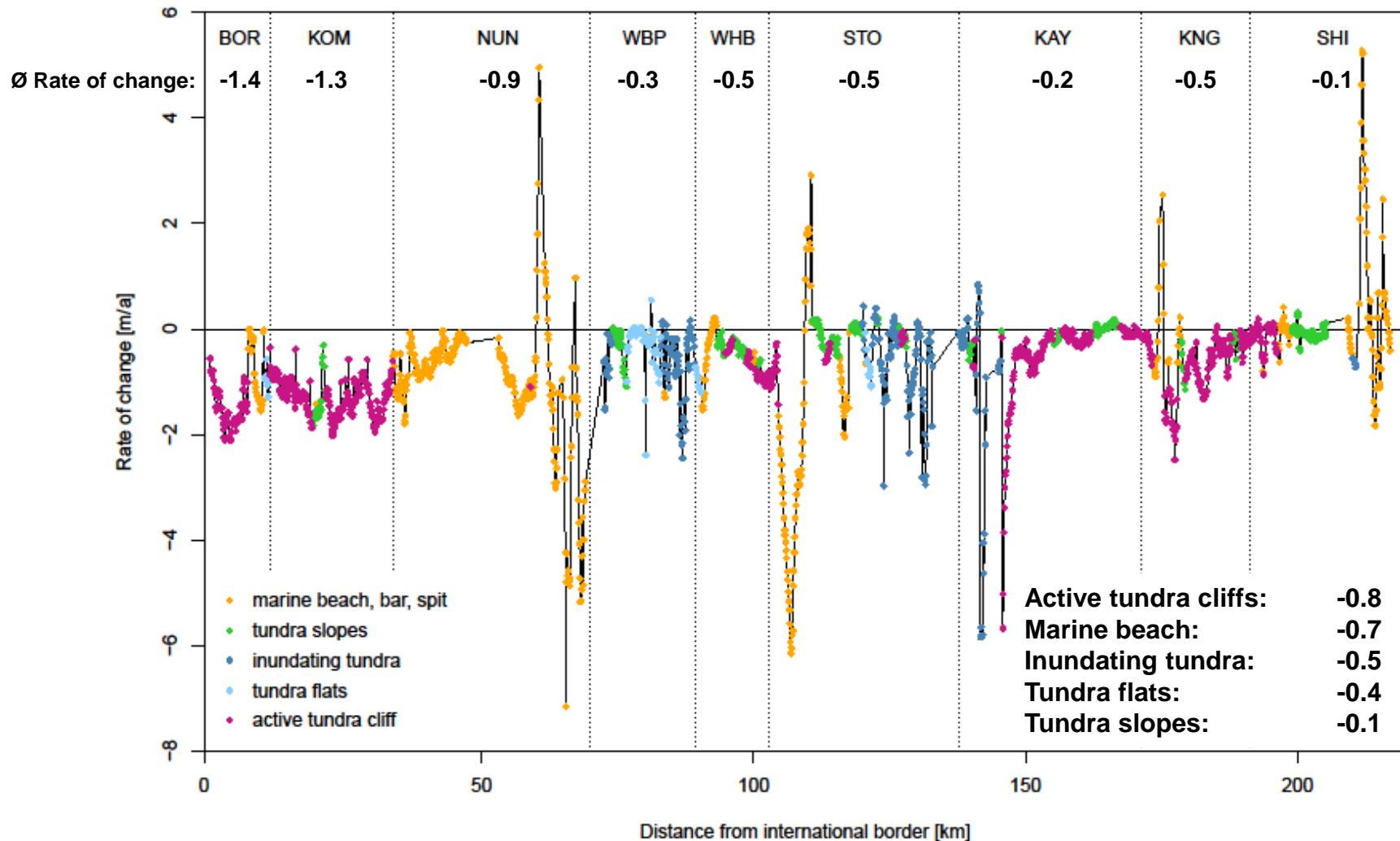
Results: temporal analyses

1950 - 1970, 1970 - 1990
Acc = 20% Er = 80%

1970 - 1990, 1990 - 2011
Acc = 13% Er = 87%

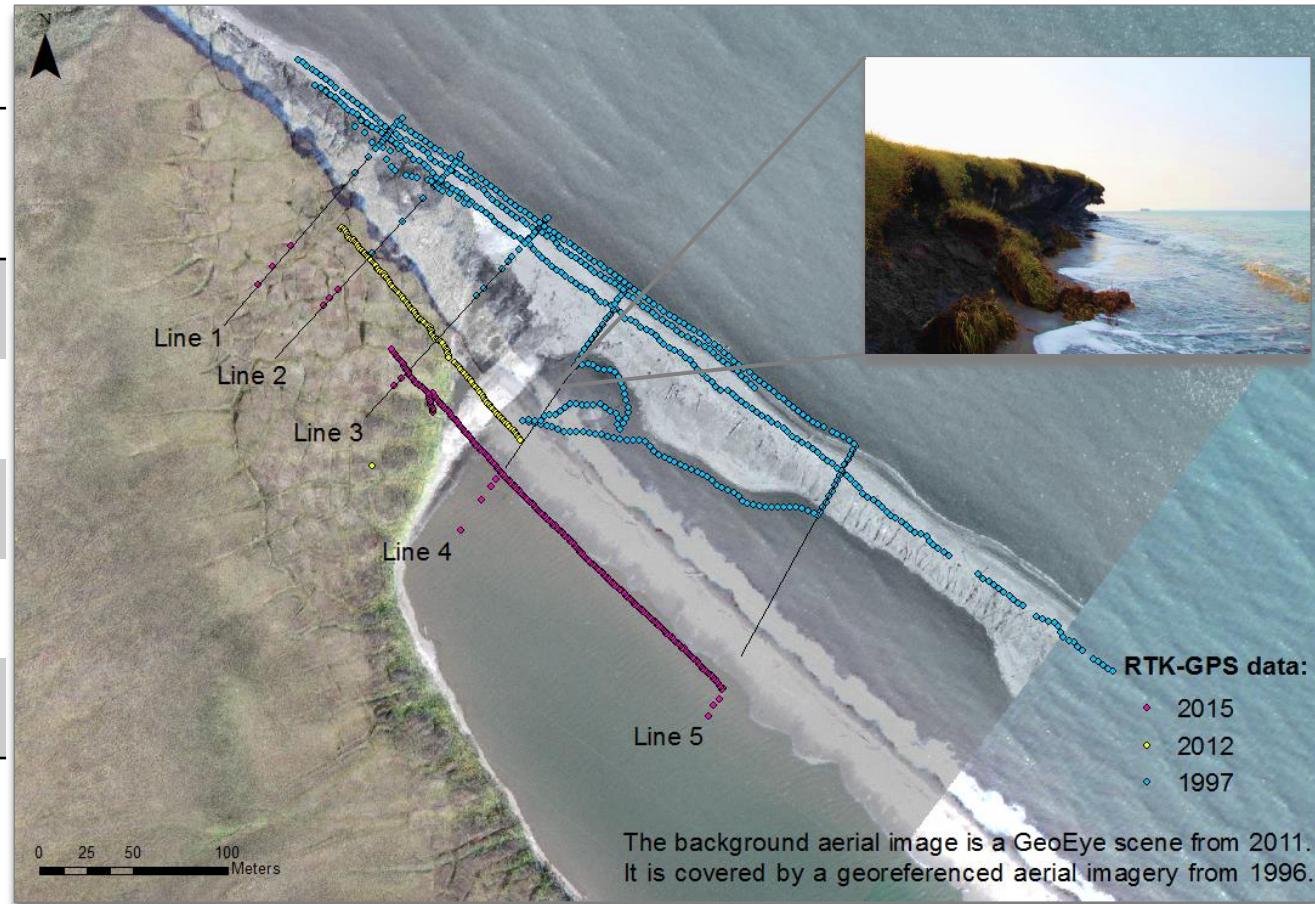


Results: spatial analyses



Results: Stokes Point west

Time period	Erosion rate [m/a]
2014-2015	8.9
2007-2014	8.8
2006-2007	0.5
1999-2006	0.2
1997-1999	1.1



Conclusions



- Coastal changes along the Yukon coast show **very high spatial and temporal variability**
- Within the last two decades broad sections of the coast were experiencing **acceleration of coastal erosion**

Research funding:



Quyanaq for your attention

