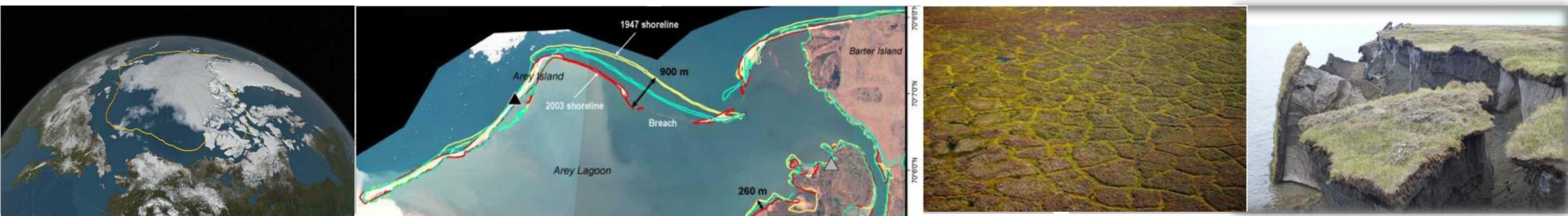


Exceptional service in the national interest



Development of a strongly-coupled thermo-mechanical model of permafrost for the simulation of Arctic coastal erosion

Alejandro Mota, Jenn Frederick, Charles Choens, Diana Bull, Irina Tezaur

Sandia National Laboratories, U.S.A.



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-mission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525. SAND2019-7899 C

Outline

- Motivation and background
- The Arctic Coastal Erosion (ACE) project
- Thermo-mechanical finite element model of permafrost
- Numerical results
- Summary
- Ongoing/future work

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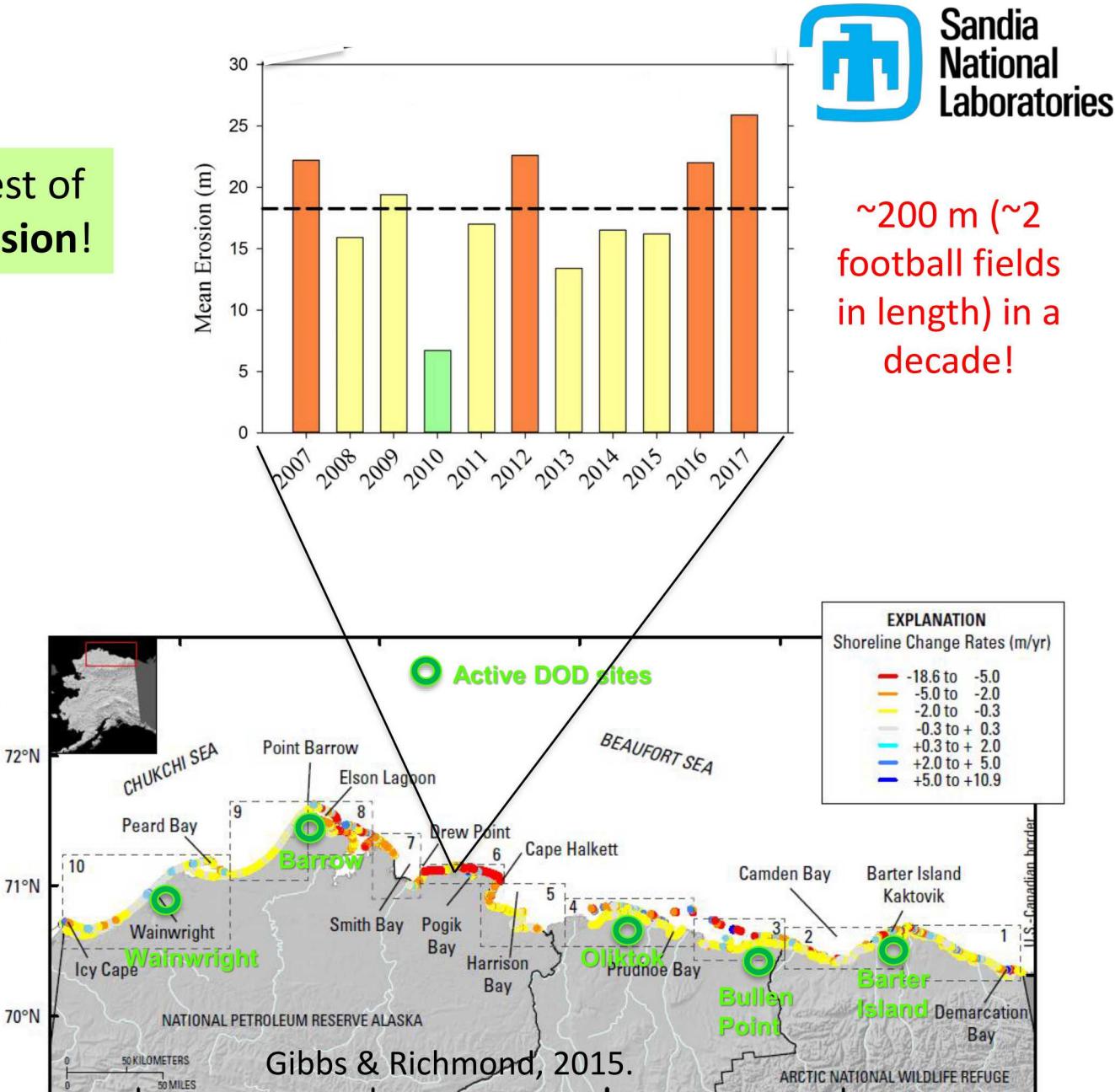
Motivation

The Arctic is warming at **2-3 times** the rate of the rest of the U.S. resulting in **accelerated rates of coastal erosion!**

- Since 1979 **sea-ice** has lost 51% in area and 75% in volume
 - Increasing **ice-free season**
 - Increasing **wave energy and storm surge**
- Increasing **sea water** temperatures
- Warming **permafrost**
 - **Coastal erosion rates** in Alaskan Arctic among the **highest** in the world and **accelerating**.

Erosion is threatening:

- Coastal infrastructure
- Nearshore ecological stability
- Global carbon balance

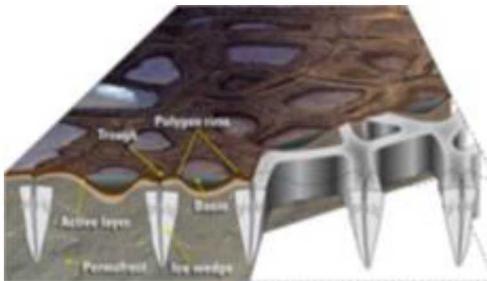


Permafrost erosion

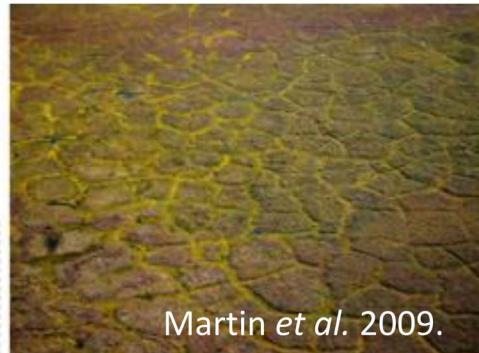
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What is permafrost?

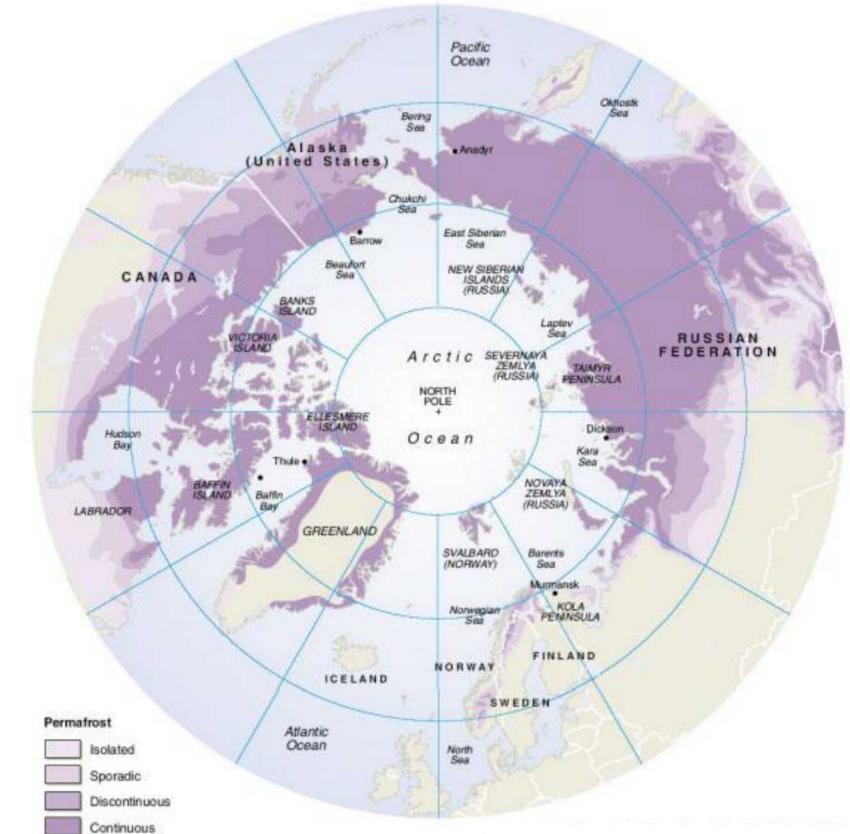
- Ground that remains frozen for 2 or more consecutive years.
- Comprised of soil, rock, silt, clay and sand, held together by ice.
- 24% of ice-free land area in Northern Hemisphere and 85% of Alaska, Greenland, Canada and Siberia sits on top of permafrost.



Left: schematic illustrating formation of ice wedges and ice-wedge polygon landscapes. *Right:* map of permafrost distribution in Arctic



Martin *et al.* 2009.



Brown *et al.* 1998.

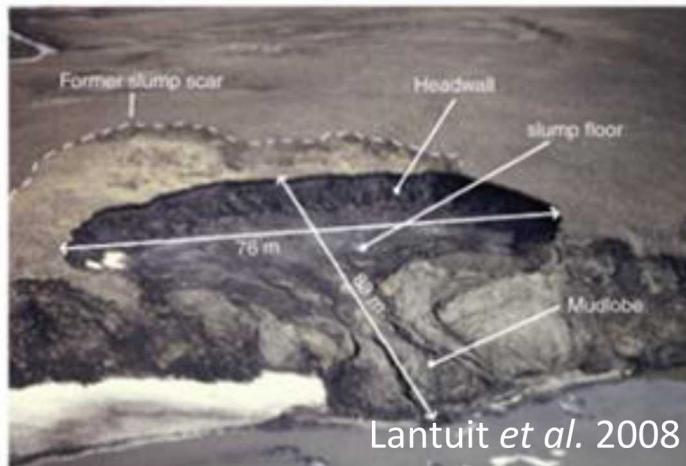
Unique coastal permafrost erosion process in Arctic:

- Predominant geomorphology: **ice-wedge polygons**
 - Ice acts to **bind** unconsolidated soils in permafrost forming ice wedges.
 - Ice wedges **grow/expand** up to ms wide and 10s meters deep.
- Melting ice causes permafrost **failure**.
 - **Storm surges** accelerate ice melt by delivering **heat** to ice/permafrost*.

* Thermo-abrasion: permafrost material is warmed by ocean and removed by mechanical action of waves.

Permafrost failure mechanisms

- **Retrogressive thaw slumping**: a slope failure characterized by thaw of exposed ground ice and slumping of thawed soil, typically caused by thermo-denudation*.
- **Active layer detachment**: failures are translational landslides that occur in summer in thawing soil overlying permafrost, typically caused by thermo-denudation*.
- **Block failure**: a niche (recess at bluff base) progresses landward until the overhanging material fails in a shearing or toppling mode known as block failure.
 - Fallen blocks can disintegrate in the near-shore environment **within 1-2 weeks!**



Retrogressive thaw slumping



Active layer detachment



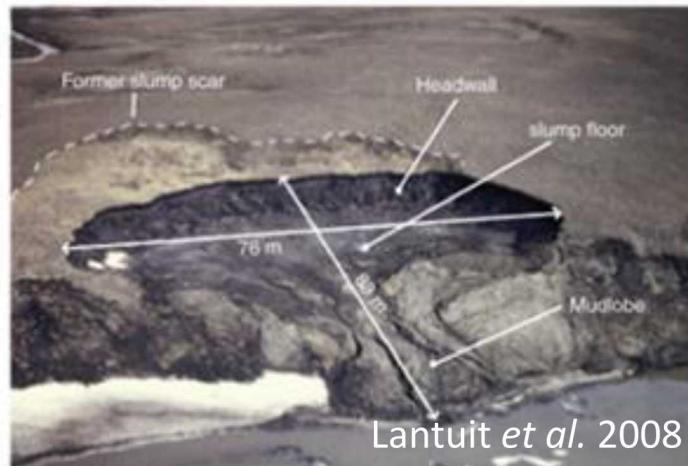
Block failure



* Subaerial erosion triggered by thawing of permafrost bluffs that proceeds under the influence of gravity.

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Retrogressive thaw slumping



Active layer detachment



* Subaerial erosion triggered by thawing of permafrost bluffs that proceeds under the influence of gravity.

Example of bluff erosion during 2019 UAV surveys*



02 August 2019



Fallen blocks can
disintegrate in near-
shore environment
within 1-2 weeks!

10 August 2019



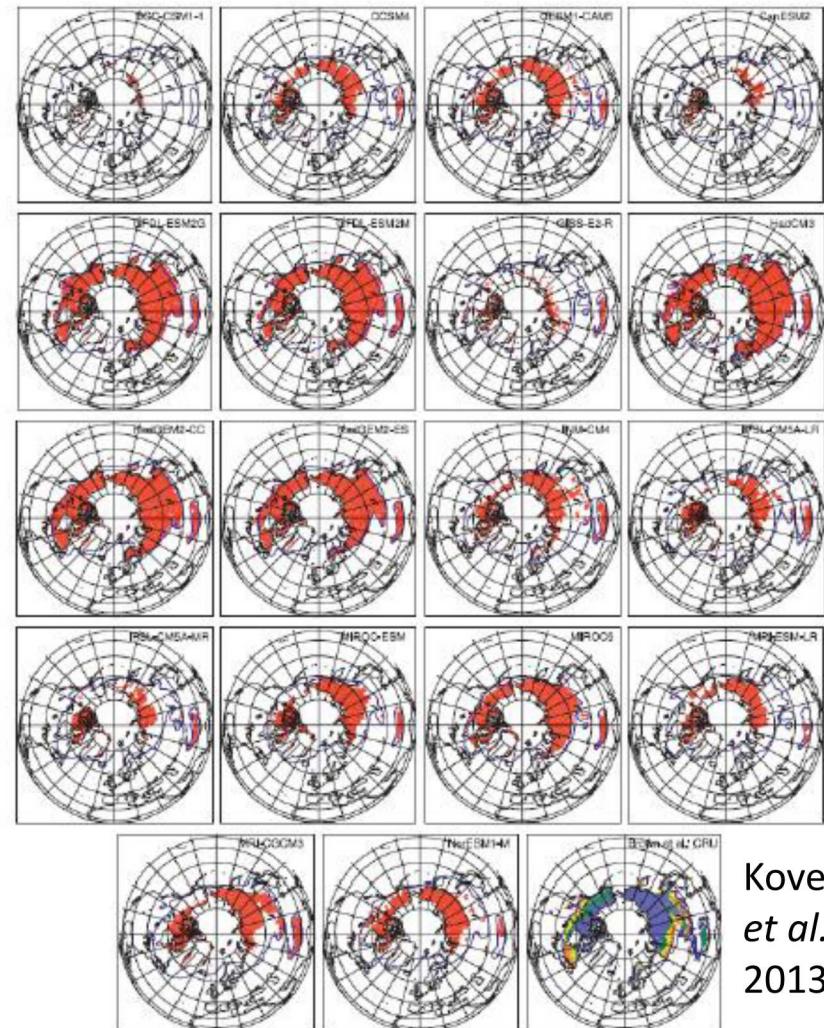
15 August 2019

*Images courtesy of Ben
Jones, UAF

State-of-the-art in permafrost modeling

When this project began in 2017, tools to **accurately predict** Arctic coastal erosion **did not exist!**

- Existing models* are **primitive**: trend projection, empirical relationships, 1D steady state heat flow, ...
 - Primarily **thermal models** (no mechanics/deformation)
 - Most models assume **particular type of erosion** (e.g. block failure)
- Efforts have been put towards integrating permafrost models into **earth system models (ESMs)**: CLM, VAMPERS, CryoGrid3, ...
- Modeling typically estimates BCs and **does not** account for geomorphologies or geophysics.
- Comprehensive **understanding** of erosion dynamics in the Arctic has **not yet emerged**.



Koven
et al.
2013

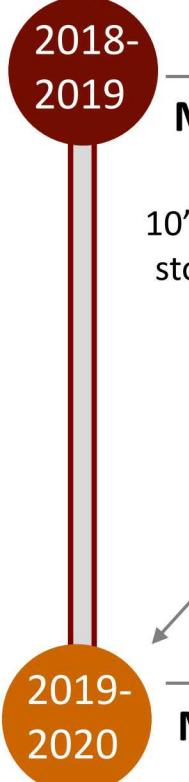
To obtain an accurate, **predictive** Arctic coastal erosion model, a **coupling** of the influences of evolving **wave dynamics, thermodynamics and mechanics** must be developed.

Outline

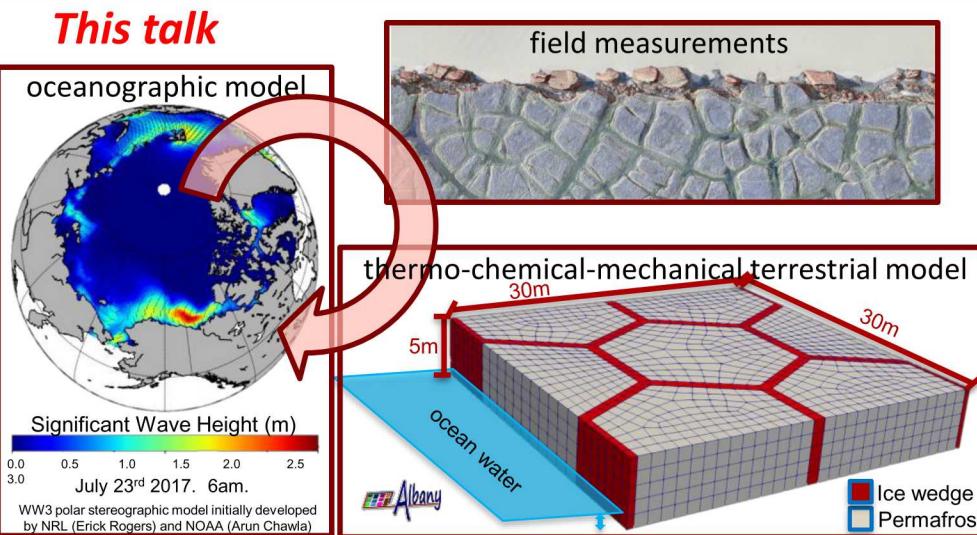
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Proposed solution

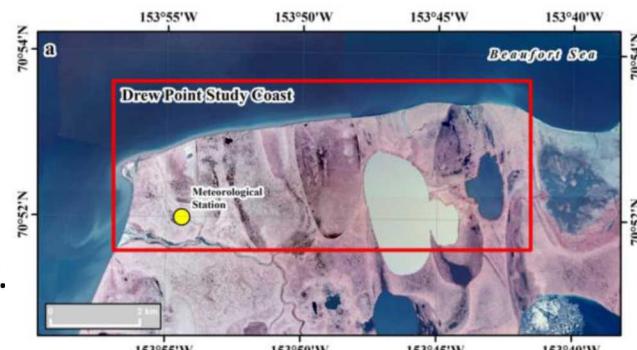
Goal of the **Arctic Coastal Erosion (ACE)** project is to deliver a **field-validated predictive model of thermo-abrasive erosion for the permafrost Arctic coastline**



- **Multi-physics finite element model** of an archetype of the coastline coupled with high-fidelity model of storm intensities
 - Input variables define geomorphology & geophysics
 - Plastic deformation model of material (J2 class)
 - Geomechanical testing to determine coupled thermal-mechanical strength characteristics
 - Time-varying ocean BCs (water level, temp, salinity)
 - Eroded sediment and biogeochemical flux tracking



- A “catalog” of micro-scale models that represent the statistical distributions of input variables along a ~10km stretch of coastline.
 - Probability distribution functions of geomorphology and geophysics used to weight erosion output
 - Will validate approach with decade long annual measurements at Drew Point.
 - Evaluating ocean “exposure metrics” to represent time-varying ocean

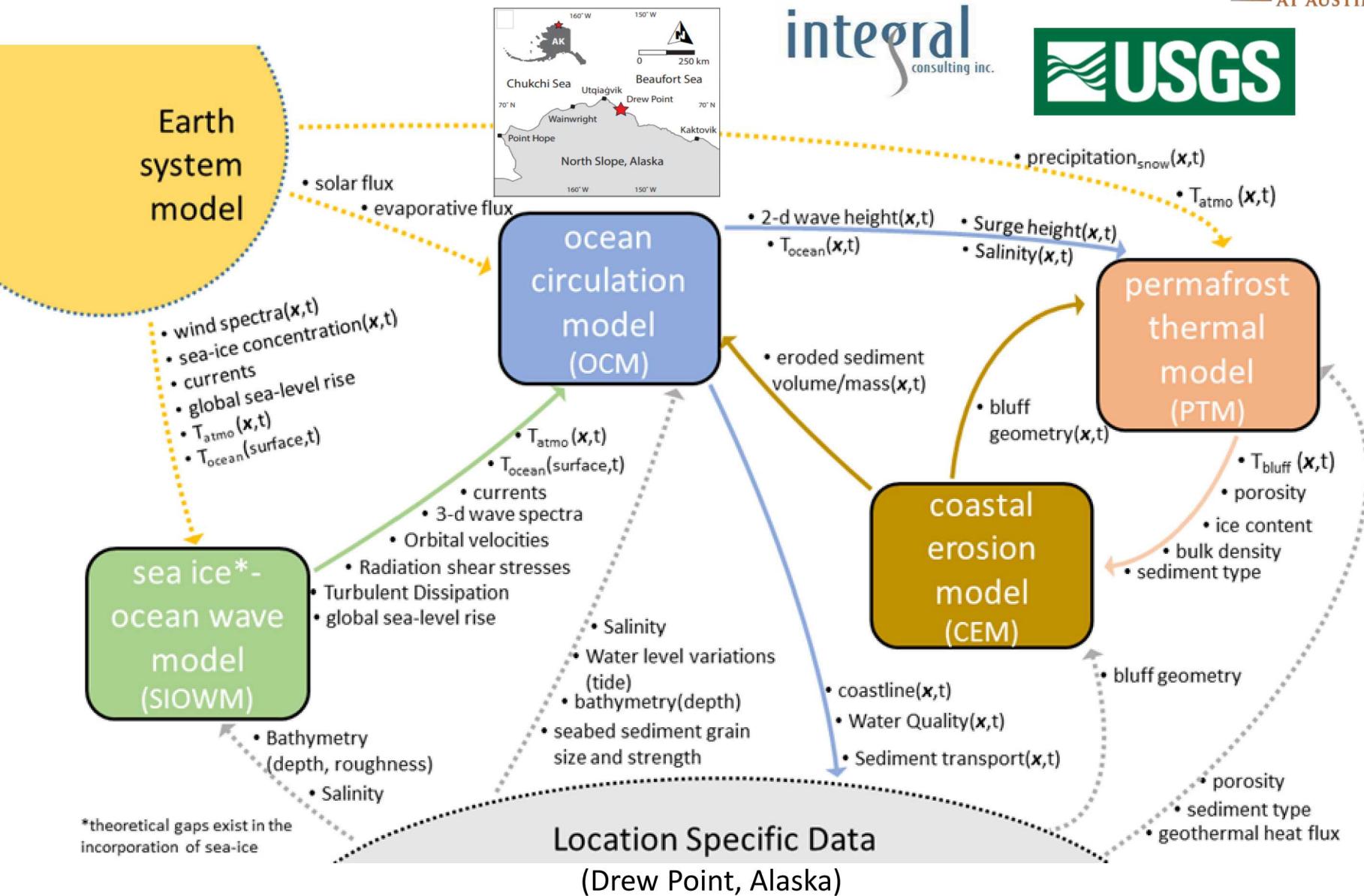


ACE Model Component Coupling

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TEXAS
AT AUSTIN

UAF
UNIVERSITY OF
ALASKA
FAIRBANKS

integral
consulting inc.



ACE project has many pieces!

- **Terrestrial model:** thermo-mechanical coupled FEM model that can simulate transient niche development.
- **Oceanographic model:** WW3 + SWAN + Delft3D wave models for providing oceanic BCs (ocean temp/height) to terrestrial model.
- **Geomechanical testing:** for characterization of permafrost parameters in terrestrial model.
- **Field campaign:** offshore oceanographic measurements, bathymetric survey, niche measurements, etc.

ACE Model Component Coupling

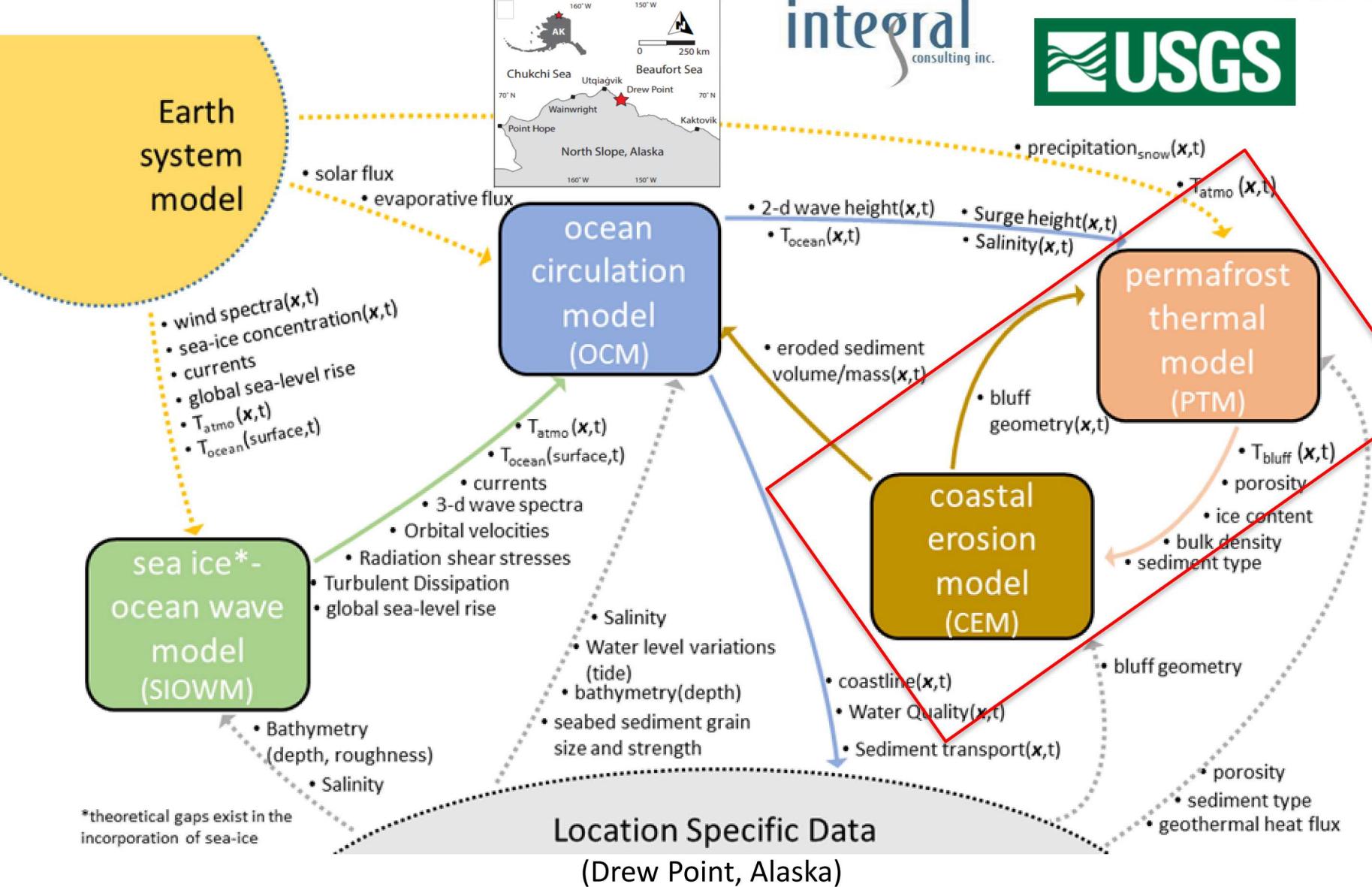
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USGS

Sandia
National
Laboratories



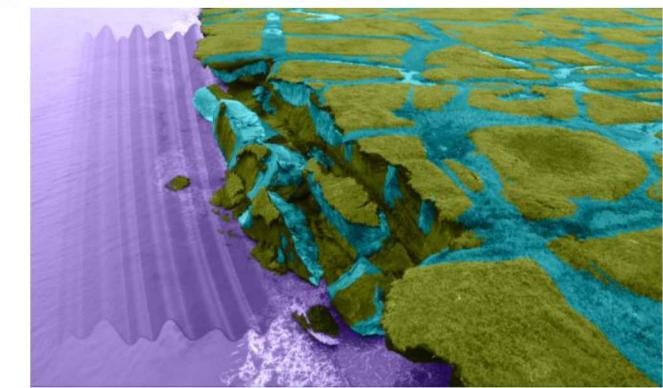
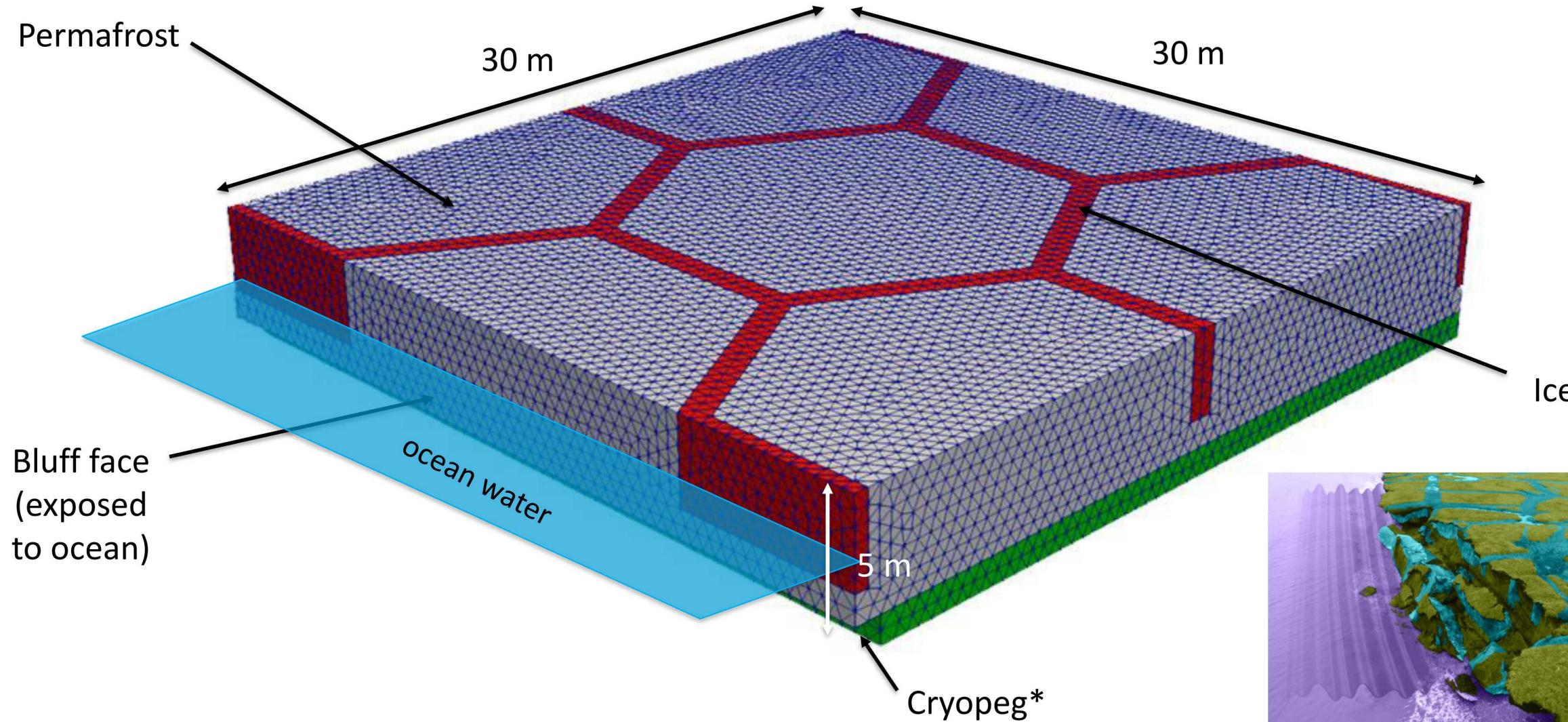
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Anatomy of a canonical computational domain



* Layer of unfrozen ground that is perennially cryotic (forming part of the permafrost) in which freezing is prevented.

Mechanical model

- Finite deformation variational formulation for ***solid mechanics problem*** obtained by minimizing the energy functional :

$$\Phi[\boldsymbol{\varphi}] := \int_{\Omega} A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z}) dV - \int_{\Omega} \rho \mathbf{B} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} dV - \int_{\partial_T \Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} dS$$

$A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z})$: Helmholtz free-energy density
 \mathbf{Z} : material variables
 \mathbf{F} : deformation gradient ($\nabla \boldsymbol{\varphi}$)
 ρ : density
 \mathbf{B} : body force
 \mathbf{T} : prescribed traction

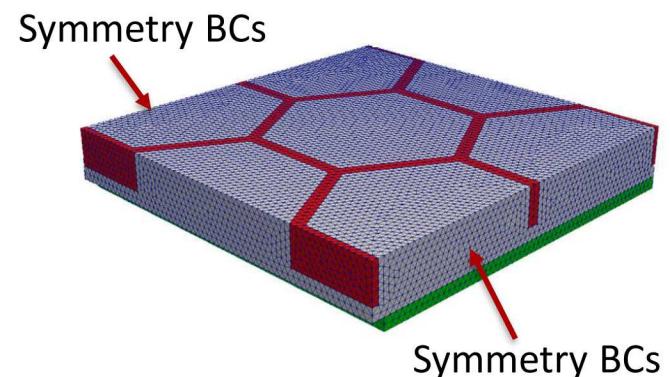
- Computes ***displacements*** and ***new computational geometry*** (following erosion)
- ***J2 plasticity*** extended to large-deformation regime ***constitutive model*** for ***ice*** and ***permafrost***
 - Incorporates all mechanisms that lead to deformation, plastic flow and creep of polycrystalline materials like ice; minimal calibration parameters; simplest material model w/ plastic behavior.

- ***Symmetry boundary conditions*** on lateral sides

- ***Yield stress***: $\sigma_0(T) := S_s \sigma_Y^{\text{soil}} + S_f f(T) \sigma_Y^{\text{ice}}$

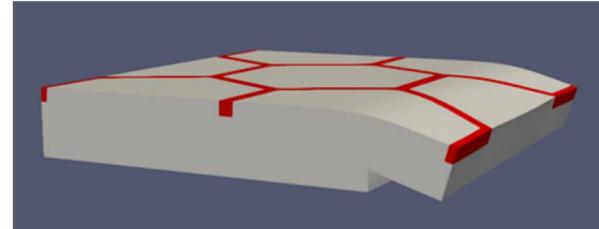
- Used in erosion failure criteria

f : ice saturation ($\in [0,1]$)
 $\sigma_Y^{\text{soil}} / \sigma_Y^{\text{ice}}$: yield stress of soil/ice
 S_s / S_f : soil/ice volume fraction



Erosion failure criteria

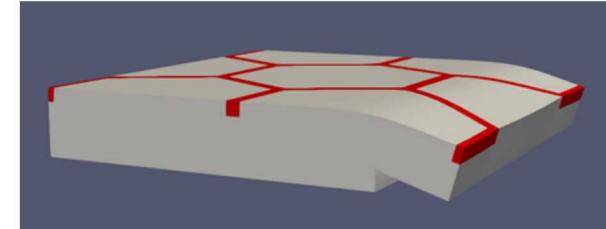
- **Erosion criterion:** when material exposed to water reaches a critical exposure time.
- **Stress criterion:** when material reaches a critical value of the stress.
- **Kinematic criterion:** when material has tilted excessively, it is assumed to have fallen as part of block erosion.



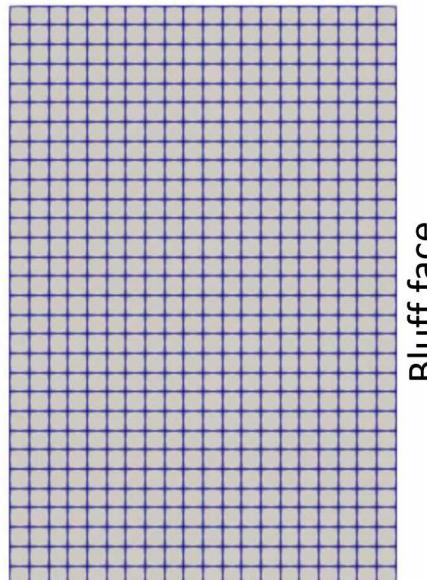
Once **failure criterion** is reached, “failed” elements are **removed** from mesh.

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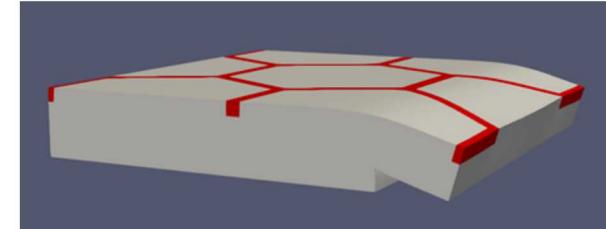


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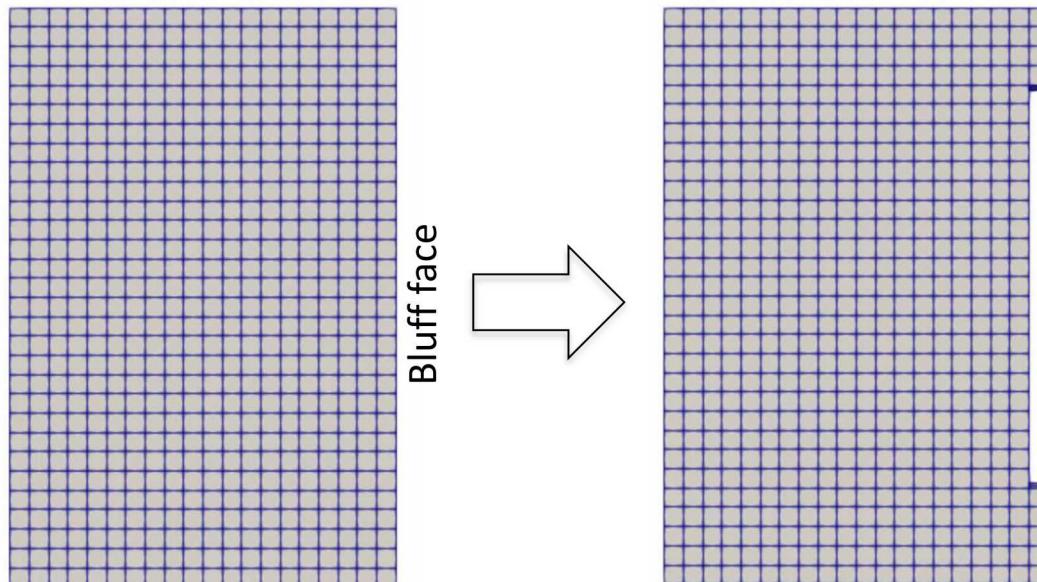


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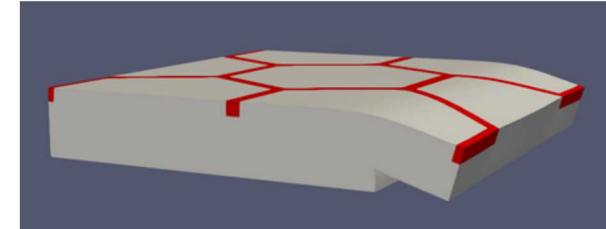


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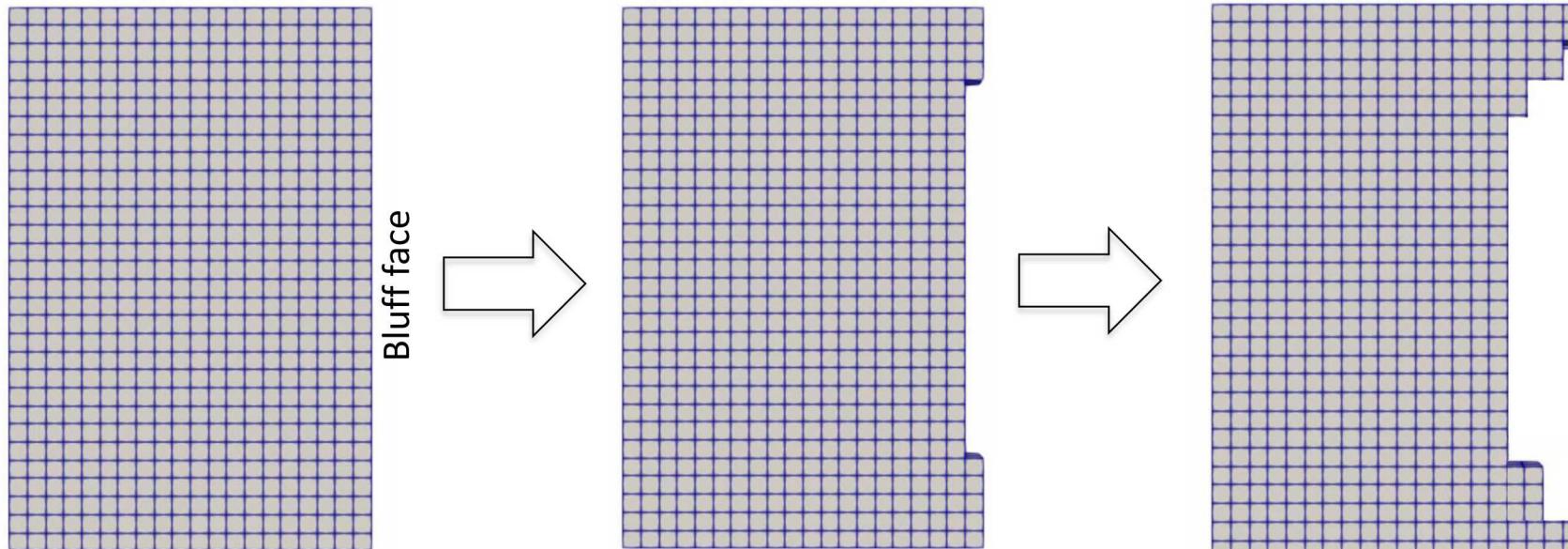


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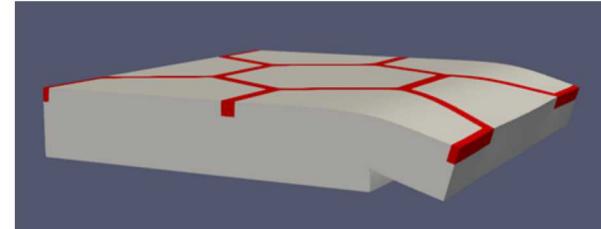


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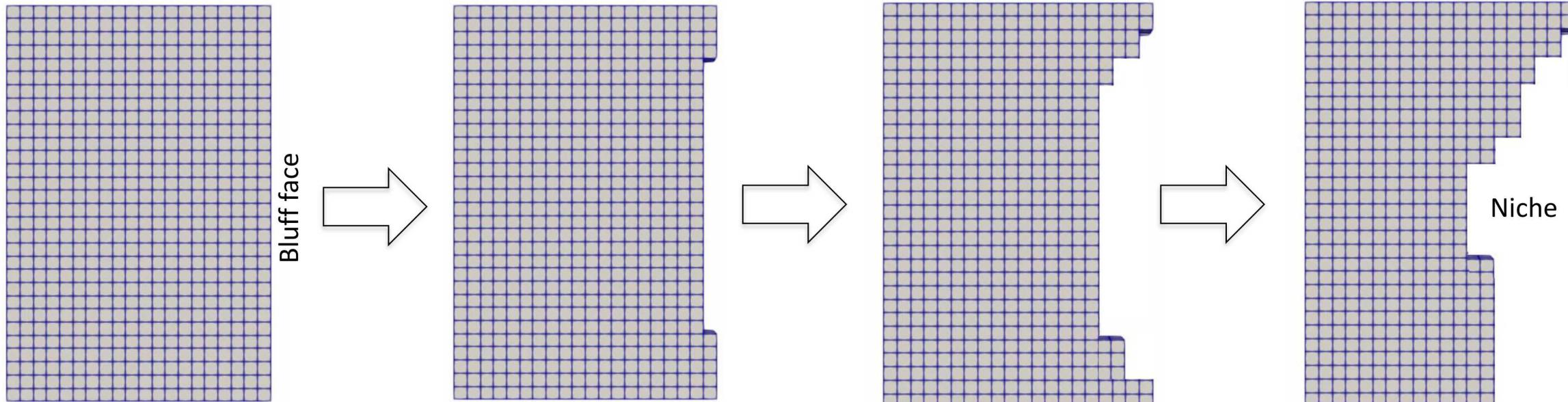


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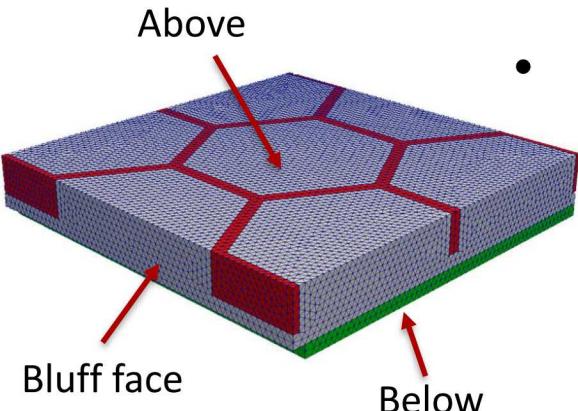
Thermal model

- **Transient heat conduction** in a non-homogeneous porous media with water-ice phase change:

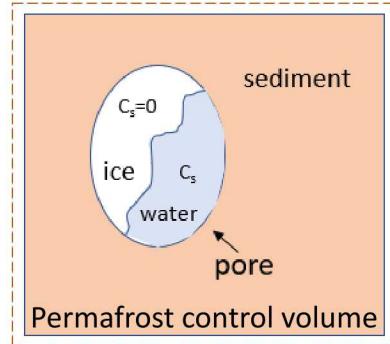
$$(\bar{\rho} \bar{c}_p + \bar{\Theta}) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{K} \cdot \nabla T)$$

where $\bar{\Theta} := \rho_f L_f \frac{\partial f}{\partial T}$ incorporates phase changes through soil freezing curve, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T}$.

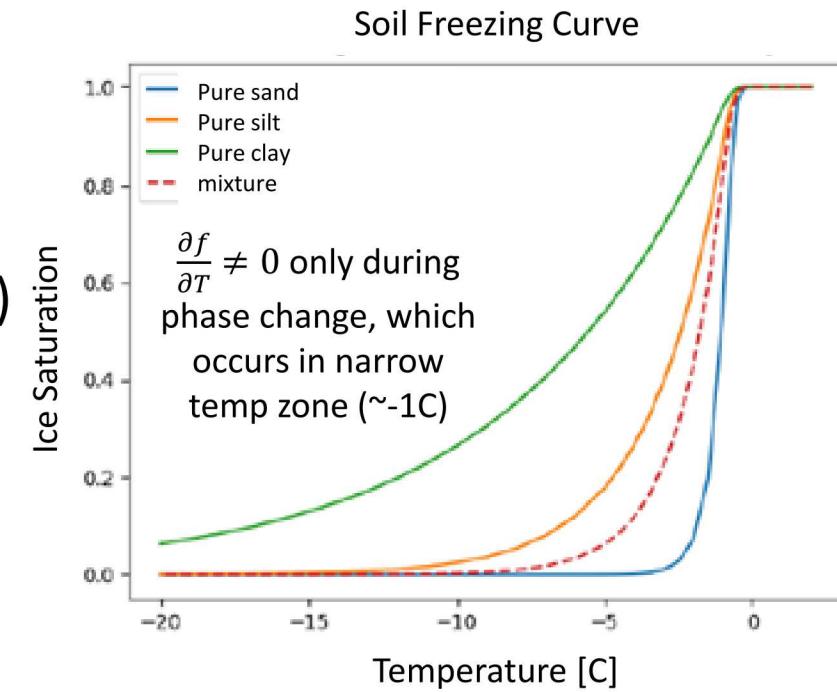
- Computes **temperature T** and **ice saturation f**



- **Boundary conditions** (from ocean model/data)
 - Local geothermal heat flux from below
 - Mean annual air temp from above
 - Air/ocean temp at bluff face



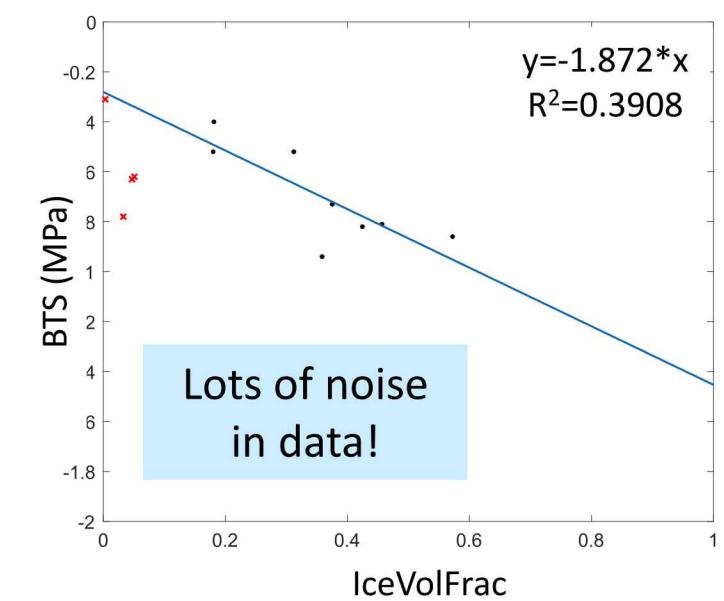
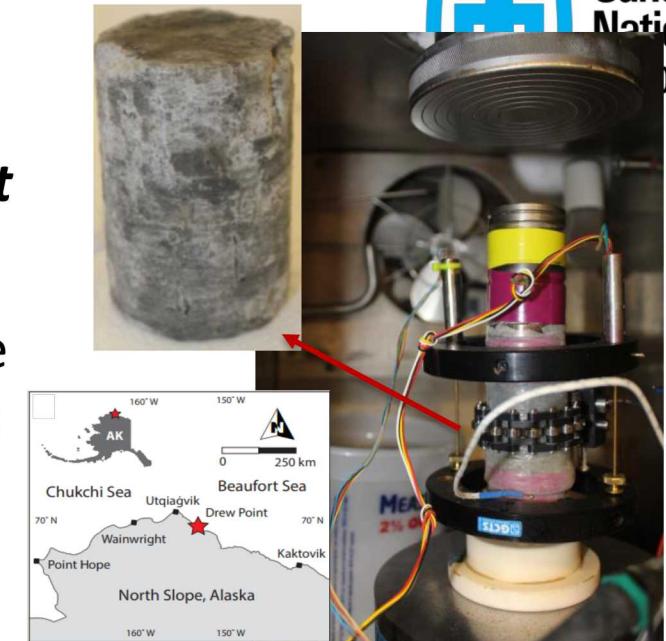
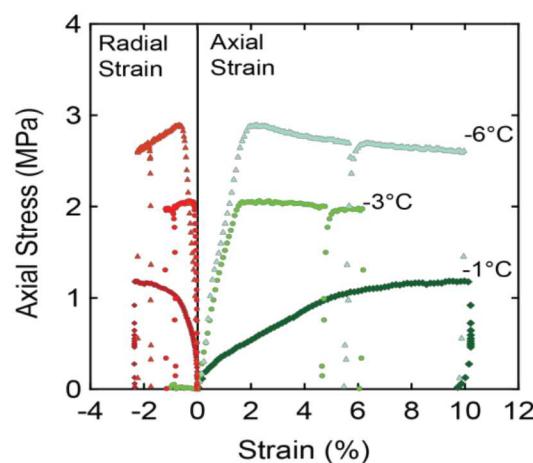
$\bar{\rho}$: density from mixture model
 \bar{c}_p : specific heat from mixture model
 \mathbf{K} : thermal diffusivity tensor
 ρ_f : ice density
 L_f : latent heat of water-ice phase change
 f : ice saturation ($\in [0,1]$)
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T}$: soil freezing curve (depends on salinity)



Parameters & inputs

- Permafrost properties depend on ***ice content, unfrozen water content and frost susceptibility***.
- ***Few mathematical relationships exist*** that describe changes in tensile strength, shear strength and cohesion of ice/permafrost with changes in temperature.
- Series of ***experiments*** (UCS¹, BTS², DT³) on frozen soil samples at different temps (-6C, -3C, -1C) and ice content from Drew Point, AK were performed at SNL's Geomechanics Laboratory to estimate:

- Strength: 1-3 MPa
- Young's modulus: 0.01-0.16 GPa
- Poisson's ratio: 0.1-0.35
- Porosity values: 40-95%

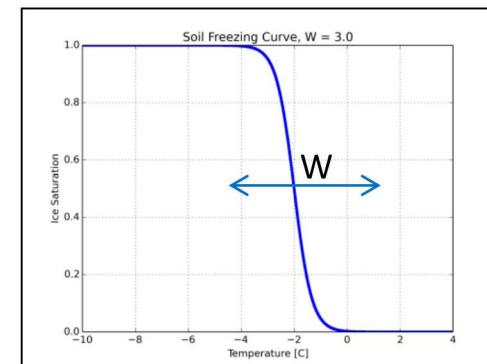


¹ Unconfined compressive test. ² Brazilian tensile tests. ³ Direct tensile tests.

Parameters & inputs

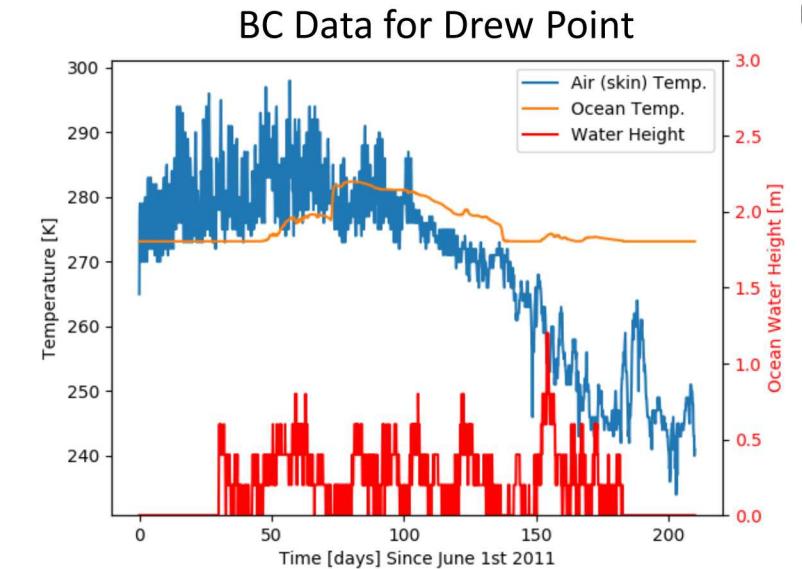
Parameters estimated from laboratory data:

- Elastic modulus, Poisson's ratio, yield strength
- Sand/silt/clay fractions with depth
- Porosity with depth



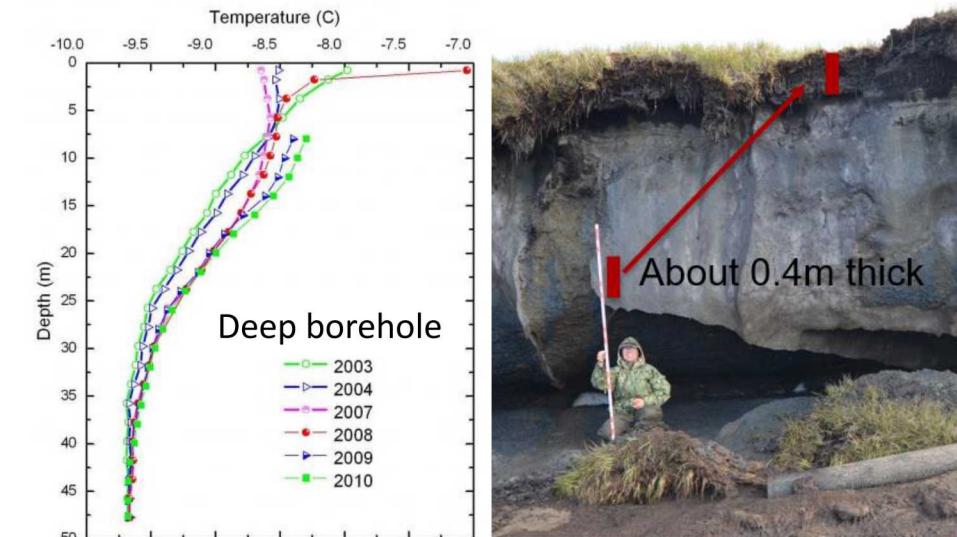
Parameters from literature:

- Ice/water/sediment densities, thermal conductivities, heat capacities
- Freezing curve/width as function of sediment type
- Bluff salinity with depth



Parameters estimated from observational data at Drew Point, AK:

- Skin temp w/ time, initial bluff temp (USGS weather station data)
- Geothermal heat flux (borehole at Barrow, AK)
- Polygon dimension, ice wedge thickness and depth, bluff height, living organic layer thickness (Aug. 2019 field campaign)



Parameters from wave model (WW3+SWAN+Delft3D):



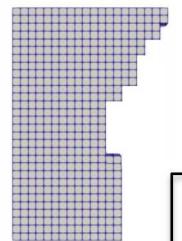
- Ocean temperature, salinity and sea-level w/ time (for thermal BCs)

Coupled thermo-mechanical formulation

Potential key advantages:

- Tightly coupled strength and thermo-chemical states
- Failure modes develop from constitutive relationships in FEM model (no empirical relationships!)
- 3D unsteady heat flow can include chemistry

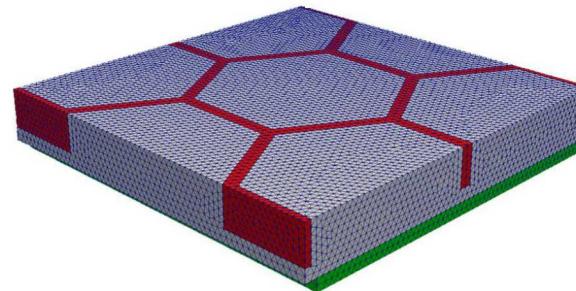
Unique characteristic of coupled model: coupling happens at the level of material model



Eroded geometry

Thermal:

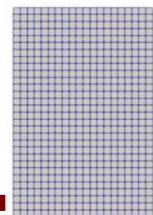
Inputs: geometry, sediment type, ice volume, water volume, pore size, salinity
Outputs: temperature field, ice saturation



Ice saturation

Mechanical:

Inputs: ice saturation, strength relationship as function of thermal state, stress-strain relationships of permafrost and ice
Outputs: displacements, eroded geometry



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Finite element implementation within *Albany*



The ***thermo-mechanical Arctic Coastal Erosion (ACE)*** model is implemented within the ***LCM project*** in Sandia's open-source parallel, C++, multi-physics, finite element code, ***Albany***.

- ***Component-based*** design for rapid development.
- Contains a wide variety of ***constitutive models***.
- Extensive use of libraries from the open-source ***Trilinos*** project.
 - Use of the ***Phalanx*** package to decompose complex problem into simpler problems with managed dependencies.
 - Use of the ***Sacado*** package for ***automatic differentiation***.
- Coupled to the ***DOE's Energy Exascale Earth System Model (E3SM)*** through Albany Land-Ice (ALI) component.
- All software available on ***GitHub***.



[https://github.com/
SNLComputation/LCM](https://github.com/SNLComputation/LCM)



[https://github.com/trilinos/
trilinos](https://github.com/trilinos/trilinos)



Mechanics-only simulation*



Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences
Confidential Draft Manuscript

1 **Bluff geometry and material properties influence stress states**
2 **relevant to coastal permafrost block failure**
3
4
5
6
7
8

4 *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*
5 Special Issue:
6 *Observations, Interactions, and Implications*
7 *of Increasingly Dynamic Permafrost Coastal Systems*
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**From *Frontiers in Earth
Science: Cryospheric
Sciences* paper (in press)**

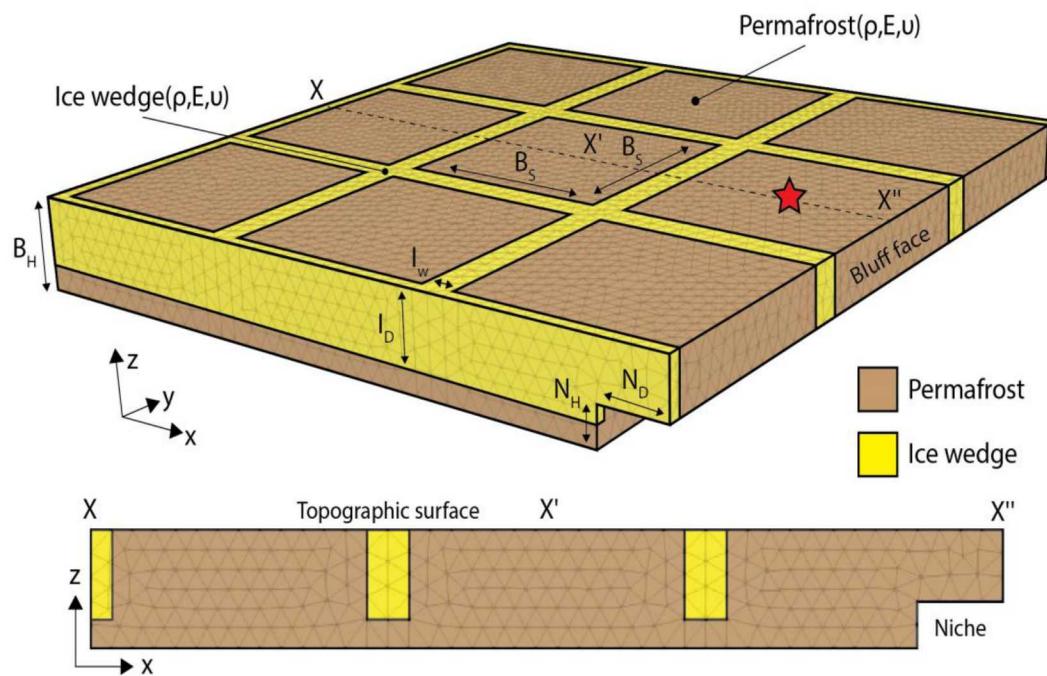
Matthew A. Thomas^{1*}, Alejandro Mota², Benjamin M. Jones³, R. Charles Choens², Jennifer M. Frederick², & Diana L. Bull²

¹U.S. Geological Survey, Geologic Hazards Science Center, Golden, CO 80401

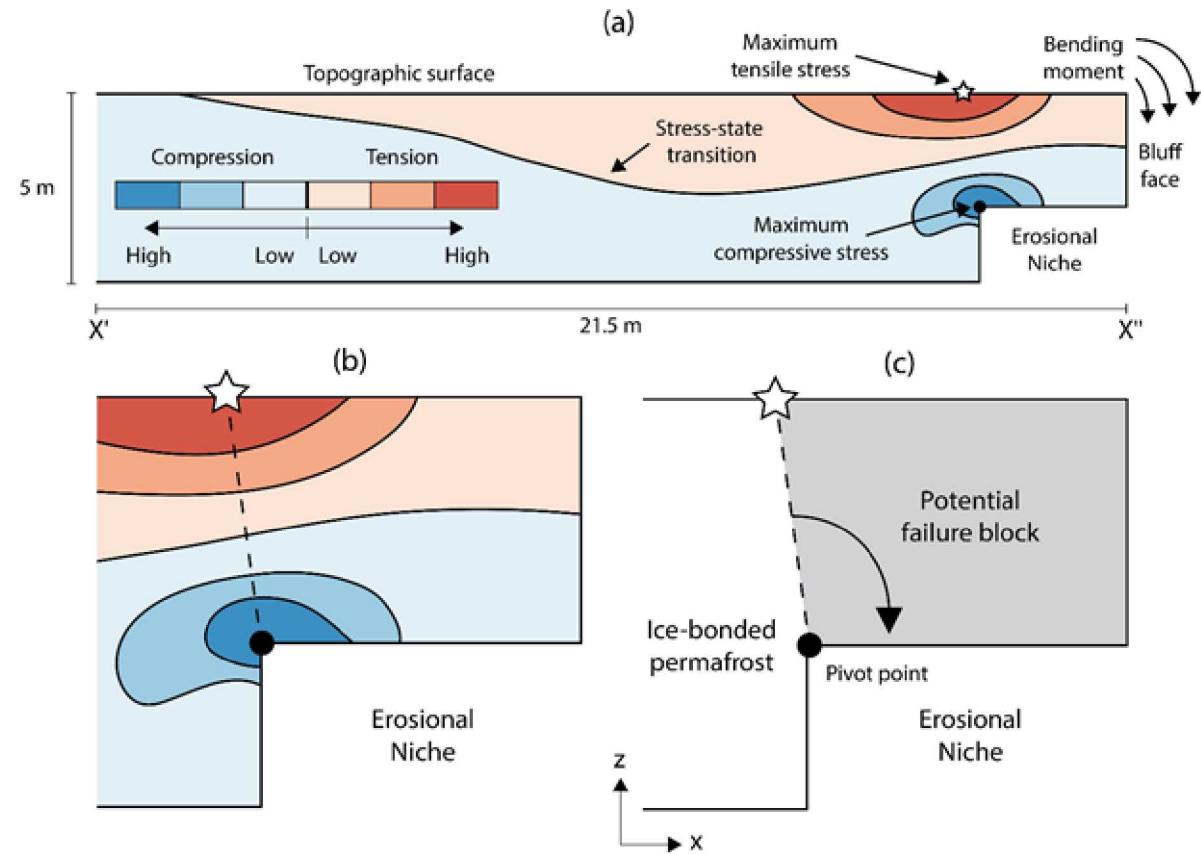
²Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM 87185

³University of Alaska Fairbanks, Institute of Northern Engineering, Fairbanks, AK 99775

Mechanics-only simulation*



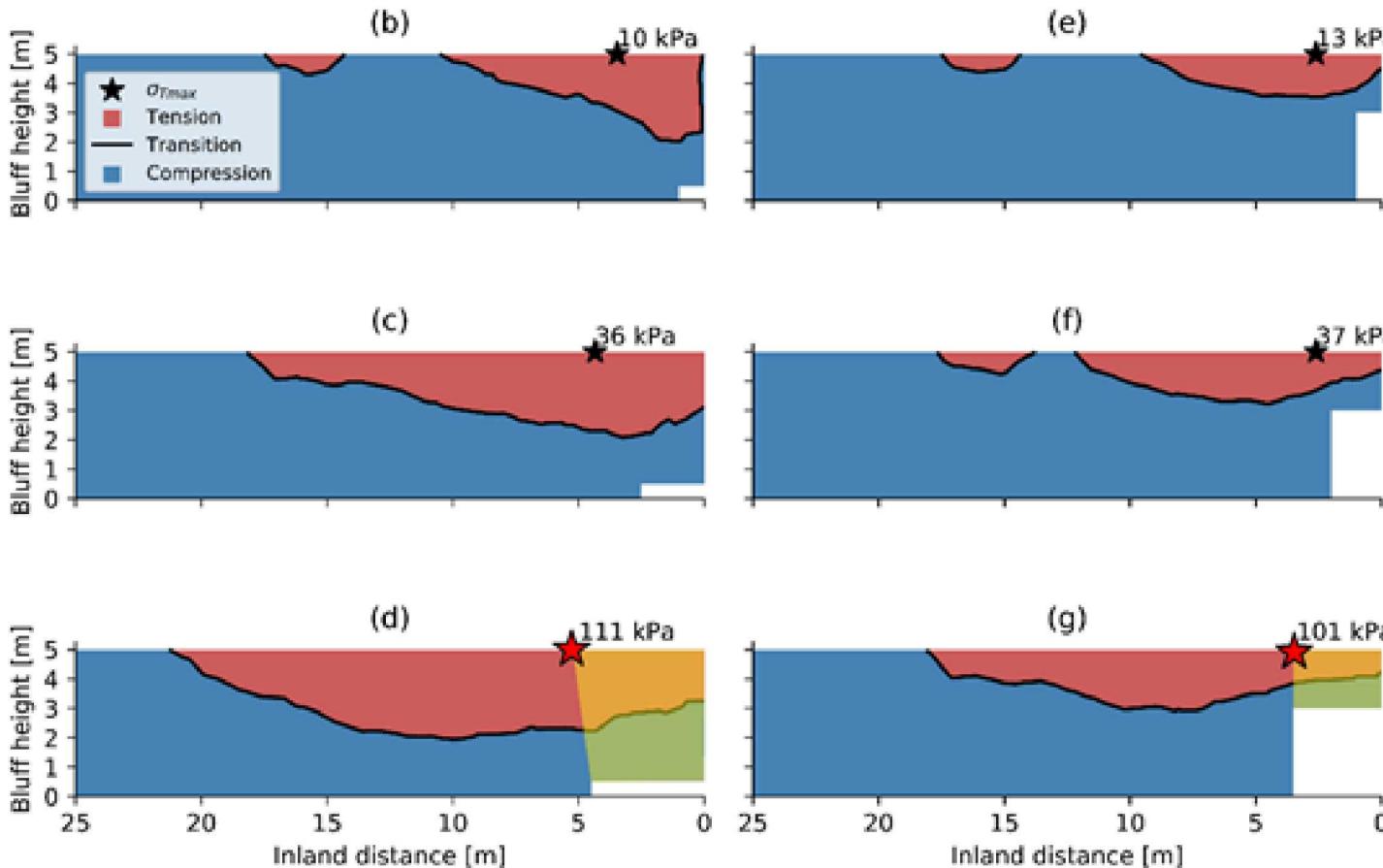
- 3D elastic mechanics-only simulations assessed impact of **bluff geometry** and **material variability** on stress states leading up to bluff failure
 - Only load is gravitational.



- Simulations facilitated examination of **stress patterns** within bluff and identification of **location** and **magnitude** of **max tensile stress** ($\sigma_{T_{\max}}$)

Mechanics-only simulation*: main takeaways

Niche dimension affects location and magnitude of simulated **max tensile stress ($\sigma_{T_{\max}}$)** more than the bluff height, ice wedge polygon size, ice wedge geometry, bulk density and Poisson's ratio



- Inland extent of niche was advanced for 6 erosional niche heights from 0.1-3 m

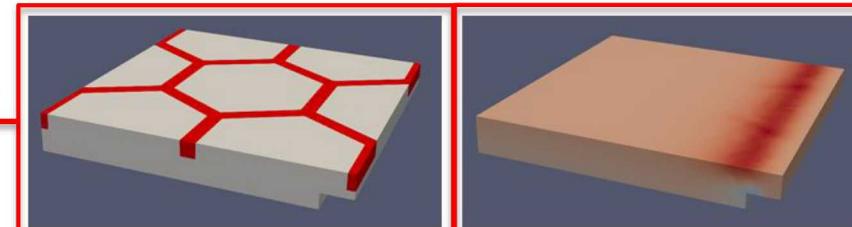
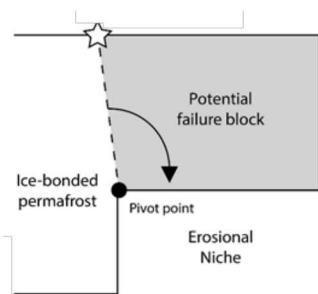
Taller and narrower erosional niches promote smaller failure masses compared to those with shorter and deeper niches

- Lower bound for tensile strength from lab measurements: 100 kPa
- Orange/green shading highlights potential failure areas.

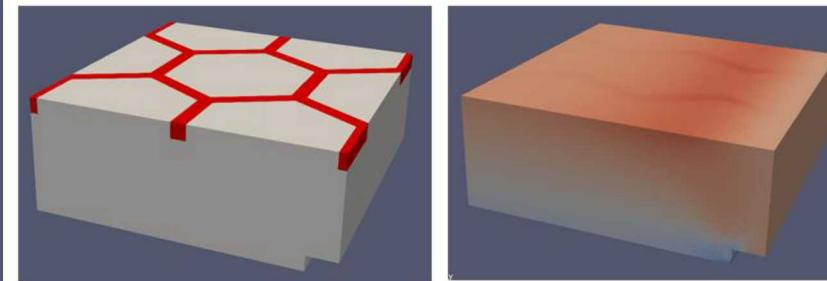
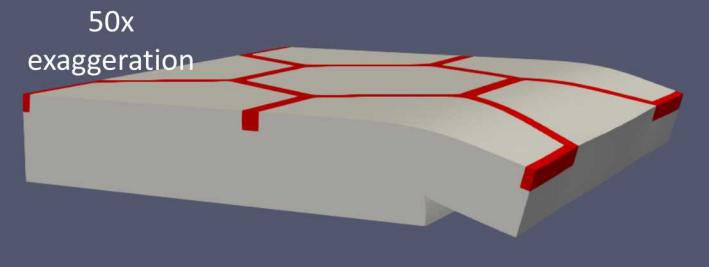
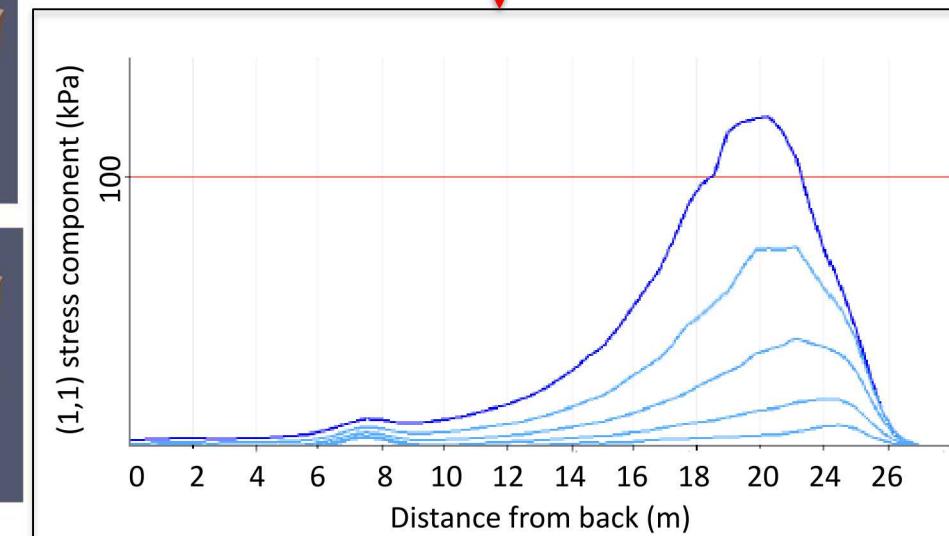
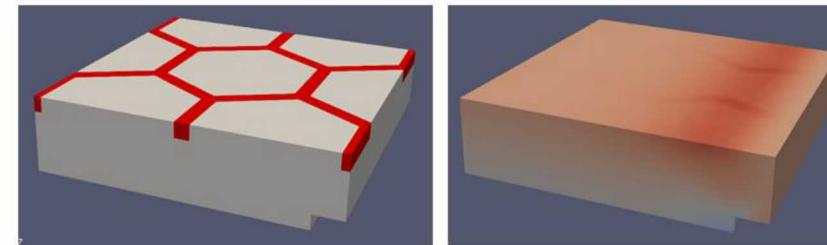
Mechanics-only simulation*: main takeaways

Taller and narrower erosional **niches** promote smaller failure masses compared to those with shorter and deeper niches

As niche advances into the block, an overhanging section in the block acts as **cantilever**.

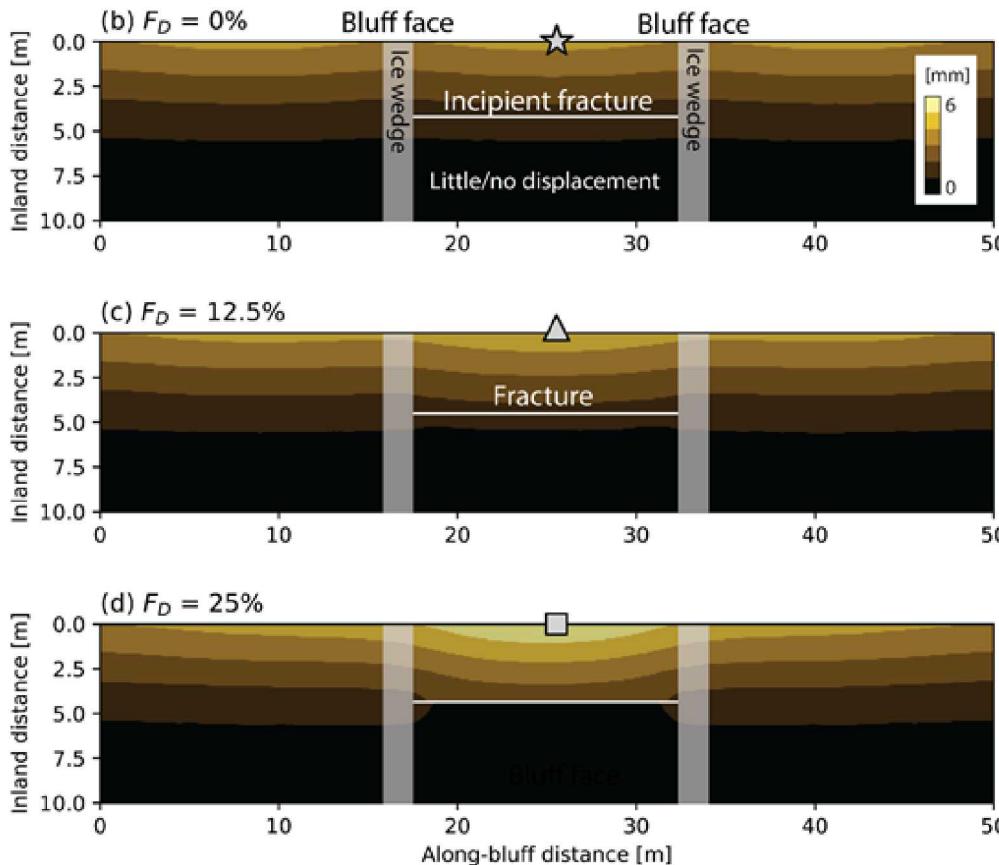


Highest **tensile stresses** develop on top surface where cantilever meets rest of block



Mechanics-only simulation*: main takeaways

- It has been observed that **failure** can occur along **tension cracks** in ice wedge polygon centers.

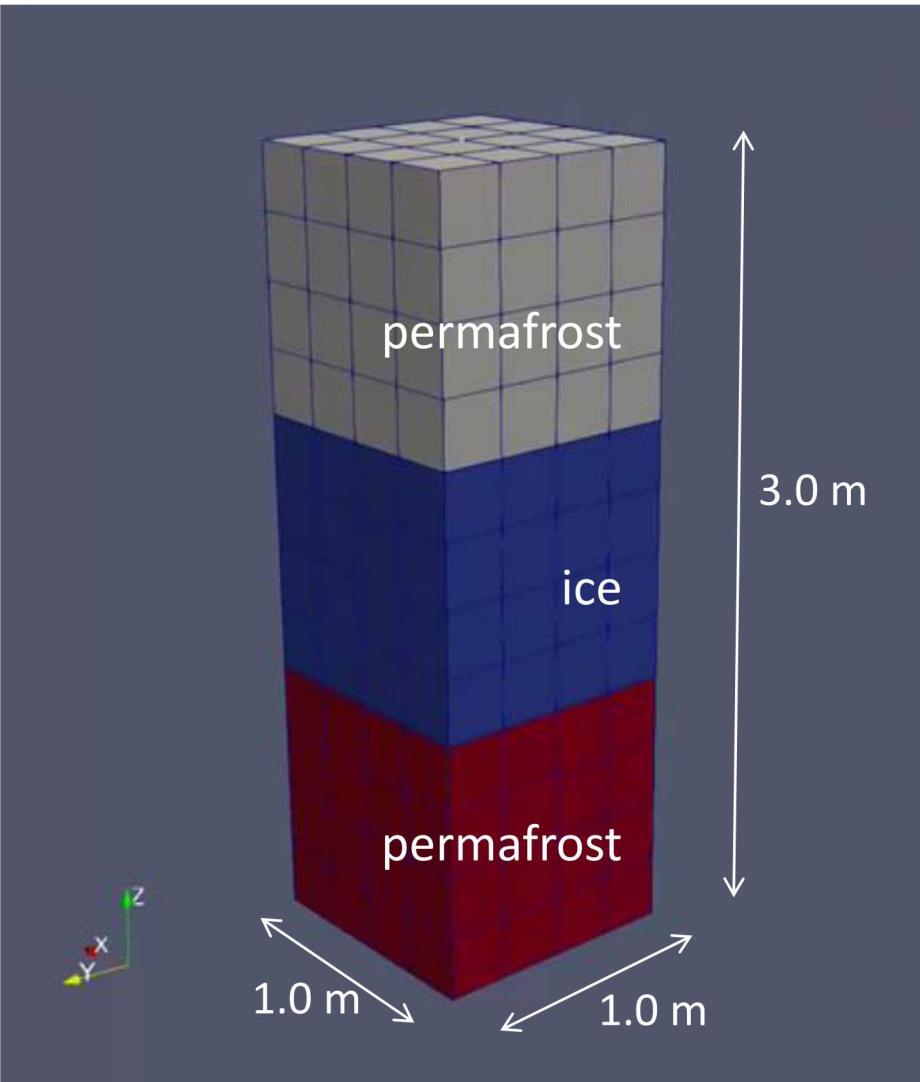


- Simulations suggest **tension cracks** can form within the range of niche depths/heights considered here.
- Even relatively **shallow vertical cracks** can **concentrate strain** within ice-bonded permafrost bluffs.

F_D : fracture depth



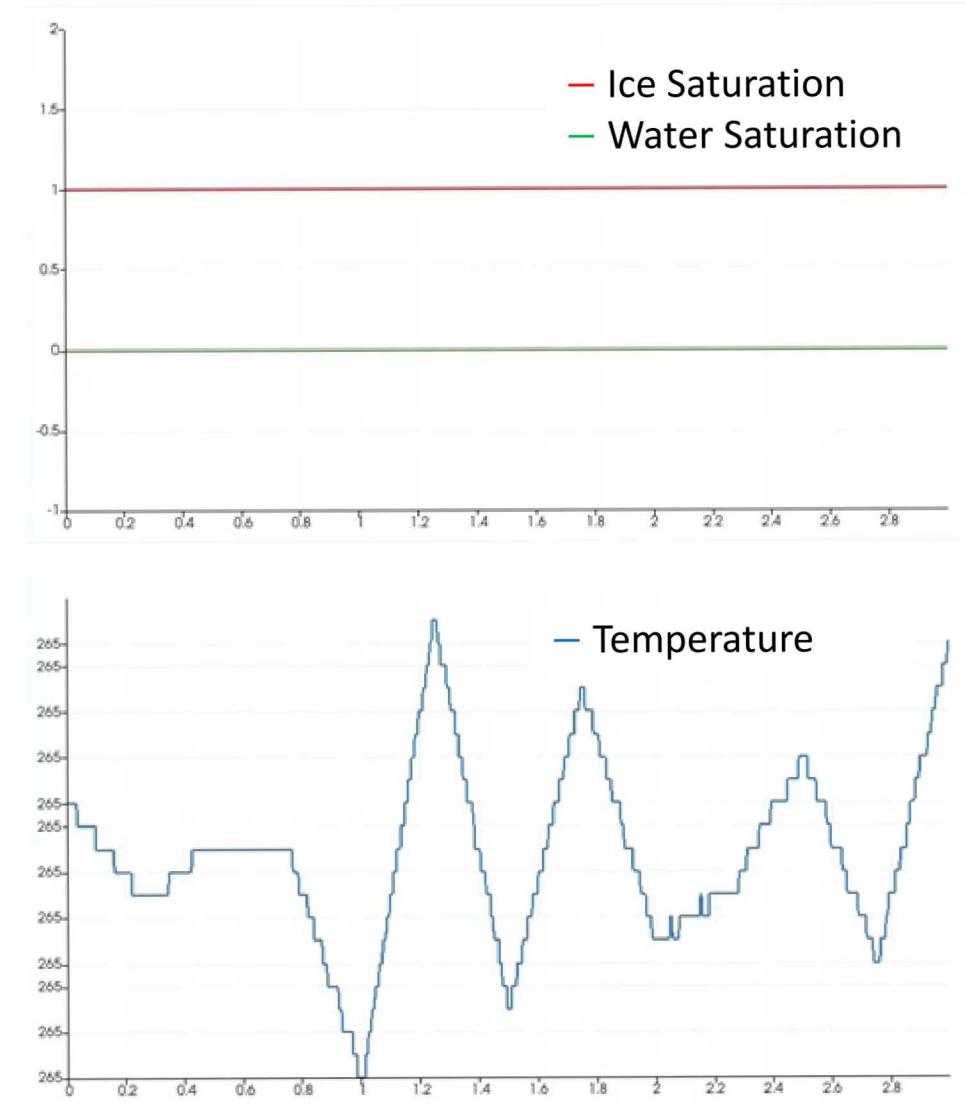
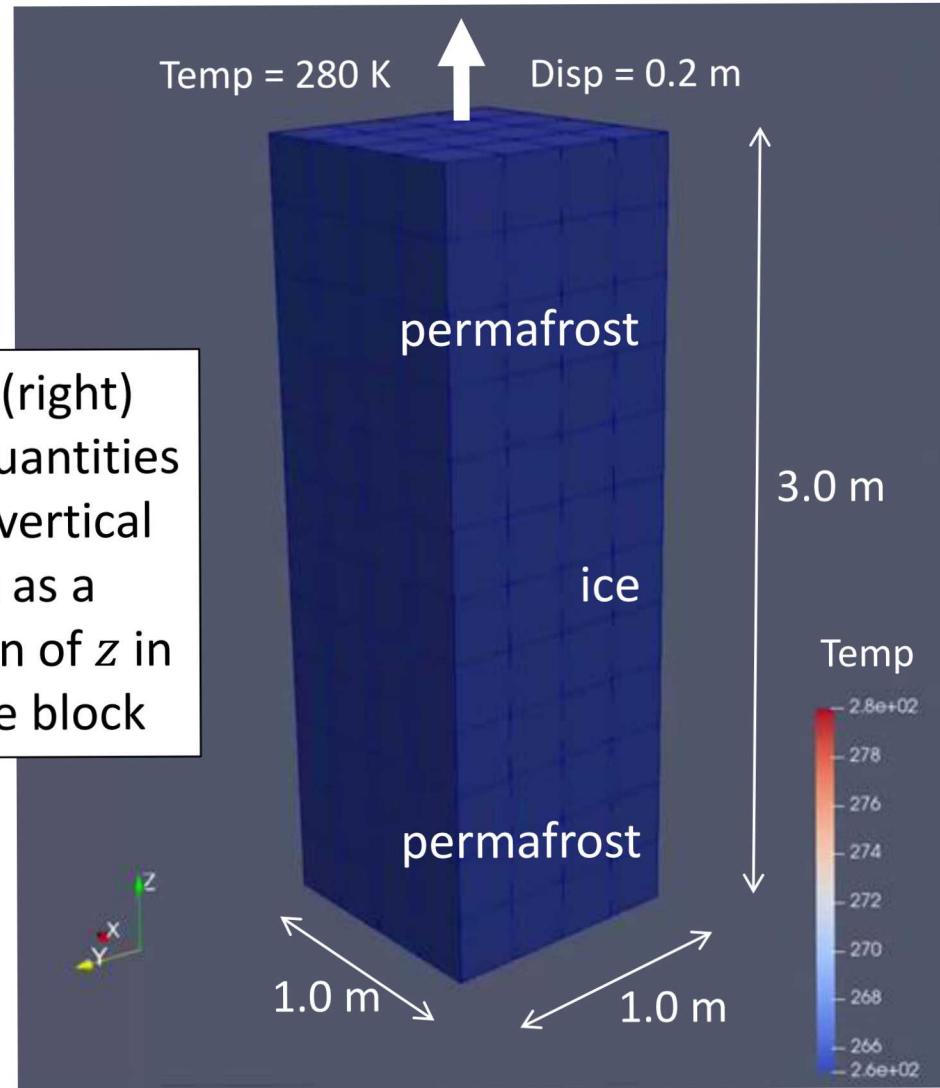
Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



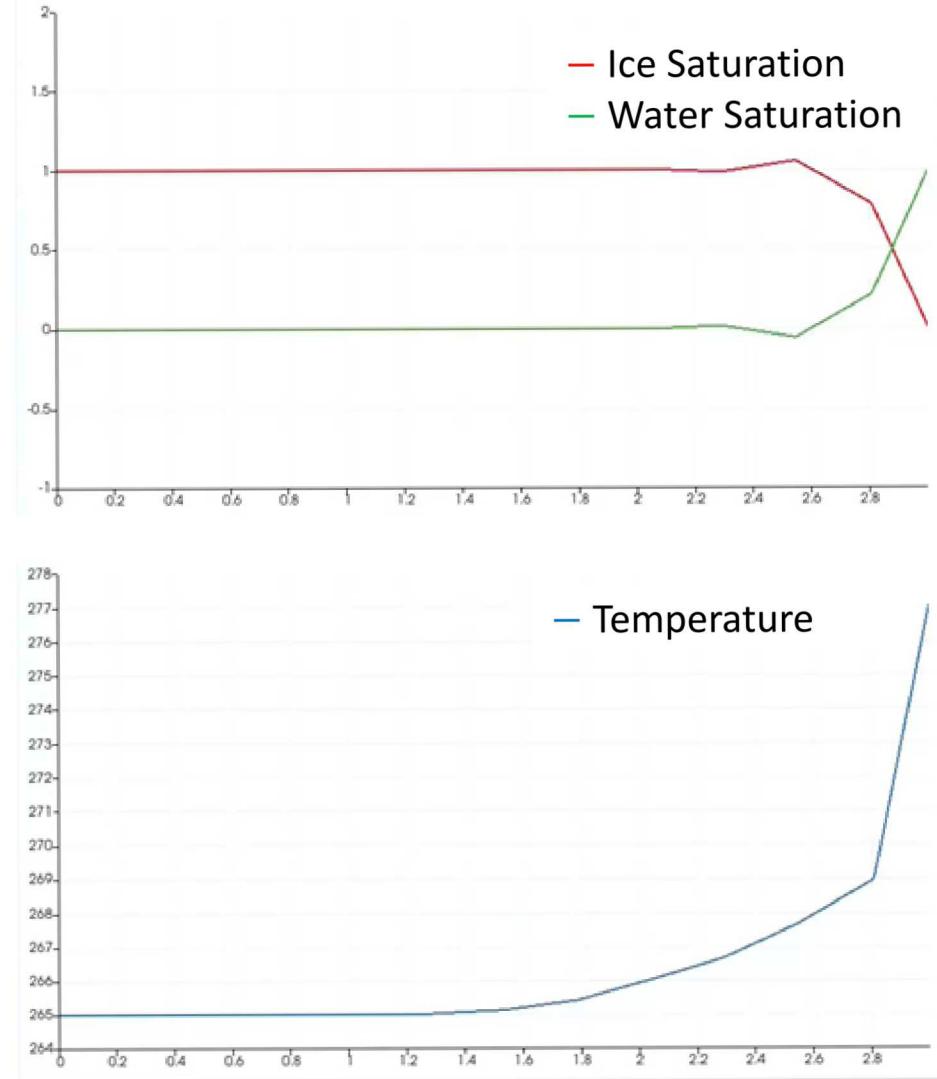
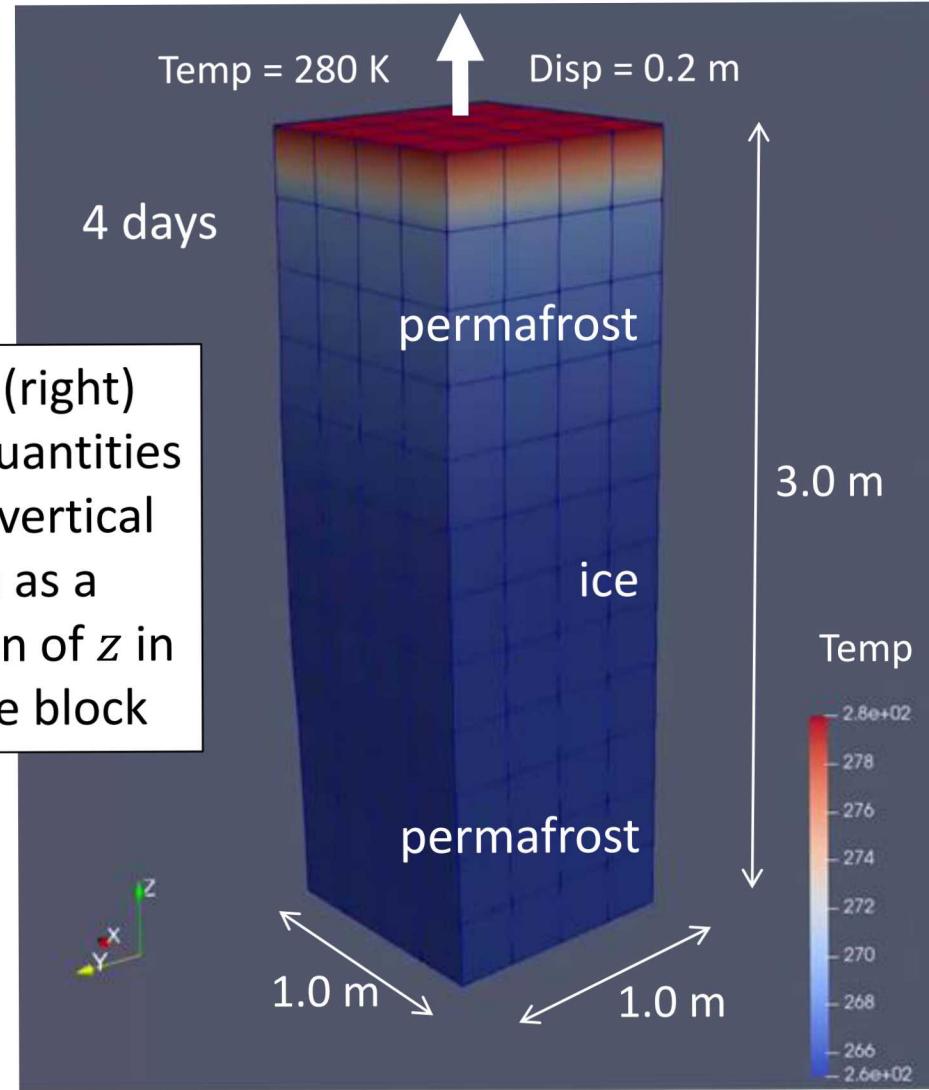
- Cuboid is comprised of block of **ice** material, **wedged** between two blocks of **permafrost** material.
- Cuboid subjected to **simultaneous heating** and **stretching** from the **top**
- Cuboid is **affixed** to the **bottom** and with **symmetry boundary conditions** on the **sides**.
- **Temperature** is initialized to 265K.



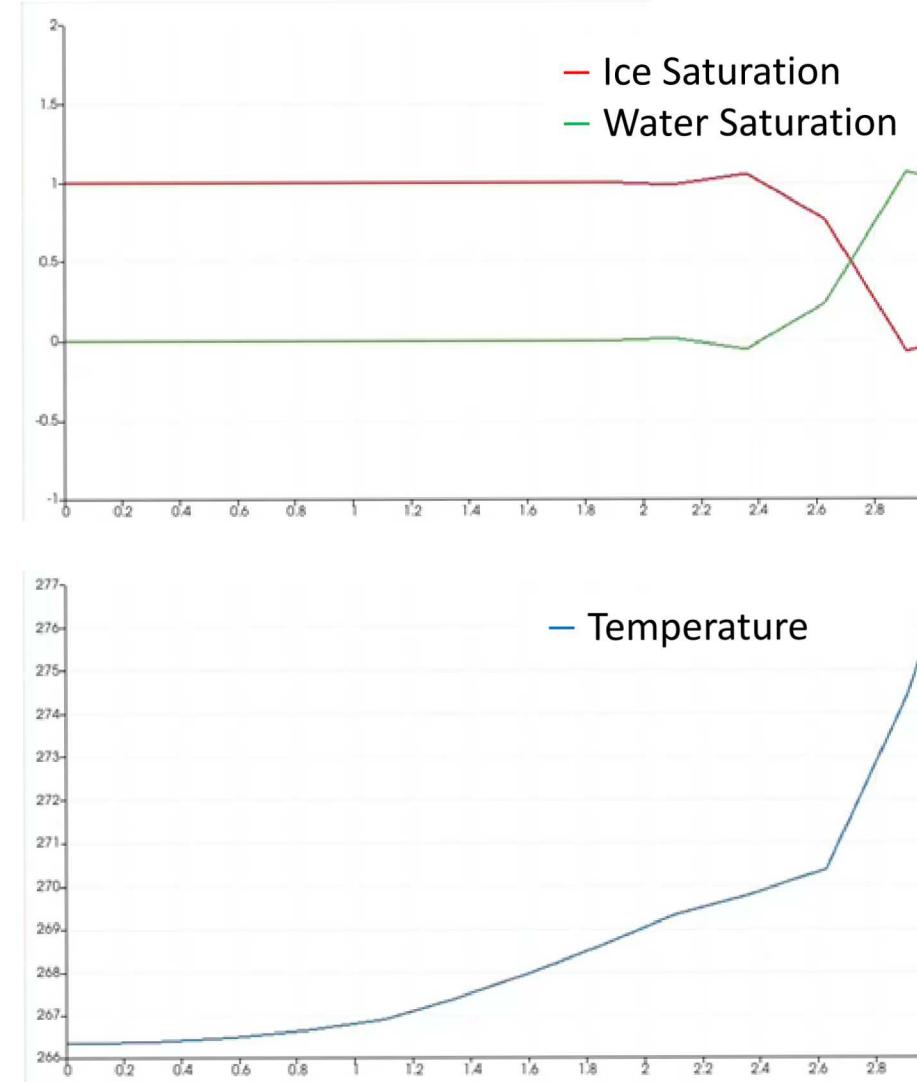
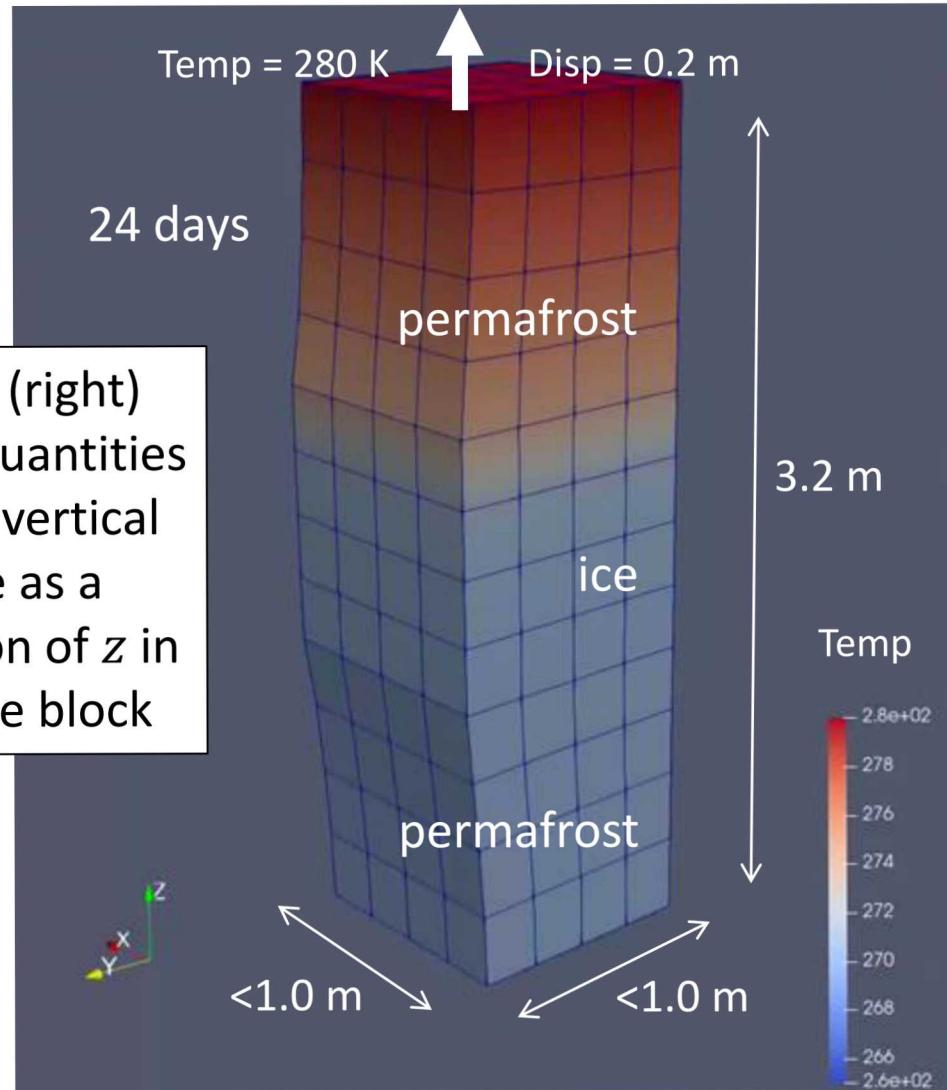
Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



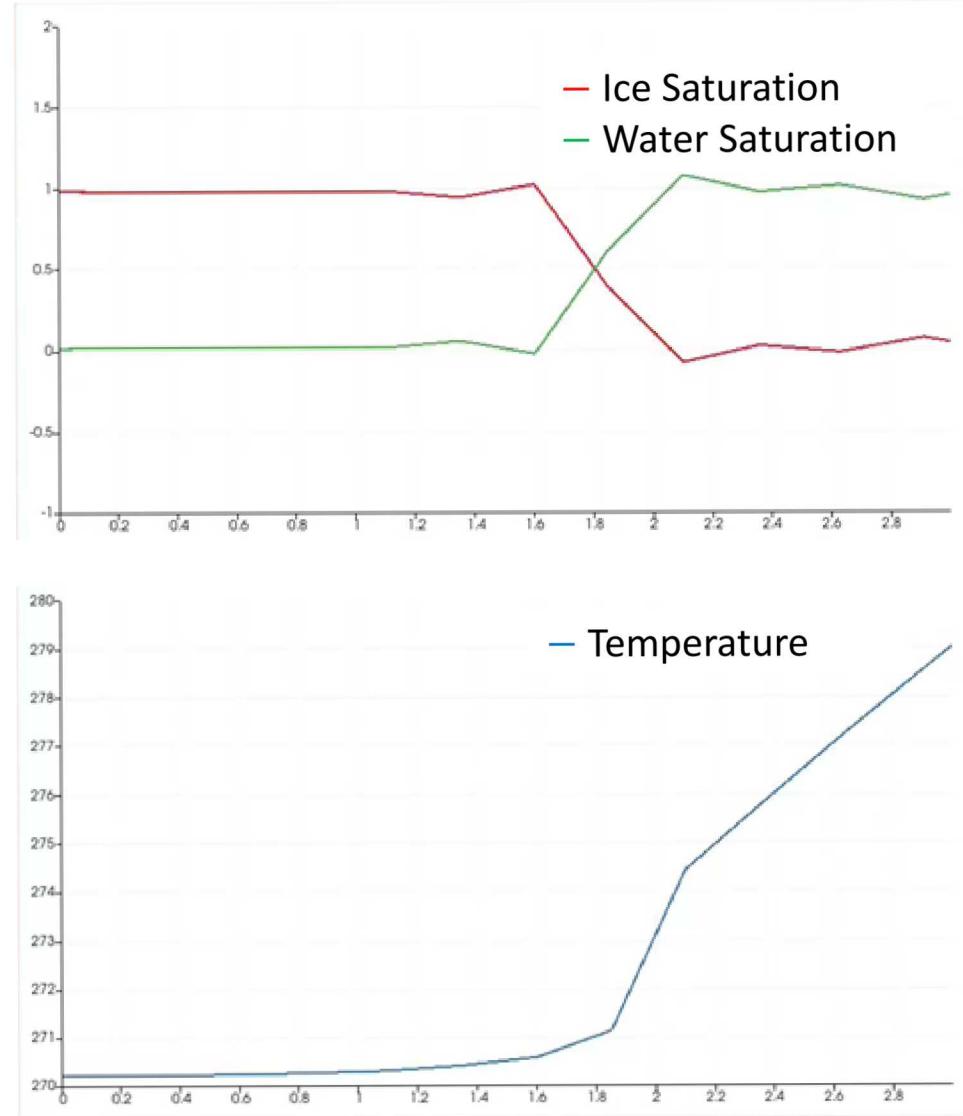
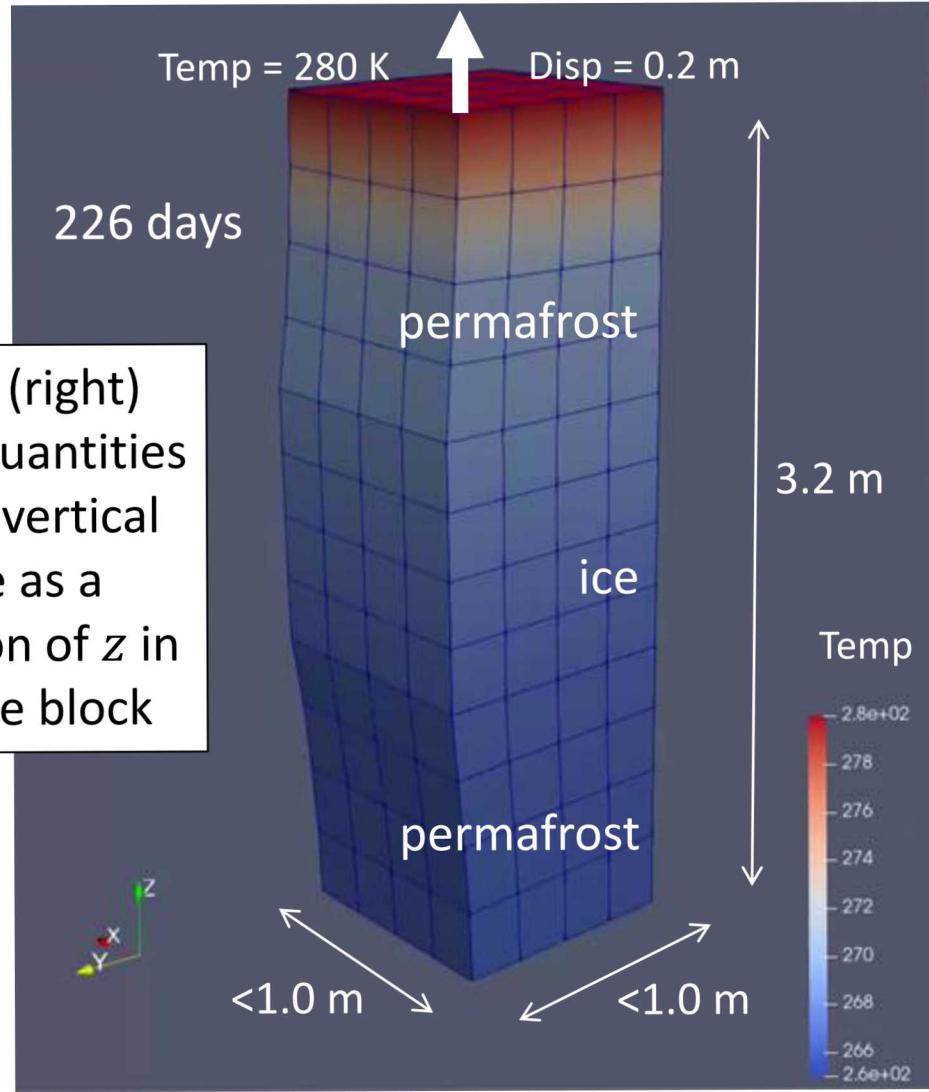
Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



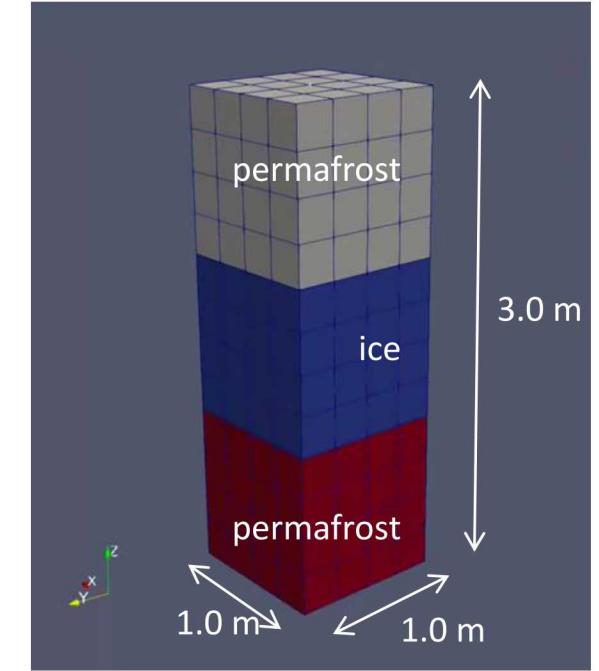
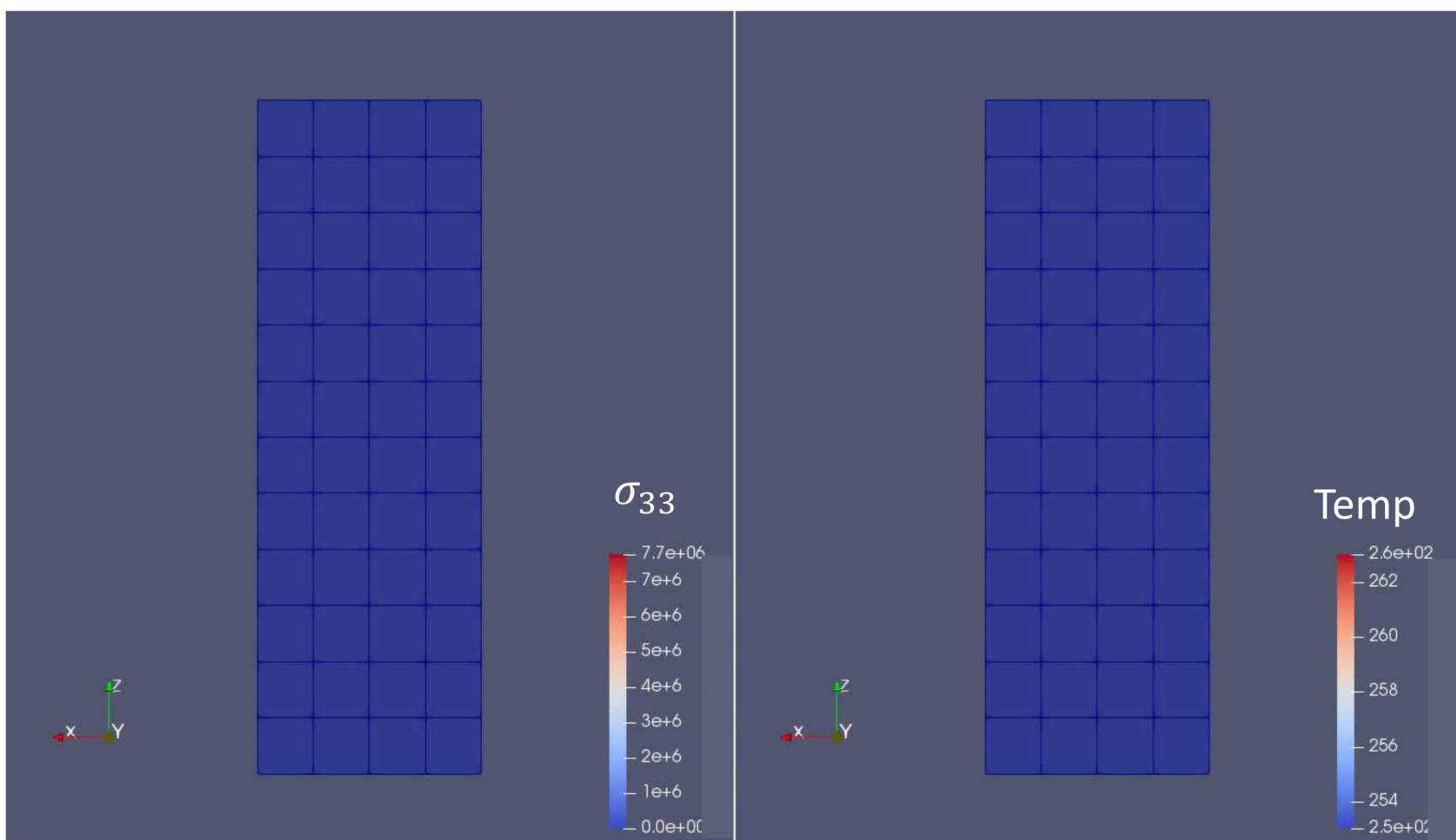
Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem

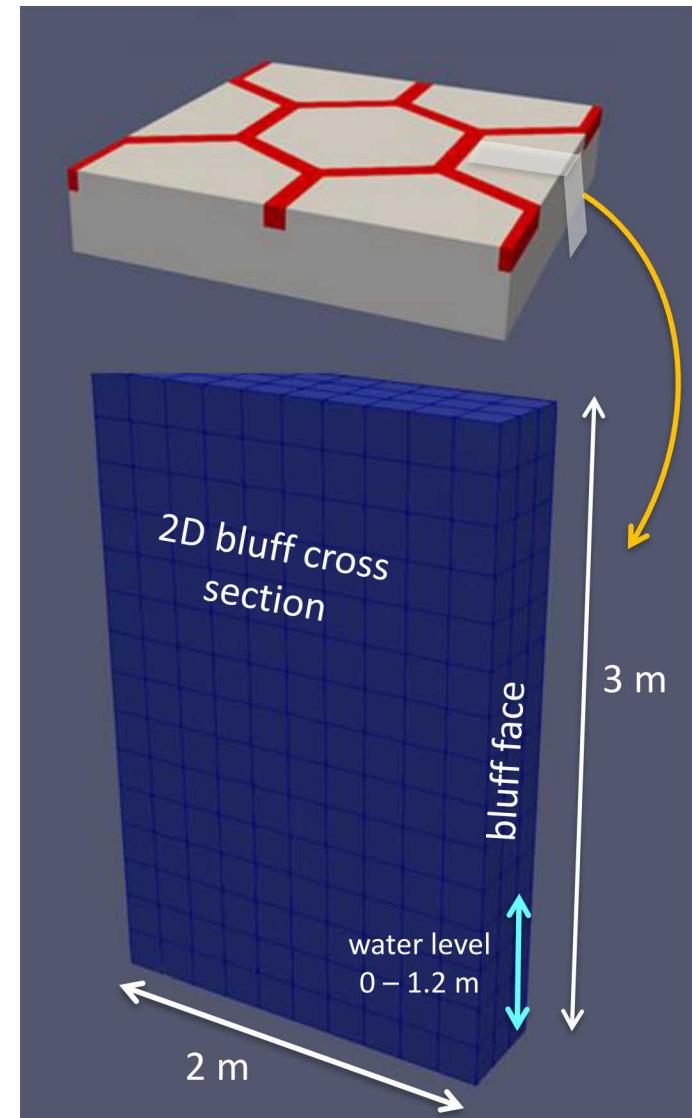
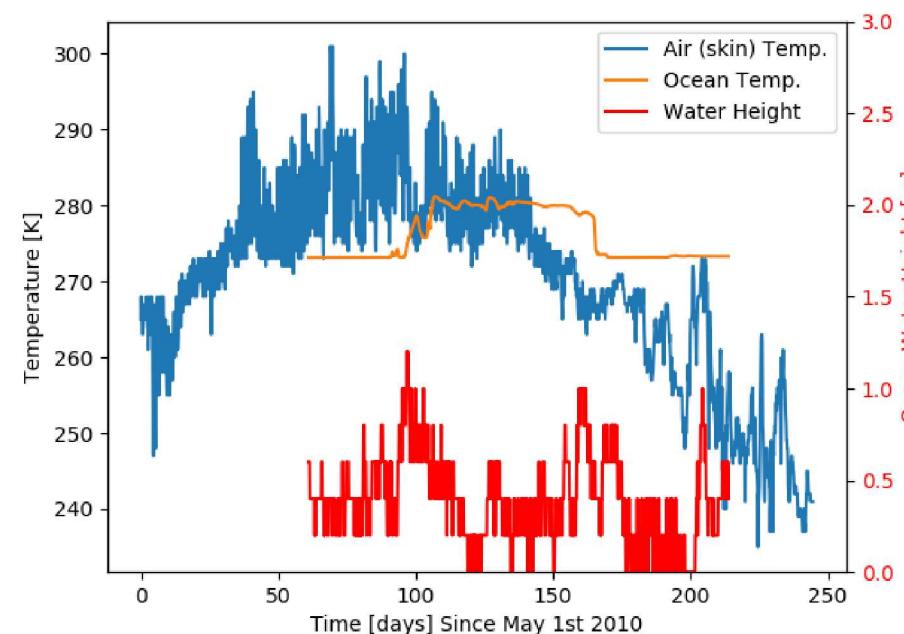


As cuboid is heated and stretched at top, heat propagates down, ***melting ice*** and causing ***failure***.

Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

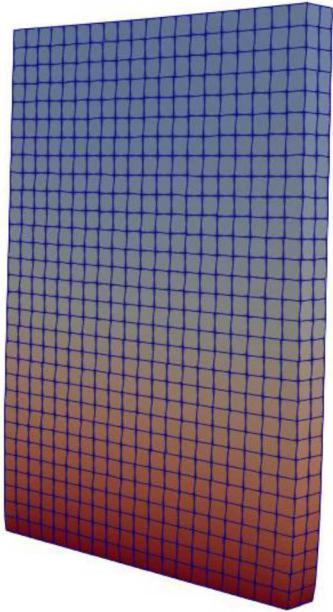
- Computational domain is **2.5D cross-section** of archetypal 3D bluff geometry
- Time period:** May-Dec. 2011
- Air (skin) temperature** from ASR dataset at 3hr resolution
- Ocean temp & height** from WW3+SWAN at 20 min resolution
- Ice-free period:** July-Oct.
- Material properties:**
from laboratory experiments

Our **initial verification study** uses real oceanic/atmospheric BC data but assumes material is **ice only**.

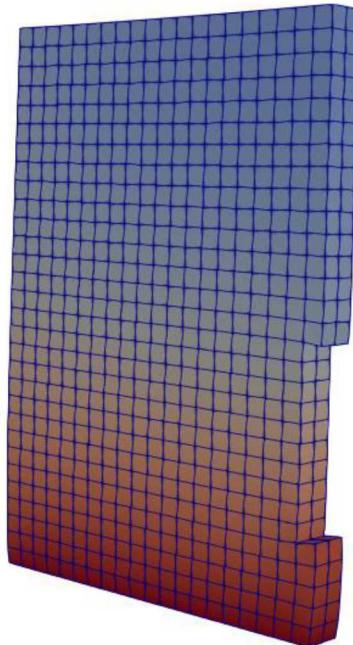


Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

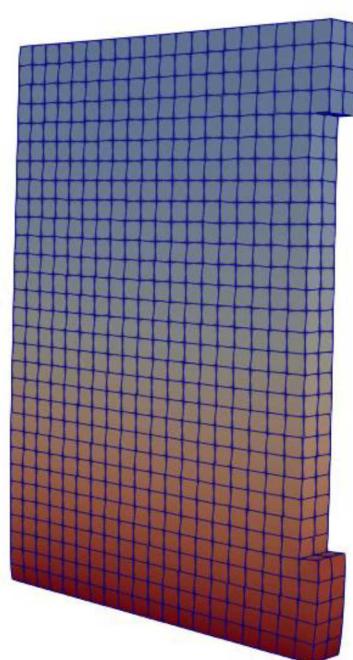
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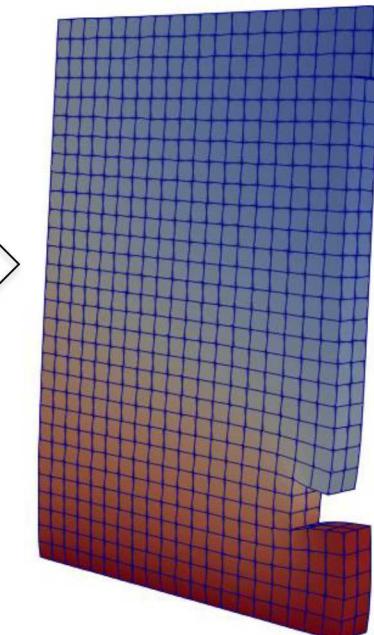
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Time: 1908781.816318



Time: 1919225.806941



Time: 1939519.010023

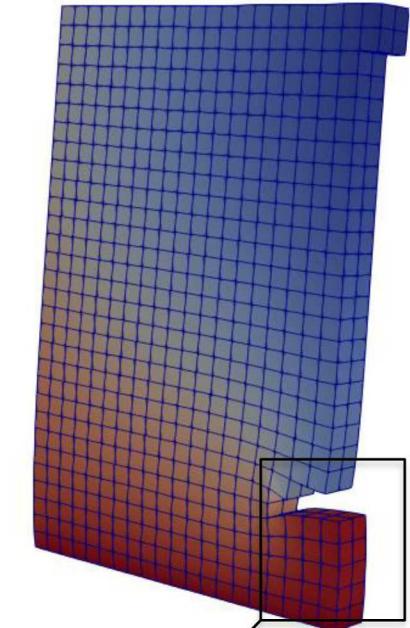
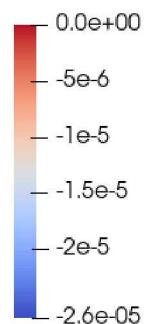
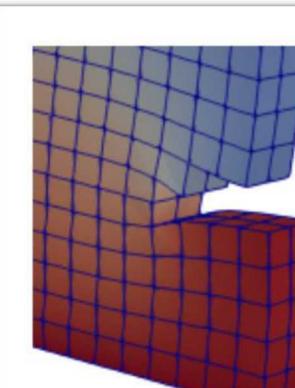


Figure above: z-displacement scaled 20K × for $h = 0.2$ m resolution mesh

Monolithic thermo-mechanical model simulates **~22 days** and performs **26 erosion steps**. Formation of small **niche** is observed.



Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

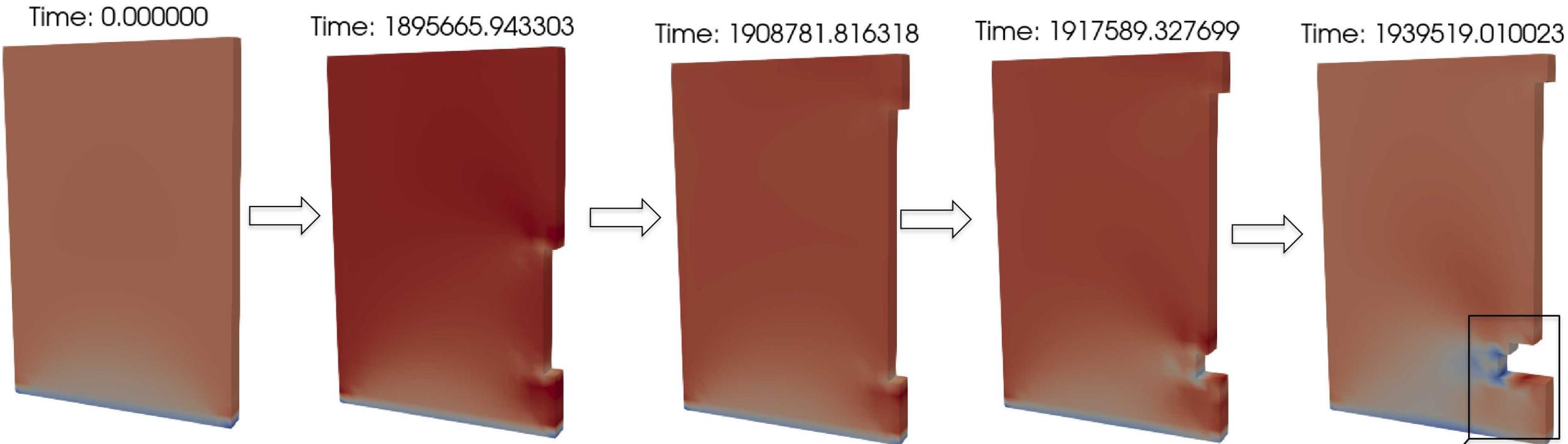
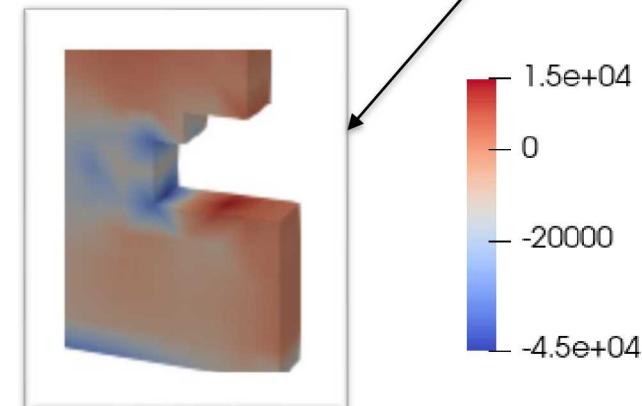


Figure above: σ_{xx} for $h = 0.2$ m resolution mesh

As erosion proceeds, highest **tensile stress** occurs around **corners**, suggesting this is where **cracks will initiate**.



Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

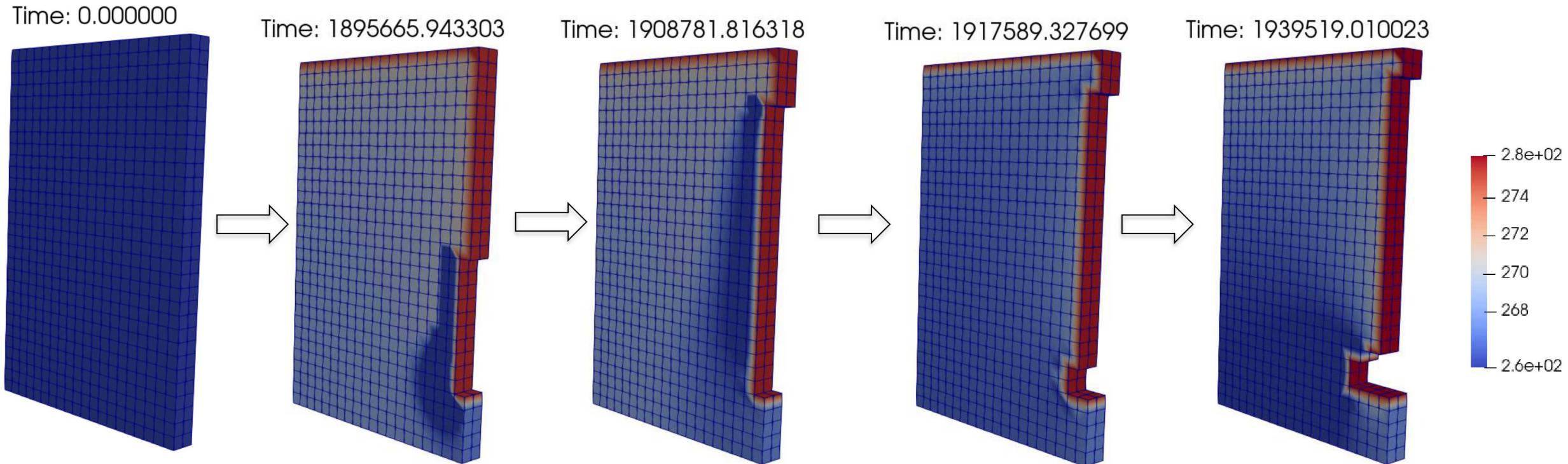


Figure above: temperature for $h = 0.2$ m resolution mesh

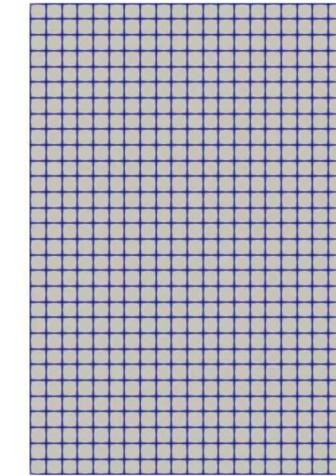
Atmospheric and oceanic **boundary conditions** are driving the **melting** of the ice

Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

Time: 0.000000

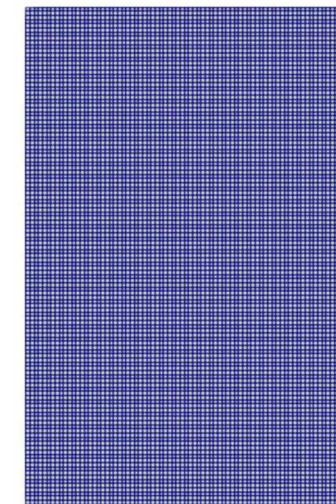
Some issues to resolve:

- Results are very ***mesh dependent***.
- For finer mesh resolutions, “***teeth patterns*** are observed in the eroded geometry.
 - These do not seem to be physical and need to be understood.
- Regardless of the mesh resolution, simulations ***do not make it past ~22 days***.
 - Nonlinear solver struggles and fails, likely due to large differences in scales between the mechanical and thermal equations.
 - ***Sequential thermo-mechanical*** coupling approach is expected to alleviate this difficulty.



$h = 0.2$
meters

Time: 0.000000



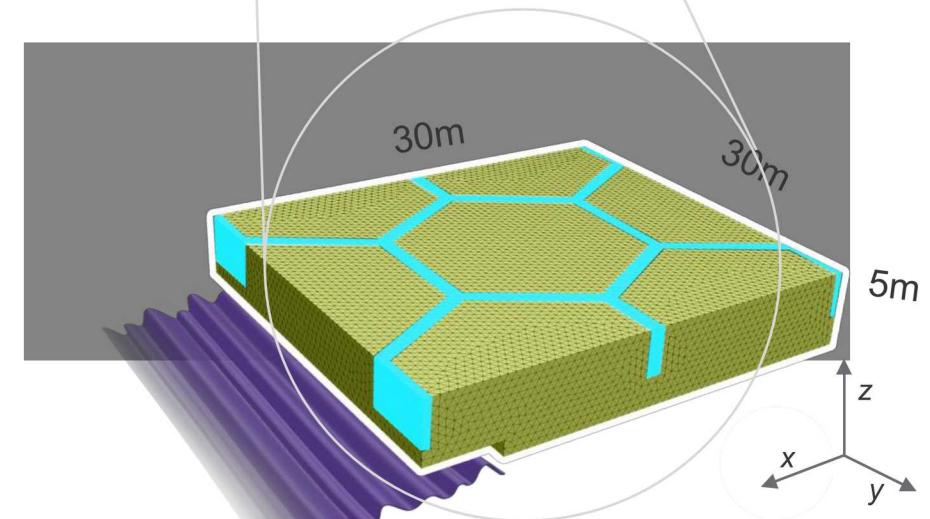
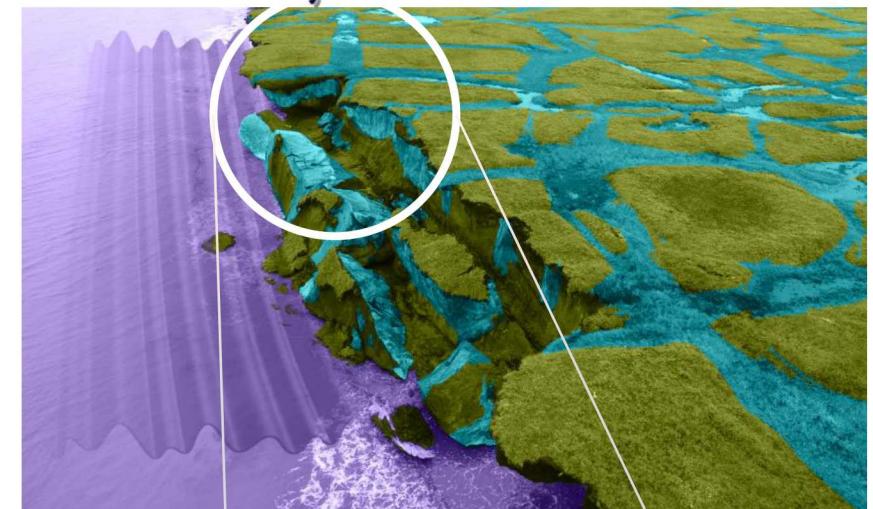
$h = 0.05$
meters

Outline

- Motivation and background
- The Arctic Coastal Erosion (ACE) project
- Thermo-mechanical finite element model of permafrost
- Numerical results
- **Summary**
- Ongoing/future work

Summary

- We have developed a ***thermo-mechanical*** coupled FEM model, ***ACE***, that can simulate ***transient niche development*** and ***permafrost erosion*** within Albany.
- The model was ***calibrated*** using data from a series of ***experiments*** on frozen soil samples from Drew Point, Alaska that were performed at SNL's Geomechanics Laboratory to estimate, as well as ***observational data*** collected at the same location.
- The model incorporates ***boundary conditions*** from the ***WW3+SWAN+Delft3D*** wave models and observational data from an August 2019 field campaign at Drew Point, Alaska.



Outline

- Motivation and background
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- Thermo-mechanical finite element model of permafrost
- Numerical results
- Summary
- **Ongoing/future work**

Ongoing/future work



Near term:

- Resolve ***numerical difficulties*** with ACE thermo-mechanical model.
 - ***Mitigating approach:*** sequential coupling between mechanics and thermal equations
- Integrate ***chemical transport*** into ACE model.
- ***Realistic erosion calculations*** using ACE model and Drew Point data.
- ***Tuning/sensitivity studies*** to determine sensitivity ranges at Drew Point.
- ***Validation*** runs to illustrate model skill using FY18-19 data from Drew Point.

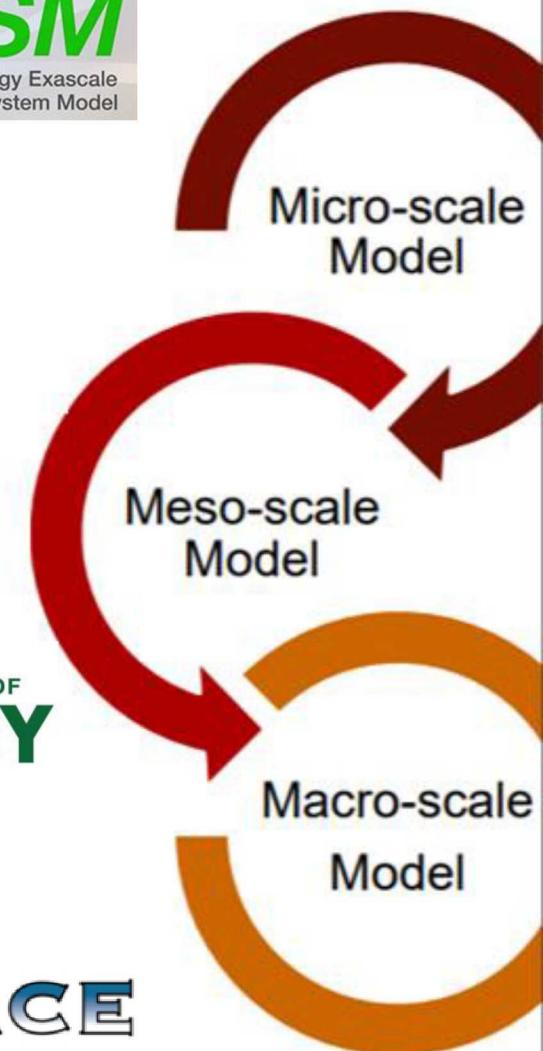


Longer term:

- Use ACE model to ***understand coastal processes*** in the ***Arctic***.
- Infer ***statistical meso-scale model*** and relevant ***physics-based parameterizations*** from ACE micro-model, towards integration into ESMs.
 - ACE is member of the newly-funded DOE sponsored ***InteRFACE project**** focused on coastal processes in Arctic.



INTERFACE



References

- [1] J. Frederick, M. Thomas, D. Bull, C. Jones, J. Robers. "The Arctic Coastal Erosion Problem". Sandia National Laboratories Report, SAND2016-9762, 2016.
- [2] A. Gibbs, B. Richmond. "National assessment of shoreline change – historical shoreline change along the north coast of Alaska, U.S.-Canadian border to Icy Cape". U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report, 2015-1048, 2015.
- [3] P. Martin *et al.* "Wildlife response to environmental Arctic change: predicting future habitats of Arctic Alaska". Report to WildREACH: Predicting Future Habitats of Arctic Alaska Workshop, Fairbanks, Alaska, 2008.
- [4] J. Brown and O. Ferrians and J. Heginbottom, E. Melnikov. "Circum-Arctic map of permafrost and ground conditions". Boulder, CO: National Snow and Ice Data Center, Digital Media, 1998.
- [5] H. Lantuit, W. Pollard. Fifty years of coastal erosion and retrogressive thaw slump activity on Herschel Island, southern Beaufort Sea, Yukon Territory, Canada. *Geomorphology*, 95, 84-102, 2008.
- [6] T. Ravens, B. Jones, J. Zhang, C. Arp, J. Schmutz. "Process-based coastal erosion modeling for Drew Point, North Slope, Alaska". *Journal of Waterway, Port, Coastal, and Ocean Engineering*, 138, 2, 122-130, 2012.
- [7] C. Koven, J. Riley, A. Stern. "Analysis of permafrost thermal dynamics and response to climate change in the CMIP5 Earth system models". *J Climate*, 26, 1877-2900, 2009.
- [8] M. Thomas, A. Mota, B. Jones, C. Choens, J. Frederick, D. Bull. "Bluff geometry and material properties influence stress rates relevant to coastal permafrost block failure". *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences* (in press).
- [9] A. Mota, J. Frederick, D. Bull, I. Tezaur. "Thermo-chemo-mechanical coupling for Arctic Coastal Erosion", in preparation



Research Team

SNL: D. Bull (PI), J. Frederick, A. Mota, C. Choens, I. Tezaur, L. Criscenti

USGS: M. Thomas, B. Jones

UAF: J. Kasper, E. Brown

Integral Consulting: C. Jones, C. Flanary

UTMSI: J. McClelland, E. Bristol, C. Connolly



Acknowledgements

Start of Backup Slides

Potential impacts

- **3D model** capable of predicting erosion from the material's constitutive relationships capturing all types of **deformation (block & denudation)** leading to:
 - **Data-driven** understanding of the characteristics that cause erosion
 - A tool to guide **military and civil infrastructure** investments
 - An improved understanding of **coastal food web impacts** and **carbon-climate feedbacks**
- **Redistributed eroded sediment** in the environment enables:
 - Prediction of deposition locations
 - Estimates of fluxes (biogeochemical, toxins, etc.)

Approach for moving from mechanistic micro-scale to stochastic meso-scale model sets stage for **integration into global climate models** built upon parametric analyses of input variables

PC: Andrew Burton, NPR



Oceanography in Mechanistic Model

WW3

Development of wave field in the Arctic to develop nearshore BCs

- surface winds
- ice cover
- temperature (surface and ocean)
- solar radiation
- persistent currents

SWAN

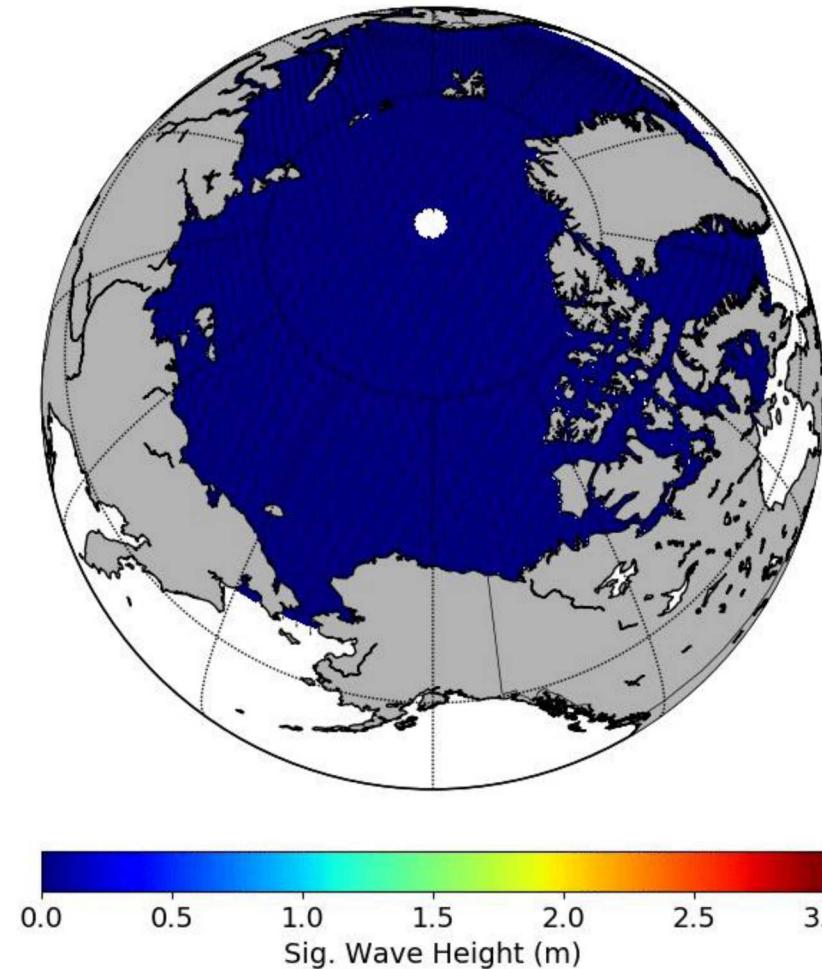
Wave set-up conditions 2-way coupled with circulation

- high resolution near shore environment
- capture set-up (storm surge and runup)
- wave energy inclusive of induced current effects

Delft3D

Circulation and thermodynamic mixing 2-way coupled with waves

- ability to model mixing of temperature and salinity clines
- capture induced currents in nearshore

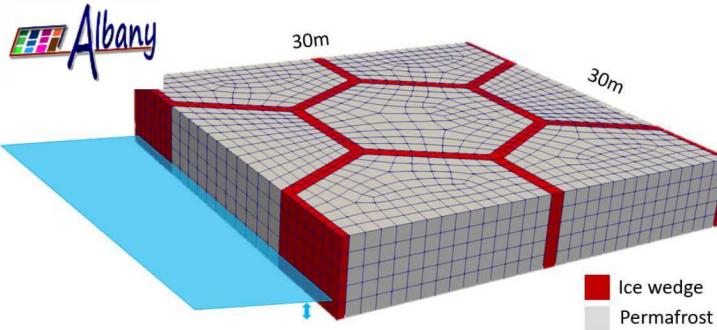


■ Potential Key Advances

- Inclusion of ice coverage for fetch limited wave growth
- Knowledge of wave energy along broad coastline
- Set-up determination inclusive of bathymetry and wave energy
- Ability to accurately predict temperature at bluff face through mixing of clines in the ocean

WW3 polar stereographic model initially developed by NRL (Erick Rogers) and NOAA (Arun Chawla)

Multi-scale approach



Micro-Scale Model

10's of meters & storm duration

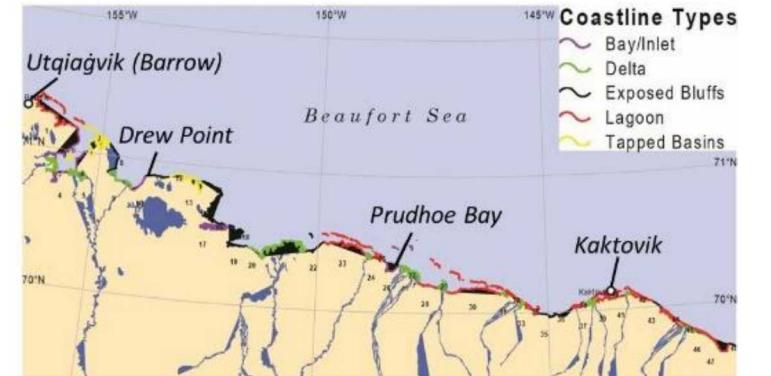
One set of input variables defining the geomorphology and geophysics of the terrestrial model.



Meso-Scale Model

10's of kilometers & monthly duration

A number of micro-scale models that represent the stochastic distributions of input variables along a confined coastline.



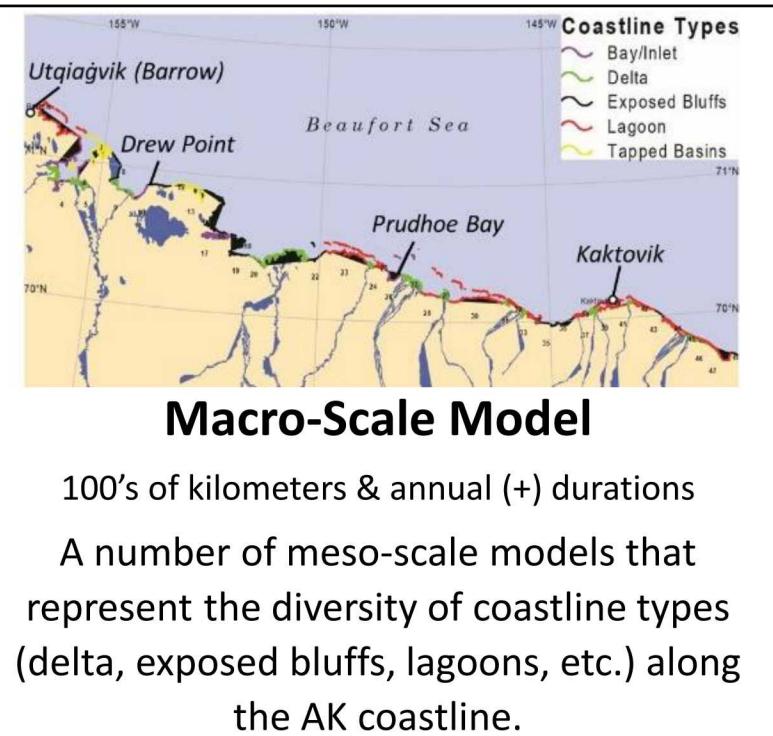
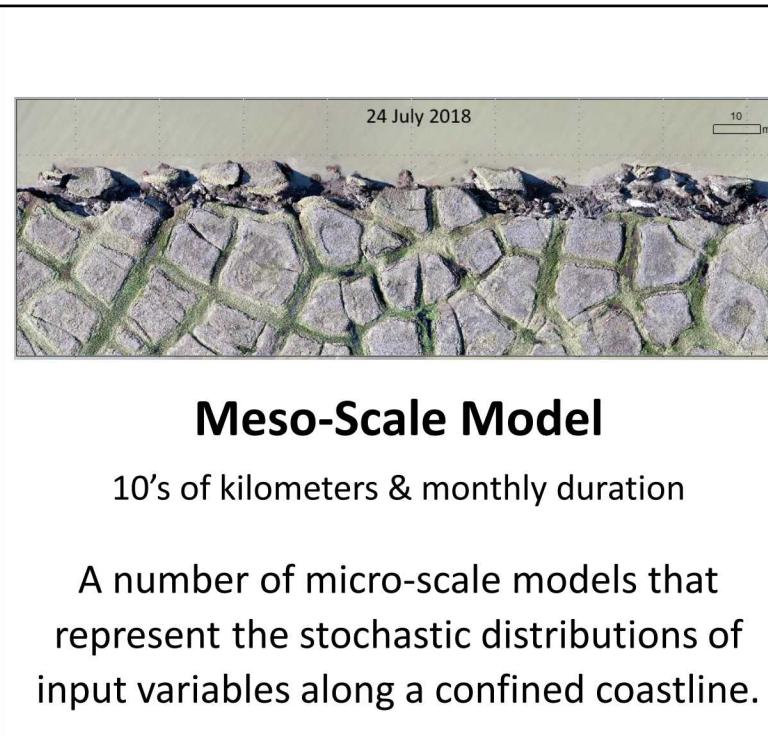
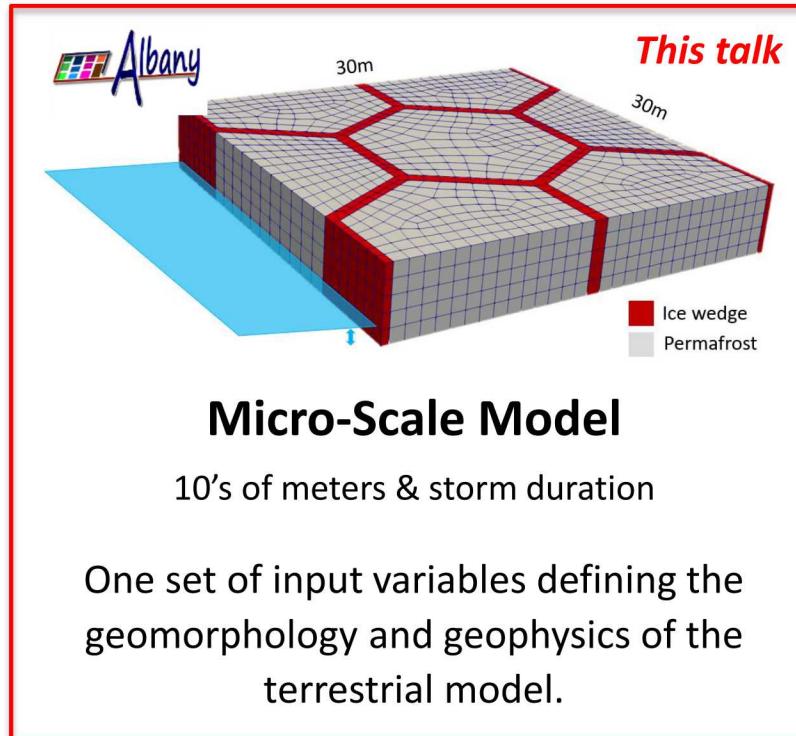
Macro-Scale Model

100's of kilometers & annual (+) durations

A number of meso-scale models that represent the diversity of coastline types (delta, exposed bluffs, lagoons, etc.) along the AK coastline.

- Working towards a series of fully coupled studies to determine **terrestrial model sensitivities to:**
 - Height of water on bluff face
 - Exposure time of bluff face to water
 - Temperature of water
 - Salinity of water

Multi-scale approach



- Working towards a series of fully coupled studies to determine **terrestrial model sensitivities to:**
 - Height of water on bluff face
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