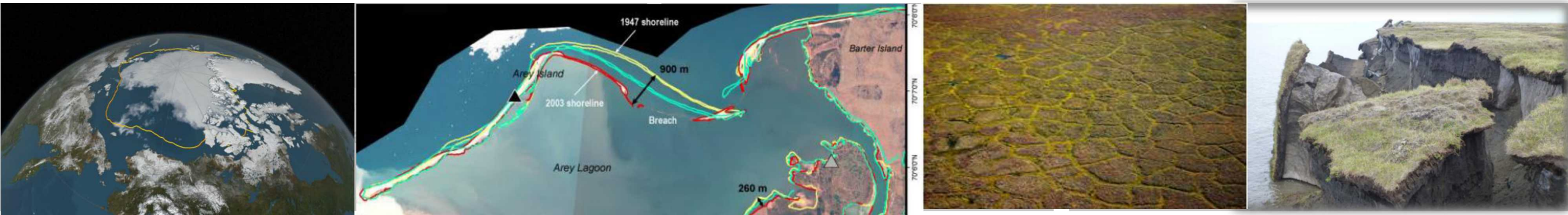


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



## 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.

# 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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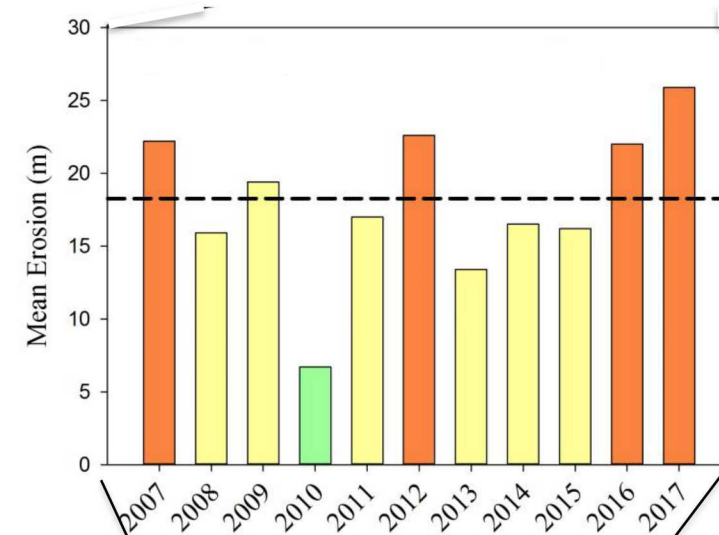
# Motivation

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

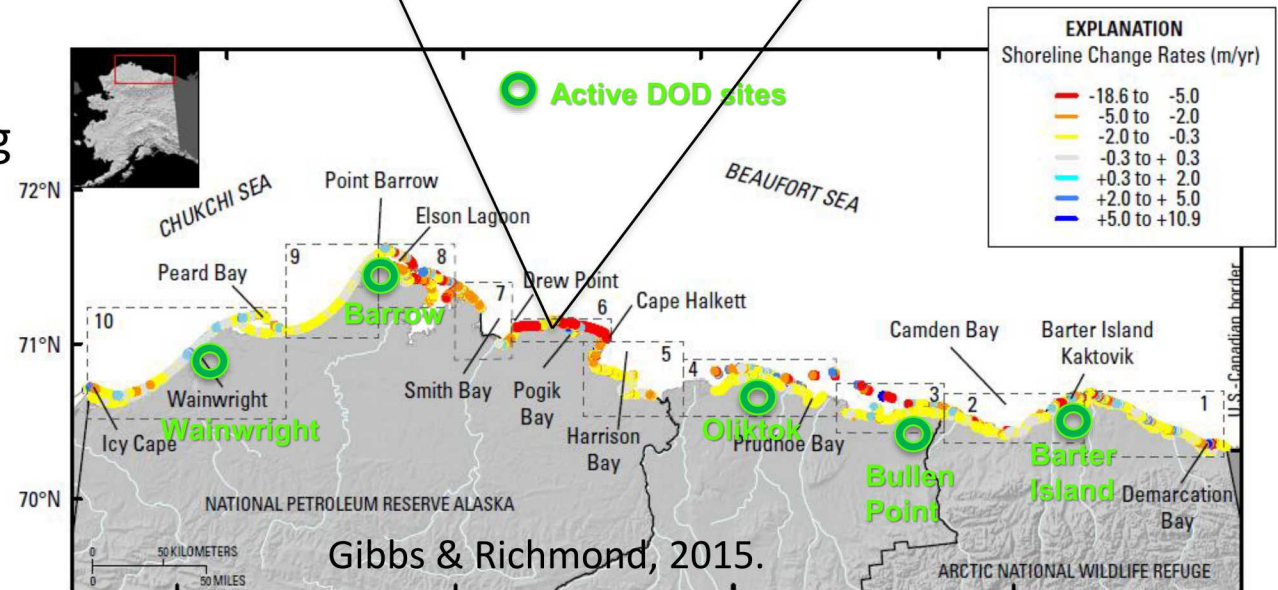
- Since 1979 **sea-ice** has lost 51% in area and 75% in volume
  - Increasing **ice-free season**
  - Increasing **wave energy** and **storm surge**
- Increasing **sea water** temperatures
- Warming **permafrost**
  - **Coastal erosion rates** in Alaskan Arctic among the **highest** in the world and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

## *Erosion is threatening:*

- Coastal infrastructure
- Nearshore ecological stability
- Global carbon balance



~200 m (~2 football fields in length) in a decade!

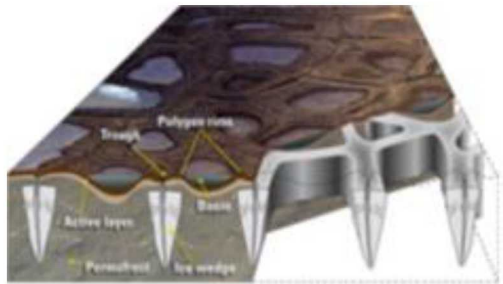




# Permafrost erosion

## 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.

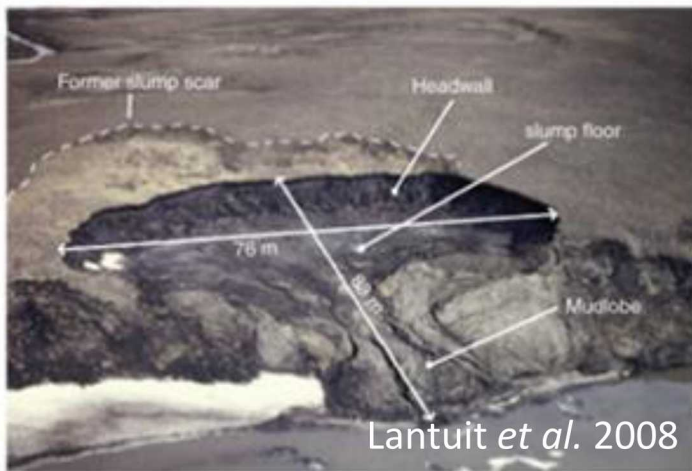
## Unique coastal permafrost erosion process in Arctic:

- 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

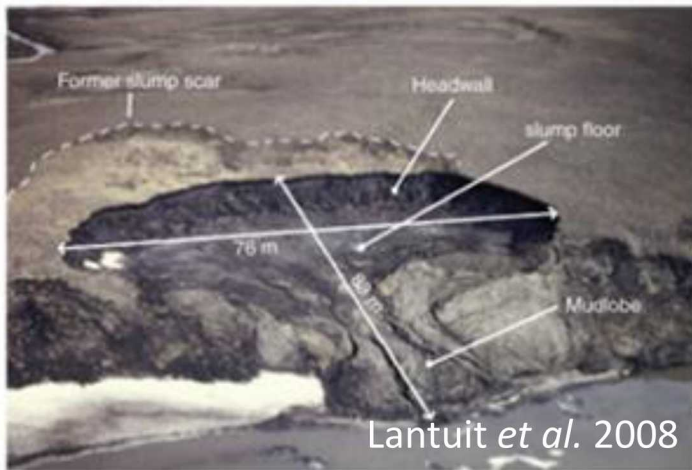


\* Subaerial erosion triggered by thawing of permafrost bluffs that proceeds under the influence of gravity.



# Permafrost failure mechanisms

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Retrogressive thaw slumping



Active layer detachment



Block failure

**Dominant failure mechanism  
in northern Alaska**



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



# Example of bluff erosion during 2019 UAV surveys\*



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

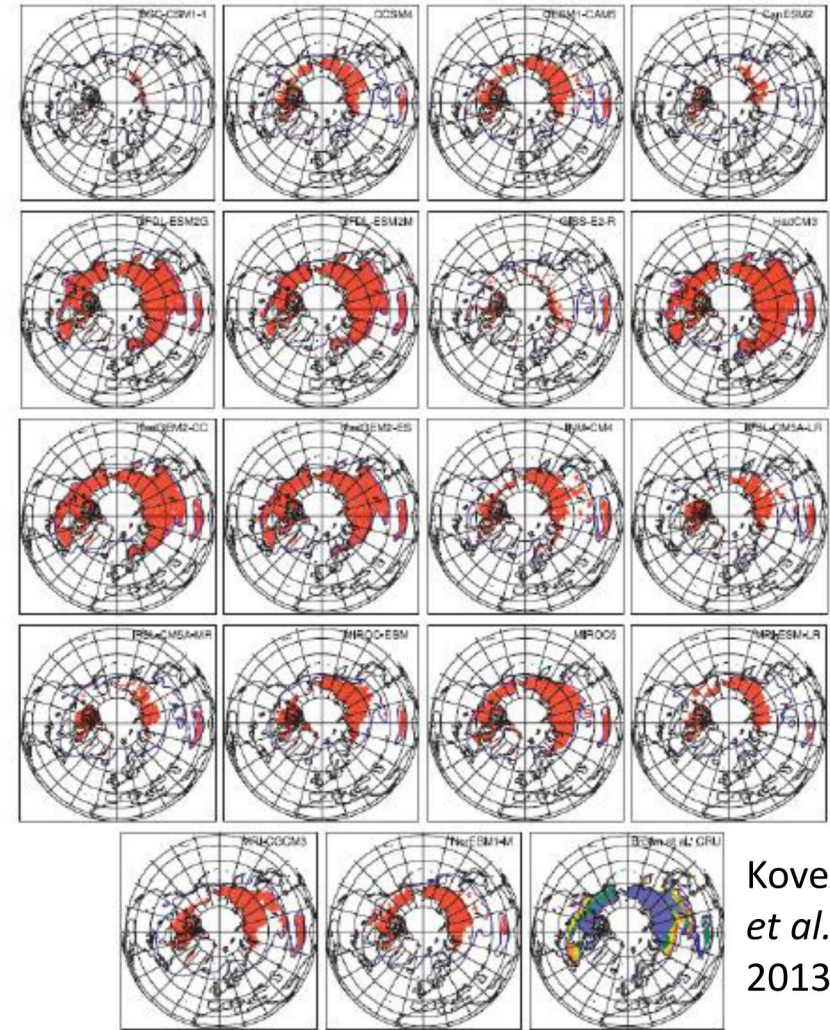
\*Images courtesy of Ben  
Jones, UAF



# 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**.



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

\* See (Frederick *et al.* 2016), Chapter 5, for extensive overview.

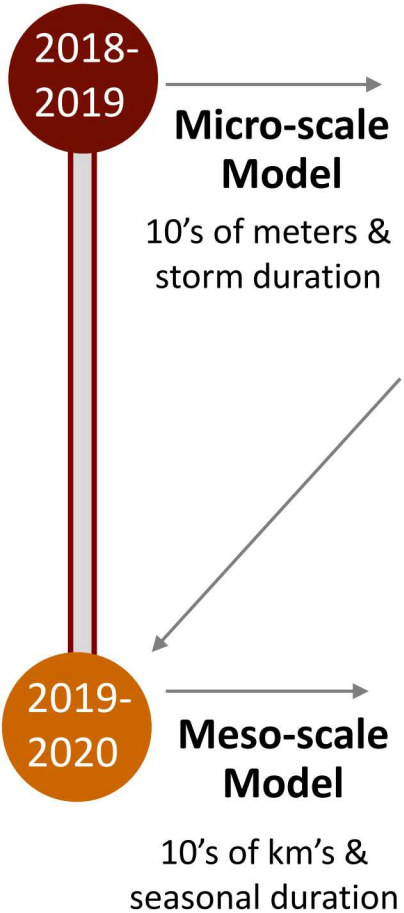
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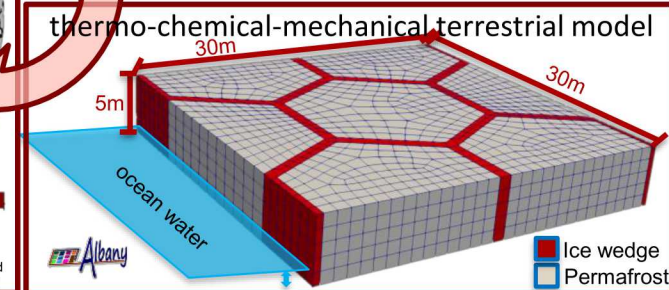
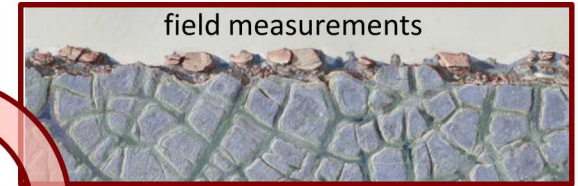
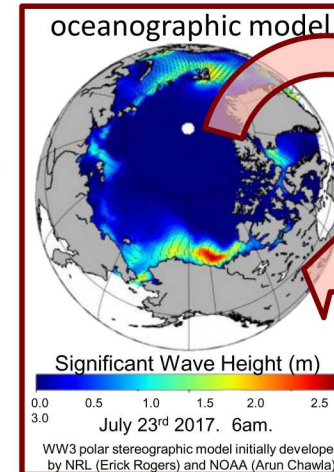
# Proposed solution

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

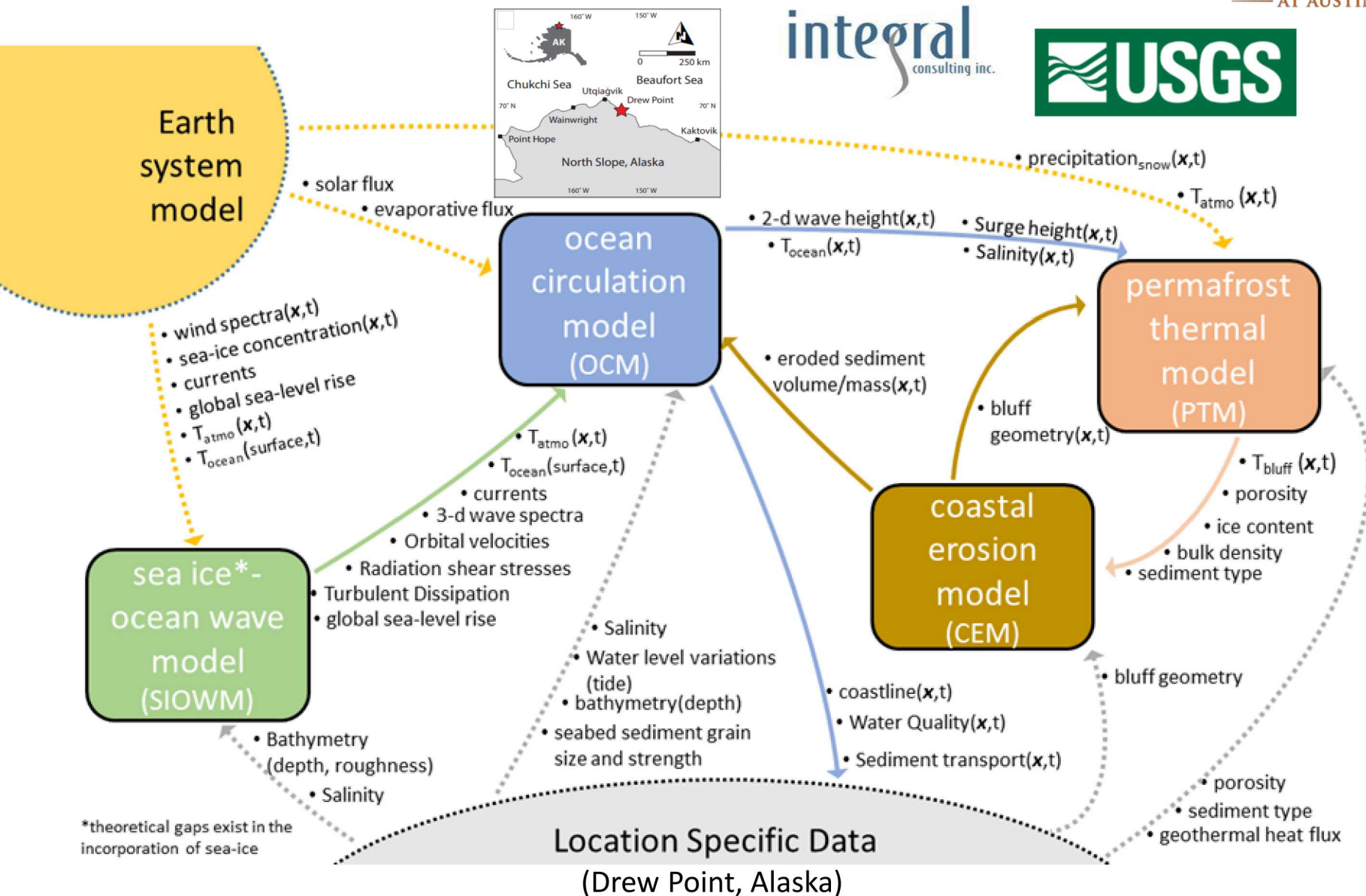
## This talk



- 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

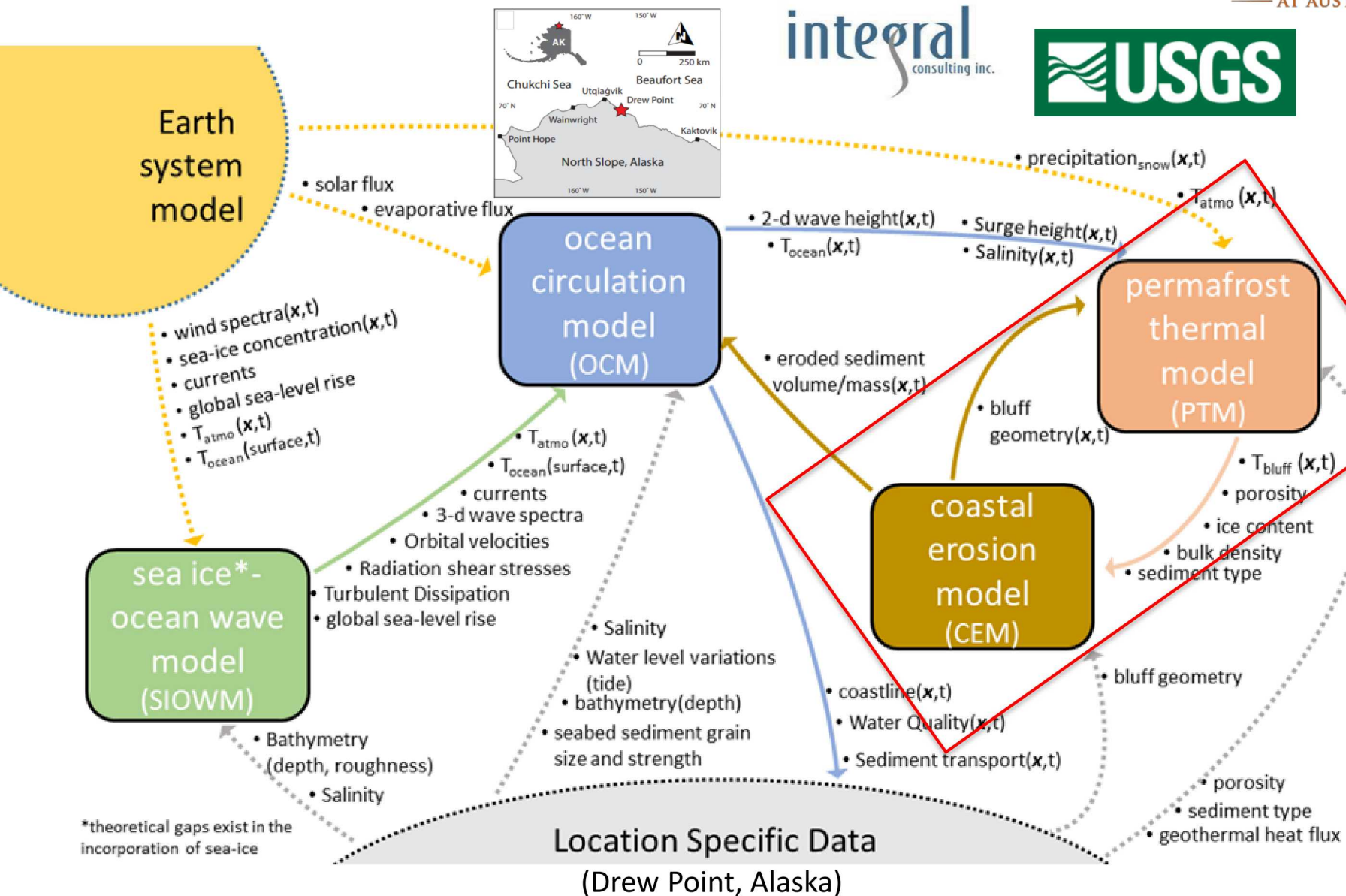


**ACE project has many pieces!**

- **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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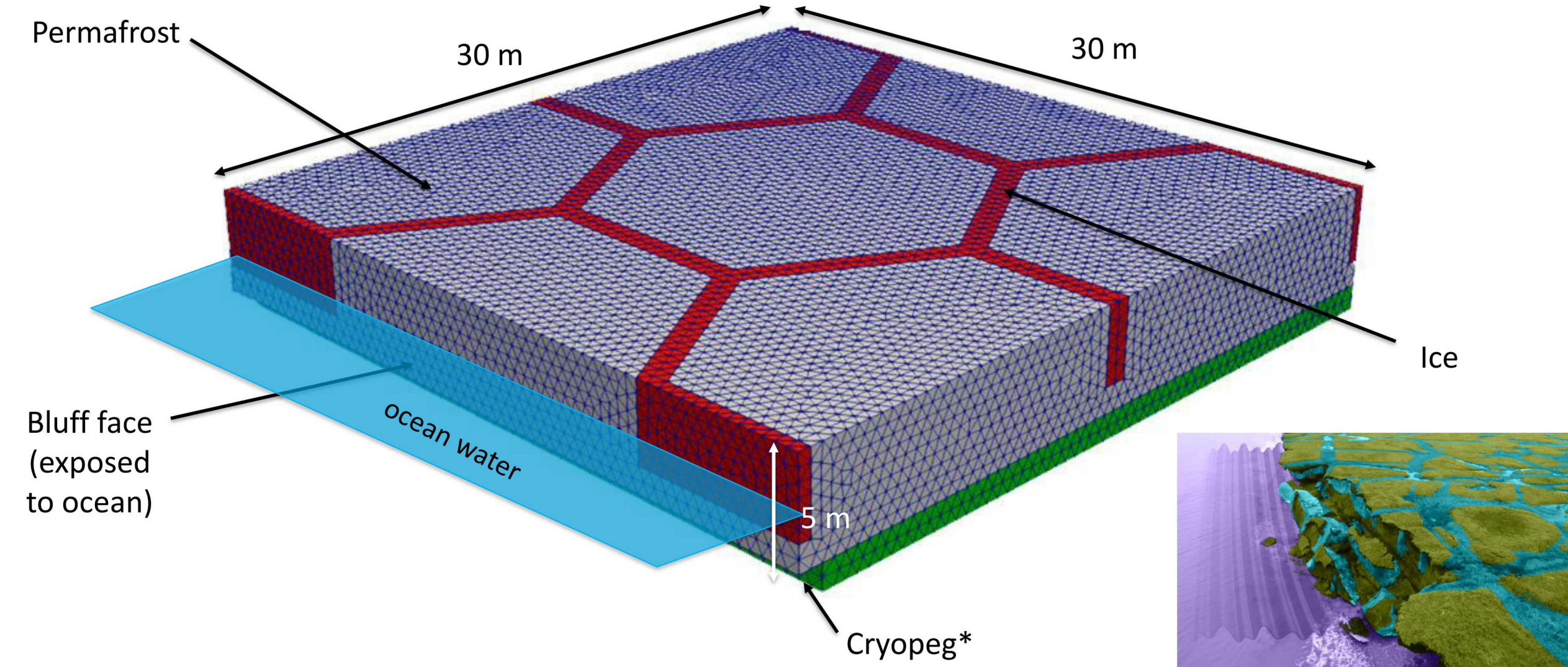
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# Anatomy of a canonical computational domain



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



# Mechanical model

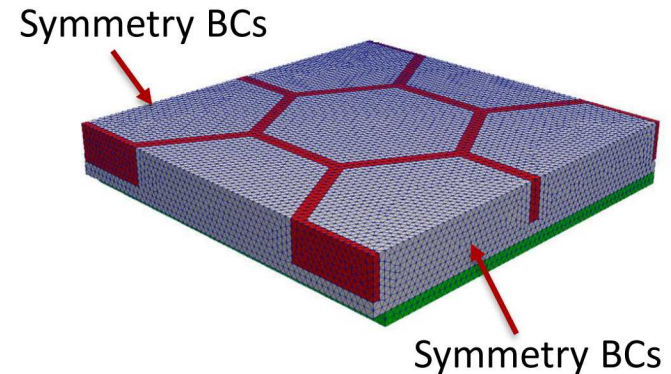
- Finite deformation variational formulation for ***solid mechanics problem*** obtained by minimizing the energy functional :

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

$A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z})$ : Helmholtz free-energy density  
 $\mathbf{Z}$ : material variables  
 $\mathbf{F}$ : deformation gradient ( $\nabla \boldsymbol{\varphi}$ )  
 $\rho$ : 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

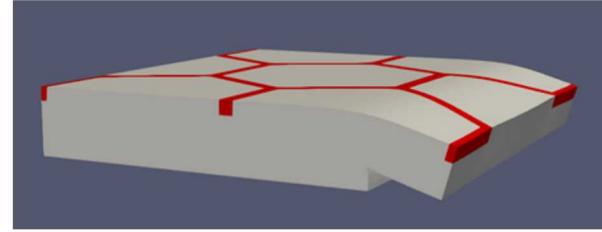
$f$ : ice saturation ( $\in [0,1]$ )  
 $\sigma_Y^{\text{soil}} / \sigma_Y^{\text{ice}}$ : yield stress of soil/ice  
 $S_s / S_f$ : soil/ice volume fraction





# Erosion failure criteria

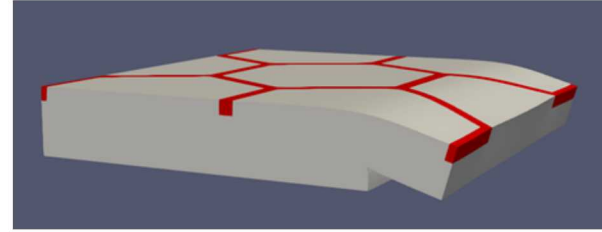
- **Erosion criterion:** when material exposed to water reaches a critical exposure time.
- **Stress criterion:** when material reaches a critical value of the stress.
- **Kinematic criterion:** when material has tilted excessively, it is assumed to have fallen as part of block erosion.



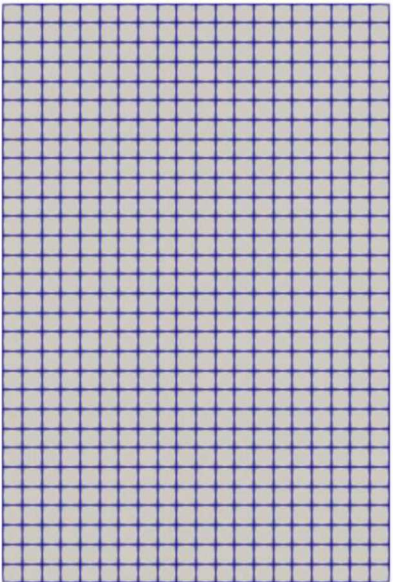
Once **failure criterion** is reached, “failed” elements are **removed** from mesh.

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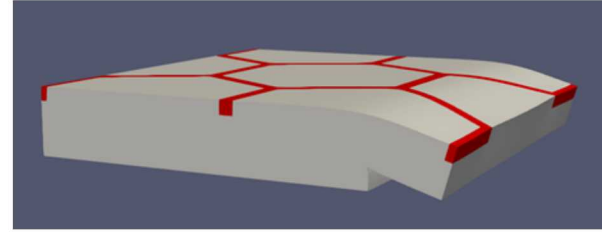
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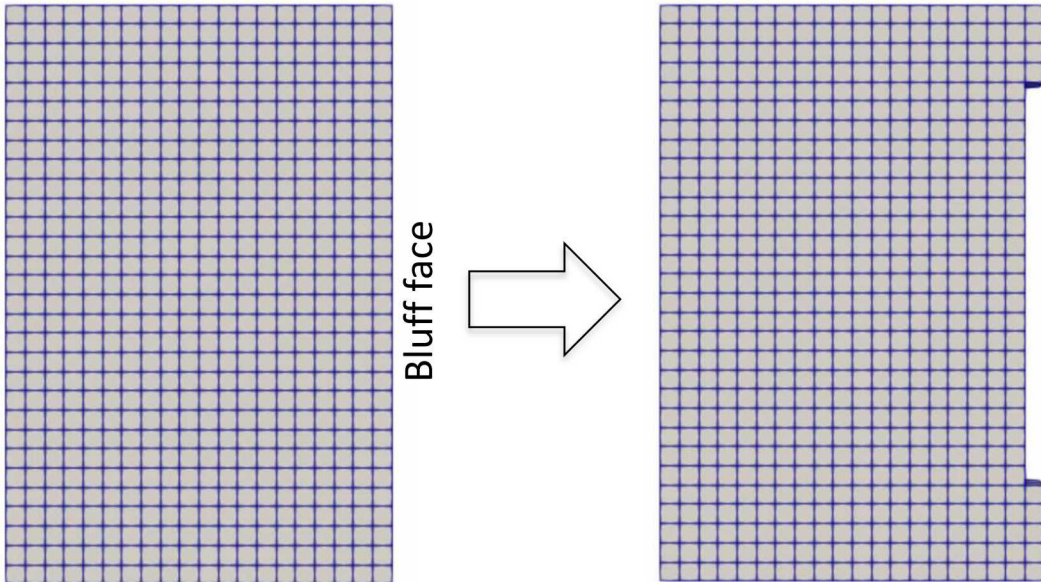
Bluff face

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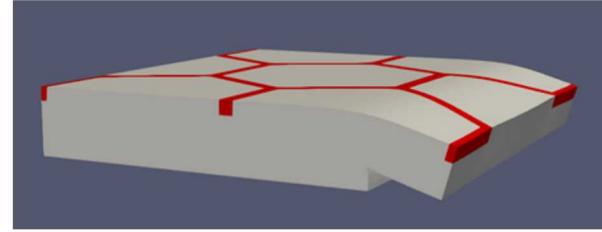
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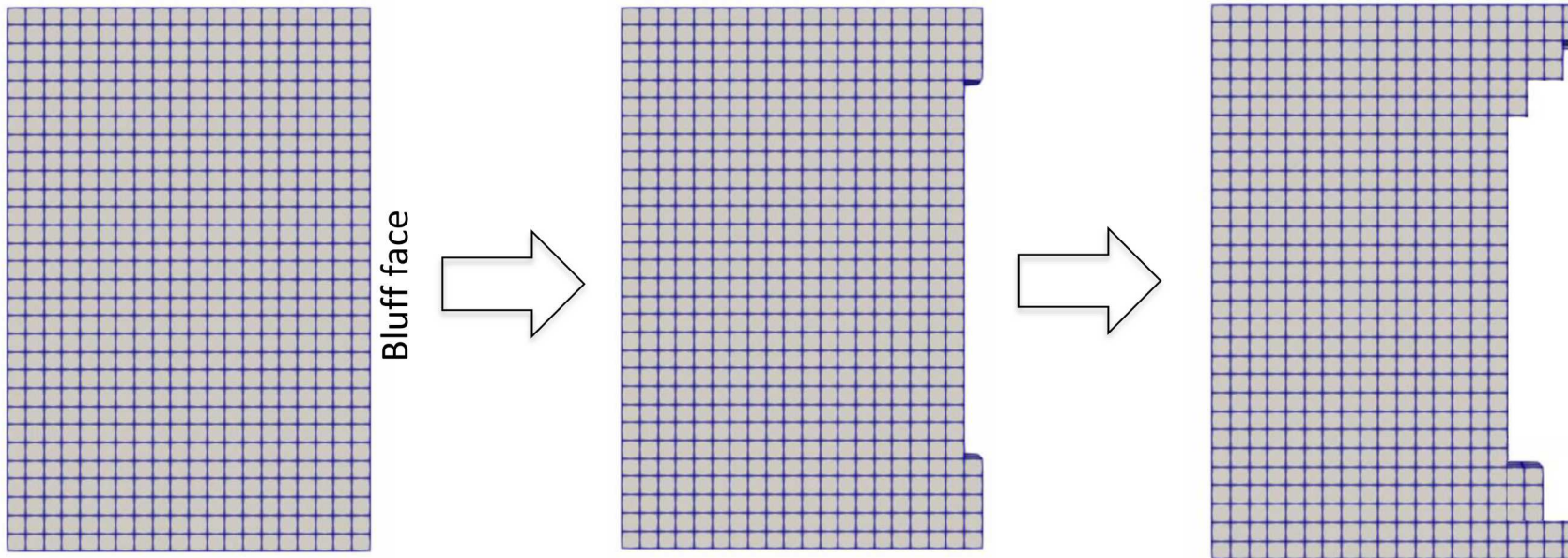


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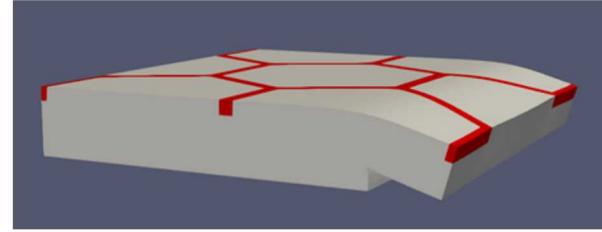
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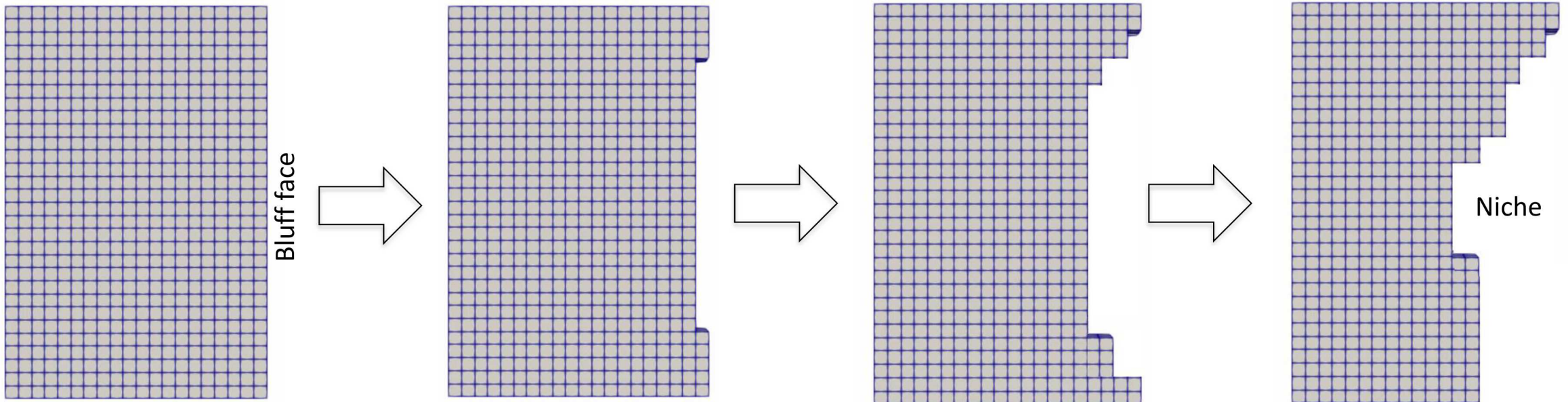


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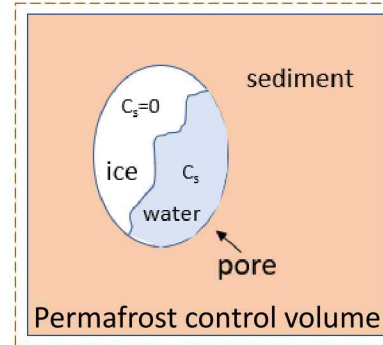


# Thermal model

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

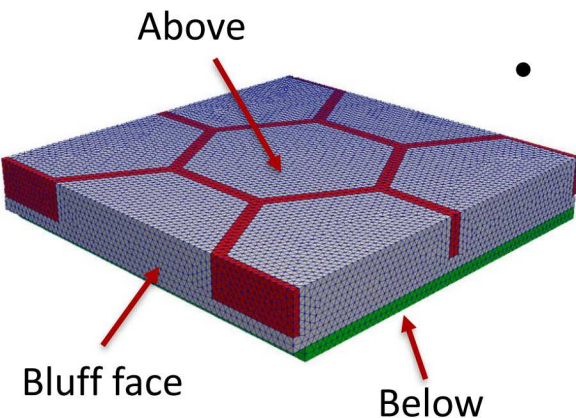
$$(\overline{\rho c_p} + \tilde{\Theta}) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{K} \cdot \nabla T)$$

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



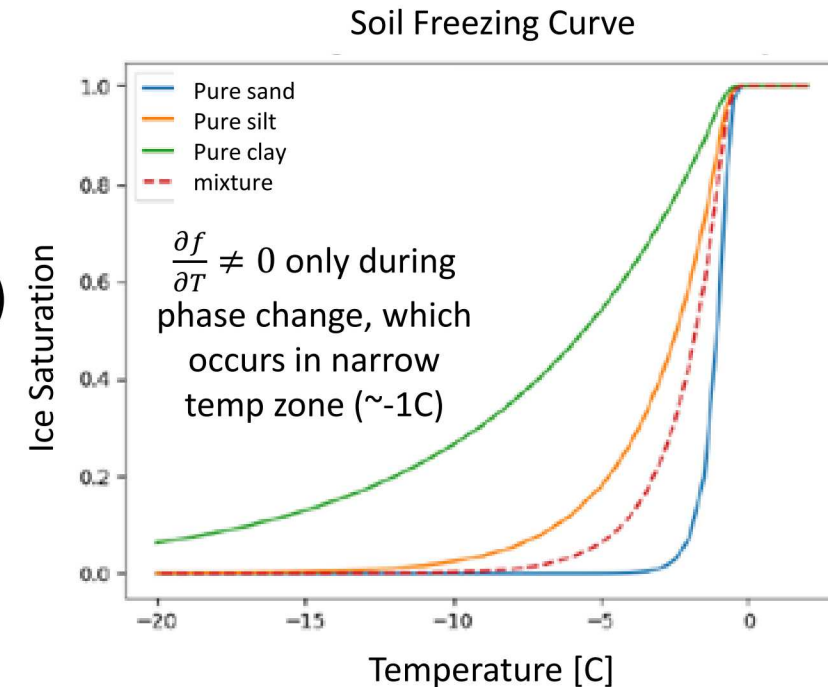
$\bar{\rho}$ : density from mixture model  
 $\bar{c_p}$ : specific heat from mixture model  
 $\mathbf{K}$ : thermal diffusivity tensor  
 $\rho_f$ : ice density  
 $L_f$ : latent heat of water-ice phase change  
 $f$ : ice saturation ( $\in [0,1]$ )  
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T}$ : soil freezing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

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



- **Boundary conditions** (from ocean model/data)

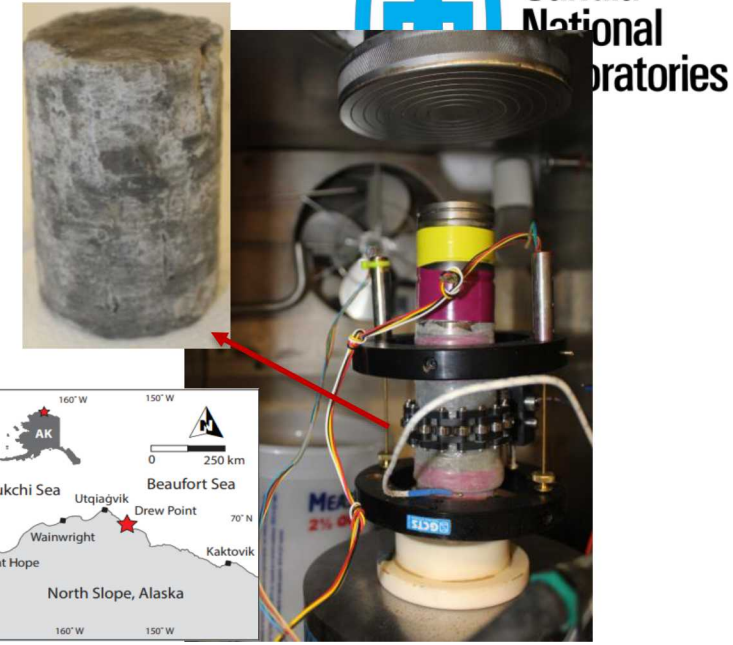
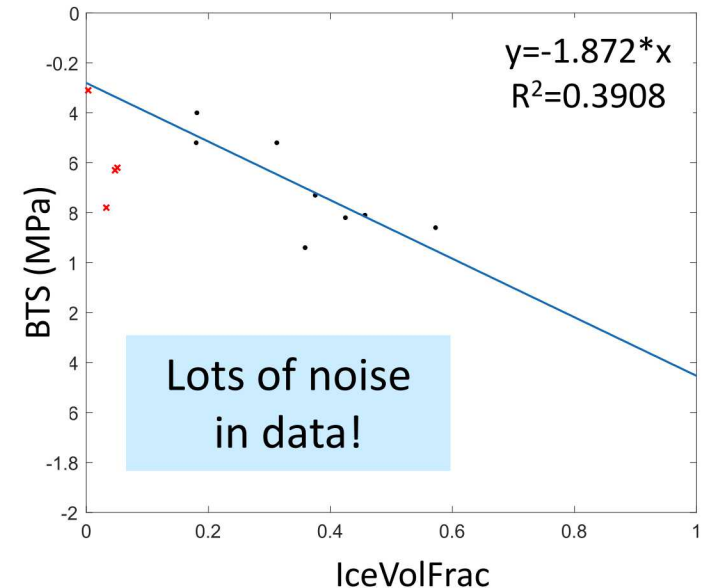
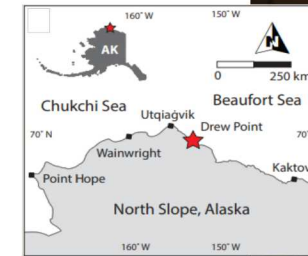
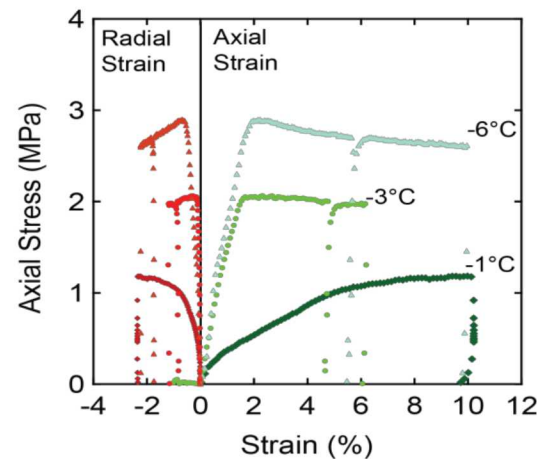
- Local geothermal heat flux from below
- Mean annual air temp from above
- Air/ocean temp at bluff face





# 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** (UCS<sup>1</sup>, BTS<sup>2</sup>, DT<sup>3</sup>) 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%



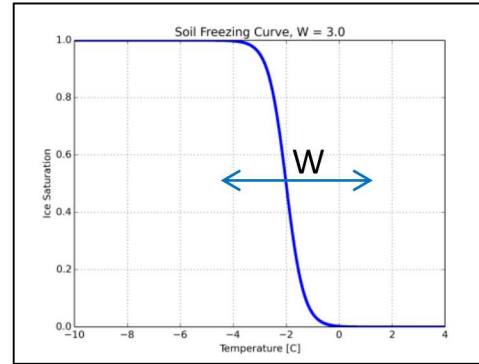
# Parameters & inputs

## ***Parameters estimated from laboratory data:***

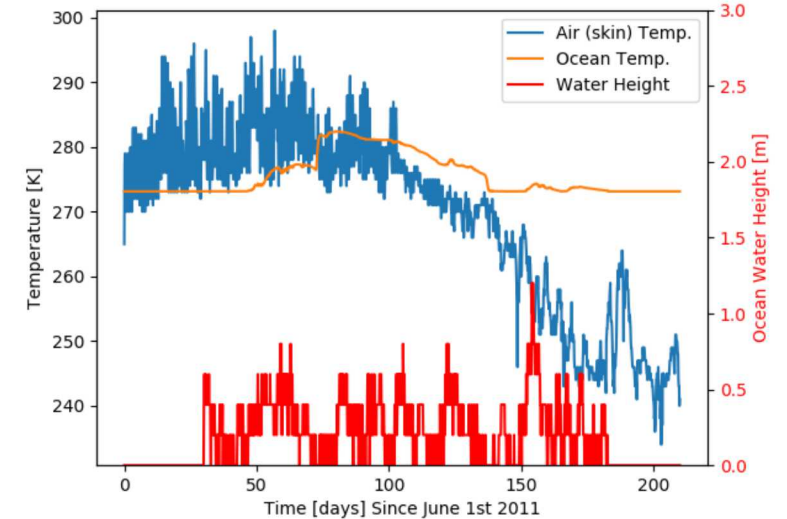
- Elastic modulus, Poisson's ratio, yield strength
- Sand/silt/clay fractions with depth
- Porosity with depth

## ***Parameters from literature:***

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



BC Data for Drew Point



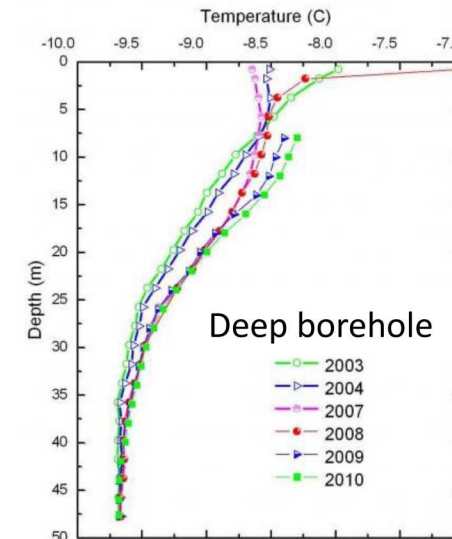
## ***Parameters estimated from observational data at Drew Point, AK:***

- 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)

 integral consulting inc.



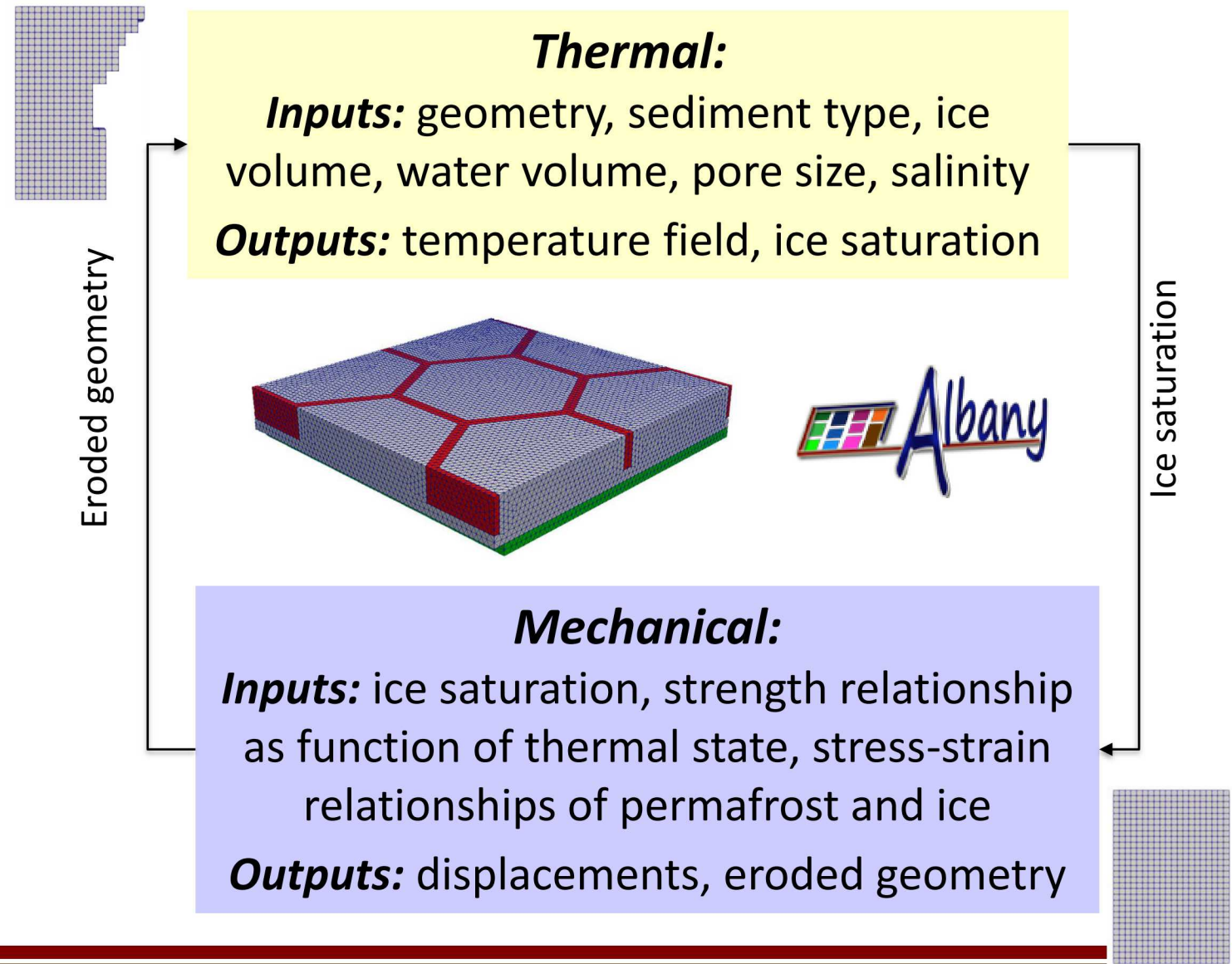


# Coupled thermo-mechanical formulation

## *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



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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***.



<https://github.com/SNLComputation/LCM>

- ***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/trilinos/trilinos>



# Mechanics-only simulation\*

*Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*  
Confidential Draft Manuscript

## **Bluff geometry and material properties influence stress states**

### **relevant to coastal permafrost block failure**

*Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*

Special Issue:

*Observations, Interactions, and Implications*

*of Increasingly Dynamic Permafrost Coastal Systems*

Matthew A. Thomas<sup>1\*</sup>, Alejandro Mota<sup>2</sup>, Benjamin M. Jones<sup>3</sup>, R. Charles Choens<sup>2</sup>, Jennifer M.

Frederick<sup>2</sup>, & Diana L. Bull<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Geological Survey, Geologic Hazards Science Center, Golden, CO 80401

<sup>2</sup>Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM 87185

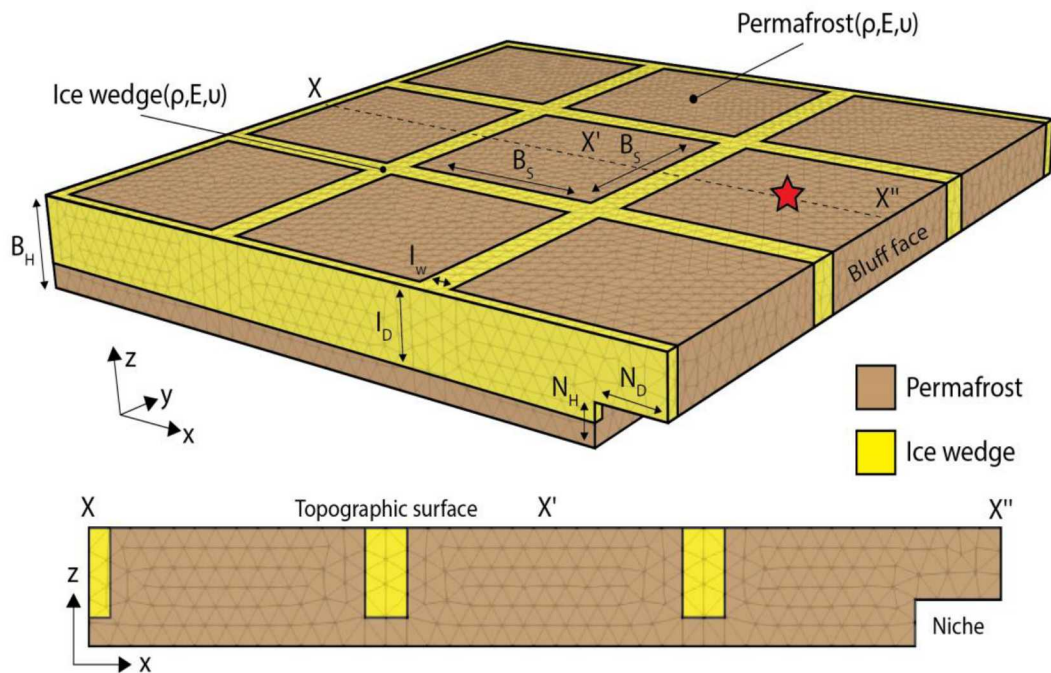
<sup>3</sup>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Institute of Northern Engineering, Fairbanks, AK 99775

From *Frontiers in Earth  
Science: Cryospheric  
Sciences* paper (in press)

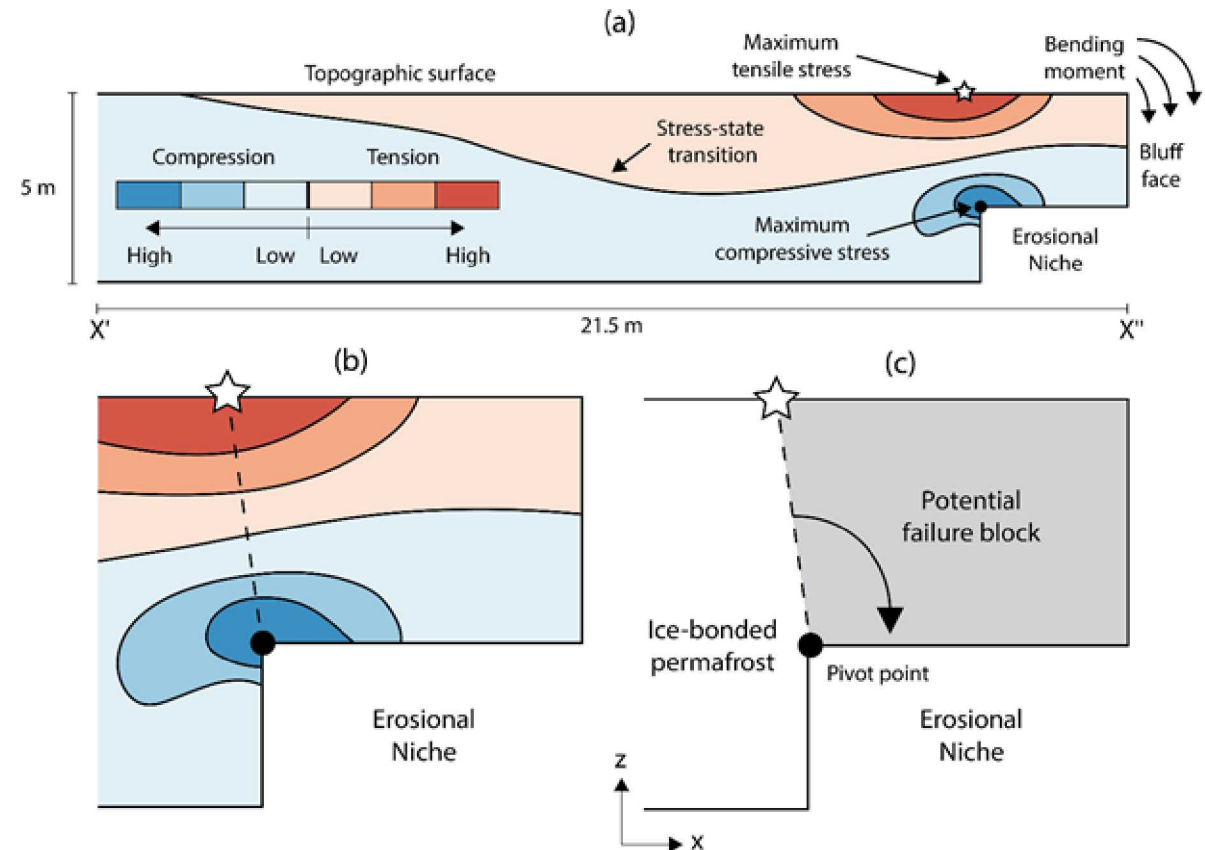
\* M. Thomas et al. *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*, 2020 (in press).



# 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.

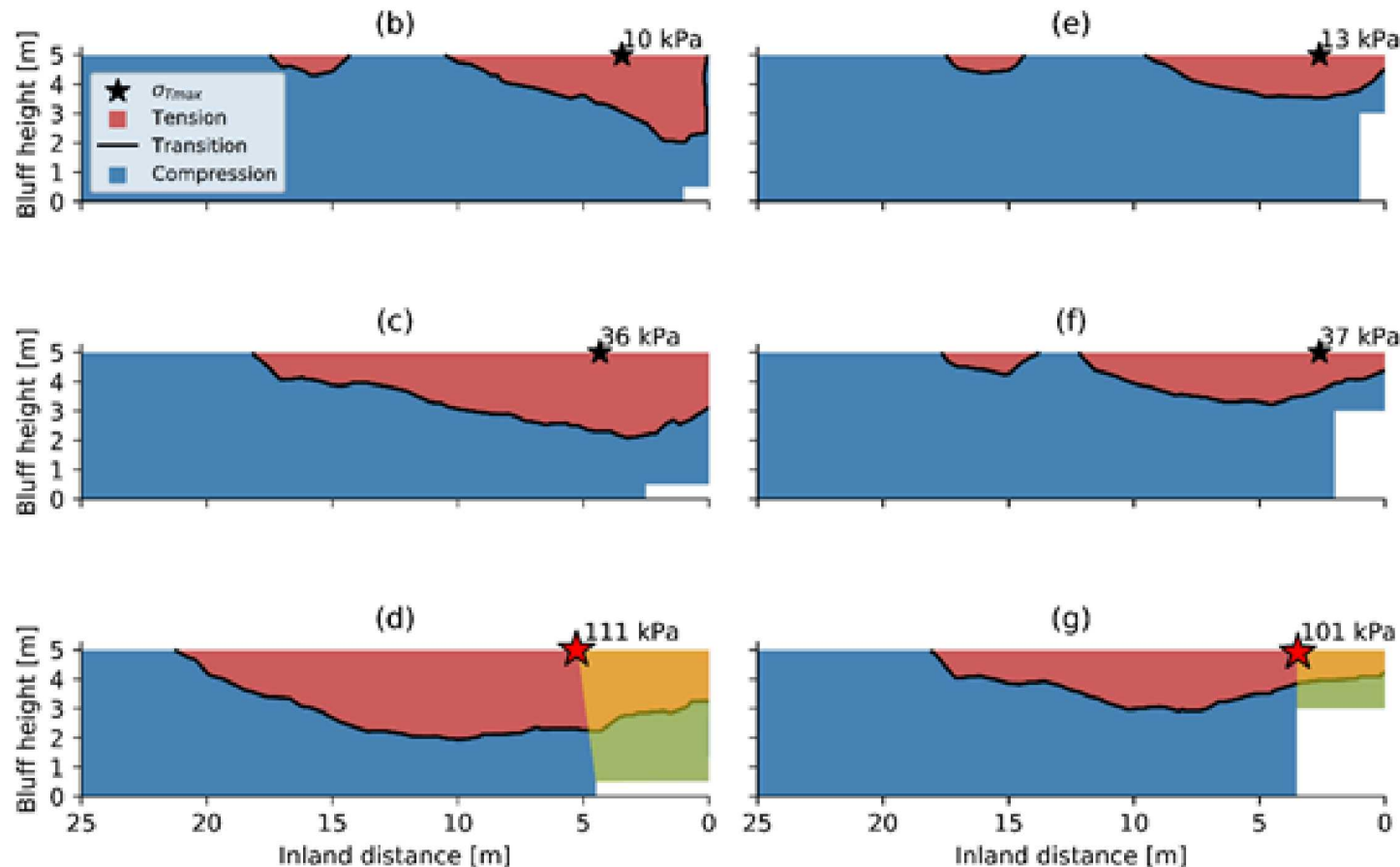


- Simulations facilitated examination of **stress patterns** within bluff and identification of **location** and **magnitude** of **max tensile stress** ( $\sigma_{T_{max}}$ )

\* M. Thomas et al. *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*, 2020 (in press).

# 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.

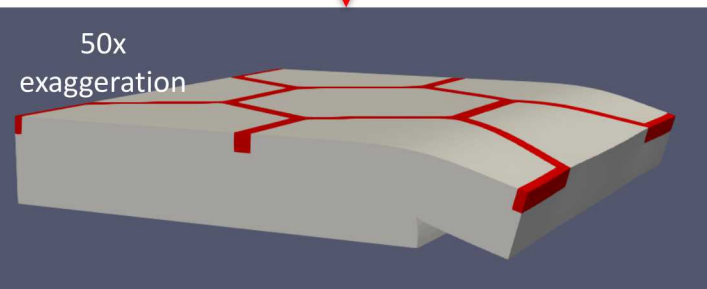
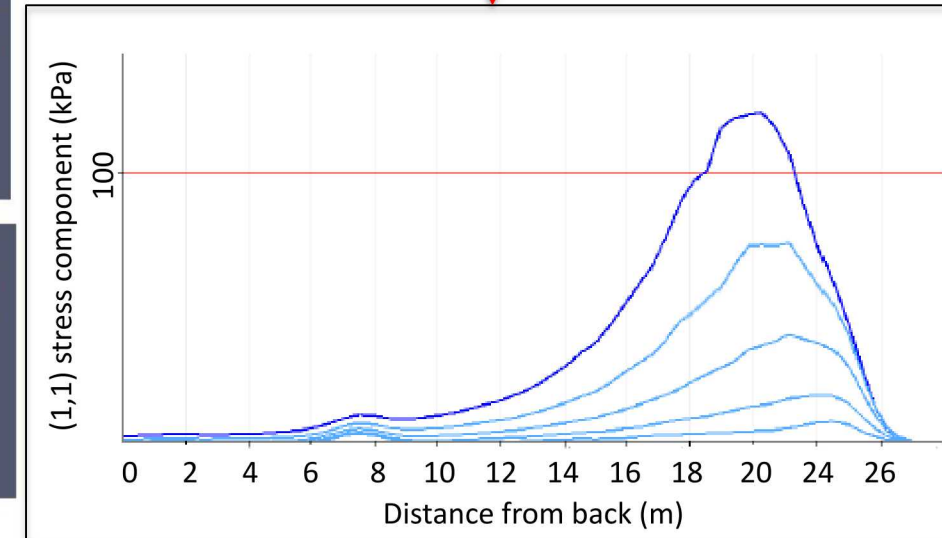
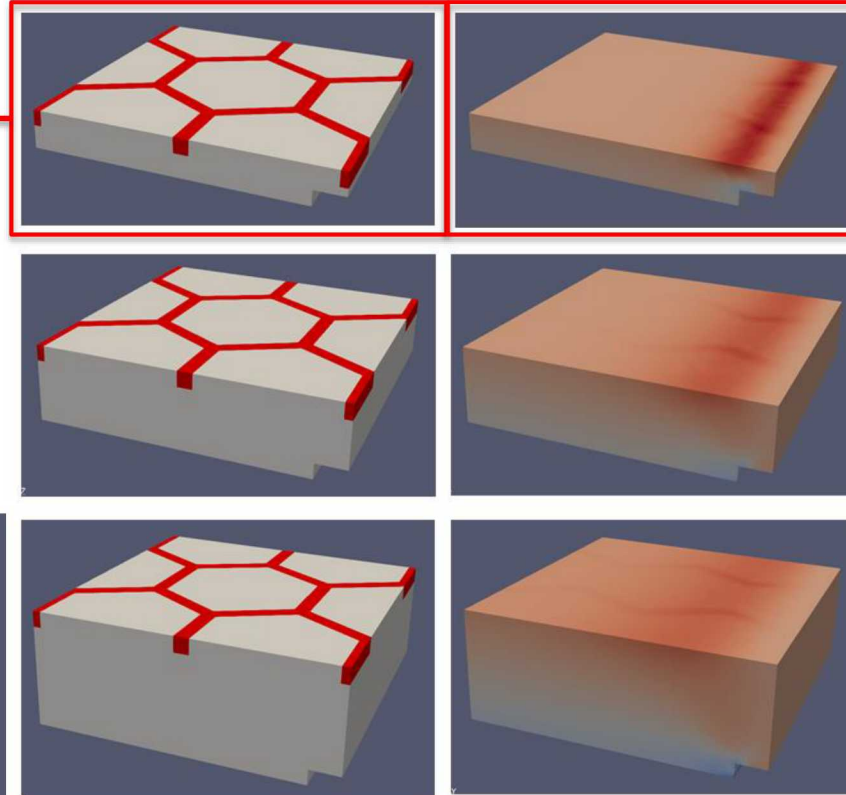
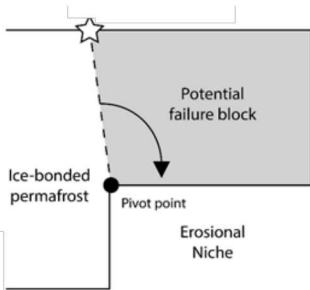


# Mechanics-only simulation\*: main takeaways

**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**.

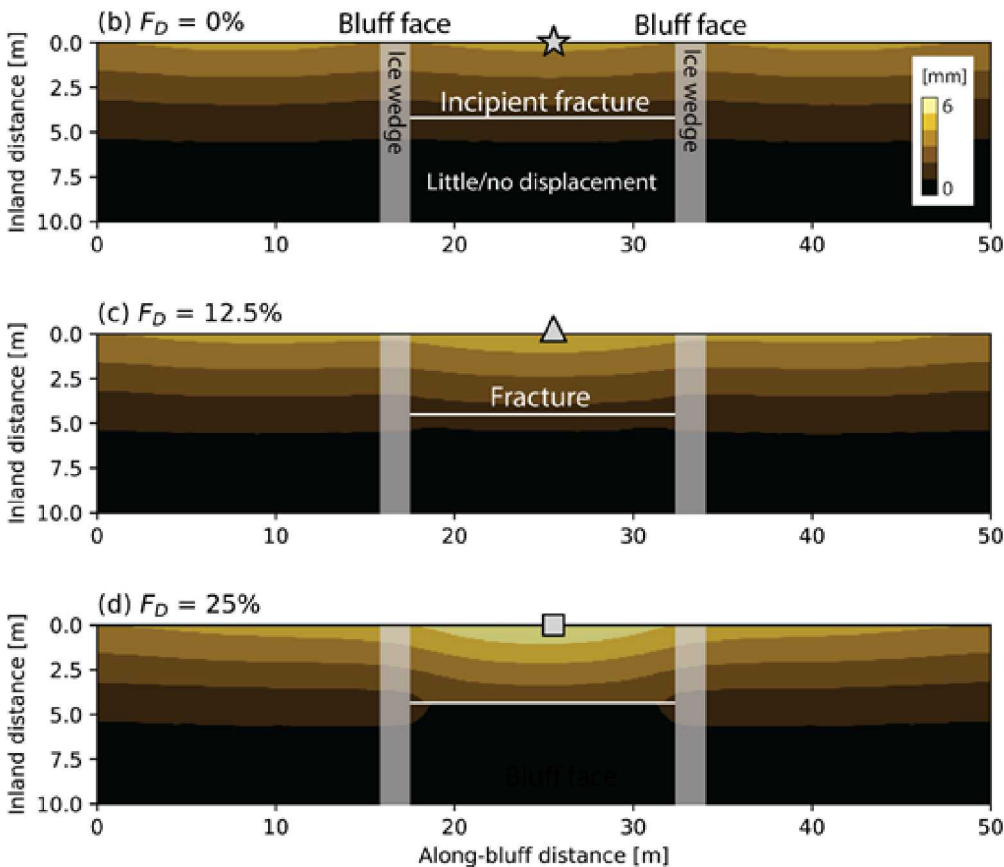
Highest **tensile stresses** develop on top surface where cantilever meets rest of block



\* M. Thomas et al. *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*, 2020 (in press).

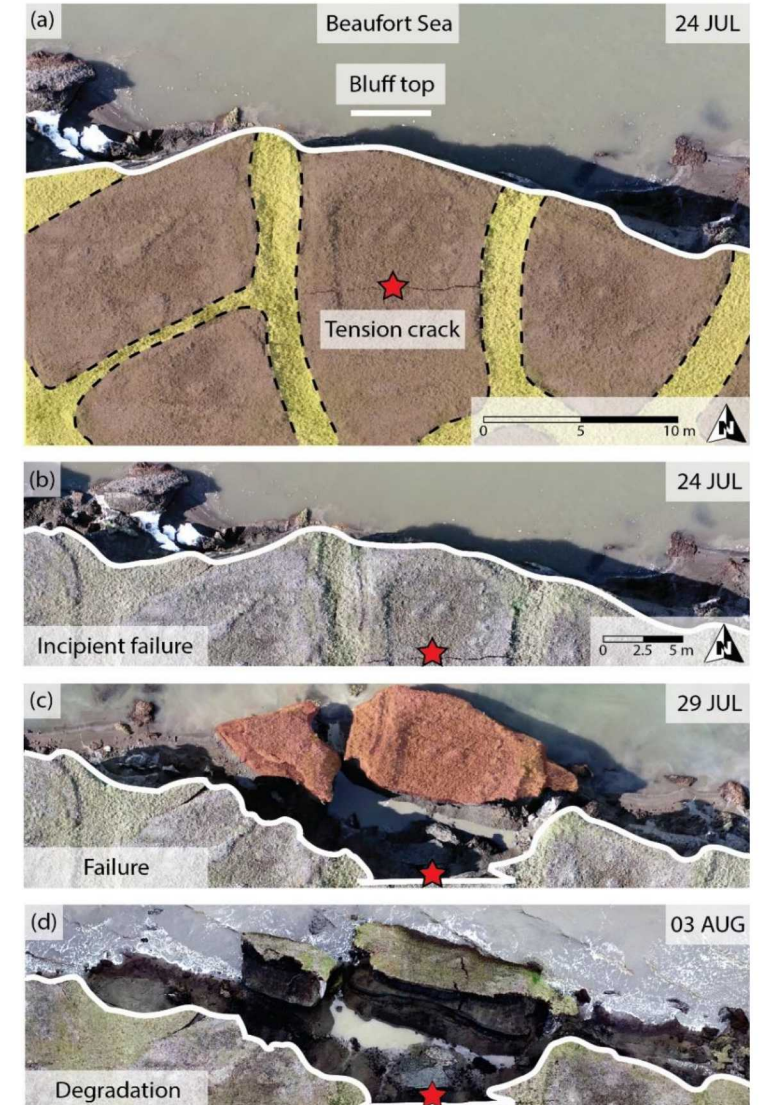
# Mechanics-only simulation\*: main takeaways

- 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.

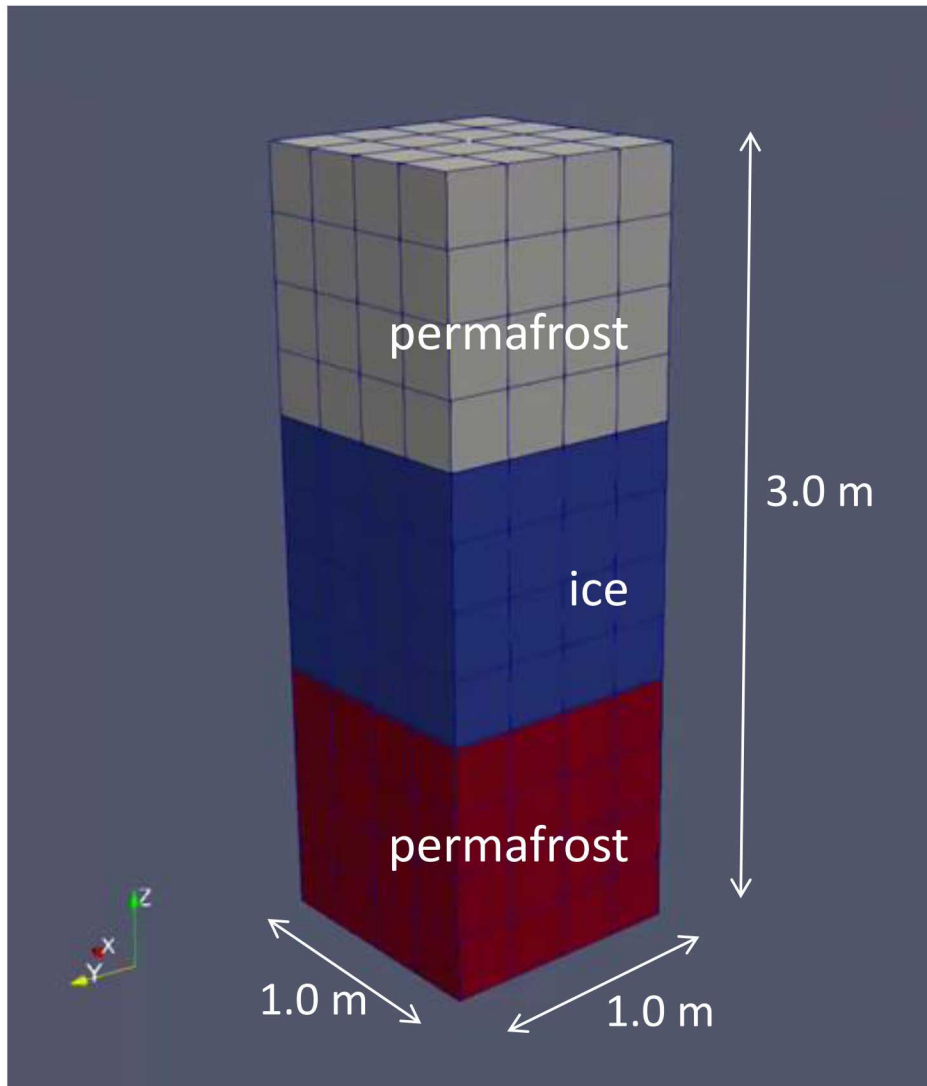
$F_D$ : fracture depth



\* M. Thomas et al. *Frontiers in Earth Science: Cryospheric Sciences*, 2020 (in press).



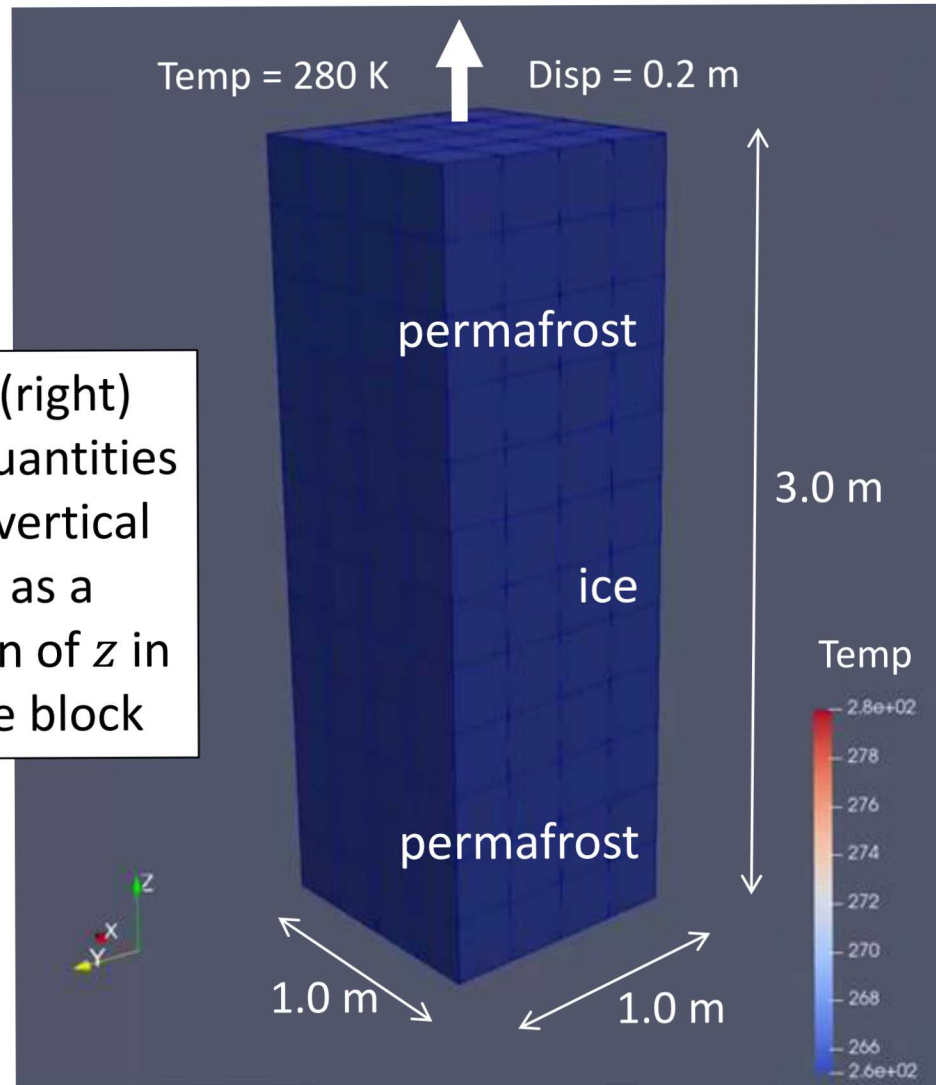
# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



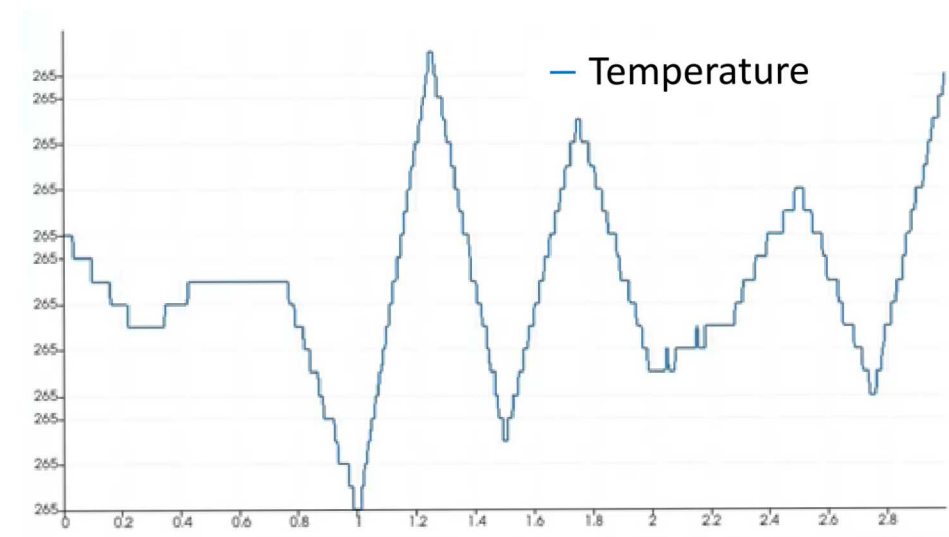
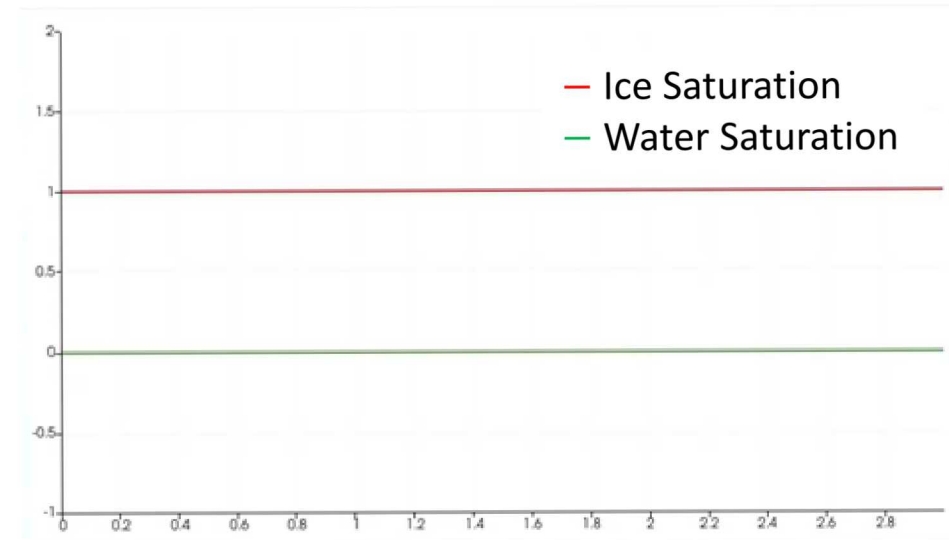
- Cuboid is comprised of block of **ice** material, **wedged** between two blocks of **permafrost** material.
- Cuboid subjected to **simultaneous heating** and **stretching** from the **top**
- Cuboid is **affixed** to the **bottom** and with **symmetry boundary conditions** on the **sides**.
- **Temperature**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



# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem

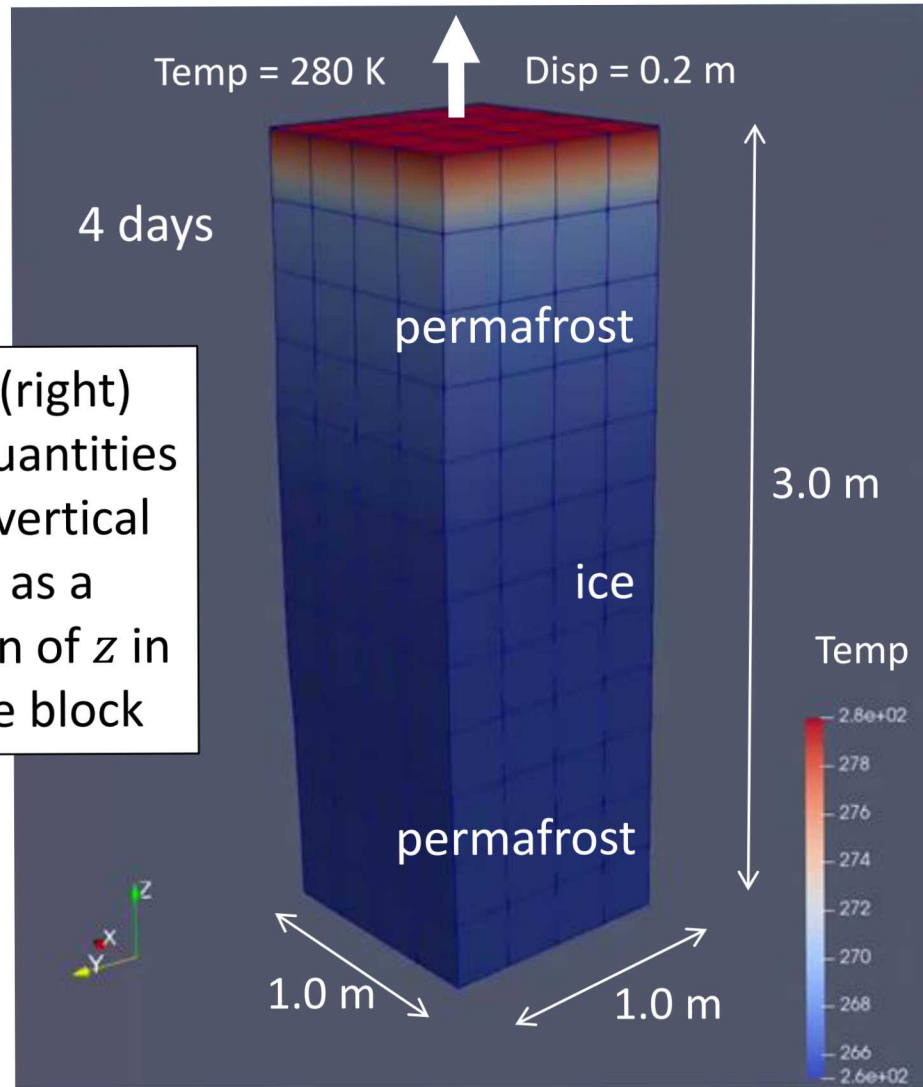


Plots (right) show quantities along vertical line as a function of  $z$  in the ice block

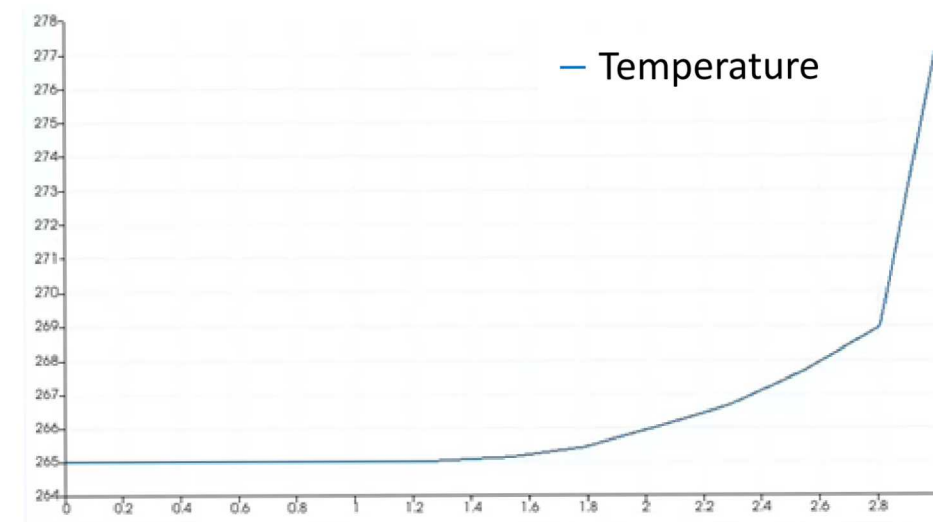
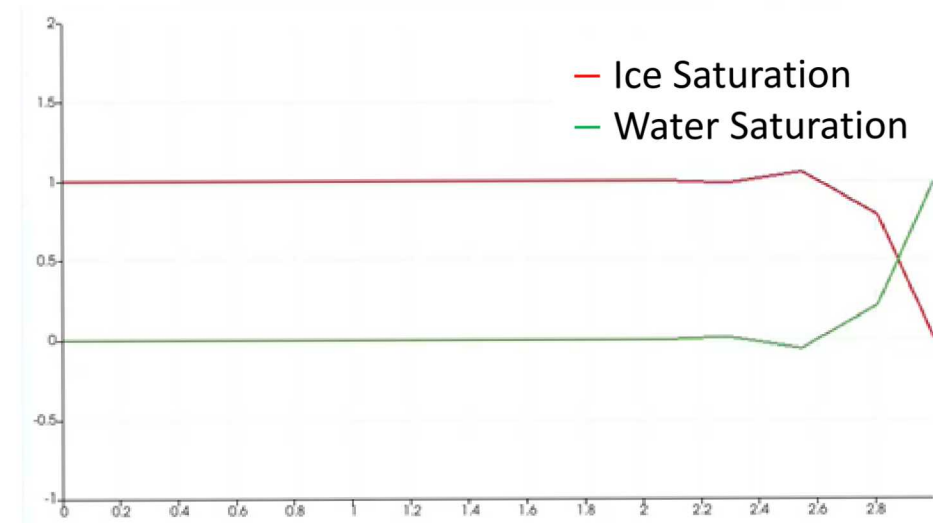




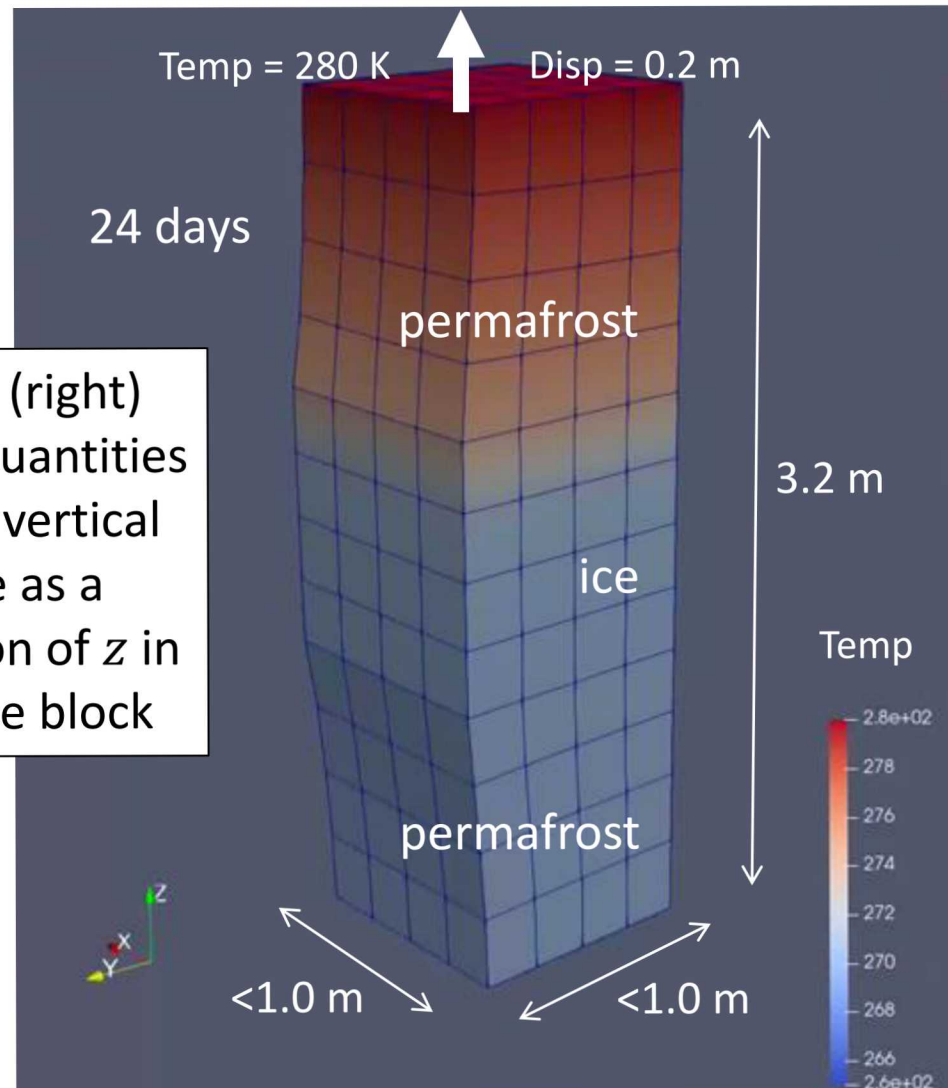
# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



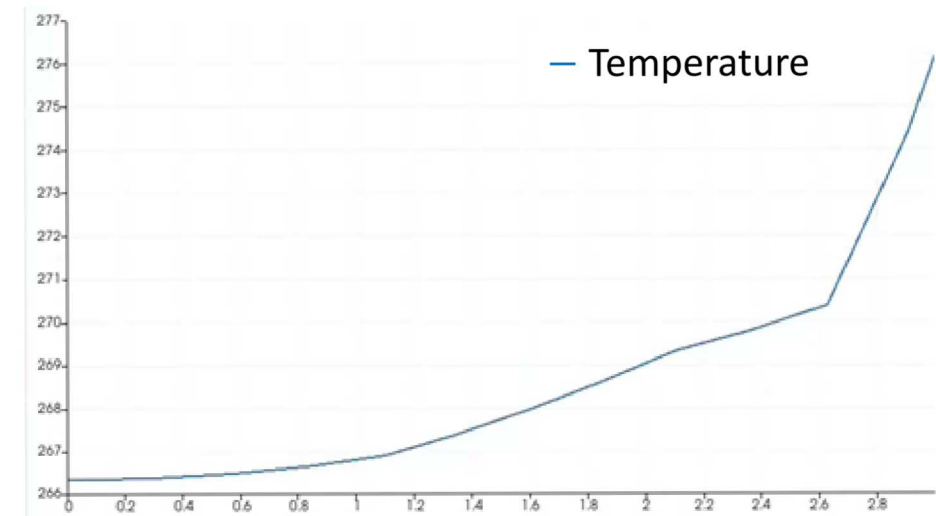
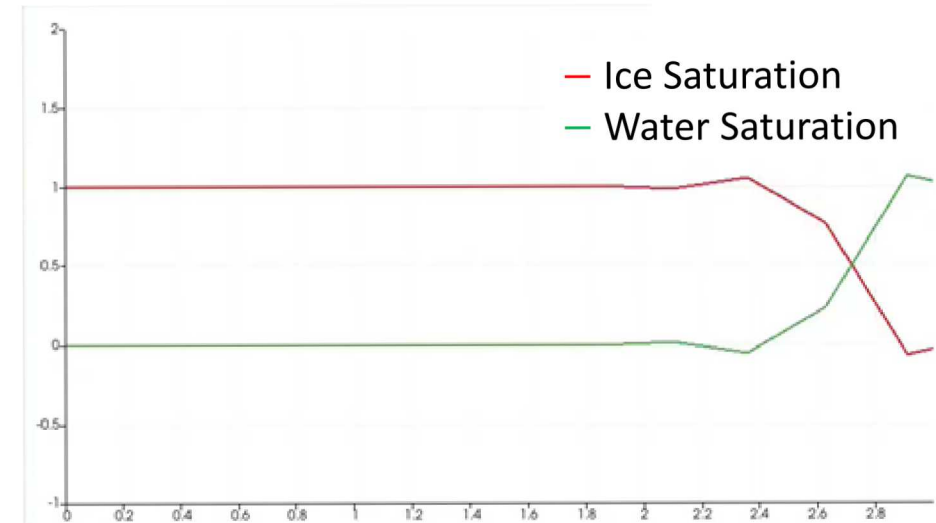
Plots (right)  
show quantities  
along vertical  
line as a  
function of  $z$  in  
the ice block



# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem

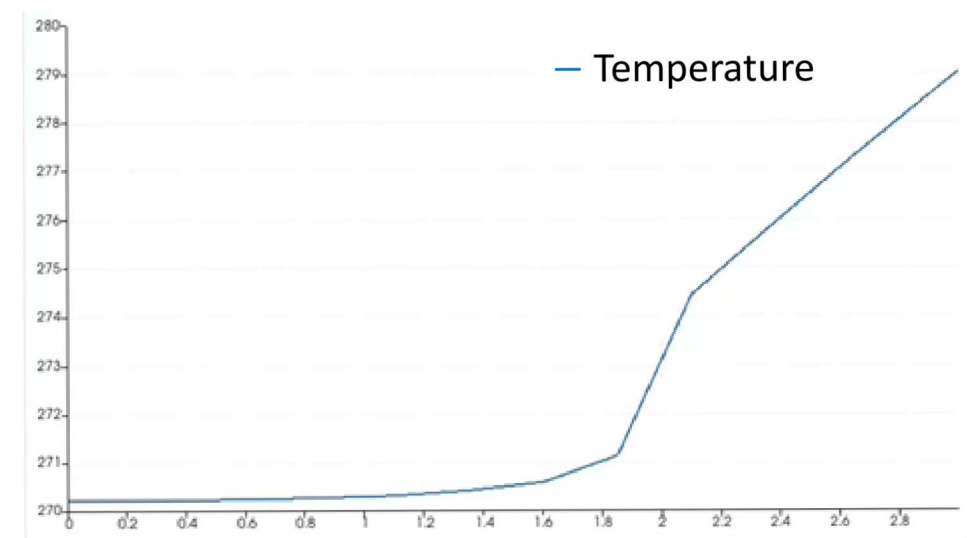
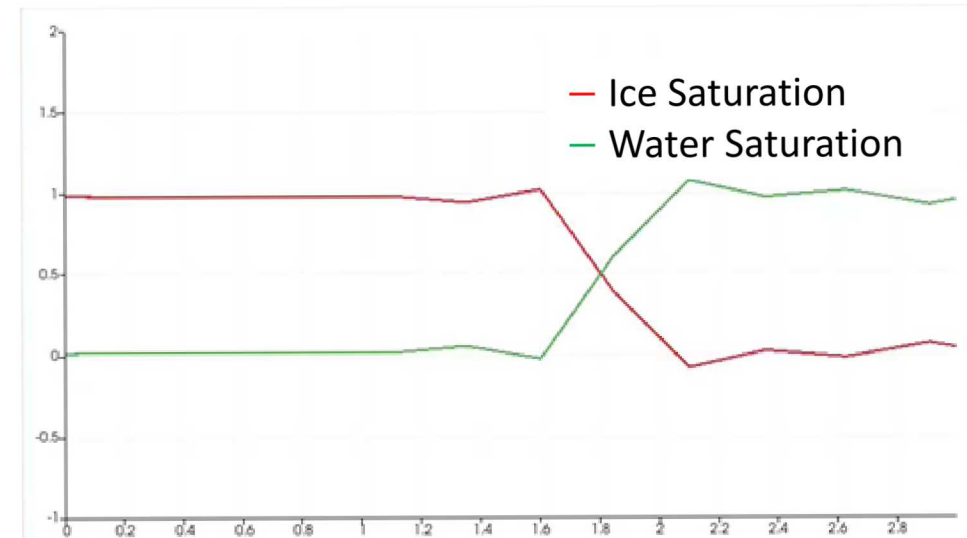
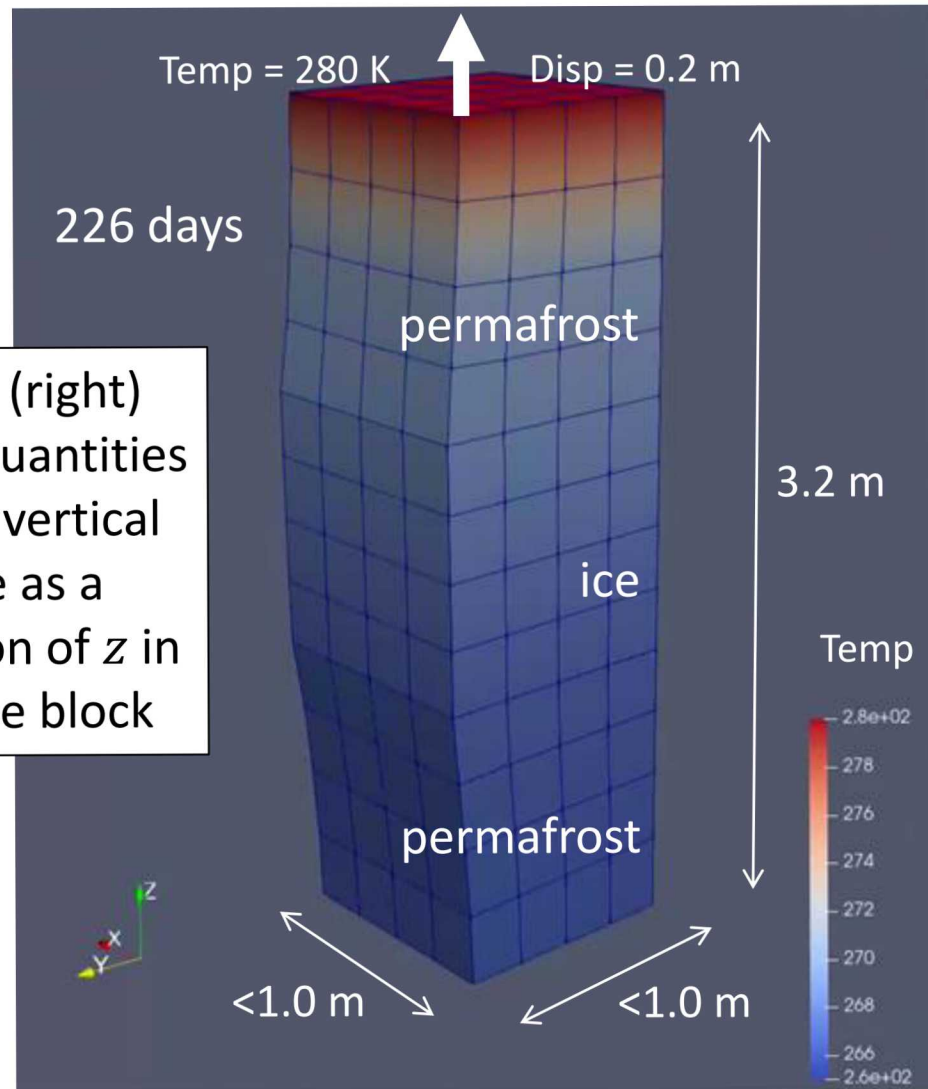


Plots (right)  
show quantities  
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line as a  
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the ice block

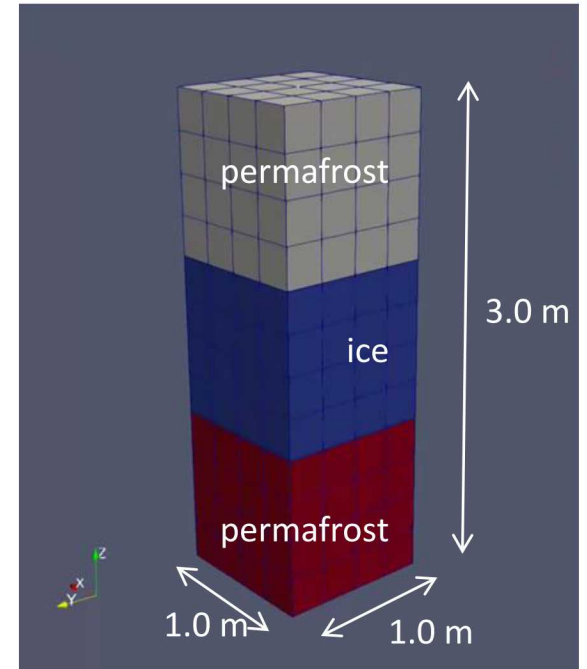
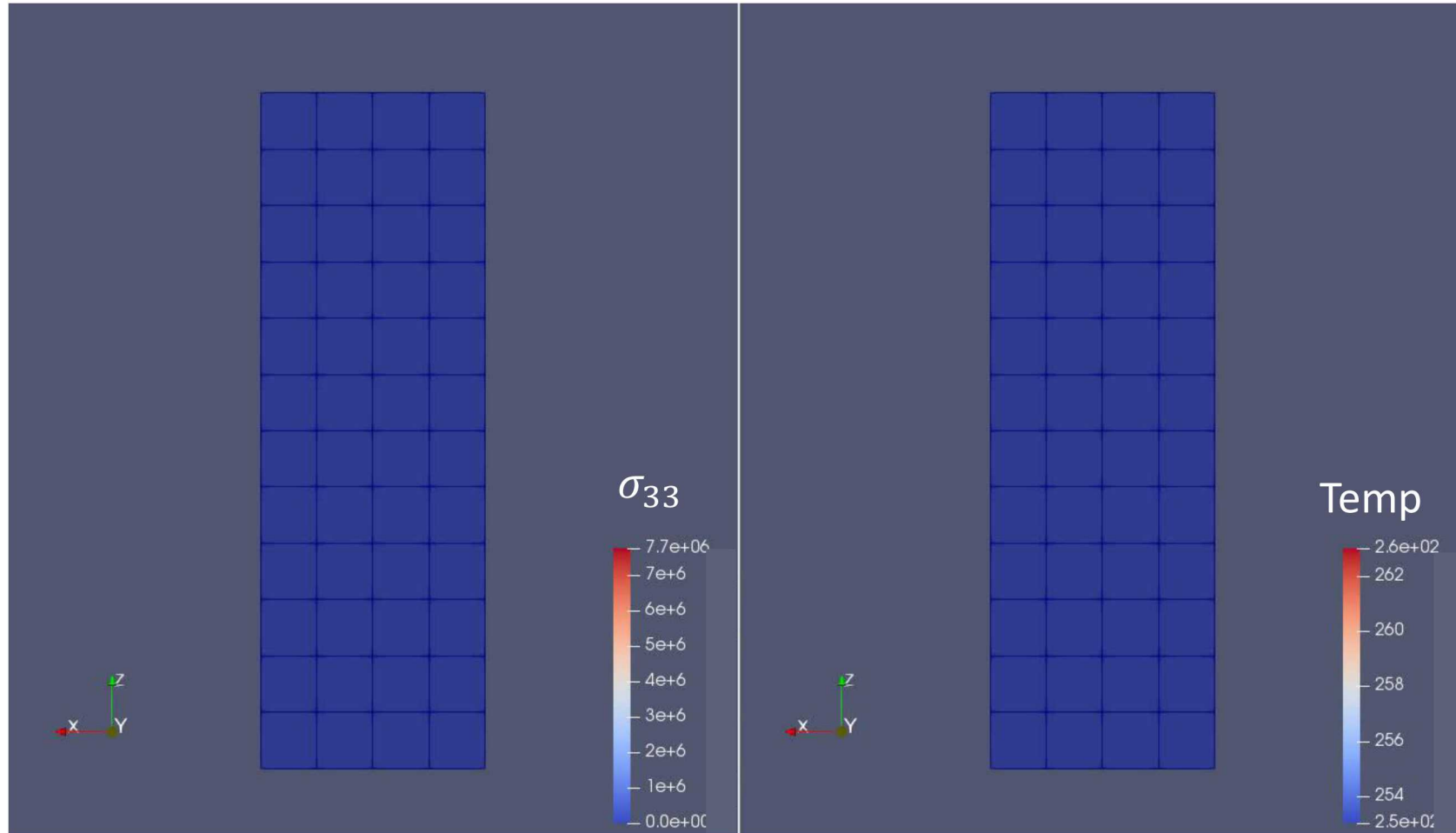




# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



# Thermo-mechanical coupling: cuboid problem



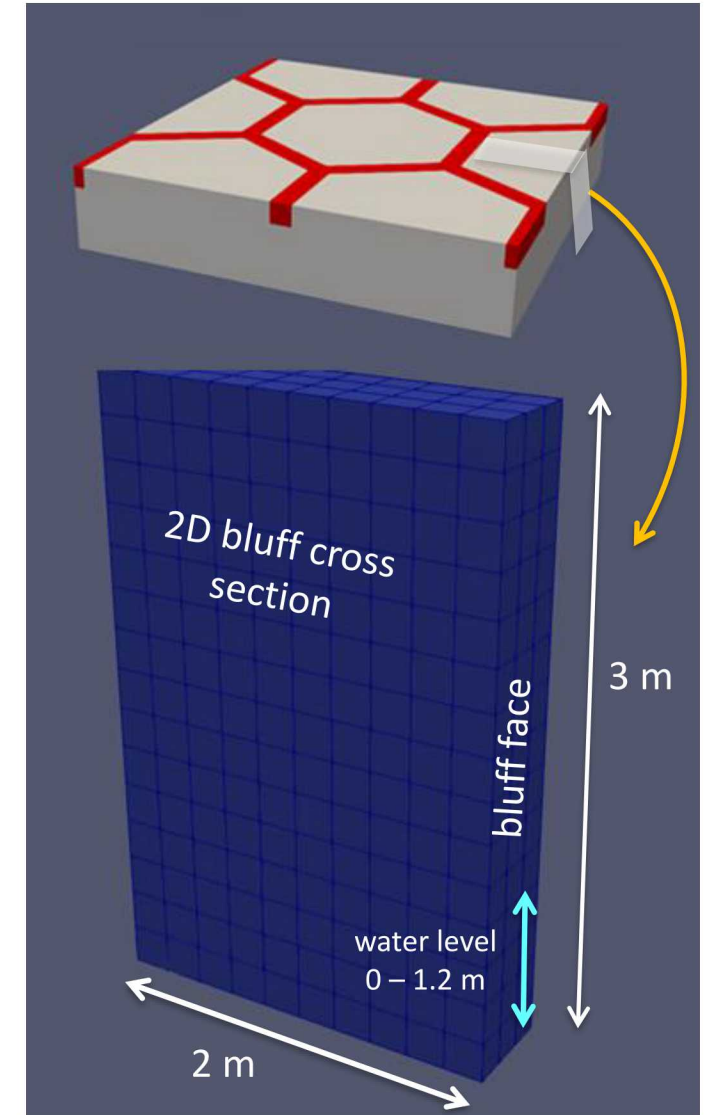
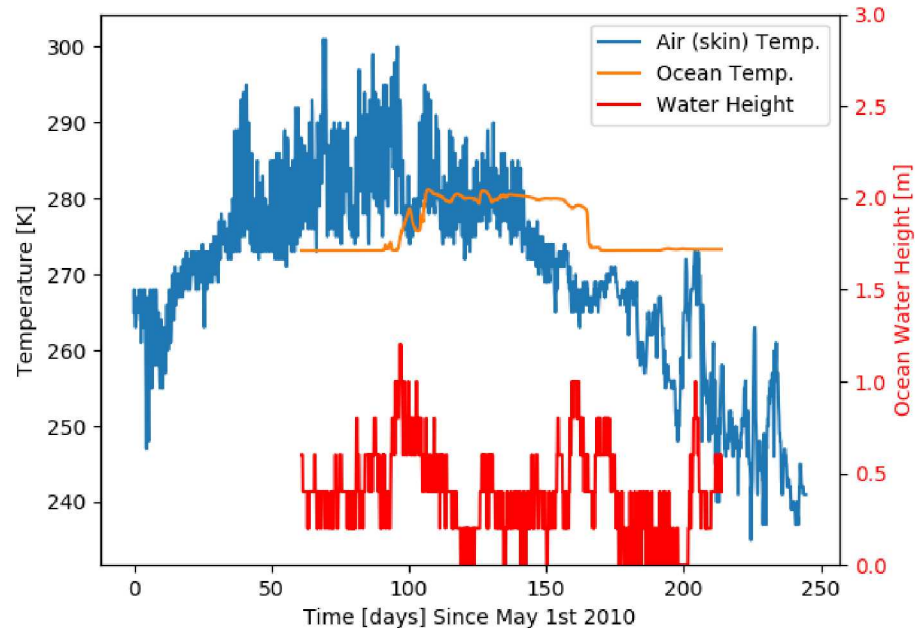
As cuboid is heated and stretched at top, heat propagates down, ***melting ice*** and causing ***failure***.



# 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

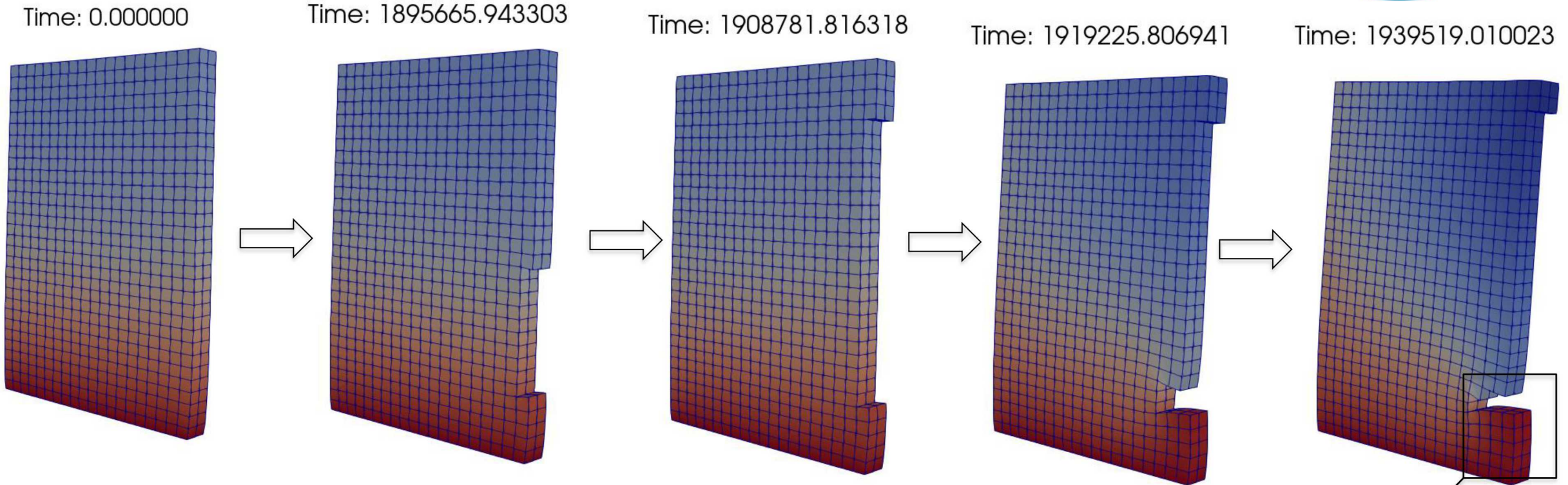
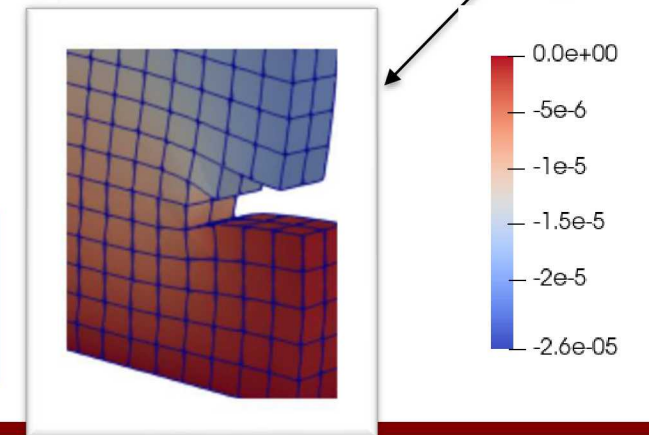


Figure above: z-displacement scaled  $20K \times$  for  $h = 0.2$  m resolution mesh

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





# Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

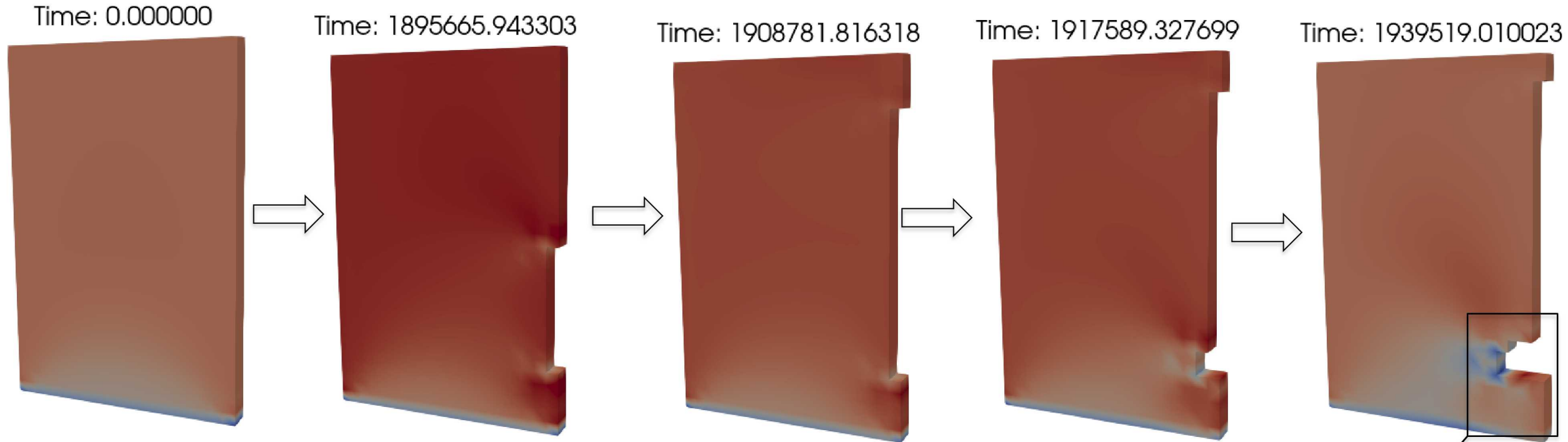
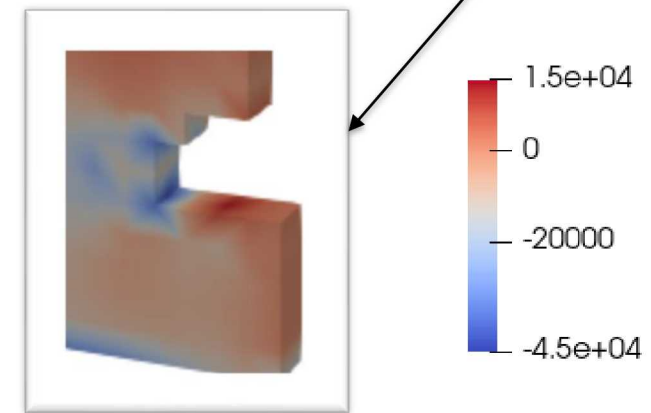


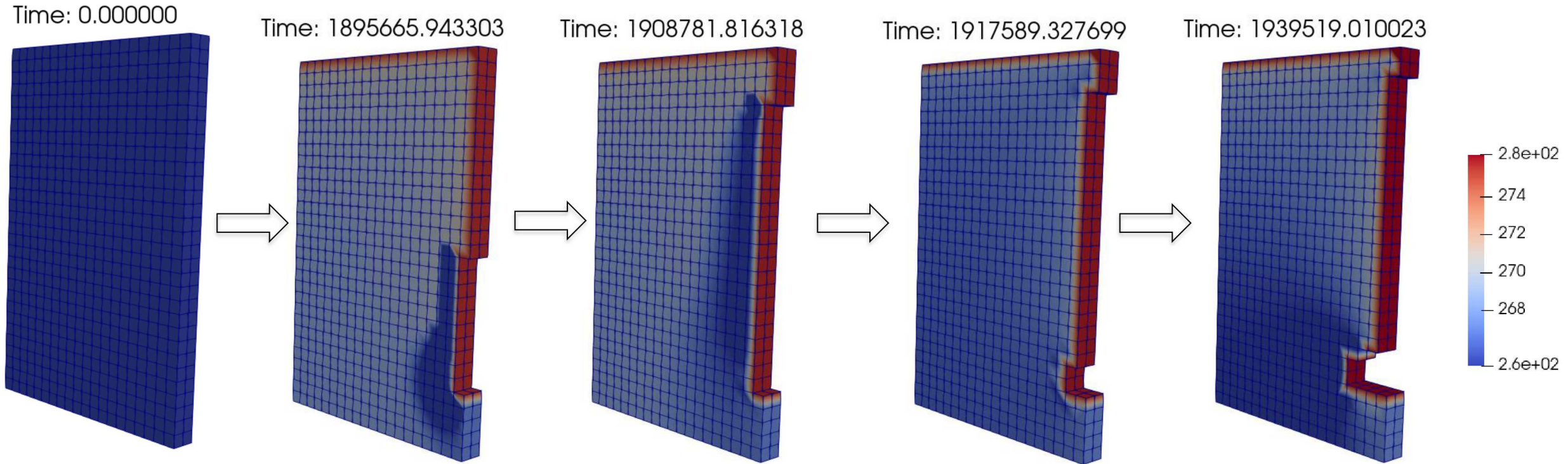
Figure above:  $\sigma_{xx}$  for  $h = 0.2$  m resolution mesh

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*

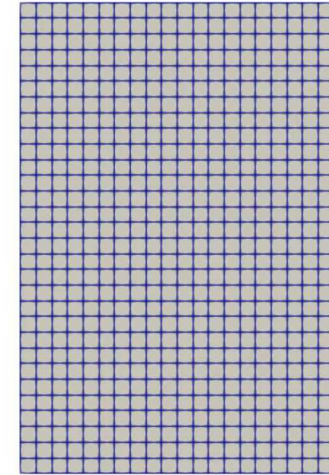
Atmospheric and oceanic **boundary conditions** are driving the **melting** of the ice

# Thermo-mechanical coupling: 2.5D slice

Time: 0.000000

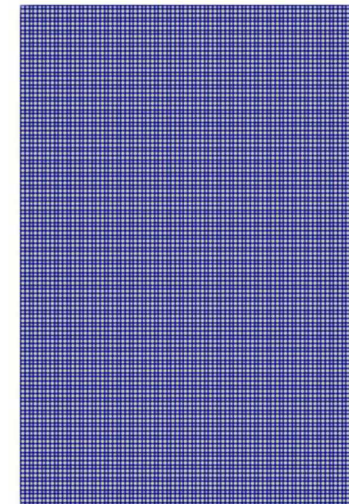
## *Some issues to resolve:*

- 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

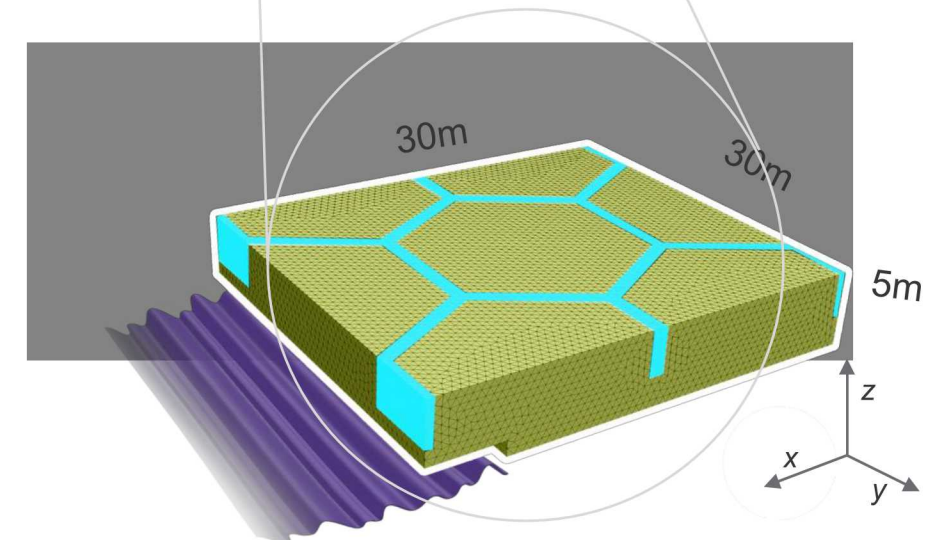
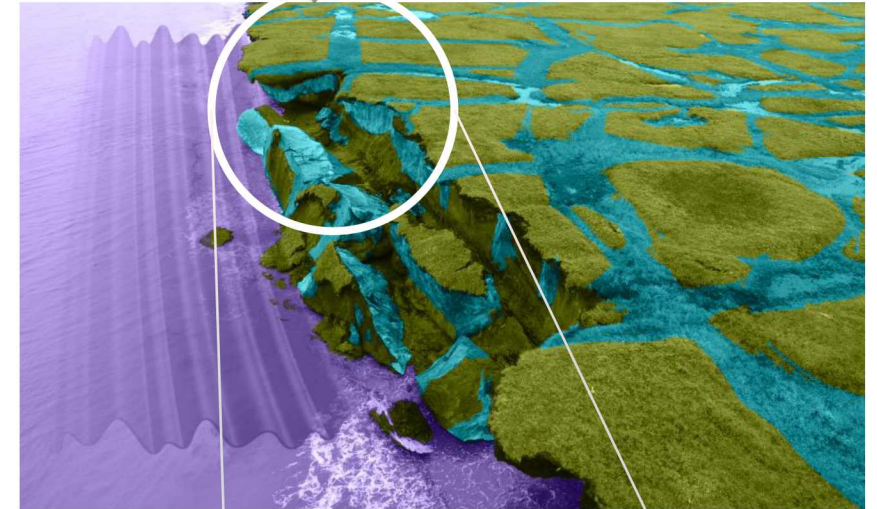
# Outline

- 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
- The Arctic Coastal Erosion (ACE) project
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- **Ongoing/future work**

# Ongoing/future work

## Near term:

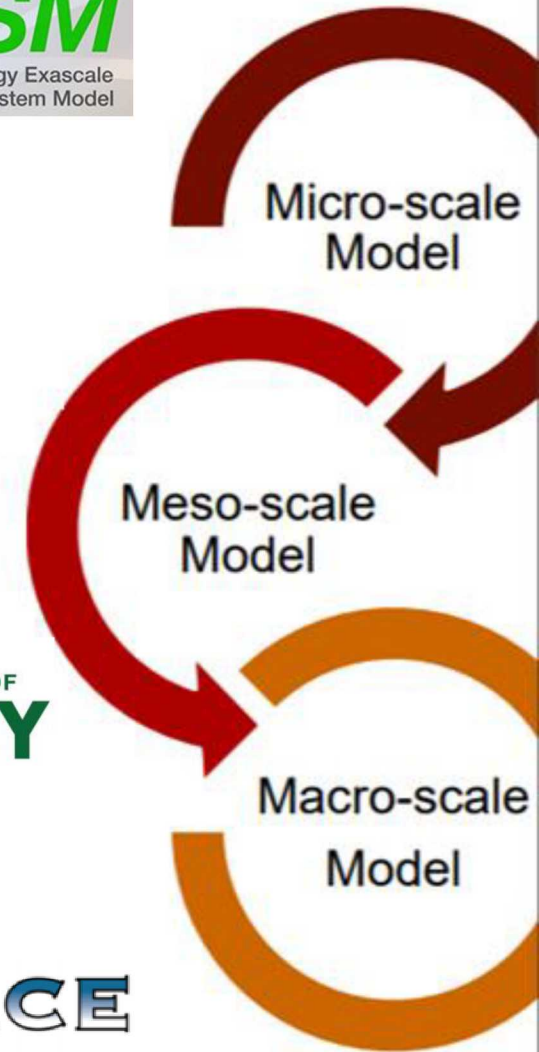
- Resolve **numerical difficulties** with ACE thermo-mechanical model.
  - **Mitigating approach:** sequential coupling between mechanics and thermal equations
- Integrate **chemical transport** into ACE model.
- **Realistic erosion calculations** using ACE model and Drew Point data.
- **Tuning/sensitivity 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 CMPI5 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



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



# Acknowledgements

## *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



# 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



# 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

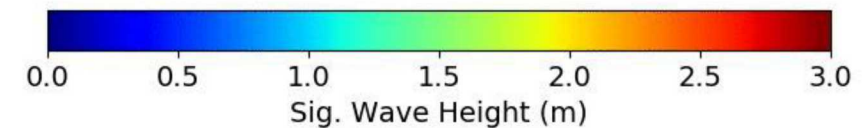
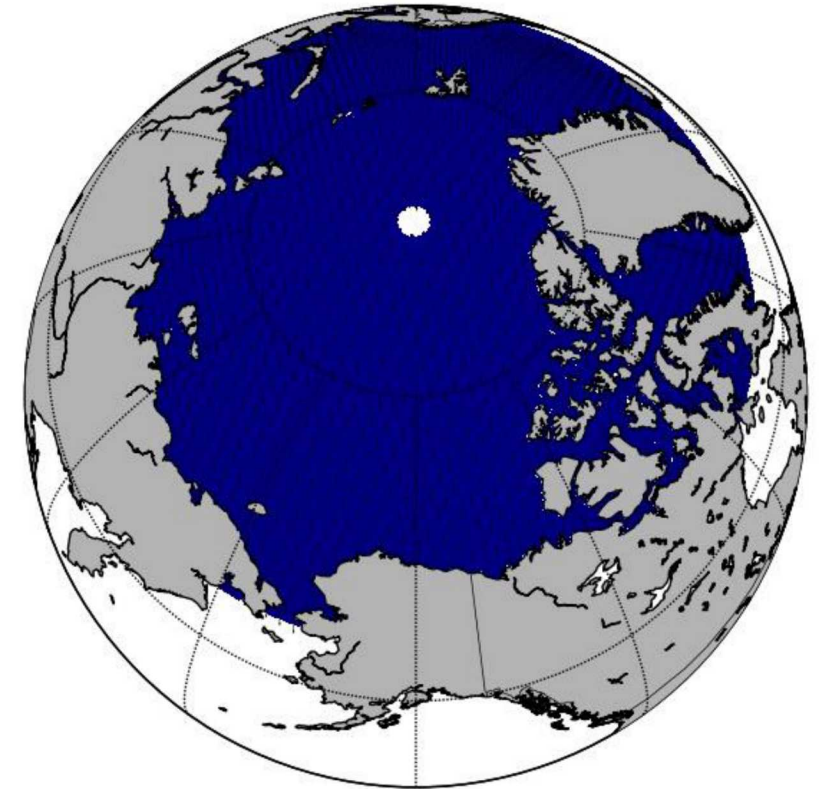
Delft3D

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

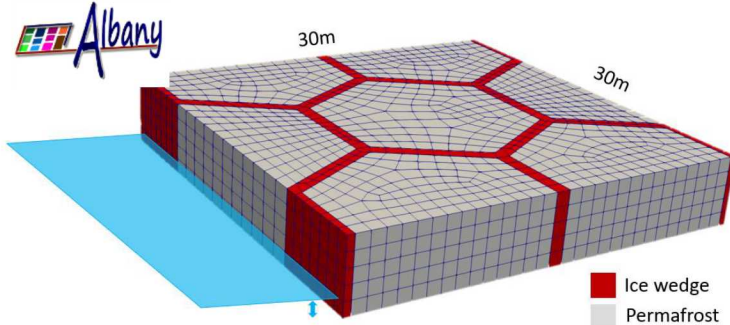
- Inclusion of ice coverage for fetch limited wave growth
- Knowledge of wave energy along broad coastline
- Set-up determination inclusive of bathymetry and wave energy
- Ability to accurately predict temperature at bluff face through mixing of clines in the ocean



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

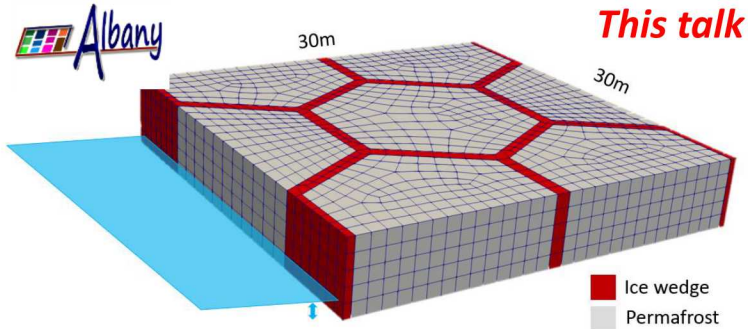
100's of kilometers & annual (+) durations

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



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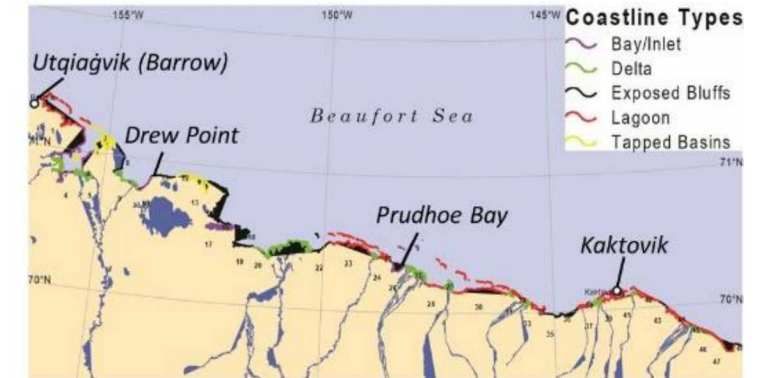
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