



**Gijón 2010**  
European Maritime Day  
Stakeholder Conference, 18-21 May  
<http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeday>



*Climate Change and related issues in coastal and marine areas: from science to policy*

*Session 1: Science Results on the impacts of climate change in coastal and marine areas*

# Climate Change Impacts on coastal areas

*Inigo J. Losada*

 **IH cantabria**  
INSTITUTO DE HIDRÁULICA AMBIENTAL

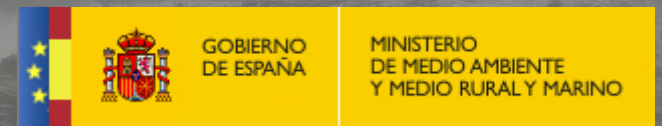
**UC**  
UNIVERSIDAD  
DE CANTABRIA



C3A  
Coastal Climate Change Impacts in Latin-  
America and Caribbean



C3E  
Coastal Climate change  
impacts in Spain





**1. Motivation and Objectives**

**2. Time and spatial scales**

**3. Global framework**

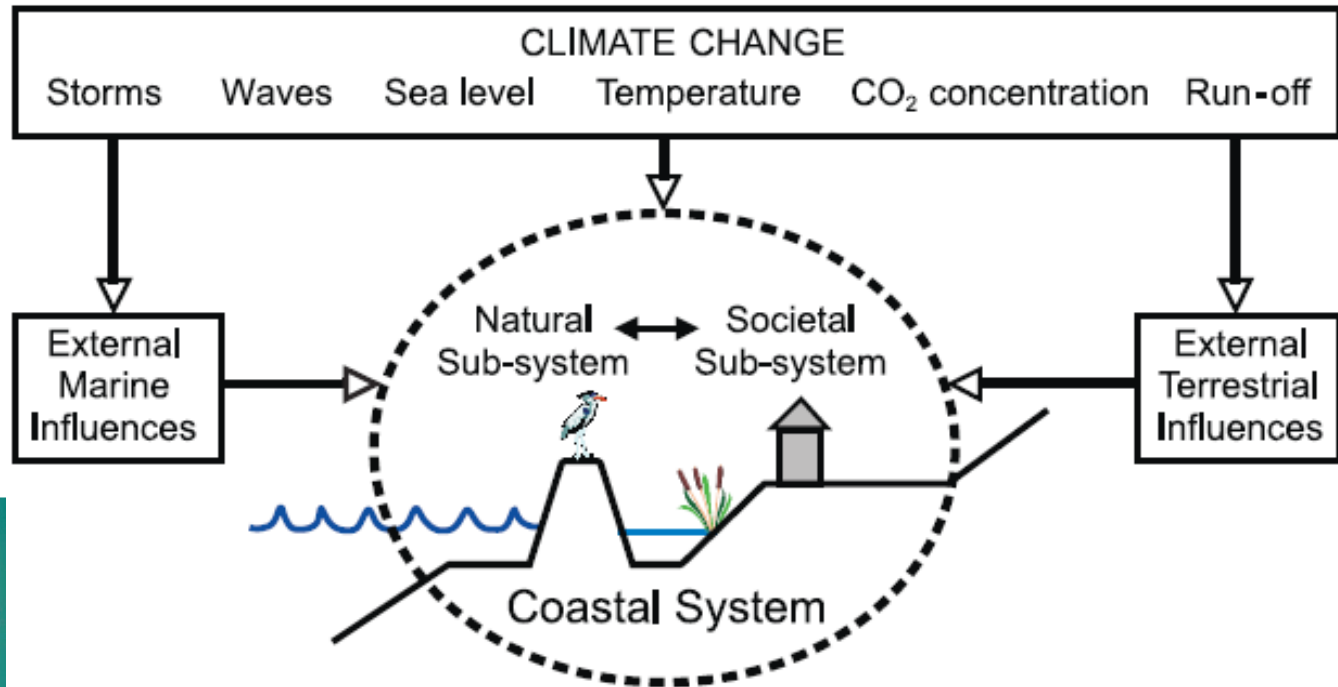
**4. Risk**

**5. Hazard**

**6. Vulnerability**

**7. Integration of Risk**

Source: IPCC



**Figure 6.1.** Climate change and the coastal system showing the major climate change factors, including external marine and terrestrial influences.





## 1. Motivation and Objectives

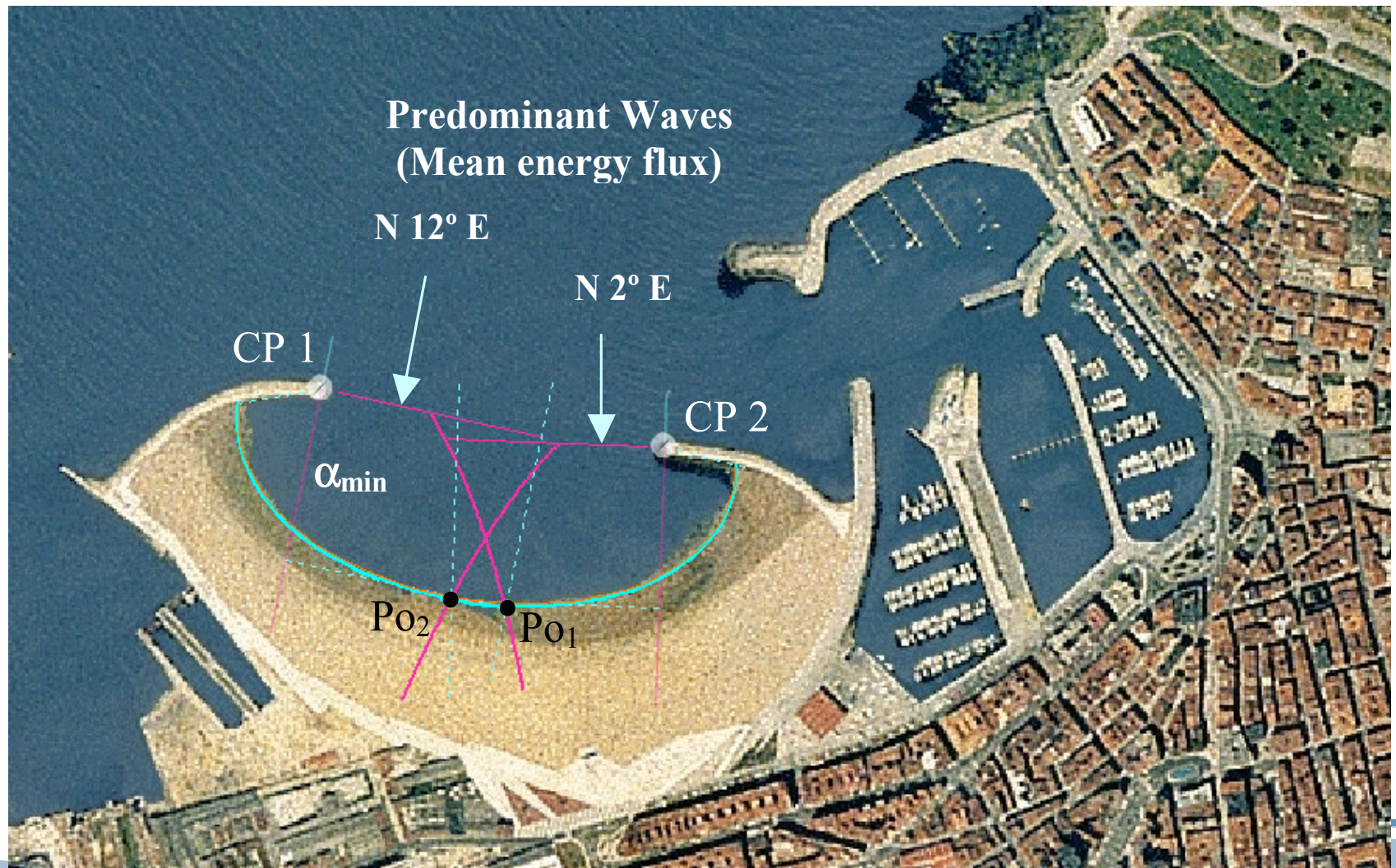
Maximum flooding level for a given sea state





## 1. Motivation and Objectives

Beach planform depends on the mean energy flux





## 1. Motivation and Objectives

### Port operability



## 1. Motivation and Objectives

Size of the blocks





## 1. Motivation and Objectives

- Mean sea level is changing
- is the long-term wave climate changing ?
- is the extreme value wave climate changing ?
- is marine climate changing and how?
- what are the expected impacts on the coast (physical/socioeconomic system)?
- how can we evaluate the vulnerability?
- Can we evaluate climate change-induced risks? How?
- How do we manage risk reducing uncertainties?
- Do we have the tools to assess, implement and monitorize adaptation strategies?

**1. Motivation and Objectives**

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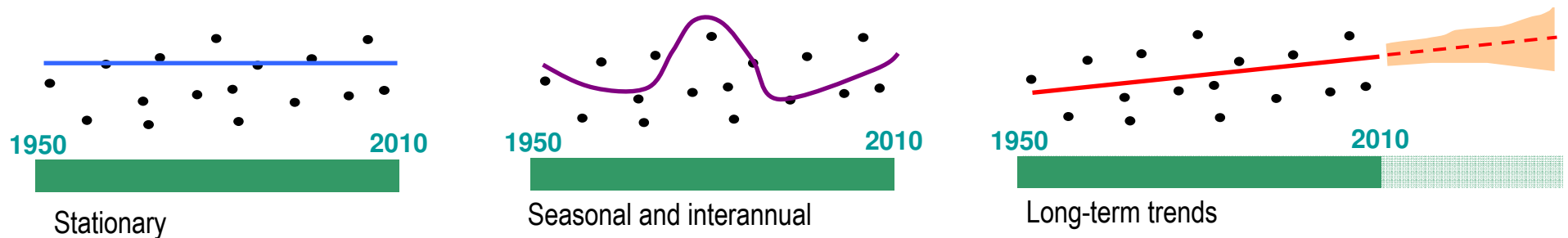
**6. Vulnerability**

**7. Integration of Risk**

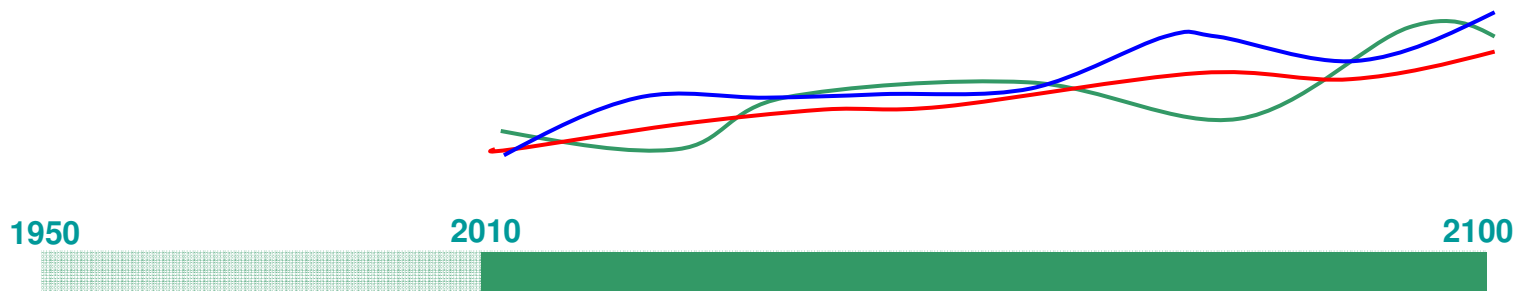


## Time scales of interest

- Long-term trends and climate variability based on historical data bases



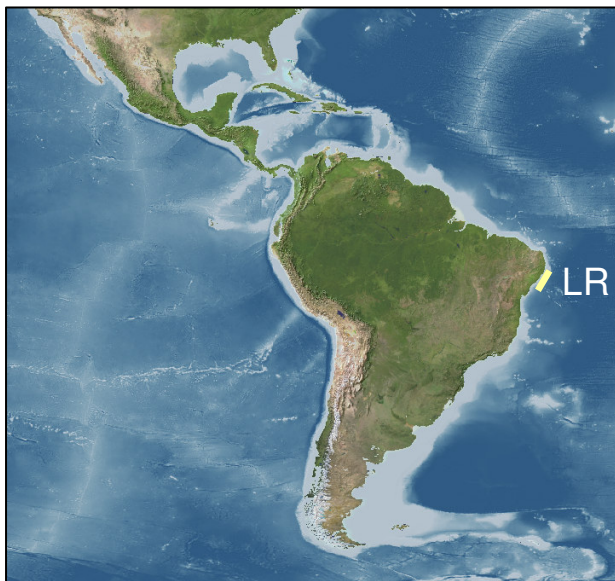
- Projection for different IPCC scenarios using statistical/dynamic downscaling



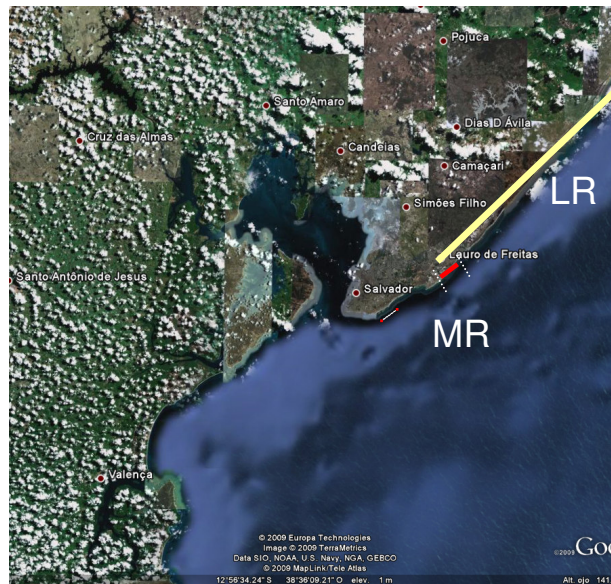
## Spatial scales of interest

3 levels:

- $0.50^\circ \sim 50 \text{ Km}$  = Regional Level (Low Resolution, **LR**)
- $0.05^\circ \sim 5 \text{ Km}$  = Local level (Medium Resolution, **MR**)
- $10 \text{ m} - 100 \text{ m}$  = "City" level (High Resolution, **HR**)



(Southamerica and Caribbean: 250.000 Km)



Santander Bay



**1. Motivation and Objectives**

**2. Time and spatial scales**

**3. Global framework**

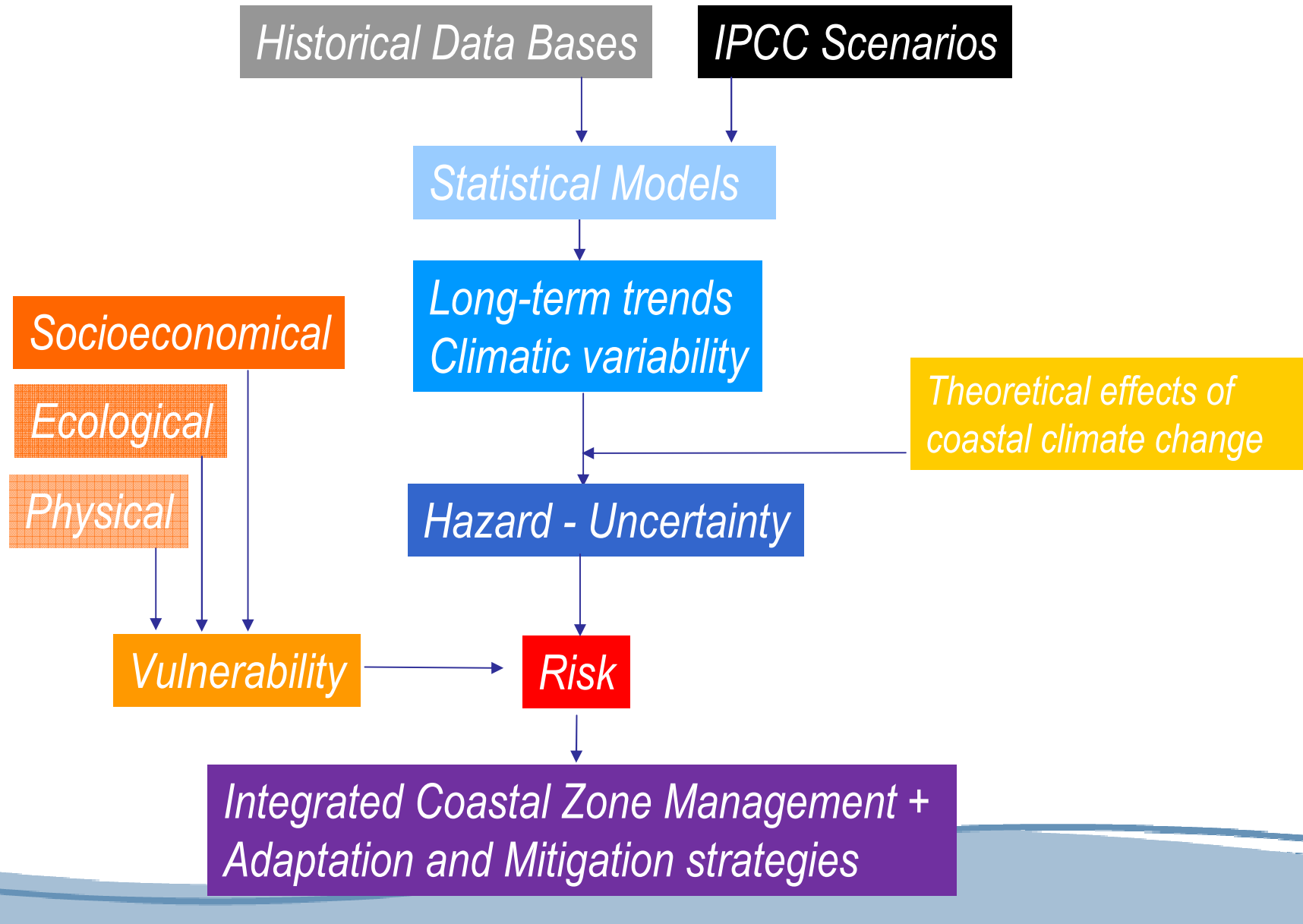
**4. Risk**

**5. Hazard**

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**7. Integration of Risk**

### 3. Global Framework





**1. Motivation and Objectives**

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**4. Risk**

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**7. Integration of Risk**

### Risk:

“The probability of harmful consequences or expected losses resulting from a given hazard to a given element at danger or peril, over a specified time period”

### Hazard:

“A potentially damaging physical event, phenomenon and/or human activity, which may cause loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation. Hazards can be single, sequential or combined in their origin and effects”.

### Vulnerability:

“The characteristics of a person or a group in terms of their capacity to anticipate, cope with, resist and recover from the impact of a natural or man-made disaster - noting that vulnerability is made up of many political-institutional, economic and socio-cultural factors.”

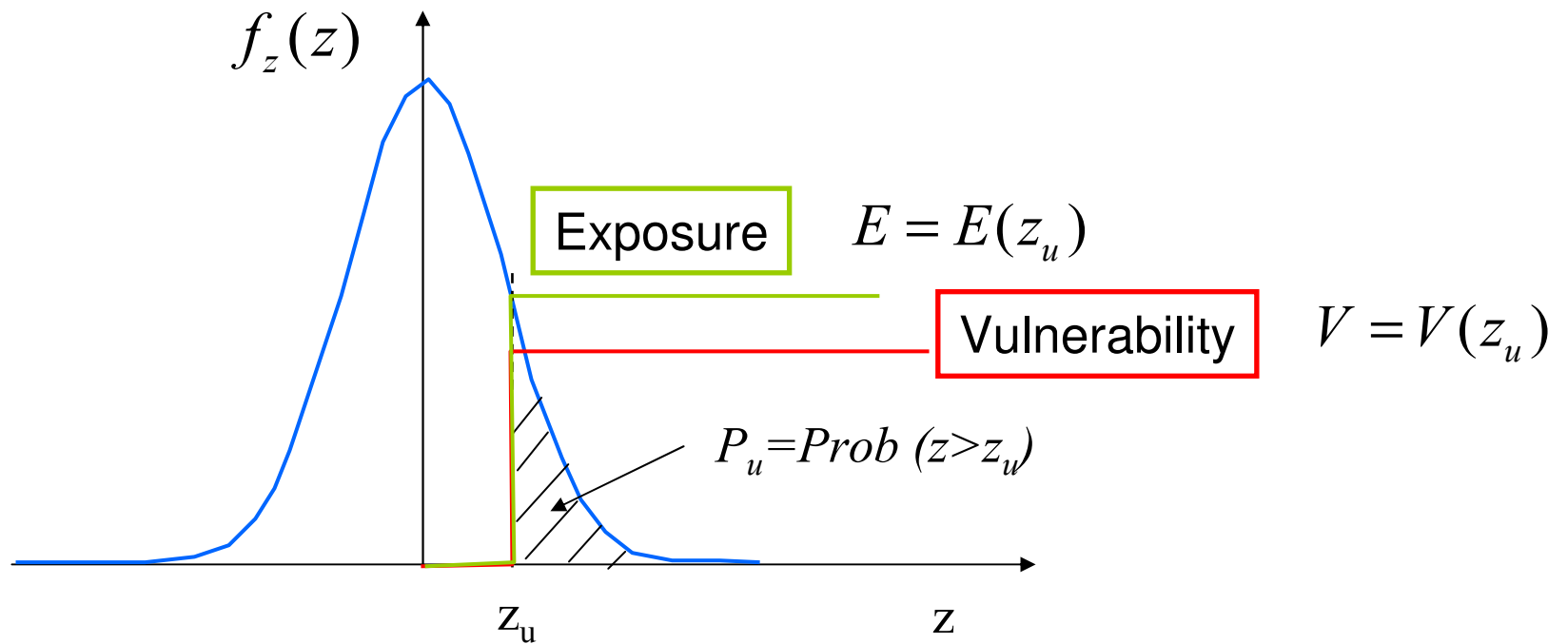


$$R_{ah} = H_{ah} \times E_a \times V_{ah}$$

Figure 2: The “risk triangle” after CRICHTON (1999)



Evaluation of Risk for a given value of the Hazard  $z_u$

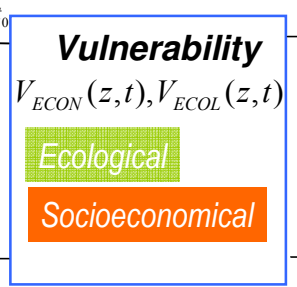
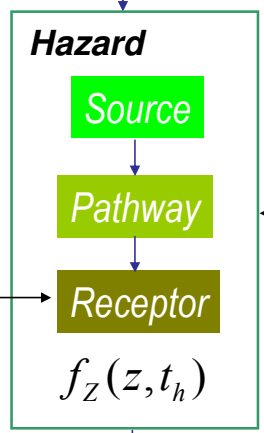
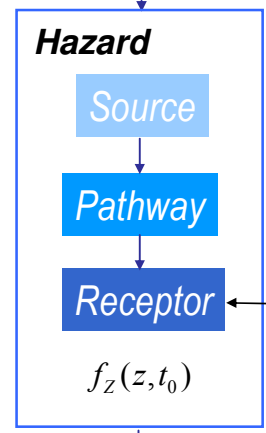


$$R \approx P_u E(z_u) V(z_u),$$

# 4. Risk

Present  $t_0 \approx 2010$

Scenario  $t_h \approx 2025, 2055, 2085$



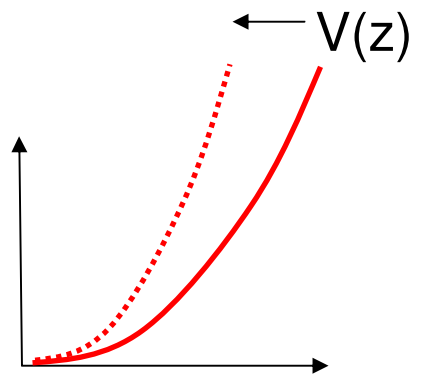
Risk  $R_{t_0}$

Risk  $R_{t_h}$

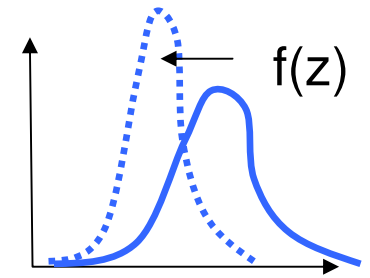
Mitigation option

- $\downarrow R_{t_h}$
- $R_{t_h} - R_{t_0} = 0$
- $R_{t_h} = a$

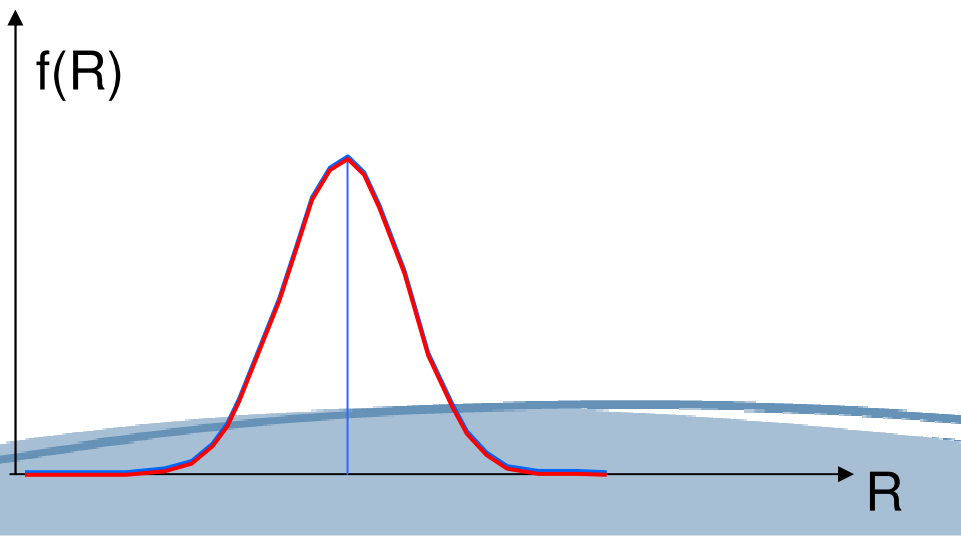
Do nothing



- change vulnerability
- change hazard



- $\downarrow R_{t_h}$
- $R_{t_h} - R_{t_0} = 0$
- $R_{t_h} = a$





**1. Motivation and Objectives**

**2. Time and spatial scales**

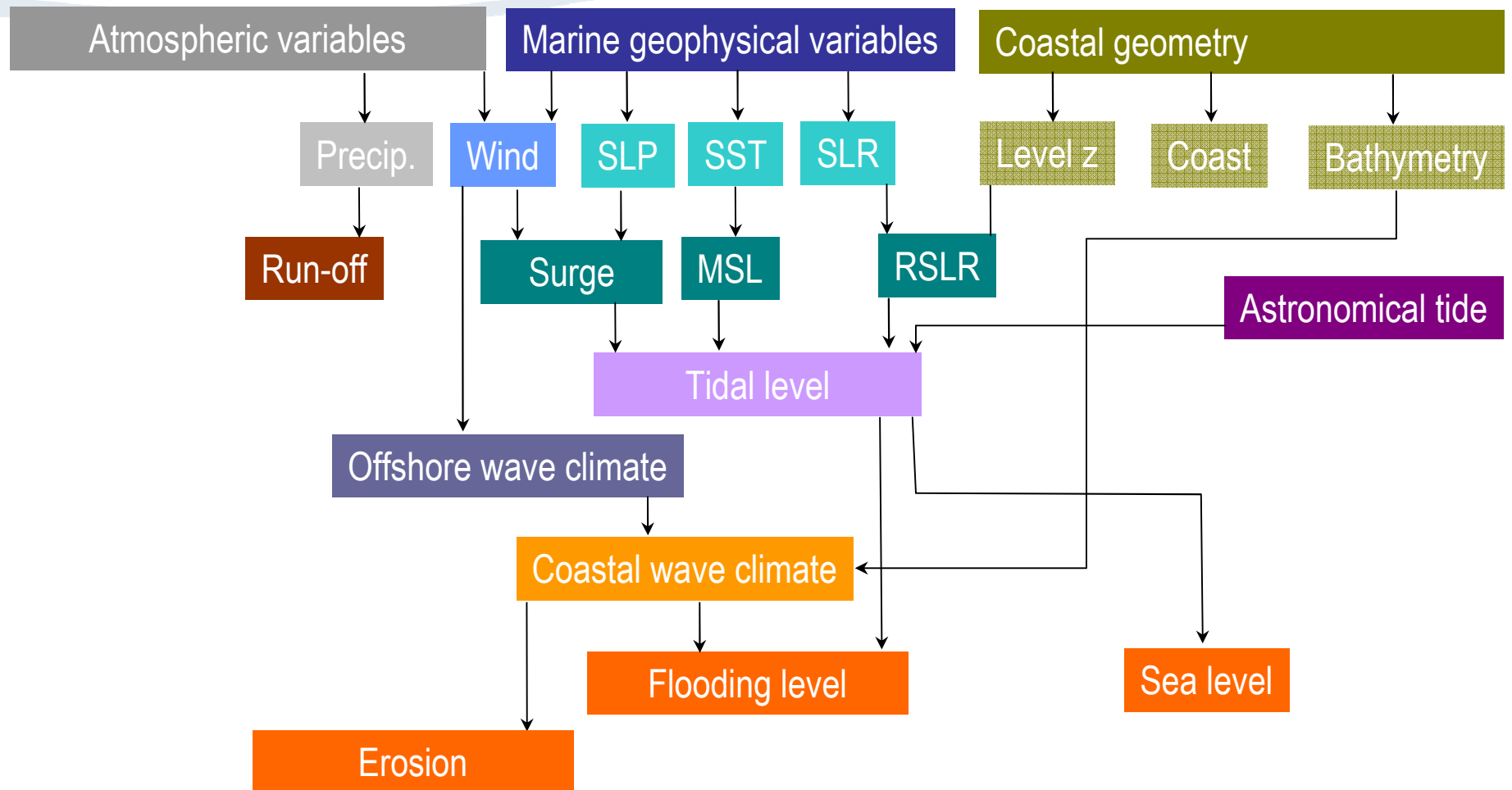
**3. Global framework**

**4. Risk**

**5. Hazard**

**6. Vulnerability**

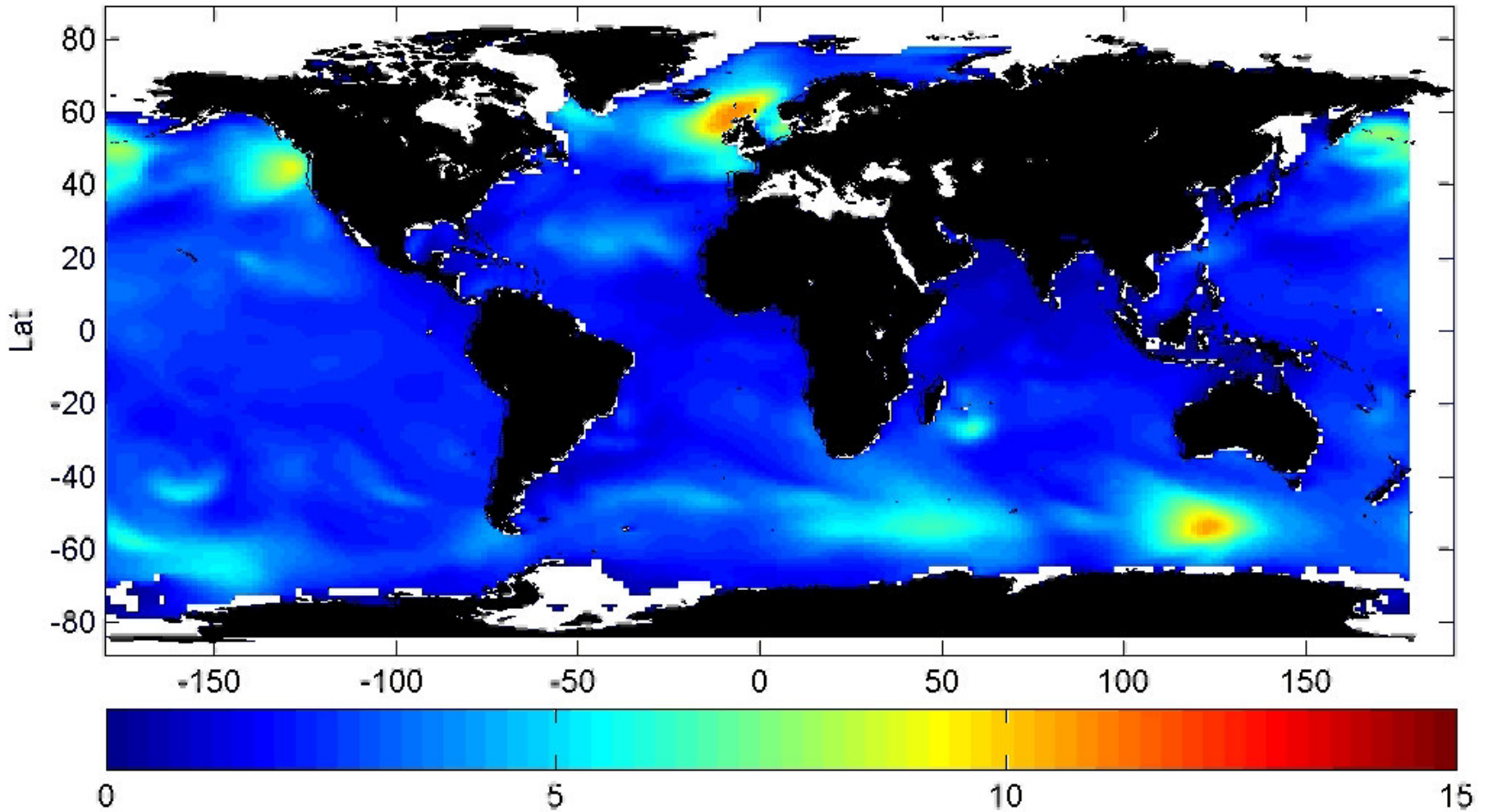
**7. Integration of Risk**



$f_z(z)$   
Probability density  
function of the hazard

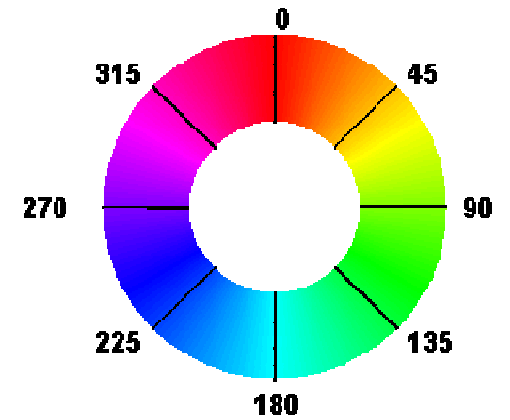
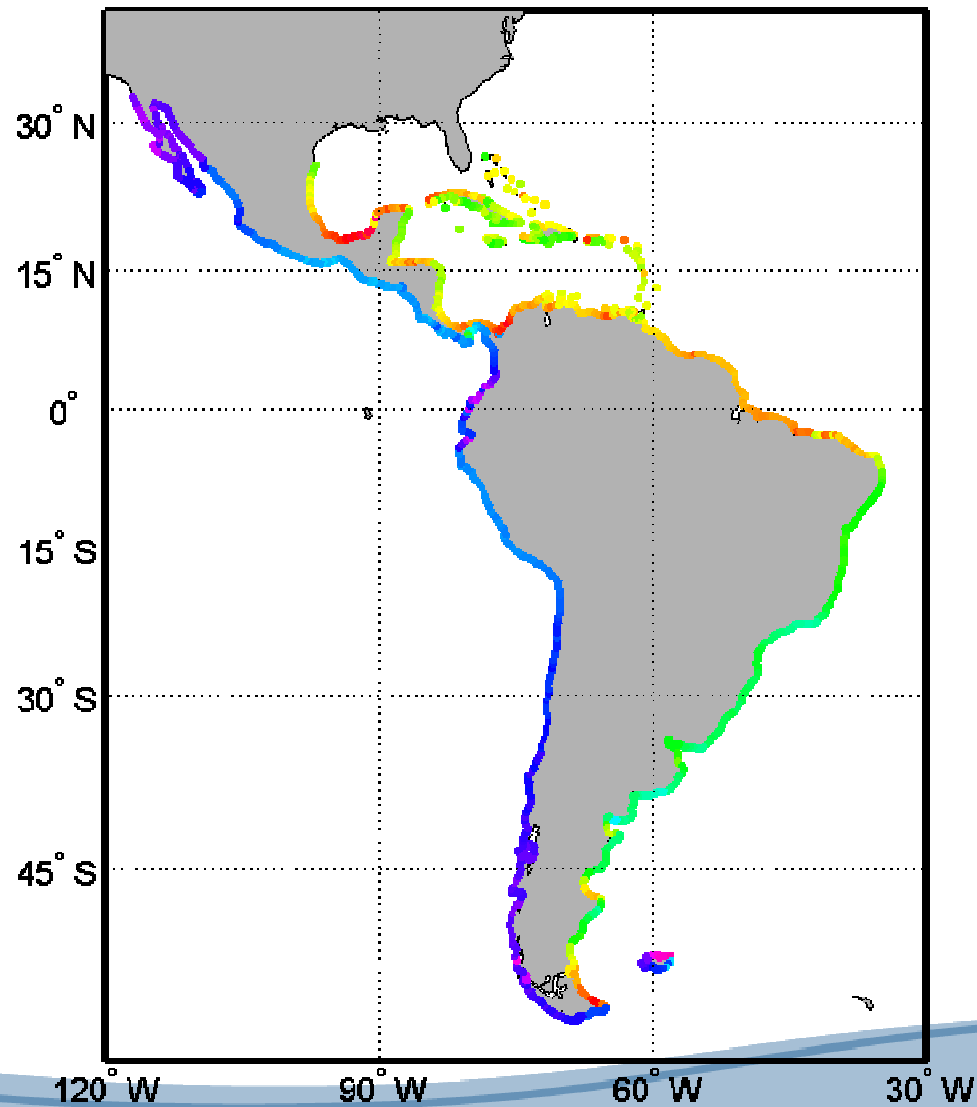
- Examples of Hazards:
- Extreme value distribution of flooding level
  - Extreme value distribution of overtopping
  - Long-term distribution of multivariate wave climate
  - Long-term distribution of littoral transport
  - Long-term distribution of mean energy flux direction

GOW Date: 01/02/2008 Time: 00:00:00





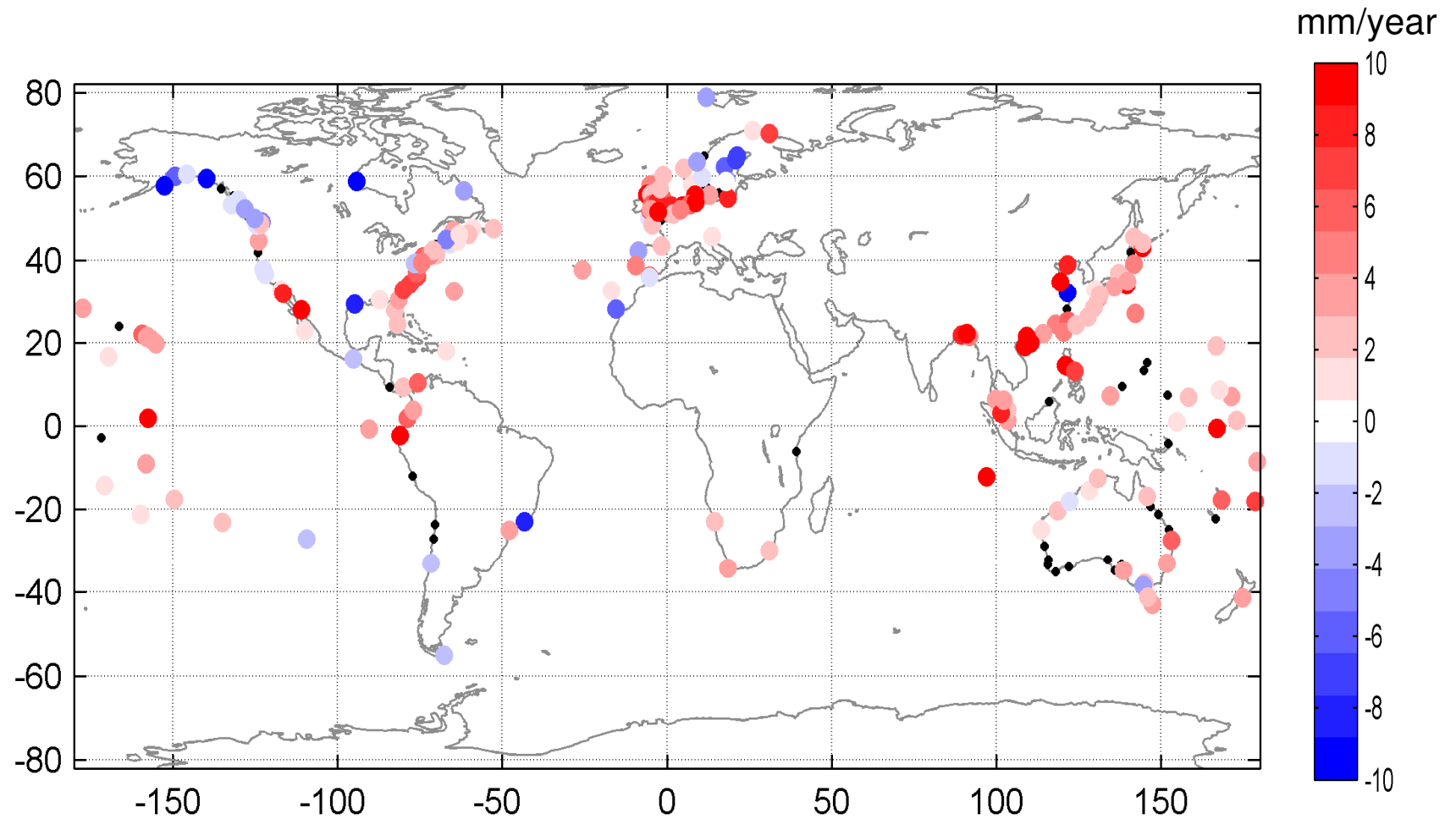
## Mean Energy Flux Average Direction



## Tidal gauges

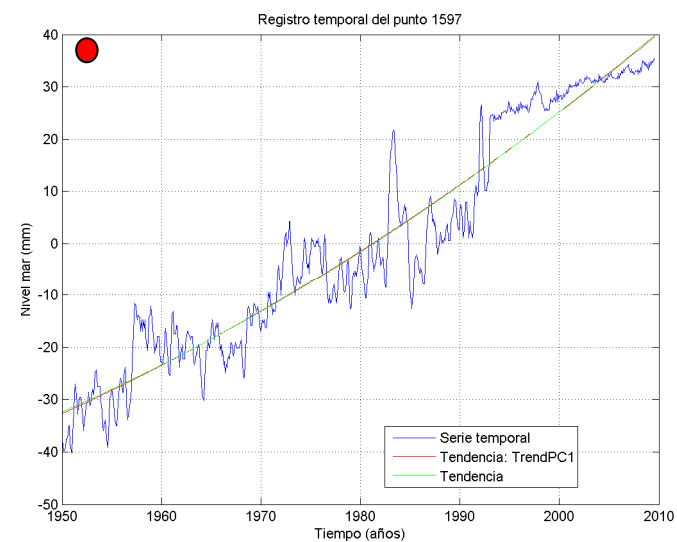
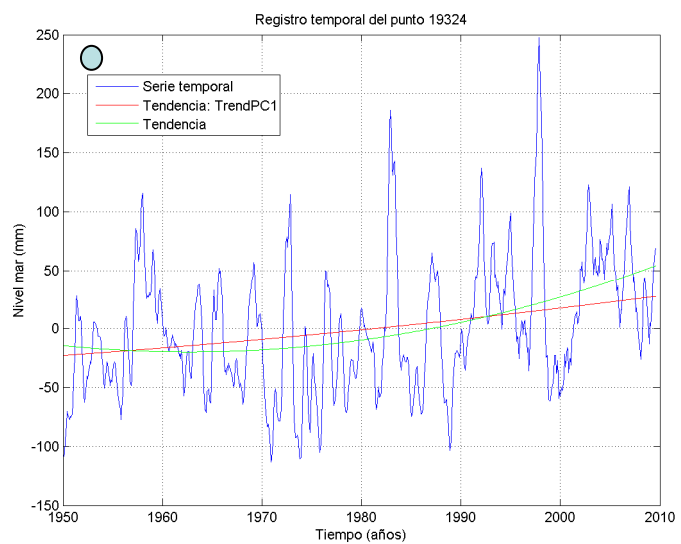
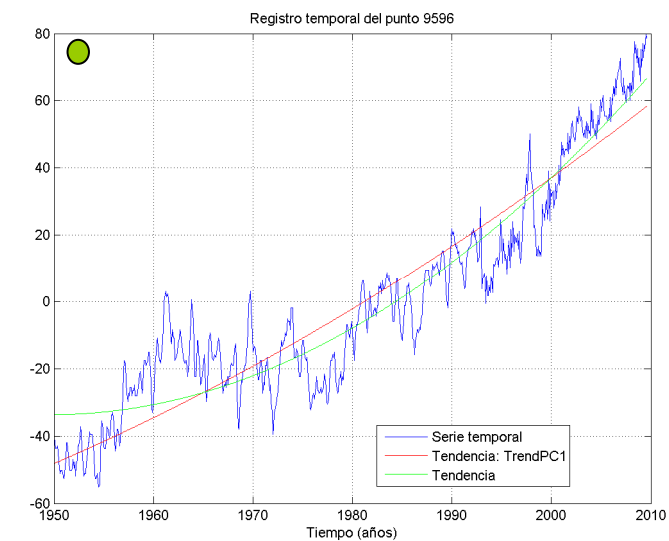
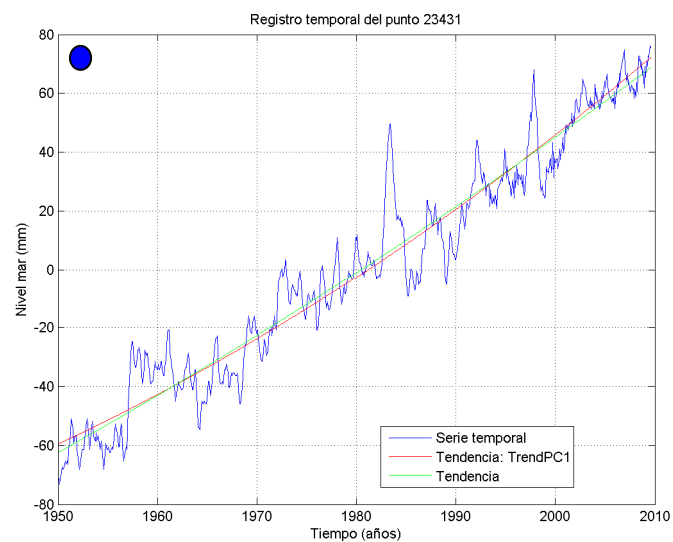
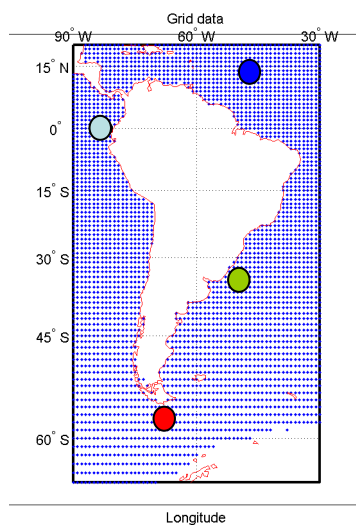


Tidal gauges. Long-term trends of extreme sea levels (Menendez and Woodworth, 2010)





### 5.4. Ascenso del nivel medio del mar



## 5. Hazard





**1. Motivation and Objectives**

**2. Time and spatial scales**

**3. Global framework**

**4. Risk**

**5. Hazard**

**6. Vulnerability**

**7. Integration of Risk**



### Biome (Ecosystems)

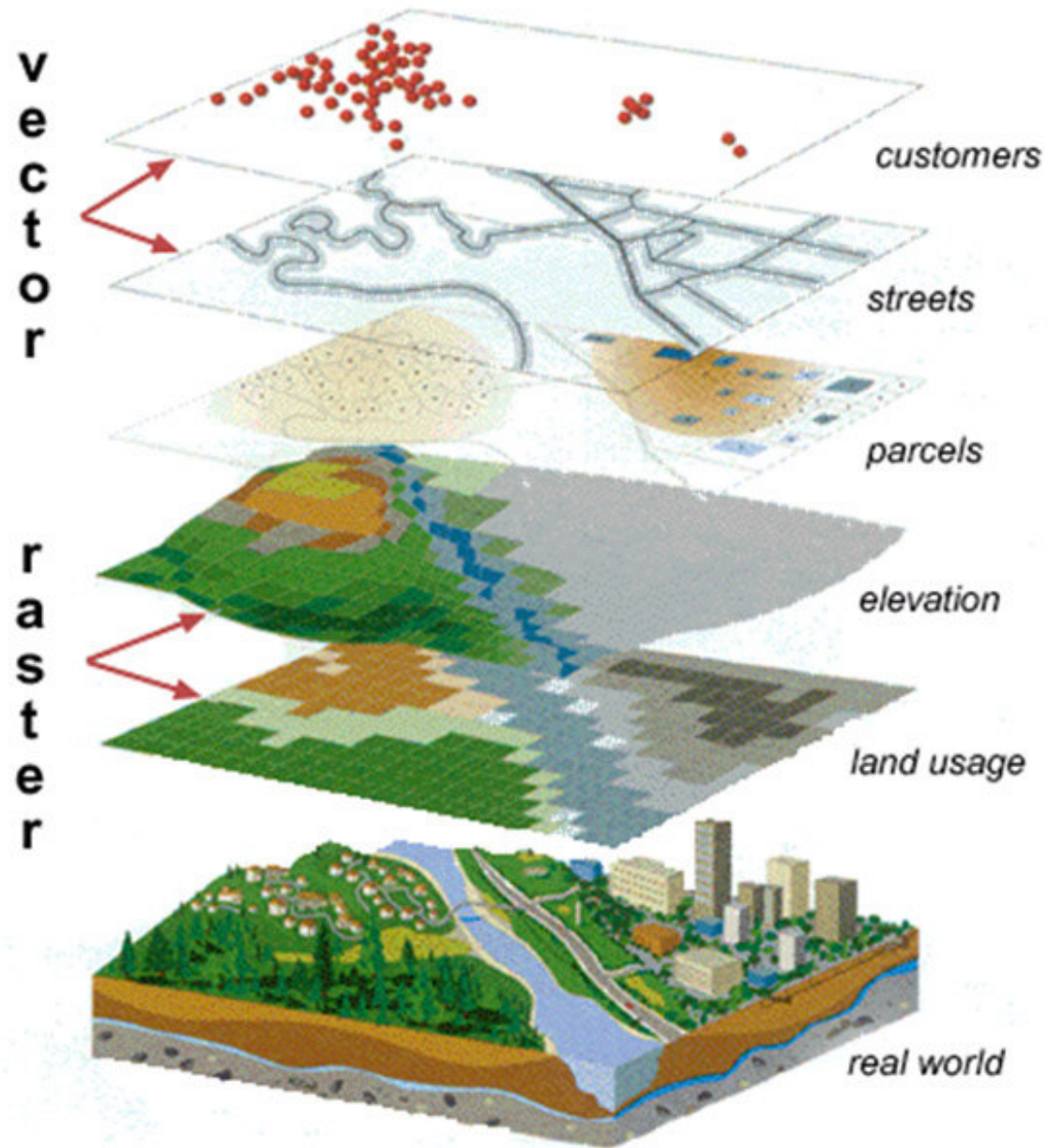
Beach  
Mangrove  
Cliff  
Coral  
Estuary  
Delta  
Forest  
Desert  
Dunes

### Socioeconomical Sectors

Infrastructures  
Industry  
Tourism  
Agriculture  
Urban  
Services  
Population

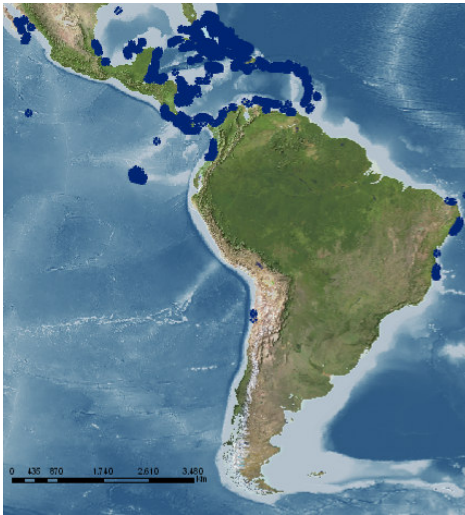
Wastewater and water supply networks  
Telecommunications  
Transport network  
Energy network

### G.I.S.

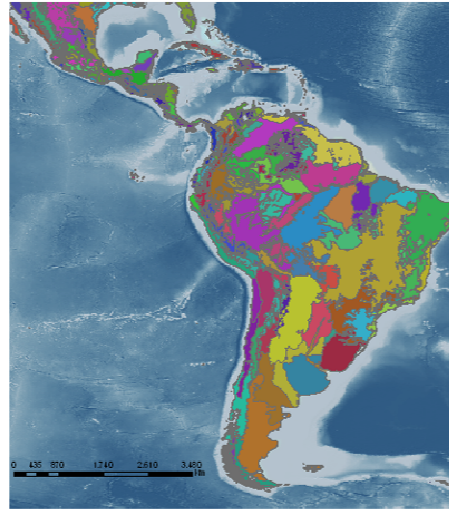


## G.I.S.

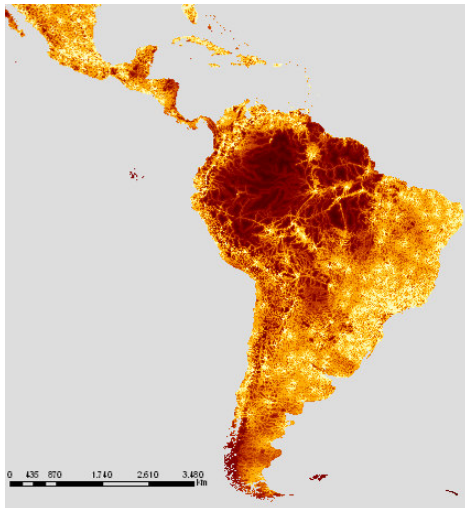
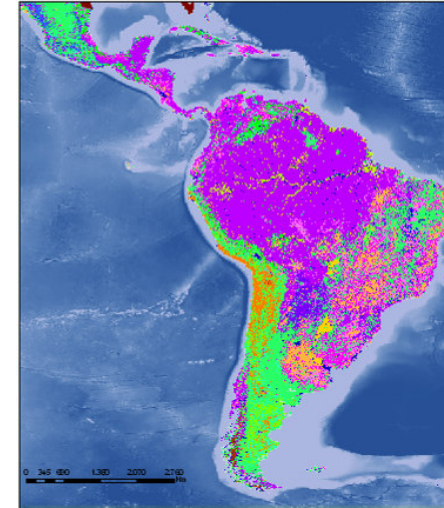
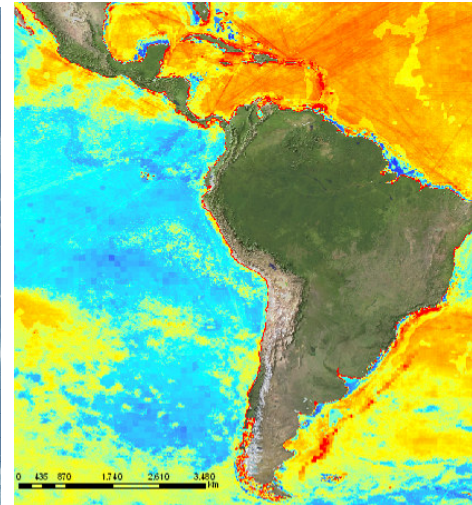
Reefs



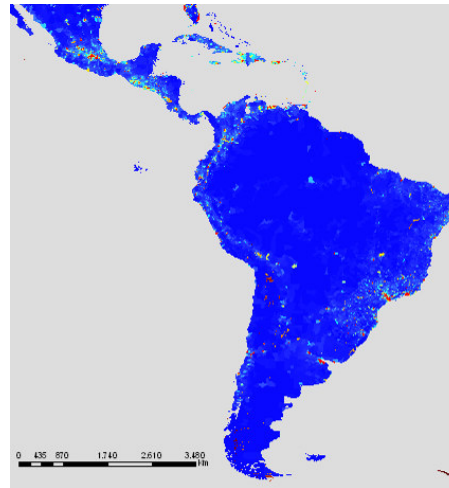
Ecosystems



Human impacts (marine ecosystems)



**Access**  
 (minutes to cities of  
 50.000 inhab.)



Population density



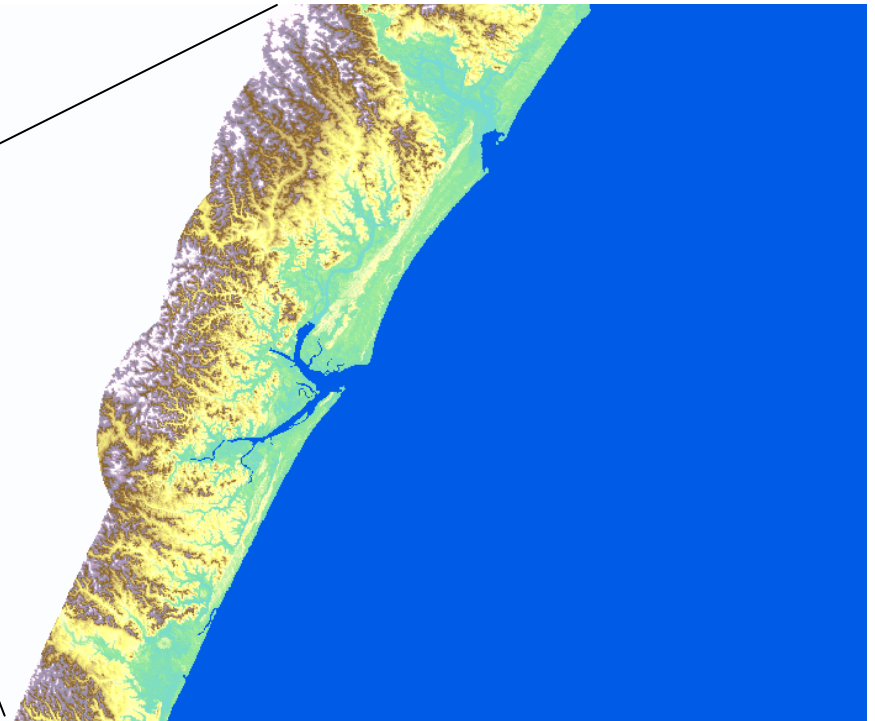
**Asentamientos**  
 (city lights)



### G.I.S.

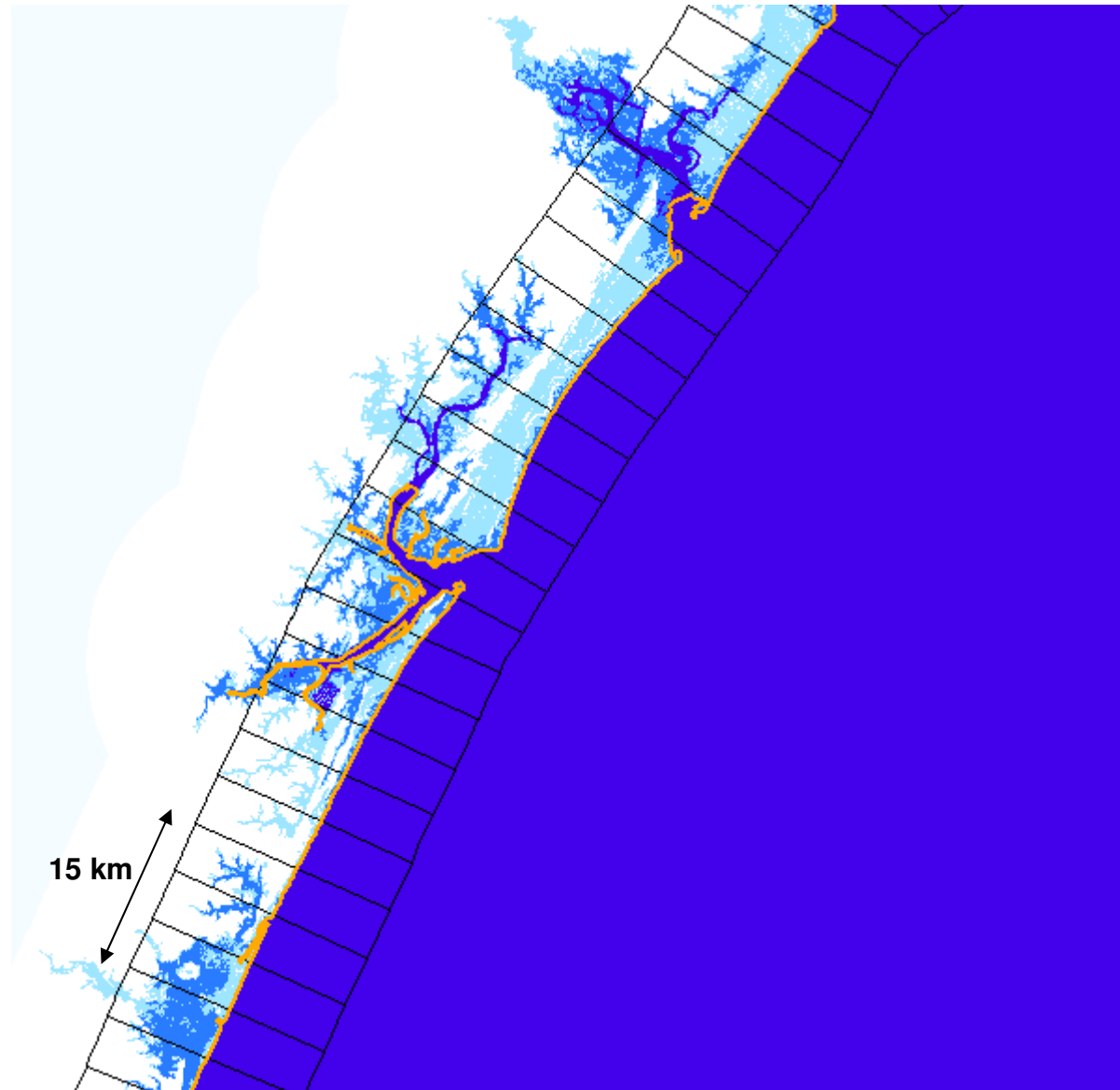


Digital Terrain Model



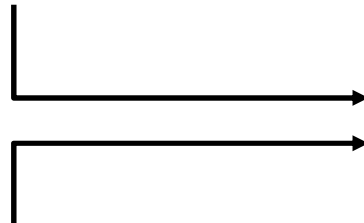
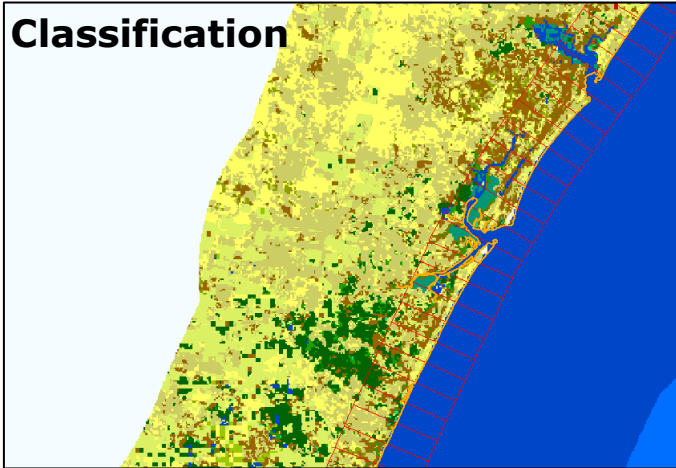
### G.I.S.

- Level 10m
- Level 5m
- Level 1m
- Shoreline
- Elements

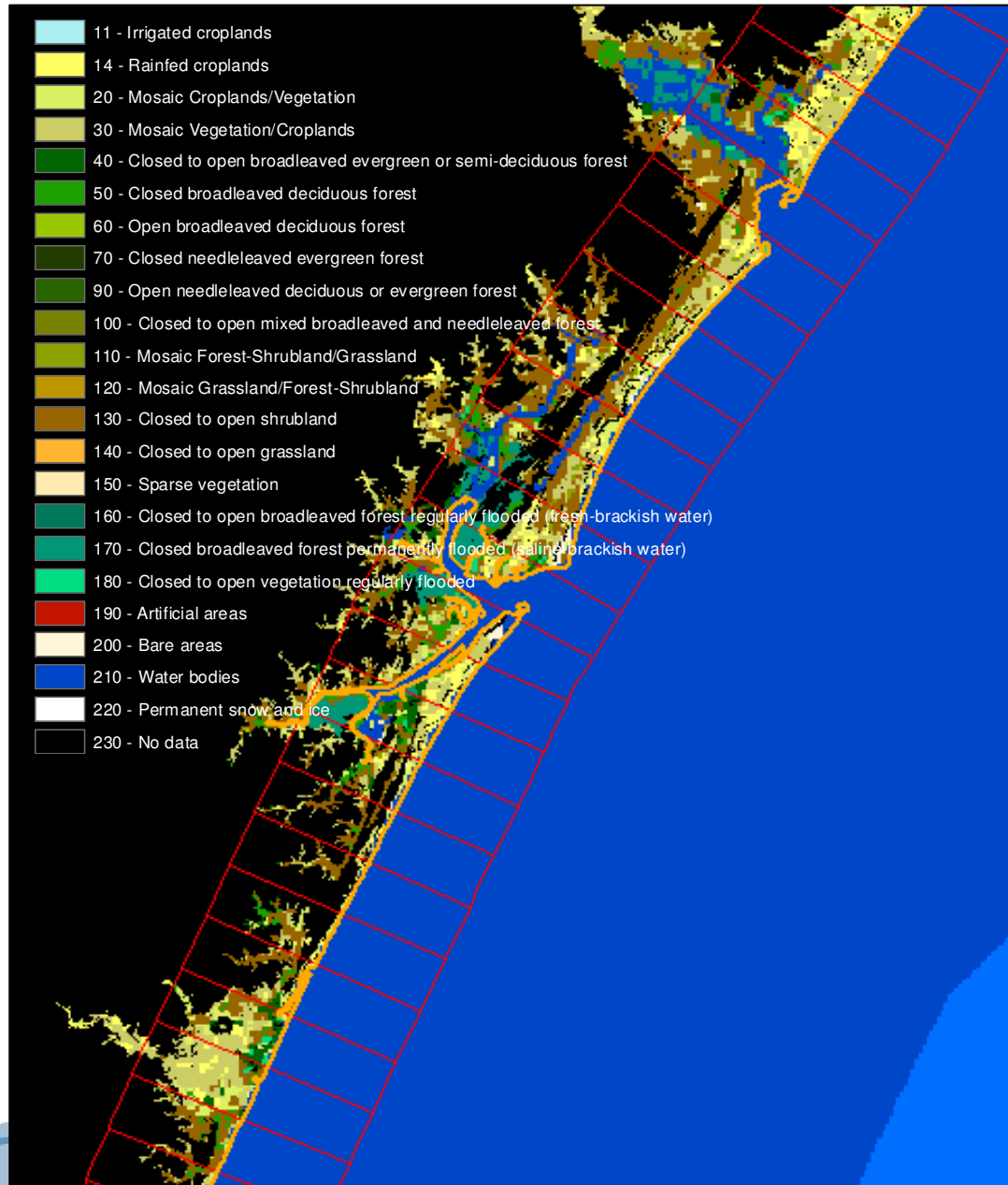
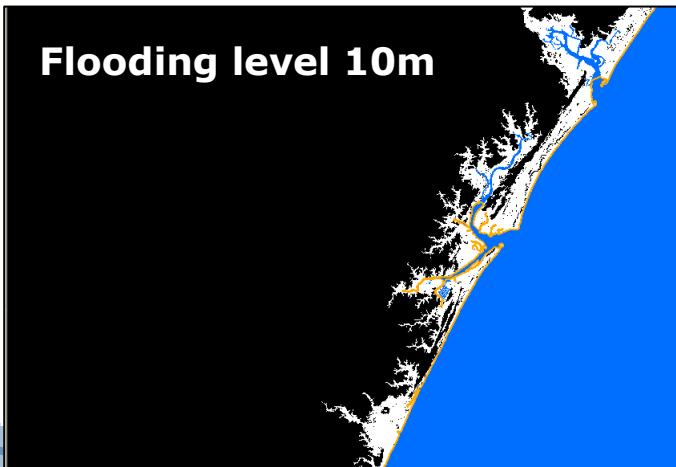


### G.I.S.

#### Classification



#### Flooding level 10m





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**2. Time and spatial scales**

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**4. Risk**

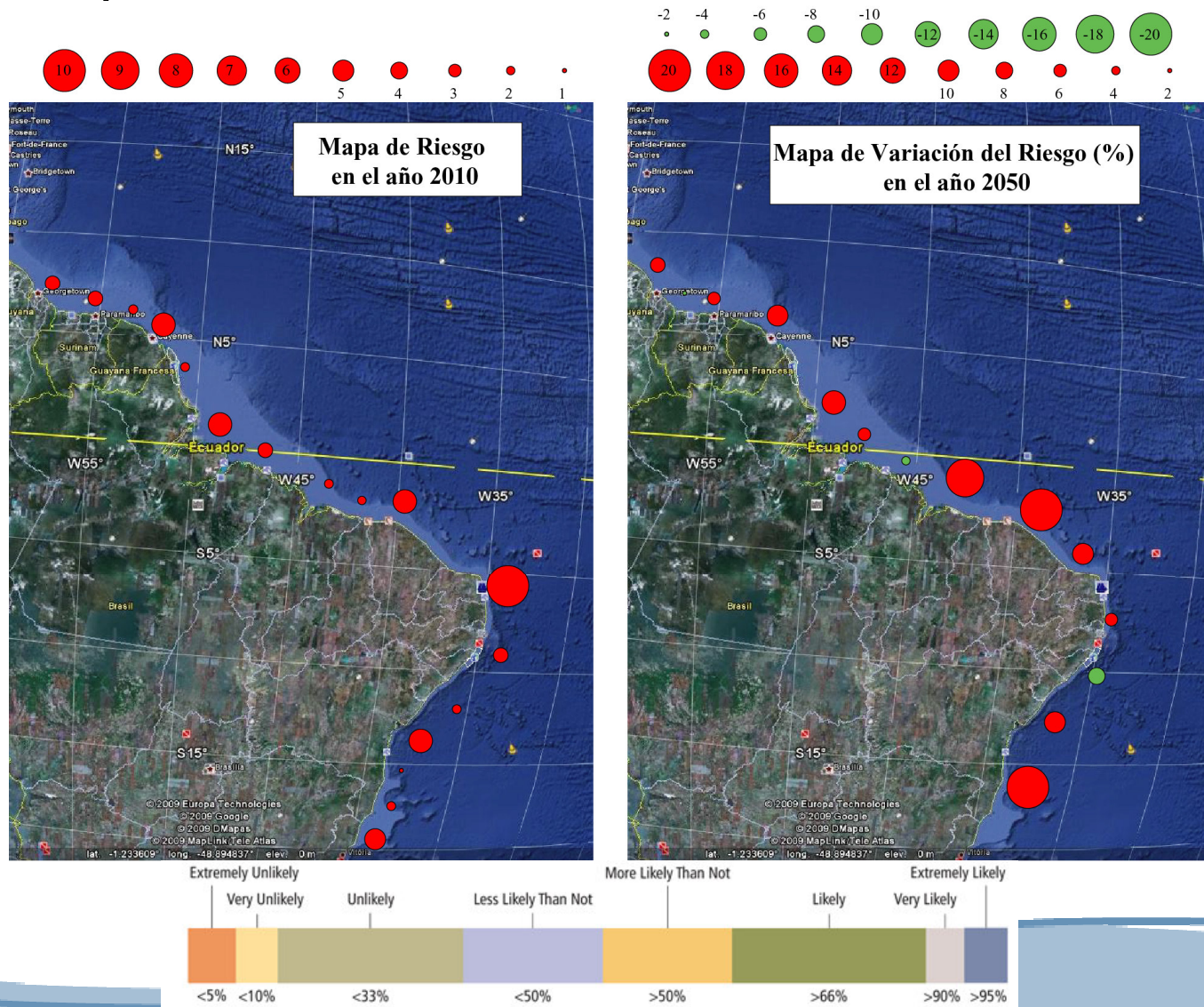
**5. Hazard**

**6. Vulnerability**

**7. Integration of Risk**

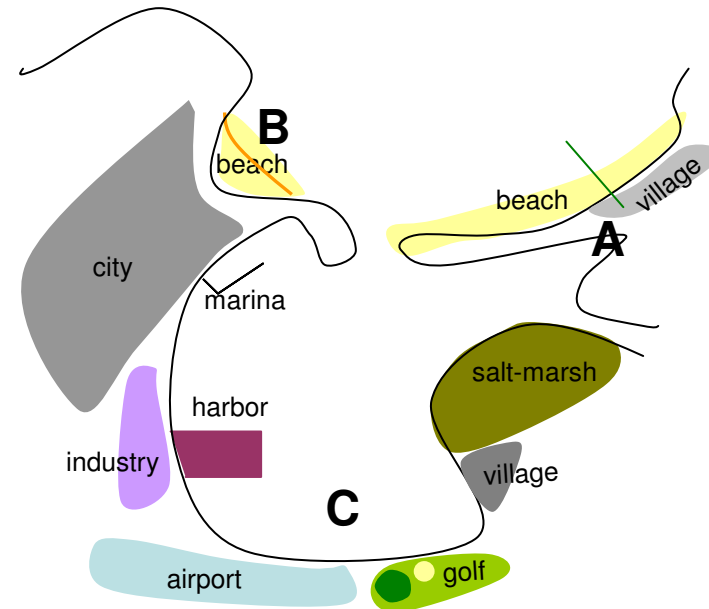


- Risk maps



# City-Urban Scale

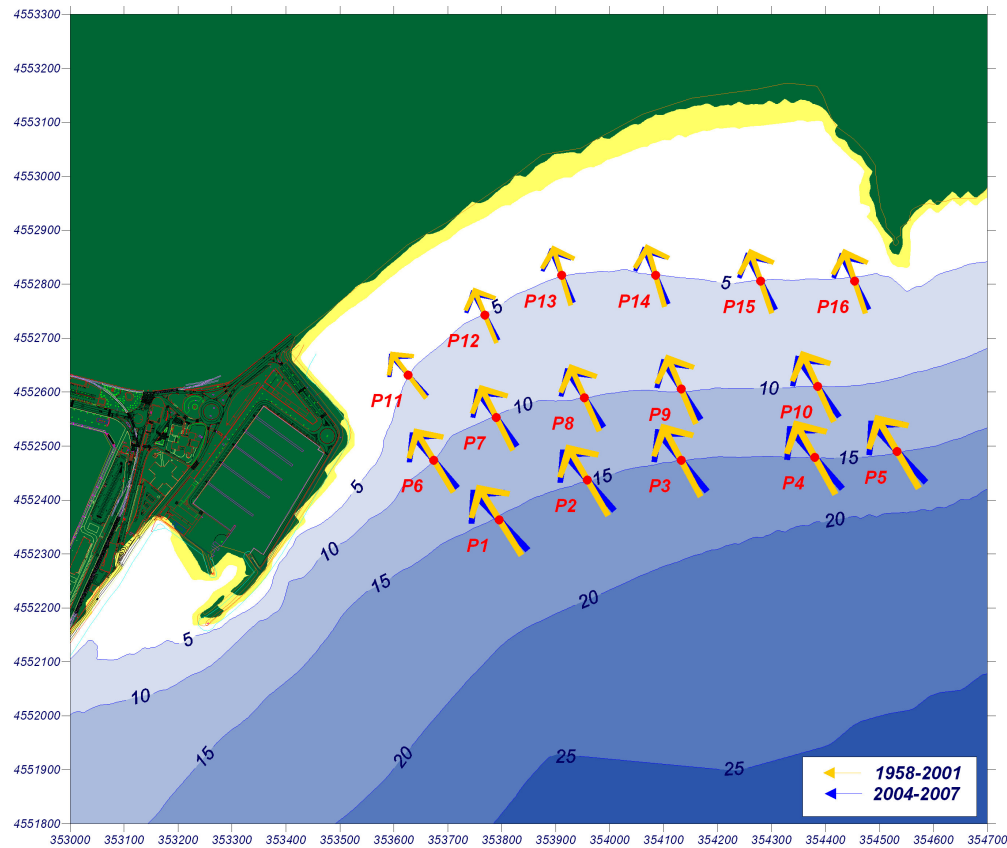




$f_Z(z)$

Probability density  
function of the hazard

- Examples of Hazards:
- Extreme value distribution of flooding level **A, C**
  - Extreme value distribution of overtopping **A**
  - Long-term distribution of multivariate wave climate **A**
  - Long-term distribution of littoral transport
  - Long-term distribution of mean energy flux direction **B**

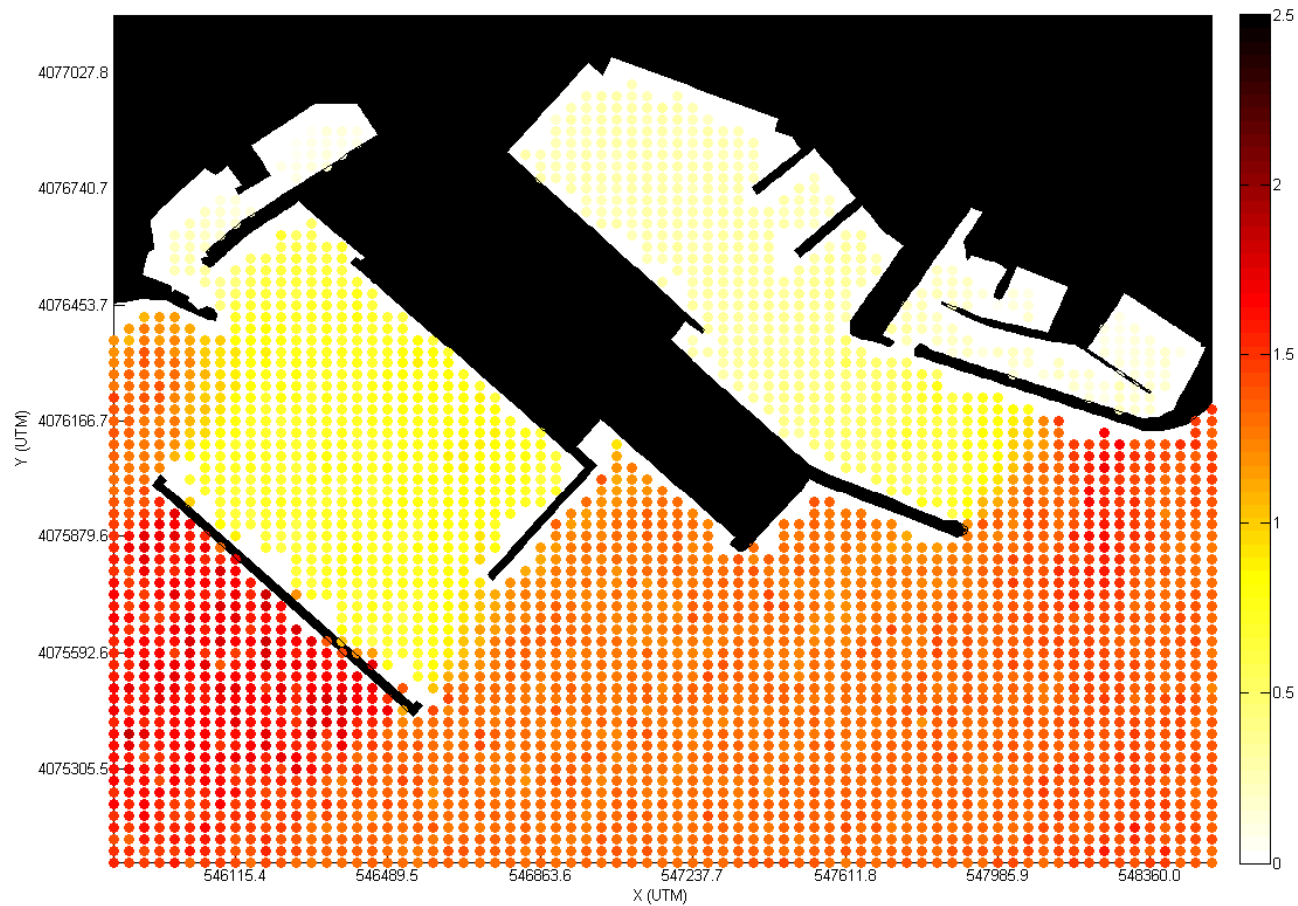


**El Milagro Beach (Tarragona)**



**Shoreline variation due to changes in wave direction based on observations**

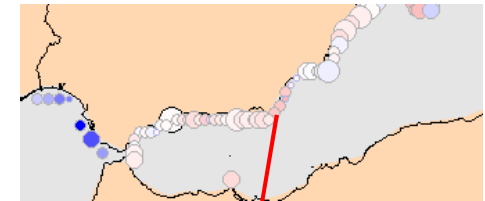
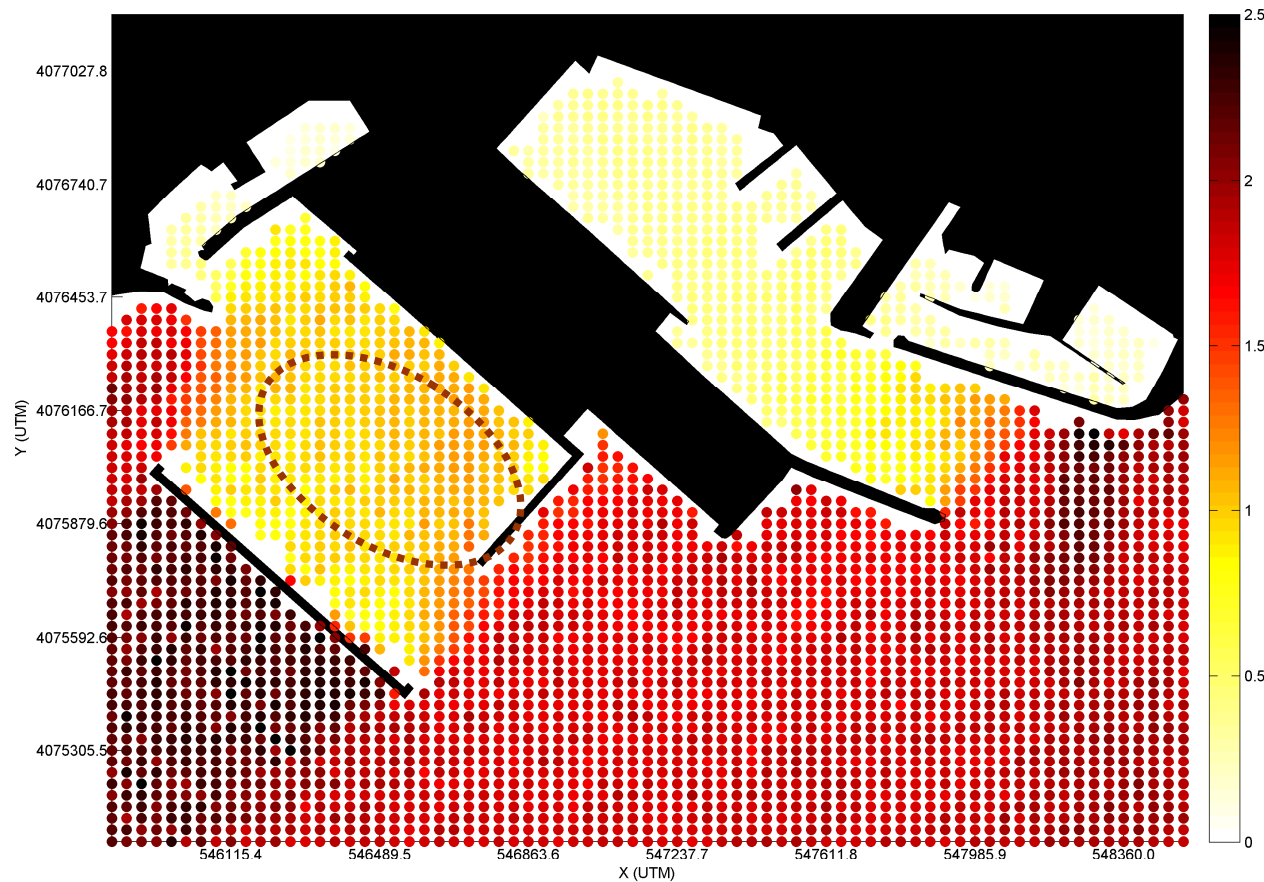
## 95% percentile of significant wave height Port operations



**Yellow/white dots:  
below non-operation  
wave height threshold**



## 95% percentile of significant wave height



Long-term trends of wave climate at 2050

$\Delta H = 30$  cm

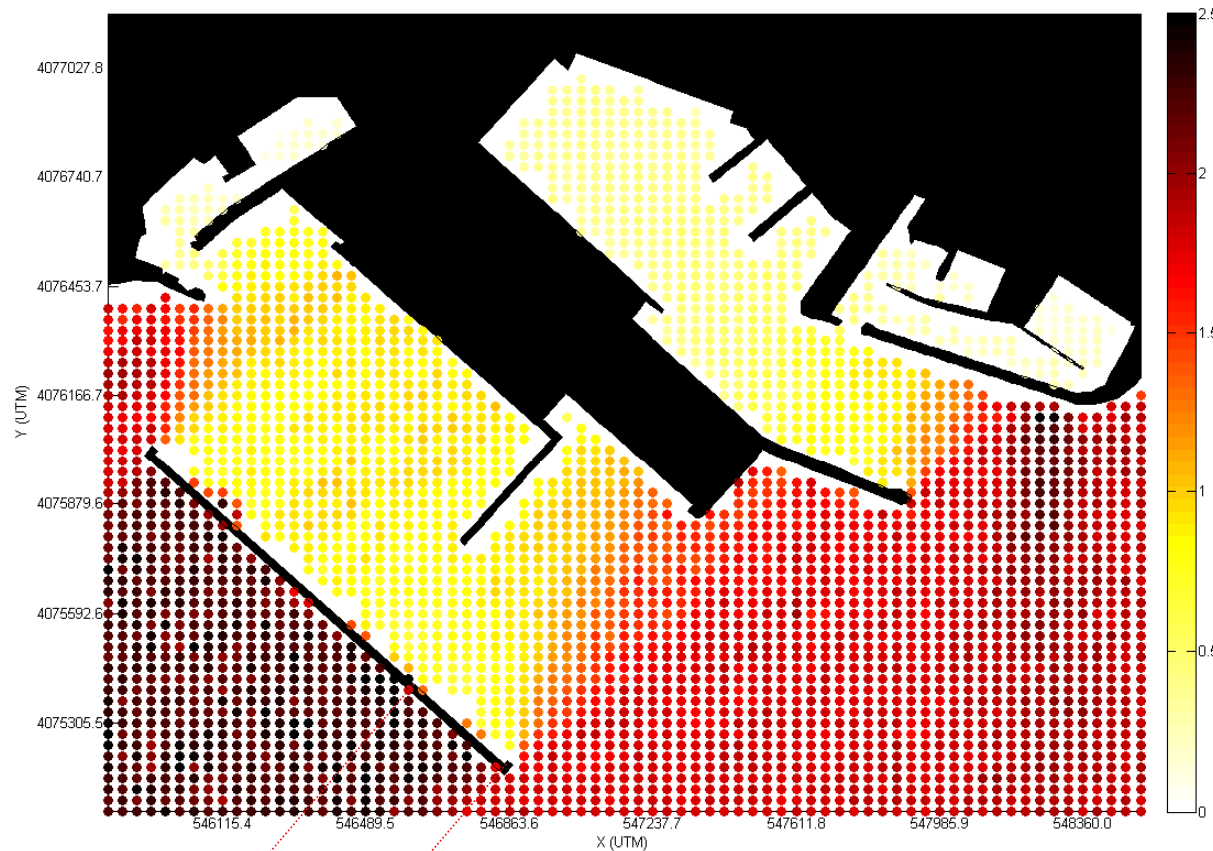
sea level rise at 2050

$\Delta \eta = 15$  cm.

Reduction of harbour operation time  
200 hours/year

**Losses 0.5M€/year**

# Adaptation



**Objective: reestablish  
current situation**

**Action: Increase vertical  
breakwater length caissons**

**200 m length  
15 m wide  
25 m vertical**

**60 €/m<sup>3</sup>**

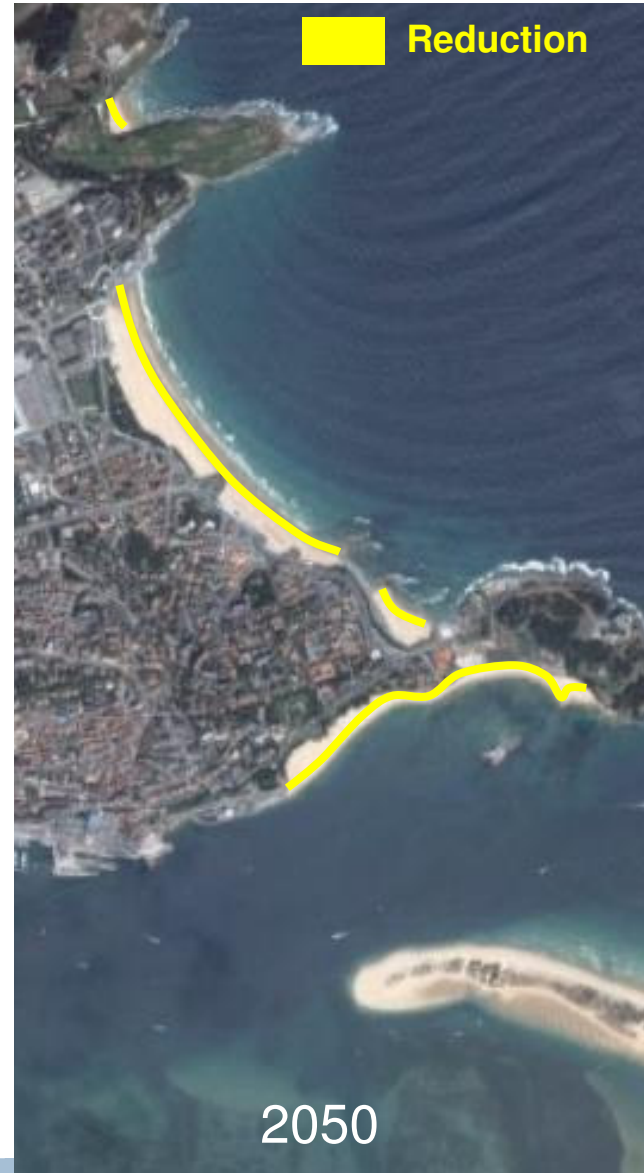
**Adaptation cost: 4.6 M€**

# Beaches





# Adaptation



Shoreline retreat at 2050 = 8 m

**Impact: Reduction of  
30% beach surface  
20.000 users loss**

**Objective: reestablish  
current situation**

**Action: Beach  
nourishment**

8 m x 2500 m x 10 m  
Sand 20€/m<sup>3</sup>

**Adaptation cost: 4 M€**



*Climate Change and related issues in coastal and marine areas: from science to policy*

*Session 1: Science Results on the impacts of climate change in coastal and marine areas*

# Climate Change Impacts on coastal areas

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