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SPATIALLY-EXPLICIT MODELLING OF THE SALT MARSH WAVE ATTENUATION USING PRESSURE MEASUREMENTS, UAV IMAGERY AND LIDAR DATA











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Introduction Among the consequences of global changes, an increase of coastal risks is widely expected. Indeed, The sea-level rise conjugated with spring tides and hazardous storms, can lead to extreme sea-levels, in worldwide coastal areas subject to unprecedented demographic exposure, thus risks. In this context, many methods, using conventional engineering or soft management, are used or experimented to reduce the coastal risk of marine flooding, thus protecting the human stakes.

Coastal wetlands and especially salt marsh areas, can play a major role into the risk mitigation by acting as a natural buffer zone. So, we propose here a simple but robust solution to quantify and map the very high resolution wave attenuation service offered by a coastal marsh using an easy-to-implement combinaison of in situ pressure measurements and in silico optical imagery.

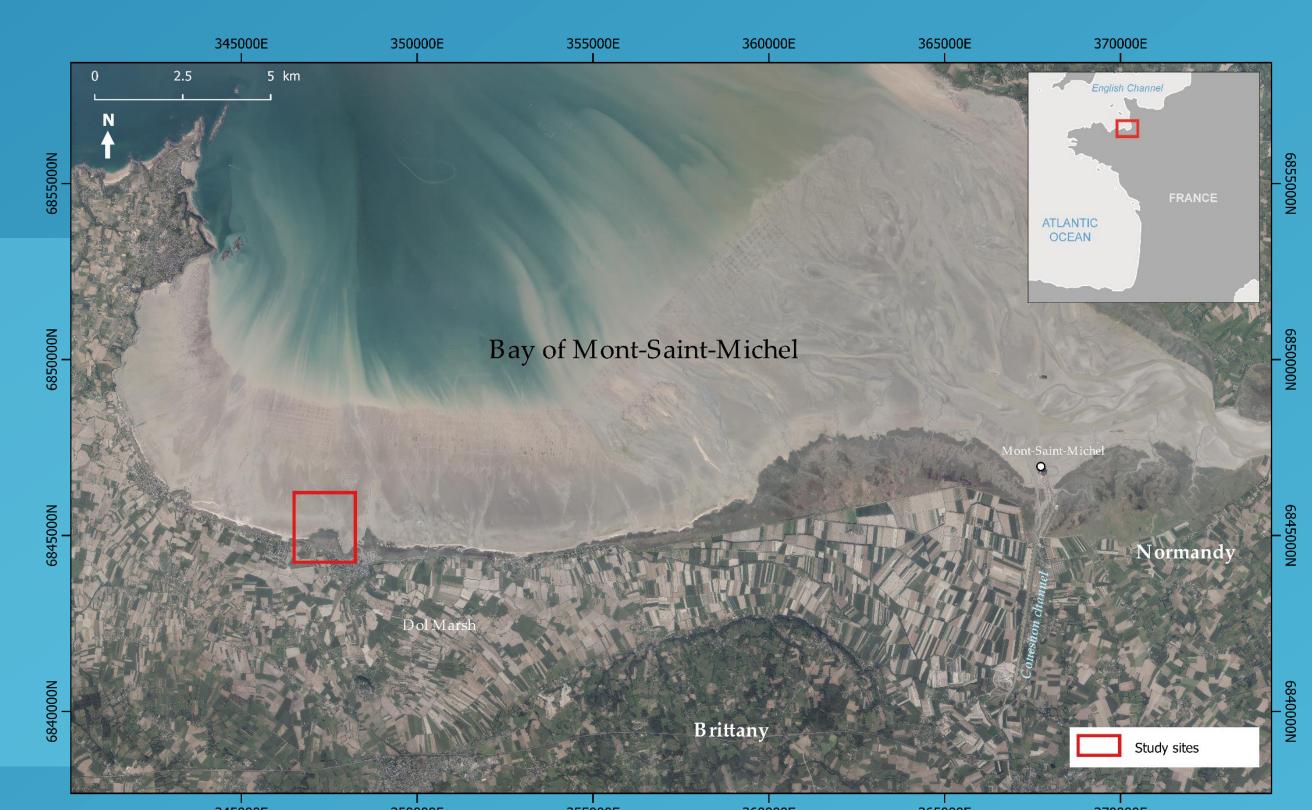


Figure 1. Location of the study area in the megatidal bay of Mont-Saint-Michel (France)

Wave attenuation measurements

Material and methods

- 1. Deployment of pressure sensors NKE SP2T10 (Figure 2) along two crossshore transects (T1 and T2)
- 2. Pressure data acquired at a frequency of 2 Hz are corrected and converted into water heights, from which the wave signal is extracted for the determination of significant wave heights (Hs).
- 3. The wave attenuation is determined from the average of significant wave height calculated over two hours of high tide, then turn into attenuation per unit of distance (%/m) to be easily compared between study sites.

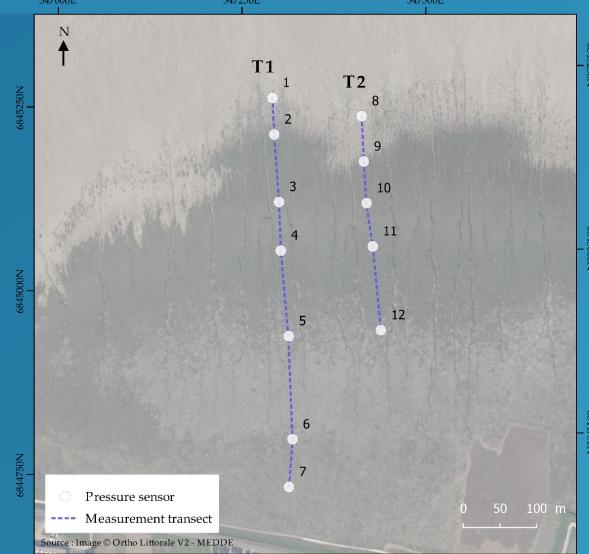
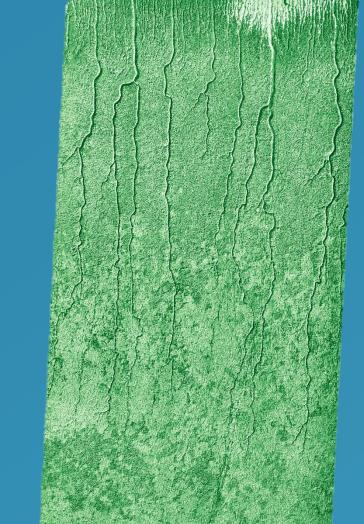


Figure 2. Location map of the several measurement points

Red band

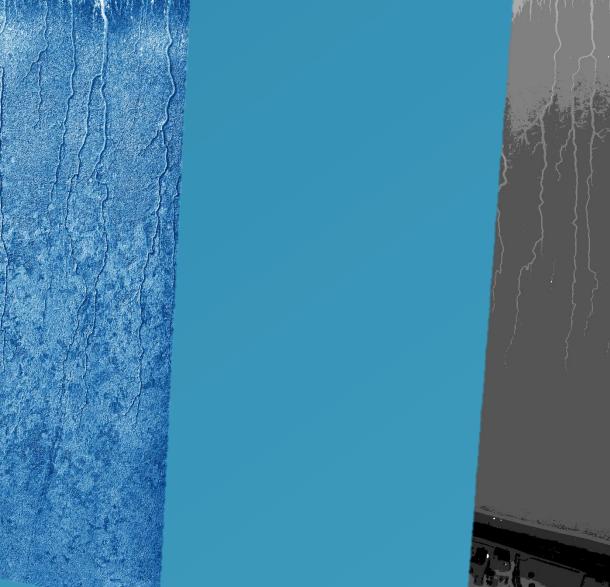


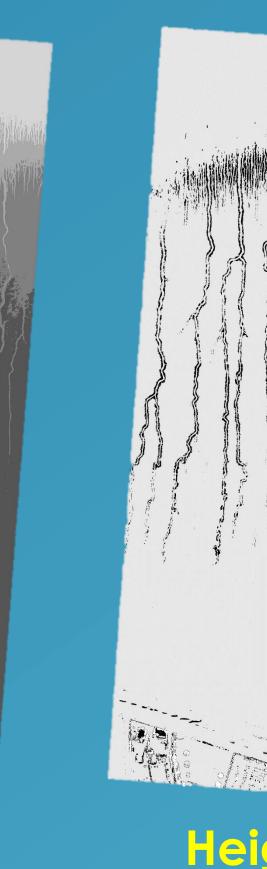
Green band

UAV imagery (0.1 m × 0.1 m)

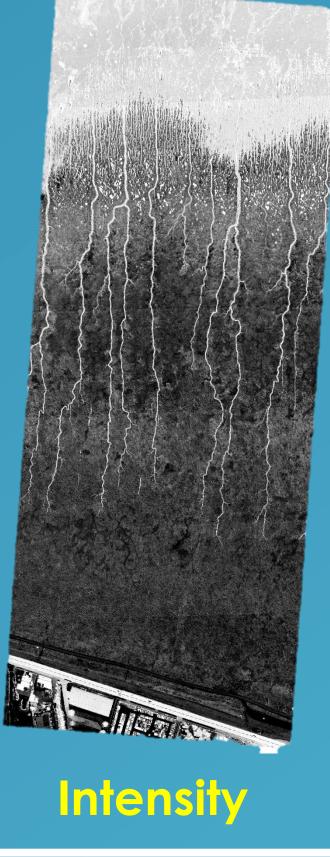


Blue band





LiDAR data (0.1 m × 0.1 m)



r = 0.64

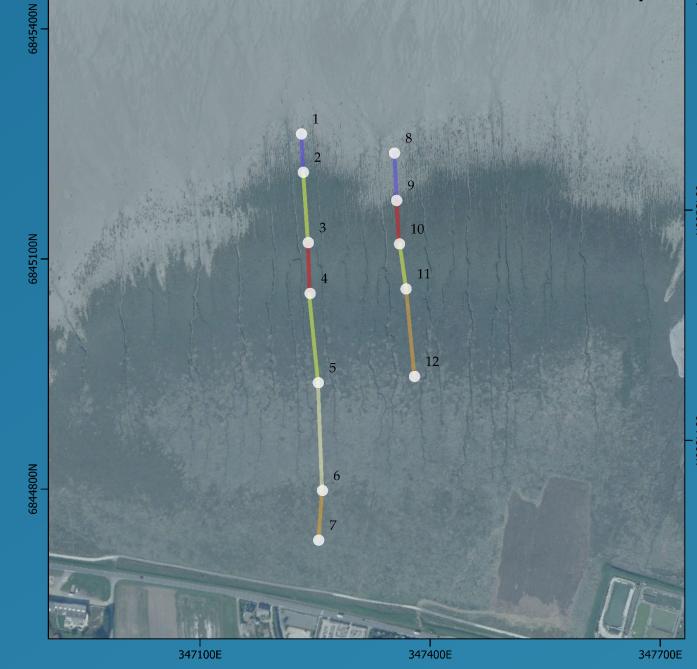
Elevation

Simple and Multiple regression models

Predictors

Wave attenuation results

models



Attenuation values (%/m)

- -0.01 0.00 **—** 0.00 - 0.50
- **—** 0.50 0.75 **—** 0.75 - 1.00
- **—** 1.00 1.12

Figure 3. Mapping of the wave attenuation along two cross-shore transects

 $R^2 = 0.59$

r = 0.76

Standard error = 0.29

Elevation-/Blue-All-based Blue-based Attenuation values (%/m) model based model model -0.1 0.117 0.333 0.55 0.767 Mapping 0.983 1.2 results R²: Linear coefficient of determination r: Linear coefficient of correlation (Pearson) Figure 4. Spatially-explicit

 $R^2 = 0.41$

r = 0.64

Standard error = 0.33

0 100 200 m

 $R^2 = 0.52$

r = 0.72

Standard error = 0.29

Conclusion

- The salt marsh wave attenuation can be mapped at very high resolution using UAV and LiDAR predictors modeled by regression models
- Blue is the best UAV predictor (representing the absorption peak of chlorophyll pigments) $R^2 = 0.52$ Standard error = 0.29 r = 0.72
- Elevation is the best LiDAR predictor (representing the topography)
- Standard error = 0.33 $R^2 = 0.41$ Blue + Elevation is the best predictor's combination
 - Standard error = 0.29 $R^2 = 0.59$ r = 0.76
- Highest wave attenuations are located at the salt marsh edge, channels and high marsh

References:

 $R^2 = 0.62$

r = 0.79

Standard error = 0.43

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