

An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely Baltiysk, showing a river flowing through the center, a large body of water to the right, and a sandy beach along the coast. The town is densely packed with buildings and green spaces.

Spatial coastal protection as tool for sustainable development of coastal zones

Hans Kunz

International Conference (school-seminar)
on the Dynamics of Coastal Zone of Non-tidal Seas
Baltiysk (Kaliningrad Oblast), 30 June – 04 July 2008





Spatial coastal protection as tool for sustainable development of coastal zones

Remark: According to the focus of the conference, the presentation will concentrate on interactions between natural impacts and defence responses of the coastal society. The case studies are located in the North Sea with tidal conditions. However, presented results and conclusions can be transferred to non-tidal areas in general.

- **Coastal protection** comprises the control of “**erosion**” and “**flooding**” .
- **Claim** (vision) of a **Coastal Society** for coastal protection:
 - **control of erosion:** no losses of land – stop erosion and create new land!
 - **control of flood** : no failure of the existing “defence line” – guarantee safety!
- **Spatial coastal protection** allows and asks for flexible responses according to the site specific requirements of the extant or planned land use .
- Decisions of the Coastal Society on coastal protection means are (have always been) based on a complex process which is effected by multifarious factors.

Views on the Coastal Area

Key Factors for the Process towards Spatial Coastal Protection

Interaction of "Natural Conditions" & Coastal Protection Responses

- Juist Island
- Norderney Island/West

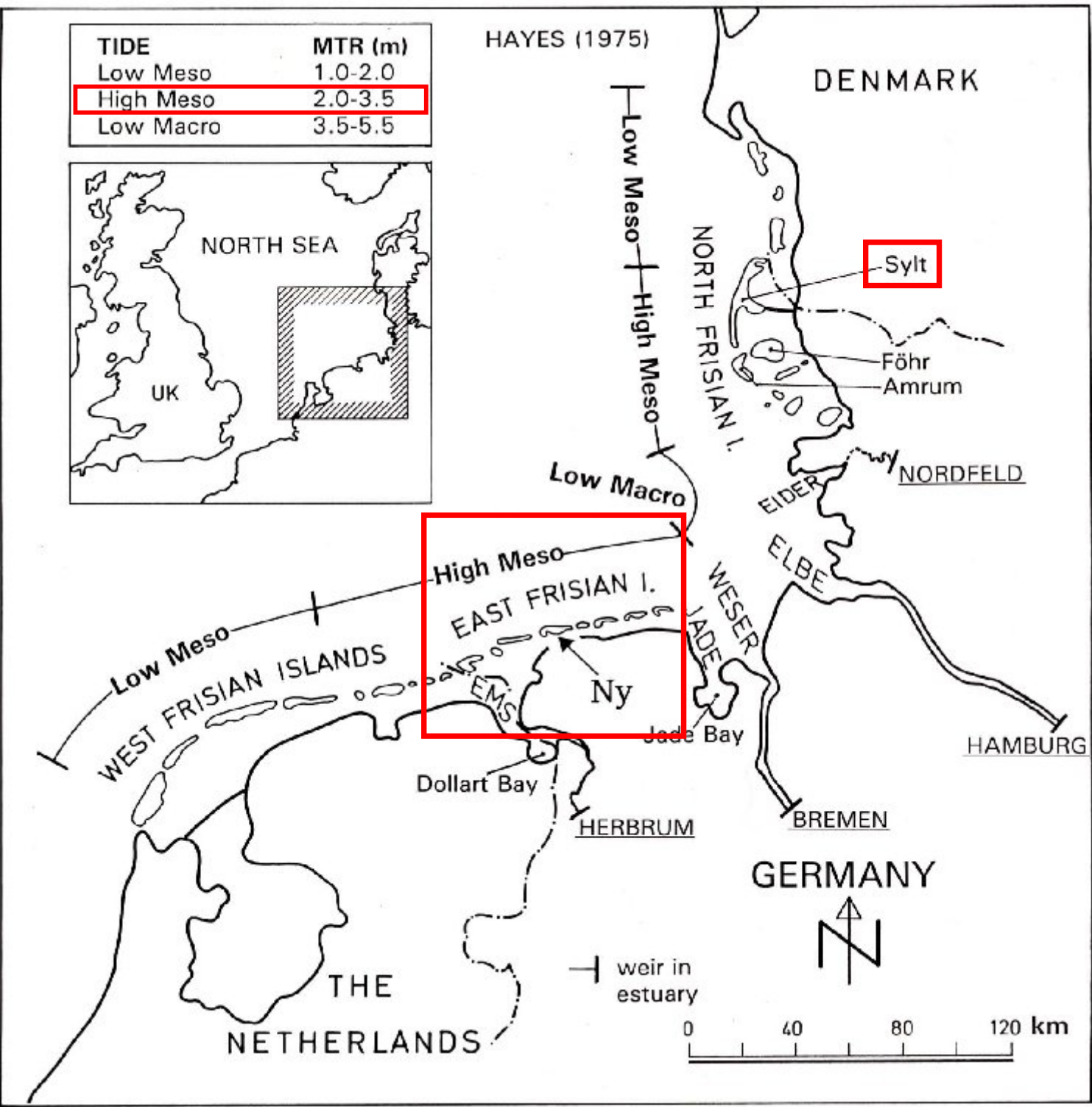
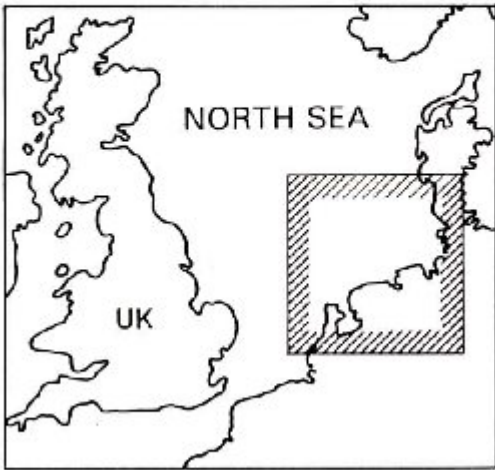
Long-term/Large-scale morphological investigations on "Coastal Steepening" (German Bight, North Sea)

- Development Flood Defence Line (Dike)
- Case Study CZM – Ley Bay

From One Line Flood Defence to Flexible Spatial Coastal Protection

TIDE	MTR (m)
Low Meso	1.0-2.0
High Meso	2.0-3.5
Low Macro	3.5-5.5

HAYES (1975)





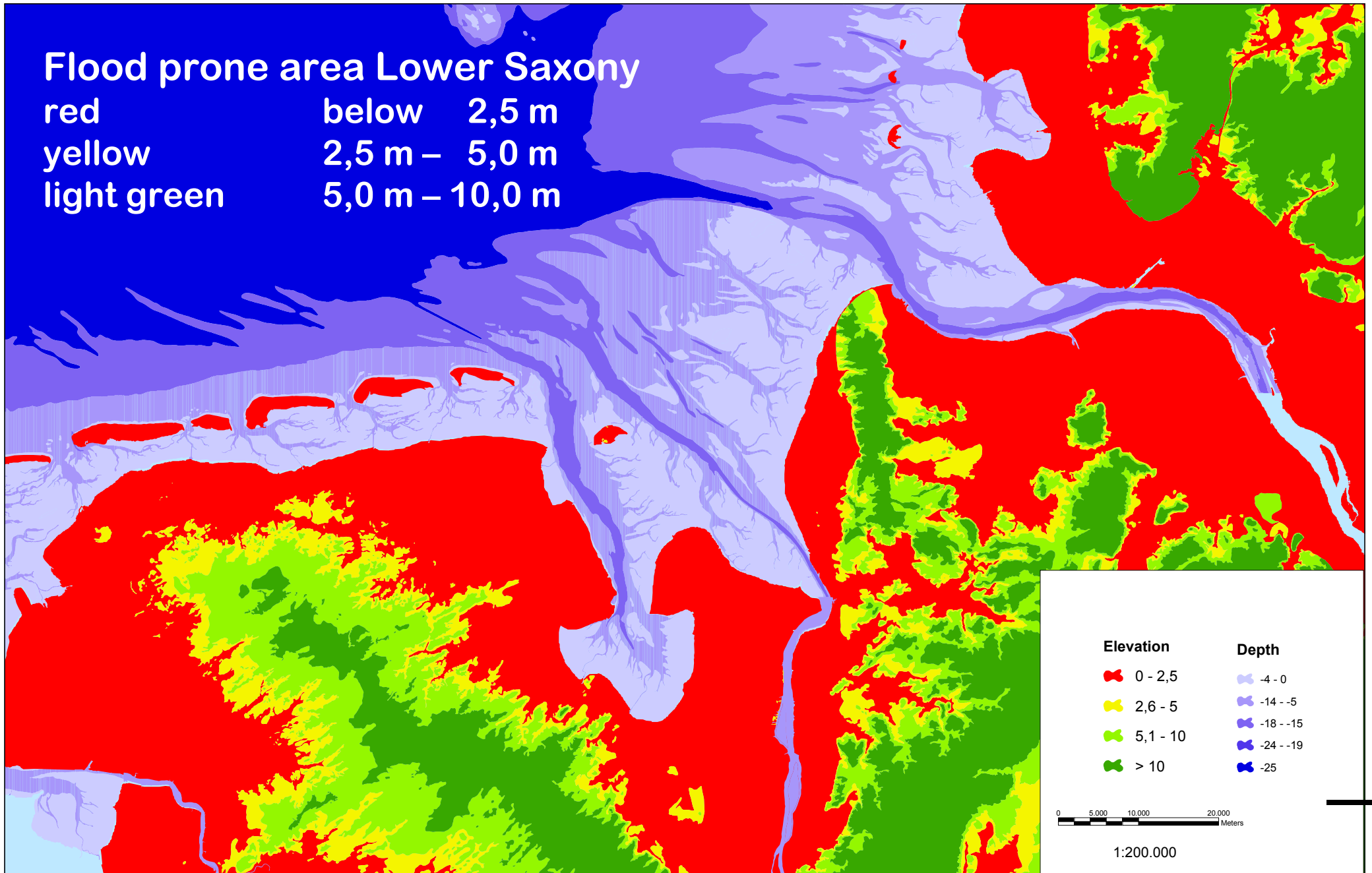
Satellite Image Sylt and
Föhr / North Frisian Island

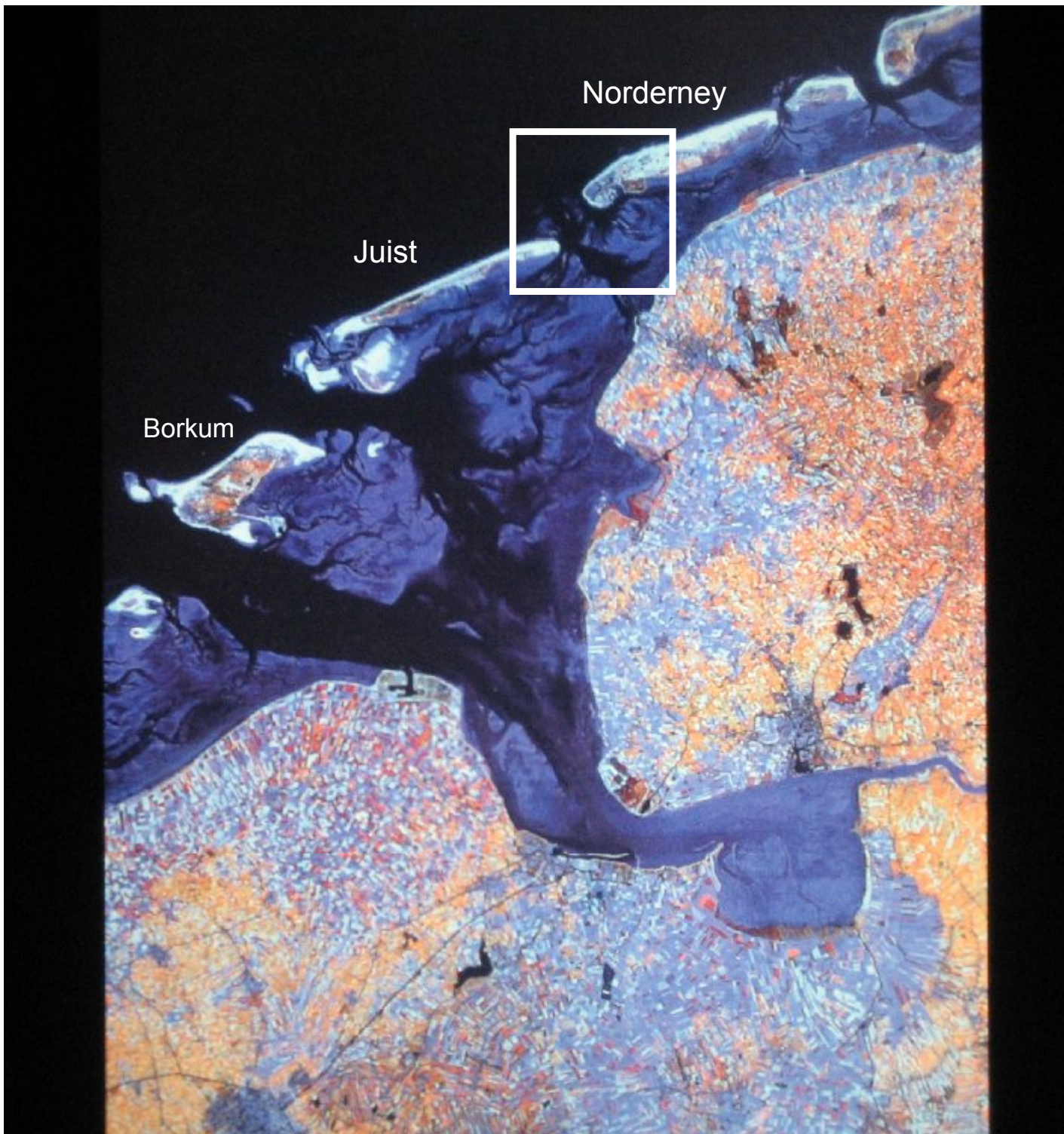




Flood prone area Lower Saxony

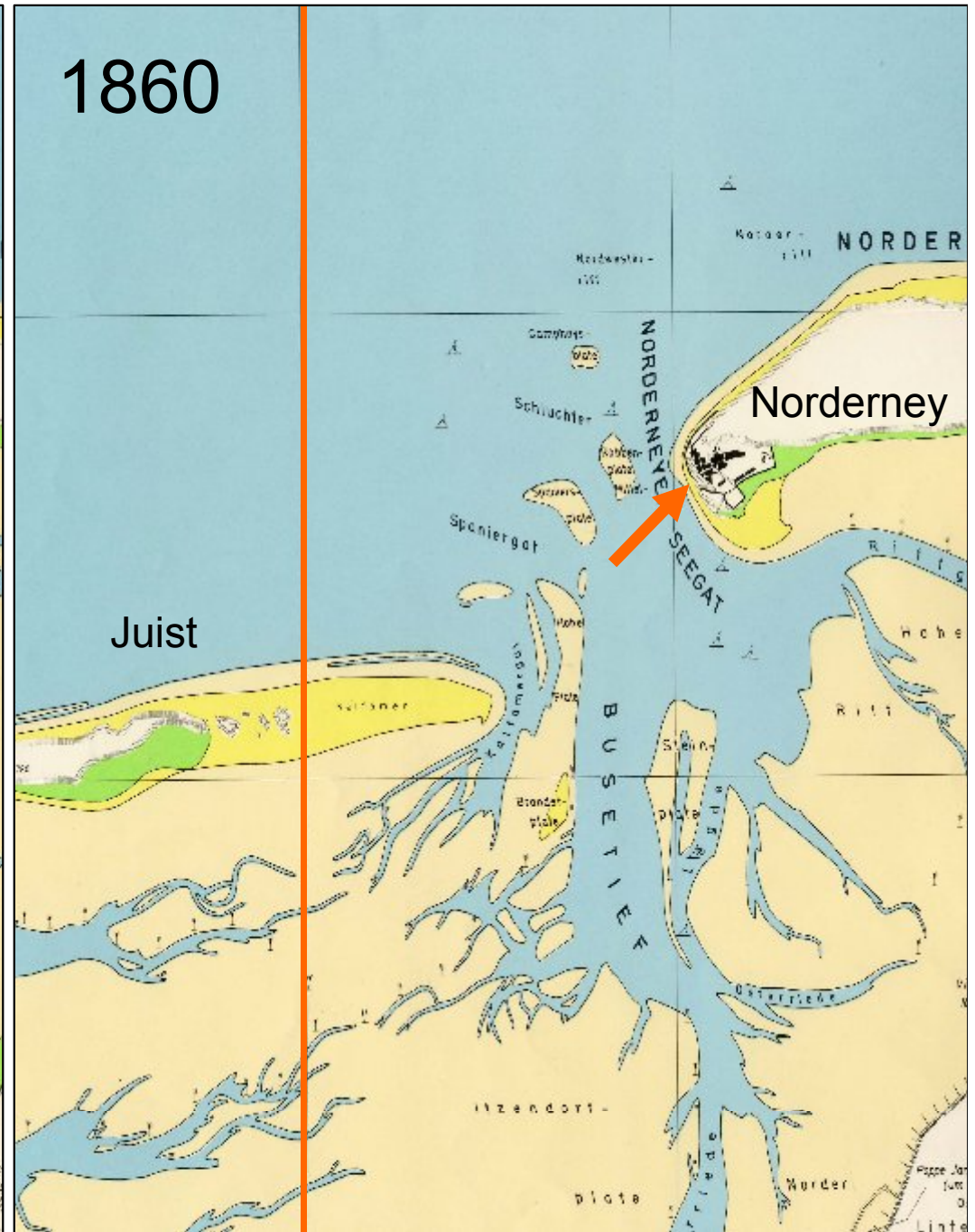
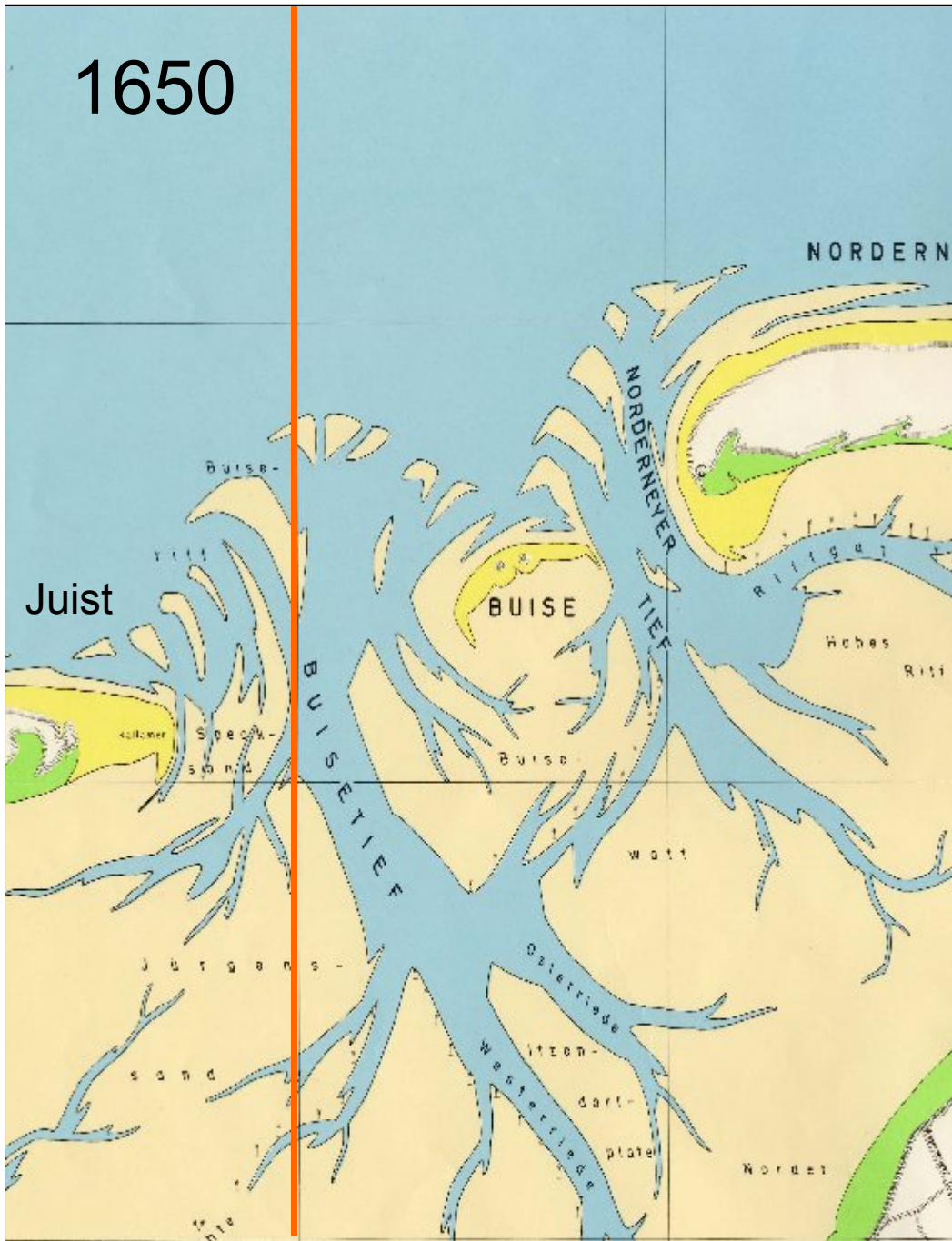
red below 2,5 m
yellow 2,5 m – 5,0 m
light green 5,0 m – 10,0 m



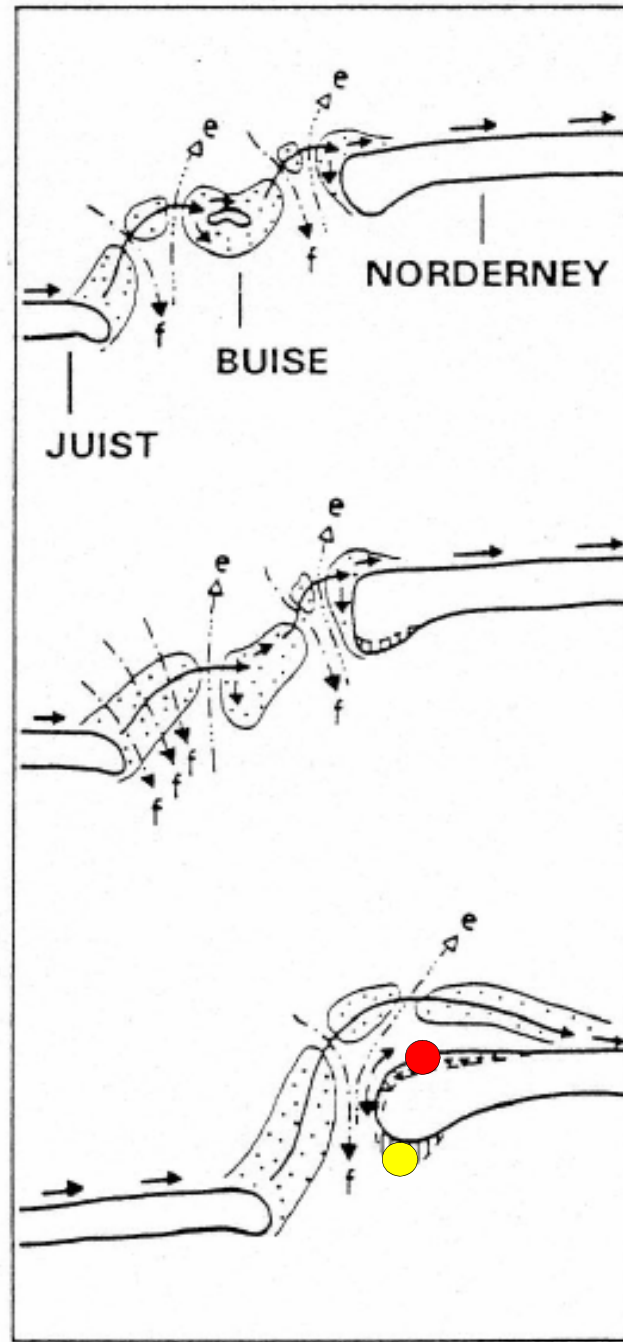
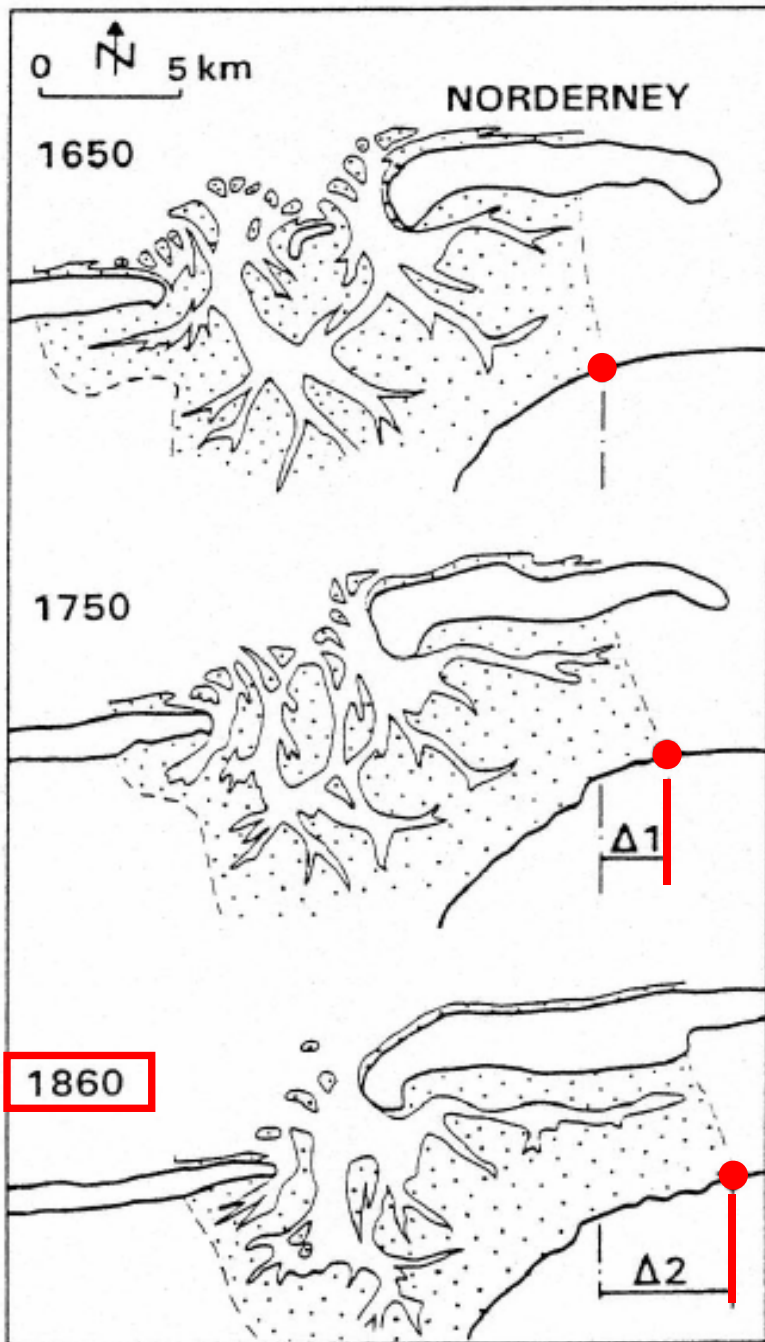


East Frisian Islands,
Western part

Development of the **Tidal Inlets** between Juist and Norderney



Morphological development Norderney Island (West)

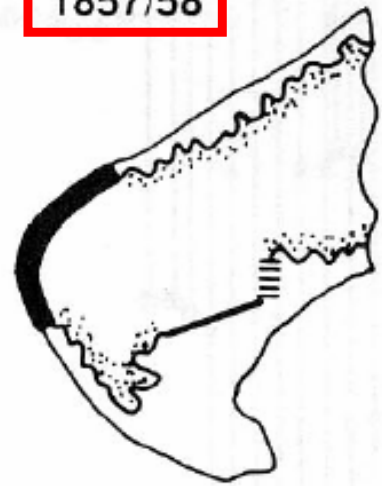


- barrier-island
- shoal (plate) system
- tidal flat-catchment area of the Norderney-Seegat (inlet)
- divides "Norderney" (watershed)
- migration of "Norderney" watershed
- $\rightarrow f$ flood
- $\rightarrow e$ ebb-current
- \downarrow erosion
- \uparrow accretion
- island
- shoal system
- \rightarrow longshore sand transport (littoral drift)

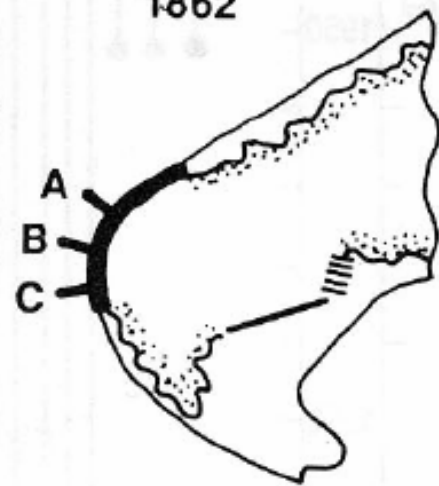
adapted from Luck (1975)

Development of Coastal Protection on the Western Spit of Norderney

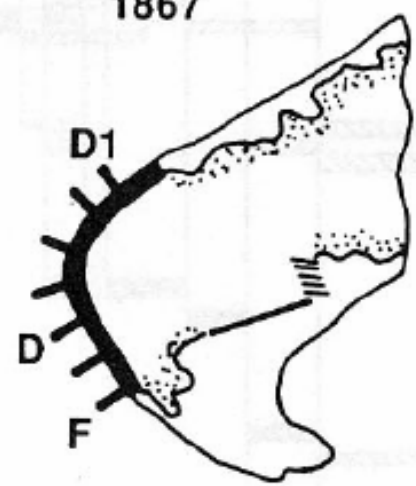
1857/58



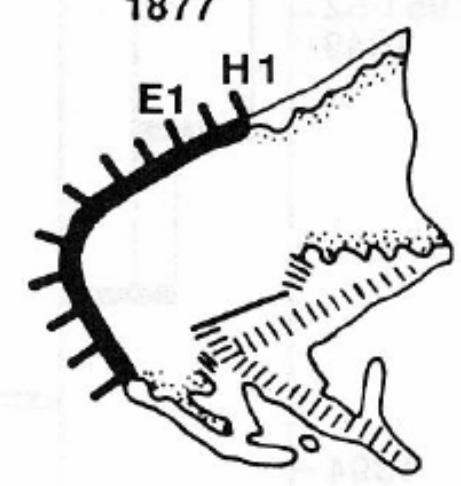
1862



1867



1877



— Alongshore Structures

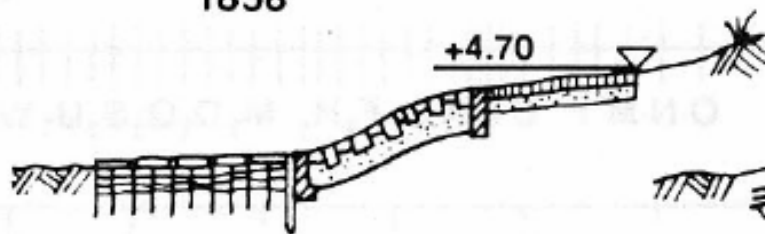
⊥ Groin

|||| Dike

— Wall

~ Dune

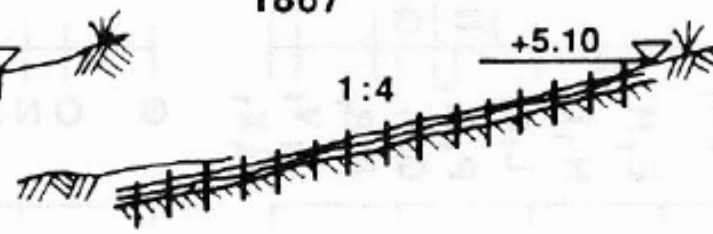
1858



15.30m

Seawall (S-Profile)
Length 975 meters

1867



15.00m

Dune Protection Work
between Groins D to F

1877



7.50m

Dune-Wave-Breaker
between E1 and H1

Norderney: Sea wall from 1857/58 (S-profile, lime-stone) with added food protection (basalt) in a status of severe beach erosion



Reef Bow Norderney – Sand Bar System during extreme Low Water Level

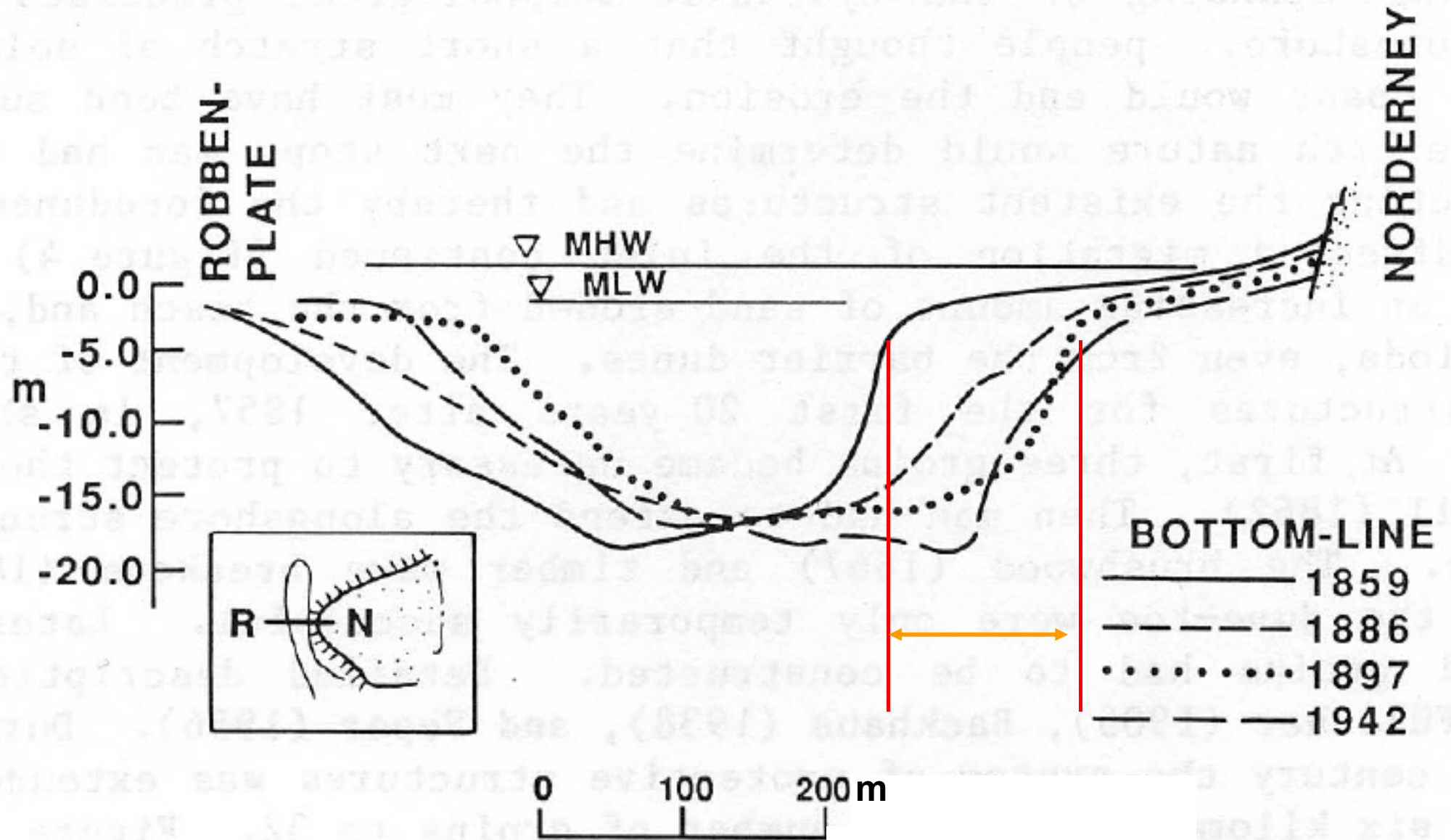


**Norderney: Combined protection system
(sea walls, groynes, beach restoration)**

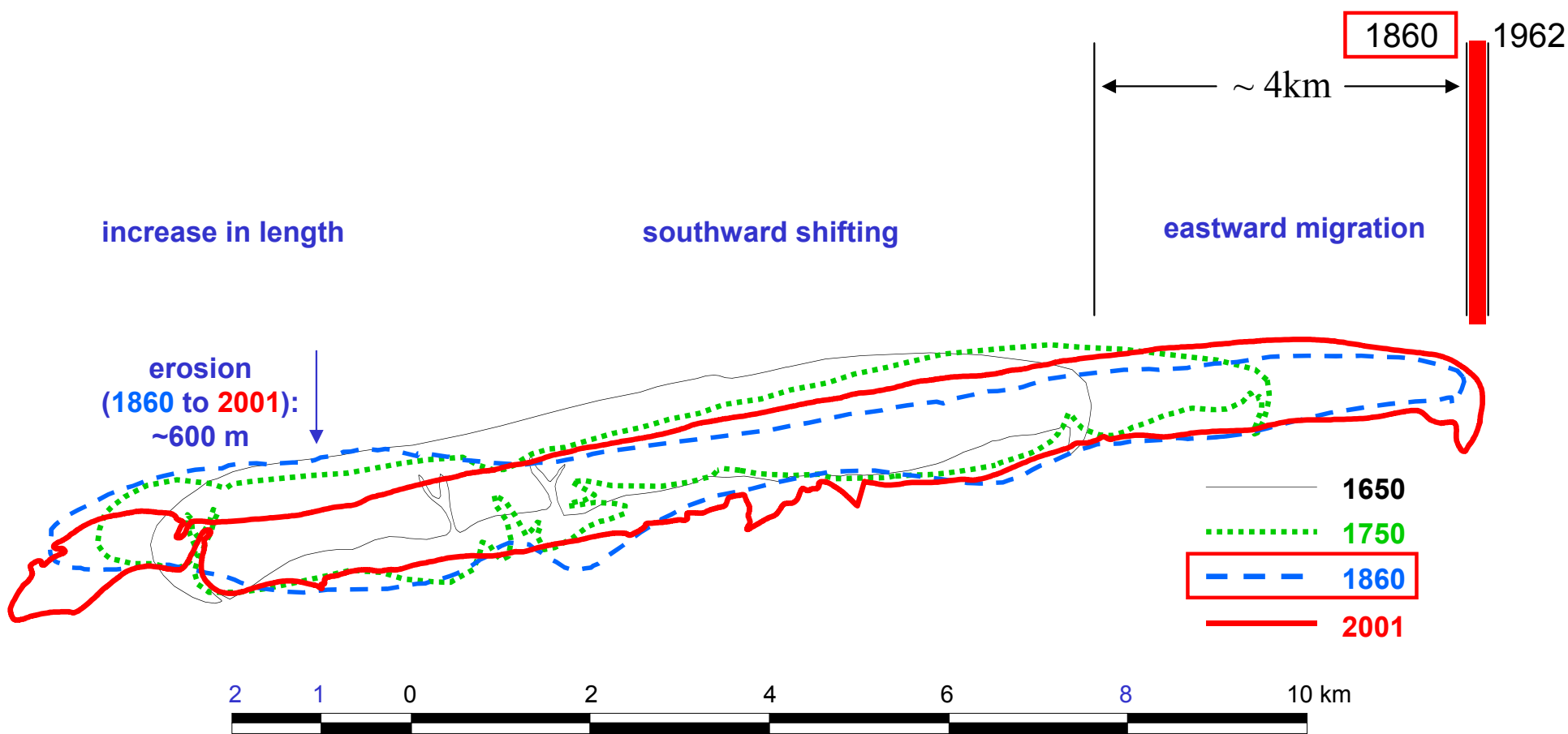


Migration „Norderney Seegat“ (cross-section) - 1859 to 1899/1942

Example for the interaction „Nature / Coastal Protection“

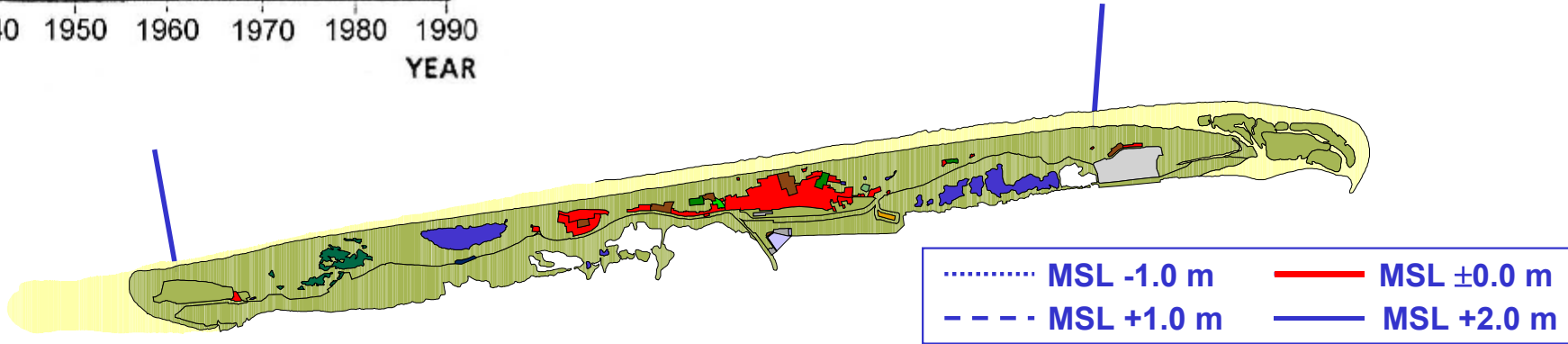
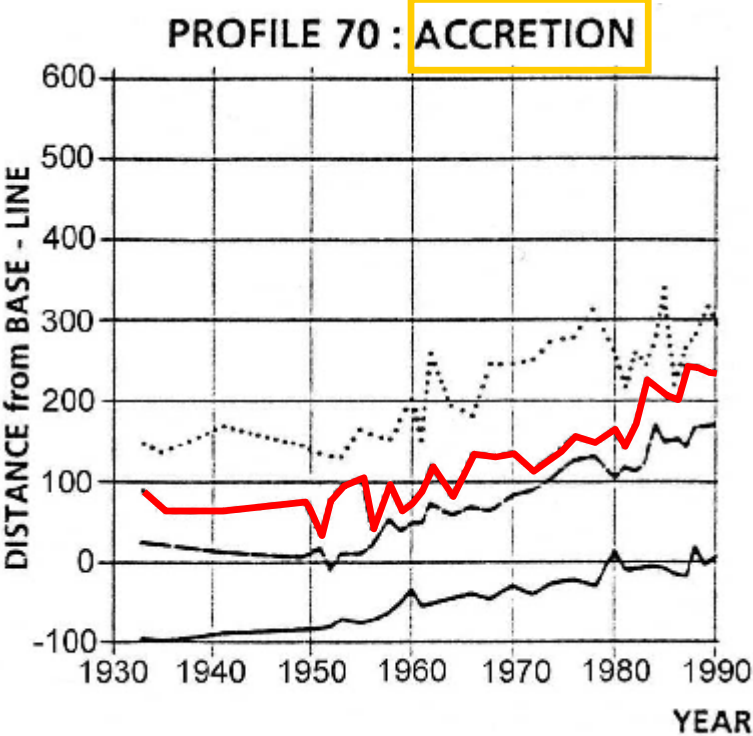
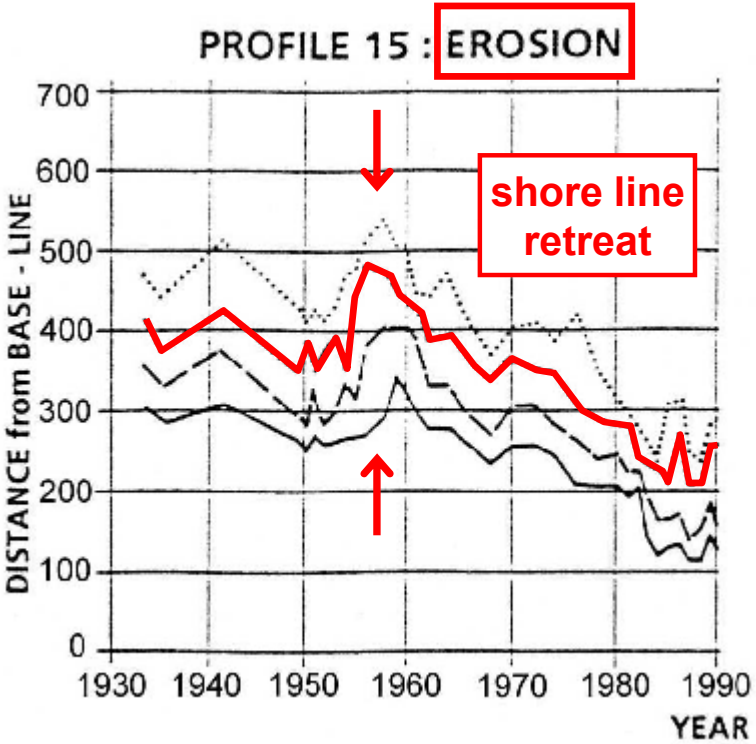


Development of Juist/East Frisian Island from 1650 to 2001 – loss of natural dynamic "movement" (islands and linked watersheds)



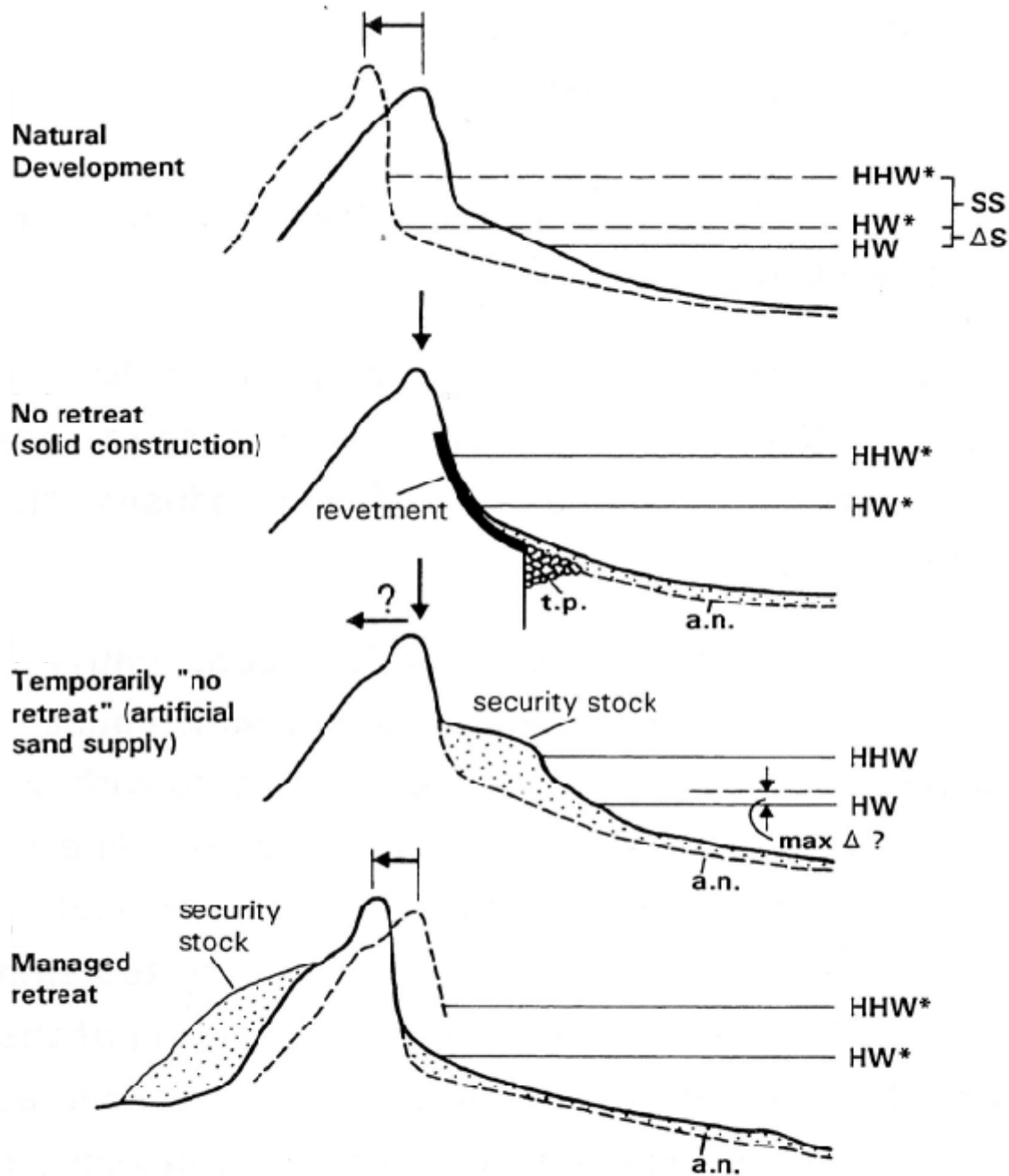
source: Homeier (1964)

Long-term development of beach and shore on Juist Island: Time-Distance Lines



Aerial View Wangerooge (East Frisian Island)





dynamic, natural

"hold the line"
solid constructions
static, non-flexible

hold the line
"soft" means
semi-static, flexible

managed retreat
semi-dynamic
flexible

* = after sea level rise (SLR); ΔS = SLR for HW; HW = high water;
 SS = storm surge; a.n. = artificial sand supply (nourishment);
 t.p. = toe protection; \downarrow = no retreat; \leftarrow = retreat;
 $\max \Delta ?$ = feasible without retreat

Dune Protection



dunefoot 2090

optimistic estimate

pessimistic estimate

dunefoot 1987


50 m

150 m

sea level rise
0.6 m/cen.

Juist West – Managed Retreat as flexible response to beach- and dune-erosion

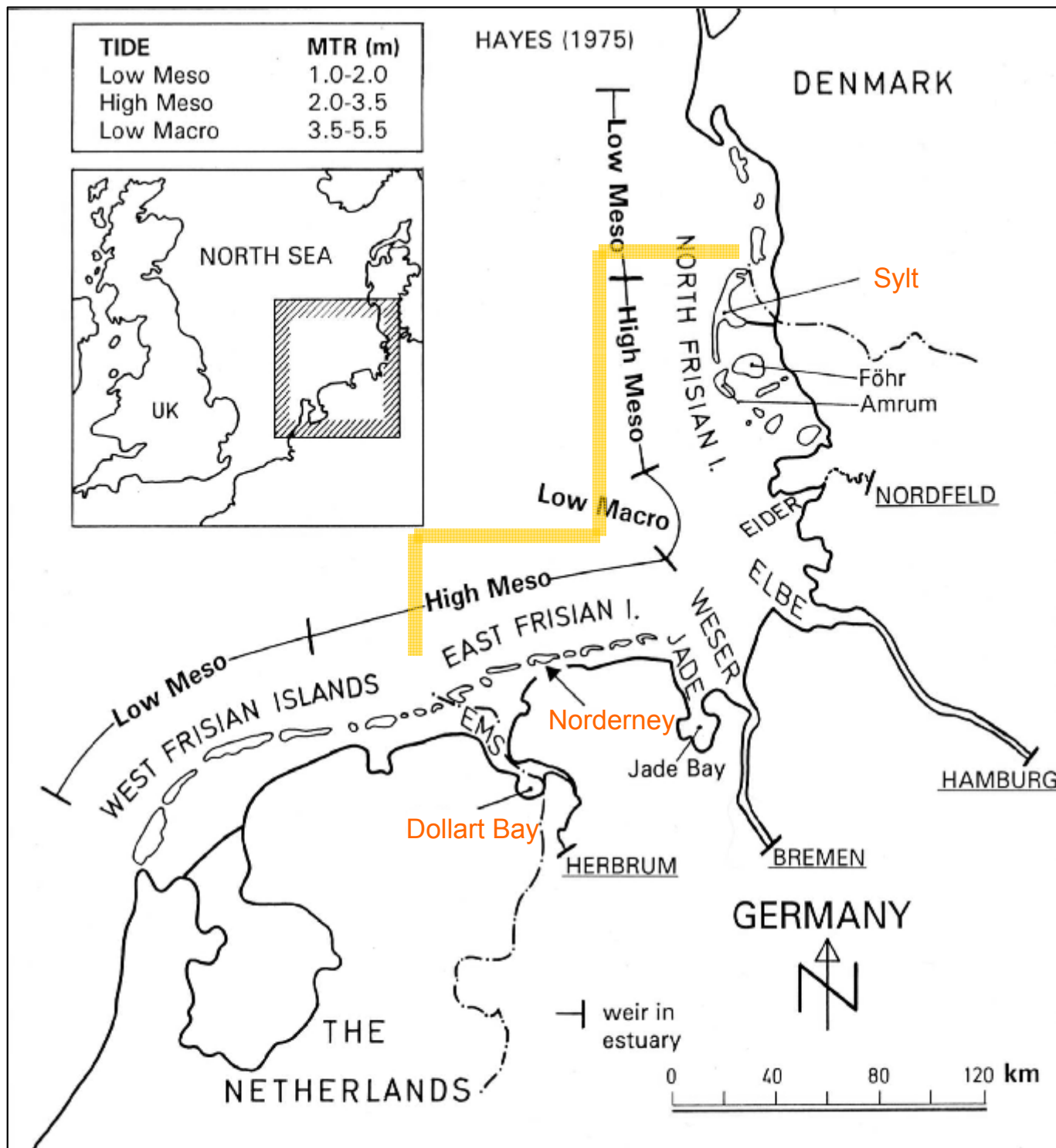


An aerial photograph of a coastal region. On the left, a small town with red-roofed buildings is situated on a green, vegetated area. A wide, sandy beach runs along the coast, separating the town from the ocean. The ocean is a deep blue, and the sky is a lighter blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Reaction by coastal protection means on natural impacts - visa versa: effects of coastal protection on nature (interaction) in the past → data and knowledge on large-scale and long-term morphological processes

Questions related to the impacts of the Sea

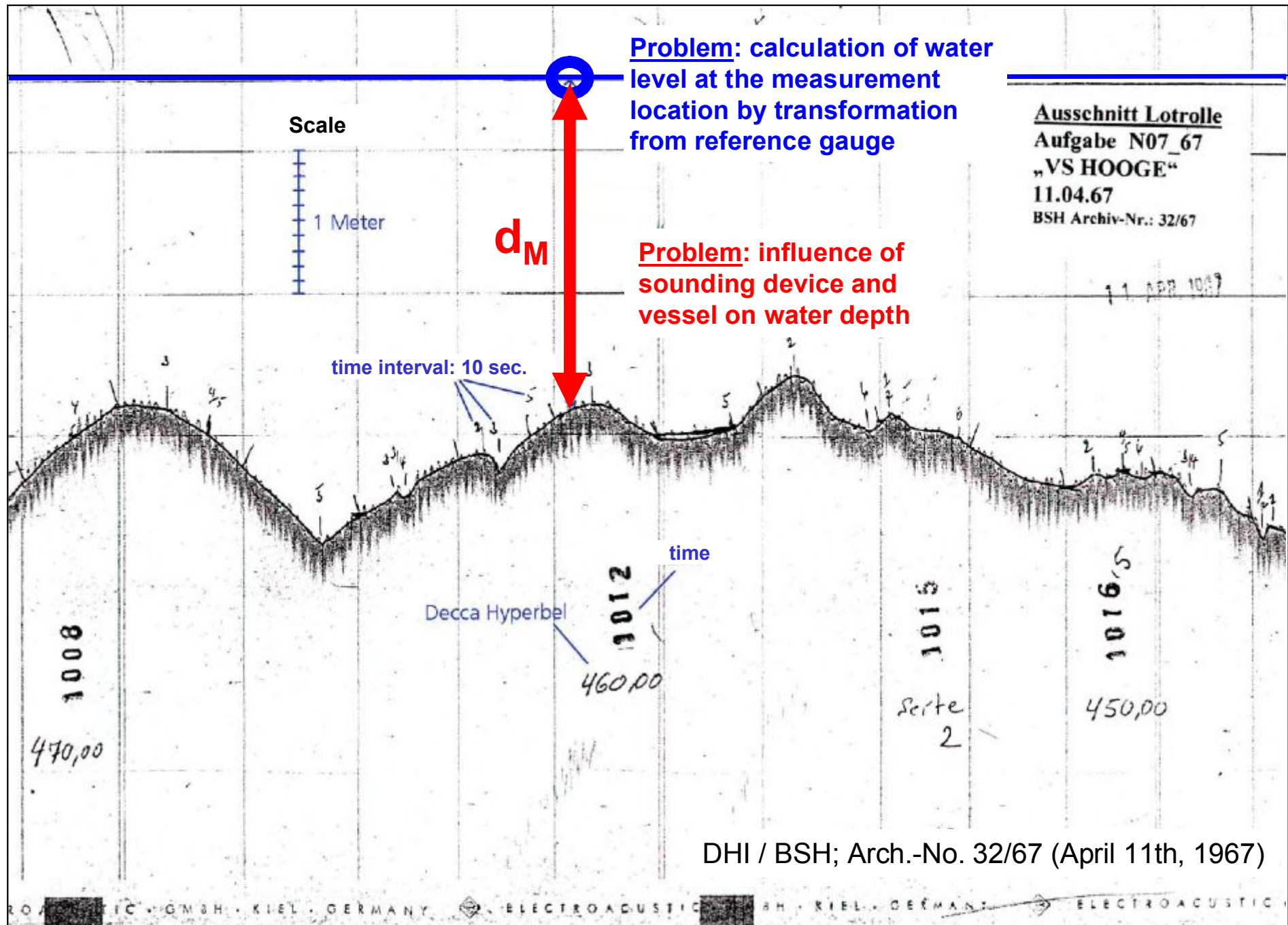
Are the natural conditions (e.g. Sea Level Rise, waves, sediment supply) changing towards more erosion and can we detect "Coastal Steepening" inducing "Coastal Squeeze"?



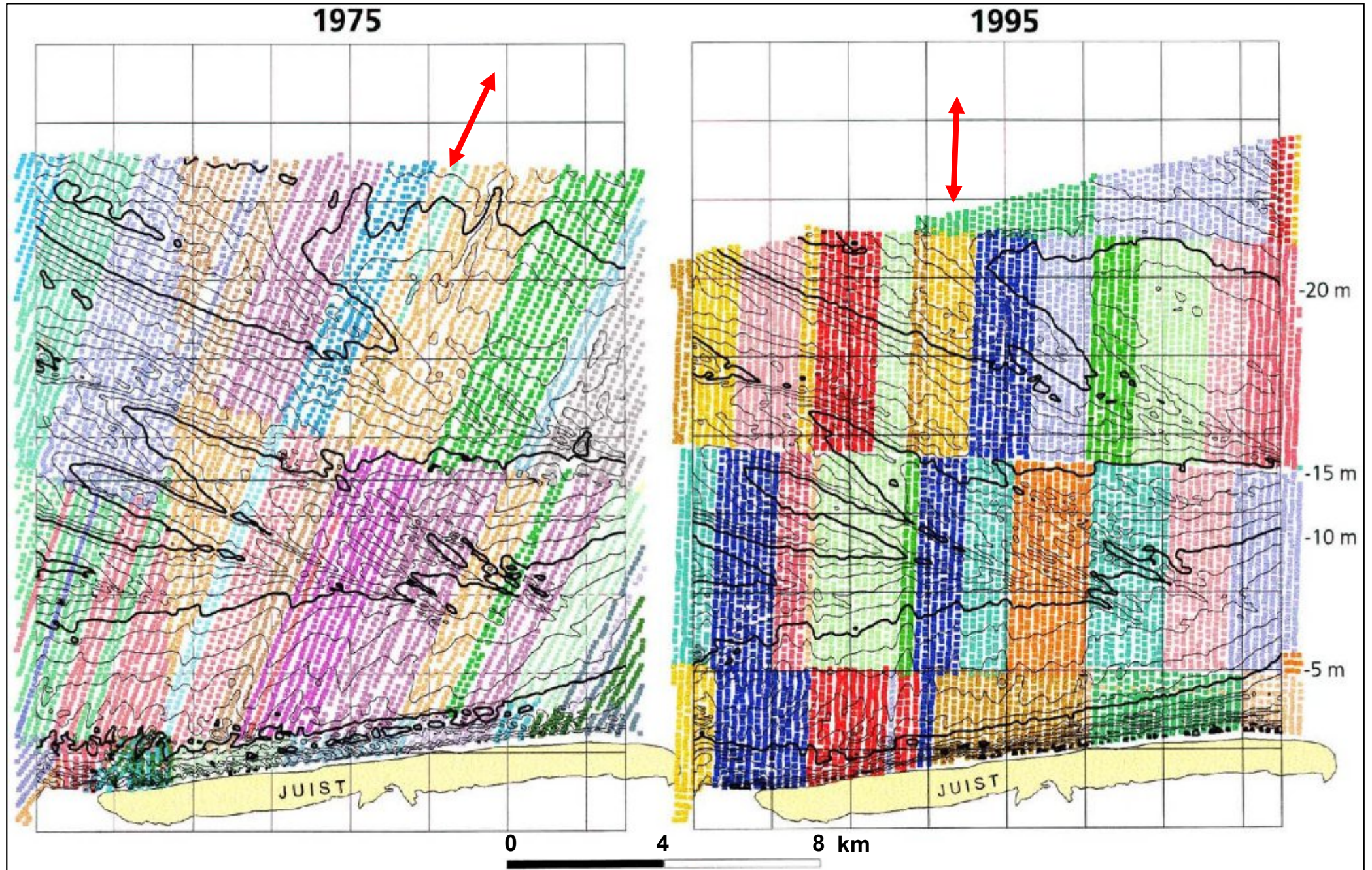
Location map of the German Bight with parts of The Netherlands and Denmark

Bathymetric Data
1949 to 1997
(DHI/BSH)

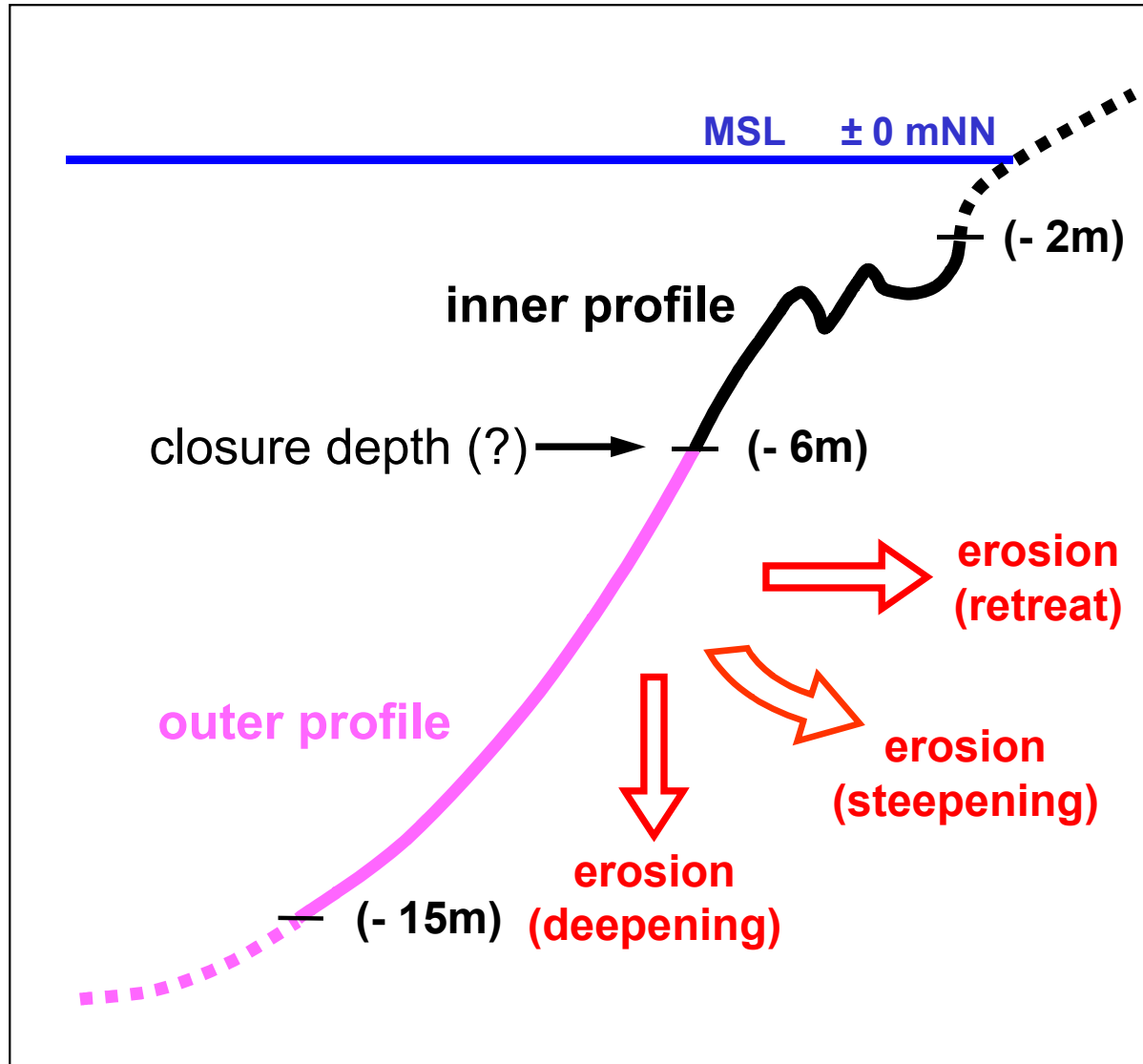
Echo sounding plot: accuracy problems with data from the past (before GPS)



Tracks of sounding surveys (DHI/BSH) Shore face of Juist / East Frisian Islands



Erosive profile changes: Retreat, Deepening, Steepening



Effects of Erosion:

Retreat

Horizontal displacement of the entire profile (no slope change) or profile-sections with different retreat rates (characteristic changes of slope)

Deepening

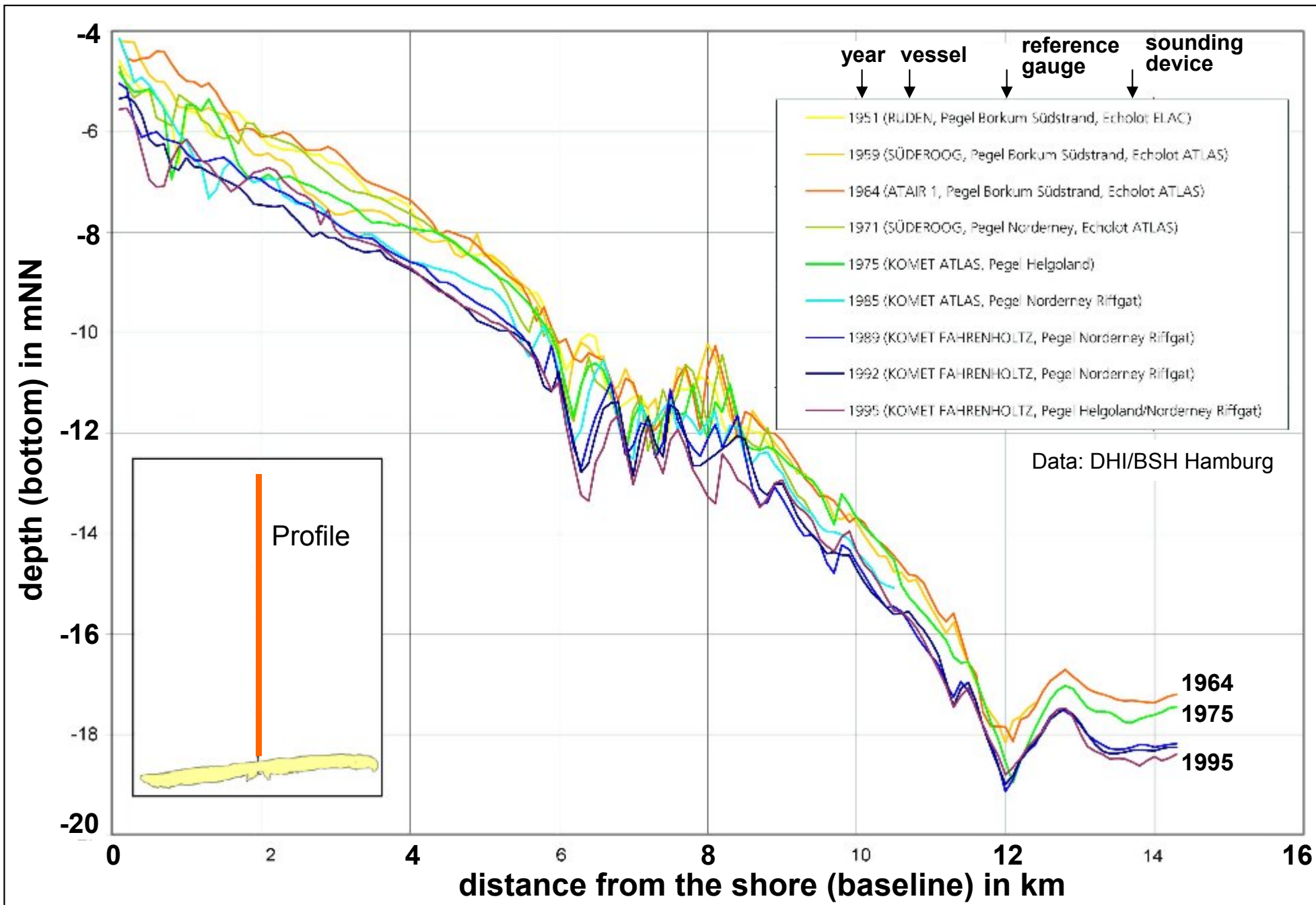
Profile changes in vertical direction.

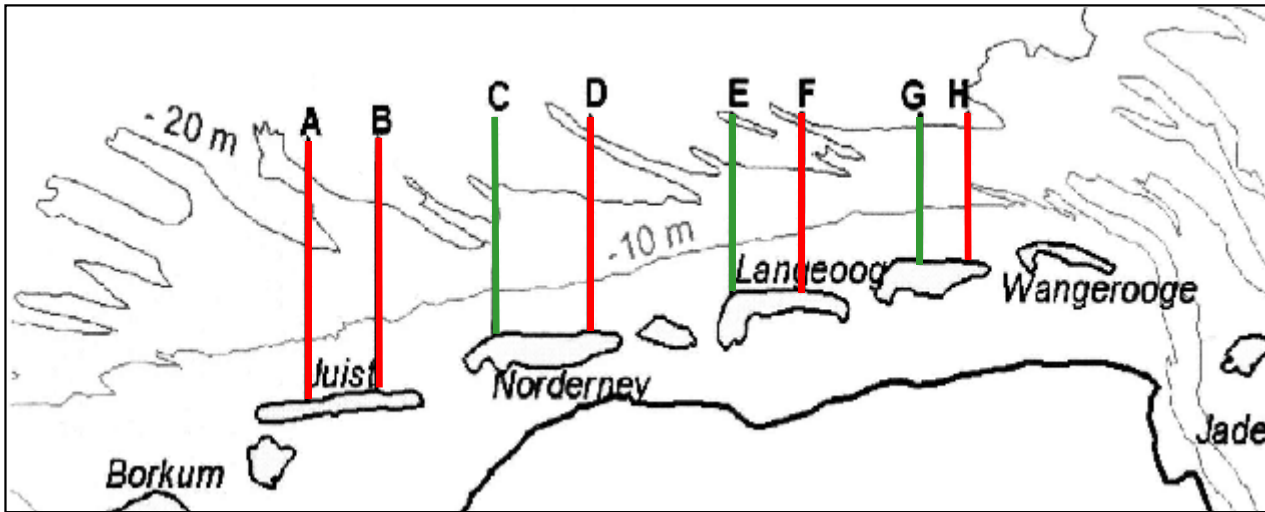
Steepening

Combination of "retreat" and "deepening", calculated as difference between the retreat rate in outer profile and inner profile

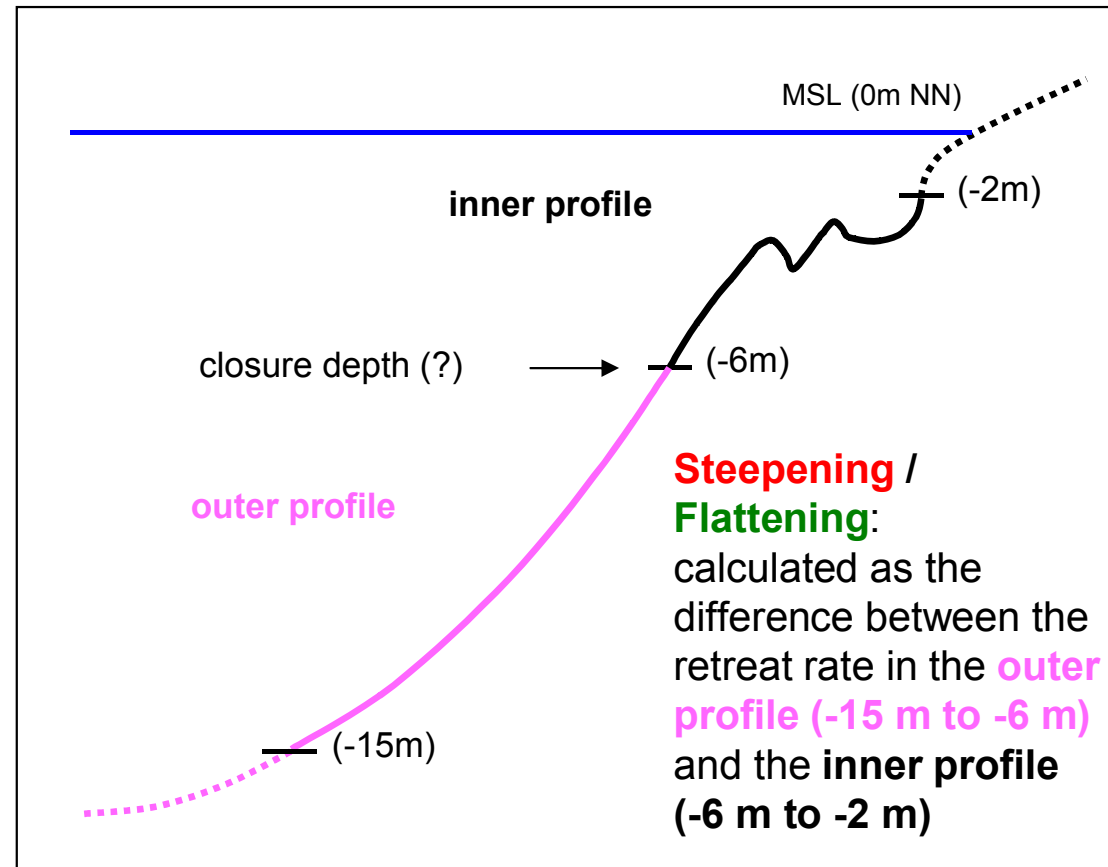
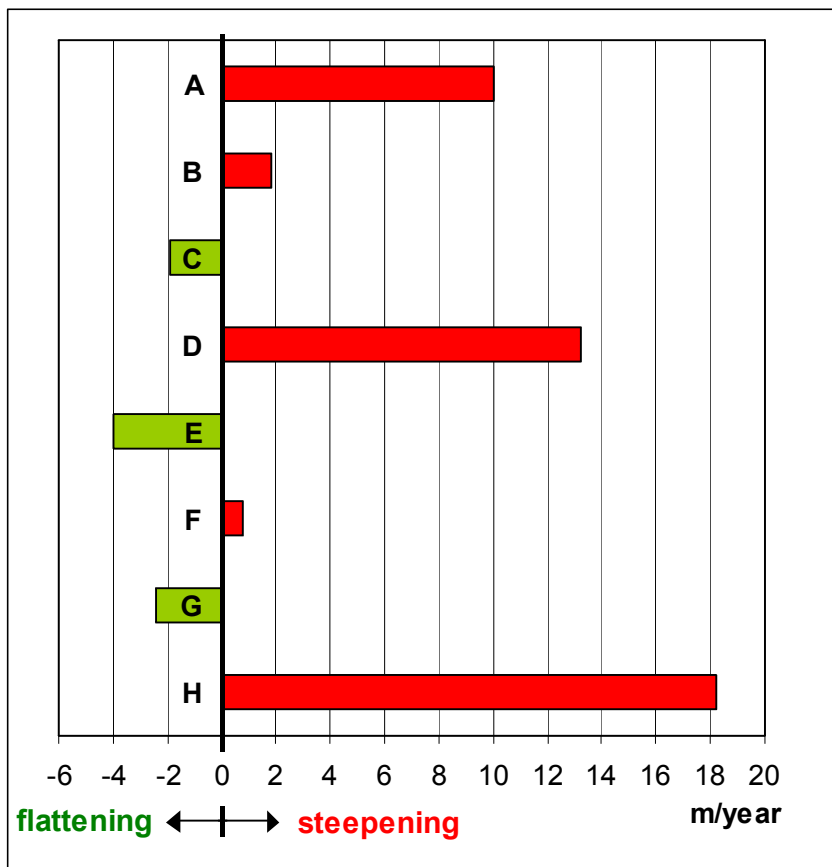
Development of a profile (cross-shore) between 1951 and 1995

Shoreface of Juist / East Frisian Islands

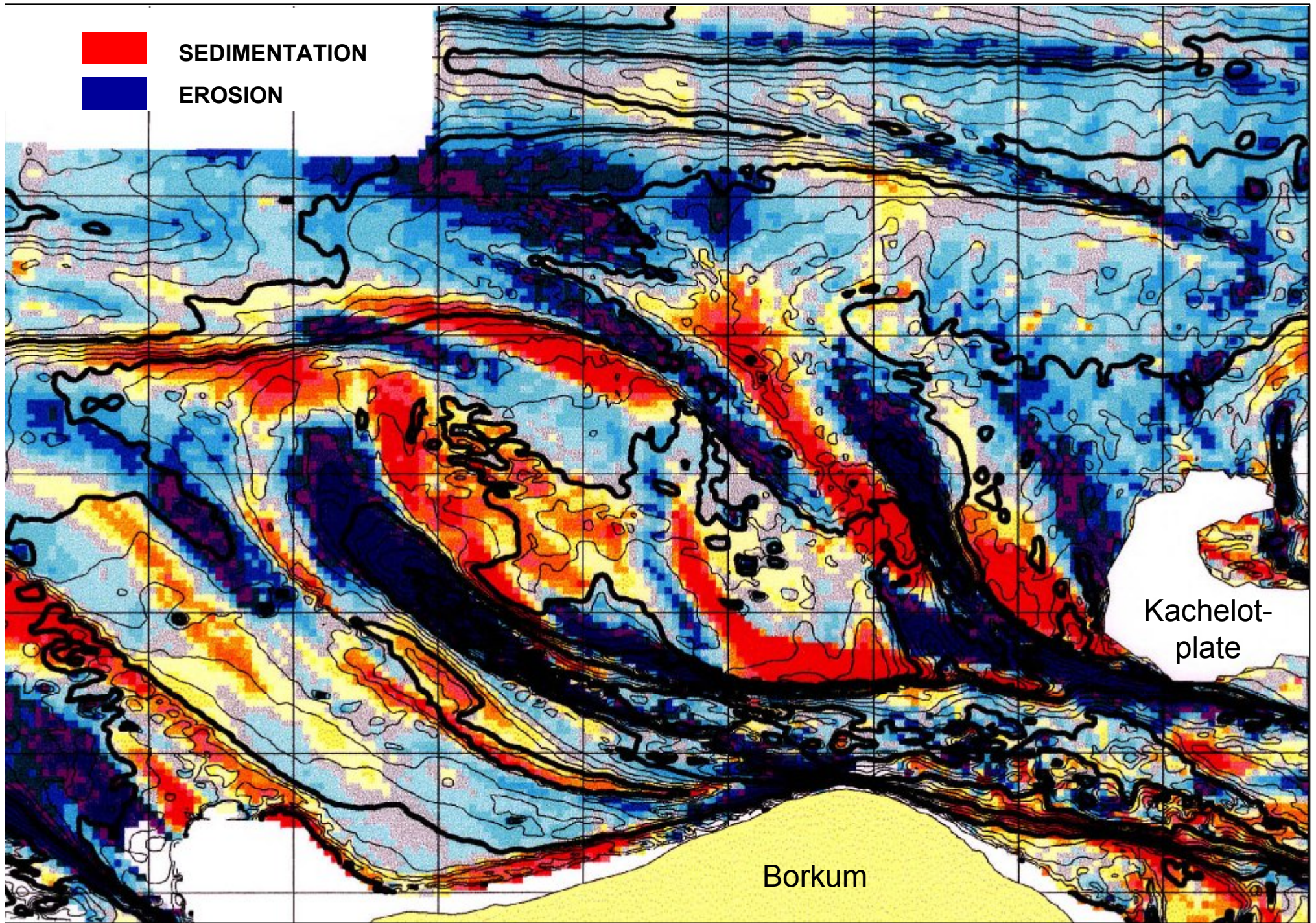




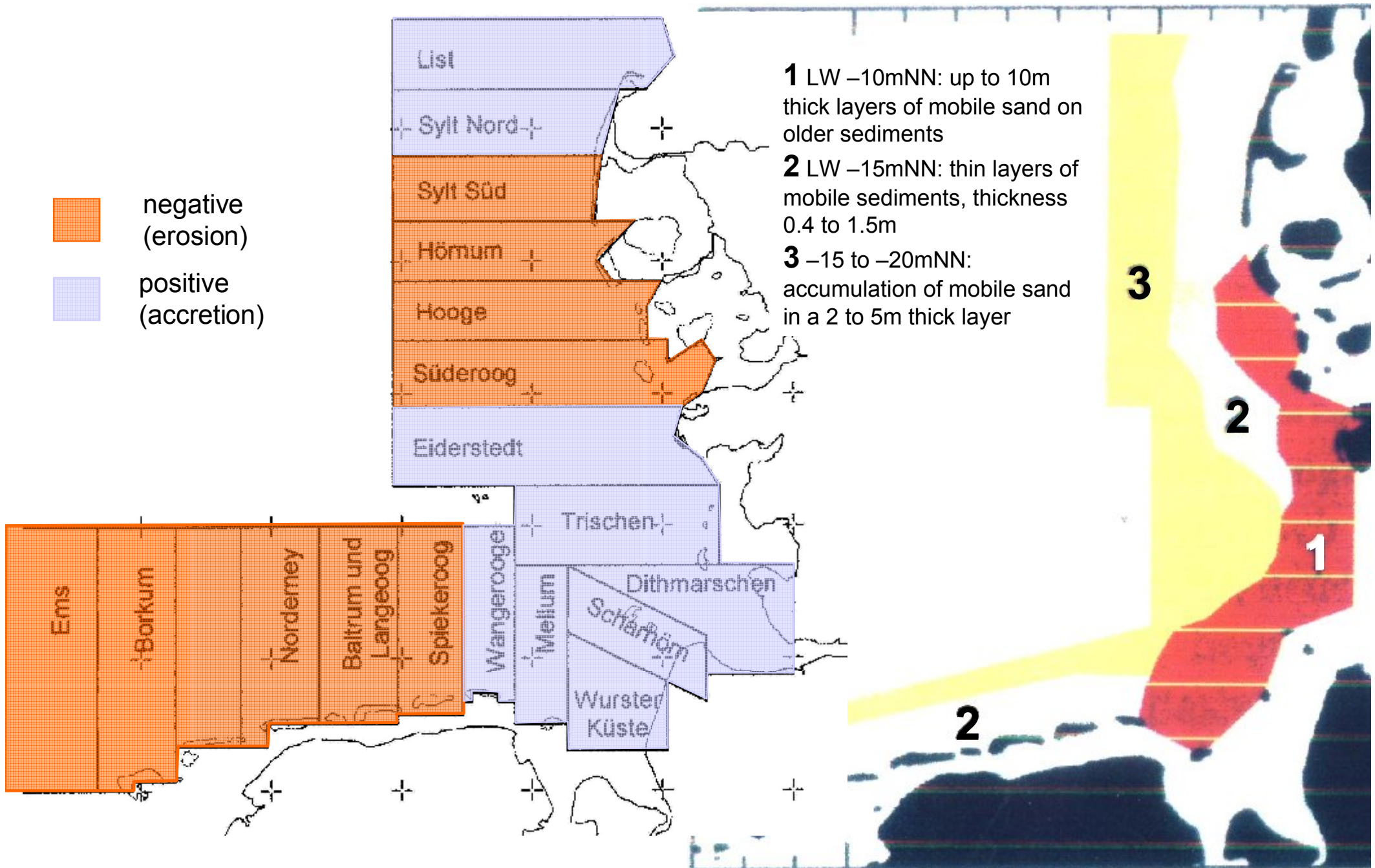
Profile changes (steepening, flattening) in the shore face of the East-Frisian Islands



Erosion/Sedimentation of the Shore Face (1975 – 1995) East Frisian Island Borkum



Mass balances for the Southern North Sea / German Bight



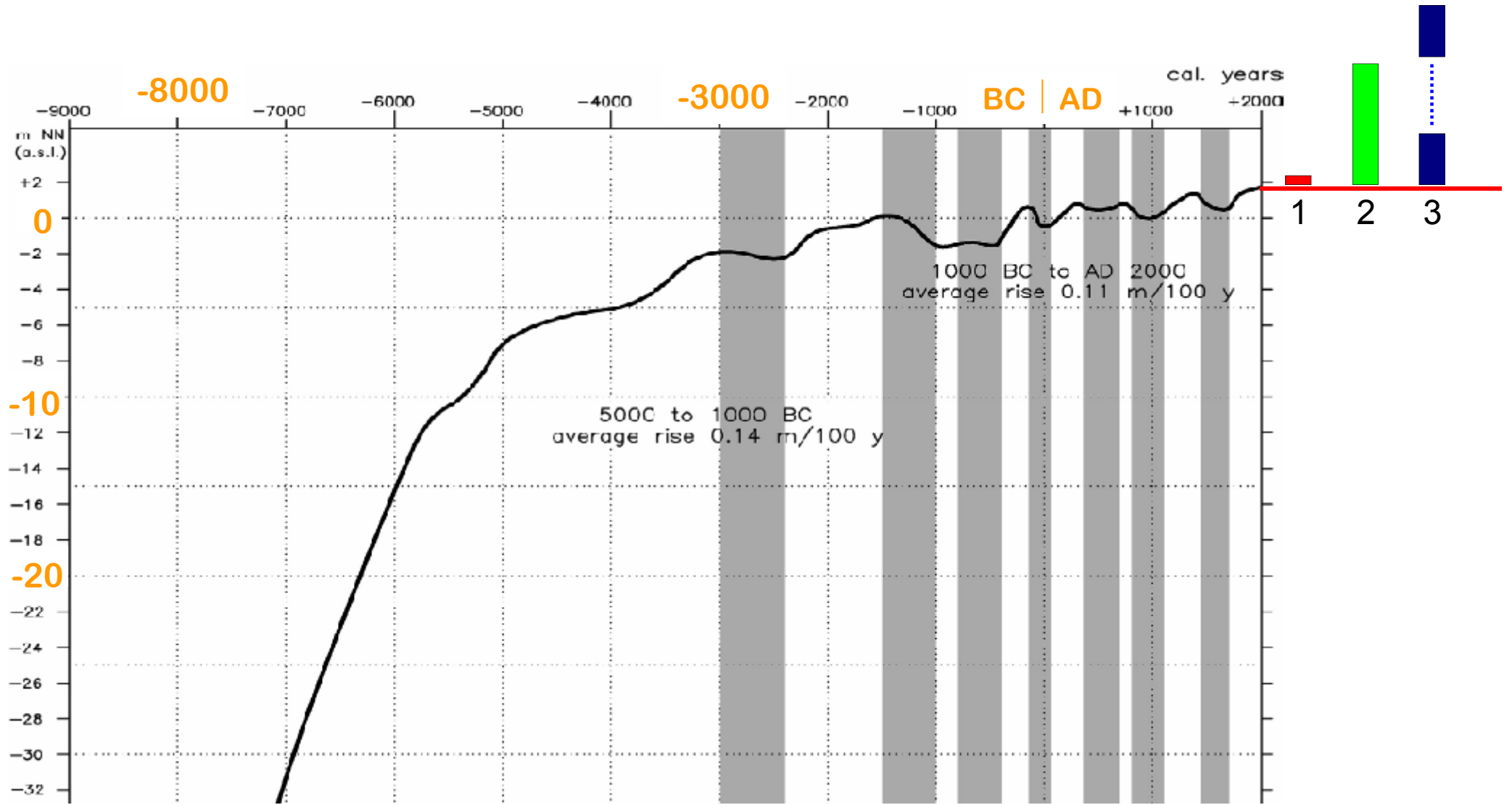
source: Kunz (2002)

source: Zeiler & Figge (1998)

Lessons learned

- **Application of nautical bathymetric data for morphological investigations**
 - ⇒ **Data verification is essential: hidden systematic & random errors**
 - ⇒ **Missing accuracy of bathymetric data has to be considered**
 - mean values for defined “calculation areas”
- **Results (first approximation)**
 - ⇒ **Trends of erosion / accretion detected and phenomenon of “coastal (profile) steepening” confirmed**
 - ⇒ **Significant littoral transport in deep areas**
 - no confirmation of “closure depth”
- **Correspondence**
 - ⇒ **“Distribution of Mobile Sand” (*Zeiler & Figge 1998*)**
 - ⇒ **“Profile Steepening” (*Laustrup et al. 1999*)**

Sea Level Curve for the Southern North Sea and Estimations of Future Sea Level Rise



after Behre (2007)

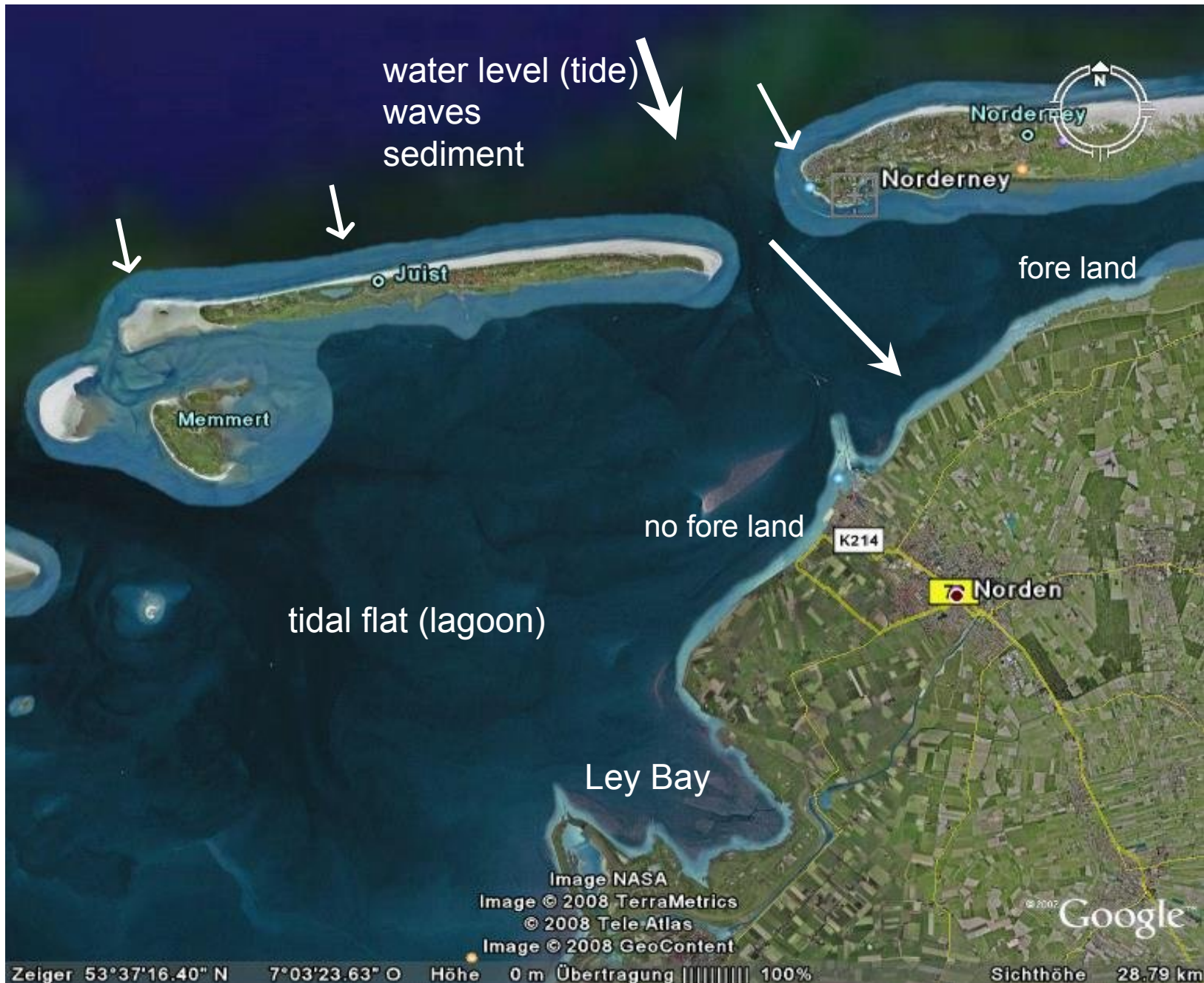
MSLR ~0,15 m/100y

1 – IPCC ~0,60 m/100y

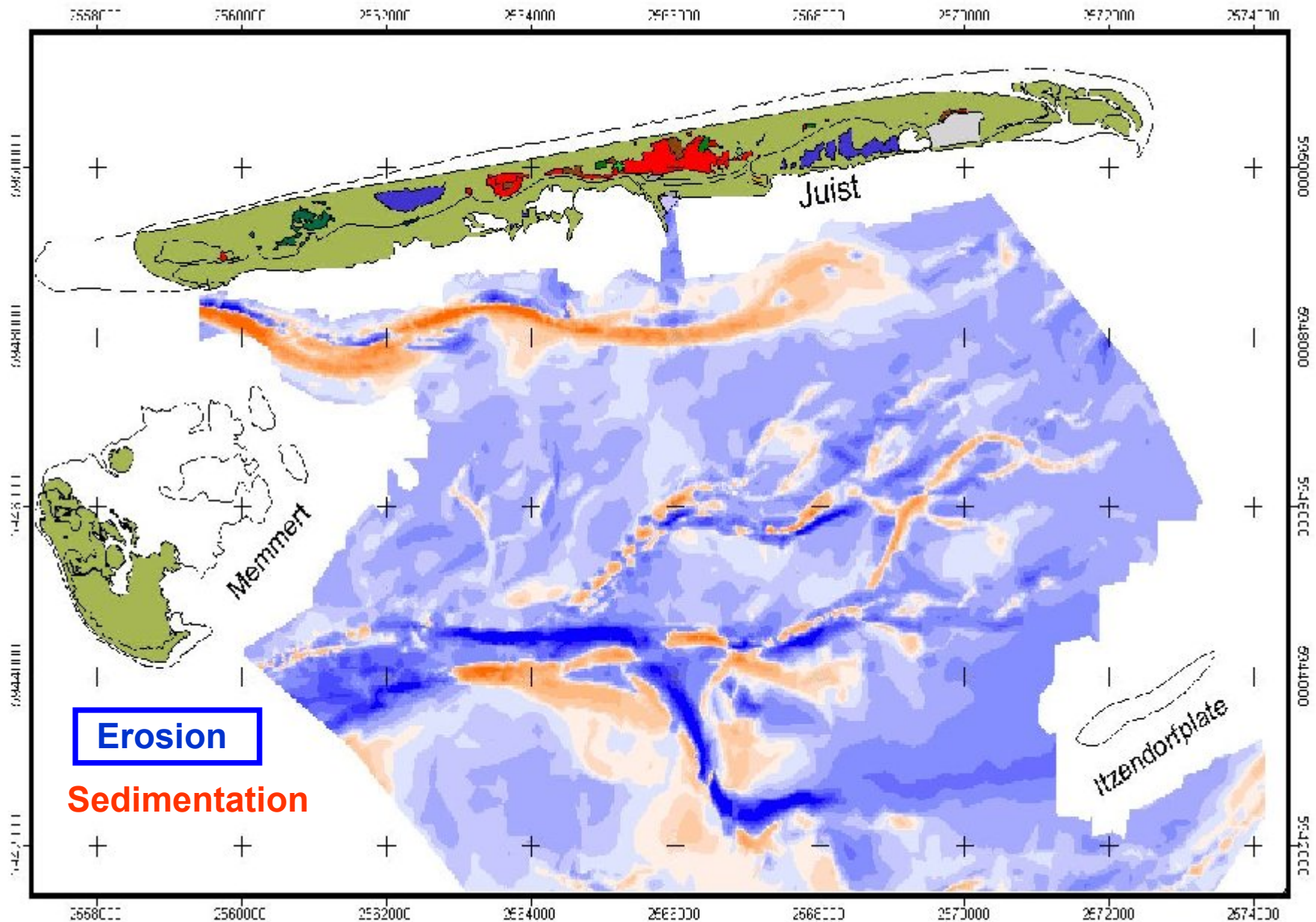
2 – Greenland ~ 7,50 m

3 – World ~75,00 m

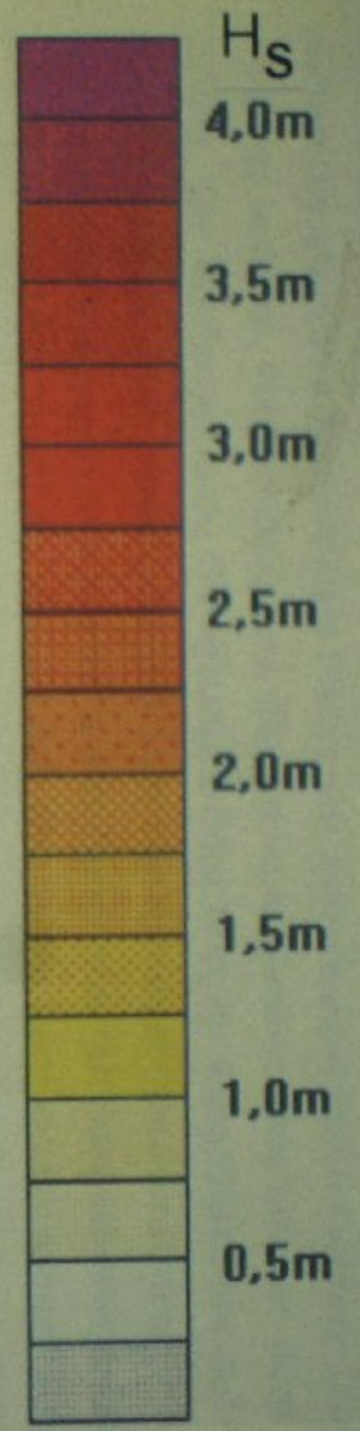
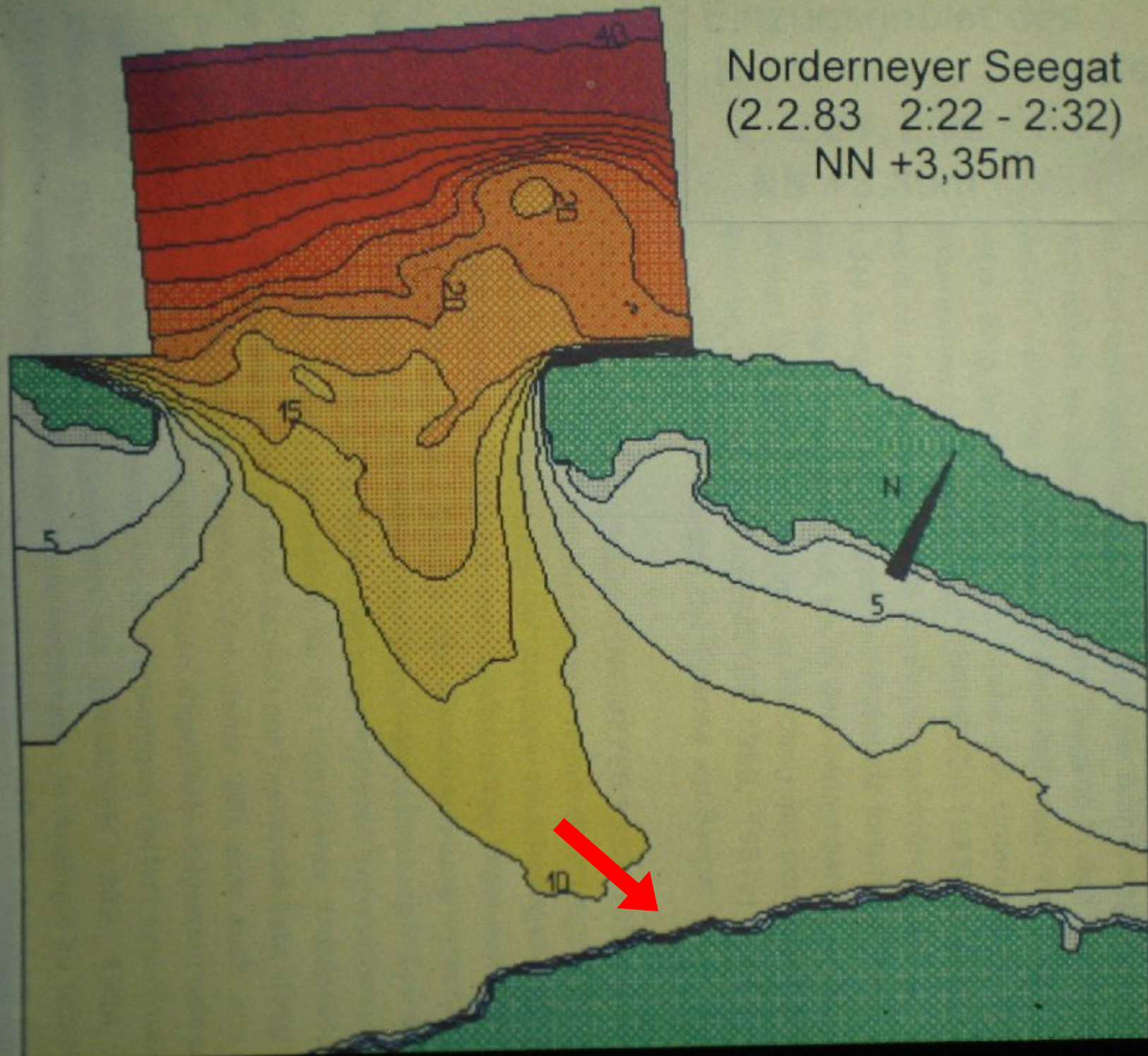
Case studies: Impact of natural conditions, coastal engineering responses and interactions



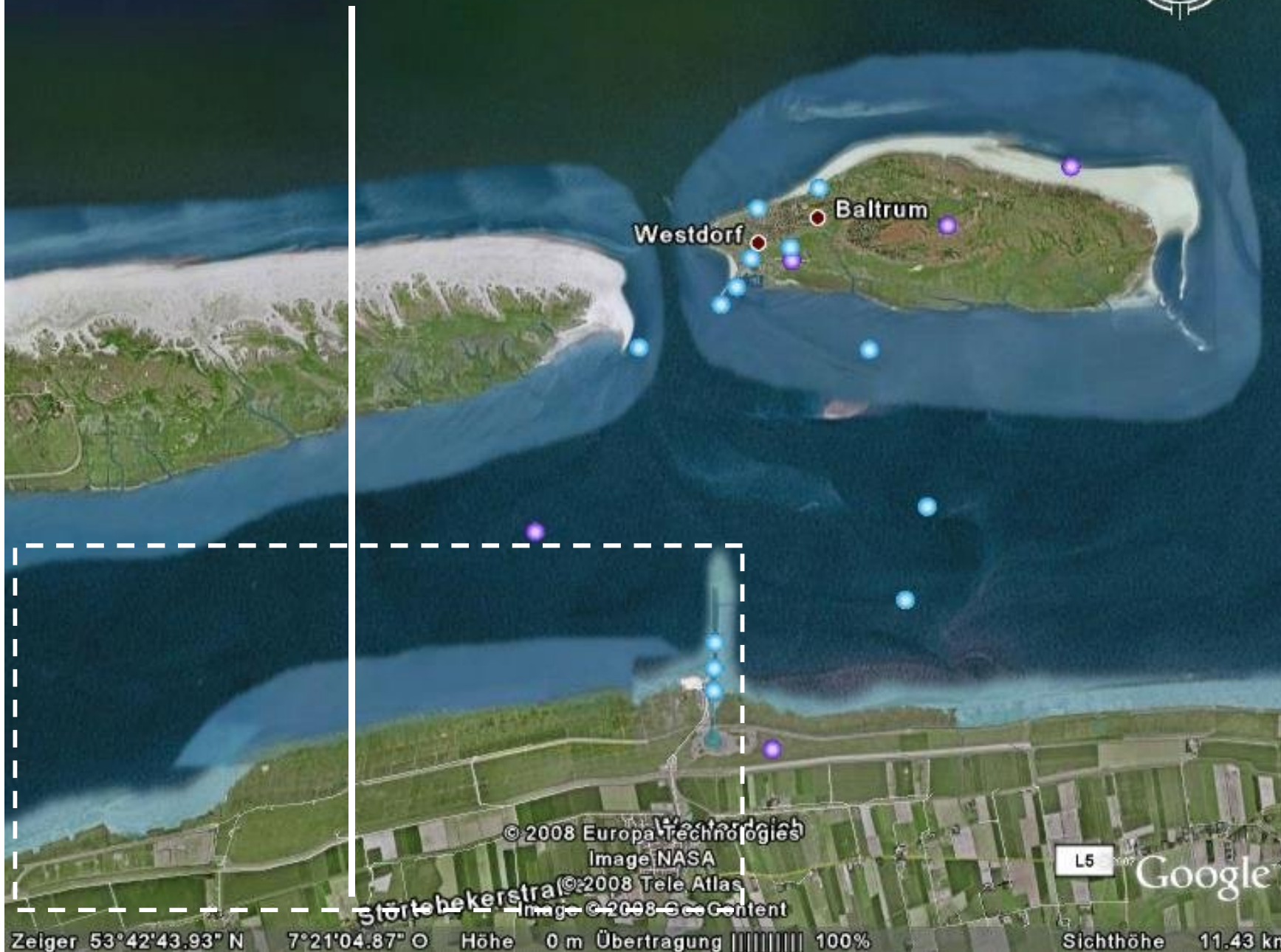
Change in Surface Height of Tidal Flats (Lagoon) (Erosion/Sedimentation) – example catchment area Juist from 1958 to 1998

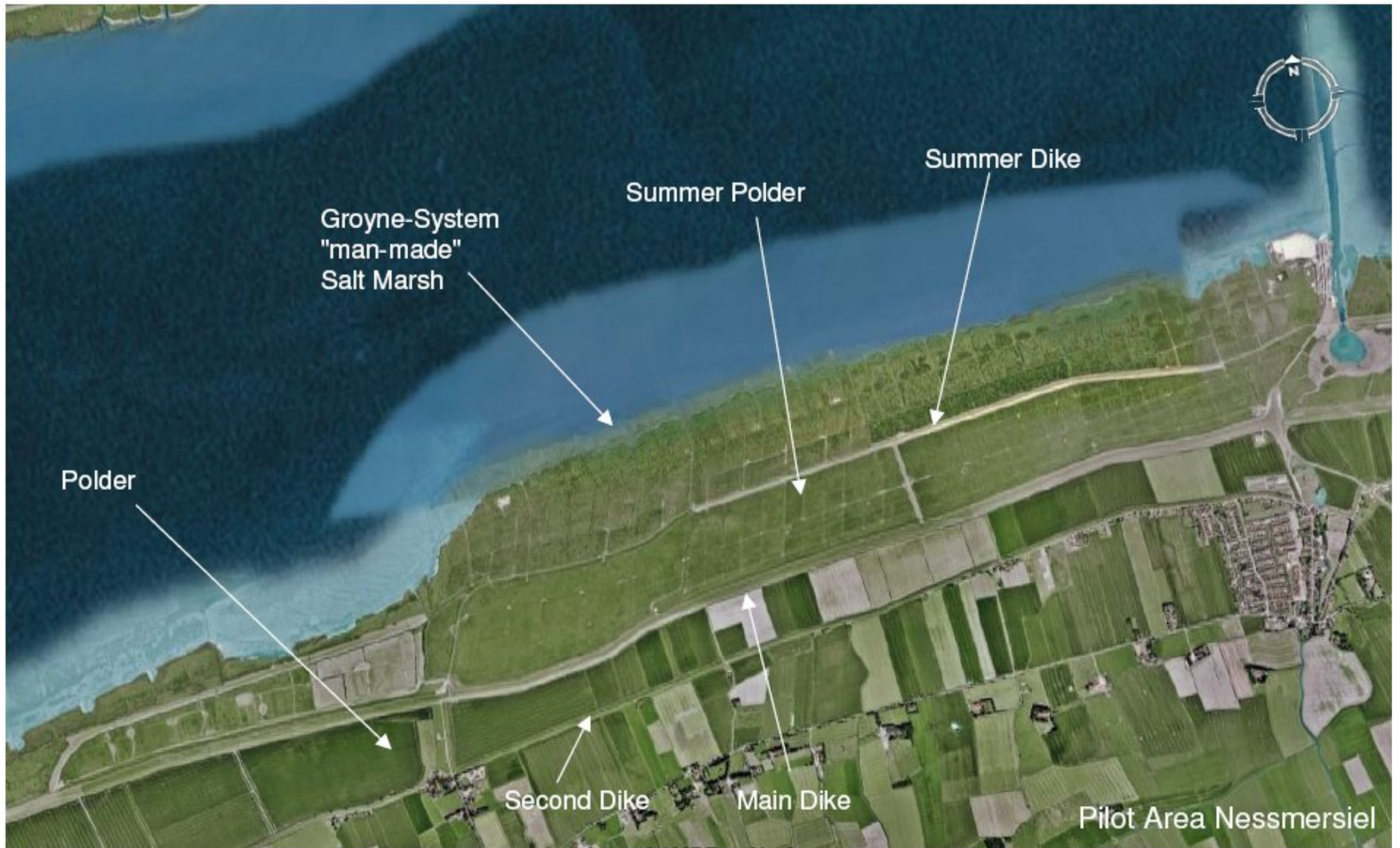


Norderneyer Seegat
(2.2.83 2:22 - 2:32)
NN +3,35m



CZM
Cross-Section





Groyne-System
"man-made"
Salt Marsh

Summer Polder

Summer Dike

Polder

Second Dike

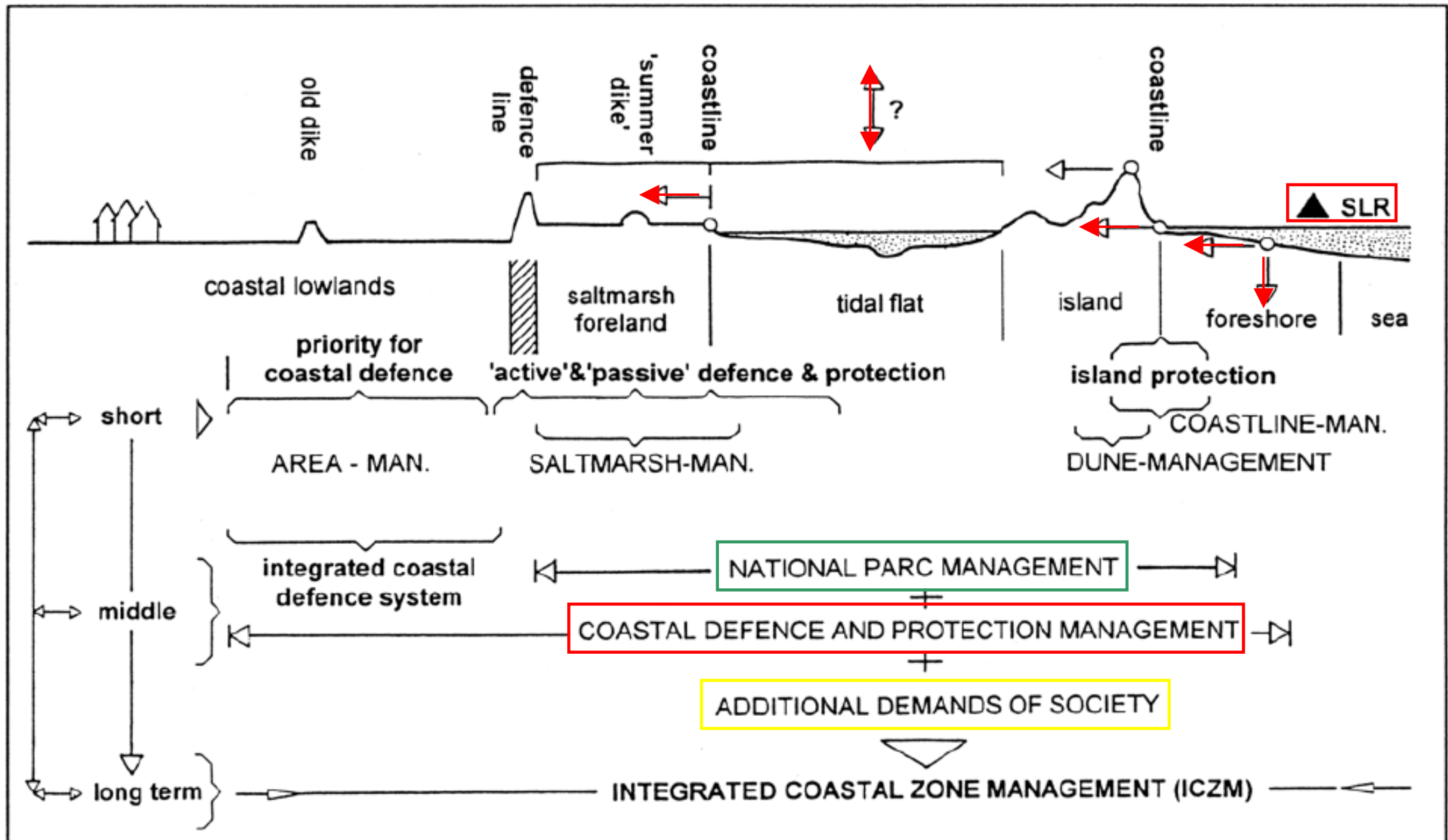
Main Dike

Pilot Area Nessmersiel

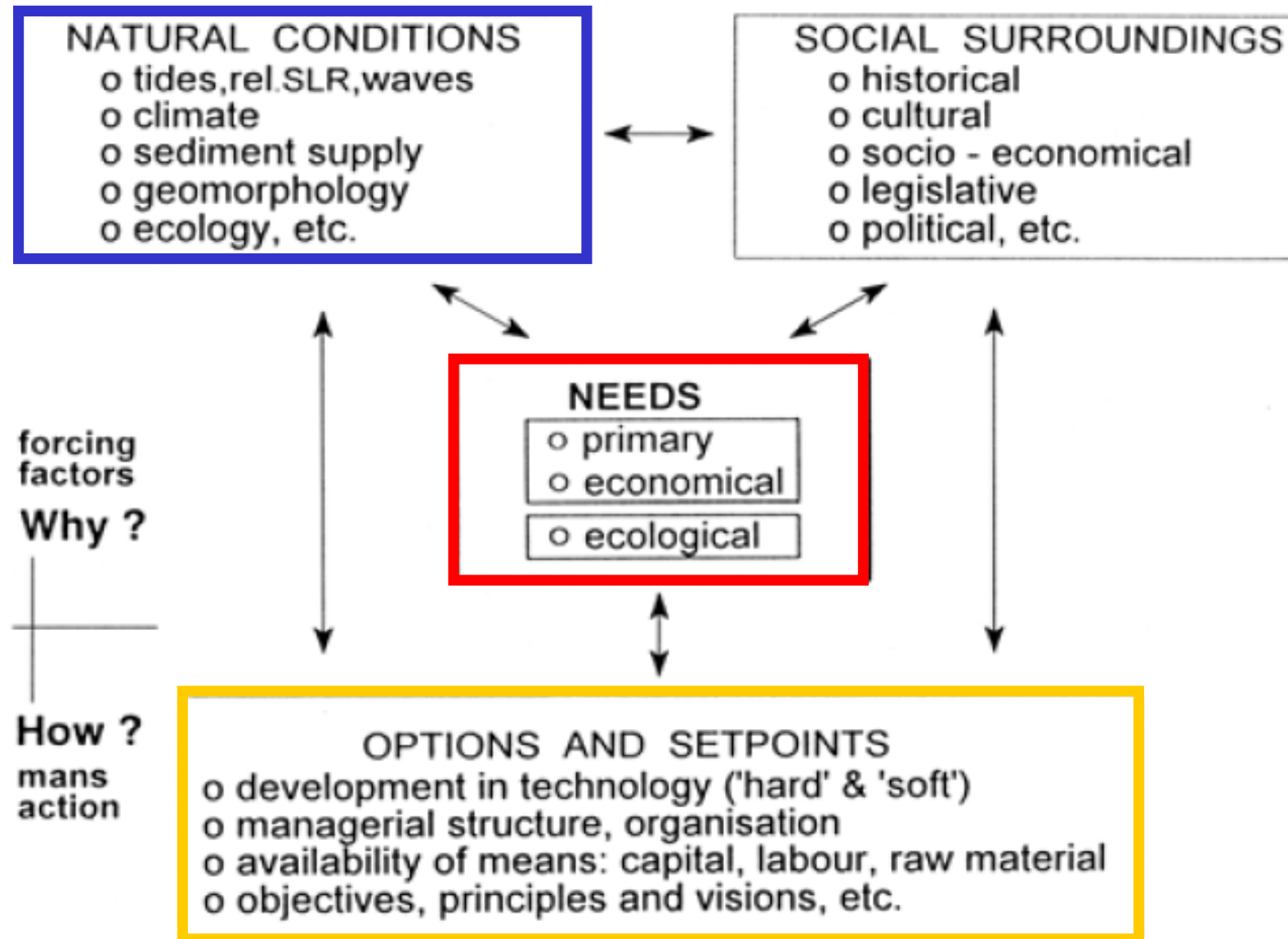


Steps towards an Integration of Coastal Protection into Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

Principle Sketch demonstrated by a cross-section for the East Frisian Coast

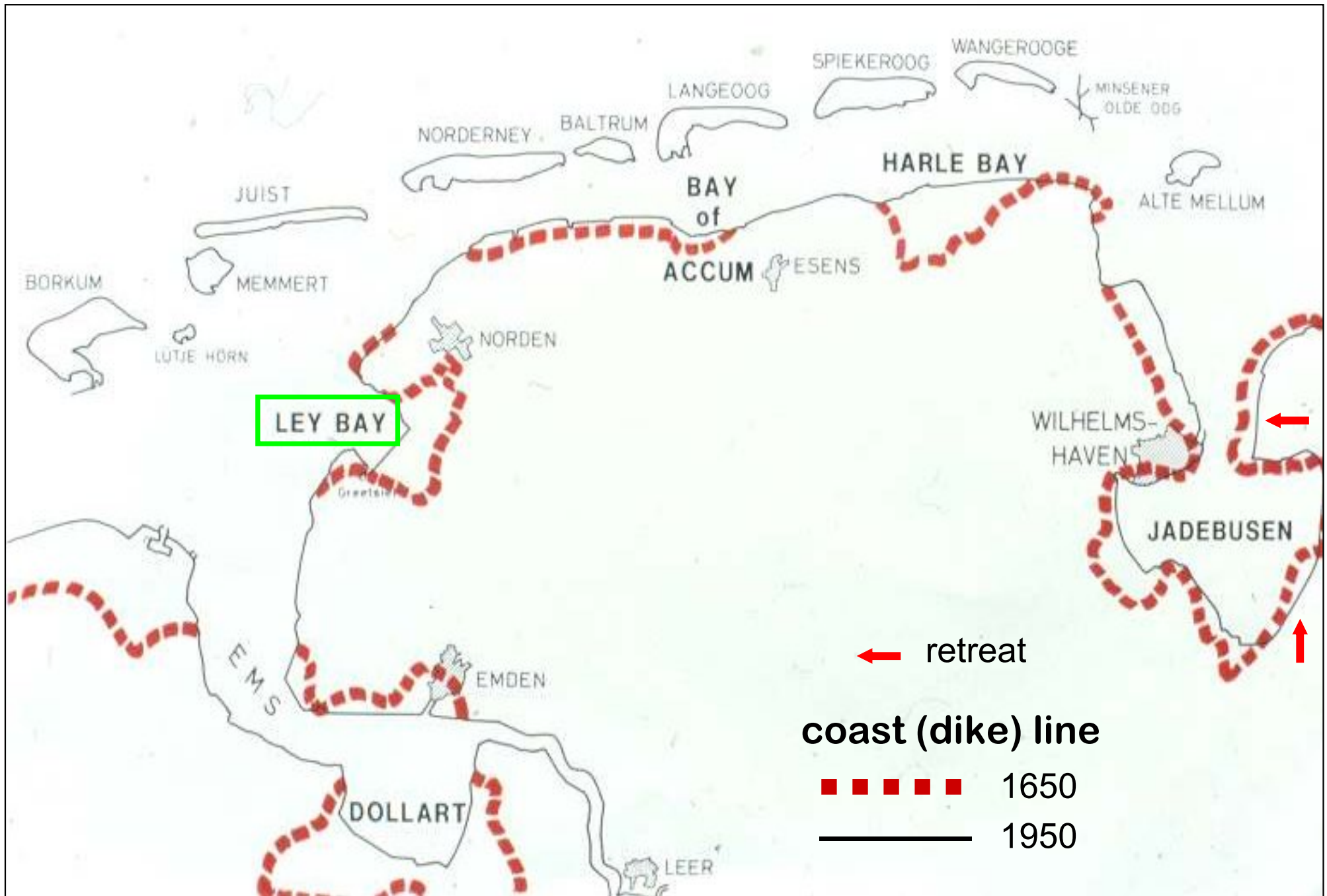


Scheme of combined key factors for coastal zone management



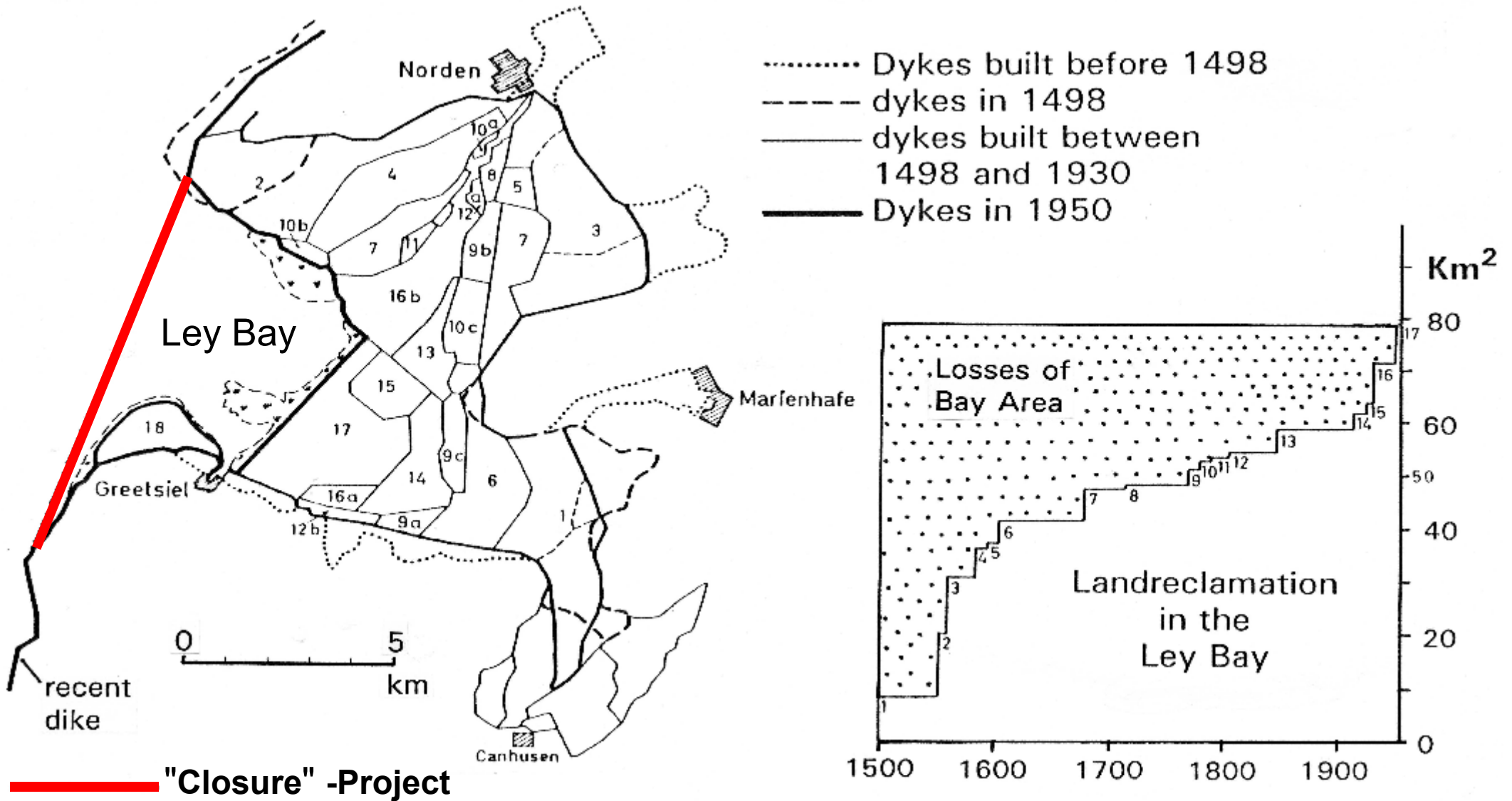
Focus: Interaction between Natural Conditions and Protection Responses
Case Studies German Bight, East Frisian Coast, North Sea

Advancement of the Dike Line from 1650 to 1950



Ley-Bay:

Natural Conditions: Silting up towards a "morphological equilibrium" after the land losses during medieval storm floods → problems with access to the sea (drainage, shipping) → diking associated with land reclamation follows the natural conditions until 1930 → seaward directed diking in 1950 → closure project (single defence line concept) rejected with respect to the key-factor "social needs"



"Leyhörn" as an example for Coastal Zone Management

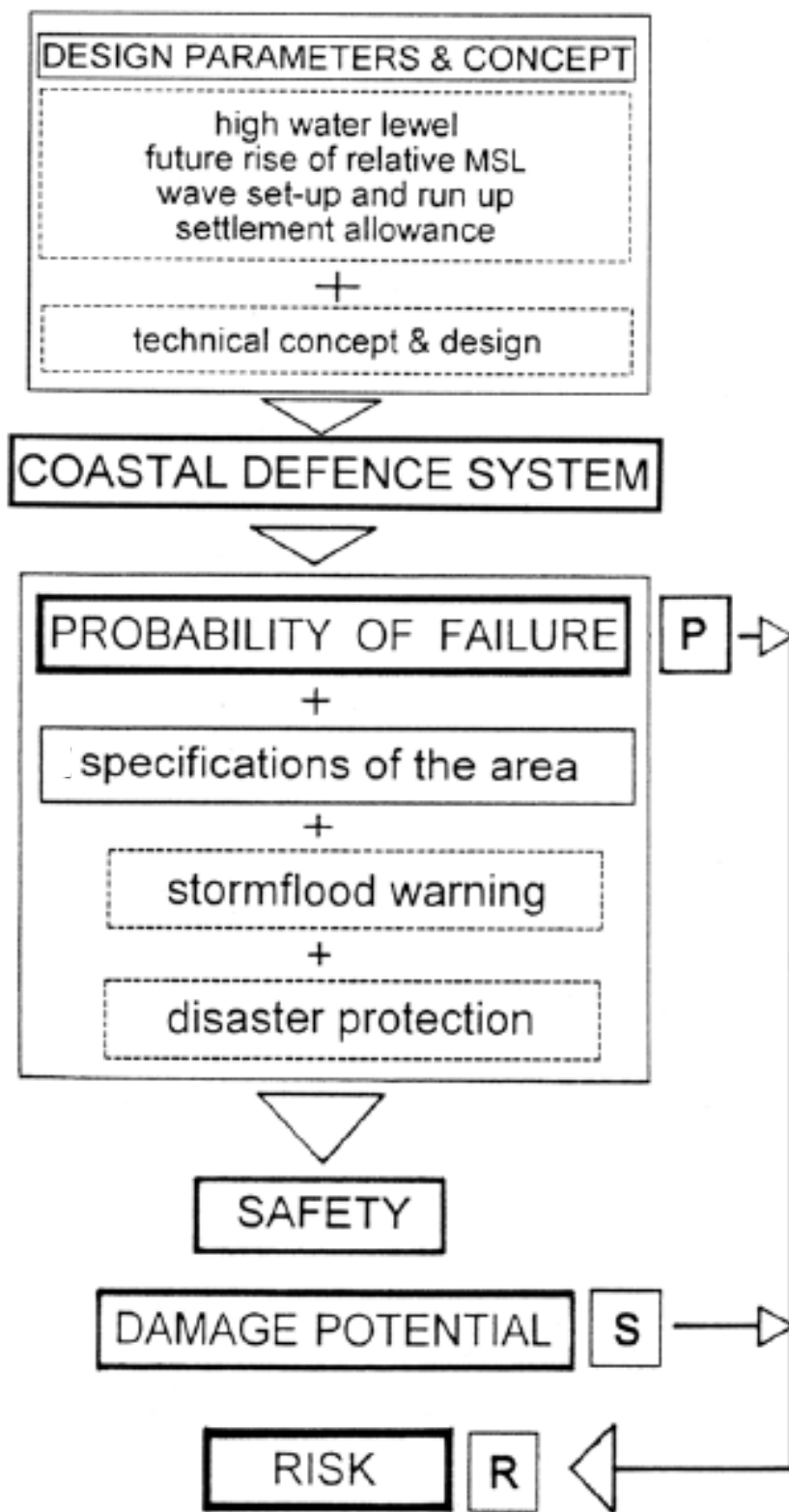


Ecological needs

keep Ley Bay open

Primary & Economical needs

access to deep water for drainage and shipping
shorten the dike line



stochastic input data
combined probability of occurrence

no
tolerable?
yes

acceptable? no

**From
deterministic
Coastal Defence
to probabilistic
Risk Management**

Visualisation of Spatial Coastal Protection Concepts (Example Overtopping Embankment)



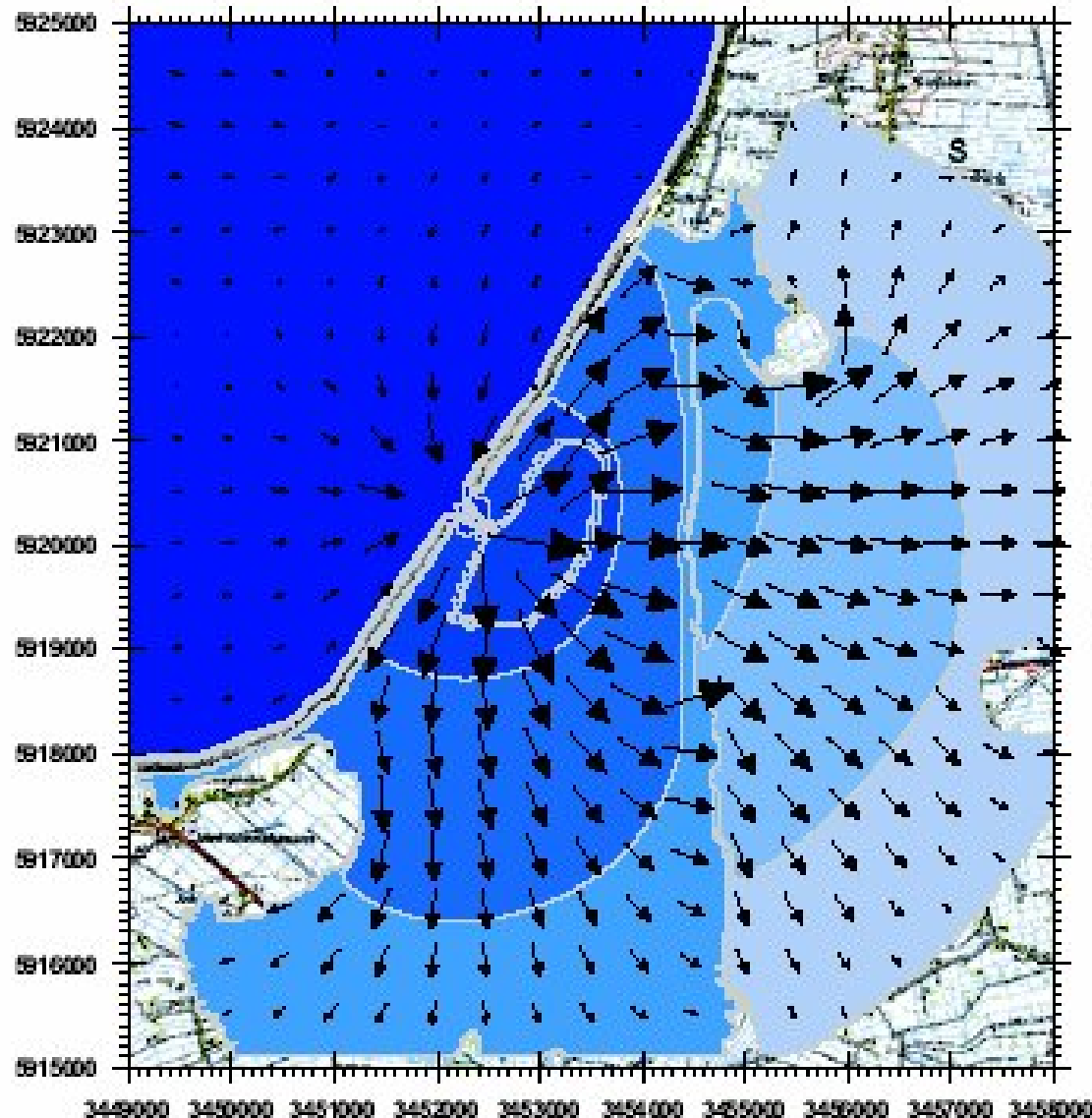
Failure of the Main Dike during the February Storm Flood in 1962



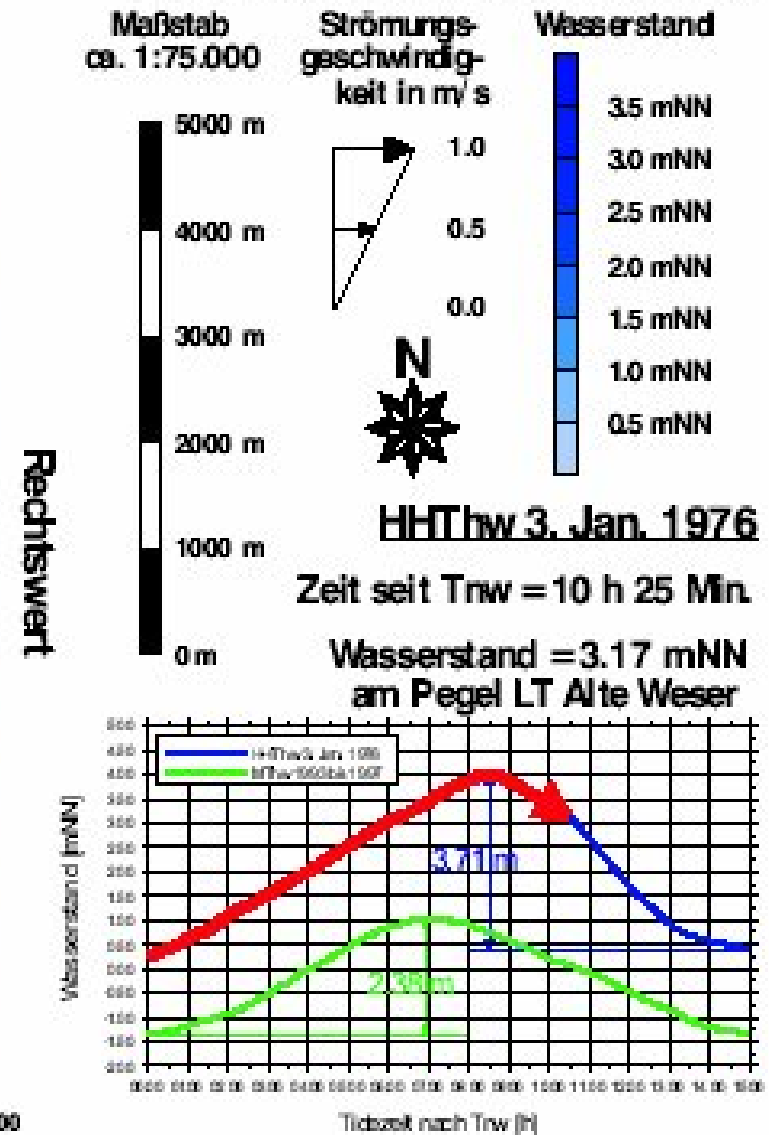
Flooding caused by Failure of a Dike

Numerical Simulation of Water Level and Currents

Flooding process as result of dike failure

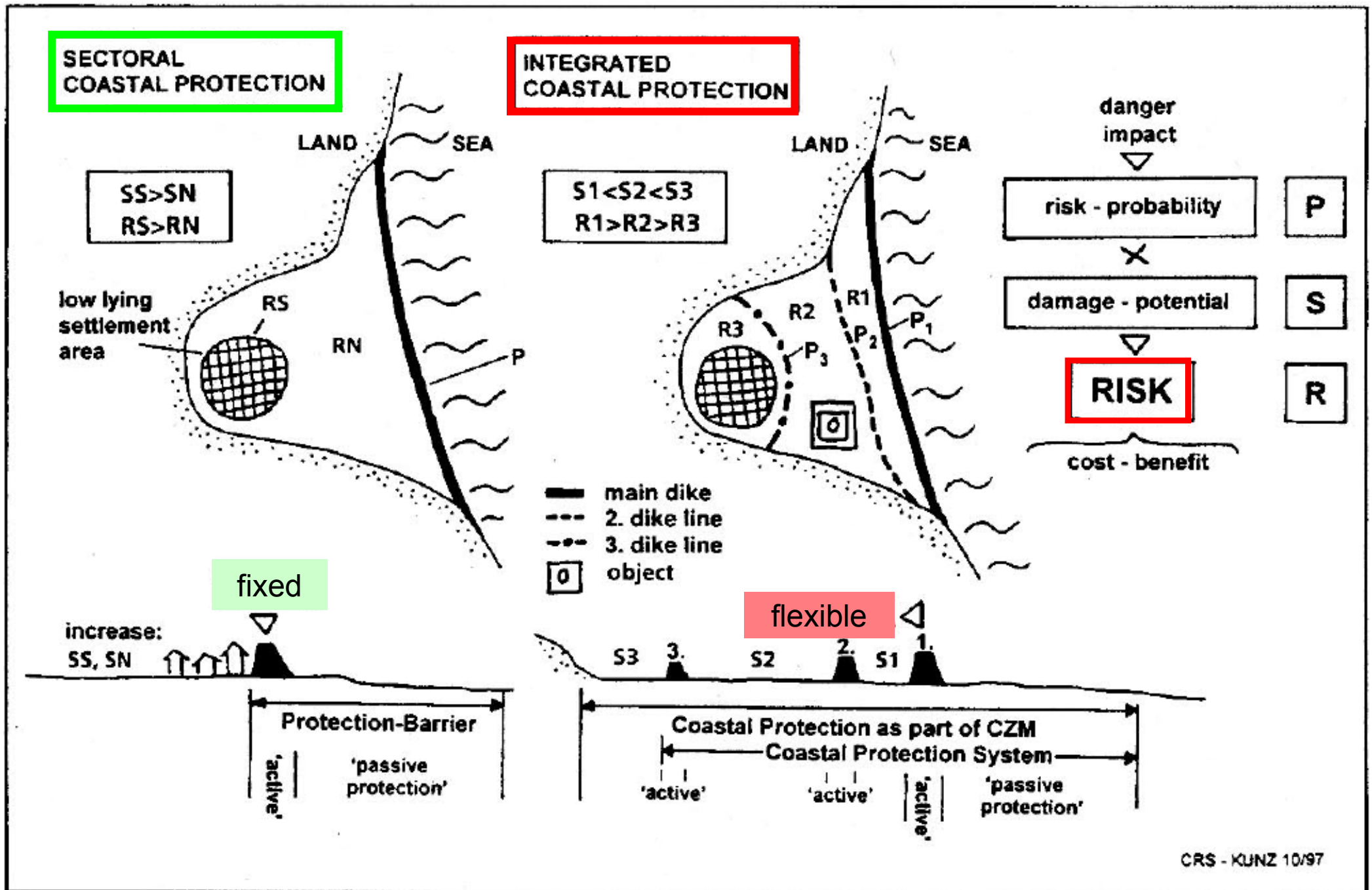


Failure Schweiburger Siel

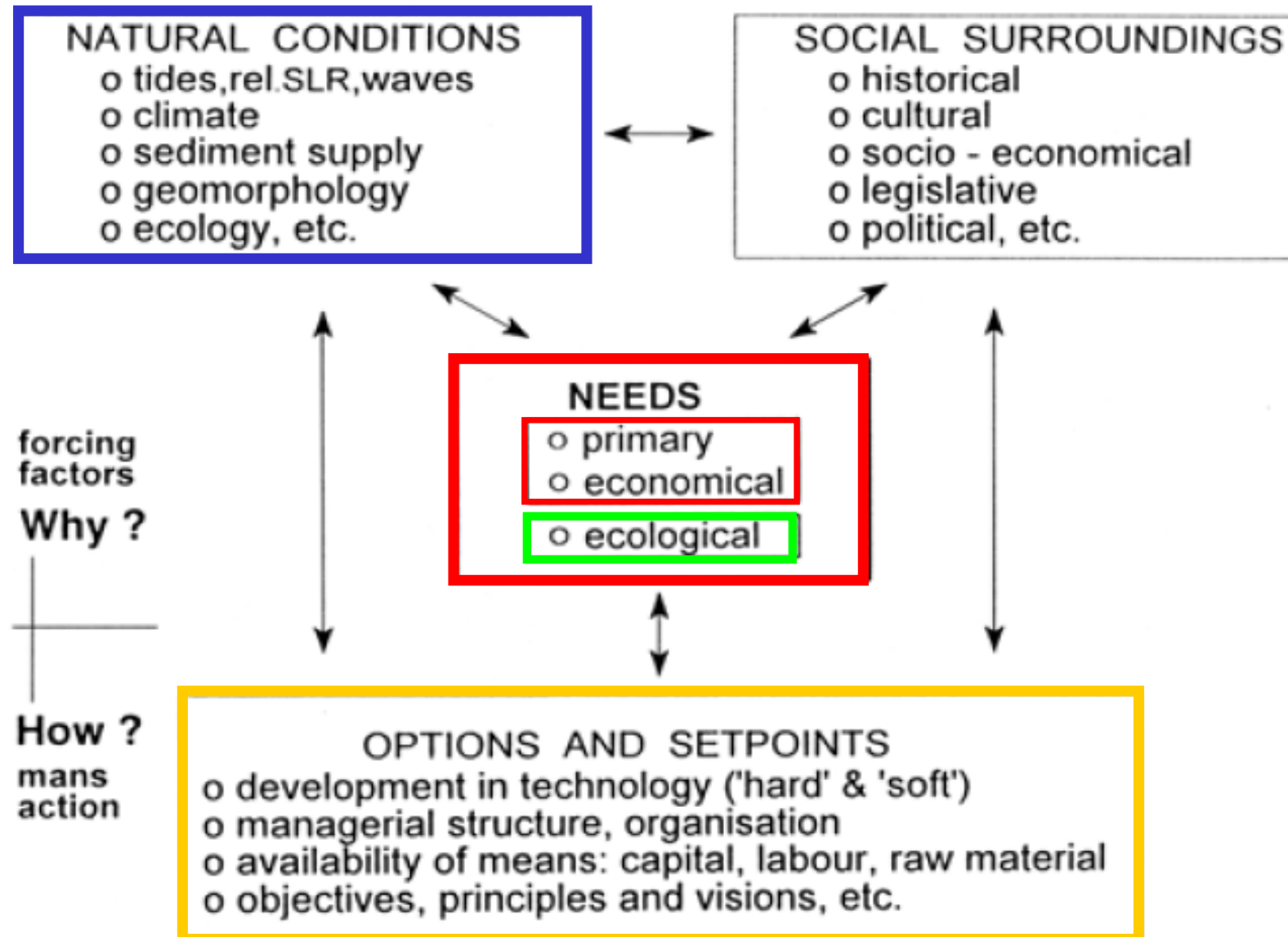


Concepts for Coastal Protection

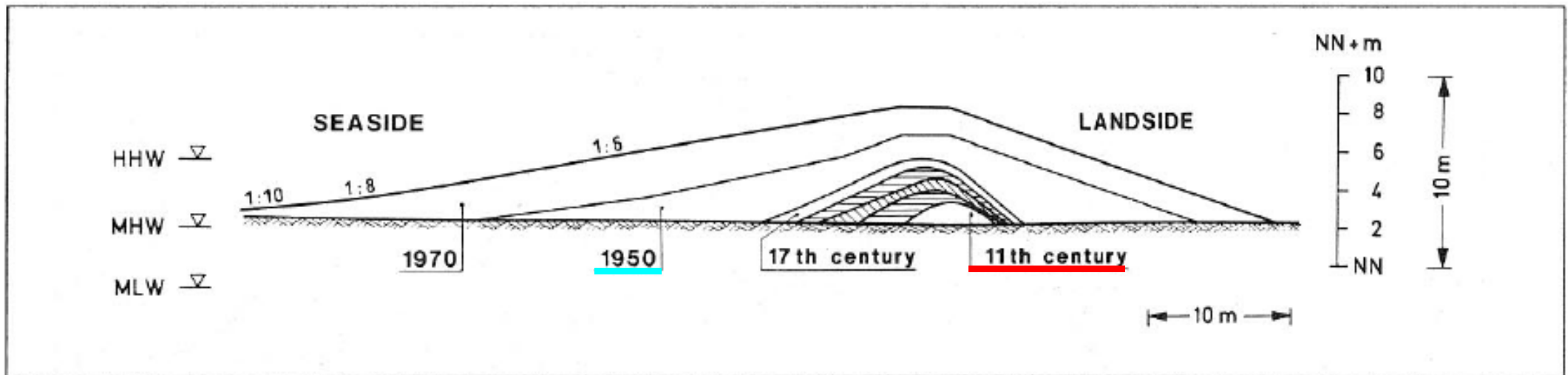
Single Line (Flood Defence) versus Spatial (Flood & Risk Management)



Combined Key-Factors for Coastal Zone Management (CZM)



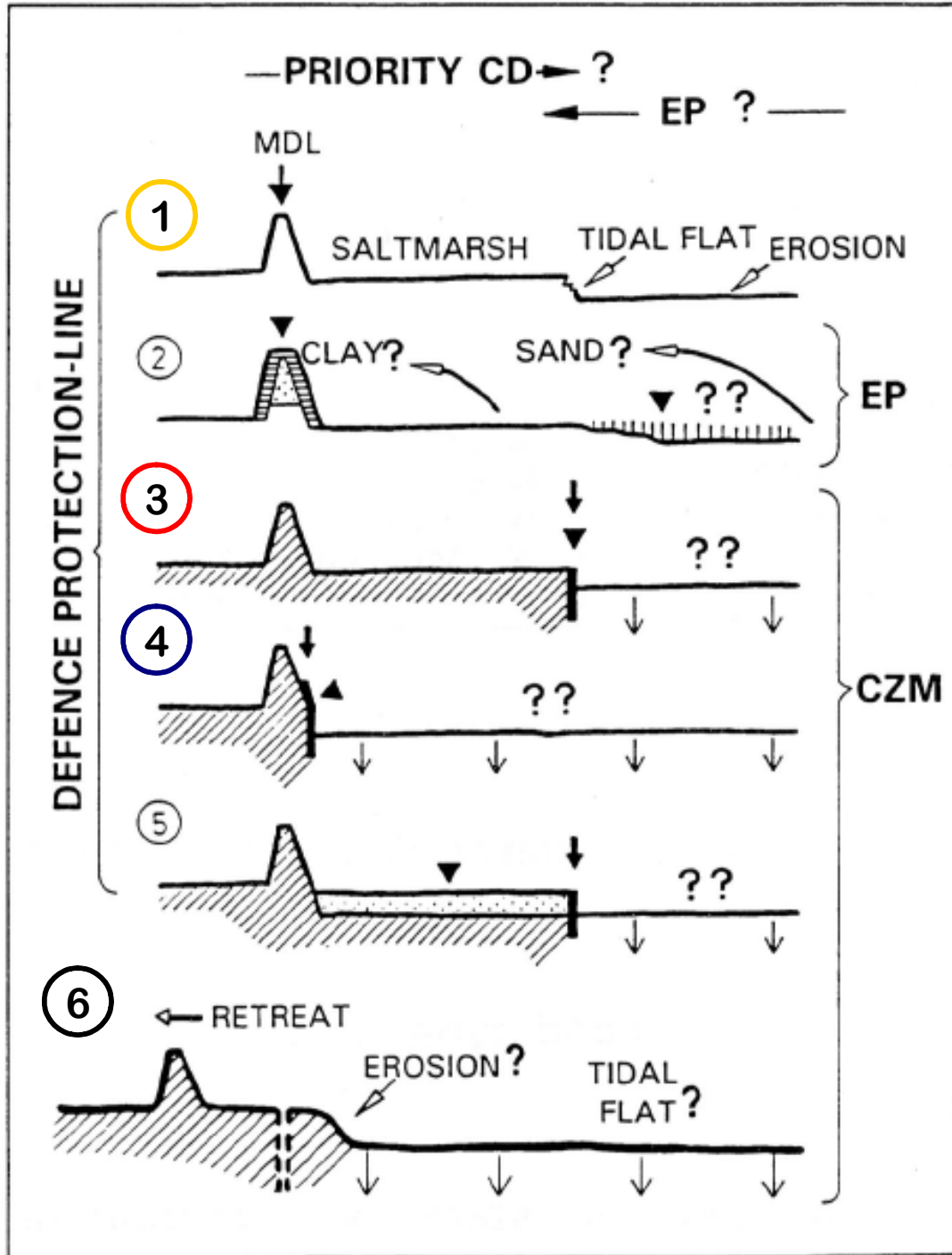
Development of dike-profiles - German North Sea coast



From 11th century to the storm flood disasters in 1953 (Dutch Flood) and 1962 (February Flood, Germany):
reactive strategy → height raised according to experiences gained by catastrophic failures of dikes

After 1953/1962 → design criteria, precaution concerning expected future hydro-morphological developments (100years) → response to environmental targets ("ecological" needs) → adapting to the "principle of sustainability"

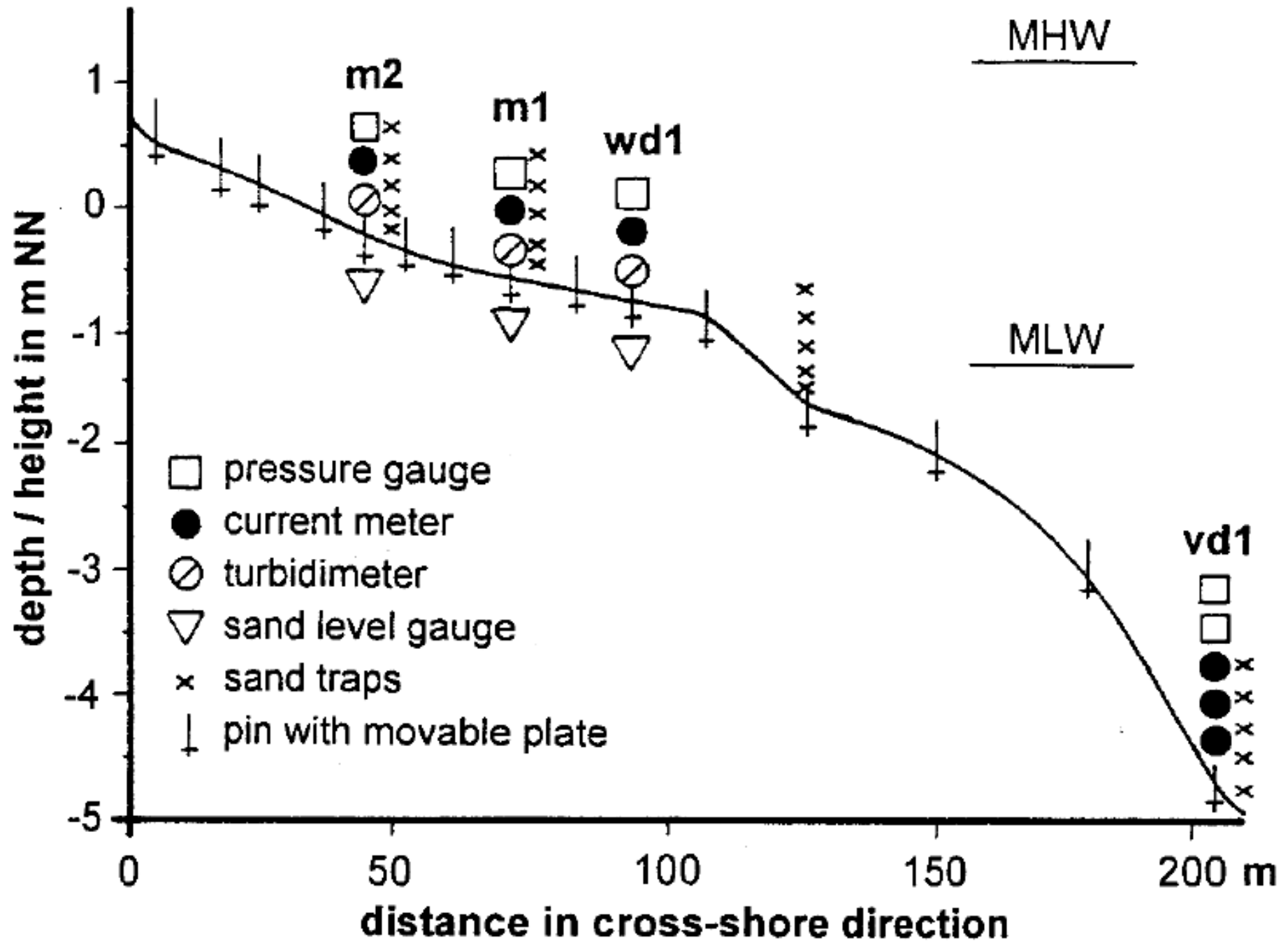
Coastal Protection Strategies – Dike with Fore Land

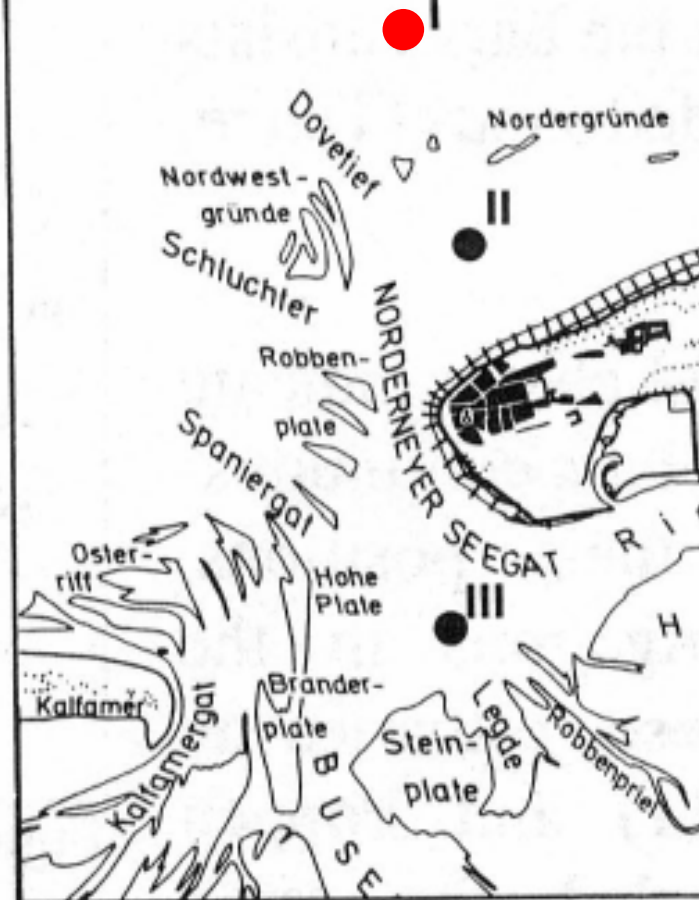
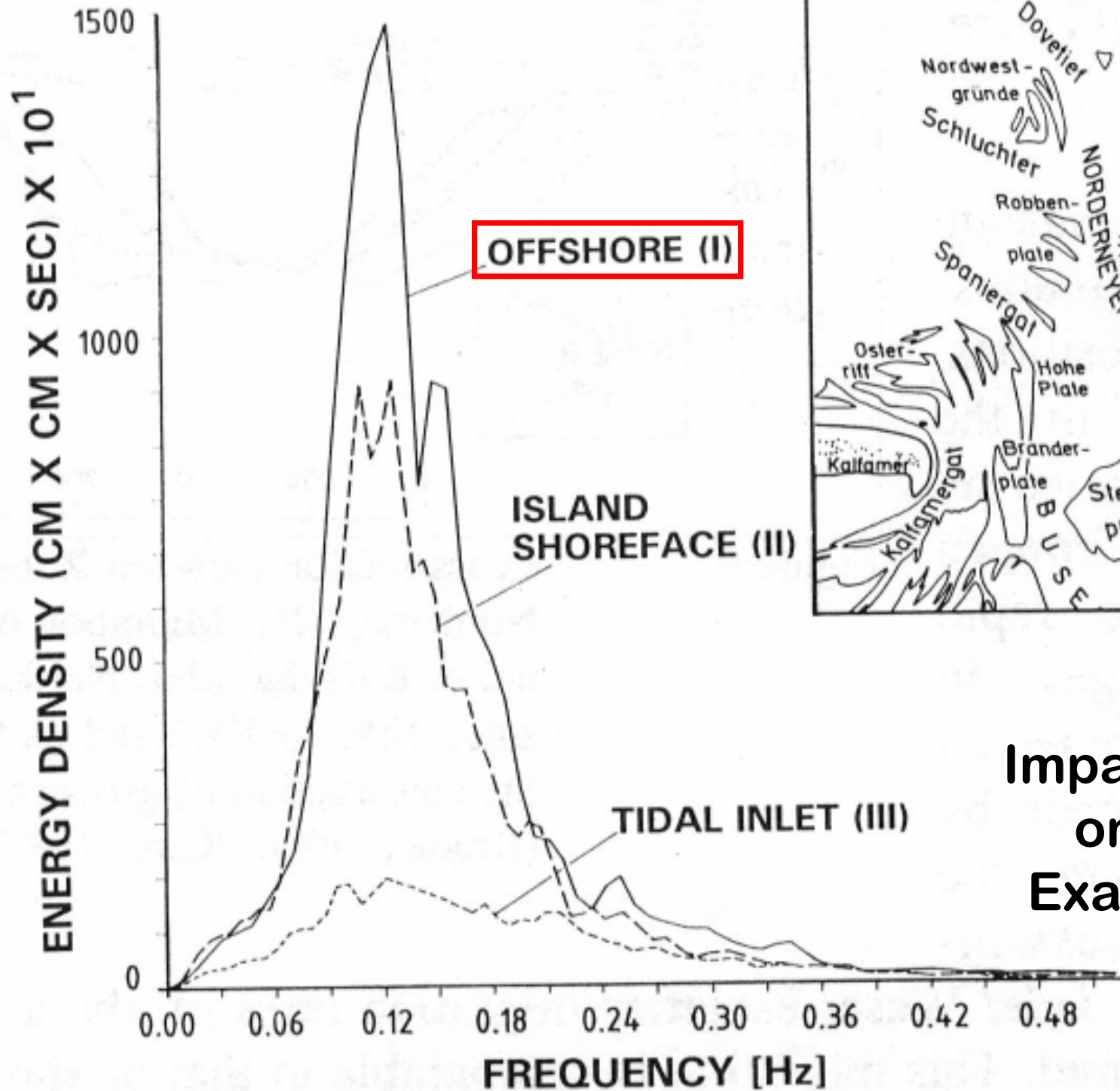


CD	Coastal Defence (Protection)
EP	Environmental Problems (preservation of nature)
MDL	Main Dyke (Defence Line)
↓	no retreat allowable
▼	technique available
█	solid construction
??	impact of RSLR, tides, waves, surges, currents

Coastal Protection Strategy depends on:
 water-level, wave-run-up, development of tidal flat and saltmarsh, subsoil, security-targets

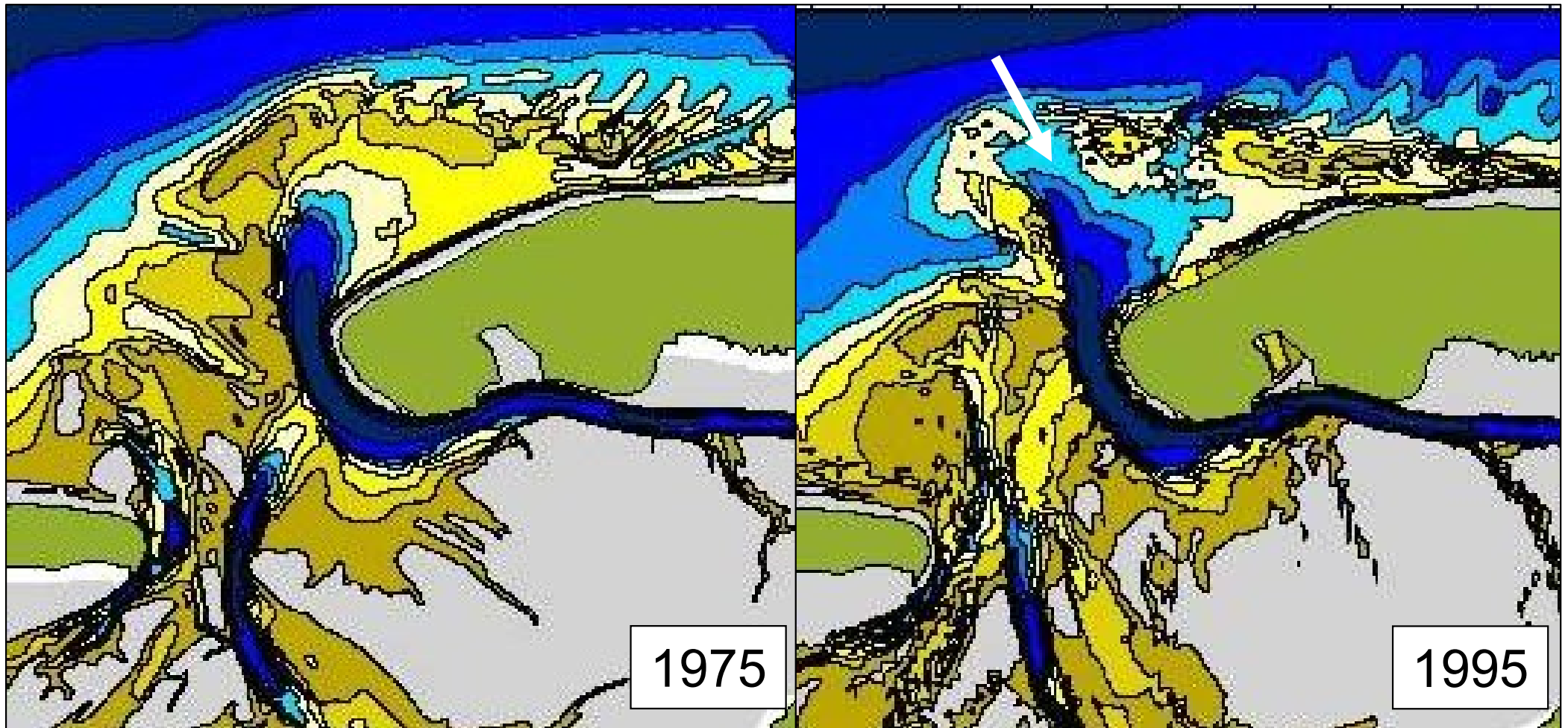
German–Russian Field-Experience on Norderney (East Frisian Island) – Cross-section with devices



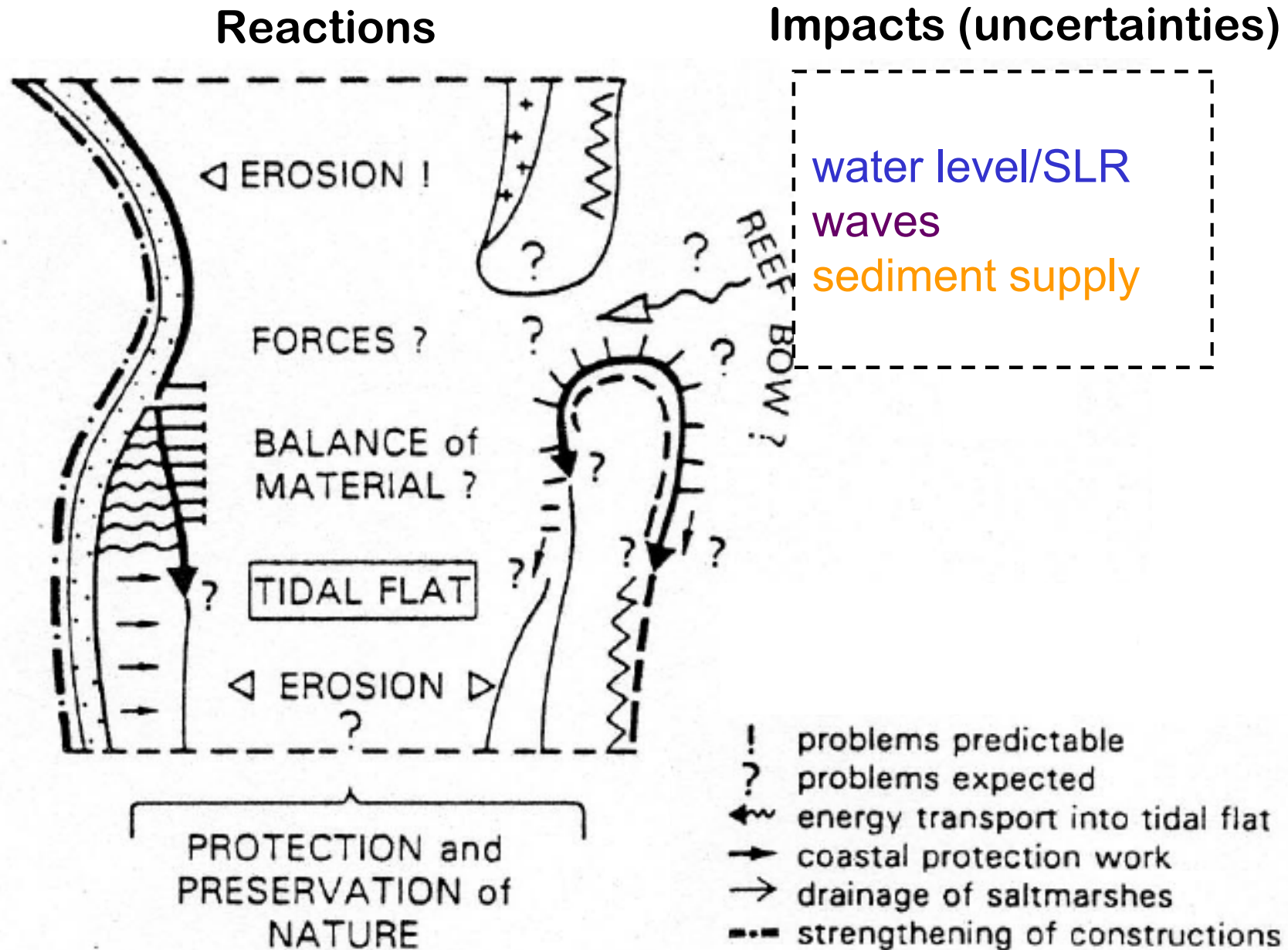


Impact of a Reef Bow on Wave Energy Example Norderney

Change "Reef Bow" (Ebb-Delta shoals) of the "Norderneyer Seegat" from 1975 to 1995



Future Development of Impacts and Reactions



Impact of the Leyhörn-project on the morphology of the Ley Bay Erosion/sedimentation during the time-period 1983-1996

