

Pan-Arctic assessment of coastal settlements and infrastructure vulnerable to coastal erosion, sea-level rise, and permafrost thaw



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Utqiagvik (Barrow) Alaska, 2023

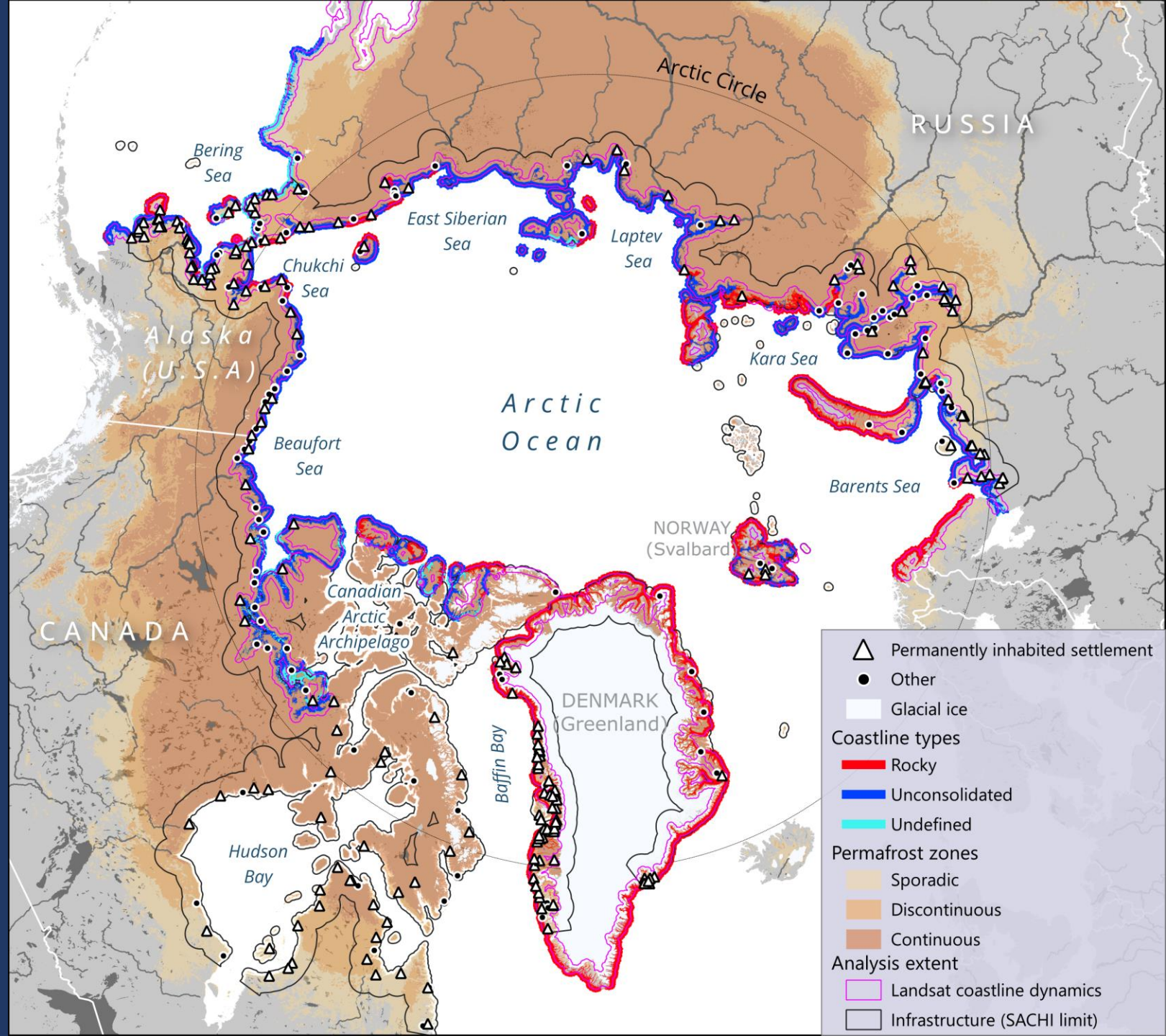




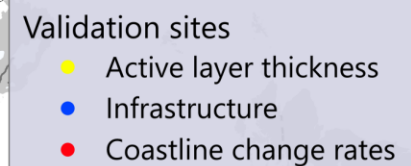
Photo: Ben Jones

Study area

Northern permafrost coasts



Validation sites



1

Infrastructure detection SACHI_V2

Sentinel 1 (SAR) & Sentinel 2

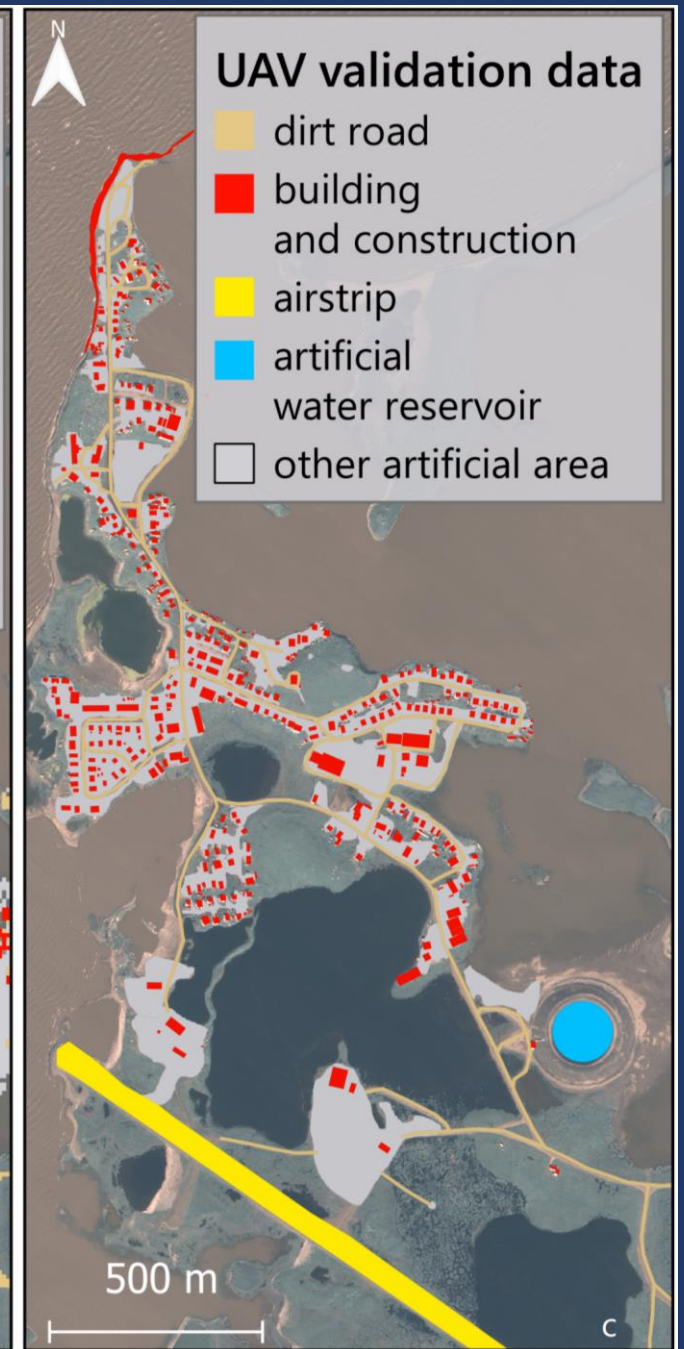
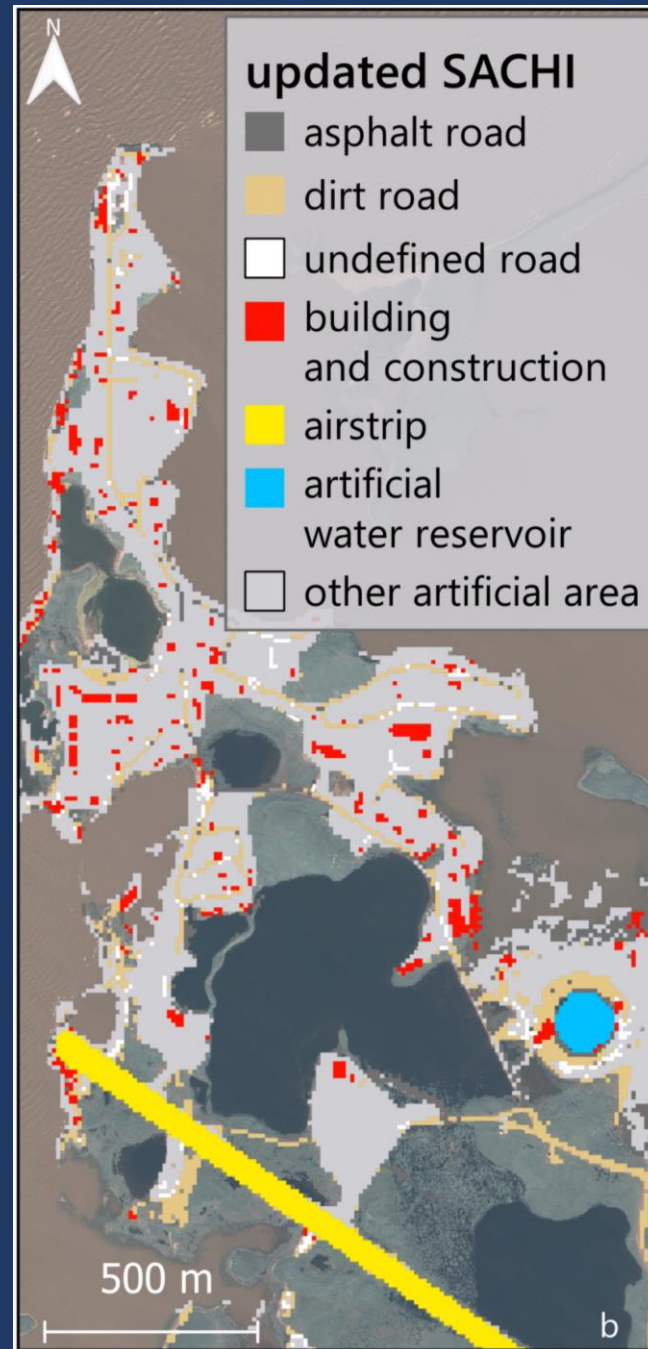
Machine Learning : XGBOOST & K-means

Deep learning : U-NET CNN in Keras

+ 40 % human presence than in OpenStreet Map

+ 20% more infrastructure area than in SACHI_v1

Bartsch et al., 2023, Zenodo.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1016063>

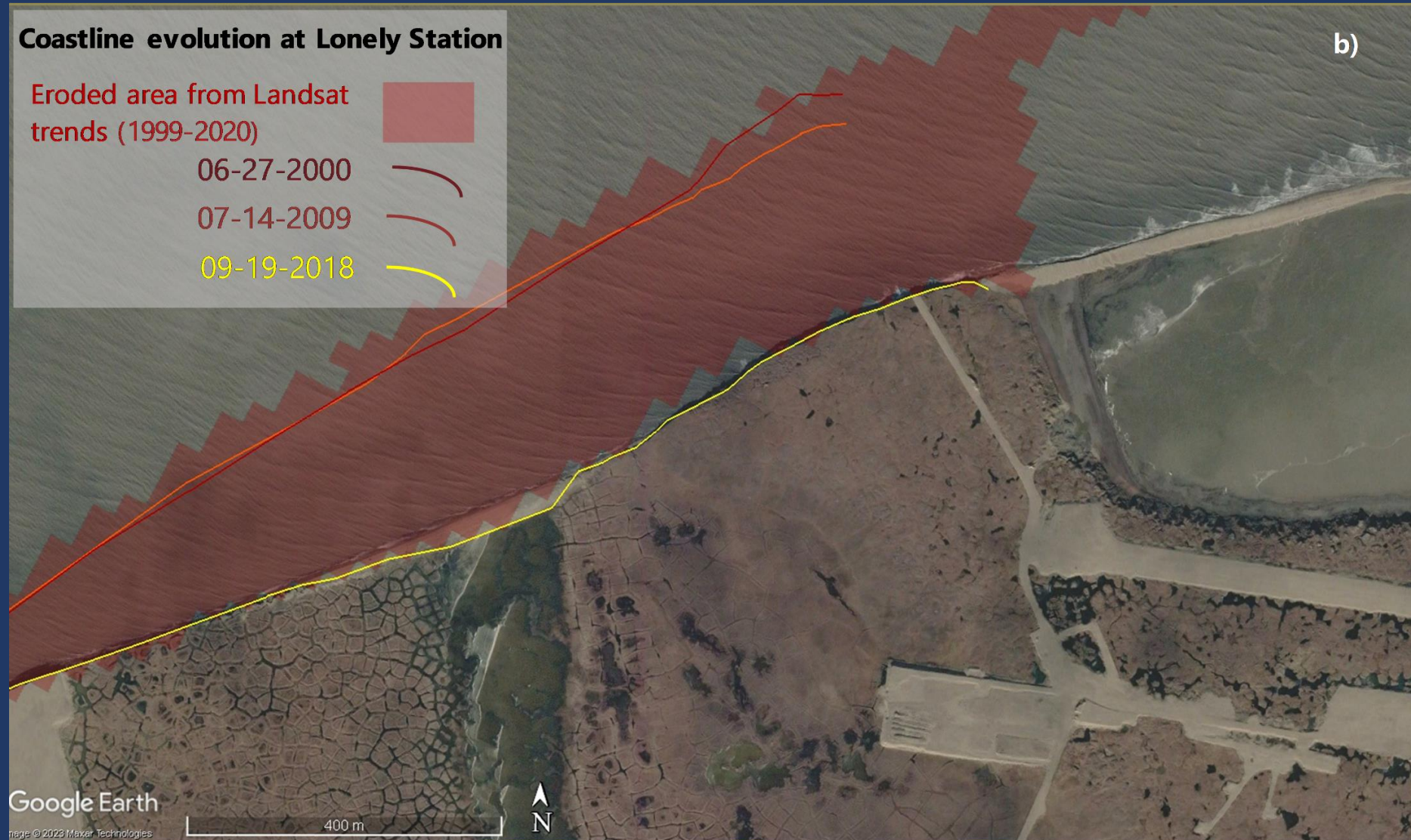


Coastline dynamics (2000-2020)

Landsat 7/8
TM, ETM+ and OLI sensors
(spatial resolution of 30 m)

Pixel change :
robust linear trends for
multispectral indices.
Land to water = Erosion
Water to Land = Accretion
(Nitze et al. 2017)

Pixel classification :
probability threshold
(Bartsch et al. 2021)



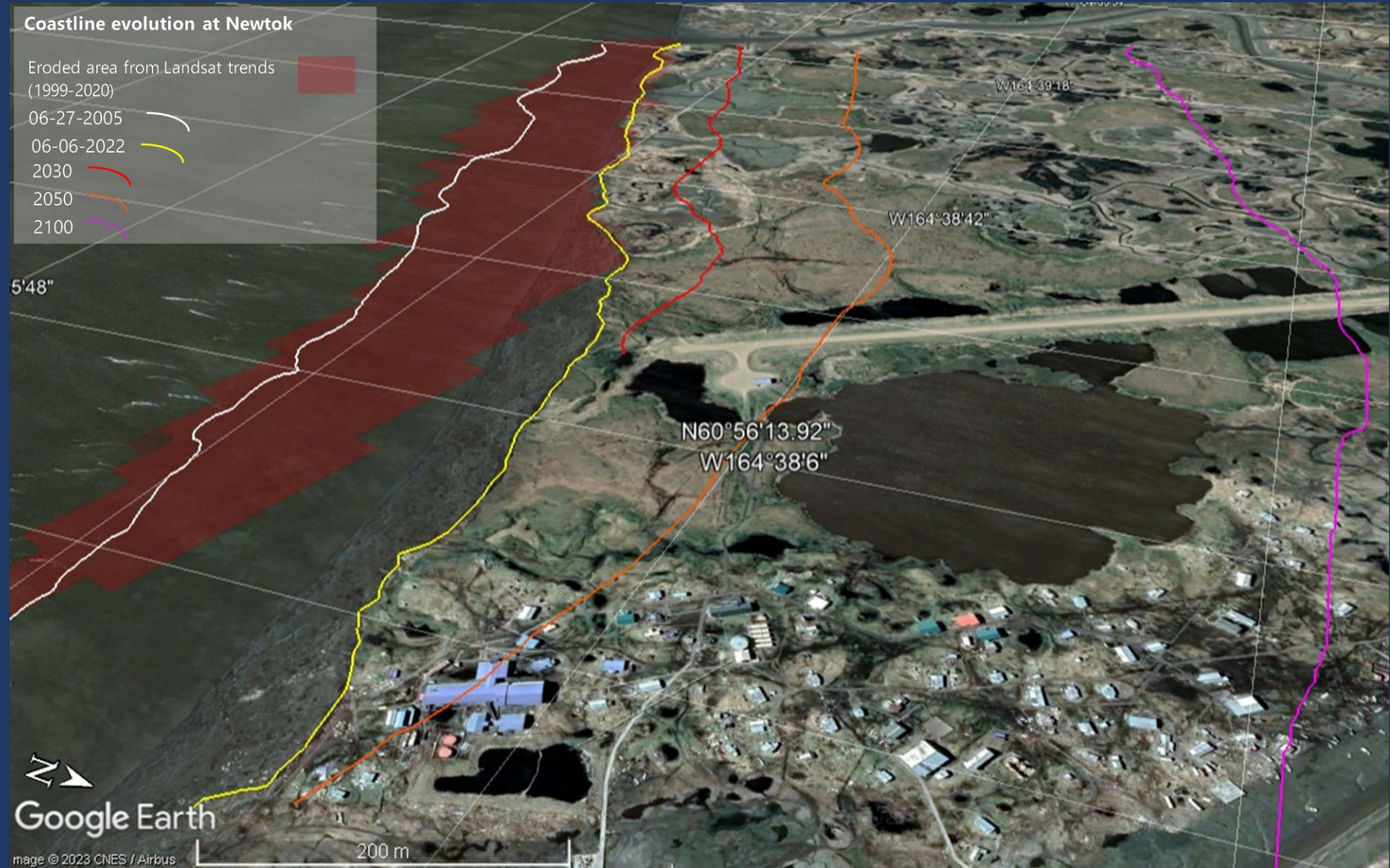
2.1

Coastline position extrapolation

Based on linear rates
(2000-2020)

Landsat : -9.2 m/yr
Validation -12.9 m/y

- 2030
- 2050
- 2100



2.2

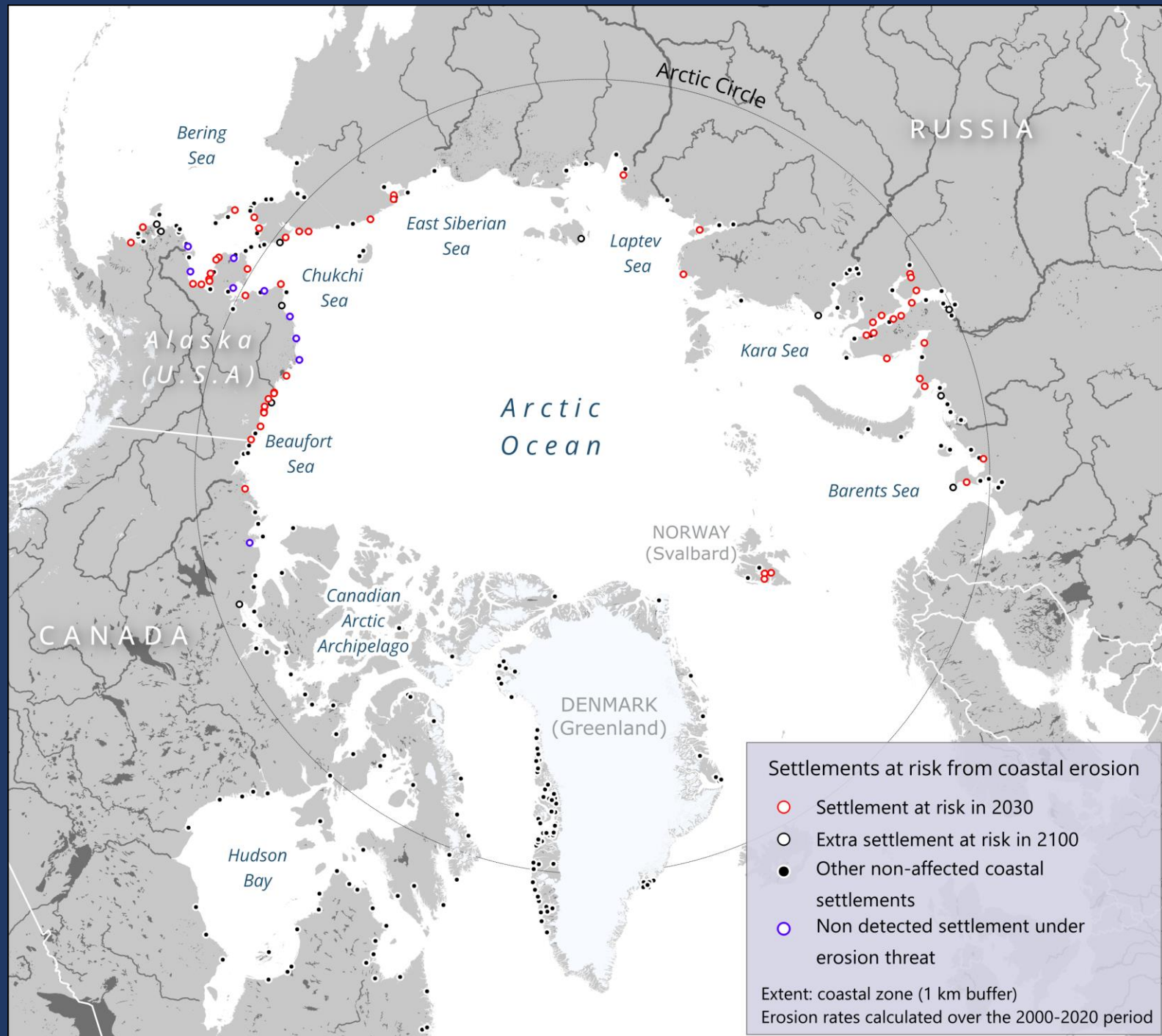
Circum-arctic identification of settlements at risk

(coastal erosion)

18 % (2030)

21 % (2100)

(of total coastal settlements)



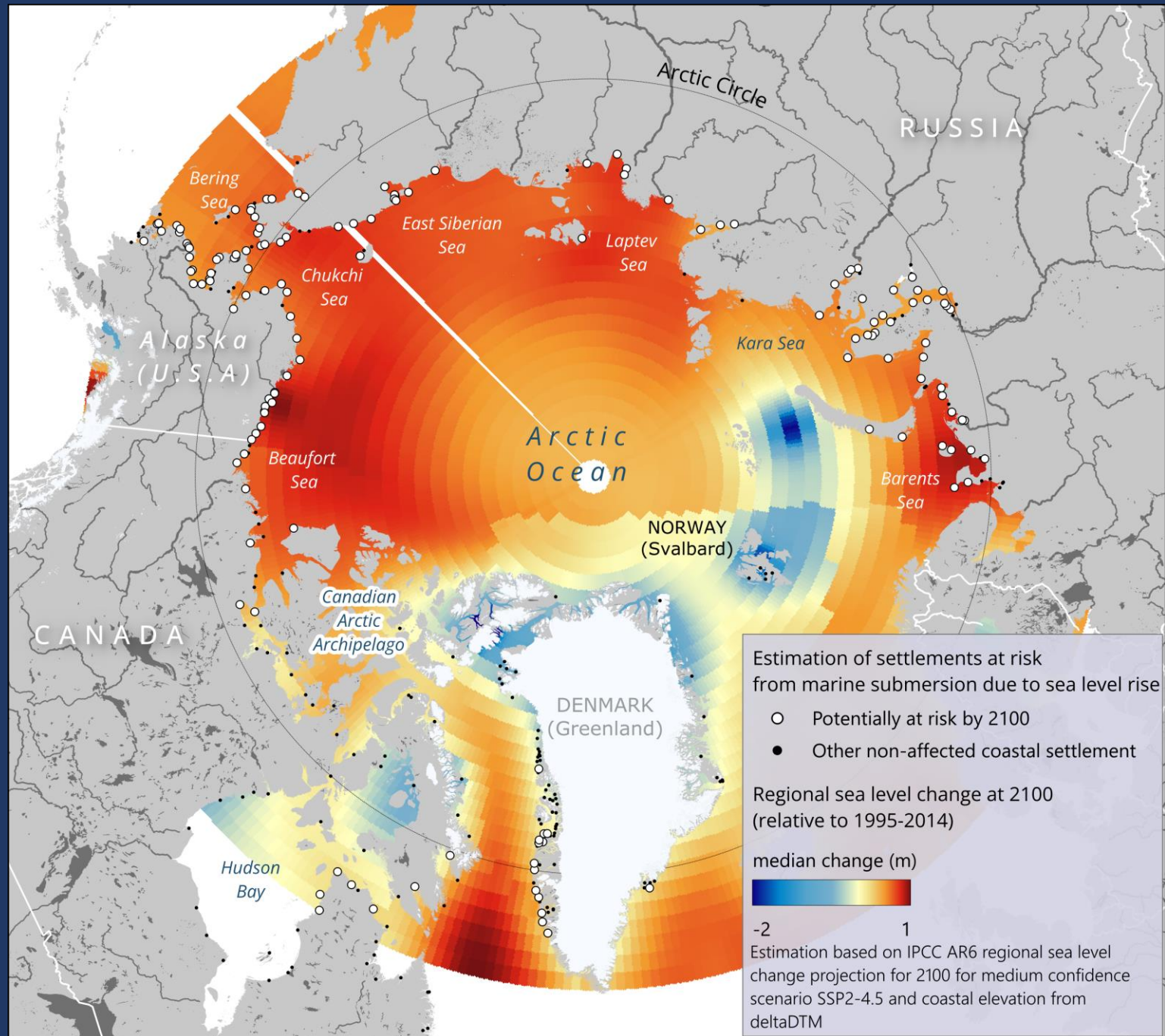
3

Sea Level Change in 2100

60% of coastal infrastructures < 10 m a.s.l

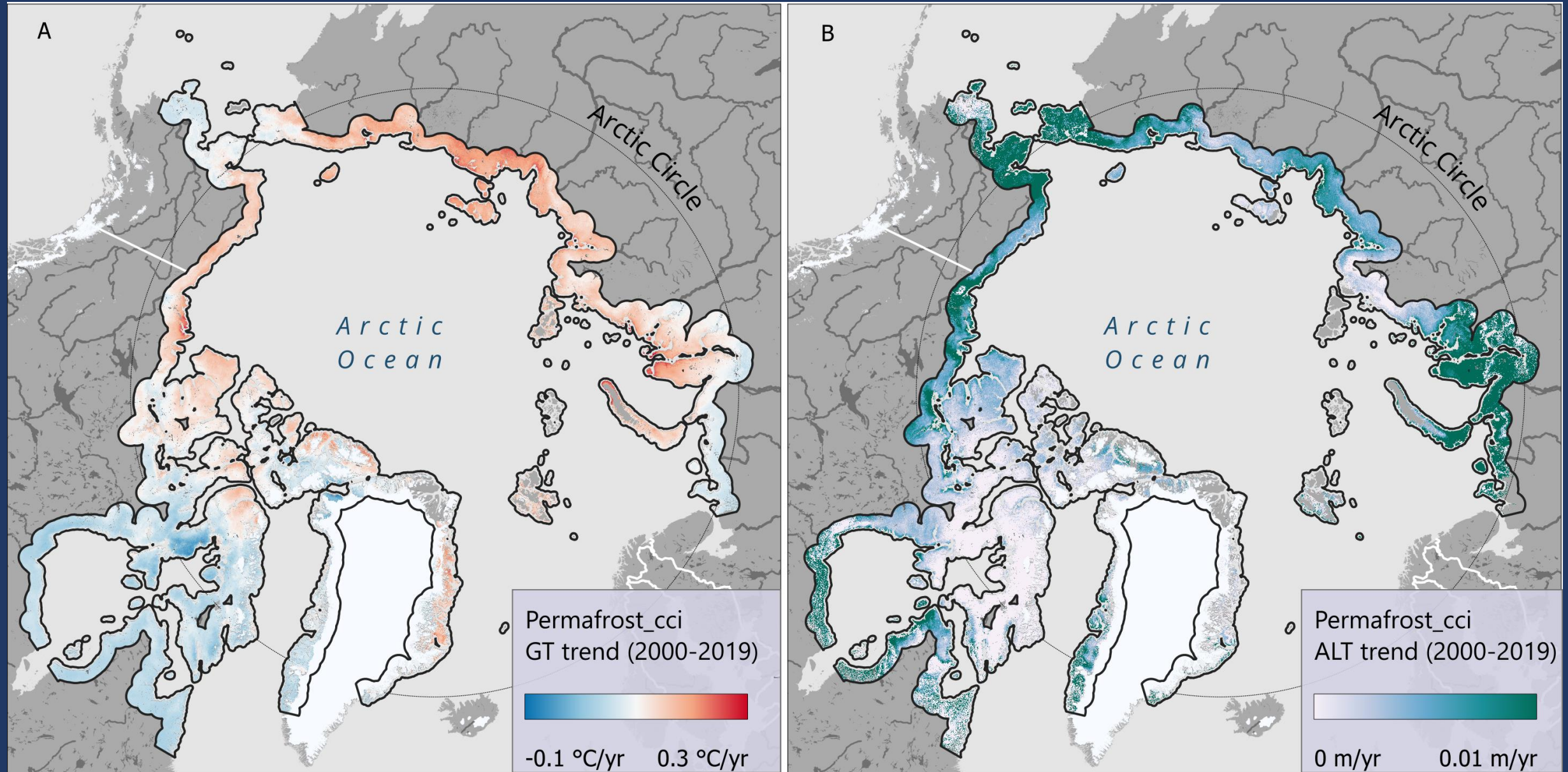
45 % of settlements potentially affected

Based on IPCC AR6 projections



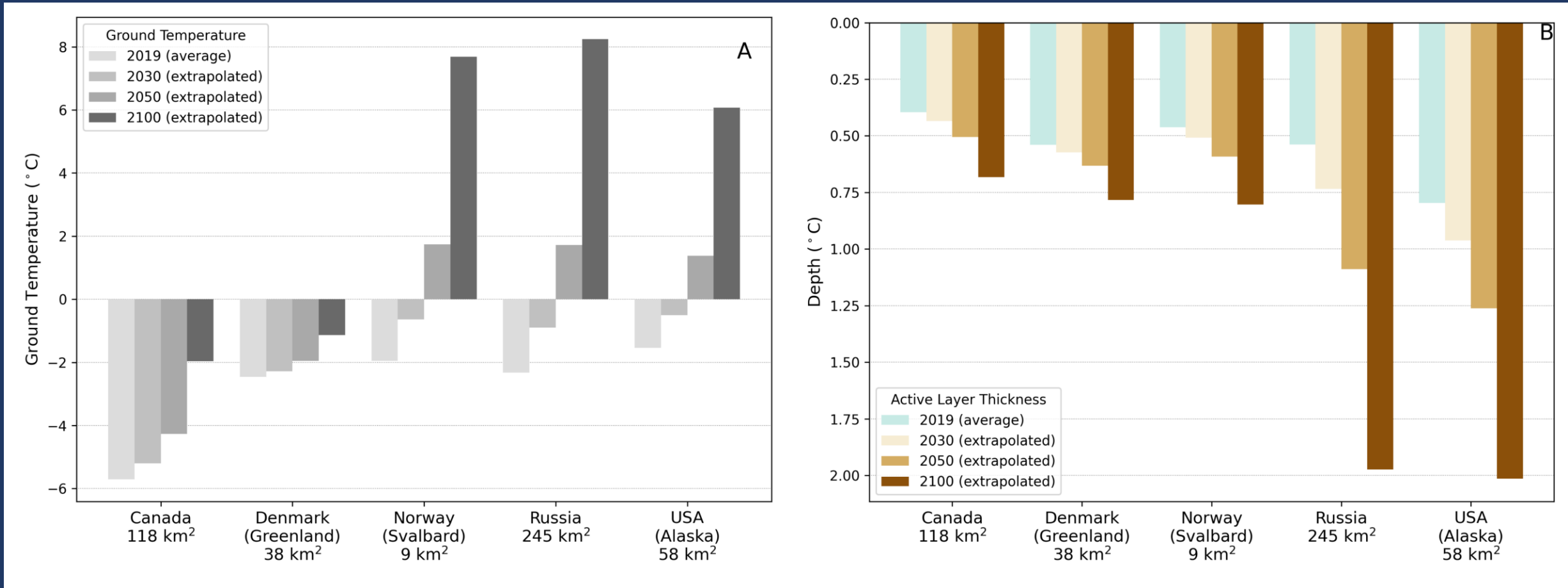
4

Permafrost properties changes 2000-2019



4.1 Extrapolated permafrost properties

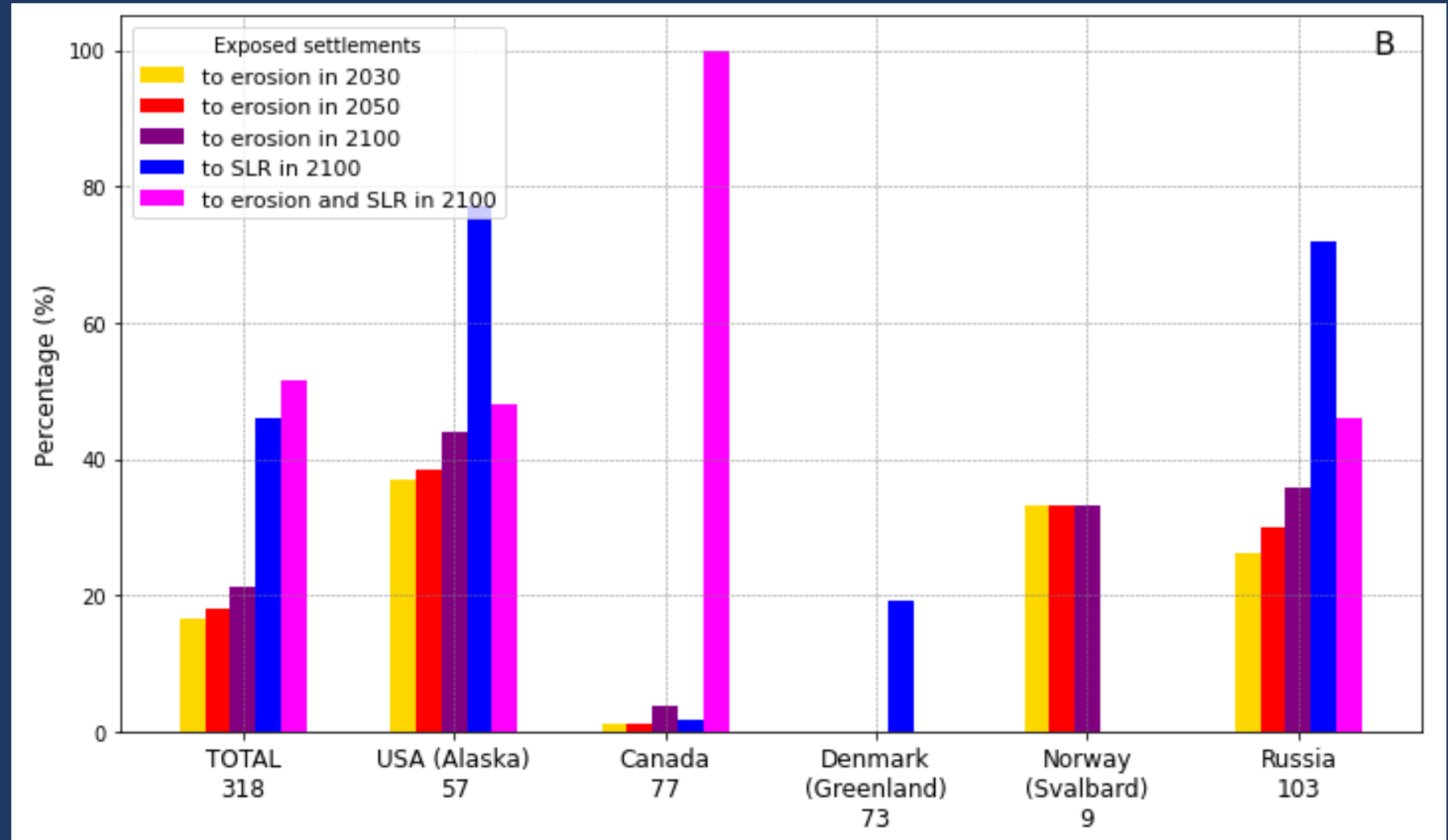
- By 2100 77% of infrastructures overlying unfrozen ground



Based on ESA-Permafrost_cci data

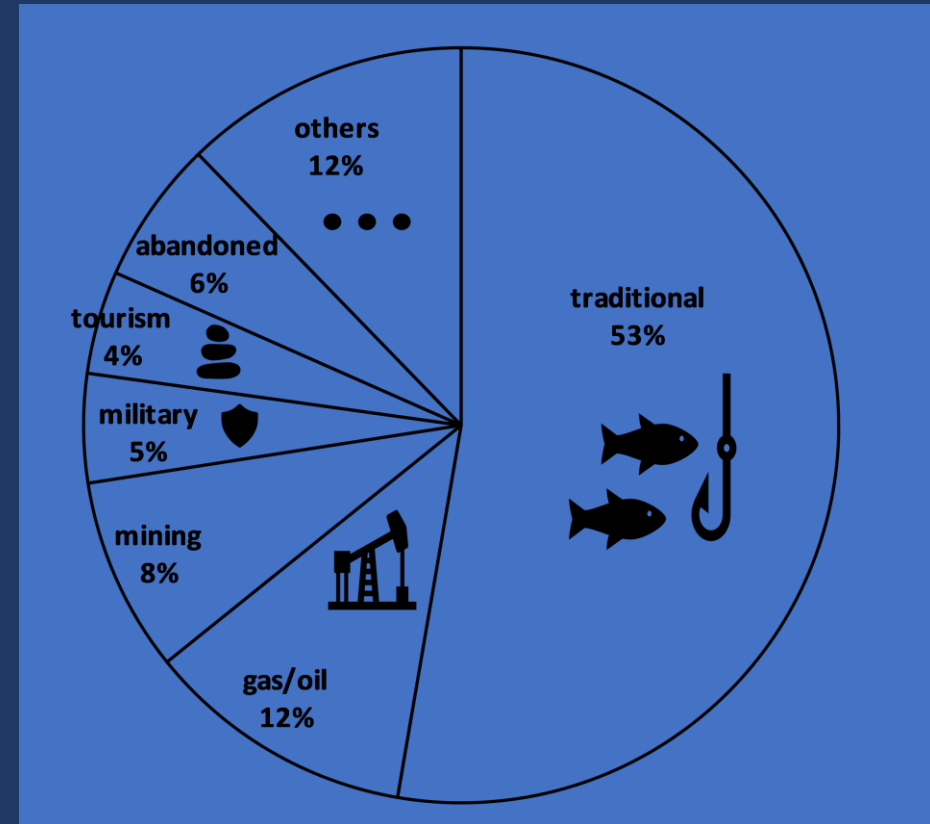
Exposed infrastructures / settlements

Summary





Activity



Conclusions

Extrapolation of linear trends

Conservative results

Tsunamis hazard in Greenland

Adaptation capacity (indigenous vs industry)

Contribution of coastal land subsidence ?

Circum-arctic acceleration of coastline retreat ?

Infrastructures SACHI v2



ESA Permafrost_cci



AWI Arctic
Landscape
change Explorer



EO4PAC – Earth Observation for Permafrost
dominated Arctic Coasts



Thanks for your attention !