

# Multiscale Arctic Landscape Characterization

Forrest M. Hoffman<sup>†</sup>, Joel Rowland<sup>‡</sup>, Jitendra Kumar<sup>†</sup>, and  
Cathy Wilson<sup>‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Oak Ridge National Laboratory and <sup>‡</sup>Los Alamos National Laboratories

April 10, 2013

NGEE Arctic Scaling Workshop

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831 USA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**BROOKHAVEN**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Los Alamos  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



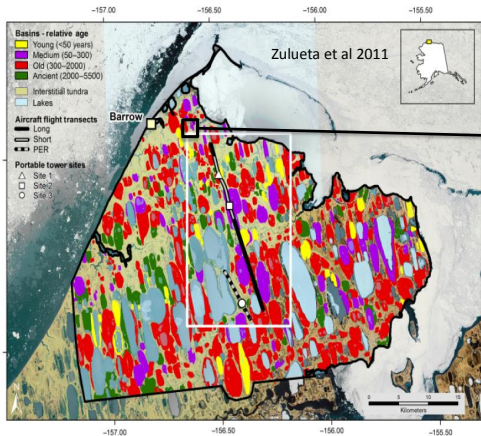
OAK  
RIDGE  
National Laboratory

UAF  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ALASKA  
FAIRBANKS

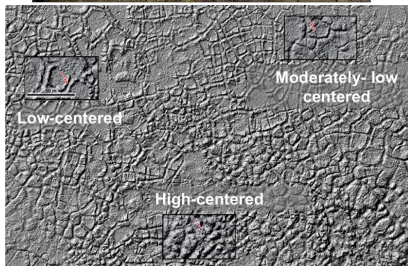
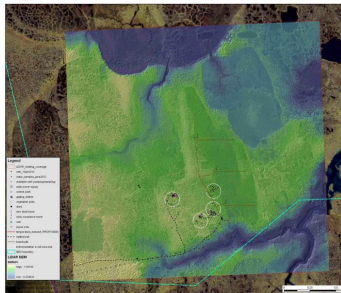
# Classify, assign properties to, and parameterize processes across the Arctic landscape

Bio-hydro-geomorphic units

Lakes, Drained Thaw Lake Basins, Interstitial Areas

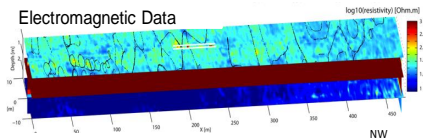


Polygons, channels, other features

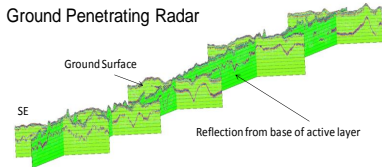


# Synthesize in-situ and geophysical data with LiDAR and high res satellite data

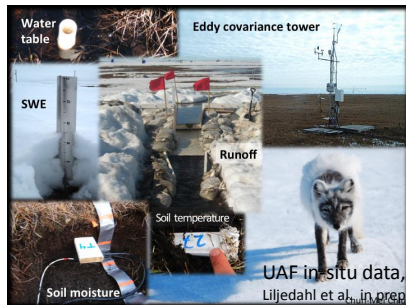
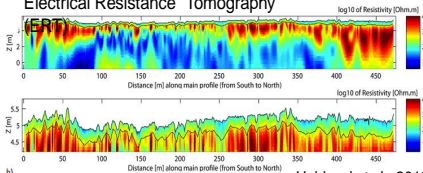
## Electromagnetic Data



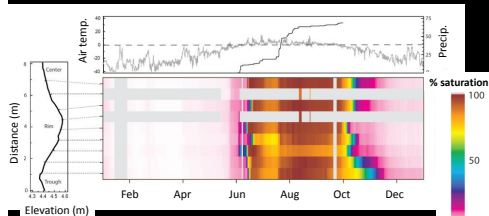
## Ground Penetrating Radar



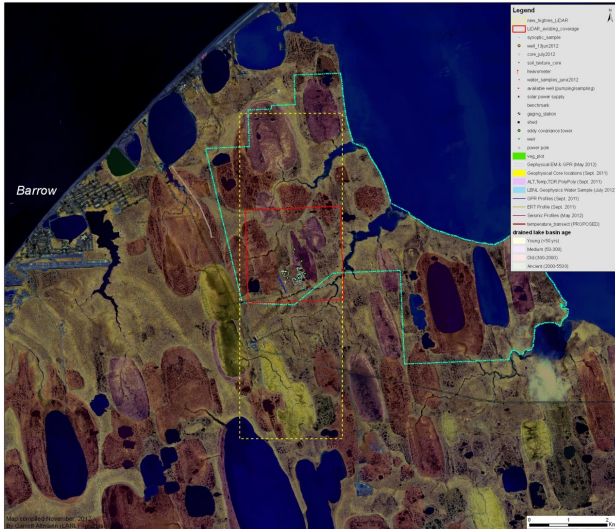
## Electrical Resistance Tomography



Liquid water content at 7-10 cm depth:  
Variations across an 8 m transect @ site C

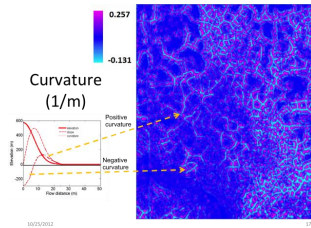
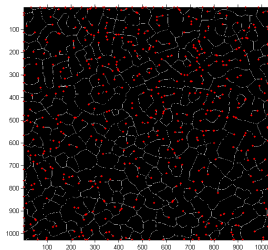
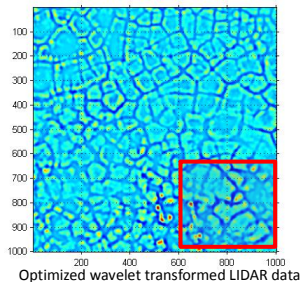


# Develop methods to enable the spatial and temporal distribution and evaluation of key properties and processes- Spatial distribution of polygon types and properties from LiDAR and regional multi-spectral data

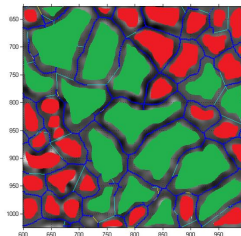
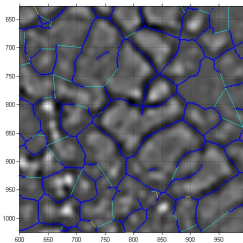
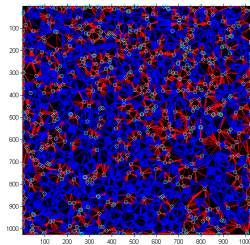


# Spatial distribution of polygon types and properties using LiDAR

Gangodagamage et al. in prep



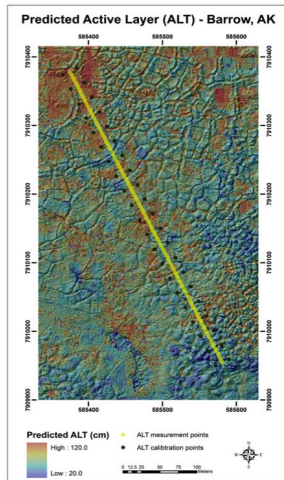
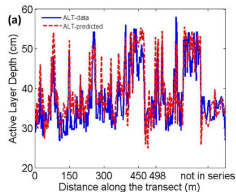
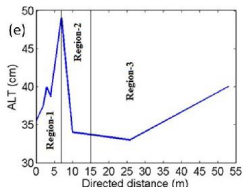
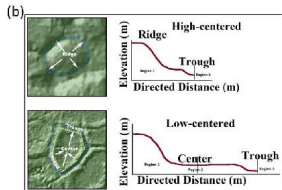
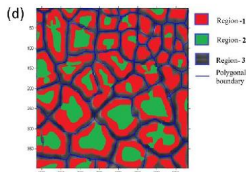
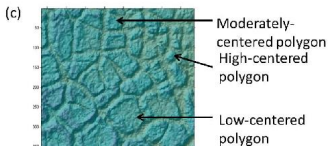
Use values of geomorphic properties to identify poly boundaries and poly types



Close polygons using triangulation, redundant edge removal and edge connection

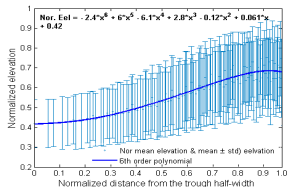
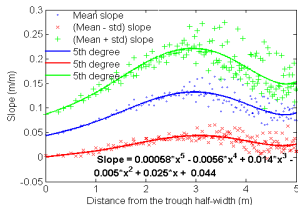
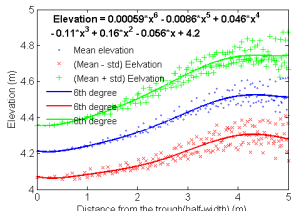
# Data assimilation for model domain classification and characterization

Gangodagamage et al. submitted

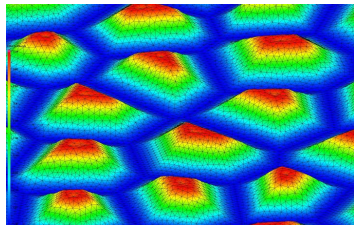
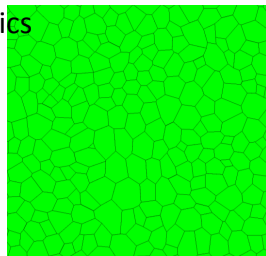
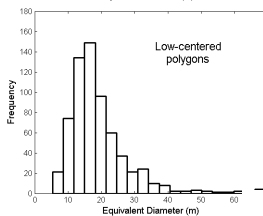
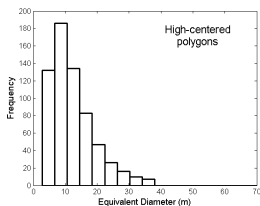


# Creating grids from Polygonal ground characteristics

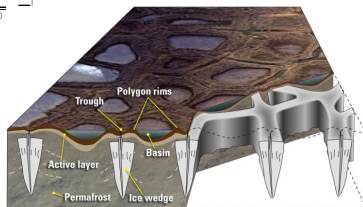
## Topographic statistics



## Size/geometry statistics



Coming soon:  
Subsurface  
statistics with  
Hubbard et al.



# Spatial distribution of polygon types and properties from regional multi-spectral data (Skurikhin et al in prep)

## Segmentation of water bodies including ice wedges, troughs, pond-like polygons, lakes, rivers, by Unsupervised Clustering and Level Sets

Original Image (WorldView-2)



**- 8 original bands:**

- Coastal Blue (400-450 nm)
- Blue (450-510 nm)
- Green (510-580 nm)
- Yellow (585-625 nm)
- Red (630-690 nm)
- Red-Edge (705-745 nm)
- NIR1 (770-895 nm)
- NIR2 (860-1040 nm)

**- 2 feature maps:**

- $NDVI = (NIRs - Red) / (NIR1 + Red)$
- $NDWI = (CoastalBlue - NIR2) / (CoastalBlue + NIR2)$

©DigitalGlobe; true color image composed of Red, Green and Blue bands; 1,000 x 1,1000 pixels.

**k-means clustering** of 8 bands + 2 feature maps to produce seed "water-like"-regions

**Extract seeds, candidate "water-like"-regions, to initialize segmentation**

**Compute additional feature map to perform segmentation**

**multi-scale wavelets filtering** of Red-Edge band to produce energy-based feature map

**Segmentation by Level Set Evolution**



Segmented "water-like" regions shown in white



Segmented "water-like" regions



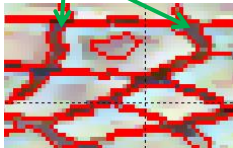
True color (RGB) image



White color for:  
ice wedges, troughs, pond-like polygons, lakes and river

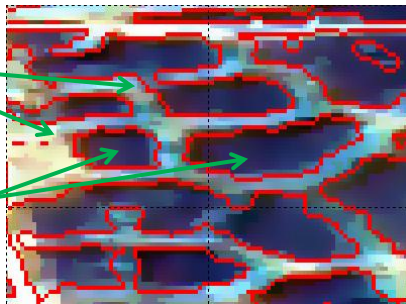
Illustration of the segmentation results:  
Contours (in red) outlining boundaries  
between foreground and background

troughs



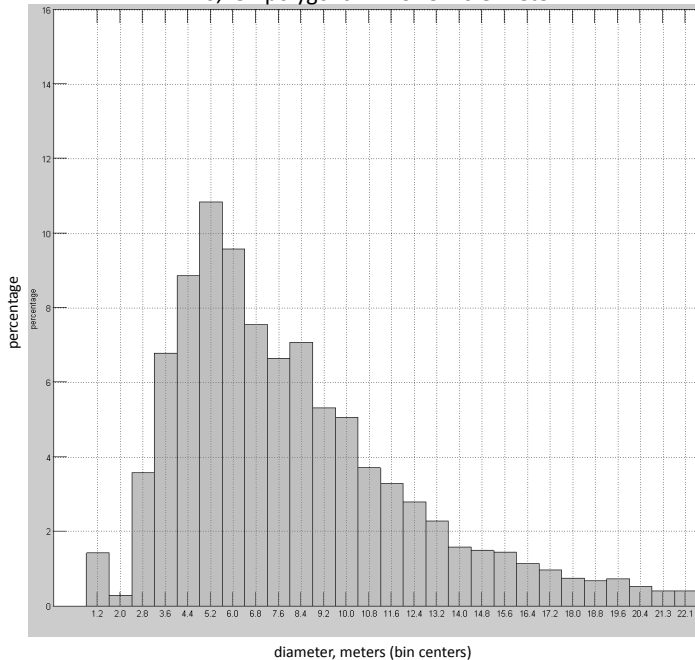
ridges

Polygon-  
ponds

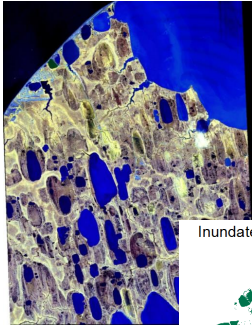


# Histogram of Equivalent Diameter

6,134 polygons. Bin Size = 0.8 meter



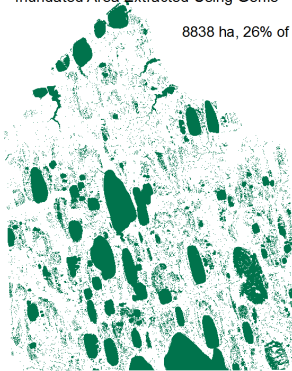
# Evaluation data sets: dynamic spatial distribution of standing water to evaluate model predictions



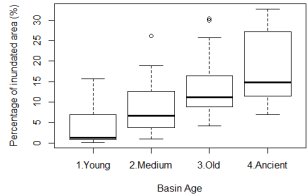
Use Genie to extract all inundated areas from WV2 data (Jul. 21, 2010) Chen et al. in prep

Inundated Area Extracted Using Genie

8838 ha, 26% of land area

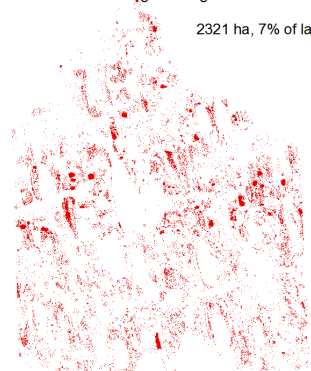


Percentage of inundated area in drained lake basin

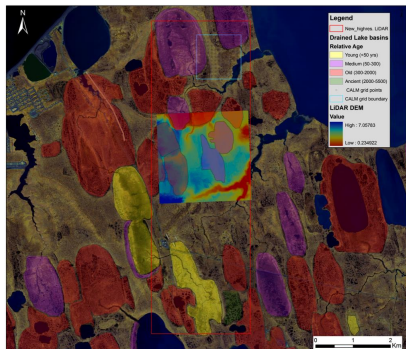
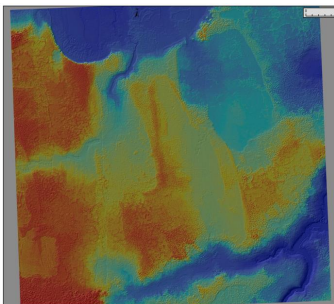


Inundated Area Excluding Existing Lakes and Rivers

2321 ha, 7% of land area

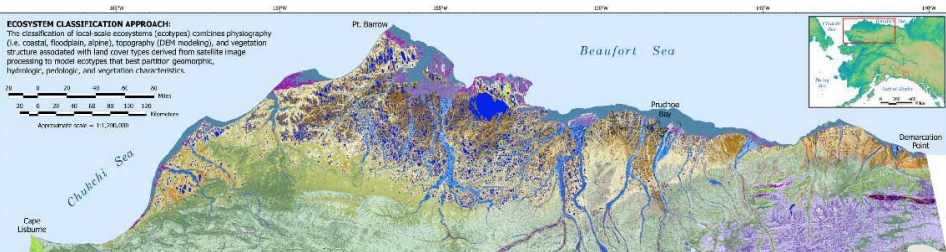


# Perform a series of numerical experiments to test key hypotheses about climate warming impacts and feedbacks



## ECOSYSTEM CLASSIFICATION APPROACH:

The classification of local-scale ecosystems ('ecotypes') combines physiography (i.e. coastal, floodplain, alpine), topography (DEM modeling), and vegetation structure associated with land cover types derived from satellite image processing to model ecotypes that best partition geomorphic, hydrologic, pedologic, and vegetation characteristics.

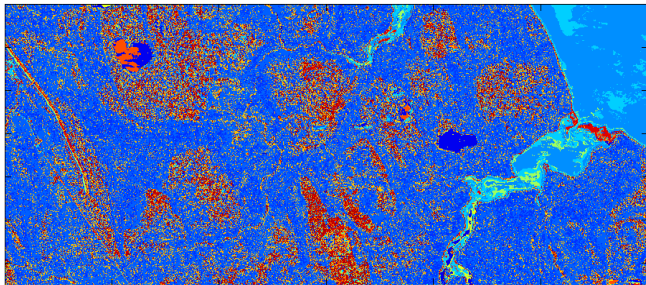


## Land cover clusters (Barrow region)

Barrow area  
subimage (shown in  
Red/Green/Blue)



9x9 pixel patch  
20 clusters

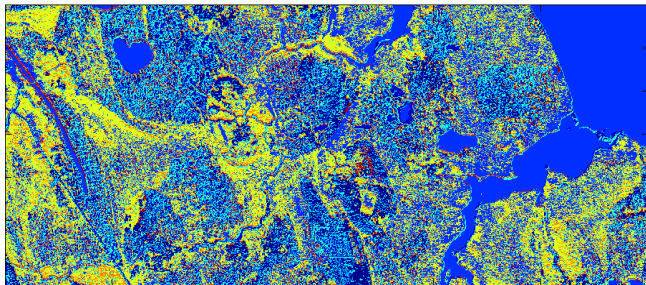


## Land cover clusters (Barrow region)

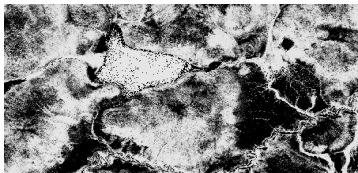
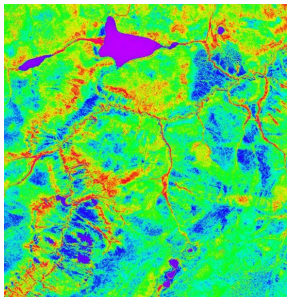
Barrow area  
subimage (shown in  
NIR2/RedEdge/Yellow)



7x7 pixel patch  
20 clusters



## Future work



- Exploit multiscale/multiresolution analysis tool
- Pre-condition the learning toward features of interest using band index
  - E.g., NDVI, NDWI, NDSI, NHFD
- Learn fusion dictionaries with Lidar data
- Develop quantitative performance metrics
- Explore land cover change detection in MSI

Mean normalized band difference cluster content  
Barrow data, patch size=7x7

