

# Measuring erosion along the coast of southern Sweden

Using aerial photography in a geographic information system

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#### What you will learn

Is erosion a problem?

Why measure coastal erosion?

Assessing erosion from aerial photography

Long-term erosion in Skåne

Future work



Johan Nyberg, Bradley Goodfellow, Jonas Ising & Anna Hedenström

SGU-rapport 2020:04 Diarie-nr: 423-1763/2019



SGU Sveriges geologiska undersökning

Skånes känsliga stränder
– erosionsförhållanden och
geologi för samhällsplanering

Kärstin Malmberg Persson, Johan Nyberg,
Jonas Ising & Lars Rodhe

SGU-rapport 2016-17

How we do it

Advantages

Disadvantages

#### Fysiska och dynamiska förhållanden längs Skånes kust – underlag för klimatanpassningsåtgärder

Johan Nyberg, Bradley Goodfellow & Jonas Ising

SGU-rapport 2021:02 Diarie-nr: 31-542/2020



SGU sveriges geologiska undersökning





#### Is erosion a problem?

It depends...

Natural process

Becomes a problem if:

At SGU, we assess coastline change over time

Tweed River (Australia) sand bypassing project

accumulation Sand pump

Drivers are man-made

It persists over many years

It threatens property, important natural resources

Erosion

Accumulation (can also be a problem)

Sand previously accumulated in the river mouth and south of the breakwall (also caused erosion of beaches to the north); Sand now pumped under the river from South to North

Learn more: https://youtu.be/18Q8RLiLZEw

rising water level

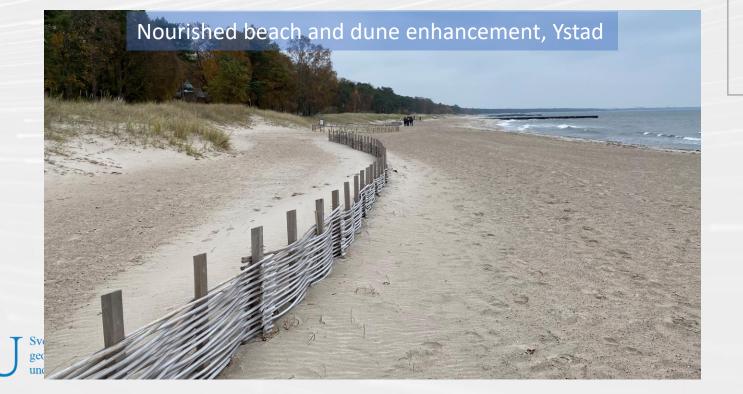


### Why measure coastal erosion?

Risk assessment

Mitigation

Helps us predict what can happen in the future



Sea level rise



#### Measuring coastal erosion using aerial photography



Different methods to measure coastal erosion

SGU uses aerial photography

Corrected for optical distortion and image perspective of terrain

Use orthorectified photos from different years (reference year and comparison year)

Choose a line to map in a GIS:
-e.g., dune foot OR shoreline (waterline)

Map this line for both years

Divide each line into equal segments and calculate distances between these segments

Assign erosion or accumulation and show these values on maps





## Advantages of assessing coastal erosion from aerial photographs

It's inexpensive

It's time efficient and relatively simple





It's effective

-Long sections of coast can be assessed

-All of Skåne and Halland

Permits an assessment of short and long-term trends

High precision and accuracy





## Disadvantages of assessing coastal erosion from aerial photographs

It's incomplete

False impression of long-term erosion

Sources of uncertainty



Images are low quality (old black and white photos)

It can be difficult determining shorelines from old B&W photos

(map the dune foot line instead)

Vegetation obscuring the dune foot line or shoreline



#### What can we say about long-term erosion in Skåne

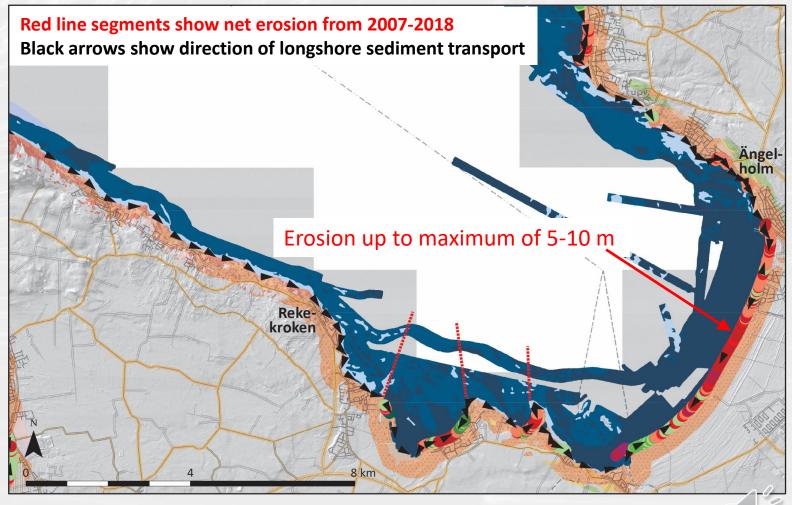
Skälderviken, from Nyberg et al., SGU rapport 2021:02

Erosion has been a problem over recent years in some locations

Äspet, Löderups strandbad, Ystad, Ängelholm, Båstad

Longshore sediment transport is a key process

www.sgu.se
http://projects.swedgeo.se/RKS-SH/
www.sgi.se





#### What we need to do in future work

Develop a consistent methodology

Integrate the different studies into a single longterm assessment

Complement with other methods



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Societal impacts of sea level rise induced erosion in southern Sweden (SISLER)

FORMAS project, 4 years starting January 2022 Collaboration between SGI, Lund University, SGU, Lanstyresien Skåne

shoreline responses to SLR SISI FR

We have started to do this:

1). Numerical modeling of longshore currents and potential sediment transport

2). Develop predictions for future



