

# Surface water volume changes in the Mackenzie Delta using satellite images and radar altimetry

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## **INTRODUCTION**

- **Ice melting > discharge increases > flooding** (Beltaos and Carter, 2009)
- Increase of Arctic rivers discharges from 18 to 70 % from now to the end of the century (Peterson et al., 2002)
- Few *in-situ* gauges



Mapping flooding extension at regional scale is an

important stake



**REMOTE SENSING** 



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## **INTRODUCTION**

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#### **STUDY ZONE – Mackenzie Delta**

- S = 13,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- Length = 100 km
- Width = 80 km
- Flow of sediments= 130 x 10<sup>6</sup> t.year<sup>-1</sup>





#### STUDY ZONE – Mackenzie Delta

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#### **DATASET - MODIS Terra (MOD09A1)**

**USGS**: United States Geological Survey

http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/

- MODIS Terra (MOD09A1)
  - Composites products 8 days
  - Spatial resolution of 500 m
  - Atmospheric corrections
  - BOA reflectances in 7 spectral bands
- 2002 2015 : from June to September

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**175 composites** 





|  | Band number | Wavelength<br>(m) | Color  | Spatial resolution (m) |
|--|-------------|-------------------|--------|------------------------|
|  | 1           | 620-670           | Red    | 250                    |
|  | 2           | 841-876           | NIR    | 250                    |
|  | 3           | 459-479           | Blue   | 500                    |
|  | 4           | 545-565           | Green  | 500                    |
|  | 5           | 1230-1250         | MIR    | 500                    |
|  | 6           | 1628-1652         | SWIR 1 | 500                    |
|  | 7           | 2105-2155         | SWIR 2 | 500                    |





#### DATASET – ENVISAT RA-2, SARAL, ERS-2

- CTOH : French Observation Service dedicated to satellite altimetry studies at LEGOS-OMP
  - Altimetry data : http://ctoh.legos.obs-mip.fr/products/
  - Altimetric tracks :

http://www.aviso.altimetry.fr/fr/donnees/outils/localiser-unedemi-orbite.html СТОН

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- ENVISAT RA-2 : 2002 2010
- SARAL : from 2013 to now
- ERS-2 : from 1995 to 2003





| Sources  | Parameters                                     |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Laser altimetry ICESat/GLAS<br>NASA, Hall et al., 2012<br>GLAS/ICESat L2 Global Land Surface Altimetry data<br>(HDF5) V034 | Heights for in-situ stations levelling         |  |  |
| In-situ data<br>Canada government<br>http://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/  | Discharges<br>Water levels<br>Levelling levels |  |  |



#### **METHODS** – Flooded areas using satellite imagery



#### **METHODS – MAPS** (Multi-Mission Processing Software)

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#### Virtual stations (VS) created using MAPS

Frappart et al., 2015

#### **1. Data selection**





#### 2. Wrong points removal



**OSTST** meeting

- ENVISAT-RA2 : 28 VS
- SARAL : 25 VS
- ERS-2 : 23 VS



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## **METHODS – Water level maps**



#### **METHODS – Surface water storage**

At drainage basin scale, time series of surface water storage are calculated using :

$$V = \sum [h(\lambda_j, \varphi_j, t) - h_{\min}(\lambda_j, \varphi_j)] . \Delta S$$

Surface water storage (km<sup>3</sup>)

Water level for the pixel ( $\lambda_j$ ,  $\varphi_j$ , t) at instant t

The minimal water level for the pixel  $(\lambda_j, \varphi_j)$  Pixel surface (0.25 km<sup>2</sup>)

#### **RESULTS – Flooded surface time-series**

- Inundated surface : ~ 4,000 km<sup>2</sup> in average
- Maximal inundated surface in 2013 ~7,500 km<sup>2</sup>



#### **RESULTS – Flooded surface time-series**

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#### **RESULTS – Flooded surface time-series**

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## **RESULTS – Surface water volume time-series**

- From 2002 to 2010 : ENVISAT
- Surface water volume in June : ~ 3 km<sup>3</sup>
- Maximal surface water volume in 2006 : ~ 4 km<sup>3</sup>

large flood event in 2006 reported by Beltaos and Carter, 2009



## **CONCLUSION AND PERSTECTIVES**

- Flooded surface : ~ 4,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- Surface water storage : ~ 3 km<sup>3</sup>
- Limits :
  - > satellite imagery : spatial resolution of **500 m**
  - > altimetry : large footprint (several km) + temporal resolution of 35 days
- Measure impact of surface water volumes on **muddy plume** in the Arctic sea
- Extending study periods :
  - <u>Altimetry :</u> CryoSat-2 (since 2010), **Sentinel-3A** (2016), **3B** (2017)
  - Imagery : impact of HR images Imagery : impact of HR images 2015) ~20m
  - <u>Futur :</u> SWOT (2021). Cal/val future L2/L3 products?

link with **climatic variability**?



#### Canada government

# Thank you



Canadian geographic

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# Validation water levels method

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