

# Evaluating Sediment Mobility for Nearshore Placement

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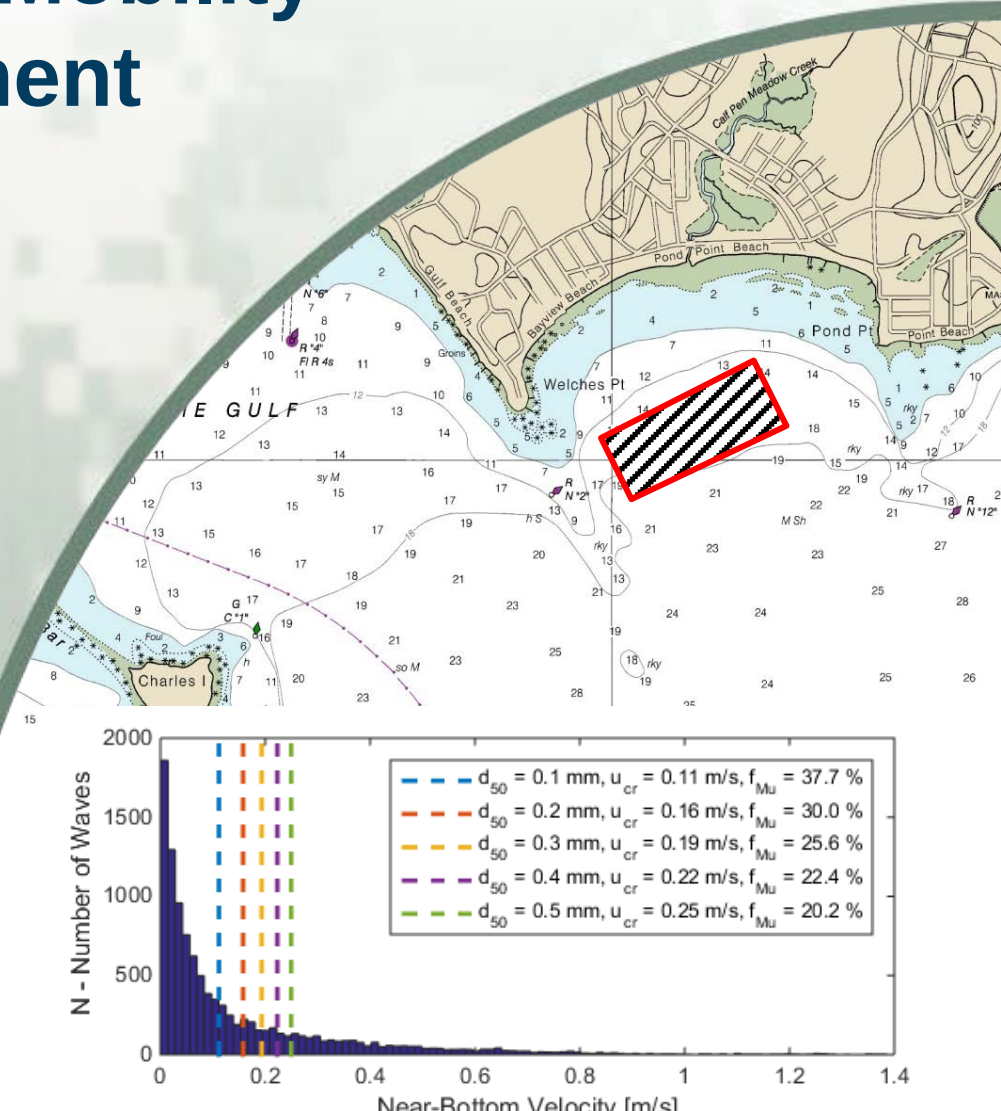
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US Army Corps  
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# Sediment Mobility Tool

- Preliminary/Reconnaissance Tool
- Frequency of Sediment Mobility
- Single Depth or Range of Depths
- Matlab Script to Automate Process
- Applied to WIS, NACCS, or Other Wave Gauge Data



# Why is it Helpful

- Answers:
  - ▶ Will the Berm Move?
  - ▶ Where Is Sediment Likely To Go?
- Ideal for:
  - ▶ Preliminary Siting of Nearshore Berms
  - ▶ Small Projects That Don't Warrant a Full Numerical Model



# Application

- 2 Sites
- 3 Different Data Sets:
  - ▶ WIS (Duck)
  - ▶ NACCS (Milford)
  - ▶ U. Conn. Buoy (Milford)



# User Defines:

- Data Source
- Offshore Water Depth of Data Source
- Shoreline Orientation
- Median Grain Size
- Current Velocity 1 m above the Bed



# Wave Theories

- Frequency of Mobility:

- ▶ Linear Wave Theory (Bed Shear Stress)

$$\tau_{cr} = \theta_{cr} g (\rho_s - \rho) d_{50}$$
$$\tau_m = \tau_c \left[ 1 + 1.2 \left( \frac{\tau_w}{\tau_c + \tau_w} \right)^{3.2} \right]$$
$$\tau_{max} = [(\tau_m + \tau_w \cos \phi)^2 + (\tau_w \sin \phi)^2]^{1/2}$$

- ▶ Nonlinear Stream Function Wave Theory (Near-bed Velocity)

$$u_{cr} = \sqrt{8 g \gamma d_{50}} \quad d_{50} \leq 2.0 \text{ mm}$$
$$u_{\max crest} = \left( \frac{H}{T} \right) \left( \frac{h}{L_o} \right)^{-0.579} \exp \left[ 0.289 - 0.491 \left( \frac{H}{h} \right) - 2.97 \left( \frac{h}{L_o} \right) \right]$$





# Site 1: Duck, NC

- $h = 8 \text{ m}$
- WIS Station 63218
- $0.1 \leq d_{50} \leq 0.5 \text{ mm}$

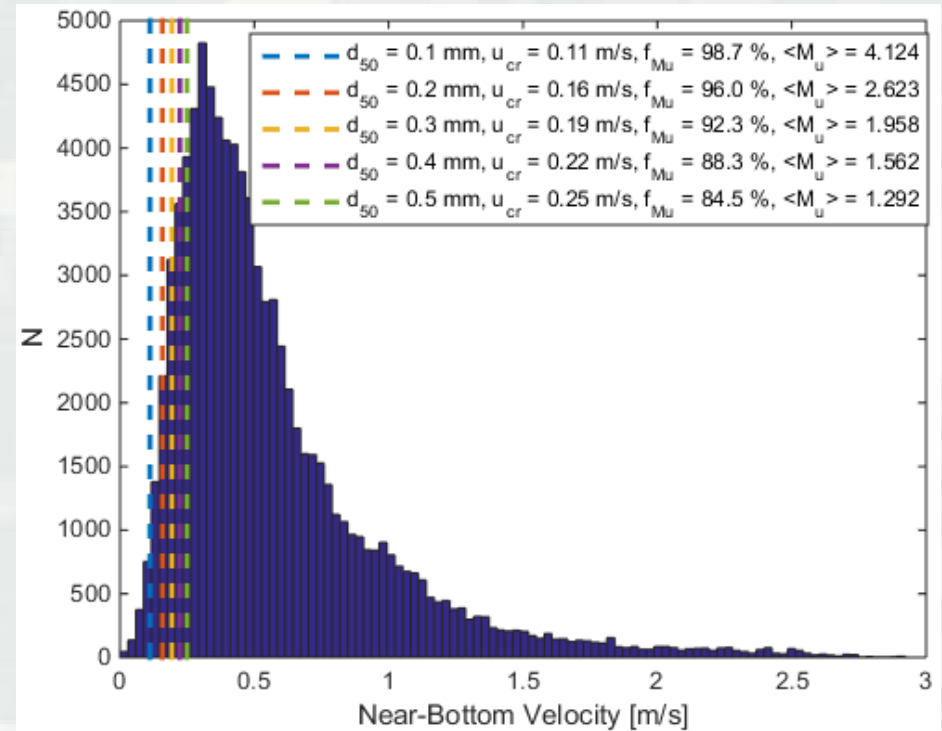
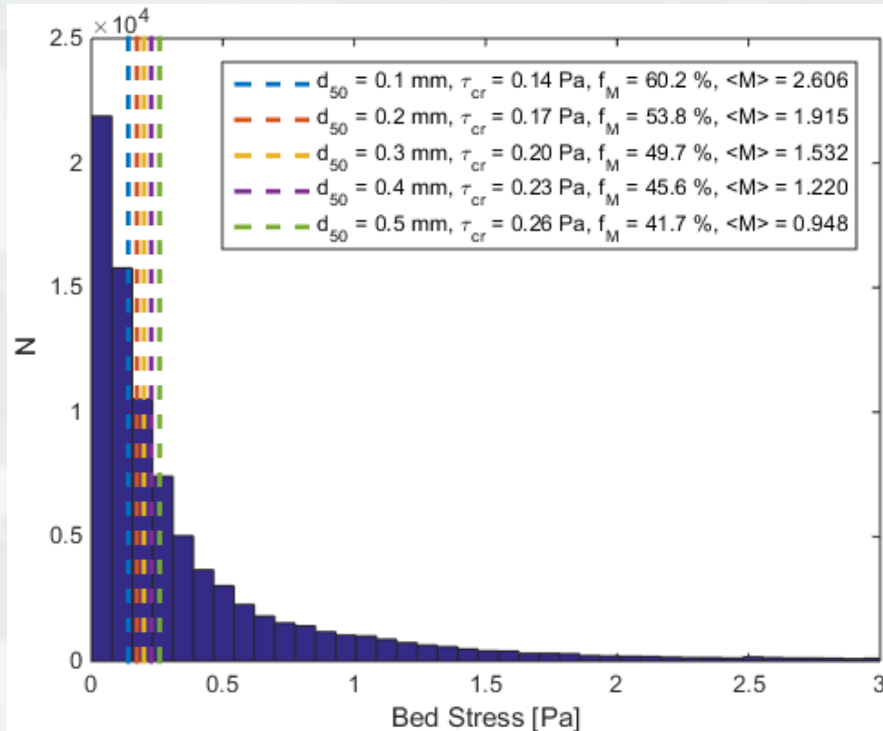


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# Site 1: Duck, NC



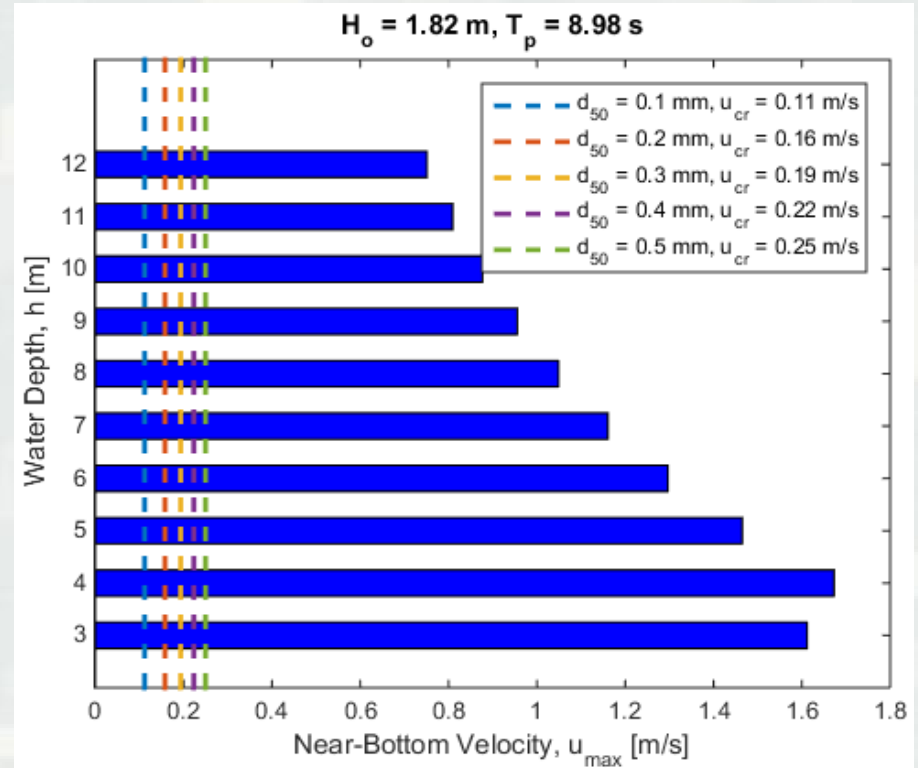
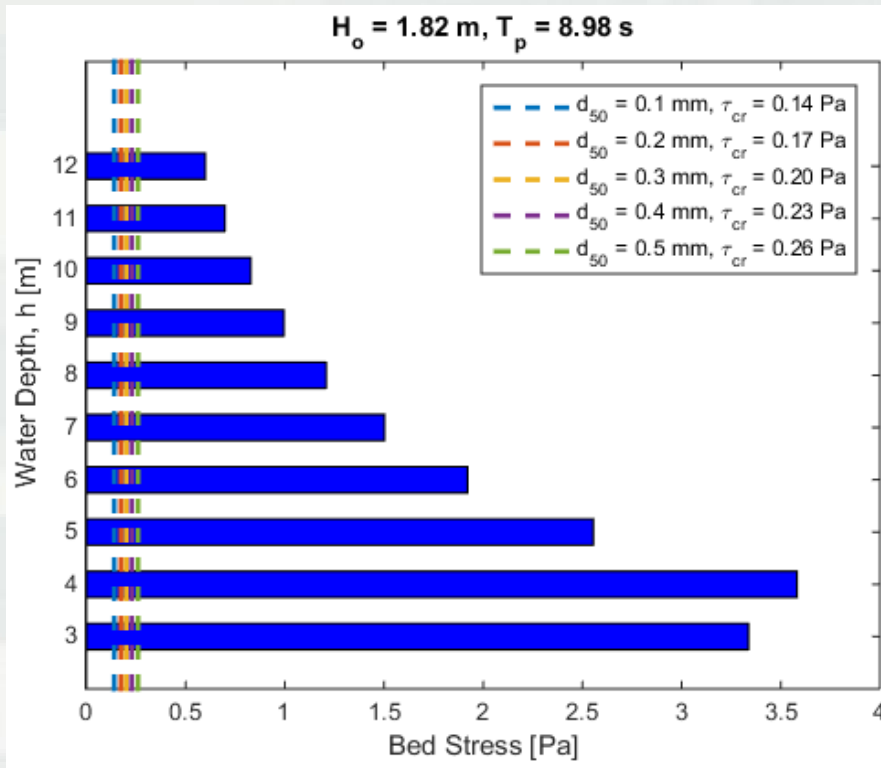
$$M = \left( \frac{\tau_{max} - \tau_{cr}}{\tau_{cr}} \right)$$

$$M_u = \left( \frac{u_{max} - u_{cr}}{u_{cr}} \right)$$





# Site 1: Duck, NC



## Significant Wave Height and Period



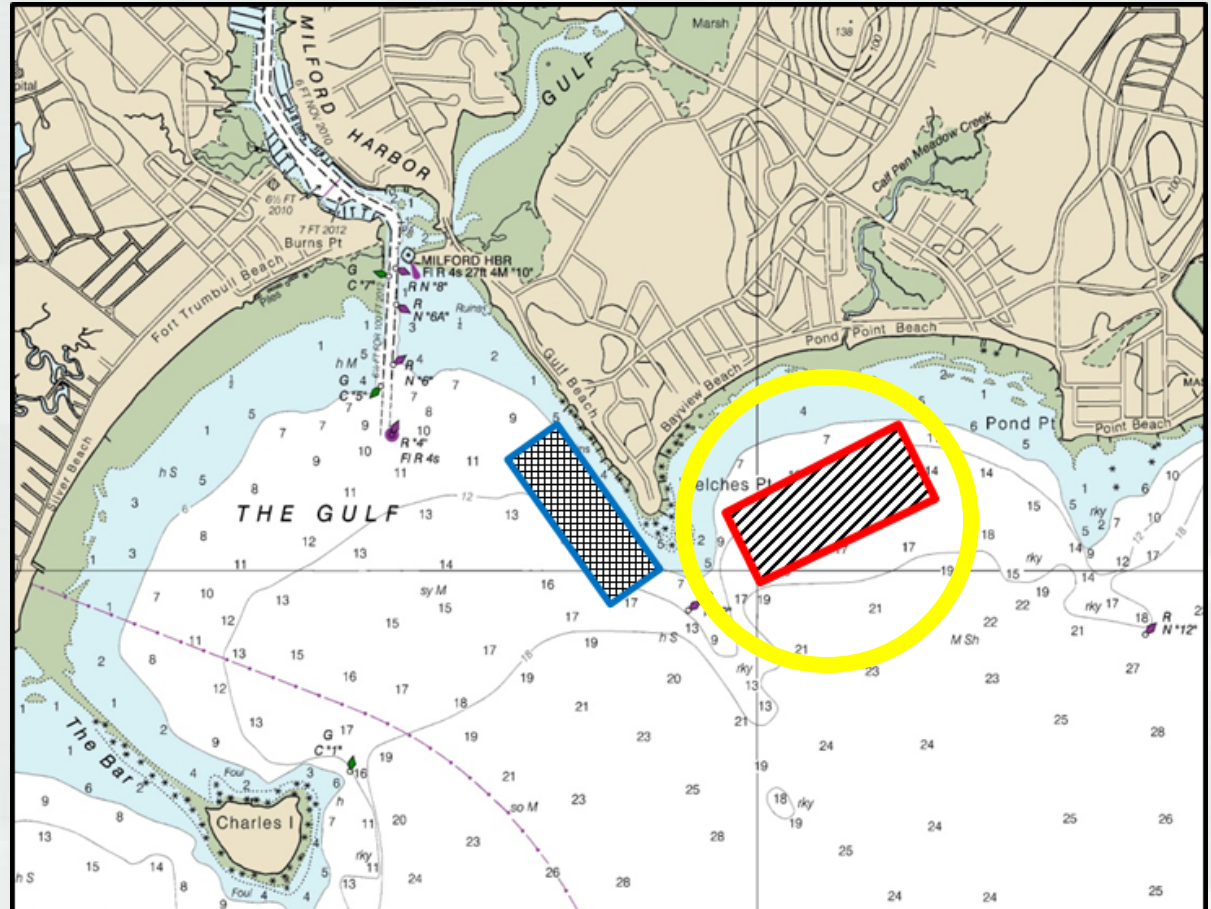
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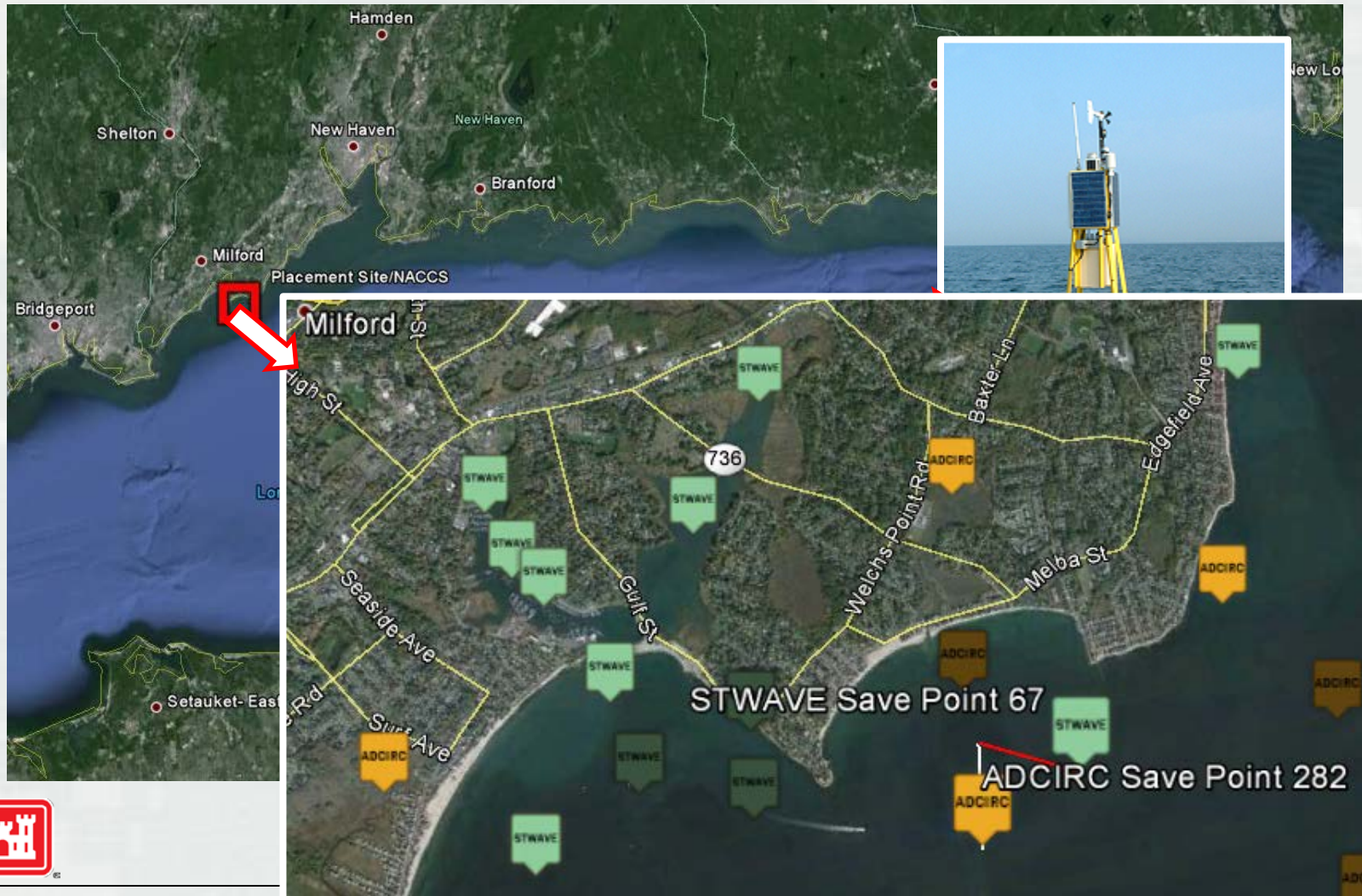
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## Site 2: Milford, CT

- Milford, CT
- 20,000 cy
- $d_{50}=0.21$  mm
- $0.1 \leq d \leq 0.5\text{mm}$



# Wave & Current Info



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# Sed. Mobility

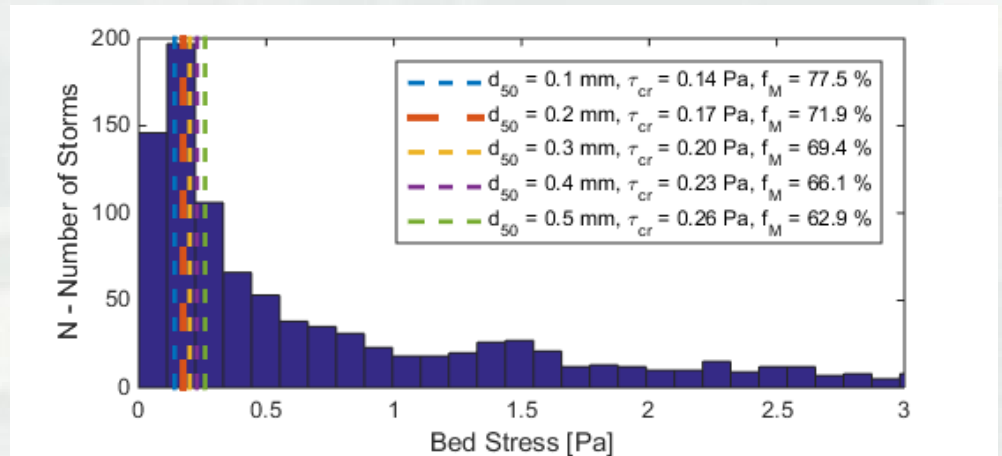
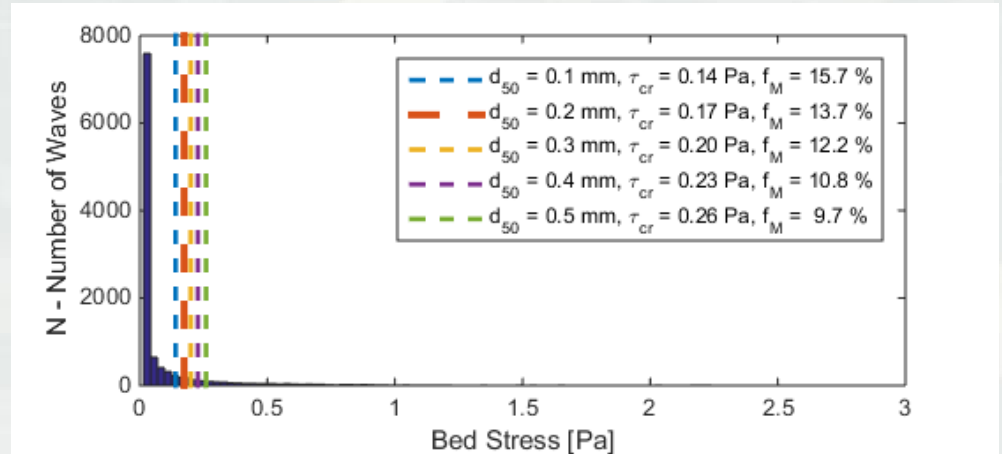
$$d_{50} = 0.21\text{mm}$$

**Typical Waves:**

$$f_M = 13.6\%$$

**Storm Waves:**

$$f_M = 71.4\%$$





# Sed. Migration Direction

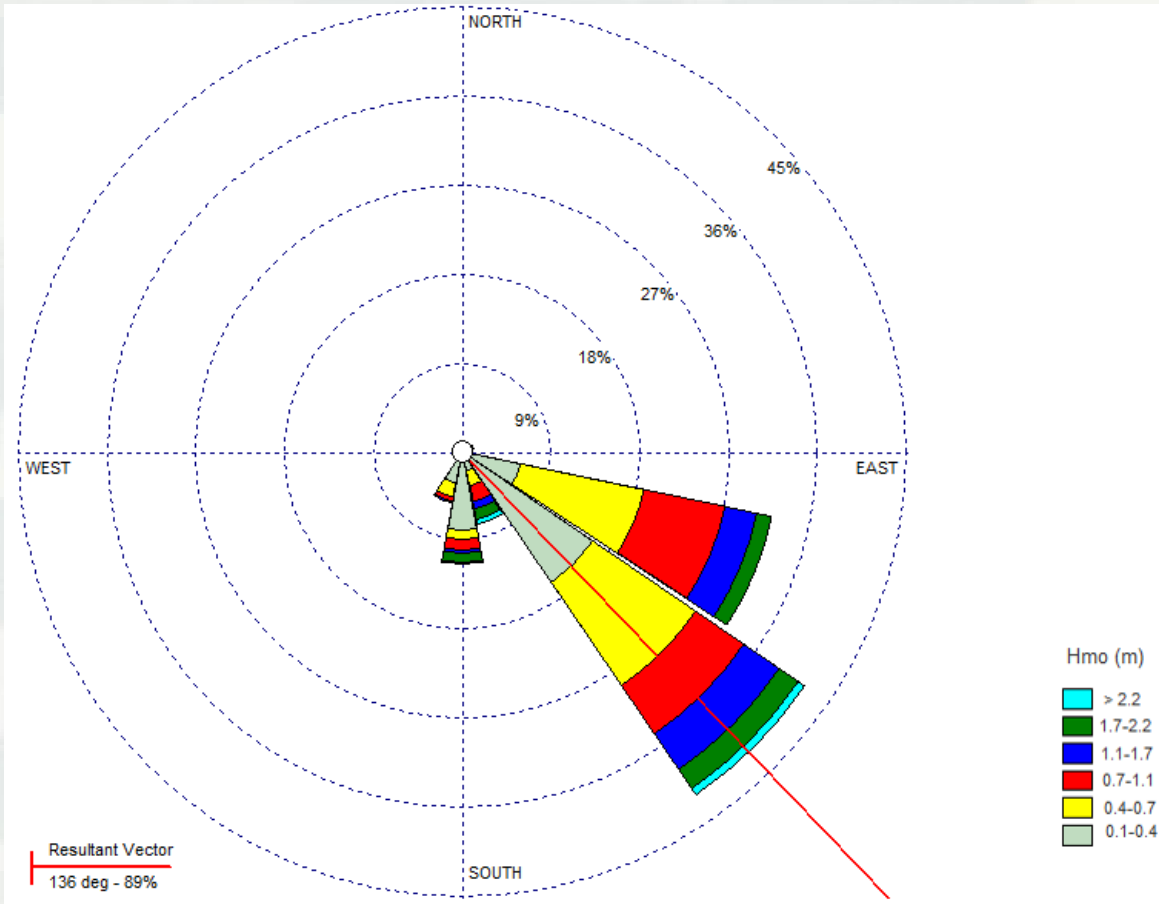
- Dean's Number

$$D = \frac{H_0}{\omega T} > 7.2, \text{ Offshore Migration}$$
$$< 7.2, \text{ Onshore Migration} \quad (\text{Larson \& Kraus, 1992})$$

|             | Typical Waves                | Storm Events                 |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| d (mm)      | Predicted Sediment Migration | Predicted Sediment Migration |
| 0.1         | 83% Offshore                 | 97% Offshore                 |
| 0.2         | 60% Onshore                  | 52% Offshore                 |
| <b>0.21</b> | <b>63% Onshore</b>           | <b>52% Onshore</b>           |
| 0.3         | 84% Onshore                  | 74% Onshore                  |
| 0.4         | 96% Onshore                  | 91% Onshore                  |
| 0.5         | 99% Onshore                  | 99% Onshore                  |



# Storm Wave Direction



- Storm waves
- Resultant: 136°
- Accretion Towards Northwest



# Conclusions

- Answers:
  - ▶ Will the sediment move?
  - ▶ Where is likely to go?
- Estimates
  - ▶ Frequency of mobility
  - ▶ On/Offshore migration direction
  - ▶ Dominant axis of wave dominated transport
- Preliminary tool to make educated decisions with little data





# Thank you!



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