

USACE Infrastructure Investments with Integration of Climate Change, Sea-Level Rise, and Other Scenarios

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June 17, 2010

Prepared for the Environment, Energy Security
and Sustainability Symposium and Exhibition



Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.					
1. REPORT DATE 17 JUN 2010		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 00-00-2010 to 00-00-2010	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE USACE Infrastructure Investments with Integration of Climate Change, Sea-Level Rise, and Other Scenarios				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) University of Virginia, Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems, 151 Engineers Way, Room 112, Charlottesville, VA, 22904				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Presented at the NDIA Environment, Energy Security & Sustainability (E2S2) Symposium & Exhibition held 14-17 June 2010 in Denver, CO.					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 37	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

Research Objective

Integrate existing methods of MCDA* with scenario analysis to a critical problem in infrastructure safety and management:

- (i) Identify robust investment alternatives, and
- (ii) Identify the scenarios that matter most to science and decision making

* Multiple Criteria Decision Analysis

Outline

- Scenario and decision making
 - Overview of scenarios for CC
 - SA/MCDA methodology
 - Guiding questions
- Ongoing case study: Alaska baseline erosion assessment
 - Investment alternatives/communities
 - Criteria, assessments, and weights
 - Emergent conditions and scenarios
 - Expected results
- Closing/questions



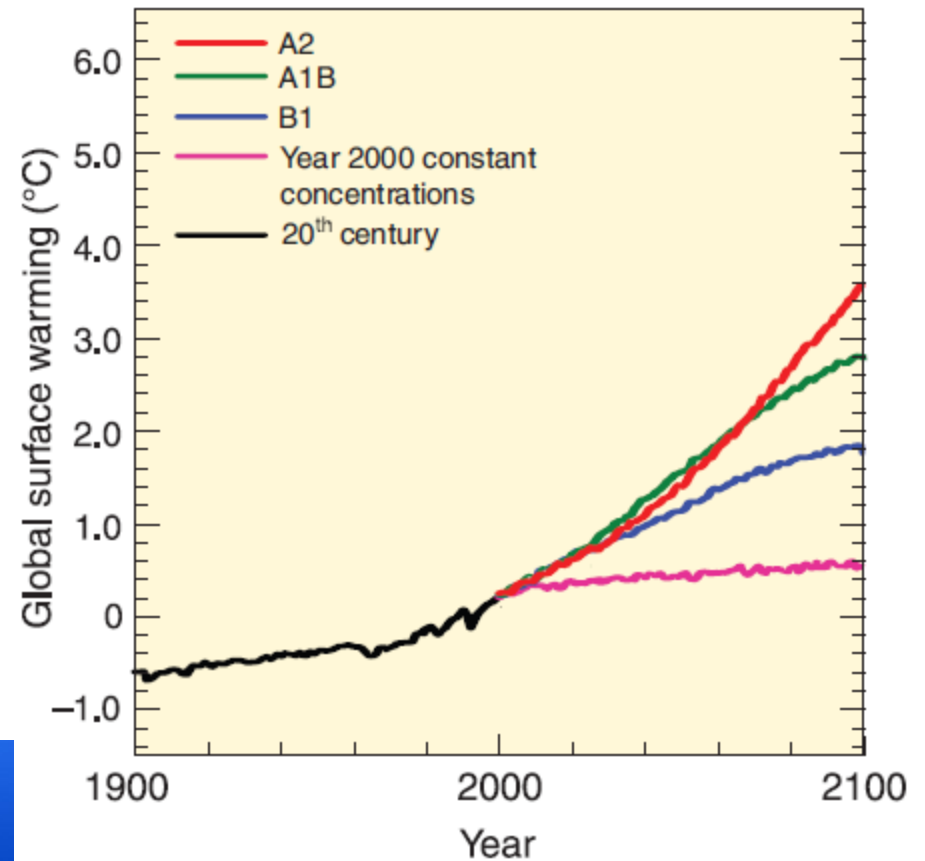
Scenarios



Climate Change and Temperature Increase

The IPCC gives estimates of climate change for the variables of temperature change and sea-level rise in terms of **scenarios**. These scenarios are variables for many models.

CLIMATE CHANGE 2007
SYNTHESIS REPORT

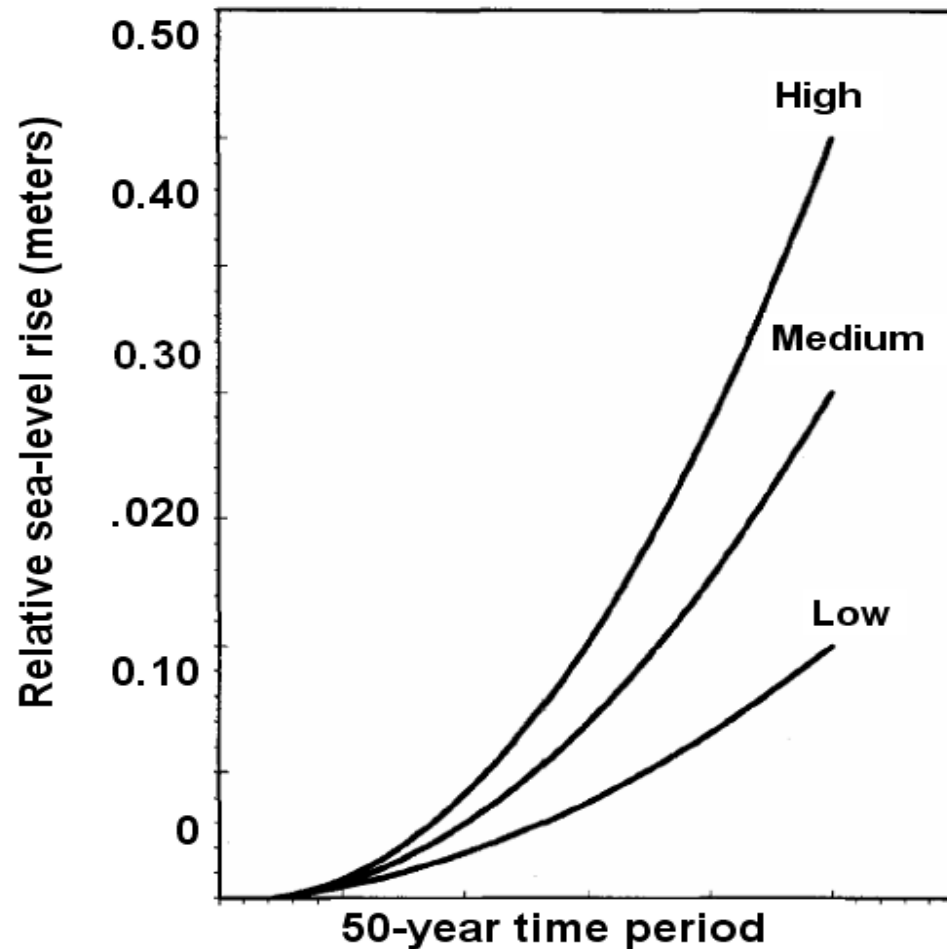


[IPCC 2007]



USACE and Sea-Level Rise

The US Army Corps of Engineers requires that “planning studies and engineering designs should consider alternatives that are developed and assessed for the entire range of possible future rates of sea-level change.”



United States Army Corps of Engineers (2009a). Water Resource Policies and Authorities Incorporating Sea-Level Change Considerations in Civil Works Programs. Circular No. 1165-2-211

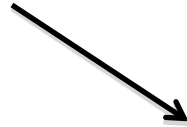
Scenarios and Advocacy Perspectives

Such **scenarios** are identified by modeling and analysis, but also can emerge from the advocacy positions of system owners, stakeholders, and other groups.



Approach: Portfolios of Risk Management Actions

Definition of portfolios of investments for flood and erosion control subject to climate change



Actions	Portfolios				
	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	X ₄	X ₅
a ₀₁ 1(a) Revetment					
a ₀₂ 1(b) Revetment					
a ₀₃ 1(c) Revetment					+
a ₀₄ 2(a) Seawall 1				+	
a ₀₅ 2(b) Seawall 1					
a ₀₆ 2(c) Seawall 1			+		
a ₀₇ 3(a) Seawall 2				+	
a ₀₈ 3(b) Seawall 2					+
a ₀₉ 3(c) Seawall 2					
a ₁₀ 4(a) Beach nourishment		+			
a ₁₁ 4(b) Beach nourishment					
a ₁₂ 4(c) Beach nourishment	+				
a ₁₃ 5(a) Dune nourishment		+			
a ₁₄ 5(b) Dune nourishment					
a ₁₅ 5(c) Dune nourishment					

[Knuuti 2002]

Scenario-Based MCDA Approach



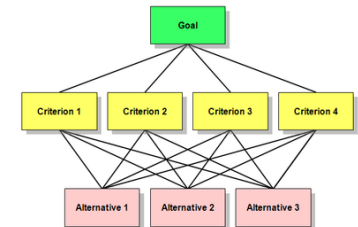
Decision Making Under Uncertainty

- Uncertainty in decision making process from multiple sources
 - Model uncertainty
 - Internal uncertainty related to structuring problem, elicitation, and analysis
 - External sources of uncertainty (emergent conditions)
 - Outside control of decision maker (other than what alternative to implement)



Integrating Scenario Analysis with MCDA

- An integration of SA with multiple criteria decision analysis (MCDA) is complementary the following reasons:
 - SA can address external uncertainty in MCDA when probability-based utility methods fail
 - MCDA can quantify robustness of a decision across the scenarios
 - Influential scenarios can be filtered accordingly to their impact on decision making
- **Anchor and adjust a baseline value function for each scenario**
[Karvetski et al. 2010a, 2010b; Ram et al. 2010; Montibeller et al. 2006; Stewart 2005; Goodwin and Wright 2001]



Literature of Methodologies Available

- Multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)
 - Belton and Stewart (2002); Keeney (1992); Keeney and Raiffa (1976); Clemen and Reilly (2001)
- Scenario analysis
 - Montibeller et al. (2006); Goodwin and Wright (2001); Karvetski et al. (2010a)
- Risk analysis
 - Haimes (2009); Lowrance (1976); Pate-Cornell (1996); Kaplan and Garrick (1981)
- Engineering for climate change and other emergent conditions
 - IPCC (2007); Karvetski et al. (2010b)



Approach: Criteria and Assessments

Criteria	Portfolios				
	X ₀₁	X ₀₂	X ₀₃	X ₀₄	X ₀₅
z ₁ Protect from coastal inundation	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.3
z ₂ Protect public infrastructure systems	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9
z ₃ Protect against storm surges and flooding	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.6
z ₄ Protect wetlands and environment	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3
z ₅ Protect recreational activities	0.9	0.7	0.1	0	0

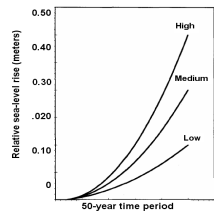


Criteria	Baseline weights
z ₁	0.20
z ₂	0.20
z ₃	0.20
z ₄	0.20
z ₅	0.20

Integration of Scenarios



Creation of Scenarios



Conditions	Scenarios				
	e ₀	e ₁	e ₂	e ₃	e ₄
c ₀₁ Global sea-level rise 0.09 meters	x				
c ₀₂ Global sea-level rise 0.11 meters					x
c ₀₃ Global sea-level rise 0.17 meters		x			
c ₀₄ Global sea-level rise 0.33 meters			x		
c ₀₅ Global sea-level rise 0.49 meters				x	
c ₀₆ Moderate increase in coastal immigration		x			
c ₀₇ Significant increase in coastal immigration					x
c ₀₈ Moderate increase in coastal emigration					
c ₀₉ Significant increase in coastal emigration					
c ₁₀ Increased loss of native animal species' habitat				x	
c ₁₁ Increased loss of forest and plant life					
c ₁₂ Increased mortality of native animal species					
c ₁₃ Increase in area tourism		x			
c ₁₄ Decrease in area tourism					
c ₁₅ Increased wear and tear on public infrastructures					
c ₁₆ Increased wear and tear on private buildings					
c ₁₇ Increased in frequency of tropical storms					
c ₁₈ Increased in precipitation levels of tropical storms					
c ₁₉ Increased in wind levels of tropical storms					
c ₂₀ Increased vulnerability of public utilities					

•
•
•

Want to consider the joint effect of different conditions.



Guiding Questions

- What scenarios are most influential?
- What decision alternatives are best in a possible future scenario?
- What alternatives have opportunities in/across the future scenarios?
- What alternatives are threatened by the future scenarios?



Scenario effect on criteria

{moderate sea-level rise, moderate increase in coastal immigration, increase in area tourism}

Criteria	Scenarios			
	e ₁	e ₂	e ₃	e ₄
z ₁ Protect from coastal inundation	Minor Increase	Major Increase	Major Increase	Major Increase
z ₂ Protect public infrastructure systems				
z ₃ Protect against storm surges and flooding				
z ₄ Protect wetlands and environment			Major Increase	Minor Decrease
z ₅ Protect recreational activities	Major Increase		Minor Decrease	Minor Increase

Select major/minor, increase/decrease in relevance of criteria with respect to a baseline value function

The challenge is to integrate the qualitative input in a way that theoretically consistent with MCDA (Karvetski et al. 2010).

Scenario effect on criteria (cont.)

Criteria	Scenarios			
	e ₁	e ₂	e ₃	e ₄
z ₁ Protect from coastal inundation	0.22	0.34	0.33	0.35
z ₂ Protect public infrastructure systems	0.16	0.17	0.15	0.17
z ₃ Protect against storm surges and flooding	0.16	0.17	0.15	0.17
z ₄ Protect wetlands and environment	0.16	0.17	0.33	0.07
z ₅ Protect recreational activities	0.31	0.17	0.06	0.24

Each new set of weights represents the perspective of a future scenario.

Approach: Desired Information (cont)

{moderate sea-level rise, moderate increase in coastal immigration, increase in area tourism}

Scenarios		Portfolios				
		X ₀₁	X ₀₂	X ₀₃	X ₀₄	X ₀₅
e ₀		2	2	1	4	5
e ₁		1	2	3	4	5
e ₂		3	2	1	4	5
e ₃		4	2	1	3	5
e ₄		3	2	1	4	5

Portfolios that are ranked highest

Case Study: Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment

Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment

“Serious erosion is threatening the viability of the community, or, in some cases, significant resources are being expended to minimize those threats. The erosion issues in these communities warrant immediate and substantial Federal, State, or other intervention.”



Kivalina, Alaska

- *Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment*, Alaska District, US Army Corps of Engineers, March 2009

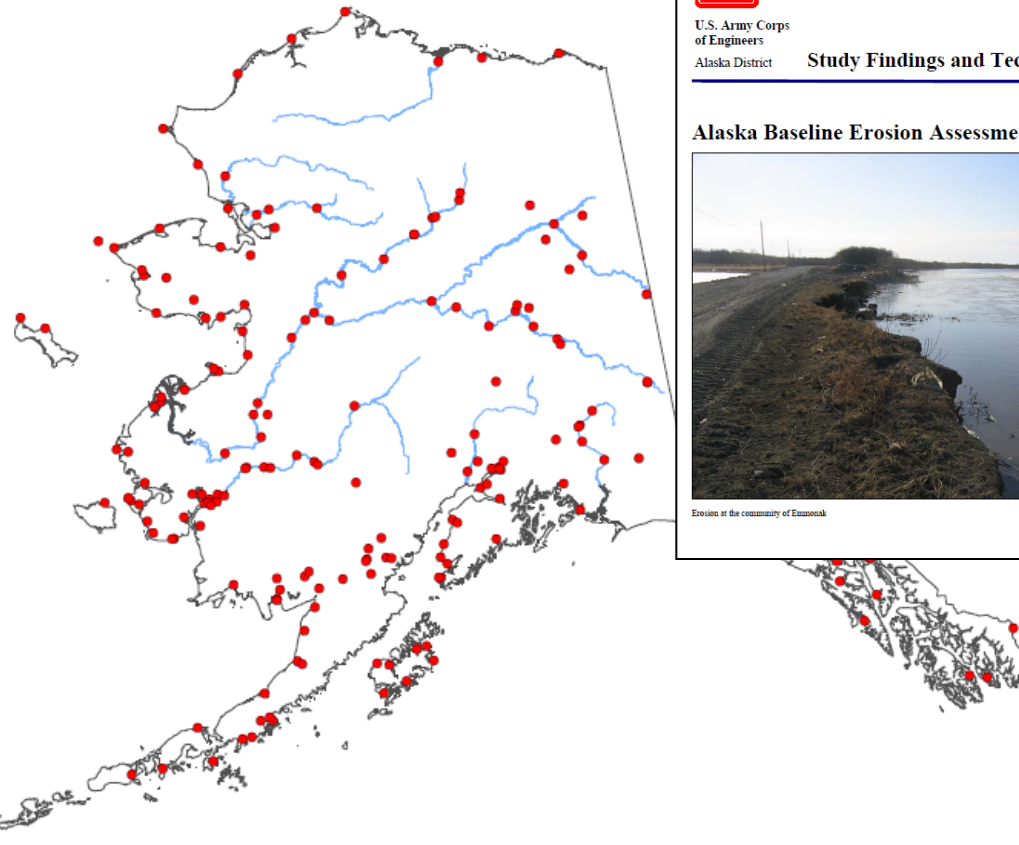
Background: Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment

- Building on Baseline Erosion Assessment (USACE, 2009)
 - Communities (alternatives)
 - Criteria
 - Weighting system
- Integrating scenarios of climate change and other emergent conditions into Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment



Background: Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment (cont.)

Nearly 200 communities identified as having erosion issues influenced by potential climate change
(Source: USACE Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment 2009)



Alaska District
Corps of Engineers
Civil Works Branch

Alaska Baseline Erosion

Date Prepared: March 24, 2009

Figure 3-1
Communities with
Erosion Concerns



Background: Priority Action Communities—Projects

- Barrow, AK
- Chefnak, AK
- Deering, AK
- Emmonak, AK
- Huslia, AK
- Kivalina, AK
- Shishmaref, AK
- Others



Unalakleet, AK. Sagging gabion wall

- *Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment*, Alaska District, US Army Corps of Engineers, March 2009

Background: Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment-Criteria

- Selection of criteria relevance

Criteria	Relevance	Key
Critical infrastructure	***	*** High relevance
Human health and safety	***	** Medium relevance
Subsistence and shoreline use being limited	**	* Low relevance
Community setting/geographic location	*	No relevance
Housing and population	*	
Housing in parallel	**	
Environmental hazard	***	
Cultural importance	*	
Commercial/non-residential	**	

- *Alaska Baseline Erosion Assessment*, Alaska District, US Army Corps of Engineers, March 2009

Emergent conditions

- Storm surges
- Increased/decreased population
- Increased/decreased flooding
- Increased/decreased tourism
- Permafrost melt
- Loss of species
- Loss of habitat
- Wild fires
- Increase in soil salinity
- Decrease in soil salinity
- Increase in storm frequency
- Decrease in storm frequency
- Sea level rise - high
- Sea level rise - low
- Increase in sea ice
- Decrease in sea ice

Expected Results

Project Ranks

Projects	Baseline	Sea level rise > 1m	Decrease in sea ice
Barrow, AK	7	12	9
Chefornak, AK	10	10	8
Chevak, AK	4	3	4
Clarks Point, AK	10	8	11
Cordova, AK	4	3	4
Deering, AK	13	16	15
Dillingham, AK	22	22	22
Emmonak, AK	7	6	7
Golovin, AK	10	8	11

The rank of each project varies across scenarios

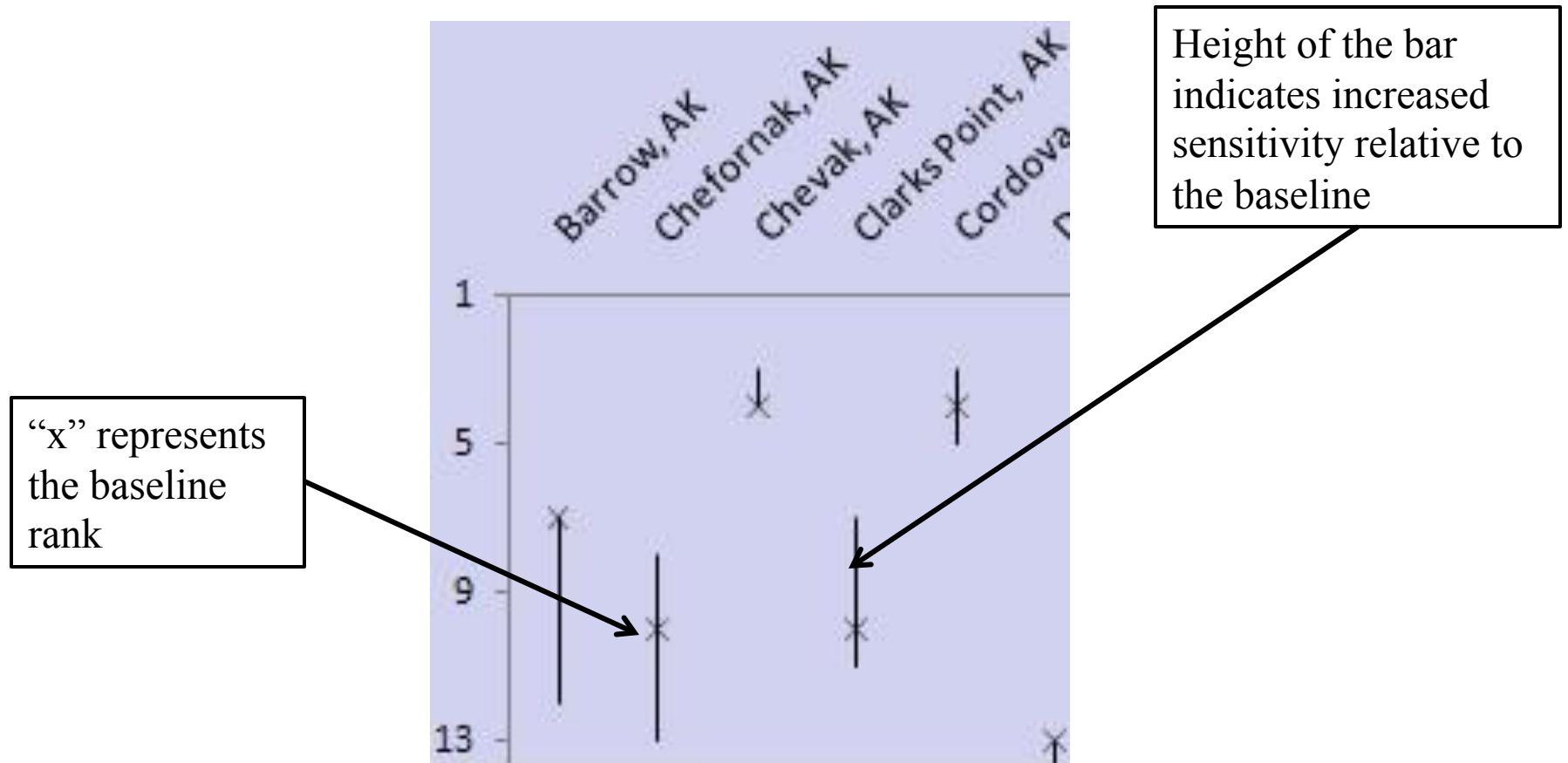


Bank erosion along the Kotlik shoreline, 2007

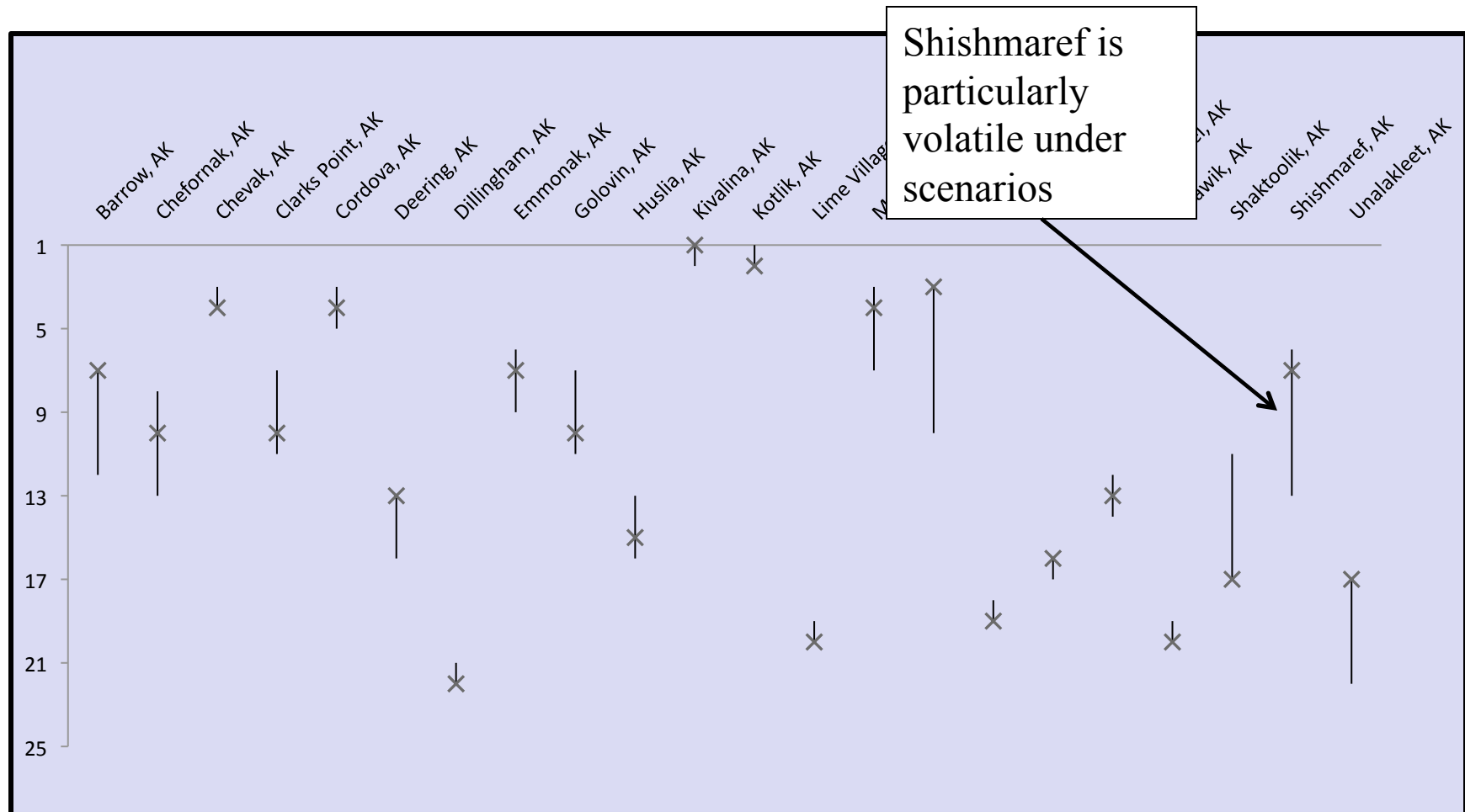
Project Ranks

Projects	Storm surge +								Highest Rank	Lowest Rank	Median Rank
	Baseline	Sea level rise > 1m	Decrease in sea ice erosion	Incr. in sea ice erosion	Sea level rise < 1m	Incr. in sea ice flooding	Decrease in erosion				
Barrow, AK	7	12	9	11	7	8	12	9	7	12	9
Chefornak, AK	10	10	8	12	9	10	13	10	8	13	10
Chevak, AK	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4
Clarks Point, AK	10	8	11	7	9	10	7	10	7	11	10
Cordova, AK	4	3	4	5	4	5	5	5	3	5	5
Deering, AK	13	16	15	13	15	14	14	15	13	16	15
Dillingham, AK	22	22	22	22	22	22	21	21	21	22	22
Emmonak, AK	7	6	7	9	7	8	9	8	6	9	8
Golovin, AK	10	8	11	7	9	10	7	10	7	11	10
Huslia, AK	15	14	14	16	13	16	16	16	13	16	16
Kivalina, AK	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Kotlik, AK	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2
Lime Village, AK	20	19	20	19	20	19	19	19	19	20	19
McGrath, AK	4	3	4	3	4	5	3	7	3	7	4
Newtok, AK	3	7	3	9	3	4	10	3	3	10	4
Nunapitchuk, AK	19	18	19	18	19	18	18	18	18	19	18
Port Heiden, AK	16	17	16	17	16	17	17	17	16	17	17
Saint Michael, AK	13	13	13	13	12	13	14	13	12	14	13
Selawik, AK	20	19	20	19	20	19	19	19	19	20	19
Shaktolik, AK	17	15	17	15	17	15	11	14	11	17	15
Shishmaref, AK	7	11	9	6	13	7	6	6	6	13	7
Unalakleet, AK	17	21	17	21	17	21	22	22	17	22	21

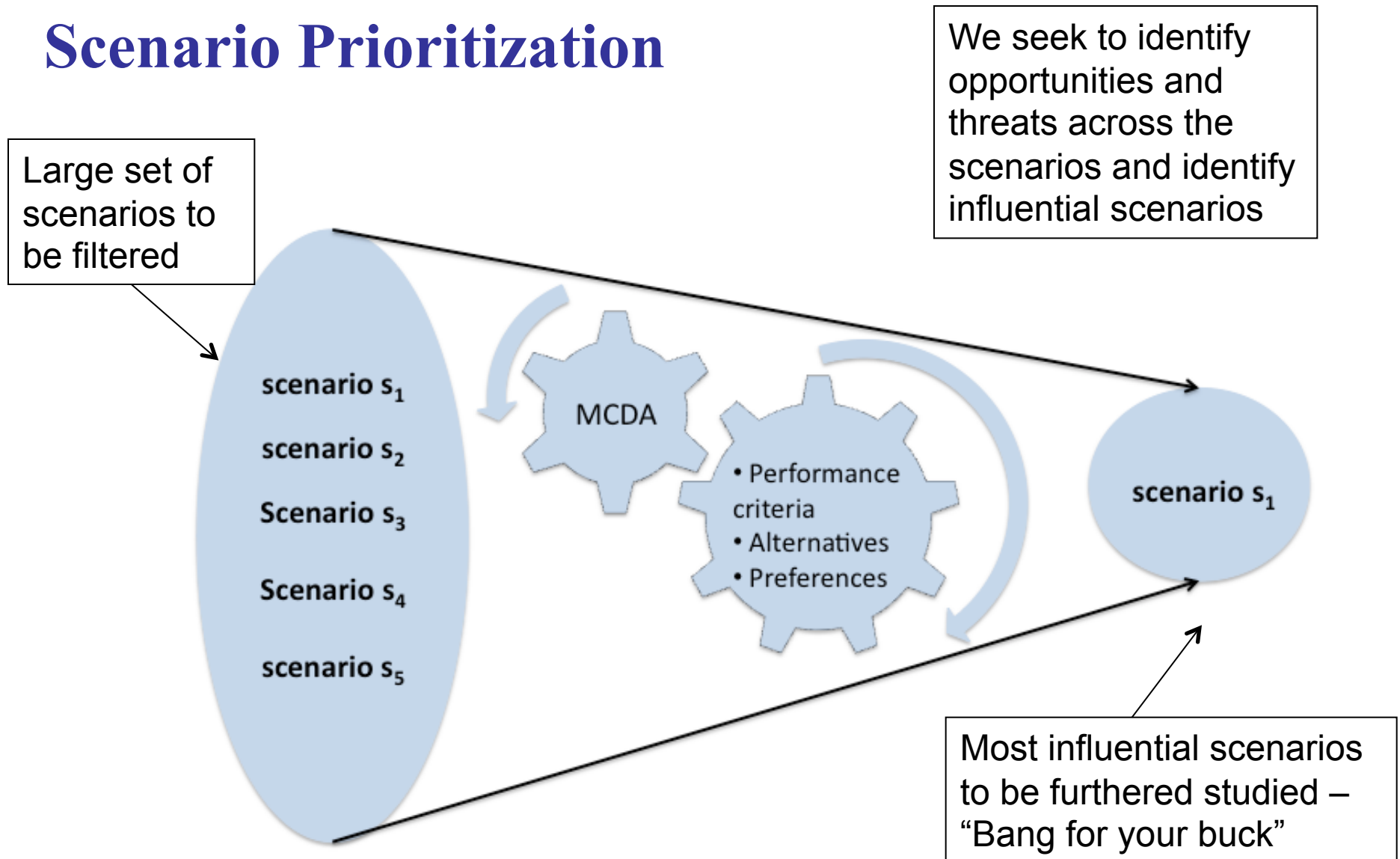
Influence of the Scenarios on the Prioritization



Influence of the Scenarios on the Prioritization



Scenario Prioritization



Scenario Prioritization – Most Impactful

Scenario Scores

Highest SSE

Scenario	SSE
Sea level rise > 1m	16812
Increased Flooding	10880
Decrease in sea ice	3360



Cordova, AK

- Scenarios with the highest sum of squared error (SSEs)

Scenario Prioritization – Least Impactful

Scenario Scores

Lowest SSE

Scenario	SSE
Increase in sea ice	543
Decreased erosion	706
Sea level rise < 1m	960



Nunapitchuk, AK

- Scenarios with the lowest sum of squared error (SSEs)

Summary

- Determine robustness of community prioritization
- Determine where to guide future engineering investigations
 - Based on the most influential scenarios
- Climate change must be considered among social, demographic, technological, economic, regulatory, and other emergent conditions



Kotlik, AK



Acknowledgements

- Bruce Sexauer (USACE Alaska District)
- Funding was provided by the US Army Corps of Engineers' Dredging Operations and Environmental Research (DOER) Program.

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