



Machine Learning for Dune Erosion

Applying Convolutional Neural Networks to Predict Post-Storm Profile Shapes

Koen van Asselt

12-06-2024

Who am I

- Koen van Asselt
- Deltares since September 2022
 - Internship
 - Junior Employee
- Graduated Hydraulic Engineering at TU Delft in June 2023
- Applied Morphodynamics team
 - Coastal Hazards
 - Compound flooding



CONTENT

Methods

XBeach

U-Net

Results

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Introduction

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



INTRODUCTION

Introduction

XBeach

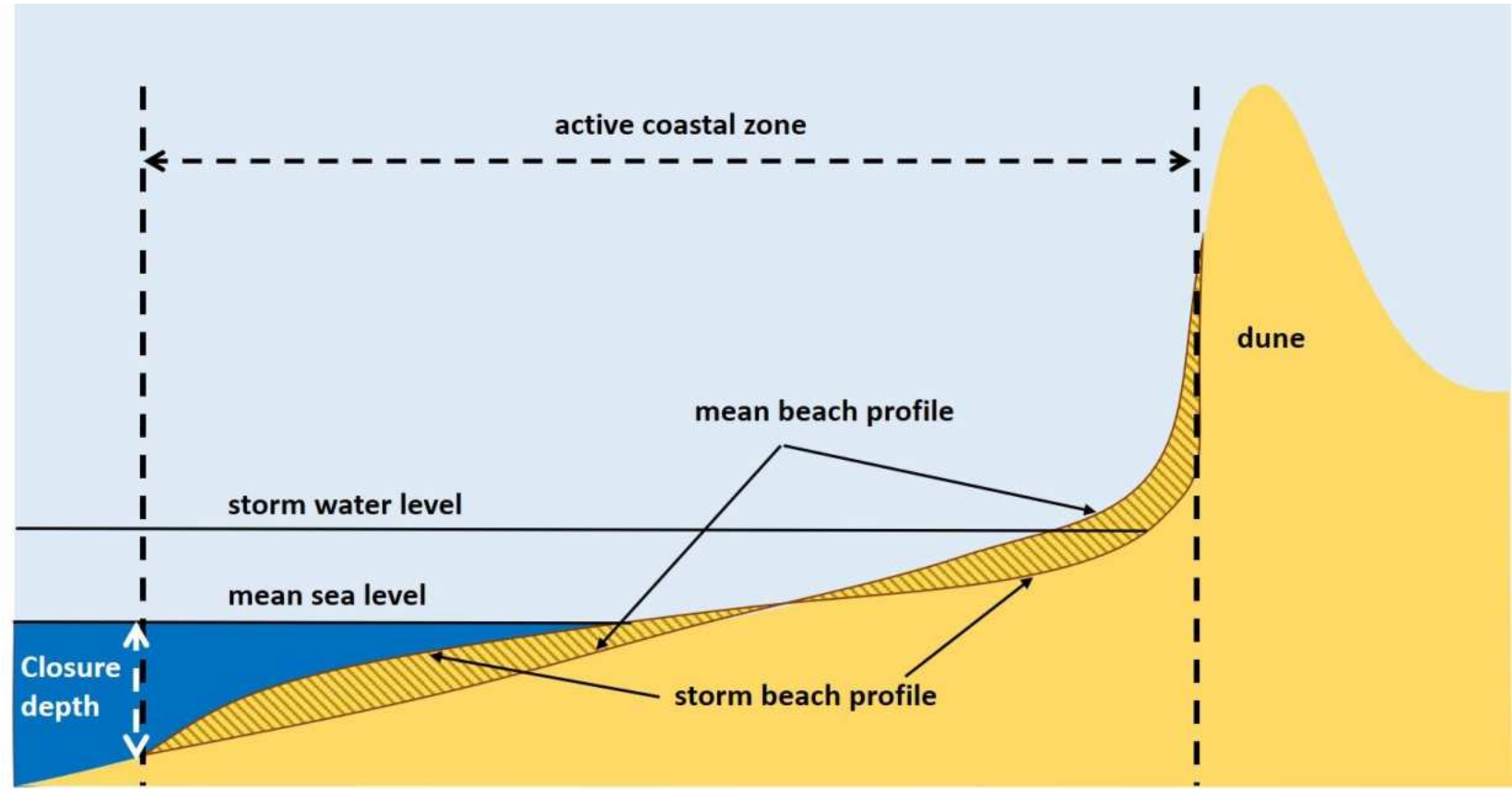
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



INTRODUCTION

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

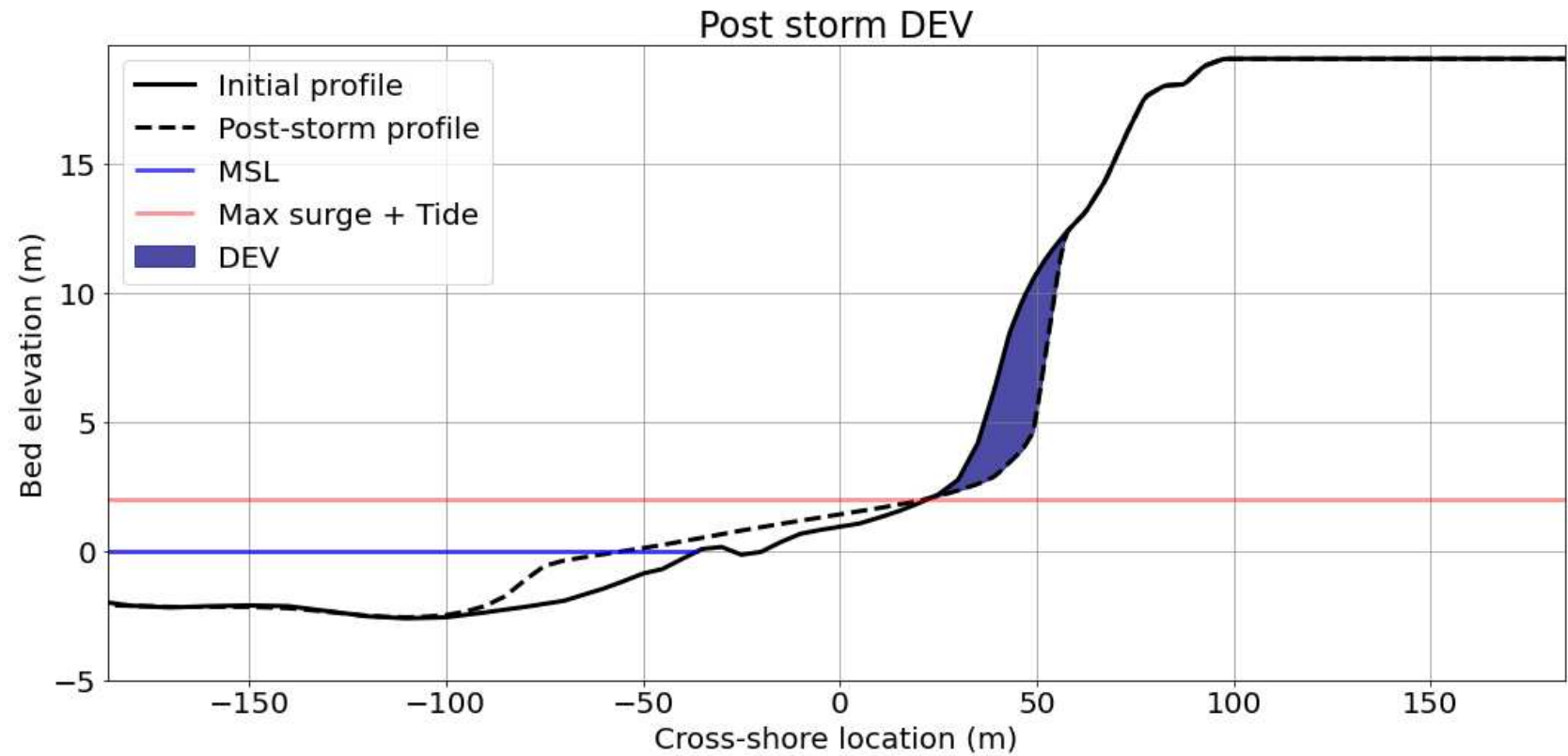
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

XBeach simulations



INTRODUCTION

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

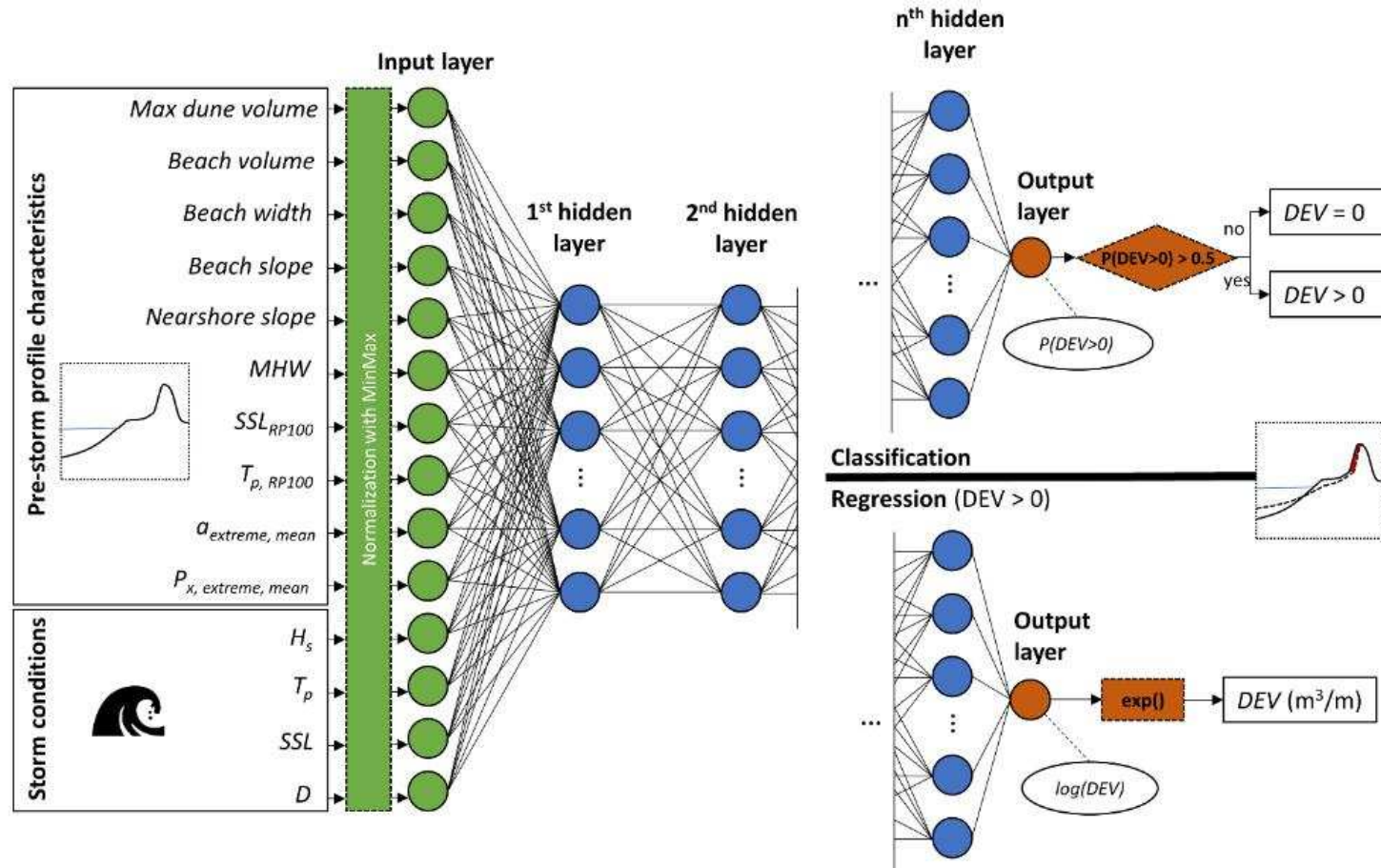
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

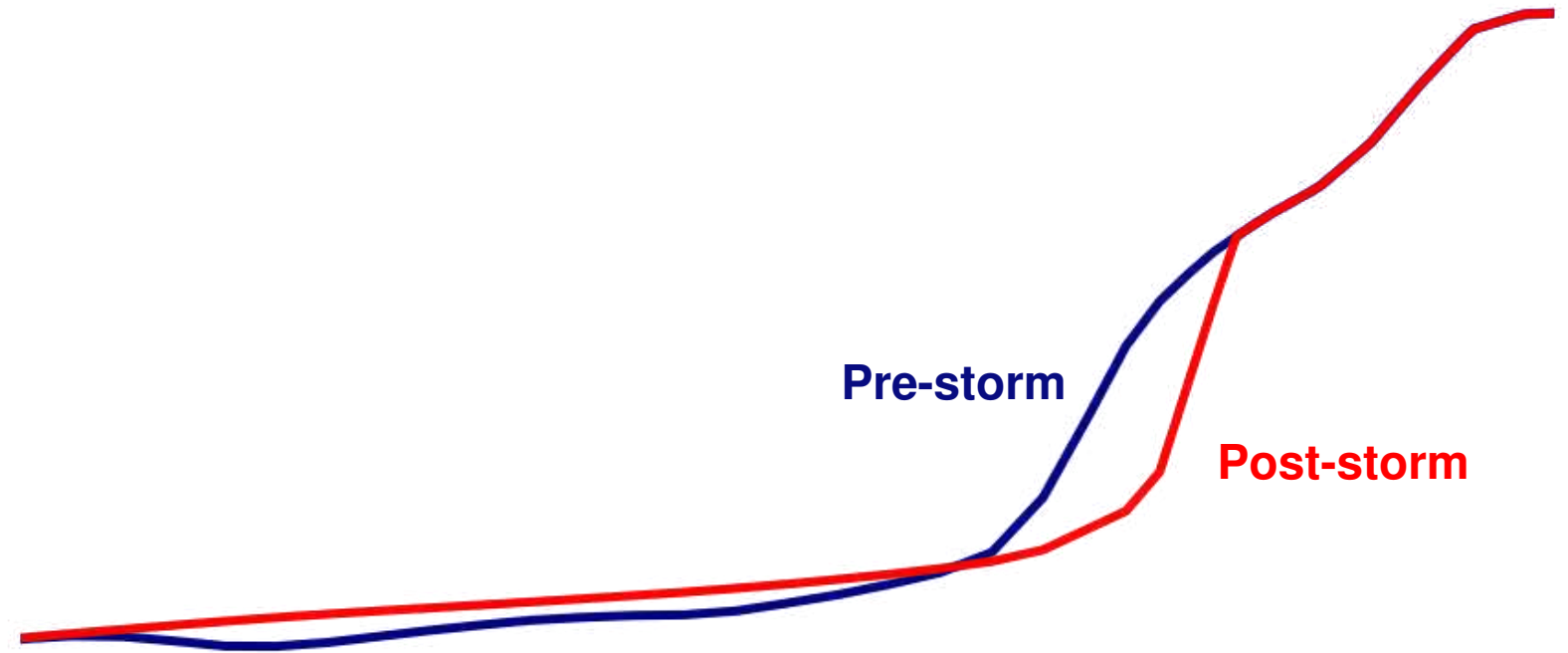
Estimating dune erosion at the regional scale using a meta-model based on Neural Networks – Athanasiou et. al. (2022)



INTRODUCTION

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion

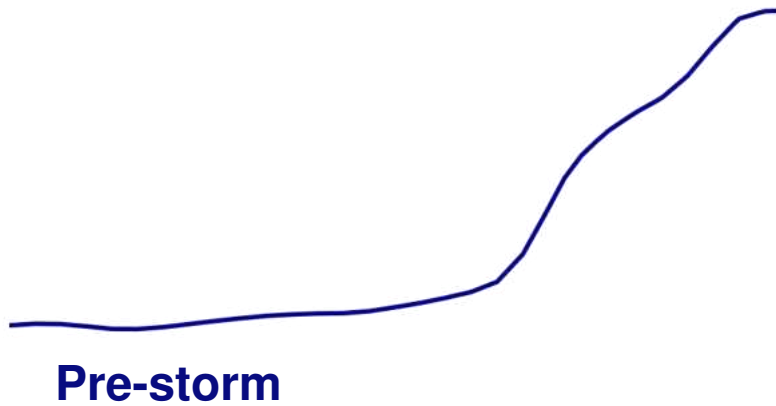
Deltares



INTRODUCTION

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion

Deltares



Enabling fast prediction of **post-storm sandy profiles** along the Holland Coast using surrogate modelling and XBeach.

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

XBeach

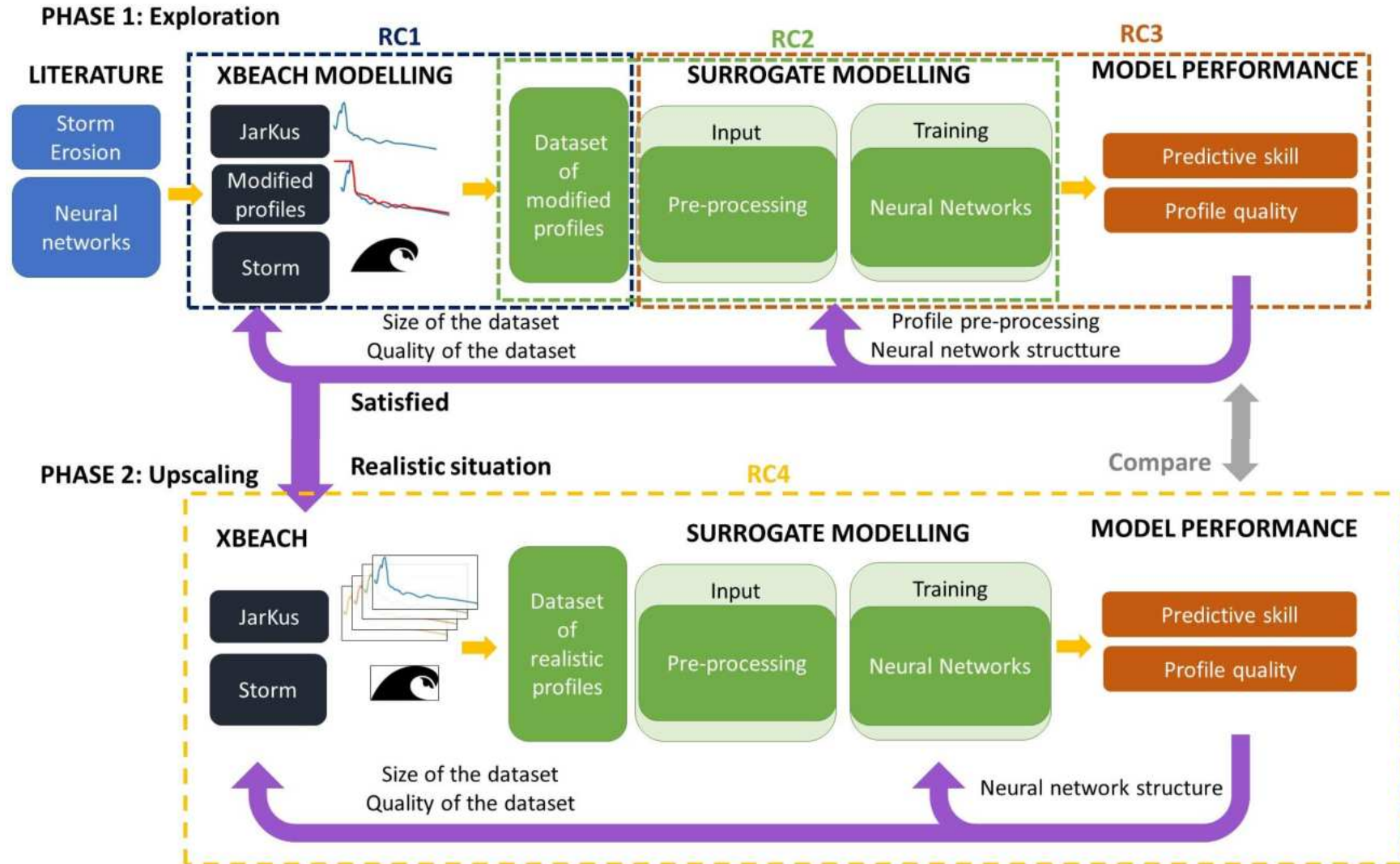
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



METHODS: XBEACH

Introduction

XBeach

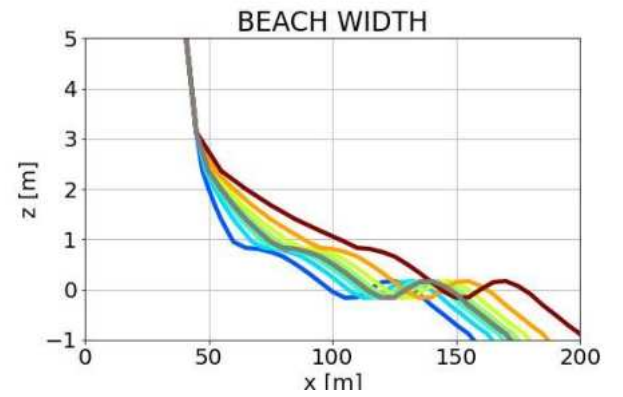
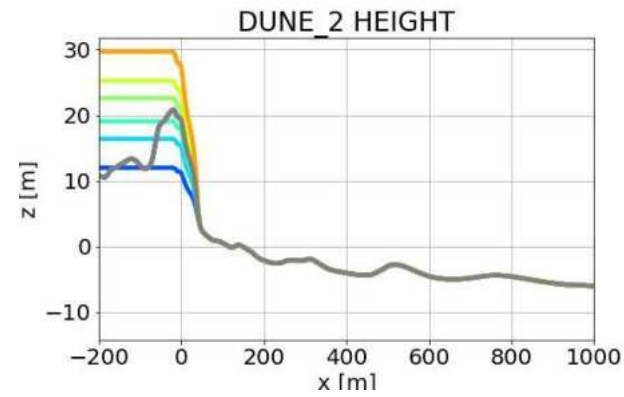
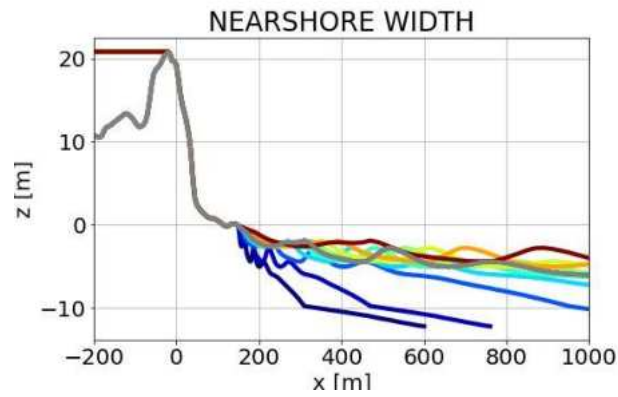
U-Net

Exploration

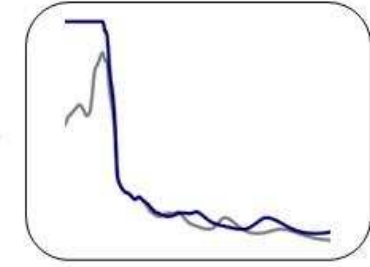
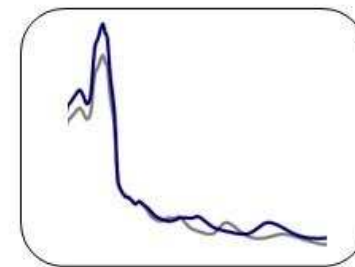
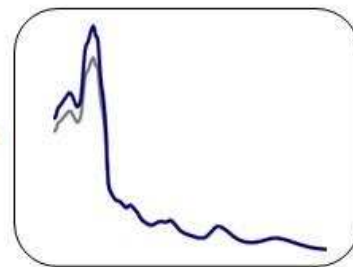
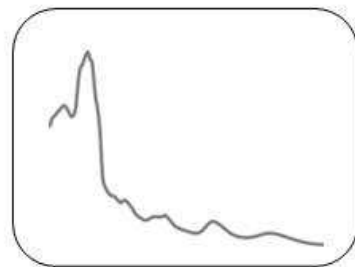
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



PROFILE MODIFICATION SCHEME



METHODS: XBEACH

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

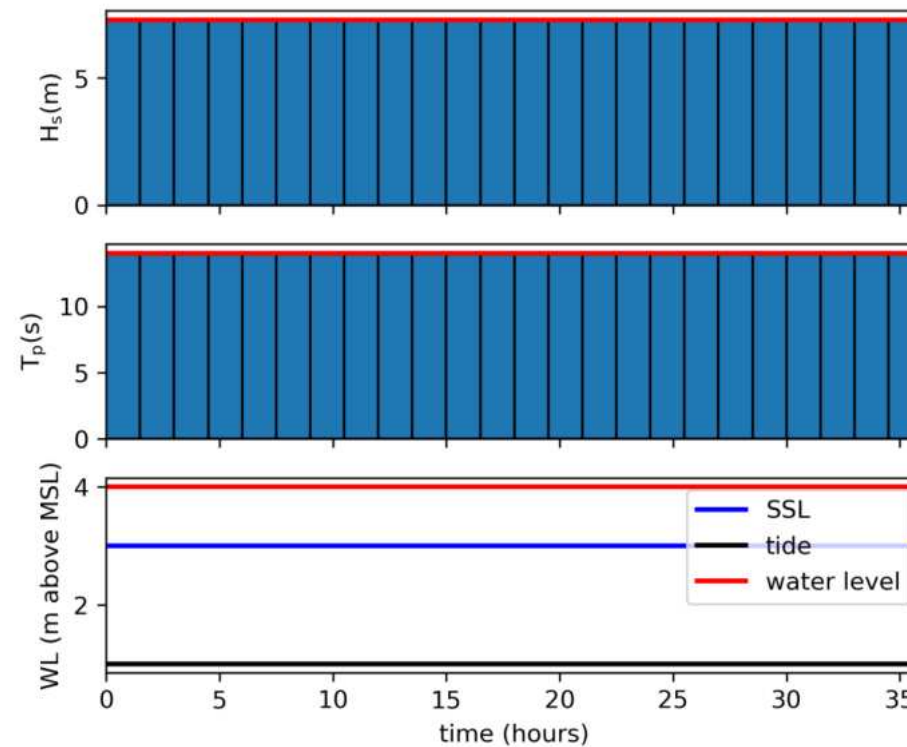
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares

One storm with stationary conditions



METHODS: XBEACH

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

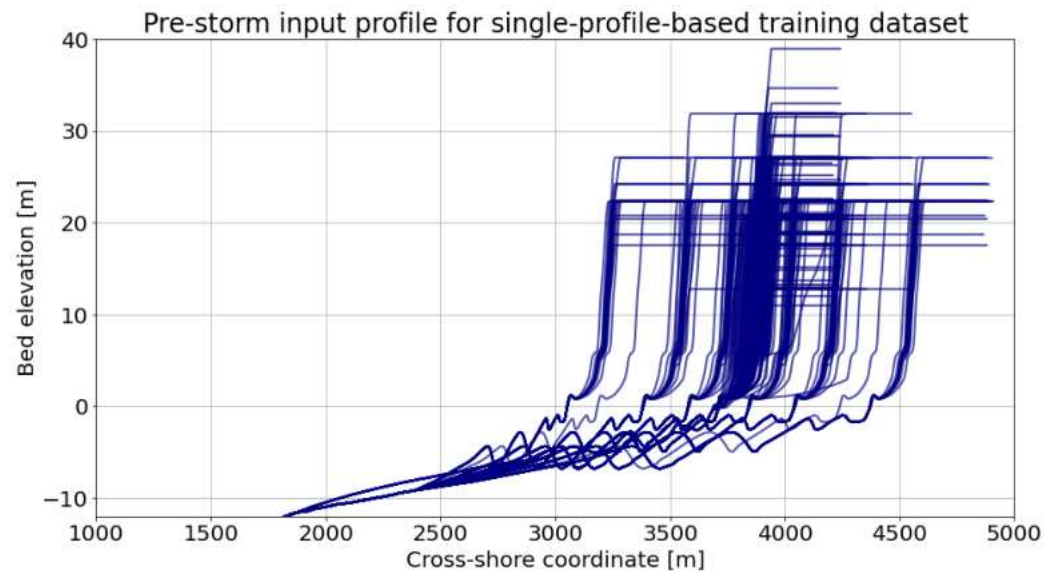
Exploration

Upscaling

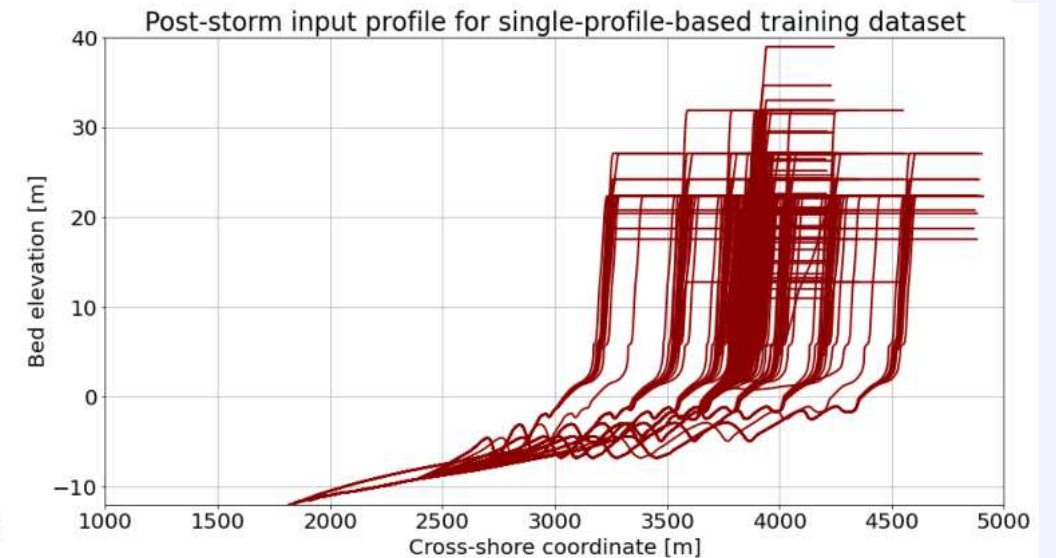
Discussion

Conclusion

Pre-storm



Post-storm



METHODS: XBEACH

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

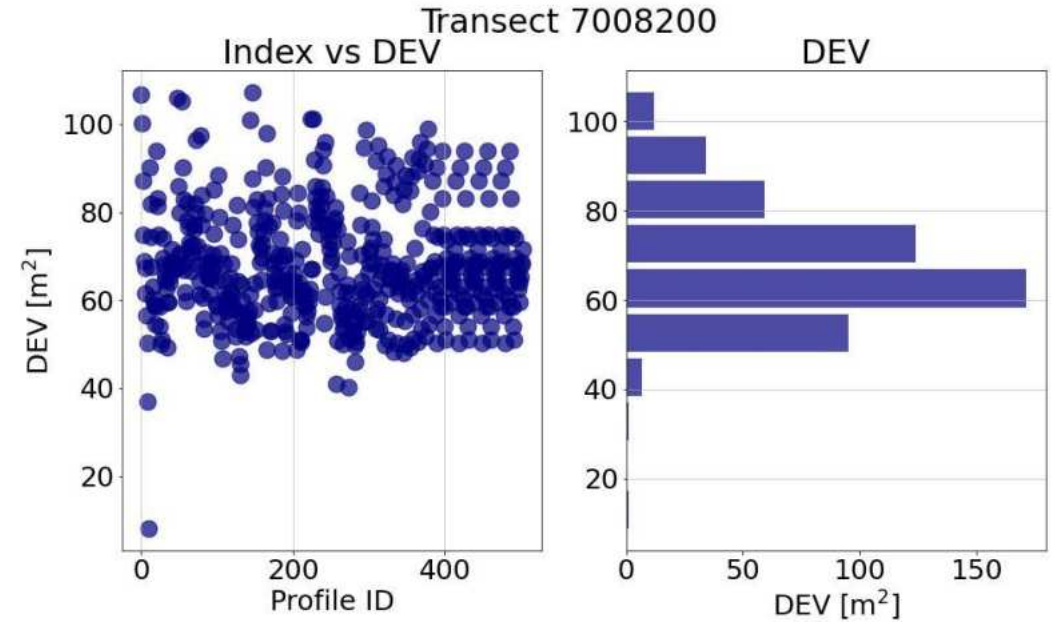
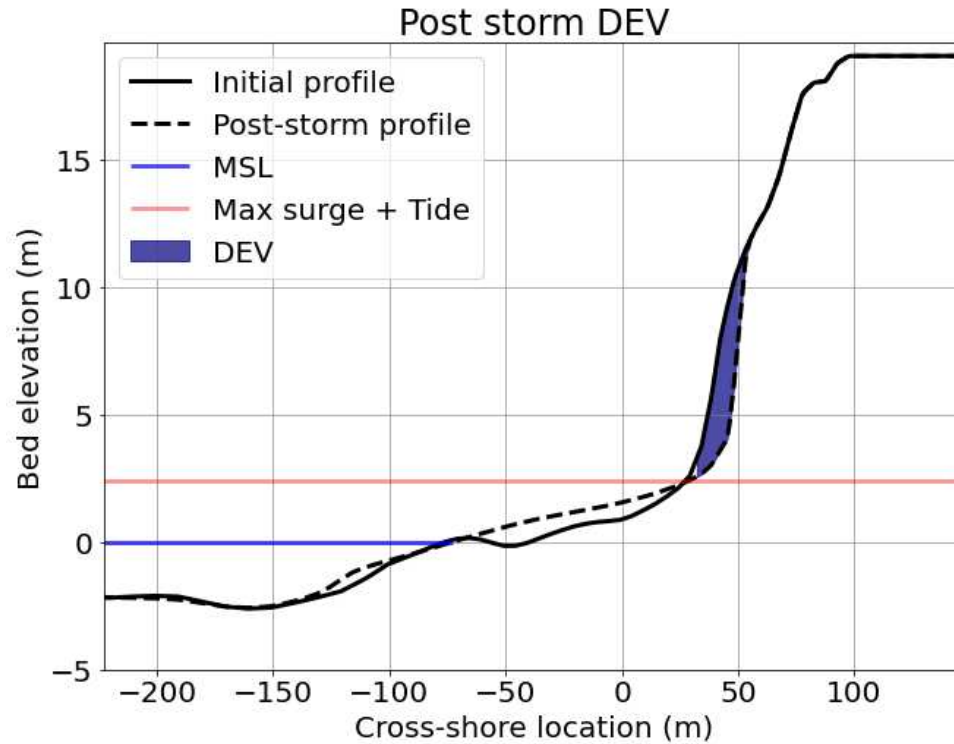
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares



METHODS: XBEACH

Introduction

XBeach

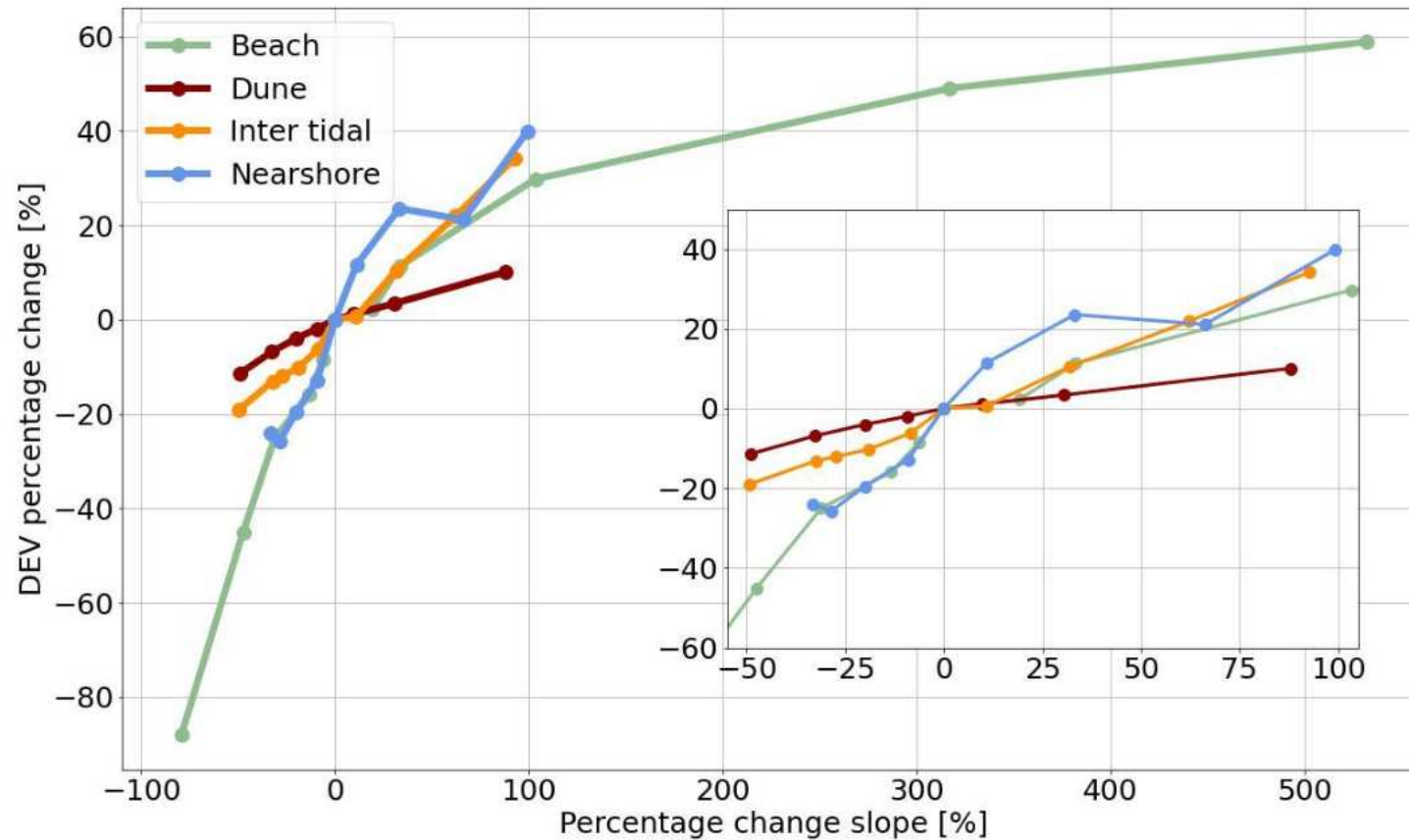
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



U-Net

Introduction

XBeach

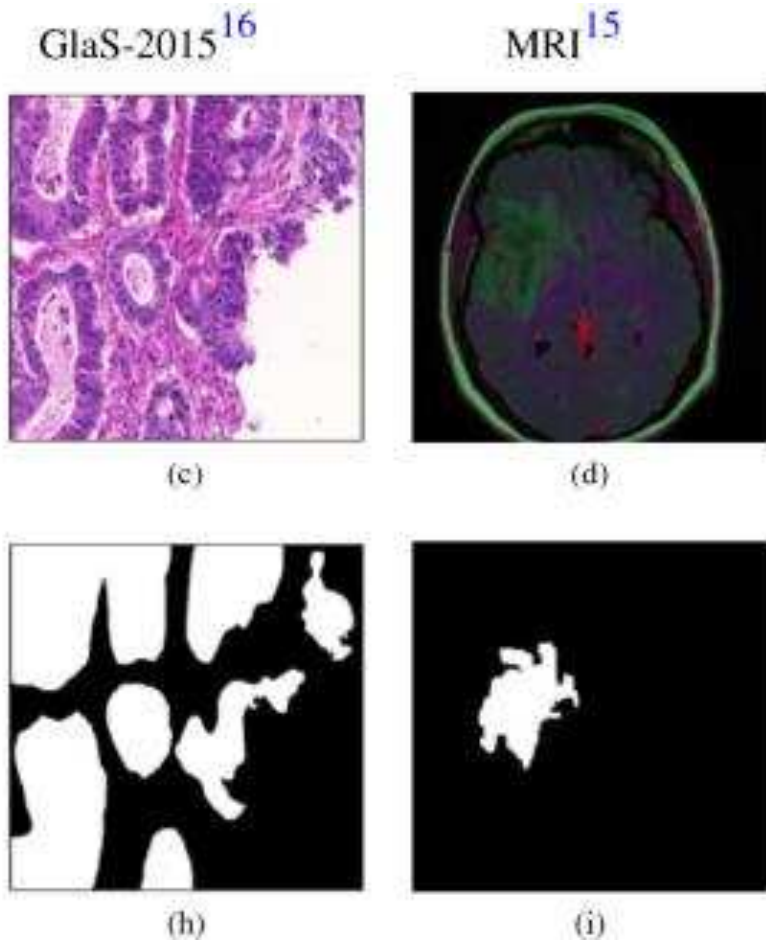
U-Net

Exploration

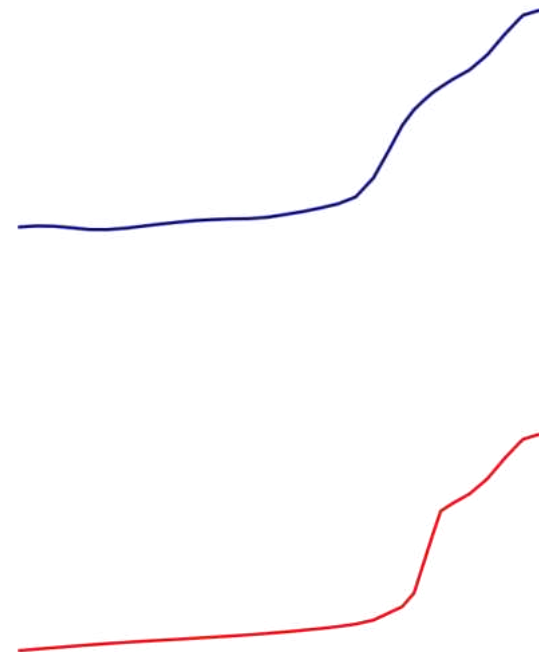
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Dune erosion



U-Net

Introduction

XBeach

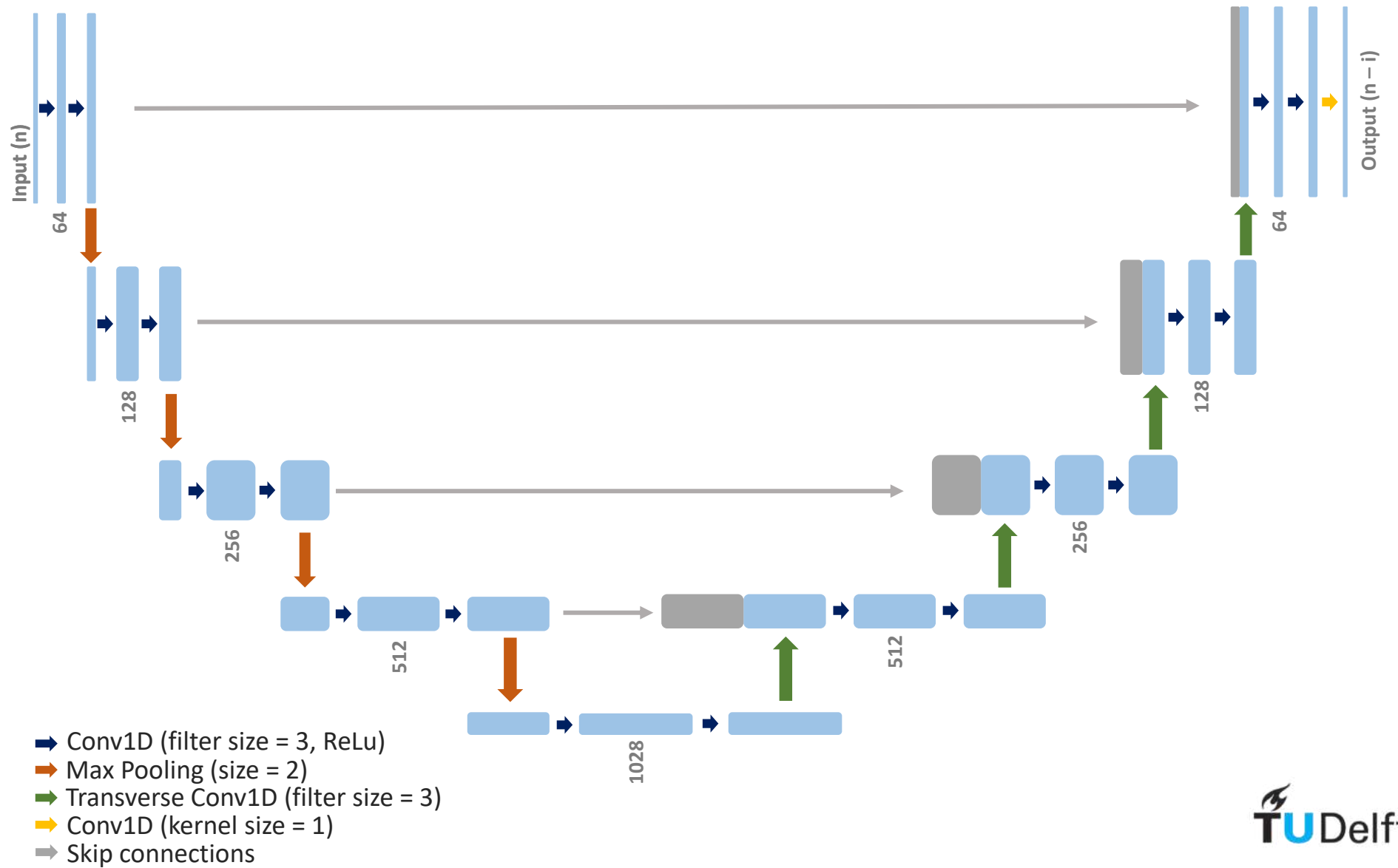
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



METHODS: U-Net Structure

Introduction

XBeach

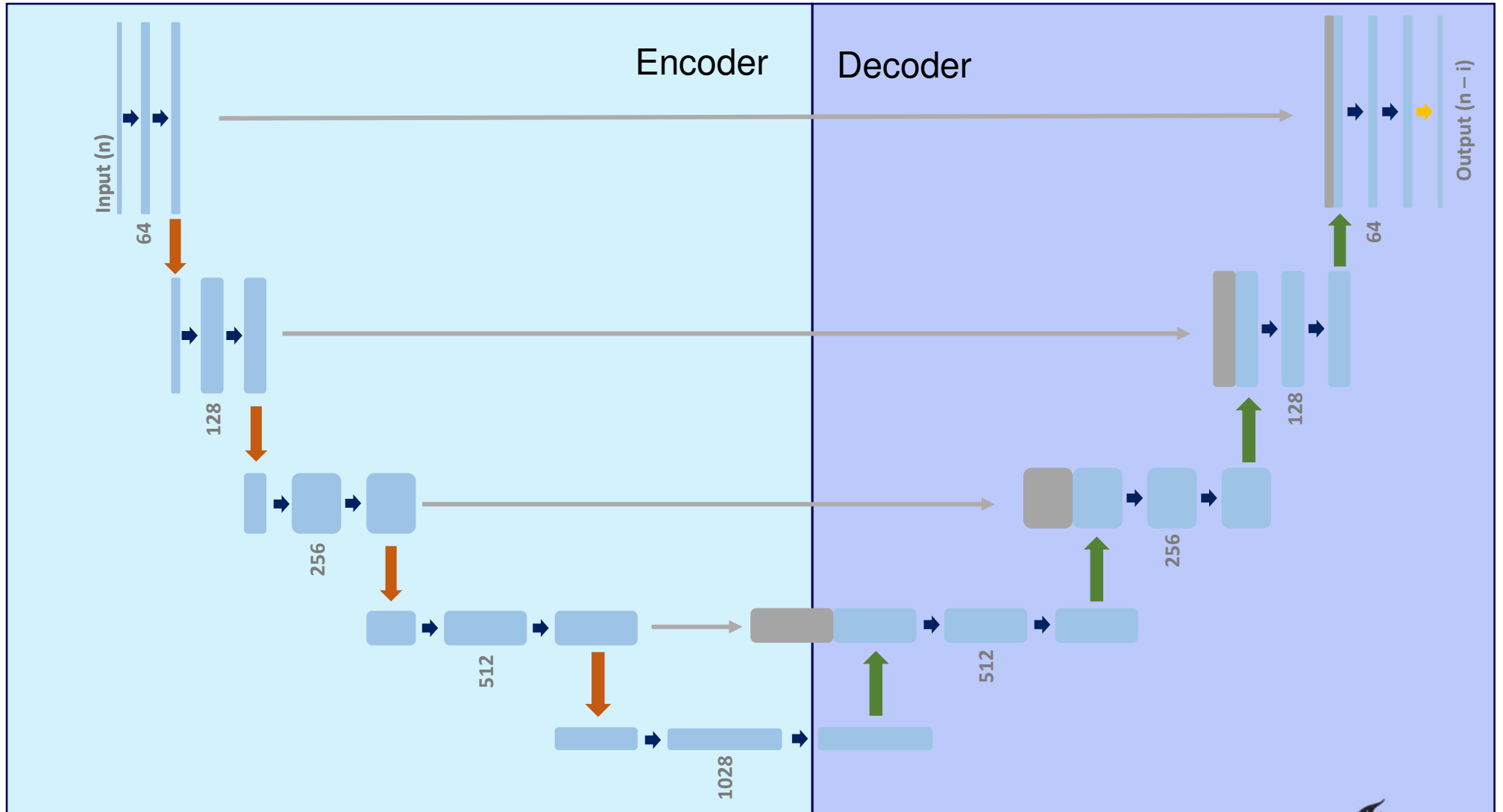
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

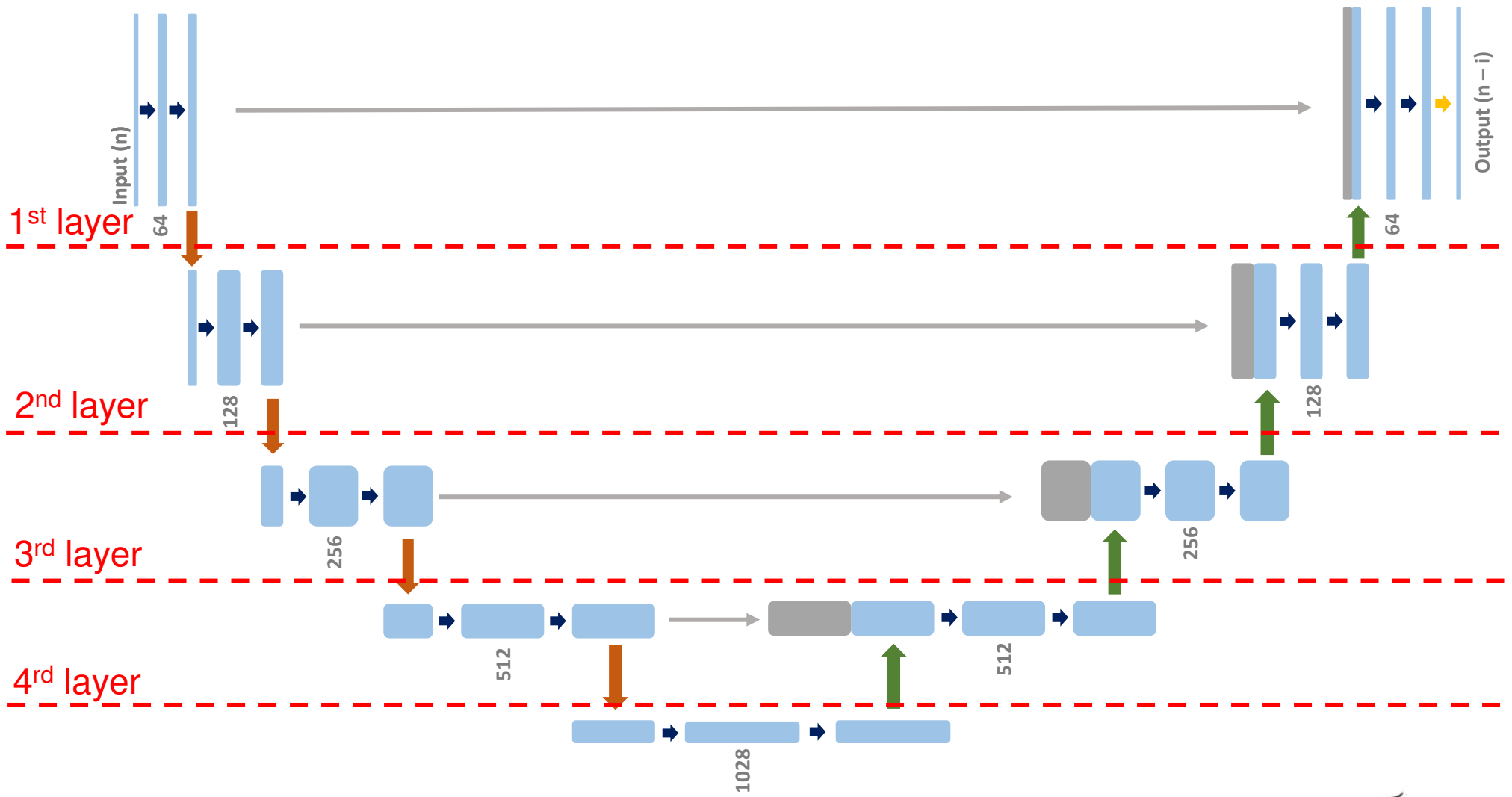
Discussion

Conclusion



U-Net: Network depth

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



U-Net: Convolutional block

Introduction

XBeach

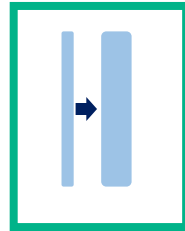
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

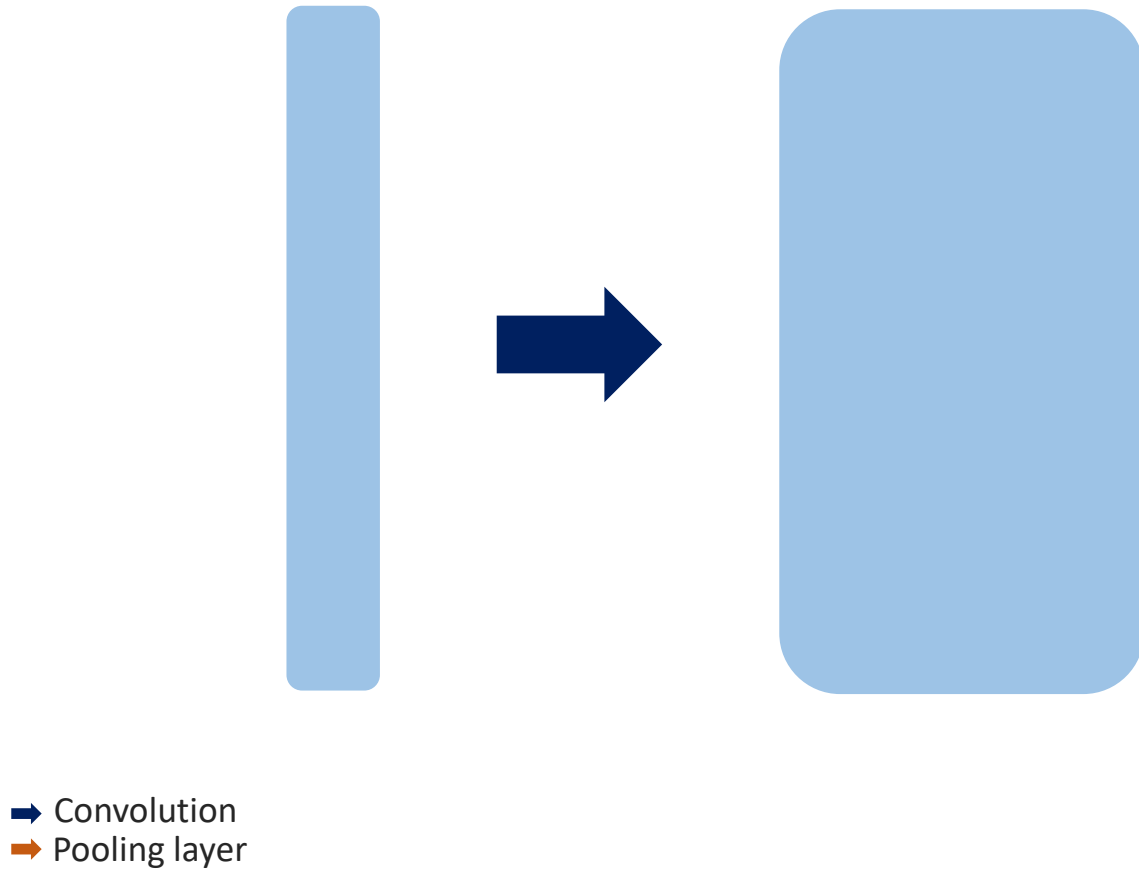
Discussion

Conclusion



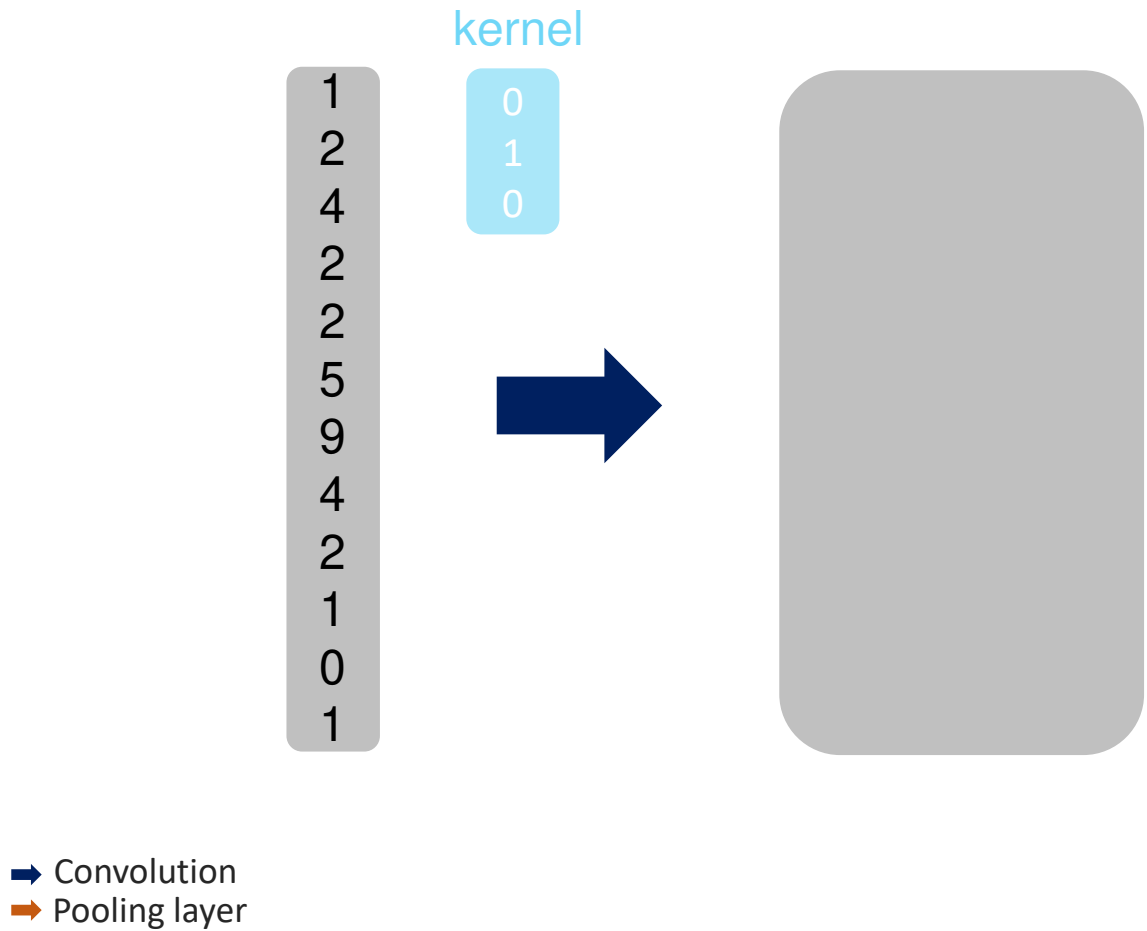
U-Net: Convolutional block

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



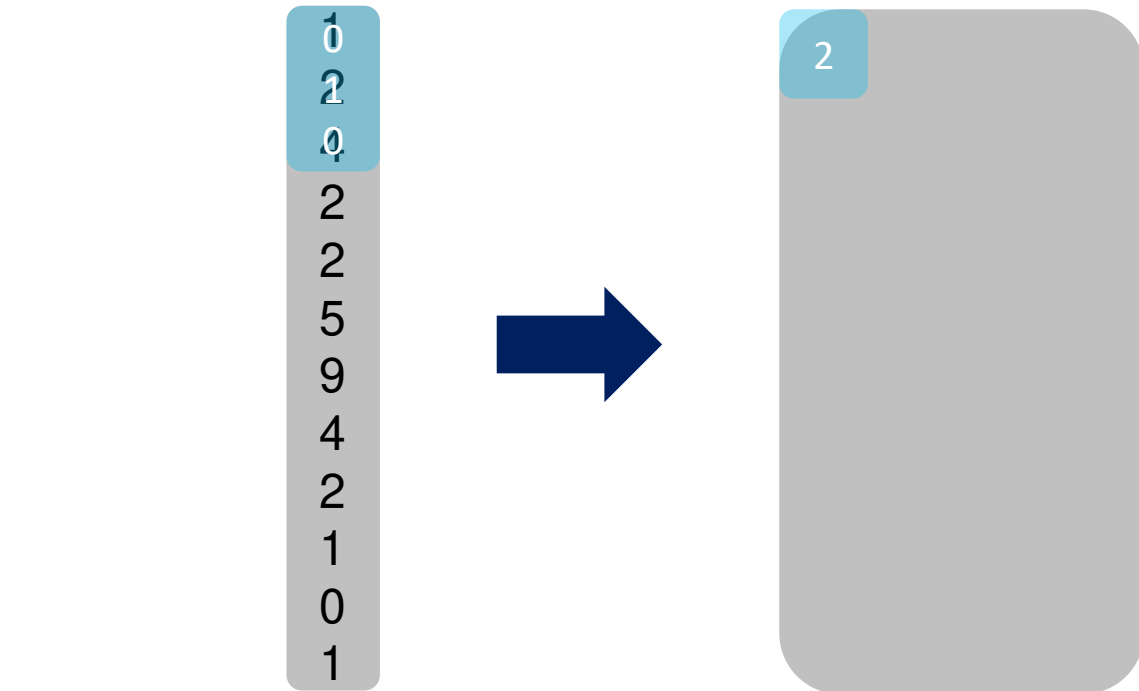
U-Net: Convolutional block

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



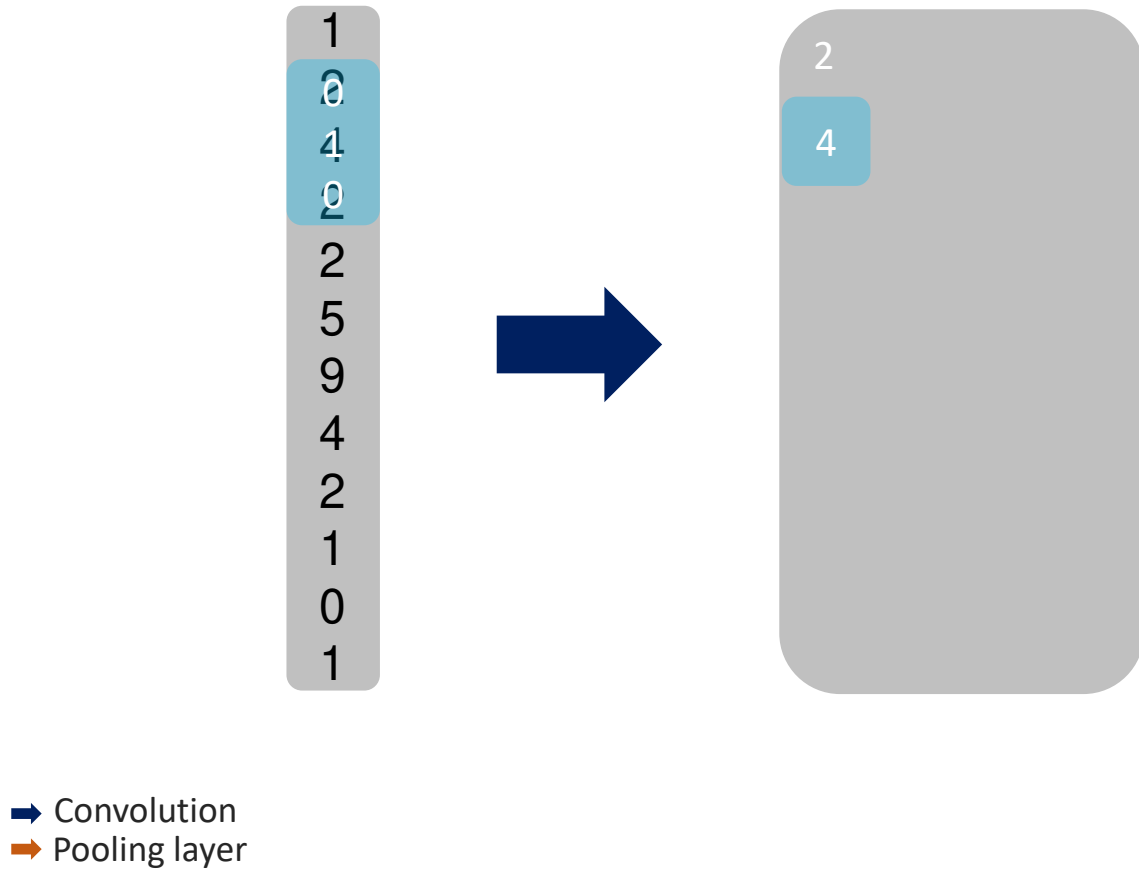
U-Net: Convolutional block

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



U-Net: Convolutional block

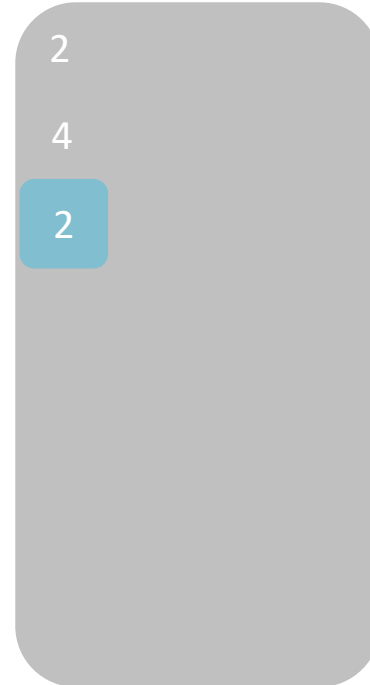
- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



U-Net: Convolutional block

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion

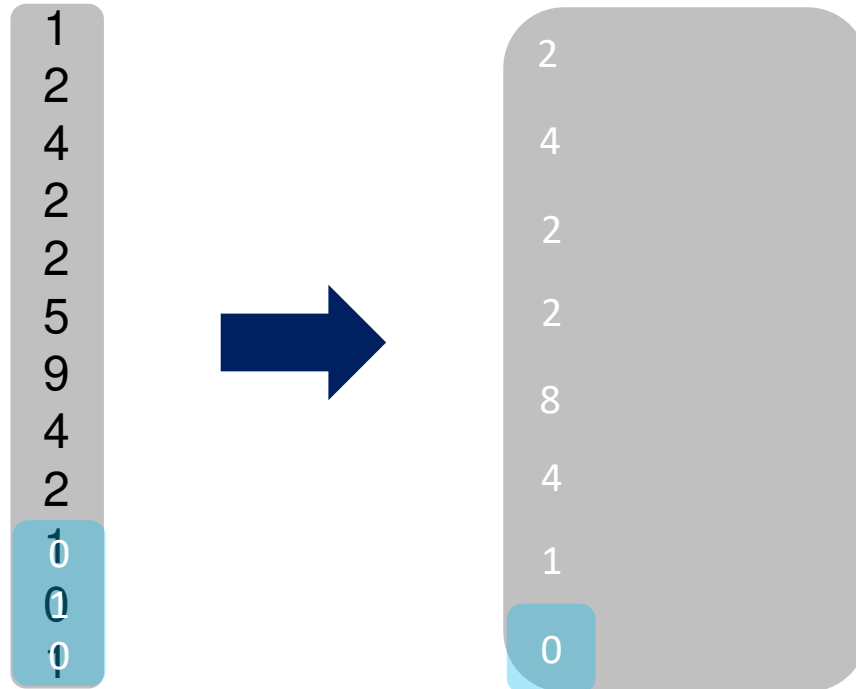
➡ Convolution
➡ Pooling layer



U-Net: Convolutional block

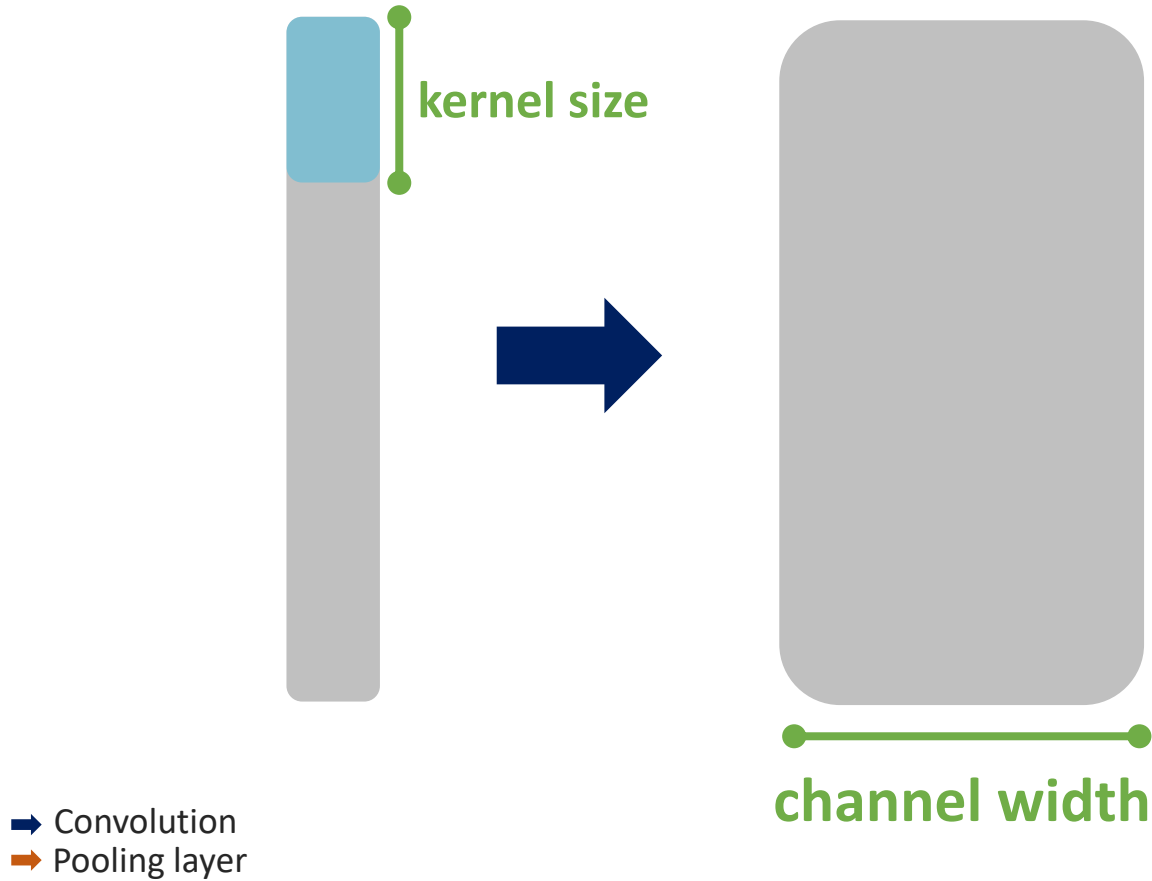
- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion

→ Convolution
→ Pooling layer



U-Net: Convolutional block

- Introduction
- XBeach
- U-Net**
- Exploration
- Upscaling
- Discussion
- Conclusion



U-Net

Introduction

XBeach

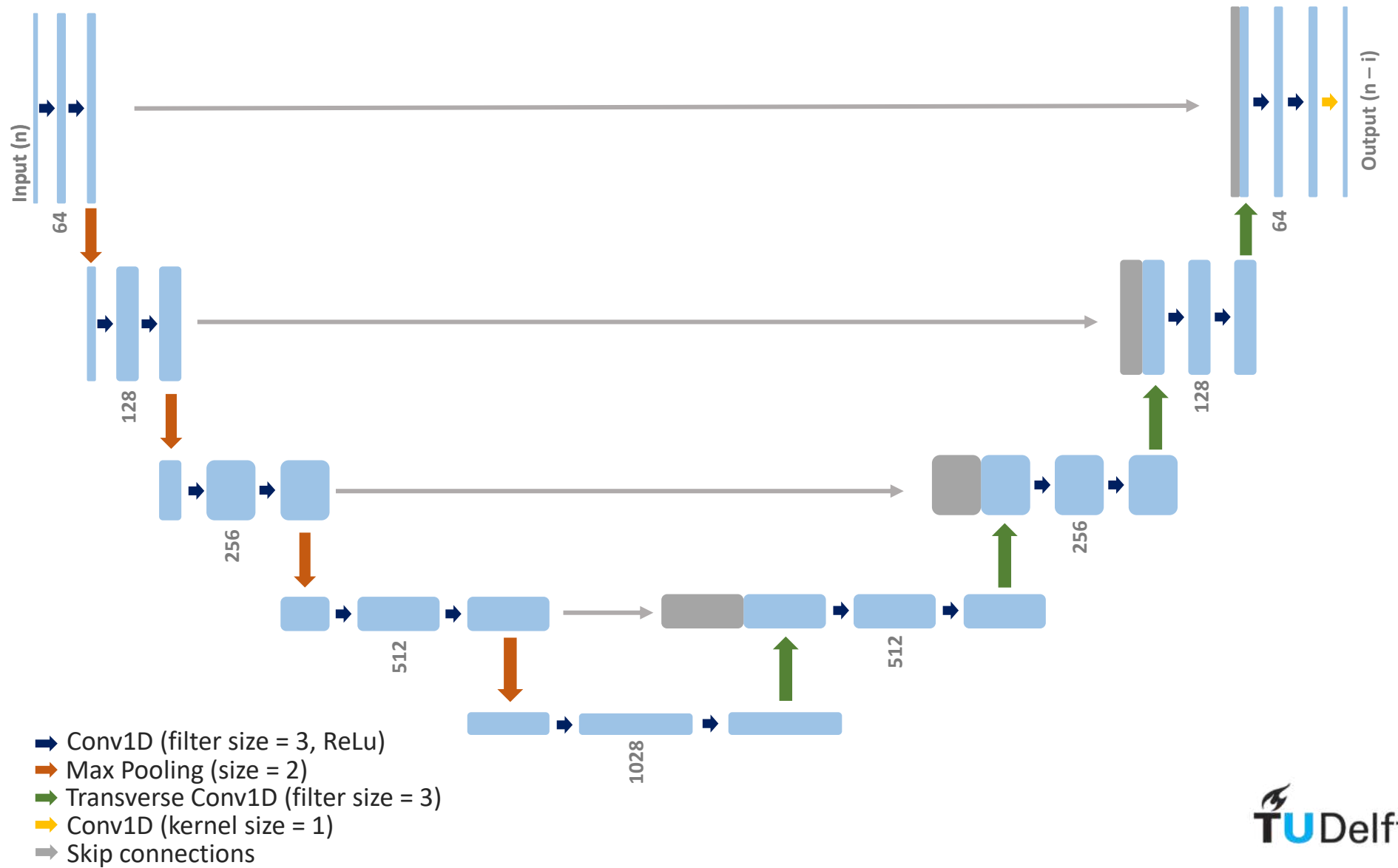
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Initial results

Introduction

XBeach

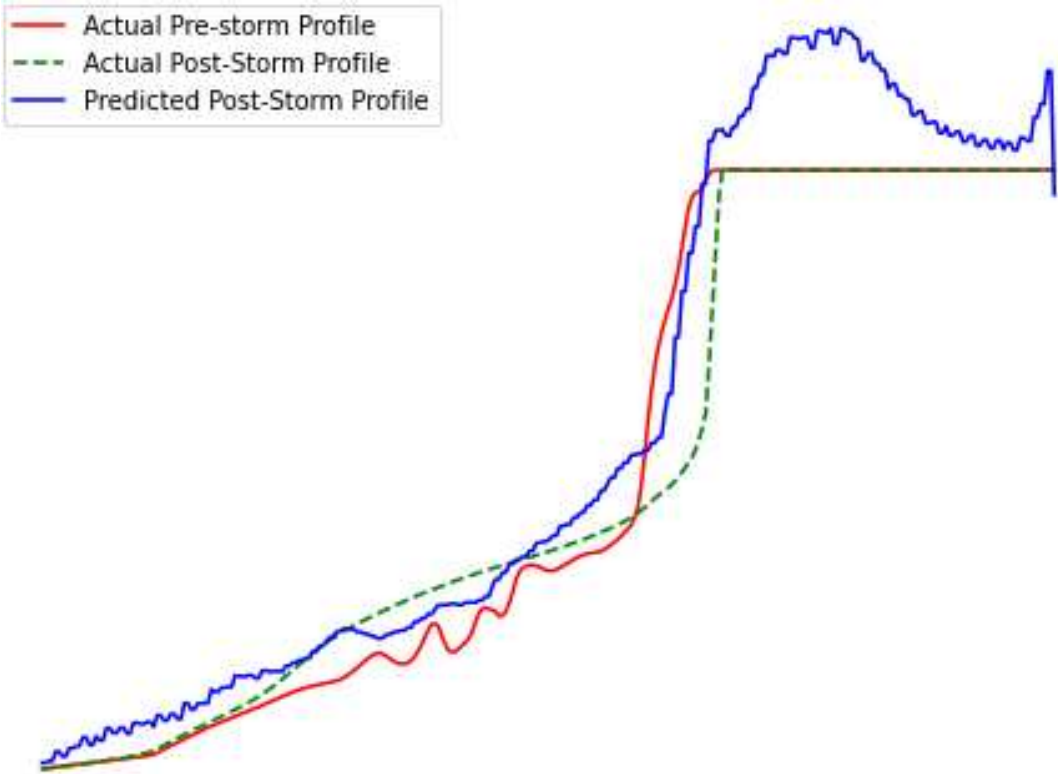
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Grid standardization

Introduction

XBeach

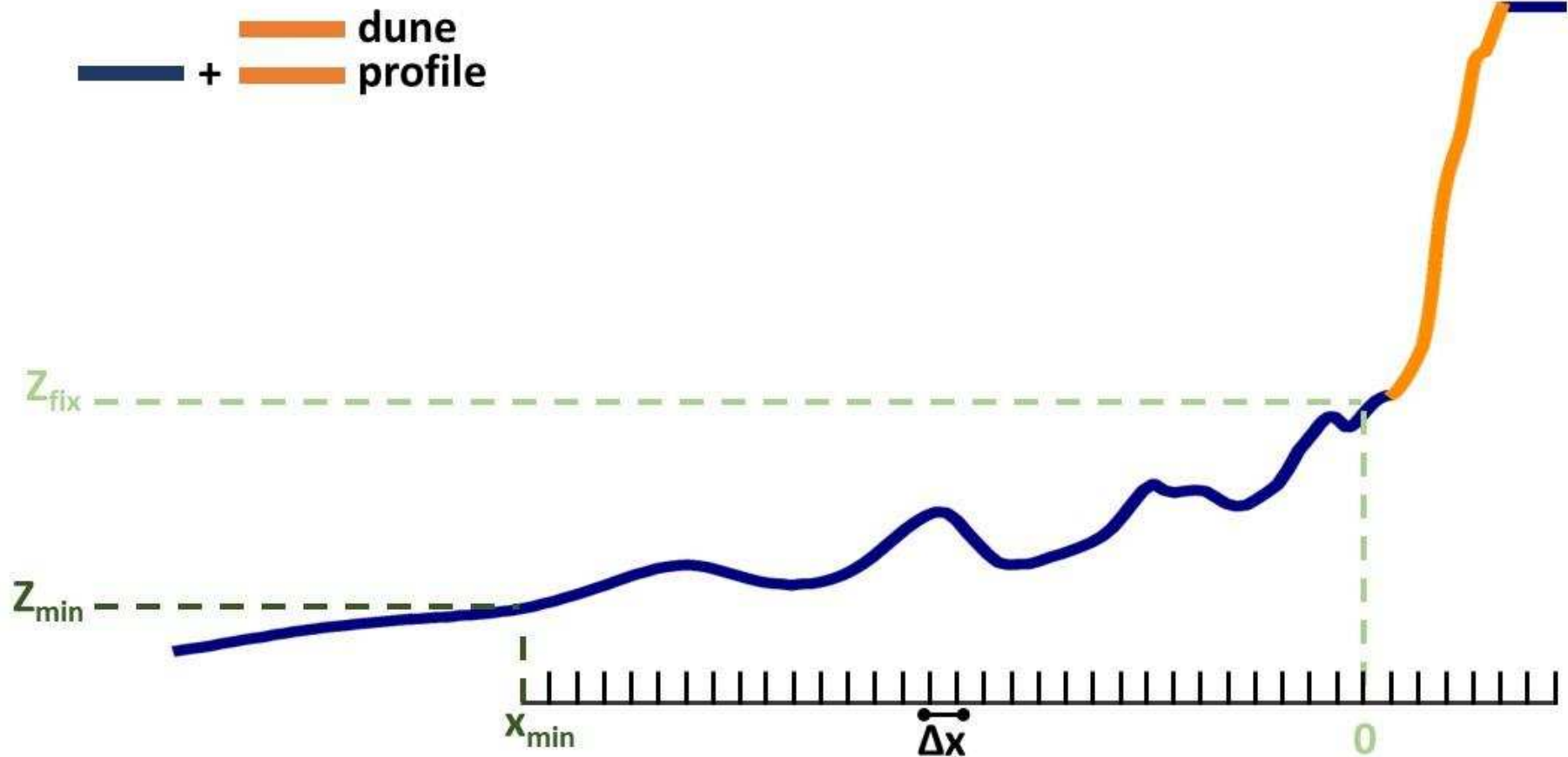
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Performance metric

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

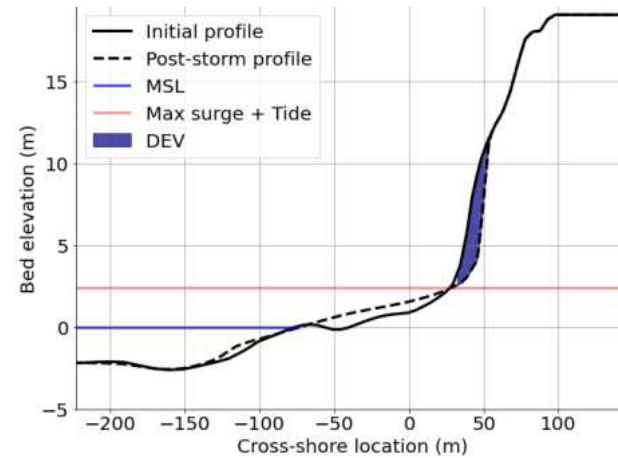
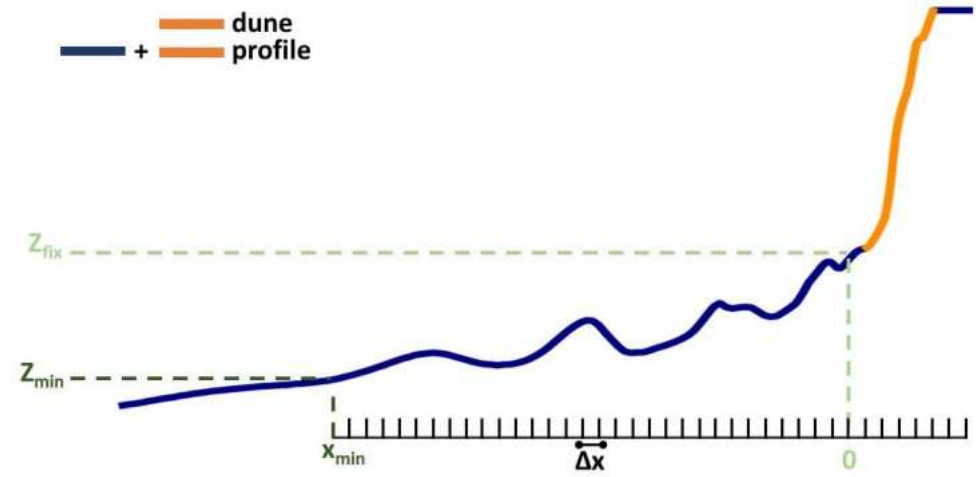
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

$$MSE_{dune} = \frac{1}{m} \sum (y_n - \hat{y}_n)^2$$

$$skill_{DEV} = 1 - \frac{MSE_{DEV}}{\sigma_{DEVtarget}}$$



Exploration: Grid standardization

Introduction

XBeach

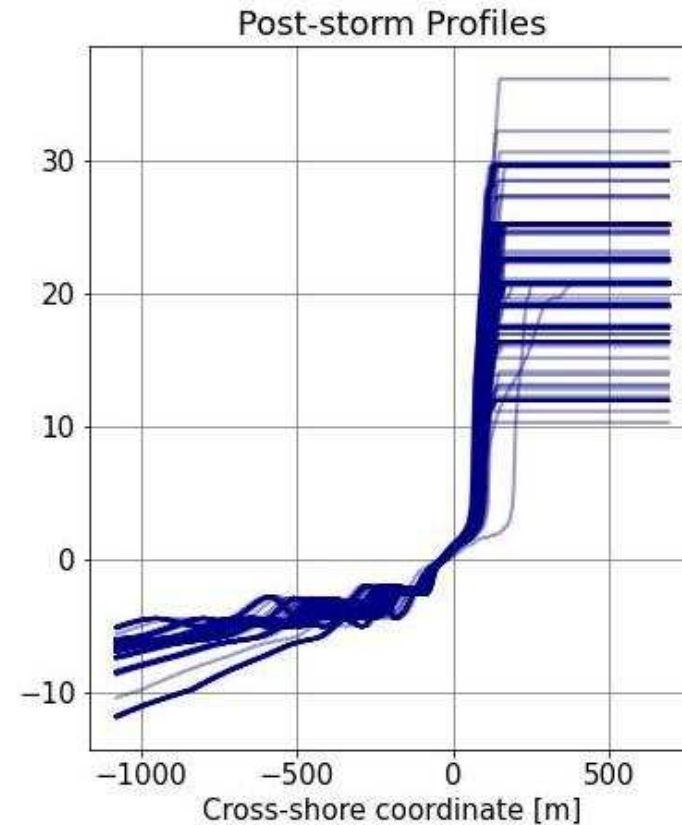
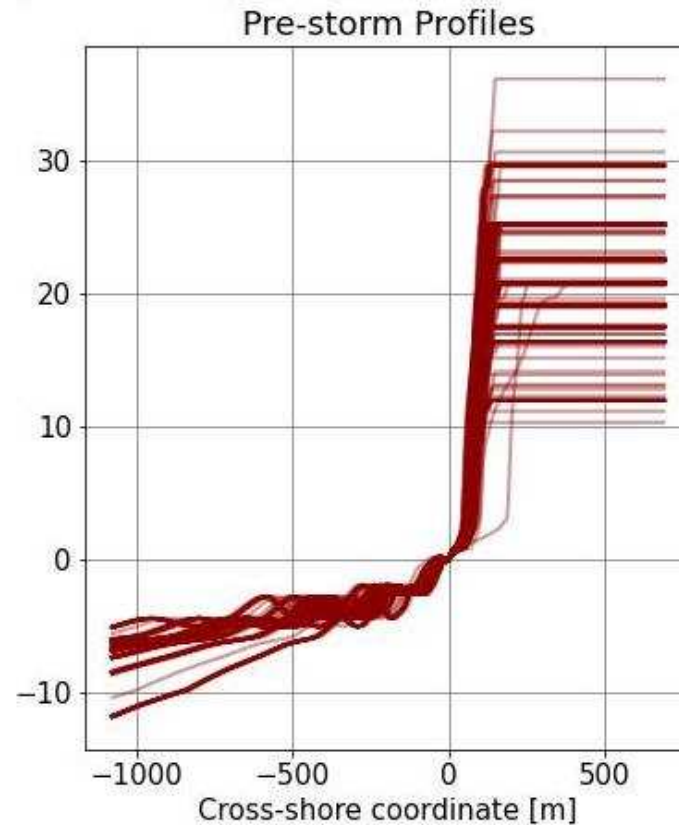
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Exploration: Difference modelling

Introduction

XBeach

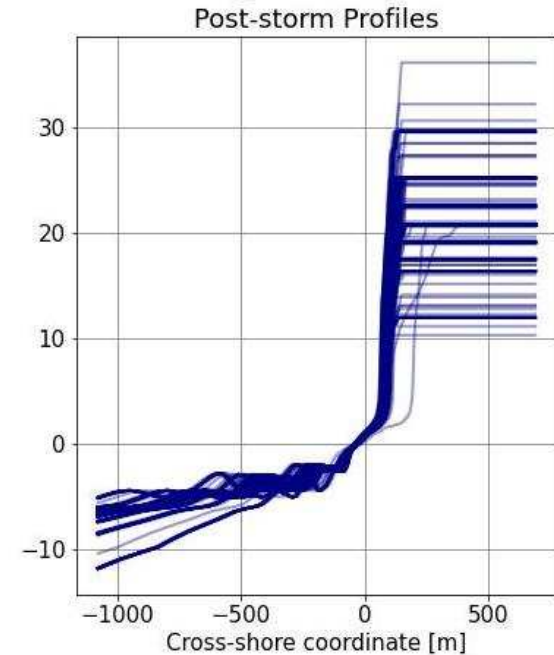
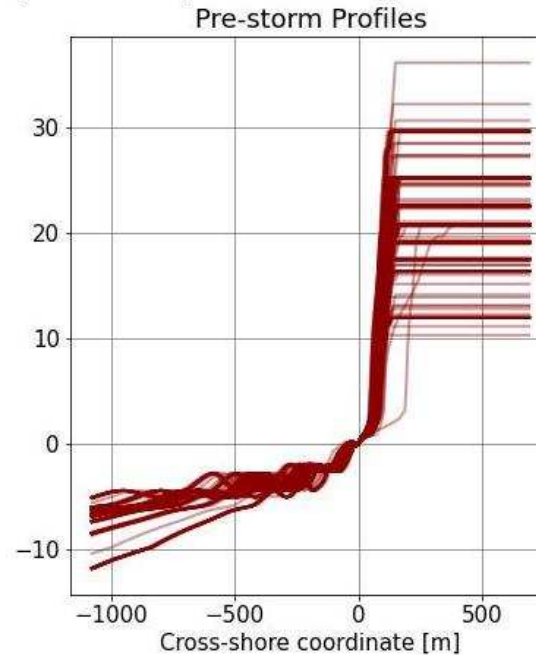
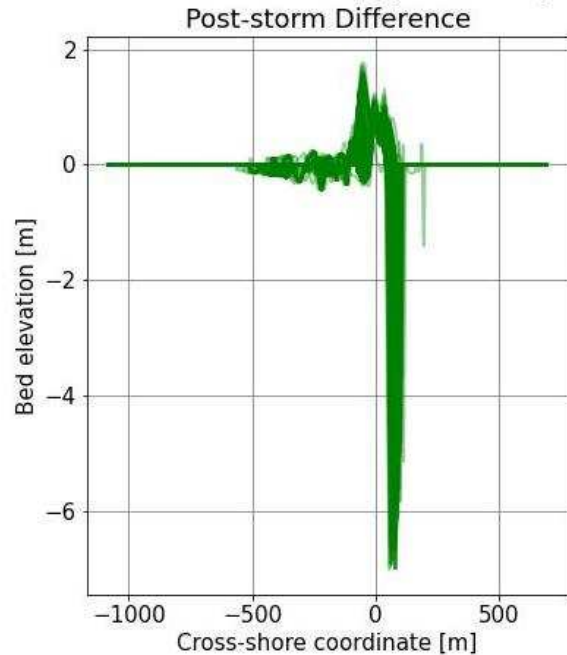
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Exploration: U-Net

Introduction

XBeach

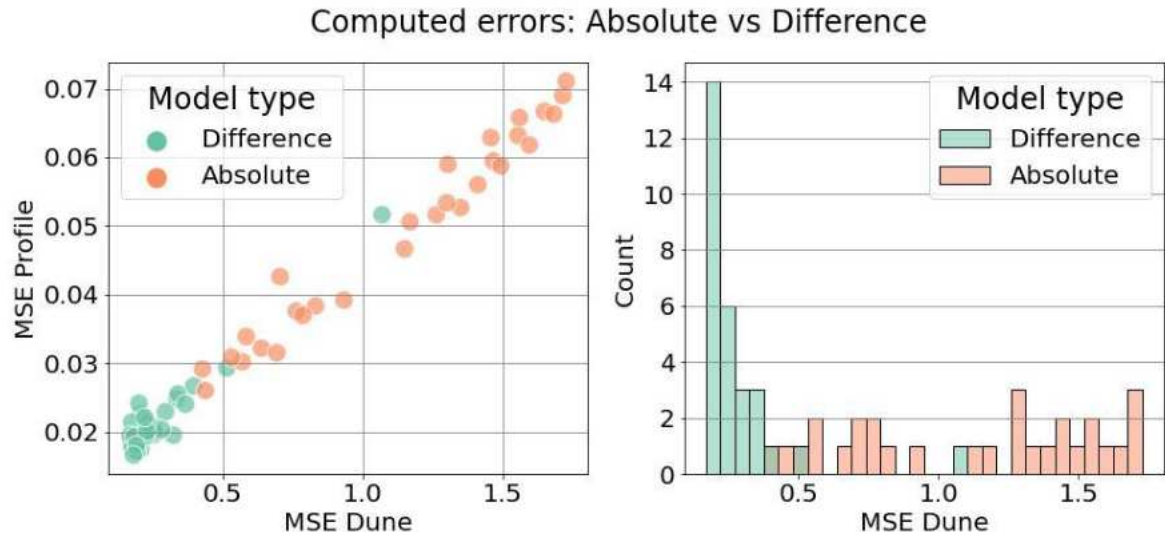
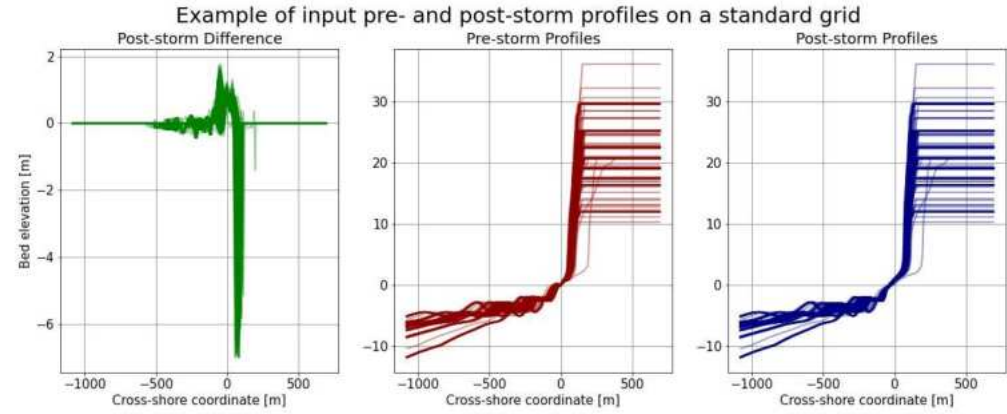
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Results

Introduction

XBeach

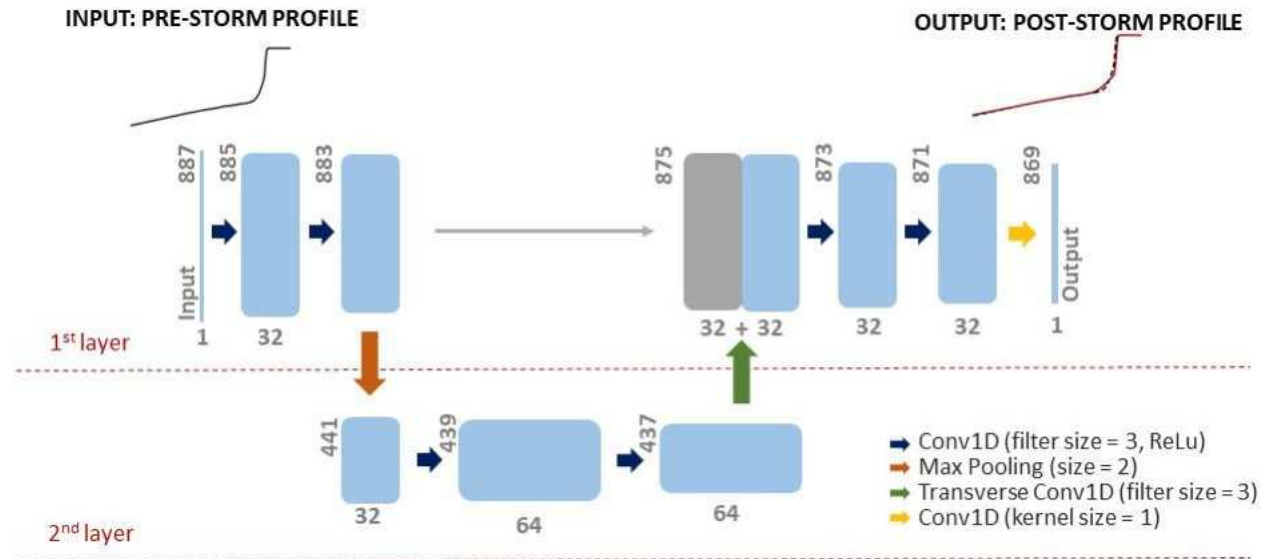
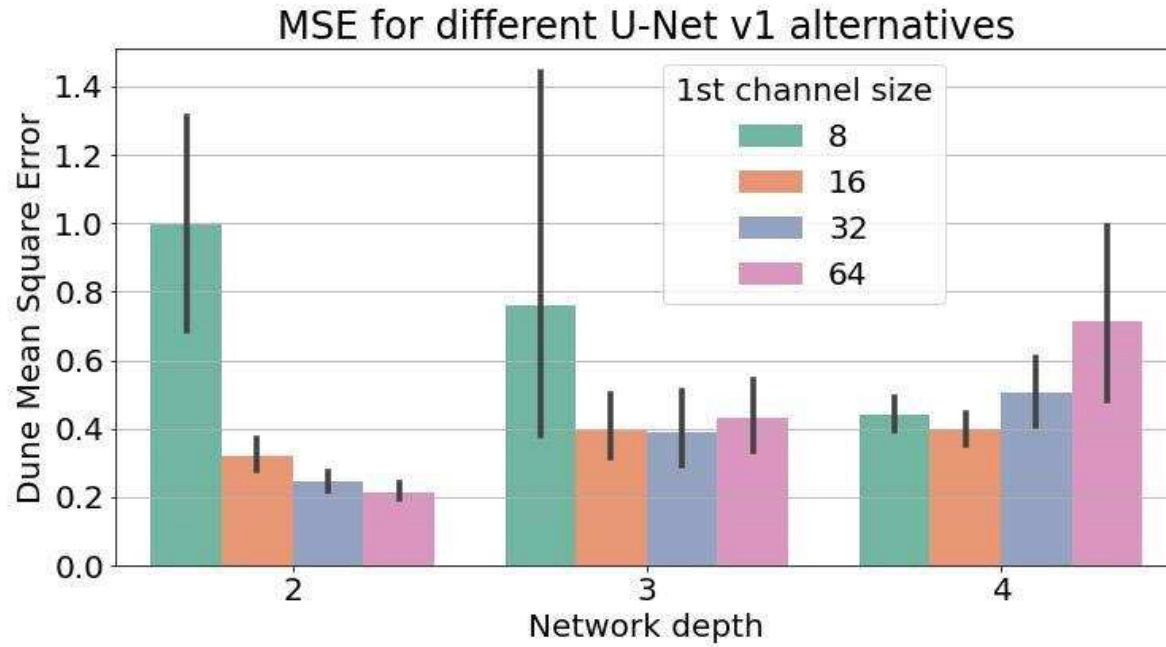
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Exploration: Results

Introduction

XBeach

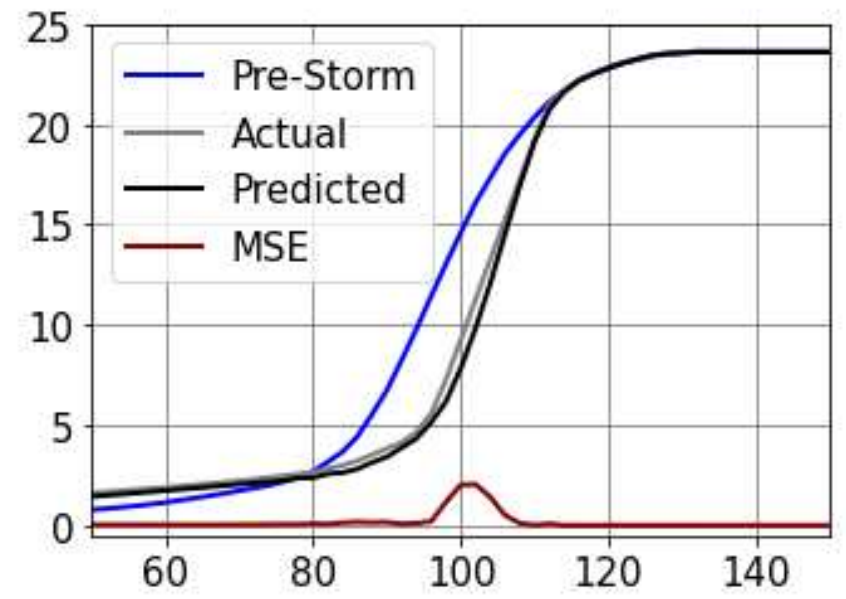
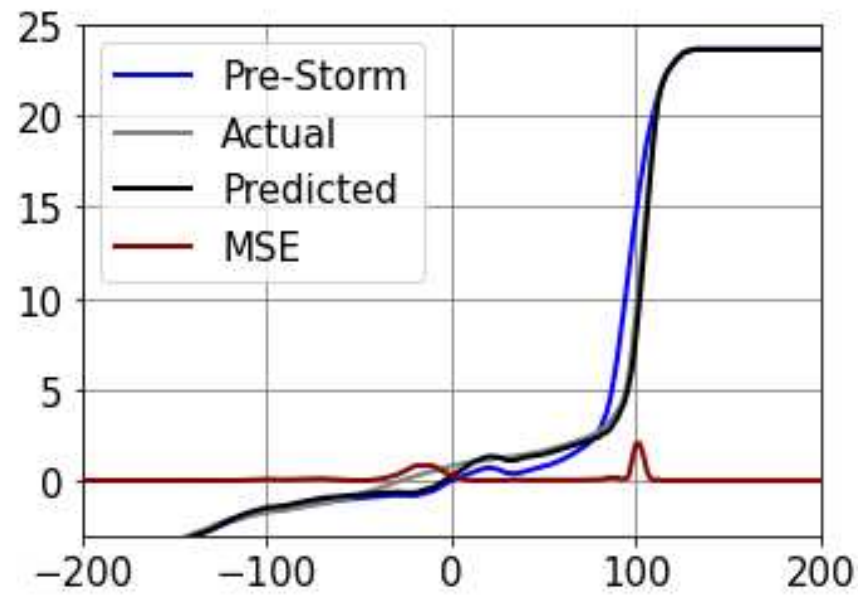
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Upscaling: Training data

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

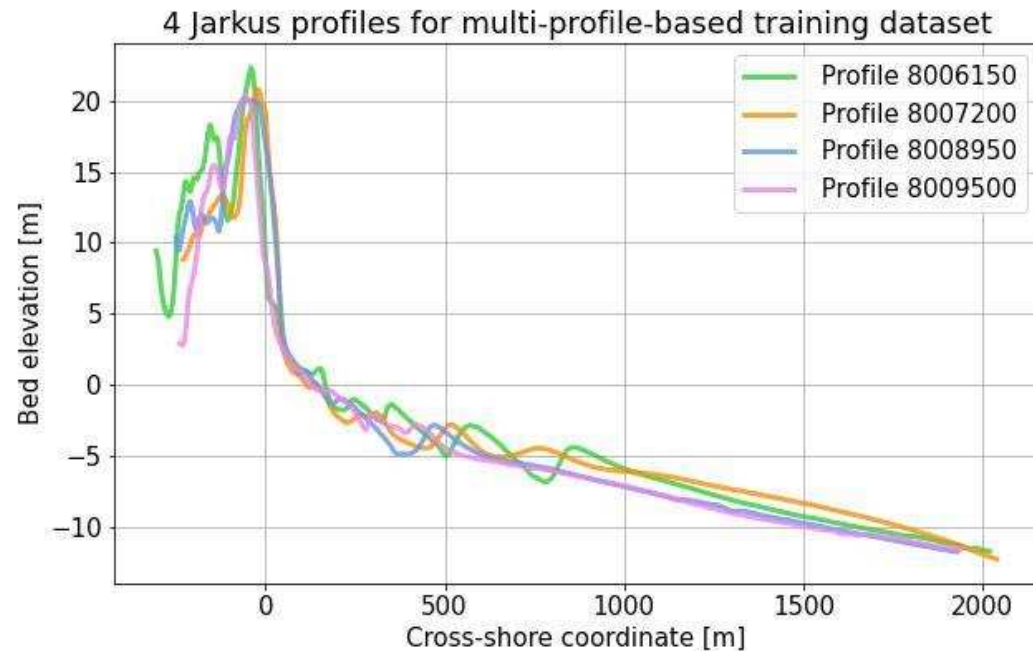
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares

Multi-profile-based dataset



Upscaling

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

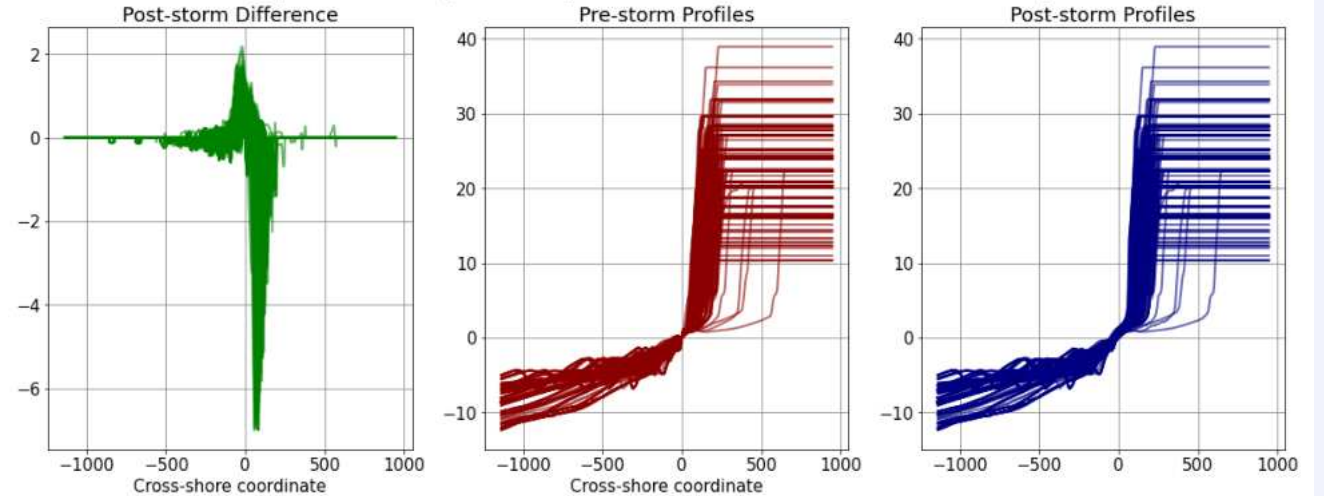
Training dataset

- Multi-profile-based
- 4 profiles base profiles
- 404 modified profiles

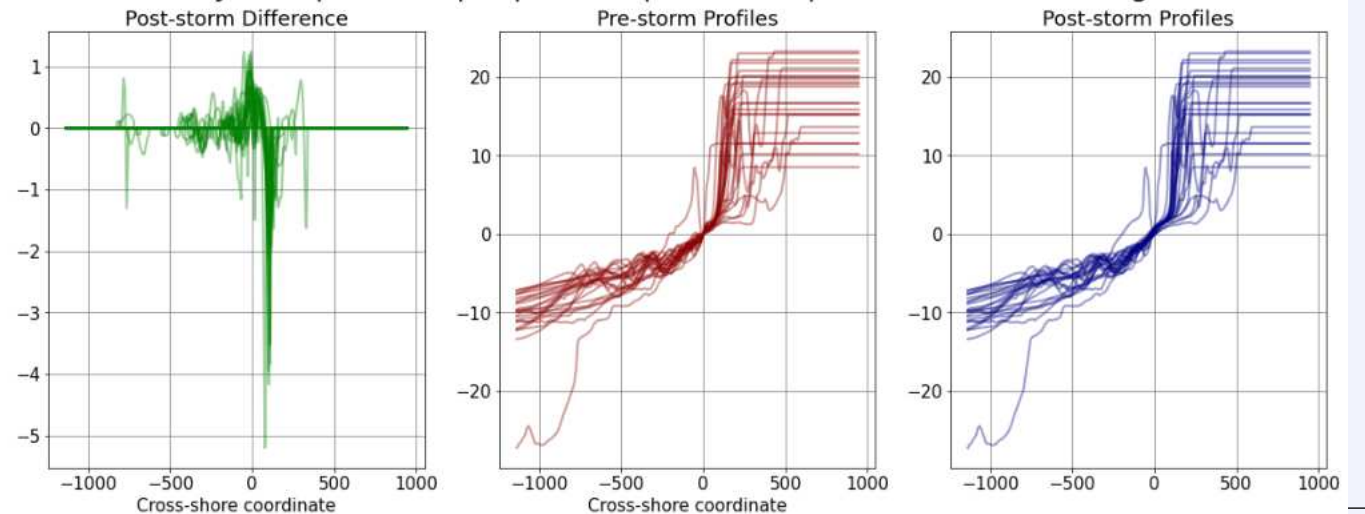
Test dataset

- Holland coast profiles
- 21 profiles

Example of inout pre- and post-storm profiles on a standard grid



Real JarKus profiles input pre- and post-storm profiles on a standard grid



Upscaling: Network depth

Introduction

XBeach

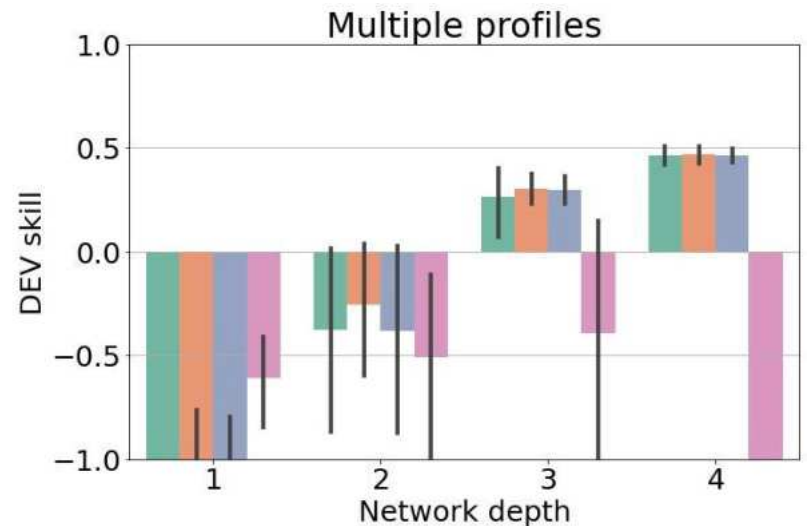
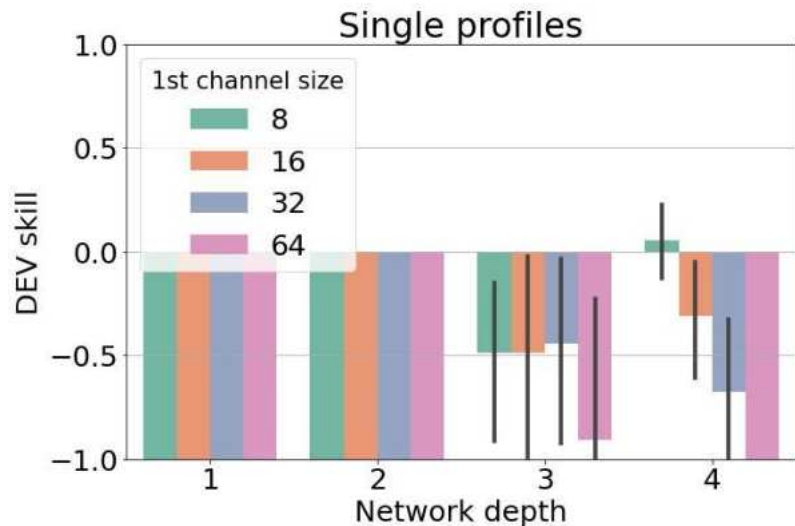
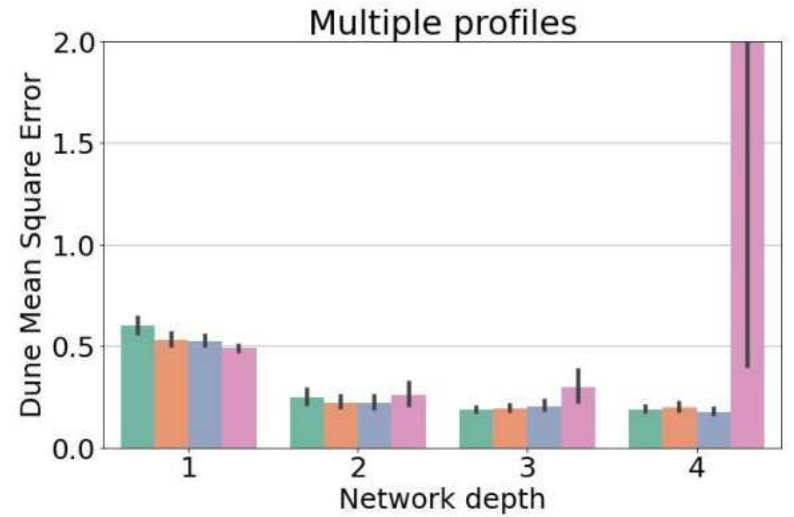
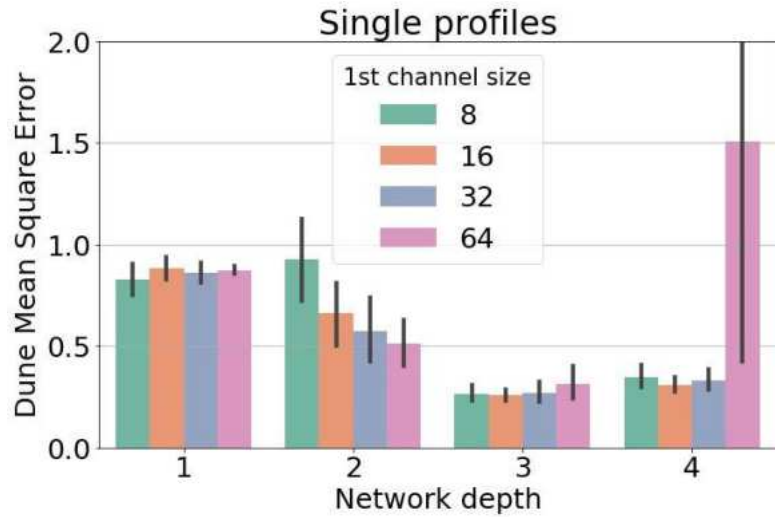
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Upscaling: Network depth

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

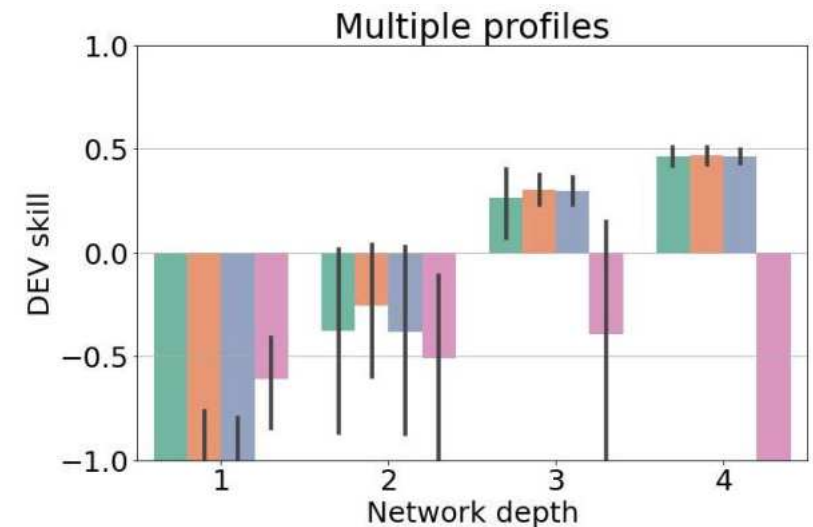
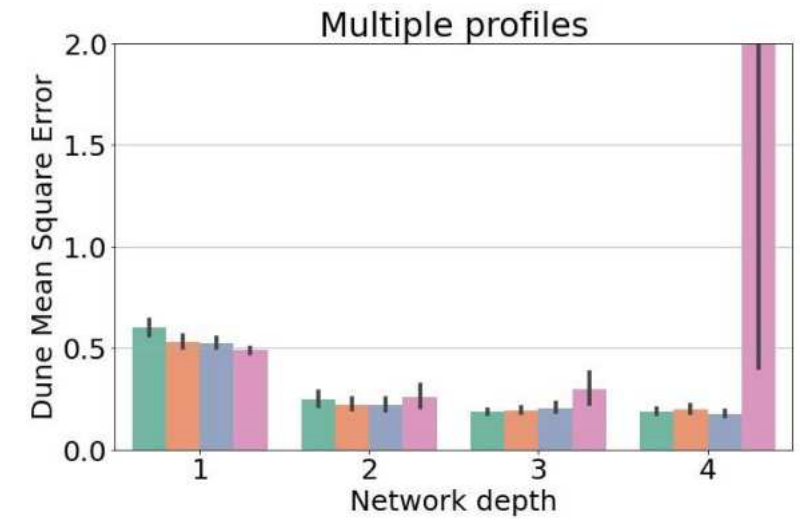
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

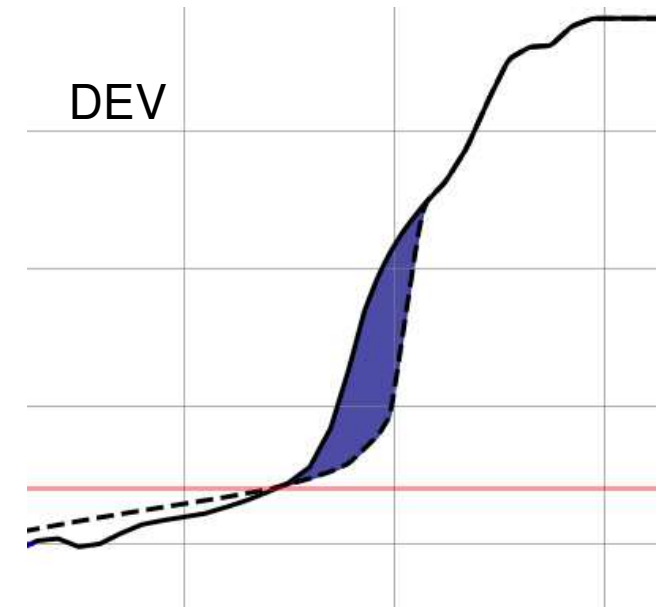
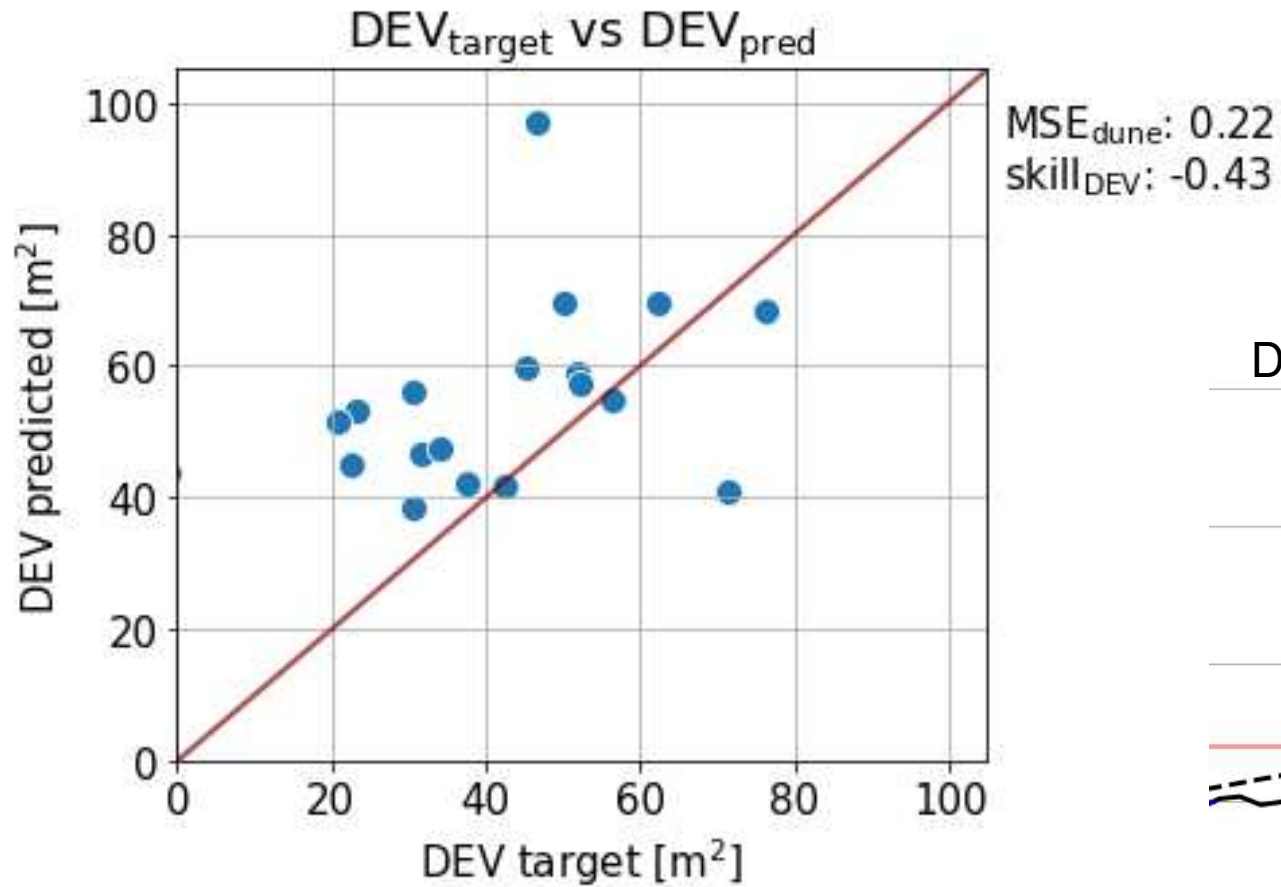
Conclusion

Deltares



Upscaling: DEV

Network depth = 2



Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Upscaling: DEV

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

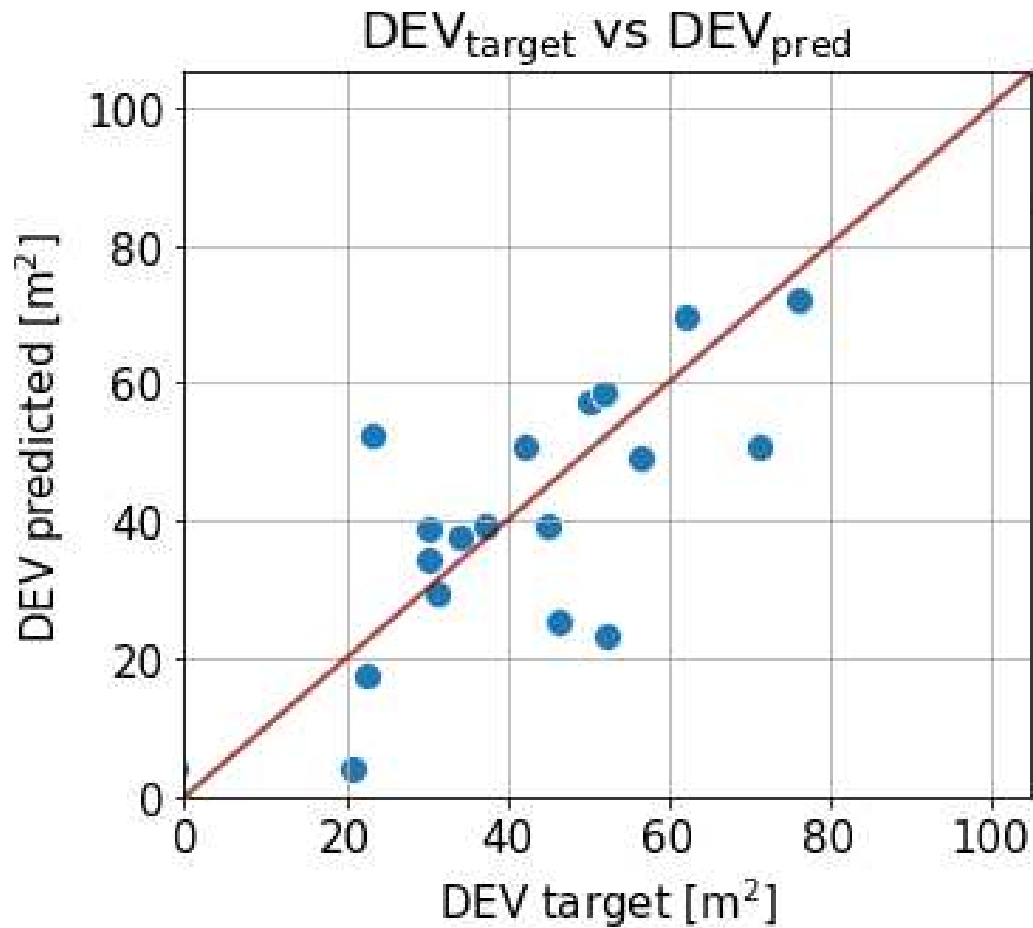
Exploration

Upscaling

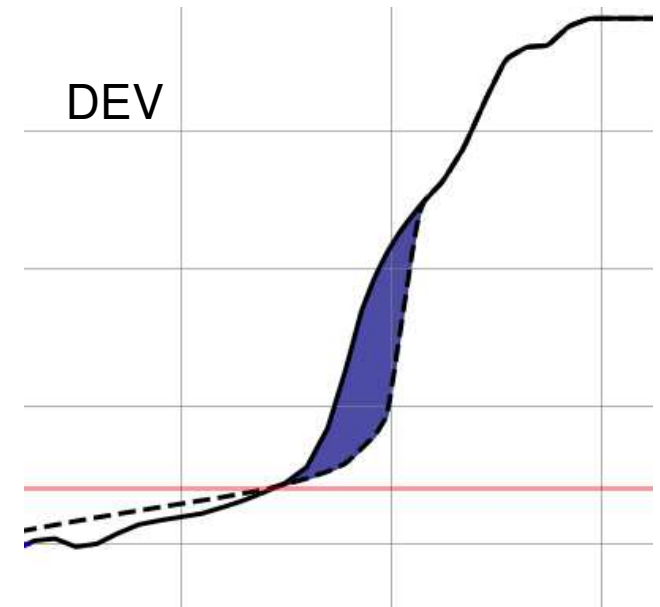
Discussion

Conclusion

Network depth = 4



MSE_{dune}: 0.16
skill_{DEV}: 0.51



Upscaling: Network structure

kernel size →

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

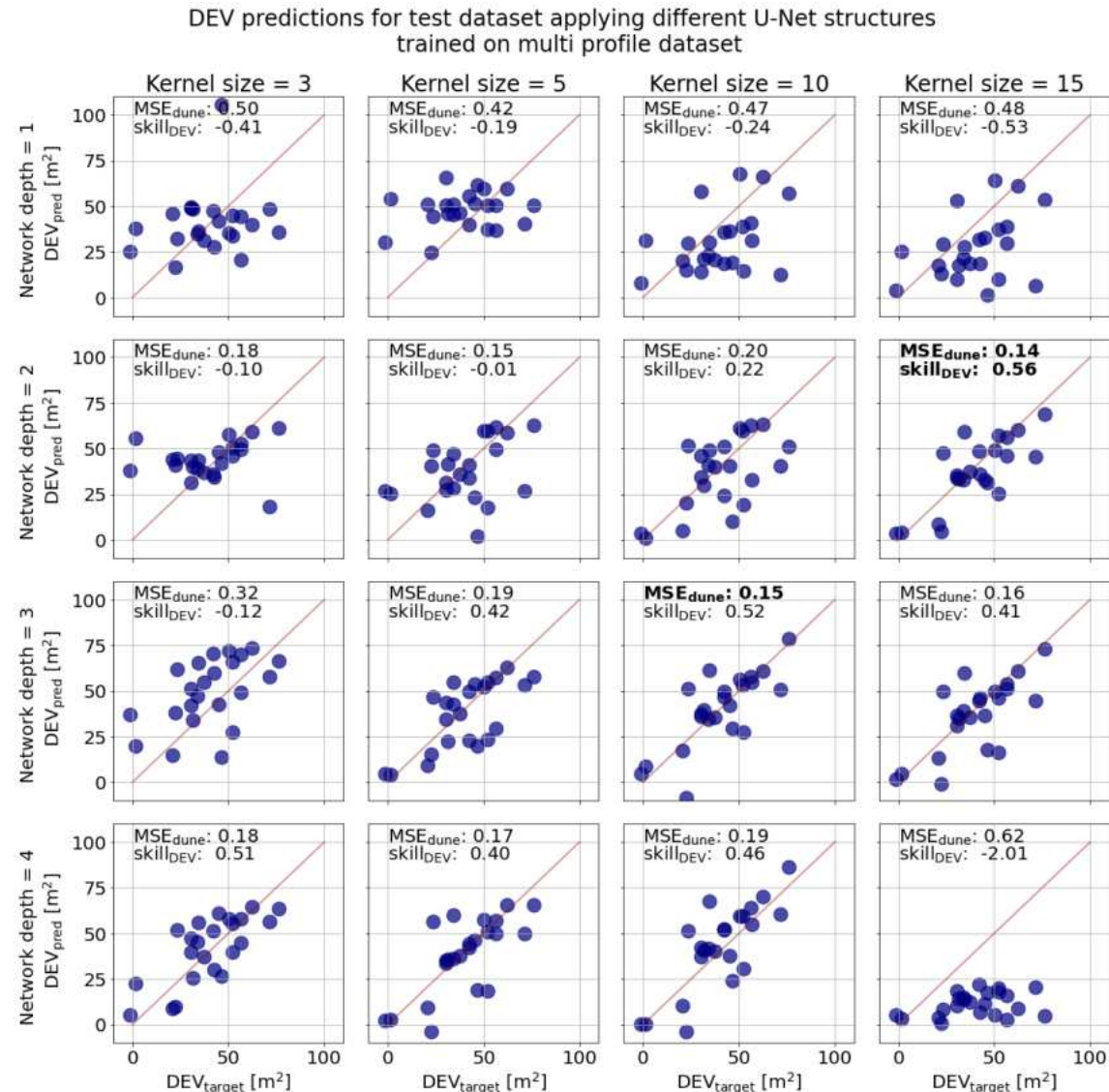
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares

network depth ↓



Upscaling: Network structure

kernel size →

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

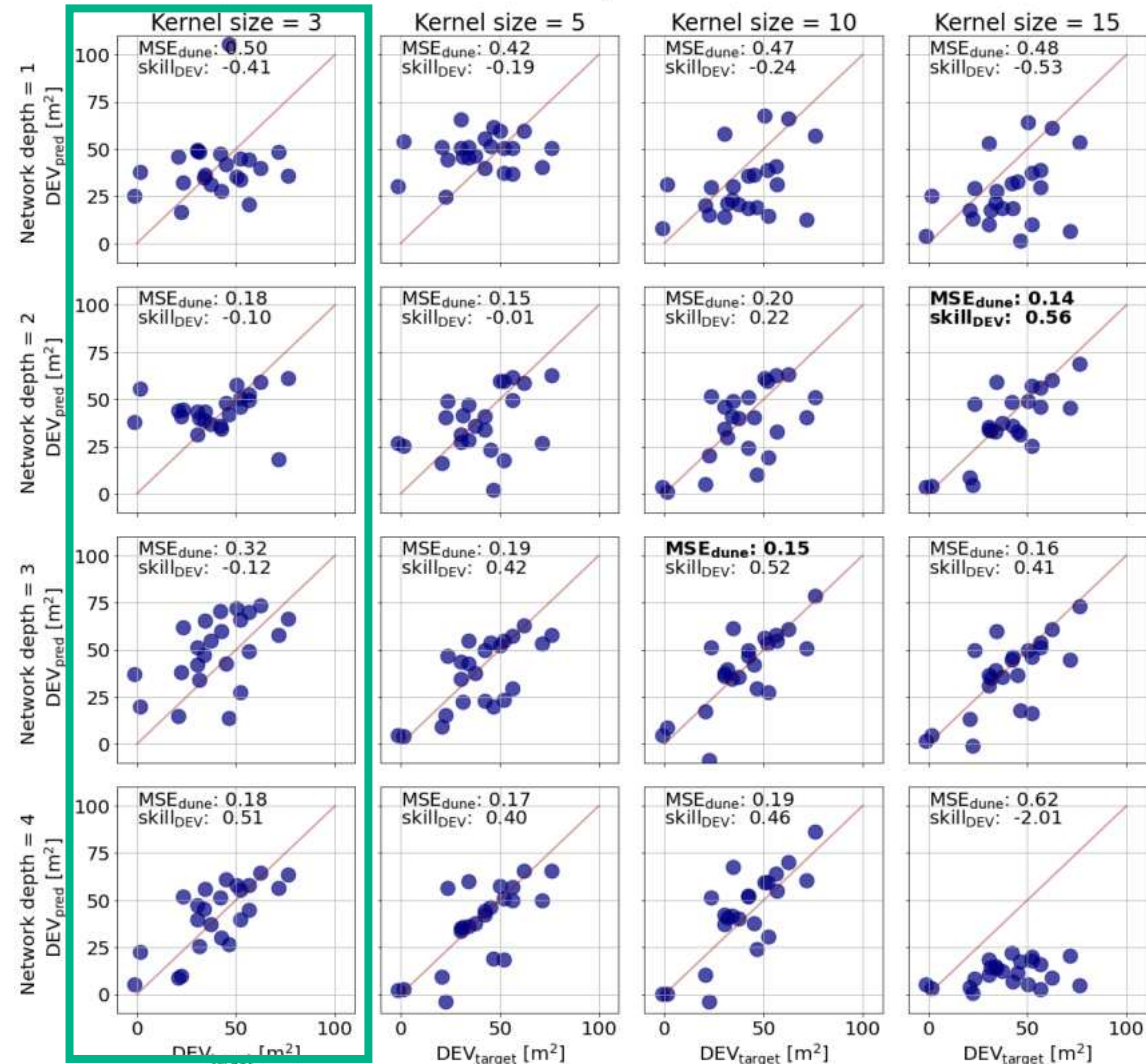
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

network depth ↓

DEV predictions for test dataset applying different U-Net structures trained on multi profile dataset



Upscaling: Detailed results

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

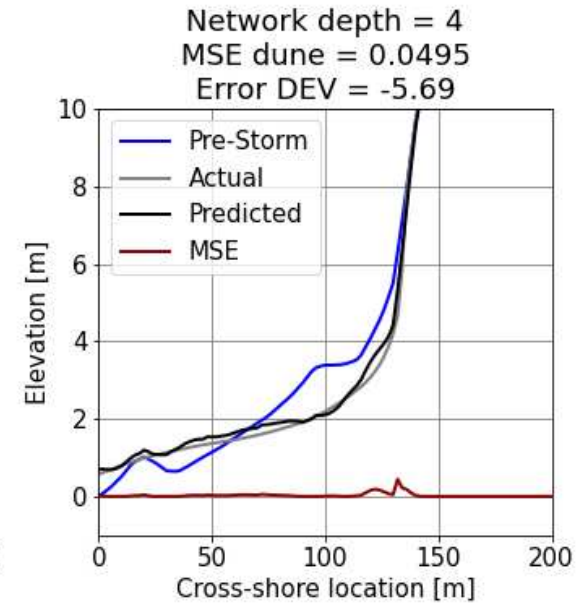
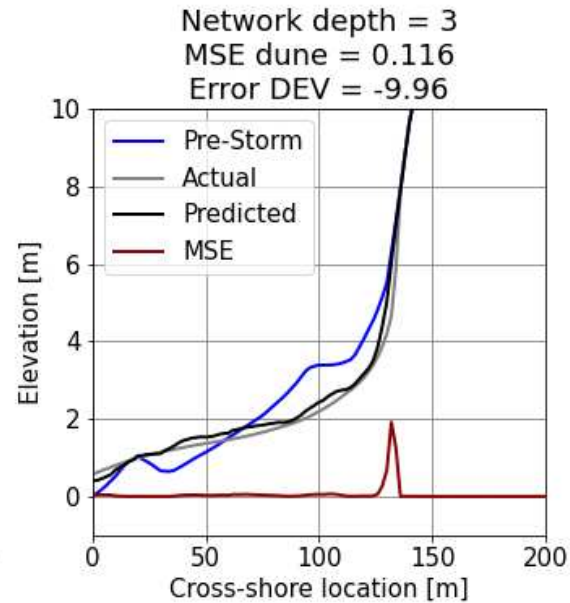
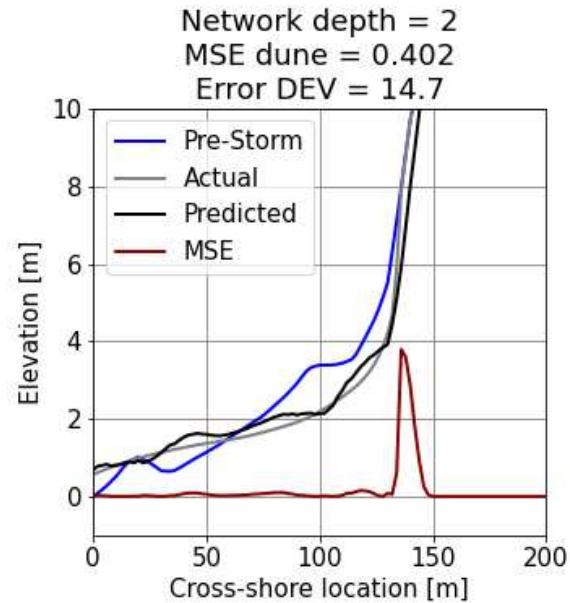
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Profile for for different network depths, kernel size = 3



Upscaling: Network structure

kernel size →

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

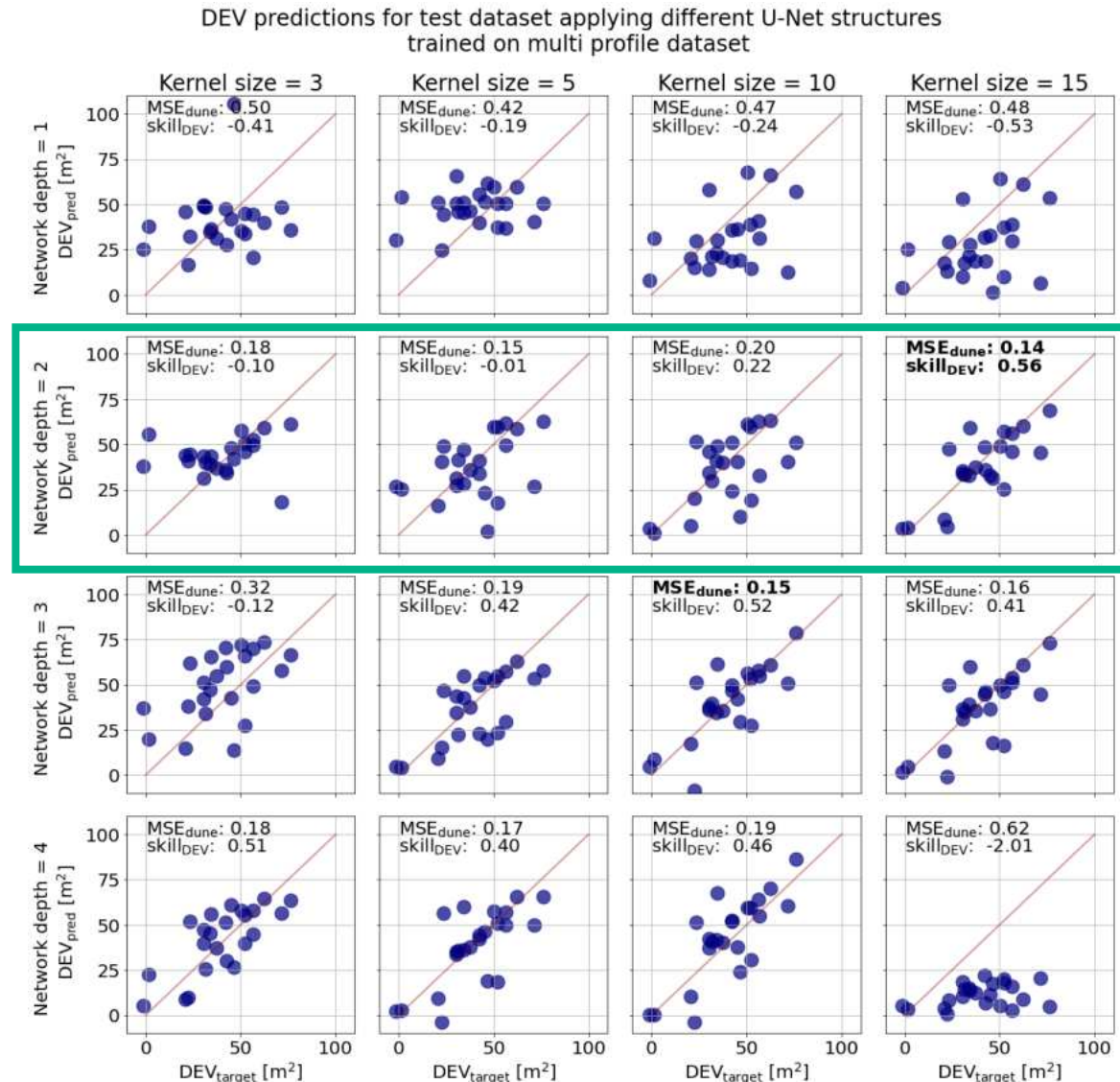
Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares

network depth ↓



Upscaling: Detailed results

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

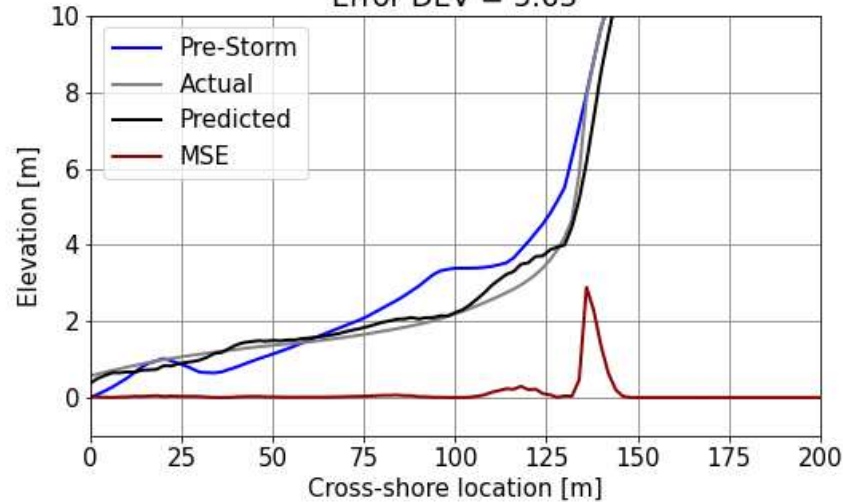
Discussion

Conclusion

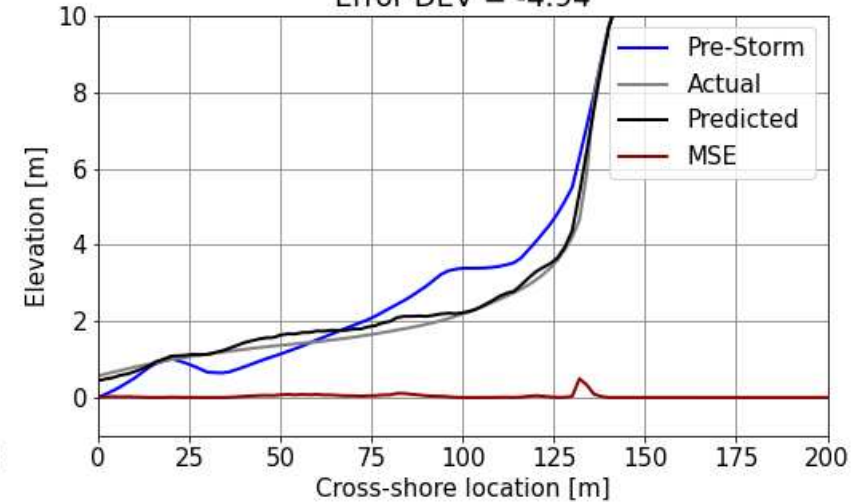
Deltares

Profile for for different kernel sizes, network depth = 2, channel size = 64

Kernel size = 3
MSE dune = 0.261
Error DEV = 5.63



Kernel size = 10
MSE dune = 0.0299
Error DEV = -4.94



Upscaling: Detailed results

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

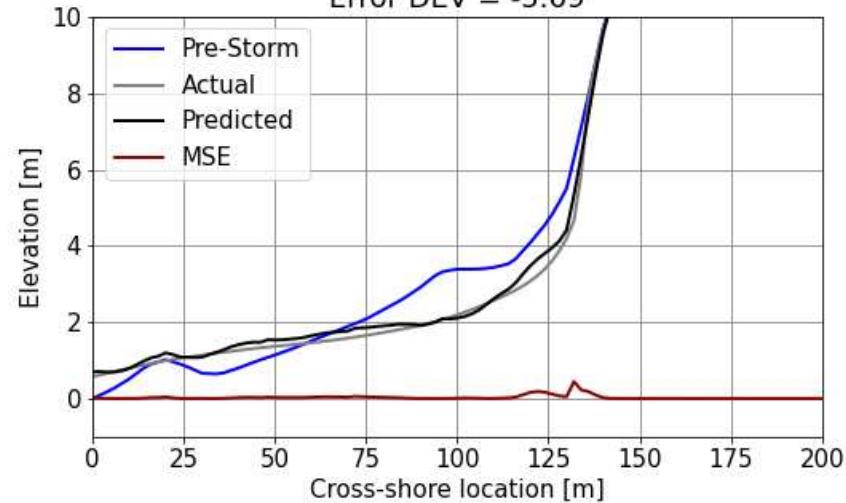
Discussion

Conclusion

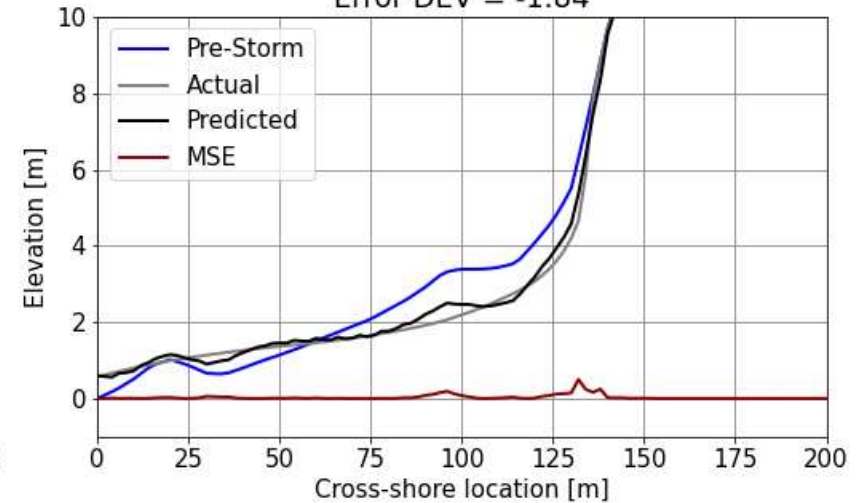
Deltares

Profile for for different kernel sizes, network depth = 4, channel size = 32

Kernel size = 3
MSE dune = 0.0495
Error DEV = -5.69



Kernel size = 10
MSE dune = 0.0491
Error DEV = -1.84



Upscaling: Mimic dune erosion

Introduction

XBeach

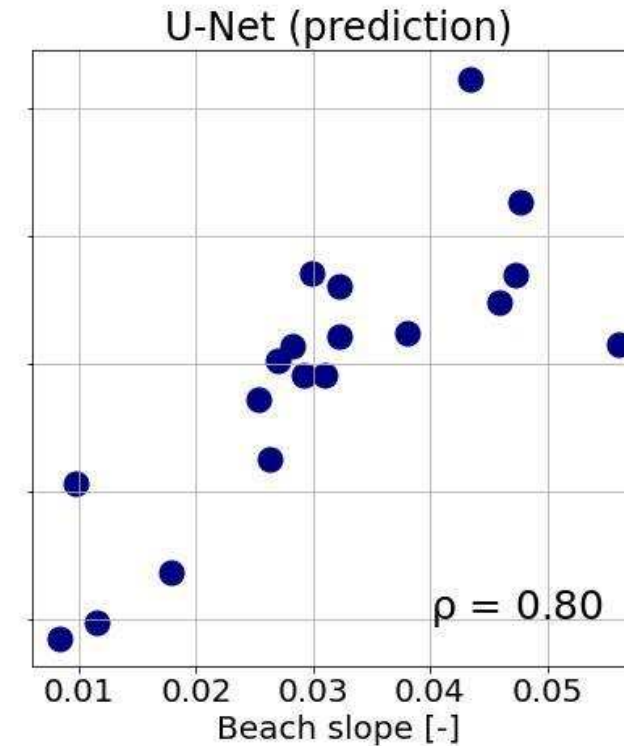
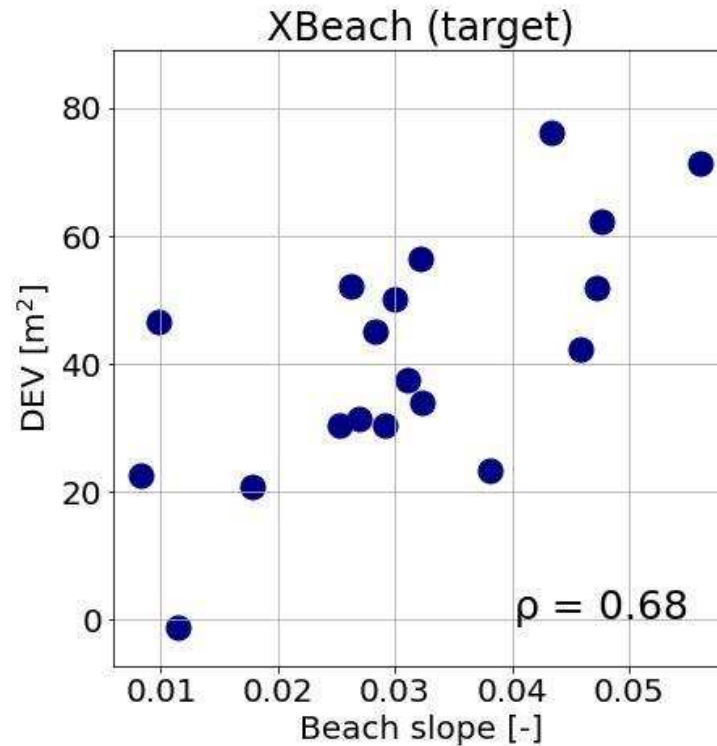
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Discussion: U-Net complexity

Introduction

XBeach

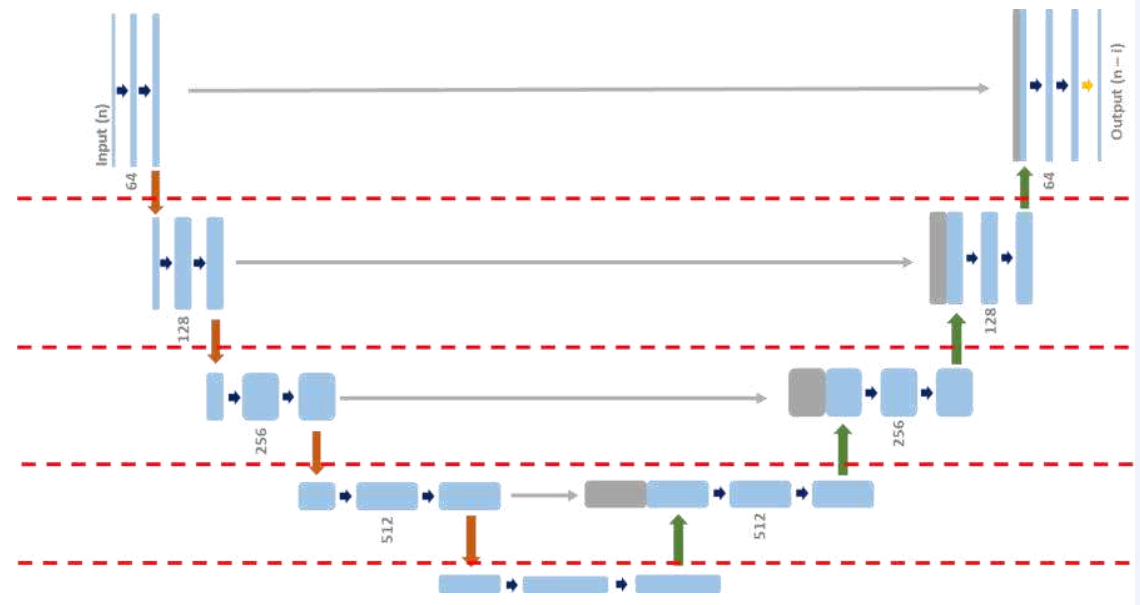
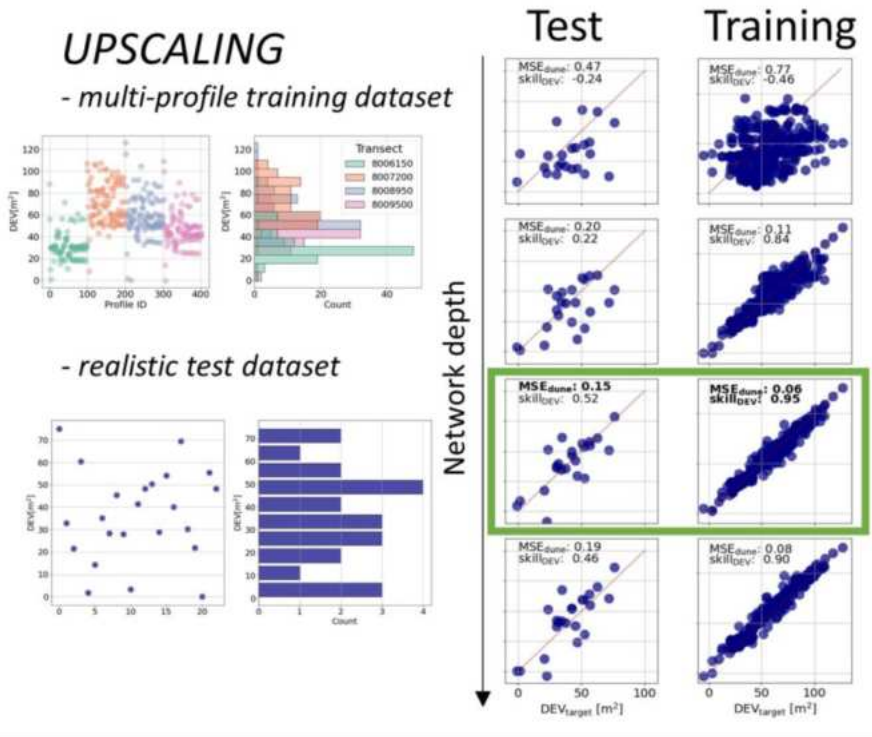
U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion



Discussion: Performance metric

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

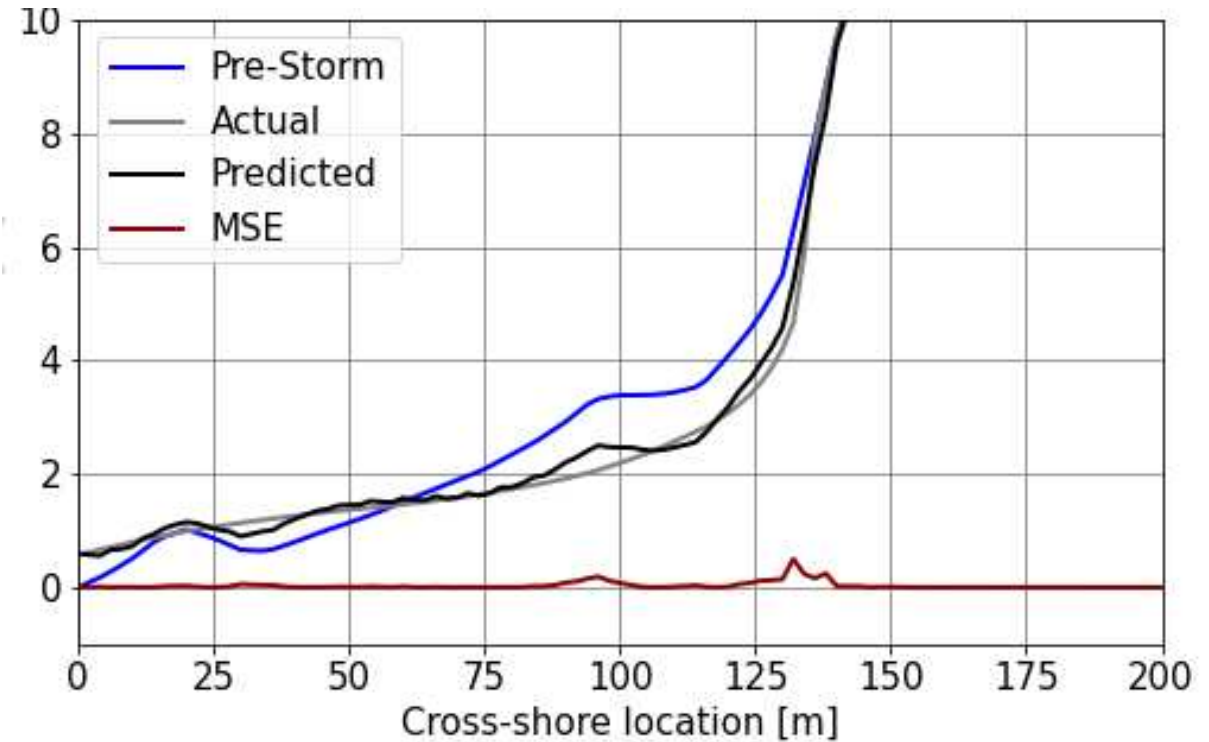
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

- RMSTE
- Skill
 - Dune toe location
 - Fore dune slope
 - Dune crest height
 - Beach retreat



Discussion: Foredune shape

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

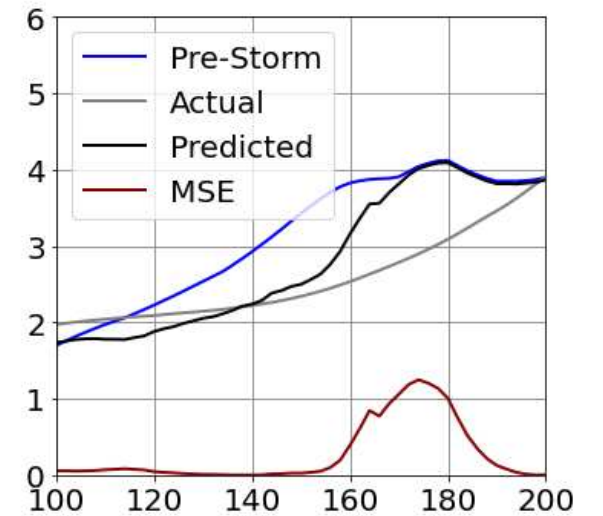
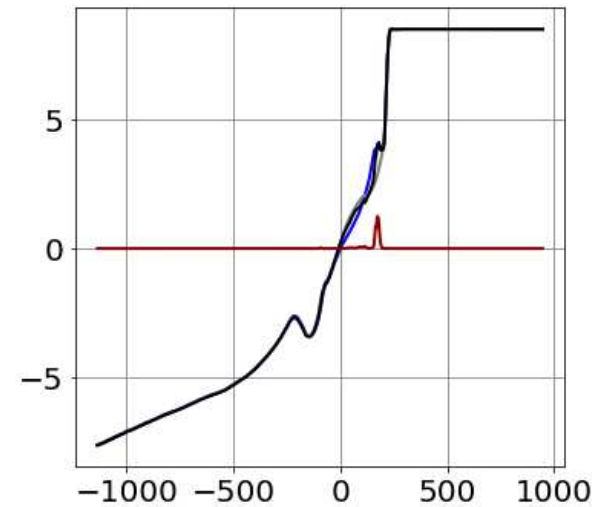
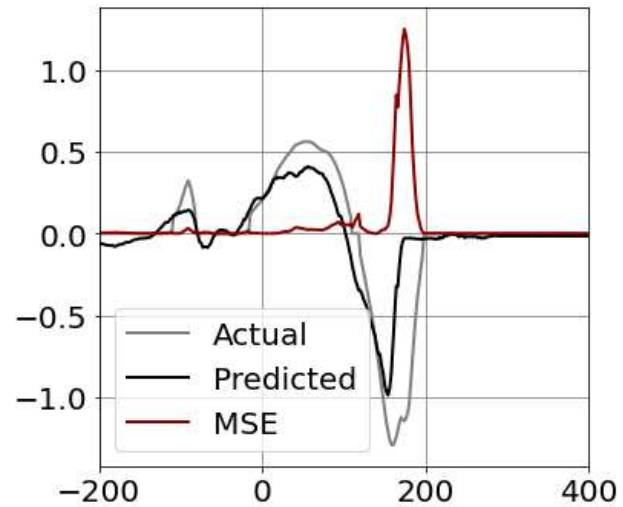
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Index in subset = 18, group = None
MSE profile = 0.0148 for U-Net diff
MSE dune = 0.323 for U-Net diff
Error DEV = -29.1 (52, 23)



Conclusion

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Can neural networks be used for predicting post-storm profiles of **actual** Holland coast profile shapes?

- Using U-Net and simplified conditions, post-storm profiles shapes can be predicted
- Can be applied to extract DEVs, which can be predicted with a skill of 0.51

Recommendations: Training data

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

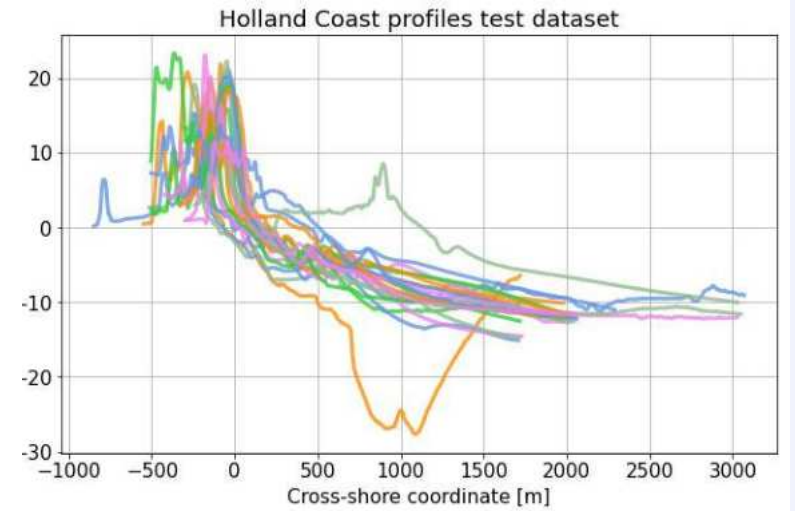
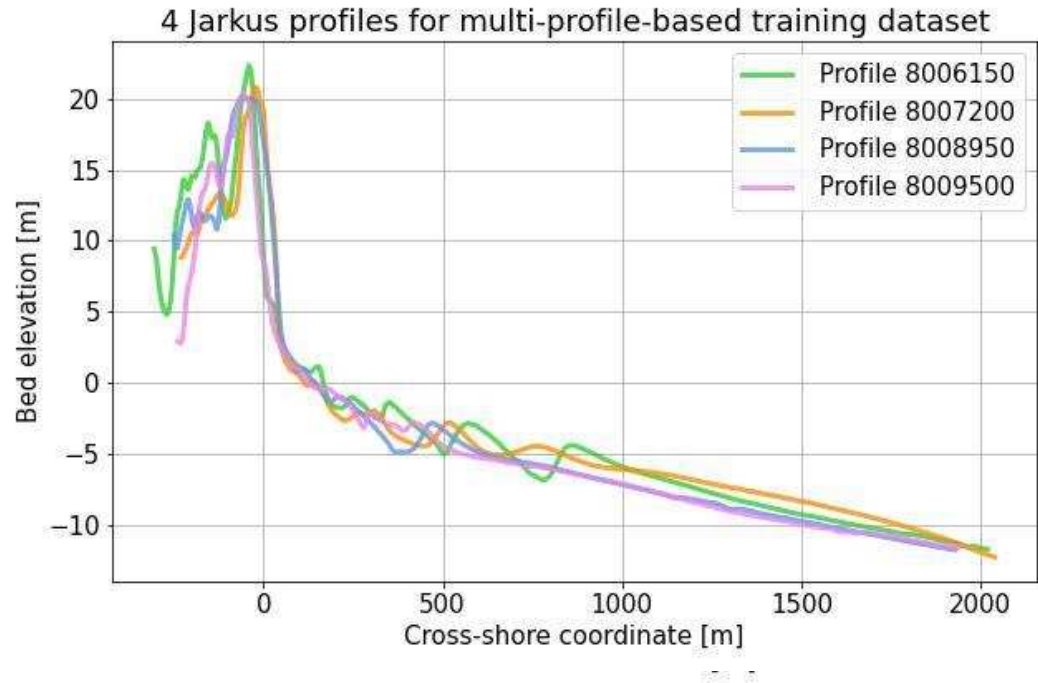
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Multi-profile-based dataset



Recommendations: Storm input

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

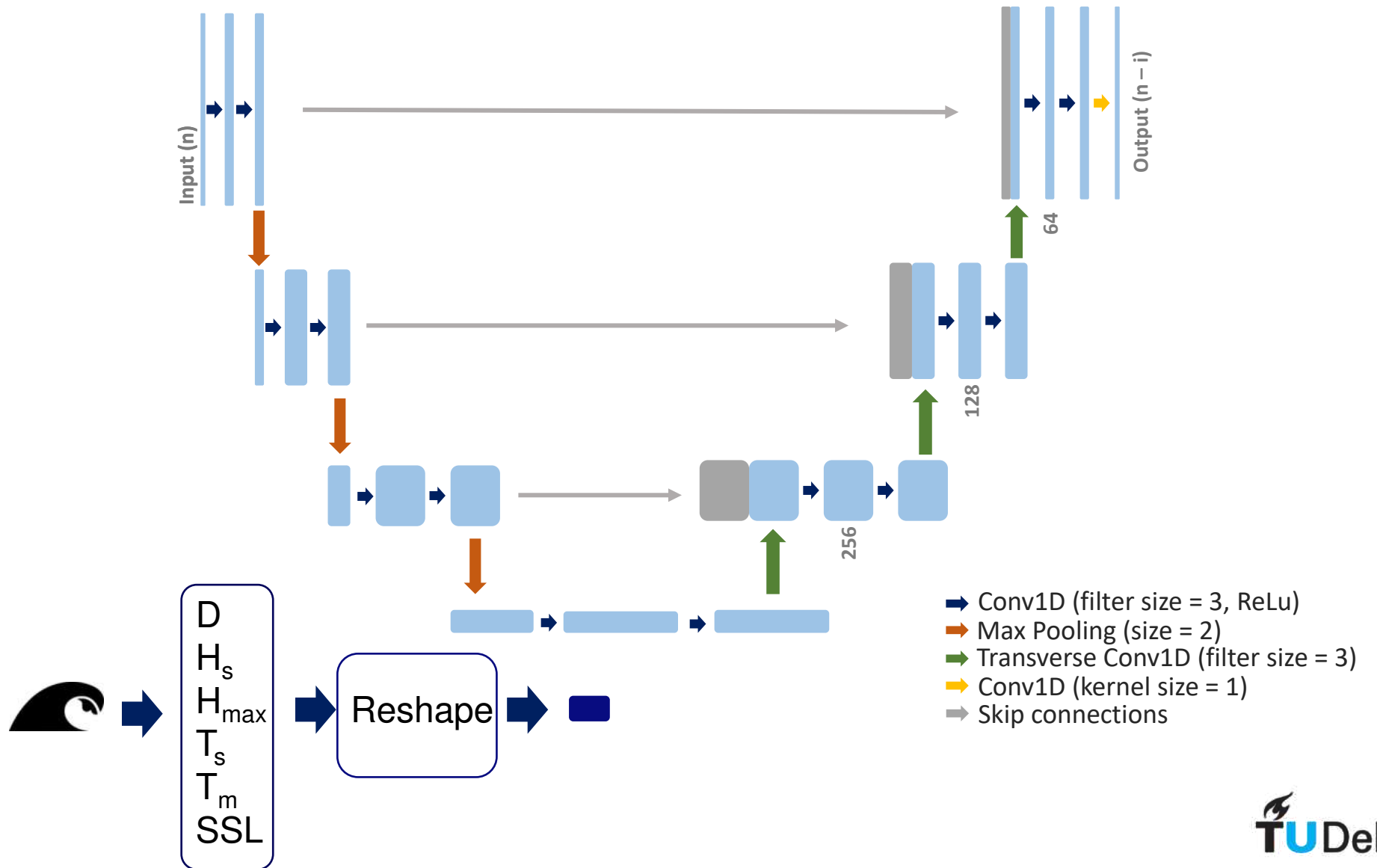
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares



Recommendations: Storm input

Introduction

XBeach

U-Net

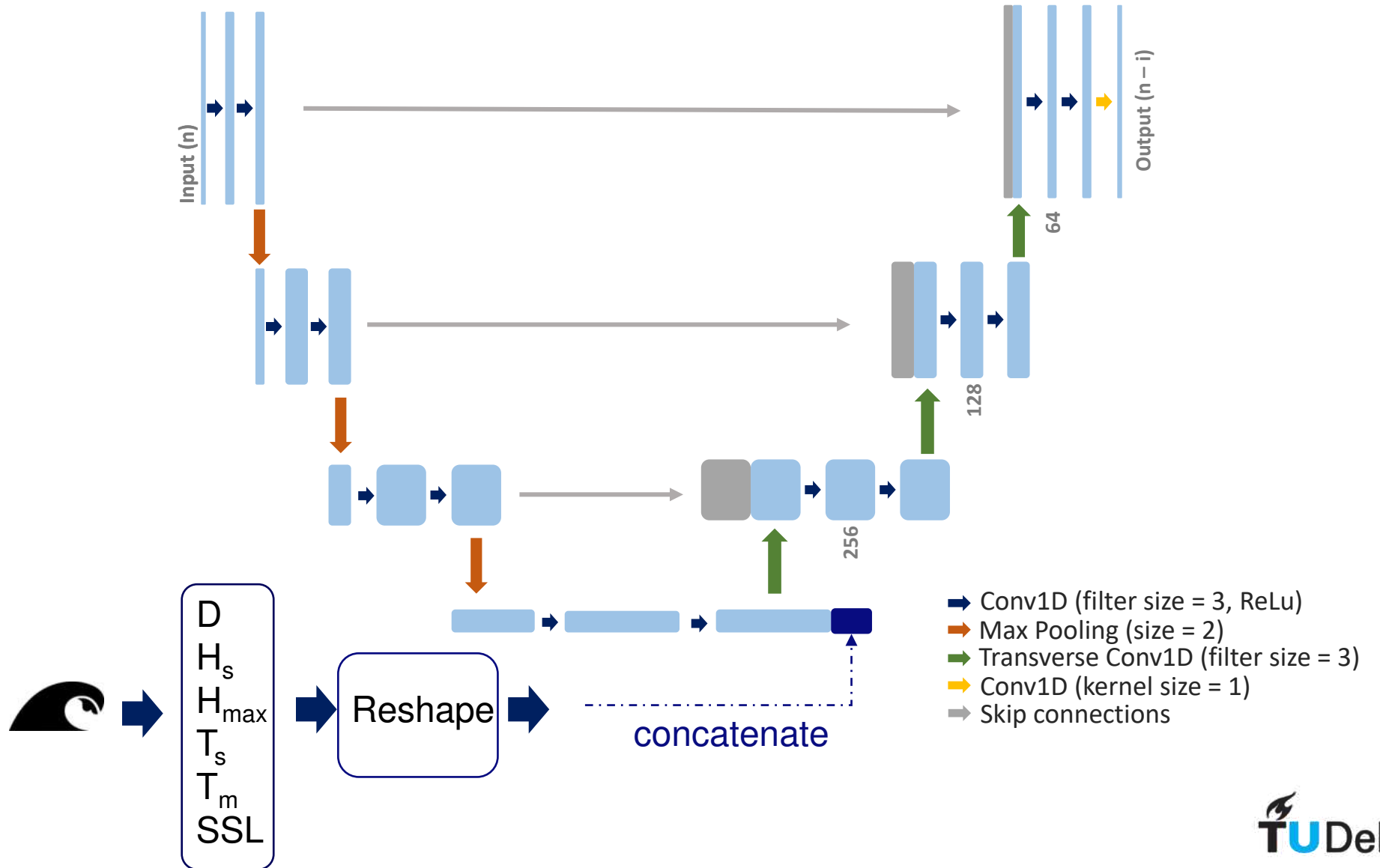
Exploration

Upscaling

Discussion

Conclusion

Deltares



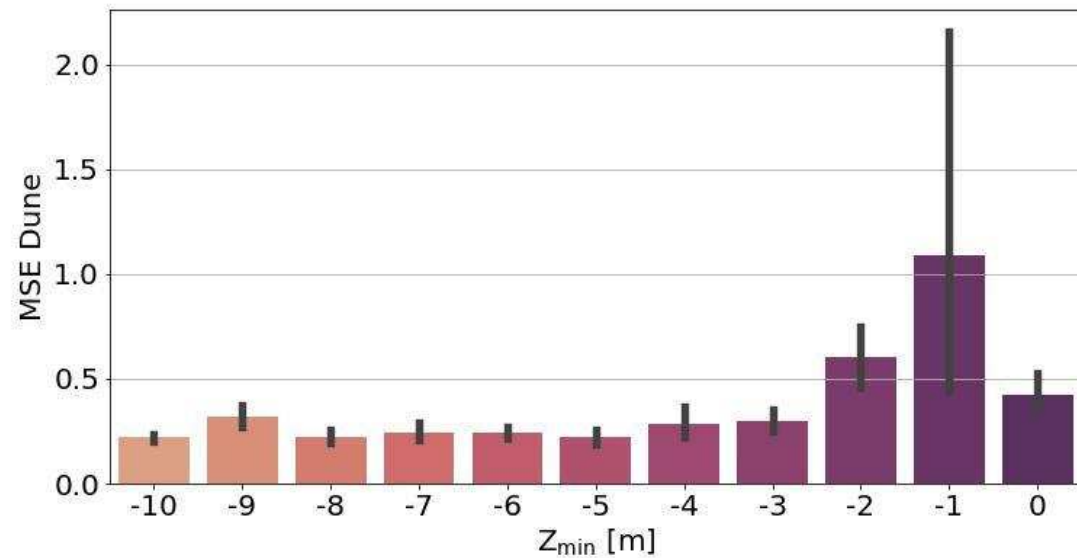
Thank you!



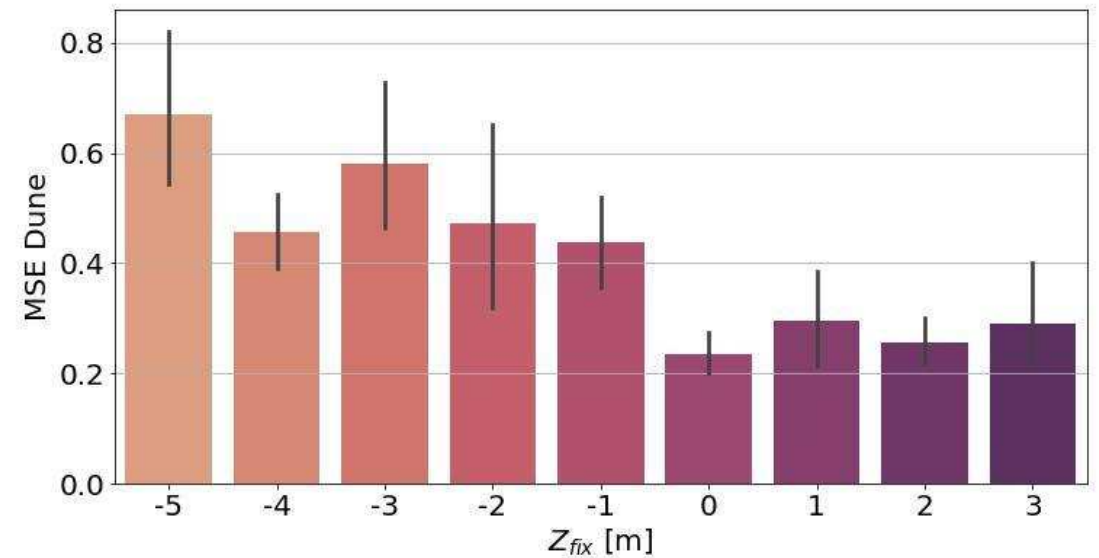
Results

Exploration: Pre-Processing

Miminal elevation vs MSE Dune

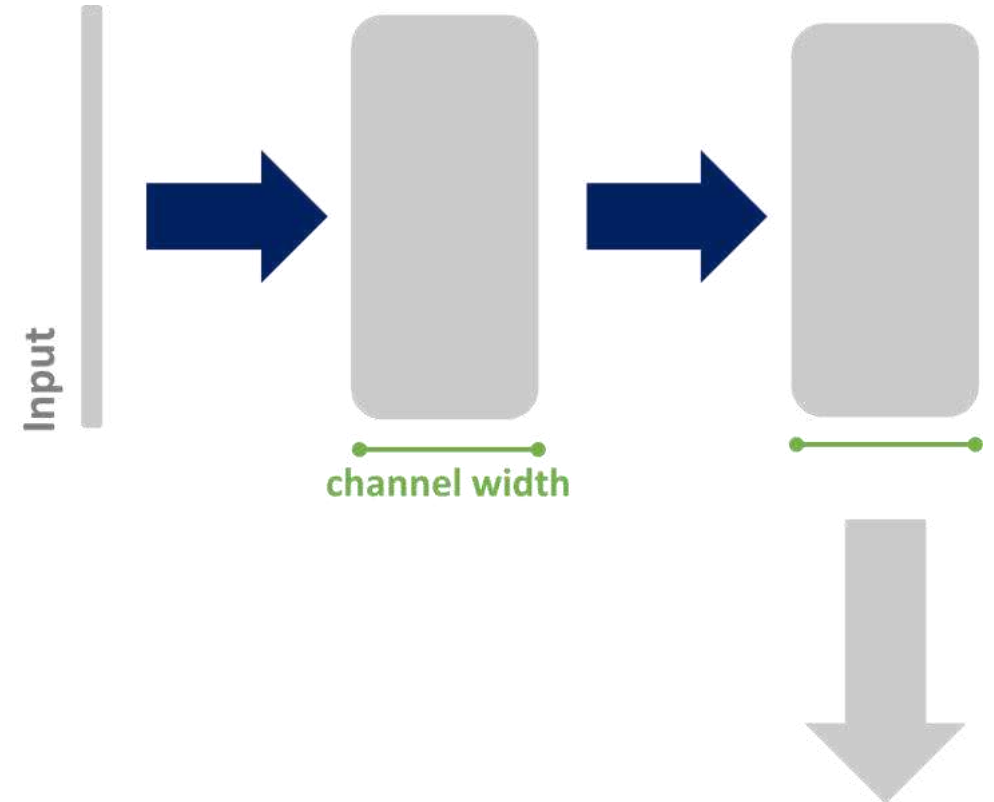
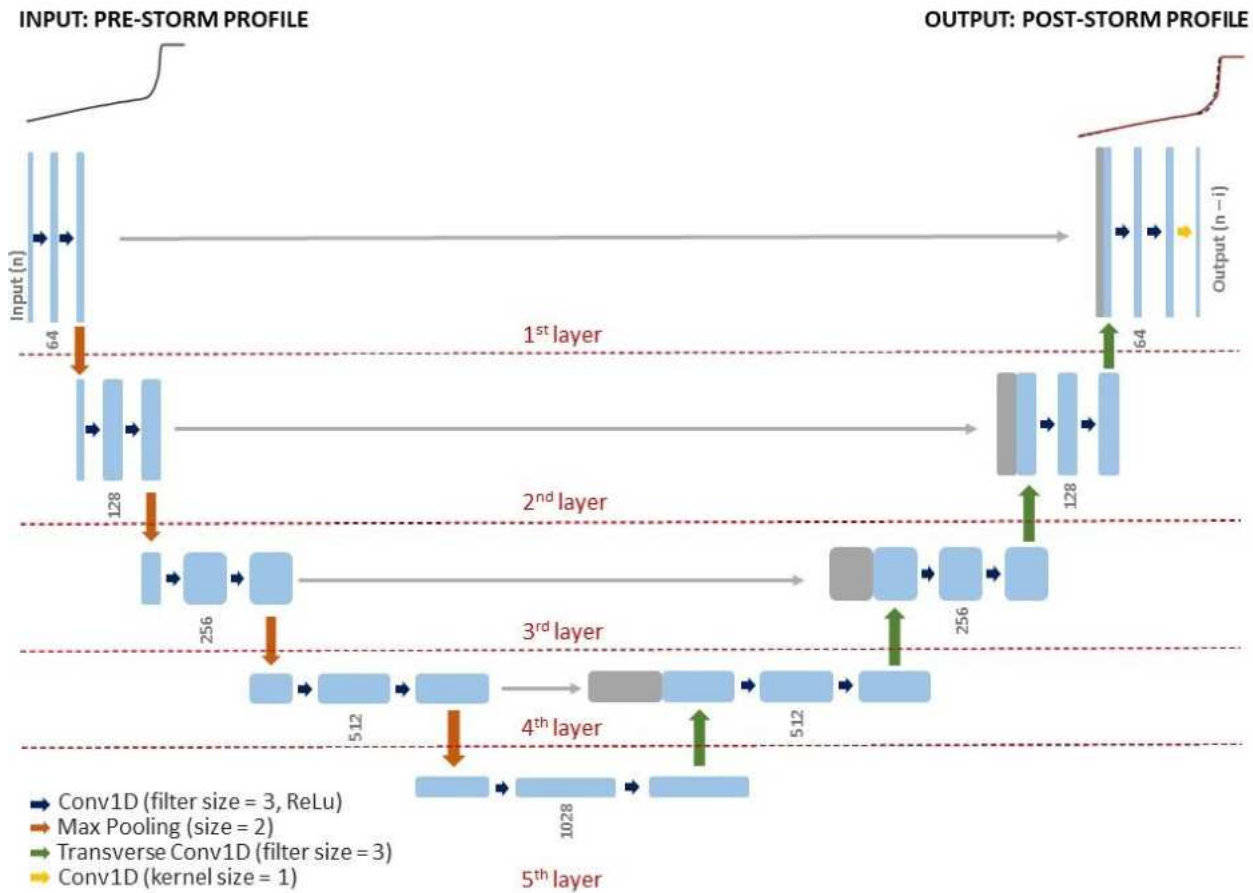


Fixed elevation vs MSE Dune



Methods

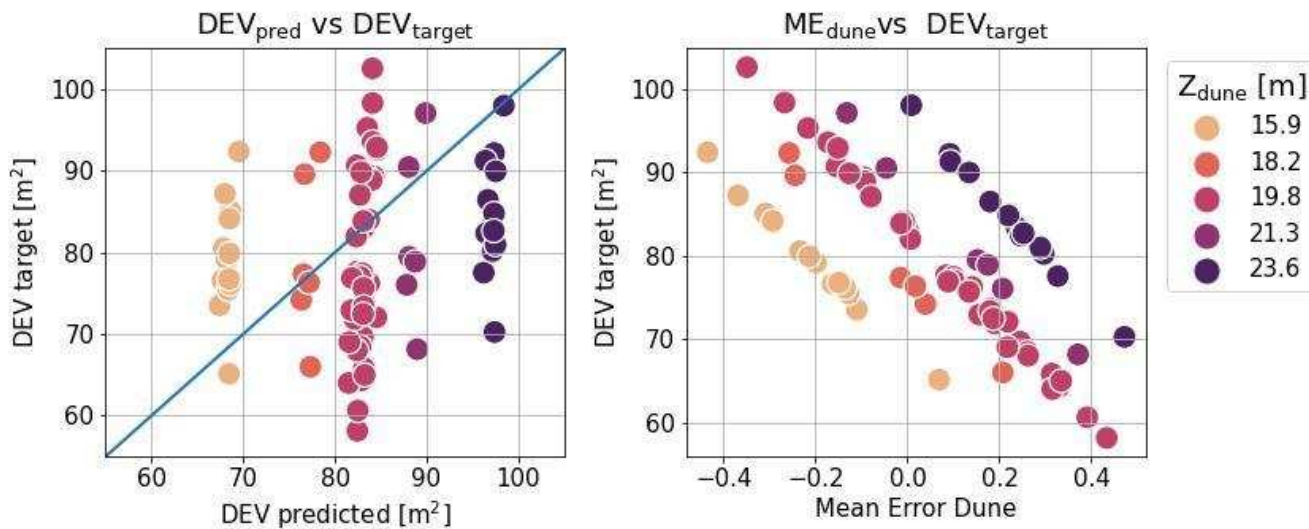
Exploration: Network structure



Results

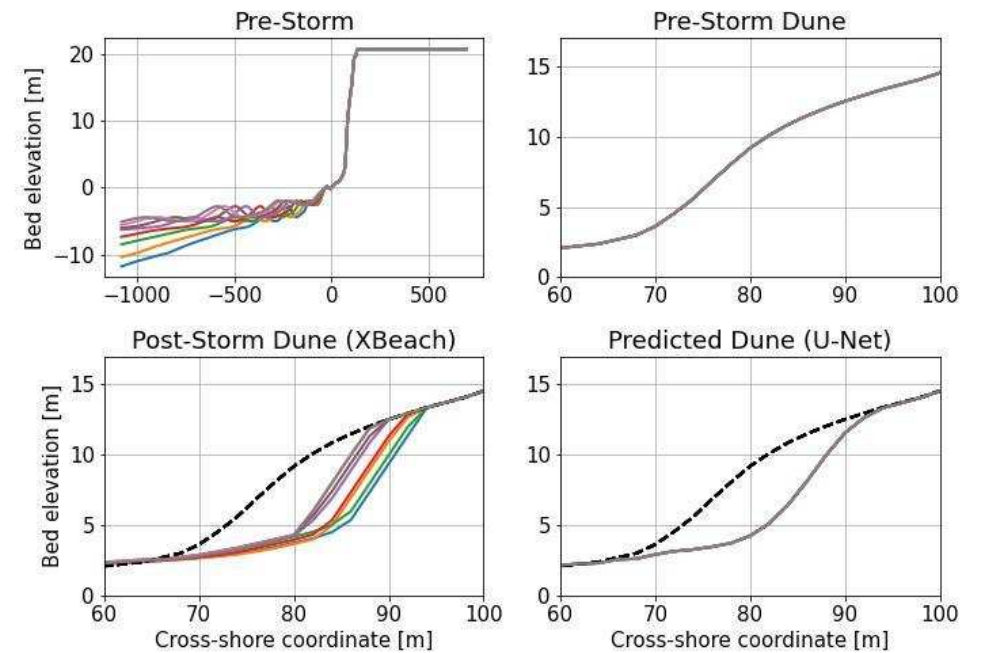
Exploration: Network structure

Test data



*Relies on unsensitive parameter
(dune height)*

Training data

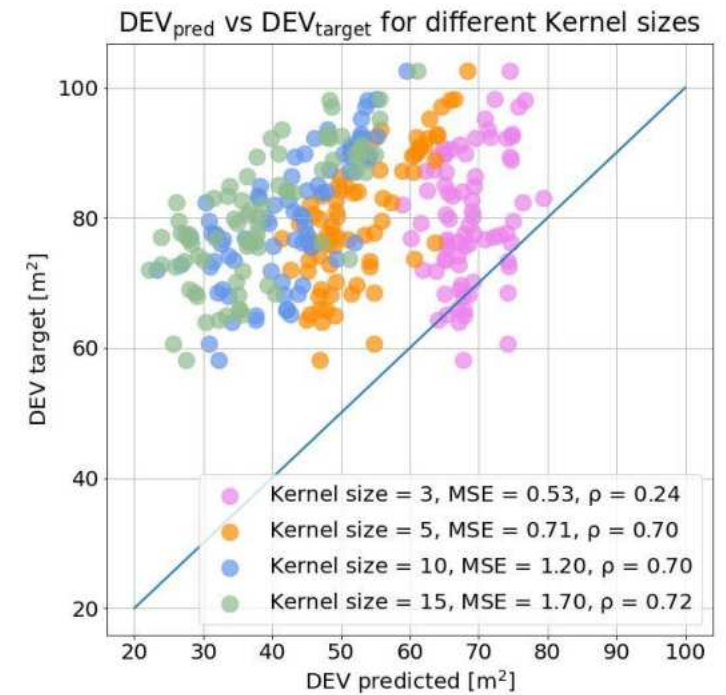
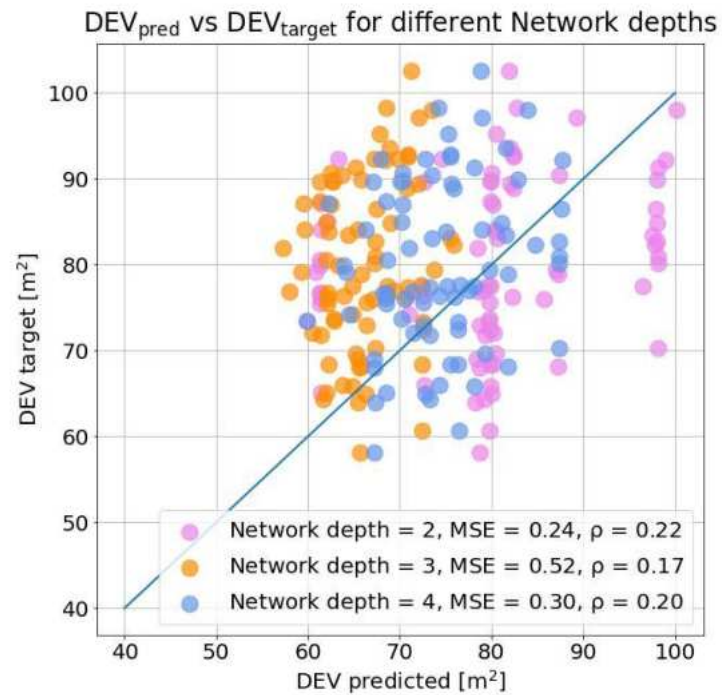


*Does not rely on sensitive parameter
(nearshore slope)*

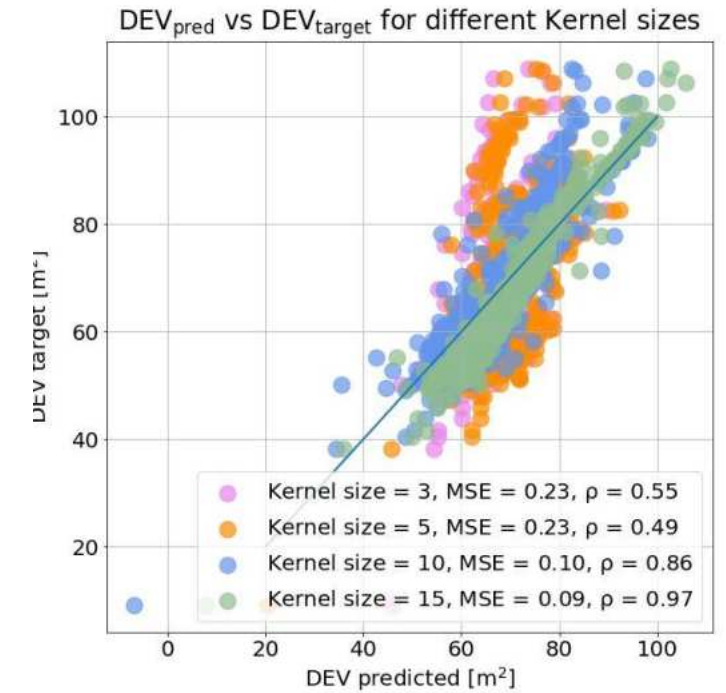
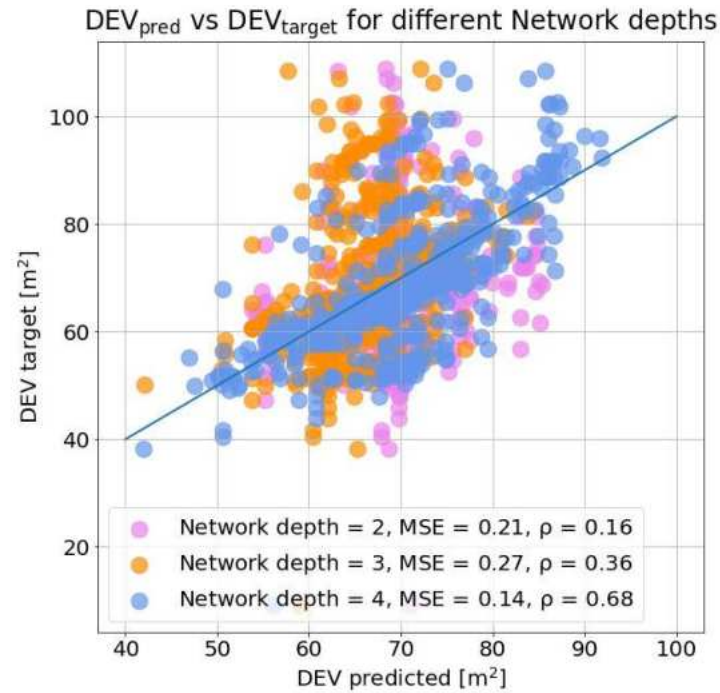
Results

Exploration: Network structure

Test data



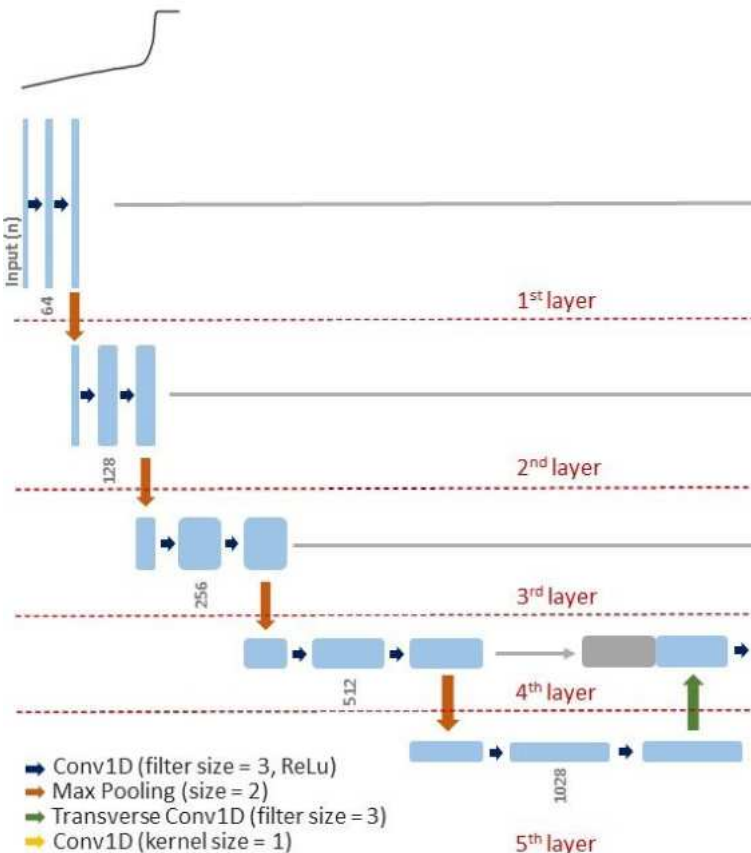
Training data



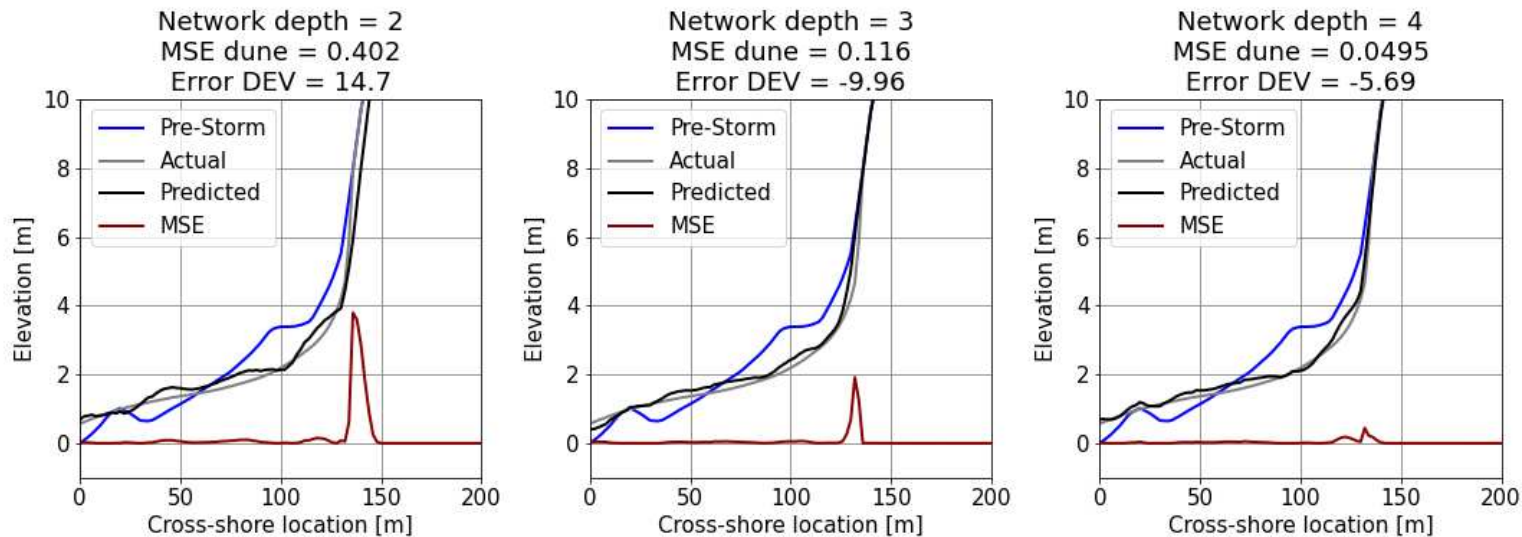
Results

Network Depth

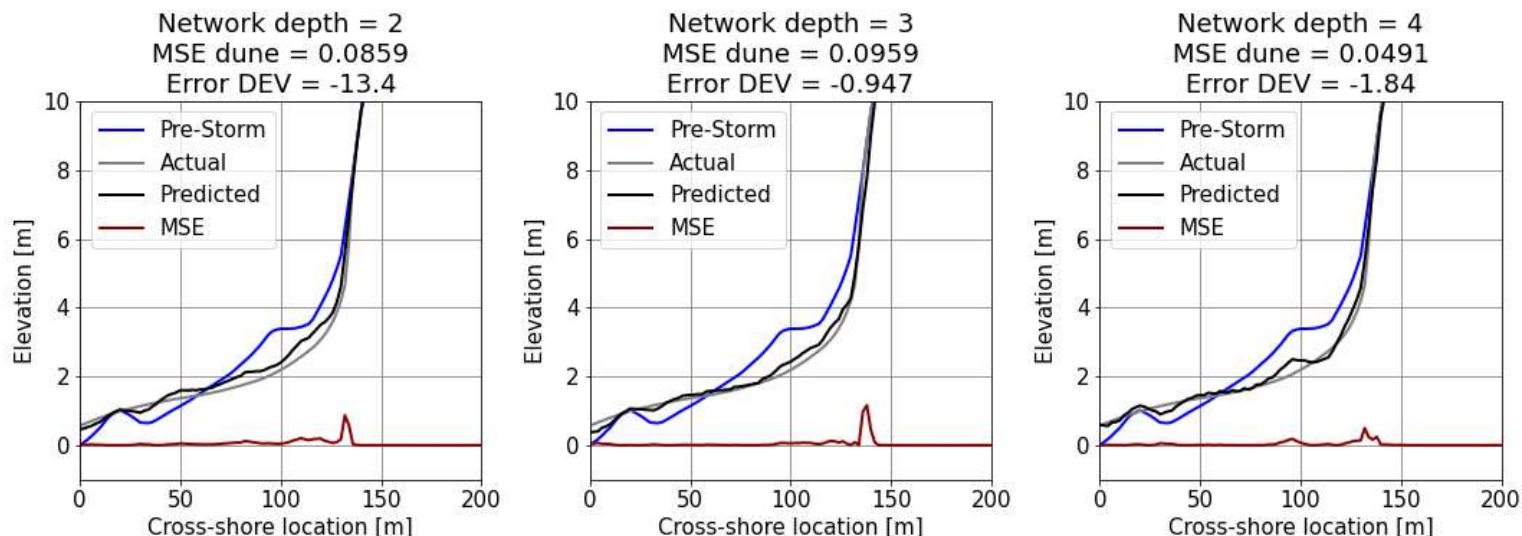
INPUT: PRE-STORM PROFILE



Profile for for different network depths, kernel size = 3

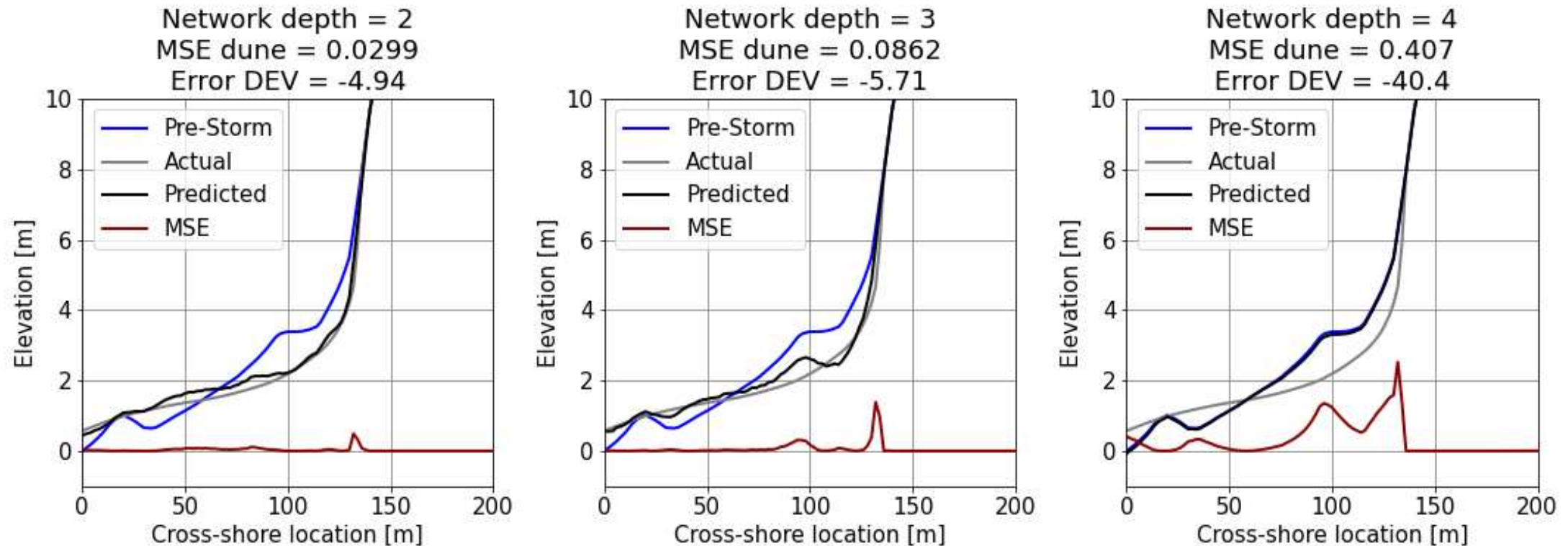


Profile for for different network depths, kernel size = 10



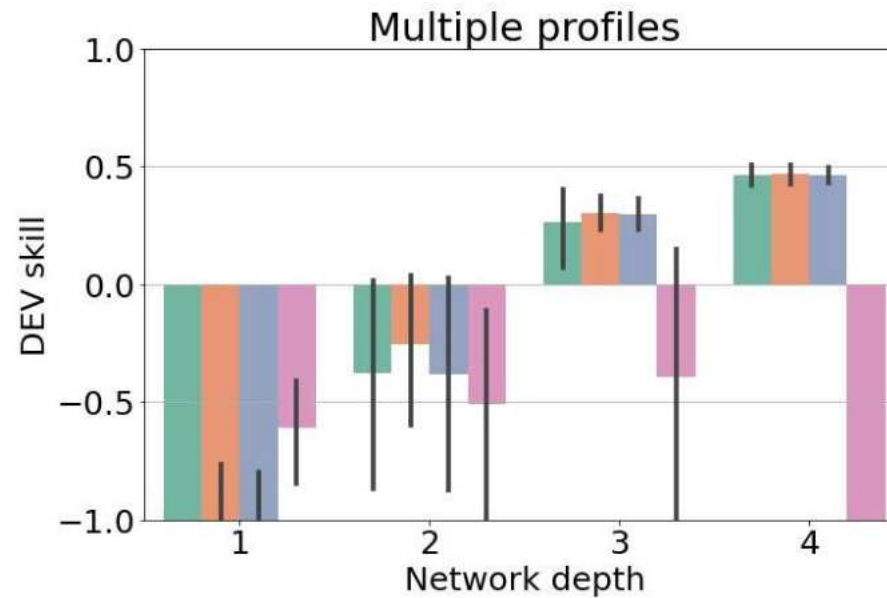
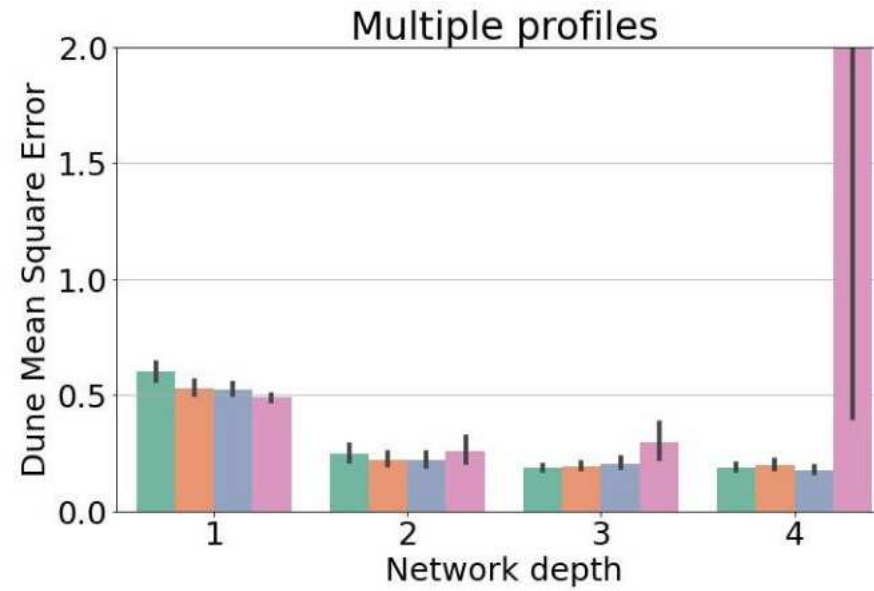
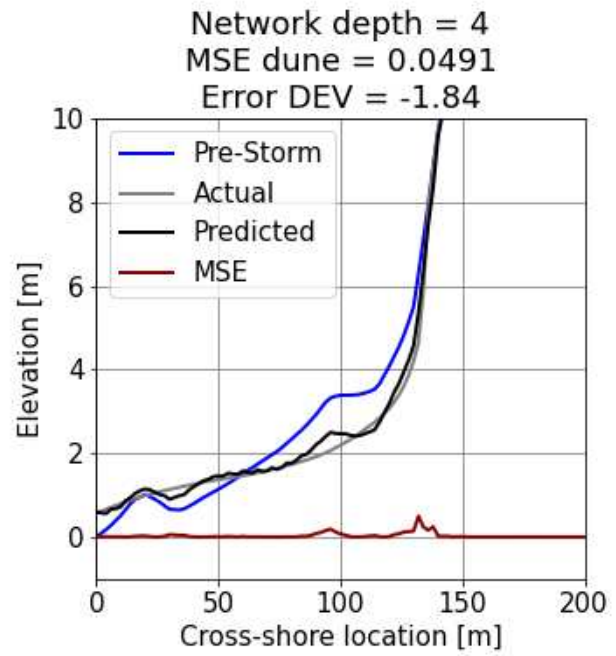
Loss predictive capability ND4, kernel size 10

Profile for for different network depths, kernel size = 10



Discussion

- Performance metric



Conclusion

Driving mechanisms of dune erosion

- What **morphological response** is found in post-storm dune profile shapes, using a dataset of simplified pre-storm sandy profile shapes and XBeach?

Surrogate modelling

- What **performance metrics** can be used to evaluate surrogate models for post-storm profile shape prediction?
- To what extent are **pre-processing tools and neural networks** able to make post-storm profile shape predictions for a simplified dataset?

Upscaling

- Can neural networks be used for predicting post-storm profiles of **actual** Holland coast profile shapes?

Conclusion

Driving mechanisms of dune erosion

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Upscaling

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U-Flood

- Storm conditions

