

Advanced Remote Sensing Approaches For Coastal Erosion And Sediment Transport Monitoring

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ABSTRACT

Remote sensing technologies have revolutionized the way coastal erosion and sediment transport are monitored, providing spatially extensive, temporally frequent, and cost-effective data. Coastal zones are dynamic interfaces where land, ocean, and atmosphere interact, leading to complex processes of erosion and sediment deposition. Traditional in-situ monitoring methods, though accurate, often lack the temporal and spatial coverage required for comprehensive coastal management. The integration of multispectral, hyperspectral, LiDAR, and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) techniques, coupled with Geographic Information Systems (GIS), enables the generation of accurate shoreline change maps, sediment transport models, and erosion susceptibility assessments. This paper presents an in-depth review of remote sensing methodologies

for coastal monitoring, their applications, limitations, and future prospects.

Keywords: *Remote Sensing, Coastal Erosion, Sediment Transport, GIS, LiDAR, SAR*

INTRODUCTION

Coastal erosion and sediment transport are key processes influencing the geomorphology and ecology of shoreline regions. Understanding and monitoring these processes are crucial for sustainable coastal management, particularly in light of climate change, sea-level rise, and increasing anthropogenic pressures. Remote sensing, in combination with GIS, provides powerful tools to assess these processes over broad spatial extents and extended temporal scales. The advancement in satellite sensor technologies, including higher spatial and temporal resolutions, has significantly enhanced the ability to detect and quantify shoreline changes and sediment movement.

Table 1: Remote Sensing Techniques for Coastal Monitoring

Technique	Application	Advantages
Multispectral Imaging	Mapping shoreline changes	High spectral resolution
LiDAR	Beach topography mapping	High vertical accuracy
SAR	Monitoring coastal dynamics	All-weather capability

METHODOLOGY

Remote sensing-based coastal monitoring involves the acquisition of satellite or airborne imagery, preprocessing for atmospheric and geometric corrections, extraction of relevant coastal features, and integration with GIS for spatial analysis. Techniques such as edge detection and band ratioing are commonly employed for shoreline extraction. LiDAR provides high-resolution elevation models, while SAR enables detection of wave patterns and sediment plumes under all-weather conditions.

CASE STUDIES

Several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of remote sensing in coastal monitoring. For instance, Landsat imagery has been widely used to assess shoreline retreat

over decades, while high-resolution commercial satellites like WorldView-3 allow detailed mapping of coastal infrastructure vulnerability.

CHALLENGES

Despite its advantages, remote sensing faces limitations such as cloud cover in optical imagery, high costs of commercial datasets, and the need for field validation. Integrating multiple data sources and improving algorithmic approaches can mitigate these challenges.

CONCLUSION

Remote sensing and GIS have transformed coastal erosion and sediment transport monitoring by providing accurate, large-scale, and repeatable observations. Continued advancements in sensor technology, data processing algorithms, and integration with numerical models will further enhance coastal management strategies.

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