

Satellite remote sensing to monitor mangrove forest resilience and resistance to sea level rise

Running Title: Monitoring mangrove sea level rise resilience

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A new satellite monitoring approach reveals spatial incongruence in coastal ecosystem vulnerability processes and drivers

1 **ABSTRACT**

- 2 • Coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, provide key ecosystem services for climate change mitigation
3 and adaptation. However, combined anthropogenic activities and climatic change-driven sea level rise
4 (SLR) pose a severe threat to their global persistence, and to the continued delivery of these services.
5 Mangrove vulnerability to SLR depends upon capacity for both resilience (landward migration) and
6 resistance (maintained functioning with the existing distribution), which are in turn hindered by
7 extractive activities and coastal infrastructure development. Limited landscape-scale data availability
8 means existing SLR vulnerability assessment frameworks lack rigorous quantification of these discrete
9 processes.
- 10 • Here we develop and implement a novel multi-product (multispectral, microwave, derived-product)
11 open-access satellite remote sensing approach to assess both coastal ecosystem SLR resilience and
12 resistance capacity in multiple mangrove sites across the world, and landscape-level and anthropogenic
13 factors driving these capacities. Our approach allows comparative ranking of resilience and resistance
14 capacities across sites, based on relative changes in constraints to these two components of SLR
15 vulnerability.
- 16 • We observe generally low SLR resilience and resistance across our case study sites. Interestingly, we
17 find that site-specific resilience and resistance capacities and constraints can be highly incongruent,
18 highlighting the importance of comprehensive SLR vulnerability monitoring for effective
19 management. High within-site variation was also detected in resilience and resistance capacities and
20 their constraints. This underlines the importance of spatially-explicit monitoring at extensive spatial
21 scales to inform decision making.
- 22 • The methodology developed and repeat-pass imagery employed adds to the remote monitoring and
23 assessment toolkit for adaptive coastal ecosystem management under SLR, providing a new approach
24 to inform conservation and management priority assessments in data deficient regions.

25 INTRODUCTION

26 Global sea level rise (SLR) presents a major threat to coastal ecosystems, and to the multiple ecosystem
27 services they provide to humans (see de Groot *et al.* 2012; Brander *et al.* 2012). Management focus is
28 increasingly placed on coastal zone risk assessment and mitigation, in order to enhance climate change
29 mitigation and adaptation (CCMA). The potential future success of activities to enhance CCMA hinges on
30 adaptive management under variable climatic projections (IPCC 2013) to reduce coastal ecosystem
31 vulnerability to SLR. In order to plan for change, monitoring of the relative potential for coastal ecosystems
32 to maintain functionality and service delivery in the face of SLR, and the factors principally driving their
33 vulnerability, is required. Quantitative and semi-quantitative site-specific information on coastal ecosystem
34 exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity to SLR (Lee *et al.* 2017; Ellison 2015) currently enable
35 categorisation of these systems according to relative vulnerability. However, such assessments often do not
36 comprehensively assess components of vulnerability to specific factors, are rarely fully spatially-explicit
37 (but see Lee *et al.* 2017), and importantly do not allow for high temporal resolution monitoring of changes
38 in the drivers inherently shaping spatial variation in vulnerability to SLR.

39 Owing to their often-extensive areal coverage, dense vegetation and deep, organic carbon-rich sediments,
40 global mangrove forests provide arguably the greatest coastal zone ecosystem-specific CCMA potential
41 (Dahdouh-Guebas *et al.* 2005; Donato *et al.* 2011; McIvor *et al.* 2012). They are, however, highly sensitive
42 to SLR impacts. Mangrove SLR resilience can be broken down in to two components, termed *resilience*
43 (capacity for maintained areal coverage [e.g. through landward migration]) and *resistance* (capacity to
44 maintain functionality within existing distributions [e.g. maintained productivity]; Gilman *et al.* 2008). This
45 distinction is key, as the underlying processes (abiotic and anthropogenic pressures) affecting mangrove
46 resilience and resistance capacities may vary (Gilman *et al.* 2008). Resistance is driven predominantly
47 through sediment accretion and surface elevation gain (root biomass production) relative to SLR (sediment
48 and freshwater inputs), and cryptic degradation with maintained areal coverage (e.g. selective cutting and
49 pollution) (Dahdouh-Guebas *et al.* 2005; Lee *et al.* 2014; Lovelock *et al.* 2015). Sediment and freshwater
50 input regimes may also impact mangrove SLR resilience (e.g. influencing levels of seaward die-back;

51 Ellison 1993; Woodroffe 1995; Gilman *et al.* 2008; Ellison 2015). However, capacity for landward
52 migration is dependent principally on: (1) landward topography (hydro-ecological conditions for landward
53 recruitment); and (2) presence of landward physical barriers (anthropogenic structures: buildings; dikes;
54 sea walls; roads; agri-/aquaculture) (Gilman *et al.* 2008; Ellison 2015). Management to enhance mangrove
55 resilience and resistance thus necessitates different approaches. For example, resistance may benefit from
56 actions to increase sediment inputs and reduce cutting in stressed systems, while resilience may benefit
57 from actions to zone landward areas to facilitate landward expansion (Gilman *et al.* 2008; Rogers *et al.*
58 2014). Accordingly, to prioritise management to maximise coastal zone CCMA into the future where
59 resources and capacity are limited, combined examination of relative mangrove forest resilience and
60 resistance capacities is required.

61 Due largely to the complexities of mangrove field data collection, studies on SLR vulnerability to date have
62 often been limited in geographic scope (one or few forests: Ellison 1993; Gilman *et al.* 2007; Ellison &
63 Zouh 2012), or have focussed on only one component of vulnerability in extensive regional assessments
64 (resistance: Lovelock *et al.* 2015; Sasmito *et al.* 2016). Where mangrove SLR resilience and resistance
65 capacities have been assessed in parallel, anthropogenic controls on these processes (landward land-use
66 change/development; cryptic degradation through cutting) have not been considered (Ellison & Zouh
67 2012). Accordingly, we lack systematic, repeatable methods to index and monitor SLR resilience and
68 resistance capacities across the large spatial scales required for decision-making, as well as methods to
69 assess the predominant factors driving these under current anthropogenic activities and management
70 regimes. Here, we develop and subsequently employ (global case study mangroves) a multi-product
71 satellite remote sensing approach to simultaneously monitor mangrove SLR resilience and resistance
72 capacities, and their potential abiotic and anthropogenic drivers. The approach allows ranking of resilience
73 and resistance capacities across sites, while accounting for relative changes to constraints to these two
74 components of SLR vulnerability, for management priority assessment.

75

76

77 MATERIALS AND METHODS

78 Study sites

79 Seven mangrove forests (West Africa to South Asia: Figure 1) were selected as case studies. Each site
80 satisfied the following criteria: (1) large size (>5,000 ha; minimise influence from stochastic processes:
81 Keith *et al.* 2013); (2) known and substantial historical SLR (5–15cm over 1993–2008; Beckley *et al.* 2010;
82 GSFC 2013); (3) available satellite imagery (temporal coverage; comparable seasons) for all required
83 products (Table S1). The sites are currently under varying levels of protection, ranging from no official
84 protection to inclusion within protected areas, UNESCO World Heritage and Ramsar sites. All sustain
85 extractive use, mostly at landward, upper-intertidal boundaries (e.g. timber extraction, land clearing: Diop
86 *et al.* 2002; UNEP-WCMC 2003; 2007; Spalding *et al.* 2010), and experience varying amounts of human
87 settlement/infrastructure and unconverted land at their landward boundaries.

88 Satellite remote sensing data

89 Multiple remote sensing data (multispectral and microwave) and products were employed to monitor: (1)
90 mangrove resilience (areal maintenance; landward migration and/or shoreline retreat) and resistance
91 (biomass maintenance within existing distribution) capacities; and (2) potential landscape-level (landward
92 topographic slope and sediment availability) and anthropogenic development drivers (Table 1). Temporal
93 coverages were limited to 2007–2010 (12.5m radar imagery availability; biomass change), 2007–2015
94 (matching recent multispectral imagery availability [2015 time of investigation] to assess longer-term
95 changes at landward boundaries), and 2006–2010 (to assess trends in sediment availability around the time-
96 period of radar imagery availability) (Table 1).

97 Satellite data pre-processing

98 All data processing was conducted in open-source software: R 3.2.5 (R Development Core Team 2016),
99 QGIS 2.14.0 (QGIS Development Team 2016), ASF MapReady 3.1.24 (ASF 2013), and SENTINEL-1
100 Toolbox 4.0.0 (Array Systems Computing Inc. 2016).

101 Six Landsat bands were used: *blue, green, red, near infrared [NIR], shortwave infrared [SWIR] 1*
102 *and 2*. Atmospheric radiometric calibration and correction was applied via simple Dark Object Subtraction
103 from the single darkest (minimum reflectance) band-specific pixel ('radCor'; 'sdos': Leutner & Horning
104 2016). Adjacent scenes were mean mosaicked following band-specific histogram matching ('histMatch':
105 Leutner & Horning 2016), and resampled to ALOS/PALSAR imagery (bilinear interpolation). Vegetation,
106 soil and water indices were calculated to improve the predictive ability of mangrove landcover classification
107 (Kuenzer *et al.* 2011; Lee *et al.* 2017): Normalised Difference Vegetation Index (*NDVI*); Enhanced
108 Vegetation Index (*EVI*); Soil-Adjusted Vegetation Index (*SAVI*); Automated Water Extraction Index
109 (*AWEI_{sh}*); Modified Normalised Difference Water Index (*MNDWI*); Normalised Difference Vegetation
110 Index (*NDWI*); Normalised Multi-Band Drought Index (soil; *NMDI_{soil}*) (Table S4; Figure S4).

111 ALOS/PALSAR HV scenes were radiometrically calibrated to backscatter amplitude, co-registered and
112 terrain-corrected (SRTM DEM) (ASF 2013). Automated image co-registration was applied between
113 adjacent scenes ('coregisterImages': Leutner & Horning 2016) for sites with >1 scene (Saloum Delta and
114 Sundarbans; Figure 1) prior to mean mosaicking. Site-specific 2007 ALOS/PALSAR imagery was co-
115 registered to 12.5m Landsat-derived *SAVI* index (multi-product pixels' spatial alignment). Site-specific
116 2010 ALOS/PALSAR imagery was then co-registered to 2007 imagery (Cornforth *et al.* 2013). To reduce
117 ALOS/PALSAR speckle noise (and maintain edge features: Lee *et al.* 1994) we used a two-dimensional
118 discrete wavelet transformation: Maximal Overlap Discrete Wavelet Transform using Daubechies
119 orthonormal compactly supported wavelet (L = 8; Daubechies 1992) ('denoise.modwt.2d': Whitcher 2015).
120 Pixels >35m SRTM DEM within-canopy surface elevation are beyond the conditions in which mangrove
121 forests grow (see Fatoyinbo *et al.* 2008). All pixels >35m SRTM DEM (resampled to 12.5m; bilinear
122 interpolation) were therefore masked from further analyses (see also Lee *et al.* 2017). Pixels containing
123 water bodies were masked on a threshold of *AWEI_{sh}*>0 (Feyisa *et al.* 2014; Li & Gong 2016).

124 **Landcover classification**

125 The stepwise approach to quantifying current mangrove capacity for resilience and resistance is outlined in
126 Figure 2. Low spectral complexity in coastal landcover facilitated unsupervised landcover classification

127 (Wegmann *et al.* 2016). To determine potentially redundant variables (Landsat bands and indices; Table
128 S4; Figure S4) and improve site-specific multi-temporal classifications (Eklundh & Singh 1993),
129 unstandardized Principal Components Analyses (PCA; ‘rasterPCA’: Leutner & Horning 2016) and PCA
130 loadings inspections were conducted. The final set of input variables were then: *red*, *NIR*, *SWIR1*, *SWIR2*,
131 *AWEI_{sh}*, *MNDWI*, *NDWI*, *NDVI* and *SAVI*. Unsupervised classification via kmeans clustering (Hartigan-
132 Wong), using 10,000 randomly-sampled pixels and 100 model iterations over 25 random starts, was
133 conducted to cluster pixels into 10 classes (Wegmann *et al.* 2016; ‘unsuperClass’: Leutner & Horning
134 2016). Site-specific unsupervised classifications were subsequently re-run with iterative removal of one
135 class per interval, and assessed via visual inspection of meaningful classes (Giri 2016) against high-
136 resolution imagery (2006–2008 and 2014–2016 for each time-period: Google Earth 2016). Optimal number
137 of classes for most sites was five, visually corresponding to mangrove, wet bare-ground (mudflats;
138 aquaculture), dry bare-ground (sand; salt pans; pond banks; cleared [agriculture] and urban landcover), dry
139 terrestrial forest and dry terrestrial shrub-/grass-/agricultural land. Further identified classes (>5)
140 corresponded to: cloud, cloud shadow (Saloum Delta); multiple mangrove vegetation classes (top-dying
141 disease [Sundarbans; Iftexhar & Islam 2004]; shrubby, high saline mangroves [Mahajamba; Jones *et al.*
142 2015]).

143 To avoid eroding mangrove boundaries via post-classification filtering (Giri 2016; Wegmann *et al.* 2016),
144 only larger, contiguous patches (>3,600 m²; four initial Landsat pixels) were considered in further analyses.
145 To reduce mangrove change detection error from introduction of classification error at two time-periods
146 and differences in Landsat sensor calibration (see Table S4), assessment of mangrove pixel-specific change
147 was conducted (see Deng *et al.* 2008; Giri 2016). “Gain” or “loss” pixels in the 2015 mangrove distribution
148 were conservatively maintained only if they also exhibited pixel-specific change in *NDVI* \geq 25% from 2007
149 imagery.

150 Site-specific classification accuracies for identified mangrove distributions were conducted for 200
151 randomly-selected pixels per time-period (site areas with available high resolution optical imagery; Google
152 Earth 2016). These pixels were polygonized for visual accuracy assessment into three categories to assess

153 both true positives rates, and potential impact of mixed pixels on boundary extent and change classification
154 (de Jong & van der Meer 2007): (1) true mangrove (>50% mangrove cover); (2) misclassified (0%
155 mangrove cover); (3) mixed pixel ($\leq 50\%$ mangrove cover) (Figure S5). Two hundred ‘non-mangrove’ (i.e.
156 all other landcover classes) pixels per time-period were also randomly selected for visual accuracy
157 assessment into three categories to assess true negative rates: (1) true ‘non-mangrove’ (0% mangrove
158 cover); (2) misclassified ‘non-mangrove’ (>50% mangrove cover); (3) mixed pixel.

159

160 **Mangrove boundary change 2007–2015 (resilience and resistance)**

161 Change in mangrove distribution 2007–2015 was assessed via spatial overlaying the two site-specific
162 landcover classifications. Total area of gain and loss (ha) and percentage change were calculated as one
163 index of capacity for landward resilience to SLR (Gilman *et al.* 2008) under current anthropogenic threats
164 and management.

165 Change in seaward boundary 2007–2010 was assessed via ALOS/PALSAR HV backscatter amplitude
166 change detection. Waterways display very low backscatter amplitude due to specular microwave reflection,
167 and following from Cornforth *et al.* (2013) were determined and eliminated from further analyses using a
168 threshold value on a 7×7 Refined Lee filter (Lee *et al.* 1994; edge variance threshold 5,000) on:

$$\sqrt{HV_{2007} + HV_{2010}} \quad 1$$

169 where HV = ALOS/PALSAR HV backscatter amplitude. This enabled extraction of pixels that were land
170 in one year and water in the other, and thus identification of changes in coastline extent (Cornforth *et al.*
171 2013). All identified seaward mangrove pixels within five-pixels’ distance (62.5m) from the 2007–2010
172 coastline edge were then analysed for significant biomass change (see next section). Site-specific
173 comparison of coastline (biomass) and landward boundary (distribution shift) change was conducted as a
174 second index of capacity for SLR resilience.

175 **Mangrove biomass change 2007–2010 (resistance)**

176 The capacity for biomass maintenance (resistance) was assessed via pixel-specific change detection in
177 ALOS/PALSAR L-Band HV backscatter amplitude 2007–2010 (aboveground biomass proxy: Proisy *et al.*
178 2003; Lucas *et al.* 2014; Cornforth *et al.* 2013) within identified stable mangrove distributions. To produce
179 conservative estimates (to reduce potential overestimation from any differences in tidal height at
180 ALOS/PALSAR imagery acquisition times; see Cornforth *et al.* 2013), areas of $\geq 15\%$ backscatter
181 amplitude change were extracted: 10% change can correspond to a significant on-the-ground biomass
182 change (Cornforth *et al.* 2013). Significant biomass changes which were detected are assumed herein to
183 correspond to both SLR and anthropogenic processes. To index site-specific total significant biomass
184 change, percentage significant change in the sum of total backscatter amplitude was calculated: from
185 reference 2007 backscatter amplitude and + significant pixel-specific backscatter amplitude change ($>15\%$)
186 in 2015 across all stable mangrove distribution pixels.

187 **Drivers of capacity for mangrove resilience and resistance**

188 **1: Topographic constraints to capacity for resilience**

189 All pixels immediately adjacent to site-specific 2007 landward mangrove boundaries were extracted (nine
190 metre buffer [$>$ pixel centre diagonal distance]) to create year 2007 mangrove landward perimeter pixel
191 rasters. Seaward edge pixels were masked by $AWEI_{sh}2007 + AWEI_{sh}2015 > 0$ (water in both years), and
192 manual removal of seaward adjacent perimeter pixels not comprising water bodies (i.e. those behind
193 mudflats, sandbanks, etc.) following polygonization. Year 2015 mangrove rasters were then cropped to the
194 2007 mangrove landward perimeter pixel polygons (1 = mangrove cover, or 0 = no mangrove cover in
195 2015). Topographic slope (radians) of SRTM DEM elevation pixels (12.5m) was calculated (eight
196 neighbours; ‘terrain’: Hijmans *et al.* 2016), and extracted for each 2007 mangrove landward perimeter
197 pixel.

198 To assess within-site topographic controls on pixel-specific migration, an Integrated nested Laplace
199 approximation (INLA) approach for latent Gaussian Markov random field models (Rue *et al.* 2009) was
200 used to control for spatial structure (autocorrelation) in 2015 mangrove migration into 2007 mangrove

201 landward perimeter pixels, using a Stochastic Partial Difference Equation (SPDE) (Lindgren *et al.* 2011;
202 Blangiardo *et al.* 2013). Site-specific binomial INLA SPDE models (Delauney triangulation mesh
203 minimum observation distance 1.25 km; maximum triangle edge 125,000 km) (Blangiardo & Cameletti
204 2015; Lindgren & Rue 2015) were employed using 20,000 randomly-sampled 2007 mangrove landward
205 perimeter pixels and their associated SRTM DEM slope predictor variable (radians; square root-
206 transformed). Site-specific topographic constraints to capacity for future landward migration was then
207 indexed via the percentage of non-anthropogenic (see next section) 2007 landward perimeter pixels with
208 SRTM DEM slope < the 95% quantile (θ) of the distribution of slope values for pixels with observed
209 migration into the landward perimeter by 2015.

210 **2: Anthropogenic constraints to capacity for resilience and resistance**

211 To index potential site-specific anthropogenic constraints (i.e. infrastructure, cleared land [agriculture]) to
212 landward migration (resilience) and biomass maintenance (resistance; pressure from extractive use),
213 potential anthropogenic landcover was proxied by the number (length) and relative proportion of 2007
214 mangrove landward perimeter dry bare-ground pixels in both 2007 and 2015. To eliminate site-specific
215 naturally-occurring (i.e. non-anthropogenic) dry bare-ground, proportional ‘true’ anthropogenic landcover
216 was visually validated at each time-period via random-selection of 200 classified 2007 mangrove landward
217 perimeter dry bare-ground pixels (>50% pixel coverage: Google Earth 2016). The site-, time-period -
218 specific total number of identified 2007 mangrove landward perimeter potential anthropogenic (classified
219 dry bare-ground) pixels were then scaled by validated proportional true anthropogenic cover.

220 **3: Sediment availability constraints to capacity for resilience and resistance**

221 Open-access eight-day composite Level 3 global TSM concentration (g m^{-3}) data (4km resolution) were
222 extracted from ACRI-ST (<http://hermes.acri.fr/>), and processed for pixel-specific mean TSM, and
223 significant deseasoned trends (Mann Kendall τ value $p < 0.05$, else $\tau = 0$) in TSM 2006–2010
224 (‘significantTau’: Detsch 2016). Extractive mangrove use is assumed to occur more frequently in more
225 easily-accessible landward portions of forests. Thus, to index potential within-site sediment availability

226 controls on the capacity for mangrove resilience and resistance (seaward boundary biomass change), all
227 seaward mangrove pixels within five-pixels' distance (62.5m) from the combined 2007–2010 coastline
228 edge, and mean TSM and Kendall's *tau* of the closest TSM pixel ('gDistance': Bivand *et al.* 2016) were
229 extracted. Site-specific single predictor and additive two-predictor Gaussian INLA SPDE models were
230 constructed for 20,000 randomly-selected seaward mangrove pixels (percentage change ALOS/PALSAR
231 HV backscatter amplitude 2007-2010). INLA SPDE models were assessed for significant effects via
232 predictor-specific slope estimate 97.5% quantiles, and compared via Deviance Information Criterion (DIC;
233 Spiegelhalter *et al.* 2002) and Watanabe-Akaike Information Criterion (WAIC; Watanabe 2010) for
234 Bayesian hierarchical models. Site-specific potential sediment availability constraints to capacity for future
235 seaward boundary resilience and resistance were then indexed via the mean Kendall's *tau* value for all
236 coastal TSM pixels with significant trends in TSM 2006-2010.

237 **Categorising resilience and resistance capacities, and severity of constraints**

238 Capacity for resilience was categorised based on the distribution of observed capacities as: *high resilience*
239 (increasing/stable [$<4\%$ loss] area, and landward migration $>$ seaward biomass loss); *medium resilience*
240 (stable [$<4\%$ loss] area, and landward migration \approx seaward biomass loss [$<2\%$ seaward retreat]); *low*
241 *resilience* (stable [$<4\%$ loss]/decreasing area, and landward migration $<$ seaward biomass loss). Capacity
242 for resistance (total significant biomass change) was categorised as: *high resistance* (increasing/stable [$<1\%$
243 loss]); *medium resistance* (marginal [$<5\%$] loss); *low resistance* ($> 5\%$ loss).

244 Site-specific constraints to the capacity for mangrove resilience and resistance were similarly ranked into
245 categories of severity. Topographic constraints to the capacity for resilience (% 2007 landward perimeter
246 non-anthropogenic pixels with capacity for future migration [SRTM DEM slope $\leq \theta$]) were categorised as:
247 *low concern* ($>70\%$); *medium concern* (50–70%); *high concern* ($<50\%$). Anthropogenic development
248 constraints to the capacity for resilience and resistance (% change in landward perimeter pixels'
249 anthropogenic landcover 2007–2015) were categorised as: *low concern* (decreasing/stable [$<0.5\%$
250 increase]); *medium concern* (marginal increase [0.5-5%]); *high concern* ($>5\%$ increase). Sediment loss
251 constraints to the capacity for resistance (mean Kendall's *tau* in TSM concentration (g m^{-3}) 2006–2010)

252 were categorised as: *low concern* (increasing/stable [>-0.01]); *medium concern* (marginal decrease [$>-$
253 0.04]); *high concern* (decreasing [≤-0.04]).

254

255 **RESULTS**

256 Accuracy assessment of unsupervised landcover classifications at randomly selected classified mangrove
257 pixels ($N = 200$ per time-period [2007 and 2015] per site) revealed reasonable accuracy in mangrove
258 landcover identification (means: true positives = 90.80%; false positives = 3.89%; ‘mangrove’ mixed pixels
259 = 6.00%; true negatives = 90.32%; false negatives = 5.54%; ‘non-mangrove’ mixed pixels = 4.14%; Table
260 S5). Most sites showed increasing (Mahajamba, Save River Delta) or stable mangrove area over 2007–
261 2015 ($<2\%$ loss: Ruvuma Estuary, Rufiji Delta, Sundarbans, Saloum Delta; Table 2; Figure 3 and S6–S12).

262 Five of seven sites exhibited 2015 landward migration into the 2007 mangrove landward perimeter (Table
263 3). Net seaward significant biomass increase was observed at one site, where sediment availability (mean
264 TSM g m^{-3}) was also high and stable: Mahajamba (3.13%) (Tables 4 and 5). However, net seaward
265 significant biomass loss (-4.48%) was observed at the Sundarbans (Tables 4 and 5); but was outpaced by
266 observed landward migration 2007–2015 (Table 3). Net seaward significant biomass loss was moderate in
267 the two West African sites, substantially outpacing landward migration at Saloum Delta (Tables 3 and 5).
268 Net seaward significant biomass loss was substantial in all East African sites (-5.54% – -5.62%), but was
269 outpaced by landward migration at Save River Delta and Ruvuma Estuary (Tables 3 and 5).

270 Mangrove aboveground biomass was stable or increasing at Mahajamba, Sundarbans and Sherbro Bay,
271 while marginal biomass loss ($<5\%$) was detected at Saloum Delta and Ruvuma Estuary (Table 6).
272 Substantial net significant biomass loss was observed at Save River Delta (-5.33%) and Rufiji Delta ($-$
273 5.34%) (Table 6), which was spatially heterogeneous and greater (-6.05%) in the northern portion of the
274 Rufiji Delta where agricultural expansion was also observed (Figure 3).

275 Pixel-specific probability of 2015 landward migration was significantly negatively related to SRTM DEM-
276 derived slope (radians; square root-transformed) at all sites with observed landward migration 2007-2015

277 (b 97.5% quantiles <0): greater landward migration probability with shallower topographic slope. The
278 strongest negative effect was observed at Mahajamba ($b \sqrt{SRTM\ slope} = -2.30 \pm 0.25$ [1 s.d.]; 97.5%
279 quantiles: -2.80– -1.81), and the weakest at Rufiji Delta ($b \sqrt{SRTM\ slope} = -0.66 \pm 0.28$ [1 s.d.]; 97.5%
280 quantiles: -1.21– -0.16).

281 Most mangroves showed *low* site-specific topographic constraints to capacity for future landward
282 migration; however, Sherbro Bay showed *medium* (63.07% non-anthropogenic landward perimeter pixels
283 slope $< \theta$), and Rufiji Delta exhibited *high concern* capacity (45.33%) (Figure 4). These sites also exhibited
284 *medium to low resilience* capacity, respectively, over 2007–2015.

285 Excepting Saloum Delta, an increase in landward perimeter potential anthropogenic landcover was
286 observed at all sites (Table 7). The largest of these increases were observed in Sherbro Bay (*medium*
287 *concern*: 3.09% perimeter increase) and Rufiji Delta (*high concern*: 6.34% perimeter increase) (Table 7).

288 No significant effect of mean or trend in sediment availability on within-site seaward biomass change was
289 found in sites with high site-specific sediment loads (Table 4). A positive effect of mean TSM on percentage
290 change in seaward biomass was, however, detected in Sherbro Bay (b Mean TSM = 1.50 ± 0.46 [1 s.d.];
291 97.5% quantiles: 0.60–2.41) and Ruvuma Estuary (b Mean TSM = 0.38 ± 0.12 [1 s.d.]; 97.5% quantiles:
292 0.14–0.61), while a negative effect was detected at Sundarbans (b Mean TSM = -0.29 ± 0.10 [1 s.d.]; 97.5%
293 quantiles: -0.48– -0.10), possibly owing to heterogeneous background erosion rates in the delta (Rahman
294 & Islam 2010; Rahman *et al.* 2011; Cornforth *et al.* 2013).

295 Most mangroves showed *low* site-specific sediment availability constraints to capacity for future resistance
296 and seaward boundary resilience: no significant mean Kendall's τ in TSM across all pixels at Save River
297 Delta and Ruvuma Estuary; a weak positive trend at Sherbro Bay ($\tau = 0.006$); weak negative trends at
298 Mahajamba and Sundarbans ($\tau = -0.005$ and -0.004 , respectively). Stronger negative trends in TSM were
299 found at Saloum Delta ($\tau = -0.02$; *medium concern*), and Rufiji Delta ($\tau = -0.04$; *high concern*) (Table
300 4; Figure 4).

301 Based on our analyses, two sites showed *high* capacity for both resilience and resistance: Mahajamba and
302 Sundarbans (Figure 4). Both sites also showed *low concern* for all potential constraints to current and future
303 resilience and resistance. Two further sites had *high resilience* capacity, but had *medium* (Ruvuma Estuary)
304 to *low* (Save River Delta) *resistance* capacity, despite *low concern* for all proxied constraints (Figure 4).
305 Increases in landward perimeter anthropogenic landcover were observed in both sites (Table 7); however,
306 biomass loss at the low-elevation Save River Delta (Table 4) may be more associated with SLR impacts on
307 forest functionality, where observed anthropogenic development at landward boundaries was
308 comparatively marginal. Sherbro Bay showed stable biomass but *medium resilience* capacity, where *low*
309 *concern* was observed for changes to sediment availability, but *medium concern* observed for landward
310 topographic and anthropogenic barrier constraints to landward migration (Figure 4). Sites with lower
311 capacities for both resilience and resistance (Saloum Delta, Rufiji Delta) also had observed reductions in
312 sediment availability 2006–2010 (Figure 4). *Low resilience* and *resistance* capacity was observed at Rufiji
313 Delta, alongside *high concern* for all topographic, anthropogenic and sediment availability constraints to
314 future landward migration and biomass maintenance (Figure 4).

315

316 **DISCUSSION**

317 This study demonstrates the capability of multi-product satellite monitoring to simultaneously index
318 multiple elements of coastal ecosystem SLR vulnerability, and spatially-explicit landscape-level and
319 anthropogenic constraints (and trends therein). The main novelty of our approach is its ability to separately
320 monitor processes and drivers of SLR resilience and resistance across large spatial extents (>5,000 ha
321 forests). Our results show that: (1) incongruence can exist between site-specific resilience and resistance
322 capacities, and their probable predominant constraints, revealing the importance of comprehensive SLR
323 vulnerability monitoring; (2) there can be high within-site variation in both resilience and resistance
324 capacities, and in constraints to these processes (i.e. topographic; sediment availability), which necessitate
325 spatially-explicit monitoring at these scales to inform decision-making. Our systematic monitoring

326 approach can inform management prioritisation of higher risk elements of potential responses to SLR and
327 of actions to mitigate current and future constraints.

328 Our results clearly demonstrate that, given room for expansion (Gilman *et al.* 2008; Rogers *et al.* 2014),
329 mangroves can colonise landward along suitably shallow topographic gradients at fairly rapid rates (Table
330 3; Figure 4). Furthermore, where sediment loads are sufficiently high they can also extend seaward over
331 the same timescales despite SLR (Table 5; Figure 4). Thus, although a less empirically-explored component
332 of vulnerability (but see Gilman *et al.* 2007; Ellison & Zouh 2012; Runting *et al.* 2016), resilience can
333 provide an important contribution to SLR adaptability where constraints to expansion are low. Our findings
334 do, however, urge caution against resilience assessment via areal coverage alone, as reduced productivity
335 and extractive degradation may cause cryptic loss of functionality (also low resistance) at ecosystem
336 boundaries (Figures 3 and 4). Biomass loss is both a consequence and driver of SLR vulnerability: as
337 biomass is lost, capacity for sediment trapping and surface elevation gain also decreases (McKee *et al.*
338 2007). Satellite monitoring (SAR) of these processes provides a key tool to inform necessary management.
339 However, at present, our approach can monitor only *capacity* for resistance processes (under existing
340 pressures and management), and not directly attribute observed biomass changes with specific SLR
341 impacts. Much previous mangrove SLR vulnerability research has focussed on resistance: predominantly
342 on relative surface elevation gain via Rod-Surface Elevation Tables (R-SETs) (i.e. Lovelock *et al.* 2015).
343 Conversely to satellite-derived information, the global R-SET network is limited (Sasmito *et al.* 2016) and
344 unable to capture ecosystem-wide variation in resistance. It may also under-/overestimate vulnerability
345 where capacity for boundary changes are not considered. Going forward, a key development will lie in
346 linking SAR-derived vegetation structure change with field-derived sediment elevation capital information
347 (see Lovelock *et al.* 2015) to improve remote SLR resistance monitoring.

348 Our findings echo previous regional studies reporting high mangrove vulnerability to SLR (e.g. Lovelock
349 *et al.* 2015): we find both *high* resilience and resistance capacities in only two sites (also all topographic,
350 anthropogenic and sediment availability constraints *low concern*), with most others showing incongruent
351 capacities. Only one site had *low* resilience and resistance capacities (all constraints *high concern*: Rufiji

352 Delta; Figure 4). Overall, lower SLR resilience and resistance capacities were observed in mainland African
353 mangroves. *Resilience* capacities were a concern for West Africa, coinciding with topographic,
354 anthropogenic (Sherbro Bay) and decreasing sediment availability constraints to landward migration
355 (Saloum Delta; Figure 4). Zoning to reduce future anthropogenic development in shallow-sloping landward
356 areas and catchment management to maximise freshwater and sediment inputs (regional desertification: see
357 Saenger & Bellan 1995; Ndour *et al.* 2011) may be important considerations for enhancing the resilience
358 of West African coastal ecosystems. *Low resistance* capacities, and seaward boundary resilience, were
359 conversely a concern for East Africa, largely coinciding with landward anthropogenic development
360 constraints (Figures 3 and 4: cryptic degradation; but see Save River Delta: Results; Figure 4). Minimisation
361 of unsustainable extractive activities near population centres, and agricultural and infrastructural
362 development within existing mangrove boundaries, as well as in potential migration areas, should be a
363 regional priority for East Africa to enhance SLR resistance into the future (Gilman *et al.* 2008). The spatial
364 configuration of landward anthropogenic pressures may have significance in determining the intensity of
365 impact upon mangrove forest SLR resilience and resistance capacities (see Figure 3), and is a key area for
366 future development. The case studies considered represent ecosystems with low comparative anthropogenic
367 pressure. Capacity for SLR resistance, and particularly resilience, in the wider tropics (c.f. Southeast Asia)
368 is likely to be substantially lower, where extensive anthropogenic pressure exists at landward margins
369 (Lovelock *et al.* 2015; Richards & Friess 2016), as well as in low sediment-fed small islands (Sasmito *et*
370 *al.* 2016). Geographically rolling-out the framework developed in this study will in future facilitate a more
371 comprehensive view of global mangrove SLR resilience and resistance capacities.

372 Our developed monitoring approach is not without limitation. First, we were unable to control for time-
373 period-specific tidal height differences in ALOS/PALSAR imagery; thus, while we employed conservative
374 thresholds ($\geq 15\%$) for 'significant' on-ground biomass change (see Materials and Methods; Cornforth *et*
375 *al.* 2014), changes to below-canopy standing water may have influenced resistance capacities'
376 quantification in more open-canopy sites. Employment of recently-launched, much-increased temporal
377 coverage Sentinel-1 SAR satellite data (Copernicus 2016; but see short-wavelength C-band limitation: see

378 Lucas *et al.* 2014) may enable imagery tidal-matching in future applications. Second, to minimise the
379 impacts of cross-sensor (Landsat) spectral differences, we applied an *NDVI* threshold for ‘true’ mangrove
380 distribution change. This, alongside 30m Landsat imagery resolution (minimum mapping unit for isolated
381 patches then four pixels) and ‘scaling-up’ to ALOS/PALSAR resolution (12.5m), means our approach is
382 currently conservative in its quantification of SLR resilience capacities, being less able to detect fine-scale
383 landward migration – i.e. common-place gradual movement of sparse individuals (see Kelleway *et al.*
384 2016). Multi-sensor fusion with higher resolution optical imagery (e.g. Cavanaugh *et al.* 2014), where
385 available, could enhance resilience capacities’ quantification. Third, SRTM DEM represents within-
386 canopy, not true ground, elevation (Fatoyinbo *et al.* 2008); thus, overestimation of landward topographic
387 slopes is risked due to inclusion of mangrove and non-mangrove SRTM pixels. Going forward, masking
388 by emerging global mangrove height models (i.e. Fatoyinbo *et al.* 2016) will assist in minimising this
389 limitation. Finally, at present our approach does not consider site-specific stochastic climatic extremes (i.e.
390 storms; Lee *et al.* 2017). Storm impacts may influence SLR resilience and resistance capacities, and their
391 quantification herein, via periodic reduction of mangrove productivity and landward establishment. Indeed,
392 cyclone Bondo hit Mahajamba in October 2007 (~70 knots; ~8 months pre-ALOS/PALSAR imagery
393 acquisition: Kossin *et al.* 2010); biomass recovery from which may have contributed in part to estimated
394 high resistance capacity (Table 6; Figures 4 and S6.10). Pre- (cyclone Favio; February 2007) and within-
395 investigation period storms (Sidr: November 2007; Rashimi: October 2008) were also experienced at Save
396 River Delta and Sundarbans, respectively (Kossin *et al.* 2010). Further research into the potential for storm
397 impacts (frequency, intensity) to limit coastal ecosystem SLR resilience and resistance capacities is now
398 required to extend our approach for their inclusion.

399 In summary, we have integrated multiple satellite data and products to present a new spatially-explicit
400 approach to more comprehensive monitoring of SLR resilience and resistance capacities, which minimises
401 costly, time-intensive and logistically challenging on-ground monitoring requirements. While we have
402 focussed application of our SLR vulnerability monitoring approach to mangroves, it is applicable to all
403 vegetated ecosystems similarly exposed to and with potential to keep pace with SLR processes (mangroves;

404 [salt]marshes; freshwater/peat swamps). Potentially lower sensitivities of SAR backscatter to biomass and
405 change detection in low-/open-canopy marsh (but see Ramsey *et al.* 2014) may, however, necessitate
406 substitution/fusion with multispectral-derived productivity proxies (e.g. *NDVI*; Table S4). Extension of our
407 approach to sub-tropical and temperate regions will further require inclusion of metrics on climatic extreme
408 (temperature) controls on SLR resilience and resistance capacities (encroachment and productivity: see e.g.
409 Cavanaugh *et al.* 2014). The global and repeat-pass coverage of optical (Landsat) and SAR sensors
410 (ALOS/PALSAR and PALSAR-2), and novel increased temporal coverage satellites (Sentinel-1 C-Band
411 SAR and -2 multispectral: Copernicus 2016), could facilitate repeated, near real-time monitoring of
412 resilience and resistance capacities, SLR responses, and their drivers using and developing upon the
413 approach developed herein into the future. This can inform adaptive management of coastal ecosystems in
414 the face of rising sea levels. Minor adaptation of our multi-product approach to monitoring differential
415 threat processes and responses within ecosystem cores and at boundaries could, moreover, provide useful
416 inputs into wider marine and terrestrial ecosystem risk assessment procedures (i.e. Lee *et al.* 2017; Keith *et*
417 *al.* 2013), and the evaluation of conservation measures (i.e. protected area effectiveness: Joppa *et al.* 2008;
418 Pettorelli *et al.* 2012).

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

C.D. and N.P. conceived the ideas; C.D. designed the methodology; C.D. collected and analysed the data; H.J.F.O. assisted in conducting remote sensing analyses; C.D. led the writing of the manuscript, and N.P., H.J.F.O, J.R.T., H.J.K. and J.H.P. contributed critically to the drafts and gave final approval for publication.

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TABLES

Table 1. Satellite remote sensing data and products employed.

Data	Parameter(s)	Spatial resolution	Temporal coverage	References
Landsat 5 TM and 8 OLI/TIRS (multispectral)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of stable mangrove distribution • Landward migration • Landward margins anthropogenic landcover 	30m	2007-2015 (but see Table S2)	USGS 2015
ALOS/PALSAR L-Band HV polarisation Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) (Level 1.5 processed; amplitude)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomass changes • Seaward boundary biomass changes 	12.5m	2007-2010 (but see Table S3)	JAXA/METI 2009; 2010 ASF DAAC 2016 ESA 2013 Proisy <i>et al.</i> 2003 Lucas <i>et al.</i> 2014 Cornforth <i>et al.</i> 2013
SRTM Digital Elevation Model (DEM; m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landward topographic slopes 	30m	2000 (single date)	USGS 2014
Eight-day composite ENVISAT-MERIS Total Suspended Matter (TSM; g m ⁻³)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean sediment availabilities • Temporal trends in sediment availability 	4km	2006-2010	ESA GLOBCOLOUR 2014 Lovelock <i>et al.</i> 2015

Table 2. Results of mangrove distribution change assessments (spatial overlays of mangrove landcover classifications 2007–2015).

Site	2007 (ha)	2015 (ha)	Loss (ha)	Gain (ha)	Stable (ha)	Change (ha)	Change (%)
Saloum Delta, SN	472,177.40	471,728.80	644.48	195.92	471,532.90	-448.60	-0.09
Sherbro Bay, SL	196,085.30	191,262.80	4,831.97	10.80	191,252.00	-4,822.50	-2.46
Save River Delta, MZ	60,182.05	62,919.28	483.27	3,220.5	59,698.78	2,737.23	4.55
Ruvuma Estuary, TZ	13,700.62	13,787.84	37.14	124.36	13,663.48	87.22	0.64
Rufiji Delta, TZ	43,000.92	43,157.88	651.69	808.64	42,349.23	156.96	0.36
Mahajamba, MG	71,953.86	80,650.56	1,784.50	10,481.20	70,169.36	8,696.70	12.09
Sundarbans, IN & BD	638,198.60	639,528.40	82.25	1,411.98	638,116.40	1,329.80	0.21

Table 3. Results of mangrove landward migration assessment 2007–2015 (into one-pixel wide 2007 mangrove landward perimeters: Materials and Methods).

Site	Total landward pixels (No. & length; km)	Landward pixels migrated 2007-2015 (No. & length; km)	Proportion landward pixels migrated 2007-2015 (%)
Saloum Delta, SN	6,192,415 77,405.19	0 0.00	0.00
Sherbro Bay, SL	701,606 8,770.08	0 0.00	0.00
Save River Delta, MZ	380,151 4,751.89	79,768 997.10	20.98
Ruvuma Estuary, TZ	49,225 615.31	3,215 40.19	6.53
Rufiji Delta, TZ	243,416 3,042.70	4,501 56.26	1.85
Mahajamba, MG	384,712 4,839.00	119,650 1,495.63	31.11
Sundarbans, IN & BD	442,870 5,535.88	50,889 636.11	11.49

Table 4. Summary of SRTM DEM-derived landward topographic and ENVISAT MERIS-derived total suspended matter (TSM; g m^{-3}) data at each study site. Figures in bold represent significant mean Kendall's *tau* TSM (g m^{-3}) trend estimates based on bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CIs).

Site	Mean elevation (m; range)	Mean slope (radians; range)	Mean TSM (g m^{-3} ; 95% CIs; range)	Mean Kendall's <i>tau</i> TSM (95% CIs; range)
Saloum Delta, SN	12.86 (0.00-34.99)	0.04 (0.00-0.94)	10.41 (10.01-10.80; 0.03-37.84)	-0.02 (-0.02--0.01; -0.40-0.26)
Sherbro Bay, SL	11.57 (0.00-34.99)	0.05 (0.00-0.74)	5.32 (4.93-5.69; 0.04-21.28)	0.006 (0.003-0.008; -0.09-0.28)
Save River Delta, MZ	4.84 (0.00-27.02)	0.003 (0.00-0.45)	9.92 (9.07-10.77; 0.12-19.66)	0.001 (-0.001-0.003; -0.08-0.09)
Ruvuma Estuary, TZ	11.72 (0.00-34.99)	0.04 (0.00-0.51)	5.77 (3.93-7.42; 0.12-17.47)	-0.01 (-0.02-0.004; -0.21-0.00)
Rufiji Delta, TZ	12.17 (0.00-34.99)	0.04 (0.00-0.69)	9.69 (7.70-11.59; 1.00-27.39)	-0.04 (-0.05--0.02; -0.21-0.02)
Mahajamba, MG	14.55 (0.00-34.99)	0.04 (0.00-0.79)	13.08 (11.70-14.45; 0.20-34.88)	-0.005 (-0.009--0.001; -0.25-0.12)
Sundarbans, IN & BD	6.27 (0.00-34.93)	0.03 (0.00-0.61)	20.90 (20.40-21.40; 1.05-32.55)	-0.004 (-0.007--0.002; -0.18-0.20)

Table 5. Results of ALOS/PALSAR HV backscatter amplitude seaward boundary change detections (five-pixels' distance of combined 2007–2010 coastline edges) 2007–2010. Significantly increasing/decreasing pixels are indexed as those with $\geq 15\%$ HV backscatter amplitude change (see Materials and Methods).

Site	Coverage of total stable mangrove area (ha; %)	Seaward significantly increasing (ha)	Seaward significantly decreasing (ha)	Seaward significantly increasing (%)	Seaward significantly decreasing (%)	2007-2010 total significant seaward biomass change (%)
Saloum, SN	54,285.45 11.51	1,454.02	755.14	38.24	19.86	-2.81
Sherbro, SL	51,600.06 26.98	432.08	506.00	23.06	27.00	-0.60
Save, MZ	31,617.58 52.96	290.30	520.67	20.11	36.06	-5.54
Ruvuma, TZ	13,591.00 99.45	175.77	332.23	19.14	36.18	-5.57
Rufiji, TZ	34,710.97 81.96	200.83	415.39	16.72	34.59	-5.62
Mahajamba, MG	19,987.47 28.48	272.70	167.97	39.62	24.40	3.13
Sundarbans, IN & BD	216,747.30 33.97	286.89	597.63	16.93	35.26	-4.48

Table 6. Results of ALOS/PALSAR HV backscatter amplitude change detections (constant mangrove distribution) over 2007–2010. Significantly increasing/decreasing pixels are indexed as those with $\geq 15\%$ HV backscatter amplitude change (see Materials and Methods).

Site	Coverage of total stable mangrove area (ha; %)	Signif. increasing (ha)	Signif. decreasing (ha)	Signif. increasing (%)	Signif. decreasing (%)	2007-2010 total significant biomass change (%)
Saloum Delta, SN	54,285.45 11.51	11,313.03	13,985.12	20.84	25.76	-2.04
Sherbro Bay, SL	51,600.06 26.98	11,532.41	12,142.22	22.35	23.53	-0.62
Save River Delta, MZ	31,617.58 52.96	5,860.44	11,159.64	18.54	35.30	-5.33
Ruvuma Estuary, TZ	13,591.00 99.45	2,546.23	4,257.66	18.73	31.33	-3.96
Rufiji Delta, TZ	34,710.97 81.96	5,269.42	11,705.89	15.18	33.72	-5.34
Mahajamba, MG	19,987.47 28.48	5,712.23	4,302.40	28.58	21.53	1.56
Sundarbans, IN & BD	216,747.30 33.97	37,263.08	40,356.98	17.19	18.62	-0.66

Table 7. Results of landward anthropogenic development analyses. Anthropogenic landward pixels = validated anthropogenic dry bare-ground landcover within one-pixel wide year 2007 mangrove landward perimeters in years 2007 and 2015. Numbers in brackets represent proportional ‘true’ validated anthropogenic landcover from total classified mangrove landward perimeter dry bare-ground pixels used to scale anthropogenic landward pixel numbers ($N = 200$ pixels; see Materials and Methods).

Site	Total landward pixels (N; length [km])	2007		2015		Change (in total landward length [%]; [km])
		Anthro. landward pixels (N; length [km])	Proportion landward perimeter anthro. (%)	Anthro. landward pixels (N; length [km])	Proportion landward perimeter anthro. (%)	
Saloum, SN	3,417,966 42,736.21	184,726 2,309.08 (47.50%)	5.40	45,598 569.98 (17.00%)	1.33	-4.07 -1,739.10
Sherbro, SL	701,606 8,770.08	9,315 116.44 (7.50%)	1.33	30,980 387.25 (27.50%)	4.42	3.09 270.81
Save, MZ	380,151 4,751.89	20 0.25 (6.50%)	0.005	92 1.15 (3.00%)	0.02	0.015 0.90
Ruvuma, TZ	49,225 615.31	0 0.00 (0.00%)	0.00	189 2.36 (31.00%)	0.38	0.38 2.36
Rufiji, TZ	243,416 3,042.70	8,104 101.30 (41.50%)	3.33	23,540 294.25 (21.00%)	9.67	6.34 192.95
Mahajamba, MG	384,712 4,839.00	0 0.00 (0.00%)	0.00	0 0.00 (0.00%)	0.00	0.00 0.00
Sundarbans, IN & BD	442,870 5,535.88	15,616 195.20 (96.00%)	3.53	16,209 202.61 (96.00%)	3.66	0.13 7.41

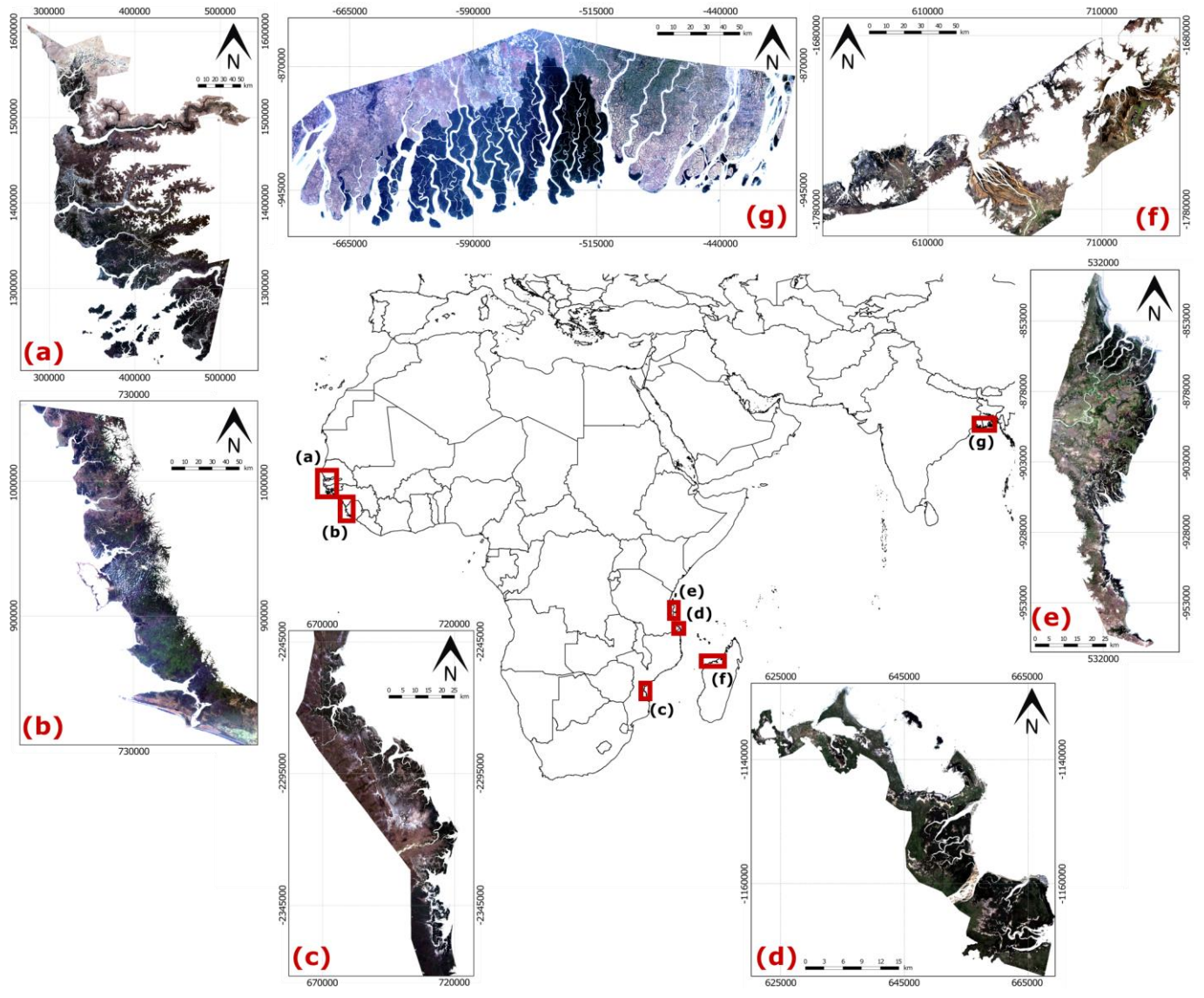
FIGURE LEGENDS

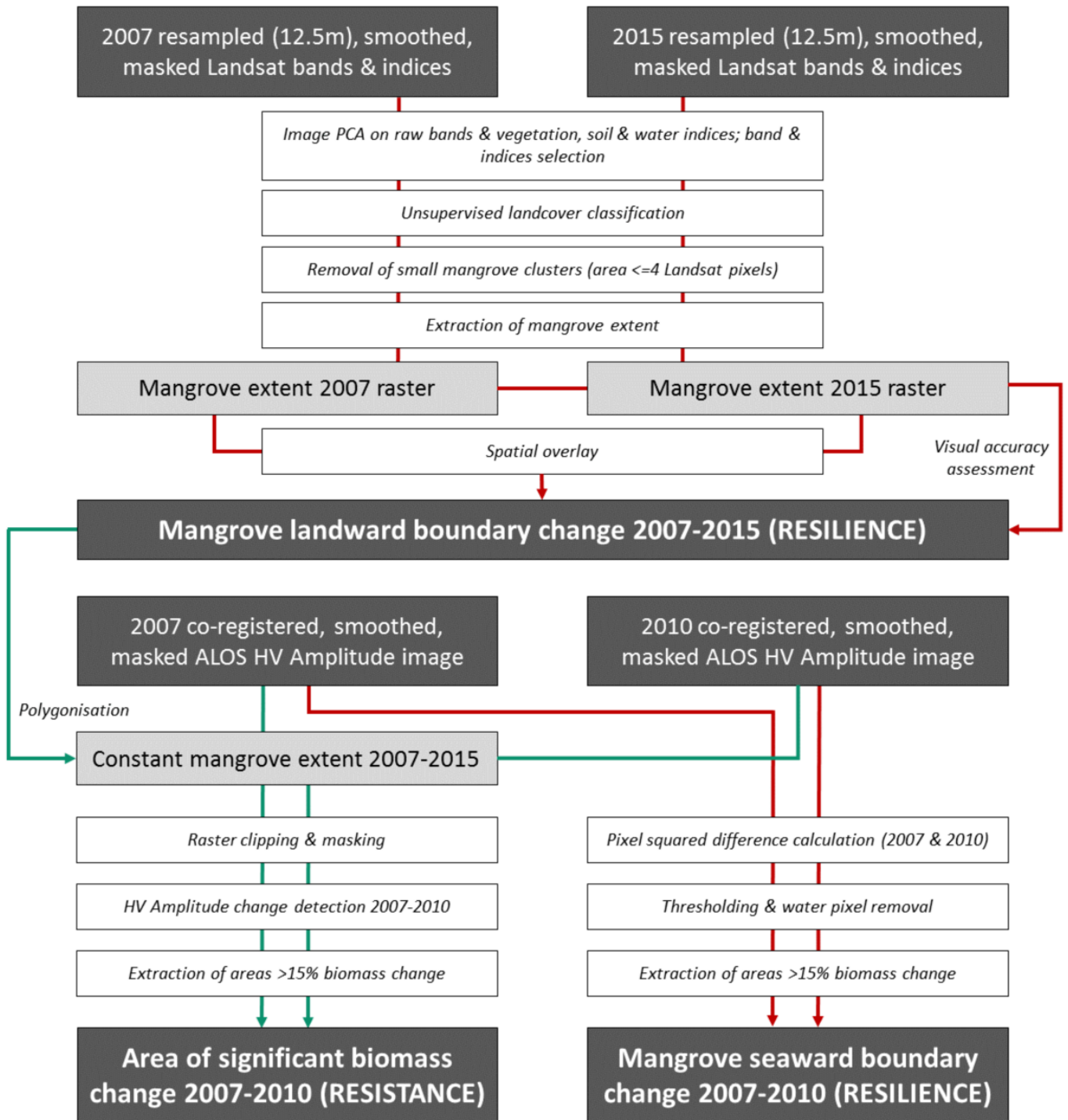
Figure 1. Mangrove study sites from West Africa to South Asia. Displayed imagery: Landsat 5 TM and 8 OLI/TIRS imagery (USGS 2015). (a) Saloum Delta, Senegal; (b) Sherbro Bay, Sierra Leone; (c) Save River Delta, Mozambique; (d) Ruvuma Estuary, Tanzania; (e) Rufiji Delta, Tanzania; (f) Mahajamba, Madagascar; (g) Sundarbans, India and Bangladesh. See also Table S1.

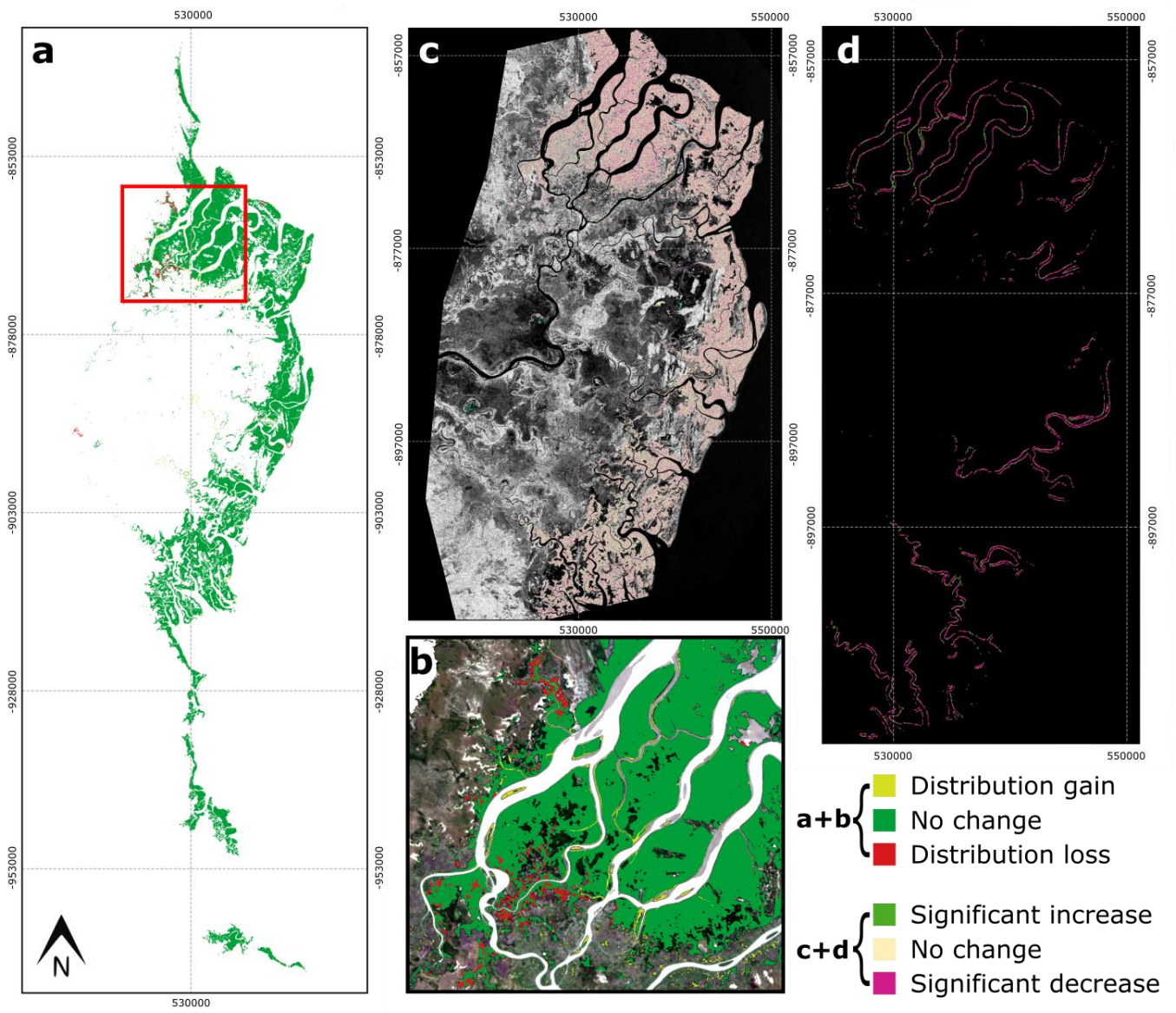
Figure 2. Schematic of the multi-product remote sensing approach to index mangrove SLR resilience and resistance capacity. PCA = principal components analysis. Red arrows: processing stages for resilience capacity; green arrows: processing stages for resistance capacity.

Figure 3. Distribution, biomass and seaward boundary change assessment at Rufiji Delta, Tanzania. a) spatial overlay of distribution change 2007–2015; b) close-up of the northern delta, with heavy mangrove clearing for agriculture observed (mid-dark grey in underlaid 2015 Landsat imagery); c) ALOS/PALSAR L-Band HV backscatter amplitude change detection 2007–2010 within the stable 2007–2015 mangrove distribution (pixel-specific significant biomass change = $\geq 15\%$ change); significant biomass change northern delta = -6.05% , southern delta = -4.56% ; d) [for visualisation only] resampled significant biomass change in seaward mangrove boundary pixels 2007–2010 (62.5m resolution).

Figure 4. Ranking of identified current mangrove resilience and resistance capacities for management prioritisation. L = landward; S = seaward; migration ability = percentage of current (2015) non-dry bare-ground (c.f. potential anthropogenic) landcover with suitable topographic slope for landward migration ($\leq \theta$ [95% quantile SRTM DEM slope of migrated pixels]); potential change (resilience) = percentage increase in potential anthropogenic development 2007-2015; potential change (resistance) = mean trend in sediment availability (mean Kendall's *tau* ENVISAT MERIS-derived TSM [g m^{-3}] 2006-2010; ESA GLOBCOLOUR 2014). Rankings: red = low; orange = medium; green = high.







Site	Capacity for resilience	Capacity for resistance	Migration availability (topographic; % [radians])	Potential change (anthropogenic; %)	Potential change (sediment; τ TSM)
Saloum Delta, SN	Stable area (-0.09%) Landward migration < Seaward loss (0.00% L; -2.81% S)	Marginal biomass loss (-2.04%)	82.92 ($\theta = 0.098$)	-4.07	-0.02
Sherbro Bay, SL	Decreasing area (-2.46%) Landward migration \approx Seaward loss (0.00% L; -0.60% S)	Stable biomass (-0.62%)	63.07 ($\theta = 0.123$)	3.09	0.006
Save River Delta, MZ	Increasing area (4.55%) Landward migration > Seaward loss (20.98% L; -5.54% S)	Biomass loss (-5.33%)	93.82 ($\theta = 0.064$)	0.015	-
Ruvuma Estuary, TZ	Stable area (0.64%) Landward migration > Seaward loss (6.54% L; -5.57% S)	Marginal biomass loss (-3.96%)	87.22 ($\theta = 0.066$)	0.38	-
Rufiji Delta, TZ	Stable area (0.36%) Landward migration < Seaward loss (1.85% L; -5.62% S)	Biomass loss (-5.34%)	47.18 ($\theta = 0.086$)	6.34	-0.04
Mahajamba, MG	Increasing area (12.09%) Landward & Seaward increasing (31.11% L; 3.13% S)	Biomass gain (1.56%)	94.12 ($\theta = 0.082$)	0.00	-0.005
Sundarbans, IN & BD	Stable area (0.21%) Landward migration > Seaward loss (11.49% L; -4.48% S)	Stable biomass (-0.66%)	89.94 ($\theta = 0.066$)	0.13	-0.004