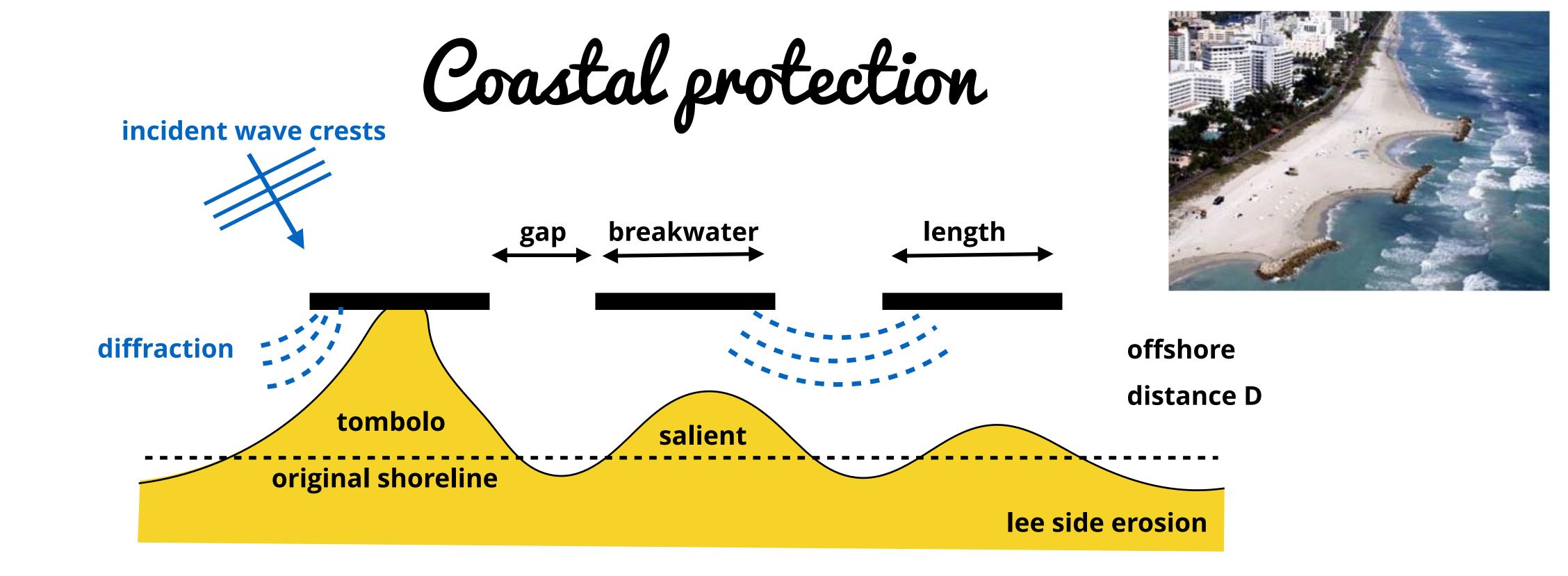
Coastal protection incident wave crests breakwater length diffraction offshore distance D tombolo salient original shoreline lee side erosion

▶ L/D>3 — permanent tombolo

- ▶ the breakwater length should be larger than the gap length (L/Lgap>1) to form a tombolo; increasing this ratio, increases the amount of energy transmitted through and over the segments while decreasing the diffraction effects; no erosion opposite to the gap will occur for Lgap/D<0.8; length in relation to the width of the surf zone (about -6 m to MSL)
- ▶ a tombolo behind a breakwater with L=200m, D=200m in a depth of 3m can be formed in 1 to 3 years
- be tombolos will be formed if the structure is placed close to the shore well within the breaker zone or if the longshore transport rate is relatively large (abundance of sand)
- b tombolos will eventually function as a groyne blocking the longshore transport



▶ L/D>=2 to 3; permanent or periodic tombolo (if depth at breakwater location<3 m) or well-developed salient (depth>3 m) periodic tombolos are removed during storm conditions (highly variable wave climate)