

A wide-angle photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a deep blue pool of water sits at the base of a glacier. The glacier's edge is visible, showing a sharp transition from white ice to dark, rocky ground. Behind the glacier, several dark, rugged mountains rise, their peaks partially obscured by a hazy, light-colored sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of environmental change and the impact of glacier recession.

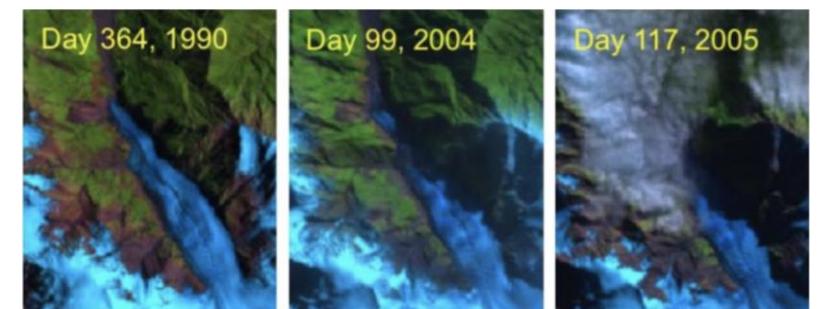
GLACIER RECESSION

Thu Thu Hlaing and Jonathan Webb

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nezamoddin N. Kachouie

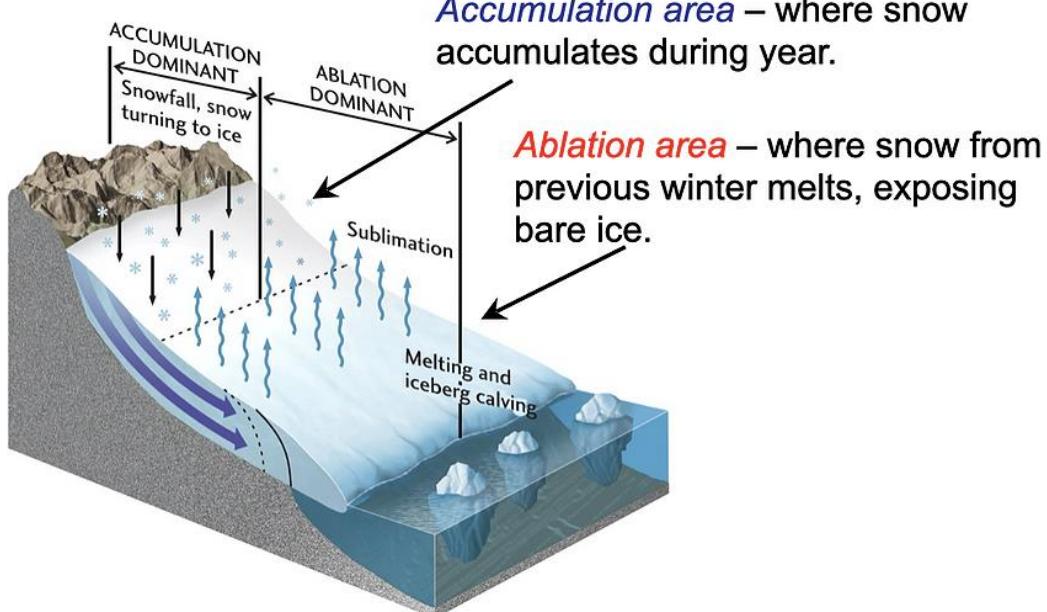
INTRODUCTION

Using satellite images to analyze the mountain glaciers' variation over time and investigate the potential relation to climate factors, including temperature, CO₂, and precipitation.



GLACIER BASICS

Accumulation vs. Ablation Periods

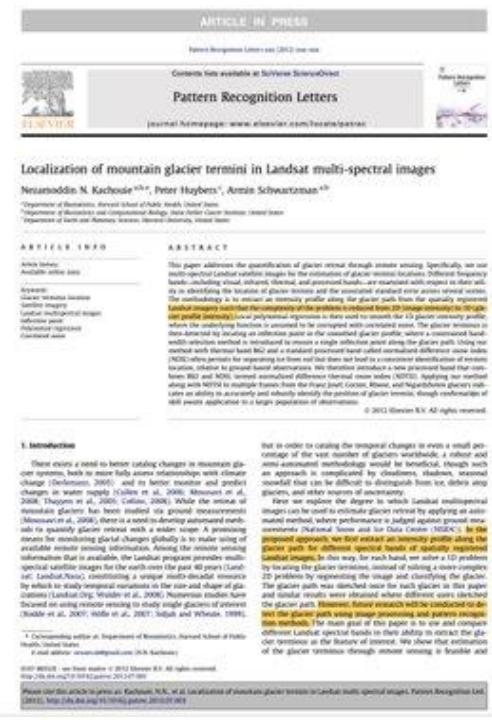


Glacier Terminal Point



LITERATURE REVIEW

Quantifying Area: "Localization of mountain glacier termini in Landsat multi-spectral images"



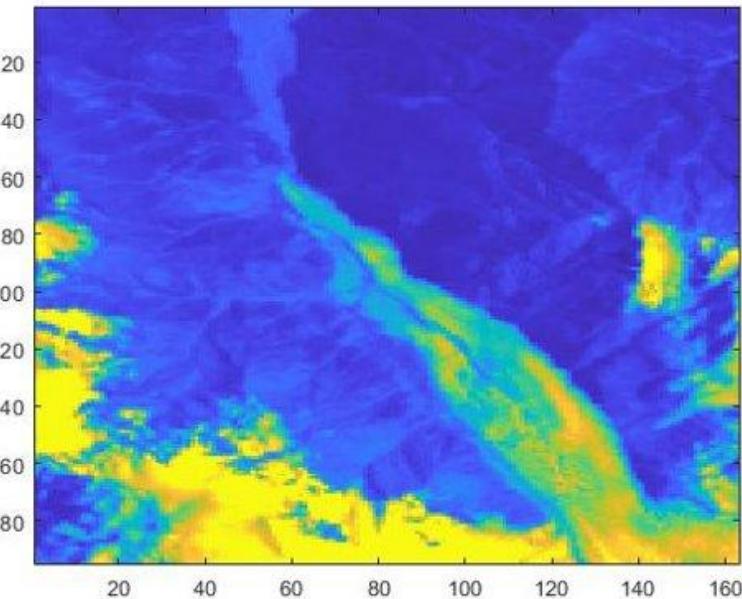
Modeling : "Multivariate models for predicting glacier termini"



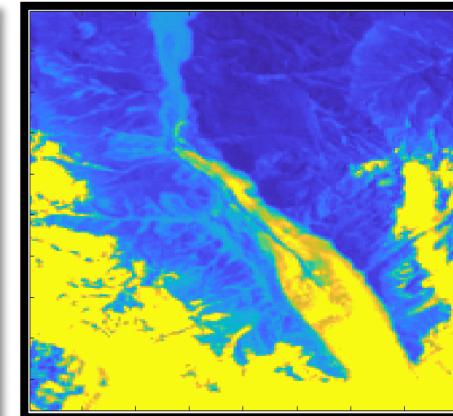
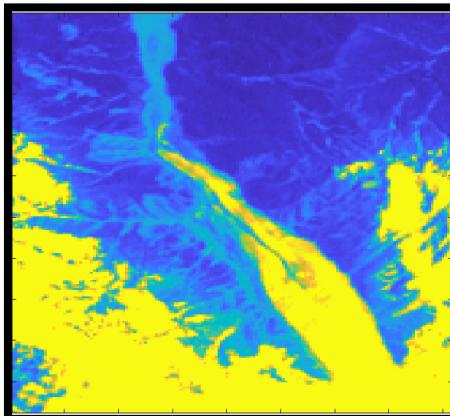
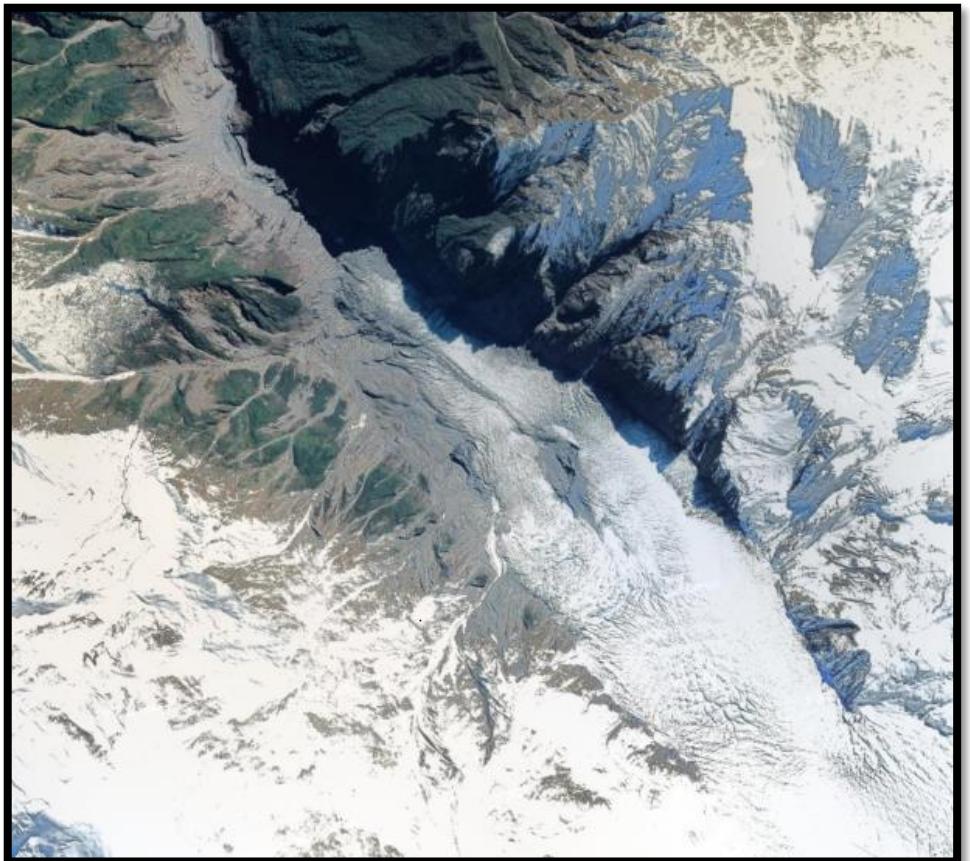
DATASETS

Landsat 8 Satellite Images

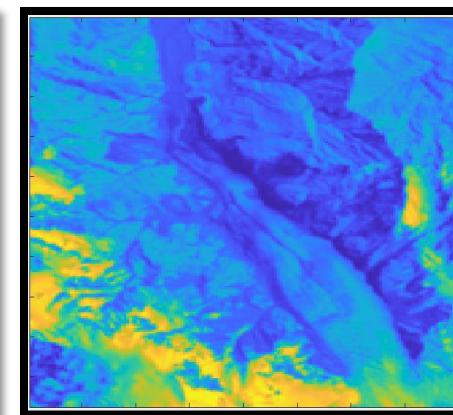
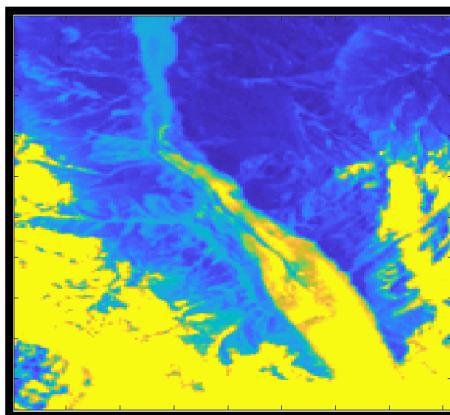
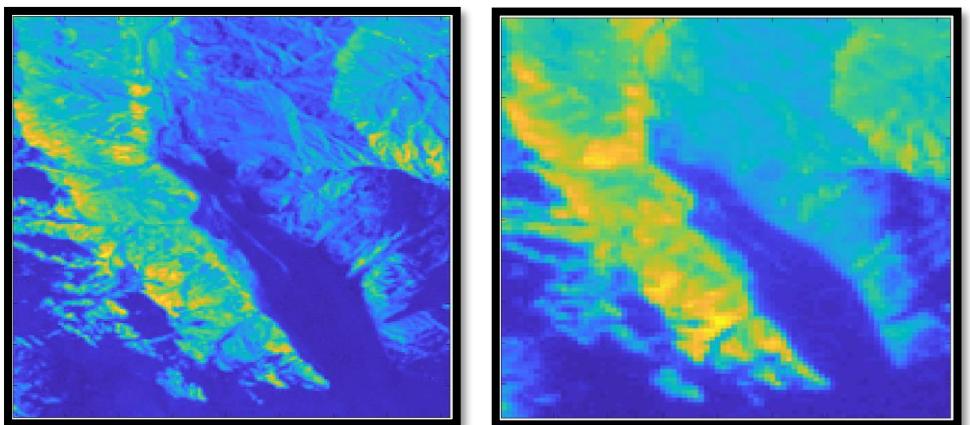
Processed as a tif file without geographical information



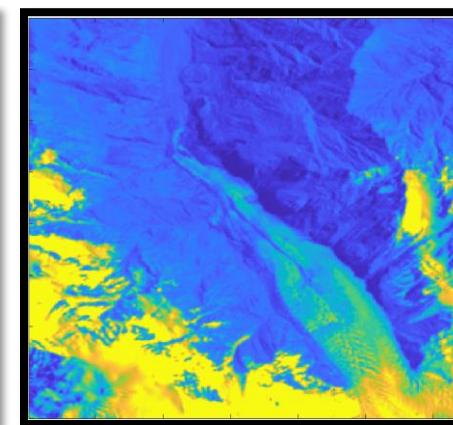
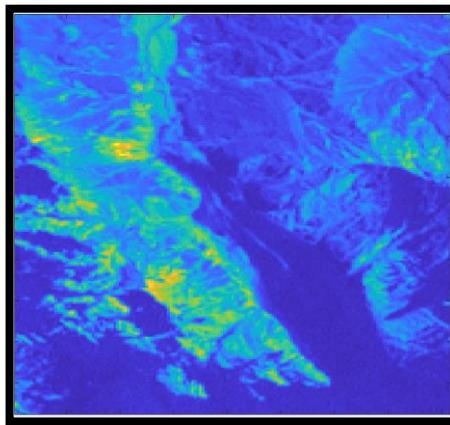
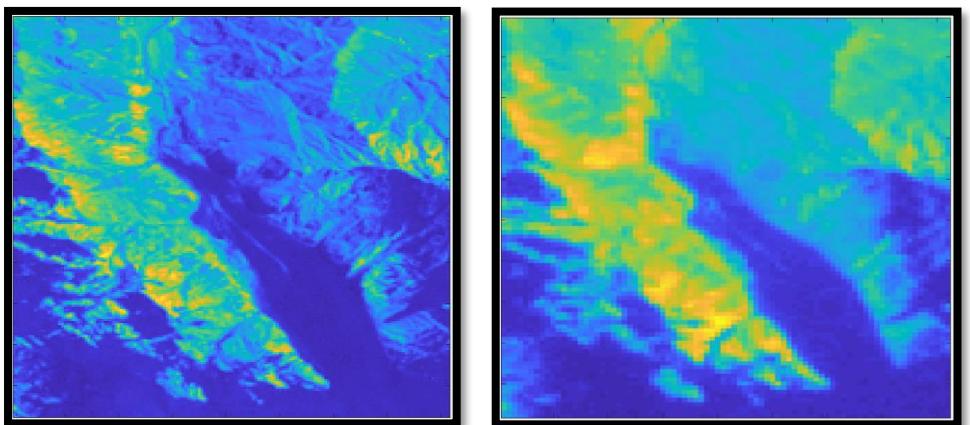
Bands	Wavelength (μm)	Resolution (m)
Band 1 – Blue	0.45 – 0.52	30
Band 2 – Green	0.52 – 0.60	30
Band 3 – Red	0.63 – 0.69	30
Band 4 – Near Infrared	0.77 – 0.90	30
Band 5 – Shortwave Infrared 1	1.55 – 1.75	30
Band 6 – Thermal	10.40 – 12.50	60
Band 7 – Shortwave Infrared 2	2.09 – 2.35	30
Band 8 – Panchromatic (entire visible)	0.52 – 0.90	15



L to R: Google Earth image of Franz Josef, blue band, green band



L to R: red band, near infrared (IR) band



L to R: shortwave (SWIR) band 1, thermal band, SWIR band 2, panchromatic band (entire visible spectrum)

CLIMATE DATA

We gathered daily climate data from a weather station closest to each glacier from NOAA.



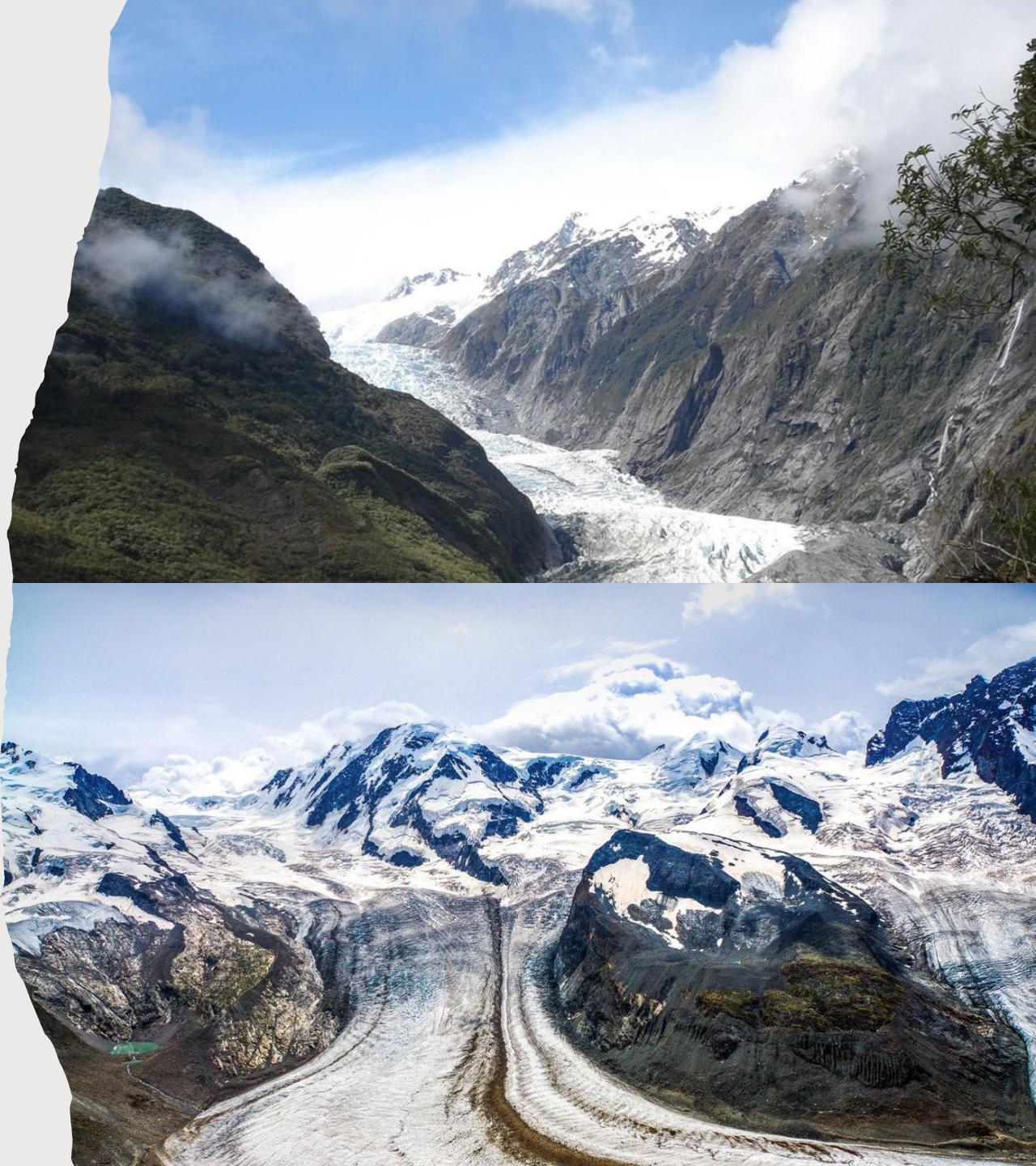
Daily Temperature Data



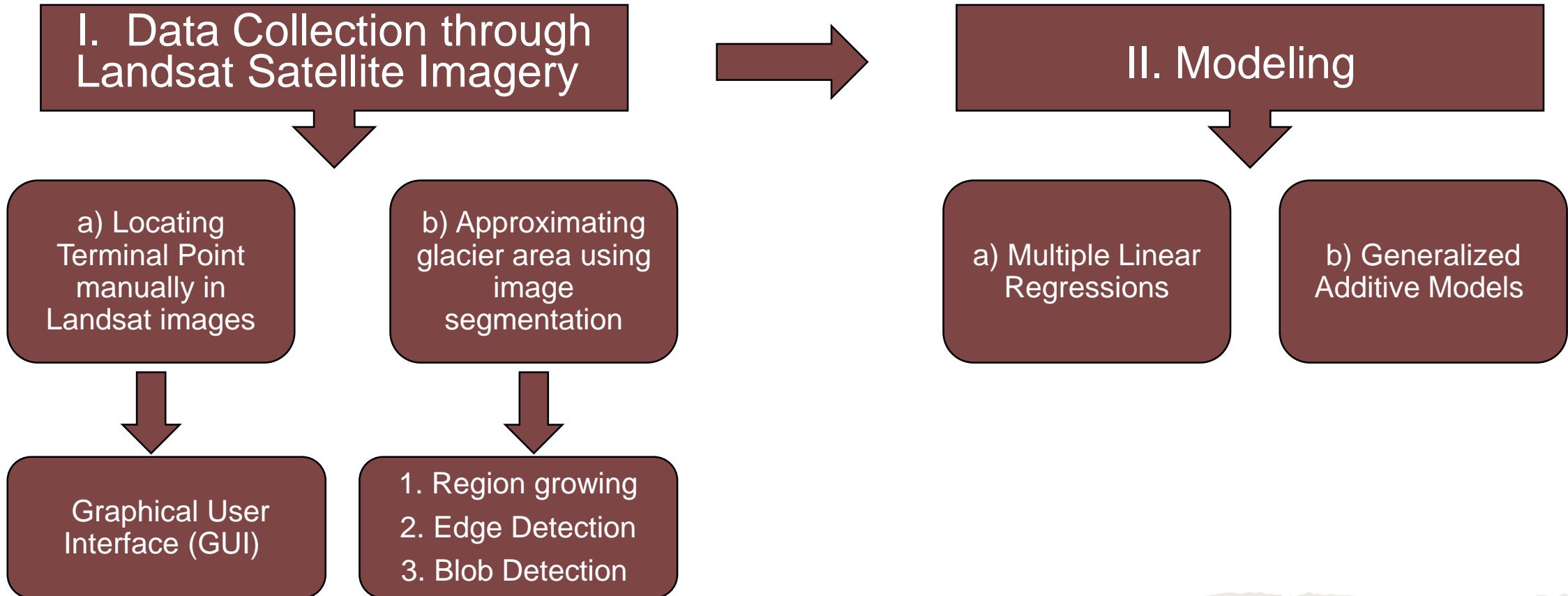
Daily Precipitation Data

HYPOTHESIS

Whether mountain glacier variation is correlated with global temperature, local temperature, precipitation, and CO₂ (climate factors).



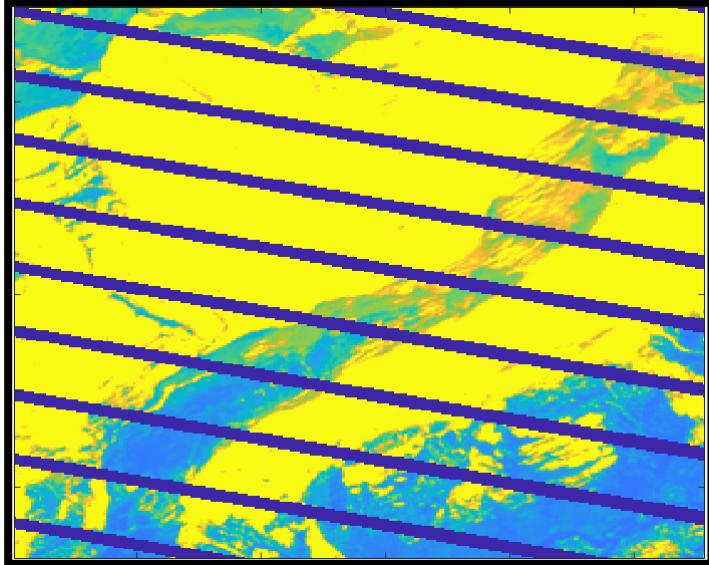
SCHEMATICS



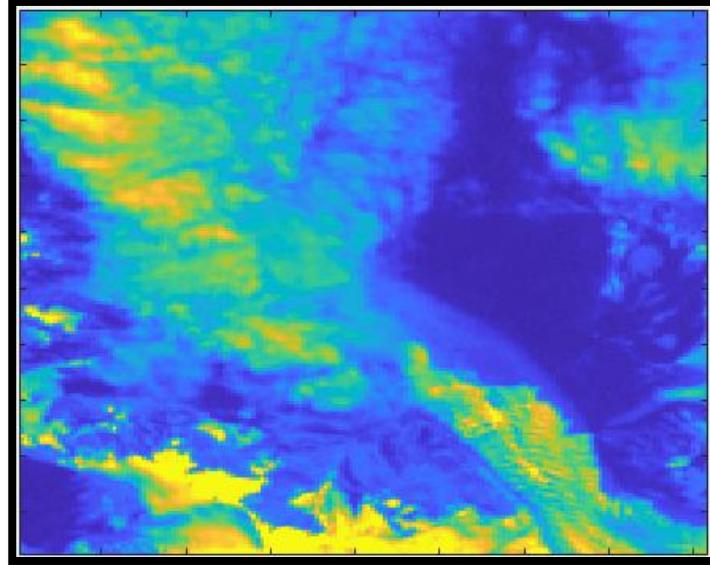


PART I. DATA COLLECTION

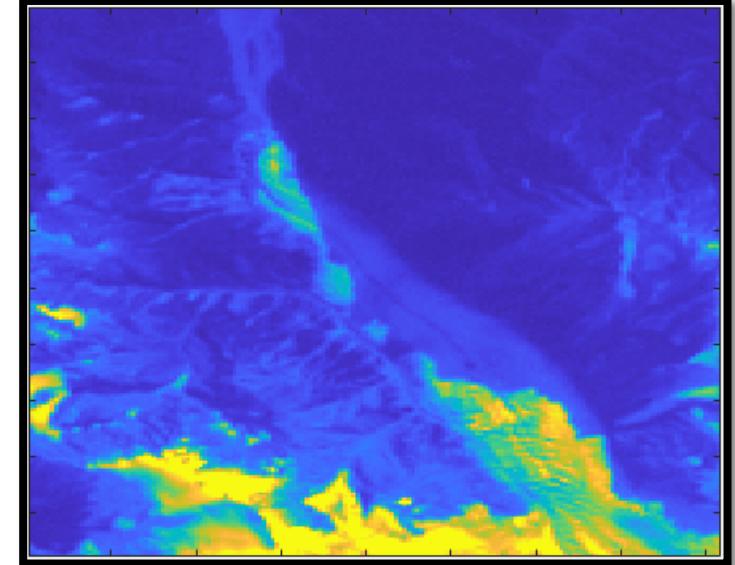
DATA QUALITY



Gorner, corrupted by a
sensor malfunction



Franz Josef, obscured
by clouds



Franz Josef, obscured
by shadows

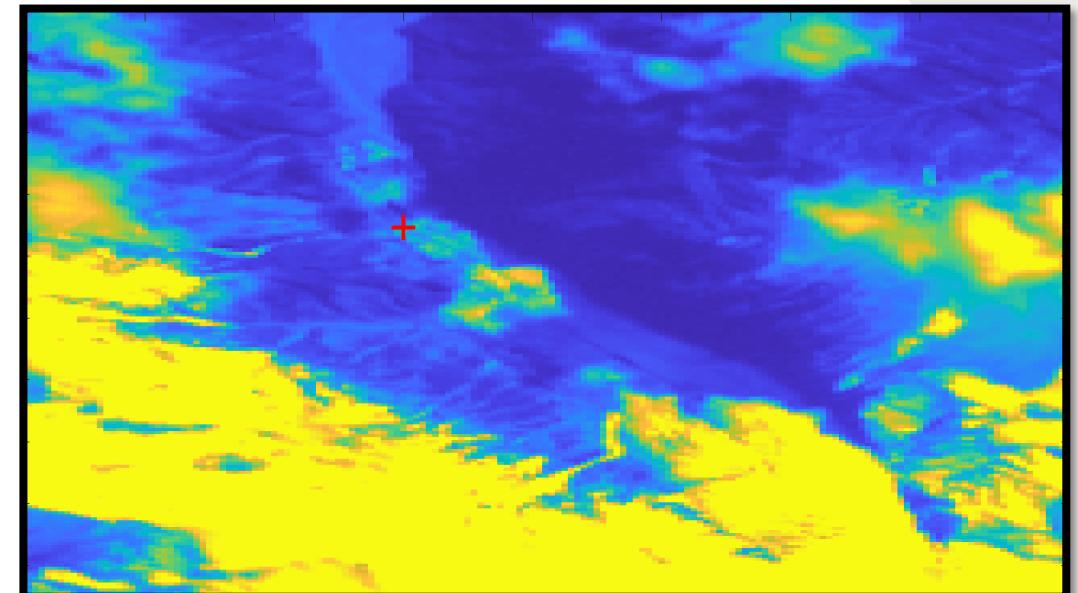
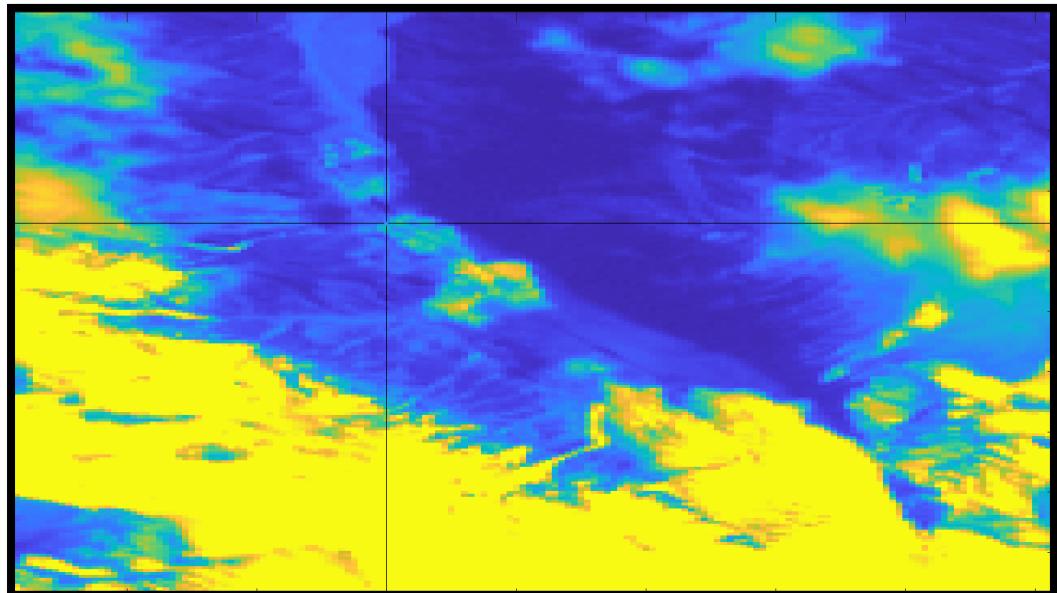
Franz Josef – 42 scenes, 37 usable for terminal point detection, 9
usable for area measurement

Gorner – 17 scenes, 15 usable for terminal point detection, 10
usable for area measurement

TERMINAL POINT



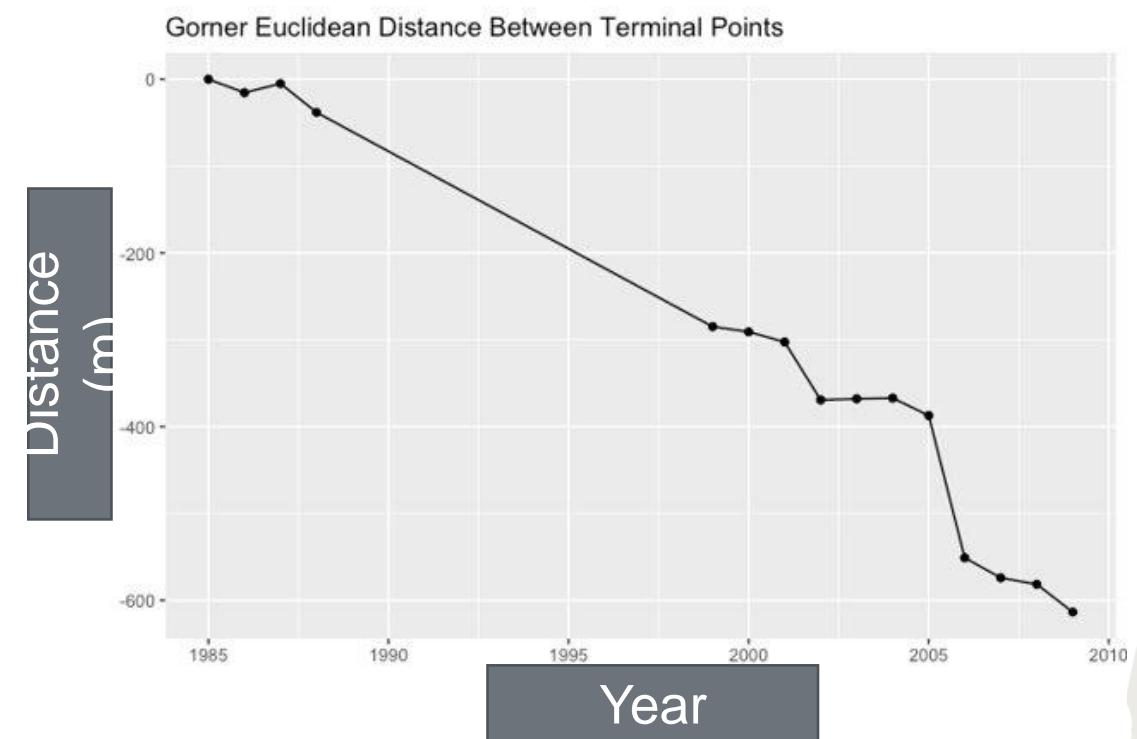
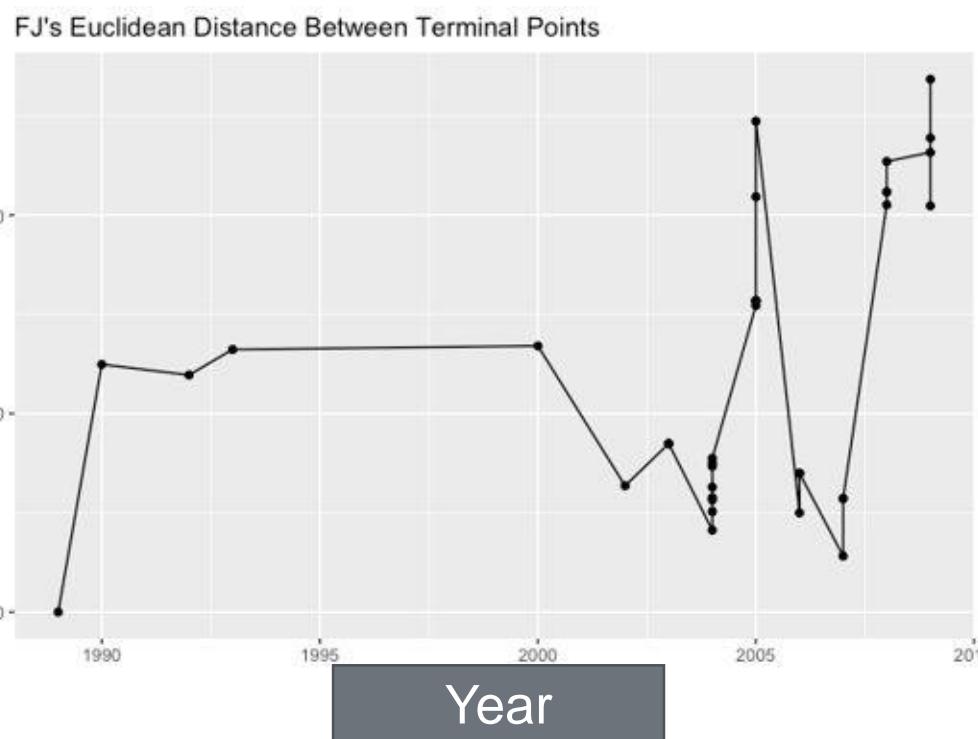
MATLAB GUI



A graphical user interface (GUI) allows us to plot the satellite images against an arbitrary graph and manually estimate the location

TERMINAL POINT VARIATIONS

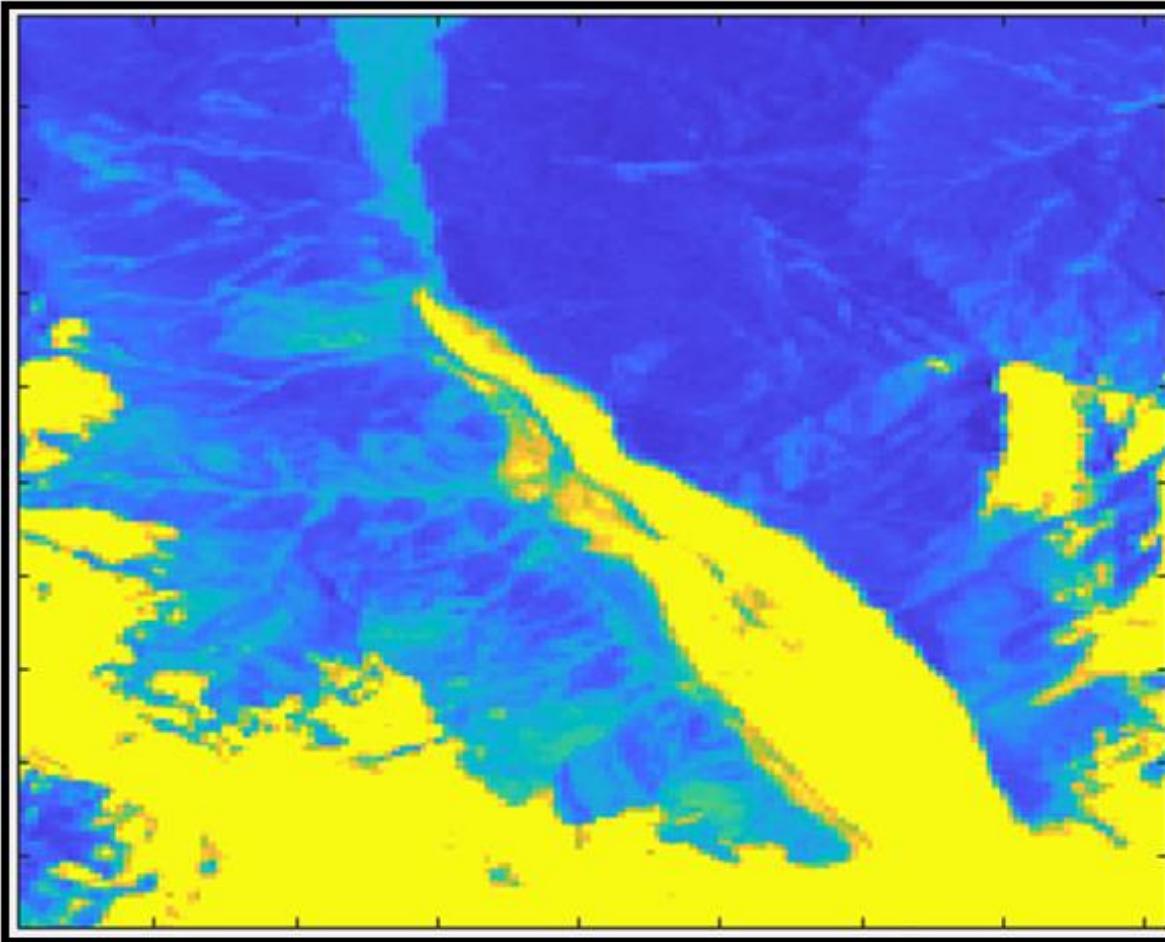
We plotted a time series of the distances between consecutive terminal points for both glaciers



AREA

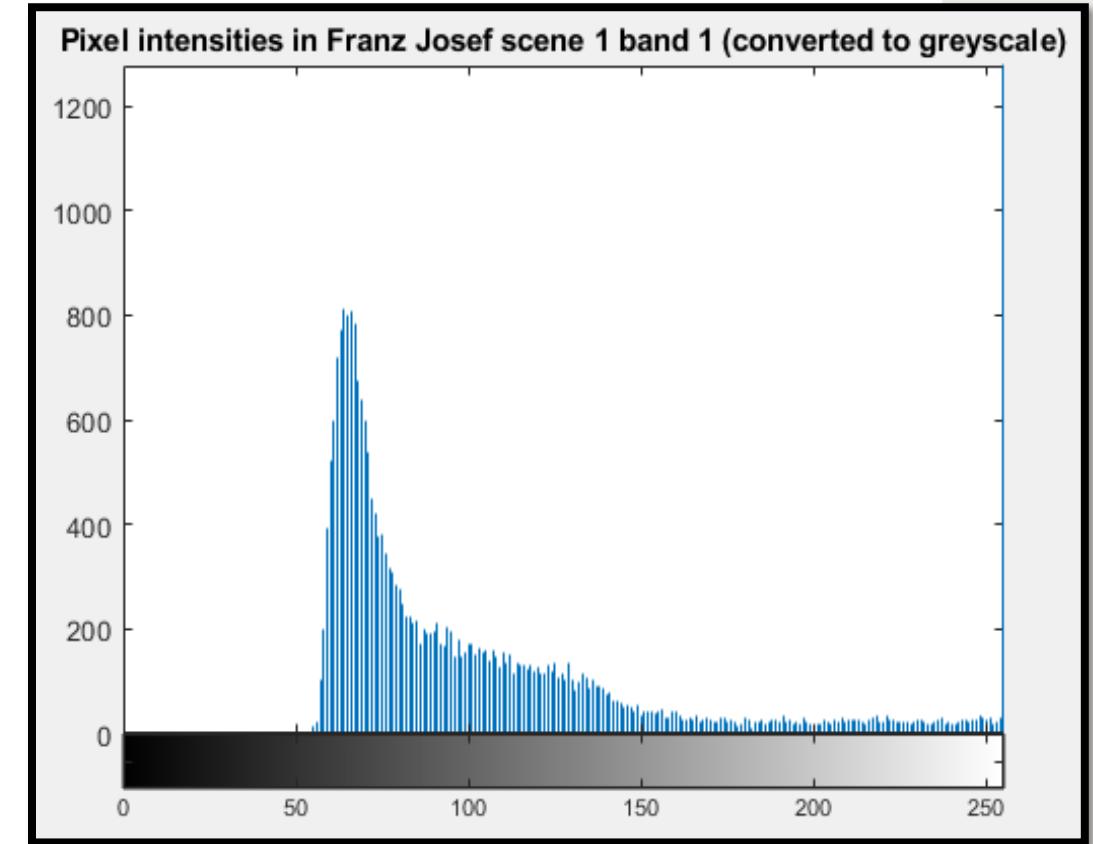
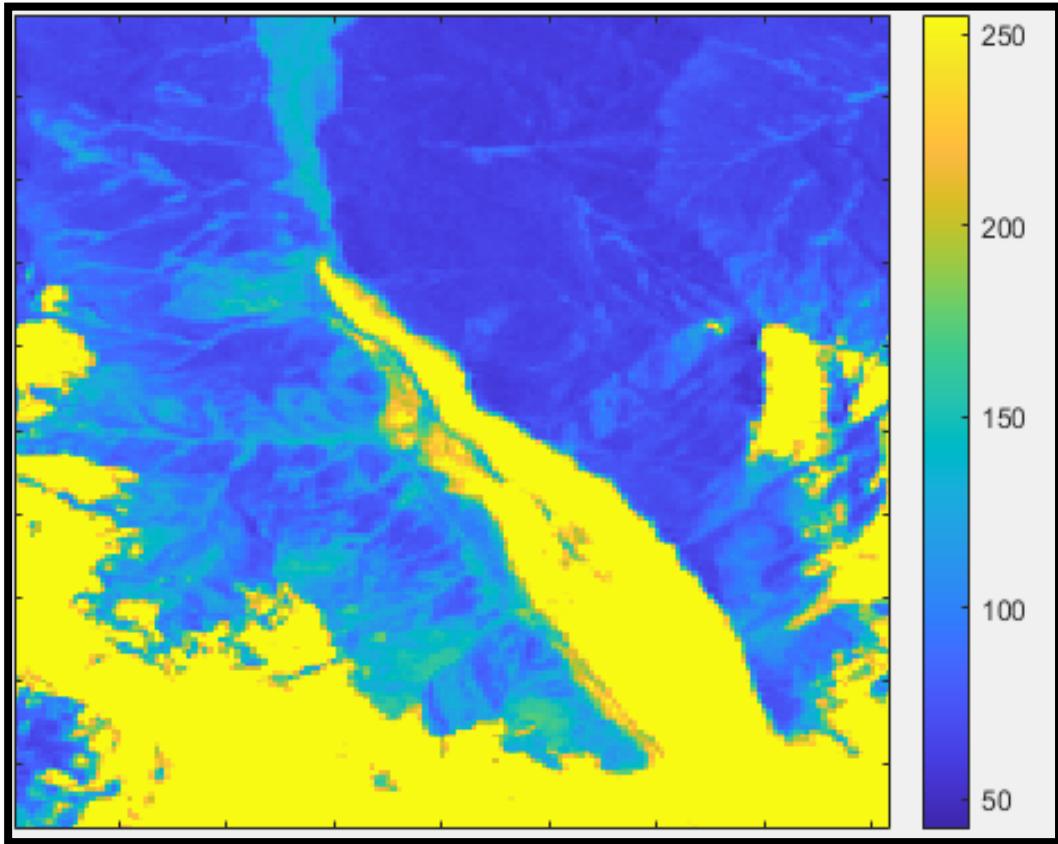


MEASURING AREA



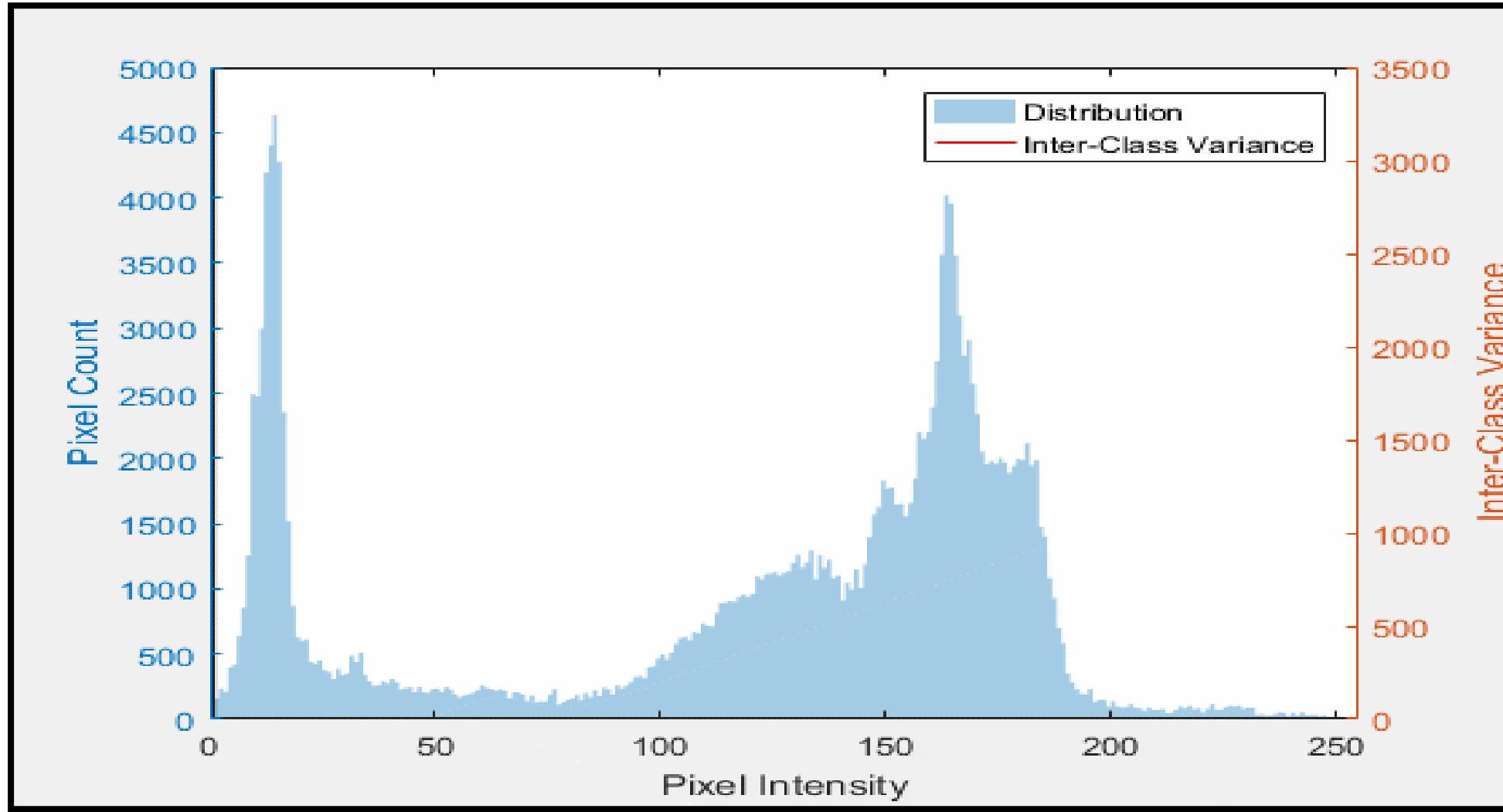
Simple idea – count pixels that make up the glacier and multiply by image resolution to get area

IMAGE SEGMENTATION



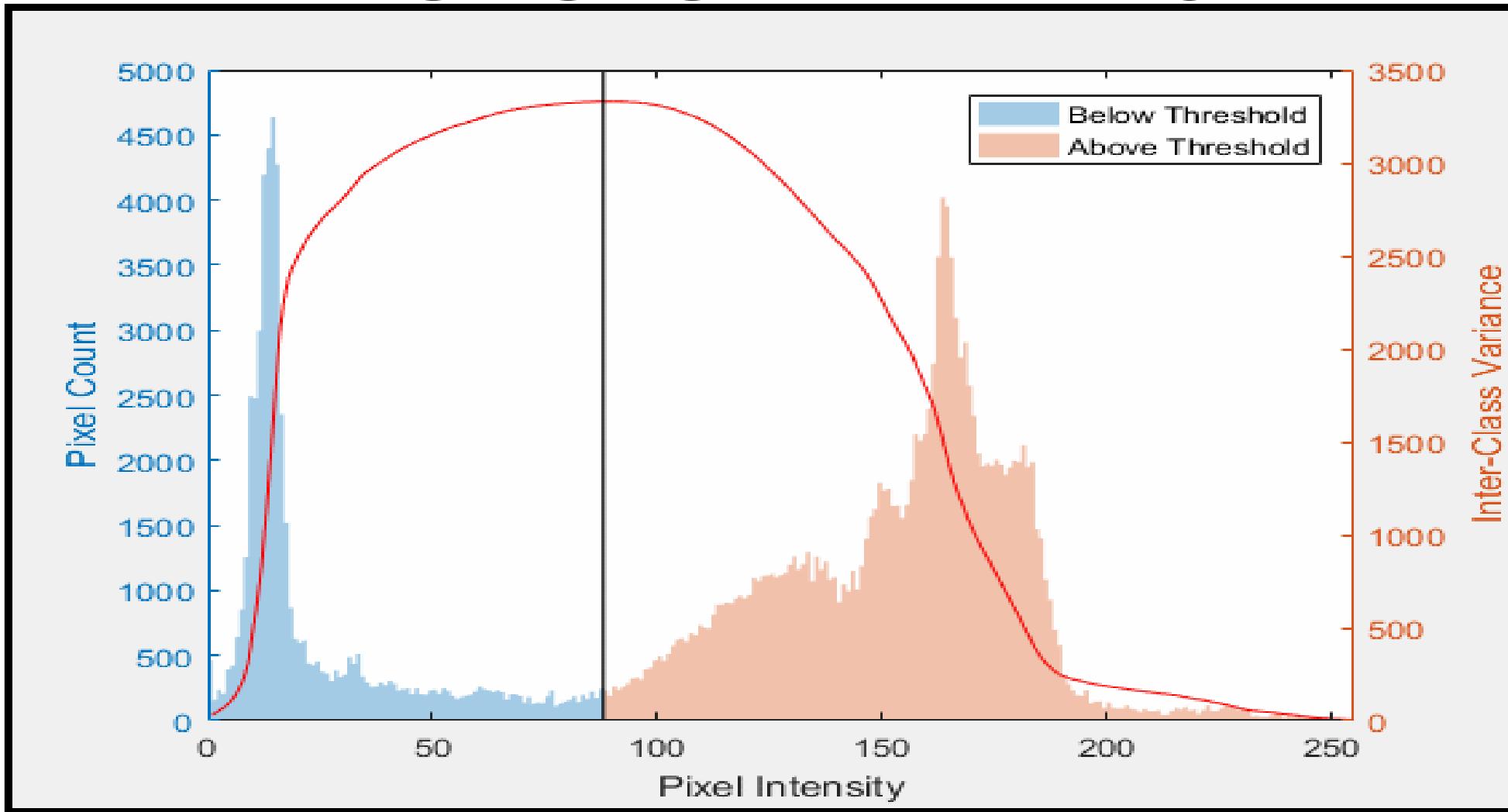
Images exist as matrices of pixel intensities

IMAGE SEGMENTATION



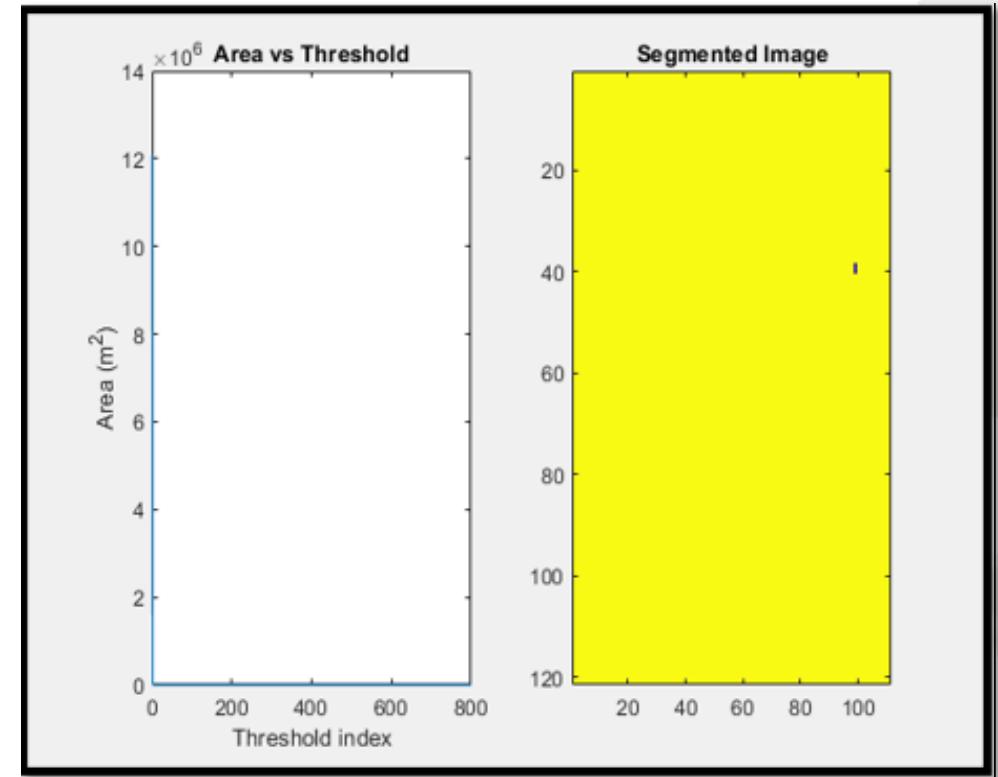
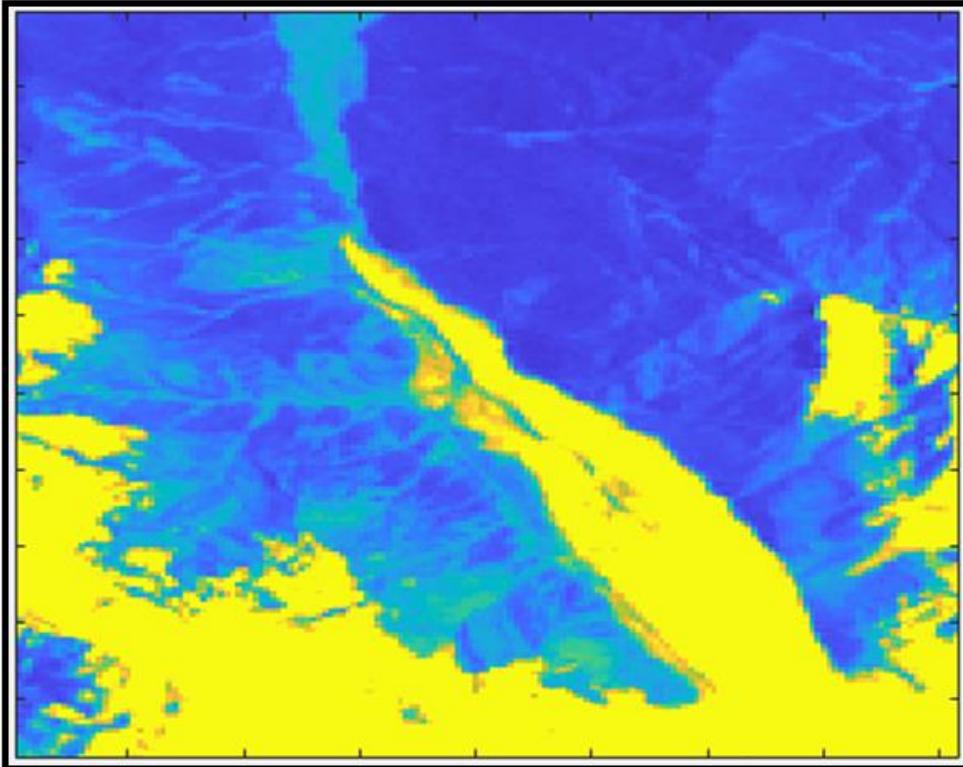
Otsu's method

IMAGE SEGMENTATION



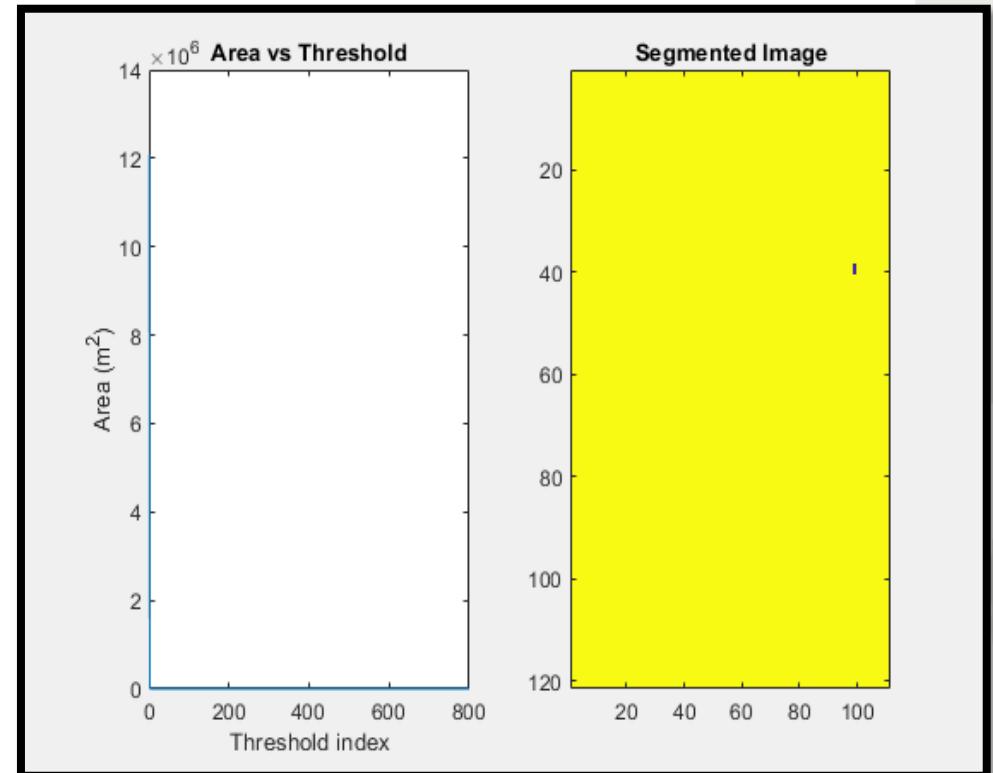
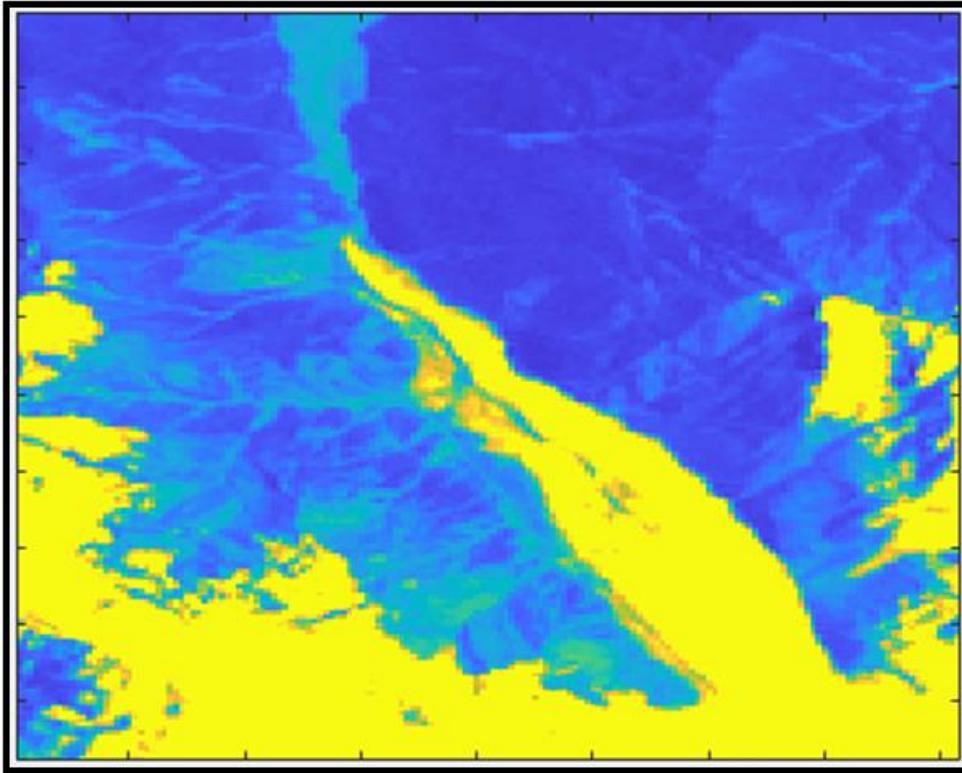
Otsu's method

IMAGE SEGMENTATION



Images are segmented into different regions based on a threshold for the difference between pixel intensities in those regions

IMAGE SEGMENTATION



Images are segmented into different regions based on a threshold for the difference between pixel intensities in those regions

REGION GROWING



Too little glacier



Good segmentation!



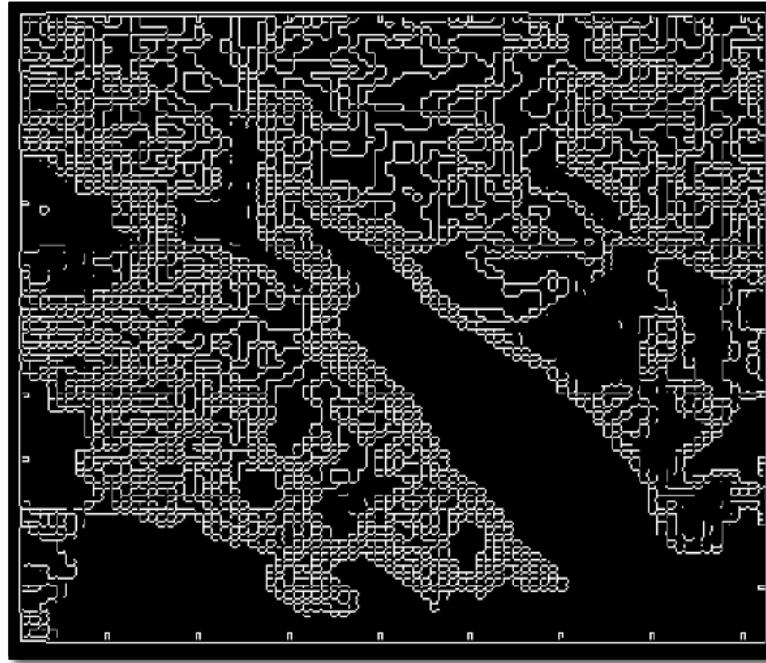
Too many surroundings

Pick a pixel within the glacier and have it grow based on differences in pixel intensity

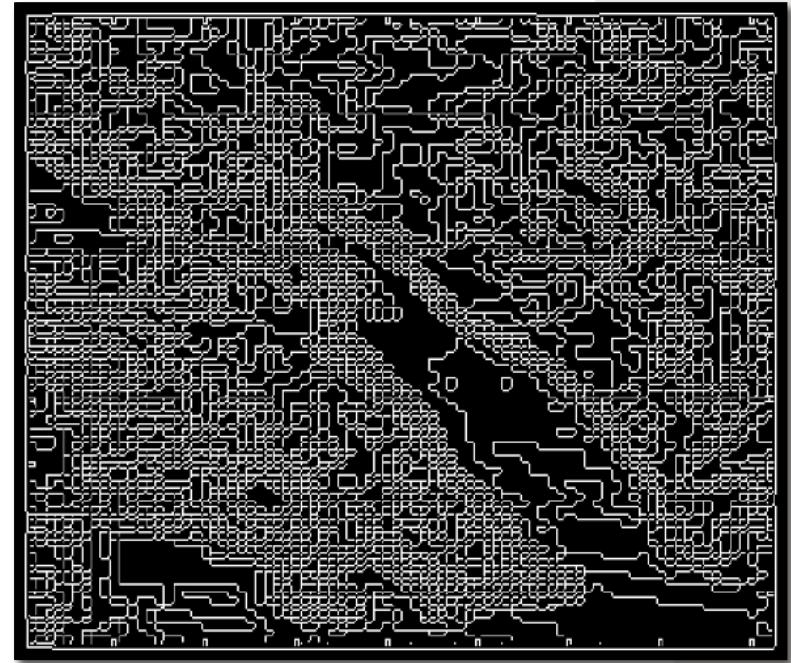
EDGE DETECTION



Glacier not fully outlined



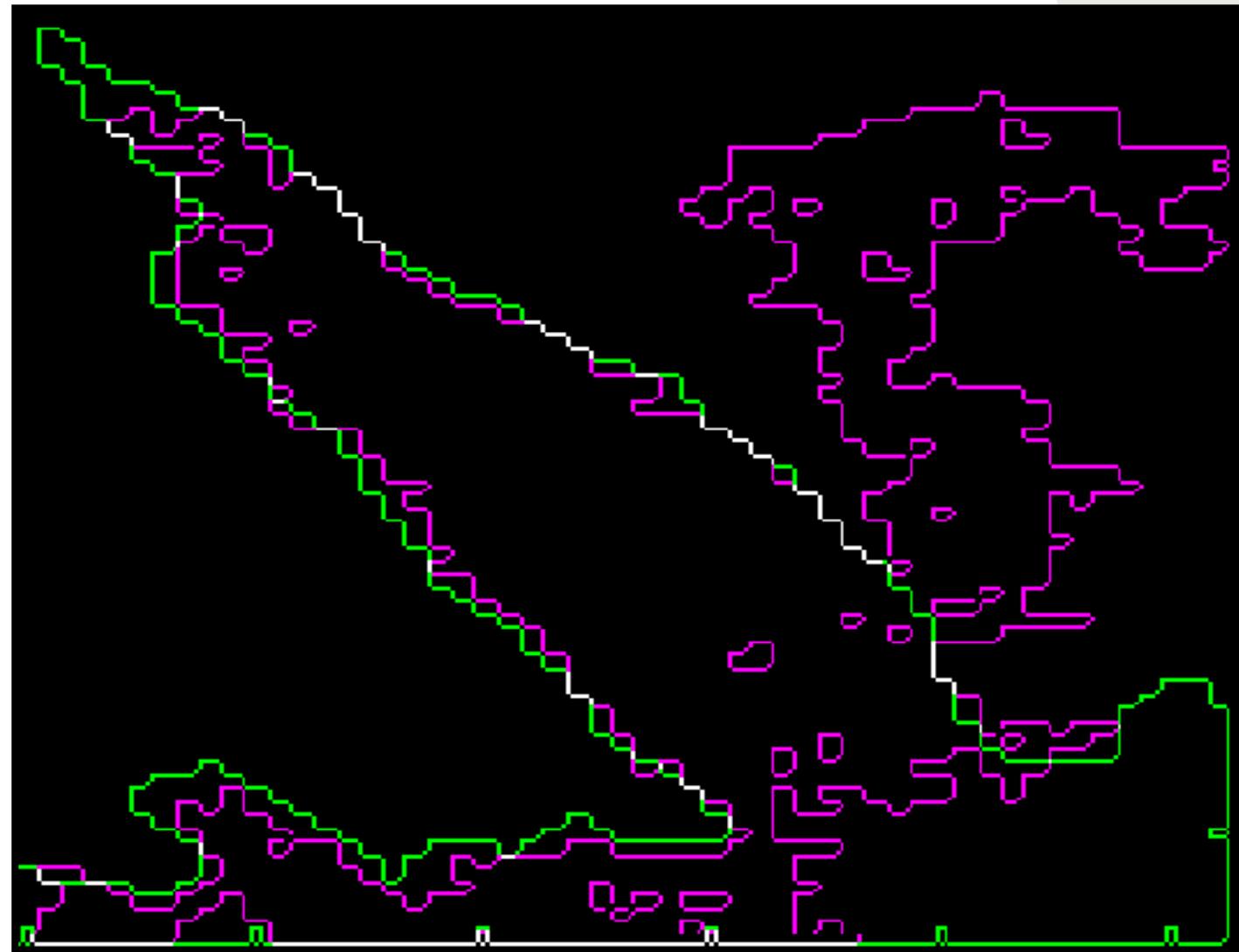
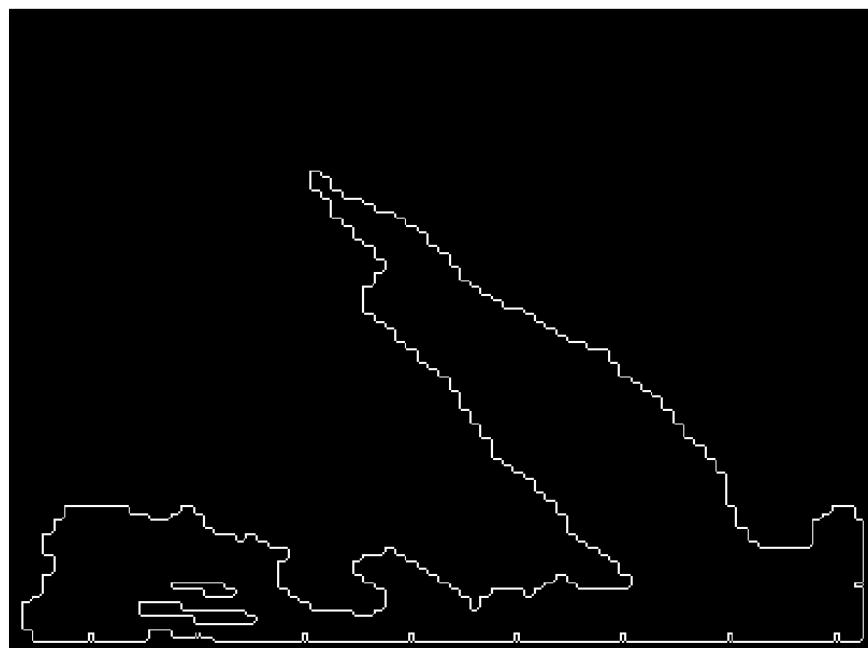
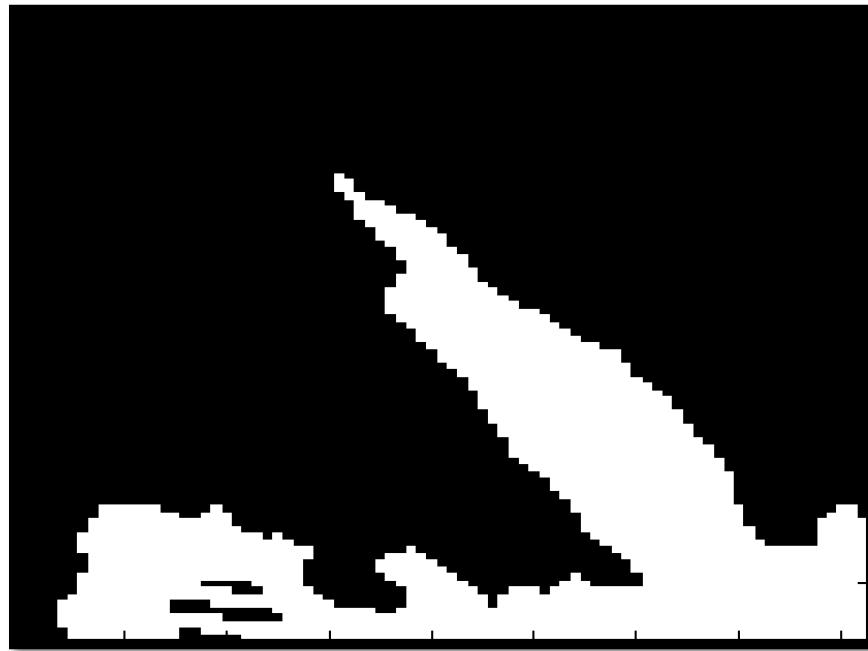
Good outline!



Glacier is broken up

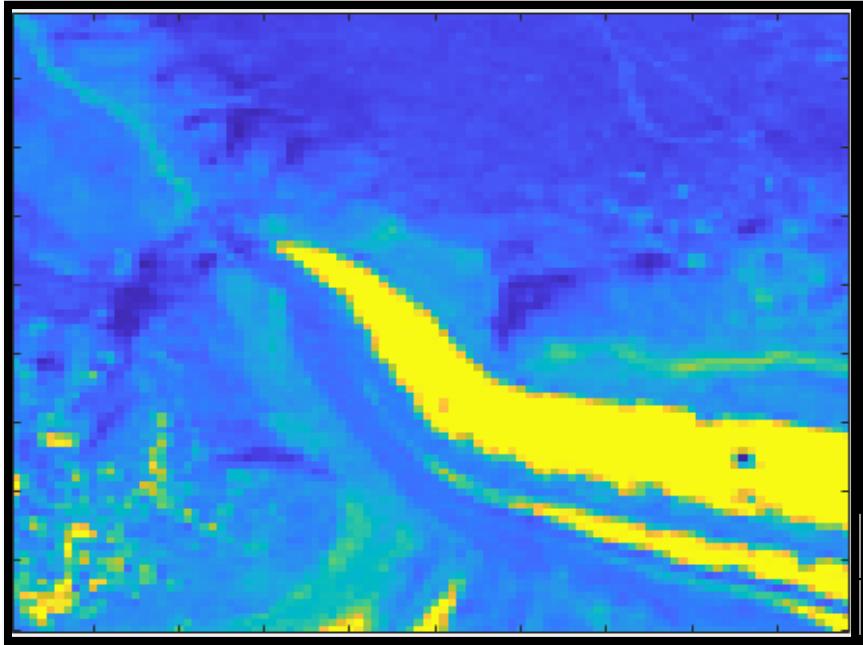
Edges are defined by differences in the intensities of adjacent pixels

COMBINING METHODS

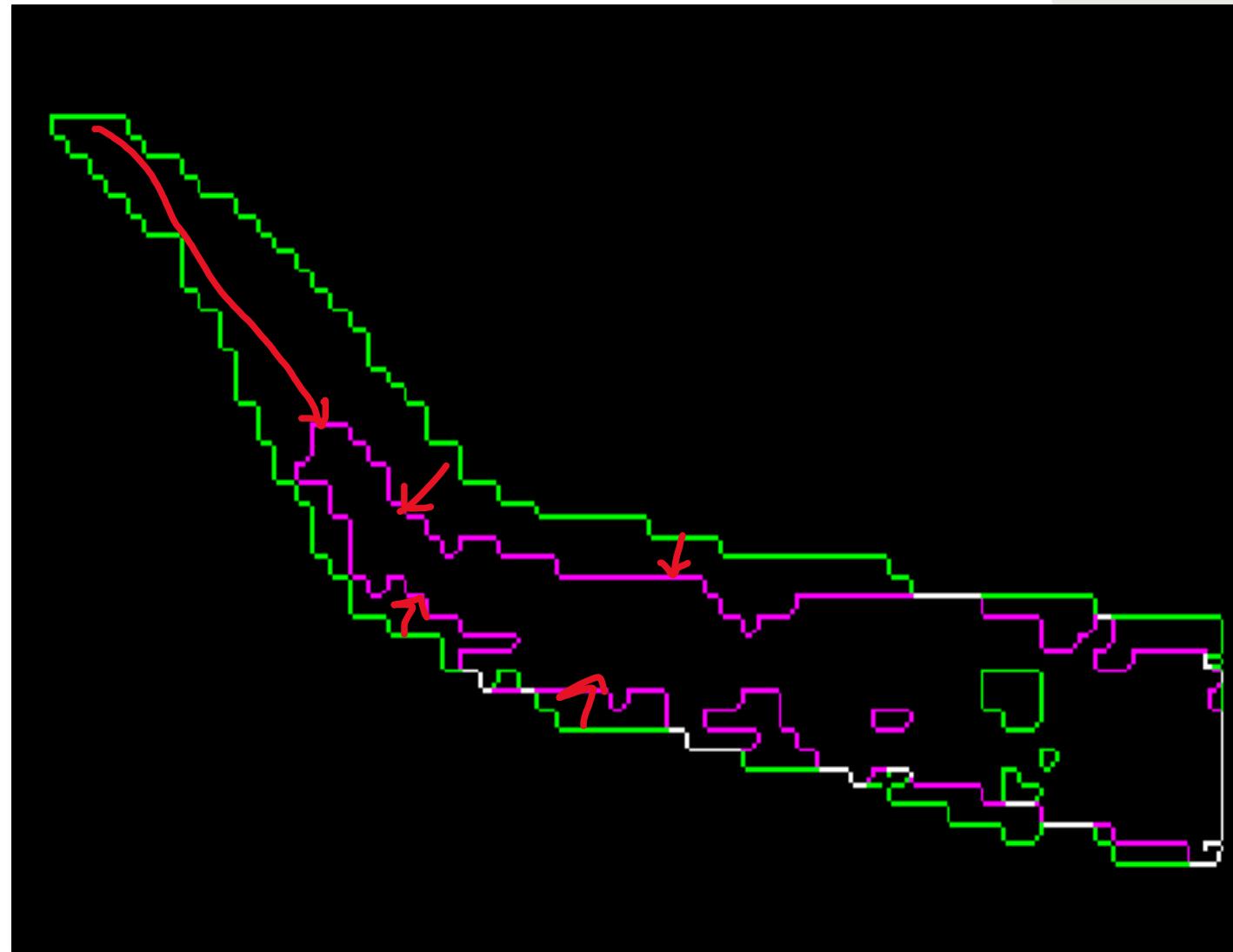
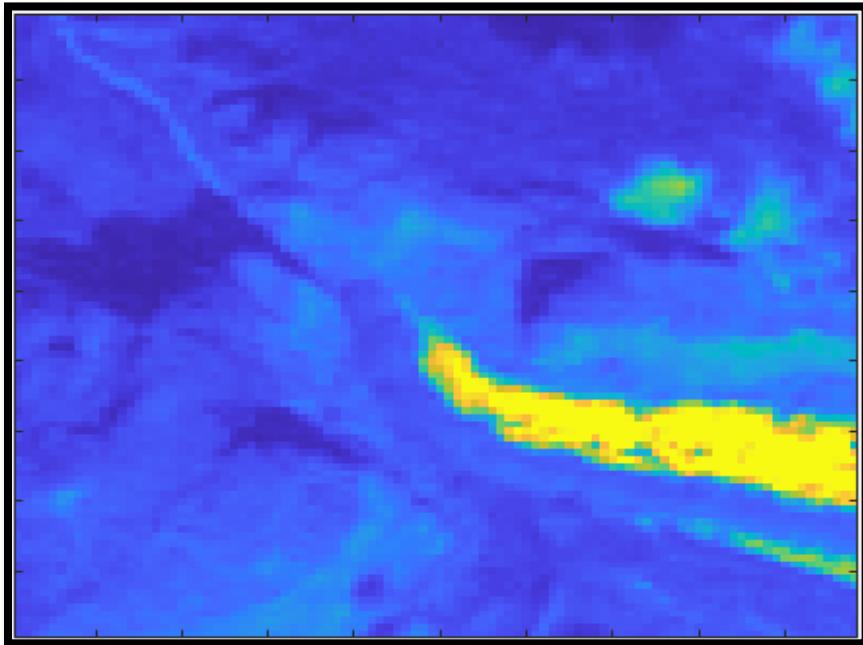


Superimposed scenes show area change – Franz Josef glacier
1990 (green), 2009 (purple)

COMBINING METHODS

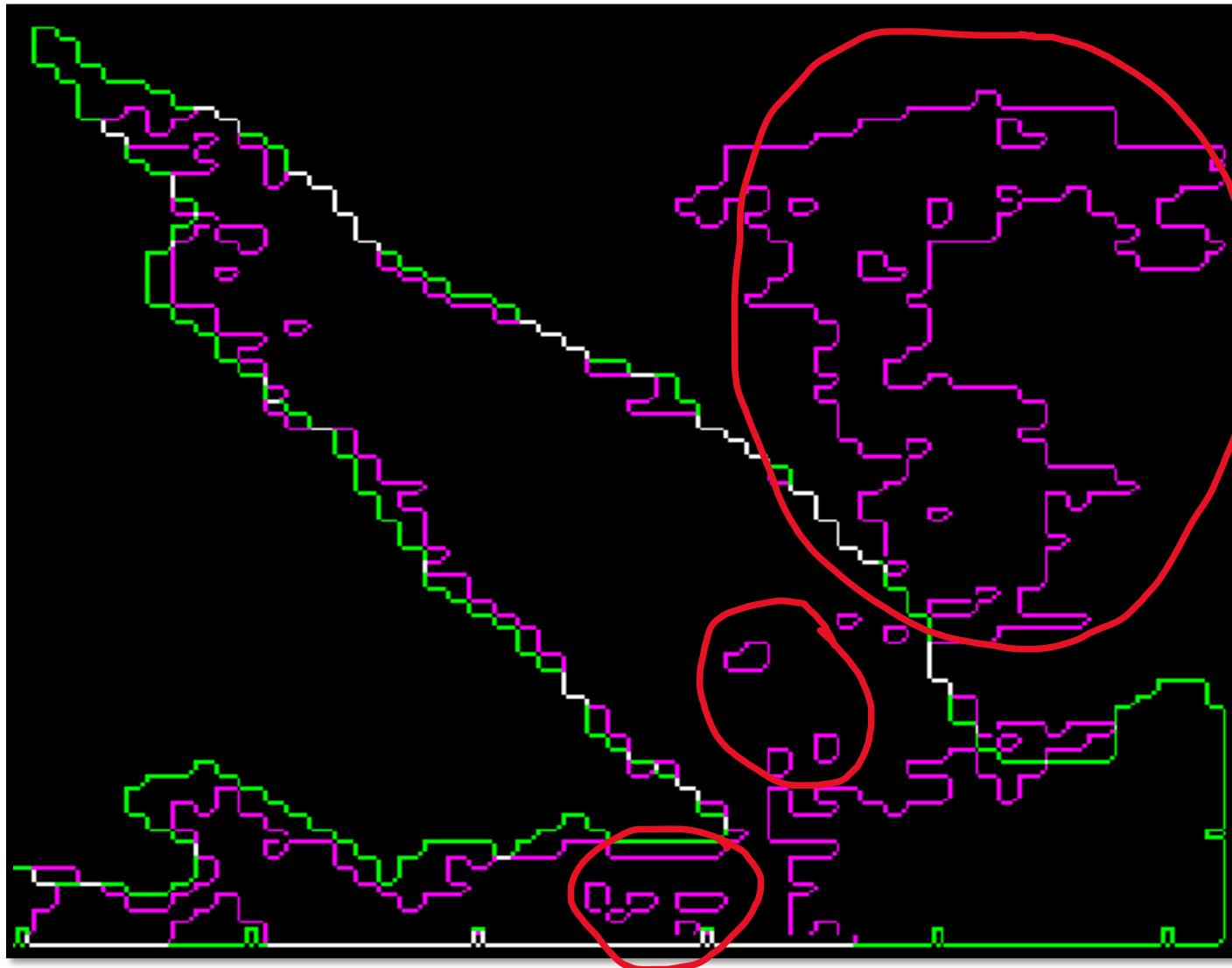


Gorner blue band, 1985 (top), 2009 (bottom)



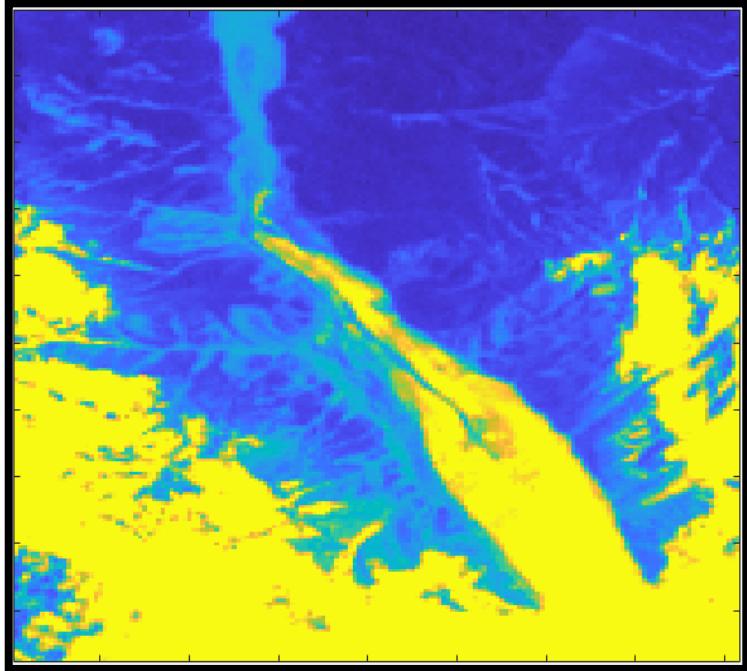
Superimposed scenes show area change – Gorner glacier
1984 (green), 2009 (purple)

PROBLEMS

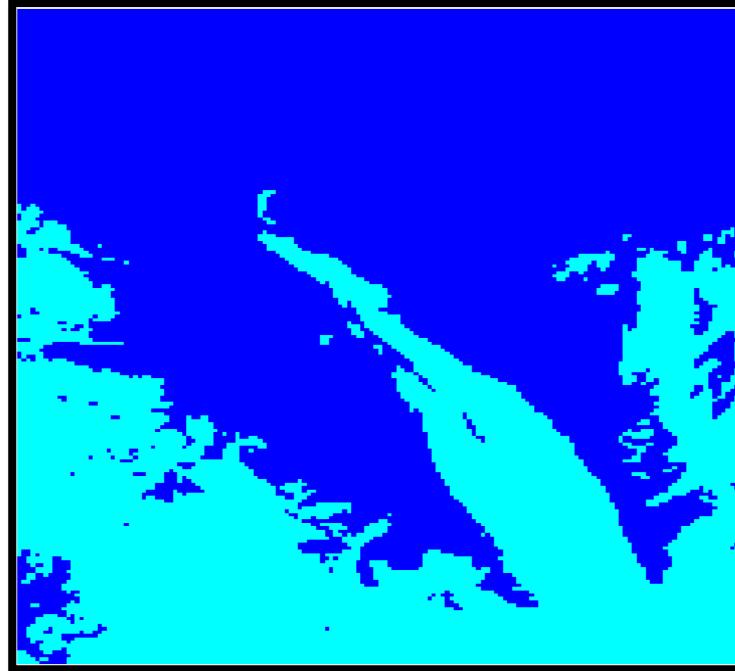


This method allows us to visualize change over time, but leaves holes in glaciers and includes snow or ice outside the glacier

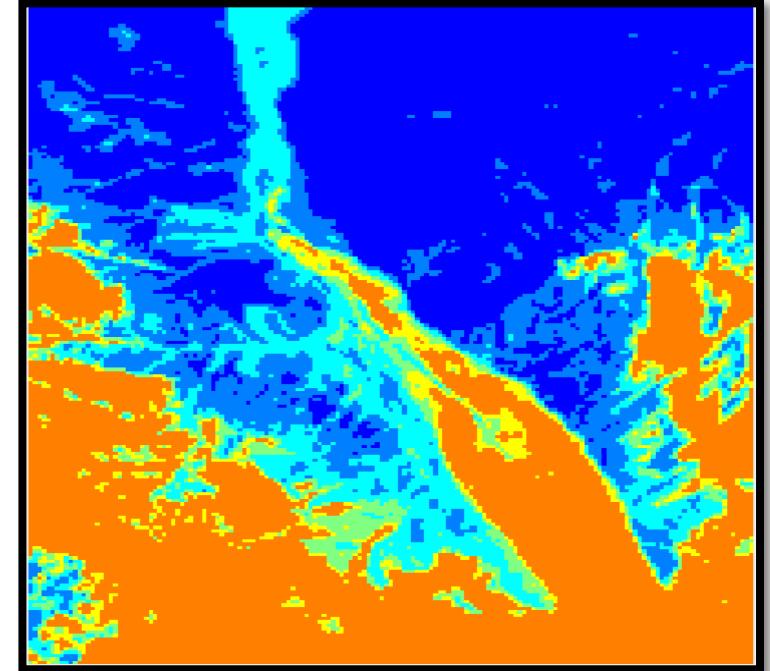
MULTI-THRESHOLDING



Franz Josef blue band



Two segments

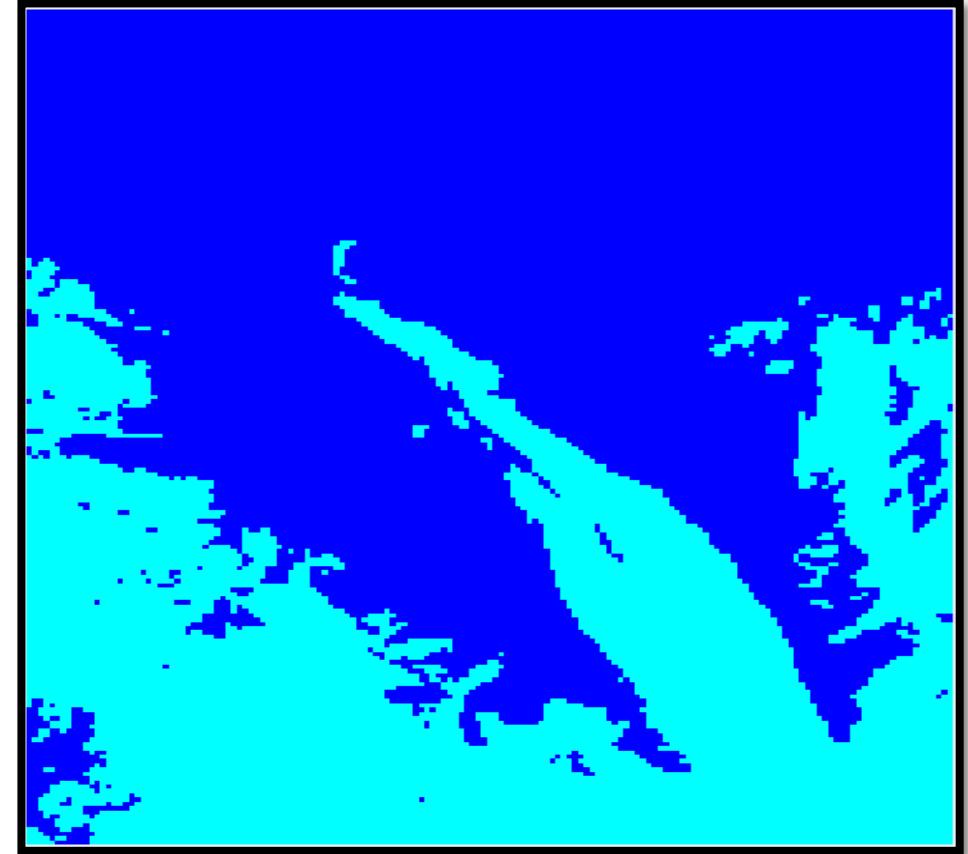


Five segments

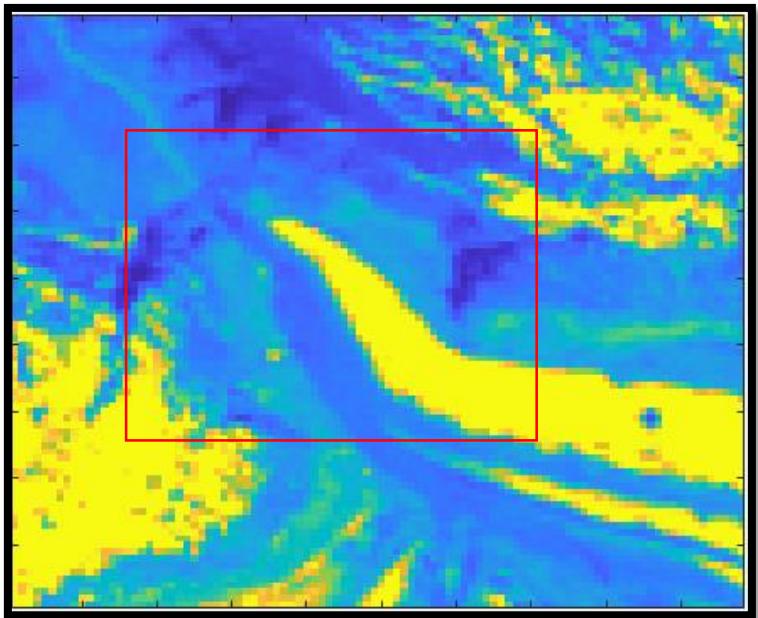
Segmentation is good but having the glacier broken into multiple segments actually makes the problem harder

BINARY SEGMENTATION

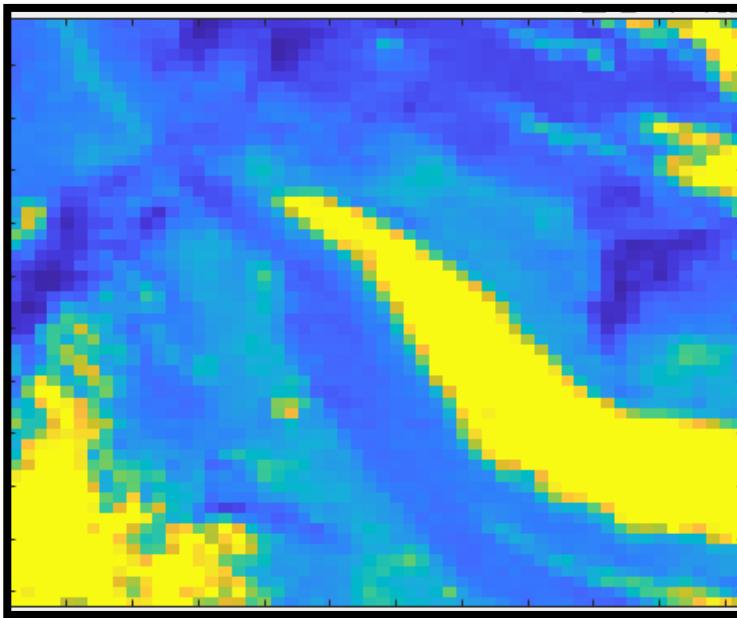
We need a method that segments images into only two regions (glacier and background) and does not leave holes inside the segmented glacier area or include pixels from the background



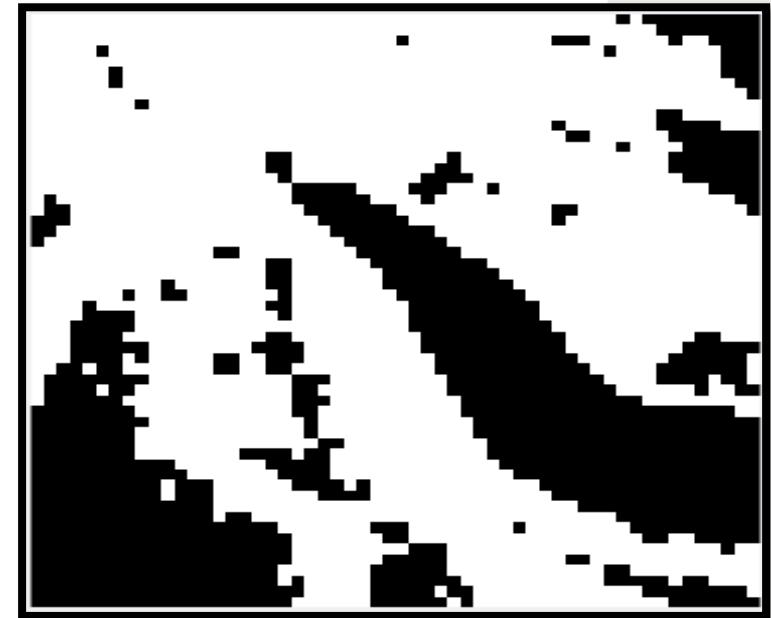
BLOB DETECTION



Gorner blue band



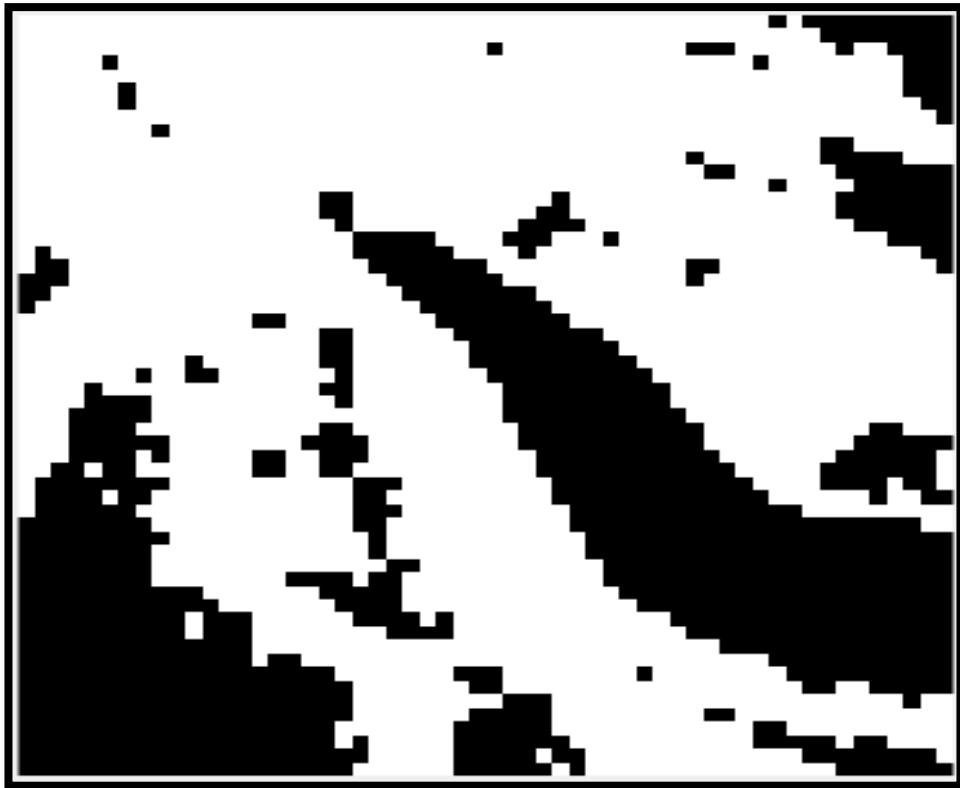
Gorner blue band (cropped)



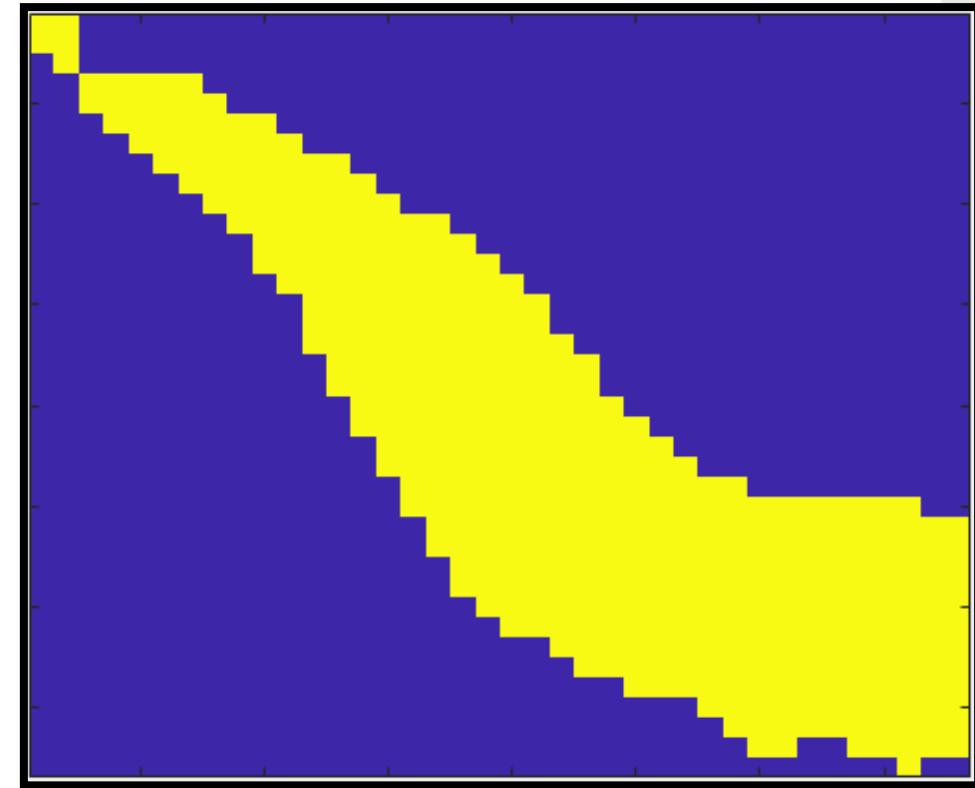
Binarized

Crop the region of interest and then
segment it into two regions

BLOB DETECTION



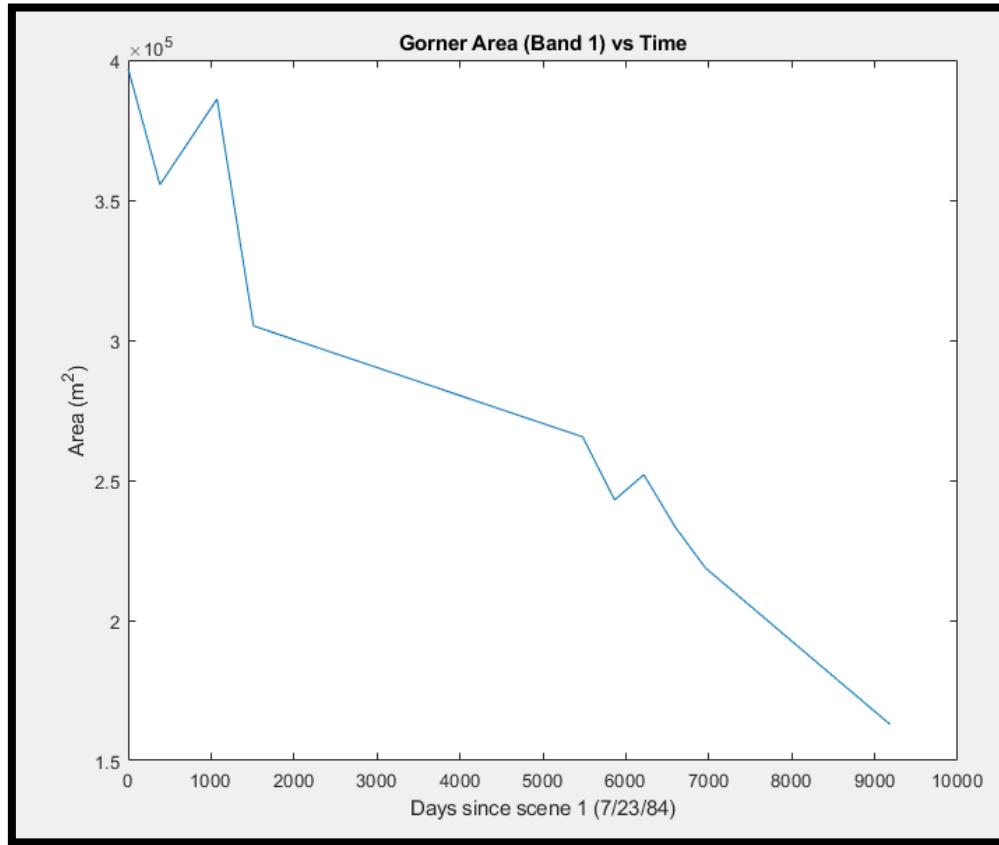
Binarized



Largest blob

Find the largest blob in the binarized image
that represents the glacier area

SEGMENTED AREA

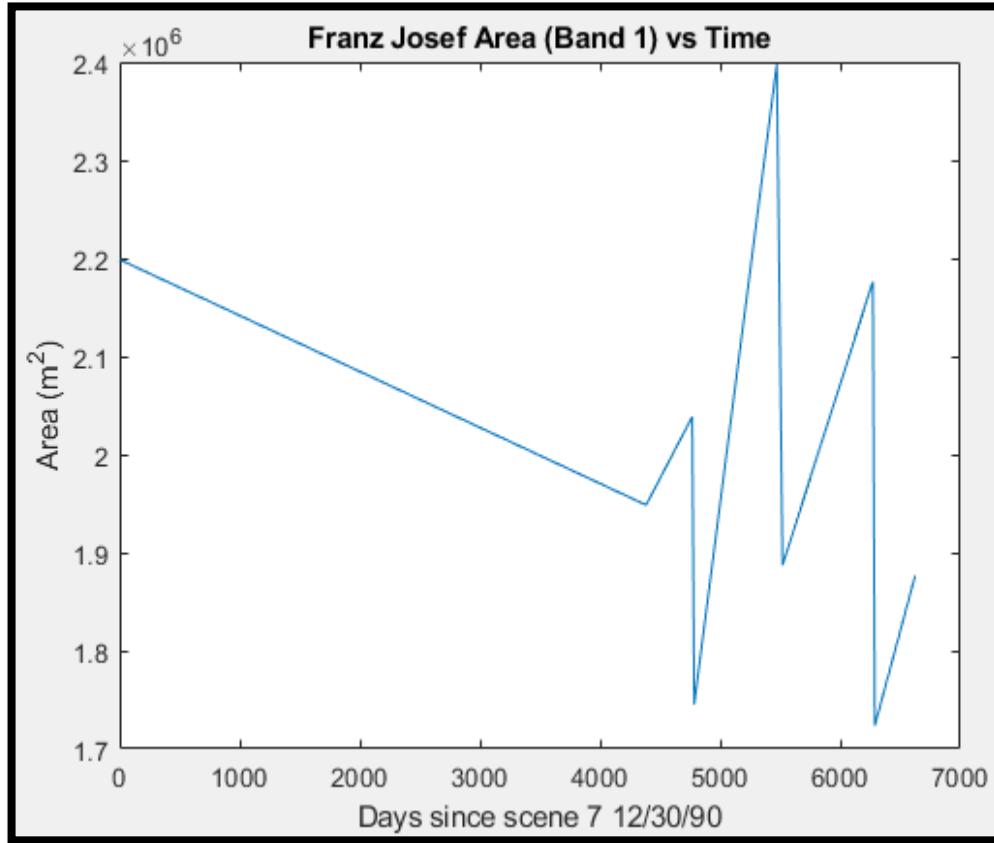


Gorner Area vs Time from 1984 to 2009

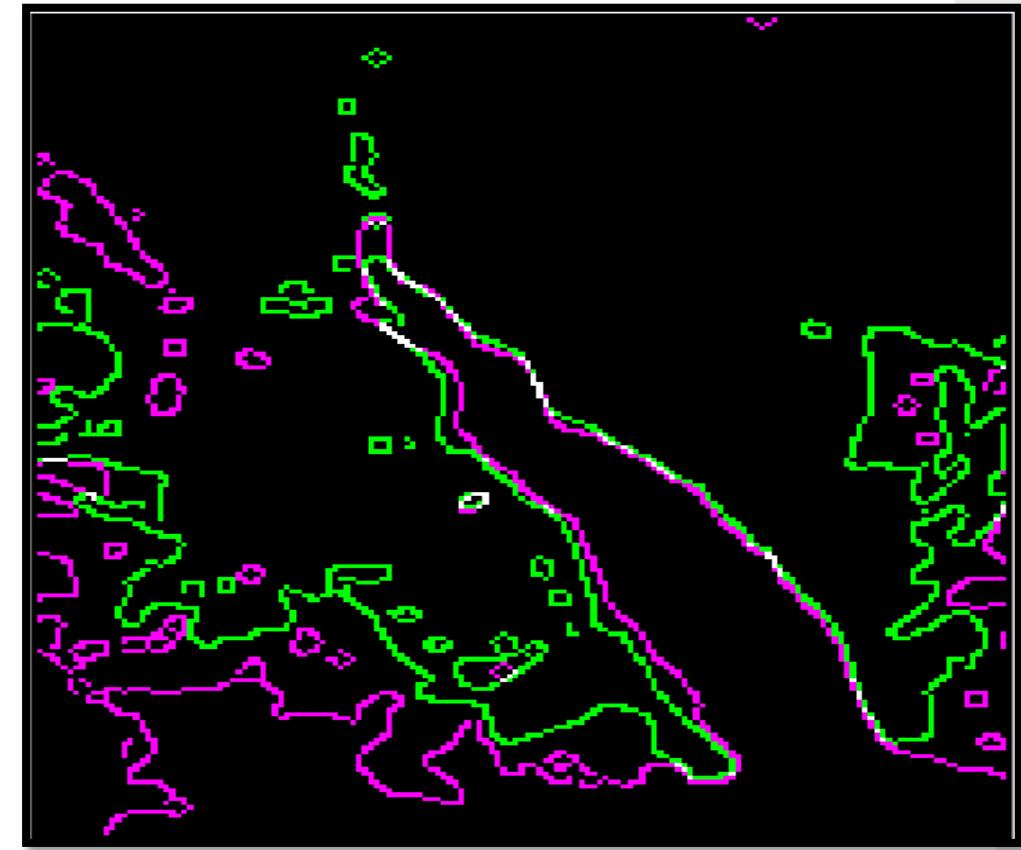


Superimposed scenes show area change – Gorner glacier
1984 (green), 2009 (purple)

SEGMENTED AREA



Gorner Area vs Time from 1990 to 2009



Superimposed scenes show area change – Franz Josef glacier
1990 (green), 2009 (purple)

A wide-angle photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, there's a rocky, scree-covered slope. A large, dark, textured area, possibly a glacier or a very large rock field, occupies the middle ground. The background features majestic mountains with patches of snow and a sky filled with scattered white and grey clouds.

PART II. MODELING

CLIMATE FACTORS

TP Distance (meters) , Change in Area (meters $\wedge 2$)

Temperature
(Celsius)

Minimum Temperature

Maximum Temperature

Average Temperature

Global Temperature

Precipitation (mm)

CO2 (ppm)

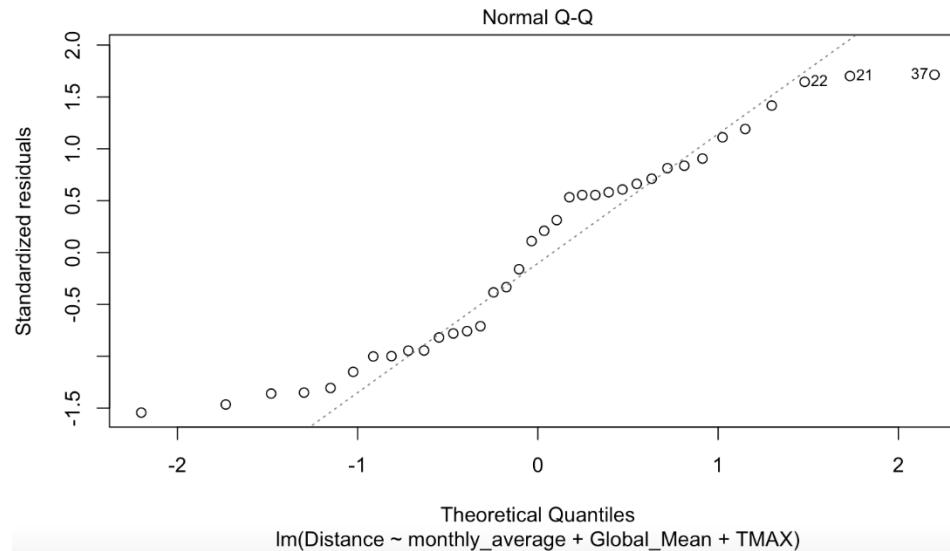


A wide-angle photograph of a glacier in a mountainous region. The glacier, which is the main focus, is a light blue-grey color and appears to be melting, with patches of green and brown rock exposed. It flows from the top right towards the bottom left. The surrounding mountains are covered in green vegetation and some rocky areas. In the background, there are more mountains, some with snow on their peaks. The sky is clear and blue.

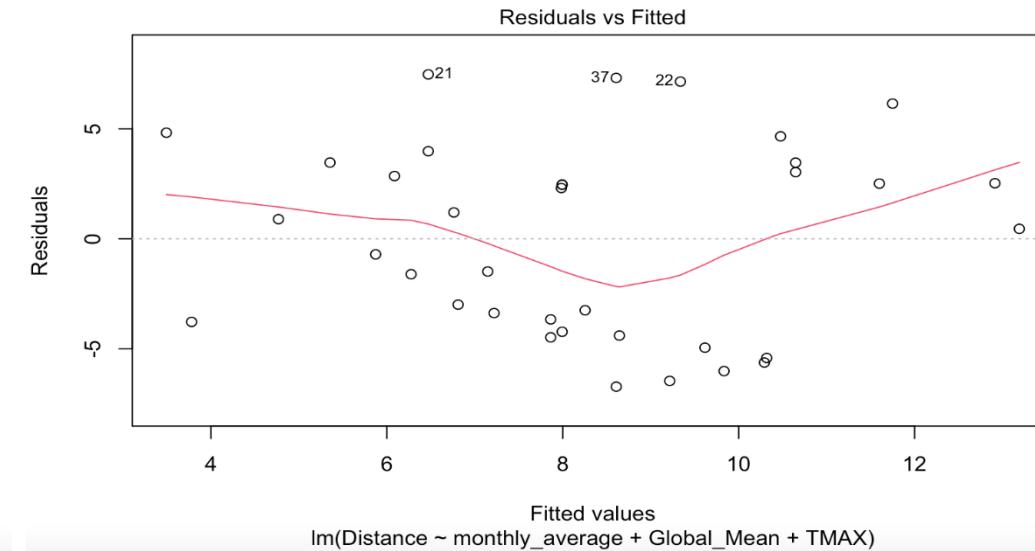
FRANZ JOSEF'S TERMINUS

MULTIPLE REGRESSION

Plots for checking residual normality



Plots for checking Homoscedasticity



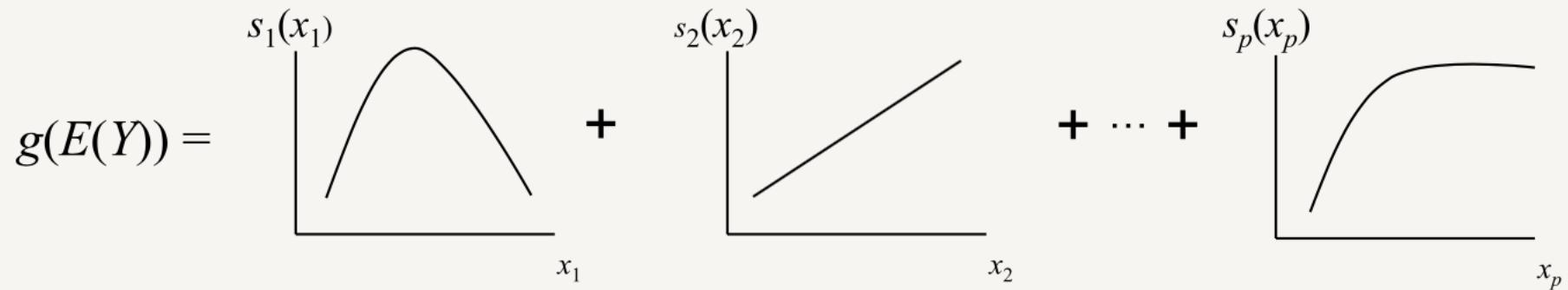
Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC	SBIC
TMAX + PRCP + CO2	3	0.0864	180.1562	99.0866
TMAX + CO2	2	0.1278	217.1768	116.2774
TMAX + PRCP	2	-0.0513	183.3642	101.7315
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.055	187.367	103.4142
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.086	224.7852	120.9909
Global_temp + PRCP	2	-0.0737	190.3286	105.8343
TMAX + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.1147	180.0575	99.7556
TMAX + Global +PRCP	3	-0.0933	185.3631	104.2935
TMAX + Global + CO2	3	0.152	217.0579	116.8533
TMAX + Global	2	-0.0139	222.5972	121.8789

GENERALIZED ADDITIVE MODEL

SUMMARY

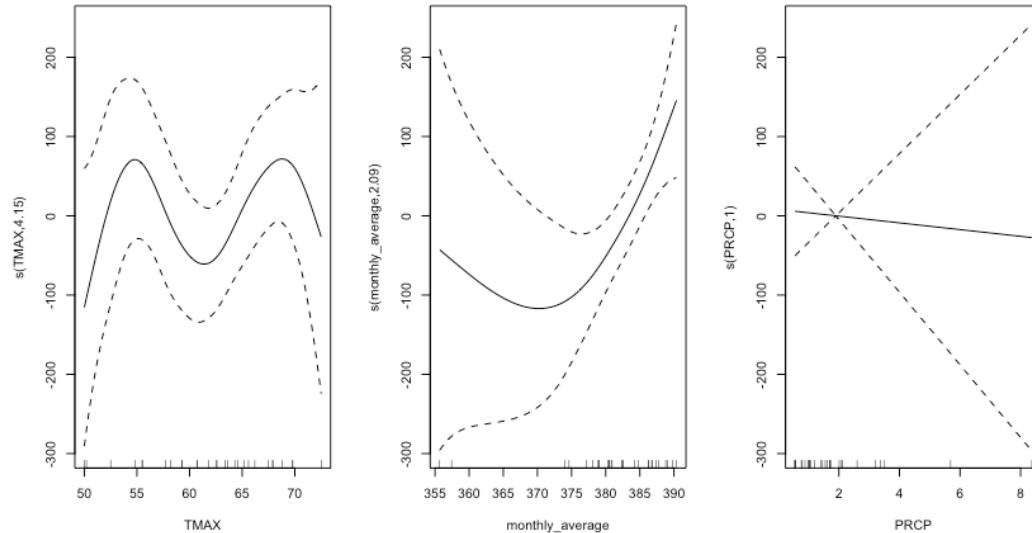
Response variable is modeled based on smoothed functions of predictor variables where smoothed functions are obtained using a non-parametric method.

$$g(\mathbb{E}(Y)) = \beta_0 + f_1(x_1) + f_2(x_2) + \cdots + f_m(x_m).$$

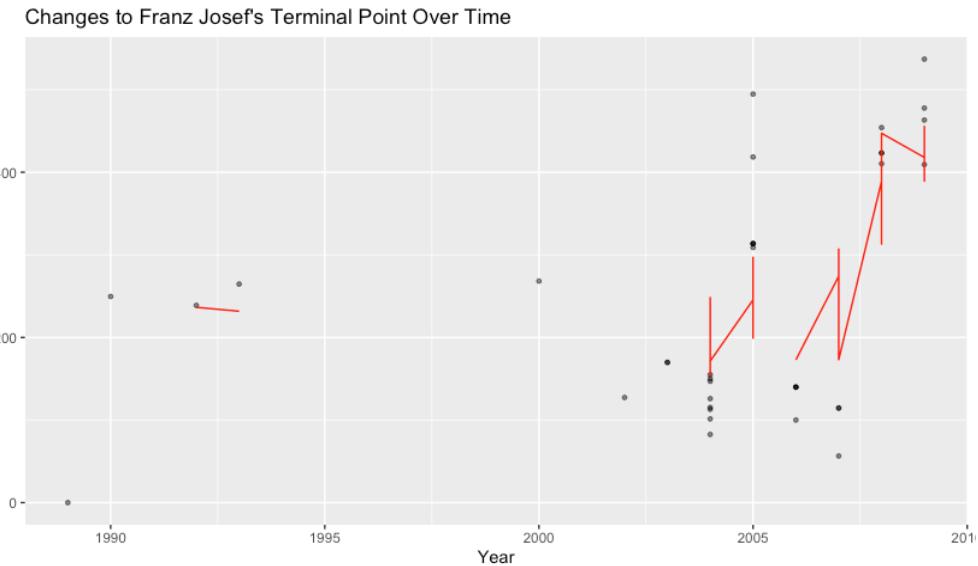


GENERALIZED ADDITIVE MODEL

Plots of the Factors in the Multiple Additive Model



Graph of Predicted Values from the Model



Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC
TMAX + PRCP + CO2	3	0.422	369.8605
TMAX + PRCP	2	0.216	376.764
TMAX + CO2	2	0.296	457.4287
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.244	386.8718
Global_temp+ PRCP	2	-0.0737	394.4011
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.268	471.386
TMAX + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.201	375.3042
TMAX+Global_temp + PRCP	3	-0.0591	382.9207
TMAX+Global_temp + CO2	3	0.253	459.6973
TMAX+Global_temp	2	-0.012	467.5875

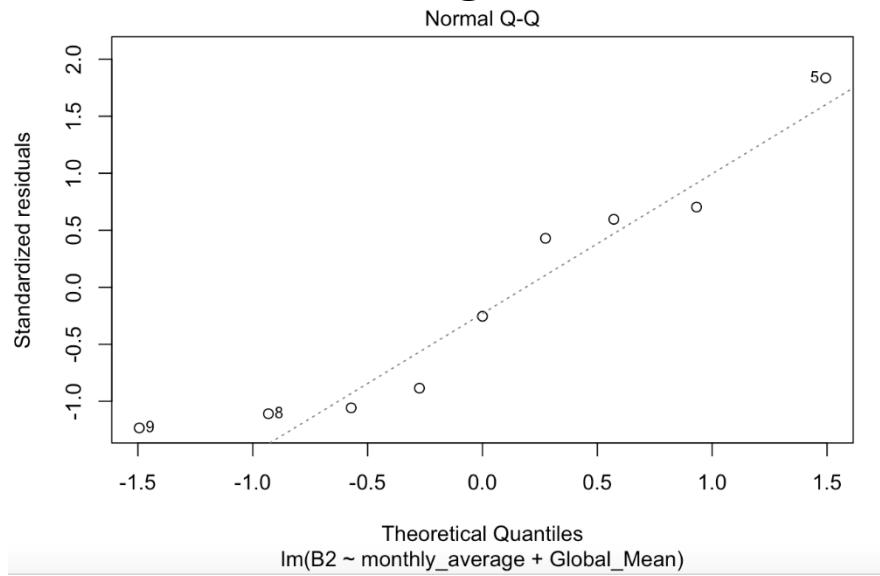


FRANZ JOSEF'S AREA

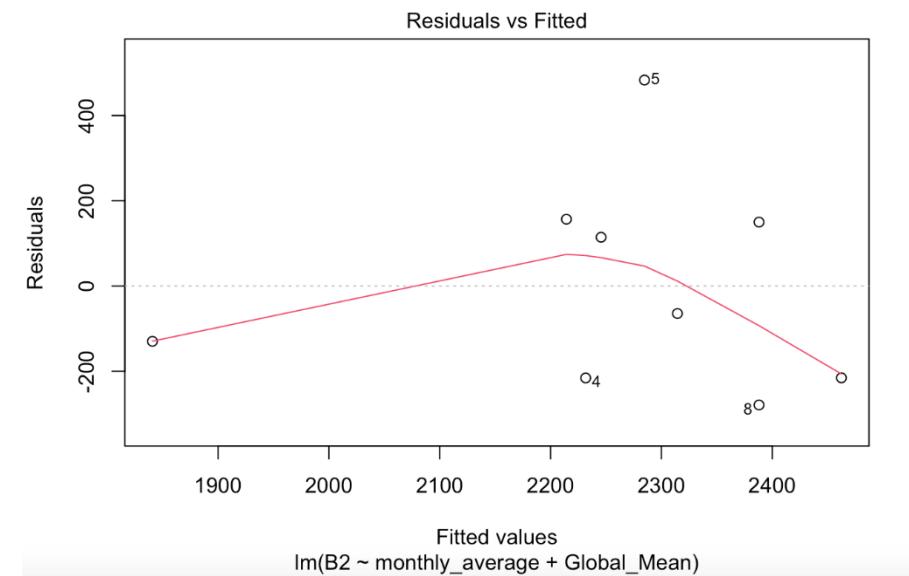


MULTIPLE REGRESSION

Plots for checking residual normality



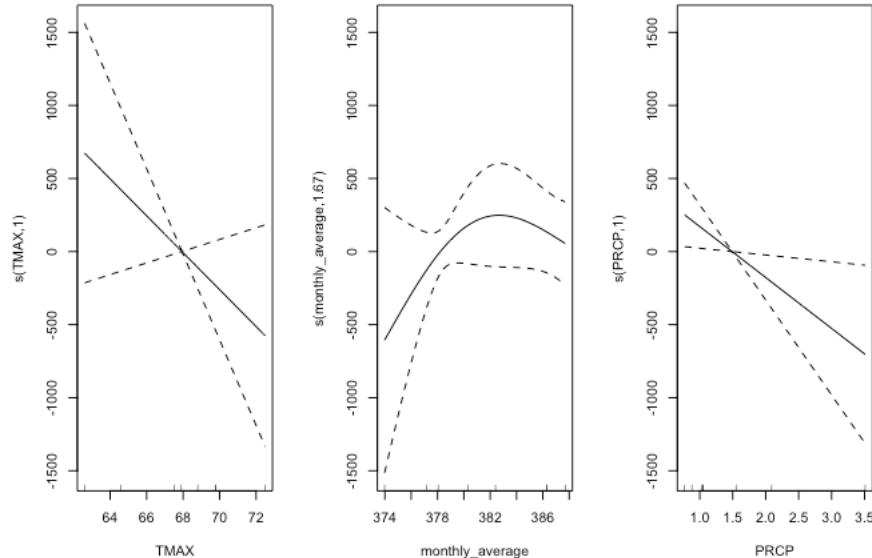
Plots for checking Homoscedasticity



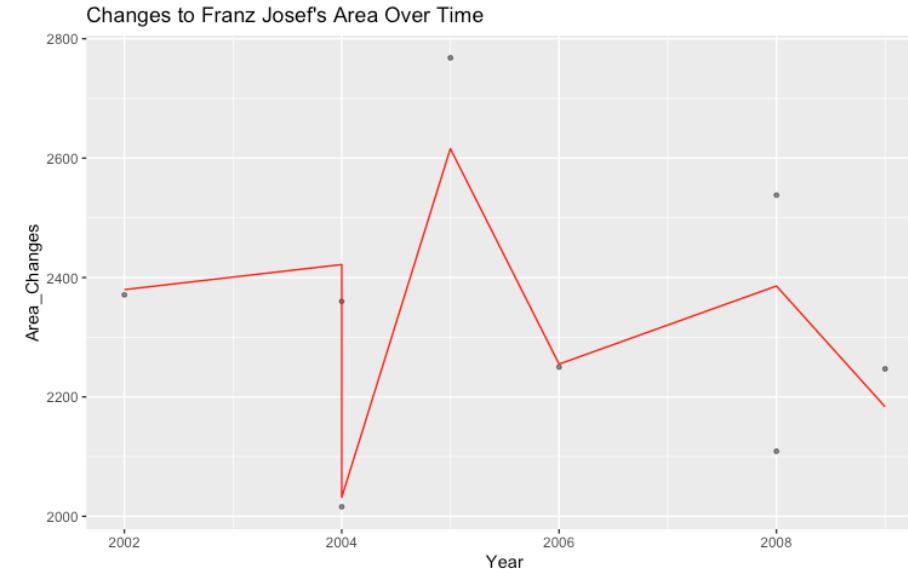
Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC	SBIC
TMAX + PRCP + CO2	3	-0.0342	115.0206	98.3176
TMAX + CO2	2	0.1218	131.6565	108.6156
TMAX + PRCP	2	0.1718	113.0285	94.3215
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	-0.0897	115.4389	98.7359
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.1271	131.602	108.5611
Global_temp + PRCP	2	0.1074	113.628	93.805
TMAX + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	-0.3572	116.8935	105.3016
TMAX + Global+PRCP	3	-0.0222	114.9274	99.9869
TMAX + Global + CO2	3	-0.0381	133.5215	113.1006
TMAX + Global	2	-0.0756	133.481	110.4401

GENERALIZED ADDITIVE MODEL

Plots of the Factors in the Multiple Additive Model



Graph of Predicted Values from the Model



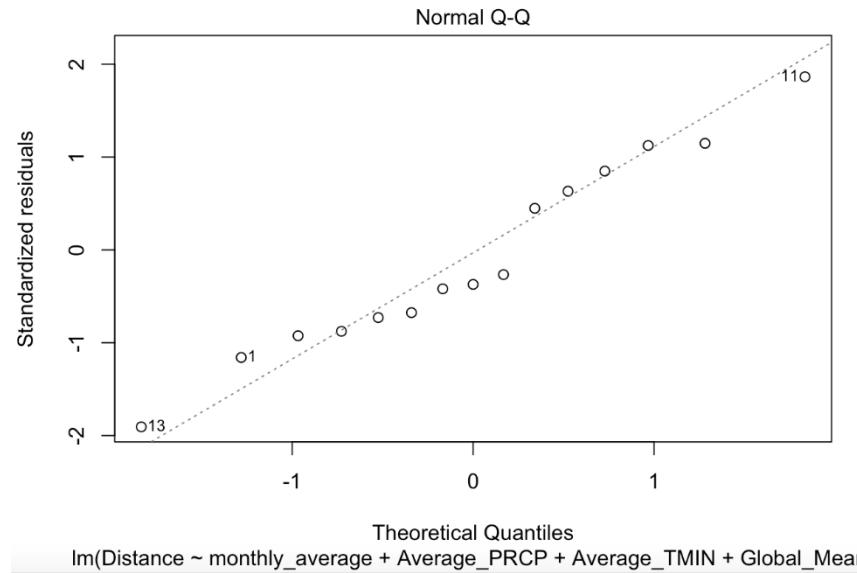
Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC
TMAX + PRCP + CO2	3	0.309	112.1162
TMAX + PRCP	2	0.172	113.0287
TMAX + CO2	2	0.193	131.5022
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	-0.0897	115.4391
Global_temp+ PRCP	2	0.107	113.6282
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.167	131.6321
TMAX + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	NA	NA
TMAX+Global_temp + PRCP	3	-0.0222	114.9275
TMAX+Global_temp + CO2	3	0.0867	132.9009
TMAX+Global_temp	2	-0.0121	133.4584

GORNER GLACIER'S TERMINUS

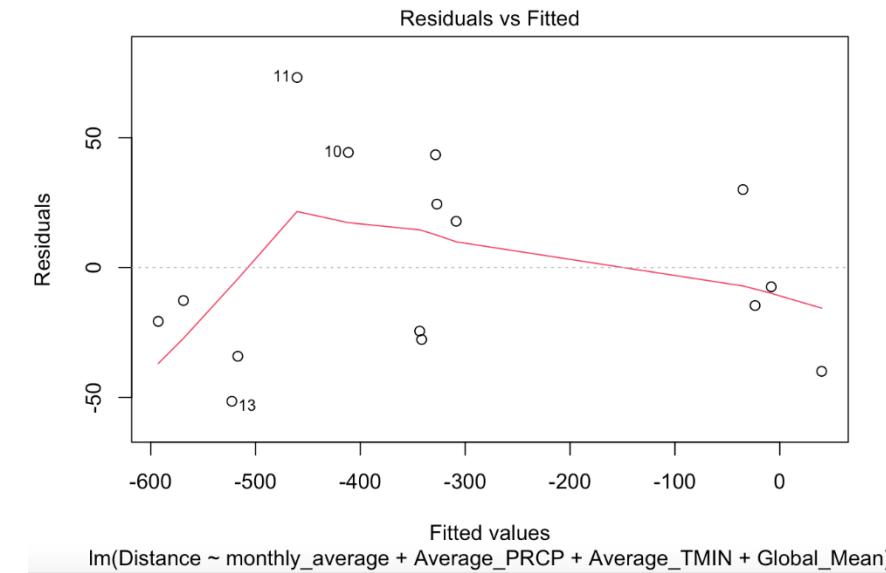


MULTIPLE REGRESSION

Plots for checking residual normality



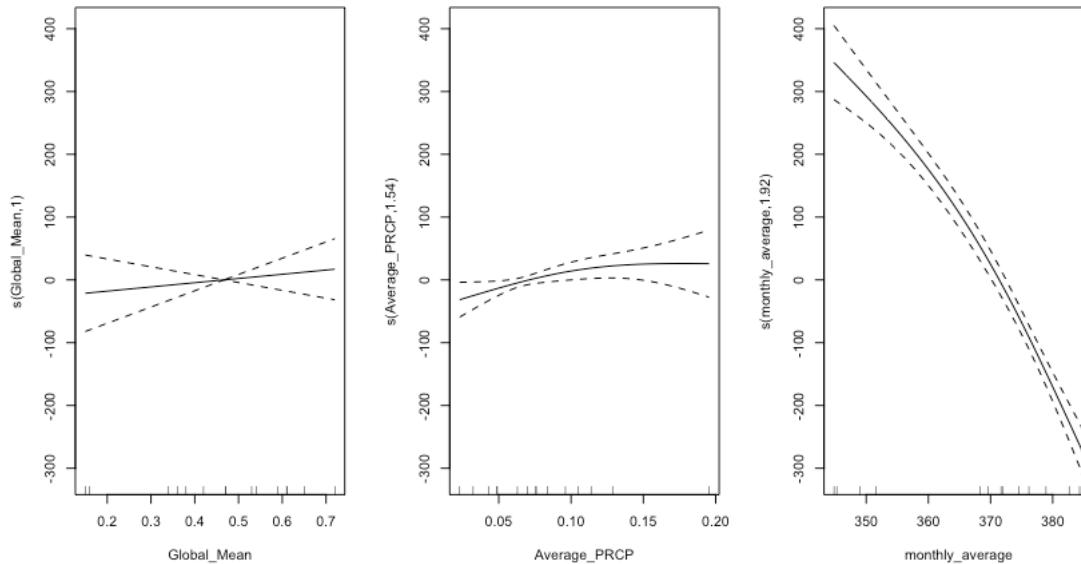
Plots for checking Homoscedasticity



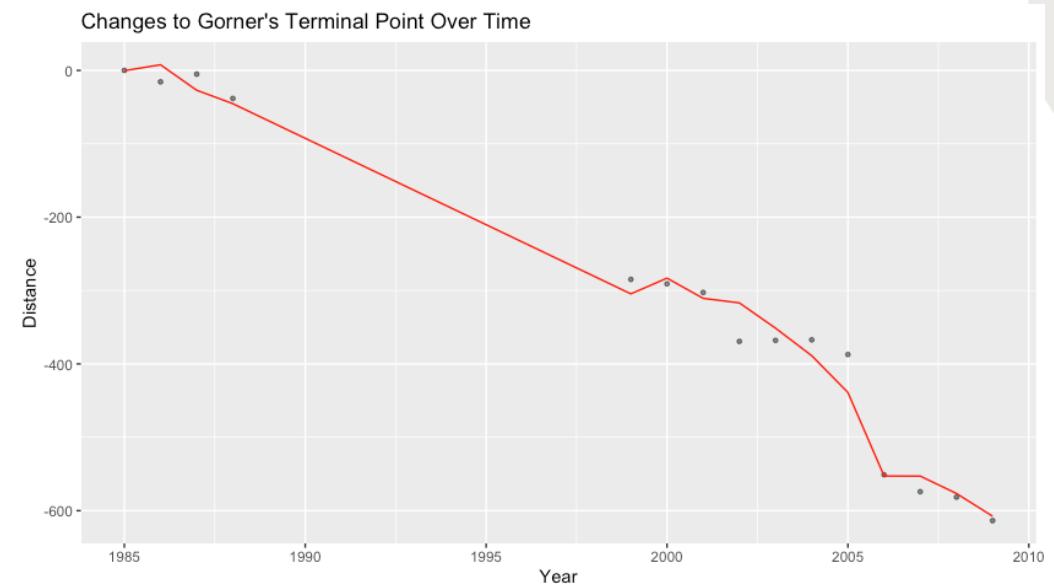
Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC	SBIC
TMIN + PRCP + CO2	3	0.9592	161.3541	121.4306
TMIN + CO2	2	0.9576	161.2273	119.7976
TMIN + PRCP	2	0.3306	202.6117	161.4185
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.9532	163.3948	123.4713
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.9526	162.9085	121.7153
Global_temp + PRCP	2	0.6122	194.4261	153.233
TMIN + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.9604	161.4673	123.3991
TMIN + Global +PRCP	3	0.6285	194.4752	154.5516
TMIN + Global + CO2	3	0.9586	161.5526	121.6291
TMIN + Global	2	0.6591	192.4898	151.2966

GENERALIZED ADDITIVE MODEL

Plots of the Factors in the Multiple Additive Model



Graph of Predicted Values from the Model

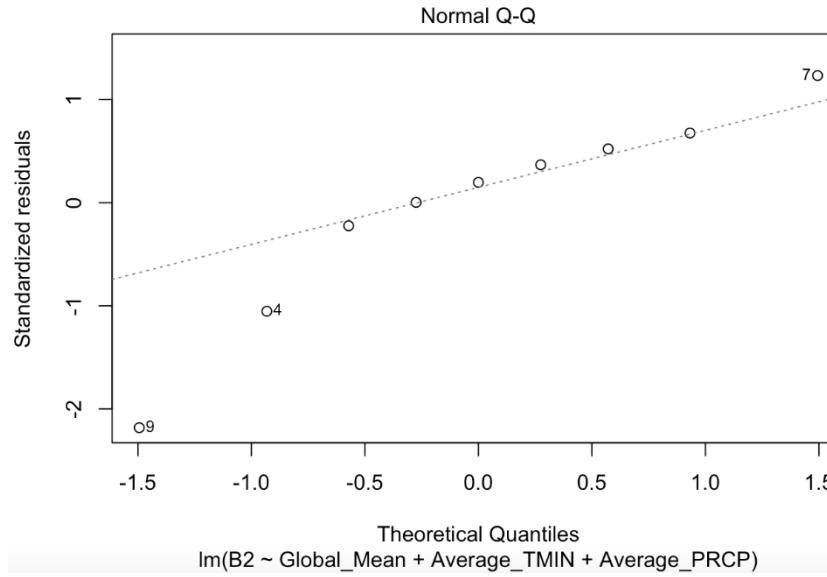


Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC
TMIN + PRCP + CO2	3	0.982	151.2125
TMIN + CO2	2	0.974	154.8016
TMIN + PRCP	2	0.419	201.4022
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.982	150.8067
Global_temp+ CO2	2	0.974	154.4909
Global_temp + PRCP	2	0.612	194.4265
TMIN + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.979	152.8832
TMIN+Global_temp + CO2	3	0.972	156.5745
TMIN+Global_temp + PRCP	3	0.644	194.4644
TMIN+Global_temp	2	0.659	192.49

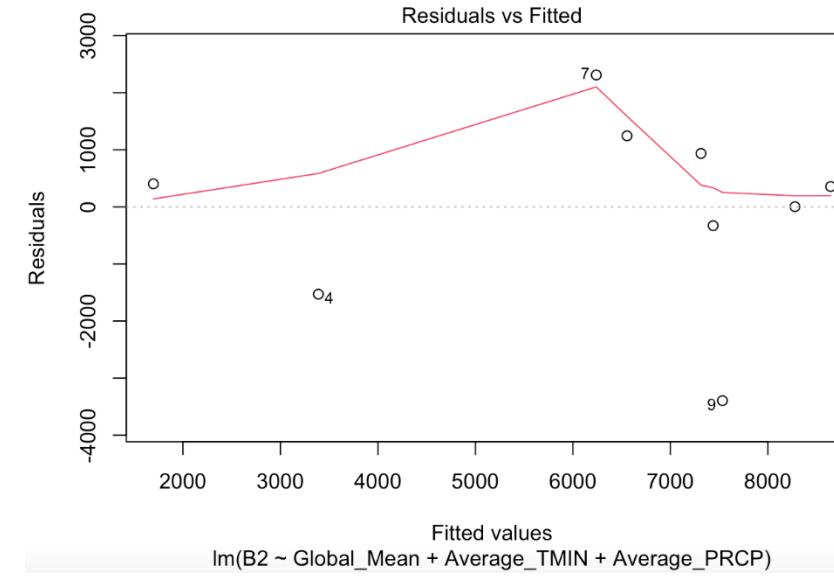
GORNER GLACIER'S AREA

MULTIPLE REGRESSION

Plots for checking residual normality



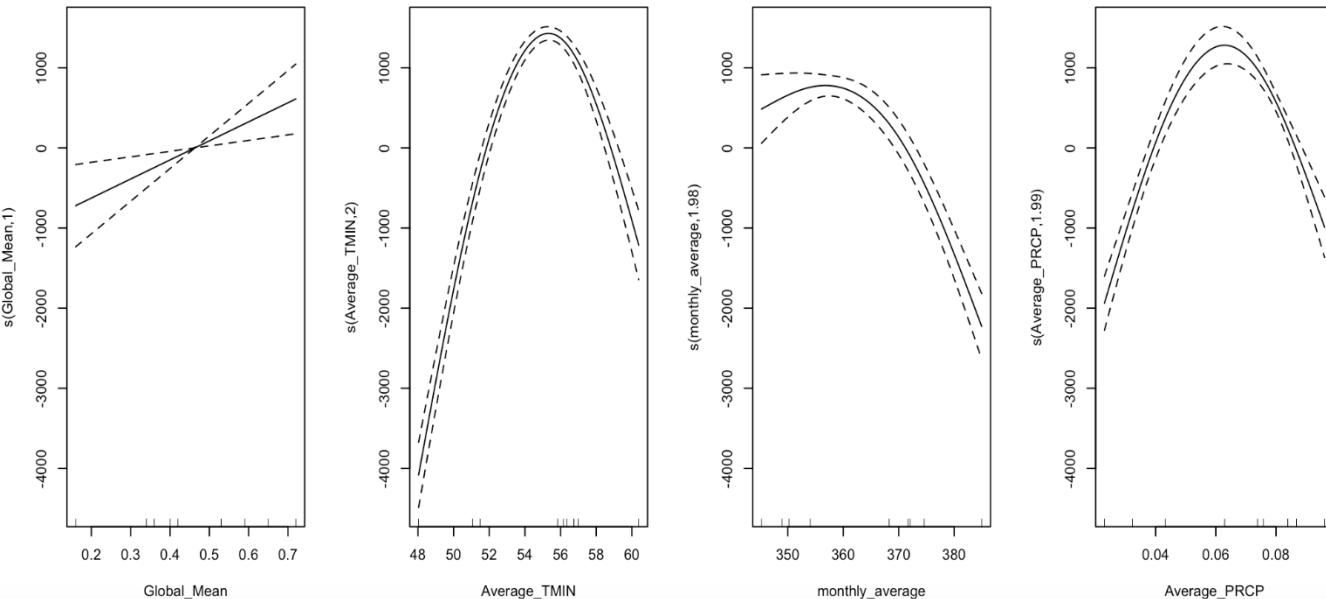
Plots for checking Homoscedasticity



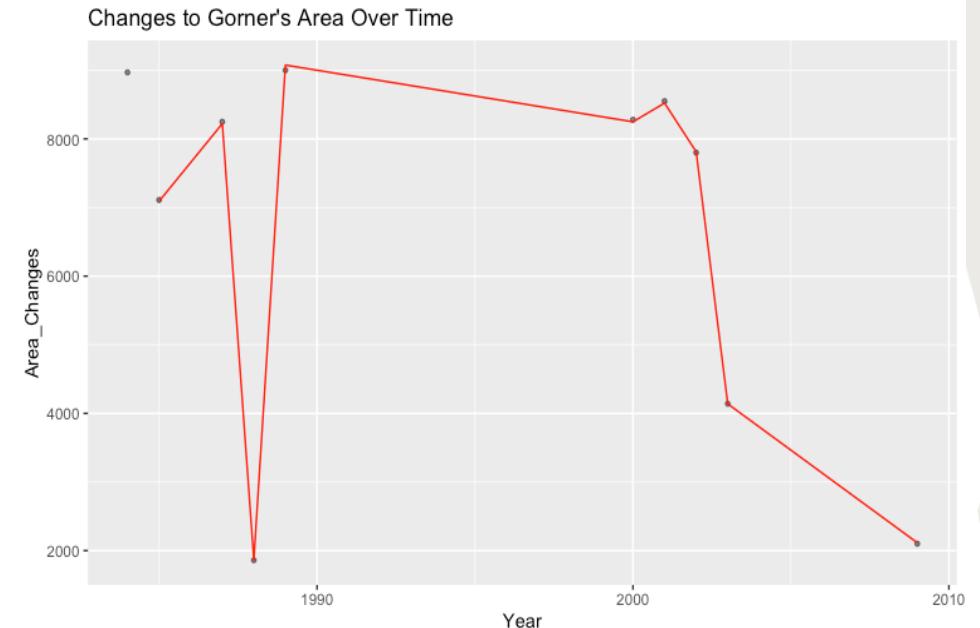
Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC	SBIC
TMIN + PRCP + CO2	3	0.2727	170.5771	150.1562
TMIN + CO2	2	0.3597	169.0711	146.7626
TMIN + PRCP	2	0.1241	171.891	148.8501
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.3655	169.349	148.9281
Global_temp + CO2	2	0.0396	191.245	165.0703
Global_temp + PRCP	2	0.2573	170.4059	146.3961
TMIN + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.3618	169.3921	153.2262
TMIN + Global +PRCP	3	0.4579	167.9325	147.5116
TMIN + Global + CO2	3	0.4892	167.3962	148.7272
TMIN + Global	2	0.5338	166.2156	144.0324

GENERALIZED ADDITIVE MODEL

Plots of the Factors in the Multiple Additive Model



Graph of Predicted Values from the Model



Factors	# of Factors	R^2	AIC
TMIN + PRCP + CO2	3	0.995	123.5698
TMIN + CO2	2	0.947	147.3274
TMIN + PRCP	2	0.954	145.8929
Global_temp + PRCP +CO2	3	0.699	163.3429
Global_temp+ CO2	2	0.306	188.7458
Global_temp + PRCP	2	0.728	162.1333
TMIN + Global_temp + PRCP + CO2	4	0.999	105.9211
TMIN+Global_temp + CO2	3	0.937	148.577
TMIN+Global_temp + PRCP	3	0.993	126.458
TMIN+Global_temp	2	0.902	152.9688

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION



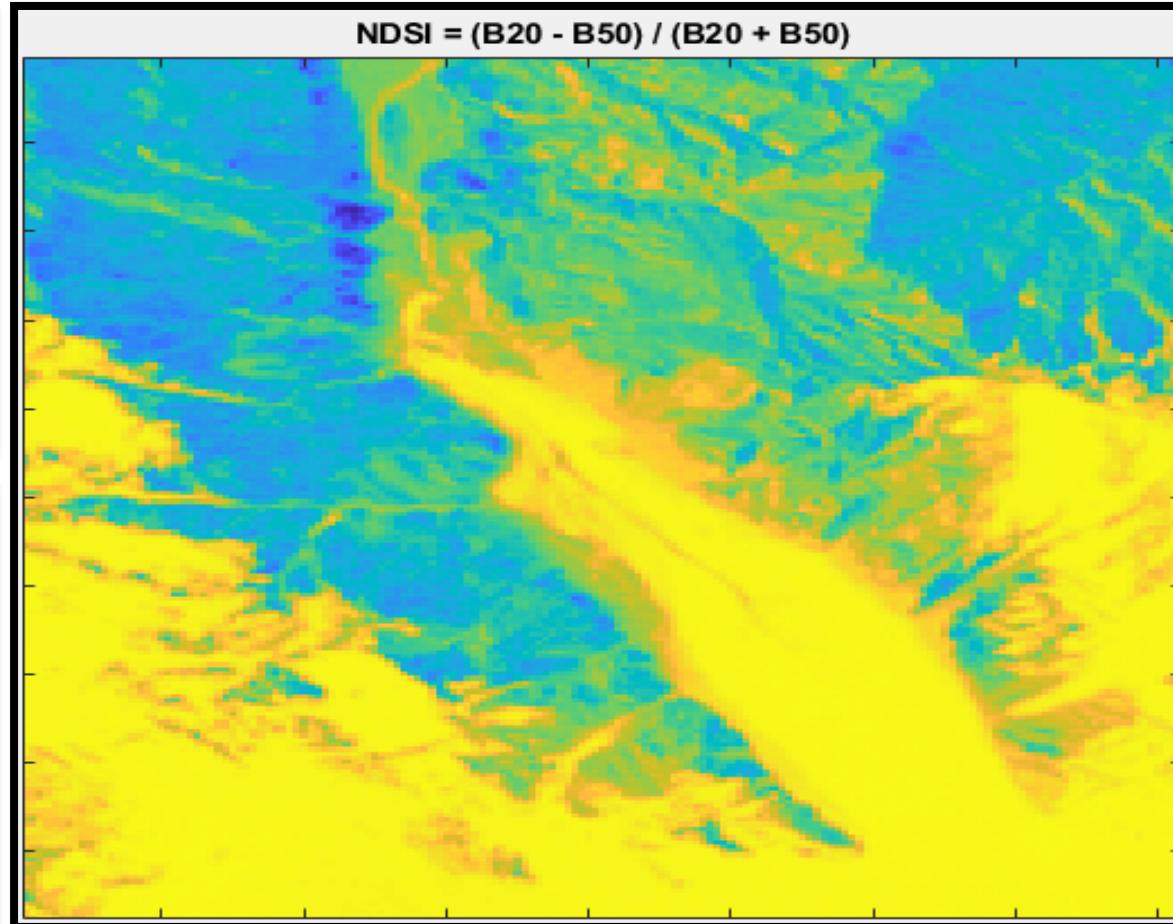
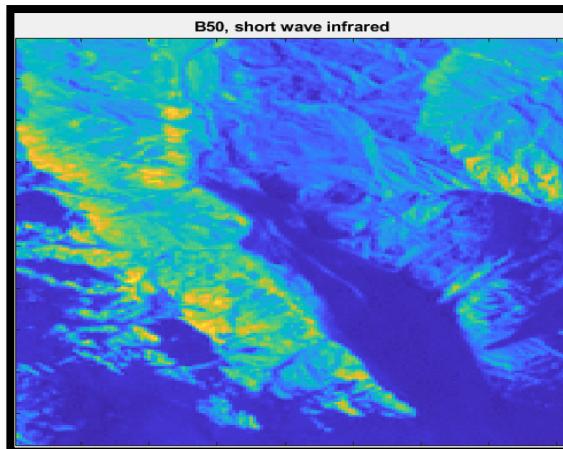
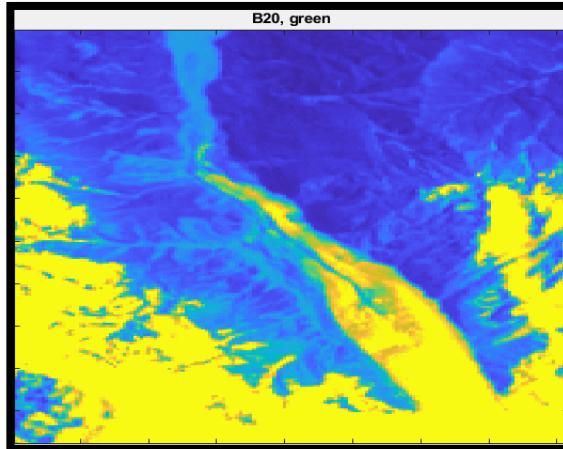
SUMMARY OF WHAT WE DISCOVERED

- Multi-spectral Landsat images and climate factors were used to study glacier variations over time.
- Image processing methods were developed to detect and segment glacier area.
- Our models identified the relationship between glacier changes and some climate factors including global temperature, local temperature, precipitation, and CO₂.
- Investigate and model the relationship between CO₂ and other climate factors to better understand the impact of CO₂ on glacier changes.

FUTURE PLANS FOR AREA MEASUREMENT

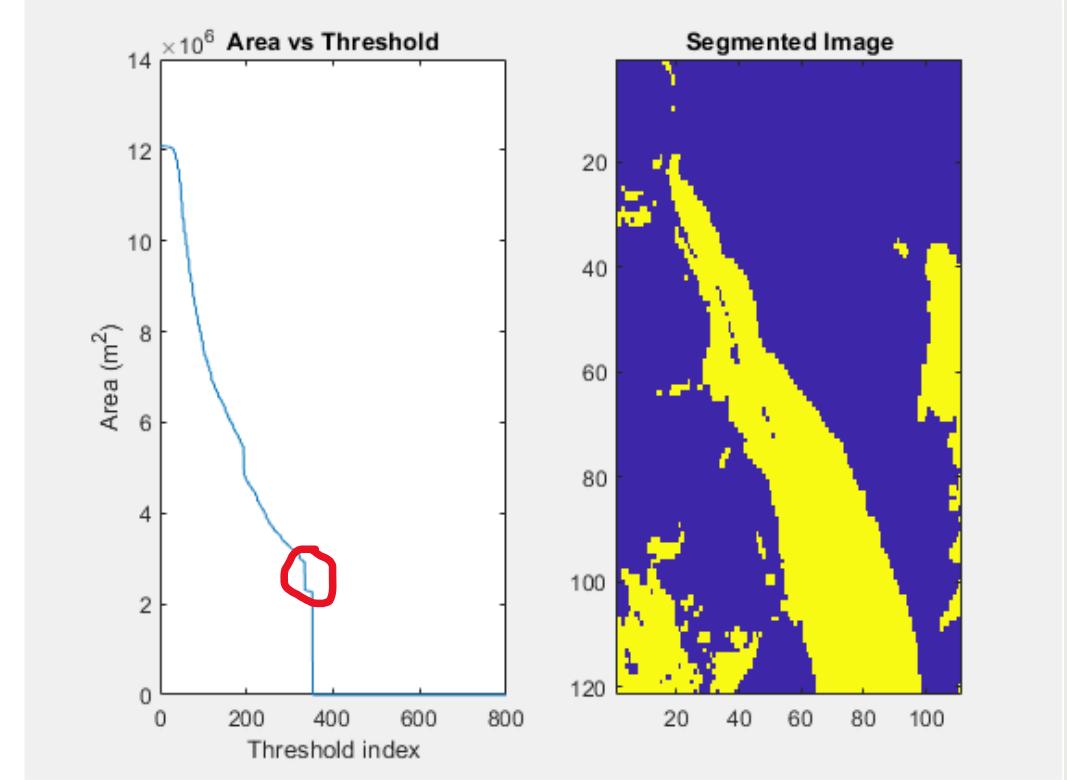
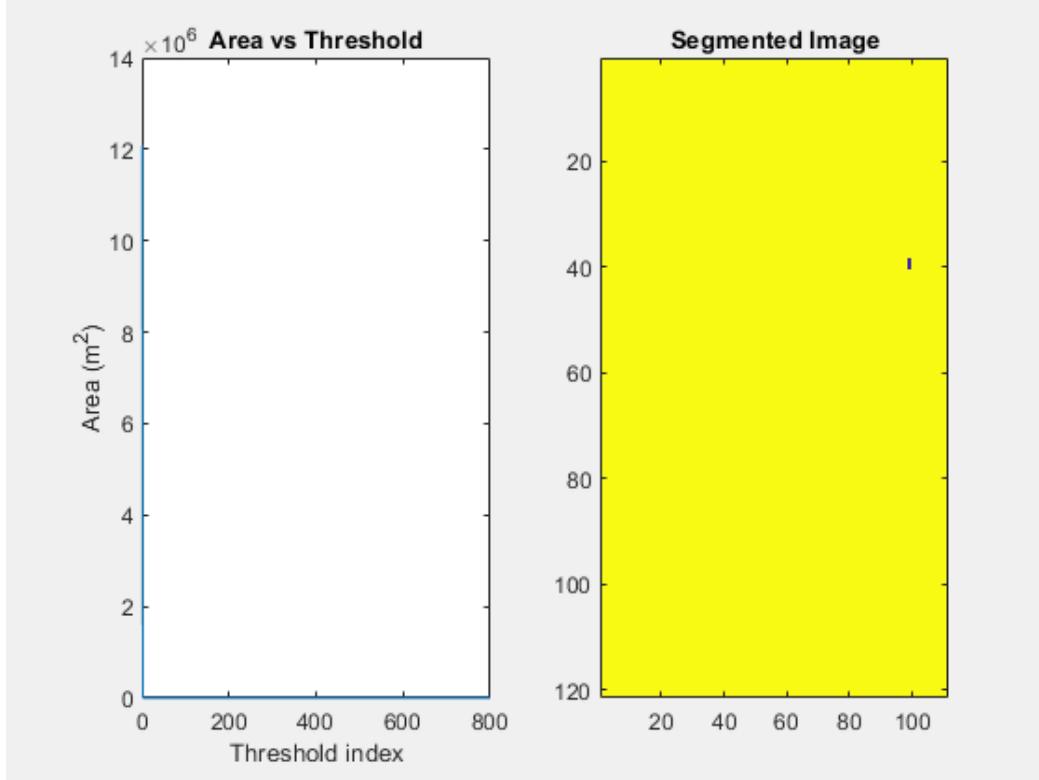
- Our work has brought us to a good basic method, blob detection
- Segmentation can always improve
- Problems:
 - Thresholding
 - Gap filling
 - Preprocessing

PROCESSED BANDS



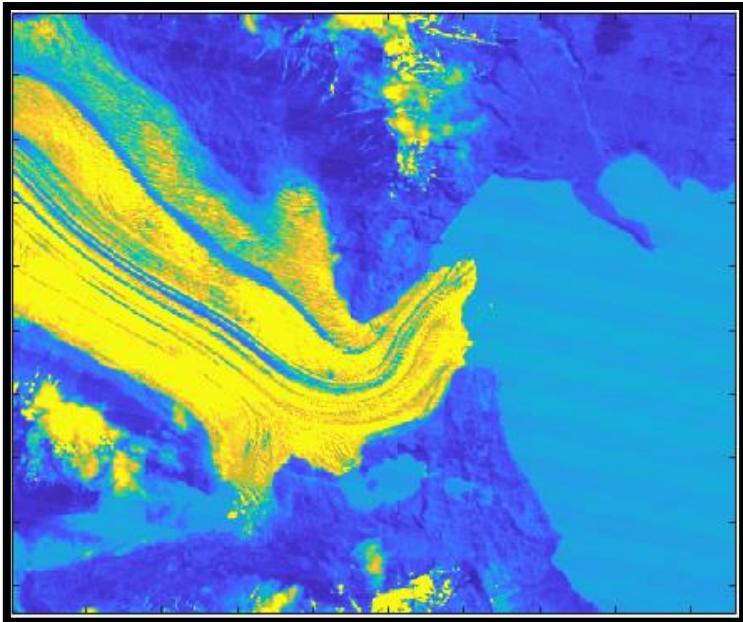
Higher contrast allows for better segmentation
and better area measurements

THRESHOLDING

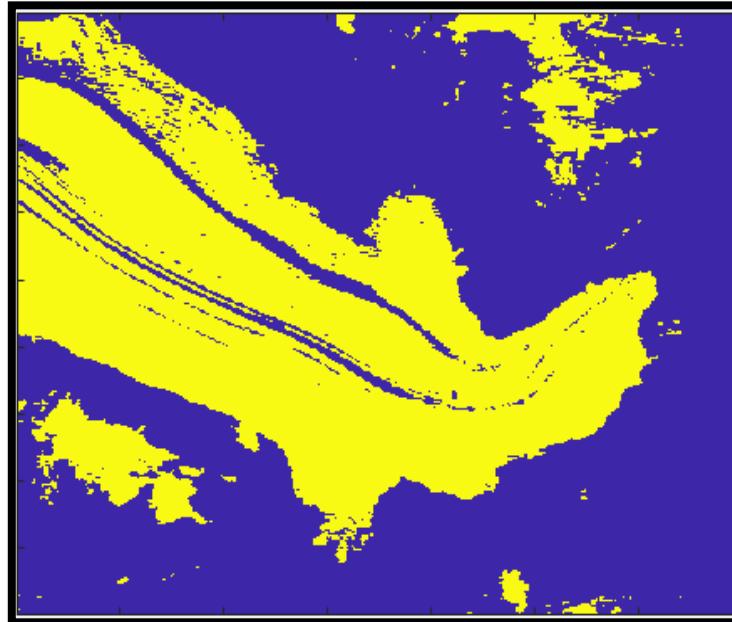


Each image needs its own threshold

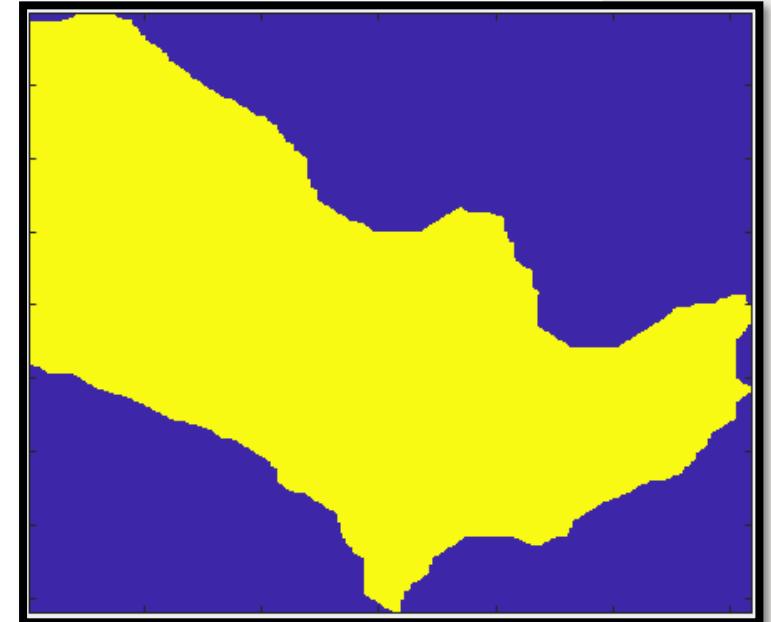
GAP FILLING



Viedma glacier blue band



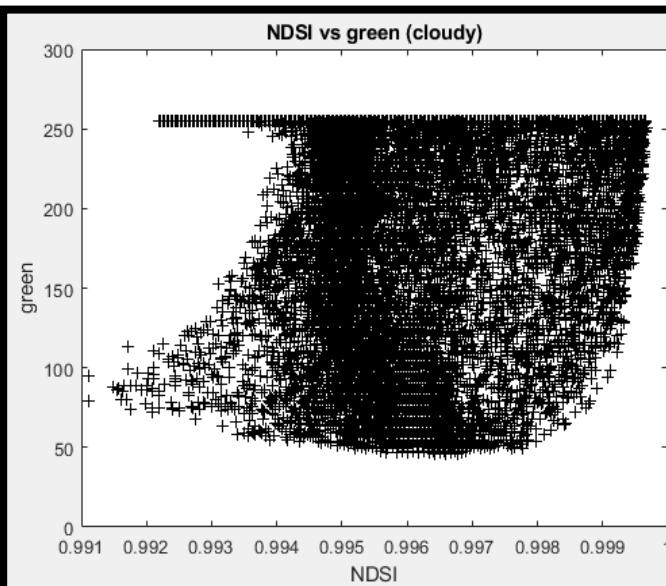
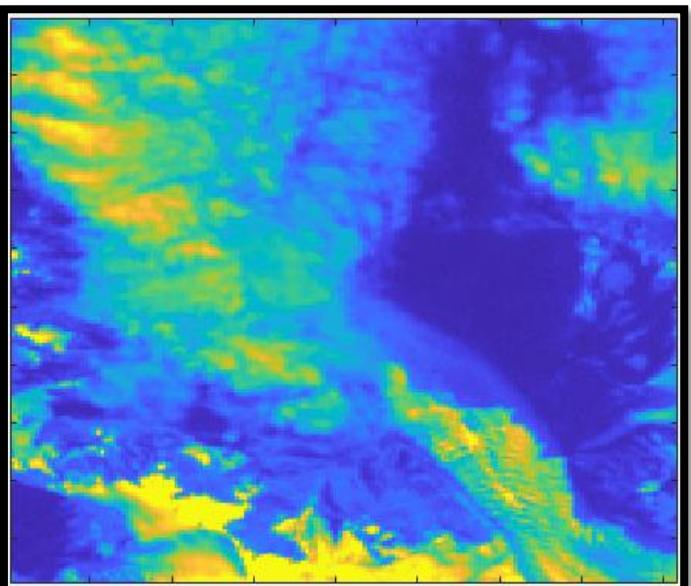
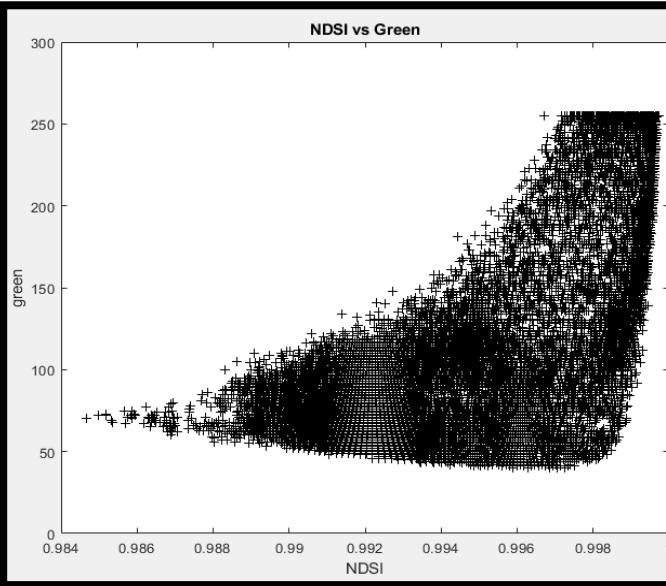
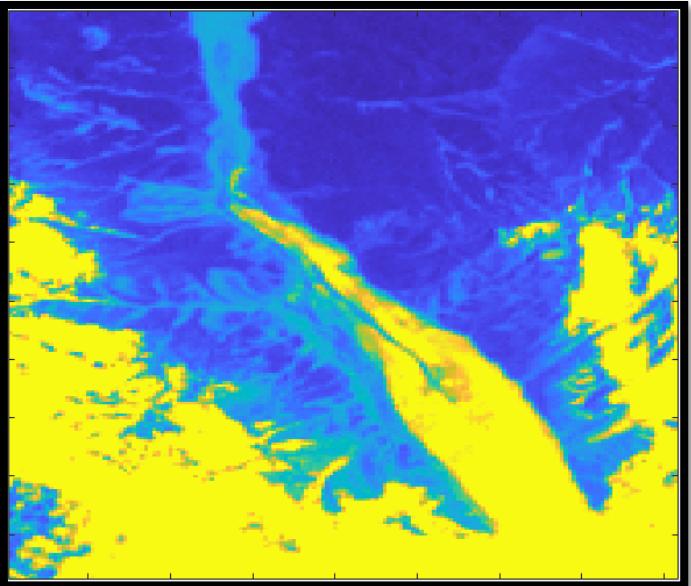
Binarized



Example of gap filling

We need a method to fill holes in glaciers
while minimizing non-glacier pixels added

PREPROCESSING



We can train a neural network to classify images by plotting different bands' pixel intensities against each other

Clockwise from top left: FJ green band (good image), NDSI plotted against green for good image, NDSI plotted against green for cloudy image, FJ green band (cloudy image)

RESEARCH TEAM



Thu Thu Hlaing, Ithaca College



Dr. Nezamoddin N. Kachouie,
Florida Institute of Technology



Jonathan Webb, University of Idaho

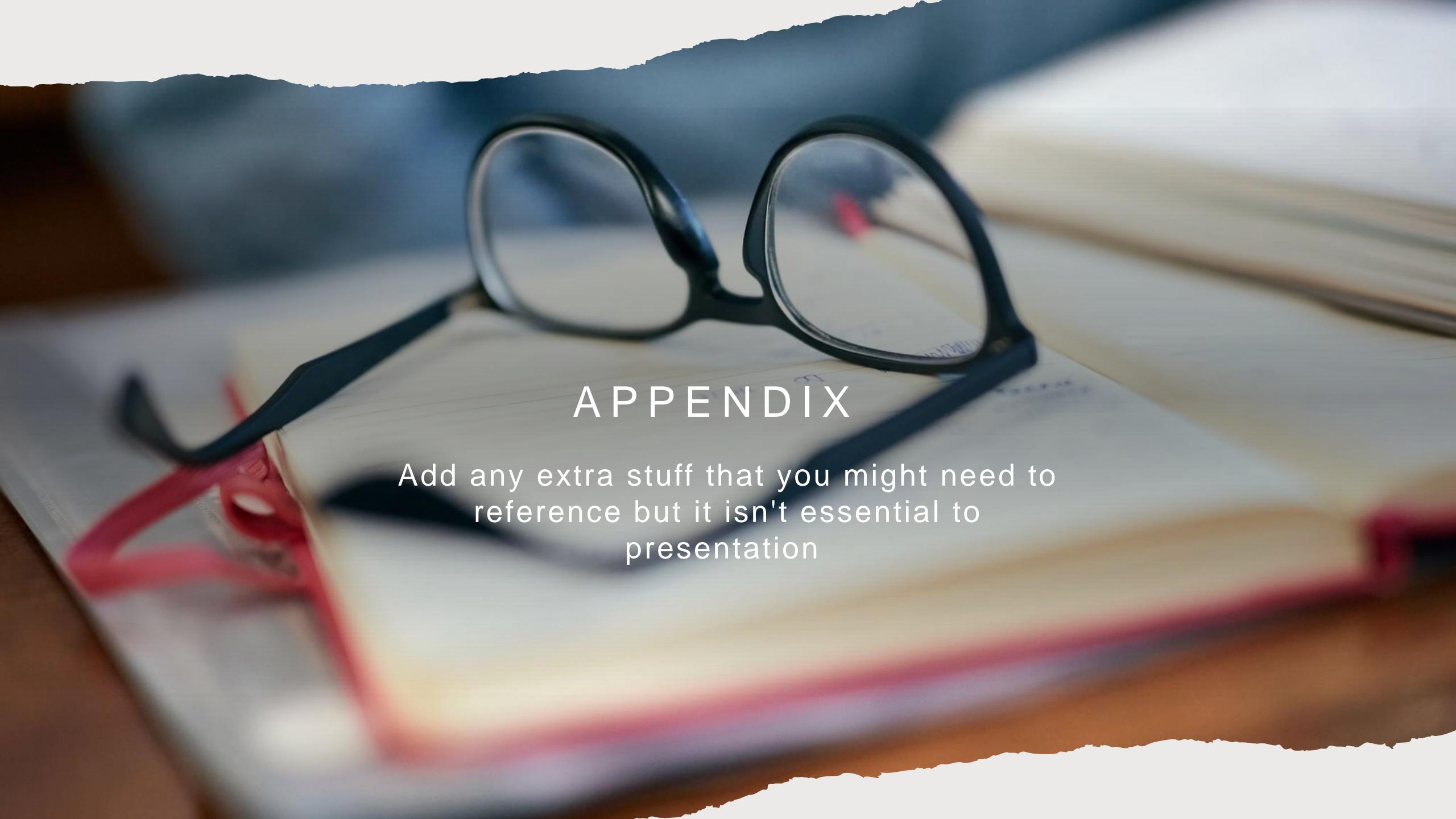
Edmund Robbins, Florida Institute of Technology

REFERENCES

- (1) Oerlemans, J., 2005. Extracting a Climate Signal from 169 Glacier Records. *Science*, 308(5722), pp.675-677.
- (2) Huybers, K. and Roe, G., 2009. Glacier response to regional patterns of climate variability. *Journal of Climate*, 22(17), pp.4606-4620.
- (3) Roe, G., 2011. What do glaciers tell us about climate variability and climate change?. *Journal of Glaciology*, 57(203), pp.567-578.
- (4) Gao, J. and Liu, Y., 2001. Applications of remote sensing, GIS and GPS in glaciology: a review. *Progress in Physical Geography*, 25(4), pp.520-540.
- (5) Kachouie, N., Huybers, P. and Schwartzman, A., 2013. Localization of mountain glacier termini in Landsat multi-spectral images. *Pattern Recognition Letters*, 34(1), pp.94-106.
- (6) Kachouie, N., Gerke, T., Huybers, P. and Schwartzman, A., 2015. Nonparametric Regression for Estimation of Spatiotemporal Mountain Glacier Retreat From Satellite Images. *IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing*, 53(3), pp.1135-1149.
- (7) Onyejekwe, O., Holman, B. and Kachouie, N., 2017. Multivariate models for predicting glacier termini. *Environmental Earth Sciences*, 76(23).
- (8) Hastie, T. and Tibshirani, R., 1986. Generalized Additive Models. *Statistical Science*, 1(3).

QUESTIONS?



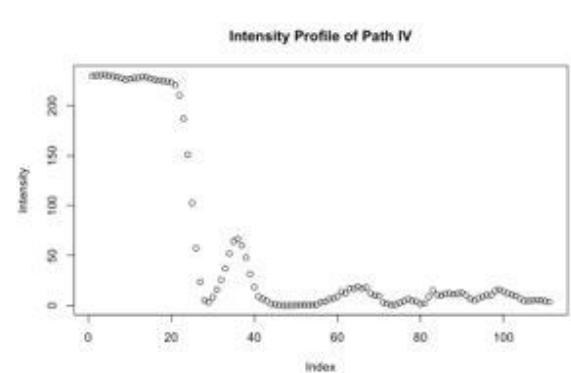
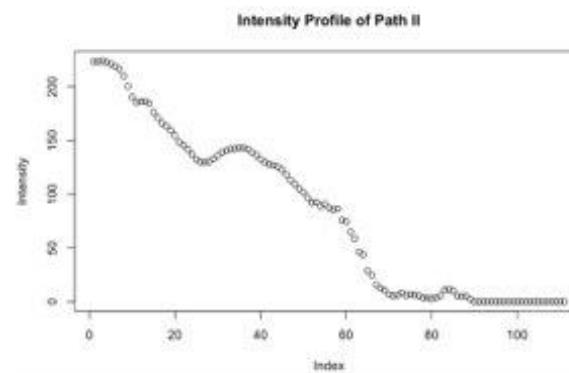
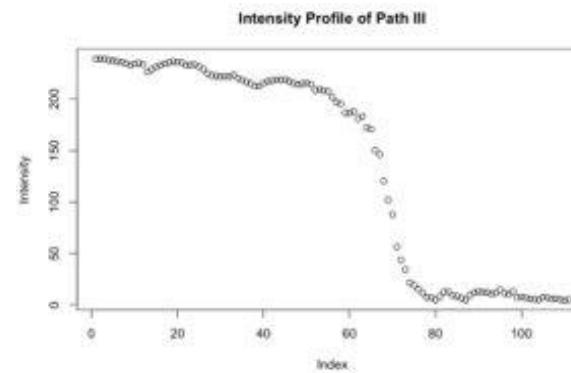
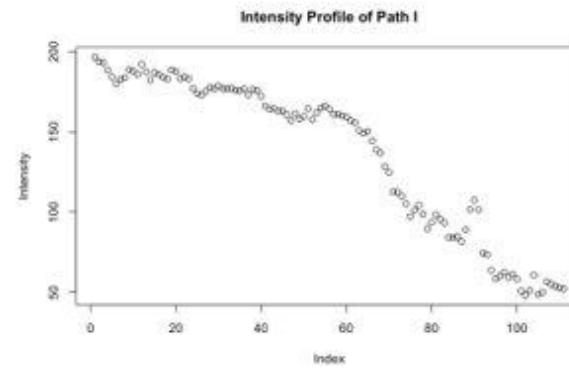
A photograph of a pair of dark-rimmed glasses resting on an open book. The book's pages are visible in the background, creating a layered effect. The glasses are positioned centrally, with their lenses reflecting some light.

APPENDIX

Add any extra stuff that you might need to reference but it isn't essential to presentation

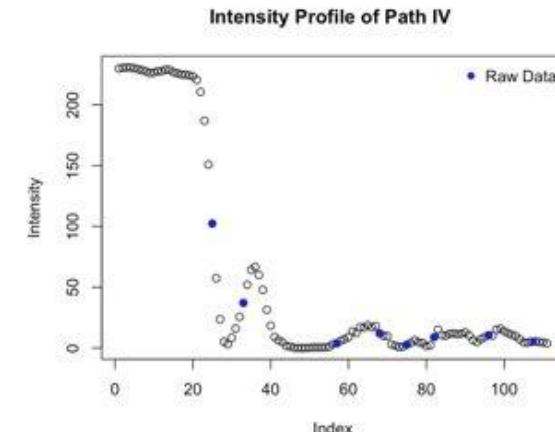
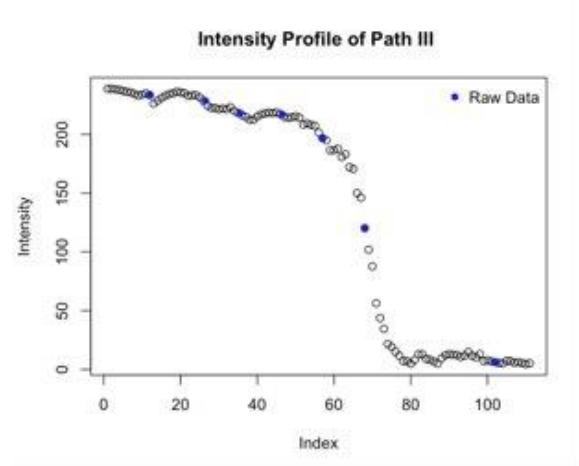
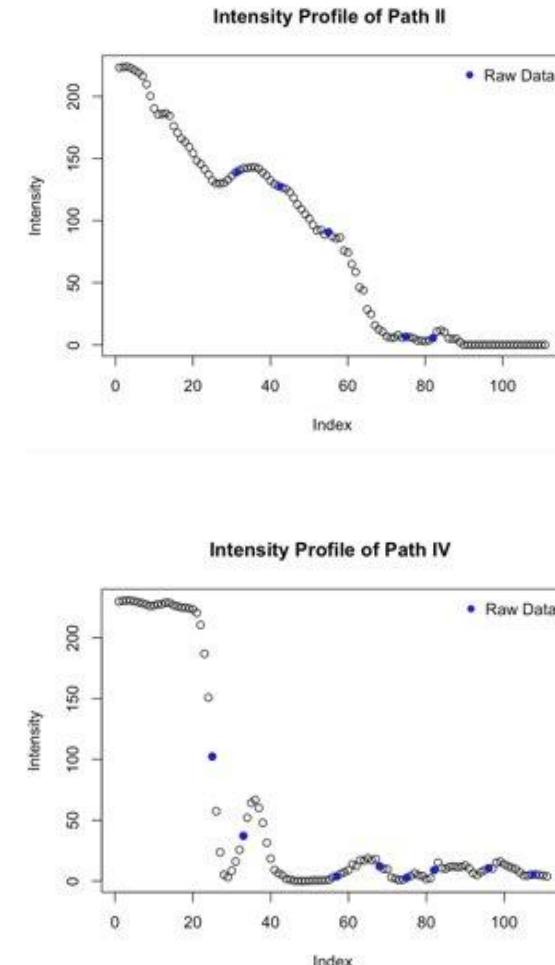
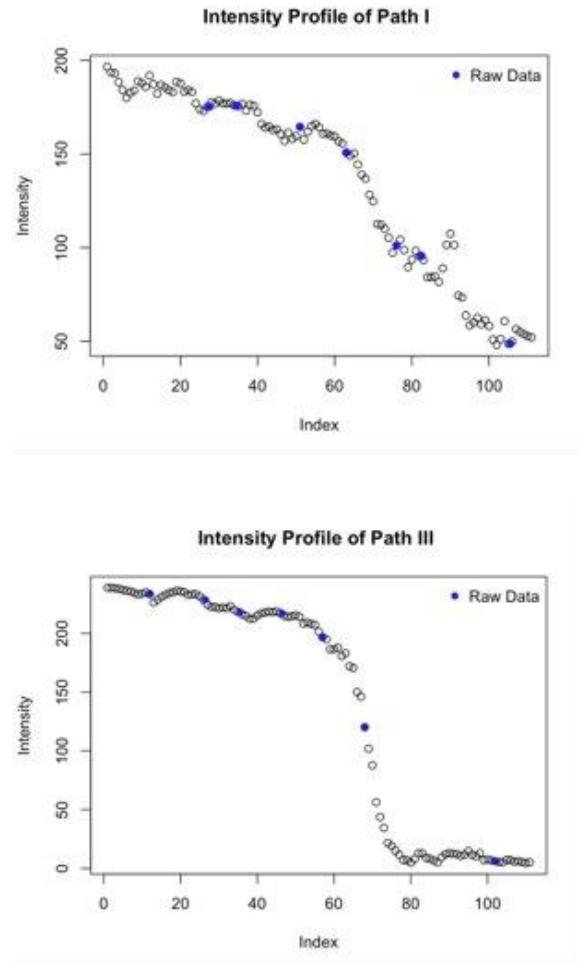
WHAT ARE THEY?

- The set of intensity values from regularly spaced points along a line segment (in our example, that is the glacier path)
- From the Landsat Data, we graphed each separate column and got the intensity profiles for glacier path on each image



INFLECTION POINTS

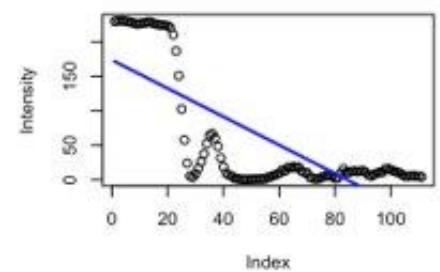
- We found the candidate points from the raw data for the first four paths.



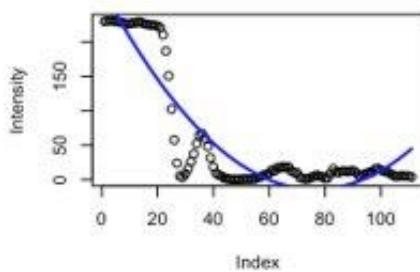
POLYNOMIAL REGRESSION

- On the first four paths, we ran polynomial regressions of degree 1 to 10.

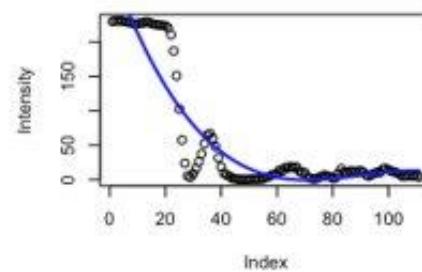
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 1



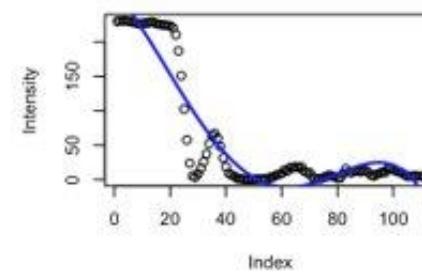
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 2



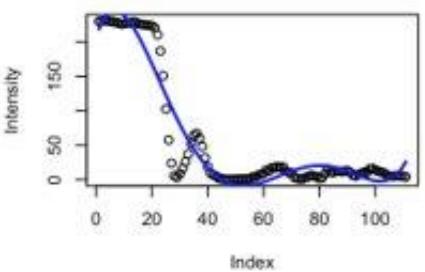
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 3



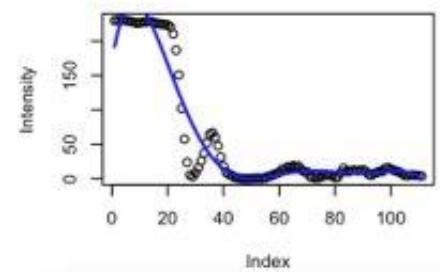
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 4



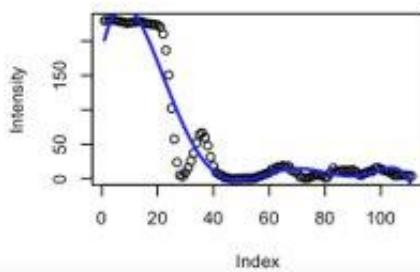
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 5



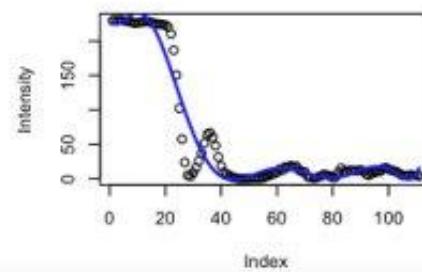
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 6



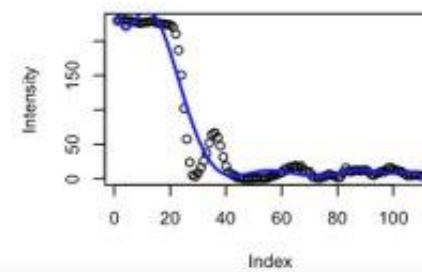
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 7



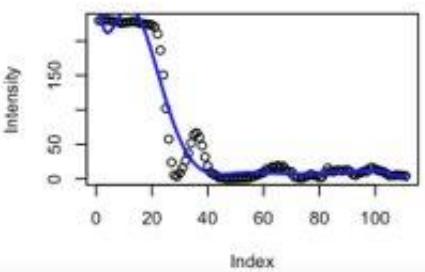
Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 8



Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 9

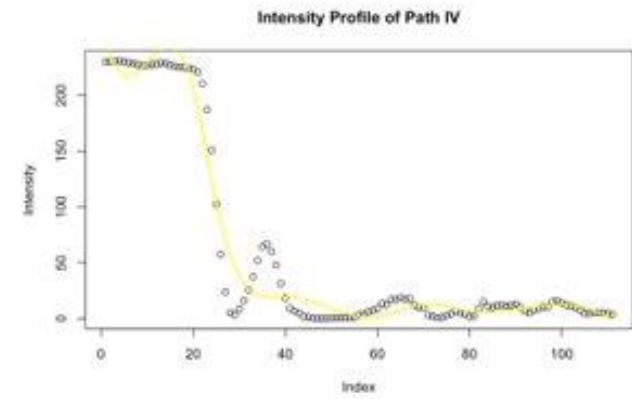
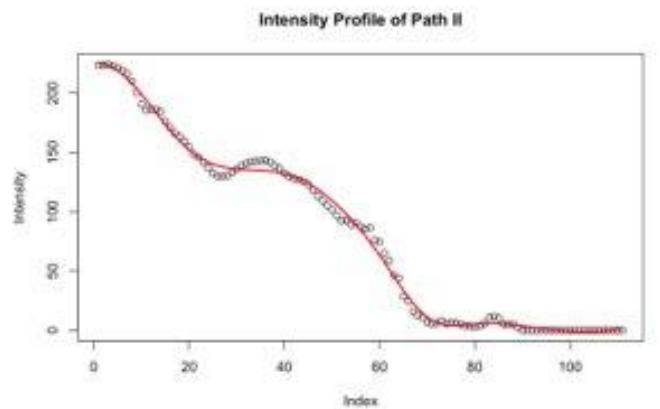
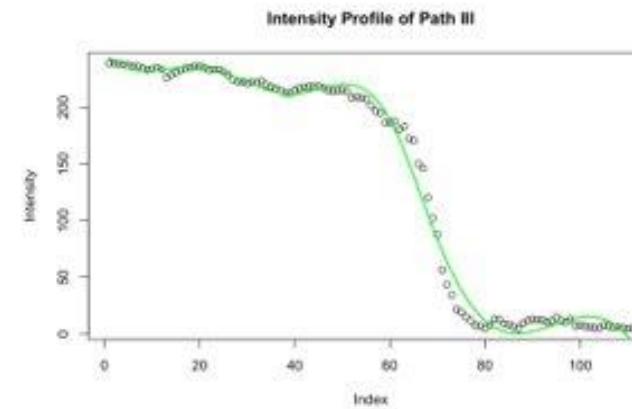
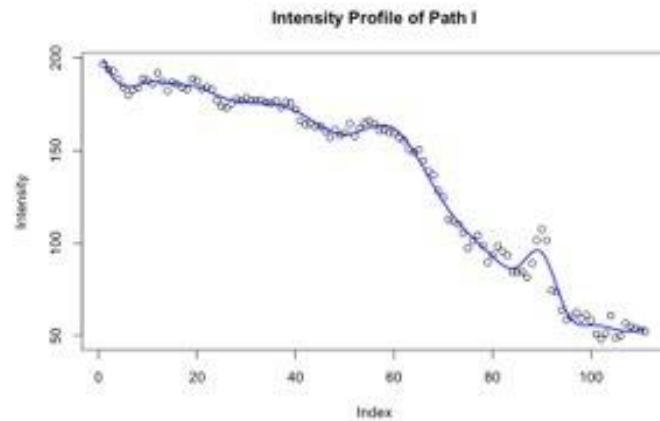


Poly Regression of Path IV Degree 10



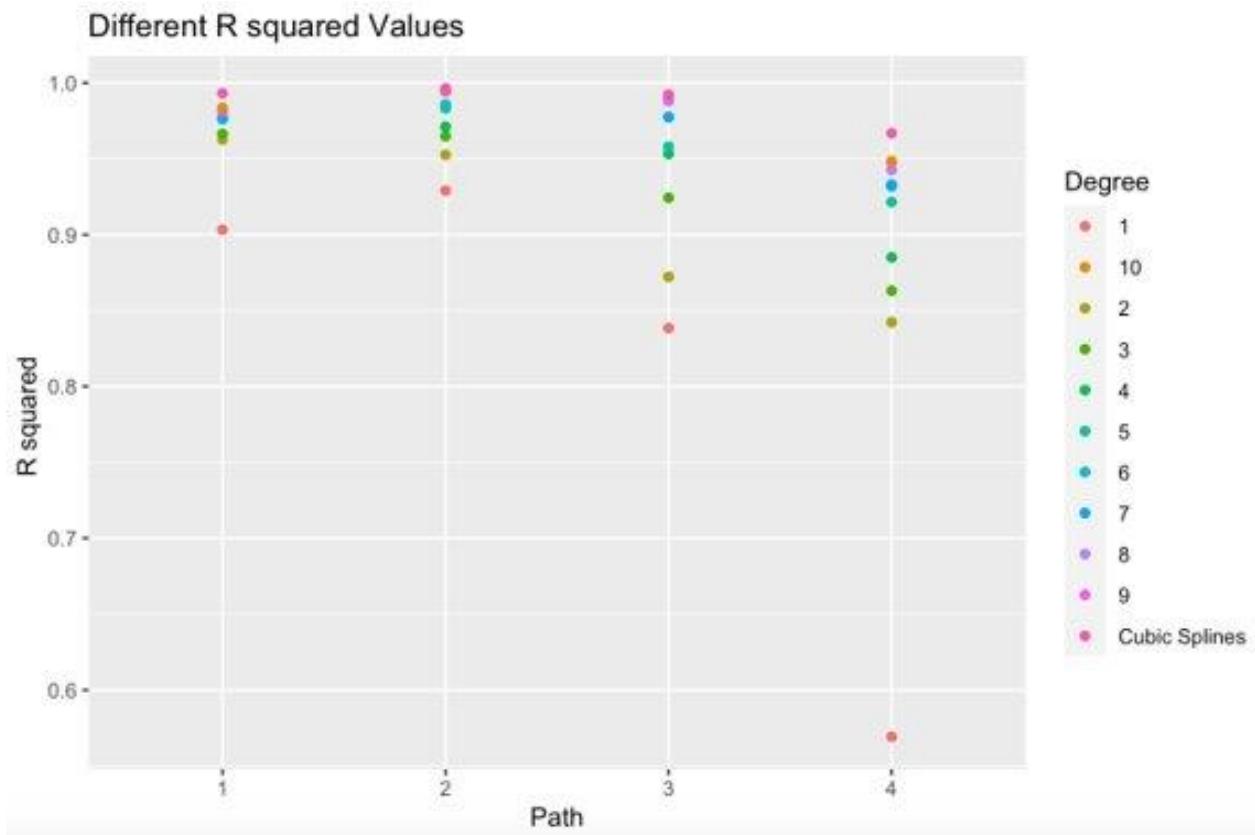
CUBIC SPLINES

- On the first four paths, we fit cubic splines.



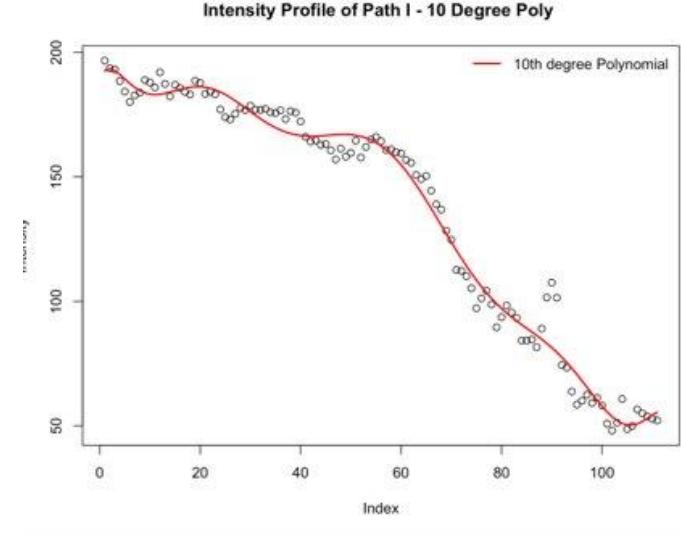
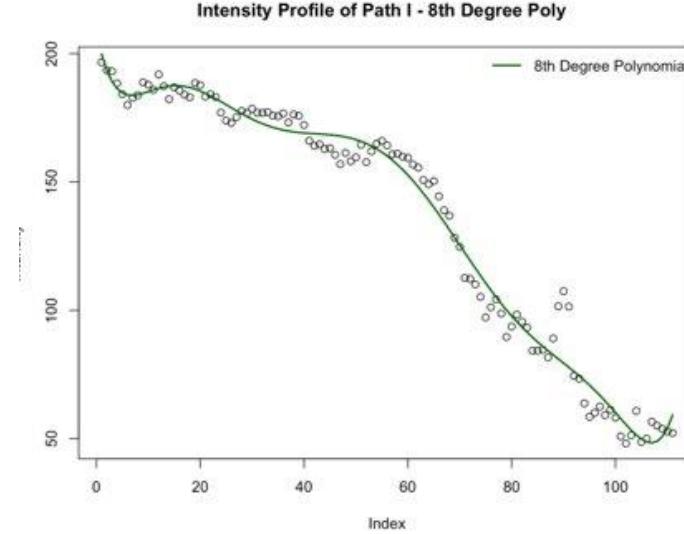
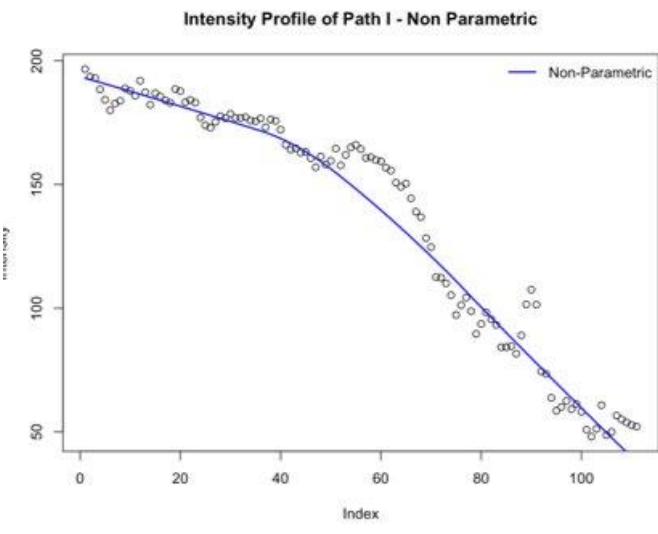
COMPARISON OF THE PARAMETRIC REGRESSIONS

- We wanted to compare each regression's performance of estimating the intensity profile using R².



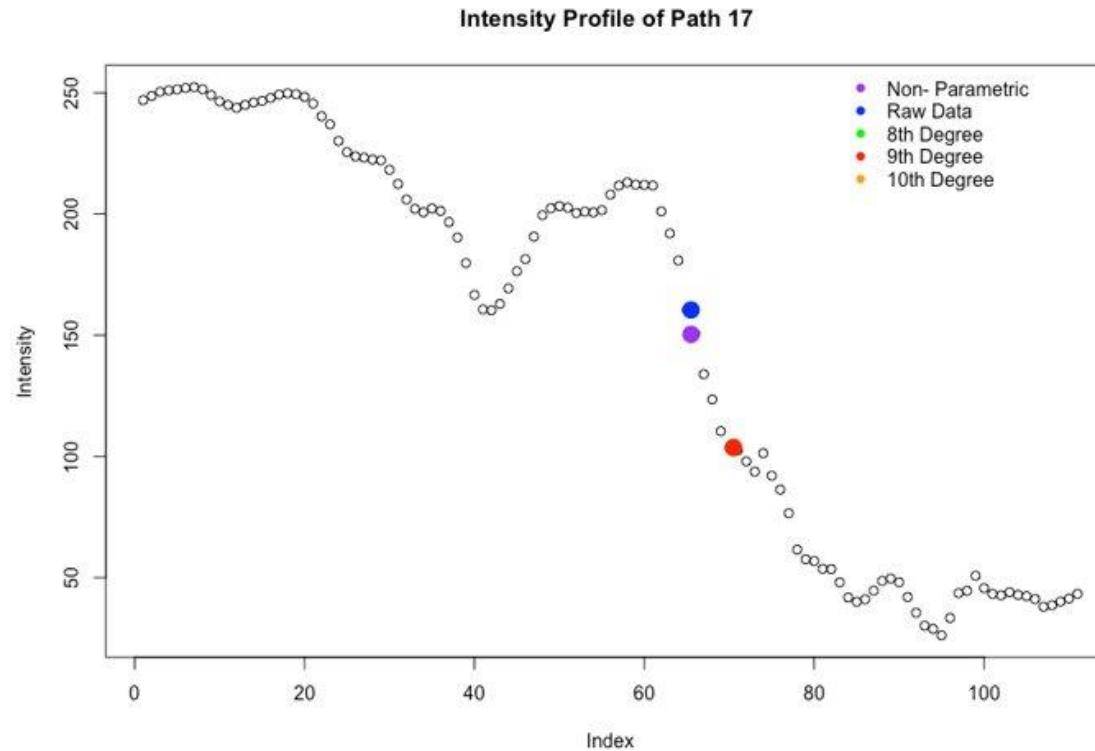
NON-PARAMETRIC REGRESSIONS

- We specifically chose the LOESS method in R when creating our non-parametric regression.



REGRESSION'S INFLECTION POINTS

- We see that the non-parametric regression finds a more closer approximation for the terminal point than other regressions.



SUMMARY OF INTENSITY PROFILES

01

I. We can find the terminal point in intensity profile by using inflection points.

02

II. It is better to find terminal points from regressions than from the raw data for future predicting purposes.

03

III. A non-parametric regression is the best method of estimating and predicting future terminal point locations.

LINEAR MODELS FOR FRANZ JOSEF

Terminal Point

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.993	3.77E-06
Average Minimum Temperature	0.872	0.001327
Average Maximum Temperature	0.278	0.03453
Average Precipitation	0.94	0.000204
Average Monthly Co2	0.0382	0.117
Average Global Temperature	0.485	0.01405

Area

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.131	0.5872
Average Minimum Temperature	0.0939	0.0939
Average Maximum Temperature	0.239	0.1913
Average Precipitation	0.128	0.3422
Average Monthly Co2	0.0991	0.3405
Average Global Temperature	0.34	0.1301

LINEAR MODELS FOR GORNER

Terminal Point

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.0176	0.3623
Average Minimum Temperature	0.00858	0.4238
Average Maximum Temperature	0.0331	0.3039
Average Perceiption	0.645	0.01681
Cumulative Monthly Perceiption	0.6178	0.01971
Average Monthly Co2	3.22e-10 *	0.9563,
Average Global Temperature	0.000201	0.6674

Area

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.166	0.2541
Average Minimum Temperature	0.125	0.3028
Average Maximum Temperature	0.323	0.1392
Average Perceiption	0.117	0.3138
Cumulative Monthly Perceiption	0.112	0.3211
Average Monthly Co2	0.363	0.104
Average Global Temperature	0.20391	0.193

ADDITIVE MODELS FOR FRANZ JOSEF

Terminal Point

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.59	0.0238
Average Minimum Temperature	0.733	-0.00962
Average Maximum Temperature	0.387	0.0159
Average Precipitation	0.94	-0.0355
Average Monthly Co2	0.0103	0.29
Average Global Temperature	0.285	-0.0141

Area

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.13	0.45
Average Minimum Temperature	0.127	0.587
Average Maximum Temperature	0.239	0.0757
Average Precipitation	0.127	0.233
Average Monthly Co2	0.149	0.295
Average Global Temperature	0.38	0.137

ADDITIVE MODELS FOR GORNER

Terminal Point

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.0173 *	0.313
Average Minimum Temperature	0.00832	0.379
Average Maximum Temperature	0.0329 *	0.25
Average Precipitation	0.646	-0.0588
Cumulative Monthly Precipitation	0.618	-0.0556
Average Monthly Co2	<2e-16	0.986
Average Global Temperature	0.000139 ***	0.642

Area

Factor	P-value	R^2
Average Monthly Temperature	0.0221	0.638
Average Minimum Temperature	0.0136	0.686
Average Maximum Temperature	0.04	0.566
Average Perception	0.0113	0.704
Cumulative Monthly Perception	0.00954	0.718
Average Monthly Co2	0.254	0.213
Average Global Temperature	0.204	0.0922