A team of researchers at Nanyang Technological University, working with a group at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and another colleague at ETH Zürich, has found evidence showing that parts of many big coastal cities are sinking faster than the sea is rising. In their paper published in the journal *Nature Sustainability*, the group describes using satellite-based radar to measure the degree of land subsidence for 48 of the largest cities in the world.

Prior research has shown that sea levels are rising at approximately 3.7 mm/year. In their study, the researchers found that some parts of some cities are seeing land sinking at a rate of up to 20 mm/year. The median rate for Ho Chi Minh City, for example was 16.2 mm/year. They also took a closer look at some cities, such as Rio de Janeiro, and found that approximately 2 square kilometers of land inside the city limits will be underwater by 2030 if measures are not taken to hold back the rising sea.


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