# A tsunami forecast model for San Juan, Puerto Rico

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#### Abstract

As part of NOAA's tsunami forecast, this study addresses the development, validation, and stability tests of the tsunami forecast model for San Juan, Puerto Rico, Based on the Method of Splitting Tsunami (MOST), the tsunami forecast model is constructed at a spatial resolution of 2 arcsec in the finest grid to accomplish 4-hour simulation of wave inundation onto dry land within 11 minutes of computing time. A reference inundation model is developed in parallel using grids of higher resolution of ten meters to provide modeling references for the forecast model. The present study also conducted sensitivity tests to optimize grid coverage and grid resolution by comparing results between the forecast model and the reference model. Due to lack of historical tsunami data, the San Juan forecast model was carefully evaluated using the 1755 Lisbon earthquake. The model validations show excellent agreement between the forecast model and reference model, meaning the forecast model is qualified to provide quantitative estimation of the inundation, runup and computed maximum values for potential threats of future tsunamis. The stability of the forecast model is further evaluated based on eight synthetic scenarios generated in Puerto Rico Trench, Hispaniola Trench, Cayman Trough, Los Muertos Trough and South Sandwich Island at different levels of M<sub>w</sub> 9.3, M<sub>w</sub> 7.5 and M<sub>w</sub> 6.4.

# 1. Background and Objectives

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Center for Tsunami, Research (NCTR) at the NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) has developed a tsunami forecasting capability for operational use by NOAA's two Tsunami Warning Centers located in Hawaii and Alaska (Titov *et al.*, 2005a). The system is designed to efficiently provide basin-wide warning of approaching tsunami waves accurately and quickly. The system, termed Short-term Inundation Forecast of Tsunamis (SIFT), combines real-time tsunami event data with numerical models to produce estimates of tsunami wave arrival times and amplitudes at a coastal community of interest. The SIFT system integrates several key components: deep-ocean observations of tsunamis in real time, a basin-wide pre-computed propagation database of water level and flow velocities based on potential seismic unit sources, an inversion algorithm to refine the tsunami source based on deep-ocean observations during an event, and high-resolution tsunami forecast models.

The objective of this present work is to develop an operational forecast model to be used in near real time to protect the community of San Juan, Puerto Rico, from the potential impact posed by a tsunami. San Juan is the capital and most populous municipality in Puerto Rico, an unincorporated territory of the United States. Being the most important city of Puerto Rico, San Juan is the center of finance, manufacture, culture and tourism of Puerto Rico. It is also the host of San Juan Port, one of the busiest in the Caribbean. The city has nearly 400,000 population, and nearly two million inhabitants in the

Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes San Juan and other municipalities. The area of the Caribbean Sea is geologically active. Caribbean Islands are known to be prone to tsunami hazards caused by distant, local and regional earthquakes, landslides and volcanic eruptions. The increasing population, development and tourism in the coastal area makes the Caribbean Islands more vulnerable today than they were when the last major tsunami occurred in this area (Lander et al., 2002). What's more, San Juan is not one of the ten TsunamiReady communites in Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands announced in 2010. All these facts make the development of a tsunami forecast model for San Juan, Puerto Rico an urgent need within the U.S. tsunami warning system to more effectively and efficiently warn and protect San Juan from catastrophic tsunami attack in the future.

## 2. Forecast Methodology

A high-resolution inundation model was used as the basis for development of a tsunami forecast model to operationally provide an estimate of wave arrival time, wave height, and inundation at Nikolski, Alaska following tsunami generation. All tsunami forecast models are run in real time while a tsunami is propagating across the open ocean. The Nikolski model was designed and tested to perform under stringent time constraints given that time is generally the single limiting factor in saving lives and property. The goal of this work is to maximize the length of time that the community of San Juan has to react to a tsunami threat by providing accurate information quickly to emergency managers and other officials responsible for the community and infrastructure.

The general tsunami forecast model, based on the Method of Splitting Tsunami (MOST), is used in the tsunami inundation and forecasting system to provide real-time tsunami forecasts at selected coastal communities. The model runs in minutes while employing high-resolution grids constructed by the National Geophysical Data Center. MOST is a suite of numerical simulation codes capable of simulating three processes of tsunami evolution: earthquake, transoceanic propagation, and inundation of dry land. The MOST model has been extensively tested against a number of laboratory experiments and benchmarks (Synolakis *et al.*, 2008) and was successfully used for simulations of many historical tsunami events. The main objective of a forecast model is to provide an accurate, yet rapid, estimate of wave arrival time, wave height, and inundation in the minutes following a tsunami event. Titov and González (1997) describe the technical aspects of forecast model development, stability, testing, and robustness, and Tang *et al.* (2009) provide detailed forecast methodology.

A basin-wide database of pre-computed water elevations and flow velocities for unit sources covering worldwide subduction zones has been generated to expedite forecasts (Gica *et al.*, 2008). As the tsunami wave propagates across the ocean and successively reaches tsunameter observation sites, recorded sea level is ingested into the tsunami forecast application in near real-time and incorporated into an inversion algorithm to produce an improved estimate of the tsunami source. A linear combination of the precomputed database is then performed based on this tsunami source, now reflecting the transfer of energy to the fluid body, to produce synthetic boundary conditions of water elevation and flow velocities to initiate the forecast model computation.

Accurate forecasting of the tsunami impact on a coastal community largely relies on the accuracies of bathymetry and topography and the numerical computation. The high spatial and temporal grid resolution necessary for modeling accuracy poses a challenge in the run-time requirement for real-time forecasts. Each forecast model consists of three telescoped grids with increasing spatial resolution in the finest grid, and temporal resolution for simulation of wave inundation onto dry land. The forecast model utilizes the most recent bathymetry and topography available to reproduce the correct wave dynamics during the inundation computation. Forecast models, including the San Juan model, are constructed for at-risk populous coastal communities in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Previous and present development of forecast models in the Pacific (Titov *et al.*, 2005; Titov, 2009; Tang *et al.*, 2008; Wei *et al.*, 2008; Tang *et al.*, 2012; Wei *et al.*, 2012) have validated the accuracy and efficiency of each forecast model currently implemented in the real-time tsunami forecast system. Models are tested when the opportunity arises and are used for scientific research. Tang *et al.* (2009) provide forecast methodology details.

# 3. Model development

The general methodology for modeling at-risk coastal communities is to develop a set of three nested grids, referred to as A, B, and C-grids, each of which becomes successively finer in resolution as they telescope into the population and economic center of the community of interest. The offshore area is covered by the largest and lowest resolution A-grid while the near-shore details are resolved within the finest scale C-grid to the point that tide gauge observations recorded during historical tsunamis are resolved within expected accuracy limits. The procedure is to begin development with large spatial extent merged bathymetric topographic grids at high resolution, and then optimize these grids by sub sampling to coarsen the resolution and shrink the overall grid dimensions to achieve a 4 to 10 hr simulation of modeled tsunami waves within the required time period of 10 min of wall-clock time. The basis for these grids is a high-resolution digital elevation model constructed by the National Geophysical Data Center and NCTR using all available bathymetric, topographic, and shoreline data to reproduce the wave dynamics during the inundation computation for an at-risk community. For each community, data are compiled from a variety of sources to produce a digital elevation model referenced to Mean High Water in the vertical and to the World Geodetic System 1984 in the horizontal (http://ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/inundation/tsunami/inundation.html). From these digital elevation models, a set of three high-resolution, "reference" elevation grids are constructed for development of a high-resolution reference model from which an 'optimized' model is constructed to run in an operationally specified period of time. The operationally developed model is referred to as the optimized tsunami forecast model or forecast model for brevity.

#### 3.1 Forecast area

The Caribbean is one of the smaller surface plates of the earth. This plate remains at a fixed sport relative to the deep earth, while the North American plate is being shoved westward. The subduction is ongoing; its rate constrained by GPS is  $19.7\pm0.4$  mm/y at an azimuth of  $255.6\pm0.9^{\circ}$  (DeMets et al., 2007). The westward-

moving North American plate is being driven under the Antilles Arc where volcanism is active. On the north side of the plate corner, the North American plate slides past the Caribbean, but irregularities of in the plate boundaries causes stresses that result in a complicated underthrusting of plate fragments. The interaction of plates cases the volcanism of the Antilles Arc on the eastern boundary of the Caribbean plate and creates major stresses all along the northern boundary (Nealon and Dillon, 2001).

The Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands region is located at the northeastern corner of the Caribbean plate where the seismic motions are complex. This region's documented history includes no candidate for a great earthquake along the Puerto Rico Trench. This abyss, as much as 8 km deep, extends 800 km around the northeast corner of the Caribbean plate at its boundary with the subducting North America plate (Figure 1 and 2).

Around Puerto Rico, the narrow island shelf exist in the north, south and west provinces. The north is the narrowest and is characterized by high wave energy and terrigenous sediments. Insular shelf and slope morphology varies greatly in Puerto Rico with differences in shelf width, shelf and slope inclination, shelf break depth, and the extent of natural barriers. The shelf has inclinations ranging from 0.1 to 3.0 degrees and widths ranging from 0.3 to 21 km. The insular shelf is extremely small in comparison to continental shelves. On the west coast, moderate shelf inclination varies from 0.1 to 0.5 degrees with shelf widths ranging from 0.4 to 6.6 km. On the north coast, the shelf inclination varies from 0.22 to 11 degree. The shelf width ranges from 0.3 to 3.2 km. The flattest shelves were found on the east and south coasts, where the platform is inclined from 0.1 to 0.7 degrees. On the east, shelf inclination varies from 0.1 to 0.3 degrees. On the south, shelf inclination is from 0.1 to 0.7 degrees. The south coast has a wider insular shelf ranging from 5 to 21 km. The shelf break is in depths of 10 to 40 meters around the Island. On the west and north, the shelf break is at 10 to 40 meters of depth. On the east, the shelf break is 15 to 30 meters deep and the south coast shelf break ranges from 15 to 40 meters.

#### 3.2 Historical events and data

The greatest of the northeast Caribbean's documented tsunamis originated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, during the 1755 Lisbon earthquake. It had peak amplitudes estimated as 4.5 m in St. Martin, up to 7 m in Saba, 3.6 m in Antigua and Dominica, >2 m in Martinique, and 1.5-1.8 m in Barbados (Zahibo and Pelinovsky, 2001; Barkan et al., 2009).

Among historical tsunamis originating within the northeast Caribbean (Figure 3), perhaps the largest was generated by the ~M7.2 1867 Virgin Islands earthquake (Reid and Taber, 1920). Reid and Taber (1920) and Barkan and ten Brink (2010) reported that this tsunami did not affect the northern and eastern coasts of the islands facing the Atlantic Ocean because the tsunami source was a fault or faults in Anegada Passage, south of St. Thomas. However, Lander et al. (2002) described the

tsunami waves caused by this earthquake were 1 to 6 m depending on the orientation of the particular coast of Puerto Rico. At San Juan and Arroyo, water rose to 0.9 and 1.5 m, and high waves were observed at the Vieques Islands. At Fajardo, a very small wave was reported, and at Yabucoa the sea retreated and inundated 137 m on its return.

After 1867, the maximum reported tsunami water level in San Juan, 66 cm, was due to the 1918 Mona Passage M7.3 earthquake (Table 1).

The 4 August 1946 M7.8 earthquake in Dominican Republic was one of the strongest earthquake ever reported in Caribbean, but the earthquake and tsunami did not cause serious damages in Puerto Rico, although they resulted the greatest damage and loss of life at Matancitas and nearby coastal towns.

A strong aftershock of the 4 August 1946 earthquake occurred four days after, and the tsunami it generated caused 75 fatalities and left 20,000 homeless in Puerto Rico. The sea withdrew at Aguadilla and Mayaguez. Landers et al. (2002) reported some damages at San Juan on the west coast of. However, it was not clear these damages were due to the earthquake or the tsunami waves following. A maximum water level of 60 cm was recorded at San Juan 35 min after the M7.4 earthquake.

Large landslide escarpments have been mapped on the seafloor north of Puerto Rico (Grindlay, 1998; Schwab et al., 1001). Studies have shown that a repetition of these landslide failures, even small failures, will be catastrophic for San Juan and Puerto Rico (Mercado et al., 2002). ten Brink et al. (2004 and 2006) uses multibeam bathymetry and re-processed seismic reflection profiles to describe and quantify slope failures and to identify sites of potential future failures. Their data indicate that slope failure is likely an incremental process even within the amphitheater. Their numerical simulation indicates a runup height only 1/3 of previous estimate. Although modeling landslide-generated tsunamis are beyond the scope of this study, the developed forecast and reference models are useful for assessment of these hazards in real time and in long-term applications.

#### 3.3 San Juan tide gauge

The NOS San Juan tide gauge is located at the southern tip of U.S. Coast Guard compound to the west of Old San Juan harbor (Figure 2 and 4). It was established in 1962, and the present installation was setup in 1989. The Mean High Water datum is 1.432 m above the station datum. The mean tidal range is only 0.34 m, and the diurnal tidal range is slightly larger, 0.48 m. The tidal records since 1962 indicates an increasing rate of sea level change at about  $1.65 \pm 0.52$  mm/yr, which is equivalent to a change of 16 cm in 100 years.

#### 3.4 Model setup

#### 3.4.1 Grid boundary and resolution

Burwell et al. (2007) studied the diffusion and dispersion characterization of MOST

model, and concluded that the nature of the scheme at all resolvable wave numbers, in particular, that the scheme is diffusive and dispersive for  $\beta = (gd)1/2\Delta t/\Delta x \neq 1$ , where  $\Delta t$  is the temporal step and  $\Delta x$  is the space step. Diffusive effects are stronger for poorly resolved waves (large space step compared to wave length), while diffusive effects go down but dispersive effects continue to increase as  $\beta$  reduces. Thus, numerical dispersion can be an issue closer to shore, but can be controlled to some level over the choice of  $\beta$ , in other words, the ratio between  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta x$ . The tsunami propagation database (Gica et al., 2008) was developed at a grid spacing of 4-arc-minute (about 7.2 km at the equator) and saved at 16-arc-minute (about 28.8 km at the equator) resolution. This resolution may introduce enormous model diffusion effects if applied directly to the continental shelf where water depth is generally less than 100 m. The telescoped grids adopted in MOST model are thus critical for wave transformation over the continental shelf, and eventually critical for the inundation modeling at the coastline. Ideally, manipulation of  $\beta$  value will reduce the effects of diffusion and mimic the real-world dispersion through numerical dispersion.

# 3.4.2 Digital Elevation Model (DEM) of San Juan, Puerto Rico

The bathymetry and topography used in the development of this forecast model was based on a digital elevation model provided by the National Geophysical Data Center and the author considers it to be an adequate representation of the local topography and bathymetry. As new digital elevation models become available, forecast models will be updated and report updates will be posted at <a href="http://nctr.pmel.noaa.gov/forecast\_reports/">http://nctr.pmel.noaa.gov/forecast\_reports/</a>.

Taylor et al. (2008) described the development of a 1-arc-sec DEM for Puerto Rico and six 1/3-arc-sec DEMs along Puerto Rico's coastline, including one for San Juan. This work was an update of a previous development of DEMs specifically for San Juan and Mayaguez, Puerto Rico (Taylor et al., 2006). The updated DEM uses bathymetric datasets from seven different surveys (Figure 5), including LiDAR surveys done by NOS and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers SHOALS available for coastal areas near San Juan. The topographic datasets used to derive the DEM were primarily obtained from the Puerto Rico Office of Management and Budget (PROMB) at a spatial resolution of 10 m and Budget and the U.S. Geological Survey at a spatial resolution of 1/3 are-sec. San Juan topography was primarily provided by the PROMB data, which covers entire Puerto Rico, Culebra islands and the western half of Vieques. All the bathymetric and topographic data are transformed to a vertical datum of MHW, and to a horizontal datum of WGS 84.

According to Taylor et al. (2008), the Puerto Rico DEMs have an estimated horizontal accuracy of 10 m for topographic features, a few hundred meters for deep-water bathymetry, while the shallow, near-coastal regions have an accuracy approaching that of subaerial topographic features. The vertical accuracy of topography is estimated to be 0.5 m for the PROMB DEMs. Bathymetruc areas have an estimated accuracy of between 0.1 m and  $\sim 2\%$  of water depth.

However, a careful inspection to the 1/3-arc-sec San Juan DEM indicates the bathymetry in some of the lagoons and channels was set to a constant value.

probably due to lack of data there. Also, some of the bridges were not removed from the DEM for modeling purpose. These are improved in this study (details are discussed in section 3.4.3), although some caveats may still exist in the developed grids. They are subject to further improvement wherever new data becomes available.

## 3.4.3 Development of model grids

Development of an optimized tsunami forecast model for San Juan began with the spatial extent merged bathymetric/topographic grids shown in **Figure 6 to 11**. Grid dimension extension and additional information were updated as needed and appropriate. A significant portion of the modeled tsunami waves, typically 4 to 10 hr of modeled tsunami time, pass through the model domain without appreciable signal degradation. **Table 2** provides specific details of both reference and tsunami forecast model grids, including extents and complete input parameter information for the model runs is provided in **Appendix A**.

Figures 6 and 7 show the coverage of A grid with a spatial resolution of 20 arcsec (~ 600 m) for the reference model, and 47.24 arcsec (~ 1,460 m) for the forecast model. Both grids are obtained from a 9-arcsec intermediate dataset developed by NGDC in 2005 for Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. The drawback of this dataset is it contains no topography, which does not affect the model computation in A grid as no tsunami inundation computation is engaged at this level. The reference model A grid covers the region between 69.9°W and 60.504014°W in longitudinal direction. and between 16.05°N and 18.95°N in latitudinal direction. This grid represents the northeast Caribbean region from southeast of Dominican Republic to Guadeloupe in the Lesser Antilles. The forecast model A grid covers slightly smaller area, between 69.0°W and 61.008115°W in longitudinal direction, and between 16.5°N and 18.95°N in latitudinal direction, to gain more efficiency in computing time. The Island of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are included in both A grids, although the deepest in the north does not completely extend all the way to the Puerto Rico trench. It is important that the shallow reef and shelf around Puerto Rico and those in the Virgin Islands and Lesser Antilles are included in the A grid. This setup ensures the tsunami waves dynamics in the deep ocean are properly adopted from the propagation database to the inundation models before they reach the shallow coastal regions. Figure \*\*\* and \*\*\* clearly show the shallow shelf areas are along the east, south and southwest of Puerto Rico. The north shore of Puerto Rico, including San Juan, is particularly vulnerable to tsunami waves striking from the north, where the Puerto Rico Trench and the Hispaniola Trench are the potential source regions that may generate catastrophic tsunamis.

Figures 8 and 9 show the coverage of B grid with a spatial resolution of six arcsec ( $\sim$  180 m) for the reference model, and 12 arcsec ( $\sim$  360 m) for the forecast model. Both grids were obtained from the San Juan 1/3 sec DEM developed by NGDC. The reference model B grid covers the region between 67.4°W and 65.2°W in longitudinal direction, and between 17.8°N and 18.6°N in latitudinal direction The

forecast model A grid covers slightly smaller area, between 67.35°W and 65.55°W in longitudinal direction, and between 17.8°N and 18.6°N in latitudinal direction, to gain more efficiency in computing time. Both grids cover the entire Puerto Rico Island. In the north and south, the boundary of these B grids reaches 1,000 m to provide more accurate modeling results of the waves over the shelf using finer grid resolution, especially in the north shore of Puerto Rico. The B grids are not fully extended to deep water in the east and west in order to provide optimization in computing time.

Figures 10 and 11 show the coverage of C grid with a spatial resolution of 1/3 arcsec  $(\sim 9 \text{ m})$  for the reference model, and 2 arcsec  $(\sim 60 \text{ m})$  for the forecast model. Both grids were obtained from the San Juan 1/3 sec DEM developed by NGDC. The reference model C grid covers the region between 66.1888889°W and 65.975°W in longitudinal direction, and between 18.375°N and 18.5°N in latitudinal direction The forecast model C grid covers slightly smaller area, between 66.2°W and 65.975°W in longitudinal direction, and between 18.4°N and 18.5°N in latitudinal direction. Both grids cover the most populated coastline of San Juan from Ensenada de Boca Vieja in the west to Laguna La Torrecilla in the east, about 25 km in eastwest direction. The water depth at the north boundary of C grid is about 100 m. The SHOALs data provides many details of the nearshore bathymetric features. The water depth in most of the bays near San Juan, including the San Juan harbor, is less than 10 m and do not change much. The ship channels in San Juan Harbor (Bahai de San Juan) are dredged to 11 to 12 m deep. What make San Juan difficult for tsunami inundation modeling are the canals, lagoons and marshes that connect to the ocean through small entrance. Due to lack of survey data, a routine that NGDC employs is to assign a constant depth value in these inland water bodies, such as 0.4 m in the San Juan 1/3 arcsec DEM. Ellis (1976) reported the history of dredging and filling of lagoons in the San Juan area, and pointed out that the average water depth in Laguna Torrecilla and Laguna San Jose is about 2.4 m. Therefore, a water depth of 2.4 m was used to replace the original 0.4 m in these lagoons. It is worth noting that the water depth in the lagoons remains to be constant in the developed models as no detailed survey data was available at the time when the models were developed. When becoming available, these detailed water depths can be included in future model updates.

#### 4. Results and Discussions

#### 4.1 Model validation

Lack of tsunami measurements in the Atlantic has been a major issue of model validation for the tsunami forecast models developed for U.S. East Coast and Caribbean. An alternative approach is the model-to-model comparison between different models. Unfortunately, other than this study, tsunami modeling for Atlantic City has not been available from any tsunami modeling or research group. Another crude validation is to test the model with a historical case, for which the tsunami impact is well known at the modeling site or its vicinity, and consider the model is validated if this model gives no "surprising" results. The 1755 Lisbon tsunami is a representative case for such a model.

The earthquake source of the 1755 Lisbon tsunami has not been fully understood. Previous studies have proposed a few source mechanisms that may have potentially produced this basin-wide tsunami. The magnitude of the proposed earthquake ranges from 8.0 to 9.0 (Barkan et al., 2009; Muir-Wood and Mignan, 2009; Titov et al., 2009; Roger et al., 2009), while the rupture area varies between 6,000 km<sup>2</sup> and 480,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Titov et al. (2009) has compared five tsunami scenarios due to different earthquake sources and they all indicated that the tsunami impact on U.S. East Coast was minor, as a tsunami not reported or documented anywhere in United States. The preferred scenario of Barkan et al. (2009) reported very similar result after comparing the tsunami records at many places in the Atlantic, particularly in the Caribbean (**Figure 12**). This report uses the 1755 Lisbon tsunami as a "validation" case study, for which we adopted earthquake rupture parameters from Barkan et al. (2009), and an earthquake magnitude 9.0 from Muir-Wood and Mignan (2009). This scenario represents a "worst case" scenario of the 1755 Lisbon tsunami, which can explain the tsunami runup heights and overwash observed in the British Virgin Islands and Lesser Antilles (Wei et al., 2011). Figure 13e shows the computed time series at the tide gage location of San Juan. One can see that the maximum wave amplitude is smaller than 0.5 m, and the maximum wave height is about 0.9 m. The forecast model indicates some minor flooding along the bank at the entrance of the canal (Figure 13), while the reference model shows no flooding at the same location. When looking at the time series comparison between the two models (Figure 13e), one can observe that, when comparing to the reference model, the forecast model gives larger wave amplitudes for the first two waves, but shows excellent match for the following 10 waves. The computational results show high-speed current up to 1 to 3 m/s (about 4 to 6 knots) along the coastline, and the most rapid currents, 3 to 4 m/s, occur offshore where the bathymetry changes abruptly (Figure 13a-d). The flow speed at the entrance and in the ship channel of San Juan harbor is also up to 3 m/s, which may pose danger to the ship maneuvering in the harbor during a tsunami event. In the Old San Juan harbor, the water level is 0.6 to 0.8 m above MHW, and the flow speed is between 0.4 to 0.7 m. As no major tsunami flooding or impact were reported in San Juan during the 1755 Lisbon tsunami, the model results representing an upper limit of the Lisbon tsunami that fits the historical records.

Except for the amplitude of the first two waves, the computational results from the forecast model and the reference model show high analogy in wave period, arrival time, and current speed. This shows that forecast model developed at 2 arcsec is able to achieve the same computational accuracy as the reference model, but can save computational resources by nearly 500 times. This makes the forecast model a very powerful tool to provide rapid and accurate tsunami forecast in real time.

# 4.2 Model stability testing using synthetic scenarios Model stability testing using synthetic scenarios provides important case studies to test the robustness, durability, and efficiency of the developed models from different perspectives:

1. Synthetic scenarios examine the developed models with mega tsunamis to guarantee model stability. These model tests ensure the efficiency of the forecast model during a

catastrophic event.

- 2. Synthetic scenarios also examine the developed models with medium tsunamis to guarantee model stability under smaller wave conditions. These model tests ensure the efficiency of the forecast model during a moderate event.
- 3. Synthetic scenarios examine the developed models with negligible tsunami waves to guarantee the modeling results are not interfered by the numerical noises.
- 4. The synthetic scenarios were selected in such way that at least one from each potential tsunami source zone is tested. These cases are used to examine the reliability of the developed models in response to the directionality of tsunami waves.

Table 3 summarized all the synthetic scenarios (plotted in Figure 14) used in the present model testing. Except for the 1755 Lisbon (used as a model validation in section 4.1), other scenarios were artificially constructed from the combination of the unit sources, shown as black boxes. Table 3 gives the details of unit source and the coefficients for a total of eight scenarios, six with magnitude 9.3, one with magnitude 7.5 and one nowave. Five of the magnitude-9.3 cases were selected in the Puerto Rico Trench and Hispaniola Trench since they are considered as the most dangerous tsunamigenic earthquake zones in the Atlantic (ten Brink et al., 2007). The earthquake zones between the Caribbean plate and South America have been relatively inactive, and the tsunami waves generated there have minor impacts on the U.S. East Coast based on the tsunami hazard assessment study by Titov et al. (2009, Chapter 2). Therefore, no synthetic scenarios were selected from this area. The magnitude-9.3 scenario from South Sandwich source zone was used for modeling stability test in response to different tsunami directionalities.

The synthetic scenario ATSZ 48-57, generated by a 2004-Indian-Ocean-type Mw 9.3 earthquake from Puerto Rico Trench, causes a most catastrophic impact to San Juan and its vicinity. The modeling results in **Figure 15a-d** show that such an event, if arriving at high tide, will penetrate inland by 4 to 5 km at least and wipe out most of the waterfront at Toa Baja, Old San Juan, San Juan, Carolina (including the entire San Juan International Airport) with waves up to 21 m above MHW along the shoreline. The water level on land is generally greater than 10 m, and becomes especially high (up to 17 m above MHW) between Old San Juan and San Juan International Airport, where is highly populated by tourists. The water elevation at the airport may also reach 18 m above MHW, and cause significant damages to the main infrastructures. The only place that may be able to avoid flooding is the high ground of Old San Juan. What can also lead to devastation is the accompanied tsunami flow, which is generally between 8 to 12 m/s along the shoreline when flooding on land. These high-speed flows will gradually slow down to 4 to 5 m/s until they reach 2 km inland, and then to 1 m/s or less until they reach the inundation limit at a distance about 4 to 5 km from the shoreline. It's also worth noting the flow speed offshore may reach 33 m/s when the bathymetry changes abruptly. These offshore currents probably will prevent any ships or boats to evacuate from the harbor to deep ocean. The time series in **Figure 15e** indicates a dominant first wave up to 3 m above mean high water at the tide gage followed by a few waves with a maximum amplitude of 2.5 m. The time series computed by the reference model and forecast model are nearly identical, which reflects the accuracy of forecast model under extreme wave

conditions. The time series at the tide gauge also indicates that the waves arrive two hours after the earthquake have longer wave period than the first two hours. The 24-hour run of forecast model shows no instability, meaning the model will stay stable under large waves. The inundated area computed by the forecast model is larger than that predicted by the reference model. This is attributed to different grid resolution implemented in the two models, where the reference model at 1/3 arcsec can describe the ocean-front topography better than forecast model at 2 arcsec. These fine features are mostly smoothed into coarser grids employed in the forecast model, and therefore create a smoother land elevation in the forecast model for the waves to overflow more easily.

A tsunami source with same magnitude from the synthetic scenario ATSZ 38-47, in Lesser Antilles, causes much smaller flooding along the coastline of San Juan with maximum wave amplitude of up to 3.5 m (Figure 16). Similar to scenario ATSZ 48-57, the highest water elevation occurs along at the water front, particularly along the coastline between the Old San Juan and San Juan International Airport. Flooding also occurs at the low land area in San Juan, especially the San Juan International Airport, and along the east shoreline of Ensenada de Boca Vieja. The flow speed at the entrance of San Juan harbor is up to 2.5 m/s, but is reduced to smaller than 0.5 m/s inside the harbor. Similar to synthetic event ATSZ 48-57, the fastest tsunami flow occurs offshore forming a band of high-speed zone between 3 to 6 m/s along the abrupt bathymetric change. The computed time series at the tide gauge gives nearly identical waveform, indicating that the forecast model and reference model agree well with each other. The 24-hour run of forecast model illustrates long-lasting wave activities inside San Juan harbor. The waves arriving after 12 hours of the tsunami generation still have amplitudes comparable to the first two hours. These late waves are probably due to reflection from the continent of Africa.

With similar fault orientation and location, the synthetic scenarios ATSZ 58-67 and ATSZ 82-91 give similar computational results at San Juan. With the forecast model, both scenarios showed minor inundation along the river bank of the canals, while the reference model indicates no flooding. The color pattern in Figures 17a-d and 18adshows that, in both scenarios, wave amplitudes are up to 1 m in Ensenada de Boca Vieja and 0.3 to 0.9 m/s in the San Juan Harbor, where the current speed reaches 2.5 m/s at the entrance of San Juan Harbor. Inside the harbor, although the wave amplitude is still 0.7 to 0.8 m, but the flow speed is reduced to smaller than 0.3 m/s. The computed time series at tide gauges are highly consistent in both scenarios. Differently than scenarios ATSZ 48-57 and 38-47, the largest wave amplitude at tide gauge occurs on the second wave, about 0.5 m in amplitude. The wave period is about 1 hour for ATSZ 58-67, but only about 30 min for the ATSZ 82-91 for the first eight waves within 4 hours of the event. A notable feature of the time series at the tide gage, in both scenarios (Figure 17e and Figure 18e), is the leading depression N-waves (Tadepalli and Synolakis, 1994), which was propagating from the tsunami source. Different than the Puerto Rico Trench and the Hispaniola Trench, where the North America plate is subducting southwesterly beneath the Caribbean plate, the geological setting at ATSZ 58-67 and ATSZ 82-91 is featured with submarine troughs – Cayman Trough at ATSZ 58-67 and Los Muertos Trough at ATSZ 82-91. Cayman Trough is a complex transform fault zone bounded by strike-slip

faults, while Los Muertos trough is an indication of northerly dipping Caribbean Plate and associated seismic zones, in contrast to the south-dipping Puerto Rico – Lesser Antilles subduction zone (LaForge and McCann, 2005). The northerly dipping of the Los Muertos Trough results in an uplift at its southern extent but a subsidence at the north that corresponds to the leading depression when the tsunami waves propagate. ATSZ 58-67 in the Cayman Trough disturbs the water surface in a similar, but more conservative, way by simulating these faults using a subducting mechanism rather than a strike-slip mechanism.

The synthetic scenario of ATSZ 68-77 produces negligible impact along San Juan's coastline with wave amplitude up to 0.2 m. However, it is a special case that highlights two important characteristics of tsunami waves: wave period and late waves. The computed time series at the San Juan tide gage shows that the wave period of the ATSZ 68-77 scenario, about one to two hours, is unusually long. The wave amplitude did not reach its maximum until almost 9 hours after the tsunami was generated, while the first notable peak arrived about at three hours. When comparing the modeling results between the forecast model and the reference model for the first eight hours, one sees an excellent agreement in computed wave amplitude, flow speed, and time series at the tide gage (**Figure 19**). The synthetic scenario of ATSZ 68-77 stresses the need of retaining tsunami warning or watch for more than 24 hours for San Juan during a real tsunami event.

Excellent agreement was also found between the forecast model and reference model for the synthetic scenario of SSSZ 1-10 (**Figure 20**) that represents an  $M_w$  9.3 earthquakegenerated tsunami waves from South Sandwich source zone. The model results show that maximal water elevation of 0.5 m is along the coastline of Ensenada de Boca Vieja and 0.4 m in east of San Juan. The flow speed at the entrance of San Juan harbor is about 0.2 to 0.3 m/s, and smaller than 0.1 m/s in the harbor. Similar to ATSZ 68-77, the largest wave arrives about seven hours later than the first wave probably due to reflected waves from Africa.

The synthetic scenario of magnitude 7.5, ATSZ b52, introduces up to 0.4 m wave amplitude along the shoreline of San Juan, but only 0.04 m at the tide gage. Both the forecast model and reference model show good model consistency and stability in terms of maximum wave amplitudes, flow speed (**Figure 21a-d**) and the time series at the tide gage (**Figure 21e**), although the time series at the tide gauge starts to show discrepancies after four hours into the event. The micro scenario ATSZ b11 is very useful in testing the model stability under the conditions of negligible wave. From the computed maximum wave amplitude (Figure 22a-d), one can see that the water elevation at the oceanfront is only on the order of 10<sup>-3</sup> m. The reference model introduces some numerical abnormality to the model, while the forecast model gives stable results up to 24 hours of computation. The issue with reference model is being further investigated.

#### 5. Summary and conclusions

San Juan, Puerto Rico is the most important coastal community in Puerto Rico, and a popular tourist attraction attracting tourists from all over the world. San Juan is exposed to potential coastal hazards such as storm surge and tsunamis. These pose challenging,

yet long-standing, questions for the coastal communities on how to protect their lives and properties. Tsunami forecast and hazard assessment in San Juan remains significantly understudied, probably due to the minor impact and infrequent occurrence of tsunamis in San Juan's history, as well as in the Atlantic.

In this study, a tsunami forecast model is developed for the community of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The developed model is being implemented into NOAA's Short-term Inundation Forecast of Tsunamis (SIFT) to provide real-time modeling forecasts of tsunami wave characteristics, runup and inundation along San Juan's coastline. Discussion of the details of each individual components of the forecast model, including the bathymetry and topography, the basic model setup, and the model parameters are provided in the report. The forecast model employs grids as fine as 2 arcsec and can accomplish a four-hour simulation, after tsunami arrival, in 12 minutes of computer CPU time. In parallel, a reference model was also developed, using grids as fine as 9 m, to provide reference results basis for performance evaluation of the forecast model.

Due to lack of historical tsunami records, the 1755 Lisbon tsunami is used as a model validation case to show the San Juan models did not produce "surprising" results. Based on Barkan et al. (2009) and Miur-Wood and Mignan (2009) sources of the 1755 tsunami, the modeling results showed 2-m maximum wave amplitude along the coastline of San Juan and 0.5 m at the tide gage. Minor tsunami inundation was shown at the west and southeast of Ensenada de Boca Vieja, and a maximum current speed of 2 m/sec at the entrance of San Juan Harbor. It is worth noting that the modeling of 1755 Lisbon tsunami in San Juan was based on its present bathymetric and topographic features. The results from both the forecast model and the reference model showed good agreement in arrival time and wave period. The forecast model gives larger wave amplitude for the first two waves.

A total of nine synthetic scenarios, including six catastrophic, one small-size, and one micro-size earthquake-generated, were used to examine the stability of the developed forecast model and reference model for San Juan. The synthetic scenarios were selected in such way that at least one from each of the Puerto Rico Trench, Hispaniola Trench and South Sandwich source zone is tested. Both the forecast model and reference model give stable, yet consistent between the two models, results for most of the synthetic scenarios representing tsunami waves from different source locations and different directionalities. Other than testing the model stability, these synthetic scenarios are also useful to summarize some common the characteristics of tsunami waves generated from these source zones.

- 1. A magnitude of 9.3 earthquake in Puerto Rico Trench, represented by ATSZ 48-57 in this report, may generate a catastrophic tsunami for San Juan, Puerto. The modeling results show such a tsunami may flood San Juan and its vicinity as far as 5 km inland with approximately 21 m wave amplitude along the coastline and 12 m/s flow current on land.
- 2. Scenarios ATSZ 38-47 caused minor flooding at the waterfront of San Juan with wave

amplitude up to 3.5 m above MHW, and current speed up to 2.5 m/s at the entrance of San Juan Harbor. Other scenarios are considered as less threatening, but may still cause damages to the harbor facilities and boats resting in the harbor with high-speed currents in San Juan Harbor.

- 3. Tsunamis generated from the submarine trough are featured with a leading depression when propagating into San Juan. The northerly dipping of the Los Muertos Trough (scenario ATSZ 82-91) results in an uplift at its south, but a subsidence at the north that corresponds to the leading depression when the tsunami waves propagate in the Atlantic. The faults in Cayman Trough (scenario ATSZ 68-77) were simulated using a subducting mechanism rather than a strike-slip mechanism.
- 4. For tsunamis generated in the Cayman trough or in South Sandwich source zone, the model simulations show the late waves are higher than the first. Along with these waves are longer wave period up to one to two hours. This lays emphasis on the need of retaining the tsunami warning or watch for more than 24 hours for the coasts of San Juan during a real tsunami event.

All model validation and stability tests demonstrated that the developed tsunami forecast model and reference model for San Juan, Puerto Rico, are robust and efficient for their implementation into both the short-term real-time tsunami forecast system and long-term tsunami inundation investigations, although the model accuracy still requires validation through real events in future. The forecast model developed for San Juan provides a four-hour forecast of first wave arrival, amplitudes, and inundation within 12 minutes based on testing with available historical and synthetic events as presented in this report.

#### 6. Acknowledgement

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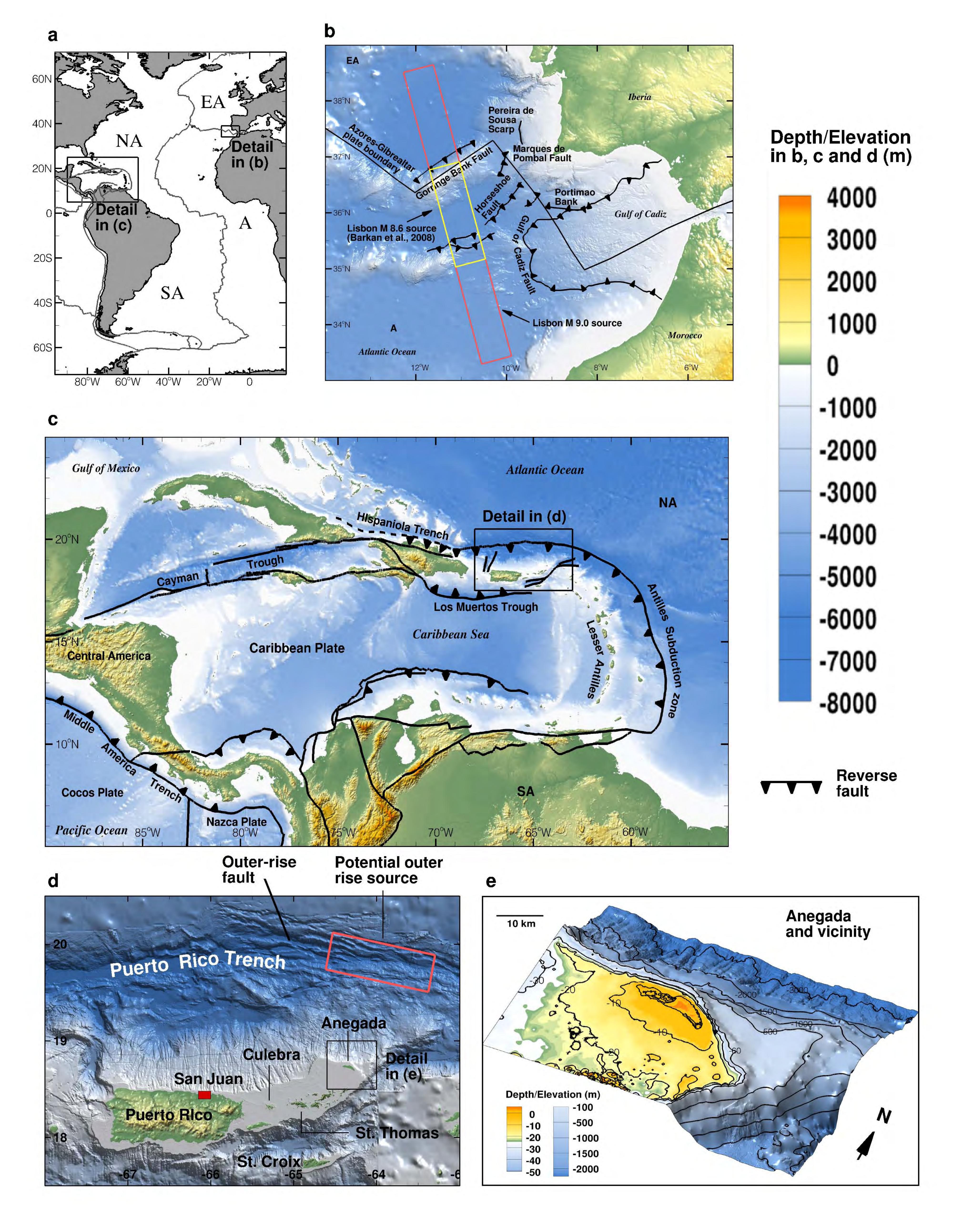
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# Tables

- Table 1. Historical tsunami events that have affected Puerto Rico.
- Table 2. MOST setup parameters for reference and forecast models for San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Table 3. Synthetic tsunami events in the Atlantic for San Juan models testing.

- Figure 1. Tectonics of Caribbean plate.
- Figure 2. (a) Aerial view of San Juan Harbor, Puerto Rico and the location of NOS tide station.
- Figure 3. Photos of San Juan tide gauge (courtesy of www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov).
- Figure 4. Historical tsunami events that have affected Puerto Rico and San Juan,
- Where indicates the earthquake location, and the black boxes are the tsunami propagation unit sources (Gica et al., 2008).
- Figure 5. Data sources of NGDC's DEM for San Juan (courtesy of Taylor et al., 2008).
- Figure 6. Grid A bathymetry and topography for the reference model, where the black boxes indicate coverage of B grid.
- Figure 7. Grid A bathymetry and topography for the forecast model, where the box indicate coverage of B grid
- Figure 8. B grid bathymetry and topography for the reference model, where the box indicates coverage of C grid in forecast model.
- Figure 9. B grid bathymetry and topography for the forecast model, where the box indicates coverage of C grid in forecast model.
- Figure 10. C grid bathymetry and topography for the reference model.
- Figure 11. C grid bathymetry and topography for the forecast model.
- Figure 12. Tsunami energy projection (or computed maximum wave amplitude) of the 1755 Lisbon tsunami (M 9.0 scenario) in the Atlantic.
- Figure 13. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for the 1755 Lisbon tsunami. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 14. Sources of the synthetic scenarios in the Atlantic for model testing.
- Figure 15. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ 48-57. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 16. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ 38-47. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 17. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ 58-67. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.

- Figure 18. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ 82-91. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 19. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ 68-77. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 20. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario SSSZ 1-10. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 21. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario ATSZ b52. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.
- Figure 22. Comparison of computed model results between forecast model and reference model of San Juan for scenario SSSZ b11. (a) Maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the reference model; (b) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the reference model; (c) maximum wave amplitude in C grid computed with the forecast model; (d) maximum current speed in C grid computed with the forecast model; (e) Time series at San Juan tide station.



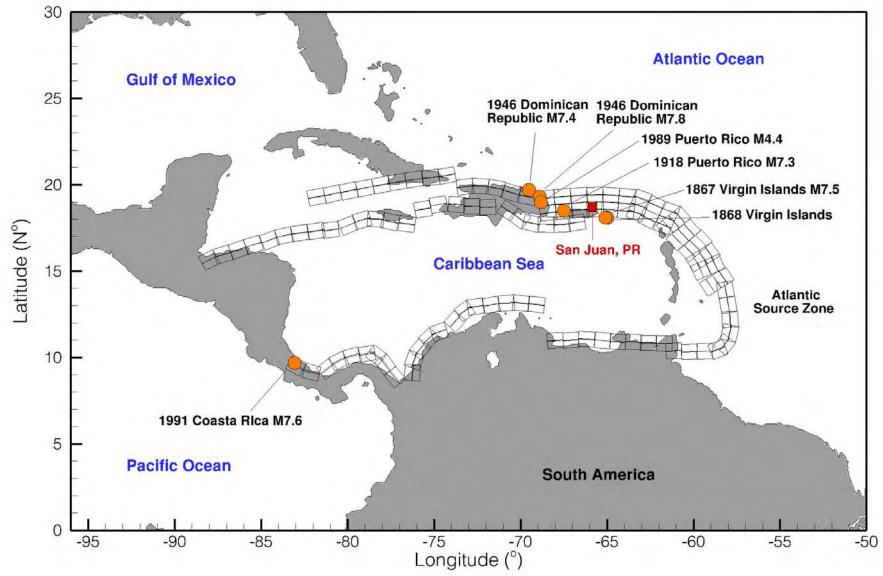


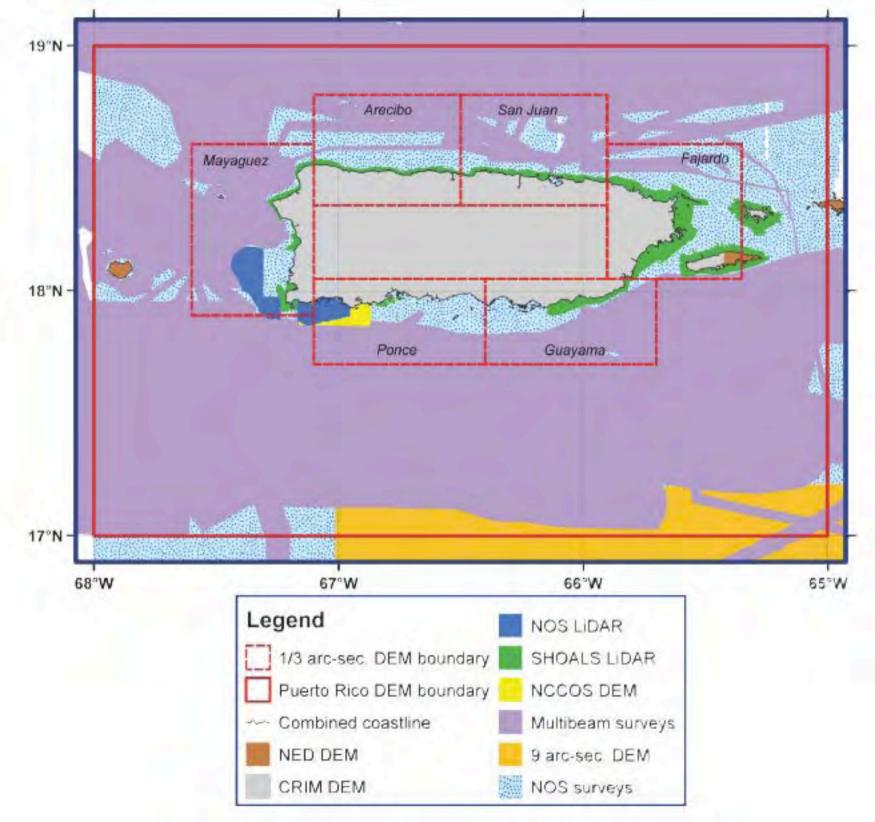


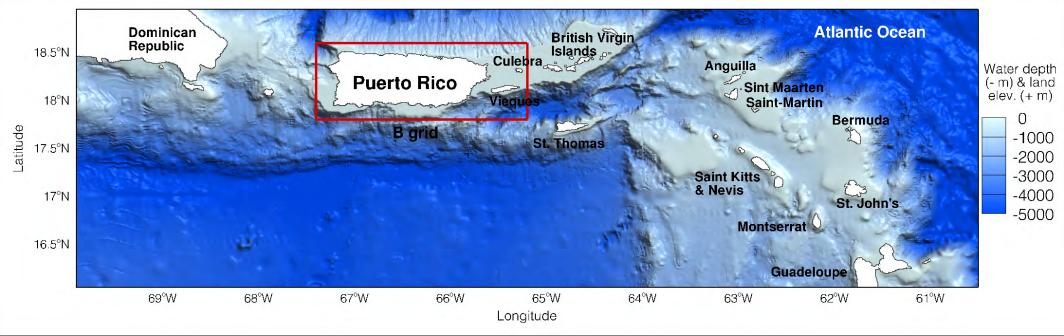


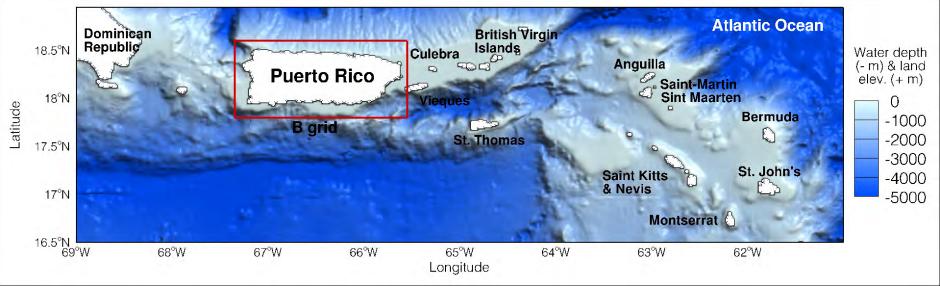


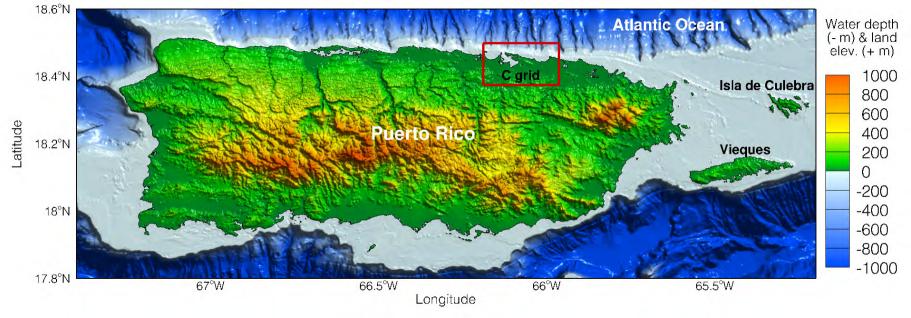


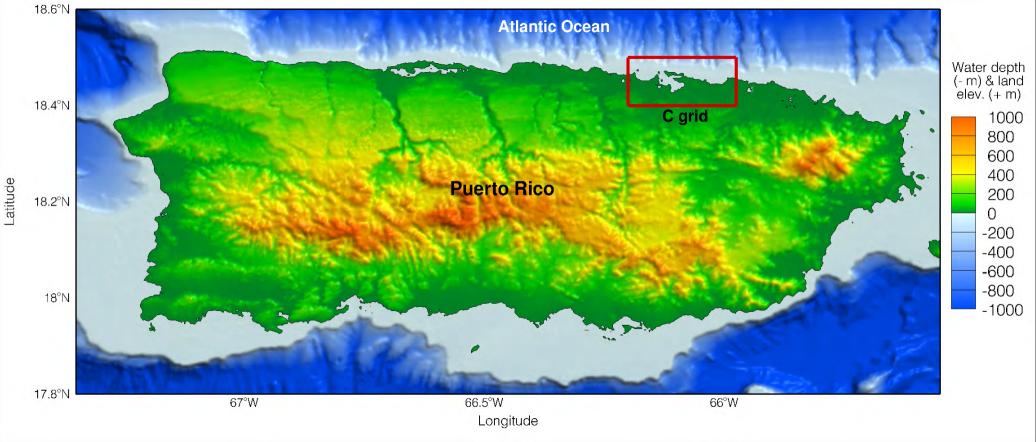


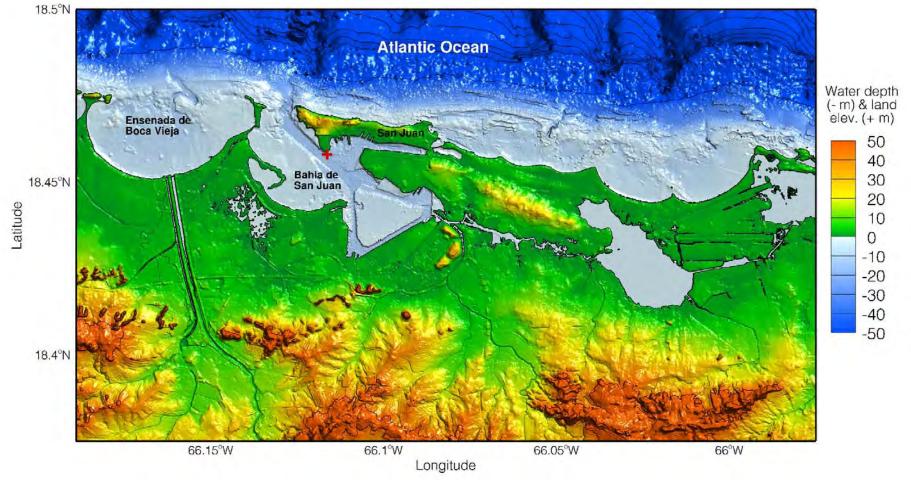


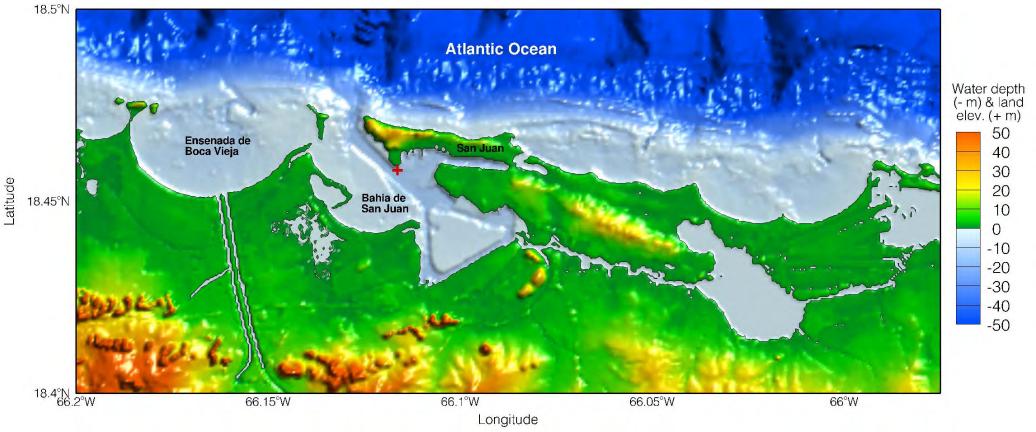


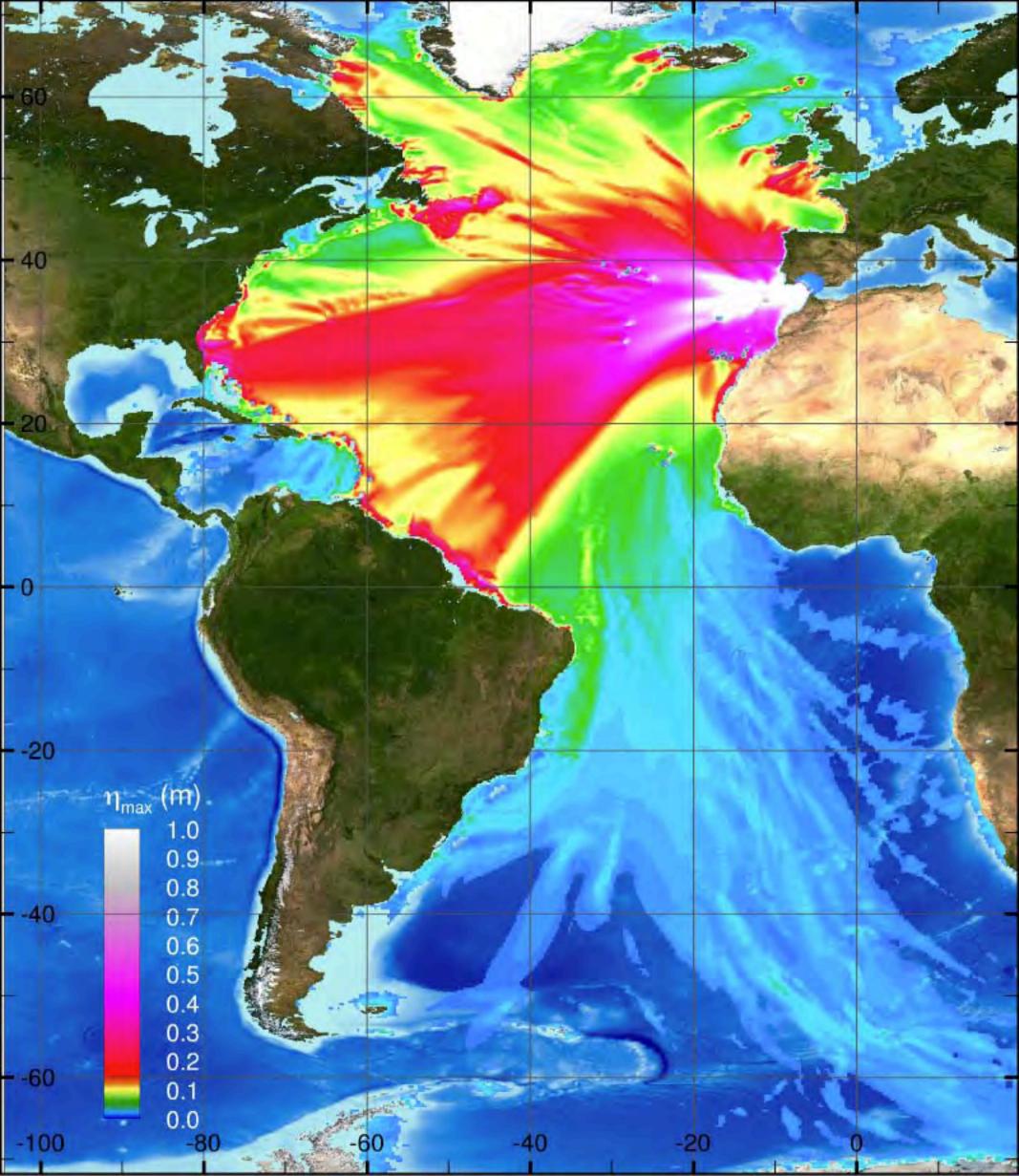


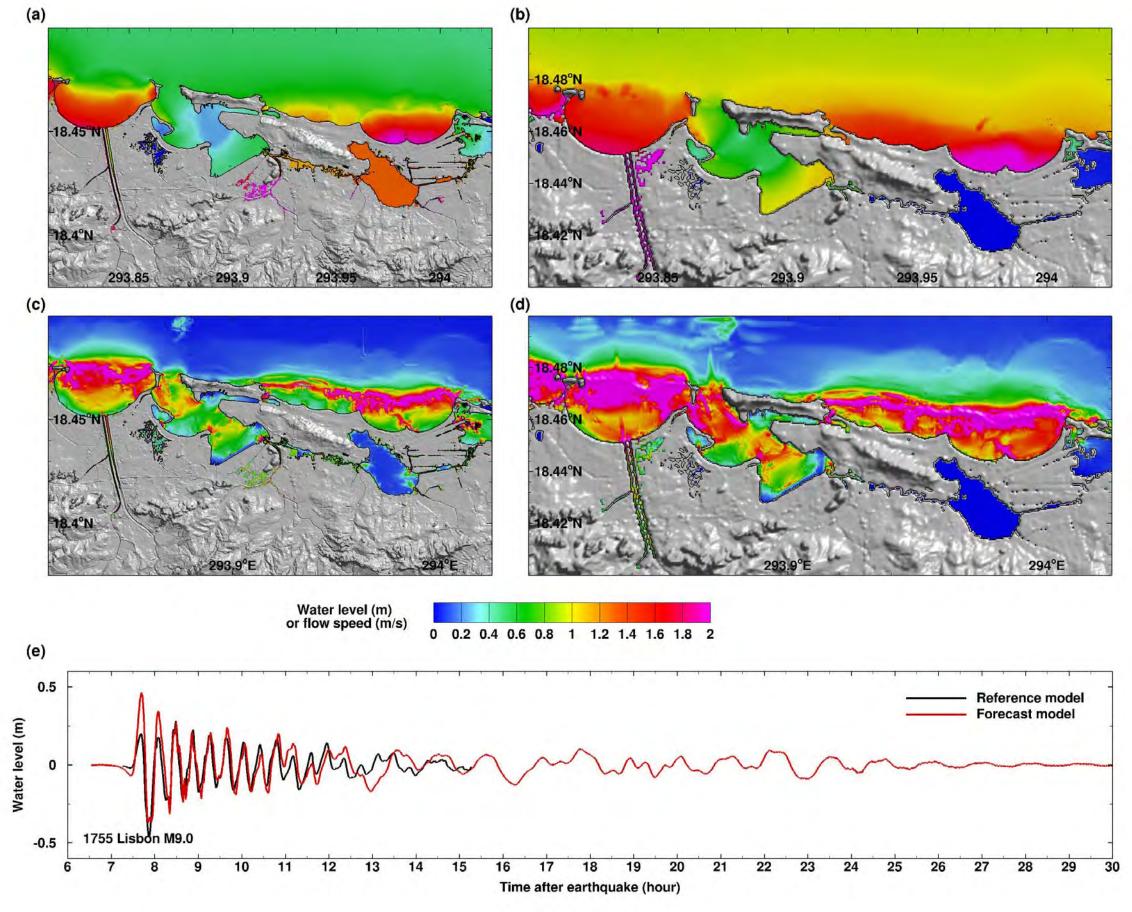


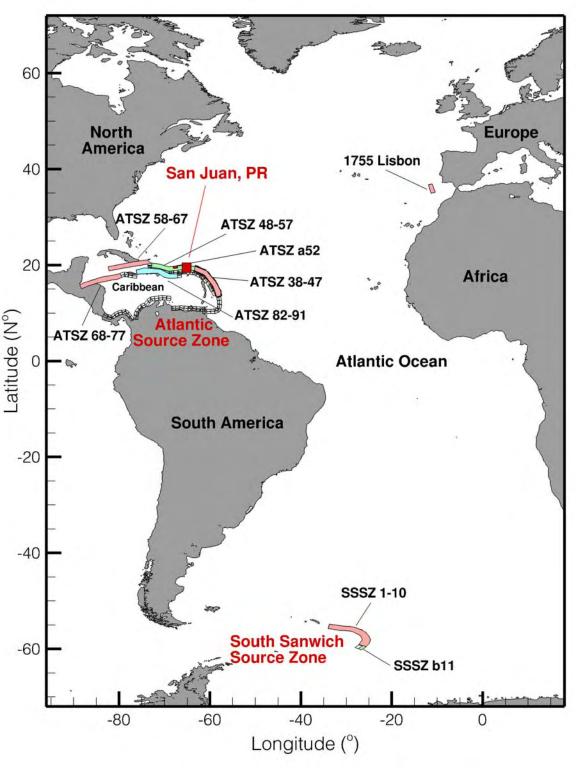


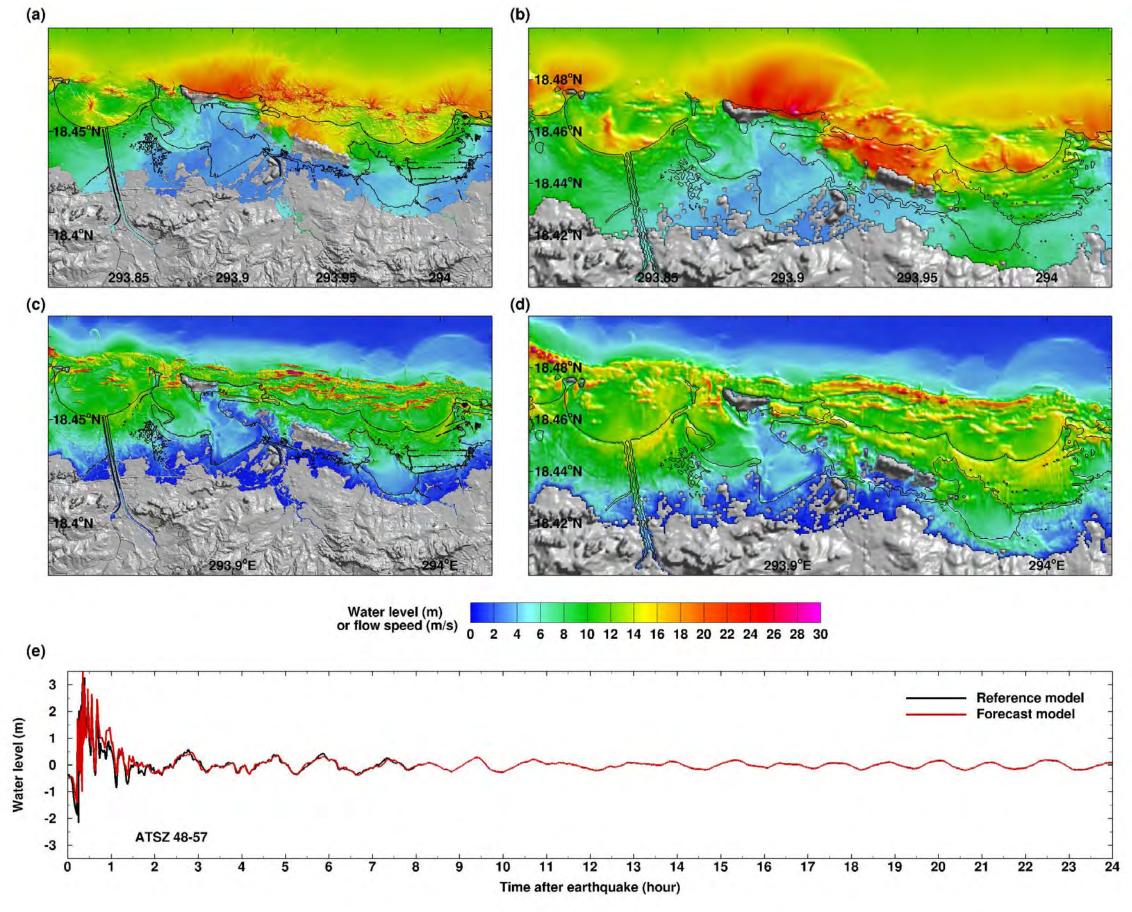


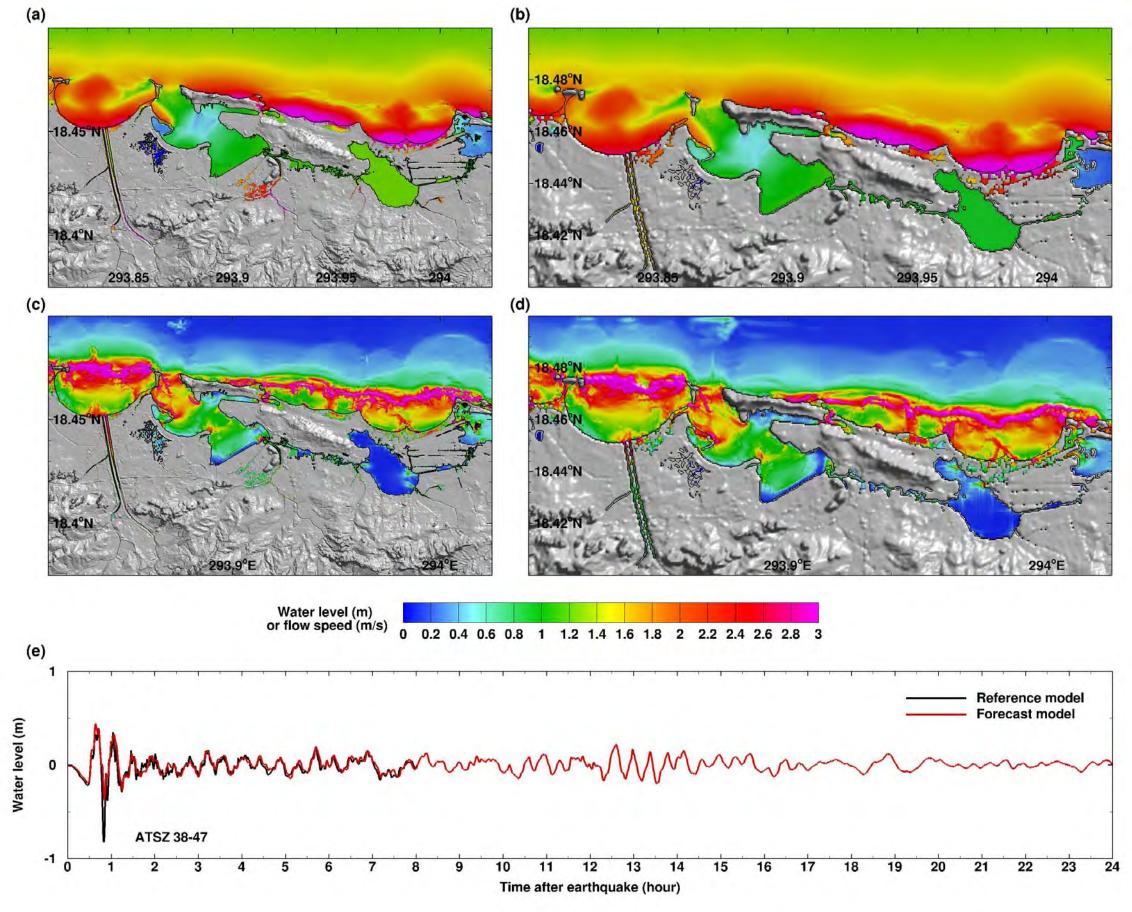


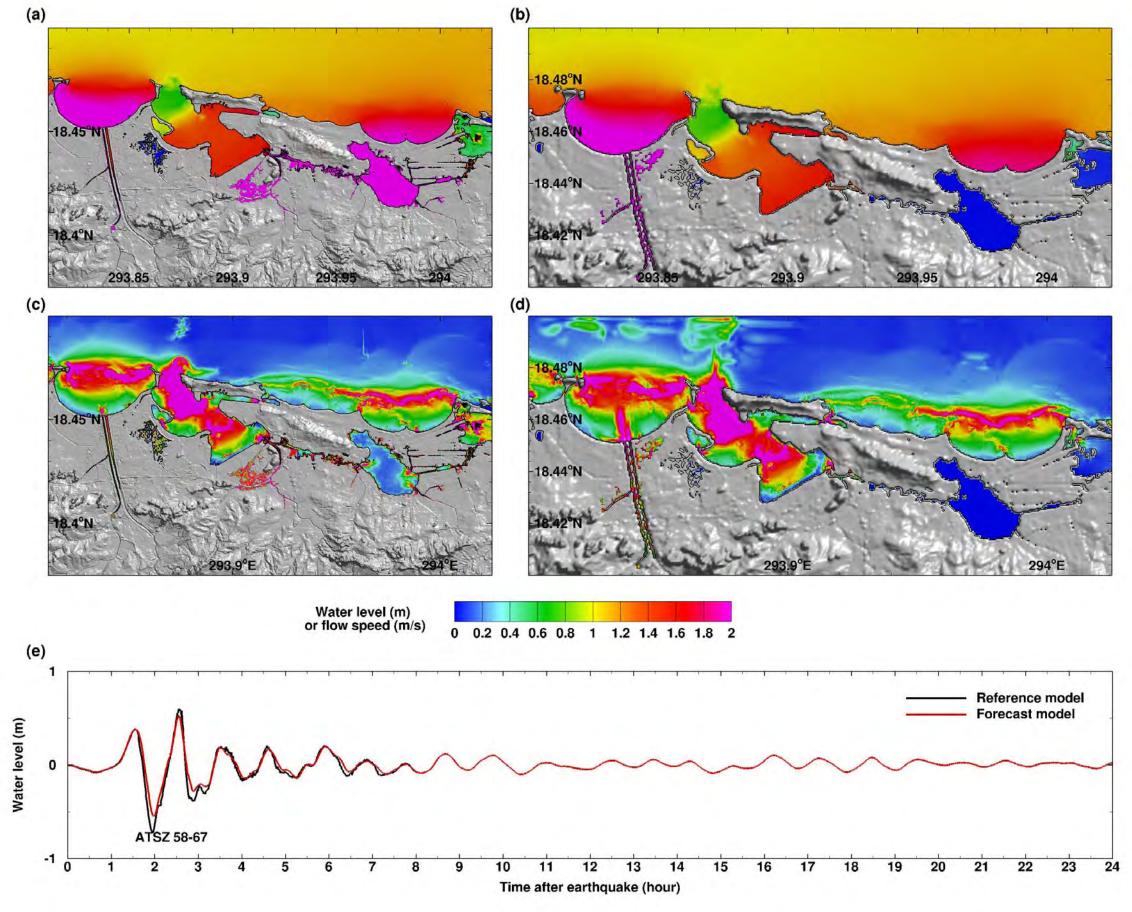


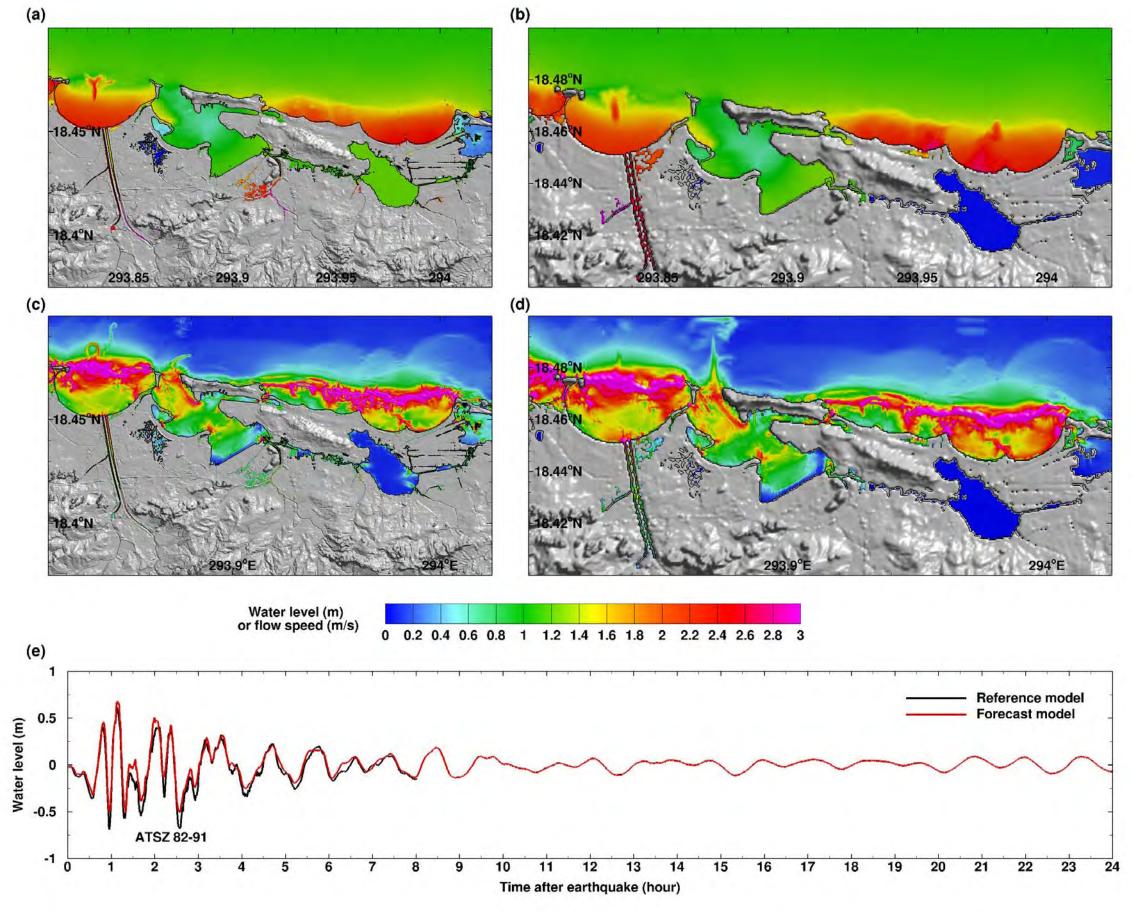


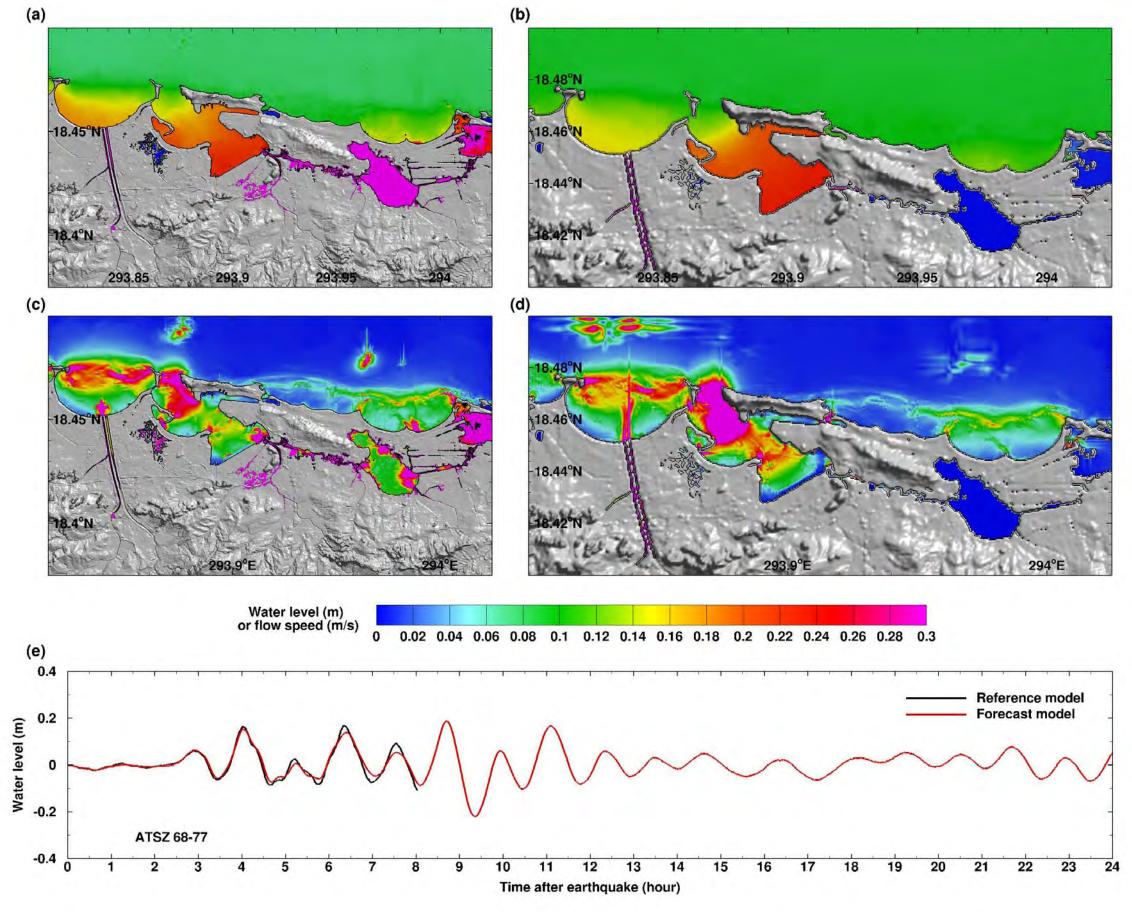


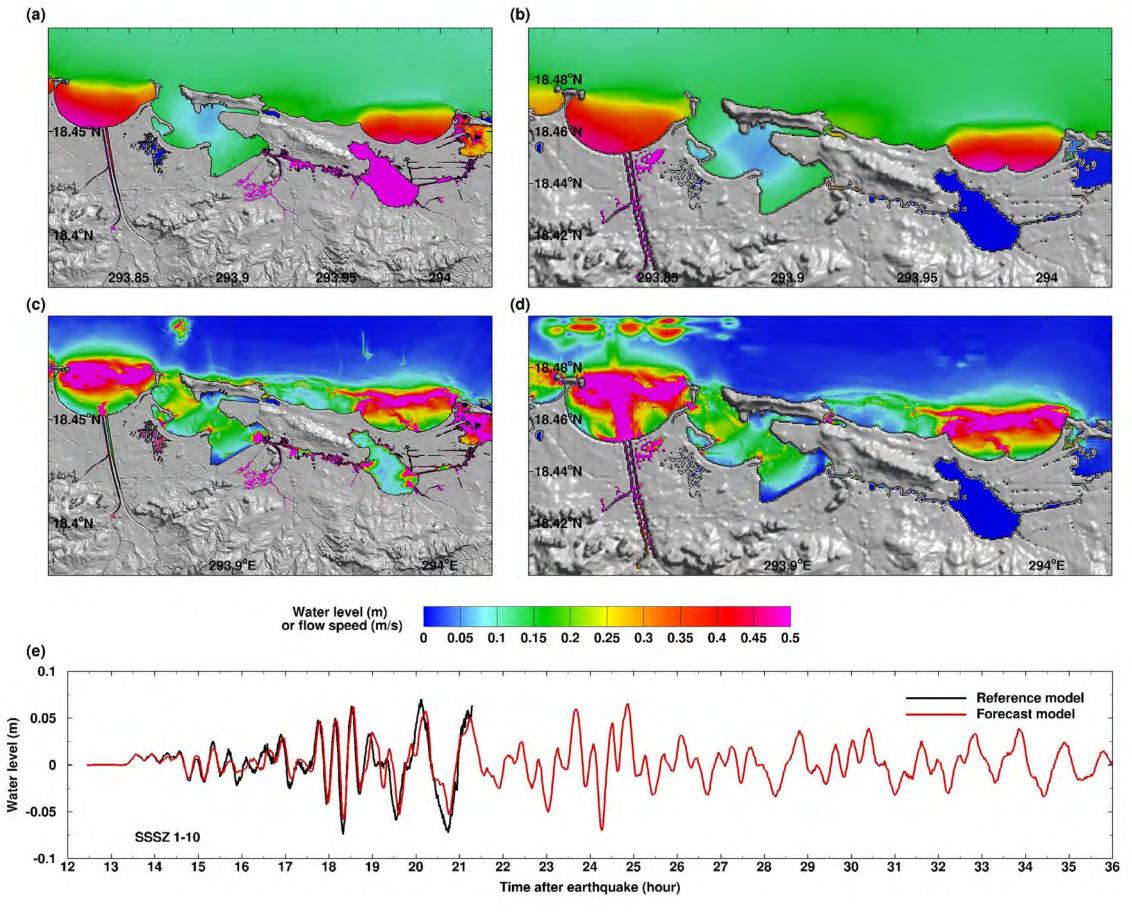


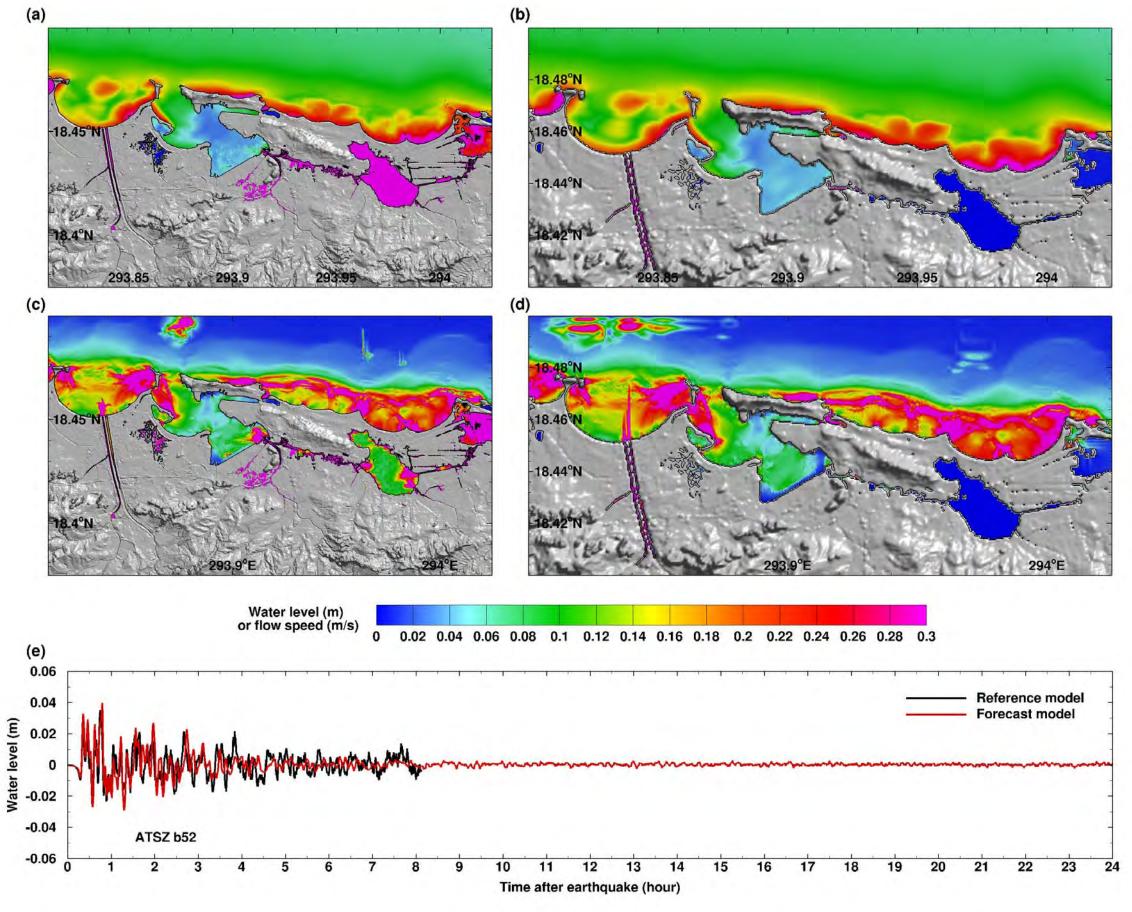


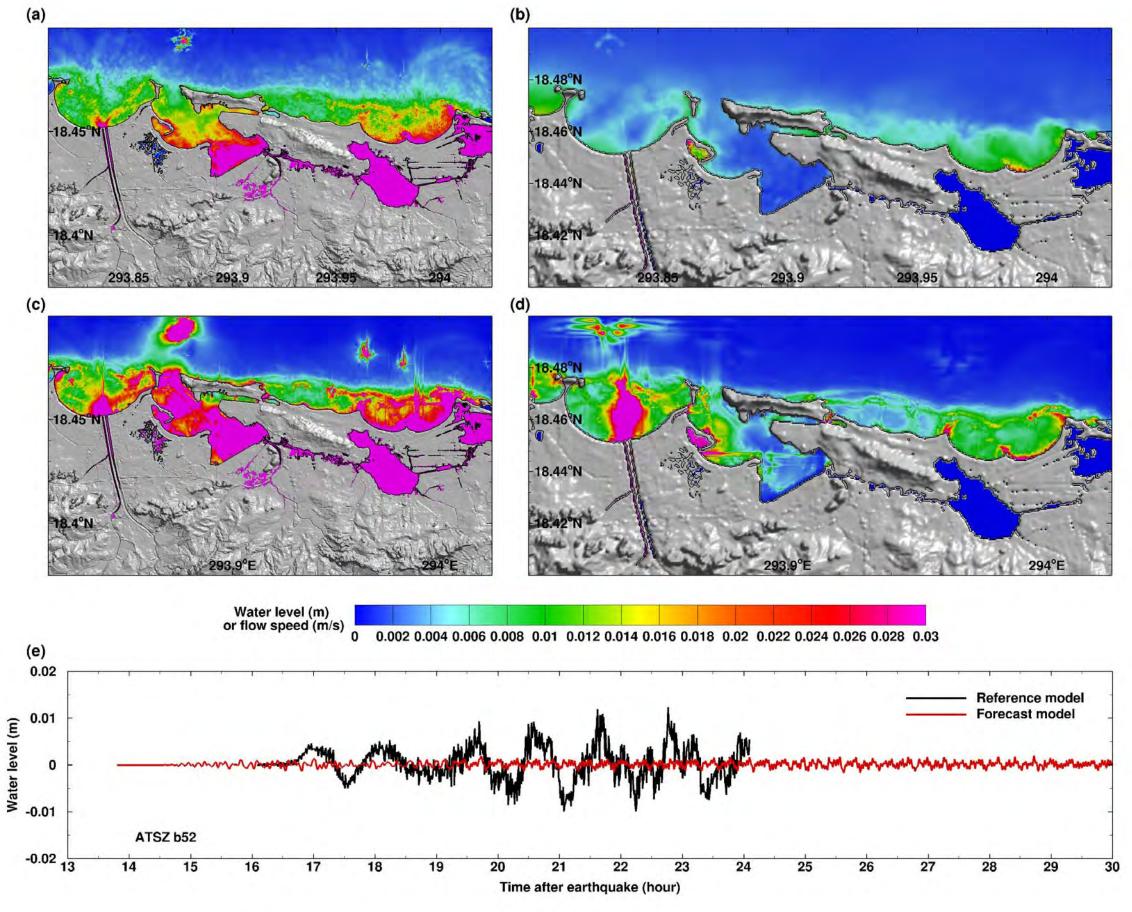












## Appendix A.

Development of the San Juan, Puerto Rico, tsunami forecast model occurred prior to parameters changes that were made to reflect modification to the MOST model code. As a result, the input file for running both the optimized tsunami forecast model and the high-resolution reference inundation model in MOST have been updated accordingly. Appendix A1 and A2 provide the updated files for San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Forecast model 1 .in file:

```
0.0001
          Minimum amplitude of input offshore wave (m)
1.0 Input minimum depth for offshore (m)
0.1
    Input "dry land" depth for inundation (m)
0.0009
          Input friction coefficient (n**2)
1
     let a and b run up
          blowup limit
300.0
0.8 input time step (sec)
108000
          input amount of steps
6
     Compute "A" arrays every n-th time step, n=
2
     Compute "B" arrays every n-th time step, n=
48
     Input number of steps between snapshots
     ...Starting from
0
1
     ...saving grid every n-th node, n=
Reference model (MOST V4) .in file for A grid:
0.0001 Minimum amplitude of input offshore wave (m)
     Input minimum depth for offshore (m)
      Input "dry land" depth for inundation (m)
0.1
0.0009 Input friction coefficient (n**2)
2
      Number of grids
2
      Interpolation domain for outer domain
      Inner domain
2
gridA.nc
gridB.nc
      Runup flag
      input time step (sec)
18800 input amount of steps
      Continue after input stops
1
     Input number of steps between snapshots
13
1
      ...saving grid every n-th node, n=
      1=initial deformation
1
Reference model (MOST V4) .in file for B grid:
0.0001 Minimum amplitude of input offshore wave (m)
1.0 Input minimum depth for offshore (m)
```

```
Input "dry land" depth for inundation (m)
0.1
0.0009 Input friction coefficient (n**2)
      Number of grids
      Interpolation domain for outer domain
2
      Inner domain
gridB.nc
gridC.nc
      Runup flag
0.8
      input time step (sec)
54000 input amount of steps
      Continue after input stops
1
37
     Input number of steps between snapshots
      ...saving grid every n-th node, n=
1
      1=initial deformation
Reference model (MOST V4) .in file for C grid:
0.0001 Minimum amplitude of input offshore wave (m)
-300 Input minimum depth for offshore (m)
0.1
      Input "dry land" depth for inundation (m)
0.0009 Input friction coefficient (n**2)
      Number of grids
1
2
      Interpolation domain for outer domain
      Inner domain
2
gridC.nc
     Runup flag
0.14 input time step (sec)
206000 input amount of steps
      Continue after input stops
      Input number of steps between snapshots
200
      ...saving grid every n-th node, n=
1
```

1=initial deformation

1

## Appendix B

## Propagation Database: Atlantic Ocean Unit Sources

NOAA Propagation Database presented in this section is the representation of the database as of March, 2013. This database may have been updated since March, 2013.

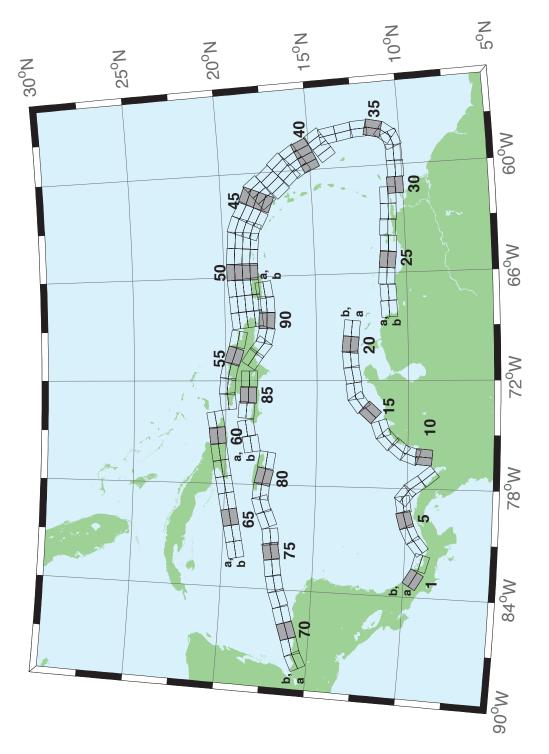


Figure B.1: Atlantic Source Zone unit sources.

Table B.1: Earthquake parameters for Atlantic Source Zone unit sources.

Segn	nent	Description	Lo	ngitude(°E)	Latitude(°N)	Strike(°)	Dip(o)	Depth (km)
atsz–1a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-83.2020	9.1449	120	27.5	28.09
atsz-1b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-83.0000	9.4899	120	27.5	5
atsz-2a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-82.1932	8.7408	105.1	27.5	28.09
atsz-2b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-82.0880	9.1254	105.1	27.5	5
atsz-3a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-80.9172	9.0103	51.31	. 30	30
atsz-3b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-81.1636	9.3139	51.31	. 30	5
atsz-4a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-80.3265	9.4308	63.49	30	30
atsz-4b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-80.5027	9.7789	63.49	30	5
atsz-5a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-79.6247	9.6961	74.44	30	30
atsz-5b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-79.7307	10.0708	74.44	30	5
atsz-6a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-78.8069	9.8083	79.71	. 30	30
atsz-6b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-78.8775	10.1910	79.71	. 30	5
atsz-7a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-78.6237	9.7963	127.2	30	30
atsz-7b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-78.3845	10.1059	127.2	30	5
atsz-8a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-78.1693	9.3544	143.8	30	30
atsz-8b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-77.8511	9.5844	143.8	30	5
atsz-9a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-77.5913	8.5989	139.9	30	30
atsz-9b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-77.2900	8.8493	139.9	30	5
atsz-10a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-75.8109	9.0881	4.67	17	19.62
atsz-10b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-76.2445	9.1231	4.67	17	5
atsz-11a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-75.7406	9.6929	19.67	17	19.62
atsz $-11b$	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-76.1511	9.8375	19.67	17	5
atsz-12a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-75.4763	10.2042	40.4	17	19.62
atsz-12b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-75.8089	10.4826	40.4	17	5
atsz-13a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-74.9914	10.7914	47.17	17	19.62
atsz $-13b$	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-75.2890	11.1064	47.17	17	5
atsz-14a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-74.5666	11.0708	71.68	3 17	19.62
atsz $-14b$	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-74.7043	11.4786	71.68	17	5
atsz $-15a$	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-73.4576	11.8012	42.69	17	19.62
atsz $-15b$	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-73.7805	12.0924	42.69	17	5
atsz $-16a$	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-72.9788	12.3365	54.75	17	19.62
atsz $-16b$	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-73.2329	12.6873	54.75	17	5
atsz-17a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-72.5454	12.5061	81.96	17	19.62
atsz-17b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-72.6071	12.9314	81.96	17	5
atsz-18a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-71.6045	12.6174	79.63	17	19.62
atsz-18b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-71.6839	13.0399	79.63	17	5
atsz-19a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-70.7970	12.7078	86.32	2 17	19.62
atsz $-19b$	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-70.8253	13.1364	86.32	2 17	5
atsz-20a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-70.0246	12.7185	95.94	17	19.62
atsz-20b	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-69.9789	13.1457	95.94	17	5
atsz-21a	Atl	antic Source 2	Zone	-69.1244	12.6320	95.94	17	19.62
atsz-21b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-69.0788	13.0592	95.94	17	5
atsz-22a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-68.0338	11.4286	266.9	15	17.94
atsz-22b	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-68.0102	10.9954	266.9	15	5
atsz-23a	Atl	antic Source Z	Zone	-67.1246	11.4487	266.9	15	17.94
atsz-23b		antic Source Z		-67.1010	11.0155	266.9		5
atsz-24a		antic Source Z		-66.1656	11.5055	273.3		17.94
atsz-24b		antic Source Z		-66.1911	11.0724	273.3		5
atsz-25a		antic Source Z		-65.2126	11.4246	276.4		17.94
atsz-25b		antic Source Z		-65.2616	10.9934	276.4		5
atsz–26a		antic Source 2		-64.3641	11.3516	272.9		17.94
atsz–26b		antic Source 2		-64.3862	10.9183	272.9		5
atsz-27a		antic Source Z		-63.4472	11.3516	272.9		17.94
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Table B.1 – continued from previous page

Table B.1 – continued from previous page								
Seg	ment	Description	Lo	ngitude(°E)	Latitude(°N)	Strike(°)	Dip(o)	Depth (km)
atsz–27b	Δtls	ntic Source	Zone	-63.4698	10.9183	272.9	) 15	5 5
atsz-28a		intic Source		-62.6104	11.2831	271.1		
atsz–28b		intic Source		-62.6189	10.8493	271.1		
atsz-29a		intic Source		-61.6826	11.2518	271.6		
				-61.6947				
atsz–29b atsz–30a		entic Source entic Source			10.8181	271.6 269	) 15 15	
				-61.1569	10.8303			
atsz–30b		intic Source		-61.1493	10.3965	269	15	
atsz–31a		intic Source		-60.2529	10.7739	269	15	
atsz–31b		intic Source		-60.2453	10.3401	269	15	
atsz–32a		ntic Source		-59.3510	10.8123	269	15	
atsz–32b		intic Source		-59.3734	10.3785	269	15	
atsz-33a		intic Source		-58.7592	10.8785	248.6		
atsz–33b		intic Source		-58.5984	10.4745	248.6		
atsz-34a		intic Source		-58.5699	11.0330	217.2		
atsz–34b		intic Source		-58.2179	10.7710	217.2		
atsz-35a		intic Source		-58.3549	11.5300	193.7		
atsz–35b		intic Source		-57.9248	11.4274	193.7		
atsz-36a		ntic Source		-58.3432	12.1858	177.7		
atsz–36b		intic Source		-57.8997	12.2036	177.7		
atsz–37a		intic Source		-58.4490	12.9725	170.7		
atsz-37b		intic Source		-58.0095	13.0424	170.7		
atsz–38a		intic Source		-58.6079	13.8503	170.2		
atsz-38b		intic Source		-58.1674	13.9240	170.2		
atsz-39a		intic Source		-58.6667	14.3915	146.8		
atsz-39b	Atla	intic Source	Zone	-58.2913	14.6287	146.8	3 15	5
atsz-39y		intic Source		-59.4168	13.9171	146.8	15	43.82
atsz-39z	Atla	intic Source	Zone	-59.0415	14.1543	146.8	15	30.88
atsz-40a	Atla	intic Source	Zone	-59.1899	15.2143	156.2	15	
atsz-40b	Atla	intic Source	Zone	-58.7781	15.3892	156.2	15	
atsz-40y	Atla	intic Source	Zone	-60.0131	14.8646	156.2	15	43.82
atsz-40z	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-59.6012	15.0395	156.2	15	30.88
atsz-41a	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-59.4723	15.7987	146.3	15	17.94
atsz-41b	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-59.0966	16.0392	146.3	15	5
atsz-41y	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-60.2229	15.3177	146.3	15	43.82
atsz-41z	Atla	ntic Source	Zone	-59.8473	15.5582	146.3	15	30.88
atsz-42a	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-59.9029	16.4535	137	15	17.94
atsz-42b	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-59.5716	16.7494	137	15	5
atsz-42y	Atla	antic Source	Zone	-60.5645	15.8616	137	15	
atsz–42z		antic Source	Zone	-60.2334	16.1575	137	15	
atsz–43a		antic Source		-60.5996	17.0903	138.7		
atsz–43b		antic Source		-60.2580	17.3766	138.7		
atsz-43y		ntic Source		-61.2818	16.5177	138.7		
atsz-43z		antic Source		-60.9404	16.8040	138.7		
atsz-44a		intic Source		-61.1559	17.8560	141.1		
atsz–44b		intic Source		-60.8008	18.1286	141.1		
atsz–44y		intic Source		-61.8651	17.3108	141.1		
atsz-44z		intic Source		-61.5102	17.5834	141.1		
atsz-44z $atsz-45a$		intic Source		-61.5491	18.0566	112.8		
atsz-45a atsz-45b		intic Source		-61.3716	18.4564	112.8		
		intic Source intic Source						
atsz–45y				-61.9037	17.2569	112.8		
atsz–45z		intic Source		-61.7260	17.6567	112.8		
atsz–46a		intic Source		-62.4217	18.4149	117.9		
atsz–46b		intic Source		-62.2075	18.7985	117.9		
atsz–46y		intic Source		-62.8493	17.6477	117.9		
atsz-46z	Atla	intic Source	Lone	-62.6352	18.0313	117.9		
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Table B.1 – continued from previous page

_			Table	B.1 – contii	nued from prev	vious page		
_	Segmen	nt Description	Lor	igitude(°E)	Latitude(°N)	Strike(°)	Dip(°)	Depth (km)
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-63.1649	18.7844	110.5		
		Atlantic Source		-63.0087	19.1798	110.5		
		Atlantic Source		-63.4770	17.9936	110.5		
atsz	-47z	Atlantic Source	Zone	-63.3205	18.3890	110.5	20	39.2
atsz	-48a	Atlantic Source	Zone	-63.8800	18.8870	95.37	20	22.1
atsz	-48b	Atlantic Source	Zone	-63.8382	19.3072	95.37	20	
atsz-	-48y	Atlantic Source	Zone	-63.9643	18.0465	95.37	20	56.3
atsz-	-48z	Atlantic Source	Zone	-63.9216	18.4667	95.37	20	39.2
atsz-	-49a	Atlantic Source	Zone	-64.8153	18.9650	94.34	20	22.1
atsz-	–49b	Atlantic Source	Zone	-64.7814	19.3859	94.34	20	5
atsz-	-49y	Atlantic Source	Zone	-64.8840	18.1233	94.34	20	56.3
atsz-	-49z	Atlantic Source	Zone	-64.8492	18.5442	94.34	20	39.2
atsz-	-50a	Atlantic Source	Zone	-65.6921	18.9848	89.59	20	22.1
atsz-	-50b	Atlantic Source	Zone	-65.6953	19.4069	89.59	20	5
atsz-	-50y	Atlantic Source	Zone	-65.6874	18.1407	89.59	20	56.3
atsz-	-50z	Atlantic Source	Zone	-65.6887	18.5628	89.59	20	39.2
atsz-	-51a	Atlantic Source	Zone	-66.5742	18.9484	84.98	20	22.1
atsz-	-51b	Atlantic Source	Zone	-66.6133	19.3688	84.98	20	5
		Atlantic Source		-66.4977	18.1076	84.98		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-66.5353	18.5280	84.98	20	
		Atlantic Source		-67.5412	18.8738	85.87		
		Atlantic Source		-67.5734	19.2948	85.87		
		Atlantic Source	Zone	-67.4781	18.0319	85.87		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-67.5090	18.4529	85.87		
		Atlantic Source		-68.4547	18.7853	83.64		
		Atlantic Source		-68.5042	19.2048	83.64		
		Atlantic Source		-68.3575	17.9463	83.64		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-68.4055	18.3658	83.64		
		Atlantic Source		-69.6740	18.8841	101.5		
		Atlantic Source		-69.5846	19.2976	101.5		
		Atlantic Source		-70.7045	19.1376	108.2		
		Atlantic Source		-70.5647	19.5386	108.2		
		Atlantic Source		-71.5368	19.3853	102.6		
		Atlantic Source		-71.4386	19.7971	102.6		
		Atlantic Source		-72.3535	19.4838	94.2	20	
		Atlantic Source		-72.3206	19.9047	94.2	20	
		Atlantic Source		-73.1580		84.34		
		Atlantic Source			19.4498			
				-73.2022	19.8698	84.34		
		Atlantic Source		-74.3567	20.9620	259.7		
		Atlantic Source		-74.2764	20.5467	259.7		
		Atlantic Source		-75.2386	20.8622	264.2		
		Atlantic Source		-75.1917	20.4306	264.2		
		Atlantic Source		-76.2383	20.7425	260.7		
		Atlantic Source		-76.1635	20.3144	260.7		
		Atlantic Source		-77.2021	20.5910	259.9		
		Atlantic Source		-77.1214	20.1638	259.9		
		Atlantic Source		-78.1540	20.4189	259	15	
		Atlantic Source		-78.0661	19.9930	259	15	
		Atlantic Source		-79.0959	20.2498	259.2		
		Atlantic Source		-79.0098	19.8236	259.2		
		Atlantic Source		-80.0393	20.0773	258.9		
		Atlantic Source		-79.9502	19.6516	258.9		
		Atlantic Source	Zone	-80.9675	19.8993	258.6	15	17.94
atsz	-66b	Atlantic Source	Zone	-80.8766	19.4740	258.6	15	5
atsz	-67a	Atlantic Source	Zone	-81.9065	19.7214	258.5	15	17.94
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Table B.1 – continued from previous page

Table B.1 – continued from previous page								
_;	Segmen	t Description	Lo	ngitude(°E)	Latitude(°N)	Strike(°)	Dip(°)	Depth (km)
atsz-	67b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-81.8149	19.2962	258.5	15	5
atsz-	68a A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-87.8003	15.2509	62.69	15	17.94
atsz-	68b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-88.0070	15.6364	62.69	15	5
atsz-	69a A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-87.0824	15.5331	72.73	15	17.94
atsz-	69b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-87.2163	15.9474	72.73	15	5
atsz-	70a A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-86.1622	15.8274	70.64	15	
atsz-	70b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-86.3120	16.2367	70.64	15	5
atsz-	71a A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-85.3117	16.1052	73.7	15	17.94
atsz-	71b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-85.4387	16.5216	73.7	15	5
atsz-	72a A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-84.3470	16.3820	69.66	15	17.94
atsz-	72b A	Atlantic Source	Zone	-84.5045	16.7888	69.66	15	5
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-83.5657	16.6196	77.36		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-83.6650	17.0429	77.36		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-82.7104	16.7695	82.35		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-82.7709	17.1995	82.35		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-81.7297	16.9003	79.86		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-81.8097	17.3274	79.86	-	
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-80.9196	16.9495	82.95		-
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-80.9754	17.3801	82.95	-	
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-79.8086	17.2357	67.95		-
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-79.9795	17.6378	67.95		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-79.0245	17.5415	73.61		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-79.1532	17.9577	73.61	-	
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-78.4122	17.5689	94.07		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-78.3798	18.0017	94.07		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-77.6403	17.4391	103.3	_	-
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-77.5352	17.8613	103.3		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-76.6376	17.2984	98.21		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-76.5726	17.7278	98.21		
atsz–	-	Atlantic Source		-75.7299	19.0217	260.1	-	-
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-75.6516	18.5942	260.1	-	
atsz–	-	Atlantic Source		-74.8351	19.2911	260.1	-	-
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-74.7621	18.8628	260.8		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-73.6639	19.2991	274.8		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-73.7026	18.8668	274.8		
atsz–	-	Atlantic Source		-72.8198	19.2019	270.6	_	
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-72.8246	18.7681	270.6		
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-72.8240	19.1477	269.1	-	-
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-71.9143 -71.9068	18.7139	269.1	-	
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-71.9008	18.8821	304.5	_	-
atsz–		Atlantic Source		-70.4738	18.5245	304.5		
atsz- $atsz-$		Atlantic Source Atlantic Source		-69.7710 -70.0547	18.3902 18.0504	308.9 308.4		
							-	
atsz- $atsz-$		Atlantic Source Atlantic Source		-69.2635 -69.3728	18.2099	283.9 283.9		
					17.7887			
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-68.5059	18.1443	272.9		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-68.5284	17.7110	272.9		
atsz-		Atlantic Source		-67.6428	18.1438	267.8		
atsz–	-	Atlantic Source		-67.6256	17.7103	267.8		
atsz–	-	Atlantic Source		-66.8261	18.2536	262	15	
atsz-	92b <i>F</i>	Atlantic Source	Zone	-66.7627	17.8240	262	15	5

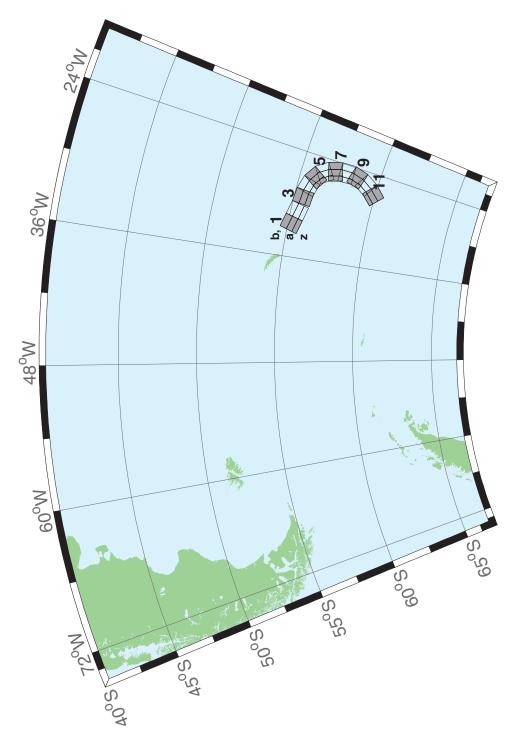


Figure B.2: South Sandwich Islands Subduction Zone.

 ${\bf Table~B.2:~Earthquake~parameters~for~South~Sandwich~Islands~Subduction~Zone~unit~sources.}$ 

	Segment Description	Longitude(°E)	Latitude(°N)	Strike(°) Dip(°)	Depth (kn	n)	
sssz-1a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -32.3713	-55.4655	104.7	28.53	
sssz-1b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	-32.1953	-55.0832	104.7	9.957	
sssz-1z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -32.5091	-55.7624	104.7	46.99	
sssz-2a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	-30.8028	-55.6842	102.4	28.53	
sssz-2b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	-30.6524	-55.2982	102.4	9.957	
sssz-2z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -30.9206	-55.9839	102.4	46.99	
sssz-3a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -29.0824	-55.8403	95.53	28.53	
sssz-3b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -29.0149	-55.4468	95.53	9.957	
sssz-3z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -29.1353	-56.1458	95.53	46.99	
sssz-4a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.8128	-55.9796	106.1	28.53	
sssz-4b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.6174	-55.5999	106.1	9.957	
sssz-4z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.9659	-56.2744	106.1	46.99	
sssz-5a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.7928	-56.2481	123.1	28.53	
sssz–5b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.4059	-55.9170	123.1	9.957	
sssz–5z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.0955	-56.5052	123.1	46.99	
sssz–6a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.1317	-56.6466	145.6	23.28	
ssz–6b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -25.5131	-56.4133	145.6	9.09	
sssz–6z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.5920	-56.8194	145.6	47.15	
sssz-7a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -25.6787	-57.2162	162.9	21.21	
sssz–7b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -24.9394	-57.0932	162.9	7.596	
sssz-7z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.2493	-57.3109	162.9	44.16	
sssz–8a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -25.5161	-57.8712	178.2	20.33	
sssz–8b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -24.7233	-57.8580	178.2	8.449	
sssz–8z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.1280	-57.8813	178.2	43.65	
sssz–9a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -25.6657	-58.5053	195.4	25.76	
sssz–9b	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -24.9168	-58.6127	195.4	8.254	
sssz–9z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.1799	-58.4313	195.4	51.69	
sssz–10a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.1563	-59.1048	212.5	32.82	
sssz–10t	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -25.5335	-59.3080	212.5	10.45	
sssz–10z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.5817	-58.9653	212.5	54.77	
sssz–11a	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.0794	-59.6799	224.2	33.67	
sssz-11t	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -26.5460	-59.9412	224.2	11.32	
sssz–11z	South Sandwich Isla	nds Subduction Zone	e -27.4245	-59.5098	224.2	57.19	