

Corso di Laurea in Fisica - UNITS  
**ISTITUZIONI DI FISICA  
PER IL SISTEMA TERRA**

# **TSUNAMI**

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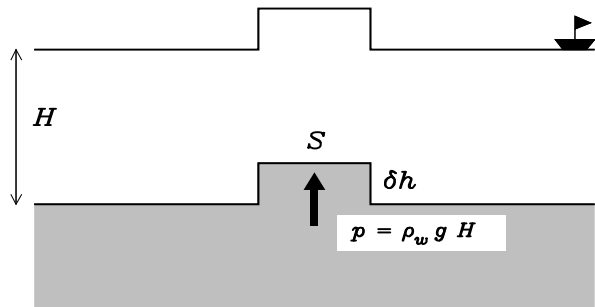
University of Trieste

romanel@units.it

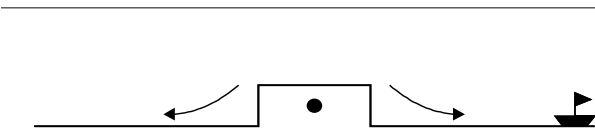
<http://moodle2.units.it/course/view.php?id=9059>



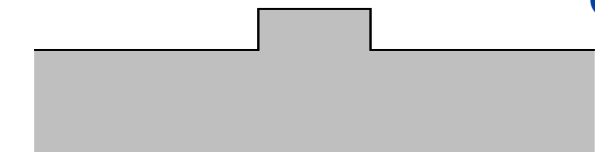
# Very basic tsunami physics...



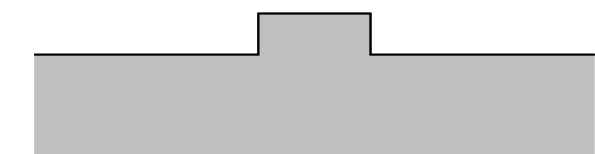
Bottom uplift  
&  
Waterberg  
formation



Center of mass falls...



Potential  
energy goes to  
tsunami energy



Energy

$$\log E_R \approx 5.0 + 1.5M$$

$$E_T = \frac{1}{2} \rho g L \lambda (\delta h)^2$$

$L \sim 10^6 \text{ m}; \lambda \sim 10^4 \text{ m}; \delta h \sim 5 \text{ m}$

$$E_R \approx 10^{18} \text{ J} \geq 10^2 E_T$$

Wavelength

$$\frac{\lambda}{H} \sim 40; \frac{H}{a} \sim 3 \cdot 10^3$$

$$\lambda \gg H \gg a$$

Tsunami is a shallow-water  
gravity wave with great  
wavelength and tiny  
amplitude

# Gravity waves: dispersion

From the expression  $F(z) = 2Ae^{-kh} \cosh[k(z+h)]$

the boundary at the top gives the **dispersion relation** for incompressible, irrotational, small amplitude “gravity” waves:

$$\omega^2 = kg \left[ \tanh(kh) \right]$$

**Deep water**  
( $kh$  goes to infinity)

$$\omega^2 = kg$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{g\lambda}{2\pi}}$$

$$u = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{g\lambda}{2\pi}} = \frac{1}{2} c$$

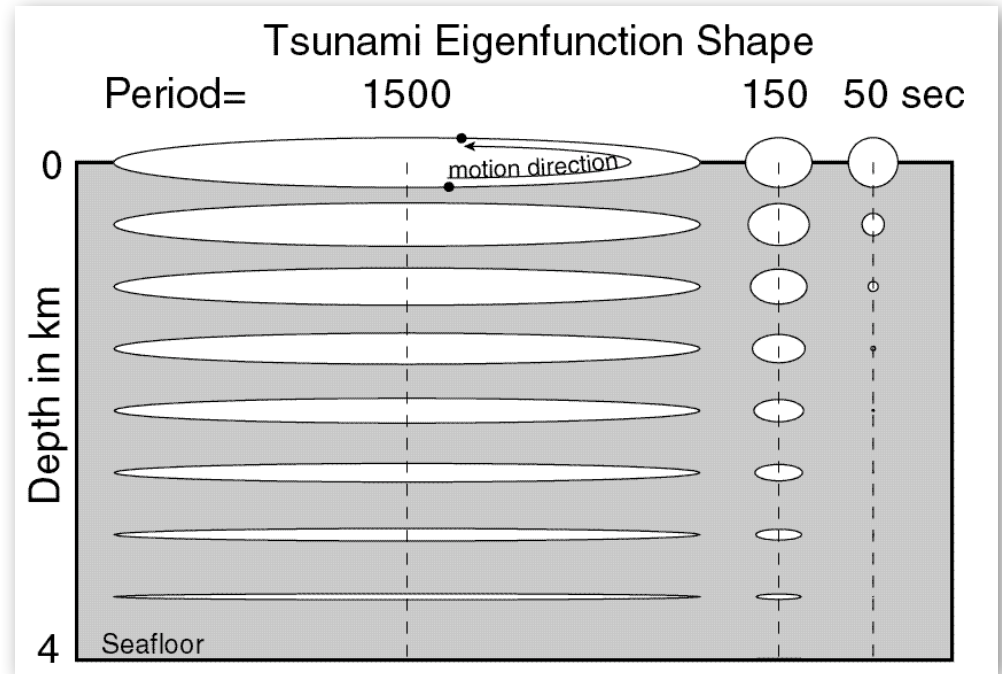
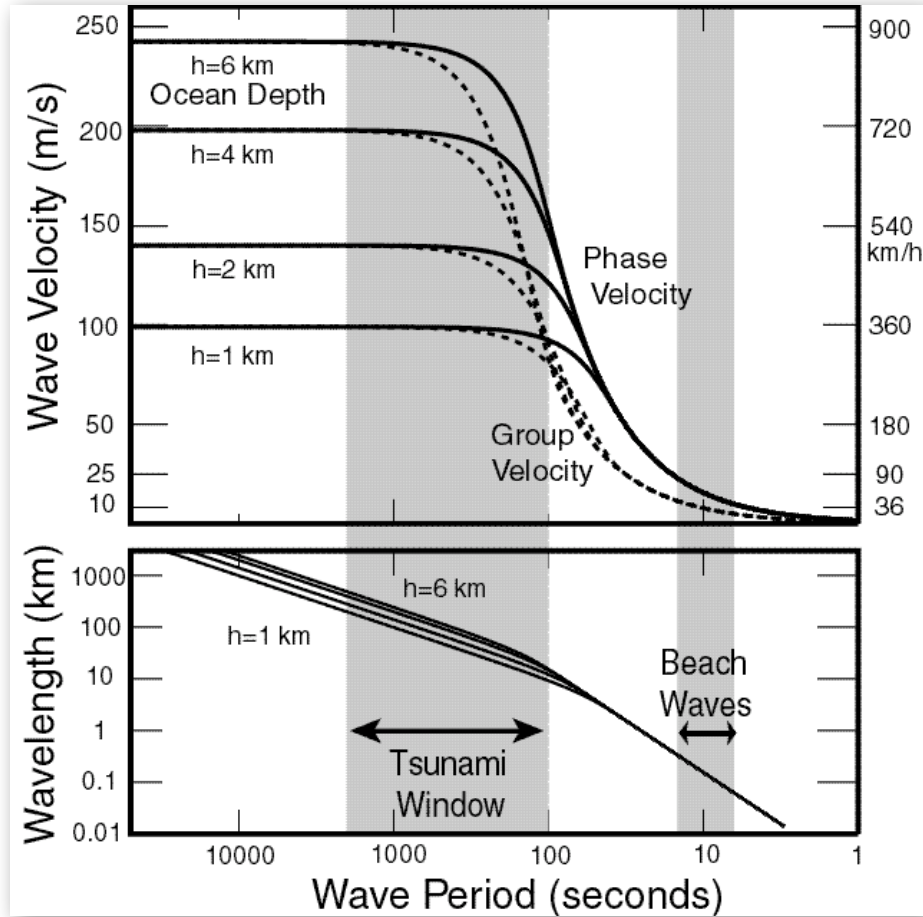
**Shallow water**  
( $kh$  goes to zero)

$$\omega^2 = k^2 gh$$

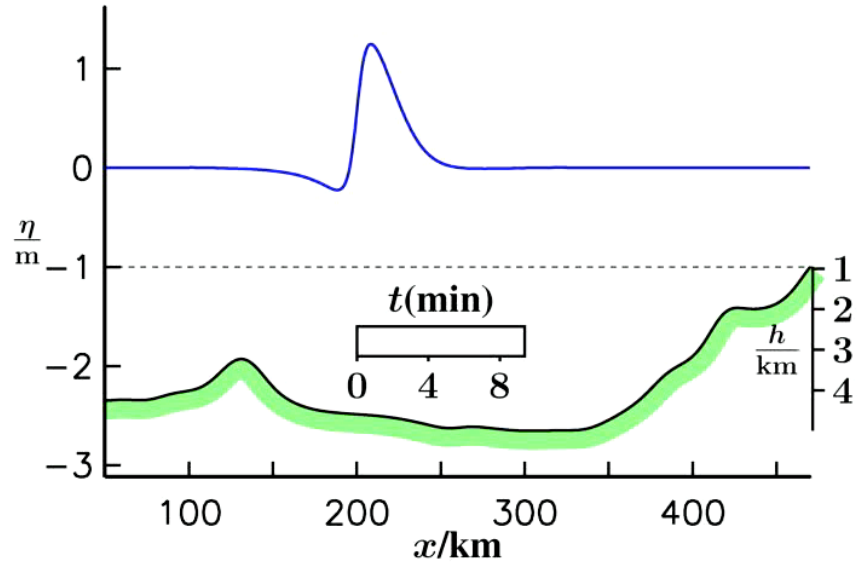
$$c = \sqrt{gh}$$

$$u = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = c = \sqrt{gh}$$

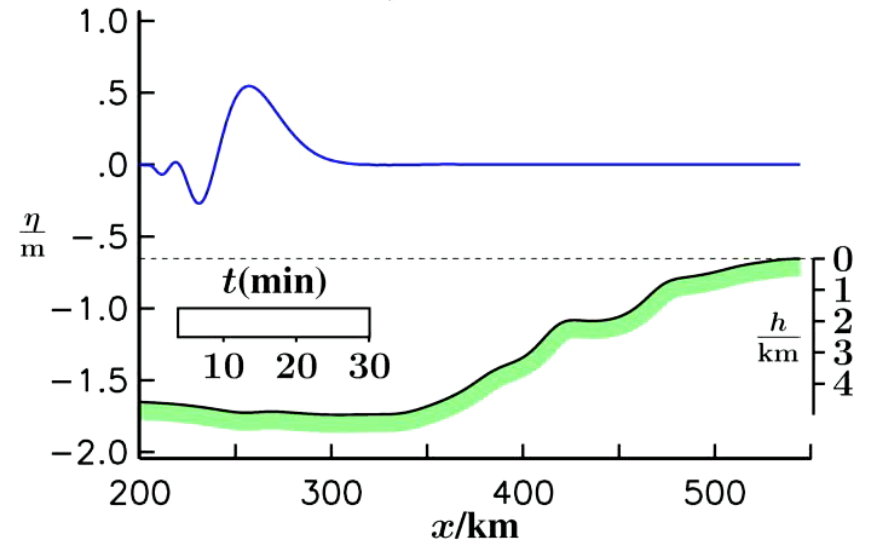
# Tsunami eigenvalues & eigenfunctions



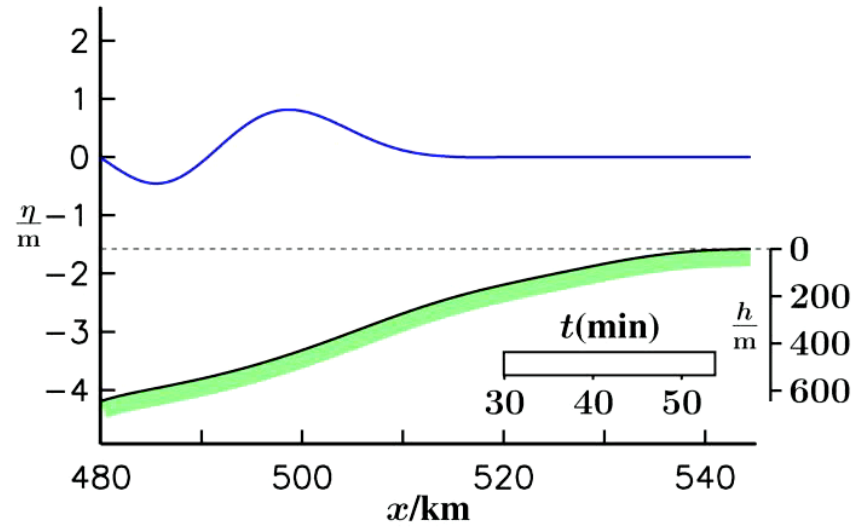
### DISPERSION



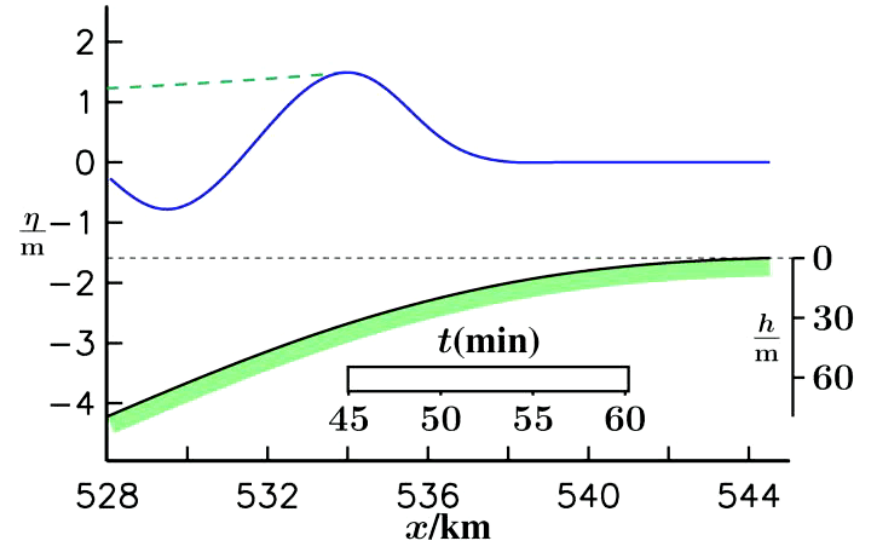
### DISPERSION, AMPLIFICATION



### AMPLIFICATION



### BORE FORMATION



**Tsunami  
physics  
research**

```
graph LR; A[Tsunami physics research] --> B[support of improved measurement technology and the design of optimal tsunami monitoring networks]; A --> C[implementation of improved models to increase the speed and accuracy of operational forecasts and warnings]; A --> D[development of improved methods to predict tsunami impacts on the population and infrastructure of coastal communities];
```

support of improved measurement technology and the design of optimal **tsunami monitoring networks**

implementation of improved models to increase the speed and accuracy of operational **forecasts and warnings**

development of improved methods to **predict tsunami impacts** on the population and infrastructure of coastal communities

# Tsunami forecast model

● Generation of a database of pre-computed scenarios from potential sources

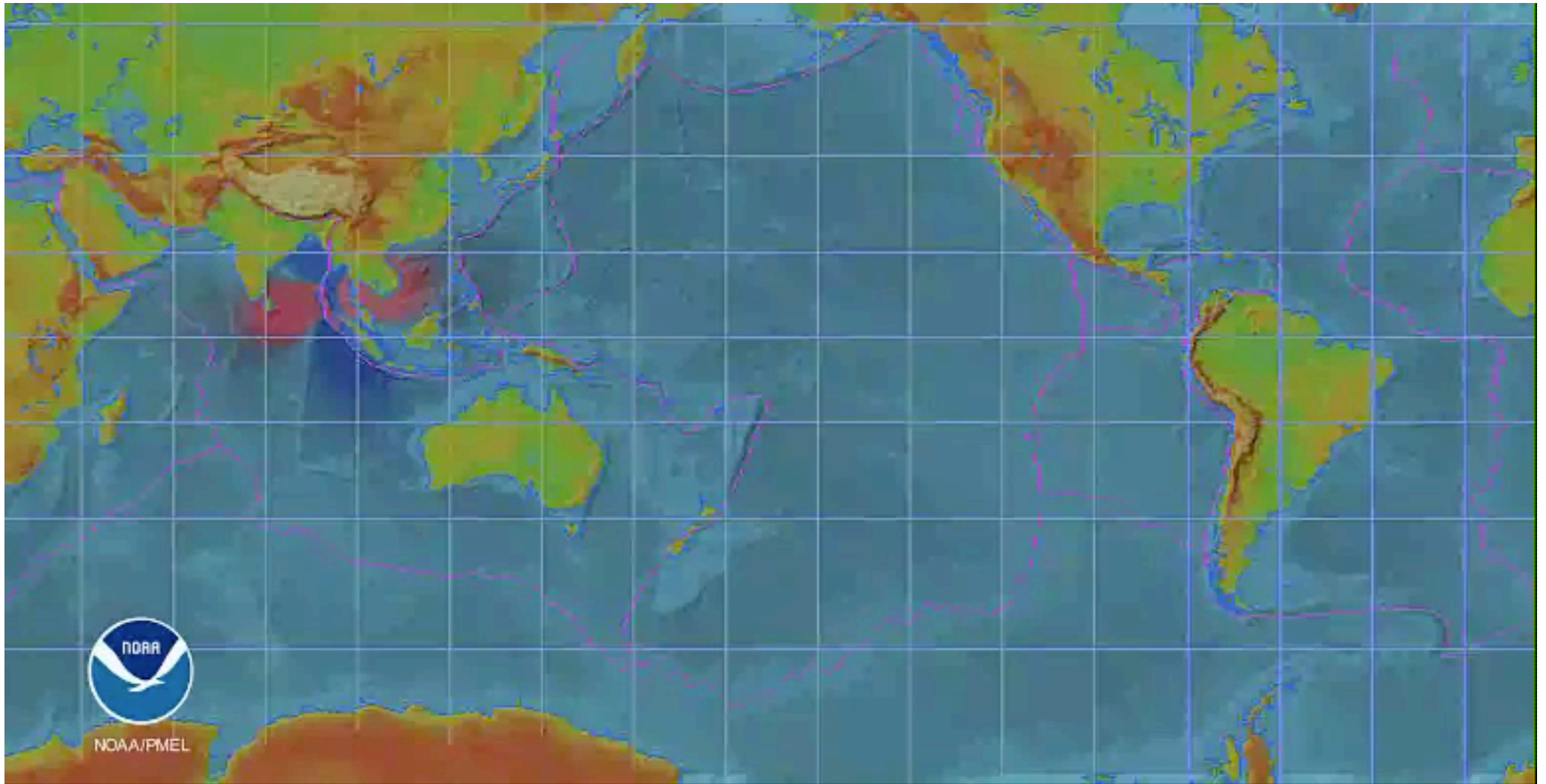
Arrival time  
Height  
Inundation area

Inundation modelling

## Inundation maps

maximum wave height and maximum current speed as a function of location, maximum inundation line, as well as time series of wave height at different locations indicating wave arrival time

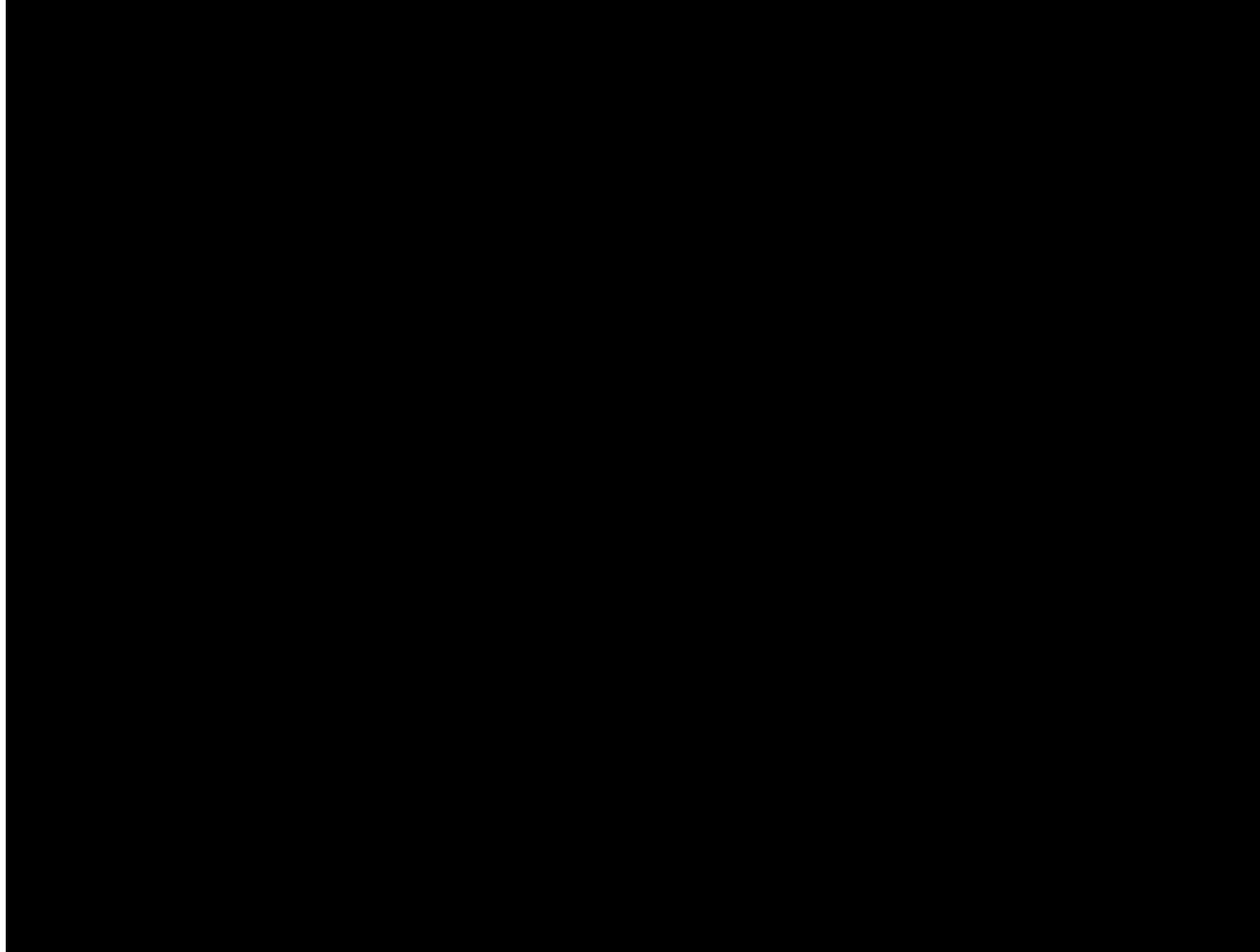
# December 26, 2004 Indonesia (Sumatra) - Global tsunami propagation



<http://nctr.pmel.noaa.gov/model.html>



Inundation of the Aonae peninsula during the July 12, 1993 Hokkaido-Nansei-Oki tsunami computed with the MOST inundation model.



<http://nctr.pmel.noaa.gov/model.html>

# Ocean bottom data

釜石沖海底ケーブル式地震計システムで観測された海面変動

東京大学地震研究所



The observation record of the ocean bottom pressure gauge.

At around 14:46, the ground motion of the earthquake (M9) reaches the pressure gauge and at TMI (coast-side), the sea level is gradually rising from that point.

The sea level rose 2 m, and after 11 minutes, the level went drastically up to 3m, which makes 5 m of elevation in total. At TM2: located 30km toward the land, a same elevation of sea level was recorded with 4 minutes delay from TMI.

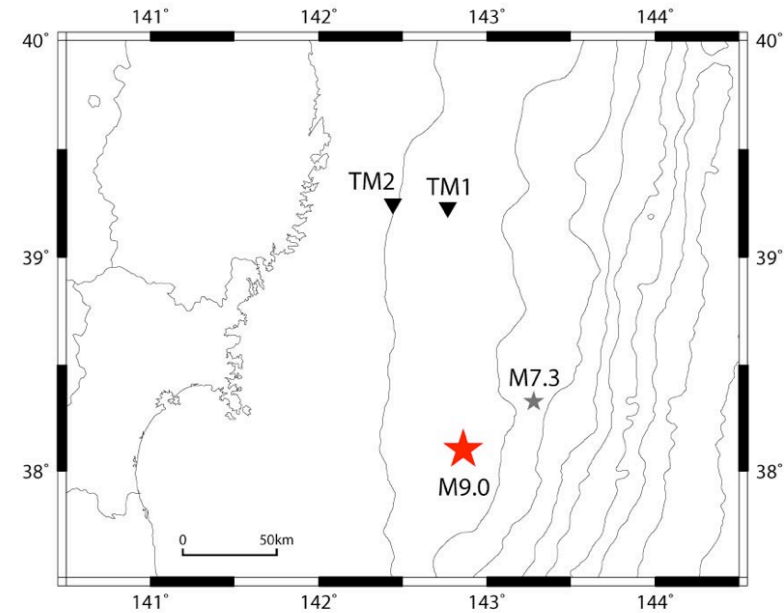


図1 釜石沖ケーブル式海底水圧計の位置

波高 (m)

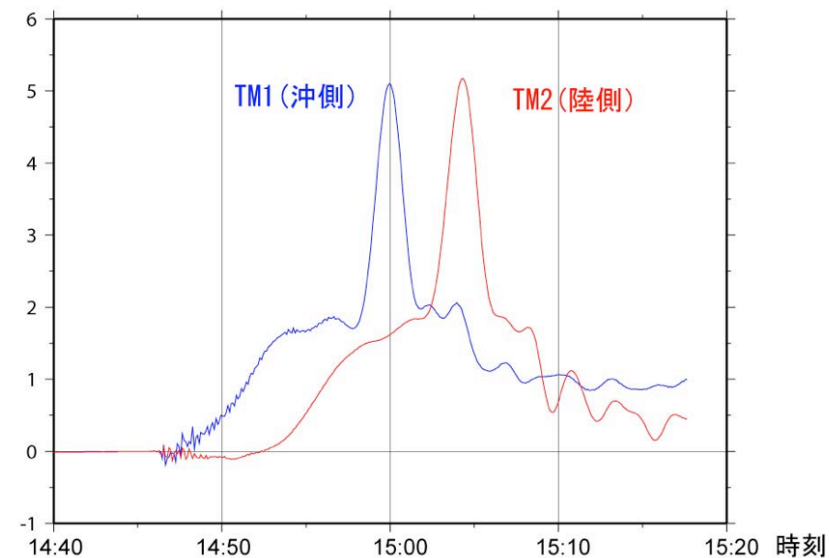
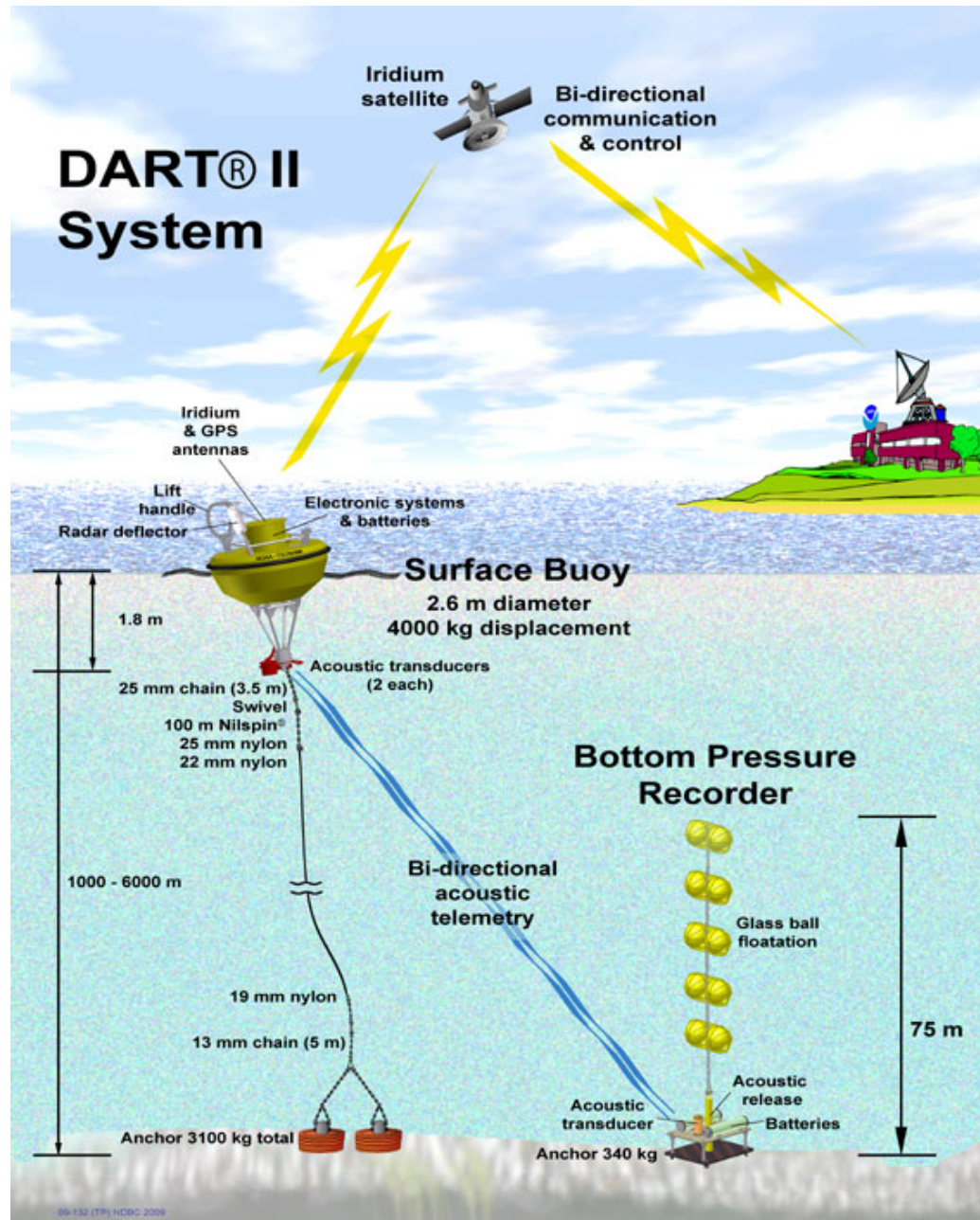


図2 海底水圧計の観測記録。14時46分頃、本震(M9.0)の振動が水圧計に伝わり、TM1(海寄り)では、その時から徐々に海面が上昇している。約2m上昇し、約11分後にはさらに約3m急激に上昇し、合計約5m海面が上昇した。約30km陸寄りに設置されているTM2では、TM1から約4分遅れて同様の海面上昇を記録した。

# Dart buoys

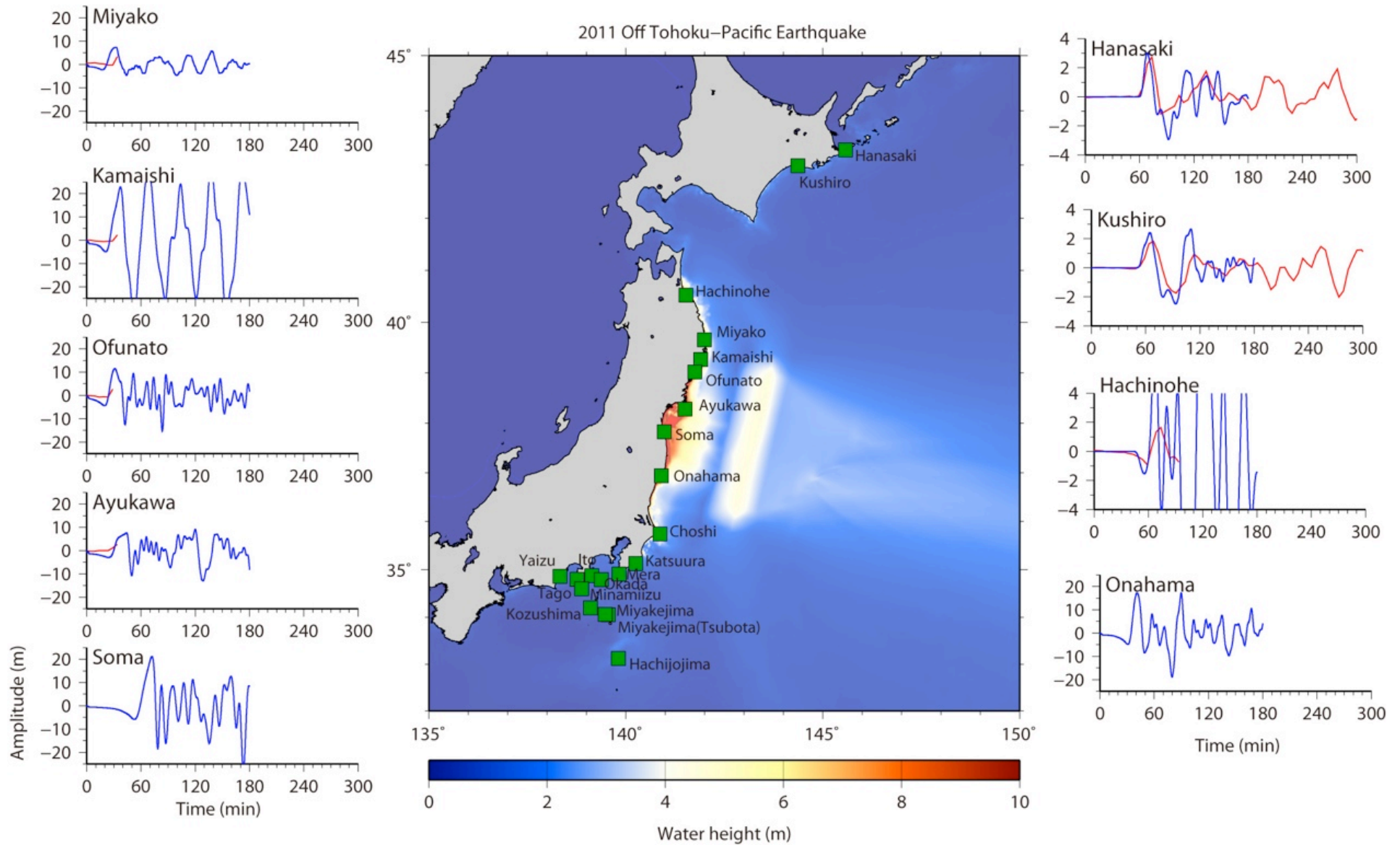


The DART II® system consists of a seafloor bottom pressure recording (BPR) system capable of detecting tsunamis as small as 1 cm, and a moored surface buoy for real-time communications.

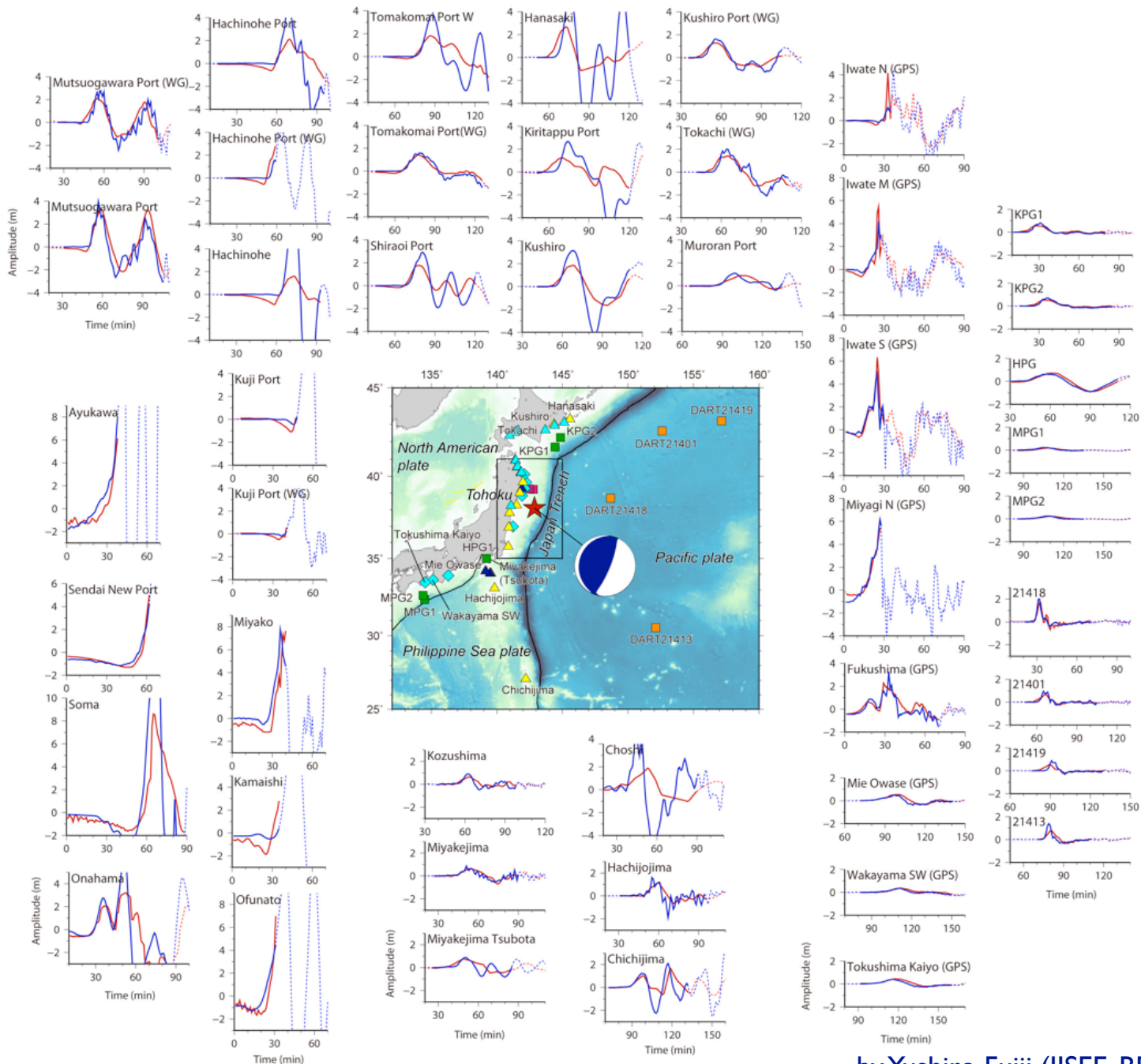
DART II has two-way communications between the BPR and the Tsunami Warning Center (TWC) using the Iridium commercial satellite communications system. The two-way communications allow the TWCs to set stations in event mode in anticipation of possible tsunamis or retrieve the high-resolution (15-s intervals) data in one-hour blocks for detailed analysis.

DART II systems transmit standard mode data, containing twenty-four estimated sea-level height observations at 15-minute intervals, once every six hours.

# Tsunami data and simulations



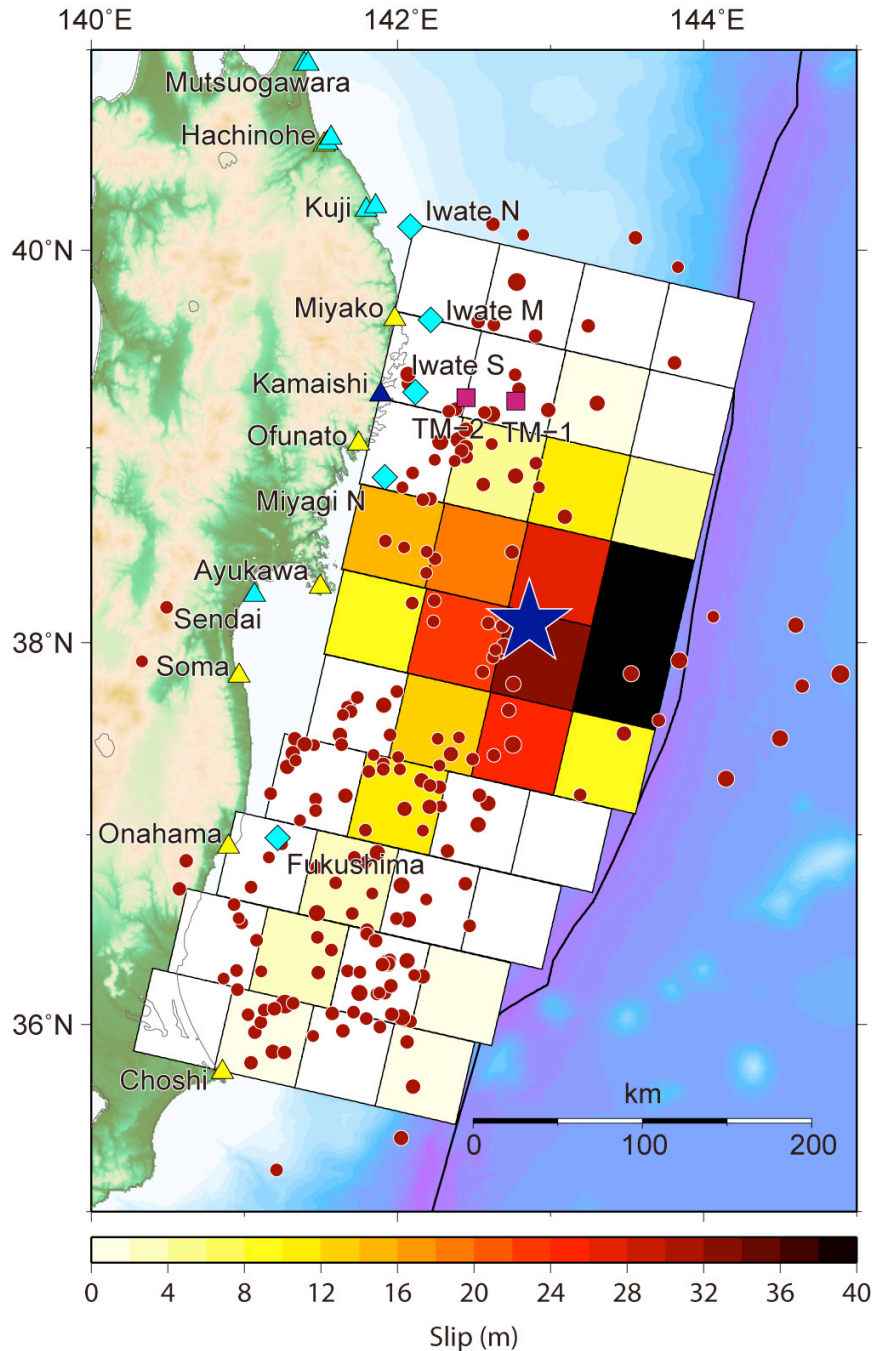
# Tsunami data and simulations: source



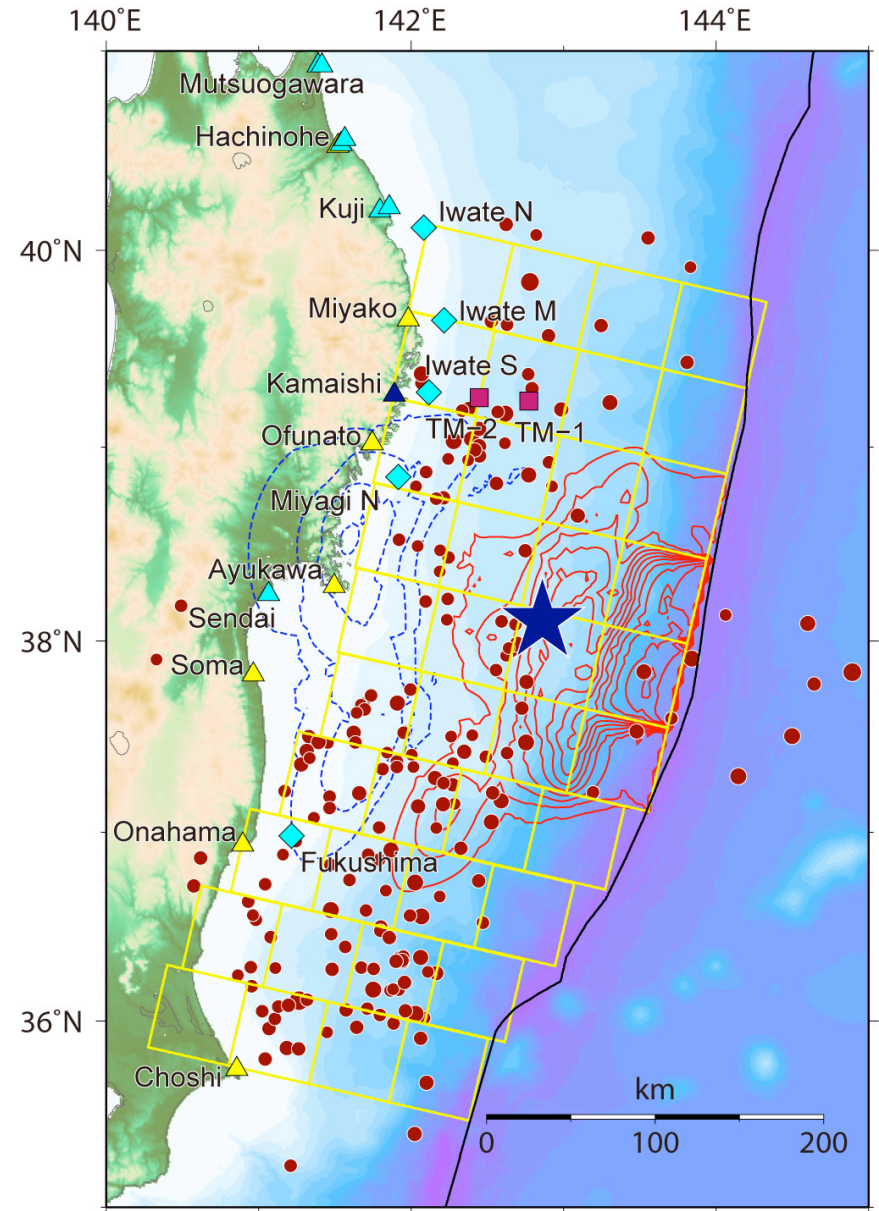
Simulated Tsunami  
around Japanese  
coasts

Red and blue lines  
indicate the  
observed tsunami  
waveforms at  
Japanese tide gauges  
and ocean bottom  
tsunami sensors and  
synthetic ones,  
respectively. Solid  
lines show the time  
windows used for  
inversion.

# Tsunami data and simulations: source



Slip distribution on the fault mode



Calculated seafloor deformation due to the fault model

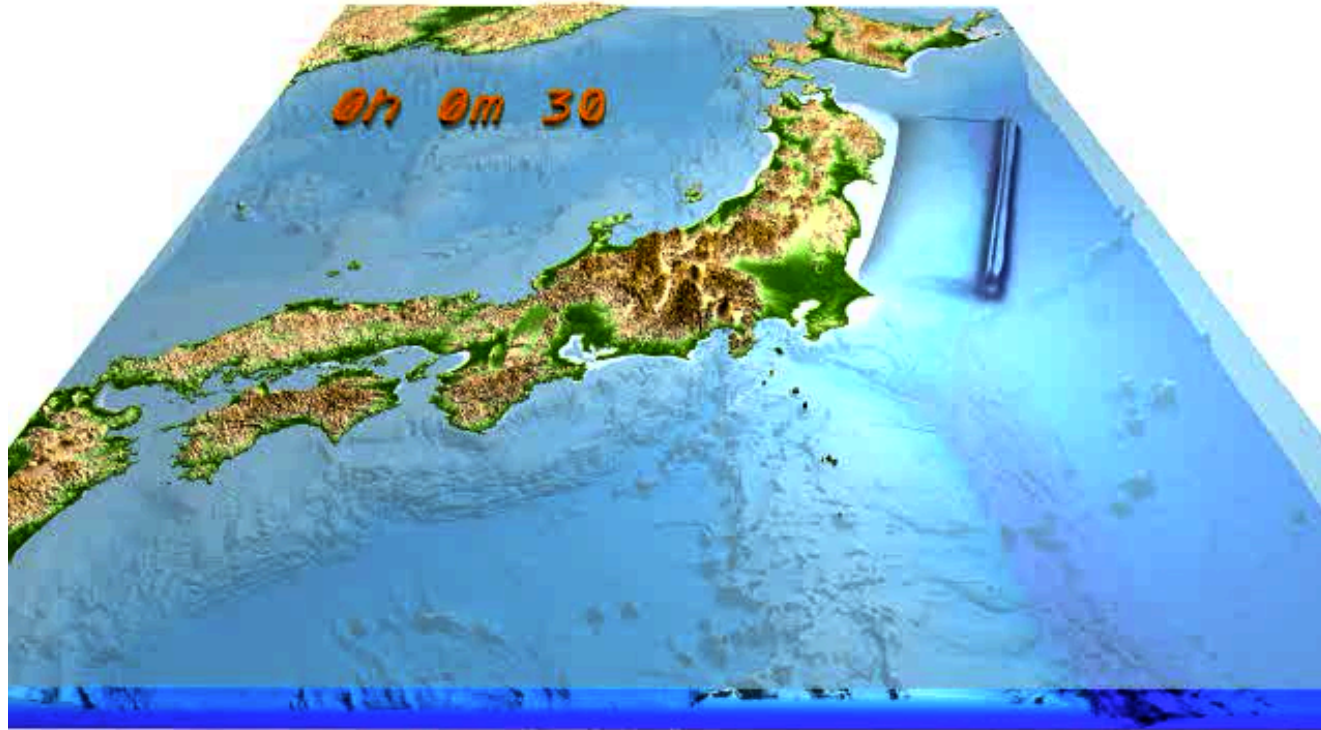
by Yushiro Fujii (IISEE, BRI) and Kenji Satake (ERI, Univ. of Tokyo)  
[http://iisee.kenken.go.jp/staff/fujii/OffTohokuPacific2011/tsunami\\_inv.html](http://iisee.kenken.go.jp/staff/fujii/OffTohokuPacific2011/tsunami_inv.html)

# Tsunami animation: time scales...

[http://outreach.eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp/eqvolc/201103\\_tohoku/eng/](http://outreach.eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp/eqvolc/201103_tohoku/eng/)

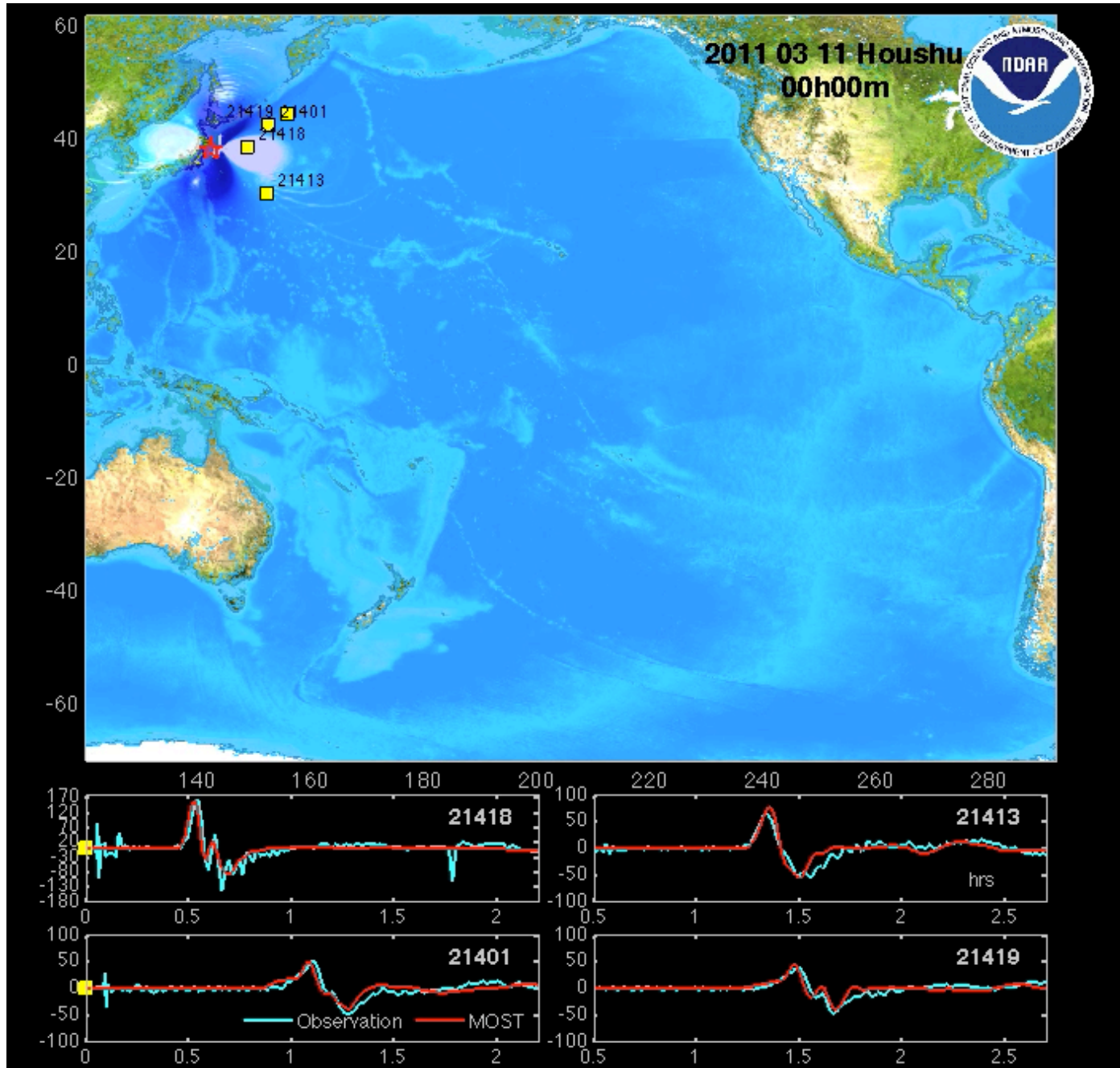
<http://supersites.earthobservations.org/honshu.php>

<http://eqseis.geosc.psu.edu/~cammon/Japan2011EQ/>



“Earthquake Research Institute, University of Tokyo, Prof. Takashi Furumura and Project Researcher Takuto Maeda”

# Tsunami animation - NOAA

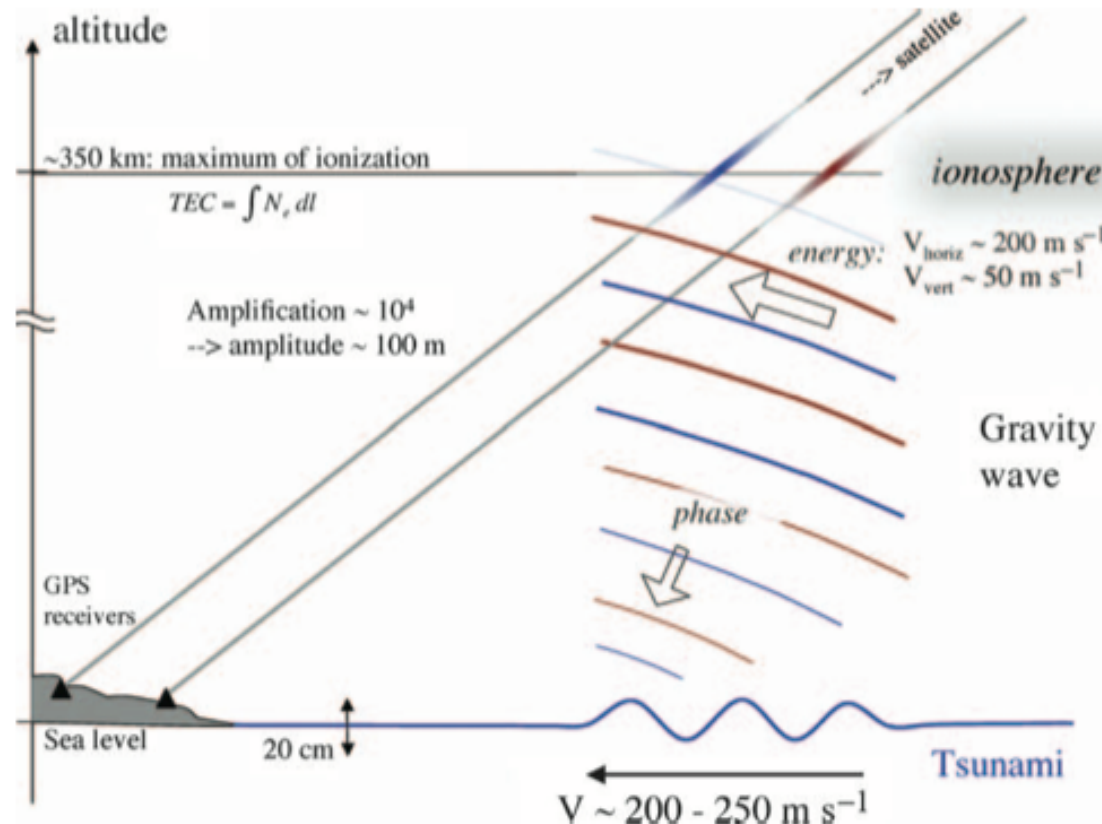




# Tsunami signature in the ionosphere

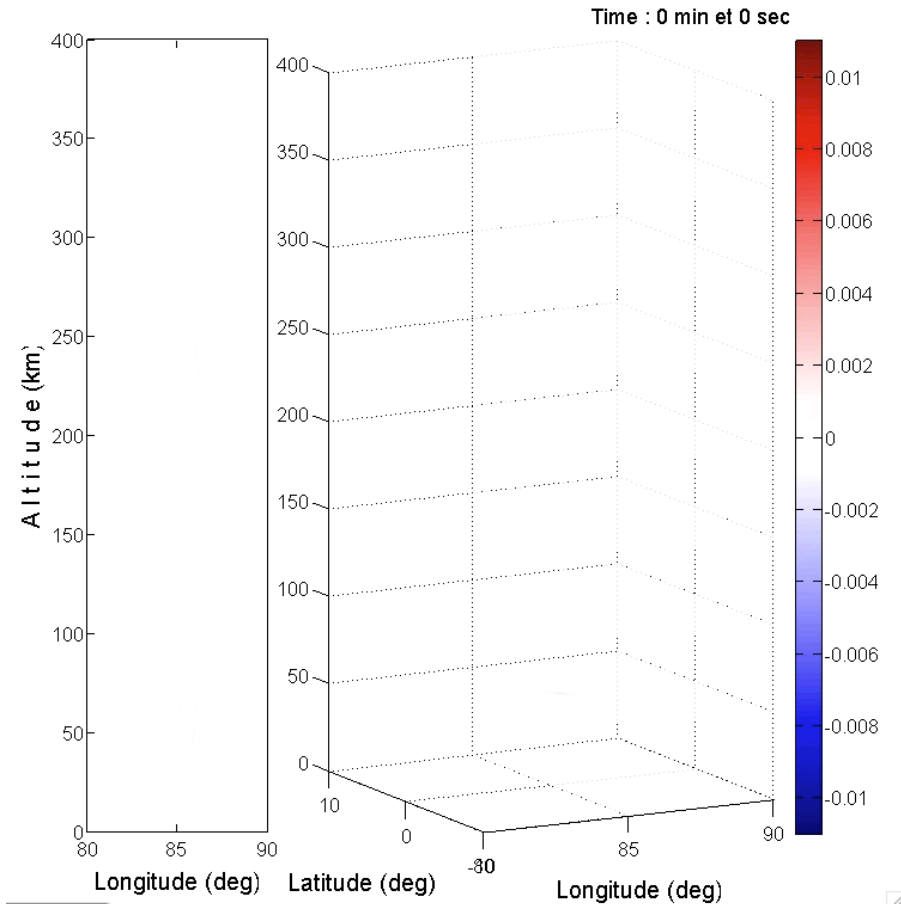
By dynamic coupling with the atmosphere, **acoustic-gravity waves** are generated

Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances (TID) can be detected and monitored by high-density GPS networks

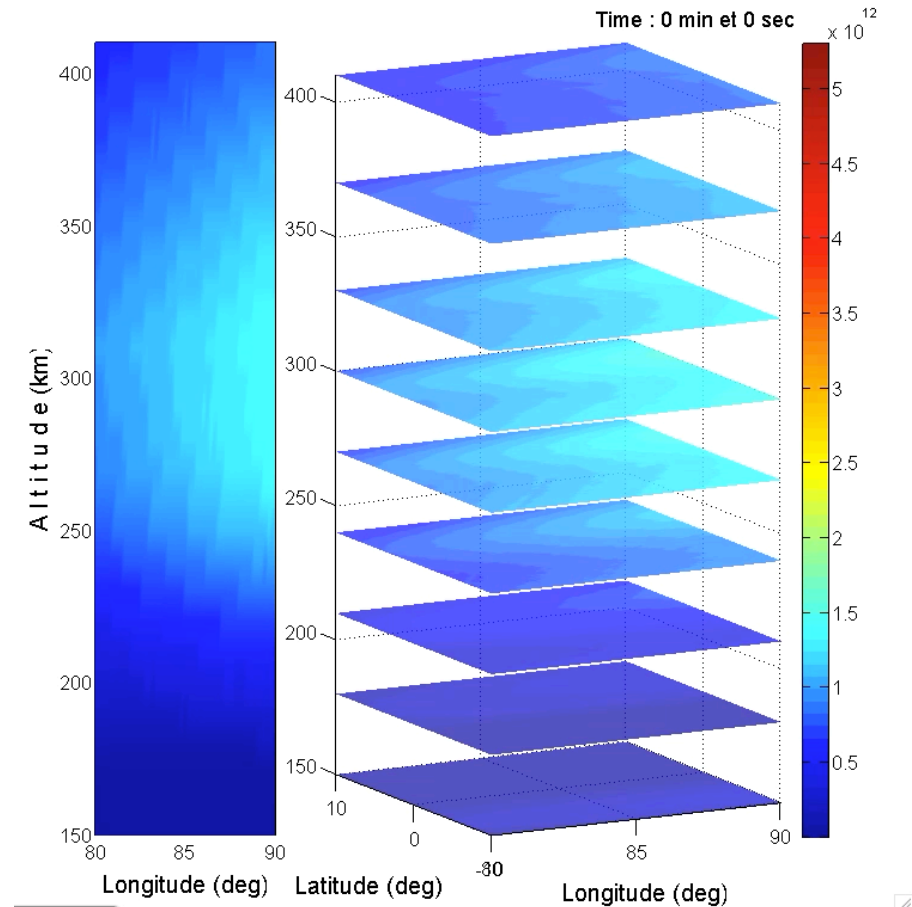


# Tsunami signature in the ionosphere

Tsunami-generated IGWs and the response of the ionosphere to neutral motion at 2:40 UT.



Normalized vertical velocity

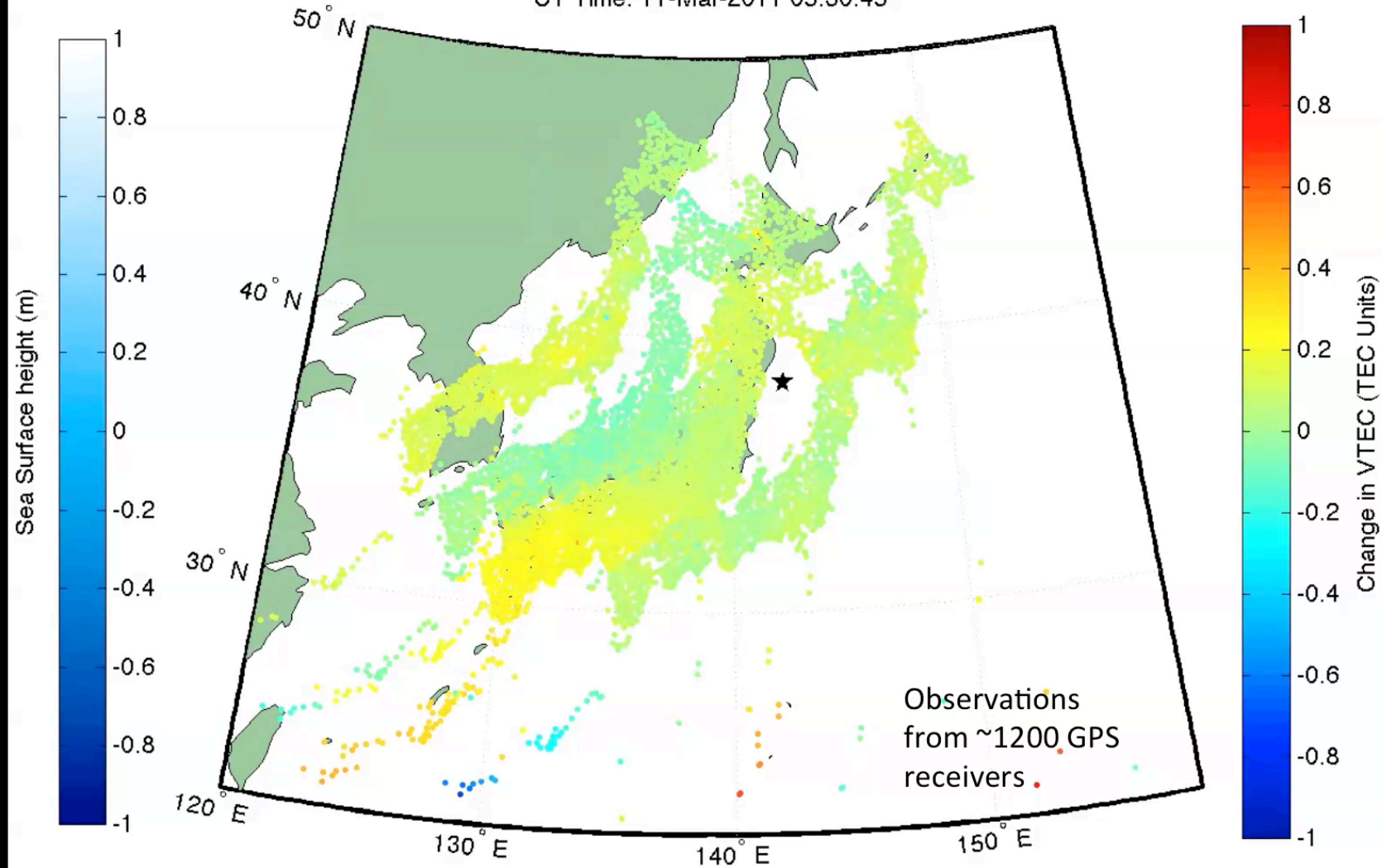


Perturbation in the ionospheric plasma

# Tsunami signature in the ionosphere

Tohoku Tsunami Seen in Ionosphere Using GPS  
Compared with JPL's Song Tsunami Model

UT Time: 11-Mar-2011 05:30:45



# Sea gate in Hachinohe



<http://minkara.carview.co.jp/userid/405365/car/375387/1923923/photo.aspx>

# Sea gate (9.3 m high)



<http://ja2xt.mu-sashi.com/Numazu5.htm>

# Sea walls



Sea wall with stairway evacuation route used to protect a coastal town against tsunami inundation in Japan.

Photo courtesy of River Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan.

Deepest breakwater in Kamaishi (Iwate)

Elevated platform used for tsunami evacuation that also serves as a high-elevation scenic vista point for tourist.  
Okushiri Island, Japan. Photo courtesy of ITIC



# Topping a 12 m sea wall



# Tsunami walls...



The 2.4 km long tsunami wall in Miyako, Iwate Prefecture, was destroyed. The 6 m, 2 km long, wall in Kamaishi, Iwate Prefecture, was overwhelmed but delayed the tsunami inundation by 5 minutes.

The 15.5 m tsunami wall in Fundai, Iwate Prefecture, provided the best protection, but it is good to know that the original design was only 10 m. The village mayor fought to make it higher from information in the village historical records.

The biggest problem is that tsunami walls may give a false sense of security and other preparedness measures may NOT be undertaken.



# Sea wall at Fudai

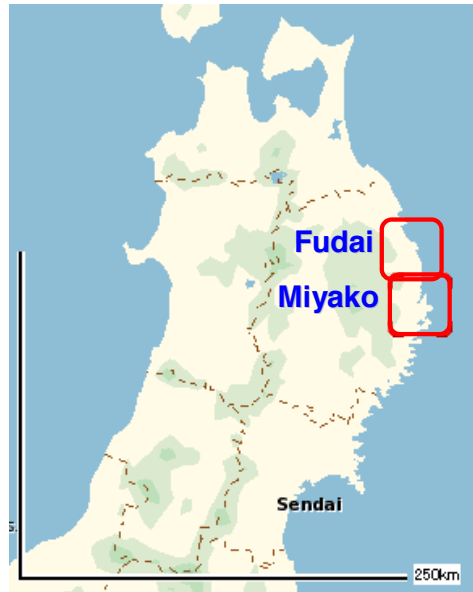


49 foot sea wall:  
completed in 1967; floodgates were added in 1984.

Following the 1896 Meiji tsunami, village mayor Kotoku Wamura pressed for a seawall at least 15 meters high, often repeating the tales handed down to him growing up: that the devastating tsunami was 15 meters.



# Miyako and Fudai...



The 10m-high seawall was destroyed in Taro district, Miyako city, Iwate Pref.



The 15.5m-high seawall was undestroyed in Otobe district, Fudai village, Iwate Pref.

Fig. III-1-16 Difference of seawall heights resulting in different consequence.

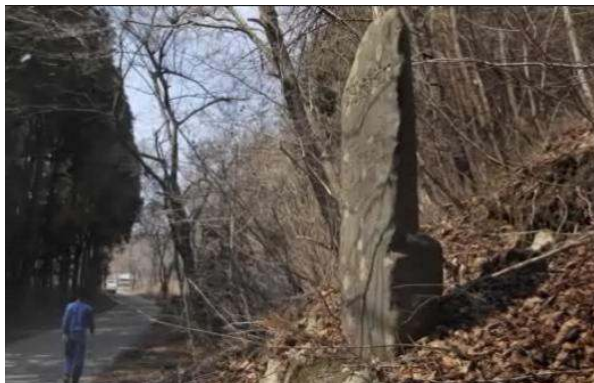


The stone monument  
A photo from the village's point of view (i.e. facing the coast)

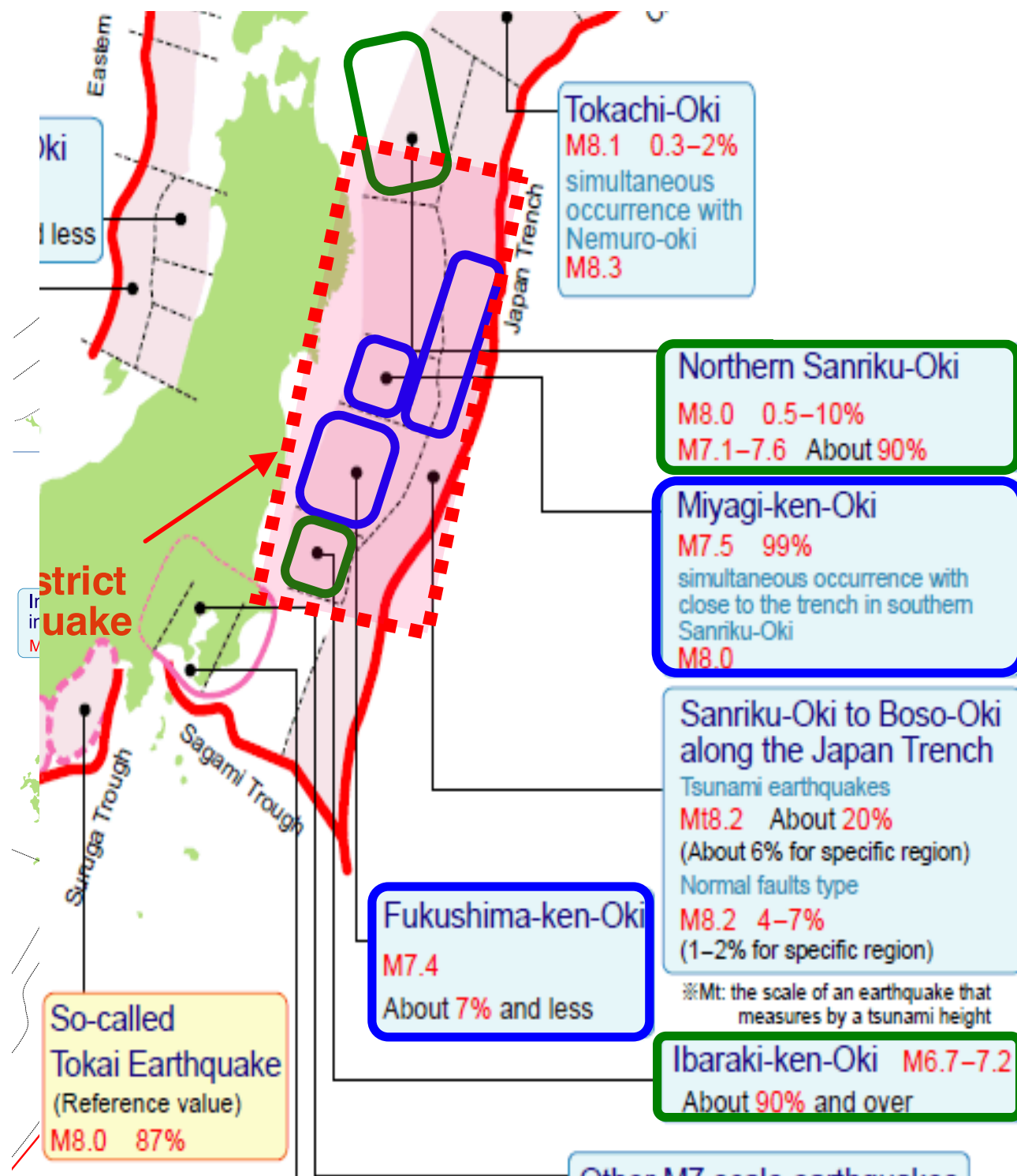


A photo from a viewpoint of facing the village taken at the spot slightly below the stone monument

## Tsunami stones (Tsunami-seki)



# Expectations...



“Estimated magnitude and long-term possibilities within 30 years of earthquakes on regions of offshore based on Jan. 1, 2011.”

“Estimated magnitude and long-term possibilities within 30 years of earthquakes on regions of offshore based on Jan. 1, 2008.”

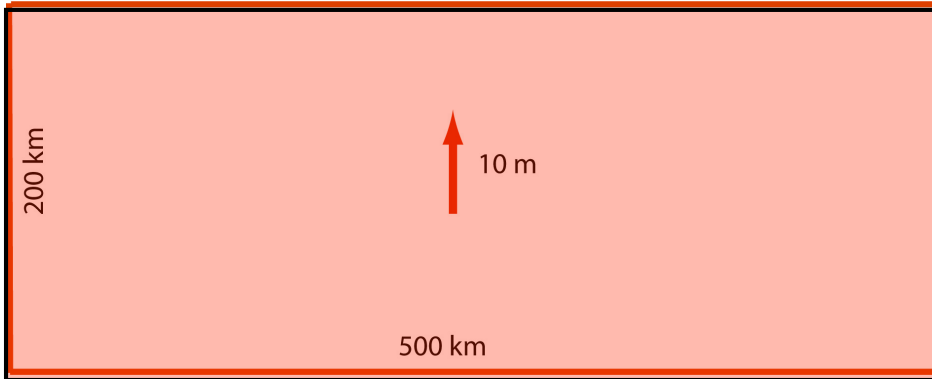
# Reality...

Planning assumed maximum magnitude 8 Seawalls 5-10 m high



**Magnitude 8  
10 m tsunami**

**Magnitude 9  
20 m tsunami**



Tsunami runup approximately  
twice fault slip

M9 generates much larger  
tsunami

Stein, S. and E. Okal, The size of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake  
needn't have been a surprise, EOS, 92, 227-228, 2011.

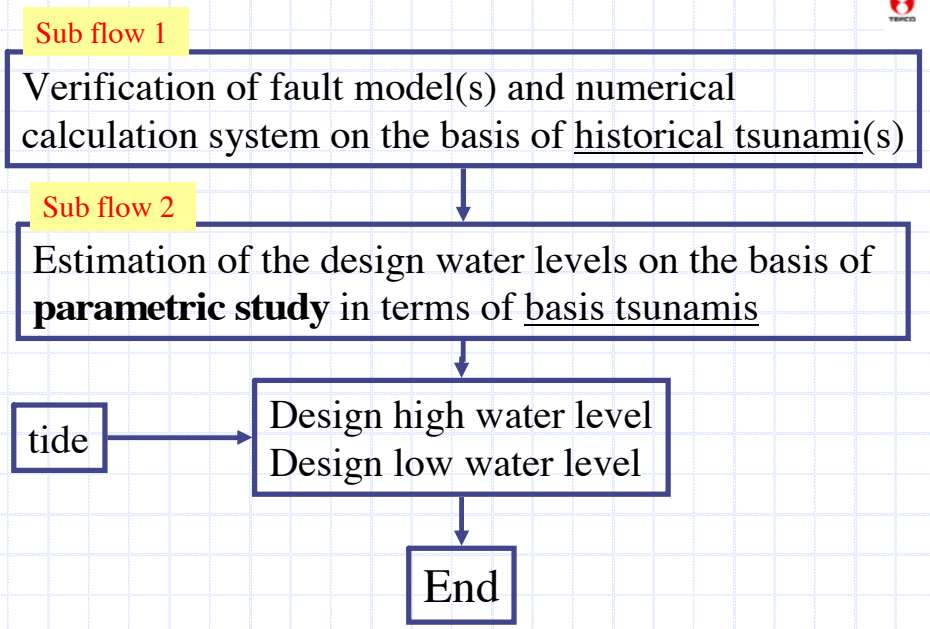


# Tsunami Assessment method for NPP in JSCE, Japan

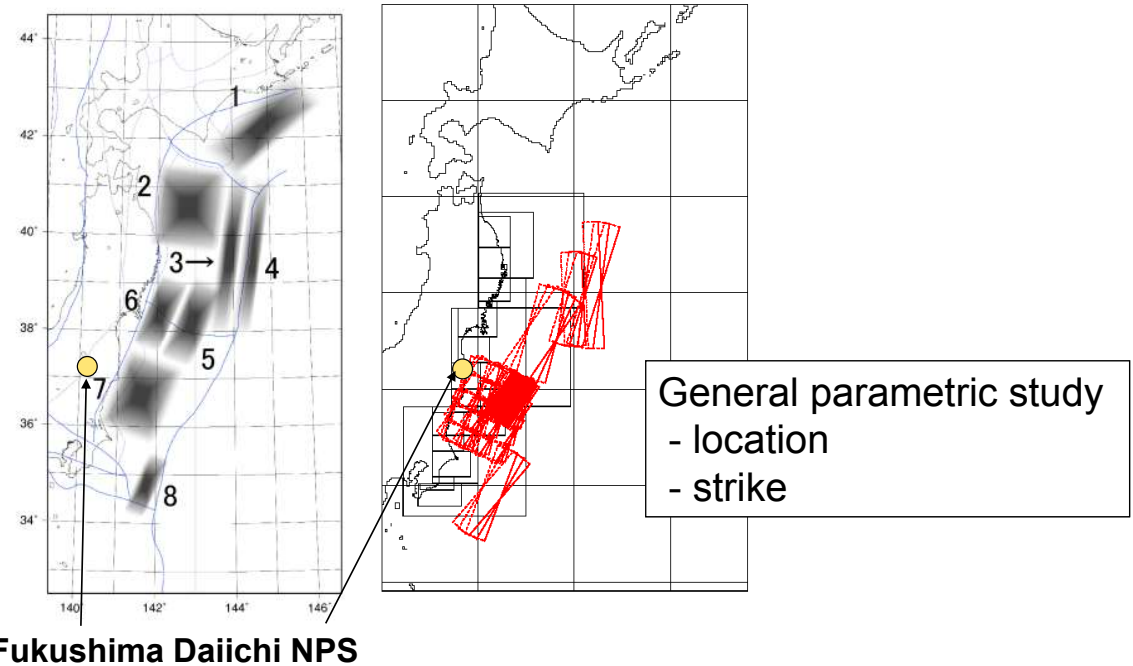
The TSUNAMI EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE,  
Nuclear Civil Engineering Committee, JSCE

Masafumi Matsuyama (CRIEPI)

## Deterministic method (2002) Main flow chart

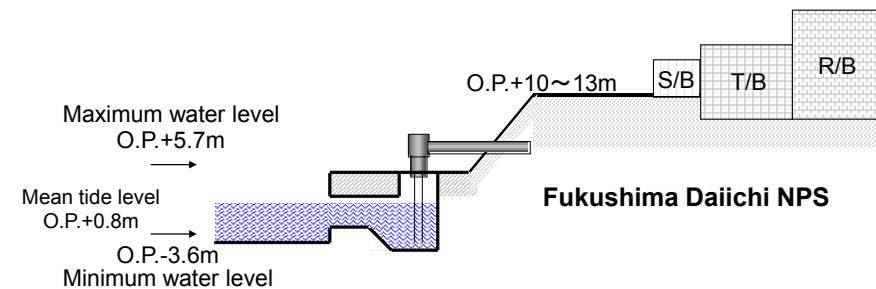


## General parametric study in the near field



## Summary of Evaluation

Maximum water level = 4.4m + O.P. + 1.3m = O.P.+5.7m  
Minimum water level = -3.6m - O.P. ± 0.0m = O.P.-3.6m



We assessed and confirmed the safety of the nuclear plants based on the JSCE method which was published in 2002.

Niigata meeting, November 2010

[http://www.jnes.go.jp/seismic-symposium10/presentationdata/3\\_sessionB.html](http://www.jnes.go.jp/seismic-symposium10/presentationdata/3_sessionB.html)