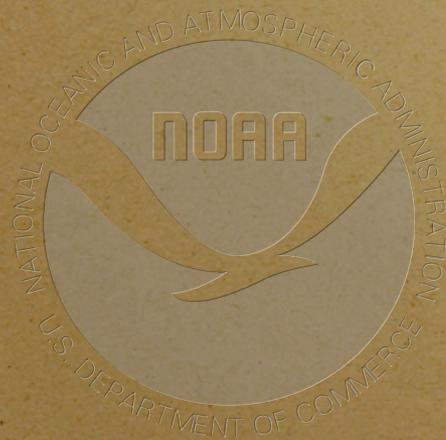


# Modeling for Tsunami Forecast



Vasily Titov

NOAA Center for Tsunami Research

Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory

Seattle, WA

# Outline



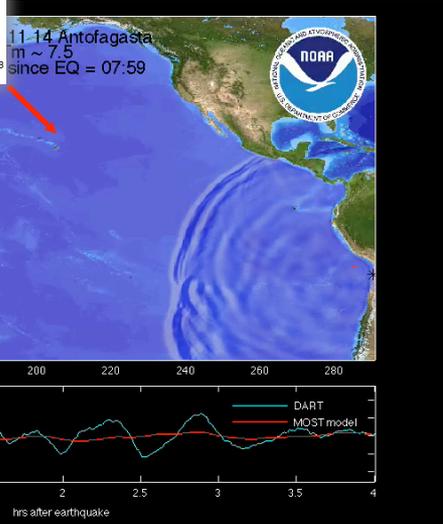
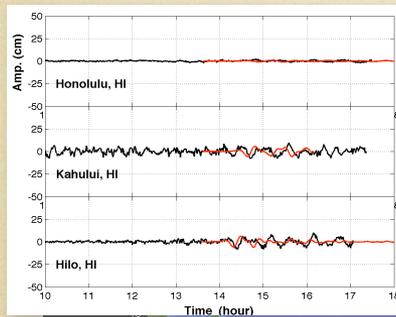
- Tsunami Modeling Development Toward Real-time Tsunami Forecast
  - Challenges
  - Modeling development in 1990 -2000
- Short-term Inundation Forecast for Tsunamis
  - Forecast system description
  - Current status of the Forecast System
- Tests and Verification of the Forecast Performance

# Tsunami Forecast



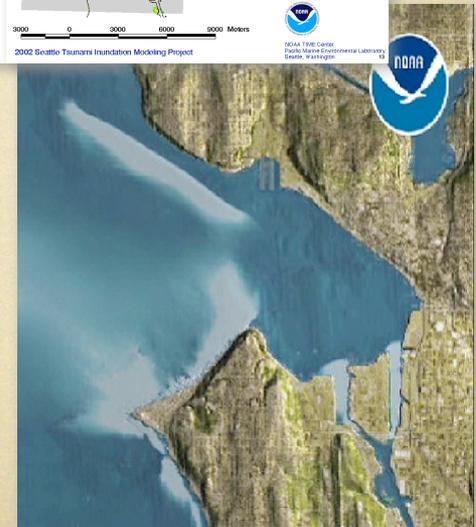
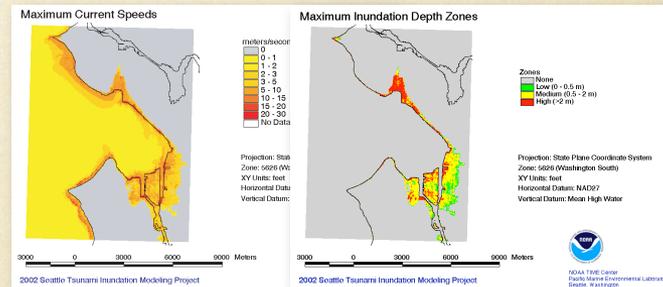
## Short-term:

- Real-time assessment
- Real-time impact assessment before tsunami arrival



## Long-term:

- Probable Maximum Tsunami
- Multiple scenarios for PTHA
- Comprehensive Hazard assessment



# Challenges of Real-time Tsunami Forecast



- Can models provide accuracy necessary for useful warning guidance?
- Can models provide useful timely forecast?
- Do we have real-time measurement to define input for real-time models?

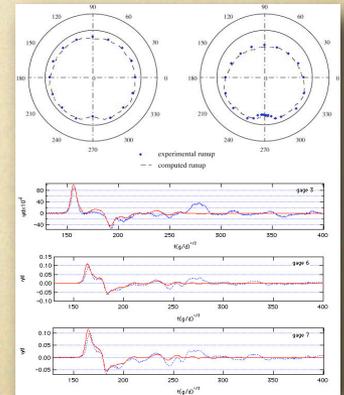
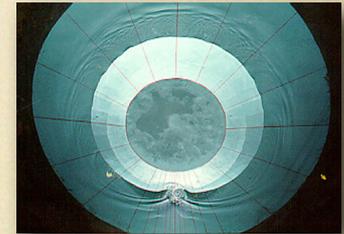
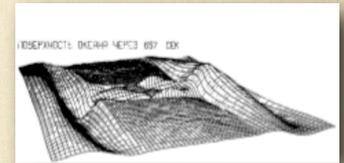


# Brief history of tsunami modeling (1990-2000)

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction



- 1990 1st NSF workshop on tsunami models  
Modeling problems identified: little data for testing (MOST model first introduced)
- 1992-95 Conical Island experiments
- 1995 2nd NSF workshop on tsunami models  
First benchmark tests (MOST model first tests)
- 1997 NSF workshop on tsunami sources.  
Source problem identified: no real-time source parameters, value of deep-ocean tsunami measurements.



# Brief history of tsunami modeling (1990-2000)

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

## Surveys of destructive tsunamis (1990 - 2000)

Over 4,000 people died

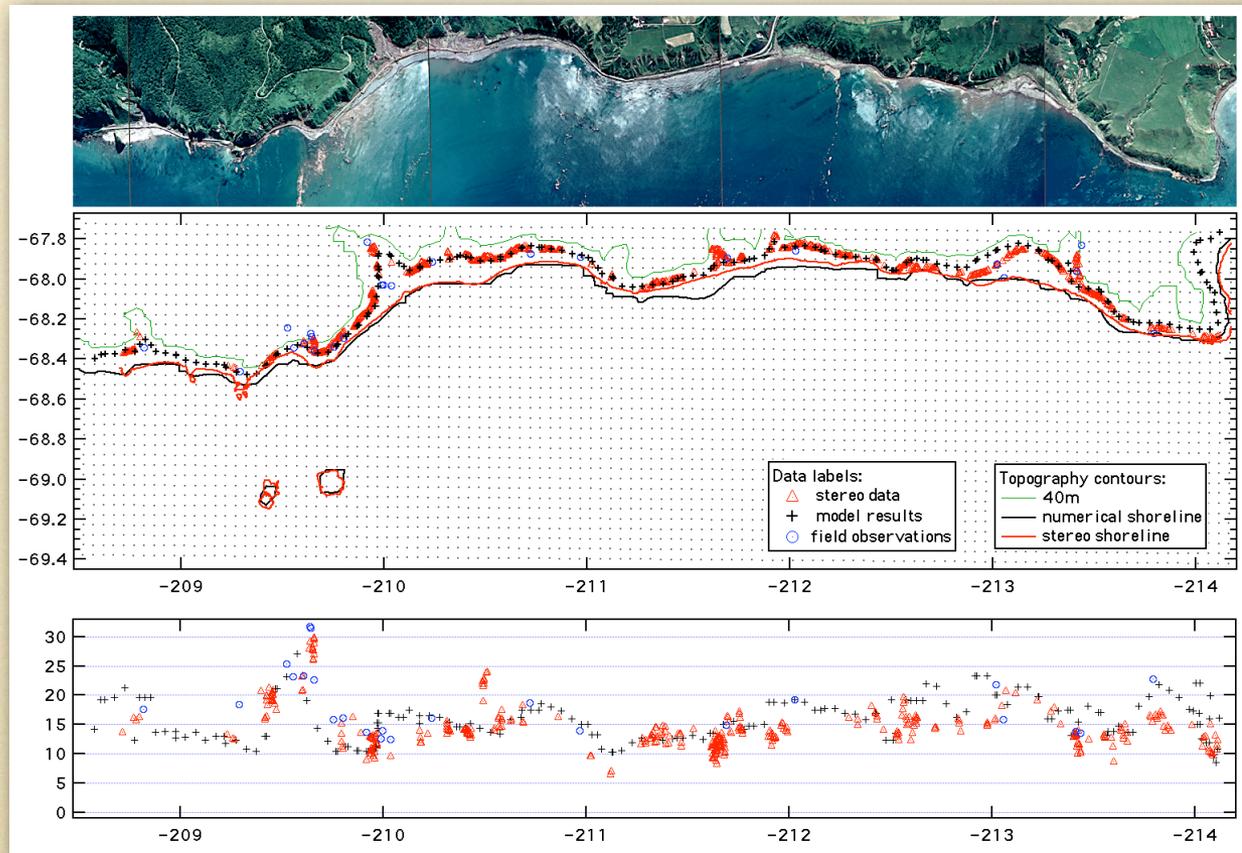
- 1992 Nicaragua (170)
- 1992 Flores Island, Indonesia (1000)
- 1993 Okushiri Island, Japan (239)
- 1994 E. Java, Indonesia (238)
- 1994 Kuril Islands, Russia (11)
- 1994 Mindoro Is, Philippines (49)
- 1996 Irian Jaya, Indonesia (161)
- 1998 Papua New Guinea (2182)

# Brief history of tsunami modeling



E. Bernard and V. Titov, 1999

# Brief history of tsunami modeling



V. Titov & Gonzalez, 1997

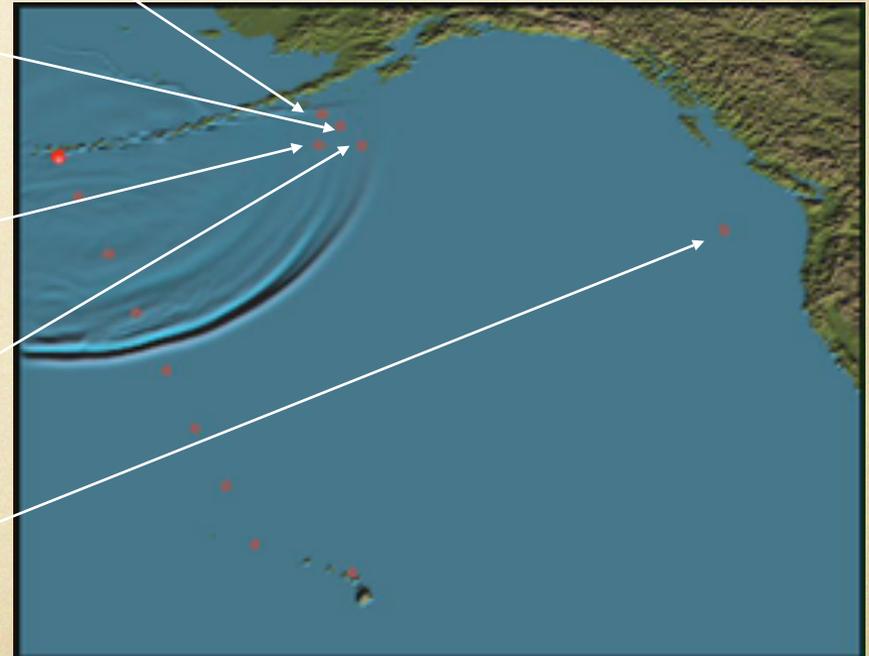
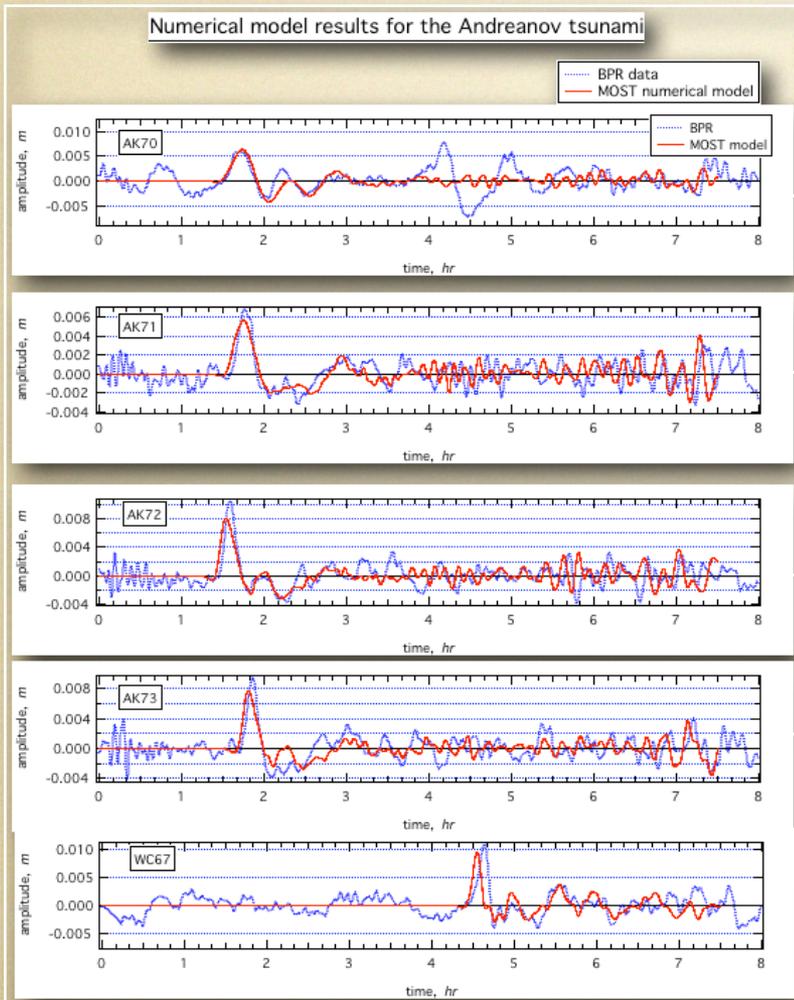
# Brief history of tsunami modeling (1990-2000)

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction



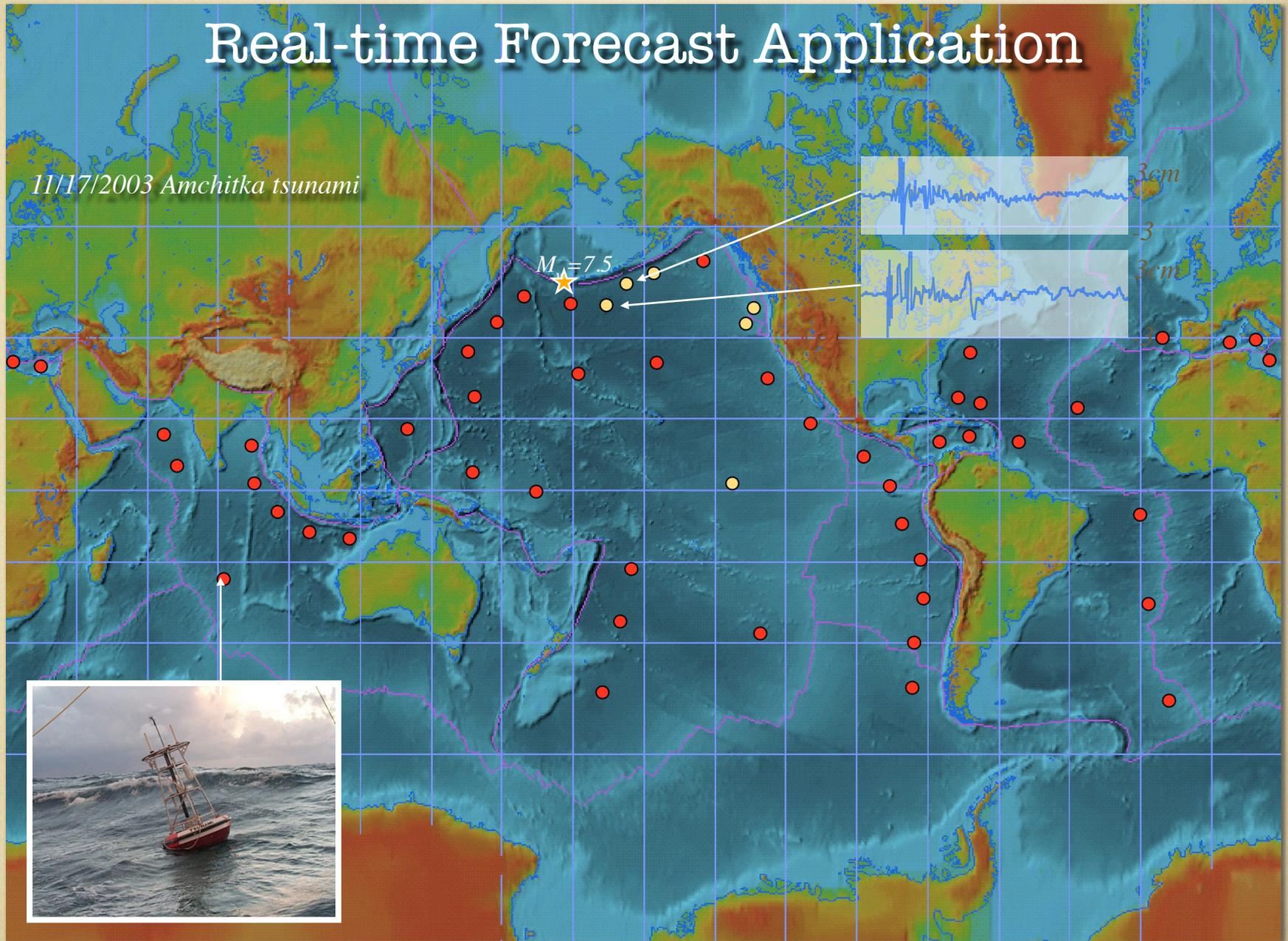
Deep-ocean measurements become available

*June 10, 1996 Andreanov tsunami  
(Titov & Gonzalez, 1997)*



# Real-time Forecast Application

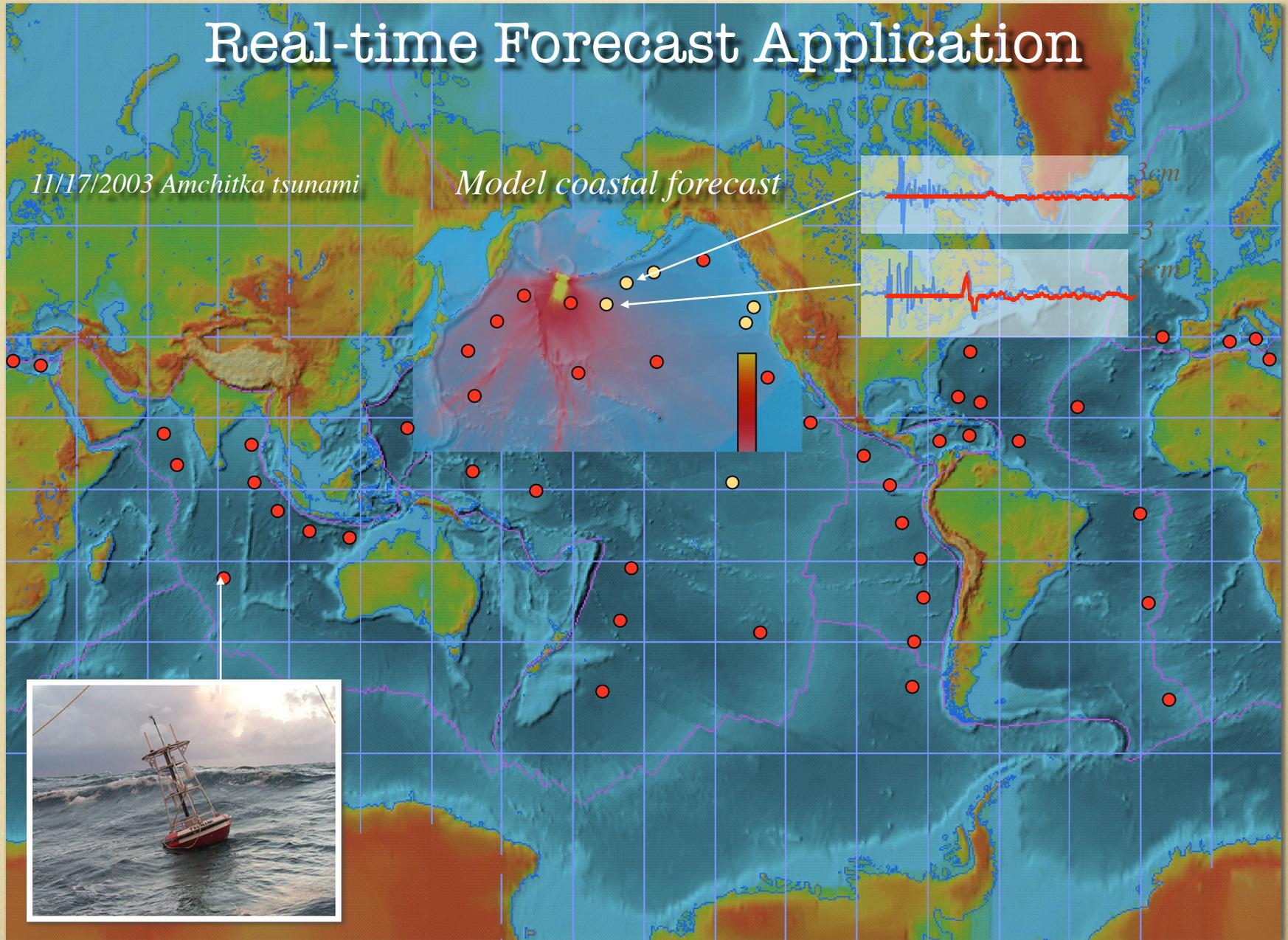
11/17/2003 Amchitka tsunami



# Real-time Forecast Application

11/17/2003 Amchitka tsunami

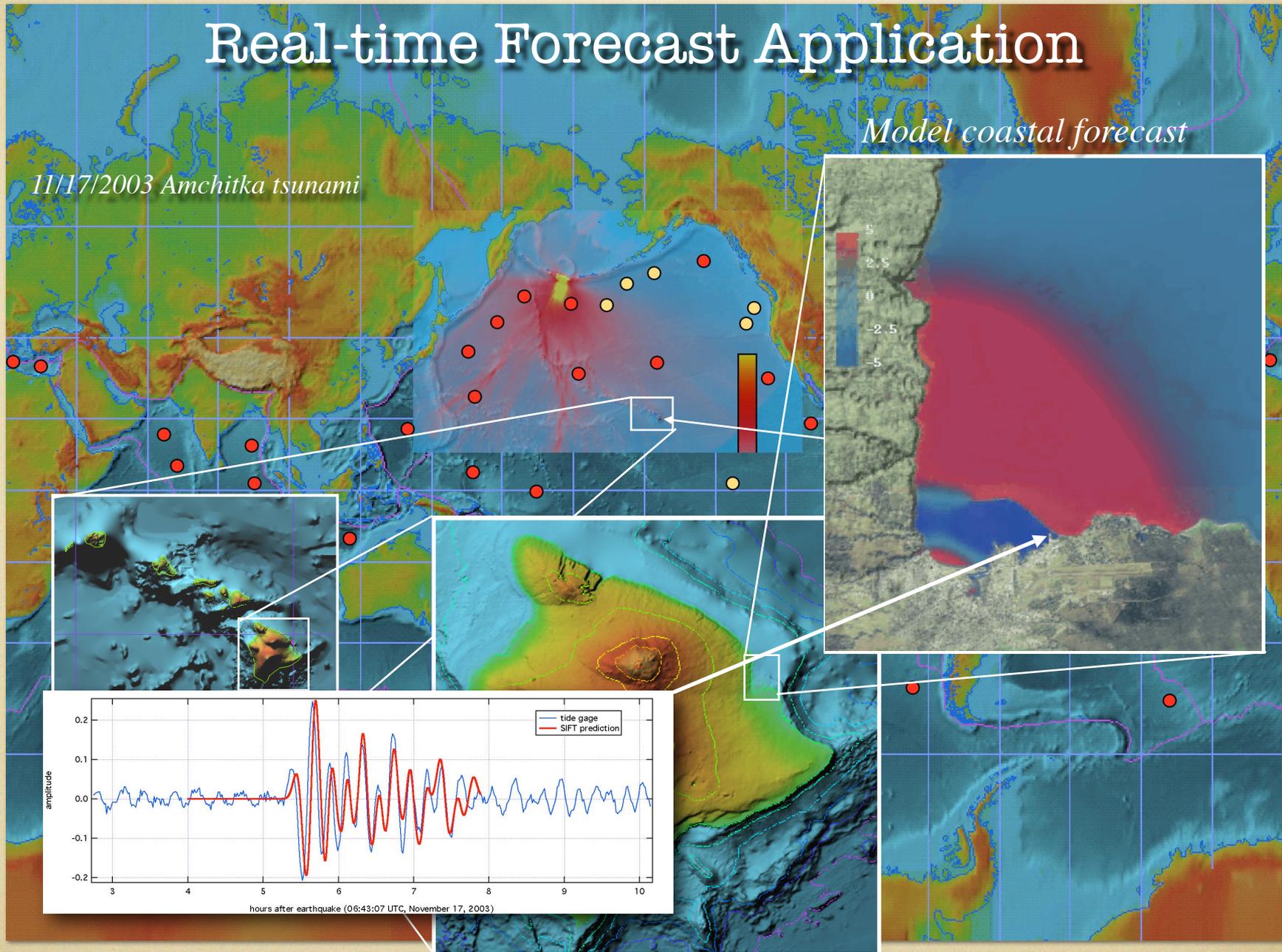
Model coastal forecast



# Real-time Forecast Application

11/17/2003 Amchitka tsunami

Model coastal forecast



# Model Standards for Operational Forecast



## NOAA Forecast Model Standards

- **Peer-reviewed publication.** An must be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals with impact factors greater than one
- **Benchmarking.** The model must be tested against other peer models in a benchmark workshop, and the results documented in a report
- **Operational Assessment.** Important factors to be assessed include the model speed, accuracy, special operating environment needs, ease-of-use, and documentation

NOAA Technical Memorandum OAR PMEL-135

### STANDARDS, CRITERIA, AND PROCEDURES FOR NOAA EVALUATION OF TSUNAMI NUMERICAL MODELS

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Eddie N. Bernard<sup>2</sup>  
Vasily V. Titov<sup>3</sup>  
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May 2007



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Carlos M. Gutierrez  
Secretary

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.  
Under Secretary for Oceans  
and Atmosphere/Administrator

Office of Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Research

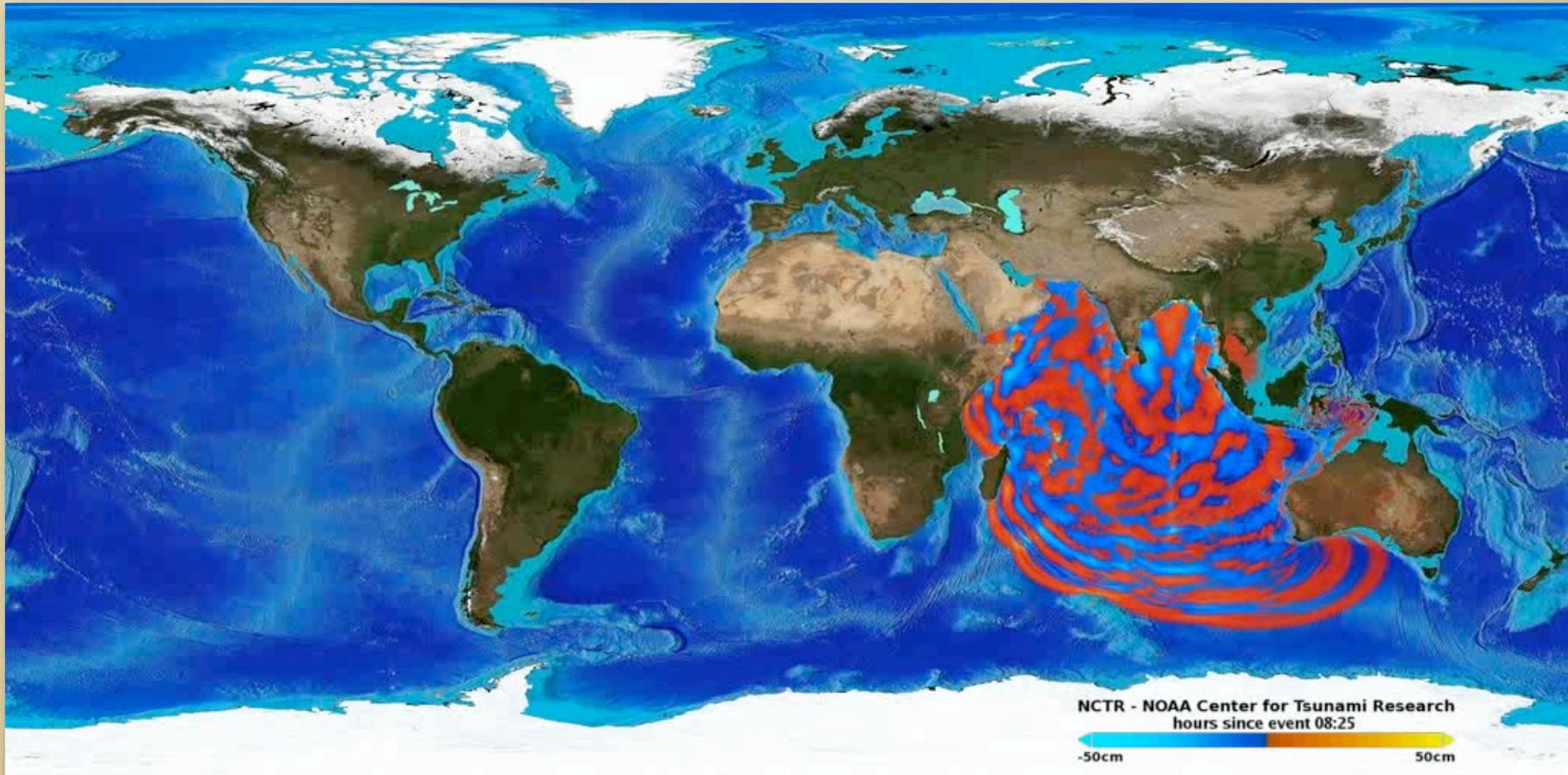
Richard W. Spinrad  
Assistant Administrator

December 26, 2004

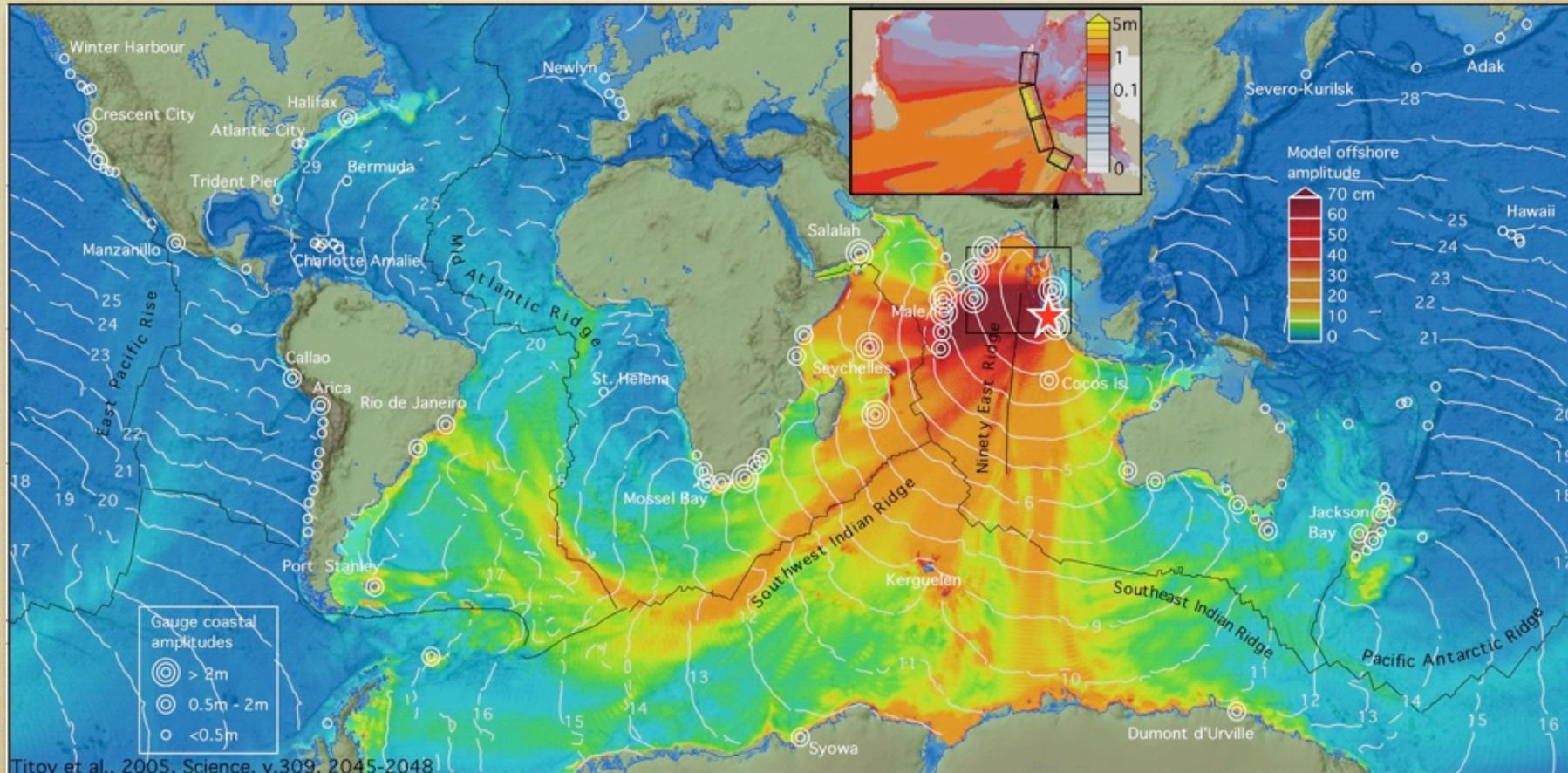
Sumatra tsunami hitting Koh Pu, Thailand



# Tsunami Forecast: use models to predict site- specific impact



# Tsunami Forecast: use models to predict site- specific impact



# NOAA Tsunami Forecast

## Detection

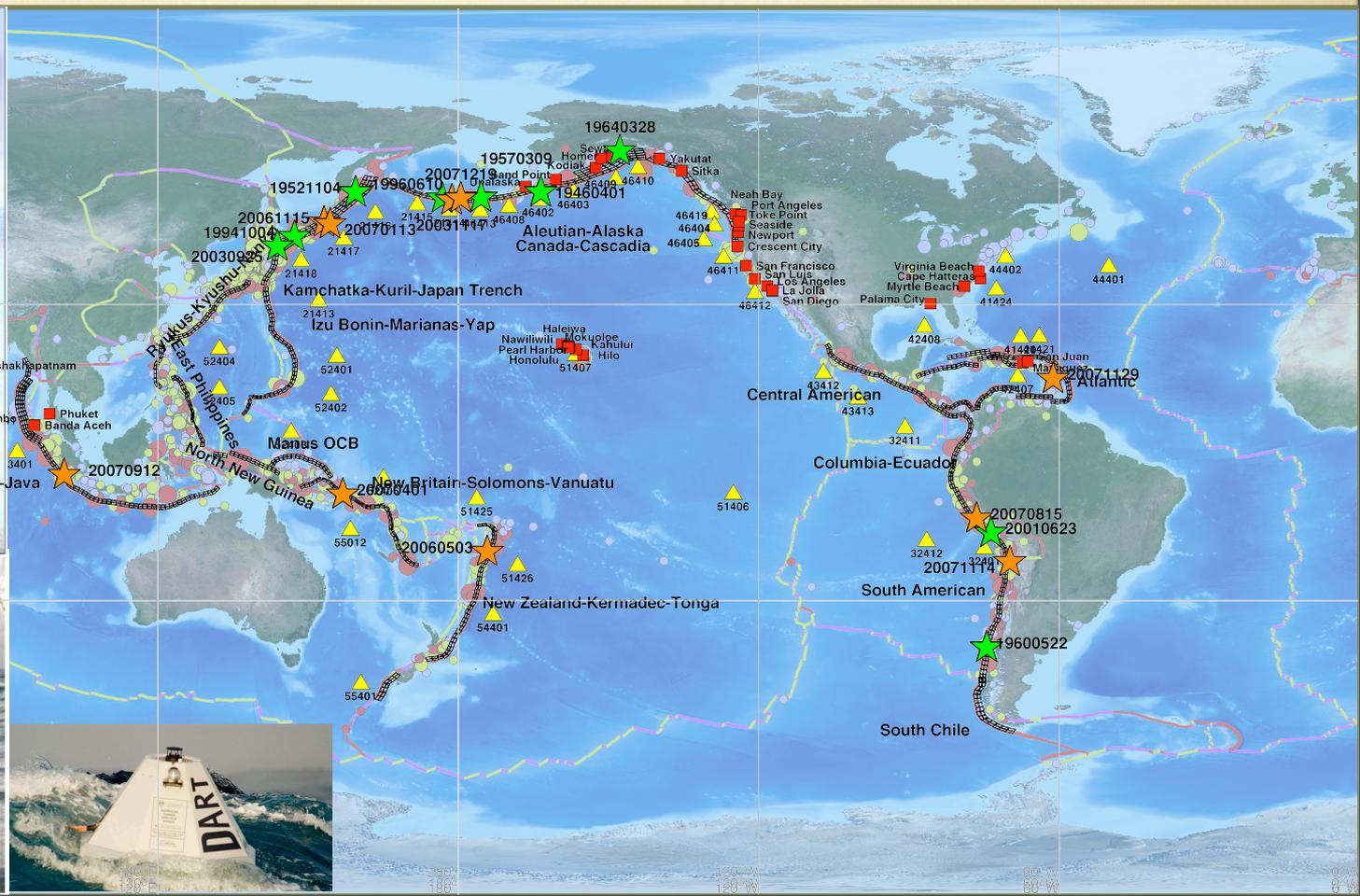
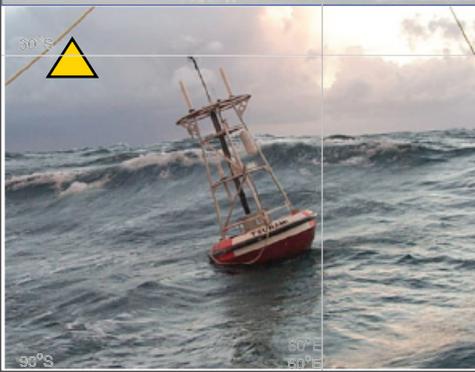
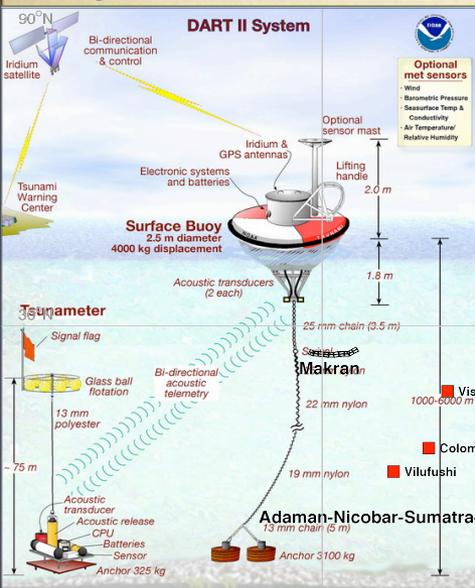
▲ Tsunameter

## Inversion

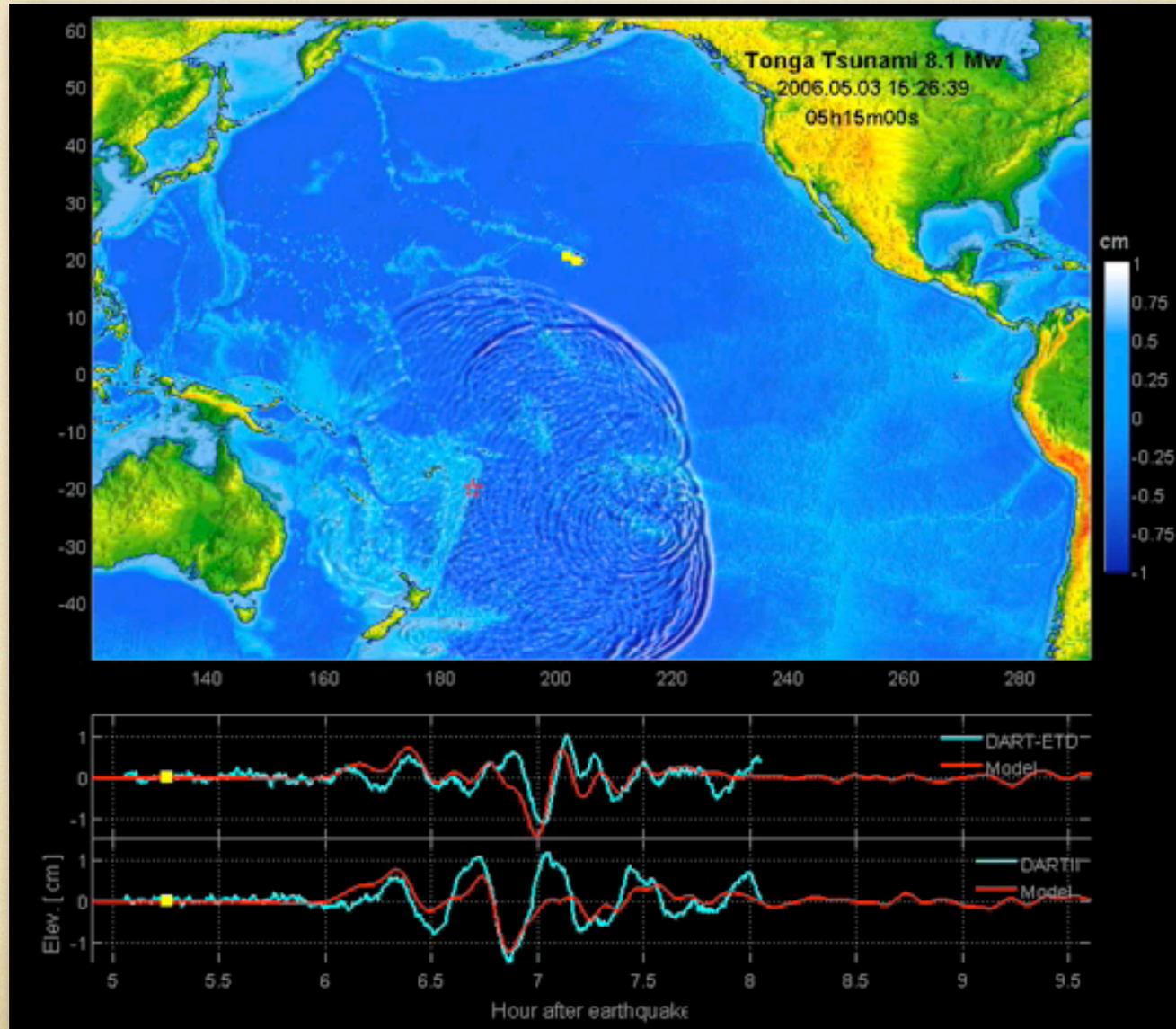
▣ TSF (MOST)

## Inun. forecast

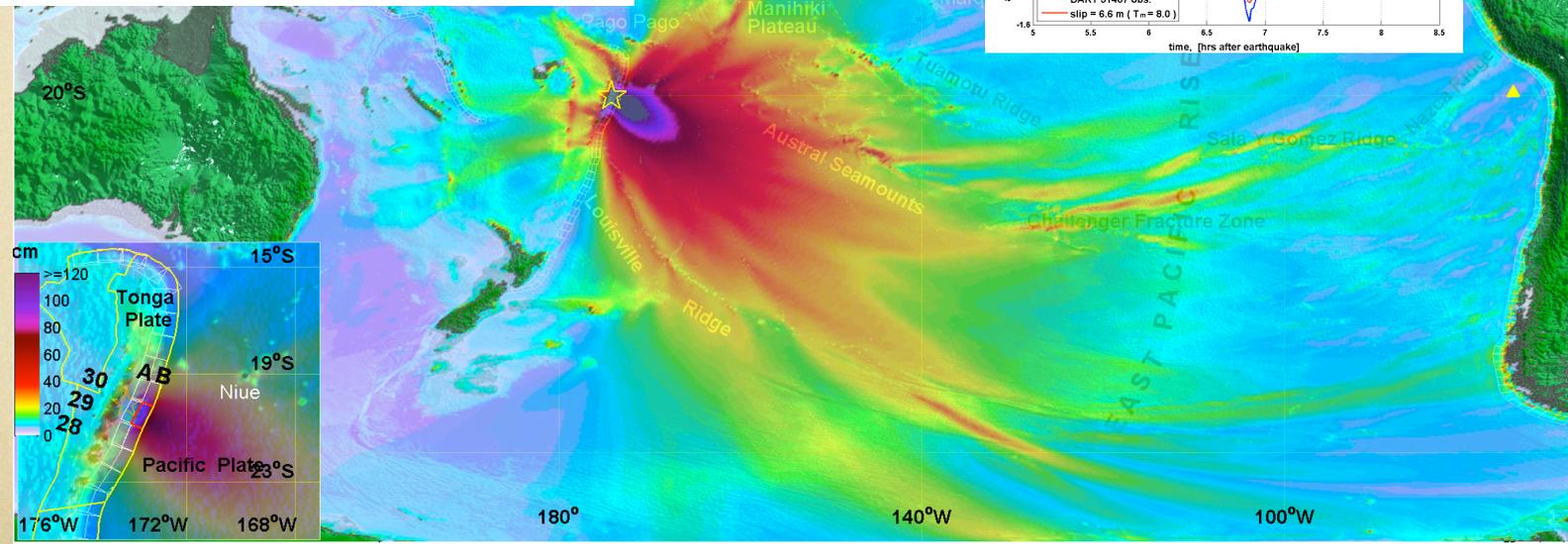
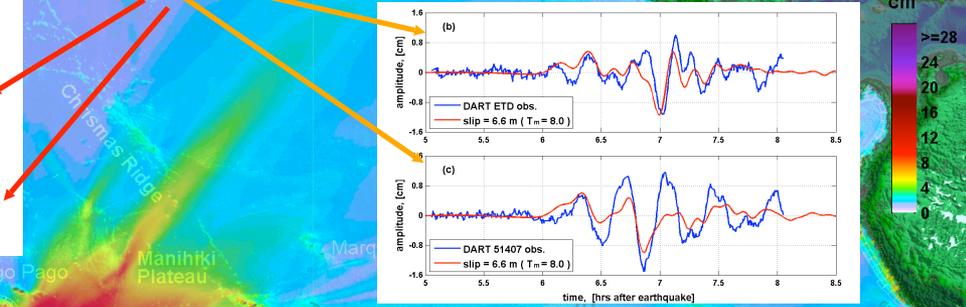
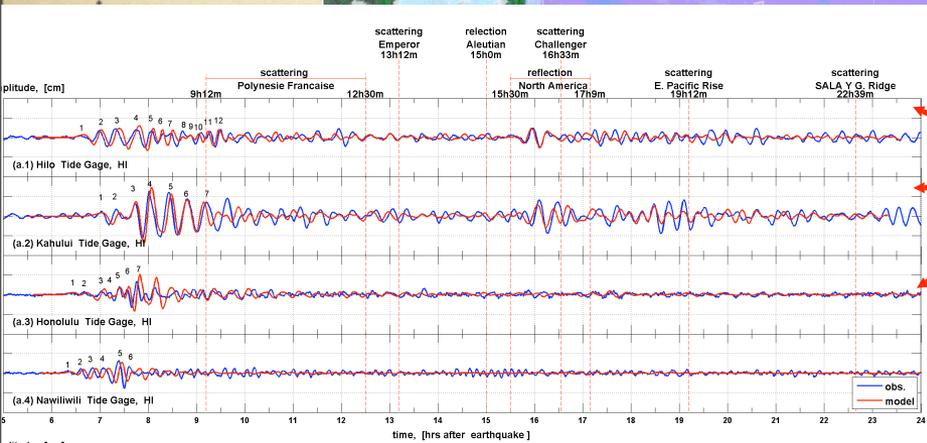
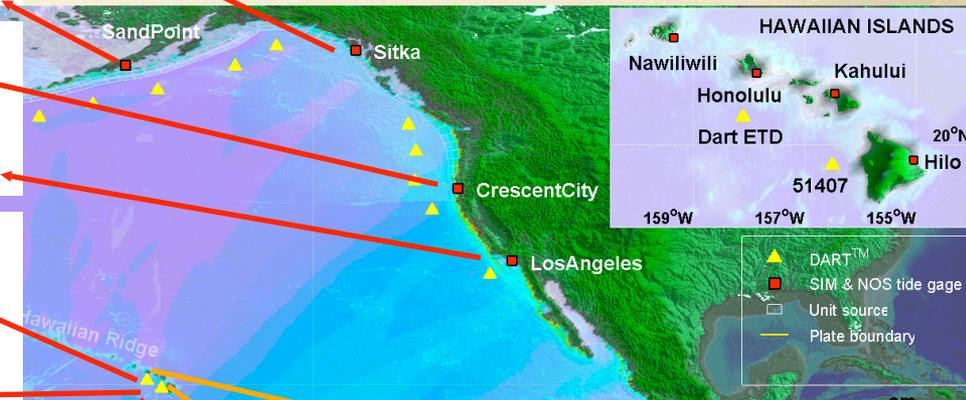
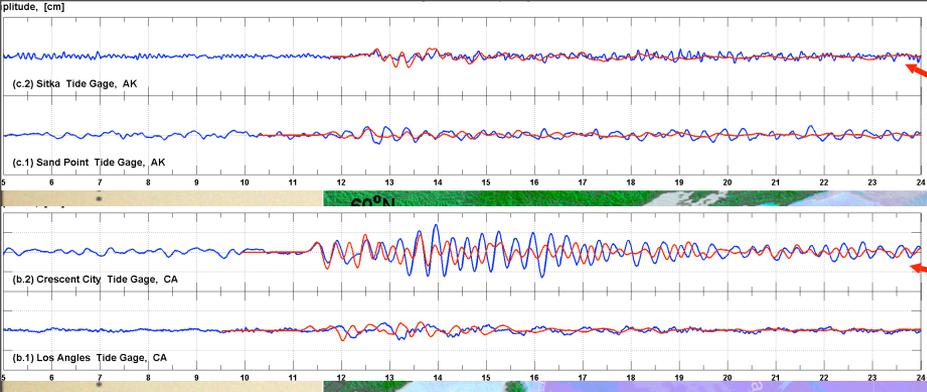
■ SIM (MOST)



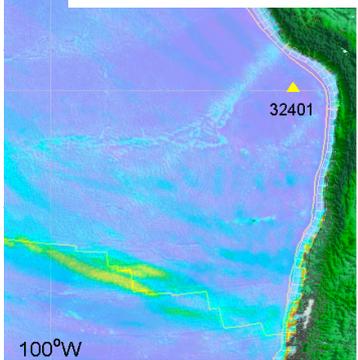
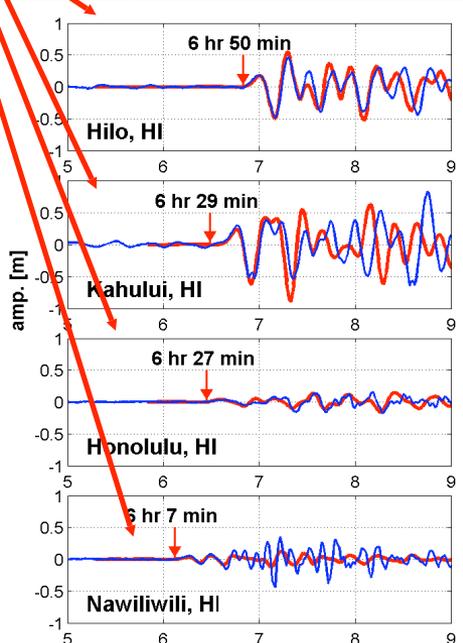
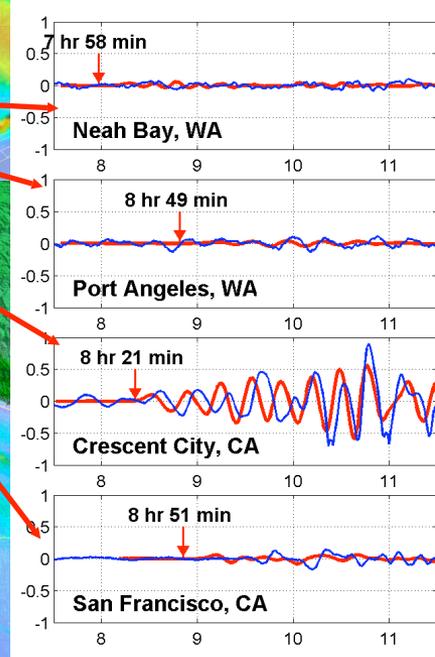
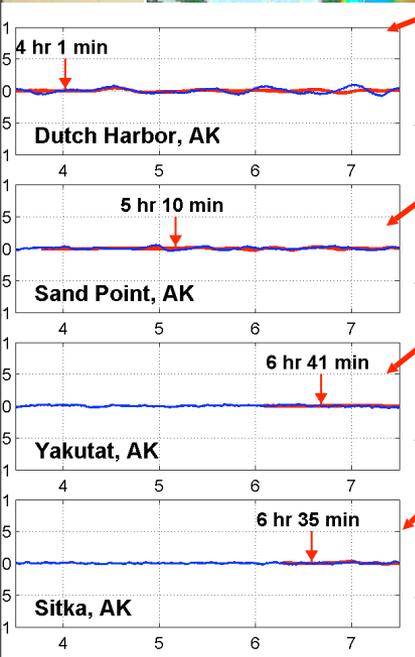
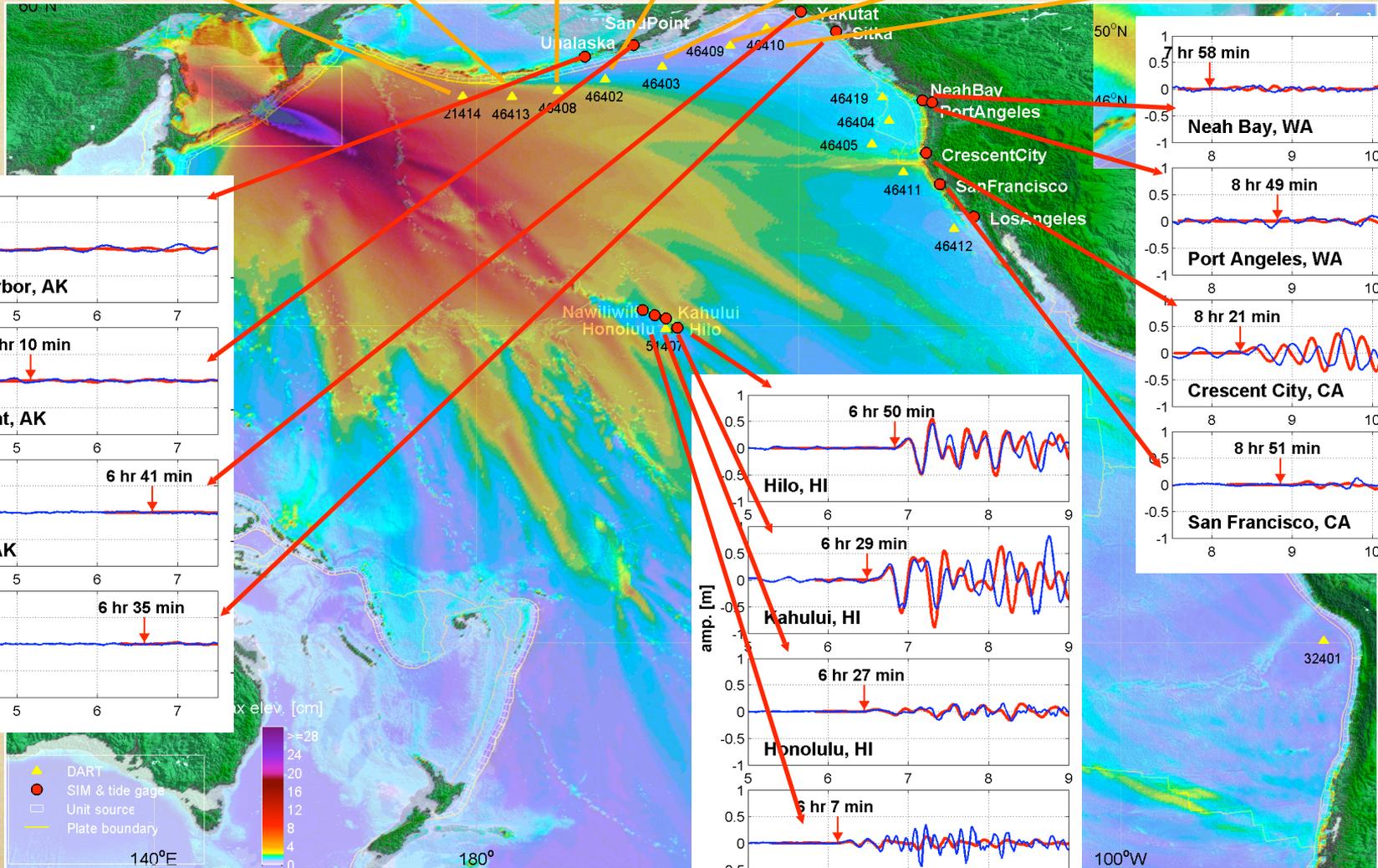
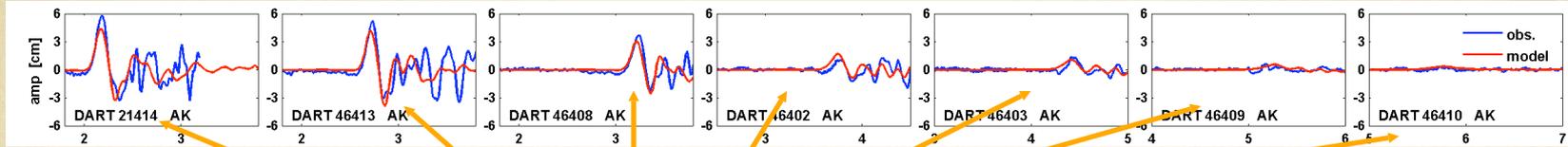
# May 3, 2006 Tonga tsunami



# Tonga tsunami



# The November 15, 2006 Central Kuril Tsunami



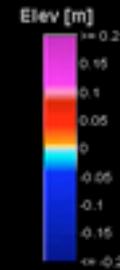
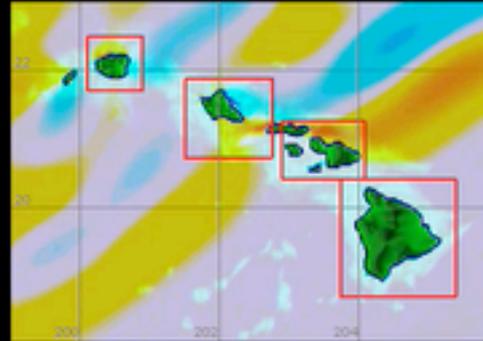
# High-resolution forecast models

Cen. Kuri Tsunami Mw = 8.1

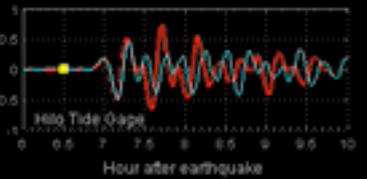
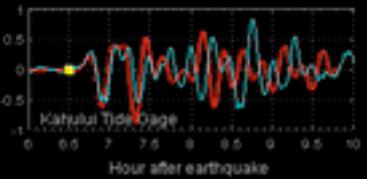
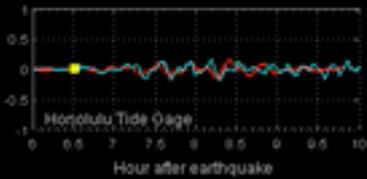
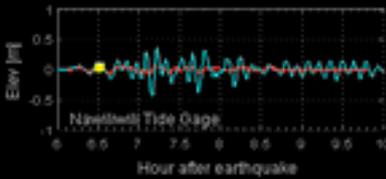
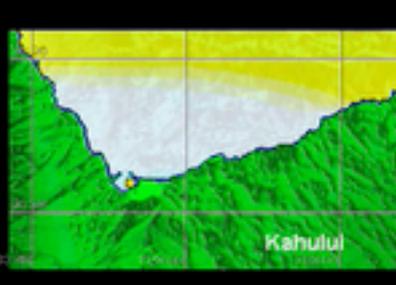
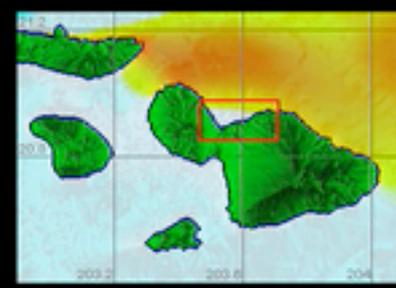
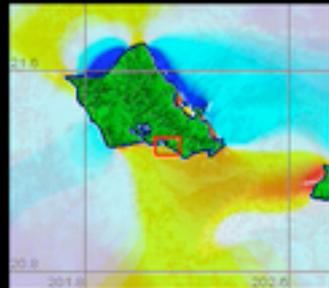
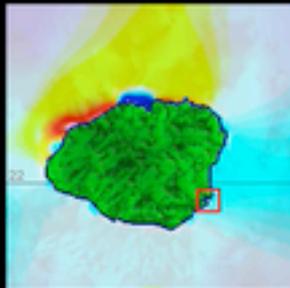
2006.11.15 11:14:16 UTC

06h30m31s

NOAA/PMEL/NCTR



— SIM  
— observation



# Impact of 8 Experimental Forecasts since November 2003



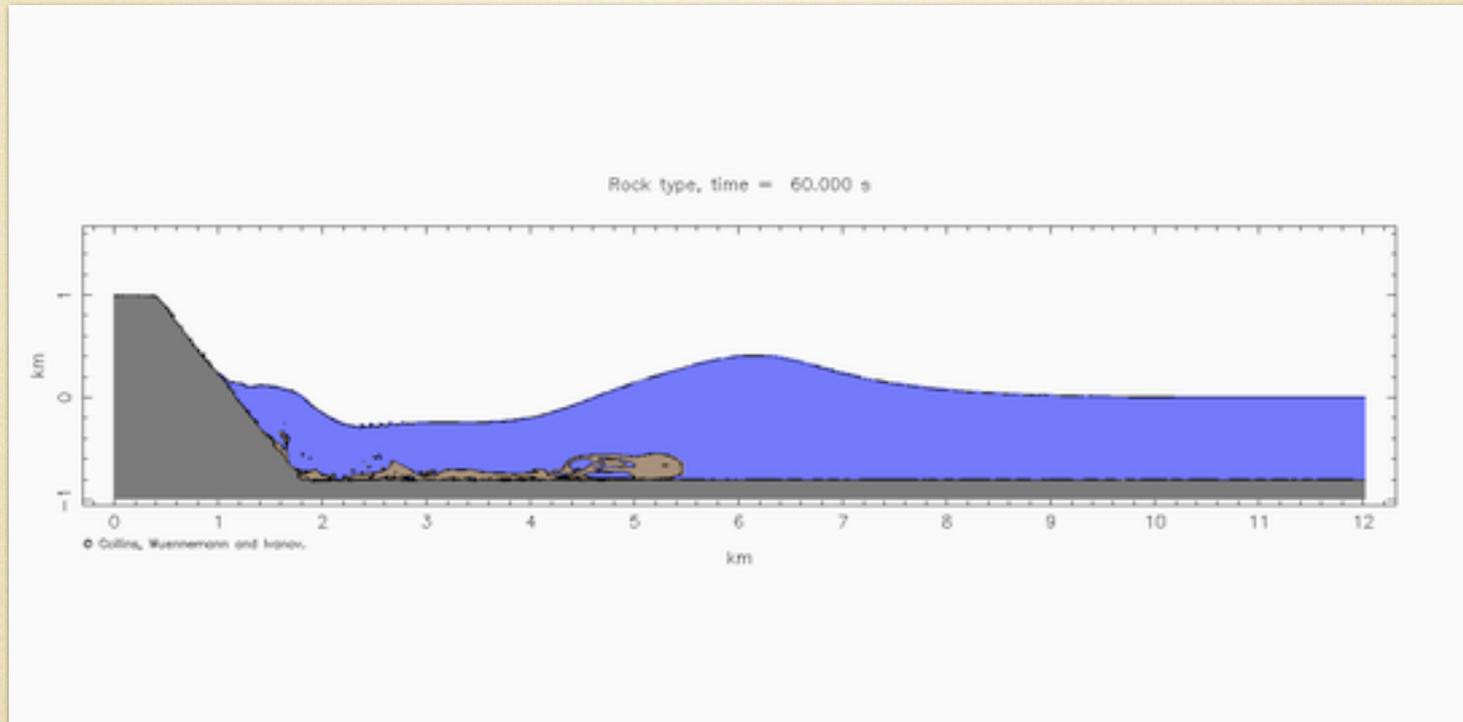
- 0 False Alarms
- 3 evacuations of Hawaii avoided saving approximately \$210M in lost productivity
- 5 early cancellations of warnings reducing time of disruption

# Future plans



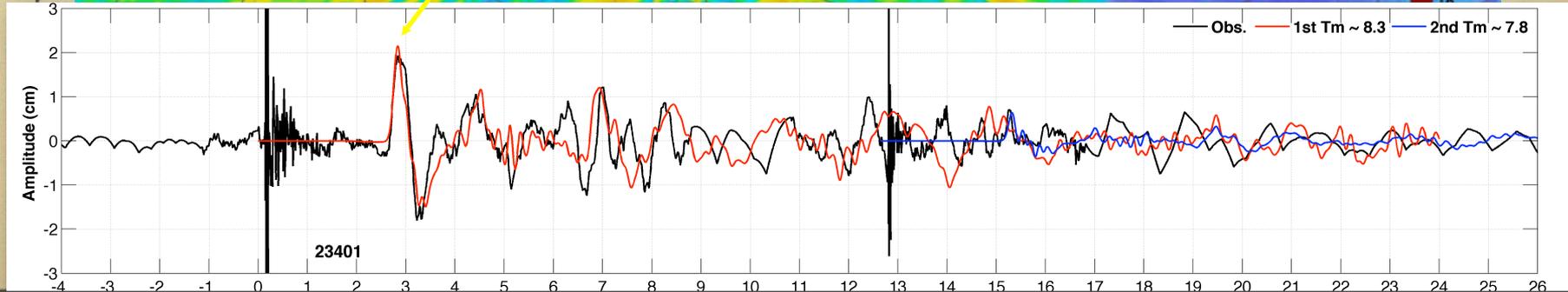
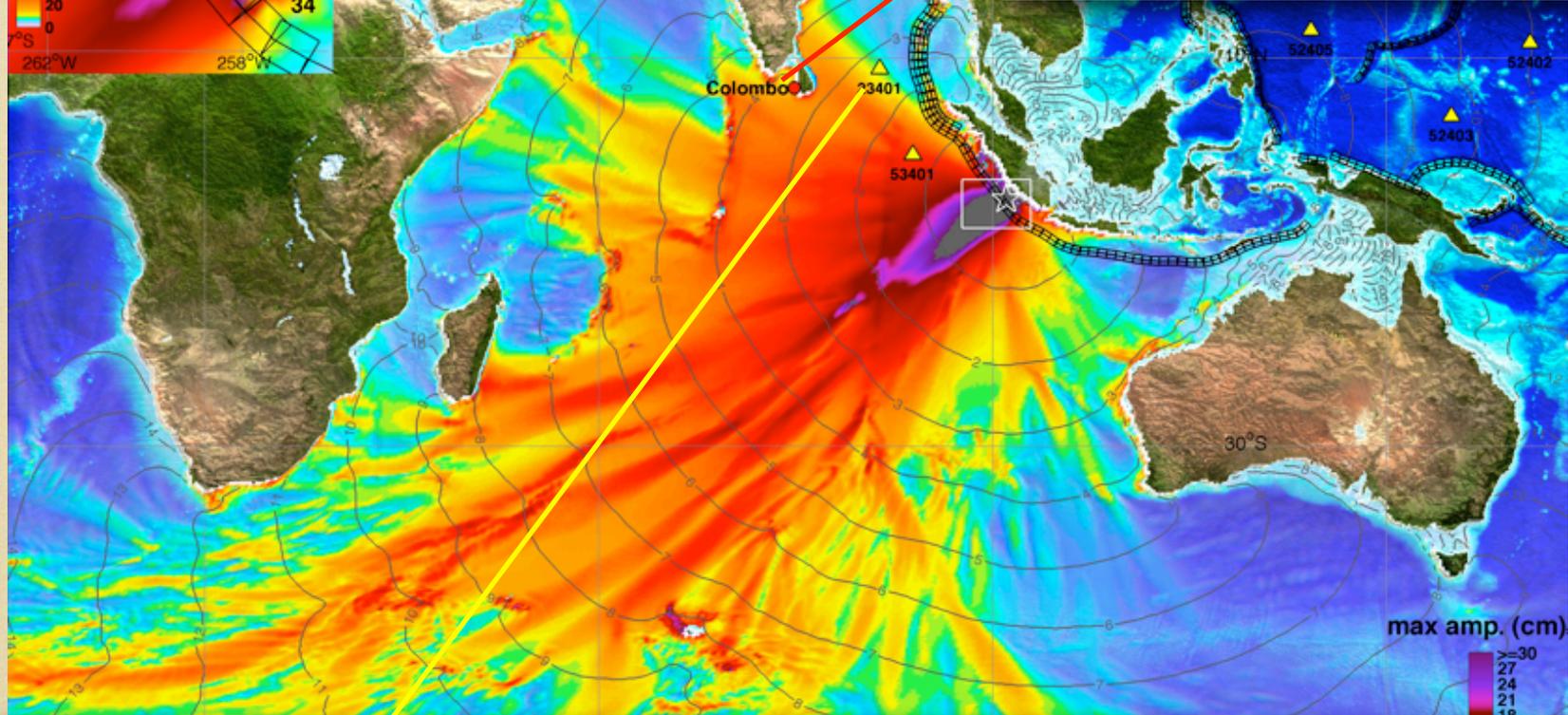
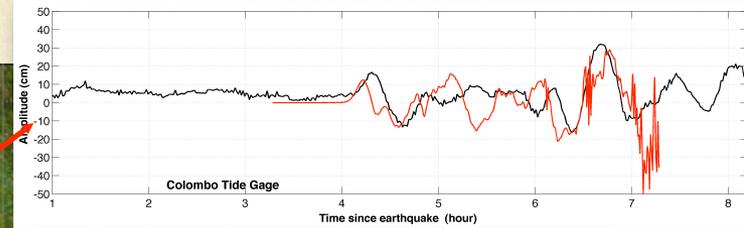
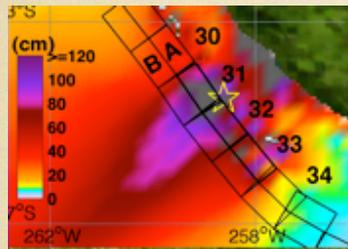
- Further Tsunami Forecast System development (accuracy, speed, robustness)
  - Optimize DART network
  - New tsunami data inversion techniques
  - Local tsunami forecast
- Next generation models
  - Tsunami inundation impact
  - Landslide and other sources
- International coordination toward Global Forecast System (Australia, Indonesia, Chile, China, Russia)

# Next-generation models

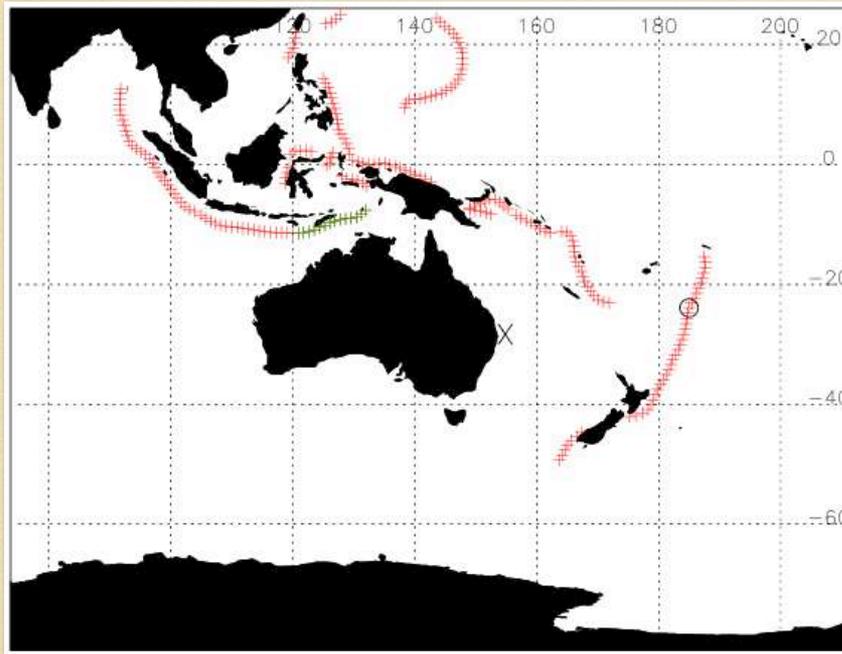


Large-scale landslide-generated tsunami model  
(studies for Nuclear Regulatory Commission)

# The 12 September 2007 Sumatra Tsunami (Mw 8.3)

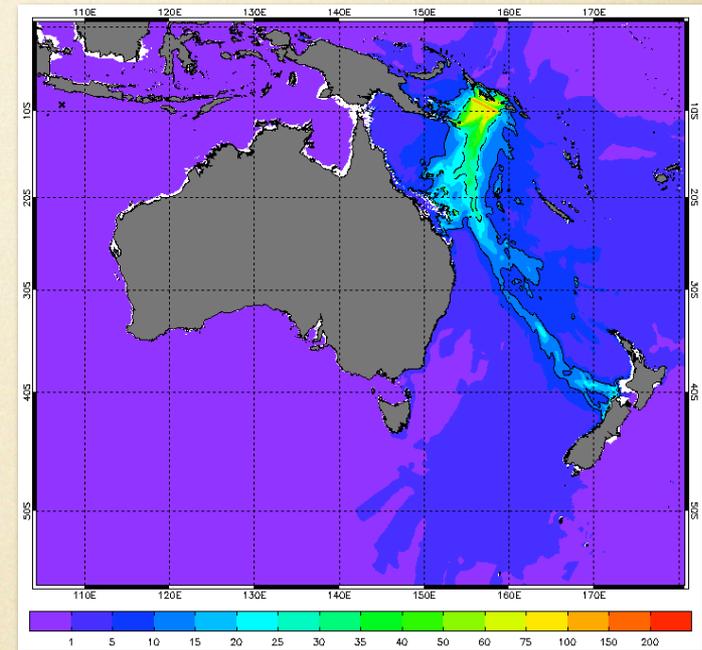


# Australian tsunami forecast



MOST model propagation scenario database

DART measurements



April 1, 2007 Solomon Island Tsunami

# Summary



- Short-term tsunami forecast method has been developed that combines tsunami measurement and modeling into real-time capability to forecast tsunami dynamics at specific coastal locations
- Real-time experimental forecasts show up to 90% amplitude accuracy and high efficiency of the method
- Tsunami Forecast System is being transferred into operations of the U.S. Tsunami Warning System

Thank You

Questions?

