







Estimates of extreme water levels around Australia

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Coastal Oceanography





Dedication: to the memory



Prof Michael Collins

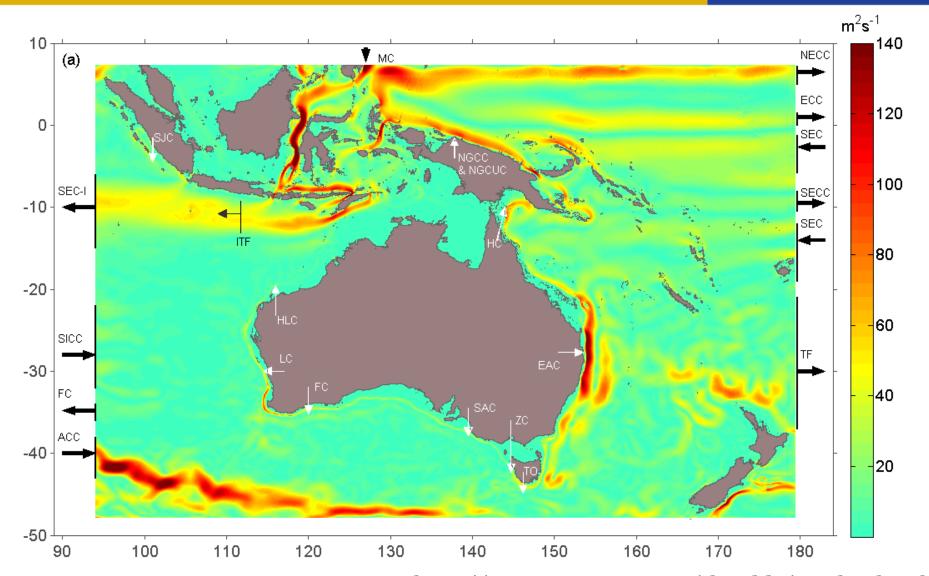
40 year association as teacher, supervisor, employer, mentor Life-long friend





Australian Boundary Currents ozROMS (2000-2014)



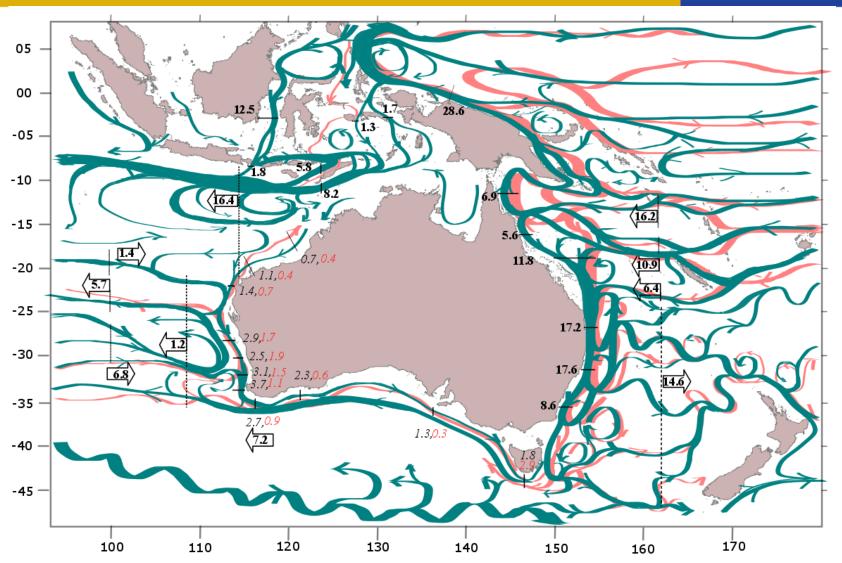


Wijeratne et al., 2017

http://130.95.29.56:8080/thredds/catalog.html

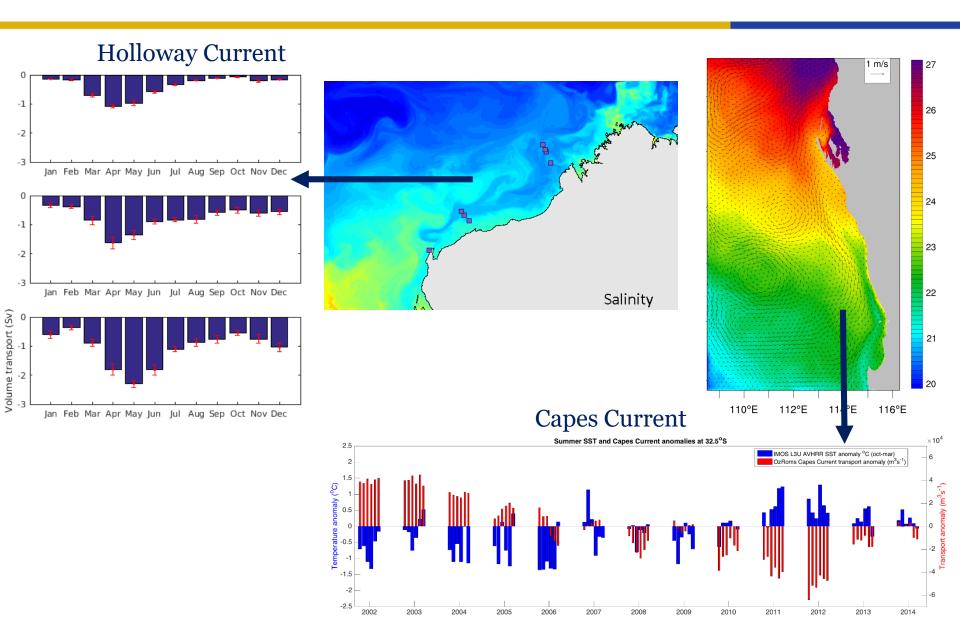
Australian Boundary Currents ozROMS (2000-2014)





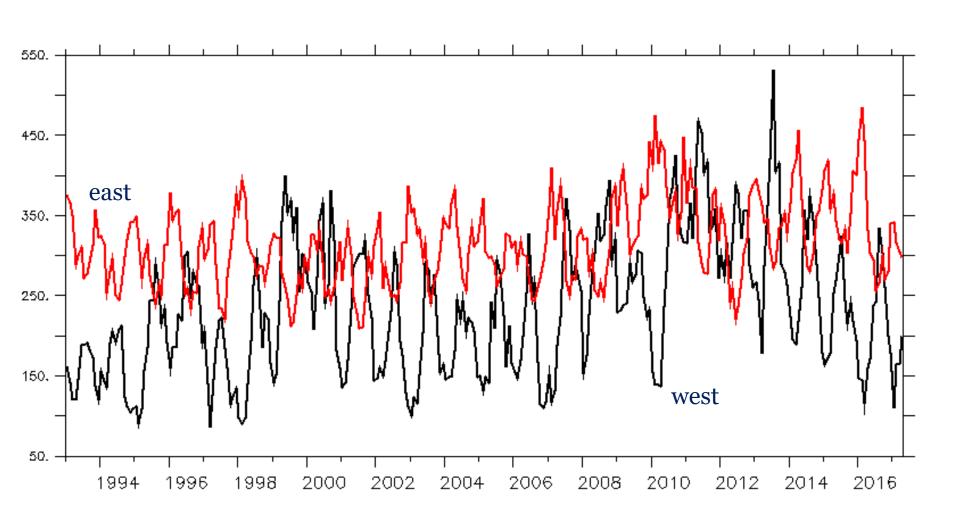
Variability: shelf currents





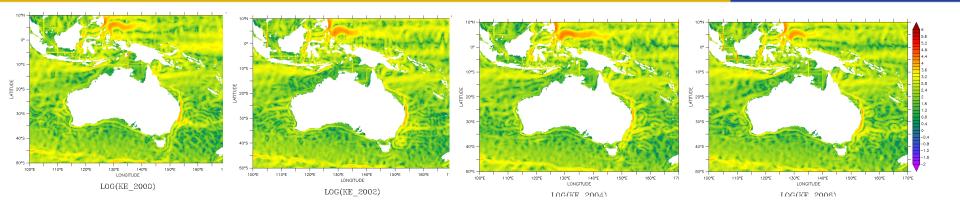
Kinetic Energy





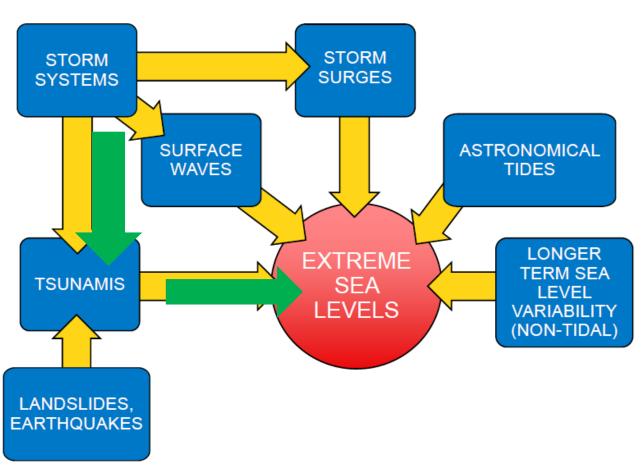
Kinetic Energy





Extreme Sea levels



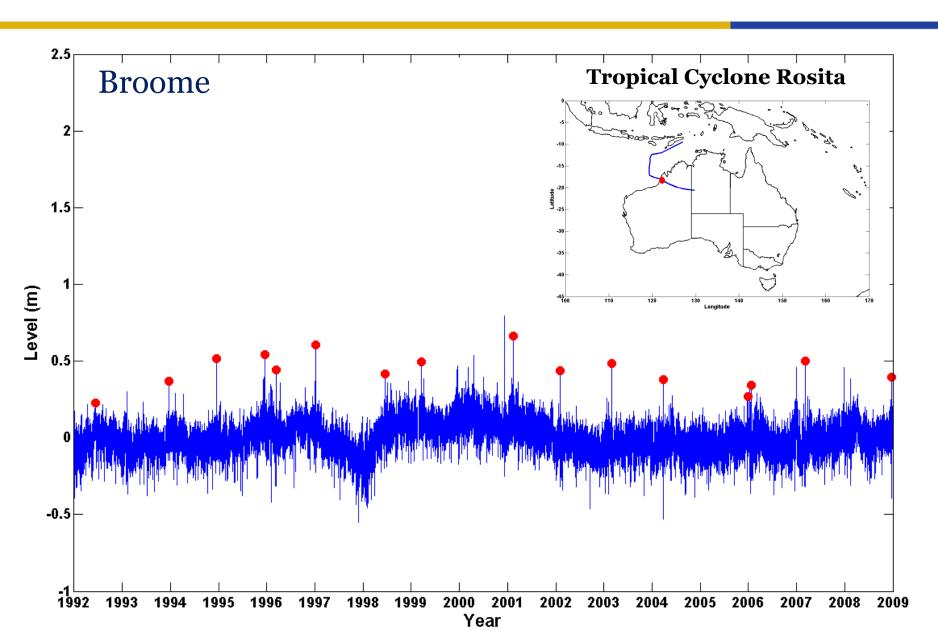






Extreme Events – storm surge



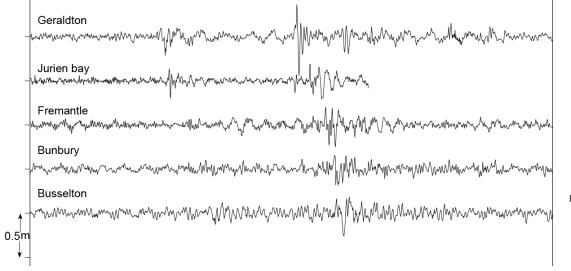


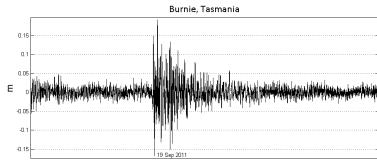
Meteorological tsunamis





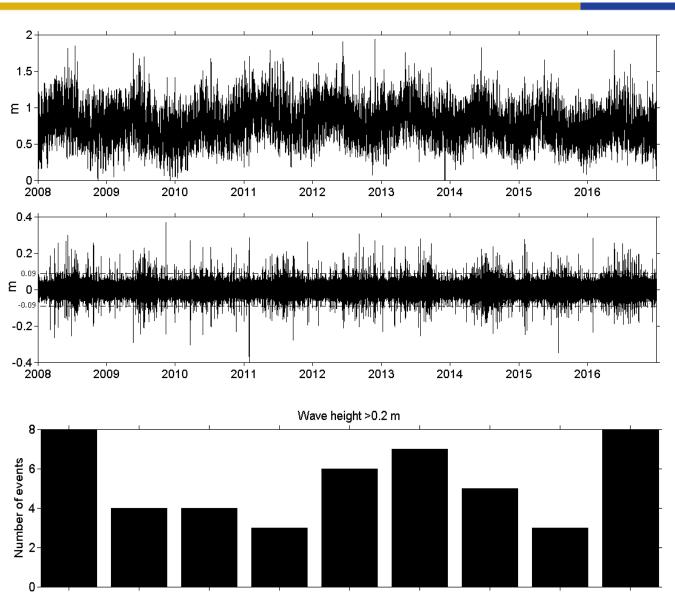






Meteorological tsunamis Hillarys





Impacts





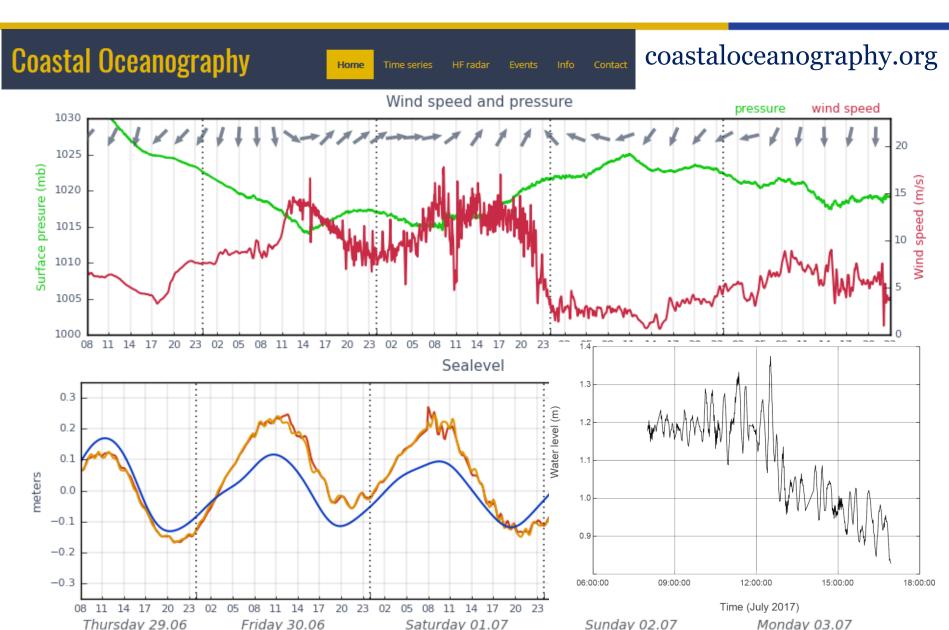


Flooded Riverside Drive closed

KATIE ROBERTSON · PERTHNOW · JUNE 11, 2012 8:45AM

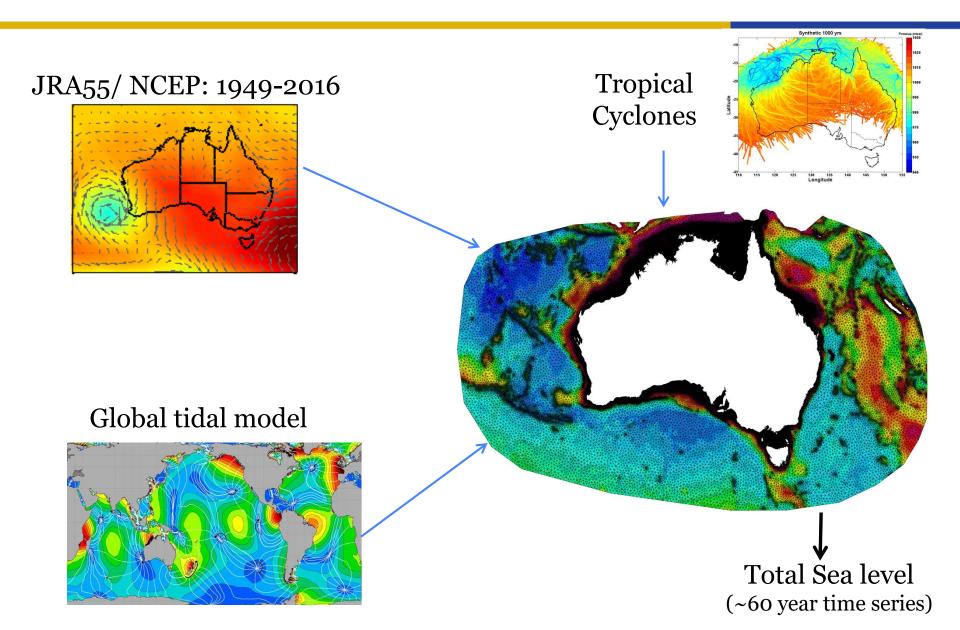
Predictions





Sea level hindcasts



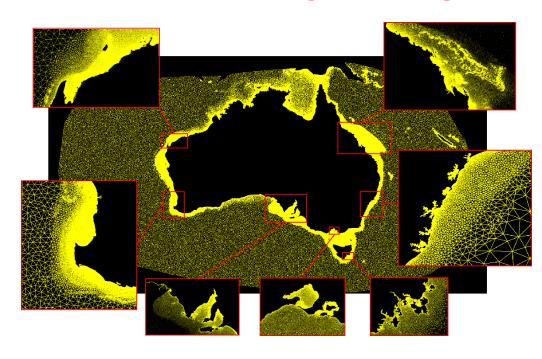


Coupled wave-surge model



- The SCHISM hydrodynamic model coupled with the advanced Wind Wave III (WWMIII model)
- 3D Finite element unstructured hydrodynamic model (~100 m resolution at coast)
- Inundation (wet/dry)
- Supercomputer enables simulations for entire Australian coast

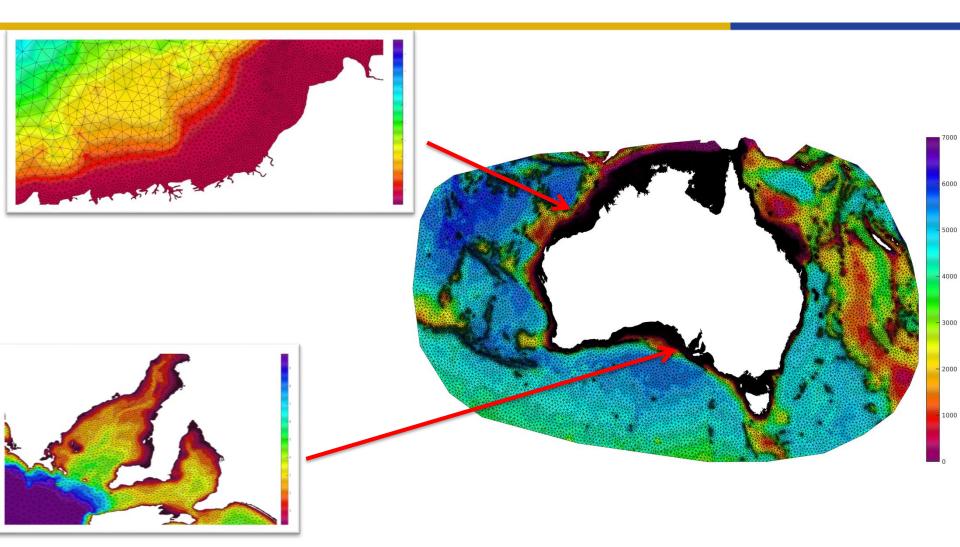
SCHISM storm surge model grid



100 m resolution near the coast!

Final grid Refined and tested





Australia-wide simulation

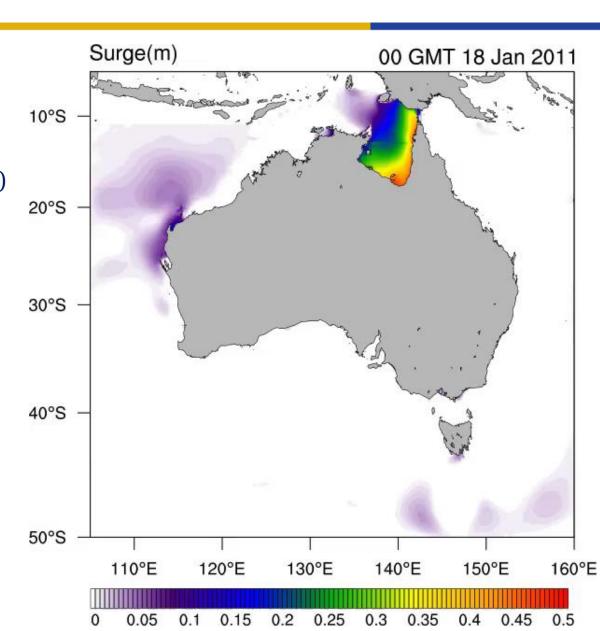


TC Anthony, QLD (23,28-30 Jan)

TC Bianca, WA (27-30 Jan)

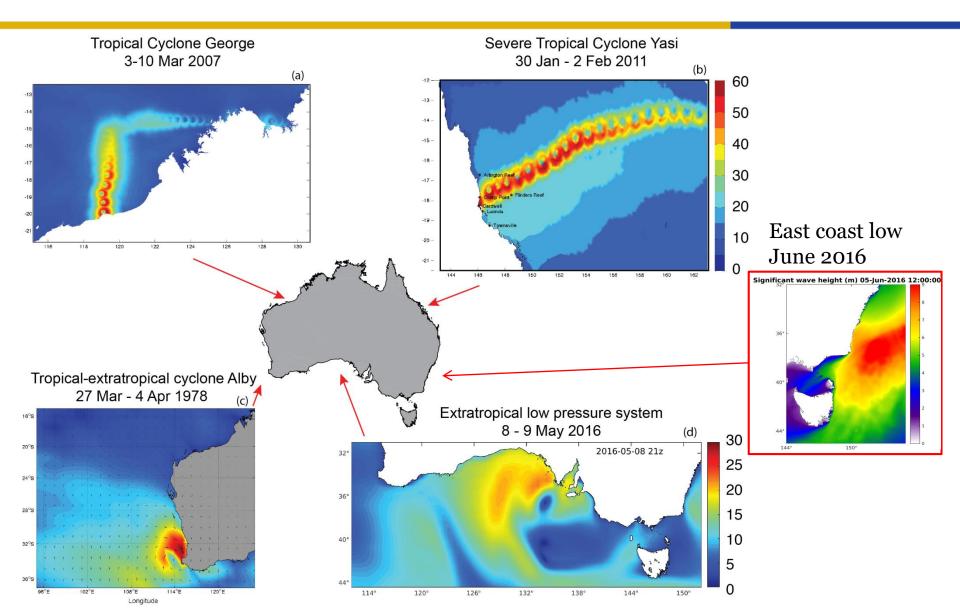
TC Yasi, QLD (2-4 Feb)

Cold fronts, SA & Tas (1-4 Feb)



events – detailed investigation

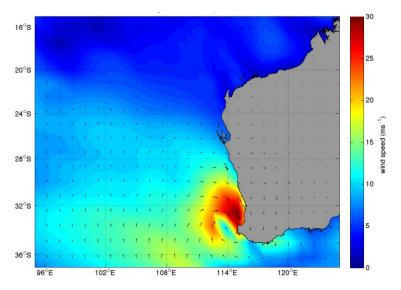




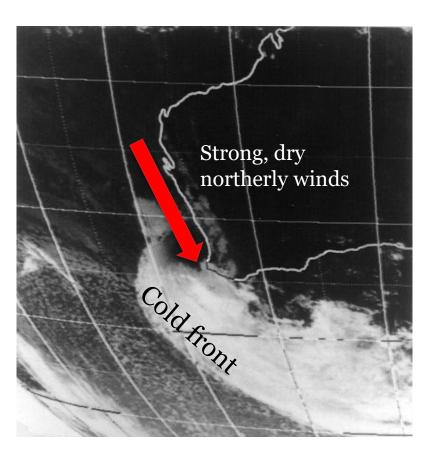
Cyclone Alby, April 1978



- Alby accelerated to 80 km/h as it passed the SW of the state.
- Wind gusts of 150 km/h were recorded with little or no rain along the coast
- 10 m waves reported offshore

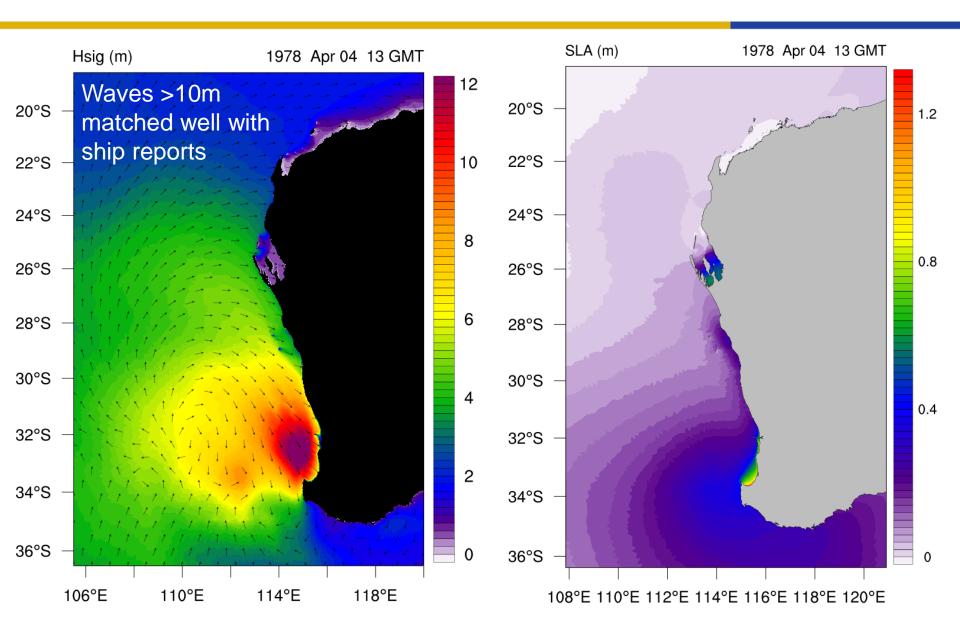


JRA55 reanalysis winds



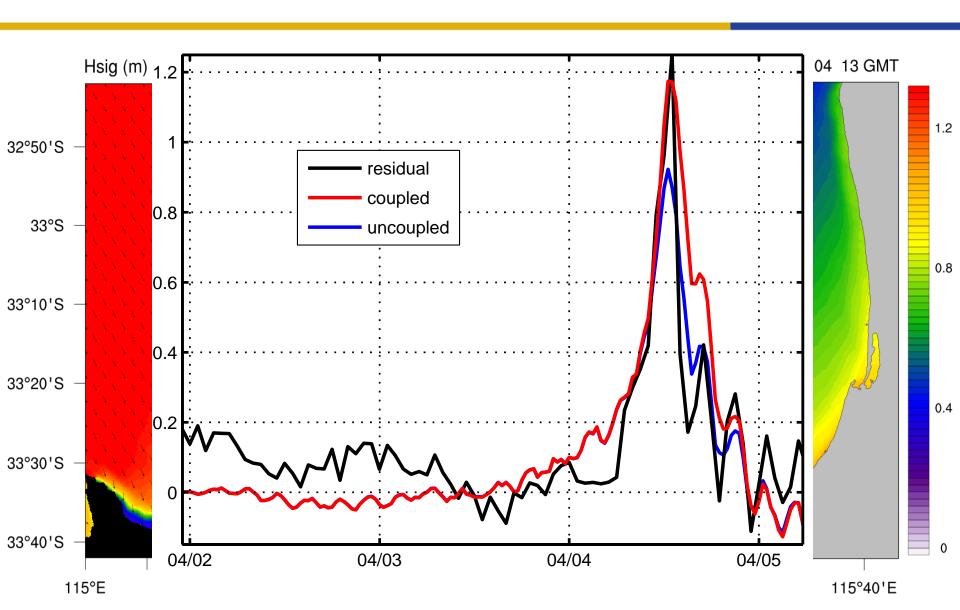
Simulated waves & surge





Simulated waves & surge

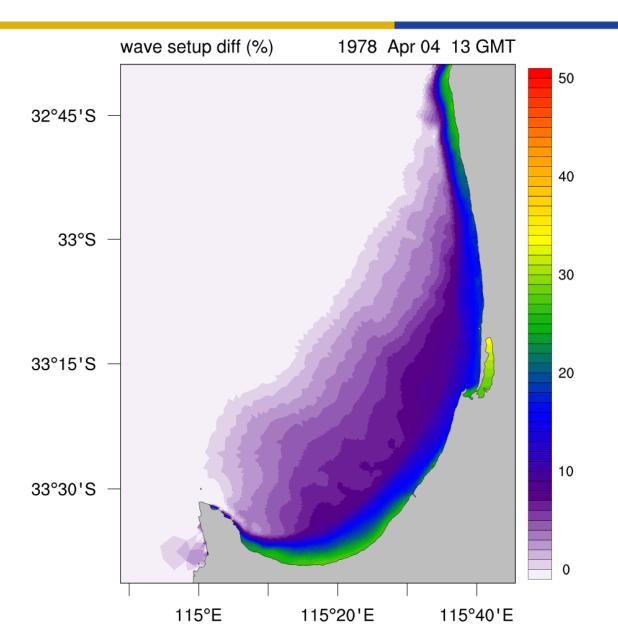




Wave set-up contribution

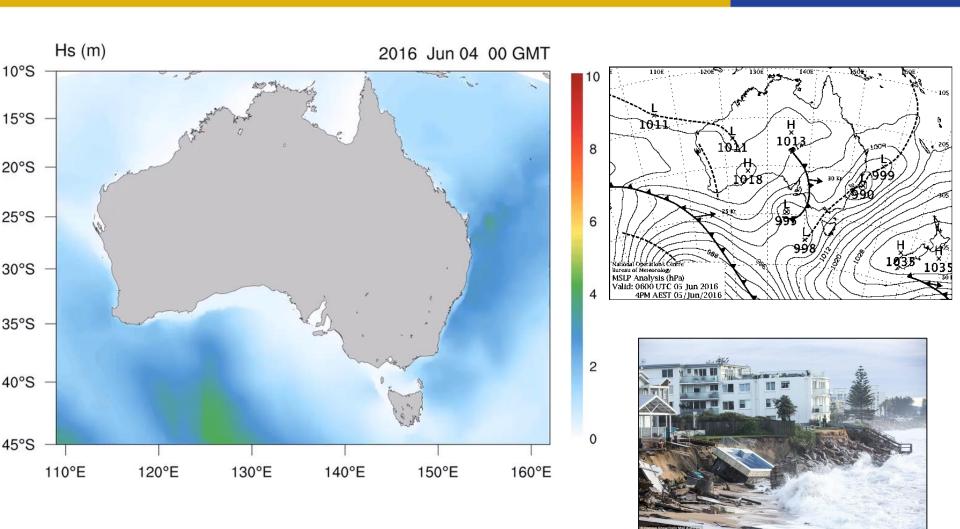


10-35% storm surge height difference due to waves



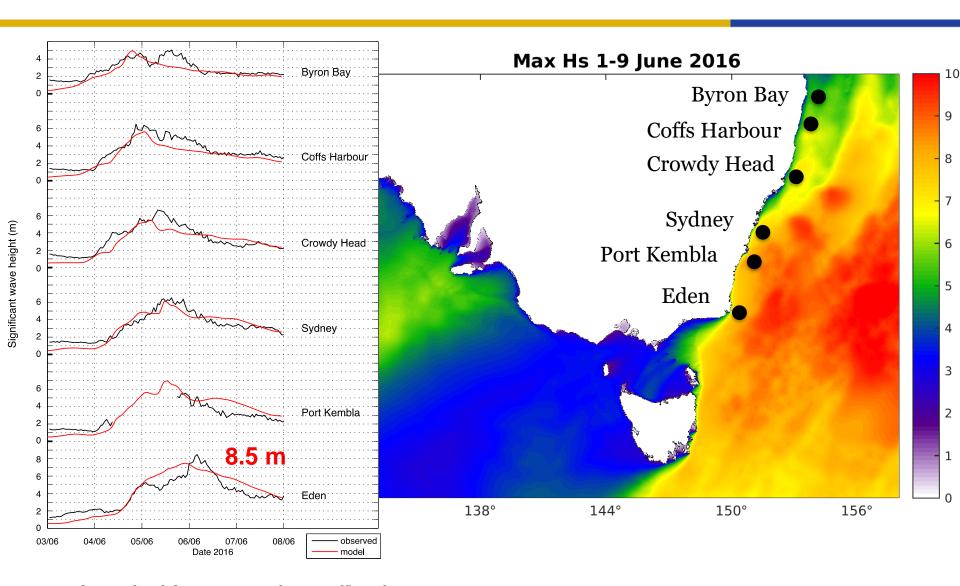
4-7 June 2016 east coast low NSW to Tasmania





Observed and Predicted wave heights

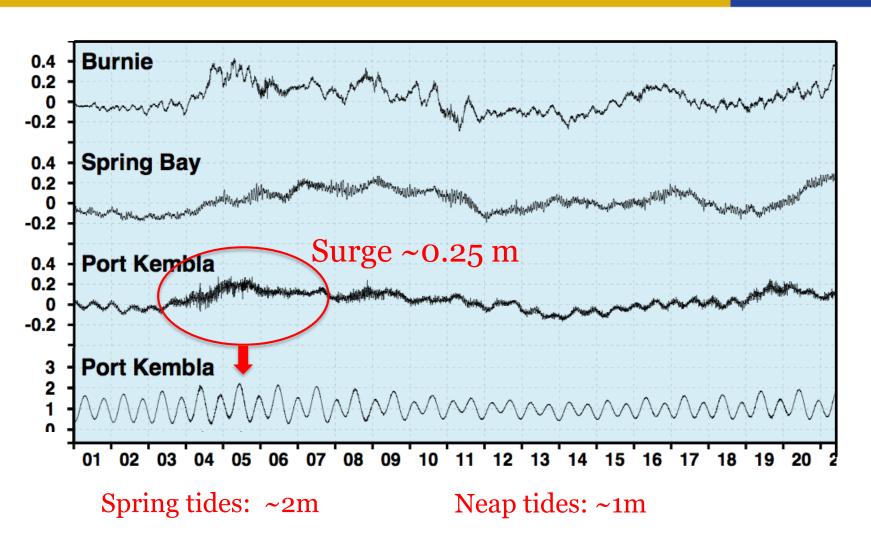




Wave and water level data courtesy of NSW Office of Environment & Heritage / Public works Manly Hydraulics Lab

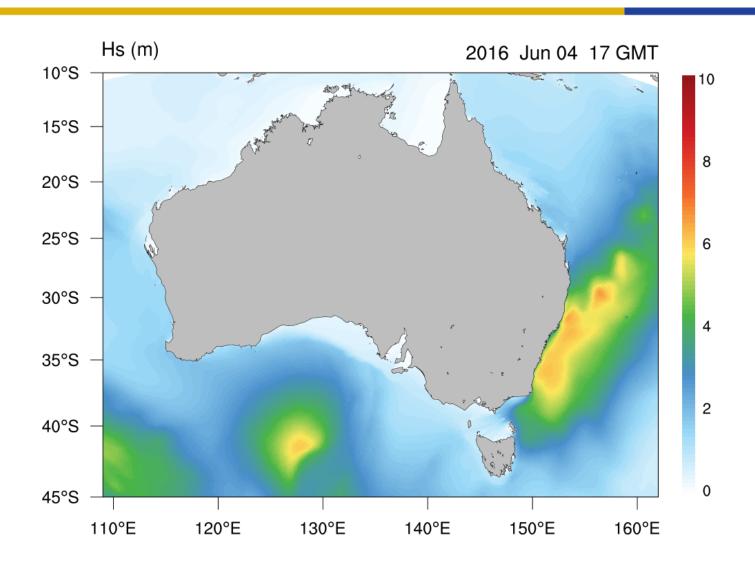
Tidal stage & storm surge Timing is critical!



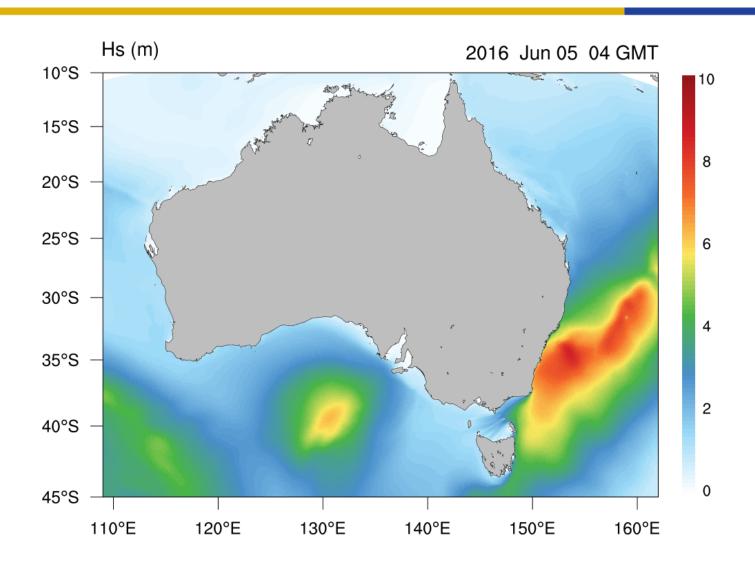


(data: NTC/Bom)

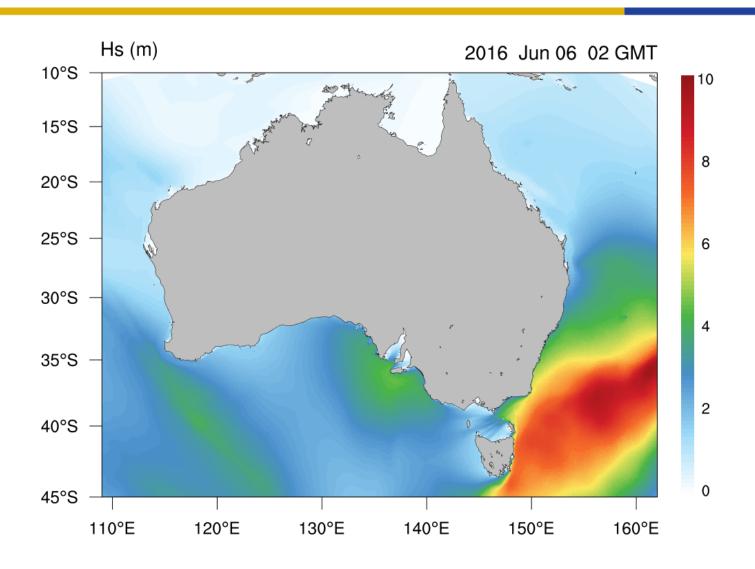




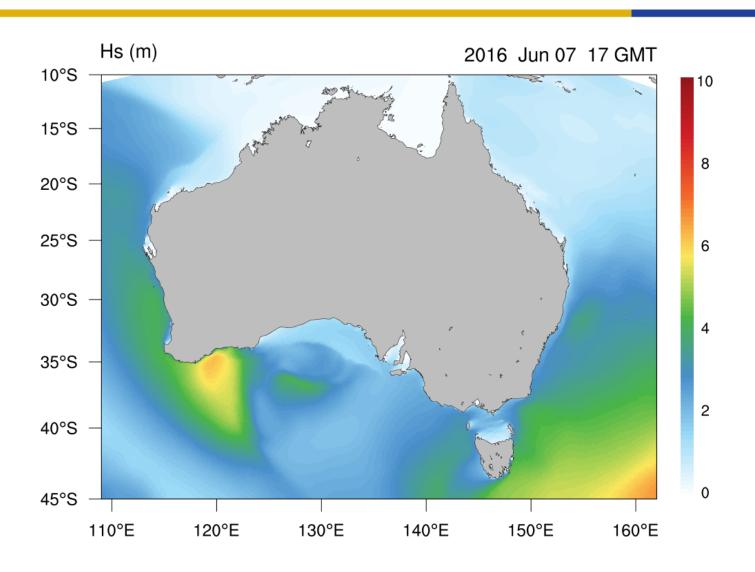




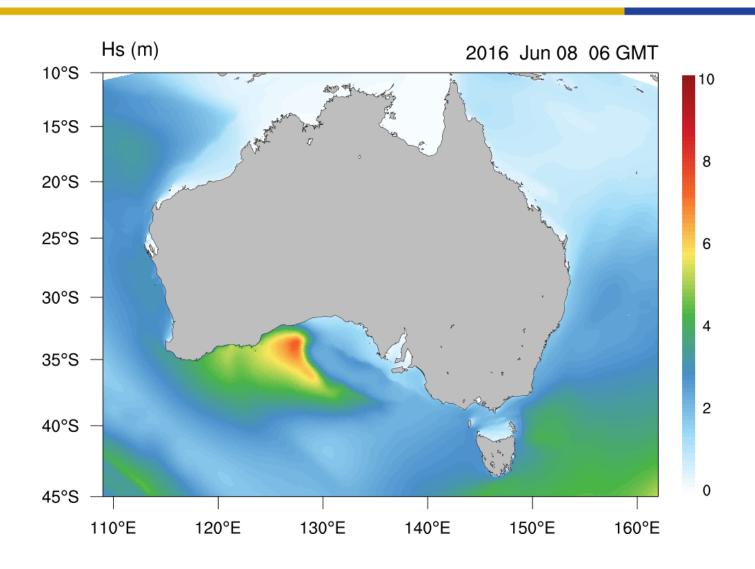




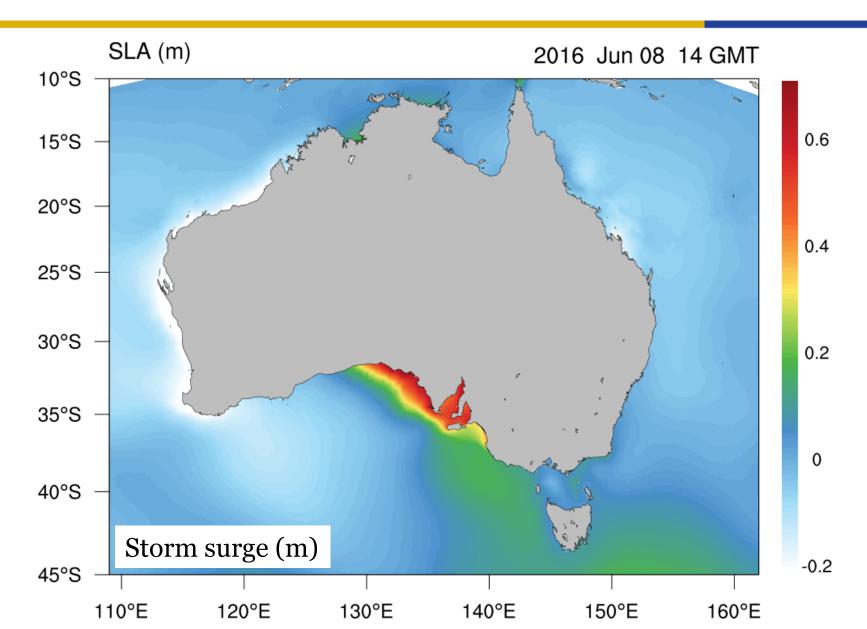




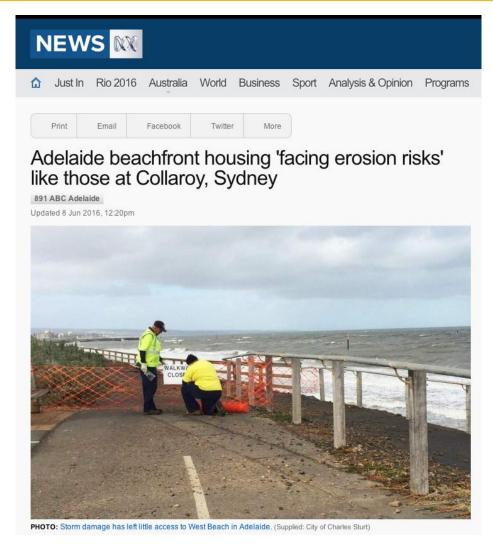


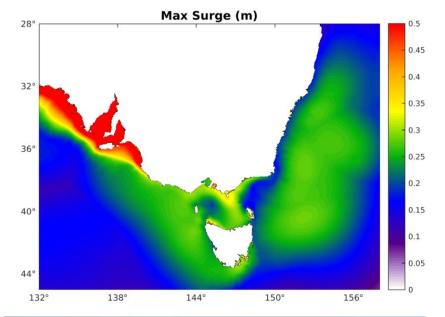














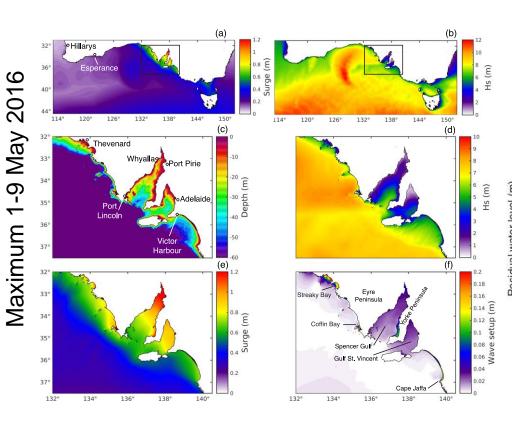
Sandra Storey checks out the waves at the Glenelg North foreshore. Pic: Tricia Watkinson

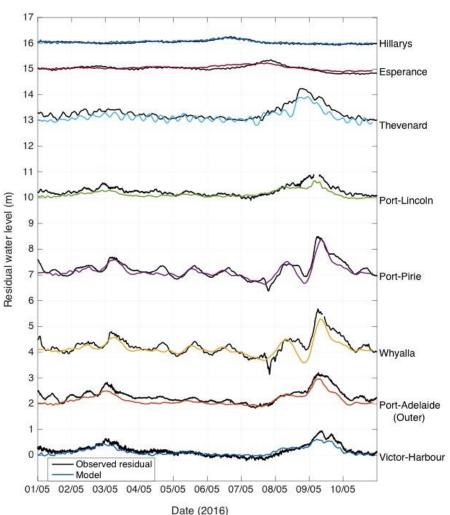
Winter storm – South Australia



1-9 May 2016

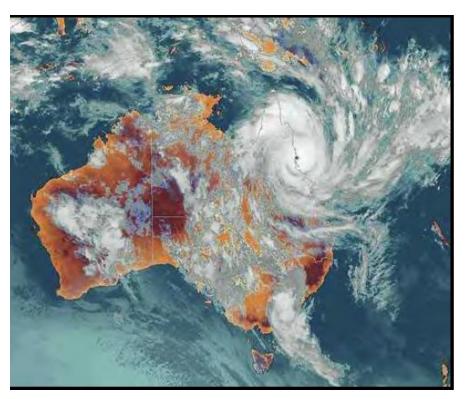
Record Water Levels





Tropical cyclone Yasi Feb 2011

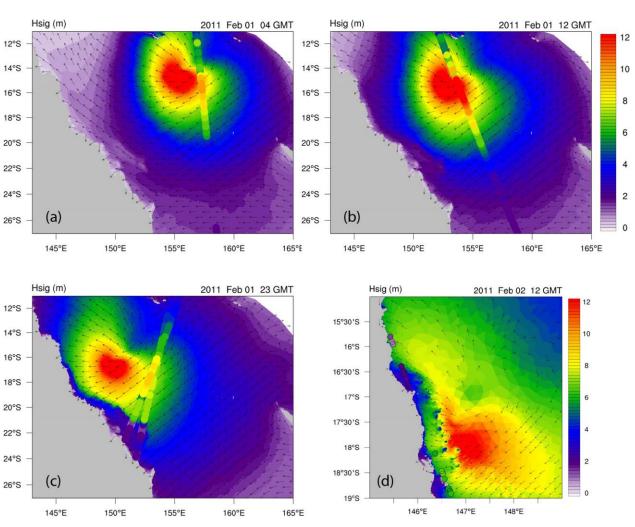




- One of the most intense and largest tropical cyclones to cross the coast in Australia
- Major damage (~\$800 M) caused by inundation and erosion from extreme waves (>5m) and storm surge (up to 5.3 m)

Tropical cyclone Yasi Feb 2011



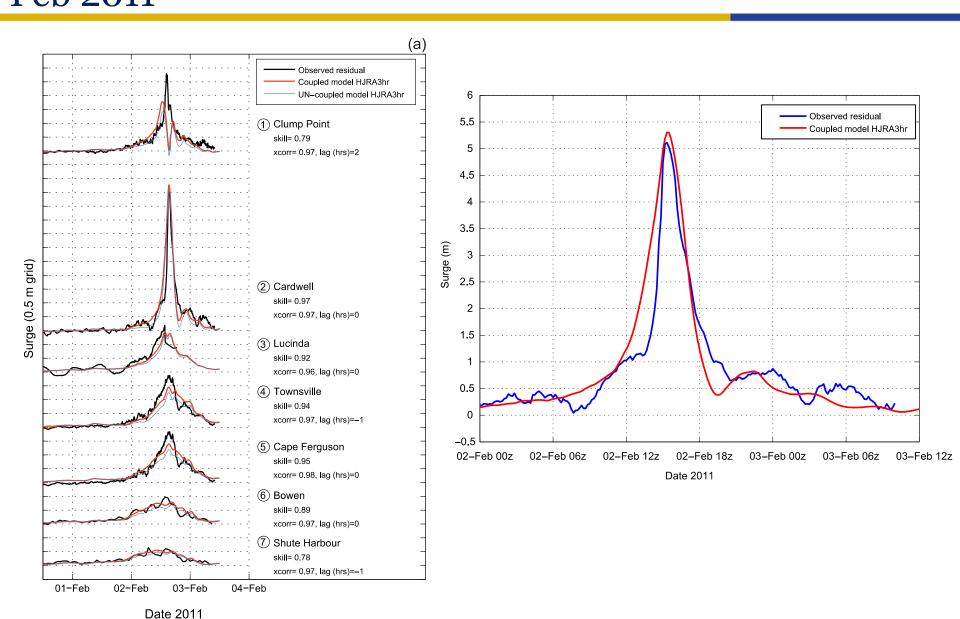


Simulated waves matched well with satellite observations

- Yasi waves > 12 m offshore and 6 m nearshore
- Great Barrier Reef dissipated much of the wave energy
- Waves made a significant contribution to extreme sea levels and improved model accuracy

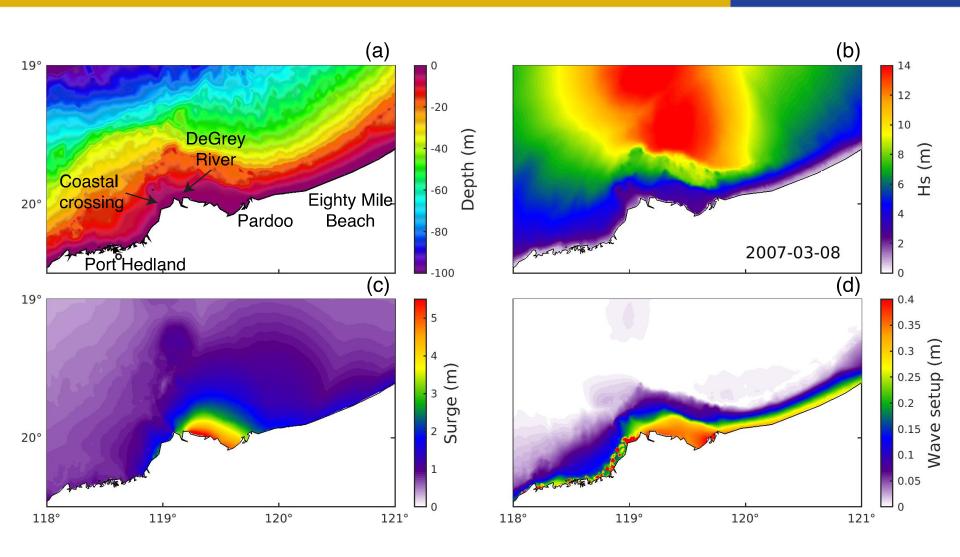
Tropical cyclone Yasi Feb 2011





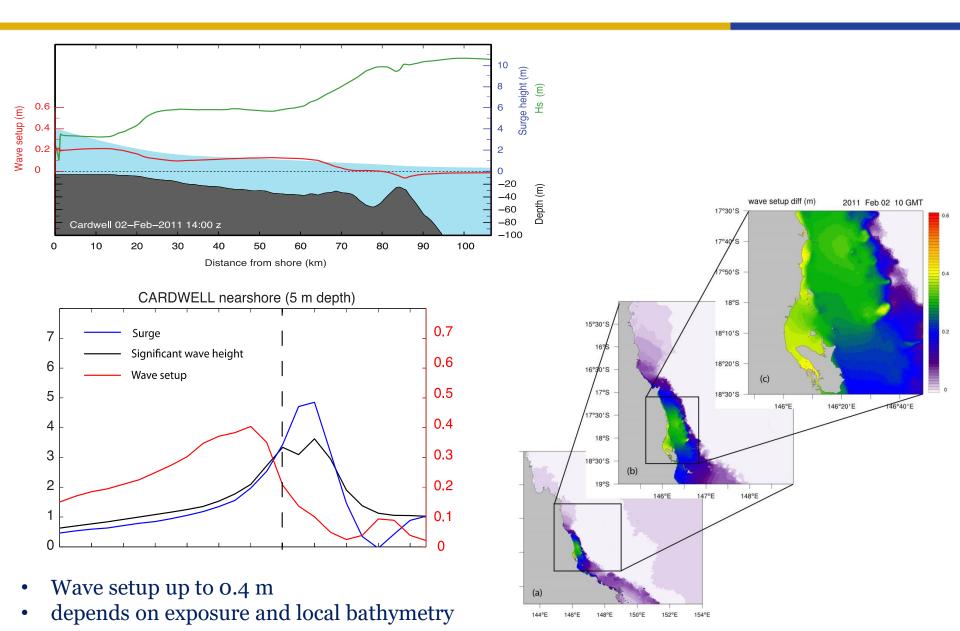
TC George





TC Yasi – wave setup

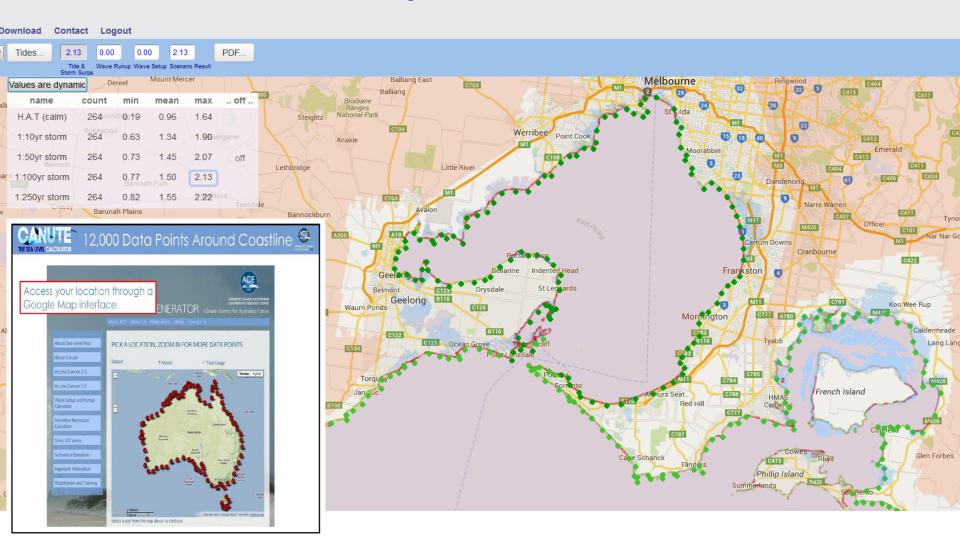




Utilisation tool

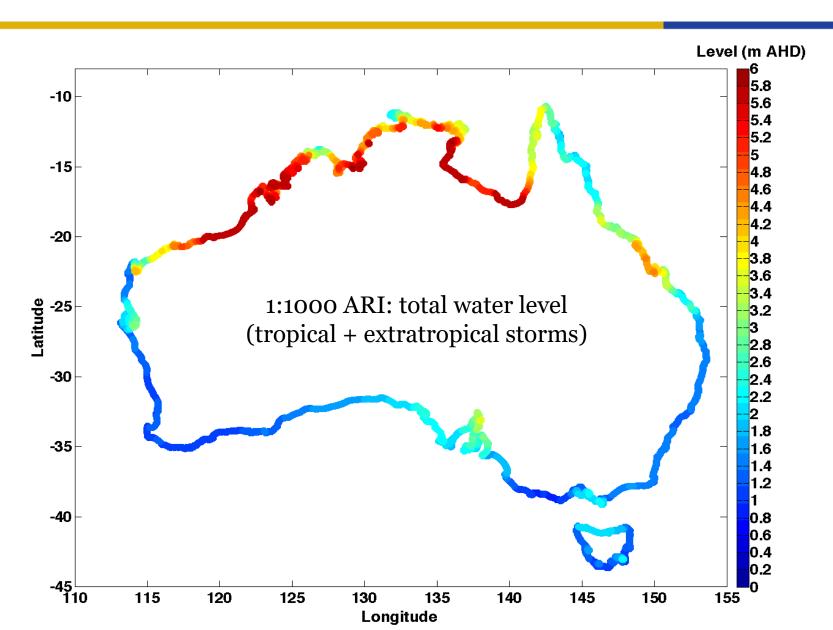


Coastal Flooding Visualisation Tool



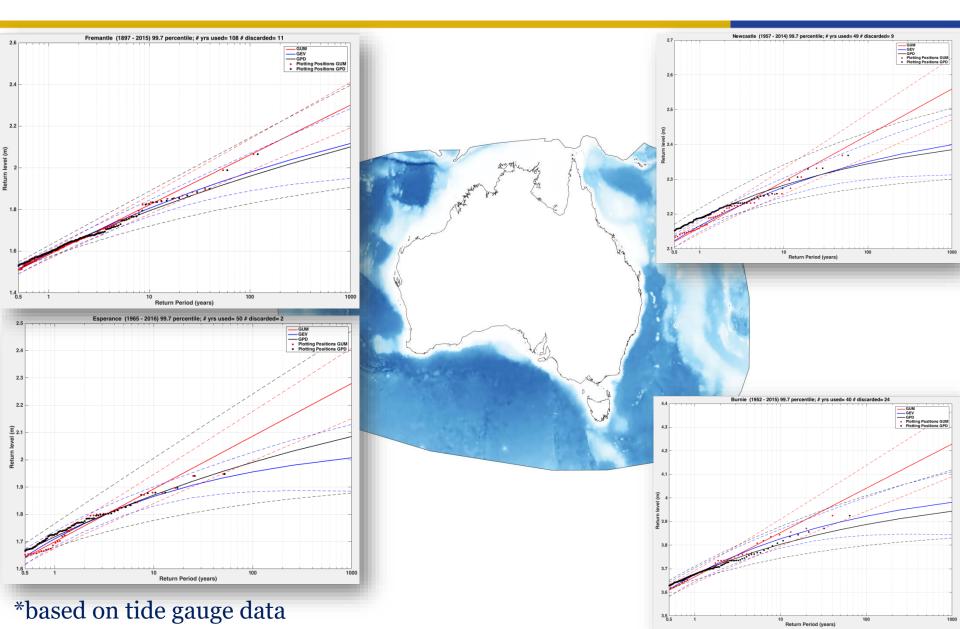
Utilisation tool





Annual Recurrence Intervals





Thank You



