

**SUPSI**

# Modelling of landslide-generated tsunamis with GRASS

Massimiliano Cannata, Roberto Marzocchi, Monia Elisa Molinari

# Landslide-generated tsunamis

- Vajont 1963 tsunami



Source: wikipedia

On 9 October 1963, a landslide above Vajont Dam in Italy produced a 250 m (820 ft) surge that overtopped the dam and destroyed downstream villages.

- Lituya Bay a few weeks after the 1958 tsunami



Source: wikipedia

On 9 July 1958, a giant landslide at the head of Lituya Bay in Alaska, caused by an earthquake, generated a wave with an initial amplitude of 524 meters (1,719 ft).

## Objectives of the study

- a) to investigate the capability of a tests derived model by Heller et al. (2009) to be spatially implemented into the GIS GRASS
- b) to test the model in a case study
- c) to evaluate the uncertainty and sensitivity of the developed module
- d) to infer the model validity based on the analysis the results and their comparison with respect to the non linear shallow water equations, as implemented by Cannata and Marzocchi (2011) in a GRASS dam break simulation module

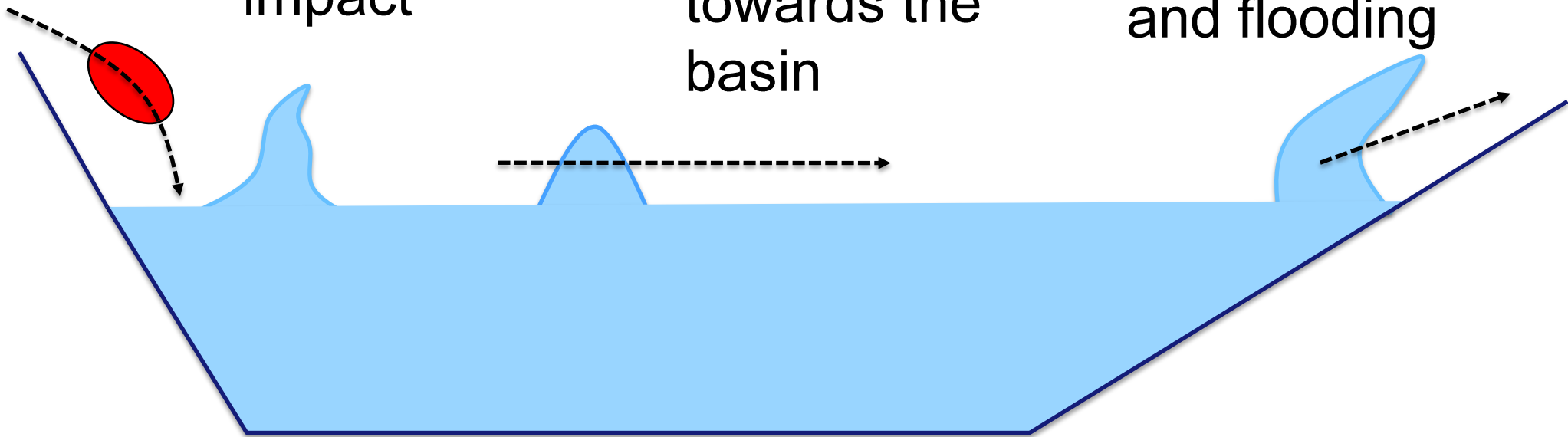
# The phenomenon

- 3 phase process

1) wave generation due to impact

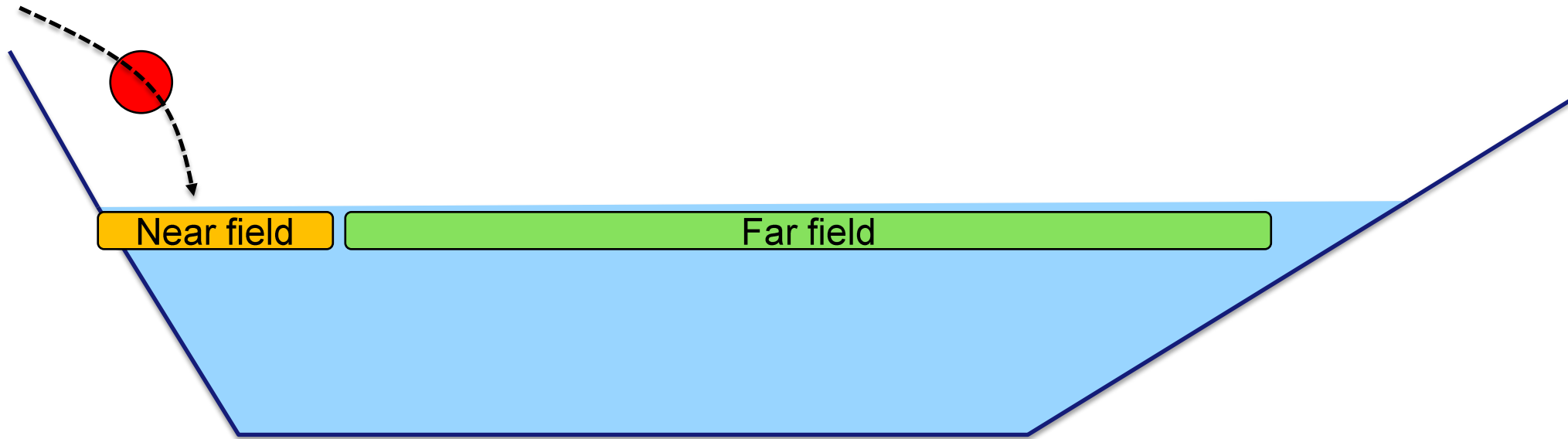
2) wave propagation towards the basin

3) wave run-up and flooding



# Impact wave

- Two zones are identified when a mass impact the still water
- near field: wave generation / perturbation area
- far field: wave propagation area



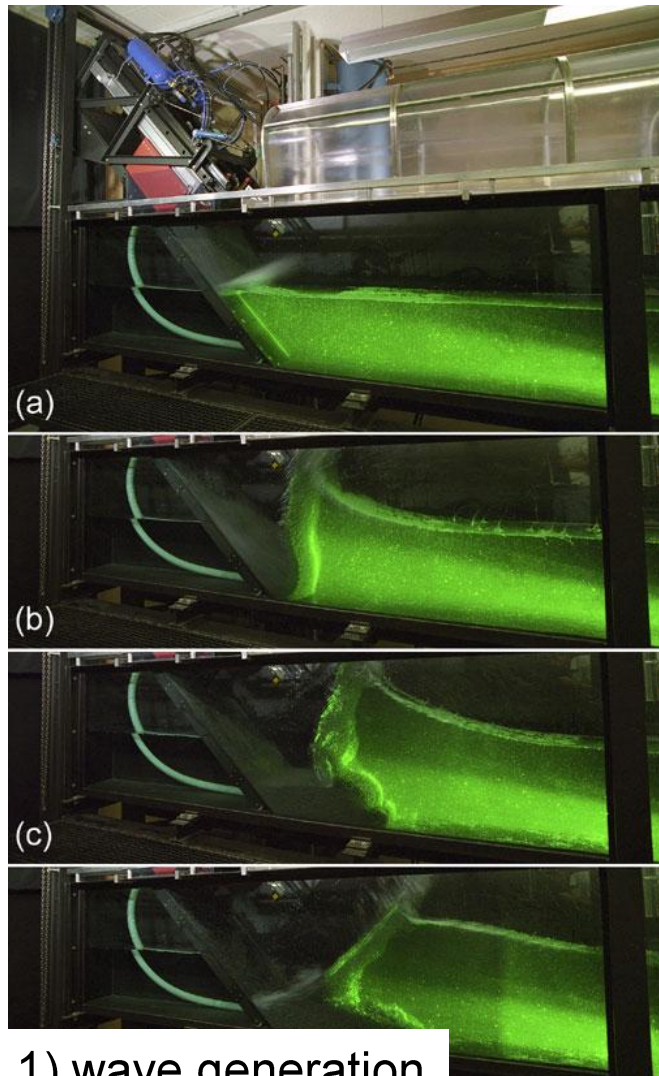


# Heller et al. 2009 (H2009)

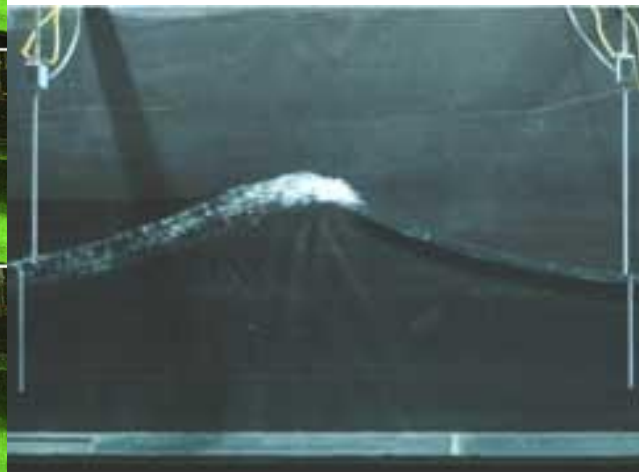
- Model derived by laboratory tests at ETH Zurich



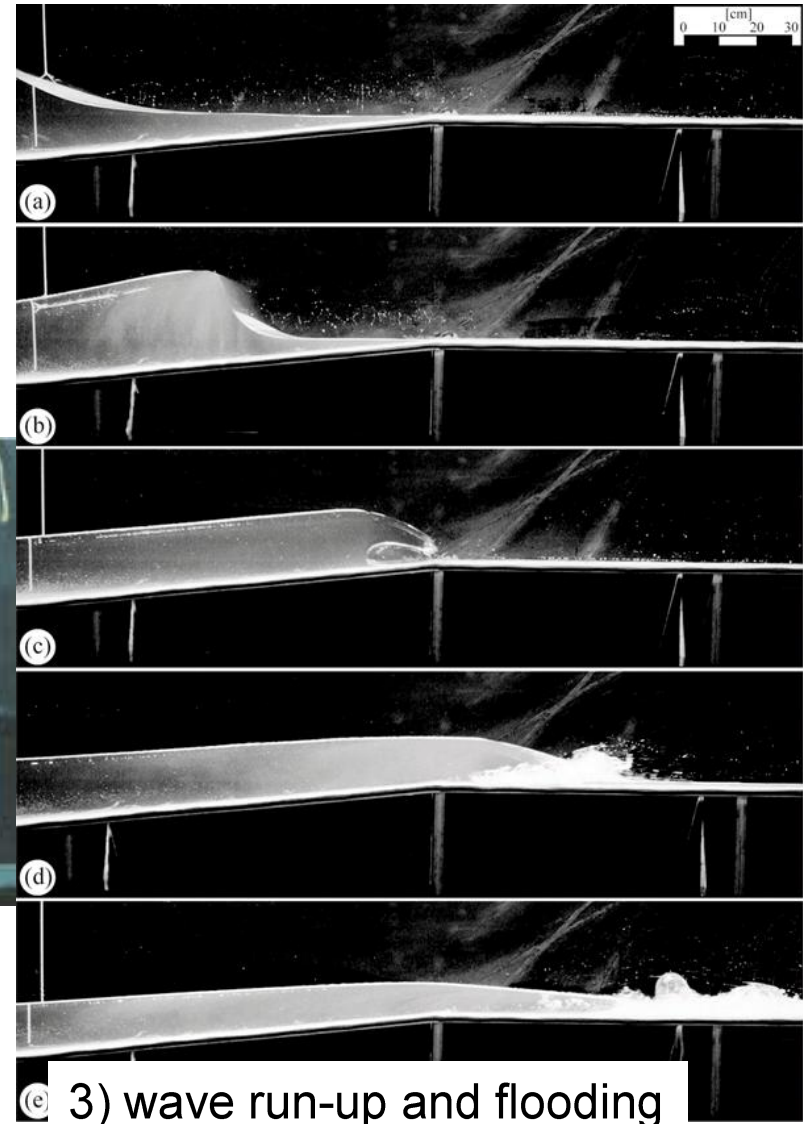
Laboratory of Hydraulics  
Hydrology and Glaciology



1) wave generation

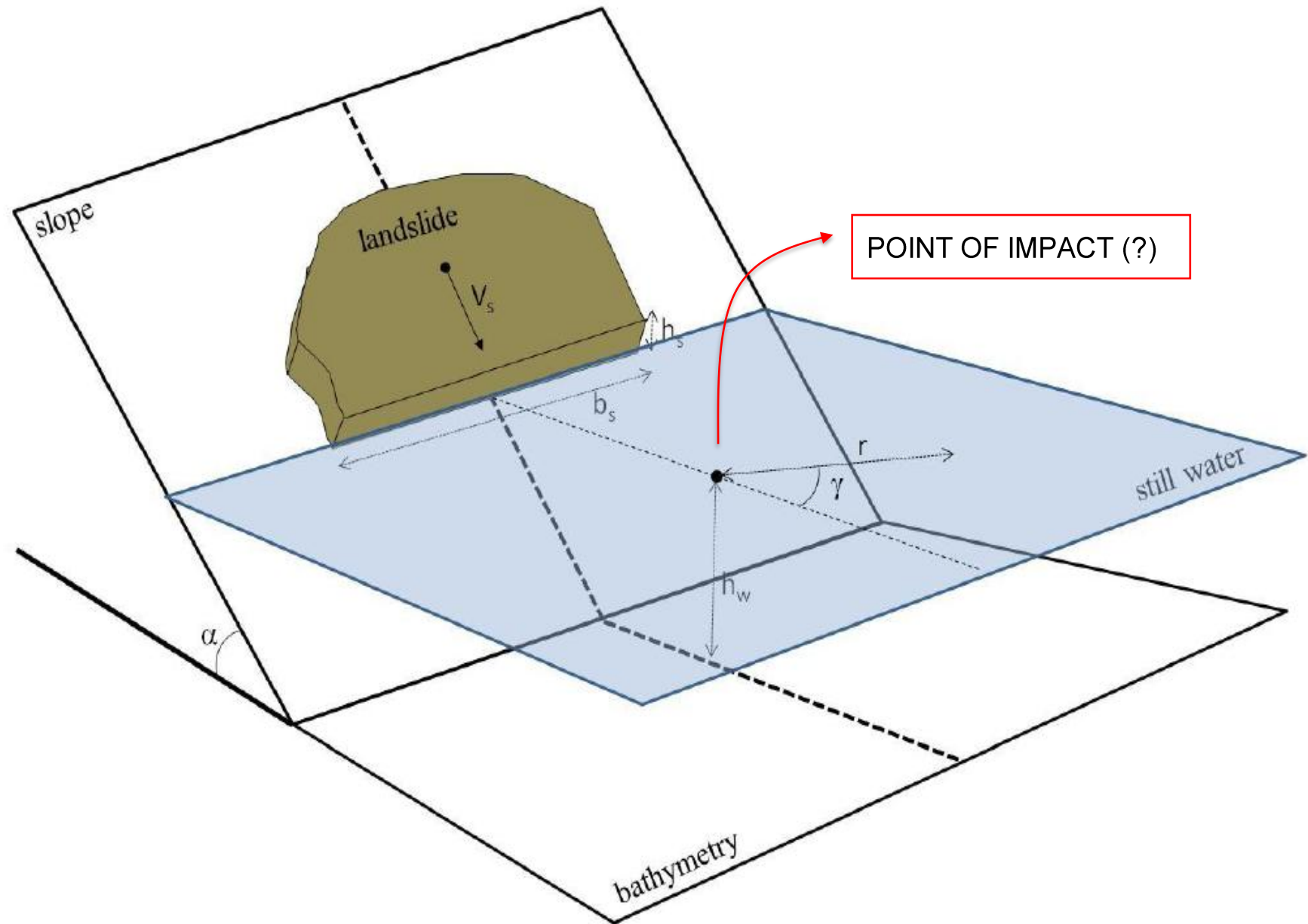


2) wave propagation



3) wave run-up and flooding

# H2009: (near field) impact wave



## H2009: (near field) impact wave

▪ The maximum wave height ( $H_M$ ) and the corresponding distance from the impact ( $r_M$ ) which limits the near zone, the wave period ( $T_M$ ) and the wave length ( $L_M$ ) can be estimated as follow:

$$H_M = h_w \cdot (5/9) \cdot P^{4/5}$$

$$r_M = h_w \cdot (11/2) \cdot P^{1/2}$$

$$T_M = 9 \cdot (h_w / g)^{1/2} \cdot P^{1/2}$$

$$L_M = T_M \cdot c = T_M \cdot \left\{ g \cdot \left[ h_w + \left( 4/5 \cdot H_M \right) \right] \right\}$$

$\rho_w$  = the water density [Kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

$h_w$  = still water depth in the impact zone [m],

$\rho_s$  = slide mass bulk density [Kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

$V_s$  = slide mass bulk volume [m<sup>3</sup>]

$b_s$  = slide mass width [m]

$h_s$  = slide mass thickness [m]

$g$  = gravity acceleration [m/s<sup>2</sup>]

$\alpha$  = slide impact slope [degree]

The maximum wave height ( $H_M$ ) depends on the impulse product (P) parameter that depends on the Slide Froude number (F), relative slide thickness (S), relative slide mass (M) and slide impact angle ( $\alpha$ )

$$P = F \cdot S^{1/2} \cdot M^{1/4} \cdot \left\{ \cos[(6/7)\alpha] \right\}^{1/2}$$

$$M = (\rho_s \cdot V_s) / (\rho_w \cdot b_s \cdot h_w^2)$$

$$F = V_s / \sqrt{g \cdot h_w}$$

$$S = h_s / h_w$$



# H2009: (near field) impact wave

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$\rho_w$  = the water density [Kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

$h_w$  = still water depth in the

$r < r_M$   $\square$   $H_M$   
 $r > r_M$   $\square$   $H(r, \gamma)$

impact zone [m],

$\rho_s$  = slide mass bulk density [Kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

$V_s$  = slide mass bulk volume [m<sup>3</sup>]

$b_s$  = slide mass width [m]

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The maximum wave height ( $H_M$ ) depends on the impulse product (P) parameter that depends on the Slide Froude number (F), relative slide thickness (S), relative slide mass (M) and

Near field

Far field

$H_M$

$H(r, \gamma)$

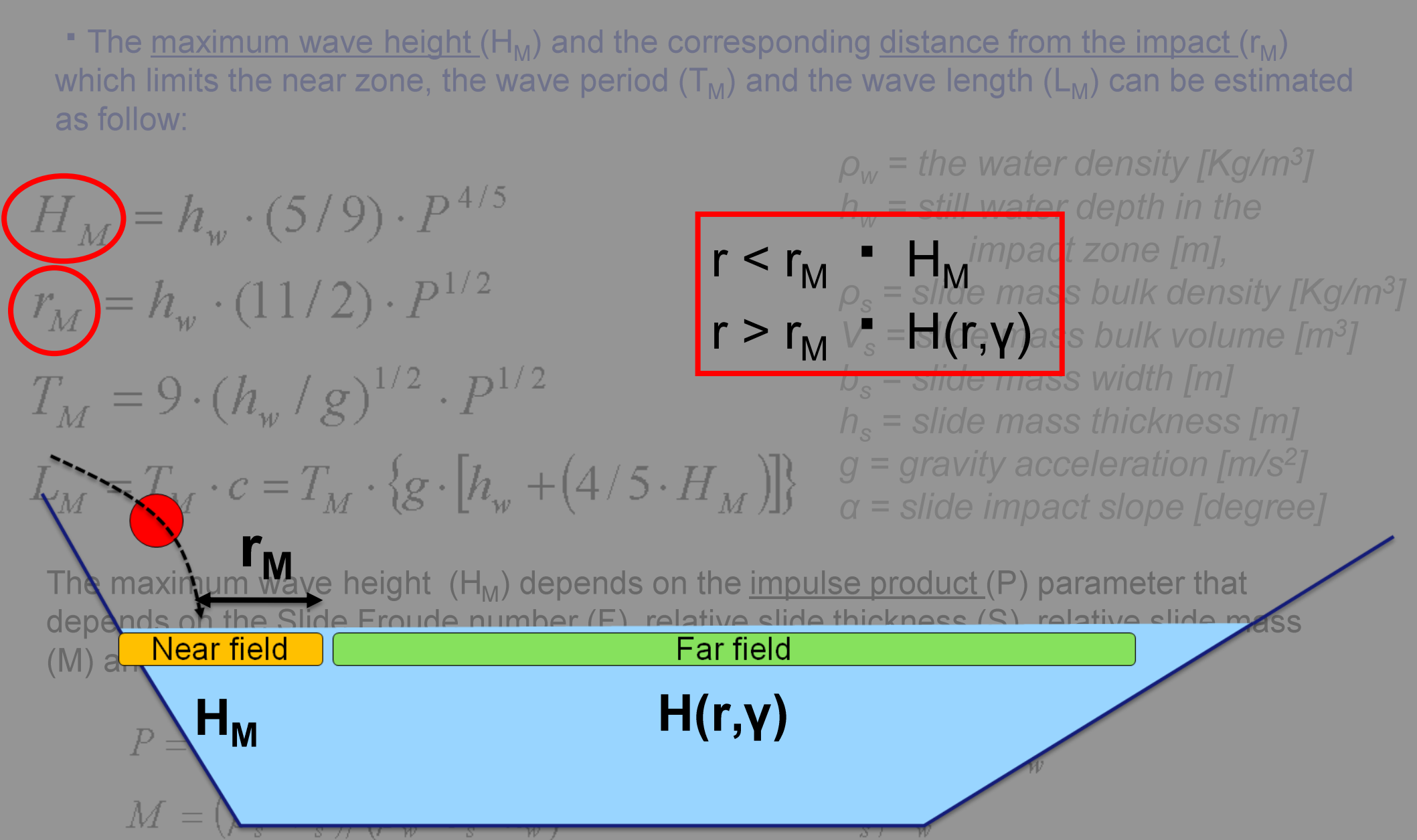
$P =$

$M =$

$(\rho_s / \rho_w) \cdot (h_s / h_w) \cdot (b_s / h_w)$

$(S / W)$

$W$



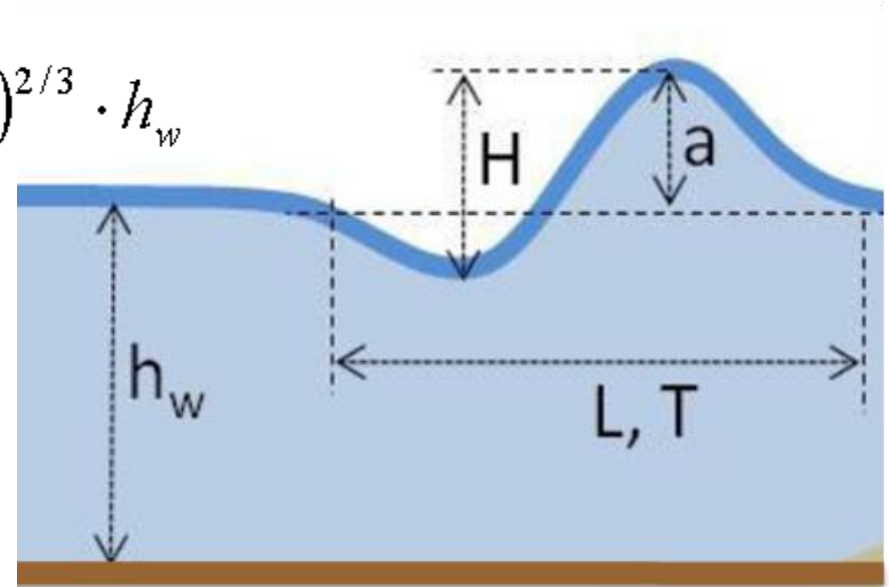
## H2009: (far field) wave propagation

- In the far field, the solitary wave propagates regularly

$$H(r, \gamma) = (3/2) \cdot P^{4/5} \cdot \cos^2(2\gamma/3) \cdot (r/h_w)^{2/3} \cdot h_w$$

$$T(r, \gamma) = 15 \cdot [H(r, \gamma)/h_w]^{1/4} \cdot (h_w/g)^{1/2}$$

$$L(r, \gamma) = T(r, \gamma) \cdot c(r, \gamma)$$



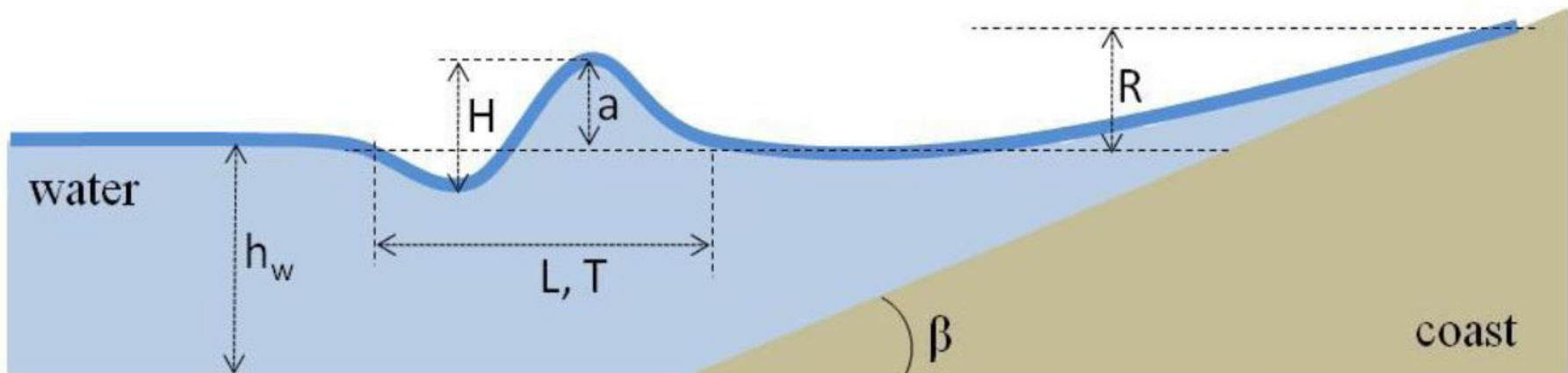
Apart from energy dissipation due to irregular bathymetry estimated with Shoaling equation:

$$S(r, \gamma) = [h_w(0)/h_w(r)]^{1/4}$$

## H2009: (far field) run-up

When approaching the shore, the wave decreases its velocity and increments its height: according to Heller et. al (2009) the run-up process is estimated with Müller (1995) formulation:

$$R = 1.25 \cdot (H / h_w)^{5/4} \cdot (H / L)^{-3/20} \cdot (90^\circ / \beta)^{1/5} \cdot h_w$$



# r.impact.tsunami

The H2009 model has been implemented in a new GRASS 7 module by using the Python script approach.

## ▪ H2009 in GRASS: required inputs

- elevation map including bathymetry
- lake water depth map
- slide mass information (density, porosity, volume, width, thickness)
- impact information (coordinates, water depth, velocity, inclination angle, azimuth angle)

## ▪ H2009 in GRASS: output

- Output inundation height raster map
- Output wave height raster map (opt.)

r.impact.tsunami [restart, hazard, flooding, tsunami]

Estimates the wave generated by slide impact

Required Optional Command output Manual

Name of elevation map including bathymetry: (elevation=string)

Name of lake depth map: (lake=string)

bulk slide density [Kg/m3]: (s\_rho=float)

Bulk slide volume [m3]: (s\_vol=float)

Slide width [m]: (s\_width=float)

Slide thickness [m]: (s\_thick=float)

Easting coordinate of the impact point on the lake: (i\_east=float)

Northing coordinate of the impact point on the lake: (i\_north=float)

still water depth in the area of impact [m]: (i\_depth=float)

Impact velocity [m/s]: (i\_vel=float)

Impact inclination angle [deg]: (i\_slope=float)

Impact azimuth angle [deg]: (i\_azimut=float)

Output raster map name for inundation: (inund=name)

Close Run Copy Help

Close dialog on finish

Enter parameters for 'r.impact.tsunami'

# r.impact.tsunami

## ▪ H2009 in GRASS: optional settings

- A. a shadow raster map, for masking the results (i.e.: a line of sight map from the impact location, can identify locations directly impacted by the wave),
- B. a numerical value for the wave break condition or select one
- C. Optional flags are:
- applying angle limitation mask (-90 deg to 90 deg);
  - outputting report in GUI format;
  - outputting limitations check report;
  - outputting maximum wave characteristics report;
  - saving temporary files;
  - applying solid mass type correction factor

**r.impact.tsunami [rester, hazard, flooding, tsunami]**

Estimates the wave generated by slide impact

Required Optional Command output Manual

Apply angle limitation mask (-90 deg to 90 deg) (a)

Output only report in gui format (g)

Output limitations check report (c)

Output maximum wave characteristics report (w)

do not delete temporary files (t)

apply solid mass type correction (s)

Allow output files to overwrite existing files (overwrite)

Verbose module output (verbose)

Quiet module output (quiet)

bulk slide porosity [%]: (s\_por=float)

0

Name of shadow map: (shadow=string)

wave break condition [m]: (wbc=float)

0.8

Output raster map name for wave height: (wave=string)

Close Run Copy Help

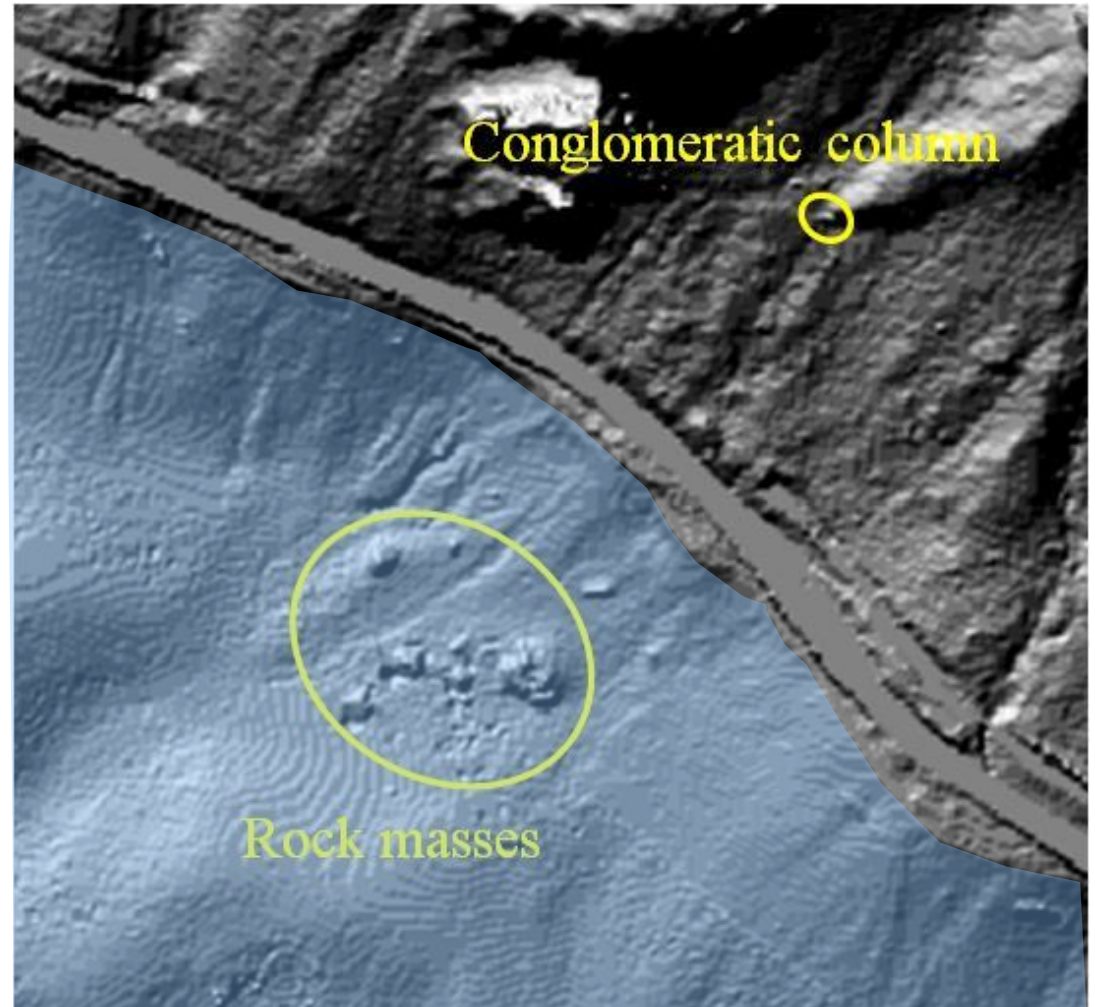
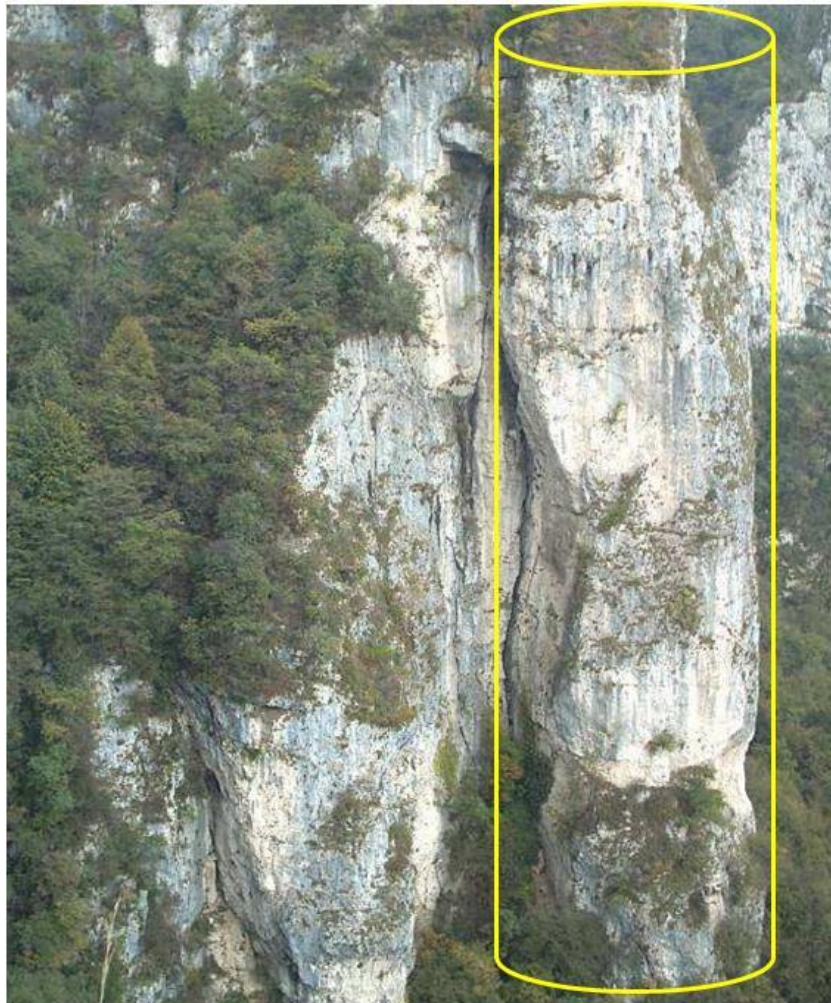
Close dialog on finish

Enter parameters for 'r.impact.tsunami'



# Case study

- Hazard scenario: toppling of a conglomeratic column that reaches the Como lake



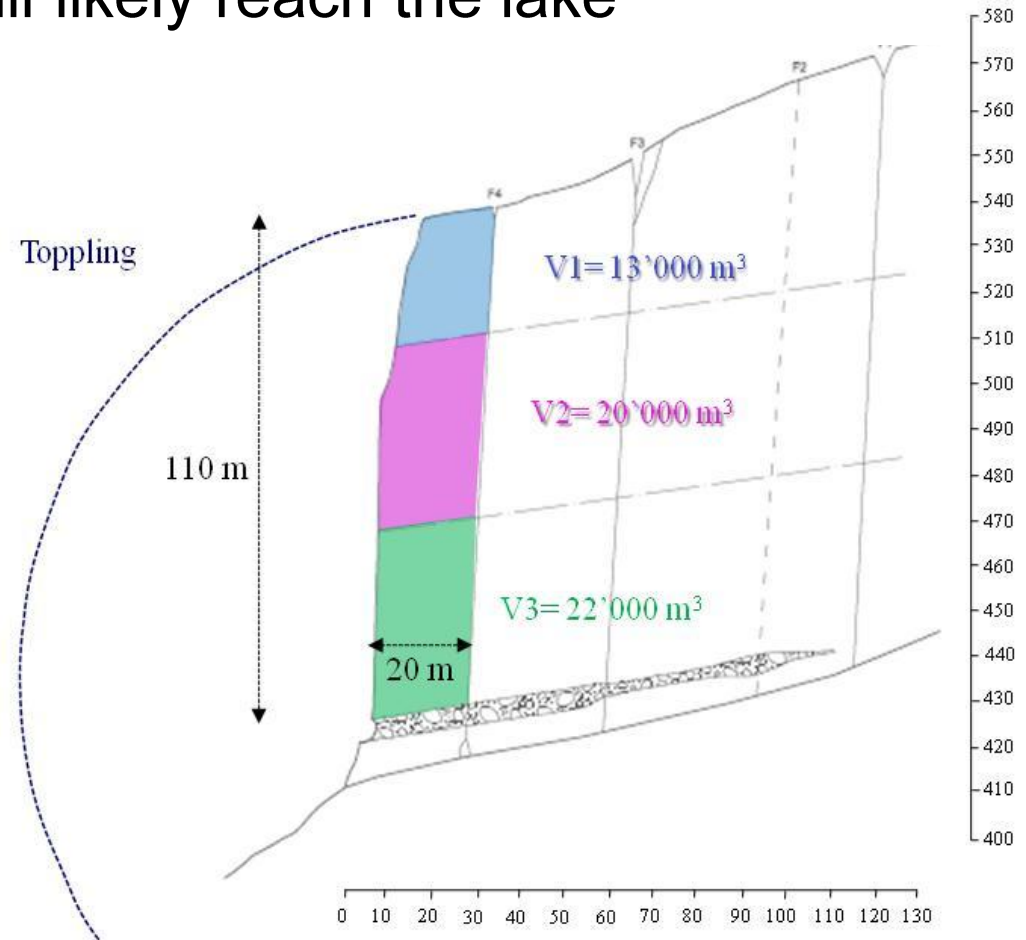
Dive inspection confirms that rock masses laid on the lake bottom have the same composition of the column: probably result of events occurred in the past

# Case study

- Input parameter estimation

By field survey and rock-fall simulation with SASS model (Pamini, 2002) as described in Ambrosi et. al (2010): ropture of the column in 3 blocks, out of witch the first will likely reach the lake

mass bulk density = 2500 [Kg/m<sup>3</sup>],  
 mass bulk porosity = 0 [%]  
 mass volume = 13000 [m<sup>3</sup>],  
 mass width = 26 [m],  
 mass thickness = 25 [m],  
 impact velocity = 35 [m/s],  
 impact slope angle = 35 [deg],  
 impact azimuth = 225 [deg],  
 still water depth in the impact zone = 50 [m]

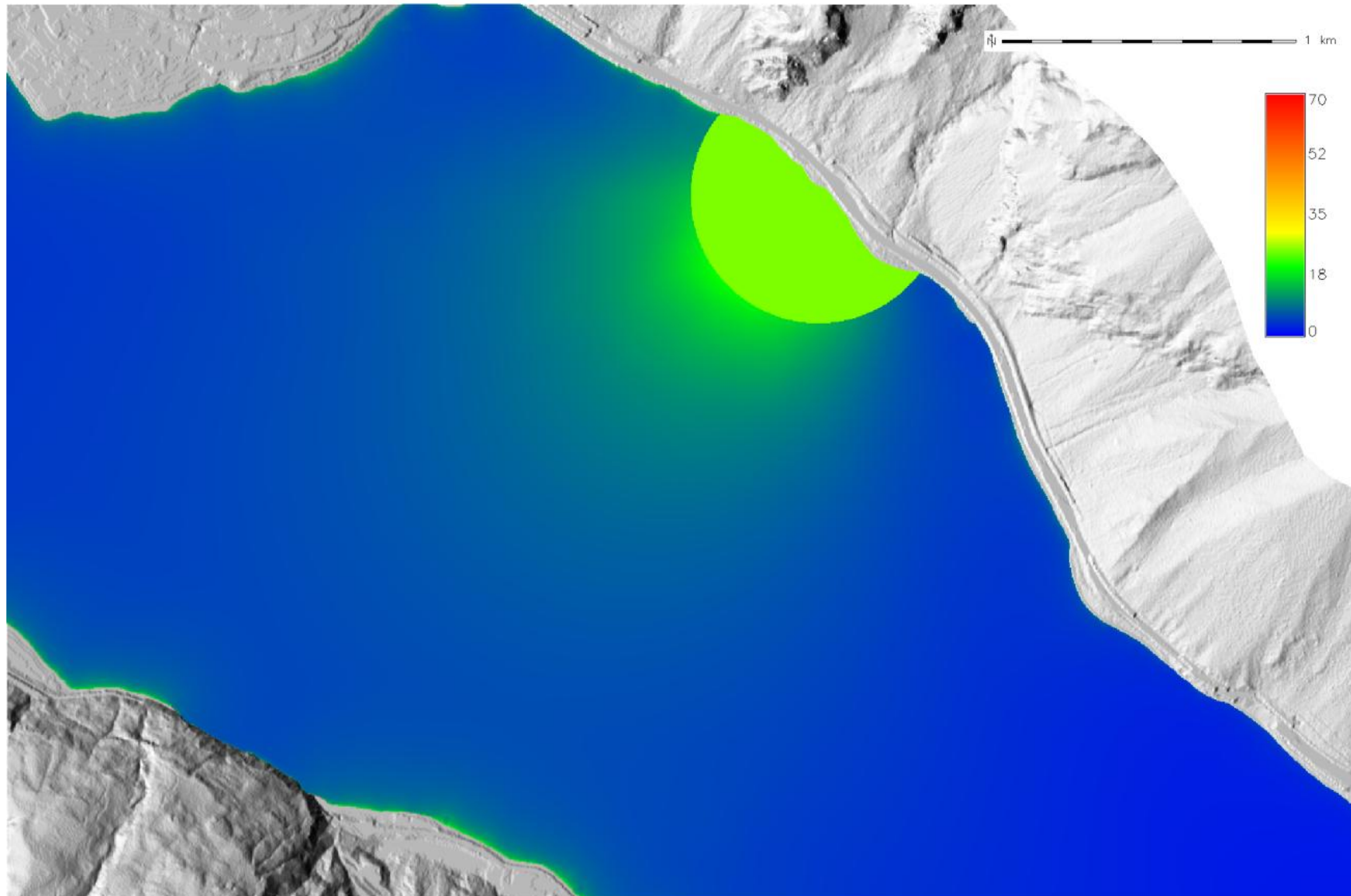




# Simulations

- Wave height output map

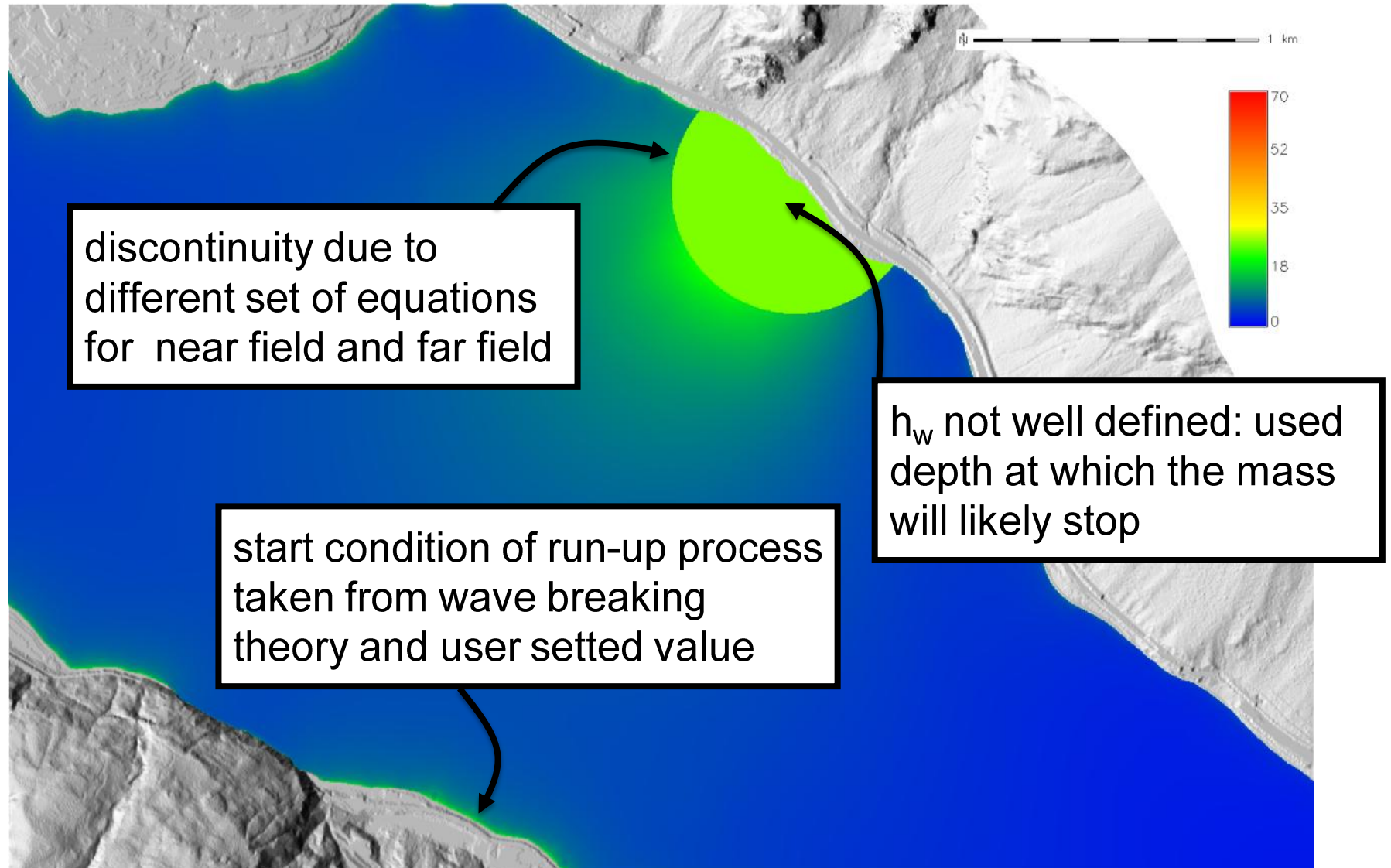
Maximum height 24.95 m  
Mean height 6.84 m  
Std of height 4.13 m



# Simulations

- Wave height output map

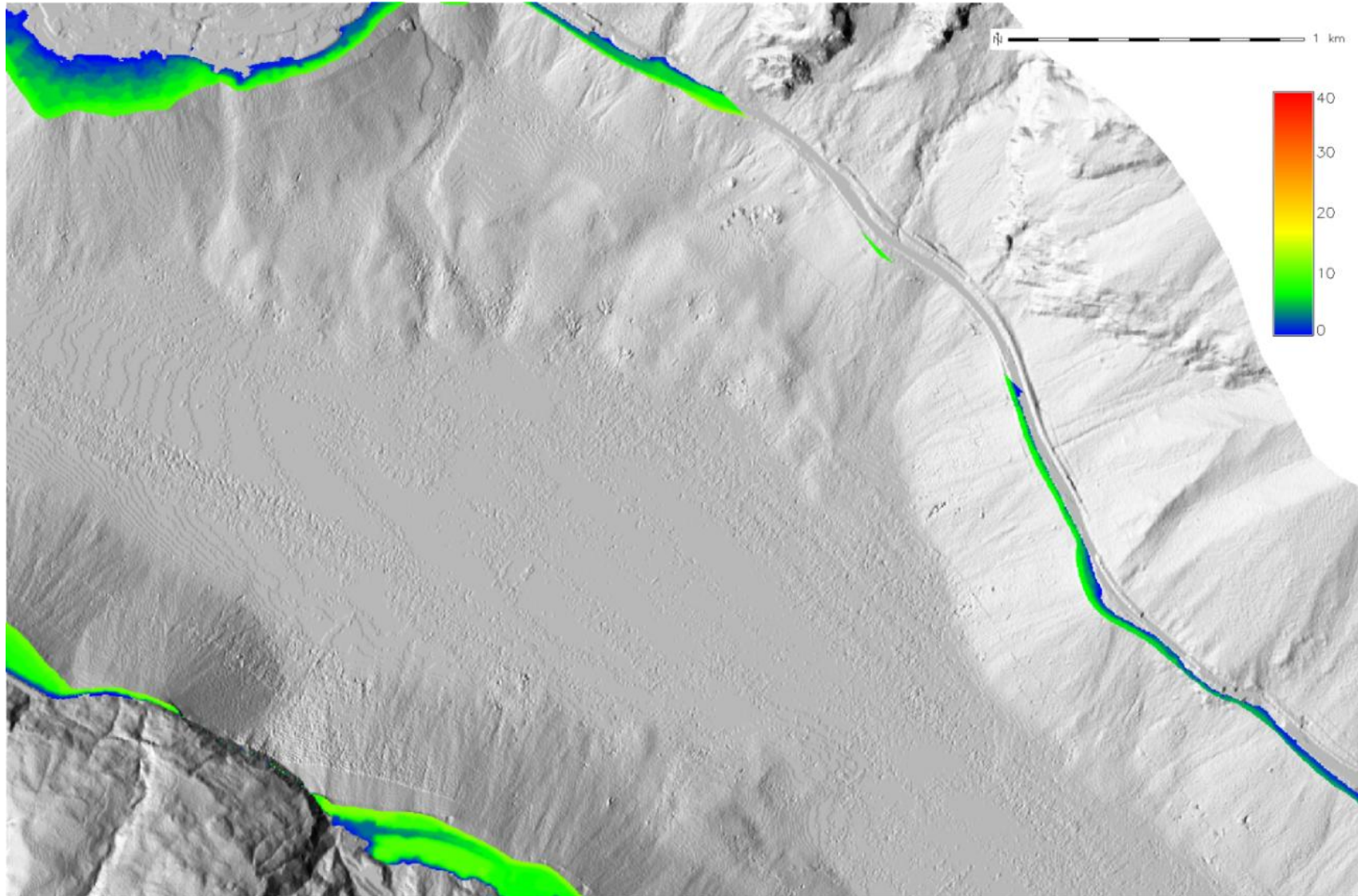
Maximum height 24.95 m  
Mean height 6.84 m  
Std of height 4.13 m



# Simulations

- Flood height output map

Flood area	146,396 m <sup>2</sup>
Maximum height	13.44 m
Mean height	6.06 m
Std of height	3.11 m

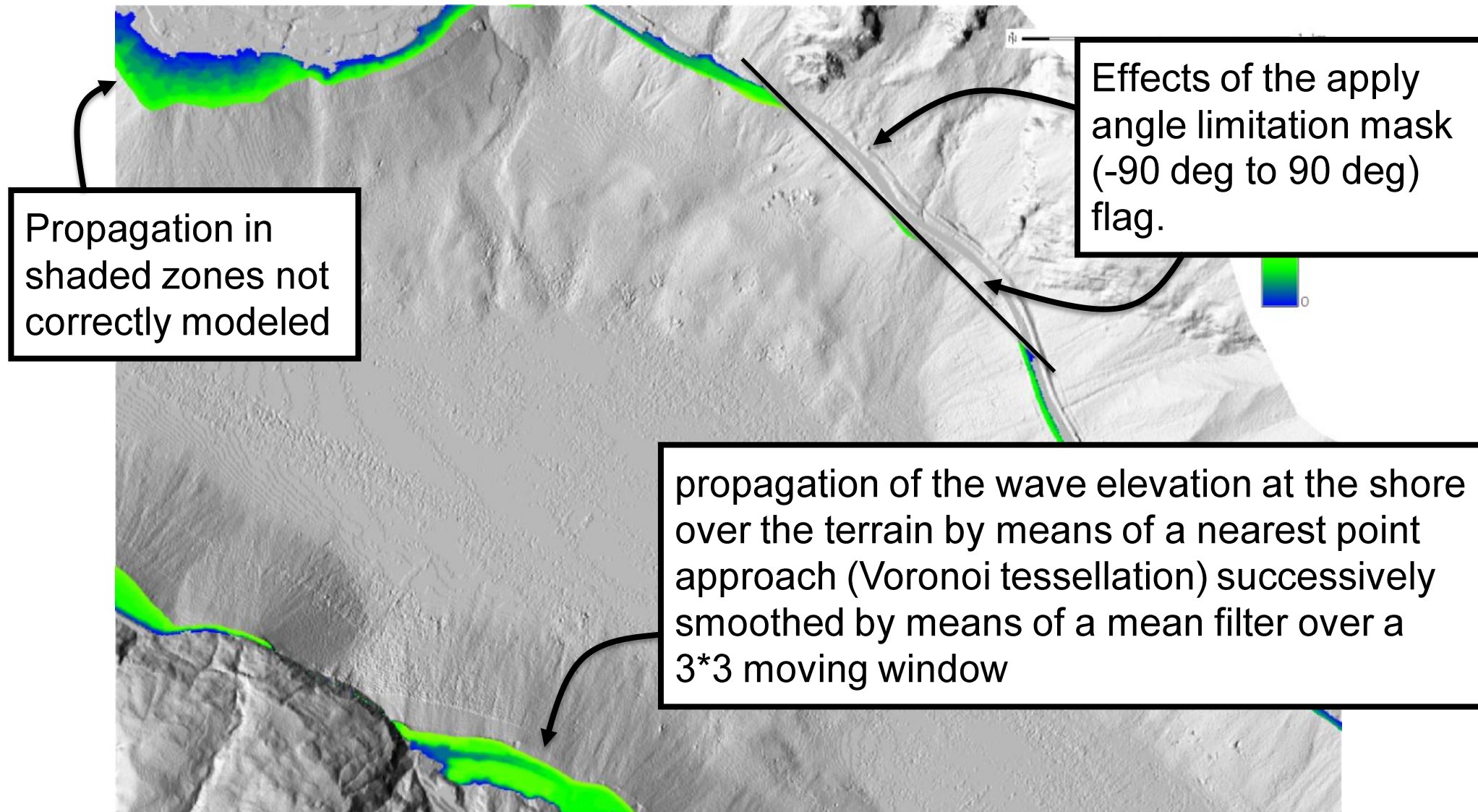




# Simulations

- Flood height output map

Flood area	146,396 m <sup>2</sup>
Maximum height	13.44 m
Mean height	6.06 m
Std of height	3.11 m



# Module reports

- Respecting of `validity_limits` and maximum wave parameters

===== MAXIMUM WAVE HEIGHT =====

HM = 24.9545600723

TM = 19.0053090237

LM = 497.819032673

a = 19.9636480579

c = 26.1936826206

rM = 257.181932638

===== LIMITING CONDITIONS REPORT =====

Slide Froude number limitation ( $0.86 \leq F \leq 6.83$ ): value=1.58060264513 – respected=True

Relative slide thickness ( $0.09 \leq S \leq 1.64$ ): value=0.5 – respected=True

Relative slide mass ( $0.11 \leq M \leq 10.02$ ): value=0.5 – respected=True

Relative slide density ( $0.59 \leq D \leq 1.72$ ): value=2.5 – respected=False

Relative granulate density ( $0.96 \leq D_g \leq 2.75$ ): value=0.001 – respected=False

Relative slide volume ( $0.05 \leq V \leq 5.94$ ): value=0.8 – respected=True

Relative slide width ( $0.74 \leq B \leq 3.33$ ): value=1.04 – respected=True

Bulk slide porosity ( $30.7 \leq \text{por} \leq 43.3$ ): value=0.0 – respected=False

Slide impact angle ( $30\text{deg} \leq \beta \leq 90\text{deg}$ ): value=35.0 – respected=True

Impulse product parameter ( $0.17 \leq P \leq 8.13$ ): value=0.874612184799 – respected=True

# Sources of uncertainties

- Basin shape and mass type influences
- Bathymetry variation      -h ~ +H
- Diffraction                      shaded zones reached.
- Constriction                      lateral constriction ~ + H
- Reflection                      reflected wave has - H.
- Refraction                      perpendicular waves
- Solid mass                      solid mass ~ + H
- Validity limits                      limits are not respected ~ ?

## EXPECTED IMPACT



HIGH



MED



LOW



UNKNOWN

# Uncertainties estimation

- Basin shape effects
- Bathymetry variation ▪ wave height automatically corrected in r.impact.tsunami with Shoaling equation
- Solid mass type ▪ according to Zweifel (2004) experiments higher maximum wave are expected.

$$\frac{(a_{Ms} / h_w) - (a_M / h_w)}{a_{Ms} / h_w} = 1 - 0.26 \cdot F$$

**In the case study an increase of maximum wave height of a factor of 2.43 is estimated.**

# Model sensitivity

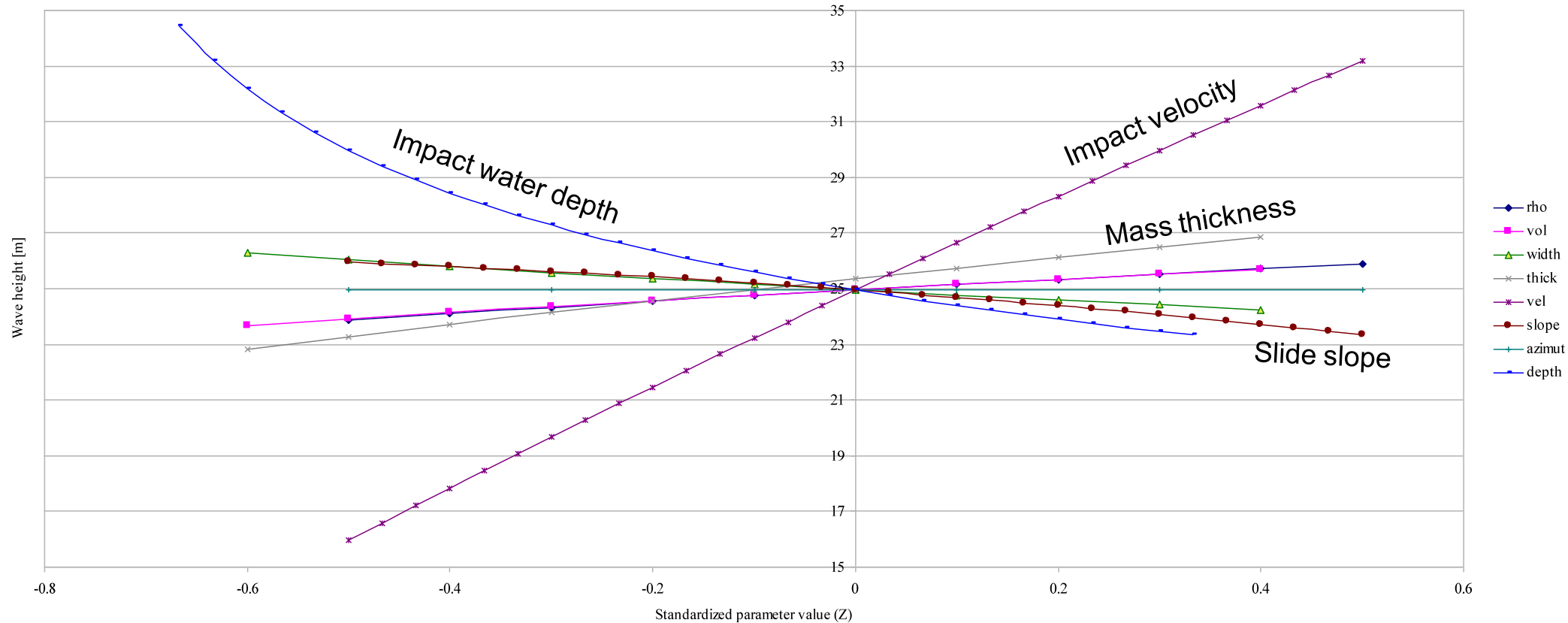
- Effects of input parameter variation

Parameter	Acronym	Range	Variation
Mass bulk density [ $\text{Kg}/\text{m}^3$ ]	rho	2,000 – 3,000	100
Mass volume [ $\text{m}^3$ ]	vol	10,000 – 15,000	500
Mass width [m]	width	20 – 30	1
Mass thickness [m]	thick	20 – 30	1
Impact velocity [m/s]	vel	20 – 50	1
Impact slope angle [deg]	slope	20 – 50	1
Impact azimuth	azimuth	200 – 251	10
Still water depth in the impact zone	depth	10 – 70	2



# Sensitivity of wave height

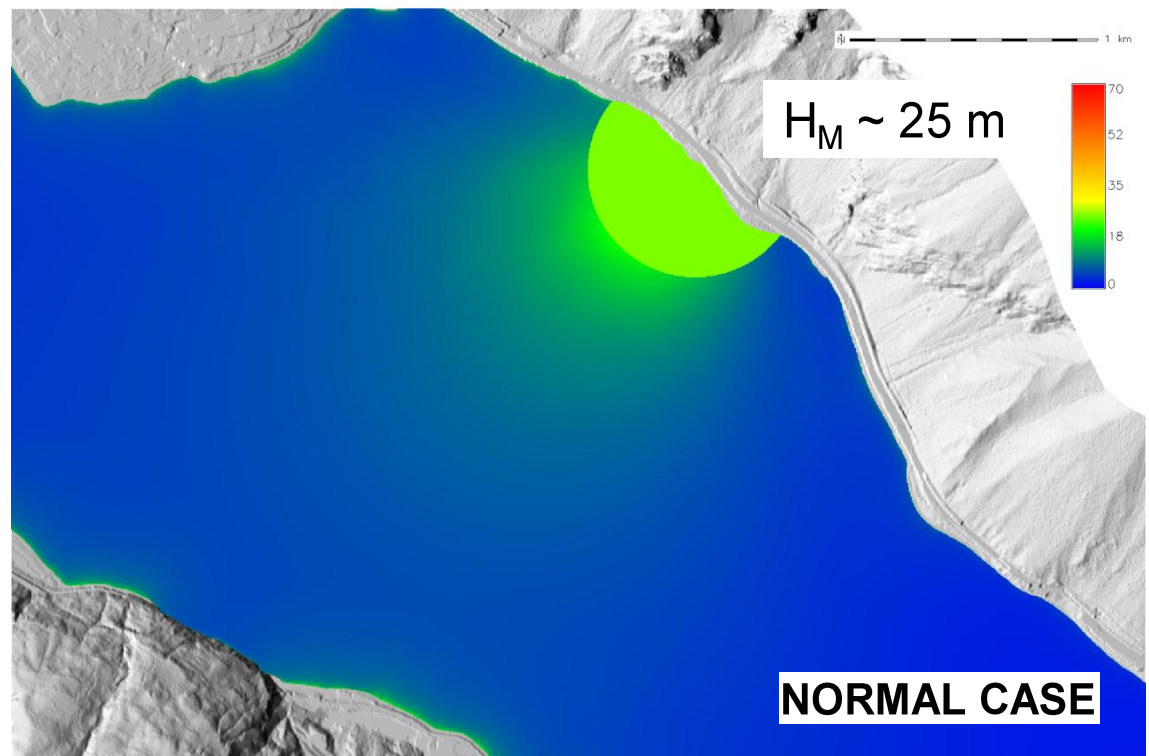
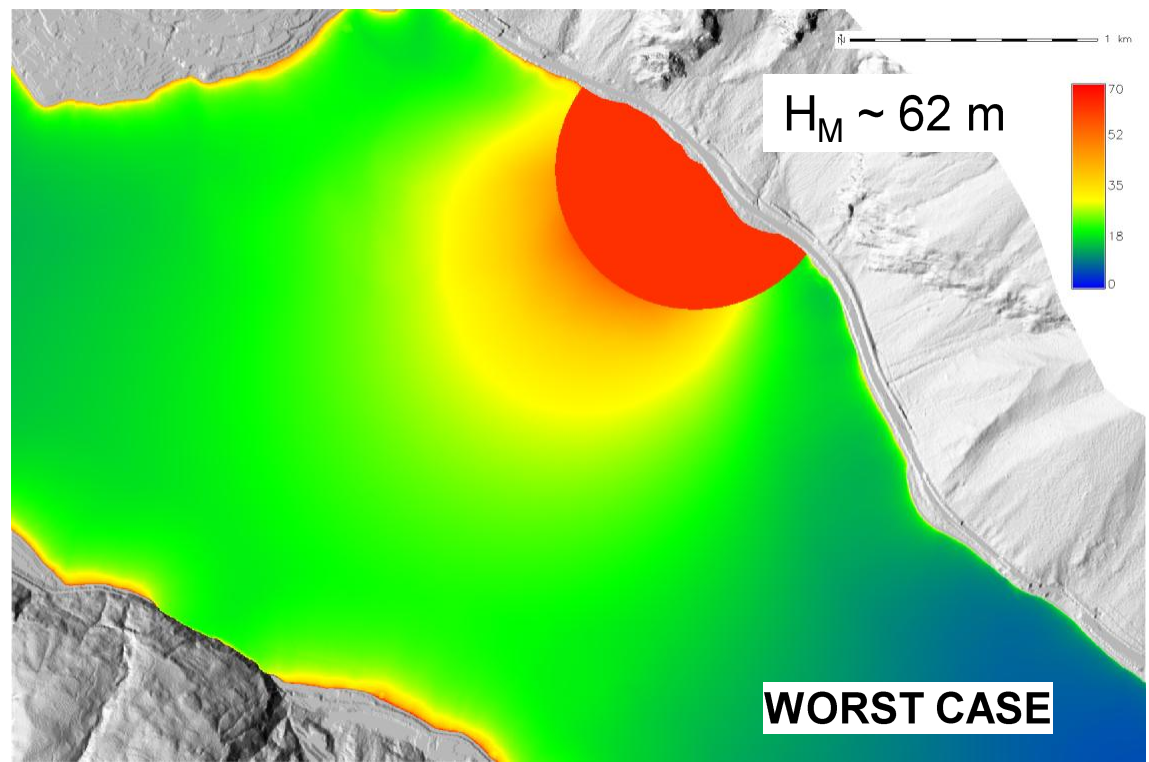
- Effects of input parameter variation



Water height and mass velocity at the impact are the parameters most affecting the results: their determination has a certain level of uncertainty due to no definition of “impact point” and estimation of “impact velocity”

# Worst case scenario

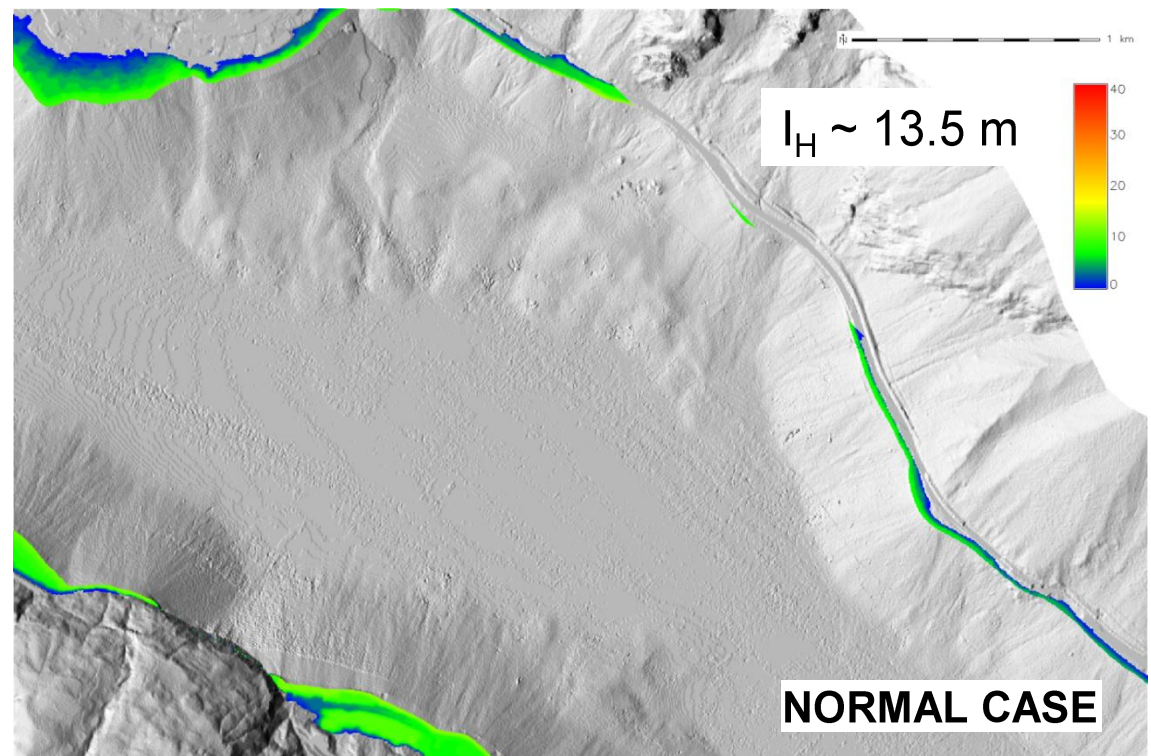
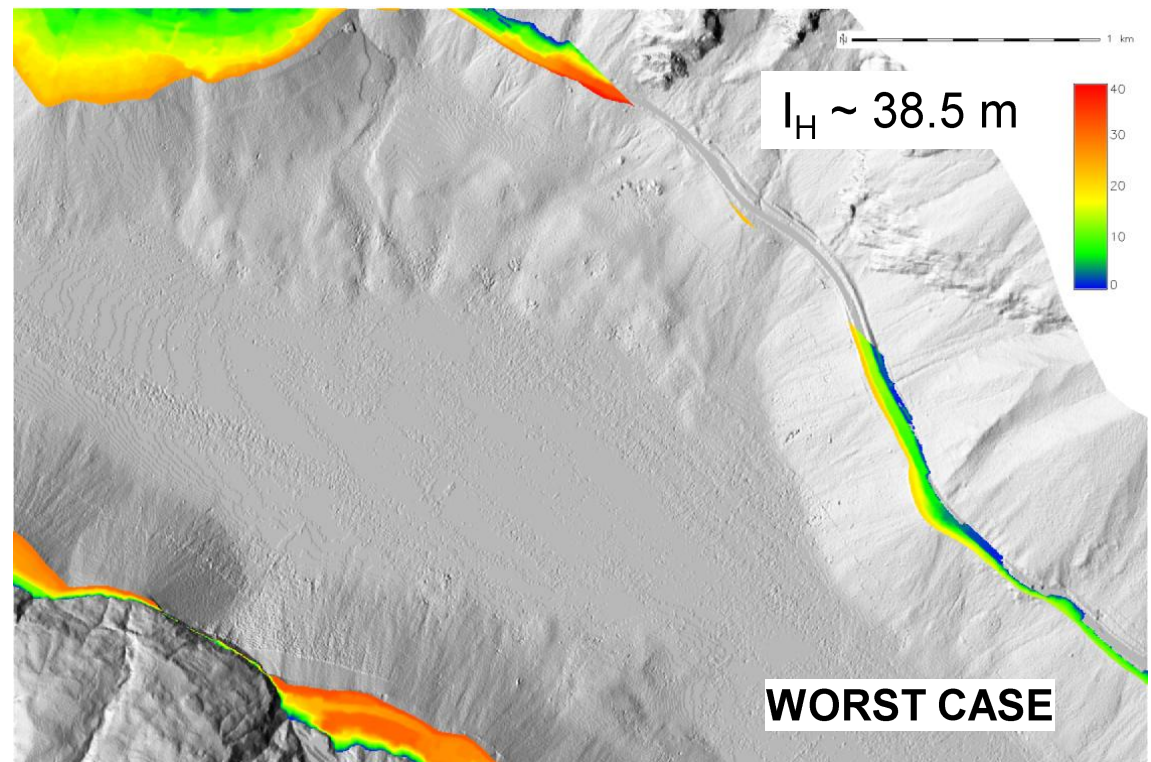
- Considering uncertainties
- r.impact.tsunami is run with:
  - Applying Shoaling correction for bathymetry variation
  - Applying mass type correction for solid body
  - Using upper bound values of parameter variability range



# Worst case scenario

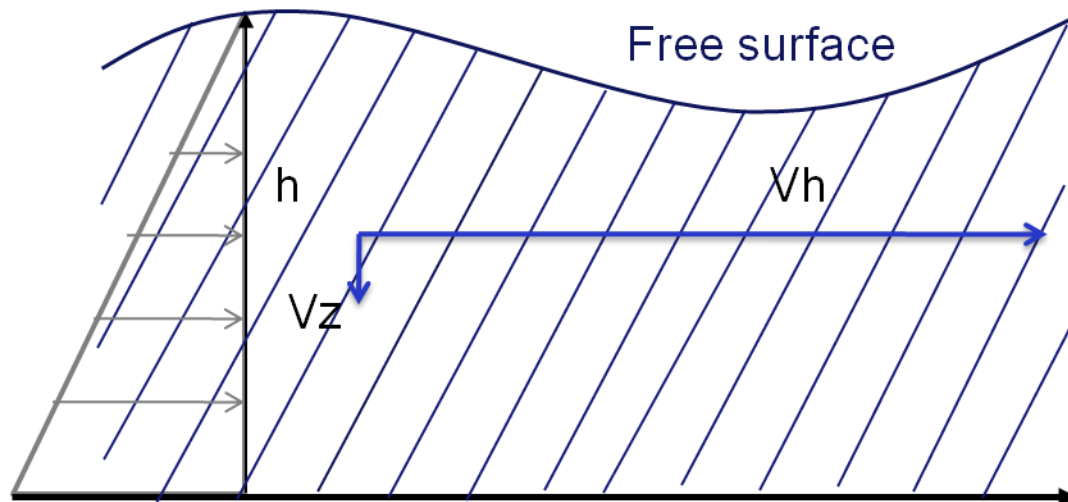
- Considering uncertainties
- r.impact.tsunami is run with:
  - Applying Shoaling correction for bathymetry variation
  - Applying mass type correction for solid body
  - Using upper bound values of parameter variability range

Maximum inundation area is estimated to be **268,384 m<sup>2</sup>**, that is **121,988 m<sup>2</sup>** more than the inundation area estimated with base values.



# Shallow water equation approach (SWE)

- To model wave propagation and run-up processes
- SWE method applies the shallow water equations (Kinmark, 1985) to simulate the wave propagation and the resulting run-up: with this approach the two phenomena can be simulated with a single model even though since the SWE treats the wave breaking only as a propagation wave, the details of the wave breaking process cannot be obtained (Li & Raichlen, 2002).



- 1) component of velocities along the vertical direction is negligible if compared to the horizontal ones
- 2) the pressure distribution over the flow depth is nearly hydrostatic



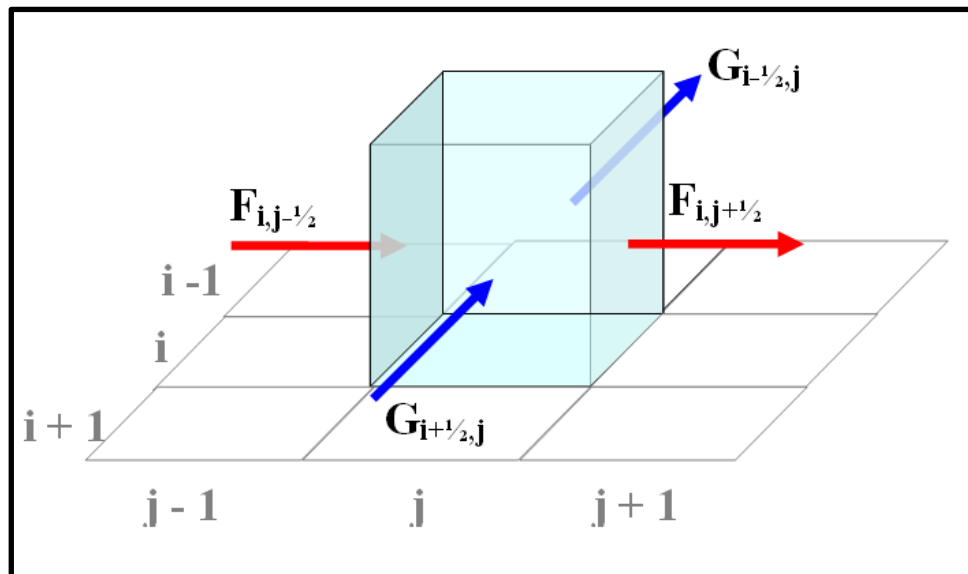
# Shallow water equations solution

applying the Upwind Conservative Scheme by Ying et al. (2004) we get the solution

$$\mathbf{U}_{ij}^{n+1} = \mathbf{U}_{ij} - \Delta t \left( \frac{\left( \mathbf{F}_{i,j+1/2} - \mathbf{F}_{i,j-1/2} \right)}{ewres} + \frac{\left( \mathbf{G}_{i-1/2,j} - \mathbf{G}_{i+1/2,j} \right)}{nsres} - \mathbf{S}_{ij} \right)$$

With the one-sided upwind method we solve explicitly this equation in two separate steps:

1. the continuity equation is evaluated deriving the water depth at time  $t+1$ ,
2. these values are used to solve the momentum equations that provide the flow velocities at time  $t+1$





## r.swe

- C ANSI developed module that solves the swe with advanced numerical scheme (Cannata and Marzocchi, 2011) for each cell and timestep estimating locally water height and velocity.
- Included stability analysis to automatically adjust optimal resolution time step

### Input options

elevation raster map accounting for bathymetry

lake water depth raster map

Initial velocity in east and north directions raster maps (derived with r.impact.tsunami)

manning's roughness coefficient raster map;

simulation time length.

simulation timestep

### Output options

time-lag for outputs generation;

additional instants for output map generation;

prefix for water depth output series raster maps;

prefix for water velocity output series raster maps;

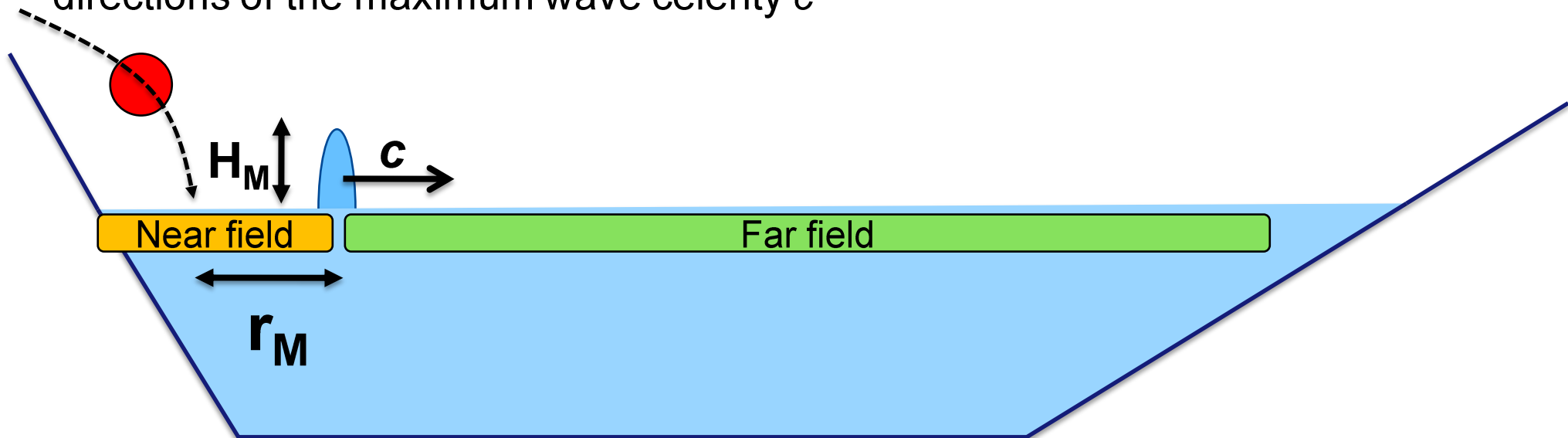
maximum water depth and relative time output raster map;

maximum water velocity and relative time output raster map;

maximum intensity output and relative time raster map.

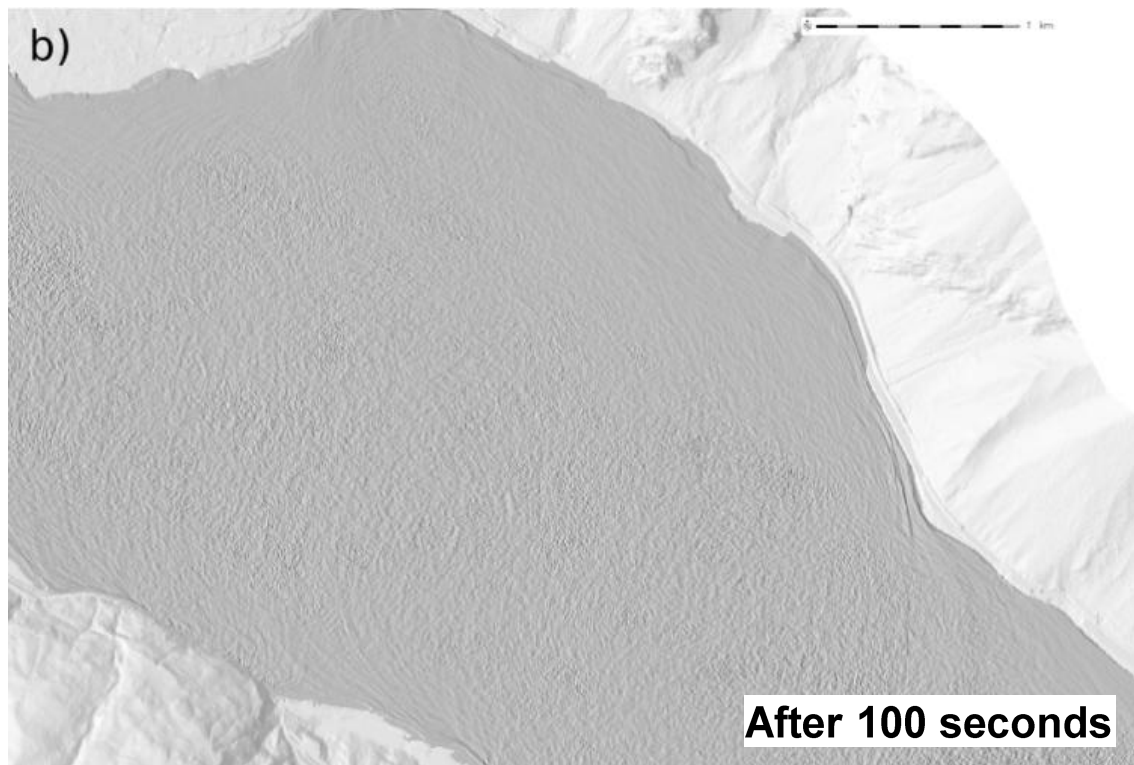
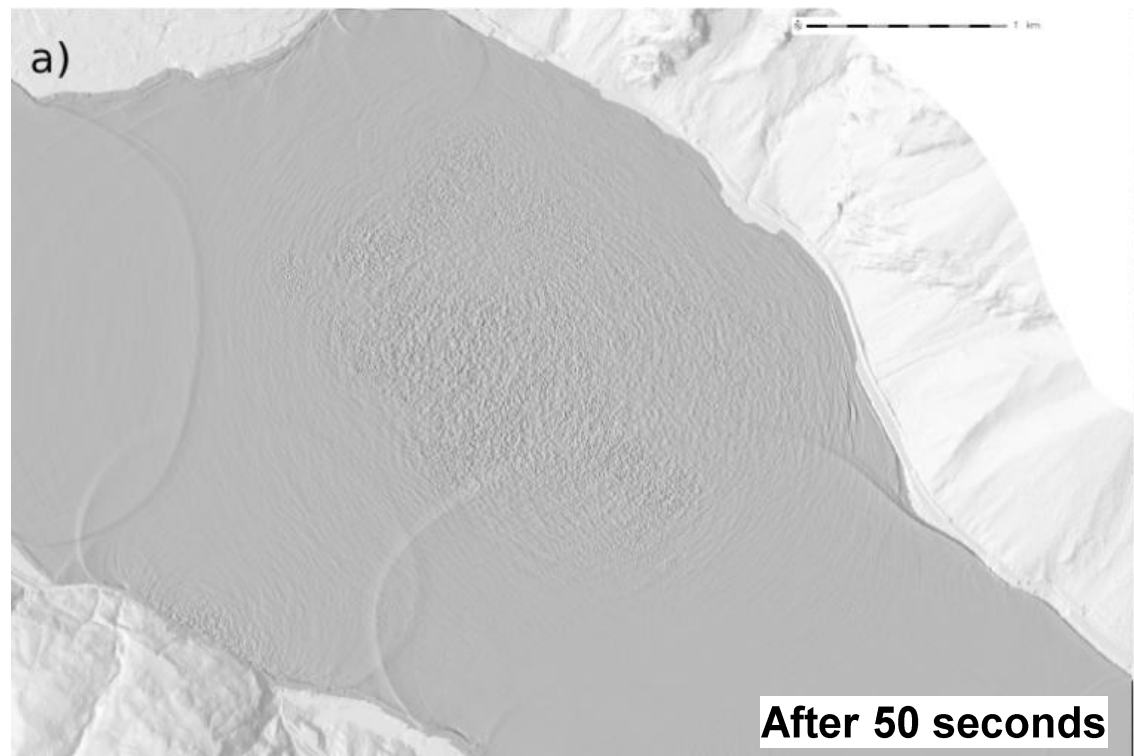
# Case study application

- The same computational region used in H2009 simulation was applied. In particular the initial water depth corresponds almost everywhere to the initial lake depth, while in correspondence of the distance  $r_M$  from the impact point the maximum wave height  $H_M$  is assumed. In the same manner the initial velocities  $u_0$  and  $v_0$  respectively along the East and North directions are considered null everywhere with exception of the  $r_M$  distance from the impact point where the velocities are assumed to be the components along the East and North directions of the maximum wave celerity  $c$



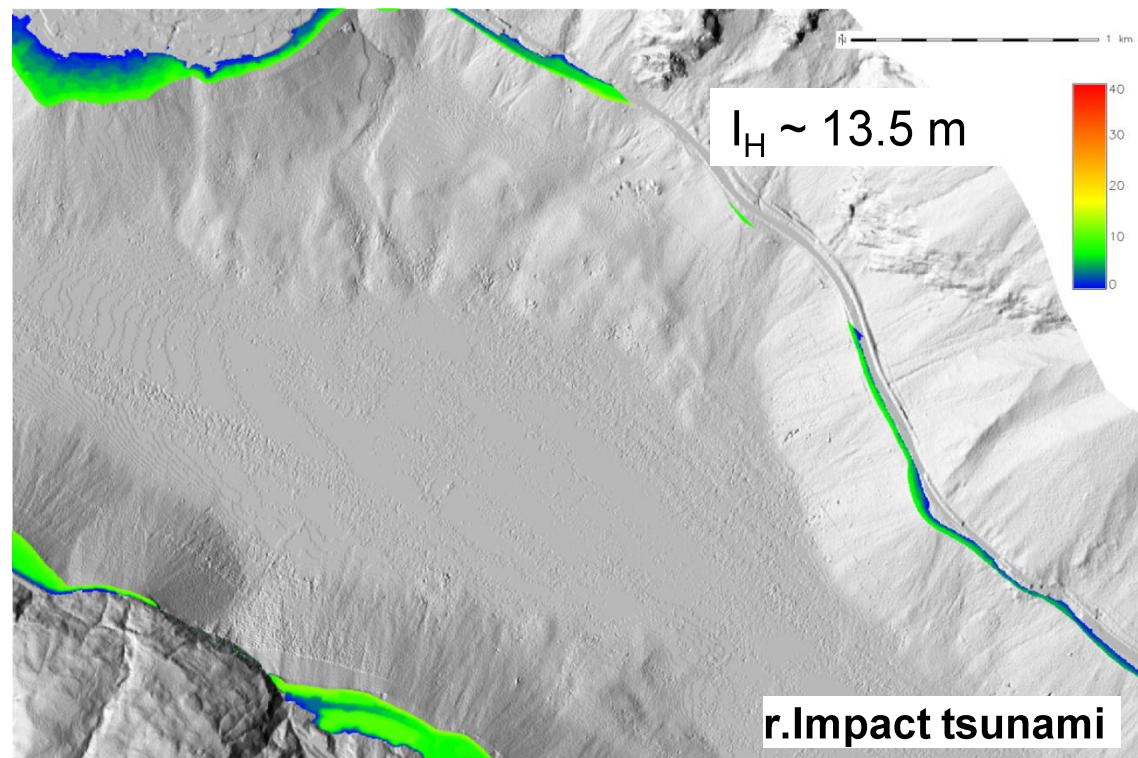
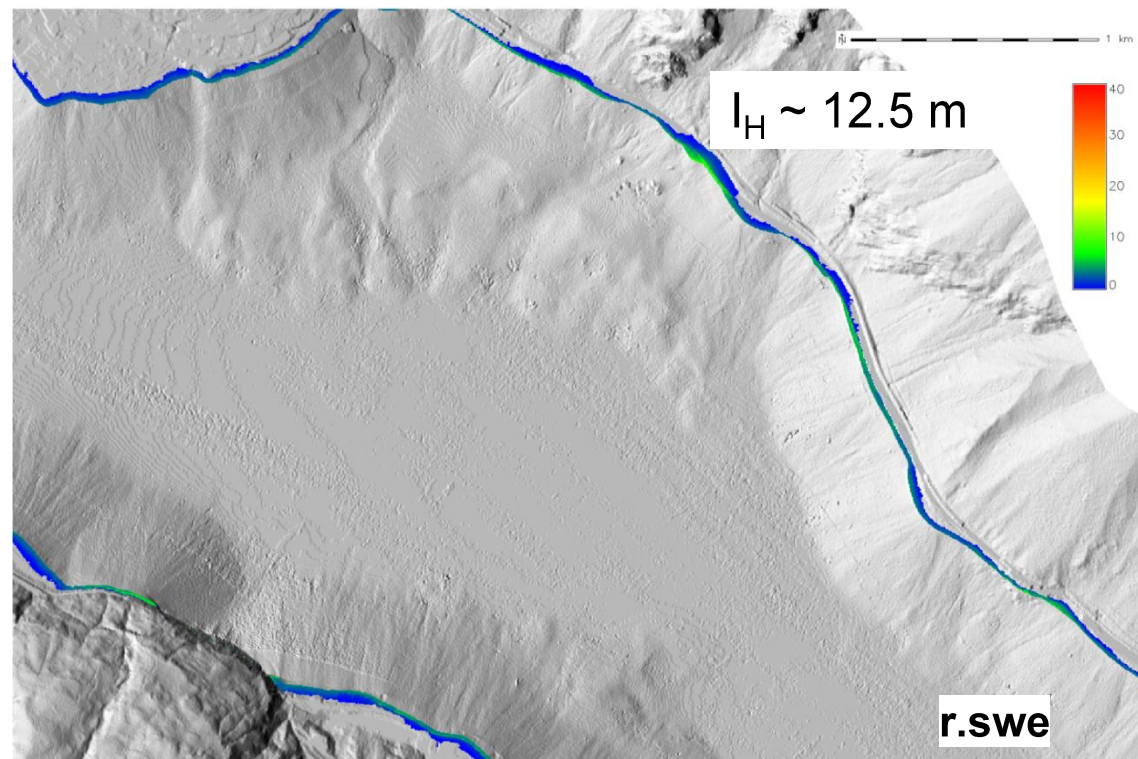
# Case study

- Considering uncertainties
- r.swe:
  - Is not affected by basin shape effects (already considered in wave propagation)
  - Is affected by mass type because the impact wave estimation depends on H2009



# Methods comparison

- Considering uncertainties
- SWE evaluate lower maximum inundation height and thus less flooding area

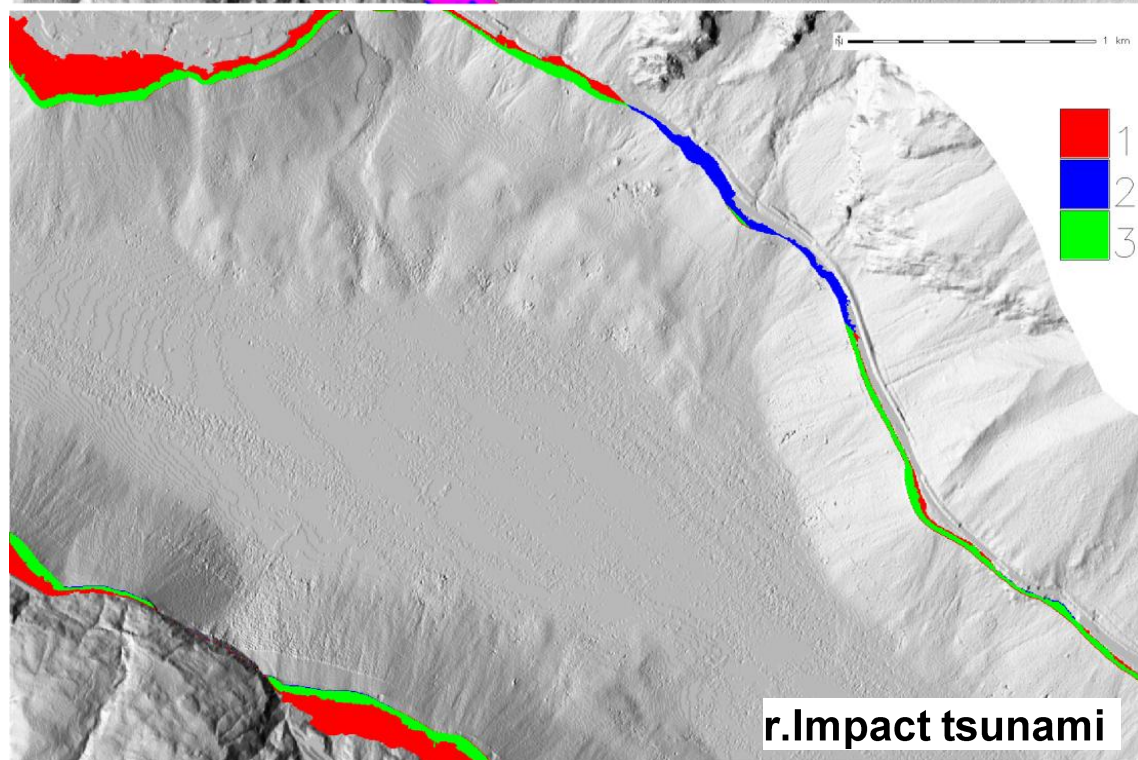
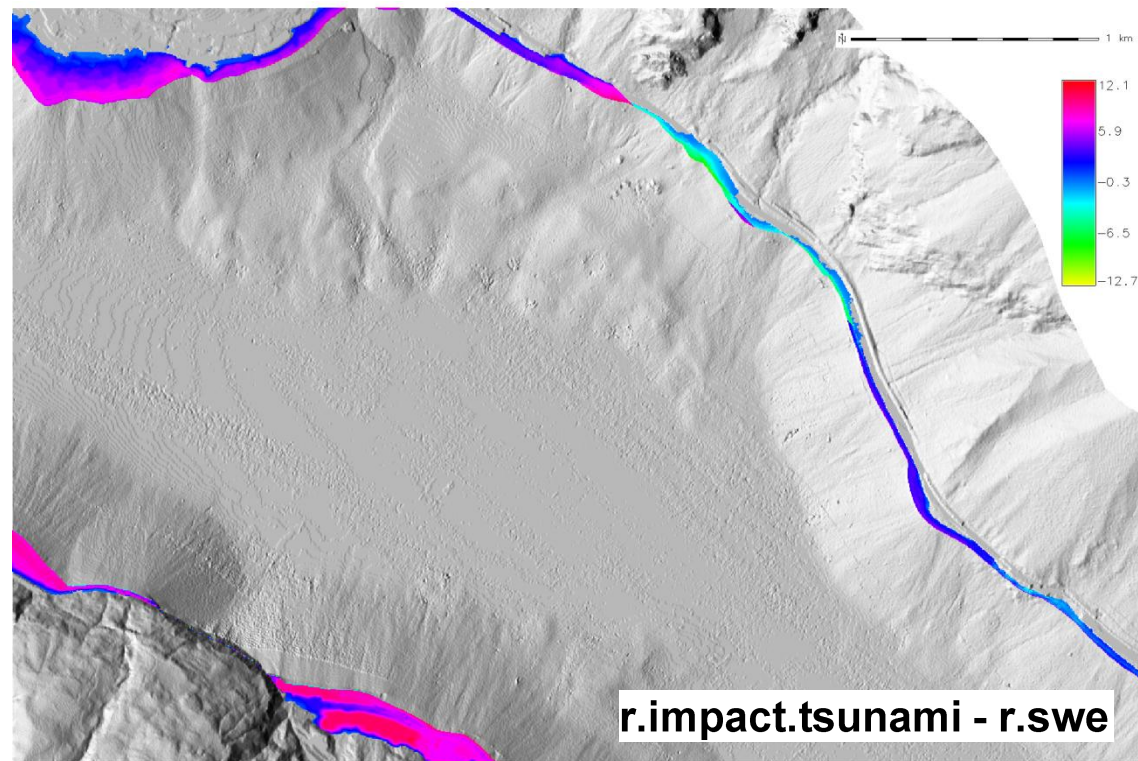




# Methods comparison

- H2009 - SWE
- difference type 1: inundation area estimated by the H2009 method and not by the SWE
- difference type 2: inundation area estimated by the SWE method and not by the H2009
- difference type 3: inundation area considered by both methods

Maximum difference	12.11 m
Mean difference	4.41 m
Std of differences	3.58 m
difference type 1: area	89,960 m <sup>2</sup>
difference type 2: area	16,542 m <sup>2</sup>
difference type 3: area	56,416 m <sup>2</sup>





## Conclusions

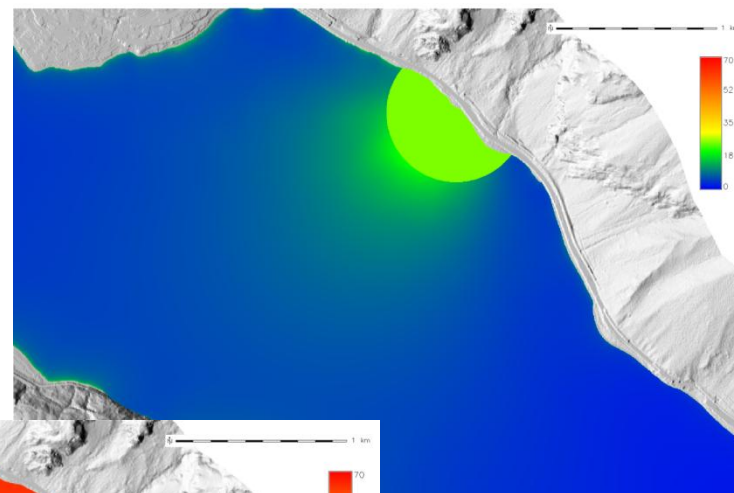
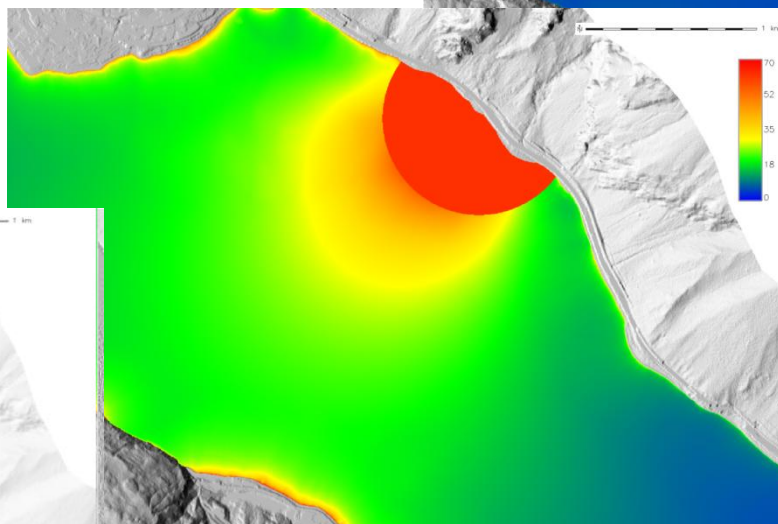
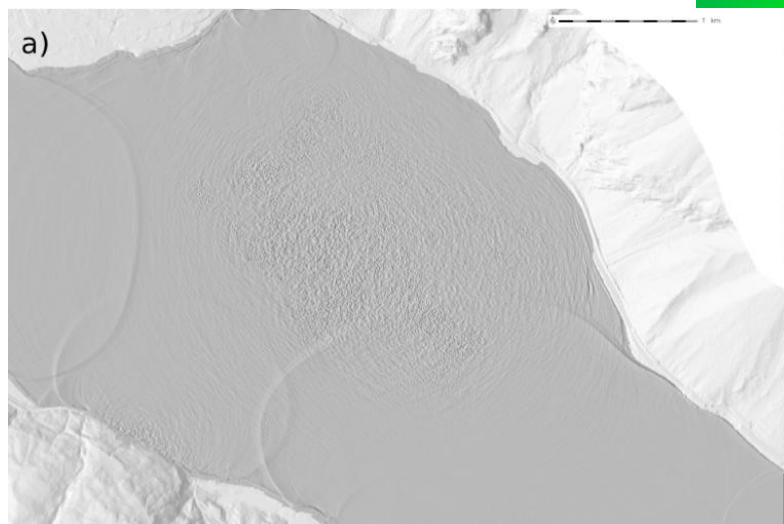
- The H2009 method has been implemented in GRASS (r.impact.tsunami)
- High uncertainty is given by bathymetry variation and in particular by mass type
- Predominant parameters are still water depth in the impact zone and the mass impact velocity
- The SWE method has been implemented in GRASS (r.swe)
- H2009 estimates higher inundation respect to SWE

## Conclusions

- Both methods can be used to estimate landslide-generated tsunamis
  - *r.impact.tsunami* has the advantage to be fast and requires low computational resources
  - *r.swe* has the advantage to account for basin shape effects
- **No data for validation + High uncertainties = methods provide only indications for analysis and therefore should be used with consciousness !!!**

**SUPSI**

Thanks for your  
attention



GRASS GIS