

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL JRC
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen
Global Security and Crisis Management Unit
CriTech

Wednesday, 03 March 2010

Tsunami Chile 27 February 2010

Part 3: Estimation of Coastal inundation

Generals

The objective of Tsunami simulations changes with the time elapsed from the time of the event (see Appendix A – type of Tsunami calculations). While the initial calculations, performed automatically few minutes after the event, had the objective the identification of the coastal section affected by the Tsunami, the objective now is to identify more precisely which are the cities and villages that could have been inundated by the Tsunami waves. The presence of the Tsunami waves on-shore could have amplified the impact of the earthquake and thus these could be the most damaged areas; this information could help in prioritizing the relief efforts.

At the moment the exact locations of the inundated areas are unknown or partially known. The knowledge of the water height off-shore is not sufficient to judge the possibility of inundation. In some cases high water level on the shore connected with steep shore prevents the possibility of damage on the coast.

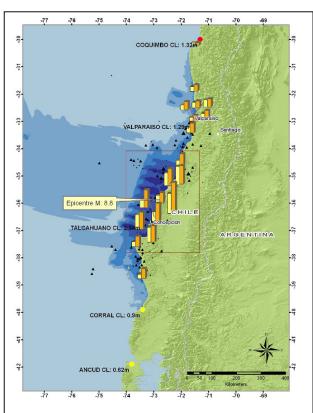


Figure 1 Finite fault model - Crust deformation and tsunami wave height with indication of possible inundated locations

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Inundation calculations require very high

resolution data for bathymetry and topography (as shown in previous events like Samoa 2009) which is not available for Chile. It is impossible to calculate precisely the exact inundation extent; nevertheless a preliminary indication of the potential inundated locations is possible. Early Warning calculations were performed using JRC-SWAN model while for these more detailed calculations the JRC model *HyFlux2* has been used.

The identified locations have also been compared with GIS extracted flat areas and with the available information present in media reports. The picture above shows the locations with an indication of the confirmation or not by media reports.

Coastal Inundation simulations

The calculations have been performed using SRTM30 PLUS Global topography (v 5.0)¹ for the bathymetry/topography, while for the crust deformation the Finite Fault Model solution has been adopted² Fig. 1 shows the initial deformation, which was applied on the initial water surface levels as well as on the bathymetry/topography, assuring at instant 0 the conservation of the total mass of liquid on each control volume of the space domain.

Cascade simulations have been set-up in order to simulate coastal inundation. In the present report the calculations listed in Table 1 are shown. For all the simulations the calculation time is of 3 hour.

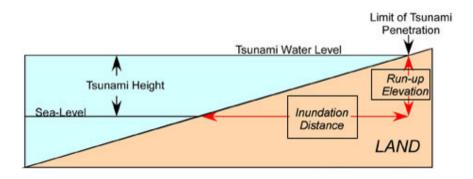
Calculation	Grid size	Latmin	Latmax	LonMin	LonMax
Coarse-dx.1800 (1 min)	1800	-40	-30	-80	-67.71
Coarse-dx.900 (0.5 min)	900	-42	-30	-81	-69
coarse-dx.300-sexta_quinta	300	-34.1	-30	-76	-70
coarse-dx.300-octava_septima	300	-37.7	-34	-74.5	-71.7
coarse-dx.300-novena	300	-40	-37.7	-76	-73
coarse-dx.300-robinson_crusoe	300	-34	-33	-81	-78

Table 1 - Simulations

Some of the relevant maps produced by the simulations are listed in Table 2.

	Max. water elevation (maps)	Run-up elevation (m)	Inundation distance (m)
Gray light	<0.2	<0.3	<30
Green	0.2 - 0.4	0.3 – 0.6	30 – 60
Yellow	0.4 - 0.8	0.6 – 1.2	60 – 120
Orange	0.8 – 1.6	1.2 - 2.4	120 – 240
Red	1.6 – 3.2	2.4 – 4.8	240 – 480
Magenta dark	>3.2	>4.8	>480

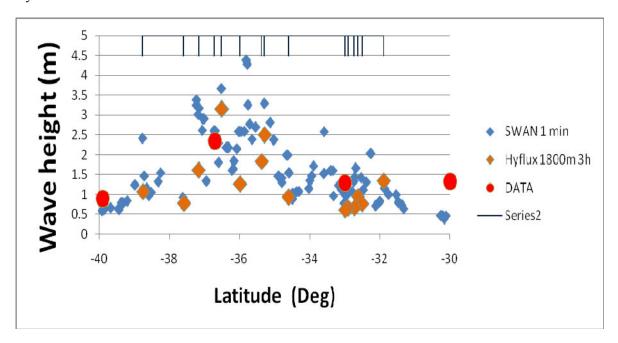
Table 2 - Maps produced by coastal simulations, see figure below for the definition of quantities



¹ http://topex.ucsd.edu/WWW html/srtm30 plus.html

 $^{^2\} http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqinthenews/2010/us2010tfan/finite_fault.php$

The figure below represents the distribution of wave heights along the latitude. The red dots are measured data, the blue diamonds are locations evaluated with the JRC-SWAN code (the model used for early warning calculations), the orange diamonds are the locations evaluated with the Hyflux code. The lines above indicate the locations considered inundated.



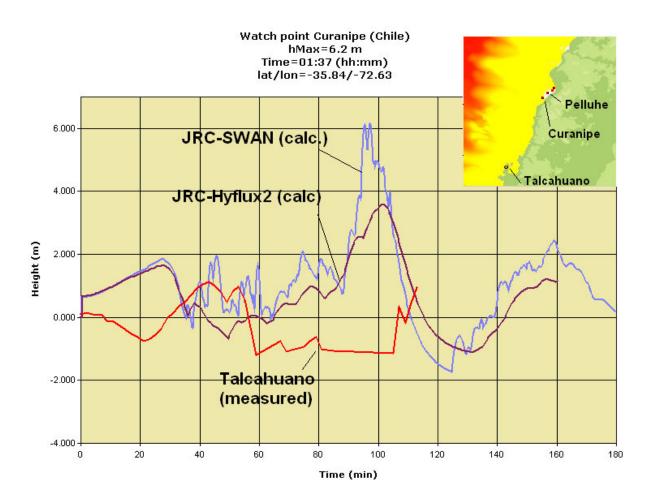
Within all these locations we have identified the table below which represents 16 locations in which the calculations indicated potential inundation, ordered by approaching wave height. Of these 5 have been confirmed by reading media reports. In the next days more information will be available and it will be possible to confirm other locations or add or remove locations.

The locations indicated do not mean an exact point but indicate an area around which inundation could be found. In the table the values ontained with SWAN are also reported; in general these values are higher than the ones obtained with Hyflux2, as it can be seen also by the plot above, but the general trend is conserved among the two codes.

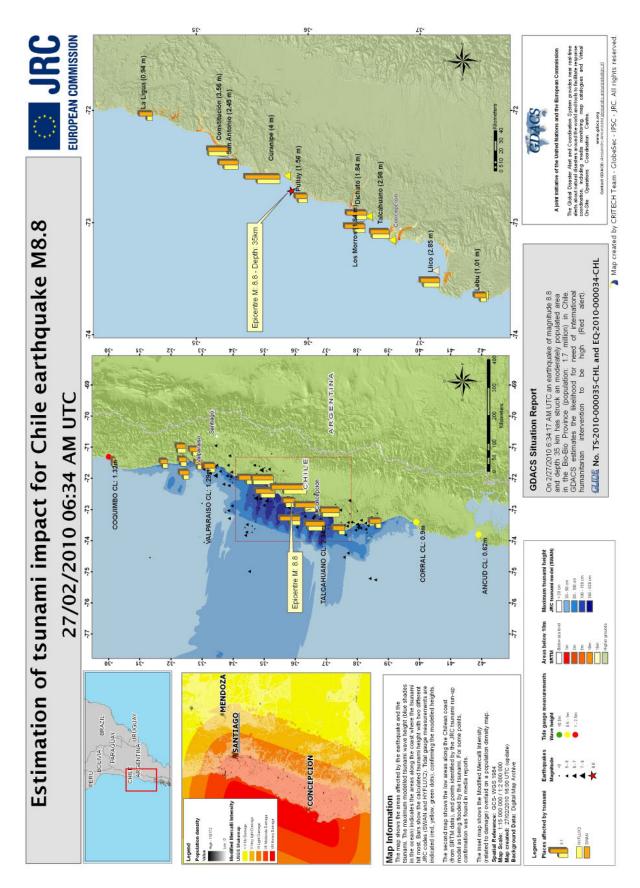
Location	Latitude	Longitude	Wave Height (m) (SWAN)	Time Max (hh:mm)	Inundation confirmed
Curanipe	-35.7493	-72.61455	4.00(6.2)	01:41	CONFIRMED
Constitución	-35.2917	-72.4199	3.56(3.7)	01:03	CONFIRMED
Talcahuano	-36.7251	-73.1037	2.98 (3.3)	02:09	CONFIRMED
Llico	-37.1751	-73.5373	2.85 (3.4)	01:55	NOT-CONFIRMED
San Antonio	-35.3751	-72.4866	2.45 (3.4)	01:19	CONFIRMED
Los Morros	-36.5084	-72.987	1.84(3.6)	00:38	CONFIRMED
Dichato	-36.5251	-72.9369	1.84(3.6)	00:38	CONFIRMED
Pullay	-35.9917	-72.7868	1.56 (2.1)	01:30	CONFIRMED
La Greda	-32.7251	-71.5193	1.46 (1.7)	00:44	NOT-CONFIRMED
La Laguna	-32.6251	-71.4526	1.41 (2.0)	00:41	NOT-CONFIRMED
Algarrobo	-33.3277	-71.6731	1.10 (1.9)	01:31	NOT-CONFIRMED
Papudo	-32.5085	-71.4693	1.02 (1.4)	02:36	NOT-CONFIRMED
Lebu	-37.5917	-73.6708	1.01 (2.1)	00:41	CONFIRMED
Concón	-32.9084	-71.536	0.97 (1.7)	00:20	NOT-CONFIRMED
La Ligua	-34.6084	-72.053	0.94 (2.3)	00:05	NOT-CONFIRMED
Puerto Saavedra	-38.7584	-73.4539	0.87 (2.0)	02:32	NOT-CONFIRMED
Conchalí	-31.8918	-71.536	0.85 (1.3)	02:32	NOT-CONFIRMED
Valparaíso	-32.9918	-71.5693	0.77 (1.2)	00:40	NOT-CONFIRMED
Tongoy	-30.2108	-71.48982	0.53 (0.5)	02:38	NOT-CONFIRMED

In the following sections a more detailed analysis of each of the 16 locations is indicated. The locations are ordered by Administrative Entities.

The figure below reports the behavior of the wave in the location which was mostly affected, which is the one between -35.88 and -35.75 that includes the locations of Curanipe and Pelluhe and other small villages. It is interesting to note that, although the fault was very close to the coast and even included part of the coast, the main wave that caused most damage occurred after 1.5 h from the earthquake. Both JRC-SWAN and Hyflux show a very similar trend with a second large wave at this time. This is also confirmed by one measurement that was not very close to this location but that shows a second wave at about 100 min and then the measurement is broken.

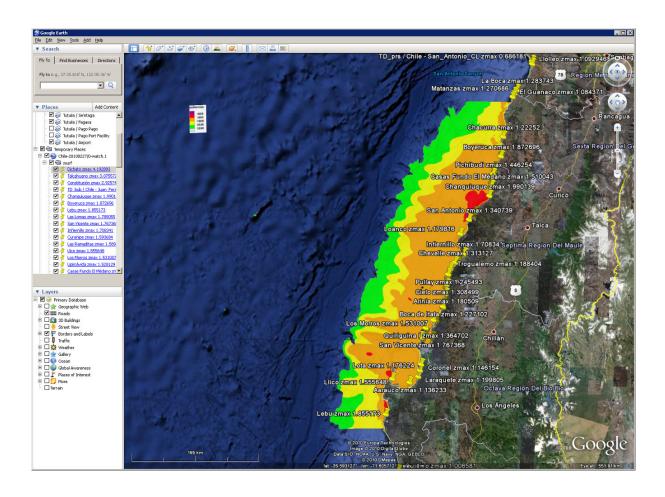


Overall Map



Septima, Octava Region

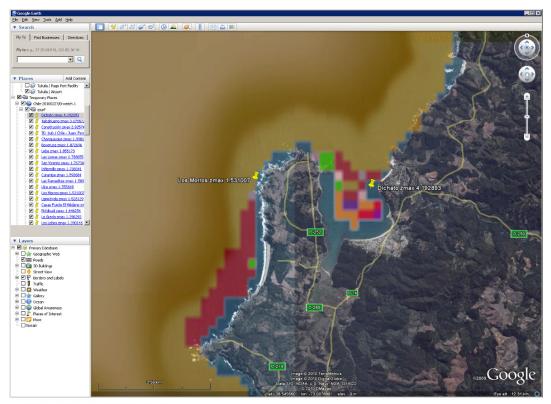
- Dichato
- Talcahuano
- Costitution
- Lebu
- Pelluhe, Curanipe



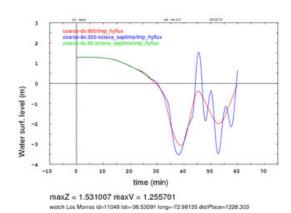
Dichato
http://guanabee.com/2010/03/terremoto-dichato-chile/





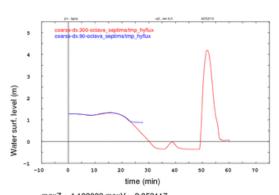


Los Morros zmax 1.531007



Directions: <u>To here</u> - <u>From here</u>

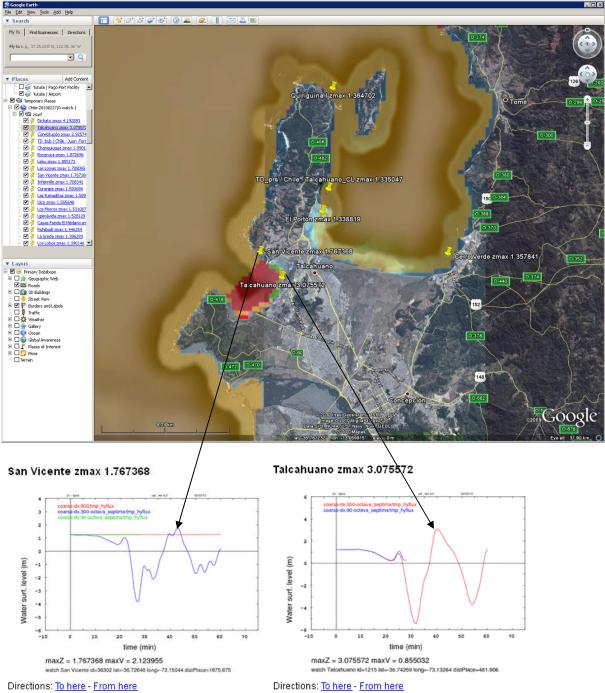
Dichato zmax 4.192893



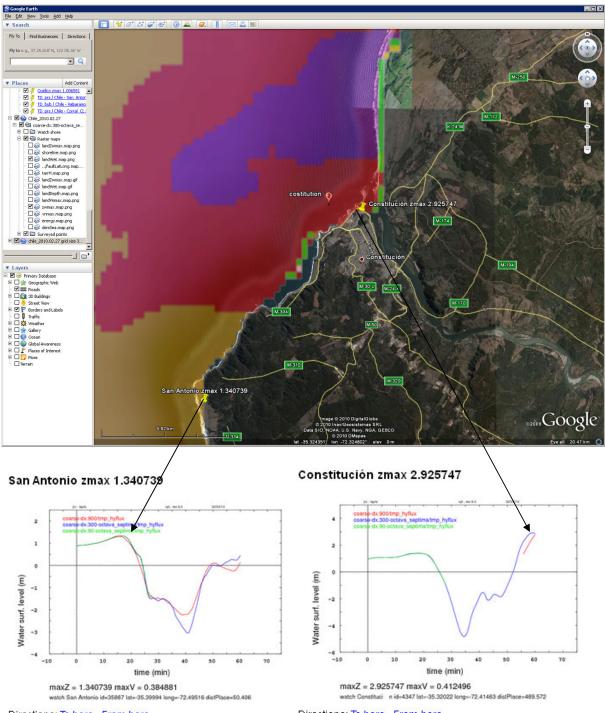
 $maxZ = 4.192893 \; maxV = 2.853117 \\$ watch Dichato id=11050 late-36.53306 longe-72.94035 distPlace=1877.044

Directions: To here - From here

Talcahuano

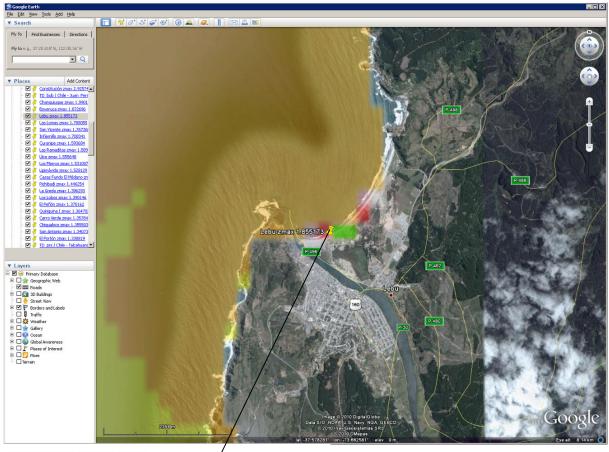


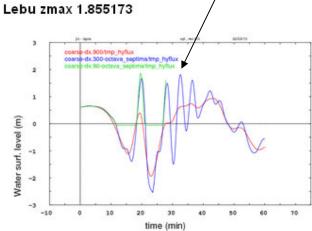
Costitution



Directions: To here - From here Directions: To here - From here

Lebu



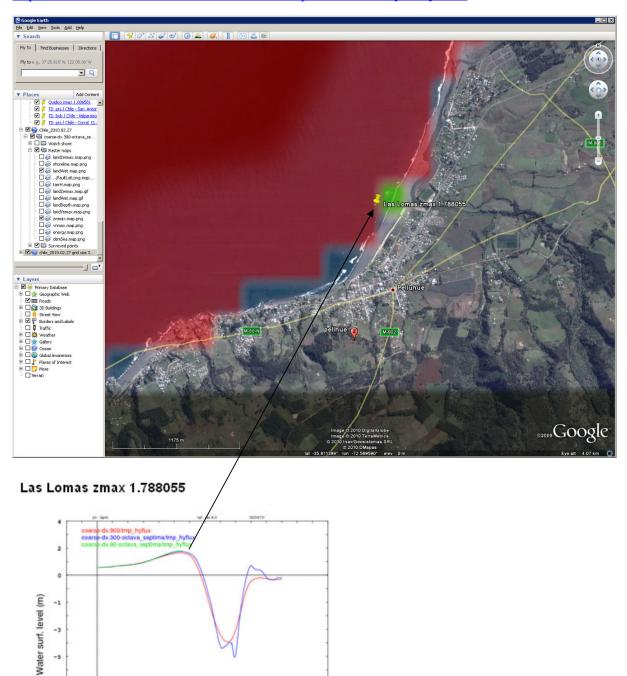


maxZ = 1.855173 maxV = 1.354474 watch Lebu id=11055 lat=-37.59681 long=-73.65621 distPlace=1326.291

Directions: To here - From here

Pelluhe, Curanipe

http://newsbizarre.com/2010/02/resort-town-of-pelluhue-destroyed-by.html



time (min)

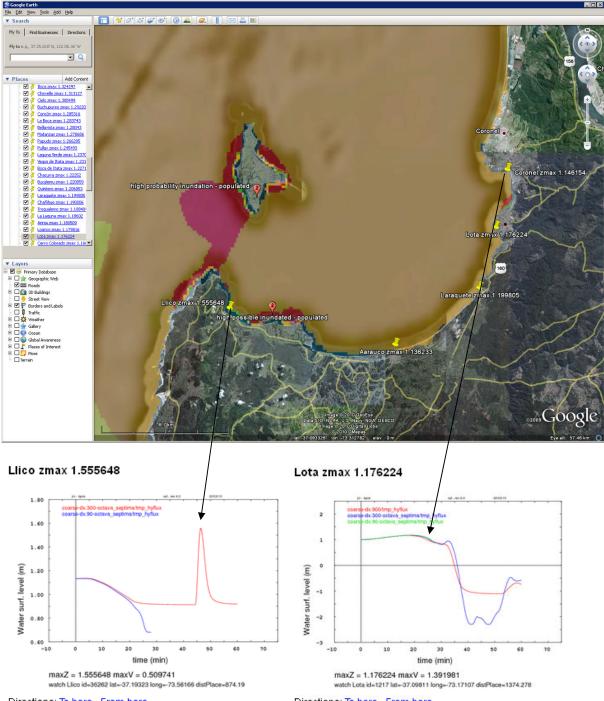
maxZ = 1.788055 maxV = 1.135263

witch Las Lomas id=11042 lat=35.80755 long=72.57544 distPlace=178.624

Directions: To here - From here

-7 -

Llico

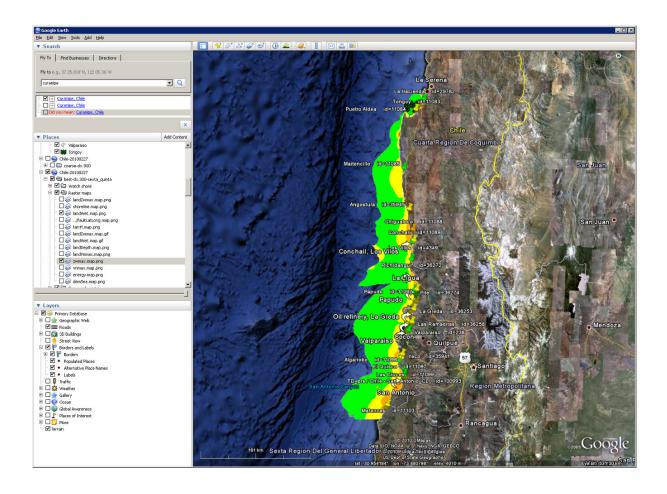


Directions: To here - From here

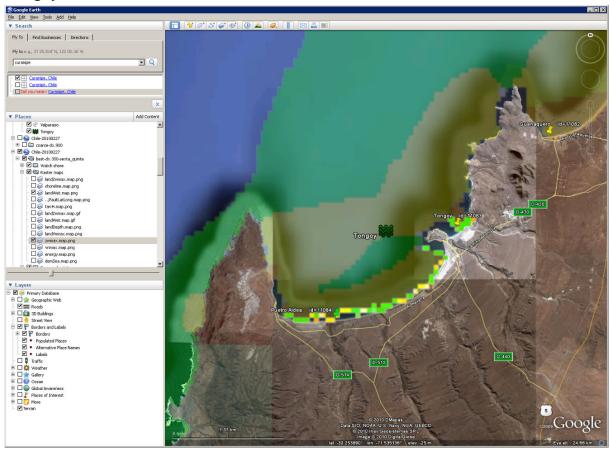
Directions: To here - From here

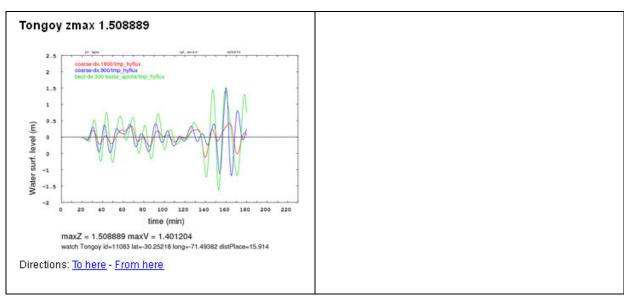
Sexta Quinta Region

- Tongoy
- Concon
- La Greda
- Papudo
- Conchail, Los Vilo
- La Ligua
- La Laguna
- San Antonio
- Valparaiso
- Alcarroco

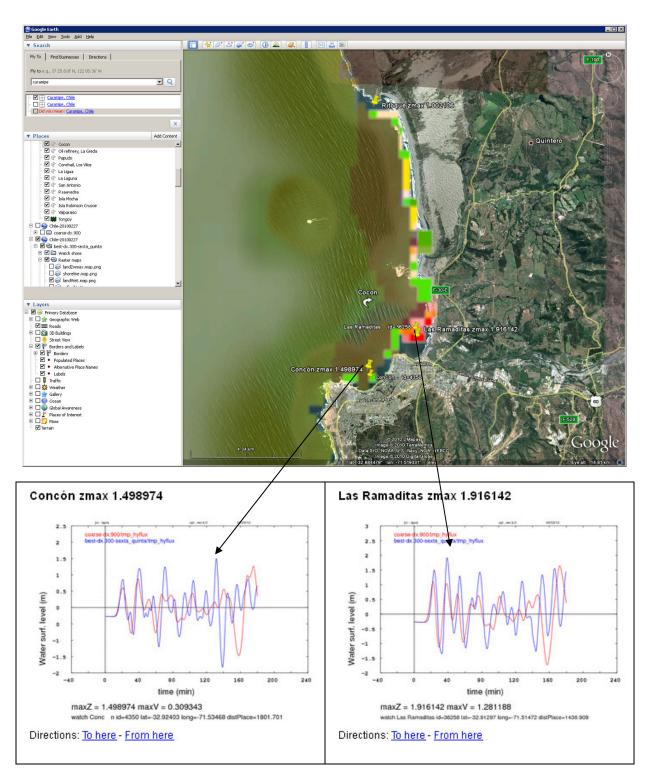


Tongoy

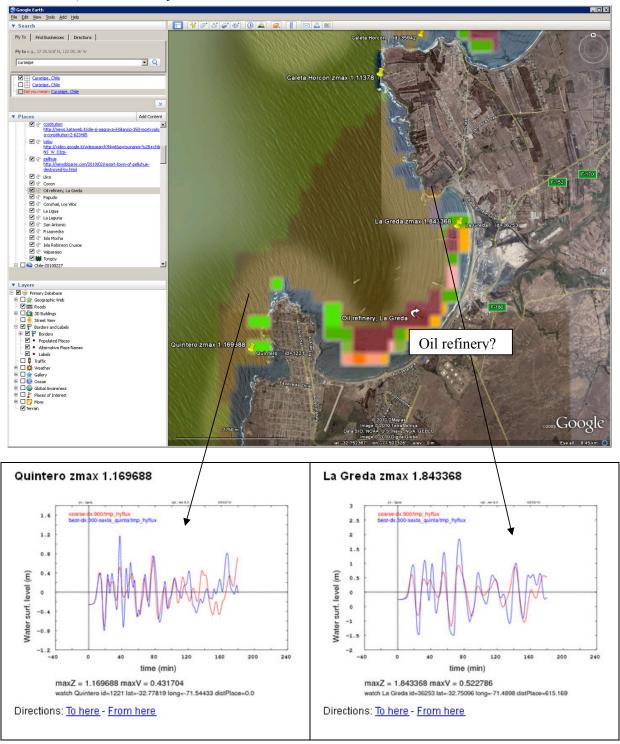




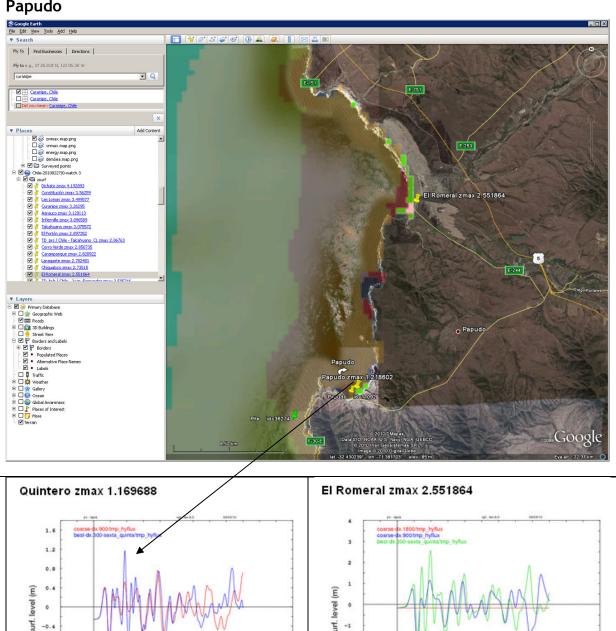
Concon

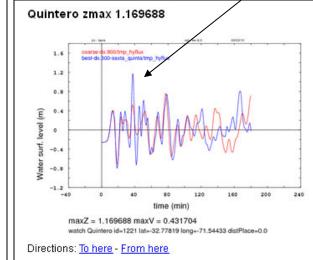


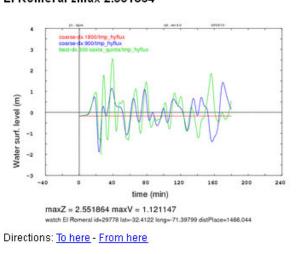
La Greda, Oil refinery



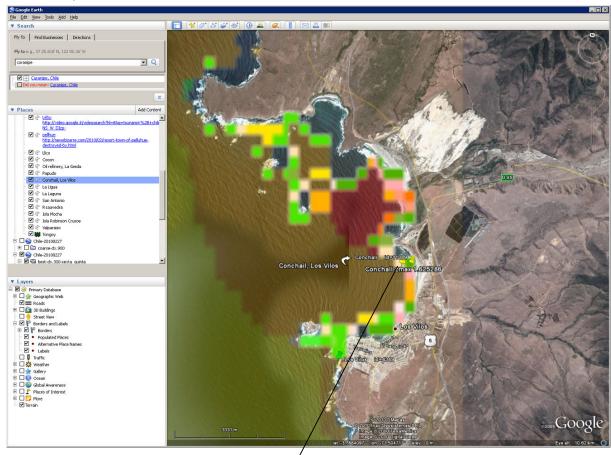
Papudo

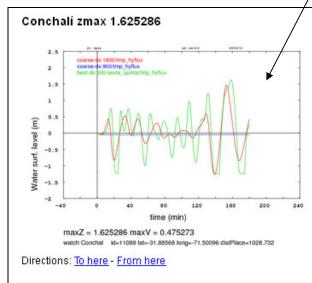




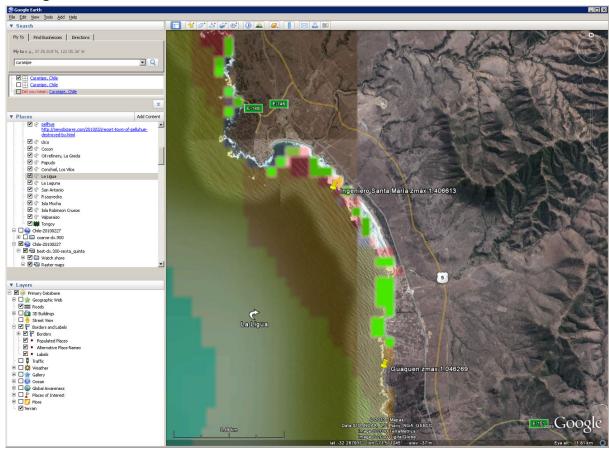


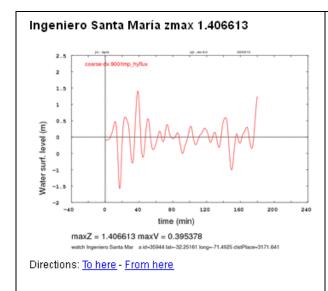
Conchail, Los Vilos

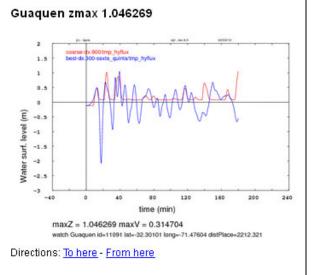




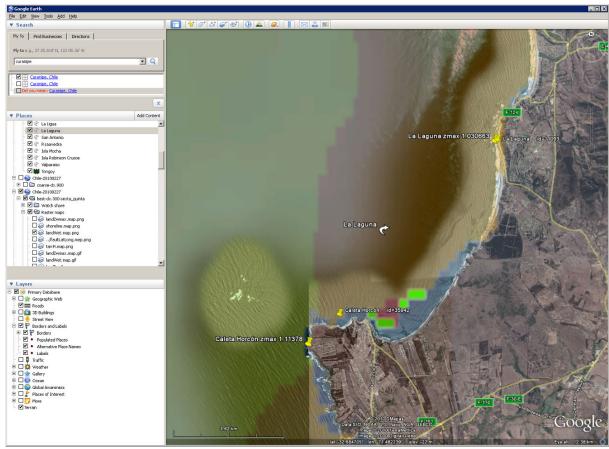
La Ligua

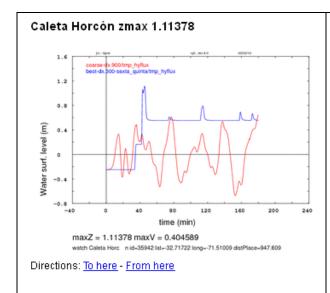


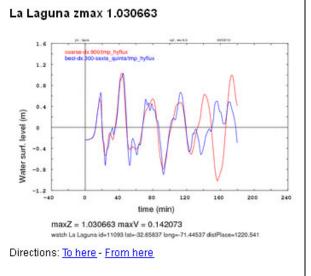




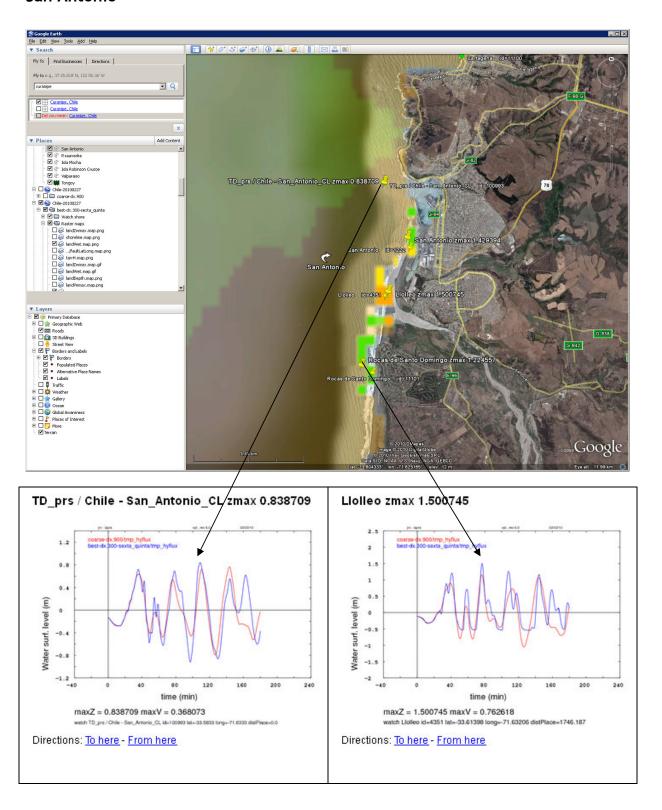
La Laguna



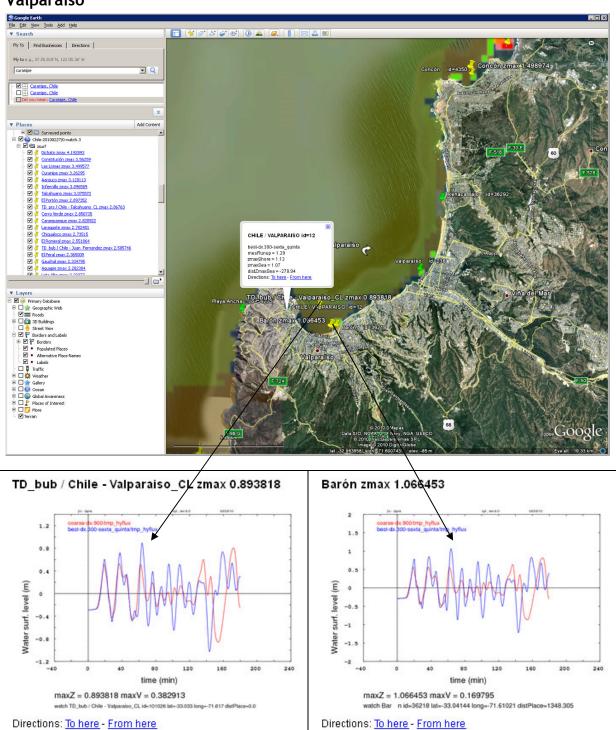




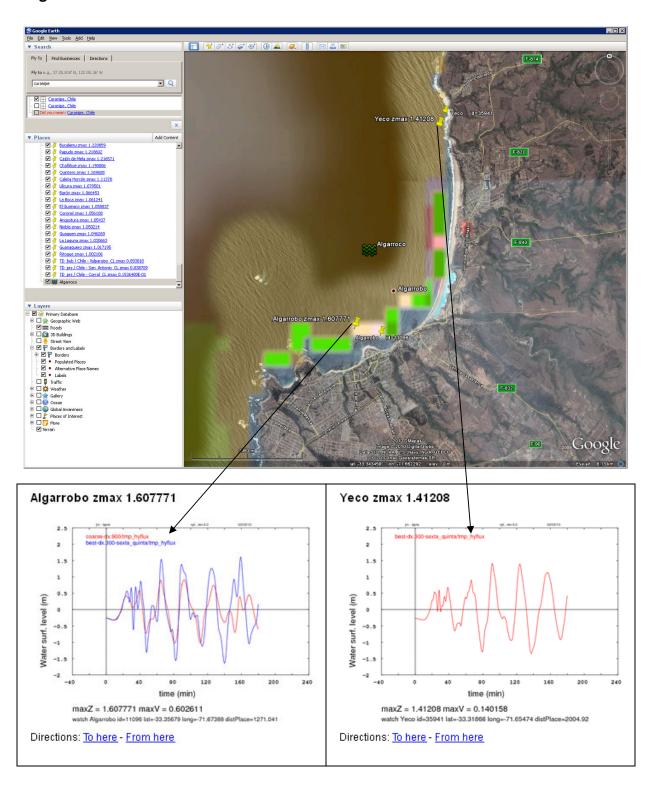
San Antonio



Valparaiso

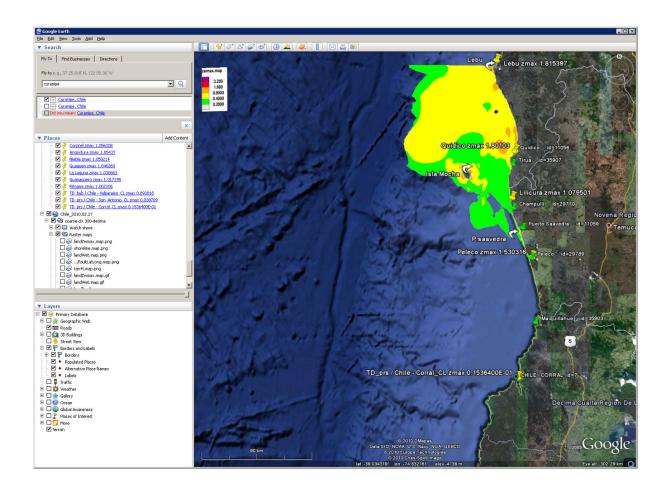


Algarroco

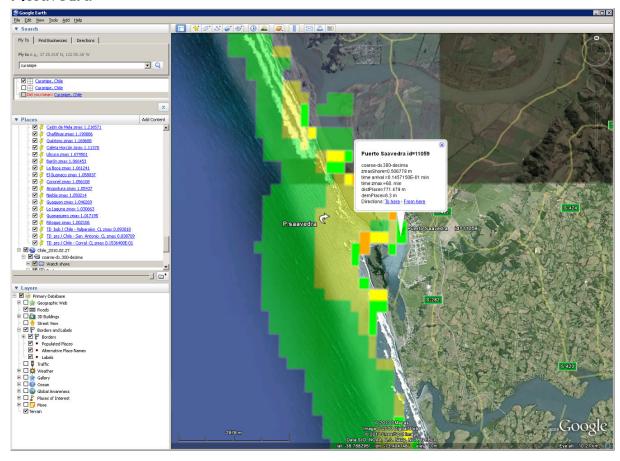


Novena Region

- P.ssavedra
- Isla Mocha
- Isla Robinson Crusoe

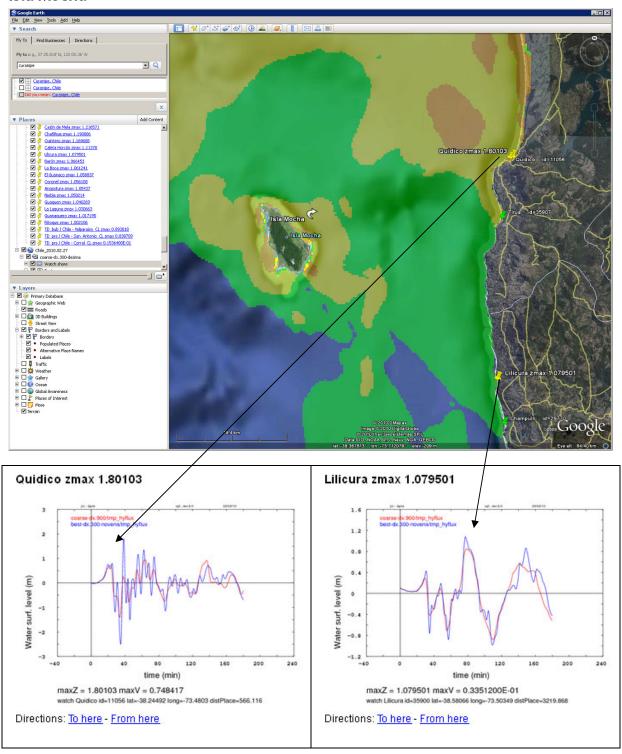


P.ssavedra

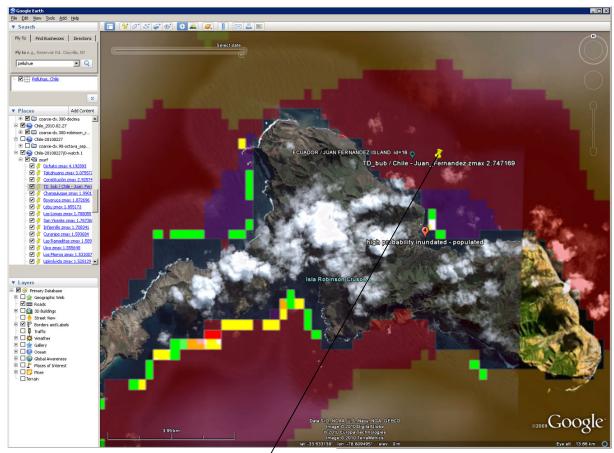


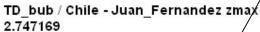
No water surface graphs are available, but populate area could be effected by inundation

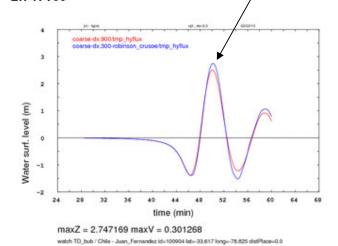
Isla Mocha



Isla Robinson Crusoe







Directions: To here - From here

Appendix A - Types of Tsunami calculations

Several types of calculations and each of them has its own merit and needs.

Near-real time calculations

- These are performed very quickly after an event and can only use the information available 15-20 min after the event. The fault mechanism is not very well known (conservative assumptions must be done) and the position or the depth is not precise at the beginning.
- o The nodalisation is rather coarse (cell size between 2 and 8 km) to shorten the calculation time.
- The objective of these calculation is the identification of the affected locations without pretending to exactly predict the height in all the locations.

• Grid scenario calculations

- These are performed before an event for all likely tsunami scenarios. General assumptions on the fault mechanism must be done (conservative).
- o The nodalisation is rather coarse (cell size between 2 and 8 km) to shorten the calculation time a limit the data volume.
- The objective of these calculation is the same as the near real-time calculations, but with even faster response times: calculations are not performed but alert systems can look up the scenario results in a database.

• Post event calculations

- They are performed one or two days after an event when more information is available on the fault mechanism.
- The nodalisation becomes more detailed (cell size between 200 and 900m) in order to accurately estimate the results.
- The objective is to identify more precisely the locations and try to estimate the runup height and the potential damage in the various coastal areas. In case an impact assessment is requested, inundation calculations are performed. In this case it is necessary to increase the detail level by reducing the cell size, i.e. down to 10-20m. The results are affected by the precision of the available topography and bathymetry, buildings, infrastructures, etc.

• Risk assessment and risk management calculations

- o These are performed before an event and are based on historical events.
- These calculations are aimed at preparing evacuation plans in case of tsunami. They are very much site specific and in general it is necessary to perform very detailed calculations reducing the cell size down to 5-20m. Correspondingly also the bathymetry has to be specified with extreme detail which is not available worldwide.

The GDACS system is triggering *near-real time calculations*, which provide the appropriate information for its alerting functions..