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3D linked subduction, dynamic rupture, tsunami and inundation modeling

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Linking steps

- a) Seismo-thermal-mechanical model captures geodynamics and seismic cycle (van Zelst et al., 2019)
- b) **Dynamic rupture modeling** of a single earthquake
- c) Time-depentend co-seismic seafloor displacement
- d) Non-linear hydrostatic tsunami propagation & inundation model

Workflow adapted from Madden et al. 2020



Initial earthquake conditions



- Fault geometry evolves during long-term subduction process (van Zelst et al., 2019)
- Stresses and strength on the fault show potential "points of failure"
- Hypocenter choosen at failure locations



On fault stresses in 3D

- We copy all material properties to the 3rd dimension
- 4 model families with hypocenters at 25, 30, 40 and 45km depth
- Lateral hypocenter variation to 25% and 75% of the fault
- I reference model 3B





- 2 sharp increases in fault dip
 - between 225 and 255km
 - between 270 and 290km
 - Represent 2
 topographic highs on the fault

On-fault rupture evolution

For shallow
 hypocenter we
 observe supershear
 evolution in downdip
 direction



On-fault rupture evolution

For deeper
 hypocenter we
 observe supershear
 evolution in updip
 direction





We observe

- Supershear triggered at topographic highs
- Barely a difference in rupture dynamics for different hypocenter depths
- Minor bimaterial effects for lateral varying hypocenter locations



Seafloor displacement is filtered and used as timedependent input for tsunami model sam(oa)^2-flash



- Apply Fourier filter to separate the significant frequency-wavenumber coefficients of the permanent displacement from the ones of seismic waves
- We erase seismic waves from the seafloor perturbation by designing a kernel to zero out the radial symmetric waves in the frequency-wavenumber representation



Tsunami setup

1. Linear sloping beach

- toe at x = 500 km with an inclination of 5%
- coastline is located at x = 540 km

2. Complex beach based on Okushiri geometry



(Yeh et al., 1996)



Seasurface height linear and complex coast



- Linear sloping beach: ssh max. 6.5 meter
- Complex beach geometry: ssh max. ~8 meter





Co-seismic ocean response phases

- Reflect the acoustic, seismic and near-field displacements around the rupture front
- Appear for supershear earthquakes as well as for the "tsunami earthquake"
- Propagate within the DR model and during the dynamic tsunami generation process





- Increase Poisson's ratio from 0.25 to 0.3
 → model 5
- Triple fracture energy by increasing the critical slip weakening distance Dc from 0.1 to 0.3

→ model 6



Dynamic Rupture results

- Model 3B (reference model, unchanged):
- Model 5 (increased fracture energy):
- Model 6 (increased Poisson's ratio):

supershear in updip direction low rupture speed supershear in updip direction





Dynamic Rupture results



Model 3B: high peak slip rate and low final slip

- Model 5: low peak slip rate and highest amount of shallow slip
- Model 6: high peak slip rate and large amount of shallow slip



Inundation results at the coast



- Latest arrival and greatest inundation area for model 5
- Similar arrival time for model 3B and 6

Seasurface height at the coast

- Highest sea surface height for model 5, ~7.5 meter
- Ssh of model 6 ~0.25m lower
- Lowest sea surface height for reference model 3B, ~5.5 meter

→ Model 5: Tsunami model











- Supershear is triggered at topographic highs
- Barely a difference in rupture dynamics for different hypocenter depths
- Minor bimaterial effects
- Higher Poisson's ratio facilitates slip and leads to higher seafloor uplift and greater tsunami amplitude
- Higher fracture energy → tsunami earthquake with low rupture velocity, high amount of shallow slip and greatest tsunami

(Wirp et al., Front. Earth Sci. 2020)



Future worst-case DR-tsunami scenarios should include

Complex coastline Earthquake with low rupture speed and accumulated shallow slip Seafloor bathymetry to account for shoaling effect

