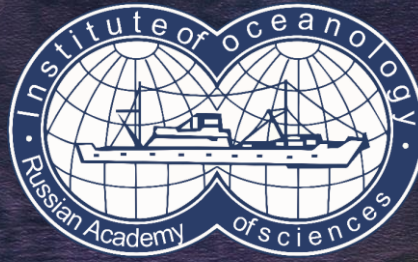




St Petersburg  
University



# Short-period internal waves in tidal seas on various types of shelf according to *in situ* and satellite observations

**Egor Svergun**<sup>1,2</sup> and Aleksey Zimin<sup>1,2</sup>

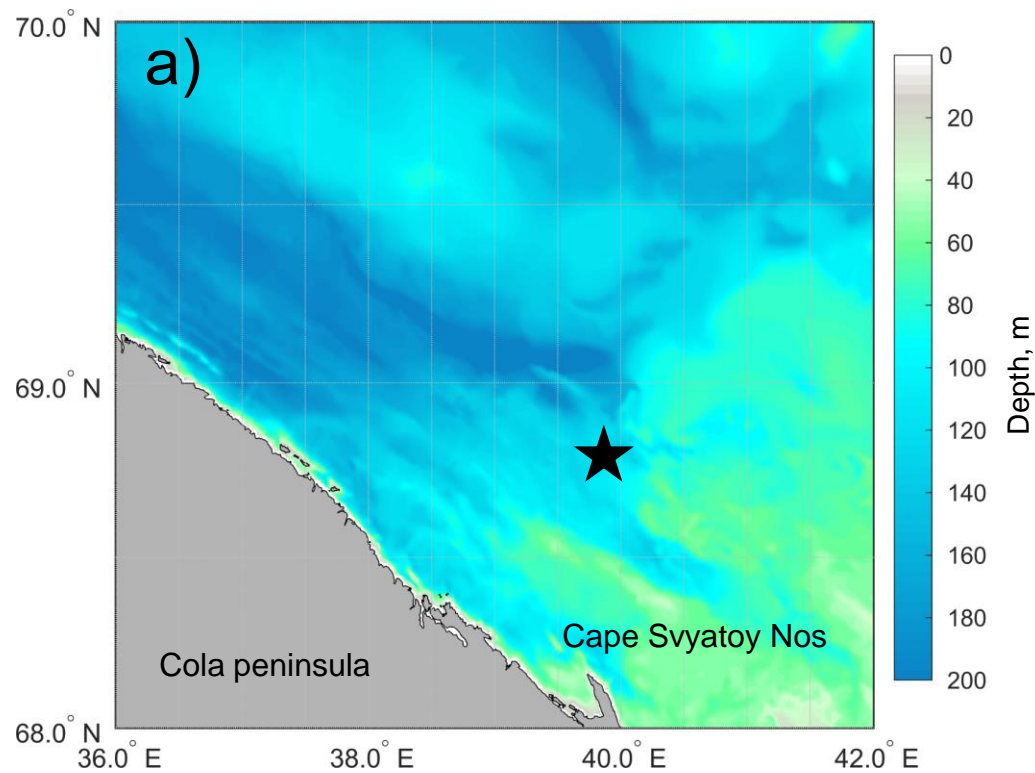
<sup>1</sup>Saint Petersburg State University, Saint Petersburg, Russia

<sup>2</sup>Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia

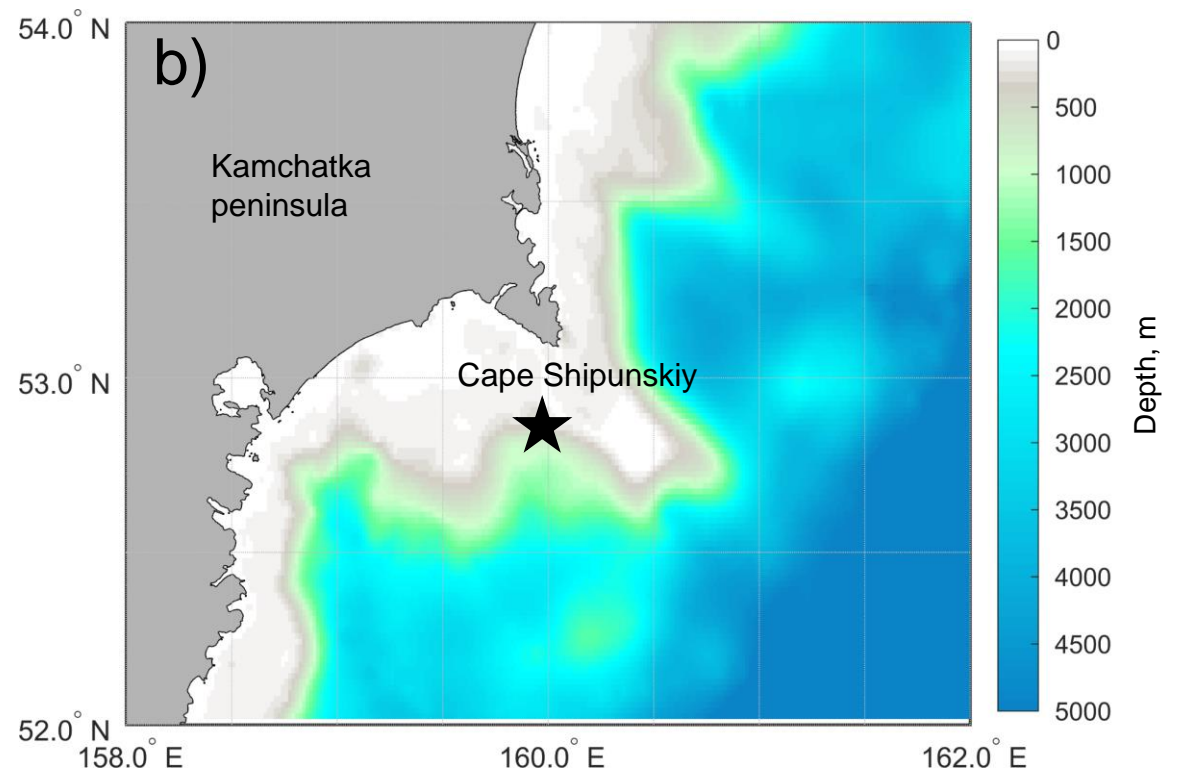




# Regions under study



Average bottom slope: 4 m/km



Average bottom slope: 100 m/km

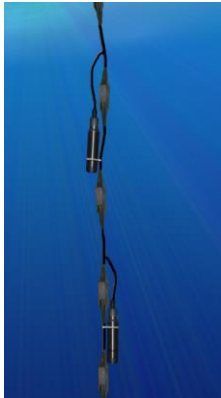
Regions of in situ measurements:  
a) –in the Barents Sea in August 2016;  
b) –in the Avacha Bay in August – September 2018.



# Materials and methods

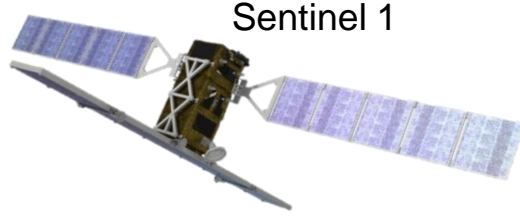


CTD-probe SBE-25

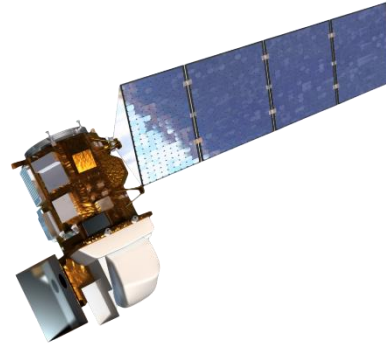


Thermistor chain PME

In situ measurement  
equipment



Sentinel 1



Landsat 8



Sentinel 2

Satellite observations

Phase speed of NLIW's  
by in situ measurements  
(Kozlov et al., 2014):

$$c = \sqrt{g \frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho} \frac{h_1(H - h_1)}{h_1 + (H - h_1)}}$$

Phase speed of NLIW's  
by in satellite observations  
(Kozlov et al., 2014):

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{g}{k} \frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho} \frac{1}{\text{cth}(kh_1) + \text{cth}(k(H - h_1))}}$$

$g$  – gravity acceleration,  
 $\Delta\rho = \rho_2 - \rho_1$ ,  
 $\rho_2$  – density of lower layer  
 $\rho_1$  – density of upper layer,  
 $\rho = (\rho_2 + \rho_1)/2$ ,  
 $H$  – total water depth,  
 $h_1$  – thickness of upper layer,  
 $k = 2\pi/\lambda$ ,  $\lambda$  – wavelength.

Ursell parameter (Serebryanny, 1985):

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \eta (\lambda / 2)^2$$

$$\alpha = \frac{3}{2} c \frac{1 - h_1 / h_2}{h_1} \quad \beta = \frac{c h_1 h_2}{6}$$

Tidal body force criterium  
(Pichon, 2013):

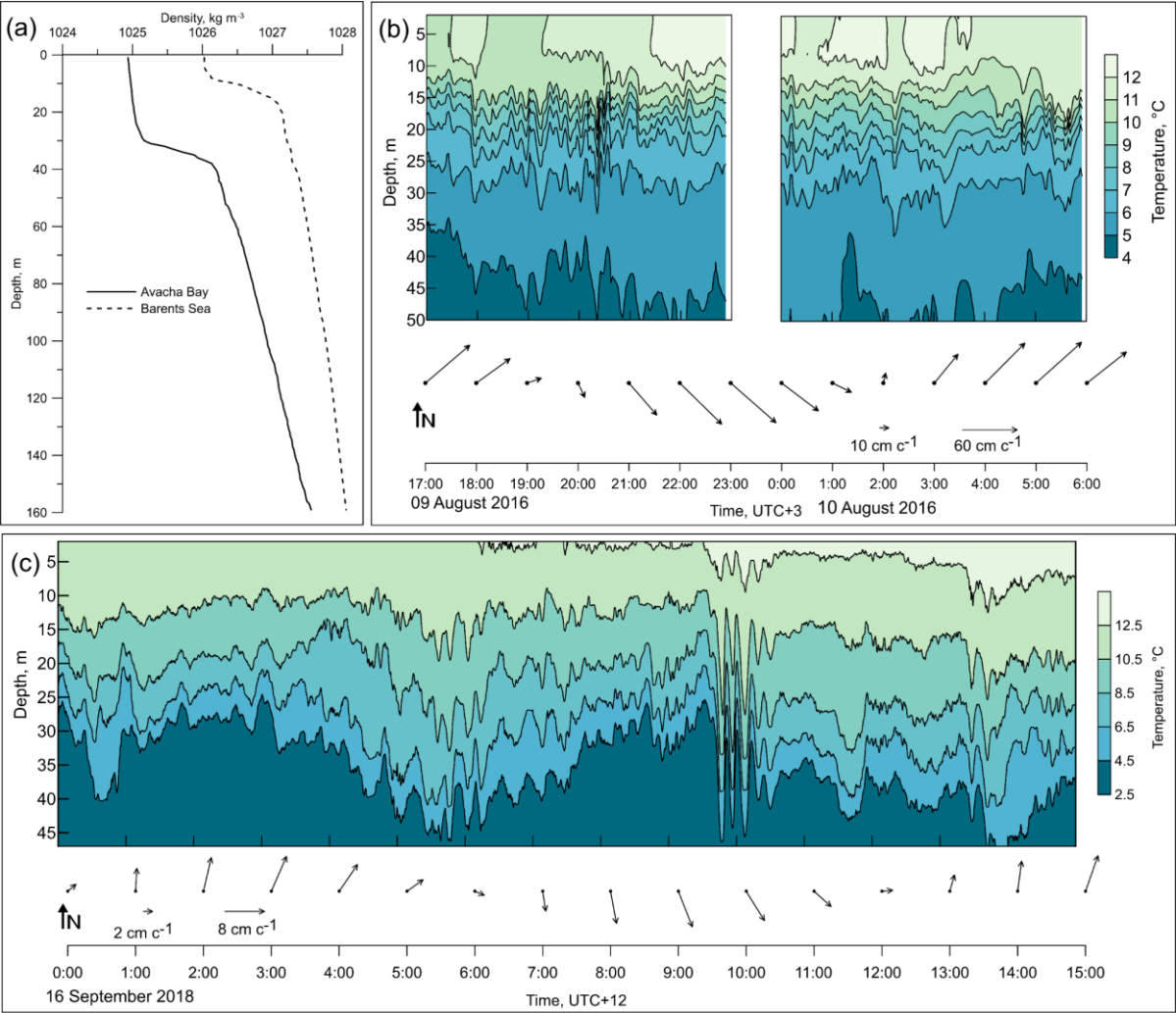
$$TBF = \frac{2\pi N^2}{\omega} \left[ Q_x \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} + Q_y \frac{\partial H}{\partial y} \right]$$

Internal Froude number  
(Jackson et al., 2012):

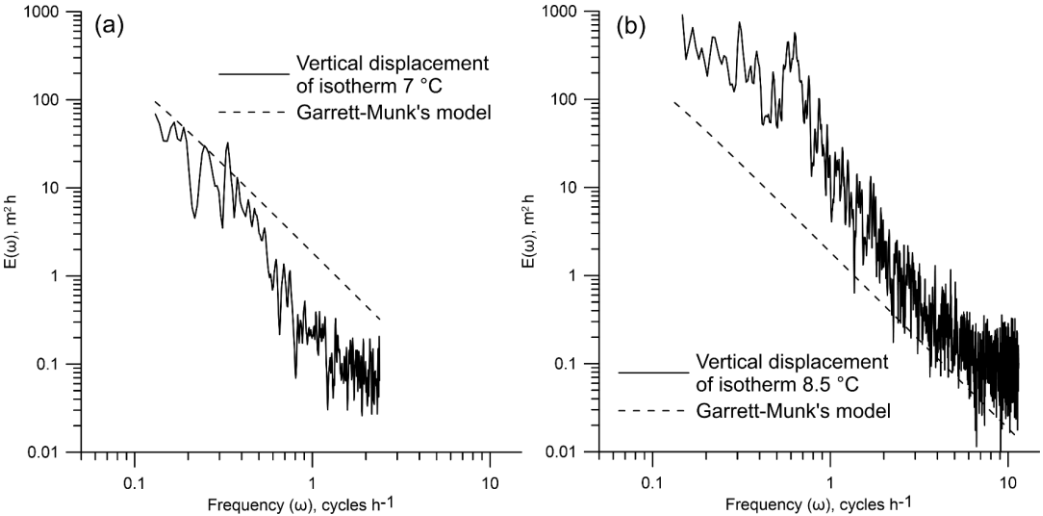
$$Fr = \frac{V_m}{c}$$

$\eta$  – amplitude of NLIW's,  
 $h_2$  – thickness of lower layer,  
 $N^2$  – Brunt-Vaisala frequency,  
 $\omega$  – tidal frequency,  
 $Q_x$  and  $Q_y$  – zonal and meridional amplitude of  
 tidal flux,  
 $dH/dx$  and  $dH/dy$  – zonal and meridional  
 topography gradient,  
 $V_m$  – magnitude of tidal current.

# NLIW's characteristics by in situ observations



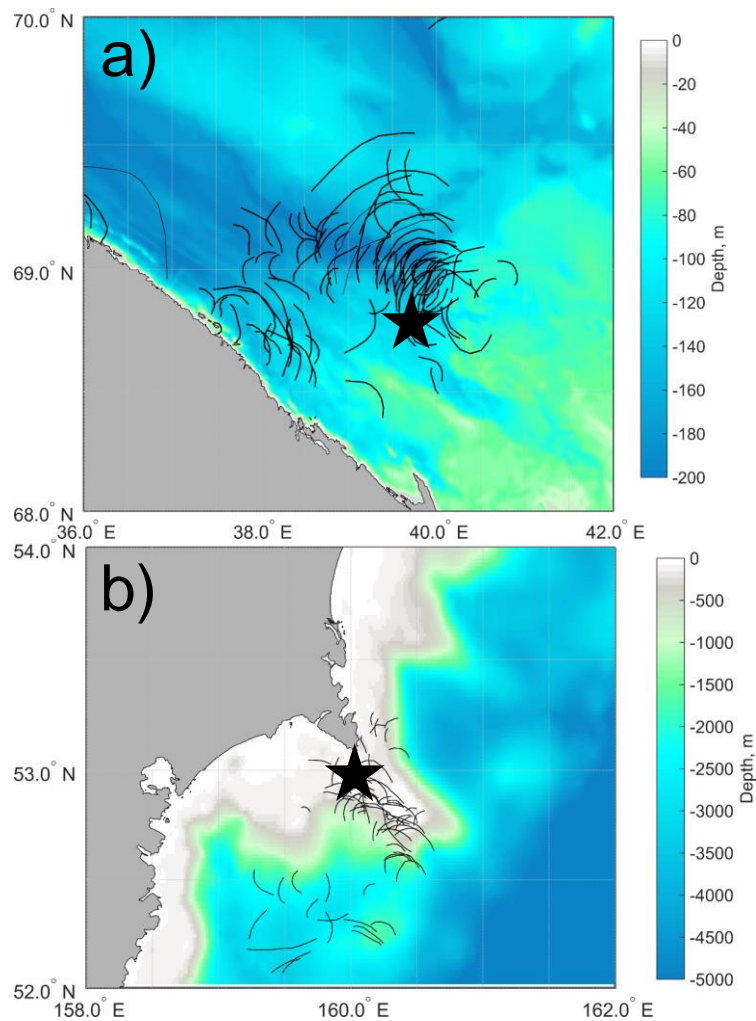
| Characteristic | Barents Sea | Avacha Bay |
|----------------|-------------|------------|
| $\eta$ , m     | 4           | 8          |
| $c$ , m/s      | 0.57        | 0.65       |
| $\sigma^2$     | 15          | 28         |



- a) – profiles of vertical density distribution according to CTD data  
b) – recording of isotherm fluctuations and tidal currents of the M2 harmonic for the Barents Sea;  
c) – Recording of oscillations of isotherms and tidal currents of the M2 harmonic for the Avacha Bay.

The spectrum of vertical displacements of isotherms in the pycnocline layer, combined with the theoretical Garrett-Munk spectrum:  
a) –in the Barents Sea;  
b) –in the Avacha Bay.

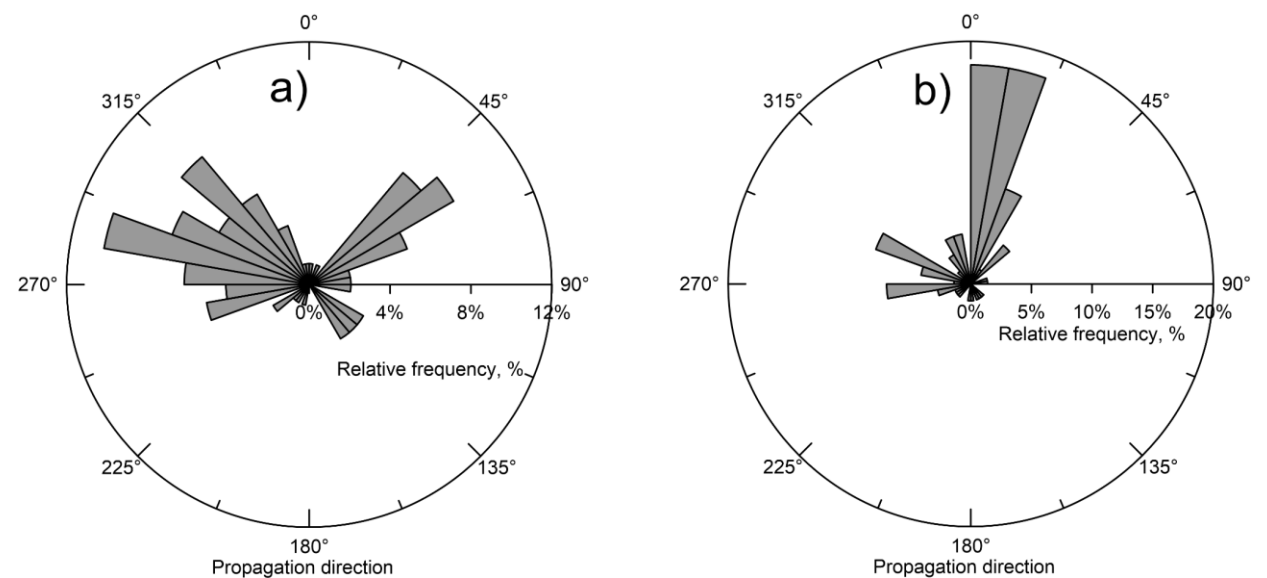
# NLIW's characteristics by satellite observations



Position of the manifestations of NLIW's according to satellite observations:

- a) in the Barents Sea;
- b) in the Avacha Bay.

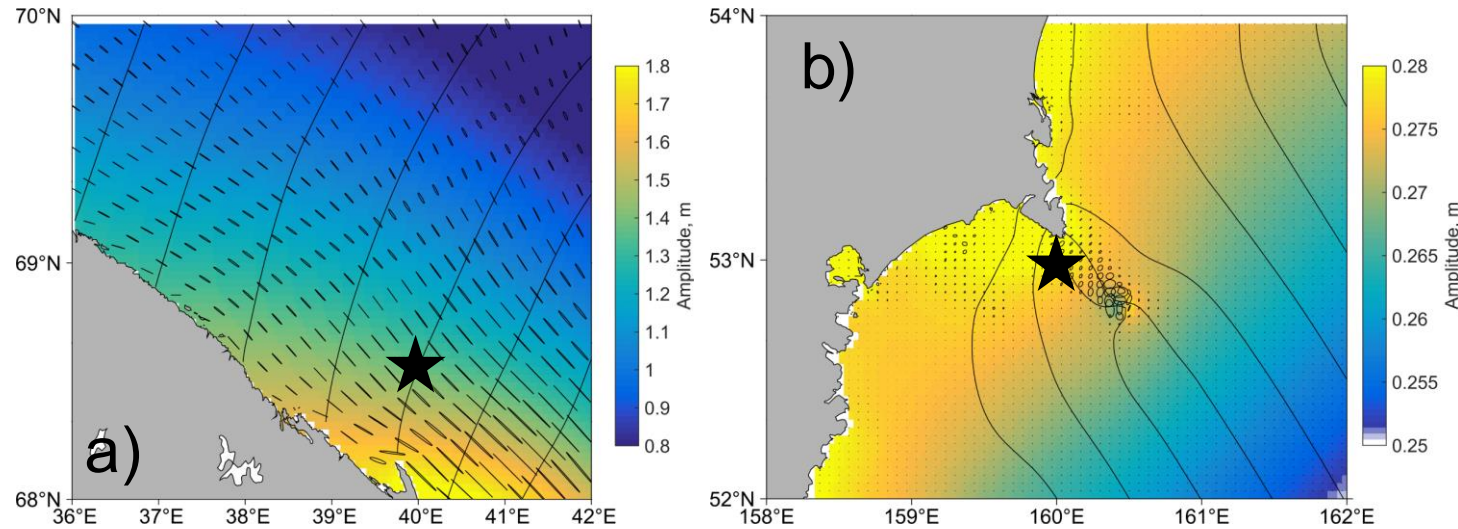
| Characteristic                        |         | Barents Sea | Avacha Bay |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------|------------|
| Total number of NLIW's manifestations |         | 93          | 72         |
| Wavelength, m                         | average | 800         | 400        |
|                                       | maximum | 1900        | 800        |
| Length of leading crests, km          | average | 26          | 14         |
|                                       | maximum | 50          | 39         |
| c, m/s satellite/in situ              |         | 0.6/0.65    | 0.51/0.57  |



Circular histograms of the propagation directions of the NLIW's manifestations: a) in the Barents Sea; b) in the Avacha Bay

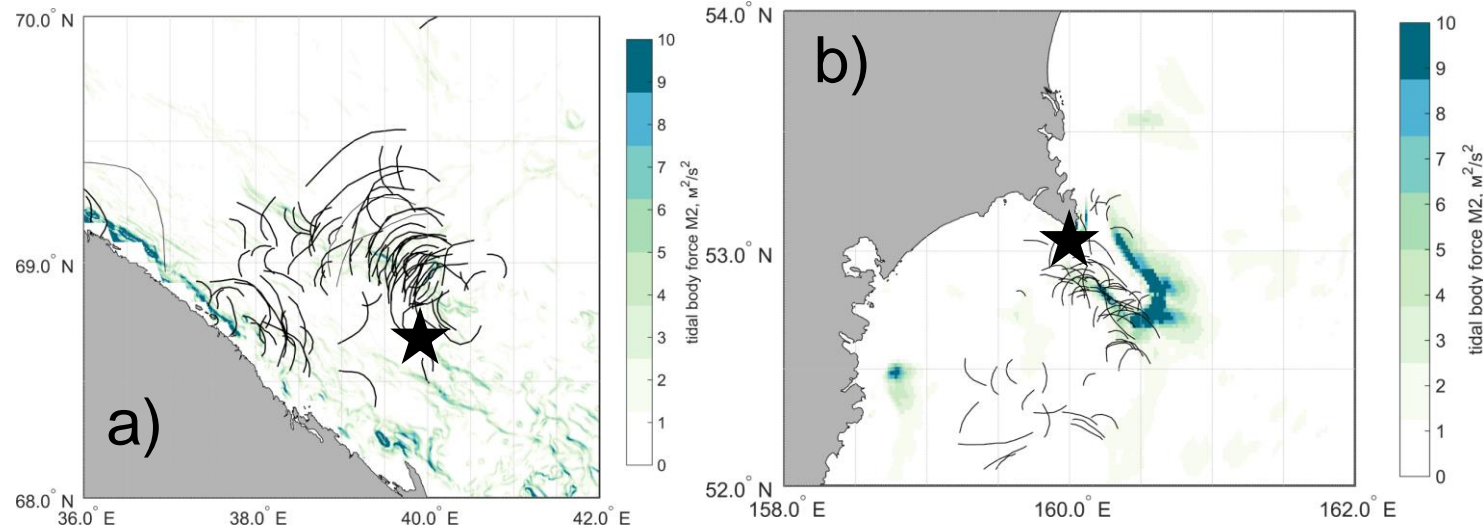


# Possible mechanism of NLIW's generation



Isoamplitudes and isophases of level fluctuations and ellipses of tidal currents by TPXO9 atlas [Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002]:  
a) for Barents Sea; b) for Avacha bay

Near the points of in situ measurements:  
for Barents sea  $Fr \approx 1$   
for Avacha bay  $Fr \approx 0.6$



Tidal body force for the harmonics M2:  
a) in the Barents Sea; b) in the Avacha Bay.

Possible mechanism  
of generation

In the Barents Sea –  
**lee-wave generation**  
(Jackson et al., 2012)

In the Avacha bay –  
**disintegration of internal tide**  
(Jackson et al., 2012)

Thank you for your attention!



The study was supported by RFBR grant No. 20-35-90054.

[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Egor\\_Svergun](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Egor_Svergun)