



# Development and Application of High-Resolution Models for Ocean Waves and Circulation

Joel 'Casey' Dietrich

Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences  
University of Texas at Austin

Dept. of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering  
North Carolina State University  
Thursday, 21 February 2013

## Education and Background



### **University of Texas at Austin**

- Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences
- Research Associate: 09/2012 to present
- Postdoctoral Researcher: 11/2010 to 08/2012



### **University of Notre Dame**

- Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences
- Graduate Research Assistant: 08/2005 to 10/2010
- PhD: 12 October 2010

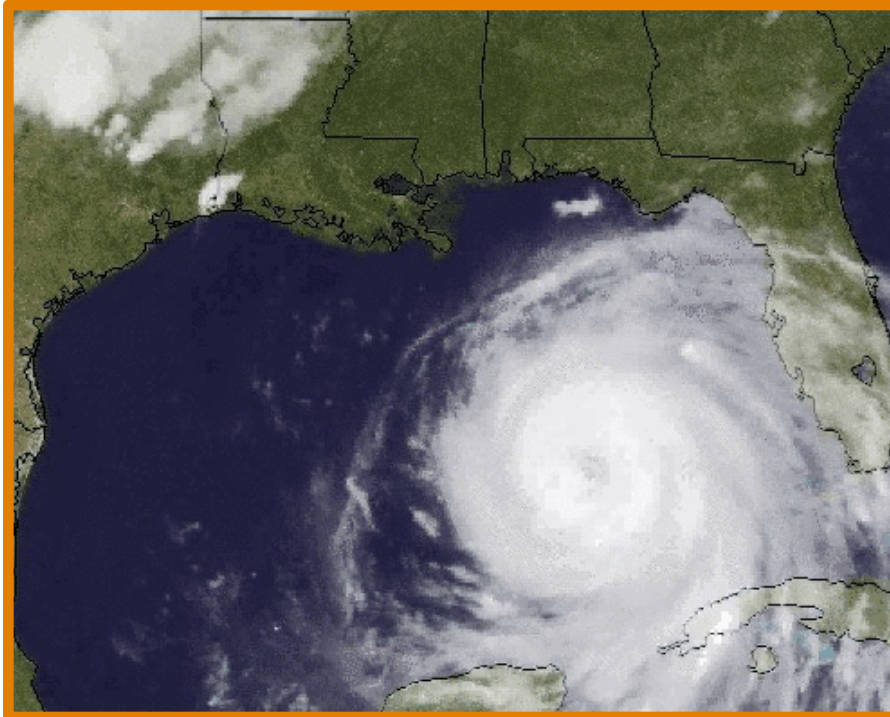


### **University of Oklahoma**

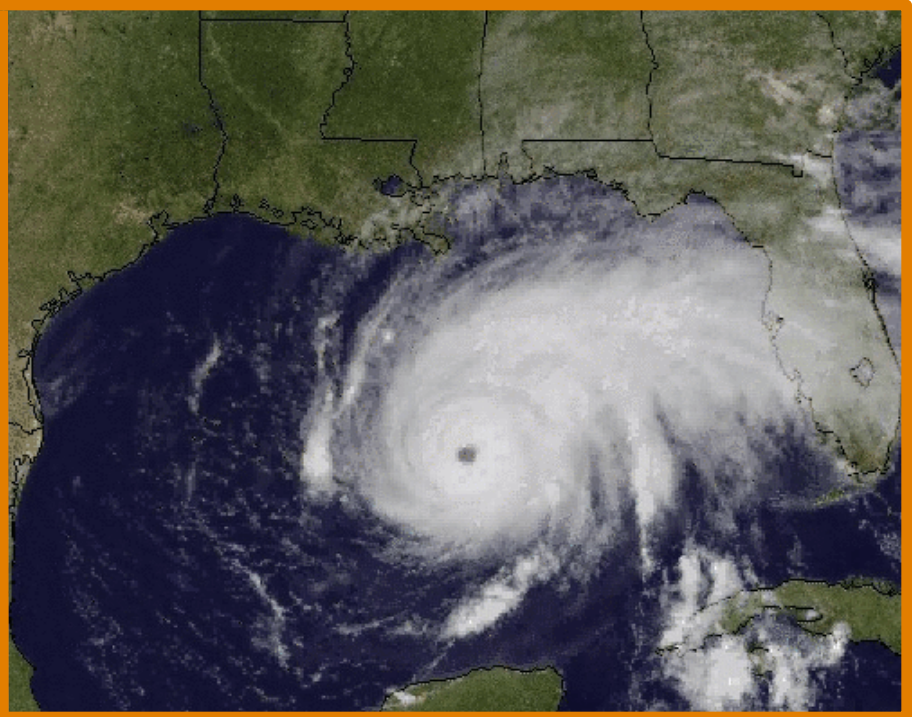
- School of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science
- Graduate Research Assistant: 06/2004 to 07/2005
- MS: 23 June 2005
- Undergraduate Research Assistant: 06/1999 to 05/2004
- BS & BA: May 2004

# Hurricane Season 2005

Katrina : 08/28 – 08/29

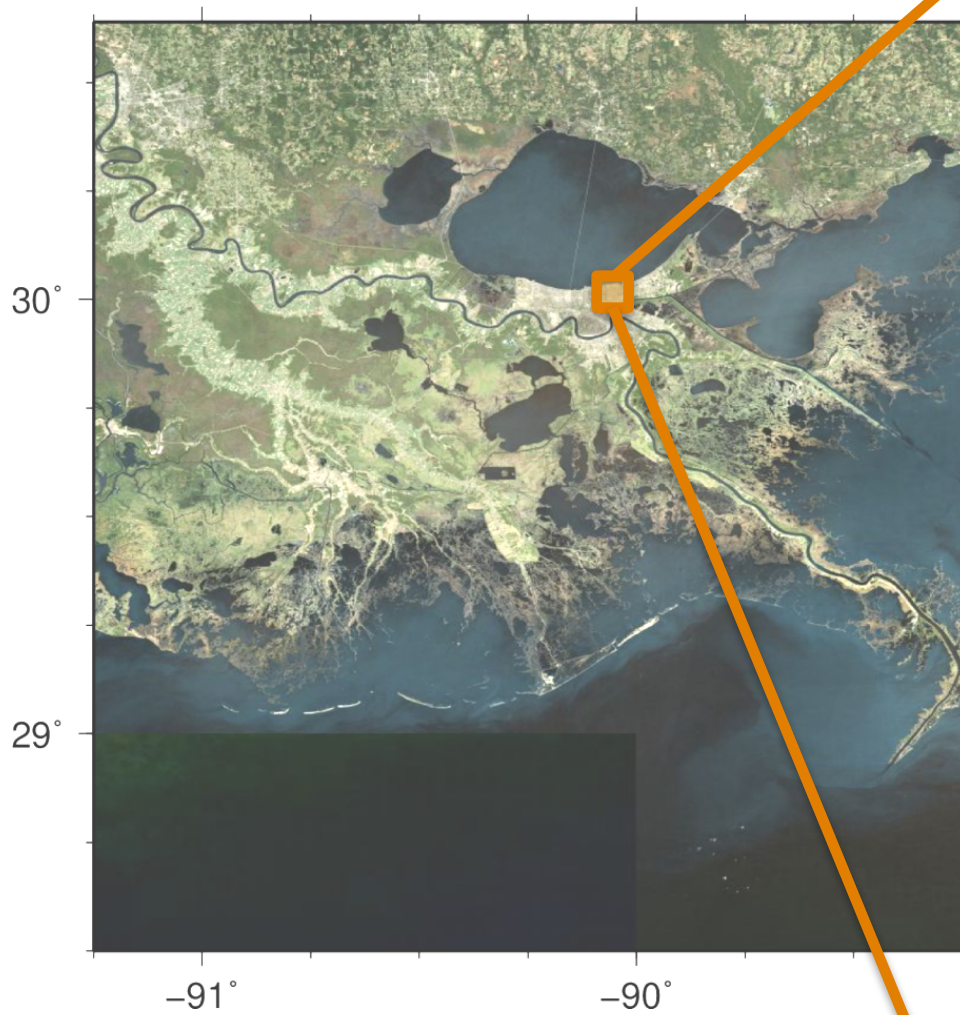


Rita : 09/22 – 09/24



Images: <http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/>

# Katrina : Flooding of New Orleans



April/September 2000

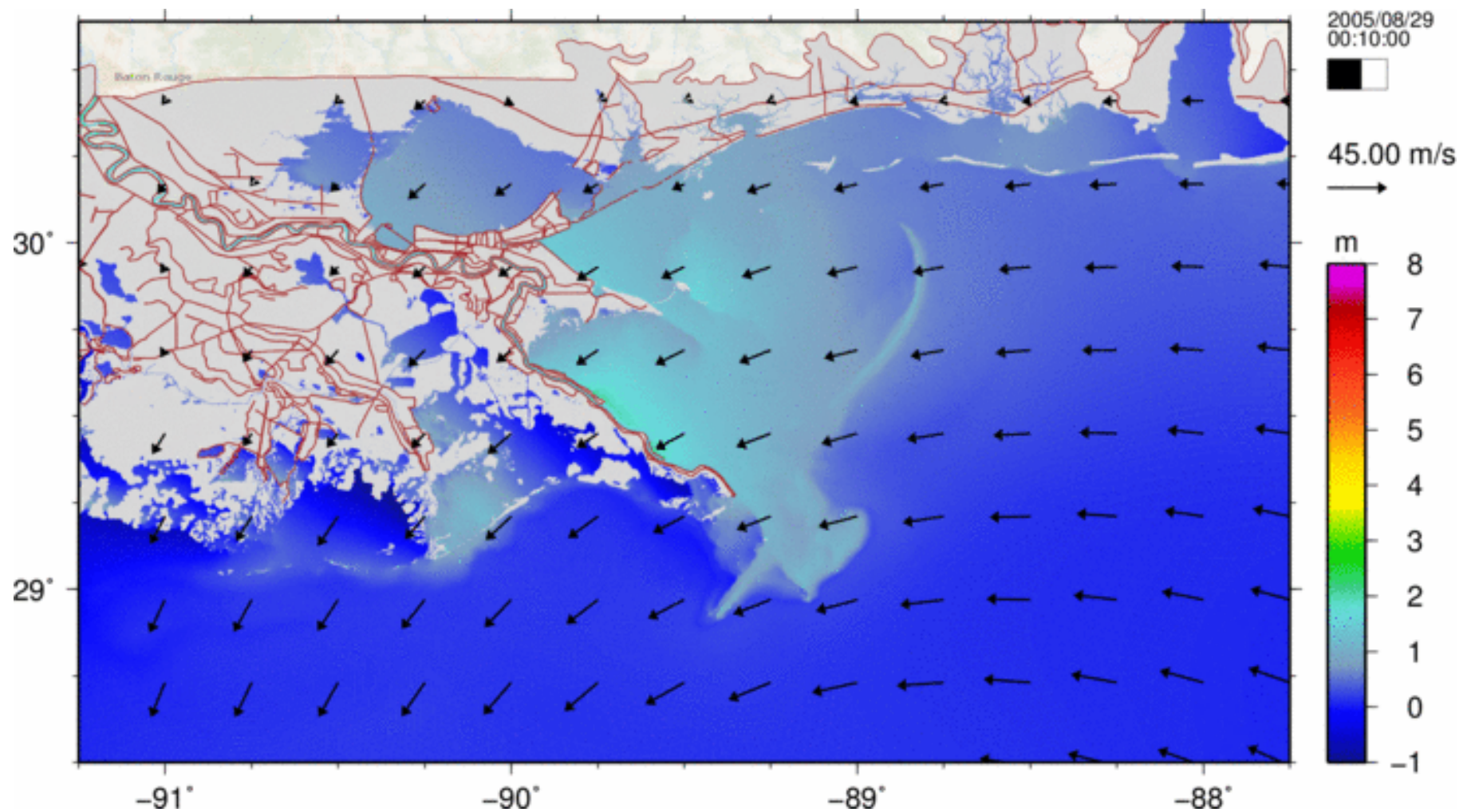


13 September 2005



Images: <http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth...>

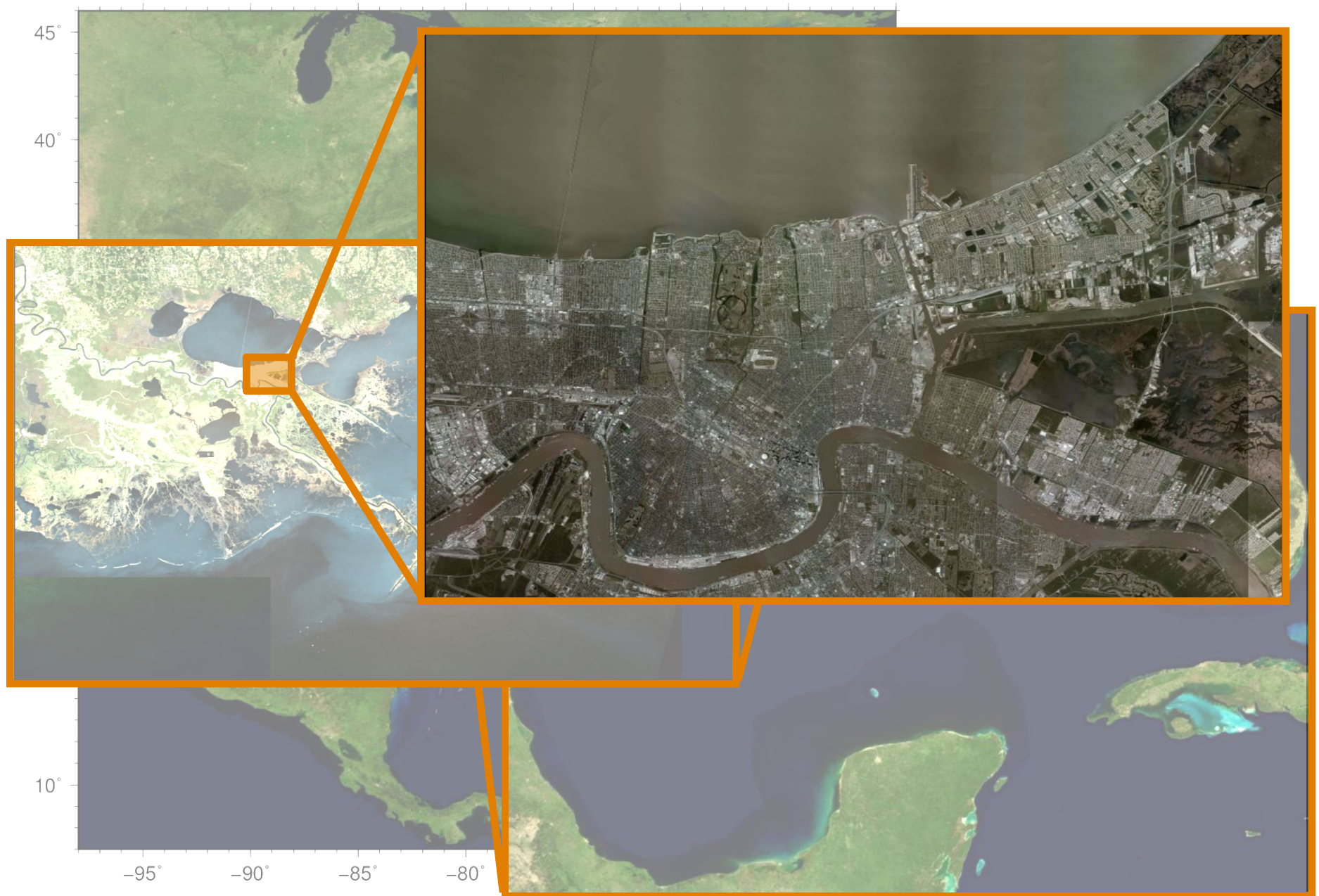
## Katrina : Storm Surge : Day of Landfall



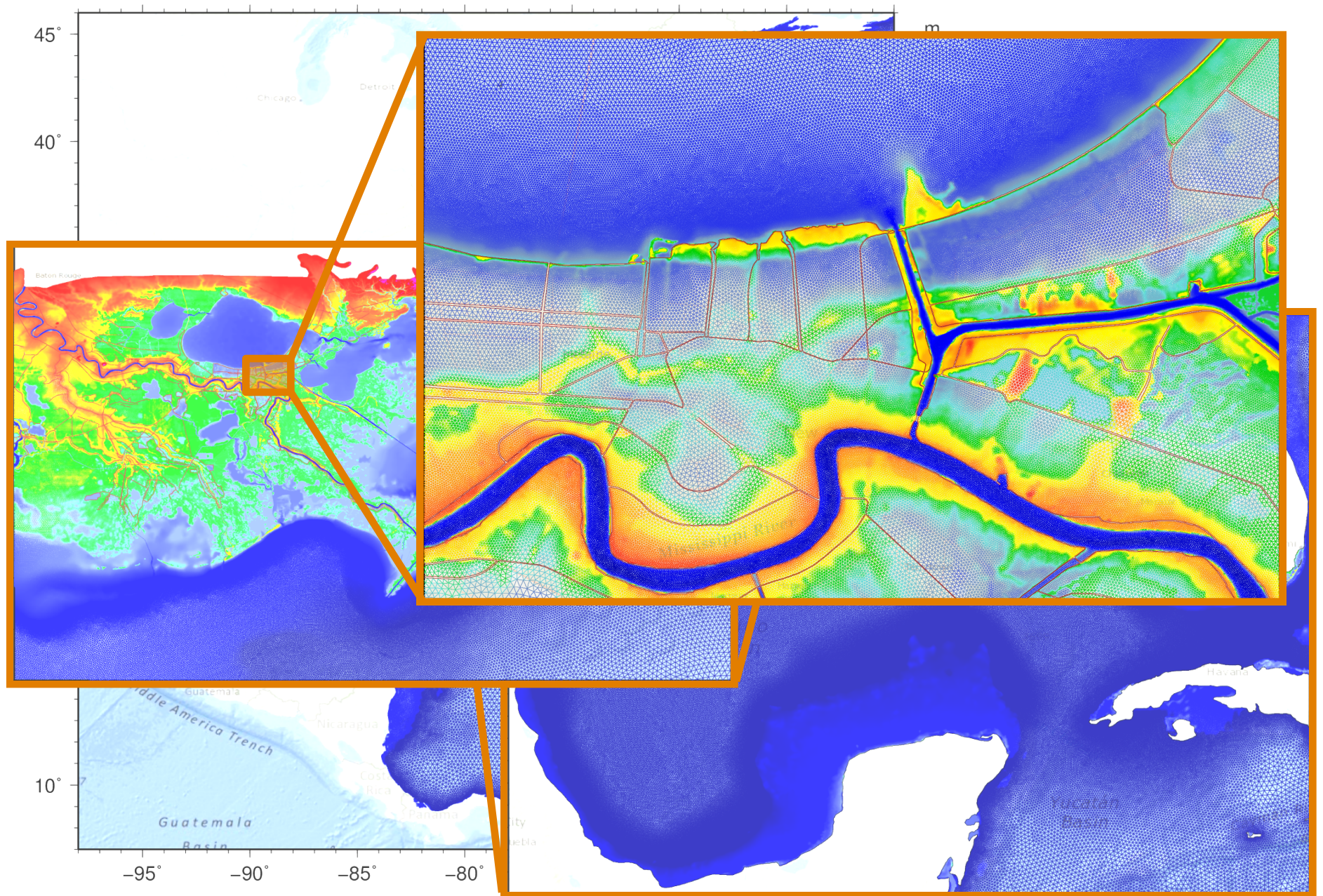
S Bunya, JC Dietrich, *et al.* (2010). A High-Resolution Coupled Riverine Flow, Tide, Wind, Wind Wave and Storm Surge Model for Southern Louisiana and Mississippi: Part I – Model Development and Validation. *Monthly Weather Review*, 138(2), 345-377.

JC Dietrich, *et al.* (2010). A High-Resolution Coupled Riverine Flow, Tide, Wind, Wind Wave and Storm Surge Model for Southern Louisiana and Mississippi: Part II – Synoptic Description and Analysis of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. *Monthly Weather Review*, 138(2), 378-404.

## Spatial Scales : Domain



## Spatial Scales : Unstructured Mesh



## Models : Long and Short Waves

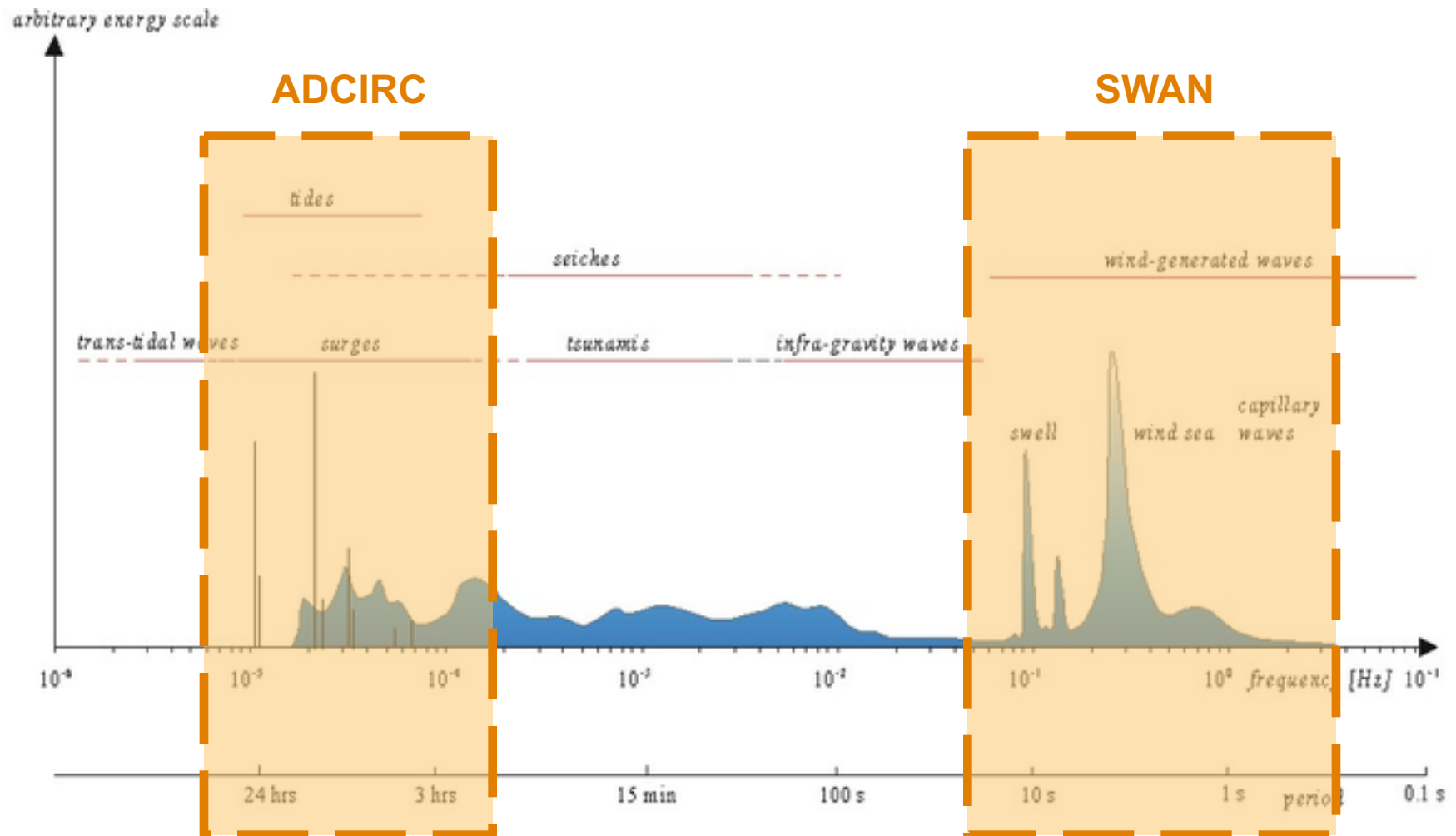


Image: [Holthuijsen \(2007\)](#)

## Models : Simulating WAVes Nearshore (SWAN)

Does not resolve the phase of each individual wave

- Conserved quantity is the wave action density  $N(t,x,y,\theta,\sigma)$
- Can be integrated to compute statistical wave properties

Solves the action balance equation:

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\vec{x}} \cdot [(\vec{c}_g + \vec{U})N] + \frac{\partial c_\theta N}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial c_\sigma N}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{S_{tot}}{\sigma}$$

Separate solution methods in geographic  $(x,y)$  and spectral  $(\theta,\sigma)$  spaces:

- Gauss-Seidel sweeping in geographic space
- Iterative solution of matrix system in spectral space



Image: [Holthuijsen \(2007\)](#)

## Models : ADvanced CIRCulation (ADCIRC)

Solves the generalized wave continuity equation (GWCE) for water levels  $\zeta$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial t^2} + \tau_0 \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \tilde{J}_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tilde{J}_y}{\partial y} - UH \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial x} - VH \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial y} = 0$$

with iterative solution by Jacobi Conjugate Gradient (JCG) method

Solves the vertically-integrated momentum equations for currents ( $U, V$ ):

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} - fV = -g \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \zeta + \frac{p_s}{g\rho_0} - \alpha\eta \right] + \frac{\tau_{sx} + \tau_{bx}}{\rho_0 H} + \frac{M_x - D_x}{H}$$

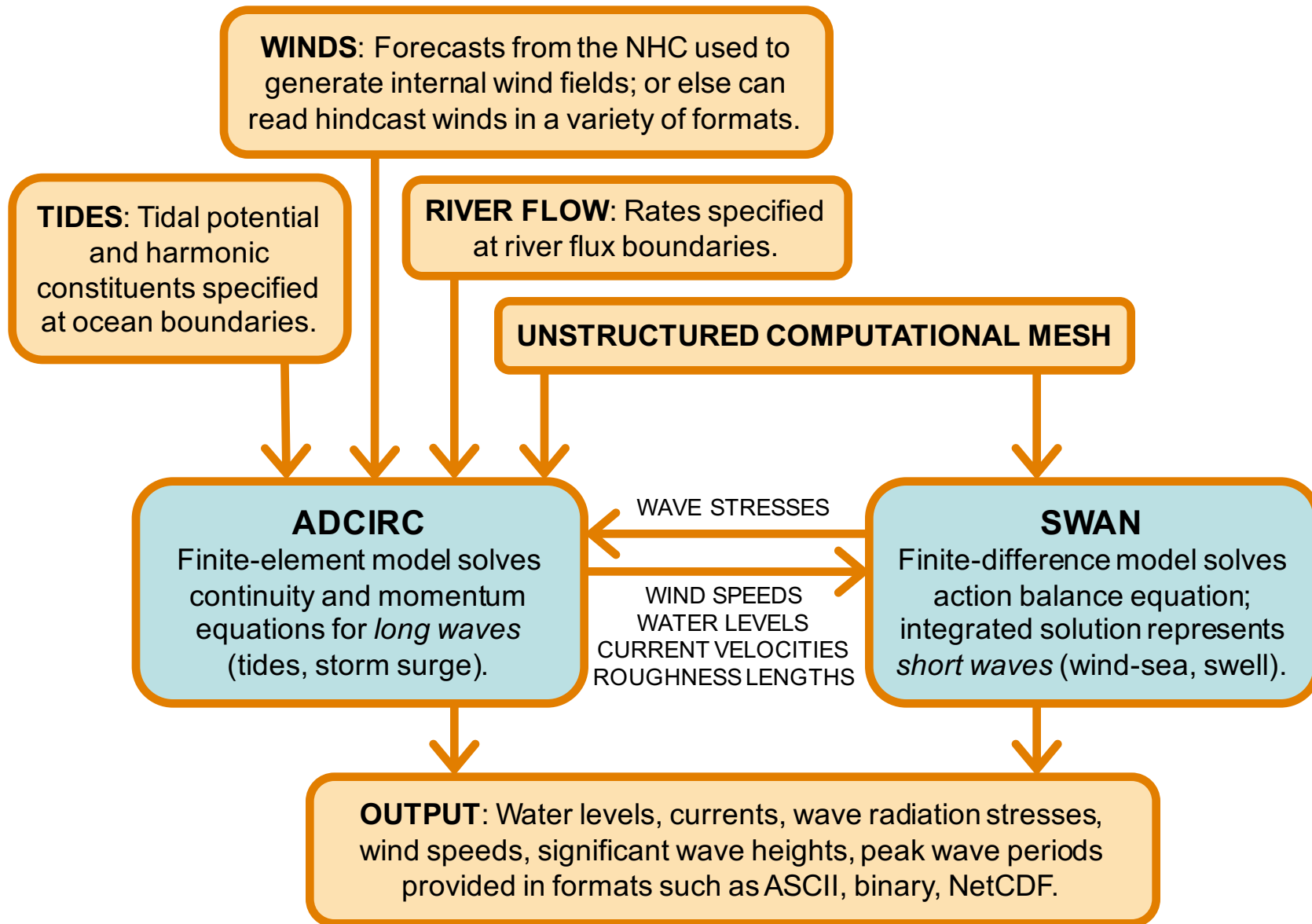
$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} + fU = -g \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \zeta + \frac{p_s}{g\rho_0} - \alpha\eta \right] + \frac{\tau_{sy} + \tau_{by}}{\rho_0 H} + \frac{M_y - D_y}{H}$$

with explicit solution after updating wet/dry information

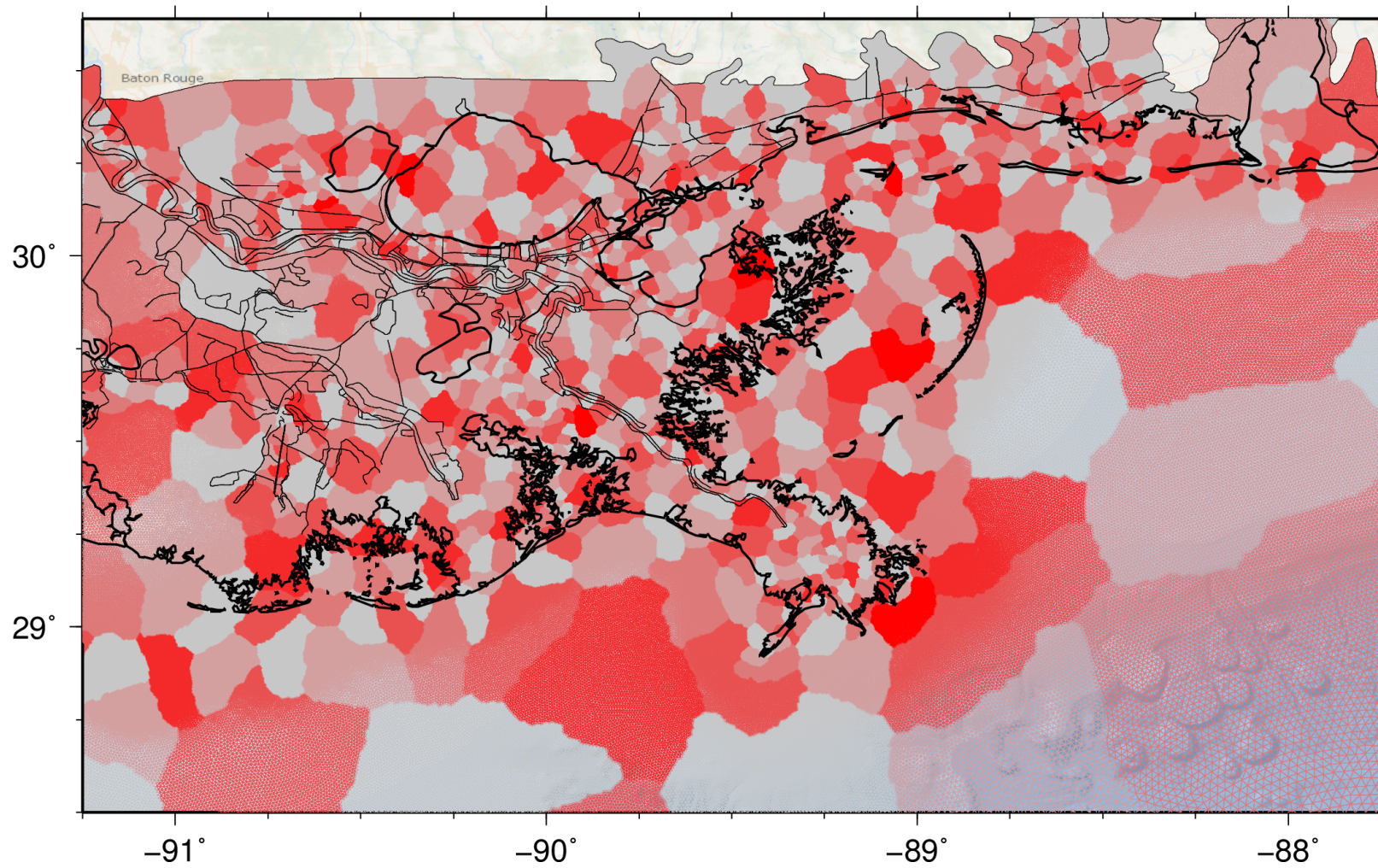
### **ADCIRC and SWAN interact**

- Water levels and currents affect wave transport
- Wave radiation stresses create set-up and alongshore currents

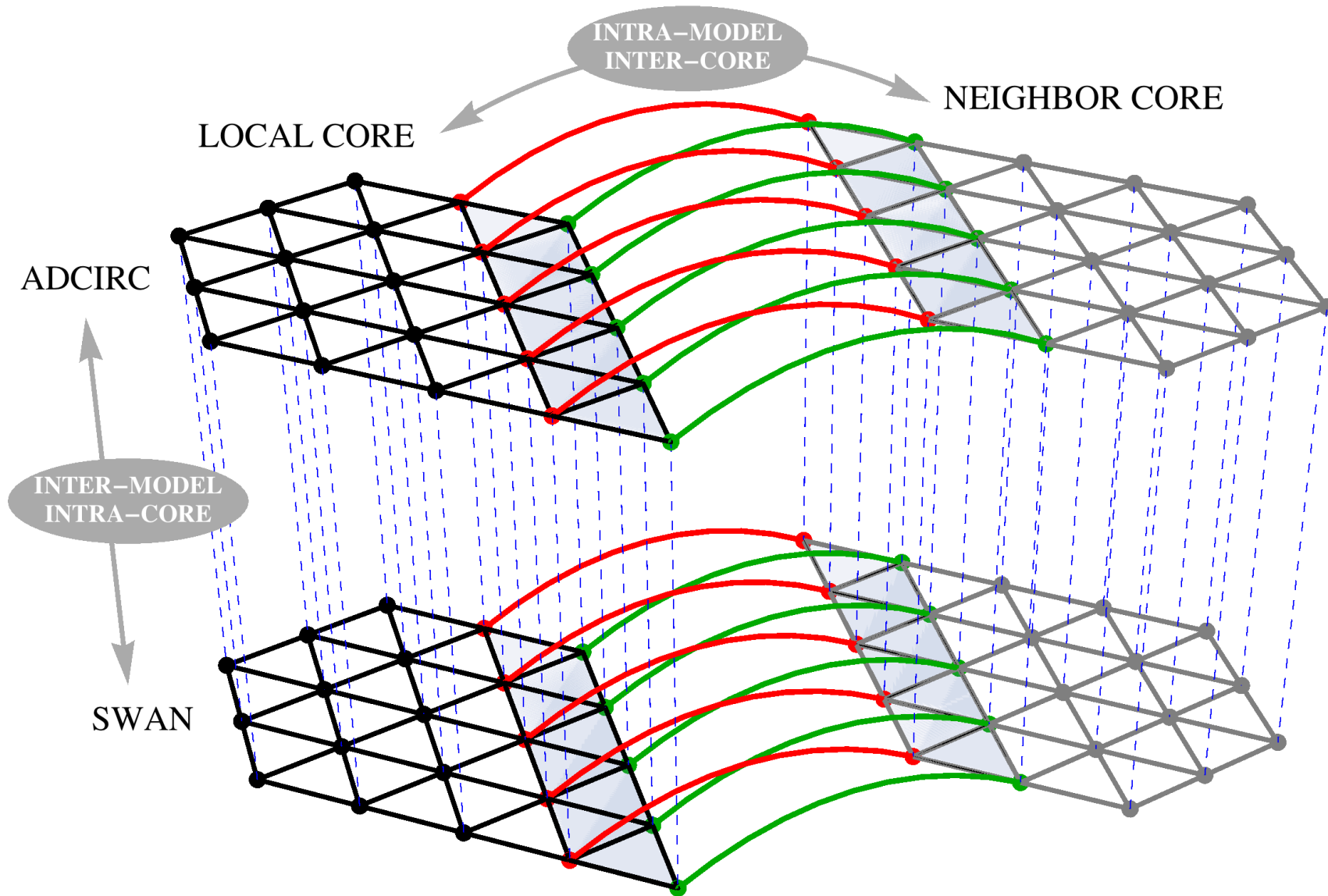
## 'Tight' Coupling : SWAN+ADCIRC



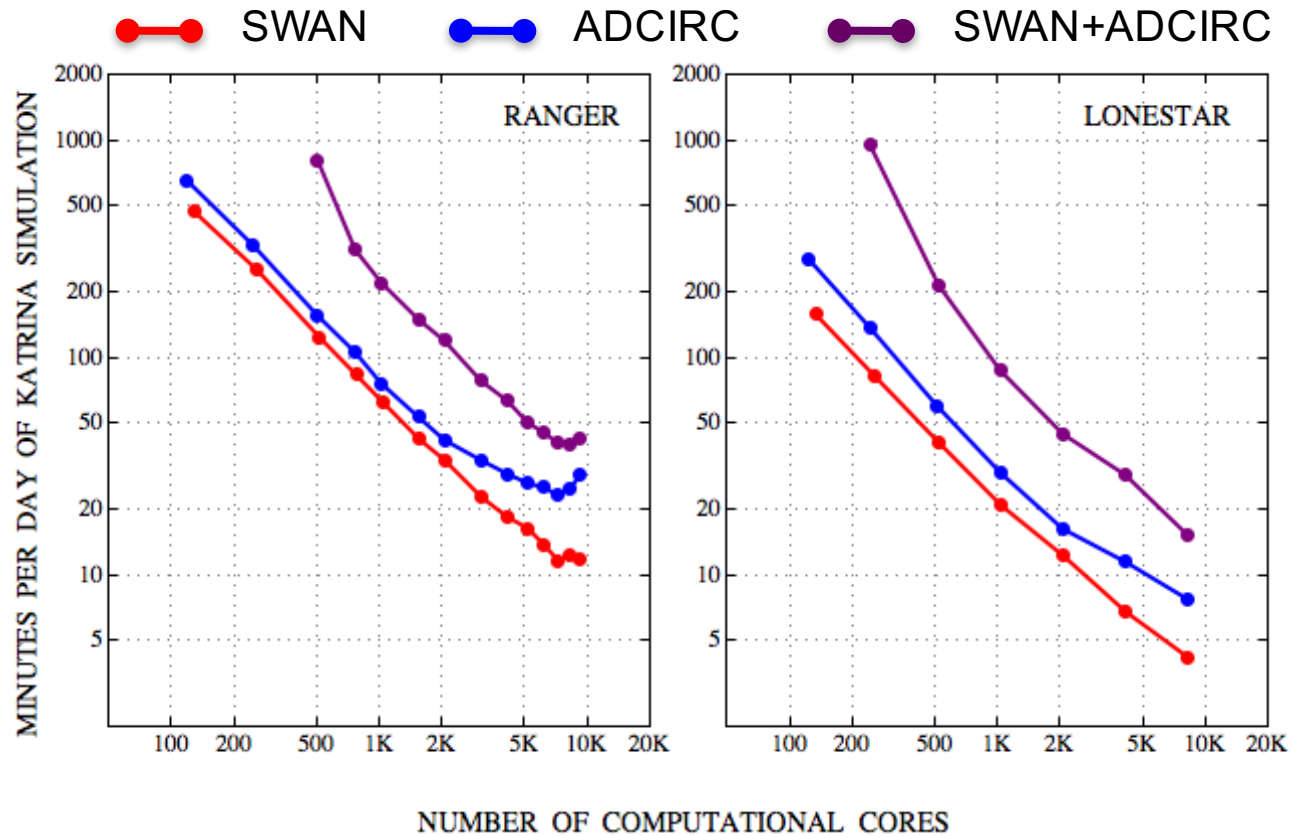
## 'Tight' Coupling : Domain Decomposition



## 'Tight' Coupling : Parallel Communication

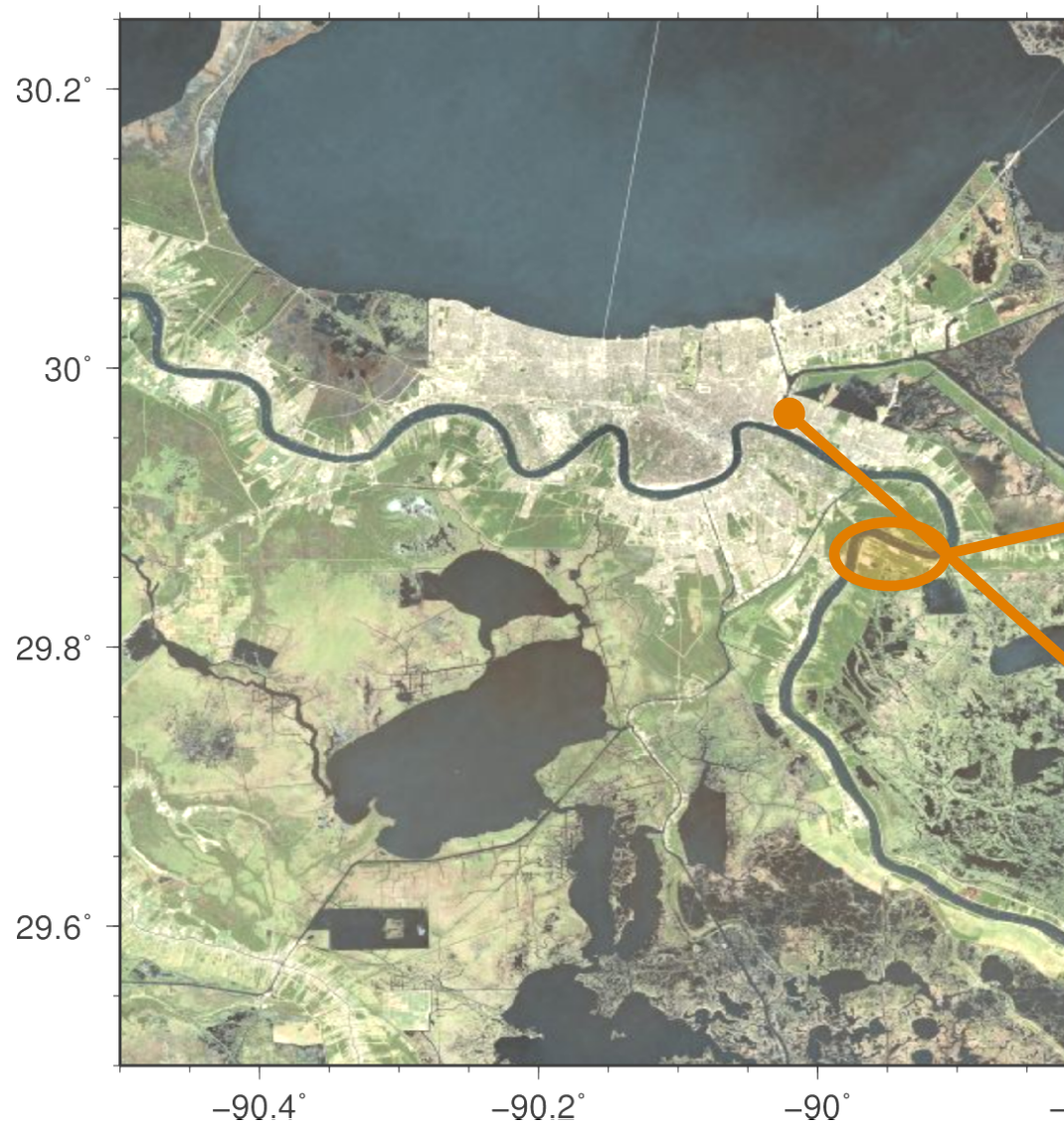


## 'Tight' Coupling : Parallel Scaling



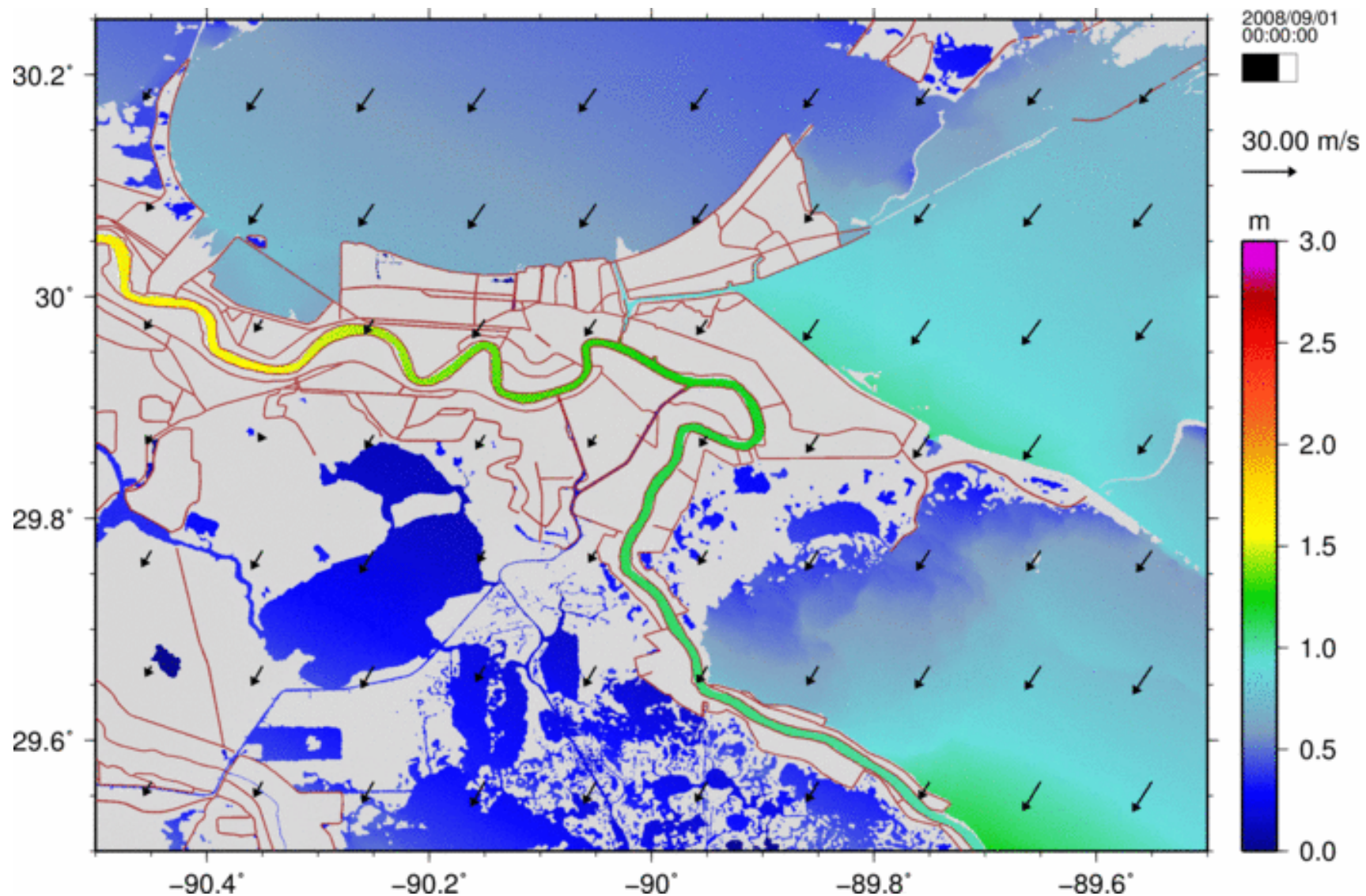
	TACC Ranger	TACC Lonestar
Node	Sun Blade x6420	Dell PowerEdge M610
CPU	4 Quad-core AMD Opteron 8356	2 Six-core Xeon 5680
Frequency	2.3 GHz	3.33 GHz
Architecture	AMD K10 (Barcelona)	Intel Nehalem (Westmere-EP)

## Gustav : Storm Surge : Near-Flooding of New Orleans



Images: Nancy Powell, USACE

## Gustav : Storm Surge : Day of Landfall

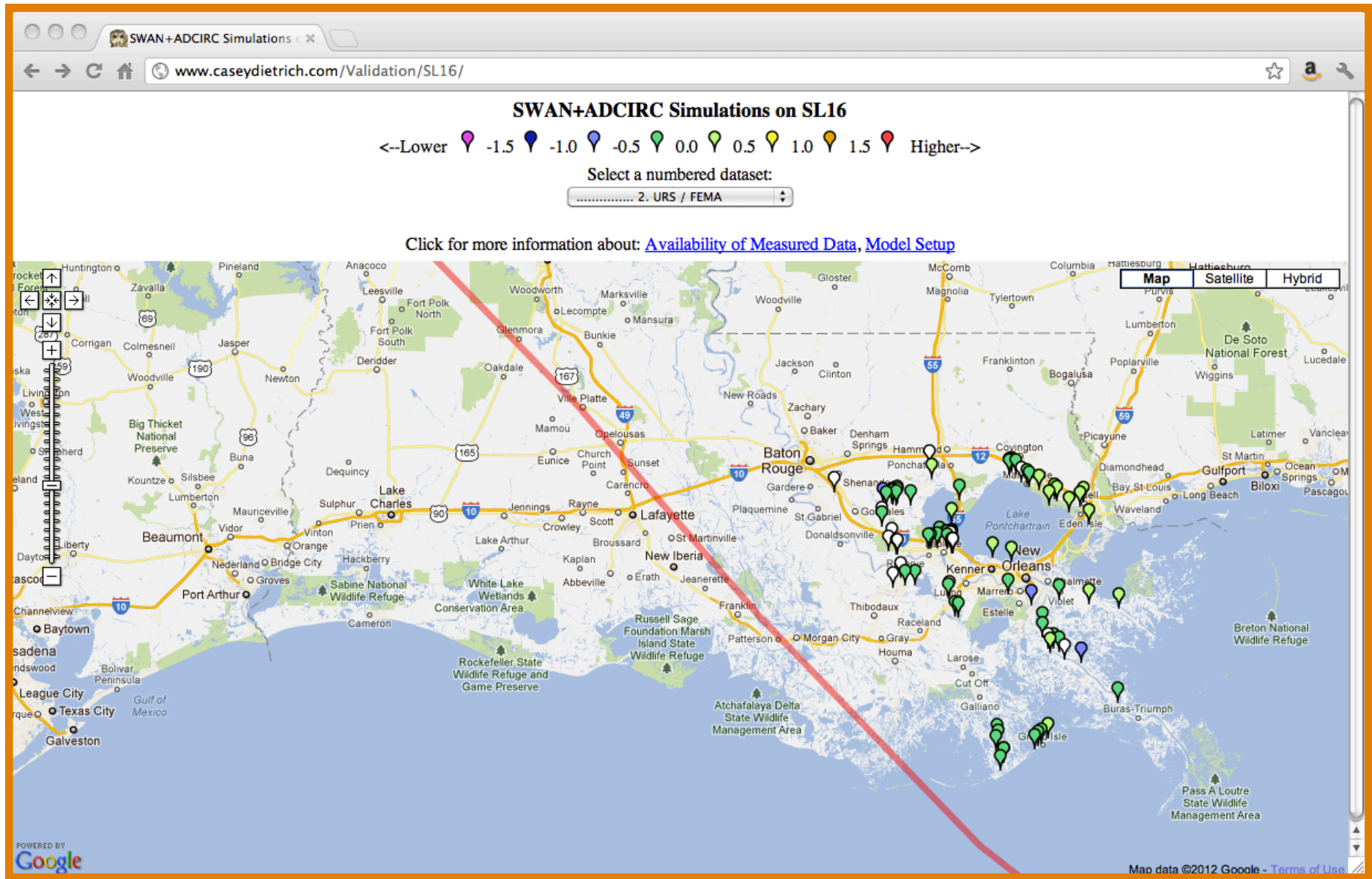


JC Dietrich, *et al.* (2011). Hurricane Gustav (2008) Waves and Storm Surge: Hindcast, Validation and Synoptic Analysis in Southern Louisiana. *Monthly Weather Review*, 139(8), 2488-2522, DOI:10.1175/2011MWR3611.1.

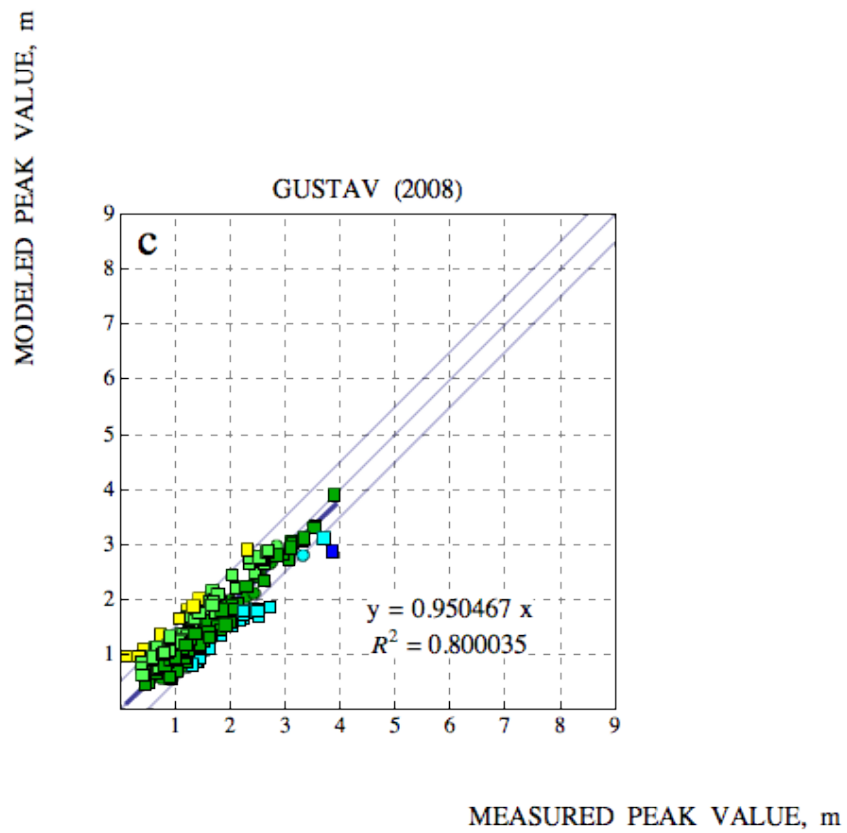
## Gustav : Validation : Increased Availability of Measurement Data

	Katrina (2005)		Gustav (2008)	
High-Water Marks	<b>Total:</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>82</b>
	URS/FEMA	193	URS/FEMA	82
	USACE	206		
Time Series	<b>Water Levels:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Water Levels:</b>	<b>443</b>
			CSI	5
			Andrew Kennedy	16
	NOAA	3	NOAA	26
			USACE-CHL	6
			USACE	54
			USGS (Deployable)	61
	USGS (Permanent)	6	USGS (Permanent)	48
			CRMS	243
	<b>Wave Parameters:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Wave Parameters:</b>	<b>39</b>
	NDBC	14	NDBC	12
	CSI	3	CSI	5
			Andrew Kennedy	16
			USACE-CHL	6

# Gustav : Validation : Web-Based Mapping of Results



## Gustav : Validation : High-Water Marks



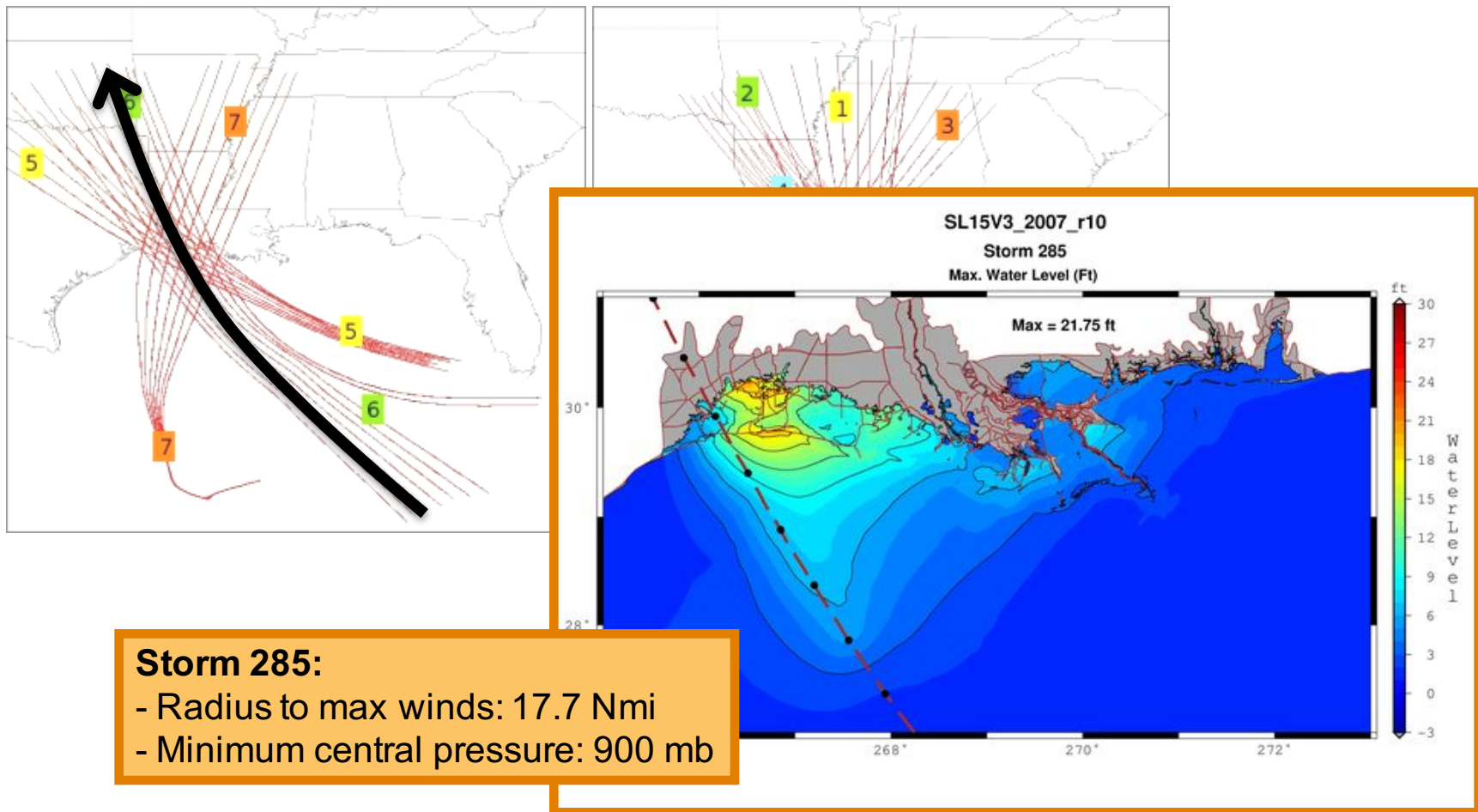
## Applications : Surge Barrier Design : USACE



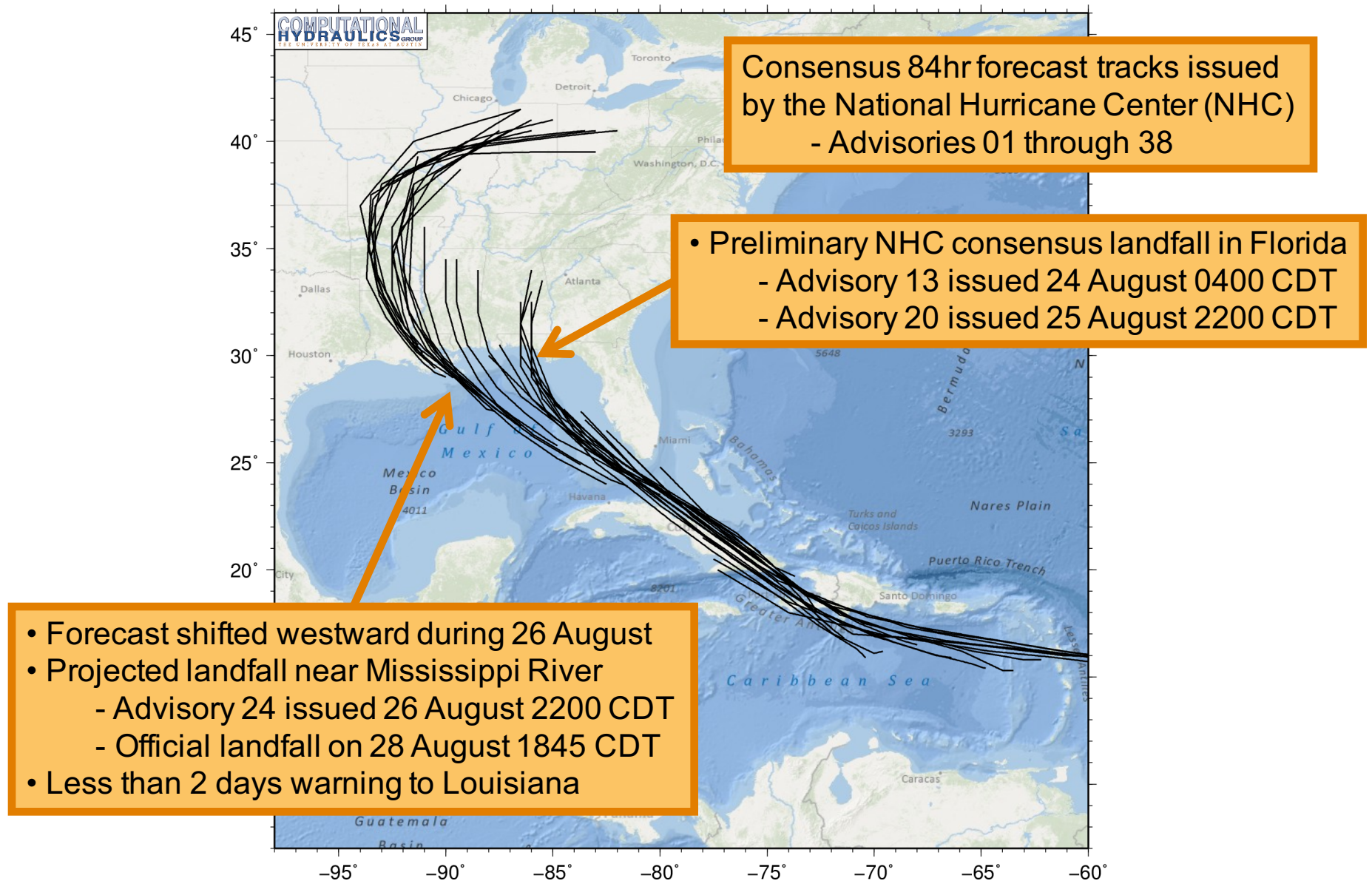
## Applications : Flood Insurance Rate Maps : FEMA

### Joint Probability Method with Optimal Sampling (JPM-OS):

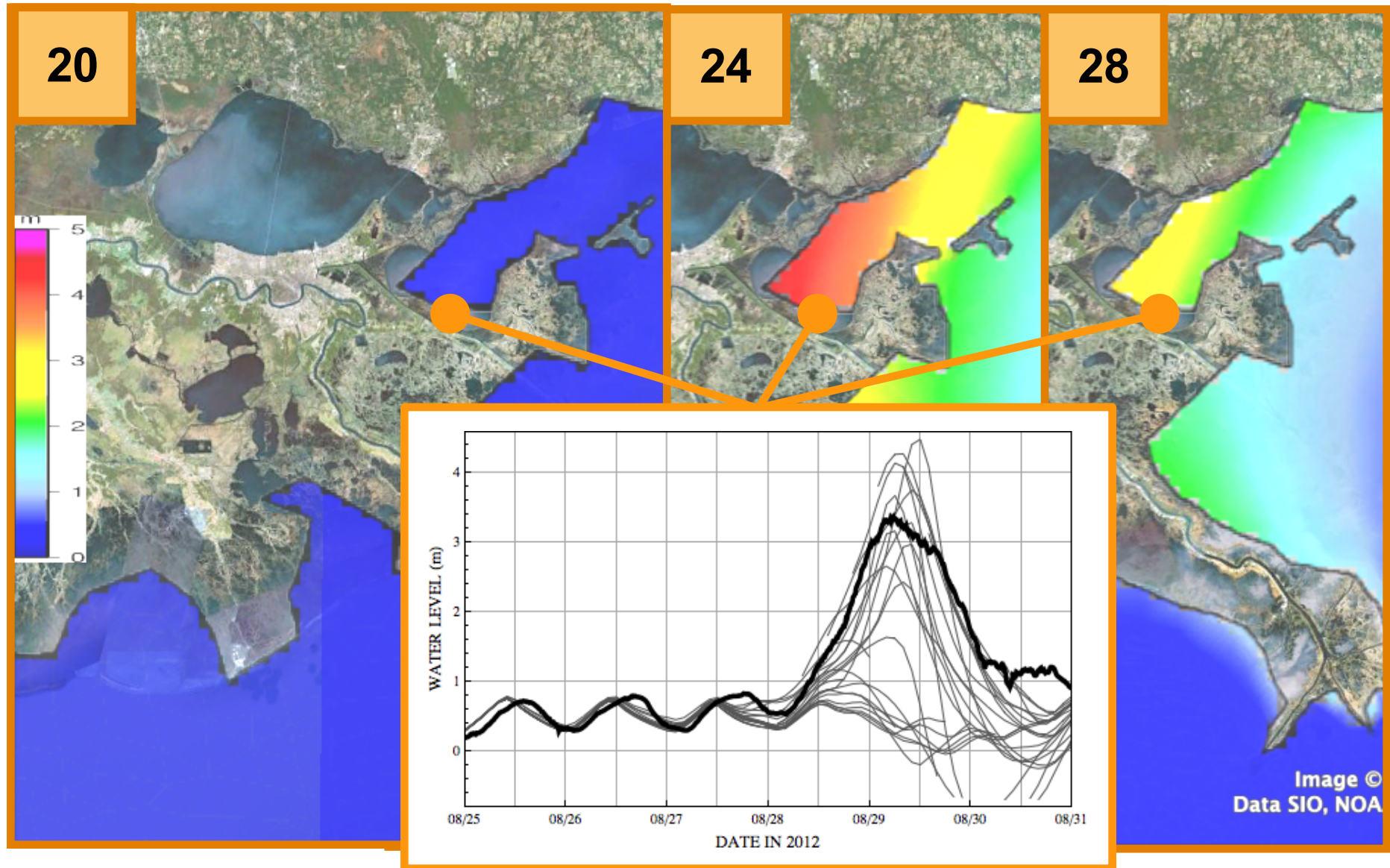
- Hypothetical storms with varying characteristics
- Combine results to develop 100-yr flood maps



## Applications : Forecasting of Isaac (2012) : Track Uncertainty



## Applications : Forecasting of Isaac (2012) : Storm Surge



JC Dietrich, *et al.* (2013). Real-Time Forecasting and Visualization of Hurricane Waves and Storm Surge using SWAN+ADCIRC and FigureGen. *Computational Challenges in the Geosciences*, CN Dawson and M Gerritsen, eds., Institute for Mathematics and Its Applications, v156, Springer, in press.

## Surface Oil Transport : Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (2010)

Deepwater Horizon was a 9-year-old, mobile offshore drilling unit

Located 66km from the Louisiana coastline, in 1500m of water

Platform was engulfed on 20 April by an explosion of methane gas; structure burned for more than 24hr before sinking on 22 April

Explosion killed 11 workers and injured 17

Oil spill flow rates:

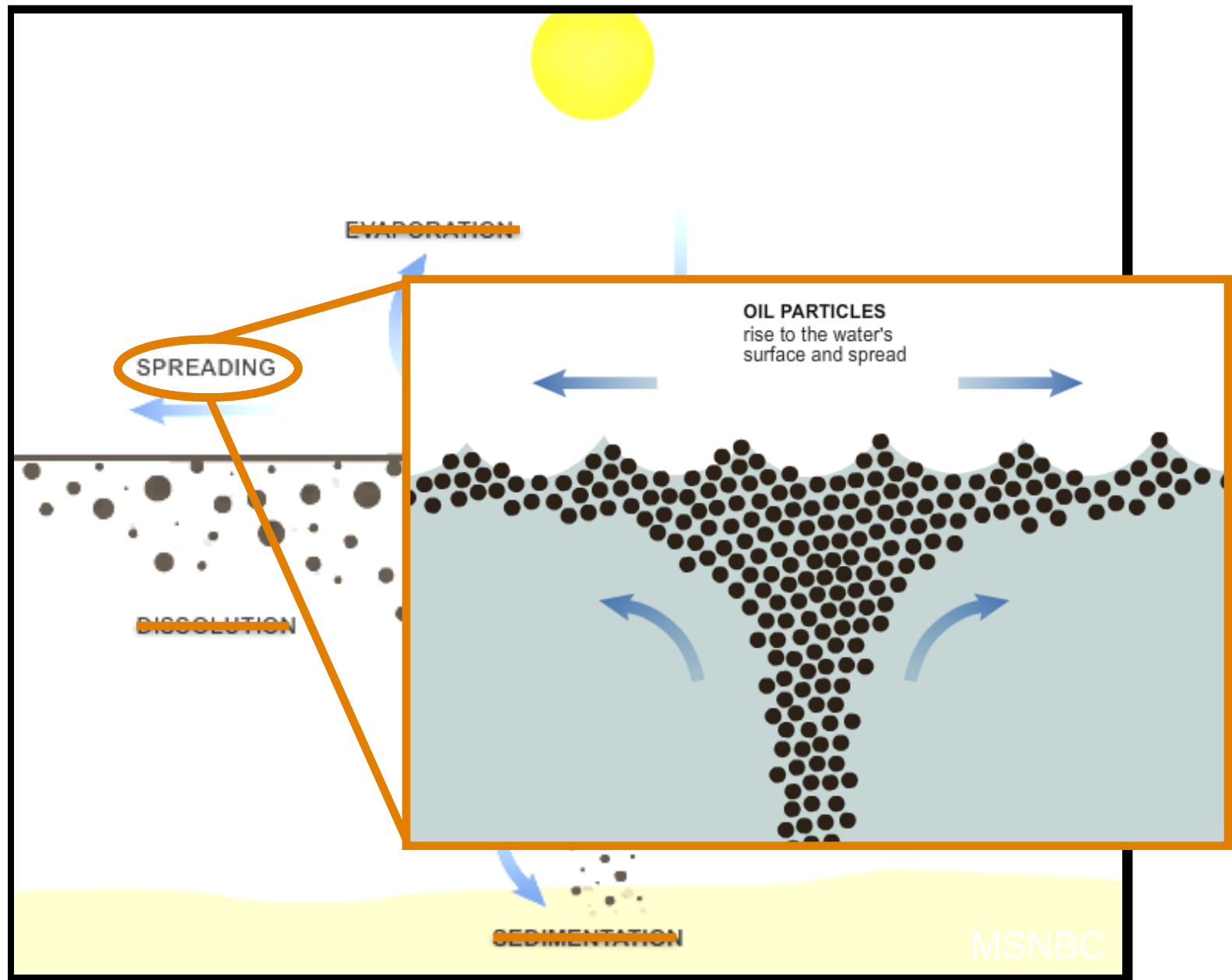
- Estimated to have begun at a rate of  $9900 \text{ m}^3 \text{ d}^{-1}$
- Diminished over time to a final rate of  $8400 \text{ m}^3 \text{ d}^{-1}$  on 15 July 2010

Emergency responders relied on satellite and aerial imagery

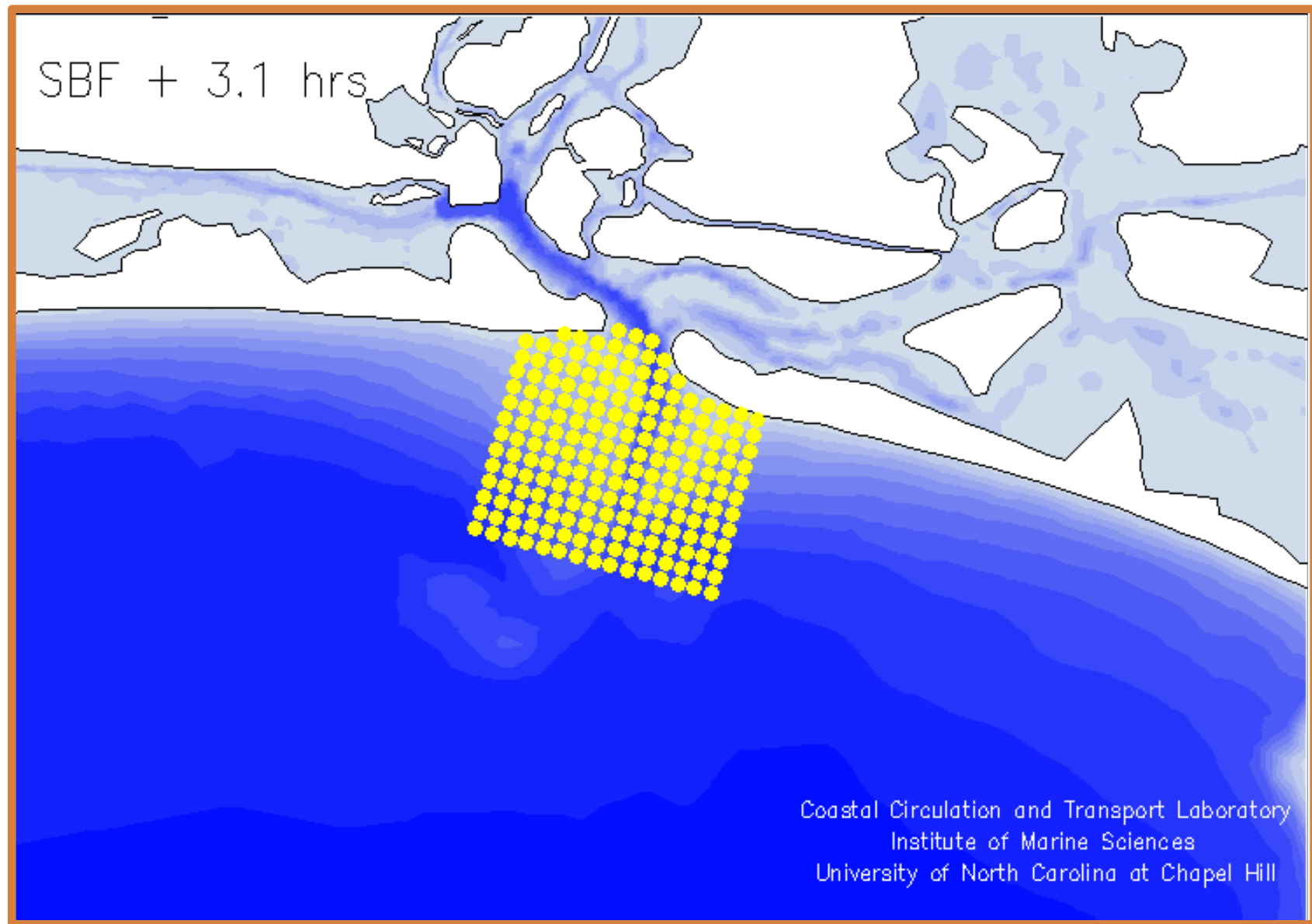
- Where will the oil move?
- What if a hurricane approaches?



## Surface Oil Transport : Challenges



## Surface Oil Transport : Lagrangian Particles



## Surface Oil Transport : Lagrangian Particles

Particle positions are tracked through the unstructured mesh:

$$\vec{x}_p(t + \Delta t) = \vec{x}_p(t) + \vec{u}(\vec{x}_p, t)\Delta t + \vec{D}$$

- where the dispersion uses a stochastic perturbation (Proctor *et al.*, 1994):

$$\vec{D} = (2R - 1)\sqrt{\bar{c}\vec{E}_v\Delta t}$$

- with:  $0 < R < 1$  is a random number,

$\vec{E}_v = 10 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$  are turbulent coefficients, and

$\bar{c} = 12$  are scaling coefficients;

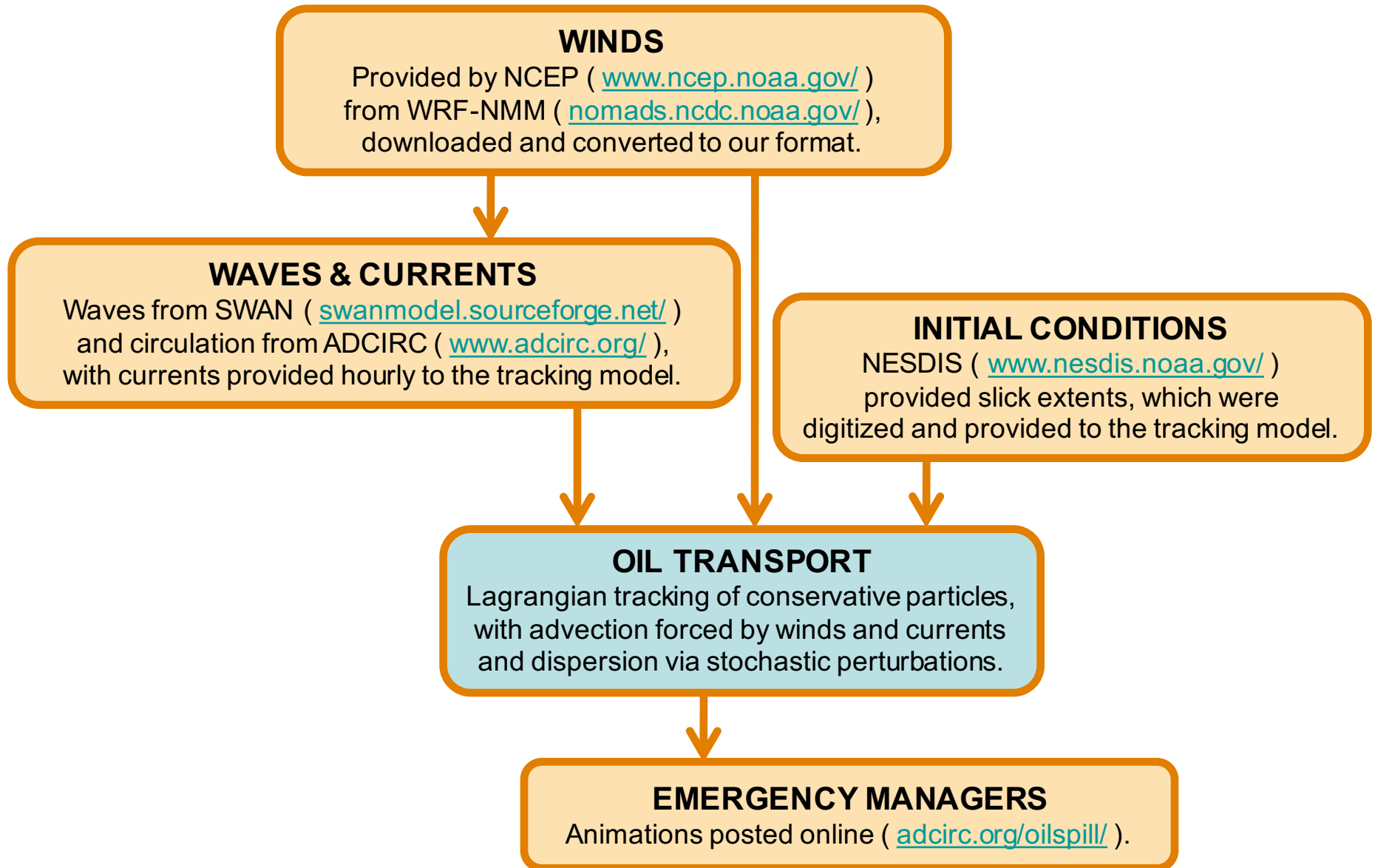
- and where the velocities are a linear combination of currents and winds:

$$\vec{u}(\vec{x}_p, t) = F_c \vec{u}_c(\vec{x}_p, t) + F_w \vec{u}_w(\vec{x}_p, t)$$

- with:  $F_c = 1$  and  $F_w = 0$ .

Using hybrid OpenMP/MPI, 11M particles can be tracked on a 10M-element mesh in about **5.5 min/day** using 256 cores on TACC Ranger.

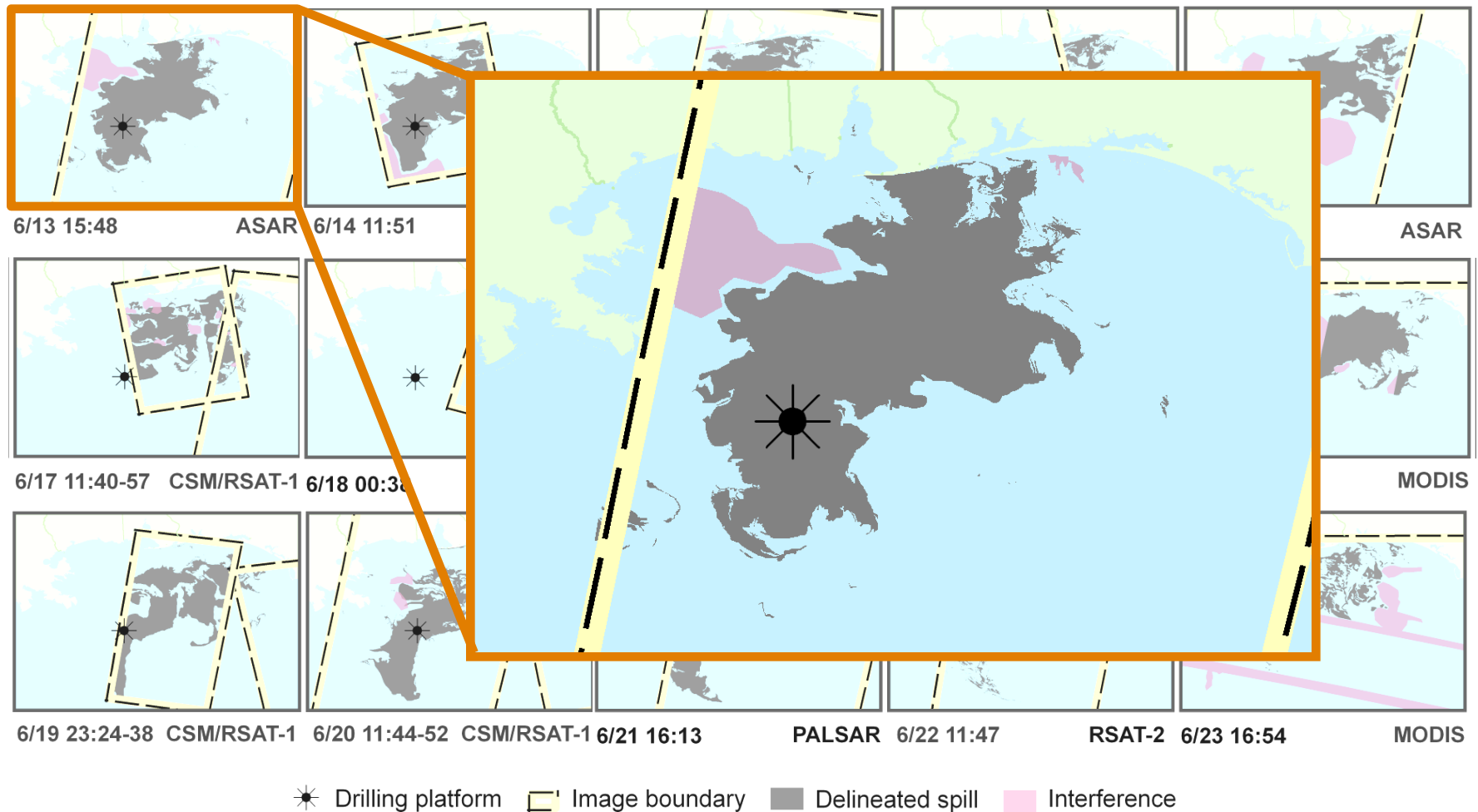
## Surface Oil Transport : Flow Chart



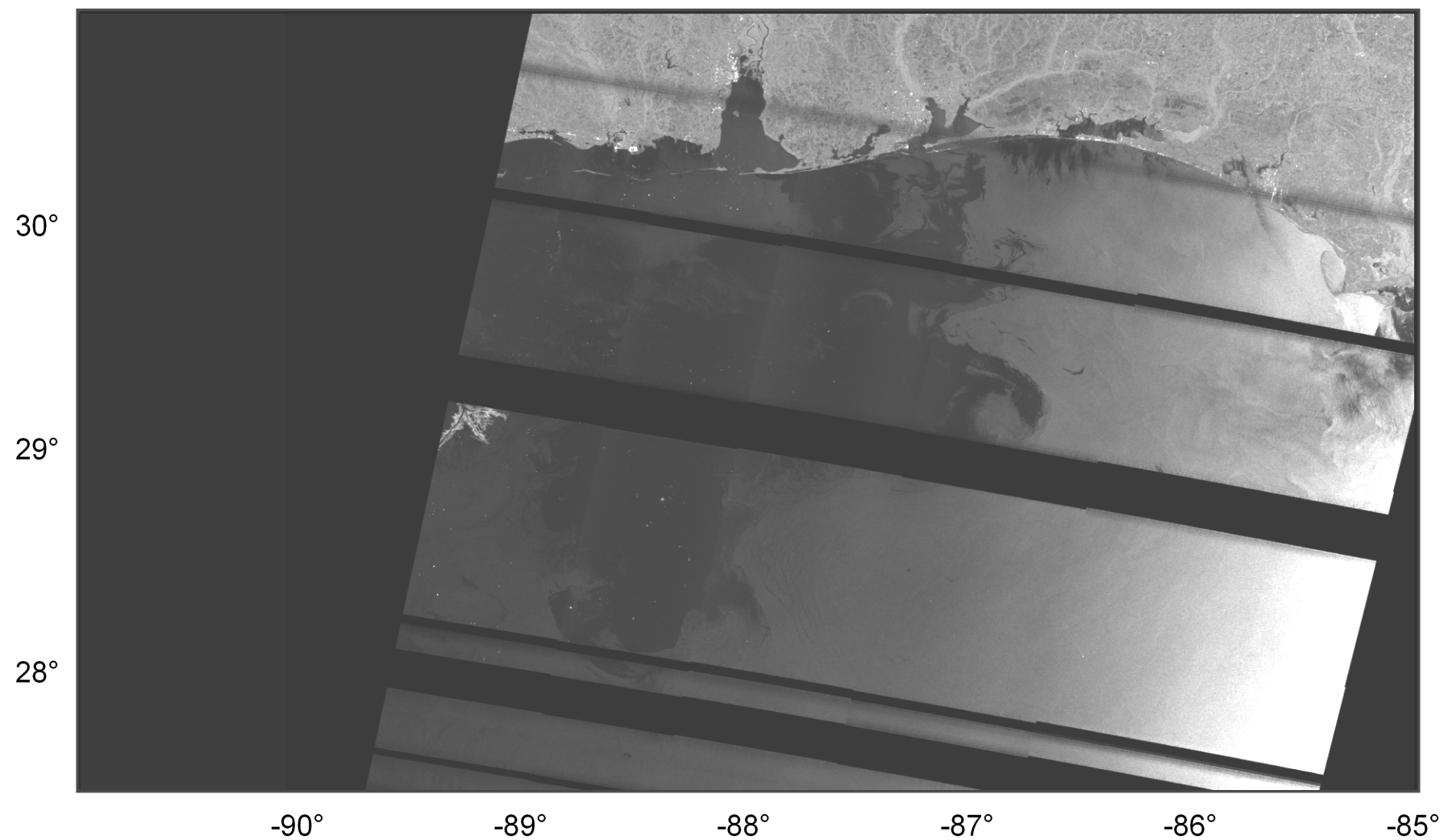
## Surface Oil Transport : Validation : 13-23 June 2010

Examples of available imagery:

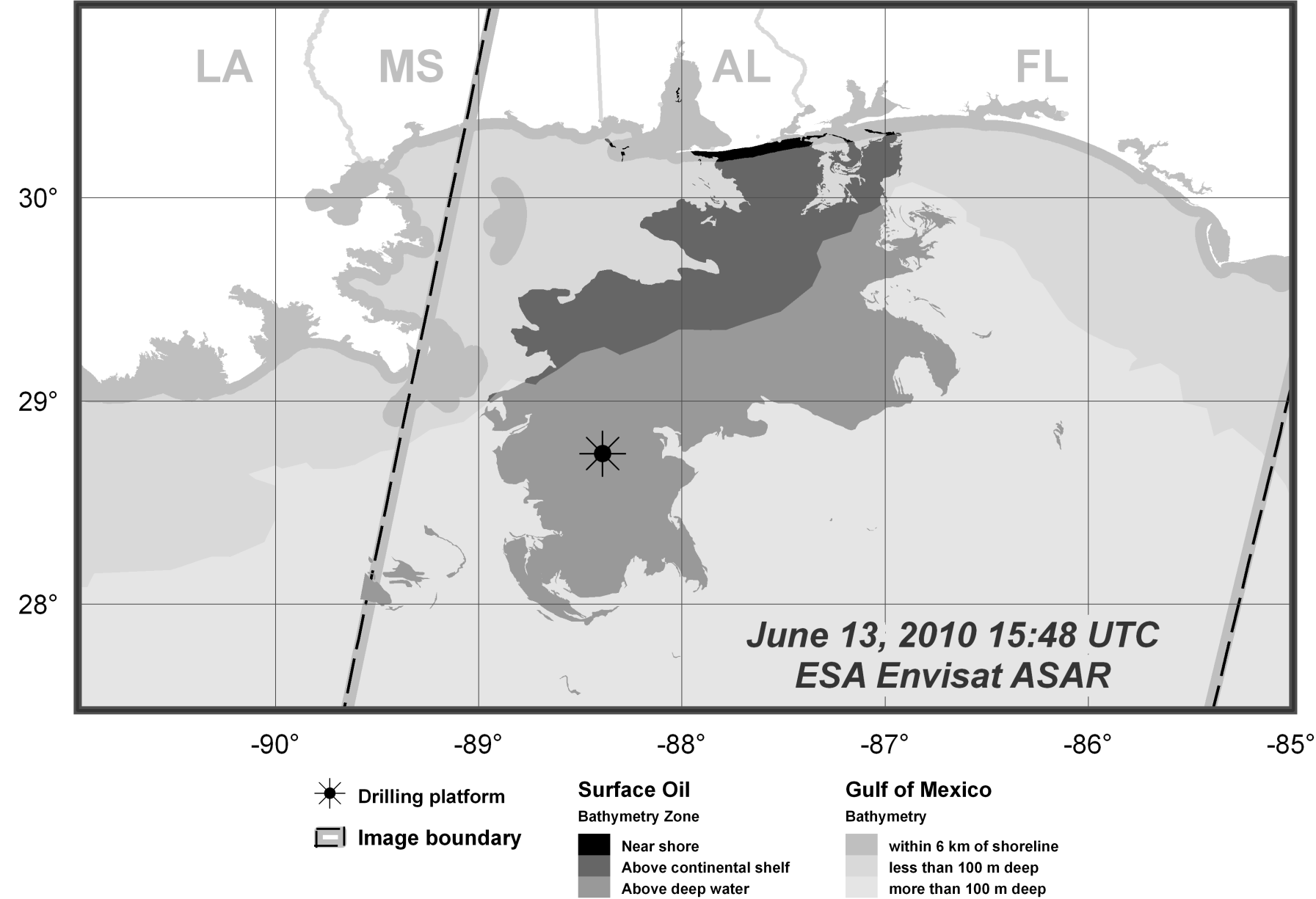
- NESDIS consolidated observations from a suite of satellite sensors



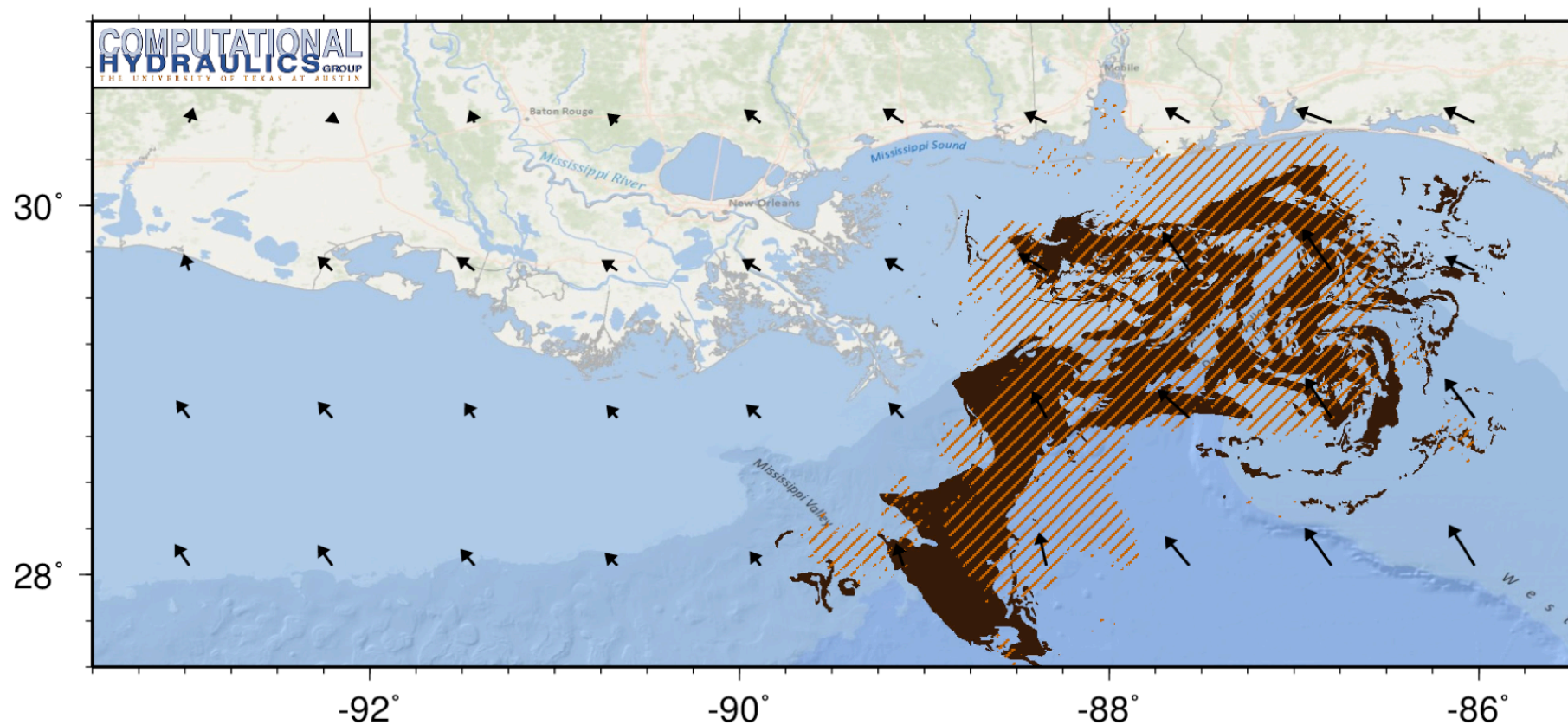
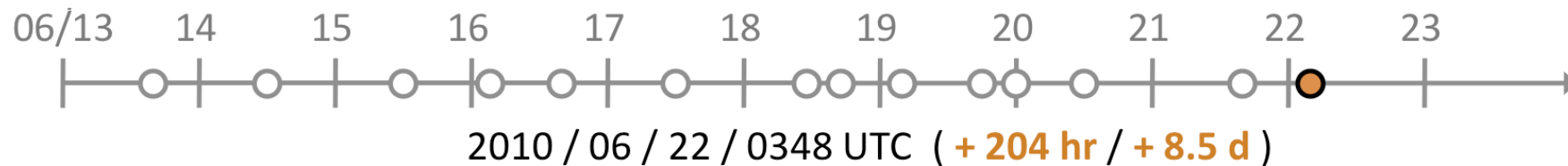
# Surface Oil Transport : Validation : 13-23 June 2010



Surface Oil Transport : Validation : 13-23 June 2010



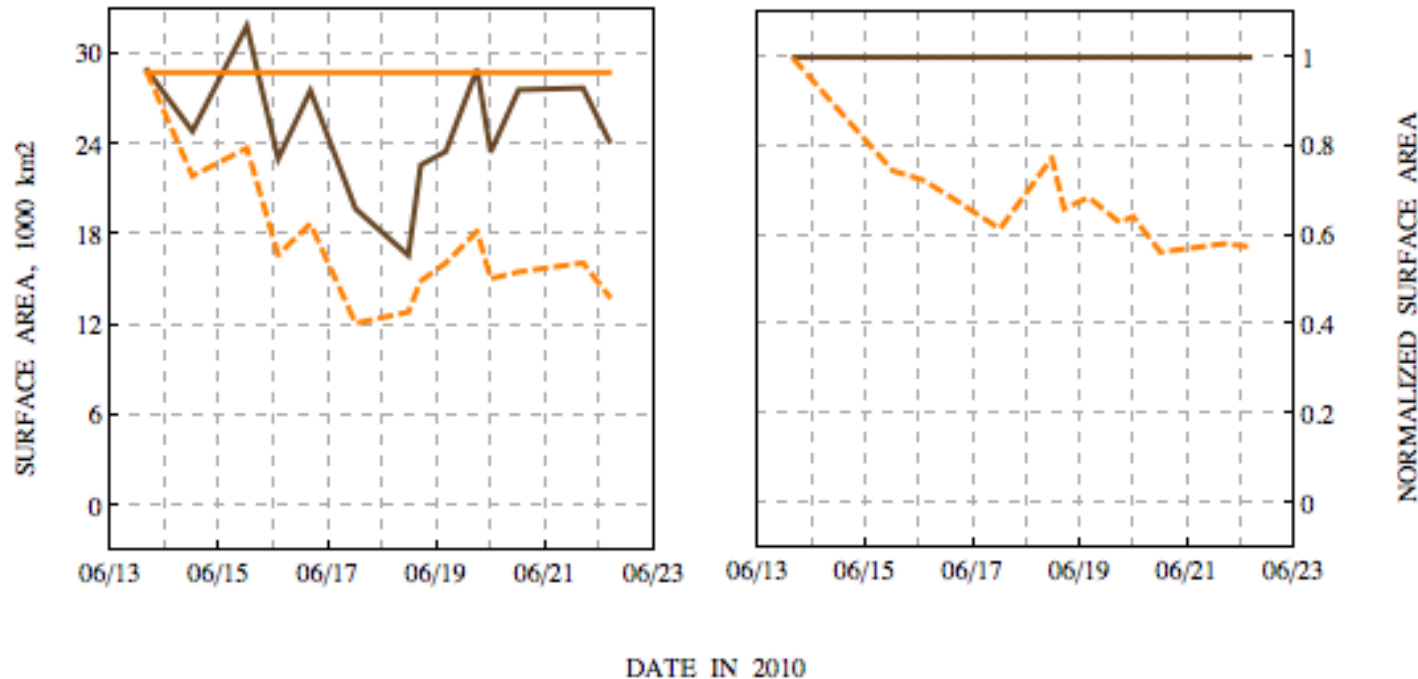
## Surface Oil Transport : Validation : 13-23 June 2010



**Satellite Observations**    **Predicted Particle Locations**

JC Dietrich, *et al.* (2012). Surface Trajectories of Oil Transport along the Northern Coastline of the Gulf of Mexico. *Continental Shelf Research*, 41(1), 17-47, DOI:10.1016/j.csr.2012.03.015.

## Surface Oil Transport : Validation : 13-23 June 2010



Overlap of our predictions to observations:

- **Solid brown** - Total areas of observed oil in satellite imagery
- **Solid orange** - Total areas of predicted locations of Lagrangian particles
- **Dashed orange** - Overlap between predictions and observations

After one week of simulation, overlap is about 60 percent

- Qualitative and quantitative match to observations

## Surface Oil Transport : Sources of Error

Our rapid response had many potential sources of error:

- Winds - Meteorological forcing does not have sufficient resolution in time (6hr) or space (30km) to capture small-scale features
- Currents - Depth-averaged velocities are insufficient in deep water
  - Lacking flow features created by density gradients
- Waves - Not accounting for increased mixing at the sea surface
- Oil Physics - Lacking a source term at the wellhead
  - Lacking sink terms due to evaporation, biodegradation, etc.
- And probably many others ...

**So let's try again ...**

## 3D Oil Transport : Submerged Ridge

### Transition to 3D Flow and Transport:

ADCIRC computes 3D flow by adding layers of vertical elements below the mesh

- $u, v$  from horizontal momentum, then  $w$  from vertical momentum

Tracking code must account for particle depth

- Interpolate 3D velocities within the vertical element containing particle

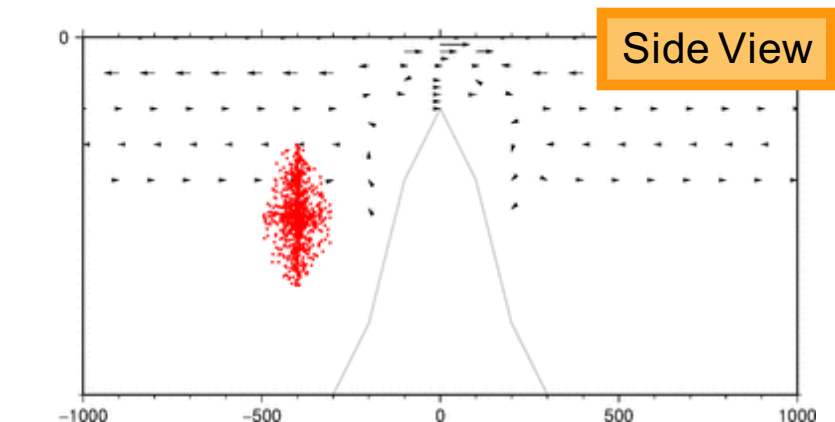
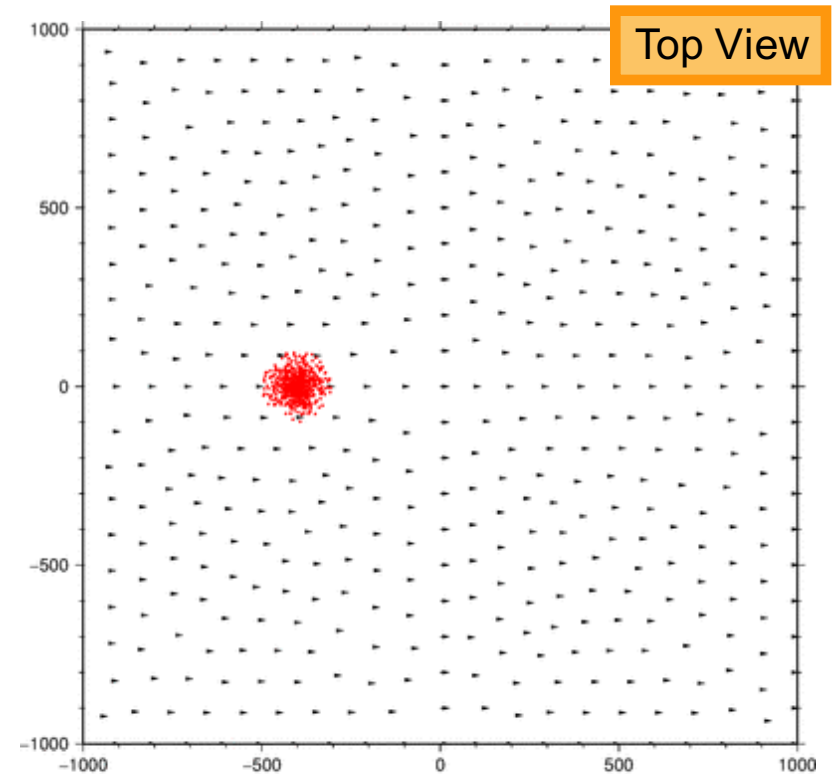
### Submerged Ridge Test Case:

Simple test case to show particle movement

- Domain is 2km x 2km x 100m
- Submerged central ridge with 20m depth

Wind oscillates with magnitude of 10m/s

Initial 'cloud' of 1000 particles (shown in red)



## 3D Oil Transport : Submerged Ridge : Buoyancy

### Floating Oil Droplets:

Zheng and Yapa (2000) divide droplets into shapes/classes based on size:

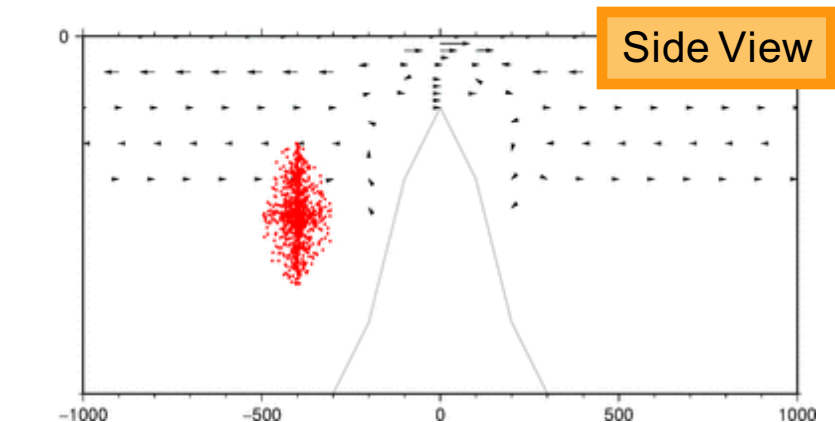
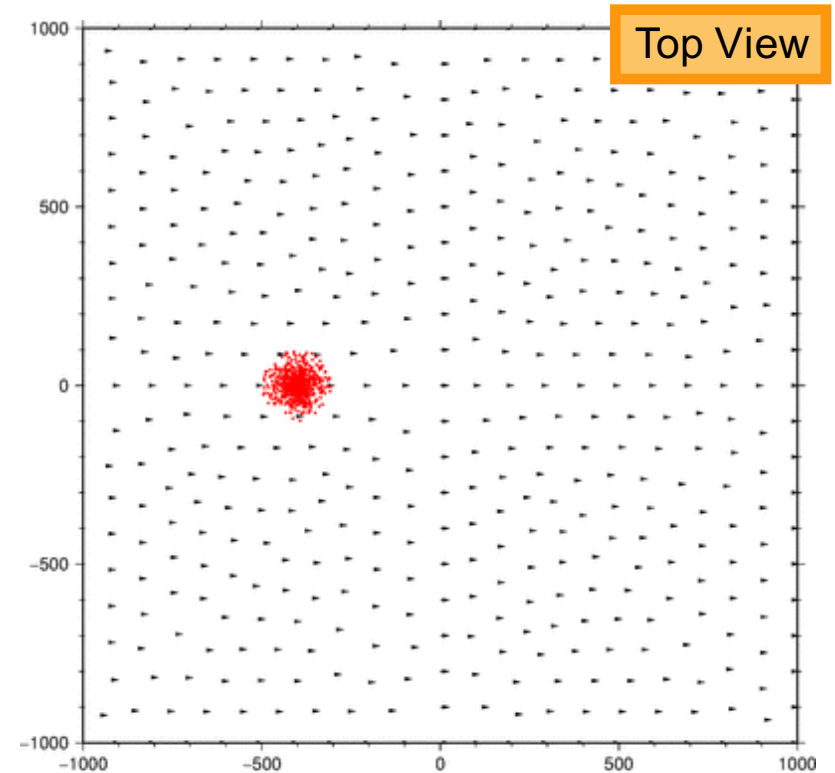
- Spherical droplets (small)
- Ellipsoidal droplets (intermediate)
- Spherical-cap droplets (large)

Oil droplets will always fall in spherical class:

$$U_T = \frac{R\mu}{\rho d}$$

Droplet size is most important factor:

Particle Diameter (μm)	Buoyant Velocity (m/hr)
10	0.027
50	0.685
100	2.723
300	20.549



## 3D Oil Transport : Submerged Ridge : Source Term

### Oil Leaks from Seafloor:

At every tracking step, insert particle(s)  
at a user-defined location

- Number of particles increases over time

### Submerged Ridge Test Case:

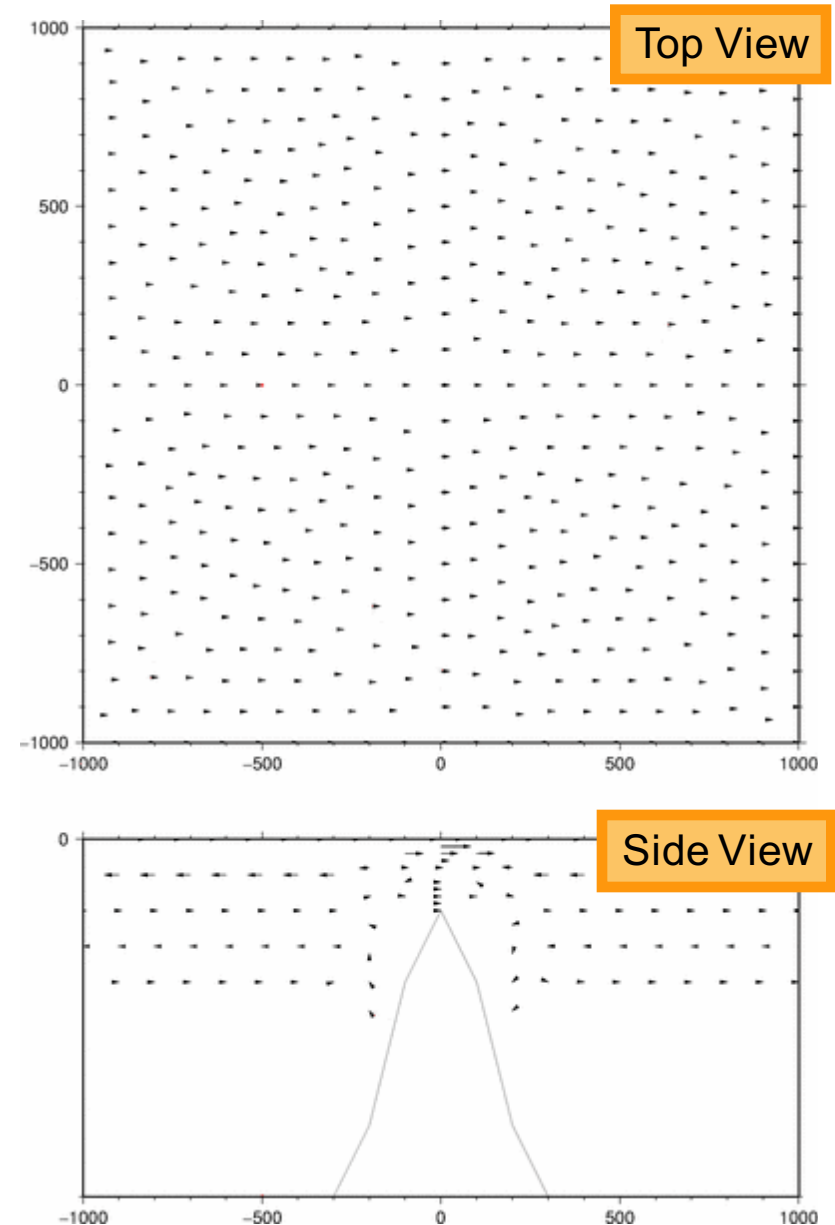
Instead of initializing the particles in a cloud,  
they are introduced at a source  
located at (0, -500, -100)m

### Assumptions:

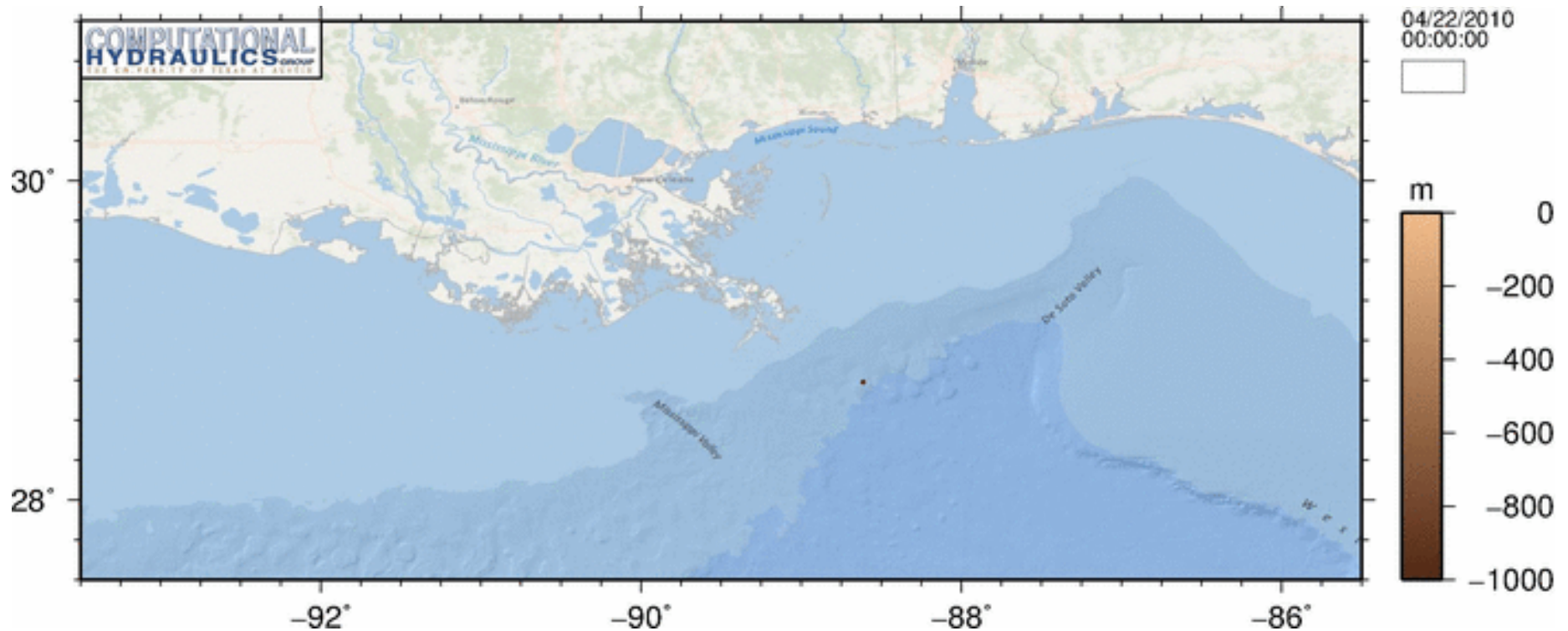
Water - Density of  $998.2071 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ )

Oil - Density of  $858 \text{ kg/m}^3$

- **Droplet size of  $50\mu\text{m}$**
- Interfacial tension of  $0.023 \text{ N/m}$



## 3D Oil Transport : Initial Results



Hindcast simulation for initial 40 days of DWH

Particles released at wellhead and transported by buoyancy and 3D velocities

- Diameters assigned randomly in the range of **50 $\mu$ m** to **300 $\mu$ m**
- Need parameterizations for dispersion and sinks (evaporation, biodegradation)

Velocities from HYCOM - need 3D baroclinic flow from ADCIRC

## Conclusions and Future Work

### 'Tight' Coupling of SWAN+ADCIRC:

- Models use same unstructured mesh
- Information passed dynamically through local cache
- Coupled model is efficient to 1000s of computational cores
- Validation to wealth of measurement data

### Applications to Nearshore Waves and Circulation:

- Design of surge barrier to protect New Orleans
- Development of floodplain risk maps
- Forecasting of hurricanes, oil spill

**Predictive, high-resolution modeling of nearshore ocean waves and circulation for applications in coastal engineering**

Thank You!



Hurricane Season 2012