

# Time reverse imaging of tsunami waveforms

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# New Frontiers in Tsunami Observation: Global DART Buoy Network & Friends

- Like hard-rock seismometers, deep-ocean tsunami measurements suffer only benign path effect
- They give much clearer picture of the tsunami source than content



source than coastal tide gauges.

 The new global network of buoys should revolutionize tsunami source Imaging.



Time reverse imaging (TRI) can reproduce source

- Common in acoustics, medical science, material science...
   (long distance communication, destruction of tumours & kidney stones, detection of material defects)
- Basis: The physical processes underlying wave propagation are unchanged if time is reversed
- Time-reversed signal: Refocuses

   Iocation of original source
   regardless of the complexity of the
   propagation medium, with a similar
   shape (depending number of
   sensors)



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#### Tsunami propagation: Shallow water wave equations

• All terms change sign under time reversal

 Equations are invariant if the bed friction terms (D) are dropped

 $\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial (hu)}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial (hv)}{\partial v} = 0$  $\frac{\partial(hu)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(u^2h + \frac{1}{2}gh^2) + \frac{\partial(huv)}{\partial v} = -gh\frac{\partial b}{\partial x} - ghD_x$ involving t, u, v  $\frac{\partial(hv)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(huv)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(v^2h + \frac{1}{2}gh^2)}{\partial y} = -gh\frac{\partial b}{\partial y} - ghD_y$ where b(x, y) is the bed elevation and D is the bed friction.  $D_x = \frac{u\zeta^2 \sqrt{u^2 + v^2}}{\frac{u^2}{v^2}}$ and  $D_{v} = \frac{v\zeta^{2}\sqrt{u^{2}+v^{2}}}{v^{8/3}}$ b > 0

Details: Hossen et al. Pure & Applied Geophysics (2015) Jan Dettmer — ANU

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### Tsunami TRI: Simulation with encouraging results



## Tsunami TRI: Simulation with encouraging results



#### TRI works with uniform scaling... but crude source estimate



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#### 2011 Japan tsunami: Ideal to study source process

- Very large tsunami due to giant Mw 9 earthquake
- Unprecedented array of tsunami observations available
- Many published source models for comparison



### Basic TRI applied to Japan tsunami: Crude estimate

Problems:

- TRI source image lacks detail 40°N evident in the FFI result (sparsity of data causes 39°N incomplete focus)
- Artefacts outside source (incomplete destructive interference)









![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

TRI with Green's function scaling

- Divide the source area into subregions.
- Create elementary source over each subregion
- Compute Green's function from each subregion
- Convolve Green's function with reversed observed waveforms.
- Amplitude at each subregion:
   Scaled wave height at the final time

![](_page_13_Figure_6.jpeg)

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#### Green functions: Provide more detail & scaling

Kawakatsu & Montanger (2008): Allow source inversion problem guide choice of TRI scaling factor  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial x} = 0$ 

$$\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} G_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{j},\omega)a_{i}(\omega)-d_{j}(\omega)\right|^{2} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{0}a_{j}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} G_{i'}^{\star}(\mathbf{x}_{j},\omega)G_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{j},\omega)\hat{a}_{ij}(\omega)=G_{i'}^{\star}(\mathbf{x}_{j},\omega)d_{j}(\omega)$$

Approximate normal equation matrix as diagonal, with entries:

$$\int G_{i'}(\mathbf{x}_j, \tau) G_i(\mathbf{x}_j, t+\tau) d\tau \approx |G_{ij}|^2 \delta_{ii'}$$

Yields an expression for TRI with scaling factor determined:

$$\hat{a}_{ij}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\mid G_{ij} \mid^2} G_i^*(\mathbf{x}_j, \omega) d_j(\omega)$$
$$= \frac{e^{i\omega T}}{\mid G_{ij} \mid^2} TR_j^*(\mathbf{s}_i, \omega)$$

I.e., scaling factor is inverse of zero-lag autocorr. of GF

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![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

## New approach: Similar resolution; Fraction of computational cost, fewer subjective choices

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

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# Predictive power near field: Similar to conventional but much faster & more objective

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Red: TRI
- Green: Conventional

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### Predictive power far field: Excellent

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

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Importance/future impact: Tsunamis & harbour resonance

- Coastal populations already warned of far-field tsunamis & can escape
- Effects on ports persist for many hours & depend on subtle waveform features that may excite harbour resonance
- Example: Resonance excited in the harbour at Geraldton, Western Australia, by the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami

![](_page_20_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_5.jpeg)

Figure: Geoscience Australia

#### Summary

- New sea level sensors can be used for time reverse imaging of large tsunami sources
- Tsunami TRI is simple: Average observed waveforms convolved with Green's functions pre-calculated for an array of source points (i.e. no real-time tsunami simulation necessary to estimate source)
- Prediction of far-field waveforms using TRI-determined source is excellent
- Current warning systems work well for alerting distant coastal communities, ports are more difficult to protect:

Resonances excited by late-arriving phases require better tsunami source estimates which may be forecast effectively using TRI

References:

- Hossen et al., (2015). Geophysical Research Letters, 42. doi:10.1002/2015GL065868
- Hossen et al., (2015). Pure and Applied Geophysics, 172, 969-984. doi:10.1007/ s00024-014-1014-5

Both available upon request.

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# Appendix

#### More far-field agreements

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

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