

Prediction of High-resolution Maps of Storm-driven Coastal Flooding Using Deep Learning

Tomás Cuevas-López¹, Brandon Tucker¹, Casey Dietrich¹ & Dylan Anderson²

¹Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, NC State University

²Coastal Hydraulics Laboratory, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Duck, NC, USA

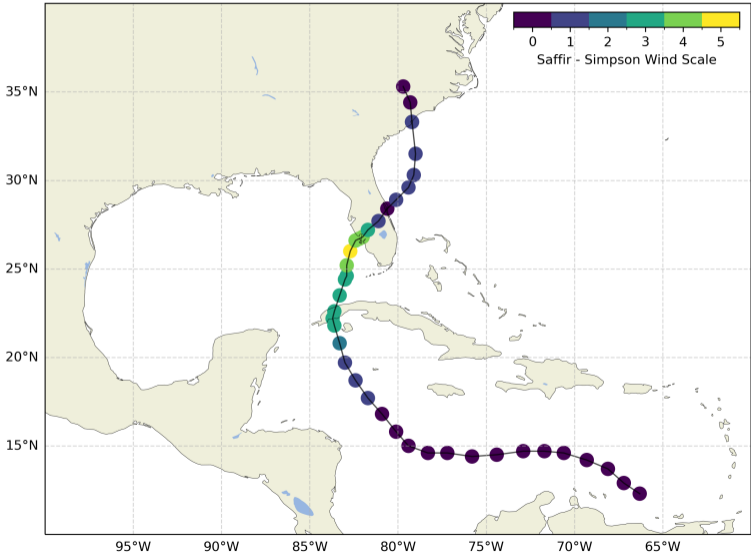
3rd International Workshop on Waves, Storm Surges, and Coastal Hazards
Oct 2023



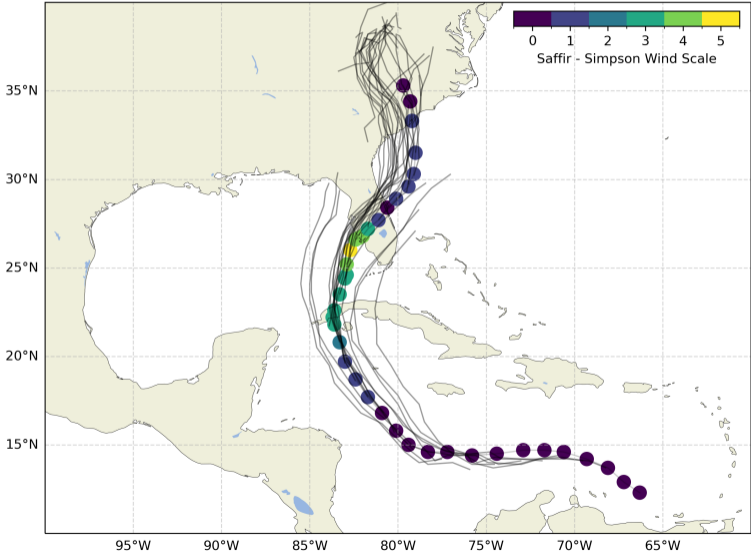
~~Prediction of High-resolution Maps of Storm-driven Coastal Flooding
Using Deep Learning~~

**Library of High-resolution Maps of Storm-driven Coastal
Flooding for Training a Neural Network**

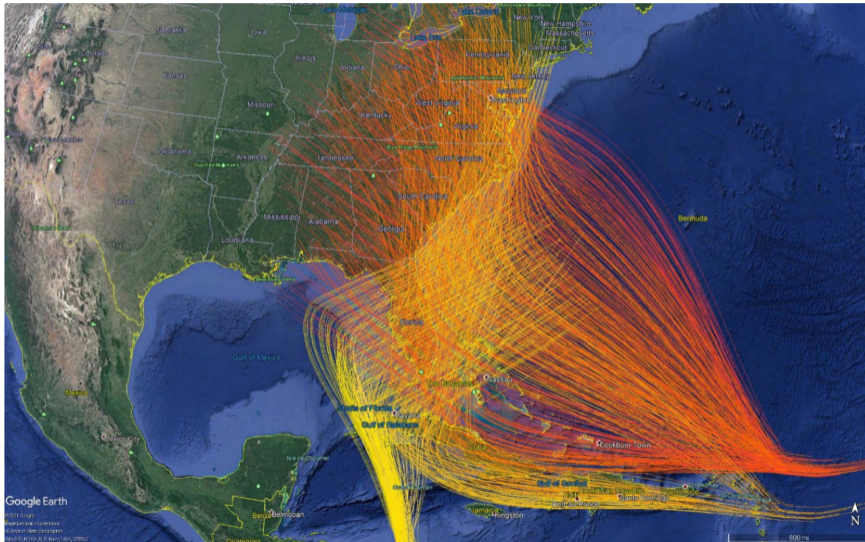
Motivation: Hindcast simulations



Motivation: Real-time forecasting uncertainty



Motivation: Risk analysis uncertainty

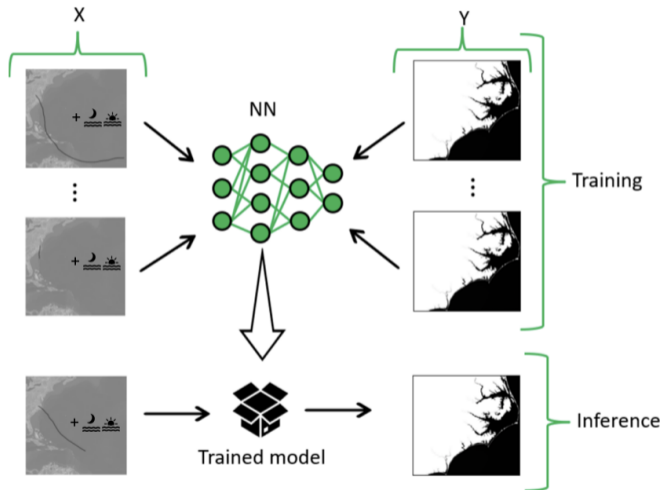


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2021)

GOAL: Create a large library of ADCIRC simulations with random astronomical tides for training a neural net to predict high-res maps of storm-driven coastal flooding

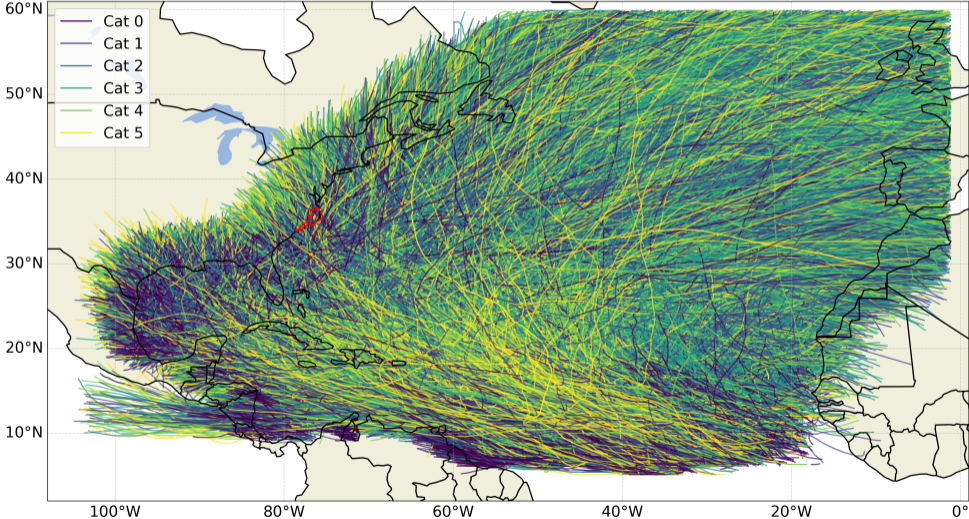
What is new?

- Tropical cyclones library:
 - o Tracks from a probabilistic model
 - o Random astronomical tides
 - o High-resolution maps as outputs
- Neural network:
 - o Tide as input
 - o Tracks of variable length
 - o Prediction of high-resolution maps



Step 1: Dataset of synthetic tropical cyclones

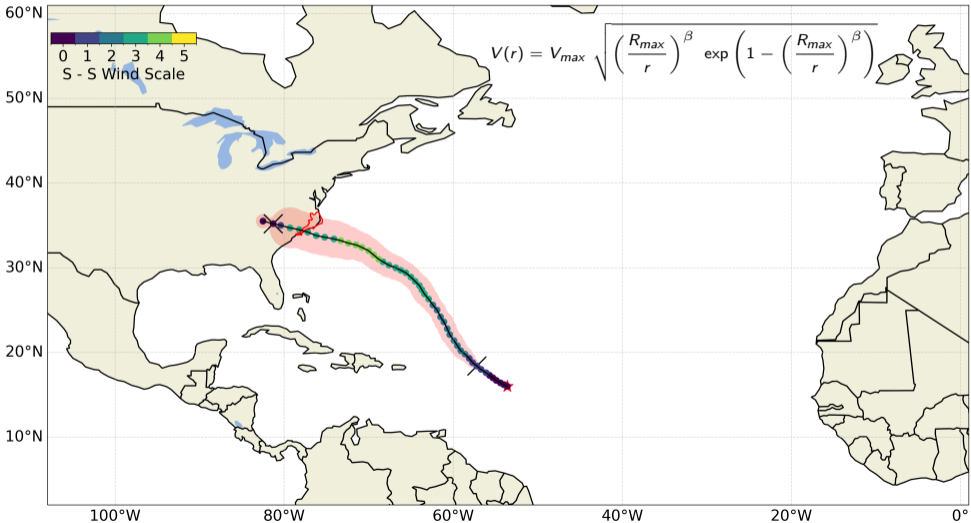
Identify a subset of impactful storms



Bloemendaal et al. (2020)

Step 1: Dataset of synthetic tropical cyclones

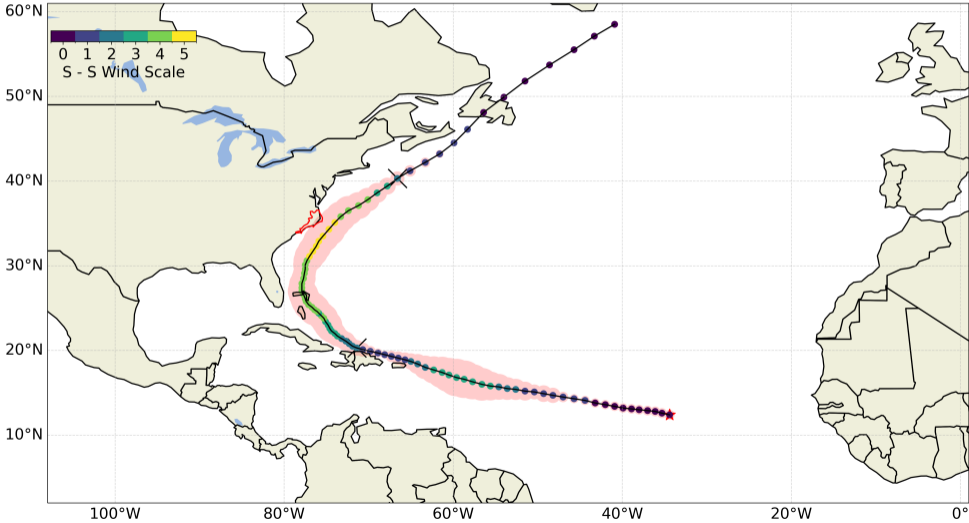
Define an area of influence



Holland (1980)

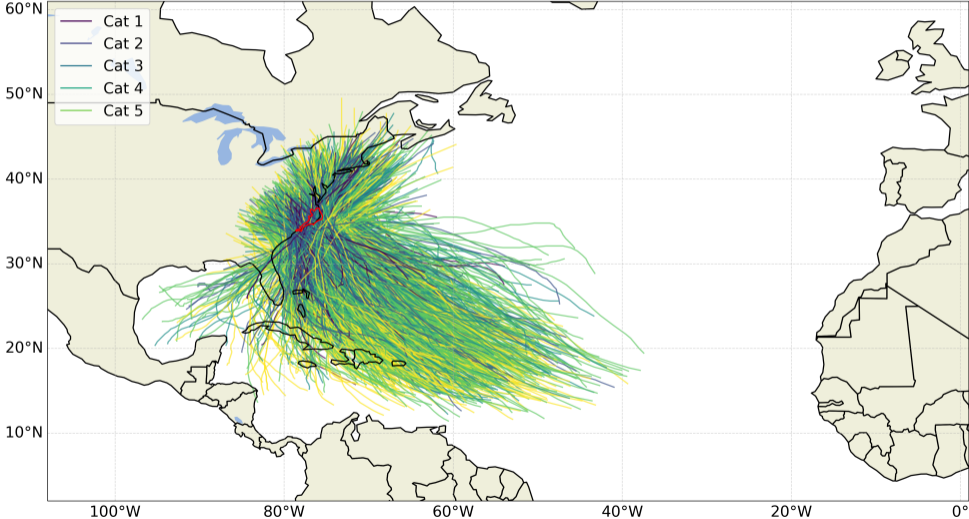
Step 1: Dataset of synthetic tropical cyclones

Reducing track length to reduce computation – Key assumption 1



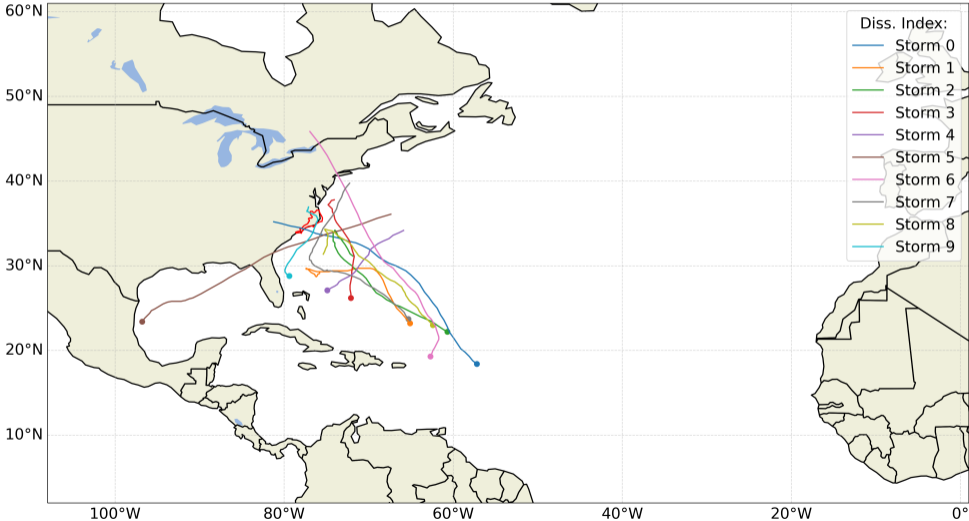
Step 1: Dataset of synthetic tropical cyclones

Subset of 1813 tracks that affect North Carolina



Step 1: Dataset of synthetic tropical cyclones

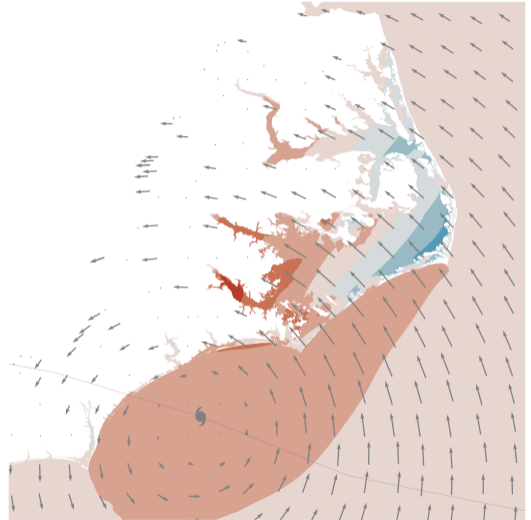
Maximum dissimilarity algorithm to sort the tracks based on dissimilarity



Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

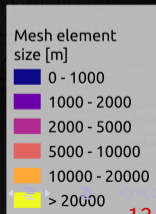
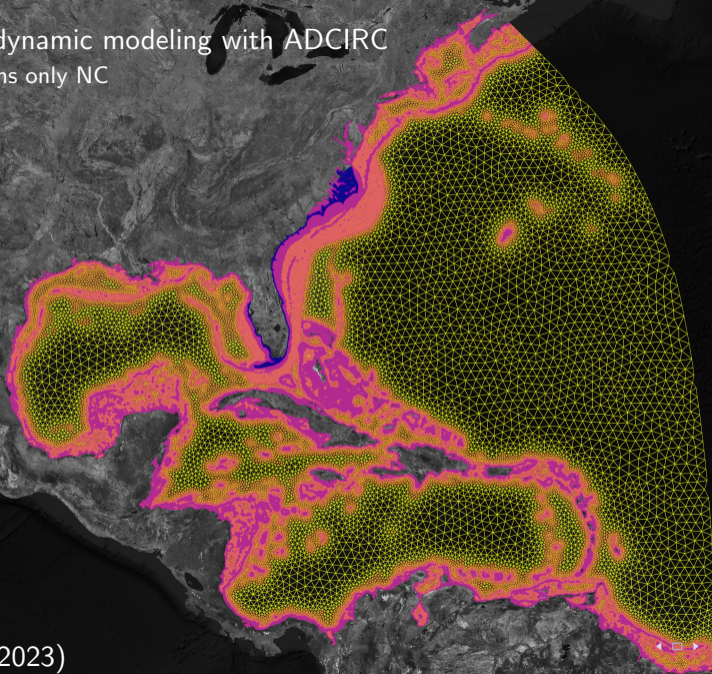
ADvanced CIRCulation (ADCIRC) model:

- Unstructured, variable resolution meshes
- Finite element in space and finite differences in time
- Solve the Generalized Wave Continuity Equation
- Well validated in the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic coasts



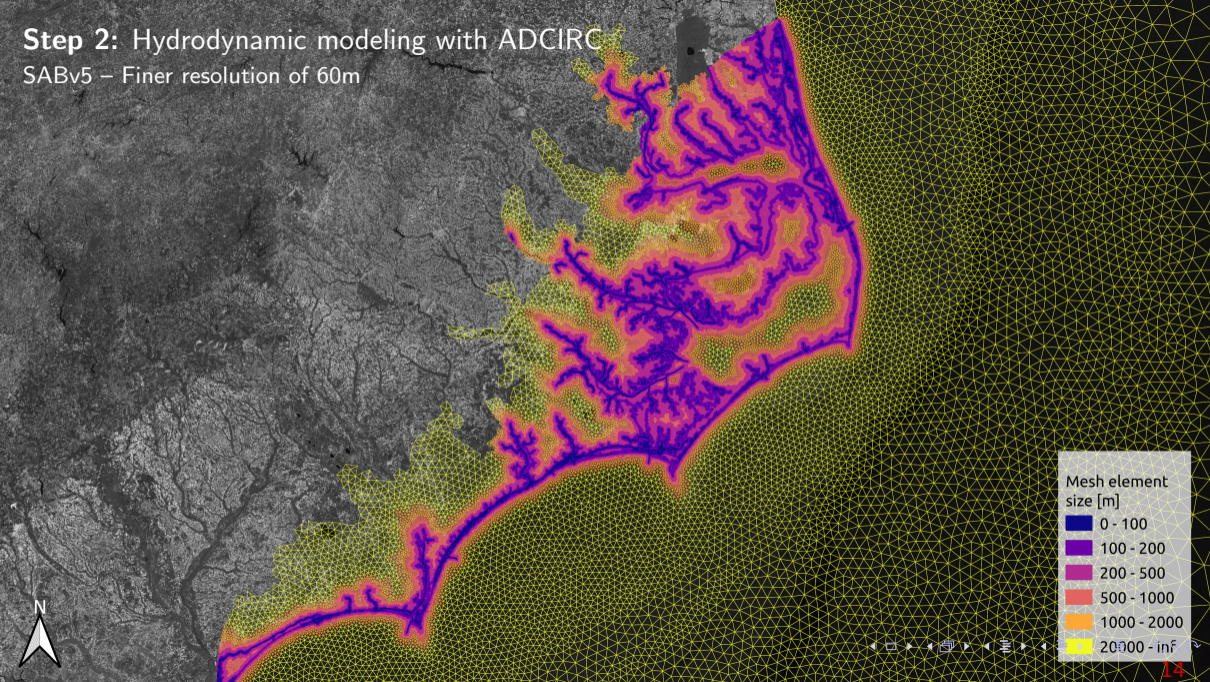
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

SABv5 – floodplains only NC



Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

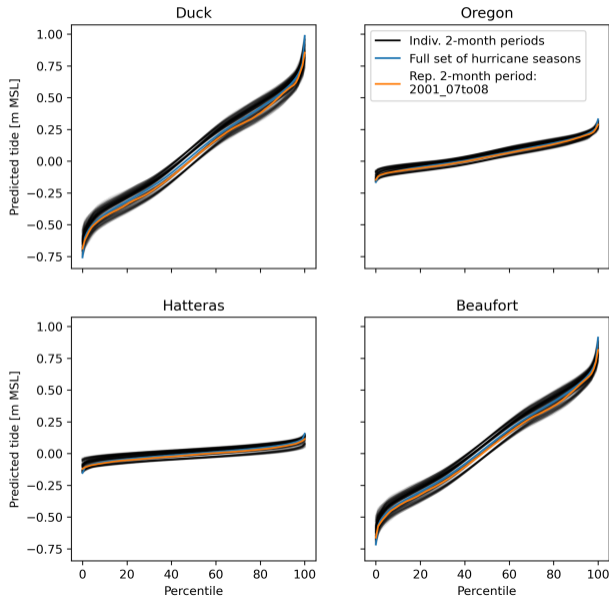
SABv5 – Finer resolution of 60m



Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Simulations setup

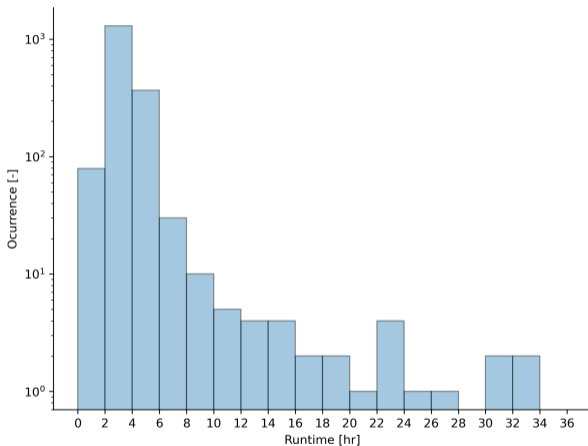
- Same mesh and nodal attributes
- Almost the same configuration
 - o 2-month representative period (Key assumption 2)
 - o Random date \implies random tide
- Wind field: Symmetric Holland Model
 - o No need to compute extra parameters
 - o Coords, WS, P, and RMW
- 3-days spin-up



Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

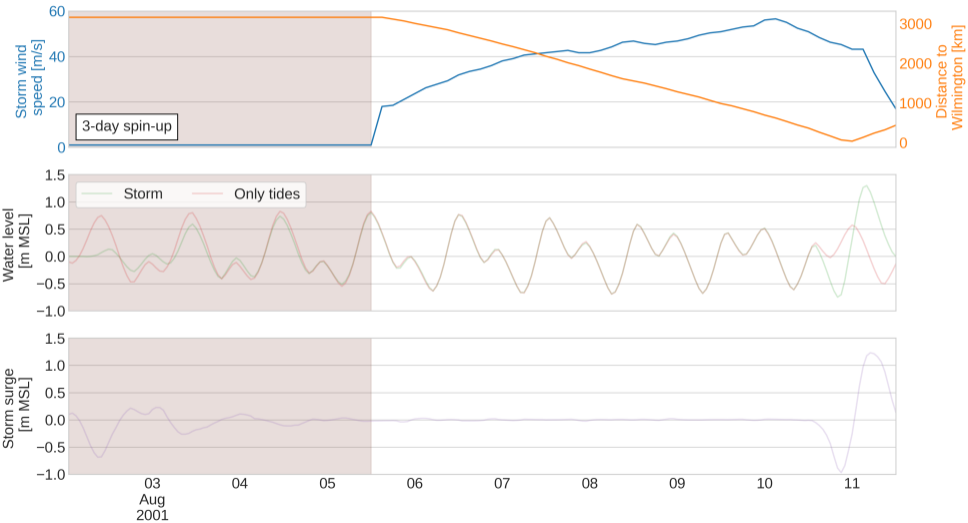
Running and postprocessing simulations

- HPC systems
 - o NCSU Hazel
 - o Purdue Anvil
 - o TACC Stampede2
- Simulation stats
 - o **1.3M** cpu hours
 - o Wall clock time ranged from 1.2 to 33 hours
 - o Mean wall clock time of 3.7 hours
 - o **17T** of data



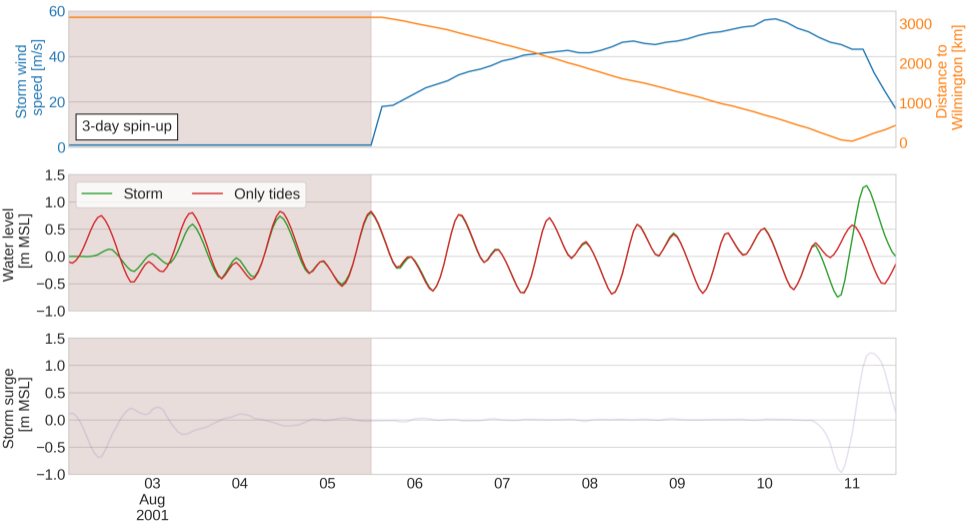
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Time series at Wilmington NOAA tide gauge, storm 0



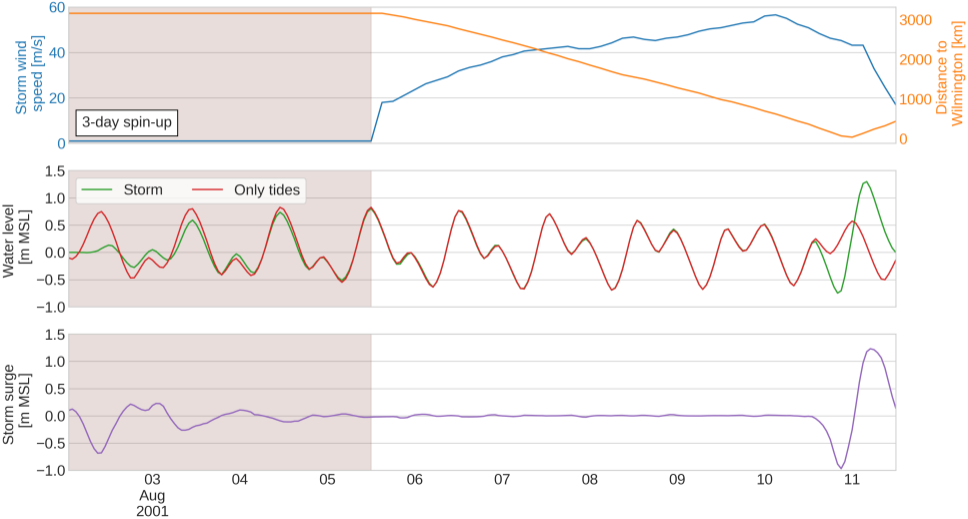
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Time series at Wilmington NOAA tide gauge, storm 0



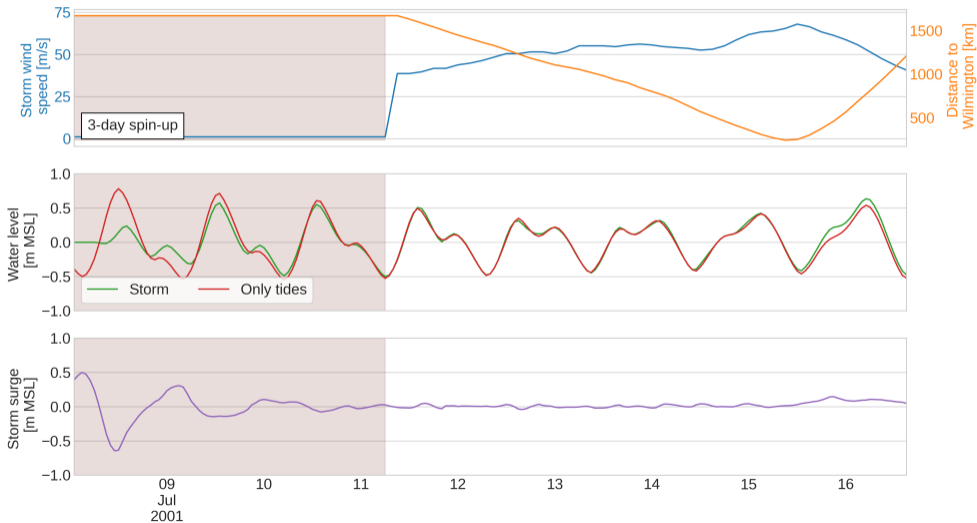
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Time series at Wilmington NOAA tide gauge, storm 0



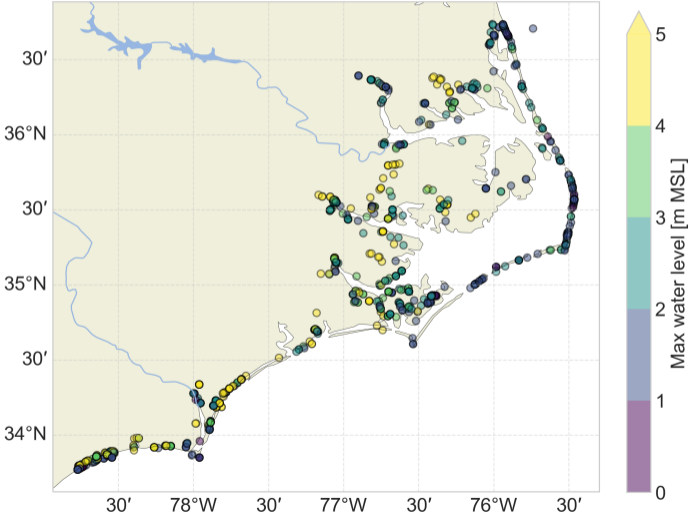
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Time series at Wilmington NOAA tide gauge, storm 11



Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Locations of peak storm surge

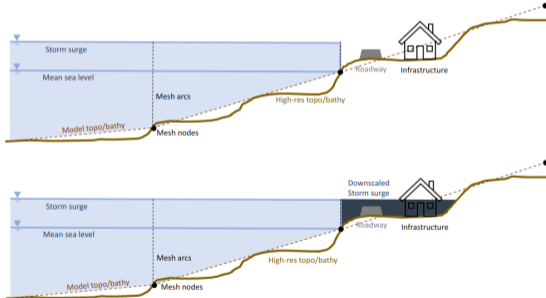


Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

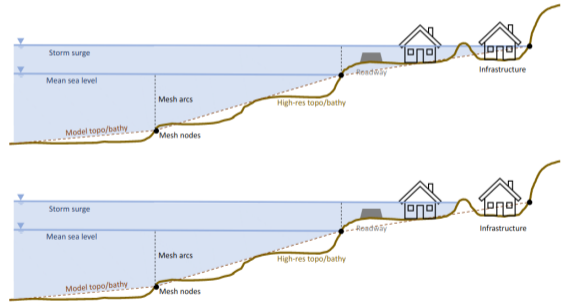
Peak storm surge output to high-res rasters with Kalpana's Static Downscaling method

Use of a high-resolution topo DEM to increase ADCIRC resolution and to expand or shrink the inundation extent¹

Expand inundation



Shrink inundation

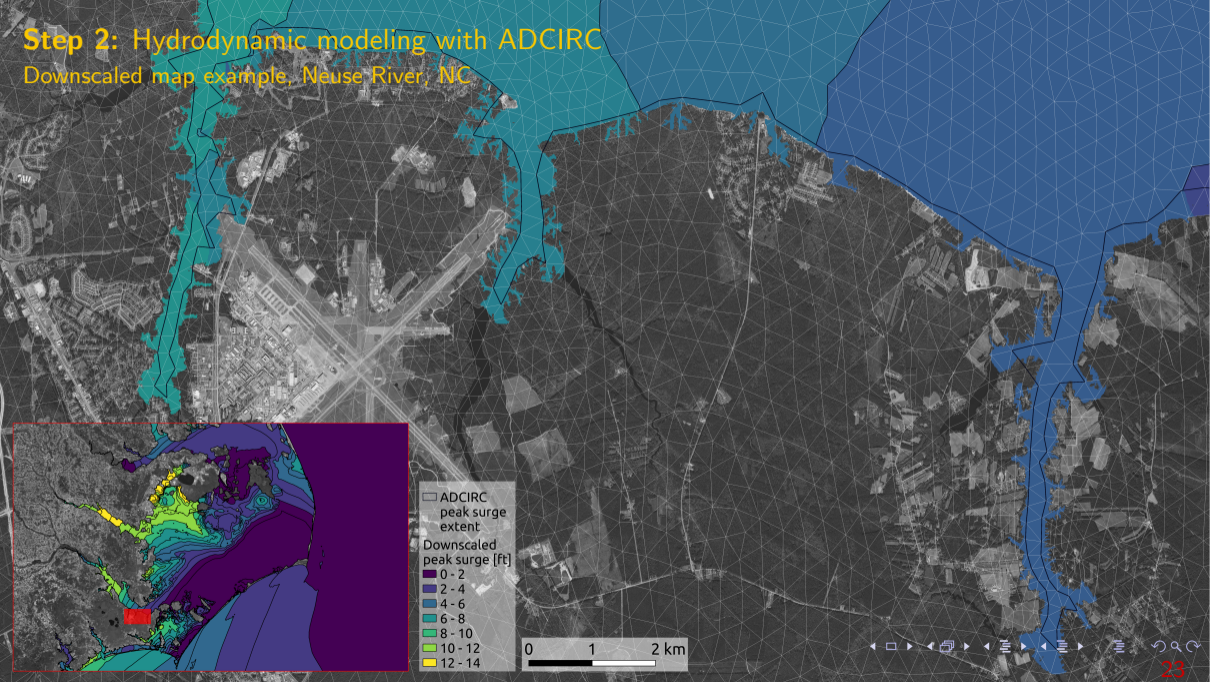


Rucker et al. (2021)

github.com/ccht-ncsu/Kalpana

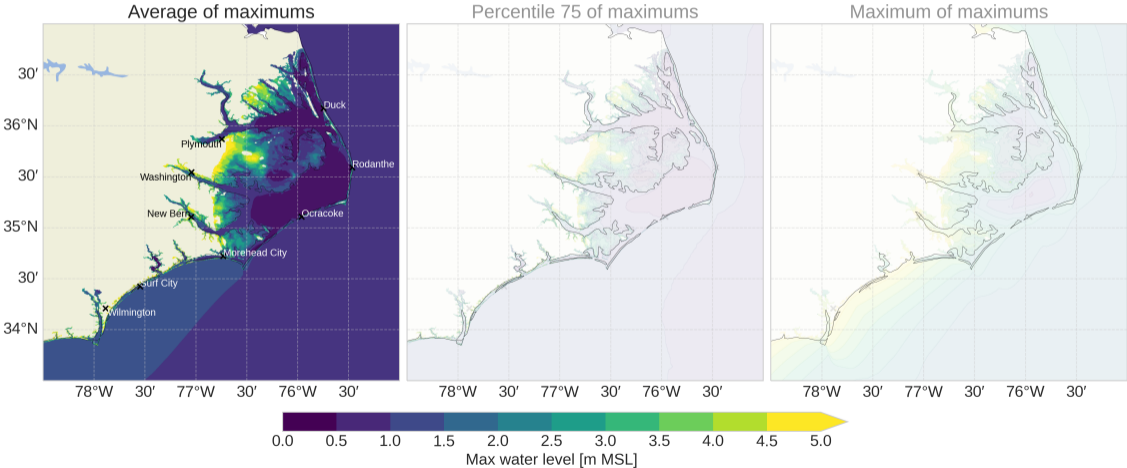
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Downscaled map example, Neuse River, NC



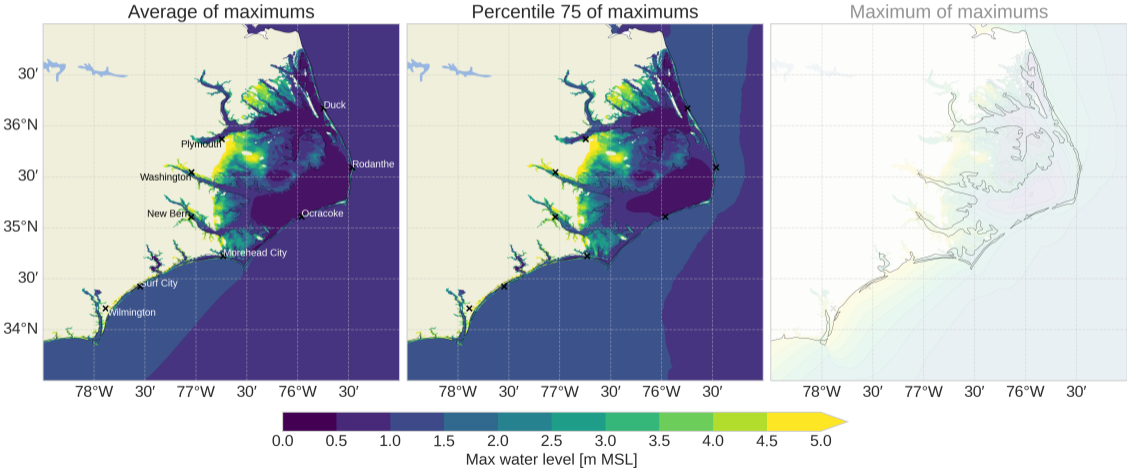
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Peak storm surge stats



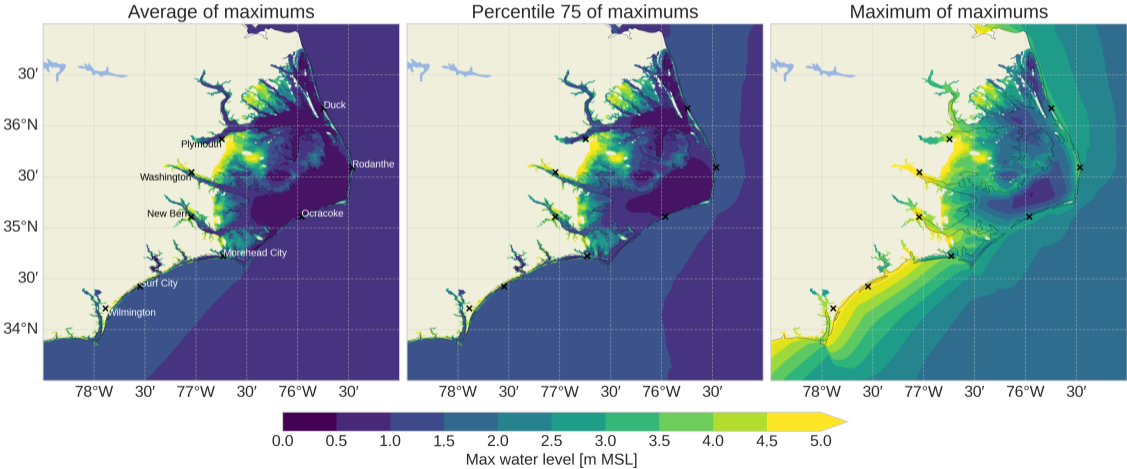
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Peak storm surge stats



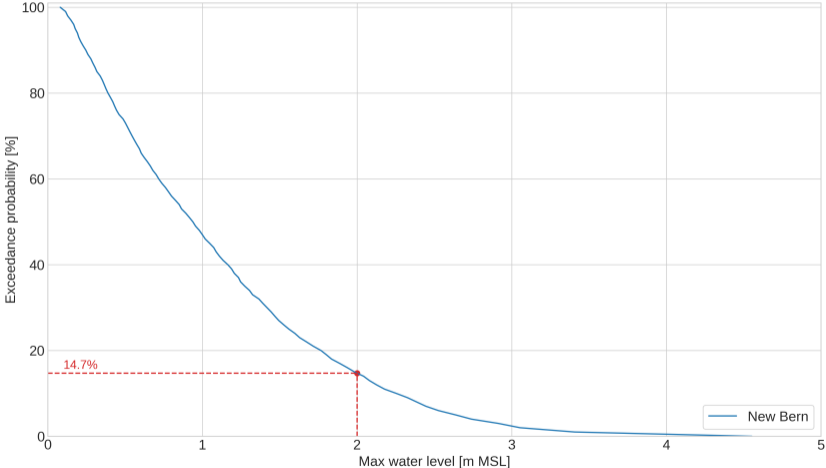
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Peak storm surge stats



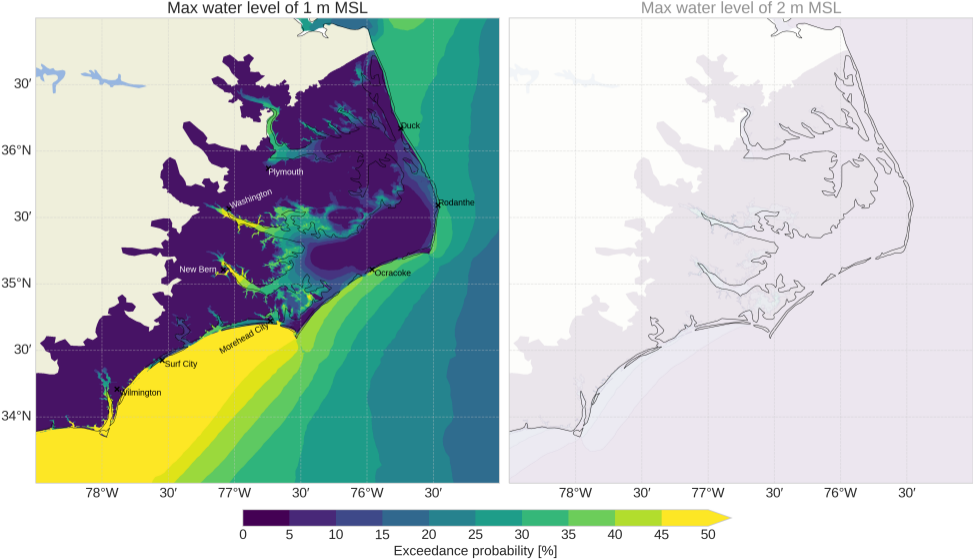
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Exceedance probability distribution at New Bern, NC



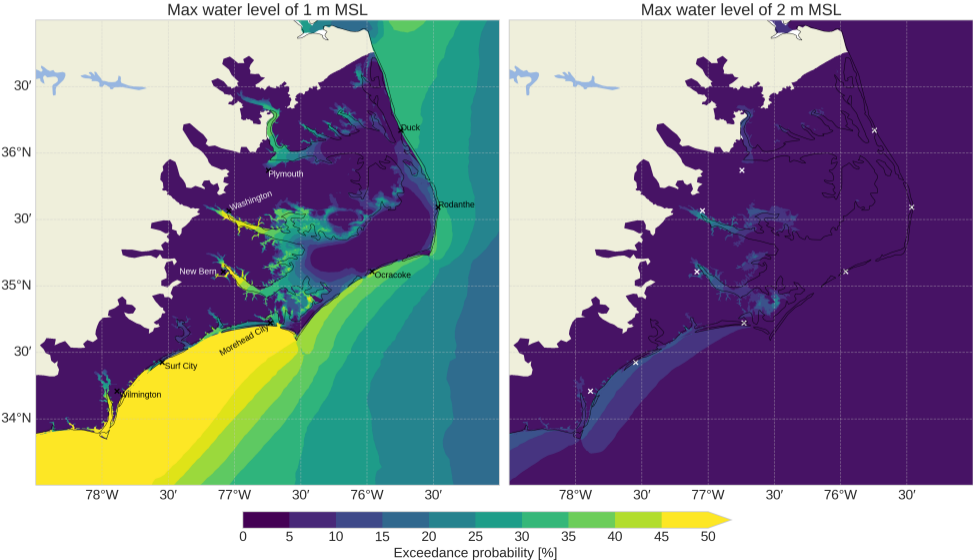
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Where to buy a beach house in NC?



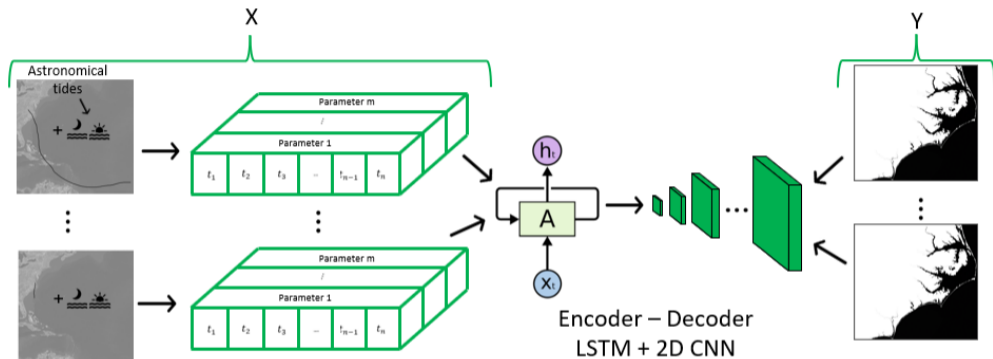
Step 2: Hydrodynamic modeling with ADCIRC

Postprocessing simulations – Where to buy a beach house in NC?



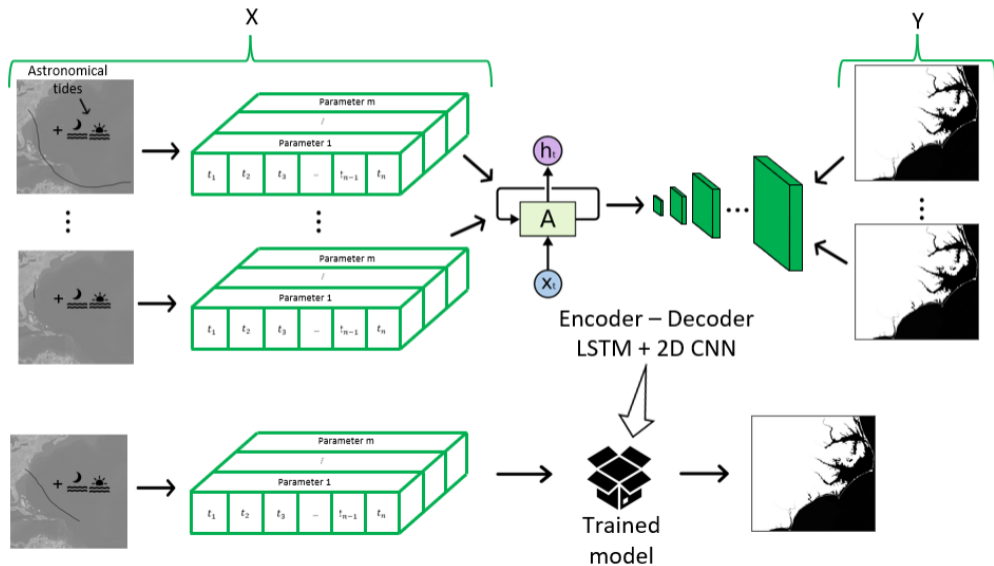
Step 3: Neural network development

NN architecture: Long short-term memory and 2D transposed convolution layers



Step 3: Neural network development

NN architecture: Long short-term memory and 2D transposed convolution layers



Summary and Ongoing Work

Library of High-resolution Maps of Storm-driven Coastal Flooding for Training a Neural Network

- Selected a set of tracks that represents the max and avg of the tropical cyclone conditions in NC
- 1813 ADCIRC simulations with random astronomical tide using $\approx 1.3\text{M}$ cpu hours.
- Ran a 2-month tides-only simulation to isolate the storm surge.
- Downscaled the peak surge output to produce high and constant-resolution maps with and without the tide effect.

Ongoing work:

- Developing an NN based on an **LSTM** to process storm track and astronomical tides time series and a **CNN** with transpose convolution layers to generate the maps.
- Define how to incorporate the astronomical tide in the inputs.
- Define the error metric.