



Università
di Genova

DICCA DIPARTIMENTO
DI INGEGNERIA CIVILE, CHIMICA
E AMBIENTALE

4th International Workshop on Waves,
Storm Surges and Coastal Hazards

Incorporating the 18th International Waves Workshop

September 22 – 26, 2025



Assessing Future Compound Flooding in Chiavari, Liguria

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Contextualization of the Problem

Coastal Vulnerability in the Mediterranean Sea is exacerbated by changes in climate forcing

Frequency of Storms

Intensity of Storms

Direction of Storms

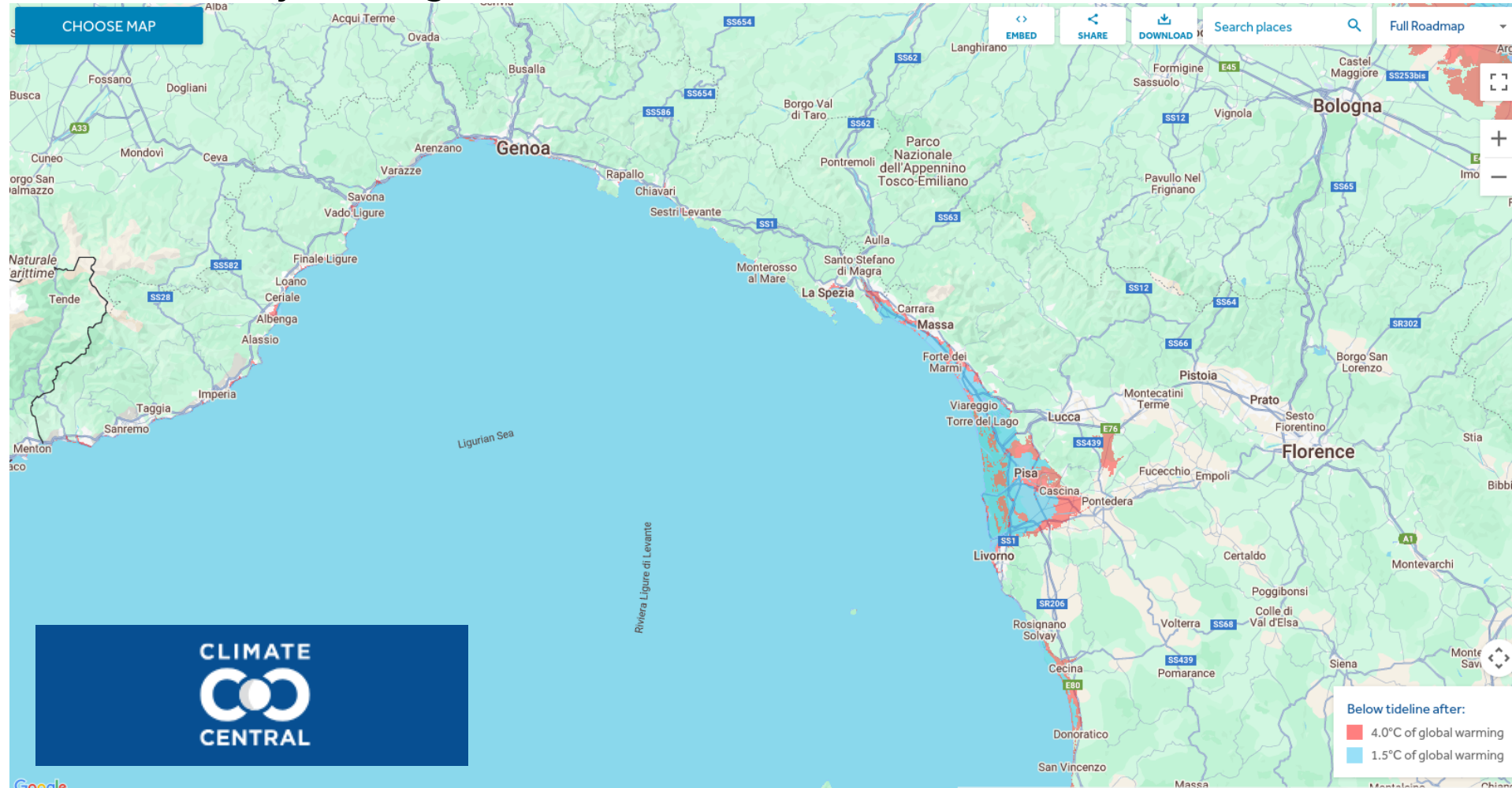


Assessing Future Compound Flooding in Chiavari, Liguria

Coastal Vulnerability

Coastal Vulnerability in the Mediterranean
Sea is exacerbated by changes in climate
forcing

Storms adding up to SLR

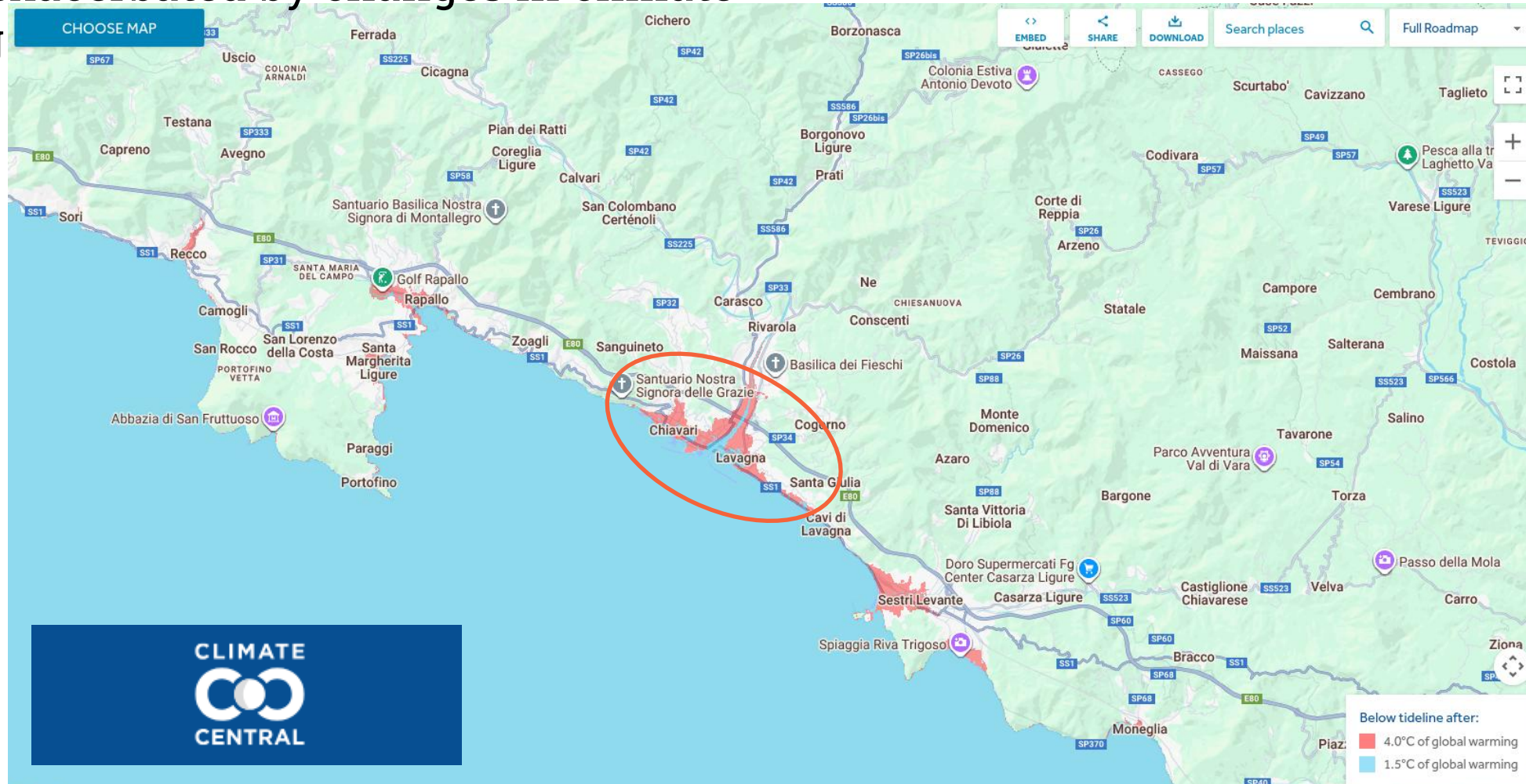


Assessing Future Compound Flooding in Chiavari, Liguria

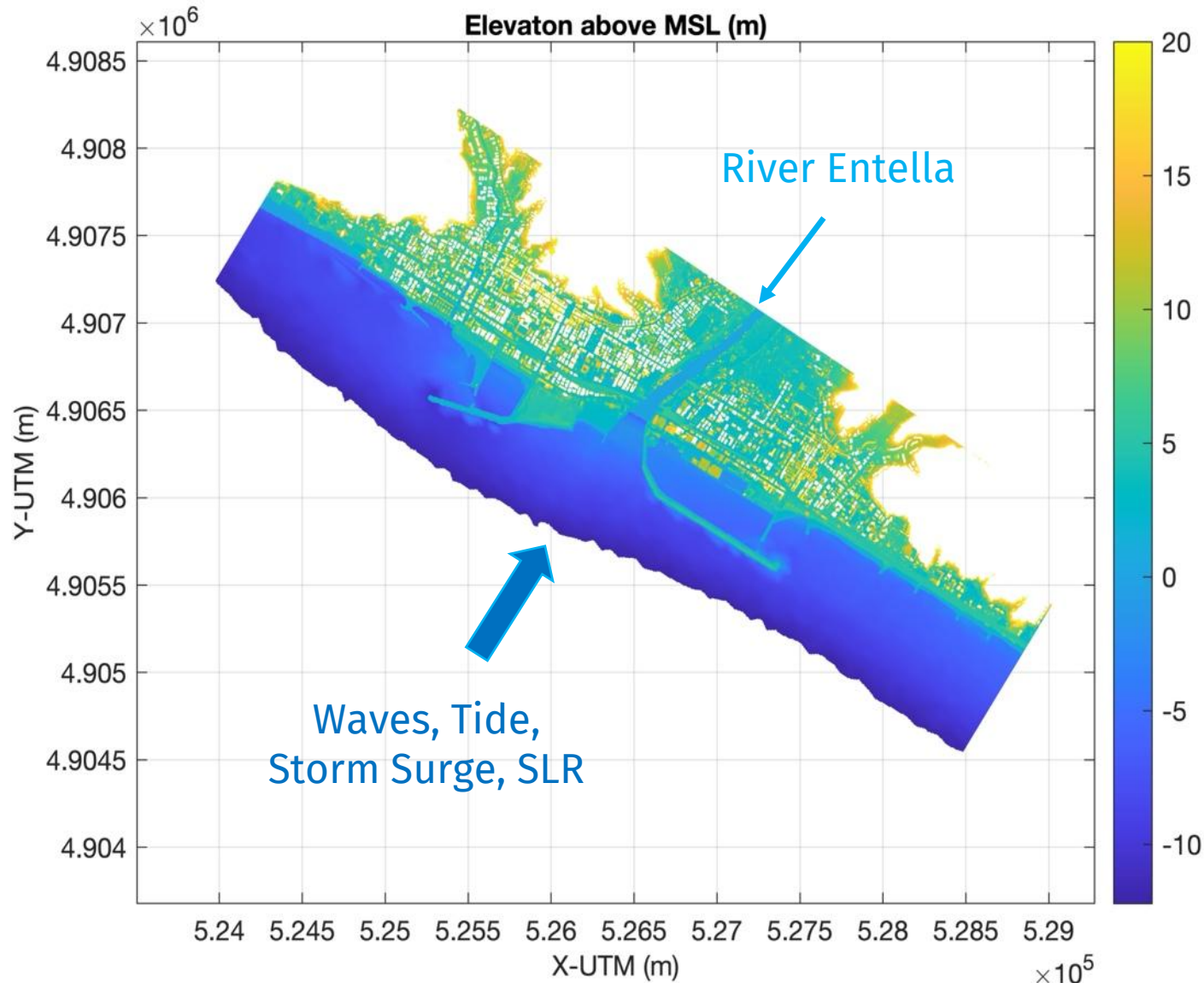
Coastal Vulnerability

Coastal Vulnerability in the Mediterranean
Sea is exacerbated by changes in climate
forcing

Storms adding up to SLR



Data and Methods



SFINCS Model setup

Grid resolution 5x5 m

Coastal structures modeled as weirs to assure equivalent overtopping conditions

Maximum surface elevation: 20 m

Maximum offshore water depth: 12 m

River discharge: distributed along upstream boundary cells

Digital Surface Model (1x1 res)

High Resolution Bathymetry

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Data and Methods

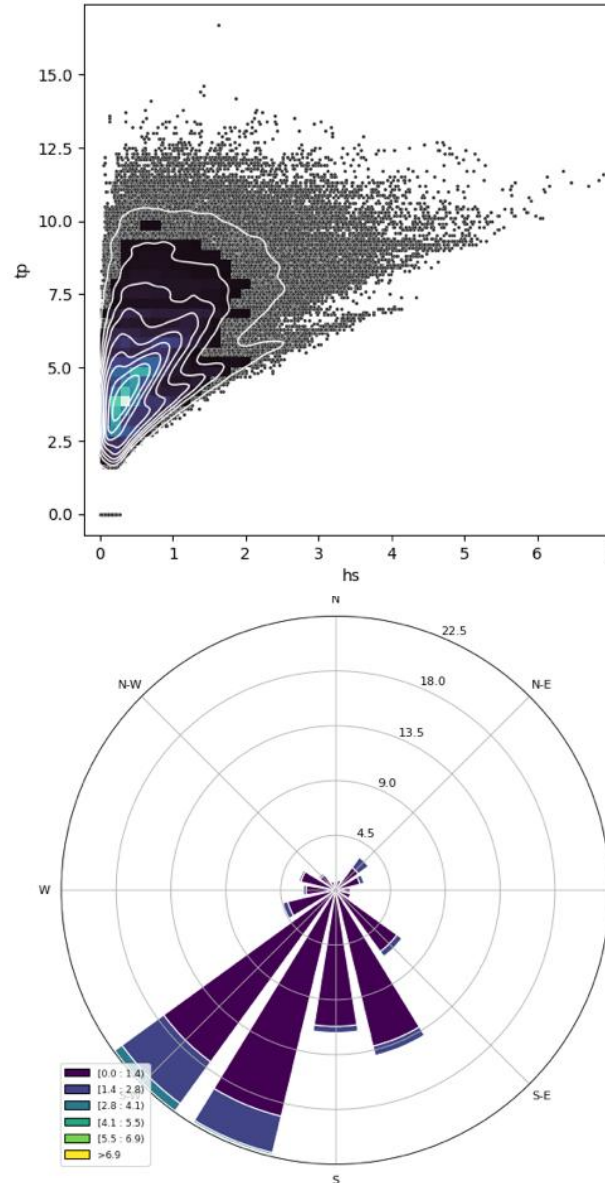
Environmental Forcings

HISTORICAL

Sea Waves
DICCA Hindcast

Storm Surge
DICCA Hindcast
(pres by F. Giaroli)

River Flooding Discharge
2014 Event



FUTURE SCENARIOS

Sea Waves
DICCA-IMEDEA Proj
(pres by T. Toomey)

Storm Surge
DICCA Proj
(pres by F. Giaroli)

Sea Level Rise
NASA dataset

Waves – RCP8.5

Storm Surge – RCP8.5

SLR – Nasa AR6 SSP5-8.5

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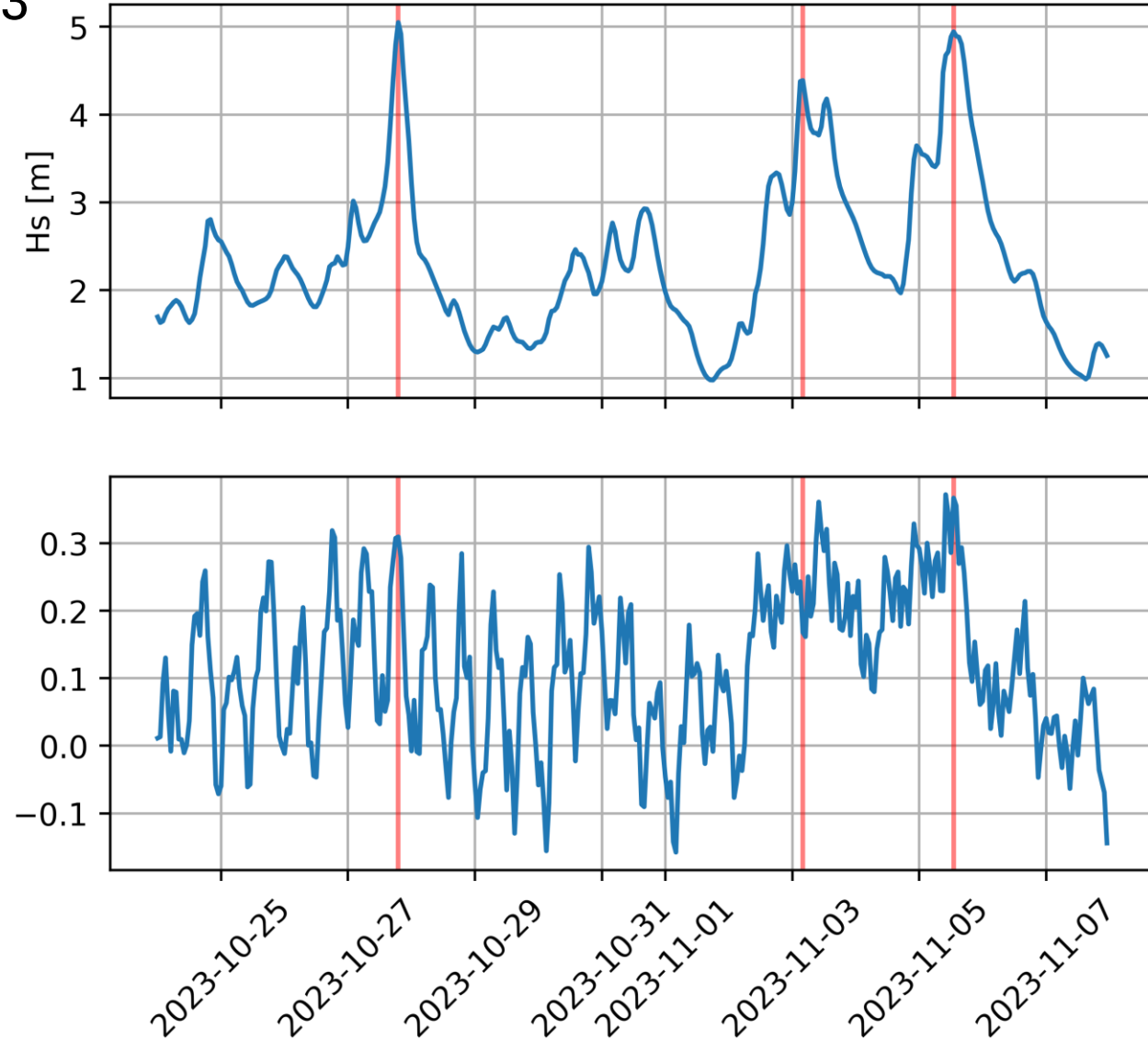
Data and Methods

Environmental Forcings

Case	Series	Tr (years)	Hs (m)	Tp (s)	Dir (�)	SLR (m)	Storm surge (m)	Tide (m)	Q (m3/s)
1	Historical	50	6,07	12	225	0	0,383	0,1	1719
2	Historical	100	6,26	12	225	0	0,398	0,1	1719
3	Historical	200	6,44	12	225	0	0,413	0,1	1719
4	End-century	50	6,33	12	225	0,72	0,378	0,1	1719
5	End-century	100	6,52	12	225	0,72	0,392	0,1	1719
6	End-century	200	6,66	12	225	0,72	0,405	0,1	1719
7		200	6,66	12	225	0,72	0,405	0,1	10
8	Validation	0	5,05	9,9	226	0	0,17	0,14	1719
9	Validation	0	4,39	10,3	220	0	0,25	-0,08	1719
10	Validation	0	4,94	9,9	225	0	0,29	0,08	1719

Data and Methods 27/10 – 05/11 - 2023

Environmental Forcings



Assessing Future Compound Flooding in Chiavari, Liguria

Data and Methods

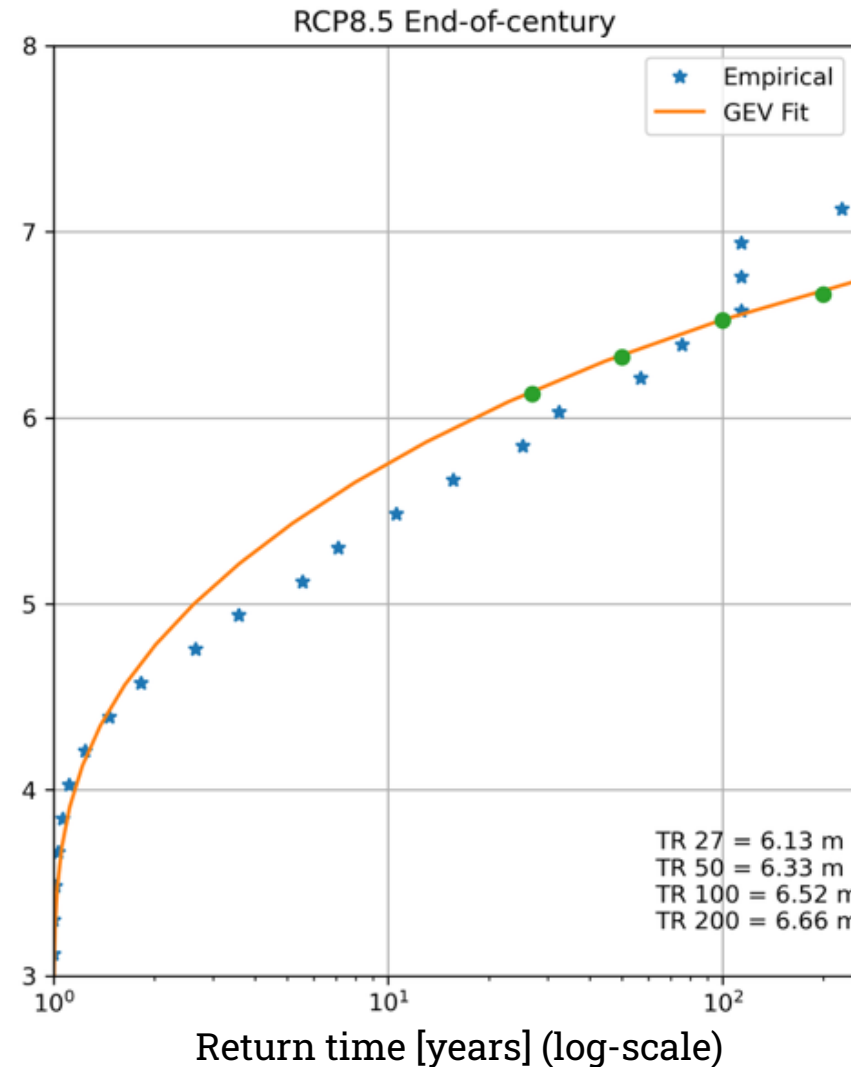
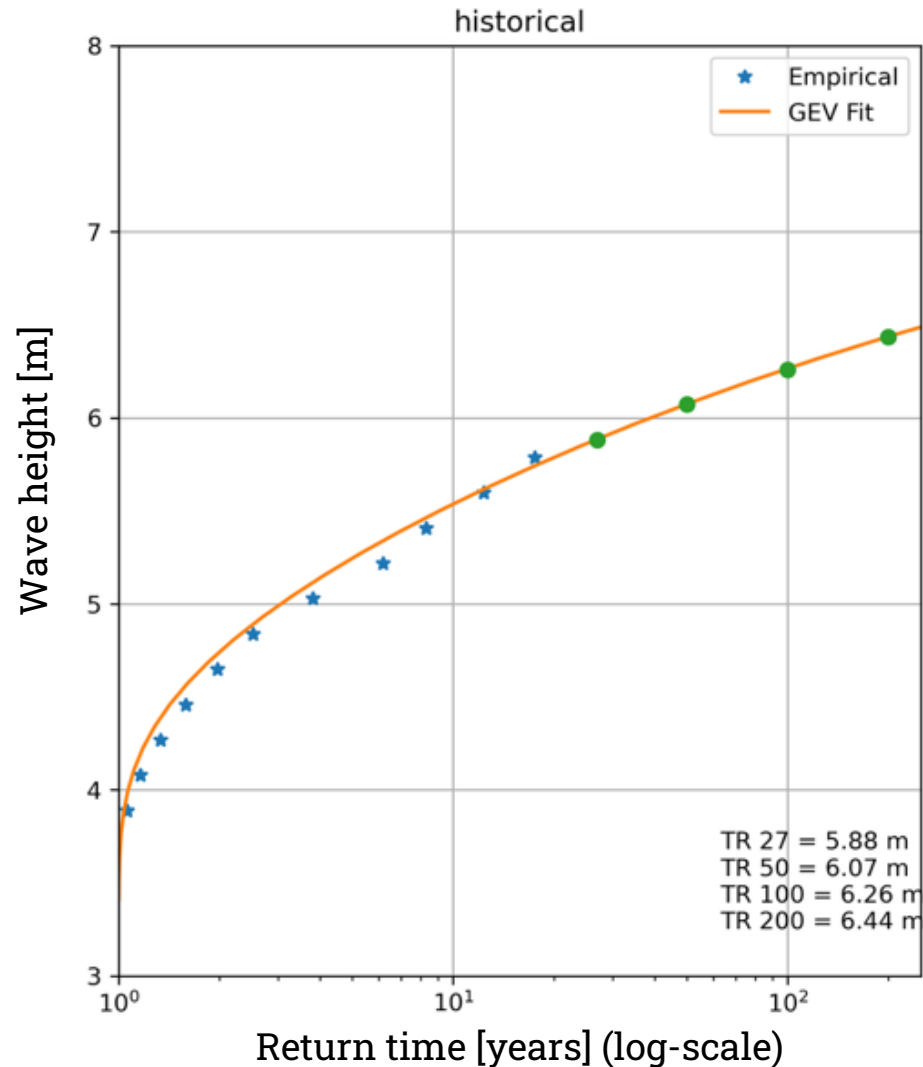
Environmental Forcings

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Data and Methods

Environmental Forcings

SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT H_s

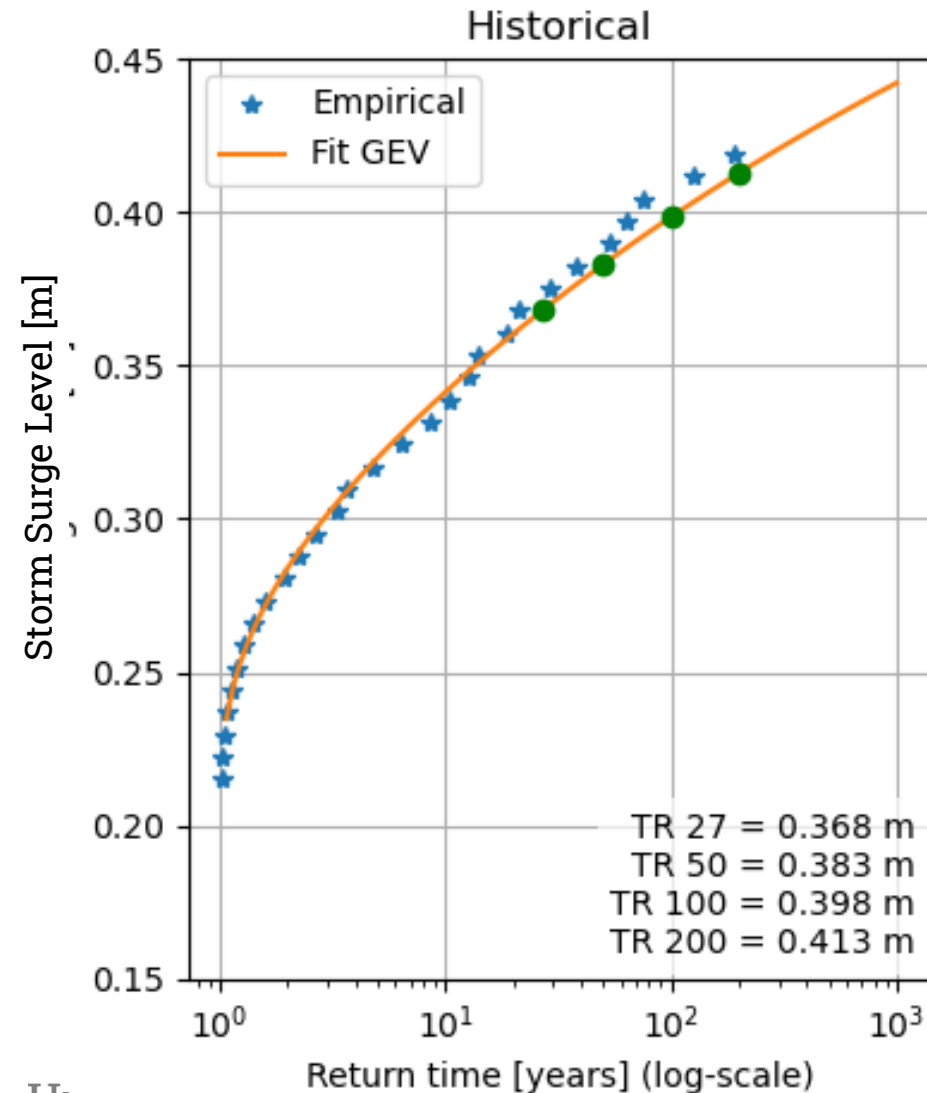


Maxima Bias
Adjustment with
Annual Maxima
and Gumbel

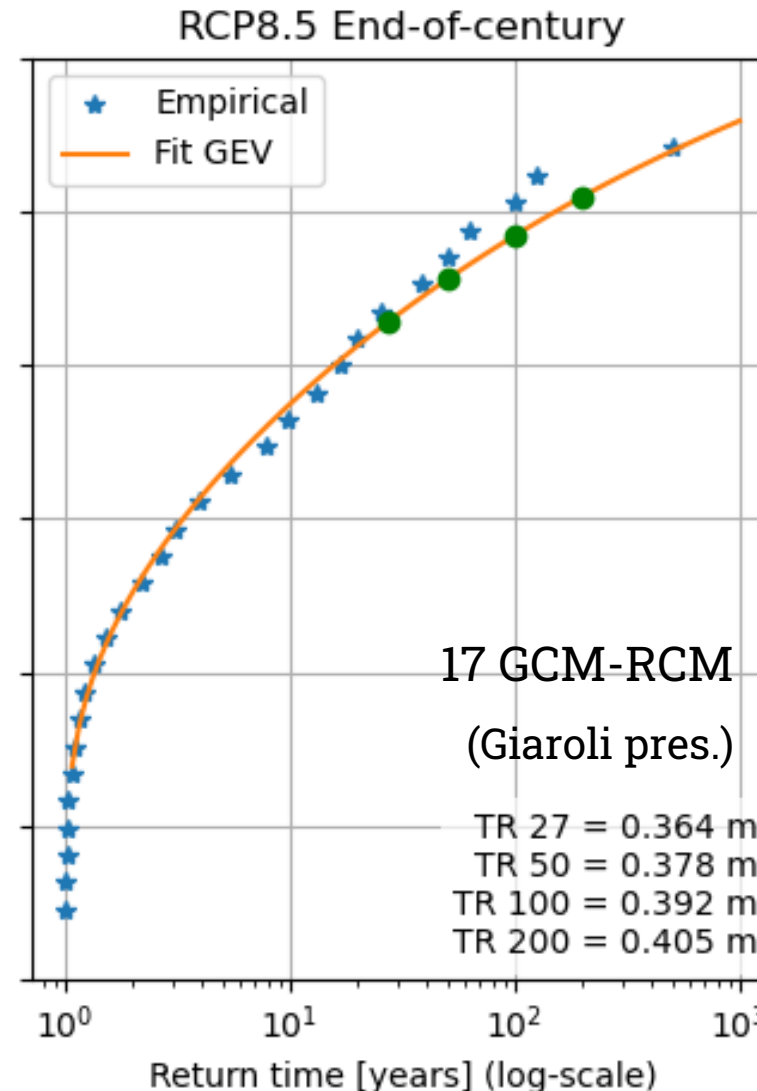
Return Period with
Pooled Ensemble
and GEV fit

Data and Methods

Environmental Forcings



STORM SURGE S

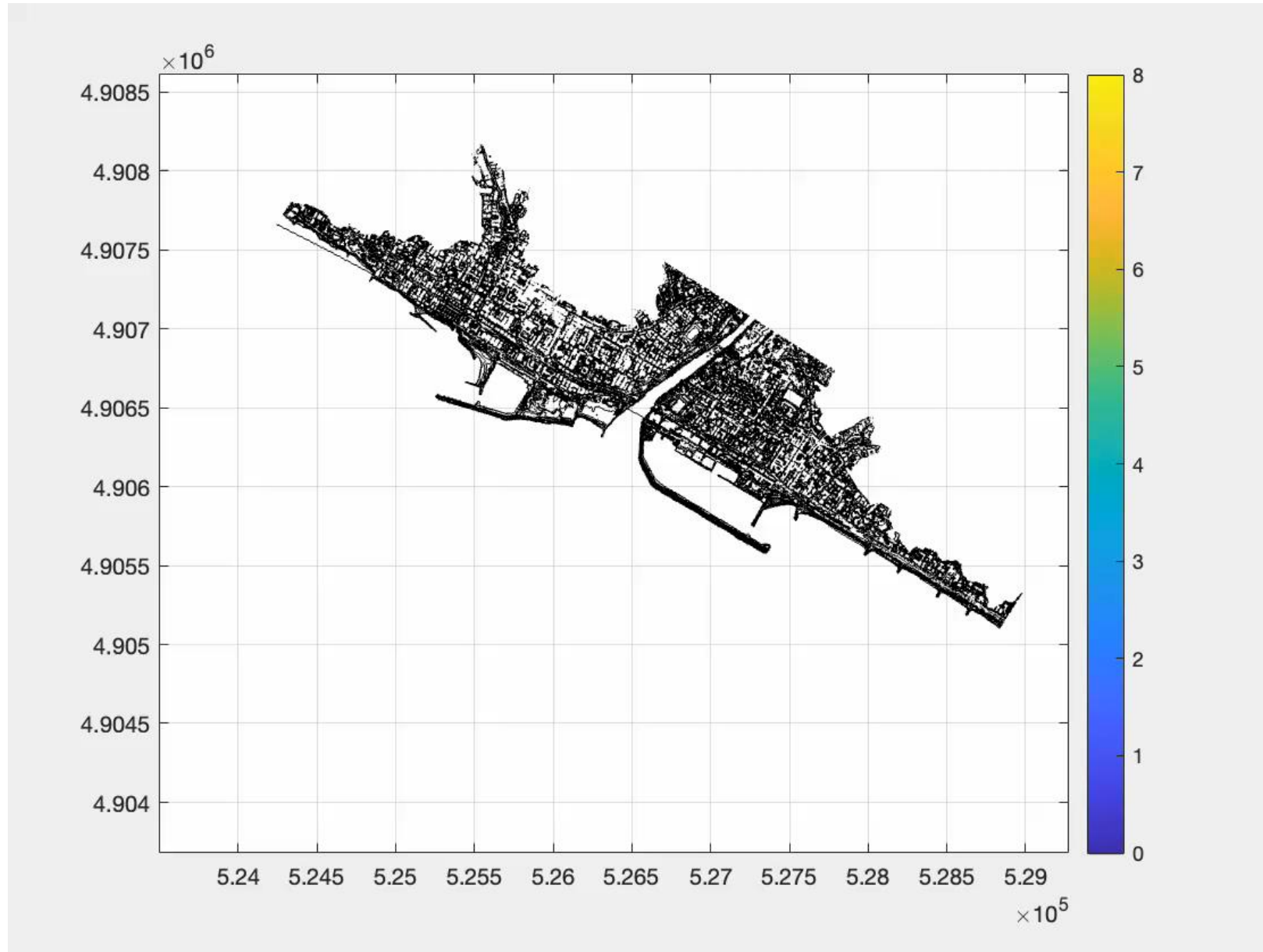


Maxima Bias
 Adjustment with
 Annual Maxima
 and Gumbel

Return Period with
 Pooled Ensemble
 and GEV fit

Results

Case 5
End of
Century
Tr=100 yrs

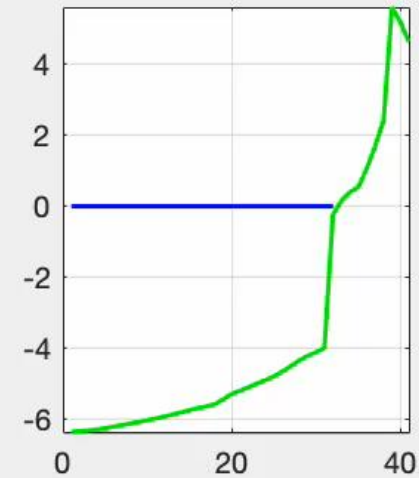
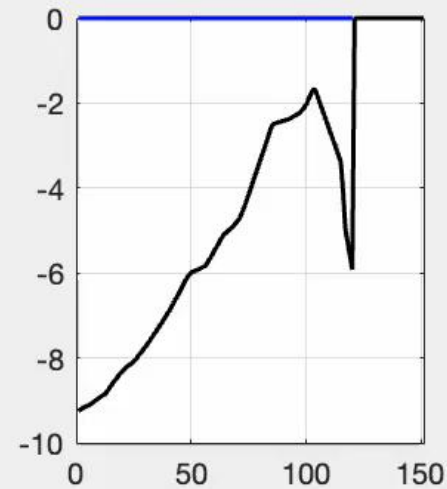
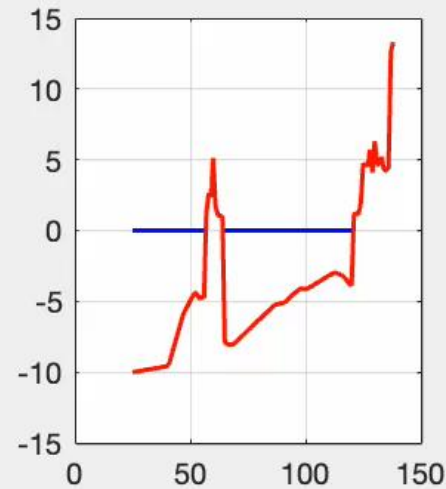
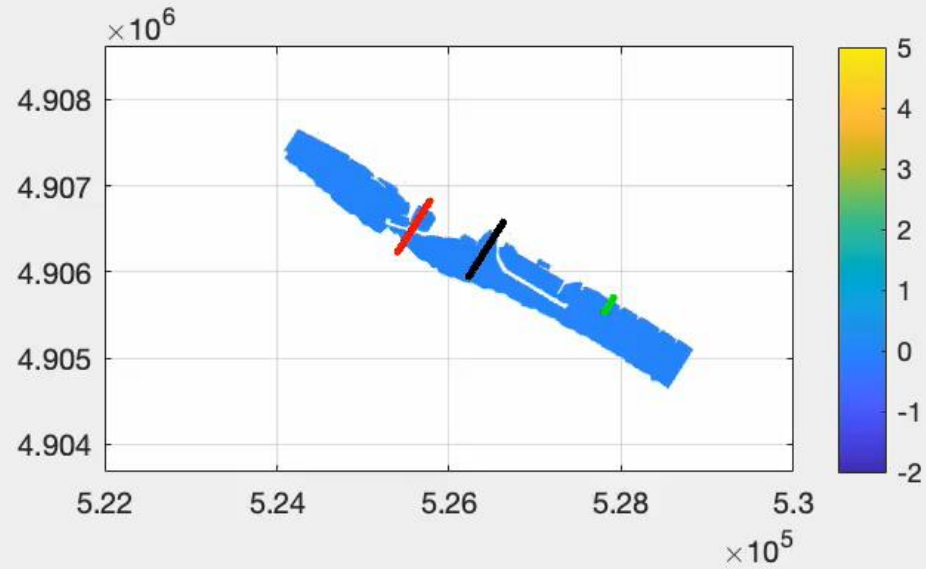


Results

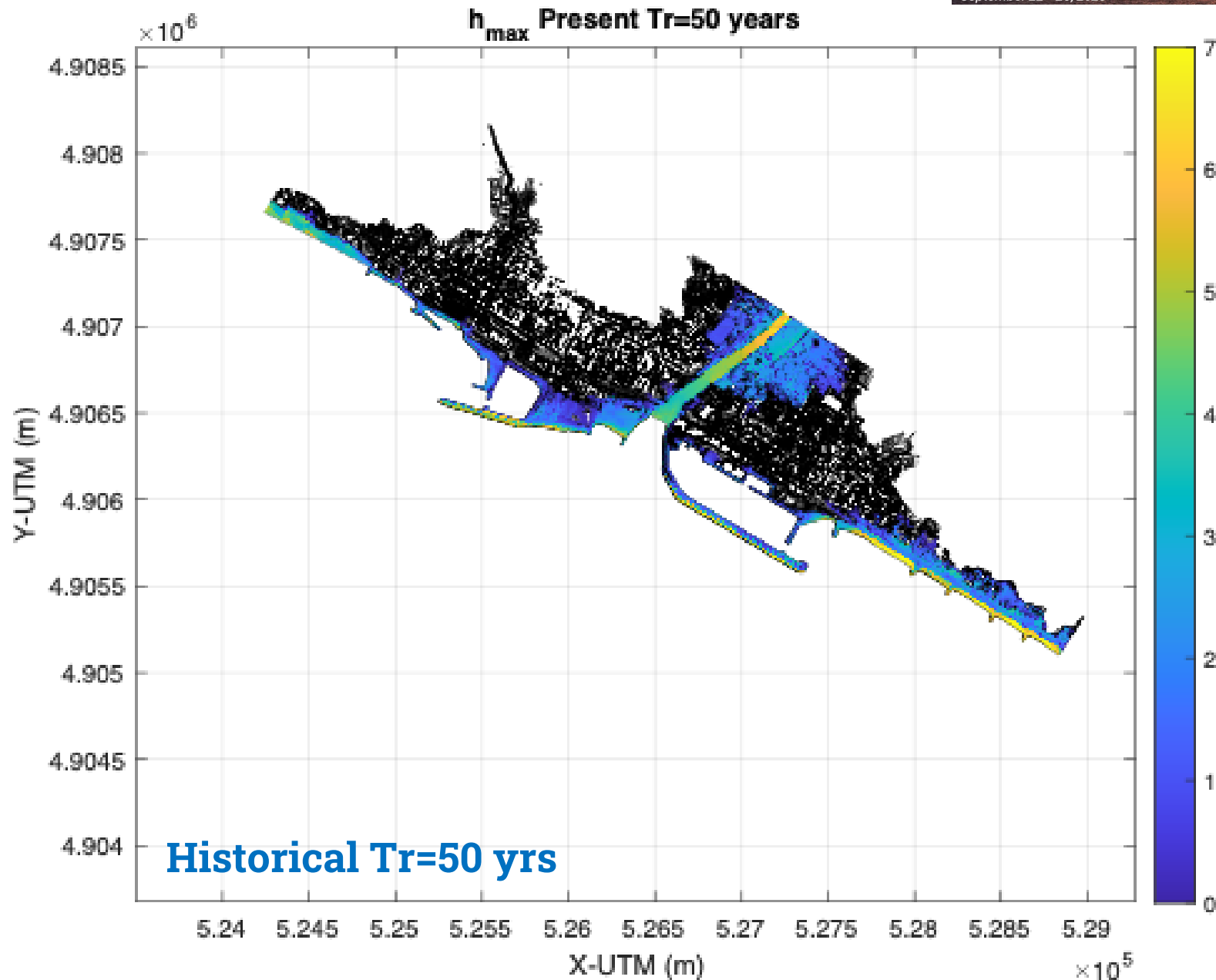
Case 5

End of
Century

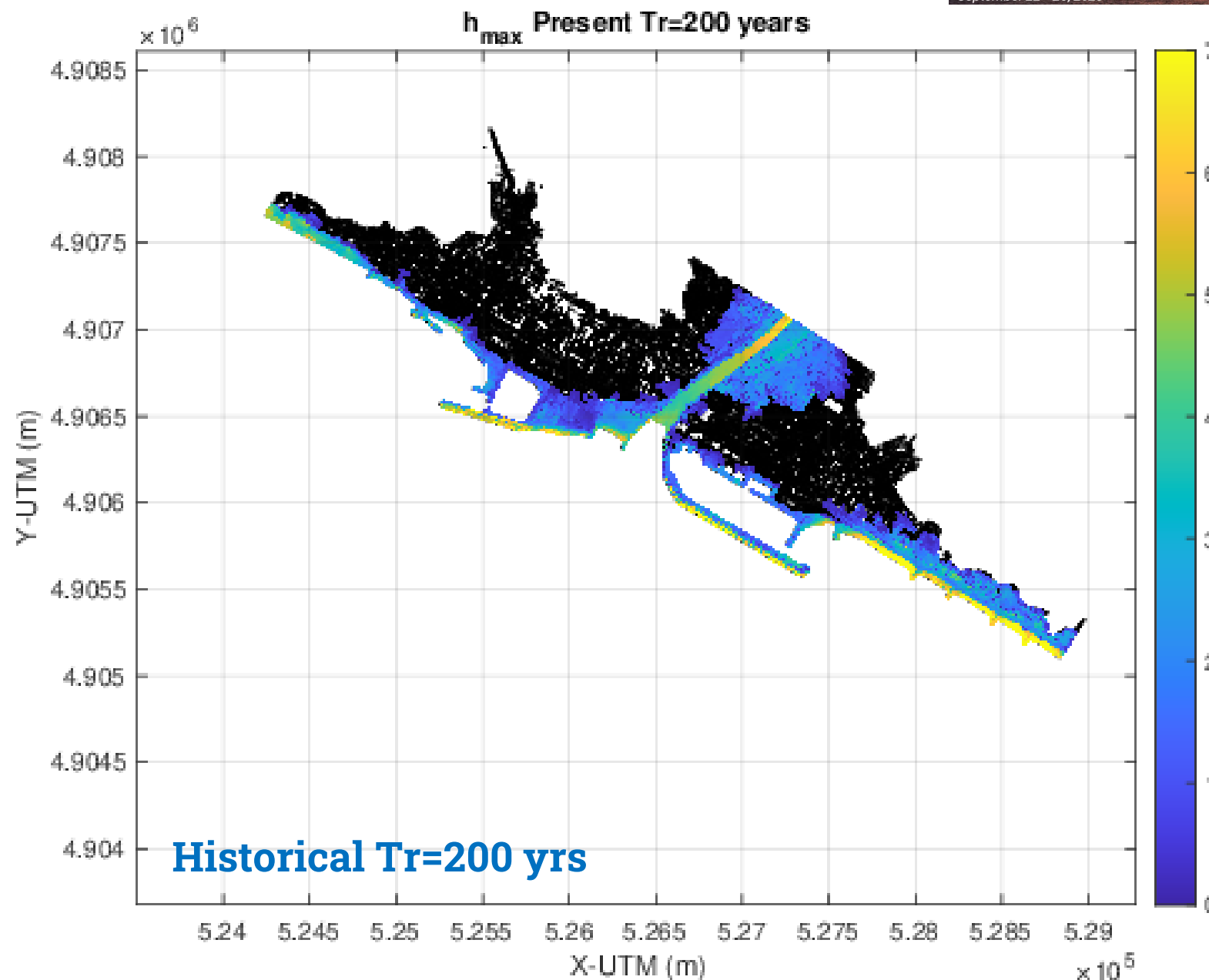
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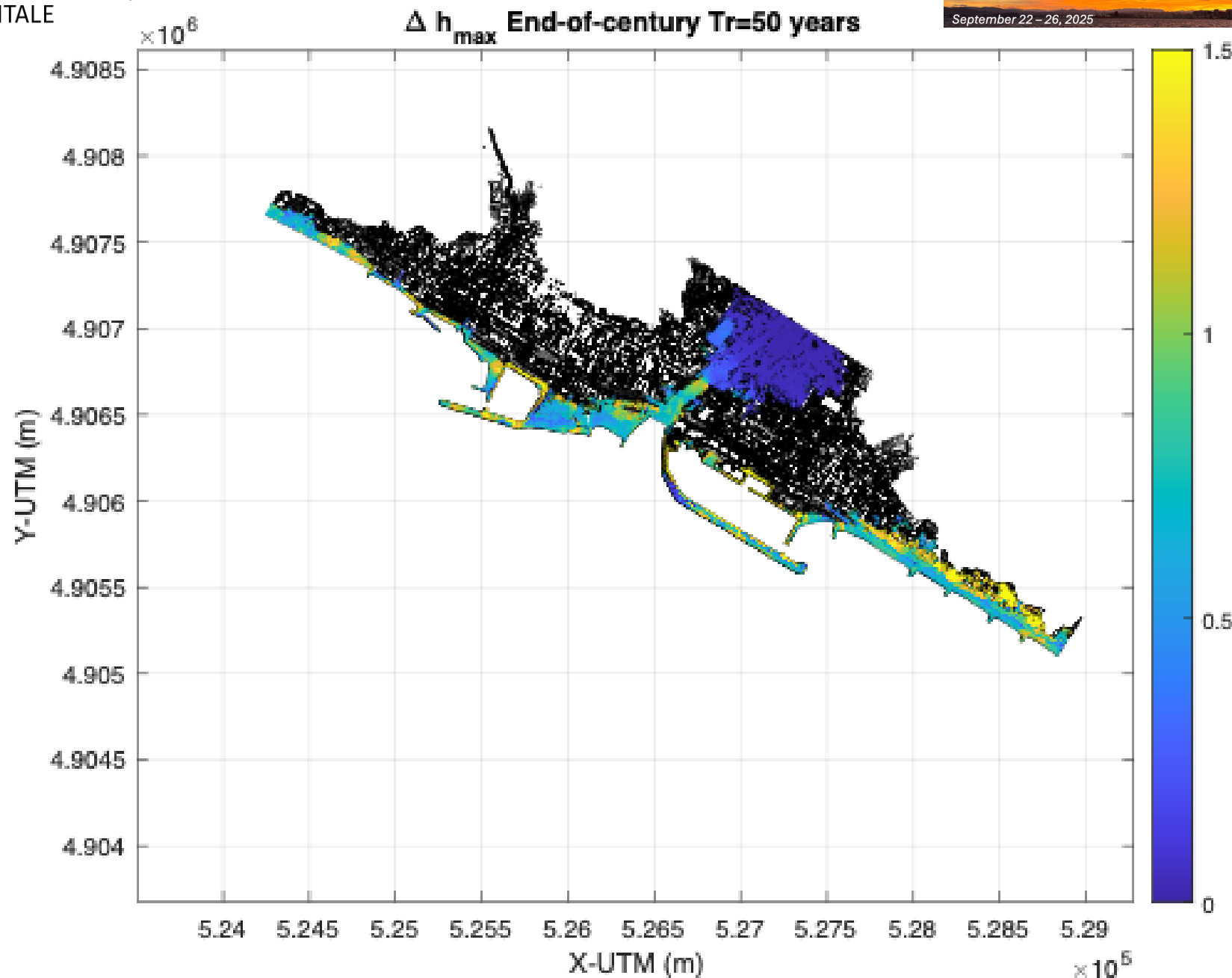
Results



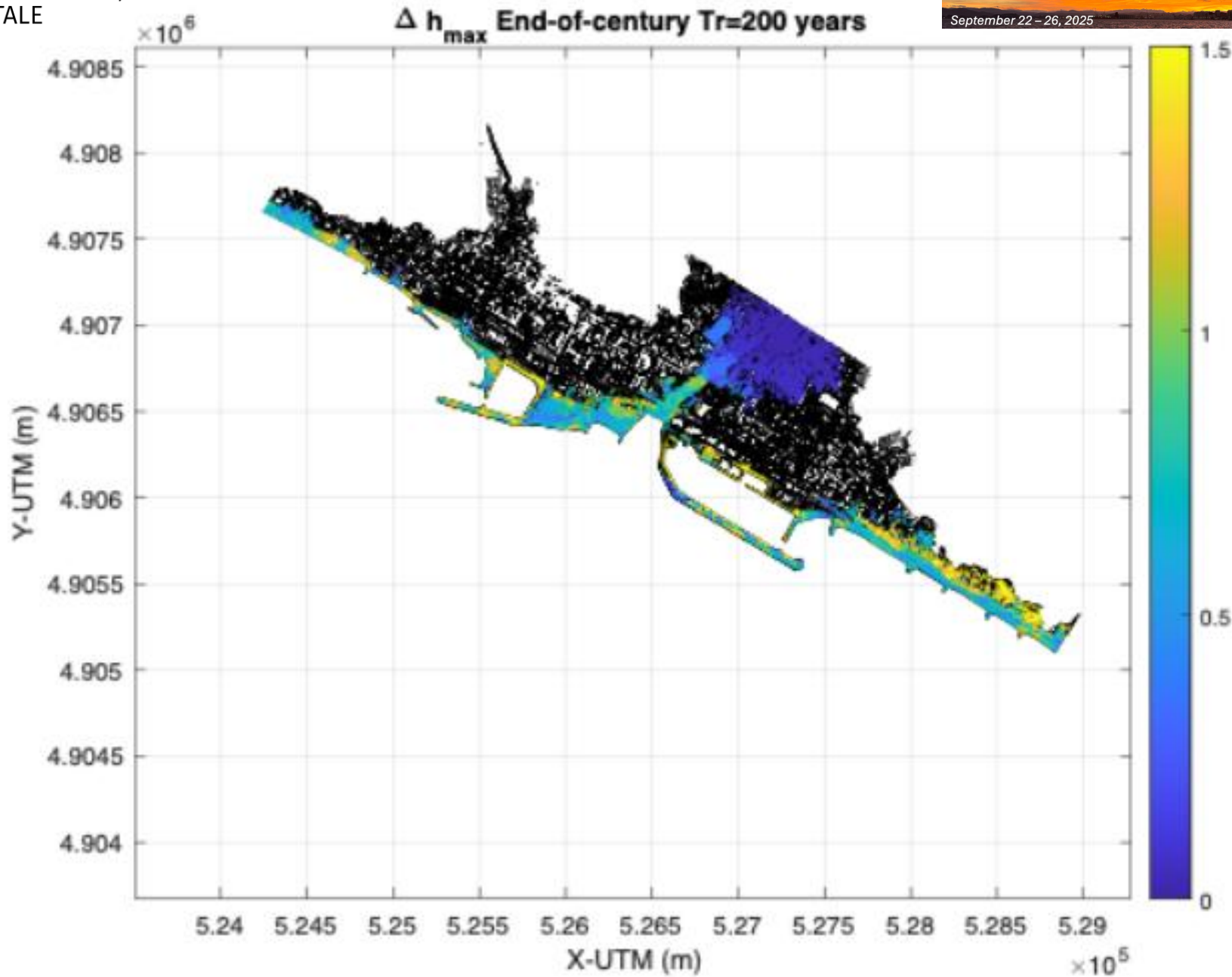
Results



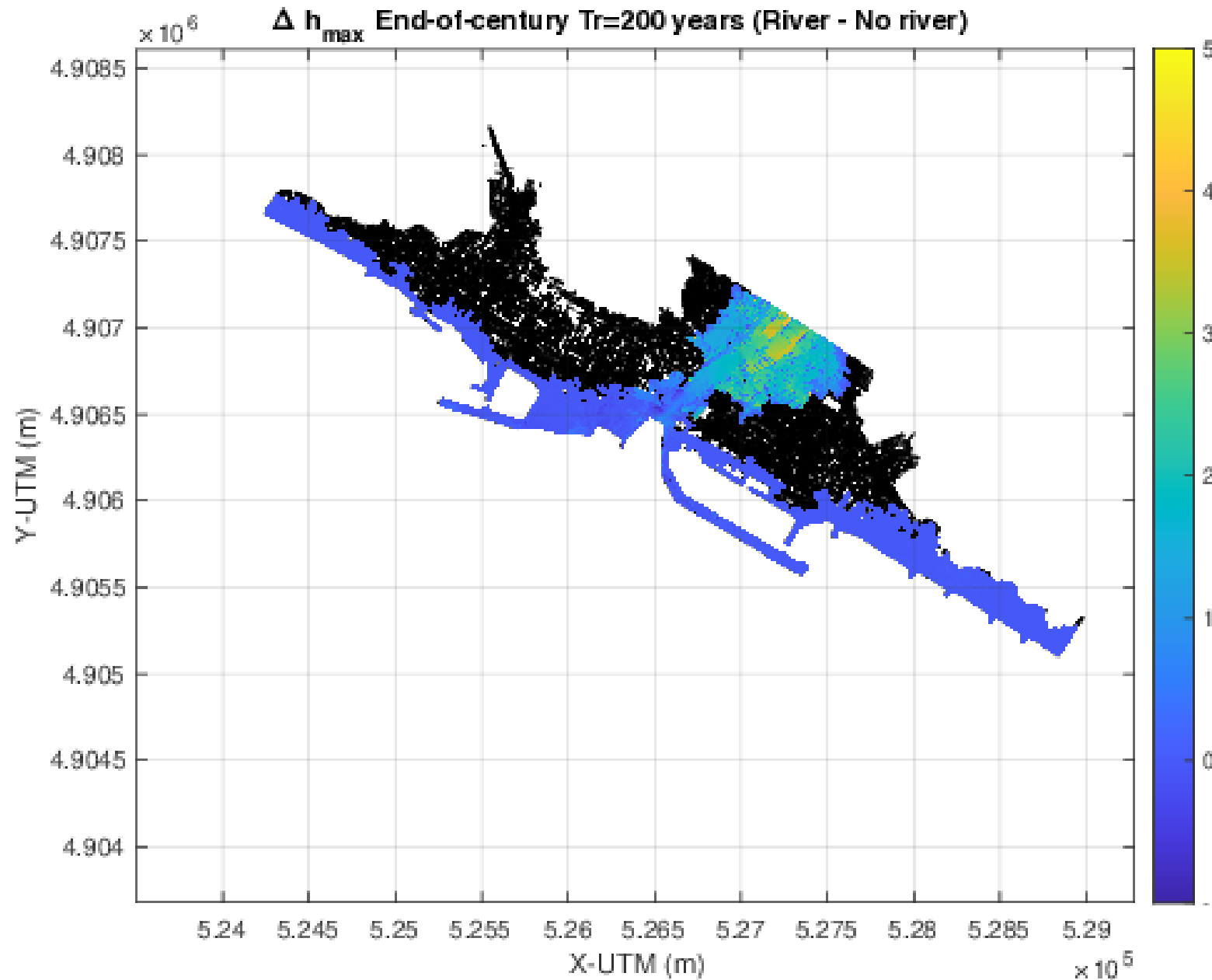
Results



Results

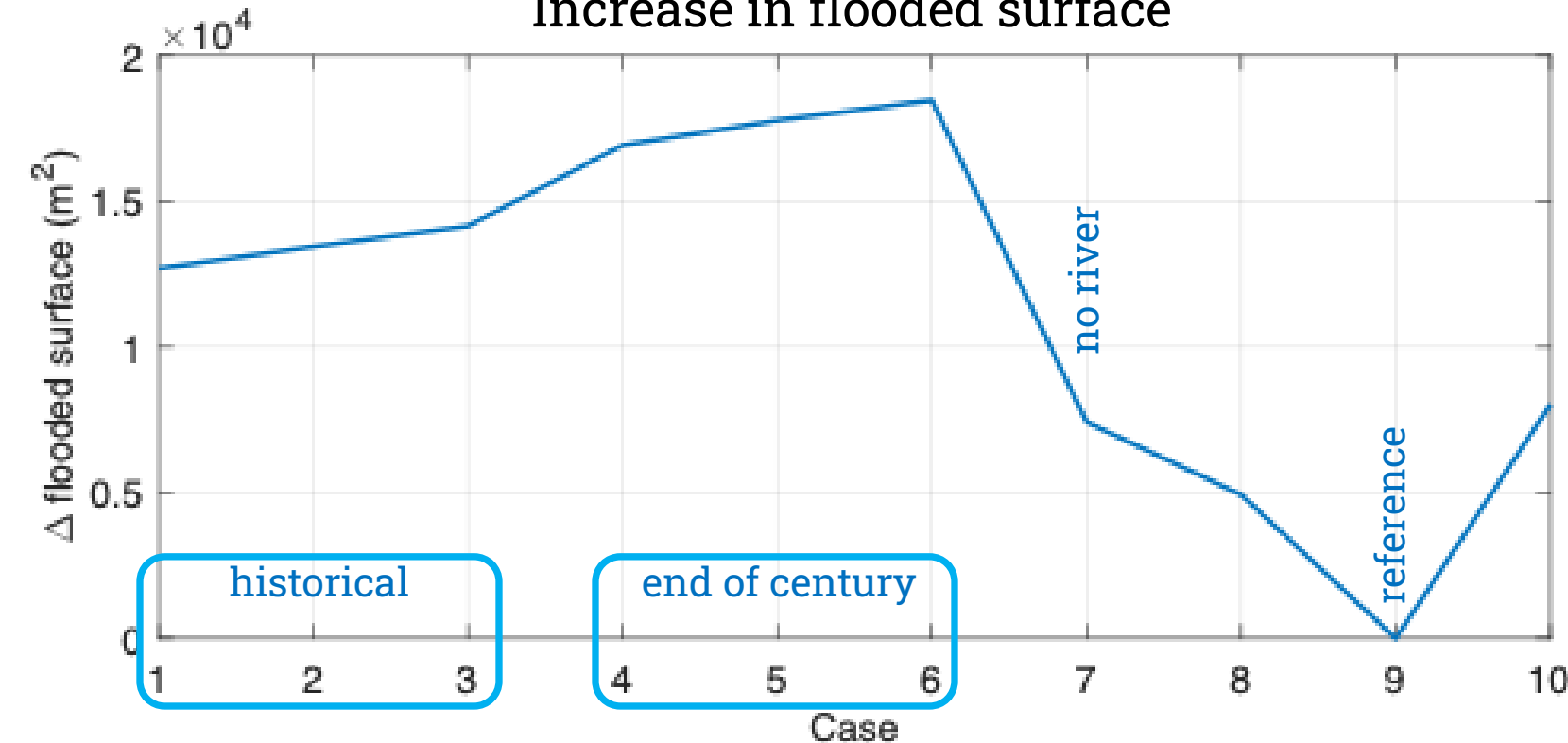


Results



Results

Increase in flooded surface



The base line is the maximum flooded surface during the validation event. Only cells above the MSL are considered

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Conclusions and Futures

- SFINCS it is a reliable tool to simulate coastal and compound flooding processes
- Needs to transfer offshore forcing to shallow waters (snapWave?)
- Slight increase of H_s for higher return period
- Slight decrease of Storm Surge for higher return period
- Most important forcing is SLR
- Flooding due to river play an important role



Development of operational tool linked to DICCA forecast (Dynamic/Hybrid?)

Implementation of Morphodynamics (?)

UniGe

DICCA