

Coupled tide-surge-wave modelling in extreme storm conditions

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**National
Oceanography Centre**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Presentation Outline

- Introduce the project and study area
- Modelling methods
- Show a past storm event used to validate the model setup
- Present the results from an 11 year hindcast
- Discuss the detailed coupled Liverpool Bay modelling
- Suggested future climate
- Conclusions

The Project



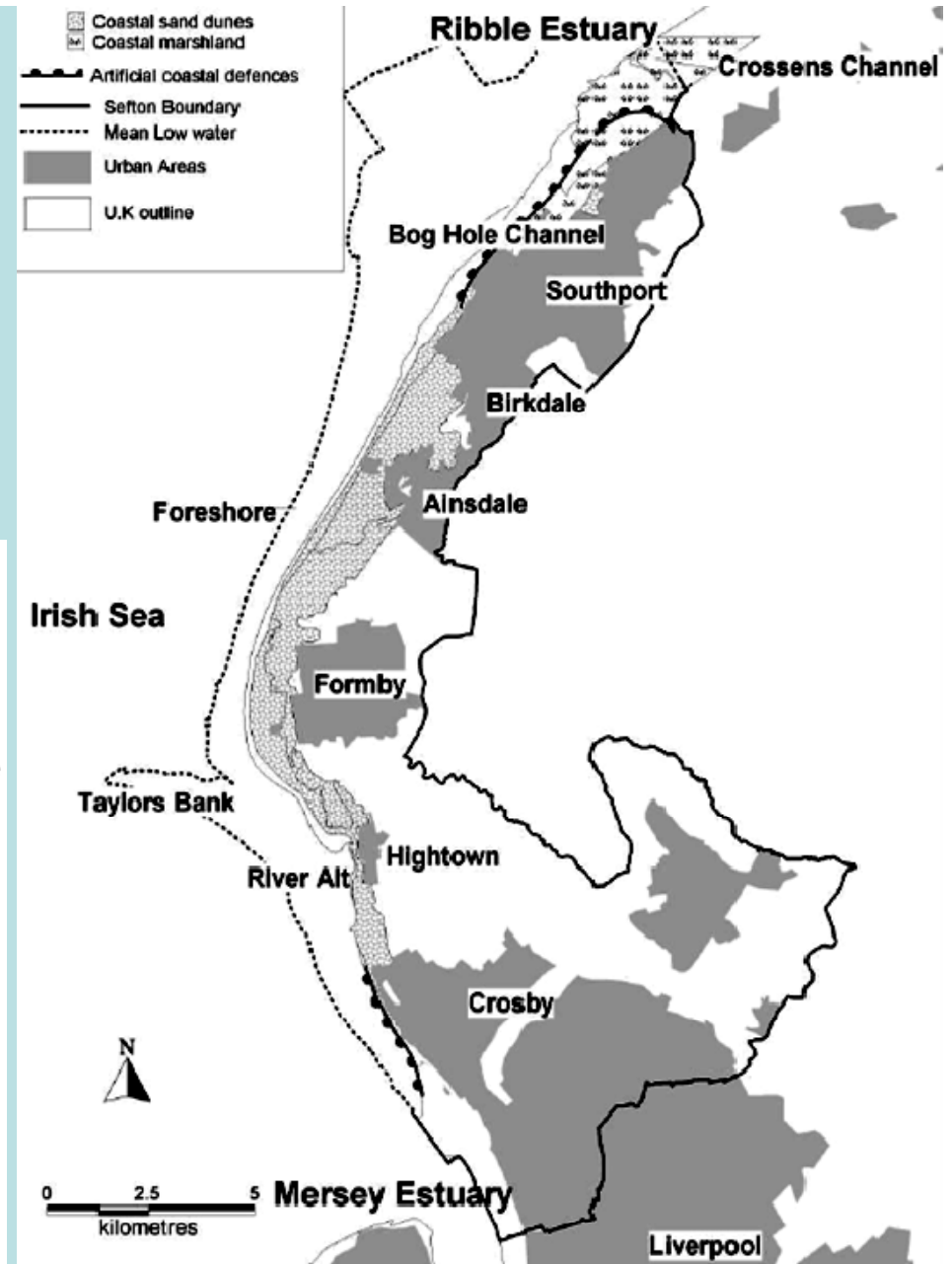
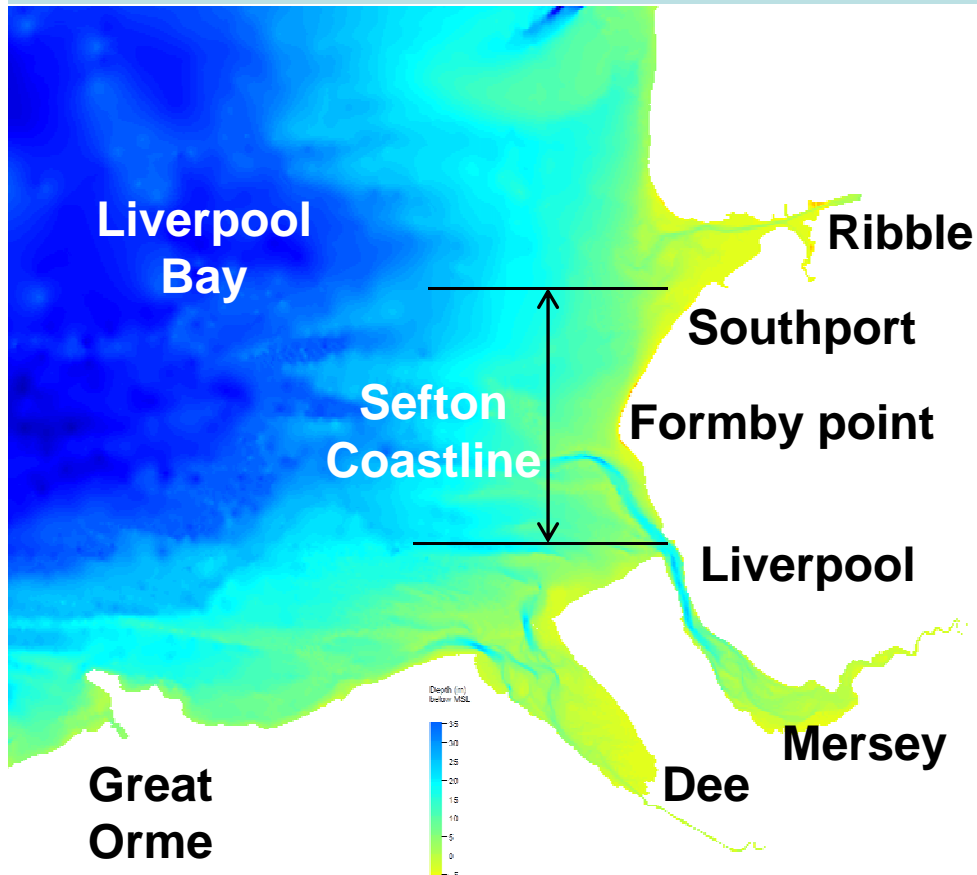
Investigate past, present and future flood risk and morphological change in response to extreme events

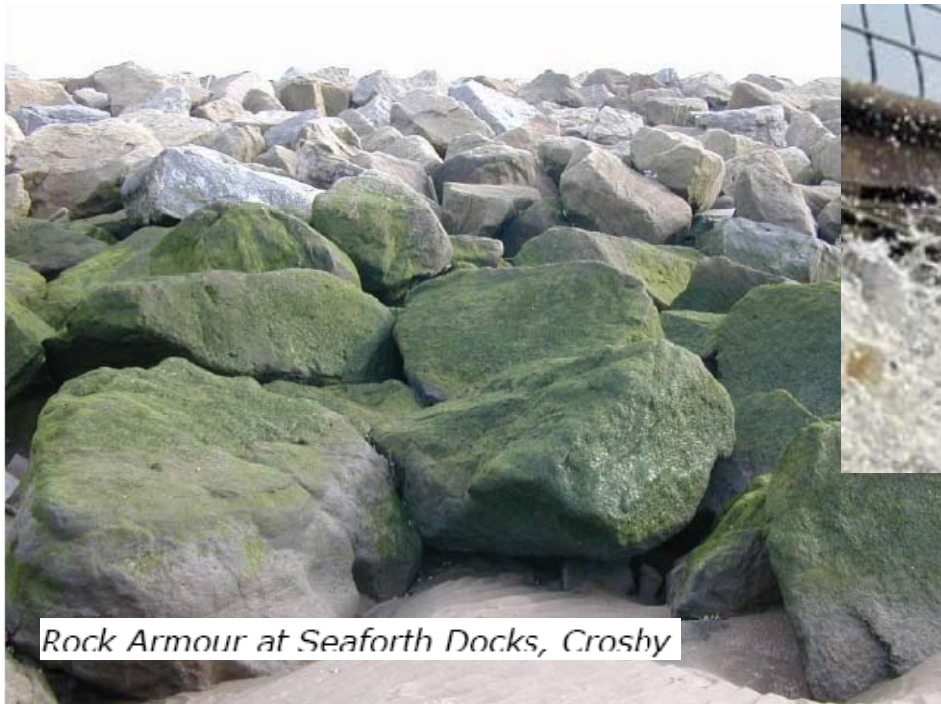


Modelling tide-surge-wave interaction during storms, provide accurate model data to predict coastal flooding and drive coastal evolution models

The Study Area:

Sefton Coast –
representative of many
different UK coastlines





Rock Armour at Seaforth Docks, Crosby



Crosby Seawall



**Rubble beach
North of Crosby**



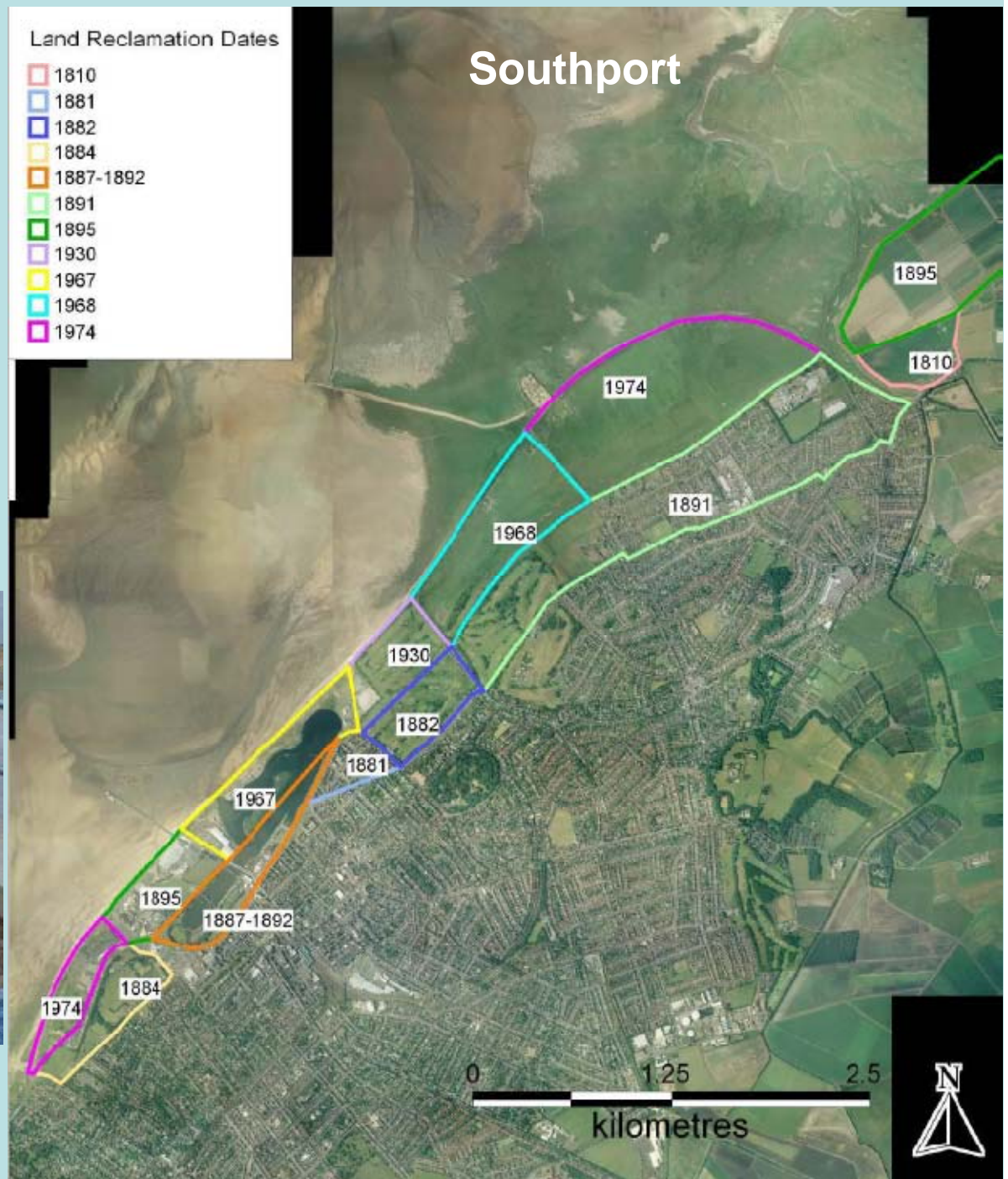
Sea Wall Southport



The River Alt Training Wall



Hard defences need to
withstand present & future
conditions





Saltmarsh at Fairways



Formby point



**Largest dune system
UK**



Crosby



**Formby storm 31st March
– 1st April 2010**

**Natural defence –
risk of erosion**



Formby extreme high tide Feb 2010

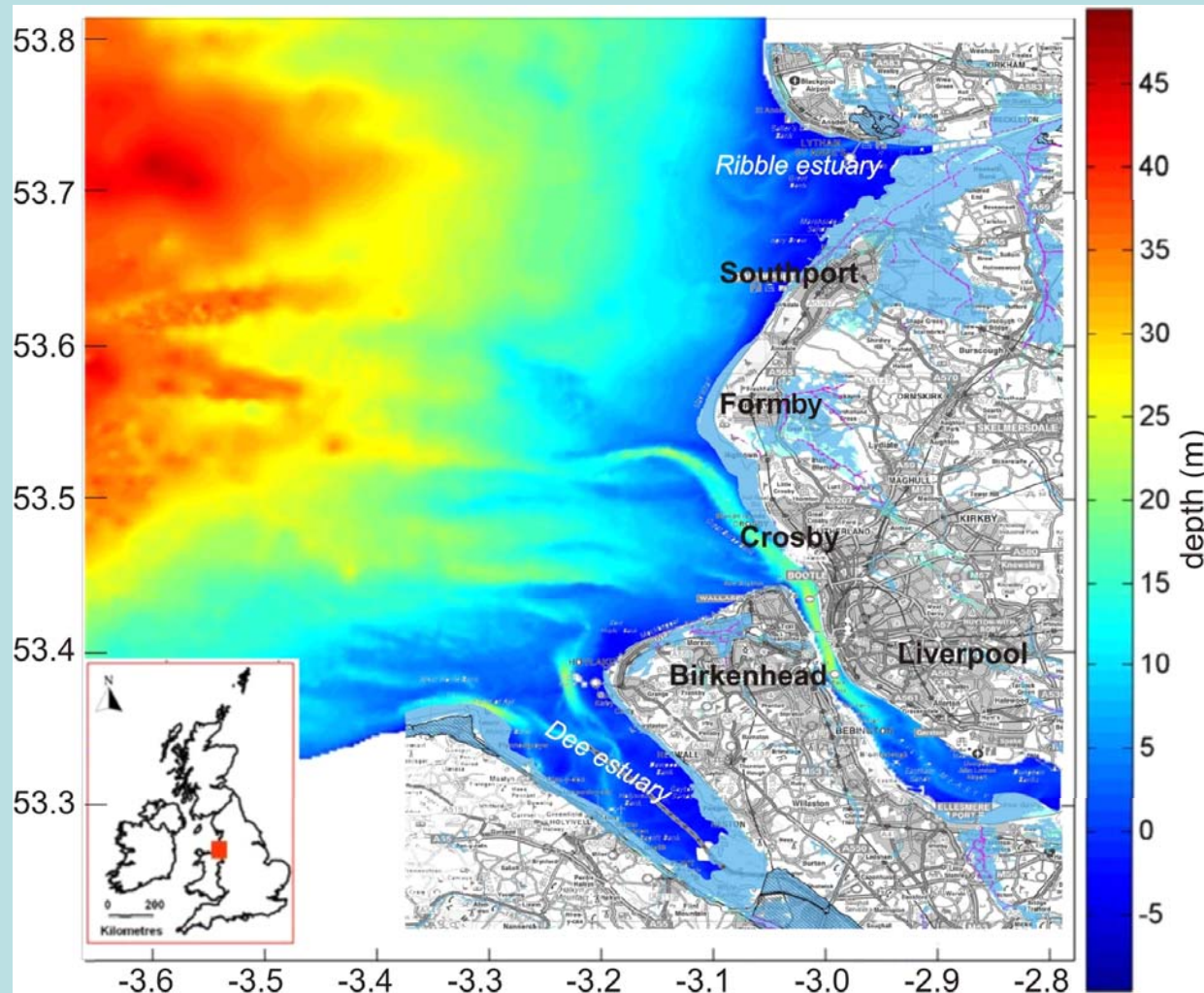
Provide Important Habitats



Economic Value



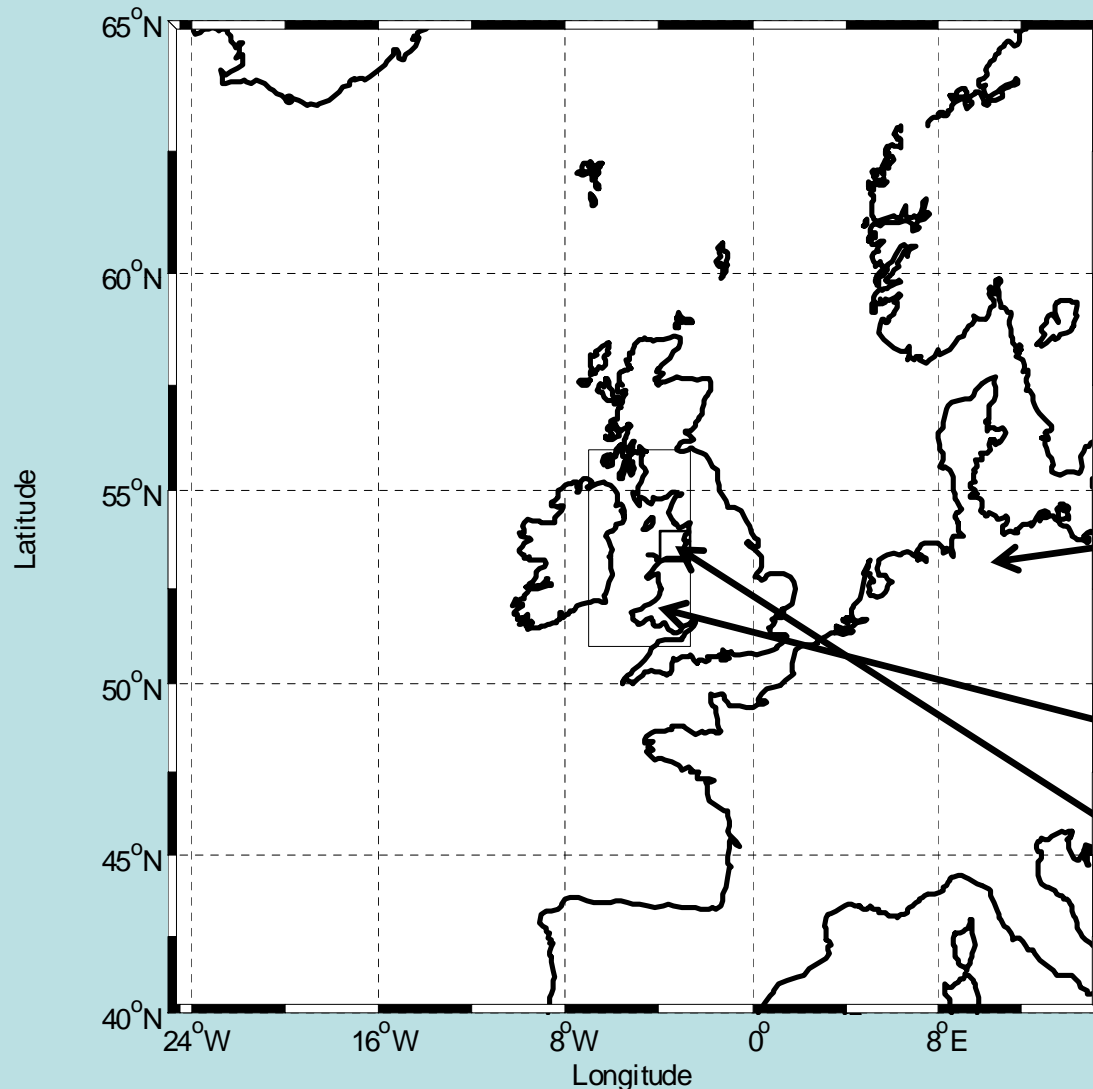
Coastal Management requires the best knowledge of storm conditions



Develop state-of-the-art wave-tide-surge
Liverpool Bay modelling system

Wave Modelling: WA_{ve}M_{odel}

State of the art 3rd generation spectral wave model – extended for shallow water



One way nested model

To provide the external wave condition Liverpool Bay

North East Atlantic Model:

1° resolution

Irish Sea Model:

1.8km resolution

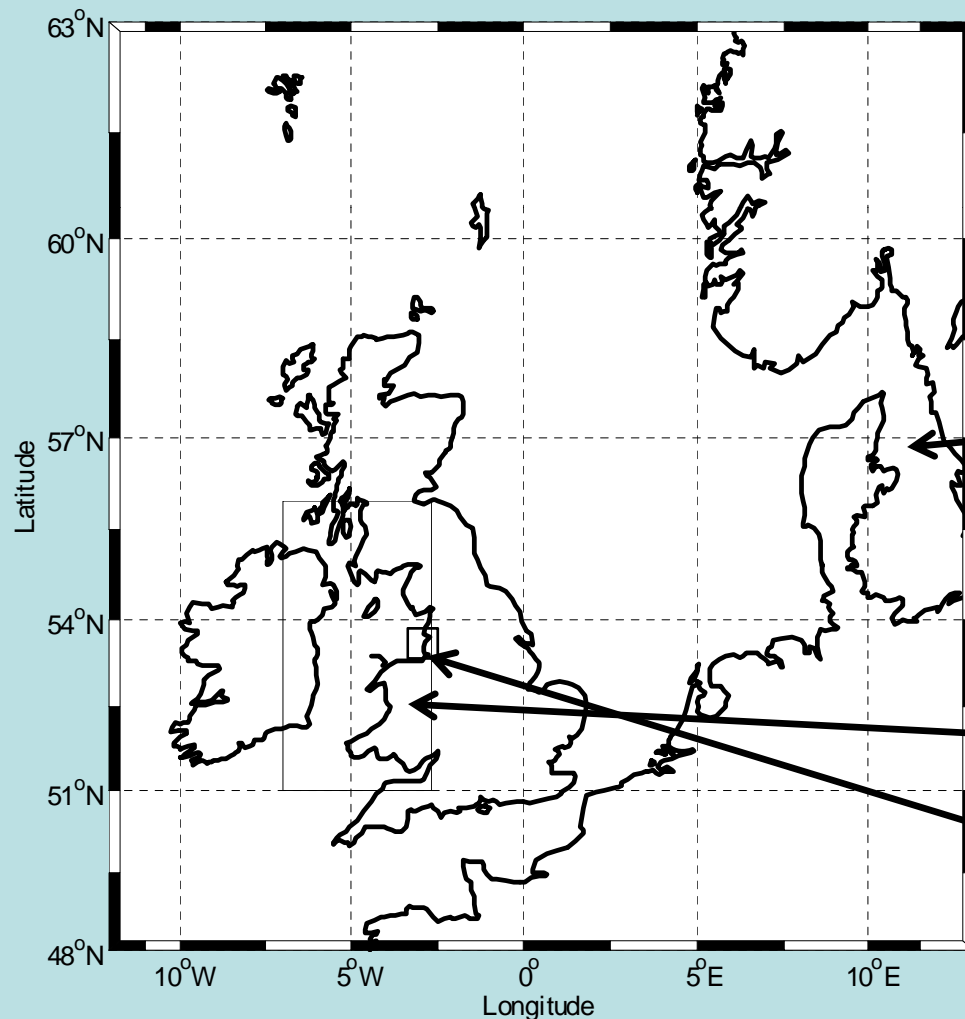
Liverpool Bay Model:

180m resolution

Tide – Surge Modelling:

Proudman **O**ceanographic **L**aboratory **C**oastal **O**cean **M**odelling **S**ystem

3D circulation model – tidal, riverine and meteorological forcing



One way nested model

To provide the external surge conditions to Liverpool Bay

Operational Continental Shelf Surge Model:

Run at NOC for the UK Met. Office
12km resolution

Irish Sea Model:

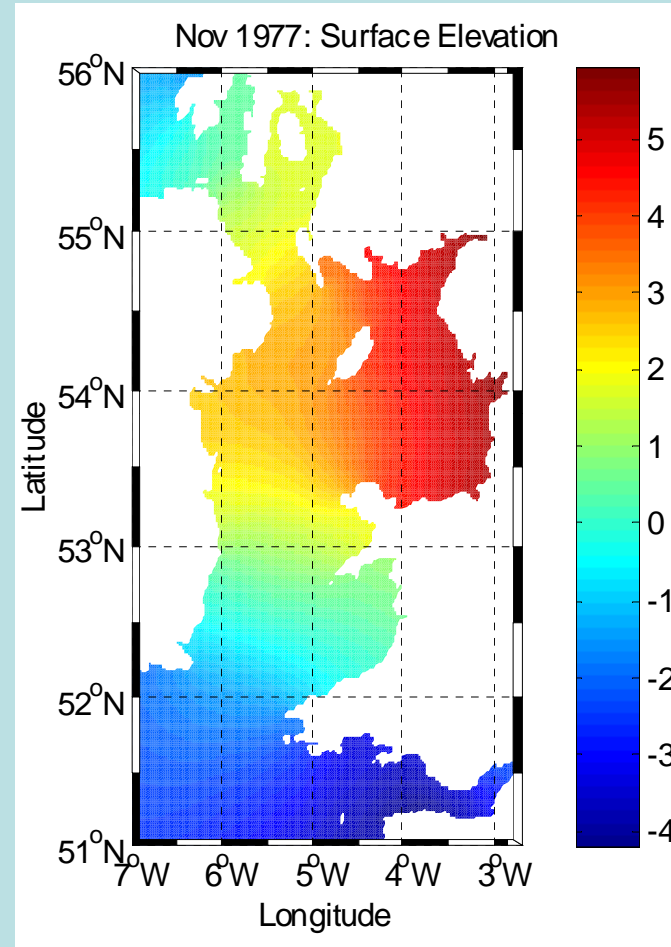
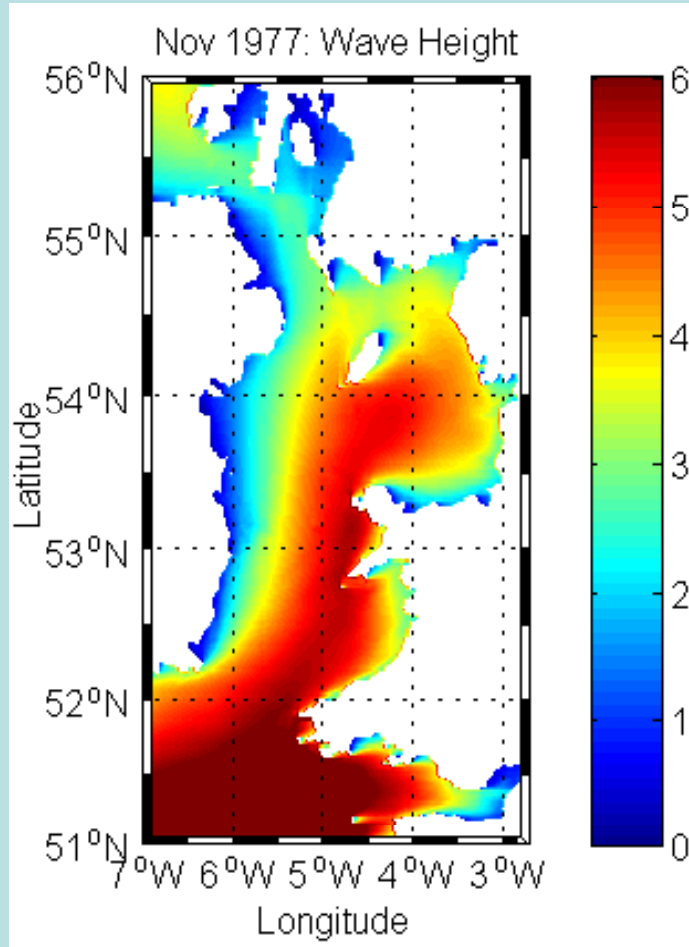
1.8km resolution

Liverpool Bay Model:

180m resolution

Irish Sea: Wave-tide-surge interaction

Exchange information between surge model and wave model

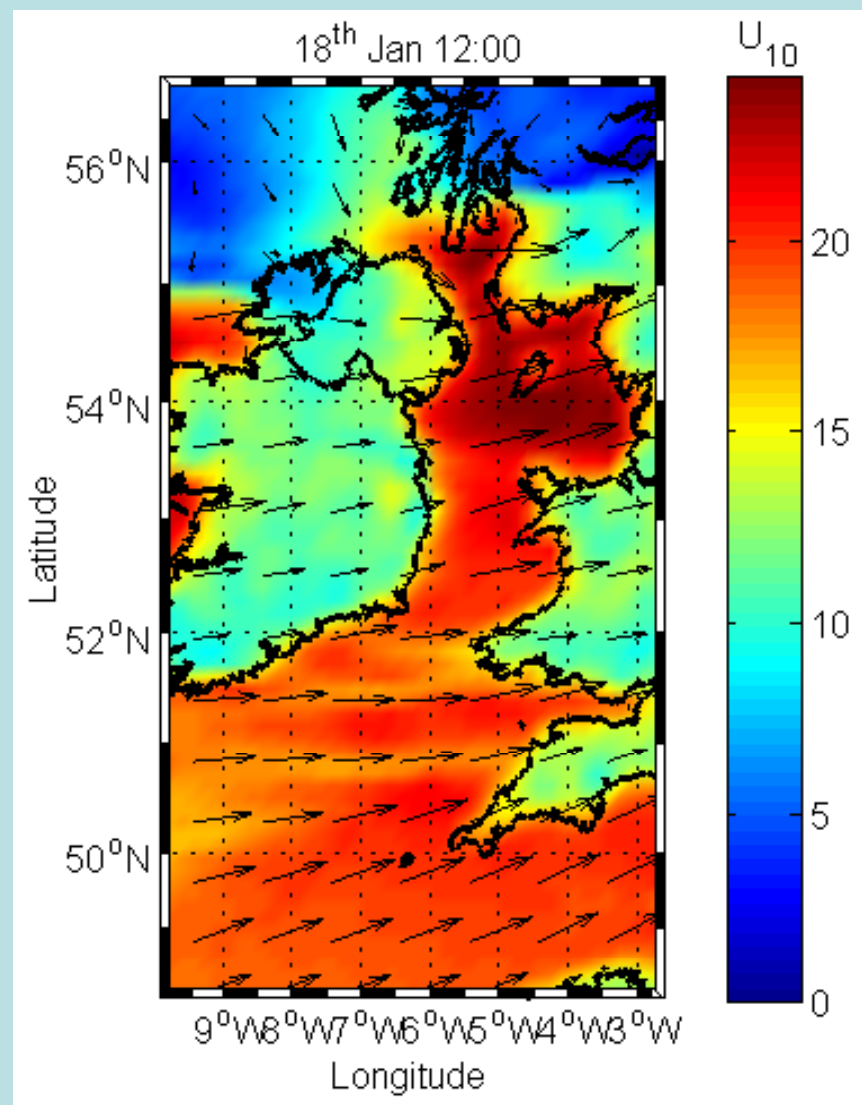
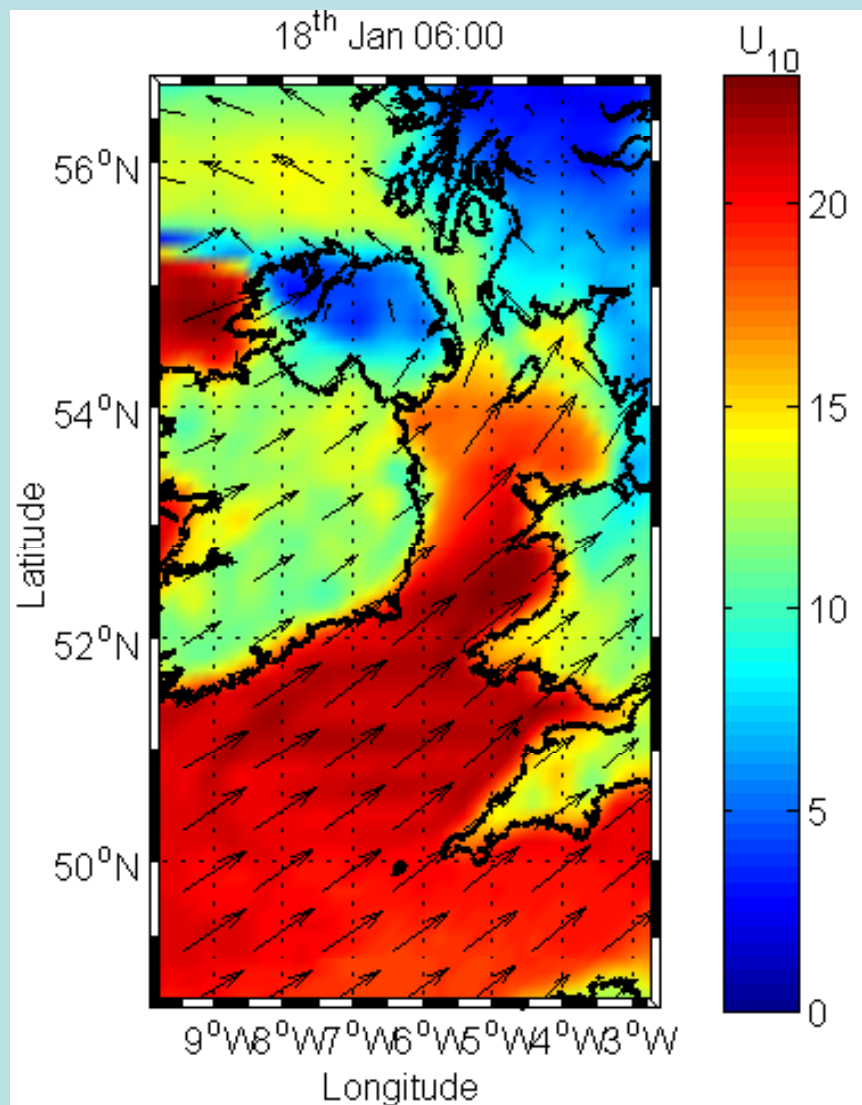


Coupling involves:

- (I) time varying depth and velocity fields, which refract the waves
- (II) wave-current bottom boundary layer
- (III) wave dependent surface roughness to generate the surge

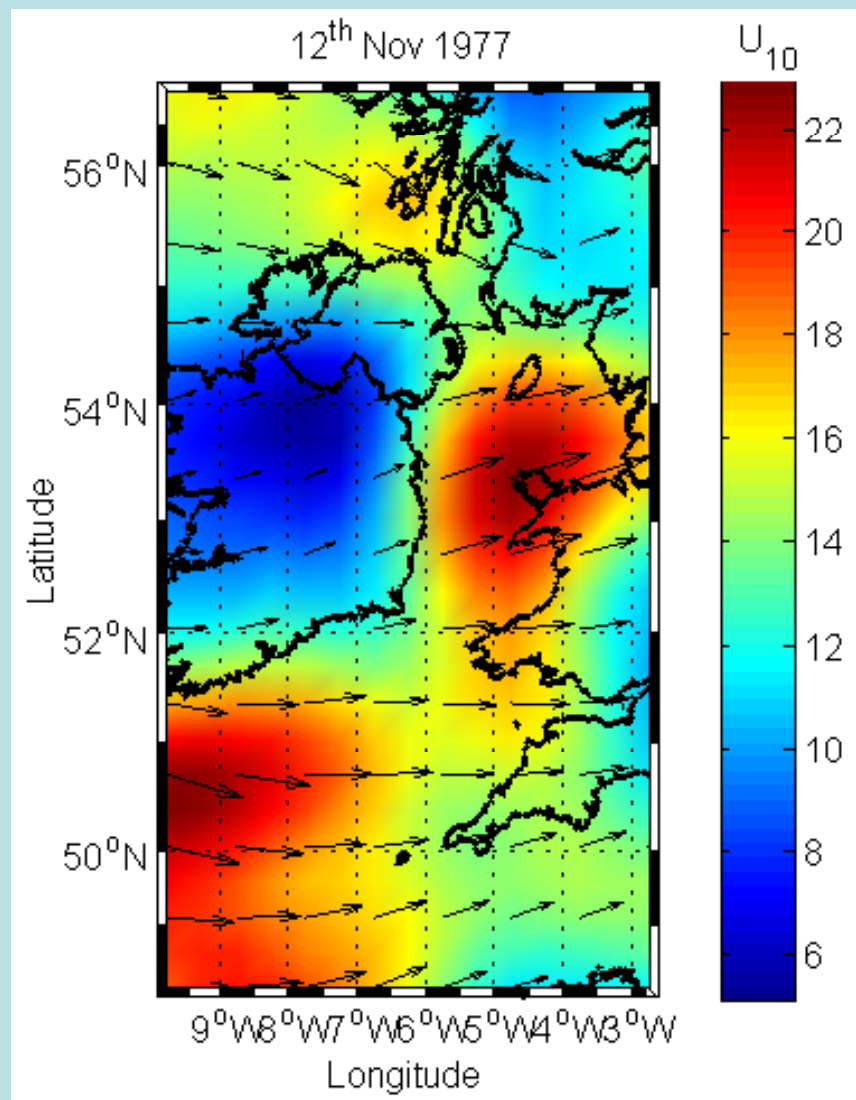
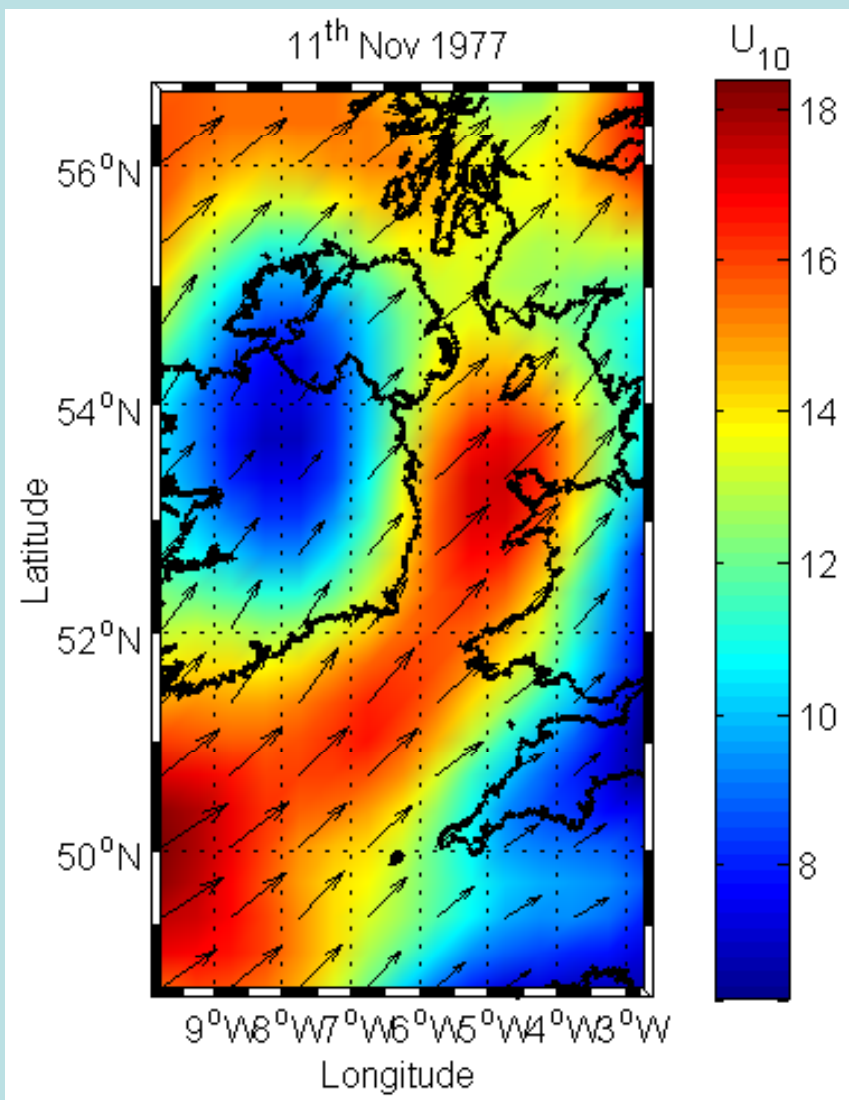
18th January 2007

Depression travelled east to the north of Ireland and across Scotland.

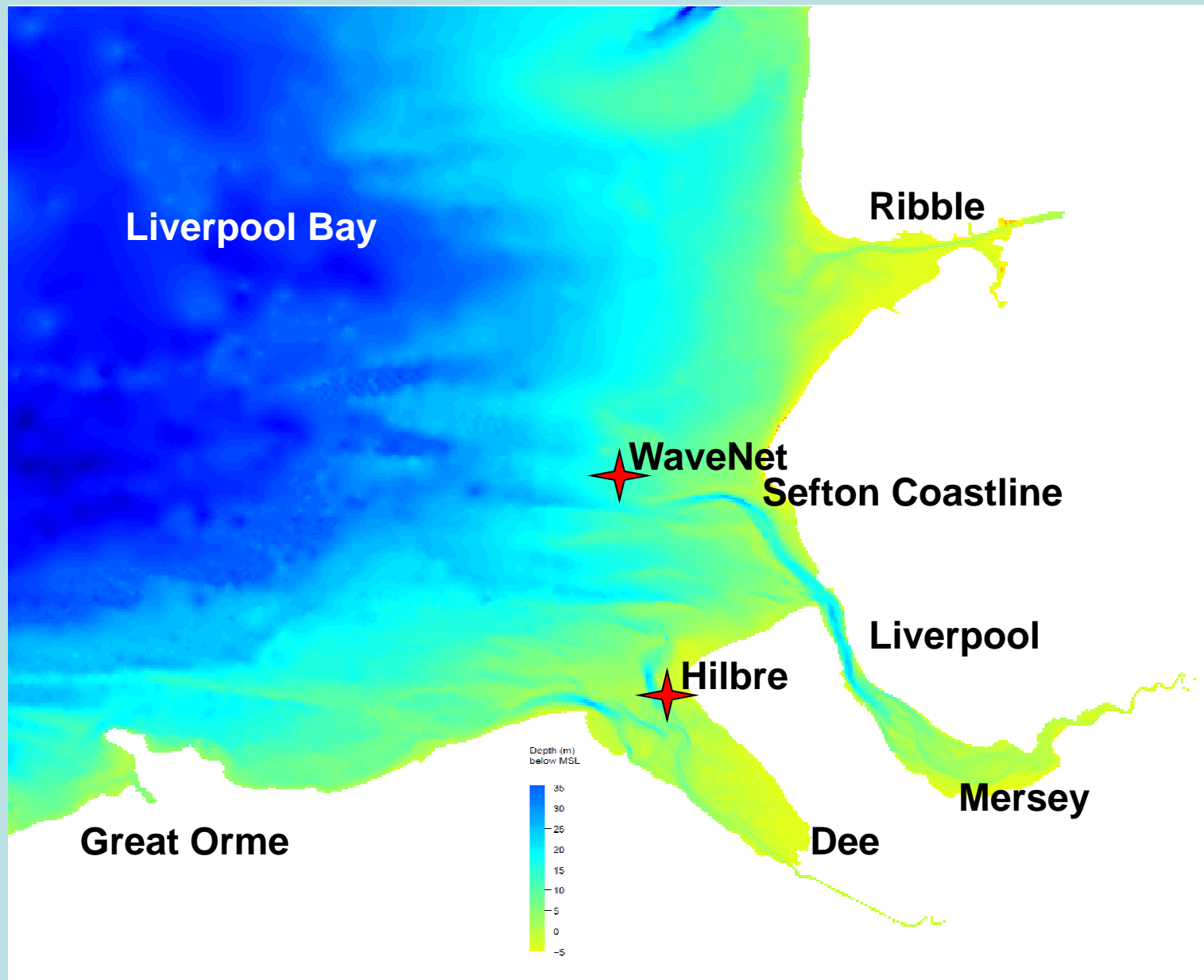


11-12th November 1977

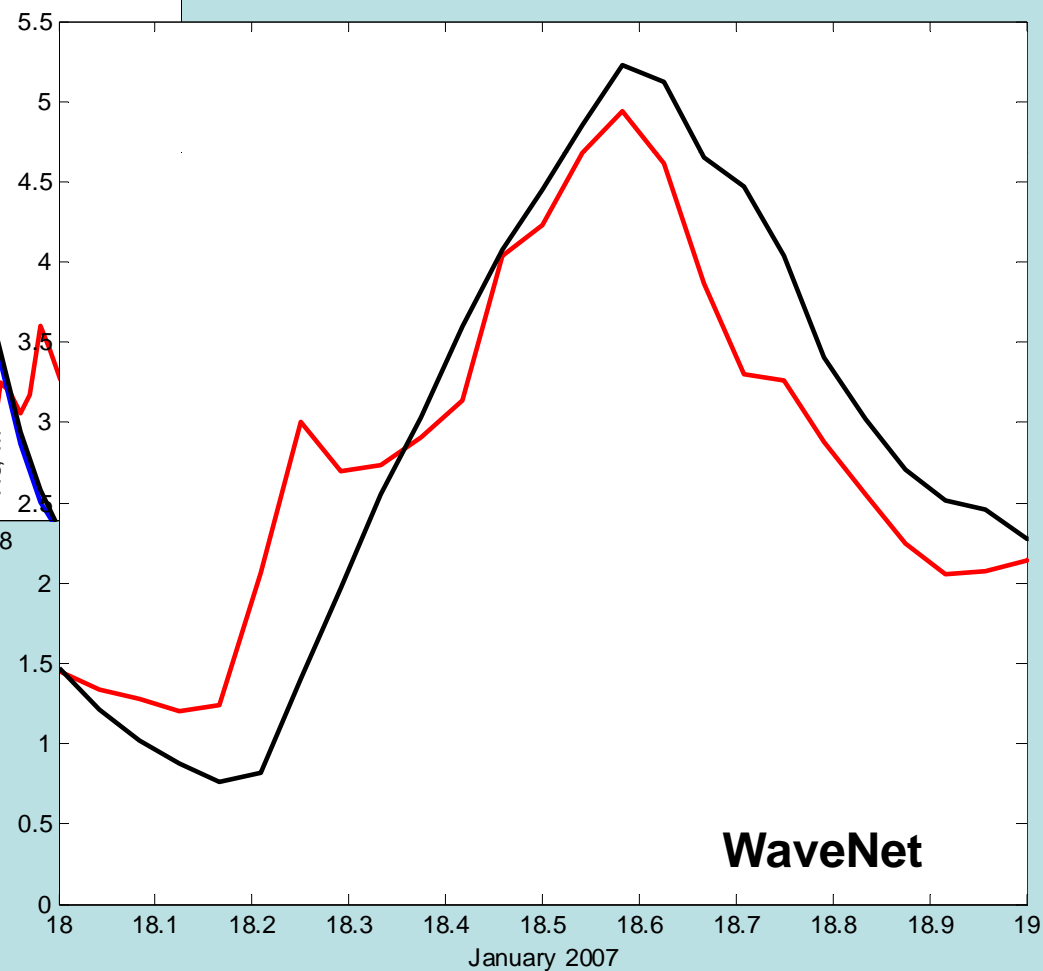
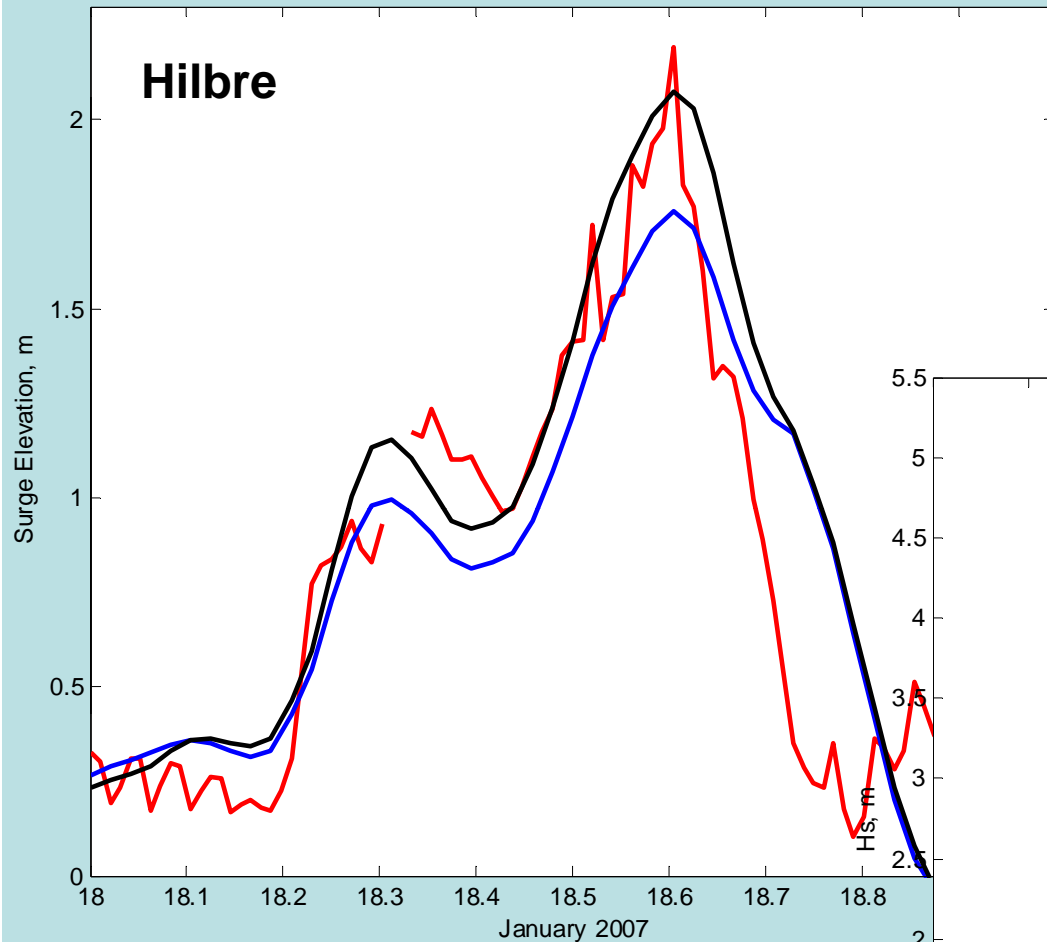
Low pressure system moved from the west, easterly over the north of Scotland.



Location Map



Model Results 2007

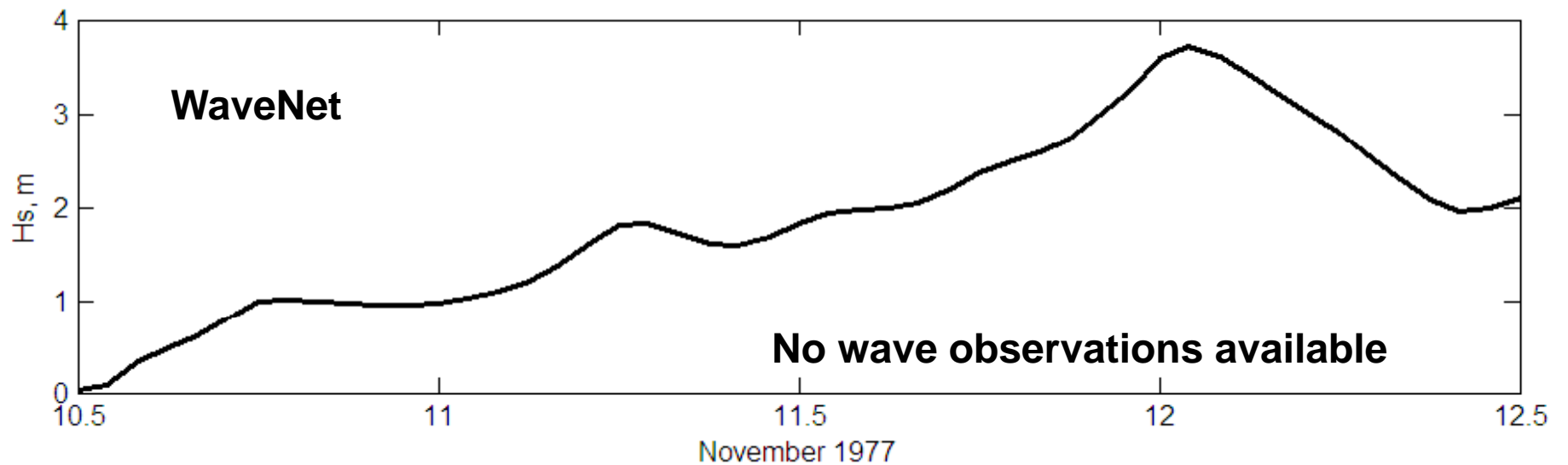
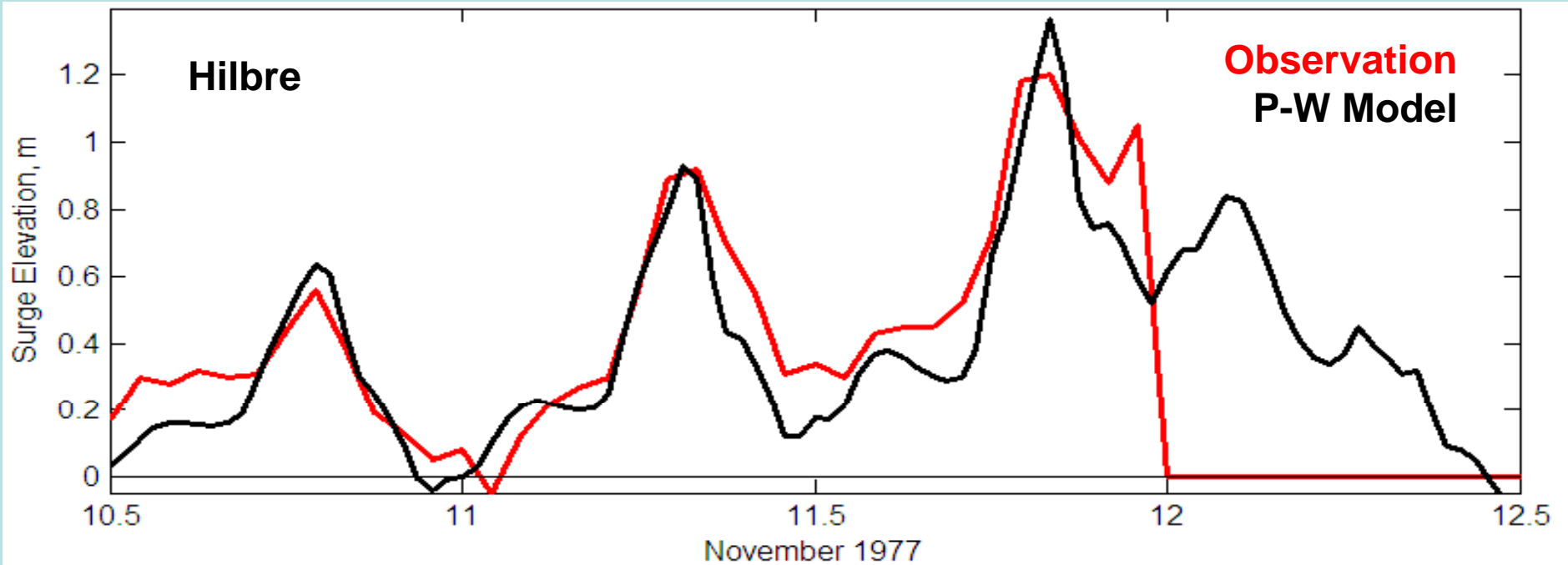


Observation

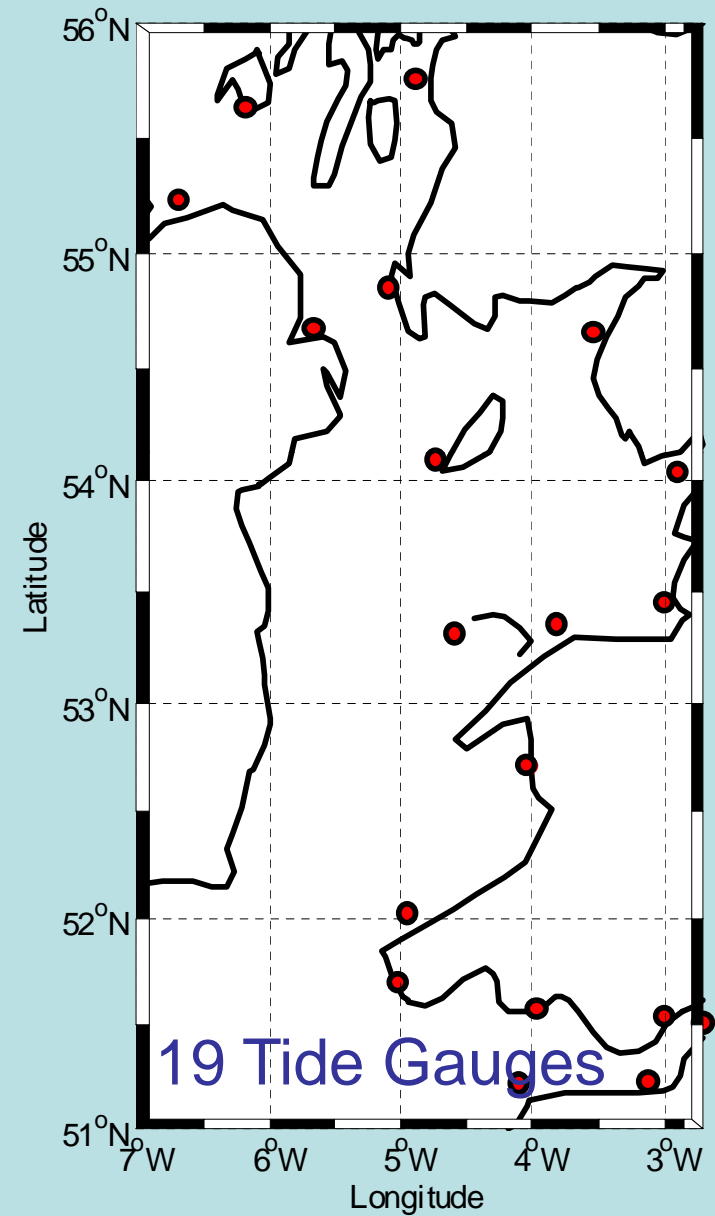
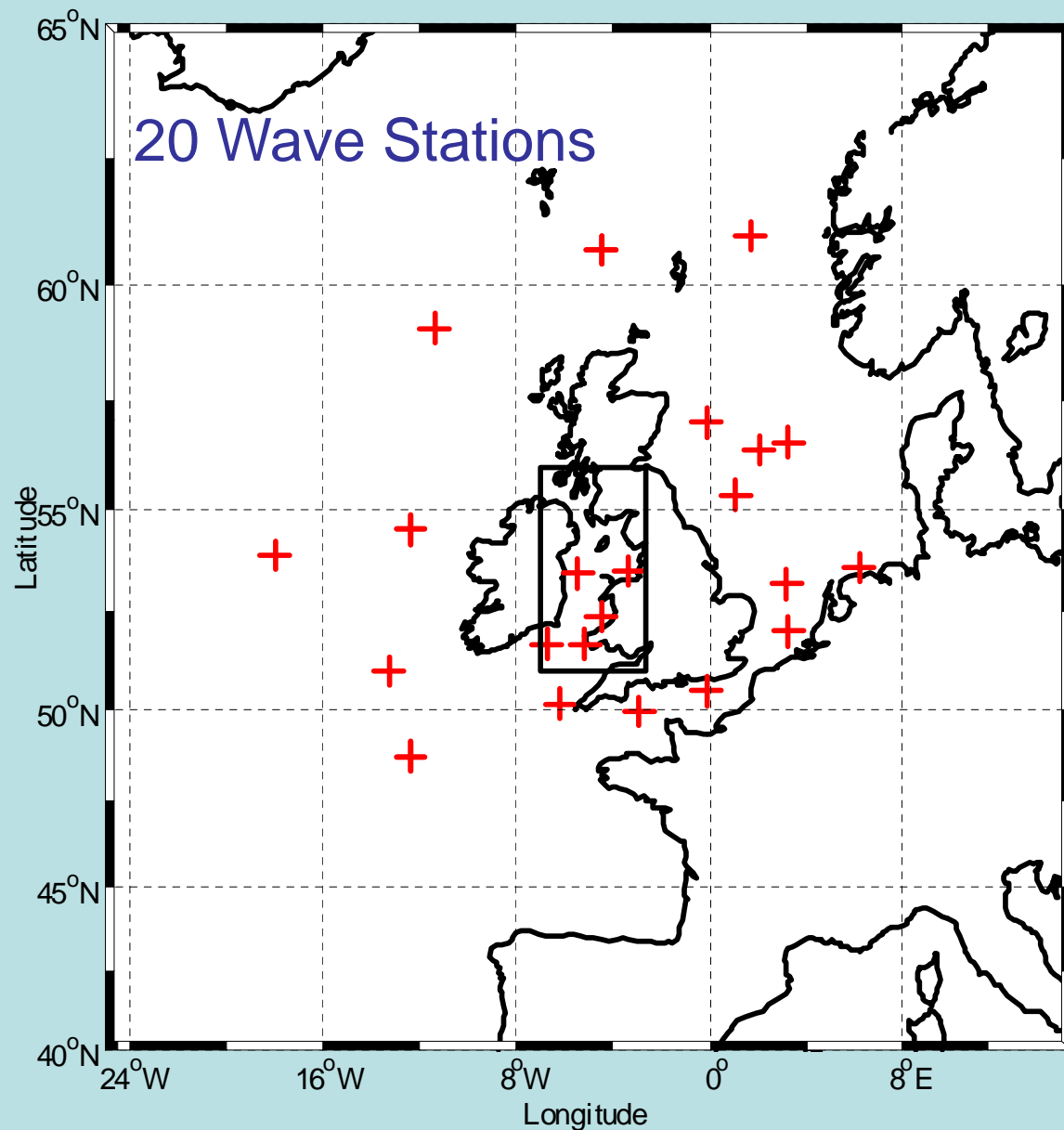
POLCOMS-WAM Model

POLCOMS Model

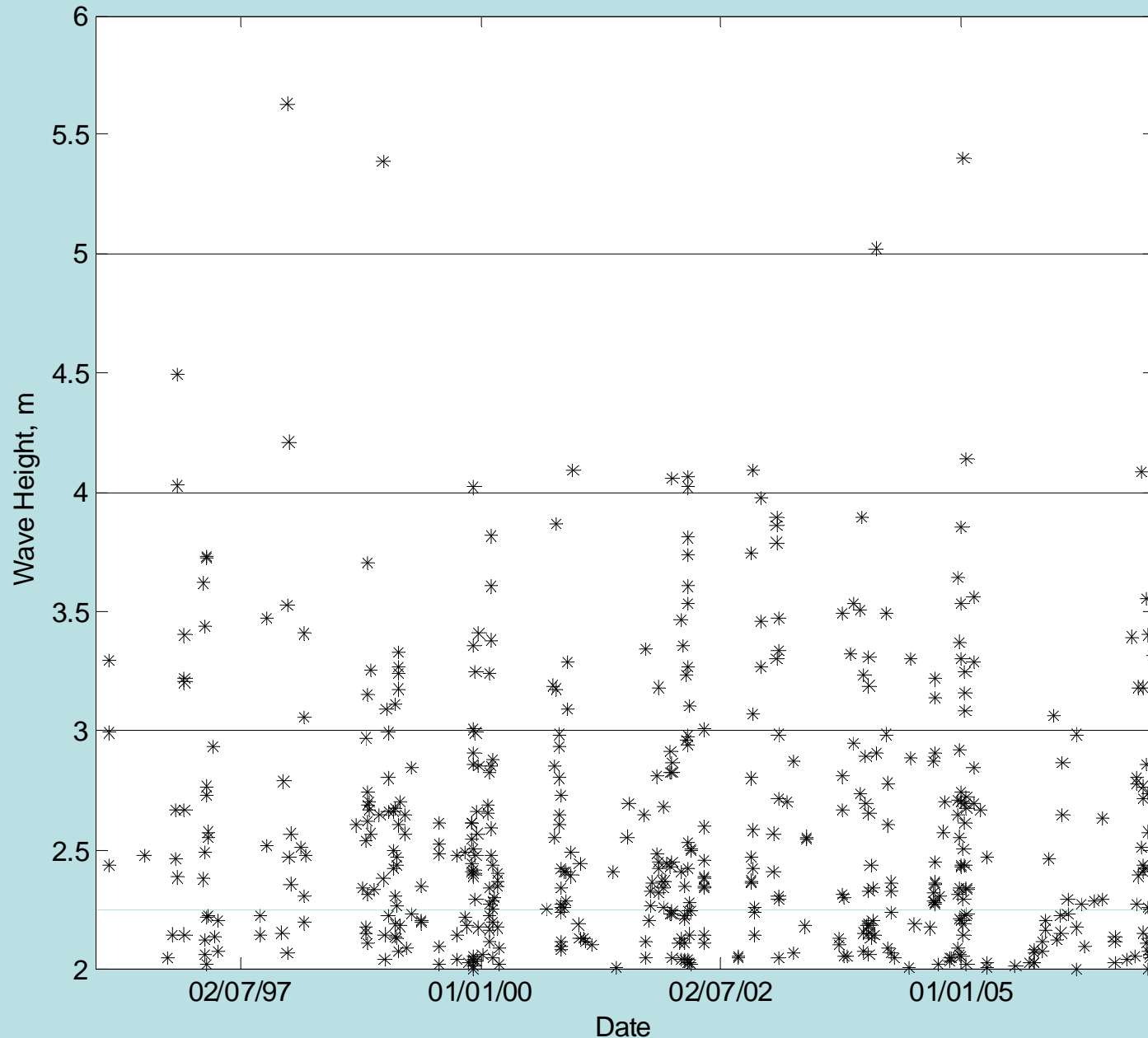
Model Surge Results 1977



11-Year Simulation: Present Day (1996 – 2006)



Wave events (wave buoy) > 2m, 1996 – 2006



Max = 5.63m

Extreme > 4m

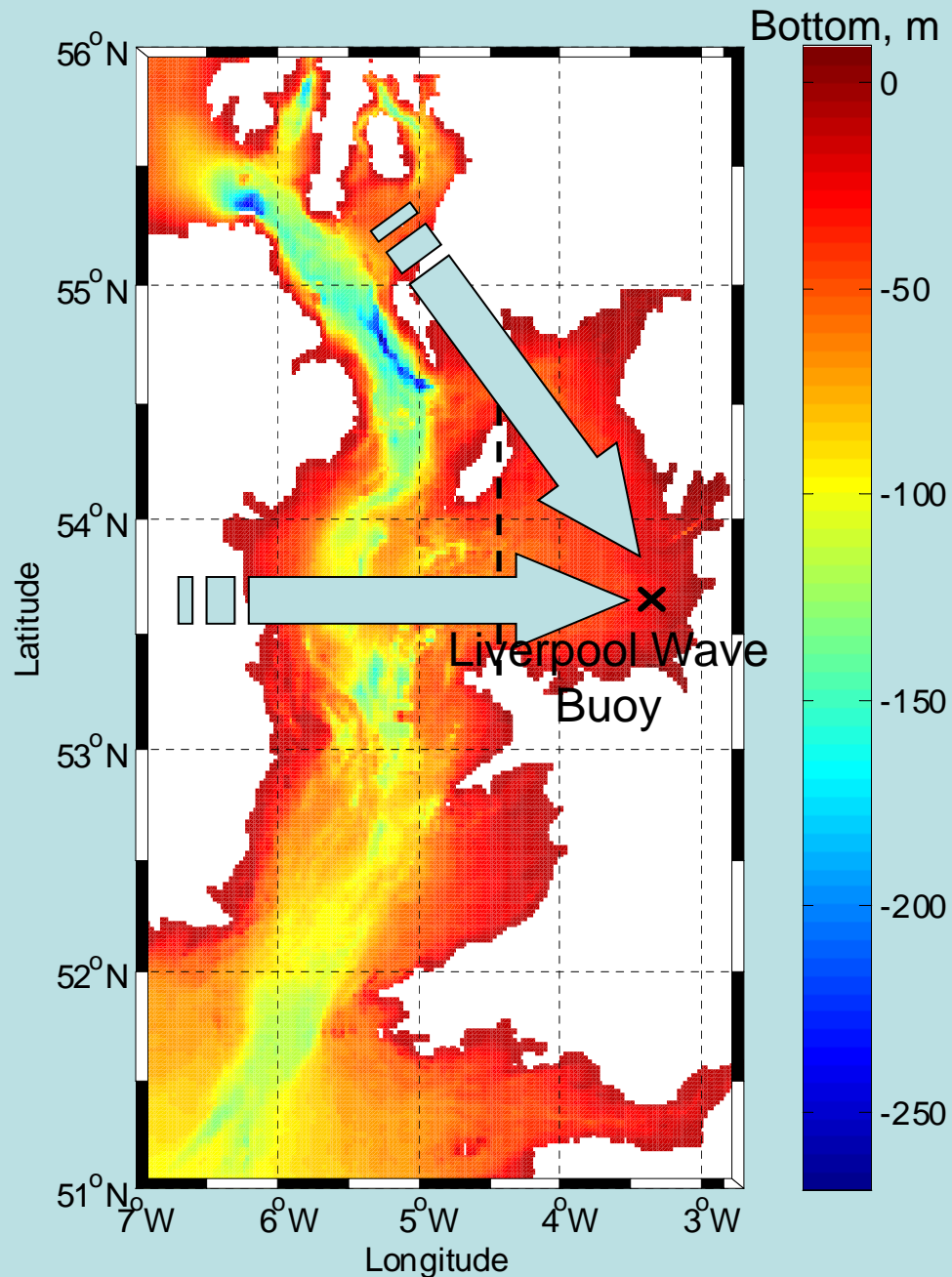
40 events > 3.5m

15 events > 4m

4 events > 5m

**No trend linked to
climate change~
11years to short**

Extreme Waves in Liverpool Bay



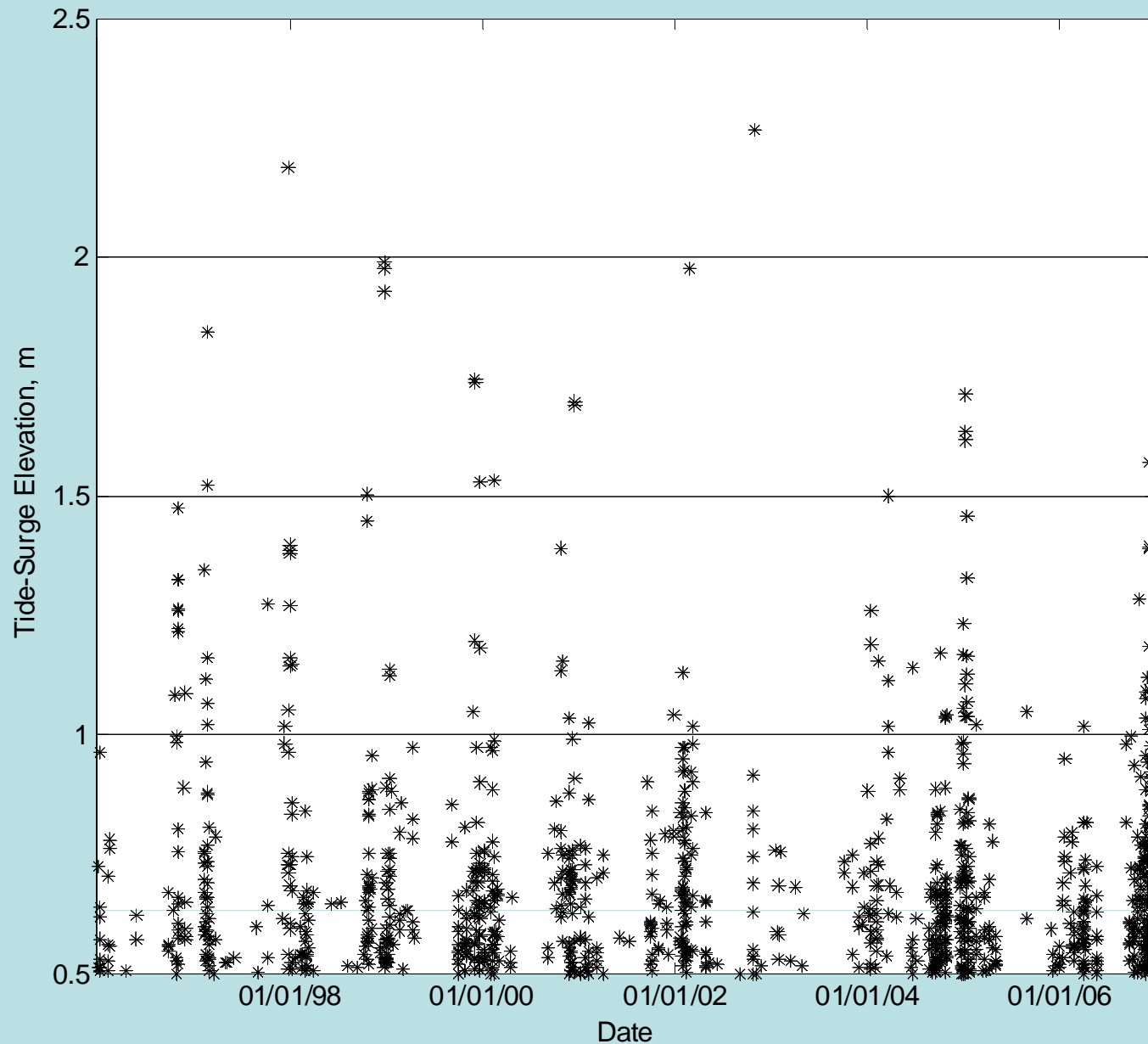
Observation + model hindcast at
wave buoy location

Generated: NW – W winds
(longest fetches)

Locally generated waves

Reach: 5.6m

Surge events (Liverpool) > 0.5m, 1996 – 2006



Max = 2.26m

Extreme > 1.5m

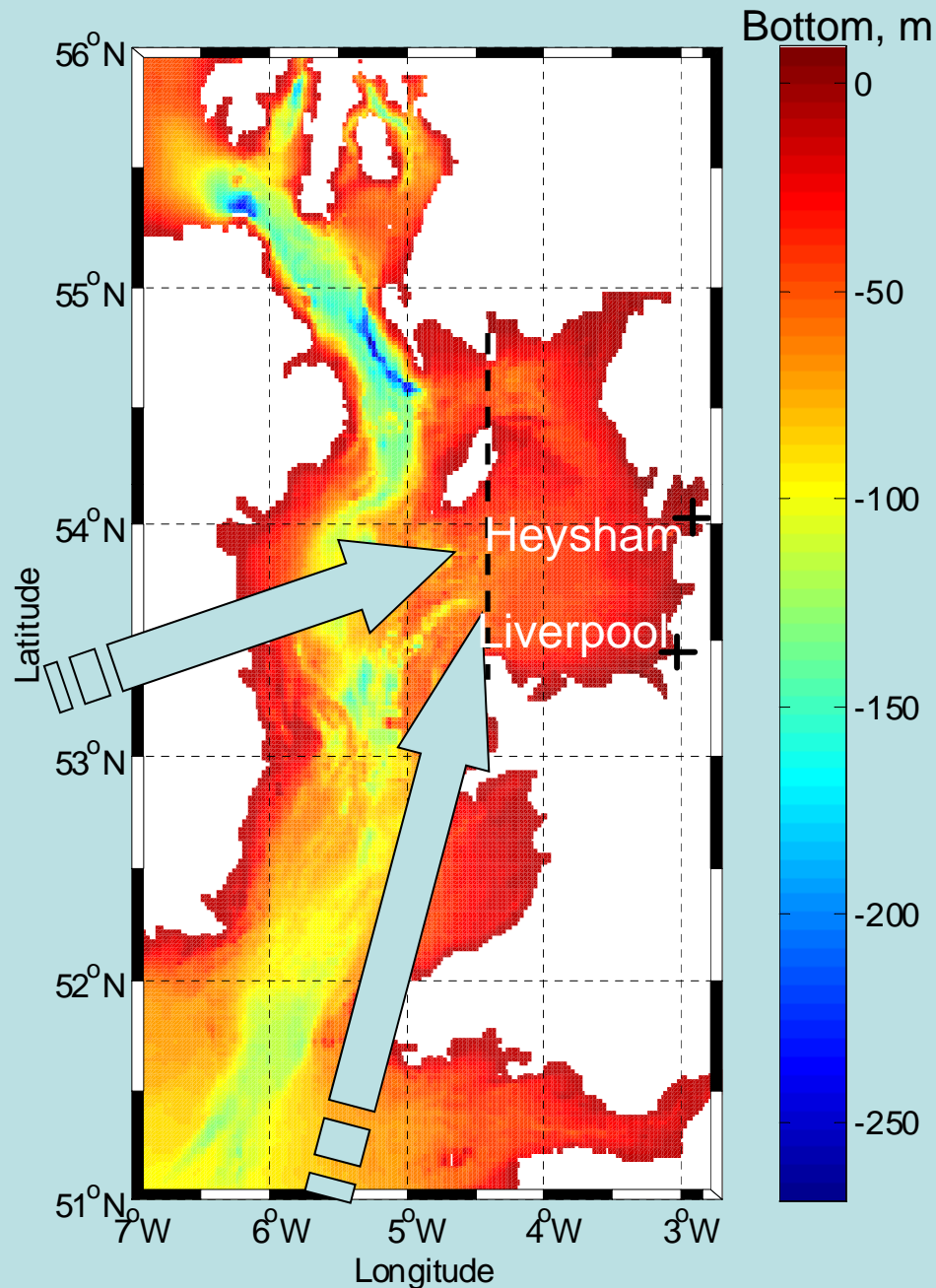
100 events > 1m

19 events > 1.5m

2 events > 2m

**No trend linked to
climate change~
11years to short**

Extreme Surges along the Sefton Coast



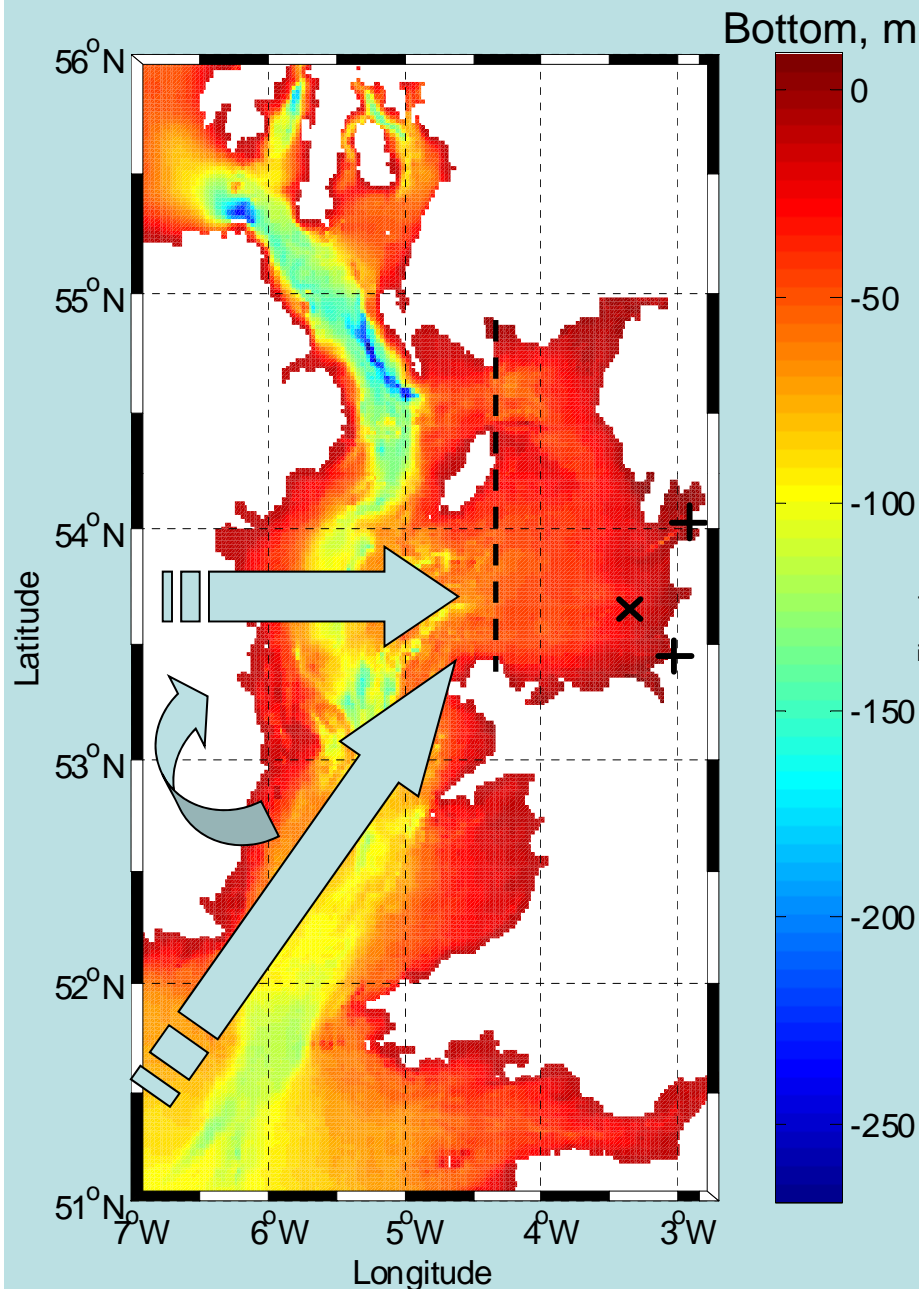
Observation + model hindcast at tide gauges either side of Sefton Coast

Generated: SSW – WSW winds
(longest fetches)

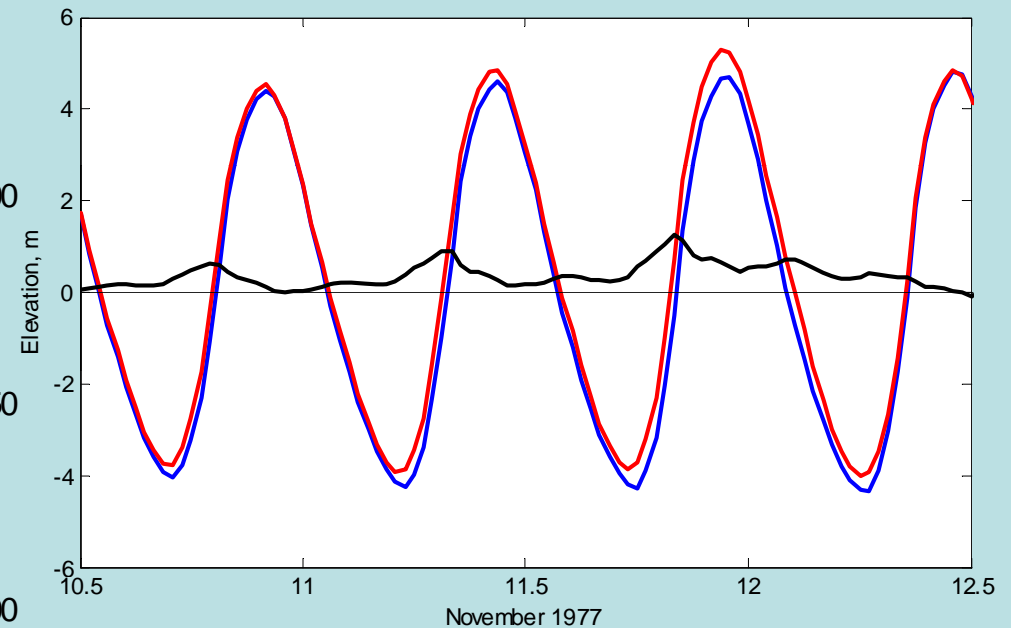
The external surge from the SW
approaches/Celtic Sea dominates
the surge generation.

Reach: 2.6m

Flood Risk in the study area



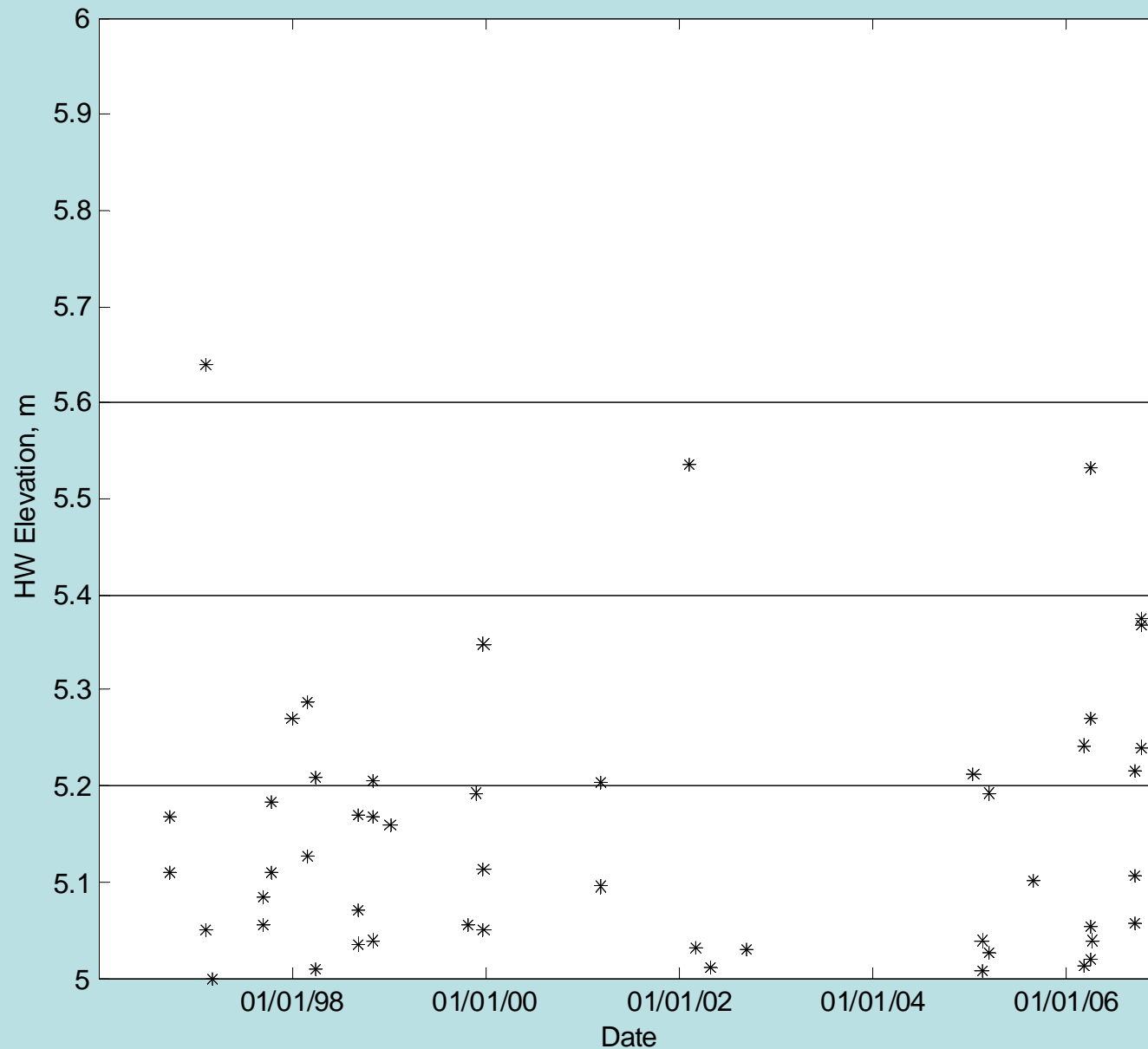
Large 10m tidal range Liverpool Bay causes tide-surge interaction, preventing the peak surge at HW.



Greatest risk SW wind veers W during spring tides.

Extreme wave generation occurs on top of extreme high tide levels, which are increased by extreme surge conditions.

HW events (Liverpool) > 5m, 1996 – 2006



Max = 5.64m

Extreme > 5m

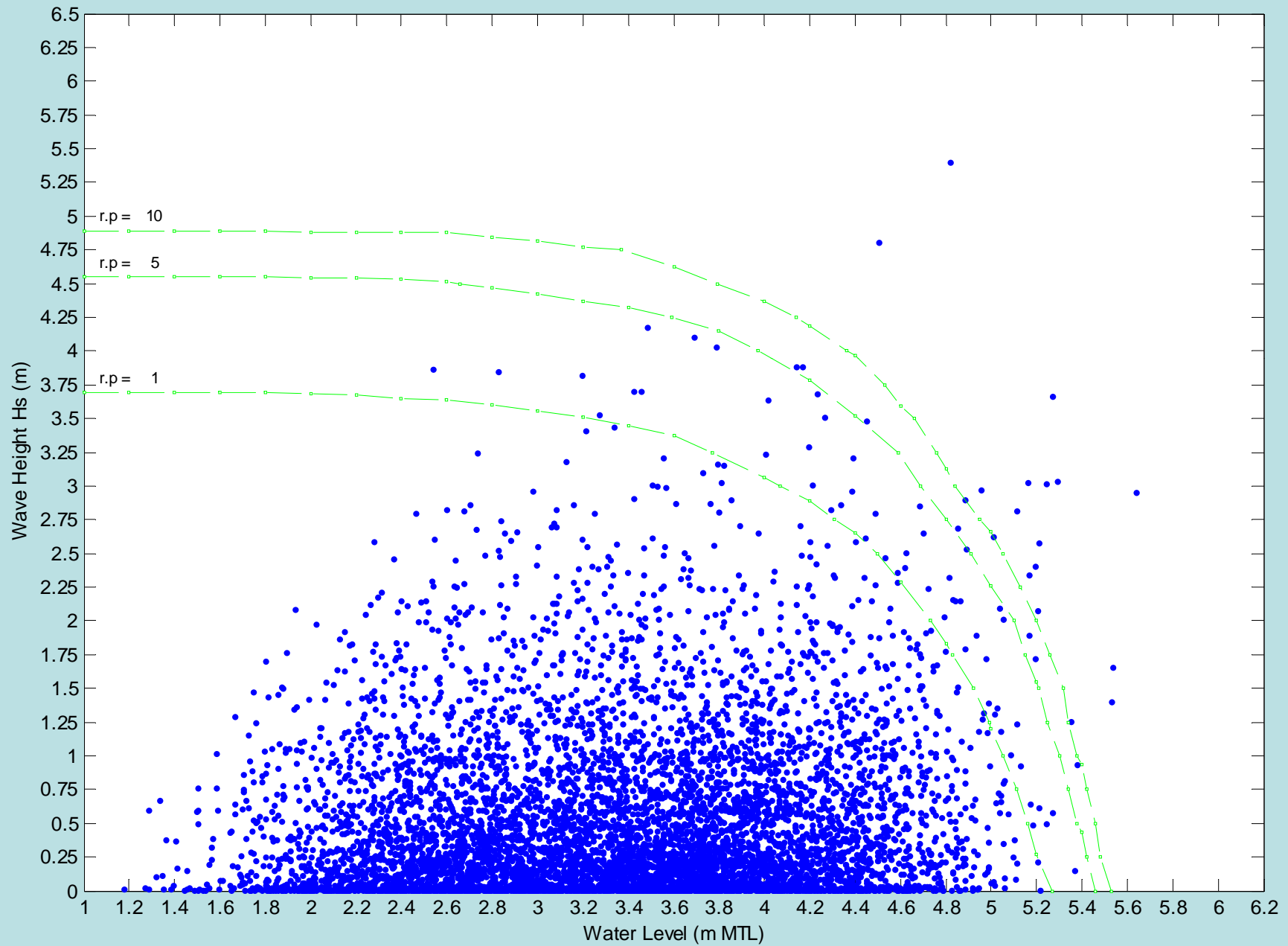
50 events > 5m

16 events > 5.2m

3 events > 5.4m

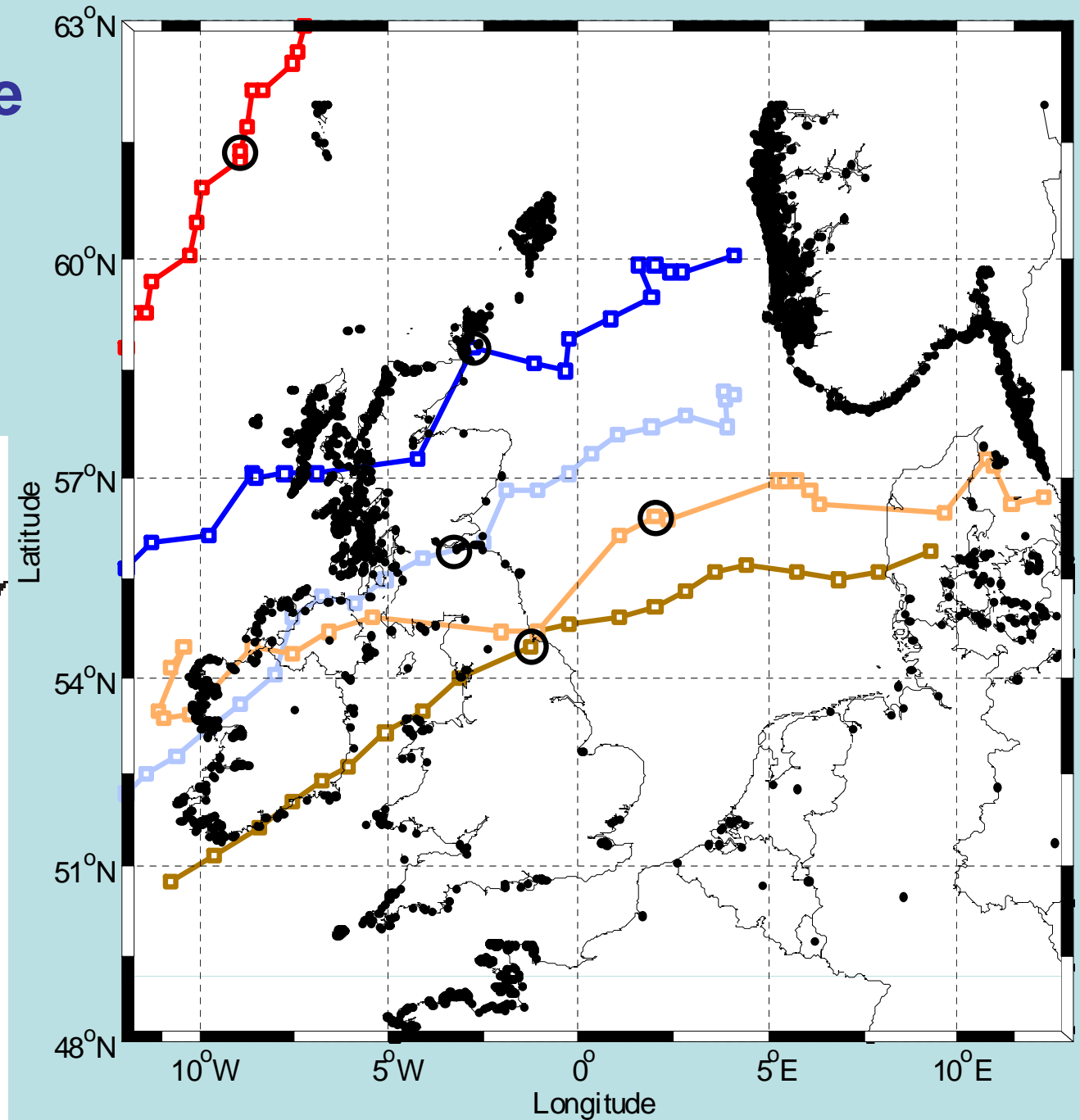
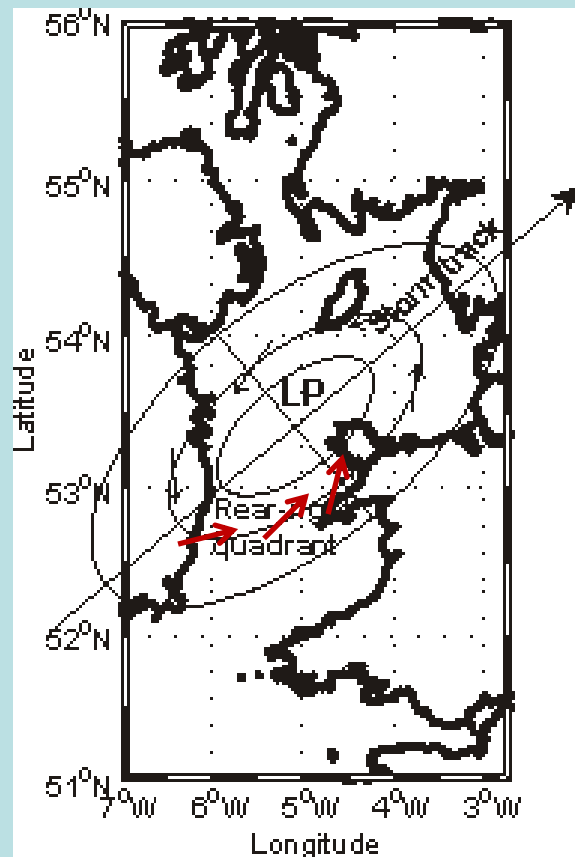
**No trend linked to
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11years to short**

Joint Probability, 1996 – 2006



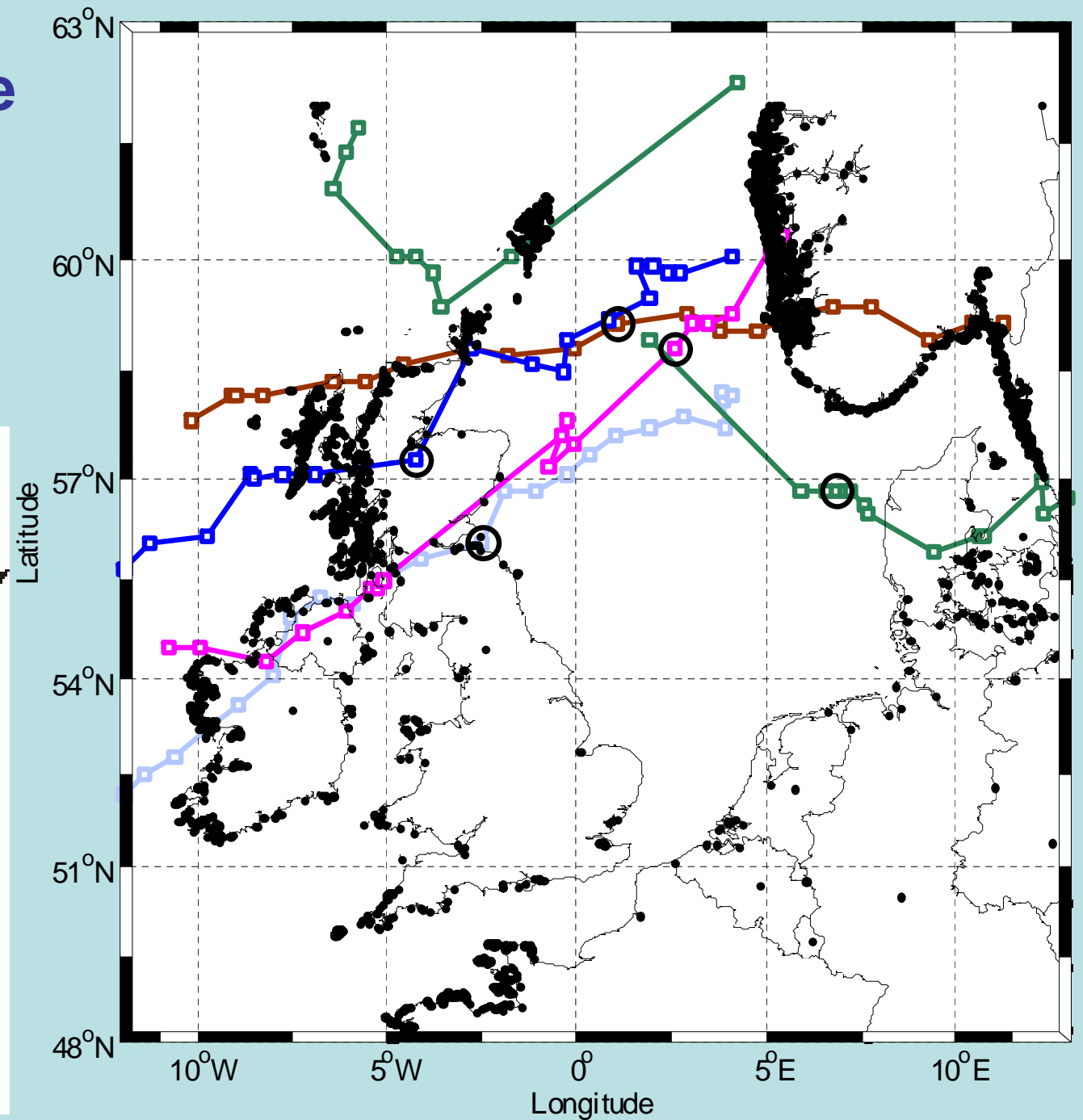
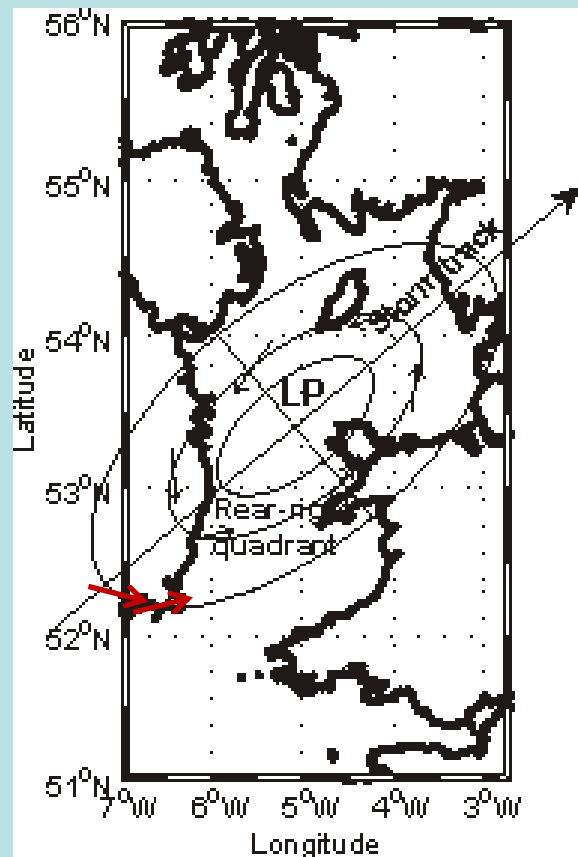
Extreme surge storm tracks

- SW-W winds



Extreme wave storm tracks

- W-NW winds

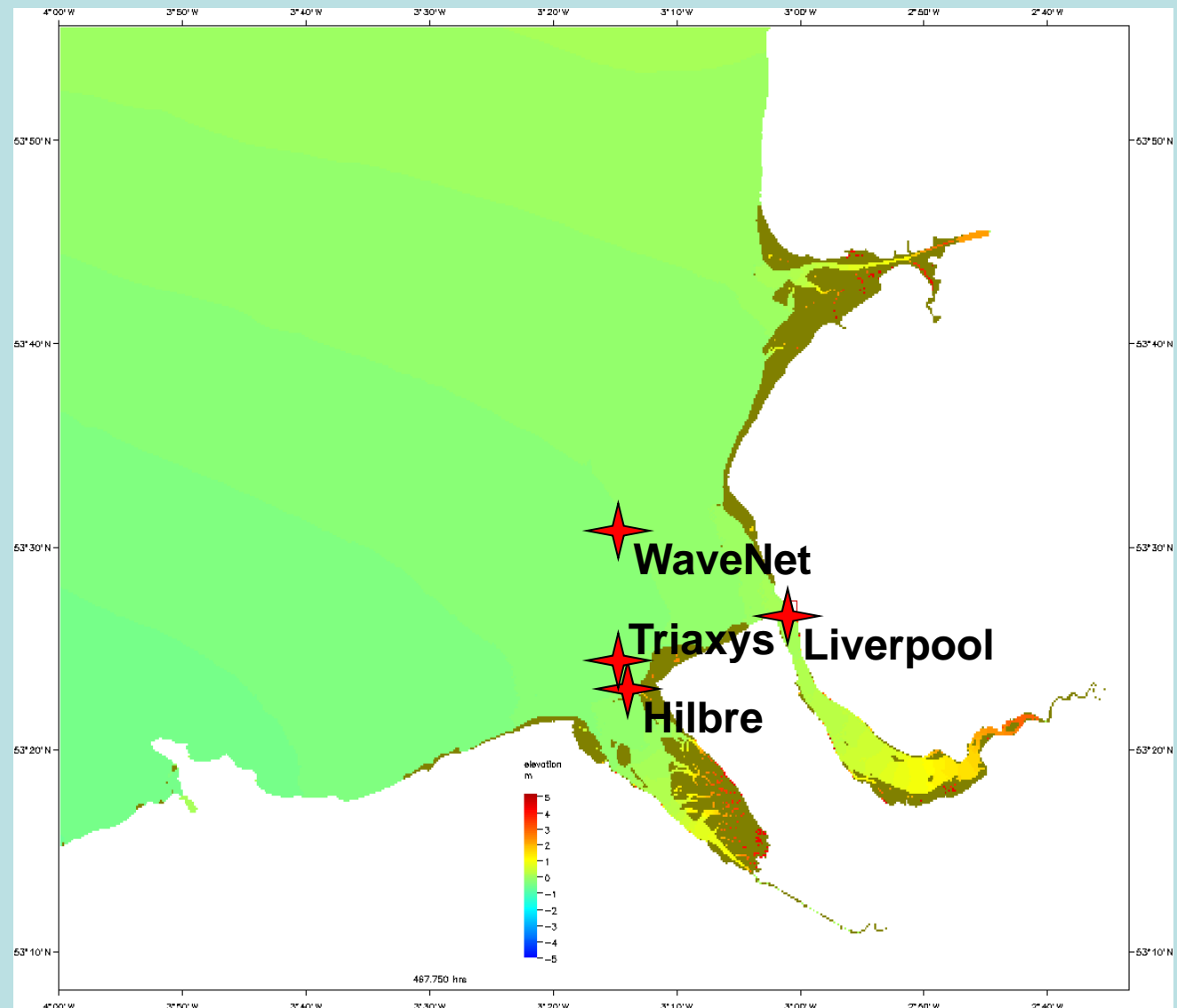
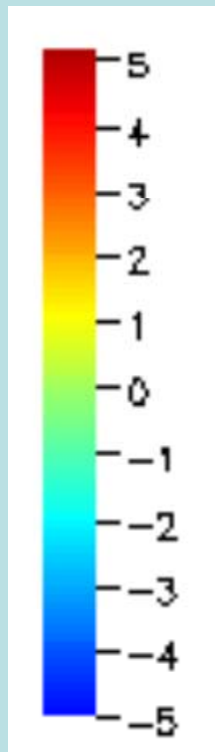


Wave-tide-surge Liverpool Bay model

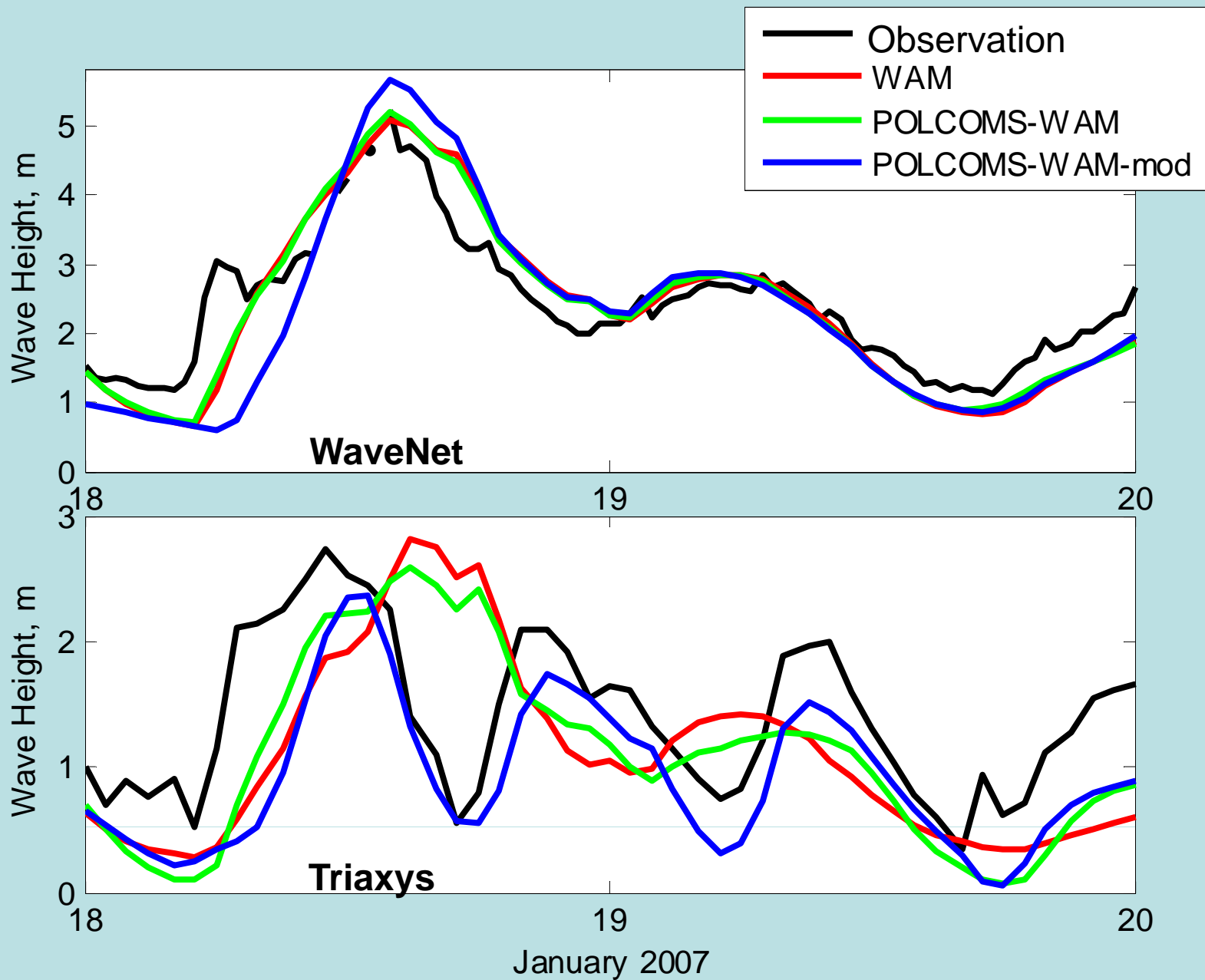
Includes:

- (i) radiation stress – wave setup & wave-induced currents
- (ii) Stokes drift
- (iii) Wave breaking
- (iv) Wetting & drying

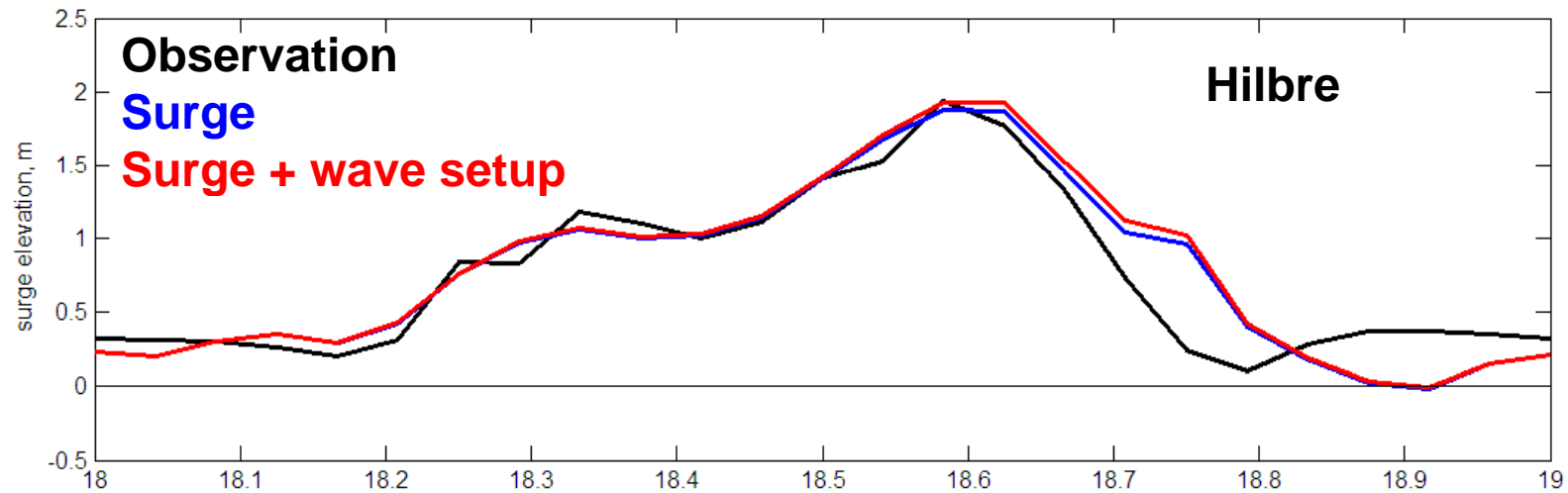
Elevation, m



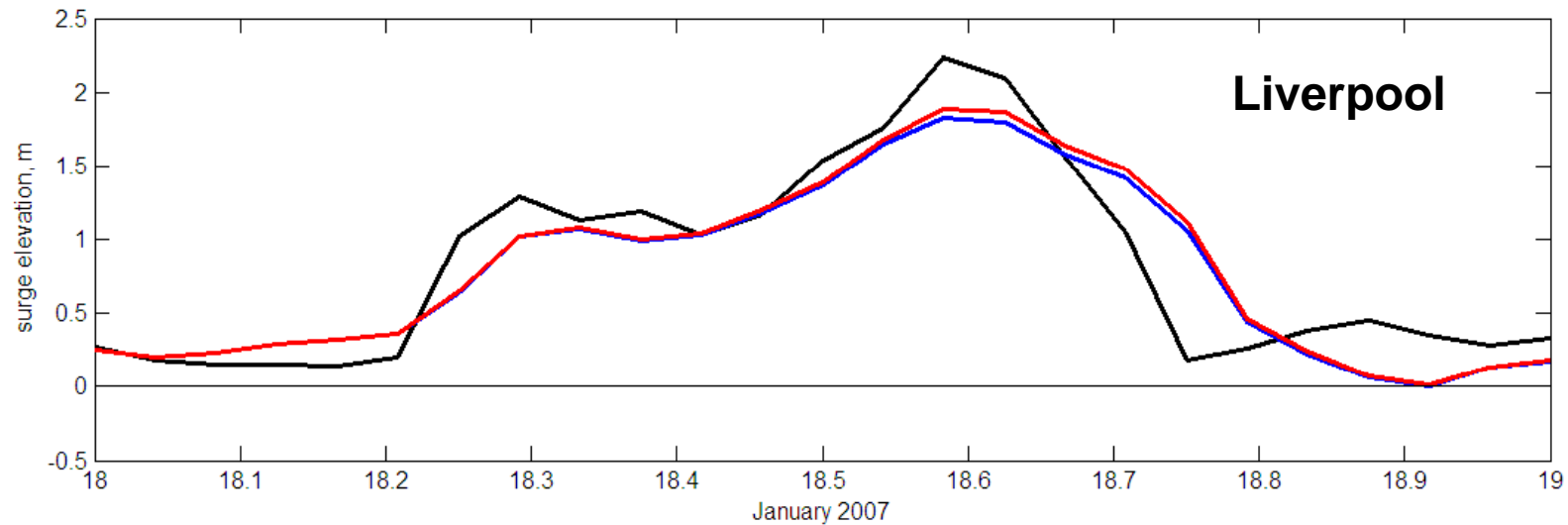
Improved wave simulation:



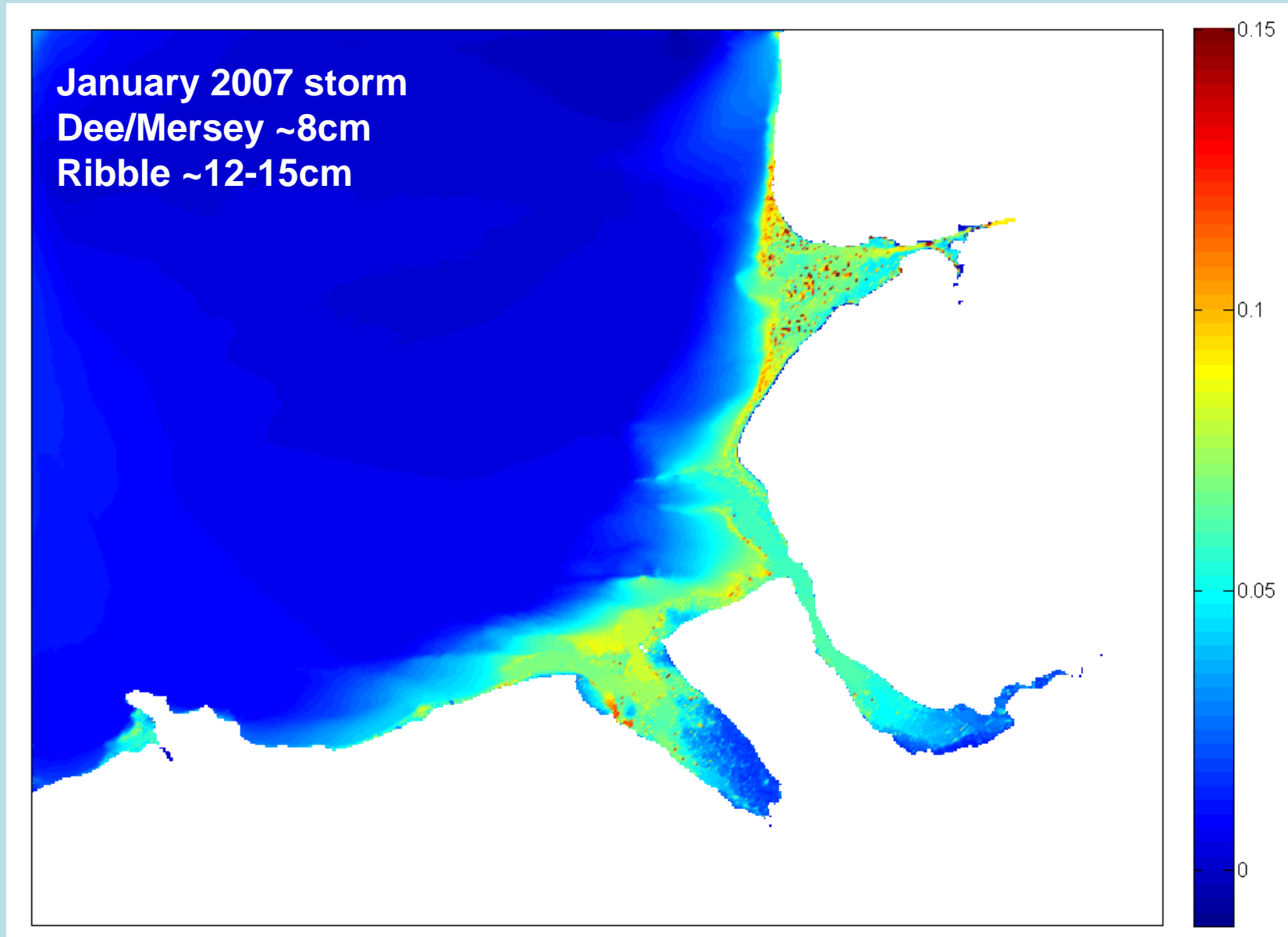
Wave setup in addition to the surge.



~6cm (12%) increase



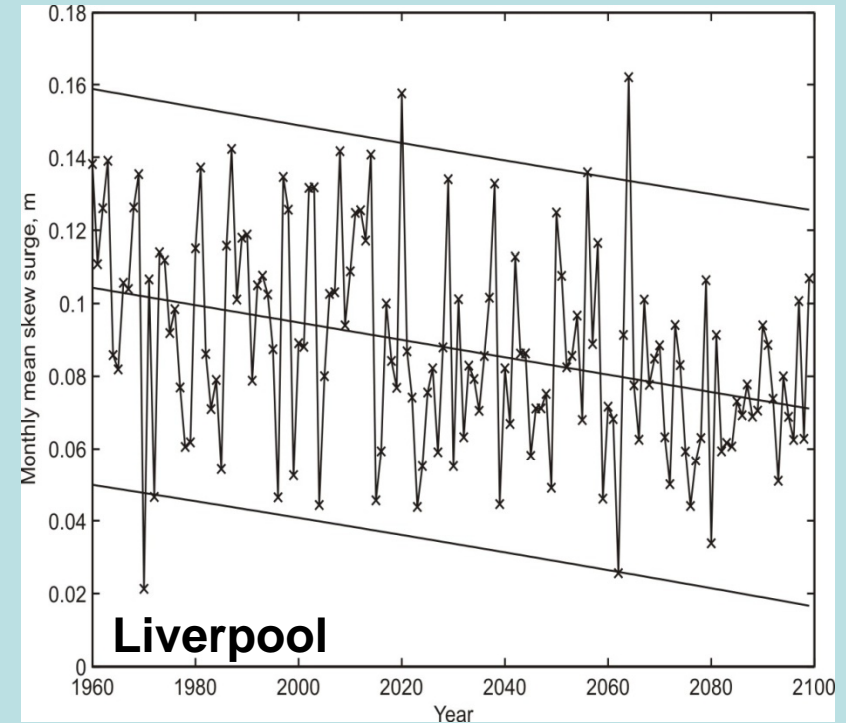
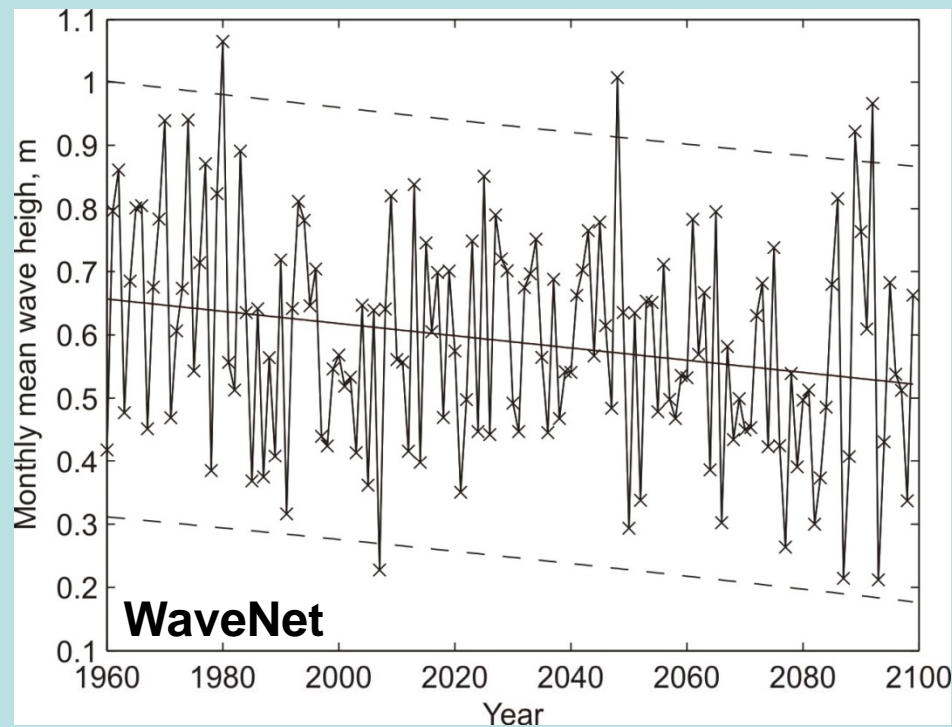
Maximum wave setup over Liverpool Bay.



Future climate?

Related to storm track position

UK climate Projection 2009: Model projection 1960 - 2100



~2% increase in the running mean of the annual maximum Hs

~12% increase in the running mean of the annual maximum Skew Surge

Suggested more extreme, but less frequent??

Conclusions

- Extreme surge levels (2.6m) along the Sefton coast occur due to storms tracking NE generating SW winds & extreme external surge.
- Extreme wave heights (5.6m offshore / 2.5m nearshore) in Liverpool Bay occur in response to local NW – W winds generated by storms tracking E north of the eastern Irish Sea.
- Storm generating SW winds veering W lead to most severe conditions.
- Shallow water need a coupled model:
 - (i) Tidal modulation of the waves.
 - (ii) Wave setup increases the surge peak.
- POLCOMS-WAM is a valid wave-tide-surge model to apply to the Irish Sea and Liverpool Bay.
- Can now be used for future flood risk projection.





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Thank You



Southport Pier