Reviewer 1 answers:

To improve manuscript. Authors indicate that there are previous woks in the area carried out by the Speleological Survey; It should be interesting to be able to compare the obtained data from geophysics and the available data from direct study.

We added some lines in the manuscript saying that The (x, y) locations was obtained from the scuba divers map. The depth (z) is inferred from our 3D resistivity model. We sign the inferred cave section as a rectangle, because we cannot see details. Where dot is red is because is not reported by the scuba divers map, but we see a similar pattern where a river crosses. This location is inferred.

The scuba diver map is for tourists and it was difficult to extract the information we needed, as you can see.



It should be of interest to include a geological map in order to evaluate the geological characteristics from the area, its context but also, if available, hidrogeological information at the regional-local scale previous to the geophysical analysis.

We added some words in the Study Area Chapter to say that limestones are everywhere and terrain is very flat.



Moreover it can be also of interest to include a geomorphological map about the surficial indicators of karst activity and some photographs from the study area. This photographs will permit the evaluation of the survey conditions but also the karst characteristics from the study area.

## There is not surface manifestation about fractures or subduction. As you can see in the pictures. The profiles were taken over the clear way and we did not see any surface subduction.

There are not units in the representation from figure 4 (color scale), at figure 5 the scale color requires an inset (log 10 (r) means, r at logarithmic scale but it lacks units and the figure caption requires to be rewritten as I am not sure that I am able to understand what is described.

## We corrected this, putting units on the plots.

Information related to the referenced small sink- holes from the area (2.1 chapter) requires to be included in the geological preliminary map but also in the geophysical models to be compared with the geophysical data.

Profiles data were taken over flat paths on the jungle as you can see in the pictures. There were not small features over the ways to suspect about a sinking (we added a line in the manuscript about this). We also added some lines to the manuscript to emphasize that Geology is cretaceous limestones everywhere.

Also at chapter 2.1 there is not an evaluation of the expected values for bedrock and the way to choose or discuss the origin of obtained values. If the analyzed units are rocks it can be difficult that they are complete saturated, that it is the explanation for such data. This requires to be more detailed interpreted and discussed.

Here we show you a resistivity section very close to the chac-mool area. This was obtained by DC resistivity inversion of Dipolo-dipole, Schlumberger and Wenner data sets joint inversion in order to get a single resistivity model. Here we used a source-receiver separation of 5m. With this separation was possible to see the dry limestones close to the surface that we call it as *roof*. In x=60m there is a small sinking, meaning that a subterranean river is close and that collapse is possible. However, you cannot distinguish the resistivity change between the subterranean river and the bedrock. Even that here, we used a shorter source-receiver separation. We only see a green color disruption on the dry limestones and a disruption on the red color long body. We can not explain this since the geophysical point of view. Only salt water and shales can low the resistivity in the bedrock. That is why, we think that bedrock is in some way saturated of salty water that lows the resistivity. We have no other explanation. If you have one explanation, we will be very grateful.

In the EM inversion we do not recover the roof thickness sharply because the shortest sourcereceiver separation (10 m) was to large. The EM34 equipment has only separations of 10, 20 and 40 m.



At 2.1 authors describe how they interpret the presence of sinkholes in the area, however there is not reference to surficial-geomorphological data to be compare with or about the presence of sinkholes in the area to be compared with the geophysical data.

## As you can see in the pictures, there are no surface evidences of sinking.

What criteria has been used to select the 160 ohm/m for the separation of units in the geophysical model? Do authors indicate that the "bottom topography of the lime- stone roof" but what they are referencing is "the topography of the limestone roof"?

We changed this in the manuscript to do not confuse. We explain that blue iso-surface represente the bottom of the dry limestones (700 to 1000 ohms-m). Red iso-surface represents the resistivity contact between fresh and salty water (could be the Halocline). This is valid just where data was taken (under the profiles locations). We can extrapolate or interpolate a little bid outside the profiles locations.

About the interpretation and description, roof cannot be thick, this is a contact, then it is needed to correct "the roof appears to be very thick", or "the roof is very thin". After in the same paragraph authors indicate that the, what I interpret, the thickness of the level is thick,

## Yes, we agree. We did some modifications on the manuscript .

then the susceptibility to collapse is lower, does author have information about the fracturation nets from the unit? Not necessarily from the local area, but the state of the massive can be evaluated in a regional scale to know if stability can be related to the fracturation state of the unit if authors want to evaluate collapse susceptibility or hazard.

## We have no surface evidences of sinking in the Chac-Mool area, but in the cross-section shown before, there is an area close to Chac-Mool where a small sinking is evident on surface.

At Figure 6. I suppose that this is a 3d view of the topography of the contact, but it is not clear to see it, Can authors include the isolines of topography, or two maps with the topography and by the other hand of the resistivity values?. In this sense, as previously pointed out, the selection of the resistivity values requires to be discussed in order to define if other values can be better to evaluate the 3D under- ground structure.

Surface topography is very flat and we emphasized that on the manuscript. Dry limestones should be very resistive (1000 ohms-m or more; blue color). Salty water should be very low-resistive (1 to 5 ohms-m; red color). Fresh water around 50 to 80 ohms-m (green color). There are not shales in this area. Only water content can justify the resistivity values.

In order to evaluate data from the area, where the water level is expected to be? are there any change related to the water salinity in the geophysical data?.

The water table was measured at 7 m depth where the sinkhole is open. This value is present in the manuscript.

# 3D Inverse modeling of EM-LIN data to investigate for the exploration of coastal sinkholes in Quintana Roo Mexico

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EM-LIN data is necessary to explore and understand coastal karst systems.

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Abstract. In the Yucatan Peninsula (YP), <u>southern Mexico</u>, cities and towns are settled on a platform of calcareous sedimentary sequence, <u>where karst processes have formed numerous</u> sinkholes, underground rivers, and caverns. Anthropogenic activities <u>there</u> threaten the only source of freshwater supply, which <u>is in</u> a regional unconfined aquifer; there are no lakes <u>or</u> rivers <u>on the surface</u>. For the sustainable <u>management use-of thisese</u> resources <u>stin</u> the YP, mathematical tools to help theare needed in order to model groundwater-modeling. In order to <u>To</u> determine the geometry of the aquifer, <u>esfor</u> example –the positions of caves, sinkholes, and underground rivers, we <u>have</u> developed <u>a</u>\_software to invert threedimensional electromagnetic low-induction numbers (3D EM-LIN) data for a set of profiles at arbitrary angles. In this <del>work</del> study we have explored with the aid of<u>used</u> the EM-LIN geophysical method<sub>7</sub> to explore the Chac-Mool sinkhole system <del>at</del> in the state of Quintana Roo-(QR), Mexico. We <u>pare</u>-performed inverse modeling in 3D using the EM-34 instrument for vertical and horizontal magnetic dipoles. The 3D inversion process <del>gives usyields</del>— models that <del>allow <u>enable</u></u> us to correlate the path of the underground rivers with the subsurface electrical resistivity. In this work we <u>show</u> that inverse modeling of</del>

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#### **1** Introduction

The main source of fresh water in the Yucatan Peninsula is a regional unconfined karstie aquifer that is constituted by sedimentary limestones (Bauer-Gottwein et al., 2011). Karstie aquifers are extremely vulnerable to contaminants due because of their high permeability and because of the peculiar turbulent groundwater flow in turbulence passing through

25 karst conduits and caves (Worthington et al., 2001; Parise et al., 2015). The rapidly population growth of the population in the state of Quintana Roo and coastal touristic activities tourism threaten the only source of fresh-water supply in the peninsula.

In order to guarantee the sustainable use of thesethis groundwater resources it is necessary to have knowledge of on the hydrogeological characteristics, such as geometry and positions, of caverns and sinkholes as well as and the depth of the freshwater-/salt-water mixing zone (halocline) is needed.

#### Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Inglés (Estados Unid

**Comentario [MDJH1]:** Ambigüedae no es claro a qué recursos se refieren.

**Con formato:** Inglés (Estados Unidos), Sin Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH-22]:** La segun sugerencia que indico entre comillas abi se desvía un poco de la redacción origin pero creo que en esencia "sustainable management" encaja mejor en el contex de la oración y con lo que mencionan en texto general. Además, la segunda sugerencia incluye un orden secuencial la idea general. Marco en verde "these resources" porque esta frase de la oració aún queda ambigua (ver comentario anterior sobre esta frase).

Segunda sugerencia: "Mathematical too are needed to model groundwater for the sustainable management of these resources."

Comentario [MDJH-23]: No se vuo a utilizar esta abreviatura en el resumen.

#### Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH-24]:** Sugiero eliminar "peculiar".

**Comentario [MDJH5]:** Esta parte d oración puede prestarse a confusión. Si se refieren a las actividades turísticas Quintana Roo, entonces mejor colocar la frase "in the state of Quintana Roo" después de "activities" como sigue: "Rapid population growth and coastal tourism in the state of Quintana Roo threaten..."

Pero si se refieren a actividades turística otro lado que no es Quintana Roo, entor sería conveniente aclarar en qué lugar suceden las actividades turísticas costera por ejemplo, si se refieren a las actividad turísticas en la península de Yucatán,

**Comentario [MDJH6]:** Los párrafos una sola oración generalmente son desaconsejados. Recomiendo unir esta oración con el párrafo anterior. Esta unio

**Comentario [MDJH7]:** El plural aquimplica más de un tipo de recurso subterráneo, pero en el párrafo anterior s han mencionado uno.

Sinkholes are natural<del>ly</del> geological features that connecting the <u>land</u> surface <u>bf the Earth</u> with the underground <u>of karstie</u> terrains, and <u>they</u> are formed when rain-water dissolves limestone, creating underground voids (Coskun, 2012). Two main groups of sinkholes have been reported under identified in the genetic classification (Williams, 2004; Gutierrez et al., 2014). The first <u>one corresponds togroup comprises</u> solution sinkholes, <u>generated\_which are formed</u> by differential corrosion,

5 lowering -the ground surface where karst rocks are exposed. The second group can be designated as<u>comprises</u> subsidence sinkholes, which results from both subsurface dissolution and downward gravitational movement.

Many In Quintana Roo many of sinkholes, caverns and underground riversthese features have been reported before by scuba divers, and the Quintana Roo Speleological Survey has performed produced an underground map of the Riviera Maya with a for touristiem purposes in the Riviera Maya. However, geophysical techniques have rarely been barely applied as non-

- 10 invasive methods for exploration over approaches to explore this area (Gondwe et al. 2010; Estrada-Medina et al. 2010; Gondwe et al., 2010; -Beauer-Gottwein et al., 2011). It is well known that eElectrical resistiveity tomography has shown good results to explore karst-proven effective for exploring karst areas (Ahmed yand Carpenter 2003, Chalikakis et al., 2011). The provide the lack of soil on this-the hard-limestone ground-terrain difficult the electrodes placing which results in a complicated and time consuming problem, making even more expensive the-has made
- 15 <u>placing electrodes a complicated and time-consuming task, raising expenses for</u> data collection. New approaches <u>into</u> geophysical and coastal karst prospecting are therefore <u>required in order to protect and develop future needed to develop and</u> <u>maintain sustainability plans in the <u>VPY ucatan-Peninsula</u>.</u>

In this study we aim to investigate the application of <u>explore</u> a novel approach by using electromagnetic (<u>EM</u>) methods in the the low-induction numbers <u>limit (EM-LIN)</u> and applying 3D geophysical inverse modeling (Perez-Flores et al., 2012) with

- 20 the goal of in order to set up a conceptual model of a sinkhole system and to get a widegain more knowledge of the site geomorphology of the site. Moreover, the The methodology and results will also help as tool of could be useful tools for the management in of the <u>Quintana Roo</u> coastal zones of <u>Quintana Roo</u> due these is important for touristic activities, which is important for tourism and -which demands accurate knowledge requires accurate information for prospect plans of future development.
- 25 We did not find references for EM LIN methods applied<u>on the use of EM-LIN</u> in karst systems, but we found <u>that the Direct</u> <u>Current</u> DC and aero <u>Time Domain Electromagnetic Method (TDEM)</u><u>-method</u> was applied in-used for the Sian-Kan natural reserve (<u>by</u> Supper et al. (2009). They also These authors took-performed EM-34 measurements; but <u>they they diddid made</u> no further processing, like <u>perform a geophysical inversion</u>.

#### 1.1 Study area

30 2 This research was done-carried out in the Yucatan Peninsula (YP), which is the emerged partportion of the great, largely karst; Yucatan pPlatform largely karstified (Bauer-Gottwein et al., 2011). From the geological point of view, the YP is a platform is constituted by a sequence of calcareous sediments (Bonet and Butterlin, 1962) and is characterized by being its flat with landform (no topography) and nothe absence of surface rivers. A review of the YP karst aquifer is well

**Comentario [MDJH-28]:** Agregué the Earth" para dejar explícita qué superficie. Otra posible sugerencia pued ser "the land surface" en lugar de "the surface of the Earth".

**Comentario [MDJH-29]:** ¿"coversubsidence sinkholes"?

**Comentario [MDJH-210]:** ¿Reemp ar "movement" por "force"?

Comentario [MDJH-211]: Porque el párrafo anterior es un relato de conocimiento general, agregué "in Quim Roo" aquí para dar a entender que esta

**Comentario [MDJH-212]:** La frase "these features" en la parte resaltada de

Comentario [MDJH-213]: OBSER CIÓN: En casos como este, donde coinc

Comentario [MDJH-214]: Sugiero especificar la palabra "this"-por ejemple

**Comentario [MDJH-215]:** Eliminé palabra "future" porque ya queda implíc

**Comentario [MDJH-216]:** Las sigl YP las definen hasta la siguiente sección

**Comentario [MDJH-217]:** Por favo cambiar a "applying" si la aplicación del

Comentario [MDJH-218]: Por fave verificar que no haya cambiado el mense

Comentario [MDJH-219]: "DC" y "TDEM" no fueron definidas previamen

**Comentario [MDJH-220]:** Por favo rechazar este cambio y dejar "did".

**Con formato:** Color de fuente: Tex

**Con formato:** Color de fuente: Tex

Con formato: Color de fuente: Tex

**Con formato:** Color de fuente: Amarillo

**Con formato:** Color de fuente: Tex

Con formato: Color de fuente: Tex

Con formato: Color de fuente: Tex

Con formato: Resaltar

Comentario [MDJH-221]:

Comentario [MDJH-222]: ¿OK?

described by Bauer-Gottwein et al.  $(2011)_{a}$  and an extended description of coastal cave development is given by Smart et al. (2006).

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We took aOur study area that covers the Chac-Mool sinkhole, which is located 20 km southward south of Playa del 3 Carmen in the state of OR-Ouintana Roo state at (approximately 20<sup>ao</sup>-30'-46.37" N and 87<sup>ao</sup>-14'-49.32" W) (Fig. 1). The area eovers an extension of extends to 1 km<sup>2</sup> and it is fully covered by dense vegetation. The ground presents a large high secondary porosity. The QR state receives Annual precipitation there is around 1,200 mm of annual precipitation and topography is a flat surface with a slope of 9 m over-above the sea level within 20 km since-from the shore-line (CNA, 2016). The hydraulic gradient in the southern part of Playa del Carmen was estimated in-at 58-130 mm/km (Beddows, 2004). Due to its proximity to the coast (2 km), the study area is penetrated by the sea-water. Such an Water intrusion oscillates depending is dependent on tides and rain rechargerainfall (Beddows, 2004). Chack-Mool is a sinkholes complex where it is assumed that two underground rivers presumably connect the Little-Brother sinkhole and the Air-Dome sinkhole. The underground river pathspathways are known in some parts sections by have been documented on maps made by scuba diverersing maps (Quintana Roo Speleological Survey-ORSS) but other parts sections and vertical components remain unknown as well as the vertical components. It is possible that the The entire rock matrix is possibly saturated of with fresh/ and brackish water through in the porosity pores and small conduits. The apparent conductivity is large high because it averages the matrix conductivity (low value) with the sea-water conductivity (high value).

**Comentario [MDJH-223]:** El texto original da a entender que el cenote Cha Mool se ubica a 20 km al sur de playa d Carmen y que las coordenadas geográfic que dan entre paréntesis son para el cene Chac Mool.

Si lo que quieren decir es que el área de estudio está a 20 km de playa del Carme que las coordenadas que se dan entre paréntesis son para el área de estudio, entonces, por favor reemplazar "which i por "and is".

**Comentario [MDJH-224]:** No se h definido "QR" para el texto general.

**Comentario [MDJH-225]:** Hace fa el sujeto de la oración. ¿Está bien "the study area"?

Comentario [MDJH-226]: Almence habiendo aclarado esto por teléfono, sug el siguiente cambio para la para que resa el comentario: "on maps made by scuba divers"

Con formato: Resaltar



Figure 1. Study area: Chack-Mool sinkhole in the state of Quintana Roo-state, Mexico.

#### 1.2 Electromagnetic survey

- 5 In September 2015, we carried out a field tripsurvey over the study area. We took obtained seven profiles with the EM\_34 (Geonics) instrument that operates under-within the LIN domain as described in McNeill (1980). The main reason we are for using the EM-34 is because it is easy and fast to take data that it can accurately obtain data in a more easy and faster way in terrains with lack of no soil without loss of accuracy, making faster the expediting field work in hard, rough terrains. The basic principle consists in the transmission of an alternating current of constant frequency, f<sub>1</sub> through a coil (transmitter),
- 10 which will generates a primary electromagnetic field  $(H_p)$  that induces electrical currents in the conductive bodies embedded in the subsoil (following Faraday's Law). Then a secondary electromagnetic field in the ground  $(H_s)$  is created due then generated by these conductive bodies. These two fields will differ in amplitude and phase, and they will beare detected by a coil (receiver) that is separated by a distance s(m) from the transmitter. The induction number,  $N_s$  is defined as the quotient between s(m) and the skin depth  $\delta(m)$ -as:  $N = s(m)/\delta(m)$ . At low induction numbersLIN (N<1) the imaginary part of

#### **Comentario [MDJH-227]:** Dentro la figura, considerar cambiar la etiqueta "Sinkhole Chac-Mool" por "Chac-Mool sinkhole".

#### Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH-228]:** La parte resaltada implica, indirectamente, que además del instrumento EM-34 que ope dentro del dominio LIN, existe otro tipo instrumento EM-34 que no opera dentro ese dominio.

Si existe solo un instrumento EM-34 qu opera dentro del dominio LIN, entonces sería necesario cambiar parte resaltada p la sugerencia entre comillas: "with the EM-34 instrument, which operates within the LIN domain,"

[Por favor, noten la coma después de "domain". Esta coma implica que los 7 perfiles, y no el dominio LIN, se obtuvid de acuerdo con lo descrito por McNeill (1980). **Pero**, si la frase "as described in McNeill (1980)" hace referencia al dom LIN y no a la obtención de los 7 perfiles por favor, no incluyan la coma y eliminu a palabra "as" después de "domain"]

#### Con formato: Resaltar

#### Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH-229]:** ¿Quiere decir "rough" o "hard"?

"rough terrain" = terreno duro, irregular rugoso

"hard terrain" = terreno duro

**Comentario [MDJH-230]:** Agregut "basic". ¿Es correcto?

**Comentario [MDJH-231]:** Aquí ha falta un verbo, frase o sustantivo que se complemente con la frase "through". Para enmendar, he insertado la frase "the transmission of", pero sería necesario verificar si la frase "the transmission of" atinada.

Con formato: Fuente: Cursiva

Con formato: Fuente: Cursiva

 $H_s/H_p$  is a straight line whose for which the slope is the conductivity of a homogeneous half-space. Because of the real ground is not homogenous, we refer to say we get an apparent conductivity:  $\sigma_a = (4/\omega \mu_0 S^2)(H_s/H_n)$ .

It is usual to use bBoth loops (source and receiver) are commonly used in a coplanar way. We have two possible arrays, one when both loops are parallel to the earth's surface (vertical magnetic dipoles, VHMD) and another the other when both loops are perpendicular to the earth's surface (horizontal magnetic dipoles, HMD). For both arrays we can extend the The separation between loops from can be extended to 10 m, 20 m, and 40 m in both arrays. In-For this research the study, measurements were made along 6 lines (Fig. 2), and the observation points were spaced every 5 m. Due-Because the dense vegetation of in the jungle was dense, it was not possible we were unable to locate profiles anywhere, instead and so we took

- the available-paths around the sinkholes-Chack-Mool, Little Brother, and Air Dome sinkholes. Then, we'we then tried to 10 follow straight lines thinking in doingso we could perform 2D inversion modeling for on every data profile, but then we realized that six of the profiles distributions were more or less covering a rectangular area. Therefore, we performed a 3D inversion, in addition to the 2D model profiles (not presented here). For the 3D inverse modeling we followed the method by Perez-Flores et al. (2012 but the algorithm they used was designed for profiles that were measured in parallel or perpendicular positions with respect to the other profiles) method, but that the algorithm they used was designed to parallel or perpendicular data profiles between them. Later, on we will show how we modified the equations for arbitrary angle
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profiles. The length of the six profiles (1 to 6) length varies between 50 m and 140 m (Fig. 2).



Comentario [MDJH-232]: Sugiero eliminar esta palabra.

Comentario [MDJH-233]: No entiendo qué quieren decir aquí.

¿Quizás "on the same plane" [en el misr planol? O quizás quieren decir, modificando to la oración, "Both loops are usually coplanar"?

Comentario [MDJH-234]: Estas si no han sido definidas, y son las mismas se utilizan en la siguiente línea para "horizontal magnetic dipole" ¿Quizás aquí debería ser "VMD"?

Con formato: Fuente: (Predeterminado) Times New Romai Color de fuente: Texto 1, Inglés (Estados Unidos)

Con formato: Fuente de párrafo predeter., Fuente: Color de fuente: Automático, Inglés (Reino Unido)

Comentario [MDJH-235]: Mientra que la palabra "parallel" sí se puede util como verbo, la palabra "perpendicular" Aquí, ambas palabras están siendo usada como verbos. Además, no es claro a qué hace referencia el pronombre "them". Pe tanto es difícil captar el significado intencionado aquí. Puedo sugerir la siguiente redacción, ma sería necesario verificar si la sugerencia atinada y no modifica el mensaje intencionado:

"the algorithm they used was designed t obtain data profiles with parallel and perpendicular orientations"

Quizás esta frase la podemos resolver en reunión.

Con formato: Fuente de párrafo predeter., Color de fuente: Texto 1, Inglés (Estados Unidos)

Figure 2. EM survey on the Chac-Mool sinkhole. <u>The Nn</u>umbered profiles crossing the hidden rivers. White lines mark the sinkholes.

#### 1.3 Inverse modeling

We assume the EM data (apparent conductivity,  $\sigma_a$ ) as awere assumed to be the weighted average of the subsurface electrical conductivity distribution, as described by Pérez-Flores et al. (2004). — We relate associated the apparent conductivity ( $\sigma_a$ ) with the true subsurface conductivity ( $\sigma$ ) through by means of a weighting function (that is, the –Green function and electric-field product) by using the approximate integral equation formulated by Pérez-Flores et al. (2001):

$$\sigma_a(\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_1) \cong -\frac{16\pi s}{\omega\mu_0 m} \int_{v} \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1) \sigma(\mathbf{r}) dv \tag{1}$$

- Where  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are the positions of the -source and the receiver-positions, G is the Green function for a homogeneous mediaum due to agiven the point- electric source in r and as measured in by the magnetic receiver, and -E is the electric field for a homogeneous mediaum due to agiven the -point magnetic source. Equation (1) is an approximation for the low conductivity contrasts and it is very useful for an inversion, where G,  $E_x$  and  $\sigma_a$  are known, remaining and  $\sigma(r)$  as is the unknown.
- 15 For <u>the</u> inversion we <u>havehad</u> to consider how the magnetic dipoles <u>are-were</u> used<sub>72</sub> <u>weWe have-obtained</u> the <u>V</u>vertical and horizontal magnetic dipoles (VMD and HMD<sub>2</sub> respectively) arrays as describe<u>rd</u> <u>inby</u> Pérez-Flores et al. (2012). The integral equation for the vertical magnetic dipoles (VMD) is<sub>7</sub>

$$\sigma_{a,z}(\boldsymbol{r}_1, \boldsymbol{r}_2) \cong -\frac{16\pi s}{\omega\mu_0 m_z} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \boldsymbol{G}_{H_z}(\boldsymbol{r}, \boldsymbol{r}_2) \boldsymbol{\bullet} \boldsymbol{E}_{H_z}(\boldsymbol{r}, \boldsymbol{r}_1) \sigma(\boldsymbol{r}) dv$$
(2)

For HMD the integral equation in the *y* direction is given by:

$$\sigma_{a,y}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) \cong -\frac{16\pi s}{\omega \mu_0 m_y} \int_{v} \mathbf{G}_{H_y}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_2) \cdot \mathbf{E}_{H_y}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1) \sigma(\mathbf{r}) dv$$
(3)

And—HMD in the x direction is given by:

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$$\sigma_{a,x}(\boldsymbol{r}_1, \boldsymbol{r}_2) \cong -\frac{16\pi s}{\omega \mu_0 m_x} \int_{\boldsymbol{v}} \boldsymbol{G}_{H_x}(\boldsymbol{r}, \boldsymbol{r}_2) \boldsymbol{E}_{H_x}(\boldsymbol{r}, \boldsymbol{r}_1) \sigma(\boldsymbol{r}) d\boldsymbol{v}$$
(4)

The expressions for  $G_{H_z}$ ,  $E_{H_z}$ ,  $G_{H_y}$ ,  $E_{H_y}$ ,  $G_{H_x}$  and  $E_{H_x}$  can be consulted in Perez-Flores et al. (2012). VMD profiles can run for at any angle (Eq. 2), but HMD profiles runs only in either the y (90°; Eq. 3) or x (0°; Eq. 4) directions. A problem is when we have a<u>A</u>rbitrary direction profiles as it happened<u>like</u> those observed around the Chac-Mool sinkhole (Fig. 3) constituted a problem. So, we had to modify Eq. (4 and 5) in order to accept the arbitrary angle profiles. **Comentario [MDJH-236]:** Por fave eliminar la "t". Aunque el autocorrector lo indica como error, la palabra correcta es "weighed".

Comentario [MDJH-237]: ¿O quiz quieren decir "the point of the electric source"? Con formato: Resaltar Con formato: Resaltar Con formato: Resaltar Comentario [MDJH-238]: ¿O quiz quieren decir "the point of the magnetic source"? Con formato: Resaltar Using a simply notation for *B* and *G* in terms of their vector components, we have for the *y* direction for HMD, is

$$G_{H_{v}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{2}) = d\hat{\imath} + e\hat{\jmath}, E_{H_{v}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{1}) = a\hat{\imath} + b\hat{\jmath}$$
(5)

Similarly, alongand the x direction, is

$$G_{H_{\nu}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{2}) = e\hat{\imath} + f\hat{\jmath}, E_{H_{\nu}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{1}) = b\hat{\imath} + c\hat{\jmath}$$
(6)

5 When we rotate Eq. (3) in 90<sup>0</sup>, this it becomes Eq. (4). So, we can find  $\boldsymbol{E}$  and  $\boldsymbol{G}$  in terms of their rotated components.

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & \sin\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} G_x \\ G_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & \sin\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ e \\ f \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(7)$$

If an HMD profile runs at  $0^0$ ,  $(E_x, E_y)$  becomes  $E_{H_y}$  from Eq. (3). If the profile runs at  $90^0$ ,  $(E_x, E_y)$  becomes  $E_{H_x}$  from Eq. (4).

10 Thus, for an arbitrary angle profile, Eq. (3) and (4) become a single one equation,

$$\sigma_a(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = -\frac{16\pi s}{\omega\mu_0 m} \int [G_x(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_2) E_x(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1) + G_y(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_2) E_y(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1)] \sigma(\mathbf{r}) dv$$
(8)

For Tterms (a, b, c, d, e, and f) can be obtained fromsee Perez-Flores et al. (2012).

For the 3D inversion, we used Eq. (8) for the HMD profiles and Eq. (2) for the VMD profiles. We used 10, 20, and 40 m for as the source—receiver separations for VMD and the same separations for HMD in every profile. We pooled all data sets and performed a joint inversion to obtain a single 3D conductivity model. We inverted together the whole sets of data in order to getto obtain a single 3D conductivity model. We simulated the heterogeneous half-space as a conglomerate of rectangular prisms. We assumed that conductivity is constant in every single prism but—was constant, however unknown. Eq. (2) and (8) can be written as a linear equation<del>s</del> system, and in a matrix way, fashion:

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}_a = \boldsymbol{W}\boldsymbol{\sigma} \tag{9}$$

20 We where  $\sigma_a$  represents the column vector of apparent conductivities, matrix W contains the weights or -products of the Green function and electric field and it is partitioned for VMD and HMD<sub>a</sub> and  $\sigma$  represents the column vector of the real conductivities (unknowns).-We used quadratic programing to minimize the next following objective function,  $U_a$ 

$$U(\sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \left| \left| \sigma_a - W\sigma \right| \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \beta \left| \left| D\sigma \right| \right|^2$$
$$\sigma_{lower} < \sigma < \sigma_{upper}$$
(10)

Con formato: Fuente: Sin Cursiva Con formato: Fuente: (Predeterminado) Times New Romar Color de fuente: Texto 1, Inglés (Estados Unidos) Comentario [MDJH39]: ¿"collectiv inverted all sets of data"? Con formato: Resaltar Con formato: Resaltar Comentario [MDJH40]: Usar "following" en lugar de "next" si se refit a la "siguiente ecuación", es decir a la

ecuación 10

Con formato: Fuente: Sin Cursiva

Matrix **D** represents the first—order spatial derivatives of the contiguous prism conductivities. Parameter  $\beta$  controls the smoothness of the 3D conductivity model; when it is—was low, we got obtained a rough 3D model. First—The first term is to fits the apparent conductivity data taken at the field. The Sgecond term in Eq. (10) has contains the spatial derivatives of the conductivity in (x, y, z) direction. The Sgmoothness parameter controls the second term magnitude of the second term. If zero, we just fit the dataonly the data was fit and the model use to be very rough; if very large, the model convergesd into a homogenous half-space. We use to transform the Hessian in order to be unity in diagonal. This way, the smoothness parameter ean varyvaries in a very narrow window. We use to try (tested the values 0.1, 0.01, and 0.001); Value—The 0.1 value yield gives a smooth model and the 0.001 value a rough model. We began with a smooth value that gives gave the simplest but the most probable model (according to the Occam's Razor principle), and we lowered the parameter in order to recover -more structure but we will see that; however, after some a certain point the structure turnsed unreal since from the simplest and the more-most of the structure and at the same timewhile keeping the simplest and the more probable model.

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Figure 3. Profiles crossing underground rivers onin the sinkhole area (numbered lines). The white rectangle is the 3D modelinged area.

White lines mark the sinkhole boundaries. Dark blue lines are the suggested rivers paths.

### Comentario [MDJH41]: ¿"was"?

Comentario [MDJH42]: No es clara expresión intencionada aquí. ¿Quizás "We transformed the Hessian to achieve diagonal unity"

[NOTA: Gramaticalmente, la sugerencia tiene sentido, mas no sé si matemáticamente tenga sentido]?

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH43]:** No estoy segura de lo que quisieron expresar aqui Por favor, verificar que el mensaje intencionado no haya sido cambiado.

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH44]:** Usar "yielded" (pasado) si se trata de sus resultados, pero "yields" (presente) si se trata de una generalidad.

**Con formato:** Izquierda, Interlinea sencillo, No ajustar espacio entre te latino y asiático, No ajustar espacio entre texto asiático y números

#### 2. Resistivity cross-sections over on the 3D model.

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For the 3D inverse modeling we used an (x, y, -z) grid of prisms, assuming constant conductivity in every oneprism. We performed the inverse modeling choosing  $\Delta x = \Delta y = 2.5$  m in the (x, y)-directions due-because the EM measurements was were taken every 5 m; a the variable discretization of  $\Delta z$  was chosen as to be (0, 2, 5, 8, 12, 18, 25, 35) and 50 m) and  $\beta = 0.01$  was the smoothness factor.

Conductivity is the unknown, but we prefer to show <u>the results in</u>-resistivity (<u>the inverse of conductivity inverse</u>) <u>results</u>. In Fig-<u>ure</u> 4 we present the 3D resistivity model after the inversion <u>process</u> of <u>the</u>-whole sets of data. In <u>this-that</u> figure we present the interpolated resistivity cross-sections under the six profiles. Blue <u>are-indicates</u> resistive<u>ity</u> areas and red low

- resistive<u>ity</u>. There are spaces between profiles that have<u>with</u> no data. In those areas the <u>The</u> 3D model for those areas is not very confidents reliable. Therefore, <u>as a first approach</u>, we better show the model where the data are as a first approach for the areas for which we had data. There is a very good coherence where the model crosses. In this figure are shown the Figure <u>4 shows</u> irregular paths of for the two rivers, according to the <u>diver's map</u> from the <u>divers</u> (x, y, z) map. Water table depth in
- 15 the open sinkholes is 7 m-measured in the open sinkholes. Rivers follow very intricate paths. We think that there are narrower river branches that have not yet <u>been</u> mapped by the divers. It is interestingly, that some paths were marked below the resistiveity areas. Probably the The upper water level top of subterranean rivers are is probably far -from the surface, making the roof more stable-structurally stable, or maybe there are air-filled caves over the water table. We assume asBy roof as-we refer to the limestones rock between the surface and the upper water level top of the subterranean river. We can idealize a typical cave in this area (near the coast), vertically consisting of a limestone roof and/or an empty space.
- then<u>followed by</u> fresh water (lower resistivity), the halocline (<u>mixing of fresh and salty water-mix</u>), and, at the bottom, salty water (the-lowest resistivity) and surrounded by saturated <u>limestones as bedrock</u>.

In Fig. 5 we show the six cross-sections <u>done-obtained</u> with the 3D resistivity model. Cross-section (a) corresponds to the profile-\_1 model, cross-section (b) to <u>the profile-\_2 model</u>, and so on. Every profile is <u>signed-indicated</u> with a white <u>dotcircle</u>, <u>which pinpoint</u> the interpolated (x, y, z) hidden-rivers. The (x, y, z) locations were obtained from the <u>seuba-diver\_s</u> mapmapping made by scuba divers. -We <u>sign-delineated</u> the inferred cave section <u>as with</u> a rectangle, because we <u>cannot</u> <u>could not</u> see details. We assumed <u>the</u> saturated limestone <u>aswas</u> bedrock, because dry limestone resistivity <u>iswas</u> larger than 1000 ohms-m. In the 3D-\_model cross-sections, the bedrock looks green everywhere <u>and that correspond to-(160-170</u> ohms-

30 m). Only some small spots look sections were blue or (1000 ohms-m).

Comentario [MDJH-245]: No me quedó claro porque utilizaban 'top" en e

casos y no lo había indicado poruqe no



Figure 4. 3D resistivity model for Chac-Mool sinkhole. Here, we only present show only the distribution of the crosssections distribution where the

5 profiles <u>were</u>run. The red and black irregular lines represent the hidden rivers.

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Looking-From the six\_-resistivity cross-sections, we can see that most of the river crossings show a green color over them. Meaning perhaps<u>This means</u> that the subterranean rivers are <u>probably</u> close to the surface and <del>therefore</del> the <del>roof thickness of</del> the roof is therefore thin<del>ner</del>, making-meaning roofs in those areas <u>are</u> more <u>sensible forvulnerable</u> <u>roof-to</u> sinking, <u>even</u> thatthough we did not see surface evidences of<u>find evidence of</u> subduction or fracturing on the surface. <u>Profile 1The</u> crosssection for profile 1 (Fig. 5a) shows three crosses: <u>one</u> at x=18 m showsing a thin<del>ner</del> roof<sub>7</sub> and the others two showing a

- thicker roof. Profile 2 (Fig. 5b) shows a green color, meaning t<u>hinner roofs</u>. Profile 3 (Fig. 5c) show<u>s</u> one river crossing <u>that</u> <u>is</u> shallow and another deeper<u>one</u>. -We <u>can see thatclearly detected</u> a shallower subterranean river <u>is well detected</u> (green color) <u>by-using</u> the EM-LIN equipment but it is not <u>obviousclear</u> <u>when this is deeperhow much deeper it is</u>. We must
- 15 remember that <u>the</u> white <u>dots-circles</u> are interpolations <u>of-taken from</u> the diver's map. In the deeper river cross, this The <u>deeper river crossing</u> coincides with the location of a <u>big-large</u> resistiveity mass between zero and 20 m<sub>5</sub>; this means that divers had to dive bellow this resistiveity mass (1000 ohms-m). In <u>pP</u>rofile 4 (Fig. 5d) they shows three crossings with green color. Profile 5 (Fig. 5e) shows three crossings, two <u>are</u> deeper (between z=20 m and z=30 m) and one <u>is</u> shallower (z=15 m). The deeper <u>crossings</u> are consistent with the <u>reported diver's-diving</u> depth <del>reported</del> and the thicker roof <del>obtained by a big</del>.

Con formato: Izquierda, Interlinea sencillo, No ajustar espacio entre te latino y asiático, No ajustar espacio entre texto asiático y números shown by the large resistivity mass, <u>-hH</u>owever, at x=25 m the river seems to be 10 m deeper, this could be explained, considering that there is, possibly because of the presence of a huge hard rock (very resistive) that could be affecting. The last pProfile 6 (Fig. 5f) shows a shallower river and a deeper one. Resistivities are consistent with the position of the river.

- 5 We know that divers <u>passed-swam</u> throughout subterranean rivers. In Fig. 5 we propose a broad suggestion aboutwe broadly suggest the location -thoseof the river crossings (rectangular polygon). Giving an explanation to the colors Given the color descriptions in Fig. 5, we can think say that blue can correspond to is an indication of dry limestone roofs or dry limestone plus and air-filled caves at the top of the rivers or close to the surface. Green The green color is so widespread that it surely contains indicates clean water \$50 to 70 ohms-m). Also, the resistivity cross-section shows a green color when re the
- 10 subterranean rivers seem to be shallower. Instead, weWe would expected to see a narrow blue coloration plus anda green color over those shallower rivers. That is not happen, but we did not, because the lowest narrowest source receiver separation at the EM34 is was 10 m (it istoo- large to see surface details). In some way the estimated true conductivity estimated continues beingis still an average. Maybe if we could use a loweruse a narrower separation, we could resolve see a thinner blue color for the roof and then a green color from for the clean water. The transition from green to red (yellow)
- 15 could be the transition from clean water to salty water. We expect that clean water in the rivers is to be stratified inside the rivers, with the salty water at the bottom.

We drew the river section with the idea to emphasize that the resolution of the EM34 instrument have not the resolution is not good enough to sharply isolate the rivers from the bedrock. An explanation is that A possible explanation is that the upper sections of unaltered bedrock (limestone) is are partially saturated of with clean water at the shallow depths (because of the 50-70 ohms-m values) and the deeper sections are saturated of with salty water at the deeper parts (because of the 6-10 ohms-m values). So, there are not-no large horizontal resistivity changes-differences between the river location and the bedrock. It is almost sure-certain that the permeability in-of the bedrock is as high as the permeability of the limestones on-at the surface. When rainingit rains, the water quickly disappears-quite fast.

25 With the a<u>A</u>erial-electromagnetics (flying 30 to 50 m over the surface) we will have would yield an even <u>a</u>-lower resolution, but we could would be able see in a faster way where the subterranean rivers are when in the areas where they are closer to the surface. However, <u>a</u>-non-quantitative roof thickness images and not a better resolution in depth would be expected (Supper et al. 2009).

In profile 4 (Fig. 5d) there is a green color <u>sector sector close</u> to x=70 m (red square). It is possible that <u>there is a shallow</u> subterranean river <u>pass</u> close to the surface and it was not yet that has not yet been mapped by the divers.

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**Comentario [MDJH46]:** ¿"fresh water"? No se había utilizado el término "clean water". NOTA: De aquí en adelante utilizan "clean", pero sólo lo he marcado en esta ocasión porque no sé si el uso fue intencional o si se refieren a "fresh wate

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH47]:** ¿Quizás m "distance"?

Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH48]:** El texto ac necesita revisión, pero no estoy segura c mensaje intencionado.

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar

Con formato: Resaltar



Figure 5. Cross-sections of the 3D resistivity model under for profiles 1 to 6. Units Resistivity units are base 10 logarithm of the resistivity. Blue color colors indicates are more resistive areas and red colors the least resistive areas. Blue numbers signs indicate the other profiles crossings. White dots circles signs showspinpoint the areas where the scuba divers have mapped the underground rivers. Red dot signcircles shows the position of an underground river inferred from the model. The Ssquare polygon is a broad suggestion of the river tunnels.

### 2.1 Isometrics of the 3D resistivity model.

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The\_Chac-Mool sinkhole system is a complex of three small sinkholes (Air-Dome, Little Brother, and Chac-Mool-itself). According to divers, there are two underground rivers. Their vertical variations may cause the thinnerthinning of the limestone roofs and therefore sinking. According to the cross-section in Fig. 6, the EM-LIN equipment cannot sharply diesitinguish between the subterranean river tunnels and the bedrock, maybe because there is not enough <u>change in</u> resitivity change, meaning . This means that <u>bedrock-</u>limestones <u>bedrocks</u> are partially saturated <u>of with</u> water and therefore under thea

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process of chemical disolution process. Looking tThe isometric view of the 3D resistivity model (Fig. 6) we can see shows the spatial distribution of the three sinkholes inside in the system. With two kind of blue the two proposed rivers and their paths, we Figure 6 also see shows the location of the five EM-LIN data profiles of EM-LIN data.

The blue and green surfaces are equal-resistivity surfaces of <u>in</u> the 3D model (160 ohm-m). The blue one pretendssurface to showportrays the bottom topography of the limestone roof. This resistive layer may contain unaltered limestone plus and air-

- filled caves. It is very interesting that this layer outcrops <u>areas</u> where underground rivers are very shallow, and those paths are very coincident<u>coincide with areas</u> where the rivers are shallow. This surface <u>is not shown does not show</u> where the sinkholes are, <u>due to lack of data</u>, <u>because data is lacking</u>. We did not manipulate the 3D model to <u>obligate the model toforce</u> outcrops <u>whereof areas with</u> sinkholes are, but we <u>could do so by mean of with</u> quadratic programing in the minimization
- 10 process of equation (10).

It is also<u>Also</u> interesting that inworth noting is the middle part of the study area, where there is a resistive massif (MR letters), where indicates that the roof appears to could be higher than 20 m in thickness deepness. That This means that that the zone is the least hazardous area for roofs to collapse because there are no voids or caverns that may collapse (Gutierrez et al., 2014).

15 The green surface should be the surface where the <u>indicting</u> clean water <u>is located</u> (80 ohm-m). Nevertheless, it is also present where <u>there are</u> blue surface outcrops<del>. This occurred maybe, probably</del> because the EM-LIN source-receiver separation was too large (10 m) and we are <u>probably</u> seeing a <u>kind-sort</u> of resistivity average between the roof (resistive) and the clean water (less resistive). But this happens <u>just-only</u> where the roof is- thin. <u>We must be careful</u> <u>Caution should be taken</u> with this model <u>where no data existin areas for which there were no data</u>.

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### Con formato: Resaltar

**Comentario [MDJH49]:** Esta es un oración incompleta porque carece de suj y verbo. No estoy segura cómo interpretarla.

Con formato: Resaltar

Comentario [MDJH-250]: Aquí fa un espacio.

#### Comentario [MDJH51]: Ok?

**Comentario [MDJH52]:** Frase confusa/contradictoria: el techo puede te una **altura** de más de 20 m en **profundidad**.

¿Quizás "be higher than 20 m from the bedrock"? ¿o quizás "be located at more than 20 m from the land surface"?



Figure 6. Isometric representation of the 3D resistivity model. Straight lines <u>are-represent</u> the EM profiles-<u>done</u>. (a) Blue iso-surface representsing the bottom topography of the dry limestones. (b) Red iso-surface representsing the <u>contact betweenarea where</u> fresh and salty water<u>s meet</u>.

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#### 3. Conclusions

In this research we studied investigated the Chac-Mool sinkhole complex by means of electromagnetic EM methods operating at low induction numbers (EM-LIN). These methods consist of a source loop and a received loop operative contained and the source loop and a received receive the Earth's surface (VMD) and perpendicular (HMD) the Earth's surface. These two polarizations look view the land

- 5 surface Earth in a different way. That is why; we we used both arrays in order to do perform a joint inversion and to obtain a single three-dimensional (3D) resistivity model. Those eEquations were had already been published for a mesh of perpendicular and parallel profiles, but not for arbitrary angle profiles. In this research the profiles were taken inside the jungle and we took the advantage of already made walkman-made paths, that however, were; however, these paths were located at arbitrary angles. We had to modify modified the existing equations, arriving to and obtained a more general set of 10 equations.

We did-The 3D inversion of both VDM and HDM arrays arrivingled to a single 3D resistivity model. The cross-sections of this 3D model show the points where the underground rivers cross. Where The areas where the underground rivers approach are close to the surface, they may create could represent a hazard zones because of the possibility of roofs collapseing. We also seeobserved the distribution of the clean-fresh and salty waters distribution and their contact or and the areas where they

- 15 meet or the transition surface (halocline). We see Our observations indicate that rivers must might run along tunnels, but the resistivity of those tunnels does not sharply differ sharply from the resistivity of the bedrock, meaning that they tunnels are also-saturated of-with water (clean and salty depending theon depth). The isometric view shows that the resistiveity isosurface corresponds with the bottom topography of the underground roof. At the center of the area of study this roof seems to be very thick, making indicating this area is save from very stable for sinking hazard. This isometric view also shows that the
- 20 areas where the blue iso-resistivity surface outcrops isare the areas where the underground rivers are close to the surface. This The EM-LIN technique is very efficient, a fast, efficient, and cheap inexpensive procedure for exploring explorations over hard-rock sinkhole areas. We can get<u>It allows us to obtain</u> the geometry of the underground rivers and the distribution between of clean and salty water.
- 25

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Comentario [MDJH54]: ¿?

Con formato: Sin Resaltar

Comentario [MDJH-255]: Mayúso "E" si se trata del planeta tierra. Minúscula "e" si se trata del término tier en general

Comentario [MDJH56]: Es mejor especificar a qué hace referencia el pronombre "they". ¿Es acertado el sustantivo "tunnels"?

Comentario [MDJH57]: ¿"or"?

Comentario [MDJH58]: ¿"the area study?

Comentario [MDJH59]: La frase es contradictoria ¿Quizás quieren decir "safe from sinking hazards"?

O, por el contrario, quizás "vulnerable sinking hazards"

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