

List of changes, also highlighted in red in the revised manuscript:

- 1) Added the word “**Initial**” to the title of the paper.
- 2) Page 1, Line 3: Added the word “**initial**” to the abstract to make it consistent with the slightly modified title.
- 3) Page 2, Line 3: Added the sentence “**The PTWC issues its initial tsunami messages relying entirely on the analysis of near-real time seismic data provided by the available seismic networks, not water level data.**”
- 4) Page 2, Line 4: Replaced “We” with “**Consequently we**” to account for the inclusion of the new sentence in 3) above.
- 5) Page 3, Line 1: Replaced “left”, with “**right**” as correctly pointed out by one of the reviewers.
- 6) Page 10, Figure 1 label: Added “**Hypothetical epicenter positions coloured by the**” as suggested by one of the reviewers.