



1           Multilayer-HySEA model validation for landslide  
2                           generated tsunamis. Part I Rigid slides

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6   **Abstract**

7   The present work is devoted to the benchmarking of the Multilayer-HySEA  
8   model using laboratory experiment data for landslide generated tsunamis. This  
9   first part of the work deals with rigid slides and the second part, in a com-  
10   panion paper, with granular slides. The US National Tsunami Hazard and  
11   Mitigation Program (NTHMP) has proposed the experimental data used and  
12   established for the NTHMP Landslide Benchmark Workshop, held in January  
13   2017 at Galveston. The first three benchmark problems proposed in this work-  
14   shop dealt with rigid slides, simulated as a moving bottom topography, that  
15   must be imposed as a prescribed boundary condition. These three benchmarks  
16   are used here to validate the Multilayer-HySEA model. This new model of the  
17   HySEA family consists of an efficient hybrid finite volume/finite difference im-  
18   plementation on GPU architectures of a non-hydrostatic multilayer model. A  
19   brief description of model equations, its dispersive properties, and the numerical  
20   scheme is included. The benchmarks are described and the numerical results  
21   compared against the lab measured data for each of them. The specific aim of  
22   the present work is to validate this new code for tsunamis generated by rigid  
23   slides. Nevertheless, the overall objective of the current benchmarking effort  
24   is to produce a ready-to-use numerical tool for real world landslide generated  
25   tsunami hazard assessment. This tool has already been used to reproduce the  
26   Port Valdez Alaska 1969 event and Stromboli Italy 2002.

27   *Keywords:* Multilayer-HySEA model, tsunamis, rigid slides, model  
28   benchmarking, landslide-generated tsunamis, GPU implementation

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## 30 **1. Introduction**

31 Model development and benchmarking for earthquake-induced tsunamis is  
32 a task that has been addressed in the past and to which a lot of effort and time  
33 has been dedicated. In particular, just to mention a couple of NTHMP efforts,  
34 the 2011 Galveston benchmarking workshop (Horrillo et al., 2015) and the 2015  
35 Portland workshop for tsunami currents (Lynett et al., 2017) were organized  
36 with this aim. However, for landslide generated tsunamis, both model develop-  
37 ment and benchmarking efforts have advanced at a slower pace. As examples  
38 of this, we can mention the 2003 NSF sponsored landslide tsunami workshop  
39 that was organized in Hawaii, and a similar follow-up workshop that took place  
40 at Catalina Island in 2006. Since then, no similar large and comprehensive  
41 benchmarking workshop has been organized (Kirby et al., 2018).

42 Benchmarking tsunami models is among the objectives of the NTHMP and  
43 in its 2019 Strategic Plan, the NTHMP required that all numerical tsunami  
44 inundation models to be use in hazard assessment studies in the US, should  
45 be verified as accurate and consistent through a model benchmarking process.  
46 This mandate was fulfilled in 2011, but only for seismic tsunami sources and  
47 in a limited manner for idealized solid underwater landslides. However, recent  
48 work by various NTHMP states has shown that landslide tsunami hazard may  
49 be larger than seismically-induced hazard and dominant along significant parts  
50 of the US coastline (ten Brink et al., 2014).

51 As a result of this need, set of candidate benchmarks were proposed to per-  
52 form the required validation process. The selected benchmarks are based on  
53 a subset of available laboratory data sets for solid slide experiments and de-  
54 formable slide experiments and include both submarine and subaerial slides.  
55 In order to complete this list of laboratory data, one benchmark based on a  
56 historic field event (Valdez, AK, 1964) was also selected. The EDANYA group  
57 ([www.uma.es/edanya](http://www.uma.es/edanya)) from the University of Málaga participated in the work-



58 shop that was organized at Texas A&M University - Galveston, on January 9-11,  
59 2017, presenting results for the benchmarking tests with two numerical codes:  
60 Landslide-HySEA and Multilayer-HySEA models. At Galveston, we presented  
61 numerical results for six out of the seven benchmark problems proposed, includ-  
62 ing the field case. The present work aims at presenting the numerical results  
63 obtained for the Multilayer-HySEA model in the framework of the validation  
64 effort described above for the case of rigid slide generated tsunamis. The bench-  
65 mark problems dealing with granular slides are presented in the companion pa-  
66 per Macías et al. (2020a). A summary of the results for the field case at Port  
67 Valdez can be found at Macías et al. (2017).

68 Twenty years ago, at the beginning of the century, solid block landslide  
69 modeling challenged researchers and was undertaken by a number of authors  
70 (Grilli and Watts, 1999, 2005; Grilli et al., 2002; Lynett and Liu, 2002; Watts  
71 et al., 2003; Wu, 2004; Watts et al., 2005; Liu et al., 2005) and laboratory ex-  
72 periments were developed for those cases and for tsunami model benchmarking  
73 (Enet and Grilli, 2007) (see also Ataie-Ashtiani and Najafi-Jilani (2008)). The  
74 benchmark problems performed in the present work are based on the laboratory  
75 experiments of Grilli and Watts (2005) for BP1, Enet and Grilli (2007) for BP2,  
76 and Wu (2004); Liu et al. (2005) for BP3. The basic reference for these three  
77 benchmarks, but also the three ones related to granular slides and the Alaska  
78 field case, all of them proposed by the NTHMP, is Kirby et al. (2018). We  
79 highly recommend checking this reference for further details on benchmark de-  
80 scriptions, data provided for performing them, required benchmark items, and  
81 inter-model comparison. Finally, we want to stress that the ultimate goal of the  
82 present benchmarking effort is to provide the tsunami community with a model  
83 NTHMP-approved for landslide generated tsunami hazard assessment, similarly  
84 as we did with the Tsunami-HySEA model for the case of earthquake-generated  
85 tsunamis (Macías et al., 2017; Macías et al., 2020c,d).



## 86 2. HySEA models for landslide generated tsunamis

87 The HySEA (Hyperbolic Systems and Efficient Algorithms) software con-  
88 sists of a family of geophysical codes based on either single layer, two-layer  
89 stratified systems or multilayer shallow water models. HySEA codes<sup>1</sup> have been  
90 developed by the EDANYA Group from UMA (the University of Malaga) for  
91 more than a decade. These codes are in continuous development, evolution and  
92 upgrading and everyday they are serving to a wider scientific community. The  
93 first model we developed dealing with landslide-generated tsunamis, consisted in  
94 a stratified two-layer Savage-Hutter shallow water model, the Landslide-HySEA  
95 model. It was implemented based on the model described in Fernández et al.  
96 (2008) and it was incorporated to the HySEA family. A first validation of this  
97 code, comparing numerical results with the laboratory experiments of Heller and  
98 Hager (2011) and Fritz et al. (2001) can be found at Sánchez-Linares (2011). In  
99 2018, the numerical simulation of the Lituya Bay 1958 mega-tsunami with real  
100 topo-bathymetric data and encouraging results (González-Vida et al., 2019),  
101 represented a milestone in the verification process of this code. This validation  
102 effort was undertaken under a research contract with PMEL/NOAA. The re-  
103 sult of this project leads to NCTR (NOAA Center for Tsunami Research) to  
104 adopt Landslide-HySEA as the numerical code used to the generate initial con-  
105 ditions for the MOST model to be initialized in the case of landslide-generated  
106 tsunami scenario to be simulated. Further applications of Landslide-HySEA  
107 can be found at de la Asunción et al. (2013), Macías et al. (2015), and Iglesias  
108 (2015).

109 The waves generated in the laboratory tests proposed in the NTHMP se-  
110 lected benchmarks are high frequency and dispersive, and the generated flows  
111 have a complex vertical structure. Thus, the numerical model used must be  
112 able to reproduce such effects. This makes it not suitable to use the two-  
113 layer Landslide-HySEA model to reproduce these experimental results as non-

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<sup>1</sup><https://edanya.uma.es/hysea>



114 hydrostatic effects and a richer vertical structure is required. Attending to these  
 115 requirements, the Multilayer-HySEA model was very recently implemented,  
 116 considering a stratified structure in the simulated fluid and including non-  
 117 hydrostatic terms. The multilayer model is able to take into account the full  
 118 vertical structure (2D for BP1 and BP2) and 3D (for BP3).

### 119 3. Model Equations

120 The Multilayer-HySEA model implements one of the multilayer non-hy-  
 121 drostatic models of the family introduced and described in Fernández-Nieto  
 122 et al. (2018) The governing equations, that are obtained by a process of depth-  
 123 averaging, correspond to a semi-discretization for the vertical variable of the  
 124 Euler equations. The total pressure is decomposed into a sum of hydrostatic  
 125 and non-hydrostatic pressures. The horizontal and vertical velocities are as-  
 126 sumed to have a constant vertical profile. The proposed model admits an exact  
 127 energy balance and, when the number of layers increases, the linear dispersion  
 128 relation of the linear model converges to the same of Airy’s theory (Fernández-  
 129 Nieto et al., 2018). The model proposed in Fernández-Nieto et al. (2018) can  
 130 be written in a compact form as:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned}
 \partial_t h + \partial_x (hu) &= 0, \\
 \partial_t (hu_\alpha) + \partial_x \left( hu_\alpha^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \right) - gh\partial_x H + u_{\alpha+1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2} - u_{\alpha-1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha-1/2} &= \\
 &\quad - h(\partial_x p_\alpha + \sigma_\alpha \partial_z p_\alpha) - \tau, \\
 \partial_t (hw_\alpha) + \partial_x (hu_\alpha w_\alpha) + w_{\alpha+1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2} - w_{\alpha-1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha-1/2} &= -h\partial_z p_\alpha, \\
 \partial_x u_{\alpha-1/2} + \sigma_{\alpha-1/2}\partial_z u_{\alpha-1/2} + \partial_z w_{\alpha-1/2} &= 0,
 \end{aligned} \right. \quad (1)$$

131 where, for  $\alpha \in \{1, 2, \dots, L\}$ , the following notation is used:

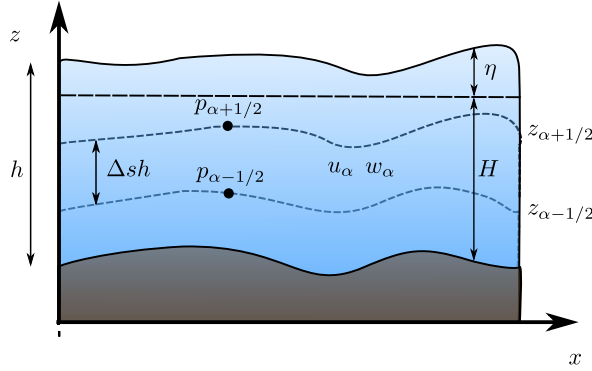


Figure 1: Schematic diagram describing the multilayer system

$$f_{\alpha+1/2} = \frac{1}{2} (f_{\alpha+1} + f_{\alpha}), \quad \partial_z f_{\alpha+1/2} = \frac{1}{h \Delta s} (f_{\alpha+1} - f_{\alpha}),$$

132 where  $f$  denotes one of the generic variables of the system, i.e.,  $u$ ,  $w$  and  $p$ , and,  
 133 finally,

$$\sigma_{\alpha} = \partial_x (H - h \Delta s (\alpha - 1/2)), \quad \sigma_{\alpha-1/2} = \partial_x (H - h \Delta s (\alpha - 1)).$$

134 Total depth,  $h$ , is split along the vertical axis into  $L \geq 1$  layers and  $\Delta s = 1/L$   
 135 (see Figure 1). The variables  $u_{\alpha}$  and  $w_{\alpha}$  are the depth-averaged velocities in  
 136 the  $x$  and  $z$  directions, respectively,  $t$  is time and  $g$  is gravitational acceleration.  
 137 The non-hydrostatic pressure at the interface  $z_{\alpha+1/2}$  is denoted by  $p_{\alpha+1/2}$ . The  
 138 water surface elevation measured from the still-water level is  $\eta = h - H$ , where  
 139  $H$  is the water depth when the water is at rest. Finally,  $\tau$  is a friction law term,  
 140 and the terms  $\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2}$  account for the mass transfer across interfaces and are  
 141 defined by

$$\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2} = \sum_{\beta=\alpha+1}^L \partial_x (h \Delta s (u_{\beta} - \bar{u})), \quad \bar{u} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^L \Delta s u_{\alpha}$$

142 In order to close the system of equations, the following boundary conditions are  
 143 considered

$$p_{L+1/2} = 0, \quad u_0 = 0, \quad w_0 = -\partial_t H.$$



144 Note that the motion of the bottom surface can be taken into account as a  
145 boundary condition, imposing  $w_0 \neq 0$ . Therefore, this model can simulate the  
146 interaction with a slide in the case that the motion of the bottom is prescribed  
147 by a function, given by a set of data, or simulated by a numerical model. In the  
148 present study, we are going to consider tests where the motion of the seafloor is  
149 given by a known function (the solid moving block).

### 150 3.1. Linear dispersion relation

151 Some dispersive properties of the system (1) are presented in this subsection,  
152 in particular, the phase and group velocities, and the linear shoaling. The first  
153 two properties are related to the propagation of dispersive wave trains and the  
154 last one to shoaling processes.

155 To obtain such properties, the system (1) is linearised around the water at  
156 rest steady-state solution. After that, a Stokes-type Fourier analysis is carried  
157 out looking for first-order planar wave solutions. This method constitutes a  
158 standard procedure to study systems that model dispersive water waves (see  
159 Escalante et al. (2018a); Lynett and Liu (2004); Madsen and Sorensen (1992);  
160 Schäffer and Madsen (1995) and references therein). The phase and group  
161 velocities as well as the linear shoaling gradient are, respectively, defined as:

$$C = \omega/k, \quad G = C + k\partial_k C, \quad \frac{\partial_x \eta}{\eta} = -\gamma \frac{\partial_x H}{H},$$

162 where  $\omega$  denotes the angular frequency,  $k$  the local wave-number and  $H$  the  
163 typical depth.

164 The measured quantities  $C$ ,  $G$  and  $\gamma$  are solely functions of the local wave-  
165 number and the typical depth  $H$ . Thus, one can obtain the so-called linear  
166 dispersion relation of the three measured quantities. From the Airy wave theory,  
167 one can also obtain the corresponding linear dispersion relations that state the  
168 linear theory for the considered quantities (see Schäffer and Madsen (1995) for  
169 the Airy reference formulae).

170 The expressions of the phase velocity for the system (1) are given in Table 1  
171 for the non-linear hydrostatic shallow water system (SWE) and the Multilayer-



172 HySEA (non-hydrostatic) system with  $j \geq 1$  layers (NH-jL). The last two  
 173 columns contain  $Er_C(s)$  for  $s = 5$  and  $s = 5$ , where  $Er_C(s)$  represents the  
 174 maximum relative error of the phase velocity with respect to the Airy in a  
 175 range  $kH \in [0, s]$  in percent, i.e.:

$$Er_C(s) = 100 \cdot \max_{kH \in [0, s]} \left( \frac{|C(kH) - C(kH)_{Airy}|}{|C(kH)_{Airy}|} \right).$$

Multilayer System – Phase velocity – Errors for $kH$ up to 5 and 15			
Model	Phase velocity	$Er_C(5)$	$Er_C(15)$
(SWE)	$gH$	73.63 %	123.61 %
(NH-1L)	$gH \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{4}(kH)^2}$	3.02 %	16.95 %
(NH-2L)	$gH \frac{1 + \frac{(kH)^2}{16}}{1 + \frac{3(kH)^2}{8} + \frac{(kH)^4}{256}}$	0.71 %	10.67 %
(NH-3L)	$\frac{1 + \frac{5(kH)^2}{54} + \frac{(kH)^4}{1296}}{1 + \frac{5(kH)^2}{12} + \frac{5(kH)^4}{432} + \frac{1(kH)^6}{46656}}$	0.31 %	0.62 %
(NH-5L)	$\frac{1 + \frac{3(kH)^2}{25} + \frac{63(kH)^4}{2510^3} + \frac{3(kH)^6}{2510^4} + \frac{(kH)^8}{1010^7}}{1 + \frac{9(kH)^2}{20} + \frac{21(kH)^4}{1010^2} + \frac{21(kH)^6}{1010^4} + \frac{9(kH)^8}{2010^5} + \frac{(kH)^{10}}{1010^9}}$	0.11 %	0.11 %

Table 1: Phase velocity expressions and maximum of the relative error  $Er_C(s)$  compared with the Airy’s theory for different ranges of  $kH \in [0, s]$  for the non-linear hydrostatic shallow water system (SWE) and the Multilayer-HySEA (non-hydrostatic) system with  $j \geq 1$  layers (NH-jL).

176 The main goal when deriving dispersive shallow water systems is to get the





177 most accurate dispersive relations as possible, compared with the Airy wave  
178 theory, without highly increasing the complexity of the system. See Schäffer  
179 and Madsen (1995) for a review on state-of-the-art or a two-layer with improved  
180 dispersive relations in Lynett and Liu (2004), and an enhanced two-layer non-  
181 hydrostatic pressure system in Escalante et al. (2018a). It has been shown  
182 (Fernández-Nieto et al., 2018), that increasing the number of layers leads to the  
183 convergence of the linear dispersion relation of the linear model to the same of  
184 Airy's theory. Figure 2 shows this behavior and highlights the huge discrepancies  
185 between the Airy's theory and the systems (SWE) and (NH-1L). It is well known  
186 that waves generated by landslides, might present high characteristic values for  
187  $kH$ . For the (SWE) system, it is well known that it has an accurate phase  
188 velocity in a small range of  $kH$ , and that this system is appropriate for long  
189 waves as tsunami waves, but not for dispersive waves with higher values of  $kH$ .  
190 In the same vein, the one layer non-hydrostatic pressure system (NH-1L) can  
191 improve these results, but again, poor linear dispersive results are achieved in  
192 a range of  $kH$  between 5 and 15. However, when the number of layers,  $L$ , is set  
193 to 3 (still a small value) the system (1) is in an excellent agreement with the  
194 Airy theory for  $kH$  up to 15. For the phase celerity, the percentage error is less  
195 than 0.62%, and for the group velocity is less than 1% for  $kH$  smaller than 10  
196 (see Figure 2). Linear shoaling is also well reproduced in this same range.

197 The Multilayer-HySEA model presents enhanced dispersive properties. In  
198 order to have similar dispersive results as the ones obtained here using a three-  
199 layer system, at least five layers are required for other similar multilayer models  
200 as the one presented in Bai and Cheung (2018). Furthermore, the results pre-  
201 sented for the phase velocity with two layers in Table 1 shows that the system  
202 proposed here produces smaller relative error for  $kH$  up to 15 compared with the  
203 two-layer system in Cui et al. (2014). That means that the Multilayer-HySEA  
204 model can achieve better dispersive properties than models having similar or  
205 even more computational complexity.

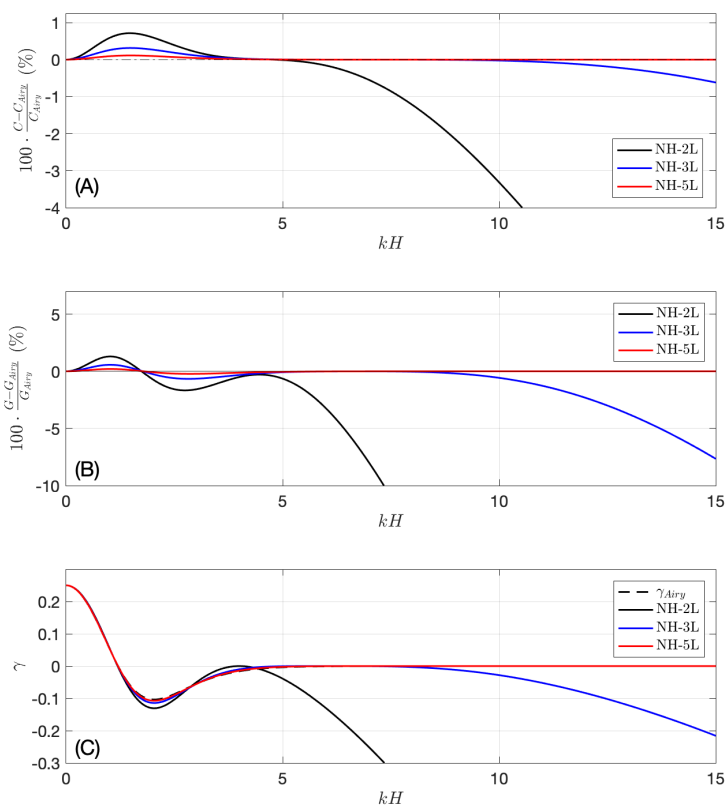


Figure 2: Relative error for the phase velocities (A), the group velocities (B), and comparison with the reference shoaling gradient (C), with respect to the Airy theory for the described multilayer systems.

#### 206 4. Numerical Solution Method

207 The discretization of system (1) is performed following the natural extension  
 208 of the procedure described in Escalante et al. (2018a,b) for the one and two layer  
 209 non-hydrostatic system, where a splitting technique has been proposed.

210 The non-conservative hyperbolic underlying system (1) given by the compact



211 equation

$$\partial_t \mathbf{U} + \partial_x \mathbf{F}_{SW}(\mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{B}_{SW}(\mathbf{U}) \partial_x \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{G}_{SW}(\mathbf{U}) \partial_x H \quad (2)$$

212 is discretized using a second order finite volume PVM positive-preserving well-  
 213 balanced path-conservative method (Fernández-Nieto et al., 2011), where the  
 214 following compact notation has been used:

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} h \\ hu_1 \\ \vdots \\ hu_L \\ hw_1 \\ \vdots \\ hw_L \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{F}_{SW}(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} hu \\ \frac{hu_1^2}{h} + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{hu_L^2}{h} + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \\ hu_1w_1 \\ \vdots \\ hu_Lw_L \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_{SW}(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ gh \\ \vdots \\ gh \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

215 and  $\mathbf{B}_{SW}$  is a matrix such  $\mathbf{B}_{SW} \partial_x \mathbf{U}$  contains the non-conservative products  
 216 related to the mass transfer across interfaces appearing at the momentum equa-  
 217 tions.

Next, the non-hydrostatic pressure vector term  $\mathcal{T}_{NH}(h, \partial_x h, H, \partial_x H, p, \partial_x p)$   
 given by

$$\mathcal{T}_{NH}(h, \partial_x h, H, \partial_x H, p, \partial_x p) = - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ h(\partial_x p_1 + \sigma_1 \partial_z p_1) \\ \vdots \\ h(\partial_x p_L + \sigma_L \partial_z p_L) \\ h \partial_z p_1 \\ \vdots \\ h \partial_z p_L \end{pmatrix},$$

is computed solving an elliptic operator that appears when imposing the conti-

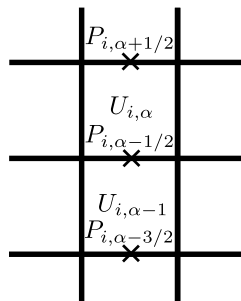


Figure 3: Arrangement of discrete variables in the multilayer model discretization algorithm

nuity equation at each layer,  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{U}, \partial_x \mathbf{U}, H, \partial_x H) = 0$ , where

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{U}, \partial_x \mathbf{U}, H, \partial_x H) = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x u_{1/2} + \sigma_{1/2} \partial_z u_{1/2} + \partial_z w_{1/2} \\ \vdots \\ \partial_x u_{L-1/2} + \sigma_{L-1/2} \partial_z u_{L-1/2} + \partial_z w_{L-1/2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

218 The elliptic operator is discretized using standard central finite differences.  
 219 Let us also point out that a common arrangement of the discretized variables  
 220 is used (see Figure 3). The resulting linear system is solved using an iterative  
 221 Jacobi method combined with a scheduled relaxation (see Adsuara et al. (2016);  
 222 Escalante et al. (2018a,b)).

223 Finally, when the pressure corrections are computed, the discharges at each  
 224 layer are updated. The resulting numerical scheme is well-balanced for the wa-  
 225 ter at rest solution and is linearly  $L^\infty$ -stable under the usual CFL condition  
 226 related to the hydrostatic system. It is also worth mentioning that the nu-  
 227 merical scheme is positive preserving and can deal with emerging topographies.  
 228 Finally, its extension to 2D is straightforward. In this case, the computational  
 229 domain is decomposed into subsets with a simple geometry, called cells or finite  
 230 volumes. The numerical algorithm is well suited for its implementation in GPU  
 231 architectures, as is shown in Castro et al. (2011). Furthermore, the compactness  
 232 of the numerical stencil and the natural and the massively parallelization of the  
 233 Jacobi method makes it possible that the second step can also be implemented



234 in GPUs (see Escalante et al. (2018b,a)). That results in a high efficiency of the  
235 numerical code and much shorter computational times.

## 236 5. Benchmark Problem Comparisons

237 In this Section, the numerical results obtained with the Multilayer-HySEA  
238 model and the comparison with the measured lab data for waves generated by  
239 the movement of a rigid bottom surface or of a solid block are presented. In  
240 particular, BP1 deals with a 2D submarine solid slide, BP2 with a 3D submarine  
241 slide and, finally, BP3 consists of two 3D slides, one partially submerged and  
242 a second one representing a completely submarine slide. In all these cases, a  
243 moving bottom condition has been used to model the solid block movement.  
244 The description of all these benchmarks can be found at LTMBW (2017) and  
245 Kirby et al. (2018).

### 246 5.1. Benchmark Problem 1: Two-dimensional submarine solid block

247 This benchmark problem is based on the 2D laboratory experiments of Grilli  
248 and Watts (2005) which were performed at the University of Rhode Island.  
249 Refer to the above-mentioned work to get a detailed description of the present  
250 benchmark. Figure 4 depicts the sketch of the laboratory experiment design.  
The 2D slide model is semi-elliptical, lead-loaded, and rolling down a smooth

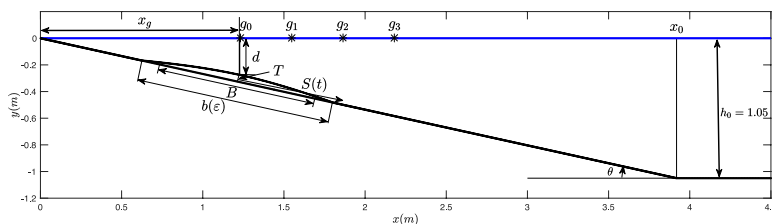


Figure 4: BP1. Sketch of main parameters and variables for wave generation by 2D rigid slide.  
[Modified from Grilli and Watts, 2005].

251  
252 slope with a slope angle  $\theta = 15^\circ$  (2 mm above the slope), in between two vertical  
253 side walls, 20 cm apart. The water depth is  $h_0 = 1.05$  m over the flat bottom



part. The slide dimensions were, length  $B = 1$  m, maximum thickness  $T = T_{\text{ref}}$   
 $= 0.052$  m, and width  $w = 0.2$  m. The model initial submergence  $d$  was varied  
 in experiments and the free surface elevation recorded at 4 capacitance wave  
 gauges installed at locations:  $x' = 1.175, 1.475, 1.775,$  and  $2.075$  m, the first  
 location being nearly identical to  $x'_g = 1.168$  m (where de tilde variables, as  $x'$ ,  
 mean than non-dimensional units are used -see Table 3-).

$x'_g$	$T'$	$d'$	$\theta$	$B$	$b(\epsilon)$
1.168	0.052	0.259	15	1	1.225

Table 2: Values for variables defining setup configuration.

	$g_0$	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$
$x$	1.234	1.549	1.864	2.179
$x' = x/h_0$	1.175	1.475	1.775	2.075

Table 3: Gauge positions in dimensional and non-dimensional units.

In this benchmark, two items remained not completely determined in the  
 original description provided: the first one is related with the initialization of  
 the numerical experiment, the second one is related with how and where the  
 solid moving block must stop. Other small issues related to the description of  
 the benchmark were put forward in Macías et al. (2017) at our NTHMP report.

The motion of the rigid slide was prescribed as a function of time as

$$S(t) = S_0 \log(\cosh(t/t_0))$$

where  $S_0 = u_t^2/a_0 = 2.110$  m,  $t_0 = u_t/a_0 = 1.677$  s,  $a_0 = 0.75$  m/s<sup>2</sup> and  $u_t =$   
 $1.258$  m/s is the terminal velocity. Figure 5 shows the prescribed acceleration,  
 velocity and rigid slide displacement.

The benchmark here consists of using the above information on slide shape,  
 submergence, and kinematics, together with reproducing the experimental set-  
 up to simulate surface elevations measured at the four wave gauges (average of  
 2 replicates of experiments provided).

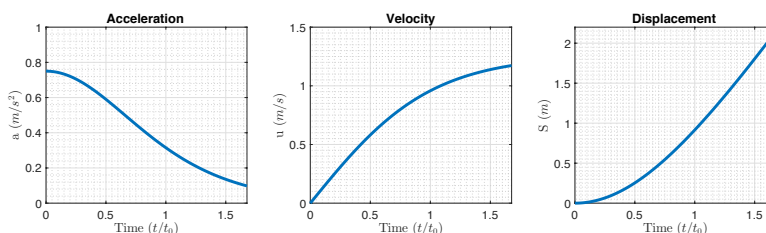


Figure 5: BP1. Prescribed acceleration, velocity and displacement of the solid slide.

272 Then, in order to reproduce the lab experiment, the interval  $[-1, 10]$  dis-  
273 cretized with  $\Delta x = 0.02$  m, is the computational domain considered. In the  
274 vertical, taking three layers seems to produce optimal results. Increasing the  
275 number of layers gives similar results increasing the computational cost. The  
276 stability  $CFL$  number was set to 0.9 and  $g = 9.81$ . The numerical simulation  
277 performed was 4 s long in real time. At the open boundaries, free outflow con-  
278 ditions were imposed. In order to capture turbulent processes, the complete  
279 Navier-Stokes viscous stress tensor is used (Ma et al., 2012). The turbulent  
280 kinematic viscosity is estimated using the Smagorinsky subgrid model, with  
281  $C_s = 0.2$  (Smagorinsky turbulent coefficient) and  $k_s = 0.01$  (bottom roughness  
282 height).

283 In Figure 6 the comparison of the numerical results with the filtered lab  
284 measured data is presented. An excellent overall agreement between them can  
285 be observed. Some discrepancies can be seen after draw-down in all the gauges.  
286 This behavior could also be observed, except for the last gauge, at Grilli and  
287 Watts (2005) results. These authors explained that this behavior could be due  
288 to unwanted surface tension effects. Given this comparison, and considering  
289 the experimental variations and errors inherent to laboratory work and data  
290 processing, it can be concluded that the Multilayer-HySEA model performs  
291 optimally the present benchmark test.

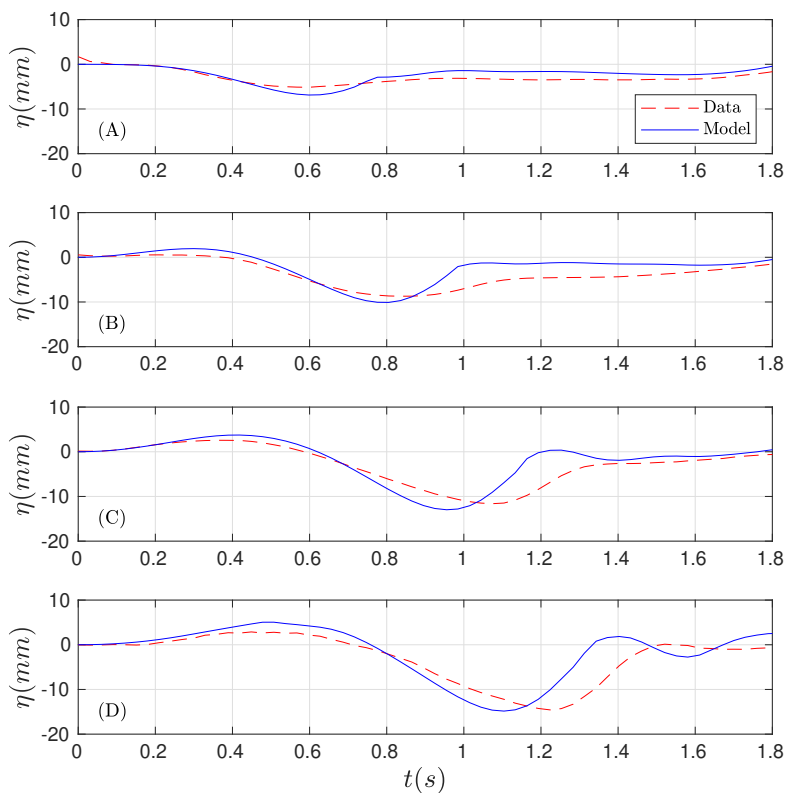


Figure 6: BP1. Filtered data (in red) and numerically simulated (in blue) time series at wave gauges (A)  $g_0$ , (B)  $g_1$ , (C)  $g_2$ , and (D)  $g_3$ .

292 *5.2. Benchmark Problem 2: Three-dimensional submarine solid block*

293 This second benchmark consists of a 3D extension of BP1. The longitudinal  
294 sketch of the experiment is the same as in Figure 4. In the horizontal plane,  
295 cross-sections are elliptic, the plan view of the rigid slide, for the case  $d = 61$  mm,  
296 is presented in Figure 7. It is based on the 3D laboratory experiments of Enet  
297 and Grilli (2007). The experiments were also performed at the University of  
298 Rhode Island in a water wave tank of width 3.6 m and length 30 m, with a still  
299 water depth of 1.5 m over the flat bottom portion. As in the previous benchmark,  
300 the angle of the plane slope where the slide slid down is  $\theta = 15^\circ$ . The submarine





301 slide model was built as a streamline Gaussian-shaped aluminum body with  
302 elliptical footprint (see Figure 7), with down-slope length  $b = 0.395$  m, cross-  
303 slope width  $w = 0.680$  m, and maximum thickness  $T = 0.082$  m. Complete  
304 details about the analytic definition of the slide shape and the experimental  
305 setting can be found at Kirby et al. (2018) and at LTMBW (2017).

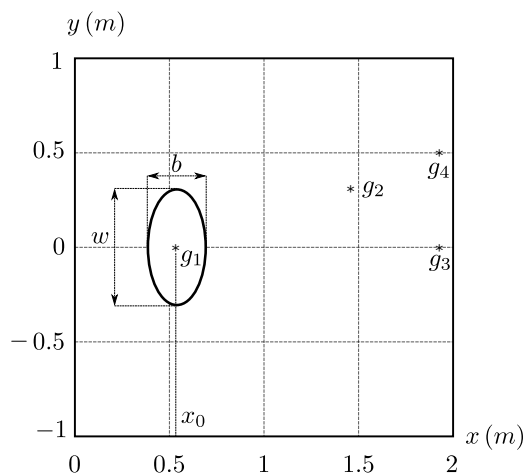


Figure 7: BP2. Sketch of the plan view (case 61 mm). [From Kirby et al. (2018)].

306 For the numerical simulations, the two-dimensional computational domain  
307  $[-1, 10] \times [-1.8, 1.8]$  is considered and discretized with  $\Delta x = \Delta y = 0.02$  m. The  
308 number of layers was set to 3. Numerical tests were performed using more layers  
309 and similar results were obtained. The  $CFL$  number was set to 0.9 and  $g = 9.81$ .  
310 The simulated time was 4 s. As boundary conditions, rigid wall conditions were  
311 imposed at  $y = -1.8$ ,  $y = 1.8$  and outflow conditions at  $x = -1$ ,  $x = 10$ .

312 The benchmark test proposed consists in reproducing the slide shape and  
313 complete experimental set-up in and using the information about submergence  
314 and kinematics to replicate numerically Enet and Grilli's experiments for  $d =$   
315 61 and  $d = 120$  mm. It is required to simulate surface elevations measured  
316 at the four wave gauges (average of 2 replicates of experiments) and present  
317 comparisons of the model with the experimental results.



318 Enet and Grilli (2007) performed experiments for 7 initial submergence  
 319 depths  $d$ . They are listed in Table 4, together with values of related slide  
 320 parameters and some measured tsunami wave characteristics. Here, the numer-  
 321 ical results corresponding to the two NTHMP required experiments (for  $d = 61$   
 322 and  $d = 120$  mm) will be presented first, then, as data for the seven experi-  
 323 ments were provided, the comparison for the remaining five cases will also be  
 324 presented.

$d$ (mm)	<b>61</b>	80	100	<b>120</b>	140	149	189
$x_g$ (mm) (measured)	551	617	696	763	846	877	1017
$x_g$ (mm) (theoretical)	560	630	705	780	854	888	1037
$\eta_0$ (mm)	13.0	9.2	7.8	5.1	4.4	4.2	3.1
$R_u$ (mm)	6.2	5.7	4.4	3.4	2.3	2.7	2.0
$C_m$	0.601	0.576	0.627	0.679	0.761	0.601	0.576
$C_d$	0.473	0.509	0.367	0.332	0.302	0.364	0.353
$a_0$ (m/s)	1.20	1.21	1.19	1.17	1.14	1.20	1.21
$u_t$ (m/s)	1.70	1.64	1.93	2.03	2.13	1.94	1.97
$t_0$ (s)	1.42	1.36	1.62	1.74	1.87	1.62	1.63
$S_0$ (m)	2.408	2.223	3.130	3.522	3.980	3.136	3.207

Table 4: Measured and curve-fitted slide and wave parameters for the 7 experiments performed by Enet and Grilli (2007).

$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_4$
$(x_0, 0)$	(1469,350)	(1929,0)	(1929,500)

Table 5: Wave gauge locations  $(x, y)$  in mm, as shown in Figure 7.

325 In Figure 8 the comparison of the Multilayer-HySEA model numerical re-  
 326 sults with measured data for the first case,  $d = 61$  mm, in the four gauges, is  
 327 presented. An excellent agreement can be observed between these time series.  
 328 The comparisons for the second required case ( $d = 120$  mm) in the 3 gauges  
 329 with data provided (gauge  $g_3$  was not available) are shown in Figure 9. Good



330 agreement can also be observed in this case. Finally, Figure 10 shows the com-  
331 parison for the five remaining cases provided by Enet and Grilli. In all cases (for  
332 all submergences), a good agreement between simulated results and measured  
333 lab data can be observed.

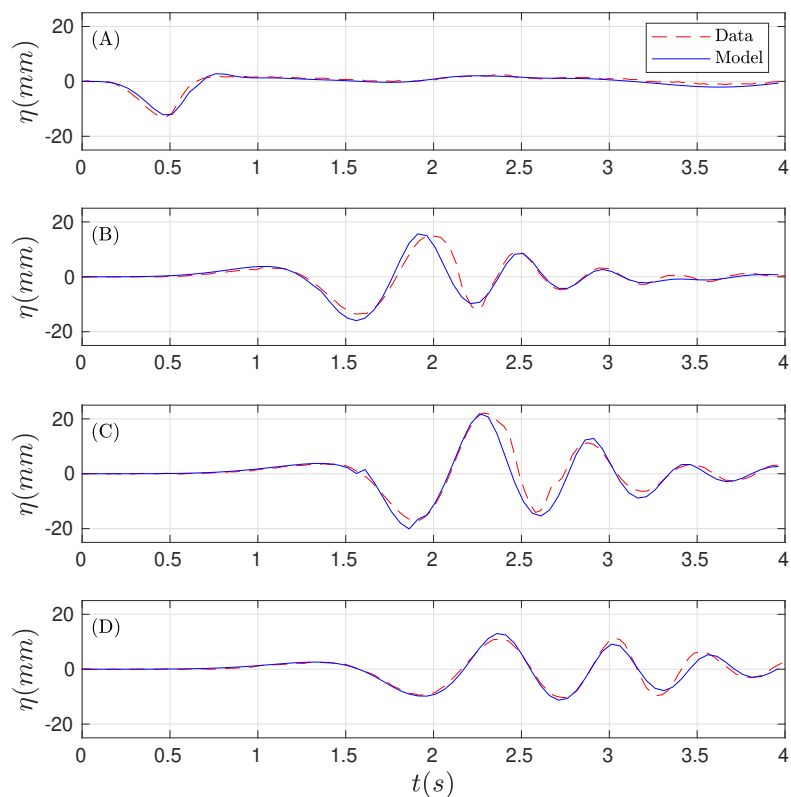


Figure 8: Test case  $d = 61$  mm. Numerically computed (in blue) time time series at wave gauges (A)  $g_1$ , (B)  $g_2$ , (C)  $g_3$ , and (D)  $g_4$  compared with the lab measured data (in red).

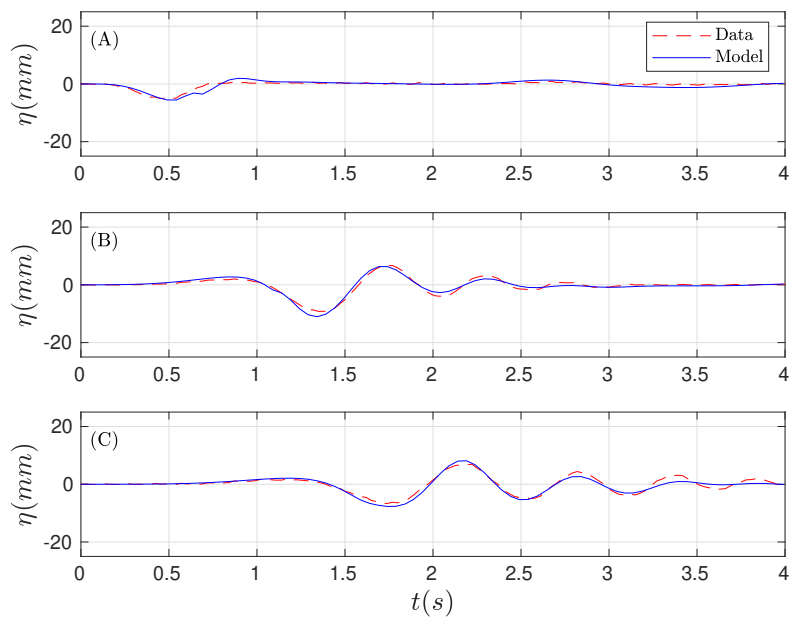


Figure 9: Test case  $d = 120 \text{ mm}$ . Numerically computed (in blue) time time series at wave gauges (A)  $g_1$ , (B)  $g_2$ , and (C)  $g_4$  for compared with the lab measured data (in red).

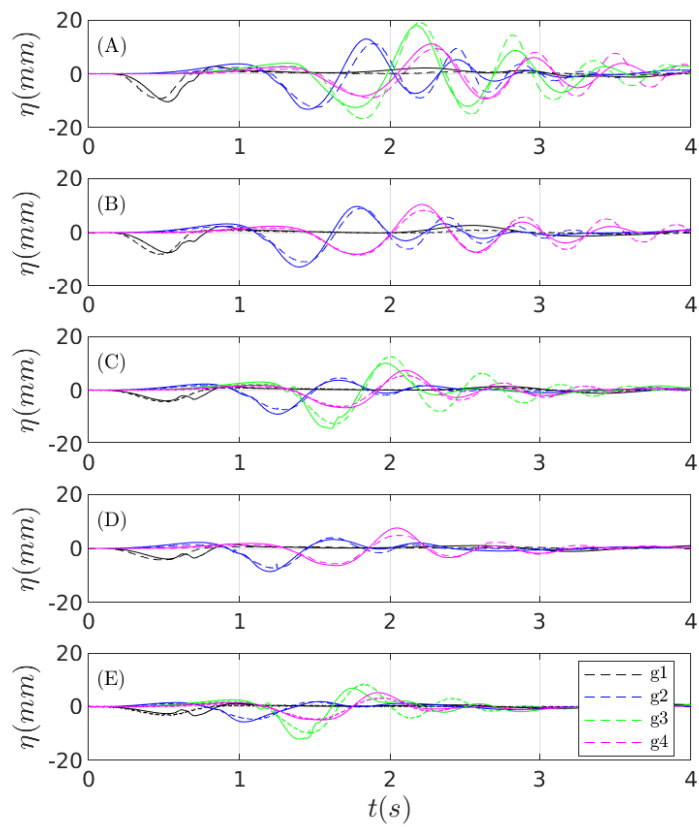


Figure 10: Comparison of data time series (red) and numerical at wave gauges for the cases (A)  $d = 80$  mm, (B)  $d = 100$  mm, (C)  $d = 140$  mm, (D)  $d = 149$  mm, and (E)  $d = 189$  mm.



334 In Table 6, the execution times for simulations performed on a NVIDIA Tesla  
 335 P100 GPU are presented. It can be observed that including non-hydrostatic  
 336 terms in the NLSW equations results in an increase of the computational time in  
 337 2.65 times. If a richer vertical structure is considered, then larger computational  
 338 times are required. As examples for the two and three-layer systems, 3.3 and  
 339 4.45 times increase in the computational effort.

	Runtime (s)	Ratio
SWE	23.08	1
1L-NH	61.20	2.65
2L-NH	76.35	3.30
3L-NH	102.93	4.45

Table 6: Execution times in seconds for SWE and non-hydrostatic GPU implementations. Ratios compared with SWE.

340 Figure 11 shows the comparison, for the four models considered, of the nu-  
 341 merical results with the measured data at gauge  $g_4$  for the case  $d = 189$  mm.  
 342 It can be observed that a model vertical structure considering only one layer is  
 343 not enough to reproduce the observed data, and that considering 2 and 3 layers  
 344 in the model produce much better numerical results.

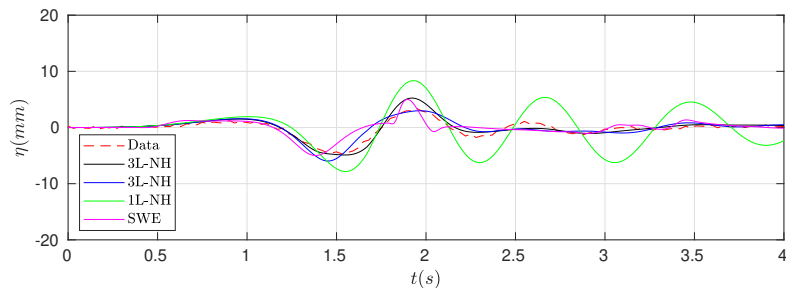


Figure 11: Test case  $d = 189$  mm. Lab measured data (red) and numerically computed time series at wave gauge  $g_4$  using different numerical models.



345 *5.3. Benchmark Problem 3: Three-dimensional submarine/subaerial triangular*  
346 *solid block*

347 This benchmark problem is based on the 3D laboratory experiment of Wu  
348 (2004) and Liu et al. (2005), for a series of triangular blocks of several aspect  
349 ratios moving down a plane slope into the water from a dry (subaerial) or wet  
350 (submarine) location. Figure 12 shows the schematic description of the set-up  
351 for this benchmark in the case of a partially submerged block. Further details  
352 can be found at Kirby et al. (2018) and at LTMBW (2017). The laboratory  
353 experiments were conducted in a wave tank at Oregon State University of length  
354 104 m, width 3.7 m, and depth 4.6 m.

355 A plane slope 1:2 (as the one shown in Figure 12 upper panel) with  $\theta = 26.6^\circ$   
356 was located near one end of the tank and a dissipating beach in the other. In all  
357 the experiments, the water depth was  $h_0 = 2.44$  m. The experiments retained  
358 for the present benchmark were all performed with a triangular block of length  
359  $b = 0.91$  m, width  $w = 0.61$  m, and vertical front face  $a = b/2 = 0.455$  m.

The block movement was provided by means of a polynomial fitting to measured data, giving the horizontal distance as:

$$x_{0,t} = x_{(0,t=0)} + (a t^3 + b t^2 + c t) \cos \beta$$

360 with  $\beta = \arctan(1/2)$  and  $x_{(0,t=0)} = -2\Delta$ . The polynomial coefficients for the  
361 two cases proposed are given in Table 7.

$\Delta$	$a$	$b$	$c$
0.10 m	-0.097588	0.759361	0.078776
-0.25 m	-0.085808	0.734798	-0.034346

Table 7: Polynomial coefficients defining slide motion.

362 For each case, measured free surface elevations for two wave gauges placed  
363 at  $(x, y) = (1.83, 0)$  (in m) and  $(x, y) = (1.2446, 0.635)$ , where  $x$  is the distance  
364 to the initial coastline and  $y$  is the distance to the central cross-section (see  
365 location at Fig. 12 lower panel). Also measured runup for each case is given at



runup gauges 2 and 3 in Figure 12 lower panel, lying on the slope at a distance  
 0.305 m and 0.611 m from the central cross-section, respectively.

The two-dimensional computational domain  $[-2, 6] \times [-2, 2]$  is discretised  
 with  $\Delta x = 0.04$  m and the number of layers was set up to 3. Numerical  
 experiments using more number of layers were performed, obtaining similar re-  
 sults. The stability CFL number was set to 0.9 and  $g = 9.81$ . The simulated  
 time was 4 s. The same boundary conditions, as in the previous case, were im-  
 posed. In order to capture turbulent processes, as in benchmark 1, the complete  
 Navier-Stokes viscous stress tensor is used with the same sub-grid model and  
 coefficients.

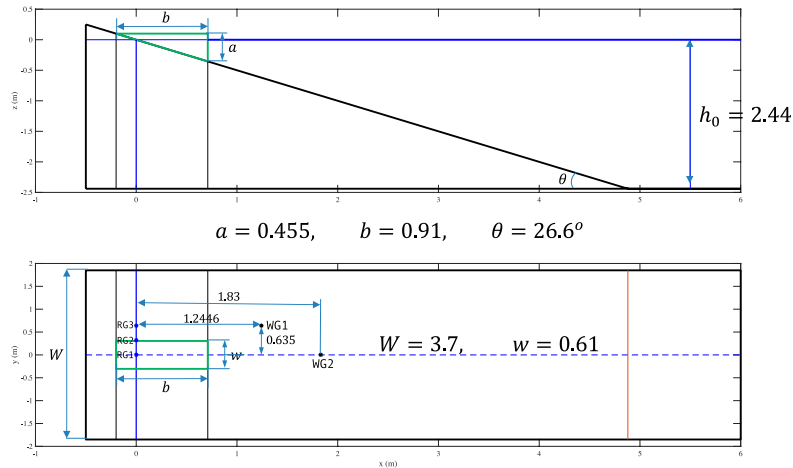


Figure 12: Definition sketch for BP3 laboratory experiments. Here for a submerged ( $\Delta < 0$ )  
 slide. Upper panel vertical cross section, lower panel plan view.

The numerical results obtained for the subaerial test case are presented in  
 Figures 13 and 14. Figure 13 depicts the comparison for the time series at the  
 wave gauges and Figure 14 at the runup gauges. The same comparison has been  
 performed for the submerged test case, and it is presented in Figures 15 and 16.  
 The agreement for the wave gauges is quite good for WG1 in both cases. For  
 WG2, just in front of the block, an overshoot after the first depression wave is





382 observed in both cases. For the run-up, the qualitative agreement is quite good,  
383 with the larger discrepancies in RG3 for the submarine test case.

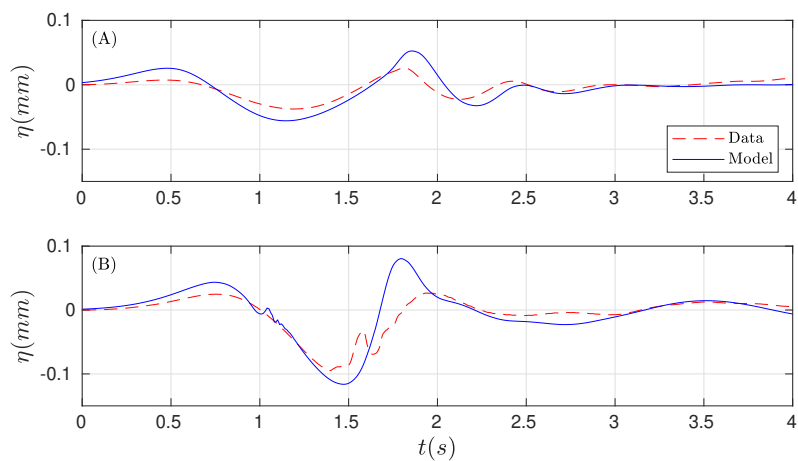


Figure 13: Subaerial test case. Lab measured water height (red) and numerical time series (blue) at wave gauges (A) WG1 and (B) WG2 .

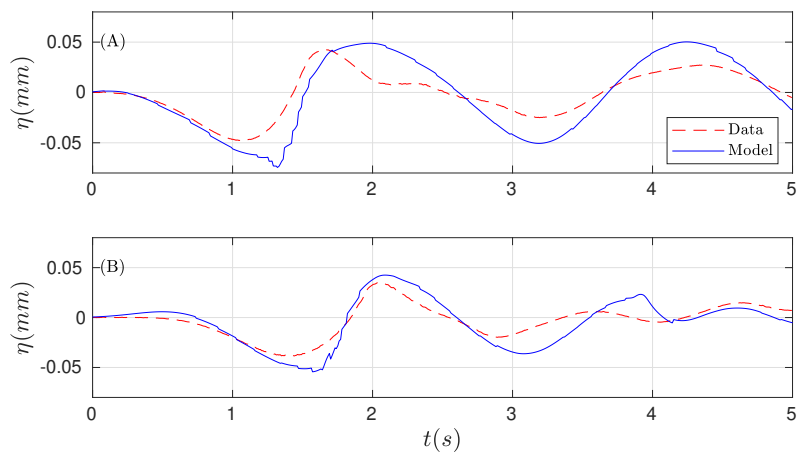


Figure 14: Subaerial test case. Lab measured runup (red) and numerical time series (blue) at runup gauges (A) RG2 and (B) RG3.

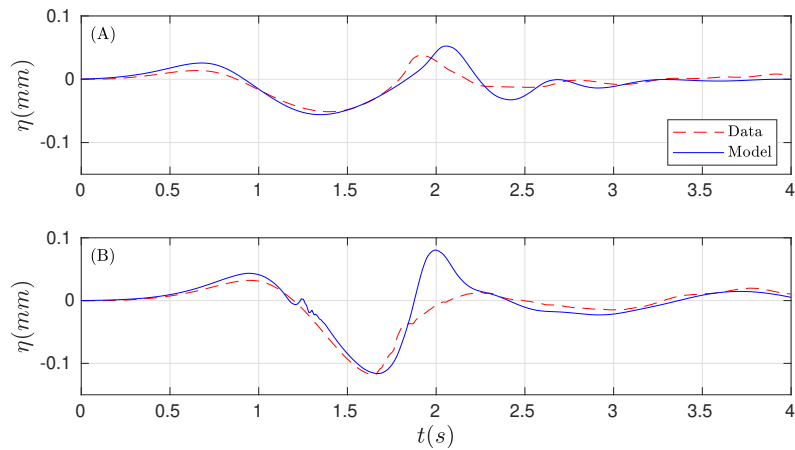


Figure 15: Submerged test case. Lab measured water height (red) and numerical time series (blue) at wave gauges (A) WG1 and (B) WG2.

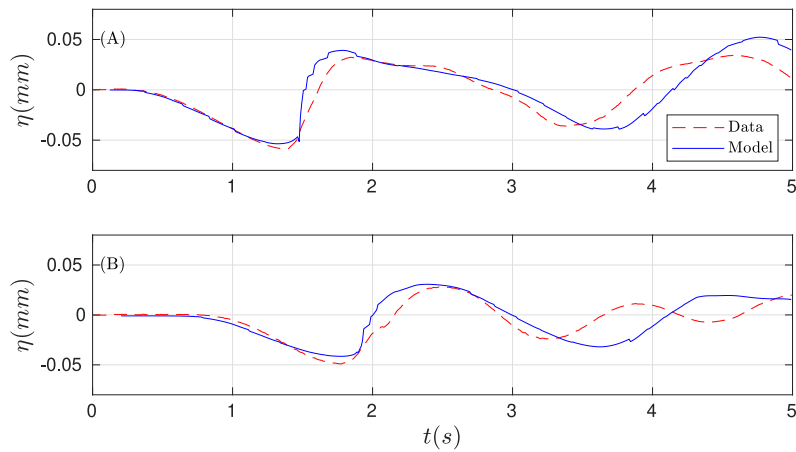


Figure 16: Submerged test case. Lab measured runup (red) and numerical time series (blue) at runup gauges (A) RG2 and (B) RG3.



## 384 6. Concluding Remarks

385 Validation of numerical models is a first unavoidable step before their use  
386 as predictive tools. This requirement is even more necessary when the devel-  
387 oped models are going to be used for risk assessment in natural events where  
388 human lives are involved. The present work is the first step in this task for the  
389 Multilayer-HySEA model, a novel dispersive multilayer model of the HySEA  
390 suite developed at the University of Malaga. This model considers a stratified  
391 vertical structure and includes non-hydrostatic terms, this is done in order to  
392 include the dispersive effects in the propagation of the waves in a homogeneous,  
393 inviscid, and incompressible fluid. The numerical scheme implemented, com-  
394 bines a highly robust and efficient finite volume path-conservative scheme for  
395 the underlying hyperbolic system and finite differences for the discretization of  
396 the non-hydrostatic terms. In order to increase numerical efficiency, the numeri-  
397 cal model is implemented to run in GPU architectures. In particular in NVIDIA  
398 graphics cards and using CUDA language. In the case of the traditional SW  
399 non-dispersive model, this kind of implementations produces an extremely ef-  
400 ficient and fast code (Macías et al., 2020d). Increasing the number of layers  
401 in SW models provides an enhanced vertical resolution and, at the same time,  
402 increases the computational cost. Despite this, from a computational point of  
403 view, the two-layer non-hydrostatic code presents a good computational effi-  
404 ciency, and computing times with respect to the one-layer SWE GPU code are  
405 absolutely reasonable, being only from 2 to 2.5 larger than for the one layer case.  
406 In the numerical simulations performed in the present work, the non-hydrostatic  
407 wall-clock times are always below 4.45 times those for the traditional SWE Hy-  
408 SEA model, for a number of vertical layers up to three. The numerical scheme  
409 presented here and the corresponding multilayer SW water model proposed, is  
410 highly efficient and is able to model dispersive effects with a low computational  
411 cost.

412 Regarding model results, they show a good agreement with the experimental  
413 data for the three benchmark problems studied in the present work. In partic-



414 ular, for BP2, but this also occurs for the other two benchmark problems, we  
415 have shown that a one-layer, hydrostatic or non-hydrostatic, model is not able  
416 to reproduce the complexity in the observed lab data considered in the pro-  
417 posed benchmarks. The waves to be modeled in the test cases proposed here  
418 are high-frequency and dispersive. Hence, it is at least necessary a two-layer  
419 structure and non-hydrostatic terms in the model to be used in order to capture  
420 the dynamics of the generated waves. As pointed out in Kirby et al. (2018),  
421 non-hydrostatic multilayer models, like the one used here, can perform as well  
422 as Navier-Stokes equation models but at much lower computational cost as has  
423 been shown here.

## 424 7. Code and data availability

425 The numerical code is currently under development and only available to  
426 close collaborators. In the future, we will provide an open version of the code  
427 as we already do for Tsunami-HySEA. This version will be downloaded from  
428 <https://edanya.uma.es/hysea/index.php/download>.

429 All the data used in the present work and necessary to reproduce the exper-  
430 iments set-up of the numerical experiments and the laboratory measured data  
431 to compared with, can be downloaded from LTMBW (2017) at the web site  
432 <http://www1.udel.edu/kirby/landslide/>. Finally, the NetCDF files containing  
433 the numerical results obtained with the Multilayer-HySEA code can be found  
434 and download from Macías et al. (2020b).

## 435 8. Authors' contributions

436 JM is leading the HySEA codes benchmarking effort undertaken by the  
437 EDANYA group, he wrote most of the paper, reviewed and edited it, assisted in  
438 the numerical experiments and in their set up. CE implemented the numerical  
439 code and performed all the numerical experiments, he also contributed to writing  
440 the manuscript. JM and CE did all the figures. MC strongly contributed to the  
441 design and implementation of the numerical code.



442 **9. Competing interest**

443 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

444 **10. Acknowledgements**

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