

1 Multilayer-HySEA model validation for landslide  
2 generated tsunamis. Part II Granular slides

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6 **Abstract**

7 The final aim of the present work is to propose a NTHMP-benchmarked numer-  
8 ical tool for landslide generated tsunami hazard assessment. To achieve this, the  
9 novel Multilayer-HySEA model is validated using laboratory experiment data  
10 for landslide generated tsunamis. In particular, this second part of the work  
11 deals with granular slides, while the first part, in a companion paper, consid-  
12 ers rigid slides. The experimental data used have been proposed by the US  
13 National Tsunami Hazard and Mitigation Program (NTHMP) and were estab-  
14 lished for the NTHMP Landslide Benchmark Workshop, held in January 2017  
15 at Galveston (Texas). Three of the seven benchmark problems proposed in that  
16 workshop dealt with tsunamis generated by rigid slides and are collected in the  
17 companion paper (Macías et al., 2020a). Another three benchmarks considered  
18 tsunamis generated by granular slides. They are the subject of the present study.  
19 The seventh benchmark problem proposed the field case of Port Valdez Alaska  
20 1964 and can be found in Macías et al. (2017). In order to reproduce the labo-  
21 ratory experiments dealing with granular slides, two models need to be coupled,  
22 one for the granular slide and a second one for the water dynamics. The coupled  
23 model used consists of a new and efficient hybrid finite-volume/finite-difference  
24 implementation on GPU architectures of a non-hydrostatic multilayer model  
25 coupled with a Savage-Hutter model. To introduce the multilayer model more  
26 fluidly, we first present the equations of the one-layer model, Landslide-HySEA,  
27 with both strong and weak couplings between the fluid layer and the granular  
28 slide. Then, a brief description of the multilayer model equations and the numer-

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29 ical scheme used is included. The dispersive properties of the multilayer model  
30 can be found in the companion paper. Then, results for the three NTHMP  
31 benchmark problems dealing with tsunamis generated by granular slides are  
32 presented with a description of each benchmark problem.

33 *Keywords:* Multilayer-HySEA model, tsunamis, granular slides, model  
34 benchmarking, landslide-generated tsunamis, NTHMP, GPU implementation  
35 *2010 MSC:* 35L, 65-05, 76-05, 86-08

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## 36 **1. Introduction**

37 Following the introduction of the companion paper Macías et al. (2020a), a  
38 landslide tsunami model benchmarking and validation workshop was held, Jan-  
39 uary 9-11, 2017, in Galveston, TX. This workshop, which was organized on be-  
40 half of NOAA-NWS’s National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP)  
41 Mapping and Modeling Subcommittee (MMS), with the expected outcome be-  
42 ing to develop: (i) a set of community accepted benchmark tests for validating  
43 models used for landslide tsunami generation and propagation in NTHMP inun-  
44 dation mapping work; (ii) workshop documentation and a web-based repository,  
45 for benchmark data, model results, and workshop documentation, results, and  
46 conclusions, and (iii) provide recommendations as a basis for developing best  
47 practice guidelines for landslide tsunami modeling in NTHMP work.

48 A set of seven benchmark tests was selected (Kirby et al., 2018). The selected  
49 benchmarks were taken from a subset of available laboratory data sets for solid  
50 slide experiments (three of them) and deformable slide experiments (another  
51 three), that included both submarine and subaerial slides. Finally, a benchmark  
52 based on a historic field event (Valdez, AK, 1964) closed the list of proposed  
53 benchmarks. The EDANYA group ([www.uma.es/edanya](http://www.uma.es/edanya)) from the University of  
54 Malaga participated in the aforementioned workshop, and the numerical codes  
55 Multilayer-HySEA and Landslide-HySEA were used to produce our modeled  
56 results. We presented numerical results for six out of the seven benchmark  
57 problems proposed, including the field case (Macías et al., 2017). The sole  
58 benchmark we did not perform at the time was BP6, for which numerical results

59 are included here.

60 The present work aims at showing the numerical results obtained with the  
61 Multilayer-HySEA model in the framework of the validation effort described  
62 above for the case of granular slide generated tsunamis for the complete set of  
63 the three benchmark problems proposed by the NTHMP. However, the ultimate  
64 goal of the present work is to provide the tsunami community with a numerical  
65 tool, tested and validated meeting the defined criteria for the NTHMP, for  
66 landslide generated tsunami hazard assessment. This NTHMP-acceptance has  
67 already been achieved by the Tsunami-HySEA model for the case of earthquake  
68 generated tsunamis (Macías et al., 2017; Macías et al., 2020c,d).

69 Fifteen years ago, at the beginning of the century, solid block landslide mod-  
70 eling challenged researchers and was undertaken by a number of authors (see  
71 companion paper Macías et al. (2020a) for references) and laboratory exper-  
72 iments were developed for those cases and for tsunami model benchmarking.  
73 In contrast, some early models (e.g., Heinrich (1992); Harbitz et al. (1993);  
74 Rzedkiewicz et al. (1997); Fine et al. (1998)) and a number of more recent mod-  
75 els have simulated tsunami generation by deformable slides, based either on  
76 depth-integrated two-layer model equations, or on solving more complete sets  
77 of equations in terms of featured physics (dispersive, non-hydrostatic, Navier-  
78 Stokes). Examples include solutions of 2D or 3D Navier-Stokes equations to  
79 simulate subaerial or submarine slides modeled as dense Newtonian or non-  
80 Newtonian fluids (Ataie-Ashtiani and Shobeyri, 2008; Weiss et al., 2009; Abadie  
81 et al., 2010, 2012; Horrillo et al., 2013), flows induced by sediment concentration  
82 (Ma et al., 2013), or fluid or granular flow layers penetrating or failing under-  
83 neath a 3D water domain (for example, the two-layer models of Macías et al.  
84 (2015) or González-Vida et al. (2019) where a fully coupled non-hydrostatic  
85 SW/Savage-Hutter model is used or the model used in Ma et al. (2015); Kirby  
86 et al. (2016) in which the upper water layer is modeled with the non-hydrostatic  
87  $\sigma$ -coordinate 3D model NHWAVE (Ma et al., 2012). For a more comprehensive  
88 review of recent modeling work, see Yavari-Ramshe and Ataie-Ashtiani (2016).  
89 A number of recent laboratory experiments have modeled tsunamis generated by

90 subaerial landslides composed of gravel (Fritz et al. (2004), Ataie-Ashtiani and  
 91 Najafi-Jilani (2008), Heller and Hager (2010), Mohammed and Fritz (2012)) or  
 92 glass beads (Viroulet et al., 2014). For deforming underwater landslides and re-  
 93 lated tsunami generation, 2D experiments were performed by Rzedkiewicz et al.  
 94 (1997), who used sand, and Ataie-Ashtiani and Najafi-Jilani (2008), who used  
 95 granular material. Well-controlled 2D glass bead experiments were reported and  
 96 modeled by Grilli et al. (2017) using the model of Kirby et al. (2016).

97 The benchmark problems performed in the present work are based on the  
 98 laboratory experiments of Kimmoun and Dupont (see Grilli et al. (2017)) for  
 99 BP4, Viroulet et al. (2014) for BP5, and Mohammed and Fritz (2012) for BP6.  
 100 The basic reference for these three benchmarks, but also the three ones related  
 101 to solid slides and the Alaska field case, all of them proposed by the NTHMP,  
 102 is Kirby et al. (2018). That is a key reference for readers interested in the  
 103 benchmarking initiative which the present work is based on.

## 104 2. The Landslide-HySEA model for granular slides

105 First we consider the Landslide-HySEA model, applied in Macías et al.  
 106 (2015) and González-Vida et al. (2019), which for the case of one-dimensional  
 107 domains reads:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t h + \partial_x (hu) = 0, \\ \partial_t (hu) + \partial_x \left( hu^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \right) - gh\partial_x (H - z_s) = n_a(u_s - u), \\ \partial_t z_s + \partial_x (z_s u_s) = 0, \\ \partial_t (z_s u_s) + \partial_x \left( z_s u_s^2 + \frac{1}{2}g(1-r)z_s^2 \right) = gz_s \partial_x ((1-r)H - r\eta) \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad -rn_a(u_s - u) + \tau_P, \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

108 where  $g$  is the gravity acceleration ( $g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$ );  $H(x)$  is the non-erodible (do  
 109 not evolve in time) bathymetry measured from a given reference level;  $z_s(x, t)$   
 110 represents the thickness of the layer of granular material at each point  $x$  at time  
 111  $t$ ;  $h(x, t)$  is the total water depth;  $\eta(x, t)$  denotes the free surface (measured from  
 112 the same fixed reference level used for the bathymetry, for example, the mean

113 sea surface) and is given by  $\eta = h + z_s - H$ ;  $u(x, t)$  and  $u_s(x, t)$  are the averaged  
114 horizontal velocity for the water and for the granular material, respectively;  
115  $r = \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2}$  is the ratio of densities between the ambient fluid and the granular  
116 material. The term  $n_a(u_s - u)$  parameterizes the friction between the fluid and  
117 the granular layer. Finally, the term  $\tau_P(x, t)$  represents the friction between the  
118 granular slide and the non-erodible bottom surface. It is parameterized as in  
119 Pouliquen and Forterre (2002) and it will be described in the next section.

120 System (1) presents the difficulty of considering the complete coupling be-  
121 tween sediment and water, including the corresponding coupled pressure terms.  
122 That makes its numerical approximation more complex. Moreover, it makes  
123 also difficult to consider its natural extension to non-hydrostatic flows.

124 Now, if  $\partial_x \eta$  is neglected in the momentum equation of the granular material,  
125 that is, the fluctuation of pressure due to the variations of the free-surface are  
126 neglected in the momentum equation of the granular material, then the following  
127 weakly-coupled system could be obtained:

$$\text{S-W system} \begin{cases} \partial_t h + \partial_x(hu) = 0, \\ \partial_t(hu) + \partial_x\left(hu^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2\right) - gh\partial_x(H - z_s) = n_a(u_s - u), \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

128

$$\text{S-H system} \begin{cases} \partial_t z_s + \partial_x(z_s u_s) = 0, \\ \partial_t(z_s u_s) + \partial_x\left(z_s u_s^2 + \frac{1}{2}g(1-r)z_s^2\right) - g(1-r)z_s\partial_x H = \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad -rn_a(u_s - u) + \tau_P, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

129 where the first system is the standard one-layer shallow-water system and the  
130 second one is the one-layer reduced-gravity Savage-Hutter model (Savage and  
131 Hutter (1989)), that takes into account that the granular landslide is under-  
132 water. Note that the previous system could be also adapted to simulate sub-  
133 aerial/submarine landslides by a suitable treatment of the variation of the grav-  
134 ity terms. Under this formulation, it is now straightforward to improve the

135 numerical model for the fluid phase by including non-hydrostatic effects.

136 In the present study, the governing equations of the landslide motion are  
137 derived in Cartesian coordinates. In some cases where steep slopes are involved,  
138 landslide models based on local coordinates allow representing the slide motion  
139 better. However, when general topographies are considered and not only simple  
140 geometries, landslide models based on local coordinates also introduce some dif-  
141 ficulties on the final numerical model and on its implementation compromising,  
142 at the same time, the computational efficiency of the numerical model. Here, we  
143 focus on the hydrodynamic component of the system, and that is one of the rea-  
144 sons for choosing a simple landslide model based on Cartesian coordinates. Of  
145 course, the strategies presented here can also be adapted for more sophisticated  
146 landslide models. For example, in Garres-Daz et al. (2020) a non-hydrostatic  
147 model for the hydrodynamic part that is similar to the one presented here for  
148 the case of a single layer was introduced. In the work mentioned above, the au-  
149 thors study the influence of coupling the hydrodynamic model with a granular  
150 model that is derived in both reference systems: Cartesian and local coordi-  
151 nates. The front positions calculated with the Cartesian model progress faster  
152 and, after some time, they are slightly ahead compared with the local coordi-  
153 nate model solution (see, for instance, Figure 4 in Garres-Daz et al. (2020)).  
154 This is due to the fact that the Cartesian model uses the horizontal velocity  
155 instead of the velocity tangent to the topography. In any case, the differences  
156 between the two models are not very noticeable. A granular slide model based  
157 on local coordinates might gives better results. However, when introducing a  
158 non-hydrostatic pressure, the model is closer to a 3D solver. In such a case, the  
159 influence on the reference coordinate system barely exists. That is the reason  
160 why in Garres-Daz et al. (2020), both non-hydrostatic models based on different  
161 coordinate systems show similar results. In any case, although on the present  
162 work we focus on the hydrodynamic part, it can be observed on the benchmark  
163 tests that the numerical results are in very good agreement with the laboratory  
164 measured data, despite the simple landslide model chosen here.

165 **3. The Multilayer-HySEA model**

166 The Multilayer-HySEA model implements a two-phase model intended to  
167 reproduce the interaction between the slide granular material (submarine or  
168 subaerial) and the fluid. In the present work, a multi-layer non-hydrostatic  
169 shallow-water model is considered for modeling the evolution of the ambient  
170 water (see Fernández-Nieto et al. (2018)), and for simulating the kinematics of  
171 the submarine/subaerial landslide the Savage-Hutter model (3) is used. The cou-  
172 pling between these two models is performed through the boundary conditions  
173 at their interface. The parameter  $r$  represents the ratio of densities between the  
174 ambient fluid and the granular material (slide liquefaction parameter). Usually

$$r = \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_b}, \quad \rho_b = (1 - \varphi)\rho_s + \varphi\rho_f, \quad (4)$$

176 where  $\rho_s$  stands for the typical density of the granular material,  $\rho_f$  is the density  
177 of the fluid ( $\rho_s > \rho_f$ ) both constant, and  $\varphi$  represents the porosity ( $0 \leq \varphi < 1$ ).  
178 In the current work, the porosity,  $\varphi$ , is supposed to be constant in space and  
179 time and, therefore, the ratio  $r$  is also constant. This ratio ranges from 0 to 1  
180 (i.e.  $0 < r < 1$ ) and, even on a uniform material is difficult to estimate as it  
181 depends on the porosity (and  $\rho_f$  and  $\rho_s$  are also supposed constant). Typical  
182 values for  $r$  are in the interval  $[0.3, 0.8]$ .

183 *The fluid model*

184 The ambient fluid is modeled by a multi-layer non-hydrostatic shallow-water  
185 system (Fernández-Nieto et al., 2018) to account for dispersive water waves. The  
186 model considered, that is obtained by a process of depth-averaging of the Eu-  
187 ler equations, can be interpreted as a semi-discretization with respect to the  
188 vertical coordinate. In order to take into account dispersive effects, the total  
189 pressure is decomposed into the sum of hydrostatic and non-hydrostatic com-  
190 ponents. In this process, the horizontal and vertical velocities are supposed to  
191 have constant vertical profiles. The resulting multi-layer model admits an exact  
192 energy balance, and when the number of layers increases, the linear dispersion

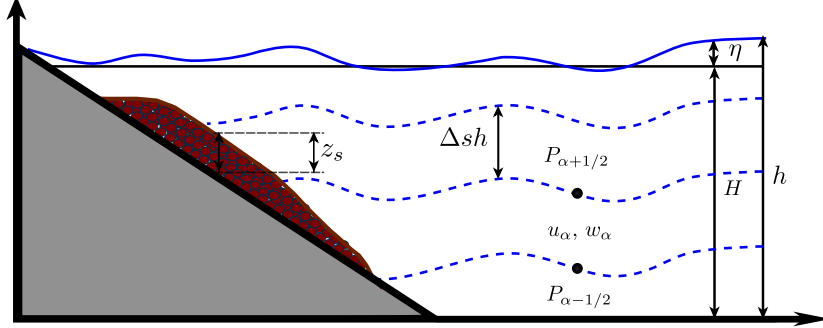


Figure 1: Schematic diagram describing the multilayer system

193 relation of the linear model converges to the same of Airy's theory. Finally,  
 194 the model proposed in Fernández-Nieto et al. (2018) can be written in compact  
 195 form as:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t h + \partial_x (hu) = 0, \\ \partial_t (hu_\alpha) + \partial_x (hu_\alpha^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2) - gh\partial_x (H - z_s) \\ \quad + u_{\alpha+1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2} - u_{\alpha-1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha-1/2} = -h(\partial_x p_\alpha + \sigma_\alpha \partial_z p_\alpha) - \tau_\alpha \\ \partial_t (hw_\alpha) + \partial_x (hw_\alpha w_\alpha) + w_{\alpha+1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2} - w_{\alpha-1/2}\Gamma_{\alpha-1/2} = -h\partial_z p_\alpha, \\ \partial_x u_{\alpha-1/2} + \sigma_{\alpha-1/2} \partial_z u_{\alpha-1/2} + \partial_z w_{\alpha-1/2} = 0, \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

196 for  $\alpha \in \{1, 2, \dots, L\}$ , with  $L$  the number of layers and where the following  
 197 notation has been used:

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

198 where  $f$  denotes one of the generic variables of the system, i.e.,  $u$ ,  $w$  and  $p$ ;  
 199  $\Delta s = 1/L$  and, finally,

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

200 Figure 1 shows a schematic picture of model configuration, where the total  
 201 water height  $h$  is decomposed along the vertical axis into  $L \geq 1$  layers. The  
 202 depth-averaged velocities in the  $x$  and  $z$  directions are written as  $u_\alpha$  and  $w_\alpha$ ,  
 203 respectively. The non-hydrostatic pressure at the interface  $z_{\alpha+1/2}$  is denoted  
 204 by  $p_{\alpha+1/2}$ . The free surface elevation measured from a fixed reference level (for



205 example the still-water level) is written as  $\eta$  and  $\eta = h - H + z_s$ , where again  
 206  $H(x)$  is the unchanged non-erodible bathymetry measured from the same fixed  
 207 reference level.  $\tau_\alpha = 0$ , for  $\alpha > 1$  and  $\tau_1$  is given by

$$\tau_1 = \tau_b - n_a(u_s - u_1),$$

208 where  $\tau_b$  stands for an classical Manning-type parameterization for the bottom  
 209 shear stress and, in our case, is given by

$$\tau_b = gh \frac{n^2}{h^{4/3}} u_1 |u_1|,$$

210 and  $n_a(u_s - u_1)$  accounts for the friction between the fluid and the granular layer.  
 211 The latest two terms are only present at the lowest layer ( $\alpha = 1$ ). Finally, for  
 212  $\alpha = 1, \dots, L - 1$ ,  $\Gamma_{\alpha+1/2}$  parameterizes the mass transfer across interfaces and  
 213 those terms are defined by

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

214 Here we suppose that  $\Gamma_{1/2} = \Gamma_{L+1/2} = 0$ , this means that there is no mass  
 215 transfer through the sea-floor or the water free-surface. In order to close the  
 216 system, the boundary condition

$$p_{L+1/2} = 0,$$

217 is imposed at the free surface and the boundary conditions

$$u_0 = 0, \quad w_0 = -\partial_t (H - z_s),$$

218 are imposed at the bottom. The last two conditions enter into the incompress-  
 219 ibility relation for the lowest layer ( $\alpha = 1$ ), given by

$$\partial_x u_{1/2} + \sigma_{1/2} \partial_z u_{1/2} + \partial_z w_{1/2} = 0.$$

220 It should be noted that both models, the hydrodynamic model described here  
 221 and the morphodynamic model described in the next subsection, are coupled  
 222 through the unknown  $z_s$ , that, in the case of the model described here, it is  
 223 present in the equations and in the boundary condition ( $w_0 = -\partial_t (H - z_s)$ ).

224 Some dispersive properties of the system (5) were originally studied in Fernández-  
 225 Nieto et al. (2018). Moreover, for a better-detailed study on the dispersion rela-  
 226 tion (such as ‘phase velocity’, ‘group velocity’, and ‘linear shoaling’) the reader  
 227 is referred to the companion paper Macías et al. (2020a).

228 Along the derivation of the hydrodynamic model presented here, the rigid-  
 229 lid assumption for the free surface of the ambient fluid is adopted. This means  
 230 that pressure variations induced by the fluctuation on the free surface of the  
 231 ambient fluid over the landslide are neglected.

### 232 *The Landslide model*

233 The 1D Savage-Hutter model used and implemented in the present work is  
 234 given by the system (3). The friction law  $\tau_P$  (Pouliquen and Forterre (2002)) is  
 235 given by the expression,

$$\tau_P = -g(1-r)\mu z_s \frac{u_s^2}{|u_s|},$$

236 where  $\mu$  is a constant friction coefficient with a key role, as it controls the  
 237 movement of the landslide. Usually  $\mu$  is given by the Coulomb friction law as  
 238 the simpler parameterization that can be used in landslide models. However,  
 239 it is well-known that a constant friction coefficient does not allow to reproduce  
 240 steady uniform flows over rough beds observed in the laboratory for a range of  
 241 inclination angles. To reproduce these flows, in Pouliquen and Forterre (2002),  
 242 the authors introduce an empirical friction coefficient  $\mu$  that depends on the  
 243 norm of the mean velocity  $u_s$ , on the thickness  $z_s$  of the granular layer and on  
 244 the Froude number  $Fr = \frac{u_s}{\sqrt{gz_s}}$ . The friction law is given by:

$$\mu(z_s, u_s) = \begin{cases} \mu_{\text{start}}(z_s) + \left(\frac{Fr}{\beta}\right)^\gamma (\mu_{\text{stop}}(z_s) - \mu_{\text{start}}(z_s)), & \text{for } Fr < \beta, \\ \mu_{\text{stop}}(z_s), & \text{for } \beta \leq Fr, \end{cases}$$

245 with

$$\mu_{\text{start}}(z_s) = \tan(\delta_3) + (\tan(\delta_2) - \tan(\delta_1)) \exp\left(-\frac{z_s}{d_s}\right)$$

246

$$\mu_{\text{stop}}(z_s) = \tan(\delta_1) + (\tan(\delta_2) - \tan(\delta_1)) \exp\left(-\frac{z_s \beta}{d_s Fr}\right)$$

247 where  $d_s$  represents the mean size of grains.  $\beta = 0.136$  and  $\gamma = 10^{-3}$  are empir-  
 248 ical parameters.  $\tan(\delta_1)$ ,  $\tan(\delta_2)$  are the characteristic angles of the material,  
 249 and  $\tan(\delta_3)$  is other friction angle related to the behavior when starting from  
 250 rest. This law has been widely used in the literature (see e.g. Brunet et al.  
 251 (2017)).

252 Note that the slide model can also be adapted to simulate subaerial land-  
 253 slides. The presence of the term  $(1 - r)$  in the definition of the Poulilquen-  
 254 Folterre friction law is due to the buoyancy effects, which must be taken into  
 255 account only in the case that the granular material layer is submerged in the  
 256 fluid. Otherwise, this term must be replaced by 1.

#### 257 4. Numerical Solution Method

258 System (3) can be written in the following compact form:

$$\partial_t U_s + \partial_x F_s(U_s) = G_s(U_s) \partial_x H - S_s(U_s), \quad (6)$$

259 being

$$260 \quad U_s = \begin{bmatrix} z_s \\ u_s z_s \end{bmatrix}, \quad F_s(U_s) = \begin{bmatrix} z_s u_s \\ z_s u_s^2 + \frac{1}{2} g (1 - r) z_s^2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$261 \quad G_s(U_s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g(1 - r) z_s \end{bmatrix}, \quad S_s(U_s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -r n_a (u_s - u) + \tau_P \end{bmatrix}.$$

261 Analogously, the multi-layer non-hydrostatic shallow-water system (5) can also  
 262 be expressed in a similar way:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t U_f + \partial_x F_f(U_f) + B_f(U_f) \partial_x U_f = G_f(U) \partial_x (H - z_s) + \mathcal{T}_{NH} - S_f(U_f), \\ B(U_f, (U_f)_x, H, H_x, z_s, (z_s)_x) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where

$$U_f = \begin{bmatrix} h \\ hu_1 \\ \vdots \\ hu_L \\ hw_1 \\ \vdots \\ hw_L \end{bmatrix}, F_f(U_f) = \begin{bmatrix} h\bar{u} \\ hu_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \\ \vdots \\ hu_L^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \\ hu_1w_1 \\ \vdots \\ hu_Lw_L \end{bmatrix}, G_f(U_f) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ gh \\ \vdots \\ gh \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

263 and  $B_f(U_f)\partial_x(U_f)$  contains the non-conservative products involving the mo-  
 264 mentum transfer across the interfaces and, finally,  $S_f(U_f)$  represents the friction  
 265 terms:

$$B_f(U_f)\partial_x(U_f) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u_{3/2}\Gamma_{3/2} \\ u_{5/3}\Gamma_{5/2} - u_{3/2}\Gamma_{3/2} \\ \vdots \\ -u_{L-1/2}\Gamma_{L-1/2} \\ w_{3/2}\Gamma_{3/2} \\ w_{5/3}\Gamma_{5/2} - w_{3/2}\Gamma_{3/2} \\ \vdots \\ -w_{L-1/2}\Gamma_{L-1/2} \end{bmatrix}, S_f(U_f) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau_b - n_a(u_s - u_1) \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

266 The non-hydrostatic corrections in the momentum equations are given by

$$\mathcal{T}_{NH} = \mathcal{T}_{NH}(h, h_x, H, H_x, z_s, (z_s)_x, p, p_x) = - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ h(\partial_x p_1 + \sigma_1 \partial_z p_1) \\ \vdots \\ h(\partial_x p_L + \sigma_L \partial_z p_L) \\ h\partial_z p_1 \\ \vdots \\ h\partial_z p_L \end{bmatrix},$$

267 and finally, the operator related with the incompressibility condition at each  
 268 layer is given by:

$$B(U_f, (U_f)_x, H, H_x, z_s, (z_s)_x) = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_x u_{1/2} + \sigma_{1/2} \partial_z u_{1/2} + \partial_z w_{1/2} \\ \vdots \\ \partial_x u_{L-1/2} + \sigma_{L-1/2} \partial_z u_{L-1/2} + \partial_z w_{L-1/2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

269 The discretization of systems (6) and (7) becomes difficult. In the present work,  
 270 the natural extension of the numerical schemes proposed in Escalante et al.  
 271 (2018a,b) is considered. These authors propose, describe and use a splitting  
 272 technique. Initially, the systems (6) and (7) are expressed as the following non-  
 273 conservative hyperbolic system:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t U_s + \partial_x F_s(U_s) = G_s(U_s) \partial_x H, \\ \partial_t U_f + \partial_x F_f(U_f) + B_f(U_f) \partial_x (U_f) = G_f(U_f) \partial_x (H - z_s). \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

274 Both equations are solved simultaneously using a second order HLL (Harten-  
 275 Lax-van Leer), positivity-preserving and well-balanced, path-conservative finite  
 276 volume scheme (see Castro and Fernández-Nieto (2012)) and using the same  
 277 *time step*. The synchronization of time steps is performed by taking into account  
 278 the CFL condition of the complete system (8). A first order estimation of the  
 279 maximum of the wave speed for system (8) is the following:

$$\lambda_{\max} = \max(|u_s| + \sqrt{(g(1-r)z_s}, |\bar{u}| + \sqrt{gh}).$$

280 Then, the non-hydrostatic pressure corrections  $p_{1/2}, \dots, p_{L-1/2}$  at the vertical  
 281 interfaces are computed from

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t U_f = \mathcal{T}_{NH}(h, h_x, H, H_x, z_s, (z_s)_x, p, p_x), \\ B(U_f, (U_f)_x, H, H_x, z_s, (z_s)_x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

282 which requires the discretization of an elliptic operator that is done using stan-  
 283 dard second-order central finite differences. This results in a linear system than  
 284 in our case it is solved using an iterative Scheduled Jacobi method (see Adsuara  
 285 et al. (2016)). Finally, the computed non-hydrostatic correction are used to up-  
 286 date the horizontal and vertical momentum equations at each layer and, at the

287 same time, the frictions  $S_s(U_s)$  and  $S_f(U_f)$  are also discretized (see Escalante  
288 et al. (2018a,b)). For the discretization of the Coulomb friction term, we refer  
289 the reader to Fernández-Nieto et al. (2008).

290 The resulting numerical scheme is well-balanced for the water at rest station-  
291 ary solution and is linearly  $L^\infty$ -stable under the usual CFL condition related to  
292 the hydrostatic system. It is also worth mentioning that the numerical scheme  
293 is positive preserving and can deal with emerging topographies. Finally, its  
294 extension to 2D is straightforward. For dealing with numerical experiments in  
295 2D regions, the computational domain must be decomposed into subsets with a  
296 simple geometry, called cells or finite volumes. The 2D numerical algorithm for  
297 the hydrodynamic hyperbolic component of the coupled system is well suited to  
298 be parallelized and implemented in GPU architectures, as is shown in Castro  
299 et al. (2011). Nevertheless, a standard treatment of the elliptic part of the sys-  
300 tem do not allow the parallelization of the algorithms. The method used here  
301 and proposed in Escalante et al. (2018a,b)), makes it possible that the second  
302 step can also be implemented on GPUs, due to the compactness of the numeri-  
303 cal stencil and the easy and massively parallelization of the Jacobi method The  
304 above-mentioned parallel GPU and multi-GPU implementation of the complete  
305 algorithm results in much shorter computational times.

## 306 **5. Benchmark Problem Comparisons**

307 This section presents the numerical results obtained with the Multilayer-  
308 HySEA model for the three benchmark problems dealing with granular slides  
309 and the comparison with the measured lab data for the generated water waves.  
310 In particular, BP4 deals with a 2D submarine granular slide, BP5 with a 2D  
311 subaerial slide, and BP6 with a 3D subaerial slide. The description of all these  
312 benchmarks can be found at LTMBW (2017) and Kirby et al. (2018). In this  
313 paper, all units, unless otherwise indicated, will be expressed in the International  
314 System of Units (IS).

The model parameters required at each simulation are:

$g$ ,  $r$ ,  $n_a$ ,  $n_m$ ,  $d_s$ ,  $\delta_i$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ .

315 The parameters  $g$ ,  $r$ ,  $n_m$ , and  $d_s$  are related to physical settings given at each  
316 experiment.  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are empirical parameters that were chosen as in the seminal  
317 paper of Pouliquen and Forterre (2002).

318 The friction angles  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  are characteristic angles of the material, and  $\delta_3$   
319 is related to the behavior of the slide motion when starting from the rest. Thus,  
320 the values of these angles strongly depend on the granular material. They were  
321 adjusted within a range of feasible values according to the references (Brunet  
322 et al. (2017), Mangeney et al. (2007), and Pouliquen and Forterre (2002)):

$$\delta_1 \in [1^\circ, 22^\circ], \quad \delta_2 \in [11^\circ, 34^\circ], \quad \delta_3 \in [3^\circ, 23^\circ].$$

323 In the present paper we have used the values

$$\delta_1 = 6^\circ, \quad \delta_2 \in [17^\circ, 30^\circ], \quad \delta_3 = 12^\circ,$$

324 for the three benchmark problems, which is consistent with the values found in  
325 the literature. As noted in Mangeney et al. (2007), in general for real problems  
326 involving complex rheologies, smaller values of these parameters  $\delta_i$  should be  
327 employed.

328 With regard to the sensitivity of the model to parameter variation, an appro-  
329 priate sensitivity analysis can be performed, as it is done in González-Vida et al.  
330 (2019). However, the aim of the present work was to prove if the non-hydrostatic  
331 model couple with the granular model was able to accurately reproduce the three  
332 benchmarks considered.

333 Regarding the parameter denoting the buoyancy effect, for field cases,  $r =$   
334  $0.5$  is usually taken, and then the parameter is eventually adjusted based on  
335 available field data. In general, the complexity of the rheology introduces a  
336 difficulty that is always present on the modelling as well as on the adjustment  
337 of the parameters. Moreover, the more sophisticated is the model (considering,  
338 for example, the rheology of the material), more input data will be required.

339 We would like to stress the simplicity of the slide model used here as a great  
 340 advantage regarding parameter set-up. Although the end-user has to adjust  
 341 some input parameters of the model, within a range of acceptable value, the  
 342 simplicity of the proposed numerical model makes this task remain simple, not  
 343 representing an obstacle to run the model. On the other hand, the efficient GPU  
 344 implementation of the model, allows performing uncertainty quantification (see  
 345 Snchez-Linares et al. (2016)) on a few parameters, and investigating the sensi-  
 346 tivity to them varying on small ranges (as in González-Vida et al. (2019)). This  
 347 will be the aim of future works. When field or experimental observations are  
 348 available, a different approach is proposed in Ferreiro-Ferreiro et al. (2020) where  
 349 an automatic data assimilation strategy for a similar landslide non-hydrostatic  
 350 model is proposed. The same strategy can be adapted for the model used here.

#### 351 5.1. Benchmark Problem 4: Two-dimensional submarine granular slide

352 The first proposed benchmark problem for granular slides, BP4 in the list,  
 353 aims to reproduce the generation of tsunamis by submarine granular slides mod-  
 354 eled in the laboratory experiment by means of glass beads. The corresponding  
 355 2D laboratory were performed at the Ecole Centrale de Marseille (see Grilli  
 356 et al. (2017) for a description of the experiment). A set of 58 (29 with their  
 357 corresponding replicate) experiments were performed at the IRPHE (Institut de  
 358 Recherche sur les Phénomènes Hors Equilibre) precision tank. The experiments  
 359 were performed using a triangular submarine cavity filled with glass beads that  
 360 were released by lifting a sluice gate and then moving down a plane slope, ev-  
 361 erything underwater. Figure 2 shows a schematic picture of the experiment  
 362 set-up. The one-dimensional domain  $[0, 6]$  is discretized with  $\Delta x = 0.005 m$   
 363 and wall boundary conditions were imposed. The simulated time is 10 s. The  
 364 CFL number was set to 0.5 and model parameters take the following values:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &g = 9.81, \quad r = 0.78, \quad n_a = 0.2, \quad n_m = 10^{-3}, \\
 &d_s = 7 \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \delta_1 = 6^\circ, \quad \delta_2 = 17^\circ, \quad \delta_3 = 12^\circ, \quad \beta = 0.136, \quad \gamma = 10^{-3}.
 \end{aligned}$$



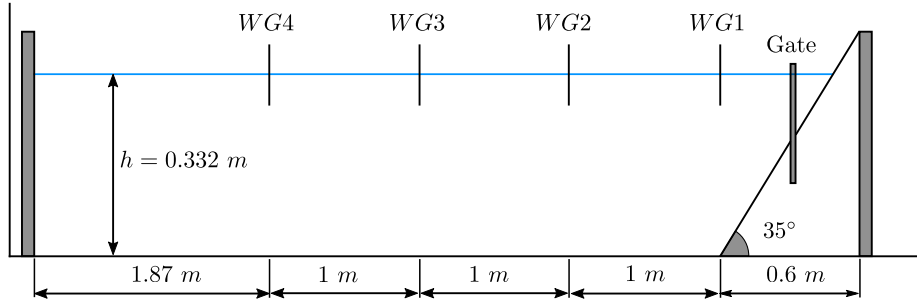


Figure 2: BP4 sketch showing the longitudinal cross section of the IRPHE's precision tank. The figure shows the location of the plane slope, the sluice gate and the 4 gages (WG1, WG2, WG3, WG4).

366 Figure 3 depicts the modeled time series for the water height at the 4 wave  
 367 gages and compared them with the lab measured data. Note that the computed  
 368 free surface matches well with the laboratory data for gauges WG2, WG3, WG4,  
 369 both in amplitude and frequency. For gauge WG1, some mismatch is observed  
 370 in amplitude, that could be explained for the simplicity of the landslide model  
 371 and the absence of turbulent effects in the model.

372 Figure 4 shows the location and evolution of the granular material and wa-  
 373 ter free surface at several times during the numerical simulation. In Grilli et al.  
 374 (2017) some snapshots of the landslide evolution are shown at different time  
 375 steps. In particular it could be seen that the location of the landslide front is  
 376 well-captured, but there is some mismatch of the landslide shape at the front,  
 377 mainly due to the simplicity of the landslide model considered here. In particu-  
 378 lar, we consider that density remains constant in the landslide layer during the  
 379 simulation, what is not true due to the water entrainment.

380 In the numerical experiments presented in this section, the number of layers  
 381 was set up to 5. Similar results were obtained with lower number of layers (4 or  
 382 3), but slightly closer to measured data when considering 5 layers. This justifies  
 383 our choice in the present test problem. Larger number of layers do not further  
 384 improve the numerical results. This may indicate that to get better numerical  
 385 results it is not longer a question related with the dispersive properties of the

386 model (that improve with the number of layers) but is more likely due to some  
missing physics.

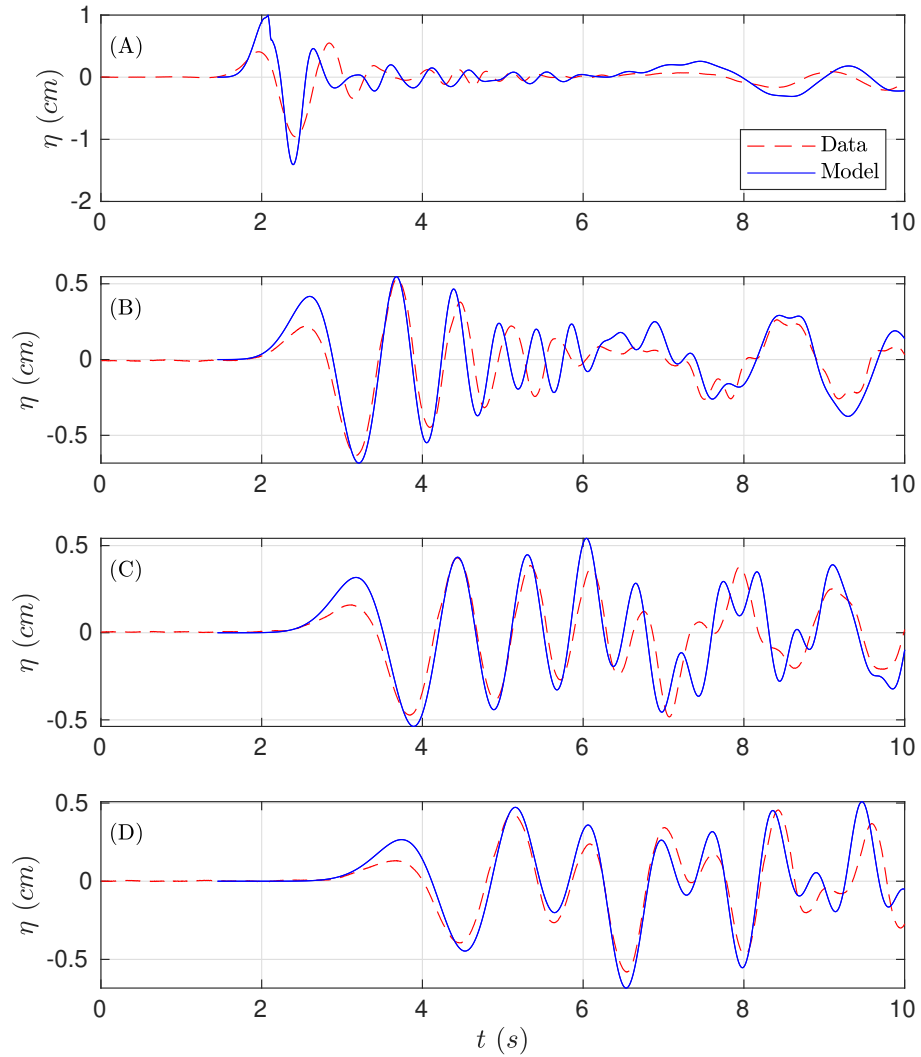


Figure 3: Numerical time series for the simulated water surface (in blue) compared with lab measure data (red) at wave gauges (A) WG1, (B) WG2, (C) WG3, and (D) WG4.

387

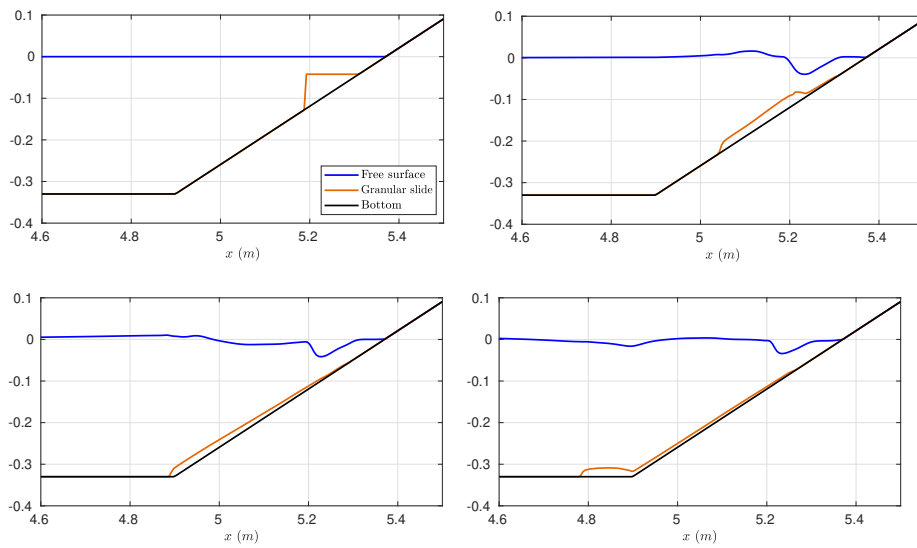


Figure 4: Modeled location of the granular material and water free surface elevation at times  $t = 0, 0.3, 0.6, 0.9$  s.

388 5.2. Benchmark Problem 5: Two-dimensional subaerial granular slide

389 This benchmark is based on a series of 2D laboratory experiments performed  
 390 by Viroulet et al. (2014) in a small tank at the École Centrale de Marseille,  
 391 France. The simplified picture of the set-up for these experiments can be found  
 in Figure 5. The granular material was confined in triangular subaerial cavities

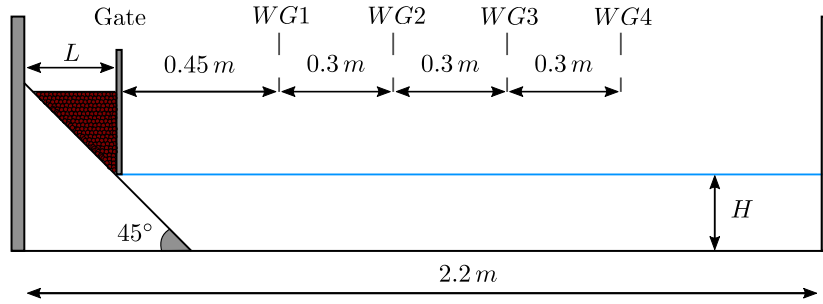


Figure 5: BP5 sketch of the set-up for the laboratory experiments.

392

393 and composed of dry glass beads of diameter  $d_s$  (that was varied) and density  
 394  $\rho_s = 2,500 \text{ km}/\text{m}^3$ . This was located on a plane  $45^\circ$  slope just on top of the  
 395 water surface. Then the slide was released by lifting a sluice gate and entering  
 396 right away in contact with water. The experimental set-up used by Viroulet  
 397 et al. (2014) consisted of a wave tank, 2.2 m long, 0.4 m high, and 0.2 m wide.

398 The granular material is initially retained by a vertical gate.  
 399 The gate is suddenly lowered, and in the numerical experiments, it should be  
 400 assumed that the gate release velocity is large enough to neglect the time it takes  
 401 the gate to withdraw. The front face of the granular slide touches the water  
 402 surface at  $t = 0$ . The initial slide shape has a triangular cross-section over the  
 403 width of the tank, with down-tank length  $L$ , and front face height  $B = L$  as the  
 404 slope angle is  $45^\circ$ .

405 For the present benchmark, two cases are considered. Case 1 defined by  
 406 the following set-up:  $d_s = 1.5 \text{ mm}$ ,  $H = 14.8 \text{ cm}$  and  $L = 11 \text{ cm}$  and Case 2  
 407 given by  $d_s = 10 \text{ mm}$ ,  $H = 15 \text{ cm}$  and  $L = 13.5 \text{ cm}$ . The benchmark problem  
 408 proposed consists of simulating the free surface elevation evolution at the four  
 409 gauges WG1 to WG4 where measured data are provided, for the two test cases

410 described above.

411 The same model configuration as in the previous benchmark problem is  
412 used here. The vertical structure is reproduced using three layers in the present  
413 case. The one-dimensional domain is given by the interval  $[0, 2.2]$  and it is  
414 discretized using a step  $\Delta x = 0.003$  m. As boundary conditions, rigid walls  
415 were imposed. The simulation time is 2.5 s. The *CFL* number is set to 0.9 and  
416 model parameters take the following values:

$$417 \quad g = 9.81, \quad r = 0.6, \quad n_a = 10^{-2}, \quad n_m = 9 \cdot 10^{-2},$$
$$\delta_1 = 6^\circ, \quad \delta_2 = 26^\circ, \quad \delta_3 = 12^\circ, \quad \beta = 0.136, \quad \gamma = 10^{-3}.$$

418 Finally  $d_s$  was set to  $1.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$  and  $10 \cdot 10^{-3}$  depending on the test case. Figure  
419 6 shows the comparison for Case 1. In this case, the numerical results show an  
420 very good agreement when compared with lab measured data and, in particular,  
421 the two leading waves are very well captured. Figure 7 shows the comparison for  
422 Case 2. In this case, the agreement is good, but larger differences between model  
423 and lab measurements can be observed. Two things can be concluded from the  
424 observation of Figures 6 and 7: (1) a much better agreement is obtained for Case  
425 1 than for Case 2 and (2) the agreement is better for gauges located further from  
426 the slide compared with closer to the slide gauges. Although paradoxical, this  
427 second differential behavior among gauges can be explained as a consequence of  
428 the hydrodynamic component being much better resolved and simulated than  
429 the morphodynamic component (the movement of the slide material), obviously  
430 much more difficult to reproduce. But, at the same time, this implies a correct  
431 transfer of energy at the initial stages of the interaction slide/fluid.

432 Finally, Figure 8 shows the location of the granular material and the free  
433 surface elevation at several times for numerical simulation of Case 1. In Viroulet  
434 et al. (2014) some snapshots of the landslide evolution are shown at different  
435 time-steps that can be compared with Figure 8. As for the benchmark problem  
436 4, it can be seen that the location of the landslide front is well-captured, but  
437 there is some mismatch of the landslide shape at the front, mainly due to the  
438 simplicity of the landslide model considered here.

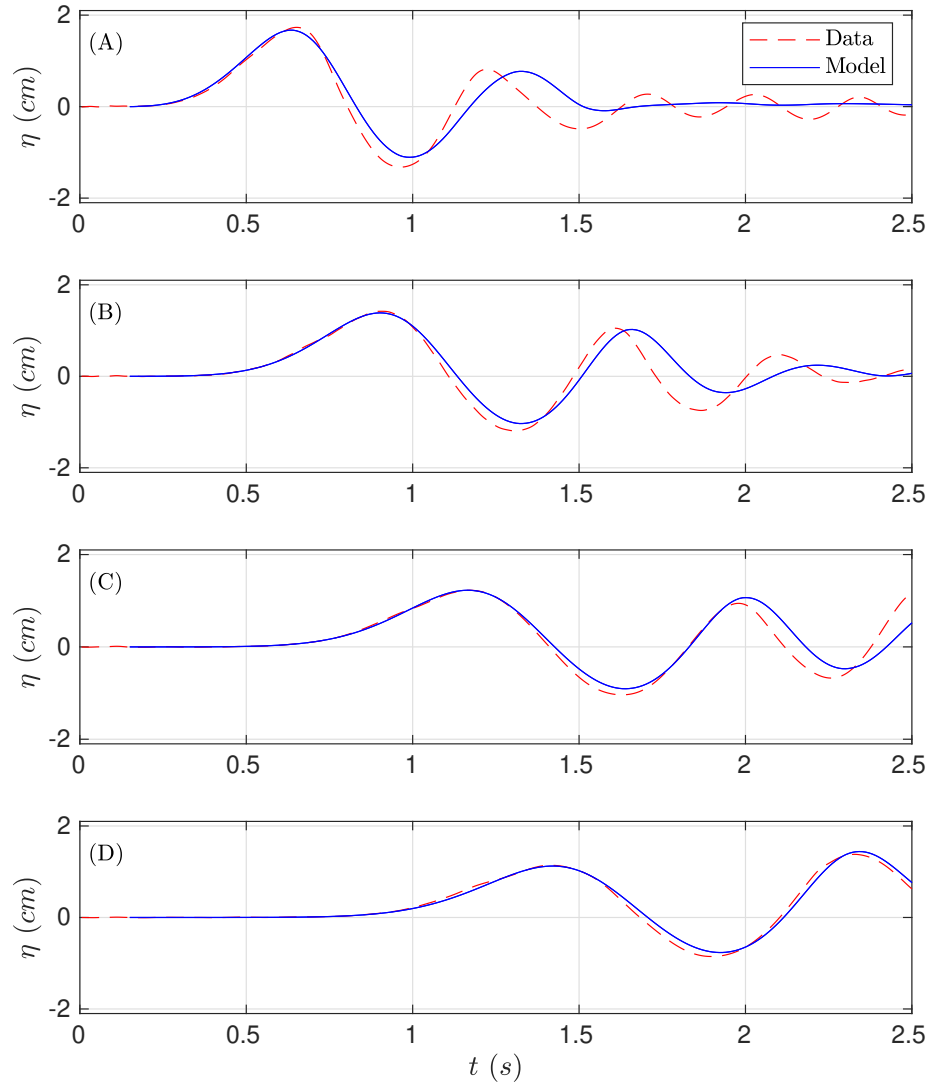


Figure 6: Numerical time series for the simulated water surface (in blue) compared with lab measure data (red). Case 1 at gauges (A) G1, (B) G2, (C) G3, and (D) G4

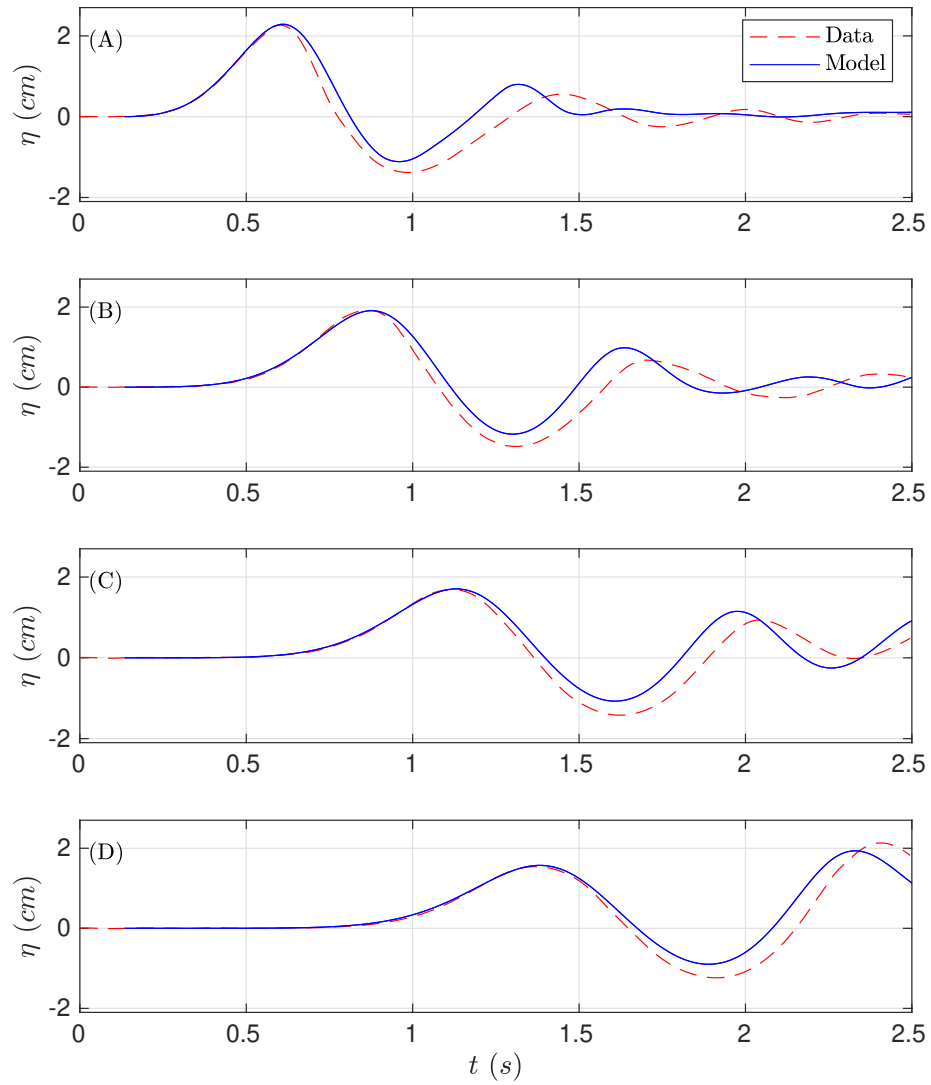


Figure 7: Numerical time series for the simulated water surface (in blue) compared with lab measure data (red). Case 2 at gauges (A) G1, (B) G2, (C) G3, and (D) G4

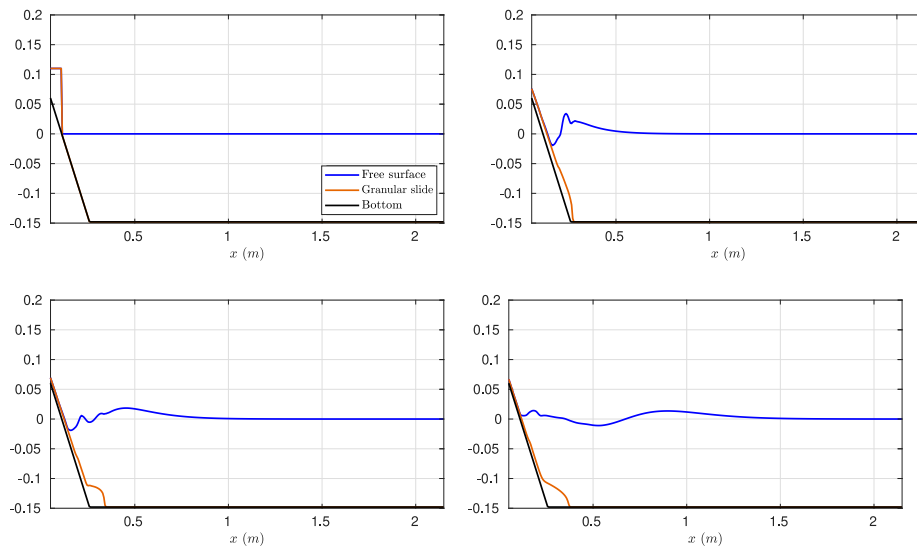


Figure 8: Modelled water free surface elevation and granular slide location at times  $t = 0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.8$  s for the Case 1.



439 5.3. Benchmark Problem 6: Three-dimensional subaerial granular slide

440 This benchmark problem is based on the 3D laboratory experiment of Mo-  
 441 hammed and Fritz (2012) and Mohammed (2010). Benchmark 6 simulates the  
 442 rapid entry of a granular slide into a 3D water body. The landslide tsunami  
 443 experiments were conducted at Oregon State University in Corvallis. The land-  
 slides are deployed off a plane  $27.1^\circ$  slope, as shown in Figure 9. The landslide

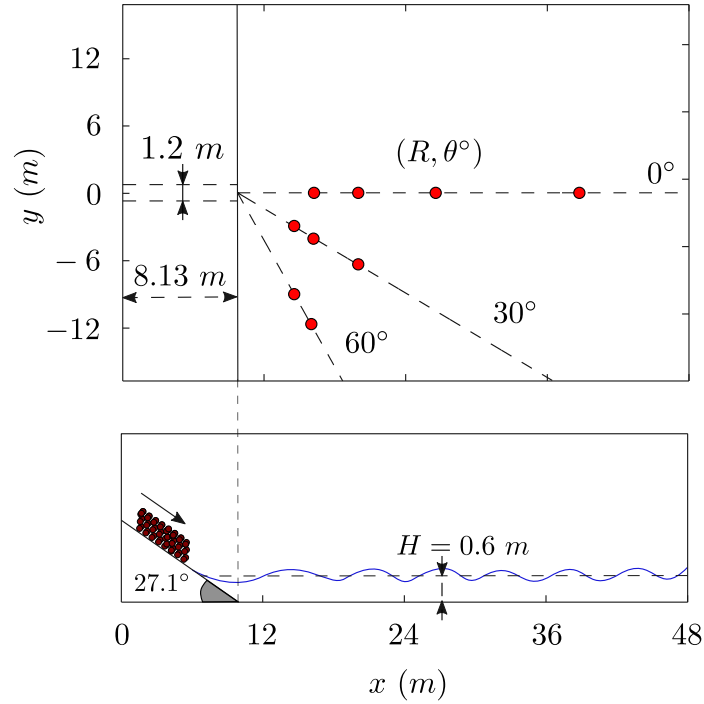


Figure 9: Schematic picture of the computational domain. Plan view in the upper panel. Cross-section at  $y = 0$  m in the lower panel. The red dots represent the distribution of the wave gauge positions in the laboratory set-up.

444

445 material is deployed using a box measuring  $2.1\text{ m} \times 1.2\text{ m} \times 0.3\text{ m}$ , with a  
 446 volume of  $0.756\text{ m}^3$  and weighting approximately  $1360\text{ kg}$ . The case selected  
 447 by the NTHMP as benchmarking test is the one with a still water depth of  
 448  $H = 0.6\text{ m}$  (see Figure 9). The computational domain is the rectangle defined  
 449 by  $[0, 48] \times [-14, 14]$ , and it is discretized with  $\Delta x = \Delta y = 0.06\text{ m}$ . At the  
 450 boundaries, wall boundary conditions were imposed. The simulation time is  
 451  $20\text{ s}$  and we set the  $CFL = 0.5$ . According to Mohammed and Fritz (2012) and

452 Mohammed (2010), the three-dimensional granular landslide parameters were  
 453 set to

$$454 \quad g = 9.81, \quad r = 0.55, \quad n_a = 4, \quad n_m = 4 \cdot 10^{-2},$$

$$455 \quad d_s = 13.7 \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \delta_1 = 6^\circ, \quad \delta_2 = 30^\circ, \quad \delta_3 = 12^\circ, \quad \beta = 0.136, \quad \gamma = 10^{-3}.$$

455 The vertical structure of the fluid layer is modeled using three layers. Similar  
 456 results were obtained with 2 layers.

457 Initially, the slide box is driven using four pneumatic pistons. Here we  
 458 provide comparisons for the case where the pressure for the pneumatic pistons  
 459 generating the slide is  $P = 0.4$  MPa ( $P = 58$  PSI). In Mohammed (2010), it  
 460 is shown that for this test case, the landslide box reached a velocity of  $v_b =$   
 461  $2.3 \cdot \sqrt{g \cdot 0.6} = 5.58$  m/s. Thus, the initial condition for the water velocities is  
 462 set to zero:

$$u_i = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, L$$

463 and for the landslide velocity is set to the above-mentioned constant value:

$$u_s = 5.58, \text{ wherever } z_s > 0,$$

464 for the  $x$ -component. The  $y$ -component of the landslide velocity was initially  
 465 set to zero.

466 The benchmark problem proposed consists of simulating the free surface ele-  
 467 vation at some wave-gauges. In the present study, we include the comparison for  
 468 the 9 wave gauges displayed in Figure 9 as red dots. A total number of 21 wave  
 469 gauges composed the whole set of data, plus 5 run-up gauges. The wave-gauge  
 in coordinates  $(R, \theta^\circ)$  are given more precisely in Table 1. Before comparing

$\theta^\circ$	$0^\circ$				$30^\circ$			$60^\circ$	
$R$	5.12	8.5	14	24.1	3.9	5.12	8.5	3.9	5.12

Table 1: Location of the 9 waves gauges referenced to the toe's slope.

470  
 471 time series, we first check the simulated landslide velocity at impact with the  
 472 measured one. The slide impact velocity measured in the lab experiment is

473 5.72  $m/s$  at time  $t = 0.44$  s. The numerically computed slide impact velocity  
 474 is slightly underestimated with a value of 5.365  $m/s$  at time  $t = 0.4$  s as it can  
 475 be seen in the upper panel of Figure 10. The final simulated granular deposit is  
 476 located partially on the final part of the sloping floor and partially at the flat  
 477 bottom closer to the point of change of slope as it is shown in the lower panel of  
 478 Figure 10. This can be compared with the actual final location of the granular  
 479 material in the experimental setup. The simulated deposits extend further, being  
 480 thinner. This is probably due to the fact that we are neglecting the friction  
 481 that it is produced by the change in the slope at the transition area. In Ma  
 et al. (2015) a similar result and discussion can be found. Figure 11 presents

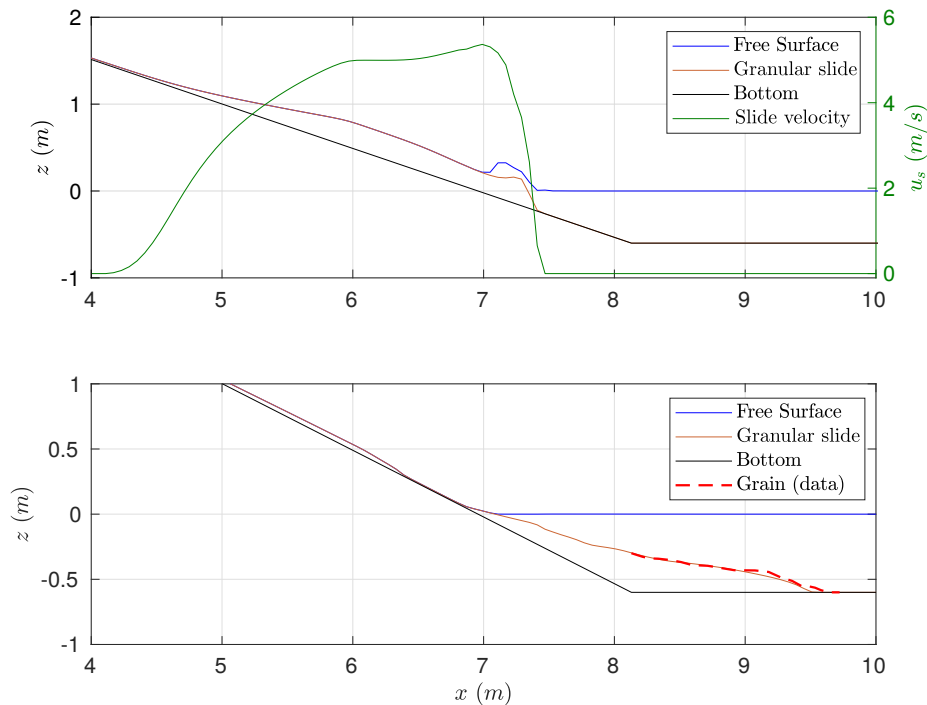


Figure 10: BP6. Cross-section at  $y = 0$  m. Upper panel shows the location and velocity of the granular slide and the generated wave at time  $t = 0.4$  s from the triggering and lower panel the final deposit location (at  $t = 20$  s).

482

483 the comparisons between simulated and the measured waves at the 9 gauges  
 484 we have retained. Model results are in good agreement with measured time.  
 485 Despite this, wave heights are overestimated at some stations, specially those

486 closer to the shoreline (for example, the station with  $R = 3.9$  and  $\theta = 30^\circ$ ).  
 487 This effect has been also observed and discussed in Ma et al. (2015). At some  
 488 of the time series, it can be observed that the small free-surface oscillations at  
 489 the final part of the time series, are not well-captured by the model. This is  
 490 partially due to the relatively coarse horizontal grids used in the simulation.  
 491 These same behaviour can be also observed in Figure 12 in this case for the  
 492 comparisons between simulated and measured run-up values at some measure  
 493 locations situated at the shoreline (as for  $x = 7.53$ ).

494 Table 2 shows the wall-clock times on a NVIDIA Tesla P100 GPU. It can be  
 495 observed that including non-hydrostatic terms in the SWE-SH system results in  
 496 an increase of the computational time in 2.9 times. If a richer vertical structure  
 497 is considered, then larger computational times are required. As examples for the  
 498 two and three-layer systems, 3.48 and 4.66 times increase in the computational  
 499 effort.

	Runtime (s)	Ratio
SWE-SH	186.55	1
1L NH-SH	541.11	2.9
2L NH-SH	649.19	3.48
3L NH-SH	869.32	4.66

Table 2: Wall-clock times in seconds for the SWE-SH and the non-hydrostatic GPU implementations. The ratios are with respect the SWE-SH model implementation.

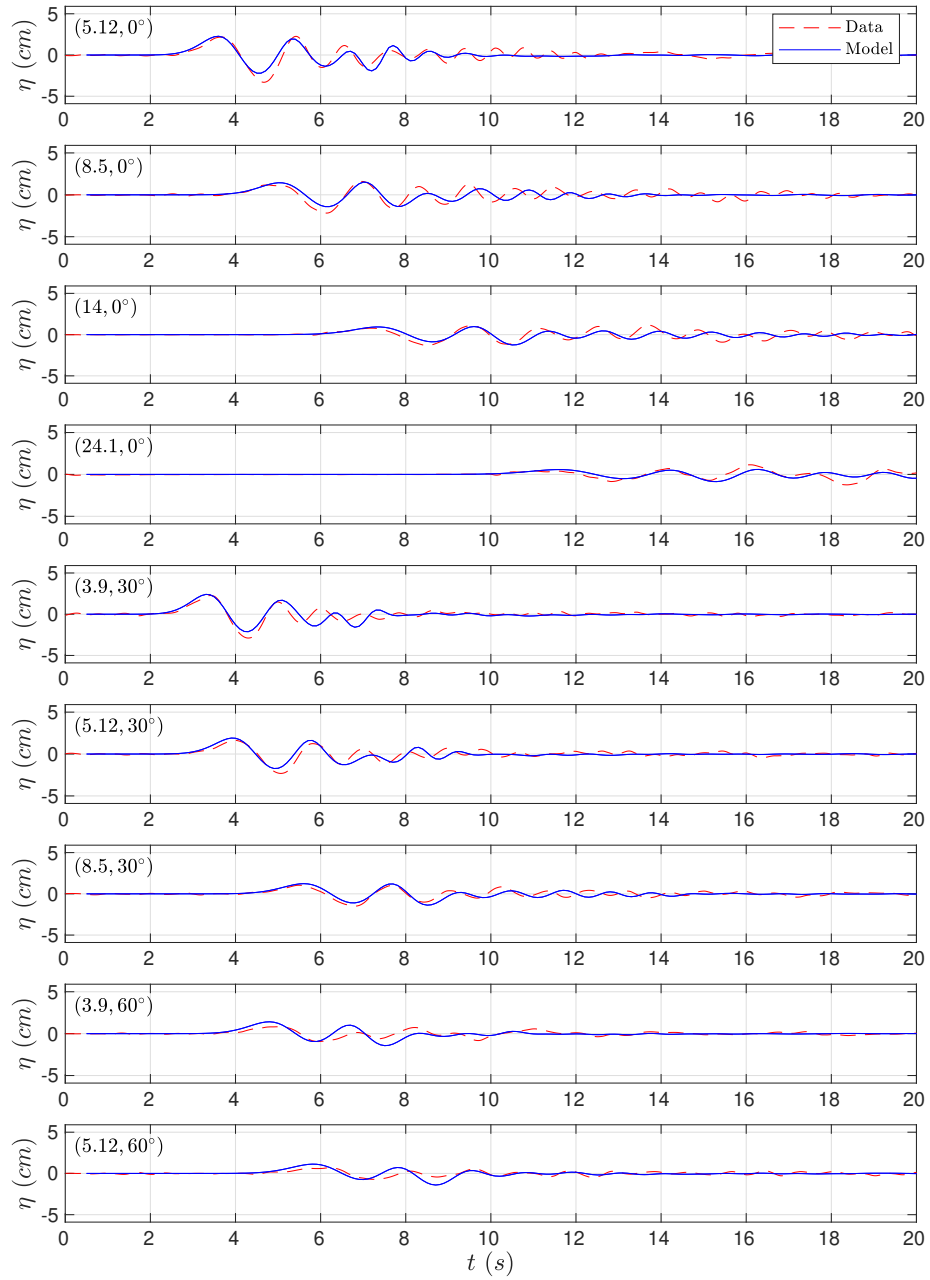


Figure 11: Simulated (solid blue lines) time series compared with measured (dashed red lines) free surface waves for the 9 wave gauges considered at  $(R, \theta^\circ)$  positions.

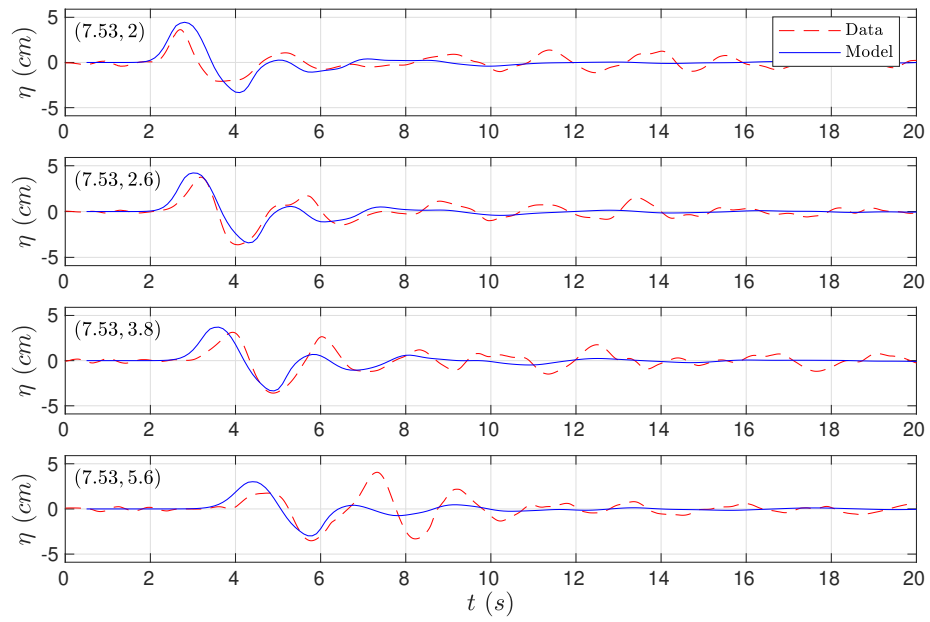


Figure 12: Time series comparing numerical run-up (solid blue) at the 4 run-up gauges with the measured (dashed red) data at  $(x, y)$  positions.

## 500 **6. Concluding Remarks**

501 Numerical models need to be validated previous to their use as predictive  
502 tools. This requirement becomes even more necessary when these models are  
503 going to be used for risk assessment in natural hazards where human lives are  
504 involved. The current work aims at benchmarking the novel Multilayer-HySEA  
505 model for landslide generated tsunamis produced by granular slides, in order  
506 to provide in the future to the tsunami community with a robust, efficient and  
507 reliable tool for landslide tsunami hazard assessment.

508 The Multilayer-HySEA code implements a two-phase model to describe the  
509 interaction between landslides (aerial or subaerial) and water body. The upper  
510 phase describes the hydrodynamic component. This is done using a stratified  
511 vertical structure that includes non-hydrostatic terms in order to include disper-  
512 sive effects in the propagation of simulated waves. The motion of the landslide  
513 is taken into account by the lower phase, consisting of a Savage-Hutter model.  
514 To reproduce these flows, the friction model given in Pouliquen and Forterre  
515 (2002) is considered here. The hydrodynamic and morphodynamic models are  
516 weakly-coupled through the boundary condition at their interface.

517 The implemented numerical algorithm combines a finite volume path-con-  
518 servative scheme for the underlying hyperbolic system and finite differences for  
519 the discretization of the non-hydrostatic terms. The numerical model is imple-  
520 mented to be run in GPU architectures. The two-layer non-hydrostatic code  
521 coupled with the Savage-Hutter used here, has been shown to run at very effi-  
522 cient computational times. To assess this, we compare with respect to the one-  
523 layer SWE/Savage-Hutter GPU code. For the numerical simulations performed  
524 here, the execution times for the non-hydrostatic model are always below 4.66  
525 times the times for the SWE model for a number of layers up to three. We can  
526 conclude that the numerical scheme presented here is very robust, extremely  
527 efficient, and can model dispersive effects generated by submarine/subaerial  
528 landslides at a low computational cost considering that dispersive effects and  
529 a vertical multilayer structure are included in the model. Model results show

530 a good agreement with the experimental data for the three benchmark prob-  
531 lems considered. In particular, for BP5, but this also occurs for the other two  
532 benchmark problems. In general, it is shown a better agreement for the hydro-  
533 dynamic component, compare with their morphodynamic counterpart, which is  
534 more challenging to reproduce.

## 535 **7. Code and data availability**

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

540 All the data used in the current work, necessary to reproduce the set-up of  
541 the numerical experiments and the laboratory measured data required to com-  
542 pared with, can be downloaded from LTMBW (2017) at [http://www1.udel.edu/  
543 kirby/landslide/](http://www1.udel.edu/kirby/landslide/). Finally, the NetCDF files containing the numerical results ob-  
544 tained with the Multilayer-HySEA code for all the tests presented here can be  
545 found and download from Macías et al. (2020b).

## 546 **8. Authors' contributions**

547 JM is leading the HySEA codes benchmarking effort undertaken by the  
548 EDANYA group, he wrote most of the paper, reviewed and edited it, assisted  
549 in the numerical experiments and in their set up. CE implemented the numer-  
550 ical code and performed all the numerical experiments, he also contributed to  
551 the writing of the manuscript. JM and CE did all the figures. MC strongly  
552 contributed to the design and implementation of the numerical code.

## 553 **9. Competing interest**

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



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