



1     **Quantitative Study of Storm Surge Risk Assessment in Undeveloped Coastal Area of China**  
2     **Based on Deep Learning and Geographic Information System (GIS) Techniques: A Case**  
3     **Study of Double-Moon Bay Zone**

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14  
15    **Abstract**

16    Storm surge is a common nature disaster in China southern coastal area, which usually causes  
17    heavy human life and economic losses. With the economic development and population  
18    concentration of coastal cities, the storm surges may result in more impacts and damage in the  
19    future. Therefore, it is of vital importance to conduct risk assessment to identify high-risk areas  
20    and evaluate economic losses. However, quantitative study of storm surge risk assessment in  
21    undeveloped areas of China is difficult, since there is a lack of building characters and damage  
22    assessment data. Aiming at the problem of data missing in undeveloped areas of China, this paper  
23    proposes a methodology for conducting storm surge risk assessment quantitatively based on deep  
24    learning and geographic information system (GIS) techniques. Five defined storm surge  
25    inundation scenarios with different typhoon return periods are simulated by coupled  
26    FVCOM-SWAN model, the reliability of which is validated using official measurements. Building  
27    footprints of the study area are extracted through TransUNet deep learning model and Remote  
28    Sensing Image (RSI), while building heights are obtained through Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)  
29    measurement. Subsequently, economic losses are quantitatively calculated by combing the  
30    adjusted depth-damage functions and overlay analysis of the buildings exposed to storm surge  
31    inundation. Zonation maps of the study area are illustrated to display the risk levels according to  
32    the economic losses. The quantitative risk assessment and zonation maps can help the government  
33    to make storm surge disaster prevention measures and optimize land use planning, and thus to  
34    reduce the potential economic losses of the coastal area.

35  
36    **Keywords:** Strom surge; Quantitative risk assessment; GIS; Deep learning; Risk zonation map

37  
38    **1. Introduction**

39         Storm surge, defined as the abnormal rise of water over and above the normal astronomical  
40         tide, and is expressed in terms of height above predicted or expected tide levels. Mostly, the surge  
41         is generated by a strong atmospheric disturbance, and it becomes particularly catastrophic when it  
42         happens to coincide with an astronomical high tide. In that case, the surge-driven coastal flooding  
43         may inundate buildings and cropland, cause significant casualties and economic losses. Storm  
44         surges have caused widespread damage worldwide. In 2013, super typhoon Yolanda as the worst



45 typhoon in last 30 years, pounded the Philippines. It caused 6293 individuals reported dead, 28689  
46 injuries and 1061 individuals missing, with estimated damages totaling 864 million US dollars  
47 (Mcpherson, 2015). Hurricane Harvey struck Texas in August 2017, resulting in approximately  
48 100 deaths and economic losses exceeding 125 billion dollars (Lee, 2021). In China, storm surges  
49 also pose a frequent threat in the coastal cities. In the last decade, China has experienced an  
50 average of 8.5 storm surge disasters annually, with an average damage amount of 6815.8 million  
51 yuan per year, where Guangdong and Zhejiang Provinces are the most affected coastal areas  
52 (China Marine disaster bulletin, 2022). For example, Typhoon Hato in 2017, Typhoon Mangkhut  
53 in 2018, Typhoon Lekima in 2019 has caused significant damage to coastal cities in China, and  
54 resulted great losses of life and property. For the past few years, as the rapid development of  
55 population and economic in China coastal area, the potential monetary loss grows accordingly  
56 (Fang et al., 2021; Ji et al., 2020; Mcgranahan et al., 2007; Seto et al., 2011). Therefore, it is  
57 crucial to implement risk assessment and mapping strategies to effectively reduce these risks and  
58 mitigate the impact of storm surges.

59 Storm surge hazard assessment is an essential component of storm surge risk assessment and  
60 zoning, aiming to evaluate the hazard intensity of disasters, through numerical simulation of storm  
61 surge processes, estimation of storm surge for selected return periods, and computation of the  
62 probable maximum storm surge (Shi et al., 2013). Therefore, the numerical simulation of storm  
63 surge is a key step for storm surge risk assessment. However, because of the limitation of  
64 historical storms and the nondeterminacy of future storm, numerical simulation of storm surges is  
65 usually used to determine storm levels. Advanced Circulation Mode (ADCIRC) is a widely used  
66 hydrodynamic model in coastal area. For example, Vijayan et al. (2021) utilized ADCIRC model  
67 to simulate storm surges and tides during the hurricane that land on Florida in 2018, for the  
68 purpose of comparing the different impact of wind model Holland 1980 and Holland 2010. Wang  
69 et al. (2021a) and Liu and Huang (2020) used ADCIRC and Simulating Waves Nearshore (SWAN)  
70 coupled model respectively simulate the storm surge and wave in the sea near Shandong Peninsula  
71 and Taiwan, and the hazard assessment and model verification were carried out respectively.  
72 Delft3D is a comprehensive numerical modeling system for simulating hydrodynamic processes.  
73 Hu et al. (2022) adapted a pre-validated Delft3D-based hydrodynamic model proved the impact of  
74 levee opening at selected locations was minor. Lyddon et al. (2019) used Delft3D-FLOW-WAVE  
75 model calculate the tide and wave in the Severn Estuary, the result pointed out the importance of  
76 locally generating winds in simulation of water level and wave height. Finite Volume Coastal  
77 Ocean Model (FVCOM) is another widely used numerical model for simulating hydrodynamic  
78 processes. Zhang et al. (2020) conducted a series of modeling experiments with the purpose of  
79 assessing the impact of storm and evaluated the flood protection by using FVCOM inundation  
80 model. Zhu et al. (2022) realized WRF-SWAN-FVCOM coupling simulation to analyze the  
81 spatial-temporal evolution laws, and the result demonstrate the method can predict hydroelastic  
82 responses of the maritime airport under the impact of typhoons, currents and waves.

83 It has been demonstrated that it is critical to include tide and sea-water-level variations in  
84 shelf and nearshore wave simulations (Masson, 1996). Furthermore, the sea water level could be  
85 significantly affected by strong tide and typhoon-induced wind in complex coastal seas and then  
86 modulate the wave properties (Yang et al., 2020). Coupled FVCOM-SWAN model, with the  
87 foundation of FVCOM's finite volume method, unstructured grid, and adaptable boundary  
88 condition handling capability, integrating the hydrodynamic and wave processes of SWAN,



89 possesses the ability to provide simulation result more quickly and accurately. In this circumstance,  
90 coupled FVCOM-SWAN model is used in this research for simulating the inundation of storm  
91 surge.

92 Coastal risk assessment can be categorized into two primary classifications: qualitative and  
93 quantitative. In the realm of qualitative assessment, entropy weight method, Analytic Hierarchy  
94 Process (AHP) and other methods are widely used. Ramkar and Yadav (2021) used AHP in  
95 combination with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for proposing a flood risk map, which  
96 can identify the high-risk areas efficiently. Malekinezhad et al. (2021) combined the entropy  
97 weight method and GIS, and conducted a flood vulnerability analysis for Hamadan city. The result  
98 highlighted the advantages of entropy weight method comparing to normal spatial overlay method.  
99 Besides, Pathan et al. (2022) and Rafiei-Sardooi et al. (2021) made use of Technique for Order  
100 Preference of Similarity by Ideal Solution (TOPSIS). The former pointed out the advancement of  
101 TOPSIS by comparing with AHP, and the latter combined machine learning and TOPSIS to  
102 analyze urban flood vulnerability. Unlike qualitative risk assessment, quantitative risk assessment  
103 enables the quantification of damages and risks in monetary terms. The most commonly used  
104 approach to assess direct damages is based on depth-damage curves (De Moel and Aerts, 2011;  
105 Merz et al., 2007; Smith, 1994). Thielen et al. (2008) presented the Flood Loss Estimation Model  
106 for the private sector (FLEMOps) through using the Germany flood losses data in August 2002,  
107 and the group further established model for commercial sector in 2010 (Kreibich et al., 2010).  
108 Zhai et al. (2005) derived multi-factor loss functions for buildings in Nagoya, Japan using  
109 empirical data from Tokai flood in 2000, and Grahn and Nyberg (2014) established functional  
110 relationships utilizing the house insurance claims data caused by lake flooding. Except for  
111 buildings, Yazdi and Salehi Neyshabouri (2012) and Hess and Morris (1988) respectively built  
112 several uni-variable functions and multi-factor functions for kinds of crops and grassland. In  
113 recent years, machine learning is also introduced in quantitative loss assessment, for example,  
114 Merz et al. (2013) developed a tree-based approach using Regression Tree and Bagging  
115 Regression Tree as machine-learning methods to analysis of direct building damage to private  
116 homes. Paprotny et al. (2020) proposed a Bayesian Network damage model (a  
117 Supervised-Machine-Learning method), and reached a good accuracy of predictions of building  
118 losses.

119 The essence of quantitative risk assessment lies in analyzing the interaction between  
120 exposure factors and hazards (Adnan et al., 2020; Armenakis and Nirupama, 2013; Granger, 2003;  
121 Kron, 2005), therefore it's crucial to quantify the direct tangible damage of elements at risk.  
122 Buildings are important exposure elements, as they are the gathering place of population and  
123 property. Building footprint data is necessary for evaluating the vulnerabilities of a building, as it  
124 provides essential information about the buildings, including spatial location, distribution, and  
125 boundaries and so on (Mharzi Alaoui et al., 2022). It's also of great significance in risk assessment,  
126 primarily due to its ability to identify high-risk areas, assess building vulnerability and estimate  
127 potential damage (Gacu et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2019). Extracting building footprints from remote  
128 sensing images has been widely used in many fields. For example, in urban planning, Zhou et al.  
129 (2004) used building footprint data and LiDAR point cloud data for urban 3D modeling; Tang et al.  
130 (2006) proposed a GIS-based landscape index combing with remote sensing to analyze urban  
131 sprawl spatial fragmentation. In disaster management, Liu et al. respectively evaluated seismic  
132 vulnerability in Urumqi and Weinan in China (Liu et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2020). In navigation,



133 Rousell and Zipf (2017) proposed a prototype navigation service based on multi-index in OSM  
134 dataset and building footprints, and Chen and Gao (2019) merged GPS pseudorange, LiDAR  
135 odometry measurements and building footprint to offer a UAV navigation algorithms. However,  
136 there is a lack of building footprints extraction and application in the realm of storm surge  
137 assessment.

138 In view of the aforementioned information, regarding storm surge qualitative risk assessment,  
139 there is a stringent requirement for both the quality and timeliness of land use data, which means  
140 that the risk assessment cannot be generated in real time, and the qualitative risk assessment also  
141 can't evaluate the risk level through the intuitive value of economic loss. In the realm of  
142 quantitative risk assessment, building a uni-variable or multi-factor empirical model requires  
143 complete and substantial data, and the published models generally only provide uni-variable  
144 functions ignoring the building height as a factor, or have regional limitations. Additionally, for  
145 the coastal regions of China, which are often affected by storm surge disasters, they tend to have  
146 relatively low levels of economic development. Under the circumstances, the data needed to  
147 conduct flood risk assessment is generally in a state of absence.

148 In response to the challenges mentioned above, the scientific goal of this paper is to propose a  
149 quantitative storm surge risk assessment method for underdeveloped areas based on deep learning  
150 and GIS techniques. First, on the basis of high-resolution DEM and seawall data measurement,  
151 five defined storm surge inundation scenarios with different typhoon return periods are simulated  
152 by employing the coupled FVCOM-SWAN model. Subsequently, TransUNet is introduced as a  
153 deep learning method to extract building footprint, and building's height data is acquired through  
154 UAV measurement. Since data on relevant disaster losses in underdeveloped regions are lacking,  
155 empirical modeling was deemed impractical. Therefore, the adjustment of the JRC's  
156 depth-damage curves by the HAZUS is chosen to take the impact building's height into  
157 consideration, thus to conduct a quantitative assessment with more accuracy. Finally, combining  
158 hazard map, exposure elements and adjusted depth-damage curves, the quantitative risk zoning  
159 maps are conducted. The risk zoning maps can assist decision-makers in identifying high-risk  
160 sub-zones and planning disaster prevention measures. Accordingly, the novelty can be seen in  
161 obtaining refined exposure elements data through deep learning and UAV, addressing the lack of  
162 historical storm surge economic loss data and considering the effect of building height on  
163 economic loss through the adjustment of existing depth-damage curves.

## 164 **2. Study area and datasets**

### 165 *2.1. Study area*

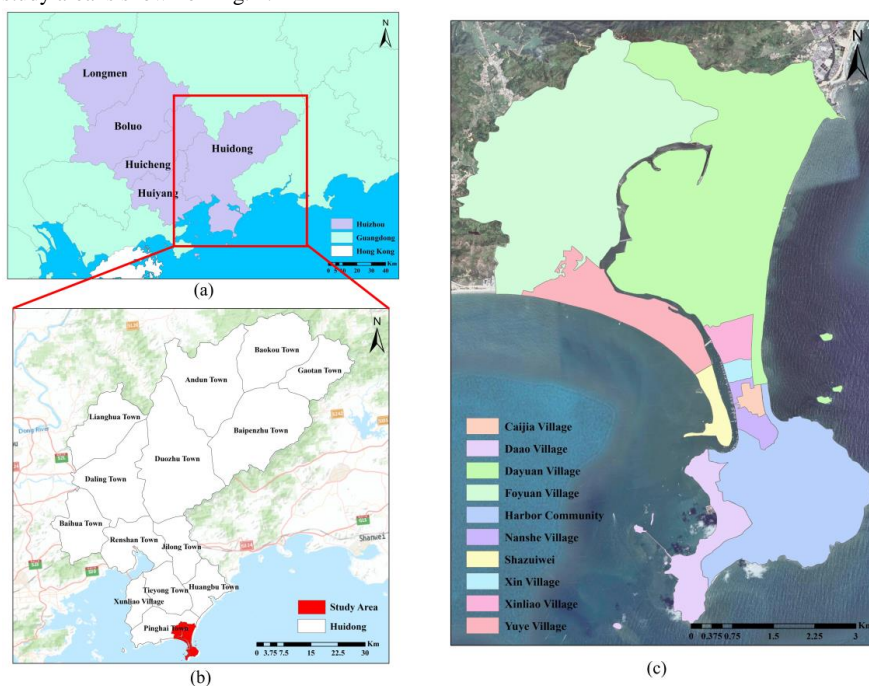
166 Being the shipping hub in the South China Sea, Guangdong province, located in southern  
167 China, has become the largest economic province in China since 1989, with a GDP of 129118.6  
168 billion yuan in 2022. Due to the seaborne trade, Guangdong has been the largest economic  
169 province in China since 1989, which reached a GDP of 129118.6 billion yuan in 2022. However,  
170 just as mentioned above, Guangdong is relatively vulnerable to storm surges because of its  
171 geographical characteristics, such as Typhoon Hato and Typhoon Mangkhut.

172 Huizhou is one of the cities in Guangdong province, and also one of the central cities of Pearl  
173 River Delta region. It's located at on the east coast of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay  
174 Area, the GDP reached 540.1 billion yuan in 2022, with the highest growth rate in Guangdong.  
175 Pinghai Town located at the southernmost of Huizhou, and has a registered population of about  
176 forty thousand. Its economic source mainly depends on various crops and seafood products. Due



177 to its coastal geographical characteristics and the presence of Pinghai Ancient City, the town has  
178 become a cultural tourist destination and can therefore be defined as a cultural tourist town.

179 In this paper, the chosen study region is the coastal area of Pinghai town, named the  
180 Double-Moon Bay Zone. It covers ten villages in total, including Foyuan, Dayuan, Yuye, Xinliao,  
181 Xin village, Shazuiwei, Cajia, Nanshe, Daoo, and Harbor community. These years, the region has  
182 been developed in tourism and real estate project development including construction of hotel,  
183 resort, and high-end business district, which vastly prompt the financial development. It is  
184 foreseeable that the population and economy of the region will growth rapidly. However, the  
185 region's general economic status, which remains relatively low, and it consequently gives rise to  
186 the challenge of data scarcity and limited accessibility. In addition, the region is susceptibly  
187 affected by the tropical cyclones during the season running from April to November (Wang et al.,  
188 2021b). Recent years, more than ten typhoons have affected the study area, including Typhoon  
189 Lekima, Typhoon Haishen, Typhoon Kanuni etc. The general location and information about the  
190 study area is shown on Fig. 1.



191  
192 **Fig. 1.** The maps of locations in the study: (a) The map of Huizhou; (b) The map of study area in  
193 Huidong, the base map is obtained from ESRI; (c) The village map of study area, the base map is  
194 obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).  
195

## 196 2.2. Data source

197 In order to accomplish the research, the data used is obtained from various sources, here is  
198 the describe of different data:

199 (1) Land Cover Types data: the data is obtained from the Department of Natural Resources of  
200 Huizhou Bureau. It contains multiple land cover types including forest, cropland, residential land,  
201 etc. It is used to calculate vulnerability level.



202 (2) Remote sensing images: the remote sensing images are obtained from Chang Guang  
203 Jilin-1 satellite. Chang Guang Satellite technology CO., LTD was founded on December 1st 2014,  
204 which is the first and the largest commercial satellite corporation in China. Jilin-1 is the first  
205 self-developed commercial high-resolution satellite. The images from Jilin-1 satellite have a  
206 resolution of 50 cm, and have five spectral channels: Panchromatic band; Blue band; Red band;  
207 Green band; Near Infrared band. The images consisting of blue band, red band, green band are  
208 utilized to combine deep learning method, thus achieve the extraction of buildings.

209 (3) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) data: the UAV data is generated by oblique photography,  
210 and is organized by Open Scene Graph Binary format. The UAV data is obtained from Department  
211 of Natural Resources of Huizhou Bureau, and the data is utilized for buildings' height calculation.

212 (4) Digital elevation model (DEM) data: the DEM data is captured by manual observation in  
213 2018, with the resolution of 0.3m. The coordinate system and file organization are originally  
214 CGCS 2000 and txt file, and further transformed to WGS 1984 and raster format to make use of  
215 these data in the research. The data contains the elevation information for the study region.  
216 Besides, the seawall data is also obtained manually. Both data are used in modeling of storm  
217 surges for simulating the hazard maps.

218 (5) ERA5 data: ERA5 is the fifth generation of the European Reanalysis dataset produced by  
219 the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), and it provides the  
220 comprehensive and high-resolution atmospheric and climate data. In this study, the data is used in  
221 conjunction with the Holland method to generate fused wind field data, which is subsequently  
222 utilized for storm surge simulations.

223 (6) Historical typhoon data: the historical typhoon data including typhoon track, typhoon  
224 pressure, and velocity are obtained through China Meteorological Administration Typhoon  
225 Network Website. The historical data is employed to assess the reliability and validity of the  
226 model.

227 (7) Administrative Boundary data: the data is obtained from National geographic information  
228 public service platform, and it contains administrative boundaries at village level. There are ten  
229 villages in the study area.

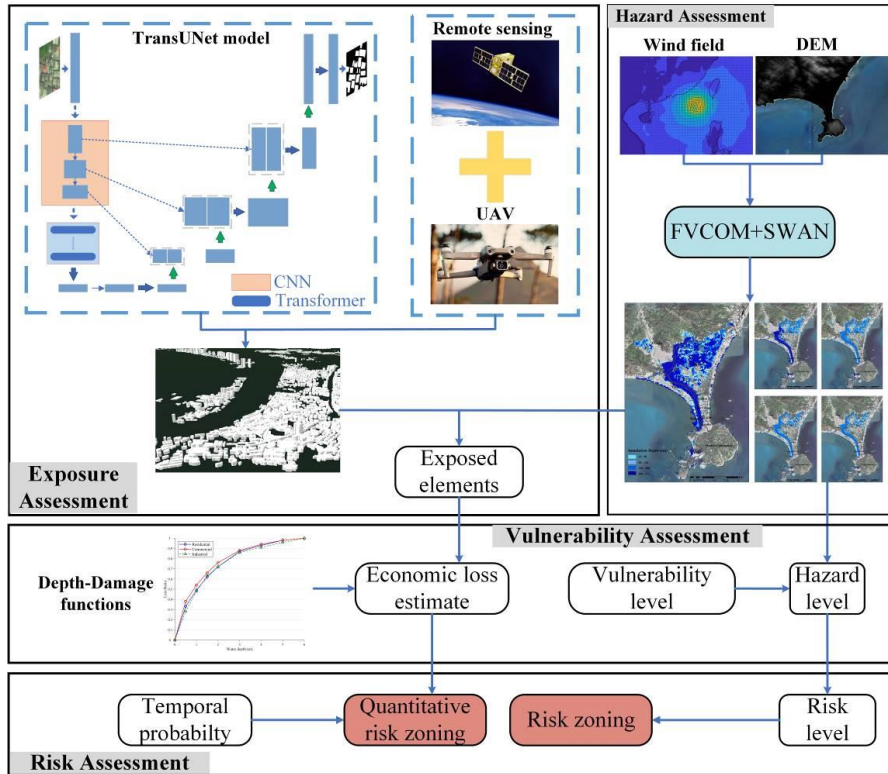
230

### 231 3. Method

232 The methods in this study aim to assess quantitative direct tangible damage over the study  
233 area consists of following steps: hazard assessment; exposure assessment; vulnerability  
234 assessment; risk assessment, and the flowchart of the procedure is illustrated in Fig. 2.

235 First, with respect to hazard assessment, five storm surge scenarios are defined. After  
236 constructing wind field through Holland model, the inundation area and depth of different typhoon  
237 return periods are simulated by utilizing the coupled FVCOM-SWAN model. In exposure  
238 assessment, building footprints and heights are extracted by introducing a deep learning method  
239 TransUNet and shadow calculation. Then the hazard maps are overlaid to identify the elements at  
240 risk. Considering the effect of building's floor in flood monetary loss estimation, the JRC's  
241 depth-damage functions are adapted representing the vulnerability of different exposed elements.  
242 Eventually, the economic loss of different typhoon scenarios can be summarized and the risk  
243 assessment is conducted through multiplying the temporal probability. Moreover, the quantitative  
244 zoning maps of four risk levels are generated through zonal statistic.





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**Fig. 2.** The flowchart of the presented storm surge quantitative risk assessment method. The base map is obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).

250

### 3.1. Storm surge inundation simulation

251

Finite Volume Coastal Ocean Model (FVCOM), is a coastal ocean circulation model, which was originally developed by Chen et al. (2003), and further improved by the University of Massachusetts and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. The following are the governing equations of FVCOM, comprising momentum, continuity, temperature, salinity, and density equations:

252

253

254

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{\rho_o} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_m \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + F_u \quad (3.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + fu = -\frac{1}{\rho_o} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_m \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) + F_v \quad (3.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = -\rho g \quad (3.3)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0 \quad (3.4)$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_h \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) + F_T \quad (3.5)$$



$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial S}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial S}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial S}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_h \frac{\partial S}{\partial z} \right) + F_S \quad (3.6)$$

$$\rho = \rho(T, S) \quad (3.7)$$

255 Where  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  respectively represent the east, north and vertical coordinate axes in the  
256 Cartesian coordinate system;  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$  are the velocity components in  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  
257  $z$  directions;  $T$ ,  $S$  and  $\rho$  are the temperature, salinity and density;  $P$  is the pressure and  
258  $f$  stands for the Coriolis parameter;  $K_m$  is the vertical eddy viscosity coefficient and  $K_h$   
259 is the vertical eddy diffusivity coefficient for heat;  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration;  $F_u$ ,  $F_v$ ,  
260  $F_T$ , and  $F_S$  are the horizontal diffusion terms.

261 Simulating Waves Nearshore (SWAN) is the third-generation offshore wave model developed  
262 by Delft University of Technology and it was originally proposed by Booij et al. (1996). The  
263 governing equation of the model is shown as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} N + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} C_x N + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} C_y N + \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} C_\gamma N + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} C_\theta N = \frac{S}{\gamma} \quad (3.8)$$

264 Where  $N$  is the wave action density;  $\theta$  is the propagation direction;  $C_x$ ,  $C_y$  are  
265 respectively the  $x$ ,  $y$  components of propagation speed and  $C_\gamma$ ,  $C_\theta$  are the  $\gamma$ ,  
266  $\theta$  components of propagation cospeed;  $\gamma$  and  $S$  respectively represent the frequency and the  
267 source term for the wave energy.

268 FVCOM and SWAN both use the unstructured triangular grid to subdivide the South China  
269 Sea, and the latitude and longitude range of the region is 13°N - 29°N, 109°E-122°E. The SWAN  
270 parameters are set as follows: wind input growth term and whitecap dissipation term are the  
271 Komen scheme; Bottom friction dissipation is parameterized using the Madsen vortex viscosity  
272 model; The nonlinear interactions are implemented using three-wave and four-wave nonlinear  
273 interaction schemes. The input wind field is the fusing wind field derived from ERA5 and the  
274 Holland method. The open boundary forced tidal elevation of FVCOM is conducted by calculating  
275 the harmonic constants for the eleven major astronomical tidal constituents, namely M2, N2, S2,  
276 K2, K1, O1, P1, Q1, MS4, M4, and M6. The forcing field is the fusing wind field and the wave  
277 data generated by SWAN. The external model time step for the model is set to 0.75 second, while  
278 the internal model time step is set to 7 seconds.

279 In the present study, FVCOM-SWAN coupling method is utilized for simulating the  
280 inundation caused by storm surge. Specifically, following the modification of typhoon Mangkhut's  
281 central pressure, velocity, and track data, the data is utilized as input for the Holland typhoon wind  
282 field model, subsequently yielding the wind field outcome. The wind field data extracted is fed  
283 into the SWAN model to generate wave data. Then, both the wind data and wave data are input  
284 into the FVCOM model to calculate the extent of inundation.

285

### 286 3.2. Buildings extraction

287 The deep learning model used in the research is TransUNet (Chen et al., 2021), which was  
288 originally proposed for medical images segmentation. TransUNet incorporates transformer in  
289 encoder within the architecture of U-shape network, consequently makes use of the advantage of  
290 global information extraction while fusing the superficial and deep features. On the mission of  
291 building extraction, the target is to segment the building's area precisely. The TransUNet model  
292 can effectively identify the boundary between buildings and background, which enables the model  
293 to be competent for extracting the buildings in different size and shape.





294 The following is relevant introduction of the structure of the model.

### 295 3.2.1. Transformer in TransUNet

296 Transformer was first proposed by Sutskever et al. (2014), which was originally utilized for  
297 machine translation. However, as more variants of transform were developed, people found  
298 transform also perform well in multiple tasks, such as natural language processing (NLP),  
299 computer vision (CV) and automatic speech recognition (ASR).

300 The transformer encoder is composed of L layers of Multi-head Self-Attention (MSA), Layer  
301 normalization (LN) and Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP), the structure is shown in the Fig. 3(a), and  
302 the equations of Query-Key-Value (QKV) self-attention and MSA are shown below:

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{D_k}}\right)V \quad (3.9)$$

$$\text{MultiHeadAttn}(Q, K, V) = \text{Concat}(\text{head}_1, \dots, \text{head}_H) \mathbf{W}^O \quad (3.10)$$

$$\text{head}_i = \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V) \quad (3.11)$$

303 Where  $Q, K, V$  are respectively the Query, Key, Value vector.  $\sqrt{D_k}$  is the scaled dot-  
304 -product attention.  $\mathbf{W}^O, W_i^Q, W_i^K, W_i^V$  are respectively the corresponding linear mapping, which  
305 convert  $Q, K, V$  and the output to the specified dimension.

306 The MSA has a positive effect on helping the model identify the target objects and  
307 background, thus the neural network can learn more information from the target. LN is deemed to  
308 stabilize the deep network training, which can prevent unstable gradient, model degradation, etc.  
309 The module receives the 2d flattened patches from the image's patches. Due to it is different from  
310 CNN or RNN, apart from map the vectorized patches to D-dimensional embedding space,  
311 transformer needs to apply additional position encoding for retaining the patch's positional  
312 information.

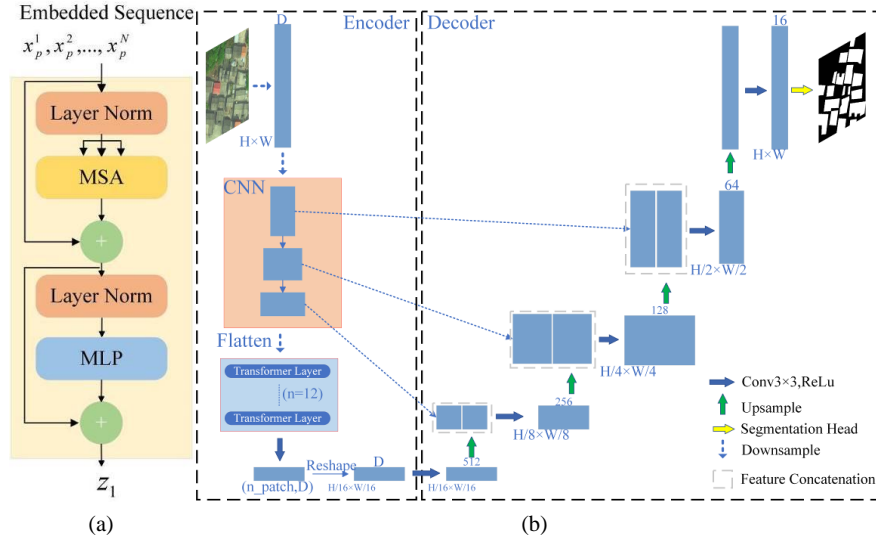
### 313 3.2.2. Structure of TransUNet

314 The overall structure of TransUNet is reference to U-Net, which is a U-shaped  
315 Encoder-Decoder structure, and the structure diagram is shown in the Fig. 3(b).

316 Encoder: the origin image is put into the CNN part for feature extraction, after the processing  
317 of position encoding and flatten, the patches are further put into the transformer module. The  
318 transformer module consists of 12 transformer layers. The CNN part is implemented through  
319 using resnet50, which include 3 blocks in total, and each block output the hidden feature for skip  
320 connection.

321 Decoder: reshape the output sequence from encoder and then cascade up-sampling after  
322 transforming the number of channels. During the process, the skip connection is introduced by  
323 using the feature map hereinbefore. In the end, the segmentation result is generated.

324 In conclusion, TransUNet is the combination of U-Net and transformer, which is designed to  
325 make use of the advantage from both structures. The Global Attention from transformer can  
326 contribute to learn the global information, while the skip connection from U-shape network can  
327 contribute to get more information from shallow feature map output from CNN, and also CNN  
328 performs better in extracting the local information. In this research, buildings images are similar to  
329 medical images, with the features like high complexity level, large range of gray values. The skip  
330 connection structure can simultaneously acquisition of low-level semantic features and high-level  
331 semantic features, and transformer can conduce identify the buildings from background, thus  
332 TransUNet achieves a high accuracy in buildings segmentation.



333  
 334  
 335  
 336  
 337

**Fig. 3.** The overview of TransUNet framework (adapted from (Chen et al., 2021)): (a) Schematic diagram of Transformer layer; (b) Structure diagram of TransUNet

### 3.3. Building's height acquisition

338  
 339 UAV tilt photography modeling technology can combine control points encryption from  
 340 massive image data with a small number of ground control points to obtain accurate external  
 341 orientation elements (Kang et al., 2020). The conducted 3D model reflects the truly condition of  
 342 the ground, and the data is selected to be in the WGS 1984 coordinate system. The ground  
 343 resolution is one of the most intuitive and important parameters in tilt photography, and it's also a  
 344 key factor determining the quality of the 3D modeling. In the process of performing aerial  
 345 triangulation for tilt-image automation, it is necessary to ensure that the resolution of the different  
 346 images is as consistent as possible while taking into account the resolution of the side-view image,  
 347 thus to ensure accuracy and image overlap. Hence, the combinatory analysis of image resolution at  
 348 tilted viewing angle is required. The tilted image center point, near point and far point resolutions  
 349 are expressed as follows:

$$\text{GSD}_{\text{top}} = \frac{\delta h \cos \beta_y}{f \cos(\alpha_y - \beta_y)} \quad (3.12)$$

$$\text{GSD}_{\text{mid}} = \frac{\delta h}{f \cos \alpha_y} \quad (3.13)$$

$$\text{GSD}_{\text{bottom}} = \frac{\delta h \cos \beta_y}{f \cos(\alpha_y + \beta_y)} \quad (3.14)$$

350 Where  $\delta$  is sensor cell size,  $h$  is flight height,  $f$  refers to the camera focal  
 351 length,  $\alpha_y$  and  $\beta_y$  are respectively dip angle and half the angle of view. Normally, the ground  
 352 resolution at the center of the tilted and vertical images should be comparable, and the minimum  
 353 resolution of tilted images should less than three times the resolution of a vertical image.

354 There are multiple formats available for storing 3D models, including OBJ, STL, FBX,

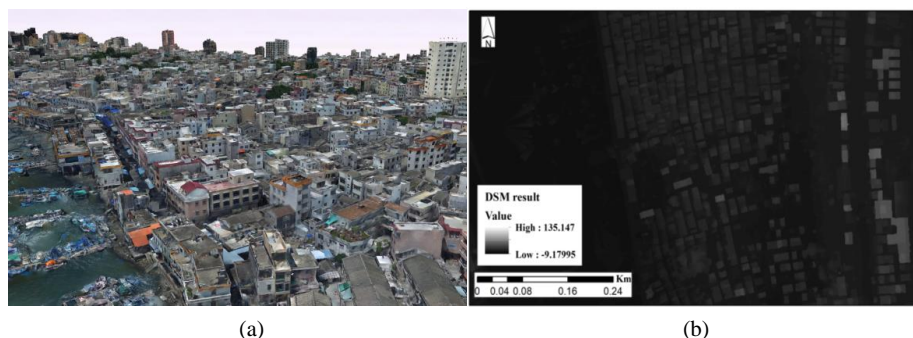


355 OSGB, etc. In this study, the generated 3D model is saved as OSGB format. OSGB format is  
356 originally proposed by Ordnance Survey for storing the geographic spatial data in the British. It  
357 combines binary encoding and compression algorithms to improve the data storage and  
358 transmission efficiency. Normally, the OSGB data contains information of geographic coordinates,  
359 elevation, texture mapping, and geometric shapes, which can be used to GIS application, virtual  
360 reality (VR), among others.

361 Digital surface model (DSM) is a digital terrain model that contains more elevation  
362 information about trees, buildings, and bridges. Compare to DEM, DSM can reflect the truly  
363 surface condition of earth, thus DSM has a wide range of application in city management or forest  
364 stewardship. In this research, the UAV data can be transformed to DSM data by using SuperMap  
365 software, and the DSM result is shown in Fig. 4(b). After generating the DSM, the elevation of the  
366 roof of the building and the corresponding elevation of the ground around the building are  
367 extracted by manual selection, then the height of buildings can be calculated by using equation  
368 (3.15).

$$DSM_{Roof} - DSM_{Ground} = H \quad (3.15)$$

369 Where  $DSM_{Roof}$  is the DSM value of the building's roof,  $DSM_{Ground}$  represents the  
370 corresponding DSM value of ground, and  $H$  is the result of building's height.



371 (a) (b)  
372 **Fig. 4.** Building's height acquisition: (a) The schematic diagram of UAV tilt photography data; (b)  
373 The generated DSM results for Building height data extraction.  
374

### 375 3.4. Exposure and vulnerability assessment

376 The process of storm surge risk assessment involves two key components: exposure and  
377 vulnerability. The exposure represents the elements exposed to hazardous spaces, while the  
378 vulnerability refers to the level of the exposure elements' susceptibility to damage. When doing  
379 exposure assessment, the disaster-affected elements can be conducted by overlaying the building  
380 footprint data and land cover data with the hazard layer, which is the inundation data in this  
381 research. The process can be accomplished using overlay analysis in ArcGIS software.

#### 382 3.4.1. Adaptability of flood vulnerability functions.

383 Constructing an empirical stage-damage curve is a commonly used method for conducting  
384 vulnerability assessments. However, as is mentioned above, China lacks of the data about flood  
385 loss or insurance compensation in flood disasters, as a result, it's not practicable to develop  
386 exclusive functions for the study region, so the depth-damage functions developed by Huizinga,  
387 Joint Research Center (JRC) (Huizinga et al., 2017) are introduced. The depth-damage functions



388 manifest the loss ratio of the exposure elements in different inundation depth from 0 to 6 m, and  
 389 the ratio range from 0 to 1, which represents no damage to fully damaged. Besides, JRC also  
 390 provides the maximum economic losses per square meter for six different exposure element types  
 391 including residential, industrial, infrastructure, road, agricultural land, and transport. In this study,  
 392 the original functions and maximum loss data for China region are used, and the economic loss  
 393 can be calculated by multiplying the loss ratio, the maximum loss, and the disaster-affected area.

394 The building's height is an important factor in flood loss estimation, normally the damage  
 395 ratio decreases as the number of floors increases (Taramelli et al., 2022). However, the JRC's  
 396 vulnerability functions do not provide the specific function of each height category. In this case,  
 397 the depth-damage functions in HAZUS are introduced. HAZUS is first released for earthquakes in  
 398 1997 by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and that's when the HAZUS Flood  
 399 Model started to be developed (Scawthorn et al., 2006). In 2004, a multi-hazard version called  
 400 HAZUS-MH was a standardized GIS-based model that included the earthquake, flood, and  
 401 hurricane models (Nastev and Todorov, 2013). The HAZUS-MH flood model is designed  
 402 primarily for local and regional hazard planners and emergency managers for developing  
 403 emergency management plans and mitigation strategies (Tate et al., 2015). However, the  
 404 depth-damage functions in HAZUS-MH are restricted to regions within America, hence the  
 405 HAZUS's functions are introduced to adapt JRC's functions.

406 The approach to modifying functions is referred to the method proposed by Dabbeek et al.  
 407 (2020). In the process, the HAZUS loss ratios of each height category (one-story, two-story, three  
 408 and more-story) are averaged, which is shown in equation (3.16). Then the contribution of each  
 409 height category relative to the average loss is calculated as equation (3.17) shows. In the end,  
 410 multiplying the value obtained in the previous step by JRC's vulnerability functions yields the  
 411 adapted functions for each height category.

$$\bar{D}_{i(hazus)} = \frac{d_{i,1} + d_{i,2} + d_{i,3+}}{n} \quad i(depth) = \{(0, 6)\} \quad (3.16)$$

$$c_{i,h} = \frac{d_{i,h}}{\bar{D}_{i(hazus)}} \quad (3.17)$$

$$d_{i,h(adapted)} = c_{i,h} \times \bar{D}_{i(jrc)} \quad (3.18)$$

412 Where  $d_{i,h}$  represents to the loss ratio at the inundation depth  $i$  for each height category  
 413  $h$ .  $\bar{D}_i$  is the average loss ratio of all heights.

#### 414 3.4.2. Quantitative risk assessment

415 The quantitative financial loss estimation is accomplished by overlaying the following data:  
 416 the inundation simulation result generated by FVCOM and SWAN modeling, the spatial  
 417 distribution of three types of exposure elements, the depth-damage functions of industrial and  
 418 commercial elements, and the adapted depth-damage functions for residential elements in three  
 419 height categories. The process of loss estimation can be shown in the following equation:  
 420

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} D_{x(i)} f(d_i) A_i \quad (3.19)$$

421 Where  $C$  stands for the economic loss estimation result.  $n$  represents the total number of  
 422 exposure elements.  $x(i)$  is the type of the  $i$ -th element and  $D_{x(i)}$  is the maximum loss of the  $i$ -th  
 423 element.  $d_i$  is the depth of submergence of the  $i$ -th element and  $f(d_i)$  is the loss ratio of the  $i$ -th



424 element.  $A_i$  refers to the area of the  $i$ -th element.

425 Comparing to the 984 euros per  $m^2$  monetary loss of residential buildings in 2010, the  
426 monetary loss of infrastructure and agriculture are respectively 12 euros per  $m^2$  and 0.02 euro per  
427  $m^2$  according to JRC, only account for 1% or less. Therefore, the monetary loss estimate of  
428 infrastructure and agriculture is excluded in the study.

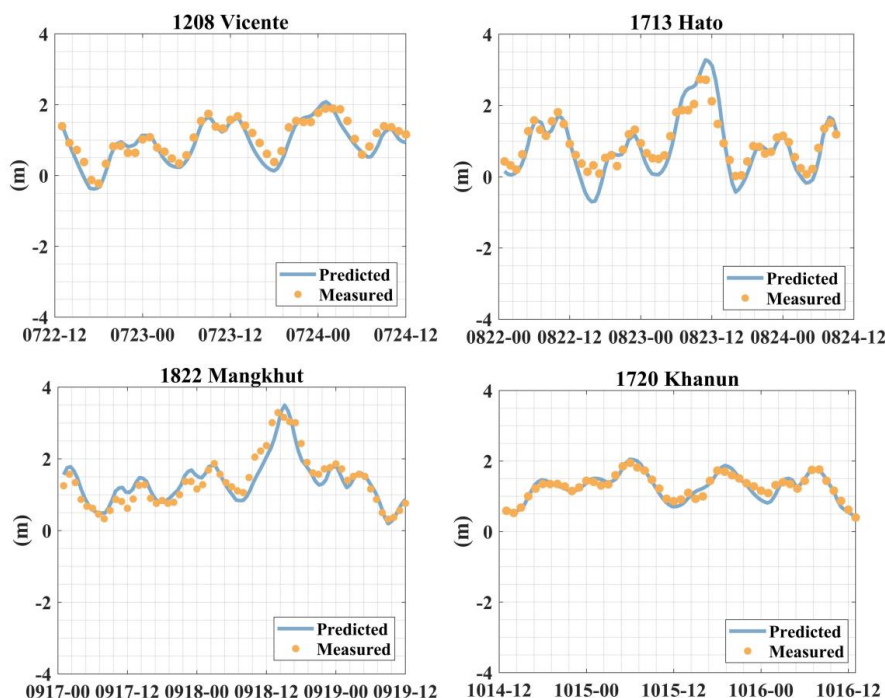
429 In this research, five storm surge scenarios are settled, ten administrative sub-zones are given  
430 four different risk levels for each defined typhoon scenario.

431

#### 432 4. Results and discussions

##### 433 4.1. Validation

434 The performance of coupled FVCOM-SWAN model is evaluated. Four typical typhoons  
435 (Vicente, Hato, Mangkhut, Khanun) are selected to validate the coupled model for the study region.  
436 The measured data of each typhoon are captured by Department of Natural Resources of Huizhou  
437 Bureau. Fig. 5 shows the maximum predicted water level and highest measured water level of the  
438 chosen typhoons. Relative error and absolute error are introduced to evaluate the model and Table  
439 1 displays the statistical results from Huizhou tidal station. It is seen that the predicted results are  
440 in good agreement with the measurements. The statistic result shows that the relative errors of the  
441 four typhoons range from 2.1% to 19.8%, and the absolute error varies from 4 cm to 54 cm.  
442 Therefore, the coupled FVCOM-SWAN model demonstrates a reliable competence in  
443 accomplishing the storm surge simulation task.



444

445 **Fig. 5.** The predicted water level and highest measured water level recorded by Huizhou tidal  
446 station during different typhoon event

447



448 **Table 1.** The Relative error and Absolute error between maximum predicted water levels and highest  
449 measured water levels from Huizhou tidal station during different typhoon events

Typhoon name	Measured data (cm)	Relative error (%)	Absolute error (cm)
Vicente (1208)	189	10.3	19
Hato (1713)	274	19.8	54
Mangkhut (1822)	329	6.5	22
Khanun (1720)	201	2.1	4

450

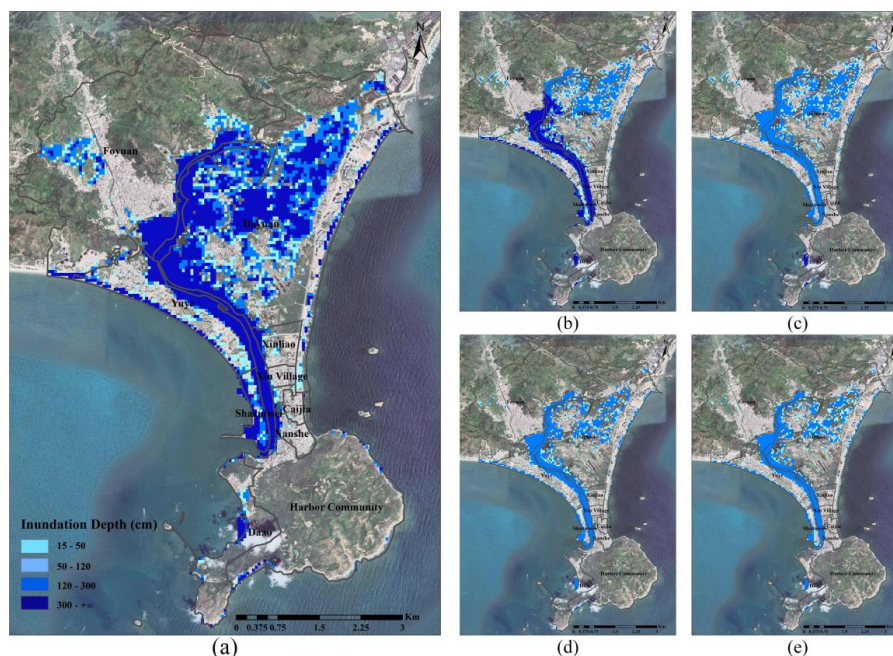
451 *4.1. Hazard assessment*

452 In the present research, five storm surge inundation scenarios are defined, which represent  
453 five different typhoon return periods: 10-year, 20-year, 50-year, 100-year, 1000-year respectively  
454 corresponding to minimum central pressure 940hPa, 930hPa, 920hPa, 910hPa, 880hPa, and the  
455 probability of occurrence are 10%, 5%, 2%, 1%, 0.1%. The simulation result is displayed through  
456 ArcGIS 10.8 software, and the inundation area and depth simulation results for each scenario is  
457 shown in Fig. 6. It is seen that the inundation area is spread over the coastal area in southwest of  
458 study area. In particular, for the 1000-year return period scenario, the inundation area exceeds 13  
459 km<sup>2</sup> in the study area. Moreover, the presence of Double-Moon Bay leads to the extension of the  
460 inundation along the bay, contributing to severe disasters inland.

461 From the point of view of different scenarios, the area of inundation in direct proportion to  
462 the typhoon's return period, and the proportion of inundation area increases from 14% to 31% of  
463 study area. When the return period is less than 50 years, most of the flooded area is considered to  
464 be in a high-level hazard zone, accounting for 75% for a 10-year return period and 67% for a  
465 20-year return period, and no zone in very high-level hazard. Basically, the inundation area covers  
466 land such as grassland, saline land, and some buildings near the estuary as the area is more  
467 susceptible to flooding because of the lower elevation and drainage from the estuary. As the return  
468 period goes up to 100 years, 34% and 36% of the flooded area are defined at a high-level hazard  
469 and very high-level hazard. When it's 1000-year, the situation worsens with approximately half of  
470 the inundation area being considered in very high-level hazard. Typically, the flood extends from  
471 the margin of terrene, however, the southernmost region of the investigated area is characterized  
472 by a knoll covered by forest vegetation, which serves the dual purpose of water absorption and  
473 flood mitigation. In addition, the construction of embankments on both sides of Double-Moon Bay  
474 effectively withstands flooding. Nevertheless, because of the presence of the estuary, inadequate  
475 water absorption ability of coastal saline soil and the hydrological system, the inundation flows in  
476 through the estuary and spreads inland.

477





478

479 **Fig. 6.** The storm surge inundation simulation results of different typhoon scenarios. The base map  
480 is obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).

481

#### 482 4.2. Buildings' characters extraction

483 Buildings are places where human populations gather and distribute, and contain amounts of  
484 property, which have great significance in quantitative risk assessment.

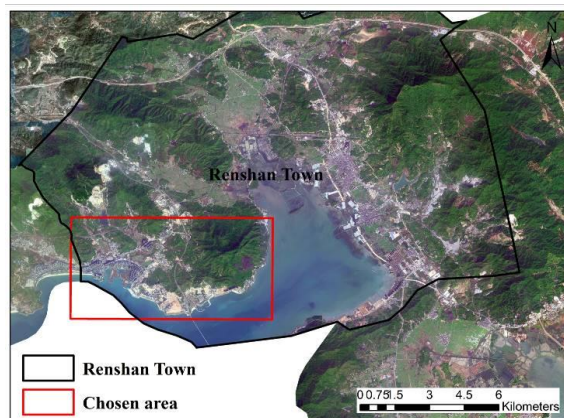
##### 485 4.2.1 TransUNet model training

486 The dataset construction area is chosen at southwest waterfront region of Renshan Town. The  
487 specific location is shown in Fig. 7. The chosen area is a typical area of the Huizhou coastal area.  
488 Apart from the seaside bungalows, the area contains some high-rise buildings that are identified as  
489 commercial hotels or resorts, while dense residential area is also widely distributed throughout the  
490 inland region. In conclusion, the chosen area contains different kinds of buildings with strong  
491 representativeness. Since most of the buildings in China coastal towns have the similar characters,  
492 the model trained on the representative region has the ability to identify buildings in other regions  
493 rapidly.

494 The labels of the buildings in the area are generated by manually annotation, and the image is  
495 cropped to pixels with a size of 256\*256. Besides, some of the images without buildings are  
496 filtered for preventing the effect of imbalance between the building samples and background  
497 samples. In the end, a total of 1200 labeled building dataset is constructed, and the dataset size is  
498 deemed sufficient when compared to previous study (Dixit et al., 2021; Ji et al., 2018). The dataset  
499 is then divided into a training set and a test set, with the ratio of 8:2. Data enhancement techniques,  
500 such as random hue saturation value, random shift scale rotate, flip, and rotate, are implemented  
501 during model training to improve the deep learning model's generalization performance and  
502 prevent overfitting.



503 The training's initial learning rate is set to  $1e-5$ , and the learning rate adjustment strategy for  
504 improved training. The batch size is specified as 4, and the number of training epoch is 100. The  
505 model is trained on a NVIDIA RTX3060 GPUs.



506  
507 **Fig. 7.** The chosen area to make the training samples. The base map is obtained from ©  
508 GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).  
509

#### 510 4.2.2. Extraction result

511 Several effective indicators are introduced, including Recall, Precision, F1-score, and mean  
512 Intersection-over-Union (mIoU), to evaluate the performance of the deep learning model. Recall is  
513 the probability of being predicted as positive among actual positive samples. Precision, on the  
514 other hand, is the probability of being actually positive among samples predicted as positive.  
515 F1-score serves as an indicator that achieves a balance point between precision and recall,  
516 essentially being the harmonic average of precision and recall. mIoU is the mean ratio of the  
517 intersection to the union between predicted and true values for each category. True positive (TP)  
518 indicates the true samples that are predicted correctly by the model. False positive (FP) indicates  
519 the positive samples that the model incorrectly predicted. True negative (TN) and false negative  
520 (FN) refer to the number of samples that are correctly and incorrectly predicted as negative by the  
521 model. The equations of Recall, Precision, F1-score, and mIoU are as follows:

$$recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \quad (4.1)$$

$$precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} \quad (4.2)$$

$$F1 = 2 \times \frac{precision \times recall}{precision + recall} \quad (4.3)$$

$$mIoU = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{TP}{TP + FP + FN} \quad (4.4)$$

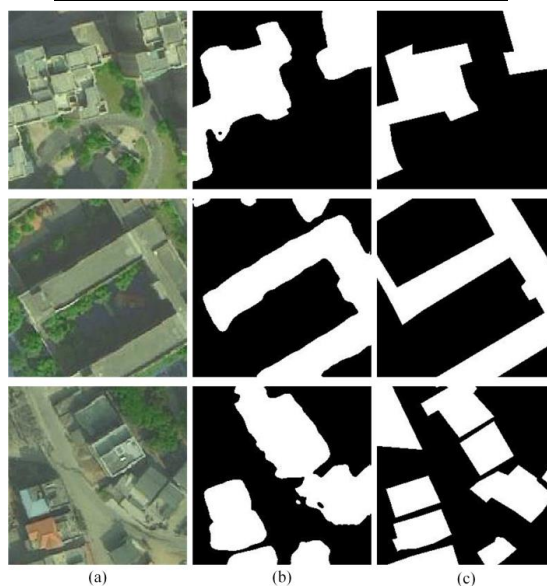
522 The quantitative evaluation result is shown in Table 2, and the visualization results are  
523 illustrated in Fig. 8. As Table 2 shows, the recall score reaches 87% indicating that most of the true  
524 building pixels are predicted correctly, and Precision indicates that 82% of all building pixels are  
525 correctly detected. Moreover, both the mIoU score and F1-score exceed 80% manifest that the  
526 model can balance well between precision and recall. These results reflect the strong performance



527 of TransUNet in the building extraction task. After post-processing the result, such as boundary  
528 simplification, the building vectorization results can be used for further research in risk assessment.  
529 The overall result is shown in Fig. 9.

530 **Table 2.** The statistical accuracy assessment of building footprint extraction

Evaluation metric	
Recall (%)	87.03
Precision (%)	82.04
F1-score (%)	84.46
mIoU (%)	83.38



531  
532 **Fig. 8.** Building footprint extraction result in study area. (a) Remote sensing images obtained from  
533 Jilin-1 satellite (© Chang Guang Satellite technology CO., LTD); (b) Extraction result; (c) Ground  
534 truth. The building is marked in white, and the background is marked in black  
535

#### 536 4.2.3. Building height calculation

537 Through combing two methods mentioned above, the height information is acquired in units  
538 of meters. The number of floors is derived by dividing the acquired height information by the  
539 specified standard height of 3 meters, according to the China residential design standards. The  
540 general condition of building floor is shown in Table 3. Just as mentioned above, the buildings in  
541 study area are mainly for residential and commercial use. Since the study area is undeveloped, the  
542 high buildings and large mansions is relatively less common, and most of them are built for  
543 seaside resort. Instead, buildings with 5 floors or less are the mainstream in study area as respected,  
544 which the proportion can reach 76.5%. The building footprint extraction result and building's  
545 height information extraction result can be found in Fig. 9.

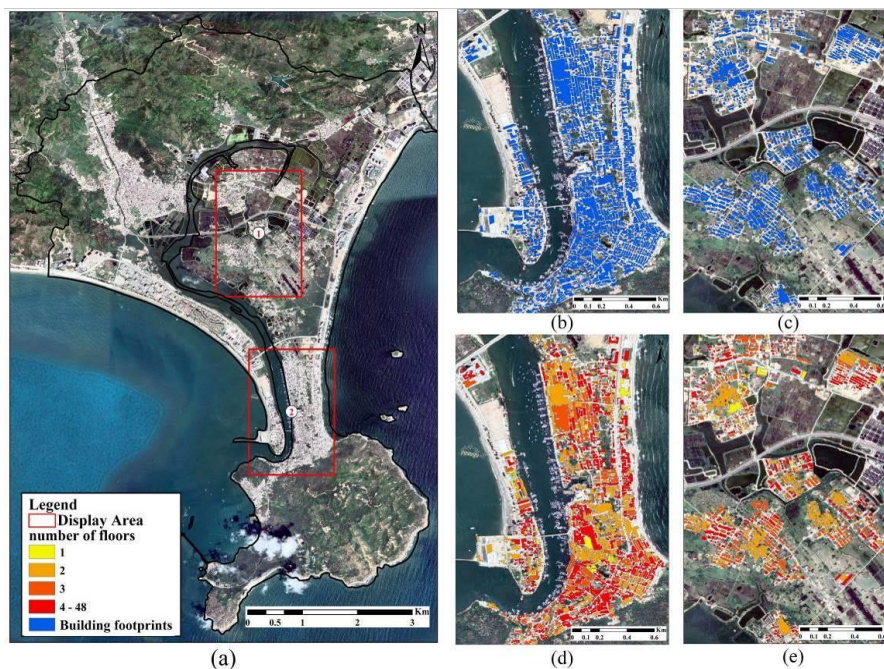
546 **Table 3.** Statistical results of building height in the study area

Building floor	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proportion (%)
1-5	17537238.61	76.5





6-10	4996897.08	21.8
11-20	342207.82	1.5
20+	54083.93	0.2



547

548 **Fig. 9.** The building characters extraction result: (a) The schematic of the display area; (b, c)  
 549 Building footprint result in area 1 and 2; (d, e) Building height result in area 1 and 2. The base  
 550 map is obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).  
 551

#### 552 4.3. qualitative risk assessment

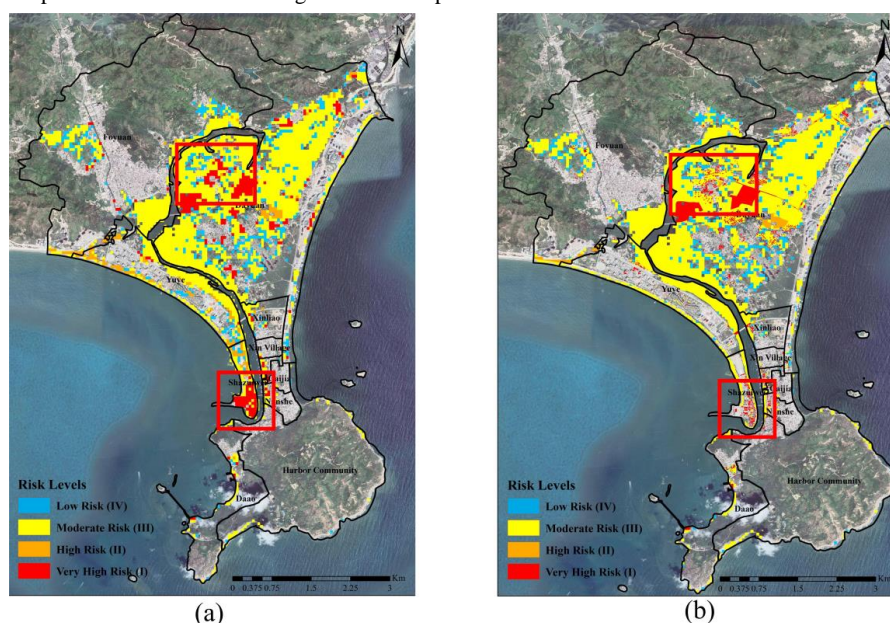
553 Risk matrix is a risk assessment approach firstly developed by Electronic System Center,  
 554 which was originally to assess the risk in the life cycle of purchase project (Garvey and  
 555 Lansdowne, 1998). An additional qualitative risk assessment is conducted using the risk matrix  
 556 method, incorporating improved land use data to highlight the superiority of building extraction in  
 557 flood risk assessment.

558 As is shown in Fig. 10(a), the concentrations of organic town of Dayuan village and  
 559 Shazuiwei makes it in very high vulnerability level. Under the circumstance of defined 880hPa  
 560 storm surge scenario, the inundation area spread inland which makes the majority area of Dayuan  
 561 is regarded as moderate risk, and a fraction of the only very high risk area is distributed in  
 562 Shazuiwei and north of Dayuan village. In the area of Yuye village, part of the south coastal area is  
 563 considered in moderate or high risk level. That is mainly because the majority area of Yuye is  
 564 defined as resort district except for a few areas of tidal flats, which is in high vulnerability.  
 565 However, after referring to the result of hazard assessment, buildings in the area are not actually  
 566 inundated, meaning the area should not be at risk level.

567 Through comparing the Fig. 10(a) and Fig. 10(b), the enhanced land use data in the present



568 research demonstrates a higher ability to recognize vulnerability elements, which the type is  
569 buildings in the present research. The two red boxes in the figure highlight the noticeable disparity  
570 between the original and current results. The present risk assessment provides more refined risk  
571 assessment result compared to the original result, as the previously identified large hazardous  
572 areas are replaced with more detailed and smaller zones. This refinement is conducive for  
573 government or decision-makers to conduct disaster prevention measures, propose quick guidance  
574 for personnel evacuation and organize rescue operations in the event of a disaster.



575  
576 **Fig. 10.** The risk assessment maps before (a) and after (b) improvement for storm surge scenarios  
577 of 1000-year return period. The base map is obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023  
578 Google).

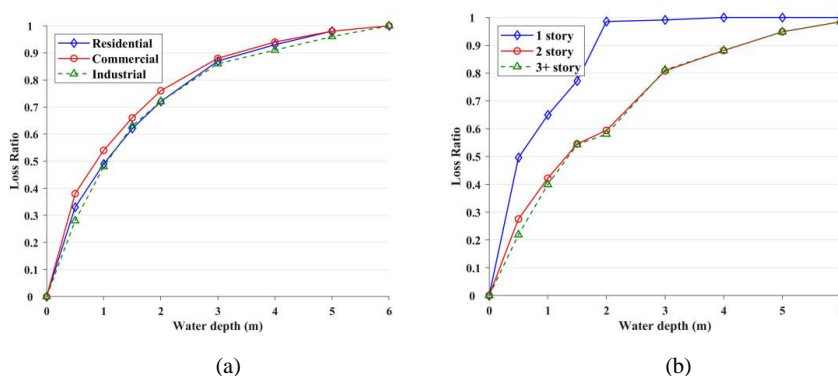
#### 580 4.4. JRC's depth-damage function adaptation

581 Fig. 11 illustrates the damage ratio given flood-depth after adjustment, respectively for one-,  
582 two- and more than three-story residential buildings. After adjustment, the damage of one-story  
583 residential building function is significantly enhanced, and the loss ratio reach 1 early, which is  
584 explicable as 2m-depth flood almost submerges the entire building, resulting in a potential loss of  
585 the maximum property value. On the contrary, the loss ratio for multi-story residential building is  
586 decreased relative to the original function, it reaches the same level as in the original function  
587 when the water depth reaches 5 meters. Furthermore, the function of a two-story residential  
588 building is quite similar to that of a building with three or more stories. This can be attributed to  
589 the flood's effect on buildings with six meters or less depth being nearly the same, on account of  
590 the flood can't overwhelm the entire buildings.

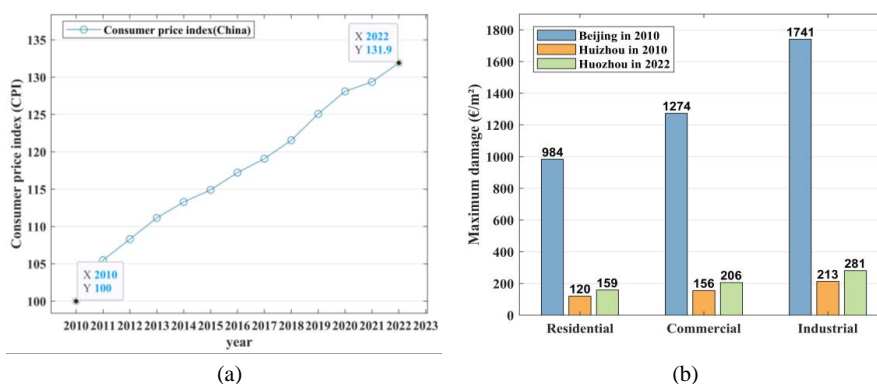
591 Although JRC provides the maximum monetary damages, they are computed for Beijing in  
592 2010. However, there is a substantial difference in the level of development between Beijing and  
593 the study area. For better matching the financial level in study area, adjustment can be achieved



594 based on scaling the maximum monetary damage value with the GDP ratio according to Huizinga  
 595 (2007). Based on the 2010 GDP of Beijing of 14113558 million yuan and the GDP of Huizhou of  
 596 172995 million yuan, the maximum monetary damage is adjusted by equal proportions. Besides,  
 597 the price level also needs to be adjusted to the 2022 price level. According to the World Bank, the  
 598 Chinese consumer price index (CPI) has changed from 100 in 2010 to 131.9 in 2022, the tendency  
 599 of variation and the adjusted maximum monetary damages are shown in Fig. 12.



600  
 601  
 602 **Fig. 11.** (a) The depth-damage function proposed by JRC; (b) The adapted depth-damage function  
 603 for residential buildings in different floors  
 604



605  
 606 **Fig. 12.** (a) The variation trend of Consumer price index released by World Bank; (b) The  
 607 maximum monetary damage per  $m^2$  for each type of exposed elements in China (in 2010 and in  
 608 2022).  
 609

#### 610 4.5. Quantitative risk assessment

611 Loss assessments of five storm surge scenarios are computed for return periods of 10, 20, 50,  
 612 100, and 1000 years, through employing the method in section 3. The estimate monetary damage  
 613 is summarized in Table 4.

614 The statistical data in Table 4 demonstrate an increase in the affected area and total economic  
 615 loss with an increasing return period. Comparing to the total affected area of 131533.12  $m^2$  and  
 616 the total economic losses of 9330517.49 euros with the 10-year return period, the





617 corresponding estimate result with 1000-year return period is 917437.99 m<sup>2</sup> and 68364923.25  
 618 euros, which is both approximately seven times higher. This indicates a proportional  
 619 relationship between the extent of regional impairment and the return period of a typhoon.  
 620 Although the impacted area for the 20-year and 50-year return periods exhibits relative  
 621 proximity as the different is 24118.26 m<sup>2</sup>, there is still a significant disparity in economic  
 622 losses. According to the inundation result above, that's because the inundation area of two  
 623 return period is nearly the same except for the slight difference in the northeast of the study  
 624 region, but the flood depth of 50-year intensified, which causes more monetary damage. In  
 625 terms of inundated building types, in case that study area is characterized as a tourism and  
 626 fish breeding area, the proportion of economic losses in industrial is relatively low. The losses  
 627 of residential buildings and commercial buildings is comparatively close, up until the severity  
 628 of storm surge reach 50-year return period. At this point, the losses experienced by residential  
 629 buildings exceed those incurred by commercial buildings by more than double. The fact can  
 630 be explained by the commercial buildings area mainly constructed by the seaside for better  
 631 turnover therefore both type of waterfront buildings is impacted. However, as the severity of  
 632 the typhoon worsens, more residential settlements inland are flooded, resulting in a swift  
 633 increase in economic losses for residential buildings.

634 **Table 4.** The statistic result of the quantitative risk assessment for five defined typhoon scenarios.

Scenario	Elements	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Economic losses (€)	Total losses (€)	Probability	Risk (€)
10-year (940hPa)	Residential	94847.11	4910882.27	9330517.49	0.1	933051.75
	Commercial	36163.62	4281840.09			
	Industrial	522.39	137795.12			
20-year (930hPa)	Residential	216010.31	7872861.19	13665211.91	0.05	683260.60
	Commercial	55423.59	5602828.01			
	Industrial	522.39	189522.71			
50-year (920hPa)	Residential	237572.35	16509796.15	24607011.73	0.02	492140.23
	Commercial	57979.81	7775321.70			
	Industrial	522.39	321893.88			
100-year (910hPa)	Residential	291759.48	19857901.69	28446797.47	0.01	284467.97
	Commercial	75123.51	8194736.70			
	Industrial	833.39	394159.08			
1000-year (880hPa)	Residential	762570.09	49295364.67	68364923.25	0.001	68364.92
	Commercial	149457.01	17907591.59			
	Industrial	5410.89	1161967.00			

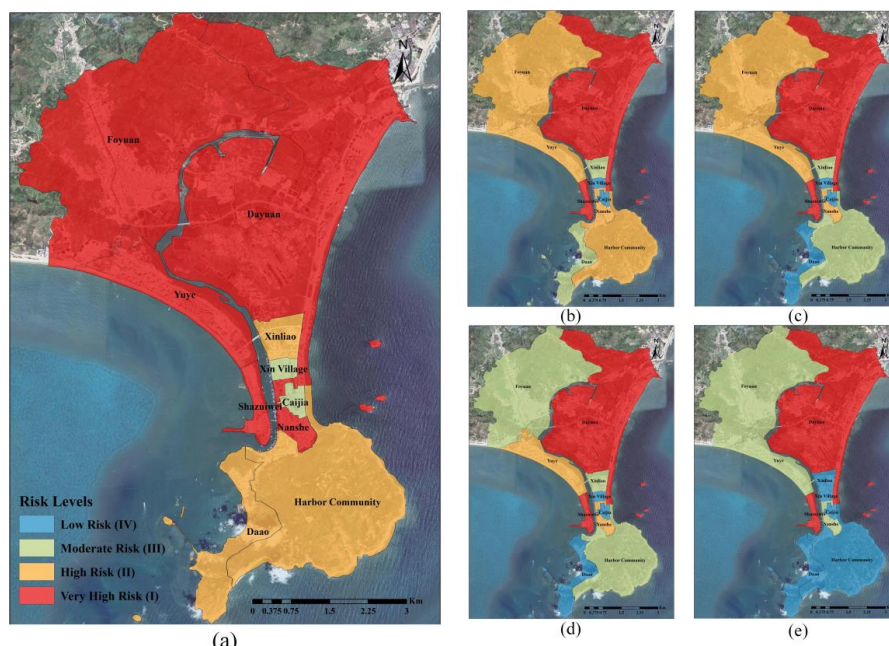
635  
 636 Based on the economic losses estimation result for five storm surge scenarios, through using  
 637 zonal statistics method on the data of administrative sub-zones in the study area, the quantitative  
 638 risk assessment is conducted. The economic losses and spatial distribution of storm surge risk for  
 639 ten sub-zones in five different scenarios are shown in Fig. 13. The zonation statistics result map of  
 640 each sub-zone is defined at four different risk levels (very high, high, moderate, low). The  
 641 classification of risk levels is obtained by categorizing all zonal statistic result based on quantiles.

642 As is shown in Fig. 13, Dayuan village is considered in very high risk for every defined  
 643 typhoon scenario. Through analyzing the geographical characteristics of the study area, it can be



644 found that although Dayuan is a relatively inland village, it's surrounded by the watercourse of the  
645 estuary of Double-Moon Bay. Due to the existence of flood control dam, both side of the bay offer  
646 a measure of protective effectiveness, which result in the water level rises in inland watercourse,  
647 and further causes flooding of residential buildings in Dayuan village, leading to massive financial  
648 losses. In contrast, Foyuan village is also a village with a relatively large area, the risk is at  
649 moderate level for 10, 20-year return period, and the level escalates to high for 50, 100-year return  
650 period and reaches very high in 1000-year. Considering the presence of the knoll, the spread of  
651 inundation is hindered. However, as typhoon becomes more severe, the inundation hit the western  
652 buildings in the region, which led to the phenomenon of progressively escalating risk level. In  
653 terms of those villages with relatively smaller sizes, due to the protection of dam, Xinliao village,  
654 Xin village, Caijia village all are defined in relatively low risk level, although the regions with a  
655 high density of buildings. Shazuiwei and Yuye village in different return period are considered in  
656 different risk level, the cause of this phenomenon might be that apart from the higher density of  
657 buildings, the buildings in Shazuiwei are distributed in coastal area, combing the impact of  
658 inundation of both sides as it's located at the outermost part of the gulf. Consequently, the risk  
659 level in Shazuiwei remains consistently high as opposed to gradually increasing like in Yuye  
660 village. Although they are located at the outermost part of the study area, the quantitative risk level  
661 of Daa village and Harbor community is gradually increasing for different return period, but it's  
662 not as serious as the other village, which can be explained that these locations exhibit elevated  
663 topography.

664 The quantitative risk assessment and zonal risk maps can assist the government or decision-  
665 makers in recognizing the specific economic losses of each sub-zones, so it's helpful to identify  
666 the areas that are more susceptible to experiencing significant losses, which allows them to  
667 develop disaster prevention measures, for example constructing disaster prevention facilities,  
668 budget allocation for disaster prevention and planning evacuation strategies. Besides, establishing  
669 the quantitative risk for different typhoon periods can enhance the decision makers understanding  
670 of the potential vulnerability in each sub-zone, and facilitates the implementation of appropriate  
671 preventive and disaster relief measures facing different typhoon intensity.



672

673 **Fig. 13.** The zonation maps of the quantitative risk assessment for five defined typhoon scenarios:  
674 return period (a) 1000-year, (b): 100-year, (c): 50-year, (d): 20-year, (e): 10-year. The base map is  
675 obtained from © GoogleMaps (map data © 2023 Google).

## 676 5. Conclusions

677 These years, the academic research on storm surge risk assessment has been greatly  
678 developed due to climate change and financial growth in coastal area. However, the quantitative  
679 risk assessment is inexecutable in the undeveloped area since on account of the lacks of building  
680 characters and damage assessment data. Target at the question above, the purpose of this paper is  
681 to propose a method for conducting refined storm surge risk assessment quantitatively based on  
682 deep learning and GIS techniques. Firstly, the reliable coupled FVCOM-SWAN model is utilized  
683 to simulate five defined storm surge scenarios. Facing the challenge of the absence of data, a deep  
684 learning method TransUNet is applied to extract the building footprint data for refined extraction  
685 of exposed elements, and buildings' height data is acquired through UAV. To compensate for that  
686 the available depth-damage functions do not taking building's height into account, the functions  
687 are adjusted for buildings with different floor and consequently to perform more refined monetary  
688 losses calculations in five defined scenarios. Eventually, the quantitative risk assessment and  
689 zonation maps of the study area are generated base on GIS techniques

690 The quantitative risk assessment result of the study region shows that on account of the  
691 existence of estuary and the gathering of buildings, Dayuan village presents the high-risk level in  
692 all defined typhoon scenario, and the economic loss risk is large. The flood control dam provides  
693 protection of Xinliao village, Xin village, Caijia village, which prevents the regions suffering large  
694 economic losses as the typhoon return period is 10-year and 20-year. However, the storm surges,  
695 under the typhoon scenarios that the return period is greater than 50-year, can overwhelm the  
696 existed dikes, and both the commercial buildings and residential buildings suffer heavy economic



697 losses. Therefore, it's necessary to make land use planning and adjustment especially in Dayuan  
698 and Shazuiwei as they are under very high-risk level to prevent the impact and losses caused by  
699 storm surges. Besides, the regions that is nearest to the sea doesn't mean they suffer greater  
700 potential economic loss, as the risk level of Daa village and Harbor community are considered at  
701 a relatively low level because of the topographical characteristics and the distribution of buildings.

702 The study provides a framework for refined quantitative storm surge risk assessment  
703 targeting the problem of acquiring exposure elements and the establishing multi-variable empirical  
704 depth-damage functions, as a consequence of missing data in underdeveloped regions. The  
705 generated results can help the decision-makers to identify the areas that are susceptible to  
706 experiencing significant losses efficiently, and help the respective authorities with disaster  
707 prevention, future land use planning and material deployment. Furthermore, it is important to  
708 remark that, the methodology of this paper has general applicability, since the applied models are  
709 publicly available. Thus, there is also potential for further application. For example, the  
710 framework can be applied in other coastal areas in China, as they have similar characters, which  
711 also means there is a possibility to utilize in larger scales. Furthermore, the framework can also be  
712 performed in other types of disasters, such as flood, earthquake, and mudslide. Consequently, the  
713 proposed methodology demonstrates an extensive relevance to the scientific community.

714 There is still room for improvement in this study. The current study relied on manual labeling  
715 in terms of distinguishing between functional areas to conduct risk assessment. In the future study,  
716 efforts will be made to distinguish the types of exposure elements in a more objective way, based  
717 on diverse data sources such as social media Point Of Interest (POI). Additionally, exploring the  
718 activity patterns of the population through multiple sources of data including taxi trajectories and  
719 smart cards can contribute to the consideration of population risks in different storm surge  
720 scenarios, thereby prompting more comprehensive risk assessments.

721

#### 722 **Data availability.**

723 Remote sensing images are obtained from Chang Guang Jilin-1 satellite. The dataset of wind field  
724 is generated by ERA5 and Holland method. The Administrative Boundary data is obtained from  
725 National geographic information public service platform. The datasets can be obtained from  
726 <https://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.24586605> (Yu, 2023). DEM data and UAV data are  
727 obtained from Department of Natural Resources of Huizhou Bureau, data sets are not publicly  
728 available due to the policy of the Natural Resources of Huizhou Bureau.

729

730 Competing interests. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

731

#### 732 **Authorship contributions.**

733 **Lichen Yu:** Investigation, Methodology, Data Curation, Visualization, Formal analysis, Writing -  
734 Original Draft. **Shining Huang:** Investigation, Data Source, Data Curation, Visualization, Formal  
735 analysis. **Hao Qin:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Supervision, Writing - Original  
736 Draft, Project administration, Funding acquisition. **Wei Wei:** Validation, Data Curation,  
737 Visualization. **Lin Mu:** Conceptualization, Supervision, Project administration, Funding  
738 acquisition.

739

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