

1 **Forearc crustal faults as tsunami sources in the upper**
2 **plate of the Lesser Antilles subduction zone. The Case**
3 **study of the Morne Piton fault system.**

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14

15 **Abstract**

16 In this study, alternatively to the megathrust, we identify upper plate normal faults
17 orthogonal to the trench as a possible tsunami source along the Lesser Antilles
18 subduction zone. The Morne Piton fault system, is such a trench-perpendicular upper
19 crustal fault at the latitude of Guadeloupe. By the means of seismic reflection, high
20 resolution bathymetry, remotely operated vehicle (ROV) imaging and dating, we reassess
21 the slip rate of the Morne Piton fault since 7Ma, *i.e.* its inception, and quantify an average
22 rate of $0.25 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ since ca. 1.2Ma dividing by two previous estimations and thus
23 increasing the earthquake time recurrence and lowering the associated hazard. ROV dive
24 revealed a metric scarp with striae at the toe of the Morne Piton fault system suggesting
25 a recent fault rupture. We estimate a fault rupture area of $\sim 450\text{-}675 \text{ km}^2$ and then a
26 magnitude range for a maximum seismic event around $M_w 6.5 \pm 0.5$ making this fault
27 potentially tsunamigenic as the nearby Les Saintes Fault responsible for a tsunami
28 following the 2004, $M_w 6.3$ earthquake. Consequently, we simulate a multi-segment
29 tsunami model representative for a worst-case scenario as if the whole identified Morne
30 Piton fault segments ruptured together. Our model provides clues for the potential impact
31 of local tsunamis on the surrounding coastal area as well as for local bathymetric controls

32 on tsunami propagation. We illustrate that (i) shallow water plateaus act as secondary
33 sources and are responsible for a wrapping of the tsunami waves around the island of
34 Marie-Galante, (ii) canyons indenting the shallow water plateau slope break are focusing
35 and enhancing the wave height in front of the most touristic and populated town of the
36 island, (iii) resonance phenomenon is observed within Les Saintes archipelago showing
37 that the waves' frequency content is able to perturbate the sea-level during many hours
38 after the seismic rupture.

39

40 Keywords: subduction zone, forearc, crustal fault, slip rate, tsunami hazard, Lesser
41 Antilles, Guadeloupe Island

42

43 **1. Introduction**

44

45 Regions at the vicinity of active subduction zones are prone to seismic and related
46 hazards, including tsunamis, exposing their inhabitants to multiple threats. Megathrust
47 earthquakes represent the greatest threat with the highest seismic moments and
48 consequently huge tsunamigenic potential (Satake and Tanioka, 1999). Earthquakes
49 triggered on crustal faults in the overriding plate represent an additional hazard that
50 needs to be quantified (Bilek, 2010). In order to assess the hazards and mitigate the risks
51 associated with these crustal faults, it is essential to estimate their slip rates.

52 On land, slip rates on active faults are determined from paleo-seismic trenches (McCalpin,
53 1996), high resolution geophysical investigation (Wallace, 1981; Zhang et al., 2014),
54 satellite imagery (Tronin, 2009), InSAR (Biggs and Wright, 2020), geodetic measurement
55 (GNSS: Symithe et al., 2013) as well as seismicity which account for the present-day strain
56 accumulation of the crust. Offshore, slip rate estimates are provided by the means of
57 underwater geodesy (*i.e.* acoustic geodesy: Kido et al., 2006; Petersen et al., 2019; Fujita
58 et al., 2006) or fiber optic monitoring (Hirata et al., 2002; Gutscher et al., 2019). The
59 recurrence time of events may be estimated by the study of turbidite deposits cores (e.g.,
60 Cascades: Goldfinger et al., 2012; Taiwan: Lehu et al., 2016; Antilles: Seibert et al., 2020;
61 New Zealand: Lewis, 1980), high resolution marine seismic and multibeam echo-sounder
62 data (e.g., Escartín et al., 2016, 2018), and submarine dives survey (e.g., Geli et al., 2011).
63 However, constraining hazard models in areas undergoing slow strain rates remains
64 challenging as the earthquakes recurrence time overcomes the historical period. Indeed,

65 geodetic measurements require decades-long time series as the resolution of the method
66 is not accurate enough and erosion or high sedimentation rates may have erased or
67 covered, respectively, the active fault scarps making it difficult to identify active faults
68 segments. Therefore, datasets based on the last ten to hundred years of record along
69 tectonic systems undergoing slow strain rates may not be representative of the bulk
70 strain and may be at the origin of biased estimations of slip rate along these faults.

71 The Lesser Antilles (Eastern Caribbean) records slow deformation rates as the north and
72 south American tectonic plates slowly subduct under the Caribbean plate ($20\text{mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ -
73 Figure 1). Extensional tectonics and normal faulting affect the forearc (Feuillet et al.,
74 2002, De Min et al., 2015, Boucard et al., 2021) but available historical data do not report
75 tsunami events related to forearc fault rupture. However, the Les Saintes M_w 6.3
76 earthquake of December 2004 ruptured the Roseau normal fault (Feuillet et al., 2011,
77 Bazin et al., 2010). The earthquake reached an intensity up to VIII in the Guadeloupe
78 Archipelago (Figure 1), being felt by most of its $\sim 400,000$ inhabitants, and was
79 responsible for one casualty. This earthquake triggered a tsunami with up to 2 m high
80 waves at the coast and a maximum measured run-up distance of 42 m in Les Saintes
81 (Zahibo et al. 2005; Le Friant et al. 2008; Cordrie et al. 2020). Prior to this event, this fault
82 was unmapped and therefore not identified as an active fault (Feuillet et al., 2002; Terrier
83 and Combes, 2002). Forearc normal faults, similar to Les Saintes fault system, may pose
84 a threat to the 4 million inhabitants of the Lesser Antilles that are living on volcanic arc
85 islands facing the subduction trench to the east and literally sitting over the subduction
86 interface.

87 The present study focuses on the Morne Piton fault system, perpendicular to the
88 subduction trench, which is one of the most prominent onshore-offshore fault systems
89 which cuts the Guadeloupe Archipelago arc and forearc islands (Figure 1). Regarding the
90 seismic and tsunami hazards related to this fault system and the vulnerability of the
91 coastal population and infrastructures of the archipelago, the objectives are to (1)
92 estimate the fault slip rate (2) determine the geometry of the fault segments, and (3)
93 model the associated tsunami hazard, since such a joint approach has been lacking so far.
94 In the following study, the fault geometry is refined in order to provide an up-to-date map
95 of the fault segments thanks to high-resolution (HR) bathymetric data. Then, we integrate
96 its long-term slip rate over the last *ca.* 7 My, *i.e.* from fault initiation to present-day, by the
97 mean of HR seismic reflection lines and available biostratigraphic and isotopic dates.

98 Secondly, Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) explorations of seafloor rupture allowed us
99 to measure the height of the fault scarp and to determine the fault kinematics from
100 striations observed along a recent co-seismic scarp. Because the overall geometry of this
101 fault system is comparable to the Les Saintes fault system in terms of length, seafloor
102 scarp and dip, we postulate that a rupture along the Morne Piton fault may trigger a local
103 tsunami close to the coasts of the Guadeloupe Archipelago. Therefore we study the
104 seismogenic and tsunamigenic potential of the Morne Piton fault system providing an
105 overview of what could happen in terms of tsunami generation if all the segments of the
106 Morne Piton fault ruptured simultaneously, *i.e.* a plausible worst-case scenario. This
107 scenario allows to identify and discuss the local bathymetric controls on the propagation
108 of the resulting tsunami wave and the consequences (*e.g.*, amplifications and
109 interferences) in near-shore areas of the neighboring populated islands. We do not assess
110 coastal inundation scenarios, as our scenario can't be refined by observational rupture
111 data accurate enough to realize such a specific hazard study. Finally, we conclude on the
112 importance of forearc crustal faults as potential major tsunami sources in subduction
113 zones.

114

115 **2. Geological settings**

116

117 Oceanic lithosphere of the North and South American plates is slowly subducting
118 beneath the Caribbean plate at a convergence rate of $\sim 20\text{mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ (Figure 1, DeMets et al.,
119 2000; Philippon and Corti, 2016). The convex trench geometry results in along strike
120 variations of obliquity, increasing northward from Guadeloupe. Along the arc, oblique
121 subduction is accommodated by trench-parallel left-lateral strike slip faults such as the
122 Harvers-Montserrat-Bouillante / Les Saintes corridor (located within the volcanic arc),
123 the Bunce fault (located along the crustal buttress), and a series of trench-perpendicular
124 grabens forming a sinistral horsetail (Feuillet et al., 2002; Feuillet et al., 2010; Ten Brink
125 et al., 2004; Boucard et al., 2021) (Figure 1, Figure 2A).

126 In the central Lesser Antilles, the Marie-Galante Basin (Guadeloupe Archipelago),
127 is located at the southern end of the aforementioned regional horsetail system and is
128 described as a conjugated normal fault system defining a trench perpendicular graben
129 (Figure 2 A; Feuillet et al., 2001, 2011). This graben affects sediment deposits comprising
130 three regional mega-sequences: an Eocene(?) - Early Miocene MG-MS1 sequence, a mid-

131 Miocene – late Tortonian / early Messinian MG-MS2 sequence, and a Messinian to present
132 MG-MS3 sequence (Bouysse et Mascle, 1994; De Min et al., 2015; Cornée et al., 2023). It
133 shapes the Marie-Galante Basin (up to 1200 m water depth) and surroundings, Grande-
134 Terre and Marie-Galante Islands, respectively (Figure 1). The northern boundary of the
135 Marie-Galante Basin is the east trending, south dipping Gosier fault that runs primarily
136 onshore along the southern coast of Grande-Terre (Garrabé and Andreieff, 1988; Figure
137 2A). The southern boundary of the basin consists of the N100° trending, ~50 km-long,
138 north dipping Morne Piton fault, which crosscuts the northern edge of Marie-Galante
139 Island (Bouysse et al., 1993) and extends offshore on both sides of the island (Feuillet et
140 al., 2002, 2004).

141 The Morne Piton fault system consists of five main 5-15 km-long segments
142 trending N90°E ± 30° separated by N140°E shorter right-lateral relays (Figure 2). The
143 fault scarp is exposed at Anse Piton, eastern coast of Marie-Galante, and shows dip-slip
144 striations (Feuillet et al., 2002). Onshore Marie-Galante, the fault offsets the Pliocene to
145 middle Pleistocene platform by ~60 m. It also crosscuts a series of 3 uplifted late-mid to
146 late Pleistocene terraces along the eastern side of the island. Feuillet et al. (2004)
147 calculated a 5 km dislocation depth and a 70 to 80°N fault dip to model the observed
148 flexure of the footwall. Considering that the Marie-Galante Plateau is a flat abandoned
149 330 Ka old marine terrace, these authors estimate the average slip rate of the Morne Piton
150 at about 0.5±0.2 mm·yr⁻¹ since 330 Ka. Regarding the uplifted terraces they estimated a
151 maximum earthquake moment magnitude (M_w) ranging from 5.8 up to 6.5 with a 400-
152 1000 to 1400-3300 years of recurrence time, respectively (250 km² of estimated
153 ruptured area). Moreover, it was later demonstrated that this plateau emerged between
154 1.77 and 1.07 Ma (magnetostratigraphic Chron 1R2r: Cornée et al., 2012; Münch et al.,
155 2014; De Min et al., 2015; Léticée et al., 2019; Cornée et al., 2021). Note that considering
156 an older age for the Plateau emergence would drastically lower the slip rate estimate and
157 increase the recurrence time calculated by Feuillet et al. (2001).

158

159 ***3. Historical seismicity***

160

161 Upper plate seismicity in the Marie-Galante Basin provided by (i) CDSA Seismic
162 database (Antilles Seismological Data Center - Bengoubou-Valerius et al. (2008); Massin et
163 al.(2021)), (ii) IRIS database (IRIS <https://www.isc.ac.uk> (Figure 2B) and (iii) the

164 deployment of Ocean Bottom Seismometers (OBS) (Ruiz et al., 2013; Bie et al., 2020)
165 shows a widely distributed pattern of moderate magnitude earthquakes ($M_w \leq 5.3$), with
166 the exception of the 2004 seismic cluster in Les Saintes. Wide Angle Seismic (WAS)
167 profiles together with earthquakes data indicate a seismogenic crustal thickness limited
168 to the first 15-20 km west of Marie-Galante suggesting a brittle-ductile transition at this
169 depth (Kopp et al., 2011; Ruiz et al., 2013; Gonzalez et al., 2017; Padron et al., 2021).
170 Among the very few focal mechanisms available in the Marie-Galante Basin (Gonzalez et
171 al., 2017), the 25 February 2014 M_w 3.8 earthquake occurred beneath the southern
172 Grande-Terre platform and shows pure normal motion along sub-E-W trending nodal
173 planes (Gonzalez et al. 2017, Event n°9, hypocentral location accuracy of ca. 5 km; Figure
174 2C). The location, depth and nodal plane characteristics (57° dip and $N102^\circ E$) of the
175 earthquake indicate that the event may correspond to a rupture along the Gosier fault
176 system, which is the only major fault system in the vicinity of the hypocentral location
177 able to trigger such magnitude earthquake. Feuillet (2000) provided more than 20 focal
178 mechanisms for earthquakes showing local magnitude $2 < M_l < 3.7$ and one $M_s = 5.6$
179 earthquake, located in and around the Marie-Galante Graben. All focal mechanisms show
180 nearly pure normal motion along sub-E-W trending nodal planes, consistent with
181 kinematics indicators observed along the Gosier and Morne Piton faults. This tectonic
182 pattern is confirmed by GNSS velocities which indicate that a small trench-parallel
183 extension is accommodated in the upper plate forearc (van Rijsingen et al., 2021).

184 Two historical earthquakes are reported along these two fault systems: (i) the 16
185 May 1851 earthquake with a maximum intensity of VII recorded in the southeastern part
186 of Basse-Terre, is attributed to the Morne Piton fault with an estimated moment
187 magnitude $M_w = 6.0$ (Feuillet et al., 2011; and (ii) the 29 April 1897 earthquake with a
188 maximum intensity of VIII recorded in the Pointe-à-Pitre area being either attributed to
189 the Gosier Fault system with an estimated moment magnitude $M_w = 5.5$, or to the
190 Montserrat fault zone, with an estimated moment magnitude $M_w = 6.5$ (Bernard and
191 Lambert, 1988; Feuillet et al., 2011). Overall, at the latitude of Guadeloupe, regional
192 earthquake data suggests that normal fault systems are active with an ability to generate
193 earthquakes of moment magnitude M_w 6 and above. This magnitude range is potentially
194 able to trigger tsunami according to tsunami catalogues (as explained, for example, in
195 Roger et al., 2019).

196

197

198 **4. Historical tsunami**

199

200 Southwest of the Marie-Galante Basin, the 2004 M_w 6.3 earthquake (Bazin et al.,
201 2010; Feuillet et al., 2011) showed that upper plate crustal faults can generate strong
202 earthquakes and tsunamis. The main shock occurred along the NNW-SSE trending, *ca.* 40
203 km-long arc-parallel Les Saintes Fault System (Feuillet et al., 2011; Leclerc et al., 2016).
204 The recurrence of such a rupture is estimated to be a few hundred years or more (Escartín
205 et al., 2016; Escartín et al., 2018; Feuillet et al., 2011; Le Friant et al., 2008). Focal
206 mechanisms of the main shock as well as five aftershocks provided an overall pure
207 normal motion along NNW-SSE nodal planes (Figure 2D). Source models from Salichon
208 et al. (2009), Bazin et al. (2010), and Feuillet et al. (2011), well constrained by the long
209 duration of the aftershock sequence, proposed a main source localized along the N135°E
210 trending, 50°E dipping Roseau Fault (westernmost fault of Les Saintes fault system) with
211 a 30 km-long and 21 km-downdip width fault plane. Aftershock seismicity reactivated
212 several nearby conjugate faults with a maximum seismic depth at *ca.* 15 km. The main
213 rupture occurred at two asperities located 8 km below the surface with a maximum slip
214 of 1.8 m, and propagated to the surface triggering a coseismic offset of the seafloor of 0.3-
215 0.6 m along a *ca.* 10 km-long segment. Escartín et al. (2016) investigated the fault scarp
216 by the mean of HR bathymetry highlighting a 3 km-long, up to 0.9 m-high scarp, but
217 concluded that part of the observed slip may be post-seismic. The Les Saintes earthquake
218 generated up to 2 m-high tsunami waves at the coast and a maximum horizontal run-up
219 of 42 m in some bays of Les Saintes (Zahibo et al., 2005; Le Friant et al., 2008; Cordrie et
220 al., 2020). However, tsunami models using fault parameters based on seismological data
221 resulted in an underestimation of the tsunami wave amplitude and run-up (Le Friant et
222 al., 2008). Cordrie et al. (2020) consider that their best fit models require greater slip on
223 the fault plane and a greater magnitude for the earthquake than those given by the
224 seismological data in order to accurately reproduce the observed tsunami, suggesting
225 that the observed scarp is the surface expression of co-seismic slip (source parameters:
226 M_w =6.4-6.5 – fault plane 15x15 km – Strike N325°E – Dip 55°E – rake *ca.*90° - slip=2.5-
227 3.5 m).

228 Over the last ~500 years of historical written archives in the Lesser Antilles, a few
229 dozen confirmed tsunamis from different origins (local, regional or far-field sources

230 including earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions or combinations of them) have
231 been reported. Starting with the 16 April 1690 $M_s \sim 8.0$ Barbados earthquake (which
232 presumably triggered the first reported tsunami in the Lesser Antilles), it includes the
233 widely studied 1 November 1755 Lisbon transoceanic tsunami (*e.g.*, Gutscher et al., 2006,
234 Accary and Roger, 2010; Roger et al., 2010, 2011, Martínez -Lorient et al., 2021) and the
235 18 November 1867 Virgin Islands tsunami (*e.g.*, Zahibo et al., 2003, 2005; Barkan and ten
236 Brink, 2004). Landslide sources and/or pyroclastic flows, are also known for their
237 tsunamigenic potential. There are more and more studies led to assess the hazard
238 associated to these “silent tsunamis” (*e.g.*, Roger et al., 2024). In the Caribbean Region, a
239 few tsunamis triggered by landslides and/or pyroclastic flows have been reported in
240 catalogues of events (*e.g.*, O’loughlin and Lander, 2003; Accary and Roger, 2010),
241 bathymetric surveys helped to identified large submarine landslide scars and deposits
242 (*e.g.*, Deplus et al., 2001; Le Friant et al., 2009, 2019) and a few studies have highlighted
243 the capacity of these landslides to trigger large tsunamis (*e.g.*, Smith and Shepherd, 1996;
244 Teeuw et al., 2009; Leslie and Mann, 2016).

245 On the basis of an extensive literature review, including cross-checking of
246 information, we conclude that only four tsunamis reported in Guadeloupe are likely of
247 upper crustal seismic origin (Mallet, 1853, 1854, 1855; Lander, 1997; Zahibo and
248 Pelinovsky, 2001; Lander et al., 2003; O’Loughlin and Lander, 2003; Zahibo et al., 2003;
249 Accary and Roger, 2010; Nikolkina et al., 2010; Roger et al., 2013; online databases:
250 NGDC/WDS, 2023; TL/ICMMG, 2023). These tsunamis have been observed or recorded
251 following earthquakes occurring on regional faults (indicated magnitude and epicenter
252 coordinates are from the USGS online earthquakes catalogue:
253 <https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards>): the $M_w \sim 8.0-8.5$ earthquake on
254 8 February 1843 (NE of Guadeloupe, 16.73°N, 61.17°W) and the M_w 7.2 earthquake on 25
255 December 1969 (SE of Guadeloupe, 15.648°N, 59.694°W) are arguably attributed either
256 to a rupture along the megathrust or to upper plate faulting ; the M_w 6.5 earthquake on
257 16 March 1985 (along the Harvers-Montserrat-Bouillante fault system between
258 Montserrat and Nevis, north of Basse-Terre, 17.013°N, 62.448°W); and the M_w 6.3
259 earthquake on 21 November 2004 (Along the Les Saintes fault system, south of Basse-
260 Terre, 15.679°N, 61.706°W)(Figure1). The largest earthquakes and tsunamis produced
261 at subduction zones are expected to originate from rupture at the plate interface
262 megathrust. However, historical records in the Lesser Antilles reveal that neither the

263 1843 M_w 7.5-8.5 nor the 1839 M_w 7.5-8.5 largest known earthquakes, although
264 destructive, have been followed by large tsunamis. However, Roger et al. (2013) showed
265 that the simulation of a M_w 8.5 1843-like megathrust earthquake would have produced
266 wave amplitudes of 5 m and more along the exposed coasts of Guadeloupe, which was not
267 reported in coeval documents. Feuillet et al. (2011) explain these two major earthquakes
268 by the great depth of the rupture along the megathrust that led to little seafloor
269 deformation. However, numerical simulation of worst-case scenarios for these two
270 ruptures along the megathrust evidence the possibilities of tsunami amplitudes up to 10
271 meters and above in some embayment (Roger et al., 2013; Colon-Useche et al., 2023. As
272 magnitude of crustal earthquakes is constrained by fault length, events occurring along
273 such crustal fault show a much smaller magnitude than megathrust earthquakes
274 consequently may form smaller seafloor offsets. Thus, most crustal earthquakes able to
275 trigger a tsunami do not produce significant sea surface deformation (only a few
276 centimeters amplitude in most cases) compared to subduction interface earthquakes.
277 Associated tsunamis are typically only visible on pressure gauge records (coastal gauges
278 or DART systems) after processing the data (*e.g.*, de-tiding, high-frequencies filtering,
279 etc.).

280

281 **3. Material and method**

282

283 **3.1 Seismic lines**

284 We present eight multichannel seismic (MCS) lines acquired during five
285 oceanographic campaigns (location on Figure 3A). These include high-resolution sparker
286 source seismic data from KaShallow 1 (Lebrun et al., 2008) and GEOBERYX03
287 oceanographic campaigns (Thinon and Bitri, 2003; Thinon et al., 2004 and 2010), mid
288 resolution GI airgun arrays seismic data from KaShallow 2 (Lebrun et al., 2008) and
289 Aguadomar (Deplus et al., 1998) cruises, and deep penetrating MCS data from the
290 Sismantilles 1 seismic experiment (Hirn, 2001) (Table 1).

291 Sismantilles 1 seismic data have been processed using CGG-Veritas Geovector®
292 software on board the R/V Nadir (Hirn et al., 2001). Processing includes band pass
293 filtering, internal and external mute, one step velocity analysis, NMO correction, stack,
294 predictive deconvolution and post-stack constant water-velocity time migration. The

295 KaShallow 1 and 2, Aguadomar and Geoberyx have been processed with Seismic Unix
296 software ([Cohen and Stokwell, Center for Wave Phenomena, Colorado School of Mines](#)).
297 The seismic processing includes band pass filtering, sea waves and spherical divergence
298 corrections, constant velocity or simple velocity gradient NMO correction and stack, and
299 constant water-velocity time migration. The reflection seismic lines are in millisecond
300 two-way-travel-time (mstwt). The velocities of the Wide Angle Seismic refraction (WAS)
301 profiles are in second two-way-travel-time (stwt).

302

303 *3.2 Bathymetry*

304 High-resolution bathymetric data were acquired during the KaShallow2
305 oceanographic campaign (Lebrun, 2009) using a Simrad EM300 multibeam echosounder.
306 We merged this data with Aguadomar (Deplus, 1999) and Sismantilles 2 (Laigle et al.,
307 2007) cruises Simrad EM12 Dual multibeam echosounder data available for the Marie-
308 Galante Basin. Vertical accuracy for these echosounders is plurimetric for typical water
309 depth found in the Marie-Galante Basin (<2000 m below mean sea-level, noted bsl
310 hereafter). Near-shore (0-200 m bsl) and onshore, very high-resolution bathymetric and
311 topographic data comes from the Litto3D database -
312 (<https://www.geoportail.gouv.fr/donnees/litto3d> last accessed on September 2024-
313 that includes airborne lidar survey and KaShallow-3 multibeam data acquired with a
314 RESON Seabat 8101 multibeam echosounder). The vertical accuracy for this second
315 dataset is better than one meter. We used the [Caribes software](#) (ifremer) to process the
316 data and to produce a 25 m grid spacing Digital Elevation Model of the Marie-Galante
317 Basin and surrounding islands. Maps are produced using the open-access QGIS software
318 (<https://www.qgis.org>)

319

320 *3.3 Depth and time calibration of main geological boundaries.*

321 In order to measure offsets of unconformities on time-migrated seismic lines we
322 need to constrain the seismic velocities within the sediments. We used velocities from the
323 WAS profile (Kopp et al., 2011) in the south of Marie-Galante, that trends parallel to the
324 MCS line Agua116 (Cornée et al., 2023). The WAS velocities in the *ca.* 0.4 stwt (second
325 two way time) thick upper unit (MG-MS3 – Cornée et al., 2023) ranges between 2 and 2.5
326 km/s. The 3.25 km/s isochrones mimic the base of unit MG-MS2 and the 4.5 km/s
327 isochrones follow the acoustic basement below MG-MS1. Moreover, KaShallow 2 cruise

328 MCS data (Table 1) acquired with a 600 m long streamer allows us to determine the
329 Normal Move Out velocities down to a depth of *ca.* 0.75 stwt in well-layered units such as
330 shown on the seismic lines (Figure 3). Once converted into interval velocities using the
331 “Hewitt Dix formula”, we determine velocities in the upper unit from 1500 to 2750 m/s
332 (Dix, 1955). Therefore, we use 1500 m/s in the water and 2000 m/s and 2500 m/s in the
333 sediments to estimate (and bound) the depth of unconformities observed on time-
334 migrated seismic lines (Table 2).

335 Offshore, several first order unconformities and sedimentary units were
336 accurately dated using bio-stratigraphy analysis or radiochronology (Bouysse and
337 Mascle, 1994; KaShallow Research Program results: Münch et al., 2013; De Min et al.,
338 2015; Cornée et al., 2023). The deepest dated unconformity, MG-SB2, which corresponds
339 to the top of the MG-MS1 sequence, occurs on seismic lines east of Marie-Galante (thick
340 orange line on Figure 5, lines AGUA97 – K09-09 – K09_45 - Sis7C). Along the seismic line
341 Agua 97, the F8 fault scarp has been sampled at 514 m bsl just beneath the unconformity
342 (KaShallow Cruise ROV dive, Figure 6). The samples, BMG2 and 4, yielded a Late
343 Burdigalian/earliest Langhian age (Cornée et al., 2023). Thus, we propose $16 \text{ Ma} \pm 1 \text{ Ma}$
344 for the age of MG-SB2. Above, another regional unconformity MG-SB3 (Cornée et al.,
345 2023) is identified east of Marie-Galante. It corresponds to the top of MG-MS2 sequence
346 (thick purple line on the Figure 5 lines Agua97 – K09-09-08 – K09-45-44 – Sis7C). The
347 age for this surface is bracketed between the overlaying Late Messinian GT carbonate
348 platform (zones N18, 5.8-5.33 Ma –Cornée et al., 2023) and the underlying sedimentary
349 unit dated Late Tortonian $8.57 \pm 0.43 \text{ Ma}$ (Ar-Ar, Münch et al., 2014). We thus consider 7
350 $\pm 1.5 \text{ Ma}$ for the age of MG-SB3. West of Marie-Galante, the angular unconformity on line
351 K09-90 North-West of Marie-Galante may corresponds to MG-SB3 (Figure 4). However,
352 this reflector is too deep to be followed across the whole fault system. Within the
353 uppermost sequence, MG-MS3, a remarkable unit boundary corresponding to a second
354 order unconformity, can be easily correlated throughout the basin and onshore (red thick
355 line on Figure 4). This unit boundary is Middle-Late Piazencian offshore and correlates
356 onshore with the 3–2.9 Ma tectonically-induced erosional unconformity SB1 (see above;
357 Cornée et al., 2023). Along the seismic line Ber03-30-31, the fault scarp immediately
358 north of F3 and F4 has been sampled at 283 m bsl (KaShallow Cruise ROV dive, Figure 4).
359 Samples, BC1 and BC2, yielded ages of $1.33 \pm 0.23 \text{ Ma}$ and $1.15 \pm 0.12 \text{ Ma}$, respectively
360 ($\text{Ar}^{40}/\text{Ar}^{39}$ ages on plagioclases, Münch et al., 2013; 2014). These samples correspond to

361 a prominent seismic reflector within the upper unit of MG-MS3 sequence that can also be
362 easily correlated through all the seismic lines west of Marie-Galante. We thus retain an
363 average age of 1.29 ± 0.26 Ma for this seismic reflector (green line on Figure 4).

364

365 *3.4 Tsunami modeling*

366 In order to test the tsunamigenic potential of the fault system proposed herein, a
367 rupture scenarios has been elaborated and is presented hereafter.

368 Numerical simulations of tsunami generation and propagation were carried out
369 using COMCOT software (Cornell Multi-grid Coupled Tsunami: Liu et al., 1998; Wang,
370 2008; Wang and Power, 2011). COMCOT is widely used by the research community and
371 constantly tested notably through various real tsunami cases (e.g. Prasetya et al., 2011;
372 Gusman et al., 2019; Paris et al., 2021; Gusman et al., 2022; Roger et al., 2023). COMCOT
373 uses a modified staggered finite-difference scheme to solve linear and non-linear shallow
374 water equations in either spherical or Cartesian coordinate systems throughout a set of
375 nested grids allowing refinement of the bathymetric resolution in coastal areas. A two-
376 way nested grid configuration is implemented in the model to balance computational
377 efficiency and numerical accuracy (Wang 2008; Wang and Power 2011).

378 For this study, nesting has been used with two grid levels: the first grid is a 0.5
379 arcmin (~ 900 m) resolution grid of the Lesser Antilles (extent: 295°E , 302°E , 12°S , 18°S)
380 built from the global dataset GEBCO 2021 (GEBCO Compilation Group, 2021); the second
381 grid is a 3.75 arcsec (~ 115 m) spatial resolution grid focusing on the Guadeloupe
382 Archipelago and Dominica Island, including the location of the investigated Morne Piton
383 fault system as shown on Figure 1 (extent: 297.92°E , 300.22°E , 14.94°N , 16.717°N). This
384 second grid has been built from different datasets including the aforementioned
385 bathymetric data (§ 3.2). The highest resolution and the most recent data have been kept
386 first. Data gaps have been filled in with data from GEBCO (GEBCO Compilation Group,
387 2021) for offshore regions, and SRTM version 3.0 Global 1 arcsec data (NASA SRTM,
388 2013) for onshore regions. Continuity of the different datasets has been ensured using
389 kriging interpolation, which has proven to be one of the best methods to produce a well-
390 defined DEM, especially for smooth transitions between different resolution areas (e.g.
391 Bernardes et al., 2006; Arun, 2013; Ajvazi and Czimmer, 2019). Note that Dominica was
392 included in the second grid in order to look at potential effects which could occur between

393 the different islands and also to assess the potential tsunami threat resulting from the
394 Morne Piton scenario on this neighboring island.

395 The initial sea-bottom displacement is calculated by COMCOT considering an
396 instantaneous rupture of the fault using the surface deformation model of Okada (1985),
397 and transmission of the deformation to the water column above is considered
398 instantaneous. Calculations of wave propagation have been done at mean sea level (MSL)
399 assuming a constant Manning's roughness coefficient of 0.011 for the seabed friction
400 (Wang et al., 2017). A higher friction coefficient leads to more energy dissipation of
401 tsunami waves, especially in shallow waters, slowing down their speed and reducing
402 their amplitude and impact (e.g. Dao and Tkalich, 2007). Considering the limited extent
403 of the interest zone (~250km x 200km), the rupture parameters (leading to a small
404 coseismic rupture) and the objective to look at potential localized effect as inter-islands
405 resonance, tsunami waves propagation time was set to 10 hours.

406

407 **4. RESULTS**

408

409 *4.1 The Morne Piton fault system*

410 The HR bathymetric data presented here above (section 3.2) allows to refine the
411 structural pattern of the Morne Piton fault system, especially offshore (Figures 3A - B).
412 The fault system splays eastward from the N120-N135°E trending Eastern Les Saintes
413 fault system located east-south-east of Basse-Terre to the N110-115°E trending Petite-
414 Terre fault system south-south-east of Grande-Terre (Figures 2 and 3). Thus, the fault
415 zone spreads over a 5-8 km wide and 50 km long zone with an average N100°E trend.

416 Morpho-bathymetric analysis allows us to identify surficial segments of the faults
417 that are reaching out the seafloor. The main fault scarp of the Morne Piton fault system is
418 the southernmost one, along which 11 fault segments of 1-10 km length can be identified
419 (Figure 3B). From west to east, the F1 segment trends N110° and then the fault steps left
420 along the N75°E trending F2 segment. A little farther east, the fault cuts the northern
421 Colombie Bank and the eastern Marie-Galante platform along closely spaced N90E
422 trending left or right stepping segments F3, F3', F4 and F5. Across the island, the F6
423 segment is a N130°N trending, 6 km long right step relay linking the F5 segment to the F7
424 N90°E trending one. Further east offshore Marie-Galante, two N80°E trending fault
425 segments, F8, 9, 10 and 11, arrange as overlap right steps. There, the fault scarp vanishes

426 in just a few kilometers. To the east of the line Sis7C, neither the sediments nor the
427 basement are affected by the north-dipping Morne Piton fault system (Figure 5). In
428 contrast, the seismic line Sis7C shows that the basement is southwardly downthrown by
429 the Petite-Terre fault system, along south dipping active and sealed faults to the north
430 and south of the Morne Piton fault system, respectively (Figure 5 location on Figure 3A) .
431 West of Marie-Galante, the Morne Piton fault system widens as closely spaced fault splays
432 trending N95°E to N100°E link the main fault scarp (F2, F3 and F4) to the antithetic
433 Goyave Fault system or die westward (Figure 4 location on Figure 3A). Eastward of the
434 F6 segment, some synthetic and a few antithetic faults splay northeastward and link with
435 the N110-115°E Petite-Terre Fault system.

436 The mean fault-scarp height west of Marie-Galante Island is ca. 100 m (Figure 3C).
437 Across Marie-Galante Island, the mean fault-scarp height reaches 200 m and controls the
438 staircase morphology of the island. East of the island, the Marie-Galante Canyon carved
439 the sedimentary units, clearing some of the fault planes increasing their apparent scarps
440 heights up to 400 m. To the east, the canyon meanders and cuts through the eastern tip
441 of the Morne Piton fault system (Figure 3 B and C). West of the island, at the vicinity of
442 the volcanic island of Basse-Terre, either recent deposits or the uppermost sedimentary
443 units seal most of the faults. These observations seem to indicate that the sedimentary
444 rate west of Marie-Galante and the erosional rate east of Marie-Galante (in the canyon)
445 exceed the vertical slip rate of the fault.

446 4.2 Vertical slip rate estimates along the Morne Piton fault system

447 To assess the average vertical slip rate along the Morne Piton fault system, we
448 estimated the fault offset of key dated reflectors across the entire length of the fault
449 system (Figures 4 and 5 – Table 2). West of Marie-Galante, the main offset of the $1.29 \pm$
450 0.26 Ma seismic reflector (green on Figure 4) increases from west to east (i.e., from the
451 westernmost extremity of the fault toward its center). Close to the eastern shore of Basse-
452 Terre Island (Figure 4, profile K09-96, and Table 1), the 1.29 Ma reflector is downthrown
453 by 110-115 m. Eastward, the reflector offset increases up to 230-257 m (Figure 4, line
454 K09-90, K08_24 and Table 2) and reaches a maximum of 300-322 m (Figure 4, lines
455 ber03_30-31, K08-59). Accordingly, the number of sealed structures across the fault
456 system decreases eastward (Figures 3 and 4). Thus, West of Marie-Galante, the Morne

457 Piton fault system accommodates a vertical slip rate increasing eastward up to $0.25 \pm$
458 $0.08 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ over the last $1.29 \pm 0.26 \text{ Ma}$ (Table 2).

459 The $2.95 \pm 0.05 \text{ Ma}$ Unit Boundary (red line on figure 4) can only be correlated
460 across the fault system along the K08-59 seismic line. Growth strata are observed in the
461 deposits above the 2.95 Ma unit boundary (Figure 4, gray shadow on seismic lines),
462 attesting for syn-sedimentary fault activity. This unit boundary offset reaches 550-620 m,
463 leading to $0.20 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ average vertical slip rate over the last $2.95 \pm 0.05 \text{ Ma}$, i.e
464 ca. $0,16 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ for the period 2,95 - 1,29Ma (Table 2). West of Marie-Galante Island,
465 deeper reflectors cannot be identified and correlated across the fault system because of
466 the limited seismic penetration.

467 However, east of Marie-Galante, the MG-SB2 sequence boundary dated to $16 \pm$
468 1Ma (orange in Figure 5 – see also Figure 5 in Cornée et al., 2023) is the only reflector
469 that can be correlated on both sides of the fault system. In the hanging wall of the fault,
470 the younger MG-SB3 $7 \pm 1.5\text{Ma}$ boundary (Purple in Figure 5) as well as a large part of
471 the fault scarp are eroded by the Marie-Galante Canyon. The seismic line K09-09 (Figure
472 5) shows that the MG-SB3 unconformity records the Morne Piton fault inception: in the
473 footwall of the fault, the stratigraphy of MG-MS2 sequence (comprised between MG-SB2
474 and MG-SB3) shows conformal deposits flexed upward while approaching the fault,
475 whereas MG-MS3 deposits onlap onto MG-SB3 and present clear growth strata. We thus
476 propose that the $16 \pm 1 \text{ Ma}$ sequence boundary is pre-tectonic and is tilted by the fault
477 since its inception $7 \pm 1.5 \text{ Ma}$ ago (the age of MG-SB3; Figure 5, profile K09-45-45). Along
478 the fault system East of Marie-Galante we calculated the strain rate from MG-SB2 offset
479 since $7\pm 1\text{Ma}$. From east to west the slip rate ranges from $0.067\pm 0.03 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ at the
480 K09_44-45 seismic line, to $0.071\pm 0.02 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ along the K09_08-09 line. Seismic line
481 Agua97 (Figure 5) presents the greatest offset of MG-SB2. However, this seismic line does
482 not cross the southernmost F7 segment (the water depth is too shallow for ship
483 navigation in the footwall compartment). We estimated the depth of MG-SB2 in the
484 footwall compartment from the closest seismic line available that crosses the fault located
485 1 km east of the Agua97 line. We obtain an offset of 830-860 m leading to a maximum
486 average vertical slip rate of $0.12 \pm 0.03 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ since $7 \pm 1.5 \text{ Ma}$, i.e ca. $0,07 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ for
487 the period 7 - 2,95Ma (Table 2). Consequently, we propose that i) the vertical slip rate
488 accommodated by the Morne Piton fault system increases progressively from each
489 extremity of the fault toward its center, and ii) that the Morne Piton fault system is

490 characterized by an increasing slip rate from *ca.* 0.07 from its inception (*i.e.* 7 Ma ago) to
491 *ca.* 0.25 mm·yr⁻¹ since 1.29 Ma (Table 2).

492 *4.3 Earthquakes parameters of Tsunami modeling*

493 ROV dive along the ber03_30-32 seismic line allowed observation of one of the main
494 morphologic scarps of the Morne Piton fault system across the F2 and F3' segments
495 (Figures 3 and 6). Across the upper plateau, between F2 and F3', we observed several
496 N90°E trending fractures parallel to the fault segments (Figure 6A). While descending
497 across the F3' scarp, the slope progressively steepens up from 45° at 157 m bsl to more
498 than 80° at 280 m bsl just a few meters above the toe of the scarp (Figure 6A, B and C).
499 This morphology suggests a *ca.* 128 m-high cumulative scarp for the F3' segment at that
500 location. The very last meter of the fault scarp above the toe of the slope presents a 100
501 cm-high polished vertical surface, partly altered, showing dip-slip striations indicating
502 pure normal motion along this fault segment (Figure 5D E and F). This exposed and partly
503 altered fault slip plane breaches the sea floor at high angle. Such a polished striated fault
504 scarp morphology is similar, although more altered, to the co-seismic fault scarp
505 observed at the toe of the Roseau Fault plane, after the Les Saintes earthquake (Escartín
506 et al., 2016). We conclude that this observation of the Morne Piton polished striated scarp
507 may correspond to one of the last co-seismic scarps formed during a major earthquake
508 (including possible post-seismic slip motion) along this fault. Alteration of the fault slip
509 plane suggests that the slip event occurred tens to several hundred years ago, *i.e.*, this
510 fault slip plane may correspond to a pre-instrumental earthquake (see discussion). From
511 this observed scarp we obtained a ratio of last event scarp over total scarp height (proxy
512 for the cumulative slip as determined on Figure 3) of ~2,6%. With this ratio we calculated
513 an average scarp of ~75 cm along the whole length of the fault and a maximum scarp of 2
514 m. Such an average scarp value corresponds to the surface expression of a magnitude M_w
515 ~6.7 earthquake using the criteria of Wells and Coppersmith (1994), or even 7 according
516 to Thingbaijam et al. (2017). The same studies also provide a calculated maximum
517 displacement of ~2m, consistent with the maximum observation along the scarp.
518 Moreover, the 45 km total length of the Morne Piton fault system measured from HR
519 bathymetry, together with the width of the fault given by the 10 to 15 km thick
520 seismogenic crust, lead to a rupture area ranging between ~ 450 to 675 km² that would
521 generate a magnitude M_w ~6.7 ± 0.1 earthquake corroborating the afore range of

522 magnitude deduced with other observations (e.g., M_w ranging between 6.6 and 6.8
523 according Wells and Coppersmith, (1994) and Leonard (2010) and around 7 according
524 to Thingbaijam et al., 2017). The rupture parameters for the different identified segments
525 of the fault shown on figure 3B are provided in Table 3. Geographic location of the center
526 of top of the fault plane and azimuth are provided based on our structural analysis
527 (section 4.1 and 4.3). Neither seismic lines which illustrate only a few hundred of meters
528 nor in-depth earthquake distributions (which is not enough resolved) allow to estimate
529 the dip of the Morne Piton fault system. Thus, after considering the influence of dip on
530 surface deformation which turns out to be negligible, we choose a mean dip of 75° for the
531 fault segments after Feuillet et al. (2004). The shape of the rupture area (along-strike
532 length x downdip width) and a slip of 1.89 m (maximum displacement estimated from
533 scarp height measurement) is implemented for each segment in order to fit with a total
534 fault surface of ca. 500 km^2 , corresponding to a magnitude M_w 6.5 earthquake. Finally,
535 conformably to pure dip slip striations observed along the F3' segment (section 4.3) and
536 the F7 segment (Feuillet et al. 2002), we apply a rake of 90° , corresponding to a pure
537 normal faulting mechanism as observed by Feuillet et al. (2004) at Anse Piton and by the
538 ROV picture of the present study. Fault segments F8 and F9 are not straight, for the
539 purpose of modeling they have been divided into F8-F9 and F10-F11 (Figure 7).
540 Hereafter, we use these parameters to evaluate the potential tsunami hazard from the
541 Morne Piton fault for a worst-case plausible scenario rupturing all the segments
542 simultaneously.

543

544 *4.4 Plausible worst-case tsunami scenario and resulting hazard*

545 We present a worst-case plausible scenario, related to a rupture along all the
546 identified segments of the Morne Piton fault system as these 1 to 10 km-long segments
547 most probably root in-depth along a single fault zone (Feuillet et al., 2004). We rule out
548 the eventuality of testing a single 10 km-long segment of the Morne Piton fault system
549 rupture as it would generate a $M_w < 6.0$ earthquake and would thus unlikely consist in a
550 tsunami source (e.g., Roger et al., 2019). Here, we use a plausible M_w 6.5 scenario, i.e a
551 magnitude slightly lower than the maximum magnitude M_w 6.7 deduced from the
552 morphological analysis, but close enough to the Les Saintes earthquakes magnitude as
553 both Les Saintes and Morne Piton fault systems share close morphological characteristics.
554 Our model would generate a tsunami with a significant energy/amplitude to accurately

555 highlight the potential consequences of tsunami waves' propagation and interaction with
556 the peculiar shallow reliefs and major embayment located in and around the Marie-
557 Galante Basin. Quantifying horizontal run-up at the coast and assessing tsunami risk
558 following a rupture along this fault is out of the scope of the present study as such
559 quantifications necessitate a better knowledge of the fault dynamic itself (return period
560 of large events, etc.).

561 The initial surface elevation directly resulting from the Okada (1985)'s formulation is
562 presented in Figure 7. Due to the high inclination of the fault planes (dip = 75°) dipping
563 globally northward, a profile cut of the initial displacement is represented from the north
564 to the south by a crest (positive elevation) and a trough (negative elevation). At t=0, the
565 shallow water equations take over from this initial deformation and the propagation of
566 the tsunami waves is calculated over the nested grids at adequate time steps. Figure 8
567 presents the state of the virtual water surface at six different times of the tsunami waves
568 propagation from 1 to 16 minutes. The wave front initially parallel to the fault axes (t ≤ 1
569 min) is progressively influenced by the bathymetry within the very first minutes
570 following the rupture, leading to an anisotropic propagation of the waves showing
571 variability in space and time. In addition, the fact that the fault literally crosses Marie-
572 Galante leads to the tsunami source being divided in two independent sources located on
573 the west and east of this island: two tsunamis are therefore generated and called TsuW
574 (on the west) and TsuE (on the east) hereafter. These two tsunamis propagate from their
575 origin and wrap around Marie-Galante as shown at t=4 min of propagation. Then,
576 between 4 and 9 min, the two tsunami fronts meet on the north and south of Marie-
577 Galante. Meanwhile, the propagation of the TsuW waves meet the shallow waters of the
578 Banc Colombie shoal (approx. coordinates: 15.98°N/-61.43°W; minimum water depth is
579 about 35m), west of Marie-Galante: the waves' amplitude increases as they slow down
580 and their interaction leads to a constructive interference resulting in a "new" tsunami
581 source at the Banc Colombie shoal, mainly showing a negative wave propagating
582 southward with some extensions toward Marie-Galante on the east and Les Saintes on
583 the west.

584 Approaching the coasts, wave shoaling takes over, the reduction in water depth
585 slowing down the waves and simultaneously increasing their amplitude. It leads to wave
586 amplification as particularly shown along Marie-Galante north shore, the southeast coast
587 of Basse-Terre and the south of Petite-Terre and eastern Grande-Terre (Figure 9).

588 After 10 hours of tsunami propagation, the maximum values of wave amplitude
589 reached on each point of the simulation domain are shown in Figure 9. The overall impact
590 of such an event is that the maximum wave amplitude is not going over 1.2 m, carefully
591 considering the 100 m resolution of the simulation domain: in fact, grid refinement at the
592 coast showing higher resolution would probably highlight higher wave amplitude in very
593 localized areas because of interaction with small underwater structures not represented
594 at this resolution, as well as non-linear effects. The patterns of those amplitudes indicate
595 that not only the fault region but also some coastal regions are exposed to tsunami waves
596 of 50 cm or more, which is above the usual beach and marine threat 30-cm threshold. It
597 is the case for the neighboring coasts of Marie-Galante, southeast Basse-Terre, south
598 Grande-Terre and the natural reserve of Petite-Terre. The southeast coast of Basse-Terre
599 is particularly exposed with wave amplitudes of more than 1 m (Figure 9a). A focus on
600 Les Saintes Archipelago highlights also wave amplitudes of more than 1 m, even between
601 the islands (Figure 9b). The northeast coast of Dominica is also affected but to a lesser
602 extent (maximum wave amplitudes of ~50 cm). Further high-resolution simulation,
603 including flow speed calculations, would help to correctly assess the related hazard on
604 this island. Virtual sea-level gauges have been added at different locations of grid 2
605 (Figure 9) in order to check if the model is stable and to look for possible resonance
606 (especially in Les Saintes Archipelago). The raw signal of seven VG (top figure 10)
607 highlights a clear decrease of the amplitude over the time on all stations. However, for
608 stations VG_1, VG_2 and VG_3, a low-frequency oscillation is clearly visible and lasts for
609 at least 10 hours. The amplitude spectrums on these three stations show that two peaks
610 with a period of ~8.5 min and 15 min respectively are present on the three signals at Les
611 Saintes, which is not the case for the stations out of the archipelago. Moreover, the high
612 amplitude negative wave southwardly propagating generated by the “new” tsunami
613 source at the Banc Colombie shoal, is shown by VG_1 on figure 10 with a peak to trough
614 value of ~0.6 m. VG_2 and VG_3 also show it to a lesser extent a bit later.

615

616 **5. Discussion**

617

618 *5.1. Upper plate fault tsunamigenic potential.*

619 Les Saintes earthquake demonstrated that upper plate normal faults may generate
620 $M_w > 6$ tsunamigenic earthquakes in the Lesser Antilles. Les Saintes tsunami produced up

621 to 2 m high waves at the coast and 42 m distance run-up in a peculiar embayment (Zahibo
622 et al. 2005). Such normal faults are prone to be tsunamigenic because their rupture is
623 relatively shallow (compared to the megathrust), and their slip motion is favorable to
624 large seafloor displacement. Together with their proximity to the islands, they are able to
625 produce metric-high tsunami waves at the coast and tens to hundreds of meters of run
626 up distances (depending on the topography). Therefore, upper plate crustal faults may
627 represent a major potential tsunami hazard in the Lesser Antilles islands and particularly
628 in the Guadeloupe Archipelago as pointed out by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic
629 Commission held in Fort-de-France in 2019 (IOC-UNESCO, 2020). Similarly to Les Saintes
630 Fault, we assume that the 50 km long Morne Piton fault poses a potential earthquake and
631 tsunami hazard. The large scarp we observed at the toe of the Morne Piton fault suggests
632 recent seismogenic rupture(s) along this structure, potentially tsunamigenic. However,
633 this scarp might not be related to the 1851 historical event as the estimated magnitude
634 M_w 5-5.5 for this earthquake appears too low to explain the observed scarp. Thus, a
635 rupture of the fault along its whole length must not be excluded. Several other prominent
636 onshore-offshore faults affect the seafloor and the topography of the archipelago and may
637 represent both an earthquake and a tsunami hazard. However, the relationships between
638 faults, earthquakes and tsunami is not clearly established as shown in the following
639 examples.

640 Along the arc, the Harvers-Montserrat-Bouillante and Les Saintes fault systems are
641 the most prominent tectonic features (Feuillet et al., 2010). To the south, Les Saintes Fault
642 system dips east and defines a half-graben (Leclerc et al., 2016). The westernmost fault,
643 the Roseau fault, ruptured during the 2004 M_w 6.3 earthquake and is most likely
644 reloading stress and therefore quiet. Recurrence time for this earthquake has been
645 estimated to be more than 1,000 years given the regional slow strain rate. However, the
646 eastern normal faults of the system offset the seafloor over more than 30 km and present
647 tilted blocks filled by fan shaped late Pleistocene deposits attesting for recent
648 deformation. In the light of these observations, the eventuality of a tsunamigenic
649 earthquake along these faults should be considered. To the North-West along the Harvers
650 segment, a rupture occurred in 1985 with a M_w 6.5 earthquake showing strike-slip
651 mechanisms. Beck et al., (2012) estimated a recurrence time of 6,500-7,000 years for
652 such a M_w 6.5 event based on the vertical offset of coseismic deposits in hemipelagites
653 imaged by very high-resolution seismic lines across the fault. In between these two

654 segments, the Montserrat-Bouillante segment is seismically quiet except if the 1897
655 (estimated M_w 7.0) earthquake occurred along this fault (Feuillet et al., 2011). However,
656 no tsunami related to such a rupture has been reported. Seismic lines across the
657 Montserrat-Bouillante fault (Feuillet et al., 2010; Legendre, 2018) reveal that the fault
658 offsets the most recent units including the oldest reflector drilled during the IODP1395,
659 that dates upper Gelasian *ca.* 1.8-2Ma (Le Friant et al. 2013). Given an offset of 0.3m stwt
660 and a 2000-2500 m/s sediments velocity this provides a 0.15-0.2 $\text{mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ slip rate. Thus,
661 the Montserrat-Bouillante segment should also be considered tsunamigenic (Figure 2).

662 South of Grande-Terre of Guadeloupe, the N90°E trending Gosier Fault system
663 bounds 45 km of coastal area (Figure 2). The fault system offset the Mid-Pleistocene
664 Grande-Terre plateau that culminates at +150 m from the offshore plateau that rests 15-
665 20 mbsl (Münch et al., 2013). This suggests a long-term vertical slip rate *ca.* 0.10 $\text{mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$
666 ¹. To the east of Grande-Terre, the fault crosscuts the MIS5e terrace attesting for Late
667 Pleistocene activity of the fault. However, evaluation of paleo-seismicity along one
668 eastern segment of the fault system by the means of trenches allowed the identification
669 of recent surface ruptures, although superficial deposits remain undated (Terrier and
670 Combes, 2002).

671 East of Guadeloupe, offshore, the Marie-Galante Basin is bounded to the east by
672 the Karukera spur (Figure 2D), a 75 km long N-S trending submerged plateau that
673 culminates 30 mbsl to the north offshore La Désirade Island, and gently dips southward
674 down to *ca.* 1500 mbsl (De Min et al., 2015). The spur is bounded to the west by N150°E
675 to N0°E trending, west dipping, and normal faults. These faults offset the middle Miocene
676 sequence boundary (SB2) by up to *ca.* 2,700-2,900 m, leading to a long-term vertical slip
677 rate of 0.16-0.18 $\text{mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$. Recent deposits are clearly affected by tectonic activity (Seibert
678 et al., 2020). Located far from the islands, the earthquake intensity felt onshore would be
679 relatively low in the island, but a tsunami could propagate across the Marie-Galante Basin
680 directly toward the coasts of the Lesser Antilles Arc islands.

681

682 *5.2. Slip rate reassessment along the Morne Piton fault system*

683 With this study, we evidence that the slip rate along the Morne Piton fault system
684 increases through time with a maximum slip rate of $0.25 \pm 0,08 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ since the last 1.29
685 Ma. This slip rate is up to four times slower than previous estimates. Over the last 330 Ka,
686 Feuillet et al. (2004) estimate a bulk slip rate along the Morne Piton fault as high as 1

687 mm·yr⁻¹ over 330 – 125 Ka then decreasing to 0.3 mm·yr⁻¹ since the last 125 Ka. This last
688 value is close to the long-term slip rate obtained offshore in this study (Figure 11). These
689 results suggest that the fault may present a fast slip rate during short periods of time (few
690 100 ka.) separated by long periods (million years) of low slip rate. The fast 1 mm·yr⁻¹ rate
691 was obtained considering that the terrace T2MG is offset by the fault by 159 m and dates
692 MIS7e (249 Ka) and the upper-plateau of Marie-Galante corresponds to an abrasion
693 surface from the MIS9e high stand (330 Ka) (Feuillet et al., 2004).

694 This latter statement can be reconsidered. The same *Agaricia sp.* limestone unit, and
695 *Acropora sp.* limestone unit top the three islands, Grande-Terre – La Désirade – Marie
696 Galante, suggesting they emerged synchronously (Feuillet et al., 2002; Cornée et al., 2012;
697 Munch et al., 2013). In the 3 islands the youngest formation, *Acropora* unit, is not younger
698 than 1.07 Ma and not older than 1.54Ma (Cornée et al., 2012; Münch et al., 2014). From
699 the geological map of Bouysse et al. (1993), this unit rims Marie-Galante Island. In La
700 Désirade, the Upper Plateau culminates at 276 m asl (above sea level), whereas the 330
701 Ka terrace is at 35 m asl (Lardeaux et al., 2013; Leticée et al., 2019). Consequently, the
702 hypothesis stating that the plateau emerged 330 Ka ago can be ruled out in Marie-Galante.
703 Based on the age of the latest deposit of the Marie-Galante Plateau that range between
704 1.54 and 1.07 Ma, a vertical slip rate of 0.15-0.22 mm·yr⁻¹ can be calculated. This value is
705 close to the ca. 0.25 mm·yr⁻¹ obtained offshore for the slip rate along the Morne Piton
706 fault system over the same period of time (Figure 11). As a consequence, it is not possible
707 to conclude that the Morne Piton fault system has short periods of fast slip rate, but
708 instead it probably increases through time, a reaching a maximum slip rate of 0.25 mm·yr⁻¹
709 over the last million years. As a consequence, dividing by four the slip rate along the
710 Morne Piton fault system is increasing the earthquake time recurrence along this fault
711 system and thus the time recurrence of potential associated tsunami. Constraining the
712 fault slip rate at the time scale of one or few seismic cycles may allow better estimates of
713 seismic and tsunamigenic hazards of the Morne Piton fault system. This would require a
714 better knowledge of in-depth fault geometry and identification of its active segments that
715 could be obtained by the means of a microseismic survey (using Ocean Bottom
716 Seismometers acquisition over 1-2 years or more). At present-day, BOTDR laser
717 reflectometry is used to perform long-term monitoring of the Morne Piton fault using the
718 network of submarine telecom fiber optic cables connecting Marie-Galante to the larger
719 islands of Basse-Terre and Grande-Terre (Gutscher et al., 2023). It is to note that given

720 the slow strain rate and in the absence of rupture occurring along the fault during the
721 survey period, identifying slip rate across this fault system may require hundreds to
722 thousands of years. Moreover, very high-resolution seismic data across the fault in areas
723 of high sedimentation rates (*i.e.*, along the eastern coast of Basse-Terre Island) may
724 constrain the Holocene fault activity. Slip rate estimates can be obtained by coring and
725 dating of (i) the most recent deformed sediments as well as (ii) tsunami deposits in salt
726 marshes. Finally, such regional monitoring would also contribute to a survey of past and
727 potential landslides that may also be induced by earthquakes and which may locally
728 generate destructive waves.

729

730 *5.3. Bathymetric features control on tsunami wave propagation*

731 The aim of the tsunami simulation associated to the present study is not to
732 produce a precise hazard assessment for the islands of Guadeloupe, but rather to give an
733 overview of what could happen in terms of tsunami generation if all the identified
734 segments of the Morne Piton fault system ruptured together, and to identify a few gaps in
735 terms of scientific knowledge and operational activities. An accurate hazard assessment
736 study would require many rupture scenarii including combinations of the segments used
737 in this study, with variations of their parameters and sensitivity tests.

738 The main outcome of the simulation presented above lies in the fact that
739 submarine features play an important role on the tsunami waves behavior and amplitude.
740 Submarine canyons are known to focus the waves (e.g.: along the continental slope of the
741 middle American trench: Álvarez-Gómez et al., 2012; or at Nazarè Portugal: Martins et al.,
742 2010; do Carmo et al., 2022; Delpéy et al., 2021). This behavior also occurs along the rime
743 of the island submarine plateau rising the wave amplitude as exemplified in front of the
744 most populated cities of south-eastern Grande-Terre (Figure 9). Shallow water plateaus
745 located around or between islands slow down the waves which leads to particular
746 propagation patterns like the wrapping around the relief (Figure 8). There, the wrapping
747 effect of the waves around Marie-Galante and the Colombie Bank results in two distinct
748 tsunami sources, *i.e.* a primary source at fault and a secondary one at the Colombie Bank
749 (Figure 8). Such a behavior, already shown in other regions, is able to considerably
750 amplify the impact of the tsunami on the coast opposite to the fault rupture (Chadha et
751 al., 2005; Chen et al., 2012). It is important to notice that the low resolution of the grid
752 used for the present simulations is a limiting factor in quantifying correctly the wave

753 amplitude along the shoreline. A higher resolution simulation grid would better
754 reproduce the bathymetric features, especially in shallow waters, having a non-negligible
755 impact on the waves' behavior and amplitude.

756 Our simulation also highlights interesting phenomena that would require further
757 consideration in the framework of further tsunami hazard studies: wave oscillation,
758 which could be attributed to a resonance effect, is clearly visible within the Les Saintes
759 Archipelago, and potential wave trapping is also visible around those islands. If the
760 second case is purely observation, the resonance between Les Saintes islands is clearly
761 revealed by the single-sided Fourier amplitude spectrum (Figure 10) and the peak at ~15
762 min seems to be associated with the negative wave coming time after the initial wave
763 front and related to the tsunami interaction with the Colombie Bank shoal. The records
764 provided by the virtual gauges located beforehand within the archipelago (VG_1, VG_2 &
765 VG_3) clearly shows a long-period oscillation of the signal which is not present on the
766 gauges located outside of Les Saintes (VG_4, VG_5, VG_6 & VG_11). It shows how the
767 frequency content of the incoming signal can affect the sea-level during many hours after
768 the seismic rupture.

769 The numerical simulations performed by Cordrie et al. (2020) of the tsunami
770 having followed the M_w 6.3 Les Saintes earthquake were able to match the witnesses'
771 observations in Les Saintes (Zahibo et al., 2005). Despite the low resolution (100m) of the
772 present simulation on Les Saintes, there are some similarities between the two studies of
773 potential impacted zones, for example in Marigot or Grande Anse Bays. It also shows that
774 other bays, like the ones located between Terre-de-Haut and Ilet à Cabrit, appear to be
775 quite well protected and not exposed to relatively strong tsunami waves.

776 Finally, this study also highlights the exposed coastline of Dominica: on the north-
777 northeast coast of the island (Figure 9), 50+ cm waves are simulated, showing that this
778 island should integrate such a scenario of crustal fault rupture within its tsunami hazard
779 assessment plan.

780

781 ***Conclusions***

782

783 Thanks to HR bathymetry, reflection seismic data and rock/sediment samples, the
784 analyses of the morphology and tectonic structures of the Marie Galante Basin located in
785 the middle of the Guadeloupe Archipelago, allow to detail the structural pattern of this

786 region and to estimate a slip rate of *ca.* $0.1 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ increasing over the last million year
787 to $0.25 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$, along the Morne Piton fault system, , cross-cutting the basin. This
788 estimate divides the previously published estimations of the slip rate by four, and thus
789 increases the earthquake recurrence time associated to the Morne Piton fault system
790 from 1Ka to 4-5 Ka. We show that a seismic rupture associated to an earthquake showing
791 a moment magnitude $M_w \sim 6.5$ can occur along the Morne Piton fault system in case of the
792 rupture of the full length of the fault (all segments being considered connected at depth
793 in the present demonstration). Such an event would be tsunamigenic according to
794 numerical simulation results. The multi-segment tsunami modeling illustrates how
795 submarine morphological and structural features influences the propagation pattern of
796 the tsunami leading to constructive interferences and resonances, thus increasing the
797 tsunami threat on nearby islands, especially highlighting a resonance effect within the
798 Les Saintes Islands, not discussed so far (and potentially the explanation of the so-far
799 unreproduced run-up values of the 2004 tsunami). At a regional scale we evidenced that
800 several other regional faults such as Montserrat-Harvers-Bouillante Fault, Gosier Fault,
801 Karukera Spur Border Fault, may also be tsunamigenic. Indeed, although they have the
802 potential to produce relatively low magnitude (<7) earthquakes, their rupture could
803 occur at shallow depth and close to a highly populated coast. Therefore, scenarii with arc
804 and forearc crustal fault ruptures must be integrated within their tsunami hazard
805 assessment plan. For that, it is necessary to have a better knowledge of onshore-offshore
806 structural and seismogenic patterns of each individual major faults system as the regional
807 low strain rate leads to large recurrence time of tsunamigenic earthquakes ($> 1,000$
808 years), *i.e.* much greater than the historical record. In addition, these earthquakes could
809 also have the capacity to destabilize the sedimentary layers at the edge of plateaus and
810 canyons, triggering submarine mass failures, capable of triggering large but more
811 localized tsunamis.

812

813 ***Competing interests***

814

815 The contact author has declared that none of the authors has any competing interests.

816

817 ***Acknowledgements and data***

818

819 We are grateful to C. Deplus, A. Hirn (IPGP) and M. Laigle (GeoAzur) for providing
820 Aguadomar and Sismantilles seismic and bathymetry data and to I Thinon and P. Gennoc
821 (BRGM) for providing the Geoberyx seismic data. The Kashallow project was supported
822 by The French National Program DyETI from INSU-CNRS, by the European Interreg IIB
823 “Caribbean Space” Fund engaged in Guadeloupe with the EFRD projects (op. 30-700) and
824 the Region Guadeloupe. Part of this study was funded by the New Zealand’s Strategic
825 Science Investment Fund (SSIF). We warmly thank José A. Álvarez-Gómez and
826 anonymous reviewers for their constructive comments and the NHESS editor R. Omira
827 for handling our manuscript.

828

829 ***Data availability and request***

830

831 Litto3D data can be found at <https://diffusion.shom.fr/loisir/litto3d-guad2016.html>
832 French oceanographic fleet data can be obtain on demand via the Simer online interface
833 following the cruise doi – Aguadomar: <https://doi.org/10.17600/98010120>; Sismantilles:
834 <https://doi.org/10.17600/1080060> and <https://doi.org/10.17600/7010020>; Kashallow:
835 <https://doi.org/10.17600/9020010>;

836 Requests for the Geoberyx03 data must be addressed to the BRGM.

837 Some figures have been prepared using the Generic Mapping Tools Version 6 software
838 (Wessel et al., 2019).

839

840

841 ***Author Contribution***

842 MP: Conceptualization; Investigation; Visualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Methodology; Writing - original
843 draft; Writing - review & editing, JR: Conceptualization; Investigation; Data curation; Formal analysis; Methodology;
844 Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing, JFL: Formal analysis; Investigation; Resources; Writing - review
845 & editing; IT: Formal analysis; Investigation; Resources; Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing; OF:
846 Validation, Writing - review & editing; SM: Validation, Writing - review & editing; MAG: Investigation; Validation,
847 Writing - review & editing; LM: Resources; Writing - review & editing; JJC: Conceptualization; Investigation; Writing-
848 original drafr, Writing - review & editing.

849

850

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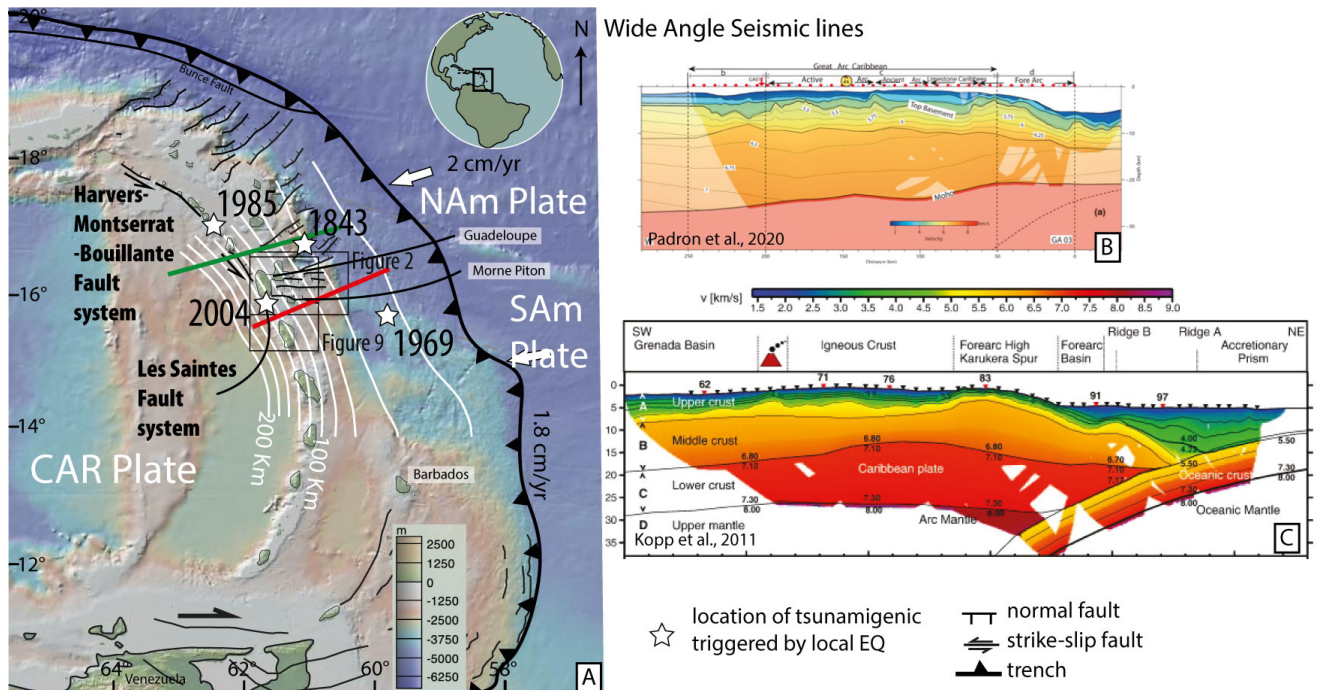
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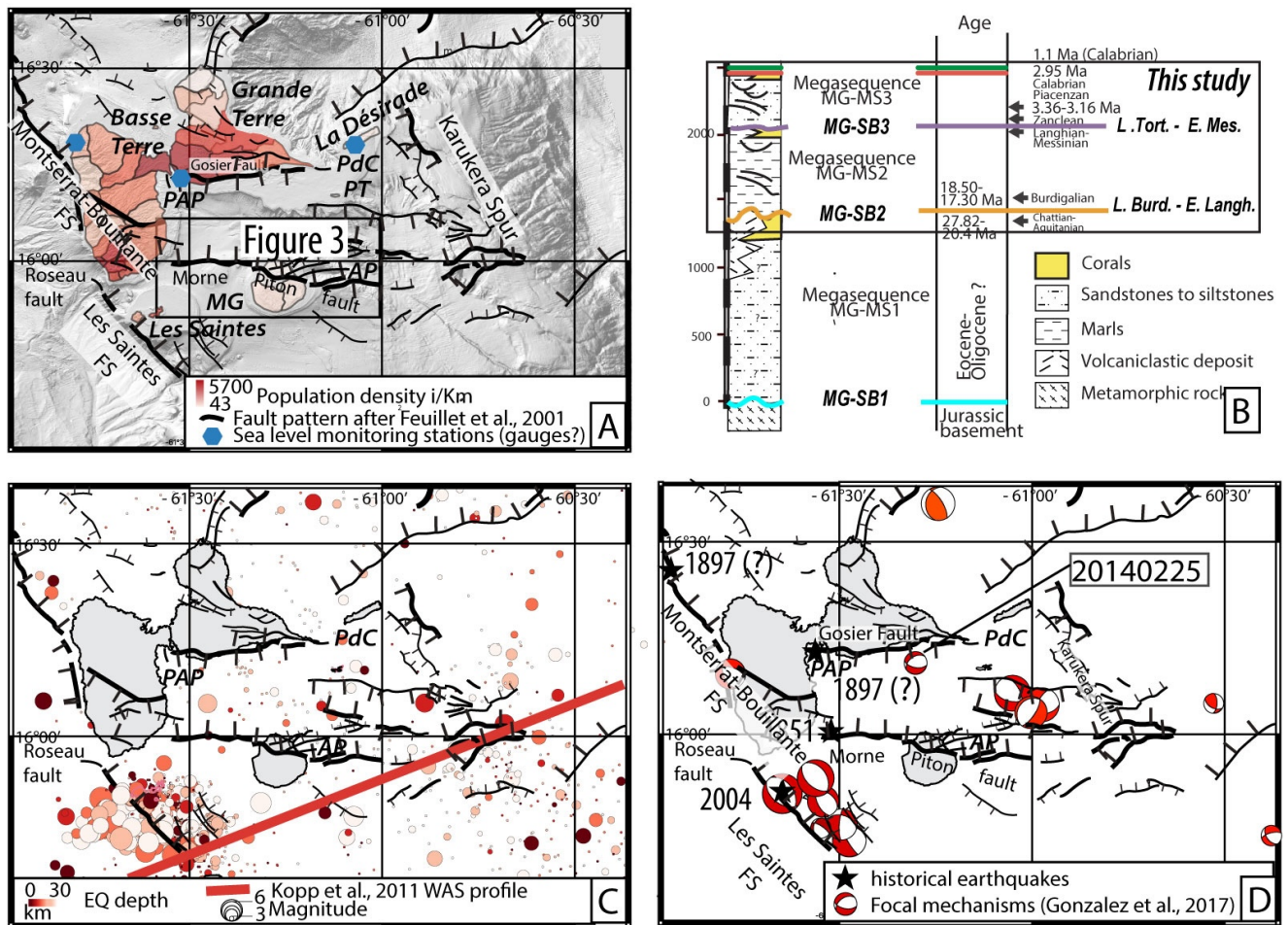
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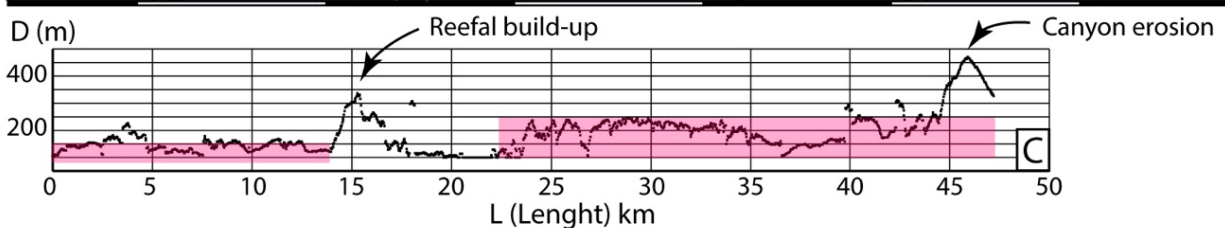
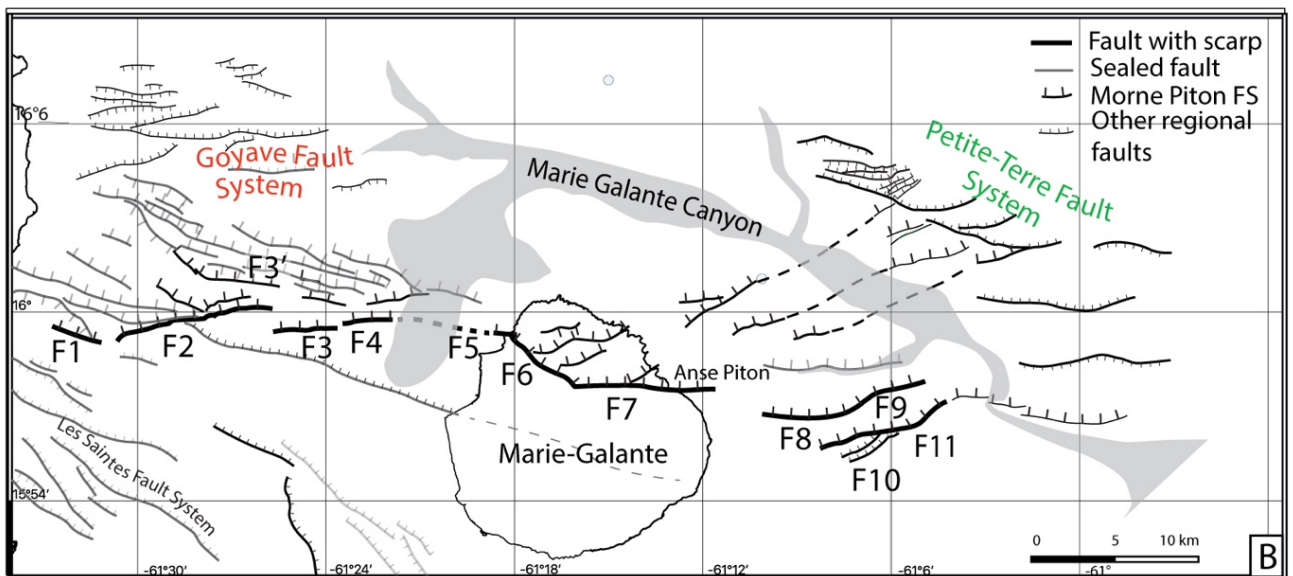
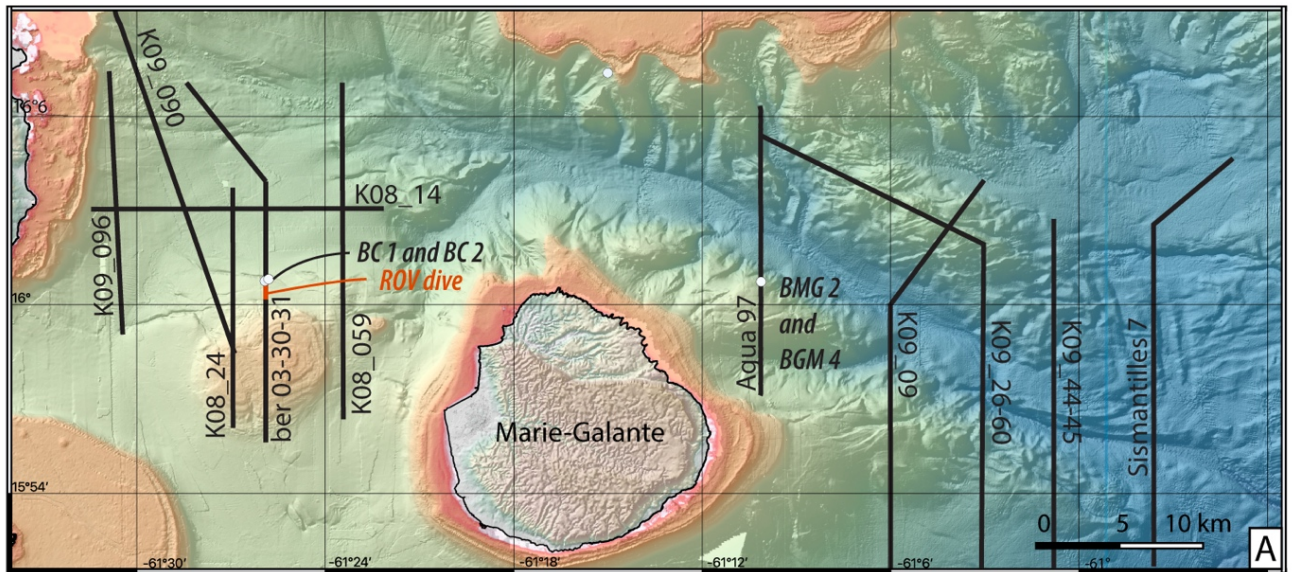
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1276 *Figure 1: A: Synthetic tectonic map of the Lesser Antilles forearc. Structures after Feuillet et al.*
1277 *(2002), Legendre et al. (2018), Boucard et al. (2021). Red and green thick lines indicate location of*
1278 *the Wide Angle Seismic lines from B. Kopp et al. (2011) and C. Padron et al. (2021) respectively.*
1279 *White Star: location of tsunamigenic earthquakes. Thick white contour lines: Slab depth isocontour*
1280 *from Bie et al. (2020).*

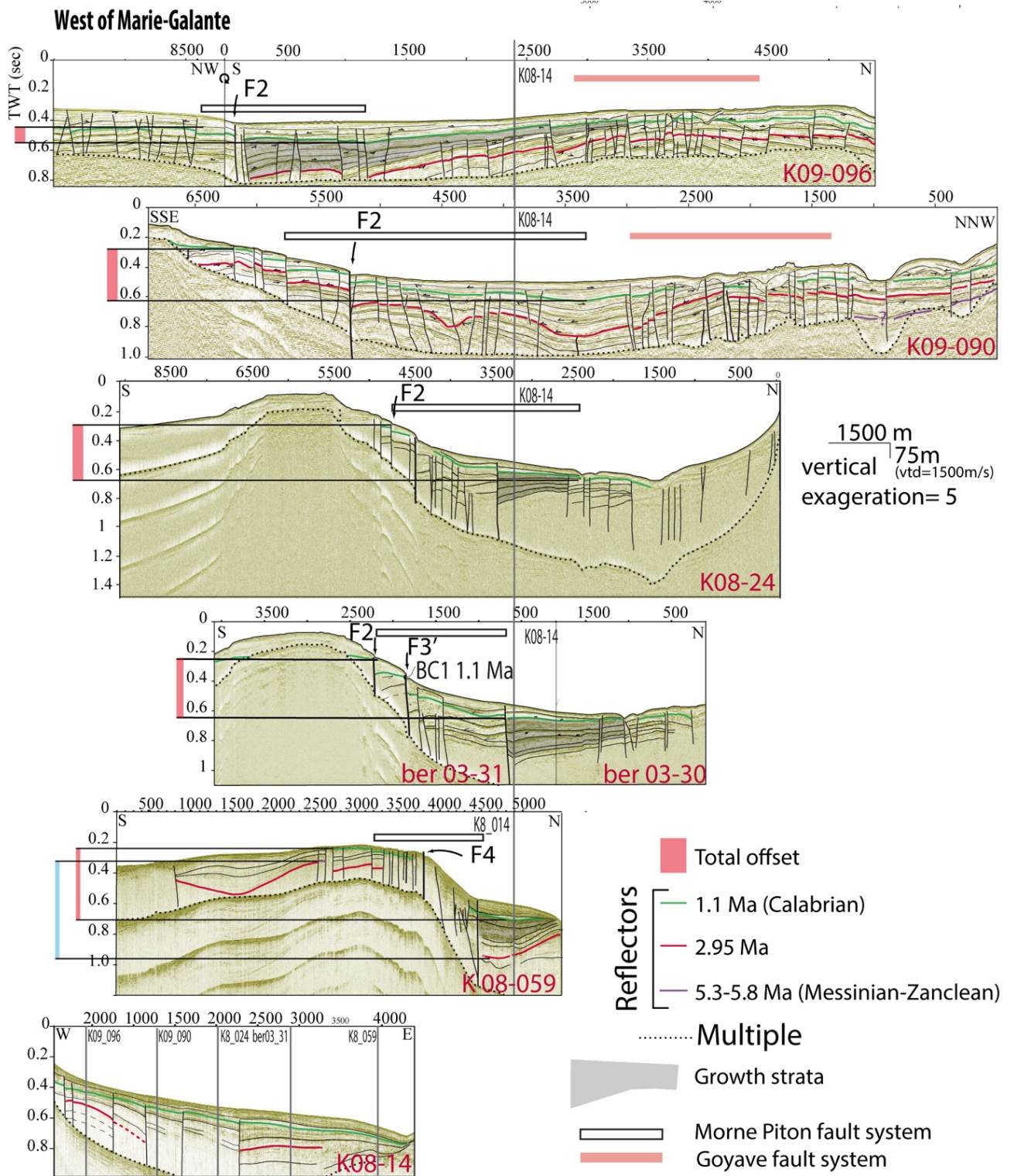
1281



1282
 1283 *Figure 2. The Marie-Galante Basin A) structural pattern after Feuillet et al. (2002) and De Min et*
 1284 *al. (2015) on the shaded-relief bathymetric map. blue hexagons : tide gauges*
 1285 *<http://refmar.shom.fr/fr/liste-maregraphes-data.shom.fr>. Red colors scale: Guadeloupe*
 1286 *population density per km2 after GEOFLA (<https://www.data.gouv.fr/fr/datasets/geofla-r/>). B)*
 1287 *Sismostratigraphic scheme of the Marie-Galante basin modified after Cornée et al., 2023. C) Colored*
 1288 *dots: Crustal seismicity (from IRIS seismic database 2023) for magnitude earthquakes (EQ)*
 1289 *$3 > M_w > 6.5$ and located from 0 to 30 km depth), red line locates the WAS line (Kopp et al., 2011). D)*
 1290 *Focal mechanisms solutions are indicated by red beachballs after Gonzalez et al. (2017). The*
 1291 *location of historical earthquakes is indicated by black stars (after: Feuillet et al., 2011). AP, PdC,*
 1292 *PAP, PT stand for Anse Piton, Pointe des Chateaux, Pointe-à-Pitre and Petite Terre.*
 1293



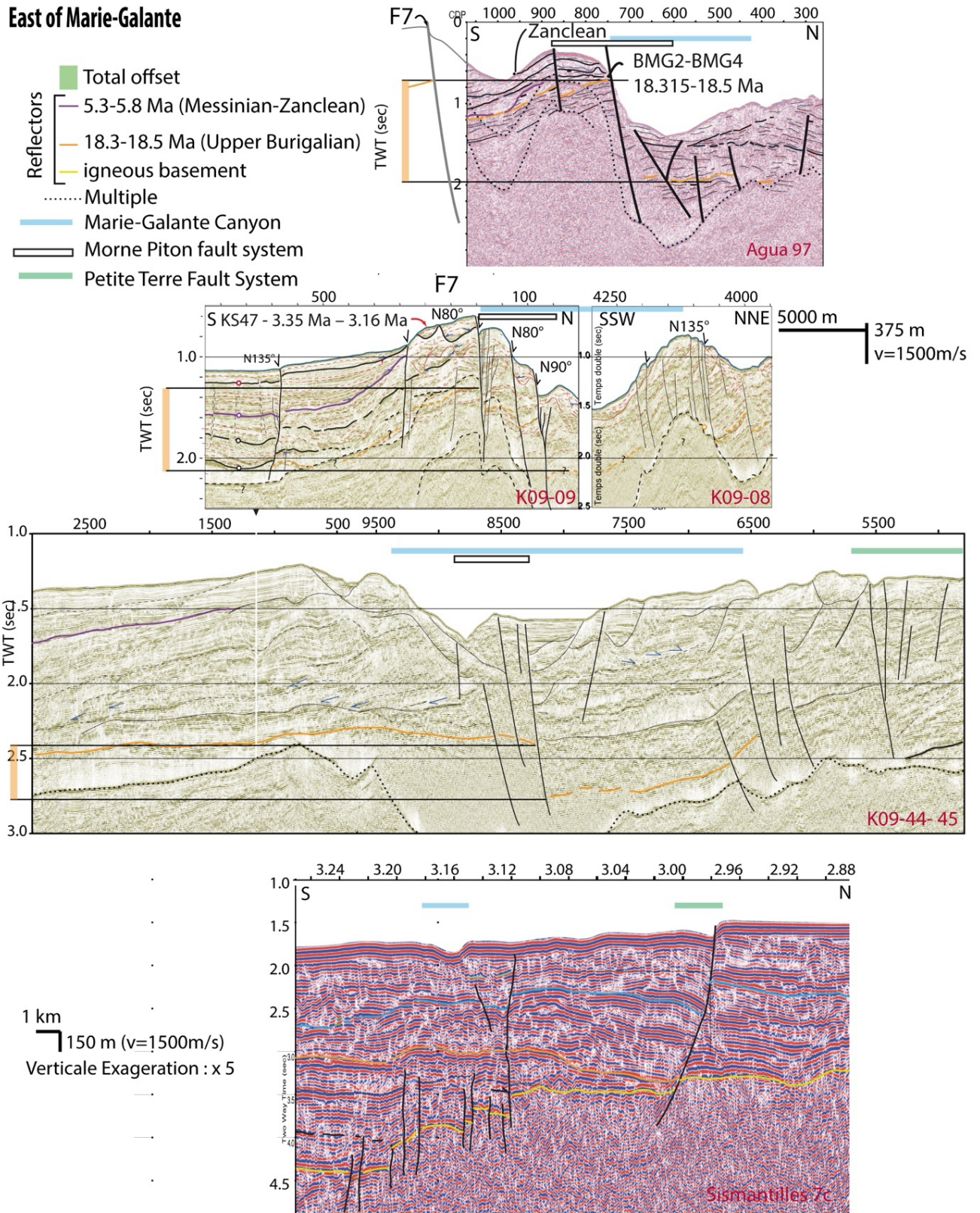
1294
 1295 *Figure 3. A) High resolution (25m grid spacing) bathymetric map [UMO16] of the Marie-Galante Basin,*
 1296 *offshore Guadeloupe and location of the seismic profiles shown on figures 4 and 5, and location of*
 1297 *dredge samples used for the seismic units age calibration (Münch et al. 2013). B) Structural*
 1298 *interpretation of the E-W trending Morne Piton fault system. C) A proxy for cumulative strain given*
 1299 *by the graphic displaying the D (fault surface displacement) taken as the difference between the top*
 1300 *and the toe of the fault scarp versus L (fault length) along the whole system.*



1301
 1302 *Figure 4: Seismic lines West of Marie-Galante (location on Figure 3) showing the correlation across*
 1303 *the Morne Piton fault system of the 1.29Ma unit reflector (Green) that correspond to the reflector*
 1304 *dredged at BC1 and BC2 location along the Ber03_30-31 seismic line. The 2.95Ma Unit Boundary*
 1305 *(Red) is correlated from seismic lines south of the Colombie Bank and Eastern Marie-Galante Basin*
 1306 *(line K09_90 and K09_26-62 location on figure 2). Notice that the basin sedimentary slope is in the*

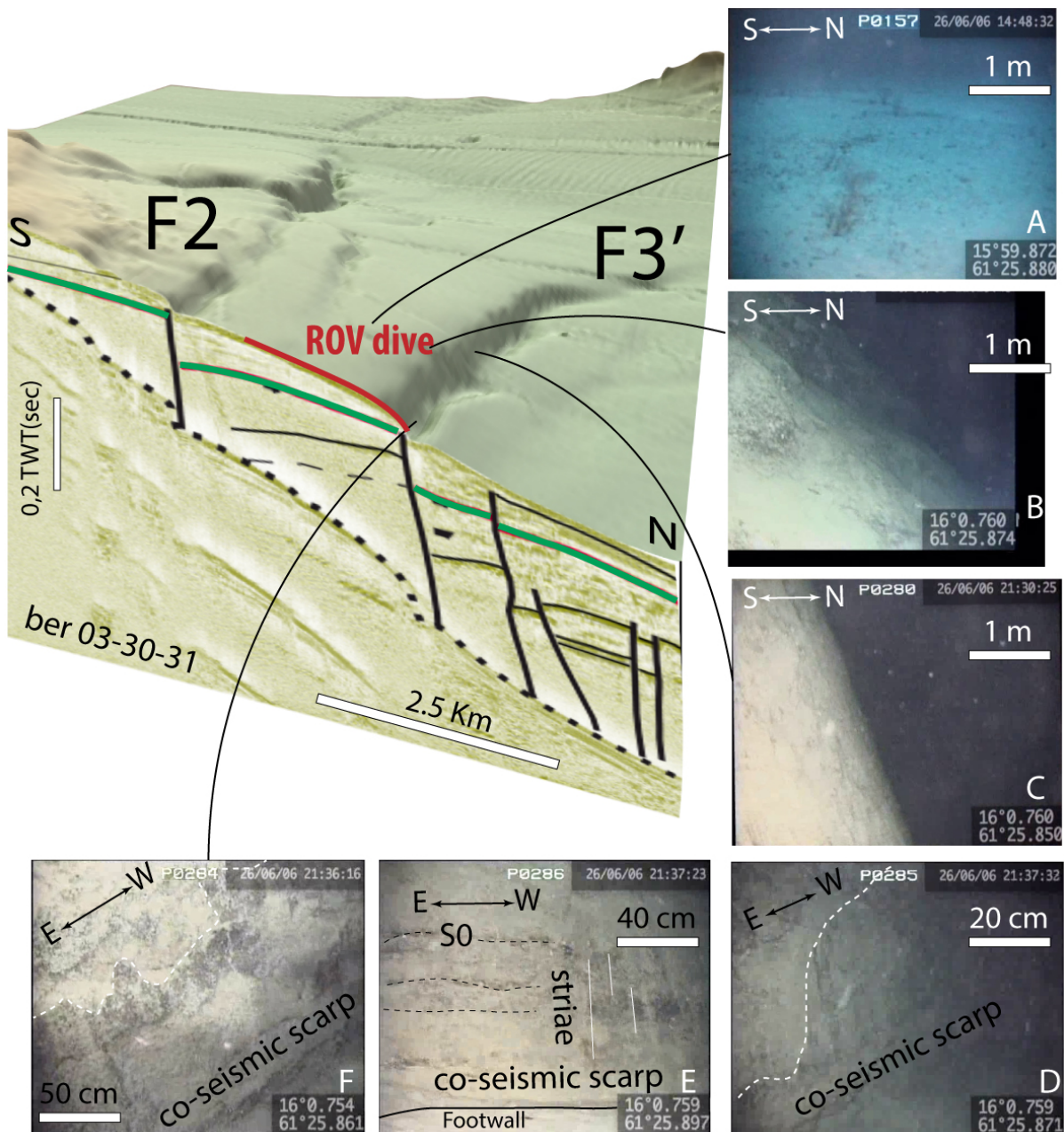
1307 E-W direction (parallel to line K08-14). Therefore, the initial topography of the reflectors in the N-
 1308 S direction, across the fault system, can be neglected when measuring the offset along the seismic
 1309 lines.

East of Marie-Galante



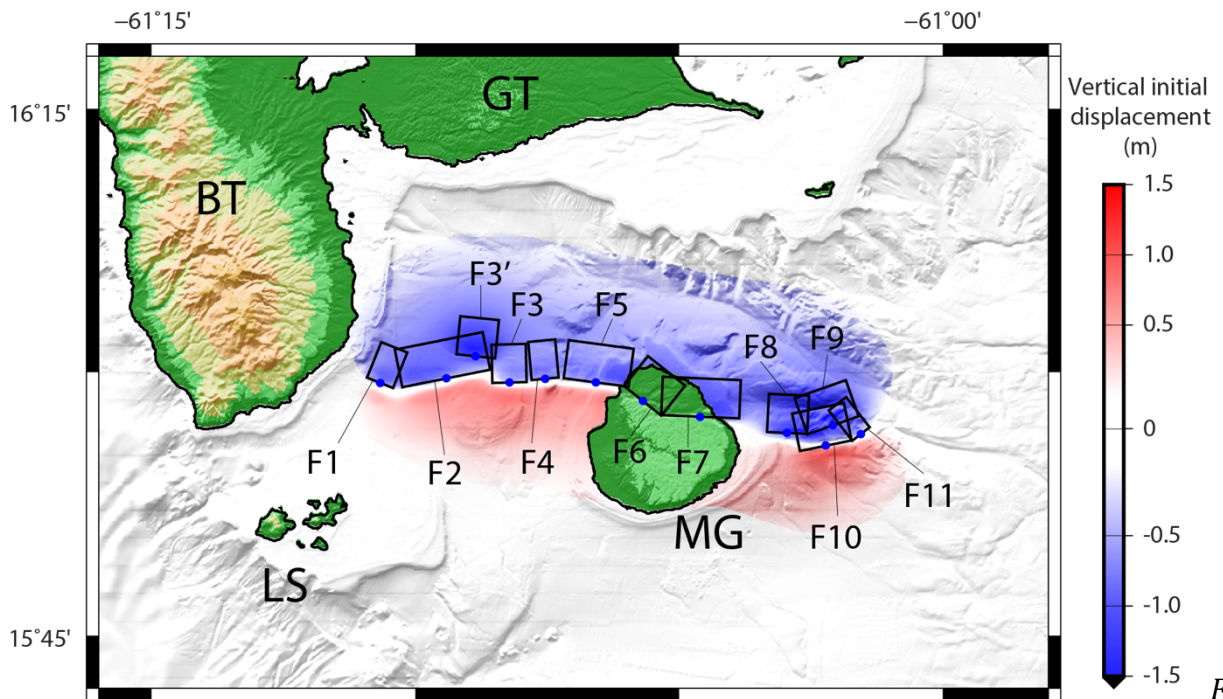
1310

1311 Figure 5: Seismic lines east of Marie-Galante illustrate the correlation across the Morne Piton fault
 1312 system of the 7 Ma (Tortonian/Messinian) MG-SB3 sequence boundary (Purple) and the 16 Ma,
 1313 (Burdigalian) MG-SB2 Sequence Boundary (Orange). Seismic line location on Figure 3).
 1314

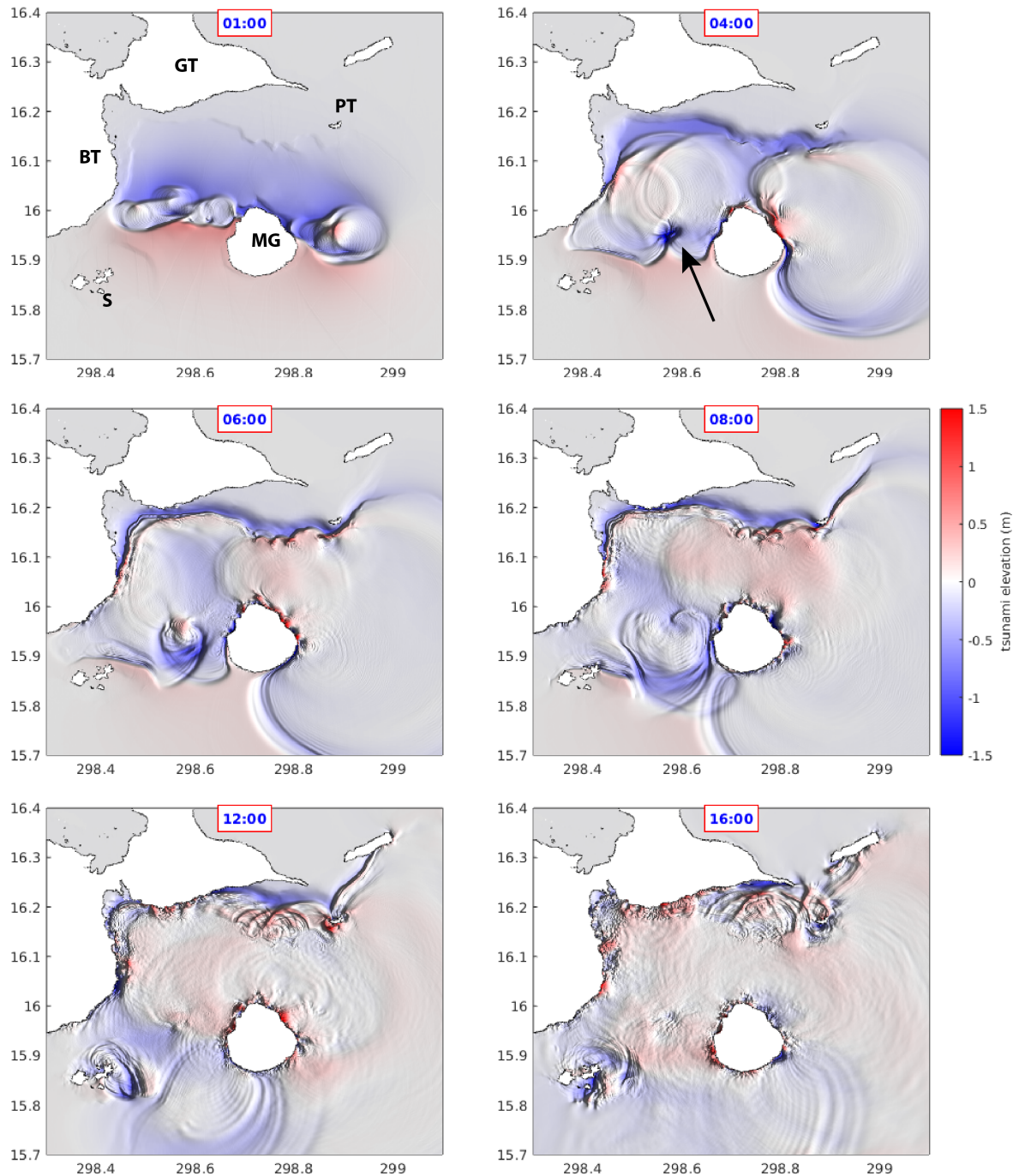


1315
 1316 Figure 6: ROV photographs of fault identified on the seafloor along the BER03-30-31 seismic line
 1317 across the F3' Morne Piton fault segment (location on Figure 3) . (A) photography of the
 1318 hangingwall of F3'. The eroded F3' fault plane presents a progressive downward slope steepening
 1319 (B and C) until the toe of the fault, which is marked by a characteristic co-seismic scarp with a dip
 1320 slip striae (D E F). On each photograph, white numbers starting with a P is the water depth in meters
 1321 Latitude is North and Longitude is West (WGS84). A B and C views show several tens square meters

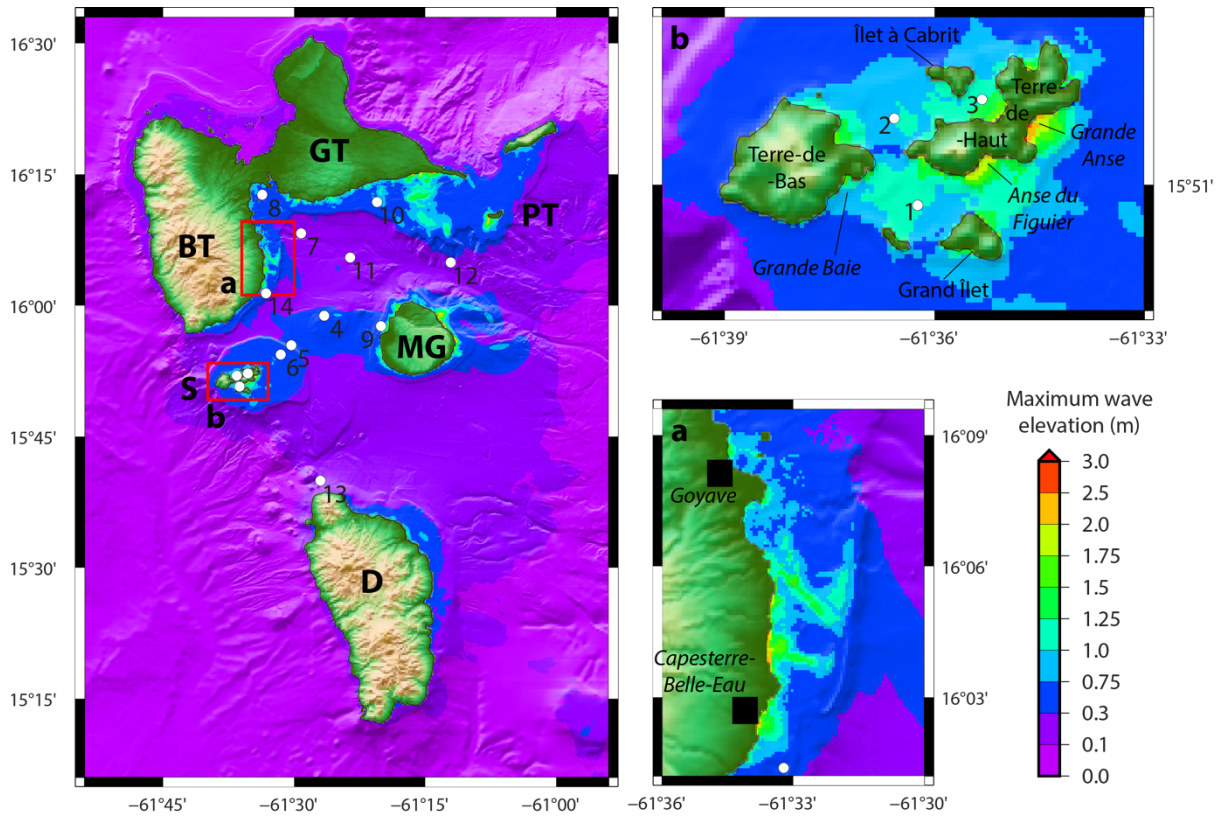
1322 wide areas, D E F are close up showing ca 1m high escarpment just above the foot of the fault scarp
1323 (visible at the bottom of each photos).
1324



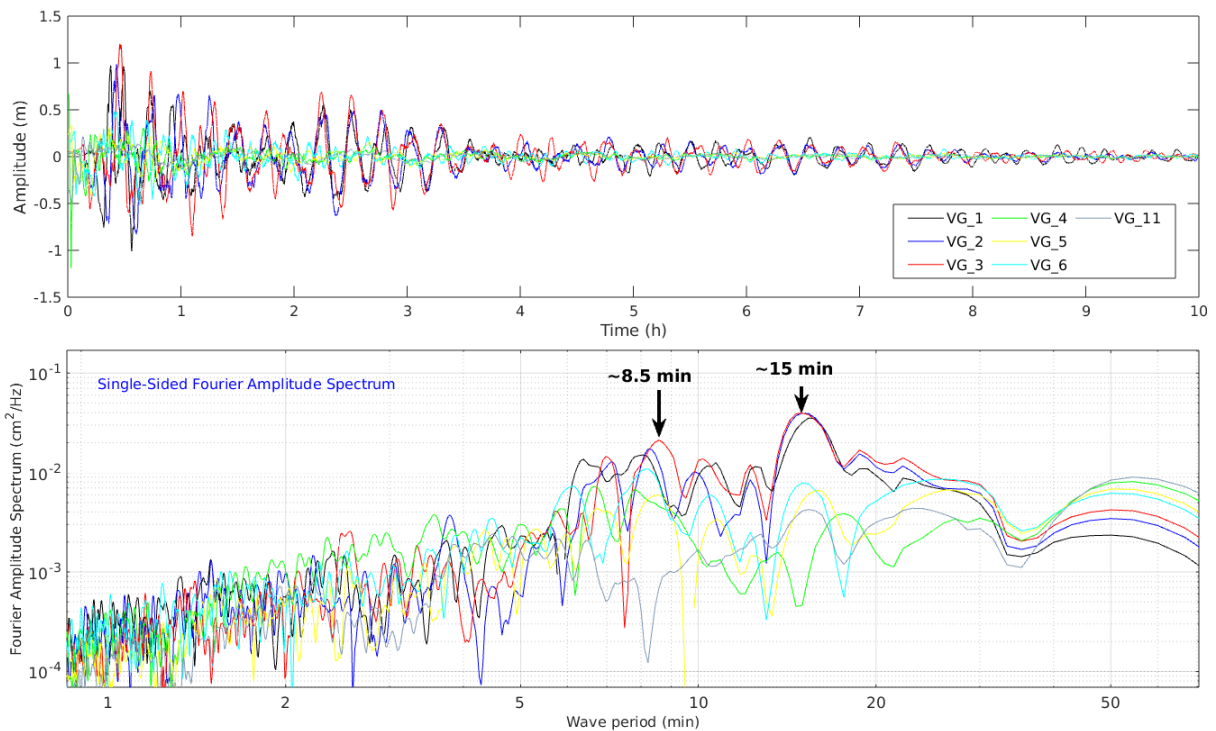
1325
1326 *Figure 7: Initial surface elevation for a maximum credible scenario built with the 11 fault segments*
1327 *detailed in Table 3. Blue dots indicate the top fault center. Acronyms stand for Grande-Terre (GT),*
1328 *Basse-Terre (BT), Les Saintes (LS) and Marie-Galante (MG).*



1329
 1330 *Figure 8: Snapshots of tsunami elevation within the Guadeloupe Archipelago at 1, 4, 8, 6, 12 and 16*
 1331 *minutes of waves propagation. Red and blue colors correspond to wave crests and troughs*
 1332 *respectively. The black arrow shows the Banc Colombie shoal. BT: Basse-Terre; GT: Grande-Terre;*
 1333 *S: Les Saintes; PT : Petite-Terre ; MG : Marie-Galante.*

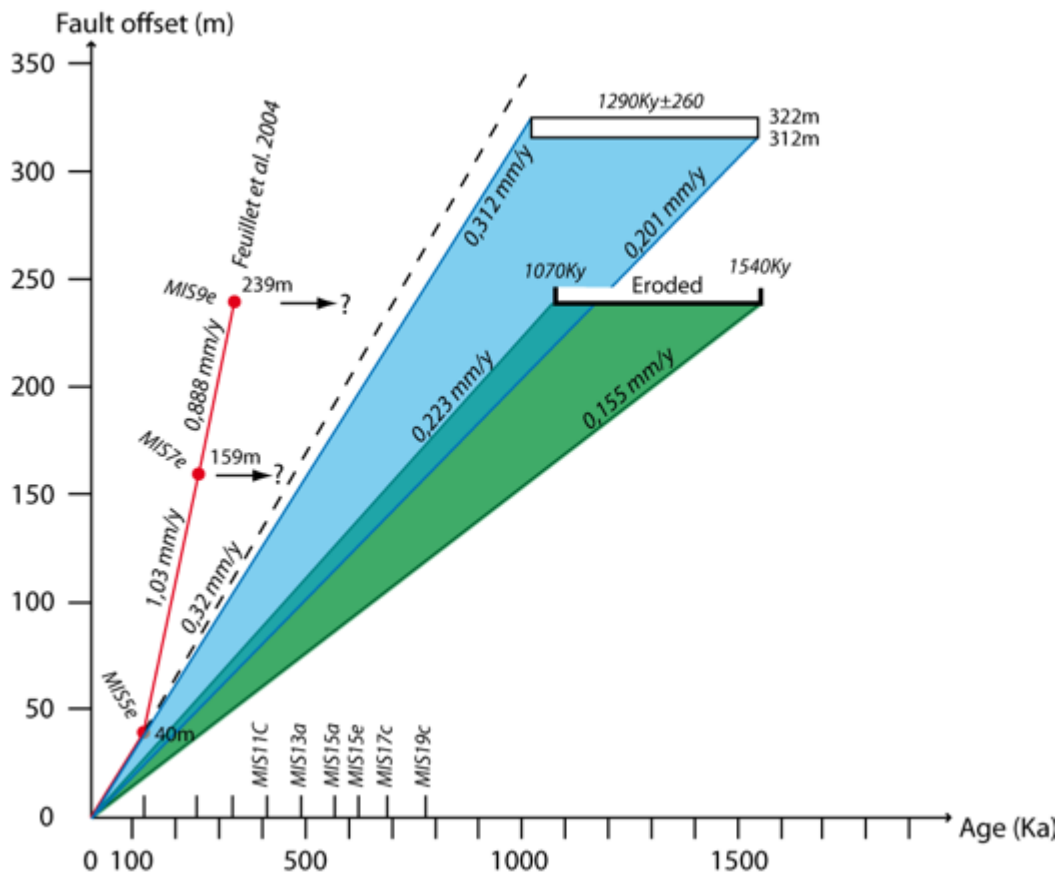


1334
 1335 *Figure 9: Shadowed bathymetric map with tsunami maximum wave elevation. Numbered white*
 1336 *dots: fourteen virtual sea-level gauges (VG) : . BT: Basse-Terre; GT: Grande-Terre; S: Les Saintes; PT*
 1337 *: Petite-Terre ; MG : Marie-Galante ; D : Dominica. VG_4 & VG_11 are located near the fault rupture*
 1338 *region, the VG_5 & VG_6 are near the Les Saintes Fault system. VG_1, VG_2 & VG_3 are within the*
 1339 *Les Saintes archipelago.*



1340

1341 Figure 10: Post-processing of virtual gauge records. Top: sea-level records at 7 different locations
 1342 (VG 1 to 6 and VG11 – location on figure 9); bottom: single-sided Fourier amplitude spectrum. The
 1343 blue arrows symbolize the location of the 2 peaks of period ~6.5 and 17 min.



1344
 1345 Figure 11: Fault offset along the Morne Piton fault against the age of the strain marker. Red: data
 1346 from Feuillet et al. (2004) based on absolute age of terrace T4 (MIS5e), the estimated age of terrace
 1347 T2 (MIS7e) and the suggested age of Marie-Galante upper plateau (MIS9e). Green: strain range
 1348 calculated using upper plateau unit age from Münch et al. (2014) (note that erosion may lower this
 1349 estimation strain rate). Blue: strain range calculated from the fault offset of the seismic unit dated
 1350 ca 1,2Ma along the seismic line K08-59 (green reflector on Figure 4). Dotted line indicates the 0.32
 1351 mm·yr⁻¹ strain rate from the estimated offset of the MIS5e Terrace in Marie-Galante (Feuillet et al.
 1352 2004).
 1353

Cruise	KaShallow 1	KaShallow 2	Aguadomar	SismAntilles	GEOBERYX03 SISM BGM
Seismic source	1000 J sparker	35-45 in3 GI Airguns array	45-105 in3 Two GI Airguns	4400 in3 Airguns array.	1000 J sparker
Peak frequency (far field)	250-400Hz	40-70Hz	30-50Hz	15-20Hz	250-400Hz
Number of traces	6 traces	72 traces	6 traces	360 traces	6 traces
Fold coverage	3/6 fold	9/18 fold	3 fold	30 fold	3/6 fold
Inter CDP distance	4 m	3.125 m	4 m	6,25 m	4 m

1354

1355 *Table 1: Main acquisition parameters of the seismic data shown in this study (Figures 4 and 5).*

1356

Profile Name Ported from East to West	Age (Ma)	Uncer tainty (Ma)	horizon depth in the footwall (stwt)		horizon depth in the hangingwall (stwt)		Ven m/s 2500		Ven m/s 2500		Ven m/s 2000		Ven m/s 2000		Strain rate (mm/years)		Interval strain rate (mm/yrs)
			water	rock	water	rock	max	min	max	min	min	max	Average	nty			
															max	min	
K09-44-45 – MG-SB2	16	1	1,575	0,83	1,575	1,2	2 212,5	2 700,0	2 006,3	2 396,3	487,5	390,0	0,046	0,089	0,067	0,030	
since inception	7	1,5															
K09_08-09 – MG-SB2	16	1	0,595	0,91	1,27	0,9	1 577,5	2 052,5	1 351,3	1 832,5	475,0	481,3					
since inception	7	1,5											0,057	0,086	0,071	0,021	
Agua 97 – MG-SB2	16	1	0,05	0,72	1,36	0,6	937,5	1 770,0	757,5	1 620,0	832,5	862,5					
since inception	7	1,5											0,101	0,151	0,126	0,035	0,07
UB4	2,95	0,05	0,23	0,09	0,59	0,4	285,0	905,0	262,5	812,5	620,0	550,0	0,183	0,214	0,199	0,022	0,16
K08-059	1,29	0,26	0,22	0,02	0,5	0,1	190,0	512,5	185,0	485,0	322,5	300,0	0,194	0,313	0,253	0,085	0,25
Ber 03-31	1,29	0,26	0,21	0,04	0,53	0,1	207,5	522,5	197,5	497,5	315,0	300,0	0,194	0,306	0,250	0,079	
K08-24	1,29	0,26	0,25	0,04	0,6	0	237,5	487,5	227,5	480,0	250,0	252,5	0,163	0,243	0,203	0,056	
K09-090	1,29	0,26	0,33	0,02	0,49	0,1	272,5	530,0	267,5	497,5	257,5	230,0	0,148	0,250	0,199	0,072	
K09-096	1,29	0,26	0,32	0,12	0,44	0,1	390,0	505,0	360,0	470,0	115,0	110,0	0,071	0,112	0,091	0,029	

1358 *Table 2: Measured offset of seismic reflectors across the Morne Piton fault system and calculated*
1359 *total vertical strain rates. See text for the ages estimate. Seismic reflectors depth on each side of the*
1360 *fault system is measured in time (stwt – second two way time) and converted in depth in using water*
1361 *velocity (1500m/s) and two end-member velocities for the sediment (see text for explanation),*
1362 *providing a minimum and a maximum offset value. The minimum strain rate is obtained from the*
1363 *ratio between the min offset and the max age bound of the reflector and vice versa.*
1364

Fault segment	Lon (°)	Lat (°)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Top of the fault plane depth (m)	Strike (°)	Dip (°)	Rake (°)	Slip (m)
F1	-61.5335	15.98987	2838	12500	500	111	75	-90	1.89
F2	-61.4708	15.994	9070	12500	500	78	75	-90	1.89
F3'	-61.4428	16.01503	3918	12500	500	95	75	-90	1.89
F3	-61.4108	15.99009	3474	12500	500	88	75	-90	1.89
F4	-61.377	15.99367	2735	12500	500	84	75	-90	1.89
F5	-61.3287	15.99021	6623	12500	500	97	75	-90	1.89
F6	-61.2846	15.97275	4813	12500	500	128	75	-90	1.89
F7	-61.2301	15.95767	7904	12500	500	92	75	-90	1.89
F8	-61.1477	15.94221	4052	12500	500	92	75	-90	1.89
F9	-61.1042	15.94958	5495	12500	500	70	75	-90	1.89
F10	-61.111	15.93014	5336	12500	500	78	75	-90	1.89
F11	-61.0777	15.94126	2228	12500	500	52	75	-90	1.89

1365
1366 *Table 3: Parameters used for the tsunami source simulation of a rupture along the multisegment*
1367 *fault presented in figure 7.*
1368