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1 Probabilistic hazard analysis for tsunamis generated by subaqueous 2 volcanic explosions in the Campi Flegrei caldera, Italy

3 R. Paris¹, M. Ulvrova², J. Selva³, B. Brizuela⁴, A. Costa³, A. Grezio³, S. Lorito⁴, R. Tonini⁴

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5 ¹ Université Clermont Auvergne, CNRS, IRD, OPGC, Laboratoire Magmas et Volcans, F-63000 Clermont-
6 Ferrand, France.

7 ² Institute of Geophysics, Department of Earth Sciences, ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland

8 ³ Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Sezione di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

9 ⁴ Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Sezione di Roma 1, Roma, Italy

10

11 * Corresponding author at: Université Clermont Auvergne, CNRS, IRD, OPGC, Laboratoire Magmas et Volcans,
12 F-63000 Clermont-Ferrand, France. Tel. +33 473346717. E-mail. Raphael.Paris@uca.fr

13

14 Abstract

15 A probabilistic hazard analysis of tsunami generated by subaqueous volcanic explosion is
16 applied to the Campi Flegrei caldera (Campania, Italy). An event tree is developed to quantify
17 the tsunami hazard due to the submarine explosions by: *i*) defining potential size classes of
18 explosion magnitude on the basis of past volcanic activity in the Campi Flegrei caldera and
19 sites in the underwater part of the caldera; *ii*) simulating the generation and propagation of the
20 consequent tsunami waves able to reach the coasts of the Campania region for all
21 combinations of tsunami-generating vents and sizes; and *iii*) quantifying the tsunami
22 probability and relative uncertainty, conditional upon the occurrence of an underwater
23 eruption at Campi Flegrei. Tsunami hazard generated by subaqueous volcanic explosions is
24 considered crucial because of its potential high impact on the densely populated coastal areas
25 of the Pozzuoli Bay and Gulf of Naples even if the probability for eruptions in the submarine
26 part of the caldera is certainly low. The tsunami hazard analysis is presented using conditional
27 hazard curves and maps, that is calculating the probability (and relative uncertainties) of
28 exceeding given tsunami intensity thresholds (wave amplitudes at the coast), given the
29 occurrence of a subaqueous eruption. The results indicate that a significant tsunami hazard
30 exists in many areas of the Bay of Naples.

31

32 *Keywords:* volcanic tsunami, submarine volcanic explosions, caldera volcano, Campi Flegrei caldera

33

34

35 **1. Introduction**

36

37 Tsunamis generated by eruptive and gravitational processes on the flanks of volcanic edifices
38 are quite infrequent (about 5% of all recorded tsunamis: Latter, 1981), but they represent the
39 third cause of fatalities due to volcanism, with four tsunamigenic eruptions being ranked in
40 the twenty deadliest volcanic disasters (e.g. Auker et al., 2013). Tsunami hazards related to
41 subaqueous eruptions are particularly challenging to evaluate and forecast, due to a lack of
42 geological, observational and instrumental data, in particular in densely populated regions
43 such as the Campi Flegrei caldera in Italy (Fig. 1).

44 Different tsunami source mechanisms can be involved during a subaqueous eruption:
45 pyroclastic flows, debris flows, caldera collapses and explosions (Paris, 2015). Tsunami
46 generation by subaqueous volcanic explosions is controlled by a range of physical parameters
47 including water depth, size of eruptive vent, energy and depth of explosion, and complex
48 magma-water interactions which determine the explosion itself (Le Méhauté, 1971; Kokelaar,
49 1986; Wohletz, 1986; Mirchina & Pelinovsky, 1988; Duffy, 1992; Le Méhauté & Wang, 1996;
50 Kedrinskii, 2005; Egorov, 2007; Morrissey et al., 2010). The explosion forms an initial crater-
51 like cavity at the water surface (Fig. 2a), with a cylindrical bore that expands radially to form
52 the leading wave, followed by a wave trough. Initial surface displacement of the water surface
53 (i.e. maximum height of the bore) can be empirically estimated directly as a function of
54 explosion energy at a given water depth and size of the formed eruptive vent (Le Méhauté,
55 1971; Sato & Taniguchi, 1997; Goto et al., 2001). The initial downward displacement of the
56 water column (i.e. the cavity) is followed by an upward displacement, thus forming a steep
57 cone of water in the centre. This cone then collapses and turns to a second cylindrical bore, as
58 demonstrated by experimental explosions and numerical simulations (e.g. Le Méhauté &
59 Wang, 1996; Kedrinskii, 2005; Torsvik et al., 2010; Ulvrova et al., 2014 & 2016; Paris &
60 Ulvrova, 2019).

61 Different methods of Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Analyses (PTHA) have been developed
62 during the two last decades (Grezio et al., 2017). PTHA provides the likelihood of a given
63 parameter of the tsunami (e.g. wave height at the coast, flow velocity, flow depth, runup
64 height, or inundation distance) being exceeded at a particular location within a given period of
65 time. PTHA can combine geological, historical and instrumental data both of tsunamis (e.g.
66 sedimentary deposits, catalogues and historical accounts, tide-gauge records or pressure
67 sensor time-series), and of tsunami sources (source parameters, such as fault and seismicity
68 catalogue for earthquake sources), using statistical techniques and numerical simulations. Due
69 to the low relative frequency of tsunamis, concurring with the lack of repeated tsunami run-up
70 data spanning a long enough time period at a given location, the common practice is to
71 propose numerous different tsunami source scenarios with their associated probability (Geist
72 and Lynett, 2014). These scenarios are assumed to be a complete representation of the
73 expected natural variability (Selva et al., 2016). However, PTHA methods for landslide and
74 volcanic sources of tsunamis are far less established compared to the earthquake sources
75 (Grezio et al., 2017). Here, we produce a first attempt of considering volcanic sources. We
76 focus on conditional PTHA, that is, conditional upon the occurrence of a volcanic
77 phenomenon potentially generating a tsunami (i.e. submarine eruptions). The quantification of
78 long-term conditional hazard is common in volcanic hazard studies, since it allows for
79 planning evacuation in case of eruption (e.g. update of the National Emergency Plan for
80 Campi Flegrei, 2016: [http://www.protezionecivile.gov.it/en/media-](http://www.protezionecivile.gov.it/en/media-communication/dossier/detail/-/asset_publisher/default/content/aggiornamento-del-piano-nazionale-di-emergenza-per-i-campi-flegrei)
81 [communication/dossier/detail/-/asset_publisher/default/content/aggiornamento-del-piano-](http://www.protezionecivile.gov.it/en/media-communication/dossier/detail/-/asset_publisher/default/content/aggiornamento-del-piano-nazionale-di-emergenza-per-i-campi-flegrei)
82 [nazionale-di-emergenza-per-i-campi-flegrei](http://www.protezionecivile.gov.it/en/media-communication/dossier/detail/-/asset_publisher/default/content/aggiornamento-del-piano-nazionale-di-emergenza-per-i-campi-flegrei)), as well as it provides reference simulations for
83 short-term hazard quantifications (e.g., Selva et al., 2014). Its extension to absolute PTHA
84 may be obtained by multiplying conditional hazard by the probability of occurrence of
85 volcanic eruption. With more than 20 eruptions in the last 5 ka (e.g. 25 eruptions listed by
86 Orsi et al., 2009), eruptions at Campi Flegrei have a mean annual rate on the order of 10^{-3} per
87 year. However, we did not attempt here the estimation of any temporal component of the
88 hazard, which is not trivial being volcanic eruptive sequences clearly not stationary in time
89 (Bevilacqua et al., 2016).

90 In this study, we consider different scenarios of tsunamis generated by explosions in the
91 offshore part of the Campi Flegrei caldera (Campania, Italy) and their effects on the coasts of
92 the Pozzuoli Bay, the islands of Ischia and Capri, and the Gulf of Naples (Figs. 1 and 2a).
93 These scenarios include different potential sizes and vent positions within the Campi Flegrei

94 caldera. They are then combined according to their probability of occurrence, quantifying the
95 consequent hazard in terms of conditional PTHA. The nested caldera of Campi Flegrei is a
96 complex partly submerged volcanic structure created mainly by multiple caldera forming
97 events: the 39 ka Campanian Ignimbrite, the 29 ka Masseria del Monte Tuff, and the 12 ka
98 Neapolitan Yellow Tuff (e.g. Deino et al., 2004; Marti et al., 2016; Albert et al., 2019). During
99 the last 12 ka, periods of high-frequency volcanism (mean intervals of 50-70 years) were
100 separated by periods of quiescence lasting from 1 to 3.5 ka (Di Vito et al., 1999). While the
101 onshore eruptive history of the caldera is well documented, past volcanic activity offshore and
102 the probability for future eruptions in the submarine part of the caldera (Pozzuoli Bay) have
103 been rarely discussed (Tonini et al., 2015; Selva et al. 2012a). Recent seismic and magnetic
104 surveys allowed the structural and magmatic evolution of the submerged southern half of the
105 caldera to be reconstructed (Aiello et al., 2012; Steinmann et al., 2018). The explosivity of
106 coastal-to-submarine eruptions such as Nisida Bank (~10 ka), Nisida Island (~4 ka), and Capo
107 Miseno (~3.7 ka) was recently reassessed to at least VEI 3 (Steinmann et al., 2018). Highly
108 permeable ring-faults along the southern rim of the caldera are prone to magma ascent
109 (Steinmann et al., 2018) and represent potential sites for future eruptions (Selva et al., 2012a).
110 Moreover, structural and geophysical data indicate the presence of several major faults in the
111 submerged part of the caldera, representing potential weakness areas in which eruption may
112 be favoured (Selva et al., 2012a). Along these structures, the last eruption of Campi Flegrei
113 (Monte Nuovo, A.D. 1538) occurred starting at sea (Guidoboni and Ciuccarelli, 2011; Di Vito
114 et al. 2016).

115

116 **2. Methods**

117 The methodology presented in this paper is based on the development of an event tree
118 (Newhall and Hobblit, 2002) for quantifying the tsunami hazard due to submarine explosions.
119 This method is based on 3 major steps: (1) the event tree was set by identifying 17 potential
120 vent areas in the underwater part of the Campi Flegrei caldera and 4 size classes of eruptive
121 events (three of which tsunami-generating explosive eruptions), allowing the definition of
122 17×3 representative tsunami-generating scenarios; (2) all the representative scenarios were
123 simulated, generating and propagating the consequent tsunami waves able to reach the coasts
124 of the Campania region; (3) the conditional probability of each representative scenario given
125 the occurrence of one eruption at sea was estimated, and combined with the corresponding

126 simulated tsunami scenarios, to produce the final conditional PTHA in the event-tree
127 framework.

128

129 *2.1. Setting the event tree to represent vent and size variability of eruptions*

130 We considered here only those explosions deemed capable to generate tsunamis, i.e. eruptions
131 occurring at sea with depth greater than 10 m. The adopted event tree for the Campi Flegrei
132 caldera (Fig. 3) is the modified Bayesian Event Tree for Volcanic Hazard (BET_VH) by Selva
133 et al. (2010). Nodes 1-2-3 can be neglected, since probabilities are conditioned upon the
134 occurrence of an eruption. Then, the residual event tree is composed only by 4 levels, which
135 are relative to vent position, eruption size, and tsunami generation and intensity (nodes 4, 5,
136 and 6-7-8, following Marzocchi et al. 2010).

137 At node 4 (vent position on Fig. 3), we reduced the original discretization from Selva et al.
138 (2012a) in order to decrease the computational cost of the subsequent tsunami simulations,
139 adopting a regular grid with cell size of 1500×1500 m. Limiting only to the areas with not null
140 conditional probability and water depth $D > 10$ m, we selected 17 equally spaced cells in the
141 Pozzuoli Bay (Fig. 2b) as potential eruptive sites. Note that the explosion depth (d) used in the
142 simulations is similar to water depth (D) and ranges between 23 and 111 m (Table 1).

143 At node 5, we adopted the four size classes for eruptions proposed by Orsi et al. (2009), in
144 line also with most of subsequent probabilistic volcanic hazard quantifications at Campi
145 Flegrei (Costa et al., 2009; Selva et al. 2010, 2014, 2018; Tonini et al. 2015, Sandri et al.,
146 2016). Only 3 out of the size classes are relative to explosive eruptions. To characterize these
147 explosive classes in terms of tsunami-generation potential, we estimated the corresponding
148 crater dimensions using an analysis of the past activity in the caldera in three different epochs
149 of volcanic activity (Orsi et al., 2009). In epoch 1 (15-9.5 ka Before Present) 34 explosive
150 eruptions occurred, in epoch 2 (8.6-8.2 ka BP) 6 explosive eruptions and in epoch 3 (4.8-3.8
151 ka BP) 22 explosive and 3 effusive eruptions (di Vito et al., 1999; Orsi et al., 2009) (Fig. 2c
152 and 2d). On the basis of the correspondent crater characteristics, the explosive eruptions are
153 grouped in three size classes in terms of vent radius, corresponding to different explosive
154 energies. Thus, we selected 3 radius values (200, 650, and 900 m) as representative of the
155 three eruption classes. We assume that both submerged and emerged areas of the Campi
156 Flegrei undergo to similar explosive processes in the caldera.

157 At node 6, we considered only tsunamis generated by explosive eruptions. Of course, other
158 volcanic processes, such as flank collapses or pyroclastic density currents entering the sea,
159 may generate tsunami waves

160 At node 7-8 (Fig. 3), we adopted a “representative scenario” approach (Selva et al. 2010). In
161 this approach, each of the combinations of the 17 cells and 3 size classes is represented by a
162 single scenario with representative parameters (cell centre and representative radius), instead
163 of modelling the variability of both vent positions in each cell and crater sizes in each size
164 class (Sandri et al. 2016). In this way, the latter variability (intra-class) is assumed negligible
165 with respect to the inter-class variability (the one between the different representative vent
166 and size classes). Sandri et al. (2016) demonstrated that this approach is reasonable as first
167 order approximation for tephra fallout in the Probabilistic Volcanic Hazard Analysis (PVHA)
168 at both Somma-Vesuvius and Campi Flegrei, by quantifying the bias induced by adopting one
169 single representative scenario instead of sampling its natural variability. Given that we
170 adopted the same discretization for size classes, we assume that this can be extended to the
171 tsunami hazard. As a consequence, we defined 17×3 representative scenarios of explosions
172 with vent positioned in the geometrical centre of each of the 17 cells, and representative
173 radius of 200, 650, and 900 m for the three explosive classes.

174

175 *2.2 Numerical simulations of explosion and tsunami*

176 All the combinations of representative 17 vent locations and 3 vent sizes should be considered
177 as potential source for tsunamis. The energy of the explosion is estimated following the
178 empirical relationship given by Sato and Taniguchi (1997):

$$179 \quad E = 3.56 \times 10^7 R^3 \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

180 where E is the explosion energy in Joules and R the radius of the eruptive vent in meters.
181 Following the method proposed by Torsvik et al. (2010) and Ulvrova et al. (2014, 2016), and
182 using the empirical formula of Le Méhauté and Wang (1996), the initial surface displacement
183 generated by the explosion is a parabolic cavity with a vertical steep water rim. The size of
184 the water cavity (R_c , in meters) is then estimated based on explosion energy using relationship
185 (Le Méhauté and Wang, 1996):

$$186 \quad R_c = 0.0361 E^{0.25} \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

187 The initial maximum vertical water surface displacement η_0 of the cavity rim is also a
188 function of explosion energy at a given depth following:

$$189 \quad \eta_0 = c E^{0.24} \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

190 based on the empirical formula of Le Méhauté and Wang (1996, with η_0 is in meters, and c is
191 an empirical dimensional constant. According to the explosion yield and water depth, two
192 cases are distinguished (Le Méhauté and Wang, 1996): (1) $c = 0.0143$ if $6.15 \times 10^{-4} < d/E^{1/3} <$
193 1.85×10^{-2} (where d is the depth of explosion in metres); or (2) $c = 0.0291$ if $d/E^{1/3} < 6.15 \times 10^{-4}$.
194 Values of explosion energy (E) and corresponding initial surface displacement (η_0) of the 51
195 simulated scenarios are listed in Table 1.

196 All numerical simulations were performed using FUNWAVE-TVD code solving for the fully
197 non-linear Boussinesq-type wave equations in spherical coordinates (Kirby et al., 1998; Shi et
198 al., 2012; Tehranirad et al., 2013). Boussinesq model includes the effects of amplitude non-
199 linearity and frequency dispersion in the case of intermediate-to-deep water waves (up to
200 wavelengths equivalent to water depth) although we neglect the effect of bottom friction. The
201 third-order Runge-Kutta method is used to advance the model in time. An adaptive time step
202 is chosen following the Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy criterion. To ensure the stability of the
203 scheme, we set the Courant number to 0.5 and keep it constant for all simulations. Fourth-
204 order spatial discretization is employed. We exploit only the maximum amplitude of the
205 incoming waves at the shoreline and neglect the inundation phase. We run the simulations for
206 25 minutes of the model time. In order to prevent reflections from the end-walls at the open
207 sea, we impose a 3 km wide sponge layer at the limit of the computational domain.

208 The spherical grid has a resolution of 39 m \times 50 m (893 \times 1595 grid nodes) in the longitudinal
209 and latitudinal directions, respectively, covering about an area of 3000 km² between Ischia,
210 Capri and Naples (Fig. 1). The grid was built by integrating printed nautical charts to digital
211 elevation (Tarquini et al., 2007) and bathymetric models (D'Argenio et al., 2004) available for
212 the study area. Typical water depth in the Gulf of Naples and Pozzuoli Bay ranges between 50
213 and 200 m. Wave heights at the coast were computed at >200 virtual tide gauge stations from
214 Pozzuoli to Amalfi, including Ischia and Capri Islands.

215

216 *2.3. Probabilistic hazard analysis*

217 The probability at nodes 4 and 5 of the Event Tree are retrieved from literature. In particular,
218 for node 4, we adopted the probability proposed by Selva et al. (2012a), cumulating the
219 distribution parameters of the undersea (depth > 10 m) cells closer to our 17 selected vent
220 positions. This probability distribution is not uniform, being eruptions in the centre of the gulf
221 more probable due to the presence of main NE-SW trending fault system. At node 5, we
222 adopted the distribution parameters of Orsi et al. (2009), as updated in Selva et al. (2018),
223 with a decreasing probability for increasing explosion size.

224 At node 6, we assume that effusive eruptions certainly do not produce tsunamis (conditional
225 probability equal to 0 and no epistemic uncertainty), while explosive eruptions certainly
226 produce tsunamis (conditional probability equal to 1).

227 At nodes 7-8, as tsunami intensity measure we selected the maximum wave amplitude (H_{max})
228 recorded at the coast (at a water depth of 1 m). Hazard curves were built at 421 target points
229 along the coast, from Cuma to Positano. To account for the rather rough discretization of the
230 aleatory distribution on source space (based on a broad grid for the vents and only 3 potential
231 sizes), as well as for the intrinsic uncertainty in the generation and propagation of the tsunami,
232 we introduced some level of uncertainty to the simulation results (Glimsdal et al., 2019). We
233 assumed that each scenario is associated to a conditional hazard curve (conditional upon a
234 scenario in that vent area and that size class) described by a log-normal distribution (see
235 Davies et al. 2017, and references therein). The parameters of the distribution (μ and σ , mean
236 and standard deviation of the logarithmic values, respectively) were set based on simulation
237 results. Specifically, we set μ as the average value of the $\log(H_{max})$, while a rather large
238 variance is assumed by setting $\sigma = 1$ (slightly larger than the one adopted for earthquake
239 generated tsunamis in Davies et al. 2017). Given the first order approximation made by
240 defining in this way the log-normal distribution, we set to the obtained conditional hazard
241 curves the maximum allowed epistemic uncertainty (equivalent sample size equal to 1).

242

243 **3. Results**

244

245 *3.1. Tsunami wave heights at the coast*

246 The three scenarios of explosions with vent radius, R , of 200, 650, and 900 m, correspond to
247 explosion energies, E , of 2.9×10^{14} , 9.8×10^{15} , and 2.6×10^{16} J (Table 1). Following Eq. (3),
248 these explosions create an initial surface displacement of the water surface, η_0 , of 85, 200, and
249 250 m, respectively (Table 1). Tsunami waves generated by the explosion propagate radially
250 away from the explosion centre, all over the computational area, with a significant influence
251 of the bathymetry (e.g. higher wave heights due to shallow banks around the Dohrn and
252 Magnaghi canyons in Fig. 4) and coastal morphology (e.g. effects of wave refraction around
253 the islands and capes in Fig. 4).

254 The highest tsunami impact is recorded on the coasts of the Pozzuoli Bay that are in the
255 imminent vicinity of the explosion centres. Maximum wave heights at the coast exceed 3 m
256 only in the Pozzuoli Bay and the eastern coast of Procida Island. Wave heights decrease by a
257 factor of 10 from the explosion site to the Gulf of Naples (note logarithmic scale of wave
258 heights on Fig. 4), where all sites record waves lower than 1.5 m for the scenarios with $R =$
259 900 m and lower than 0.5 m for the scenarios with $R = 650$ m. As a result of wave refraction,
260 secondary peaks of wave heights are observed on the western coast of the Sorrento Peninsula
261 and eastern coast of Capri Island (i.e. at distances between 80 and 110 km on Fig. 5).

262 For a vent radius of 900 m ($\eta_0 = 250$ m), wave heights higher than 10 m are restricted to the
263 coasts of the Pozzuoli Bay (Figs. 4 and 5). Lowering vent radius to 650 m ($\eta_0 = 200$ m)
264 reduces wave heights in the bay by a factor of 1.5 to 2 (Fig. 5). Wave height profiles recorded
265 at different tide gauge stations show that the scenarios with vent radius of 900 m generate
266 waves twice as high as the one with vent radius of 650 m (Fig. 6). Apart from this difference,
267 the two cases display the same wave patterns. Explosions corresponding to a vent radius of
268 200 m ($\eta_0 = 85$ m) generate waves lower than 1 m high, even on the coasts of the Pozzuoli
269 Bay (Figs. 5 and 6), except at vent sites #16 and #17 (Fig. 2b) which are located near the
270 coast. In this case, waves locally reach amplitudes up to 2 meters (Fig. 5).

271 The propagation of the tsunami in the entire Gulf of Naples takes approximately 15 minutes.
272 Waves reach Pozzuoli in 2 minutes, Procida in 4 minutes, Naples in 7 minutes, Capri in 9
273 minutes, and Castellamare di Stabia in 13 minutes (Fig. 6). The positive leading wave (peak)
274 is the highest one, except for the stations located on the opposite side of the Gulf of Naples
275 (e.g. Castellamare di Stabia, Capri). In the proximal field, the leading wave represents the
276 short-period component of the wave spectrum (e.g. Pozzuoli, Procida, and Naples). As the
277 distance from the explosion increases, the arrival of longer-period waves might predate the

278 short-period waves because they travel faster in the Gulf of Naples. This is a direct effect of
279 frequency dispersion. At Castellamare di Stabia, the 0.7 m-high leading wave is followed by
280 higher waves progressively reaching a maximum height of 1.5 m (Fig. 6).

281

282 *3.2. Probabilistic conditional hazard curves and maps*

283 We produced tsunami hazard curves that are conditional to subaqueous eruptions, since only
284 eruptions with vent at sea are considered. Following Selva et al. (2018), the probability to
285 have a vent at sea (depth $D > 10$ m) given an eruption is approximately 0.11 (mean of the
286 epistemic uncertainty). Given one eruption, the probability of being an explosive one is about
287 0.89 (mean of the epistemic uncertainty). Therefore, the probability to have a tsunami-
288 generating eruption conditional upon the occurrence of an eruption of any size in any vent at
289 Campi Flegrei is approximately equal to $0.11 \times 0.89 = 0.10$ (again, mean of the epistemic
290 uncertainty).

291 The main results of the PTHA are presented as conditional hazard curves for each of the 421
292 target points along the coast, conditional upon the occurrence of an eruption at sea, and their
293 respective epistemic uncertainty. In Figure 7, we reported some example of conditional hazard
294 curves and hazard maps (mean of the epistemic uncertainty) corresponding to an exceedance
295 probability value of 0.05, either relative to one specific eruption size or integrating all
296 potential sizes. The value of 0.05 is chosen as a reference value as it is the same adopted for
297 the real planning in this area (e.g. update of the National Emergency Plan for Campi Flegrei,
298 2016). More specifically, in the top three panels we reported the hazard maps conditional
299 upon an explosive eruption at sea of size small (with representative radius $R = 200$ m),
300 medium ($R = 650$ m), and large ($R = 900$ m), respectively. In the bottom panel, we combined
301 all potential eruption sizes (including the non-tsunami-generating effusive size, in analogy
302 with Selva et al., 2008; 2018 and Sandri et al., 2016), reporting the conditional hazard map
303 given an eruption at sea for any size.

304 The results for the single eruptive classes show that the tsunami intensities may be significant
305 in case of explosive eruption at sea, with intensities corresponding to 0.05 exceedance
306 probability (mean of the epistemic uncertainty) always significant (> 1 m) inside the Pozzuoli
307 bay, reaching tens of meters for medium and large explosive eruption classes (Fig. 7). In the
308 case of medium and, even more, large explosive eruptions, significant intensities were found

309 also in many areas of the larger Bay of Naples, with focalization point along the Sorrento
310 peninsula.

311 As observed for other hazards (e.g., tephra fallout in Sandri et al. 2016 and Selva et al. 2018),
312 the hazard maps integrating all sizes provide results similar to the one conditioned to medium
313 explosive eruption size, with slightly smaller intensity. Noteworthy, also integrating all
314 potential sizes, eruptions at sea determine a significant tsunami hazard in many areas of the
315 Bay of Naples, still with the largest potential intensities within the Pozzuoli Bay.

316

317 **4. Discussion**

318 Tsunami hazard related to subaqueous volcanic explosions in the study area, and particularly
319 in the Pozzuoli Bay, is far from negligible, even if the probability for eruptions in the
320 submarine part of the caldera is rather low. Considered largest scenarios of explosions ($R=900$
321 m) generate waves higher than 10 m in the Pozzuoli Bay, but lower than 1.5 m in the Gulf of
322 Naples. Wave refraction creates local amplification (e.g. eastern coast of Capri) that is well
323 reproduced by the numerical models. The smallest explosions considered here ($R=200$ m) do
324 not represent a high hazard in terms of tsunami generation (waves < 1 m high). However, the
325 impact of such small tsunami waves should not be neglected on such densely populated
326 coasts. Another difficulty in terms of potential hazard mitigation actions comes from the
327 proximity of the tsunami source. The propagation of the tsunami in the entire Gulf of Naples
328 takes only 15 minutes. Pozzuoli is affected in less than 2 minutes.

329 In this work, tsunami wave behaviour at the coast (e.g. wave breaking, interaction with
330 coastal structures) and inundation inland were not simulated, because it would require high-
331 resolution terrain models (typically 1 m grid resolution). In the near future, such simulations
332 could be conducted at the local scale, i.e. on areas of specific interest (e.g. harbours), using
333 those at the larger scale as input (Lorito et al., 2015; Volpe et al., 2019).

334 Another limitation comes from the model of explosion itself. We considered that the size of
335 the crater reflects the most powerful explosion at shallow depth, regardless the total number
336 of explosions (Goto et al., 2001; Taddeucci et al., 2010). In fact, the morphology of the crater
337 might result from multiple vertically and horizontally-migrating explosions (e.g. Valentine et
338 al., 2012; 2015). Thus, assuming that the size of the crater corresponds to the size of the
339 explosion might lead to an overestimation of the explosion energy in some cases.

340 We also assumed that the explosion occurs at the sea floor or at the rim of a pre-existing
341 eruptive vent. However, the evolution of the vent geometry during the eruption (crater
342 excavation, growth of the ejecta ring) and location of the explosion inside the vent might have
343 an influence on tsunami generation. These relationships have never been tested
344 experimentally or numerically.

345 Due to computational cost, we reduced exploration of aleatory variability such as vent
346 position and its size. This limitation was compensated by introducing a rather large
347 uncertainty into simulation results. However, given the illustrative character of this
348 application, we did not exploit any detailed analysis to better constrain the uncertainty
349 quantification. Temporal rates of eruptions are also difficult to constrain and, for this reason,
350 we did not extend our results to absolute unconditional probabilities, in line with previous
351 studies of this type (e.g. Sandri et al. 2016; Selva et al. 2018). However, we note that hazard
352 curves conditional upon eruption may represent a direct input for decision making. Indeed,
353 being possible short-term forecast of eruptions (e.g., Selva et al., 2012b), emergency plans are
354 usually based on such conditional hazard estimations (e.g. update of the National Emergency
355 Plan for Campi Flegrei, 2016). The probability of vents at sea is also poorly constrained.

356 Only few hazard analyses include the submerged part of Campi Flegrei as potential area for
357 vent opening (Tonini et al., 2015). The presence of several major faults oriented NW-SE in
358 the central part of the Pozzuoli Bay (see Orsi et al. 1994 and Selva et al. 2012a) tends to
359 concentrate the probability of vent opening in this part of the submerged caldera. Ring-faults
360 along the southern rim of the caldera also represent potential sites for future eruptions
361 (Steinmann et al., 2018), but this has not been considered in this paper.

362 In this study, we considered only tsunami source generated by submarine volcanic explosions
363 at Campi Flegrei. However, other sources such as pyroclastic density currents entering the sea
364 or earthquakes and landslides should be integrated into the probabilistic analysis to avoid bias
365 in the tsunami hazard assessment (Grezio et al., 2015). For Campi Flegrei, submarine
366 explosions seem to be the dominating tsunami-generating volcanic process, given the topo-
367 bathymetric configuration of the caldera and the prevalence in the past of dilute pyroclastic
368 density currents. However, other significant sources of volcanic tsunamis are present in the
369 Bay of Naples, including Ischia (Paparo and Tinti 2017 and reference therein) and Vesuvius
370 (Tinti et al. 2004). The Euro-Mediterranean Tsunami Catalogue (Maramai et al., 2014)
371 describes the sea withdrawals, sea retreats, and sea oscillations associated to volcanic

372 activities and reports tsunamis with intensity 2 (meaning waves lower than 1 m), mainly
373 associated to pyroclastic density currents generated during explosive eruptions at Mt.
374 Vesuvius.

375

376 **5. Conclusion**

377 The conditional probabilistic hazard assessment for tsunamis generated by subaqueous
378 volcanic explosions is presented for the Campi Flegrei caldera. The probability for eruptions
379 in the submarine part of the caldera is rather low, but scenarios of tsunamis generated by
380 subaqueous volcanic explosions and their potentially high impact in the Pozzuoli Bay and
381 Gulf of Naples deserve to be considered due to high population density of these coastal areas.
382 We demonstrated that tsunamis from volcanic explosions in the Campi Flegrei caldera
383 represent a significant source of hazard in the Pozzuoli Bay and Gulf of Naples. This is often
384 overlooked, but should be integrated into the evaluation of natural hazards of the area.
385 Highest hazard is found on the coasts of the Pozzuoli Bay, where incoming tsunami waves
386 exceeding locally 10 m can be expected in case of future large explosions. Around Naples,
387 where coasts are densely populated, the hazard is lower, but tsunamis exceeding 1 m are
388 assessed. In this study, we considered tsunamis generated by volcanic explosions only, but
389 other tsunamis sources such as earthquakes or landslides should be included in the future to
390 fully evaluate the hazard in the region. Future developments could be the evaluation of a
391 complete PTHA due to volcanic processes in the Campania region considering underwater
392 caldera explosions, landslides, and pyroclastic density currents both from Vesuvius and Campi
393 Flegrei eruptions.

394

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403

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592

593 **Figure captions**

594 **Fig. 1.** Location map of the study area. The Pozzuoli Bay corresponds to the southern
595 emerged part of the Campi Flegrei caldera. Bathymetry by D'Argenio et al. (2004).

596 **Fig. 2.** A) Physical parameters controlling the initial displacement of the water surface and
597 subsequent tsunami in case of subaqueous volcanic explosion: E : explosion energy; d :
598 explosion depth; D : total water depth around the volcanic cone; R : eruptive vent radius;
599 η_0 : initial water surface displacement. B) Location of the 17 explosion sites tested for
600 tsunami simulations in the Pozzuoli Bay. C) Craters of past eruptions at Campi Flegrei.
601 The size of the craters (circles) is used to determine the three classes of radii of eruptive
602 vents (modified from Costa et al. (2009). D) Dense Rock Equivalent versus Vent radius
603 showing the relationship between the erupted magma volume and the size of the vents.

604 **Fig. 3.** Bayesian Event Tree for Volcanic Hazard (BET_VH) for the Campi Flegrei caldera
605 (modified from Selva et al., 2010) adopted in this study. In light grey, we report the
606 nodes that are not quantified, due to the choice of conditioning the probabilities upon
607 the occurrence of subaqueous explosions.

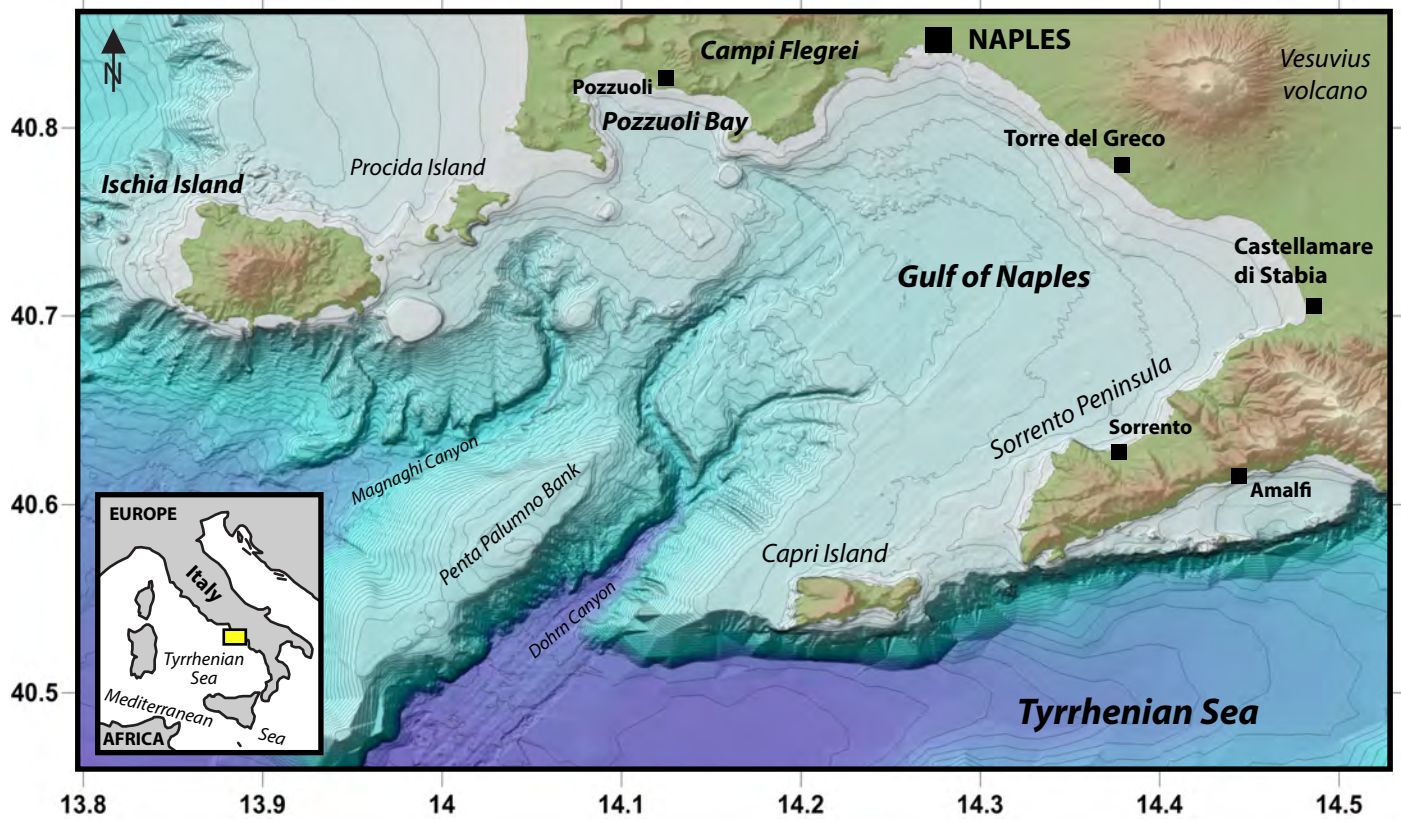
608 **Fig. 4.** Maximum water elevation for explosions at site #1. Three cases of eruptive vent radius
609 are distinguished (200, 650, and 900 m), corresponding to explosion energies of
610 2.9×10^{14} , 9.8×10^{15} , and 2.6×10^{16} J, respectively (see Table 1). Blue colour corresponds
611 to water displacements inferior to 0.1 cm. Dark blue areas at the edges of the
612 computational domain represent a sponge layer that is prescribed at the grid boundaries
613 in order to dump incoming waves and hence prevent reflections to form at the end walls.

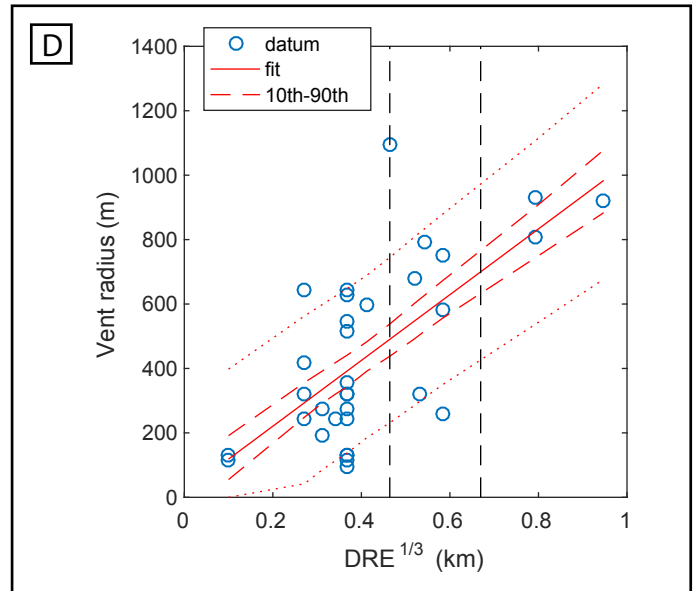
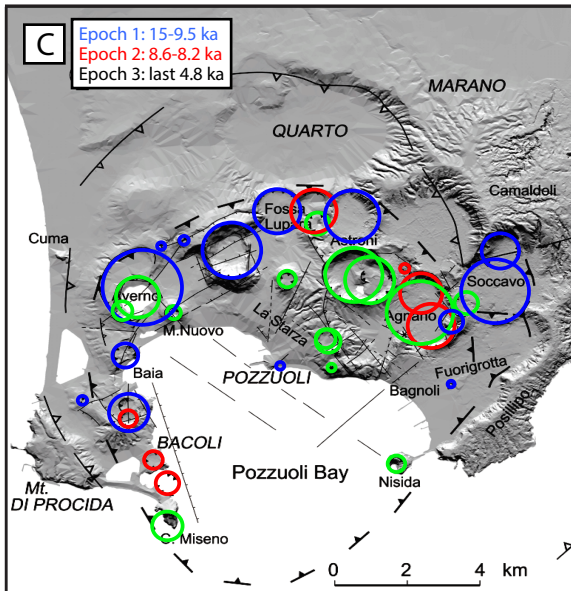
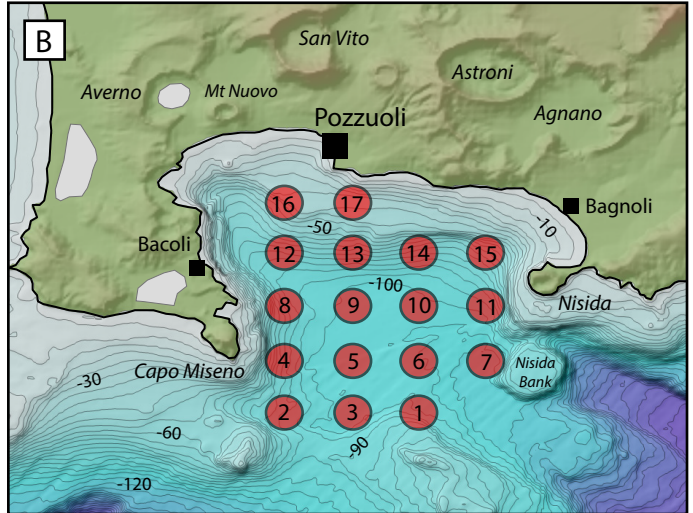
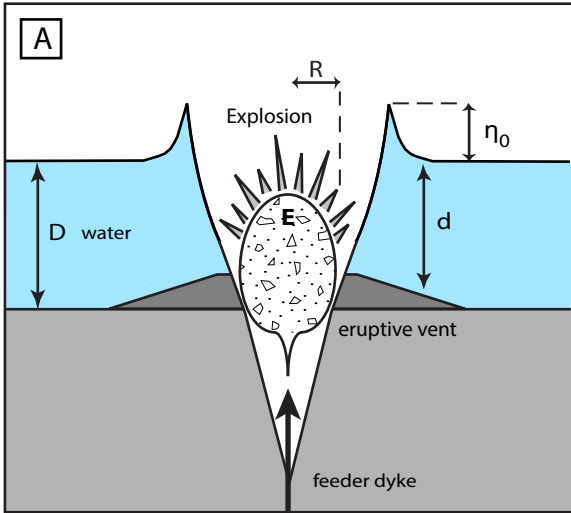
614 **Fig. 5.** Maximum wave amplitude recorded at the coast (H_{max}) as a function of distance
615 along the coastline (starting from the NW) for 3 different explosion sites (#4, #7, and
616 #17). Cities of Pozzuoli, Naples, Torre del Greco, and Castellamare di Stabia are located
617 at distances of 20, 40, 50, and 65 km, respectively.

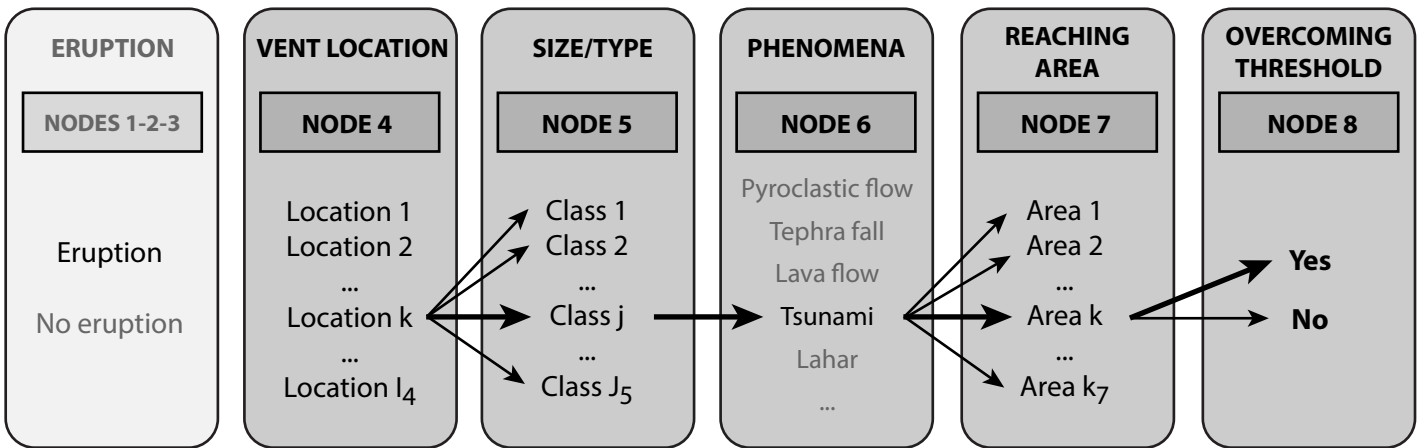
618 **Fig. 6.** Wave heights generated by underwater explosions at site #1 and recorded at the coast
619 at 7 virtual tide gauge stations. Three different values of vent radii (200, 650, and 900
620 m) are represented, corresponding to different energies of explosion.

621 **Fig. 7.** For each individual size class (rows 1 to 3) and their combinations (row 4), we report
622 the conditional mean hazard maps for a probability threshold = 0.05 (maps on the left)

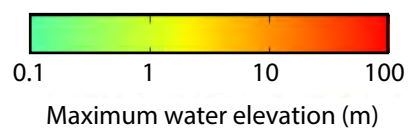
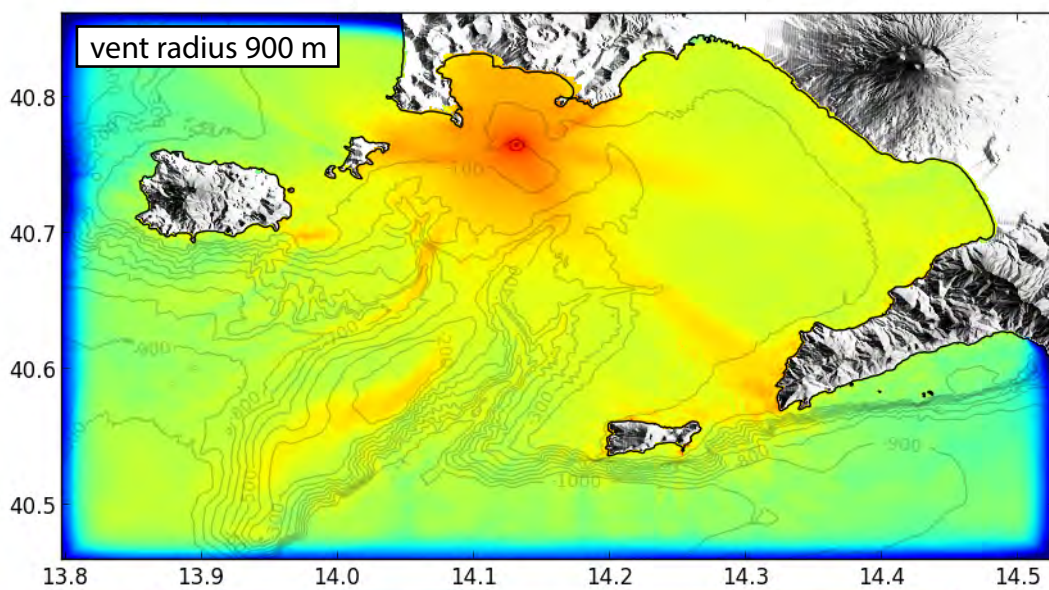
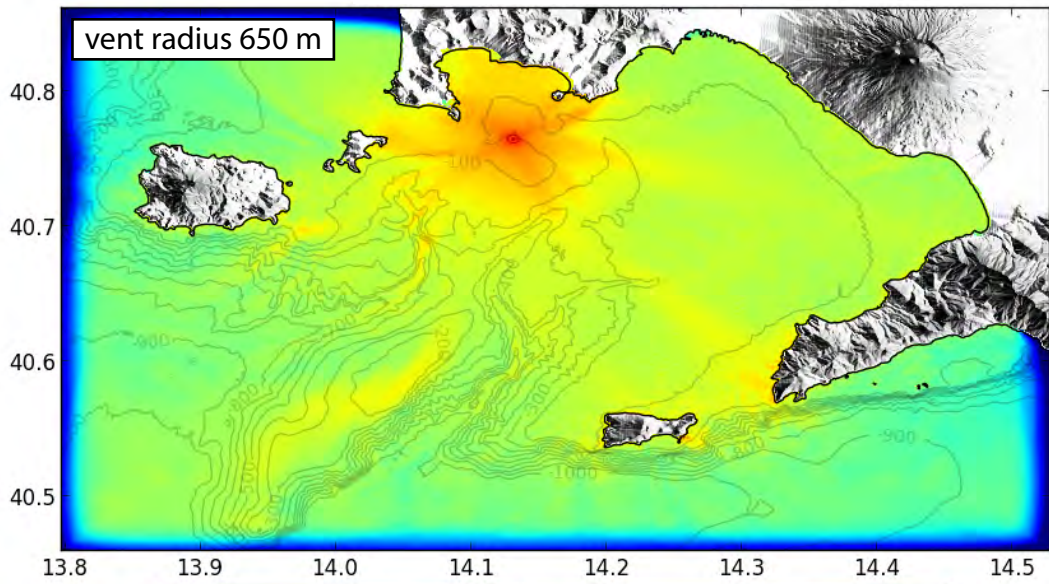
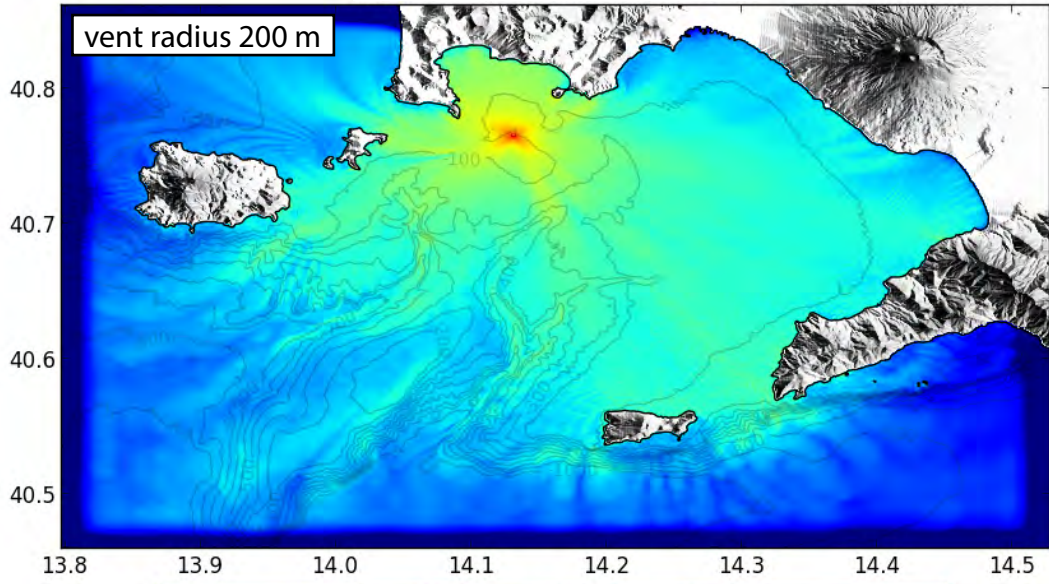
623 and the conditional hazard curves (mean and 10th-90th percentiles confidence interval) in
624 one point (black square) within the city of Naples (red lines on the right). All hazards
625 are conditional upon submarine explosive eruptions (SEE) of size 1 (top panel), size 2
626 (second top panel), size 3 (third top panel), and any size (bottom panel). Note that, for
627 sizes 2 and 3 (medium and large vent radia), the hazard curves have probability
628 approaching 1 for relatively small tsunami intensity, meaning that the exceedance of
629 such intensity in that position approaches certainty in case of submarine eruptions of
630 these sizes.

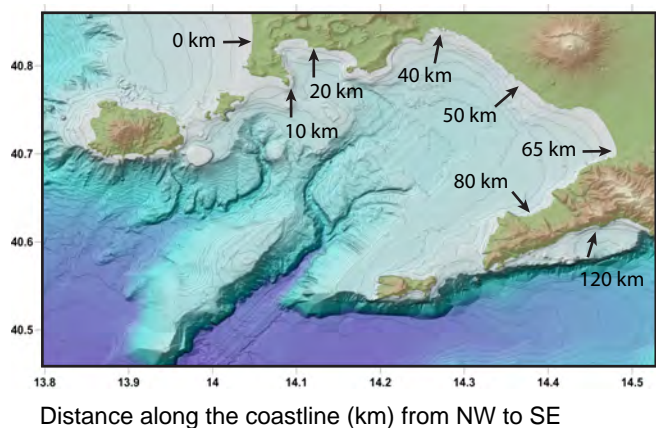




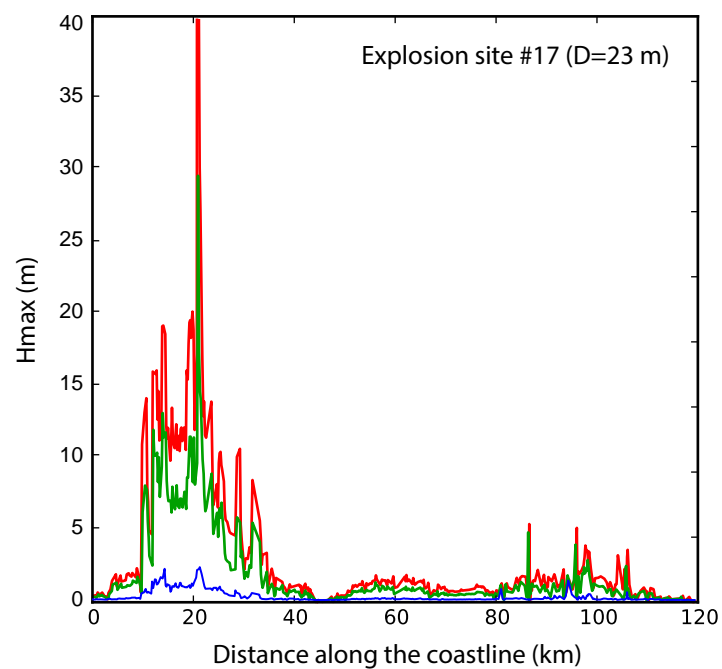
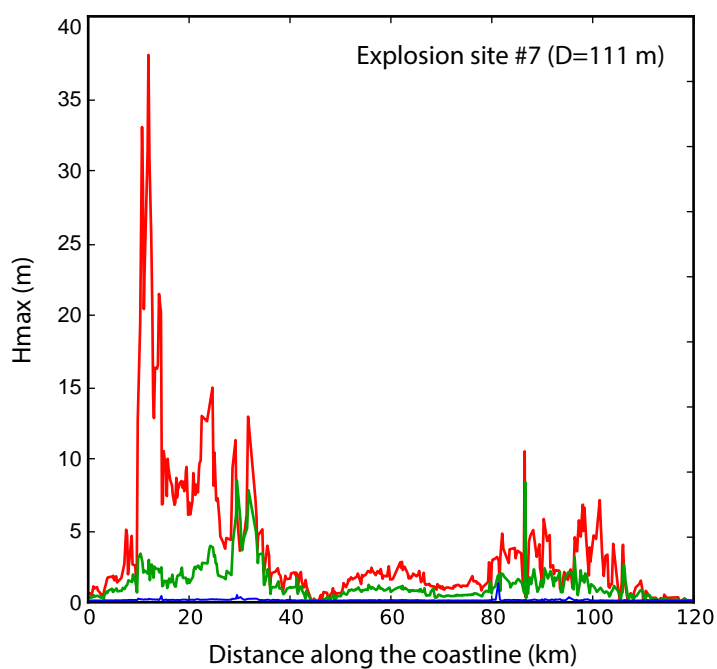
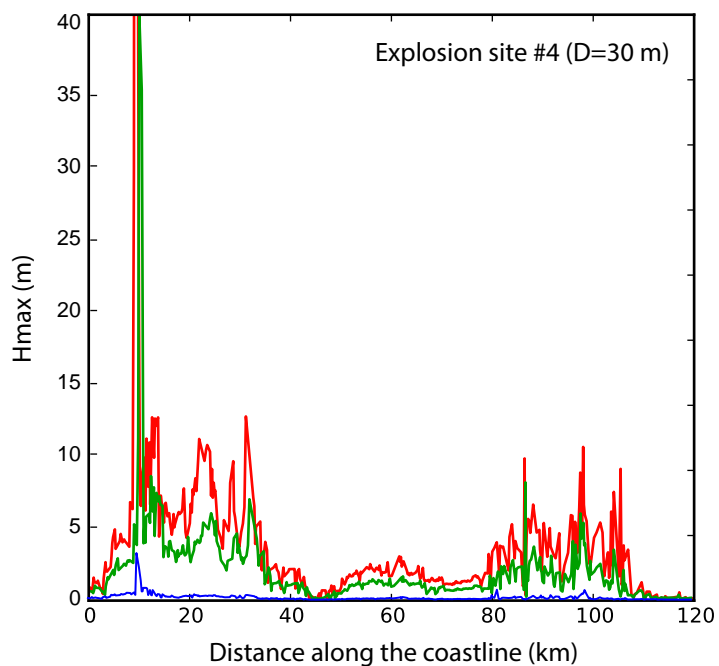


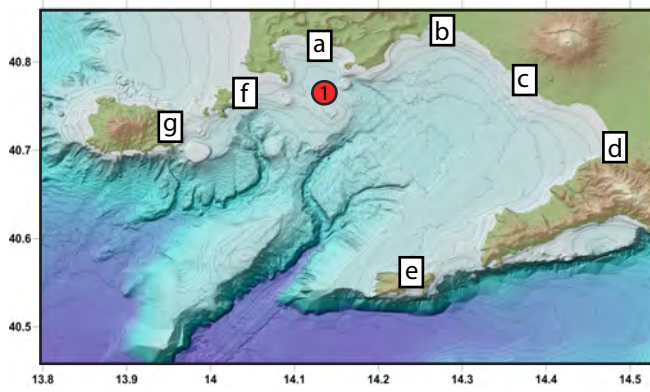
Explosion site #1



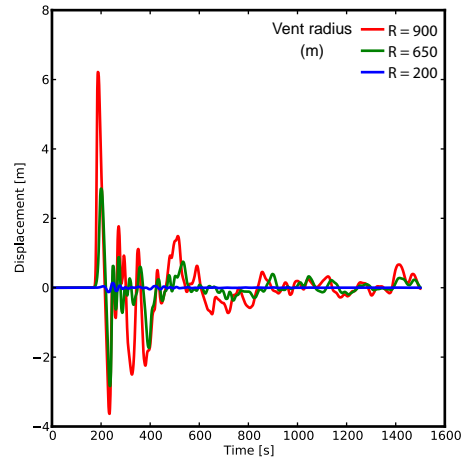


Vent radius (m) — R = 900
 — R = 650
 — R = 200

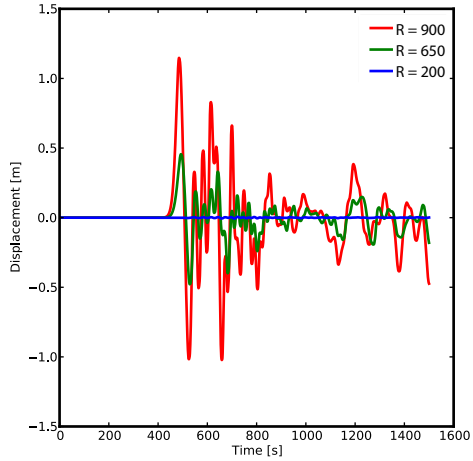




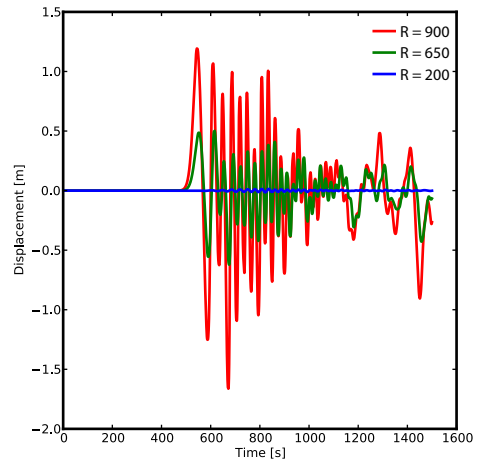
a-Pozzuoli



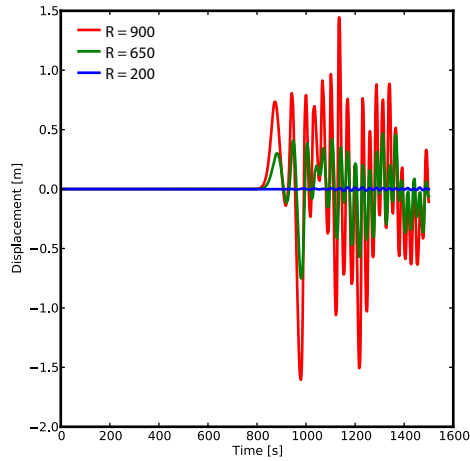
b-Naples



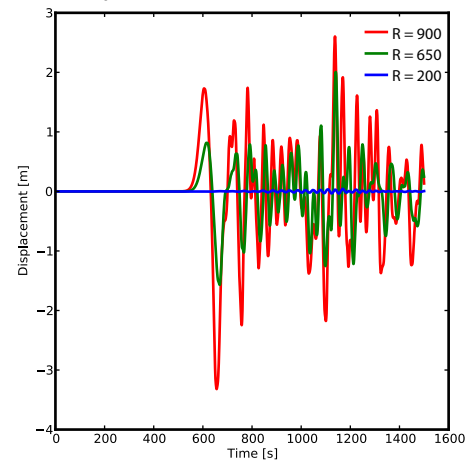
c-Torre del Greco



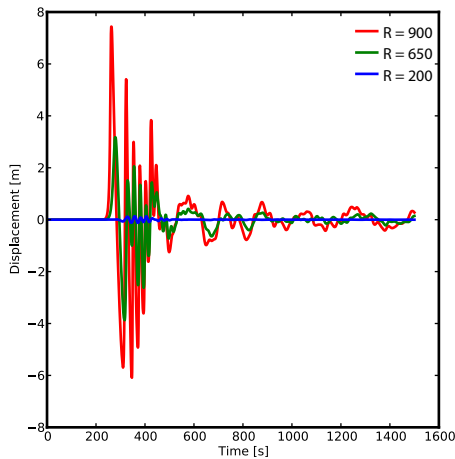
d-Castellamare di Stabia



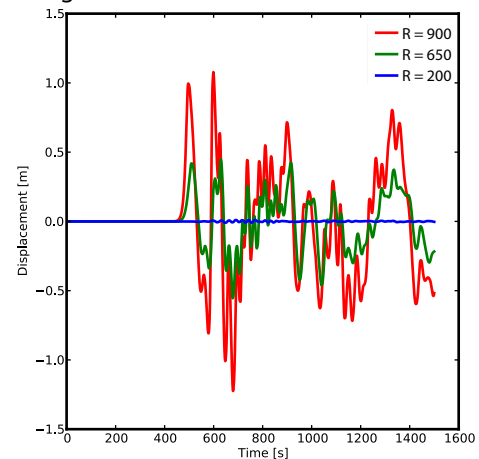
e-Capri

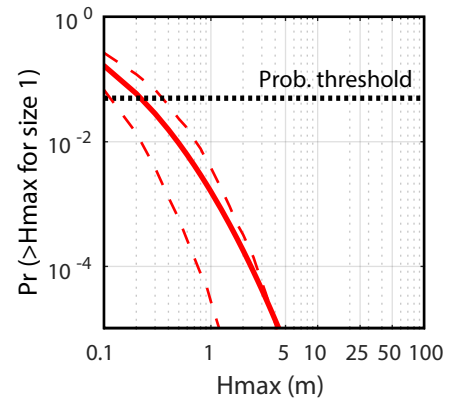
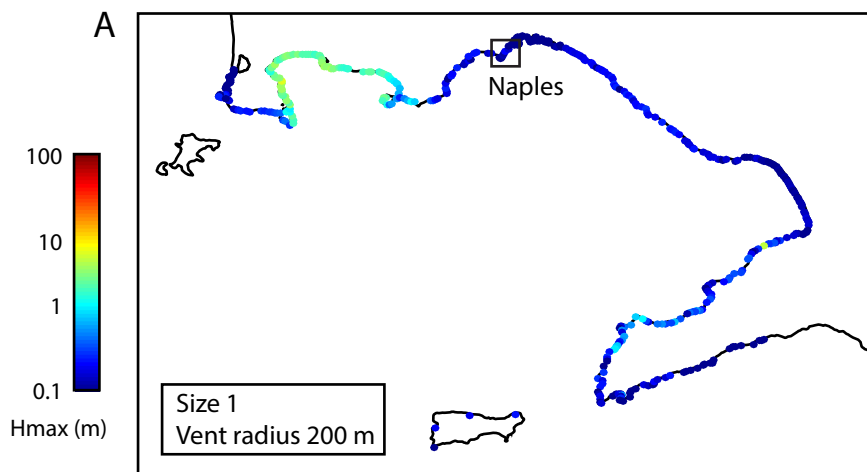


f-Procida



g-Ischia





Epistemic Uncertainty

— mean
- - 10th-90th perc

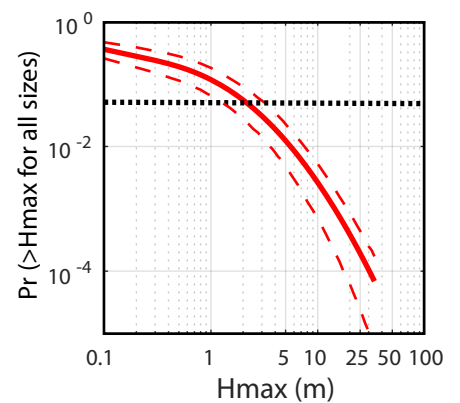
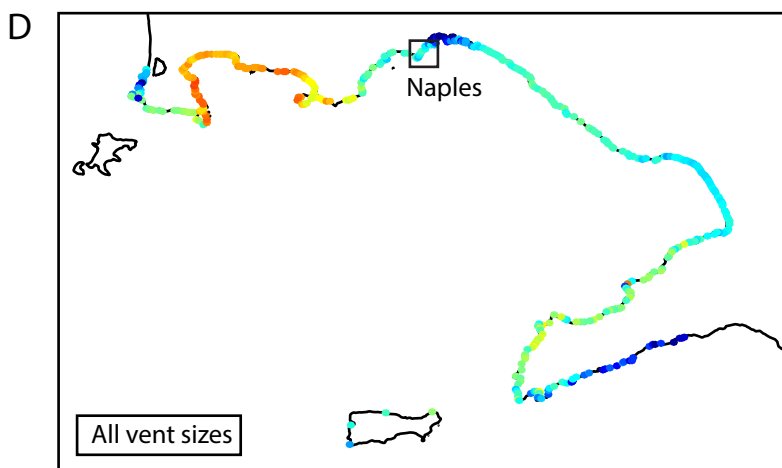
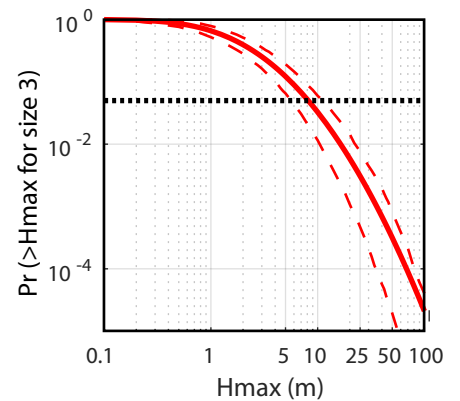
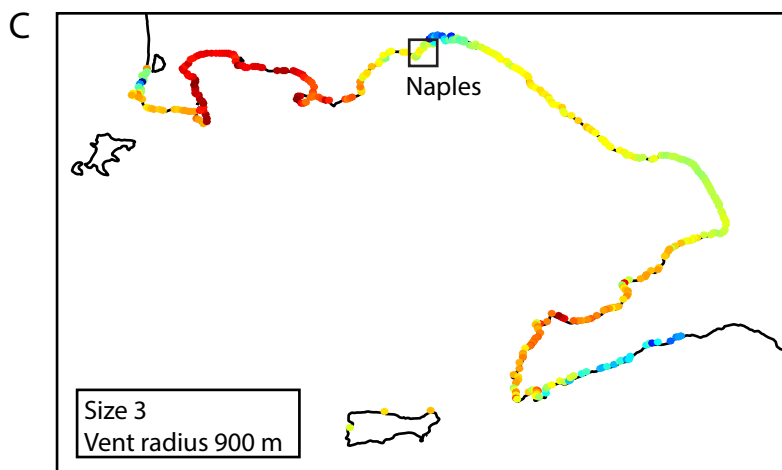
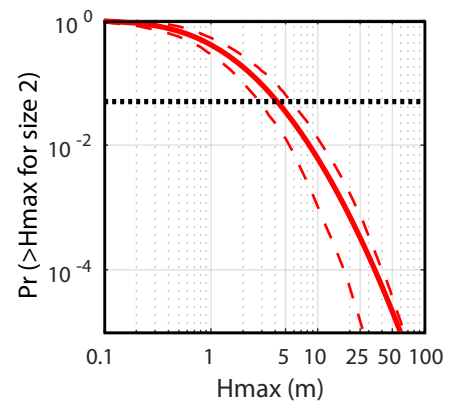
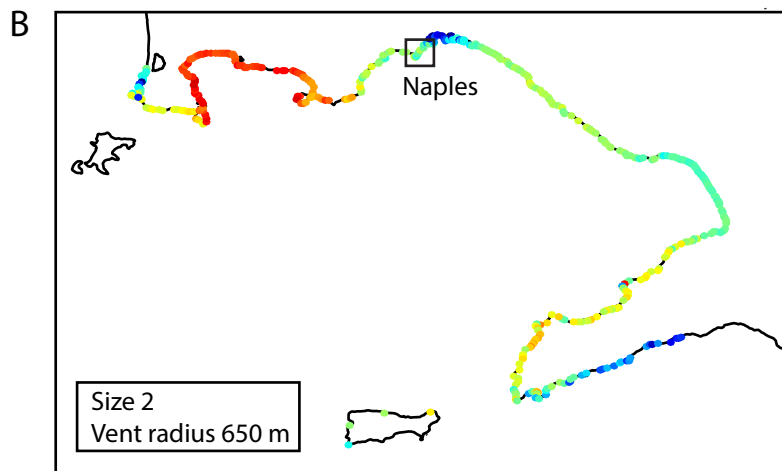


Table 1. Scenarios of subaqueous volcanic explosions. d is explosion depth (similar to water depth in this case); R is radius of the eruptive vent; E is explosion energy; η_0 is initial displacement of the water surface.

Explosion site	long (°)	lat (°)	d (m)	R (m)	E (J)	η_0 (m)
1	14.131004	40.76432	93	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
2	14.095464	40.764046	82	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
3	14.113234	40.764184	100	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
4	14.09528	40.777558	28	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
5	14.113054	40.777696	103	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
6	14.130828	40.777831	104	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
7	14.148602	40.777963	111	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
8	14.095097	40.791069	35	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
9	14.112875	40.791207	99	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
10	14.130652	40.791342	101	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
11	14.14843	40.791475	93	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200

				900	2.60E+16	250
12	14.094914	40.80458	75	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
13	14.112695	40.804718	63	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
14	14.130476	40.804853	62	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
15	14.148257	40.804986	49	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
16	14.09473	40.818091	37	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250
17	14.112515	40.818229	23	200	2.90E+14	85
				650	9.80E+15	200
				900	2.60E+16	250