



# Numerical modelling - hazard and uncertainty

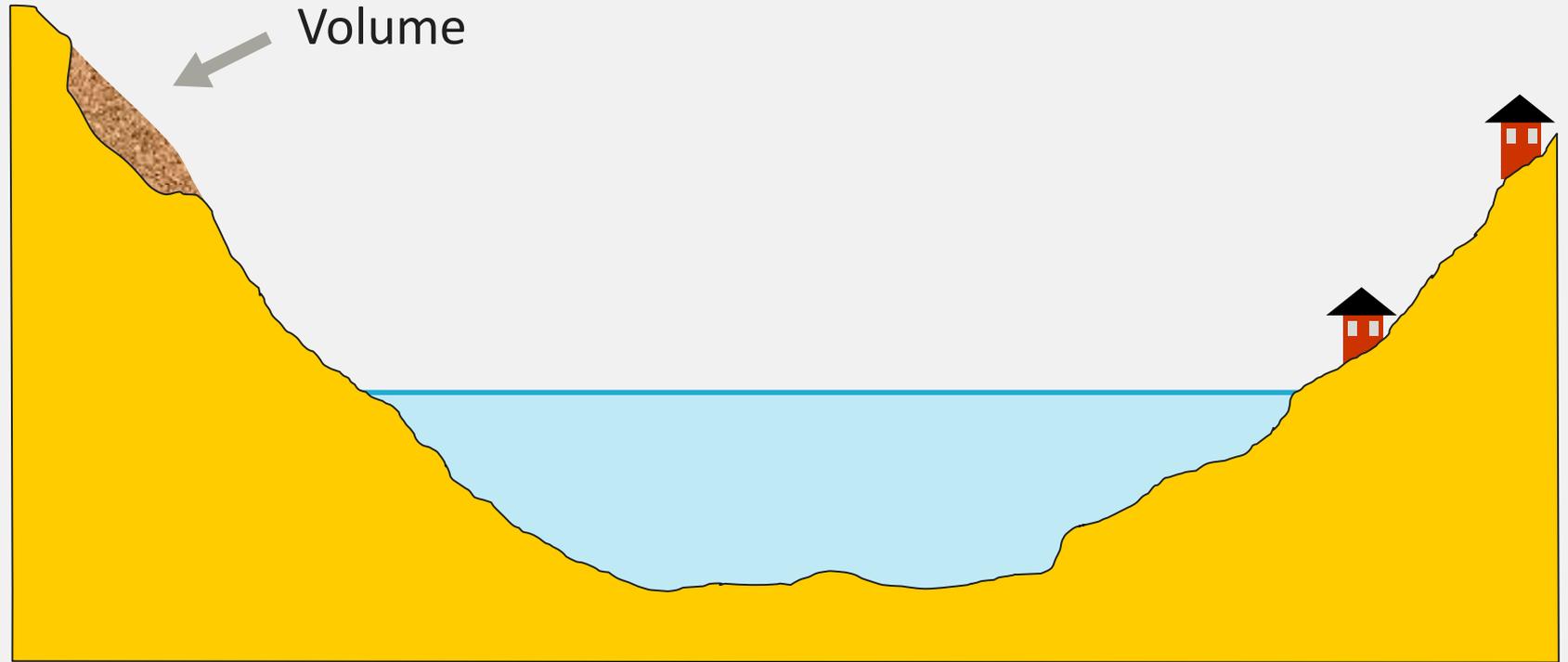
Sylfest Glimsdal, Finn Løvholt, Carl B. Harbitz, Steven Gibbons  
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute – NGI, Oslo, Norway

*Workshop – «Landslide-generated Impulse Waves in Reservoirs»  
May 31st, 2022*

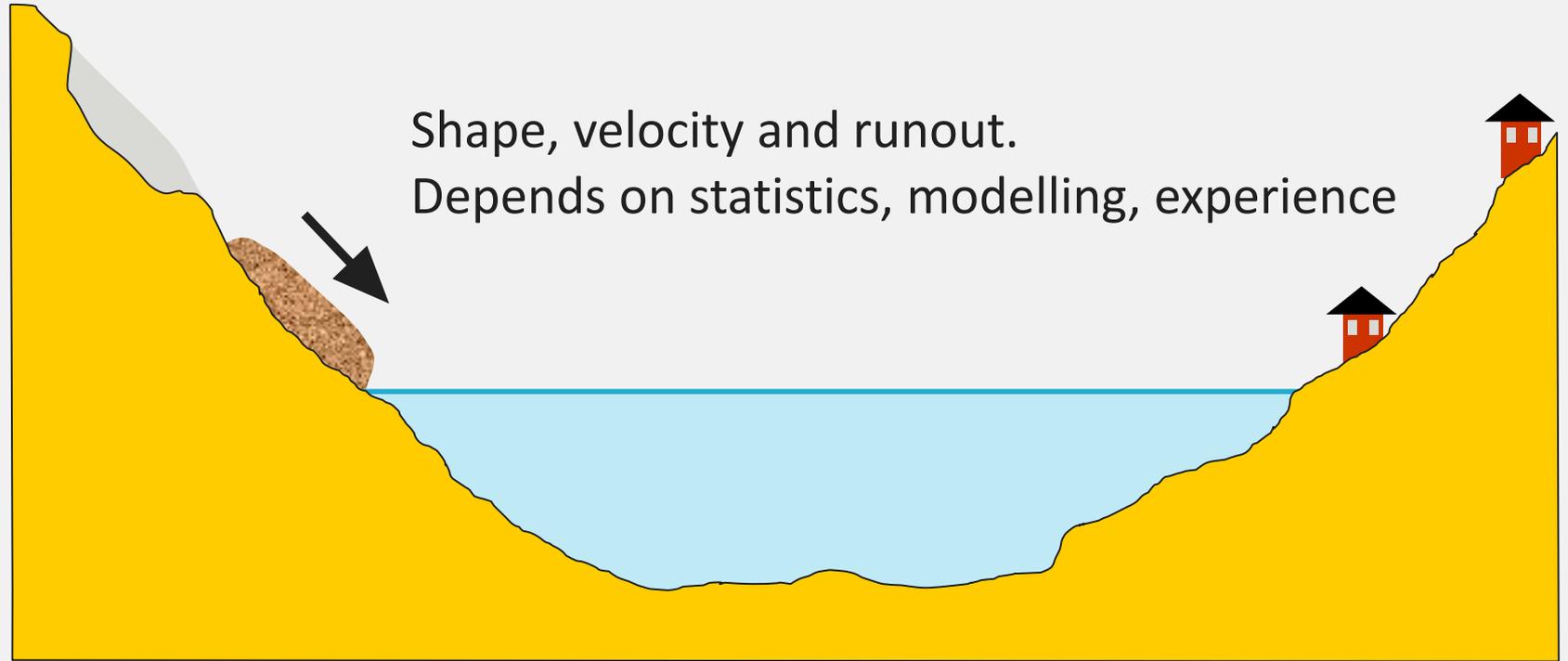
27th ICOLD Congress 2022



# Modelling of landslide tsunamis



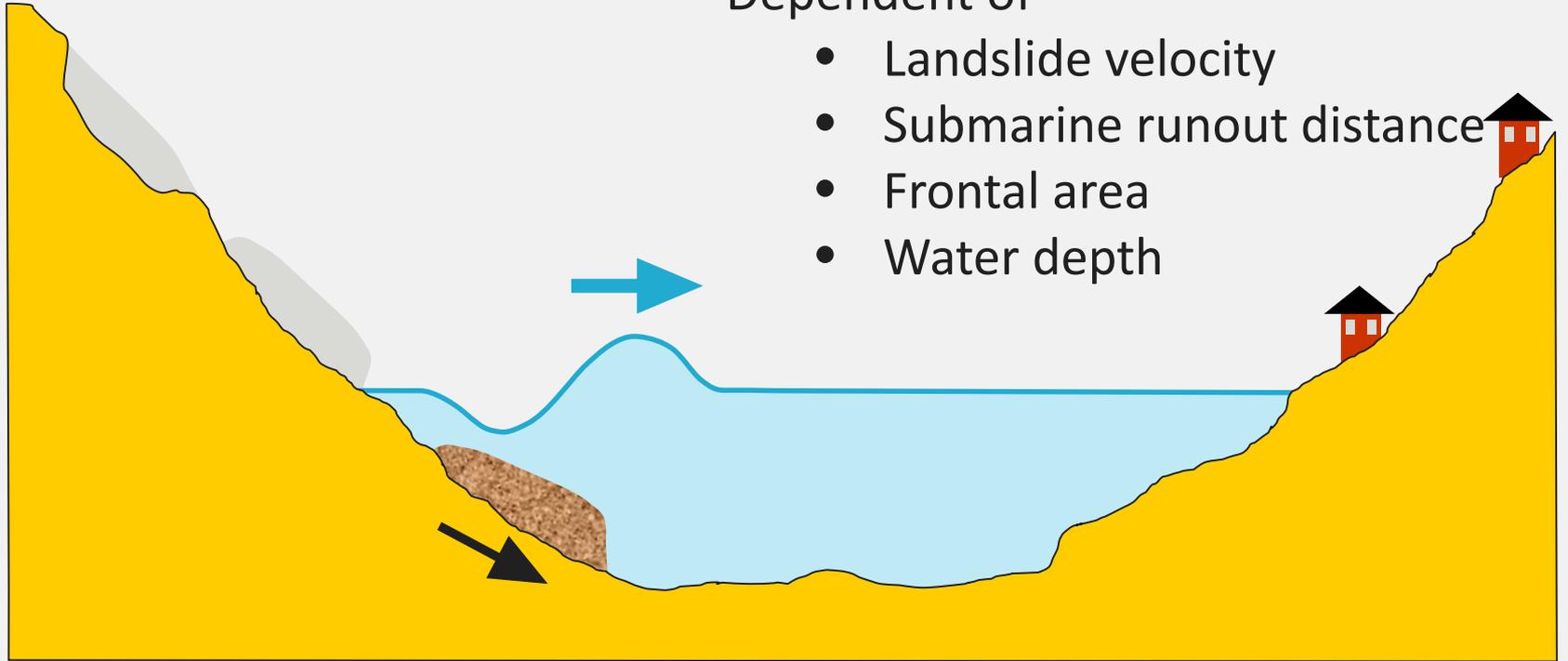
# Landslide dynamics



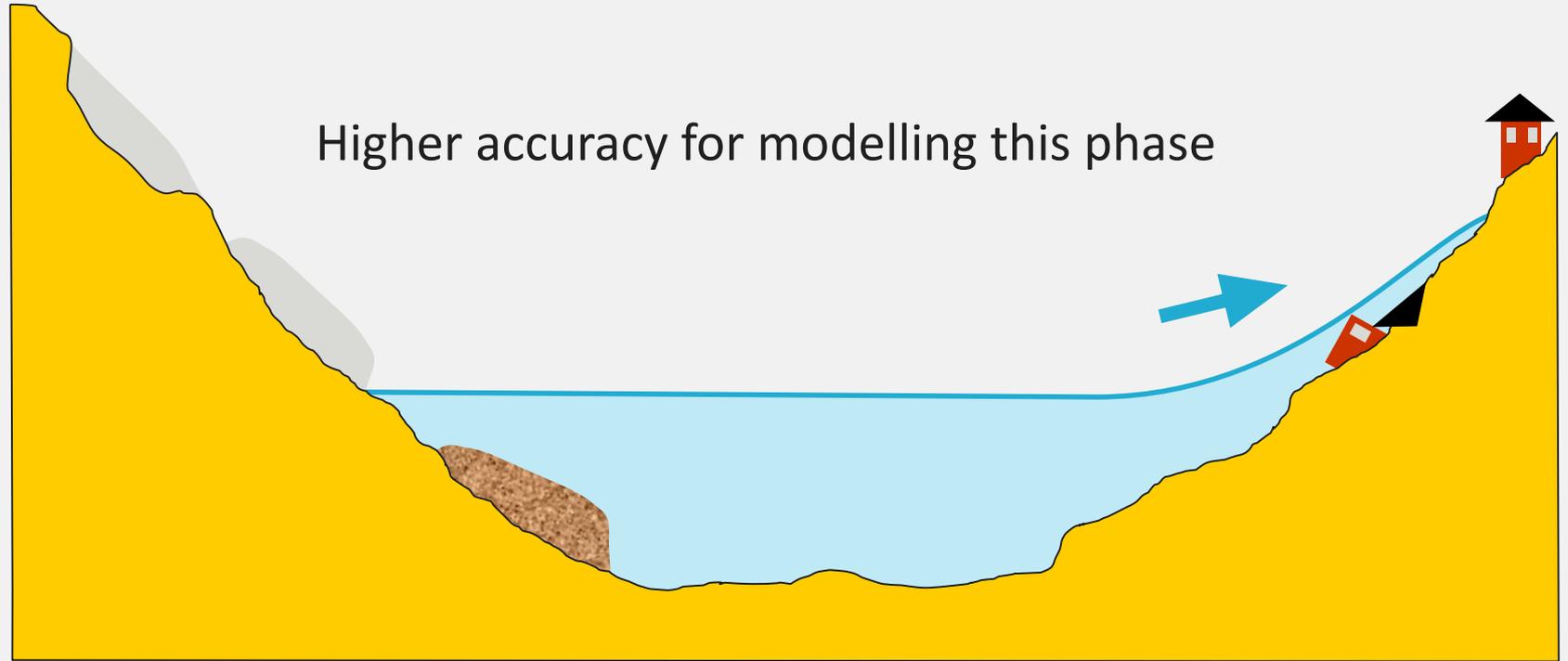
# Tsunami generation

Dependent of

- Landslide velocity
- Submarine runout distance
- Frontal area
- Water depth

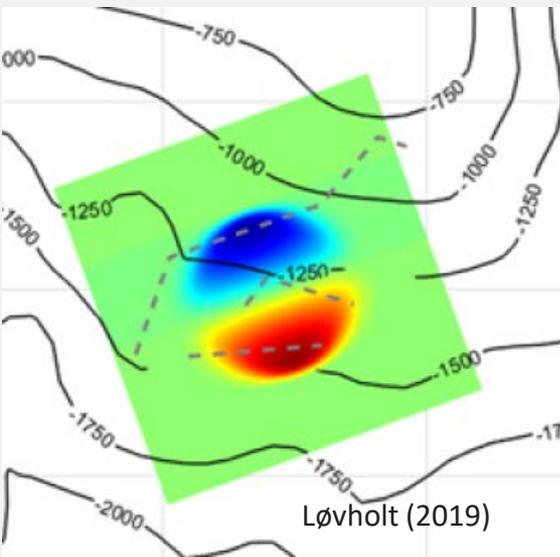


# Tsunami propagation and inundation





Rotational slumps:  
Short time scales

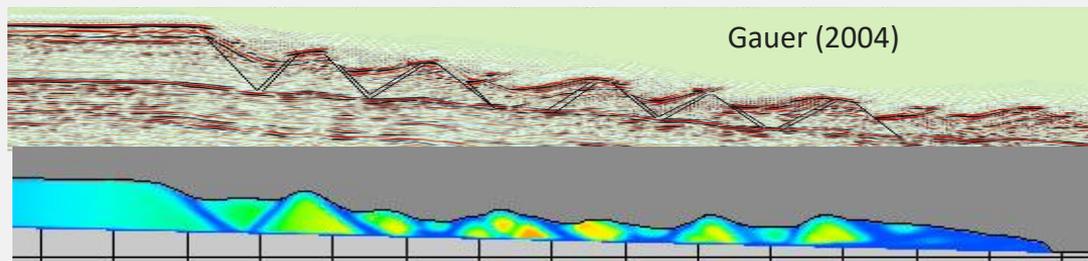


Landslide tsunami  
generation mechanisms

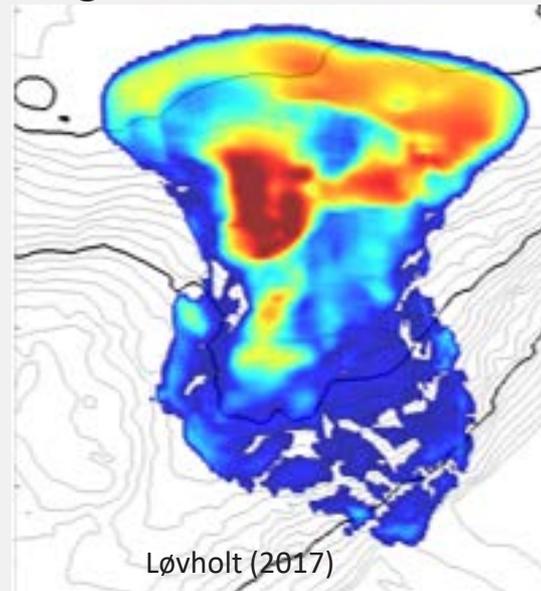
Great variety →

Dynamics of landslides of  
major importance for  
tsunami-genesis

Staged, retrogressive motion:  
Slow onset, less efficient

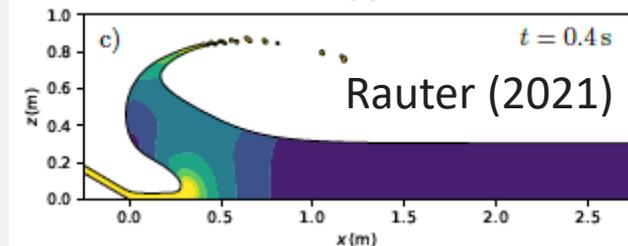
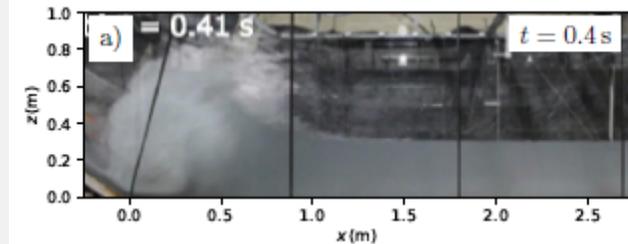


Submarine debris flows:  
Large volumes



# Subaerial landslide tsunamis

- Characterised by violent impact, cratering, and splashing
- More local than earthquake tsunamis
- Strong influence of:
  - Frontal slide area (and volume)
  - Landslide velocity during impact
- ***Landslide dynamics important for the tsunami generation***



# Subaerial landslide tsunamis – key examples

## 18<sup>th</sup> century Japan volcano flank collapses

**Oshima-Oshima 1741**

Volume 2.5 km<sup>3</sup>

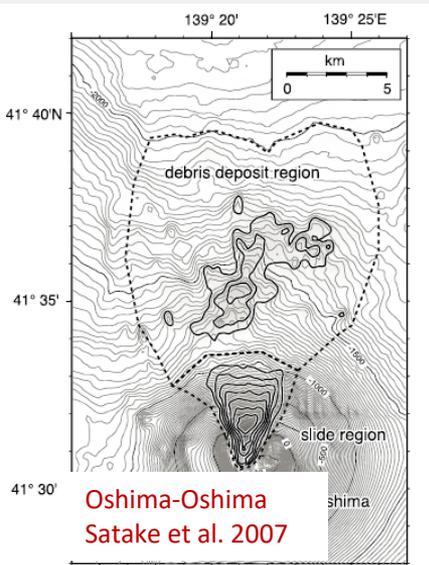
~2000 fatalities

**Shimabara Bay 1792**

Volume ~0.5 km<sup>3</sup>

>4000 fatalities

**Most fatal landslide tsunami in history**



**Western Norway: Loen 1905, 1936 and Tafjord 1934**

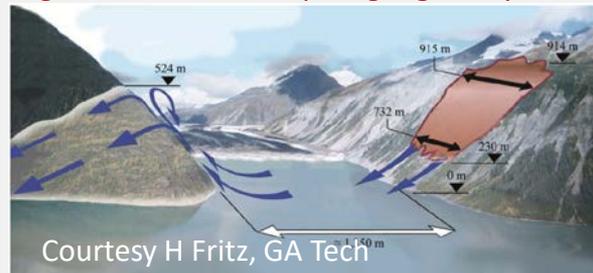
174 Fatalities



**Lituya Bay 1958**

> 500 m run-up

**Highest tsunami run-up height globally**



**Many recent high run-up landslide tsunami events:**

Paatuut, Greenland, 2000

Stromboli, 2002

Aysen fjord, Chile, 2007

Chechalis Lake, Canada, 2007

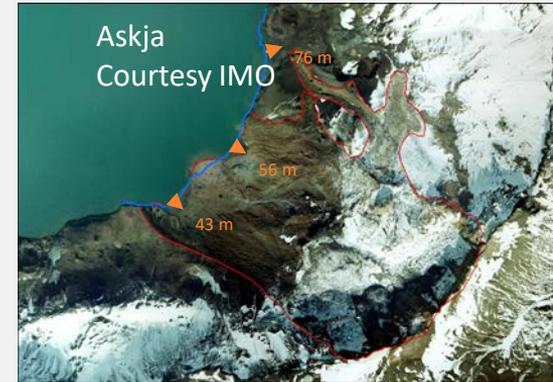
Askja, Iceland, 2014

Taan fjord, Alaska, 2015

Yangtze River, 2015

Karrat fjord, Greenland, 2017

Anak Krakatau, 2018



# Norway Tafjord 7. april 1934



Church boat MB Tafjord



# GIS method for hazard evaluation

Norway:

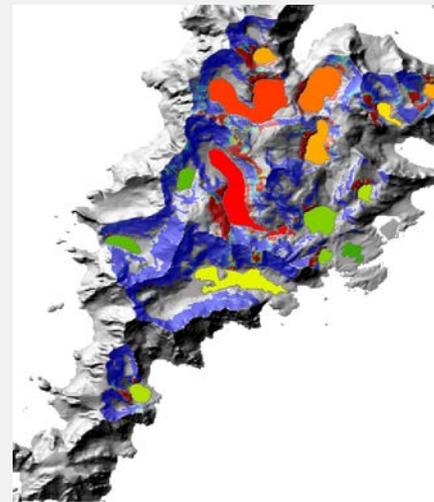
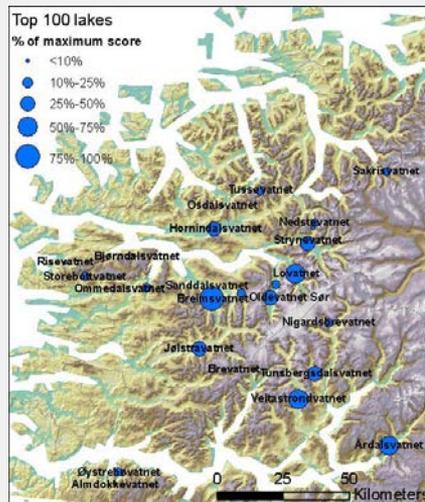
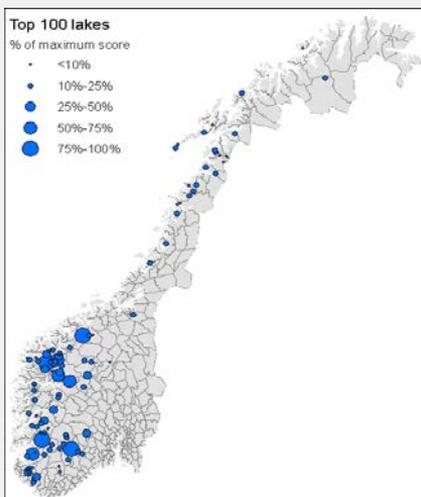
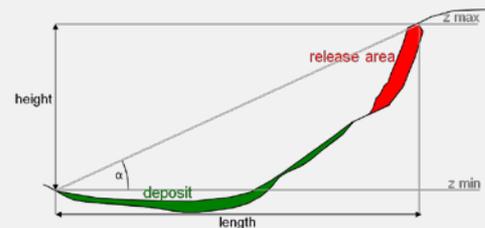
- 200.000 lakes/reservoirs + 25 000 km coastline
  - 20.000 lakes > 0.1 km<sup>2</sup>
- Available data
  - Topography and maps of all lakes
  - Landslide data (limited)



*Mountain side north of lake Zakarias, Norddal.  
Potential rockslides identified by NGI (2004)*

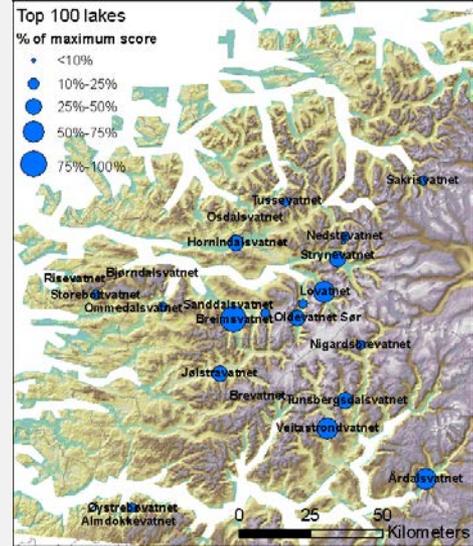
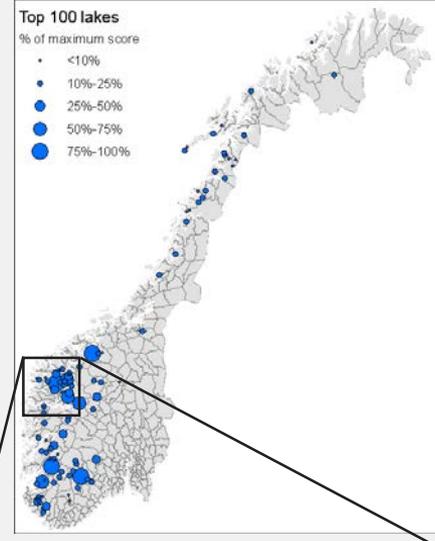
# GIS rockslide tsunami hazard analysis

- GIS method for mapping potential rock slide / hazard in fjords, lakes and reservoirs
- Topography steep enough? Rockslide sources large enough?
- Run-out ratio H/L vs. volume
- Probability of certain volumes
- ➔ Topographic rock slide potential for each lake
- *What lakes should be analysed further*
- Co-sponsored by NVE



# Results

- ~12 000 lakes (6%) have a tsunamigenic landslide potential
- Most lakes provide a low score (< 0.1% of the maximum)
  - 100 lakes with score >10% of maximum
  - 46 of these are hydro electric power dams;
    - 20 associated with possible large consequences
- Lakes with known hazard (e.g. Lovatnet) are among the lakes with very high score

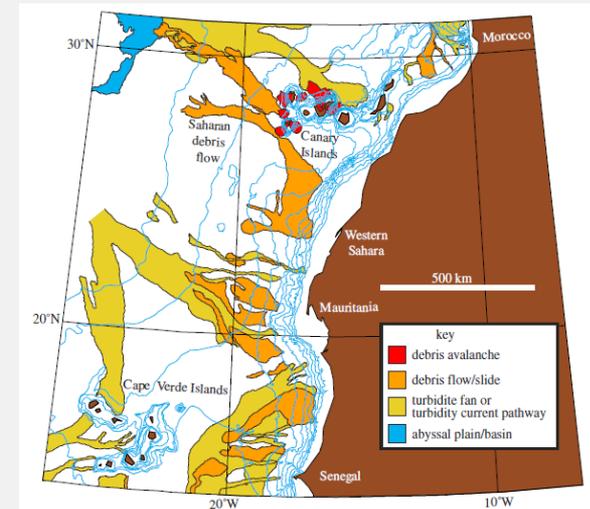


# Landslide dynamics models

- Block models
- Cohesive fluid dynamics models (clay dominated)
  - E.g. Bingham fluids, Hershel-Bulkley models
- Frictional collisional fluid dynamics models (particle interaction dominated)
  - Wide range of models, rheologies, and complexity (e.g. Savage-Hutter,  $\mu(I)$ , pore fluid effects, entrainment, 2D, 3D...)
- Important for submarine landslides
  - Hydrodynamic resistance

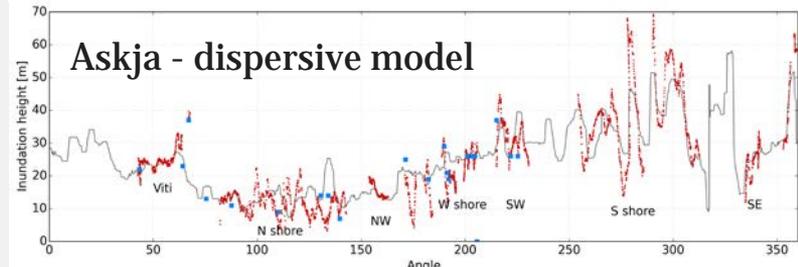
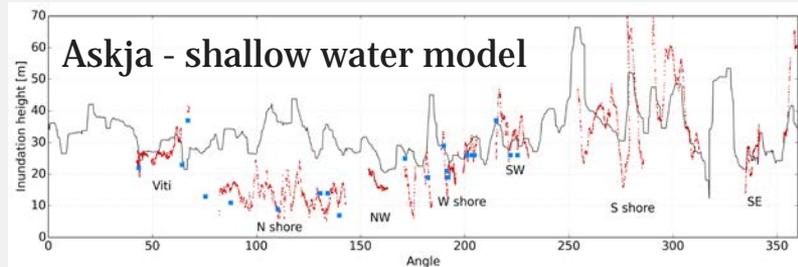


Saharan sand dominated slides, Masson et al. (2006)



# Tsunami models

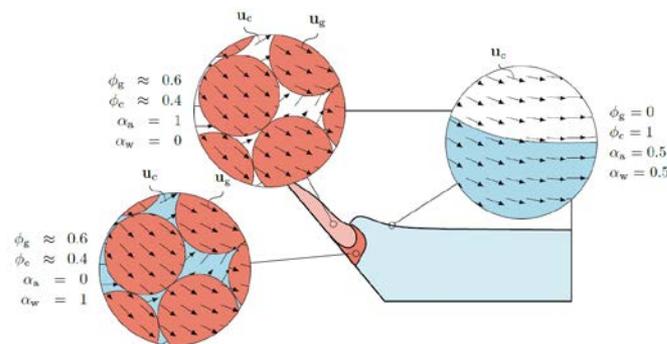
- Shallow water type models – 2HD
  - Efficient and most used, but lack essential aspects important for landslide tsunamis
- Boussinesq type models – 2HD
  - Include **frequency dispersion**
- Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) models – 3D
  - Three dimensional with few simplifying assumptions
  - Landslide dynamics, complex rheology, and tsunami generation can be fully integrated



● ● Observed run-up  
— Modeled run-up

Gylfadottir et al. (2017), JGR

Rauter et al. (2021): 3D CFD model



# CFD model in OpenFOAM

Rauter et al. (2022)

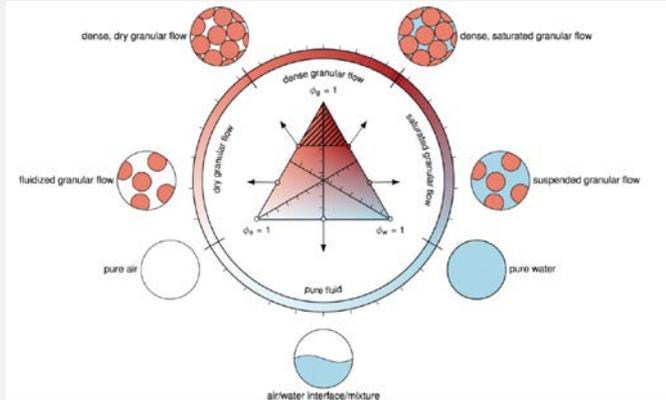
- As PhD student at NGI, Matthias Rauter developed a novel landslide tsunami model (funded by H2020 EU project SLATE)
- Models both the landslide and wave (generation, propagation and runup including water/particle interaction)
- Basis for filling gap in basic physical understanding



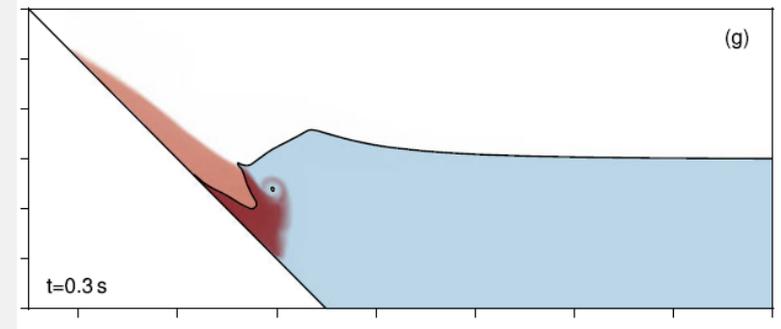
# Main aspects of the model

Rauter et al. (2022)

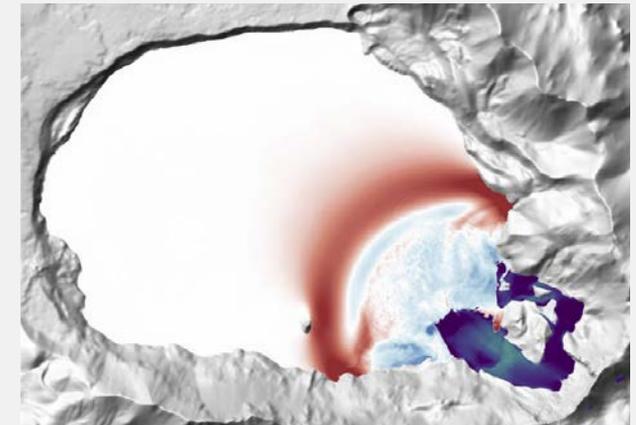
Multi-phase coupling,  
porous landslide



Simulating lab scale experiments



To full 3D simulations



Advanced landslide rheology from  
solid to granular behaviour

$$\nu_g = \mu(I) \frac{p_s}{2\phi\rho_g \|S_g\|},$$

$$\mu(I) = \mu_s + \frac{\mu_d - \mu_s}{I_0/I + 1},$$

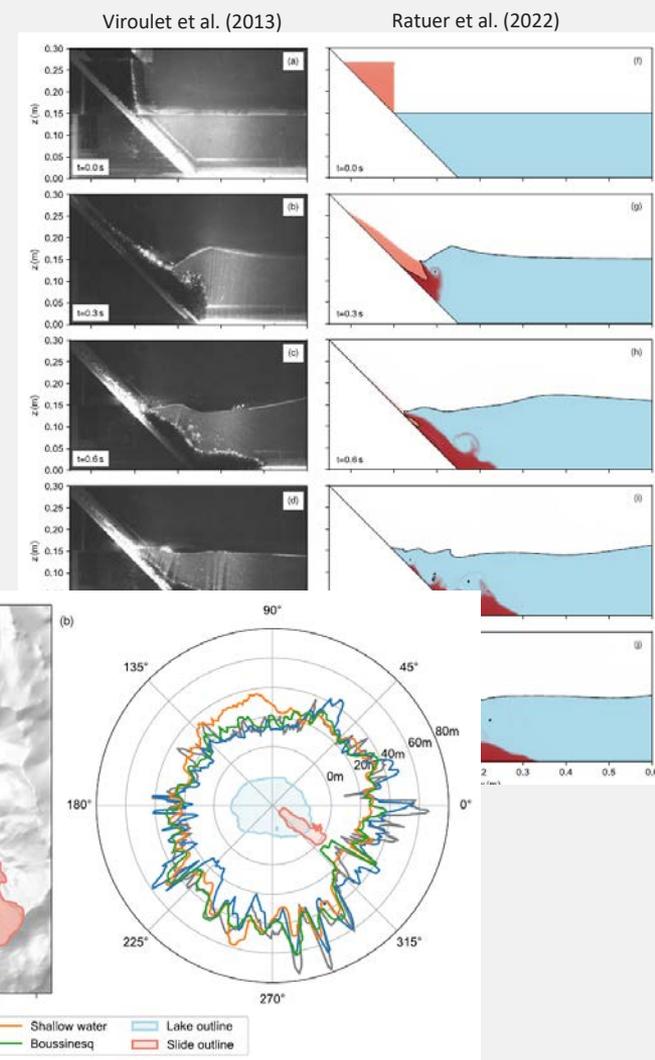
$$I = \frac{2d \|S_g\|}{\sqrt{p_s/\rho_g}}.$$

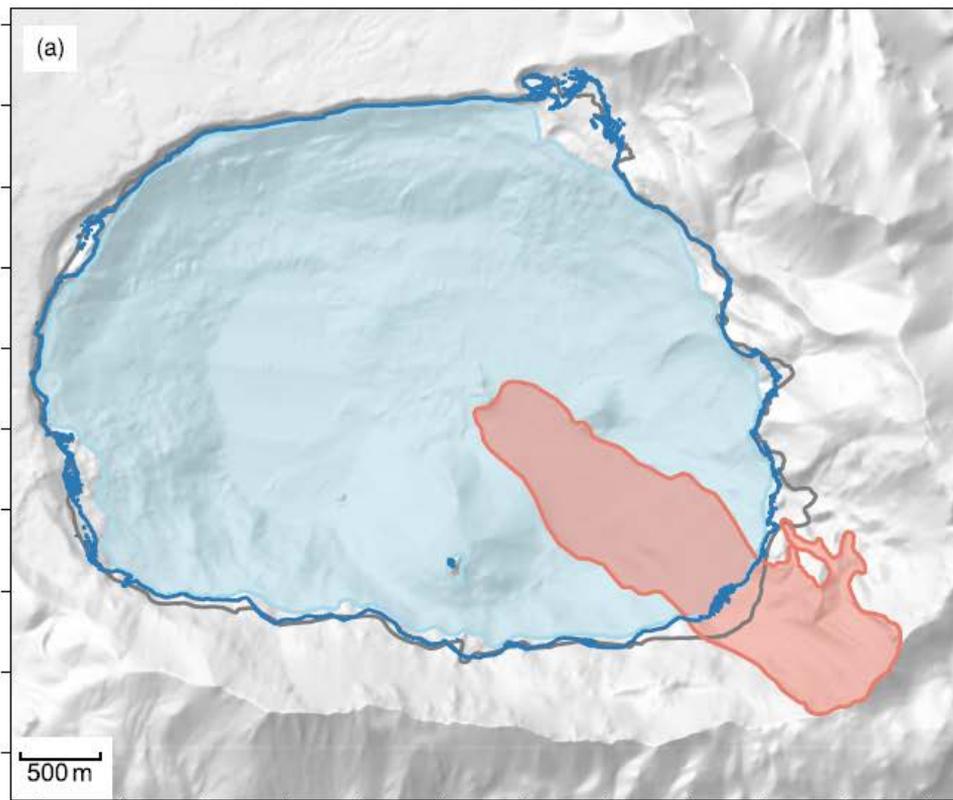
$$S_g = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla u_g + (\nabla u_g)^T) - \frac{1}{3}\nabla \cdot u_g \mathbf{I},$$

...

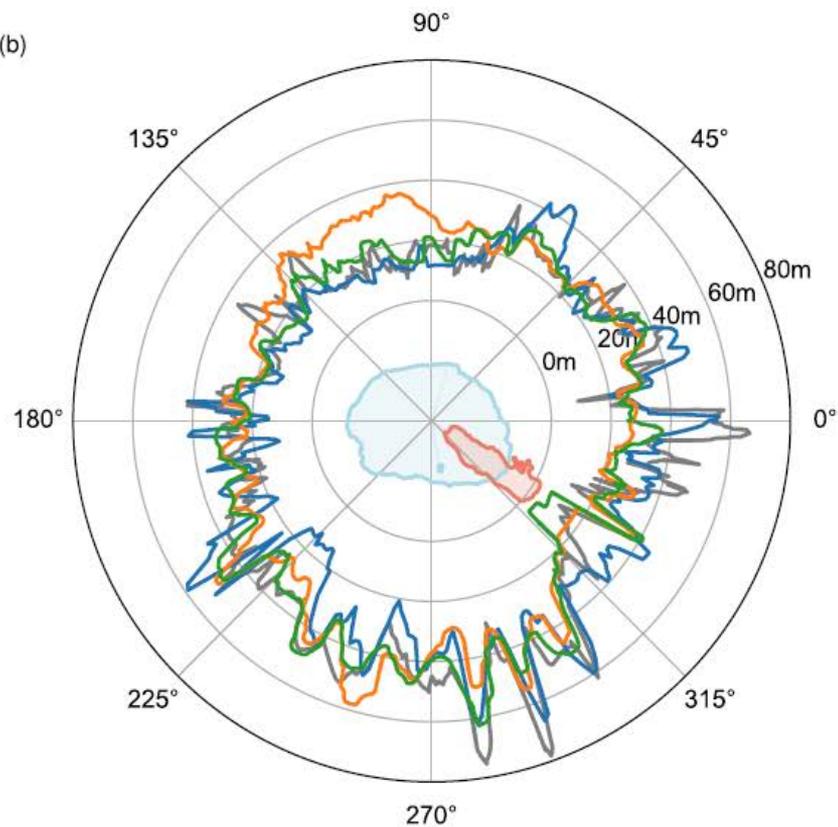
# Main scientific findings

- Matching consistently **both landslide AND tsunami observations** from the laboratory to the field scale
- Close agreement with both landslide run-out and wave observations
- Advanced landslide material behaviour, direct simulation with **no attempt to calibrate** the landslide parameters

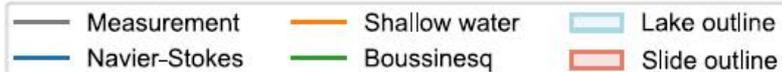




(b)

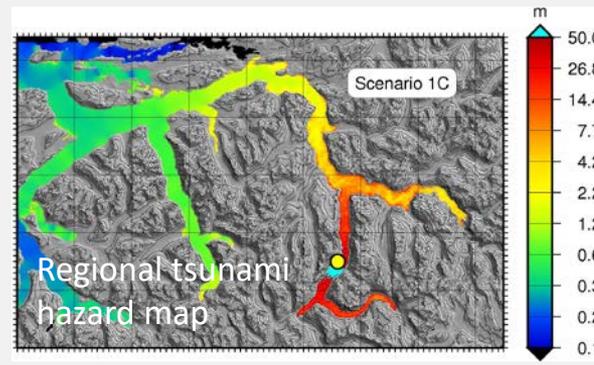
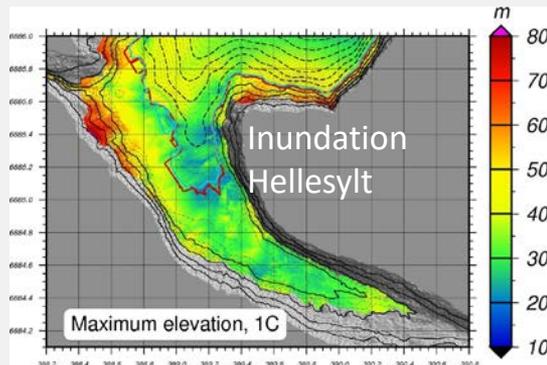
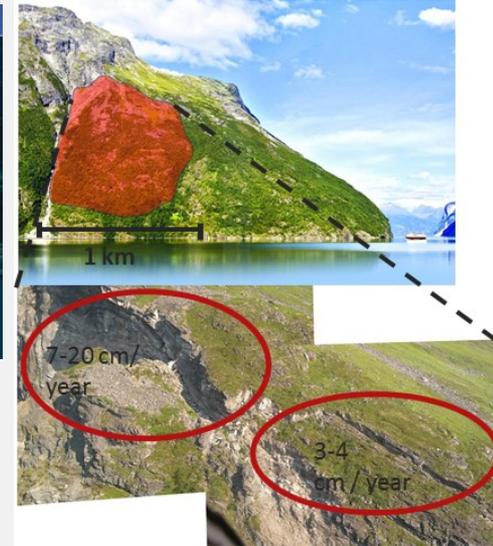


Rauter et al. (2022)

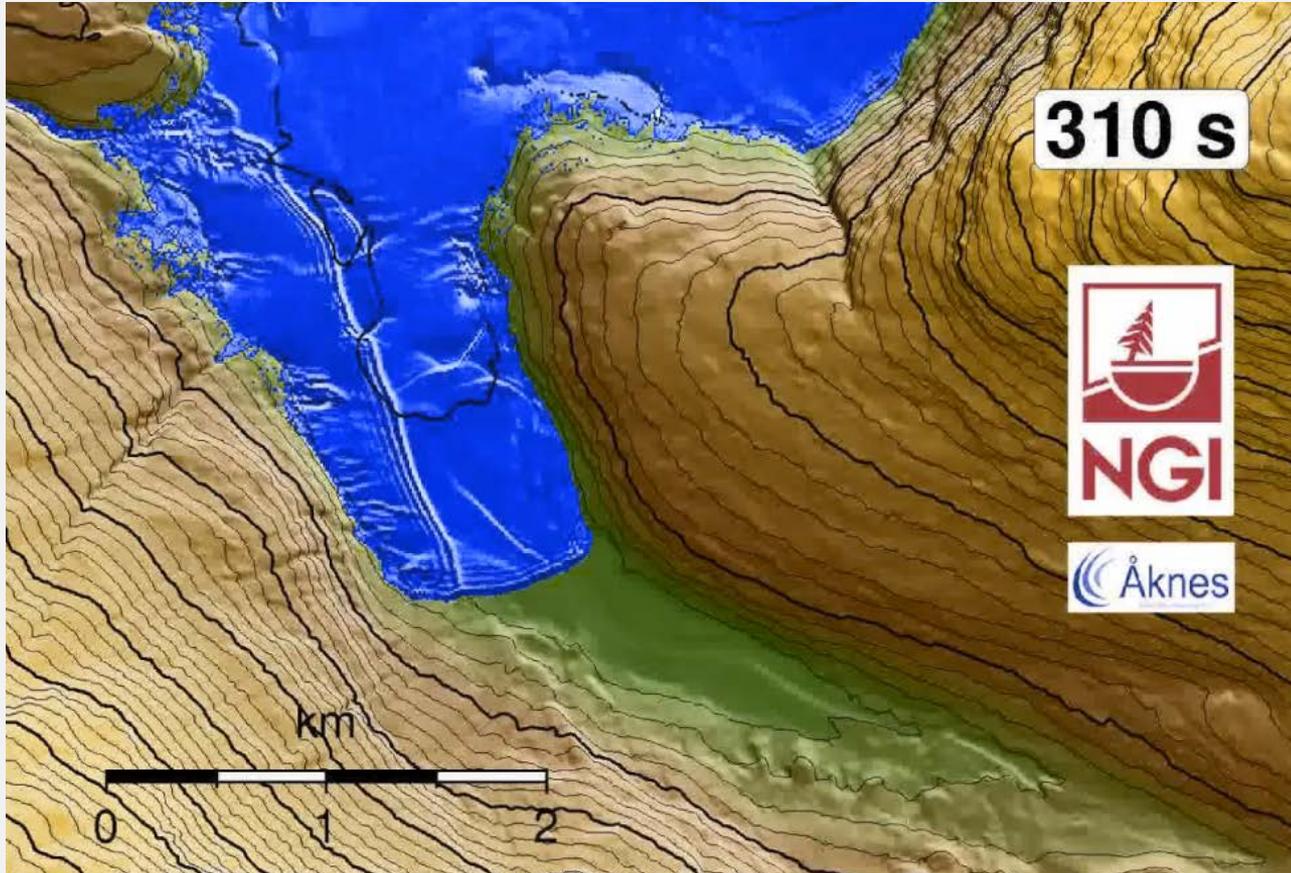


# The Åknes rockslide

- Unstable rock slope 150 - 900 m.a.s.l
- Large movements /deformations
- Largest volume > 50 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Advanced computational tools needed
- Laboratory experiments 2D and 3D
  - Calibration and verification of numerical models
- A large number of scenarios and locations analysed

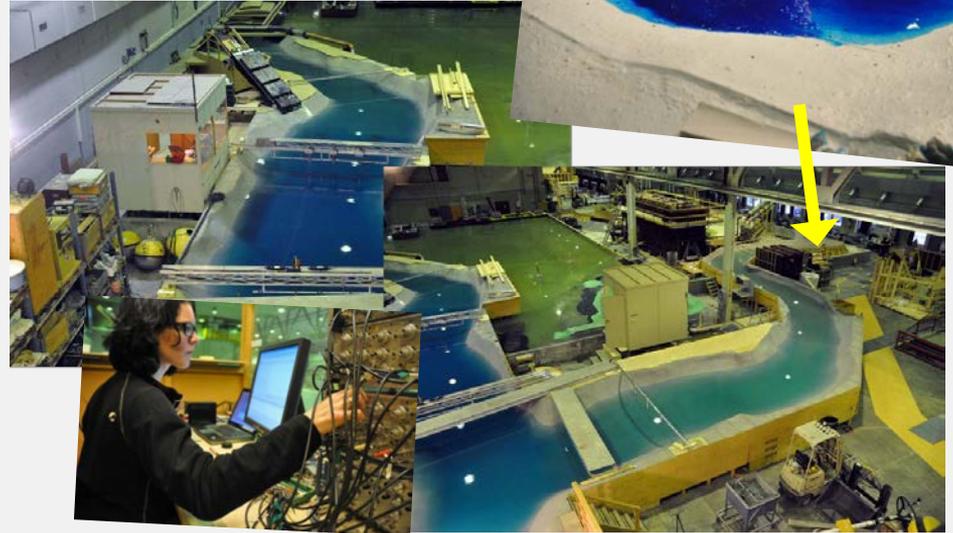
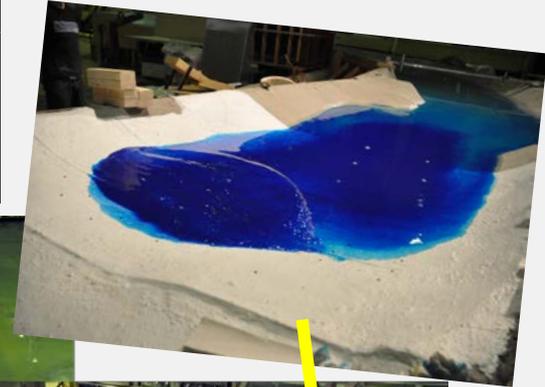
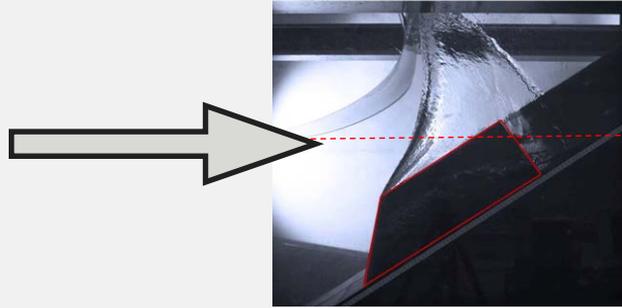


# Åknes tsunami – run-up in Hellesylt



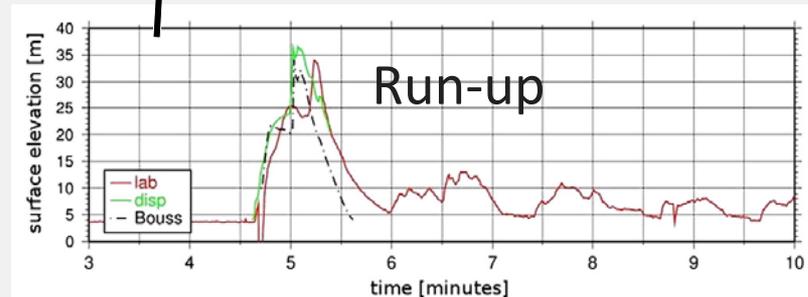
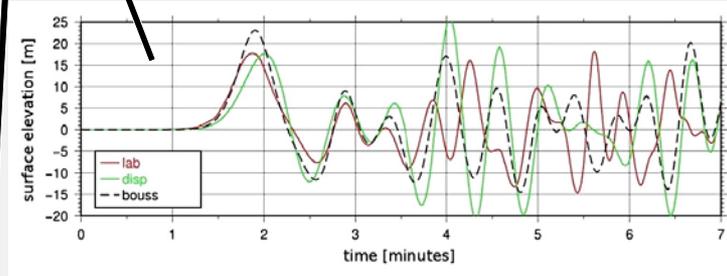
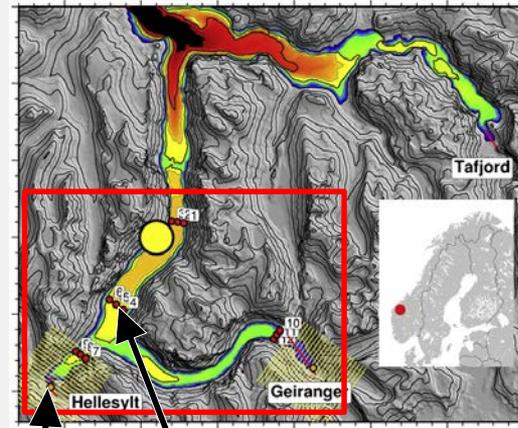
# Åknes – laboratory experiments

- ↗ 2D: Hydrodynamic laboratory, University of Oslo
- ↗ 3D: SINTEF – Coast and harbor laboratory
  - Scale 1:500
  - “block-slide”
- ↗ Validation of and input for numerical models



# Laboratory experiments vs. numerical models

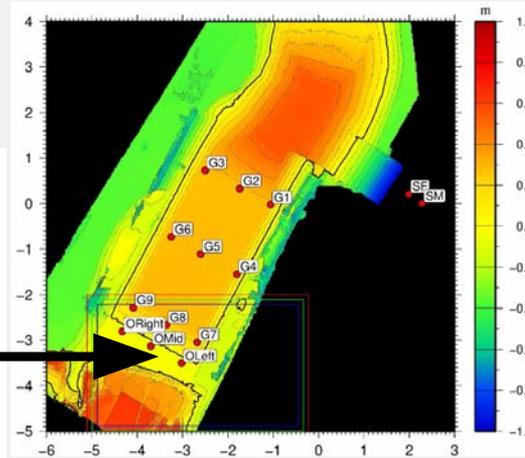
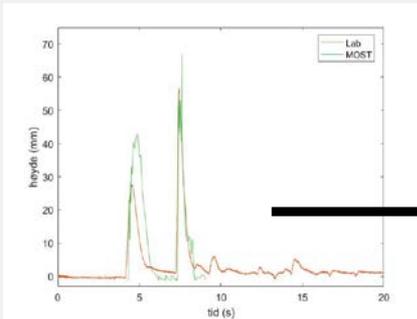
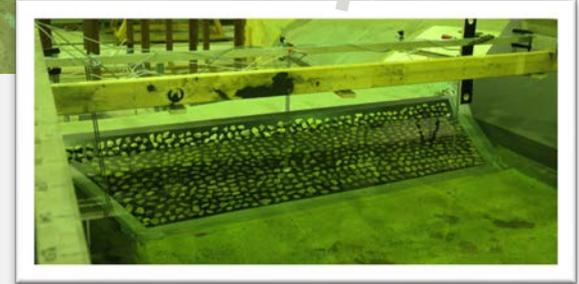
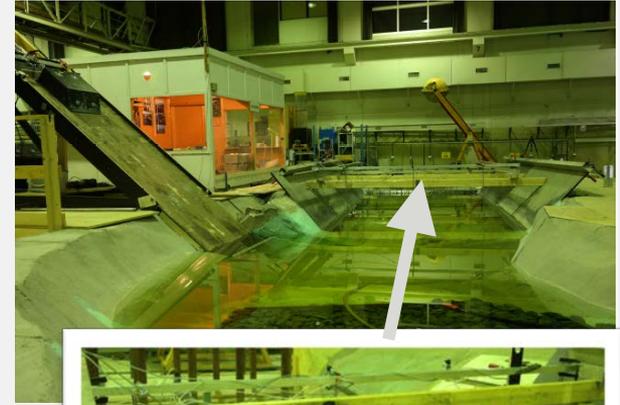
- Laboratory model inside red box
- Measured surface time histories both in fjord and in inundation area
- Demonstrate governing parameters for propagation and model benchmarking
- No tuning of numerical model – reproduce laboratory experiments as close as possible



# Dam overtopping

## – laboratory experiments vs. numerical modelling

- Master thesis
  - Ragnhild Hammeren (2016), NTNU, Trondheim
- Rebuild of Åknes model
- Numerical modelling by NGI

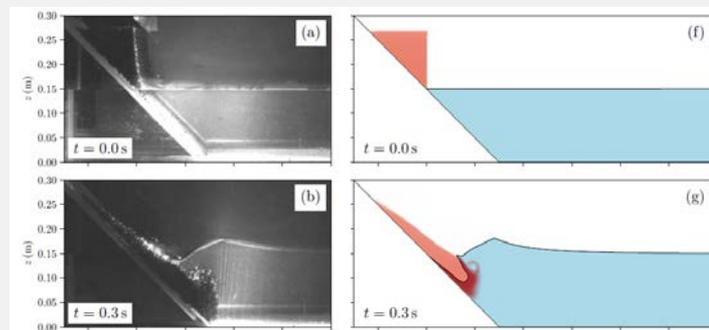


# Testing landslide tsunami models

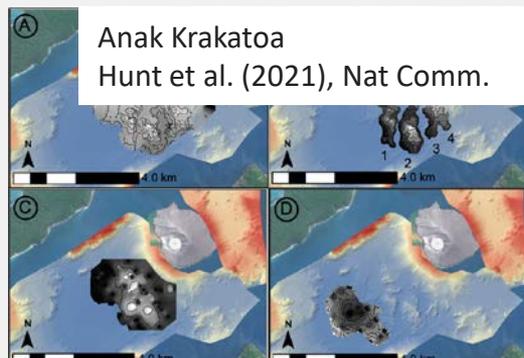
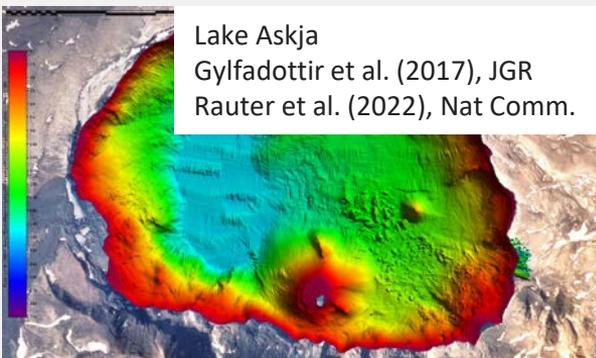
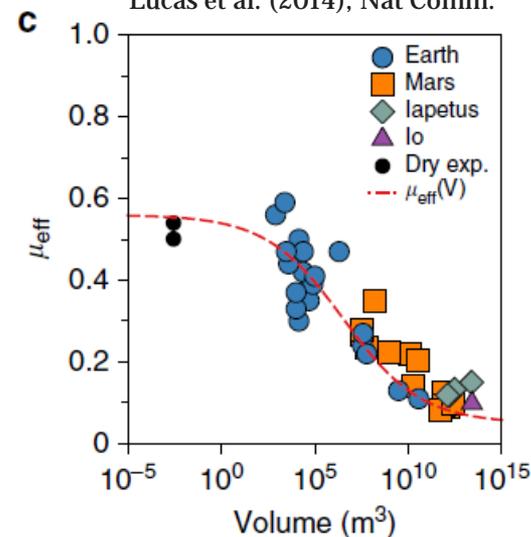
<http://www1.udel.edu/kirby/landslide/problems.html>

- Benchmark cases (NTHMP - US)
  - Mainly idealized laboratory
  - Tailored towards tsunami-genesis, less on landslide dynamics and material behavior
- Friction of landslides depends on its size, need modelling well documented full scale events
  - **Lake Askja 2014**: confined in lake, accurate volume and run-up measurements, “full scale lab”
  - Other examples, Taan fjord, Anak Krakatoa, ...

Rauter (2021), PhD Thesis



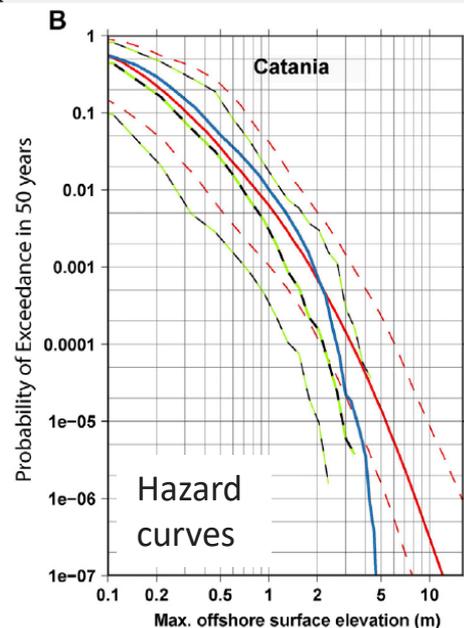
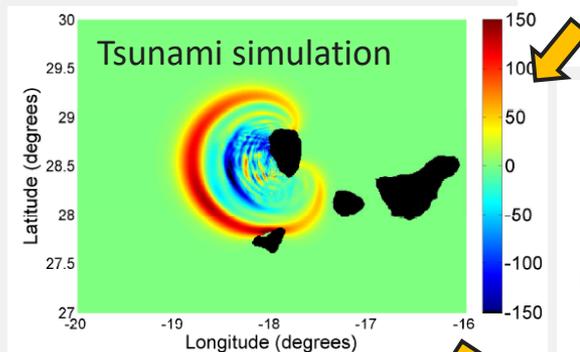
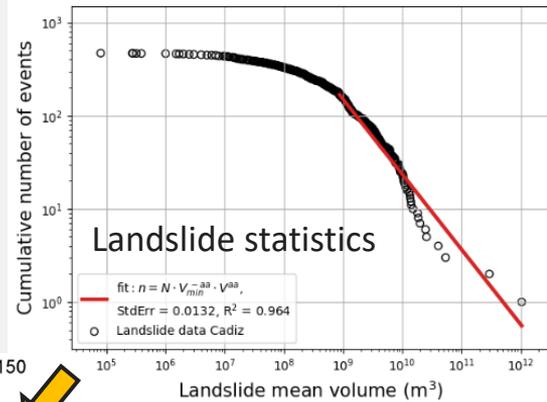
Lucas et al. (2014), Nat Comm.



# Landslide Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment (LPTHA)

## LPTHA in brief:

1. Generate a synthetic set of sources (different volumes and generation mechanisms)
2. Define annual source probabilities – use statistics of past data
3. Simulate the wave propagation for each source
4. Aggregate probabilities from all simulations to hazard curves

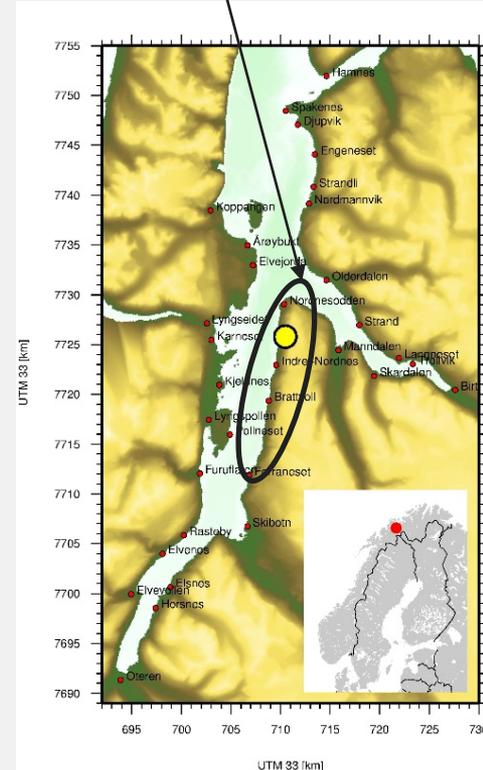


# Landslide Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Analysis (LPTHA) example

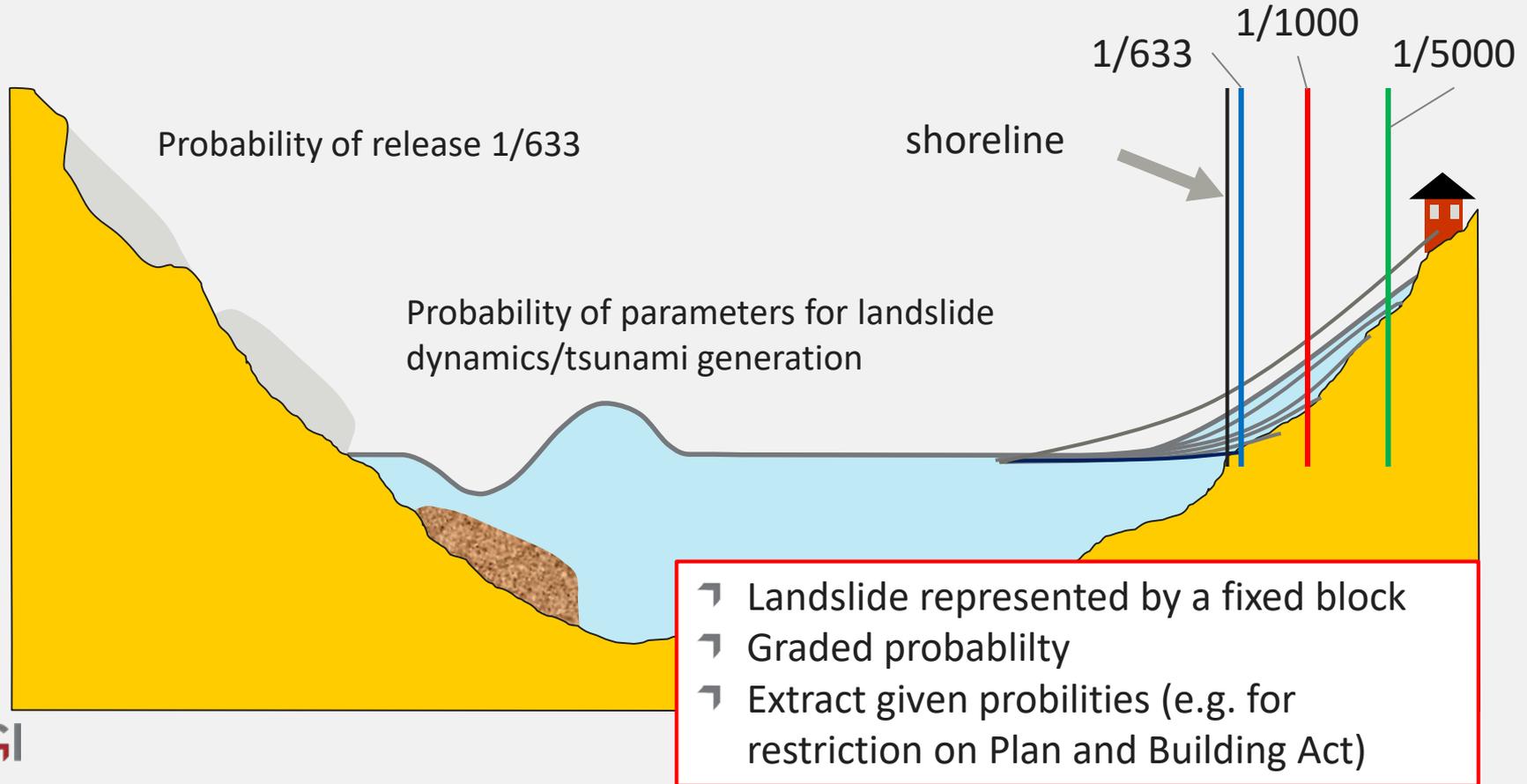
Løvholt et al., 2020, Landslides

- Goal – estimate tsunami probability of occurrence
- Include the uncertainties in forecasting
- Area of interest - Lyngen Norway
- Four different unstable rock slopes
  - Volumes 0.8-6 Mm<sup>3</sup>
  - Frequencies estimated prior to our analysis by means expert judgement
  - Average frequencies 1/633 yr<sup>-1</sup> -1/2315 yr<sup>-1</sup>

Unstable rock slopes



# Schematic LPTHA



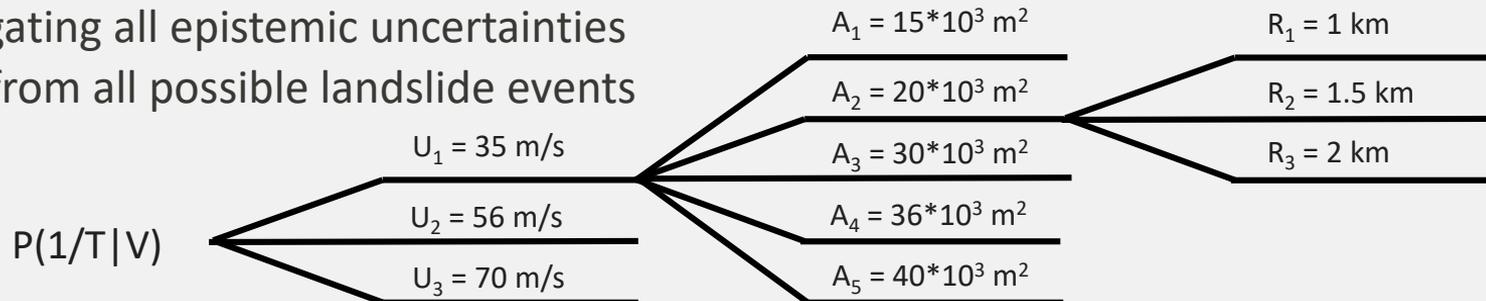
# Establishing and aggregating uncertainties

Løvholt et al., 2020, Landslides

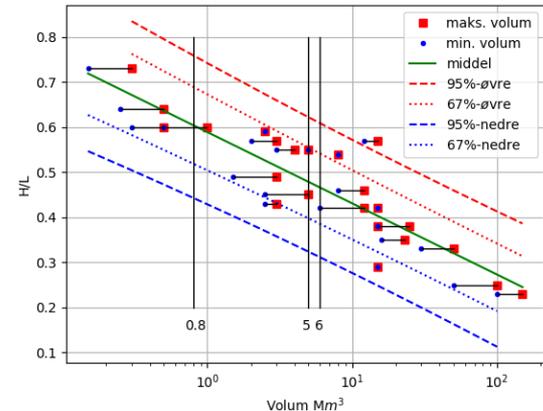
- Epistemic (systematic) uncertainty – landslide dynamics
  - Block slide – much more controlled behaviour of the slide (shape, run-out, velocity)
  - Run-out distance  $R$  – fitted towards past run-out
  - For the impact velocity  $U$  and frontal areas  $A$ : Sensitivity studies based on modelling and experience from modelling past events

## ➤ Event tree analysis

- Aggregating all epistemic uncertainties
- Rates from all possible landslide events

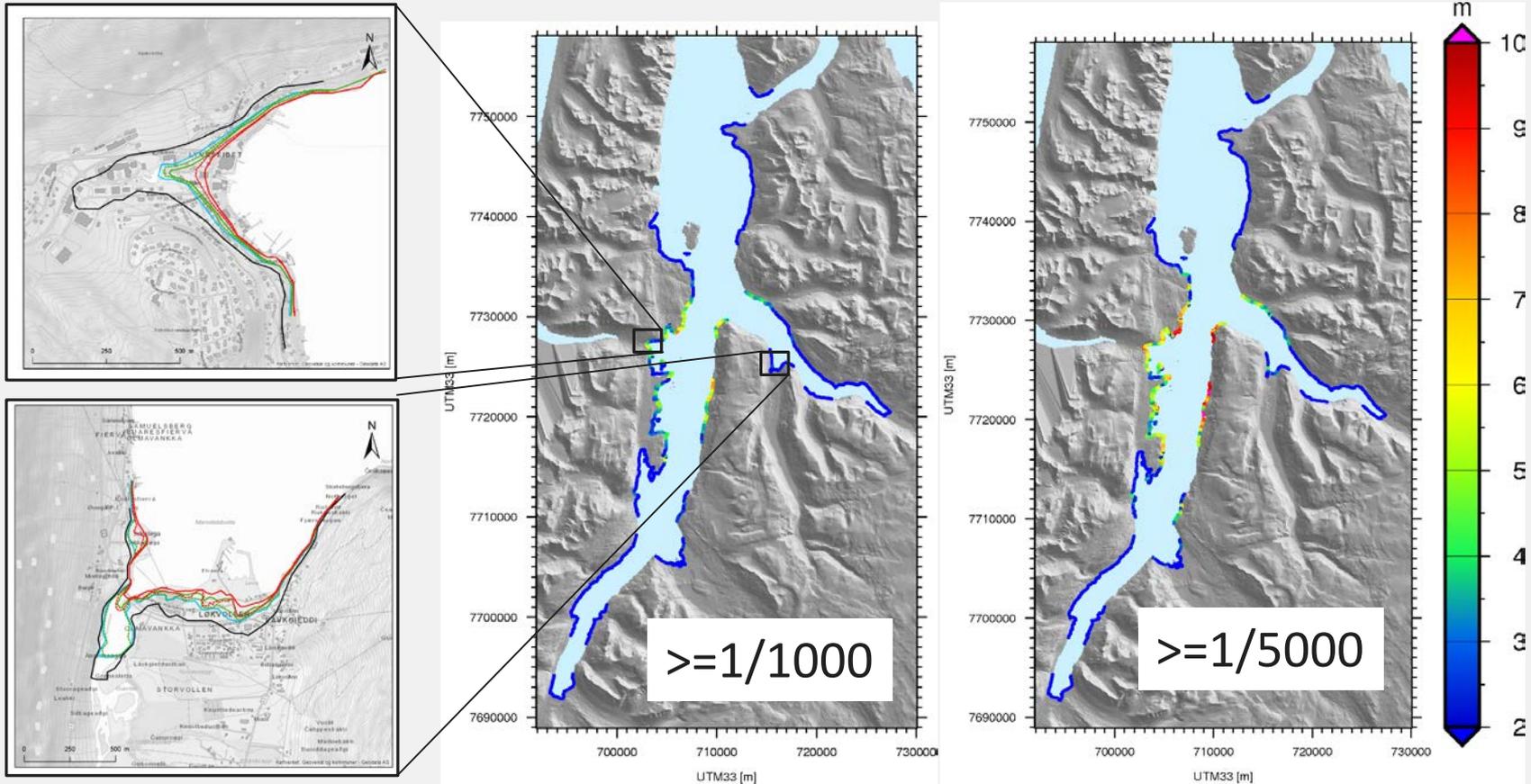


Uncertainty in landslide run-out distance ( $H/L$ ) from past data



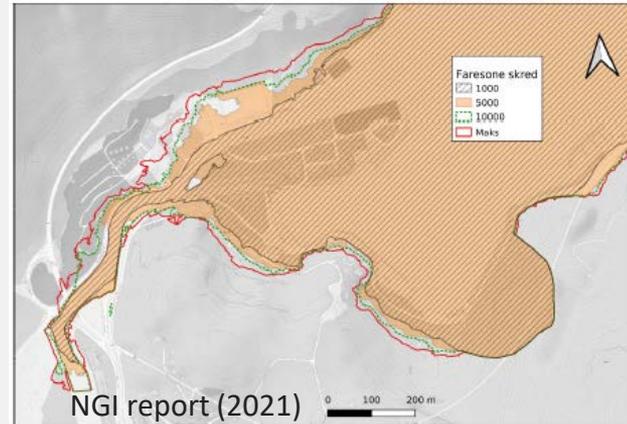
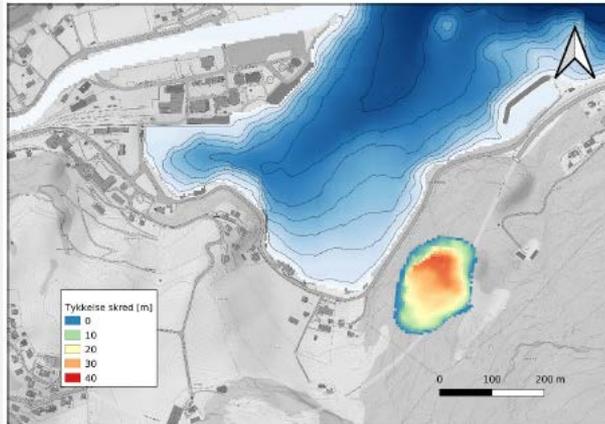
# LPTHA results for Lyngen – local inundation analysis aggregated: 31 locations x 600 events

Løvholt et al., 2020, Landslides



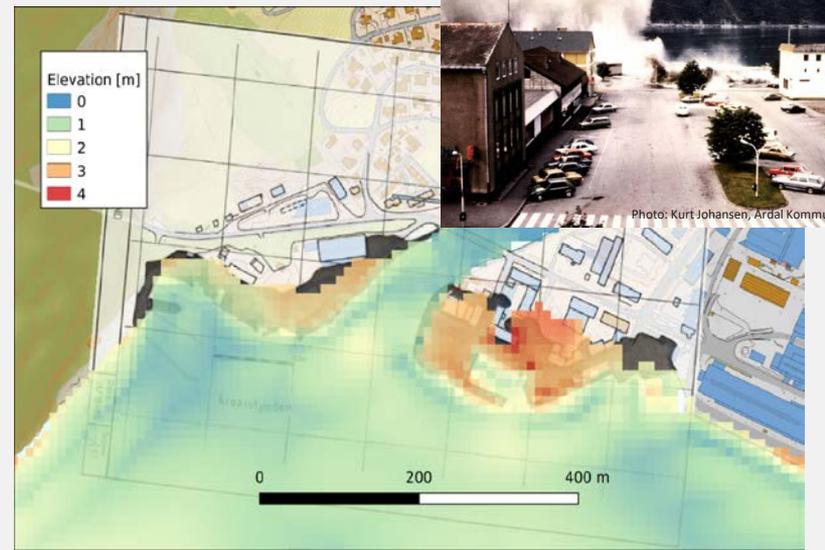
# Example Stiksmoen, Flåm – western Norway

- ↗ 400.000 m<sup>3</sup>
- ↗ Estimated annual probability of release,  $p=1/240$
- ↗ Maximum line – highest runup of all 600 scenarios ( $p \rightarrow 0$ )
  - Worst case scenario?
  - Used for evaluation of evacuation zones and locations for critical infrastructure (e.g. hospital,  $p=0$ )



# Calibration of LPTHA

- ↗ LPTHA for Norwegian landslide tsunamis
- ↗ Ongoing work
- ↗ Using known and documented events
- ↗ Systematic analysis
  - Common correction factors to frontal area?
  - Calibrate the LPTHA so that the event is close to the median values of the runup?
- ↗ Using both the OpenFOAM model in addition to depth averaged models for landslide and tsunami



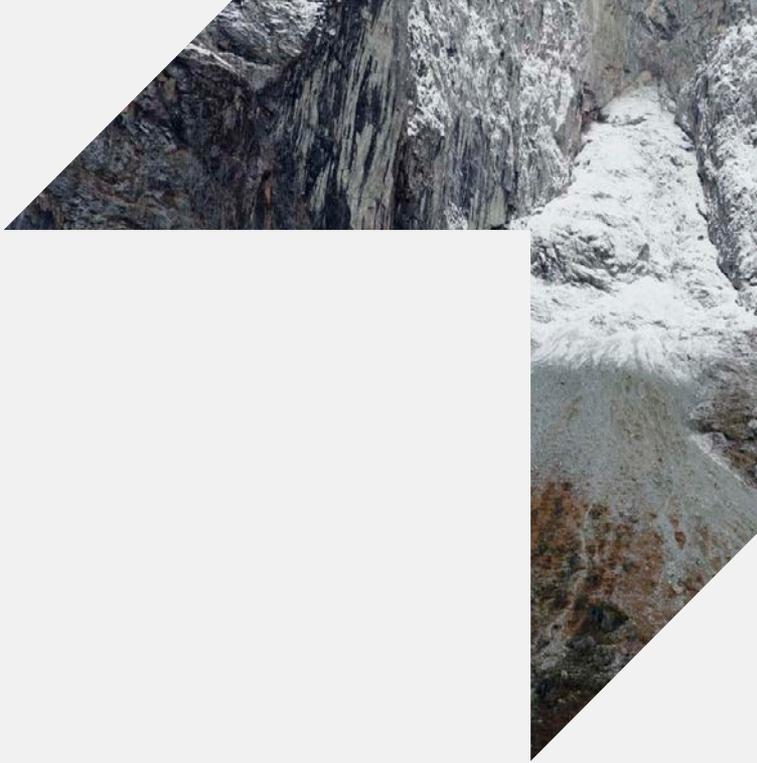
- ✓ Skafjell, 1731
- ✓ Tjelle, 1756
- ✓ Taford, 1934
- ✓ Rissa 1978
- ✓ **Årdalstangen, 1983**
- ✓ Katlenova, 1998
- ✓ Statland, 2014
- ✓ Geiranger, 2017

# Tsunamis in reservoirs

- ↪ Main modelling issues in a fjord are also present in a lake/reservoir
- ↪ Tsunami origin both from subaerial and submarine landslides
- ↪ Models for tsunami run-up can handle ***dam overtopping***
  - Calculate forces on dam itself and infrastructures on dam crown during overtopping
  - Can also be coupled to modelling of the downstream flooding
- ↪ LPTHA is a good methodology for treating uncertainties systematically also for reservoirs
  - Most likely or worst case scenario, or a given return period?

# Conclusions

- ↗ Landslide dynamics accounts for large variability
  - Wide range of sources and mechanisms - more complex and diverse than earthquakes
- ↗ Systematic uncertainty is linked to material parameters and hydrodynamic resistance
- ↗ Hindcasting past landslide run-out implies large uncertainties
- ↗ Tsunami data can be used to narrow down this uncertainty range
- ↗ With better models, we are on the pathway to understand well the generation mechanisms, but difficulty remains
  - Scaling up from the lab
  - Incorporating real geomaterial behaviour and phase transitions
- ↗ LPTHA is the most rational tool to manage these uncertainties in forecasting





#påsikkergrunn