



HIGH-RESOLUTION PROJECTIONS OF EXTREME SEA LEVEL CHANGES ALONG THE COASTS OF WESTERN EUROPE

**Alisée Chaigneau ^{1,2}, Angélique Melet ², Aurore Voldoire ¹, Stéphane Law-Chune ²,
Guillaume Reffray ², Lotfi Aouf ³**

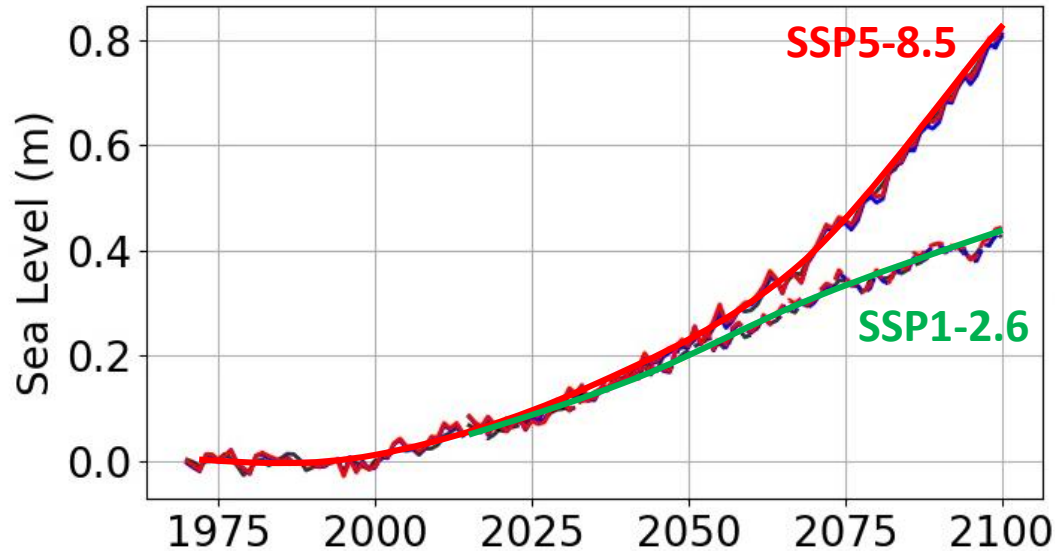
¹ CNRM UMR 3589, Météo-France/CNRS, Toulouse, France.

² Mercator Ocean International, Toulouse, France.

³ Météo-France, Toulouse, France.

CONTEXT - INTRODUCTION

Sea level rise (SLR) = key indicator of climate change (*World Meteorological Organization*)

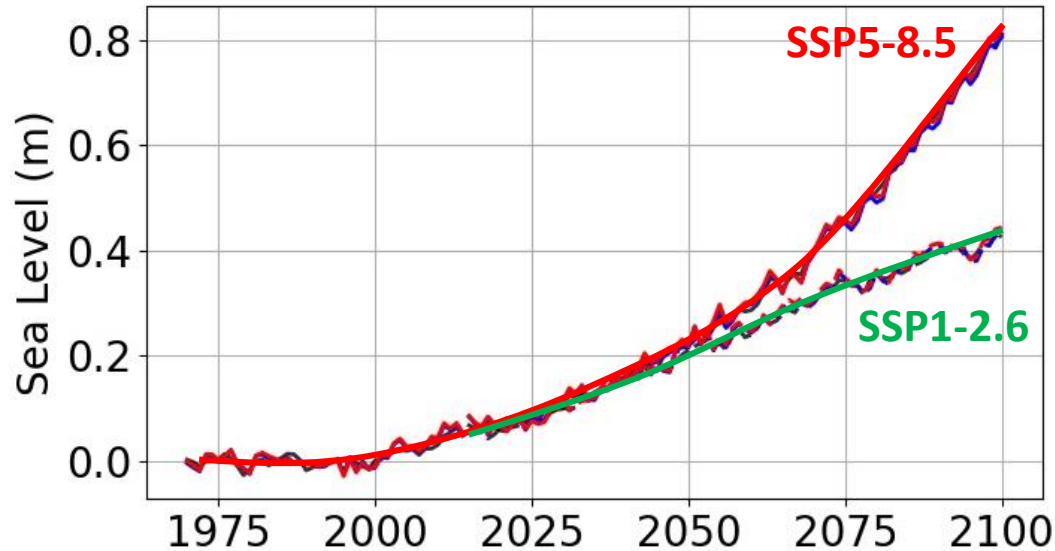


*Projections of mean sea level over the north-eastern Atlantic domain
Adapted from Chaigneau et al., 2022a*

- Hazards :
- **Increased frequency of extreme sea levels**
 - Marine flooding
 - Salinization of lands
 - Erosion
 - Disappearance of coastal ecosystems

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- Hazards :
 - Increased frequency of extreme sea levels
 - Marine flooding
 - Salinization of lands
 - Erosion
 - Disappearance of coastal ecosystems

- Exposure :
 - 10% of the world's population living in low-lying coastal areas (*McMichael et al., 2020*)
 - In Europe : **200 million people involved** (*Vousdoukas et al., 2020*)

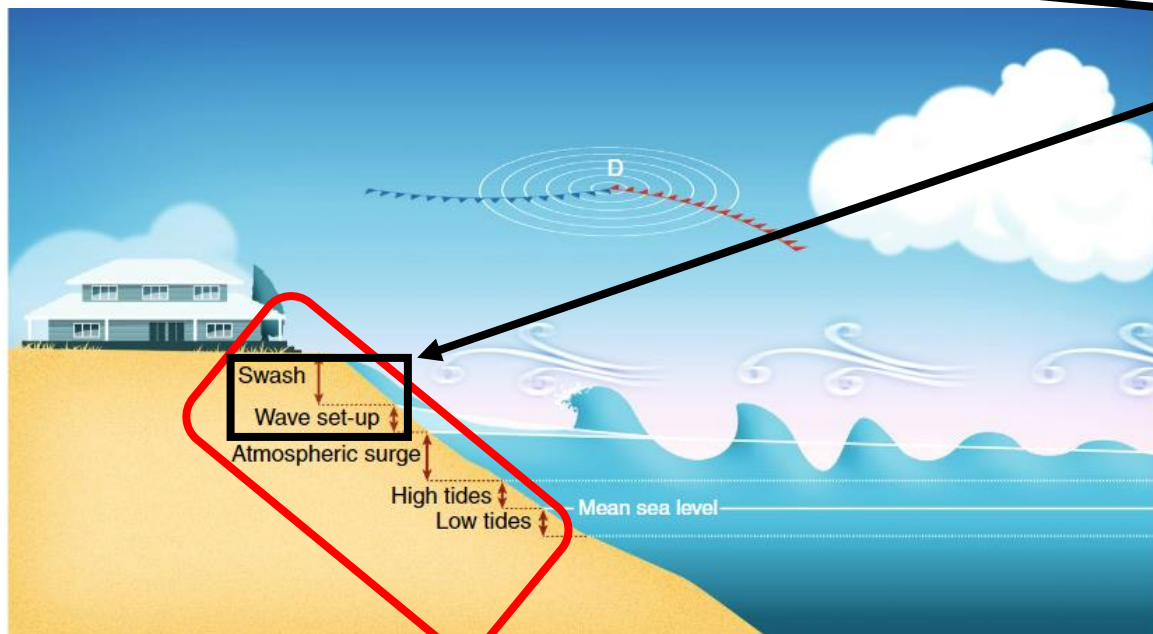
➤ **Projections of extreme sea levels (ESLs) needed**

SCIENTIFIC CONTEXT – STATE OF ART

Coastal water level changes =

Regional processes + **Coastal processes** (Woodworth et al., 2019; Dodet et al., 2019; Lowe et al., 2021,...)

+ **interactions** (Idier et al., 2019; Arns et al., 2020; Arns et al., 2017; Staneva et al., 2016; Marcos et al., 2019; Lewis et al., 2019,...)



often not considered for projections of ESLs

(Muis et al., 2020; Colberg et al., 2019; Fox-Kemper et al., 2021; Kirezci et al., 2020; Vousdoukas et al., 2018;...)

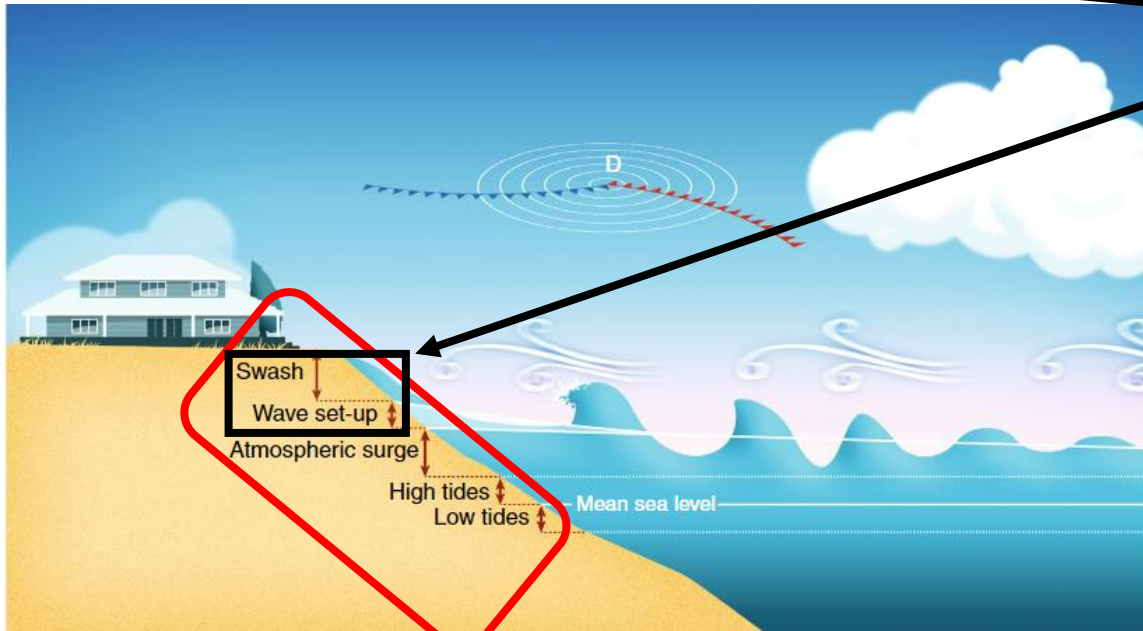
Processes contributing to coastal water level changes

Melet et al., 2018

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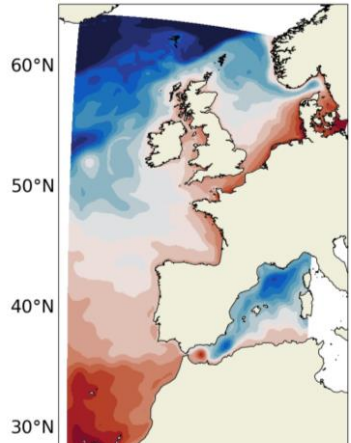
(Muis et al., 2020; Colberg et al., 2019; Fox-Kemper et al., 2021; Kirezci et al., 2020; Vousdoukas et al., 2018;...)

Aim : At **regional scale**, ESLs projections based on a model that includes :

- the **different contributions** at the coast: tides, atmospheric surge and **waves**
- the **interactions** between these processes

Processes contributing to coastal water level changes
Melet et al., 2018

SEA LEVEL SIMULATIONS 1970-2100, SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6



Chaigneau et al., 2022a

Regional ocean model

(1/12° - 75 lev)

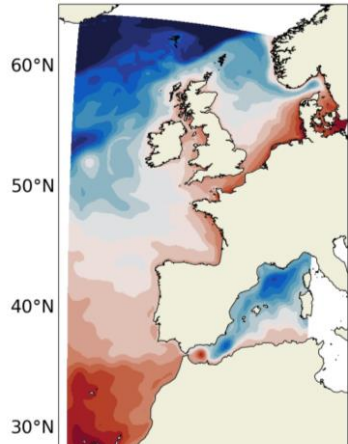
IBI-CCS



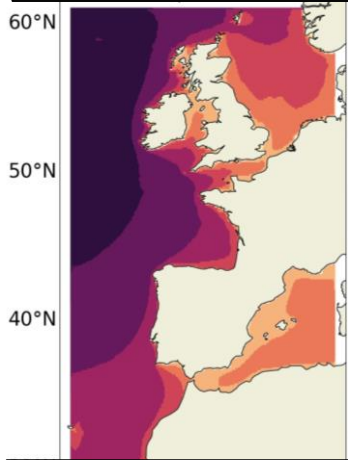
Water Level (WL) :

- Mean Sea Level
- Tides
- Storm surge

SEA LEVEL SIMULATIONS 1970-2100, SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6



Chaigneau et al., 2022a



Chaigneau et al., 2022b, in prep

Regional ocean model
(1/12° - 75 lev)

IBI-CCS

Currents

Currents
& Sea level



Water Level (WL) :

- Mean Sea Level
- Tides
- Storm surge

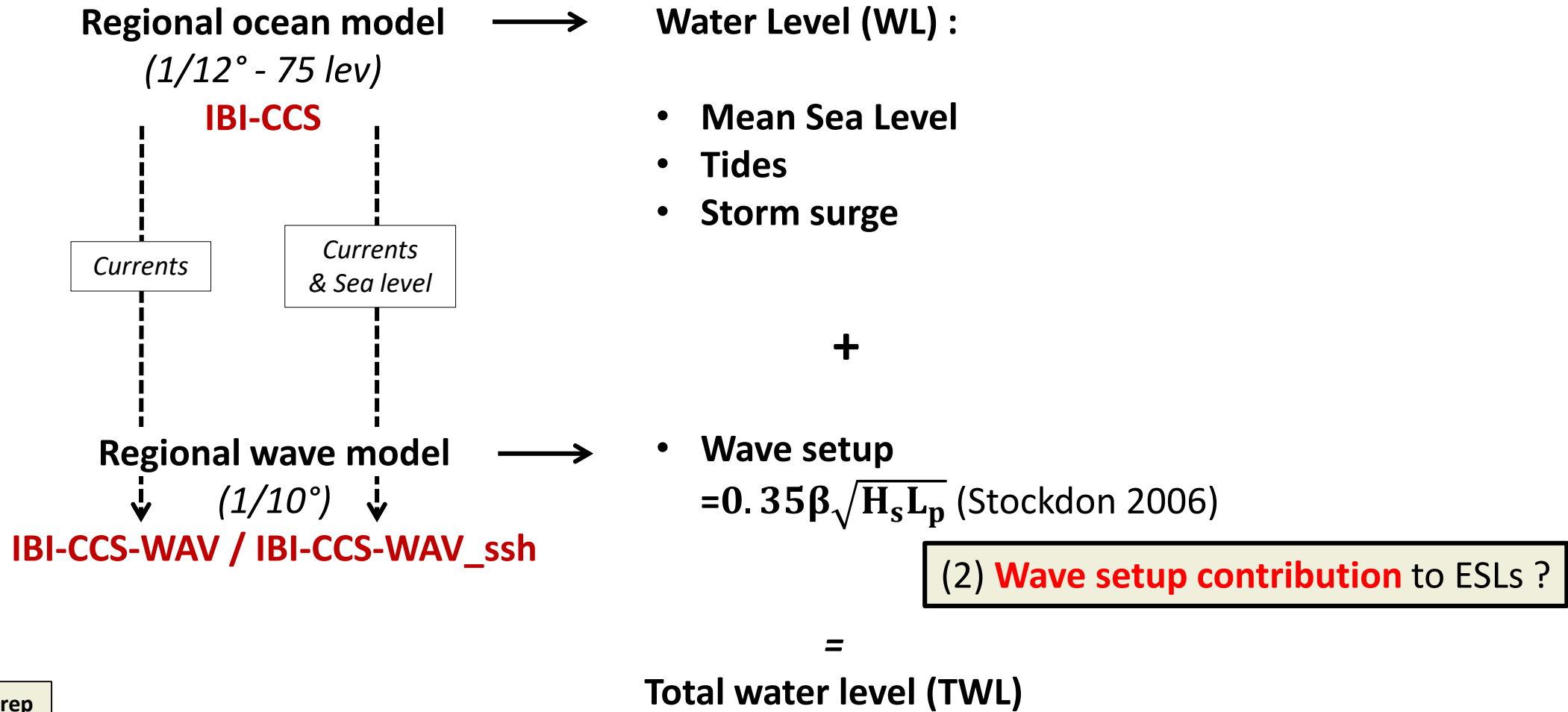
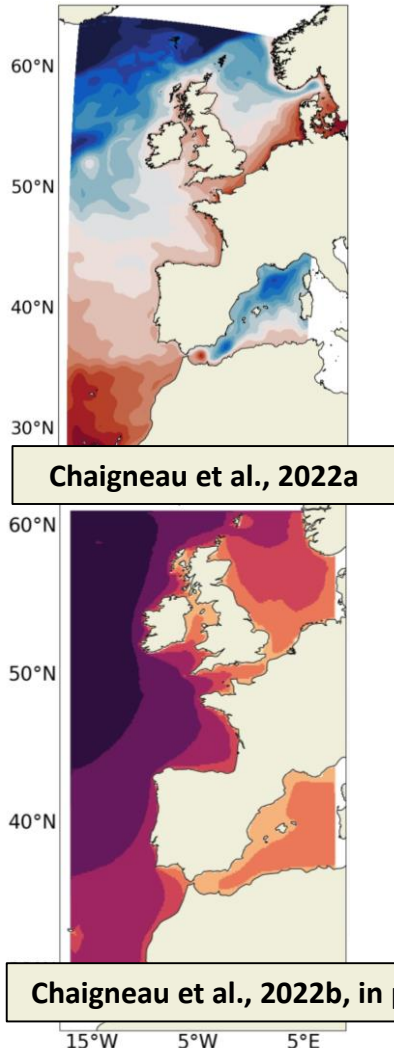
(1) Waves-sea level **non-linear interactions** ?

Regional wave model

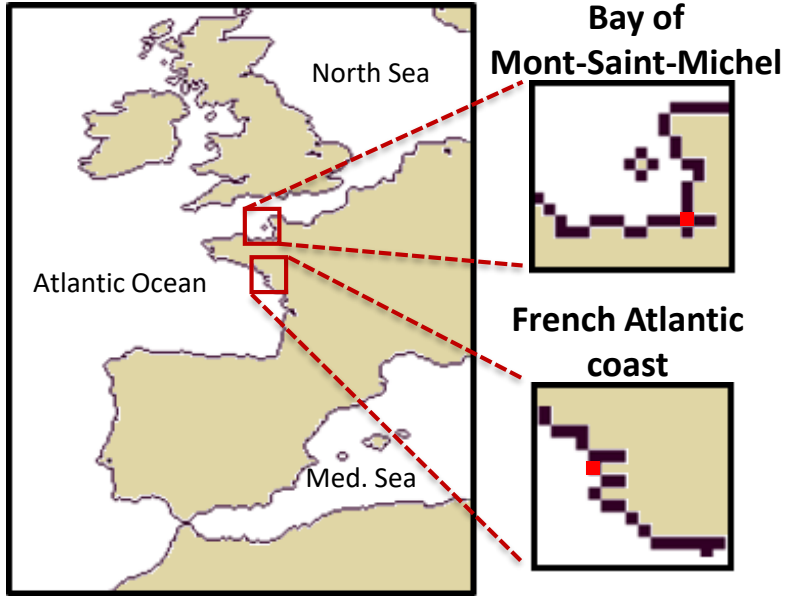
(1/10°)

IBI-CCS-WAV / IBI-CCS-WAV_ssh

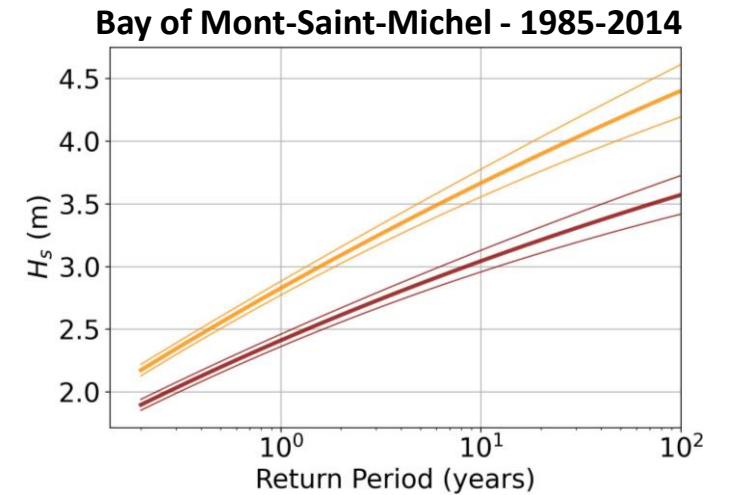
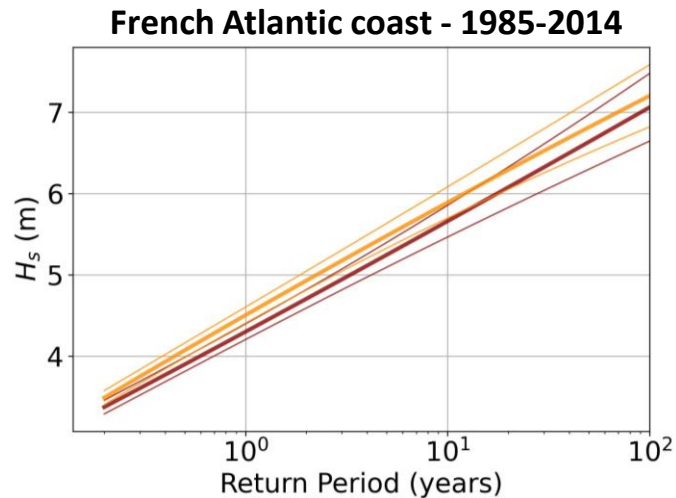
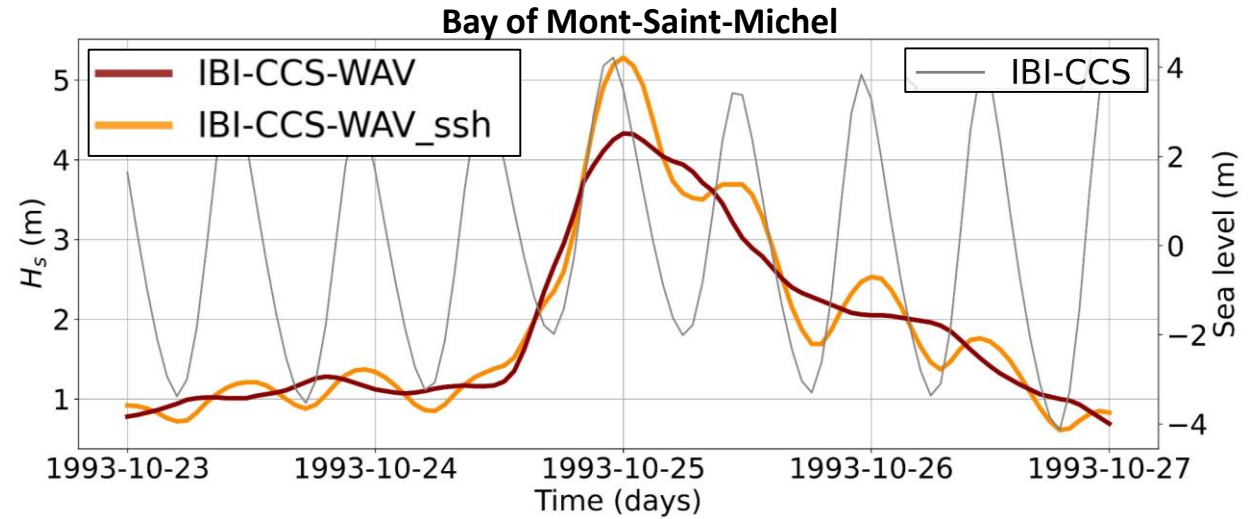
SEA LEVEL SIMULATIONS 1970-2100, SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6



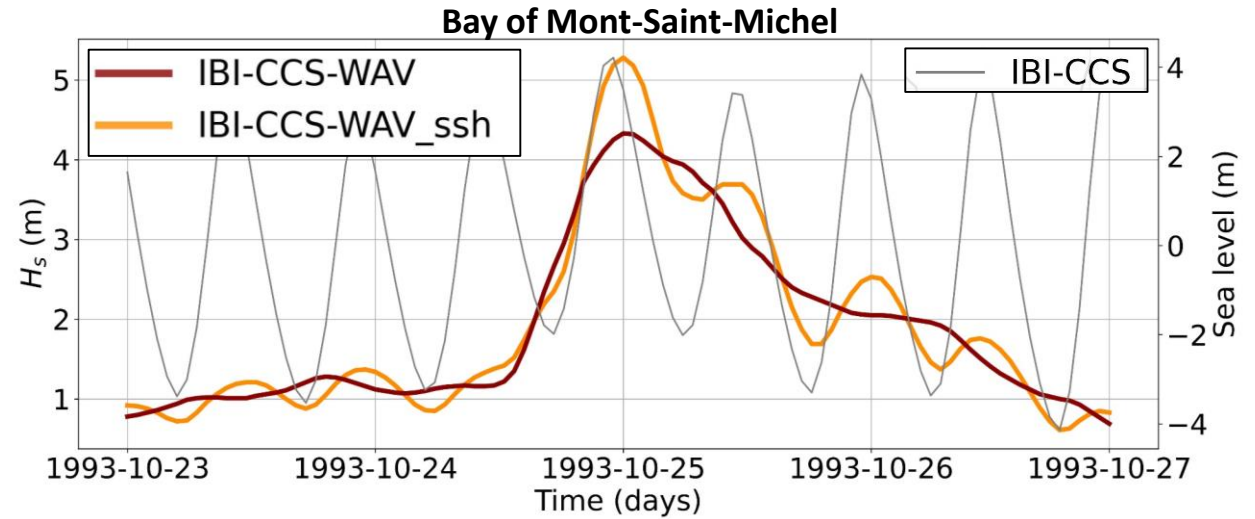
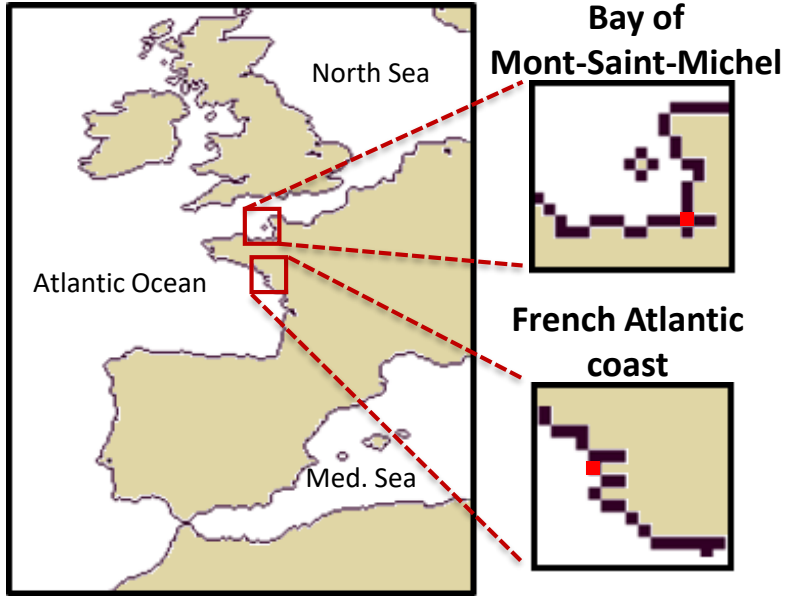
RESULTS : WAVES-SEA LEVEL NON-LINEAR INTERACTIONS



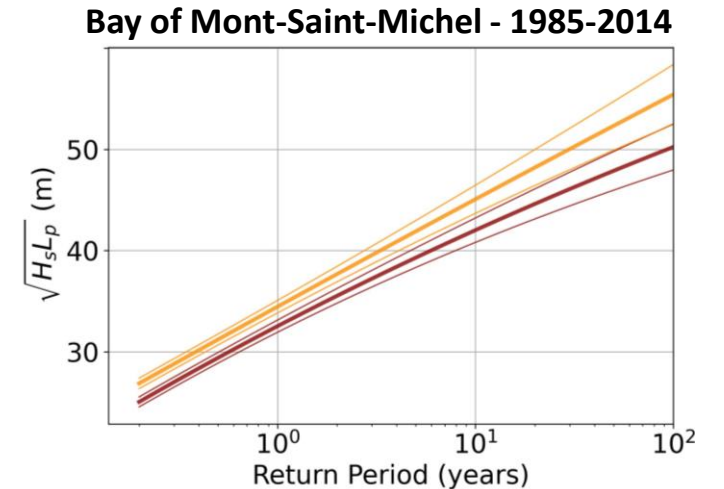
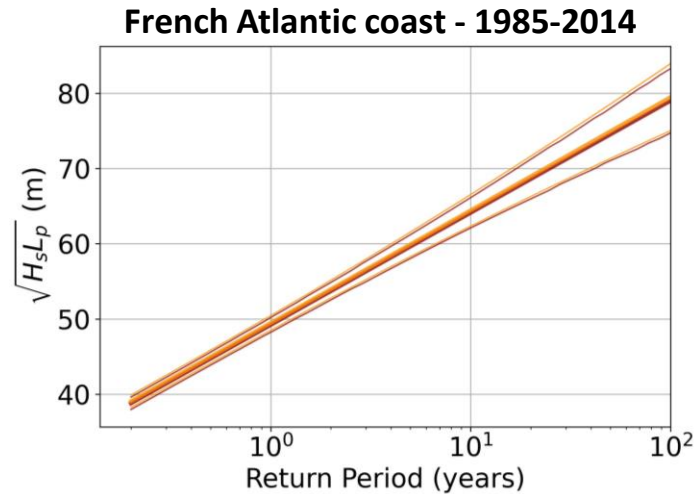
**SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT :
(H_s)**



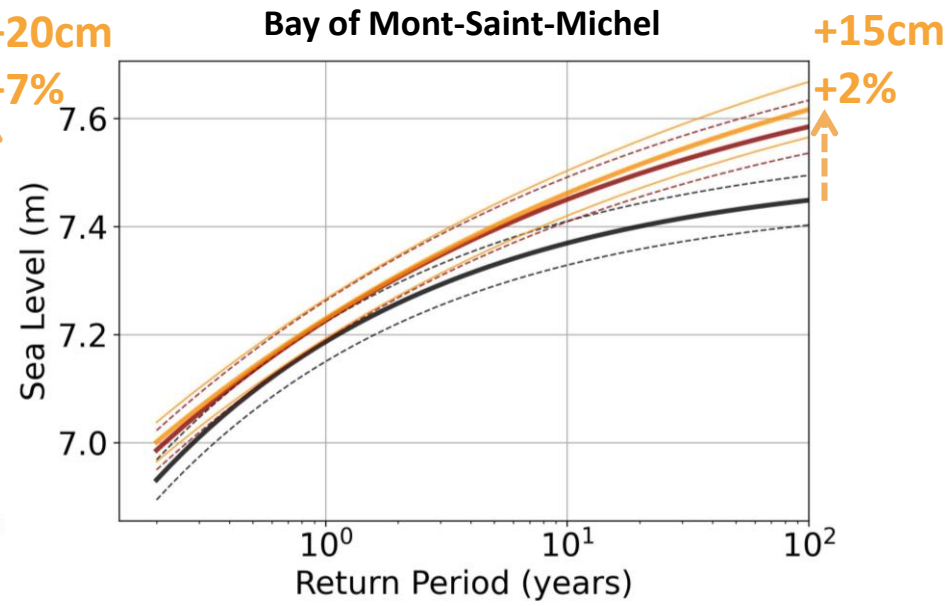
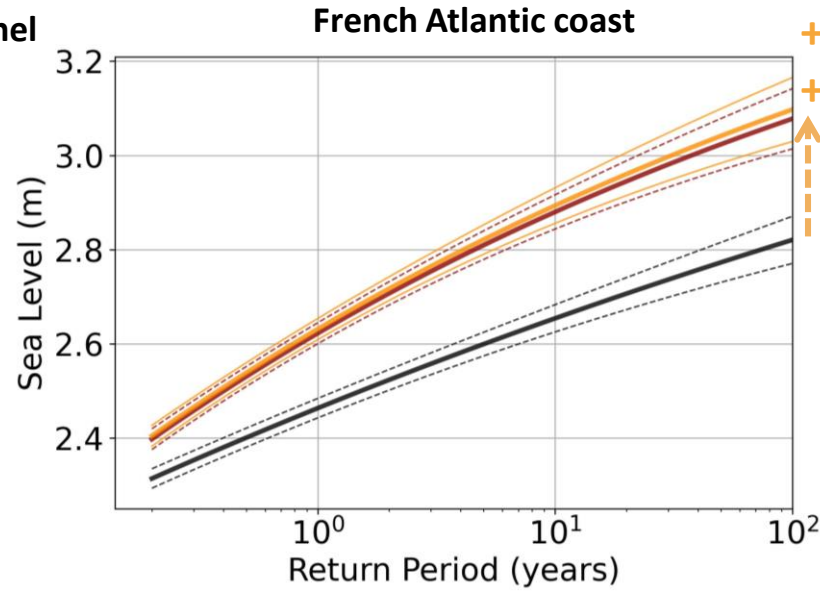
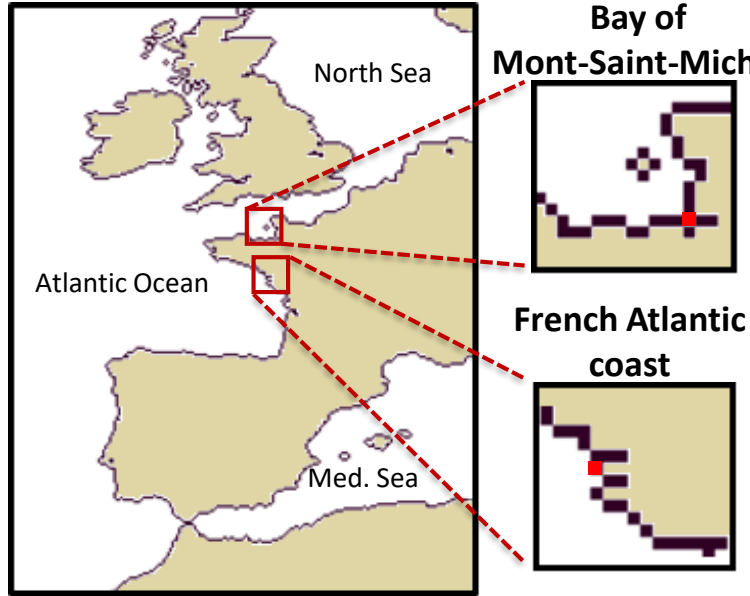
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WAVE SETUP SCALING:
 (\sqrt{HsLp})

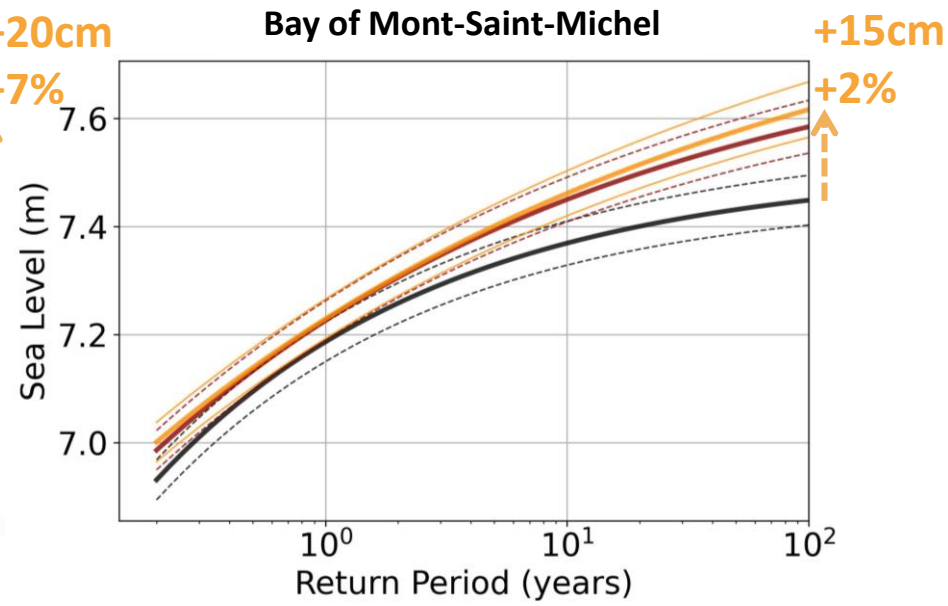
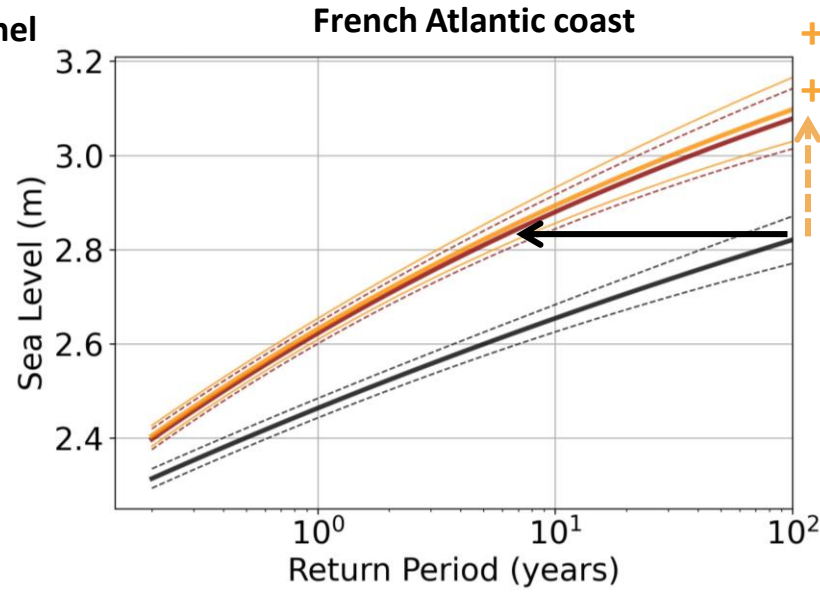
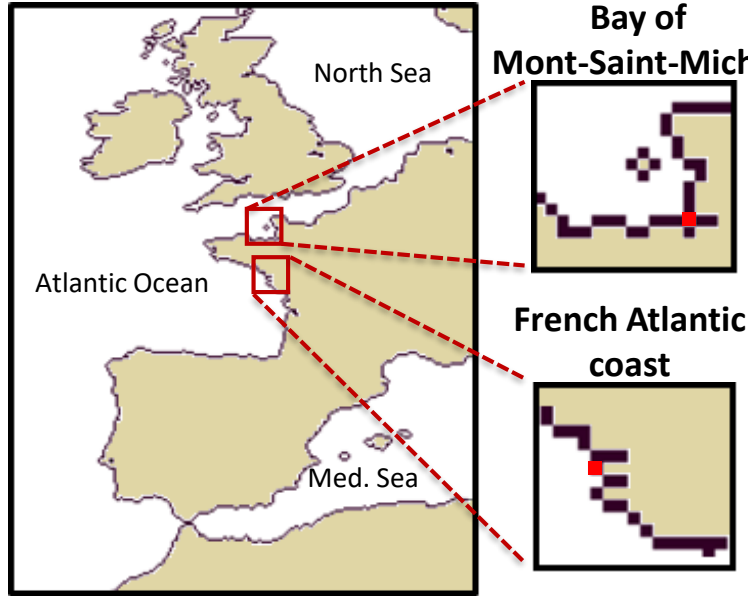


RESULTS : HISTORICAL ESLs RETURN LEVELS (1985-2014)



- IBI-CCS (WL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS-WAV(TWL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS-WAV_ssh(TWL)

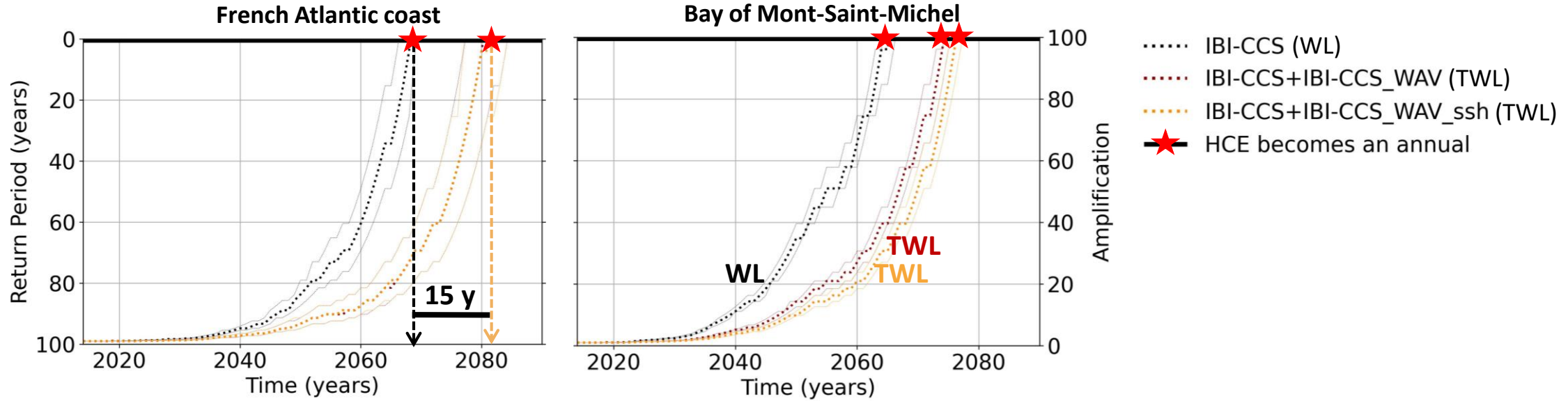
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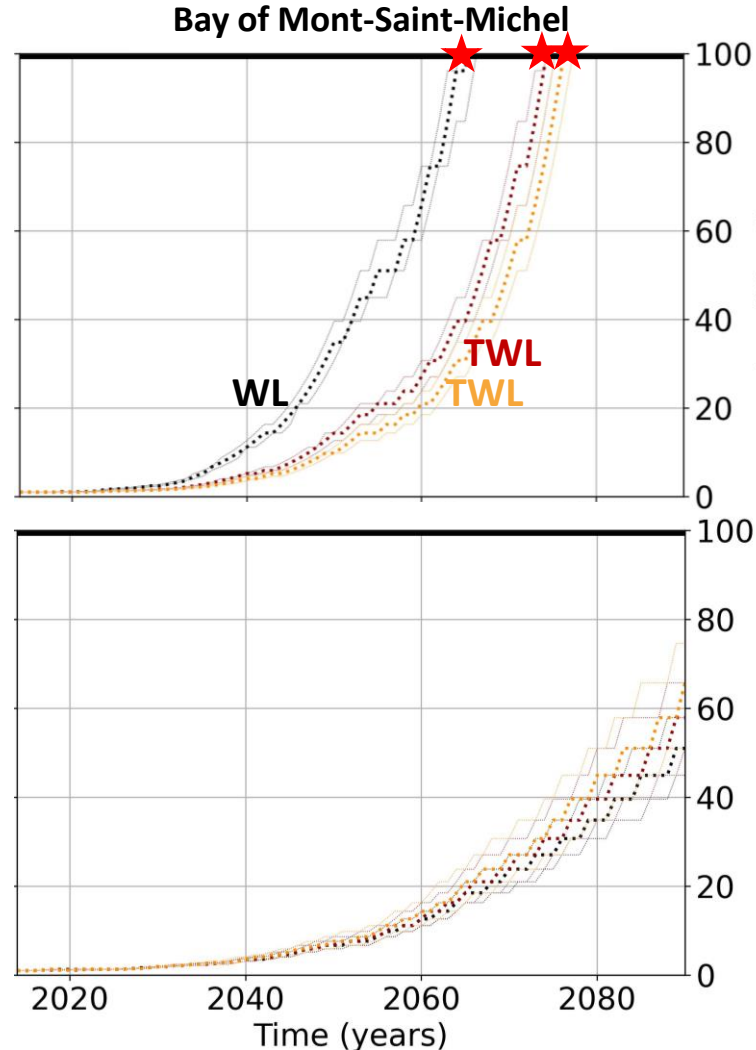
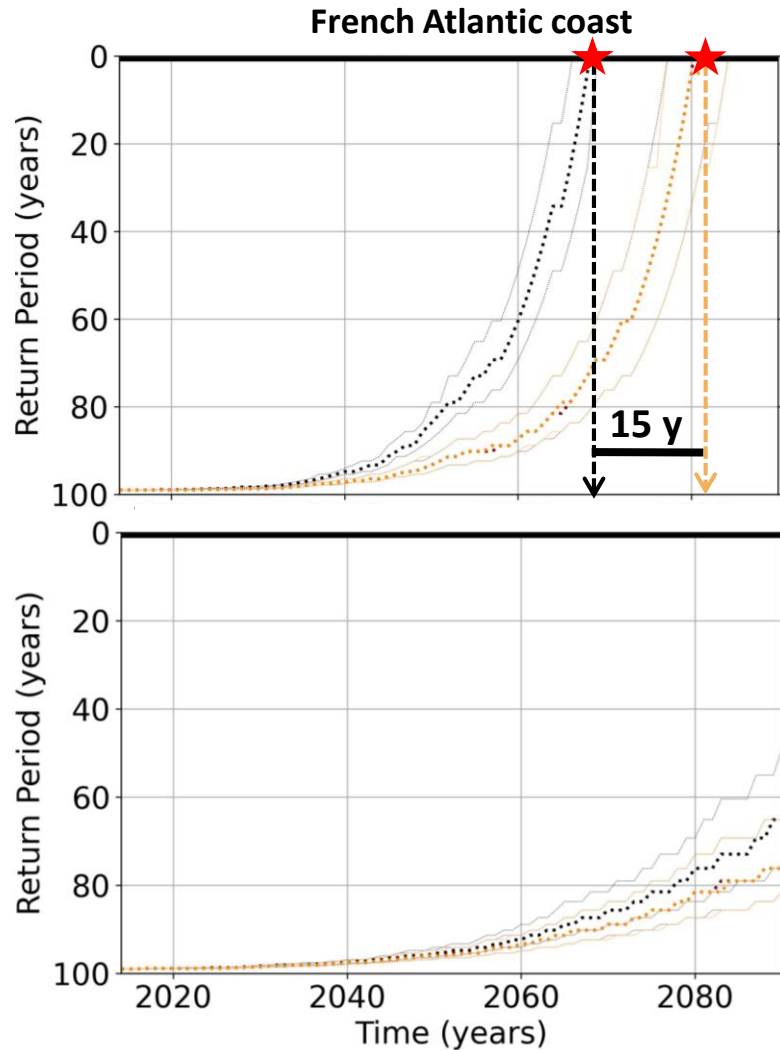
RESULTS : AMPLIFICATION OF THE HISTORICAL CENTENNIAL EVENT (HCE)

SSP5-8.5



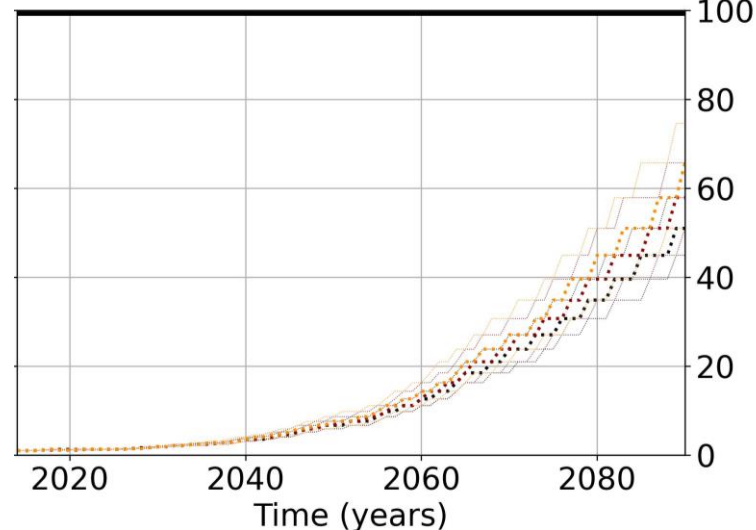
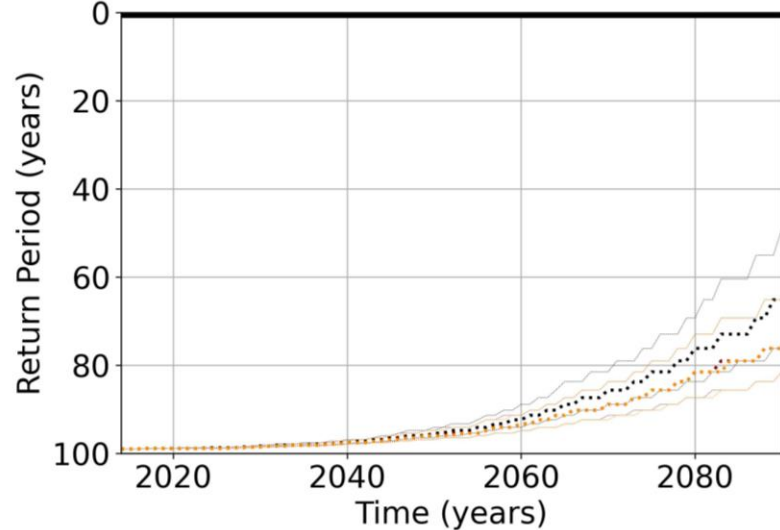
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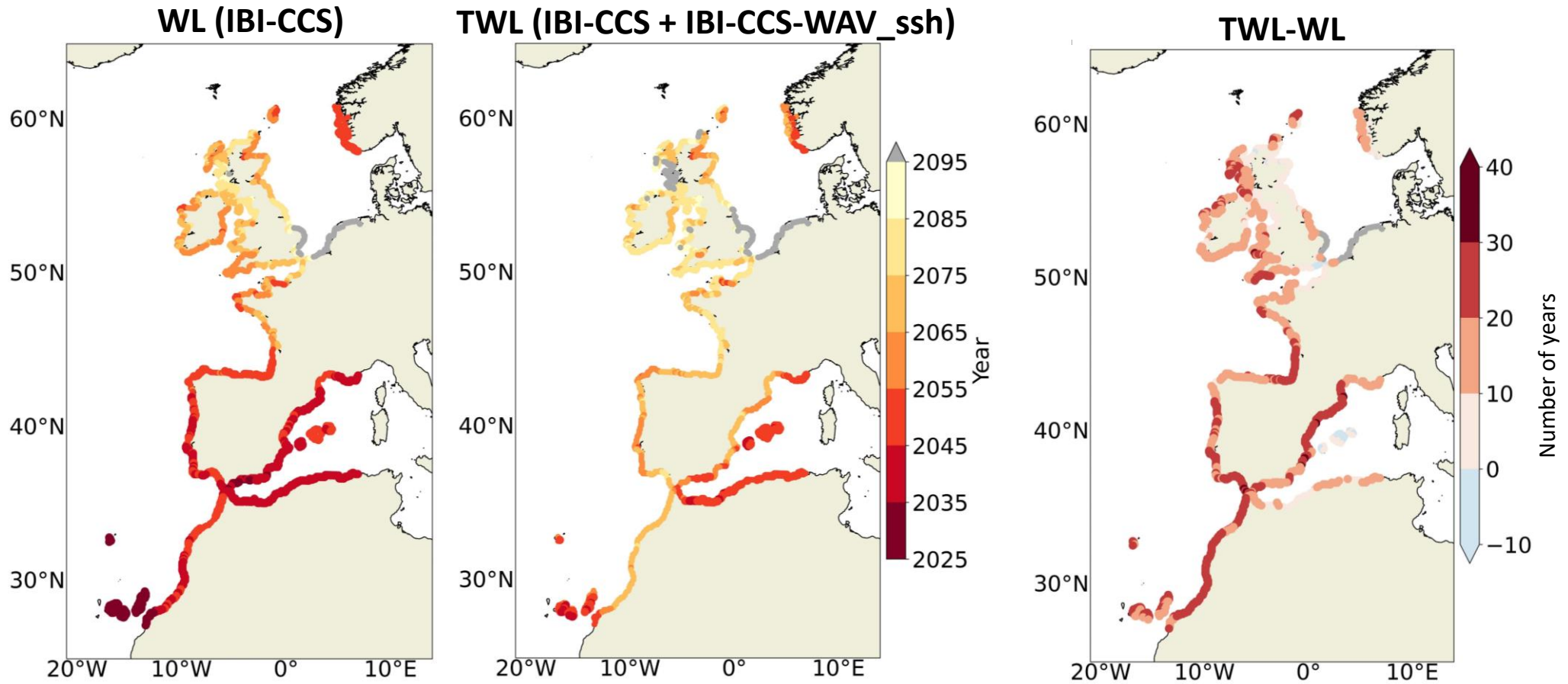


- IBI-CCS (WL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS_WAV (TWL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS_WAV_ssh (TWL)
- ★ HCE becomes an annual

SSP1-2.6



RESULTS : YEAR IN WHICH THE HISTORICAL CENTENNIAL EVENT (HCE) OCCURS ONCE A YEAR (SSP5-8.5)



● : Locations where HCEs recur annually after 2095

Conclusions:

- (1) Nonlinear waves-sea level interactions are **large for significant wave height** but are **small for wave setup**
- (2) Wave setup contribution to ESLs is **large over the northeastern Atlantic region**

Limitations of the study :

- Ocean modeling (*Chaigneau et al., 2022a*)
 - dry areas not allowed
 - GRD (gravitation, rotation, and deformation) effects : regional fingerprint not included
 - Impact waves → sea level not considered
- Wave contribution (*Chaigneau et al., 2022b in prep*)
 - Swash (wave oscillations) not accounted for
 - Parameterization for wave setup (Stockdon 2006)
 - 1/10° horizontal resolution limits the nonlinear interactions

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PRO



Thank you!

achaigneau@mercator-ocean.fr

AMA - 07/06/2022



**MERCATOR
OCEAN**
INTERNATIONAL

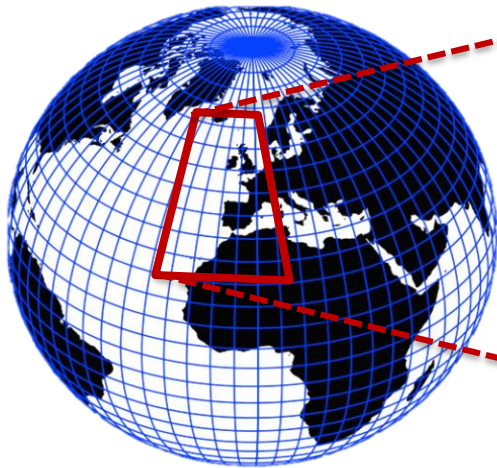
ADDITIONAL SLIDES

METHODOLOGY

DYNAMICAL DOWNSCALING :

Global climate model (GCM) :
CNRM-CM6-1-HR

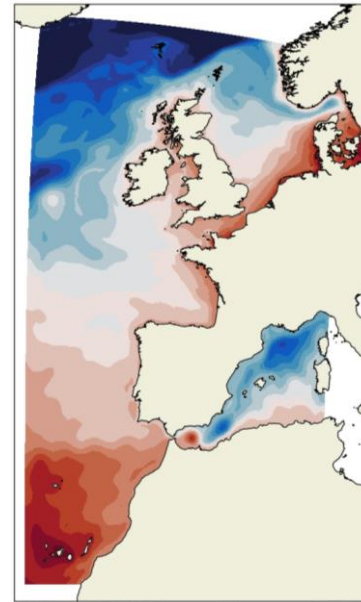
Ocean component ($1/4^\circ$ - 75lev)
Atmospheric component ($1/2^\circ$)



*Forcing at lateral & air-sea boundaries
with bias corrections*

Regional ocean model (RCM) :
IBI-CCS

($1/12^\circ$ - 75 lev)

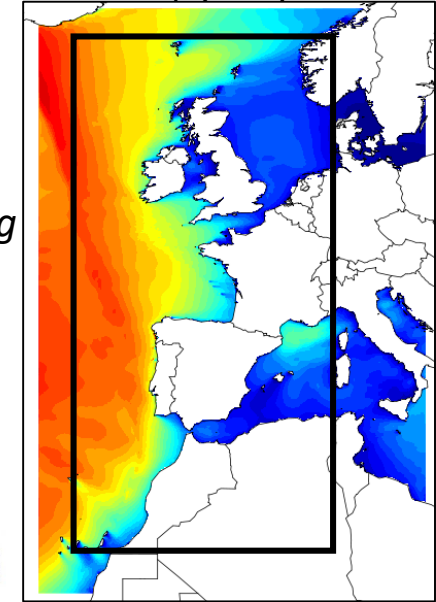


Sea level & currents
hourly forcing



Regional wave model :
IBI-CCS-WAV

($1/10^\circ$)



Expertise :

Aurore Voltaire (CNRM)

Expertise :

Guillaume Refray (Mercator Ocean)

Expertise :

Stéphane Law Chune (Mercator Ocean)
Lotfi Aouf (Météo-France)

METHODOLOGY

DYNAMICAL DOWNSCALING :

Global climate model (GCM) :

CNRM-CM6-1-HR

Ocean component (1/4° - 75lev)
Atmospheric component (1/2°)

Mean Sea Level



Forcing at lateral & air-sea boundaries
with bias corrections

Regional ocean model (RCM) :

IBI-CCS

(1/12° - 75 lev)

Water Level (WL) :

- Mean Sea Level
- Tides
- Atmospheric pressure forcing
- Ocean circulation

Sea level & currents
hourly forcing

+
= **Total water level (TWL)**

Regional wave model :

IBI-CCS-WAV

Wave setup

$$= 0.35\beta\sqrt{H_s L_p}$$

(Stockdon 2006)

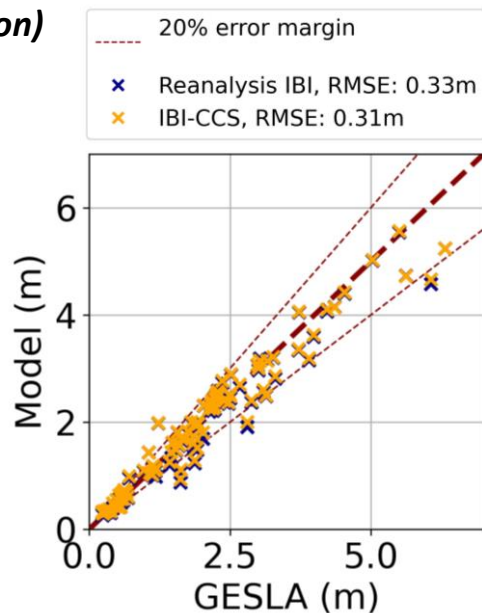
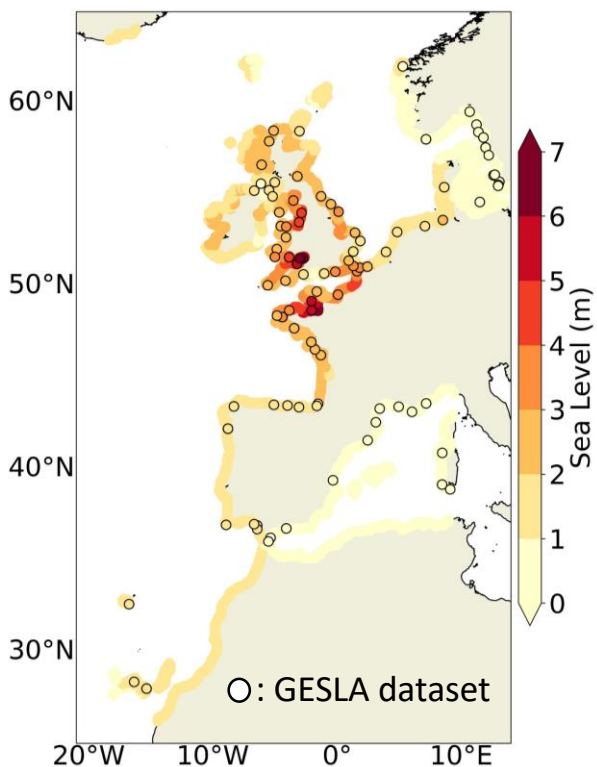
3 simulations : 1970-2100, SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6 scenarios

- 1) **WL: IBI-CCS**
- 2) **TWL1: IBI-CCS + IBI-CCS_WAV** (without sea level forcing)
- 3) **TWL2: IBI-CCS + IBI-CCS_WAV_ssh** (with hourly sea level forcing)

RESULTS : VALIDATION OF THE 99th PERCENTILE (1993-2014)

IBI-CCS

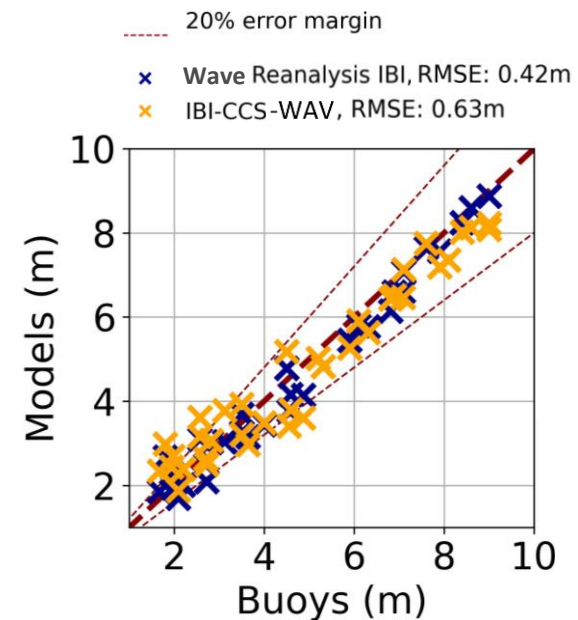
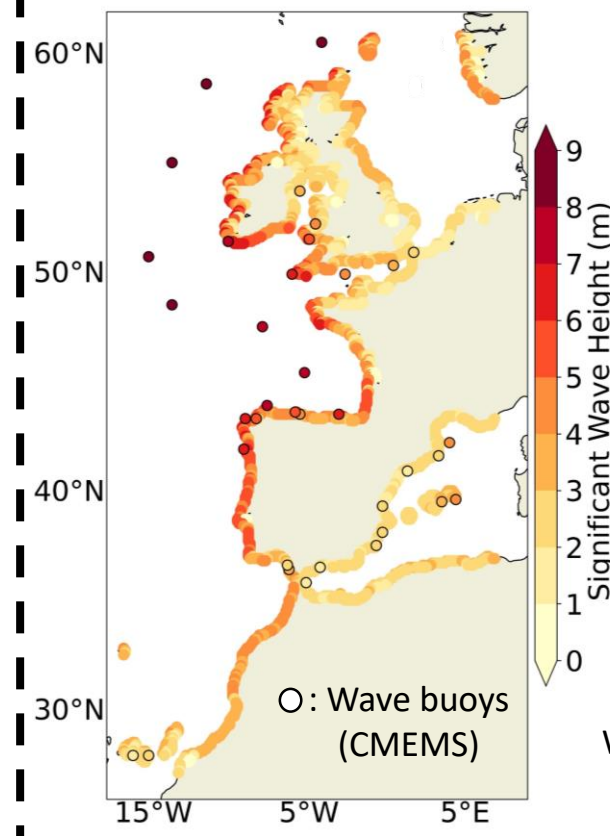
Water Level (*Mean Sea Level, tides, atmospheric pressure forcing, ocean circulation*)



GESLA dataset : high-frequency tide gauge records (*Woodworth et al., 2017*)
 Reanalysis IBI : model from CMEMS (*Levier et al., 2020*)

IBI-CCS-WAV

Significant wave height



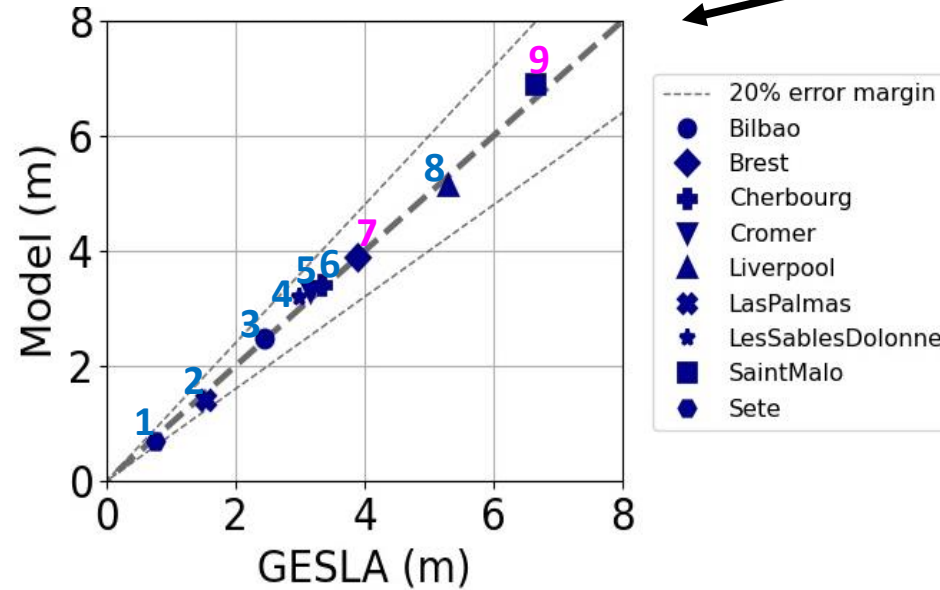
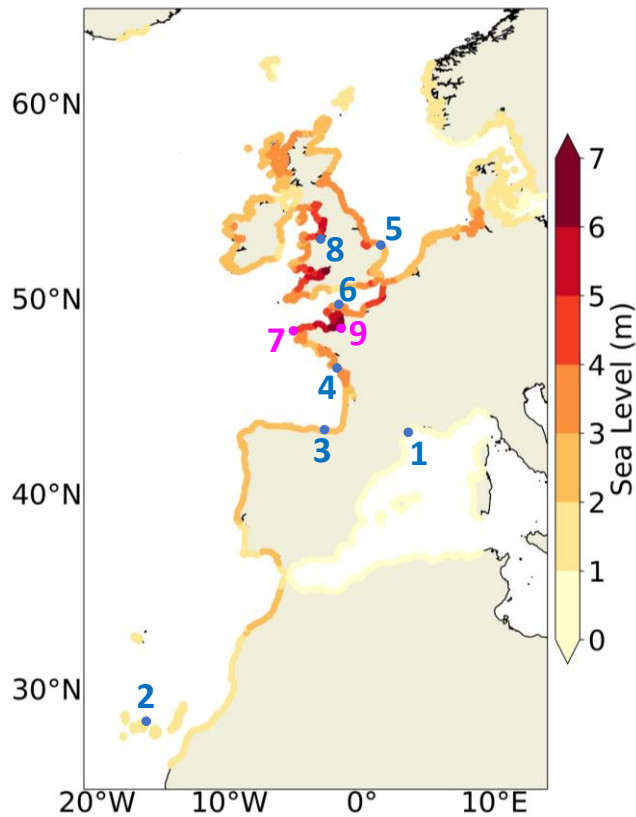
Wave buoys (<https://marine.copernicus.eu/fr>) and Wave Reanalysis IBI (*Toledano et al., 2021*) from CMEMS

Validation of non-tidal residuals in *Chaigneau et al., 2022 (GMD)*

RESULTS : VALIDATION OF HISTORICAL 10-YEAR RETURN LEVEL (1985-2014)

IBI-CCS

Water Level (Mean Sea Level, tides, atmospheric pressure forcing, ocean circulation)



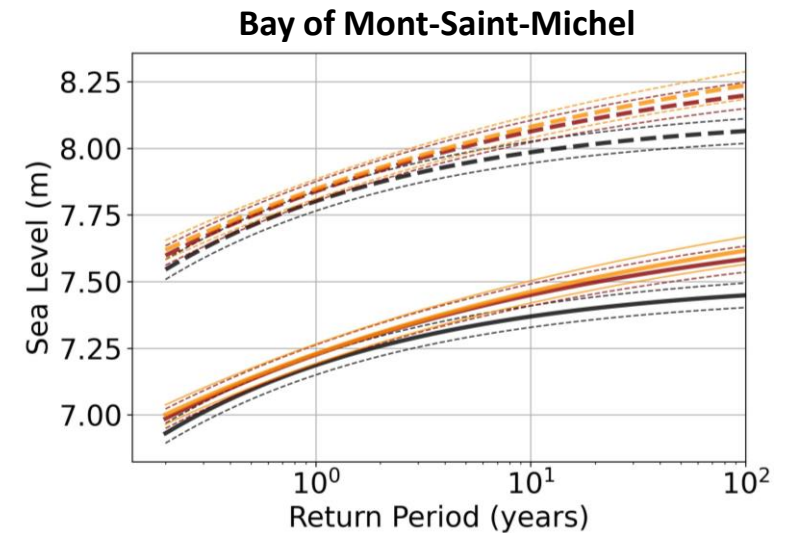
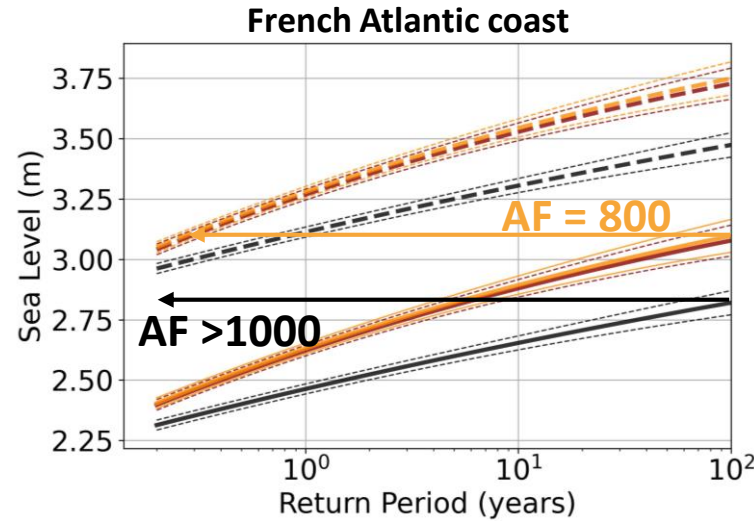
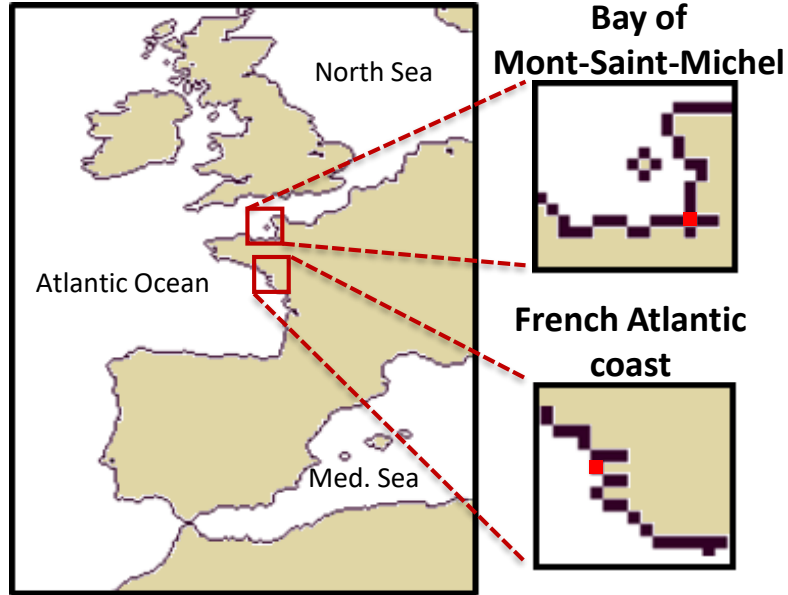
GESLA dataset : high-frequency tide gauge records (Woodworth et al., 2017)

Extreme value analysis :

- Univariate non-stationary approach
- 131 year period
- Declustering time of 3 days between events
- Peak over threshold: 3 events/year
- GPD (Generalized Pareto Distribution)

based on Mentaschi et al., 2016

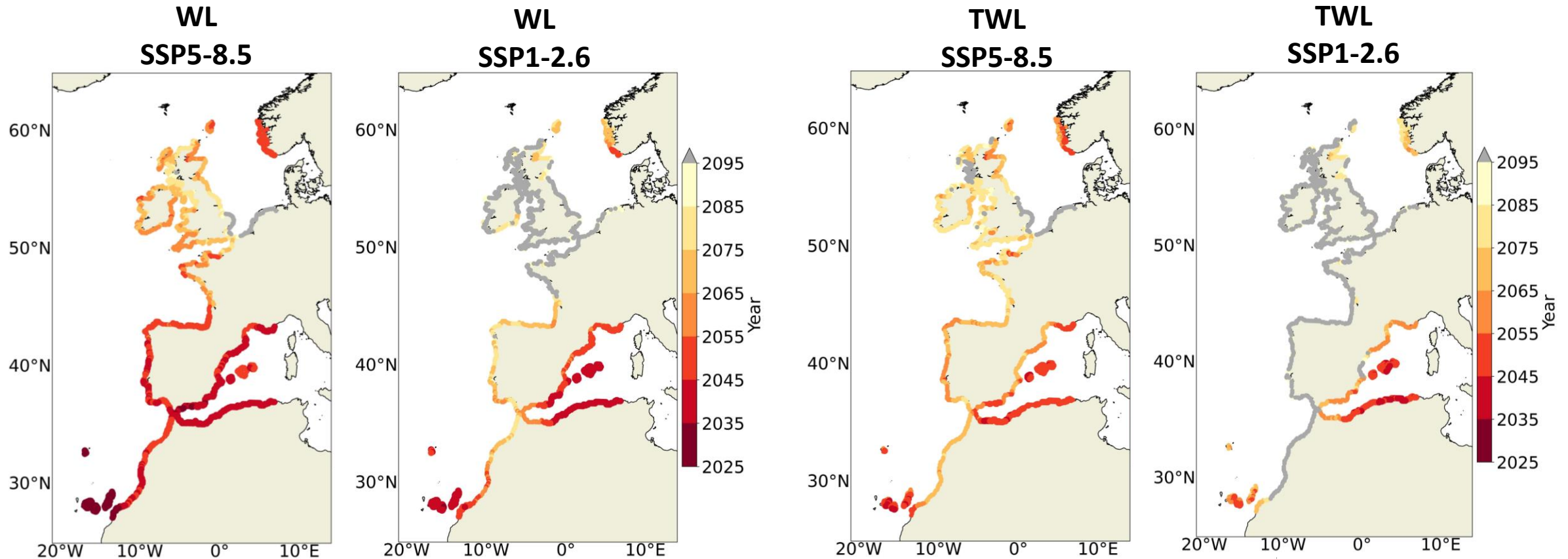
RESULTS : PROJECTIONS OF ESLs (SSP5-8.5) RETURN LEVELS (1985-2014 & 2071-2100)



- IBI-CCS (WL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS-WAV (TWL)
- IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS-WAV_ssh (TWL)
- - IBI-CCS, ssp585
- - IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS-WAV, ssp585
- - IBI-CCS+IBI-CCS_WAV_ssh, ssp585
- ← Future frequency of the historical 100-year event (Amplification Factor = AF)

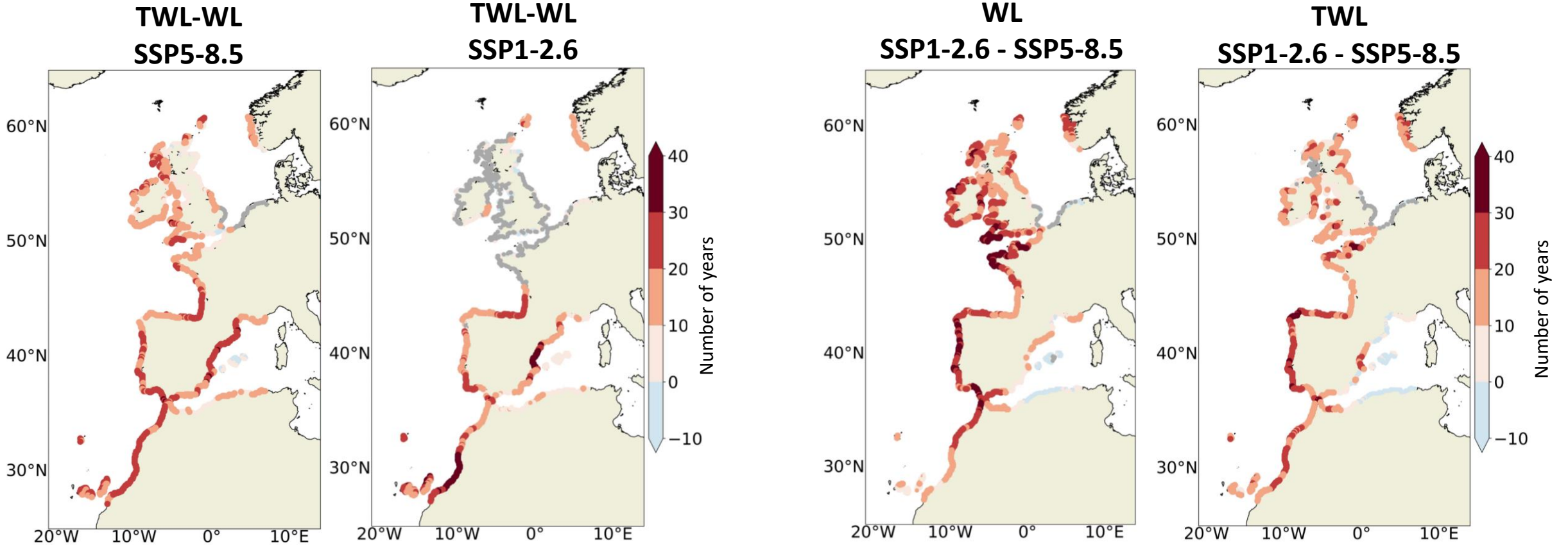
▪ AFs are reduced in wave dominated areas as the curves have a larger slope (as shown in Lambert et al., 2020)

RESULTS : YEAR IN WHICH THE HISTORICAL CENTENNIAL EVENT (HCE) OCCURS ONCE A YEAR



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