## Hurricanes Ike Forerunner Surge and Damage

A. Kennedy, J. Westerink, J. Dietrich, M. Hope; University of Notre Dame R. Luettich; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill M. Powell; HRD NOAA
V. Cardone, A. Cox; Oceanweather Inc.
R. Dean; University of Florida at Gainesville
D. Resio; University of North Florida
M. Zijlema, L. Holthuijsen; Delft University

> Waves 2011, Kohala Coast Hawaii November 1, 2011

## **Motivation**

- Hurricane Ike (2008) produced an *early forerunner* of 2<sup>+</sup> m along the Louisiana-Texas shelf and coast
  - 15 hours prior to landfall
  - The hurricane was located off the shelf in the deep Gulf of Mexico
  - Winds were directed shore parallel or offshore
  - The forerunner penetrated deep into Galveston Bay into the heart of Houston
- A major portion of Ike's surge propagated as a free wave along the LATEX shelf down the Texas coast

#### Tracks of *major storms* and *bathymetry* showing LATEX shelf



NOAA stations 8701724, 8760922, 8762075, 8764227, 8766072, 8766094, 8770771 Andrew Kennedy gauges Z – R Ike water surface elevation **anomaly** (measured water level – predicted tides) from eastern Louisiana to western Texas



# Wind vectors **15 hours prior to landfall** from H\*Wind/OWI data assimilated models

r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors



Extent of hurricane force winds are contoured in red Extent of tropical storm force winds are contoured in yellow and green

Eye and hurricane force winds are *off* the shelf Winds are directed *shore parallel or offshore* 

## **Question**?

- Hurricane Ike *forerunner* origin
  - Wave radiation gradient induced stress ?
  - Gulf of Mexico wide resonant modes ?
  - Geostrophic set up ?

## **Conclusions & Implications**

- Hurricane Ike *forerunner* originates from *Geostrophic* setup and requires
  - Fast shore parallel shelf currents
  - Low shelf friction
  - A wide shelf
- Hurricane Ike *forerunner* has a slow time scale and its implications include
  - Early dune degradation
  - Efficient inland coastal floodplain and bay penetration
  - Very fast shore parallel shelf currents that destroy offshore energy infrastructure

#### **Bolivar Peninsula, Pre-Ike**



#### **Bolivar Peninsula, Post-Ike**



## Hurricane Ike Forerunner Surge

## Methods

- SWAN+ADCIRC Wave & Circulation Model Coupling
- TX2008-r09 SWAN+ADCIRC Model for Texas
- Air-sea interaction
- Validation data
- Ike Hindcast and Validation
  - Winds, Waves, Surge, Shelf velocities
- Ike Analysis
  - Origin of the forerunner Coriolis effect
- Conclusions & Implications

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# SWAN+ADCIRC Model – Coupled waves and current on identical unstructured grids

- ADCIRC solves for water surface elevations and currents in two and three dimensions
   wind whitecapping guadruplets
- SWAN solves the wave action density and is a nonphase resolving wave model with wave energy represented by a spectrum



- ADCIRC and SWAN interact
  - Water levels and currents effect waves
  - Wave breaking forces water level setup and currents

## TX2008-r09 Bathymetry and topography

- Western North Atlantic Gulf of Mexico
- Floodplain from Brownsville to Lake Calcasieu
- Resolution down to 30m
- Fully incorporates high resolution features, channels, barrier islands and wave breaking zones
- 3,323,388 nodes
- Time steps: ADCIRC 1 sec
   SWAN 10 min
- Tx2008\_r09 Performance on Diamond
  - SWAN+ADCIRC-CG: 14 wall clock minutes per day of simulation on 4096 cores



#### Sector based drag laws



Extents of sectors in relation to direction of storm movement; Powell (2006)

Wind drag coefficient variability by storm sector; Powell (2006)

## Validation Data: Wave parameter time histories



## Validation Data: Water level time histories



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r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

- 24 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

- 21 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

- 18 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

#### - 15 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

- 12 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

#### - 9 hrs

r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors



- 6 hrs

r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors



- 3 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

LANDFALL = 0 hrs

r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors



+ 3 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

#### + 6 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

#### + 9 hrs



r09 c8+tides Winds + Vectors

+ 12 hrs



r09 c8+tides Sig. Wave Heights

- 24 hrs



r09 c8+tides Sig. Wave Heights

- 21 hrs



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LANDFALL = 0 hrs



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+ 6 hrs



r09 c8+tides Sig. Wave Heights

+ 9 hrs



r09 c8+tides Sig. Wave Heights

+ 12 hrs





















r09 c8+tides Water Surface Elevations + Winds

- 24 hrs



r09 c8+tides Water Surface Elevations + Winds

- 21 hrs



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LANDFALL 0 hrs



r09 c8+tides Water Surface Elevations + Winds

+ 3 hrs



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+ 6 hrs



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+ 9 hrs



r09 c8+tides Water Surface Elevations + Winds

+ 12 hrs
























### Ike Hindcast – HWM Comparisons – URS/FEMA Data





r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 24 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 21 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 18 hrs



#### r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 15 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 12 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 9 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities



#### r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

- 3 hrs



#### r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

LANDFALL 0 hrs



#### r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

+ 3 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

+ 6 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

+ 9 hrs



r09 c8+tides Surface Velocities

+ 12 hrs

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Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 24 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 21 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 18 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 15 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 12 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 9 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 6 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

- 3 hrs

7.79 days UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME **Computational Hydraulics Laboratory** 30° 2 m/s m 3.0 2.5 29° 2.0 .5 .0 0.5 0.0 28° 0.5 0 .5 2.0 .5 27° 3 -97° -96° -95° -94° -93° -92° -91° -90° -89°

Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

LANDFALL 0 hrs





+ 3 hrs





+ 6 hrs





+ 9 hrs



Influence of Coriolis Effect + Surface Currents

+ 12 hrs






















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## Conclusions

- Coupled wave + current simulations faithfully forecast deep water, coastal and inland waves and surge
  - Integrated wave + current models
    - Large domains
  - Appropriate levels of local grid resolution
  - Excellent winds
  - Wave and surge data to validate

## Conclusions

- Large scale and early Forerunner is generated through fast shore parallel currents and Coriolis driven tilt
  - Is possible due to the wide LATEX shelf, smooth bottom and large size of storms
  - Is a slow process allowing plenty of time to penetrate far inland
  - Can propagate as a free shelf wave from the LA coast past Corpus Christi

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#### For more information coast.nd.edu

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