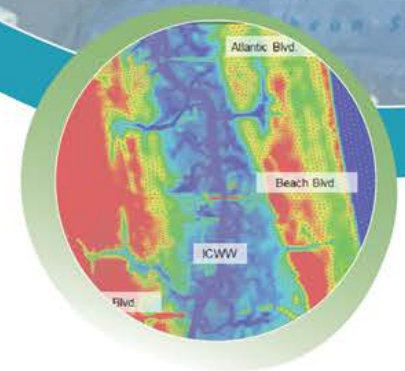
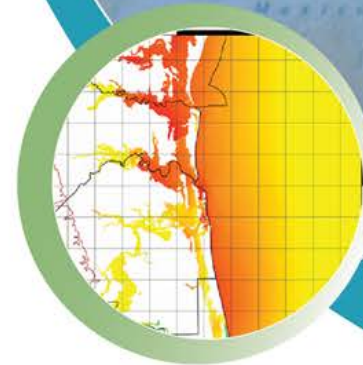




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# Offshore and Nearshore Wave Modeling within the East Coast Central Florida and South Florida Storm Surge Studies



Presented by: Christopher Bender, Ph.D., P.E., D.CE  
November 9, 2015



## Introduction

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- FEMA risk studies outline
- Overview East Coast Central Florida (ECCFL) and South Florida (SFL) surge studies
- Work completed and project status
  - Model development
  - Comparison of ECCFL measured and modeled wave parameters
  - Review of recent SFL results
- Questions

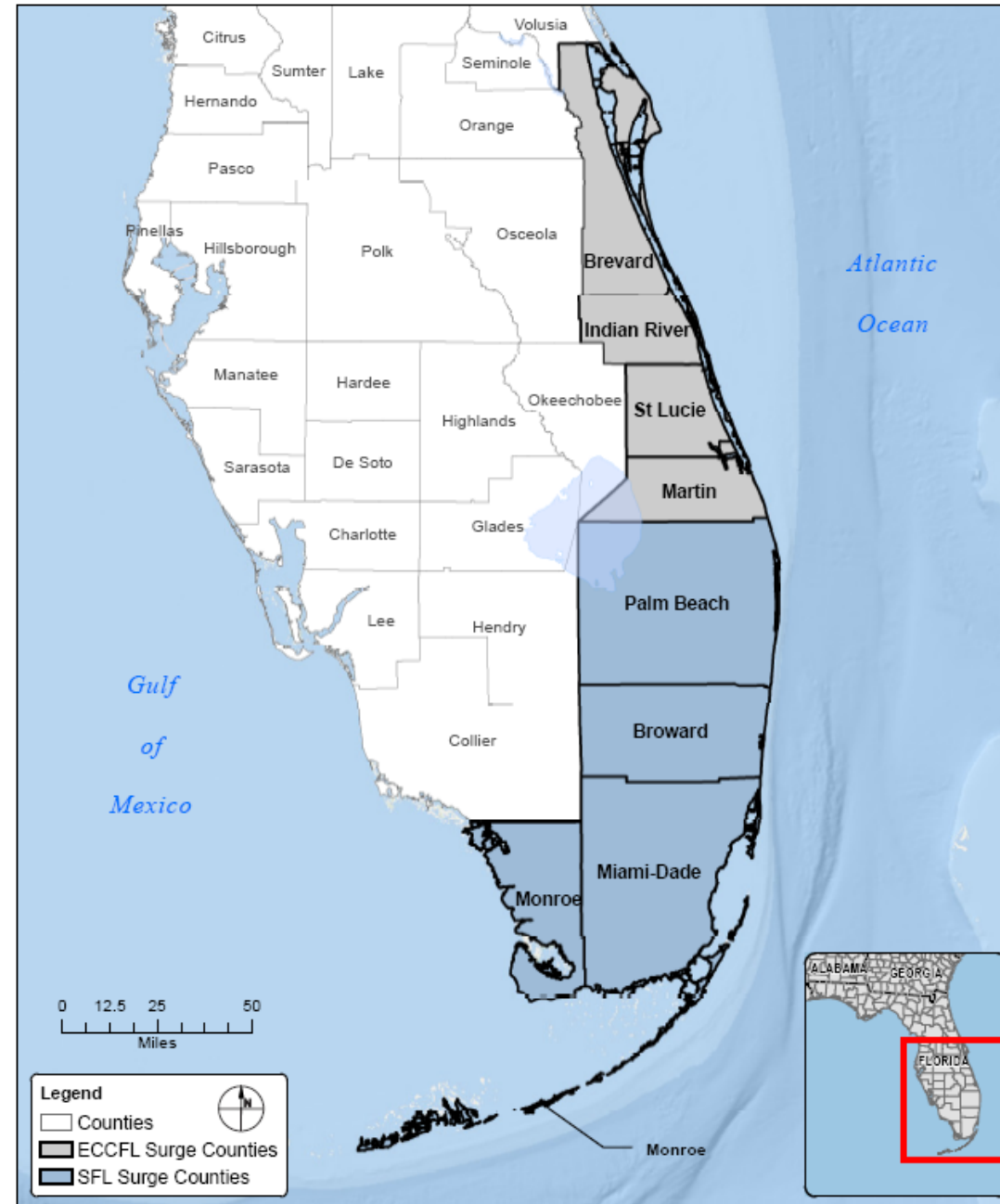


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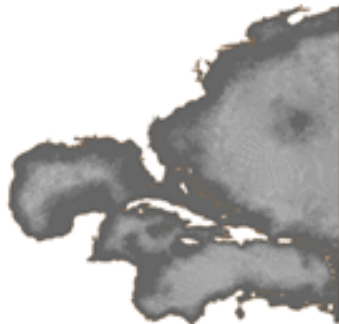
## ECCFL and SFL Coastal Surge Study Extents







## Approach – Storm Surge SWEL



**Storm Forcing**  
Hurricane Tracks

**Storm Surge Modeling**

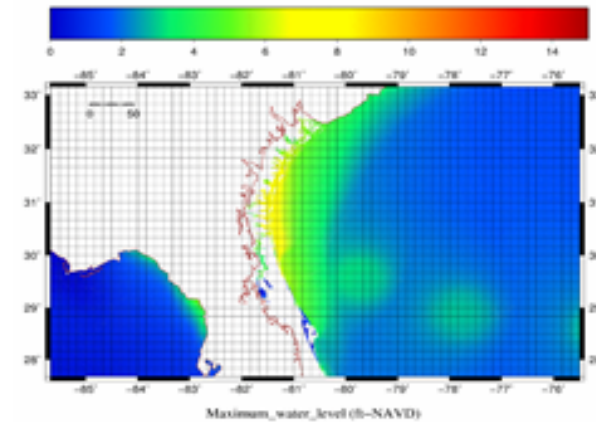
Winds

Waves ↔ Water Levels

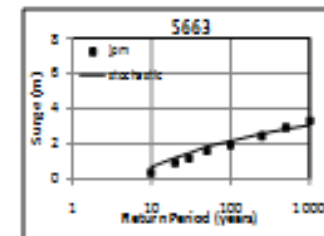
**Return Period Analysis**

JPM-OS 2%, 1%, 0.2% Annual Chance  
Tide Gage Analysis 50%, 20%, 10% A.C.

**SWEL**

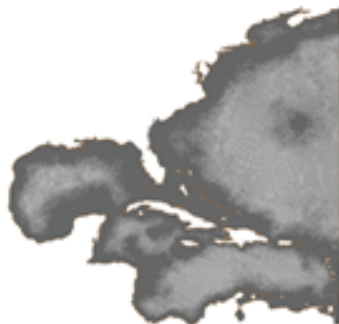


**High-Resolution  
Bathymetry / Topography  
Mesh**





## Approach – Storm Surge SWEL and Waves



**Storm Forcing**  
Hurricane Tracks

**Storm Surge Modeling**

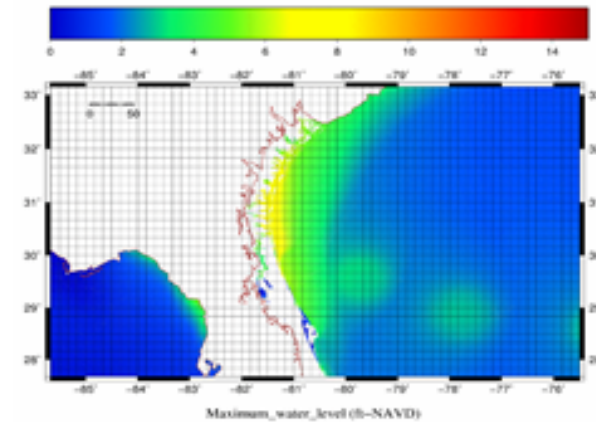
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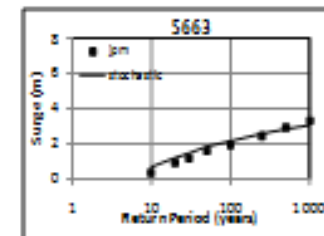
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**High-Resolution  
Bathymetry / Topography  
Mesh**





## Model Development and Results

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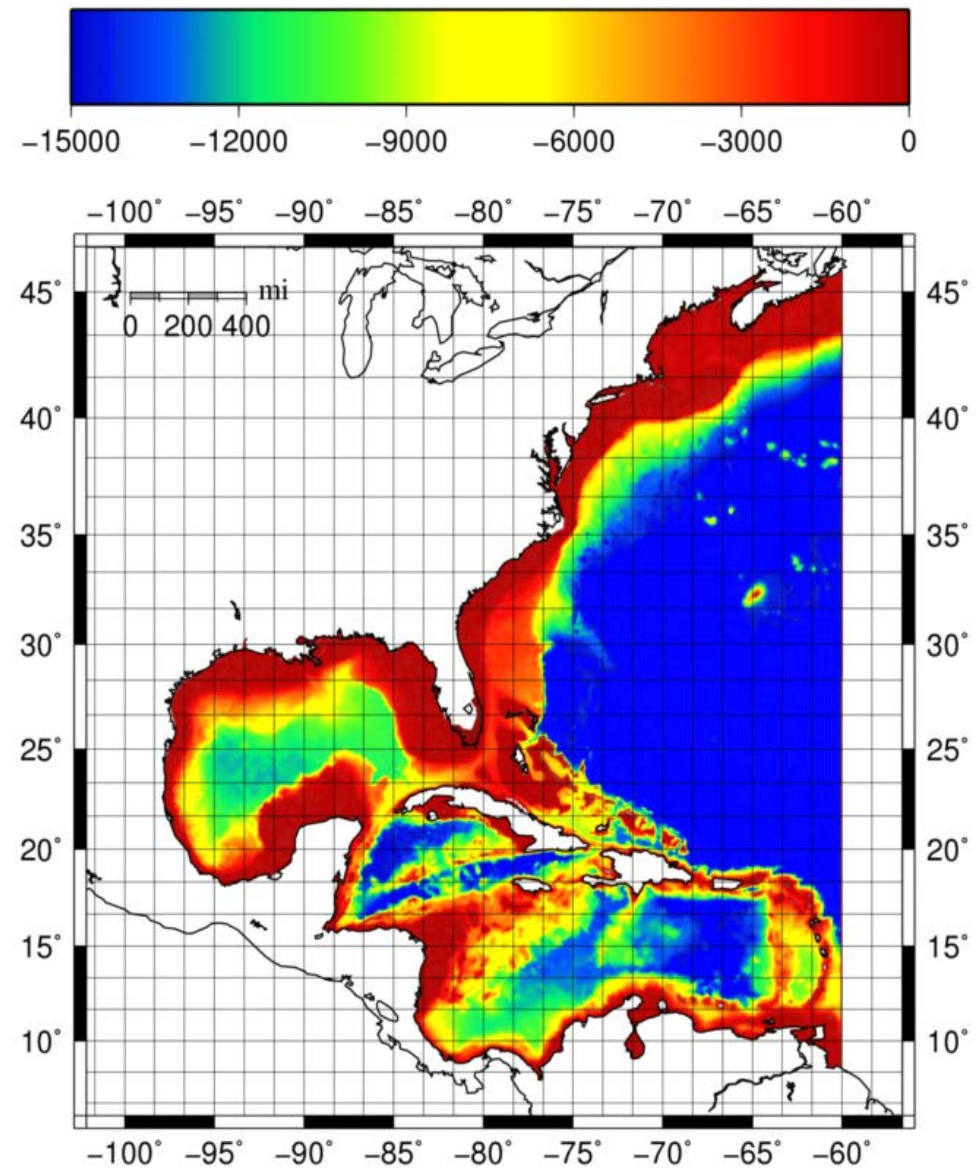
- Model development
  - Developed seamless topographic and bathymetric data surface (Digital Elevation Model [DEM])
  - Developed SWAN+ADCIRC mesh and model
  - Completed tasks in parallel
- Comparison of ECCFL measured and modeled wave parameters
- Review of recent South Florida results





## SWAN+ADCIRC Model Mesh Development

- SWAN+ADCIRC model
- Finite element model
- Uses unstructured, triangulated mesh
- Node spacing set to accurately represent topography/bathymetry
- Applies “feature arcs” to represent elevated or depressed features (e.g., roads or channels)





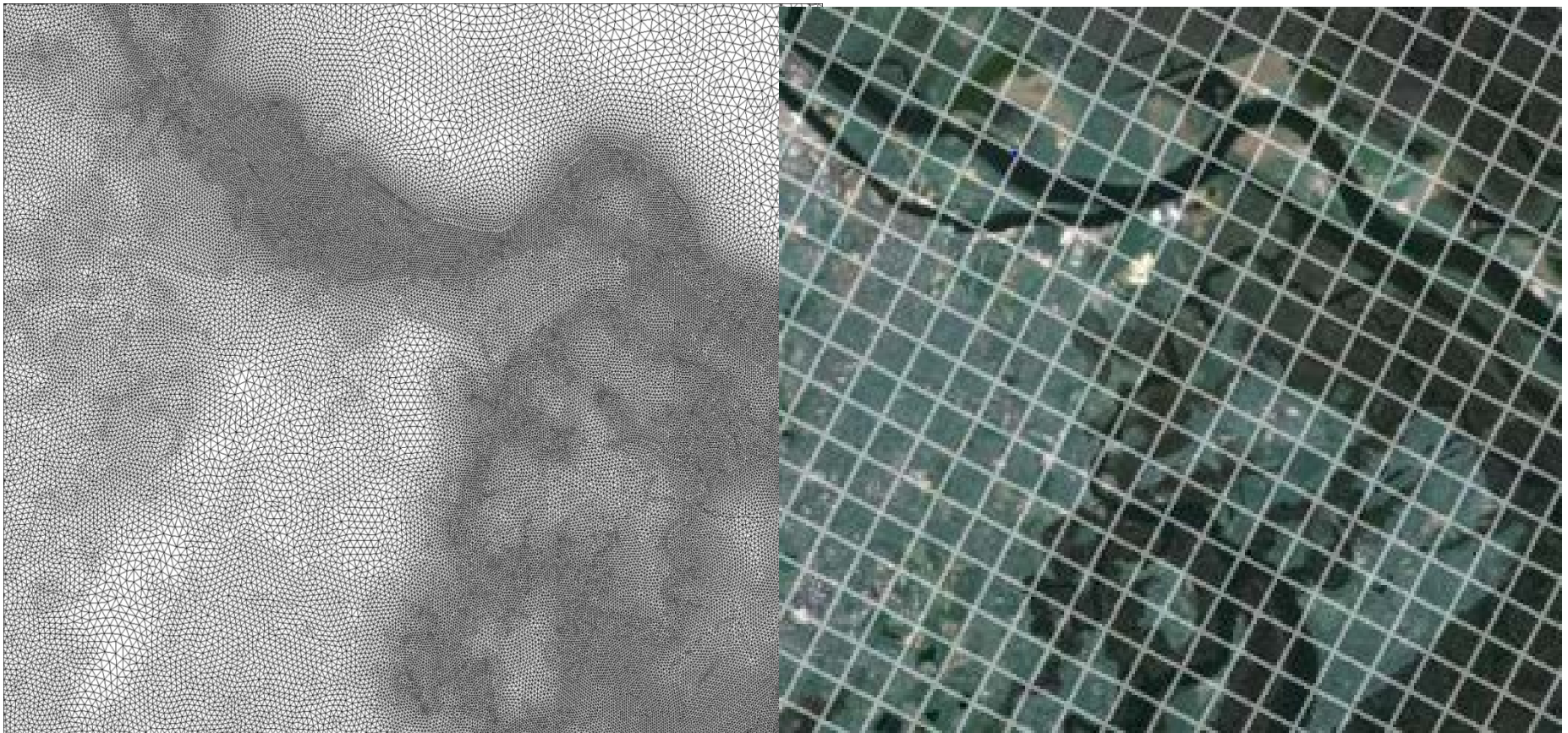


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## SWAN+ ADCIRC Model Mesh Development







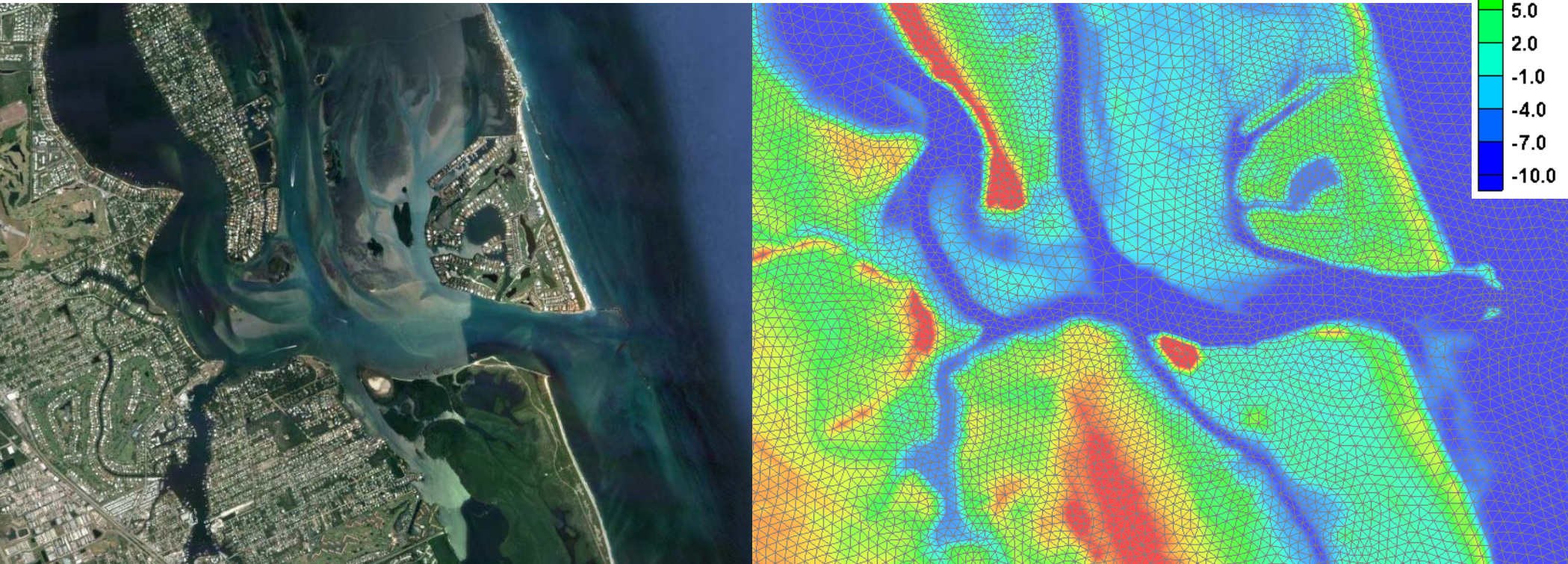
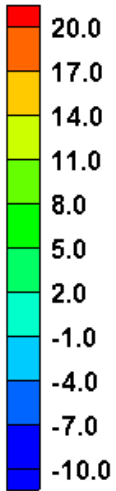
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## SWAN+ ADCIRC Model Mesh

Elevation, ft-NAVD



**Martin County, Florida; St. Lucie Inlet**



## Model Development and Results

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- Model mesh development
  - Developed seamless topographic and bathymetric data surface (Digital Elevation Model [DEM])
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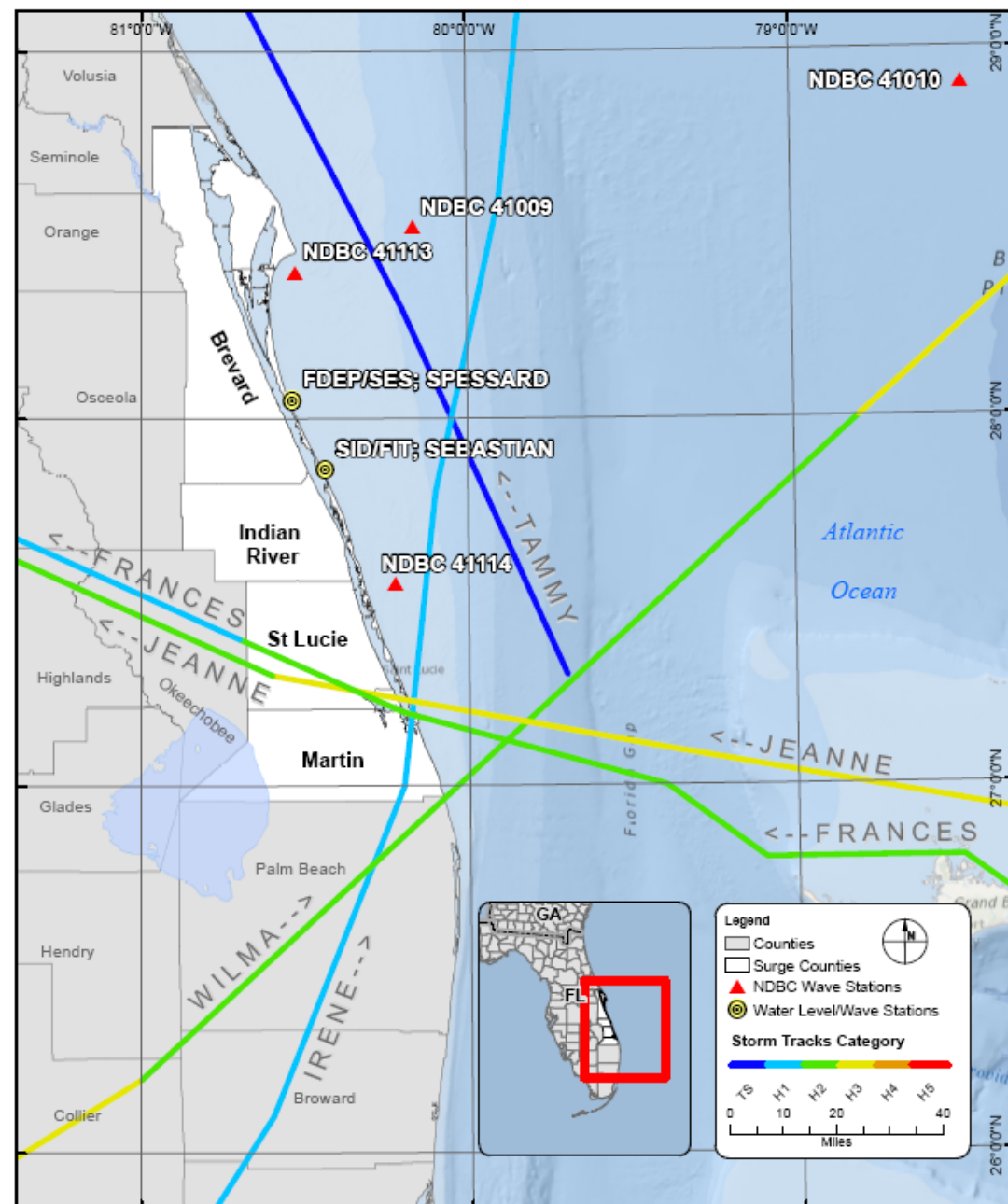
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## ECCFL Study – Wave Data Stations and Storm Tracks

Station ID	Station Description	Water Depth (ft)
NBDC 41009	20 Nautical Miles East of Cape Canaveral	145
NBDC 41010	120 Nautical Miles East of Cape Canaveral	2,863
NBDC 41113	Cape Canaveral Nearshore, Scripps Institution of Oceanography	33
NBDC 41114	Ft. Pierce, Florida, Scripps Institution of Oceanography	53
SID/FIT	Sebastian Inlet District/Florida Institute of Technology; Sebastian Inlet, Florida	30
FDEP/SES	FDEP/SES; Spessard Holland Park, Florida	30





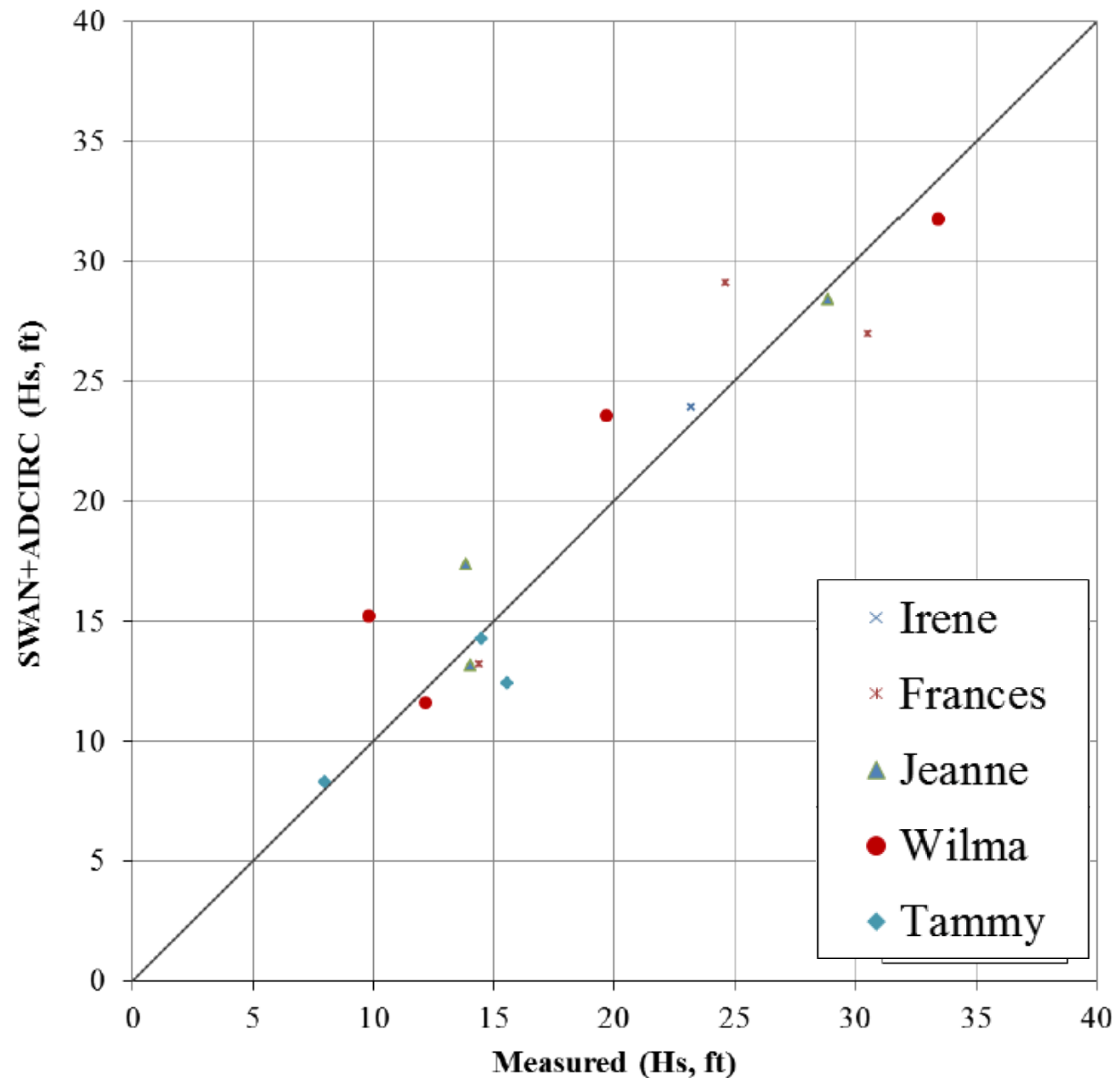
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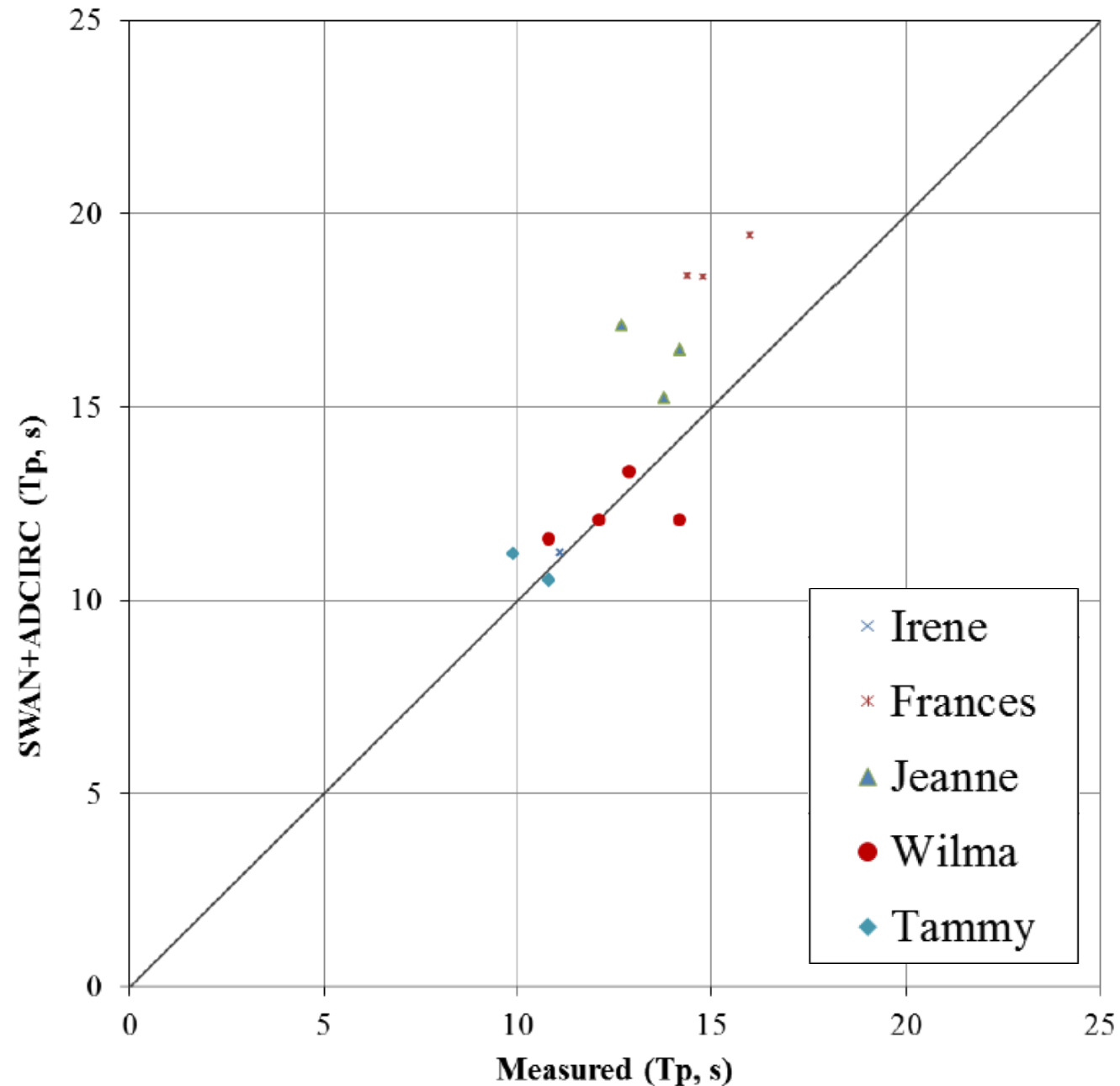
## Summary of Measured vs SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Heights







## Summary of Measured vs SWAN+ADCIRC Peak Periods



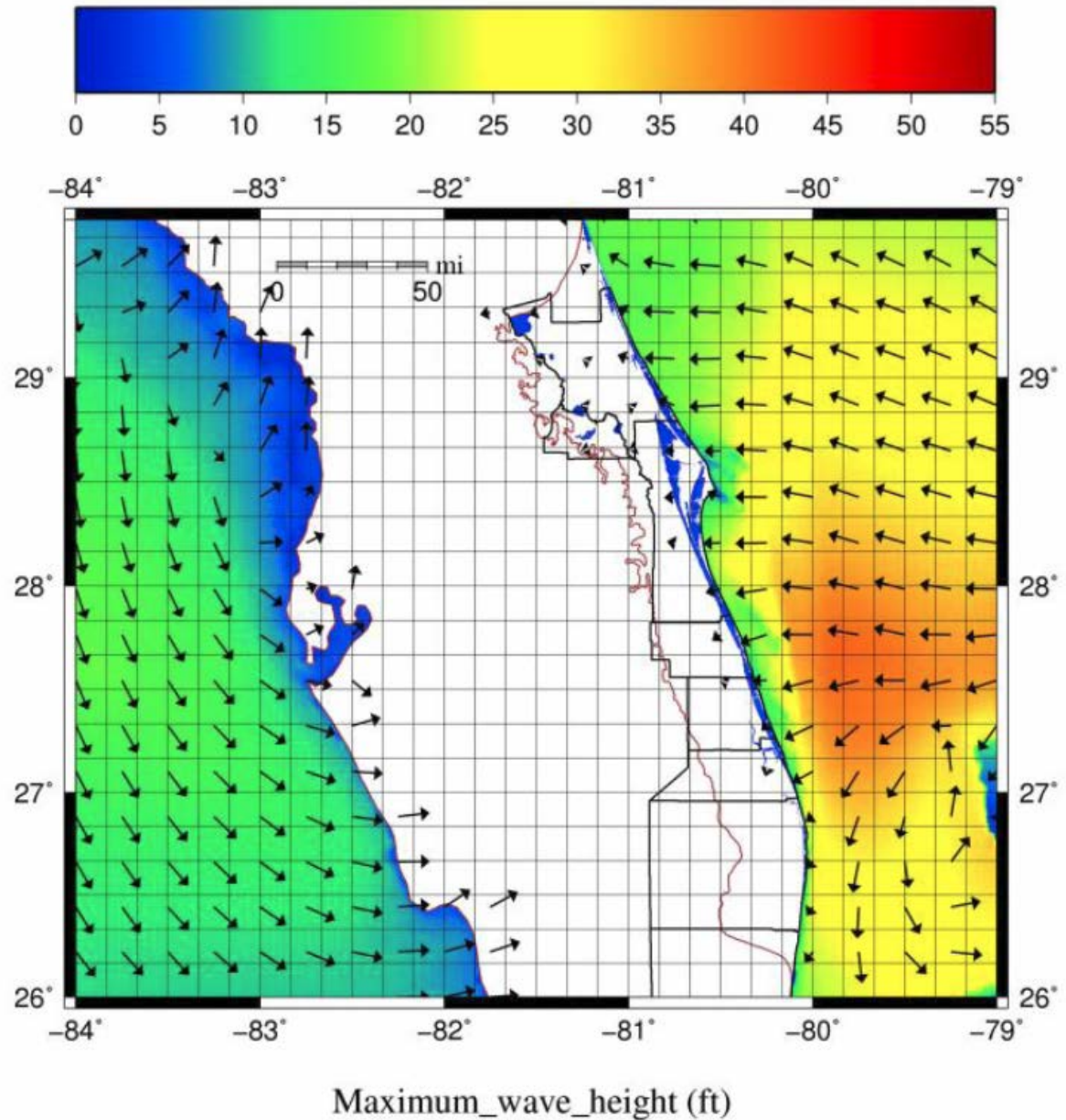


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Maximum Wave Height Frances





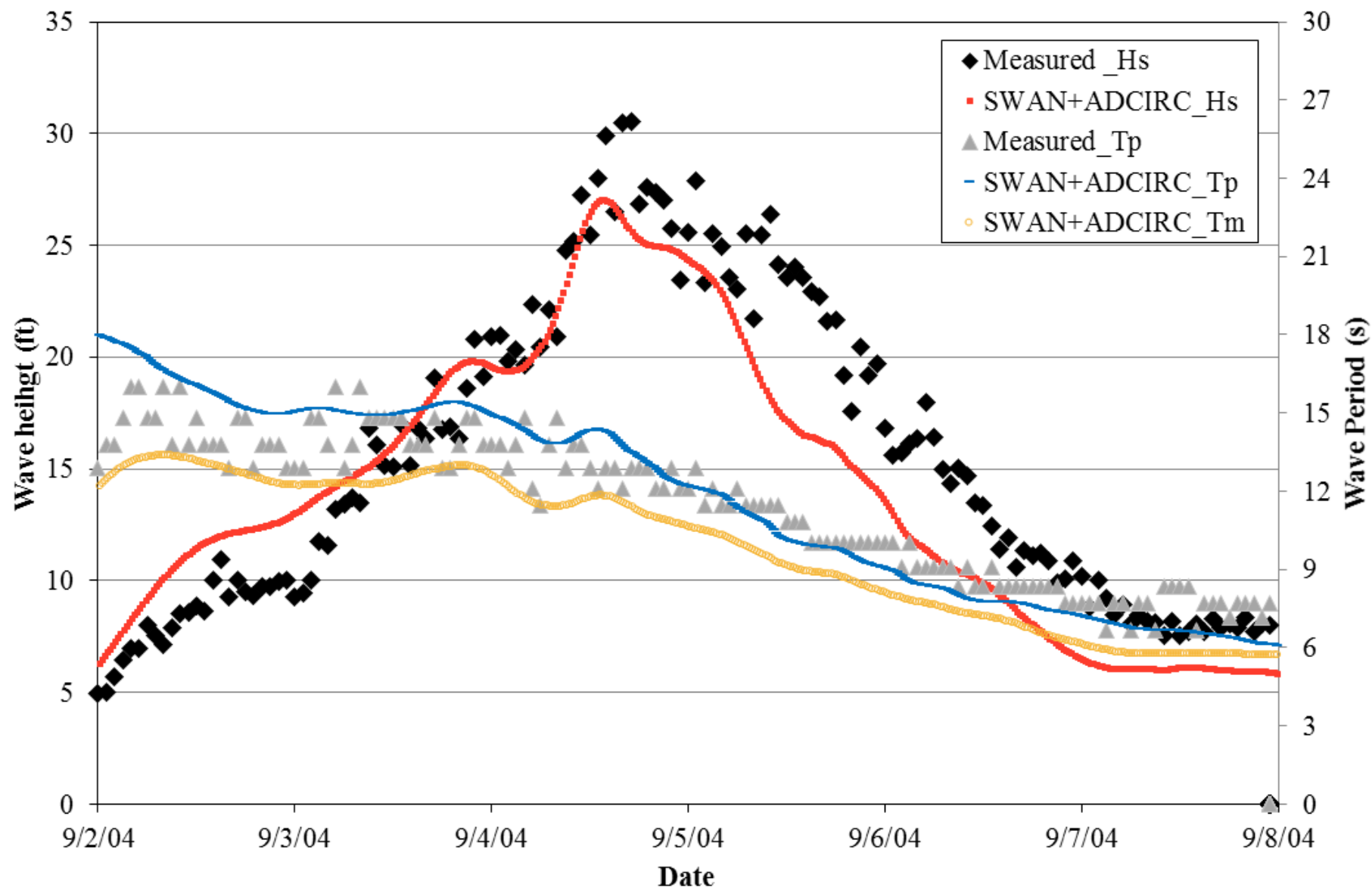


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Frances; Station 41010



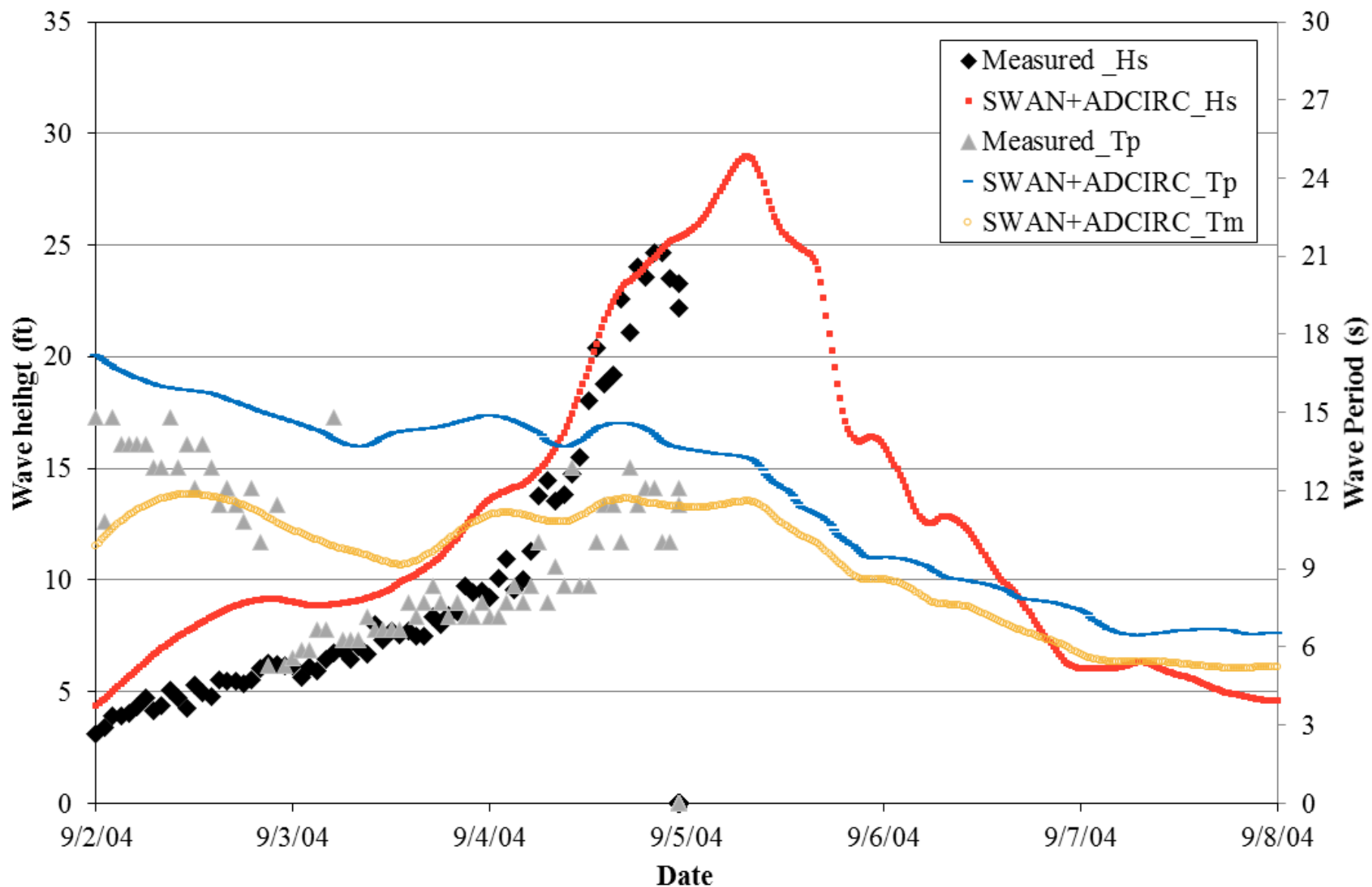


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Frances; Station 41009





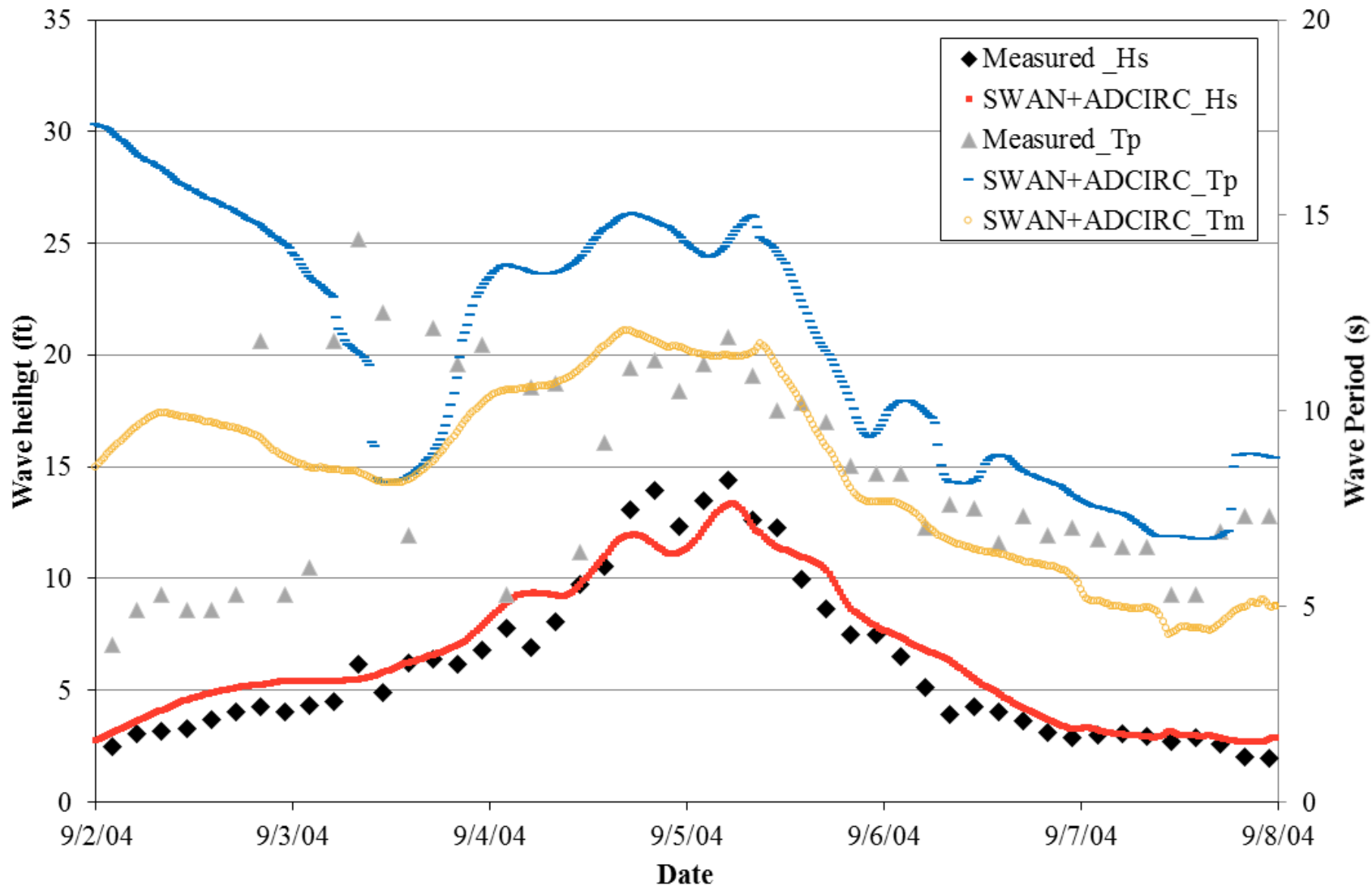


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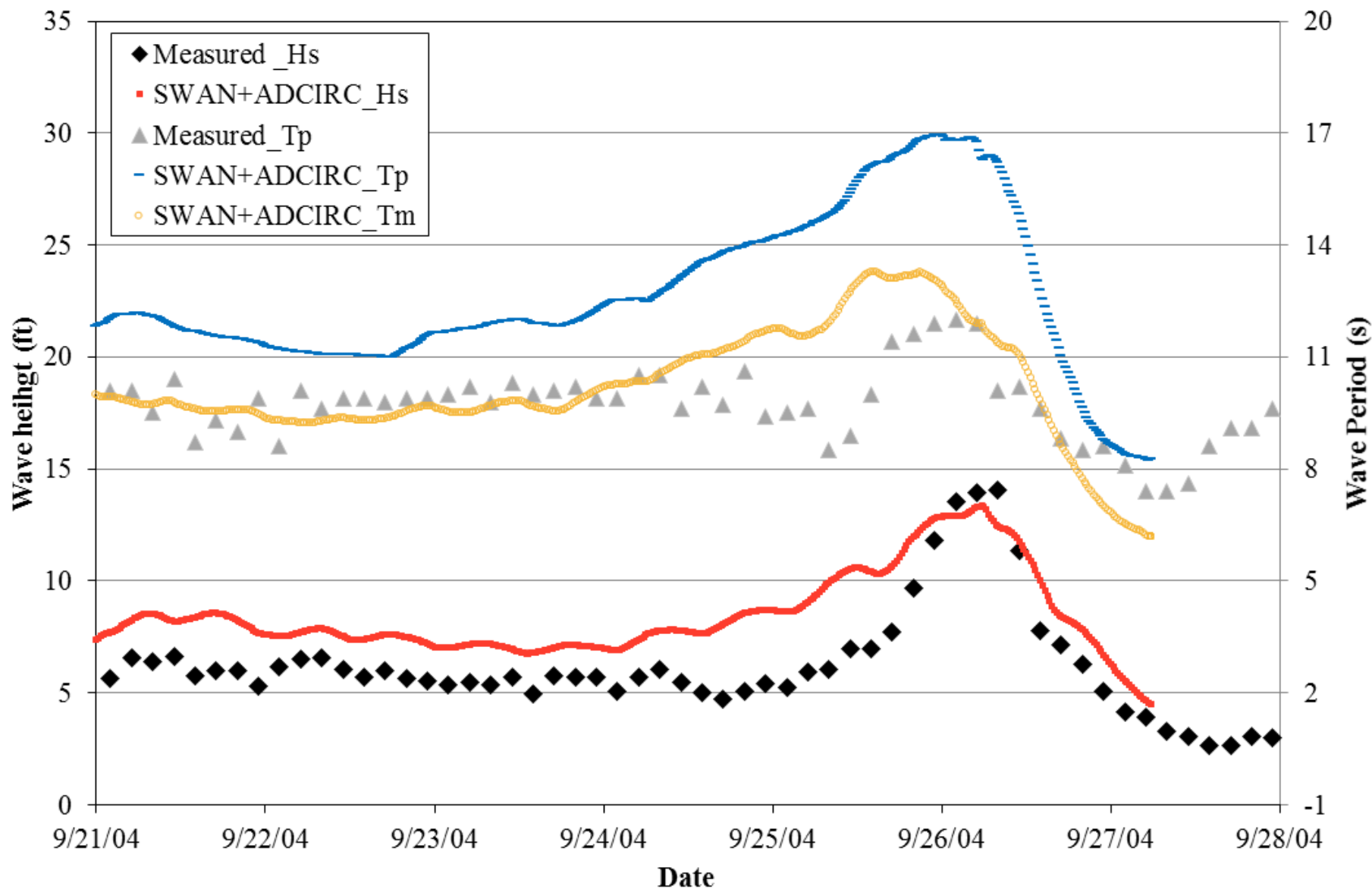
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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Frances; Station FIT





## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Jeanne; Station FIT





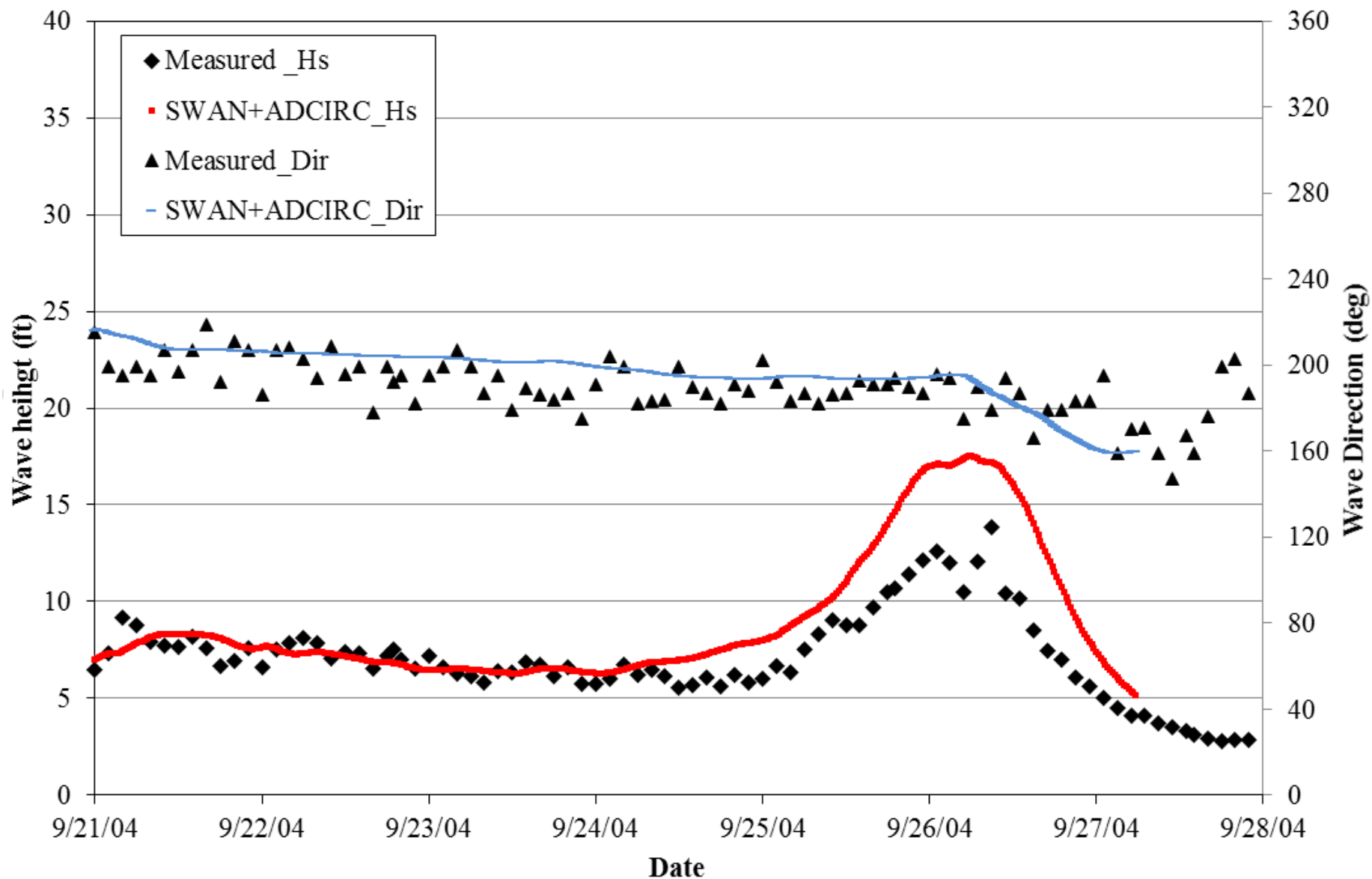


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Jeanne; Station FDEP/SES



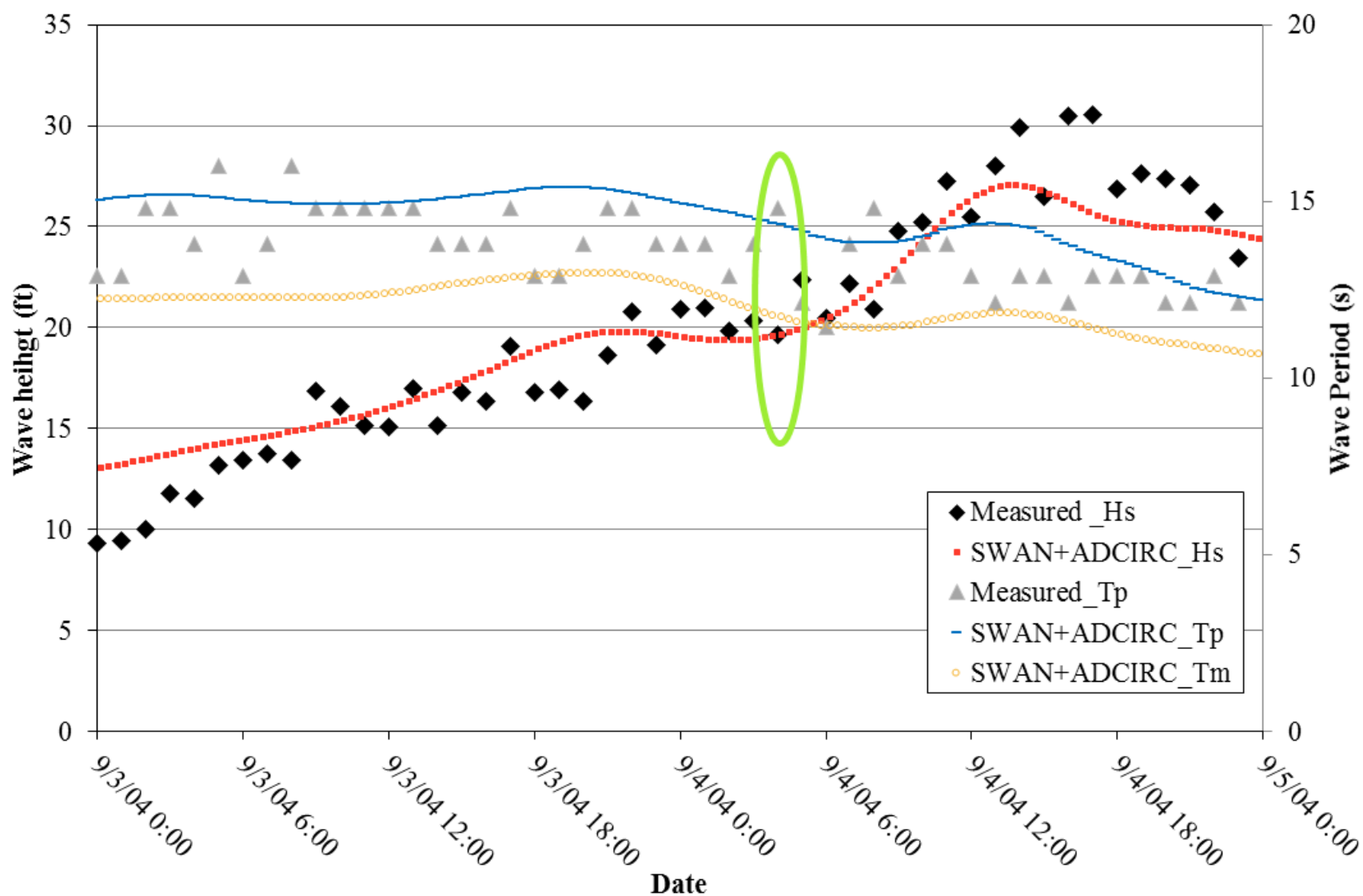


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Frances; 41010; Spectra





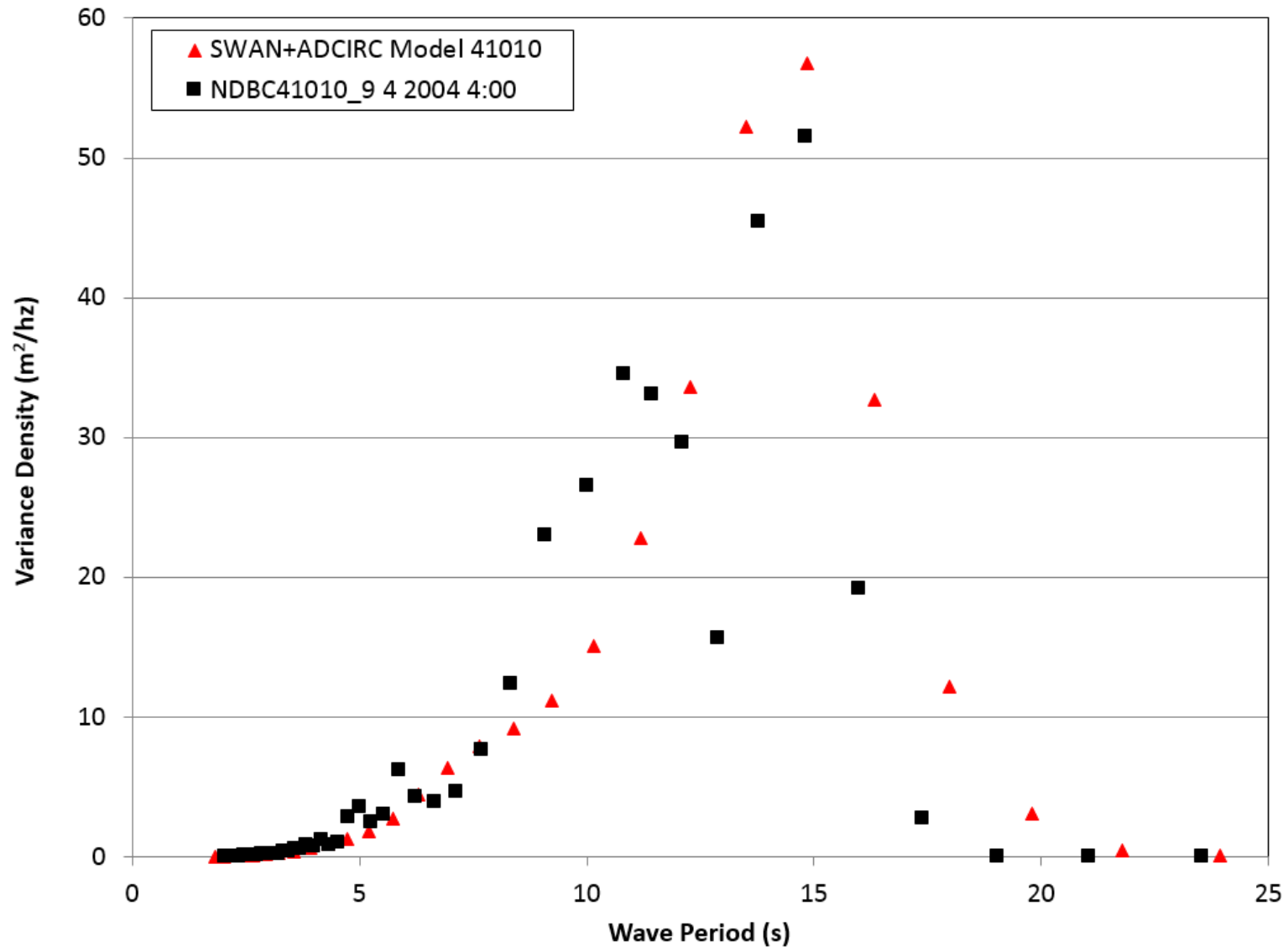


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## SWAN+ADCIRC Wave Parameter Time Series: Frances; 41010; Spectra





## Model Development and Results

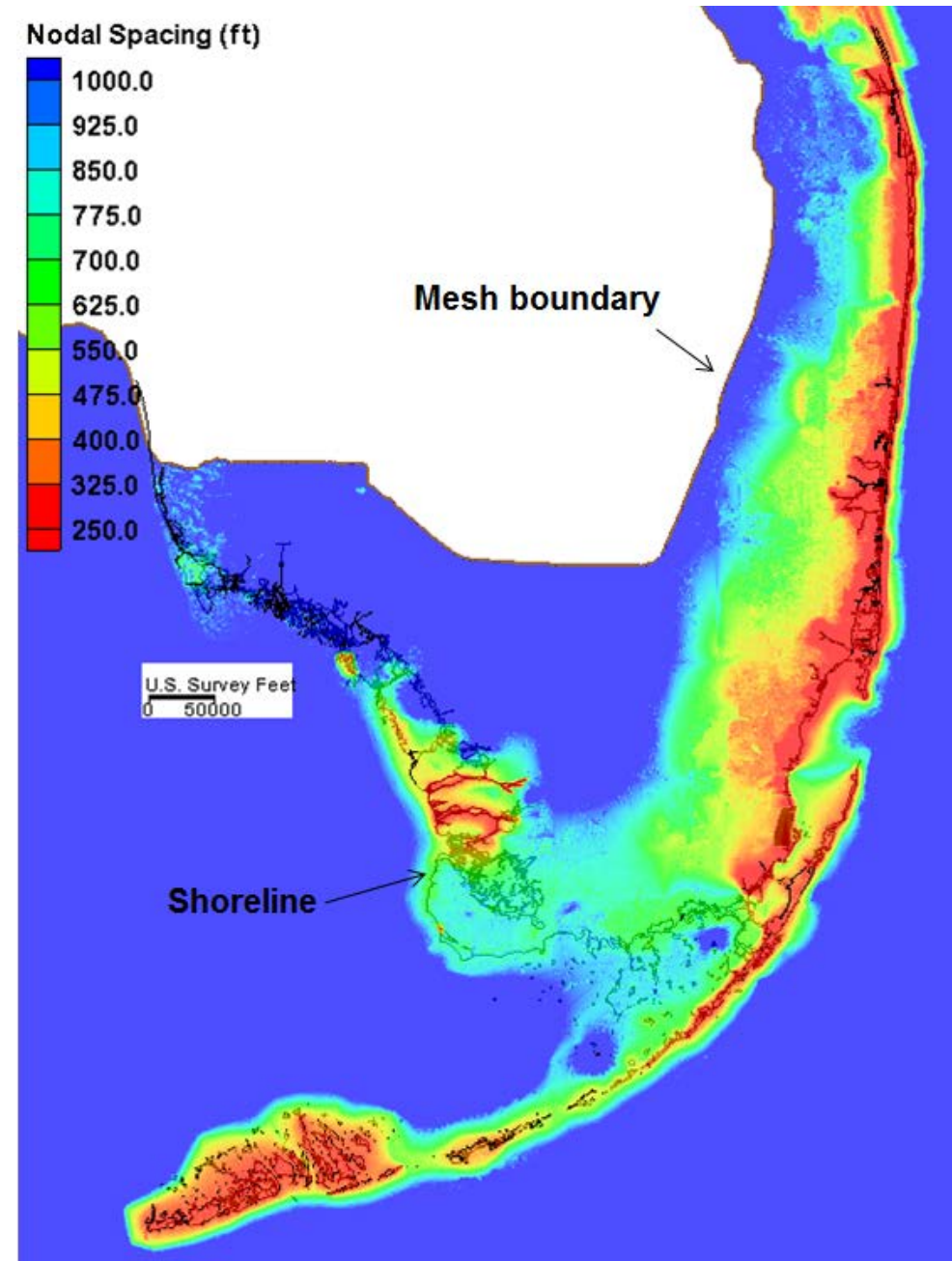
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  - Developed SWAN+ADCIRC mesh
  - Completed tasks in parallel
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- SFL model mesh development
  - Focus of current efforts
  - Large study area with challenging bathymetry and topography features
  - Nodal spacing down to 30-50 ft resolution to capture important channels
  - No wave data located during data discovery process







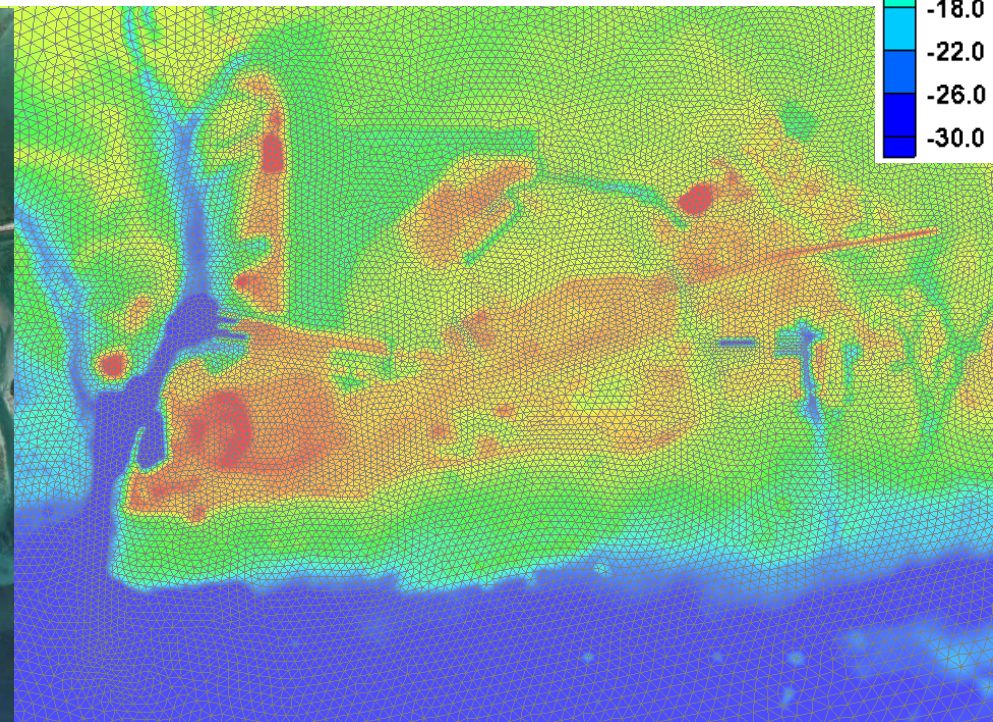
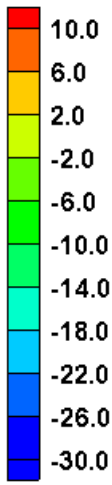
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## SWAN+ADCIRC Mesh

Elevation, ft-NAVD



**SFL Study; Key West**





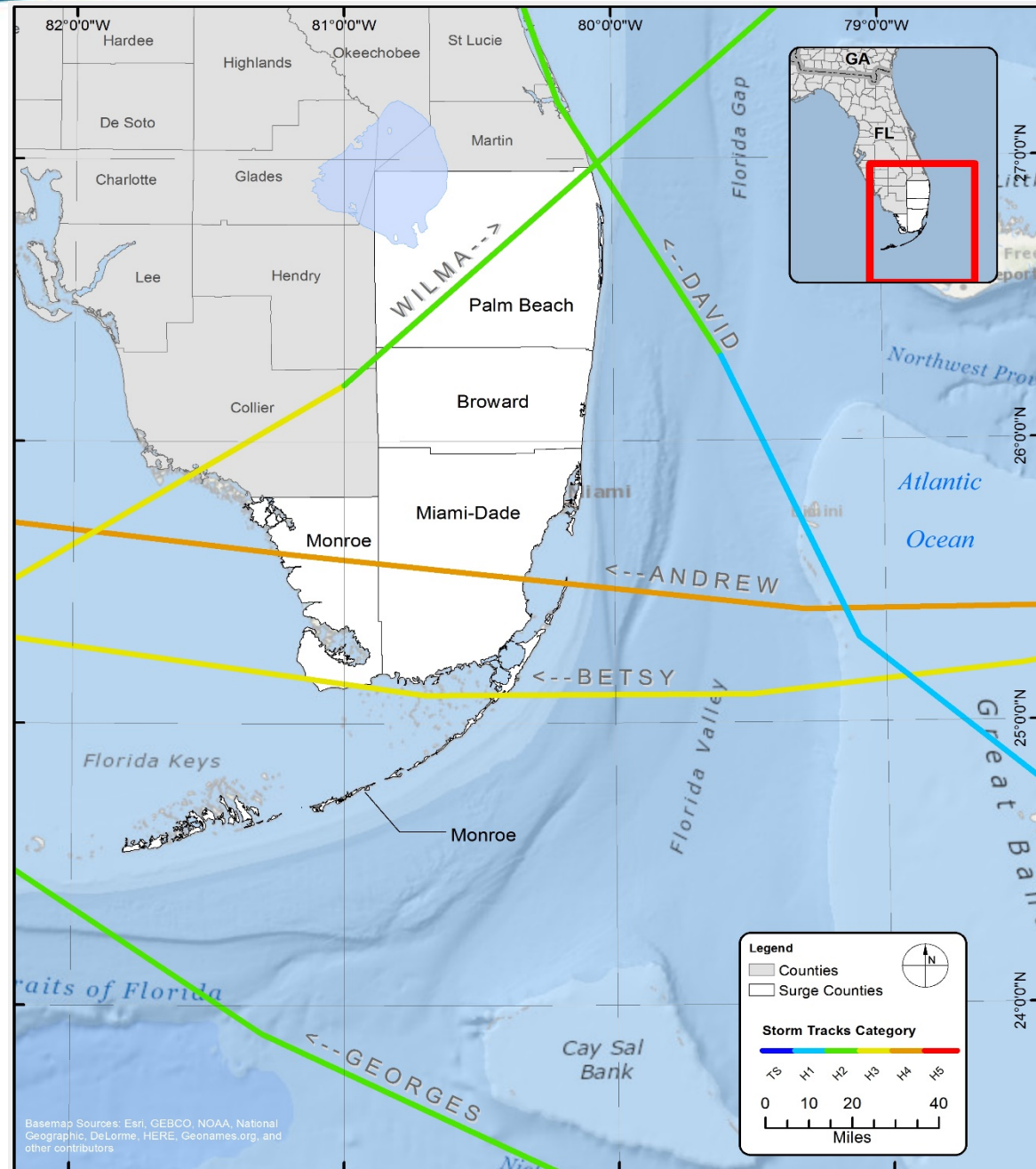
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## South Florida Surge Study Validation Storms

- Hurricane Betsy (1965)
- Hurricane David (1979)
- Hurricane Andrew (1992)
- Hurricane Georges (1998)
- Hurricane Wilma (2005)







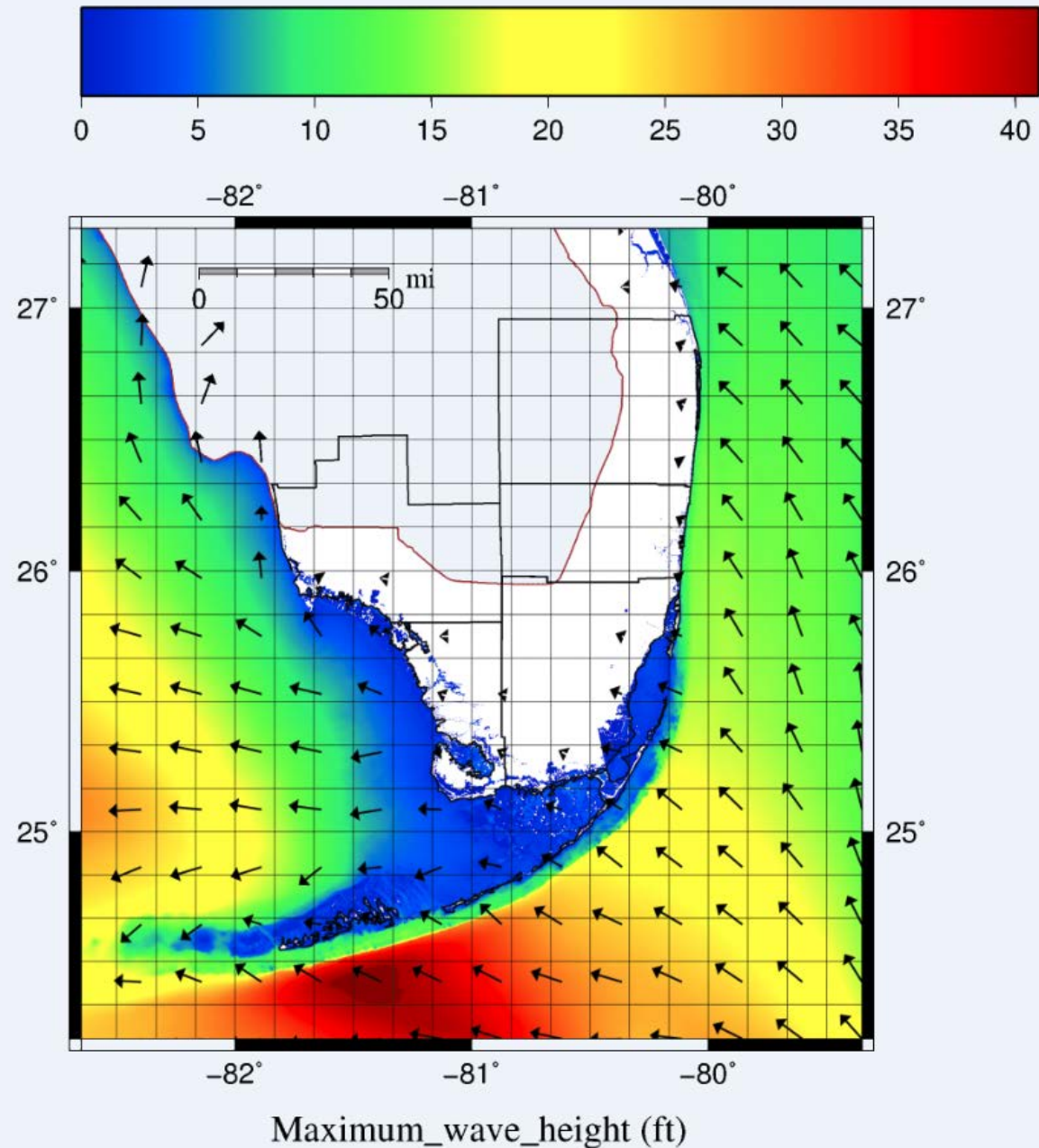
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## Hurricane Georges Maximum Wave Height

- Values exceed 40 ft offshore
- Significant breaking over nearshore reefs



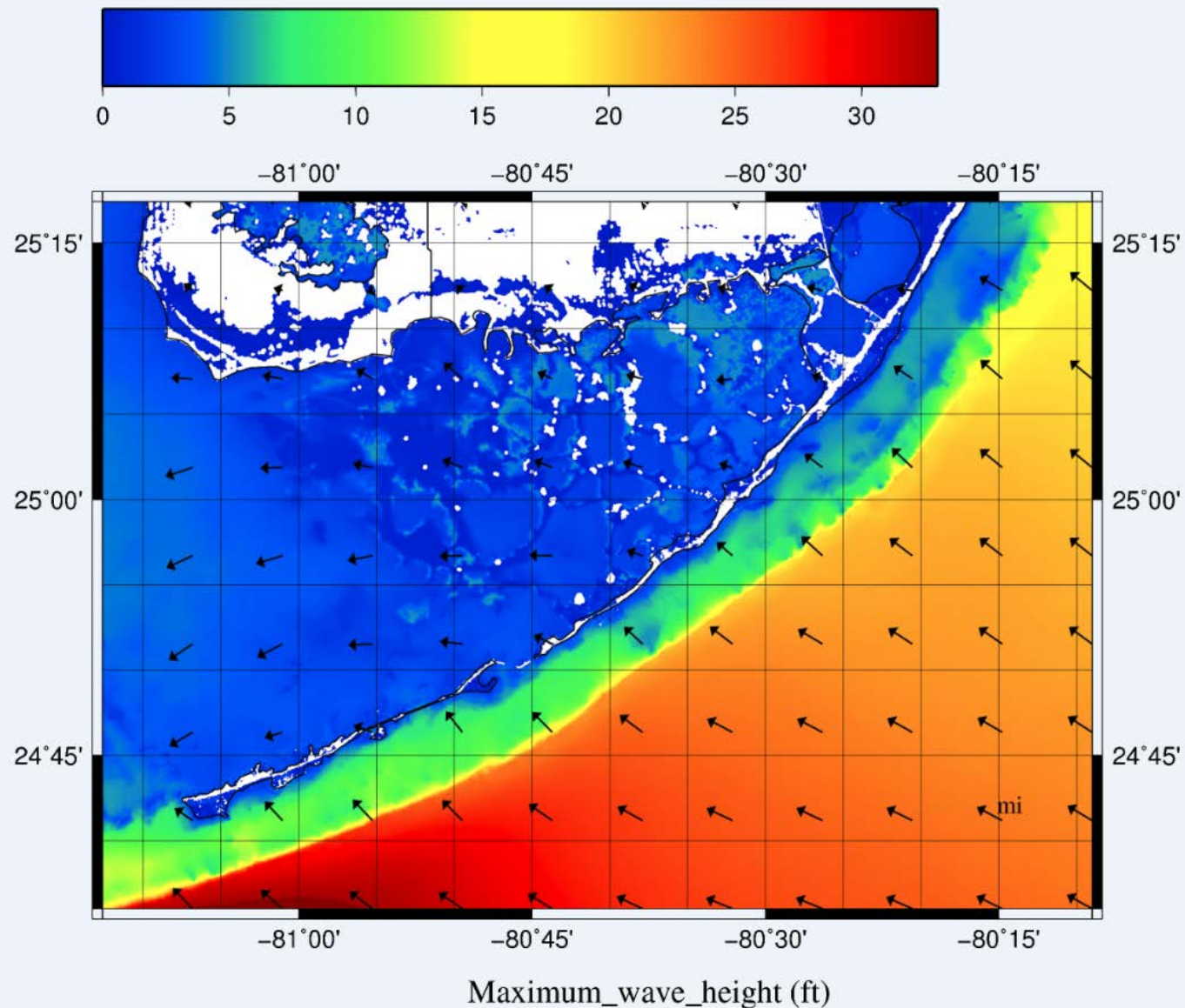


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## Hurricane Georges Maximum Wave Height Florida Keys





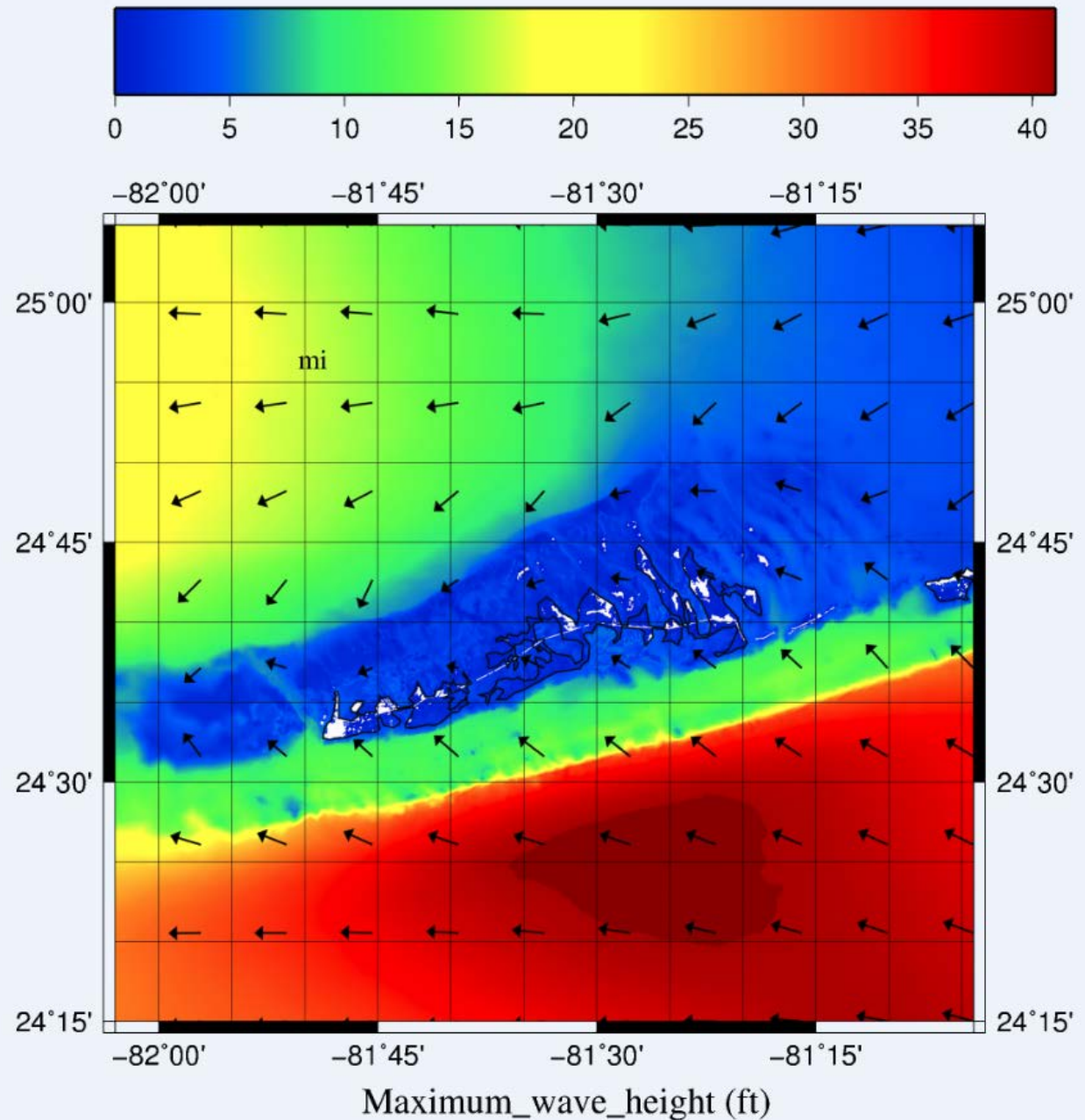


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## Hurricane Georges Maximum Wave Height Florida Keys; Key West







## Conclusions

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- SWAN+ADCIRC model applied for recent FEMA coastal surge studies
- Comparison of SWAN+ADCIRC model wave parameters shows good agreement to available data
- Current efforts are applying SWAN+ADCIRC model for South Florida project
  - Search for measured South Florida wave data during tropical storms continues...
  - [cbender@taylorengineering.com](mailto:cbender@taylorengineering.com)



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# Questions? Data?