Finite-Element barotropic model for the Indian and Western Pacific Oceans: Tidal model-data comparisons and sensitivities

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Abstract :

In this study, a 9.6 million node large-scale unstructured grid finite-element forward barotropic model is developed and applied to understand the tidal dynamics and dissipation mechanisms of the Indian and western Pacific Oceans down to sub-kilometer scale at the coast. Tidal model-data comparisons are presented to assess the capabilities and limitations of our large-scale barotropic model. The average rootmean-square (RMS) discrepancies of tidal elevations at coastal tide gauges is 14 cm, which is similar to 3 cm smaller than those of a state-of-the- art global data assimilated barotropic tidal model. Sensitivities to lateral boundary conditions, bathymetry, and dissipative processes are explored to guide future endeavors related to large-scale barotropic modeling in the region and other regions throughout the world. Lateral boundary conditions are found to induce adverse resonant effects on the lunar semi-diurnal modes when poorly placed elevation specified boundary conditions are used. This problem is largely resolved by using an absorption-generation layer at the boundary. Parameterization of internal tide energy conversion is identified as the most important aspect to control deep water solutions, and help reduce the RMS discrepancies of the entire system. Two forms of this parameterization are presented and their spatial distributions of dissipation are compared. Bathymetry has a negligible effect on the tidal solutions in deep water, but local high resolution bathymetry results in significant reductions to the average RMS discrepancies on the continental shelf (26%) and at the coast (30%). Implementing a spatially varying bottom friction coefficient based on sediment types decreases the average RMS discrepancy at the coast by 9% predominantly due to its positive effects in the Yellow Sea. The model is shown to capture a large amount of the tidal physics and has the potential for application to a range of barotropic problems such as wind-driven surge and tidal processes.

Highlights

▶ Mean RMS tidal elevation errors at coastal gauges are smaller than a data assimilated model. ▶ An absorption-generation sponge layer at lateral boundaries is necessary to help reduce resonant effects in the domain. ▶ Dissipative effects of two internal tide energy conversion parameterizations are compared.
 ▶ Bathymetry reduces mean continental shelf (26%) and coastal (30%) RMS tidal elevation errors. ▶ Spatially varying bottom friction coefficients reduce mean coastal RMS tidal elevation errors (9%).

Keywords : Finite-element, Unstructured grid, Barotropic tides, Bathymetry, Internal tide energy conversion, Bottom friction

1 1. Introduction

The Indian and western Pacific Oceans represent approximately 30% of the surface area of 2 the world oceans. They are interconnected by marginal seas such as the Java, Timor, Banda, 3 Andaman and Arafura Seas, and are separated by the intricate island chains of Indonesia and the 4 Philippines. Major ports and cities are located in the northern parts of both the Indian Ocean 5 (Dubai, Karachi, Mumbai, Colombo) and the western Pacific Ocean (Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tokyo, 6 Singapore), representing a significant portion of the world's economy and human population. Thus, 7 within this region (which we call IndWPac hereafter), there is great interest in being able to better 8 understand coastal hazards and hydrodynamics for e.g., coastal protection and management, risk 9 evaluation, and navigational purposes. 10

For such purposes, our long-term objective is to develop a large domain depth-integrated forward 11 model of the IndWPac region which couples tides, atmospheric driven currents, density driven 12 circulation, and wind waves. The focus is to advance the modeling of these individual processes and 13 systematically understand the interactivity of dissipation mechanisms, bathymetric sensitivities, 14 and lateral boundary forcing mechanisms on the response functions throughout this domain. In 15 particular, our interests lie on inner shelf and estuarine processes, and how these mechanisms impact 16 coastal and inland water levels and currents. This is notwithstanding the challenge of the IndWPac 17 region in terms of its complex geometry, topography (such as the many interconnected shallow 18 seas and island chains), and associated hydrodynamics in comparison with e.g., the western North 19 Atlantic region that has received significant attention (Hope et al., 2013; Kerr et al., 2013; Bunya 20 et al., 2010). 21

To model the dynamics at coastal and inland locations within the IndWPac region, all processes and exchanges from ocean scale to harbor inlet scale, must be appropriately represented. Coarse resolution global models (e.g. Egbert et al., 2004; Green and Nycander, 2013; Buijsman et al., 2015; Green et al., 2017) have been developed to simulate the large-scale global ocean dynamics, but as a result of grid resolution they may inadequately capture geometric features and nonlinearities of the hydrodynamics in the inner shelf and nearshore region. Conversely, higher resolution shelf scale ²⁸ regional domain models are often developed to accurately capture local effects (e.g. Green and David,
²⁰ 2013; Cai et al., 2006; Zu et al., 2008, in South China Sea). However, accurate lateral boundary
³⁰ conditions are required to propagate in all of the required information from offshore. The closer one
³¹ gets to the coast, the more boundary conditions become complicated and difficult to match with
³² the interior domain physics in order to correctly exchange mass, momentum and energy across the
³³ boundary. Furthermore, regional model parameters are calibrated to generate accurate results in
³⁴ the specific region that may not be generally applicable in other regions.

Thus, this study presents the development of an ocean basin scale model which minimizes lateral 35 boundary interaction, yet sufficiently resolves energetic processes from the deep water to the coast 36 using a single unstructured computational grid in a physically consistent manner without ad-hoc 37 parameterization. The scale of this model fits somewhere in between the global scale and shelf 38 scale regional models that are more commonly developed. The ocean basin scale model utilizes 39 varying resolutions to produce high fidelity coastal bathymetry of critical geographic and topographic 40 features such as island chains, reef systems, and floodplain systems; provides connectivity to estuarine 41 and harbor systems where dense coastal populations live; and captures key dynamics of a large 42 regional domain in which the effects of changing dynamics in a certain region can propagate into 43 other regions. At the same time, lateral boundaries are placed further offshore than shelf scale 44 regional models, thus more focus is placed on the inner model dynamics allowing the governing 45 physics to equilibrate without constraining the system. Hence, a more accurate understanding of 46 the controls and the extent of impact throughout the domain may be obtained. Note that in future 47 work as computational resources allow, we would like to extend this ocean basin scale model to the 48 global scale while maintaining high resolution in the coastal areas. 49

The aim is to systematically build complexity into the external forcing terms and the underlying physics. In the process, sensitivity of the dynamical system and sub-grid scale parameterizations will be explored to assess the capabilities and limitations of the model in the IndWPac region. In this study, we begin this process through model-data comparisons of tidal elevations (predominantly) and tidal currents due to astronomical forcing. Since tides can be reduced to a series of harmonic constituents of well-defined frequencies, model-data comparisons can be robustly made. Comparisons are conducted against point observations at tide gauges and regionally against global

⁵⁷ data-assimilative model atlases. Examples of the latter include TPXO8 (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002)

58 (http://volkov.oce.orst.edu/tides/tpxo8_atlas.html), FES2014 (Lyard et al., 2006) (https:

59 //www.aviso.altimetry.fr/en/data/products/auxiliary-products/global-tide-fes/description-fes2014.

html), and NAO.99b (Matsumoto et al., 2000). These models assimilate elevation data from satellite 60 altimetry and selected coastal tide gauges to accurately obtain estimates of the tidal elevation fields 61 in terms of individual harmonic constituents. M_2 tidal wave root-mean-square errors (RMSE) of 62 modern data assimilated models are typically 0.5-0.7 cm versus deep-ocean bottom pressure recorder 63 stations (Stammer et al., 2014). In contrast, M₂ RMSE ranges within 5.6-12.7 cm for purely hydro-64 dynamic global models without data-assimilation (Stammer et al., 2014). However, non-assimilative 65 forward models on large domains can be applied to a wide variety of problems including wind, pres-66 sure, ice and wave coupling effects, and may be used to conduct past (Egbert et al., 2004; Green, 67 2010; Wilmes and Green, 2014; Green et al., 2017) or future forecasting and perturbation response 68 analysis (Green and David, 2013), e.g., due to changing sea level, large-scale ice sheet collapse 69 (Wilmes et al., 2017), dredging operations, and land reclamation (Suh et al., 2014). 70

Importantly, this study explores the sensitivities of various controls on the barotropic tidal dy-71 namics. At first, the effects of lateral boundary placement, and the addition of an absorption-72 generation sponge layer at the lateral boundary, are discussed. Secondly, the responses to two 73 different global bathymetric databases are directly compared. Thirdly, high resolution local bathy-74 metric data are included, where available, to assess its potential to facilitate improvements in the 75 solution. Lastly, internal tide and bed stress (bottom friction) driven dissipative effects are explored: 76 After it was discovered that around 25-30% of the total global tidal dissipation is in the deep ocean 77 (Egbert and Ray, 2000), the conversion of barotropic energy into baroclinic energy through the 78 generation of internal tides over rough submarine topography was determined to be an important 79 process to include in ocean tide models (for a review see Garrett and Kunze, 2007). Parameteri-80 zations of *internal tide energy conversion* (in which it is incorporated as a sink term) through this 81 process is critical to reduce tidal elevation discrepancies in barotropic ocean models (Jayne and St. 82 Laurent, 2001; Egbert et al., 2004; Zaron and Egbert, 2006; Green and Nycander, 2013; Buijsman 83 et al., 2015). The effects of the energy conversion parameterization in the IndWPac region, including 84 comparisons between two different forms of parameterization, are discussed. In addition, spatially 85 varying bottom friction coefficients in the parameterization of bed stress are rarely considered in 86 large-scale models. Instead, a canonical spatially constant coefficient is commonly applied (Lyard 87 et al., 2006; Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002). However, changing the bottom friction coefficient has been 88 shown to have positive effects regionally (Kerr et al., 2013; Lefevre et al., 2000). We briefly discuss 89 the impacts of estimating spatially varying coefficients based on local sediment types and the local 90 hydrodynamics. The requirements for improved estimations of local bottom friction coefficients for 91

⁹² future research are considered.

To summarize, this paper describes the development of the IndWPac unstructured grid and hydrodynamic modeling system (§2-3). It is built with state-of-the-art bathymetric datasets (§2), absorption-generation boundary conditions (§3.5), and data-informed parameterizations of internal tide energy conversion (§3.3) and bottom friction dissipation (§3.4). We analyze the sensitivity of the model to these four factors (§5), and conduct model-data comparisons of tidal elevations and tidal

⁹⁸ currents against both tide gauge records and a data assimilated tidal model (§4). The capabilities
⁹⁹ and limitations of the model are identified and discussed (§4-5). Suggested areas of focus to advance

¹⁰⁰ barotropic coastal ocean models are highlighted.

¹⁰¹ 2. Domain Definition, Bathymetry, and Unstructured Grid Development

Our ocean basin scale model includes the entire Indian Ocean, the western half of the Pacific 102 Ocean, and the Southern Ocean between these extents. Specifically, the domain (Fig. 1) lies between 103 17.9°E - 175.8°E longitude and 73.3°S - 62.7°N latitude covering an area of roughly 150 million km². 104 There are two open ocean boundaries: a longitudinal parallel boundary running from nearby the 105 Cape of Good Hope, South Africa to Antarctica; and a concave shaped boundary between the 106 Bering Sea coast of Kamchatka Krai, Russia and Antarctica. The boundaries were chosen so that 107 tidal amphidromic points and complications with the Aleutian, Hawaiian and New Zealand islands 108 in the Pacific Ocean were avoided (an illustration on the effects of boundary placement is shown in 109 §**5**.1). 110

The mesh is a triangular unstructured grid with resolution ranging from as large as 25 km in parts of the deep ocean down to 1 km along most coastlines (Fig. 1(b)). Additionally, resolution is as fine as 100 m in the ports and harbors of Hong Kong, Tokyo Bay and Osaka Bay. The mesh contains a total of 9.6 million nodes and 18.8 million elements.

Development of the unstructured mesh is achieved predominantly through an automated algorithm developed in-house based on the MATLAB DistMesh code (Persson and Strang, 2004). Resolution is varied through an edgelength (local grid resolution) function λ_E , defined as the minimum of three criteria:

$$\lambda_E = \min\left(\lambda_m + \alpha_d d, \quad \frac{T}{\alpha_w}\sqrt{gh}, \quad \frac{2\pi}{\alpha_s}\frac{h}{|\nabla h|}\right) \tag{1}$$

where λ_m is the nominal minimum edgelength, d is the distance from a node to the closest coastline boundary, T is the period of the M₂ tidal wave, h is the bathymetric depth, and α_i are the dimensionless user-defined coefficients for each criterion: distance from the coastline ($\alpha_d = 0.075$),



Figure 1: (a) Bathymetric depths of the grid as interpolated from various sources (Table 1) using a cellaveraged approach; pertinent place names are annotated. (b) Resolution of the unstructured mesh, which varies based on topographic gradients, depths and proximity to the coastline; mesh resolution at the coastline is ~ 1 km in most regions, and up to ~ 25 km in the deep and flat regions of the ocean.

wavelength ($\alpha_w = 600$), and topographic length scale ($\alpha_s = 30$, Lyard et al., 2006). In addition to obtaining higher resolution nearshore to support local bathymetric data and capture complex geometries of the coastline, these edgelength criteria ensure that important bathymetric features are adequately represented throughout the ocean.

Model bathymetry (Fig. 1(a)) is interpolated onto the mesh from a number of sources in a 126 specified order using an automated cell-averaging technique (Bilskie and Hagen, 2013) as summa-127 rized in Table 1 (references are included here). The adopted background bathymetry is the $1/120^{\circ}$ 128 SRTM30_PLUS global database (Becker et al., 2009) combined with a synthetic realization of seafloor 129 roughness along the abyssal hills (Goff and Arbic, 2010; Timko et al., 2017). The synthetic abyssal 130 hill roughness is used because the effective resolution of the global altimetric based bathymetry is 131 limited to >10 km in the deep ocean while ~ 1 km resolution is necessary to describe the required 132 topographic roughness that generates internal tides converting barotropic energy into baroclinic en-133 ergy (Goff and Arbic, 2010; Melet et al., 2013; Timko et al., 2017). In addition, to include depths 134 under ice shelves in Antarctica we interpolate from the TPXO8 model bathymetry containing the 135 Padman et al. (2002) dataset. 136

For shallower regions (in depths < 500 m) where the abyssal hill roughness is not important, we start by interpolating from the global 1/240° SRTM15_PLUS database which improves

on SRTM30_PLUS with newer measured nearshore bathymetry and topography sources thereby re-139 ducing the number of erroneous holes in the data. On top of this, 100 m Deepreef Explorer Great 140 Barrier Reef and Coral Seas (GBR), and Kerguelen Plateau (KP) datasets are applied. It was dis-141 covered that Deepreef Explorer GBR in the Torres Strait/New Guinea Region matches substantially 142 better with GEBCO_2014 than SRTM15_PLUS, thus GEBCO_2014 is applied locally here (differ-143 ences between the two databases are discussed further in $\S5.2$). Also, 90 m East Asia nearshore 144 bathymetry datasets in the Philippines, Japan, Gulf of Thailand, South China Sea, and East China 145 Sea regions; and local high-resolution bathymetry and grids privately obtained for Tokyo Bay and 146 South Korea are applied. However, even in the high-resolution datasets, erroneous depth in harbor 147 complexes and channels persist. These are corrected where possible using data from FUGAWI nav-148 igational charts (https://www.fugawi.com/). However, the errors in the final bathymetry that is 149 applied to IndWPac are still largely uncertain. Furthermore, the bathymetric data sources included 150 in this study are not exhaustive and there may be others available, possibly more accurate than the 151 sources currently used, that we have not yet included (e.g. Choi et al., 2002; Krien et al., 2016). 152

Name	Source(s)	Location	Resolution	Availability
SRTM30_PLUS	Becker et al. (2009)	globally $>500 \text{ m depth}$	$1/120^{\circ}$	free at website 1
Abysall Hills	Goff and Arbic (2010); Melet et al. (2013)	globally $>500 \mathrm{~m~depth}$	$1/120^{\circ}$	prvt. comm.
SRTM15_PLUS	Sandwell et al. (2014)	globally <500 m depth	$1/240^{\circ}$	free at website 2
TPXO8	Padman et al. (2002)	${<}65^{\circ}S$	$1/30^{\circ}$	free at website 3
GEBCO_2014	Weatherall et al. (2015)	Torres Strait/New Guinea	$1/120^{\circ}$	free at website $\!\!\!^4$
Deepreef Explorer GBR	Beaman (2010)	Great Barrier Reef & Coral Sea	$1/1000^{\circ}$	free at website 5
Deepreef Explorer KP	Beaman and O'Brien (2011)	Kerguelen Plateau	$1/1000^{\circ}$	free at website 6
TCarta Marine	TCarta Marine (2012)	East Asia nearshore	$1/1200^{\circ}$	$proprietary^7$
Tokyo Bay HR	Shintaro Bunya (prvt. comm., 2015)	Tokyo Bay	FE grid	prvt. comm.
South Korea HR	SeungWon Suh (prvt. comm., 2017)	South Korea	FE grid	prvt. comm.
Harbor hand-edits	FUGAWI Navigational Charts	various harbors and channels	FE grid	-

Table 1: Bathymetric data sources, location applied, resolution and availability. Interpolation onto our grid is conducted in the order shown in this table

FE grid: indicates data was received on a finite-element grid

¹: ftp://topex.ucsd.edu/pub/srtm30_plus/

²: ftp://topex.ucsd.edu/pub/srtm15_plus/

³: http://volkov.oce.orst.edu/tides/tpxo8_atlas.html

⁴: http://www.gebco.net/data_and_products/gridded_bathymetry_data/

⁵: https://www.deepreef.org/bathymetry/65-3dgbr-bathy.html

⁶: https://www.deepreef.org/bathymetry/98-kergdem-bathy.html

⁷: provided by Factory Mutual Insurance Company (FM Global), Norwood, MA

153 3. ADCIRC Hydrodynamic Model

154 3.1. Governing Equations

The horizontal two-dimensional implementation of the Advanced Circulation coastal ocean model (ADCIRC-2DH) is used to calculate the hydrodynamics (Westerink et al., 2008, 1992). The governingequations are the shallow water equations (SWE) in primitive, non-conservative, and barotropic form:

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$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\boldsymbol{u}H) + \sigma(\boldsymbol{x})(\eta - \eta_c) = 0$$
(2)

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{u} + f \mathbf{k} \times \boldsymbol{u} + g \nabla (\eta - \eta_{EQ} - \eta_{SAL}) + C_f \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}|\boldsymbol{u}}{H} + \mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{u} - \frac{1}{H} \nabla \cdot [\nu_t H (\nabla \boldsymbol{u} + \nabla \boldsymbol{u}^{\mathrm{T}})] + \sigma(\boldsymbol{x})(\boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{u}_c) = 0$$
(3)

where η is the surface elevation, $H = h + \eta$ is the total water depth in which h is the still water 160 depth, \boldsymbol{u} is the depth-averaged velocity vector, \boldsymbol{g} is the acceleration due to gravity, \mathbf{k} is the vertical 161 unit vector, and $f = 2\Omega \sin \phi$ is the Coriolis parameter in which Ω is the angular speed of the earth, 162 and ϕ is the latitude. The quantity η_{EQ} is the equilibrium tide, and η_{SAL} is the ocean self-attraction 163 and loading term (SAL). In the dissipation terms, C_f is the coefficient of bottom friction, C is the 164 dissipation matrix due to the internal tide energy conversion, and ν_t is the horizontal eddy viscosity 165 coefficient that is calculated through the Smagorinsky model (Smagorinsky, 1963; Dresback et al., 166 2005). Finally, we impose an absorption-generation sponge layer (e.g. Zhang et al., 2014) where, 167 $\sigma(x)$ are the spatially varying absorption coefficients applied over the defined sponge boundary, and 168 η_c and u_c are the corresponding reference solutions for surface elevation and velocity respectively 169 (see $\S3.5$ for details). 170

171 3.2. Ocean Self-attraction and Loading Term

The ocean self-attracting and loading (SAL) term, η_{SAL} is related to the yielding of the solid 172 Earth to tides and to the weight of the ocean and its self-attraction (Hendershott, 1972). For 173 the large-scale IndWPac domain it is essential to include the effect of SAL terms on the tides. 174 However, since the model is regional, the global integrals of the tidal elevations required to be solved 175 iteratively for the SAL terms (Ray, 1998) are not available. Thus, in this study the amplitudes 176 and phases of SAL for each tidal constituent are simply interpolated from those used in the global 177 data-assimilated model FES2014 (Lyard et al., 2006) onto our mesh and forced by reconstructing 178 the time series from the constituents. Given the accuracy of state-of-the-art global data-assimilated 179 models (Stammer et al., 2014), the slowly varying SAL terms obtained from these models are also 180

assumed to be sufficiently accurate. However, the calculation of SAL through global integrals to
obtain full consistency with the surface elevation (including non-periodic components) is ultimately
desired (c.f. Apecechea et al., 2017).

184 3.3. Internal Tide Energy Conversion

Internal tides generated by flow over rough bathymetry are major contributors to barotropic 185 tidal energy dissipation (more precisely, the conversion into baroclinic energy) in the deep ocean, 186 equivalent to around 25-30% of the global total (Egbert and Ray, 2000, 2001). As a result, parame-187 terization of this energy conversion is necessary in barotropic ocean models that include expanses of 188 ocean where major submarine ridges, island chains and shelf breaks that induce internal waves are 189 present. In this study, parameterization of internal tide energy conversion is particularly important 190 since the Indian Ocean basin contains narrow shelves and vast expanses of open ocean where the 191 dissipation due to internal tides over its well defined abyssal hills is crucial to the accuracy of the 192 tidal solutions. 193

Parameterizations of internal tide energy conversion are usually based on a linear wave drag type implementation, valid only for subcritical topography ($\gamma < 1$) (Bell, 1975; Jayne and St. Laurent, 2001). Here, $\gamma = \frac{||\nabla h||}{\alpha}$, in which $\alpha = \left(\frac{\omega^2 - f^2}{N_b^2 - \omega^2}\right)^{1/2}$ is the internal wave slope, ω is the angular frequency of the pertinent tidal wave (M₂ in this study), and N_b is the Brunt-Väisälä frequency at the seabed. In this study, we investigate two subcritical theory parameterizations for the dissipation matrix **C** in (3): one based only on local topographic features, and another that includes the nonlocal effects on wave generation.

First, we use a simple and robust parameterization that takes into account the directionality of dissipation (which we denote as the '*Local*' method) similar to that presented by Lyard et al. (2006) is:

$$\mathbf{C} = C_{Dir} \frac{[(N_b^2 - \omega^2)(\tilde{N}^2 - \omega^2)]^{1/2}}{\omega} \begin{vmatrix} h_x^2 & h_x h_y \\ h_x h_y & h_y^2 \end{vmatrix}$$
(4)

where C_{Dir} is a scale factor, \tilde{N} is the depth-averaged Brunt-Väisälä frequency, and the subscripts 'x' and 'y' indicate gradients in the longitudinal and latitudinal directions respectively. Note that we have substituted the typical wavenumber, κ in Lyard et al. (2006) for the fundamental internal mode at the pertinent tidal frequency (Zaron and Egbert, 2006). The *Local* method only dissipates across slopes (rather than along them).

Second, a rigorous formulation for \mathbf{C} that includes the nonlocal effects of the nearby topography on internal tide generation (Melet et al., 2013) was derived by Nycander (2005) (denoted as the ²¹¹ 'Nonlocal' method hereafter). It has the following form in a general coordinate system (Green and ²¹² Nycander, 2013):

$$\mathbf{C} = C_{Nyc} \frac{N_b}{4\pi h} \sqrt{1 - \frac{f^2}{\omega^2}} \begin{bmatrix} 2J_x h_x^* & J_x h_y^* + J_y h_x^* \\ J_x h_y^* + J_y h_x^* & 2J_y h_y^* \end{bmatrix}$$
(5)

where C_{Nyc} is a scale factor, and J is a convolution integral of a filtered Green's function of the topographic heights h^* (defined positive from seabed) within a specified radius from the point of interest (c.f. Green and Nycander, 2013; Nycander, 2005).

Details of the calculation of the gradients of J, h^* , and h; the correction to (4) and (5) at supercritical topographical slopes ($\gamma > 1$); and the calculation of the buoyancy frequency terms (N_b , \tilde{N}) required for the two methods are detailed in Pringle et al., submitted. Buoyancy frequencies are calculated from the World Ocean Atlas 2013 mean annual decadal-averaged (1955-2012) database of salinity (Zweng et al., 2013) and temperature (Locarnini et al., 2013). Note that for h < 100 m we set $\mathbf{C} = 0$, because the topographic gradients on the continental shelf should be small, and bottom friction dissipation starts to dominate here.

The advantage of the *Local* method is that **C** is positive definite, and it does not require the computationally intensive calculation of J allowing it to be quickly implemented into the model. On the other hand, the *Nonlocal* method accounts for the nonlocal topographic effects on internal tide generation. However, **C** in (5) is not guaranteed to be positive definite since the sign of the gradients of J and h^* do not necessarily conform. Furthermore, the calculation of the gradients of J is computationally expensive so it is not as readily implemented into a numerical model.

Modifications to get a positive definite **C**, and Guassian smoothing of N_b to incorporate the nonlocal effects of buoyancy frequencies for the *Nonlocal* method are implemented and briefly evaluated in this study (see Pringle et al., *submitted*, for details on modifications). We also investigate whether the *Nonlocal* method provides any meaningful advantageous effect over the *Local* method by comparing the results between the two methods (see §5.3).

234 3.4. Bottom Friction Dissipation

Dissipation due to bottom friction (bed stress) is known to account for a significant proportion of dissipation of the barotropic tides, particularly in shallow regions ($h \ll 100$ m). Values for the coefficient of bottom friction C_f , in the bed stress term (refer (3)), have shown to be predominantly on the order of 10^{-3} based on measurements of the flow velocity at 1 m above the bed in continental shelf and estuarine regions (e.g. You, 2005; Heathershaw, 1979; Heathershaw and Simpson, 1978; Chemerels, 1050). Thus, comparing alphabel submapping of C_{10} and the 2 for 10^{-3} (Long det al. 2006) are $_{241}$ 3.0×10⁻³ (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002) are usually applied as a spatial constant in large-scale tidal models.

It has been suggested that deviations from the canonical value of C_f globally do not significantly 243 change the overall dissipation but that deviations by an order of ten can significantly degrade the 244 tidal solution (Lyard et al., 2006). Nevertheless, if other dissipation mechanisms are reliable (internal 245 tide energy conversion), there is evidence that local variations in C_f over the range of physically 246 plausible values $(10^{-4} \text{ to } 10^{-2})$ can improve local tidal solutions (e.g. Lefevre et al., 2000). In this 247 study, we present a semidata-informed method of calculating spatially varying C_f . We aim to show 248 that it is possible to calculate a spatially varying C_f map that locally improves tidal elevations 249 based on some knowledge of the seabed and physical properties of the flow, notwithstanding the 250 assumptions of the method and uncertainties in the data used to inform the method. 251

We start with the log-law formulation of C_f (Schlichting, 1979):

$$C_f = [\kappa / \ln(0.5H/z_0)]^2 \tag{6}$$

where $\kappa = 0.4$ is the von Kármán constant, and z_0 is the seabed roughness length which can be 253 equated to an effective sediment roughness, k_s (= 30 z_0). It is important to note that k_s is not simply 254 a function of the sediment roughness (grain-size) itself, rather it is mainly determined by the heights 255 of ripples and dunes (bedforms) that form due to the prevailing currents which can be a major 256 source of the resultant bed stress (Heathershaw, 1979). To estimate k_s that takes into account the 257 bedform heights, we use empirical equations (van Rijn, 2007) that are a function of median sediment 258 grain diameter d_{50} , sediment density relative to water s, an effective mean current speed u_f , and 259 the depth h (see Appendix A). The empirical equations return small values of k_s when either the 260 sediments are light and the tidal currents are strong flattening out the bed, or when the sediment 261 grains are too heavy for the currents to create bedforms. In between these extremes, ripples and 262 dunes will form resulting in larger values of k_s . In addition, due to inadequate data availability of 263 their locations, a large grain-size roughness due to very large rocks or boulders is ignored. 264

To obtain the sediment grain sizes we make use of a database of the census of the world's seafloor sediment types (Dutkiewicz et al., 2015). We map these sediment types onto physically reasonable values of d_{50} (see Table 2). For pelagic type sediments (oozes and clays) C_f is set to 2.5×10^{-3} as a default roughness. Relative sediment density s = 1.722 (dry bulk density by mass of sand, van Rijn, 2007) for $d_{50} \ge d_{sand}$, s = 1.2 (natural sediment with organic materials involved, van Rijn, 2007) for $d_{50} \le d_{silt}$, and is linearly interpolated in between. Here, $d_{sand} = 6.2 \times 10^{-5}$ m, and $d_{silt} = 3.2 \times 10^{-5}$ m, where the assumption is made that the finer-sized sediments in the census database contain a higher percentage of lighter organic material. The effective mean current speed u_f is defined as (Zaron, 2017):

$$u_f = \left(u_0^2 + 0.5\sum_k |\boldsymbol{U}^k|^2\right)^{0.5}$$
(7)

where u_0 is a constant non-tidal current (Snyder et al., 1979), that we set equal to 0.25 m/s (Zaron, 275 2017), and U^k are the amplitudes of the east and north components of the tidal currents of the k^{th} 276 constituent. The spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ simulation is used to approximate u_f in order 277 to compute the spatially varying C_f map (see §5.4 for details on this C_f map and its effectiveness).

278 3.5. Lateral Boundary Conditions

Lateral open ocean boundaries are forced by reconstructing the elevations from the tidal con-279 stituents obtained from a global data-assimilative model, TPXO8 (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002). In 280 this study we force with the major semi-diurnal (M₂, N₂, S₂, K₂) and diurnal (K₁, O₁, P₁, Q₁) 281 constituents, which are also used to force the SAL and equilibrium potential terms. Prescribing the 282 elevations at the open boundaries provides a reflecting boundary condition that allows the veloc-283 ities to freely satisfy the governing equations. In some cases this condition can generate spurious 284 modes that may lead to instabilities. Utilizing an absorption-generation sponge layer can reduce the 285 production of these modes, as demonstrated in $\S5.1$. 286

Firstly, the location and width of the sponge layer l must be specified. We take l to be approximately equal to 10% of the wavelength of the M₂ tidal wave, λ_{M_2} . The overall solution is found to be fairly insensitive to the choice of sponge layer width, but for $l < 0.1\lambda_{M_2}$ the solutions may not match well across the sponge-calculation domain interface. To show the location and width of the sponge layer region, a hatched '+' region is included in figures throughout this paper.

Sediment Type	d_{50} [m]	s
Gravel and coarser	3.0×10^{-3}	1.722
Sand	$1.0{ imes}10^{-4}$	1.722
Silt	5.0×10^{-5}	1.513
Ash and volcanic sand/gravel	1.0×10^{-3}	1.722
Siliceous mud	$4.0{\times}10^{-5}$	1.339
Fine-grained calcareous sediment	$4.5{\times}10^{-5}$	1.426

Table 2: Median grain sizes d_{50} and relative density s for each sediment type used in the calculation of C_f

In addition, the sponge layer requires spatially varying absorption coefficients $\sigma(\mathbf{x})$, and reference solutions of the free surface η_c and velocities \mathbf{u}_c . Assuming a polynomial type function for the absorptive coefficients inside the sponge layer, they are derived from the linear shallow water solution:

$$\sigma = \sigma_m \left(\frac{r}{l}\right)^{\alpha} \tag{8}$$

$$\sigma_m = -\frac{\sqrt{gh}(\alpha+1)\ln(1/F)}{l(r_c/l)^{\alpha+1}}$$
(9)

where r is the distance from the edge of the sponge layer, α is the order of the polynomial function, F is the reduction factor of the outgoing wave at the position r_c from the edge of the sponge. The parameters $\alpha = 2$, F = 20 and $r_c/l = 0.5$ are chosen in this study but the solution is not typically sensitive to the choice of these factors. The reference solutions η_c and u_c are obtained by interpolating tidal constituents from the TPXO8 model onto every vertex node in the sponge zone. Note that to get u_c , the conservative transport variable, u_ch , is interpolated from TPXO8 before dividing this by our model nodal depths for consistency.

299 3.6. Finite-Element Solution

ADCIRC solves the governing equations in a continuous-Galerkin framework, where the generalized wave continuity equation (GWCE) is utilized to eliminate spurious modes (c.f. Westerink et al., 1992). The two-part symmetrical velocity based method for the lateral stress terms (Dresback et al., 2005), and explicit mass-lumping mode are used to solve the GWCE in this study.

A time step $\Delta t = 2$ s can be used with our current grid without generating Courant-Friedrichs-304 Lewy (CFL) induced numerical instabilities. Wall-clock times are approximately 11 min day⁻¹ of 305 simulation time using 960 computational cores ($\approx 10,000$ finite-element nodes per core) of a high-306 performance computing machine with Haswell processors and a Mellanox FDR Infiniband network 307 connection. To validate the model with observations, we simulated for 195 days, including a 15 day 308 spin-up from a completely zero state. The final 180 days are used for the harmonic analysis of the 309 tides. The long six-month time period is required to correctly separate all the tidal constituents of 310 interest (e.g K_1 and P_1). 311

312 4. Summary of Tidal Validation from Best Model Setup

313 4.1. Best Model Setup

To obtain the best model setup we first find the global amplification factor of the internal tide energy conversion parameter so that the model skill (in terms of tidal elevations) versus TPXO8 is

maximized in the deep ocean (h > 500 m). A positive definite and spatially smoothed N_b modified 316 version of the Nonlocal method with $C_{Nyc} = 2.9$ and local multiplier coefficients over the Luzon 317 Strait (see $\S5.3$) was decided on. Local bathymetry datasets and hand-edits are applied to shallow 318 water regions and responses against coastal tide gauges are checked for reliability in the harmonic 319 analysis. Finally, a map of varying bottom friction dissipation coefficients C_f is calculated based 320 on some information of the local sediment types, as described in $\S3.4$, in an attempt to increase the 321 model skill versus using a spatially constant C_f . The best model setup is denoted by 'Comp + IT 322 + SV', indicating the use of our *comprehensive* bathymetric data (Table 1), optimal *internal tide* 323 dissipation, and spatially varying C_f . 324

325 4.2. Measure of Model Skill

To measure the skill of the model for the purpose of determining and evaluating the best setup in §4.4, we compare with the root-mean-square (RMS) discrepancy D of the elevation (either for a single tidal constituent or for the total free surface) at a point. D is the average of the squared differences between measured and observed elevations integrated over a long period of time. It is calculated in this study using the sum of the vector differences of the in-phase $(A^k \cos \theta^k)$ and quadrature $(A^k \sin \theta^k)$ components of each constituent (Wang et al., 2012):

$$D = \left(0.5\sum_{k} \left[(A_0^k)^2 + (A_m^k)^2 - 2A_0^k A_m^k \cos(\theta_0^k - \theta_m^k) \right] \right)^{1/2}$$
(10)

where A^k and θ^k are the amplitudes and phase lags of the k^{th} constituent respectively, and the subscripts 'o' and 'm' refer to the observed and modeled values respectively. In addition, the relative RMS discrepancy is defined as RD = D/V, where V is the absolute average value of the variability in the free surface elevation, and is calculated by (Wang et al., 2012):

$$V = \left[0.5\sum_{k} (A_0^k)^2\right]^{1/2}$$
(11)

For an overview of the spatial distribution, we include scatter plots of D and RD at the tide gauges (and contour plots versus TPXO8) in order to highlight regions of notably small or large discrepancies. However, to obtain a single global metric of performance the mean of the discrepancy D, denoted \overline{D} , or the mean of RD, denoted \overline{RD} , is used. Note that when calculating \overline{D} over a region to compare against TPXO8 (tpx) this is computed as:

$$\overline{D}_{tpx} = \frac{\iint D \, dA}{\iint dA} \tag{12}$$

where $\iint dA$ indicates an area integral that is performed over the elements of the grid. When comparing against tide gauges $(\overline{D}_{tg}, \overline{RD}_{tg})$, the arithmetic average is used. In comparison to \overline{D} , the RMSE metric commonly used (e.g. Stammer et al., 2014; Buijsman et al., 2015) is:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\iint D^2 \, dA}{\iint dA}} \tag{13}$$

i.e., it is the square-root of the mean of D^2 and is always larger than \overline{D} . The RMSE may experience abrupt changes with depth and tends to overestimate the overall discrepancy (Wang et al., 2012). In contrast, \overline{D} has been shown to decrease monotonically with depth (Wang et al., 2012), thus we choose to predominantly use \overline{D} . However, we also quote values of RMSE for comparison with those reported in other studies.

Finally, in §4.5 comparisons of the tidal currents at seven tide gauges are shown. To evaluate the comparison here, the RMS discrepancy of the tidal current ellipse D_{TC} (Cummins and Thupaki, 2018) for the k^{th} constituent is used:

$$D_{TC}^{k} = [0.5(U_{+0}^{k}{}^{2} + U_{-0}^{k}{}^{2} + U_{+m}^{k}{}^{2} + U_{-m}^{k}{}^{2}) - \cos(g_{0}^{k} - g_{m}^{k})\cos(\Theta_{0}^{k} - \Theta_{m}^{k})(U_{+0}^{k}U_{+m}^{k} + U_{-0}^{k}U_{-m}^{k}) - \sin(g_{0}^{k} - g_{m}^{k})\sin(\Theta_{0}^{k} - \Theta_{m}^{k})(U_{+0}^{k}U_{-m}^{k} + U_{-0}^{k}U_{+m}^{k})]^{1/2}$$

$$(14)$$

where U_{+}^{k} and U_{-}^{k} are the amplitudes of the semi-major and semi-minor tidal current axes respectively, Θ^{k} is the ellipse inclination angle, and g^{k} is the phase lag of alignment along the semi-major tidal current axis.

355 4.3. Tidal Gauge Database

A database of tidal elevation harmonic constituents (used to evaluate the model in $\S4.4$), con-356 sisting of 39 deep-water stations, 62 shallow water/shelf stations, and 659 unique coastal tide gauge 357 locations has been assembled from multiple sources for the computational domain (Table 3, see 358 Pringle (2017) for tide gauge locations, and tidal constituent values). Some of the sources are listed 359 tidal constituent values at websites or in refereed journals (denoted *const.* in Table 3). Other sources 360 are long-term hourly time series of elevations (denoted *elev.* in Table 3) where we have used the 361 Utide MATLAB function ut_solv (Codiga, 2011), which uses the iteratively-weighted least-square 362 harmonic analysis technique, to obtain up to 68 tidal constituents. Within the *coastal* tide gauge 363 set there are a number of data points duplicated between sources so we set up a hierarchy between 364 the different sources to decide what value to use in our model evaluation based on perceived re-365 liability (Table 3 is listed in hierarchical order, and the number of stations listed for each source 366

³⁶⁷ is the eventual number after removal of duplicates). Note that all the phase lags in the database ³⁶⁸ (Pringle, 2017) are referenced to GMT (the phase lags from some sources, e.g., SCS, Yellow Sea and ³⁶⁹ JMA, that are posted in terms of local phase lags, have been converted). In addition, posted tidal ³⁷⁰ current harmonic constituents at seven shallow water locations (denoted *curr.* in Table 3) are used ³⁷¹ to evaluate the model in §4.5.

 Table 3: Tide gauge data sources, number and availability. Listed in hierarchical order for the coastal gauges

Name	Source	Number	Type	Availability	
Truth_Pelagic	Shum et al. (1997)	31	deep-water const.	free at website 1	
Truth_Shallow	Stammer et al. (2014)	52	shallow-water const.	free at website 1	
TOPEX/POSEIDON Crossovers	Robertson and Ffield (2008)	8/5	deep/shallow-water const.	listed in paper	
Java Sea/SCS	Wei et al. (2016)	5	shallow-water const./curr.	listed in paper	
North SCS	Cai et al. (2006)	2	${\rm shallow-water/coastal}\ {\rm curr.}$	listed in paper	
NOAA	NOAA/CO-OPS (2017)	4	coastal const.	free at website 2	
JMA	Japanese Meteorological Agency (2017)	181	coastal const.	free at website 3	
AusTides	Australian National Tide Tables (2013)	63	coastal const.	proprietary	
KHOA	Korean Hydrographic and Oceanographic Agency (2017)	35	coastal elev.	free at website $\!\!\!^4$	
GESLA-2	Woodworth et al. (2017)	107	coastal elev.	free at website 5	
UHSLC FD	Caldwell et al. (2015)	19	coastal elev.	free at website 6	
NBoB	Krien et al. (2016)	2	coastal const.	listed in paper	
SCS	Fang et al. (1999)	29	coastal const.	listed in paper	
Yellow Sea	Fang et al. (2004)	6	coastal const.	listed in paper	
ST727	British Hydrographic Institute (c.1848-1970)	130	coastal const.	free at website 1	
IHO	International Hydrographic Office (1990)	83	coastal const.	proprietary	
const.: indicates original data is tidal elevation harmonic constituent values					

elev.: indicates original data is hourly elevation time series

curr.: indicates original data is tidal current harmonic constituent values

1: ftp://ftp.legos.obs-mip.fr/pub/FES2012-project/data/gauges/2013-12-16/

- ²: https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/gmap3/
- ³: http://www.data.jma.go.jp/kaiyou/db/tide/suisan/station2017.php
- ⁴: http://www.khoa.go.kr/koofs/kor/observation/obs_real.do
- ⁵: http://www.gesla.org/
- 6: ftp://ftp.soest.hawaii.edu/uhslc/fast

372 4.4. Tidal Elevations

373 4.4.1. Spatial Distribution of Tidal Elevations and Discrepancies

374	This study focuses on presenting the M_2 and K_1 tidal waves and their discrepancies, although
375	$\S4.4.2$ presents statistics for a combination of all major eight tidal constituents as well. This choice is
376	justified because out of the 760 tide gauges in the domain (§4.3), the M_2 constituent is dominant at



Figure 2: Amplitude (m) and phase responses of the (i) M_2 and (ii) K_1 tidal waves; (a) Comp + IT + SV model setup, (b) TPXO8 model, (c) RMS discrepancies (m) between Comp + IT + SV model setup and TPXO8, D_{tpx} . '+' hatched regions indicate absorption-generation sponge zone.



Figure 3: Spatial distribution of discrepancies of the (i) M_2 and (ii) K_1 tidal waves versus tide gauges for the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup; (a) RMS discrepancy D_{tg} , (b) relative RMS discrepancy RD_{tg} . Triangles: deep water gauges, Squares: continental shelf water gauges, Circles: coastal tide gauges.

³⁷⁷ 625 locations (82%), K_1 is dominant at 106 locations (14%), thus another constituent is dominant ³⁷⁸ at just 29 locations (4%). The global responses of the M_2 and K_1 tidal waves, and their RMS ³⁷⁹ discrepancies against TPXO8 (D_{tpx}) for the Comp + IT + SV model setup are illustrated in Fig. 2. ³⁸⁰ The general response for both constituents is well described by our model, including the positions of ³⁸¹ most amphidromes, except for the two M_2 amphidromes in the southern region of the domain; one ³⁸² near the south-west tip of Australia, and another near Mawson Station, Antarctica. The positions ³⁸³ of these amphidromes and the solution in the Southern Ocean are found to be very sensitive to the boundary conditions applied in this study and may be impacted by the TPXO8 derived velocities in the absorption-generation sponge layer (see §5.1).

The spatial distribution of the RMS discrepancies (D_{tg}) and relative discrepancies (RD_{tg}) for 386 the Comp + IT + SV model setup against tide gauges are also illustrated (Fig. 3). Overall, tide 387 gauges with similar discrepancies are generally clustered together, and there is a relatively strong 388 spatial correlation between discrepancies against TPXO8 and those at tide gauges. Exceptions to 389 this include much of the inner coast of the Yellow Sea and the Seto Inland Sea where the TPXO8 390 model may not be reliable. The Comp + IT + SV model setup performs particularly well throughout 391 the western Pacific Ocean including along the Japanese archipelago and northeastern Australia for 392 both constituents. Notable wide spread RMS discrepancies in the M₂ tidal wave appear in the 393 Mozambique Channel, north and west Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Sea of Okhotsk, Andaman Sea, Yellow 394 Sea, northern Australian shelf and the Celebes Sea. K_1 RMS discrepancies are notable in the Sea 395 of Okhotsk, Arabian Sea, South China Sea and Java Seas, and the Arafura Sea. Predominantly 396 large tidal ranges account for the discrepancies shown. For example, $M_2 RD_{tq}$ values are relatively 397 small in the Yellow Sea even though D_{tpx} values appear large in the Yellow Sea for the Comp + IT 398 + SV model setup. In fact, the response is improved rather substantially from the Comp + IT + 399 SC model setup here (§5.4). RD_{tg} is also less significant than D_{tg} in the Mozambique Channel and 400 northern Australian shelf. These two regions are heavily influenced by large-scale effects related to 401 lateral boundary conditions $(\S5.1)$ and internal tide energy conversion $(\S5.3)$. 402

On the other hand, both D_{tg} and RD_{tg} are large in the Sea of Okhotsk for both constituents. 403 The importance of bathymetry in the region (which is not well known) has been highlighted by 404 Zaron (2017). The Celebes Sea is also a problem area for M_2 that is most likely a result of incorrect 405 flux exchanges through the island chains due to inadequate bathymetry and a poor representation 406 of internal tide energy conversion particularly in shallow waters. It should be noted that the Celebes 407 Sea and surrounding Indonesian seas was a focus of the original TPXO study (Egbert and Erofeeva, 408 2002) due to its poor forward model responses, and the region has been found to cause problems 409 for three-dimensional ocean circulation models (Robertson and Ffield, 2008; Ngodock et al., 2016). 410 The South China and Java Sea region extending down to the Torres Strait has a relatively large 411 diurnal tidal range and $K_1 D_{tq}$ and RD_{tq} values are not small compared to most of the domain. The 412 physics of the K_1 tidal wave here can be thought of as a standing wave where the response is likely 413 to depend highly on the overall bathymetry and shoreline of the region. The region is also heavily 414 influenced by the energy flux permitted through the Luzon Strait ($\S4.5$) which is largely controlled 415

⁴¹⁶ by internal tide energy conversion (§5.3). Note that, in some areas such as between South China ⁴¹⁷ Sea and Java Sea, which has a small M_2 tidal range because it is close to an amphidrome, RD_{tg} ⁴¹⁸ becomes very large, however D_{tg} is relatively small.

419 4.4.2. Statistics of Tidal Elevation Discrepancies

A summary of the global tide gauge errors shown in terms of amplitudes ($R^2 = 0.93$, $\sigma_{std} = 0.09$ m, $\overline{|E|} = 0.04$ m) and phases ($R^2 = 0.97$, $\sigma_{std} = 18.3^{\circ}$, $\overline{|E|} = 10.3^{\circ}$) of up to all eight major tidal constituents from the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup against the observed values is presented (Fig. 4, see caption for definitions of error metrics). There is a total of 6080 data points on each plot. Just 2.4% of them represent absolute amplitude errors > 0.2 m, and 2.9% represent absolute phase errors > 36° (colored orange to purple in Fig. 4). Outliers in the amplitudes of constituents tend to be



Figure 4: Amplitudes, A (left) and phase lags, θ (right) of up to all eight major tidal constituents for the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup versus observed values at tide gauges. Triangles: deep water gauges, Squares: continental shelf water gauges, Circles: coastal tide gauges. Colors of markers for the amplitude refer to the absolute error (m) between model and observed. Colors of markers for the phase refer to the absolute errors normalized by 180° between model and observed. The same color scale as Fig. 3(a) is used for both. Statistics shown on the figure are as follows: R^2 is the coefficient of determination, σ_{std} is the standard deviation of the error, \overline{E} is the mean error, $|\overline{E}|$ is the mean absolute error, and E_N is the normalized mean absolute error.

underestimates rather than overestimates which may indicate deltaic regions, estuaries, back-bays and rivers where the bathymetry is inadequate and overly dissipative, e.g., the Ganges Delta where large discrepancies are present (Fig. 3). Aside from these regions, there is a consistent spread of errors for both the amplitudes ($\overline{E} = -0.02$ m) and phases ($\overline{E} = 1.37^{\circ}$) indicating a largely unbiased system.

Table 4 compares the mean and standard deviations of the RMS discrepancies between the 431 various IndWPac model setups (different bathymetry datasets, with and without internal tide energy 432 conversion and spatially varying bottom friction coefficients), versus tide gauges observations and the 433 TPXO8 atlas. Note that when the interpolation of TPXO8 to the coastal tide gauges is performed 434 using their native data extraction program OTPS2, a total of 93 locations return a null value. 435 Thus, for a fair comparison we present our model results against this reduced set of stations. The 436 statistics of the IndWPac model are not noticeably different for the full coastal gauge set. Based on 437 dimensional considerations, different physical processes are expected to be important depending on 438 the water depth and proximity to the coast. Thus, the statistics are broken up into three regions; 439 deep water (h > 500 m), continental shelf and slope waters (25 < h < 500 m), and coastal waters 440 (includes continental and island coastlines). 441

At the deep-water tide gauges the total free surface mean discrepancies for the Comp + IT +442 SV model setup ($\overline{D}_{tg} = 4.7$ cm, $\overline{RD}_{tg} = 13\%$) are 2.4 times those of the TPXO8 atlas ($\overline{D}_{tg} = 2.0$ 443 cm, $\overline{RD}_{tq} = 5.5\%$). The IndWPac model discrepancies in deep water are predominantly affected by 444 the internal tide energy conversion which reduces the total free surface RMS discrepancy by 47%445 (\overline{D}_{tpx}) and 55% (\overline{D}_{tq}) . Different bathymetry datasets and bottom friction coefficients have little 446 effect. Hot-spots of discrepancy against deep-water tide gauges for the IndWPac model occur in the 447 Celebes Sea and Banda Sea (see Fig. 3) against TOPEX/POSEIDON satellite crossover observations 448 (Robertson and Ffield, 2008), particularly for the M₂ tidal wave. Without the crossover points (which 449 are technically not tide gauges) the M₂ \overline{D}_{tg} for the Comp + IT + SV model setup is closer to 2 cm 450 instead of 3.6 cm. 451

For comparison, in waters deeper than 1000 m, the RMSE against TPXO8 for another nonassimilative hydrodynamic model (Buijsman et al., 2015) is approximately 4 cm in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Furthermore, in waters deeper than 500 m, Wilmes et al. (2017) obtains a global RMSE = 3.8 cm, and the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup here obtains an RMSE = 3.6 cm in waters deeper than 500 m versus TPXO8. This cannot be said to be a statistically significant improvement despite generally higher resolution of the grid and nearshore bathymetric data than Buijsman et al.

Table 4: The mean RMS (\overline{D}_{tg}) and relative RMS (\overline{RD}_{tg}) discrepancies of the M₂, K₁, and the total free surface (up to all eight major constituents combined) at tide gauges for various IndWPac model setups plus the TPXO8 atlas (http://volkov.oce.orst.edu/tides/tpxo8_atlas.html), separated into three different regions (deep, continental shelf and slope, and coastal). The mean RMS discrepancy against TPXO8 (\overline{D}_{tpx}) is shown in deep, and continental shelf and slope waters. Stations numbers, units, and standard deviations are in parentheses

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$ \begin{array}{c cm} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{6.91}\ (4.76) & \mathrm{3.85}\ (5.51) & \mathrm{3.82}\ (6.23) & \mathrm{3.67}\ (2.59) & \mathrm{3.67}\ (2.56) & \mathrm{-} \\ \hline & \mathrm{M_2} & \mathrm{8.90}\ (9.97) & \mathrm{3.90}\ (4.40) & \mathrm{3.82}\ (4.02) & \mathrm{3.66}\ (4.45) & \mathrm{3.55}\ (4.34) & \mathrm{0.86}\ (0.87) \\ \hline & \overline{D}_{tg} & \mathrm{K_1} & \mathrm{2.16}\ (1.66) & \mathrm{1.03}\ (0.82) & \mathrm{0.94}\ (0.71) & \mathrm{0.93}\ (0.71) & \mathrm{0.92}\ (0.68) & \mathrm{0.50}\ (0.34) \\ \hline & (\mathrm{cm}) & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{10.8}\ (11.0) & \mathrm{5.09}\ (5.03) & \mathrm{5.02}\ (4.60) & \mathrm{4.82}\ (4.98) & \mathrm{4.71}\ (4.89) & \mathrm{2.02}\ (2.82) \\ \hline & \mathrm{M_2} & \mathrm{32.7}\ (25.7) & \mathrm{15.7}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{15.7}\ (11.3) & \mathrm{14.2}\ (11.9) & \mathrm{13.9}\ (11.7) & \mathrm{3.82}\ (3.31) \\ \hline & \overline{RD}_{tg} & \mathrm{K_1} & \mathrm{16.4}\ (9.08) & \mathrm{8.40}\ (6.31) & \mathrm{7.72}\ (5.72) & \mathrm{7.67}\ (5.84) & \mathrm{7.69}\ (5.83) & \mathrm{4.29}\ (3.34) \\ \hline & (\%) & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{28.4}\ (19.8) & \mathrm{14.3}\ (10.2) & \mathrm{14.3}\ (9.35) & \mathrm{13.4}\ (10.3) & \mathrm{13.1}\ (10.1) & \mathrm{5.46}\ (5.67) \\ \hline & \mathrm{M_2} & \mathrm{11.2}\ (11.0) & \mathrm{8.05}\ (9.02) & \mathrm{7.58}\ (9.45) & \mathrm{6.76}\ (7.67) & \mathrm{6.48}\ (7.76) & \mathrm{-} \\ \hline & \overline{D}_{tpx} & \mathrm{K_1} & \mathrm{5.83}\ (13.7) & \mathrm{6.69}\ (14.4) & \mathrm{6.57}\ (17.2) & \mathrm{4.52}\ (7.08) & \mathrm{4.75}\ (7.71) & \mathrm{-} \\ \hline & \mathrm{(cm)} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{16.6}\ (22.1) & \mathrm{15.0}\ (23.6) & \mathrm{14.8}\ (28.7) & \mathrm{10.9}\ (10.8) & \mathrm{11.0}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{-} \\ \hline & \mathrm{M_2} & \mathrm{18.4}\ (12.1) & \mathrm{12.3}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{14.9}\ (19.3) & \mathrm{9.70}\ (9.63) & \mathrm{9.35}\ (9.87) & \mathrm{2.91}\ (3.28) \\ \mathrm{Shelf} & \overline{D}_{tpx} & \mathrm{K_1} & \mathrm{5.71}\ (4.54) & \mathrm{4.41}\ (4.05) & \mathrm{4.84}\ (5.04) & \mathrm{3.71}\ (4.13) & \mathrm{4.47}\ (4.78) & \mathrm{1.60}\ (15.66) \\ \hline & \mathrm{(cm)} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{22.8}\ (12.3) & \mathrm{16.0}\ (11.7) & \mathrm{19.4}\ (20.8) & \mathrm{13.0}\ (11.0) & \mathrm{13.4}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{5.41}\ (3.76) \\ \hline & \mathrm{K_1} & \mathrm{5.71}\ (4.54) & \mathrm{4.41}\ (4.05) & \mathrm{4.84}\ (5.04) & \mathrm{3.71}\ (4.13) & \mathrm{4.47}\ (4.78) & \mathrm{1.60}\ (1.56) \\ \hline & \mathrm{(cm)} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{22.8}\ (12.3) & \mathrm{16.0}\ (11.7) & \mathrm{19.4}\ (20.8) & \mathrm{13.0}\ (11.0) & \mathrm{13.4}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{5.41}\ (3.76) \\ \hline & \mathrm{(cm)} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{22.8}\ (12.3) & \mathrm{16.0}\ (11.7) & \mathrm{19.4}\ (20.8) & \mathrm{13.0}\ (11.0) & \mathrm{13.4}\ (11.4) & \mathrm{5.41}\ (3.76) \\ \hline & \mathrm{(cm)} & \mathrm{All} & \mathrm{24.4}$					
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Shelf \overline{D}_{tg} K_1 5.71 (4.54) 4.41 (4.05) 4.84 (5.04) 3.71 (4.13) 4.47 (4.78) 1.60 (1.56) (62) (cm) All 22.8 (12.3) 16.0 (11.7) 19.4 (20.8) 13.0 (11.0) 13.4 (11.4) 5.41 (3.76) (62) M ₂ 76.9 (89.1) 53.8 (73.3) 52.6 (65.4) 42.1 (58.5) 40.9 (55.8) 12.8 (20.9) \overline{RD}_{tg} K ₁ 24.4 (14.5) 21.0 (18.9) 21.5 (20.0) 19.0 (20.0) 19.9 (20.0) 7.89 (9.37) (%) All 40.2 (18.1) 26.8 (15.0) 29.9 (19.8) 22.1 (14.8) 22.6 (16.1) 9.24 (5.37)	3)				
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$(\%) \qquad \text{All} \qquad 40.2 \ (18.1) \qquad 26.8 \ (15.0) \qquad 29.9 \ (19.8) \qquad 22.1 \ (14.8) \qquad 22.6 \ (16.1) \qquad 9.24 \ (5.37) \qquad (5.37) $	7)				
	7)				
$ M_2 \qquad 16.0 \ (17.1) \qquad 24.6 \ (33.4) \qquad 17.9 \ (24.1) \qquad 12.1 \ (15.6) \qquad 10.5 \ (14.4) \qquad 13.5 \ (39.3) \qquad 10.5 \ (14.4) \ (14.$	3)				
$\overline{D}_{tg} = K_1 = 4.58 (6.15) - 6.95 (9.18) - 5.45 (7.80) - 4.09 (6.34) - 3.90 (6.32) - 3.12 (5.58) - 6.95 (9.18) - 5.45 (7.80) - 4.09 (6.34) - 3.90 (6.32) - 3.12 (5.58) - 5.45 (7.80) - 4.09 (6.34) - 3.90 (6.32) - 3.12 (5.58) - 5.45 (7.80) - 4.09 (7.80) - 5.45 (7.80$	3)				
Coast (cm) All 20.9 (19.6) 29.9 (37.1) 22.5 (27.4) 15.8 (18.4) 14.4 (17.2) 17.0 (47.9)))				
$(659) M_2 45.9 (60.4) 45.7 (44.0) 36.3 (40.1) 28.5 (36.9) 27.2 (38.4) 24.7 (38.6)$	3)				
$\begin{array}{ $	ŧ)				
$(\%) \qquad \text{All} \qquad 36.4 \ (22.5) \qquad 41.6 \ (31.9) \qquad 32.8 \ (26.0) \qquad 25.3 \ (18.2) \qquad 24.4 \ (19.2) \qquad 22.8 \ (30.8) \qquad (30.8) $	3)				

Model Setups

Bathymetry: 'GEBCO' uses GEBCO_2014 bathymetric data, 'SRTM' uses SRTM15_PLUS bathymetric data, 'Comp' uses our comprehensive bathymetric data (Table 1)

Internal Tide Energy Conversion: 'NoIT' does not include internal tide energy conversion, 'IT' uses the optimal internal tide conversion parameters $\frac{22}{22}$

Bottom Friction: 'SC' uses a spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$, 'SV' uses the spatially varying C_f map (Fig.15(a))

(2015); Wilmes et al. (2017). As shown, only internal tide energy conversion resulted in a notable 458 reduction to the deep-water discrepancies. Better nearshore bathymetry and grid resolutions do 459 not allow for significant improvements in the internal tide energy conversion matrix compared with 460 coarser grid models because the calculation relies mostly on the deep water satellite altimetry data 461 in global bathymetric datasets that are still limited to > 10 km resolution accuracy (Goff and Arbic, 462 2010). Furthermore, the topographic roughness can be calculated on the relatively fine $\sim 1 \text{ km}$ 463 bathymetric grid before being interpolated onto the coarser computational grid for parameterization 464 in barotropic models, reducing the requirement for a fine grid in the ocean. 465

On the continental shelf, the total free surface \overline{D}_{tg} at tide gauges are 2.6 to 2.8 times larger 466 than those in deep water for both the Comp + IT + SV model setup and the TPXO8 atlas. 467 Similar to deep water regions, the Comp + IT + SV model total free surface discrepancies (\overline{D}_{tg} 468 = 13 cm, \overline{RD}_{tg} = 23%) are 2.5 times those of the TPXO8 atlas (\overline{D}_{tg} = 5.4 cm, \overline{RD}_{tg} = 9.2%) 469 at the tide gauges on the continental shelf. The most significant factors in reducing the total free 470 surface discrepancies on the shelf are internal tide energy conversion (34% reduction in \overline{D}_{tax}) and the 471 nearshore bathymetric datasets (26% reduction in \overline{D}_{tpx}). The bottom friction coefficient has a small 472 impact overall, although the discrepancy for the K₁ constituent increased when using the spatially 473 varying C_f map. The GEBCO_2014 bathymetry model gives lower \overline{D}_{tg} than the SRTM15_PLUS 474 model, however \overline{D}_{tpx} is quite similar between the two bathymetric datasets. Note that \overline{D}_{tpx} tends 475 to give a smoother indicator of the change between model setups because it is integrated over the 476 whole domain (where 25 < h < 500 m). Furthermore, \overline{D}_{tpx} is 2.9 cm or ~30% smaller than \overline{D}_{tq} for 477 M₂. This could be because the shelf gauges tend to be in regions with large tidal ranges such as the 478 northern regions of the Australian shelf and the Yellow Sea. 479

For comparison, Stammer et al. (2014) report that the global M₂ RMSE in shelf waters is 24-49 cm against tide gauges and 19-28 cm versus TPXO8. Comparatively, the M₂ RMSE is 13.1 cm against tide gauges and 10.1 cm versus TPXO8 for the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup. Although it should be kept in mind that the Stammer et al. (2014) errors are global and hence they cannot be treated as a direct comparison, according to the TPXO8 atlas the total energy density (*TED*, defined in §5.1) of the M₂ tidal wave is slightly higher in the IndWPac domain (820 Jm⁻²) compared to the entire globe (695 Jm⁻²), suggesting a degree of difficulty for the IndWPac domain.

The RMS discrepancies at the coastal tide gauges are only marginally larger than those on the shelf for the Comp + IT + SV model setup. However, the discrepancies increase significantly from the shelf to the coast when only the global bathymetry datasets are used, in particular GEBCO_2014.



Figure 5: Cumulative distribution functions of the total free surface (up to all eight tidal constituents) RMS discrepancies D_{tg} (left), and relative RMS discrepancies RD_{tg} (right), versus coastal tide gauges for different IndWPac model setups (see explanation in footnotes of Table 4) and the TPXO8 atlas.

The nearshore bathymetry dataset plays a large role in reducing the discrepancy (30% reduction in total free surface \overline{D}_{tg}). The spatially varying C_f map has a smaller but noticeable global effect (9% reduction in total free surface \overline{D}_{tg}). Local effects of C_f are detailed in §5.4. At approximately 77% of the coastal tide gauge locations the total free surface \overline{D}_{tg} of the Comp + IT + SV model setup is less than 20 cm (Fig. 5), which was the target metric used for a high-resolution western North Atlantic model (much smaller in scale than IndWPac) where this is satisfied at 324 of 398 (81%) locations (Technology Riverside Inc. and AECOM, 2015).

Even though the total free surface \overline{D}_{tg} for the Comp + IT + SV model setup is 2.5 times that of the TPXO8 atlas on the shelf, \overline{D}_{tg} is 2.6 cm (15%) smaller than the TPXO8 atlas for the Comp + IT + SV model setup at the coast. However, a higher percentage of locations will be within a given target discrepancy up to $\overline{D}_{tg} = 24$ cm ($\overline{RD}_{tg} = 35\%$) for the TPXO8 model (Fig. 5). On the other hand, the TPXO8 model cdf curves (Fig. 5) have long tails indicating a number of high-magnitude outliers, whereas this is not the case for the IndWPac model with the nearshore bathymetry included. Thus, if the solution is not significantly different from that

offshore (and where the gauges have been included in the assimilation process), the TPXO8 model 504 is accurate. However, due to coarse resolution and bathymetry, the TPXO8 atlas may perform 505 poorly in areas where small-scale changes in amplitude and/or phase that can occur in bays and 506 harbors or in-behind small islands and peninsulas are important. Comparatively, the high-resolution 507 computational grids and bathymetric data included in the IndWPac model allow it to capture the 508 faster changing characteristics of tides (particularly semi-diurnal ones), hence there are fewer large 509 magnitude outliers and a smaller mean discrepancy compared with the TPXO8 atlas. However, in 510 order to elevate the median performance at the coast it would appear that significant improvements 511 in offshore bathymetric data and internal tide energy conversion dynamics are required if data-512 assimilation is not involved (§5 describes the sensitivities to these and other factors). In addition, 513 it has been noted that the inclusion of atmospheric forcings and baroclinic components can lead to 514 an improved barotropic tidal response in the region (e.g. Cai et al., 2006). 515

516 4.5. Tidal Currents and Energy Flux Densities

It is useful to investigate the energy flux densities and tidal currents in order to understand the 517 hydrodynamics of the system that cannot be explained simply through tidal elevations. Furthermore, 518 even though tidal elevations may be accurate it does not always follow that tidal currents are well 519 represented. However, since this model has been designed to be as physically-driven a shallow 520 water model as possible (ignoring baroclinic and atmospheric forcings for now), it is expected that 521 the barotropic flow including tidal currents can be reasonably represented. We concentrate on the 522 marginal seas separating the Indian Ocean and the western Pacific Ocean because this is where tidal 523 energy is transported between the two oceanic basins, and dissipated in the process. Note that the 524 energy flux density of the k^{th} tidal wave is computed as (Wei et al., 2016): 525

$$\boldsymbol{P}^{k} = \frac{1}{2}g\rho_{0}hA^{k}\boldsymbol{U}^{k}\cos(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{k} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{k})$$
(15)

where ρ_0 is the reference density of sea water.

 P^k and U^k of the M₂ and K₁ tidal waves are illustrated in Fig. 6. Although not shown, the energy flux densities qualitatively agree well with those from TPXO8. Predominantly, a large amount of M₂ tidal energy flows from the Indian Ocean through the Indonesian Seas, up into the Yellow Sea and around into the South China Sea. In contrast, K₁ tidal energy flows down from the northeast of the western Pacific Ocean into the South China Sea and the Indonesian Sea. Thus, the Luzon Strait and the Indonesian Seas play a large role with regards to the tidal dynamics of the domain. The Luzon Strait is known for the generation of large internal tides, where the energy conversion of



Figure 6: (a) Energy flux densities P^k , and (b) amplitudes of the east and north components of the tidal currents U^k of the (i) M₂ and (ii) K₁ tidal waves in the marginal seas separating the Indian Ocean from the western Pacific Ocean.

this effect is parameterized in this study (see $\S5.3.3$). In addition, the Indonesian Seas (e.g. Celebes 534 Sea and Banda Sea) are fairly deep compared to the shelves of the Java Sea and the South China, so 535 bottom friction dissipation does not play a large role as confirmed by the presence of mostly small 536 tidal currents throughout this region (Fig. 6). Instead, internal tide conversion parameterization 537 over the high gradient shallow island chains where tidal currents become locally large is likely to 538 be important here. A portion of the M₂ tidal energy also flows through the shallow and narrow 539 Malacca Strait where high magnitude tidal currents are generated (Fig. 6), thus bathymetry and 540 bottom friction are expected to be important here. 541



Figure 7: Comparisons of the tidal ellipses of the M_2 (left) and K_1 (right) tidal waves in the region between the Java Sea and the South China Sea (top) and in the northern South China Sea near Hong Kong (bottom), between the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup in this study, TPXO8 and observations. The dots on the ellipses indicate the tips of the tidal current vectors at 00:00 GMT.

Tidal current harmonic constituent observations were obtained in the region between the Java Sea and the South China Sea (locations a-e), and in the northern South China Sea near Hong Kong

Table 5: The RMS discrepancy of the M_2 and K_1 tidal current ellipses D_{TC} (units: cm s⁻¹) versus observations for our best model setup (Comp + IT + SV) and the TPXO8 atlas. The locations are indicated in Fig 7.

Location	Model	$D_{TC}^{M_2}$	$D_{TC}^{\mathrm{K}_{1}}$
	Comp + IT + SV	2.58	3.40
a	TPXO8	4.06	5.30
L	Comp + IT + SV	2.15	2.37
d	TPXO8	3.38	9.68
	Comp + IT + SV	2.58	5.68
C	TPXO8	1.87	5.47
d	Comp + IT + SV	2.87	5.04
	TPXO8	1.94	11.3
	Comp + IT + SV	2.73	2.96
е	TPXO8	1.56	8.56
c	Comp + IT + SV	6.55	4.96
1	TPXO8	2.79	5.59
	Comp + IT + SV	5.02	14.8
g	TPXO8	9.84	12.5

(locations f-g), in which tidal ellipses are plotted in Fig. 7, and their RMS discrepancies D_{TC} at 544 each location for the IndWPac model and for the TPXO8 atlas are summarized in Table 5. These 545 observations are in fairly low energy regions (Fig. 6), which in some cases may make a model more 546 susceptible to discrepancies without constraints on the solution. In particular, for the M₂, although 547 the direction and magnitude of the flow is fairly accurate in locations c-e in the Java Sea where 548 the M_2 tide is very small, the rotation of the tidal ellipse is anticlockwise in the IndWPac model, 549 but is clockwise according to observations and TPXO8. As $D_{TC}^{M_2}$ is smaller for TPXO8 at locations 550 c-e, but is smaller in the IndWPac model at a-b. On the other hand, the K₁ tide is larger than 551 M_2 in the Java Sea region, and the rotation of the tidal ellipse is in agreement at all locations *a-e*. 552 Furthermore, $D_{TC}^{K_1}$ for the IndWPac model is significantly smaller than those for TPXO8 at most 553 locations. 554

In the northern South China Sea, there is good qualitative agreement in the tidal ellipses between

the IndWPac model and the observations for the M_2 tide, but less so for K_1 . Note that location g 556 is in a coastal region near Hong Kong, and that the observations are surface currents, where both 557 the IndWPac model and TPXO8 have large $D_{TC}^{K_1}$. Thus, perhaps for the K₁ constituent there is 558 a significant 3D effect or atmospheric-driven response at this location given Cai et al. (2006) was 559 able to obtain a tidal current solution closer to observations than our model when using a 3D model 560 forced with winds and baroclinicity. Based on the plots and discrepancies of the tidal ellipses, the 561 tidal currents in the northern South China Sea are not clearly better or worse in the IndWPac model 562 compared with TPXO8. 563

5.5 Sensitivities to Lateral Boundary Conditions, Bathymetry, and Dissipative Controls

565 5.1. Lateral Boundary Conditions

In this study it was found that the most dramatic effect on the solution occurred when modifying the position and/or lateral boundary condition type (Fig. 8). It turns out that the boundaries used in the final IndWPac model (which we call the 'two-open-boundaries domain' in this section) are well placed. In the initial stages of the IndWPac model, the domain was set up so that the western Pacific boundary was split into two separate boundaries where one of the boundaries was defined spanning from the Great Australian Bight down to Antarctica parallel with latitude (designated as the 'three-open-boundaries domain'). The impact of the absorption-generation sponge layer is also of concern with regards to the ability to absorb outgoing waves, reduce reflections and instabilities, and generate tidal solutions at the boundary. To help evaluate the effect of the lateral boundary position and boundary condition type we quantify the total energy, TE and total energy dissipation, TD of the k^{th} tidal constituent, which are computed by:

$$TE^{k} = \frac{\rho_{0}}{2} \iint \left(h |\boldsymbol{U}^{k}|^{2} + g(A^{k})^{2} \right) dA$$
(16)

$$TD^{k} = \iint \left(W^{k} - \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{P}^{k} \right) \, dA \tag{17}$$

where W is the work rate (c.f. Egbert and Ray, 2001), and P is the energy flux (15). Since the numerical calculation of $\nabla \cdot P$ with finite precision is very noisy, in this work the area-integral is computed using the divergence theorem. Note that the absorption-generation sponge layer region is omitted from the above area-integrals, and we quote TE and TD values per unit area to help in enabling comparisons across the domains which have different total areas. Four simulations are conducted: the two-open-boundaries domain with and without an absorption-generation sponge ⁵⁷² layer, and the three-open-boundaries domain with and without a sponge layer. None of these ⁵⁷³ simulations use internal tide energy conversion and a spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ is employed.



Figure 8: Responses of the M₂ tidal wave with no internal tide energy conversion, and spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$; (i) no absorption-generation sponge layer, (ii) with absorption-generation sponge layer ('+' hatched regions indicate sponge layer), (a) two-open-boundaries domain, (b) three-open-boundaries domain.

574 5.1.1. Boundary Placement Effects without Sponge Layer

For simulations without the sponge layer, $TE^{M_2} = 900 \text{ Jm}^{-2}$ for the two open boundaries domain

and $TE^{M_2} = 3210 \text{ Jm}^{-2}$ when using the three open boundaries domain, essentially a 250% increase.

577 Similarly, $TD^{M_2} = 4.5 \text{ mW}^{-2}$ and $TD^{M_2} = 8.5 \text{ mW}^{-2}$ for the two and three open boundaries

domain, respectively. For comparison, $TE^{M_2} = 830 \text{ Jm}^{-2}$, and $TD^{M_2} = 7.2 \text{ mW}^{-2}$ in the TPXO8 578 atlas within the two open boundaries domain. In this experiment the excess in total energy and 579 deficit in the total dissipation (per unit area) respectively, between the two open boundaries domain 580 IndWPac and TPXO8 solutions is at least partly explained by the absence of internal tide energy 581 conversion. The effect on the solution due to boundary placement is not nearly as prominent for the 582 diurnal K₁ tidal wave. For example, $TE^{K_1} = 288 \text{ Jm}^{-2}$ for the two open boundaries domain and 583 298 Jm^{-2} for the three open boundaries domain, representing a small 3.5% increase. Most other 584 constituents also show single digit percent increases in the total energy except for the other two 585 lunar semi-diurnal tides, K₂ and N₂. In particular, K₂, whose response is most similar looking to 586 M_2 , has a 231% increase. N_2 is increased by 31.4%. 587

588 5.1.2. Effects of Sponge Layer

It is found that applying the absorption-generation sponge layer even for the three open bound-589 aries domain can result in improved responses (Fig. 8(b.ii)) reducing TE^{M_2} to 1040 Jm⁻², and TD^{M_2} 590 to 5.3 mW^{-2} . The sponge layer thus allows for significant leeway in boundary positioning but it 591 does not necessarily entirely eliminate issues in the response. Note how in the two-open-boundaries 592 domain the amphidrome in the Southern Ocean below Australia is located near where the third 593 open boundary is. The sponge acts to push this amphidrome away from the boundary because 594 the three-open-boundaries IndWPac model solution and the TPXO8 solution are incompatible here. 595 This indicates reliance on internal dissipative mechanisms to ensure compatibility with each other. 596 For example, in our best model setup (with the sponge layer applied) when appropriate internal tide 597 energy conversion is included better compatibility is obtained leading to $TE^{M_2} = 780 \text{ Jm}^{-2}$, and 598 $TD^{M_2} = 7.1 \text{ mW}^{-2}$, which are rather similar to the values from the TPXO8 atlas quoted in §5.1.1. 599

600 5.1.3. Discussion

What to make of the dramatic results to the solution due to boundary placement and condi-601 tion types? Firstly, even though there should not be an amphidrome right next to the boundary 602 according to the TPXO8 solution (although the elevations are still fairly small), our model without 603 adequate internal dissipative effects expects there to be one. Instabilities and problems may arise 604 near amphidromes because a physically incorrect solution that satisfies the governing equations can 605 be obtained. Mathematically, both boundary conditions and initial conditions are required to get the 606 correct solution. Instead, the method commonly adopted (including in this study) is to impose the 607 elevation boundary conditions and ramp up the system from a completely zero state. We found from 608

a simple test case that, when internal dissipative effects are low, ramping generates spurious modes 609 that persist for very long periods of time. Secondly, the Indian Ocean and the Australian/Indonesian 610 marginal seas appear very sensitive to fluctuations in fluxes on the boundary, in particular with-611 out adequate abyssal dissipation, but even when internal tide energy conversion was included the 612 three-open-boundaries domain without the sponge layer did not converge to a suitable solution. In 613 studies of free barotropic oscillations (Platzman, 1975; Zahel and Müller, 2005), resonant modes 614 around 9.20-11.65 hour show similar patterns to the lunar semi-diurnal tides in the Indian Ocean. 615 Furthermore, the energy density of the 11.65 hour mode is 2.2 times the global average in the Indian 616 Ocean (Zahel and Müller, 2005). Hence the resonant nature of the lunar semi-diurnal tides in this 617 basin causes the total energy to increase wildly in response to the poor boundary conditions. 618

The absorption-generation sponge layer reduces reflections at the boundary allowing the spurious 619 modes to exit the domain. By introducing external information as part of the governing equations, 620 the sponge layer is applicable to a wide range of conditions. In contrast, a radiation type condition 621 is difficult to devise in the case where actively imposing external information is required because 622 you need to identify regions of inflow (Lavelle and Thacker, 2008), which may be time dependent. 623 However, one of the main issues with using the absorption-generation sponge layer is the reliance 624 on the reference solution. In particular, because only the sea surface is assimilated, tidal fluxes 625 obtained from TPXO8 may be less likely to be as accurate or compatible with the IndWPac model 626 as the tidal elevations. 627

628 5.2. Bathymetry

Bathymetry is a boundary condition for oceanic models hence its importance to the solution is clear. Recent years have shown marked improvements in global bathymetric databases such as SRTM15_PLUS and GEBCO_2014. This section begins by outlining the effects of using one of these databases over the other, followed by effects between SRTM15_PLUS and our more comprehensive bathymetric data (Table 1). The section concludes with a discussion on the results and implications.

⁶³⁴ 5.2.1. Comparisons between Global Bathymetric Databases

⁶³⁵ Current global bathymetric databases SRTM15_PLUS and GEBCO_2014 are sufficiently accurate ⁶³⁶ that they do allow us to obtain mean RMS discrepancies ~ 3 cm for the M₂ tidal wave in the deep ⁶³⁷ ocean. Nevertheless, there is still a reasonable level of uncertainty between them (Fig. 9(a)). For ⁶³⁸ example, on the abyssal hills the use of statistical roughness (Goff and Arbic, 2010) to calculate a ⁶³⁹ new bathymetry set (Timko et al., 2017) has been undertaken to account for the effective coarseness of satellite altimetry-derived bathymetry (note that the SRTM15_PLUS database used here is a combination with SRTM30_PLUS that contains the synthetic realization of the abyssal hill roughness but GEBCO_2014 is without it). To investigate the effects of the global bathymetric databases we compute one simulation using SRTM15_PLUS with abyssal hill roughness everywhere (*SRTM IT* + *SC*) and another using GEBCO_2014 everywhere (*GEBCO IT* + *SC*). RMS differences between the simulations for the M₂ tidal wave are plotted in Fig. 9(b). Optimal internal tide energy conversion factors (*IT*) and spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ (*SC*) are employed for both.

Along the ocean ridges that include a synthetic realization of the abyssal hill roughness, the 647 normalized bathymetric differences are in the range 5-25%, except for the Southwest Indian Ocean 648 Ridge, where the normalized bathymetric differences can exceed 50% in spots (Fig. 9(a)). Despite 649 this, M_2 RMS differences in deep water do not exceed 2 cm anywhere except east of Australia and 650 New Guinea (Fig. 9(b)), i.e. the RMS differences between responses resulting from the two global 651 bathymetric databases tend to be much less than RMS discrepancies between Comp + IT + SV652 model setup and TPXO8 (Fig. 2(c.i)). Note that, although differences in the bathymetry should 653 change the internal tide energy conversion matrix, we use the same matrix as the Comp + IT + SV654 model setup for both simulations to help identify strictly *bathymetric* effects. 655



Figure 9: Differences between SRTM15_PLUS with abyssal hill roughness (Goff and Arbic, 2010) and GEBCO_2014 global bathymetric databases. (a) Normalized differences in the bathymetry, (b) M_2 RMS differences in the responses between the *GEBCO IT + SC*, and *SRTM IT + SC* model setups (see Table 4 for description of model setups). '+' hatched regions indicate absorption-generation sponge zone.

Major normalized bathymetric and RMS differences are unsurprisingly found in shallow waters 656 such as the South China Sea, Bass Strait, Yellow Sea, Sea of Okhotsk, Ganges Delta, northern 657 Andaman Sea, Persian Gulf, and the Gulfs of Khambhat and Kutch (Fig. 9). The most astounding 658 RMS differences are located on the northern Australian shelves, the Taiwan Strait and the Seto 659 Inland Sea (Fig. 9(b)). In particular, the RMS differences in the Coral Sea and around Torres 660 Strait (Fig. 9(b)) are larger than the discrepancies between the Comp + IT + SV model setup and 661 TPXO8 (Fig. 2(c.i)). According to the sources of GEBCO_2014, the 2009 Australian Bathymetry and 662 Topography Grid (Whiteway, 2009) is used around the Australian continent. Within this dataset, 663 some of the nearshore bathymetry is made up of multibeam, Laser Airborne Depth Sounder, and 664 nautical charts, with the rest based on 1 arc min and 2 arc min ETOPO satellite derived bathymetry. 665 In comparison, SRTM15_PLUS is said to include 50 m multibeam datasets from 2012 as well as the 666 Deepreef Explorer GBR dataset from 2010 (both newer than the 2009 Australian Bathymetry and 667 Topography Grid). 668

5.2.2. Comparisons between SRTM15_PLUS and Local High-Resolution Bathymetry

Another issue with a global bathymetric dataset such as SRTM15_PLUS is that on the shelf and nearshore the resolution can be too coarse and it may contain holes in the bathymetry, thus it is not completely reliable for accurate regional simulations. This section outlines the differences between SRTM15_PLUS and our more comprehensive bathymetric data (Table 1) containing local high-resolution datasets. We focus on three regions: the East China Sea including the Yellow Sea and southern Japan; the South China Sea including the Philippines Seas and north Java Sea; and the Coral Sea including the Torres Strait (Fig. 10).

All nearshore areas in the East China Sea show significant normalized bathymetric differences 677 aside from Hong Kong which contains our smallest element sizes (Fig. 10(a.i)). Due to numerous 678 spurious large depths in the SRTM15_PLUS dataset in this region we replace this area with the local 679 high-resolution bathymetry in order to avoid instabilities due to violation of the CFL condition. 680 This is not thought to have a large effect on the results of the comparisons between the bathymetric 681 datasets and the conclusions that we draw from them. The simulations show large RMS differences 682 of the M_2 tidal wave in the Taiwan Strait and Seto Inland Sea (Fig. 10(a.ii)) but interestingly they 683 are not as large as those between GEBCO and SRTM15_PLUS (Fig. 9(b)), nor are differences in 684 the Gulf of Tonkin as pronounced. It should be mentioned that we noticed reduced discrepancies at 685 tide gauges in the Seto Inland Sea when using the high-resolution bathymetry. It is a complicated 686 region with many small islands and channels and requires accurate connectivity of the energy fluxes 687



Figure 10: Differences between SRTM15_PLUS with abyssal hill roughness (Goff and Arbic, 2010) and our comprehensive bathymetric data (Table 1) containing local high-resolution datasets. (i) Normalized differences in the bathymetry, (ii) M_2 RMS differences in the responses between SRTM + IT + SC and Comp + IT + SC model setups (see Table 4 for description of model setups). (a) East China Sea, (b) South China Sea, (c) Coral Sea.

to improve results. Most of the RMS differences in the Yellow Sea between SRTM15_PLUS and the local high-resolution bathymetry (Fig. 10(a.ii)) are larger than those between GEBCO and SRTM15_PLUS (Fig. 9(b)), in particular north of Shanghai and in the Incheon area. However, generally these differences are smaller than the discrepancies between TPXO8 and the *Comp* + *IT* + *SV* model setup.

Despite widespread normalized bathymetric differences in the Philippines and the region between 693 the South China Sea and Java Sea (Fig. 10(b.i)), small RMS differences in the M₂ tidal wave result 694 with the exception of a few channels near Singapore, and in the gulfs near Batang Lupar and North 695 Kalimantan, both on Borneo (Fig. 10(b.ii)). This is perhaps partly because the M₂ amplitudes are 696 relatively small in the region between the South China Sea and Java Sea (Fig. 2(a.i)). Although it 697 is not shown, the larger K_1 (Fig. 2(a.ii)) produces up to 10-30 cm RMS difference in the area south 698 of Singapore but is not notable elsewhere. In the two gulfs on Borneo, which have fairly large M_2 699 tidal ranges (up to 1.7 m in the gulf near Batang Lupar, Fig. 2), the differences result not only from 700 local high-resolution bathymetric datasets but are due to hand-edits vis-à-vis FUGAWI navigational 701 charts. Areas like the gulf near Batang Lupar can be extremely sensitive to bathymetry particularly 702 deep in the gulf where the v-shape concentrates the tidal energy. The effect of our hand-edits is to 703 deepen the area near Batang Lupar allowing the tidal range to reach close to the measured one. 704

The final region is the Coral Sea which demonstrably shows large widespread normalized bathy-705 metric differences (Fig. 10(c.i)). This is slightly perplexing as SRTM15_PLUS should include the 706 Deepreef Explorer GBR dataset according to their references (ftp://topex.ucsd.edu/pub/srtm15_ 707 plus/). However, the SRTM15_PLUS version used in this study does not seem to have it incorpo-708 rated. The bathymetry in the Torres Strait and Papua New Guinea region is also very different from 709 SRTM15_PLUS, where we have used GEBCO_2014 in our more comprehensive bathymetric dataset. 710 This is because GEBCO_2014 matches rather well with Deepreef Explorer GBR at the interface 711 whereas SRTM15_PLUS does not. The resulting M_2 RMS differences shown here (Fig. 10(c.ii)) are 712 certainly large and often well exceed discrepancies between our model and TPXO8 (Fig. 2). In fact, 713 in most of the Coral Sea the Comp + IT + SV model setup is performing rather well with respect 714 to TPXO8 which could be largely attributed to the Deepreef Explorer GBR dataset. Significant 715 discrepancies for our model against TPXO8 and tide gauges are still present near the Torres Strait 716 (Fig. 10(c.ii)) where opposing M_2 energy fluxes meet over the strait (Fig. 6). The residual discrep-717 ancy here is likely a combination of the remaining uncertainties in the GEBCO_2014 bathymetry 718 (based on 2009 Australian Bathymetry and Topography Grid), and bottom friction dissipation. 719

720 5.2.3. Discussion

The effect of different bathymetric datasets is not shown to be an important factor in the deep 721 ocean, but on the shelf and nearshore there are certain regions where bathymetry plays a large 722 role. This has been also highlighted in terms of the global RMS discrepancies presented in $\S4.4.2$ 723 (summarized in Table 4). In some cases, the RMS differences between simulations using different 724 bathymetric datasets are greater than discrepancies between TPXO8 and the Comp + IT + SV725 model setup, particularly between the two global bathymetric datasets. Our more comprehensive 726 bathymetric data and SRTM15_PLUS are mostly the same except nearshore in certain regions which 727 is likely the reason for smaller RMS differences in general. 728

As discussed in previous studies (e.g. Egbert et al., 2004; Green, 2010; Zaron, 2017), bathymetry 729 has the potential to control the tidal elevation particularly through resonant effects that are in 730 general nonlocal. For example, the effect of the Deepreef Explorer GBR high-resolution bathymetry 731 is to change the M_2 elevation over a large area beyond the Coral Sea out into the deep ocean. 732 Conversely only small changes are noted throughout the region between the South China Sea and 733 Java Sea. More locally, in a resonant basin such as the gulf near Batang Lupar, hand-edits of the 734 bathymetry based on FUGAWI navigational charts allow the tidal elevation to reach close to the 735 measured M₂ amplitude. Clearly, greater availability and quality of nearshore and shelf bathymetry 736 has the potential to greatly improve the modeling not only of tides but all shallow water flows. 737

With regards to the effect of the bathymetry in the deep ocean, it should be noted that bathymetry 738 will affect internal tide energy conversion as the dissipation matrix is based on topographic depths 739 and slopes. So technically, the deep ocean may be more impacted than is shown here taking this 740 aspect into account. Nevertheless, addition of the abyssal hill roughness, for example, has only 741 marginally increased the fidelity of ocean models (Buijsman et al., 2015; Timko et al., 2017). In 742 3D baroclinic models (Arbic et al., 2010, 2012; Timko et al., 2017) this can be explained in part by 743 limitations of resolution. On the other hand, 2D barotropic models such as IndWPac can achieve 744 high resolution over a wide-scale, but may be somewhat limited by the underlying assumptions of 745 internal tide energy conversion no matter the bathymetric data. Greater discussion on this aspect 746 is presented in the next section. 747

748 5.3. Internal Tide Energy Conversion

In the two internal tide energy conversion parameterizations ($\S3.3$), it is necessary to calibrate a global amplification factor due to unknowns involved with the resolution of the bathymetric data ⁷⁵¹ and the way in which dissipation that is overestimated at supercritical slopes is handled, due to ⁷⁵² their linear assumptions. In addition to finding these amplification factors, this section discusses ⁷⁵³ the differences between the two parameterization methods, introduces multiplier coefficients due ⁷⁵⁴ to semi-diurnal resonance in the Luzon Strait, and concludes with some final remarks on reasons ⁷⁵⁵ for differences between the methods and remaining issues for the parameterization of internal tide ⁷⁵⁶ energy conversion.

757 5.3.1. Calibrating Amplification Factors

We begin by trying to determine the optimal values of C_{Nyc} and C_{Dir} for the IndWPac model before comparing the performance of both parameterization methods. This is evaluated by looking at \overline{D}_{tpx} for the M₂ and K₁ tidal waves in deep water (h > 500 m) with a spatially constant bottom friction, $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$. To a lesser degree, we are also interested in the total dissipation TD of individual tidal constituents. Comparisons of \overline{D}_{tpx} versus TD in deep water for the M₂ and K₁ tidal waves are shown in Fig. 11(a),(b) using four different values of amplification factors for each method.



Figure 11: Deep water total dissipation TD for the IndWPac model using different internal tide parameterization methods and amplification factors, and for the TPXO8 model. (a) M₂, (b) K₁; TD versus RMS discrepancy in deep water (h > 500 m) with 2^{nd} order polynomial fits. (c) Bathymetric depth versus total dissipation TD (summed in 100 m depth bins) for the M₂ tidal wave.

Regarding the K_1 tidal wave, amplification factors slightly smaller than the values tested appear optimal in both parameterization methods. However, we focus on the results of the M_2 tidal wave to

determine the optimal amplification factors. This leads to $C_{Nyc} \approx 2.9$ and $C_{Dir} \approx 0.22$ based on a 767 second-order polynomial best fit. For comparison, Buijsman et al. (2015) determined $C_{Nuc} \approx 2.75$, 768 which is in close agreement. Furthermore, two modifications are applied to the *Nonlocal* method. 769 The first modification simply ensures that the dissipation matrix is positive definite (PD). A second 770 modification involves applying Gaussian smoothing of N_b (to obtain a variable denoted as N_{bav}) 771 using the same radius and scaling as the convolution integral for J, the argument being that nonlocal 772 effects of buoyancy may be just as important as nonlocal effects of topography. Both modifications 773 create more dissipation and make \overline{D}_{tpx} for M₂ smaller for the same value of C_{Nyc} (Fig. 11), with 774 the PD modification having the largest effect. 775

⁷⁷⁶ 5.3.2. Differences between Parameterization Methods

Two opposing outcomes result from the comparison between the *Nonlocal* and *Local* methods. 777 For both constituents, the Nonlocal method leads to slightly smaller values of \overline{D}_{tpx} , while TD at the 778 optimal amplification factor matches TPXO8 in deep water more closely for the Local method. Since 779 TPXO8 can be reliably validated for elevations but not for dissipation we are inclined to prefer the 780 Nonlocal method, thus it is incorporated into our best model results presented in §4. It is however 781 worth pointing out that the difference between the methods is no more than 15 mm in \overline{D}_{tpx} for M₂, 782 thus the Local method can be considered a very useful parameterization in its own right - not least 783 because it can be quickly calculated and introduced to a numerical model. 784

With regards to total dissipation, the optimal Nonlocal method results in 24% greater $M_2 TD$ 785 compared with TPXO8 (see Fig. 12 for a comparison of the dissipation densities computed through 786 (17) sans the area-integral). The global HYCOM model has a similar TD ratio (23% greater) versus 787 TPXO8 (Buijsman et al., 2015), who note that the TPXO8 dissipation rates are diffused over large 788 areas in comparison to the parameterized internal tide energy conversion in their model (we also 789 see this in Fig. 12). In that sense it is somewhat unclear how reliable TPXO8 dissipation in deep 790 water may be. Issues with tidal dissipation in global data-assimilated models have been previously 791 highlighted (Lyard et al., 2006; Le Provost and Lyard, 1997), and there are large regions of negative 792 dissipation rates when computing this with the TPXO8 solutions (Fig. 12(b)). 793

Depth-wise the characteristics of local and large-scale nonlocal topographic effects tend to translate into the *Nonlocal* method creating greater dissipation in shallower depths (Fig. 11(c)). Both methods give large amounts of dissipation in the 3000 - 4000 m range corresponding to abyssal hills, but a general observation we find is that the *Nonlocal* method focuses dissipation towards the center peaks of the ridges whilst the *Local* method tends to spread dissipation over the width of the ridge.



Figure 12: Total dissipation densities (computed using (17) with the area-integral omitted) of the M₂ tidal wave for; (a) IndWPac model (*Nonlocal* method, $C_{Nyc} = 2.90$ with PD and N_{bavg} corrections); (b) the TPXO8 model atlas.

As mentioned above, it remains unclear whether the overestimate in dissipation from both schemes in the 500 - 4000 m depth range (and underestimate in the 4500 - 6000 m range) is a major cause of concern or it simply reflects the coarseness of the data-assimilated model. Buijsman et al. (2015) found similar trends (to this study) for their global model.

The differences in amplitudes of the M_2 tidal wave between the Nonlocal and Local methods 803 are illustrated in Fig. 13. There is a clear divide between amplitudes in the Indian Ocean and 804 those in the western Pacific Ocean. This indicates disparity in the way the M_2 tides are balanced 805 between basins depending on the method. The Nonlocal method dissipates more in shallower depths 806 (Fig. 11(c)), so it is perhaps unsurprising that the amplitudes will be smaller in the western Pacific 807 basin which contains many shallow shelves and island chains. Moreover, the energy flux density 808 P of the M₂ tidal wave predominantly flows from the Indian Ocean into the western Pacific basin 809 through the Indonesian Seas, and to a lesser extent through the Malacca Strait (Fig. 6). Due to 810 the greater dissipation in shallow depths in the passages through the island chains and shallow seas, 811 more energy remains on the Indian Ocean side instead of flowing into the western Pacific basin 812 compared with the *Local* method. 813



Figure 13: M₂ amplitude differences between the two internal tide energy conversion methods; "Nonlocal method, $C_{Nyc} = 2.90$ with PD and N_{bavg} corrections" minus "Local method, $C_{Dir} = 0.22$ ". '+' hatched regions indicate absorption-generation sponge zone.

⁸¹⁴ 5.3.3. Multiplier due to Semi-diurnal Resonance over the Luzon Strait

A local improvement to internal tide energy conversion is applied over the Luzon Strait. The 815 Luzon Strait controls the amount of energy into the South China Sea for both the M_2 and K_1 tidal 816 waves (Fig. 6). Here, the amplitude of K_1 is mostly larger than M_2 (Fig. 2). Because the separation 817 of the double-ridge topography in the strait is similar to the semi-diurnal internal tide wavelength, it 818 has been shown that resonance dramatically increases the barotropic to baroclinic energy conversion 819 (Buijsman et al., 2014). In comparison to the sum of the two ridges considered separately, the 820 double-ridge produces up to as much as four times the energy conversion for the first-internal mode 821 (Buijsman et al., 2014). Since our internal tide energy conversion parameterizations do not include 822 such resonance behavior we deem it appropriate to apply a multiplier to the amplification coefficients 823 in the region $19.5^{\circ}-21.5^{\circ}N$ and $120^{\circ}-122.5^{\circ}E$. The multiplier coefficients C_{Luzon} are defined using 824 a skewed Gaussian curve as a function of latitude ϕ to approximate the data points presented in 825 Buijsman et al. (2014): 826

$$C_{Luzon} = 1 + \frac{a_L}{2\sigma_L \pi} \exp\left(\frac{-\xi_L^2}{2\sigma_L^2}\right) \left[1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\alpha_L \xi_L}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_L}\right)\right]$$
(18)

with $a_L = 5.0$, $\sigma_L = 0.3$, $\alpha_L = -1.0$, and $\xi_L = \phi - 20.9^{\circ}$ N. C_{Luzon} reaches a maximum of 4.24 at 20.75°N.

Fig. 14 shows the amplitude differences for the M_2 and K_1 tidal waves in the South China Sea 829 and surroundings from the optimal Nonlocal method with and without the multiplier coefficients 830 C_{Luzon} . As expected, the increase to the internal tide coefficients reduces the amplitudes inside 831 most of the South China Sea for both constituents. The decrease is on the order of 0.5-1 cm for 832 M_2 in most areas with a few pockets of 2.5-5 cm reductions. Additionally, the blockage increases 833 amplitudes slightly to the east of the strait and in the Sulu Sea. The K_1 amplitude is decreased in 834 the South China Sea by 1-2.5 cm almost uniformly. Furthermore, due to the blockage at the Luzon 835 Strait, more of the energy flux is now diverted down into the Indonesian seas (Fig. 6) increasing 836 amplitudes uniformly by 0.5-1 cm. 837

⁸³⁸ M₂ RMS discrepancies at coastal tide gauges are generally decreased about 1 cm within the South ⁸³⁹ China Sea due to the C_{Luzon} multiplier coefficients. The discrepancy is increased slightly in the Sulu ⁸⁴⁰ Sea and near the Taiwan Strait. The changes in K₁ discrepancies do not follow a clear pattern aside ⁸⁴¹ from the Gulf of Thailand and Celebes Sea regions (decrease and increase respectively). The RMS ⁸⁴² discrepancies against tide gauges and TPXO8 in the plotted region (Fig. 14) are summarized in ⁸⁴³ Table 6. Overall, only small decreases in discrepancies are found when using the C_{Luzon} multiplier

Table 6: The mean RMS discrepancies (units: cm) versus coastal tide gauges \overline{D}_{tg} and TPXO8 \overline{D}_{tpx} (in all depths) of the M₂, K₁, and the total free surface (up to all eight major constituents) within each of the regions plotted in Figs. 14 and 16. Standard deviations in parentheses. See Table 4 for model setup descriptions.

Region	Model	$\overline{D}_{tg}^{\mathrm{M}_2}$	$\overline{D}_{tg}^{\mathrm{K}_1}$	$\overline{D}_{tg}^{\rm all}$	$\overline{D}_{tpx}^{\mathrm{M}_2}$	$\overline{D}_{tpx}^{\mathrm{K}_{1}}$	$\overline{D}_{tpx}^{\text{all}}$
SCS	Comp + IT(LZ) + SV	7.35(6.75)	6.92(5.88)	14.3(10.2)	$3.76\ (7.56)$	3.63(3.37)	6.70(10.4)
	Comp + IT(NoLZ) + SV	$7.55\ (6.63)$	$6.96\ (5.73)$	14.2(10.0)	4.07(7.53)	3.74(3.56)	6.90(10.4)
YS	Comp + IT + SC	17.2 (17.7)	3.74(3.74)	20.8(20.3)	8.58(16.9)	$1.70 \ (9.53)$	10.3(18.4)
	Comp + IT + SV	12.3(15.6)	3.04(3.31)	16.1 (17.7)	6.51(17.1)	1.41 (9.81)	8.43 (18.2)
JS	Comp + IT + SC	10.5 (9.50)	5.98(5.41)	16.5(11.6)	6.02(7.11)	5.47(7.08)	$10.6\ (7.39)$
	Comp + IT + SV	11.5 (10.8)	6.54(5.39)	$17.9\ (12.6)$	5.97(7.05)	$6.60 \ (6.66)$	11.5(7.58)
TAS	Comp + IT + SC	18.8 (24.6)	9.49(8.16)	25.9(28.2)	$6.46 \ (9.68)$	4.03(8.50)	9.71 (11.1)
	Comp + IT + SV	19.9 (24.8)	$10.2 \ (8.63)$	$27.6\ (28.6)$	$6.81 \ (9.86)$	4.28(8.62)	10.3(11.7)

*SCS: South China Sea region plotted in Fig. 14. LZ refers to the use of multiplier coefficients, C_{Luzon} from (18), over the Luzon Strait. NoLZ is without applying C_{Luzon}

*YS: Yellow Sea and southern Japan region plotted in Fig. 16 (i)

*JS: Area between the Java Sea and South China Sea plotted in Fig. 16 (ii)

*TAS: Timor and Arafura Seas region plotted in Fig. 16 (iii)



Figure 14: (a) M_2 and (b) K_1 amplitude differences in the South China Sea and surrounds when using the multiplier coefficients C_{Luzon} over the Luzon Strait (case with C_{Luzon} from (18) minus case without C_{Luzon} applied). Circles indicate the change in RMS discrepancies at coastal tide gauges (negative indicates reduction in discrepancy when using C_{Luzon}).

coefficients. The magnitude of discrepancies are comparable to local hydrodynamic models for the 844 South China Sea region (Green and David, 2013; Gao et al., 2015) (we obtain 8.5 cm and 5.0 cm 845 RMSE for M_2 and K_1 versus TPXO8 respectively, Green and David (2013) quote 9 cm and 10 cm). 846 In Green and David (2013), C_f had to be raised to an unphysical value of 0.01 to achieve optimal 847 results for M_2 . It was speculated that this is because the internal tide energy conversion rates in, 848 e.g. the Luzon Strait, are underestimated for M_2 . Perhaps the increased C_f may have accounted 849 for additional dissipation in the Luzon Strait that the C_{Luzon} multiplier coefficients applied here are 850 trying to achieve, although it is shown here that the effects of applying C_{Luzon} are somewhat small. 851

Furthermore, Green and David (2013) use a different method to cap dissipation at supercritical slopes (in which this is the case in parts of the Luzon Strait) that may not be appropriate locally. Bathymetric differences and the higher grid resolution in IndWPac also likely play a role in helping to obtain relatively accurate tidal elevations in the IndWPac model. In addition, by including wind and baroclinic forcing Cai et al. (2006) were able to obtain smaller RMSE values compared to a barotropic model without atmospheric forcing in the South China Sea, thus our model may further improve if these forcings are included.

859 5.3.4. Discussion

As a result of the dissipation dynamics we find that the Local method gives better results in 860 the western Indian Ocean, but elsewhere the Nonlocal method is generally preferable. It is worth 861 noting that the M_2 amplitude differences (Fig. 13) in the Indian Ocean between the two methods is 862 in the range 0.5-2.5 cm, and greater in the Bay of Bengal. This is a rather large amplitude difference 863 in the deep ocean since $\overline{D}_{tpx} = 2.9$ cm, indicating that there is some scope to improve deep-water 864 solutions further through better parameterization of internal tide energy conversion. Perhaps some 865 of the remaining issues for the *Nonlocal* method can be explained by the fact that bathymetry is 866 still rather uncertain and coarse in much of the deep ocean (most of the Indian Ocean is deep with 867 very narrow shelves, and internal tide energy conversion is an important dissipation mechanism). 868 Furthermore, internal tide energy conversion in shallow regions is less reliable because of larger tidal 869 velocities and uncertainties, and there is a greater chance of the flow being supercritical (Melet et al., 870 2013). In fact, one of the main effects of the N_{bav} modification to the Nonlocal method is to move 871 some dissipation away from shallow regions into deeper regions (Fig. 11(c)). Additional investigation 872 into the parameterization of internal tide energy conversion in shallow regions is warranted especially 873 because the shallow areas of the Indonesian seas provide a critical connection between the basins, a 874 region that has created issues previously (Melet et al., 2013). 875

Finally, it is worth highlighting that the internal tide energy conversion matrices used here have 876 been derived based on the M₂ tidal wave. That is, $\omega = 2\pi/12.42$ rad/hr are used in (4) and (5), and 877 the optimal amplification factors are determined from results for M₂. However, theoretically diurnal 878 internal tides become trapped in latitudes higher than $\sim 30^{\circ}$ as $f > \omega$, and no barotropic to baroclinic 879 energy conversion due to freely propagating internal waves results. Because we apply the dissipation 880 matrix for M₂, some energy conversion of diurnal tides does occur at these higher latitudes in our 881 model. However, without separating the modes and taking into account the influences from the 882 other constituents similar to methods for bottom friction (e.g. Le Provost and Lyard, 1997), it is 883

unclear how selective dissipation for each mode is possible using this type of parameterization in a 884 forward model. Instead, Jayne and St. Laurent (2001) decided to ignore the relationship between ω 885 and f. Here, our assumption for internal tide energy conversion is that the M_2 tidal wave dominates 886 the signal. Nevertheless, smaller amplification factors are optimal for the K_1 tidal wave (Fig. 11(b)) 887 than those for M_2 (Fig. 11(a)), although using the internal tide energy conversion parameterization 888 does improve the K_1 tides versus not including it. Furthermore, in the Luzon Strait only resonance 889 of the semi-diurnal internal tides occurs, so theoretically the multiplier coefficients C_{Luzon} should not 890 be applied to the diurnal tides. Perhaps, including information from measurements and operational 891 baroclinic 3D models, e.g. HYCOM (Chassignet et al., 2007), may provide us with an opportunity 892 to locally improve dissipation matrices for depth-integrated barotropic models, although we are still 893 somewhat limited by the assumptions of the underlying parameterization. 894

895 5.4. Bottom Friction Dissipation

This section summarizes the effect of implementing the spatially varying C_f map (Fig. 15(a)) based on sediment types and tidal current speeds (Fig. 6) into the IndWPac model. Firstly, it is useful to highlight regions where we expect bottom friction to have a large effect. Zaron (2017) recently introduced a bottom friction number, Z_f for the kth constituent to quantitatively illustrate this:

$$\left(Z_f^k\right)^2 = \frac{\left(C_f u_f |\boldsymbol{U}^k|/h\right)^2}{\left(\omega^k |\boldsymbol{U}^k|\right)^2 + \left(C_f u_f |\boldsymbol{U}^k|/h\right)^2}$$
(19)

where ω^k is the tidal frequency of the kth constituent. The term ω^k corresponds to local acceleration. Since depth and velocities are highly correlated (velocity and C_f are to some extent also correlated but much less so) it is clear from (19) that the effect of C_f is in fact secondary to the effects of h. Thus, a global map of Z_f based on the spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ simulation ought to suffice for visualization purposes (Fig. 15(b)).

⁹⁰⁶ Z_f shows a similar pattern for the K₁ tidal wave (not shown) as the plotted M₂ tidal wave. On ⁹⁰⁷ the continental shelves at depths ~100 m, Z_f is generally in the 0.1-0.5 range, and only becomes ⁹⁰⁸ larger than 0.5 close to the coast in depths much less than 50 m (see also Zaron, 2017). Regions ⁹⁰⁹ where Z_f is large correlate to areas where the tidal solutions will be most impacted by any variability ⁹¹⁰ in C_f . When implementing the spatially varying C_f map (Fig. 15(a)), specific areas with relatively ⁹¹¹ large Z_f that are noticeably different to $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ include: the Yellow Sea and southern Japan ⁹¹² (small C_f in the Yellow Sea, large C_f just south of the Yellow Sea and in the Seto Inland Sea); the



Figure 15: (a) Map of bottom friction coefficients C_f based on sediment types (Dutkiewicz et al., 2015) with assumed grain size and sediment density (Table 2); the empirical equations (van Rijn, 2007) also take into account depth and tidal velocities. (b) M₂ bottom friction number Z_f based on the Comp + IT + SC model setup; '+' hatched regions indicate absorption-generation sponge zone.

area between the Java Sea and South China Sea near Singapore (mostly large C_f with pockets of small C_f); and Timor and Arafura Seas (both large and small C_f). The change in amplitudes for the M₂ and K₁ tidal waves in these three regions when using the spatially varying C_f map over the spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ are illustrated in Fig. 16. Changes in the RMS discrepancy at the coastal tide gauges are also plotted. The mean discrepancies at the coastal tide gauges within the boxed regions are summarized in Table 6. The following sections detail the findings at each region individually, followed by a discussion of the results.

920 5.4.1. Yellow Sea and southern Japan

In the census sediment database, the Yellow Sea is designated as a mud sediment type (we also 921 modified the database to ensure that Bohai Sea and Hangzhou Bay are designated as mud sediment 922 types) and the tidal currents are very large over the shallow basin. This leads to small values of C_f 923 between 7.5×10^{-4} and 2.0×10^{-3} , except close to the coastline where C_f becomes large due to small 924 depths in (6). A patch of sand just south of the Yellow Sea causes C_f to exceed 4.0×10^{-3} here. 925 Additionally, a sand zone throughout most of the Seto Inland Sea induces a large C_f (> 4.0×10⁻³). 926 The tidal amplitudes increase due to the spatially varying C_f in most of the Yellow Sea, and de-927 crease just south of the Yellow Sea due to the mud and sand zones respectively for both constituents. 928



Figure 16: (a) M_2 and (b) K_1 amplitude differences due to changes in bottom friction coefficients C_f (case with spatially varying C_f map minus case with spatially constant $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$). Circles indicate the change in RMS discrepancies at coastal tide gauges (negative indicates reduction in discrepancy for spatially varying C_f model setup); (i) Yellow Sea and southern Japan, (ii) area between the Java Sea and South China Sea, (iii) Timor and Arafura Seas.

The M₂ amplitude is also decreased in the western Seto Inland Sea but there is no noticeable change 929 for K_1 . Impressively, the RMS discrepancy is decreased almost everywhere for both constituents 930 aside from a couple of outliers in the Yellow Sea and for a group of stations in the eastern Seto 931 Inland Sea for M_2 . For example, the discrepancy is decreased by up to 25 cm and 5 cm for M_2 932 and K_1 respectively at many Yellow Sea locations. It appears that the combination of the small 933 friction in the Yellow and Bohai Seas and the large friction just south of the Yellow Sea and in the 934 Korea-Japan strait results in systematic positive changes to the solution. Overall, the mean RMS 935 discrepancies versus coastal tide gauges decrease by 4.9 cm (28%) for M_2 and 0.71 cm (19%) for K_1 936 due to the spatially varying C_f here. 937

938 5.4.2. Area between the Java Sea and South China Sea

The region in between the Java Sea and South China Sea is predominantly designated as a sand zone $(C_f > 4.0 \times 10^{-3})$ with pockets of fine-grain calcareous sediment $(C_f \approx 2.0 \times 10^{-3})$ and volcanic ash $(C_f \approx 3.0 \times 10^{-3})$ in the census sediment database. There is only a small number of data points in the census to back up these sediment types.

The M₂ amplitudes decrease most significantly in the region close to Singapore due to the higher 943 values of C_f and Z_f here. In response to this decrease in amplitude, the M₂ RMS discrepancies in 944 this region increase by approximately 5 cm. A large-scale decrease in K_1 amplitudes occurs southeast 945 of Singapore but there are no coastal tide gauges there to measure the effect on the discrepancy. 946 A band of increased K_1 amplitude in between Singapore and Borneo which increases the RMS 947 discrepancies at the tide gauges is also present. The mean total free surface RMS discrepancies 948 are increased versus tide gauges by 1.4 cm (8.5%) overall (Table 6). Thus, increasing C_f from the 949 base value of 0.025 to the sediment/current informed estimate clearly degrades the accuracy in both 950 the semi-diurnal and diurnal constituents suggesting that either the census sediment database is 951 not correct or that the high current speeds in the Malacca Strait artificially increase the friction 952 coefficient for the sand sediment type. We believe that the comprehensive bathymetry in this heavily 953 trafficked region is reliable in that it matches navigation charts well. 954

955 5.4.3. Timor and Arafura Seas

The Timor Sea is designated as a sand sediment type in the census sediment database while the Arafura Sea is designated as mainly fine-grained calcareous sediment with a couple of pockets of sand types. As a result, in most of the Timor Sea $C_f > 4.0 \times 10^{-3}$ except for nearshore in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf where the tidal velocities are very large causing C_f to decrease as the finegrained sediment bedforms are washed out. Tidal current speeds are fairly small in the Gulf of Carpentaria (Fig. 6) so even though some of sediment is fine-grained, C_f is similar to the standard value (2.5×10^{-3}) . North of Arnhem the sediment is fine-grained and the tidal current speeds are fairly large (Fig. 6), hence C_f becomes smaller than the standard value.

Because most of the region has larger values of C_f than the standard value, tidal amplitudes tend 964 to decrease for both constituents on the whole (Fig. 16 (iii)). Exceptions are the Van Diemen Gulf 965 (small C_f), north of Arnhem (small C_f nearshore with high C_f just offshore), and east of the Torres 966 Strait, but only for M_2 . The mechanism for the latter is mainly through dampening of the energy 967 fluxes traveling east towards the Torres Strait as they encounter the sand zones in the Timor and 968 Arafura Seas. This results in less resistance to the westward directed energy fluxes into the Torres 969 Strait (see Fig. 6), increasing amplitudes to the east of the strait. In general, using the spatially 970 varying C_f leads to poorer results for both constituents. Only deep in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf 971 and at a couple of stations near the Van Diemen Gulf with smaller C_f values does the M₂ RMS 972 discrepancy decrease. Mean total free surface RMS discrepancies at tide gauges increase by 1.7 cm 973 (6.6%) due to the spatially varying C_f . Again, this could be related to the sediment information 974 derived from the census sediment data or from the friction coefficient estimation. In addition, the 975 degree of uncertainty of the bathymetry is high as explored in $\S5.2$, which will substantially influence 976 the dissipation and the energy fluxes. 977

978 5.4.4. Discussion

Results summarized in the above sections highlight one region (the Yellow Sea and southern 979 Japan) that experienced wholesale decreases in the discrepancies at tidal stations by significant 980 magnitudes, and two regions with small increases in discrepancies, when using the spatially varying 981 C_f map over the standard $C_f = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$. The Yellow Sea region represents a flagship result of 982 the possibilities of using a data-informed approach to estimating bottom friction coefficients over 983 using a standard value. Furthermore, the distribution of C_f used in the region is in close agreement 984 to previous studies. For example, Lefevre et al. (2000) found a small value of C_f (1.5×10⁻³) to be 985 optimal throughout the East China Sea/Yellow Sea region. More interestingly the distribution of 986 C_f closely resembles the optimal one determined through the adjoint method (Lu and Zhang, 2006). 987 This may appear to indicate that the adjoint method can estimate C_f values that correspond to 988 physical characteristics of the seabed such as the muddy nature throughout most of the Yellow Sea. 989 However, it is not clear whether the sand zone south of the Yellow Sea creating an increase in C_f 990 similar to the optimal distribution of C_f in Lu and Zhang (2006) is simply a coincidence or not due 991

⁹⁹² to the sparseness of data points in the census here and the tendency of sand zones in the other two ⁹⁹³ regions to in fact increase discrepancies.

The Arafura Sea in the census is mainly fine-grained calcareous but there are two pockets of 994 sand zones. However, according to the grain size map presented in Porter-Smith et al. (2004), we 995 expect the Arafura Sea and Gulf of Carpentaria to be fairly muddy with small grain sizes. In the 996 Timor Sea the census contains many data points that are used to determine that the sediment is 997 sandy here. This may be the case, but our definition of the sediment grain size of sand does not 998 seem to match Porter-Smith et al. (2004), who indicate fairly small grain sizes for the region. The 999 rest of the Australian shelf has fairly large grain sizes (Porter-Smith et al., 2004), but they are 1000 mainly designated as ooze types in the census. It can be assumed that there are similar issues with 1001 sediment types and the correlation of these to physical sediment characteristics in the area between 1002 the Java Sea and South China Sea. This indicates that the census is generally insufficient for our 1003 purpose due to the relative sparseness of the data, particularly of terrestrial type sediments, and 1004 because it requires us to estimate the grain size and density from the sediment types. The physical 1005 characteristic of sand, for example, can vary considerably. 1006

We have experimented with changing some of the sediment type definitions of the census. For 1007 example, the sandy sediment definition in the area between Java Sea and South China Sea is changed 1008 to fine-grained calcareous sediment which decreases the discrepancies around Singapore for M_2 . 1009 Similarly, all of the Arafura Sea is changed to a muddy sediment type and Timor Sea to fine-1010 grained calcareous sediment (based on the grain size figure in Porter-Smith et al. (2004)). This 1011 leads to generally improved results. In future studies if actual physical sediment characteristics from 1012 databases (e.g. Porter-Smith et al., 2004; Buczkowski et al., 2006) could be adopted, with a focus 1013 on regions where Z_f exceeds 0.4-0.5, there are indications that non-trivial improvements to tidal 1014 solutions can be achieved (e.g. Yellow Sea, Bohai Sea, and Seto Inland Sea). 1015

1016 6. Conclusions

This study has presented a finite-element barotropic model of the Indian and western Pacific Oceans with elemental resolution ranging from as small as 100 m (in Hong Kong) up to 25 km in less barotropically interesting areas of the deep ocean. Most of the resolution at the coast is 1 km. Bathymetry has been sourced predominantly from the global SRTM bathymetric database in addition to local high-resolution datasets and hand-edits. At first, comparisons of the IndWPac model results with both the data-assimilated TPXO8 atlas and tidal constituents at tide gauges in deep, continental shelf and slope waters, and at the coast have been shown. This has been followed by a presentation of the sensitivities to lateral boundary conditions, bathymetry, internal tide energy conversion, and bottom friction dissipation. Within each of these sections a discussion of the findings and implications with regards to the sensitivity for that component has been presented. The key results (e.g. RMS discrepancies for the Comp + IT + SV model setup) and conclusions for each region (deep, shelf, and coastal) follows.

Deep water M_2 mean RMS discrepancies against TPXO8 are 2.9 cm (RMSE = 3.6 cm), which 1029 is marginally better than reported for other forward hydrodynamic models. However, the total free 1030 surface RMS discrepancies at deep water tide gauges are 2.3 times those of the TPXO8 atlas. Poorly 1031 placed elevation specified lateral boundaries lead to global resonant amplifications of the lunar semi-1032 diurnal modes. An absorption-generation sponge zone suppresses the resonant amplifications but 1033 it relies on data-assimilated model fluxes (e.g. TPXO8 and similar models), which may not be 1034 as reliable as the elevations from these models. A comprehensive global forward model may have 1035 advantages in eliminating the uncertainties from the boundary conditions. Strictly bathymetric 1036 effects are not of great importance to the deep water solution, however internal tide energy conversion 1037 (that relies on topographic features and slopes for parameterization) is shown to be the key control in 1038 deep water. The Nonlocal method for internal tide energy conversion is shown to obtain marginally 1039 superior results to the *Local* method, but the latter is more dissipative in the Indian Ocean and hence 1040 results in smaller M_2 amplitudes there (which match TPXO8 slightly better). There is evidence that 1041 there is scope to further improve the deep water solution through internal tide energy conversion 1042 but it is probably not possible using the same paradigm (strict reliance on the Nonlocal equation 1043 and calibration of a global amplification factor) as presented here. Significant local modifications 1044 based on 3D baroclinic models and measurements, including improvements to internal tide energy 1045 conversion in shallower waters are likely required. 1046

Continental shelf and slope water M_2 mean RMS discrepancies against TPXO8 are 6.5 cm (RMSE 1047 = 10.1 cm). This is shown to be significantly superior to those reported for other forward hydro-1048 dynamic models (RMSE = 19-28 cm (Stammer et al., 2014), albeit these are global errors, the 1049 total energy density is at least as large in the IndWPac domain compared to the rest of the world's 1050 ocean). One of the most important factors for improvement is shown to be the inclusion of local 1051 high-resolution bathymetry. Notable changes in the M_2 amplitude and a corresponding reduction 1052 in the RMS discrepancies against TPXO8 and at tide gauges are evident in the greater Yellow Sea 1053 region due to changes in bottom friction coefficients based on combinations of muddy and sandy 1054

sediment types. However, the regions around the Java and South China Seas, and Timor and Ara-1055 fura Seas do not generate significant nor positive changes to the discrepancy. If more complete 1056 databases of physical characteristics of sediment are made available, combined with accurate local 1057 bathymetric data it may be possible to improve solutions elsewhere, particularly in resonant basins 1058 (e.g. Gulfs of Khambhat and Kutch on the west coast of India; King Sound, Joseph Bonaparte Gulf 1059 and Van Diemen Gulf in northern Australia, among others) due to spatially varying bottom friction 1060 coefficients. Nevertheless, we are still limited by residual discrepancies from deeper waters and the 1061 uncertainties of internal tide energy conversion in shallower waters. 1062

The discrepancies at the coast for the IndWPac model are not significantly different from those 1063 obtained further offshore on the shelf. Furthermore, the mean total free surface RMS discrepancies 1064 at coastal tide gauges ($\overline{D}_{tg} = 14 \text{ cm}$) are 2.6 cm smaller than those of the TPOX8 atlas. However, the 1065 discrepancies at the majority of locations are smaller for the TPXO8 atlas due to data assimilation 1066 offshore and at selected tide gauges. The large mean RMS discrepancy for the TPXO8 atlas is likely 1067 related to TPXO8's coarser resolution not resolving certain nearshore features and harbor complexes 1068 in detail and therefore not correctly propagating the tides into them. For example, bathymetric and 1069 bottom friction controls are both found to play a very important role nearshore, and in some cases 1070 dominate the reasons for discrepancy due to resonance in a basin or inadequate connectivity into a 1071 bay. In contrast, the IndWPac model does not have such a large number or magnitude of outlier 1072 locations. These results are an indication that the model adequately captures a large amount of 1073 the nearshore physics throughout the domain. Thus, the model is potentially suitable to simulate a 1074 great range of shallow water physics within the region, specifically into detailed harbor complexes 1075 and other nearshore features where the tide gauges are located. 1076

If we are solely interested in tidal elevations, then the simple answer is to use data assimilation 1077 within the IndWPac model to achieve highly accurate solutions, from the deep ocean all the way to 1078 the well-resolved coastal regions. However, in many other applications, such as the forecasting and 1079 analysis of coupled surge, tide and wave processes, capturing the large-scale responses to meteorology, 1080 and modeling the shallow water physics including the nonlinear interactions of the processes becomes 1081 vital. In order to accomplish this, correctly specifying high-resolution bathymetry and topography 1082 becomes a controlling factor. Furthermore, physics based improvements to more accurately quantify 1083 dissipation within forward barotropic models are possible offshore, through coupling to coarser 3D 1084 baroclinic numerical models, and nearshore, through bottom bedform and sediment roughness data. 1085

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¹³⁴² Appendix A. Effective Sediment Roughness Equations

The equations for the effective sediment roughness k_s are taken from van Rijn (2007). k_s is calculated from the vector sum of roughnesses from the different bedform types:

$$k_s = \left(k_{s,r}^2 + k_{s,m}^2 + k_{s,d}^2\right)^{0.5} \tag{A.1}$$

where $k_{s,r}$, $k_{s,m}$, $k_{s,d}$ are the ripple, mega-ripple, and dune related roughnesses respectively. Equations for each rely on the current mobility parameter ψ :

$$\psi = \frac{u_f^2}{(s-1)gd_{50}} \tag{A.2}$$

where u_f is the effective mean current speed (7), $s = \rho_s/\rho_0$ is the relative sediment density (ρ_s is the sediment density), g is the acceleration due to gravity, and d_{50} is the median sediment grain diameter. The equations for each individual roughness type are then:

$$k_{s,r} = f_{sc} d_{50} \left(85 - 65 \tanh[0.015(\psi - 150)] \right) \tag{A.3}$$

$$k_{s,m} = \max\left(\min\left(0.02, 200d_{50}\right), 2e^{-5}f_{fs}h\left[1 - \exp(-0.05\psi)\right](550 - \psi)\right)$$
(A.4)

$$k_{s,d} = \max\left(0, 8e^{-5}f_{fs}h\left[1 - \exp(-0.02\psi)\right](600 - \psi)\right)$$
(A.5)

where h is the still water depth, f_{sc} is the "factor which expresses the effect of a gradually decreasing ripple roughness for very coarse sediment beds", and f_{fs} is the "factor which expresses the effect of a gradually decreasing mega-ripple roughness for very fine sediment beds" (van Rijn, 2007):

$$f_{cs} = \min\left[1, \left(\frac{0.25d_{grav}}{d_{50}}\right)^{1.5}\right]$$
(A.6)

$$f_{fs} = \min\left[1, \frac{d_{50}}{1.5d_{sand}}\right] \tag{A.7}$$

where $d_{grav} = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ m, and $d_{sand} = 6.2 \times 10^{-5}$ m. Here, all sediments are assumed to have $d_{50} > d_{silt} = 3.2 \times 10^{-5}$ m, in which otherwise a lower limit of $k_s = 20 d_{silt}$ is applied.