Developing Tsunami Warnings Based on Model Output

Stewart Allen and Diana Greenslade
CAWCR, Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne, Australia (d.greenslade@bom.gov.au)

The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre is responsible for issuing tsunami warnings for the Australian mainland and offshore territories. Warnings are currently based on model output from the T2 scenario database. When a tsunami event occurs, the closest scenario is selected from the T2 scenario database according to the seismic parameters. The values of the maximum amplitude for the scenario are assessed within coastal regions to determine the threat level. Tsunami warnings are issued according to whether the maximum amplitudes exceed pre-determined threshold values. The threshold values have been derived empirically by consideration of past events and observed coastal impacts. This presentation will describe recent developments that have been made to improve this technique, such as consideration of percentile values of the maximum amplitude.