

---

# Waves and structure interaction using multi-domain couplings for Navier-Stokes solvers in OpenFOAM<sup>®</sup>. Part II: validation and application to complex cases

Benedetto Di Paolo<sup>a,\*</sup>, Javier L. Lara<sup>a</sup>, Gabriel Barajas<sup>a</sup>, Íñigo J. Losada<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>IHCantabria - Instituto de Hidráulica Ambiental de la Universidad de Cantabria  
C/Isabel Torres nº 15, Parque Científico y Tecnológico de Cantabria, 39011 Santander, Spain.

---

## Abstract

In this work, we present several applications of the 2D-3D multi-domain couplings for Navier-Stokes models developed and validated in its companion (Di Paolo et al., submitted). The methodology is used to carry out some relevant simulations which include long regular and irregular waves, solitary wave propagation on a shallow foreshore, focused wave group transformation on a planar beach, wave impact on a cylinder and finally, the numerical twin of a complex laboratory experiment to analyse the performance of a perforated breakwater under wave action.

Results agree well with the full 3D simulations and laboratory experiments and demonstrate the feasibility of using the 2D-3D coupled methodologies presented in Part I to successfully replace full 3D modelling. For all the cases considered, the application of coupled methodologies have resulted in a drastic reducing of the computational time without decreasing the accuracy of the full solution.

*Keywords:* Coupled models, Navier-Stokes, One-way, Two-way, OpenFOAM, wave-structure interaction

---

## 1 Introduction

Numerical models have become a well-established tool for wave-structure interaction studies in coastal and offshore environments as they are perfect complement to physical experiments. Numerical models are normally used for wave generation, propagation, transformation and interaction with structures with an increasing level of accuracy from far to near field. It is well recognized that simplified models (e.g. Non-linear shallow water and Boussinesq solvers) can deal with wave generation, propagation and transformation till the toe of structures (e.g. Zijlema et al. (2011), Brocchini (2013), Kirby (2016)).

However, a proper analysis of wave-structure interaction generally requires a full 3D model in order to account for fluid viscosity and directly solve breaking and other dissipation processes. Although it is well known that the full 3D CFD models accurately simulate wave interaction with fixed and movable structures (e.g. Higuera et al. (2013), Gotoh and Khayyer (2018), Chen et al. (2019)), the application to large domains is still unfeasible (Vandebek et al. (2018)).

35 For this reason, coupled methodologies in which different numerical models are working to-  
36 gether have been rapidly increasing in the last few years as described in Part I (e.g. Kim et al.  
37 (2010), Sriram et al. (2014), Verbrugghe et al. (2018), Mintgen and Manhart (2018), Sitanggang and  
38 Lynett (2010), Martínez-Ferrer et al. (2016)).

39 To date, several coupled simulations have been applied to study the response of structures.  
40 Hildebrandt et al. (2013) simulated wave loads on a tripod structure, considering strong 3D flow  
41 in the near field and neglecting wave reflection. El Safti et al. (2014) also studied a similar topic,  
42 considering rogue wave impacts on a cylinder. Sitanggang and Lynett (2010) reproduced a large-  
43 scale tsunami overtopping on a breakwater but the simulations were purely 2D. Pure 2D simu-  
44 lations were also carried out by Verbrugghe et al. (2018) for an oscillating water column (OWC)  
45 and for a floating box under waves. The main drawback was that 3D effects around the structures  
46 were not taken into account. Martínez-Ferrer et al. (2018) applied the implementations presented  
47 in Martínez-Ferrer et al. (2016) to study the interaction of two-phase fluid flows with elastic struc-  
48 tures. Mintgen and Manhart (2018) developed coupled simulations to estimate forces and drag  
49 coefficient for flood wave impacts on an obstacle. They also validated the 2D-3D (shallow water  
50 - RANS) coupling when the shallow water hypothesis was violated, thus extending the range of  
51 application of the code.

52 In general in wave and structure interaction the three-dimensional flows are dominant in the  
53 near field close to the structures while they lose importance in the far field. Particularly, this  
54 can be accepted when waves impact normally on the structures, which usually occur for wave  
55 interaction with breakwaters. When the geometry of the breakwater does not change in the span-  
56 wise direction a 2D model is usually applied (e.g. Losada et al. (2008), Jacobsen et al. (2018),  
57 Di Lauro et al. (2019), Lara et al. (2019)) otherwise a full 3D model is essential (e.g. Dentale et al.  
58 (2018), Tsai et al. (2018), Wang et al. (2019)). Wang et al. (2019) investigated the performance of a  
59 perforated breakwater comparing physical experiments with 2D and 3D numerical simulations.  
60 They showed that the 2D numerical models (CFD) are inadequate to estimate the wave reflection  
61 coefficient, pressure and velocity fields, while the 3D numerical results successfully matched the  
62 laboratory data but in exchange for an extremely high computational time.

63 With the aim of reducing the computational time without decreasing the accuracy of a full  
64 3D model, multi-domain 2D-3D couplings for Navier-Stokes models were implemented in Part I  
65 (Di Paolo et al., submitted). An extensive analysis of the couplings methods to transfer information  
66 between 2D and 3D domains was conducted showing a good correlations with full solutions (3D).

67 In this paper, the new methods are implemented in the simulation of more practical case stud-  
68 ies. Long time series of regular and irregular waves and a solitary wave propagating on a shallow  
69 foreshore are simulated first. The evolution and breaking of regular and focused waves on a pla-  
70 nar beach are modelled next. A focused wave group impacting on a cylinder is also studied. The  
71 results of the coupled simulations are compared with full 3D solutions. Finally, the numerical  
72 twin of the laboratory experiment of a perforated breakwater (Wang et al. (2019)) is reproduced  
73 and validated.

74 **2 Application of the 2D-3D coupling methodology**

75 The main aim of this paper is to present practical applications of the coupling methods im-  
 76 plemented and validated within Part I (Di Paolo et al., submitted). Exploring the ability of the  
 77 methods to reproduce complex flows characterised by three-dimensionality (e.g. breaking waves,  
 78 wave structure interaction) is required in order to test their potential application to real studies.  
 79 The case studies selected are presented next, in order of increasing complexity.

80 **2.1 Long duration wave series**

81 With the aim of studying long duration of wave time series the influence of the coupling  
 82 methodology in passing long series of information through the 2D and 3D regions needs to be  
 83 assessed.

84 A time series of regular waves has been generated first using the coupling setups in Figure 1  
 85 in one-way (panel a) and two-way (panel b) modes and the results are compared with the full 3D  
 86 simulation.

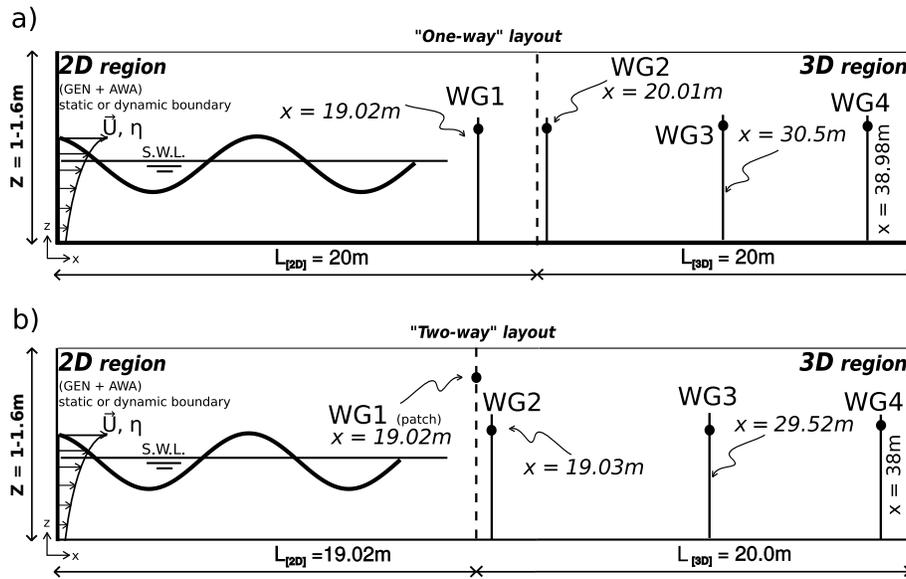


Figure 1: Numerical domain used for the one-way (panel a) and two-way (panel b) simulations.

87 The numerical setup for the one-way and two-way methodologies are the same as defined in  
 88 the validations within Part I (Figure 7). A 20m long, 0.04m wide (1 cell) and 1.6m high (1.0m for  
 89 irregular wave cases) numerical domain (x-z plane) has been defined for the 2D region, while a  
 90 20m long, 0.4m wide (10 cells) and 1.6m high (1.0m for irregular wave cases) domain has been  
 91 built for the 3D region. An aspect ratio ( $\Delta_x/\Delta_z$ ) of 1.0 has been considered to better reproduce the  
 92 curvature of the free surface in time series of irregular waves. Such aspect ratio is also suggested  
 93 in literature (Larsen et al. (2019)).  $\Delta_x$  is 0.01m,  $\Delta_y$  is 0.04m,  $\Delta_z$  is 0.01m and the total span-wise  
 94 length is 0.4m. In all cases of long duration wave series the time step has been adjusted such

95 that a maximum Courant number of ( $C_o = |u_i|\Delta_t/\Delta_{x_i} = 0.1$ ) has been kept at all time steps. The  
 96 simulations have been run in laminar mode. Active wave absorption has been defined at the outlet  
 97 of the 3D region. All the two-way simulations carried out in Part II made use of the stabilisation  
 98 on both 2D and 3D interfaces (see Di Paolo et al., Part I submitted).

99 The wave parameters are indicated in Table 1.  $H_{mo}$  is the spectral significant wave height and  
 100  $T_p$  stands for peak period.

Case	$h$ (m)	$H$ (m)	$T$ (s)	$H_{mo}$ (m)	$T_p$ (s)	$\gamma$
RW	1.1	0.12	2.5	-	-	-
IW1	0.6	-	-	0.05	2.0	3.3
IW2	0.4	-	-	0.05	4.0	3.3

Table 1: Wave parameters for long time series. A JONSWAP spectrum is used for the irregular wave cases.

101 Figure 2 shows a comparison of the free surface elevation ( $\zeta$ ) for the one-way, two-way and 3D  
 102 simulations, considering time windows in the range  $30s < t < 170s$ . For the one-way simulations, re-  
 103 sults are shown at four positions of the sampling sensors as considered in Part I. The four positions  
 104 are  $x_1 = 19.02m$  (WG2 in Figure 1),  $x_2 = 19.8m$ ,  $x_3 = 19.9m$  and  $x_4 = 19.985m$ .

105 Regarding the one-way results it can be observed that by changing the position of the sam-  
 106 pling sensor, the free surface elevation is not strongly affected. Very small deviations are observed  
 107 among signals throughout the long simulation (panels from a to d of Figure 2). Wave heights do  
 108 not vary significantly in time. Even when placing the sensor close to the absorbing boundary, the  
 109 results are satisfactory although a small increase of free surface elevation is observed. Panel a)  
 110 shows that very small discrepancies are observed between the 3D results and the one-way sim-  
 111 ulations. It can also be observed that when placing the sampling sensor far from the coupling  
 112 boundary ( $x_1$ ), the free surface elevation is correctly predicted throughout the simulation time  
 113 (panels from a to d). The discrepancies slightly increase in time (panel b, c and d) and in particular  
 114 for position  $x_4$ , i.e. 1.5 cells far from the outlet of the 2D domain (worst scenario). The most evi-  
 115 dent discrepancy is shown in panel c, where a zoom at the wave crest ( $114.6s < t < 115.2s$ ) is shown.  
 116 The maximum error is however below 7% in this case. By observing the two-way results it can  
 117 be seen that the performance are comparable with the 3D simulation. Wave heights are correctly  
 118 predicted and no significant phase lag are shown. On average, both coupled models (one-way and  
 119 two-way) preserve the shape of the wave.

120 Next, two irregular sea states (1 hour) have been simulated using both coupled models (one-  
 121 way and two-way) and 3D solutions. Here, comparisons are provided in terms of free surface  
 122 elevation and power spectral density (PSD) at WG2, WG3 and WG4. The significant (spectral)  
 123 wave height ( $H_{mo}$ ) is also calculated comparing the results of the coupled (one-way and two-way)  
 124 and the 3D simulations.

125 Figure 3 displays comparisons between the energy spectra of the free surface elevation mea-  
 126 sured at WG2, WG3 and WG4. It can be clearly observed that both coupled models give results  
 127 close to the full solution in terms of wave spectra (panels a, b and c). The one-way model shows  
 128 a small over-prediction of the peak spectra at WG2 (panel a) while the two-way model displays

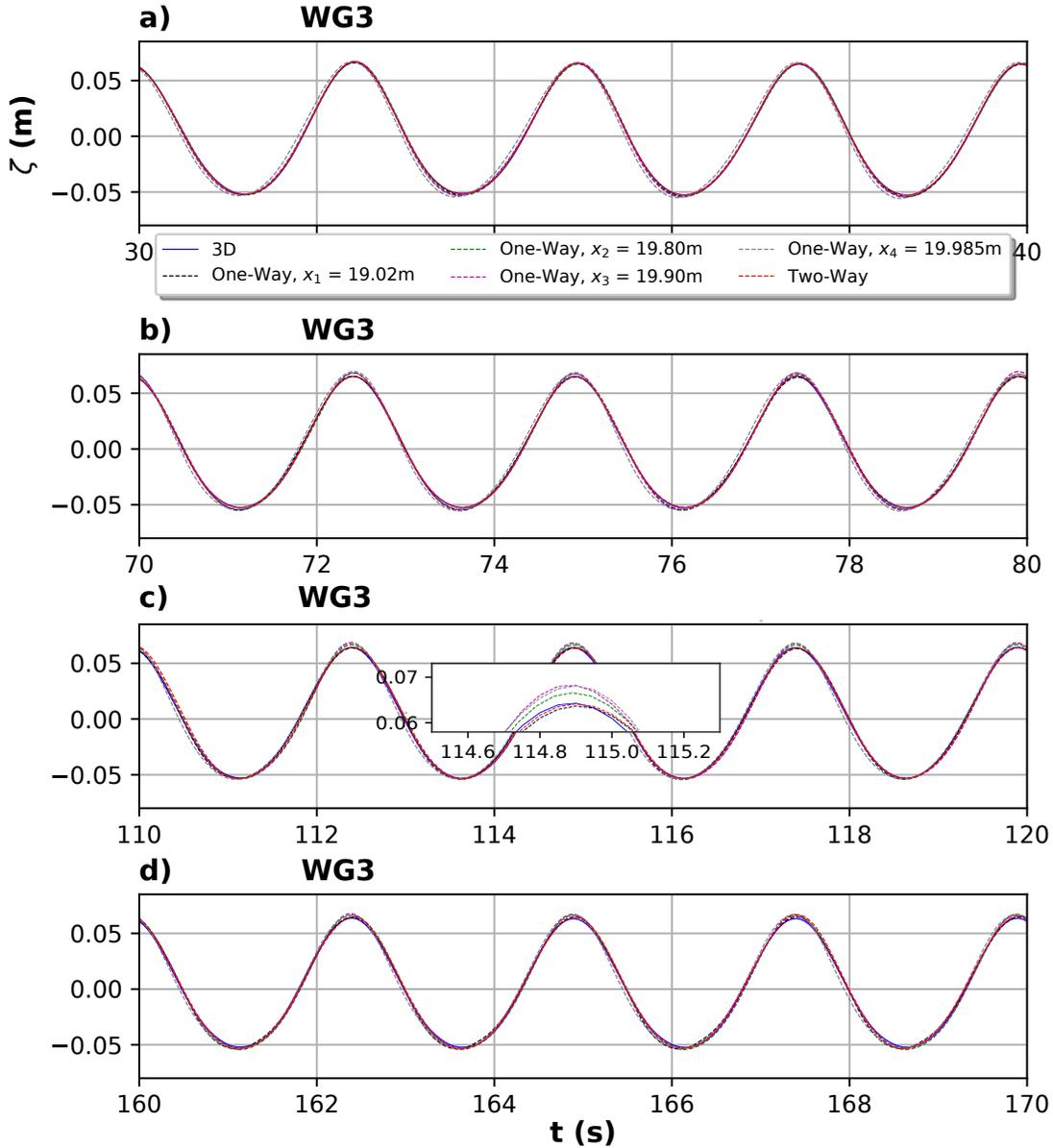


Figure 2: Case RW in Table 1. Numerical results of one-way, two-way and 3D simulations at WG3.  $H = 0.12\text{m}$ ,  $T = 2.5\text{s}$ ,  $h = 1.1\text{m}$ .

129 a better correlation with the full solution. The one-way model seems to slightly over-predict the  
 130 high-frequency components but again the discrepancy with the 3D results is very small (panel a).  
 131 In the far-field, at WG3 and WG4, both coupled models perform well and the results match the 3D  
 132 solution (panels b and c). The significant wave height appears to be correctly estimated by both  
 133 coupled models throughout the numerical domain (Table 2). The only discrepancy observed is for  
 134 the significant wave height obtained with the one-way model at WG2 (0.049m) which slightly dif-

	IW1 - $H_{mo}$ (m)			IW2 - $H_{mo}$ (m)		
	oneWay	twoWay	3D	oneWay	twoWay	3D
<b>WG2</b>	0.049	0.048	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.046
<b>WG3</b>	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.046
<b>WG4</b>	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.046

Table 2: Spectral significant wave heights for the coupled and 3D simulations at WG2, WG3 and WG4. Results for IW1 and IW2 (Table 1) are shown.

	IW1		IW2	
	$Cr_{2d}(\%)$	$Cr_{3d}(\%)$	$Cr_{2d}(\%)$	$Cr_{3d}(\%)$
<b>oneWay</b>	0.12	0.12	0.14	0.13
<b>twoWay</b>	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.13
<b>3D</b>	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.13

Table 3: Wave reflection coefficients in each region (i.e. 2D and 3D).

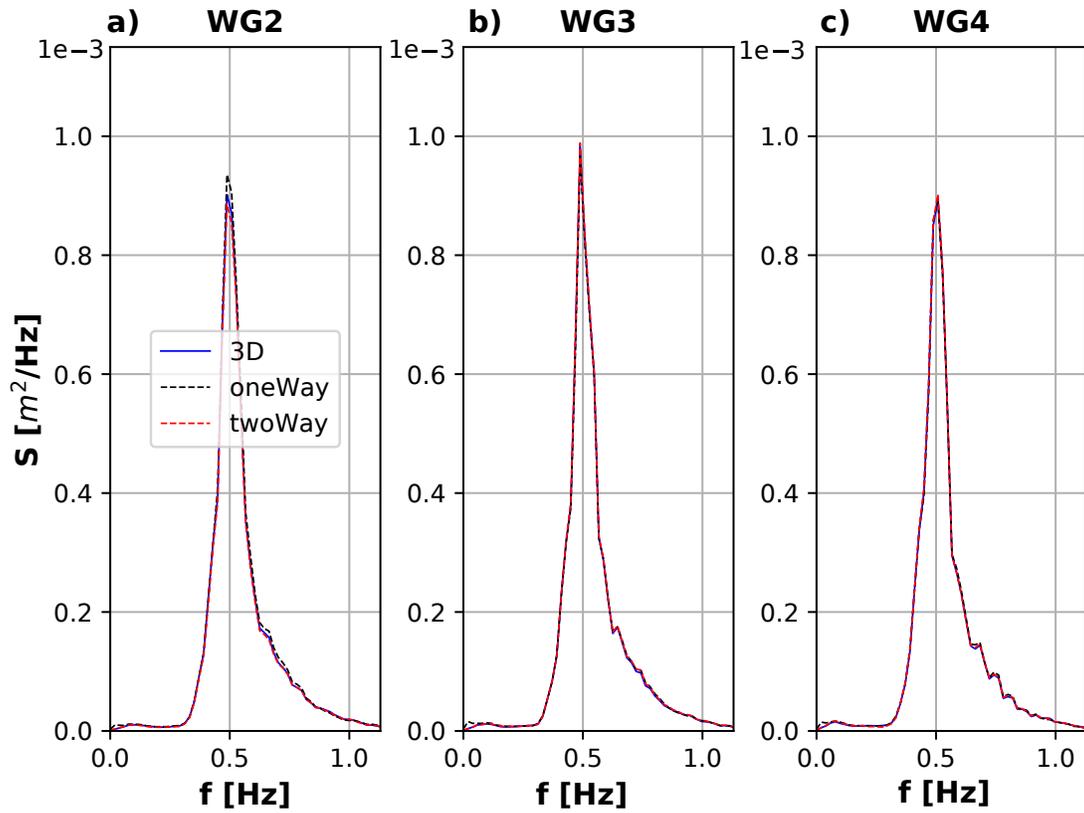


Figure 3: Case IW1 in Table 1. Power spectral density (PSD) obtained from one-way, two-way and 3D simulations. Comparison at WG2, WG3 and WG4.

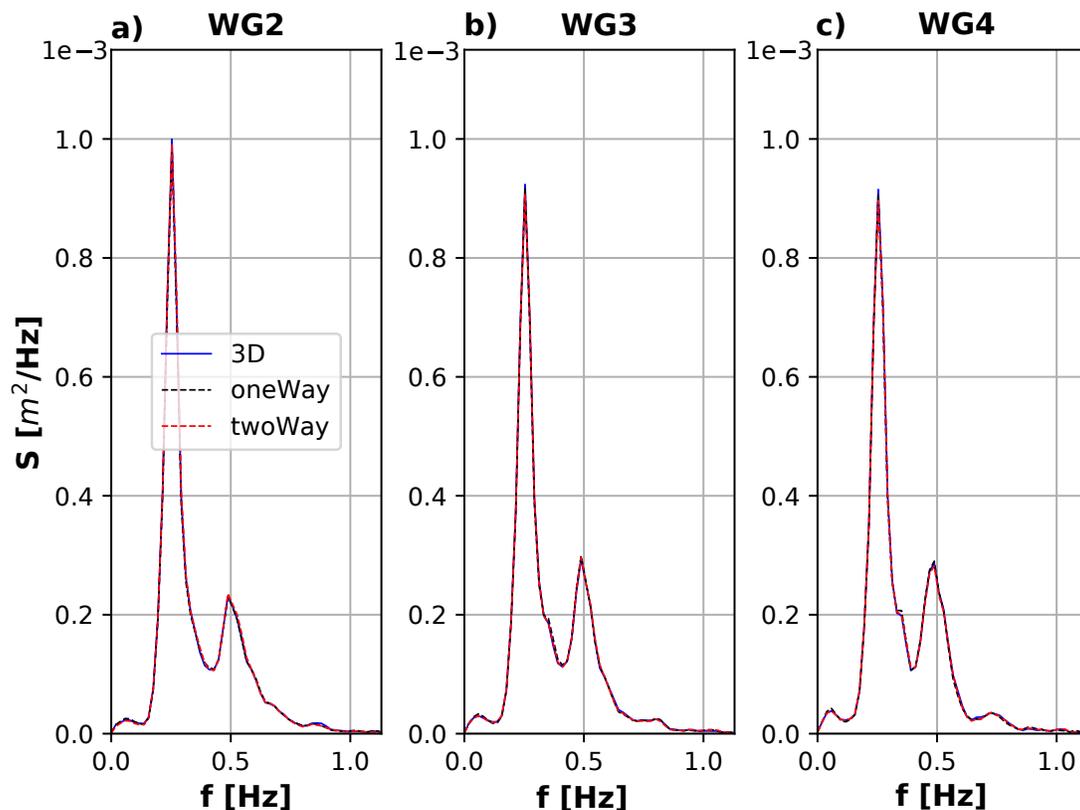


Figure 4: Case IW2 in Table 1. Power spectral density (PSD) obtained from one-way, two-way and 3D simulations. Comparison at WG2, WG3 and WG4.

135 fers from the 3D calculation (0.048m). The reflection coefficient has also been estimated. The wave  
 136 gauge arrays have been placed inside the 2D and 3D regions of the coupled models. For the 3D  
 137 models the wave gauge arrays have been defined in the same positions as for the coupled models,  
 138 thus allowing to calculate the wave reflection coefficients analogous to the 2D and 3D regions of  
 139 the coupled models. The wave reflection coefficient calculated inside the 2D and 3D domains are  
 140 defined as  $Cr_{2d}$  and  $Cr_{3d}$ , respectively (Table 3). It can be observed that both coupled and 3D  
 141 models lead to the same values of the wave reflection coefficient (Table 3). The main result is that  
 142 the coupling methodologies do not increase or decrease wave reflection for the cases considered  
 143 and the wave reflection coefficient remain almost constant throughout the numerical domain.

144 Figure 4 shows the results for the irregular wave case IW2. Here, a very good correlation  
 145 is observed for both coupled models and 3D solution at WG2, WG3 and WG4 (panels a, b and  
 146 c). Again, the significant wave height appears to be correctly estimated by both coupled models  
 147 throughout the numerical domain (Table 2).  $H_{mo}$  remains constant throughout the spatial domains  
 148 for all models. Also, the wave reflection coefficient is identically obtained by using the one-way,  
 149 two-way and 3D simulations (Table 3).

150 In conclusion, good results can be obtained with the coupled models when considering long  
 151 time series of regular and irregular waves. For regular waves both coupled models perform well  
 152 in terms of free surface elevation showing acceptable deviations with the 3D solutions. The two-  
 153 way model gives results very close to the 3D simulations, while the one-way solution shows small  
 154 deviations, particularly when the sampling sensor is closer to the coupled interfaces. However,  
 155 the error was always below 7%. Regarding the irregular waves, the coupled models give results  
 156 close to the full solution, in terms of wave spectra and significant wave height for both cases  
 157 considered. Also, the coupled models lead to the same wave reflection coefficients obtained with  
 158 the 3D solutions, demonstrating that the couplings do not increase or decrease significantly the  
 159 wave reflection.

160 2.2 Coupling in shallow foreshores

161 One way to decrease the computational cost is by pushing the coupling interfaces close to the  
 162 structures as much as possible. For nearshore hydrodynamics this may require establishing the  
 163 coupling zone in shallow foreshores. So it is key to verify that the methodologies introduced (one-  
 164 way and two-way) are capable of correctly transferring information over a shallow foreshore.

165 A numerical 2D-3D domain is defined, as shown in Figure 5, to simulate the transforma-  
 166 tion of a solitary wave on a shallow foreshore. The dimensions of the domain are as follows:  
 167  $L[2D]_{one-way}=34.125m$ ,  $L[3D]_{one-way}=11.125m$ ,  $L[2D]_{two-way}=34.02m$ ,  $L[3D]_{two-way}=11.125m$ .

168 Mesh discretization (both 2D-3D regions):  $\Delta_x = 0.02m$ ,  $\Delta_y = 0.02m$ ,  $\Delta_z = 0.02m$  (12 cells per  
 169 wave height). The maximum  $Co$  has been set to 0.1. The stabilised  $k - \omega$  turbulence model has  
 170 been used. Target wave conditions at the wave-maker position are:  $H=0.25m$ ,  $h=1.18m$ . WG1 and  
 171 WG2 are placed at  $x=35.13m$  and  $x=37.605m$ , respectively, and are used to measure velocity and  
 172 dynamic pressure profiles.

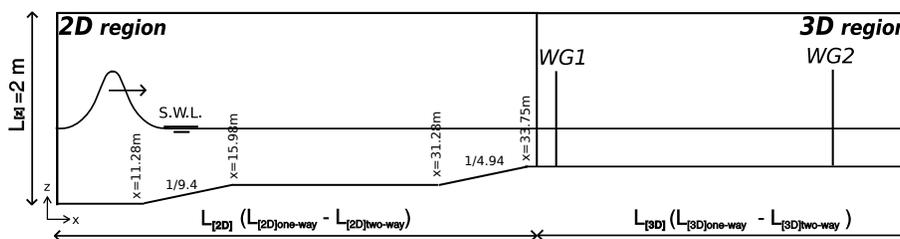


Figure 5: Numerical domain. Solitary wave propagating on a shallow foreshore.

173 Figure 6 shows the free surface elevation, velocity and dynamic pressure profiles of the one-  
 174 way, two-way and 3D simulations, displayed with dashed black, dashed red, and blue lines, re-  
 175 spectively. The free surface is compared at WG1 and WG2 (see Figure 5). From panel a), it can be  
 176 observed that results are well correlated throughout the simulation, although the one-way solu-  
 177 tion provides a slightly higher wave crest than the two-way simulation ( $t \approx 12s$ ). Furthermore,  
 178 results for the coupled models are consistent with the ones for the full model. The development of  
 179 the soliton is well captured by both models ( $13s < t < 16s$ ). In panel b) it can be observed that the  
 180 free surface transformation along the three-dimensional domain ( $x = 37.98m$ ) matches well the

181 full solution for both one-way and two-way couplings, although in this case the two-way model  
 182 appears to slightly under-predict the wave peak.

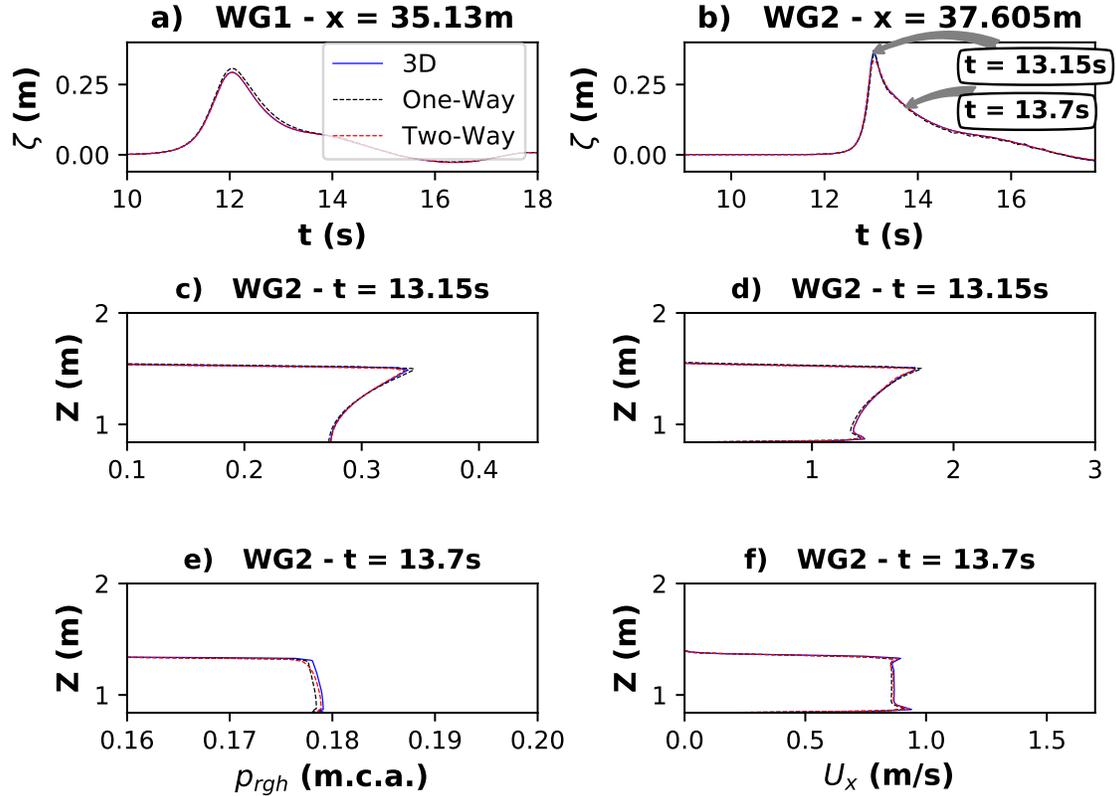


Figure 6: Free surface elevation comparison for a solitary wave propagating on a very shallow foreshore ( $H = 0.25m$  and  $h = 1.18m$ ). The blue continuous line represents the 3D case, the dashed black-line shows the one-way results and the dashed red-line represents the two-way results.

183 Good agreement is found when comparing the dynamic pressure ( $p_{rgh}$ )(panel b) and e)) and  
 184 horizontal velocity ( $U_x$ ) (panels c) and f)). The peak pressure under a crest matches well the 3D  
 185 solution for the two-way data (panel c), while small discrepancies are observed for the one-way  
 186 results. A good agreement is also shown for  $t = 13.7s$  (panel e) although a small deviation from  
 187 the 3D solution is displayed for the one-way model.

188 A good match of the velocity profiles is also shown in Figure 6, panels d) and f) with a small  
 189 overestimation by the one-way coupled simulation of the peak velocity calculated with the full  
 190 3D model at  $t = 13.15s$  (panel d). Similar results are shown at  $t = 13.7s$  (panel f) where a good  
 191 correlation between coupled and full solutions is found. A small velocity overshoot appears close  
 192 to the bottom during the deceleration phase (panel f) which probably is not physical as the bound-  
 193 ary layer is not resolved. However, this case of study was only needed to demonstrate that the  
 194 coupled and 3D models give similar results for wave propagation on a shallow foreshore. The

195 velocity overshoot is related to numerical issues.

196 It is evident from the results that both the one-way and two-way couplings are capable of  
 197 dealing with wave transformation over very-shallow foreshores. The coupled models are able to  
 198 transfer information even for highly non linear waves. Wave transformation is well reproduced at  
 199 the coupling location as well as in the far field ( $x = 37.605m$ ) where both the free surface, dynamic  
 200 pressure and velocities match well in space and time.

### 201 2.3 Three-dimensional flows under regular waves and focused wave groups

202 The following set of cases is devoted to test the effect of placing the interface at a location  
 203 where waves are highly non-linear and a certain amount of the incoming energy is reflected back.  
 204 This process is analysed in combination with three-dimensional effects in the near field, namely  
 205 the breaking of waves on planar beach and wave interaction with a cylinder. These two layouts  
 206 are shown in Figure 7 (panels a and b), the only difference being the presence of a cylinder in  
 207 the near field. In both configurations an obstacle is placed in the 2D domain to increase wave  
 208 steepness and non-linearity ( $H/L$  and  $H/h$ ). The obstacle (Figure 7) induces an additional wave  
 209 reflection from the 2D to the 3D domain precluding the use of one-way model as it does not allow  
 210 considering bi-directional flows between the 2D and 3D domains. Consequently, only the two-  
 211 way algorithm has been used. A highly reflecting beach (1:5) has been positioned in the 3D region  
 212 to reflect incident waves and promoting the interaction with the coupling boundaries. As can be  
 213 seen, panel b) displays the same layout as panel a) but in the former a cylinder inducing a three-  
 214 dimensional flow has been placed in the surf zone. Three numerical simulations have been carried  
 215 out for the layout in panel a) considering regular waves and a focused wave group, cases RW1,  
 216 RW2 and WF1 in Table 4, respectively. One last simulation has been run to calculate forces on the  
 217 cylinder under a focused wave group (WF2 in Table 4).

218 Regarding the numerical setup, an aspect ratio of 1 ( $\Delta_x/\Delta_z = 1$ ) and of 12 cells per wave height  
 219 have been used. The mesh has been refined around the cylinder ( $\Delta_x = \Delta_y = \Delta_z = 0.005m$ ). The  
 220 maximum  $Co$  has been set to 0.3 for all cases in Section 2.3. The stabilised  $k - \omega$  turbulence model  
 221 has been used. Table 4 presents a summary of the tests carried out including wave steepness and  
 222 non-linearity for the regular tests and the wave focusing characteristics. The cylinder is centred  
 223 along the y-axis of the 3D region and placed at  $x_{cyl} = 26m$ .  $D_{cyl} = 0.1m$  is the diameter of the  
 224 cylinder.

225 Figure 8 shows a comparison the of free surface evolution and the horizontal velocity field  
 226 between the two-way coupled model and the full 3D simulation at WG9. For the sake of simplicity  
 227 horizontal velocity profiles are displayed. A good fit is observed for the free surface elevation in  
 228 the swash zone (panel a) although some discrepancies appear. The horizontal velocity profiles  
 229 after the passage of the wave crests show a good correlation between the two-way and 3D results  
 230 for all time instants considered (panels from b to e), although some discrepancies are observed. A  
 231 good match for the maximum velocity is shown (panels from b to e).

232 Figure 9 shows the free surface along the numerical domain for  $t = 50.9s$ . In particular, the top  
 233 panel spans to the entire domain whereas the bottom sub-plot shows a zoom at the coupling and  
 234 near-field zones. The vertical scale (Z(m)) is magnified by a factor of 4 in order to better observe

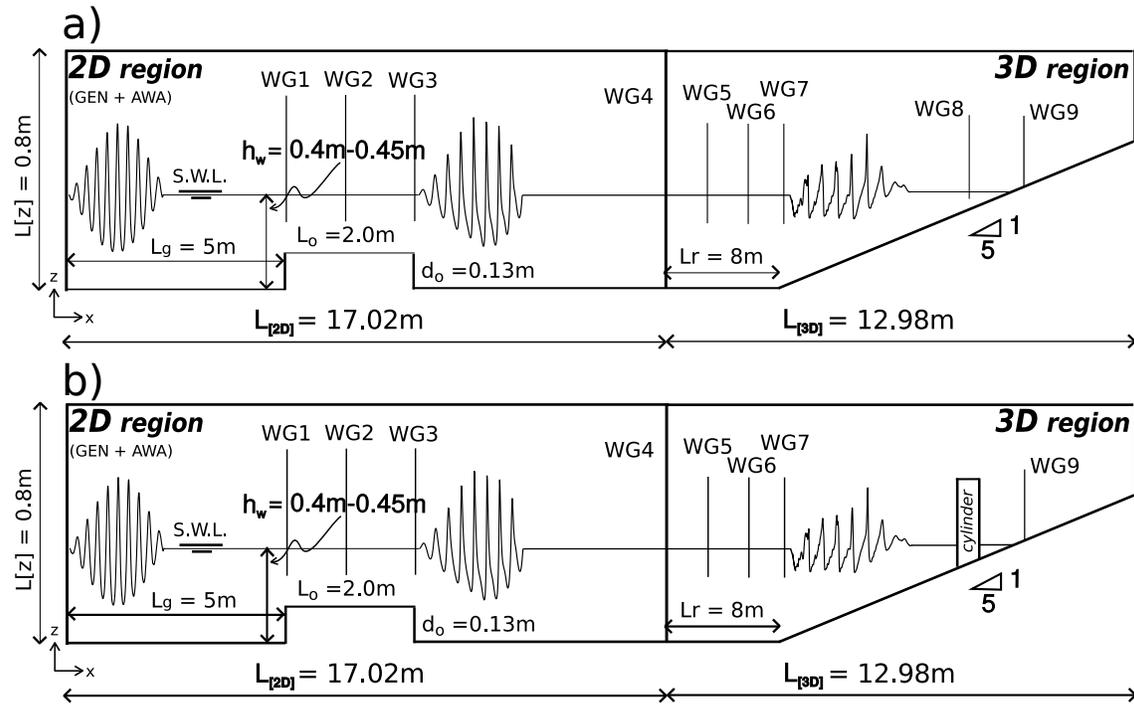


Figure 7: Sketch of the numerical simulation layouts.

235 the discrepancies between the 3D solution (black line) and the coupled two-way model (red-line).  
 236 The cyan-line indicates the still water level (SWL). It can clearly be seen that, overall, a good match  
 237 is found although very small local discrepancies are visible, which are possibly due to small 3D  
 238 residual flow effects that cannot be transferred from 3D to 2D in the coupled model. Furthermore,  
 239 the run-up oscillation obtained from the coupled model match the 3D solution very well.

240 Two additional simulations have been carried out considering a transient wave group as out-  
 241 lined in Table 4 (cases WF1 and WF2). A focused group shoaling on an obstacle inside the 2D  
 242 domain and breaking on a planar beach in the 3D region is simulated as shown in panel a) of Fig-  
 243 ure 7. A second simulation was carried out considering the setup in panel b), that is including a  
 244 cylinder.

245 Figure 10 shows the time evolution of the focused wave group together with the bound long-  
 246 wave induced by the short waves. Two-way results are shown in dashred red-line while the 3D  
 247 numerical data are displayed with blue-lines. The low-frequency motion (bound long wave) is  
 248 magnified by a factor of 10. It can be readily observed that all signals match well. At gauge WG1,  
 249 the bound long wave trough appears under the peak of the short wave group consistently with  
 250 past research (Lara et al. (2011)). A small positive long wave is shown ahead of the group. The  
 251 dynamic set-down is delayed with respect to the wave group when the shoaling process starts,  
 252 from WG2 on. The time delay starts in the shoaling zone over the step (WG2) and increases as can  
 253 be observed at WG3. Then wave reflection occurs and the delay is less apparent. The evolution  
 254 of the infragravity wave is well reproduced using the coupled model. Small discrepancies are

	RW1	RW2	WF1	WF2
$H[\mathbf{m}]$	0,12	0,1	0,1	0,1
$h[\mathbf{m}]$	0,45	0,4	0,4	0,4
$T[\mathbf{s}]$	3	3,5	-	-
$H/L[-]$	0,02	0,015	-	-
$H/h[-]$	0,27	0,25	-	-
$f_c[\mathbf{Hz}]$	-	-	0,505	0,505
$\Delta_f[\mathbf{Hz}]$	-	-	10	10
$N[-]$	-	-	-	50
$d_o[\mathbf{m}]$	0,13	0,13	0,13	0,13
$L_o[\mathbf{m}]$	2	2	2	2
$L_g[\mathbf{m}]$	5	5	5	5
$x_{cyl}[\mathbf{m}]$	-	-	-	26
$D_{cyl}[\mathbf{m}]$	-	-	-	0,1

Table 4: Wave parameters for three-dimensional flows. Parameters  $d_o$ ,  $L_o$  and  $L_g$  are shown in Figure 7.  $x_{cylinder}(\mathbf{m})$  indicates the x position of the centre of cylinder for the wave focusing simulation (WF1).  $N$  is the number of components used for the focused waves and  $f_c$  is the central frequency.

Gauge	X(m)	Gauge	X(m)	Gauge	X(m)
<b>WG1</b>	5.0	<b>WG5</b>	20.0	<b>WG9</b>	27.02
<b>WG2</b>	6.8	<b>WG6</b>	21.34		
<b>WG3</b>	8.0	<b>WG7</b>	22.21		
<b>WG4</b>	17.02	<b>WG8</b>	26.02		

Table 5: Location of surface gauges (see Figure 7).

255 observed in the swash zone. The coupled model appears to slightly over-predict the amplitude of  
 256 the oscillations. However, the difference between 3D and coupled results is acceptable.

257 Figure 11 shows free surface and horizontal velocity comparisons at WG9. In general, a good  
 258 correlation between the coupled and the 3D simulations is found. A good fit is observed for  
 259 the free surface elevation in the swash zone (panel a) although some discrepancies appear. On  
 260 average, a good correlation for the horizontal velocity profile is observed, qualitatively (panels  
 261 from b to e), although some discrepancies are evident. The three-dimensional effects combined  
 262 with high wave reflection are possibly the cause of the divergence in the results between the two-  
 263 way and the 3D simulations.

264 Finally, Figure 12 shows the horizontal velocity field at the free surface elevation obtained  
 265 with the coupled and 3D models. The upper panel displays a velocity snapshot calculated using  
 266 the coupled simulation while the lower displays the 3D results. Horizontal (y-axis) and vertical  
 267 (z-axis) scales are magnified by 8 and 4, respectively, in order to point out differences. A good  
 268 agreement throughout the domain is observed.

269 To complete this first set of validation tests to assess the application of the coupled models,  
 270 the force acting on a three dimensional structure under breaking conditions has been calculated,  
 271 Figure 7, panel b). Forces are calculated from pressure and viscous stresses integration which are

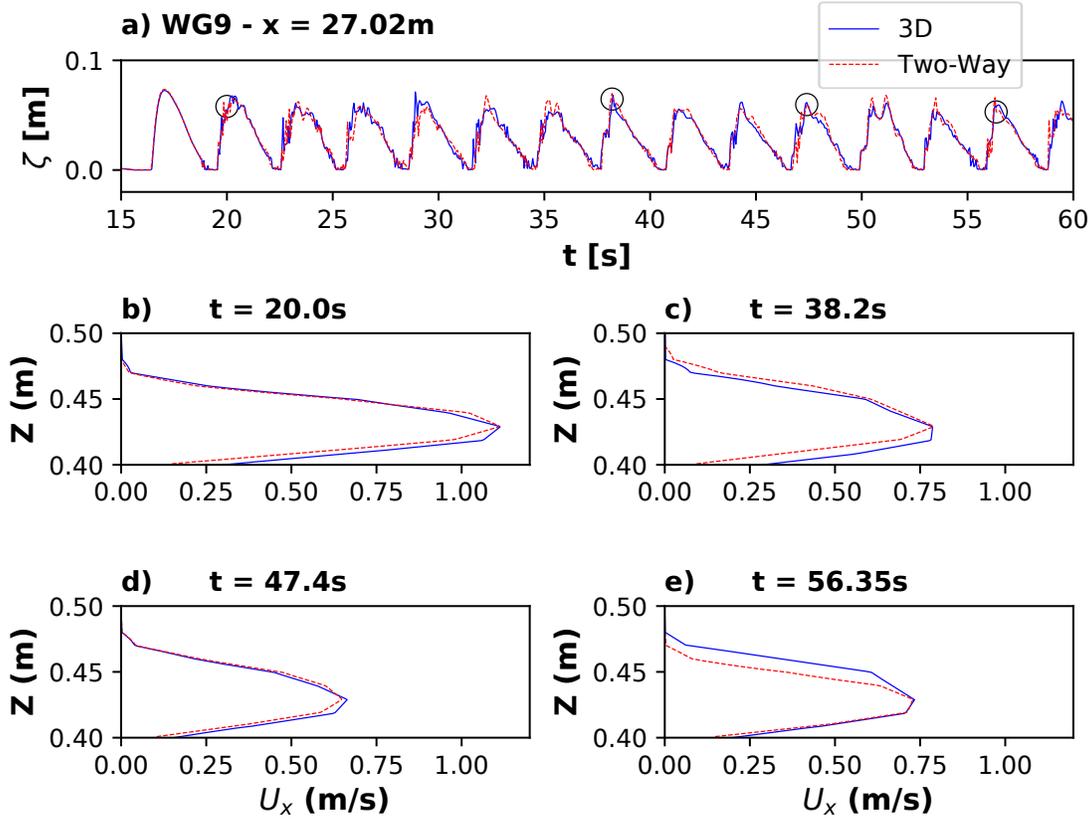


Figure 8: Case RW1: Comparison of free surface and horizontal velocity profiles between the two-way coupled model and the 3D simulation. Panel a) free surface time series at WG9. Panels from b) to e) horizontal velocity profiles at WG9.

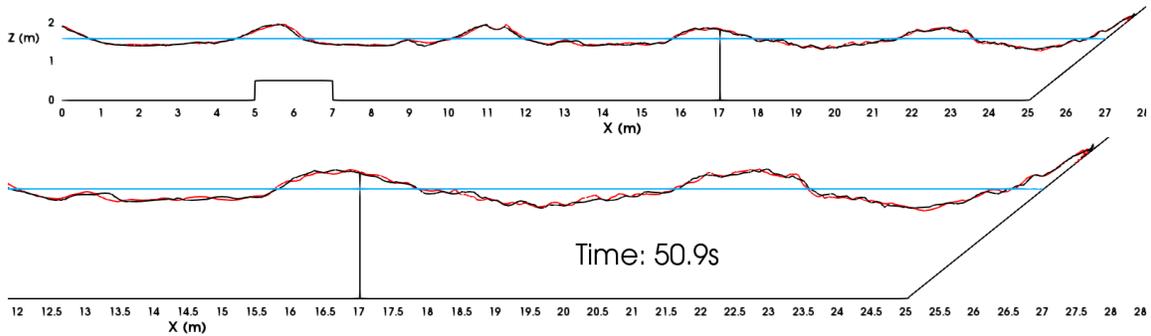


Figure 9: Case RW1: Wave profile along the numerical domain. Black and red lines show 3D and two-way coupled model results, respectively. In cyan the still water level is shown. The instant of time is  $t = 50.9s$ . The vertical scale ( $Z(m)$ ) is magnified by a factor of 4.

272 a direct output of the RANS-VOF model.

273 Figure 13 displays the horizontal velocity field at the free surface level (panels a,b,d and e)  
 274 and beneath the waves (panels c and f) at  $t = 44.75s$  for both the coupled model (two upper

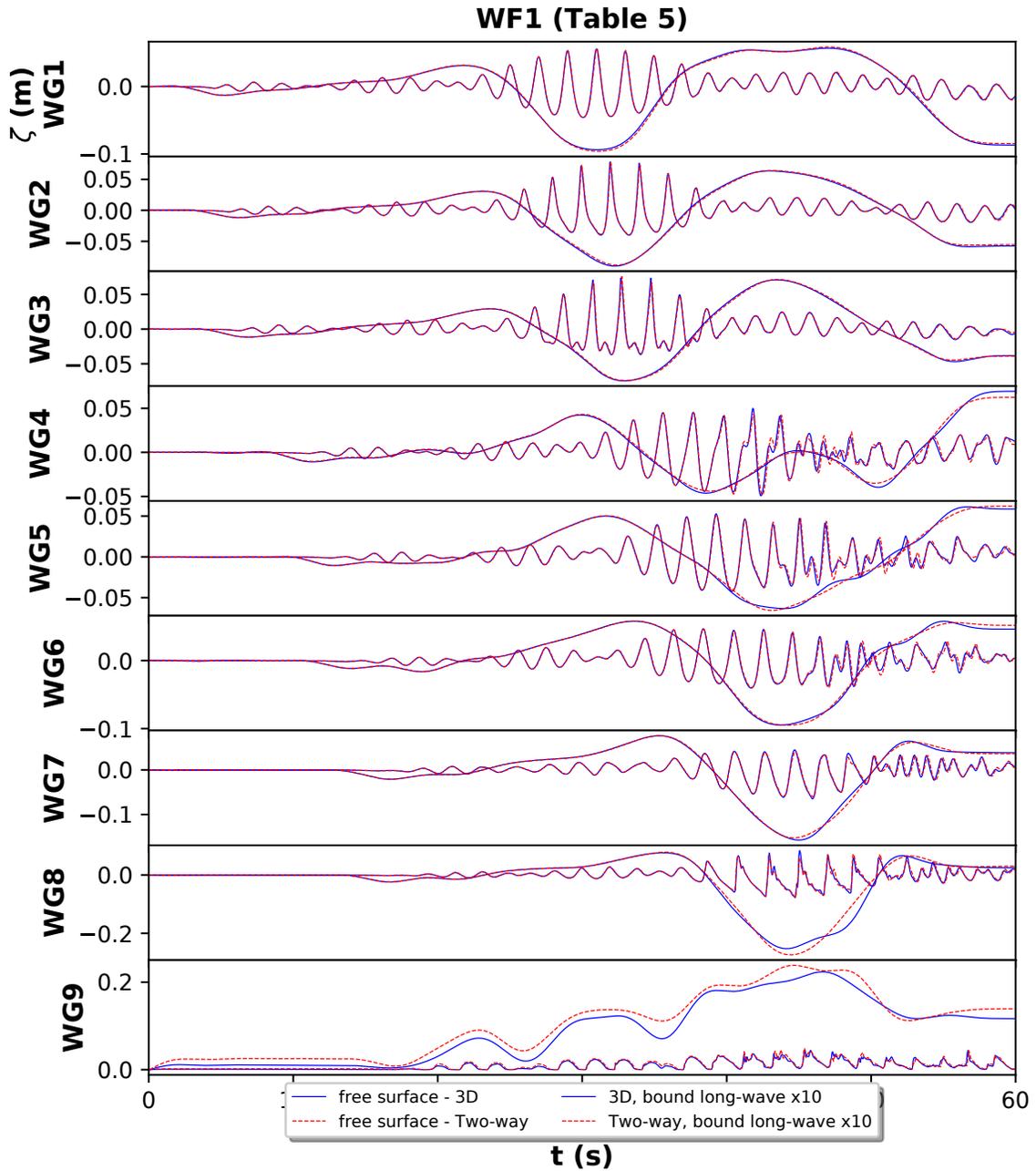


Figure 10: WF1: Free surface elevation time series. The bound long wave is displayed (magnified by 10) at gauges WG1 to WG9. Comparison between 3D and two-way results.

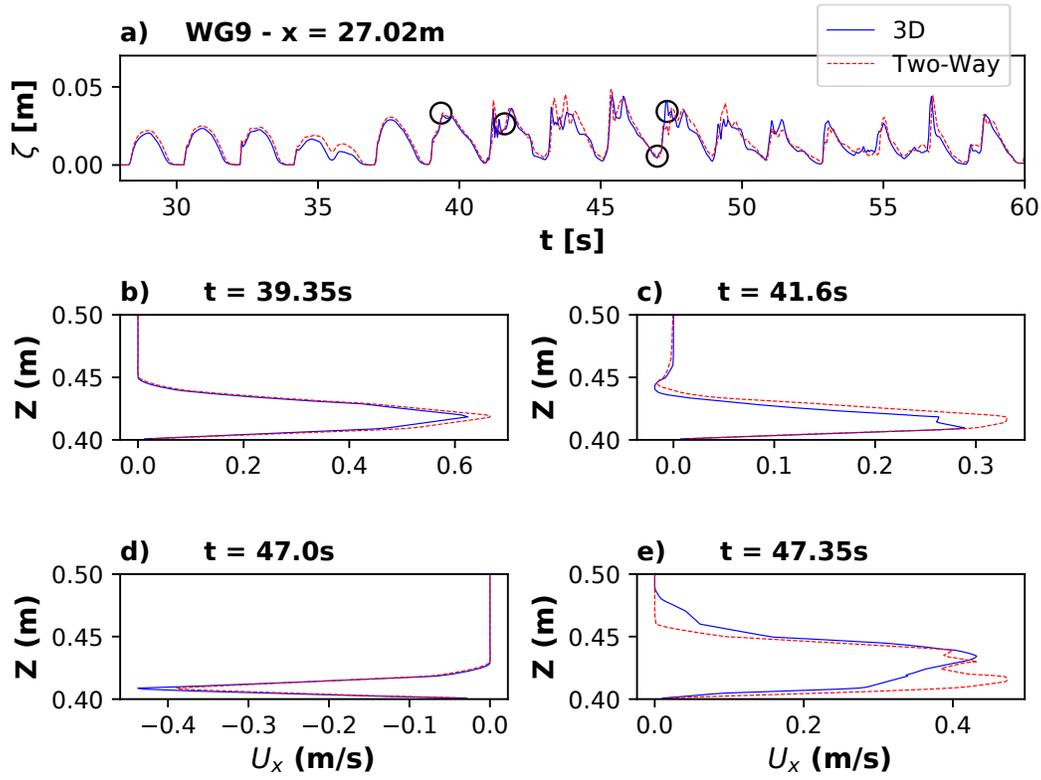


Figure 11: Case WF1: Comparison of free surface and horizontal velocity profiles between the two-way coupled model and the 3D simulation. Panel a) free surface time series at WG9. Panels from b) to e) horizontal velocity profiles at WG9.

275 panels) and the 3D simulation (two lower panels). From the inspection of the coupled model  
 276 results (panels a, b and c) it can be observed that no three-dimensional patterns are present at  
 277 the 2D-3D interfaces while strong 3D effects take place around the cylinder and along the sloping  
 278 beach. Velocities at the coupled interface location are smooth as already shown earlier in the paper.  
 279 The model was shown to be robust and stable to simulate such a complex case, i.e. second order  
 280 wave generation and multiple structures (beach, cylinder and shoaling-step). Similar results are  
 281 presented in the lower panels of Figure 13, i.e. panels d), e) and f) (3D results). The plunging  
 282 breaker occurs approximately at the same position in space and time for both the 3D and the  
 283 coupled simulations (panels from a to f). A good agreement is found for the velocity field around  
 284 the cylinder comparing the full and coupled models. A good correlation is also observed for the  
 285 horizontal velocity field from the cylinder to the coupling position ( $x = 17.02m$ ). Finally, also the  
 286 run-up oscillation seems to agree well (panels b and e) although small discrepancies are visible. By  
 287 observing panels c) and e) it can be noted that a good correlation for the velocity profiles beneath  
 288 the waves is obtained for the two-way coupled model (panel c) and the 3D simulation (panel e).  
 289 Velocities at the plunging breaker are comparable although some discrepancies are visible. Small  
 290 deviations can always occur due to the combination of three-dimensional effects and high wave

291 reflection. In the 3D model small three-dimensional effects can propagate throughout the domain  
 292 while in the two-way model are neglected at the coupled interfaces.

293 Next, Figure 14 shows the horizontal force calculated on the cylinder. A good can be noted  
 294 throughout the simulation time for the impact of the focused wave group. Both positive and  
 295 negative peaks are well-simulated providing evidence that the coupled model can replace the use  
 296 of the full 3D simulation when three-dimensional effects occur (and more or less confined) in the  
 297 near-field. A similar result was already obtained by El Safti et al. (2014) when simulating forces  
 298 induced by focused waves on a cylinder by using the 2D-3D one-way coupled model. However,  
 299 the present approach allows a considerable decrease of the numerical domain compared to the  
 300 work by El Safti et al. (2014) as neither overlapping zones nor relaxation methods are needed. In  
 301 addition, the models proposed herein also allow considering a two-way coupled scheme which is  
 302 essential for most applications. It is evident from the results that the coupled model has proven  
 303 to be highly accurate in reproducing nearshore hydrodynamics considering complex geometries  
 304 and structures also including second order wave generation.

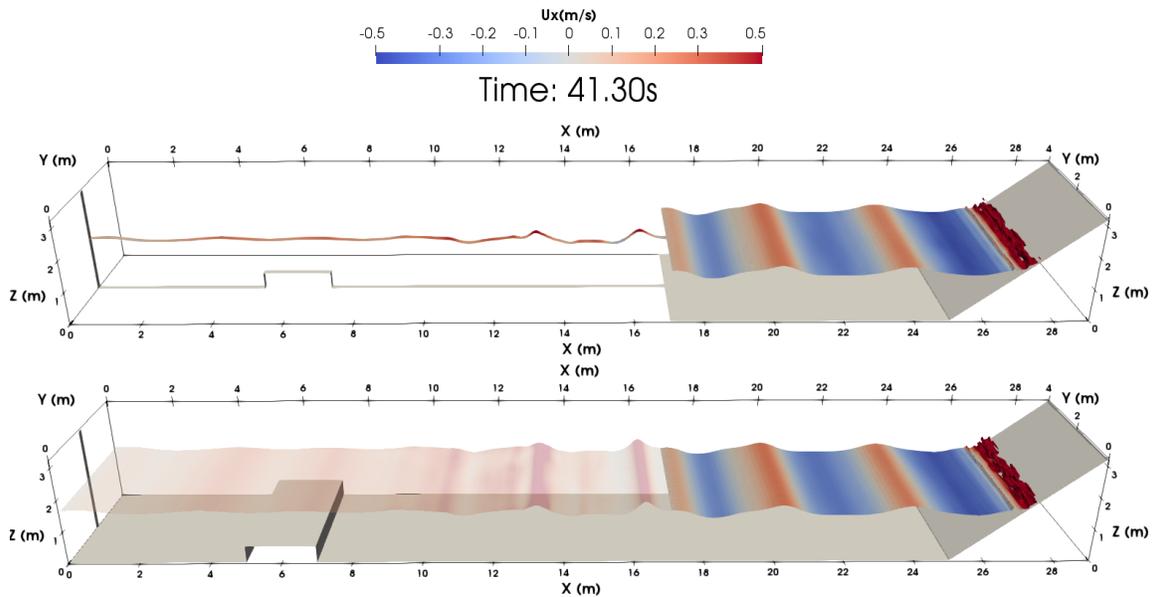


Figure 12: Case WF1: Snapshots of the horizontal velocity at the free surface ( $U_x$ [m/s]). The two-way coupled model (upper panel). Full 3D model (lower panel).

305 2.4 Wave interaction with a perforated breakwater

306 Perforated breakwaters or caissons, frequently named as Jarlan-type caisson breakwaters (JTCB)  
 307 after the pioneering work presented in Jarlan (1961), are typically designed to reduce wave reflec-  
 308 tion. JTCB have received a lot of attention in the past mainly focused on the development of accu-  
 309 rate analytical, experimental and numerical models aiming at understanding and predicting the  
 310 complex interaction mechanisms involved. As the geometry of the perforated caisson increases  
 311 complexity it may not be possible to obtain explicit analytical solutions. In addition the use of

2 Application of the 2D-3D coupling methodology

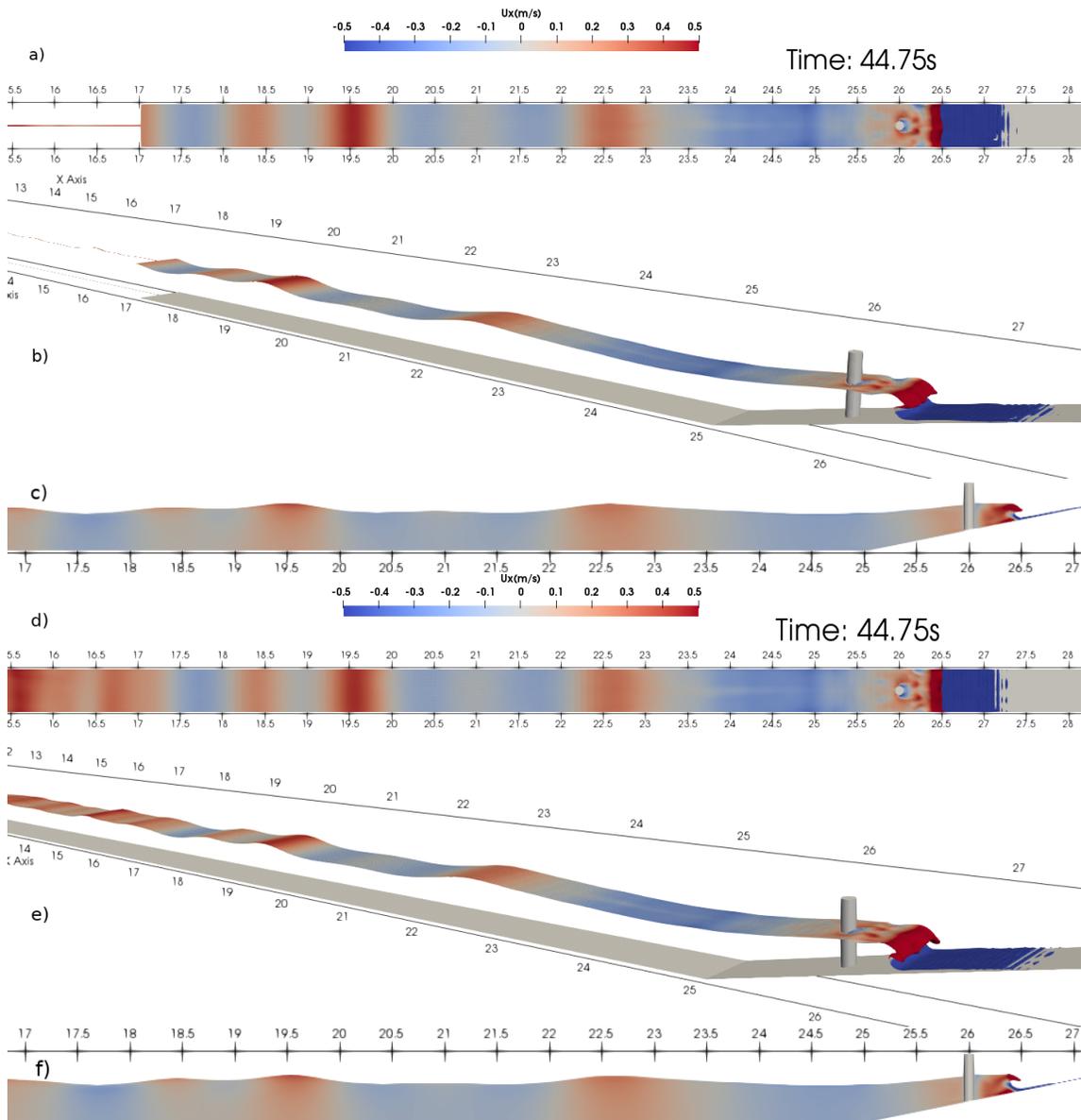


Figure 13: Case WF2: Snapshots of the horizontal velocity at the free surface and beneath the waves ( $U_x$ [m/s]). Two-way coupled model (panels a, b and c). Full 3D model (panels d, e and f).

312 physical models can be very expensive if several configurations need to be tested. In these cir-  
 313 cumstances, the CFD models represent a reliable tool to characterise the response of perforated  
 314 breakwaters under wave action (Wang et al. (2019)). Wang et al. (2019) carried out 2D and 3D  
 315 simulations and compared results against experimental tests. The effect of the perforated cais-  
 316 son was introduced in the 2D simulation as an equivalent porous media using Volume-Average  
 317 Reynolds-Average Navier-Stokes (VARANS) formulation. The main conclusion was that in com-

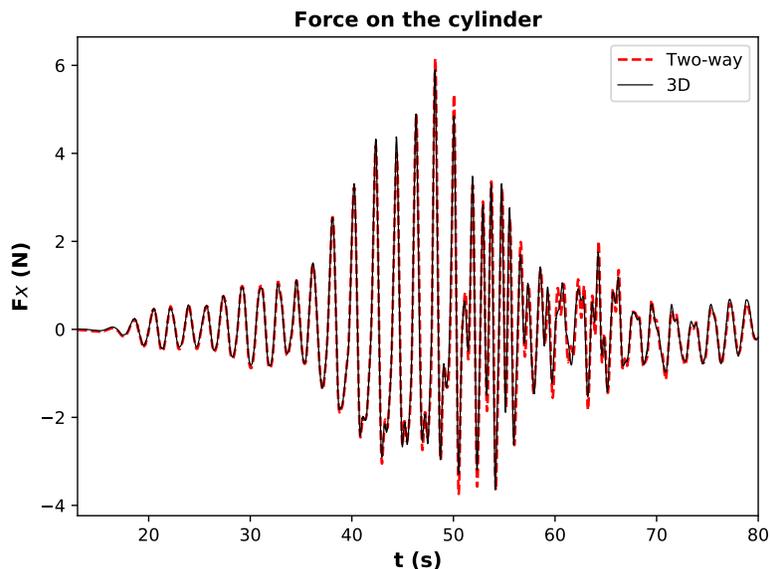


Figure 14: Case WF2: Horizontal force acting on the cylinder. The centre of the cylinder is placed at  $x = 26m$ .

318 parison with laboratory data the 3D models were able to predict the wave reflection coefficient  
 319 while 2D simulations showed important disagreement with experimental results. This was partly  
 320 attributed to the elimination of the vertical part of the tested structure and partly to the overes-  
 321 timation of the equivalent porosity. Wave load results also showed that 3D simulations agreed  
 322 with the experimental results whereas 2D models deviated from laboratory data. Unfortunately,  
 323 the computational time of full 3D simulations is tremendously expensive and for these reason the  
 324 2D-3D couplings may help to reduce computation efforts while keeping a high accuracy.

325 In the experimental campaigns of Wang et al. (2019) the Jarlan-type caisson breakwater (JTCB)  
 326 was tested in a 56m long, 0.7m wide and 1.0m high wave tank. The extension of the experimen-  
 327 tal area was 35m, from the wavemaker to the front wall of the JTCB. The JTCB, characterised by  
 328 square-apertures, was partially filled with porous material inside the wave chambers. The exper-  
 329 imental layout will not be described in detail here as it is extensively documented in Wang et al.  
 330 (2019).

331 Regarding the 2D and 3D numerical simulations (Wang et al. (2019)), the dimensions of the  
 332 vertical breakwater and the foundation remained unchanged while a shorter numerical wave tank  
 333 was considered in order to reduce computational time. The 2D simulations were carried out con-  
 334 sidering a  $5 \cdot L + L_0$  long domain, where  $L$  is the wave length and  $L_0 = 1.0m$ . The numerical domain  
 335 was shortened for the 3D simulations up to  $3 \cdot L + L_0$  to reduce the computation time. In the 3D  
 336 regions of the coupled simulations 17 cells were defined in the spanwise direction ( $\Delta_y = 0.04m$ ).  
 337 The refined cell is 0.005m long and 0.0025m high and 0.01m wide. The same cell sizes in length  
 338 (x) and height (z) of the mesh II are used as reported by Wang et al. (2019). A summary of the  
 339 mesh sensitivity analysis performed by Wang et al. (2019) is shown in Table 6. The maximum  $Co$

340 number has been set to 0.75 for all simulations of wave interaction with the JTCB (Section 2.4). The  
 341 stabilised  $k - \omega$  turbulence model has been used.

Cases	$\Delta_x$	$\Delta_z$	AR	n <sup>o</sup> cells
<b>I</b>	L/146	H/16	2:1	116.800
<b>II</b>	L/292	H/32	2:1	204.400
<b>III</b>	L/584	H/64	2:1	554.800

Table 6: Mesh sensitivity analysis by Wang et al. (2019). AR is the aspect ratio ( $\Delta_x/\Delta_z$ ).

342 Wang et al. (2019) used mesh II in Table 6 for the 2D simulations whereas mesh I was applied  
 343 for 3D cases to reduce the computational time. The hydrodynamic conditions used were shown in  
 344 Table 3 of Wang et al. (2019).

345 In the present work, first, the coupled simulations will be carried out first considering the  
 346 following wave characteristics: wave height  $H = 0.08m$ , wave period  $T = 1.4s$  and water depth  
 347  $d = 0.4m$  ( $H/d = 0.2$ ,  $H/L = 0.033$ ). Additional simulations are carried out with  $B/L$  ranging from  
 348 0.062 to 0.25, where  $B$  is the length of the wave chamber (x-direction). The present simulations  
 349 are based on the mesh sensitivity analysis performed by Wang et al. (2019), so mesh II was used  
 350 for all simulations. Moreover, the length of the numerical domain is taken to be equal to the  
 351 actual experimental area. The front wall of the JTCB is located 35m away from the numerical  
 352 wavemaker. Two different 2D-3D couplings have been considered. The first is characterised by a  
 353 small 3D region placing the coupling interfaces at 0.5m from the front wall, while this dimension  
 354 is increased up to 2.78m for the second option. A comparative sketch is shown in Figure 15. The  
 355 main objective is to validate the coupled models against laboratory data and the 3D simulations  
 356 developed by Wang et al. (2019). Furthermore, the influence of the length of the 3D domain is  
 357 assessed. In the first configuration (Figure 15, left panel) the free surface gauges used to calculate  
 358 the reflection coefficients are located inside the 2D domain whereas for the second lay out (Figure  
 359 15, right panel) the gauges are placed within in the 3D region. The dimensions of the numerical  
 360 domains used to carry out the coupled simulations are summarised in Table 7.

361 The third simulation in Table 8 has been run using both the "small" (left panel of Figure 15) and  
 362 "large" (right panel of Figure 15) coupled models, while for other cases only the "small" coupled  
 363 model has been used. Table 8 outlines the main features of the numerical simulations.

364 The two-way coupled model is needed to assess the wave reflection coefficient. It allows to:

- 365 • simulate the same wave reflection as in the laboratory setup
- 366 • consider a small 3D domain because the wave gauges for wave reflection can be placed  
 367 inside the 2D region (while for the one-way model the wave gauges for calculating wave  
 368 reflection have to be placed inside the 3D domain).

369 The reader is referred to Figure 7 and 13 of Wang et al. (2019) for the position of the pressure  
 370 transducers and for the layout of the numerical velocity gauge, respectively.

## 2 Application of the 2D-3D coupling methodology

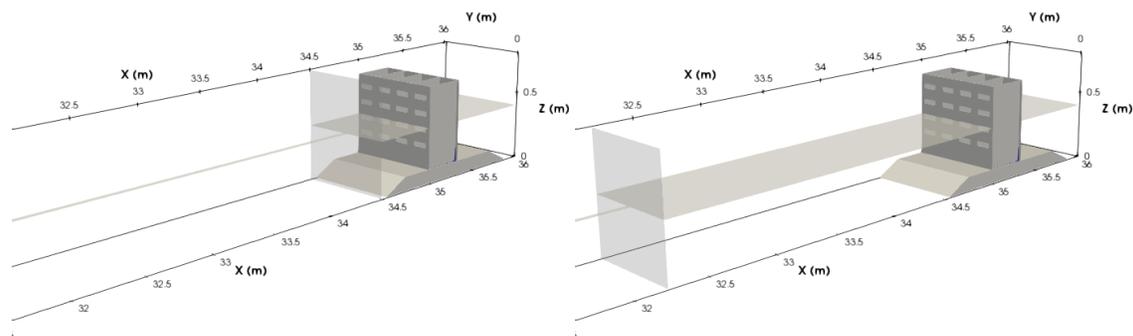


Figure 15: Scheme of the 2D-3D coupled simulations carried out for the two-way simulations. Left: small coupled simulation. Right: large coupled simulation (dimensions in Table 7).

Coupled simulation	$X_{2D}$ (m)	$Y_{2D}$ (m)	$Z_{2D}$ (m)	$X_{3D}$ (m)	$Y_{3D}$ (m)	$Z_{3D}$ (m)
<b>small</b>	34.5	0.04	0.8	1.55	0.7	0.8
<b>large</b>	32.22	0.04	0.8	3.8	0.7	0.8

Table 7: Dimensions of the numerical domains adopted for the coupled simulations.

Coupled simulation	$h$ (m)	$H$ (m)	$T$ (s)	$L$ (m)	$H/L[-]$	$H/h[-]$	$B/L[-]$
small	0.4	0.08	0.9	1.22	0.066	0.2	0.25
small	0.4	0.08	1.2	1.94	0.041	0.2	0.155
small - large	0.4	0.08	1.4	2.39	0.033	0.2	0.126
small	0.4	0.08	1.6	2.84	0.028	0.2	0.106
small	0.4	0.08	2.1	3.91	0.02	0.2	0.077
small	0.4	0.08	2.55	4.84	0.017	0.2	0.062

Table 8: Wave characteristics used in the two-way coupled simulations.

### 371 2.4.1 Wave reflection coefficient

372 The wave reflection coefficient ( $k_r$ ) is probably the most important factor considered in the  
373 design of a JTCCB as it is to be minimized usually to reduce wave reflection in navigation areas.  
374 Figure 16 shows experimental and numerical wave reflection coefficients plotted against the ratio  
375  $B/L$ . Black circles and triangles refer to the coupled simulations (small and large, respectively);  
376 black-squares show the experimental data; grey triangles and diamonds refer to the 2D and full  
377 3D simulations carried out by Wang et al. (2019), respectively. Note that for different values of  $B$   
378 and different wave conditions ( $L$ ) the same values of  $B/L$  can be obtained (e.g. Laboratory, 2D  
379 and 3D data of Wang et al. (2019)).

380 The first conclusion is that the coupled simulations give results close to the experiments with  
381 an error below 10%. The "small" and "large" coupled models give similar results ( $B/L=0.126$ ).  
382 The setup with the small 3D domain is capable to capture 3D effects and demonstrates that they  
383 are confined close to the front wall. Wave gauges used to calculate wave reflection can thus be

384 placed indifferently in the 2D region or in the 3D domain. Proven that both coupled models give  
 385 similar results, five additional simulations have been carried out varying the ratio  $B/L$  from 0.062  
 386 up to 0.25 for the small coupled layout.

387 It can be readily observed that the coupled model leads to reasonable results for the entire  
 388 range of  $B/L$  analysed. Compared to the experimental data, the error in the estimation of  $k_r$ ,  
 389 ranges from 3.8% ( $B/L=0.126$ ) to 9% ( $B/L=0.062$ ).  $k_r$  increases for low ratios of  $B/L$ , reaches low  
 390 values for  $0.12 < B/L < 0.205$ , then increases again.

391 For  $B/L=0.126$  the coupled models seem to give better results than the full 3D simulations  
 392 performed by Wang et al. (2019) and probably as a consequence of the more refined mesh used in  
 393 the present work. Indeed, in order to reduce the computational time, Wang et al. (2019) had carried  
 394 out the 3D simulations applying the coarsest mesh included in the mesh sensitivity analysis. In the  
 395 present work there was no need to further reduce the computational time, as the 2D-3D approach  
 396 already allowed to strongly reduce the numerical domain. It can be noted that  $k_r$  does not present  
 397 the minima of the wave reflection coefficient for  $B/L$  close to 0.25 compared to the theoretical  
 398 analysis for one-chamber breakwaters (Fugazza and Natale (1992)).

399 Besides, Wang et al. (2019) pointed out that the results of the 2D simulations diverged from the  
 400 laboratory data and the full 3D simulations. The 2D results under-estimate the reflection coeffi-  
 401 cients, especially for low ratios  $B/L$ .

402 As a conclusion, results of the coupled simulations are reliable as they show a good match with  
 403 both the experimental and full 3D data. Due to a more efficient computational performance, in the  
 404 following, results of the small coupled simulations are shown only.

#### 405 2.4.2 Velocity measurements

406 Concerning the velocity field, only numerical results (2D and 3D) were provided by Wang  
 407 et al. (2019) (see Figure 19 of Wang et al. (2019)). In particular gauges V1 and V2 placed on both  
 408 sides of the front wall are used here in order to compare velocities where 3D effects are dominant.  
 409 V1 is located at the sea-side and V2 is placed inside the wave chamber (Figure 13 of Wang et al.  
 410 (2019) for reference). Horizontal (U) and vertical (W) orbital velocities are shown in Figure 17.  
 411 The dashed blue and red lines refer to the 2D and 3D simulations while black lines display the  
 412 results of the coupled model. Overall, a good match between the full 3D and coupled simulations  
 413 is shown. At the sea-side gauge it can be seen that both the horizontal and vertical velocities match  
 414 the 3D solution. Particularly, the vertical velocity is slightly over-predicted by the coupled model  
 415 but with small differences, whereas the 2D simulations overestimate the velocity at the passage  
 416 of the wave crests. A good correspondence between the coupled and 3D simulations is found for  
 417 the gauge V2 inside the chamber. The velocity peaks are captured (U) although flatter troughs  
 418 were obtained with the full 3D simulations. Here it can be noted that the 2D model is unable  
 419 to predict the positive velocities showing a phase lag. Finally, some discrepancies arise for the  
 420 vertical velocity inside the chamber although results can be considered to be acceptable.

#### 421 2.4.3 Pressure measurements

422 It is key to check that the numerical models are able to estimate wave pressure to accurately  
 423 characterise wave loads on the JTCB. Several pressure gauges located at the front wall (sea-side

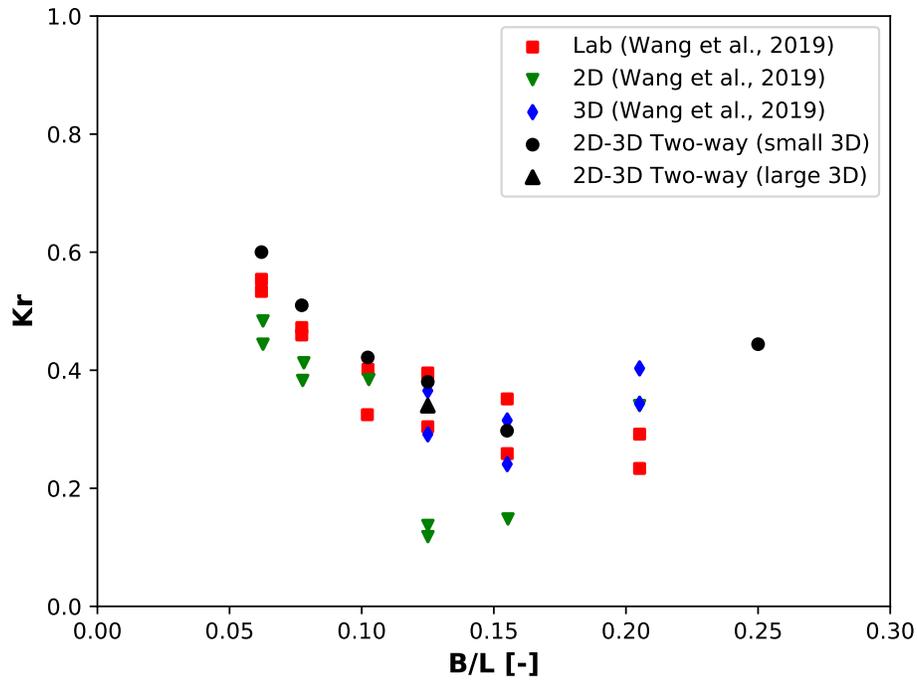


Figure 16: Wave reflection coefficients  $K_r$ .

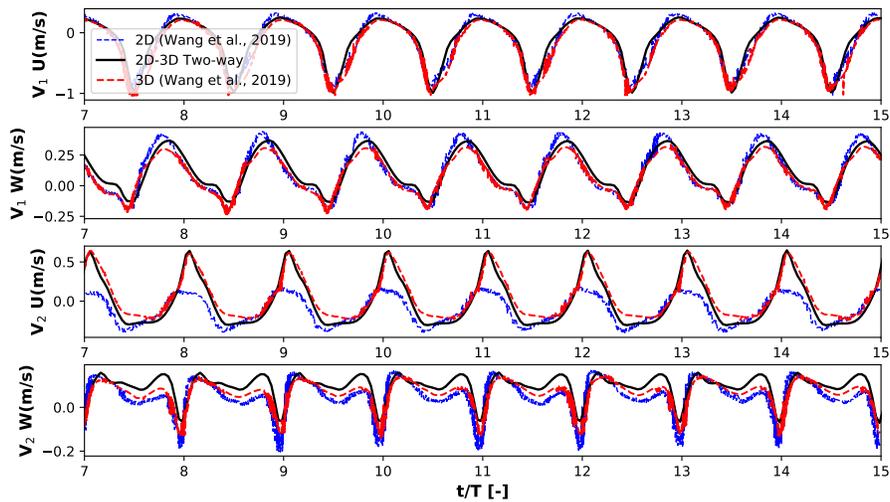


Figure 17: Horizontal (U) and vertical (W) velocities measured at the gauges V1 and V2 defined by Wang et al. (2019).

424 and inside the chamber) and at the bottom of the caisson are displayed. Forces are typically cal-  
 425 culated by integrating pressure over the surfaces. Consequently, calculating the hydrodynamic  
 426 pressure with a good accuracy is crucial. Figures 18 and 19 display comparisons between the cou-  
 427 pled model (black), laboratory (red) and pure 2D simulations (blue). An excellent match between  
 428 laboratory and coupled model results is shown for each gauge placed at the sea-side of the front  
 429 wall. Both positive and negative pressure peaks are reproduced at different depths. Gauge 4 is  
 430 placed just above the still water level only measuring positive peaks. In opposition to Wang et al.  
 431 (2019) who noted a mismatch between 3D and laboratory data, the results here are satisfactory. Ex-  
 432 perimental and coupled model data are well-correlated although with very small deviations. The  
 433 2D results show discrepancies with the laboratory and coupled models, demonstrating that the  
 434 2D approximation is not suited for this application, even if the equivalent porous media is accu-  
 435 rately set. Similar results are shown inside the chamber, particularly when the water level within  
 436 the chamber decreases. A mismatch of the negative pressure is obtained when applying the 2D  
 437 model, whereas the coupled simulation is extremely precise in the estimation of maximum and  
 438 minimum values as well as when high-order harmonics appear. A good match is also obtained  
 439 at the bottom gauges inside the chamber (gauges 11 and 12), proving that the coupled model ac-  
 440 curately simulates the wave motion inside the chamber without additional energy loss due to the  
 441 coupling scheme.

442 Figure 20 compares the hydrodynamic pressure on the front wall (gauges from 1 to 4) of the  
 443 caisson obtained by the small and large coupled simulations defined in Table 7. A good match  
 444 in the maximum and minimum values of the hydrodynamic pressure is obtained throughout the  
 445 simulation and no damping is observed although a small delay is found among the signals. This  
 446 effect which is known in literature as “lose coupling” (Martínez-Ferrer et al. (2016)) leads to a delay  
 447 between the left and right side solutions (2D and 3D domains) in segregated couplings. However,  
 448 the results are very satisfactory.

#### 449 2.4.4 *Force on the perforated wall*

450 The total horizontal force acting on the perforated front wall is calculated from the coupled  
 451 model results. Results of small and large 2D-3D simulations (Figure21) are plotted together. Re-  
 452 sults are presented without being filtered in order to allow a detailed observation of the differences  
 453 between approaches. The comparison between the coupled and 3D data is also shown in Figure21  
 454 (upper and lower panels). Both coupled models (“small” and “large”) provide almost the same  
 455 values for the maximum and minimum peaks of the inline force. In addition, the observed wave-  
 456 form of both cases is almost equal. A small phase-lag between signals (loose coupling) occurs.  
 457 It can be observed that the phase-lag among signals varies in time comparing the two coupled  
 458 models and the 3D results. This indicates that the loose coupling takes place for both numerical  
 459 setups, i.e. “small” and “large” two-way coupled models, but again it does not affect the results  
 460 significantly showing the high potential of the model coupling technique presented here.

#### 461 2.4.5 *Pressure comparison between one-way and two-way couplings*

462 The first case in Table 8 has also been run in one-way mode in order to explore the capability  
 463 of the model for the cases where the three dimensional flows take place close to the coupled in-

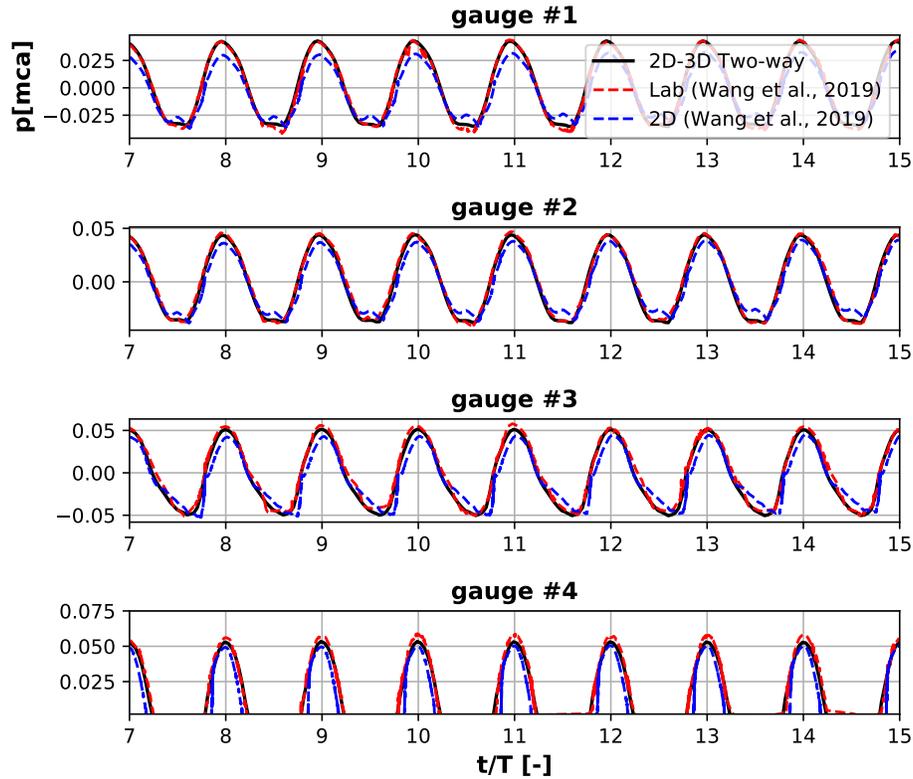


Figure 18: Comparison of the dynamic pressure field at the front wall between the small (black line) and the large (dashed-red line) coupled models. Gauges 1 to 4 are located at the front wall (sea-side).

464 interfaces. This simulation has been carried out in 3D as well, in order to analyse which coupling  
 465 performs better for such a complex case. Figure 22 shows the results of dynamic pressure at the  
 466 front wall of the breakwater. It can be observed that the one-way model gives acceptable results  
 467 for all gauges although a small over-prediction of the pressure is shown, particularly for gauges  
 468 1 and 4. No phase lags are observed among signals. The two-way model appears to give better  
 469 results than the one-way coupling compared to the 3D simulation.

#### 470 2.4.6 3D results

471 Figure 23 shows the velocity field ( $U_x$ ) at the free surface, and snapshots of the three dimen-  
 472 sional flow through the perforated caisson. Small differences in the contour plot can be observed  
 473 comparing the small (left) and large (right) coupled layouts. The differences are mainly due to very  
 474 small phase lags between solutions ("loose coupling"), although the models have been proven to  
 475 be highly accurate in calculating pressure, velocity fields as well as in estimating the wave reflection  
 476 coefficient. The lower panels show the impact of a wave crest ( $t/T=12$ ) followed by a wave  
 477 trough ( $t/T=14.6$ ). At  $t/T=12$  the wave crest reaches its maximum, the flow into the chamber is  
 478 finishing and the wave run-up at the bottom wall of the chamber occurs. The flow inside the wave  
 479 chamber varies along the span-wise and wave directions. The water level inside the chamber is

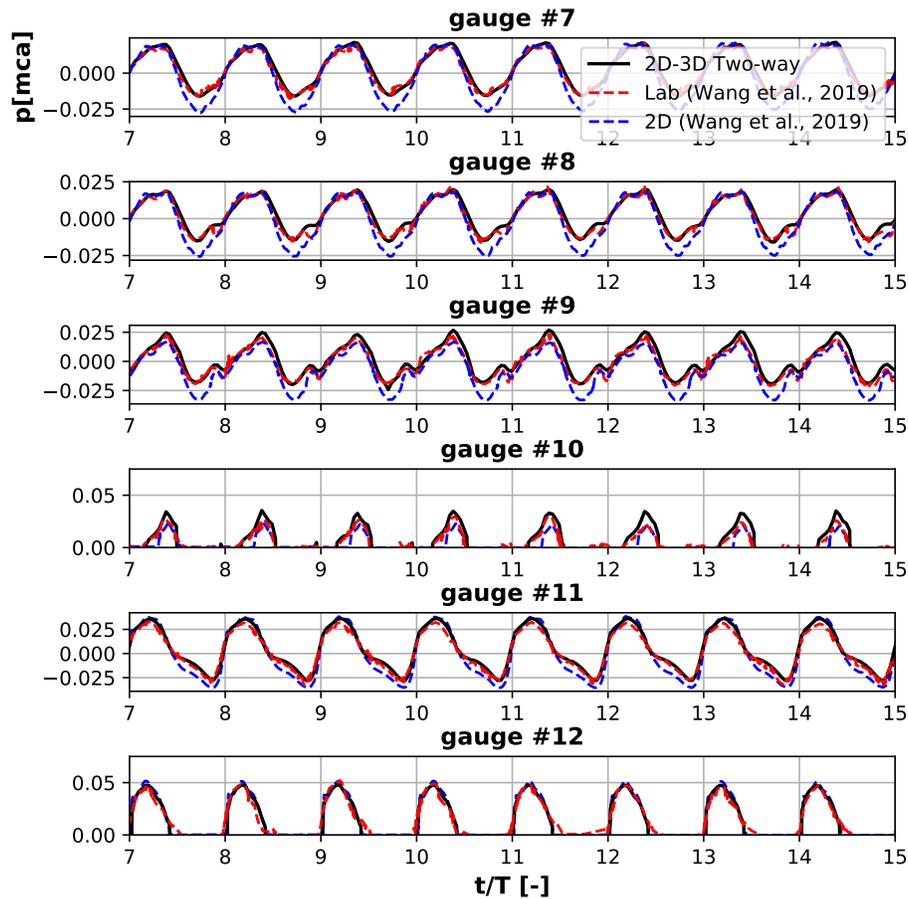


Figure 19: Comparison of the dynamic pressure field at the front wall between the small (black line) and the large (dashed-red line) coupled models. Gauges 7 to 10 are located at the front wall (inside the chamber). Gauges 11 and 12 are placed at the bottom wall inside the wave chamber.

480 lower than the wave crest as the wave can only partially penetrate the front wall. The strongest 3D  
 481 effects occur during the outflow of the chamber. At  $t/T=14.6$  the water level inside the chamber  
 482 decreases and a complex 3D pattern appears close to the holes of the front wall.

483 Finally, Figure 24 shows a comparison of the velocity field beneath waves for the one-way, two-  
 484 way and 3D simulations carried out in the present work. A snapshot when high wave reflection  
 485 occurred is here shown in order to demonstrate the potentiality of the couplings. First, it can be  
 486 seen that the two-way model shows a velocity field similar to the full 3D simulations, although  
 487 small discrepancies are observed. Deviations may due to small 3D effects neglected at the two-way  
 488 coupled interfaces, but however, the wave shapes appear to be correctly reproduced. The one-way  
 489 model obviously displays different results as the reflected waves are absorbed at the 3D interface  
 490 ( $x=34.5\text{m}$ ). It can also be noted that the wave are not in phase with the 3D simulation, but it is due  
 491 the different lengths of the computational domains. The velocity field at the interface is smooth,  
 492 and it can be observed a uniform velocity profile (positive) close to  $x=34.5$ , which is induced by

### 3 Concluding remarks

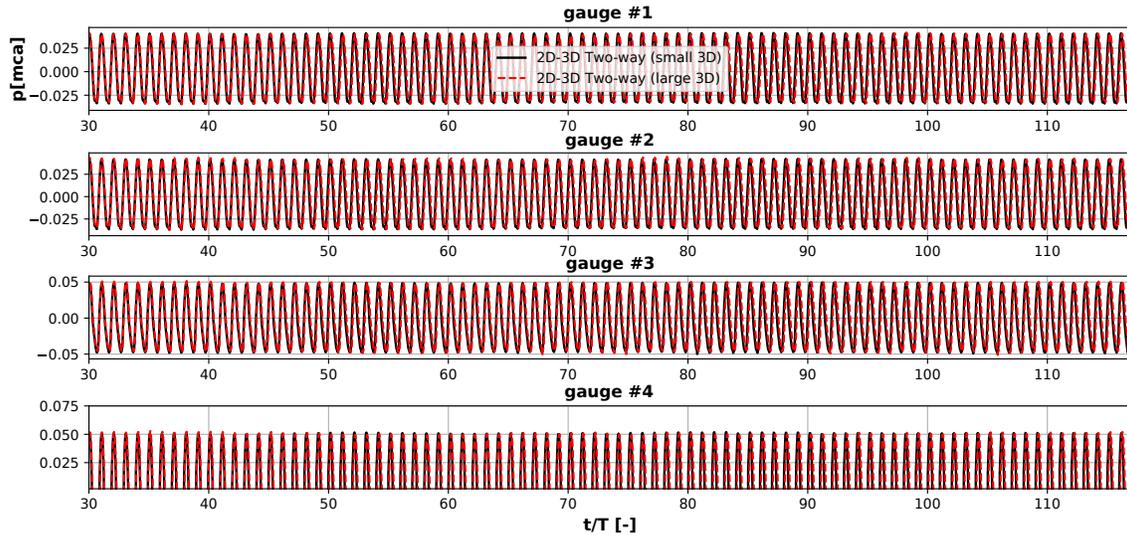


Figure 20: Comparison of the dynamic pressure on the perforated front wall (sea-side) between the small (black line) and the large (dashed-red line) coupled models.

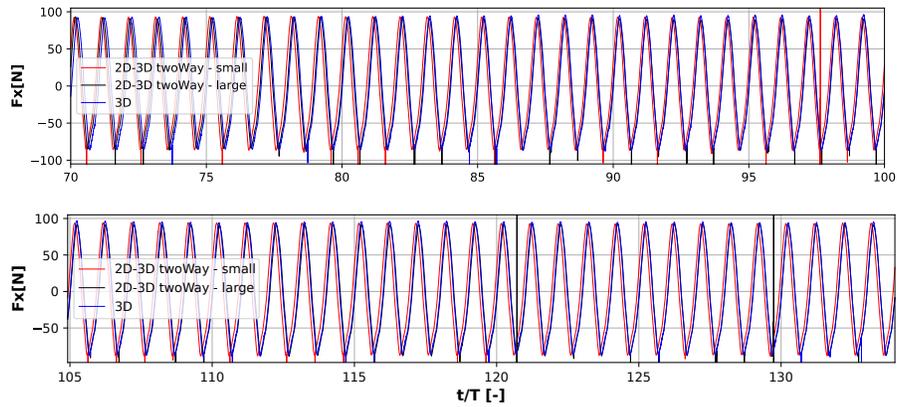


Figure 21: Horizontal force integrated on the front wall of the JTCB.

493 the active wave absorption based on the assumption of shallow water theory. Although the the  
494 small distance between the front wall of the breakwater and the coupled interfaces, the one-way  
495 model demonstrated a good capability in predicting pressure at the structure as shown in Section  
496 2.4.5.

### 497 3 Concluding remarks

498 The implementations presented in Part I (Di Paolo et al., Part I, submitted) have been applied  
499 for practical cases where the three-dimensional effects are dominant (confined) in the near-field.  
500 From the results it is found that the 2D-3D modelling is reliable for all the cases analysed.

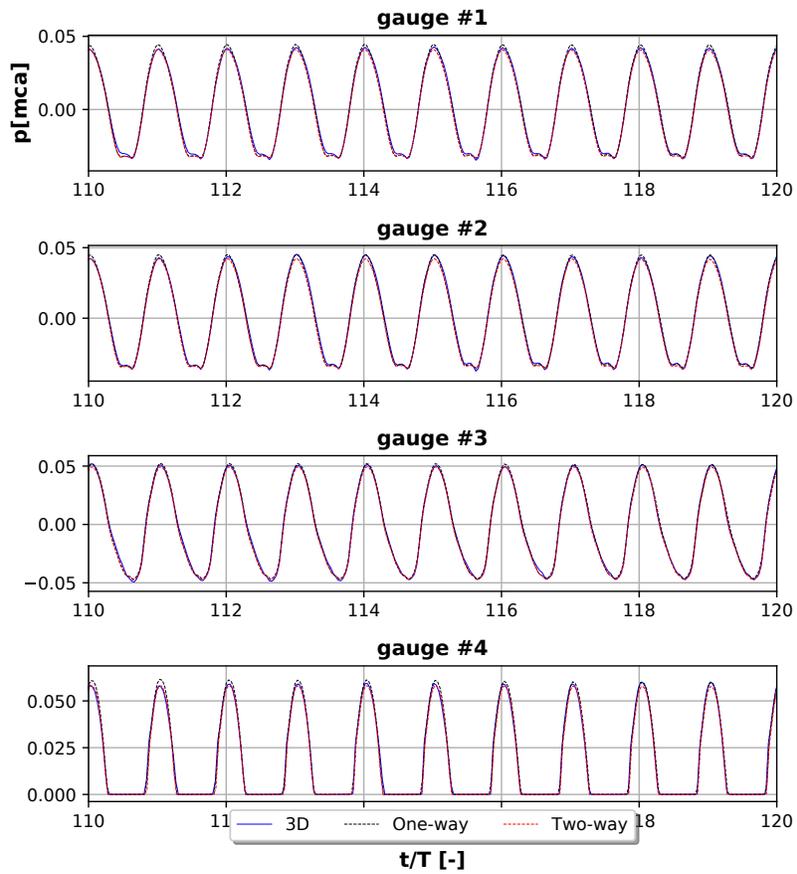


Figure 22: Pressure comparison at the front wall between the coupled (one-way and two-way) and 3D simulations carried out in the present work. All signals are synchronised to better compare the results, as different spatial domains are used, especially for the one-way and two-way setups.

### 3 Concluding remarks

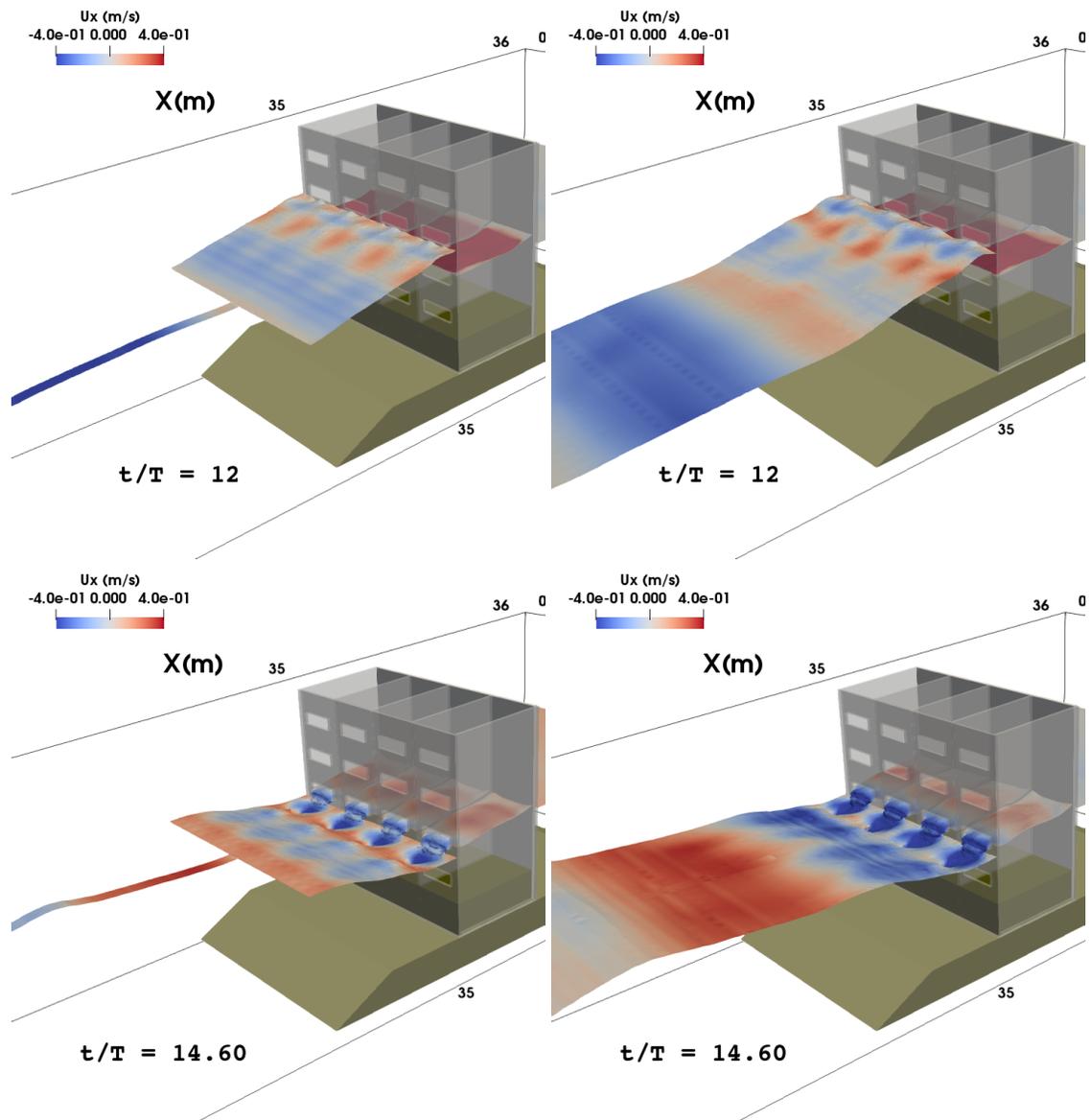


Figure 23: Snapshots of the velocity field at the free surface. Comparison between "small" (left panels) and "large" (right panels) two-way coupled simulations.

501 The methodology is suitable for regular and irregular waves, also considering long-waves  
 502 induced by focused wave groups. The 2D-3D approach, here used to model a shallow fore-  
 503 shore, breaking waves on a planar beach, wave impact on a cylinder and wave interaction with  
 504 a perforated breakwater can be extended to those cases where waves impact normally on three-  
 505 dimensional structures and the 3D effects take place in the near field. It is always recommended  
 506 to test a preliminary setup of the coupled simulation in order to check that 3D effects are enclosed  
 507 within the 3D domain. This is however an easy task as the coupled model is computationally

3 Concluding remarks

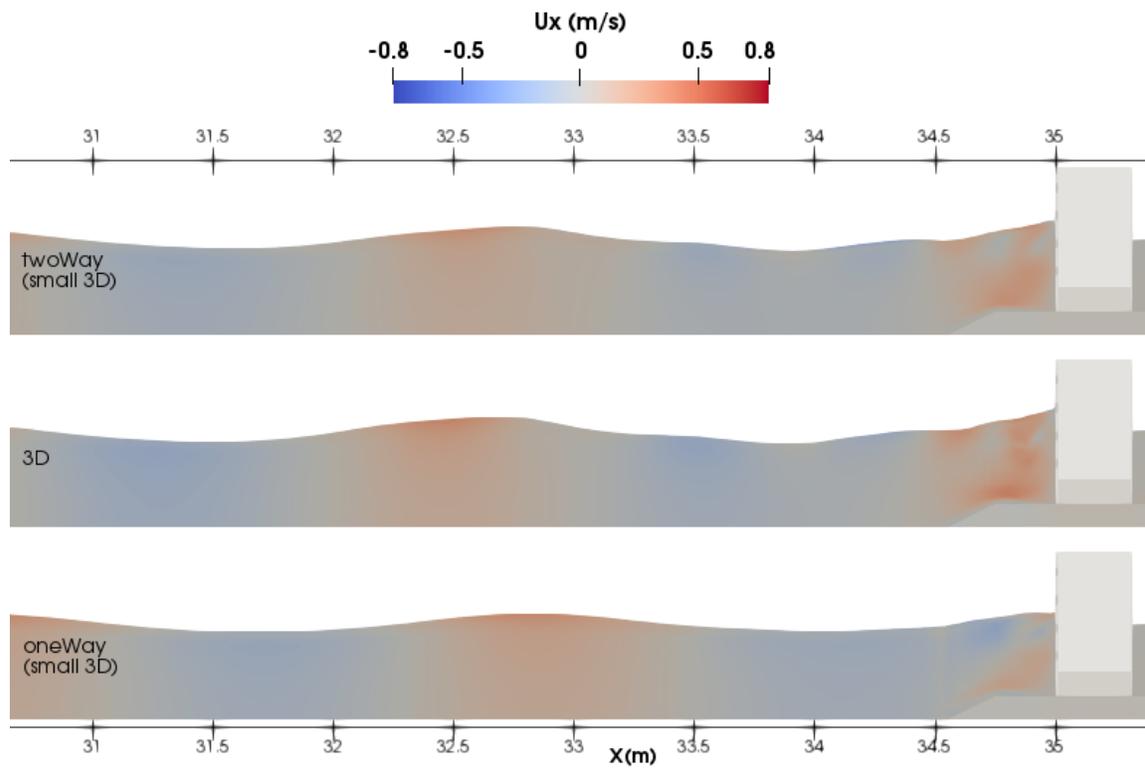


Figure 24: Velocity field beneath the waves (plan  $x$ - $z$ ,  $y=0.25$ m). Comparison of one-way, two-way and 3D simulations carried out in the present work. The coupled interfaces are located at  $x=34.5$ m.

### 3 Concluding remarks

Case	$CPU_{3D}$ (d-h)	$CPU_{1way}$ (d-h)	$CPU_{2way}$ (d-h)	$n_{speed}$ <small><math>3D-1way</math></small>	$n_{speed}$ <small><math>3D-2way</math></small>	% <small><math>3D-1way</math></small>	% <small><math>3D-2way</math></small>	time (s)	Co	nProcs	two-way stab
RW	24d	15.3d	14d	1.57	1.71	36.3	41.7	180	0.1	8	-
IW1	40d	26d	20d	1.54	2	35	50	3600	0.1	8	active
IW2	27d	16d	22d	1.69	1.23	40.7	18.5	3600	0.1	64	active
Shallow foreshore	63h	18.9h	33h	3.33	1.91	70	47.6	20	0.1	8	active
WF1	112.2h	-	23.36h	-	4.8	-	79.2	80	0.3	8	active
WF2	182.4h	-	29.2h	-	6.25	-	84	80	0.3	8	active
JTCB small	111h	61h	59.1h	1.82	1.88	45	46.8	200	0.75	8	active
JTCB large	-	-	73h	-	-	-	-	200	0.75	8	active

Table 9: Computational speed-up obtained for the cases simulated.

508 cheap compared to the 3D simulations.

509 Moreover, it is of key importance to correctly set the numerical parameters of the simulations,  
 510 particularly the cell aspect ratio and the Co. A low Co (e.g. 0.1) and a small cell aspect ratio (e.g.  
 511 1.0) may be needed in the most challenging cases. Lowering the aspect ratio and Co leads to a  
 512 better estimation of the wave velocity profile along the water depth and a correct advection of  
 513 the fluid through the entire domain and especially at the water/air interface, avoiding unphysical  
 514 wave hydrodynamics. Such as, a low Co (0.1) and aspect ratio (1.0) were needed to correctly gener-  
 515 ate the target wave height for the irregular-wave simulations (Section 2.1). The same numerical  
 516 parameters were needed to carry out the wave propagation on a shallow foreshore (Section 2.2). A  
 517 small aspect ratio (1.0) and Co (0.3) were also required to obtain good results for three-dimensional  
 518 flows under regular and focused waves (Section 2.3), while, for the last case of study (Section 2.4)  
 519 a larger Co and aspect ratio allowed to obtain a good match between experimental and numerical  
 520 (coupled models) results. For the case in Section 2.4, the use of larger Co and aspect ratio was  
 521 balanced by a highly refined mesh, especially around the structure.

522 The 2D-3D modelling, also validated with a complex laboratory experiment of wave-structure  
 523 interaction including fixed structures and porous media, has proven to be stable and accurate  
 524 under several hydrodynamic conditions and for different locations of the coupled interfaces.

525 An asset of the 2D-3D approach is that it allows to carry out extensive numerical tests of  
 526 medium and large spatial-scale simulations with a reasonable computational time. The ratio  
 527 of computational acceleration ( $n_{speed}$ ) and the computation load saved (%) are given in Table 9.  
 528  $CPU_{3D}$  and  $CPU_{coupled}$  are the execution time of the 3D and the coupled models, respectively.

529 The main conclusion is that the coupled models allow to speed-up the simulations by a factor  
 530 in the range of 1.54 and 6.25 depending on the case analysed. The long time series of regular and  
 531 irregular waves, due to the small aspect ratio (AR=1) and Courant number (Co=0.1) resulted in  
 532 very expensive computational time, even using the coupled models. Note that in this case (ideal  
 533 case) a very long 3D domain was defined in order to test the couplings. In realistic applications  
 534 (e.g. JTCB) the sizes of the 3D region are generally smaller. Concerning the last case analysed,  
 535 i.e. wave-JTCB interaction, it is shown that the computational cost is limited to approximately 2.5  
 536 days to complete a 200-second simulation using 8 cores only.

The methodologies proposed are not only helpful for wave interaction with cylinders or perforated caissons but can also be used to analyse the hydraulic performance of breakwaters integrated within WECs (vertical or rubble mound) or to determine the response of floating structures.

2D-3D RANS-LES modelling is also possible and could improve the accuracy in simulating breaking waves and impacts on structures at a reduced cost compared to full 3D simulations.

From the results obtained it can be concluded that the 2D-3D couplings proposed: (i) drastically reduce the computational time required by the full 3D simulations and (ii) give an accuracy comparable to the full solution and to laboratory data for the range of validation. The methodology is ready to be used in a variety of realistic coastal and offshore applications including floating structures.

Future work will focus on the exploitation of the methodology and the inclusion of more physics (i.e. other models) in order to extend the capability of the multi-domain approach.

### Bibliography

Brocchini, M., 2013. A reasoned overview on Boussinesq-type models: the interplay between physics, mathematics and numerics. *Proceedings of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences* 469, 20130496.

Chen, H., Qian, L., Ma, Z., Bai, W., Li, Y., Causon, D., Mingham, C., 2019. Application of an overset mesh based numerical wave tank for modelling realistic free-surface hydrodynamic problems. *Ocean Engineering* 176, 97–117.

Dentale, F., Reale, F., Di Leo, A., Carratelli, E.P., 2018. A CFD approach to rubble mound breakwater design. *International Journal of Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering* 10, 644–650.

Di Lauro, E., Lara, J., Maza, M., Losada, I., Contestabile, P., Vicinanza, D., 2019. Stability analysis of a non-conventional breakwater for wave energy conversion. *Coastal Engineering* 145, 36–52. doi:10.1016/j.coastaleng.2018.12.008.

Di Paolo, B., Lara, J.L., Barajas, G., Losada, I.J., . Waves and structure interaction using multi-domain couplings for Navier-Stokes solvers in OpenFOAM®. Part I: Implementation and validation (referred to as Part 1). *Coastal Engineering* .

El Safti, H., Bonakdar, L., Oumeraci, H., 2014. A hybrid 2D-3D CFD model system for offshore pile groups subject to wave loading. *ASME 2014 33rd International Conference on Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering* .

Fugazza, M., Natale, L., 1992. Hydraulic design of perforated breakwaters. *Journal of Waterway, Port, Coastal, and Ocean Engineering* 118, 1–14.

Gotoh, H., Khayyer, A., 2018. On the state-of-the-art of particle methods for coastal and ocean engineering. *Coastal Engineering Journal* 60, 79–103. doi:10.1080/21664250.2018.1436243.

Higuera, P., Lara, J.L., Losada, I.J., 2013. Simulating coastal engineering processes with OpenFOAM®. *Coastal Engineering* 71, 119–134.

- 573 Hildebrandt, A., Sriram, V., Schlurmann, T., et al., 2013. Simulation of focusing waves and local  
574 line forces due to wave impacts on a tripod structure, in: The Twenty-third International Off-  
575 shore and Polar Engineering Conference, International Society of Offshore and Polar Engineers.
- 576 Jacobsen, N.G., van Gent, M.R., Capel, A., Borsboom, M., 2018. Numerical prediction of integrated  
577 wave loads on crest walls on top of rubble mound structures. *Coastal Engineering* 142, 110–124.
- 578 Jarlan, G., 1961. A perforated vertical wall breakwater. *The Dock and Harbour Authority*, 394–398.
- 579 Kim, S.H., Yamashiro, M., Yoshida, A., 2010. A simple two-way coupling method of BEM and  
580 VOF model for random wave calculations. *Coastal Engineering* 57, 1018–1028.
- 581 Kirby, J.T., 2016. Boussinesq models and their application to coastal processes across a wide range  
582 of scales. *Journal of Waterway Port Coastal and Ocean Engineering* 142.
- 583 Lara, J., Ruju, A., Losada, I., 2011. Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes modelling of long waves in-  
584 duced by a transient wave group on a beach. *Proceedings of the Royal Society A: Mathematical,*  
585 *Physical and Engineering Sciences* 467, 1215–1242. doi:10.1098/rspa.2010.0331.
- 586 Lara, J.L., Lucio, D., Tomas, A., Di Paolo, B., Losada, I.J., 2019. High-resolution time-dependent  
587 probabilistic assessment of the hydraulic performance for historic coastal structures: application  
588 to luarca breakwater. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A* 377, 20190016.
- 589 Larsen, B.E., Fuhrman, D.R., Roenby, J., 2019. Performance of interFoam on the simulation of  
590 progressive waves. *Coastal Engineering Journal* 61, 380–400.
- 591 Losada, I.J., Lara, J.L., Guancho, R., Gonzalez-Ondina, J.M., 2008. Numerical analysis of wave  
592 overtopping of rubble mound breakwaters. *Coastal Engineering* 55, 47 – 62.
- 593 Martínez-Ferrer, P., Causon, D., Qian, L., Mingham, C., Ma, Z., 2016. A multi-region coupling  
594 scheme for compressible and incompressible flow solvers for two-phase flow in a numerical  
595 wave tank. *Computers & Fluids* 125, 116–129.
- 596 Martínez-Ferrer, P.J., Qian, L., Ma, Z., Causon, D.M., Mingham, C.G., 2018. An efficient finite-  
597 volume method to study the interaction of two-phase fluid flows with elastic structures. *Journal*  
598 *of Fluids and Structures* 83, 54–71.
- 599 Mintgen, F., Manhart, M., 2018. A bi-directional coupling of 2D shallow water and 3D Reynolds-  
600 Averaged Navier-Stokes models. *Journal of Hydraulic Research* 56, 771–785.
- 601 Sitanggang, K., Lynett, P., 2010. Multi-scale simulation with a hybrid Boussinesq-RANS hydrody-  
602 namic model. *International journal for numerical methods in fluids* 62, 1013–1046.
- 603 Sriram, V., Ma, Q., Schlurmann, T., 2014. A hybrid method for modelling two dimensional non-  
604 breaking and breaking waves. *Journal of computational physics* 272, 429–454.
- 605 Tsai, C.P., Ko, C.H., Chen, Y.C., 2018. Investigation on performance of a modified breakwater-  
606 integrated OWC wave energy converter. *Sustainability* 10, 643.

### 3 Concluding remarks

- 607 Vandebek, I., Gruwez, V., Altomare, C., Suzuki, T., Vanneste, D., De Roo, S., Toorman, E., Troch,  
608 P., 2018. Towards an efficient and highly accurate coupled numerical modelling approach for  
609 wave interactions with a dike on a very shallow foreshore, in: *Coastlab 2018*, pp. 1–10.
- 610 Verbrugghe, T., Domínguez, J.M., Crespo, A.J., Altomare, C., Stratigaki, V., Troch, P., Kortenhaus,  
611 A., 2018. Coupling methodology for smoothed particle hydrodynamics modelling of non-linear  
612 wave-structure interactions. *Coastal Engineering* 138, 184–198.
- 613 Wang, D.x., Dong, S., Sun, J.w., 2019. Numerical modeling of the interactions between waves and  
614 a Jarlan-type caisson breakwater using OpenFOAM. *Ocean Engineering* 188, 106230.
- 615 Zijlema, M., Stelling, G., Smit, P., 2011. SWASH: An operational public domain code for simulating  
616 wave fields and rapidly varied flows in coastal waters. *Coastal Engineering* 58, 992–1012.