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TITLE: Hydromagnetic simulation of the ionospheric disturbances generated by the 2011 Tohoku-oki tsunami and associated acoustic-gravity waves

PRESENTATION TYPE: Assigned by Committee

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CURRENT SESSION: SA03. Studies of the low-latitude thermosphere / ionosphere in the American sector

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ABSTRACT BODY: Owing to the natural disturbances such as Earth quake/tsunami and tropospheric convection, Acoustic gravity waves (AGWs) are excited in the troposphere.

These AGWs propagate upward to the thermosphere, attain large amplitude therein and subsequently dissipate, leading to the excitation of secondary AGWs which mainly propagate horizontally.

Both primary and secondary AGWs significantly modify the ionosphere, leading to the Total electron Content disturbances, current and magnetic disturbances.

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Focus of the present work is the recent Japan tsunami that occurred on 11 March 2011 over Tohoku-Oki and caused enormous damage

in terms of human life and infrastructures. Moreover, it triggered nuclear catastrophe

that makes it a global disaster and much more alarming. The growing concern is towards

failure of short-term forecasting of this event in spite that the Japan is densely populated

with the various ground based seismic instrument as well with the GPS receivers that

may detect the activities in the space related to the tsunami. However, owing to these

dense networks, this event is examined much more thoroughly than other big events in the past,

leading to the knowledge of various interesting aspects that may be helpful in

the future

for the short-term forecasting of such event. One such aspect is that the effects of

the seismic activities occurring deep into the ocean, are detected much more efficiently

and in varieties in space (in the overlying atmosphere and ionosphere) than over the ocean or Earth's surface.

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In the present work, hydrodynamic and hydromagnetic simulations of the atmospheric and

ionospheric anomalies are

performed for the Tohoku-Oki tsunami (11 March 2011).

The Tsunami-Atmosphere-Ionosphere (TAI) coupling mechanism via AGWs is explored theoretically using the TAI coupled model.

In this mechanism, tsunami in the ocean excites the AGWs in the atmosphere owing to the vertical uplift which subsequently interact with the ionosphere to gives rise density, electric and magnetic field disturbances or anomalies.

For the modeled tsunami wave as an input, the coupled model simulates the wind, density and temperature disturbances or anomalies in the atmosphere and electron density/magnetic anomalies in the F region of the ionosphere.

Also presented are the GPS-TEC and ground-based magnetometer measurements

during first hour of tsunami and good agreements are found between modeled and observed anomalies.

The high frequency component ~ 10 minutes of the simulated wind, TEC and magnetic anomalies in the F region develops within 6-7 minutes after the initiation of the tsunami,

suggesting the importance of monitoring the high-frequency atmospheric/ionospheric anomalies for the early warning.

These anomalies are found to maximize across the epicenter in the direction opposite to the tsunami propagation

suggesting that the large atmospheric/ionospheric disturbances are excited in the region where tsunami does not travel.

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Sponsor

SPONSOR NAME: None

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Additional Details

Previously Presented Material:

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