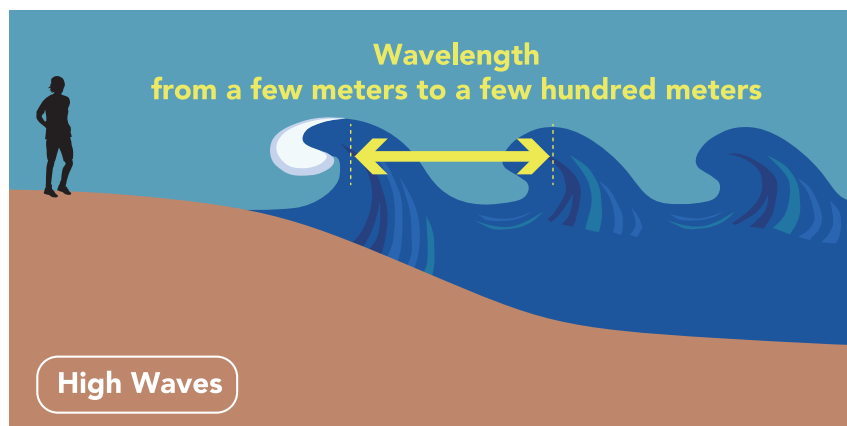


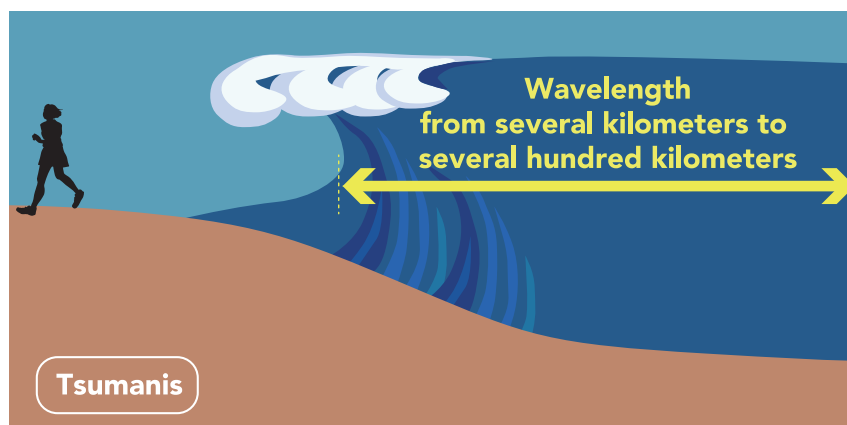
What is a Tsunami?

The Overwhelming Power of a Tsunami

A Tsunami's Power Far Surpasses That of High Waves



The wavelength ranges from a few meters to a few hundred meters.
The wave weakens soon after reaching the shore.



The wavelength is from several kilometers to several hundred kilometers.
A mass of water from the seabed to the surface surges ashore.

The phenomenon of a tsunami is completely different from high waves.

High waves are a phenomenon near the sea surface caused by blowing winds. A tsunami, on the other hand, is a completely different phenomenon. It is caused by the deformation of the seafloor due to an earthquake or other events, which causes the entire surrounding body of water to move up and down in a short period. This results in the entire volume of seawater, from the seabed to the surface, surging toward the coast as a giant mass of water.

Therefore, a tsunami possesses enormous power, enough to uproot and topple reinforced concrete buildings. Furthermore, whereas the wavelength of high waves ranges from a few meters to a few hundred meters, a tsunami's wavelength can span from several kilometers to several hundred kilometers. This allows the tsunami to surge continuously without losing momentum, sometimes running up to high ground on land. A tsunami also churns up mud from the seabed and comes ashore carrying debris such as buildings and cars.

With its overwhelming scale and power, a tsunami is a phenomenon entirely different from high waves.