Comment on nhess-2021-346
Anonymous Referee #2

The manuscript provides new historical records related to the 1782 Taiwan event and conducted a series numerical experiment to explore the possible sources of this mysterious event. The tsunami hazard awareness in the South China Sea region is relatively low partly due to the ambiguity of major historical events. Understanding the source mechanism of historical events could help us better preparing and mitigating future hazards. This manuscript will well contribute to such efforts. The manuscript can be improved in the following aspects.

Major comments:

- The introduction section can be better structured. Instead of listing the historical records and previous studies, some scientific questions/current issues could be raised in the very beginning. In the end of the introduction, readers may expect a brief explanation of the content in the following sections.
- The authors mentioned the possibility of storm surges could not be ruled out, one paragraph reviewing the most serious impact posed by past storm surge events could be very helpful for readers to understand the potential magnitudes.
- After reading the newly added historical records in German, the possibility of volcanic eruption cause should be more carefully reevaluated, especially after the Tonga volcanic tsunami which occurred in Jan 15, 2022.

Minor comments:
- Line 32, a more detailed historical records should be added in the reference, Lau et al., 2010, NHESS, Written records of historical tsunamis in the northeastern South China Sea – challenges associated with developing a new integrated database.
- Line 40 in the Introduction, "Qin dynasty" should be "Qing dynasty"
- Line 120, "boarder"-"broader"