

Resources

COMET® and MetEd Programs
Spanish Versions also have French versions

Wave Life Cycle I: Generation

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/marine/mod2_wlc_gen/index.htm

Ciclo de vida de las olas I: Generación

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/marine/mod2_wlc_gen_es/index.htm

Wave Life Cycle II: Propagation & Dispersion

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/marine/mod3_wlc_propdis/index.htm

Ciclo de vida de las olas II: propagación y dispersión

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/marine/mod3_wlc_propdis_es/index.htm

Wave Types and Characteristics

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/marine/mod1_wv_type_char/index.htm

Tipos de olas y sus características

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module_es.php?id=1017

Analyzing Ocean Swell

http://www.meted.ucar.edu/oceans/ocean_swell



National Data Buoy Center

Some Theory and Application of Calibration Techniques for NDBC Wave Measurement Buoys

by

Richard H. Bouchard, Kenneth E. Steele,
Chung-Chu Teng, Laura Fiorentino, and Terry Rutledge

Presentation

to

**The 2nd WIGOS/JCOMM Technical Exchange
Workshop on Marine Instrumentation for
the WMO Regional Association IV**

March 02, 2016



Mother Nature Piles It On

*Additionally, many EMs expressed **surprise at the large and damaging waves** Sandy caused. Of coastal residents surveyed after Sandy, 77 percent described **the impact of waves as more than they expected** (Gladwin, Morrow & Lazo, 2013). Even small to moderate storm surges can cause life-threatening and damaging conditions because of **severe coastal waves on top of surge**.*

– NWS Sandy Assessment (2013)

*Katrina had already generated large northward-propagating swells, leading to **substantial wave setup** along the northern Gulf coast, when it was at Category 4 and 5 strength during the 24 hours or so before landfall.*

– Knabb, et al. (2005), Tropical Cyclone Report, Hurricane Katrina



National Data Buoy Center

382

IEEE JOURNAL OF OCEANIC ENGINEERING, VOL. OE-10, NO. 4, OCTOBER 1985

Theory and Application of Calibration Techniques for an NDBC Directional Wave Measurements Buoy

KENNETH E. STEELE, JOSEPH CHI-KIN LAU, AND YUAN-HUANG L. HSU

(Invited Paper)

- NDBC still uses many of these techniques in fielding new Heave/Pitch/Roll wave systems.
- *Google Scholar* shows 54 non-NDBC citations, 5 since 2012
- Some of the techniques applicable to other moored buoy systems
- Due to time constraints, will limit discussion to development and application of:

Power Transfer Functions (PTF)
Noise and Tilt Corrections
Hull Magnetic Corrections

Image of Steele *et al.*, 1985 title, author, and source used with the permission of the IEEE

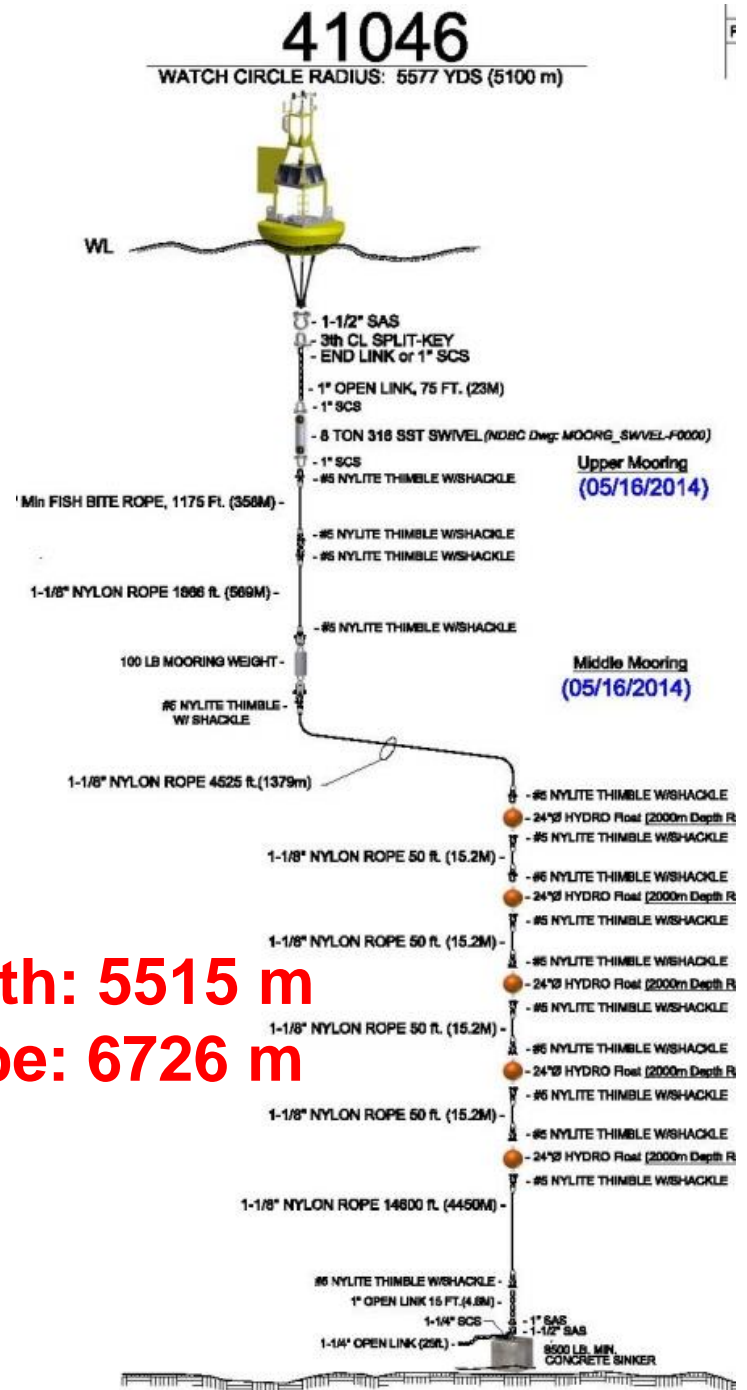


Waves from Moored Buoys

Hull Diameter /Material/ Shape	Weight (kg)
12-m/ Steel/Discus	87,500
10-m/ Steel/Discus	52,400
6-m/ Aluminum/ NOMAD	6,300
3-m/ Aluminum/ Discus	1,720

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mooredbuoy.shtml>

Depth: 5515 m
Rope: 6726 m





*Then we hang all
sorts of stuff on it!*

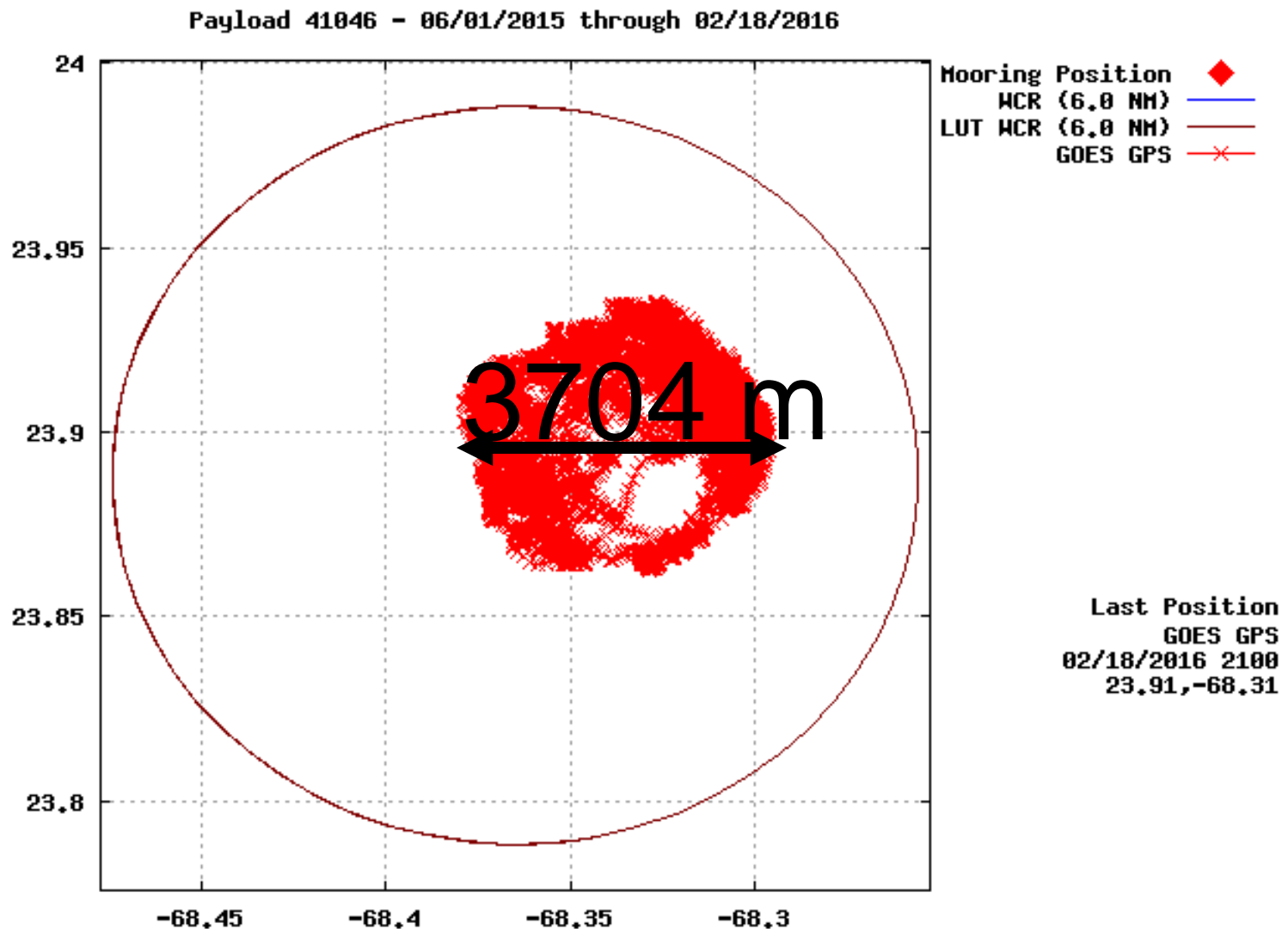
*Waves are not our
only measurement*

*And We need
Power,
And, We need
Communications*





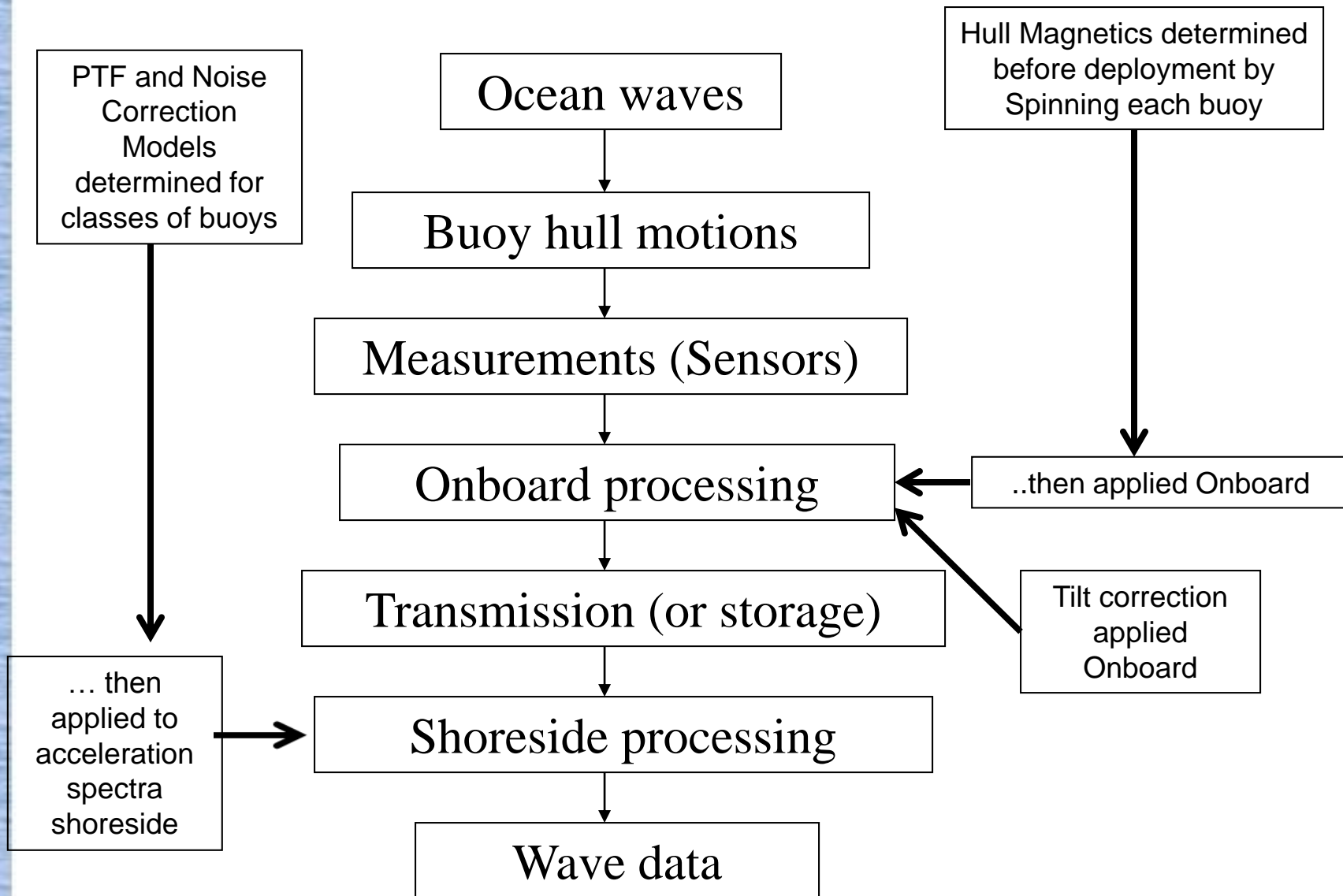
.. and then it moves!



Thu Feb 18 21:28:23 2016



Buoy Wave Measurement





Power Transfer Function (PTF)

Consists Four Frequency-dependent Response Amplitude Operators (RAO):

- R^{hH} : Amplitude changes to vertical displacement (H - Heave) from hull (h) and mooring effects
- R^{sH} : Amplitude changes to vertical displacement (H) from displacement sensor
 - NDBC no longer uses displacement sensors, this now holds double integrator values, $(2\pi*f)^2$
- R^{fa} : Anti-aliasing analog (a) filter (f)
- R^{fn} : Numerical (n) filter (f)
 - $R^{fa} \& R^{fn} = 1$ for latest NDBC systems

$$PTF = (R^{hH} * R^{sH} * R^{fa} * R^{fn})^2$$

$$PTF(f) = (R^{hH}(f) * (2\pi*f)^2)^2$$

Where f is now frequency in Hz.



Developing Hull-Mooring RAO (R^{hH})

- Steps detailed in Teng *et al.*, 1996.
- Initial RAO from hydrodynamic model or scaled from existing hull/moorings
- Then deploy near a reference buoy like a Datawell Waverider
- Perform a modified least squares fit between Waverider (small hull) and NDBC hull (large hull)
 - Details in Murphy and Steele, 1982



R^{hH} and PTF

$$R^{hH}(f) = \sqrt{\frac{C_{11}(f)(\text{large buoy})}{C_{11}(f)(\text{small buoy})}}$$

$$C_{11}(f) = C_{11m}(f)/PTF(f)$$

$C_{11}(f)$: Displacement Spectrum

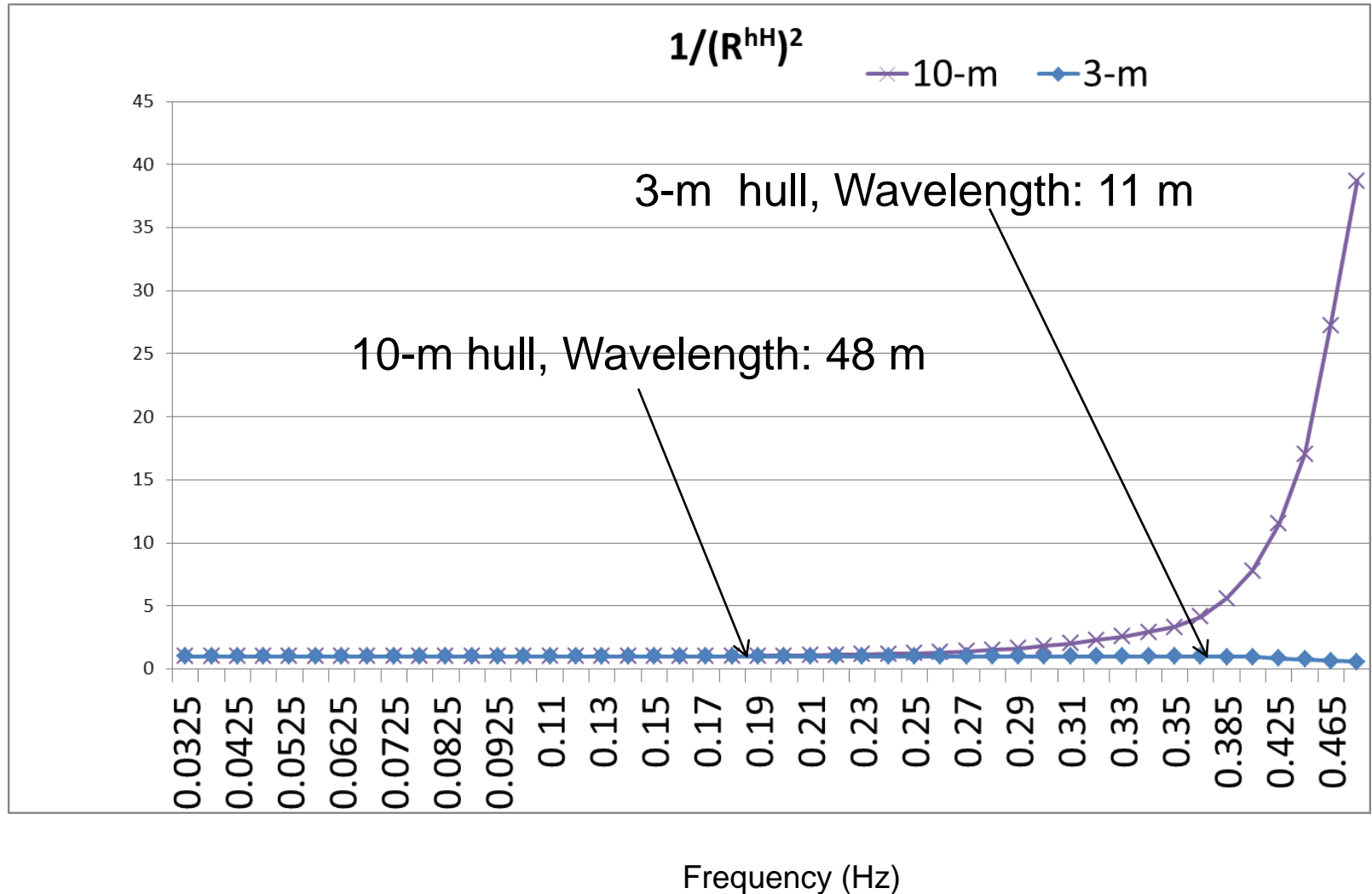
$C_{11m}(f)$: Acceleration Spectrum

*Does not attempt to account for damping,
added mass, or wind*



Hull/Mooring RAO

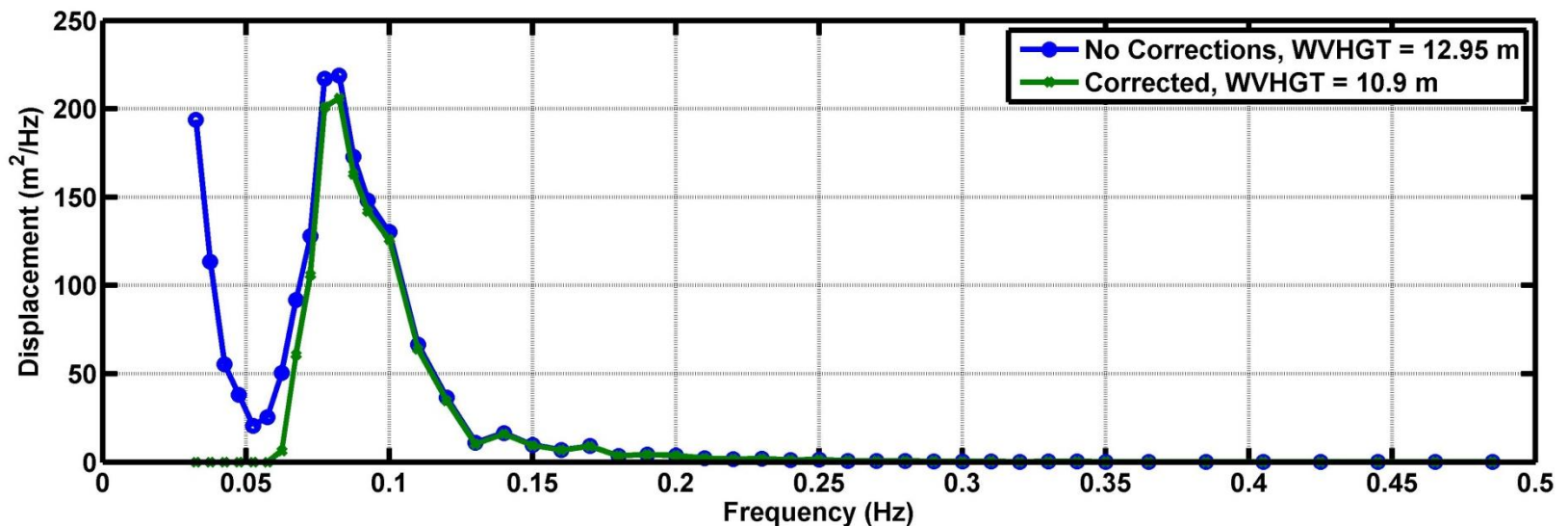
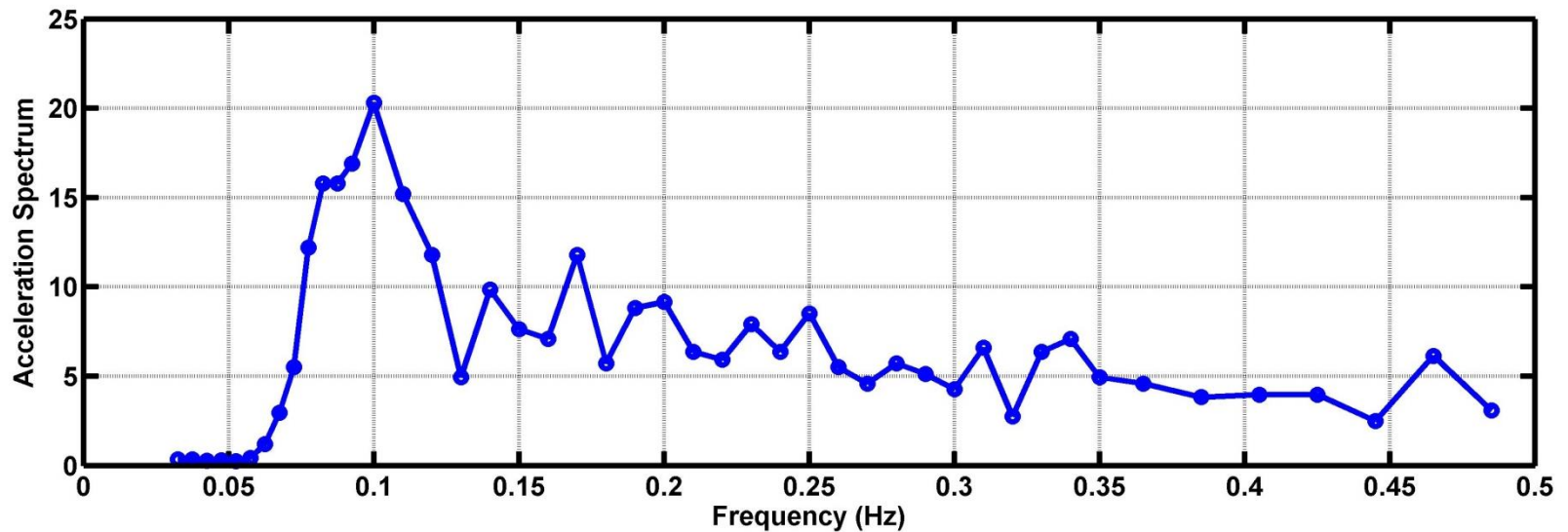
Examples





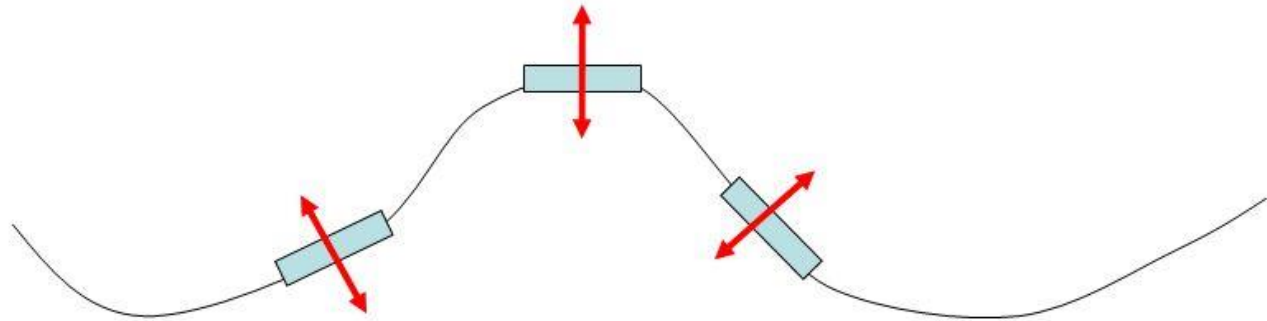
Need for Low-Frequency Corrections for Strapped-down accelerometers

Double integration (dividing by f^4) can amplify noise





Empirical Noise Correction for Strapped-down Accelerometer



- 1977 to ~1986 NDBC tried different noise corrections
- 1987 Lang: Empirical function based on the magnitude of noise bands
 - Assumes acceleration spectra below 0.03 Hz is noise
 - Noise bands centered on 0.01 and 0.02 Hz
 - Fits least-squares line to determine coefficients and cut-off frequency
 - Maximum values to eliminate any possibility of noise amplification
 - Different values depending on hull type and water depth
- 2000 Hervey-Lang correction
 - Hervey using Lang's approach develops correction for WPM single noise band system
 - Also used to determine cutoff frequency for integration of Angular Rates for directional waves

Lang, 1987

- $\text{Max } (C_{11m}(f)/G(f))$
 $G(f) = 0.5 * (\text{Sum of the noise bands})$

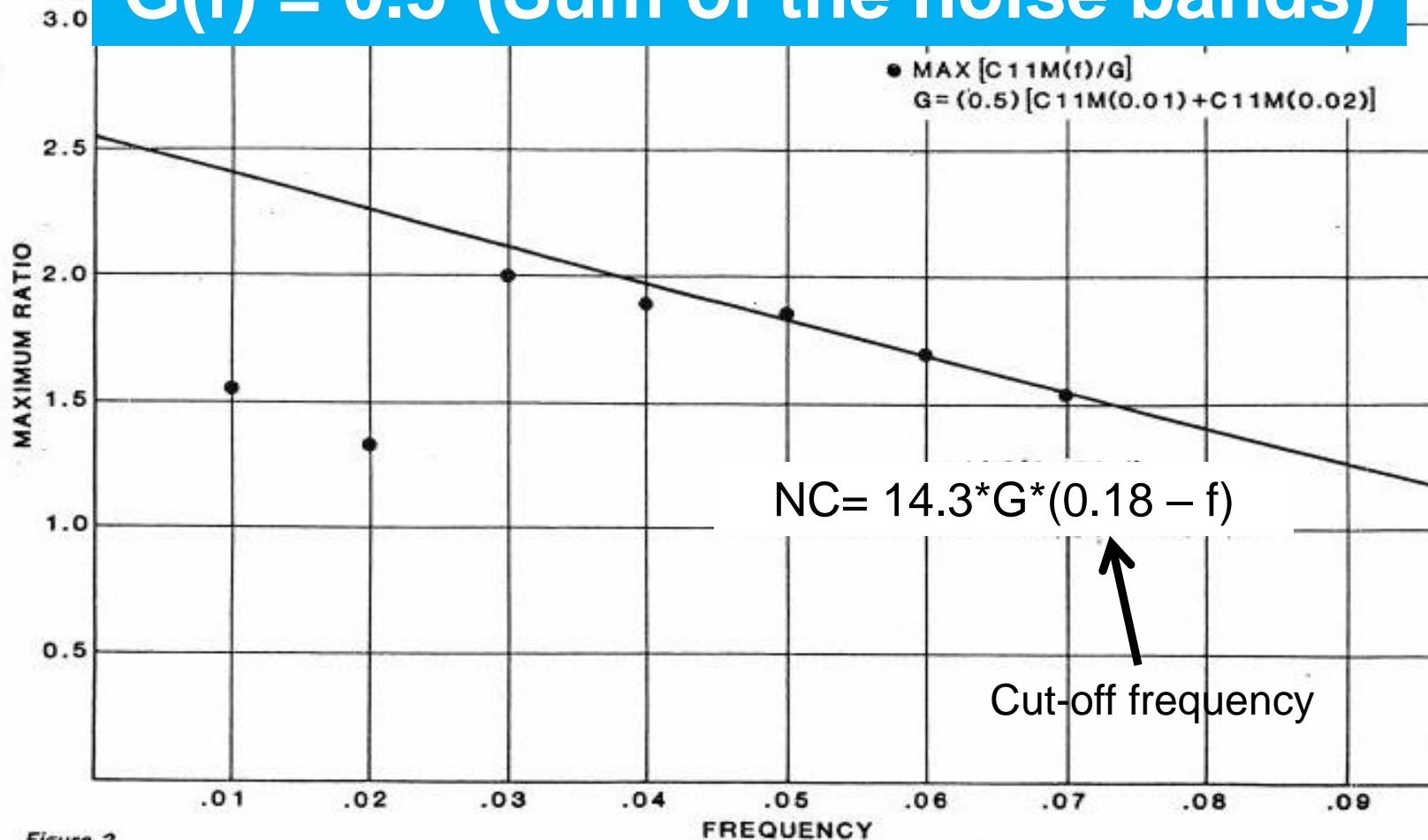
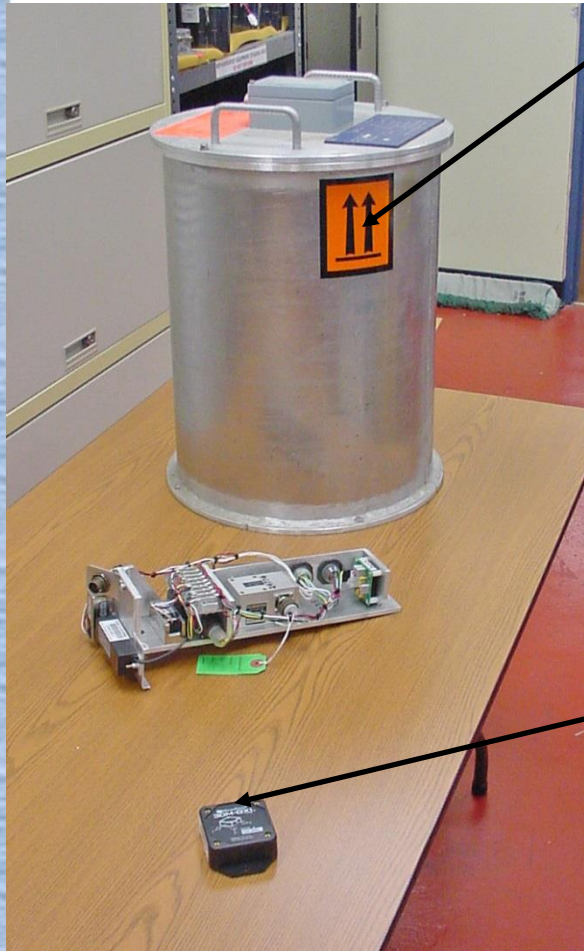


Figure 2.



Wave Sensors



Datawell Hippy 40 Mark II

- **Stabilized platform to minimize tilt effects on vertical acceleration**
- Guts of Datawell Waverider

MicroStrain 3DMGX1

- Integrated sensors
- **Acceleration (strapped-down)**, angular rate sensors, and magnetometers in 3 orthogonal axes



However,

- Bender, *et al.*, 2010 & 2011 showed that increased noise (~26% - 56%) with strapped-down accelerometer:
 - Mean Tilt > 6°
 - Small-hull
 - Shallow water
- Confirmed by lab tests and field tests with NDBC's dual wave buoys
- 2011 NDBC instituted on-board tilt correction of vertical acceleration time series using pitch, roll, and the horizontal accelerations (Riley *et al.*, 2011)
- We now need pitch & roll for nondirectional purposes



NDBC Dual Wave Buoys

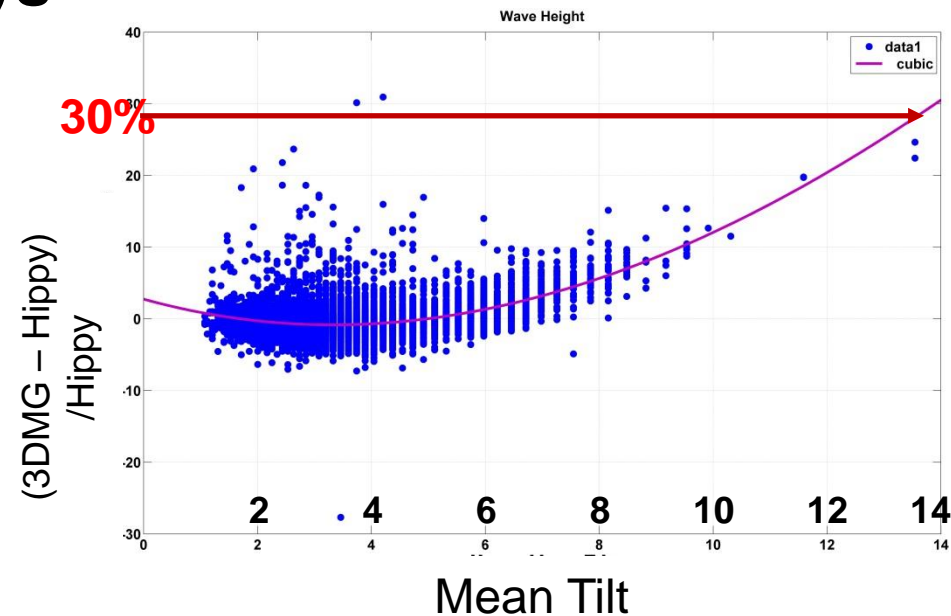
Columbia River Bar

No Tilt Correction

Error up to 30%

Compared to vertically
stabilized Hippy 40

Max wave 9.2 m



PP-WET Monterey

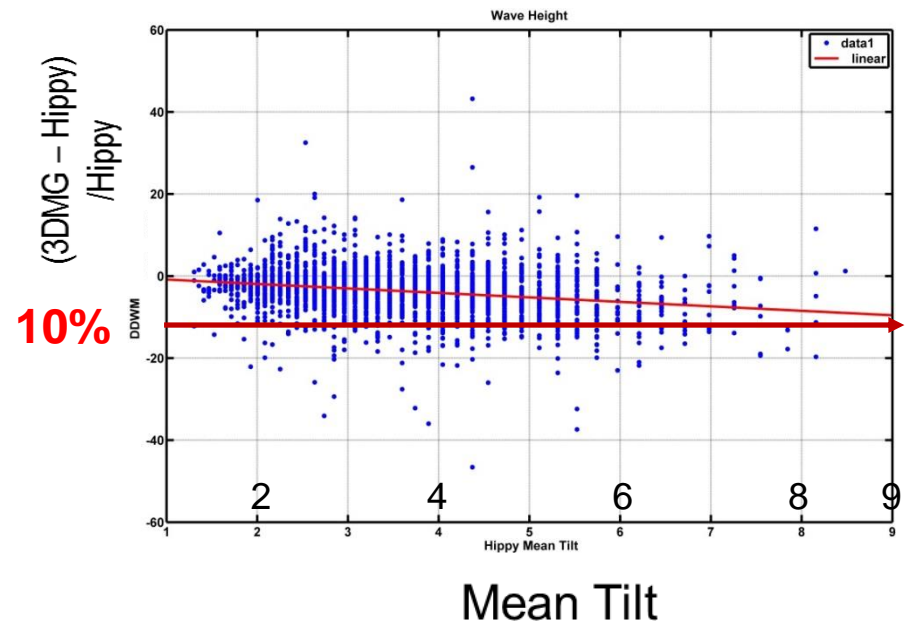
With Tilt Correction

*Ski Jump Trend
Removed*

Now underreporting

Compared to Hippy 40

Max wave 8.9 m





Hull Magnetic Coefficients

- A. Sensors Aligned with Buoy Frame of Reference
 - B. Directional Wave Products are in True North
 - C. We get from A to B by
 - Step 1: Buoy orientation with respect to magnetic north
 - Step 2: Adding location-specific magnetic declination to rotate into True North
- Step 1 is calculated from measurements of Earth Magnetic Fluxes using 2 orthogonal magnetometers
- However, the magnetometers will measure any magnetic influences
- Need to correct for these influences by Spinning the Buoy

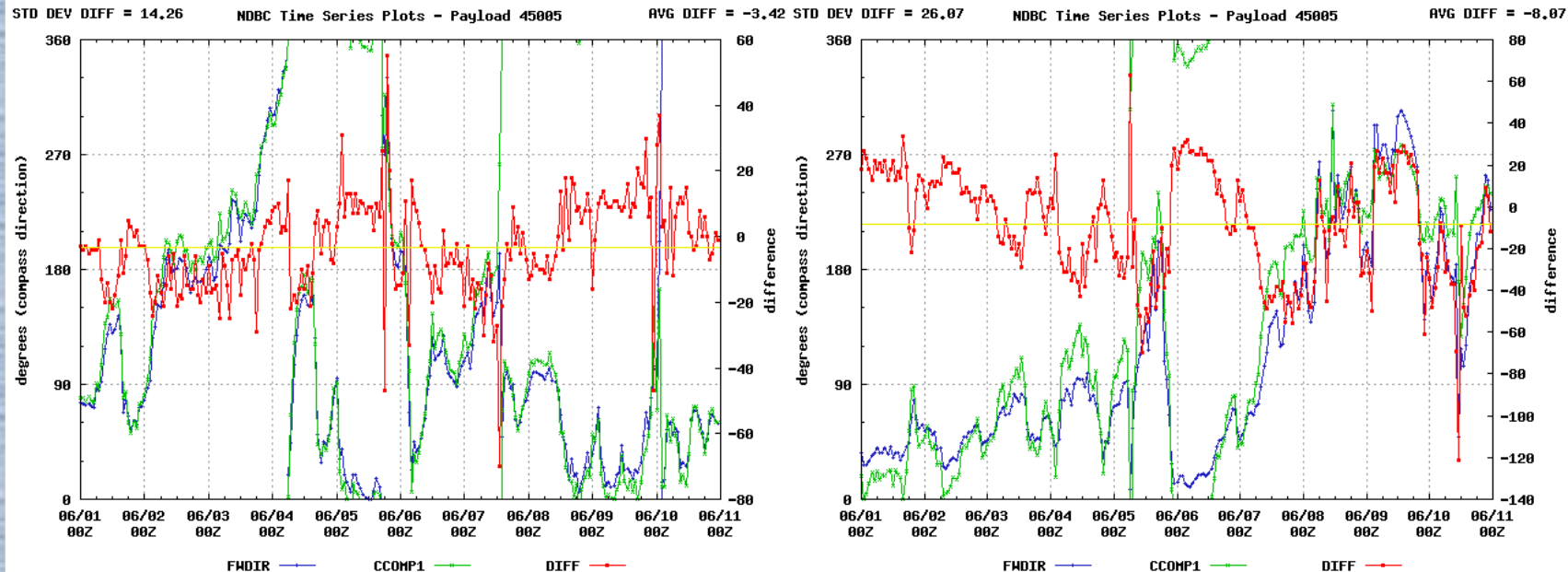


What if You Don't Spin the Buoy?

We check the wave azimuth with wind azimuth

**2014: total difference
~ 15 degrees**

**2015: total difference
~ 30 degrees**



Put New Batteries in without New Spin



2 equations of the horizontal magnetometer measurements ($B_{i=1}(\text{bow})$ and $B_{i=2}(\text{starboard})$) and 2 unknowns ($\sin(A)$ and $\cos(A)$)

Buoy Spin calculates:

Offsets (Residual or Hard Iron): b_{10} and b_{20}

Scaling factors (Induced or Soft Iron): b_{11} , b_{22} , b_{12} , and b_{21}

B_{ey} and B_{ez} are location-specific Earth magnetic fluxes (horizontal and vertical) either from geodetic model (NOAA's NCEI) or mean measurements; P = Pitch; R = Roll.

$$B_i = b_{i0} + B_{ez} \left[b_{i1} \sin(P) - b_{i2} \cos(P) \sin(R) \right] +$$
$$B_{ey} \left\{ \left[-b_{i2} \cos(R) \right] \sin(A) + \right.$$
$$\left. \left[+b_{i1} \cos(P) + b_{i2} \sin(P) \sin(R) \right] \cos(A) \right\}$$



- Spin is done at the dock so Pitch and Roll are Zero. Sine terms go to zero, Cosine terms to 1. Azimuth is now known from the Gyro.
- B_i equations simplify to:

$$B_i = b_{i0} + B_{ey} \left\{ \left[-b_{i2} \cos(R) \right] \sin(A) + \left[+b_{i1} \cos(P) \right] \cos(A) \right\}$$

- Unknowns are now the constants and coefficients (HMC)



Buoy Spin

- Buoy rotated and sets of equations accumulated
- The mean of several sets of measurements that pass variance test become the constants and coefficients
- Details in Steele and Lau, 1986 and Remond and Teng, 1990
- Verified by using the HMCs and testing 8 compass points all must be $\leq 4^\circ$



Reading

NDBC Technical Document 96-01, Nondirectional and Directional Wave Data Analysis Procedures, on-line at:

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/wavemeas.pdf>

undergoing revision

Steele, K., J. Lau, and Y-H. Hsu, 1985: "Theory and application of calibration techniques for an NDBC directional wave measurements buoy," in *Oceanic Engineering, IEEE Journal of*, **10**(4), pp. 382-396. doi: 10.1109/JOE.1985.1145116

Barrick, D. and K. Steele, 1989: "Comments on 'Theory and application of calibration techniques for an NDBC directional wave measurements buoy' by K.E. Steele, *et al.*: **nonlinear effects**," in *Oceanic Engineering, IEEE Journal of*, **14**(3), pp. 268-272, doi: 10.1109/48.29607

Steele. K., C-C. Teng, and D.W.Wang, 1992: "Wave direction measurements using pitch-roll buoys", *Ocean Engineering*, **19**(4), pp. 349-375.

Steele, K. and D. Wang, 2004: "Question of the pitch-roll buoy response to ocean waves as a simple harmonic oscillator?." *Ocean Engineering*, **31**(17), pp. 2121-2138.

Datawell, *Hippy 40 Technical Specification Sheet*:

http://www.rsauqua.co.uk/uploads/pdfs/Products/Datawell/Motion%20Sensors/datawell_brochure_hippy-40.pdf



References

- Bender, L., *et al.*, 2010: "A Comparison of Methods for Determining Significant Wave Heights-applied to a 3-m Discus Buoy during Hurricane Katrina." *Jrnl. Atmos. Ocean. Tech.* **27**(6), pp. 1012-1028. [available at:
<http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/abs/10.1175/2010JTECHO724.1>]
- Bender, L., *et al.*, 2011: "A Comparison of Two Methods for Determining Wave Heights from a Discus Buoy with a Strapped-Down Accelerometer", *Proc. 11th International Workshop On Wave Hindcasting And Forecasting and Coastal Hazard Symposium* [available at <http://www.waveworkshop.org/11thWaves/Papers/Wave%20Workshop%202009%20Bender.pdf>]
- Lang, N., 1987: "The Empirical Determination of a Noise Function for NDBC Buoys with Strapped-Down Accelerometers", *Proc. MTS/IEEE OCEANS '87*, pp. 225-228.
- Murphy, J. and K. Steele, 1982: "Uncertain Wave Spectra: Calibrating Large Buoys for Wave Measurements", *Proc. MTS/IEEE Oceans '82*, pp. 632-634.
- Remond, FX and C-C. Teng, 1990: "Automatic Determination of Buoy Hull Magnetic Constants," *Proc. Marine Instrumentation 90*, pp.151-157.
- Riley, R., C-C. Teng, R. Bouchard, R. Dinoso, and T. Mettlach, 2011: "Enhancements to NDBC's Digital Directional Wave Module," in *Proc. MTS/IEEE Oceans 2011*.
- Steele, K. and J. Lau, 1986: "Buoy Azimuth Measurements – Corrections for Residual and Induced Magnetism", *Proc. Marine Data Systems International Symposium '86*, pp. 271-276.
- Teng, C-C., B. Taft, and H. Wang, 1996: "Motion Transfer Function for a Slack-Moored Wave-Following Buoy, *Proc. Of the Sixth International Offshore and Polar Engineering Conference (ISOPE)*, pp. 371–376.



Thank You

Richard Bouchard

Tel: 1 (228) 688-3459

richard.bouchard@noaa.gov

or

webmaster.ndbc@noaa.gov

Ken Steele

kensteele1932@att.net

Dr. Laura Fiorentino

laura.fiorentino@noaa.gov

1 (228) 688-2591