



Measuring the 'First Five' with HF radar

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HF radar wave measurements in South Australia



1st International Workshop on Waves, Storm Surges and Coastal Hazards, Liverpool

0.25 2/14

0.25

70

60 50

40 30

20

137°E

0.2

0.2





The HF radar directional spectrum is obtained by integral inversion of radar Doppler spectra from 2 radars.



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Energy spectra, significant waveheight, peak direction, power, Fourier coefficients etc are obtained from the radar directional spectrum using standard methods.

Buoy and model validations

Measurements from the IMOS South Australian Gulf WERA radars (green) compared with non-directional waverider buoy (black) and SWAN model (red).



Significant Waveheight provided by Charles James, SARDI

Peak Wave Direction

Pisces buoy comparisons



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Buoy comparisons Energy spectra time series



upper panel –radar lower panel –buoy.

Buoy comparisons

Fourier coefficient timeseries



Buoy mean comparisons



Buoy mean comparisons



Pisces in Celtic Sea

Wera in Norway

Simulation results

Using different radio frequencies, wind speed and directions.



Simulation results

Mean Fourier Coefficients with std.



Simulation results



Summary

- Simulations indicate that Fourier coefficients can be measured with reasonable accuracy within previously identified limitations of the inversion method:
 - low radio frequencies at low waveheights
 - high radio frequencies at high waveheights
- Comparisons with buoys include additional sources of difference/error:
 - noise levels, radio interference, ship signals
 - uncertainities in buoy measurements
 - spatial and temporal measurement differences

Thank you for your attention



HF radar and wavebuoy ocean wave spectra