

The logo consists of a white square with a black border, containing the text "National Oceanography Centre" in black.

National
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Where Waves Matter Most A Case Study of Significant Wave Height from Offshore to Onshore

Chris Banks, Dougal Lichtman, Ben Timmermans and Simon Williams
Chris.Banks@noc.ac.uk

The logo consists of a white square with a black border, containing the text "National Oceanography Centre" in black. The background of the slide is a blue wavy pattern.

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Where Waves Matter Most An ONGOING Case Study of Significant Wave Height from Offshore to Onshore

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Location

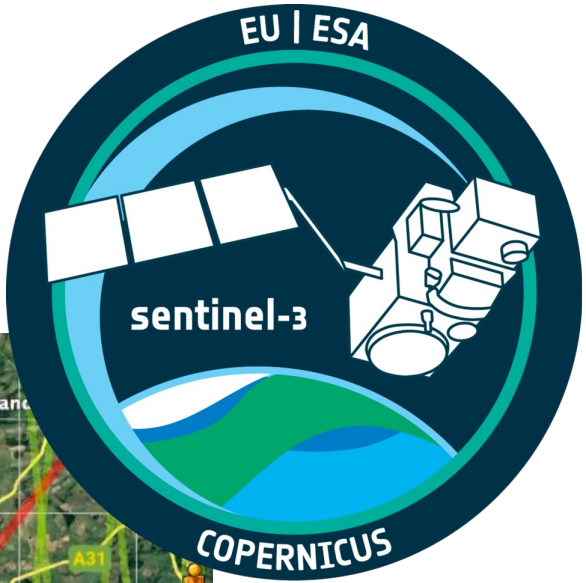




Sentinel 6
(Image: JPL)



Repeat ~10 days



Repeat ~27 days

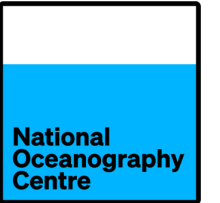
Repeat ~369 days (30-day-sub-cycle)



Image: EMU Limited

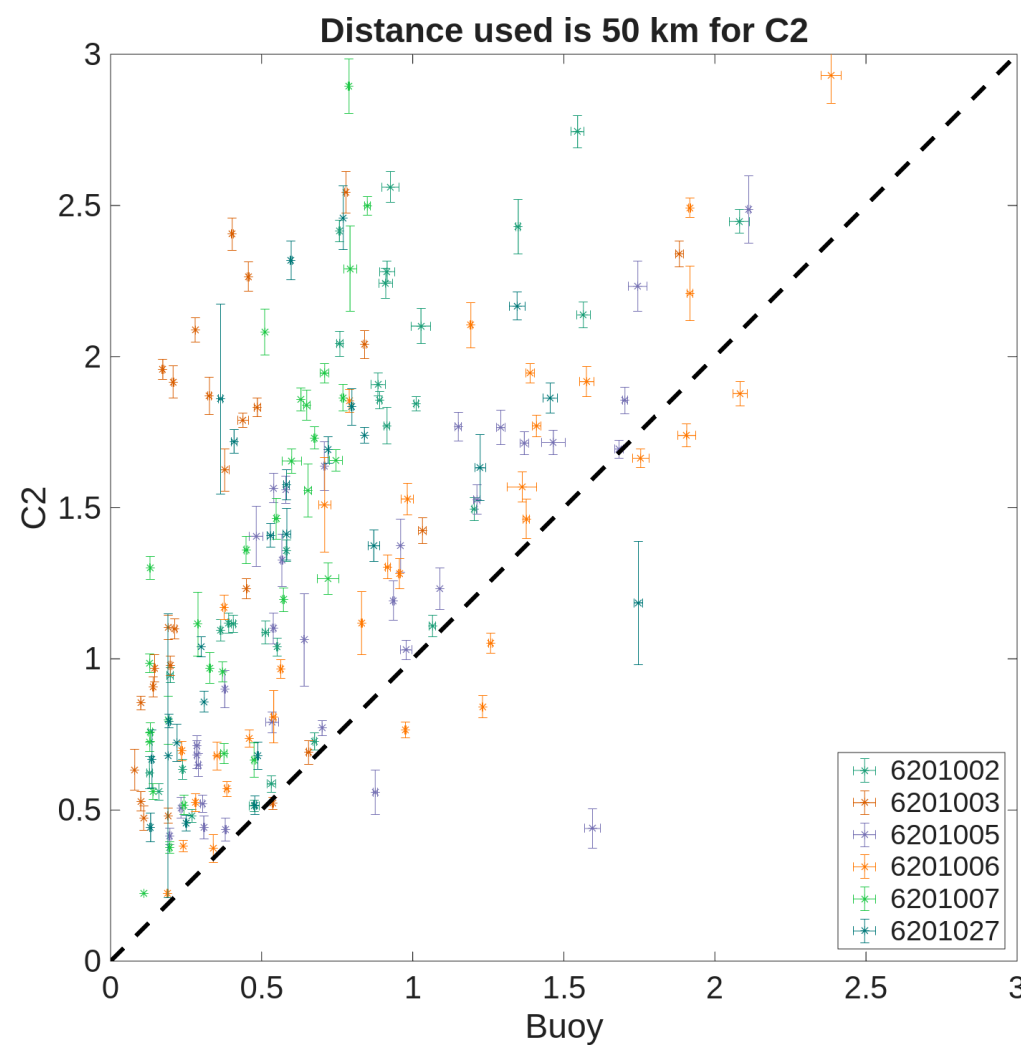


Buoy versus Satellite: Spatial Variability

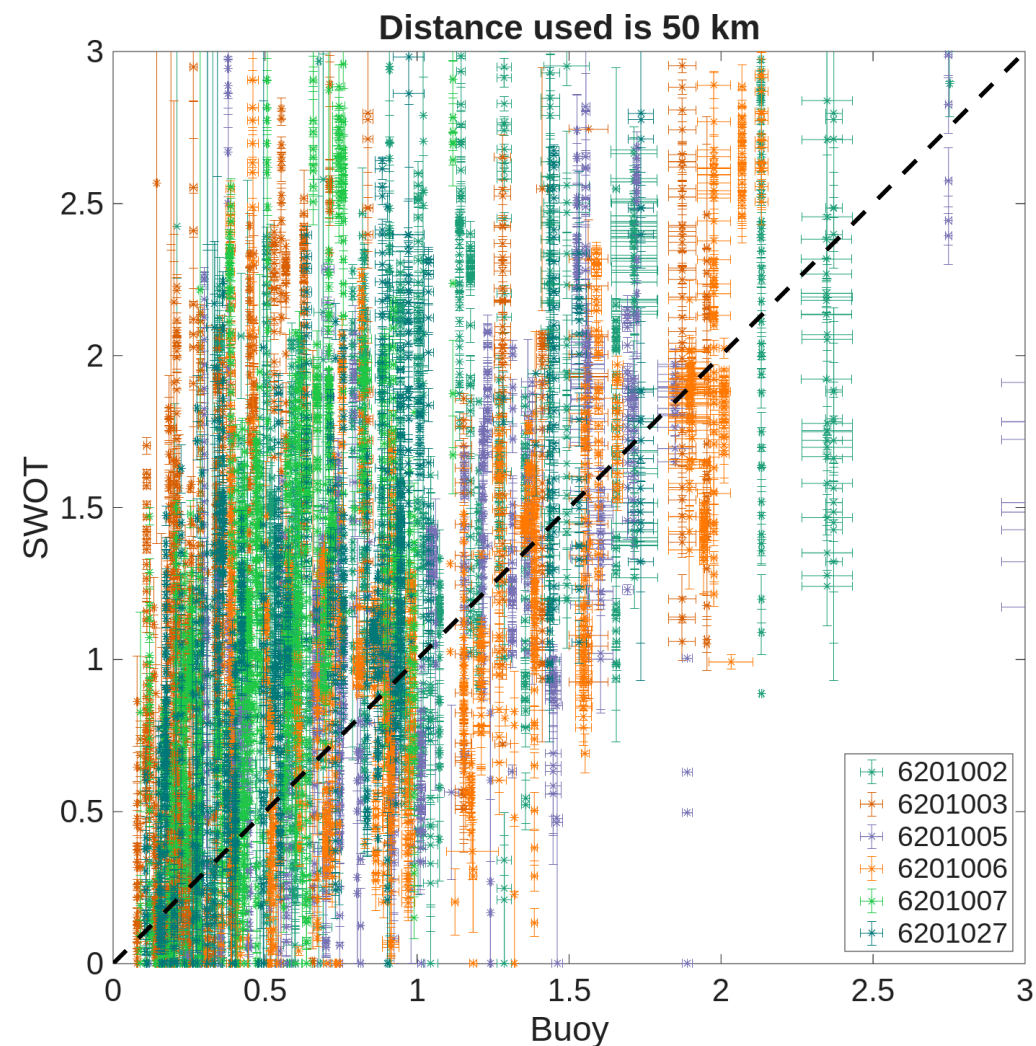


- Sentinel 3A and 3B, Sentinel 6, CryoSat-2, SWOT within study region during 2024
- 6 wave buoys (Weymouth/6201007 outside bay)
- 2 GNSS-IR locations
- Average data within 30 minutes of satellite pass within given radius

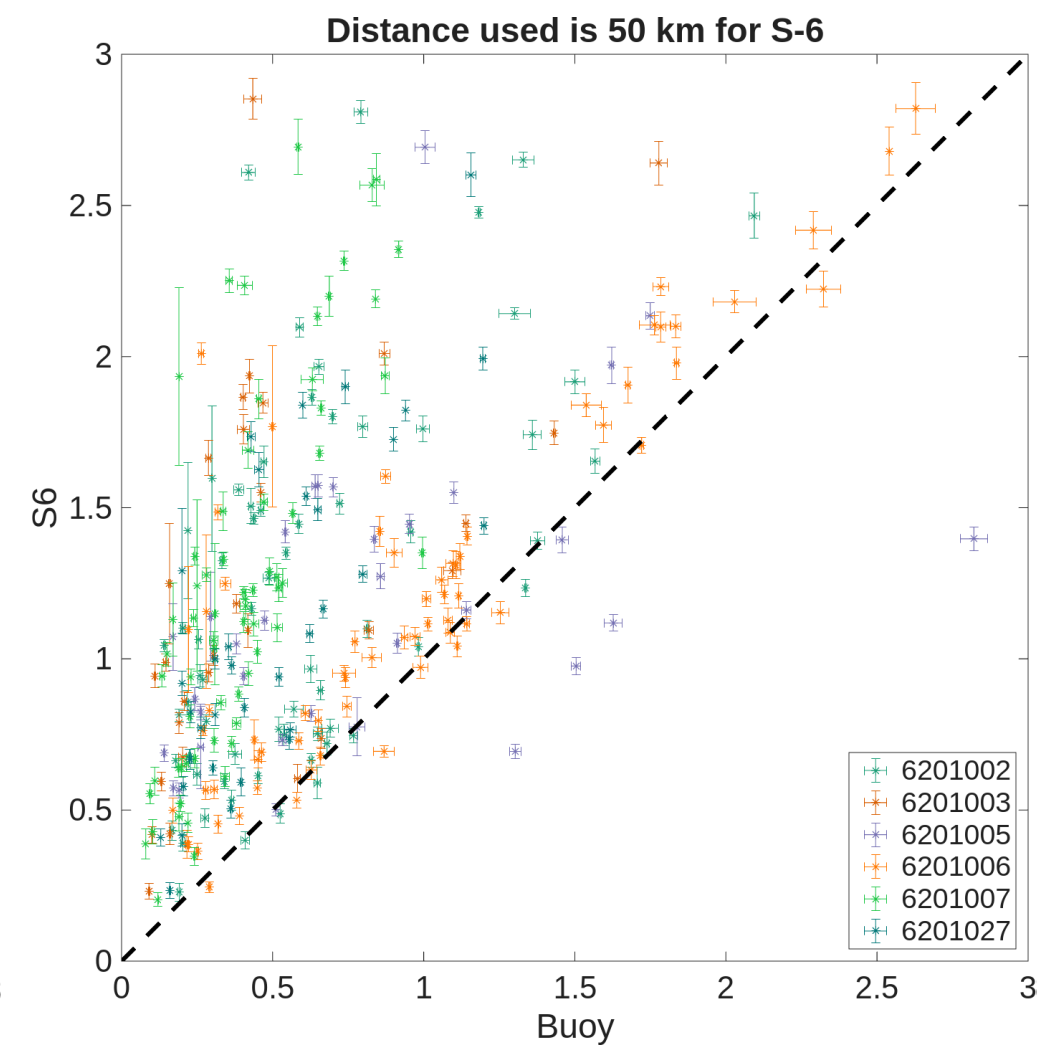
CryoSat-2



SWOT



S-6



Buoy ids from W to E

6201002 Start Bay

6201003 Tor Bay

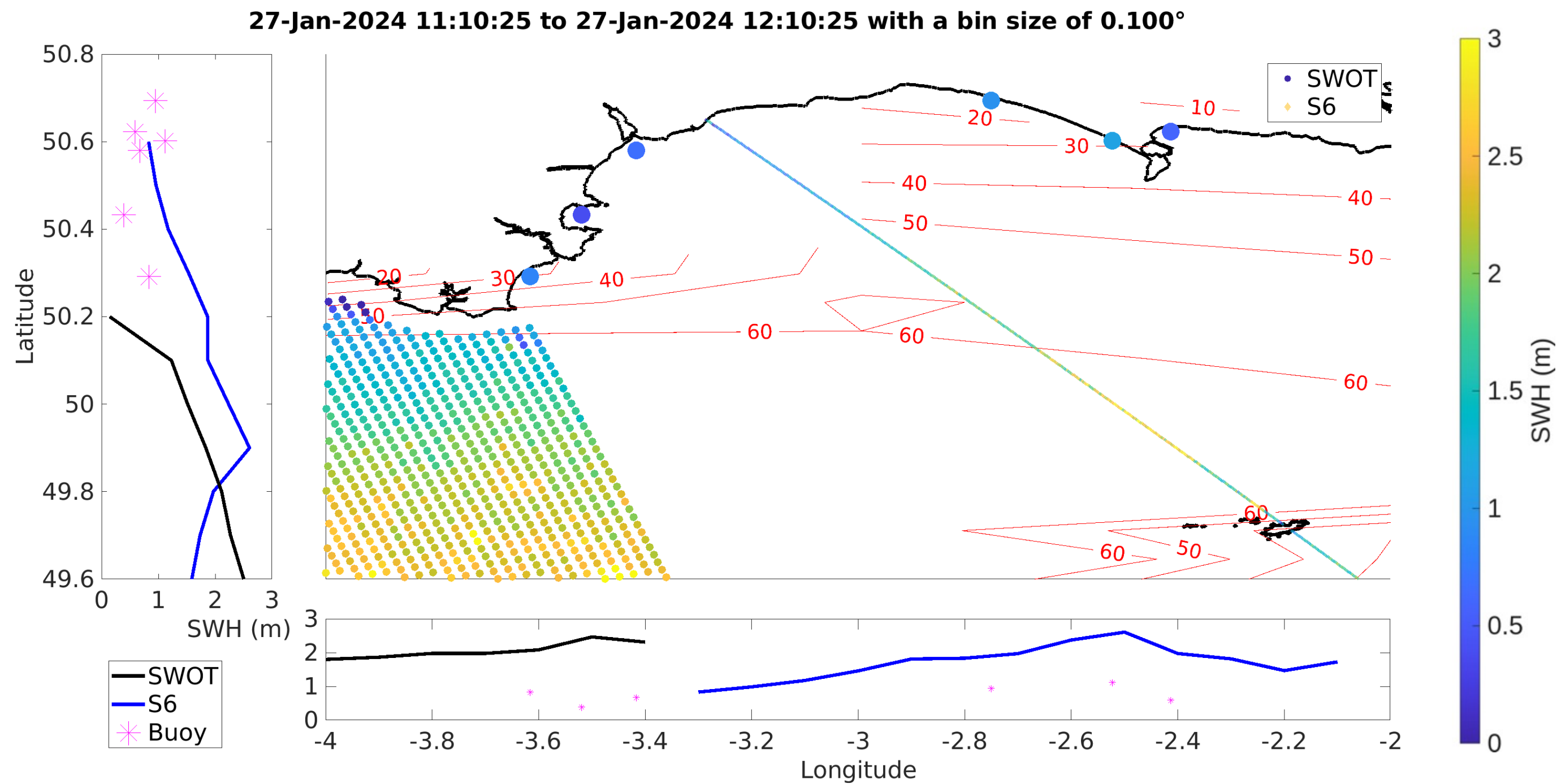
6201027 Dawlish

6201005 West Bay

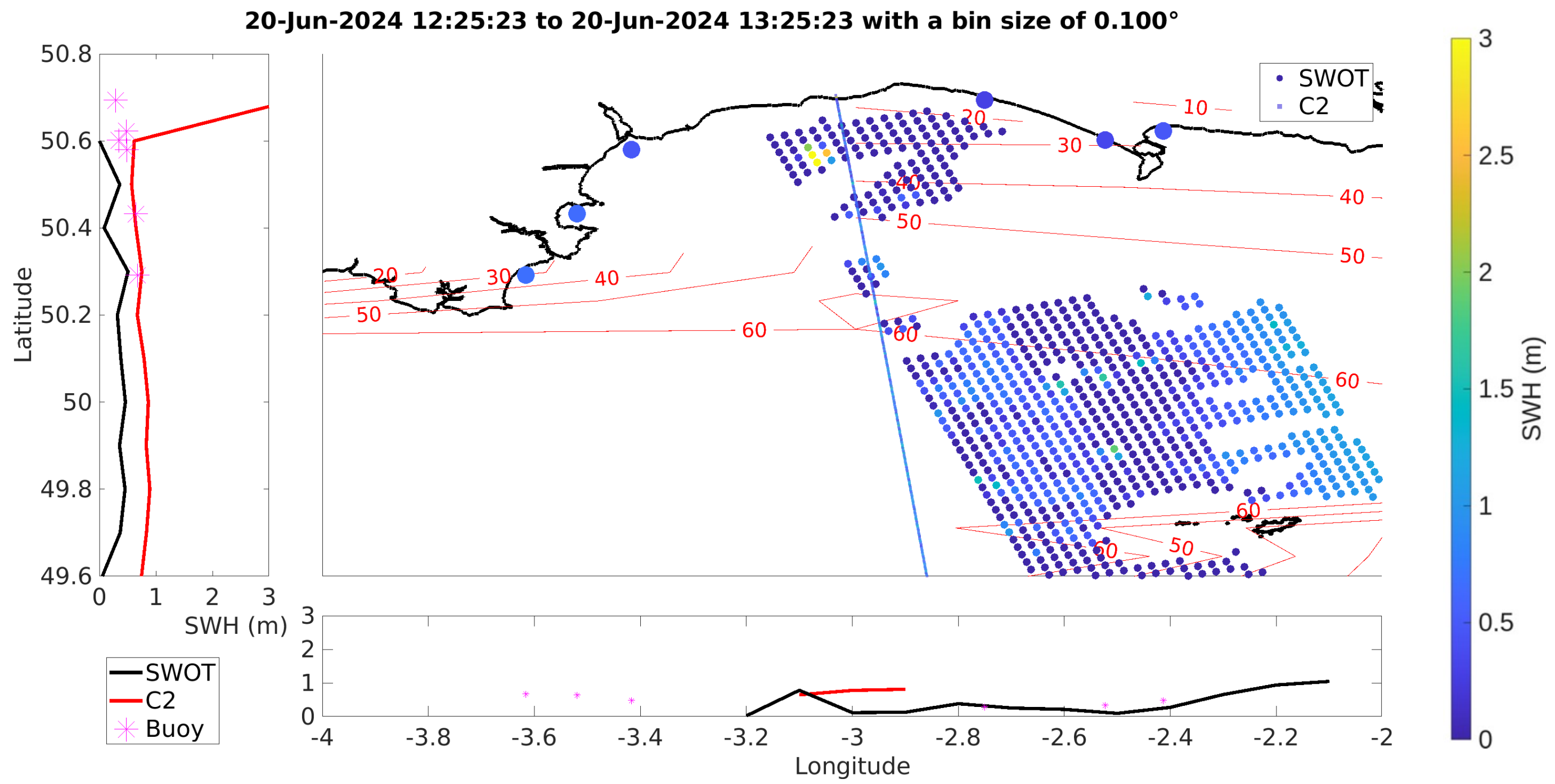
6201006 Chesil

6201007 Weymouth

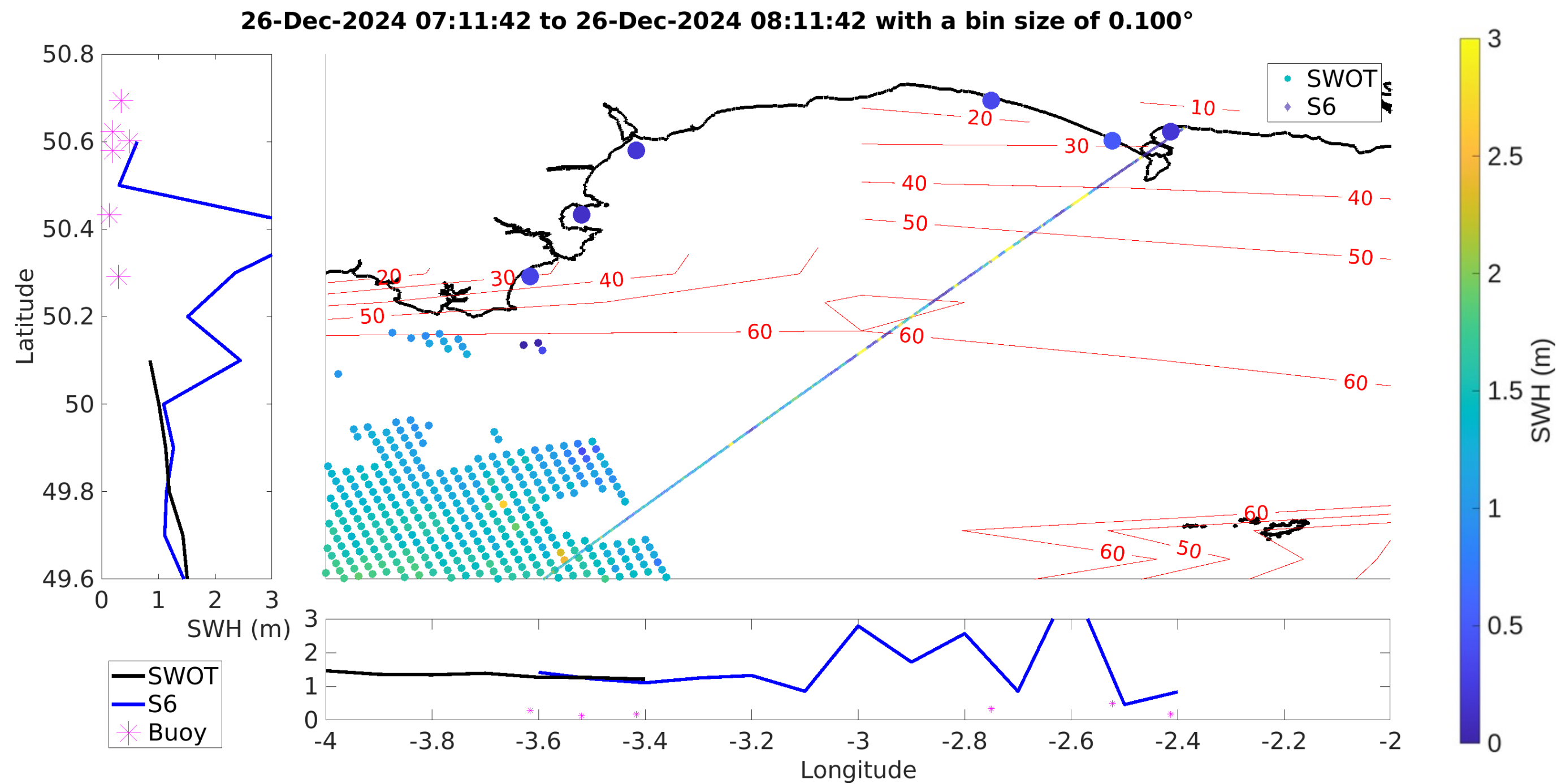
SWOT Matchup with Sentinel 6



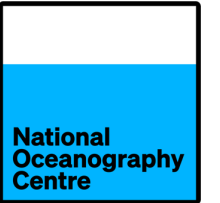
SWOT Matchup with CryoSat-2



SWOT Matchup with Sentinel 6



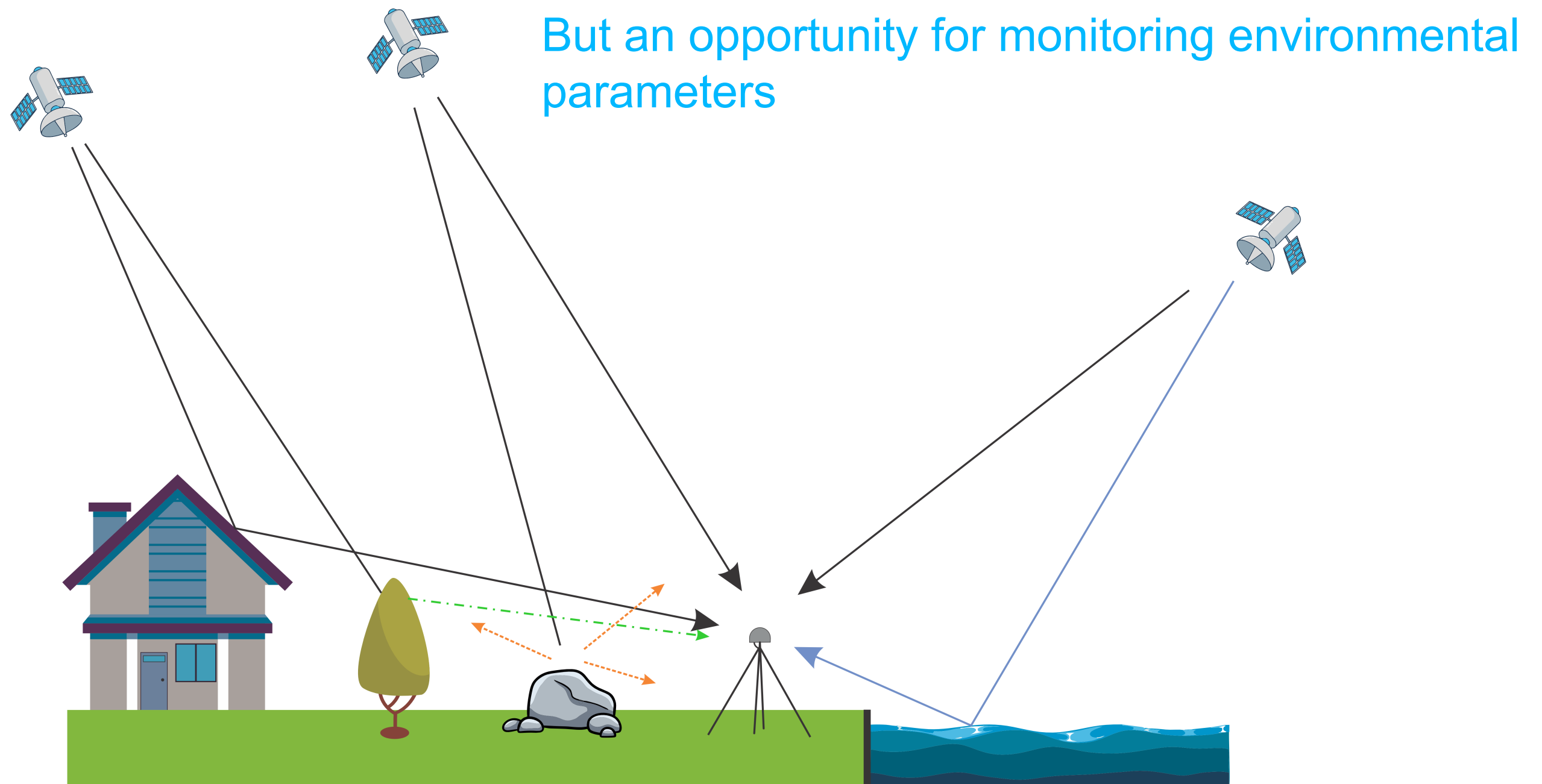
Other Data Sources



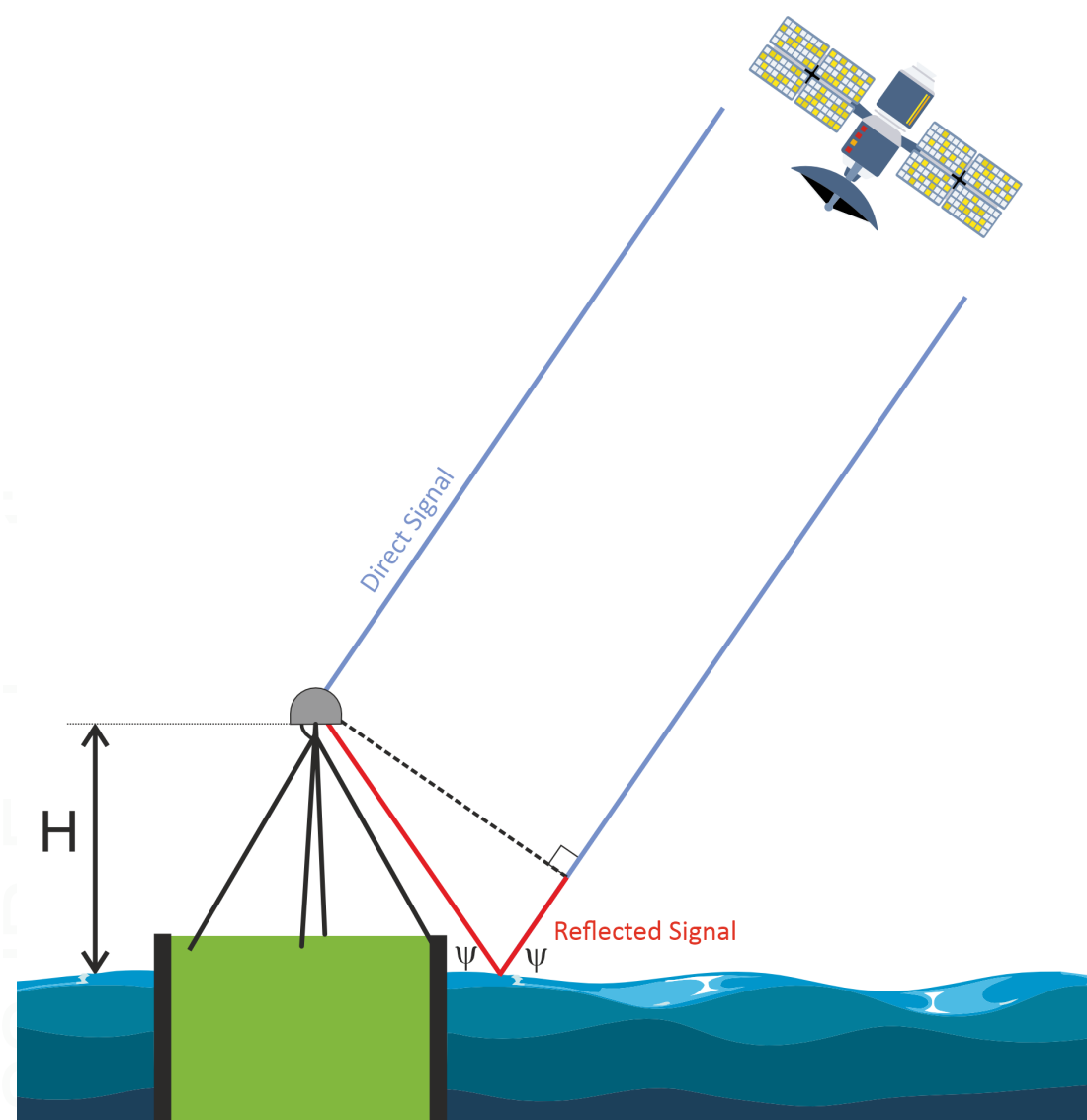
- Sentinel 1 SAR
- High resolution Model?

GNSS-IR for SWH

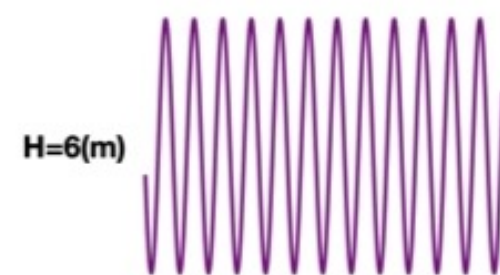
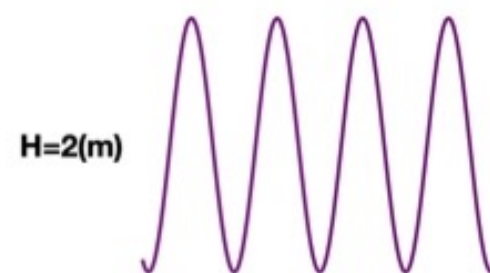
MULTIPATH: POSITIONING NIGHTMARE.



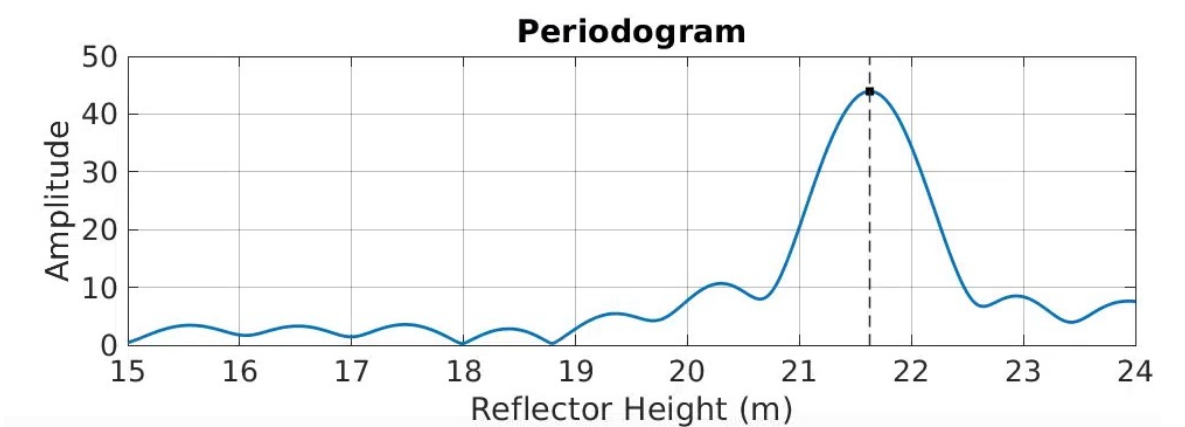
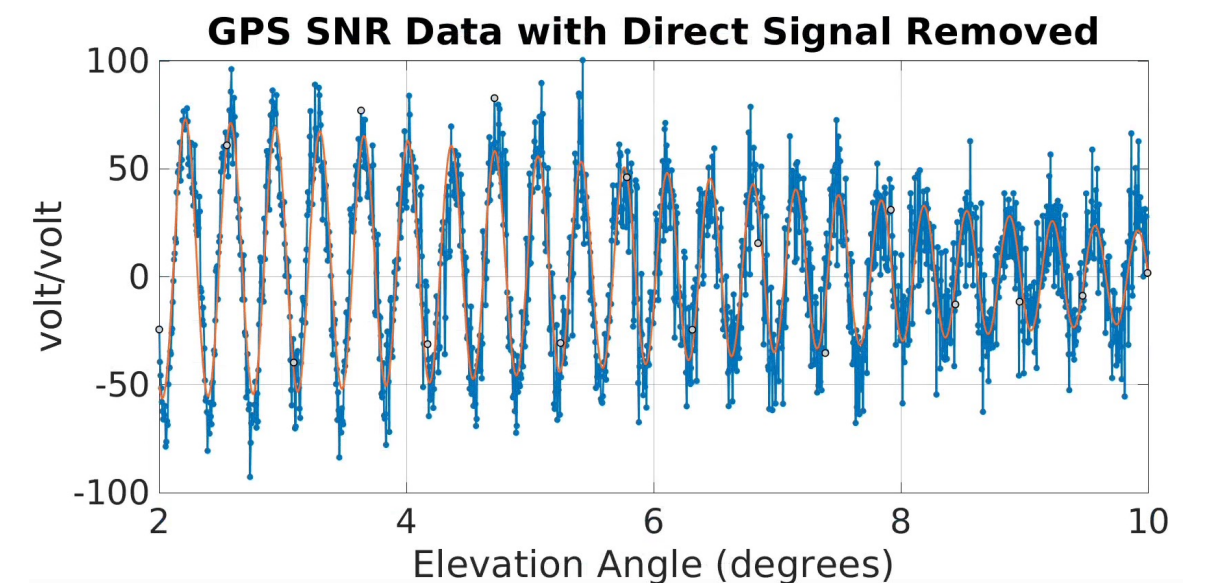
IF THAT SURFACE HAPPENS TO BE “FLAT” SUCH AS THE SEA SURFACE.....



The frequency of the interference pattern created by the direct and reflected GNSS signals depends on H and the GNSS wavelength.

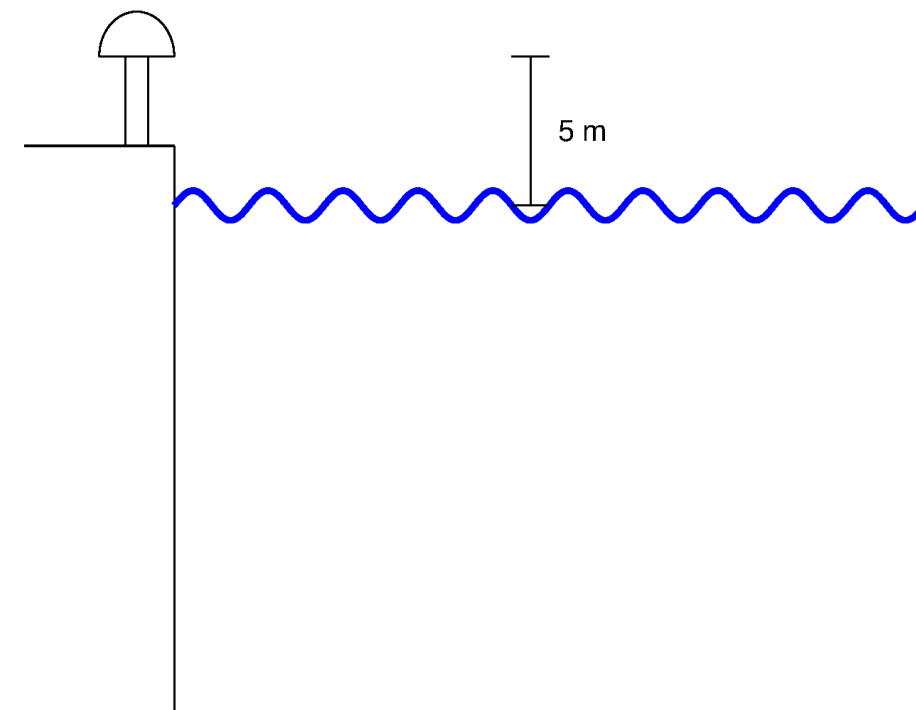
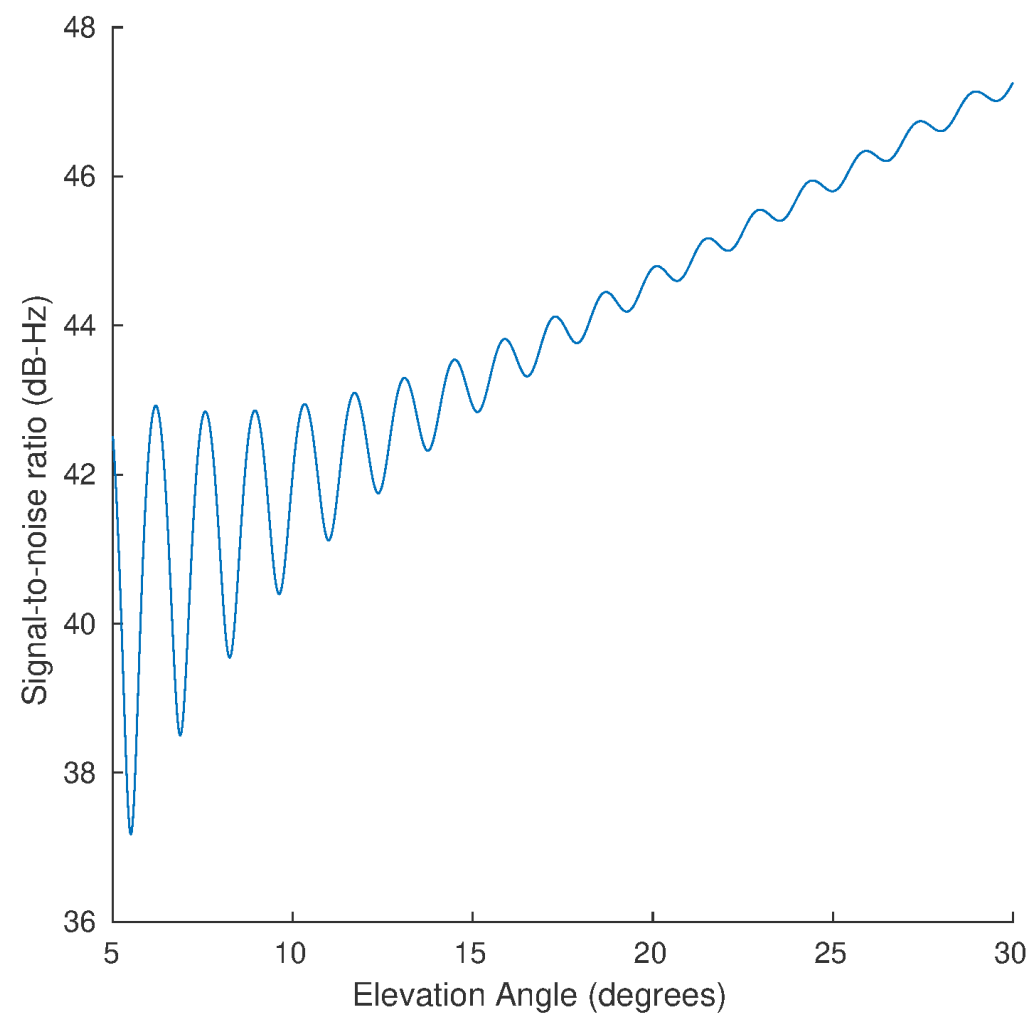


and the elevation angle



The reflections create oscillations in the SNR data (top). The frequencies of these oscillations are estimated using a periodogram (below)

HOW SNR CHANGES WITH SEA LEVEL HEIGHT



The plot of the signal-to-noise ratio as the GNSS satellite passes overhead changes as the height of the water changes. Lower water levels means the reflected signal has to travel further, resulting in greater frequency modulation. The water level can be extracted from this (see [Larson et al., 2013](#))

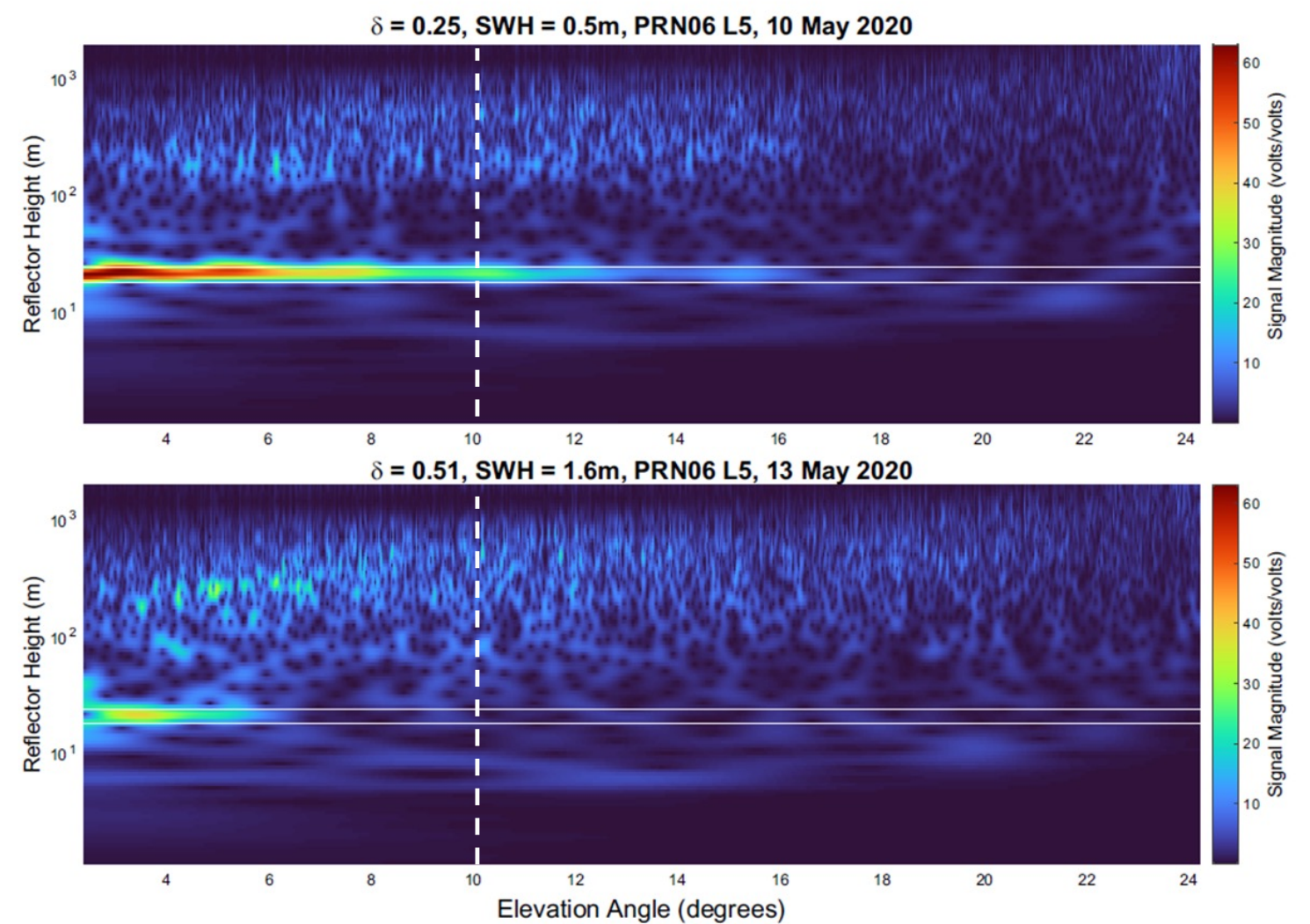
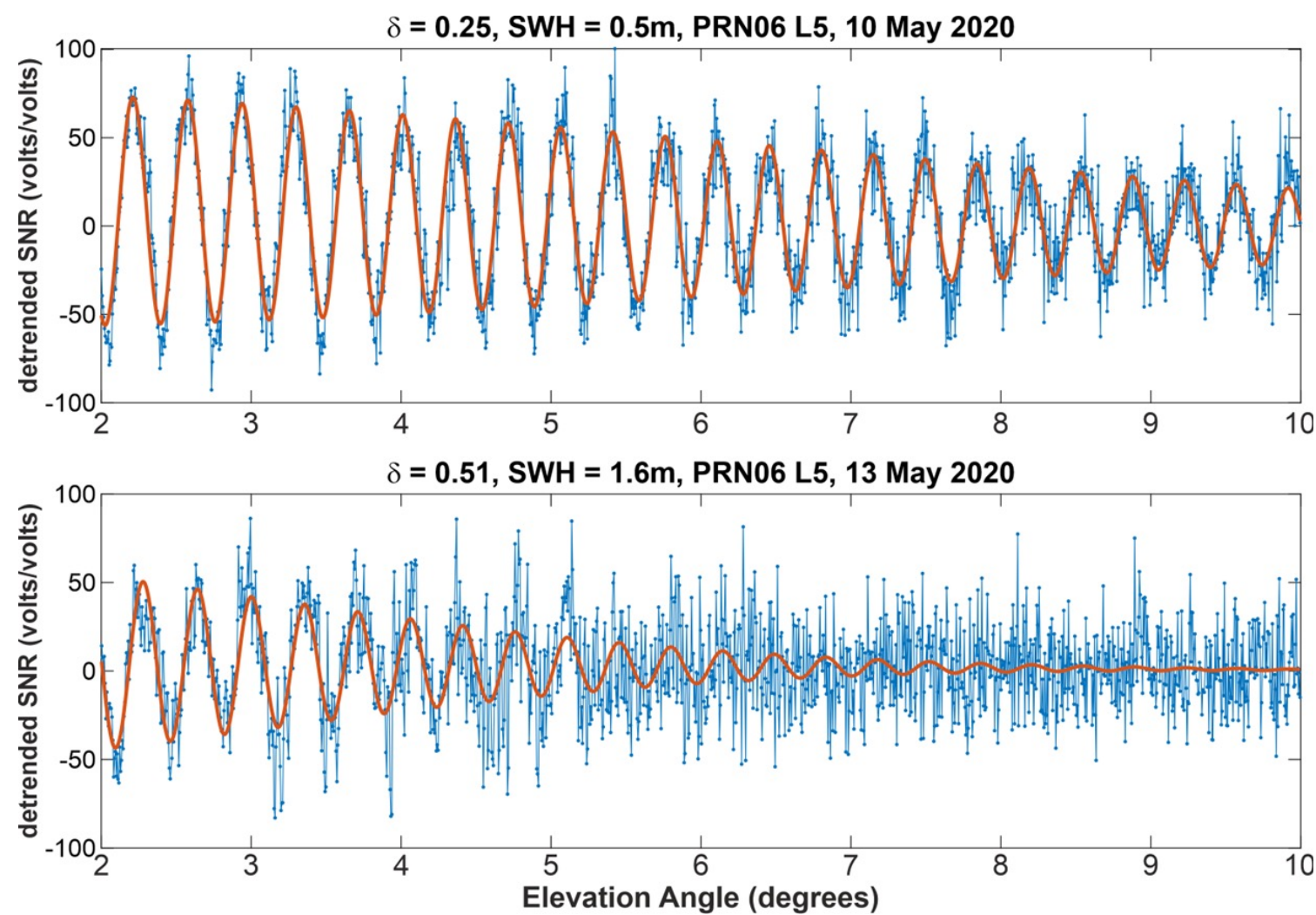
EPL1, NORTH SEA, EUROPLATFORM, NETHERLANDS



EPL1

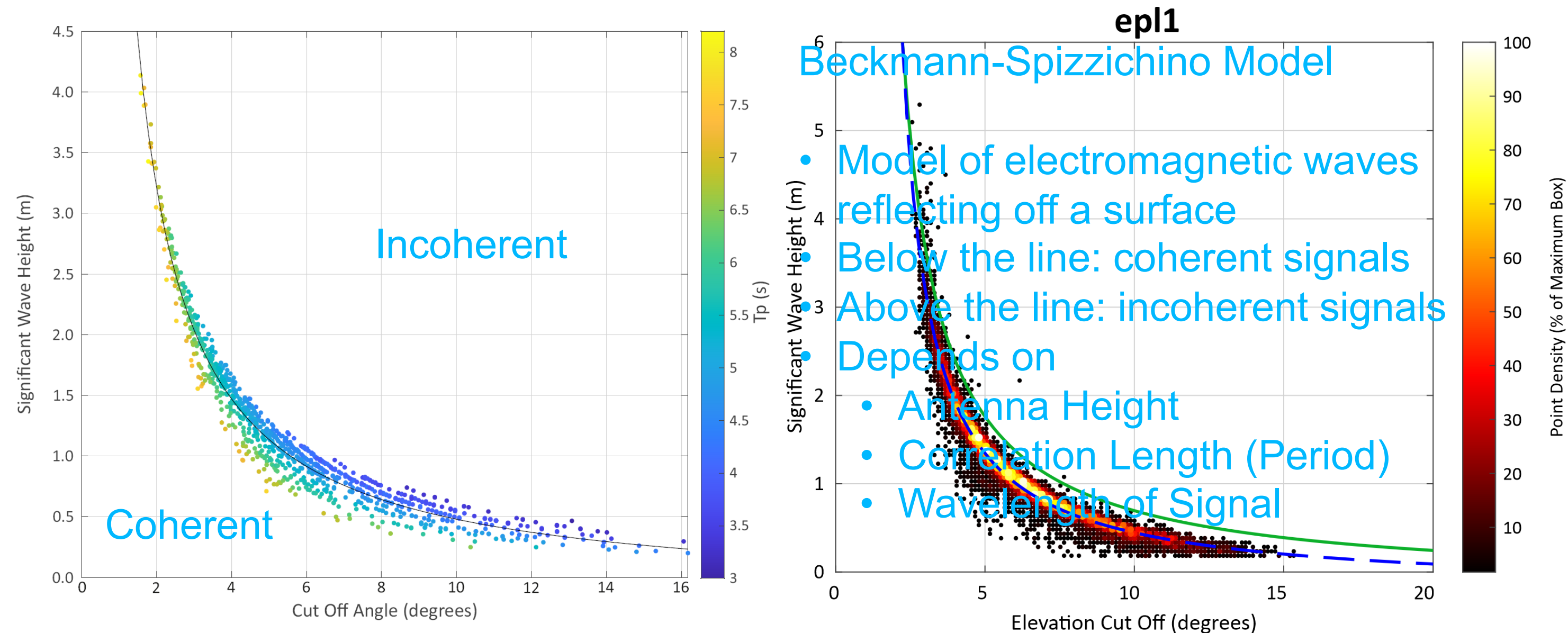


SEA STATE : THE BASIC IDEA...

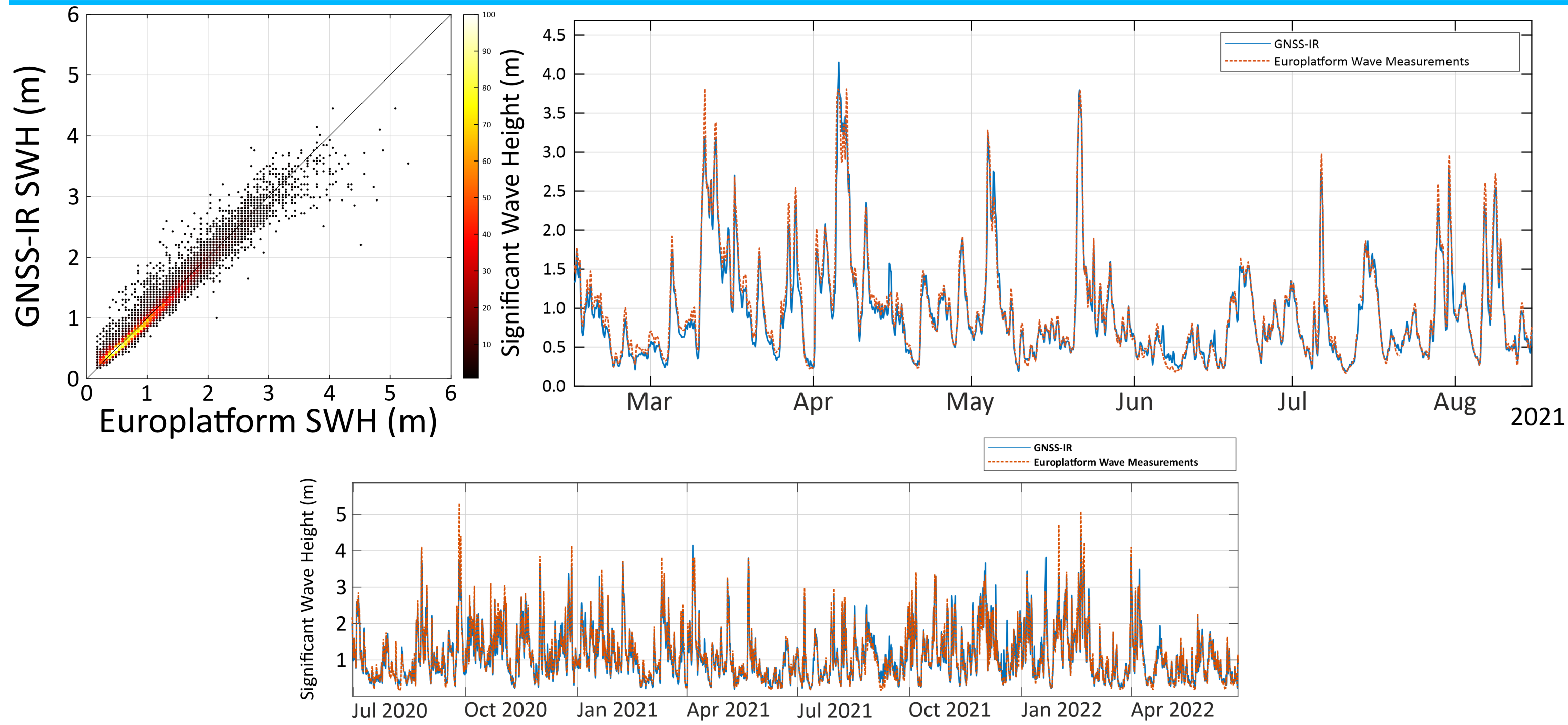


Site Europlatform (EPL1), South North Sea

DO WE KNOW THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CUT-OFF ANGLE AND SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT?



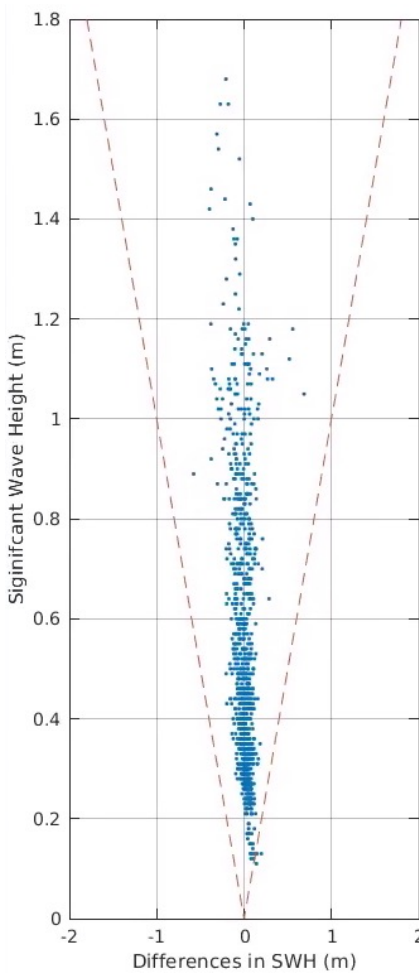
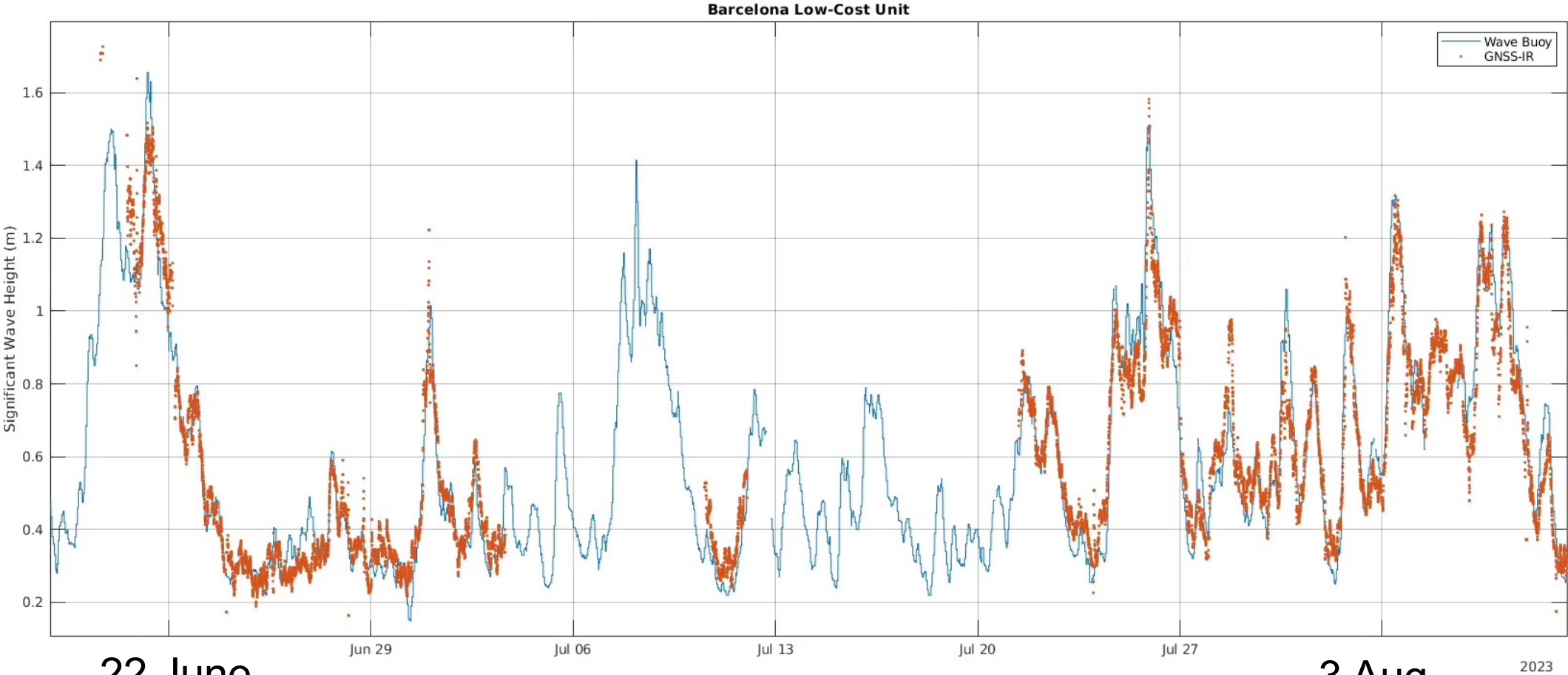
EPL1, NORTH SEA, EUROPLATFORM, NETHERLANDS



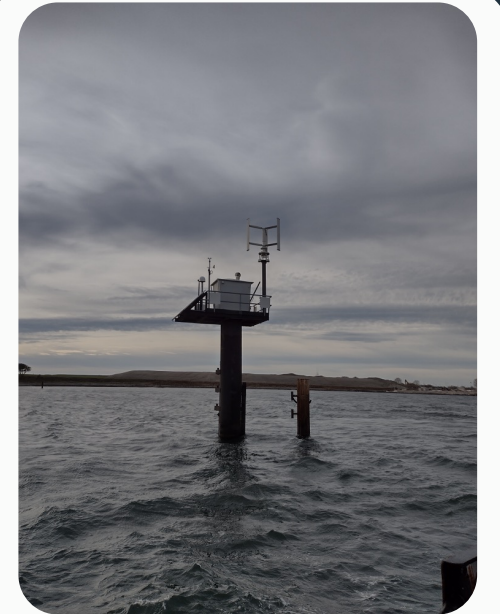
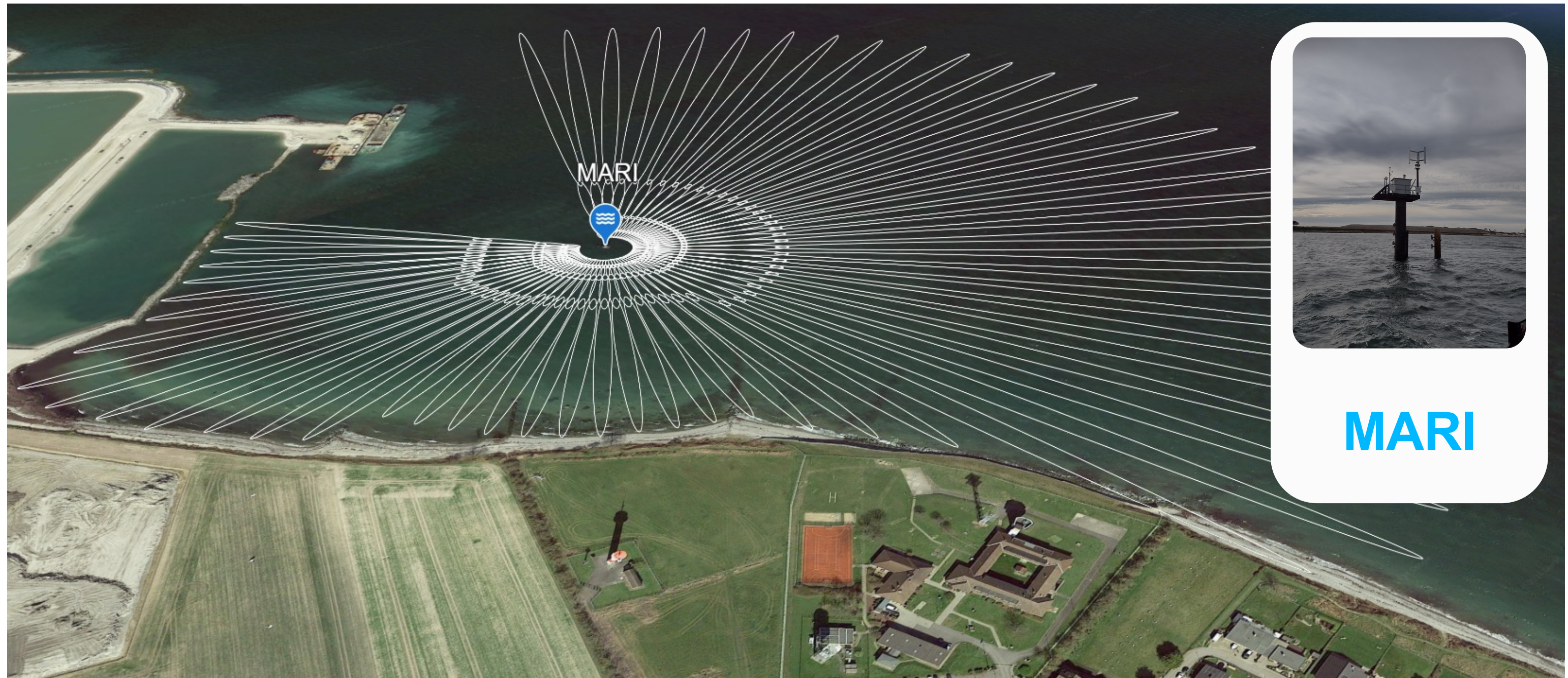
EUROSEA LOW COST SYSTEM IN BARCELONA FOR WAVES



Blue line Buoy
Red GNSS-IR

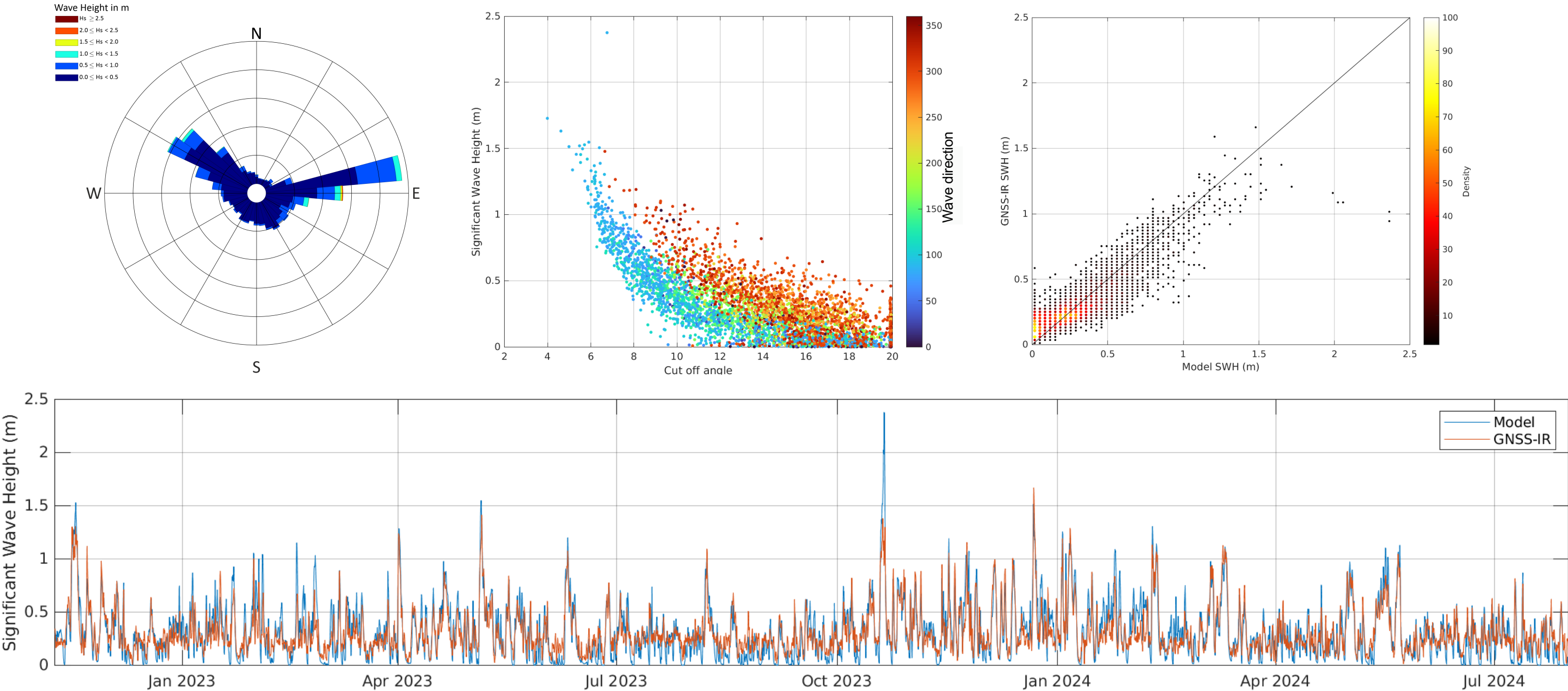


MARI, TIDE GAUGE MARIENLEUCHTE, PUTTGARDEN, GERMANY



MARI

MARI, TIDE GAUGE MARIENLEUCHE, PUTTGARDEN, GERMANY



FINAL POINTS

- Not as simple as measuring water level
- Best sites tend to have
 - Clean elevation and azimuthal view (no clutter)
 - Large azimuthal range
 - All GNSS systems and frequencies (to increase the number of measurements)
 - High-rate data
 - Elevation angles down to at least 2 degrees
- Low-cost units are just as good as the geodetic quality receivers. Will it encourage more people to deploy them?

An aerial photograph of the ocean with white-capped waves. A white rectangular box with a black border is positioned in the upper-middle section of the image.

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