

# Using HF radar for storm surge monitoring

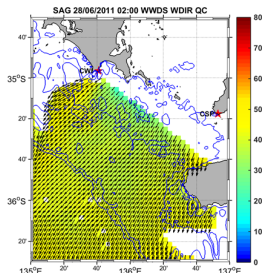
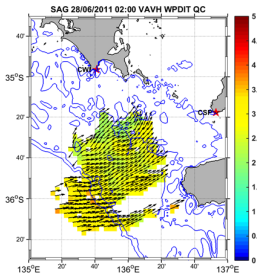
Lucy R. Wyatt

School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Sheffield  
Seaview Sensing Ltd  
James Cook University, Townsville, QLD, Australia

[l.wyatt@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:l.wyatt@sheffield.ac.uk)

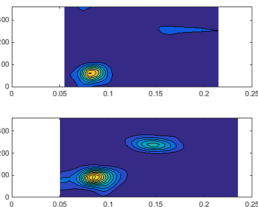
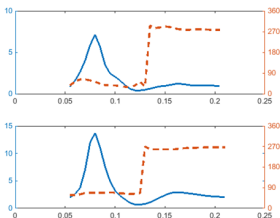
# Wave data from South Australia

Hs and  
peak  
direction



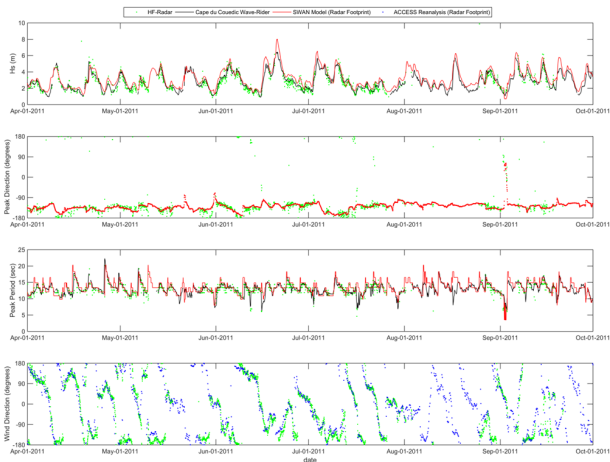
Shortwave  
(wind)  
direction  
and  
spread

$E(f)$ ,  
 $\theta_{mean}(f)$



Directional  
spectra

## Analysis and figure supplied by Charles James, SARDI, SA



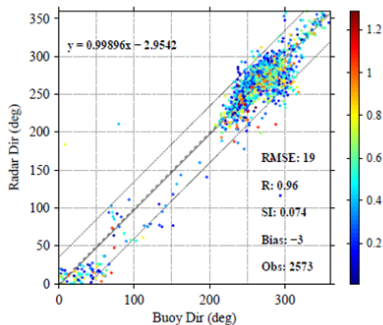
- Radar
- Wavebuoy
- SWAN wave model
- ACCESS (Met) model reanalysis from BoM

# Wave validations at Wavehub

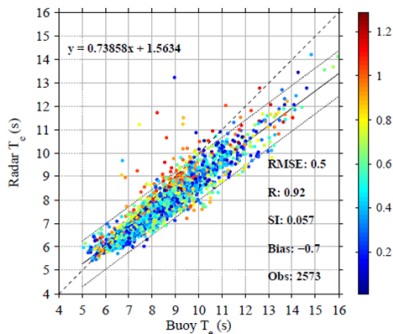
kindly provided by Daniel Conley, University of Plymouth.

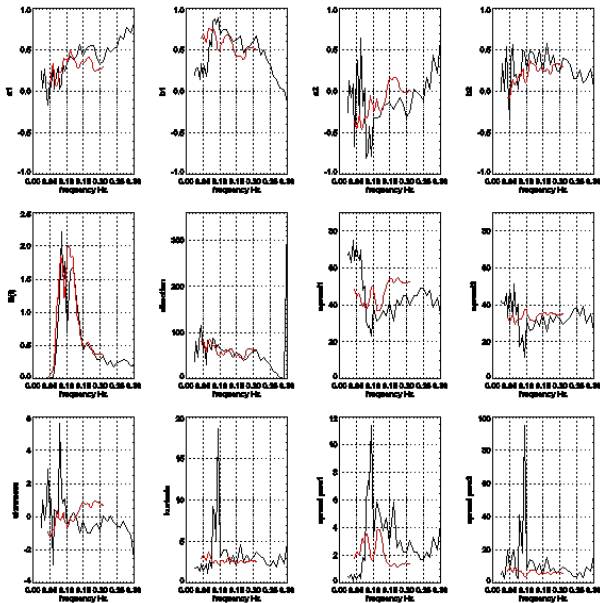
Colour-coding is current speed.

## Mean direction



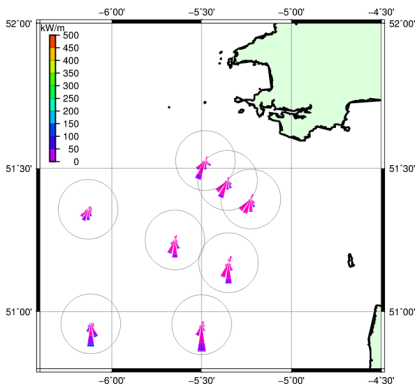
## Energy Period, $T_e$



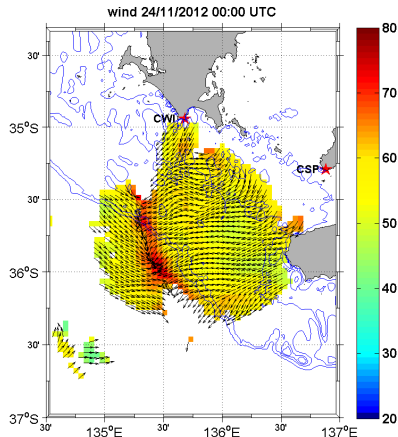
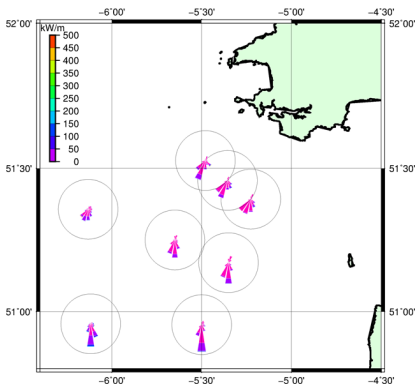


The  
first  
five  
Radar  
Buoy

## Directional distribution of wave power during Feb 2005 in Celtic Sea.



## Directional distribution of wave power during Feb 2005 in Celtic Sea.



Weather front seen in radar wind direction and spreading map.



The following has been extracted from a report in the Guardian, Thurs Oct 28, 2004.



The following has been extracted from a report in the Guardian, Thurs Oct 28, 2004.

## **Coastline lashed by huge waves**

*Storms pounded Britain last night*

*An Irish Ferries vessel arrived at Pembroke dock in West Wales at about 2:30pm but the captain decided conditions were too risky to dock.*

*The Met Office said the winds were expected to peak last night and were not remarkable, but, combined with high seas, they were a potential danger.*

The following has been extracted from a report in the Guardian, Thurs Oct 28, 2004.

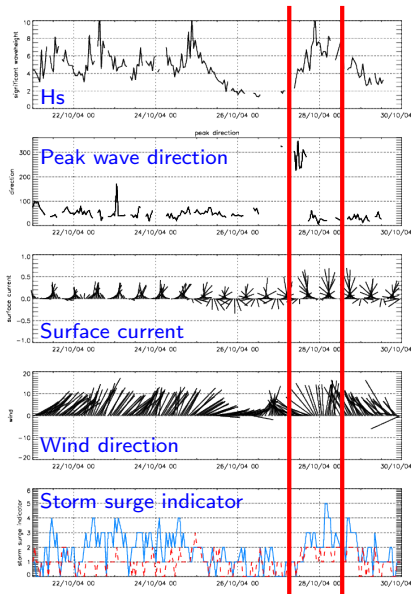
## Coastline lashed by huge waves

*Storms pounded Britain last night*

*An Irish Ferries vessel arrived at Pembroke dock in West Wales at about 2:30pm but the captain decided conditions were too risky to dock.*

*The Met Office said the winds were expected to peak last night and were not remarkable, but, combined with high seas, they were a potential danger.*

**At this time a Pisces HF radar (Neptune Radar Ltd) was monitoring the Celtic Sea in a project funded by Met Office and EA.**



Storm event shown **here**:  
 $H_s > 6\text{m}$ , onshore winds  
 combined with spring tide  
 peaking at 4-5am 28th Oct.

Crude storm surge indicator for  
**S Wales** and **N Devon** obtained  
 by adding 1 for each of the  
 following:

- wind direction onshore
- current direction onshore
- wave direction onshore
- waveheight  $> 4\text{m}$
- current speed  $> 0.5\text{ m/s}$

## Some options for refining a storm surge indicator

- Narrow region of influence at coast by identifying landfall along great circle paths (account for bottom topography and current refraction using models);

## Some options for refining a storm surge indicator

- Narrow region of influence at coast by identifying landfall along great circle paths (account for bottom topography and current refraction using models);
- Use group velocity of peak waves to estimate propagation time of energy from measurement location to coast along great circle paths (note that waveheight measurements alone cannot provide this information);

## Some options for refining a storm surge indicator

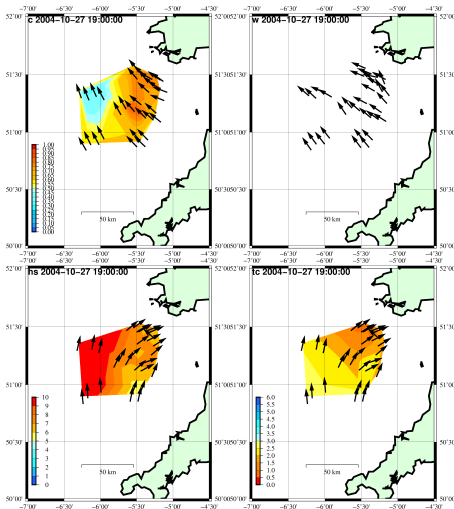
- Narrow region of influence at coast by identifying landfall along great circle paths (account for bottom topography and current refraction using models);
- Use group velocity of peak waves to estimate propagation time of energy from measurement location to coast along great circle paths (note that waveheight measurements alone cannot provide this information);
- Use harmonic fitting to separate tides from wind-driven currents.

## Some options for refining a storm surge indicator

- Narrow region of influence at coast by identifying landfall along great circle paths (account for bottom topography and current refraction using models);
- Use group velocity of peak waves to estimate propagation time of energy from measurement location to coast along great circle paths (note that waveheight measurements alone cannot provide this information);
- Use harmonic fitting to separate tides from wind-driven currents.

27-10-2004 19:00

Surface  
current



Wind  
direction

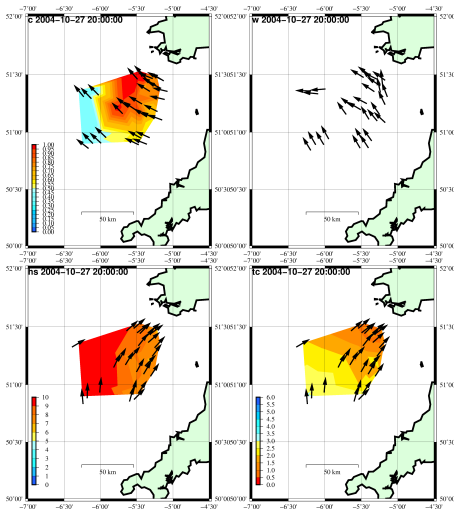
Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction



27-10-2004 20:00

Surface  
current



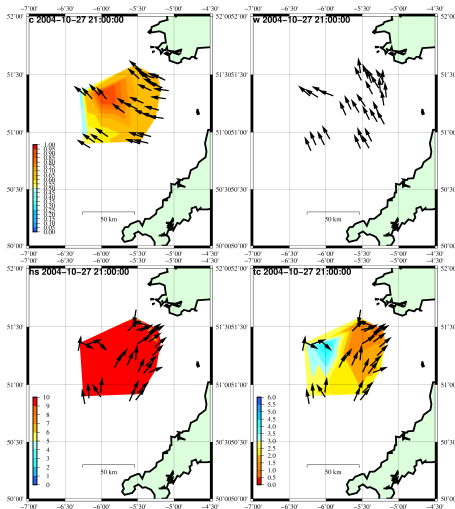
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

27-10-2004 21:00

Surface  
current



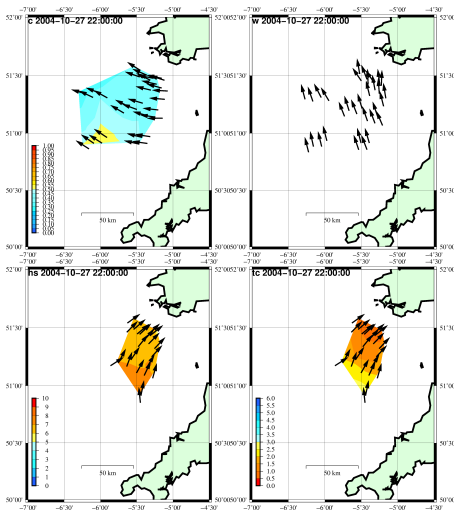
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

27-10-2004 22:00

Surface  
current



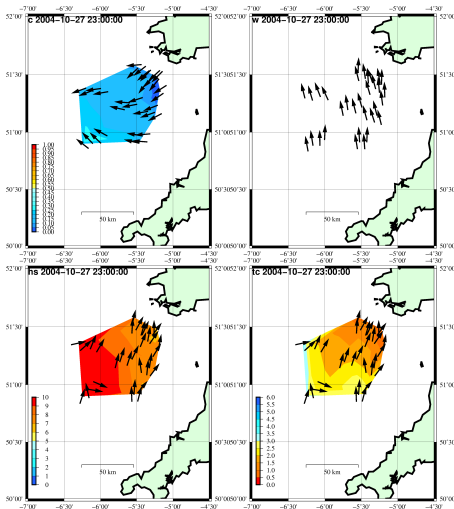
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

27-10-2004 23:00

Surface  
current



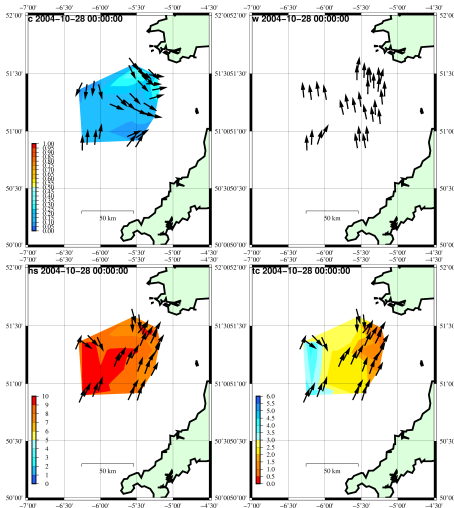
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 00:00

Surface  
current



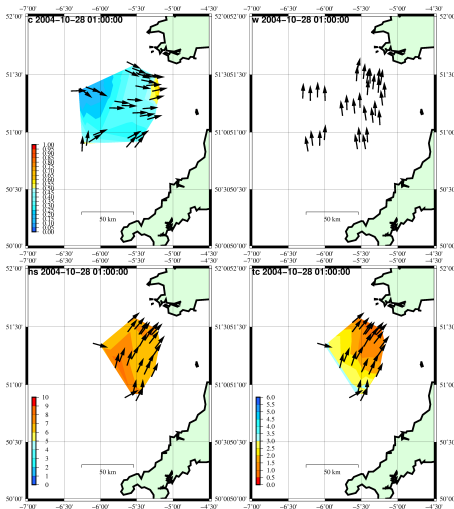
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 01:00

Surface  
current



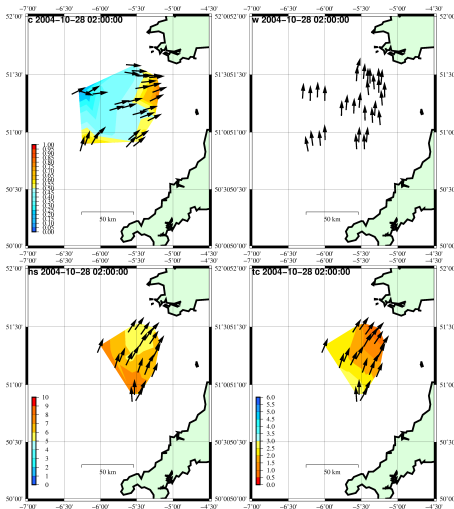
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 02:00

Surface  
current



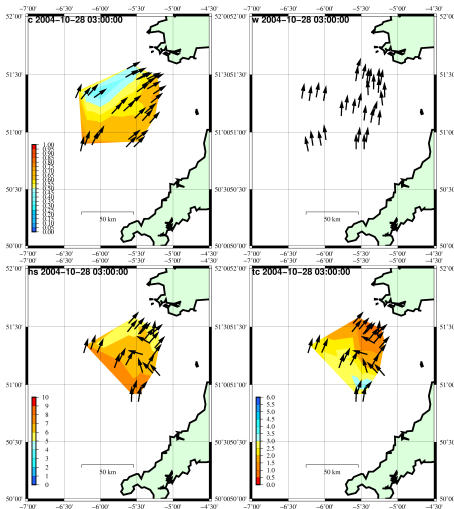
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 03:00

Surface  
current



Wind  
direction

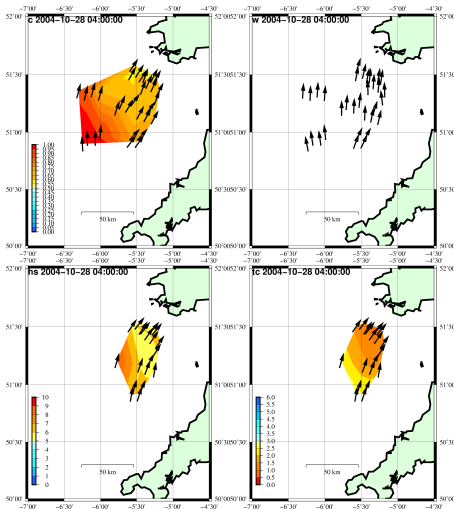
Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction



28-10-2004 04:00

Surface  
current



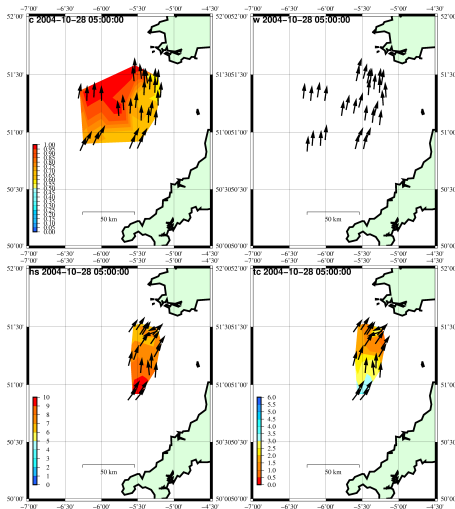
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 05:00

Surface  
current



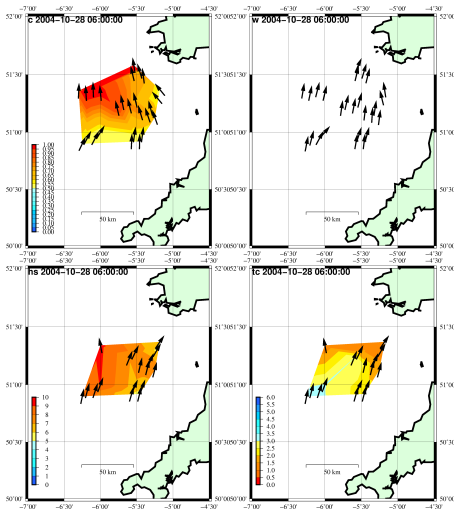
Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

28-10-2004 06:00

Surface  
current



Wind  
direction

Significant  
waveheight  
and peak  
direction

Time (hrs)  
for wave energy  
to reach coast  
assuming no  
change in  
peak direction

# THE END

