

Observations of Surface Gravity Wave Spectra from a Moving Platform

Luke Colosi

Luc Lenain, Nick Pizzo, and Laurent Grare

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD

*Colosi et al. in-prep for the
Journal of Atmospheric and
Oceanic Technology 2022.*



Surface waves mediate momentum, mass, heat, and energy fluxes between the ocean and atmosphere

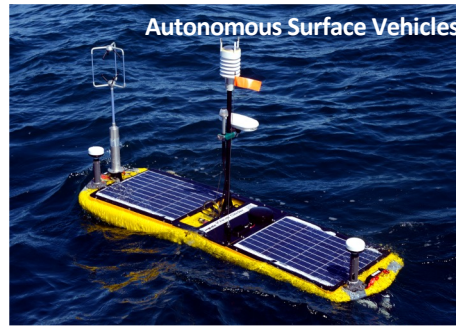


Quantifying the influence **surface waves** have on air-sea interactions will help **advance climate models** through **improved parameterization** of air-sea fluxes occurring at scales unresolved by models.

This **motivates** the need for **high quality measurements** of surface waves to improve our understanding of the **underlying physics** of the air-sea system.



UAV Fixed-Wing



Autonomous Surface Vehicles



Research Vessels

What observational platforms are available to measure surface waves?



UAV Multirotor



Satellites

<https://scitechdaily.com/new-sentinel-6-sea-level-satellite-arrives-at-california-launch-site/>

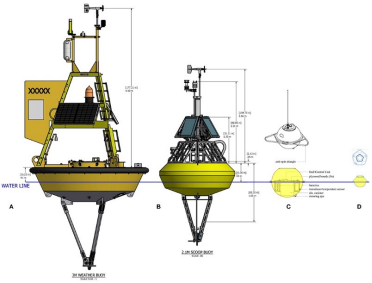


Instrumented Aircraft

Autonomous vehicles are well suited to study surface waves

Historical

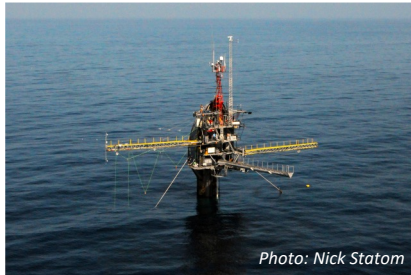
Wave Buoys



Satellites

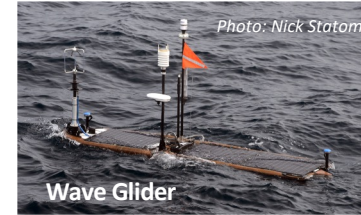


Research Platforms



Autonomous surface vehicles

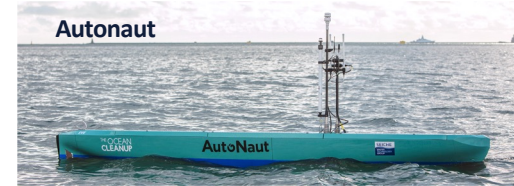
Saildrones



New generation of
instrumented platforms



Autonaut



<https://autonautusv.com/vessels-0>

Advantages:

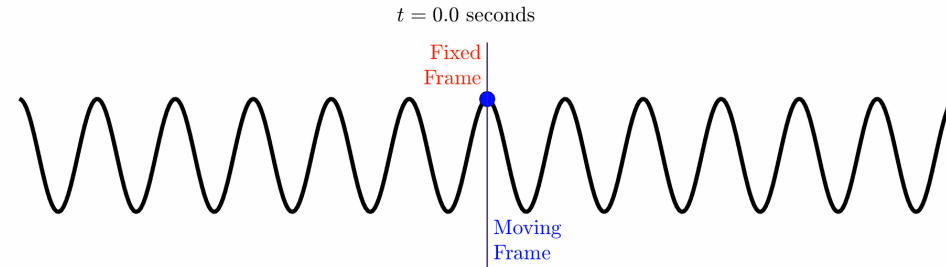
1. Uncrewed
2. Long duration deployments
3. Remote area data collection
4. Measurements taken over broad spatio-temporal scales

Autonomous platforms measure the wave spectrum from the vehicle's motion (Lenain and Melville 2014, Thomson et al. 2018, Grare et al. 2021)

How can we **interpret** wave measurements from these types of platforms and what are the **challenges**?



The observed wave frequency differs due to the relative motion of the platform with respect to the waves



**Fixed reference
frame**

**Moving reference
frame**

Platforms motion relative to the incoming waves causes the observed frequency to be Doppler shifted

$$\omega_{ob}(k, \theta, U, \phi) = \omega_{in}(k) - kU \cos(\phi - \theta)$$

↑
Observed frequency:
Frequency measured in the moving reference frame of the platform

↗
Intrinsic frequency:
Frequency measured in the absence of platform motion

↗ ↖ ↖
Wavenumber magnitude Platform speed Angle between the direction of wave and platform propagation

⏟
Doppler Shift Term

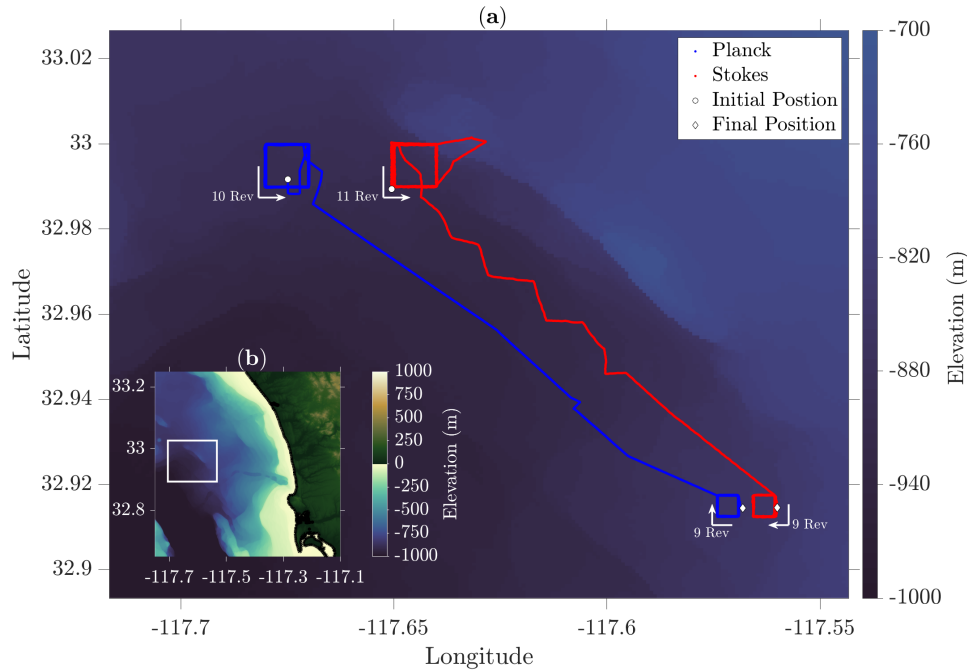
Observations of wave spectra in a reference frame free from Doppler effects requires a **mapping** from observed to intrinsic frequency.

Goals

- Develop a **general approach** to account for modulations in the directional wave spectrum from Doppler effects, building upon the work of Longuet-Higgins (1986), and Collins et al. (2017).
- **Validate** this method using a **unique dataset** collected from a fleet of Wave Gliders off the coast of Southern California in September 2020.



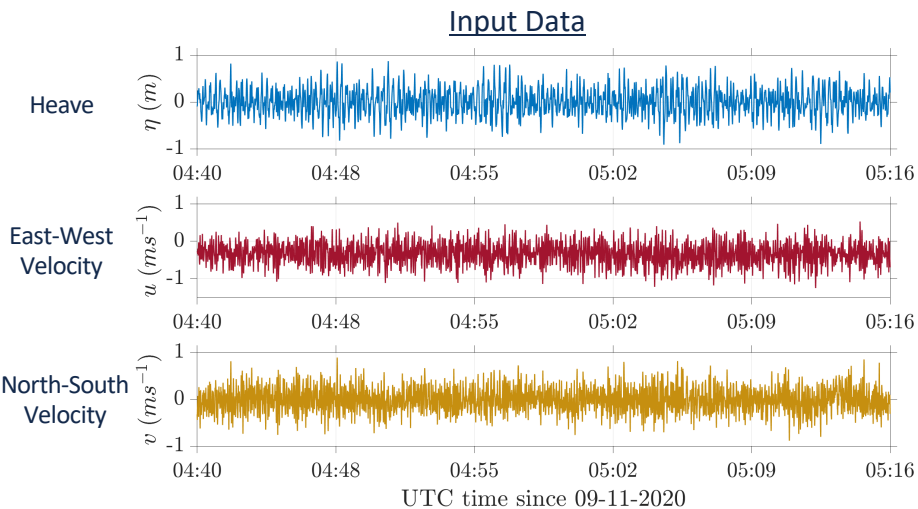
Del Mar Experiment 2020



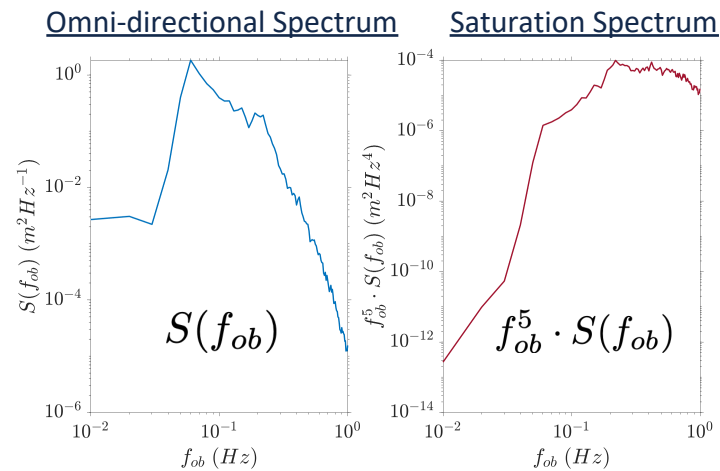
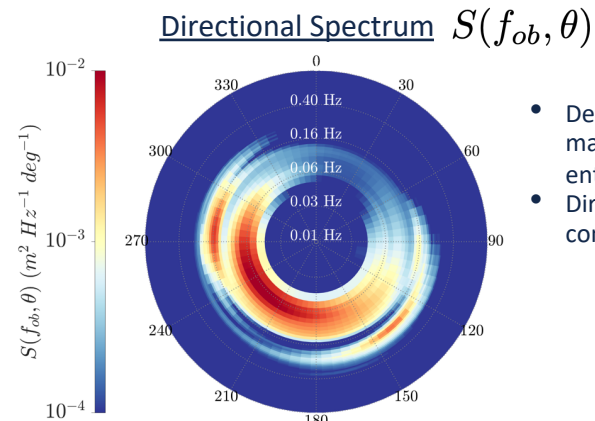
- September 9th - 11th, 2020.
- 1000 m and 500 m edge length squares
- Environmental Conditions:
 - Wind: $2 - 8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ coming from the Northwest ($\sim 300^\circ$).
 - Sea State: $0.8 - 1.2 \text{ m}$ significant wave height with wind-waves coming from the Northwest ($\sim 280^\circ$) and swell coming from the Southwest ($\sim 200^\circ$).

Colosi et al. in-prep for JTECH

Directional and omni-directional wave spectrum computed from the motion of the platform

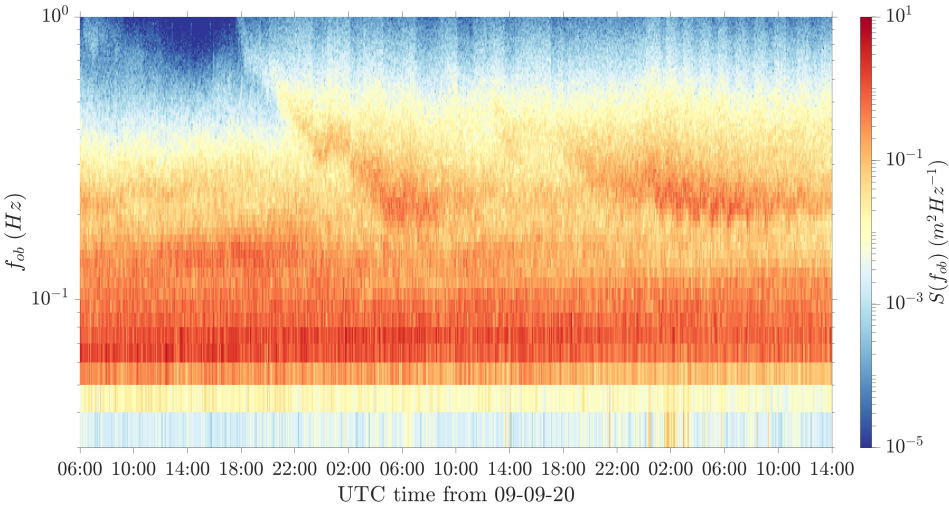


Derive Spectral Wave Parameters

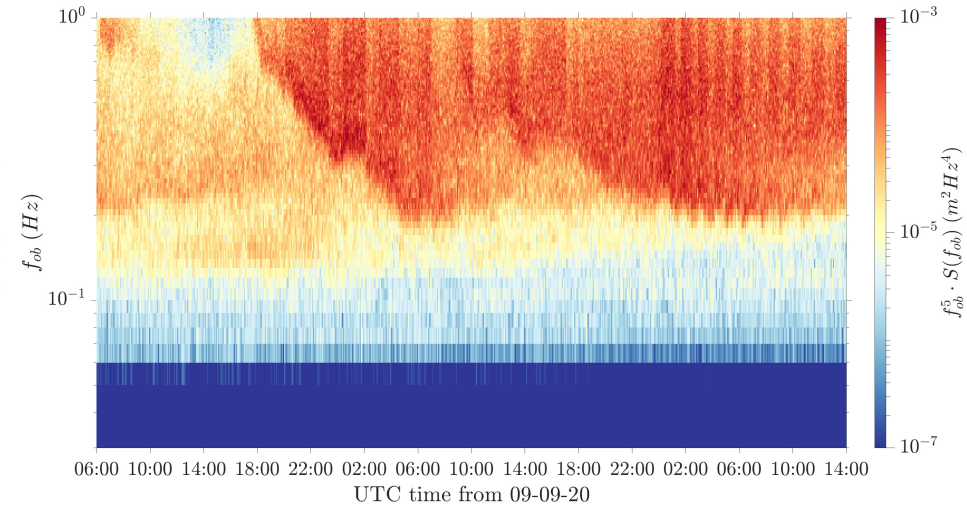


Spectrogram of surface waves observed by a wave glider

Omni-directional Spectrogram



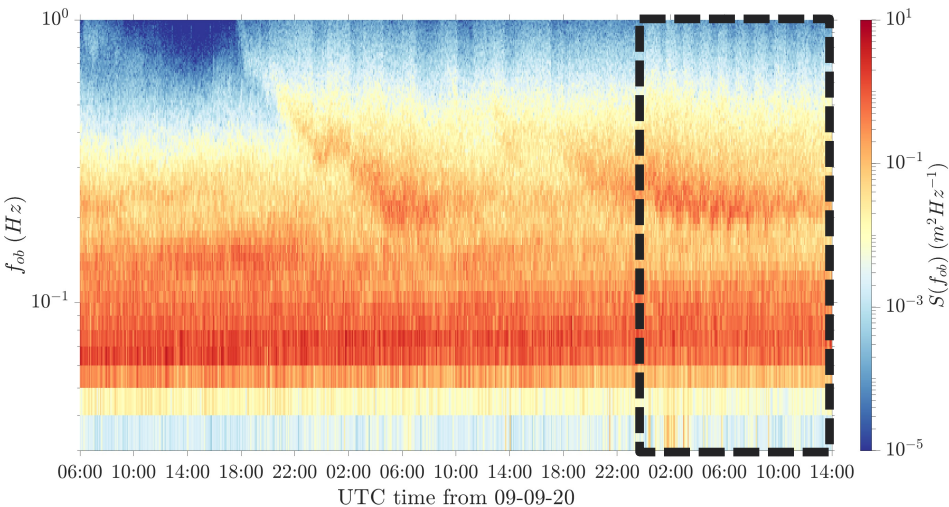
Saturation Spectrogram



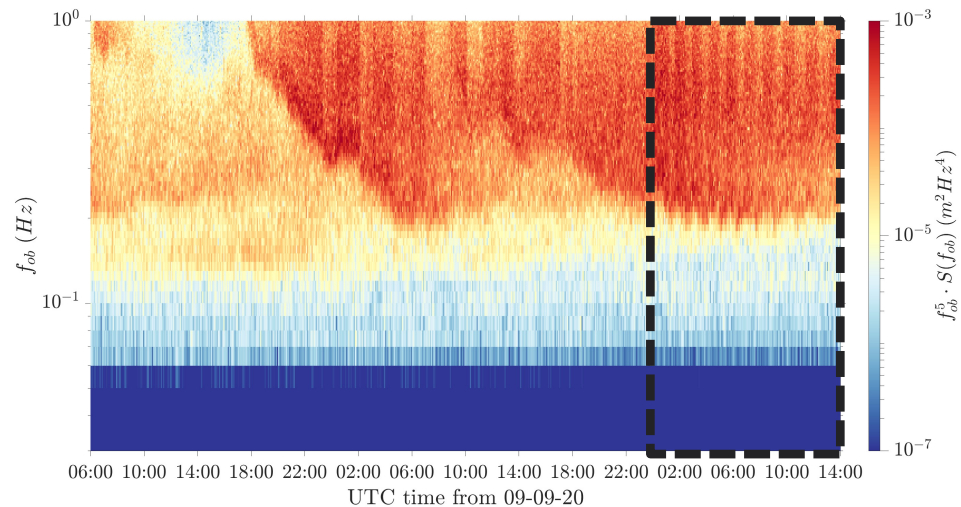
Modulations of spectra are particularly **visible** at high frequencies.

Spectrogram of surface waves observed by a wave glider

Omni-directional Spectrogram

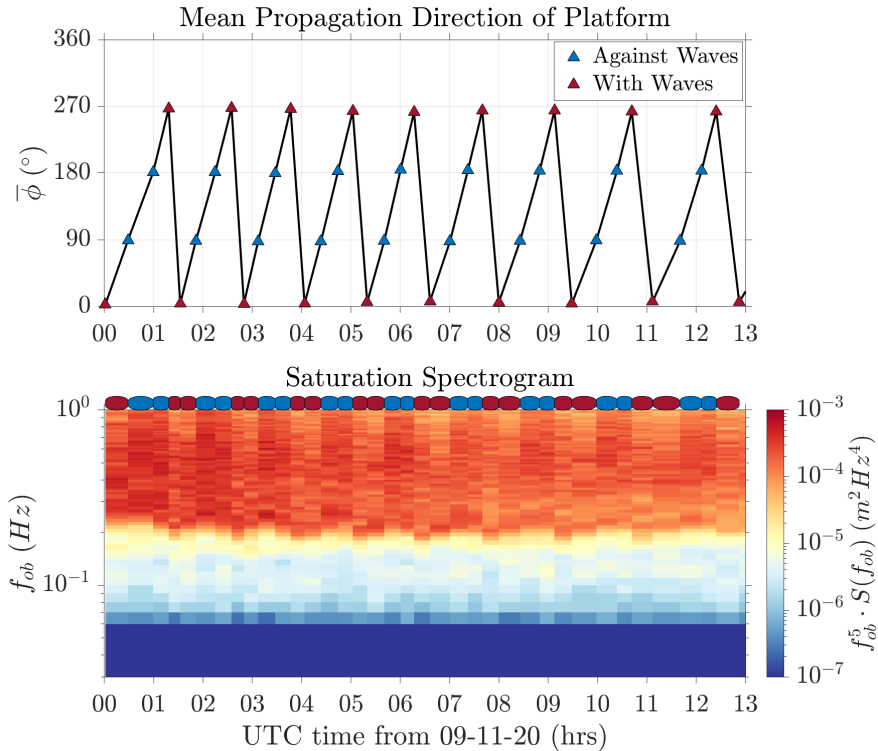


Saturation Spectrogram



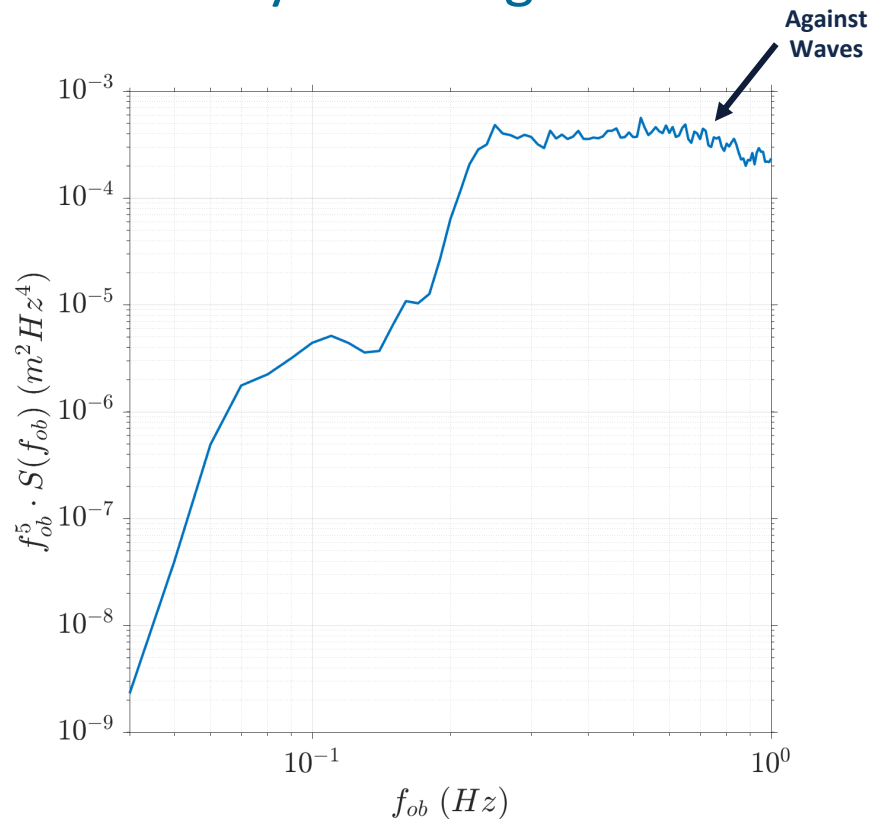
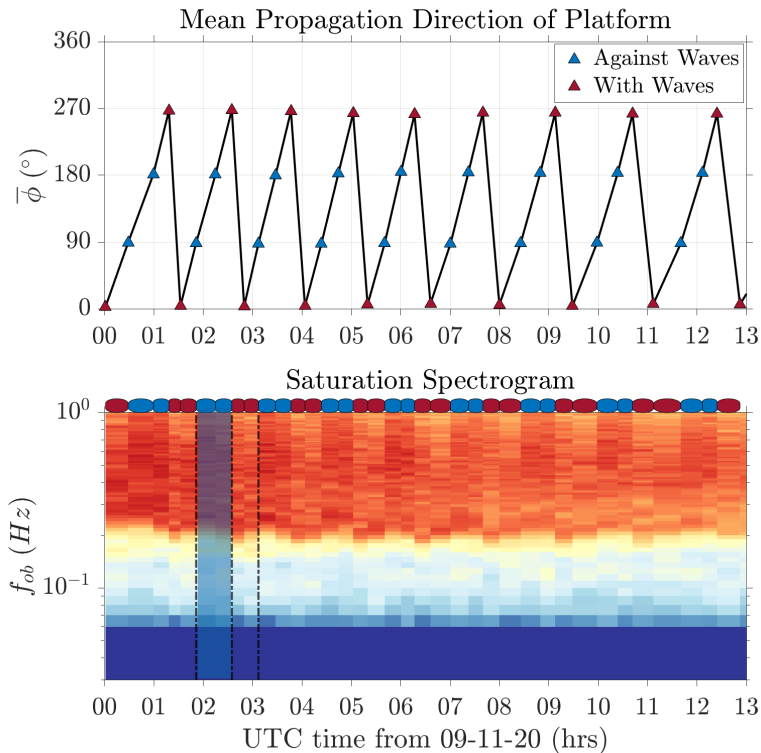
Modulations of spectra are particularly **visible** at high frequencies.

Spectrogram of surface waves observed by a wave glider



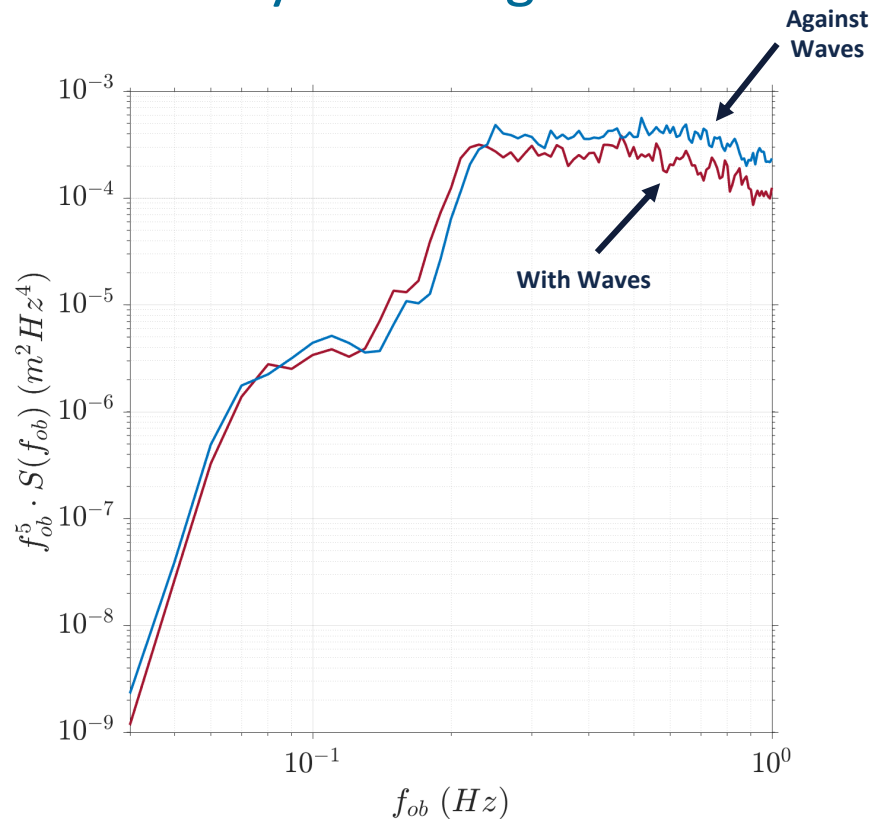
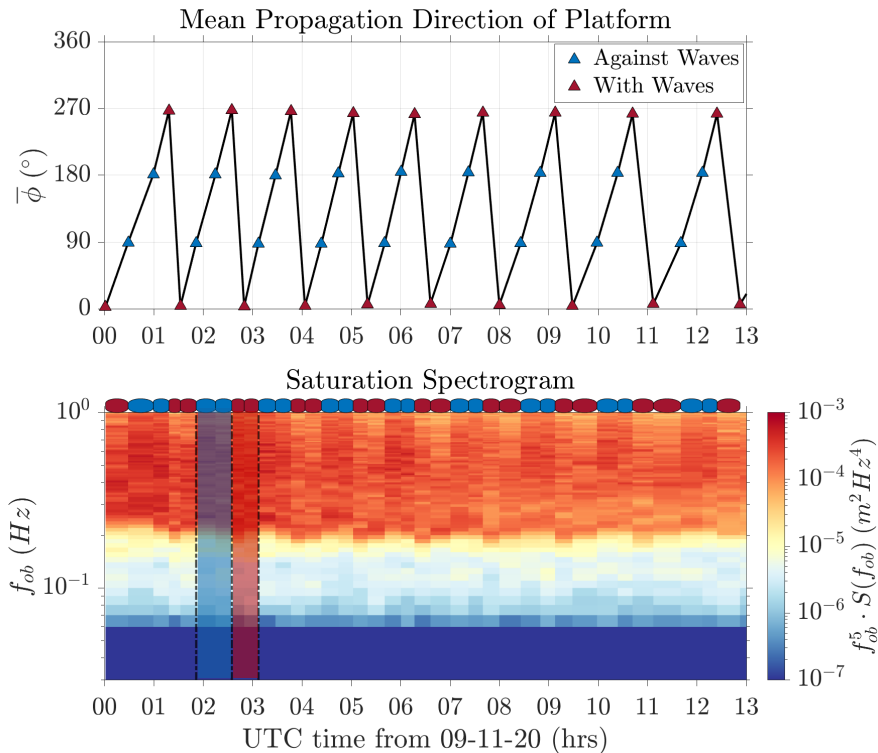
The platform's motion is impacting the observed wave spectra.

Spectrogram of surface waves observed by a wave glider



The platform's motion is impacting the observed wave spectra.

Spectrogram of surface waves observed by a wave glider



The platform's motion is impacting the observed wave spectra.

Methods to account for Doppler shift in wave spectra

1D Method

Observe 1D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob})$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \bar{\theta}, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 1D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$

(Collins et al. 2017)

Methods to account for Doppler shift in wave spectra

1D Method

Observe 1D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob})$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \bar{\theta}, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 1D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$

(Collins et al. 2017)

Methods to account for Doppler shift in wave spectra

1D Method

Observe 1D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob})$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \bar{\theta}, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 1D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$

(Collins et al. 2017)

2D Method (our approach)

Observe 2D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob}, \theta)$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \theta, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 2D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}, \theta) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$



Compute 1D spectrum
from 2D Spectrum

$$S_{in}(f_{in}) = \int_0^{2\pi} S_{in}(f_{in}, \theta) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{f_{in}} d\theta$$

Methods to account for Doppler shift in wave spectra

1D Method

Observe 1D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob})$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \bar{\theta}, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 1D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$

(Collins et al. 2017)

2D Method (our approach)

Observe 2D Spectrum

$$S_{ob}(f_{ob}, \theta)$$



Map from observed to
intrinsic frequency

$$f_{ob}(k, \theta, U, \phi) \mapsto f_{in}(k)$$



Map 2D Spectrum into
intrinsic frequency space

$$S_{in}(f_{in}, \theta) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}}$$



Compute 1D spectrum
from 2D Spectrum

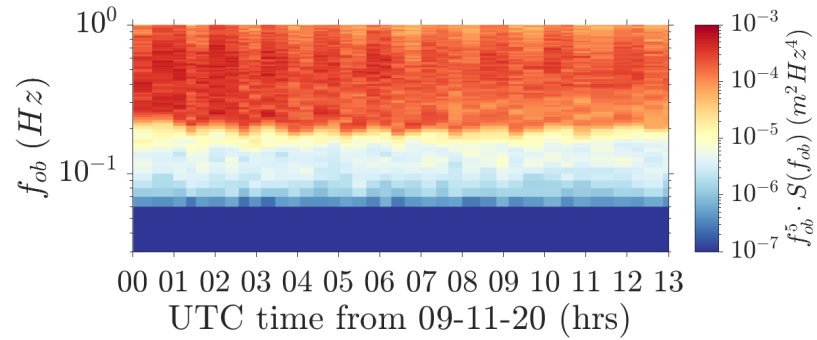
$$S_{in}(f_{in}) = \int_0^{2\pi} S_{in}(f_{in}, \theta) \cdot \frac{\partial f_{ob}}{\partial f_{in}} d\theta$$

If only 1D spectra are used, this leads to an over modification due to the mapping.

We need to use a full 2D spectrum.

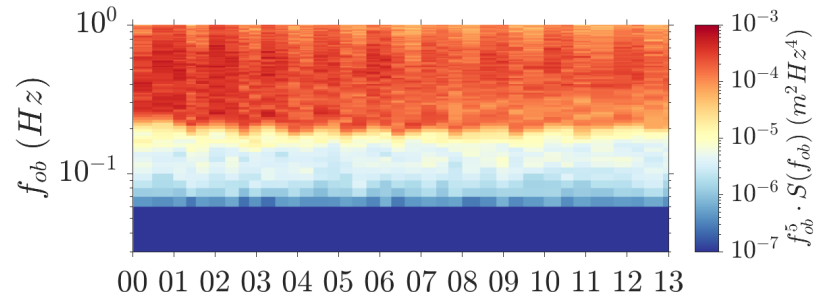
Comparison between 1D and 2D methods

OBSERVED

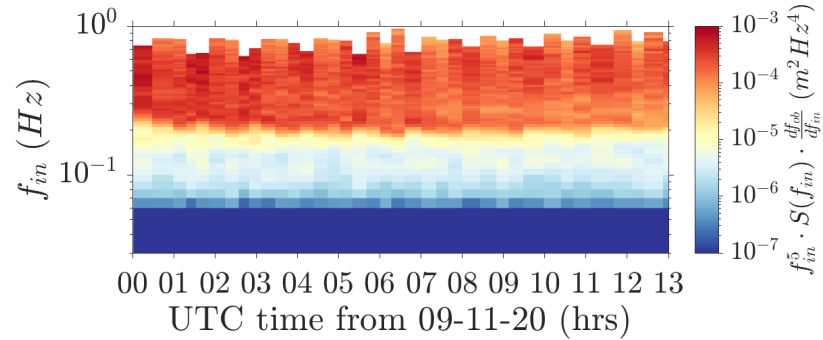


Comparison between 1D and 2D methods

OBSERVED

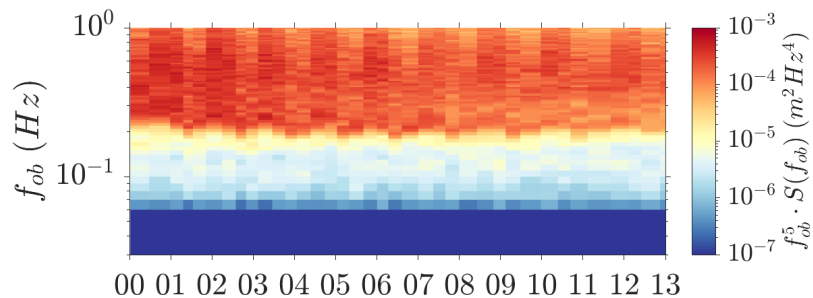


1D METHOD

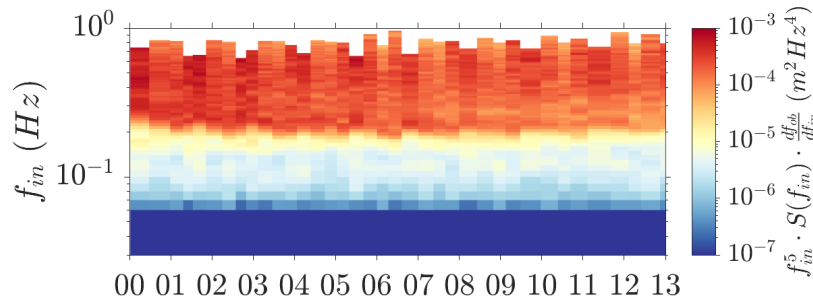


Comparison between 1D and 2D methods

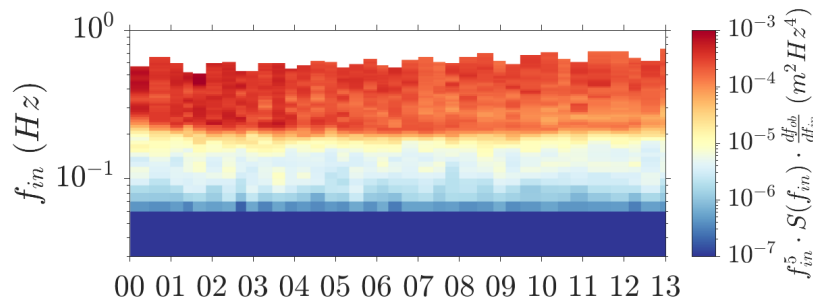
OBSERVED



1D METHOD



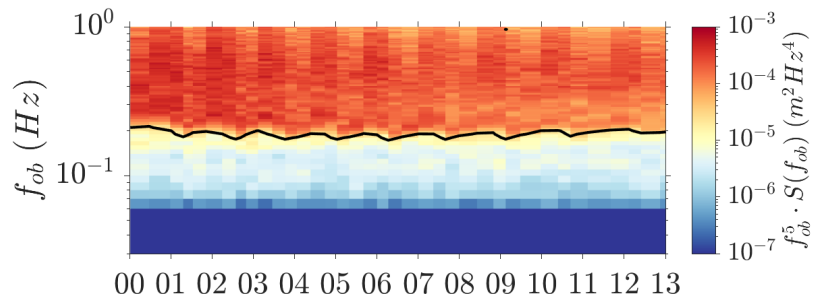
2D METHOD
(our approach)



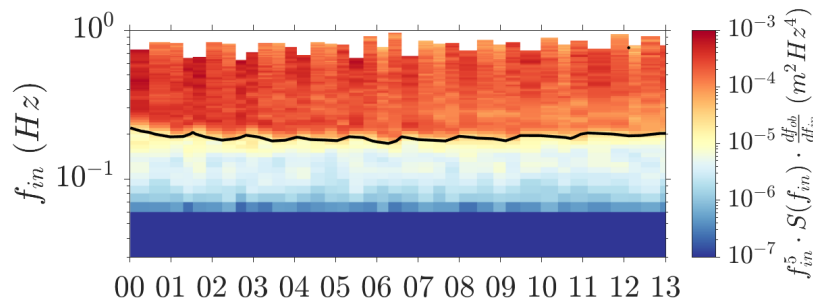
UTC time from 09-11-20 (hrs)

Comparison between 1D and 2D methods

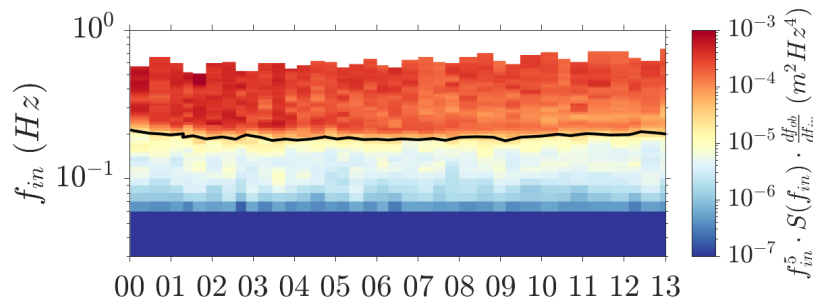
OBSERVED



1D METHOD



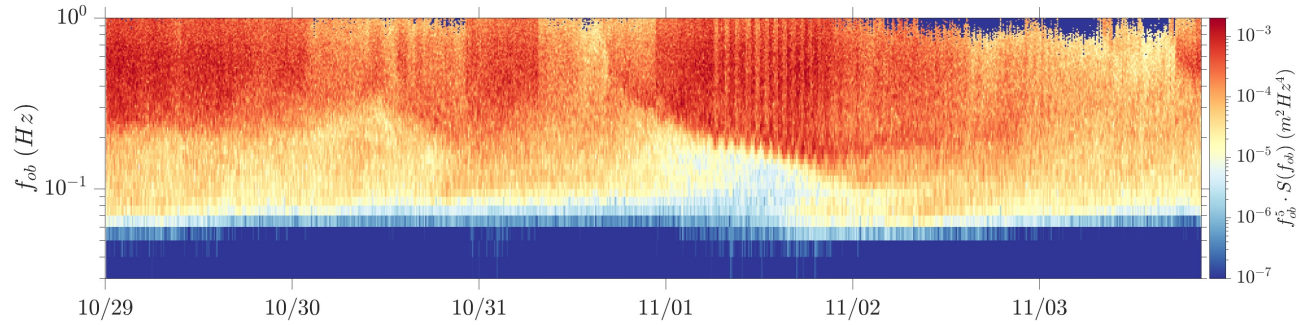
2D METHOD
(our approach)



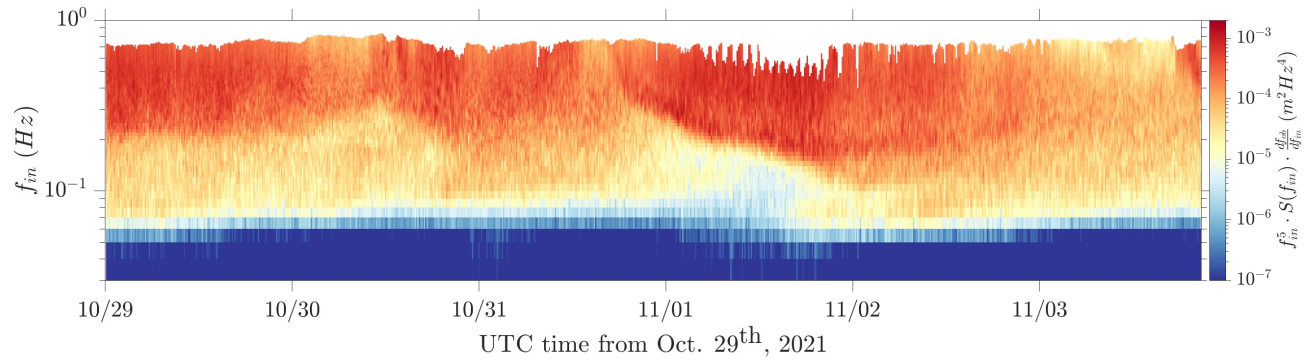
UTC time from 09-11-20 (hrs)

SMODE Pilot Experiment 2021

OBSERVED



2D METHOD
(our approach)



Conclusions

- An **autonomous platform's motion** impacts the spectral measurements of waves.
- **Modulations** in wave spectra **depend upon** the wave frequency, the platform speed, and the angle between the direction of wave and platform propagation.
- The intrinsic frequency frame provides a **coherent** way to compare wave measurements from moving platforms and provide **accurate measurements** of directional surface waves down to short scales ($O(1m)$).

References

- Cavaleri, L., Fox-Kemper, B., & Hemer, M. (2012). Wind waves in the coupled climate system. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 93(11), 1651-1661.
- Lenain, L., & Melville, W. K. (2014). Autonomous surface vehicle measurements of the ocean's response to Tropical Cyclone Freda. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 31(10), 2169-2190.
- Thomson, J., Girton, J. B., Jha, R., & Trapani, A. (2018). Measurements of directional wave spectra and wind stress from a wave glider autonomous surface vehicle. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 35(2), 347-363.
- Grare L, Statom NM, Pizzo N and Lenain L (2021) Instrumented Wave Gliders for Air-Sea Interaction and Upper Ocean Research. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 8:664728. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2021.664728
- Longuet-Higgins, M. S. (1986). Eulerian and Lagrangian aspects of surface waves. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 173, 683-707.
- Collins III, C. O., Blomquist, B., Persson, O., Lund, B., Rogers, W. E., Thomson, J., ... & Graber, H. C. (2017). Doppler correction of wave frequency spectra measured by underway vessels. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 34(2), 429-436.

Resources

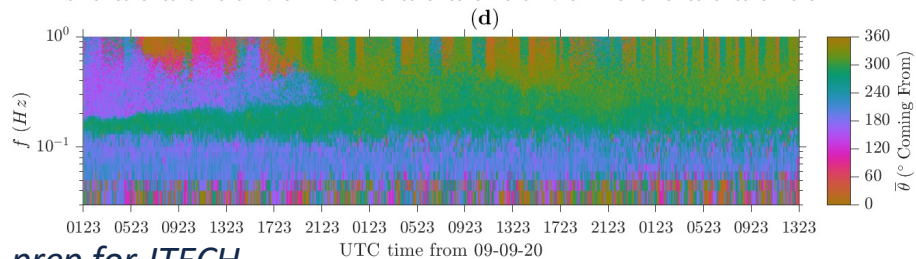
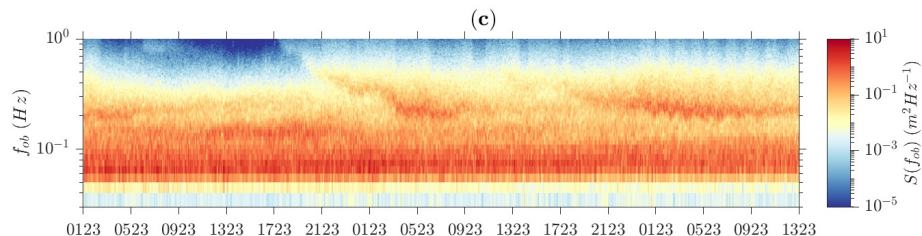
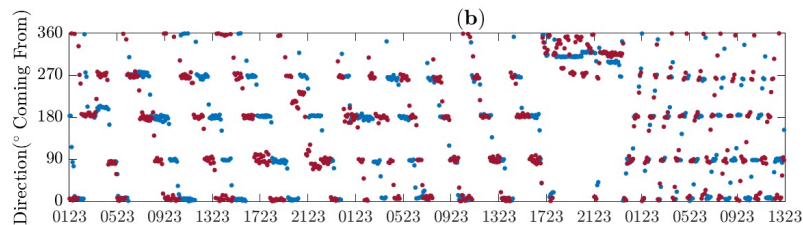
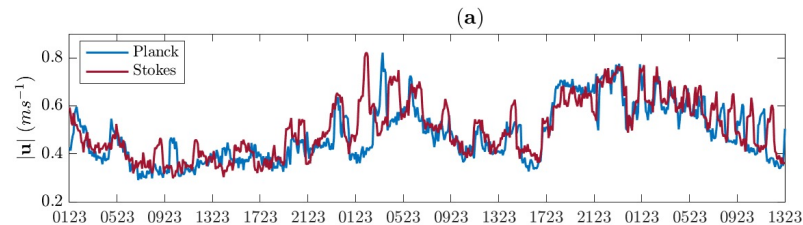
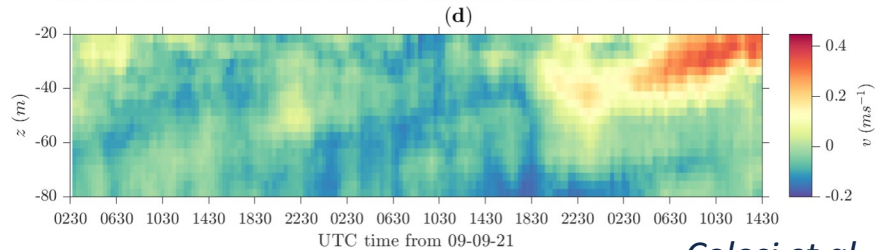
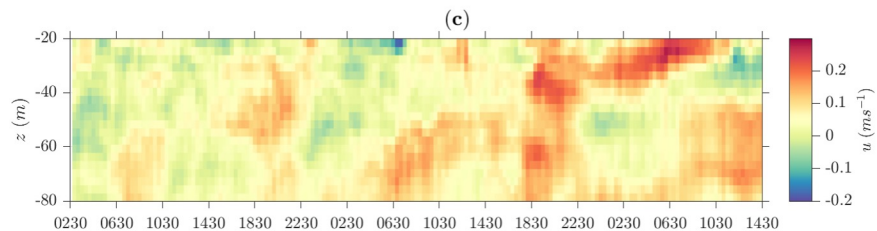
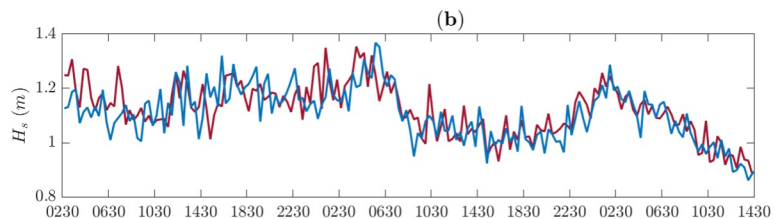
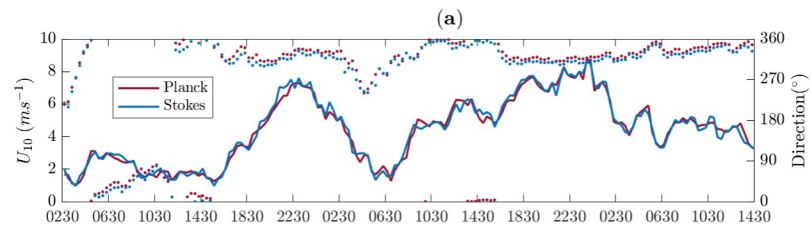
Github Repository: <https://github.com/lcolosi/WaveGlider>.

Contact information: Luke Colosi; lcolosi@ucsd.edu; (831) 840-1612; lcolosi.github.io,

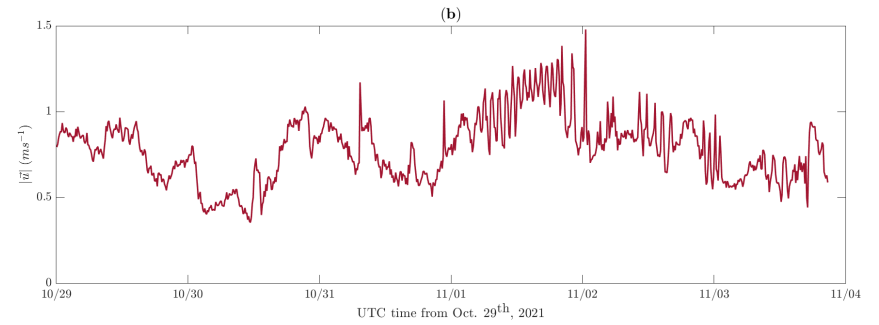
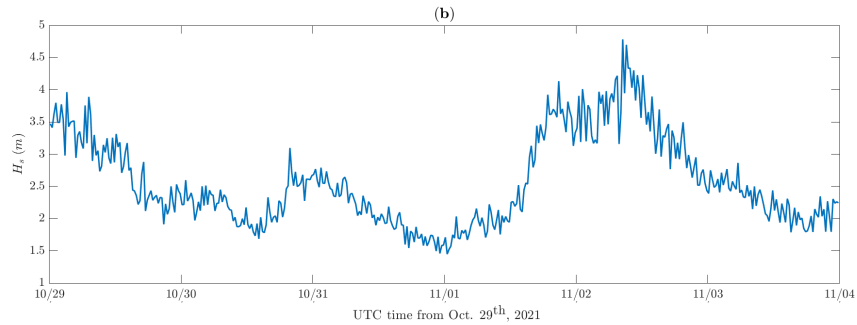
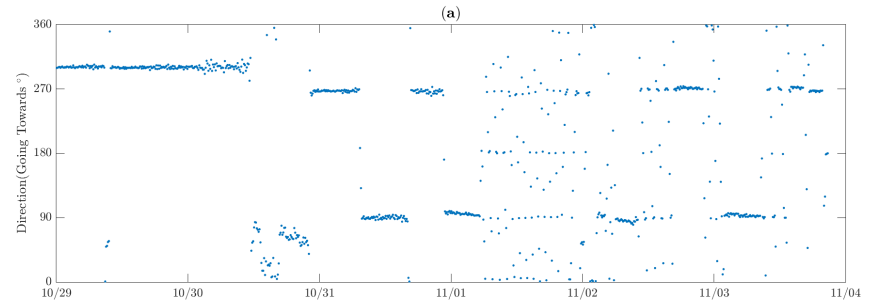
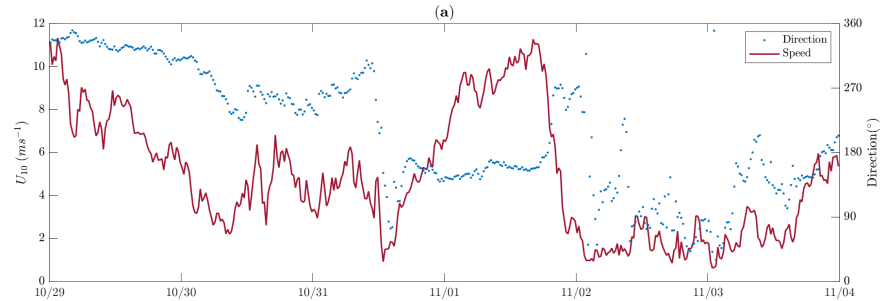
SIO Air-Sea Interaction Laboratory Website: <https://airsea.ucsd.edu/>

Supplemental Slides

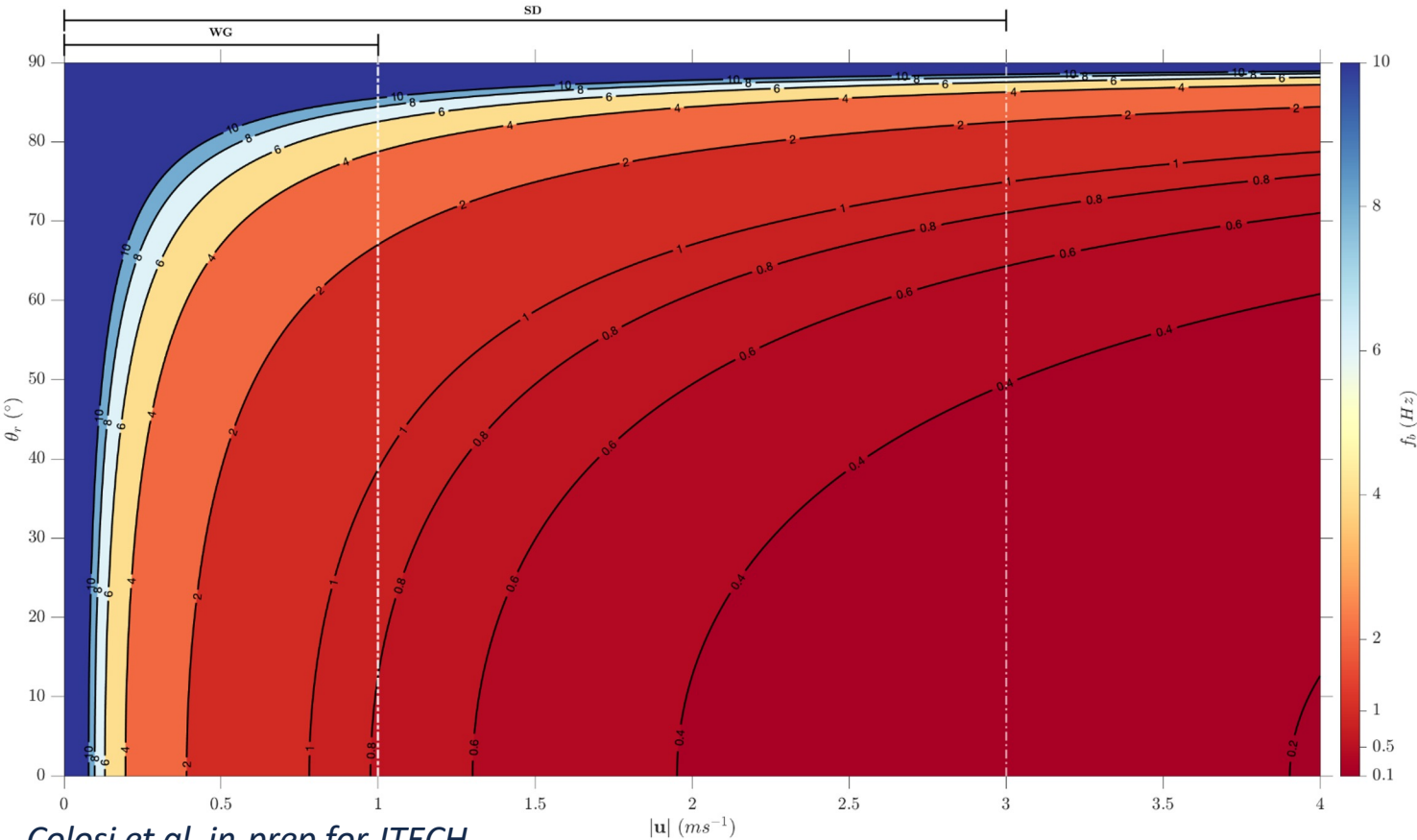
Environmental Conditions for Del Mar 2020



Environmental Conditions for SMODE 2021



Frequency Ambiguity Implications



When the platform is moving with the waves, then:

$$0 \leq \theta_r < 90$$

and

$$f_b = \frac{g}{4\pi U \cos(\theta_r)}$$

Bifurcation
Frequency

Conclusion:

$$U \uparrow \text{ and } \theta_r \downarrow \Rightarrow f_b \uparrow$$