Spatiotemporal Modulation and Analysis of High-Resolution Backscatter and Doppler X-band Radar Measurements of Ocean Surface Waves in Low Sea States

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### **Overview**

Scripps Pier

- Data description
- Modulation of Doppler and RCS in spatiotemporal domain
- Spatiotemporal analysis of Doppler





### **Radar System Overview**







- Coherent
- X-band:  $f_c$ = 9.3 GHz and  $\lambda$ =3.2 cm
- VV and HH polarizations
- Spatial resolution: 30 cm (bandwidth 0.5 GHz)
- Temporal resolution: 0.0013 s (PRF 800 Hz)
- One-dimensional (non-rotating)

- Antenna height: ~14 m above MLLW
- Grazing angle: ~1 deg
- Range coverage: ~600 m
- Pencil beam: 1 deg in elevation & azimuth



• Average water depth ~ 48 m

• Angle between peak wave direction and DREAM antenna azimuth mostly < 20 deg

Significant wave height ~0.6 m



208:21:36:09.397

### **Doppler Processing**



Mean 2D PSD of Doppler Velocities









**Correlation Function** 

Co-Spectra



No Dispersion Filtering

**Dispersion Filtered** 

0



Fig. 3. Investigation of the impact of phase shifting the NRCS, in decibels, in correlation to surface height. (Top left) Correlation of NRCS, in decibels, with the surface height as a function of the phase shift of the surface height. (Top right) Original scatter plot of visible HH NRCS with the surface height. (Bottom left) Scatter plots of visible HH NRCS with surface height following phase-shifting operation.

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Run	VV	нн	lag VV (s)	lag HH (s)	Frequency Peak (Hz)
236	0.52	0.20	0	0	0.23
246	0.66	0.45	0.25	0	0.23, 0.11
250	0.65	0.45	0.25	0	0.21, 0.12
252	0.37	0.20	0.25	0.25	0.22
254	0.40	0.10	0	0	0.21
258	0.55	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.21
259	0.67	0.45	0.25	0.25	0.23
263	0.64	0.38	0.25	0.25	0.23
265	0.20	0.09	0.25	0.5	0.19
267	0.17	0.005	0	-0.25	none
268	0.33	0.11	0.25	0.25	0.20
269	0.64	0.39	0	0	0.19
272	0.60	0.39	0.25	0.25	0.20

Shift between maximum Doppler and maximum RCS typically in the range of 0 - 20 deg but was not observed to exceed 45 deg

Suggests tilt modulation does not completely explain signal variance in spatiotemporal domain even in low sea states where shadowing effects are presumably small







Complex conjugate mode pair

"Perceived" wavelength captured in mode:  $\lambda/cos(\alpha-\phi)$ 

Orbital velocities show same trends



#### **Two Waves**

- 8 s period, 1 m amplitude
- 5 s period, 1 m amplitude
- Wave propagation and look direction are aligned

- Separation of wave systems requires frequency and amplitude diversity
  - 4 modes dominate for distinct periods but same amplitude (any direction )
  - 2 modes dominate for distinct amplitude but same period (any direction)
  - 4 wave-related modes for same direction, but distinct period and amplitudes
- Relatively insensitive to direction

### **Separation of Wave Systems**

Percent accuracy on single wave reconstruction - separated based-on POD modes







rbital Velocities

- ~10% separation in amplitude and period needed to reduce errors below 30%
- Separation in period more critical, particularly if the wave being reconstructed has a smaller amplitude

### **Bretschneider Spectrum**



Significant Wave Height: 3.7 m Peak Period: 11.5 s Spread Angle (µ): 80 deg Incorporates directional and frequency bandwidth

$$S_{BS}(f) = \frac{A}{f^5} e^{\left(-B/f^4\right)}$$

- 200 frequency components
- Cosine squared directional spreading

$$M(\mu) = \frac{2}{\pi} \cos^2 \mu$$

 $S(f,\mu) = S_{BS}(f)M(\mu)$ 

## **Bretschneider Spectrum**



#### **Swell and Wind Wave Case**

- $H_s = 0.60 \text{ m}$
- Peak Periods: 9 s and 4 s
- Wind Speed: 3.9 m/s
- Alignment: 12.6 deg offset from peak wave direction
- Grazing Angle: 1 deg

#### Wind Wave Case

- $H_{s} = 0.62 \text{ m}$
- Peak Period: 5 s
- Wind Speed: 3.9 m/s
- Alignment: 4.5 deg offset from peak wave direction
- Grazing Angle: 1 deg







All energy in wave bands is reconstructed by 100 modes but adding in the high frequency content requires many more modes



Most of the energy in peak wavenumber bands are in the lowest modes

#### **Swell and Wind Wave Case**

Wind Wave Case



Largest variance surrounds wave frequencies









Certain modes capture more swell energy than wind sea energy

Comparison to dispersion curve filtering



#### 0.45 Original -Original Dispersion filtered [∆f] Dispersion filtered [Δf] Radar: 21:34 Radar: 20:22 Dispersion filtered [3∆f] 0.9 0.4 Dispersion filtered [3∆f] Dispersion filtered [6∆f Array: 21:44 Array: 20:31 POD modes 2-20 Dispersion filtered [6∆f] POD modes 2-100 0.8 POD modes 2-20 Buoy: 21:34 Buoy: 21:04 Buoy Senis Array 0.35 POD modes 2-100 Buoy 0.7 Senix Array 0.3 PSD (m<sup>2</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup>) 0.0 7.0 7.0 7.0 PSD (m<sup>2</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup>) 0.2 0.2 0.15 0.3 0.1 0.2 0.1 0.05 0 0 0.05 0.1 0.15 0.2 0.25 0.3 0.05 0.1 0.15 0.2 0.25 Frequency (Hz) Frequency (Hz)

### **Swell and Wind Wave Case**

Need better ground truth to evaluate advantages/disadvantages of method

### Wind Wave Case

### Summary

- High-resolution X-band VV radar measurements at SIO pier
- Modulation of Doppler and RCS signals in-phase consistent with numerical results of Johnson et al., 2009
  - Suggests that maximum RCS occurs closer to wave crests than tilt modulation theory alone would predict
- Empirical decompositions could provide means to retain more non-linear features of the wave field in addition to sampling and data storage advantages
- Mode decompositions of simple wave fields demonstrate that modes can present physically meaningful content
- Preliminary results of application of method to SIO data
  - First 20 modes contain majority of energy in peak wavenumber/frequency bands – both on and off dispersion curve
  - Energy retained in these modes is greater than or equivalent to that retained via dispersion curve filtering in wave frequency bands
  - Results are encouraging for use of modes as a filter to isolate the wave signal