

The SUMOS field campaign

First results on the comparison of wave properties between SWIM, buoys, airborne and marine radar data

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The SUMOS Campaign

Context

- Field campaign proposed by French research groups (LATMOS,LOPS; PIs : P. Sutherland and D. Hauser), supported by CNES to contribute to the CFOSAT product assessment
 - Project manager at CNES: Raquel Rodriguez Suquet
 - For several reasons (among which Covid Crisis) could only be carried in spring 2021 (~2,5 years after launch)

Objectives of SUMOS

- Gather comprehensive set of collocated observations on wind, waves and related parameters (in situ, remotely sensed)
- Contribute to continuous improvement of the SWIM data inversion, identify limitations
- Study wave hydrodynamics and wind/wave/fluxes relationships in condition of high sea-state
- Prepare SKIM-like missions (surface current and waves)

Strategy and deployments

- ✓ Gulf of Biscay (off the French Atlantic coasts) 9 February 2021 4 March 2021
- Duration and area encompassing several CFOSAT passes
- Research vessel for shipborne measurements and drifting buoy deployments (waves, wind, turbulent fluxes, current)
- ✓ Research airplane with airborne radar measurements



Instrumentation and measurements

Shipboard instrumentation PI = Peter Sutherland, LOPS

Video measurements: Stereo-video system, polarimetric imagery, and wide FOV camera. =>Short waves properties (1cm-5m), wave breaking





X-band radar (cooperation, with Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon (Geesthacht, Germany)

=> Long-wave directional spectra (in wavenumber and frequency), current





Radar image from March 1st



Instrumentation deployed by the R/V L'Atalante near CFOSAT crossover points PI = Peter Sutherland, LOPS

FLAME buoy (full and Lite version)
instrumented platform
=> wind, turbulent fluxes, waves

Spotter drifting buoy (from Spoondrift) directional wave rider => Directional wave spectrum







Airborne observations: KuROS radar (Ku Band) PI: D. Hauser, LATMOS

=> Directional spectra of long waves (30-300m) and normalized radar cross-section along the flight track and along and across- SWIM swath

KuROS wave spectrum (2D and omni-directionnal)





Example from 16 February 2021- 17:03-19:38 UTC







Example of coordinated sampling : on 16 February 2021 (2 CFOSAT passes at ~08 and ~19 UTC)

CFOSAT nadir, CFOSAT 10° With RV L'atalante (grey) and drifting wave buoys (diamonds)



Same, with in addition aircraft ATR42 (green), Sentinel1-SAR (grey), Sentinel 3A altimeter track



Data set of high quality

- ✓ 14 flybys of SWIM (13 with coordinated KuROS observations)
- 20 Spotter buoys (wave measurements) and 3 Flame buoys (wave and turbulent fluxes) deployed and recovered multiples times
- Large number of acquisitions of ship-borne optical instruments and X-band radar
- ✓ 4 KuROS + Karadoc airflights for SKIM-type objectives (Doppler)
- Good meteorological situations (high sea-state, swell, mixed sea)

8 7 6 5 [ɯ] ^sH 3 2 -8 1 0 2021-02-13 2021-02-17 2021-02-21 2021-02-25 2021-03-01 2021-03-05 Time [UTC]

Significant wave height along the R/V L'Atalante cruise

high significant wave heights, majority of swell or mixed sea conditions

First results on wave spectra intercomparison SWIM/KuROS/buoy/X-band radar

Method

- All 2D spectra (SWIM, KuROS, Spotter buoy, X-Band radar) sampled or re-sampled with the same frequency and direction bins
 - [kmin-kmax]= [0.01256-0.27895], directions every 15°
- ✓ SWIM, KuROS, X-Band: 2D spectra directly from the sampling
- ✓ Spotter buoy: 2D spectra reconstructed using either MLM or MEM methods from the measurements
- Main parameters estimated similarly for all source of data
- ✓ SWH estimated over SWIM spectral interval [kmin-kmax]
- dir_{peak} estimated on the 2D slope spectra (weighted average around the energy max)
- λ_{peak} estimated on the 2D slope spectra (weighted average around the energy max) or alternatively from the 1D spectra
- Correlation indexes estimated between SWIM spectra and X-band (1D, 2D) and between SWIM and buoy data

Comparisons illustrated here-after for situations

- 15 February 2021, evening .
 SWH ~ 4 m, dominated by long swell (from West) with light wind sea
- ✓ 1st March 2021 morning SWH ~2.5-2.8 m mixed sea with opposing swell (from west) and growing wind waves (from east)
- Some statistical results but but limited by the number of collocated samples (14 passages of SWIM)

15 February 2021, evening

SWIM -10° beam : cycloid Buoy positions: colored diamonds Ship : grey symbol Model MFWAM: arrows (fisrt swell and wind sea)



SWIM/X-band/buoy comparison

SWIM -10° beam : cycloid, Buoy positions: colored diamonds Ship : grey symbol Aircraft with KuROS: green



SWIM/Kuros/buoy comparison



15 February 2021 ~19 UTC- comparison SWIM/buoy/airborne KuROS



Wave Parameters of drifter buoy SPOT14_MLM on day 20210215

Good agreement between SWIM/buoy (#14 here) and KurOS Kuros results relatively scattered for peak direction and peak wavelength (found either on wind sea or swell on the 2D slope spectra)

15 February 2021 ~19 UTC- comparison SWIM/X-Band radar /buoy



- SWIM more sharp near the peak

1st March 2021

SWIM -10° beam : cycloid Buoy positions: colored diamonds Ship : grey symbol Model MFWAM: arrows (fisrt swell and wind sea)



SWIM -10° beam : cycloid, Buoy positions: colored diamonds Ship : grey symbol Aircraft with KuROS: green



SWIM/X-band/buoy comparison

SWIM/Kuros/buoy comparison



1st March 2021 ~08 UTC- comparison SWIM/buoy/airborne KuROS



Wave Parameters of drifter buoy SPOT19_MLM on day 20210301



- Good agreement between SWIM/KuROS/buoy for SWH

- Important variations of peak wavelength and direction, (peak found either on wind sea or swell)

1st March 2021 ~08 UTC- comparison SWIM/X-Band/buoy



Correlation index between 2D slope spectra (Hasselmann et al, 1996)





Comparaison of wave parameters X-Band/SWIM_beam 10°

SWH- Buoy/X-Band



Bias between buoy and X-Band on the left plot in spite of the use of buoy to normalize the X-band spectra => probably du to the different limits for SWH calculation (reduced to SWIM range for Xband, but not for buoy in this plot)



Tendency of SWIM to slightly over-estimate large SWH (but small number of cases)

Comparaison of wave parameters X-Band/SWIM_beam 10°



Dominant wavelength from 2D directional wave slope spectra



Dominant direction from 2D directional wave slope spectra



Better agreement if we consider the peak wavelength form the 1D omni-directional spectrum than if we consider the peak wavelength from the 2D slope spectra => due to occurrence of mixed sea systems (peak not found on the same system on buoy and SWIM)

Summary

Preliminary analysis shows qualitative consistent results

- ✓ SWH globally consistent
- Shape of 1D spectrum => seems more peaked on SWIM spectra than on buoy or X-band spectra, specially for the swell component
- Comparisons of dominant wavelength is sensitive to the wayit is estimated (2D slope spectra, 1D height spectra). Probably due to the specific conditions encountered during SUMOS (mixed seas). Dominant direction from 2D spectra not very stable also die to the presenec of mixed sea
- Correlation between 2D slope spectra: high correlations obtained, and MLM for buoy spectra reconstruction is better appropriate
- ✓ For directional analysis, X-band radar and KuROS seem more apropriate than buoy

To be further explored

- Due to mixed sea conditions, consolidate the method to estimate dominant wavelength/direction
- Estimate systematically correlation indexes between 1D and 2D spectra for SWIM/KuROs, KurOS/buoy, KuROS/X-band
- Extend comparison between mean parameters
- Spectral shape parameters (frequency spread, Qp and directional spread): first results obtained (not shown)=> to be continued
- Data set probably better appropriate to analyze details of spectra (directional spread, shape in frequency,..), which may help to analyze the SWIM MTF
- ✓ SUMoS observations used for testing impact of assimimation in models (L. Aouf)
- Sumos data set available here : https://www.odatis-ocean.fr/donnees-et-services/acces-auxdonnees/catalogue-complet#/metadata/b4061746-90af-4844-8d07-9a1f06a23925

