

# Sea State Measurements at BSH

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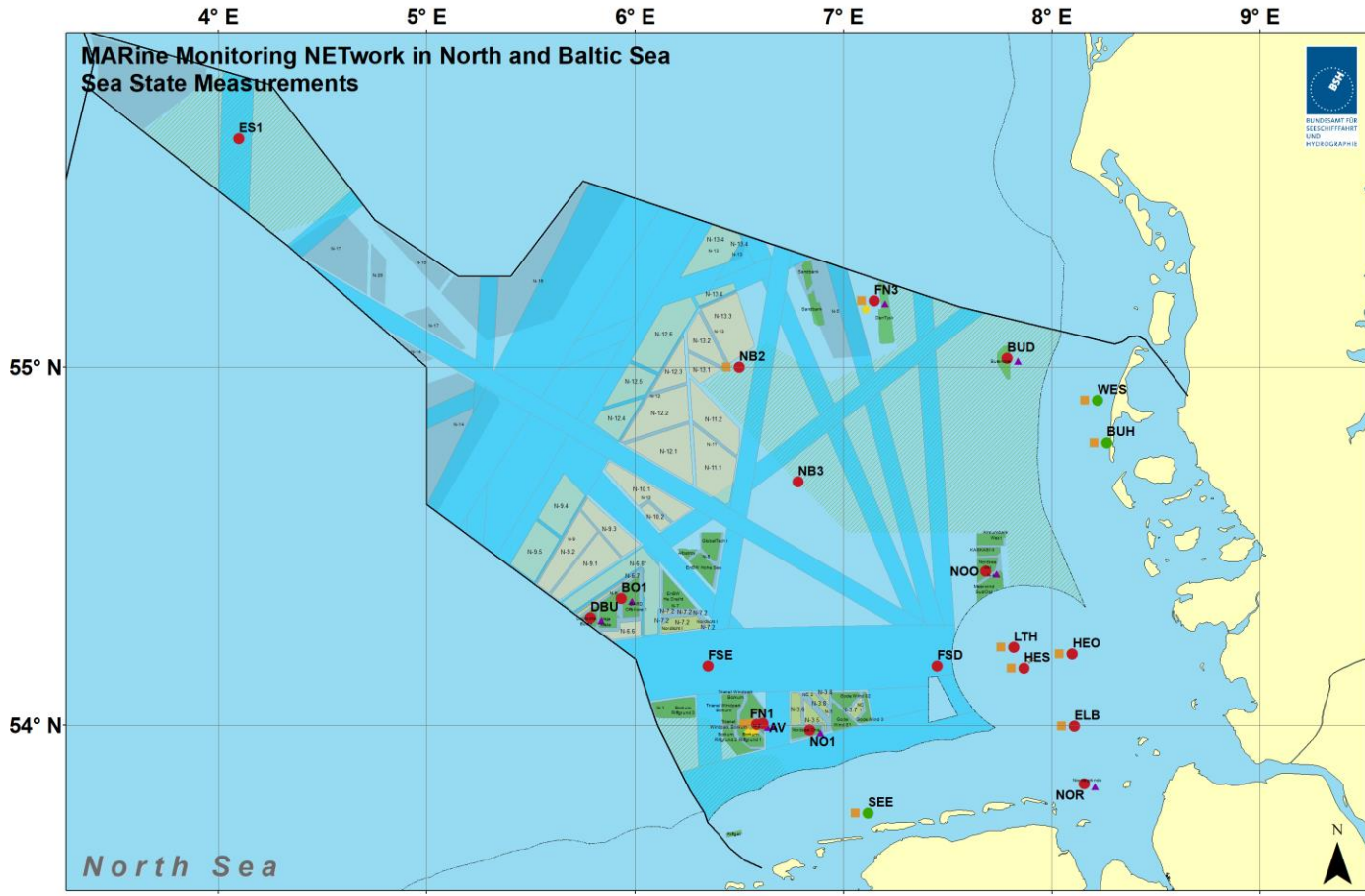


# Motivation

- Public access to a single-point-of-contact, comprehensive, quality-controlled sea state database with application-oriented sea state presentations and analyses
- Users:
  - Offshore industry
  - Universities / research institutes
  - Public authorities
  - Maritime sector (shipping, navy)



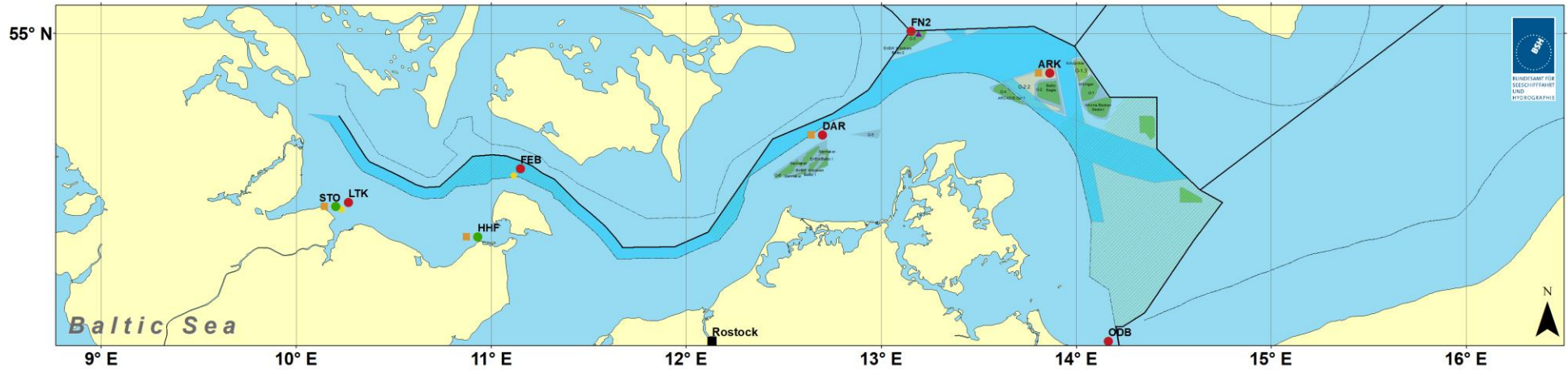
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**MARNET Sea State Measurements**

- Measurement Stations (BSH)
- Measurement Stations (federal states)
- Buoy (DWR)
- ADCP (AWAC)
- ▲ RADAR (RADAC)
- Boundaries
- EEZ
- Shipping (MSP EEZ 2021)
- Offshore\_Windfarms (active, Contis 2025)
- Sites planned, FEP, 2025
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
- OWP Areas planned/ under Review (FEP2025)

STATION NAME	INSTRUMENT	WATER DEPTH [m]	
ARK	Arkona	DWR	40
BUH	Bunkerhill	DWR	10
DAR	Darsser Schwelle	DWR	22
ELB	Elbe	DWR	25
HEL	Helgoland	DWR	25
HEO	Helgoland Ost	DWR	27
HHF	Heligenhafen	DWR	10
LTH	Helgoland-Nord	DWR	25,5
NB2	NSBII	DWR	42
NB3	NSBIII	DWR	39,5
STO	Storn	DWR	8
WES	Sylt	DWR	13
FN1	FINO1 Platform	RADAR, AWAC	28
FN1	FINO1	DWR	28
FN2	FINO2 Platform	RADAR, AWAC	25
FN2	FINO2	DWR	25
FN3	FINO3 Platform	RADAR, AWAC	22
FN3	FINO3	DWR	22
AV0	AlphaVentus	RADAR	29
AVF	AlphaVentus	DWR, AWAC	29
BO1	BARD Offshore 1 Buoy	DWR, AWAC	41
BUD	Butendiek	DWR, RADAR	18
DBU	Deutsche Bucht	RADAR	38
DBU	Deutsche Bucht Buoy	DWR, AWAC	38
NO1	Nordsee One	DWR, RADAR, AWAC	30
NOO	Nordsee Ost	DWR, RADAR, AWAC	25
NOR	Nordgrunde	RADAR	10
SEE	See	DWR	15

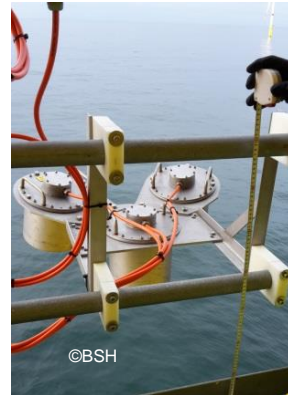


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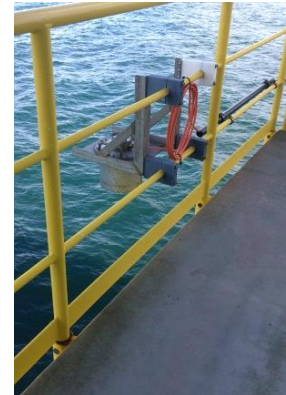
# Instruments and parameter



Waverider buoy



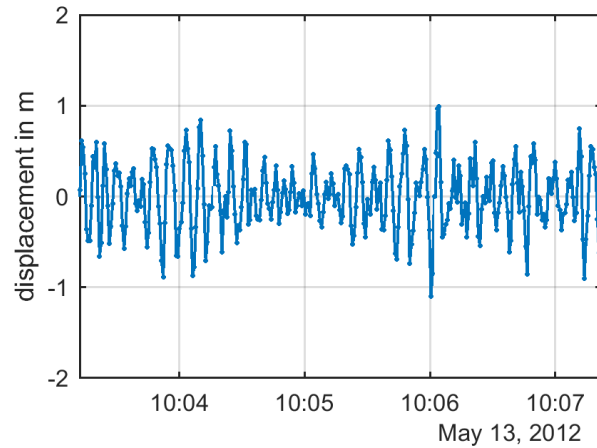
Directional radar



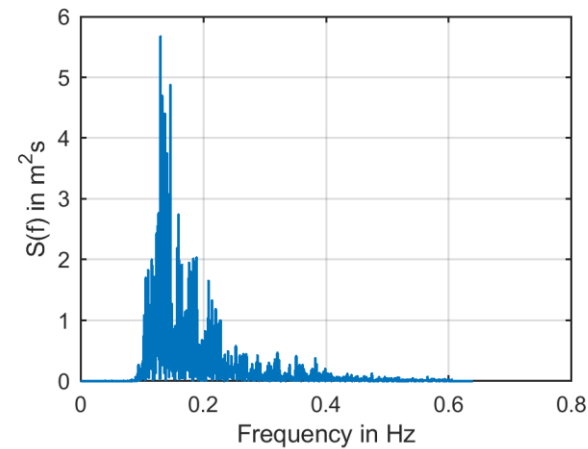
Wave radar



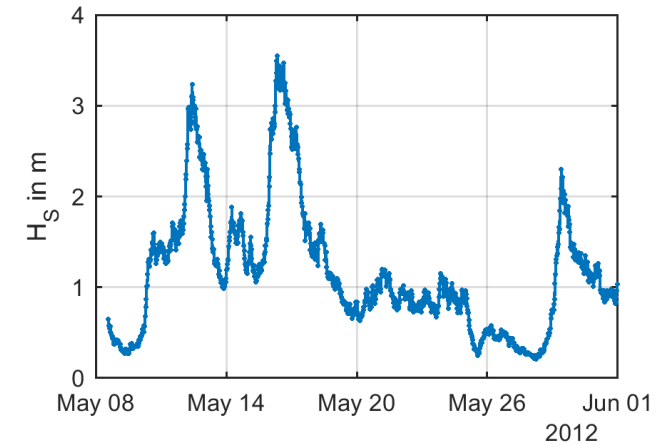
Acoustic Doppler Profiler



Heave



Power density spectrum



Aggregated parameters

# Buoy

## Principle

## Installation

## Power supply

## Service interval

## Data storage and transmission

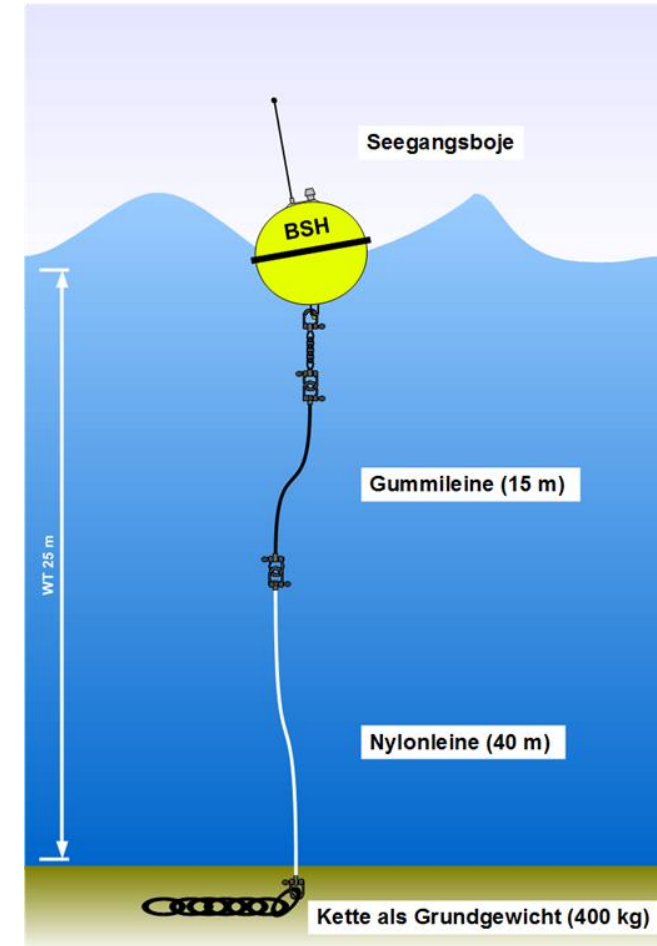
## Safety

## Additional parameters

## Measurement

## Data processing

- acceleration
- in situ; moored on flexible rope
- battery
- 6-8 months
- internal memory
- HF-Radio up to 50 km
- GSM mobile communication
- near real time via mobile communication from station to server at land
- ARGOS/GPS Tracking
- water & air temperature
- continuously
- internal
- external software



Mooring design of a DWR buoy



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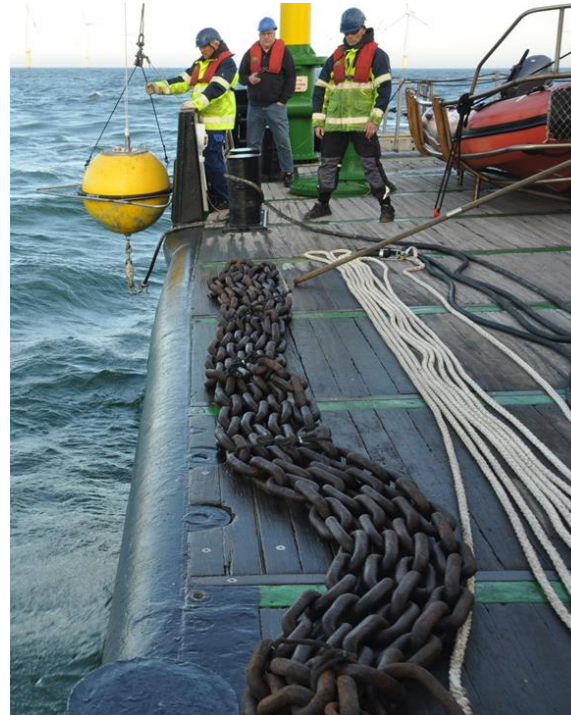
# Buoy

## Advantages:

- well established and reliable
- suitable for almost all sites of operation
- resolves waves with periods  
1.6 to 30 seconds
- measures wave direction

## Disadvantages:

- strong mechanical load
- biofouling → increased weight impacts  
response
- impact of inertia → short waves filtered out
- regular maintenance necessary
- risk of loss due to traffic / fishery



Deployment of a DWR buoy



DWR buoy after recovery

# ADCP

## Principle

- Doppler-shift and travel time of acoustic signal

## Installation

- bottom mounted frame

## Power supply

- battery or via cable

## Service interval

- 3-6 months

## Data storage and transmission

- internal storage
- transmission via cable
- near real time via mobile communication from station to server at land

## Additional parameters

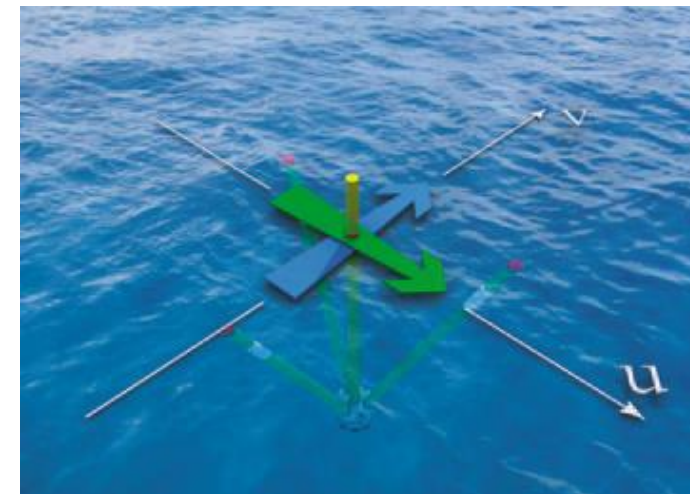
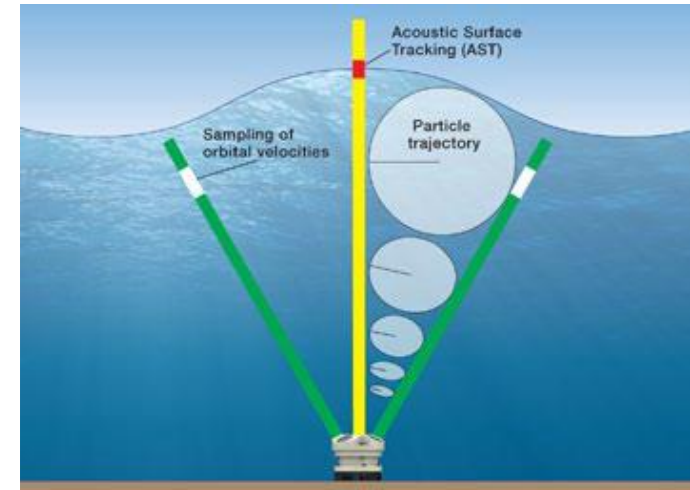
- current speed and direction
- pressure, temperature, sound velocity

## Measurement

- interval

## Data processing

- internal
- external software



Principle of operation AWAC

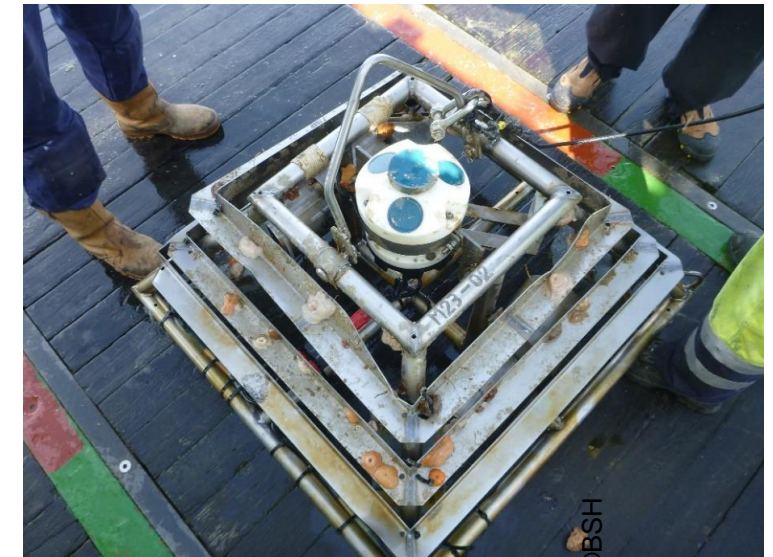
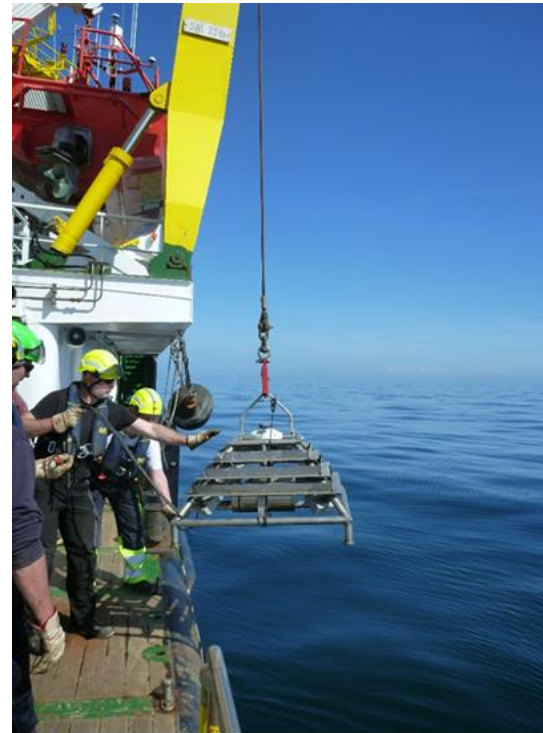
# ADCP

## Advantages

- well established and reliable
- suitable for almost all sites of operation
- resolves waves with periods 1-100 s
- measures wave direction

## Disadvantages

- accuracy decreases with increasing depth
- bubbles may impact data quality
- regular maintenance necessary
- risk of loss due to trawling activities
- frame buried in sediment
- biofouling

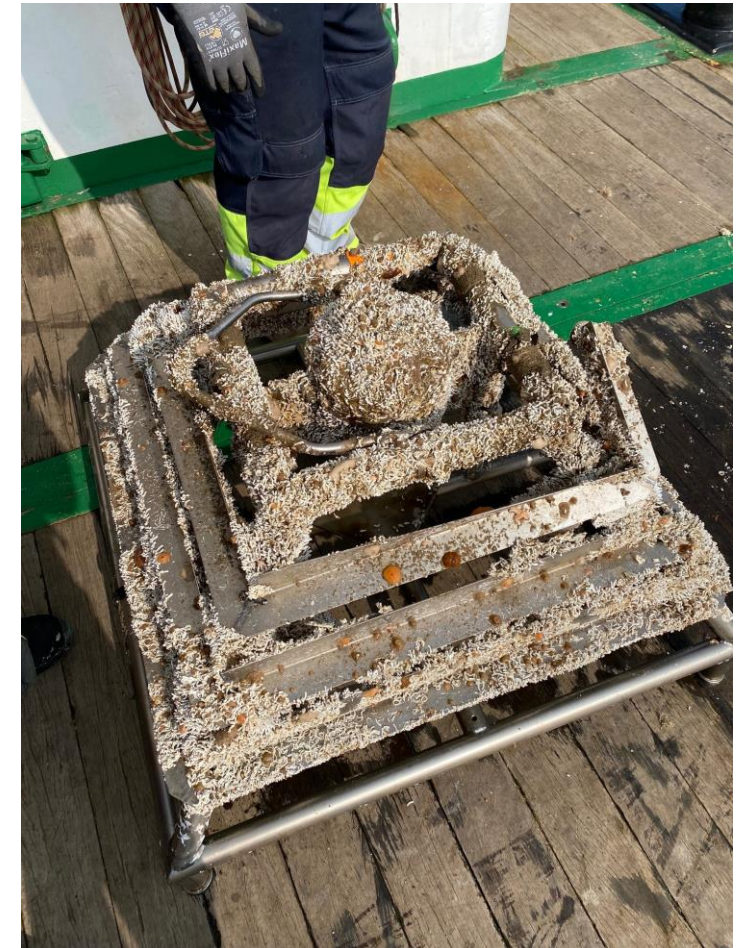
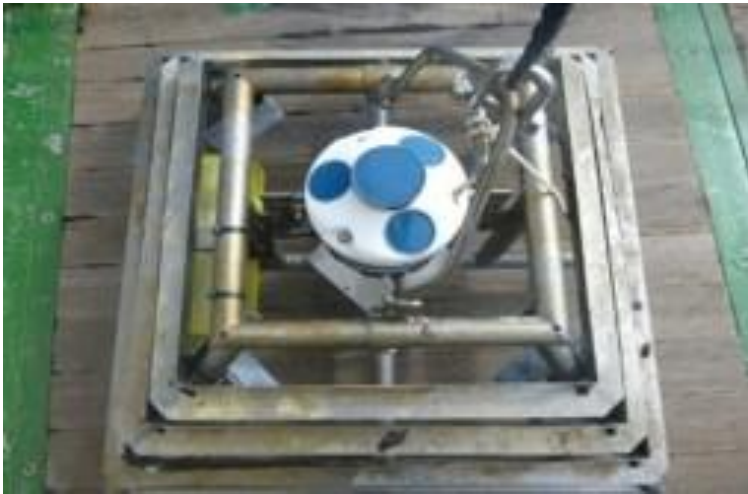


Deployment of a bottom frame with AWAC and after recovery

# ADCP

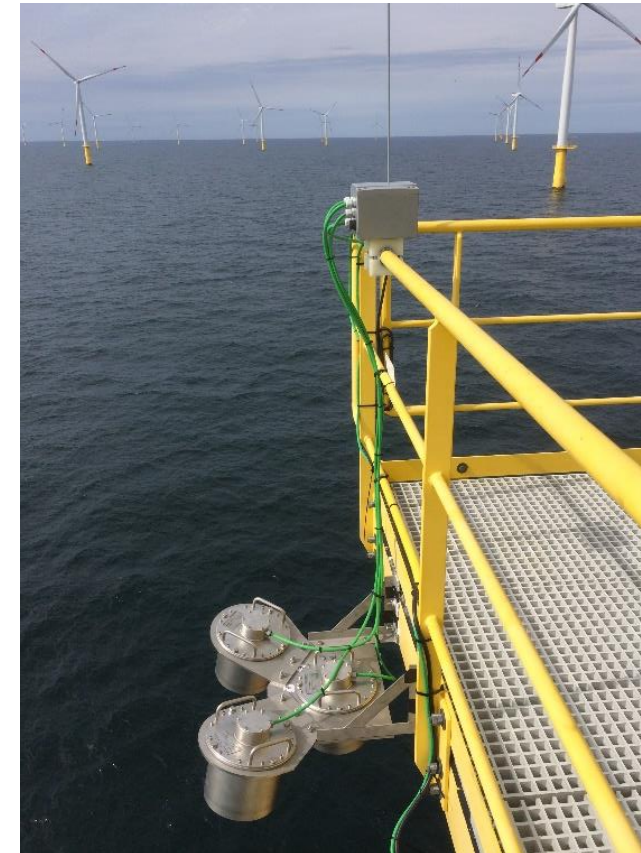


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# Radar

- |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principle</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• electromagnetic energy pulse</li></ul>                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Installation</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fixed at offshore structures</li></ul>                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Power supply</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• via cable</li></ul>                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Service interval</b>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• irregularly as needed</li><li>• remote access</li></ul>                                                                                                    |
| <b>Data storage and transmission</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• internal and external memory</li><li>• stream via LAN and RS232</li><li>• near real time via mobile communication from station to server at land</li></ul> |
| <b>Additional parameters</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• water level (accuracy &lt; 1cm)</li><li>• surface currents (in testing phase)</li></ul>                                                                    |
| <b>Measurement</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• continuously</li></ul>                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Data processing</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• external processing unit</li></ul>                                                                                                                         |



Radac; Model WaveGuide 5 Direction

©RADAC



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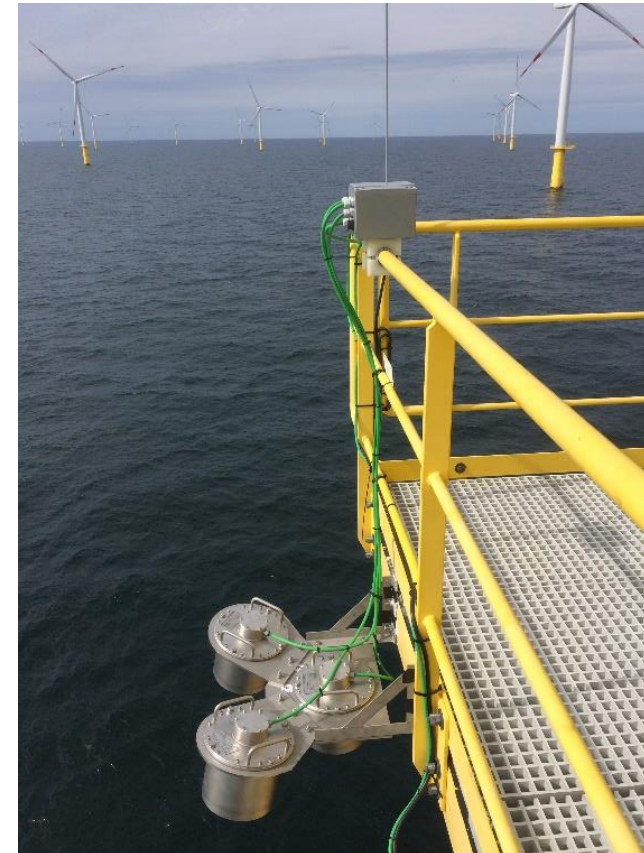
# Radar

## Advantages

- well established and reliable
- low cost for maintenance
- resolves waves with periods 1-100 s
- measures wave direction (3D Radac)
- measures water level
- nearly no in situ impacts

## Disadvantages

- fixed platform necessary
- affected by spray of breaking waves
- accuracy decreases with increasing height



Radac; Model WaveGuide 5 Direction

©RADAC

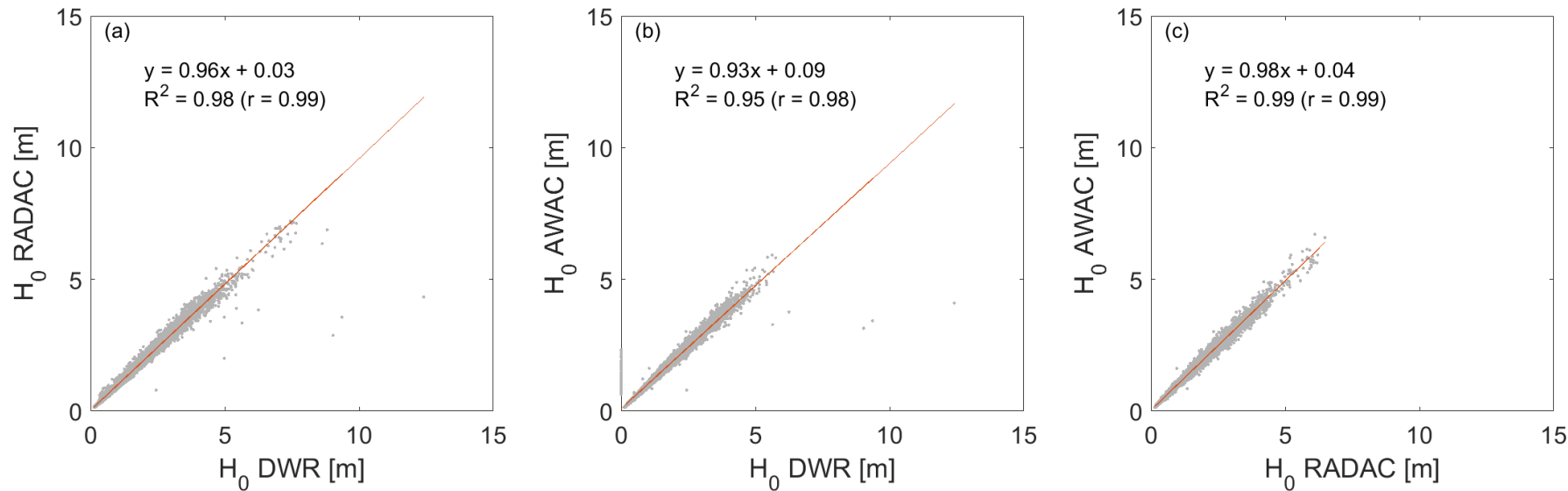


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# Comparison FINO1



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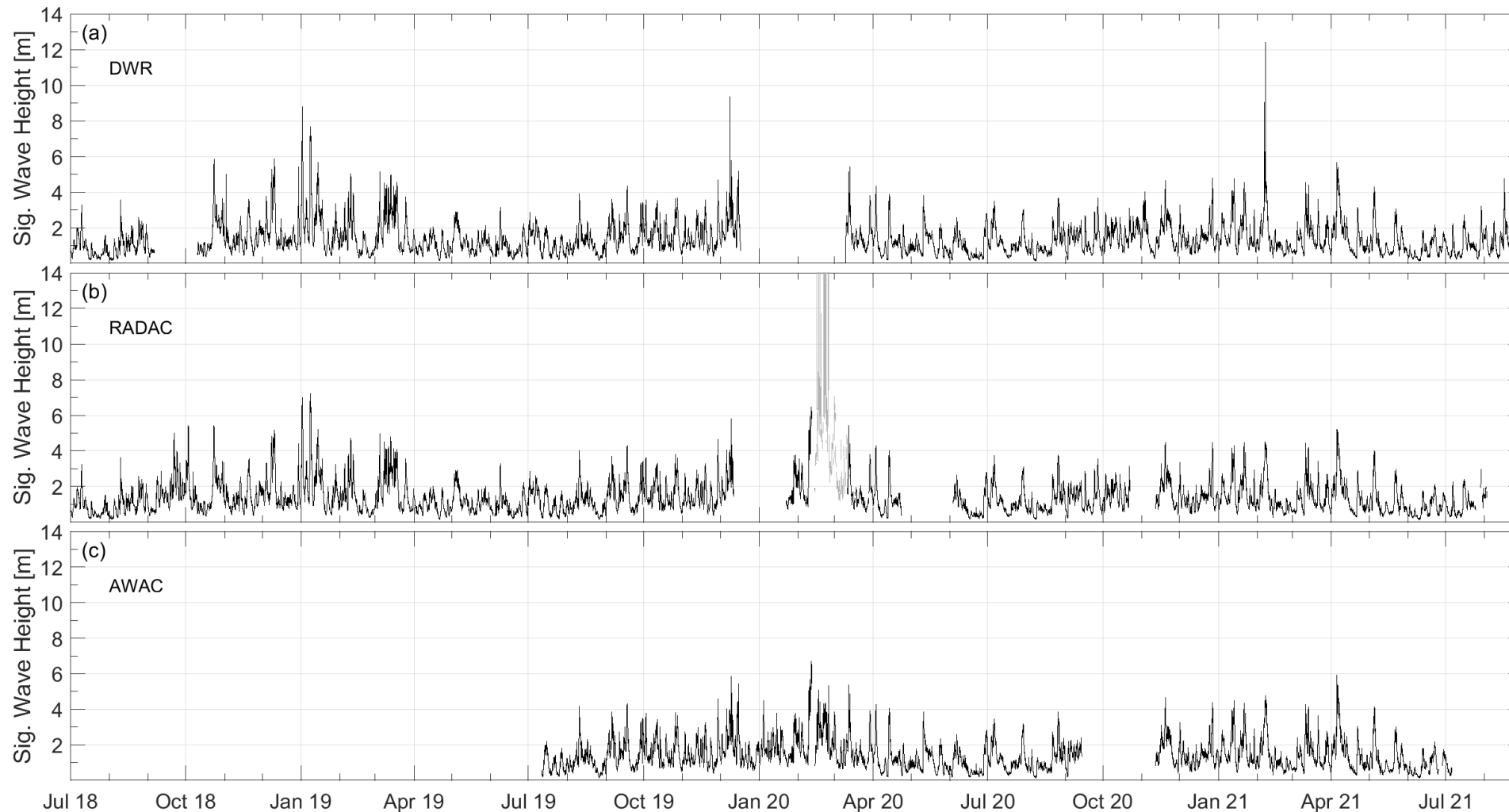


- very good agreement between instruments
- redundant independent measurements allows gapfilling and validation

# Comparison FINO1



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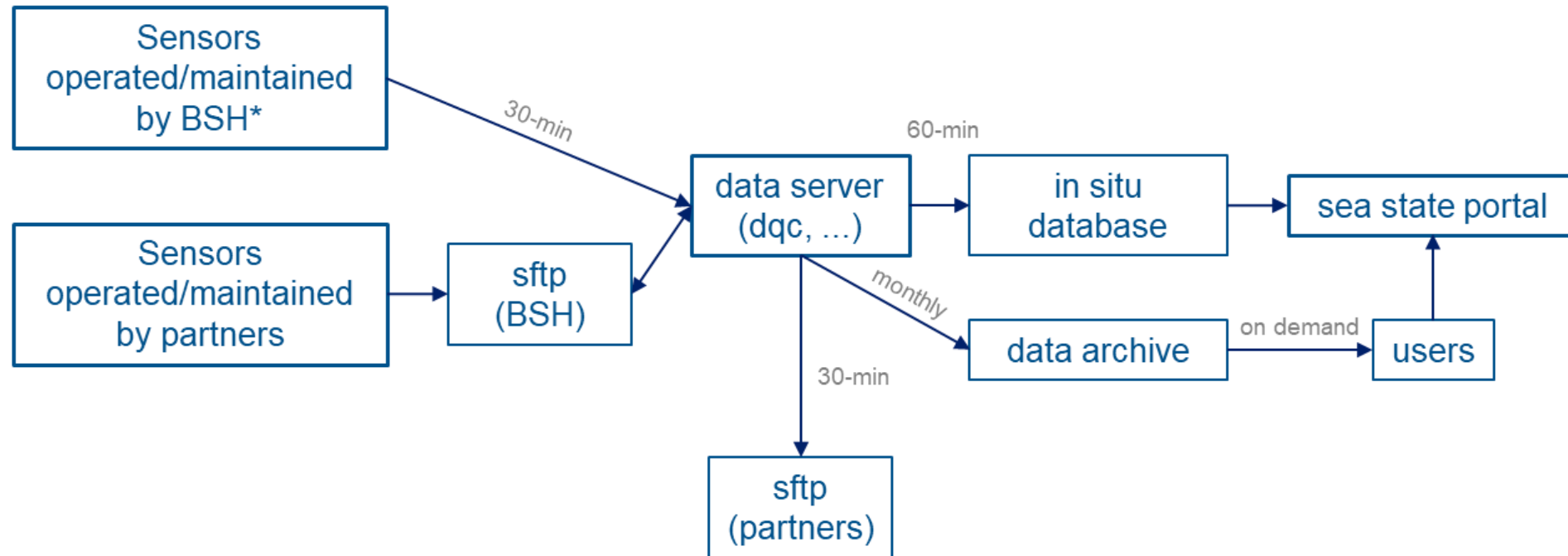


- very good agreement between instruments
- redundant independent measurements allows gapfilling and validation

# Data Flow



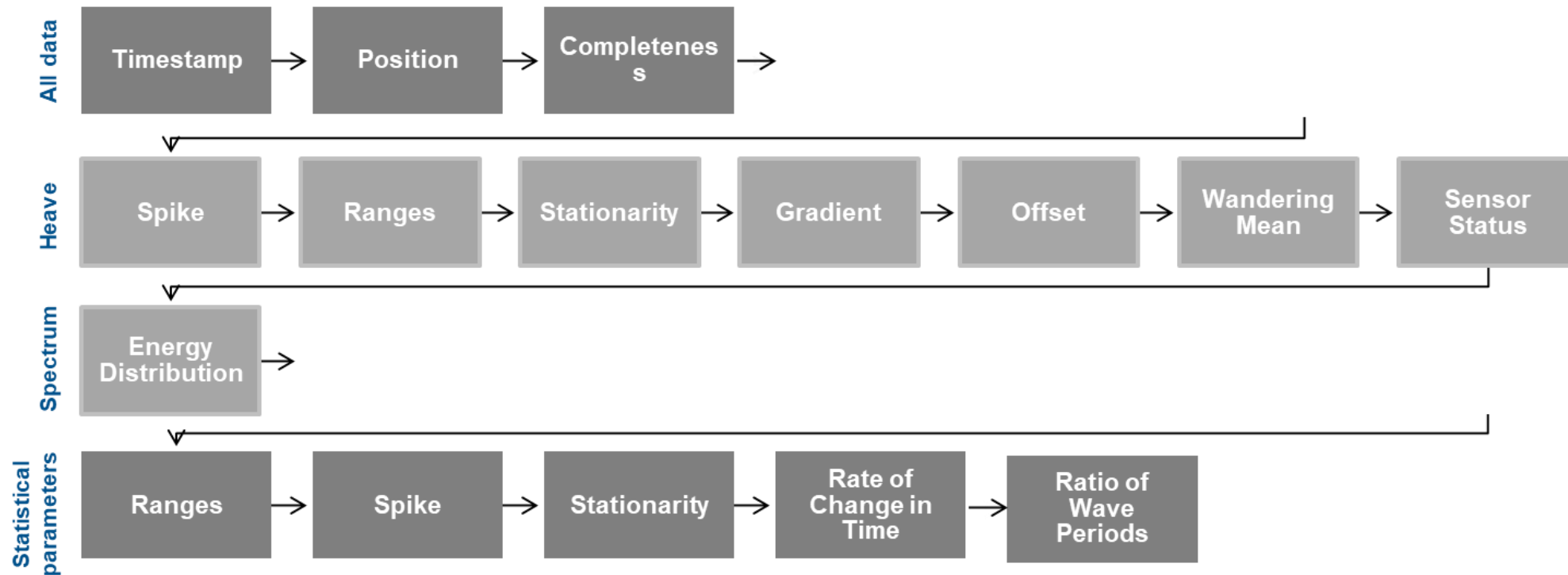
*\*included sensors in OWFs via vpn+rdp+vc*



# Automated Data Quality Control (Real-Time)



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- Passing on the test results via the 16-digit *detailed quality flag*
- Quality flags are conform with COPERNICUS, SeaDataNet, OceanSITES, Argo

# BSH Sea State Portal



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Contact:  
[seegangportal@bsh.de](mailto:seegangportal@bsh.de)

- The data portal is live since 01.02.2021
- So far we have 827 registered users

For more information and how to gain access, please look here

[www.bsh.de](http://www.bsh.de) → **Data** → **Climate and Sea** → **Sea State**

or

→ <https://login.bsh.de/fachverfahren/>

Wind and current data available via InSiTu Portal or upon request



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**ptj**

Gefördert durch:



Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft  
und Energie

aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages



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