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# Wave power in the North Sea

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04.04.2017

*Photo: Einar Egeland*

# Global wave power distribution

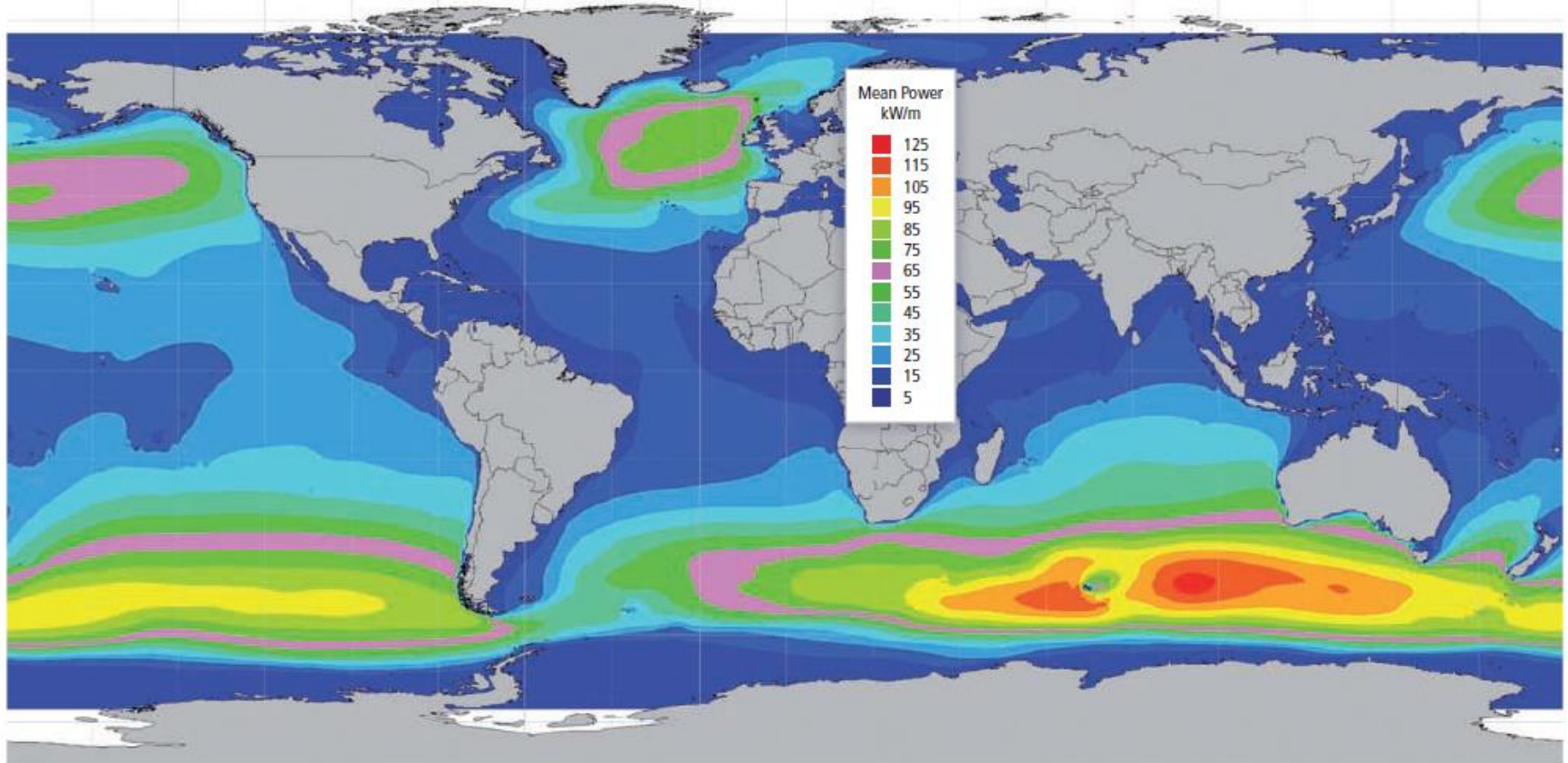


Figure 6.1 | Global offshore annual wave power level distribution (Cornett, 2008).

# Wave power potential (TWh/yr)

## Carbon trust UK wave energy resource (2012)

- **Total Resource** Highest overall energy availability over the area from lines of devices in optimal locations
- **Theoretical Resource** The maximum energy available in realistic optimal locations (assumed lowest cost locations) with some assumptions on power extraction
- **Technical Resource** Taking technology options into account.
- **Practical Resource** Taking sea uses and environmental impact into account

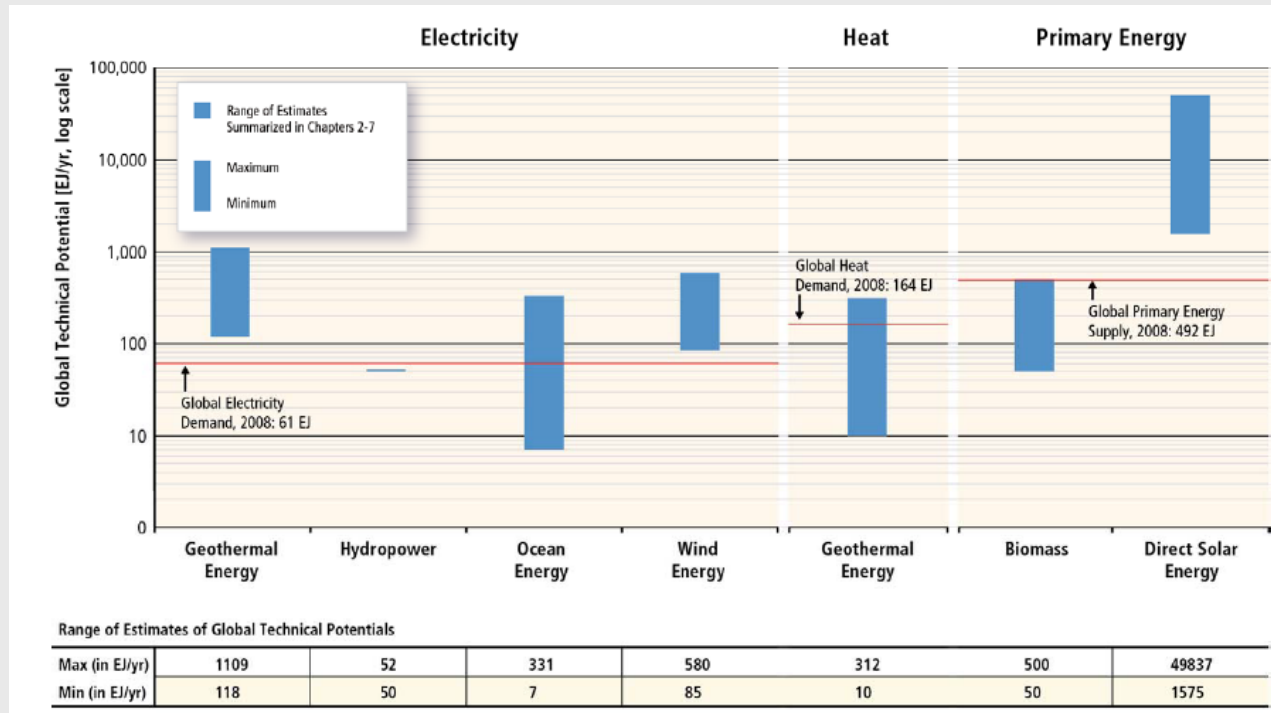
# Global energy potential

- Theoretical wave potential 32.000 TWh/yr
  - **North sea** < 5 TWh/yr is not included
- Technical wave potential 5000 TWh/yr  
(Large uncertainties!)
- Theoretical wind potential 1.2 million TWh/yr
- Technical wind potential 125 000 TWh/yr  
(19.400 TWh/yr onshore)
- Norwegian hydropower production 145 TWh in 2015
- Global installed wind energy capacity was 487 GW in 2016

## Sources:

- Lewis et al. (2011) *Ocean Energy. In IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation*
- Wiser et al. (2011) *Wind Energy. In IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation*
- <https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/special-reports/srren/ipcc-srren-generic-presentation-1.pdf>
- GWEA
- SSB

# Global energy potential



## Sources:

- Lewis et al. (2011) *Ocean Energy. In IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation*
- <https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/special-reports/srren/ipcc-srren-generic-presentation-1.pdf>



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# Estimating the coastal wave climate

Example wave power prototype at Runde

# Reanalysis data set

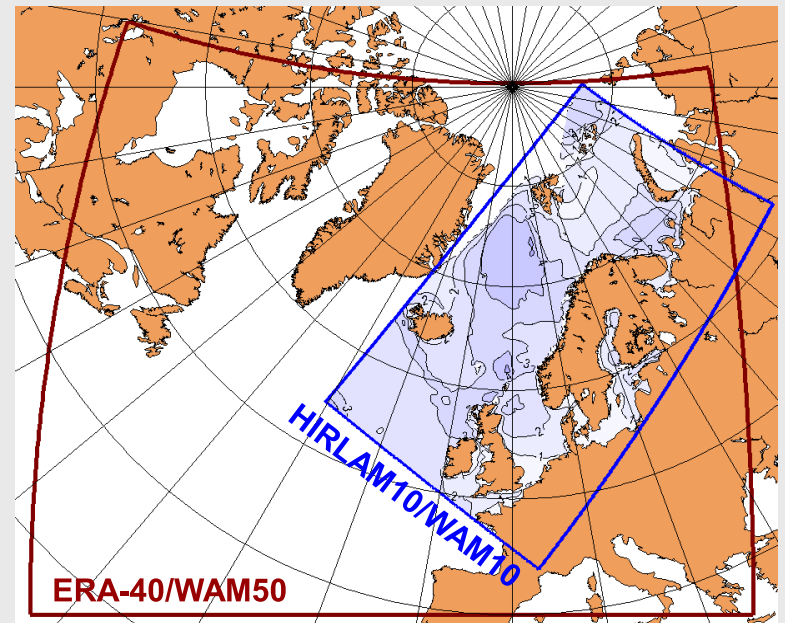
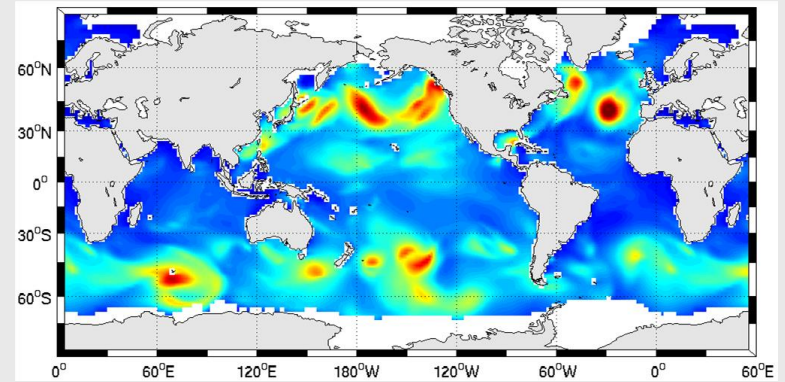
- *NORA10 – a dynamical downscaling of ERA-40 and standalone wave hindcast*

## Atmospheric component – HIRLAM 10 km:

- ERA-40 on boundaries (6-hourly)
  - 40 levels: temp, wind, humidity, cloud water
  - Surface: pressure
- Blended with ERA-40 in interior (digital filter)
  - Maintain large-scale features
  - Preserve mesoscale features (polar lows)
- Sequence of 9-hour model runs (3 hourly data)
- 248 x 400 grid points

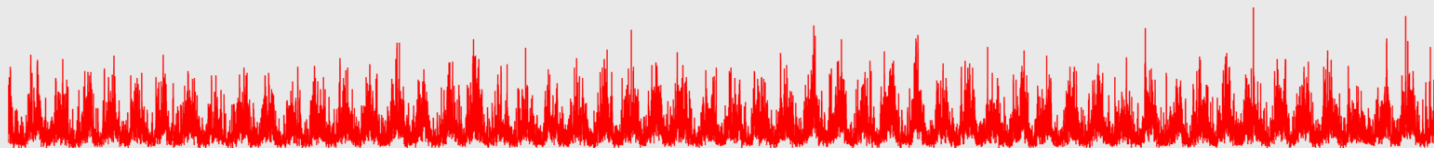
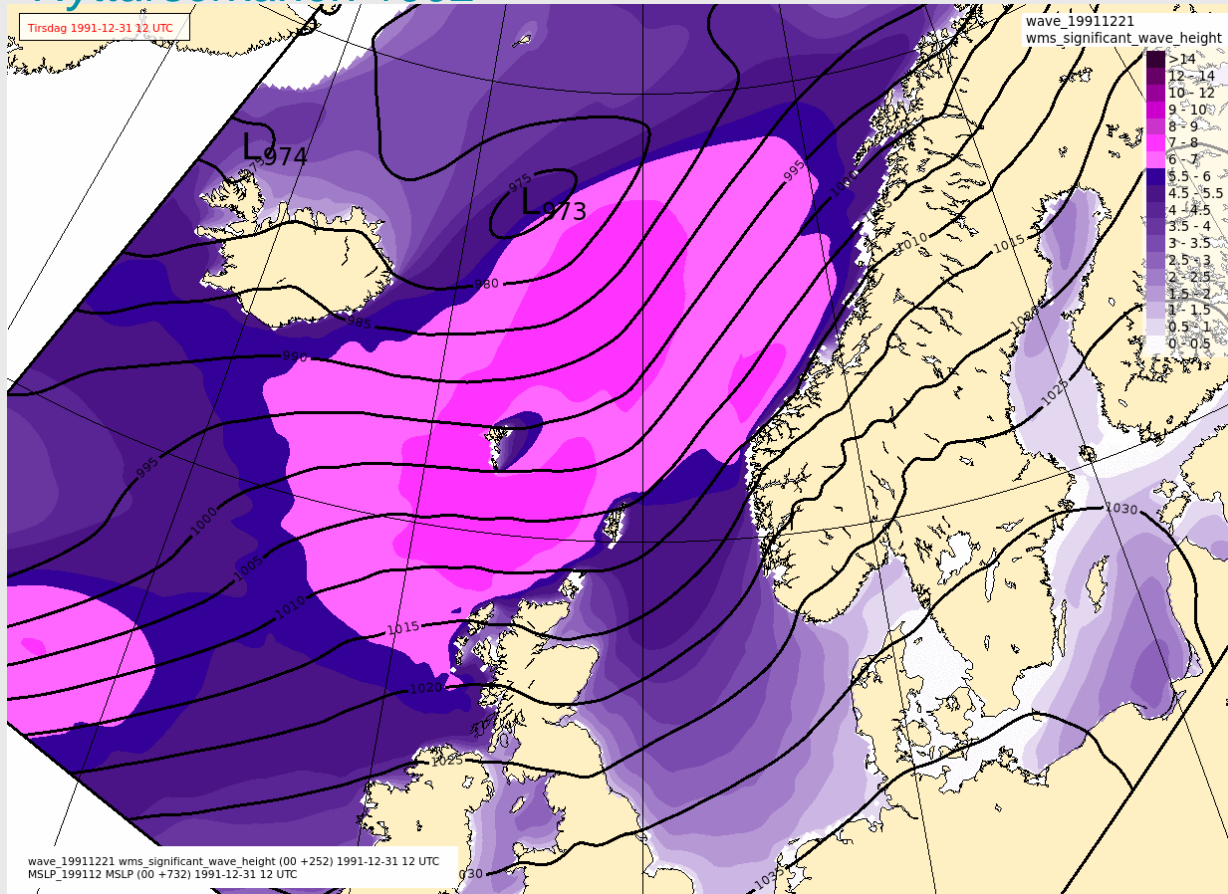
## Wave component – nested WAM-model

- WAM 50 km forced by ERA-40 winds
- WAM 10 km forced by HIRLAM10 winds
  - 2D spectrum: 24 by 25 directional/frequency bins
- September 1957 onwards



# Reanalysis data set gives hourly or 3-hourly output

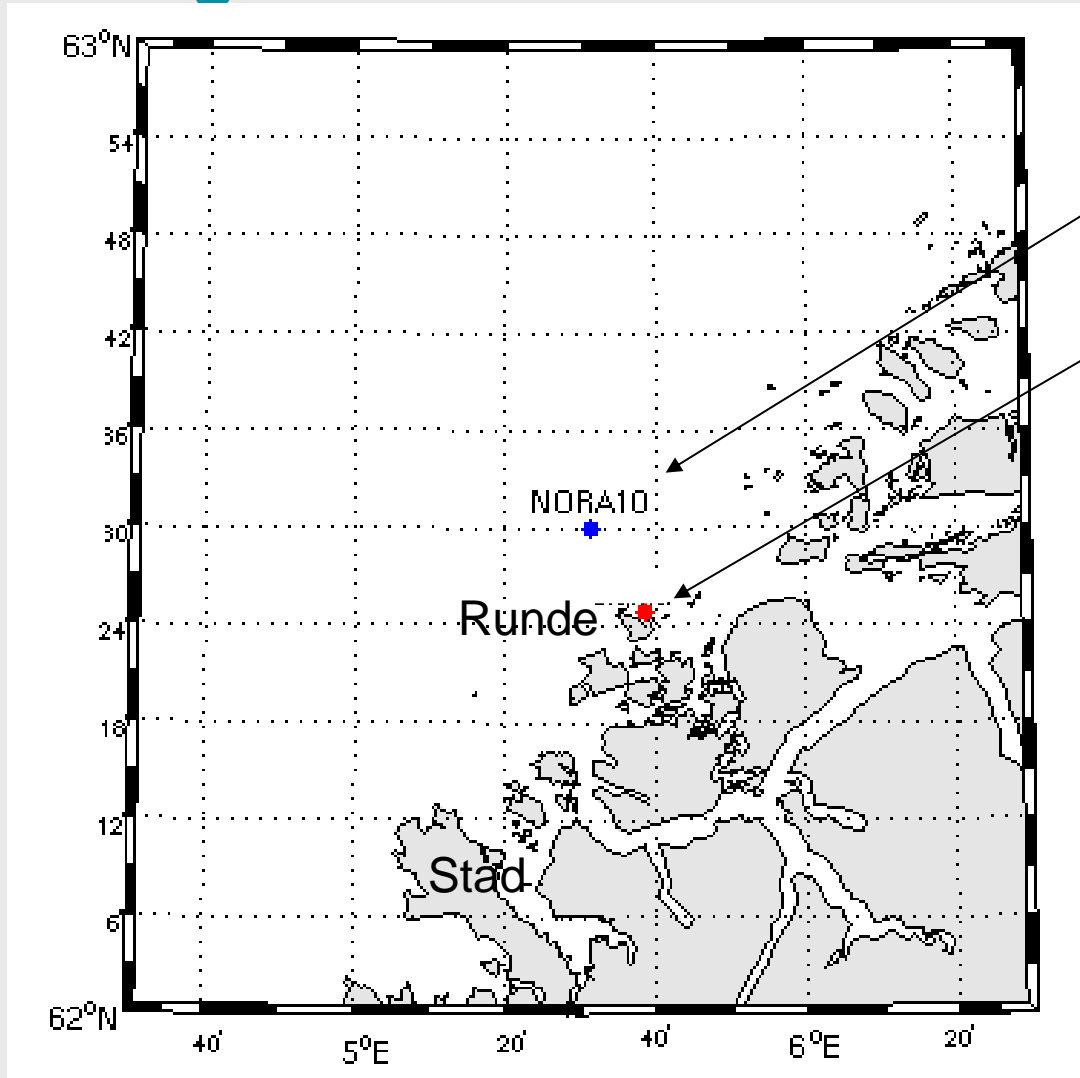
- *Nyttårsorkanen 1992*





# Downscaling

## -using wave model SWAN



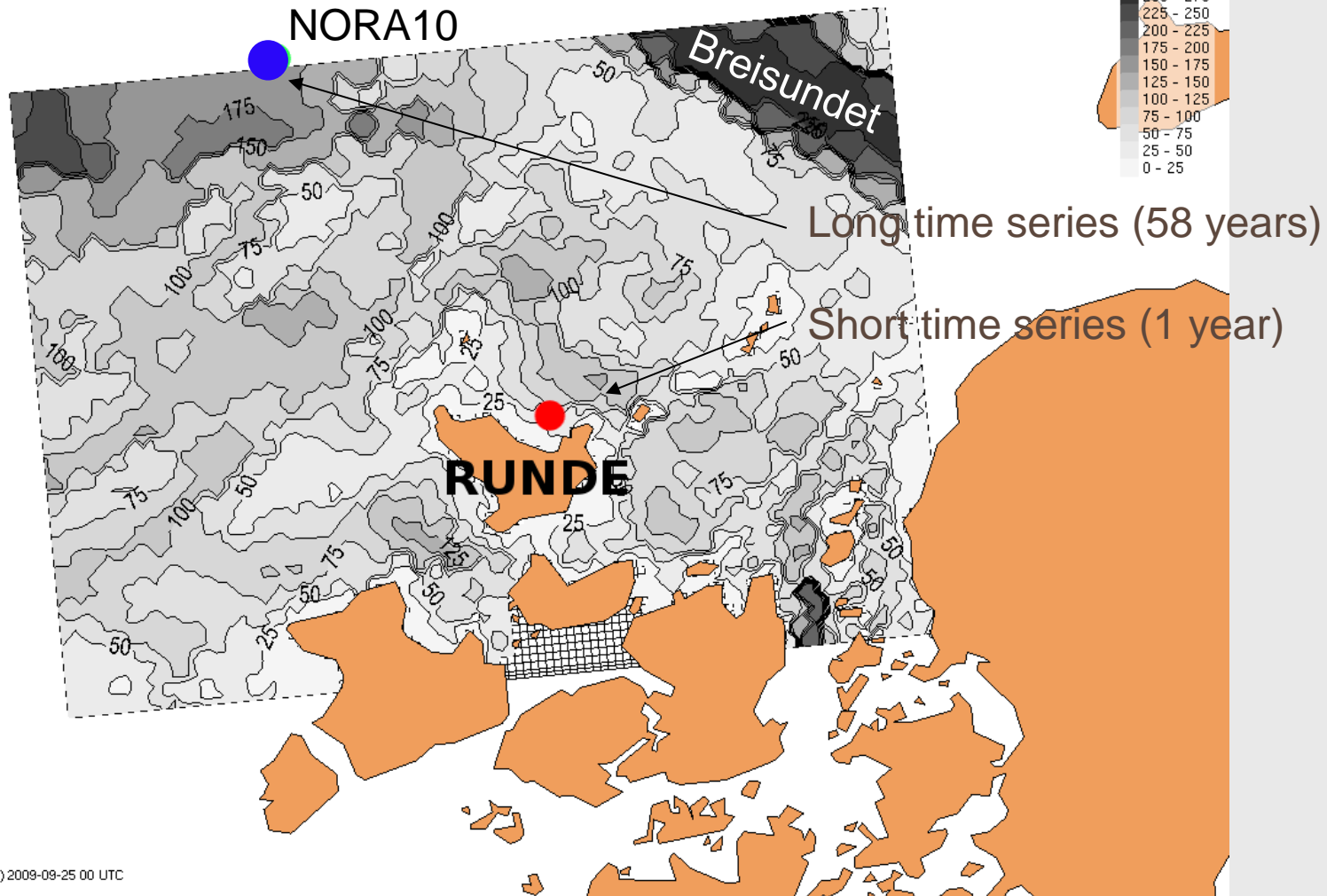
Long time series (58 years)

Suggested wave power plant  
Short time series (1 year)

# Detailed bathymetry [m]

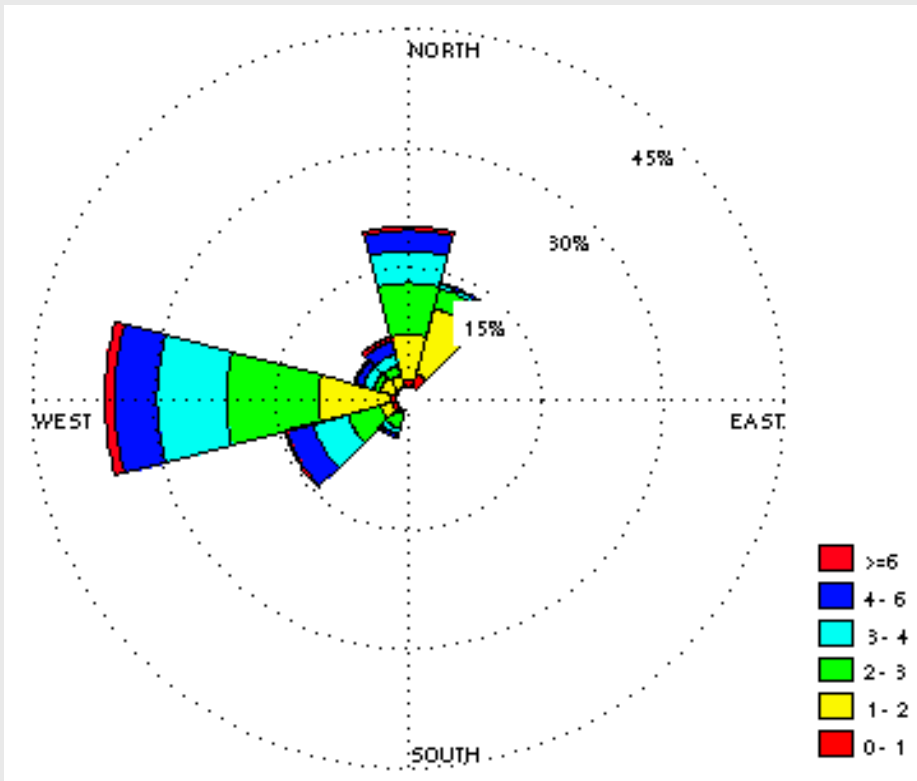
Fredag 2009-09-25 00 UTC

e.g. 200m spatial resolution



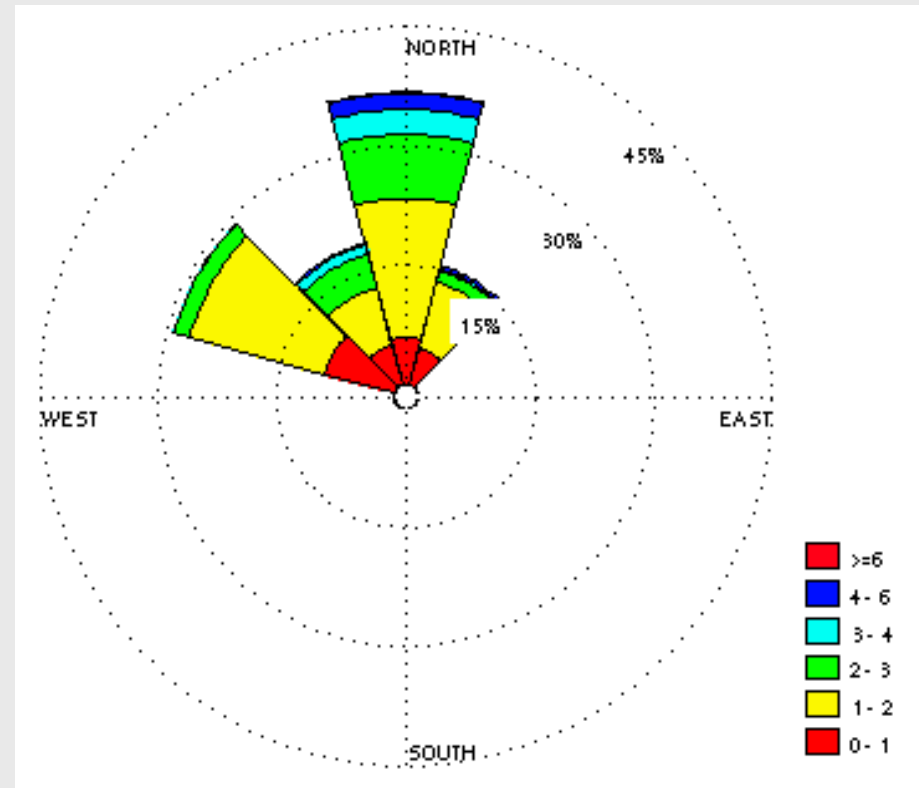
# Directional distributions

NORA10 location



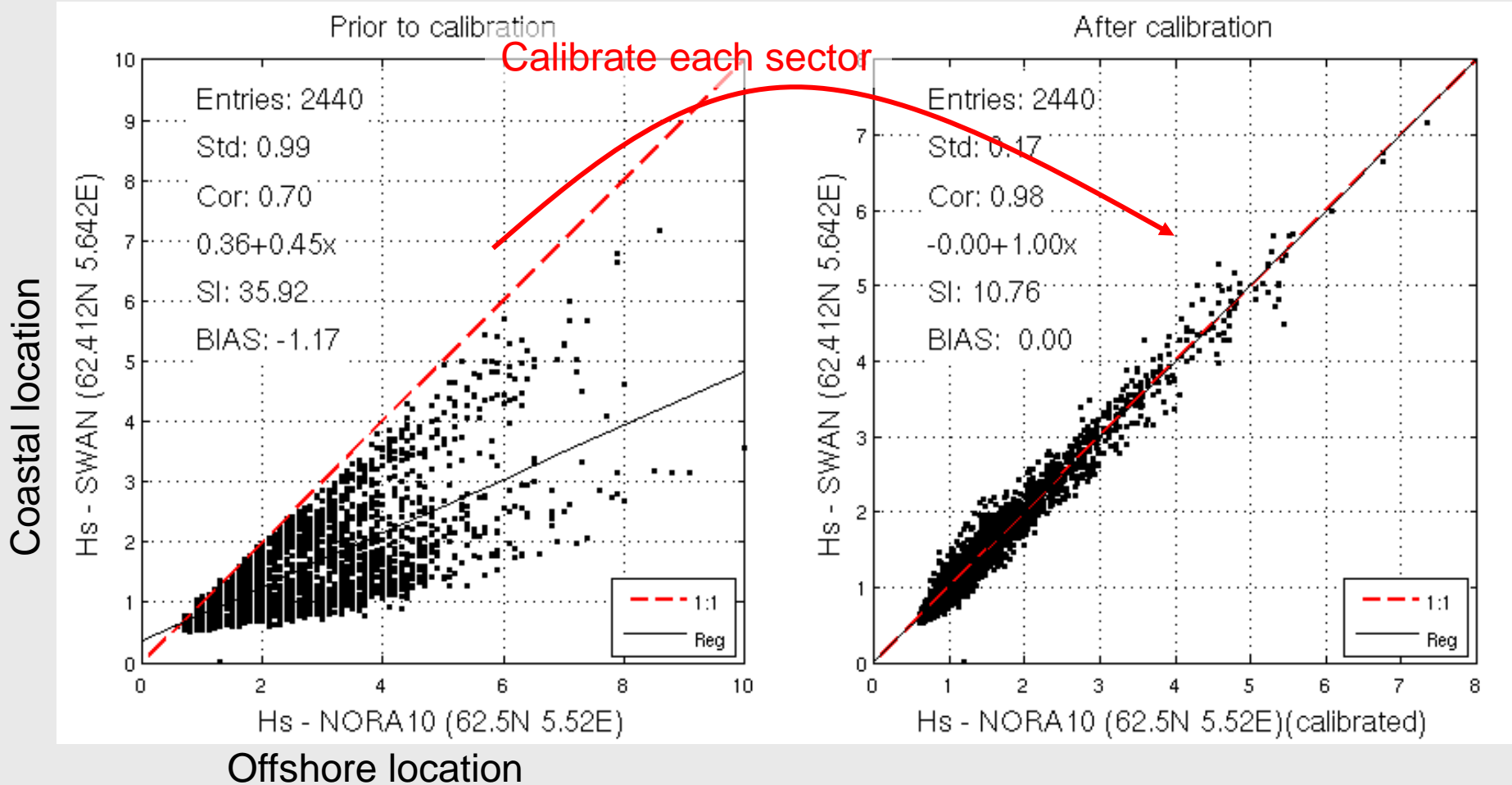
Waves from West and North

Coastal location



Waves from North and Northwest  
(sheltering from Runde)

# Downscaling NORA10 to coastal location for wave power plant



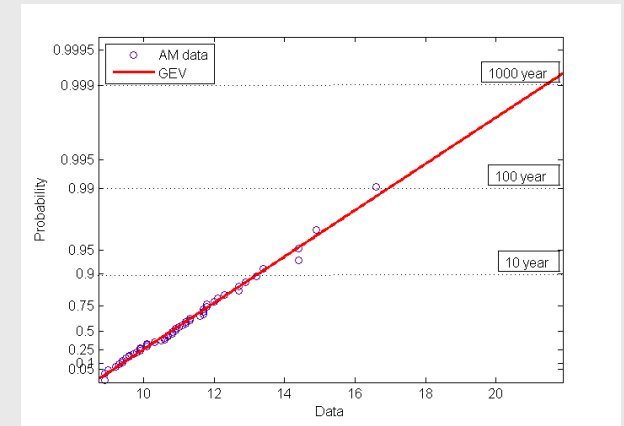
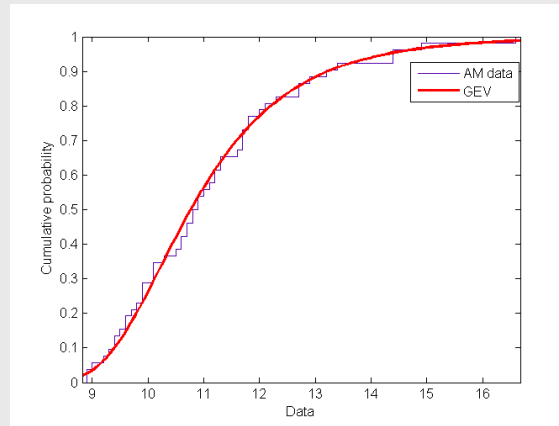
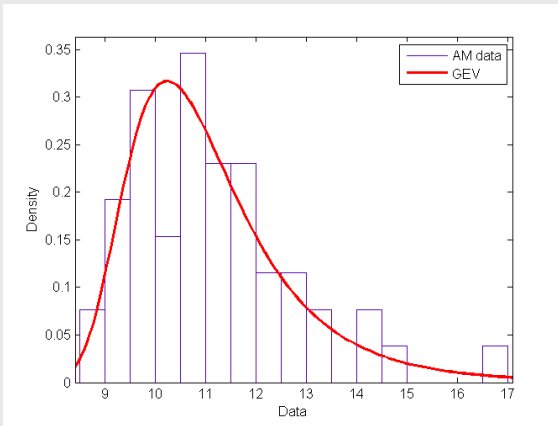
→ Long time series locally

# Long timeseries

- Useful for statistics:
  - Mean, median etc.
  - Probability density
  - Frequency of events or combination of events
  - Return value estimations for design loads

# Return Value estimates

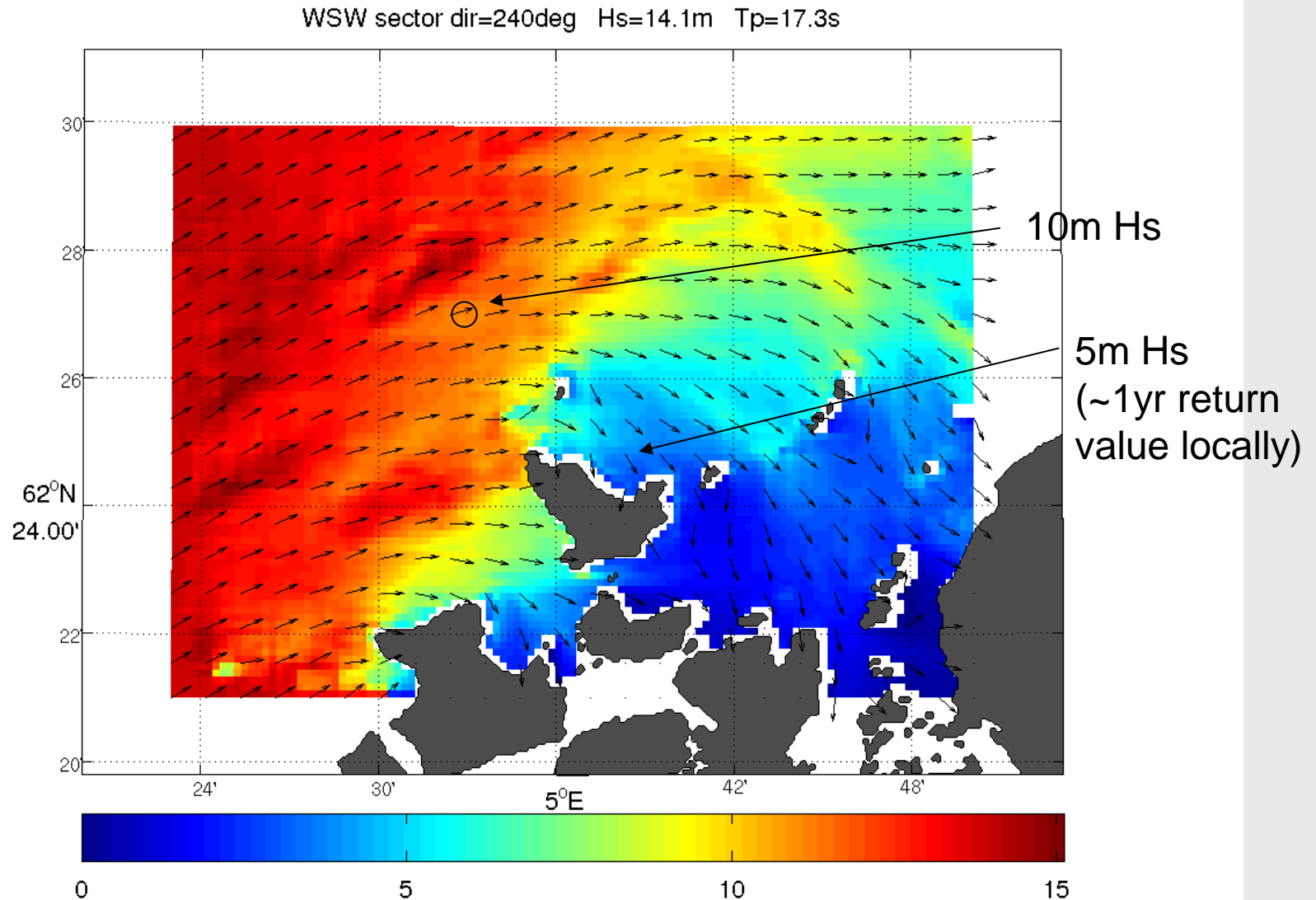
- *data selection and fitting of distribution*



Different approaches may be used:

- Initial distribution method / 3p-Weibull (fitting: MOM and LS)
- Annual maximum / Generalized Extreme Value distribution (Gumbel)
- **Peaks over threshold / Generalized Pareto (exponential)**

# "100 year" wave situation in the offshore location





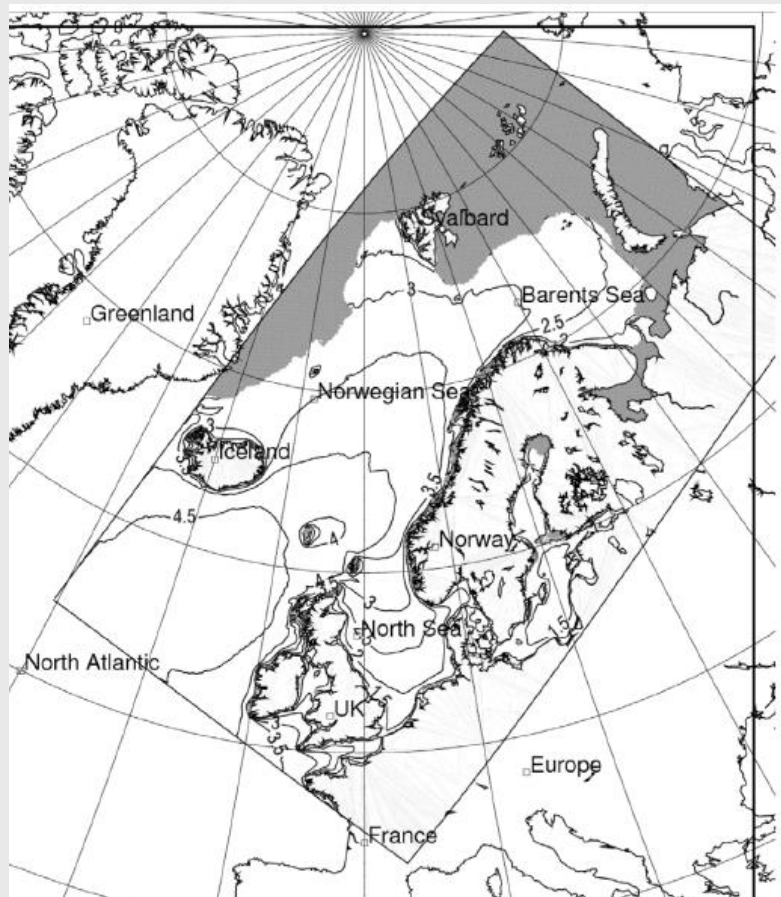
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# North Sea wave climate

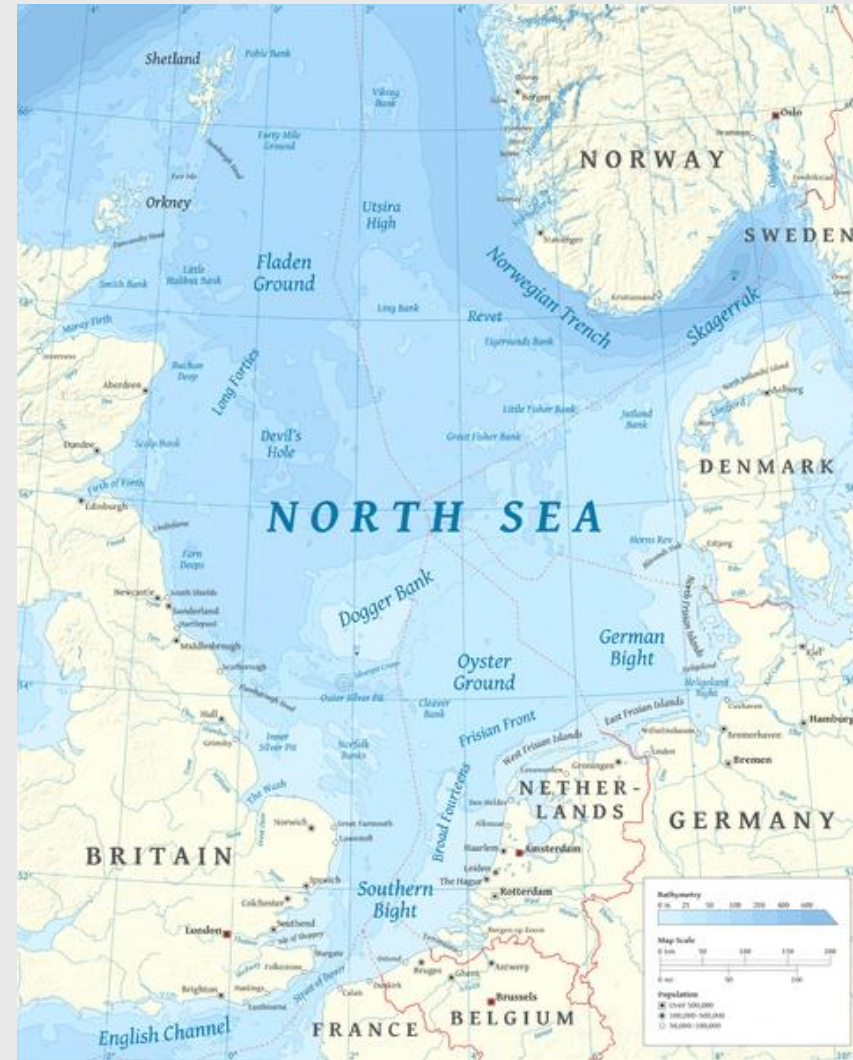


# North Sea wave climate

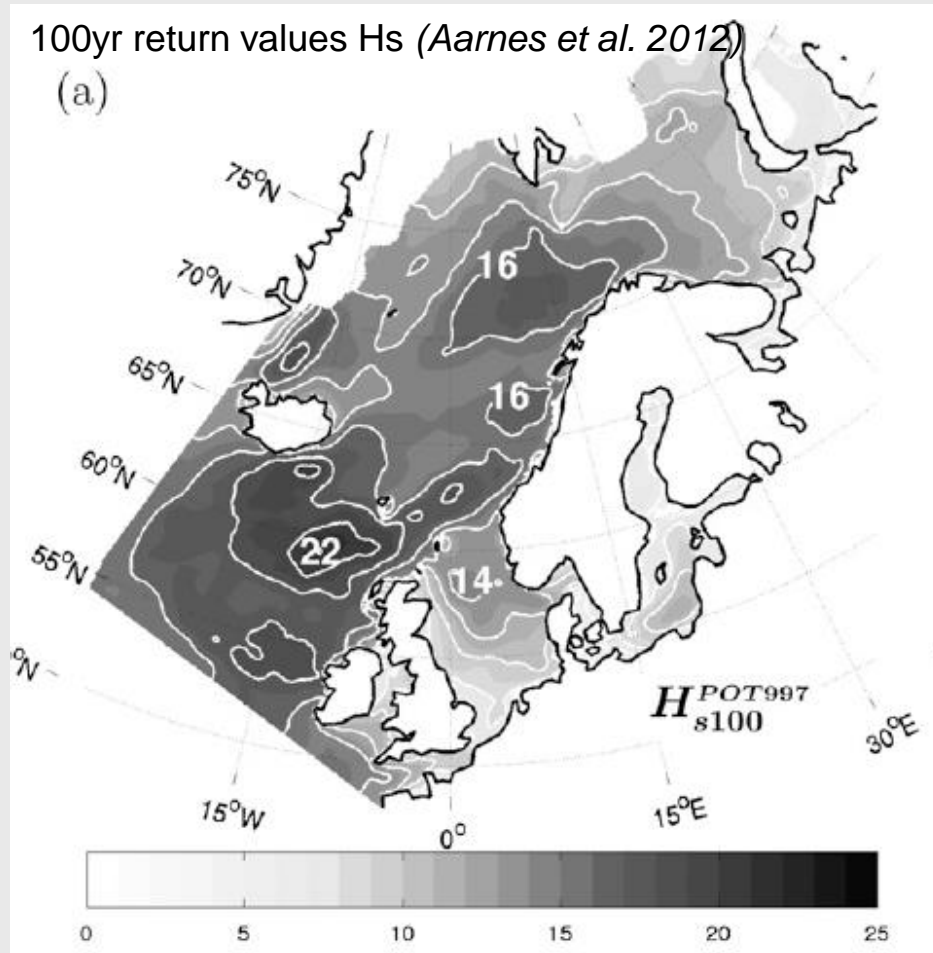
- Low wave climate in a global perspective
- Relatively large variability in wave direction



Mean  $H_s$  from NORA10 (Reistad et al. 2012)

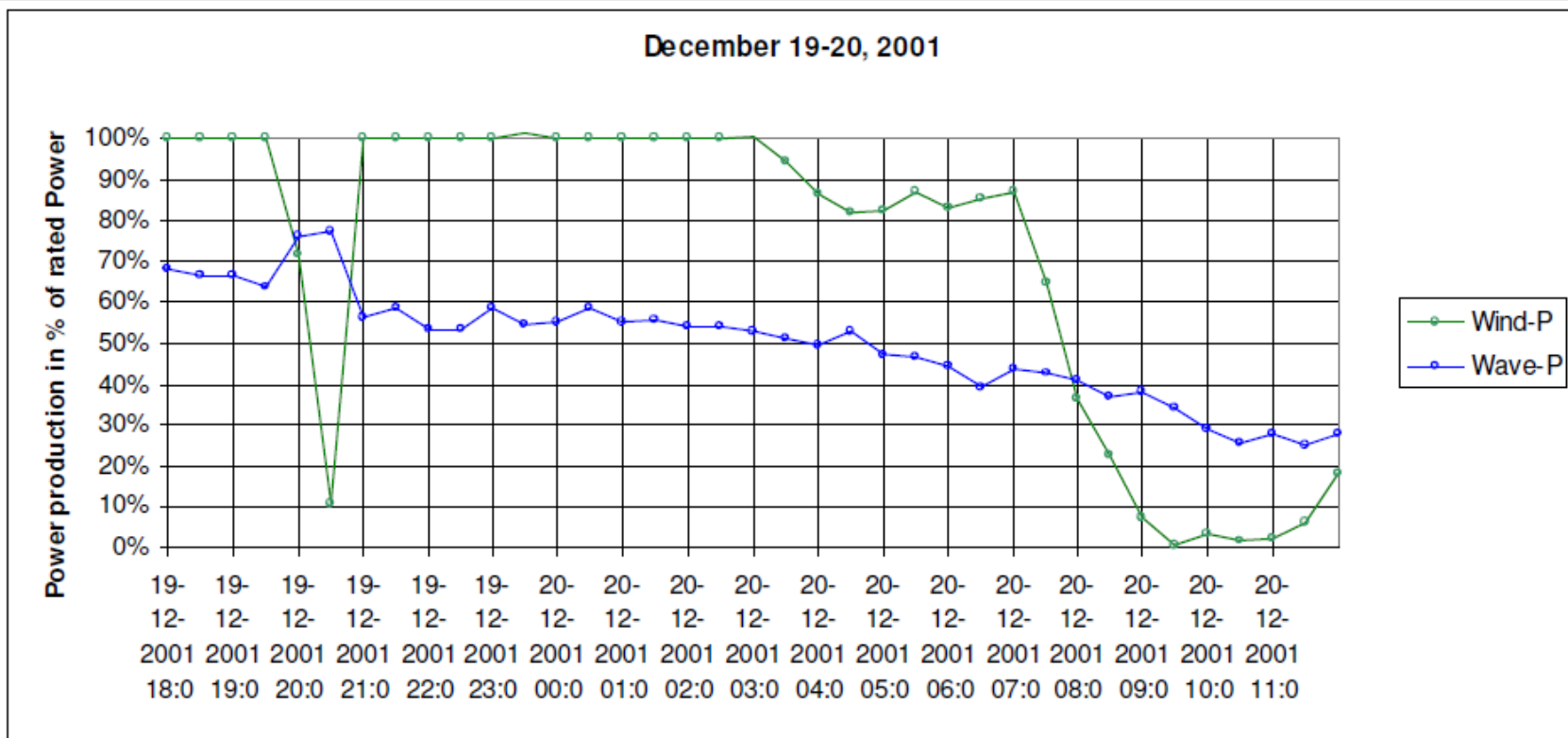


# North Sea wave climate



- Also lower return values in the North Sea
- Still, similar design loads in the North Sea as in rougher wave climate (Sørensen and Chozas, *ICOE*, 2010)

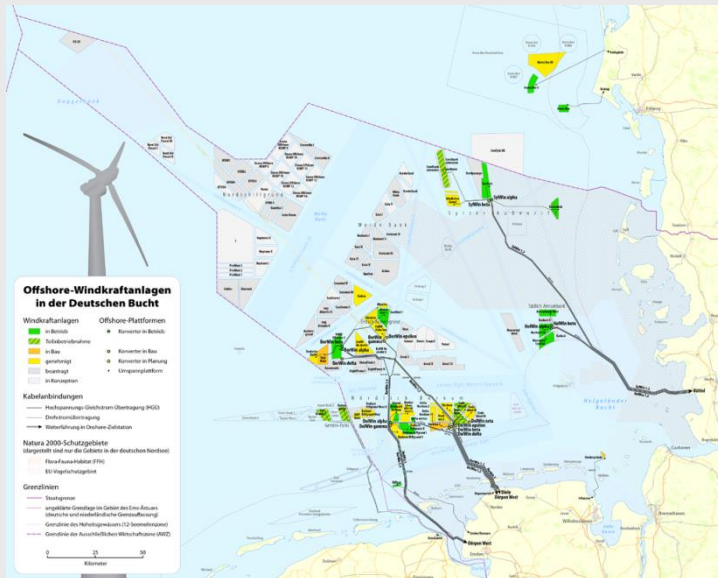
# Wave power may complement wind energy



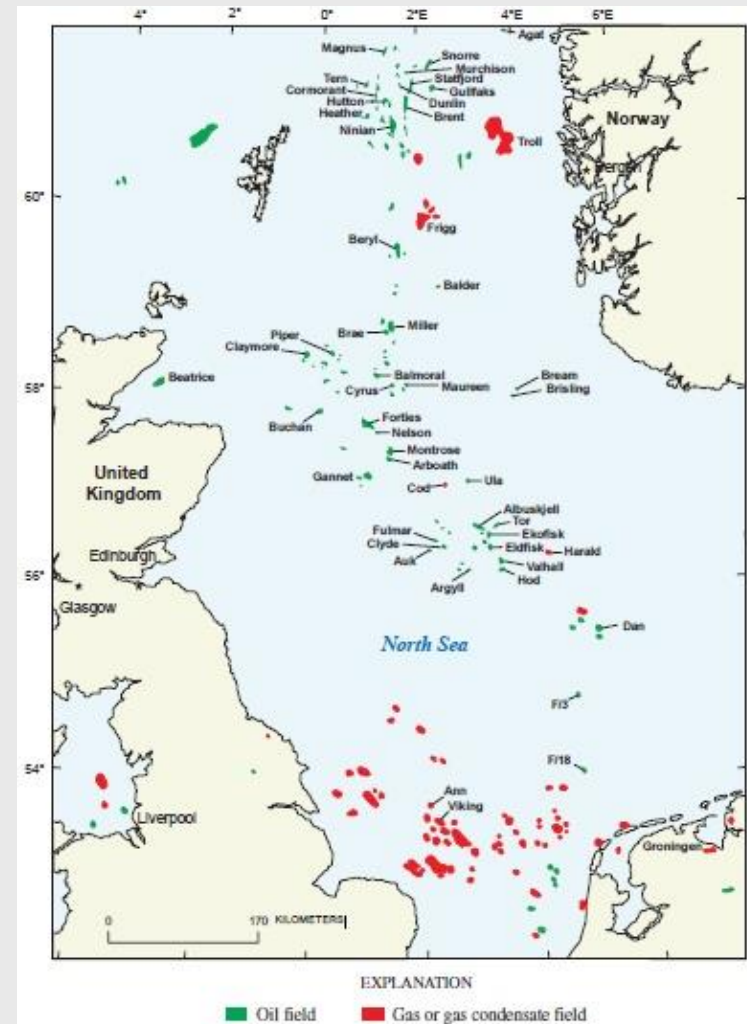
*Sørensen and Chozas (2010)*

# Coexistence

- Competition for space
- Supply of energy to oil rigs
- Reuse of grid
- Sheltering for access to wind turbines?

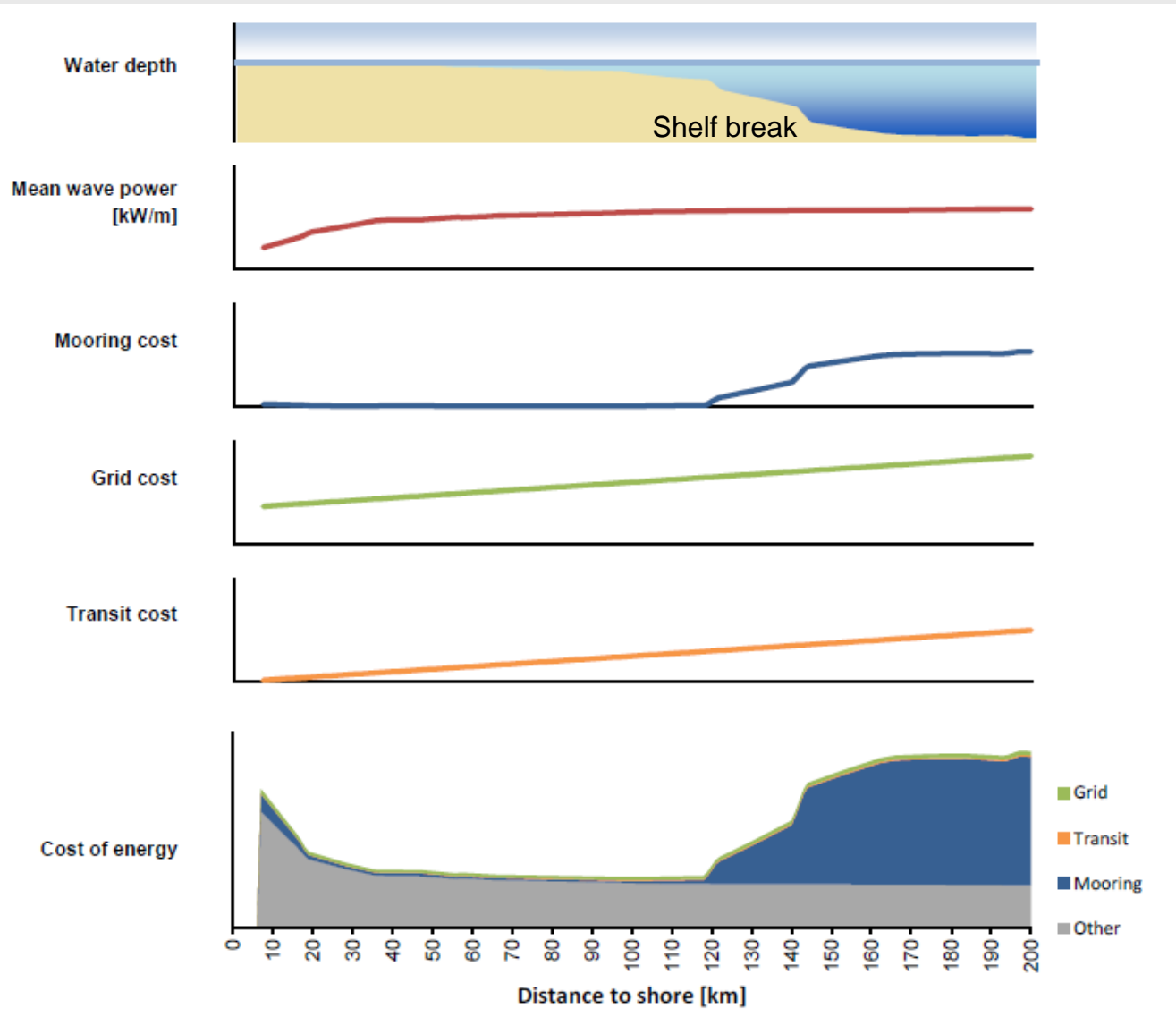


By Maximilian Dörrbecker



By Gautier, D.L. - US Dept. of Interior  
USGS Bulletin 2204-C

# Trade-off between cost of energy and distance to shore



Source: [Carbon trust UK wave energy resource \(2012\)](#)

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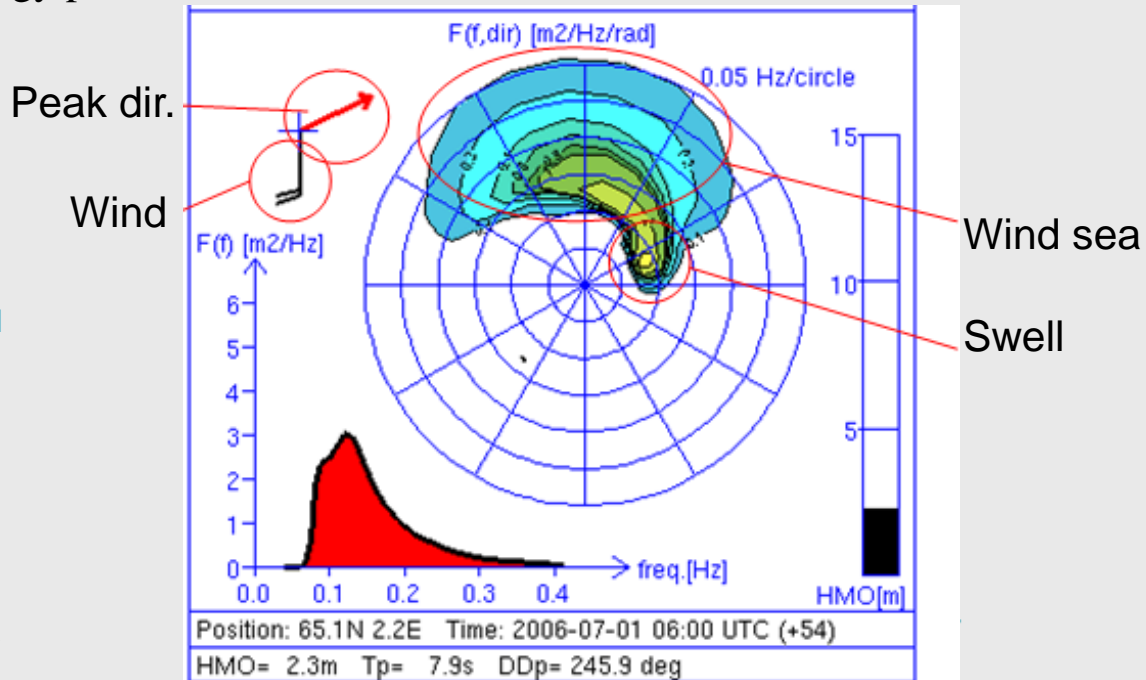
# Wind versus wave energy

- Wind energy  $P = \frac{1}{2} A \rho V^3$  [ $W/m^2$ ]
- Wave energy  $P = \frac{1}{8} \rho g H^2 C_g$  [ $W/m$ ]
  - $H$  ( $H_{rms}$ ) of wind sea and swell separated
  - $C_g = \sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} = \frac{gT}{2\pi}$  in deep water ( $D > \lambda/4$ )
  - $T$  ( $T_e$  or  $T_{m-10}$ ) is the energy period

$$m_n = \int_0^\infty f^n E(f) df$$

$$T_e = \frac{\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-1} F d\sigma d\theta}{\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty F d\sigma d\theta}$$

$m_{-1}$   
 $m_0$



# Wave energy extraction

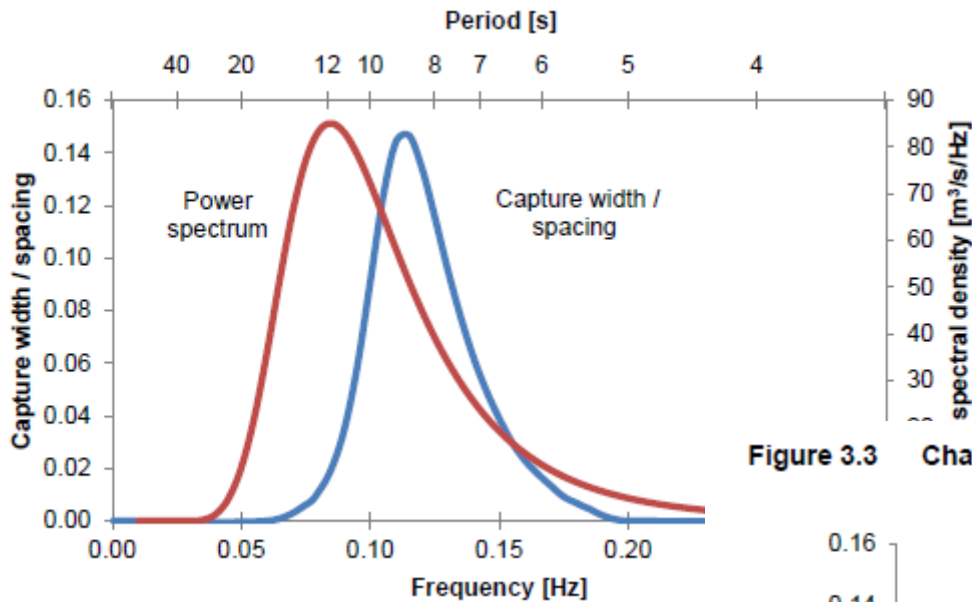
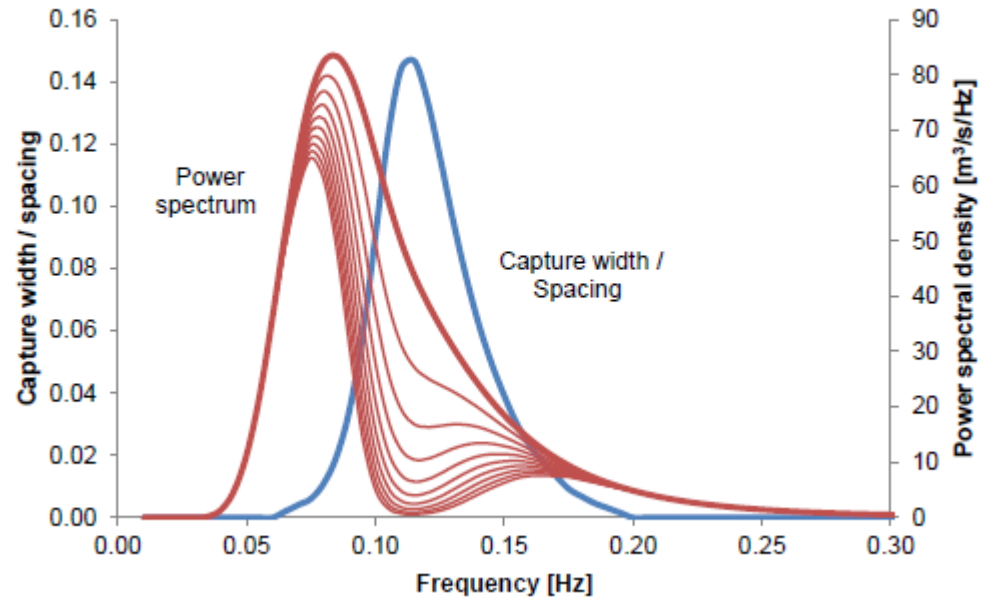


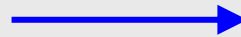
Figure 3.3 Changes to the power spectrum by multiple rows of devices



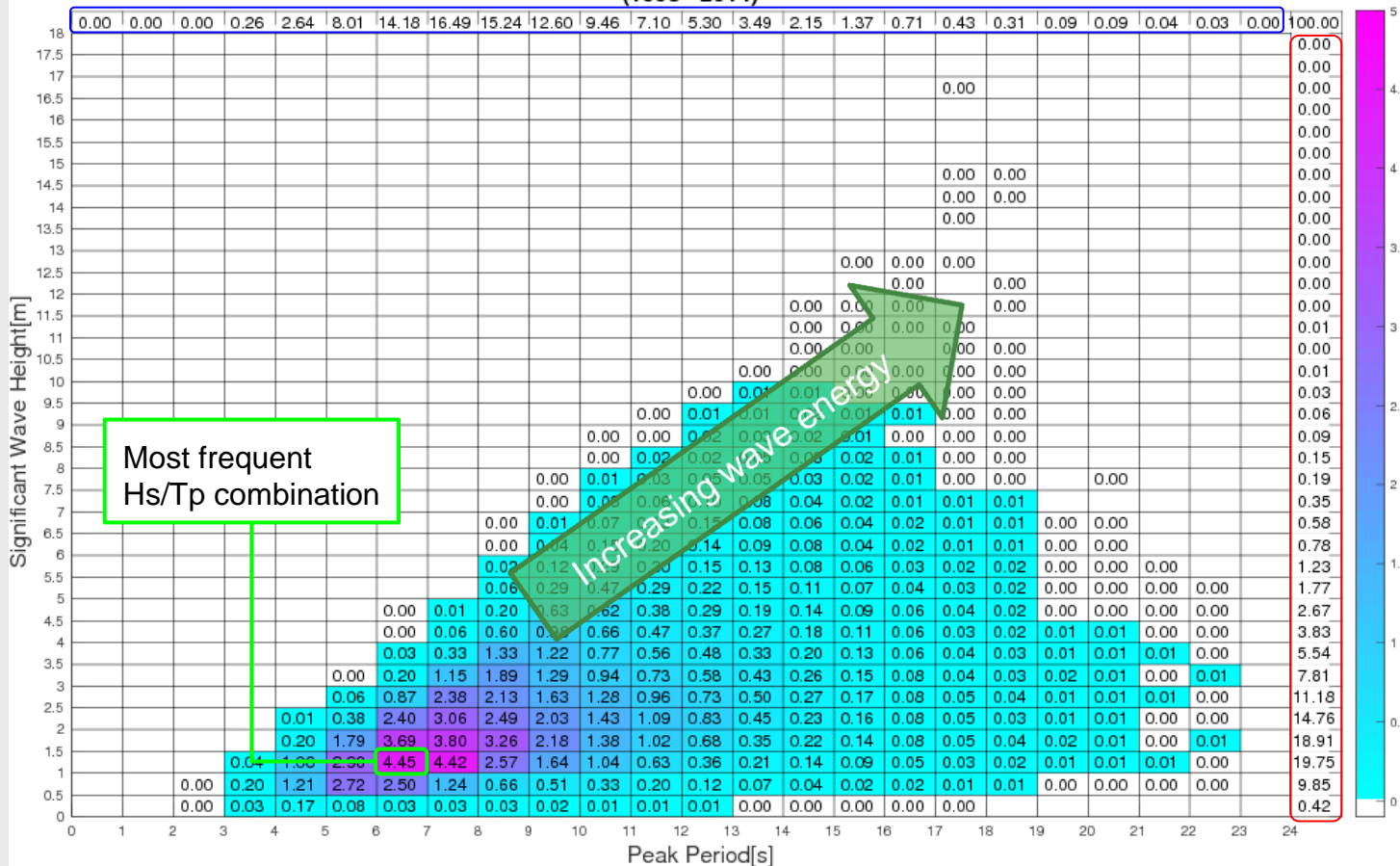
Carbon trust (2012) UK wave energy resource

# Joint statistics $H_s / T_p$

Marginal distribution  $T_p$



NORA10 - Frequency table - Pos: 7352N 2207E  
(1958 - 2014)

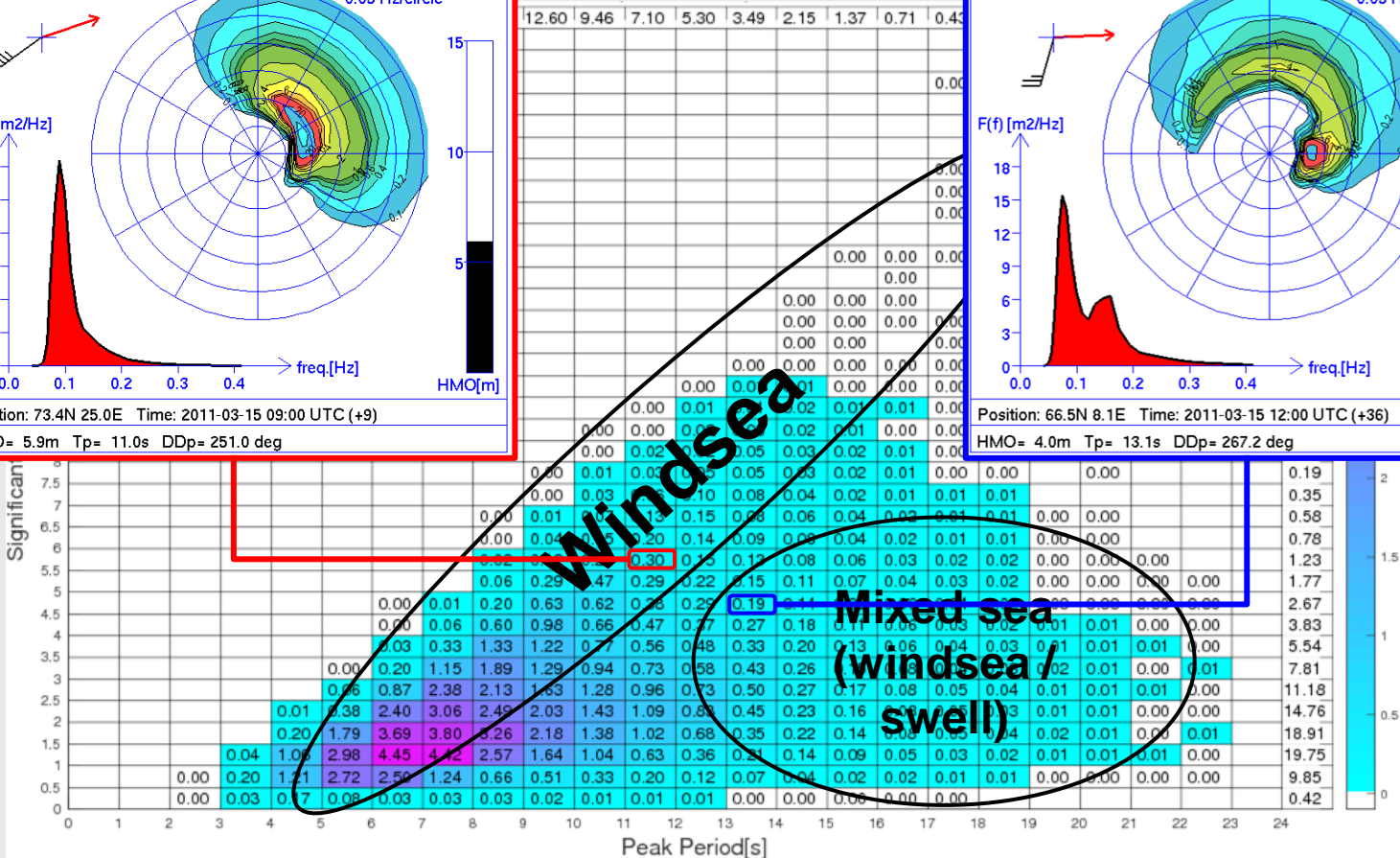
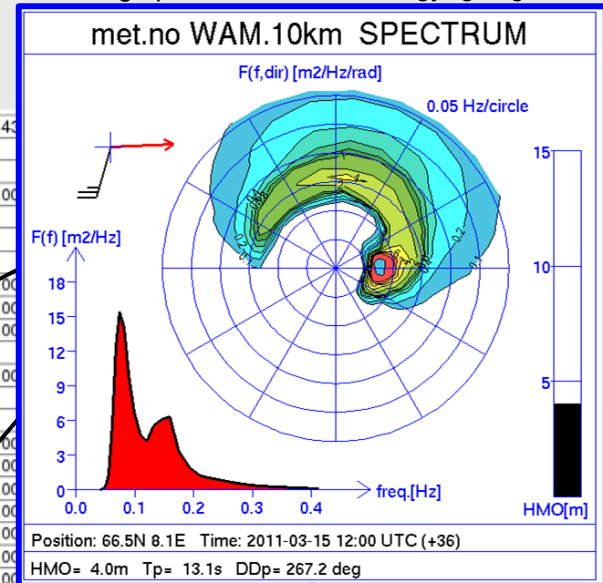
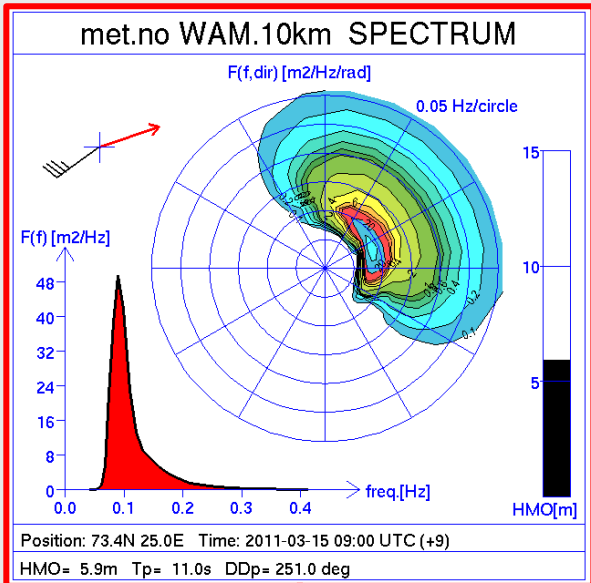






# Joint statistics $H_s / T_p$

Oceanographic convention - energy "going towards"



# Sheltering effect

- Reduction in wave energy
- Refraction

- Wave energy converters
- 1 row (left)
  - 2 rows (right)

2 m Hs  
5 s period  
from West

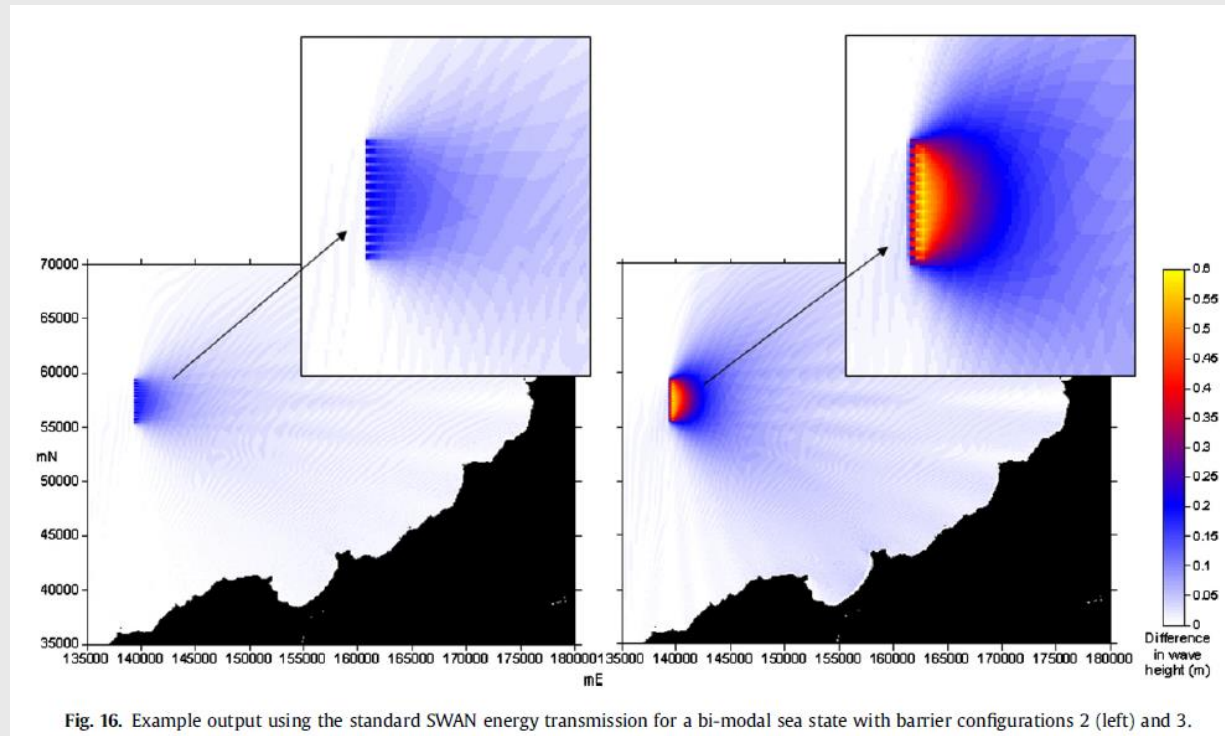


Fig. 16. Example output using the standard SWAN energy transmission for a bi-modal sea state with barrier configurations 2 (left) and 3.

Smith et al. (2012) *Renewable Energy*

Bunntekst

# Wave energy estimate (TWh/yr)

- Yearly production (10% efficiency of the annual mean power of the devices)
- In total 23 TWh/yr: ~2% of electricity consumption in these countries
- 77 TWh/yr (6%) with a transnational approach
- Local effects - hot spots - not accounted for

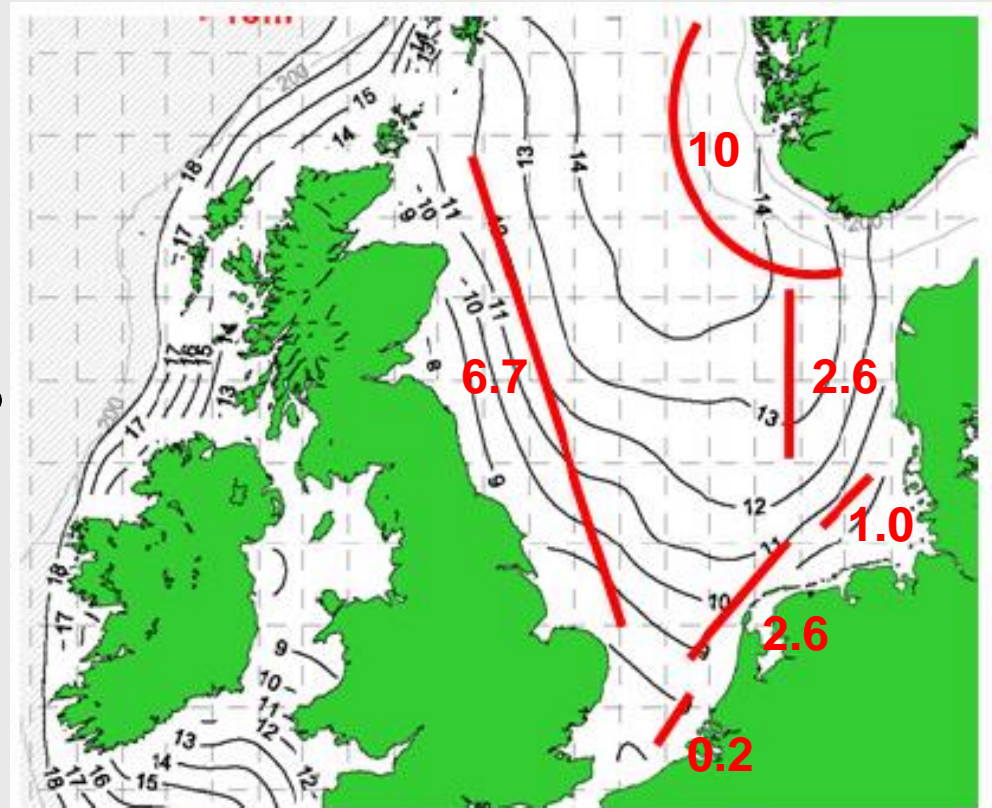
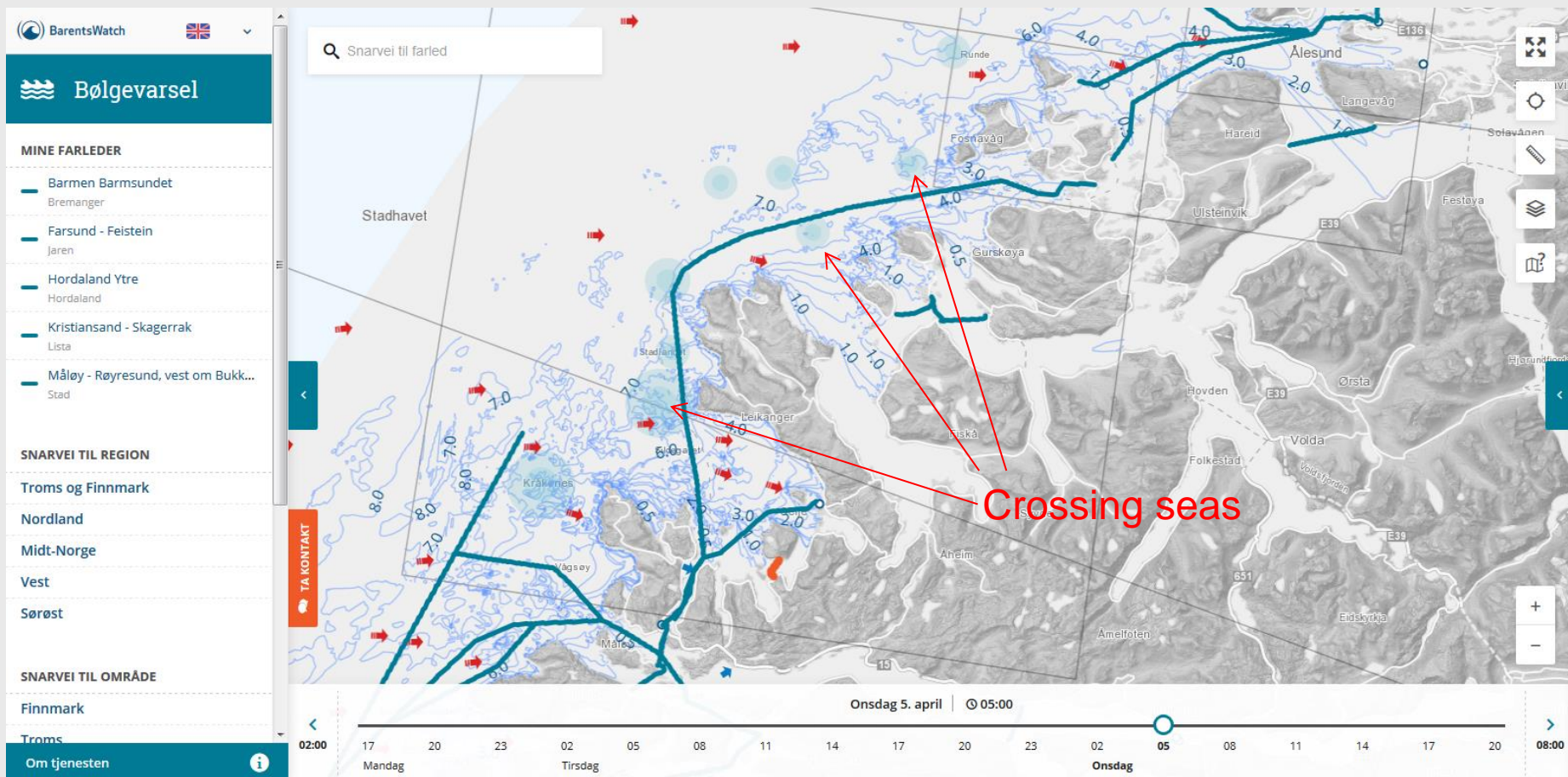


Figure 7: The national approach: one line of wave devices placed along the coast; map from [16] (the figures are significant wave height in m).

*Sørensen and Chozas (2010)*

# Transfer of wave energy to the coast

- 20m isobath ( $T \sim 7s$ )
- Can give wave energy hot spots





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# Wave power in Norway



Bølgekraftvegen

Bølgekraftvegen

Bølgekraftvegen

Kylis

Laksho

Google

# Norwave wave power prototype Toftestallen 1985-1991

691 MWh in total delivered to grid





# 2008



- *Buldra*
- Fred. Olsen research platform.
- Glasfibre, 12 x 12 meter and 8 m a.s.l. (1:3).

<http://www.ntnu.no/gemini/2005-01/kortnytt.htm>

# Runde Miljøsententer



Several wave power converters have been tested here  
Contact: Lars Golmen, NIVA

*Photo: Annelise Chapman*

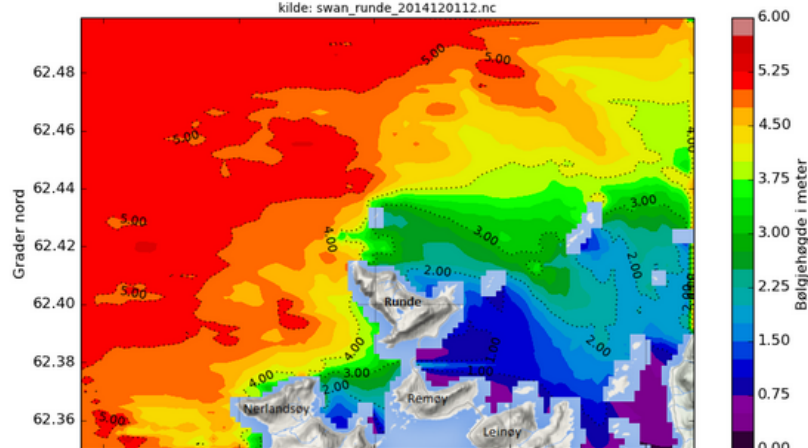
## Bølgjevarelsel for området rundt Runde

Runde Miljøsententer har i samarbeid med [Meteorologisk Institutt](#) laga ein bølgjemodell med høg oppløysing for området rundt Runde. Nye varsel vert produsert to gongar for dag.

Varsla viser [signifikant bølgjehøgde](#), ikkje maks. Dei største bølgjene er i snitt 1,8 gongar høgare enn den signifikante bølgjehøgda.

Signifikant bølgjehøgde (m) rundt Runde den 2014-12-03 klokka 12:00

kilde: swan\_runde\_2014120112.nc



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› [Forskning](#)

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# Waves4Power WaveEL at Runde





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