


# JCOMM Technical Workshop on Wave Measurements

New York  
October 2 & 3, 2008

 Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada



**Integrated Science Data Management**  
**Gestion des données scientifiques intégrées**



Canada

**Bruce Bradshaw**  
Wave & Drifting Buoy Programme Manager

Integrated Science Data Management – Fisheries and Oceans Canada



# ISDM

## Integrated Science Data Management

A Branch of DFO Science

Formed in 2006 by the merger of DFO's Marine Environmental Data Service and the Engineering and Geomatics Branch of CHS.



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada



Marine Environmental Data Service



### Continuously Managed Archives

- Waves
- Argo
- Tides & Water Levels
- Physical & Chemical Profiles
- Drifting & Moored Buoys
- Contaminants & Invasive Species...
- Navigation and Chart Services
- GeoPortal...



**Integrated Science Data Management**  
**Gestion des données scientifiques intégrées**



# ISDM & International Data Management



**ISDM Participates in several JCOMM Data Management Programmes**

**Work consists of**

- **Procedures for end-to-end data management**
- **Standards (metadata, formats, QC, etc.)**
- **Integrating ice, ocean, meteorological climatology**

**An International Data Centre within the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange programme**

**Work consists of**

- **Sharing data, experience and expertise**
- **Collaborating on a number of projects with international partners including the GTSP, GOSUD and GLOSS**
- **ISDM operates two world data centres, one for real-time profiles and one for surface drifter data**



# ISDM as a Data Centre

- **ISDM manages data in the real-time (hours-days) and delayed mode (months to years).**
- **We receive data from the Global Telecommunications System, and others, as often as every 15 minutes**
- **We send data through the GTS every 6 hours.**
- **We accept data from DFO and international partners months and years after collection.**
- **We add value by carrying out QC, duplicates identification and the standardization of content and structure.**
- **We deliver data to clients daily, weekly and on request.**



# ***ISDM Wave Data Services***

- From the early 70's to mid 90's MEDS developed and maintained a complete scientific, engineering and field buoy programme.
- National archive of wave data with:
  - 8 million measured spectra
  - 300,000 new MSC spectra/year
  - 500,000 timeseries records
  - several model and hindcast datasets (AES40, MSC50, Beaufort, GL...)
  - Environmental Data collected by the Oil & Gas industry
- All data is available online or by request.

<http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>



# The ISDM Wave Data Services

We describe our services in terms of the following four steps:

- 
- Acquisition
  - Processing
  - Archival
  - Providing Access to Data



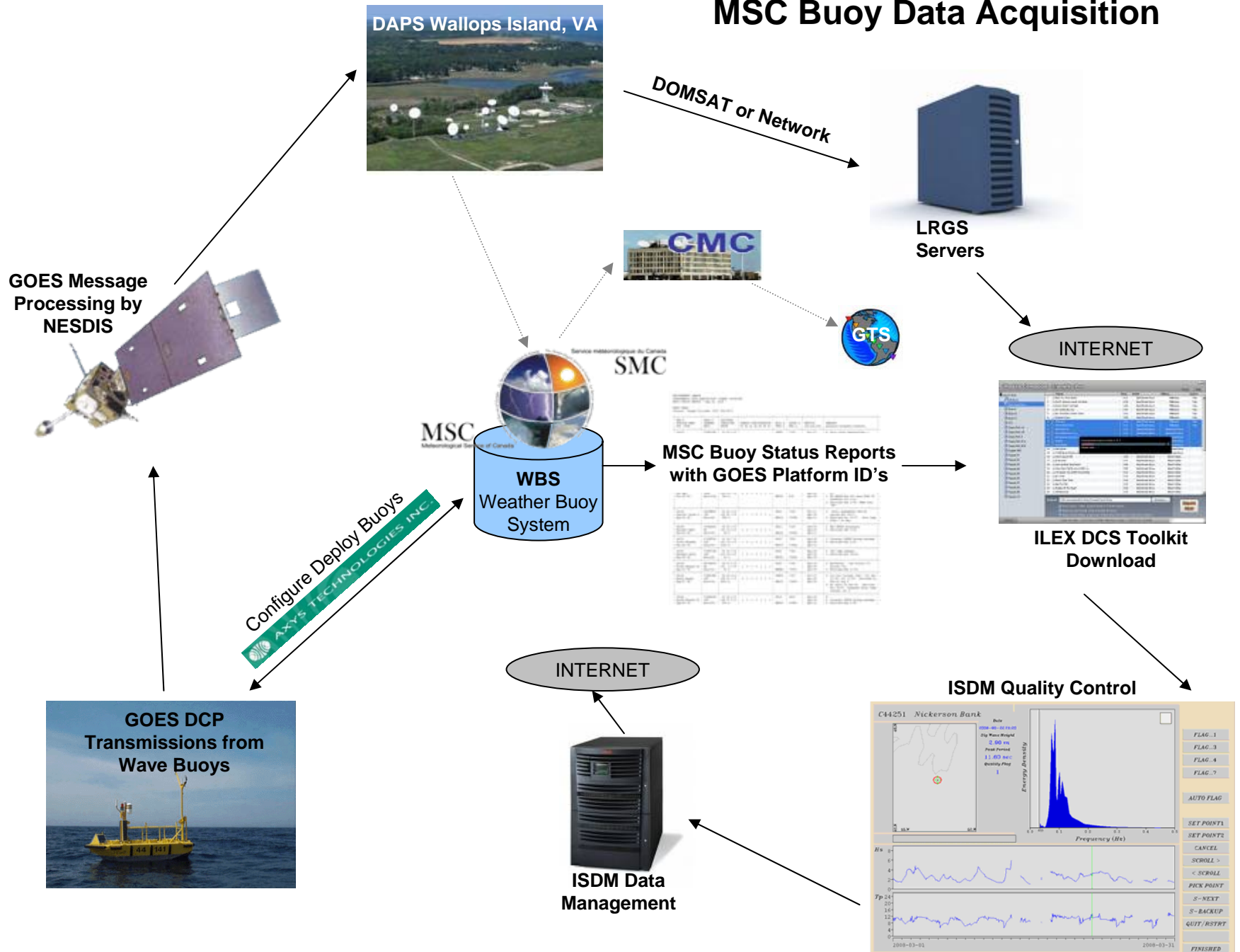
# Wave Data Acquisition

## **All wave and ancillary data from the Canadian area of interest (n of 35)**

- Meteorological and oceanographic data from MSC weather buoy network transmitted over the GOES satellite network
- Annual oil and gas industry submissions
- Hindcast and model data
- Other engineering or scientific research data (altimeter, radar etc.)



# MSC Buoy Data Acquisition

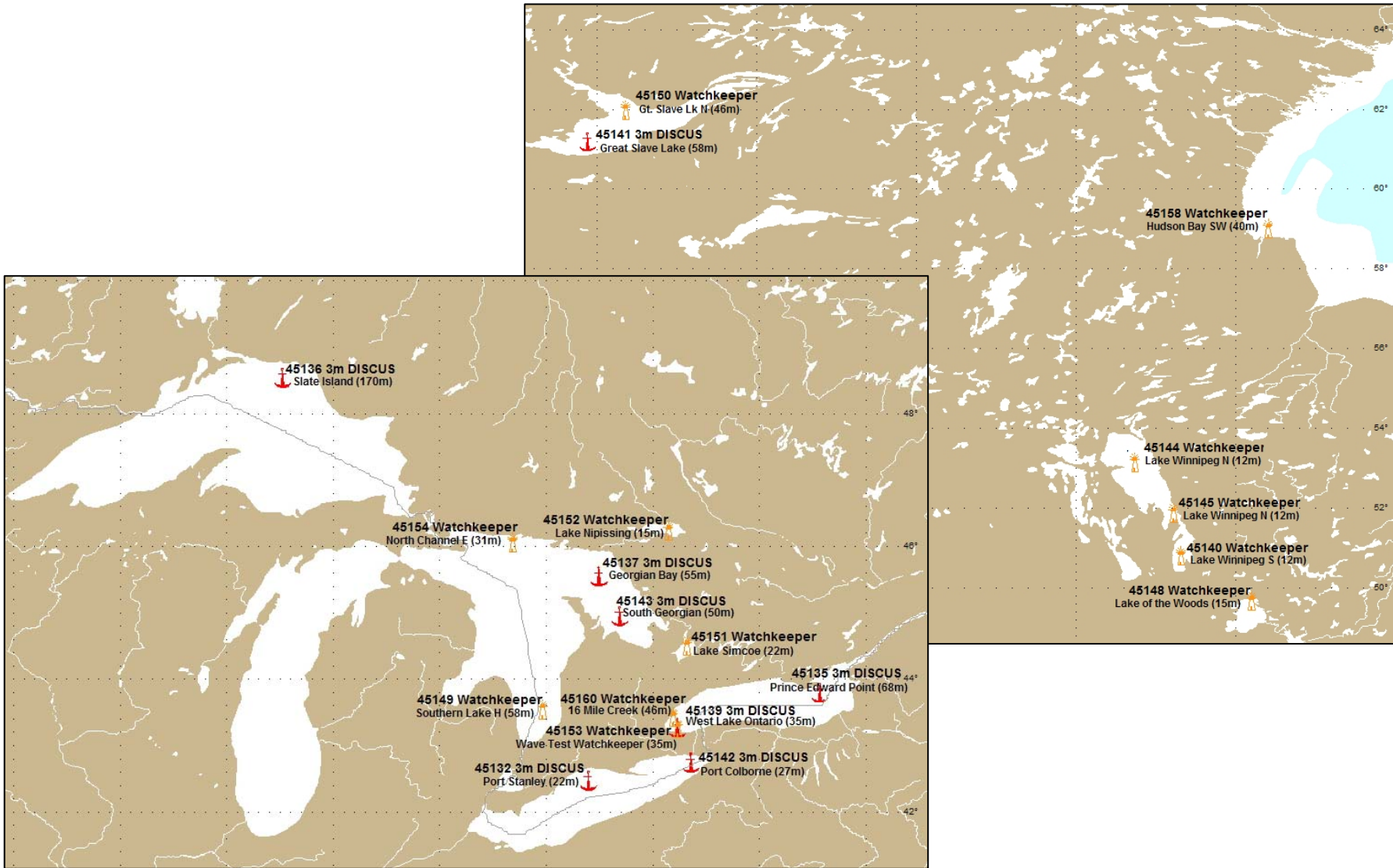




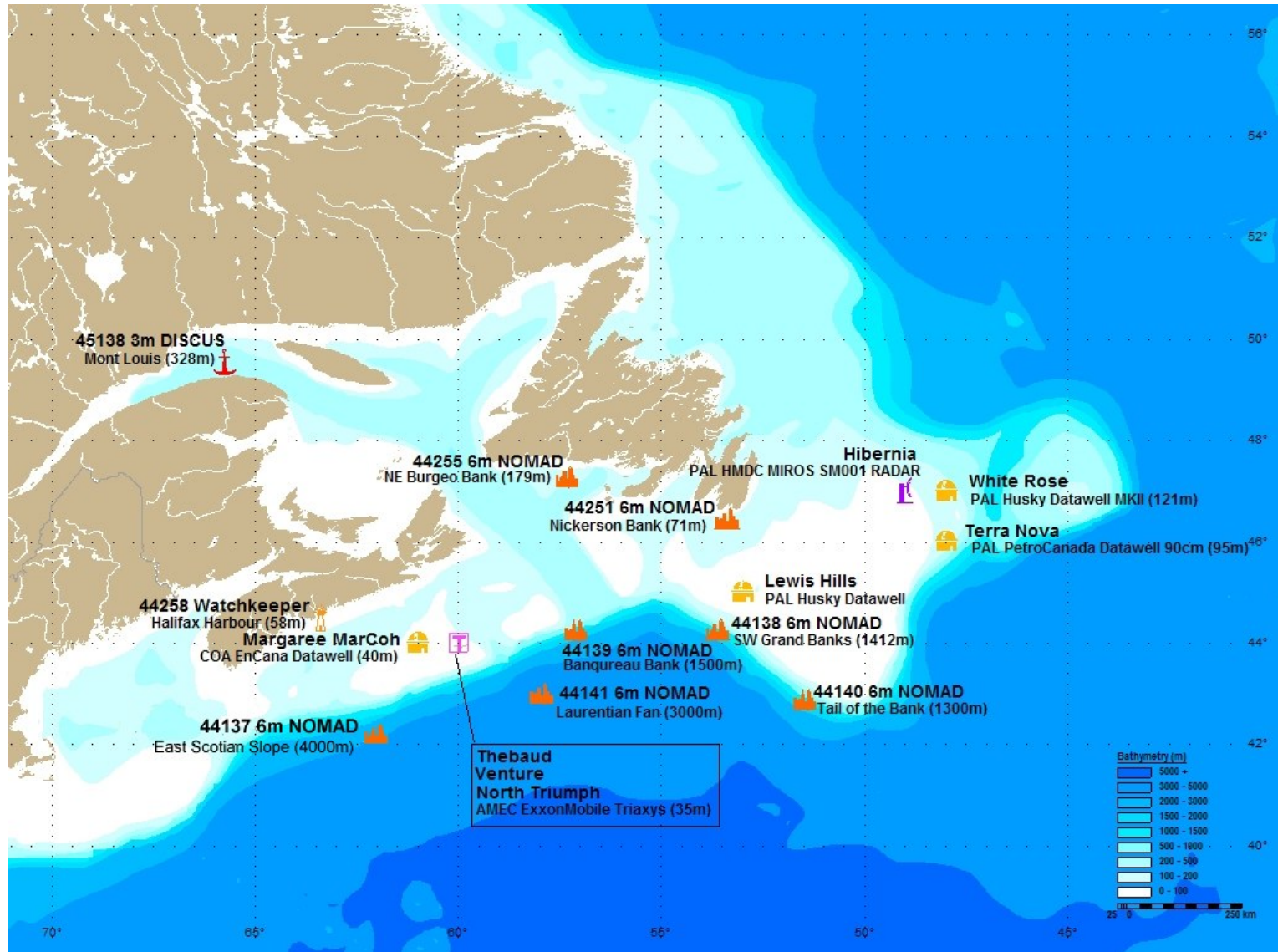
# Pacific Buoy Network



# Lake Buoy Network



# East Coast Buoy Network





# Data Recovery Challenges

- Dependant on an up to date list of all GOES transmitters ID's in use by EC.
- Transmission gaps resulting from deteriorating satellite orbits (elevation angle for NW buoys), environmental conditions and transmitter malfunctions.
- Data recovery has improved significantly with transmitter improvements, satellite networks, download protocols and better coordination between MSC and ISDM.



# Wave Data Processing



# Data Quality Control and Spectral Analysis for

- Buoy Deployment Position
- Wave Instrument Operation
- Spectral Frequency Range
- Spectral Shape
- Significant Wave Height
- Peak Period

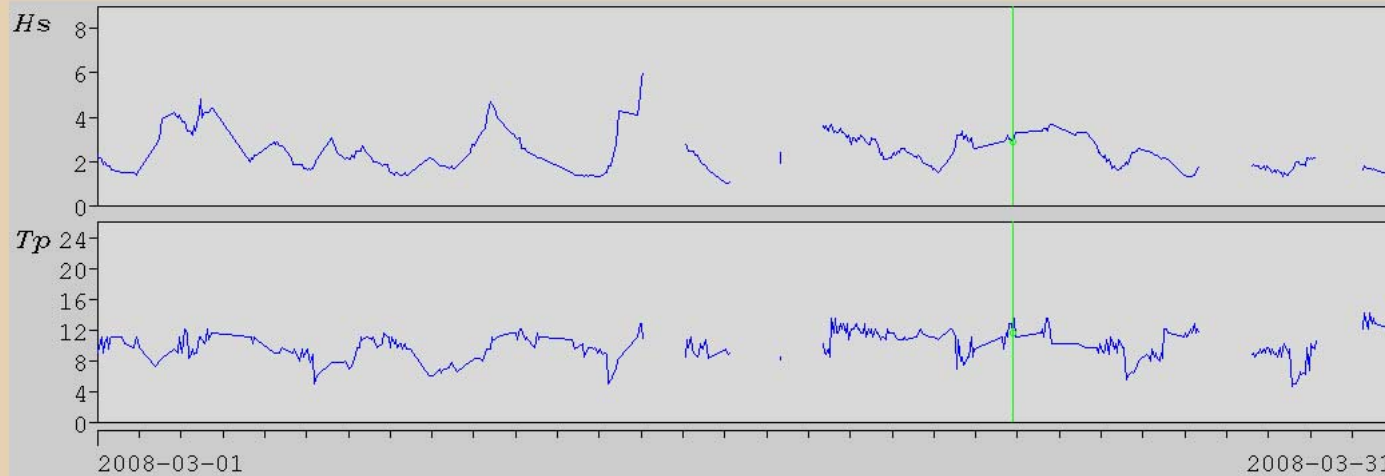
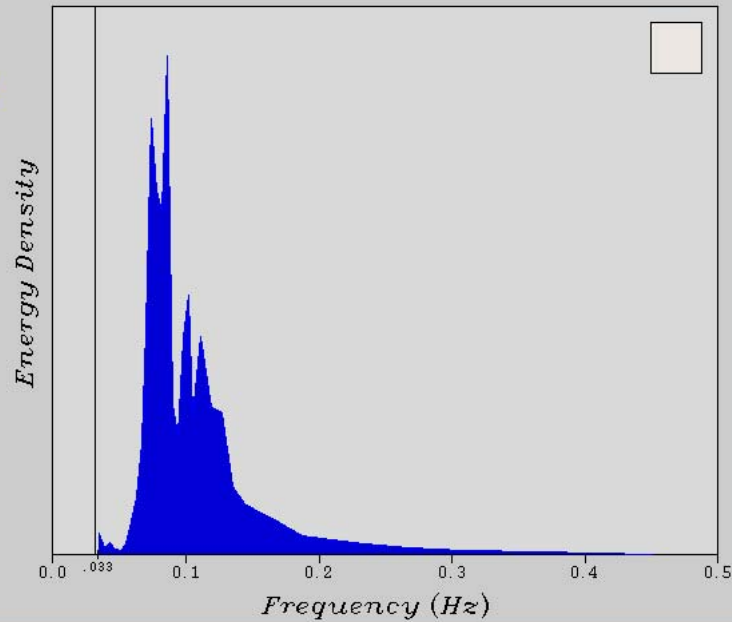
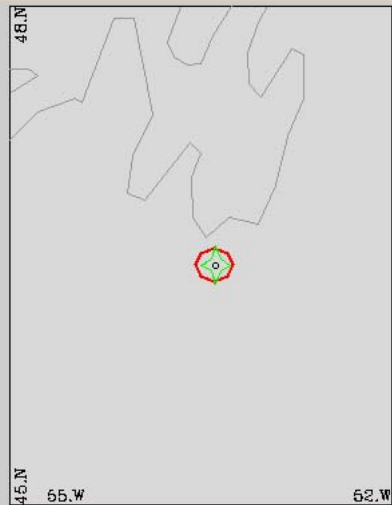
# C44251 Nickerson Bank

Date  
2008-03-22 21:20

Sig Wave Height  
2.90 m

Peak Period  
11.60 sec

Quality Flag  
1



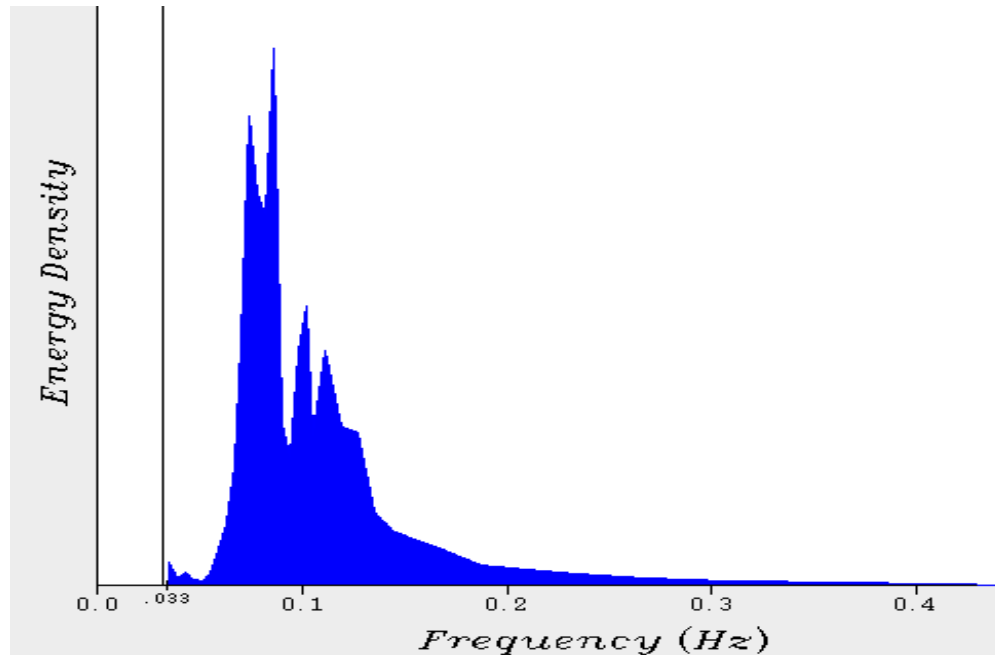
- FLAG..1
- FLAG..3
- FLAG..4
- FLAG..7
- AUTO FLAG
- SET POINT1
- SET POINT2
- CANCEL
- SCROLL >
- < SCROLL
- PICK POINT
- S-NEXT
- S-BACKUP
- QUIT/RSTRT
- FINISHED



# Data Analysis and Quality Control Methodologies from

- ISDM (DFO Canada) procedures
- AXYS Technologies spectral transfer function
- WMO formulae for spectral parameters
- IOC Manual of Quality Control

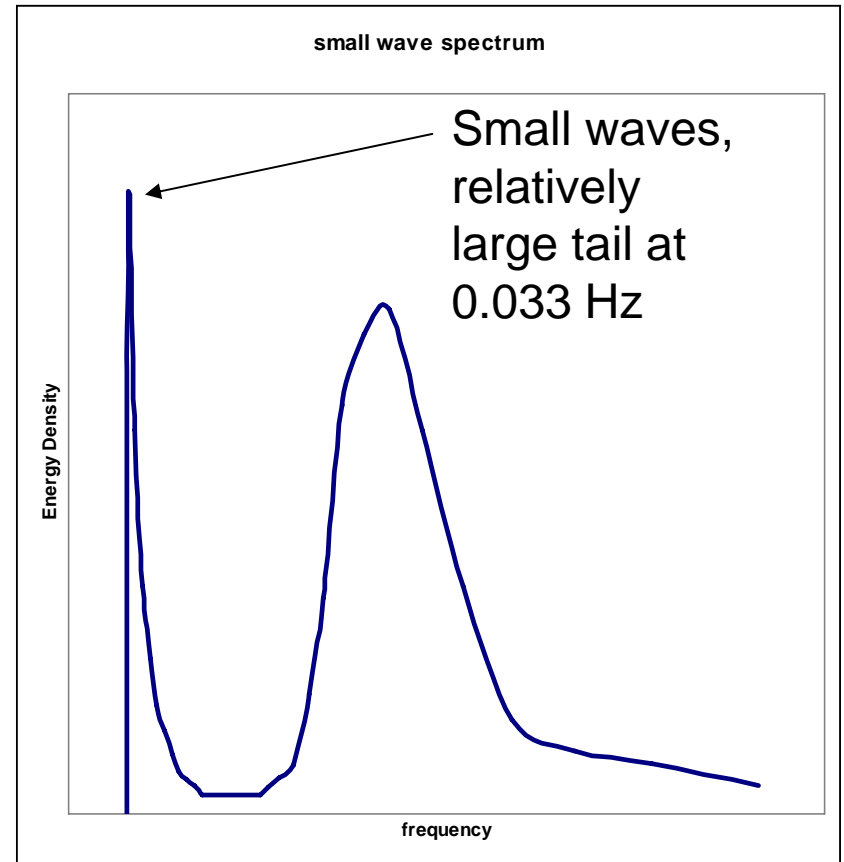
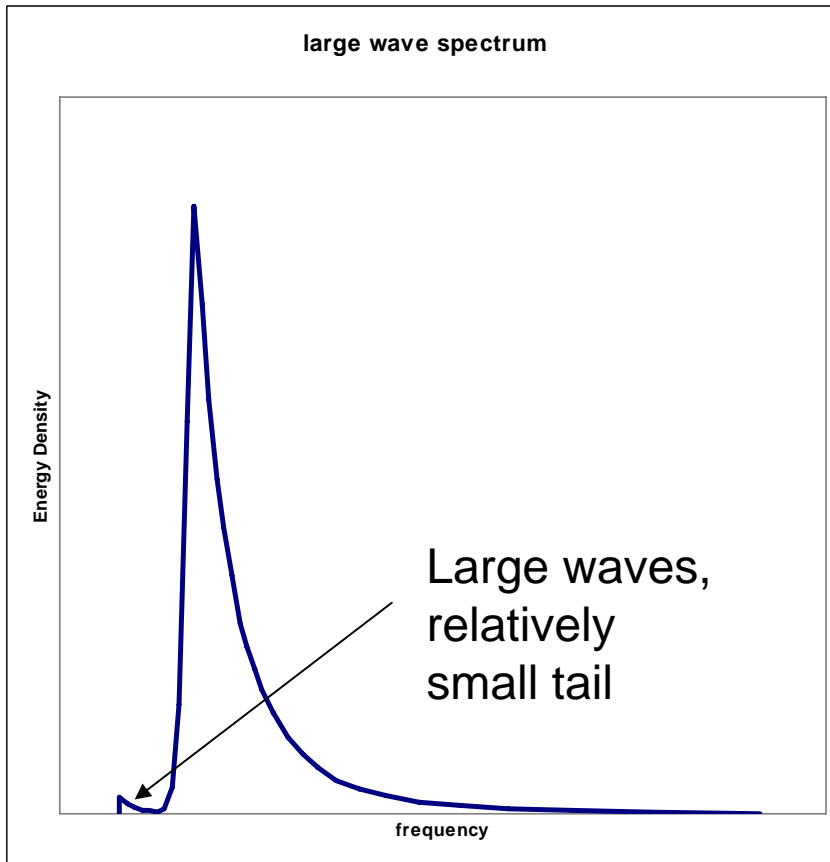
# Calculating Significant Wave Height ( $H_s$ ) and Peak Period ( $T_p$ ) from the Spectrum



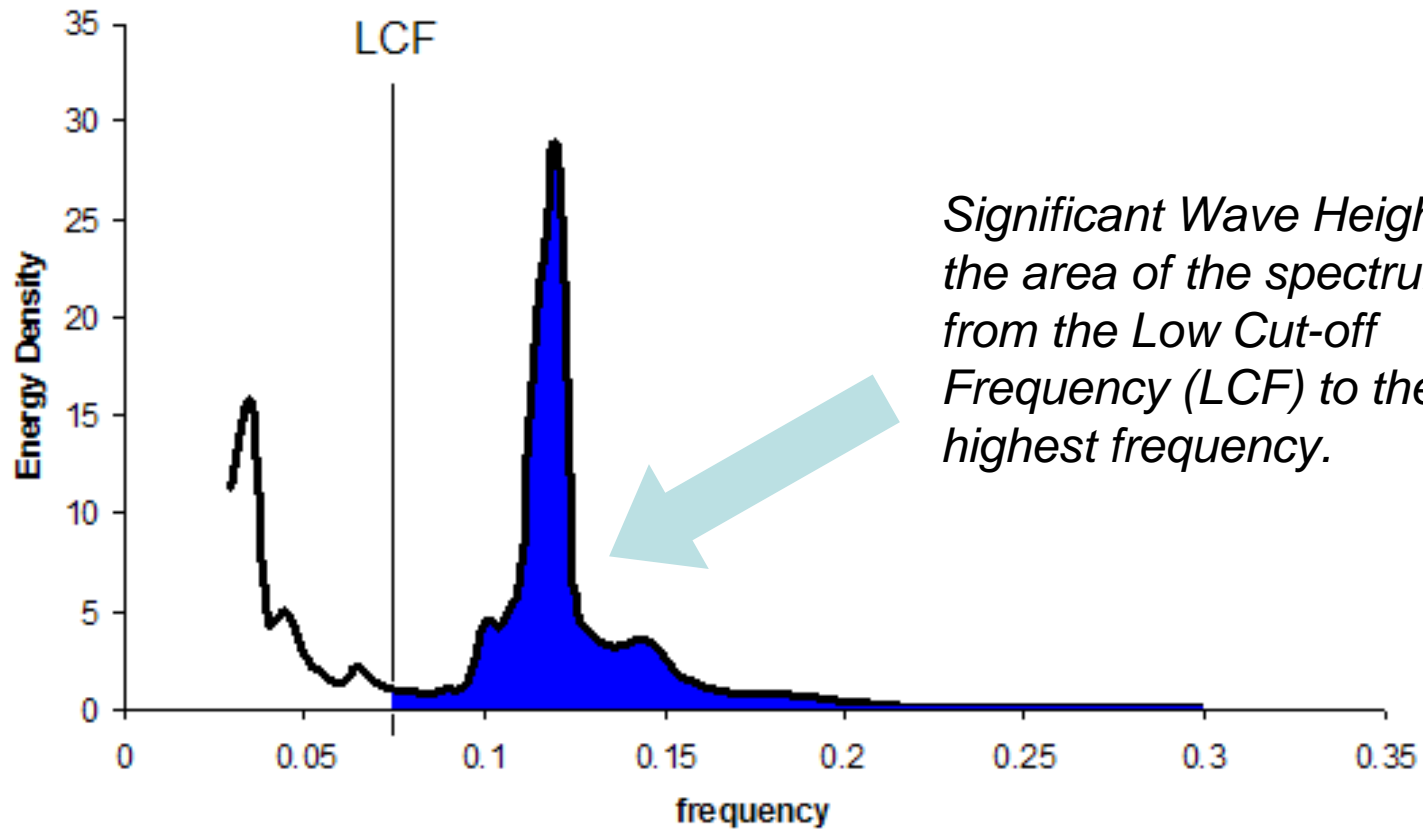
- $H_s$  is from the total spectral energy
- $T_p$  from the frequency with the highest energy
- In small seas, low frequency noise appears in the spectrum and causes errors in the  $H_s$  and  $T_p$  values.
- The noise has to be removed to get accurate  $H_s$  and  $T_p$ .

# Low Frequency Noise “Tail” in Small Seas

- Standard spectral lowest frequency is 0.033 Hz
- Tail results of low frequency energy amplification transfer function.



# Cut Off the Tail

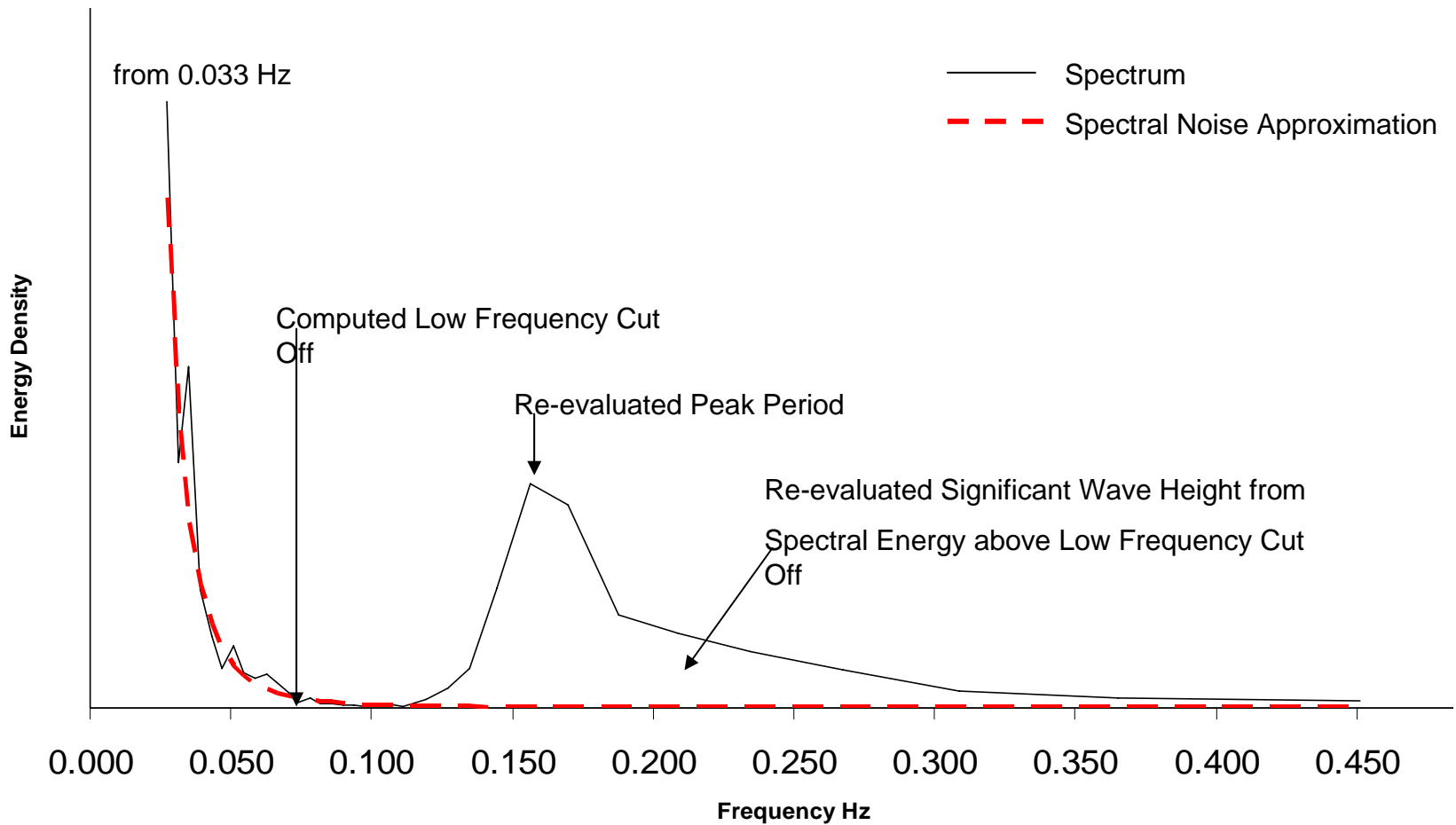


*Significant Wave Height is the area of the spectrum from the Low Cut-off Frequency (LCF) to the highest frequency.*



# Find the **Low Cut-off Frequency**

by removing the low frequency spectral noise “tail”



# Spectral Analysis and Quality Control

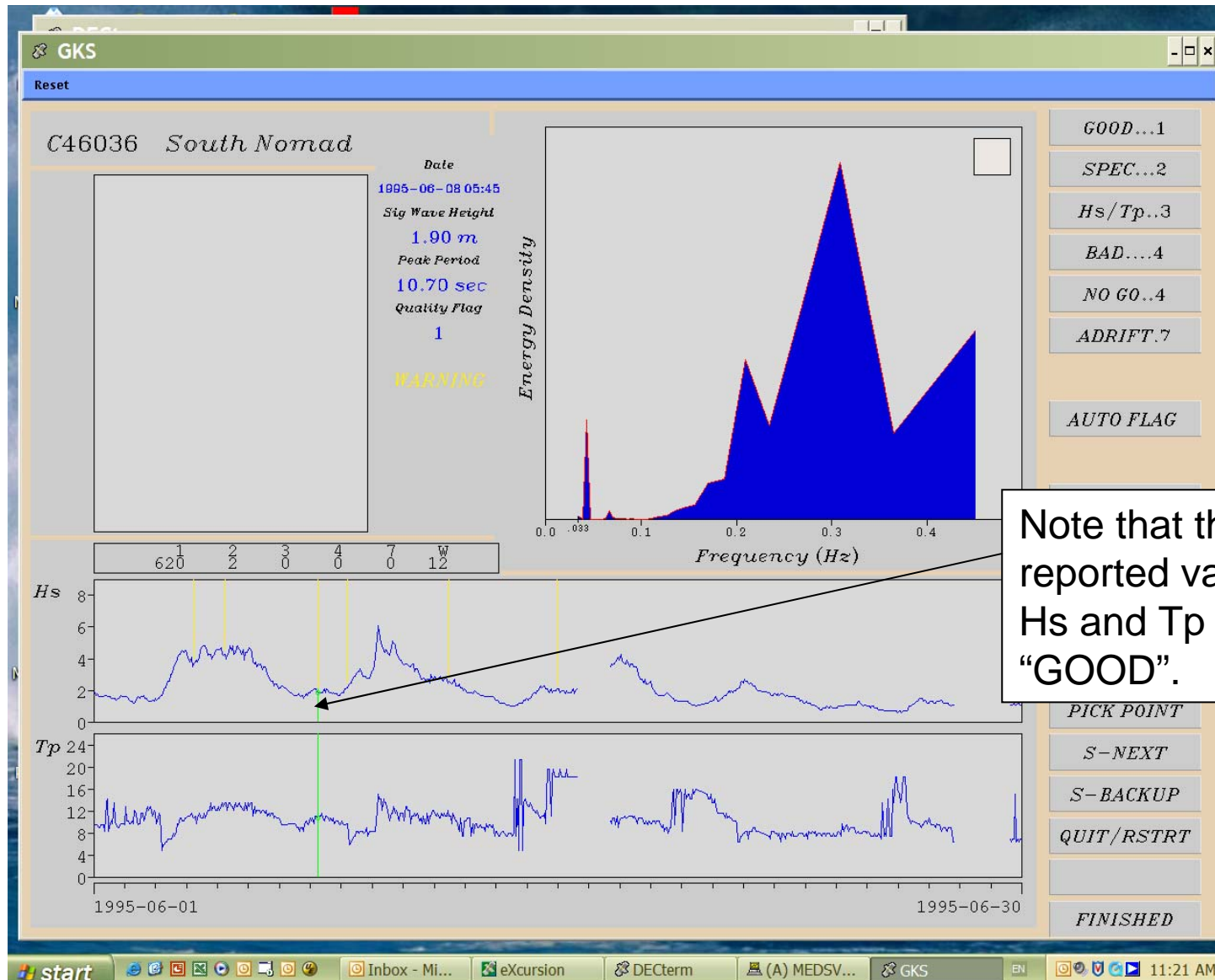
Includes:

- Comparison of reported significant wave height ( $H_s$ ) and peak period ( $T_p$ ) to values computed from the spectrum.
- Physics in the spectrum, such as limits to wave steepness and zero crossing.
- Wave height ranges and continuity or changes over time.
- Comparison of GPS position to reported deployment station locations

Our system uses automated tests and visual checks which result in:

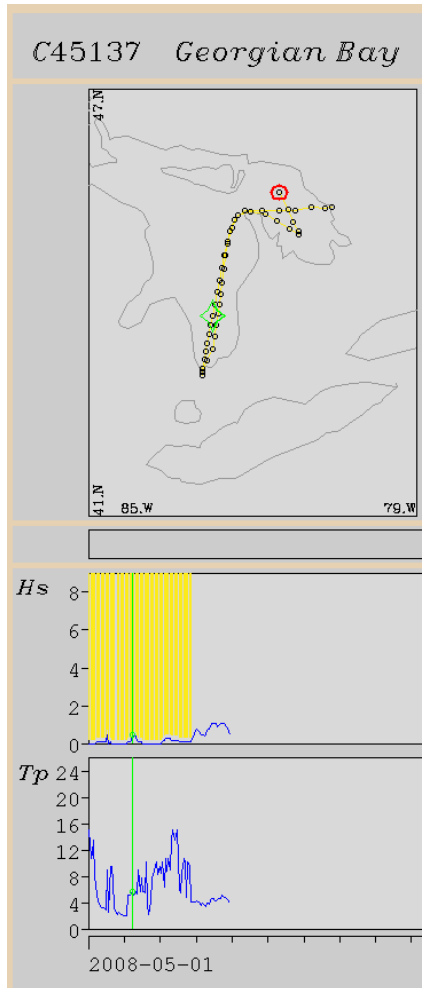
- Reported values changed to computed ones where appropriate
- Quality Control Flags for bad or corrupted spectra, bad or changed  $H_s$  and  $T_p$ , or buoys gone adrift or transmitting when not deployed.

# Corrupted Spectrum Transmission Error



Note that the reported values for Hs and Tp are "GOOD".

# Buoy Transmitting Off of Station



1. Station position is in red. Buoy is traveling, and plotted as a yellow track.
2. Auto QC uses the data message GPS locations, and issues warnings as yellow markers.
3. Our technician flags all of these off station data messages as “BAD”.



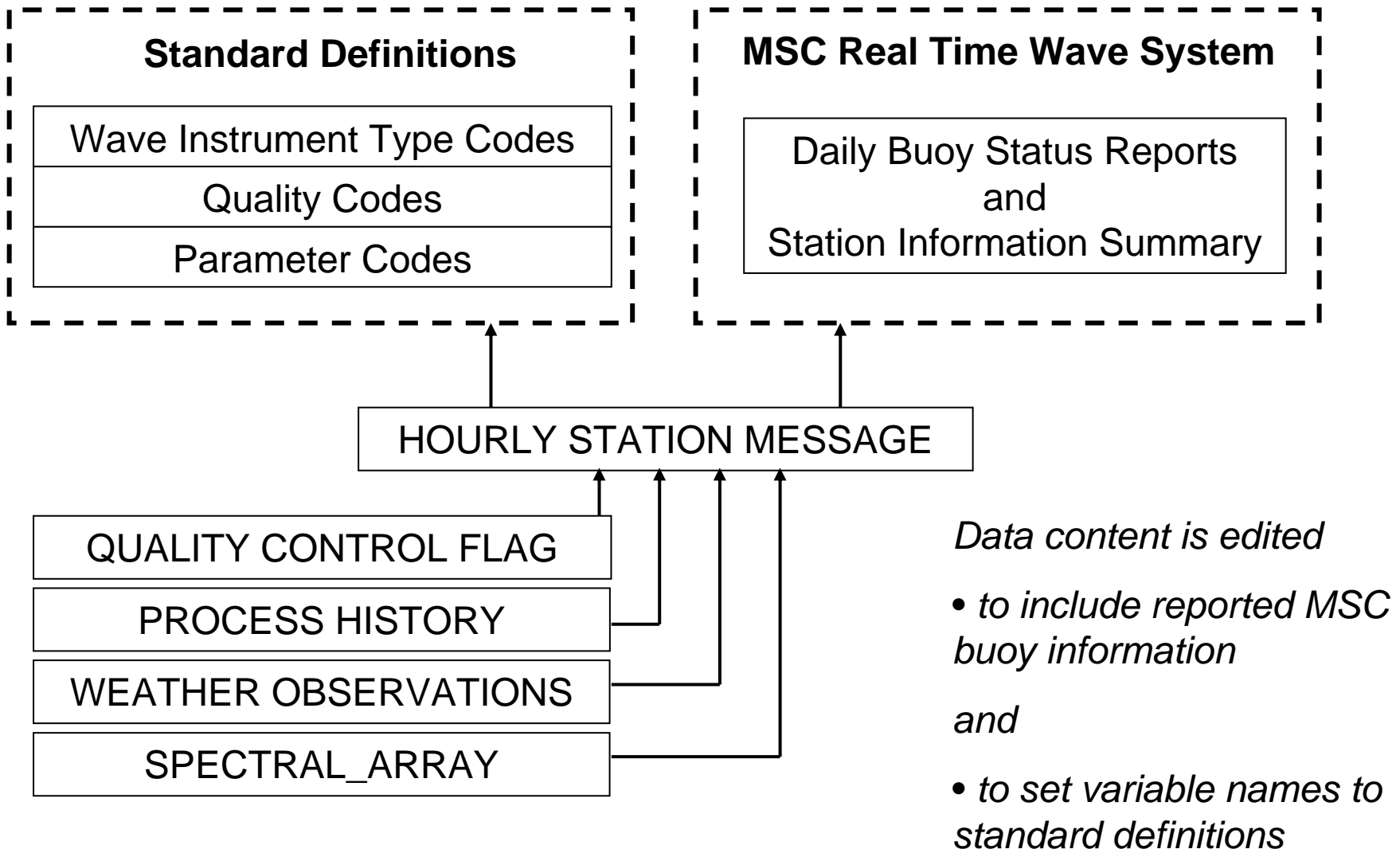


# Wave Data Archival

# Enterprise Architecture in the ISDM Archive Technology

- We are making Oracle Databases, based on data standards.
- Our programmers are developing scientific data management applications in Java, together with the Oracle databases.
- We are beginning to base applications around standard Java libraries for oceanography.
- We employ multi-tier web and application servers including service oriented architecture (SOA) and J2EE.

# Archive Tables for MSC Data





# Wave Data Services

## Providing Access to Data

# ISDM Online Resources

Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
 Pêches et Océans Canada  
 Canada

**Fisheries and Oceans Canada**  
 www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

[Français](#) | [Home](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Help](#) | [Search](#) | [canada.gc.ca](#)

[Home](#) > [Science](#) > [Waves](#)

**SUBJECTS**  
 ISDM Home  
 Argo  
 AZMP  
 BioChem  
 CLIVAR  
 Code List  
 Contaminants  
 Currents  
 Drifting Buoys  
 GTSP  
 ICES  
 International Links  
 J-COMM  
 NAFO  
 Ocean Profiles  
 Offshore Oil & Gas  
 Remote Sensing  
 RNODC  
 SOOPIP  
 Standards  
 Thermosalinographs  
 Tides and Water Levels  
 TWL Applications  
 Waves

**Waves**  
 ISDM has been collecting, archiving and providing spectral wave data on behalf of Canadians since 1970. On a daily basis we process data reported on the GOES and ARGOS networks within the Canadian area of interest. Please see the [overview](#) page for more programme detail.

\*\*\* All of our observed wave spectra and some specialized products are now available on-line. Please note that the data are only updated on a weekly basis. In case of emergency or should you require wave data that are not available online, please contact us using our [request form](#) \*\*\*

**Data and Products**  
[Download Data](#)  
 Search for and download data and products. View inventory information in HTML tables or Scalable Vector Graphic (SVG) maps.

[Archive Plot](#)  
 One month timeseries plots of individual station data.

**MSC Buoy Status Reports**  
[Latest MSC Buoy Status Report](#)  
 Operational buoy status report from the [Environment Canada](#) Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC) buoy network.

[Historical MSC buoy status reports](#)  
 Archived MSC buoy status reports from the [Environment Canada](#) Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC) buoy network.

**Publications and Documentation**  
[ISDM Waves Programme Overview](#)  
 Overview and history of the programme.

[Selected Canadian Wave Publications](#)  
 Technical and workshop documents reproduced in Adobe PDF format.

[MSC60 Wind and Wave Climatology Atlas](#)  
 Meteorological Service of Canada wind, wave and ice climatology products

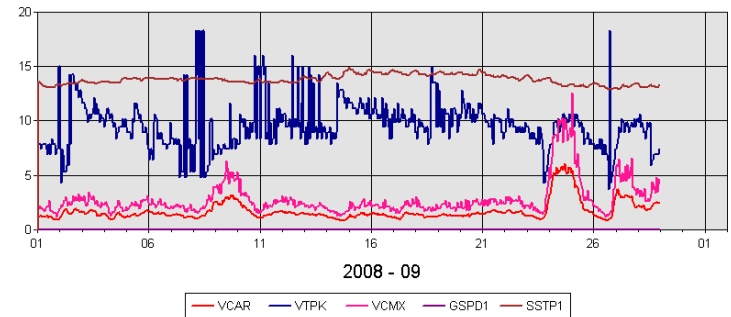
[TDC Wind and Wave Climate Atlas](#)  
 Annual and monthly wind and wave statistics published by Transport Development Canada for the Canadian area of interest.

[Wave Links](#)  
 Selected links relevant to the Canadian operational wave programme.

**Other**  
 Other off-line [wave products and services](#) may be available by [request](#).

**Reset**

MEDS ID	C44141	Latitude	42.09		Active	Inactive	
Name	Laurentian Fan	Longitude	56.31		MSC		
Start Date	7/3/1999	Depth	4500		NDBC		
End Date	6/8/2003	Good Days	1289		MEDS		
Type	AE	Total Days	1436		WELL		
		Latitude	42.00		Longitude	-56.17	



C46207

Data	QC	SWH	PP	VCMX	GSPD1	SSTP1
01/09/2008 00:26	1	1.21	7.88	2.1	0.0	13.6
01/09/2008 01:26	1	1.25	7.88	1.9	0.0	13.6
01/09/2008 02:26	1	1.30	7.88	2.2	0.0	13.5
01/09/2008 03:26	1	1.24	7.42	1.9	0.0	13.4
01/09/2008 04:26	1	1.22	7.88	1.9	0.0	13.3
01/09/2008 05:26	1	1.20	7.88	1.8	0.0	13.2
01/09/2008 06:26	1	1.20	7.88	1.7	0.0	13.2
01/09/2008 07:26	1	1.23	7.88	1.9	0.0	13.2
01/09/2008 08:26	1	1.26	7.42	2.1	0.0	13.1
01/09/2008 09:26	1	1.27	6.92	2.2	0.0	13.1
01/09/2008 10:26	1	1.27	7.88	2.1	0.0	13.1

# Environment Canada Marine Weather



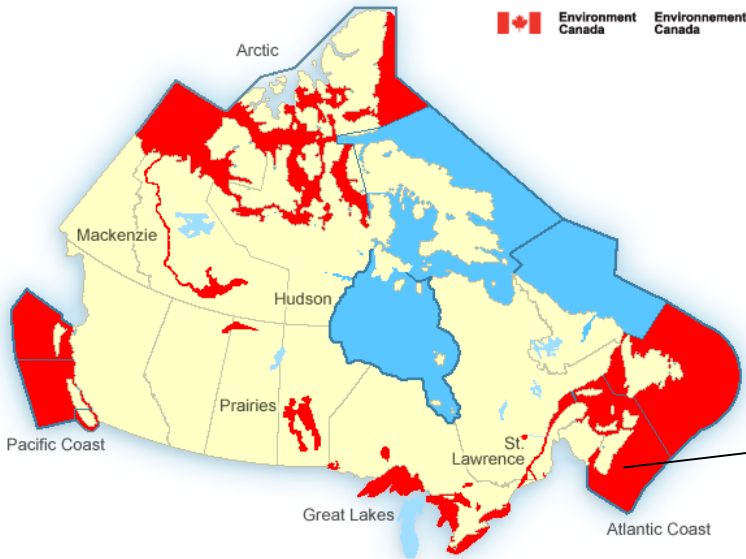
**Weatheroffice**  
www.weatheroffice.gc.ca

[Français](#) | [Home](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Help](#) | [Search](#) | [canada.gc.ca](#)

- Warnings
- Current Conditions & Forecasts
- Radar & Satellite +
- Marine Info -
- Forecasts**
- Hurricane
- Sea Ice
- Aviation Weather
- Analyses & Modelling
- Text Bulletins
- Historical Weather
- Educational Resources +
- About Us +
- FAQ
- Links
- Site Map

## Marine Weather for Canada

Click on a region of the country to select the marine forecast of interest



■ Warning ■ Watch ■ Ended warning or watch ■ No warning or watch

## East Scotian Slope

- Forecast
- Weather Conditions
- Ice Conditions
- Warnings
- Synopsis
- Maps
- Glossary
- Another Area

### Past 24 Hour Conditions

Current Conditions | **Past 24 Hour Conditions** | Regional Summary

**Southwestern Grand Banks - 44138**  
05:00 PM ADT 30 September 2008

Date / Time (ADT)	Wind (knots)	Wave height (m)	Wave period (s)	Pressure (kPa)	Air temp (°C)	Water temp (°C)
30 September 2008						
17:00	NNE 9 gust 11	2.5	12	101.0	15	16
16:00	NNE 7 gust 7	3.0	13	101.0	15	16
15:00	NE 5 gust 7	3.0	12	101.0	15	16
14:00	NE 7 gust 7	3.0	12	101.0	15	15
13:00	ENE 7 gust 9	3.0	13	101.1	15	16
12:00	E 7 gust 9	2.5	12	101.1	15	16
11:00	E 9 gust 11	2.5	11	101.2	15	15
10:00	ENE 9 gust 11	2.0	12	101.2	15	15
9:00	ENE 7 gust 9	2.0	9	101.2	15	15
8:00	ENE 7 gust 9	2.0	12	101.2	15	15
7:00	ENE 7 gust 11	2.5	12	101.2	15	15
6:00	ENE 7 gust 9	2.5	11	101.2	15	15
5:00	NE 5 gust 7	2.5	12	101.3	15	15
4:00	ENE 7 gust 11	2.5	11	101.3	15	15
3:00	ENE 11 gust 13	3.0	10	101.3	15	15
2:00	ENE 7 gust 11	3.0	12	101.3	16	16
1:00	ENE 11 gust 13	3.0	11	101.4	15	16
00:00	ENE 9 gust 11	3.0	12	101.4	15	16

If you require additional historical weather information please visit [Marine Environmental Data Services](#)

Select a location below:

**Legend:** ● Buoy ◆ Land Station [» US Marine Weather](#)

# The 10% Difference

- Low frequency cutoff accounts for some reduction in SWH for buoys in less than 233 m since 2002.
- SWS-1 indicated that the strap-down accelerometer consistently undervalues wave heights by about 10% over gimballed Datawell MKII.
- Differences in American/Canadian sampling and timeseries processing onboard the buoys.
  - If SWS TS data is available it might be worth comparing Spectra/SWH/PP from different processors.



# ISDM

## Integrated Science Data Management

:

Bruce Bradshaw

: