

# **Spar Global Responses**

**Prepared for OGP Workshop  
The Metocean and Engineering Technology  
Requirements for Floating Systems  
23 April, 2001**

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## Outline

- **Description of Spar**
- **Salient Response Characteristics**
- **Important Metocean Issues**
  - ➔ **Low Frequency Wave Energy**
  - ➔ **Current Turbulence**



# Spar Technology



**Oryx “Neptune”**





## Spar Functions

- **Drilling**
- **Workover**
- **Production**
- **Wellhead**
- **Oil storage and offloading**
- **Any combination of the above**



# Classic Spar - Steel Hull

## Spar Elements

Topside

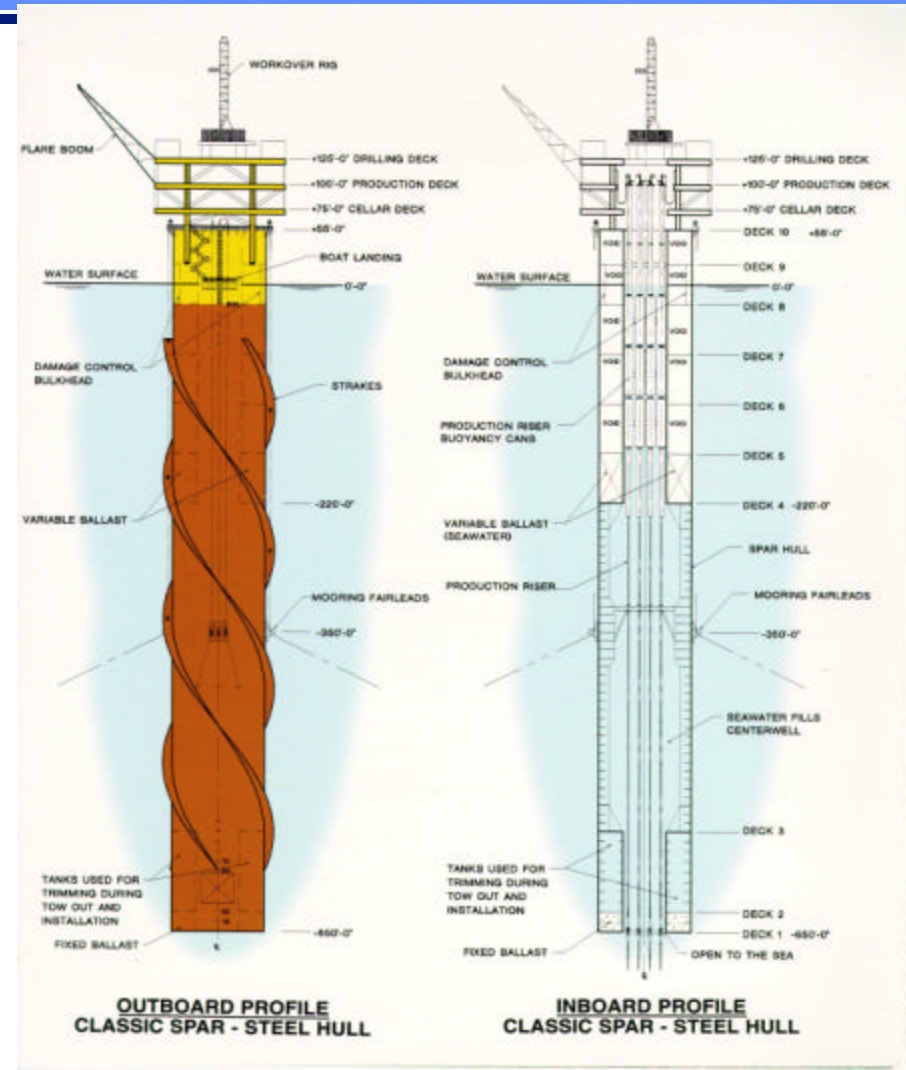
Hull Shell

Buoyancy

Centerwell

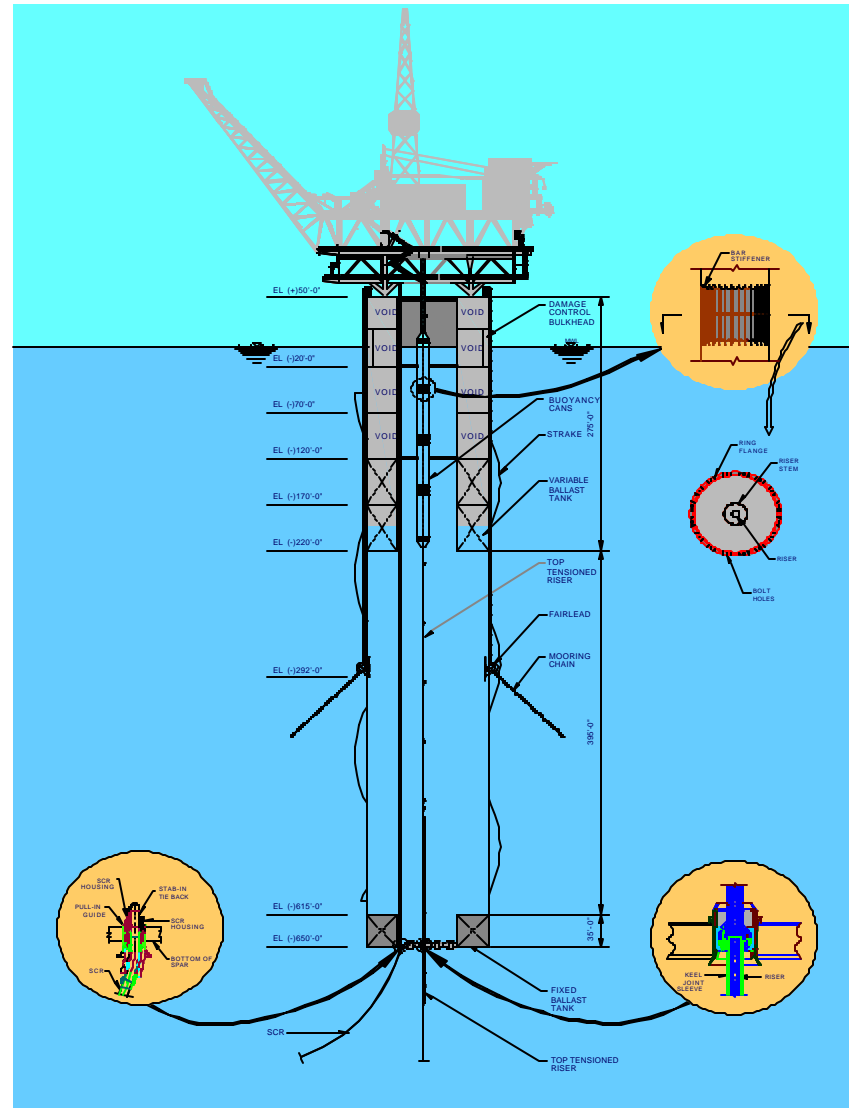
Risers

Mooring





# Classic Spar In-Board Profile





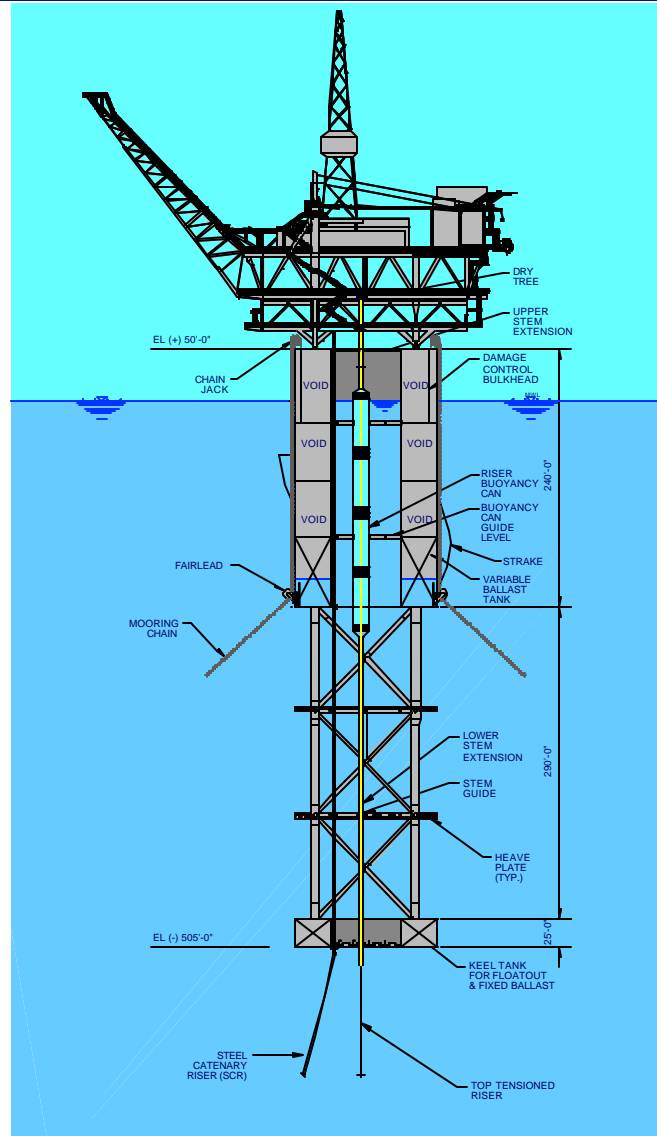


# Installed Spars

	Spar Dia.	WD	Top Deck	Production	Well Slots	Payload
Neptune	72'	1,930'	Workover & Production	25 mbfpd 30 mmcfpd	16 Production	6,600 st
Genesis	122'	2,590'	Full Drilling & Production	55 mbfpd, 72 mmcfpd	20 Production, 1 Drilling	19,000 st
Hoover/ Diana	122'	4,300'	Full Drilling & Production	100 mbfpd, 325 mmcfpd	8 Production, 9 SCRs, 1 Drilling	29,500 st

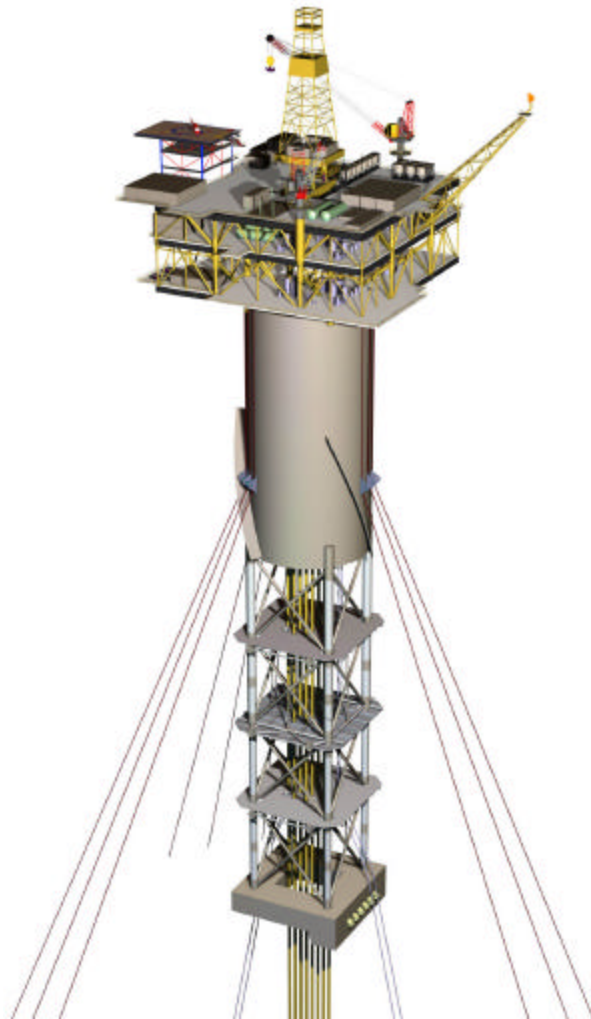


# Truss Spar





# Nansen / Boomvang



**Water Depth:** 3,450 feet  
**Production:** 40 MBOPD  
200 MMSCFG

**Workover Rig**  
**Topside Weight:** 7,800 tons  
**Risers:** 7 top tension  
8 SCRs

**Center Well:** 40x40 feet  
**Hull Diameter:** 90 feet  
**Hull Weight:** 12,200 tons  
**Mooring:** 9 lines, 3x3



# Nansen Truss Spar





## What is Important

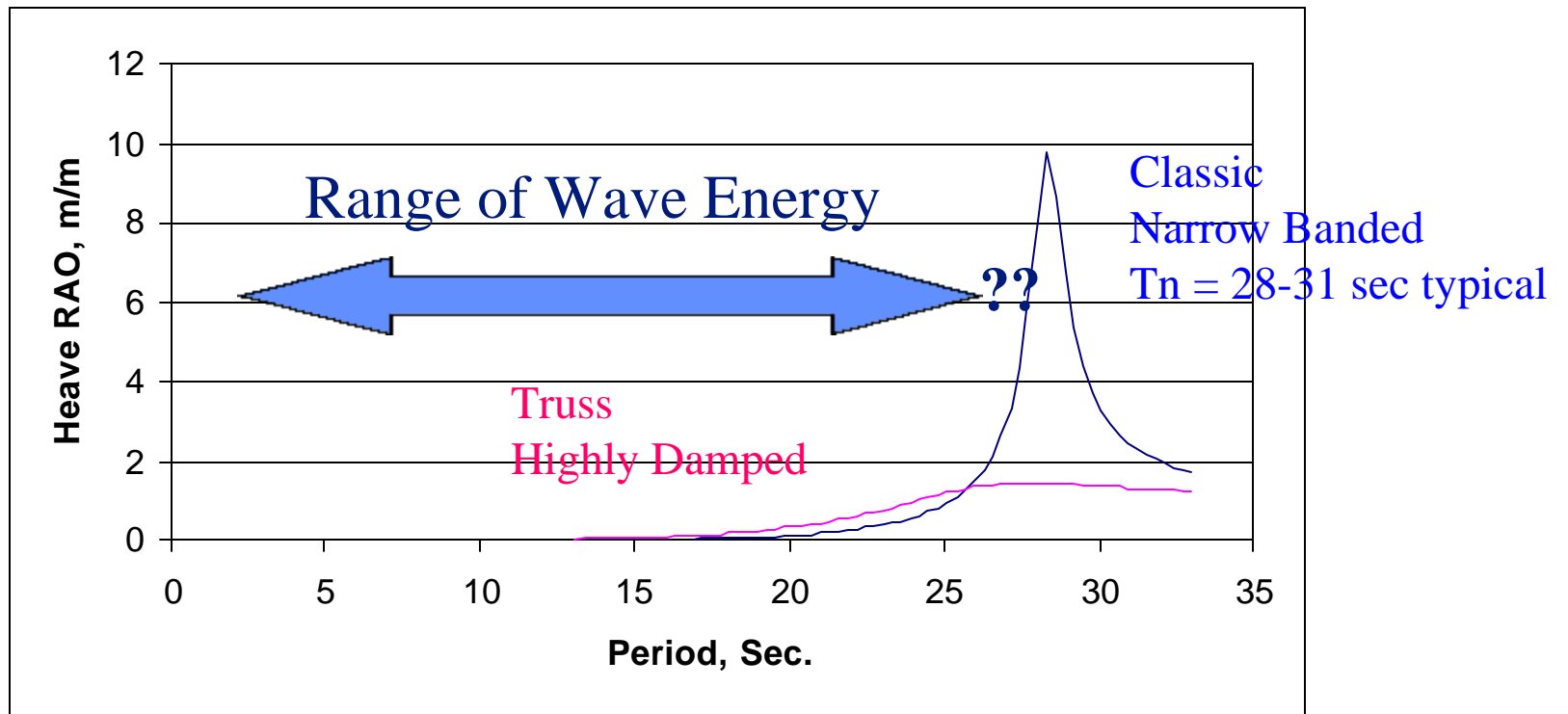
- **Deck Accelerations**
  - **Dominated by Pitch response**
- **Riser stresses and fatigue at keel**
  - **Dominated by Pitch Response**
- **Riser stresses and fatigue at mudline**
  - **Dominated by surge and sway**
- **Mooring line tensions**
  - **Can be dominated by currents or wave/wind depending on environment**
- **Riser Stroke**
  - **Dominated by drawdown (surge/sway) in ultra deep water**
  - **Spar heave plays an important but not dominant effect**



- **Low heave motions due to deep draft**
  - **Wave excitation is filtered**
  - **Low frequency dominates heave response**
  
- **Surge and Sway Dominated by responses at Natural Periods (200 - 500 sec)**
  - **Higher order wave (drift)**
  - **Vortex Induced Motions (current)**
  - **Turbulence induced motions (wind and current)**
  
- **Pitch response includes equal parts of wave frequency and low frequency motions**
  - **Wave frequency center of pitch is at keel**
  - **Low frequency (60-90 sec) center is at CG**

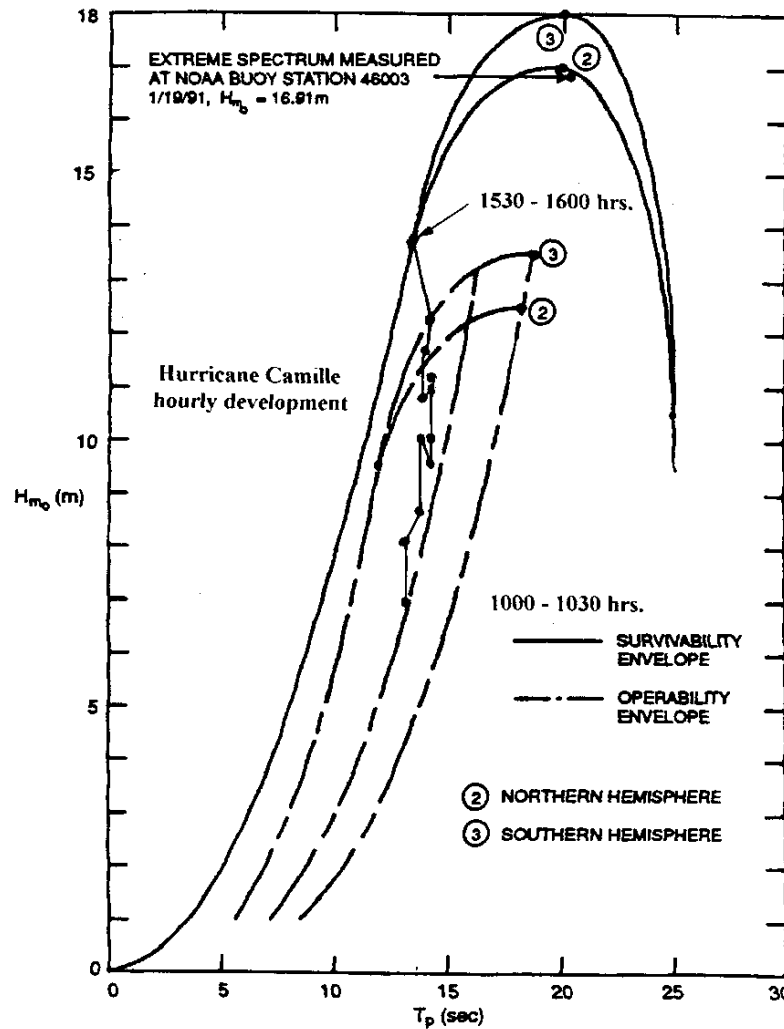


# Heave Response Comparison





# Extreme Wave Envelope



Highest Measured:

$H_s = 16.9\text{ m}$

$T_p = 20\text{ sec}$

Buckley, W.H., "First Principles Methodology Applied to Loads and Motions of Offshore Platforms", unpublished manuscript received Jan. 1999



# Measured Extreme Wave Profile

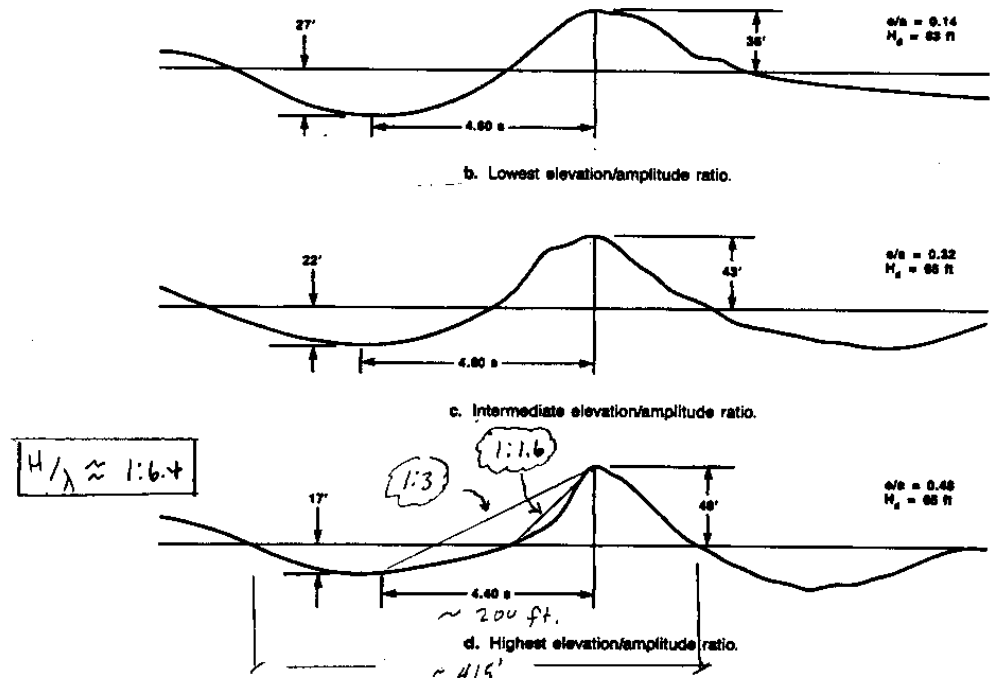
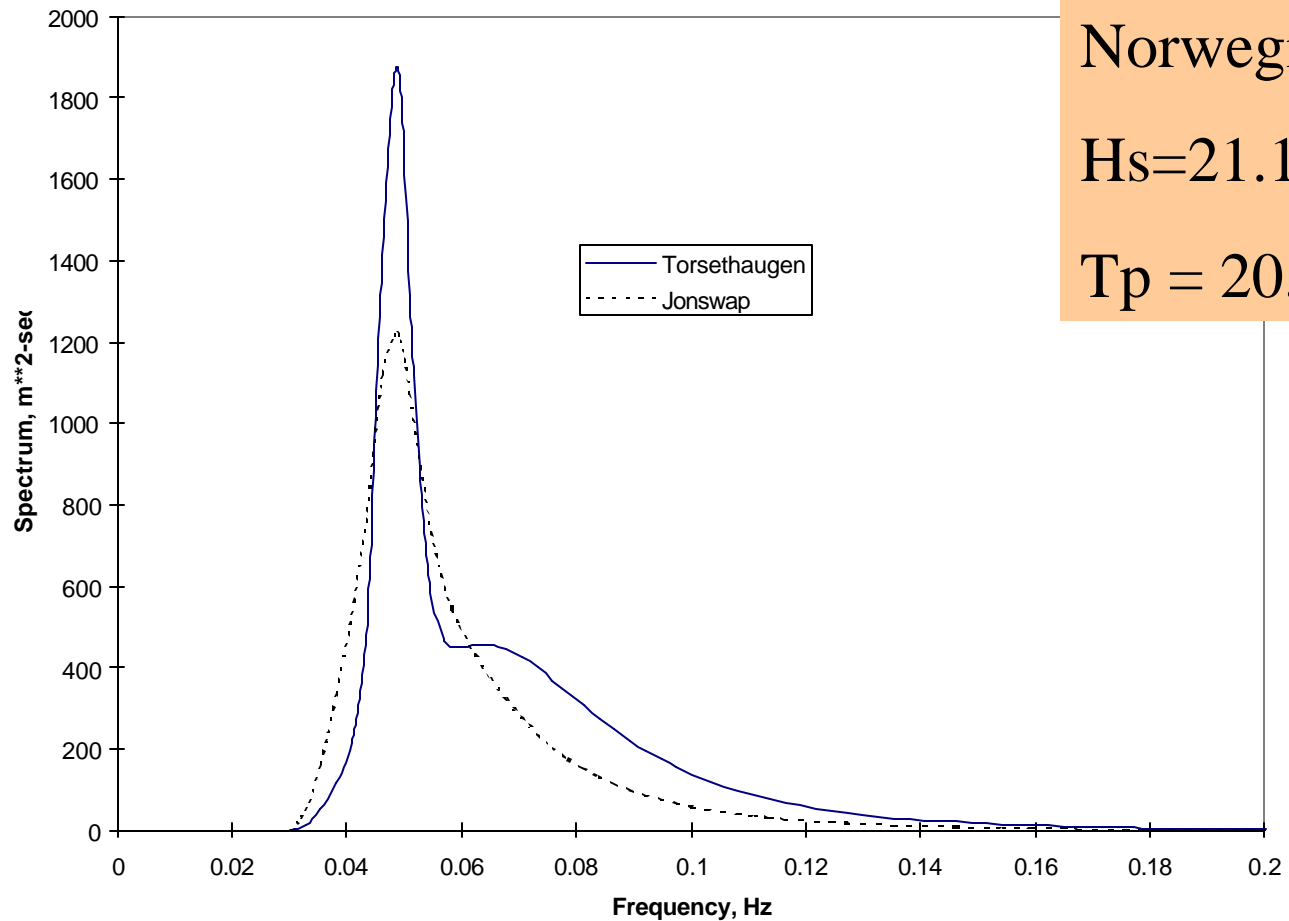


Fig. 27. Time Series Characteristics of Highest Waves — Hurricane Camille 1500-1530 Hours.



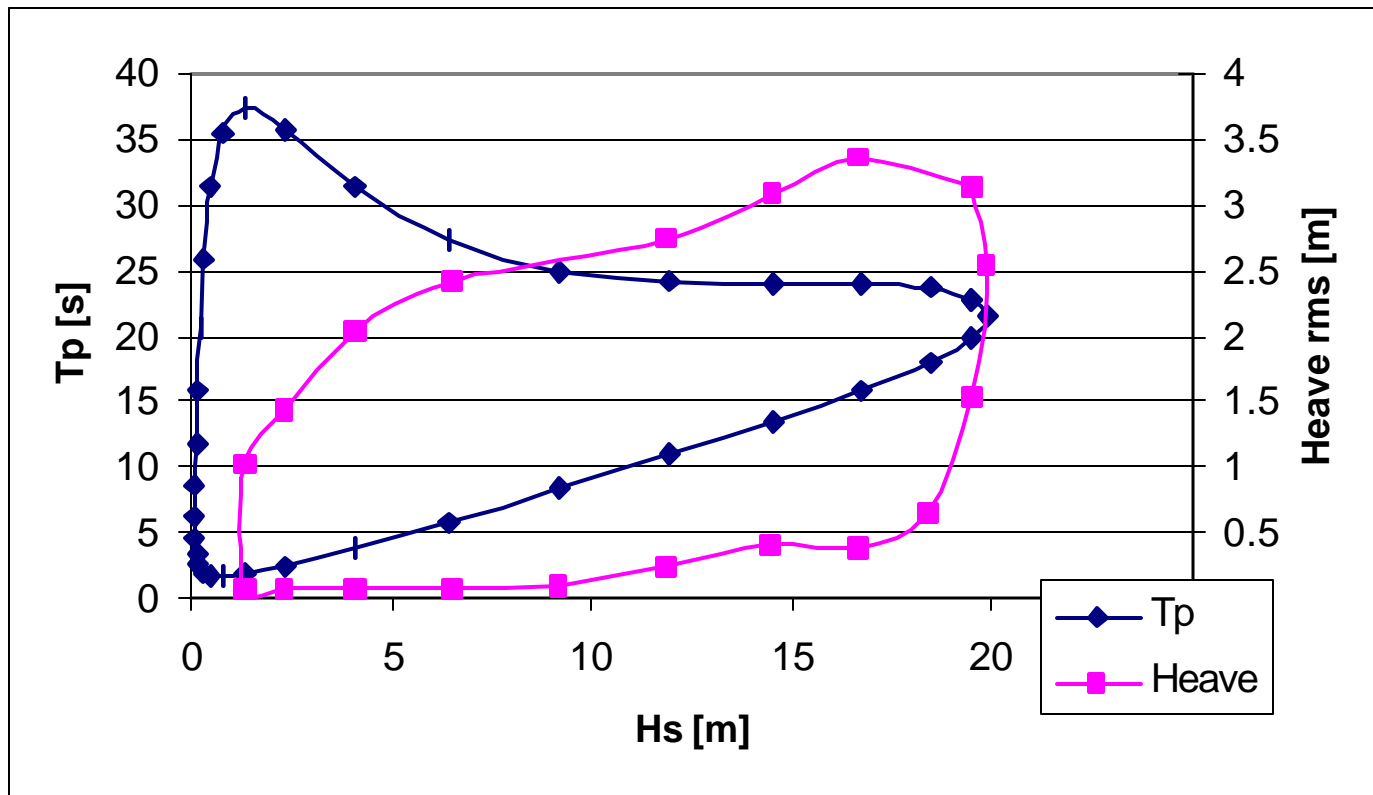
# Jonswap vs. Torsethaugen Spectra



10000 Yr  
Norwegian Sea  
H<sub>s</sub>=21.1 m  
T<sub>p</sub> = 20.8 sec

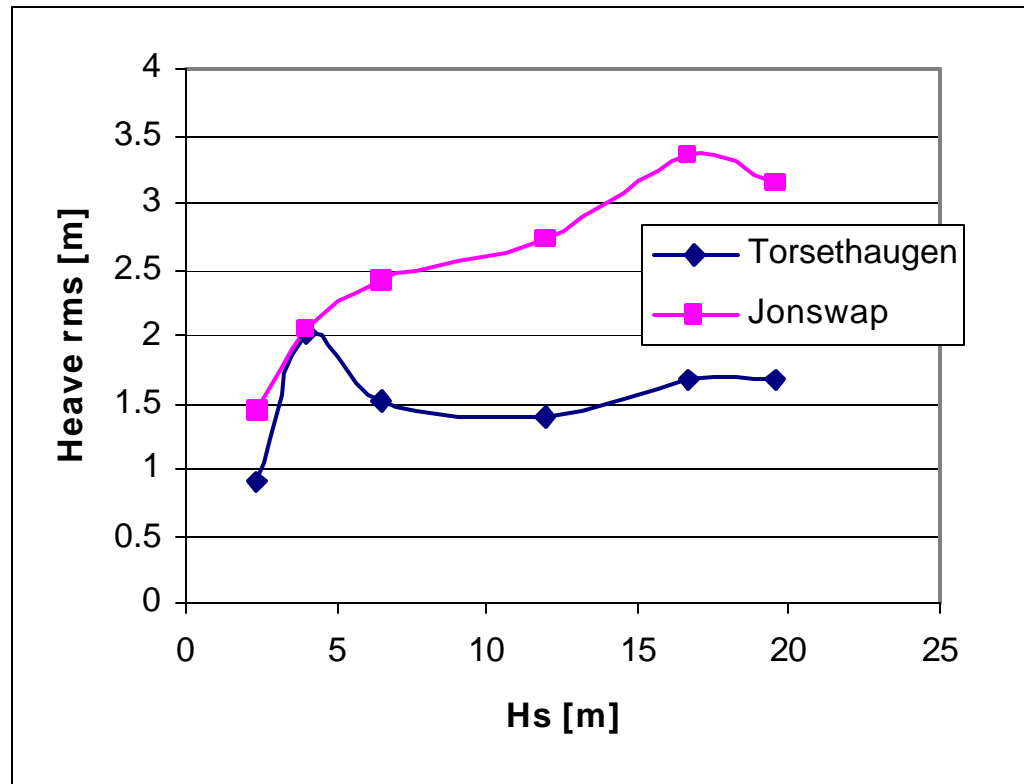


# Classic Spar Heave Response Map



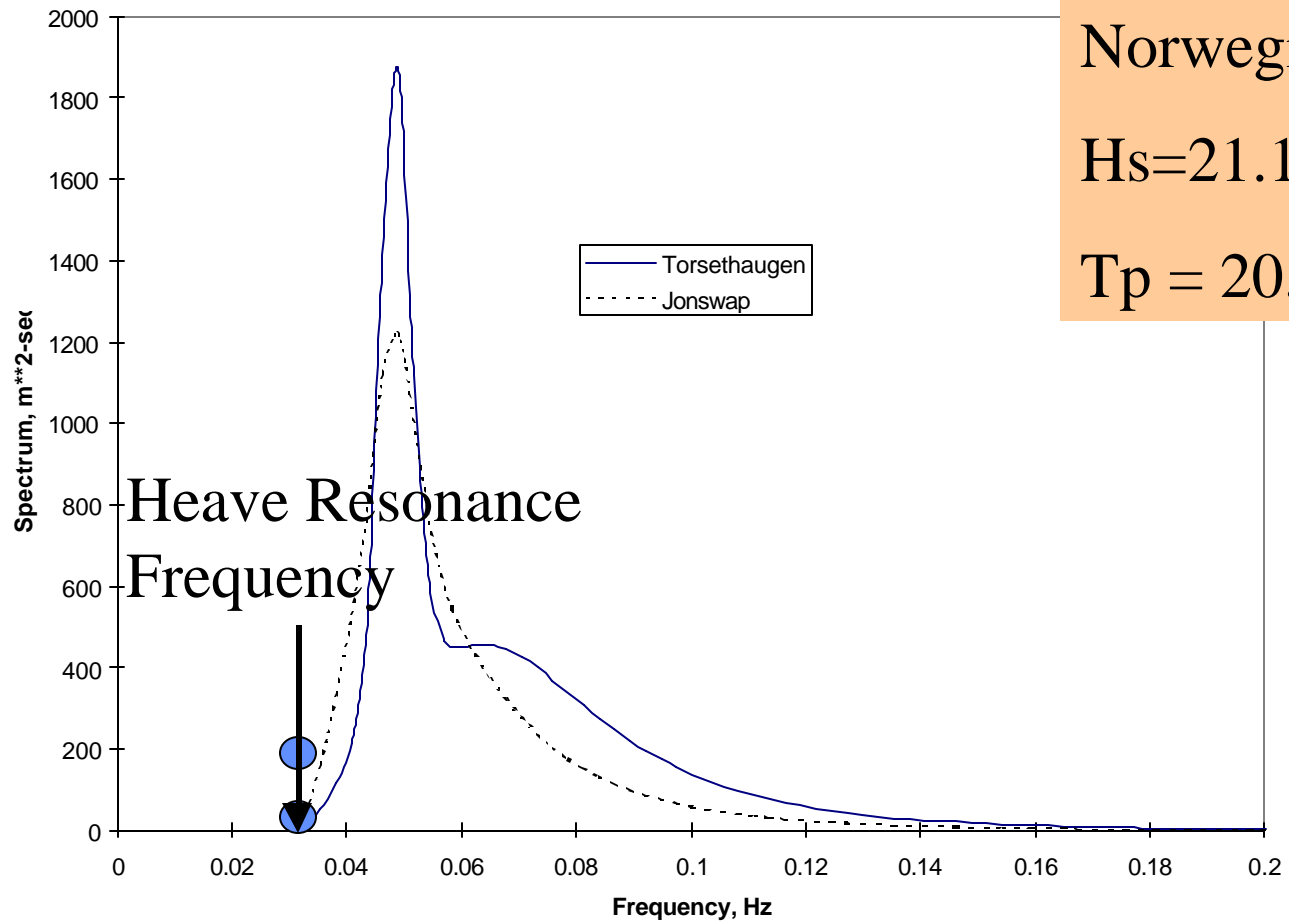


# Heave Sensitivity to Spectral Shape





# Jonswap vs. Torsethaugen Spectra





## Spectral Shape Conclusions re Heave Responses

- Long period energy (>25 sec) can be important for spar responses
- Typical storm spectra (e.g. Jonswap) fits a theoretical curve to high frequency energy
- Low frequency shape is not accurately represented
  - Low frequency cutoff is ignored
  - Little if any data or hindcast results for >25 second period are available
  - Low frequency wave grouping is not represented
- Theoretical spar heave response predictions are probably overpredicted



## Recommendations

- **Use instruments that are sensitive to low frequency**
  - **Wave riders are not accurate for low frequency**
  - **Augment wave riders with subsurface pressure measurements**
  
- **There is a large body of archived data from bottom founded pressure gages in coastal areas**
  - **Examine data with eye toward better low frequency definition**



## Low Frequency Surge and Sway Responses

- **Waves**
  - **Governed by 2nd Order Spectrum**
- **Wind**
  - **Turbulence excites surge, sway and pitch even in moderate environments due to low damping**
- **Current**
  - **Causes Vortex Induced Motions**
  - **Turbulence excites surge and sway**
- **All of the above important for mooring design and riser fatigue**

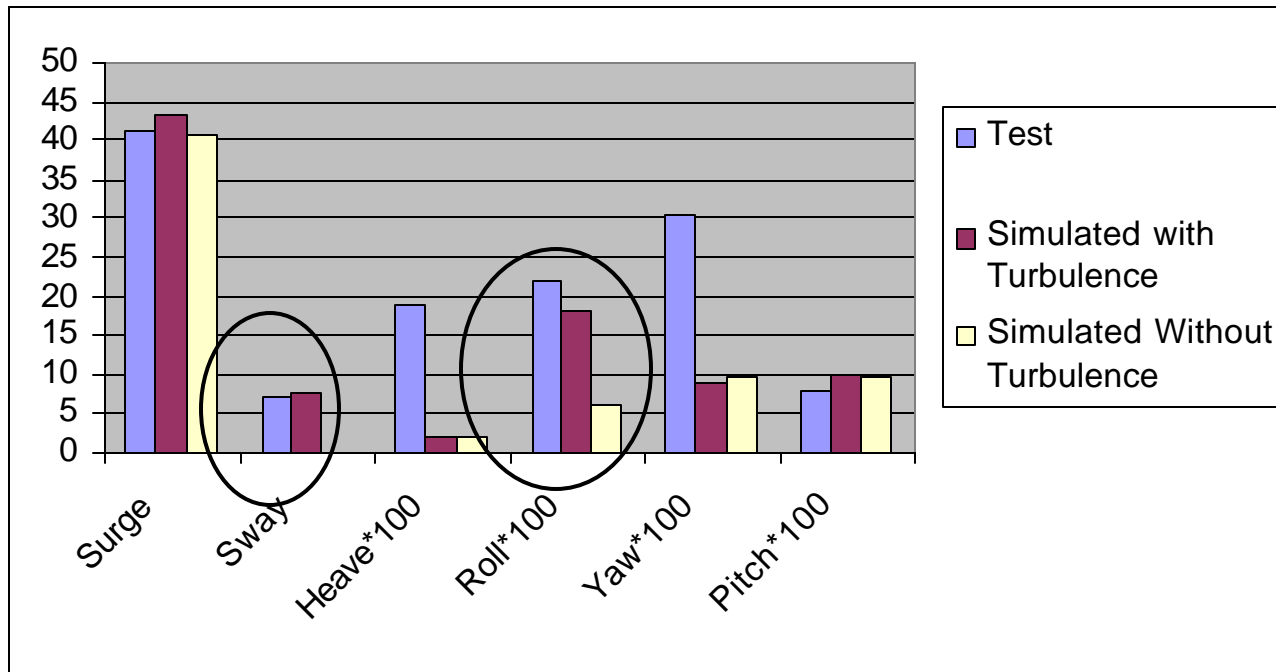


## Current Turbulence

- **There is almost no full scale data on turbulence scales of interest**
  - **Spar Responses on 60 - 600 seconds are of interest**
  - **Associated Turbulence Scales are about 60 - 600 m**
  - **Current turbulence data typically is on the scale of 10s to 100s of km, or on very small (mm) scale.**
  - **15 min current averaging is standard.. All turbulence information of interest is lost!**
  
- **Ocean Model Basins have difficulty generating low turbulence currents**

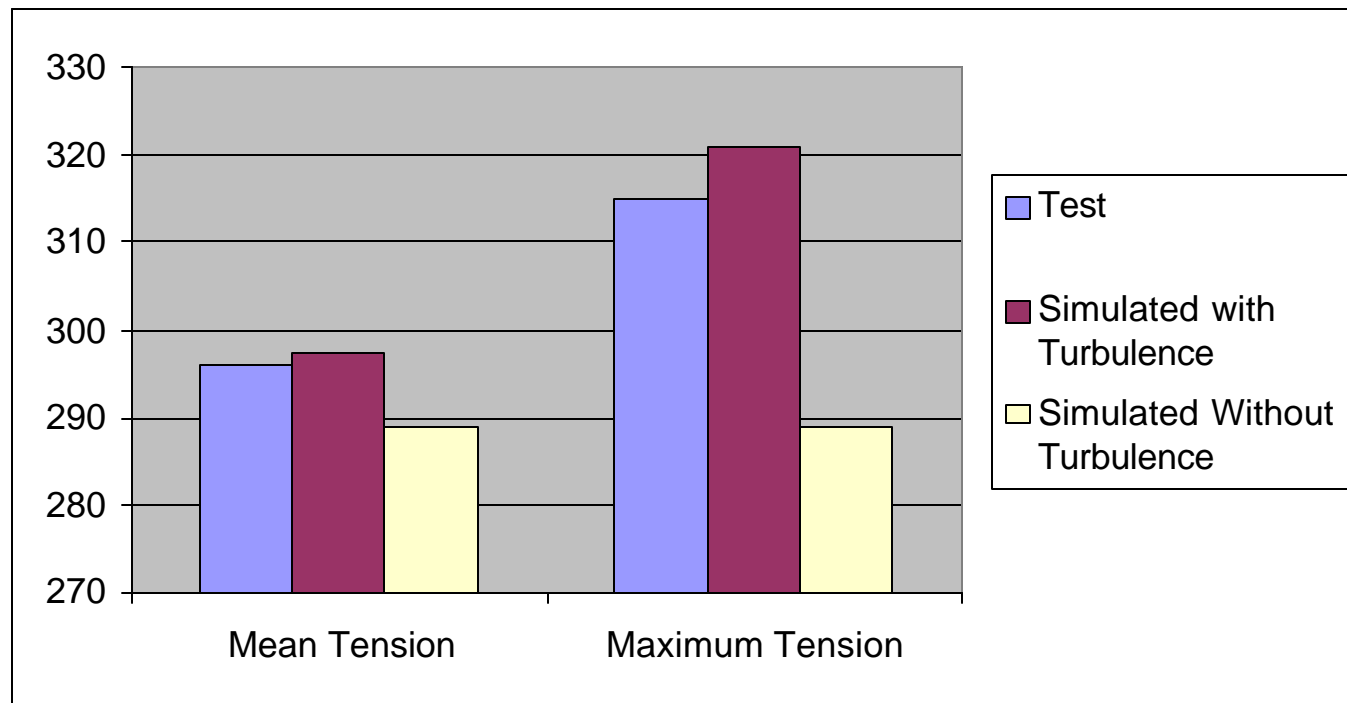


# Current Turbulence Effect on Motions





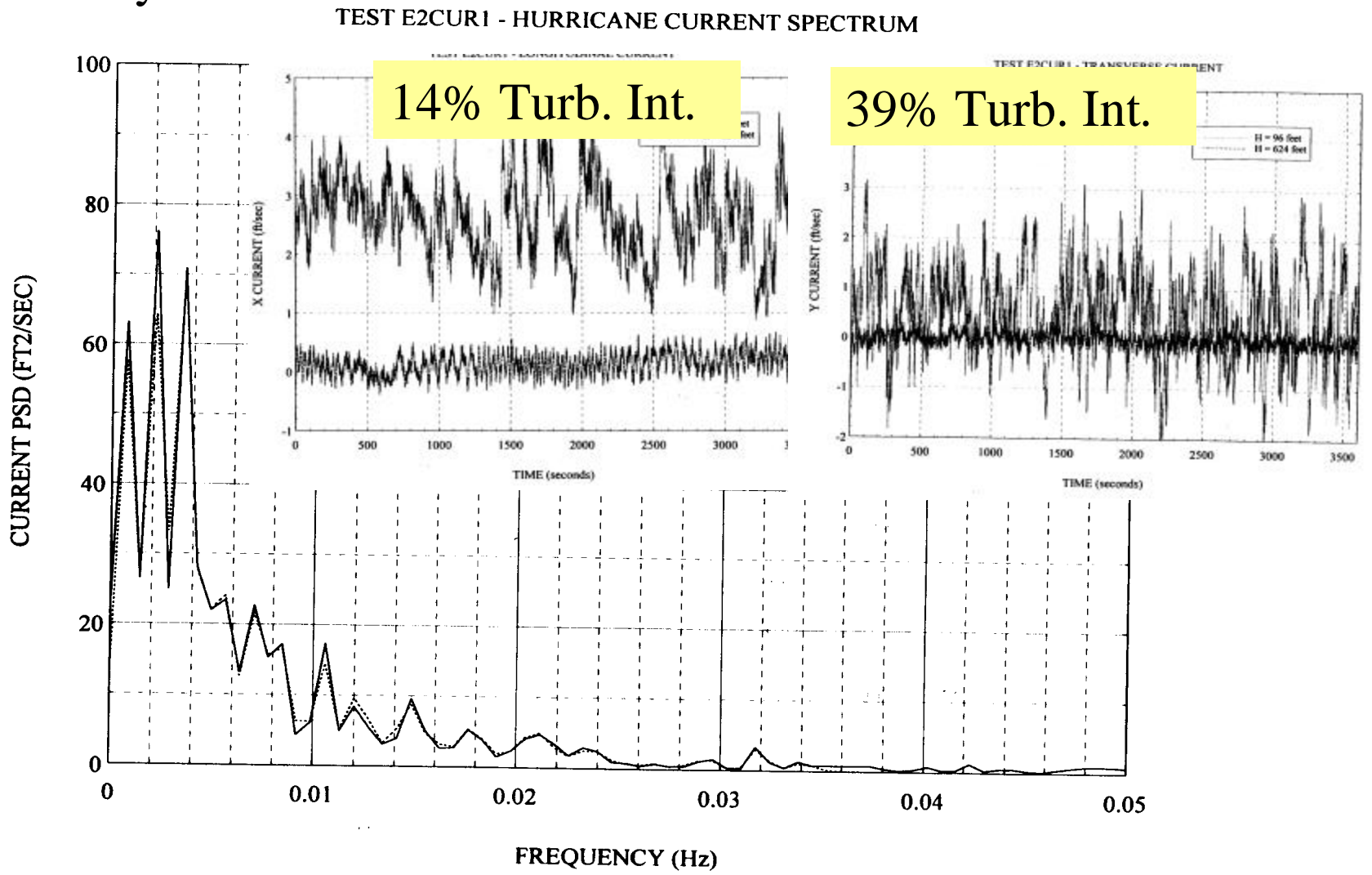
# Current Turbulence Effect on Mooring Tensions





# Current Spectra Measured in Wave basin

Turbulence Intensity =  $U_{rms}/U_{ave}$



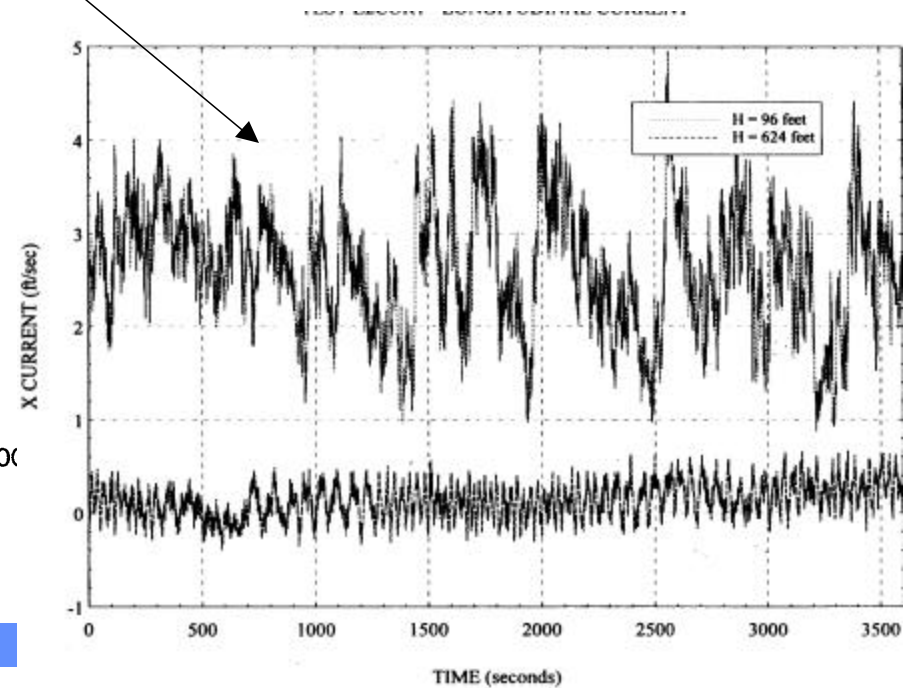
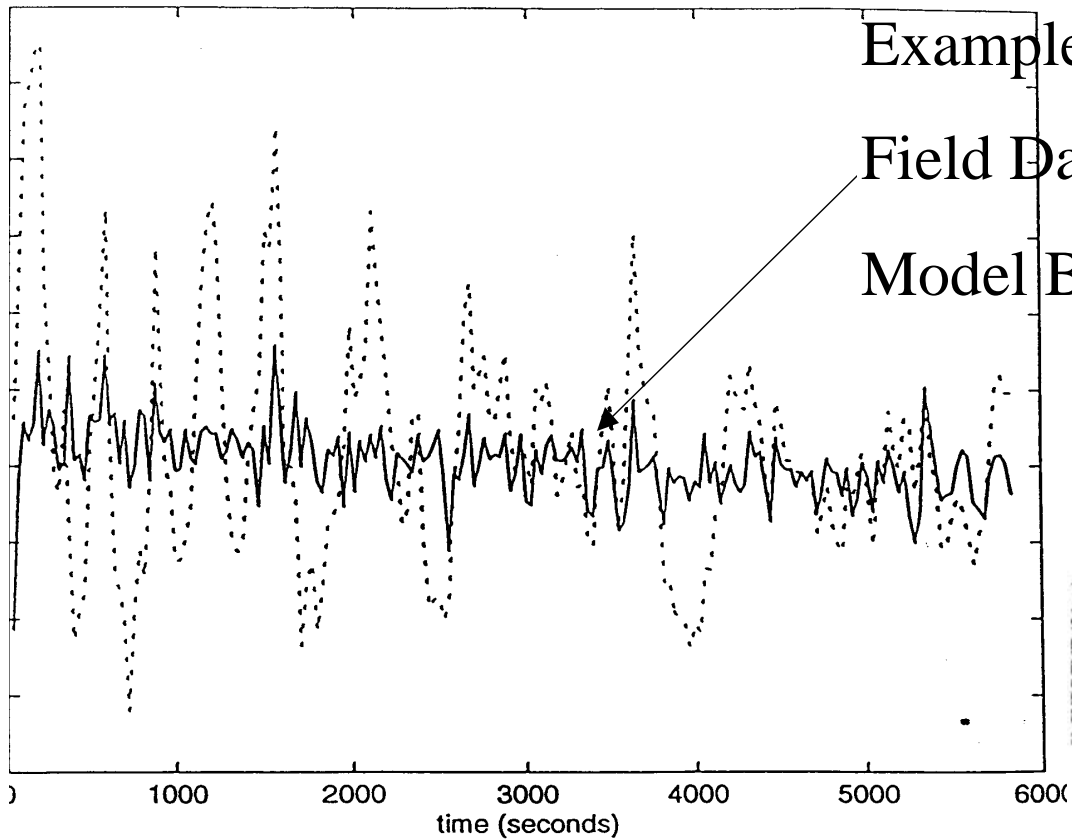


# Data Comparison

Example Turbulence Intensity:

Field Data - 1.8%

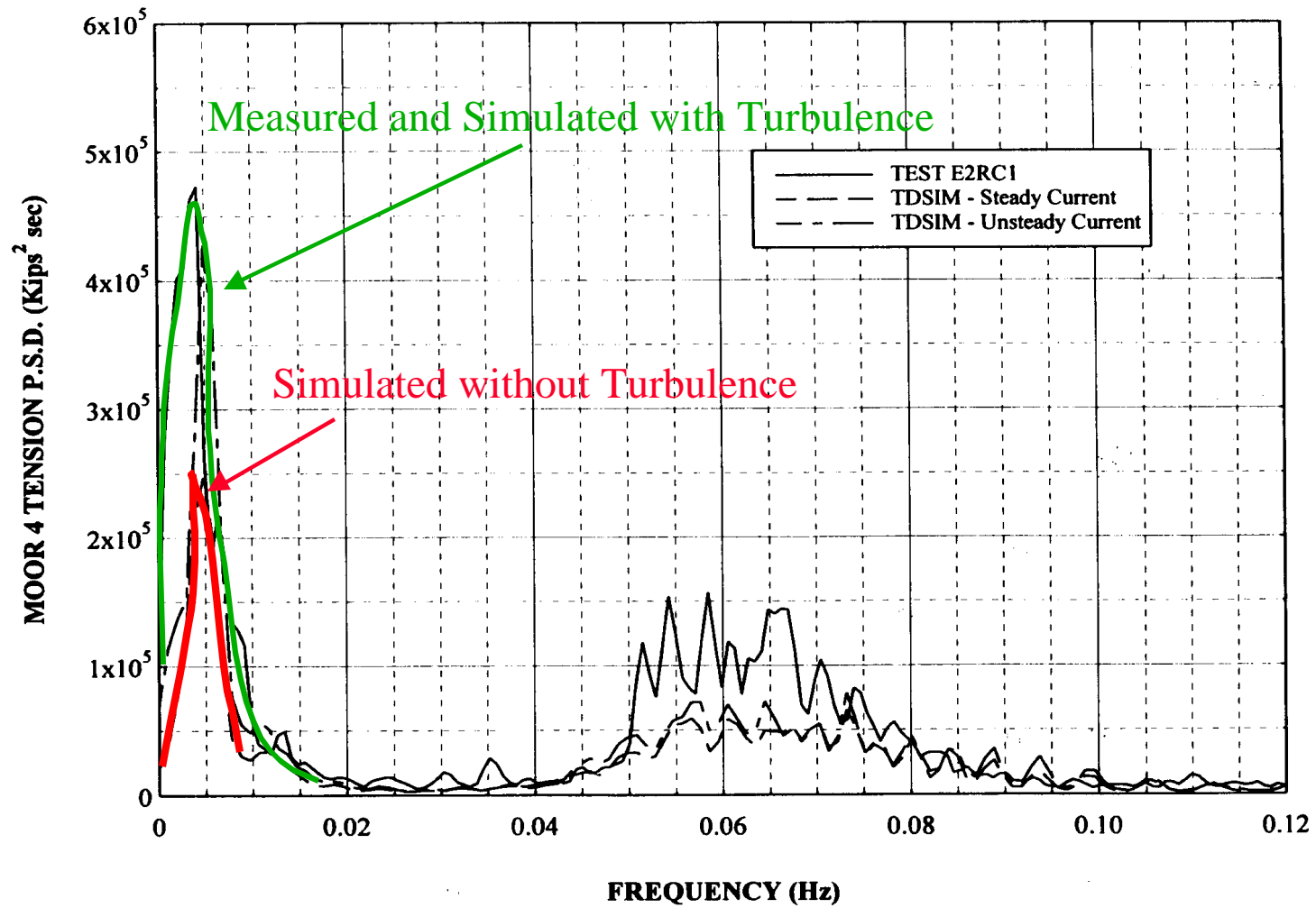
Model Basin - 14-39% !!





# Current Turbulence Effect on Tension Spectrum

## 100 YEAR G.O.M. HURRICANE - WAVES & CURRENT MOOR 4 TENSION SPECTRUM





## Overall Conclusions

- **Wave spectra for low frequencies should be defined and validated, including wave group effects**
- **Current Turbulence in the 60 - 600 sec. Period band should be measured**



- **Joint distribution of Waves and Current**
  - **Collinear events are not necessarily conservative**
  - **Heave and pitch may be worse if current opposes waves**