Innovation in metereology for maritime navigation

GNSS-R Instrument for measurement of SWH









Outline

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- GNSS-R concept
- The Oceanpal instrument
- Planned improvements in the frame of Cosmemos
- Corresponding Upgrades
- Installation on the Mega Express II
- Preliminary results
- Validation
- Conclusions









Starlab presentation

- Company activities
 - Technological R&D Studies (instrument concepts)
 - High added value services
- Sectors
 - Space technologies (SAR, GNSS-R)
 - Environment (Oceanography, Water Resources)
 - Agriculture
 - Neuroscience
- 30 collaborators
- Located in Barcelona, Spain
- More information on www.starlab.es



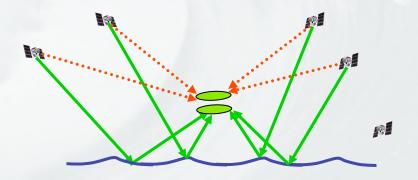






GNSS-R Concept

- Global Navigation Satellite System-Reflections
 - ▶ A bistatic (multistatic) radar technique to monitor a reflective surface
- A passive receiver picks up simultaneously direct and the reflected signals emitted by several GNSS satellites at the same time (opportunity sources)
- Sources are: GPS + Augmentation Systems + Galileo IOVs (now), and Galileo operational (future)





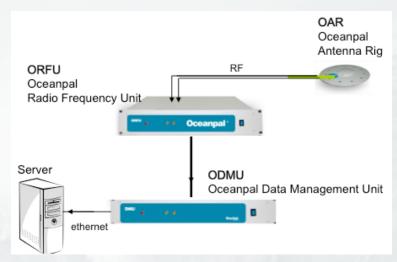
The Oceanpal Instrument

Oceanpal pre-Cosmemos

- RF front-end 4 channels
- Multi-band (L1, L2, L5)
- BW up to 50 MHz (4 MHz used)
- Gigabit Ethernet link to send data

CStarlight processing Software

- GPS L1 band (BPSK modulation)
- Giove A E1 (BOC Modulation)
- Monoprocessor/thread











Planned improvements in the frame of Cosmemos

From the Cosmemos requirements

- Retrieval of Significant Wave Height (SWH) information from moving platform
 - Instrument shall go from a coast installation to a ship installation
- Simultaneous GPS and Galileo/EGNOS E1/ E5 capability
 - The increase of satellite should improve the precision of the measurements (in the end using more than 50 satellites).
- Near real time processing
 - Data needed in real time to feed the meteorological model
- Interfacing with the rest of the COSMEMOS system
 - Standardization of the output files to be processed easily by the rest of the system



Corresponding Upgrades

Hardware

- Wideband RHCP and LHCP antennas and RF Filters suitable for GPS L1 and Galileo E1 and E5 (1175 to 1580 MHz)
- RF Front-End set up for simultaneous acquisition of L1 / E1 and E5.
- High speed USB 3.0 data interface to account for the higher bandwidth and the higher channel count (up to 600 Mbits/s).

Software

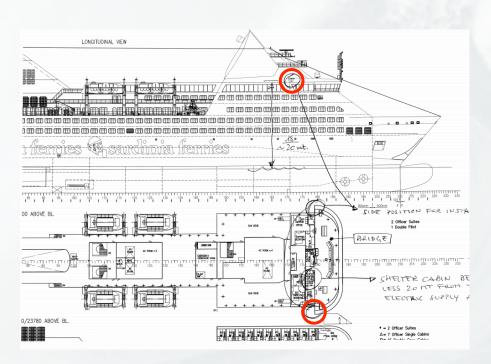
- Implement Galileo constellation and signals
- Update the estimation procedures to account for the effects of a moving platform
- Optimize the processing for near real time processing of high bandwidth signals
- Instrument output format compatible with the rest of the system





Installation on the Mega Express II

Successfully performed beginning of August 2013 Thanks to all the crew for the precious support!



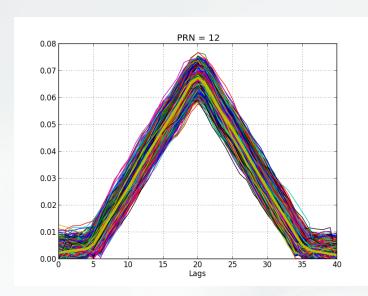


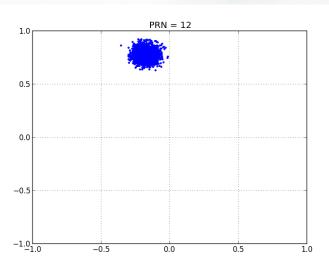


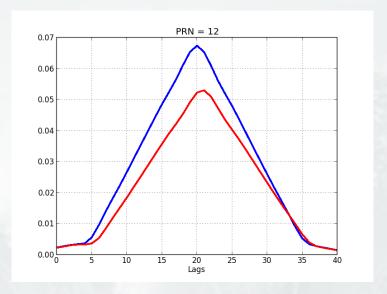




Preliminary results (1)







Estimated altimetric precision 20cm

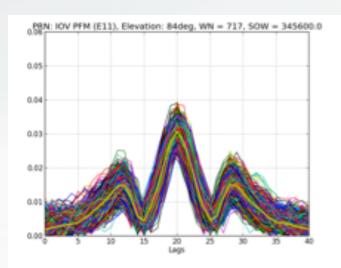
Interferometric field phase SNR = 30dB.

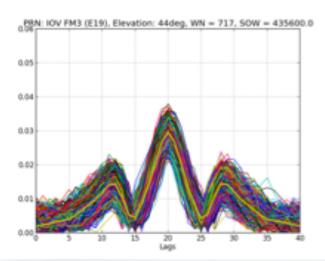


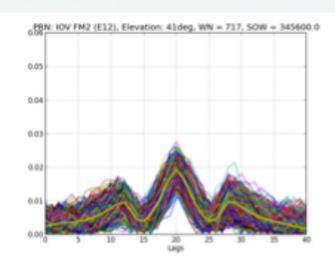


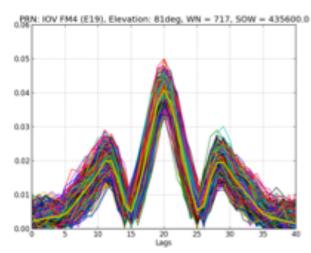


Preliminary results (2)









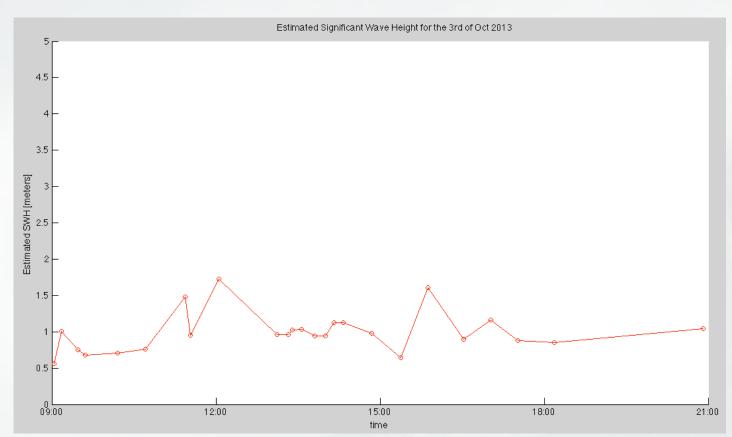
- CBOC modulation tracking validated
- Signals from the 4 IOV tracked
- All 4 Signals stable enough to be used for improvement of SWH estimation







Preliminary results (3)



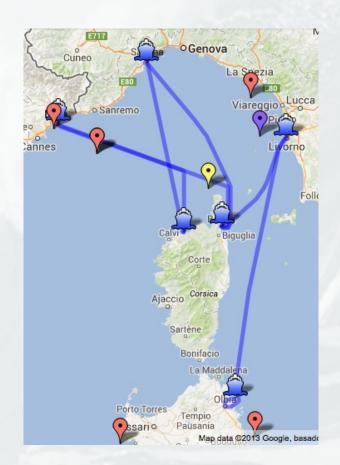
- Very preliminary processing of the data
- Example of SWH retrieval for the day of 3rd of October 2013



Validation

To calibrate and validate the SWH Estimation

- Independent information of sea state is required
- Available data source (ground truth) on the area:
 - Nice Buoy
 - French Riviera Buoy
 - Gorgona Buoy
 - Space Altimeters measurements
- Limitations
 - Only 3 buoys
 - Buoys Far away (min 12 km) from the boat
 - No automatic access to all the data
 - Satellite track narrow





Conclusions

- Starlab has developed and deployed the first ever
 Galileo GNSS-R instrument on a moving platform
- Preliminary measurement show the great capabilities of the instrument
- Calibration and validation of the measurements with respect to ground truth are under work
- Almost ready to be integrated as an operational instrument in the COSMEMOS service platform





Thank for your attention

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