

Is it possible to extract information related to sea-state from an Argo float?

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Thanks to the new generation of profiling floats and in particular to iridium telemetry, the acquisition frequency can be dramatically increased. We investigate here the possibility to extract information related to sea-state from the analysis of high-resolution measurements of the pressure data. We particularly focus on the study of the speed anomaly as compared to a nominal speed expected for a calm sea-state. By comparison between speed anomaly of a float in the Med Sea and concurrent seastate measurements by a weather buoy in the same area, we suggest that float behaviour can be an indicator of sea-state. In the context of remOcean and NOAS projects, we set up a high frequency mode (every 2 s) for the sub-surface layer and for more than forty floats deployed in various open ocean areas, we present a preliminary analysis of the speed anomaly.

