International Telecommunication Union



Recommendation ITU-R M.1874-1 (02/2013)

Technical and operational characteristics of oceanographic radars operating in sub-bands within the frequency range 3-50 MHz

M Series

Mobile, radiodetermination, amateur and related satellite services



International Telecommunication Unice

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Note: This ITU-R Recommendation was approved in English under the procedure detailed in Resolution ITU-R 1.

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RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1874-1

Technical and operational characteristics of oceanographic radars operating in sub-bands within the frequency range 3-50 MHz

(Question ITU-R 240/5)

(2009-2010-2013)

Scope

This Recommendation provides technical and operational characteristics of oceanographic radars for use in sharing and compatibility studies and spectrum planning and systems deployment within the 3 to 50 MHz band. It provides the relevant characteristics of short-range, standard range, long-range, very-long range and high-resolution oceanographic measurement systems.

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

a) that there is a need to operate oceanographic radar systems in the radiodetermination¹ service, using spectrum in the 3 to 50 MHz frequency range;

b) that WRC-12 allocated a number of frequency bands between 3 and 50 MHz for operation of these radars;

c) there is global interest in deploying operational systems on a worldwide basis;

d) that performance, functions and data requirements normally determine the range of spectrum that can be used by ocean observing radar systems,

recognizing

that representative technical and operational characteristics of oceanographic radar systems are required for spectrum management and deployment planning,

recommends

1 that the technical and operational aspects of oceanographic radars contained in the Annex should be considered when conducting sharing and compatibility studies with systems in other services;

2 that the technical and operational aspects of oceanographic radars contained in the Annex should also be taken into consideration for planning purposes.

¹ The radiolocation and radionavigation services are sub-services of the radiodetermination service.

Annex

Technical and operational characteristics of oceanographic radars operating in sub-bands within the frequency range 3-50 MHz

1 Introduction

A significant percentage of the world's population lives within 50 miles of the coastline heightening the need for accurate, reliable and detailed measurements of coastal environmental variables.

Just as the winds in the atmosphere provide information about where and when weather systems occur, ocean currents determine the movement of oceanic events. These two dynamic flows are used to determine where pollutants, man-made or natural, will travel. Presently, ocean current measurements are not as readily available as winds.

Because of this, there is an increasing interest in the ability to accurately measure the currents and waves in coastal waters. Radar systems operating at frequencies higher than 50 MHz are limited in their ability to provide data meeting current range, accuracy and resolution requirements. The global oceanography community is planning for the implementation of coastal sea surface monitoring radar networks. The benefits to society for improved measurement of coastal currents and sea state include a better understanding of issues like coastal pollution, fisheries management, search and rescue, beach erosion, maritime navigation, sediment transport and tsunami and associated surface wave resonance response (see the Appendix). Coastal radar measurements of the sea surface provide support to meteorological operations through the collection of sea state and dominant ocean wave data. In addition, oceanographic radar technology has applications in global maritime domain awareness by allowing the long range sensing of surface vessels. This will benefit the global safety and security of shipping and ports².

The need for additional data to mitigate the effects of disasters, including tsunamis, to understand climate change, and to ensure safe maritime travel has led to the consideration of operational use of oceanographic radar networks on a global basis.

Implementation of these systems in Japan is shown in Figs 1 and 2.

² Use of Coastal Ocean Dynamics Application Radar (CODAR) Technology in the United States of America Coast Guard Search and Rescue Planning, David Ullman; James O'Donnell; Christopher Edwards; Todd Fake; David Morschauser; Coast Guard Research and Development Center Groton CT.

FIGURE 1

An example of the observed surface current by oceanographic radars in the Tokyo Bay Watch System operated by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan



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FIGURE 2

Oceanographic radars in Japan (observation areas are shown for each fixed radar site)



As of 2009, 143 oceanographic radars spread unevenly throughout the United States of America coastal regions (this total includes radars that are not currently operating on a regular basis). Nearly all of the oceanographic radar systems in the United States of America are owned and operated by university research departments. Existing and proposed oceanographic radar sites for the United States of America, the Pacific Islands and the Caribbean Regions are shown in Fig. 3.

FIGURE 3

Existing and proposed oceanographic radar sites for the United States of America, the Pacific Islands and the Caribbean Regions



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The establishment of a network of oceanographic radar monitoring sites is included in the integrated ocean observing system (IOOS) Development Plan and is part of the global ocean observing system (GOOS) which, in turn, is a substantial component of the global Earth observing system of systems (GEOSS).

2 Principle of operation

In oceanographic radars using Bragg scattering³, the frequency range of 3 to 50 MHz (wavelength of 100 to 6 m) is very useful in measuring ocean waves driven by wind (see Fig. 4). Spatial resolution of the radar is limited by the bandwidth of the signal e.g. the bandwidths of 100 and 300 kHz give resolutions of 1.5 km and 500 m, respectively⁴.



The objectives of these systems are to: obtain continuous, real-time information for environmental operation (e.g. pollution collection and control), provide disaster-mitigation services (e.g. tsunami wave detection), provide maritime-safety services (e.g. oceanic-current monitoring sea state observation) by oceanographic radars.

The physical parameters that are measured by oceanographic radars and associated performance requirements dictate the frequency ranges that will support data collection. Oceanographic radars for ocean observing utilize the rough surface of the ocean to measure ocean currents and sea state. When the wave spacing on the ocean surface is equal to the half wavelength of the frequency used by the oceanographic radar, a strong signal is reflected back in the direction of the radar. This is the phenomenon known as Bragg scattering. The frequency range 3 to 50 MHz is very useful for oceanographic observing radar operations since ocean waves are always present where the wave spacing matches the radar's operational frequency. The higher temporal resolution is to be pursued for disaster-mitigation purposes while the higher spatial resolution is to be pursued for environmental operation. In addition, measurement of Doppler shift of the signal returns allows operators to measure other properties of sea state and currents.

The two main transmission techniques which are used in oceanographic radars are CW pulses and linear FMCW chirps. Table 1 is a list of the parameters which are associated with a typical oceanographic radar.

³ When the transmitted surface wavelength is equal to the half-wavelength of the surface wave in the Ocean, a strong reflected signal will be reflected back in the direction of the radar.

⁴ Resolution L, speed of light $c = 300\ 000\ \text{km/s}$ and bandwidth fc has relation of fc = c/2L.

| List of parameters of typical oceanographic radar waveforms | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Centre frequency | Sweep bandwidth | Sweep time (Tsweep) | Pulse period (Tpulse period) | Duty cycle | | | | |
| (MHZ) | (KHZ) | (S) | (µs) | (%) | | | | |
| 4.53 | 25.6 | 1 | 1 946 | 50 | | | | |
| 13.46 | 49.4 | 0.5 | 669 | 50 | | | | |
| 24.65 | 101 | 0.5 | 486 | 50 | | | | |

TABLE 1

List of parameters of typical oceanographic radar waveforms

Figure 5 illustrates the waveform structure of typical oceanographic radars. The waveform at the top of the picture represents an FMCW signal. The waveform on the bottom is representative of a gated signal.



3 Oceanographic radar antennas

A variety of antenna types are currently used with oceanographic ocean observing radar systems. Some systems utilize either a 3-element Yagi antenna or phased-array system to sweep in the azimuthal direction using multiple sets of Yagi antenna for transmission, limiting the geography over which the oceanographic radar signal is propagated. Figures 6, 7 and 8 illustrate some typical oceanographic radar antenna patterns.

FIGURE 6

Typical oceanographic radar antenna patterns (4 vertical monopole array)





Typical oceanographic radar antenna patterns (omnidirectional; left: azimuthal, right: vertical)



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Typical oceanographic radar antenna patterns (directional, 3 elements Yagi; left: azimuthal, right: vertical)



4 **Transmitter emissions**

Figures 9 and 10 illustrate typical 4.5 MHz and 24 MHz oceanographic radar emissions.



FIGURE 9



5 System characteristics

Tables 2 through 4 contain a summary of RF characteristics for representative oceanographic radar systems for ocean monitoring at frequency ranges within 3 to 50 MHz.

TABLE 2

Characteristics of generic oceanographic radars for ocean observing using frequency modulated interrupted continuous wave (FMICW)

| Characteristics | Units | System 1 5 MHz | System 2 13 MHz | System 3 25 MHz | System 4 42 MHz | |
|---|-------|--|---|---|---|--|
| Function | | Long-range oceanographic measurements | Standard oceanographic measurements | High-resolutior measur | n oceanographic rements | |
| Maximum operational (measurement) range ⁽¹⁾ | km | 170-200 (average during daytime) ⁽²⁾ | 60-90 (average during daytime) ⁽²⁾ | 30-50 (average during daytime) ⁽²⁾ | 15-25 (average during daytime) ⁽²⁾ | |
| Range of user selectable range resolution | km | 3-12 ⁽³⁾ | 2-3 ⁽³⁾ | $0.3-2^{(3)}$ | 0.3-1 ⁽³⁾ | |
| Typical sweep bandwidth | kHz | 25 ⁽³⁾ | 50 ⁽³⁾ | 100 ⁽³⁾ | 125 ⁽³⁾ | |
| Frequency range ⁽⁴⁾ | MHz | 4-6 ⁽⁴⁾ | 12 - 14 ⁽⁴⁾ | 24 - 27 ⁽⁴⁾ | 40 - 44 ⁽⁴⁾ | |
| Typical peak power used Maximum system capability – Peak power into antenna | W | 7 50 80 | | | 50 80(100) | |
| Pulse widths | μs | 1 000-2 000 | 300-600 | | 30-100 | |
| Maximum duty cycle | % | | 50 | | | |
| Pulse rise/fall time | μs | 16/32 16 | | 8/16 | | |
| Transmitter tuning method | | Digital | | | | |
| Receiver tuning method | | Digital | | | | |
| Output device | | Gated FET (Class AB operation) | | n) | | |
| Transmitter stability | ppm | 0.001 | | | | |
| Receiver stability | ppm | m 0.001 | | | | |
| Transmit antenna pattern type | | Omnidirectional (in horizontal plane) | | | | |
| Transmit antenna type | | Quarter-wave monopole with ground plane | | | | |

 TABLE 2 (continued)

| Characteristics | Units | System 1 5 MHz | System 2 13 MHz | System 3 25 MHz | System 4 42 MHz | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Antenna polarization | | | Vertical | | | | |
| Antenna main beam gain | dBi | | 8 | | | | |
| Transmit antenna elevation beamwidth | degrees | | 35 | | | | |
| Transmit antenna azimuthal beam width | | | Omnidirectional | | | | |
| Transmit antenna horizontal scan rate | | | Fixed antenna | | | | |
| Transmit antenna height | m | 10 | 4 | 2 | 1.2 | | |
| Receive antenna pattern type | | Electric and magnetic dipoles | | | | | |
| Receive antenna type | | Two | o crossed loops and a monopo | ole as single unit | | | |
| Receive antenna polarization | | | Vertical | | | | |
| Receive antenna main beam gain | dBi | | 5 | | | | |
| Receive antenna elevation beamwidth | degrees | | 45 | | | | |
| Receive antenna azimuthal beamwidth | degrees | | 90-360 | | | | |
| Receive antenna horizontal scan rate | | | Fixed antenna | | | | |
| Receive antenna height | m | 4 | | | | | |
| Receiver IF 3 dB bandwidth | 500 | | | | | | |
| Receiver noise figure | dB | 12 with pulsing | | | | | |
| Minimum discernible signal | dBm | -147 (500 Hz RBW ⁽⁵⁾) (specified system noise level) | | | | | |
| Sweeping interval | S | | 0.5 to 1.0 | | | | |

TABLE 2 (end)

| Characteristics | Units | System 1 5 MHz | System 2 13 MHz | System 3 25 MHz | System 4 42 MHz |
|---|-------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Transmitter emission bandwidth 3 dB 20 dB | kHz | 26 58 | 54 70 | 105 150 | 128 170 |
| Suppression of harmonics | | | Yes | | |

⁽¹⁾ Range depends on a number of environmental factors: external noise, significant wave height, current speed, location of radar (such as proximity to water, nearby obstructions), and the operating frequency.

⁽²⁾ Range reduces significantly during night time.

⁽³⁾ While the sweep bandwidth is adjustable (higher bandwidth produces higher resolution data), the systems are normally operated at the typical sweep bandwidths specified due to limited available bandwidth, and the need to coexist with other radio systems.

⁽⁴⁾ Specifies the frequency range for optimum performance from a scientific perspective. Entire frequency range not needed for operations.

⁽⁵⁾ RBW stands for resolution bandwidth.

TABLE 3

Characteristics of generic oceanographic frequency modulated continuous wave (FMCW) radars

| Characteristics | Units | System 5 8 MHz | System 6 12 MHz | System 7 16 MHz | System 8 25 MHz | System 9 42 MHz |
|--|-------|--|---|--|--|---|
| Function | | Very long-range oceanographic measurements | Long range oceanographic measurements | Standard oceanographic measurements | High-resolution oceanographic measurements | Best resolution short range measurements |
| Maximum operational (measurement) range | km | 150-300 (average during daytime) ⁽¹⁾ | 100-150 (average during daytime) ⁽¹⁾ | 50-100 (average during daytime) ⁽¹⁾ | 30-60 (average during daytime) ⁽¹⁾ | 10-20 (average during daytime) ⁽¹⁾ |
| Range resolution | km | 3-12 | 1-3 | 1-3 High resolution mode: 0.5 km | 0.5-2 High resolution mode: 0.25 km | 0.15-0.5 |
| Sweep bandwidth | kHz | 50-12.5 | 150-50 | 300-50 | 600-75 | 300-1 000 |

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| TABLE 3 (continued) | |
|---------------------|--|
|---------------------|--|

| Characteristics | Units | System 5 8 MHz | System 6 12 MHz | System 7 16 MHz | System 8 25 MHz | System 9 42 MHz | | |
|--|---------|-------------------|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Frequency range | MHz | 6-9 | 11-14 | 14-18 | 24-27 | 40-44 | | |
| Average power into antenna (= peak power) | W | | | 30 7 per antenna | | | | |
| Pulse widths | | | | No pulse | | | | |
| Maximum duty cycle | | | | Continuous wave | | | | |
| Pulse rise/fall time | | | | Continuous wave | | | | |
| Transmitter tuning method | | | | Digital (DDS) | | | | |
| Receiver tuning method | | | | Digital (DDS) | | | | |
| Output device | | | Solid state, bipolar (Class AB operation) | | | | | |
| Transmitter stability | ppm | | | 0.1/year | | | | |
| Receiver stability | ppm | | | 0.1/year | | | | |
| Transmit antenna pattern type | | | > 90% | Directional energy within ±60° bean | nwidth | | | |
| Transmit antenna type | | | 4 vert | ical monopole rectangular 0.5×0.15 wavelength | array | | | |
| Antenna polarization | | | | Vertical | | | | |
| Antenna main beam gain | dBi | | 5 to 8 | | | | | |
| Transmit antenna elevation beamwidth | degrees | | 25 to 35 | | | | | |
| Transmit antenna azimuthal beamwidth | degrees | | | 120 | | | | |

 TABLE 3 (continued)

| Characteristics | Units | System 5 8 MHz | System 6 12 MHz | System 7 16 MHz | System 8 25 MHz | System 9 42 MHz | | | | |
|--|---------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Transmit antenna horizontal scan rate | | | Fixed antenna | | | | | | | |
| Transmit antenna height (m) | | < 10 | < 6 | < 4 | < 3 | < 2 | | | | |
| Receive antenna pattern type | | | Directio | nal with beamwidth of ± 3 | to ±15° | | | | | |
| Receive antenna type | | | Monopole array (4 to 16 monopoles) | | | | | | | |
| Receive antenna polarization | | | Vertical | | | | | | | |
| Receive antenna main beam gain | dBi | | 10 to 18 | | | | | | | |
| Receive antenna elevation beamwidth | degrees | | 35 | | | | | | | |
| Receive antenna azimuthal beamwidth | degrees | | 6 te | o 30 depending on array s | ize | | | | | |
| Receive antenna horizontal scan rate | | | | Fixed antenna | | | | | | |
| Receive antenna height | m | < 10 | < 6 | < 4 | < 3 | < 2 | | | | |
| Receiver IF 3 dB bandwidth | kHz | | No IF used. Baseband bandwidth is 1.5 | | | | | | | |
| Receiver noise figure | dB | | 8 | | | | | | | |
| Minimum discernible signal | dBm | | (s | -142 in 1 500 Hz RBW ⁽²⁾ pecified system noise leve | -142 in 1 500 Hz RBW ⁽²⁾ (specified system noise level) | | | | | |

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| d) |
|----|
| |

| Characteristics | Units | System 5 8 MHz | System 6 12 MHz | System 7 16 MHz | System 8 25 MHz | System 9 42 MHz | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Instantaneous3 dBbandwidth20 dB60 dB | kHz | | 0.2 0.6 30 | | | | | |
| Suppression of harmonics | dBc | | | <-60 | | | | |
| Sweep interval | ms | 200 to 500 | 130 to | o 500 | 130 to 250 | | | |

⁽¹⁾ Range reduces significantly during night time.

⁽²⁾ RBW stands for resolution bandwidth.

TABLE 4

| Characteristics | Units | System 10 9.2 MHz | System 11 24.5 MHz | System 12 24.5 MHz | System 13 41.9 MHz | |
|--|-------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Function | | Long-range oceanographic measurements | Standard oceanographic measurements | | High-resolution oceanographic measurements | |
| Maximum operational (measurement) range | km | 200-300 | 50-70 | | 20-25 | |
| Range resolution | km | 6.8 | 1.5 | | 0.5 | |
| Sweep bandwidth | kHz | 22 | 100 | | 300 | |
| Frequency range | MHz | 9.2 | 24.5 | | 41.9 | |
| Peak power into antenna | W | 1 000 | 100 | 200 | 100 | |
| Pulse width | μs | 1 330 | 488 | | 244-280 | |
| Maximum duty cycle | % | 50 | | | | |
| Pulse rise/fall time | | Smoothed ⁽¹⁾ | | | | |
| Transmitter tuning method | | | Digital | | | |

 TABLE 4 (continued)

| Characteristics | Units | System 10 9.2 MHz | System 11 24.5 MHz | System 12 24.5 MHz | System 13 41.9 MHz | | |
|--|---------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Receiver tuning method | | Digital | | | | | |
| Output device | | Gated FET (Class AB operation) | | | | | |
| Transmitter stability | ppm | 0.03/year | | | | | |
| Receiver stability | ppm | 0.03/year | | | | | |
| Transmit antenna pattern type | | Directional | | | | | |
| Transmit antenna type | | 3-element Yagi | 8 sets of 3-element Yagi | | 3-element Yagi | | |
| Antenna polarization | | | Vertical | | | | |
| Antenna main beam gain | dBi | 6 | 15 | | 6 | | |
| Transmit antenna elevation beam width | degrees | 30 | 25 | | | | |
| Transmit antenna azimuthal beam width | degrees | 120 | 15 | | 120 | | |
| Transmit antenna horizontal scan rate | | Fixed antenna | Fixed antenna phased array 60 min per 12 direction | | Fixed antenna | | |
| Transmit antenna height ⁽²⁾ | m | 10 | 2-14 | | | | |
| Receive antenna pattern type | | | Directional | | | | |
| Receive antenna type | | 16 sets of 2-element Yagi | 8 sets of 3-element Yagi | | | | |
| Receive antenna polarization | | | Vertical | | | | |
| Receive antenna main beam gain | dBi | 16 | 15 | | | | |
| Receive antenna elevation beam width | degrees | 30 | 25° | | | | |
| Receive antenna azimuthal beam width | degrees | 8-10 | 15° | | | | |

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| Characteristics | Units | System 10 9.2 MHz | System 11 24.5 MHz | System 12 24.5 MHz | System 13 41.9 MHz | |
|---|-------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Receive antenna horizontal scan rate | | Fixed antenna DBF ⁽³⁾ | Fixed antenna phased array 60 min per 12 direction | Fixed antenna DBF ⁽³⁾ | | |
| Receive antenna height ⁽²⁾ | m | 10 | 2-14 | | | |
| Receiver IF 3 dB bandwidth | Hz | 200 | | | | |
| Receiver noise figure | dB | 17 with pulsing | 12 with pulsing | | 13 with pulsing | |
| Minimum discernible signal | dBm | -157 (1 Hz RBW ⁽⁴⁾) | -162 (1 Hz RBW ⁽⁴⁾) | —: | 161 (1 Hz RBW ⁽⁴⁾) | |
| Transmitter emission band width | kHz | 25 | 110 | | 320 | |
| Suppression of harmonics | | Yes | | | | |
| Sweeping interval | S | 0.7 | 0.5 | | 0.25 | |

⁽¹⁾ Pulse edges are shaped to control its spectrum. The steepness is specified indirectly via the spectrum.

⁽²⁾ Feed point height in the antenna array from ground level.

⁽³⁾ Digital beam forming.

⁽⁴⁾ RBW stands for resolution bandwidth.

Appendix

Case study of oceanographic radar application

Detection of surface wave resonant response of tsunami

1 Overview

At 1446 hours on March 11, 2011 Japan Standard Time (JST), M9.0 Great East Japan Earthquake and associated tsunami waves attacked Pacific coast. We would like to express our sincere condolence for casualties, and thank for worldwide assistance and sympathies given on us.

This short contribution will introduce how the oceanographic radar contributes to the detection of the tsunami wave at coastal zone, and puts emphasis on importance of new allocations to the RLS for oceanographic radar applications with appropriate regulatory provisions for a possible sharing with existing services to enable the most efficient use of the spectrum and mitigate interference to existing services.

2 Tsunami at Pacific coast in Japan

The maximum run-up height was more than 39 m in North East area of Japan (Fig. 11: by the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake Tsunami Joint Survey Group, <u>http://www.coastal.jp/ttjt/</u>). The height of tsunami and width of inundation area was a historical size, and more than 500 km² area had been affected.

The tsunami waves reached the continental shelf slope south of the Kii Channel, western part of Japan (Fig. 12), at around 1620 hours on March 11, 2011 JST about 1.5 hours after the earthquake. Prolonged and larger oscillations in the channel had made inundation damages. In Tachibana Port on the western coast of the channel, an inundation height of about 3.5 m was observed. In Kainan Port (KA in Fig. 12) on the eastern coast of the channel, the maximum wave height of about 2.6 m was observed about 4.5 hours after the first tsunami arrival as shown in Fig. 13.

3 System used

The detection was made by the typical oceanographic radar System 12 of this Recommendation. The radar has directional antenna system (consists of 1 transmission and 8 receive antennas of 3-element Yagi) with digital beam forming. The azimuthal resolution is 7.5 degrees in the cover angle of ± 45 degrees. The system is operated as FMICW (frequency modulated interrupted continuous wave) with a centre frequency of 24.515 MHz and a sweep bandwidth of 100 kHz, resulting in a range resolution of 1.5 km. These specifications allow to detect surface-current with high spatiotemporal resolution special distribution.

In a normal operation mode, the surface radial velocity map is measured hourly. As an ad-hoc operation mode, continuously transmitted and receiving the signal enable to obtain the velocity map every 2-3 min. The oceanographic radar had been operating in the ad-hoc operation mode from 1700 hours on March 11 to 1630 hours on March 19, 2011 JST.

Not only the oceanographic radar, but also the sea surface elevation data obtained in the channel (KA and KO) and on the continental shelf slope (WA) was also used for the analysis. The data at KA were obtained by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan. The data at KO and WA, obtained by the Nationwide Ocean Wave Information Network for Ports and Harbours (NOWPHAS) was provided by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

4 **Observation results**

The first tsunami wave reached WA at around 1620 hours on March 11. It then reached KO at around 1700 hours and KA at around 1705 hours as shown in Fig. 13. The first wave height at KA (168 cm) can be roughly explained by the shoaling of the incident wave at WA (63 cm) on the continental shelf, while that at KO (66 cm) on the western side of the channel was almost the same as that at WA (63 cm), likely due to a combination of bathymetry-induced wave refraction and shoaling effects.

At WA and KO, the wave height gradually decreased with time and was smaller than 15 cm at 1200 hours on March 12. In contrast, at KA, although the wave height of the first to third waves gradually decreased, it rapidly increased from the fourth wave due to resonance of the surface waves. The maximum wave height reaching 262 cm was observed at the seventh wave at around 2130 hours at KA. The surface wave resonance oscillation at KA resulted in wave height greater than 50 cm observed at around 1200 hours on March 12.

From the first to third wave with larger radial velocity amplitudes, the phases in the distant ranges lead those in the closer ranges (Fig. 14). The phase relationship gradually changed after the third wave to become out of phase from 2000 hours to 2300 hours followed by establishment of in-phase relationship throughout the range from 1.5 to 30 km along the radar beam due to the occurrence of surface wave resonance. The phase relation change is evident in the time series diagram of the radial velocities at HF-12K and HF-24K (Fig. 14). From the first to the third waves, the phase at HF-12K lagged behind that at HF-24K by about 4 min. Given that the average water depth between the two points is 50 m, the travel time of the tsunami wave is estimated to be about 8 min, which is shorter than the observed time lag, suggesting that the propagation direction of the first three waves would be different from that of the radar beam.

5 Conclusions

The tsunami waves propagated from the continental shelf slope to the inner part of the Kii Channel as progressive waves until the third wave, and then natural oscillations were excited by the waves. It caused secondary oscillations in the channel and inundation on the coasts⁵.

The major advantage of the oceanographic radar is thought to be the range from shore at which the tsunami can be detected; however, additional technical and operational studies are needed^{6, 7}.

⁵ Hinata, H. *et.al.*, Propagating tsunami wave and subsequent resonant response signals detected by HF radar in the Kii Channel, Japan, *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*, 95: 268-273, 2011.

⁶ Lipa *et al.*, Japan Tsunami Current Flows Observed by HF Radars on Two Continents, *Remote Sens.*3: 1663-1679, 2011.

⁷ HELZEL Messtechnik GmbH. WERA Ocean Rader in Chile Observed Tsunami Signatures after the Earthquake in Japan on March 11, 2011, *Press Release* on May 2011, (<u>http://www.helzel.com/files/432/upload/Tsunami/Press-Release-Tsunami-WERA-2011.pdf</u>).

This finding adds a new role of oceanographic radar to measure the detailed surface-current fields with high spatiotemporal resolution for understanding detail processes of resonant response to tsunami wave in channels. Since resonant response could excite higher waves than original input waves, it is another important issue to be prepared against unexpected disasters.



M.1874-11



FIGURE 12 Map of oceanographic radar systems (squares and triangles) and sea surface elevation monitoring systems (solid circles) in the Kii Channel, western coast of Japan

M.1874-12

FIGURE 13

Detailed sea surface elevation at WA, KO, KA and radial velocity at HF-12K (12 km offshore from the radar)



FIGURE 14

Time-distance (top) and time series diagram (bottom) of radial velocities for 12 hours from 1700 hours, March 11, 2011

