



# Open Sea Operating Experience to Reduce Wave Energy Costs

## Technical Note

TRIAXYS Metocean Data 2016-2017

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Technical Note describes the data obtained from the TRIAXYS buoy deployed at BiMEP, December 2016 to October 2017. Sensor is located at 87 m water depth, 300 m up-wave of the OCEANTEC's Wave Energy Converter, MARMOK-A5 (43°28'12.19"N, 2°52'17.88"O). Statistical wave data are calculated from 20-min time series.

The document introduces main characteristics, specification and accuracy of the TRIAXYS buoy, together with relevant references of the manufacturer. Besides, it is provided a short description of the full list of wave parameters.

Finally, an indicative example of the data recorded for two wave parameters, namely significant wave height ( $H_s$ ) and peak period ( $T_p$ ), is given.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....                    | 3  |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS .....                    | 4  |
| LIST OF FIGURES .....                      | 5  |
| LIST OF TABLES .....                       | 5  |
| 1. TRIAXYS BUOY DATA-SHEET .....           | 6  |
| 2. LOCATION AND OPERATION TIME .....       | 8  |
| 3. DESCRIPTION OF WAVE RESOURCE DATA ..... | 9  |
| 4. REFERENCES .....                        | 13 |



## LIST OF FIGURES

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Figure 1: TRIAXYS components .....                    | 6  |
| Figure 2: TRIAXYS location at BiMEP test site .....   | 8  |
| Figure 3: TRIAXIS located in front of MARMOK-A5.....  | 8  |
| Figure 4: Significant wave height per sea state ..... | 11 |
| Figure 5: Peak period per sea state.....              | 12 |

## LIST OF TABLES

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Table 1: Specifications TRIAXYS sensor [4].....   | 7 |
| Table 2: TRIAXYS resolution and accuracy [2]..... | 7 |
| Table 3: Parameters obtained from the buoy.....   | 9 |

## 1. TRIAXYS BUOY DATA-SHEET

The TRIAXYS™ Directional Wave Buoy, manufactured by AXYS Technologies Inc. (AXYS) [2] has the following characteristics and components:

### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

- ▶ Diameter: 1.10m outside
- ▶ Bumper Weight (including batteries): 230 kg
- ▶ Light: Amber LED.
- ▶ Programmable IALA ODAS flash sequence with three miles' visibility.

### MATERIALS

- ▶ Hull: Stainless steel
- ▶ Dome: Impact resistant polycarbonate
- ▶ Solar Panel Assembly: Fibreglass over foam
- ▶ Clamping ring: Stainless steel

### POWER SYSTEM

- ▶ Batteries: 4 @ 12 Volt, 100 Amp h/battery
- ▶ Solar Panels: 10 @ 6 Watt
- ▶ Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) Regulator External
- ▶ On/Off Switch: Turns buoy on when Magnetic Key is removed.

### TELEMETRY OPTIONS

- ▶ VHF/UHF- IsatData Pro-  
INMARSAT M2M- IRIDIUM-  
HSPA Cellular (compatible  
with GPRS) - AIS Aid to  
Navigation

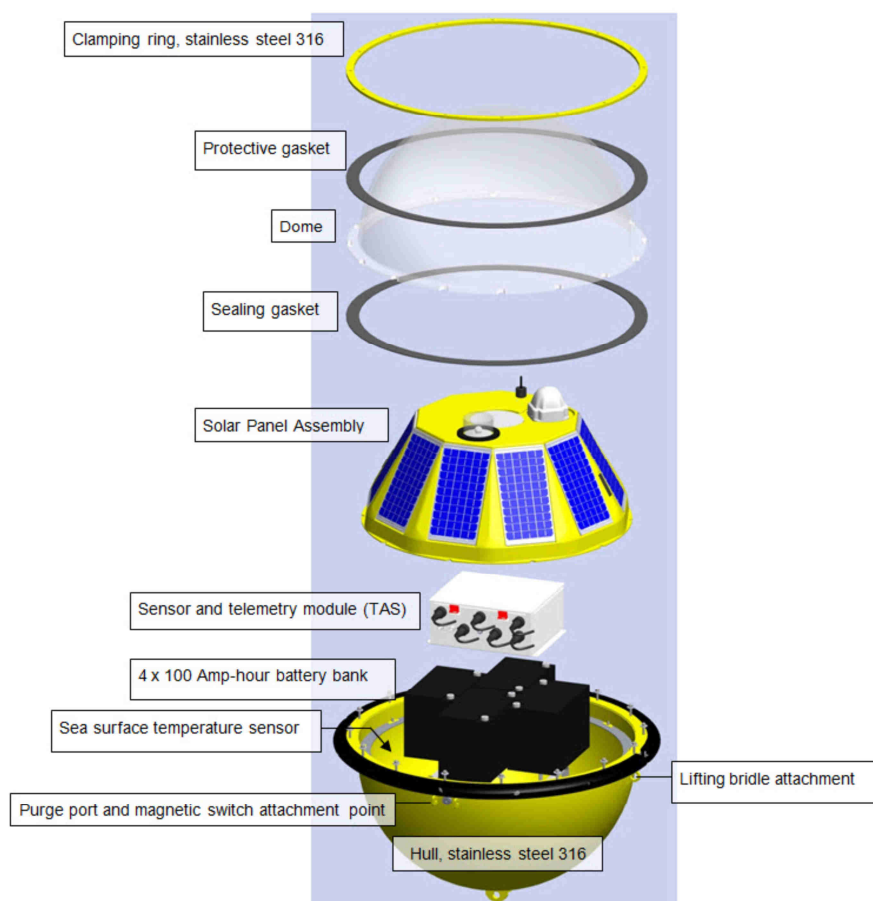


FIGURE 1: TRIAXYS COMPONENTS

Specifications of TRIAXYS sensors are shown in the next table.

**TABLE 1: SPECIFICATIONS TRIAXYS SENSOR [4]**

| <b>Data</b>                 | <b>Description</b>                                  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Direction                   | 0-360°  |
| Sensor Size                 | 15cm x 15cm x 9cm                                   |
| Sensor Weight               | 1.5 Kg  |
| Power Supply                | 10 to 20 VDC  |
| Input/Output                | Power and data through single connector             |
| Communications              | 9,600 or 19,200 baud, 8 bits, 1 stop bit, no parity |
| Operating Temperature Range | -30°C to +65°C                                      |
| Storage Temperature Range   | -40°C to +70°C                                      |
| Sampling Frequency          | Variable; default 4 Hz                              |
| Frequency Range             | 0.64 Hz (1.5 seconds) to 0.030 Hz (33 seconds)      |
| Frequency Spacing           | Variable; default 0.005 Hz                          |
| Sample Duration             | Variable (1 to 34 minutes)                          |
| Sampling Interval           | Variable (5 to 1440 minutes)                        |
| Frequency Bands             | Variable; default 123                               |
| Location of Sensor          | Any   |
| Data Storage                | Internal 8GB: >5 years (expandable to               |

Last, the resolution and accuracy of the system is summarized in Table 2.

**TABLE 2: TRIAXYS RESOLUTION AND ACCURACY [2]**

|                    | <b>RANGE</b>  | <b>RESOLUTION</b> | <b>ACCURACY</b> |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Heave</b>       | +/-20m        | 0.01m             | Better than 1%  |
| <b>Period</b>      | 1.5 to 33 sec | 0.1 sec           | Better than 1%  |
| <b>Direction</b>   | 0 to 360°     | 1°                | 3°              |
| <b>Water Temp.</b> | -5 to +50°C   | 0.1°C             | +/-0.5°C        |

## 2. LOCATION AND OPERATION TIME

TRIAXYS buoy is located in front of MARMOK-A5 at BiMEP test site (43°28'12.19"N, 2°52'17.88"O). It was installed in December of 2016 with the objective to provide information to the research activities during the testing of OCEANTEC's MARMOK-A5 floating offshore Oscillating water column wave energy device. The published data includes information from December 2016 to October 2017.

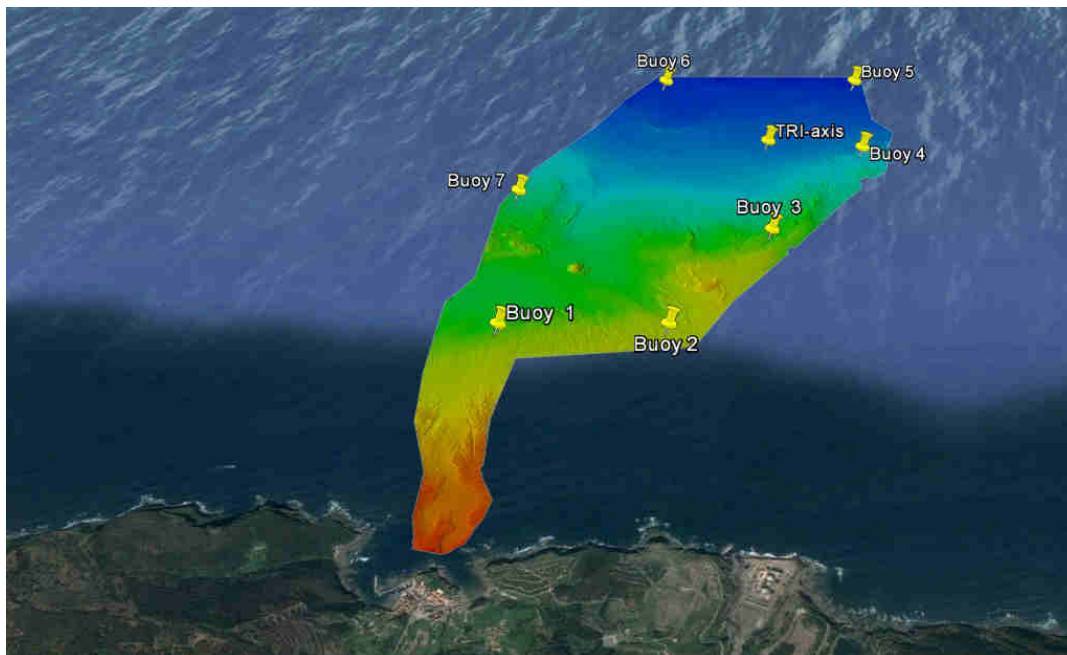


FIGURE 2: TRIAXYS LOCATION AT BIMEP TEST SITE

The next figure shows the TRIAXYS buoy in front of MARMOK-A5.



FIGURE 3: TRIAXYS LOCATED IN FRONT OF MARMOK-A5



### 3. DESCRIPTION OF WAVE RESOURCE DATA

The data presented consist of 20-min wave statistical parameters such as  $H_{max}$ ,  $H_{1/10}$ ,  $H_{1/3}$ ,  $H_{avg}$ ,  $T_{max}$ ,  $T_{1/10}$ ,  $T_{avg}$ ,  $T_z$ ,  $T_p$ ,  $T_s$ , Mean Direction, Mean Spread.

A wave analysis is run directly on the TRIAXYS™ sensor [4] , providing zero-crossing statistics, spectral statistics and both directional and non-directional wave spectra from the measurements acquired from the wave conditions.

The software used onboard the TRIAXYS sensor includes a motion analysis algorithm to analyse the measured data from the accelerometers, rate gyros, and the compass, and an algorithm to resolve the directional and non-directional spectra of sea state from the previously analysed data.

The following table presents the full list of parameters provided by the TRIAXYS buoy. For data user convenience, a definition of these parameters have been developed by TECNALIA based on [5] and [6] . Whenever in doubt the reader is advised to contact Axys Technologies [2] for further clarifications.

TABLE 3: PARAMETERS OBTAINED FROM THE BUOY

| Parameter               | Unit                | Description   |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| DataTimeStamp           | Day/month/year/hour | Data acquisition date   |
| $H_{avg}$ ,             | m, s                | Wave height and period average, Refer to the means of the heights and periods of all waves in a record  |
| $H_{max}$ , $T_{max}$   | m, s                | Maximum wave height and period, refers to the wave having the height and period of the highest individual wave in a record  |
| MaxCrest                | m                   | Maximum wave crest  |
| $H_{sig}$ , $T_{sig}$   | m, s                | Significant wave height and period. The waves in record are counted and selected in descending order of wave height from the highest wave, until one-third of the total number of waves reached. The means of their heights and periods are calculated as $H_{1/3}$ , $T_{1/3}$ |
| $H_{1/10}$ , $T_{1/10}$ | m, s                | Highest one-tenth wave, the waves in the record are counted and selected in descending order of wave height and period from the highest wave, one-tenth of the total number of waves is reached, the means of their heights are calculated and denoted as $H_{1/10}$            |
| MeanPeriod              | s                   | Mean period refers to the mean period of all waves in a record  |
| MeanDirection           | °                   | Mean direction, Refers to the mean  |

| Parameter       | Unit | Description  |
|-----------------|------|--|
|                 |      | direction of all waves in a record   |
| MeanSpread      | °    | Mean Spread  |
| PeakPeriod      | s    | Peak period, is the inverse of the frequency at which the wave spectrum has its highest energy density, and is also referred to as the dominant wave period  |
| PeakDirection   | °    | Is the direction of the wave spectrum that has its higher energy density   |
| PeakSpread      | °    | Peak Spread  |
| TP <sub>5</sub> | s    | Peak wave period in seconds T <sub>p5</sub> has less statistical variability than T <sub>p</sub> because it is based on spectral moments. The T <sub>p5</sub> is determined from calculating F <sub>p5</sub> which is the average frequency.   |
| H <sub>M0</sub> | m    | Is the spectrally derived significant wave height, which can be calculated as: $H_{m0} = 4\sqrt{m_0}$ , where m <sub>0</sub> is the zeroth moment of the spectral distribution of surface elevation.   |
| T <sub>e</sub>  | s    | Energy period, can be determined from the two spectral moments (m-1 and m0), calculated above, as: $T_e = m_{-1}/m_0$<br>Alternatively, it can be estimated based on T <sub>p</sub> as: $T_e = \alpha T_p$<br>The coefficient $\alpha$ depends on the shape of the wave spectrum: $\alpha = 0.86$ for a Pierson–Moskowitz spectrum, and $\alpha$ increases towards unity with decreasing spectral width. |
| DurationMs      | s    | Duration of each period  |

In the next figures (Figure 4, Figure 5) there is an example of the data recorded for two wave parameters, namely significant wave height (Hs) and peak period (Tp).

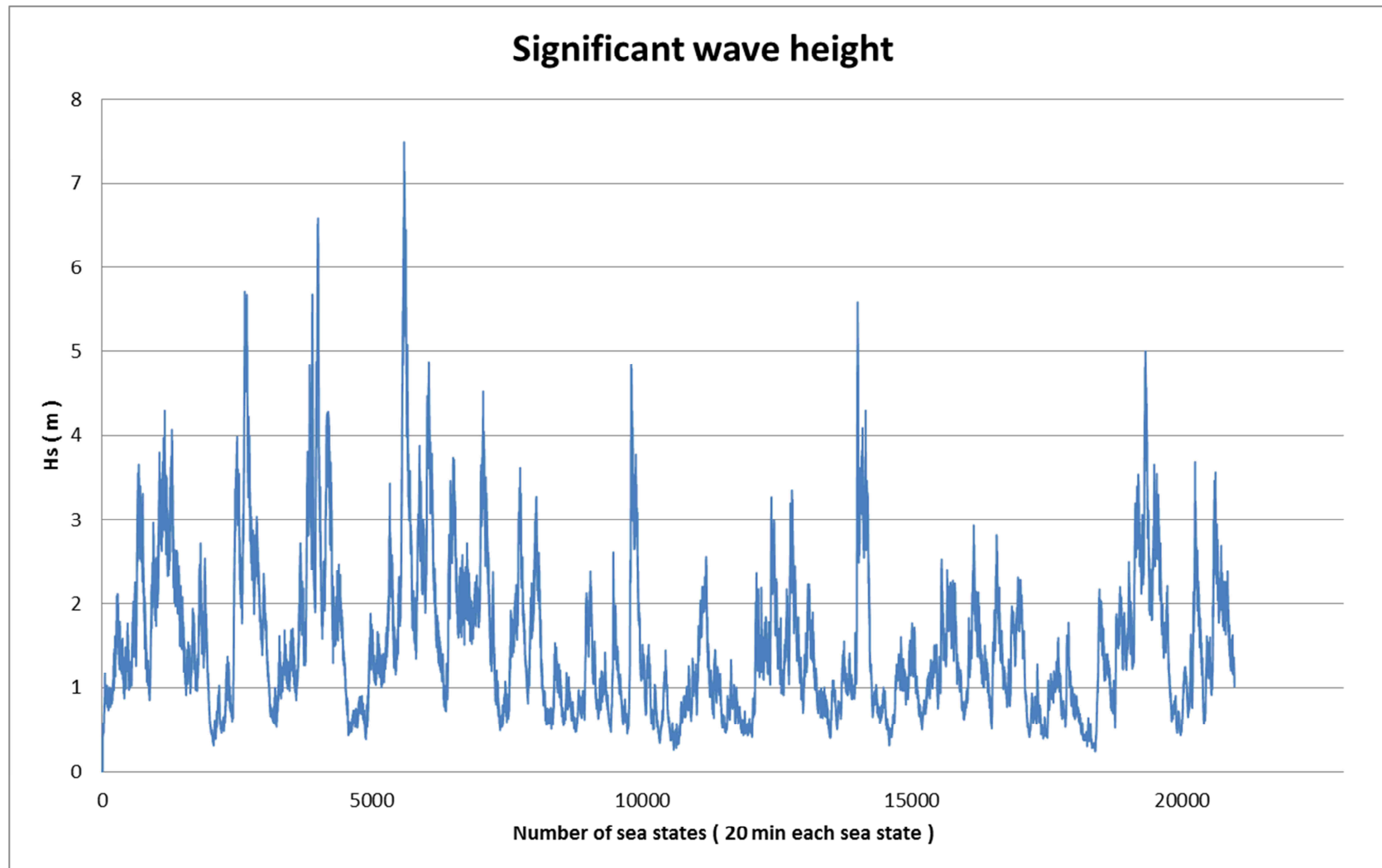


FIGURE 4: SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT PER SEA STATE

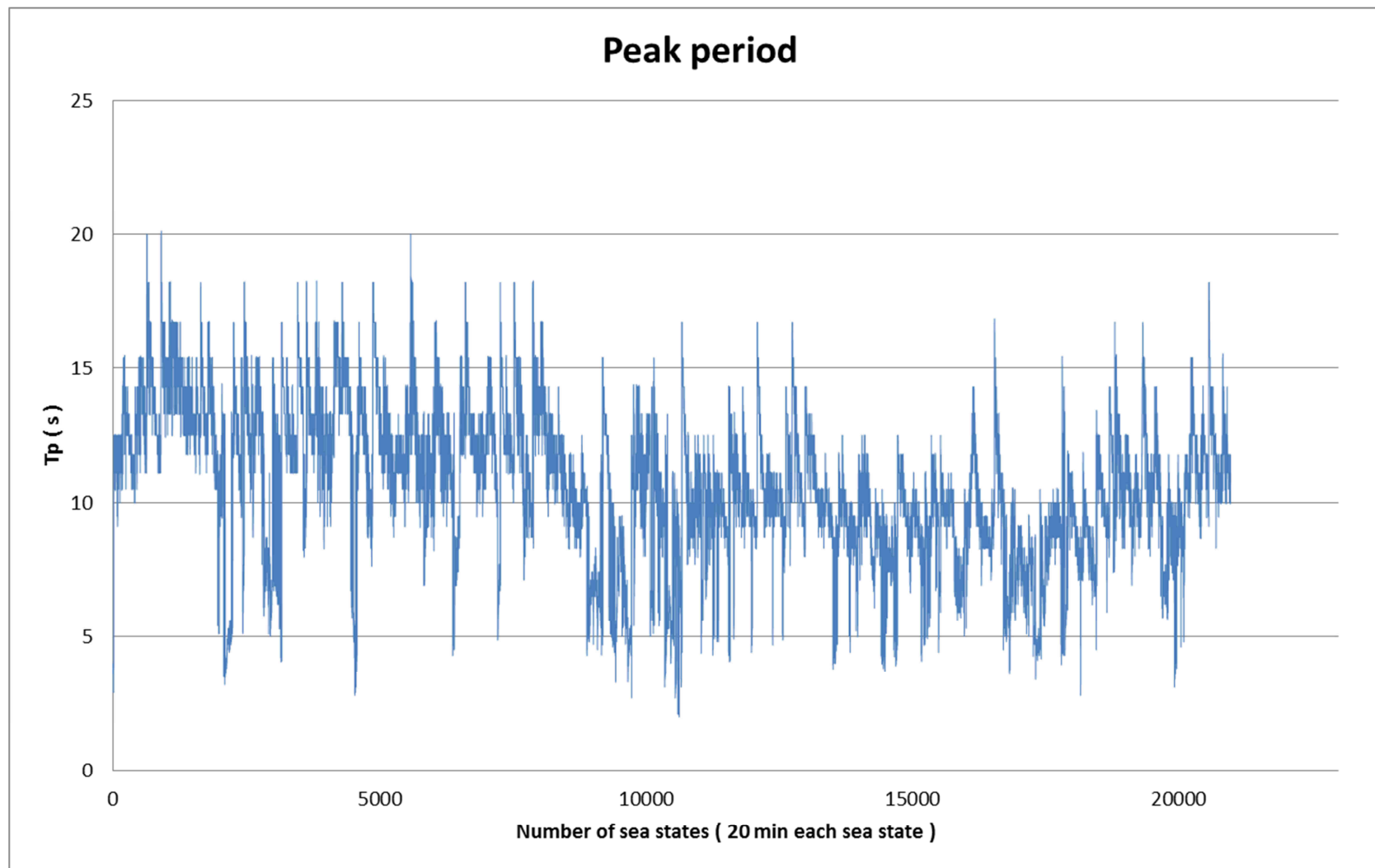


FIGURE 5: PEAK PERIOD PER SEA STATE

## 4. REFERENCES

- [1] <http://bimep.com/> last access 20/11/2017
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- [4] C. MacIsaac, S. Naeth of AXYS Technologies Inc, "TRIAXYS Next Wave II Directional Wave Sensor The Evolution of Wave Measurements". Sidney, Canada
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- [6] J. Pastor 1, Y. Liu 2,\*"Wave Climate Resource Analysis Based on a Revised Gamma Spectrum forWave Energy Conversion Technology" 1 Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA 70504, USA; 2 Department of Mechanical Engineering, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39760, USA \* Correspondence. Sustainability 2016, 8, 1321; doi:10.3390/su8121321

