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Statistics of extreme waves - role of sensors and quality control

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Wave profile measurements are performed at several locations in the central North Sea with different sensors. Extreme wave shapes and wave heights are recorded from time to time that normally would be seen as spike values. Among these are measurements performed with a laser system, also recording the average intensity of return. Analysis of this return signal is used in the validation of some of the special records. Some results will be shown, also a comparison of statistics from the different sensors. Variability in integrated wave parameter such as the significant wave height is also influencing results on distributions considerably. The study is addressing validation of these measurements given particular focus to wave profile of extreme waves.