

# Current needs for currents for Marine Renewable Energies

Globcurrent – March 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

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# Marine eneries

THE FULL SET OF OFFSHORE, MARINE AND OCEAN ENERGIES

Wave energy converters



Tidal dams



Fixed offshore wind turbines



Tidal turbines



Floating offshore wind turbines



MRE industrial sector has various maturity levels

Heat pump & Air conditioning



OTEC



Osmotic energy



# Challenges and opportunities of the MRE development

AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUTURE ENERGY MIX

## Commitments to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

- European commitment (20/20/20)
- Grenelle de l'environnement (23% EnR, 3% MRE)

## A very large energy potential worldwide

3 600 TWh/yr of technical potential by 2030

(France electrical energy generation: 600 TWh/yr)



National data	Fixed offshore wind	Floating offshore wind	Tidal	Wave	OTEC
2020 Objectives (inst'd capacity in GW)	6	1	0,5	0,2	0,2
Practical resource, TWh/an	50 ? 15 by 2020	200 ? 2,5 by 2020	15 1,5 by 2020	40 0,8 by 2020	20 000 ? 1,4 by 2020
Investment (excl. R&D costs) 2020, md€	10	3	1,5	1	1

Source :  
updated  
Ifremer  
foresigth study

## Nothing specific, however needed

GENERAL NEEDS FOR ALL MRE

### Surface currents

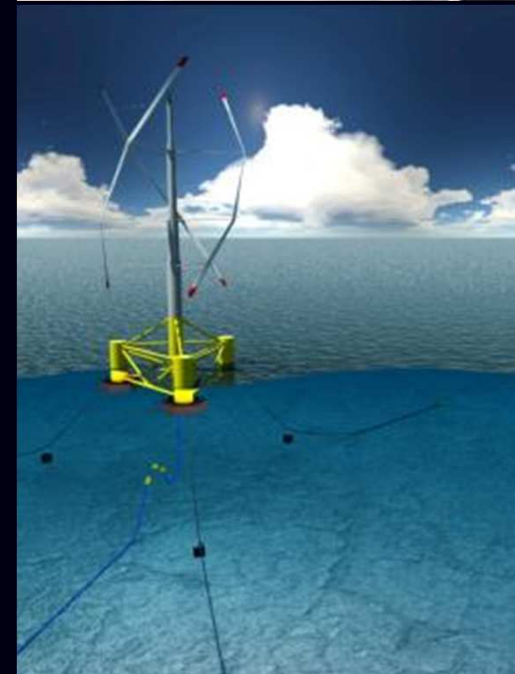
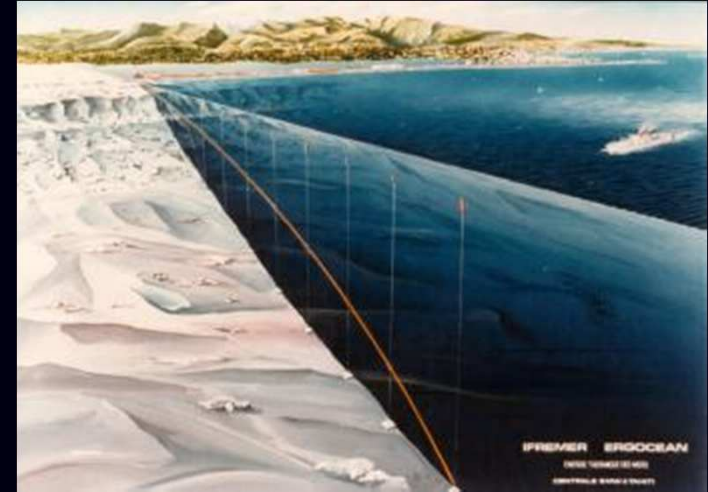
- Installation/ Access for maintenance
  - Local sea-state
  - Travel time optimization
- Storm surge
  - Tidal dam opt.
  - Onshore /nearshore systems

### Water column shear currents

- Loads on lines
  - Anchored platforms (pendular, SPAR)
  - OTEC water pipes ( $\varnothing$  5 to 10m)

### Bottom currents

- Piles or foundations of fixed structures
  - Erosion/accretion of sediments
- Vibrations on power cables
  - ageing/ acoustical impact



Floating  
Nenuphar  
Windturbine

First estimation for power take-off

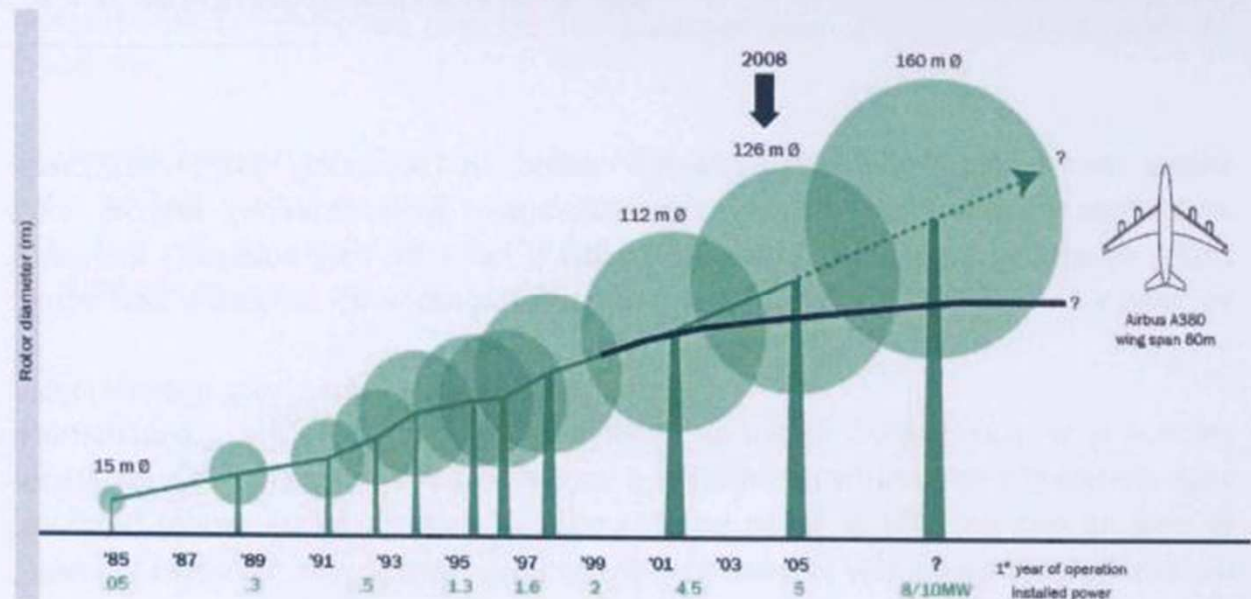
$$W \text{ (kW)} = (0,3 * \rho * S * V^3) / 1000$$

$\rho = 1 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (air) ;  $\rho = 1\,030 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (sea water)

V (m/s) fluid speed

S (m<sup>2</sup>): surface of the turbine

Figure 9. Evolution de la taille des éoliennes en 20 ans.



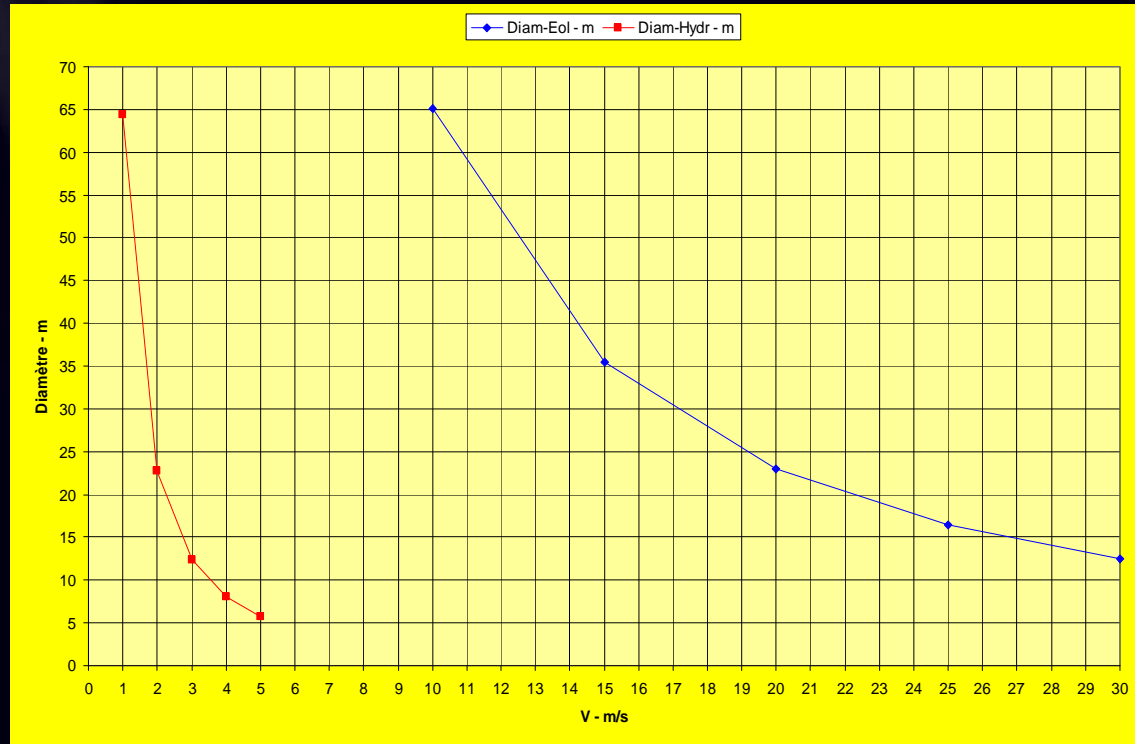
**DIAMETRE EOLIENNE / HYDROLIENNE (minimum théorique)**

W	RO-Air	RO-Eau
kW	kg/m3	kg/m3
1 000	1	1 025

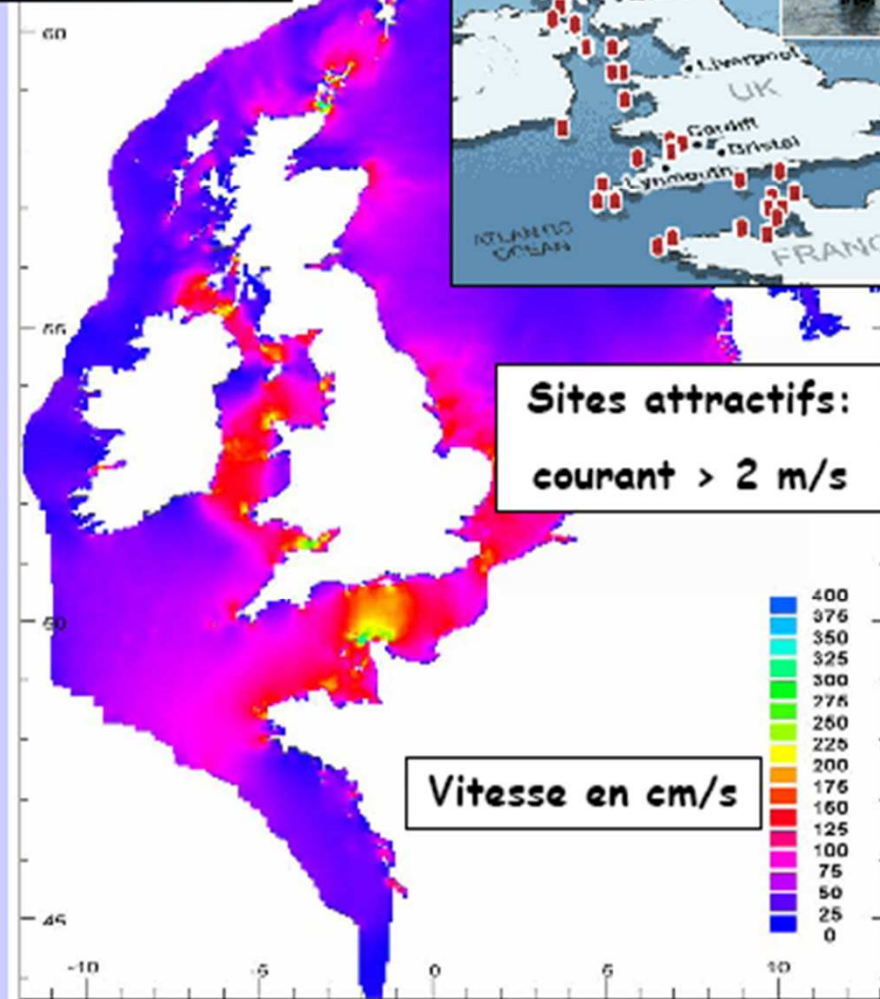
v - km/h						36	54	72	90	108
V - nœuds	2	4	6	8	10					
V - m/s	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	25	30
Surf-Eol - m2						3 333	988	417	213	123
Surf-Hydr - m2	3 252	407	120	51	26					
V - m/s	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	25	30
Diam-Eol - m						65	35	23	16	13
Diam-Hydr - m	64	23	12	8	6					

*Initial spin  
sometimes needed*

*minimal diameters  
wrt fluid speed*



# Cinetic energy of tidal currents



France & UK share  
the largest resource

Predictible  
450 TWh/y (world)  
10 TWh/y (France)  
10 MW/km<sup>2</sup> max density ?

wt sea-state: overseas lagoons





# Resource assessment EXAMPLE AT VARIOUS SCALES



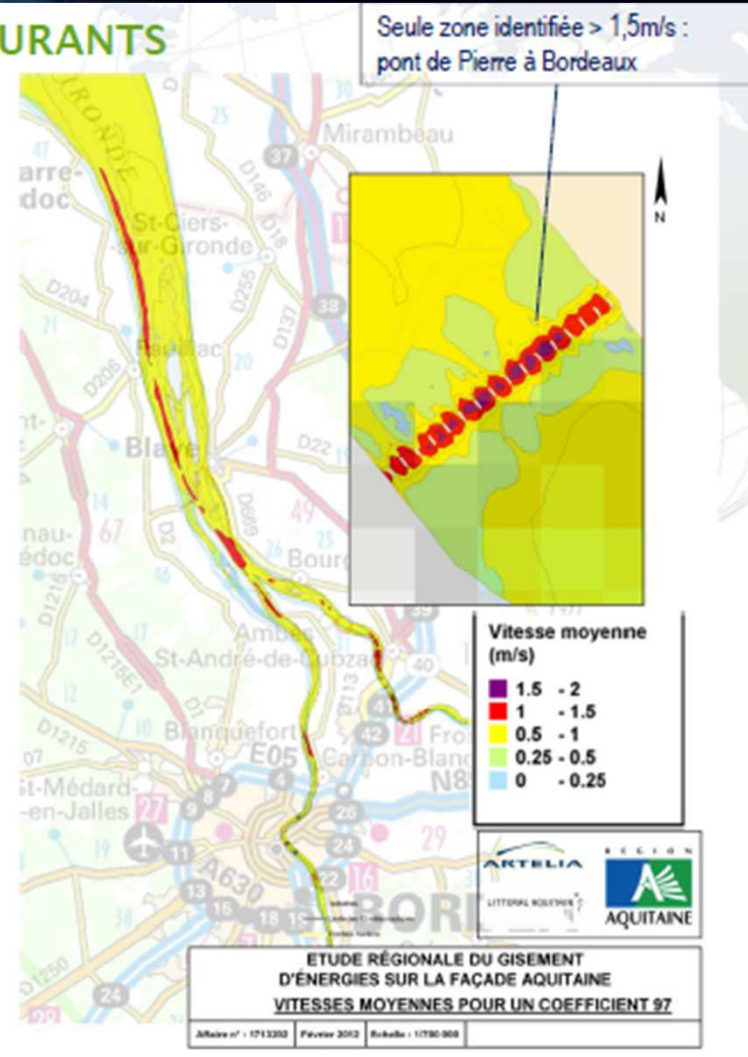
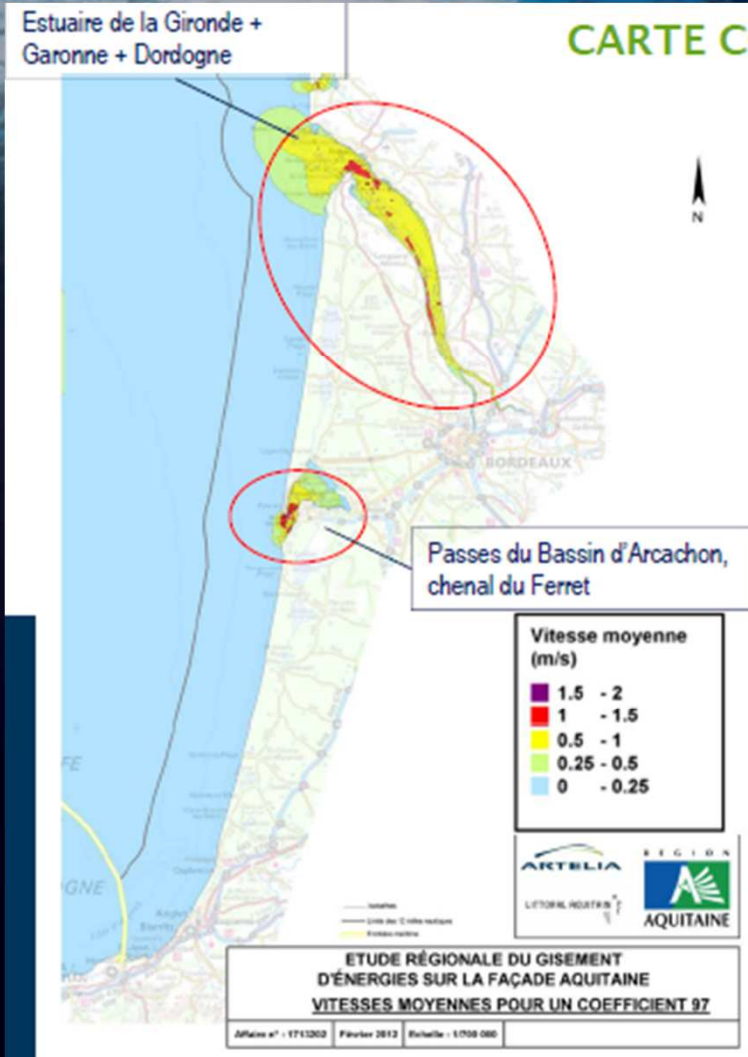
Tidal Energy Tool by ASA on East Coast of USA

# Resource assesment EXAMPLE AT VARIOUS SCALES

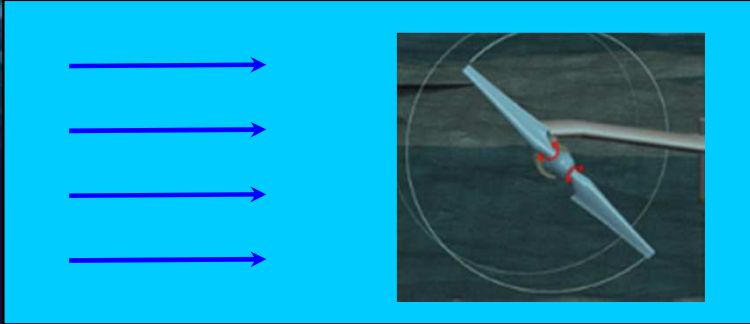
Brest, 7 March 1012

GlobCurrent 2012

ifremer



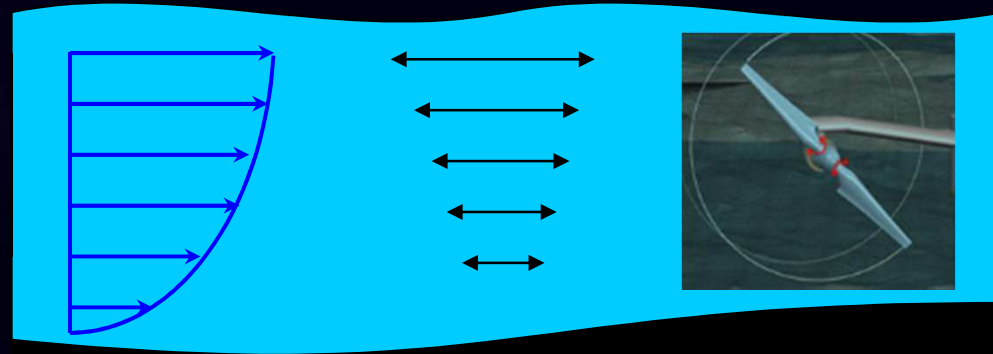
A high resolution study by Artelia



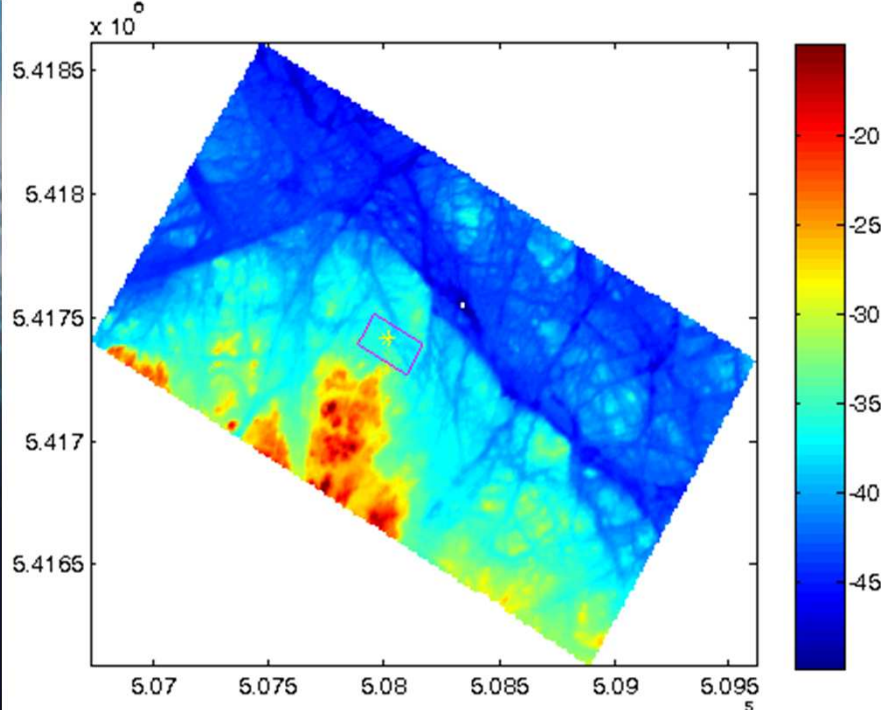
**High resolution**  
*CURRENTS FROM THE REAL LIFE*

**Ideal case:**  
*uniform and stationary flow*

**Realistic marine conditions:**  
*non-uniform flow induced by the bathymetry and unstationnary motions induced by waves and turbulence*

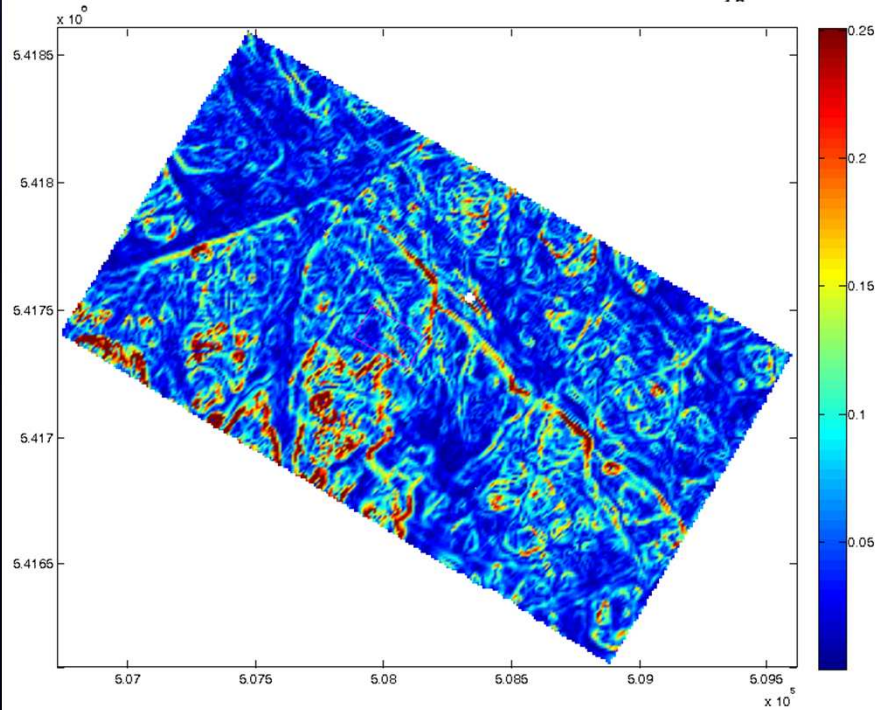




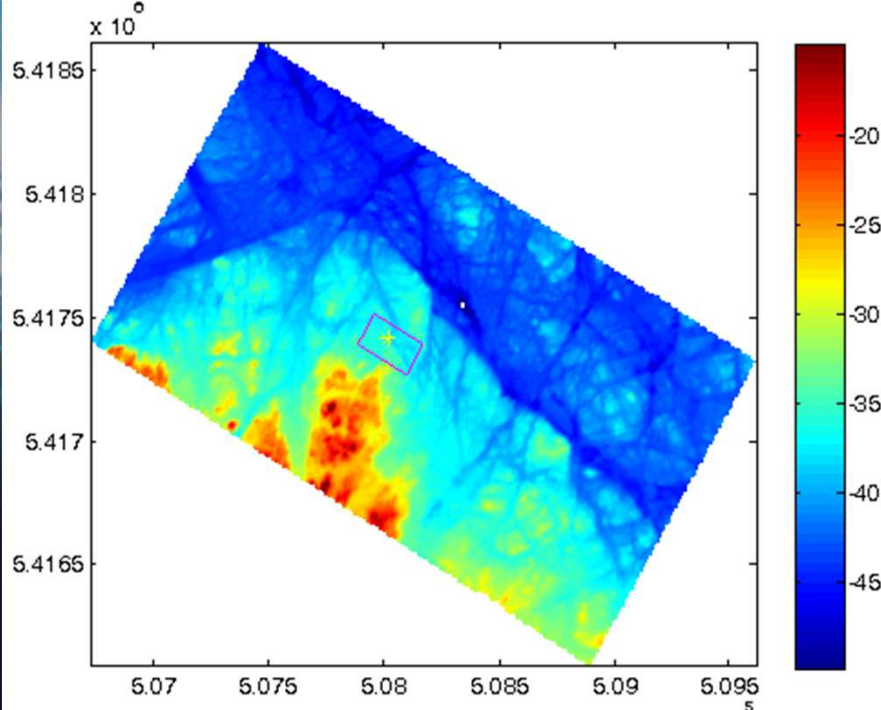


**Real data**  
*AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE*

*High resolution bathymetry*

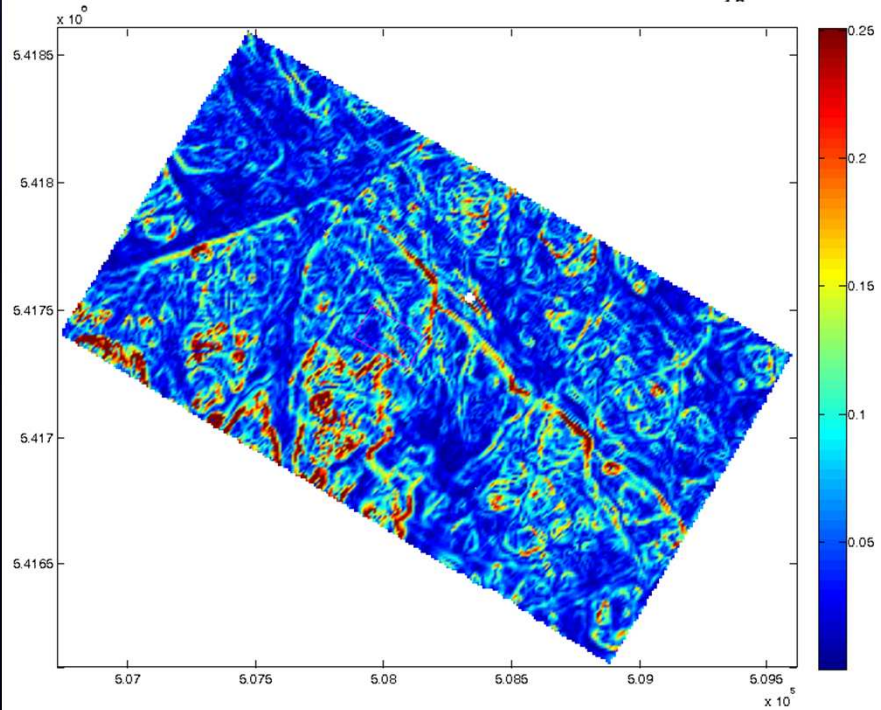


*Gradient of bathymetry*  
*(NTM from EDF data)*



**Real data**  
*AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE*

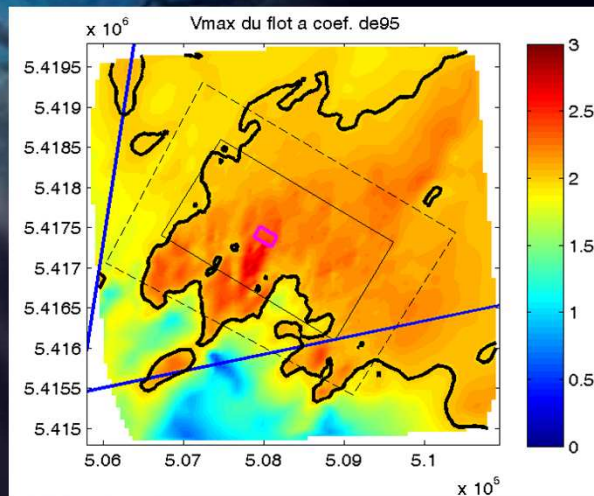
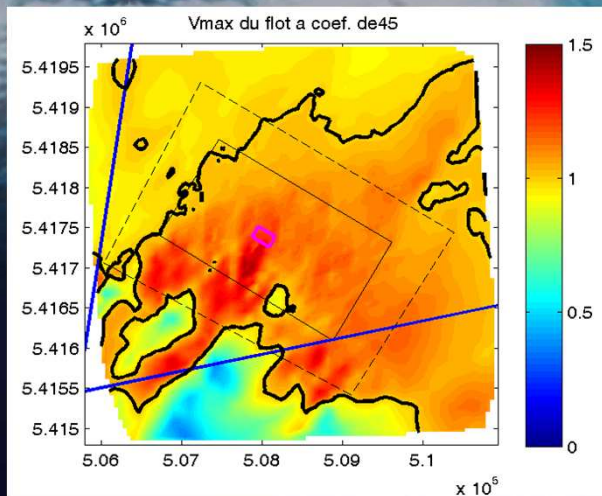
*High resolution bathymetry*



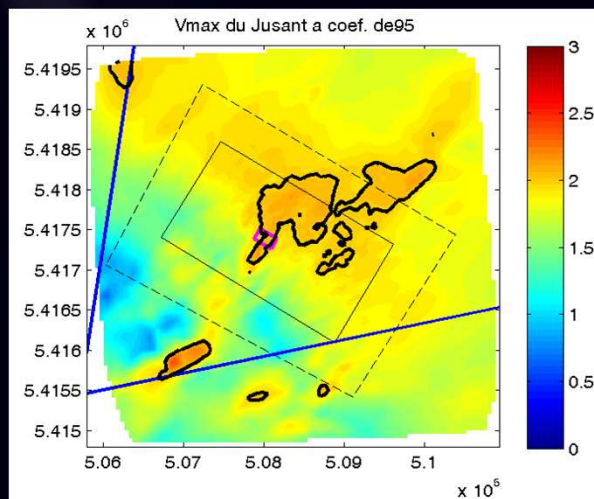
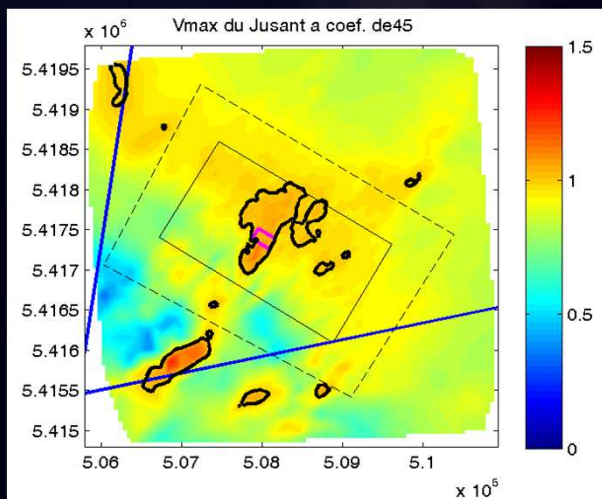
*Gradient of bathymetry*  
*(NTM from EDF data)*

Neap tide, flow

Spring tide, flow



2D model (Telemac)



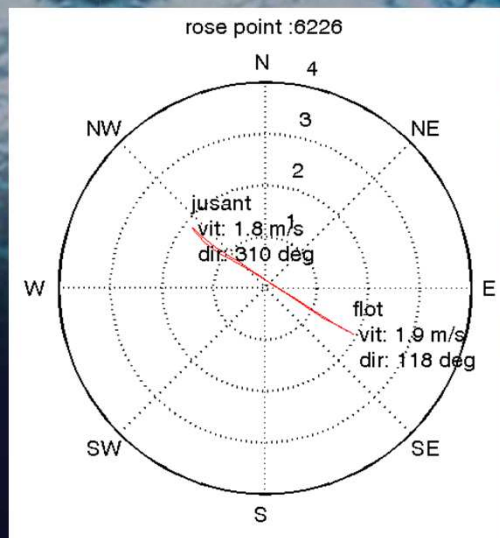
Neap tide, ebb

Spring tide, ebb

# Real data

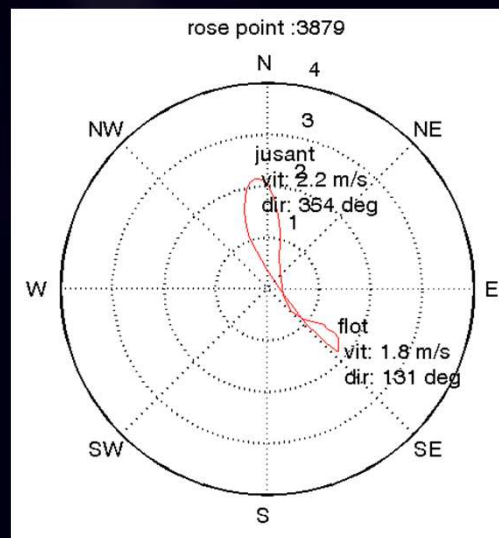
## AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE

At the selected test site



2D model (Telemac)  
Direction roses

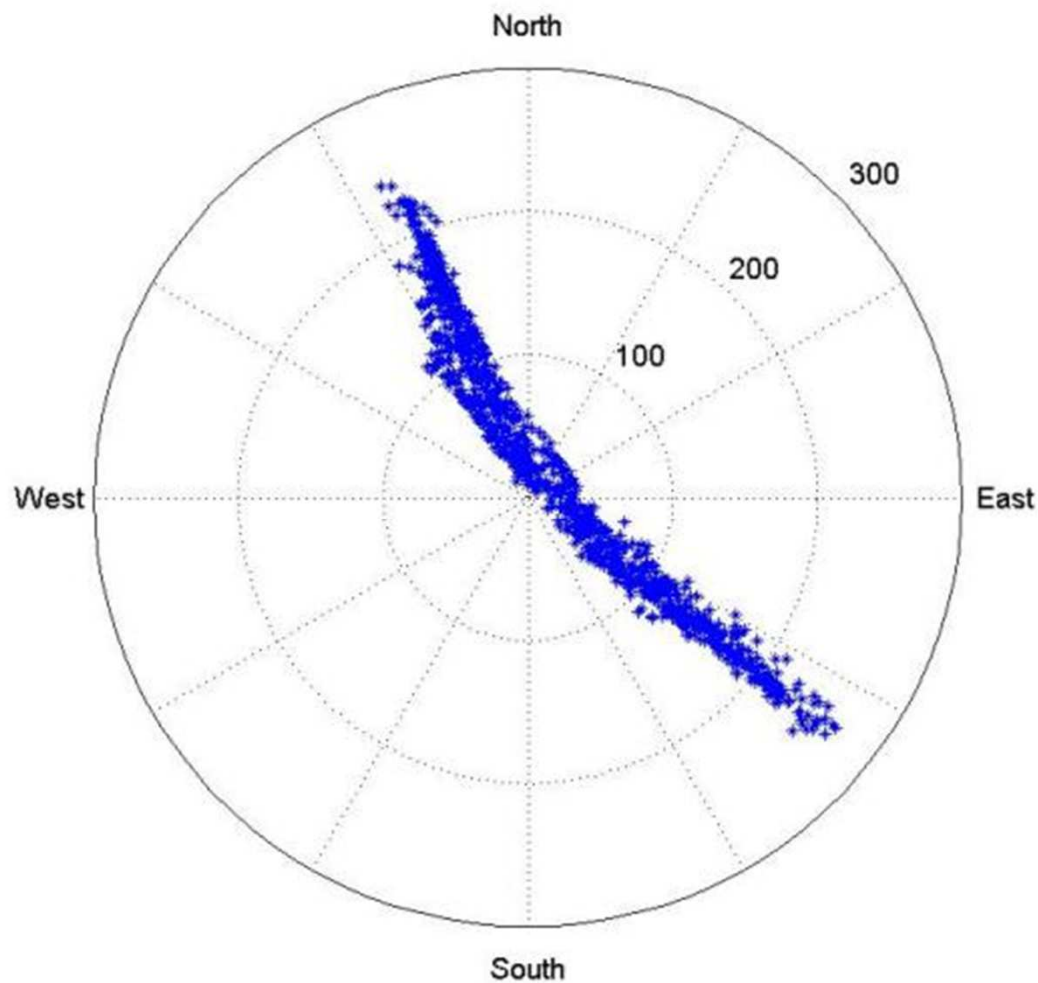
Nearby...





## Real data

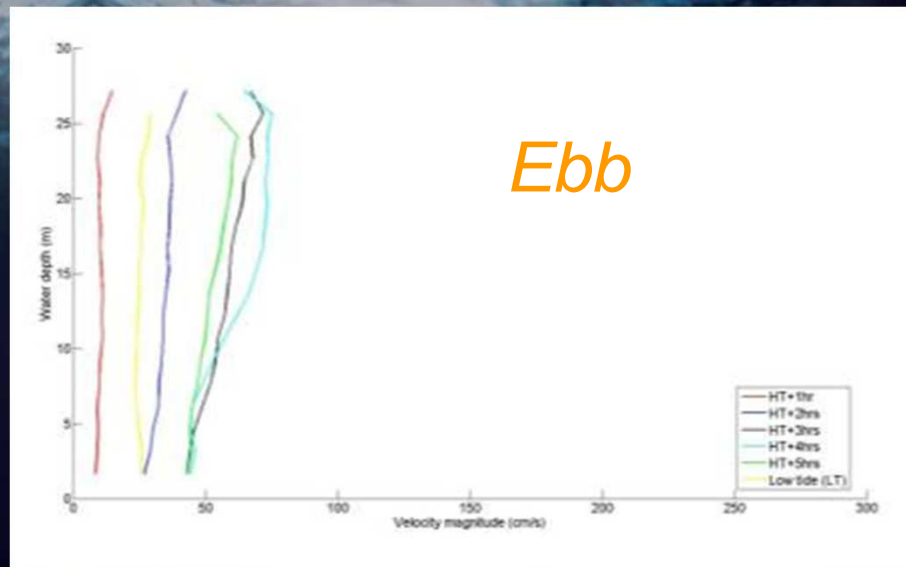
AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE



*The current direction differs between bottom and top layers but always lower than  $10^\circ$  (except for lowest speeds)*

*(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)*

Ebb

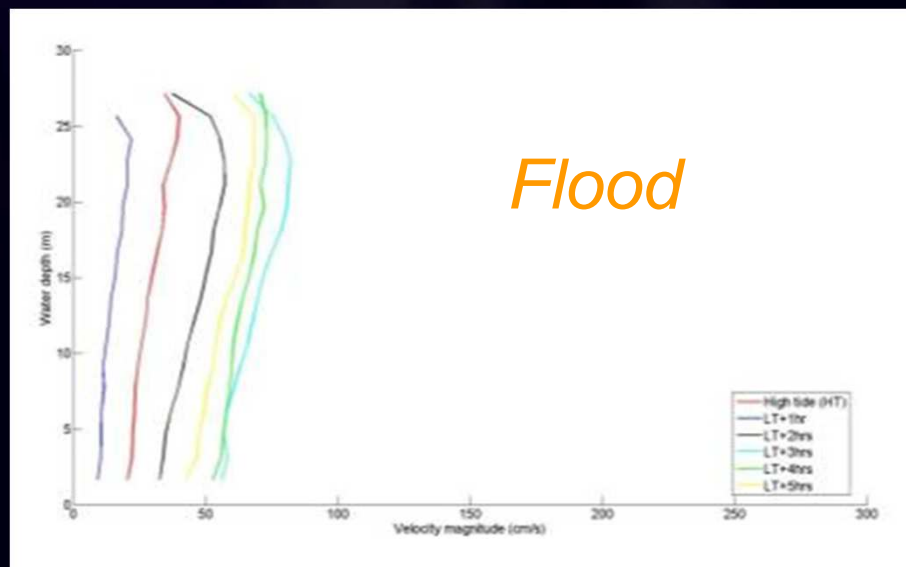


Neap tide

Shear occurs, especially at the surface layers

(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)

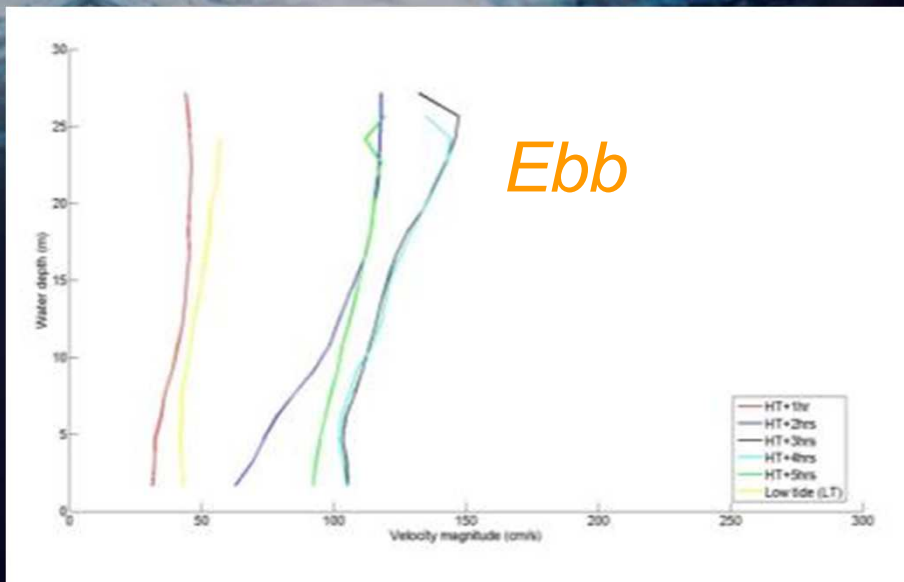
Flood



# Real data

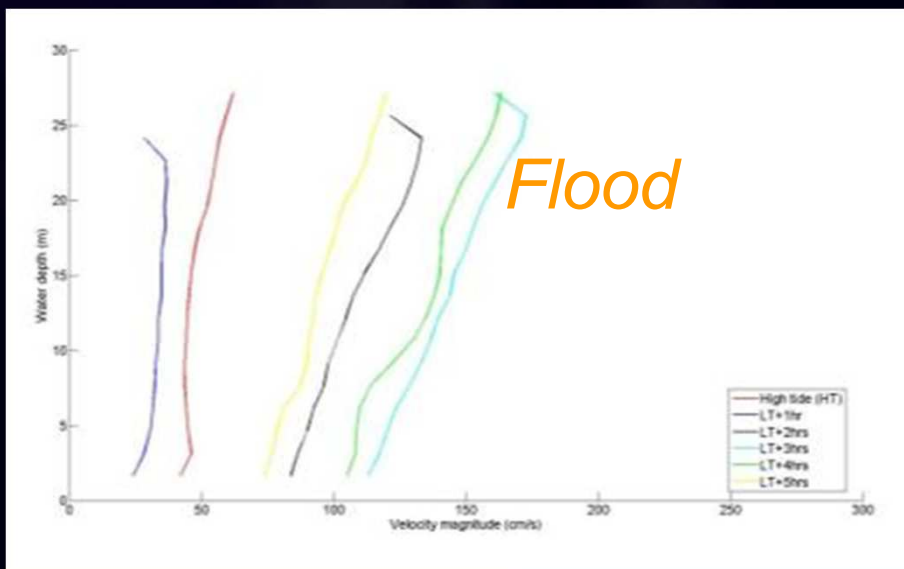
AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE

## Normal tide



Linear shear occurs

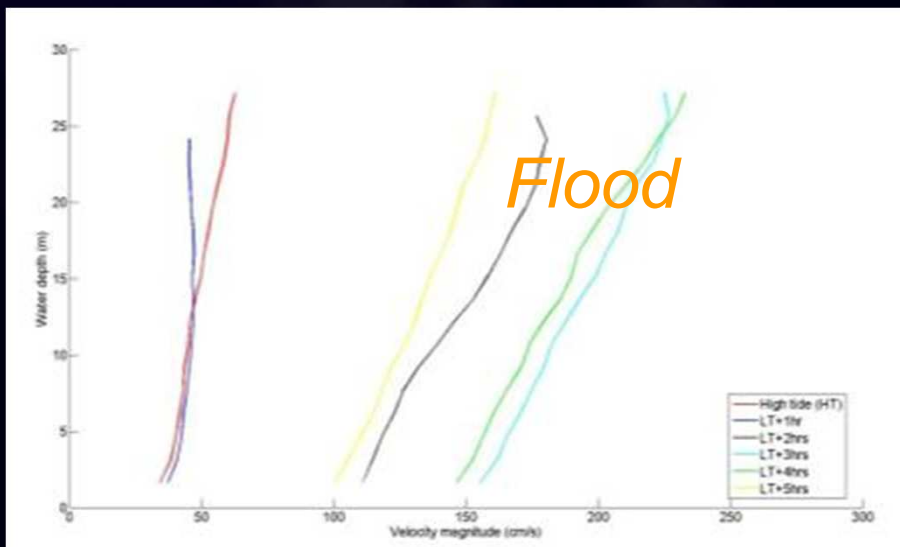
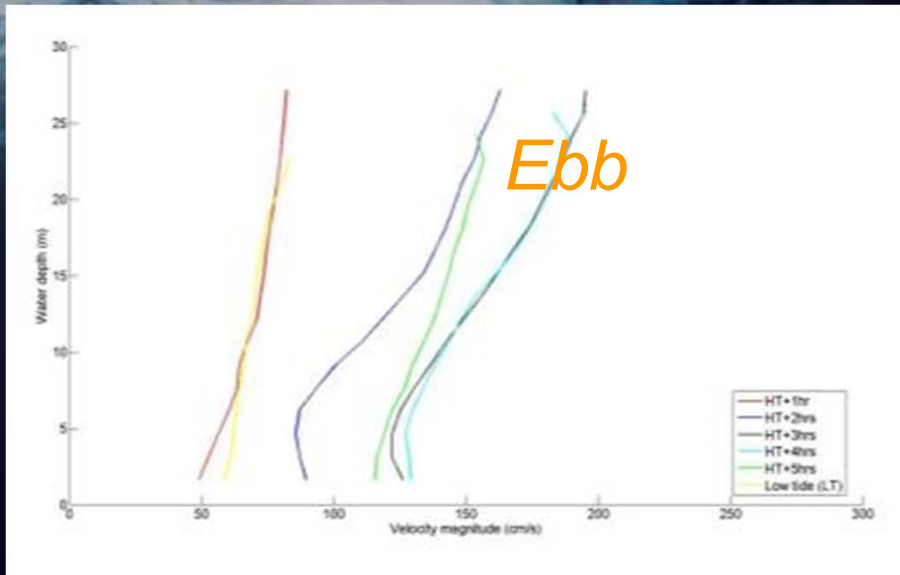
(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)



# Spring tide

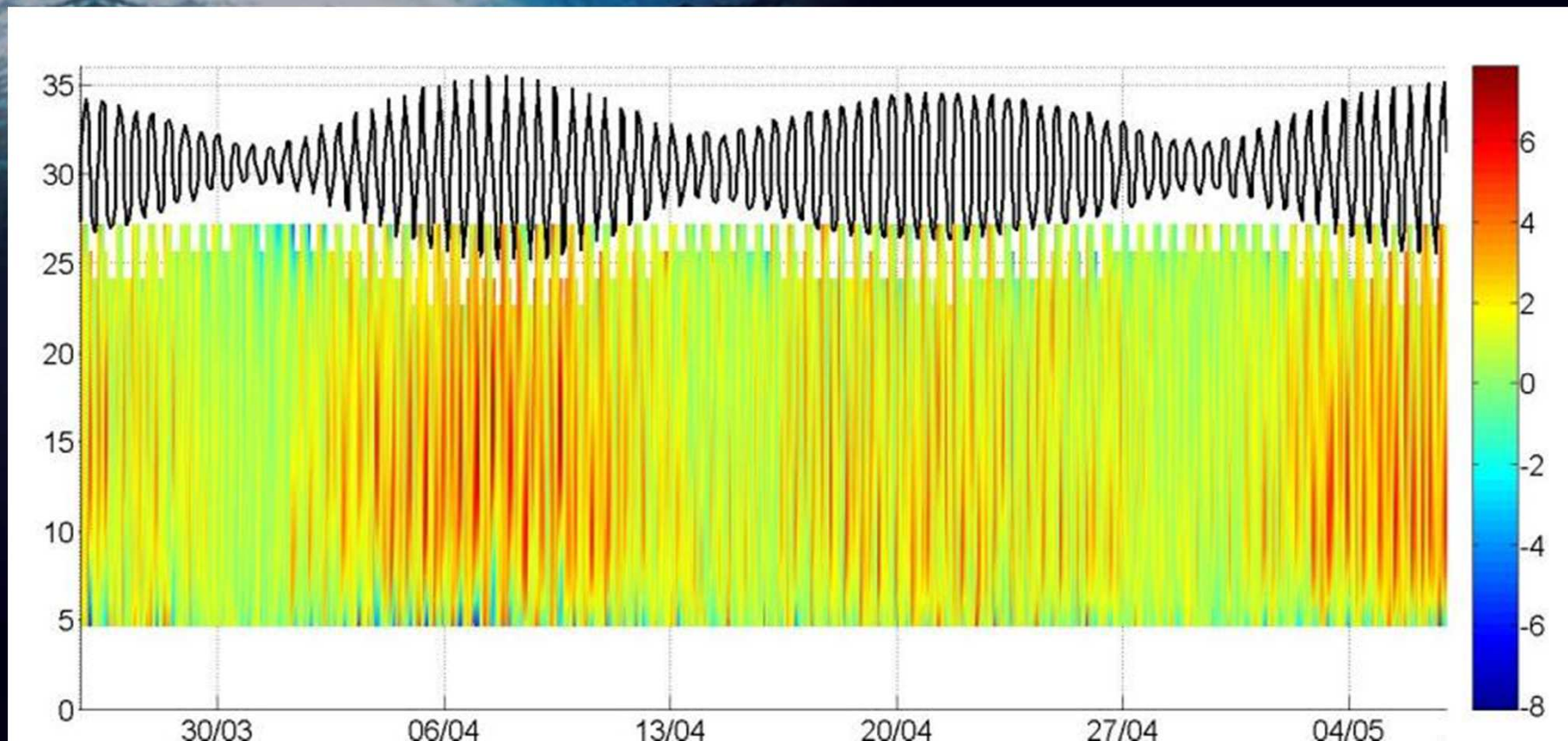
Over the linear shear, bottom layer effect at ebb occurs

(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)



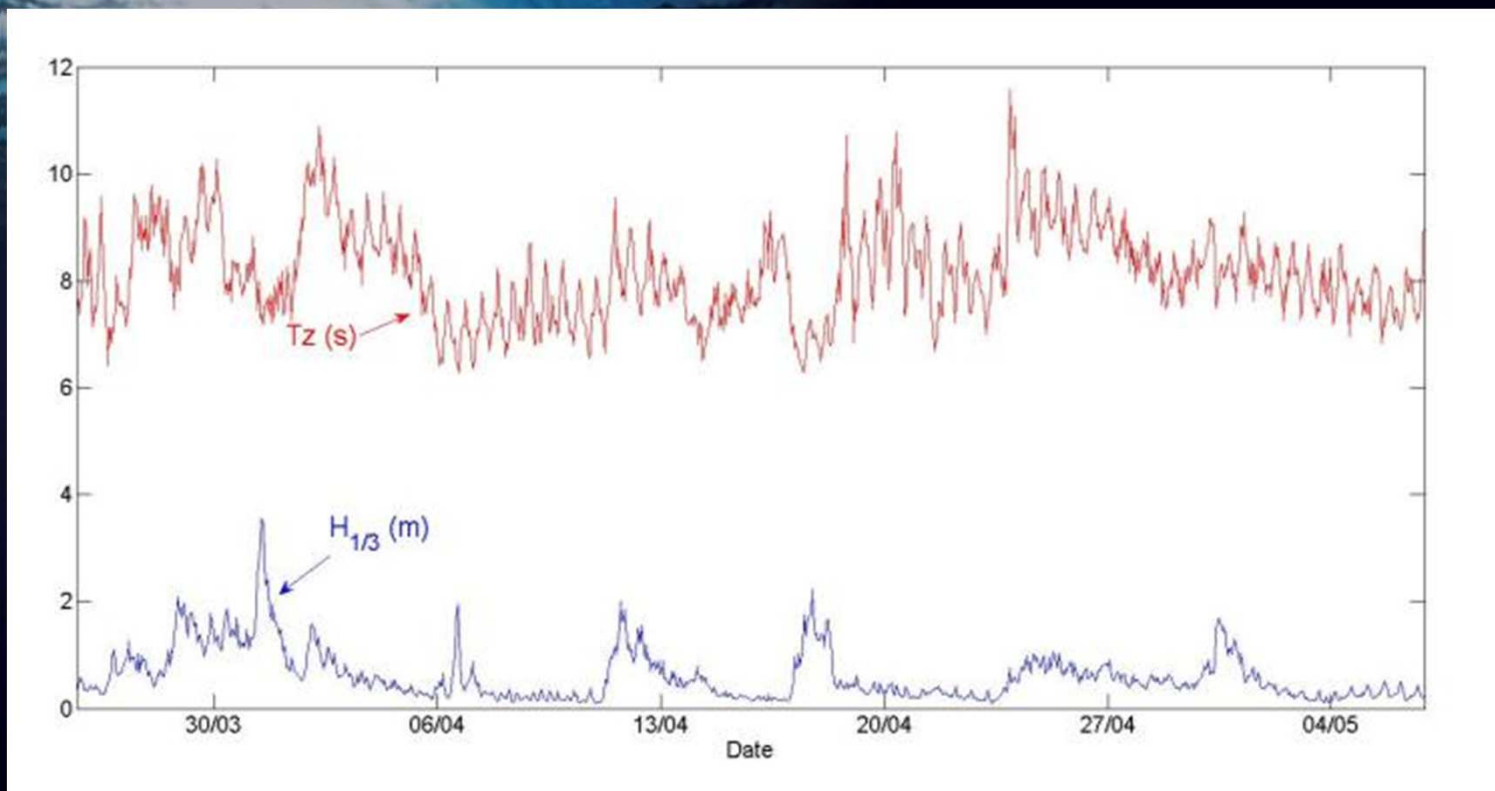
*Real data*

*AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE*



*Vertical shear  
(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)*

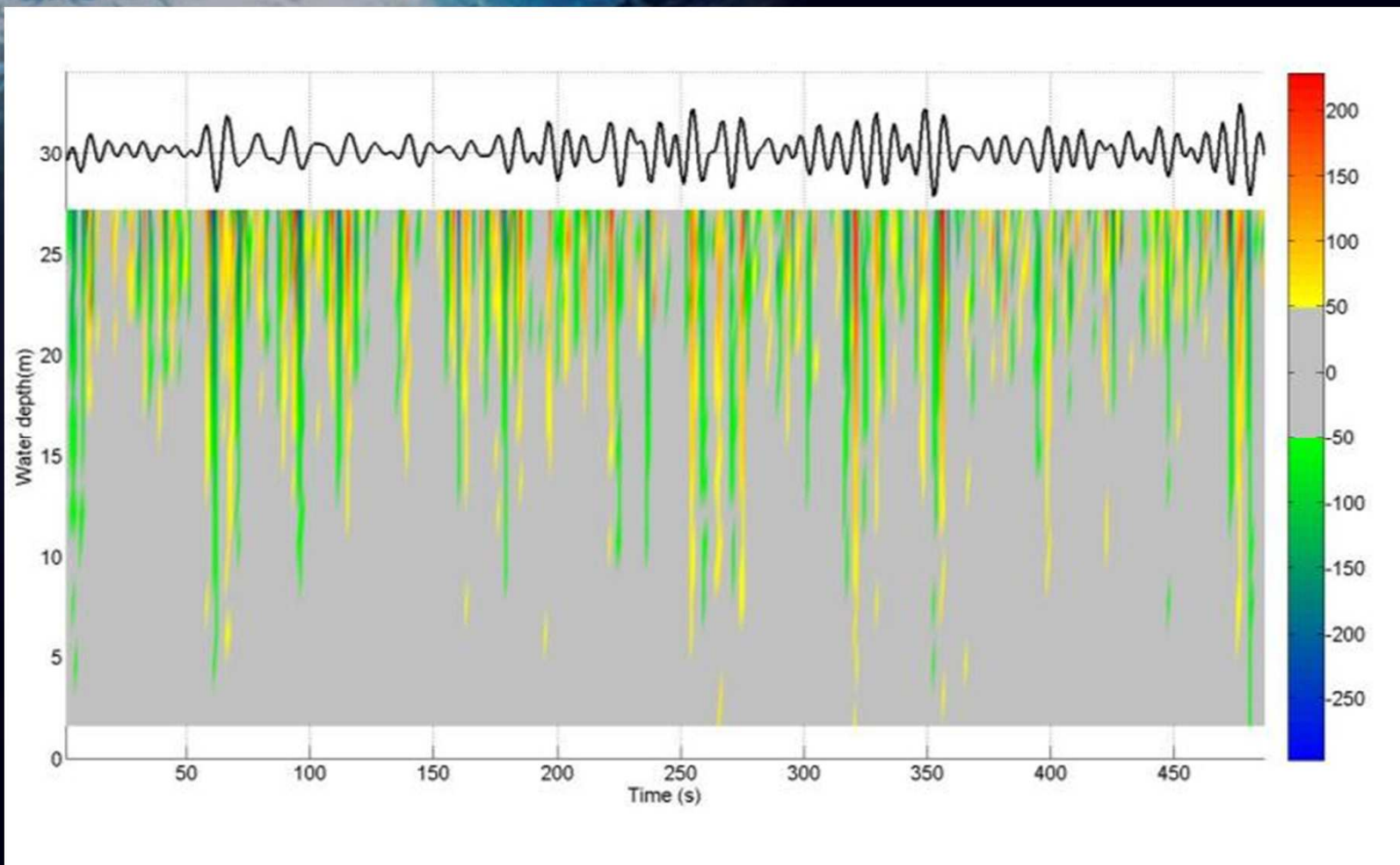
*cm.s<sup>-1</sup>/m*



*Unstationnary motions :  
influence of the waves  
(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)*

**Real data**

**AT BREHAT SEA-TRIAL TEST-SITE**



*Unstationary motions : horizontal wave-induced velocities ( $U_c=0.6\text{m/s}$ ,  $H_{1/3}=2.8\text{m}$ ,  $T=8\text{s}$ )  
(Guinot, Le Bouluec, 2008)*

# Hence, many current needs for Marine Renewable Energies...

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