



MERIS Validation Team Meeting, JRC Ispra, 8.3.2011

# **Spectral variability of in-water downwelling irradiance induced by wave focusing**

P. Gege, DLR, Remote Sensing Technology Institute

N. Pinnel, DLR, German Remote Sensing Data Center



## Motivation

### Campaigns

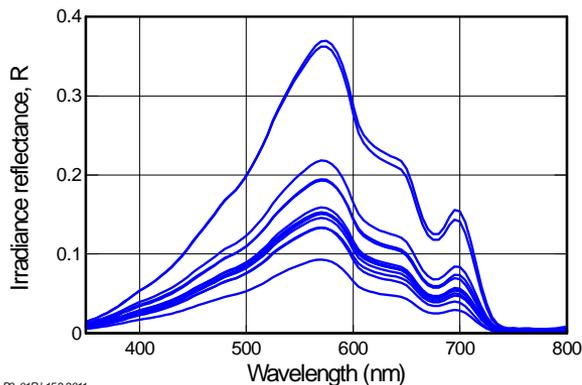
Small boat in shallow areas of 3 German lakes  
421 data sets, 4375 spectra at 0–5 m depth

### Observation

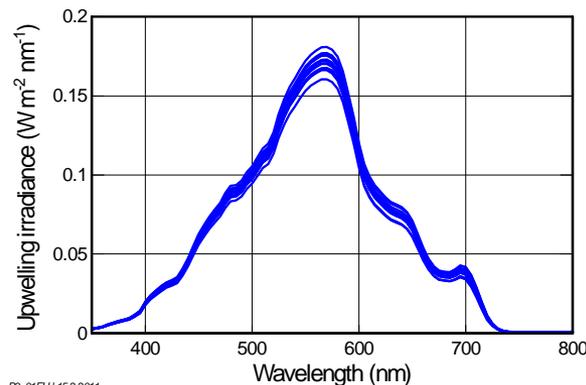
Reflectance spectra (in shallow water) can vary strongly in magnitude and spectral shape – **why?**



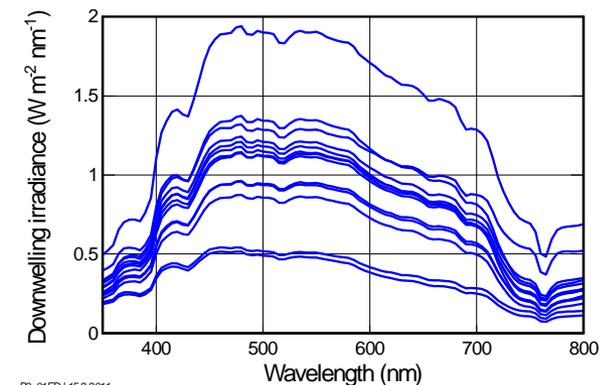
Bodensee 26.6.2004, 12:20  
Bottom type: sediment  
Water depth: 1.40 m  
Sensor depth: 0.28 m  
13 measurements within 65 s



B3\_01R| 15.2.2011



B3\_01EU| 15.2.2011



B3\_01ED| 15.2.2011

**Due to variability of downwelling irradiance**



# Spectral variability of downwelling irradiance in water induced by wave focusing

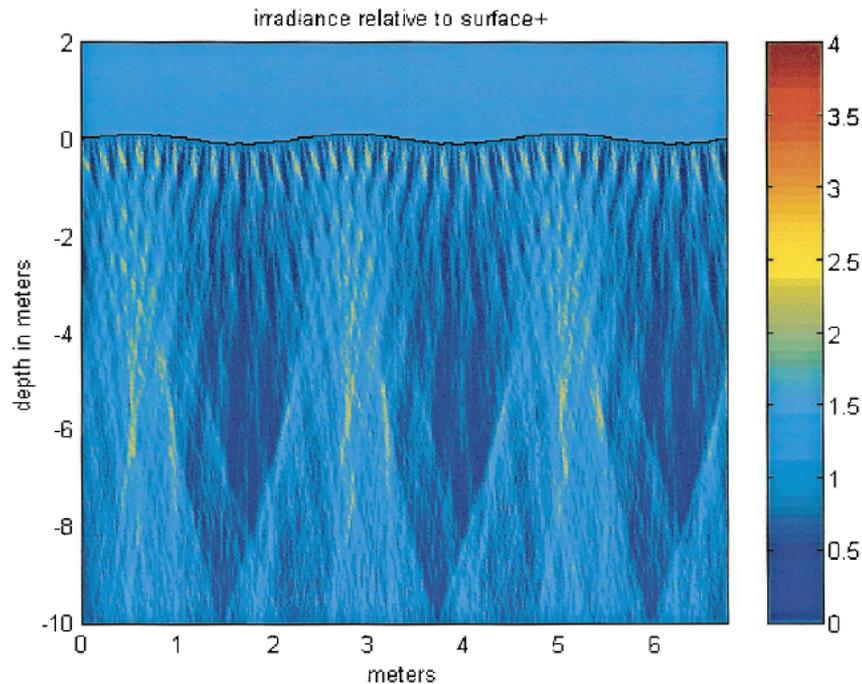


Fig. 6. Irradiance pattern beneath a superposition of sinusoidal waves with wavelengths of 2.25, 0.2, and 0.05 m and with amplitudes of 0.1, 0.01, and 0.002 m. Note that the addition of very small amplitude waves significantly alters the irradiance pattern.

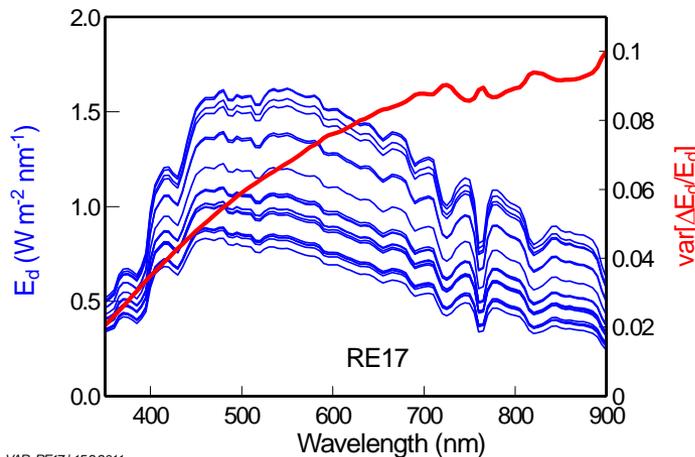
Zanefeld et al. (2001): Influence of surface waves on measured and modeled irradiance profiles. *Applied Optics* **40**, 1442-1449.

[Very complete book on the topic:](#)

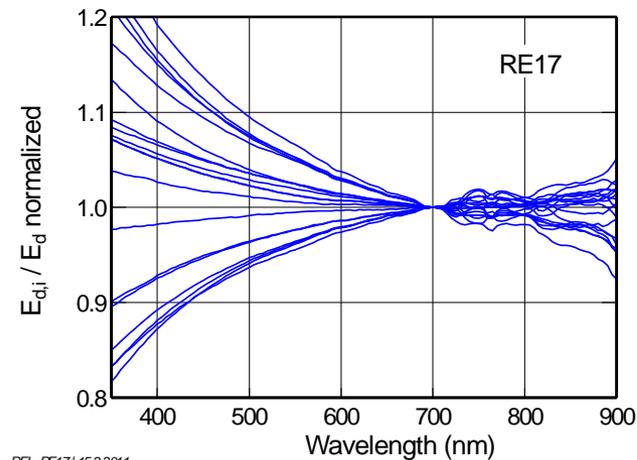
R. E. Walker, *Marine Light Field Statistics* (Wiley, 1994)

- Wave focusing induces large fluctuations
- Statistics is well known
- **Wavelength dependency?**
- **Other sources of variability?**

## Wavelength dependency of $E_d$ variability (Type 1)



VAR\_RE17 | 15.2.2011

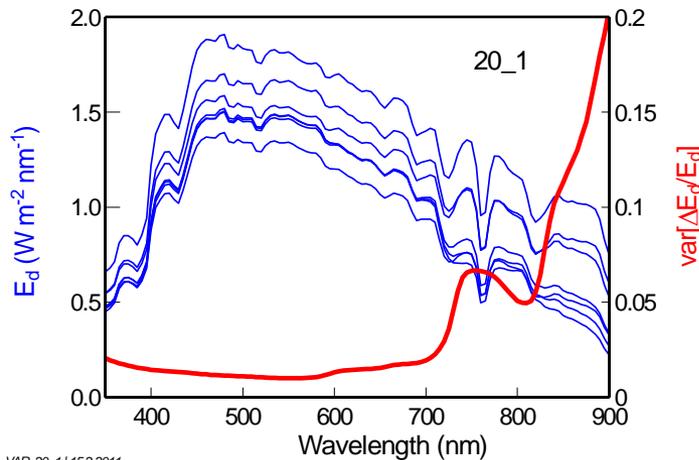


REL\_RE17 | 15.2.2011

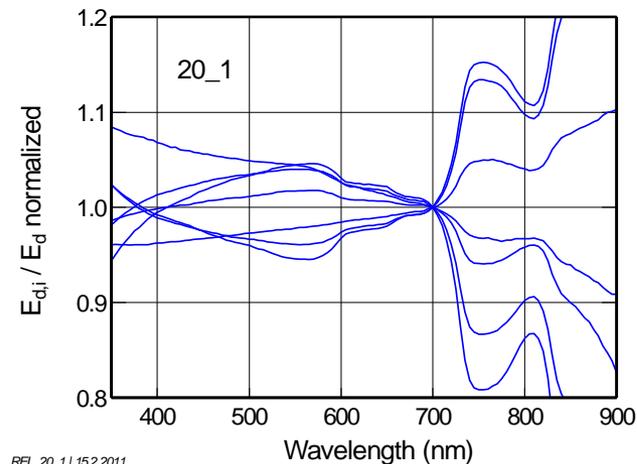
- Smooth spectral shape across VIS
  - no spectral fine structures from  $E_d$
  - power law
- Relevance in our data set
  - $\gamma_{\text{VIS}}$  average = 5.4 %
  - little depth dependency

$$\gamma_{\text{VIS},i} = \frac{E_{d,i}(400)}{E_d(400)} - \frac{E_{d,i}(700)}{E_d(700)}$$

## Wavelength dependency of $E_d$ variability (Type 2)



VAR\_20\_1 | 15.2.2011



REL\_20\_1 | 15.2.2011

- Characteristic feature in NIR
  - dominated by water absorption
- Relevance in our data set
  - 0–1 m:  $\gamma_{\text{NIR}}$  average = 5.7 %
  - > 1 m:  $\gamma_{\text{NIR}}$  average = 3.7 %

$$\gamma_{\text{NIR},i} = \frac{E_{d,i}(755)}{E_d(755)} - \frac{E_{d,i}(700)}{E_d(700)}$$

## Irradiance model

Irradiance is sum of a direct and a diffuse component

$$E_d(\lambda, z) = f_{dd} E_{dd}(\lambda, z) + f_{ds} E_{ds}(\lambda, z)$$

$E_d$ : downwelling irradiance

$E_{dd}$ ,  $E_{ds}$ : direct / diffuse component of  $E_d$

$f_{dd}$ ,  $f_{ds}$ : actual fraction of  $E_{dd}$ ,  $E_{ds}$

**Wave focusing changes  $f_{dd}$  and  $f_{ds}$**

Depth dependency of each component according to Lambert-Beer law

$$E_{dd}(\lambda, z) = E_{dd}(\lambda, 0-) \exp\{-[a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)]z / \cos\theta_{\text{sun},w}\}$$

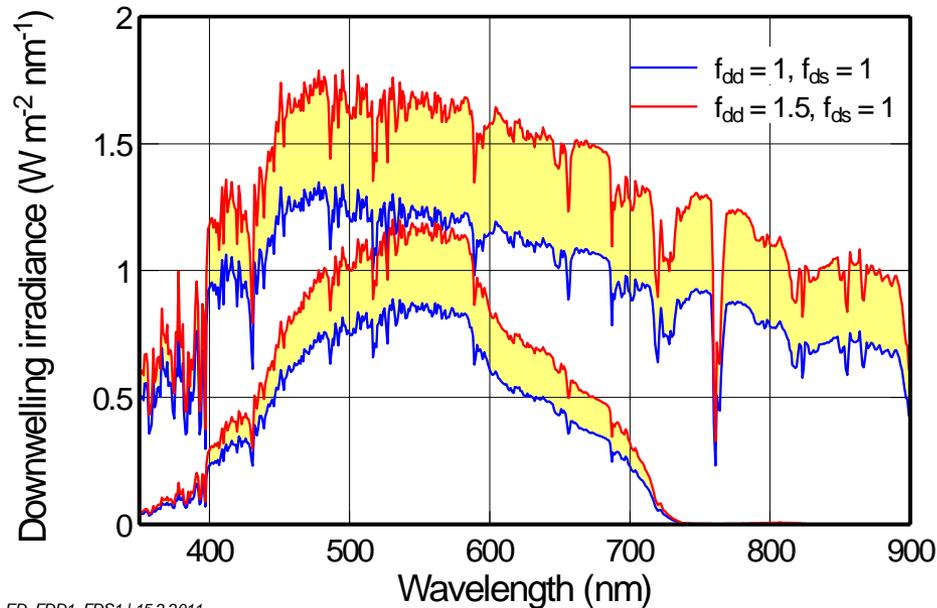
$$E_{ds}(\lambda, z) = E_{ds}(\lambda, 0-) \exp\{-[a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)]z l_{ds}\}$$

$l_{ds}$ : average path length of diffuse radiation.

$z$ : water column thickness above sensor.

**Waves alter  $z$ .**

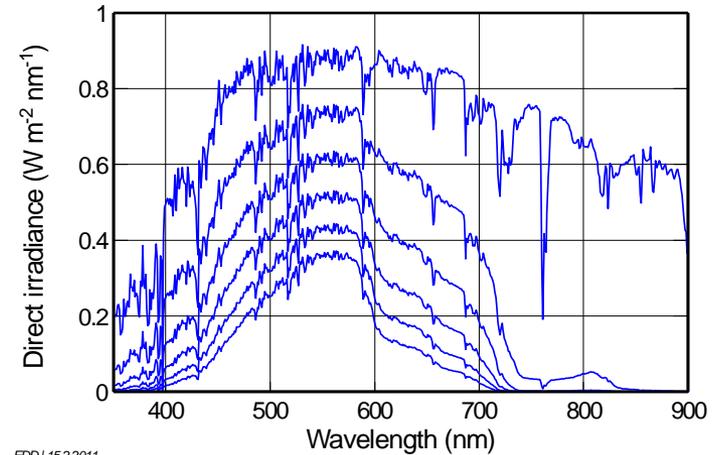
## Illustration of irradiance model



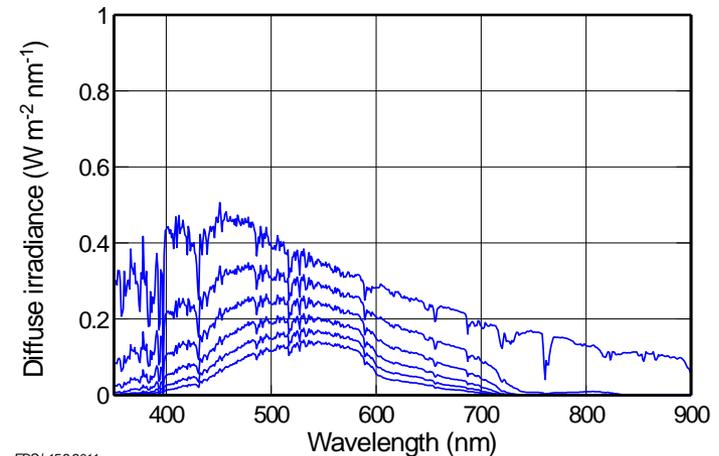
ED\_FDD1\_FDS1 | 15.2.2011

$$E_d(\lambda, z) = f_{dd} E_{dd}(\lambda, z) + f_{ds} E_{ds}(\lambda, z)$$

Depth dependency:  $z = 0.5 m$



EDD | 15.2.2011

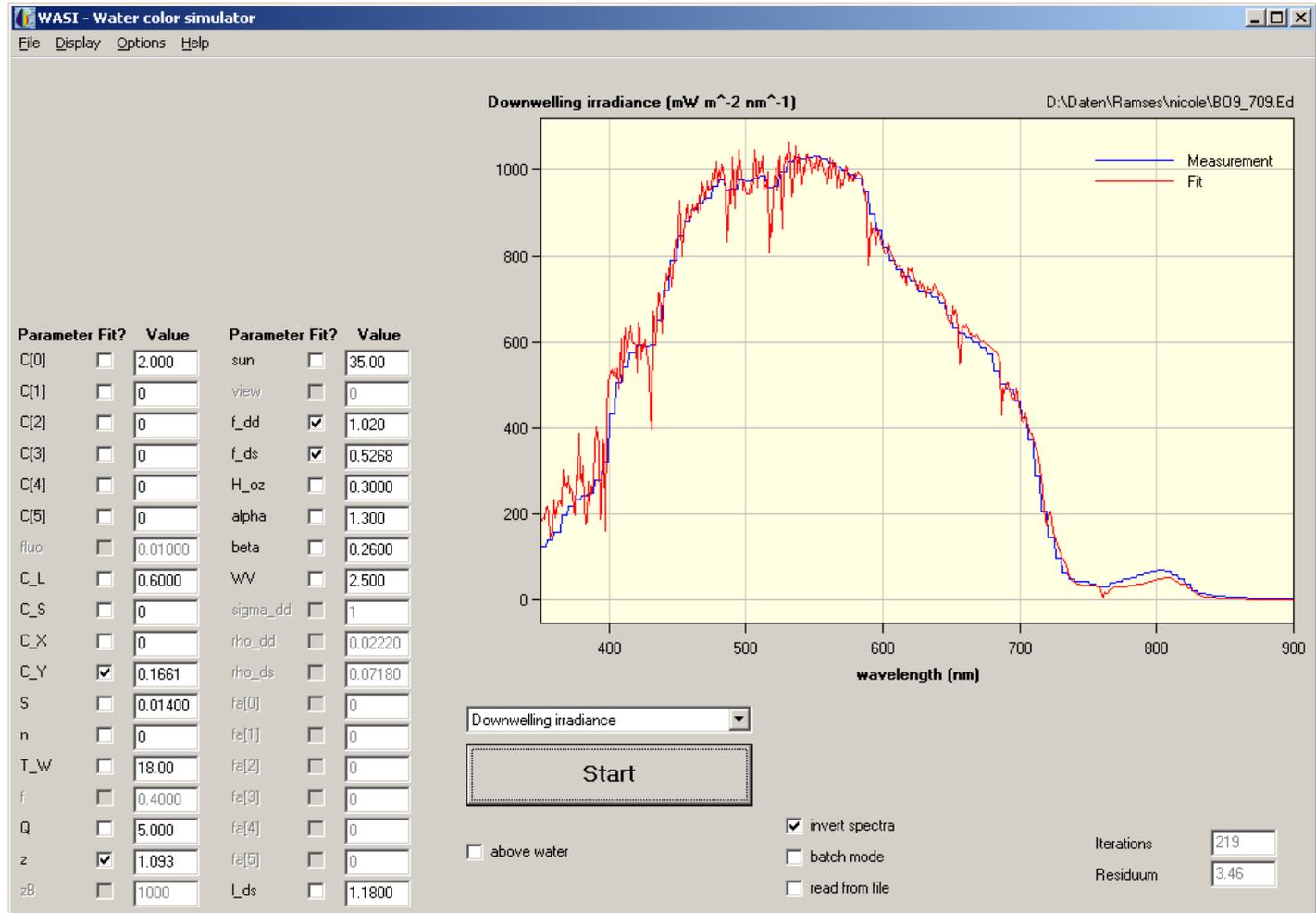


EDS | 15.2.2011

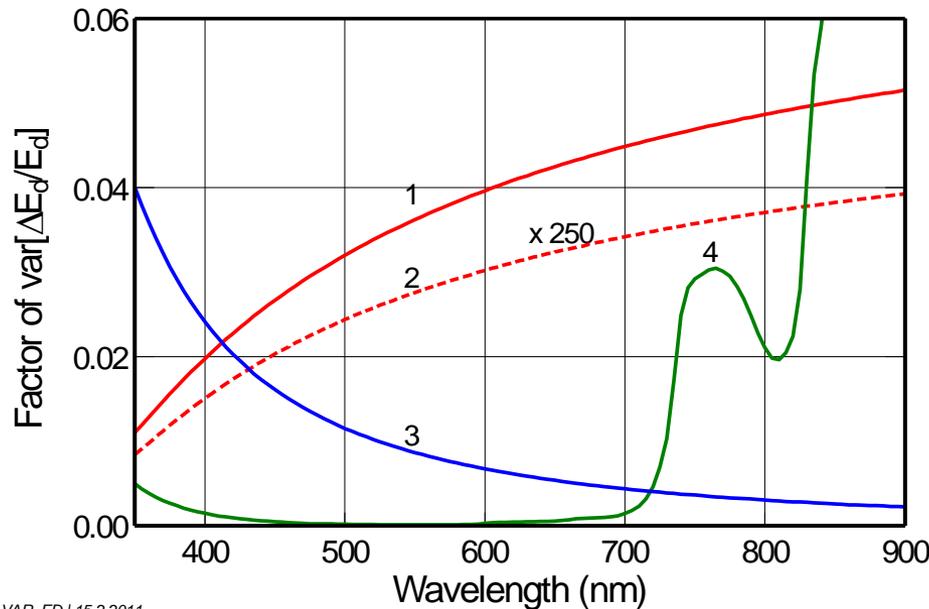
## Inversion of irradiance measurements

WASI  
software

[ftp.dfd.dlr.de/  
pub/wasi](ftp.dfd.dlr.de/pub/wasi)



## Sources of irradiance variance (from model)

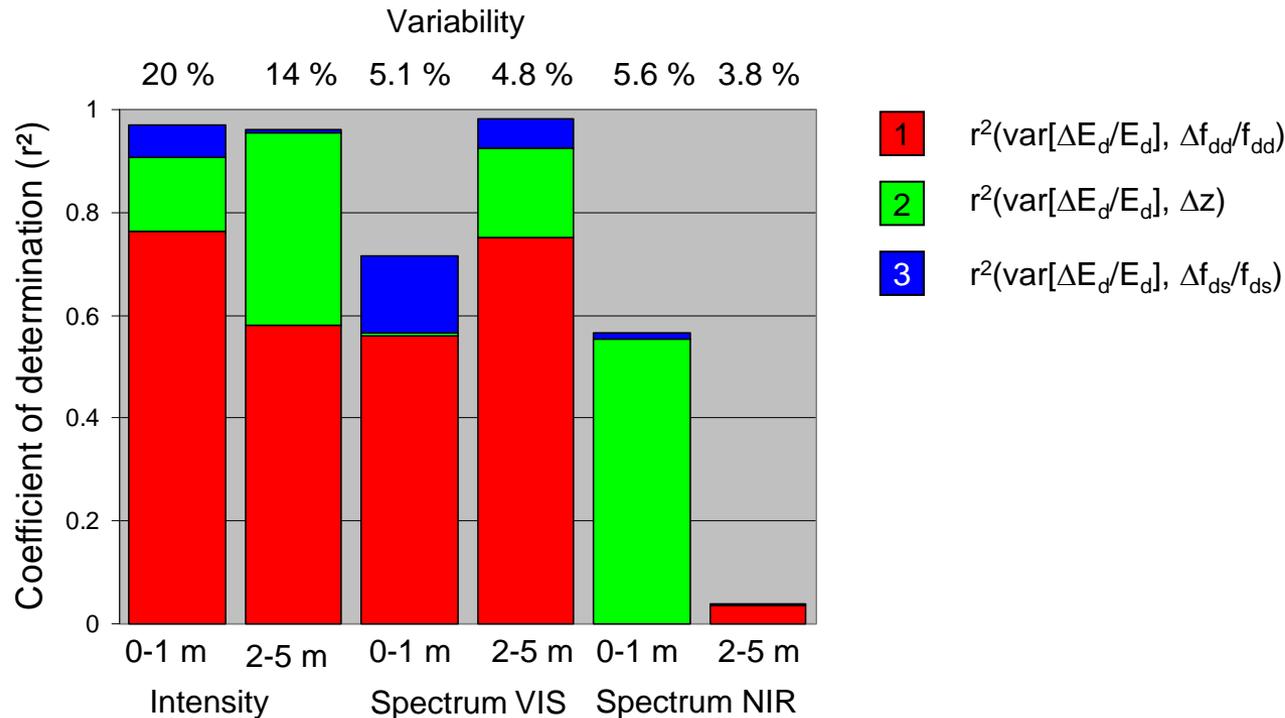


VAR\_ED | 15.2.2011

1. Changes of direct radiation due to waves
- ~~2. Changes of direct radiation due to sensor tilt~~
3. Changes of diffuse radiation due to waves
4. Changes of sensor depth due to waves and swaying boat

$$\text{var} \left[ \frac{\Delta E_d(\lambda, z)}{E_d(\lambda, z)} \right] = \boxed{1} \left[ \frac{r_d(\lambda, z)}{r_d(\lambda, z) + 1} \right]^2 \text{var} \left[ \frac{\Delta f_{dd}}{f_{dd}} \right] + \boxed{2} \left[ \frac{r_d(\lambda, z)}{r_d(\lambda, z) + 1} \right]^2 \tan^2(\theta'_{sun} + \theta_s) \text{var}[\theta_s] + \boxed{3} \left[ \frac{1}{r_d(\lambda, z) + 1} \right]^2 \text{var} \left[ \frac{\Delta f_{ds}}{f_{ds}} \right] + \boxed{4} \left[ \frac{1}{r_d(\lambda, z) + 1} \right]^2 [a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)]^2 \left[ \frac{r_d(\lambda, z)}{\cos \theta'_{sun}} + l_{ds} \right]^2 \text{var}[z]$$

## Importance of sources



1: Changes of direct radiation due to waves

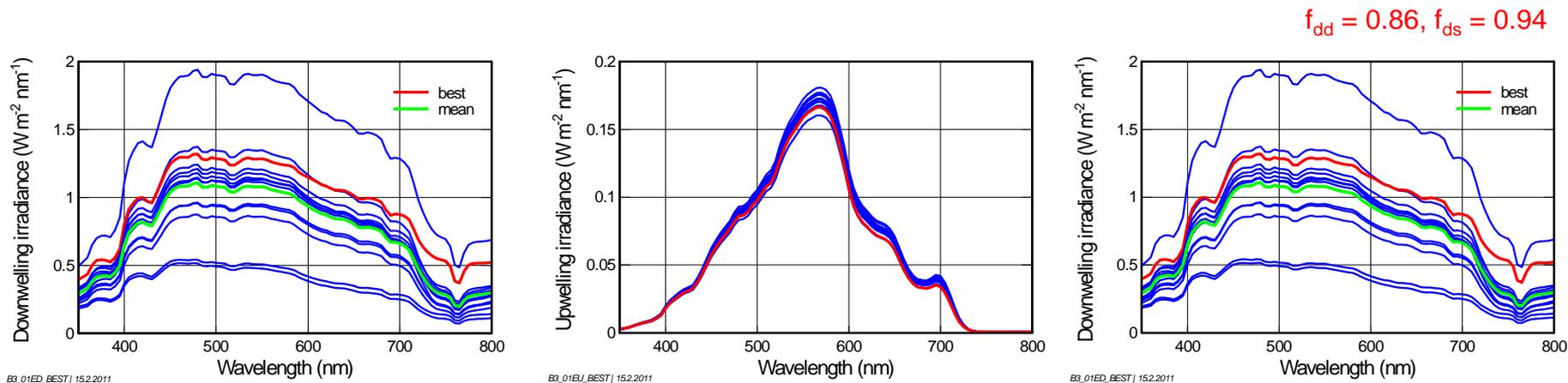
2: Changes of sensor depth due to waves and swaying boat

3: Changes of diffuse radiation due to waves

## Summary and conclusion

### 3 relevant sources of irradiance variability (intensity and spectral shape)

- Rank 1: Changes of direct radiation due to waves.  $\text{var } E_d \sim [r_d/(r_d+1)]^2$ . Typical:  $\pm 5\%$  across VIS.
- Rank 2: Changes of sensor depth due to waves and swaying boat.  $\text{var } E_d = f(r_d, a, b_b, \theta_{\text{sun}}, l_{\text{ds}})$ . Typical:  $\pm 6\%$  across NIR.
- Rank 3: Changes of diffuse radiation due to waves.  $\text{var } E_d \sim [1/(r_d+1)]^2$



**Assignment of „best“ in-water measurement requires above-water measurement**  
in order to determine the actual values  $f_{\text{dd}}, f_{\text{ds}}$ .

P. Gege, N. Pinnel (2011): Sources of variance of downwelling irradiance in water. *Applied Optics (in press)*.