

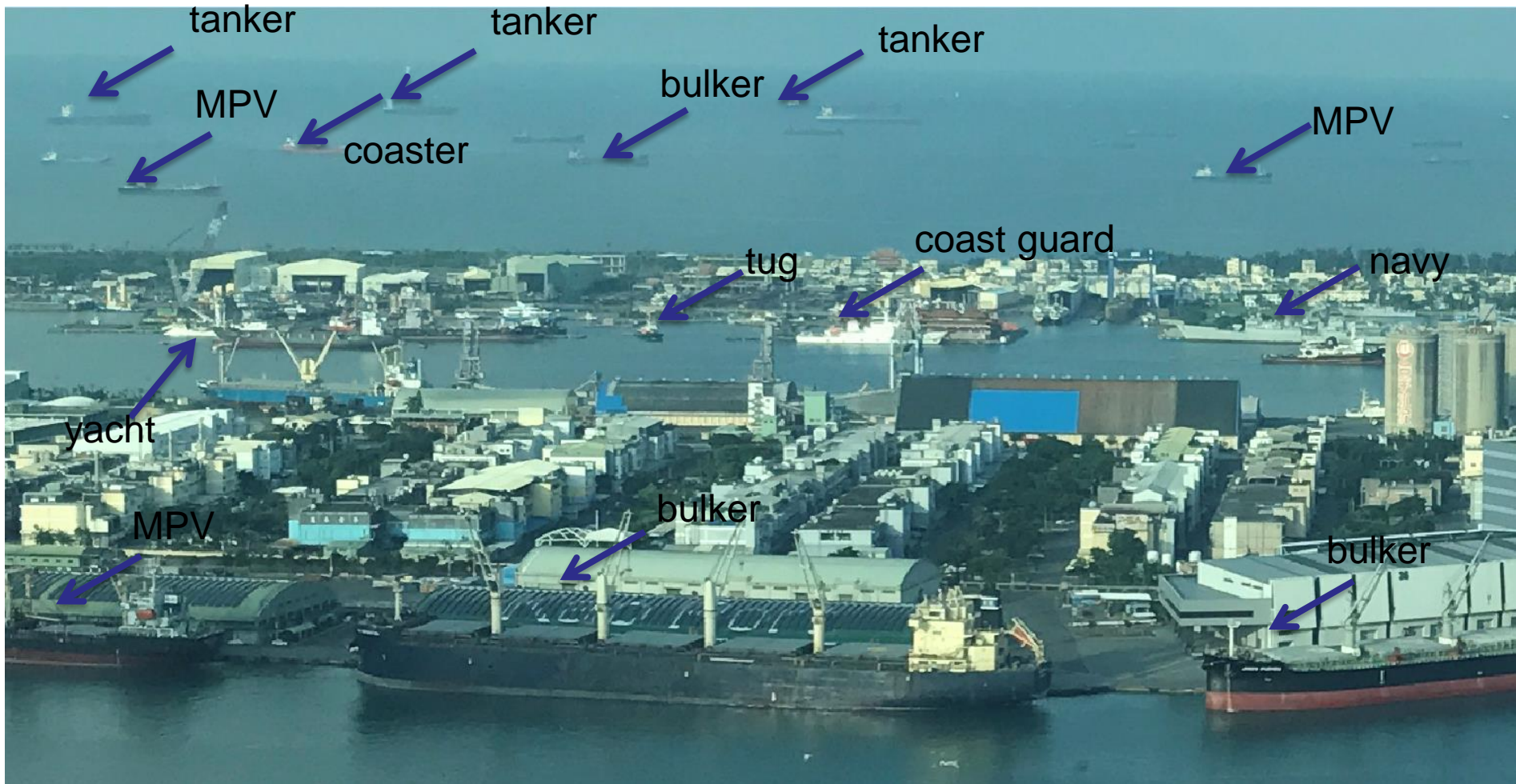
Noise generation of commercial ships

A photograph showing a person in the foreground, seen from the side, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and a blue life vest. They are holding a device, possibly a sound level meter, near their ear. In the background, a large cargo ship with multiple cranes is on the water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water and silhouetting the ship and the person. A small bird is visible in the sky.

Dietrich Wittekind, Max Schuster
DW-ShipConsult

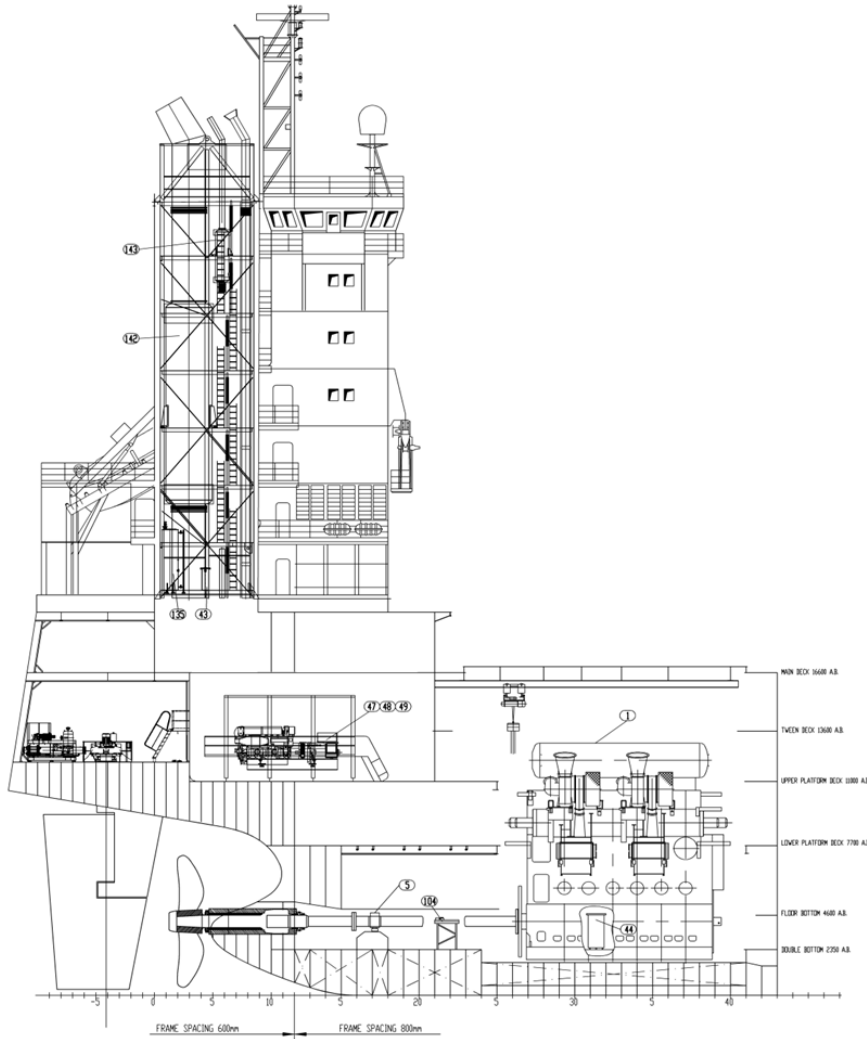
- **Relate ship noise to architectural features!**
- **Do meaningful underwater radiated noise measurements!**
- **Find the ship in the environment!**

What is a ship?



Ship noise and architectural features

Noise sources onboard



2-stroke diesel

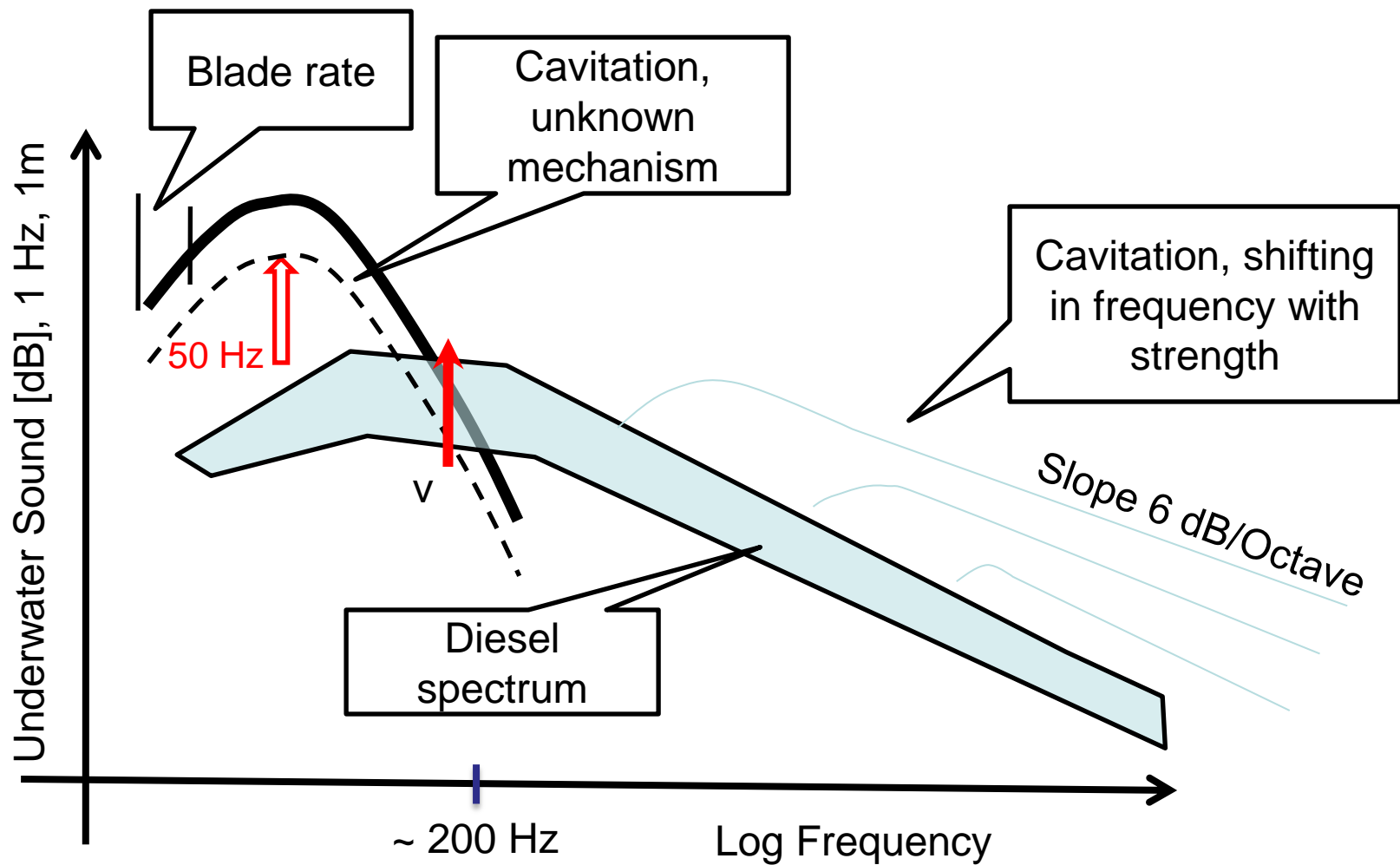


4-stroke diesel

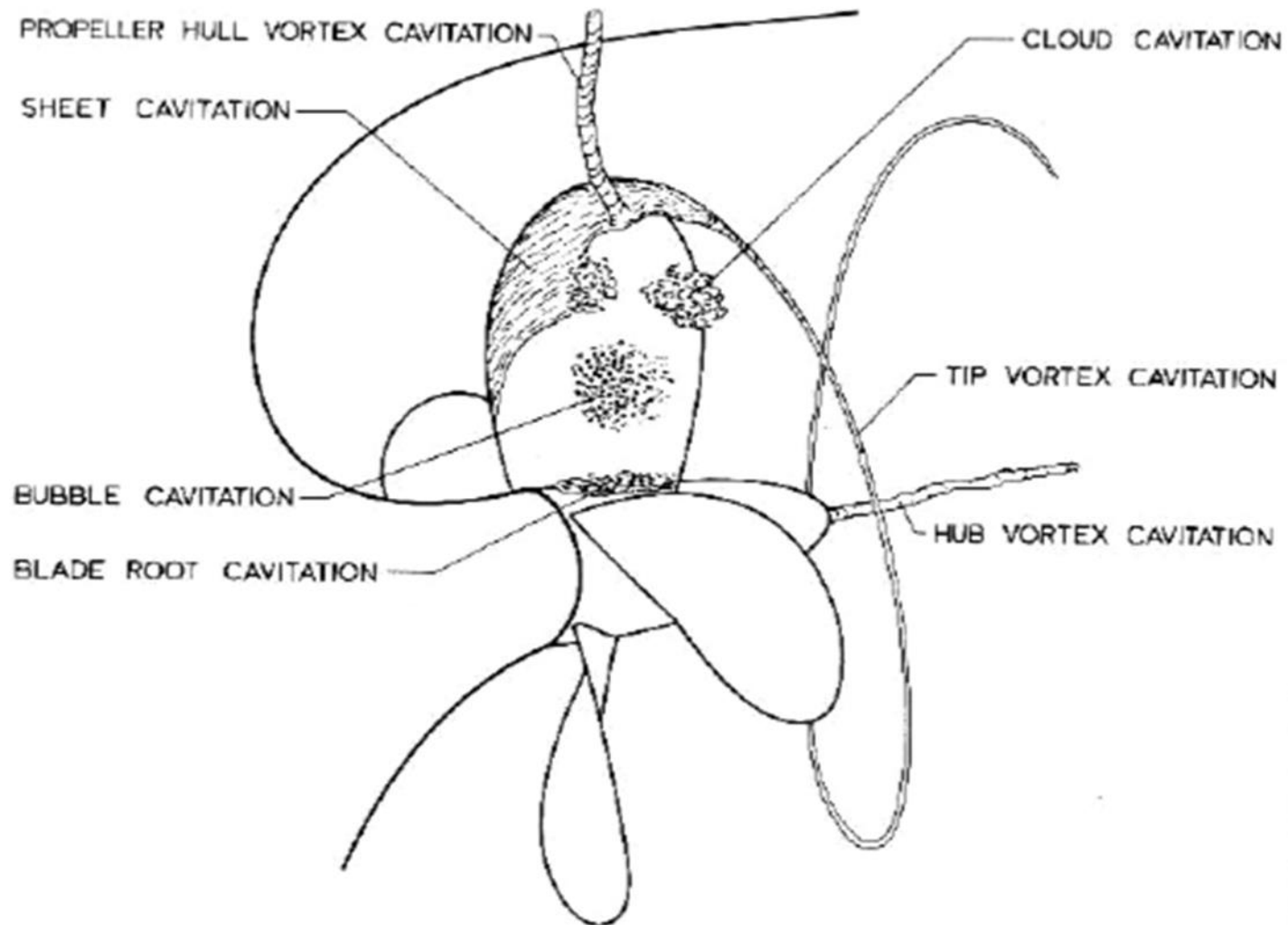


propeller

Characteristics of noise contributions



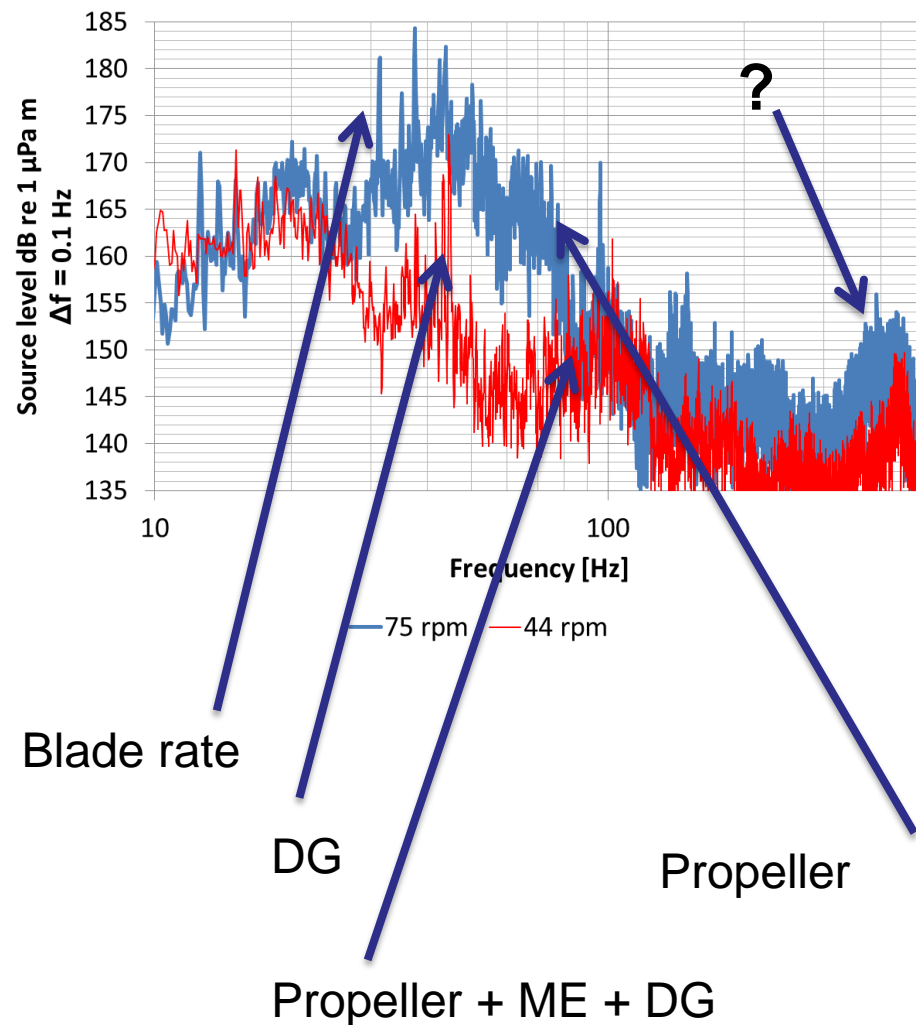
Propeller cavitation: the main source of underwater noise



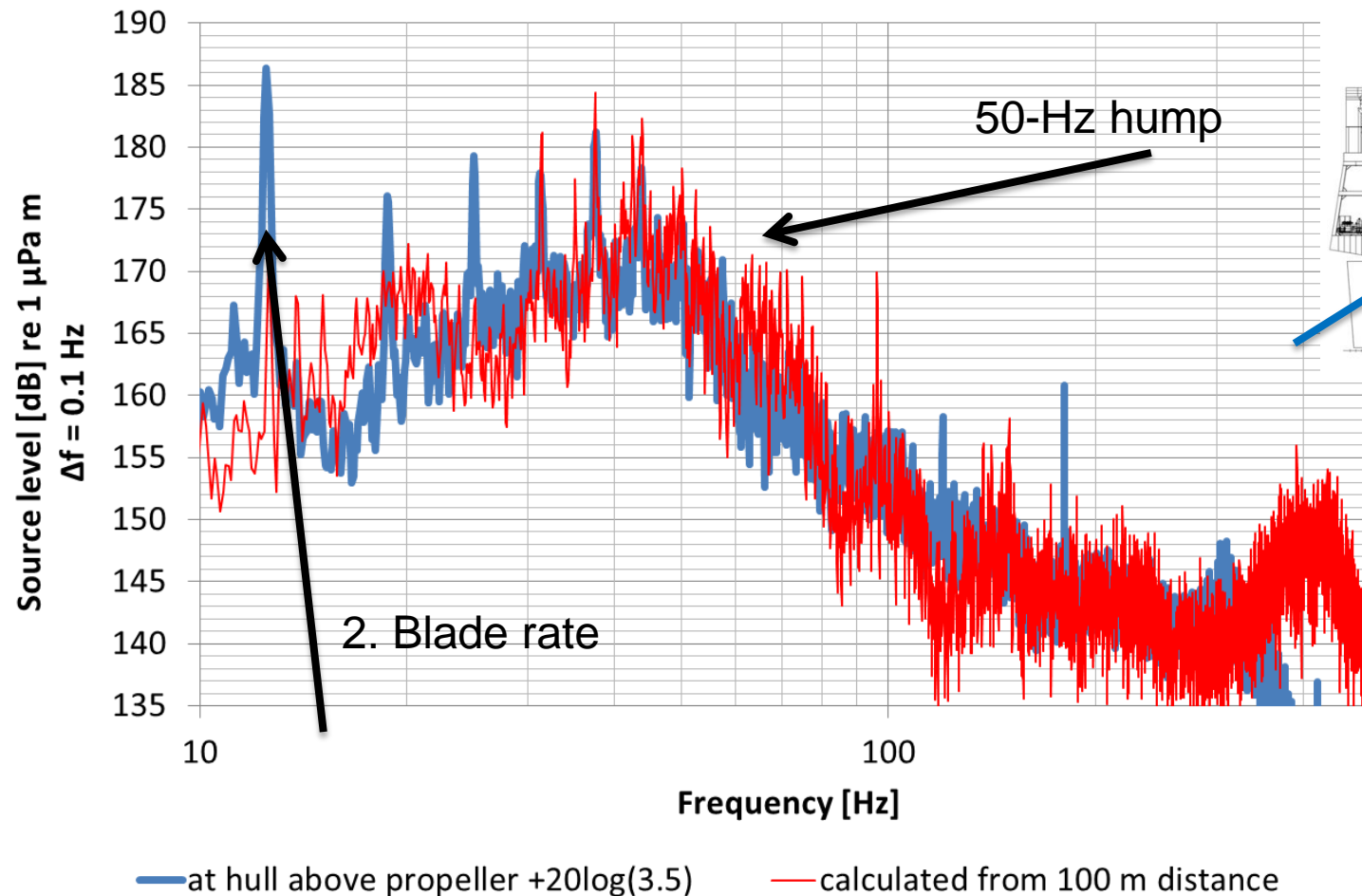
Individual contributions



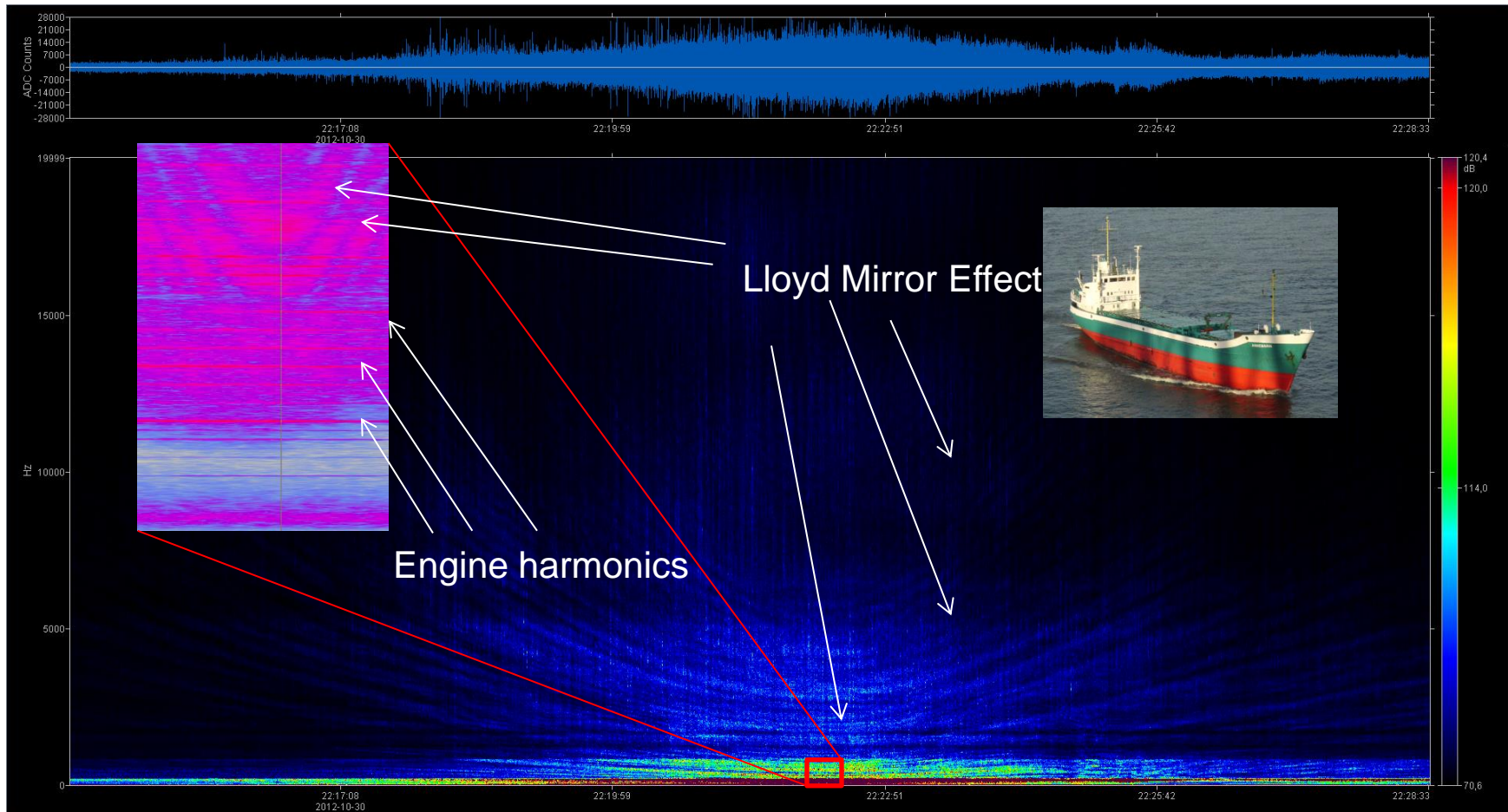
3600 TEU containership



Measurement on the ship vs. measurement at a distance, 75 rpm



A small ship in the Baltic Sea



Note: LME causes hyperbolic pattern → point source → propeller (and a dominating sound path)
No LME with machinery tones. Allows identification of engine

Noise generating mechanisms and what you can do: Propeller

	Low frequency cavitation	
	Level	80 $\log(\text{speed}/\text{CIS})$ and block coefficient
	Characteristics	Broad band + blade rate tonals
	What you can do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • „better“ propeller (= increase CIS) • reduce speed • wake equalization devices?
High frequency cavitation		
Level	60 $\log(\text{speed}/\text{CIS})$ and block coefficient	
Characteristics	Broad band, often modulated, sometimes impulsive	
What you can do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decide whether you care (not well researched, likely f(form of cavitation)) • „better“ propeller (= increase CIS) 	

Big problem: making a propeller more efficient increases cavitation related noise!!

Noise generating mechanisms and what you can do: Engine

Low speed (2-stroke) diesel engines: harmonics of shaft speed (60 to 150 rpm)

Medium speed (4-stroke) diesel engines: harmonics of half rpm

propulsion: 500 to 600 rpm

auxiliary: 600, 720, 750, 900 rpm

Assuming constant power/weight ratio and some decorrelation with size

Level $\sim 15\log(\text{mass})$, propulsion diesel $20\log(\text{speed})$ (if constant rpm)

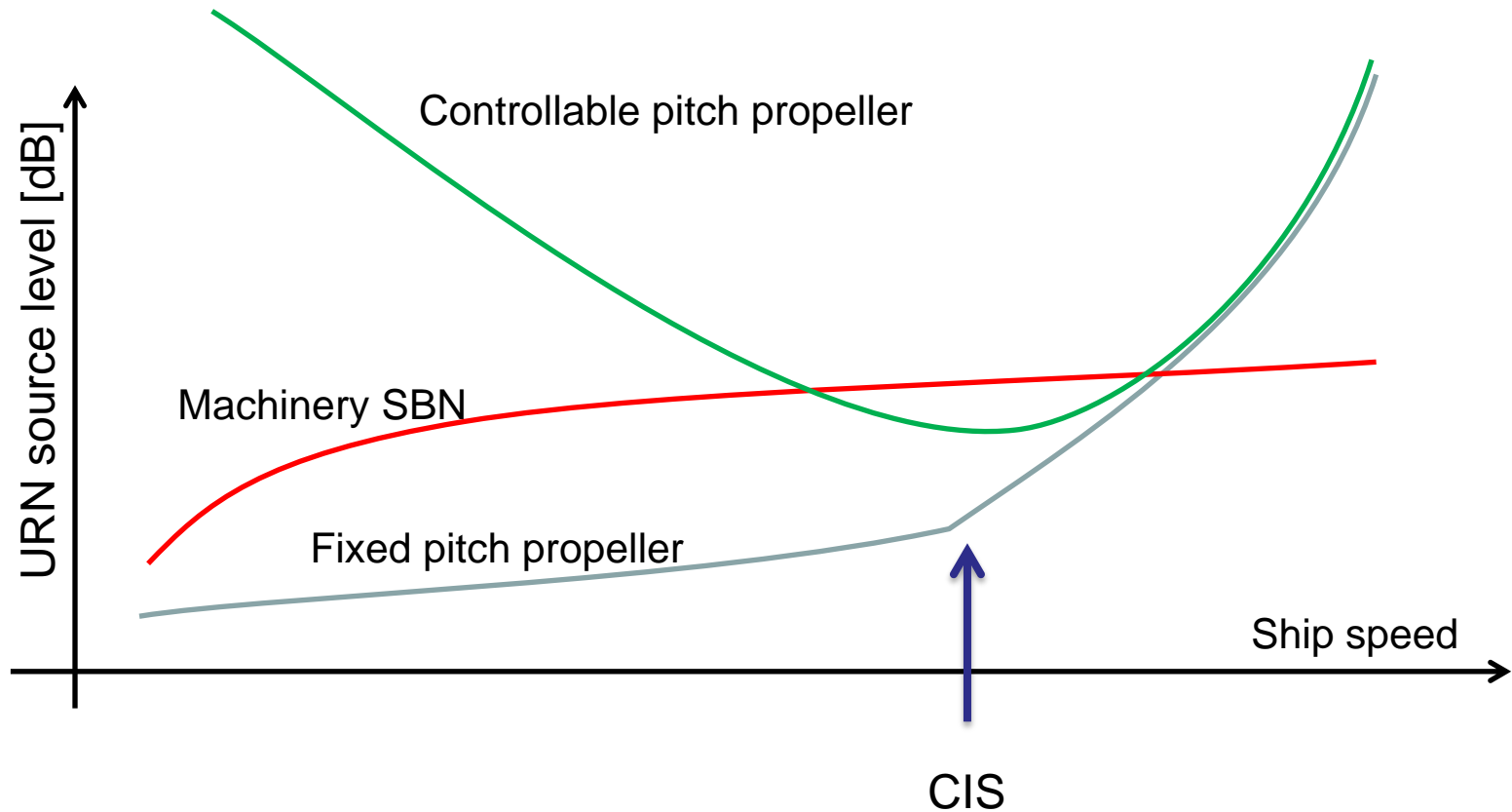
A resiliently mounted 4-stroke diesel has a similar contribution as a 2-stroke diesel.

Rigidly mounted diesels are about 15 dB noisier.

4-stroke diesels can be controlled by good resilient foundations

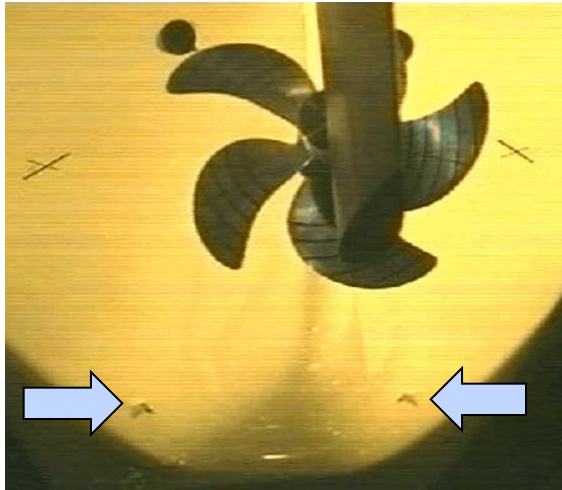
4-stroke diesels dominate in high power twin screw ships such as cruise liners

Engineering estimation of source levels, fixed pitch



Wake Equalization Devices: efficiency \uparrow + noise \downarrow ?

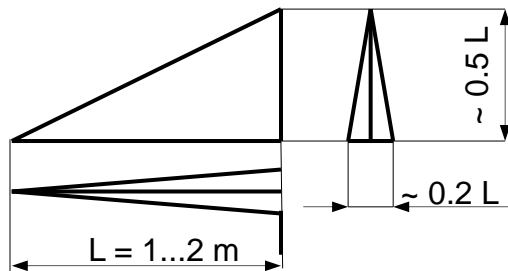
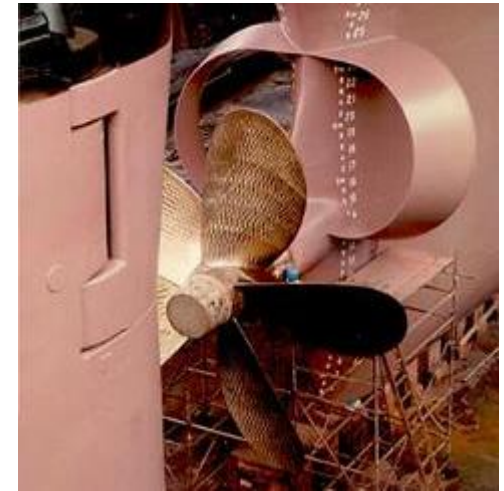
Vortex-Generator-Fins



Mewis-Duct



Schneekluth-Nozzle

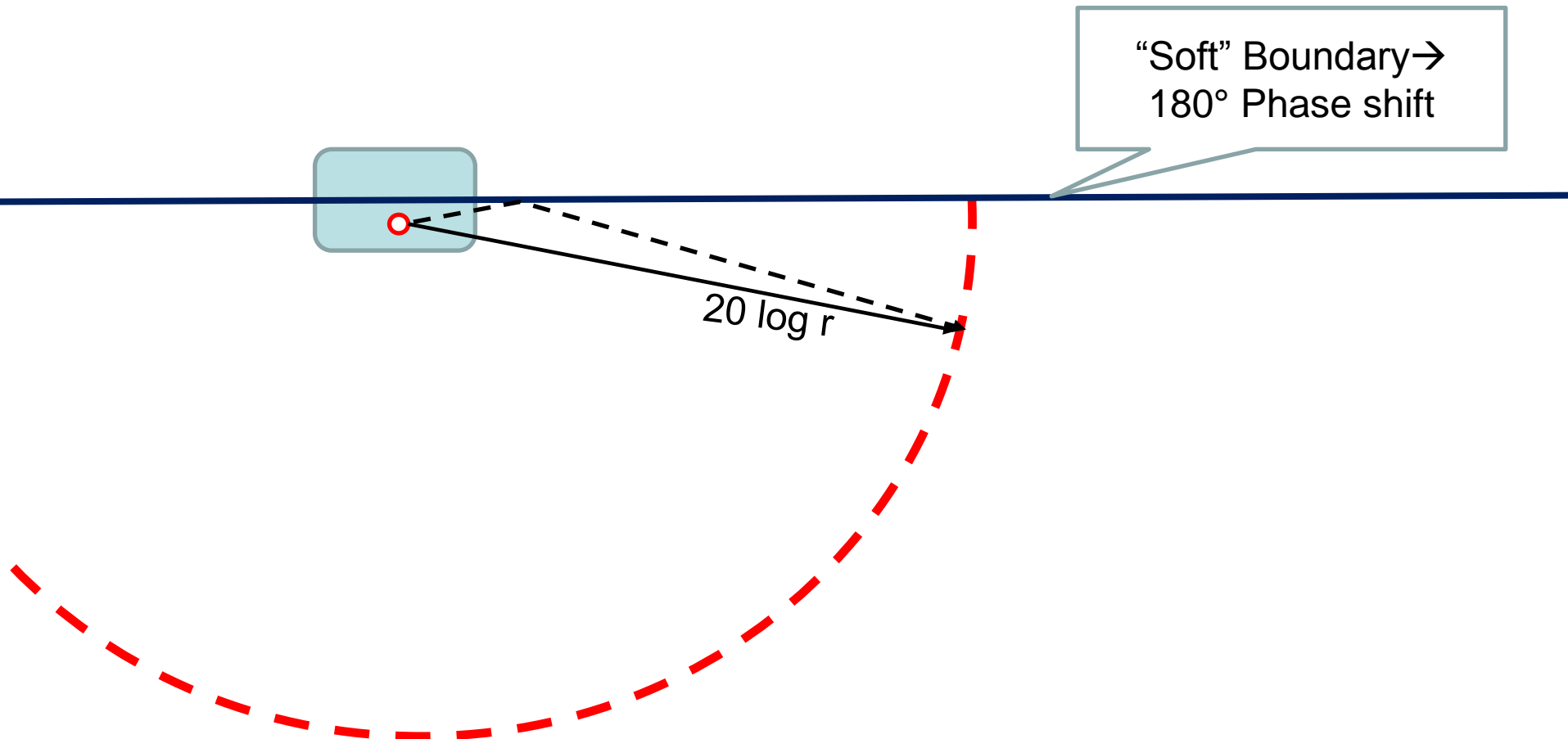


Pre-Swirl Stator

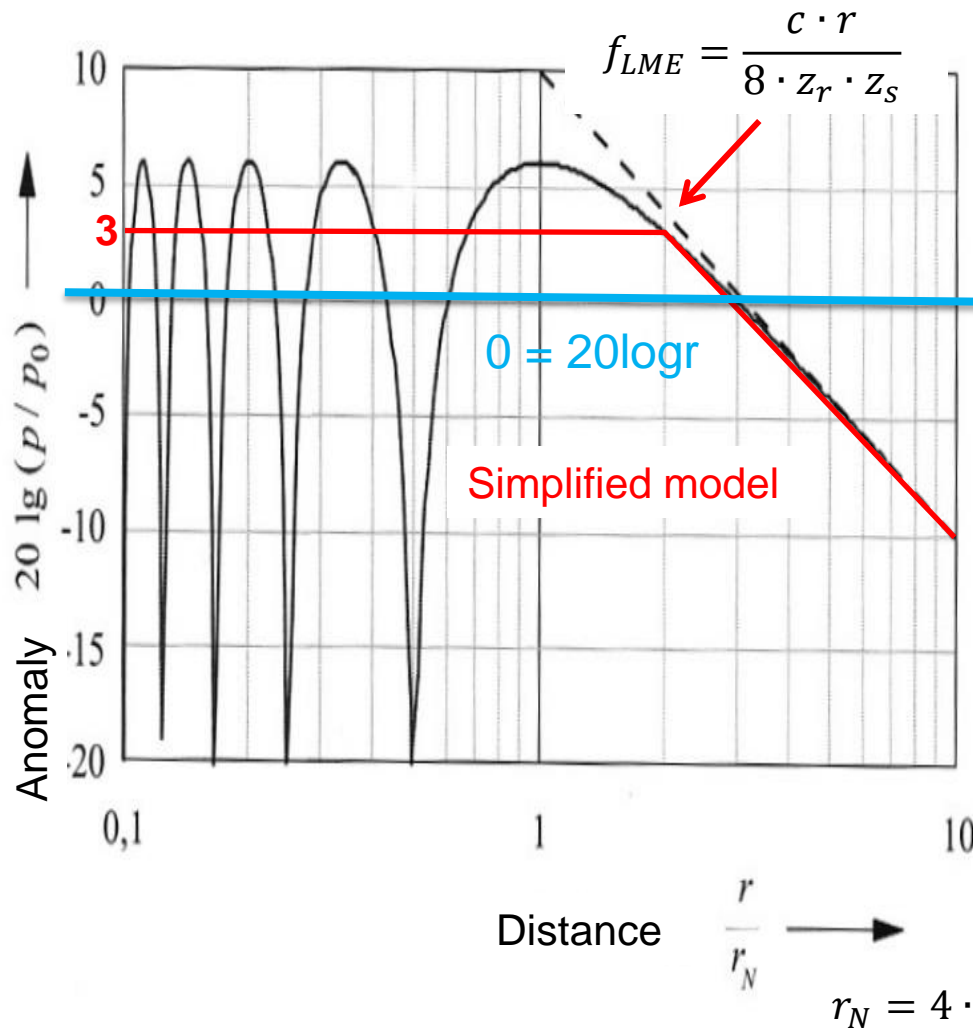


Meaningful underwater radiated noise measurements

Sound propagation at the surface



Lloyd Mirror Effect



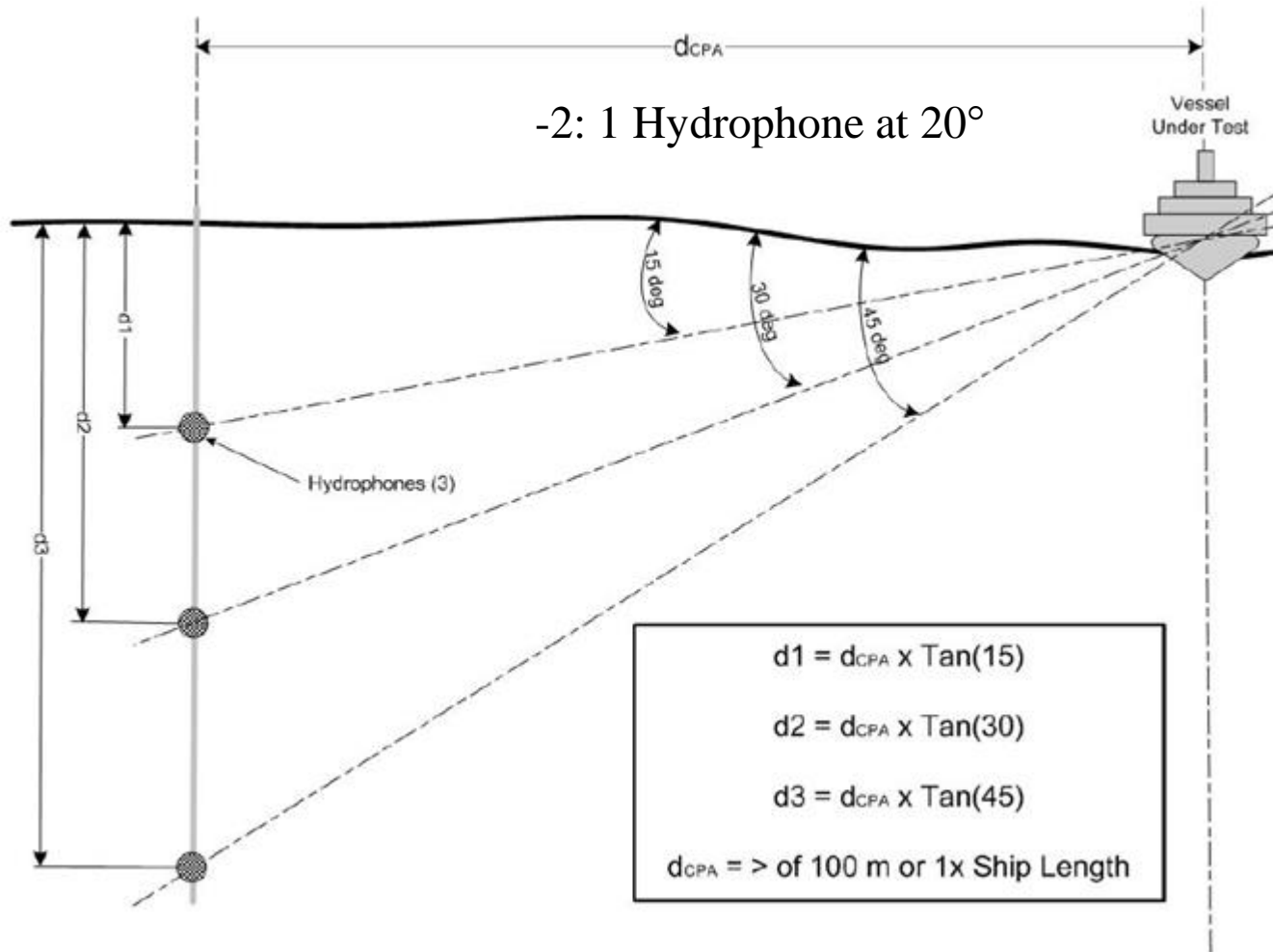
$$f > f_{LME} \rightarrow SLM = SL_D - 3$$

$$f < f_{LME} \rightarrow SLM = SL_D + 20 \cdot \log\left(\frac{f_{LME}}{f}\right) - 3$$

SL_M
 SL_D

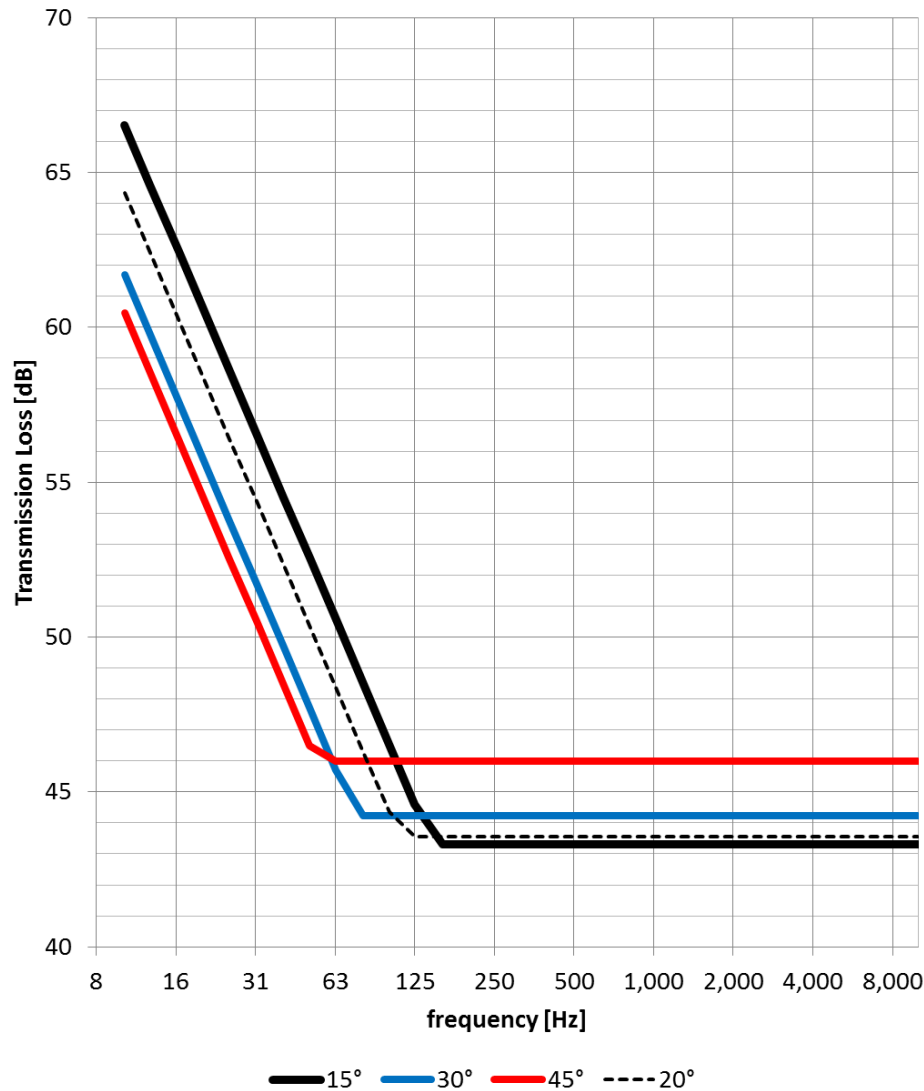
Monopole Source Level
 Dipole Source Level

Underwater Noise measurements according to ISO 17208-1



Very comprehensive measurement gear!

Actual TL according to ISO for 5 m source depth



Note:

ISO demands that each hydrophone reading is corrected with $20\log$ (slant range) and then averaged.

This confuses the result below 150 Hz and makes it less suitable for propagation calculations

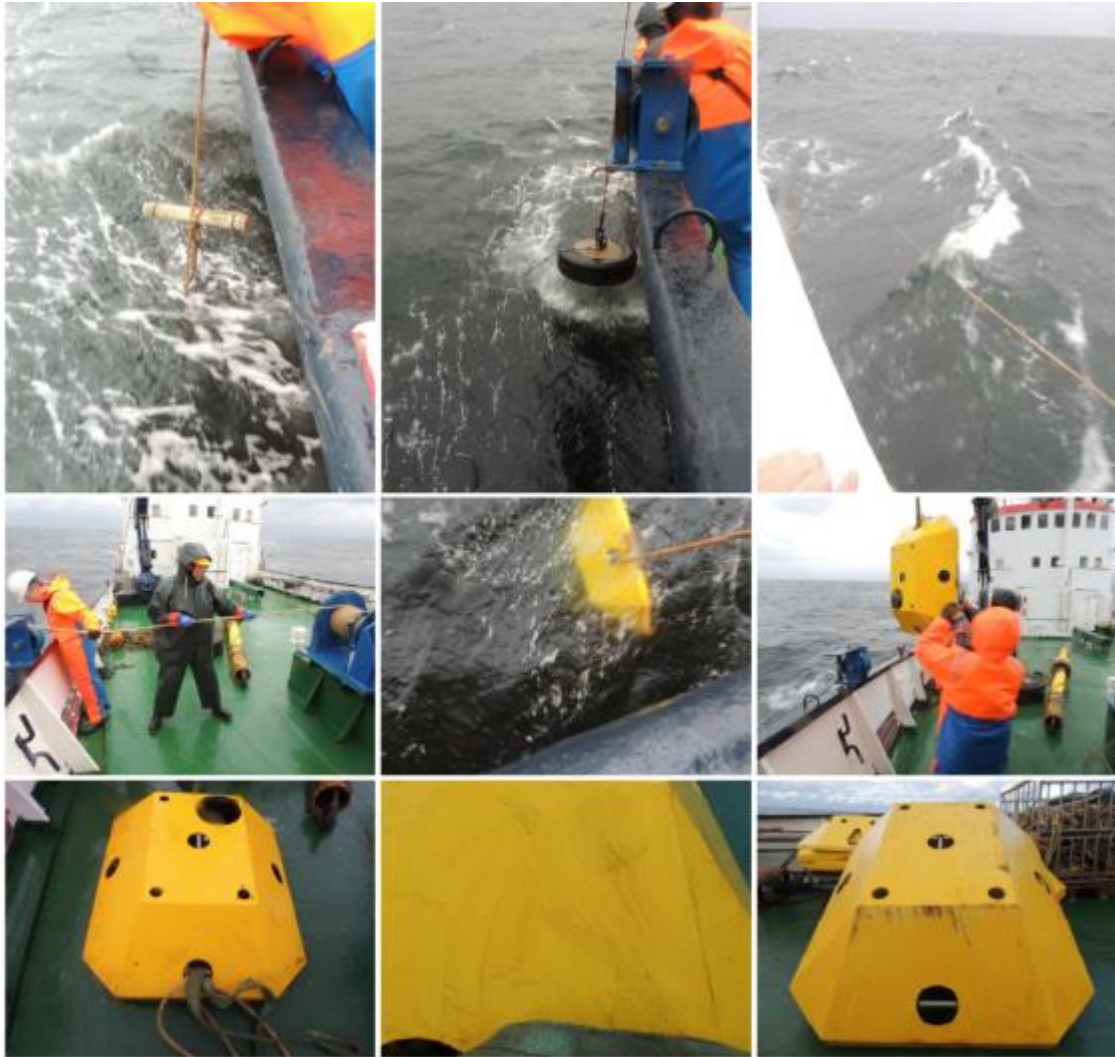
15° reading may be affected by strong variations in the sound speed profile

Instead: use just one reading or use one hydrophone at 20°, find or assume source depth, correct for monopole level yourself

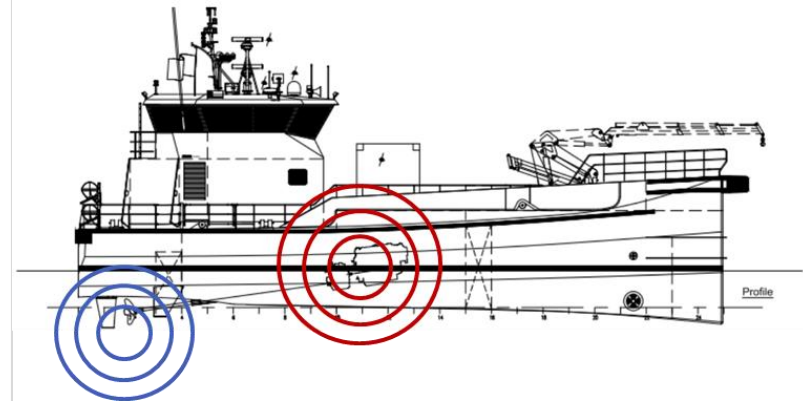
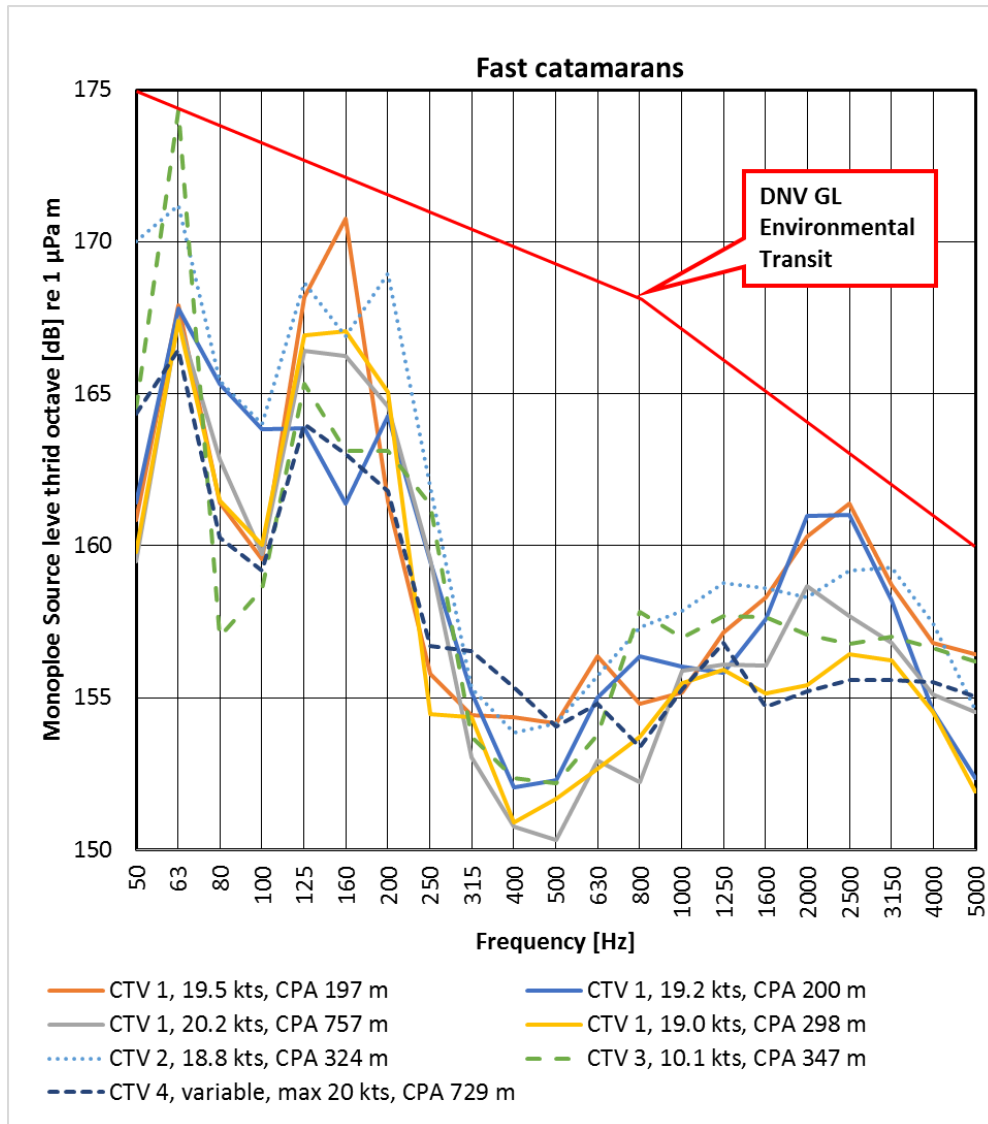
The ship in the environment

- Wind park maintenance -

Stationary recording system

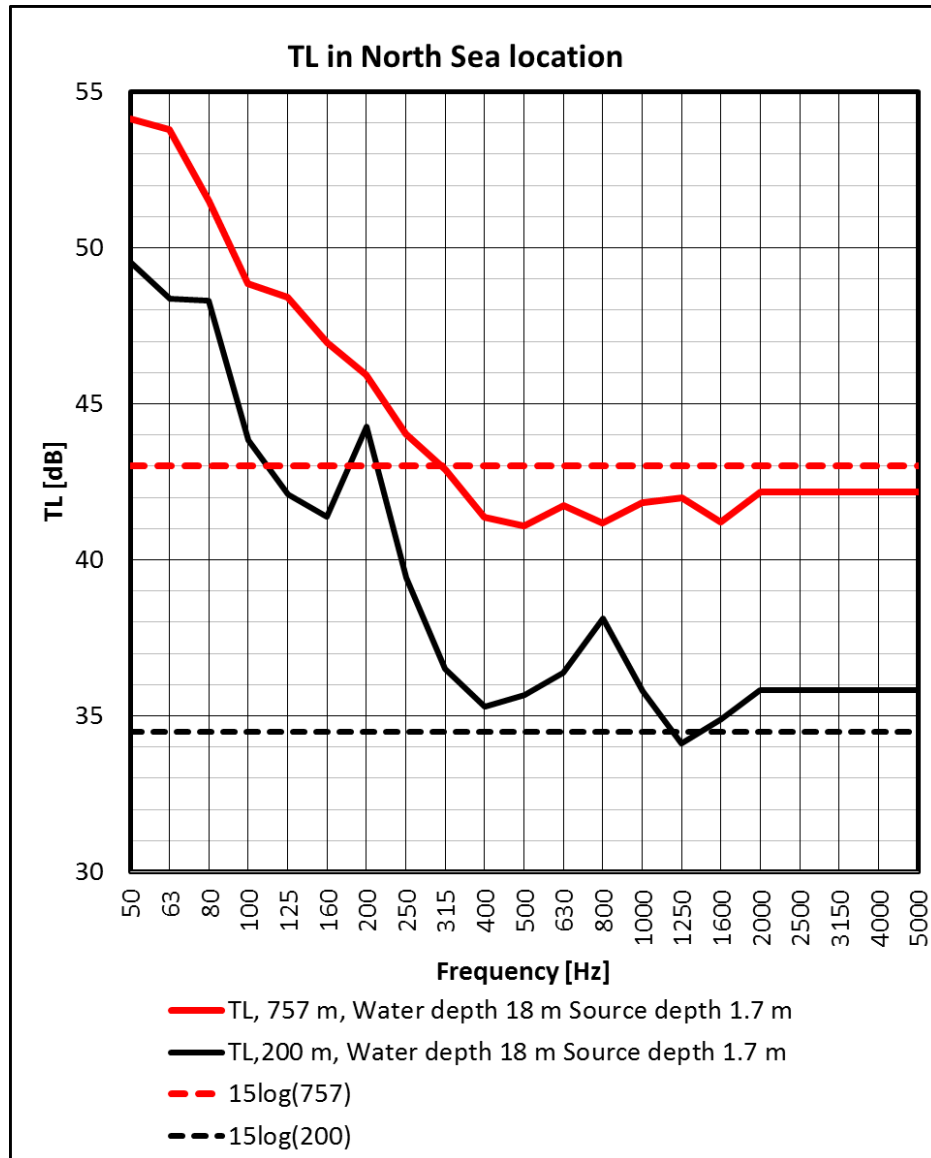


Source levels of ships underway in a wind park (shallow water 18 m)



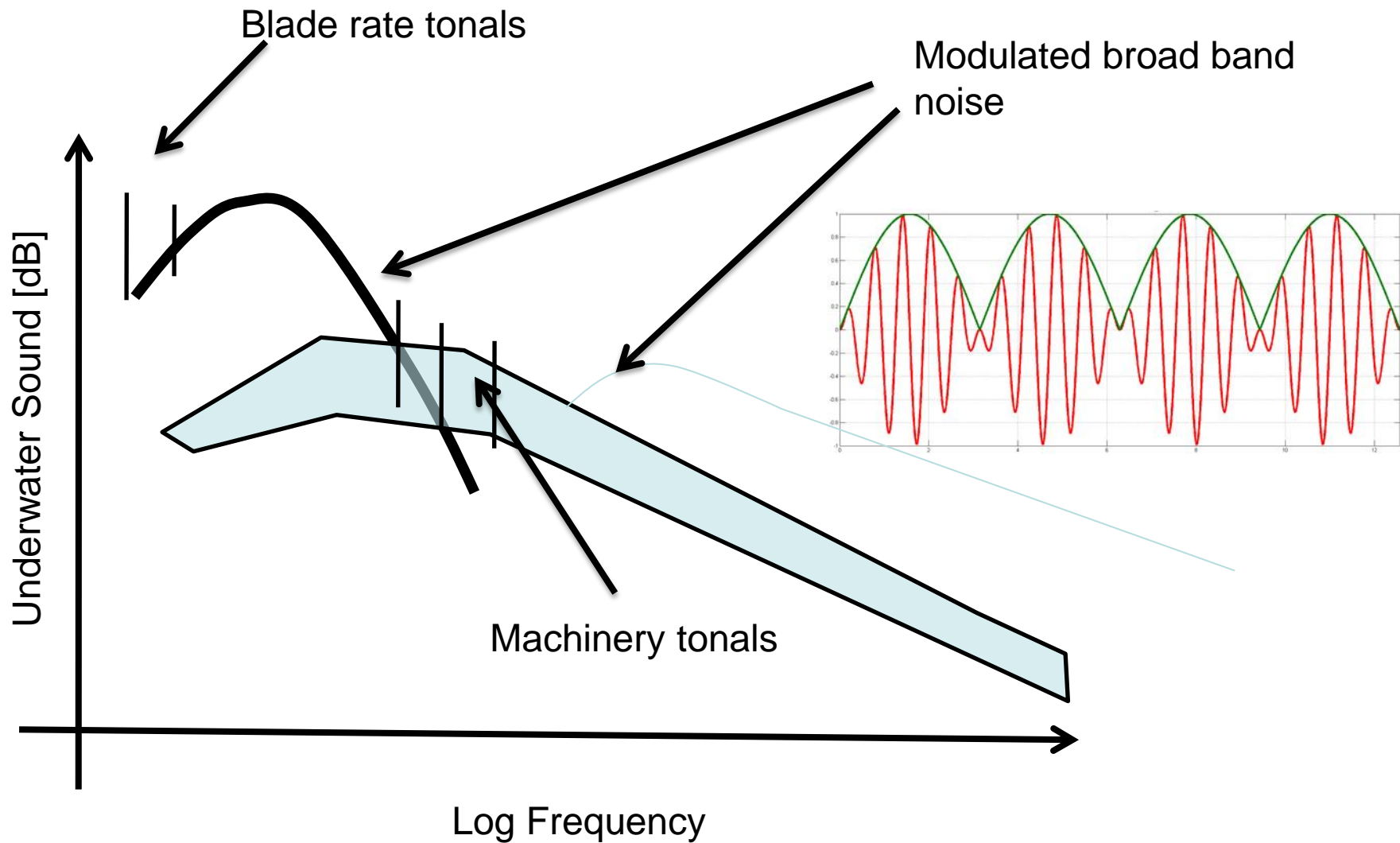
Monopole level!

Transmission loss in shallow water (18 m)



- TL calculated with parabolic equation approximation of the wave equation
- $15\log(r)$ not bad for medium range distances at high range/depth ratios and for dipole levels

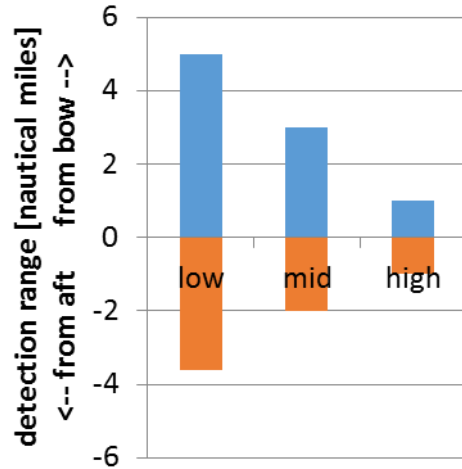
Difference between ship noise and natural noise



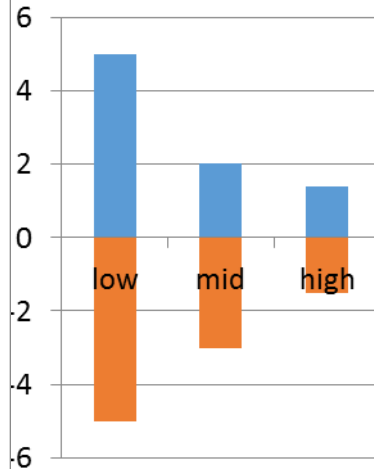
Detection by tones and amplitude modulation



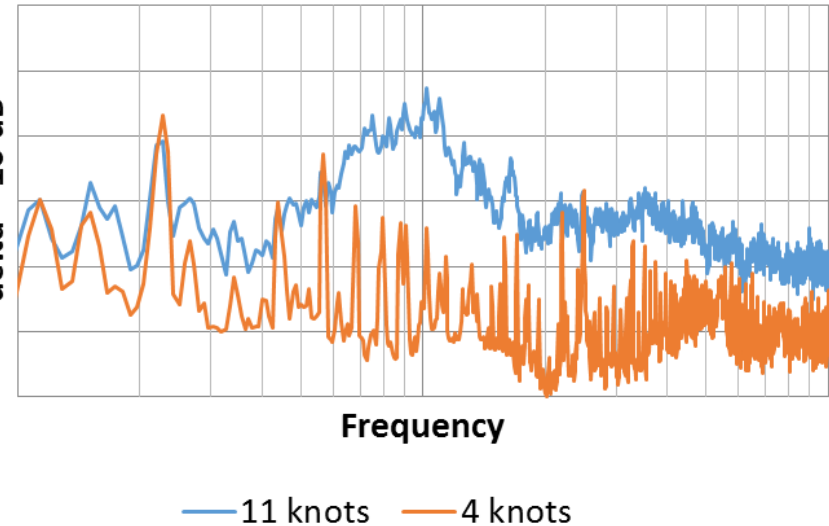
4 knots



11 knots

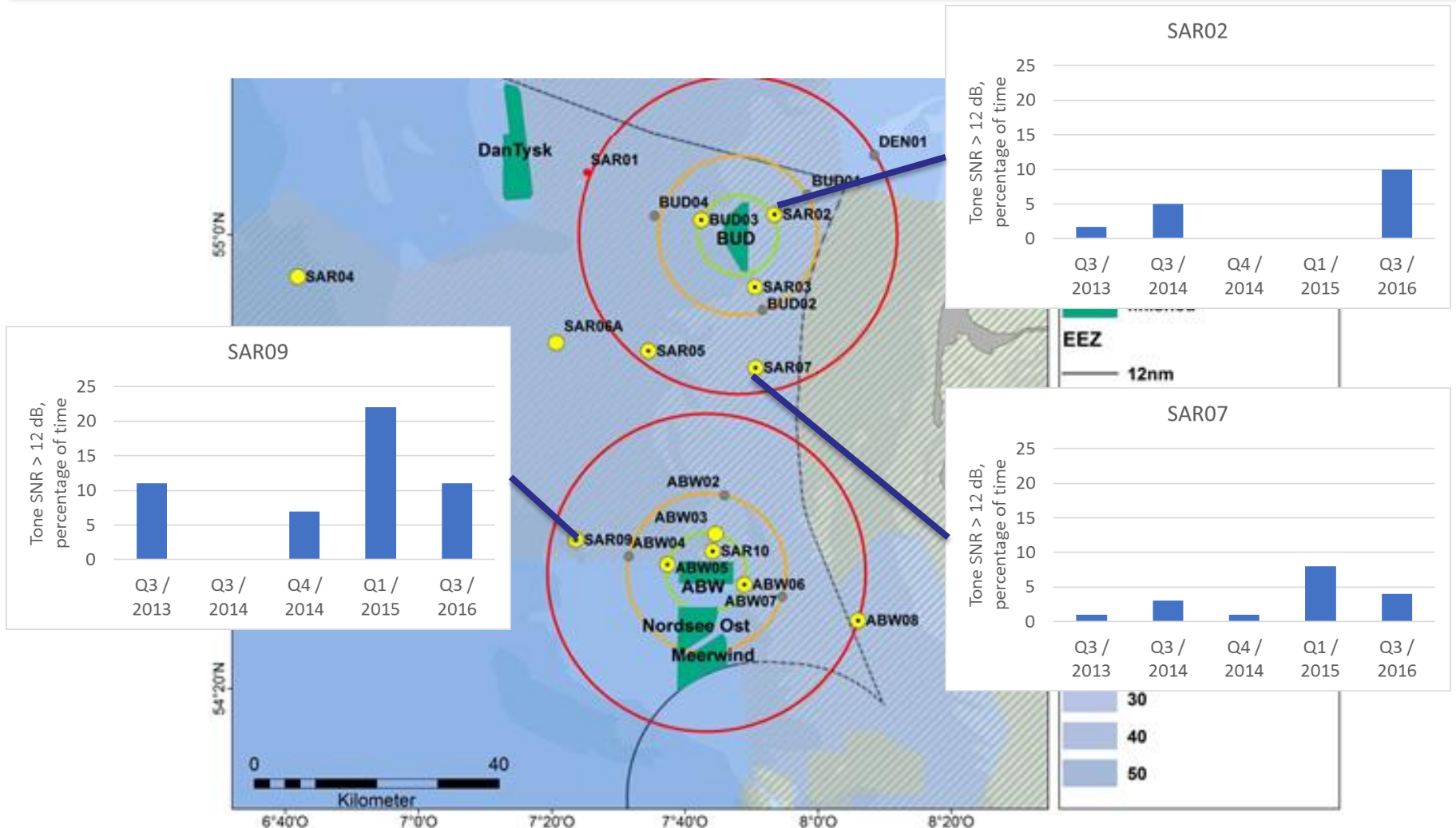


Sound pressure level
delta = 10 dB



- **Low frequencies** yield highest detection range
- Detection range highly determined by **content of tones**
- Detection of **broad band modulation** worked only ~ 1 nm

Results for ship detection



Indication that ship noise is more abundant after wind park installation than before

Conclusions and outlook

- Too little knowledge about acoustics at shipbuilders. Low cavitation propeller designs not a standard. Cause of low frequency broad band part of cavitation not known.
Diesels and propeller only sources
→ disseminate simple design rules, do research on propeller cavitation noise beyond blade rate, investigate noise effects of wake equalization devices
- Precision measurement of underwater radiated noise according to ISO too complex
→ try to cultivate procedure based on single hydrophone usage
- Not yet clear picture of shipping noise contribution in our waters
→ improve and standardize ship detectors, scan existing data for ship presence, relate to location → get better view of shipping impact