

Explanation of variables in USGS Data Series 602 (May 2011)

Observations of Wave Runup, Setup, and Swash on Natural Beaches

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Each experiment-specific file (*.runup.Stockdon2006.txt) contains:

date (yymmdd)

time (hhmm, GMT) – No times were available for Terschelling data.

2% runup (m) – calculated as the 2-percent exceedance value of discrete runup maxima

setup (m) – time average of water-level time series, relative to still-water level

total swash (m) – significant swash excursion, calculated from the power spectra density (psd) of the continuous water-level time series as $4 \cdot \sqrt{\sum \text{psd}(f) \cdot df}$. This is equivalent to 4σ , where σ is the standard deviation of the time series.

incident swash (m) – calculated from the psd but limited to frequencies greater than 0.05 Hz

infragravity swash (m) – calculated from the psd but limited to frequencies less than 0.05 Hz

significant wave height (m) – wave height from local wave gages (see below) and subsequently reverse-shoaled to deep water using linear wave theory

peak wave period (s) – local wave period

foreshore beach slope (radians) – estimated from surveyed beach elevations in area of the foreshore defined by setup $\pm 2\sigma$.

Details can be found in: Stockdon, H.F., Holman, R.A., Howd, P.A., and Sallenger, A.H., 2006, Empirical parameterization of setup, swash, and runup: Coastal Engineering, v. 53, no. 7, p. 573-588.

Gage number and water depth for local wave heights that were reverse-shoaled to deep water.

Site (experiments)	Wave gage	Water depth(meters)
Duck, NC (Duck82, Delilah, Duck94, SandyDuck)	FRF 630	18
Scripps Beach, CA (Uswash)	see Holland and others (1995)	7
San Onofre, CA	CDIP 04501*	10
Gleneden, OR	CDIP35	11
Terschelling, NL	see Ruessink and others (1998)	15
Agate Beach, OR	CDIP37	64

* No longer operational.