

## Observing weather on board – anemometer

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Propeller anemometer is generally used on board Hong Kong Voluntary Observing Ship (HKVOS) to measure wind speed and wind direction. It is installed at a place where the effect of the ship itself to wind measurement is minimal and the instrument can be repaired easily in case of malfunction. Normally, the anemometer is installed on a mast above the bridge of the ship.

On board the ship which is sailing on the sea, the observer will correct the wind speed and wind direction measured by the anemometer for the course and speed of movement of the ship by means of the parallelogram of velocities to get the true wind speed and direction for reporting.

As the anemometer is exposed to the atmosphere, it is vulnerable to be damaged by severe weather conditions in the open seas and by sea water corrosion. Frequent calibration and preventive maintenance are necessary to ensure reliable wind measurement. Our Port Meteorological Officer would liaise with the VOS for instrument checking, when necessary.



A propeller anemometer installed on board HKVOS