Author version: Renew. Energ., vol.76; 2015; 212–219

Wave energy resource assessment for the Indian shelf seas

V. Sanil Kumar, T.R.Anoop

CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research), Dona Paula,

Goa 403 004 India

Email:sanil@nio.org Tel: 0091 832 2450 327 Fax: 0091 832 2450 602

**Abstract** 

As a renewable energy, the assessment of wave power potential around a country is crucial.

Knowledge of the temporal and spatial variations of wave energy is required for locating a wave

power plant. This study investigates the variations in wave power at 19 locations covering the Indian

shelf seas using the ERA-Interim dataset produced by the European Centre for Medium-Range

Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). The ERA-Interim data is compared with the measured wave

parameters in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Along the western shelf seas of India, the

seasonal oscillations lead to variation of the wave power from the lowest seasonal mean value (2.6

kW/m) in the post-monsoon period (October-January) to the highest value (25.9 kW/m) in the south-

west monsoon (June-September) period. Significant (10 to 20%) inter-annual variations are detected

at few locations. The mean annual wave power along the eastern Indian shelf seas (2.6 - 9.9 kW/m)

is lower than the mean annual wave power along the western part (7.9 - 11.3 kW/m). The total

annual mean wave power available along the western shelf seas of India is around 19.5 GW. Along

the eastern shelf seas, it is around 8.7 GW. In the Indian Shelf seas, the annual mean wave power is

highest (11.3 kW/m) at the southern location (location 11), and the seasonal variation in wave power

is also less. Hence, location 11 is a better location for a wave power plant in the Indian shelf seas.

**Key Words**: Ocean energy, Inter-annual variability, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, wave height, wave

power

### 1. Introduction

Amongst renewable energy sources, ocean waves contain the highest energy density and have the potential to become a commercially viable energy source [1]. Progress from full-scale testing to the commercialisation of wave energy projects has been relatively slow. This slowness has been partly due to the financial risks associated with uncertainty in quantifying the wave energy resource over a variety of timescales [2]. Based on the analysis of wave data collected from buoys, satellites, numerical wave hindcasts, or a combination of these sources, wave energy resource assessments have been made for the Black Sea [3], the Baltic Sea [4], the Hawaiian Islands [5], the North Sea [2] and the Persian Gulf [6]. In addition, wave energy resource assessments have been made for the seas around Australia [7], Canada [8], California [9], Canary Islands [10], China [11], Europe [2, 12], Iran [13], Ireland [14], Malaysia [15], Portugal [16, 17], Taiwan [18], the United Kingdom [2, 19] and the United States [20, 21]. Wave energy resource assessment is also carried out globally [22, 23].

India has a long coastline of 5,423 km along the mainland and receives around 5.7 million waves per year [24, 25]. Hence, the country has large wave energy resources. Along the Indian coast, the Indian Institute of Technology Madras in Chennai has conducted studies on wave energy resources and wave energy conversion devices [26]. In addition, a wave energy plant is located at Vizhinjam based on the near-shore oscillating water column [27].

Kumar et al. [28] examined variations in near-shore wave power at four shallow water locations along the east and west coasts of India. Their findings were based on the measured wave data covering a one-year period. However, since the spatial and temporal variation in wave energy covering the entire Indian shelf seas is not known, the purpose of this research is to assess the wave energy resources in the Indian shelf seas. Nineteen deep water locations (11 locations in the western Indian shelf seas and 8 locations in the eastern Indian shelf seas) are selected for the study (Fig. 1). Information on the monthly and annual variability of the wave power is required when selecting a wave power plant location. Hence, the variations in wave power over a 34-year period at the 19 deep water locations are also studied.

#### 2. Materials and methods

#### **2.1 Data**

The ERA-Interim (ERA-I) global atmospheric re-analysis dataset, the most recent reanalysis dataset produced by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), is used in the study [29]. An updated atmospheric model (the Integrated Forecast System Cycle 31r2) is used in the data analysis, which includes increased pressure levels and additional cloud parameters that

maximize improved model physics [30]. The incorporated wave model is based on the WAM (global ocean WAve prediction Model) approach [31]. Significant wave height ( $H_s$ ) and wave period ( $T_e$ ) data with a grid resolution of 0.75° x 0.75° are extracted for the period January 1, 1979 to December 31, 2012 at 6-hour intervals for the selected locations.

Although the ERA-I datasets are validated with measured buoy data for different regions [32], the ERA-I  $H_s$  and  $T_e$  data are compared with the measured buoy data at two locations in the Arabian Sea (AS) and at one location in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) before estimating wave power in the Indian shelf seas. The location of the buoys and the details of the data collected are presented in Table 1. Using the heave data recorded by the buoy, the wave spectrum is obtained via Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). The  $H_s$  and the energy wave period ( $T_e$ ) are obtained from the spectral moments as shown in Equations 1 and 2.

Significant wave height 
$$(H_s) = 4\sqrt{m_o}$$
 (1)

Energy period (T<sub>e</sub>) 
$$= \frac{m_{-1}}{m_0}$$
 (2)

where  $m_n$  is the nth order spectral moment and given by  $m_n = \int_0^\infty f^n S(f) df$ , n=0 and -1, and S(f) is the spectral energy density at frequency f.

# 2.2 Comparison of ERA-I data with buoy-measured data

Comparisons of the  $H_s$  from the ERA-I and the buoy-measured data show good agreement (Fig. 2). The quantitative assessment is done based on the error indices (bias, correlation coefficient and root mean square error). The correlation coefficient (r) value for the  $H_s$  is 0.96 with a bias value of 0.17 m. For the shallow water location in the AS, the maximum  $H_s$  value is the same (4.4 m) for buoy-measured and ERA-I data. In contrast, in deep water, the ERA-I data underestimate the  $H_s$  for values more than 3.5 m in the AS and for values more than 2.5 m in the BoB (Fig. 2). For example, the average value of the buoy-measured  $H_s$  at 2 locations in the AS is 2.1 and 2.5 m, while the average value of the  $H_s$  from the ERA-I data for the same period is 1.9 and 2.6 m. In addition, the average value of buoy-measured  $H_s$  in the BoB is 1.5 m, whereas the  $H_s$  determined by ERA-I is 1.4 m. The difference between the mean value of the buoy-measured  $H_s$  and the ERA-I  $H_s$  is low (< 0.2 m in the AS and the BoB), whereas the difference between the maximum  $H_s$  value is high (~ 1.5 m in the AS and 0.6 m in the BoB).

The comparisons of ERA-I wave period data with the buoy-measured  $T_e$  show that the scatter is less with a good correlation coefficient (0.8-0.9) and bias values less than 0.3 s (Fig. 2). The difference in

the average  $T_e$  between the measured and the ERA-I data is negligible (< 0.3 s) and the difference in the maximum value of  $T_e$  is less than 1.6 s. The study shows that ERA-I  $H_s$  and  $T_e$  data can be used with confidence for studying the wave power potential in the AS and the BoB.

In some of the earlier studies since energy period  $(T_e)$ , values were not available. The same was estimated from the known peak wave period  $(T_p)$  using the expression  $T_e = 0.9*T_p$  [6, 12]. The comparison of  $T_p$  with  $T_e$  based on the measured data shows larger scatter for values of  $T_p$  more than 12 s (Fig. 3). The study shows that, for locations like the AS and the BoB where long period swells  $(T_p > 12 \text{ s})$  are present, estimating wave power using  $0.9*T_p$  as the energy period will lead to overestimation of  $T_e$  for values more than 10 s and underestimation of  $T_e$  for values less than 10 s. Kumar et al. [28] also found that the expression  $T_e = 0.9*T_p$  is not valid at four shallow water locations around India when  $T_p$  is more than 8 s.

# 2.3 Wave power estimation

Wave energy flux (i.e., wave power transmitted per unit width) for deep water locations is estimated using the expression:

$$P = \frac{\rho g^2}{64 \pi} H_s^2 T_e$$
 (3)

where P is the wave power per unit of crest length (kW/m),  $\rho$  is the density of seawater (kg/m<sup>3</sup>), g is the gravitational acceleration (m/s<sup>2</sup>), H<sub>s</sub> is the significant wave height (m) and T<sub>e</sub> is the energy period(s).

### 3. Results and discussion

# 3.1 Distribution of annual mean wave power in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal

The spatial distribution of the annual mean wave power in the AS and the BoB is presented in Figure 4. The annual mean wave power is the highest (15-20 kW/m) in the southern BoB. The annual mean wave power is relatively high (~12 kW/m) in the central AS and off the southern tip of India. The wave power off the southeast coast of India is the lowest (< 5 kW/m) due to the presence of Sri Lanka. The variability of the wave power in monthly, seasonal and annual scales needs to be known before selecting a location for a wave power plant since locations with steady wave power are more attractive than locations with large seasonal and annual variations. Hence, this study examines monthly, seasonal and annual wave power variations at 19 locations covering the western and eastern shelf seas of India. The results are presented in the next sections.

# 3.2 Monthly variations in wave power

The monthly mean wave power variation at 19 locations in the Indian shelf seas is presented in Figure 5. At all locations in the AS, the monthly mean wave power is highest during the month of July followed by the month of June. The standard deviation of monthly variation is the highest (~ 2 kW/m) at Locations 4-7, indicating larger variability at these locations compared to other locations. The highest monthly mean wave power occurs at Location 2 (39.3 kW/m in July) followed by Location 4 (38 kW/m). The global study by Arinaga and Cheung [23] reported a monthly median wave power of 72 kW/m in the Arabian Sea in July. The mean wave power during June-August is more than 20 kW/m at Locations 8-11 and more than 25 kW/m at Locations 1-7 (Fig. 5). At all locations in the western BoB, the monthly mean wave power is highest during June followed by July (Fig. 5). The monthly mean wave power in June varied from 3.7 kW/m (Location 12) to 18.8 kW/m (Location 18).

The monthly maximum wave power is highest during June at all locations in the AS except at Locations 10 and 11. At these locations, the monthly maximum wave power occurs during July (Fig. 6). Compared to other months, the spatial variation in the mean wave power during June is high (52 kW/m at Location 11 to 210 kW/m at Location 5). Locations 5 and 6 have the highest monthly maximum wave power (203-210 kW/m). From December to April, the mean monthly maximum wave power is less than 20 kW/m at all locations in the AS.

In the BoB, the monthly maximum wave power is highest during July at northerly locations (15-19) and is during December at southerly locations (12-14) (Fig. 6). Locations 17 and 18 have the highest monthly maximum wave power (130 kW/m) in the BoB (recorded in July).

A monthly variability index (MVI) is used to determine the monthly variability in wave power [35]. The MVI is estimated as the ratio of the difference between the maximum and minimum monthly mean wave power and the annual mean wave power. Small values of MVI indicate less variability in wave power. The results of this study indicate that the wave power variability is more at Locations 1-7 with MVI values more than 3 and that it is less ( $\sim 1.5$ ) at Locations 11-17 (Fig. 7a).

### 3.3 Seasonal variations in wave power

The waves in the Indian shelf seas show seasonal variations [24, 25] with high waves (> 1.5 m) during the SW monsoon period (June to September). October to January is the post-monsoon period while February to May is the pre-monsoon period. Hence, the seasonal variations in wave power are studied. The findings show that the highest seasonal mean wave power occurs during the SW monsoon at all of the locations except Location 12 (Fig. 8). At Location 12, the highest seasonal

mean wave power occurs during the pre-monsoon period. The wave power during the SW monsoon is 70-77% of the annual wave power at Locations 1-7. At the southern locations in the AS (8-11), the wave power during the SW monsoon is 55-71% of the annual wave power (Fig. 8). Kumar et al. [28] found that the mean wave power is high (15.5-19.3 kW/m) during the SW monsoon along the west coast of India. The present study shows that most of the wave power is available during the SW monsoon period when the availability of solar power is less due to cloud cover. Significantly, during the non-monsoon periods, when the wave power is less, the availability of solar power is high. Hence, it would be ideal to build a combined wave and solar power plant.

Glejin et al. [36] reported that the wave height increases from south to north along the central west coast of India during the SW monsoon period with the average significant wave height measuring 20% more at the northern location than the average significant wave height at the southern location. This difference is due to the increased swell height at the northern location. The present study indicates that the increase in the wave power from Locations 4-7 is only 9% during the SW monsoon period.

During the pre-monsoon period, the wave power is 12-22% of the annual wave power with higher values at the southern locations. The wave power during the post-monsoon period is 9-21% of the annual wave power, and thus, it is slightly less than the wave power during the pre-monsoon period. In the AS, during the pre-monsoon period, the wave power is also higher at the southern locations than at the northern location. The strong seasonality observed in the wave power is similar to the variations observed in significant wave height along the eastern AS [24, 25, 37]. At Locations 12-15, the lowest seasonal mean wave power occurs during the post-monsoon period, while at other locations, it occurs during the pre-monsoon period.

### 3.4 Annual variations in wave power

Even though the wave power during the SW monsoon is less at the southern location (Location 11), the annual mean wave power is highest (11.3 kW/m) at this location since the wave power during the pre- and post-monsoon periods is highest at this location (Fig. 8). The mean wave power potential for the southwest coast of India near Thiruvananthapuram is 13 kW/m [26]. The annual mean  $H_s$  and  $T_e$  are maximum (1.6 m and 8.5 s) at Location 11 compared to the other locations studied. Hence, the annual mean wave power is highest at this location. The lowest annual mean wave power along the western shelf seas is at Location 9 (7.9 kW/m). The mean wave power at Locations 2 and 3 during June to August is 29 kW/m and is close to the mean wave power ( $\approx$ 28 kW/m) off Muldwarka in the northern Arabian Sea, which was measured at a water depth of 10 m during June to August [34].

Table 2 shows the percentage of time during an annual cycle that wave power is available in a different range at all locations in the western shelf seas. The table shows that, at all of the locations, wave power between 5 and 10 kW/m is available 12% (Locations 3 and 5) to 38% (Location 11) in a year. Fifty percent of the time, the wave power is more than 8.8 kW/m at Location 11. At Locations 1-9, the wave power is more than 4 kW/m. The wave power is more than 10 kW/m during 25% (Location 8) to 43% (Location 11) of a year.

In the western BoB, the annual mean wave power increases from south to north with the lowest (2.6 kW/m) wave power recorded at the southern location and the highest (9.9 kW/m) at Location 18 (Fig. 8). At Location 19, the annual mean wave power is 8.1 kW/m. Most of the time (>80%), the wave power is less than 5 kW/m (Table 3) at 3 locations (Locations 12, 14 and 15). Fifty percent of the time, the wave power is more than 3 kW/m at Locations 13-15 and more than 6 kW/m at Locations 17-19. More than 25% of the time, the wave power ranges between 5-10 kW/m at Locations 16-19 and it is more than 10 kW/m for 28% of the time at Locations 17-19.

The mean annual wave power along the western BoB (2.6-9.9 kW/m) is lower than that available along the eastern BoB (7.9-11.3 kW/m). The annual mean wave power is highest (20-70 kW/m or higher) in the temperate zones (30-60° north and south latitude) where strong storms occur [38]. In the southern hemisphere, the maximum annual mean wave power is ~125 kW/m southwest of Australia near 48°S, 94°E. In the northern hemisphere, the annual mean wave power south of Iceland exceeds 80 kW/m around 56°N, 19°W [38]. The wave energy resource assessment for the Indian shelf seas is calculated by considering the length of coastline that corresponds to each location studied. The estimated total annual mean wave power available is around 19.5 GW (171 TWh/y) along the western shelf seas of India and around 8.7 GW (75.5 TWh/y) along the eastern shelf seas.

The ratio of the maximum wave height to the mean wave height is a rough measure for the feasibility of the energy project [38]. The maximum wave height determines the investment cost and the mean wave height (the annual mean wave power availability). The ratio of the maximum wave height to the mean wave height is more than 4.5 at Locations 5, 6 and 14 (Fig. 7b). The ratio of the maximum t wave height to the mean wave height is more than 3.5 at all locations except Location 11, where it is 2.2.

## 3.5 Inter-annual variations in wave power

Many studies indicate inter-annual variations in wave climate [39, 40]. Hence, inter-annual variations in wave power are studied to ensure stable wave energy. The study shows that, in the western shelf seas of India, the inter-annual variations in annual mean wave power are 12- 20% and

the higher variations occur at Locations 3-5 (Fig. 9). The annual mean wave power along the eastern AS show an increasing trend and vary from 0.016 kW/m/y (Location 8) to 0.053 kW/m/y (Location 3).

The inter-annual variations in wave power along the eastern shelf seas are 10-15% of the mean annual values at different locations (Fig. 10). The annual mean wave power along the western BoB show an increasing trend (0.002-0.034 kW/m/y) at all locations except Location 15, which shows a negligible decreasing trend (-0.002 kW/m/y).

### 4. Conclusions

This study used the 34-year (January 1, 1979 to December 31, 2012) ERA-I dataset produced by the ECMWF to examine the temporal and spatial variability of the wave power along the shelf seas of India. Along the western shelf seas of India, the mean wave power during June-August measures more than 20 kW/m. At all locations, the monthly mean wave power is highest during July followed by June. The trends of the annual mean wave power show an increasing trend (0.002-0.053 kW/m/y) at all locations except Location 15. The mean annual wave power along the western BoB (2.6 - 9.9 kW/m) is lower than the mean annual wave power available along the eastern AS (7.9 - 11.3 kW/m). The total annual mean wave power available along the western shelf seas of India is around 19.5 GW, and the total annual mean wave power available along the eastern shelf seas is around 8.7 GW. The monthly variability index indicates that the wave power variability is more at Locations 1-7 along the western shelf seas and less at Locations 11-17. The wave power is more than 10 kW/m during 43% of the time in a year at Location 11 and the mean wave power also is the highest [11.3 kW/m] at this location compared to the other locations studied in the Indian shelf seas. The relatively low value of the ratio of the maximum to mean wave height and the high annual mean wave power at Location 11 makes this location suitable for installation of a wave energy plant.

### Acknowledgments

Dr. S. W. A. Naqvi, Director, CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, provided encouragement to carry out the study. Shri P. R. Shanas, Research Scholar, NIO, assisted in the data analysis. The buoy data used for validation of the ERA-I data was provided by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (Ministry of Earth Sciences), Chennai. We thank the two anonymous reviewers for the constructive comments and suggestions that substantially improved the paper. This work is NIO contribution number \*\*\*\*\*.

### References

- [1] Clement P, McCullen A, Falcao A, Fiorentino F, Gardner Hammarlund K. Wave energy Europe: current status and perspectives. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 2002; 6-5: 405-431.
- [2] Neill SP, Hashemi MR. Wave power variability over the northwest European shelf seas, Applied Energy 2013; 106: 31–46.
- [3] Akpinar A, Komurcu MI. Assessment of wave energy resource of the Black sea based on 15-year numerical hindcast data. Applied Energy 2013; 101: 502–12.
- [4] Bernhoff H, Sjostedt E, Leijon M. Wave energy resources in sheltered sea areas: a case study of the Baltic Sea. Renewable Energy 2006; 31: 2164–70.
- [5] Stopa JE, Filipot JF, Li N, Cheung KF, Chen YL, Vega L. Wave energy resources along the Hawaiian Island chain, Renewable Energy 2013; 55; 305-321.
- [6] Kamranzad B, Etemad-shahidi A, Chegini V, Assessment of wave energy variation in the Persian Gulf, Ocean Engineering 2013; 70: 72–80.
- [7] Hughes MG, Heap AD. National-scale wave energy resource assessment for Australia. Renewable Energy 2010; 35:1783–91.
- [8] Dunnett D, Wallace JS. Electricity generation from wave power in Canada. Renewable Energy 2009; 34: 179-195.
- [9] Wilson J, Beyene A, California Wave Energy Resource Evaluation. Journal of Coastal Research 2007; 23(3): 679-690.
- [10] Iglesias G, Carballo R. Wave resource in El Hierro an island towards energy self-sufficiency. Renewable Energy 2011; 36: 689–98.
- [11] Zheng CW, Zhuang H, Li X, Li XQ. Wind energy and wave energy resources assessment in the East China Sea and South China Sea. Sci China Technol Sci 2012; 55:163–73.
- [12] Sierra JP, González-Marco D, Sospedra J, Gironella X, Mösso C, Sánchez-Arcilla A, Wave energy resource assessment in Lanzarote (Spain), Renewable Energy 2013; 55: 480-489.
- [13] Abbaspour M, Rahimi R. Iran atlas of offshore renewable energies. Renewable Energy, 2011; 36: 388–398.
- [14] ESBI Environmental Services, Accessible Wave Energy Resource Atlas: Ireland: Report No. 4D404A-R2 prepared for the Marine Institute / Sustainable Energy Ireland. 2005.
- [15] Wan Nik WB, Sulaiman OO, Rosliza R, Prawoto Y, Muzathik AM, Wave energy resource assessment and review of the technologies, International Journal of Energy and Environment 2011; 2(6): 1101-1112.
- [16] Rusu E, Guedes Soares C, Numerical modelling to estimate the spatial distribution of the wave energy in the Portuguese nearshore, Renewable Energy 2009; 34: 1501–1516.

- [17] Mota P, Pinto JP. Wave energy potential along the western Portuguese coast, Renewable Energy 2014; 71; 8–17.
- [18] Chiu FC, Huang WY, Tiao WC. The spatial and temporal characteristics of the wave energy resources around Taiwan, Renewable Energy 2013; 52; 218-221.
- [19] ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. (ABP), Atlas of UK Marine Renewable Energy Resources: Technical Report, Report No.R.1106 prepared for the UK Department of Trade and Industry. 2004.
- [20] Define Z, Haas KA, Fritz HM. Wave power potential along the Atlantic coast of the southeastern USA. Renewable Energy 2009; 34: 2197-205.
- [21] Lenee-Bluhm P, Paasch R, Özkan-Haller HT. Characterizing the wave energy resource of the US Pacific Northwest, Renewable Energy 2011; 36; 2106–2119.
- [22] Gunn K, Stock-Williams C. Quantifying the global wave power resource. Renewable Energy 2012; 44: 296–304.
- [23] Arinaga RA, Cheung KF. Atlas of global wave energy from 10 years of reanalysis and hindcast data. Renewable Energy 2012; 39; 49-64.
- [24] Glejin J, Kumar VS, Nair TMB, Singh J, Influence of winds on temporally varying short and long period gravity waves in the near shore regions of eastern Arabian Sea. Ocean Science 2013; 9: 3021–3047.
- [25] Sajiv PC, Kumar VS, Glejin J, Dora GU, Vinayaraj P, Interannual and seasonal variations in near shore wave characteristics off Honnavar, west coast of India. Current Science India 2012; 103: 286-292.
- [26] Ravindran M, Koola PM, Energy from sea waves the Indian wave energy programme, Current Science India 1991; 60(12): 676-677.
- [27] Mala K, Jayaraj J, Jayashankar V, Muruganandam TM, Santhakumar S, Ravindran M, Takao M, Setoguchi T, Toyota K, Nagata S, A twin unidirectional impulse turbine topology for OWC based wave energy plants Experimental validation and scaling, Renewable Energy 2011; 36: 307-314.
- [28] Kumar VS, Dubhashi KK, Nair TMB, Singh J, Wave power potential at few shallow water locations around Indian coast, Current Science India 2013; 104(9): 1219-1224.
- [29] Dee DP, Uppala SM, Simmons AJ, Berrisford P, Poli P, Kobayashi S, The ERA- interim reanalysis: configuration and performance of the data assimilation system. Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society 2011; 137: 553–597.
- [30] Simmons A, Uppala C, Dee D, Kobayashi S, ERA-Interim: New ECMWF reanalysis products from 1989 onwards. *ECMWF Newsletter* 2007; *No.* 110, 25-35.
- [31] Komen GJ, Cavaleri L, Doneland M, Hasselmann K, Hasselmann S, and Janssen PAEM. Dynamics and Modelling of Ocean Waves. Cambridge University Press 1994.
- [32] Stopa JE, Cheung KF, Intercomparison of wind and wave data from the ECMWF Reanalysis Interim and the NCEP Climate Forecast System Reanalysis. Ocean Modelling 2014; 75; 1-19.

- [33] Premkumar K, Ravichandran M, Kalsi SR, Sengupta D, Gadgil S, First results from a new observation system over the Indian Seas. Current Science India 2000; 78: 323-330.
- [34] Kumar VS, Singh J, Pednekar P, Gowthaman R, Waves in the nearshore waters of northern Arabian Sea during the summer monsoon. Ocean Engineering 2011; 38(2-3): 382-388.
- [35] Cornett AM. A global wave energy resource assessment. In: International offshore and polar engineering conference, Vancouver, Canada; 2008. p.318-326.
- [36] Glejin J, Kumar VS, Philip SC, Singh J, Pednekar P, Kumar KA, Dora GU, Gowthaman R, Variations in swells along eastern Arabian Sea during the summer monsoon, Open Journal of Marine Science 2012; 2: 43-50.
- [37] Kumar VS, Glejin J, Dora GU, Sajiv CP, Singh J, Pednekar P, Variations in nearshore waves along Karnataka, west coast of India. J. Earth System Science 2012; 121: 393-403.
- [38] Barstow S, Gunnar M, Mollison D, Cruz J, The wave energy resource. In: Ocean wave energy (Ed. Cruz J), Springer, Berlin 2008; 93-132.
- [39] Gulev SK, Grigorieva V, Last century changes in ocean wind wave height from global visual wave data. Geophysical Research letters 2004; 31; L24302, doi: 10.1029/2004GL021040.
- [40] Shanas PR, Kumar VS, Temporal variations in the wind and wave climate at a location in the eastern Arabian Sea based on ERA-Interim reanalysis data, Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences 2014; 14; 1371–1381, doi:10.5194/nhess-14-1371-2014.

Table 1. Details of buoy data used for comparison with ERA-Interim data

Buoy location	ERA-	Period	Instrument used	Data recording	Details of
	Interim		for wave		data analysis
	data		measurement		
16.953° N,	17.25° N,	May-December	Seatex buoy	17-min	National
71.047° E	71.25° E	2005	(Oceanor,	duration at 2-	Data Buoy
(Arabian Sea:			Norway)	Hz interval	Programme
location 1)					[33]
13.978° N,	14.25° N,	July 2004-May	<del>-</del>		
83.260°E (Bay of	83.25° E	2005			
Bengal)					
20.740° N,	20.50° N,	June-August	Directional	30-min	Kumar et al.
70.658° E	70.50° E	2009	waverider buoy	duration at	[34]
(Arabian Sea:			(Datawell,	1.28-Hz	
location 2)			Netherlands)	interval	

Table 2. Percentage of time the wave power available in different range for locations along the western shelf seas

Location	Position	Wave	Average H <sub>s</sub>	Average T <sub>e</sub>	Average	Frequency
		power (kW/m)	(m)	(s)	wave power (kW/m)	(%)
	22.50° N -	<5	0.83	6.83	2.43	57.65
	68.25° E -	5-10	1.39	7.34	6.95	14.04
	00.23 L	>10	2.34	8.53	24.16	28.32
2	21 009 NI -	<5	0.87	7.36	2.83	54.19
	21.00° N - 69.00° E -	5-10	1.32	8.09	6.85	16.13
	09.00 E -	>10	2.49	8.94	28.96	29.68
3	10.500 N	<5	0.87	6.99	2.64	61.23
	19.50° N -	5-10	1.34	7.73	6.82	12.34
	71.25° E -	>10	2.45	8.67	27.14	26.43
4	10.000 N	<5	0.91	7.37	3.05	54.89
	18.00° N - 72.00° E -	5-10	1.29	8.35	6.75	17.31
	/2.00° E =	>10	2.51	9.01	29.89	27.80
•	16.500 N	<5	0.86	7.45	2.73	60.91
	16.50° N = 72.75° E =	5-10	1.28	8.34	6.73	12.97
	/2./3 E -	>10	2.42	9.04	27.67	26.12
6 15.00 73.50	15,00031	<5	0.85	7.69	2.80	61.05
	15.00° N -	5-10	1.28	8.39	6.72	12.79
	/3.30° E -	>10	2.40	9.04	27.29	26.16
/	12 500 M	<5	0.89	7.91	3.08	55.64
	13.50° N - 73.50° E -	5-10	1.27	8.58	6.75	16.98
	/3.30° E -	>10	2.40	9.02	27.33	27.39
8	10 000 N	<5	0.85	8.02	2.89	59.80
	12.00° N = 74.25° E =	5-10	1.29	8.33	6.84	14.69
	74.23 E -	>10	2.22	8.79	22.43	25.51
()	10.500 N	<5	0.86	8.20	3.04	54.57
	10.50° N - 75.00° E -	5-10	1.29	8.55	6.95	19.47
	/3.00 E -	>10	2.07	8.73	18.98	25.96
10	00.000.31	<5	0.87	8.59	3.22	44.66
	09.00° N -	5-10	1.27	8.88	7.02	24.18
	75.75° E <i>-</i>	>10	2.07	9.00	19.72	31.16
	05.50037	<5	1.00	8.05	3.93	17.73
11	07.50° N -	5-10	1.33	8.29	7.14	38.64
	77.25° E <i>–</i>	>10	2.02	8.80	18.07	43.63

Table 3. Percentage of time the wave power available in different range for locations along the eastern shelf seas

Location	Location	Wave	Average	Average T <sub>e</sub>	Average	Frequency
		power (kW/m)	$H_{s}$ (m)	(s)	wave power (kW/m)	(%)
1 /	10.500 M	<5	0.83	5.87	2.10	90.14
	10.50° N — 81.00° E —	5-10	1.47	6.07	6.46	8.85
	81.00 E —	>10	2.01	6.80	13.76	1.01
13	12 000 N	<5	0.93	6.32	2.76	76.59
	12.00° N — 81.00° E —	5-10	1.44	6.50	6.60	20.76
	81.00 E —	>10	2.00	6.87	13.80	2.64
14	12 500 N	<5	0.92	6.42	2.73	82.69
	13.50° N — 81.00° E —	5-10	1.38	6.88	6.40	15.80
	61.00 E -	>10	2.00	7.31	14.94	1.4
15	15.00° N —	<5	0.90	6.46	2.66	81.5
	81.00° E —	5-10	1.41	6.73	6.53	16.5
	01.00 E	>10	2.07	6.95	15.28	1.9
16	16 500 N -	<5	0.90	7.52	3.07	49.5
	16.50° N — 83.00° E —	5-10	1.36	7.86	7.13	33.8
	65.00 E —	>10	1.91	8.05	14.70	16.6
117	18.84° N —	<5	0.91	7.88	3.24	38.1:
	85.00° E —	5-10	1.34	8.24	7.18	31.6
	03.00 L	>10	2.00	8.40	16.93	30.1
I X	19.50° N —	<5	0.87	8.37	3.16	33.9
	19.30 N 87.00° E —	5-10	1.32	8.66	7.26	29.50
	07.00 E	>10	2.02	8.84	18.23	36.5
19	21.00° N —	<5	0.81	8.72	2.85	42.8
	21.00° N — 88.50° E —	5-10	1.30	8.85	7.29	28.7
		>10	1.92	8.97	16.75	28.39

## **Figures captions**

- Figure 1 Map showing the locations considered in the study
- Figure 2. Scatter plot of buoy measured  $H_s$  with ERA-I  $H_s$  and buoy measured  $T_e$  with ERA-I  $T_e$  for 3 locations
- Figure 3. Scatter plot of the peak wave period and energy period based on measured data
- Figure 4. Distribution of annual mean wave power in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. The unit of wave power is kW/m.
- Figure 5. Annual cycle of monthly mean wave power along the eastern Arabian Sea (1 to 11) and western Bay of Bengal (12 to 19)
- Figure 6. Monthly maximum wave power at the locations studied. Locations 1 to 11 are along the eastern Arabian Sea and locations 12 to 19 are along the western Bay of Bengal
- Figure 7. Variation of (a) monthly variability index and (b) ratio of maximum to mean wave height
- Figure 8. Seasonal and annual mean wave power in the Indian shelf seas. Locations 1 to 11 are in the AS and locations 12 to 19 are in BoB
- Figure 9. Variation of yearly mean wave power along the eastern Arabian Sea
- Figure 10. Variation of yearly mean wave power along the western Bay of Bengal

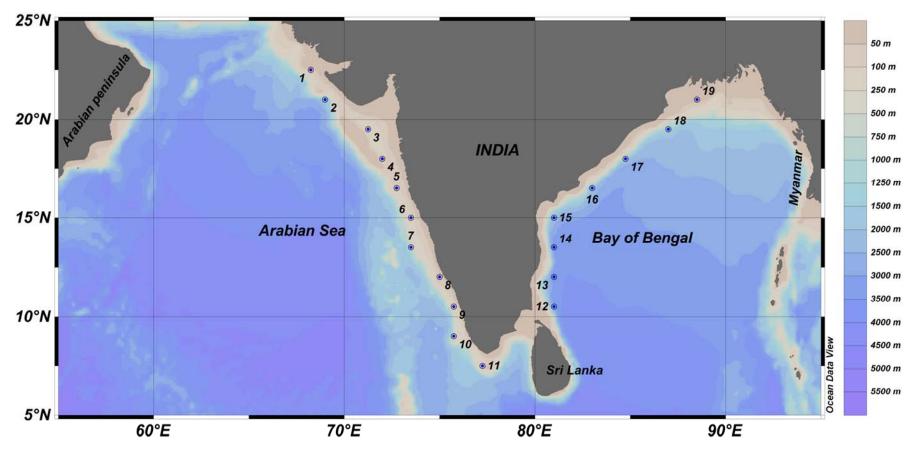


Figure 1 Map showing the locations considered in the study

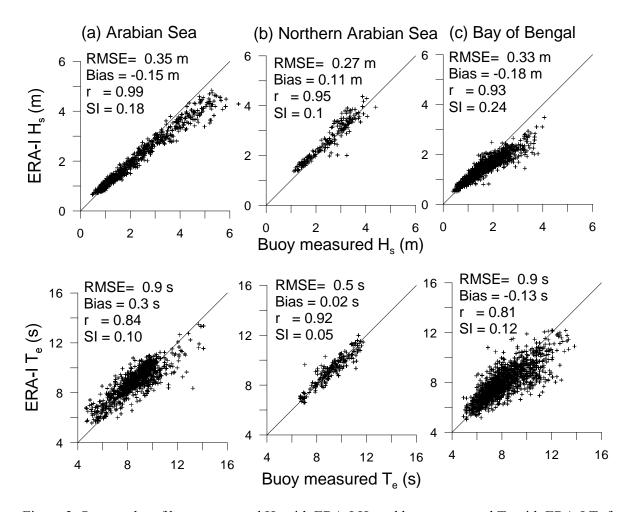


Figure 2. Scatter plot of buoy measured  $H_s$  with ERA-I  $H_s$  and buoy measured  $T_e$  with ERA-I  $T_e$  for 3 locations

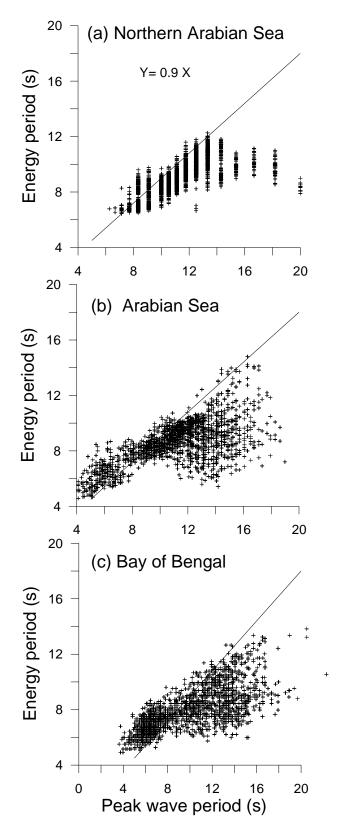


Figure 3. Scatter plot of the peak wave period and energy period based on measured data

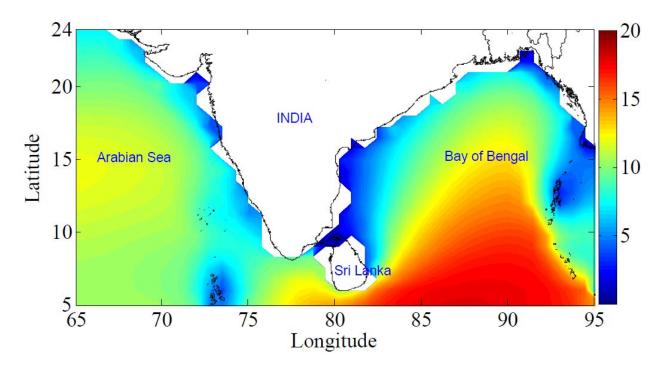


Figure 4. Distribution of annual mean wave power in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. The unit of wave power is kW/m.

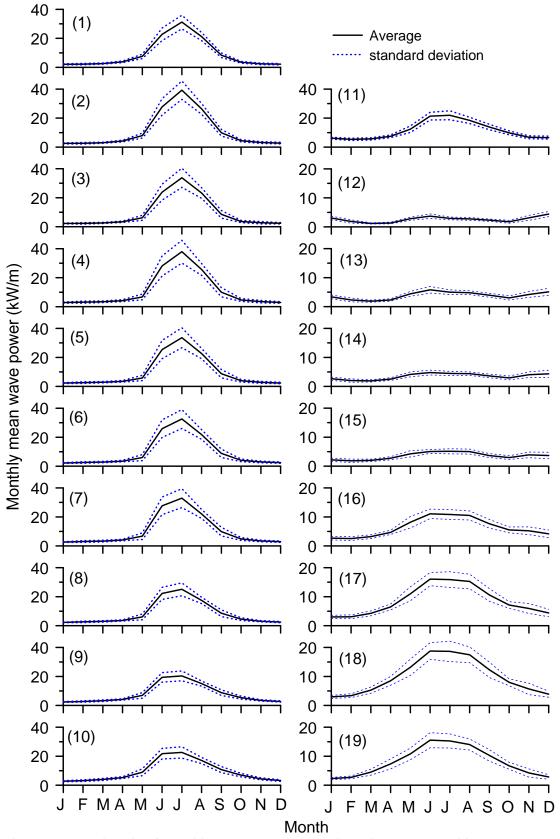


Figure 5. Annual cycle of monthly mean wave power along the eastern Arabian Sea (1 to 11) and western Bay of Bengal (12 to 19)

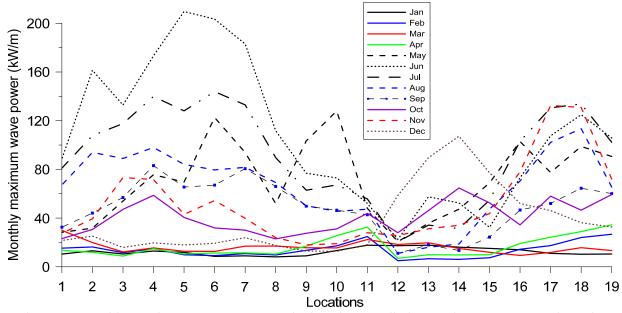


Figure 6. Monthly maximum wave power at the locations studied. Locations 1 to 11 are along the eastern Arabian Sea and locations 12 to 19 are along the western Bay of Bengal

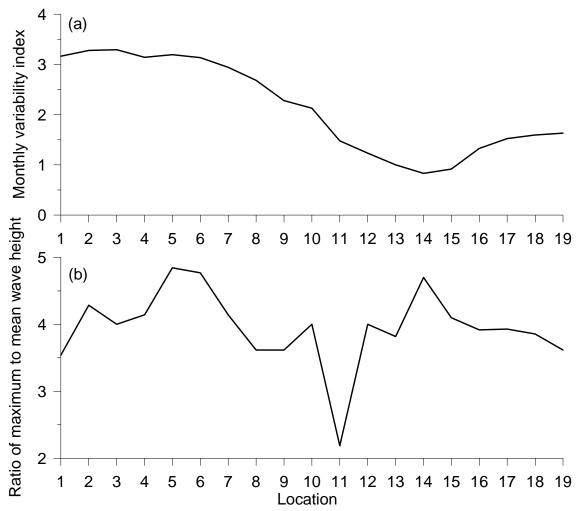


Figure 7. Variation of (a) monthly variability index and (b) ratio of maximum to mean wave height

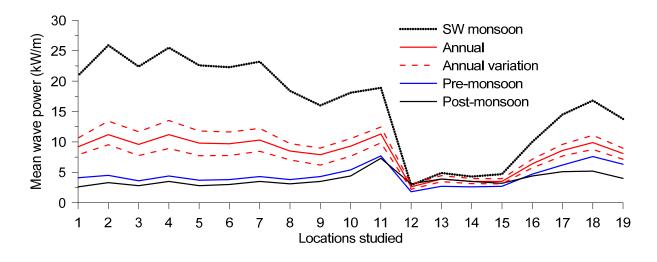


Figure 8. Seasonal and annual mean wave power in the Indian shelf seas. Locations 1 to 11 are in the AS and locations 12 to 19 are in BoB

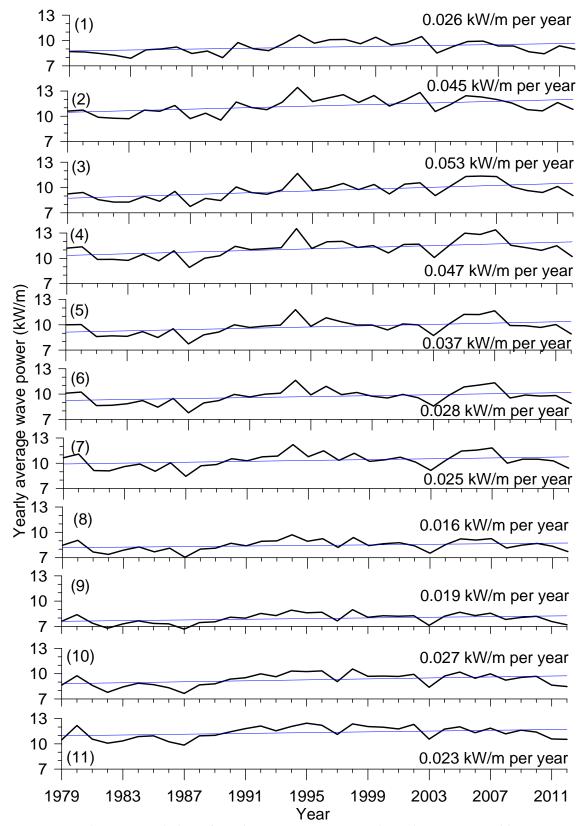


Figure 9. Variation of yearly mean wave power along the eastern Arabian Sea

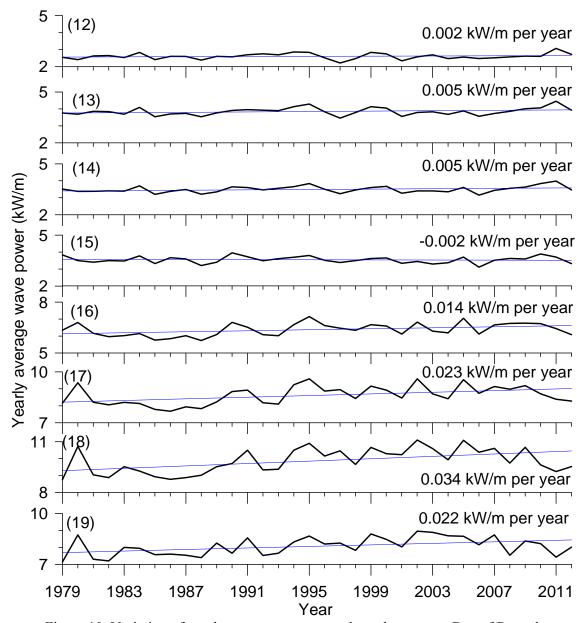


Figure 10. Variation of yearly mean wave power along the western Bay of Bengal