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Classification systems for wave energy resources and WEC technologies

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Motivation



Resource classification

- Reduce time and costs for siting, scoping studies and project planning
- Technology classification
 - Reduce design and manufacturing costs

Wind Resource Classification



Wind Turbine Classification

Wind turbine class		I	Ш	ш	S	
V_{ref}	(m/s)	50	42.5	37.5	Values	
А	I _{ref} (-)	0.16		designer		
В	I _{ref} (-)		0.14			
С	I _{ref} (-)		0.12			

TC88 Design document, 61400-1 Ed. 3, © IEC:2005

Resource classification: Wave power density

- Omni-directional power density opportunity for wave energy extraction
 - $J = \frac{\rho g}{16} H_s^2 C_g(T_e, h) \qquad [KW/m]$
- Annual available energy (AAE) density



$$AAE = J(8766h/year)$$
 [KW-h/m]



Resource classification: Data source



Source : NOAA's 30-year WWIII hindcast (Chawla et al., 2013) Third generation, spectral wave model providing wave hindcasts (4min resolution ≈ 7km)

- **Data :** 1. Complete directional wave spectra $S(f,\theta)$ at limited grid points
 - 2. Bulk and partition wave parameters (H_s , T_p , θ_m , at each grid point)







Partition - 70,386 locations

Resource classification: Partitioned J





Resource Classification: Class delineation





Sample : Hawaii, 22.7N 160.5W

Resource Classification: matrix



		Power Class							
		0, <i>J</i> < 1.1	1, 1.1 < <i>J</i> < 5.7	2, 5.7 < J < 22.8	3, 22.8 <i>< J</i>				
Period Band Class	1, $0 < T_p < 7$	0(1)	1(1)	2(1)	3(1)				
	2, 7 < <i>T</i> _p <10	0(2)	1(2)	2(2)	3(2)				
	3, 10 < <i>T</i> _p <14	0(3)	1(3)	2(3)	3(3)				
	4, 14 < <i>T</i> _p	0(4)	1(4)	2(4)	3(4)				

Four power classes

- 0 small (P<10 KW), homes, farms, remote
- 1 intermediate (10 500 KW), village, hybrid systems, distributed
- 2, 3 intermediate to large (P>500 KW), commercial, utility scale

Four period band classes

- (1) Local wind sea, period ($0 < T_p < 7$)
- (2-4) Swell, period = (2) short (7 < T_p <10), (3) moderate (10 < T_p <14), (4) long (14 < T_p)

Resource Classification: Regional trends





Geographic distribution of wave power classes:

 Class 0 (AAE<10 MWh/m)</th>
 Class 1 (10<AAE<50 MWh/m)</th>
 Class 2 (50<AAE<200 MWh/m)</th>
 Class 3 (200<AAE MWh/m)</th>

 Class 0 (J<1.14 KWh/m)</td>
 Class 1 (1.14<J<5.7 KWh/m)</td>
 Class 2 (5.7<J<22.8 KWh/m)</td>
 Class 3 (22.8<J KWh/m)</td>

Technology Classification: Feasible?

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- Energy capture/cost: Evaluate distribution of optimal designs within each resource class
- Extreme loads: Evaluate the distribution of extreme
 WEC load responses within each region



Technology Classification: Design optimization



44

42

Latitude

38

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10

Technology Classification: Design optimization





Technology Classification: WEC load response





 Inter-regional variation of extreme loads (surge-excitation, r = 100-years) 2.7-4.3 MN

Coe et al. 2016. WDRT: A toolbox for design-response analysis of wave energy converters WEC design response toolbox (WDRT), METS 2016.

Conclusions

- Resource classification
 - Distinct regional trends in wave energy characteristics (deep and intermediate depths only)
- Technology classification
 - Energy/cost optimization indicates standard design classes suitable for broad regional wave climates
 - Extreme load response study for only 3 sites, but shows large interregion variation
 - Limited to point absorber

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THANK YOU

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EXTRA SLIDES

Resource classification: Regional trends

West CoastClass 3(3)High power densityMost energy btw. $10 < T_p < 14$ Moderate period swell (band 3)Directionally focused

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East Coast

Class 2(2) Moderate power density Most energy btw. $7 < T_p < 10$ Short period swell (band 2) Directionally spread

Gulf CoastClass 1(1)Low power densityMost energy btw. $0 < T_p < 7$ Local wind sea (band 1)Directionally spread

Resource: Class delineation

Resource: Regional trends

Geographic distribution of relative risk classes: low ($R \le 5$), medium (5 < R < 8), high ($8 \le R$).

Technology: Methods, load response

Survival response, surge excitation force on float

- Selected 3 buoy sites West Coast for inter-region comparison
- Full sea state approach select 200 sea states to represent design load cases (DLC) for analysis
- WEC-Sim predicts WEC load response
- Generate extreme survival response functions

Coe et al. 2016. WDRT: A toolbox for design-response analysis of wave energy converters WEC design response toolbox (WDRT), METS 2016.

Technology: Results, load response

Non-dimensionalized loads

$$F^* = \frac{F}{\rho g A_c \eta_r}$$

- ρ is the water density
- *g* is the constant of gravity
- *A_c* is the characteristic projected area of the device
- η_r is the r-yr return period value of the wave elevation

Next steps

- Resource classification
 - Extend to shallow sites (New DOE high-resolution hindcasts completed in 2019)
 - Review by industry (Marine Energy Council, US TAG: IEC, project steering committee)
- Technology classification
 - Extend the extreme load response study to thirty sites used in optimization study
 - Extend to other WEC archetypes