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CHARACTERIZATION OF WAVE ENERGY RESOURCE AND WAVE LOAD CONDITIONS AT ATLANTIC MARINE ENERGY CENTER WAVE ENERGY CONVERTER TEST SITES

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MOTIVATION



- Open-ocean test sites enable the testing and demonstration of wave energy converters (WECs) and aid in advancement to commercialization
- Met-ocean data, complete with key IEC resource parameters, is needed for open-ocean WEC test sites
- Wave energy resource characterization provides essential data for WEC design, test planning, installation, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning
- Consistent modeling, data analysis, and presentation procedures are necessary for commensurable comparison between test sites

INTRODUCTION

- International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) provides standards for marine energy systems
 - IEC 62600-101: Marine Energy – Wave, Tidal and Other Water Current Converters – Part 101: Wave Energy Resource Assessment and Characterization
 - Methodology for consistent and accurate resource characterization and commensurable comparison among various sites
 - Three resource assessment stages
 - Suitable numerical models + model validation procedures
 - Data analysis and presentation procedures
 - IEC 62600-2: Marine Energy – Wave, Tidal and Other Water Current Converters – Part 2: Design Requirements for Marine Energy Systems
 - Requires estimation of 1-, 5-, and 50-year extreme wave heights and associated wave periods

Reconnaissance

>300 km
5 km
3 hr

Feasibility

20-500 km
500 m
3 hr

Design

<25 km
50 m
1 hr



Decreasing Uncertainty

STUDY OBJECTIVE



- Estimate and catalogue the wave climate at open-ocean WEC test sites following international standards for analysis, characterization, and classification to enable commensurable comparison between test sites
 - Facilitates the selection of test sites that are most suitable for a developer's needs and objectives

METHODS & DATA



- Utilized validated, high-resolution 42-year hindcast data produced from a third-generation spectral wave model [Allahdadi et al. 2019, Yang et al. 2023]
 - Feasibility-level wave energy resource characterization
- IEC 62600-101 specifies six key parameters for characterizing the wave energy resource
 - J : Omnidirectional wave power
 - H_{m0} : Significant wave height
 - T_e : Energy period
 - ϵ_0 : Spectral width
 - θ_J : Direction of maximum directionally resolved wave power
 - d_θ : Directionality coefficient
- IEC 62600-101 specifies how wave energy resource data should be presented
 - E.g., Joint probability distribution plot showing frequency of occurrence of sea states

ATLANTIC MARINE ENERGY CENTER WEC TEST SITES



- AMEC Isle of Shoals WEC Test Site
 - Approximately 36 acres in size
 - Previously facilitated open-ocean WEC testing for 10+ years
- AMEC Aquaculture & WEC Test Site
 - Approximately 130 acres consisting of two connected parcels

Latitude	Longitude	Depth [m]
42.9422	-70.632	47.1
42.9643	-70.703	33.1
42.9547	-70.715	33.2

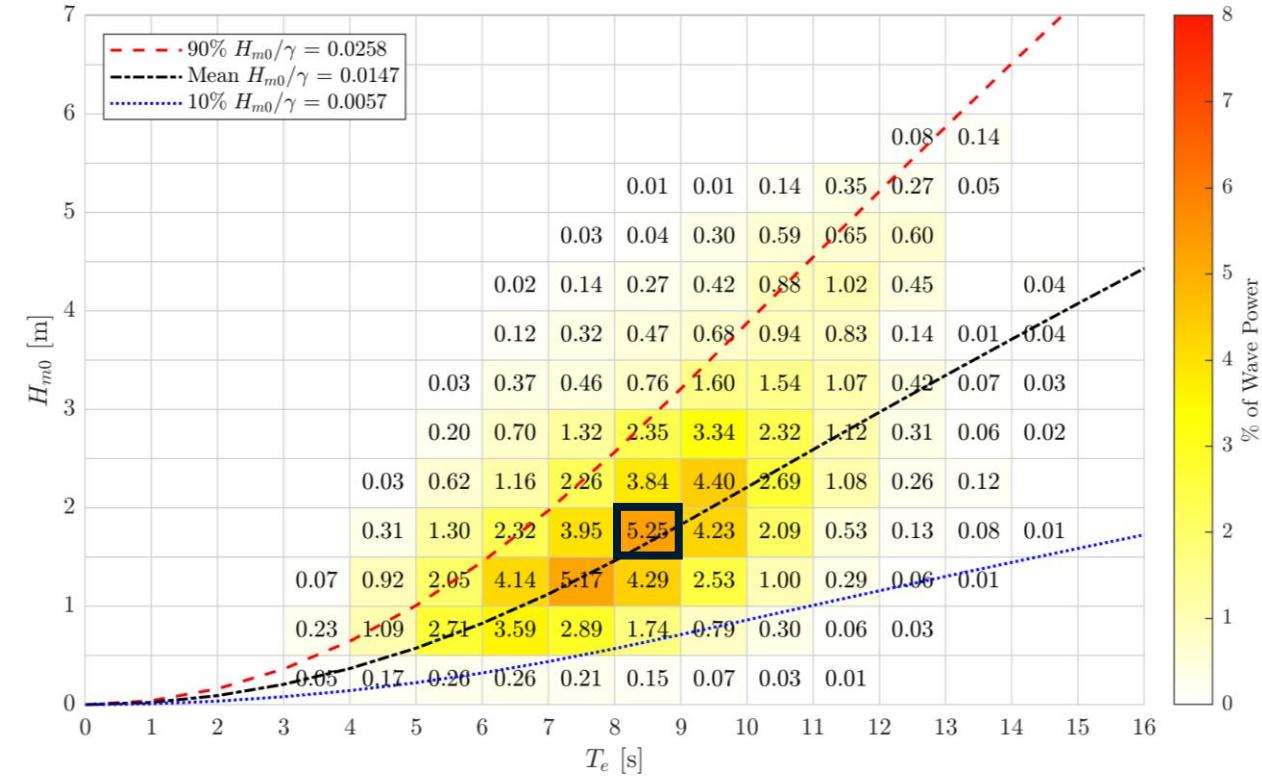
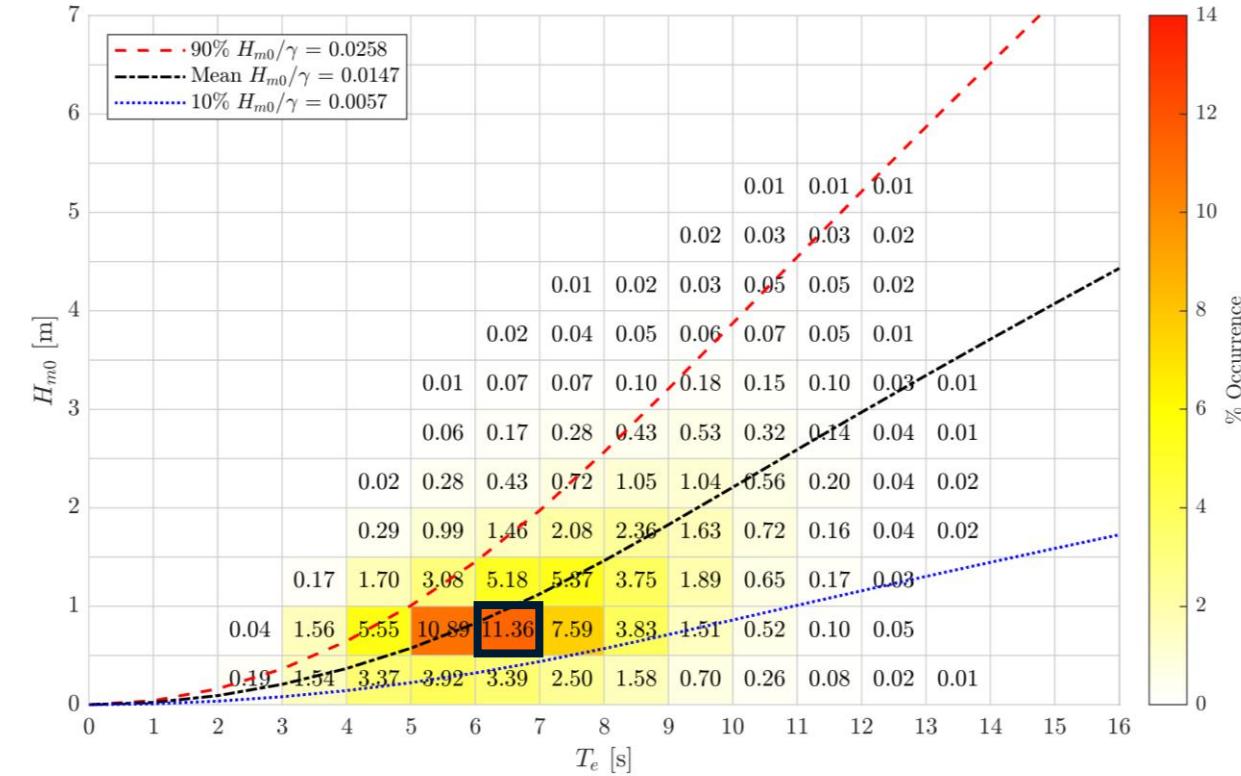
AMEC Isle of Shoals WEC Test Site

AMEC Aquaculture & WEC Test Site NE Marker

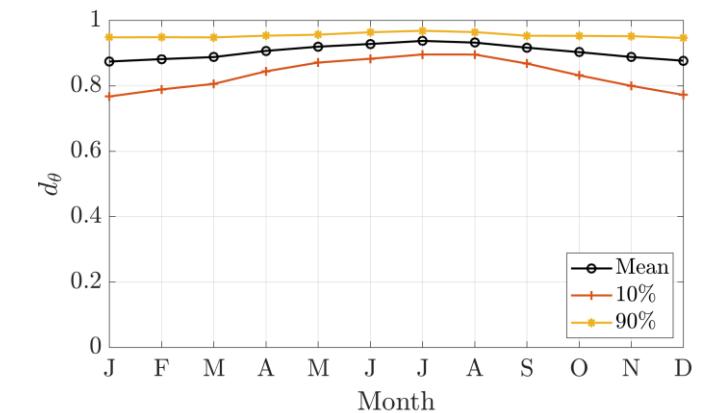
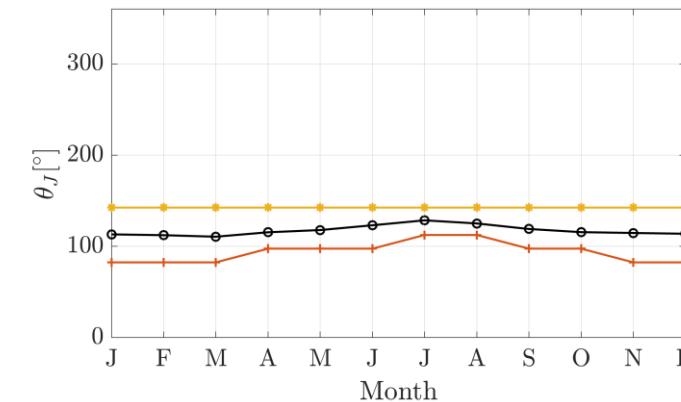
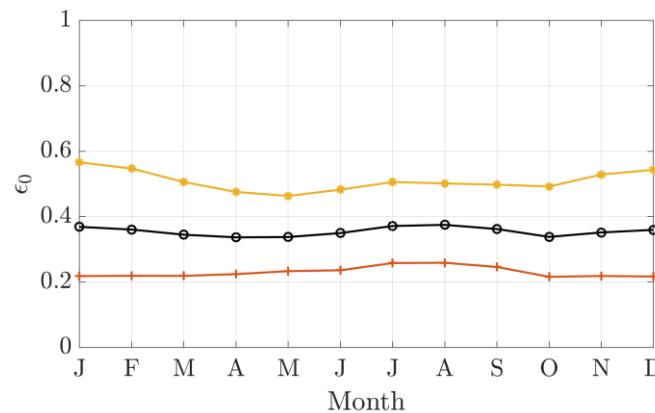
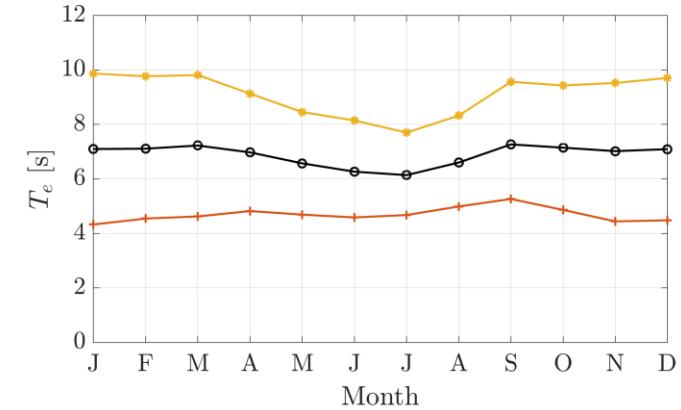
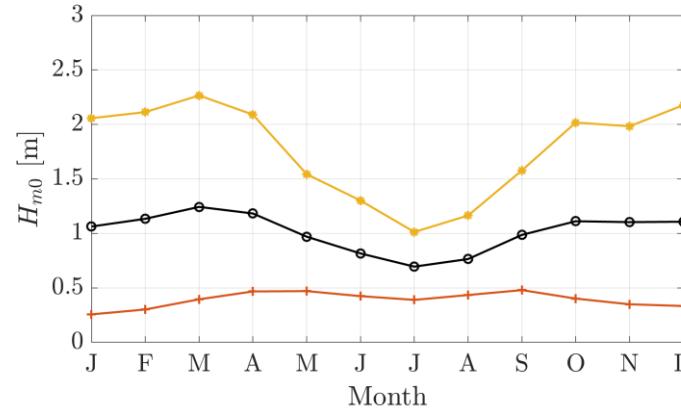
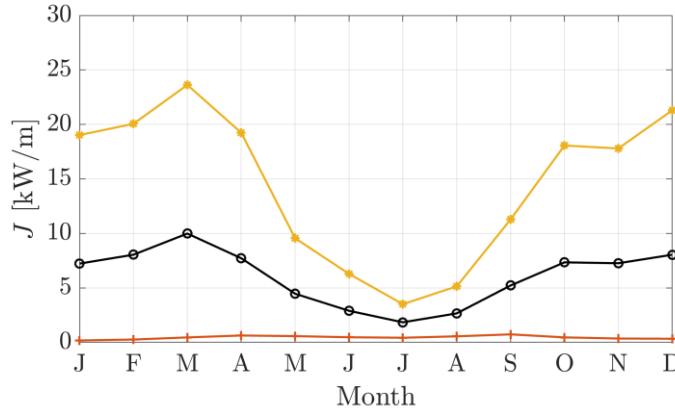
AMEC Aquaculture & WEC Test Site SW Marker



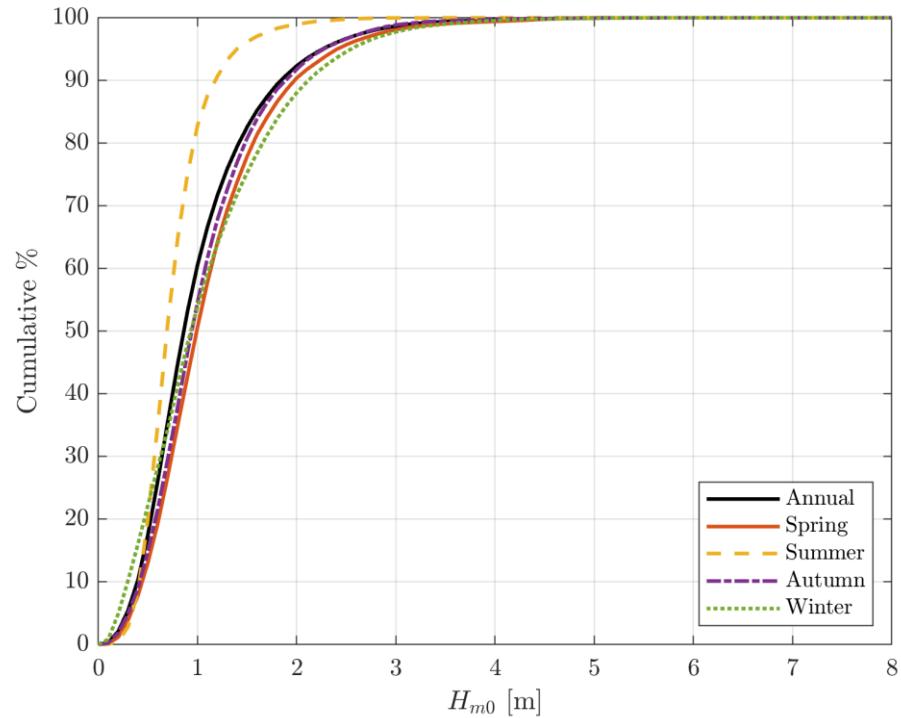
RESULTS | JOINT PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS



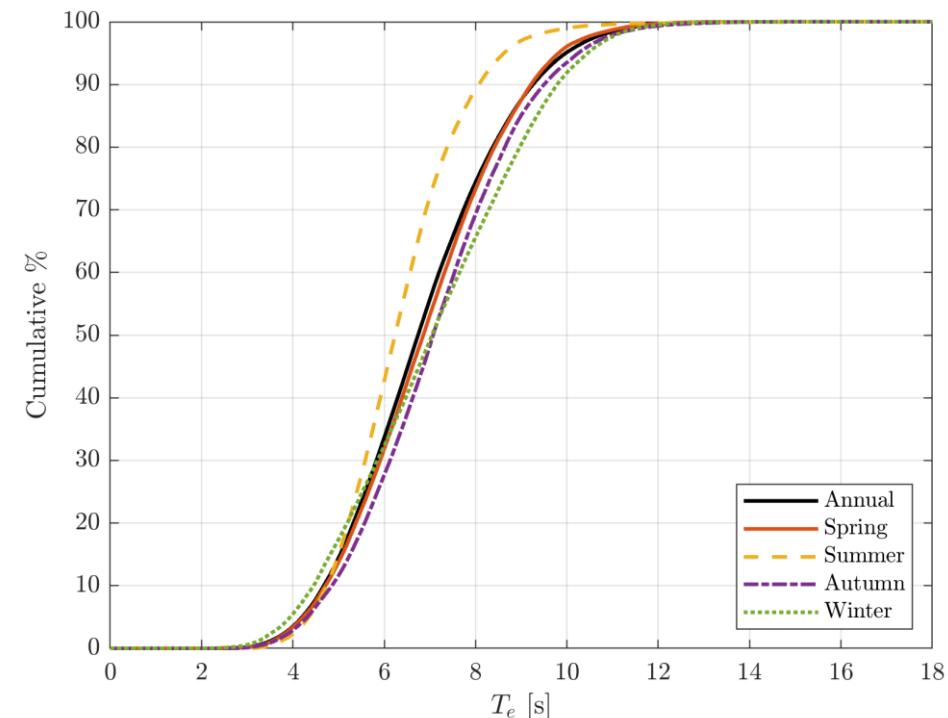
RESULTS | MONTHLY VARIATION OF IEC PARAMETERS



RESULTS | SEASONAL CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTIONS

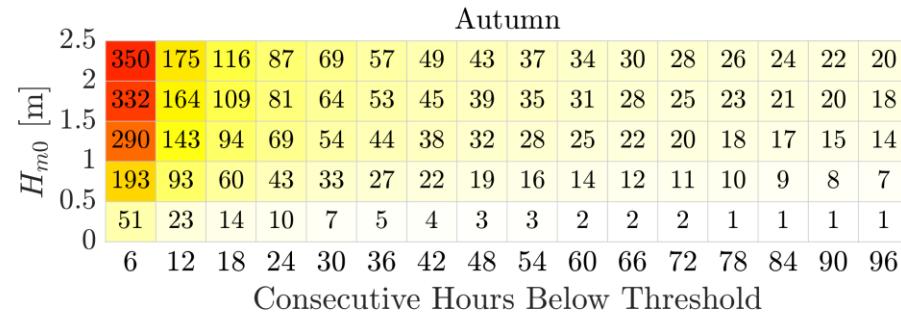
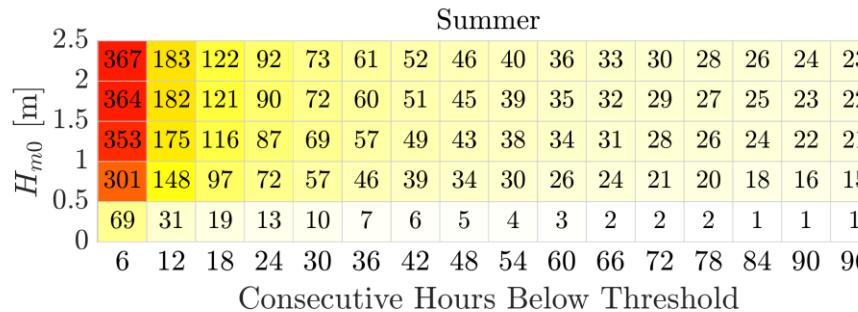
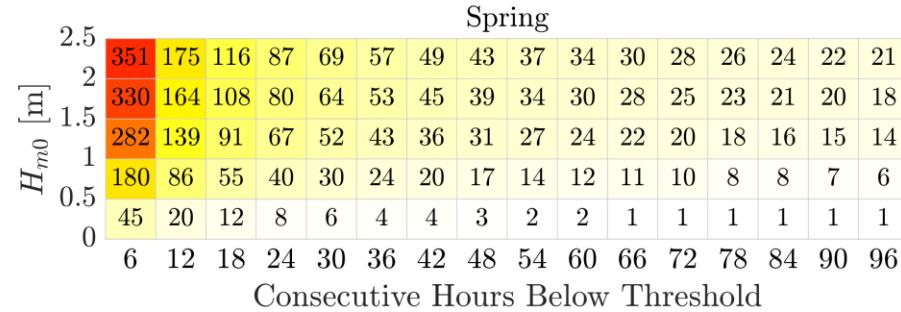
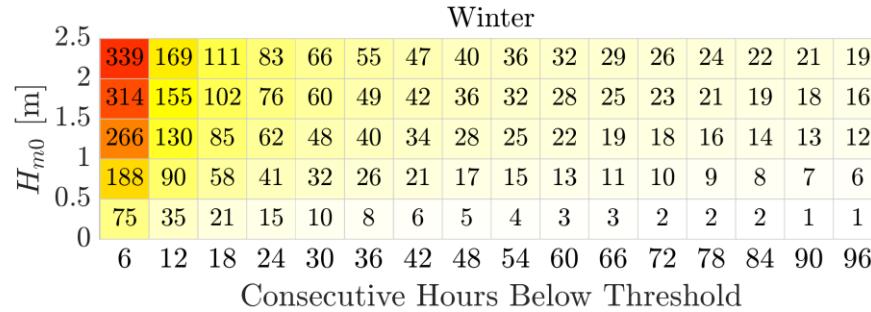


	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
$H_{m0} = 1.5$	78 %	96 %	81 %	75 %
$H_{m0} = 2.0$	90 %	99 %	92 %	88 %



	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
$T_e = 8$	73 %	89 %	69 %	66 %
$T_e = 9$	88 %	97 %	85 %	80 %

RESULTS | WEATHER WINDOWS



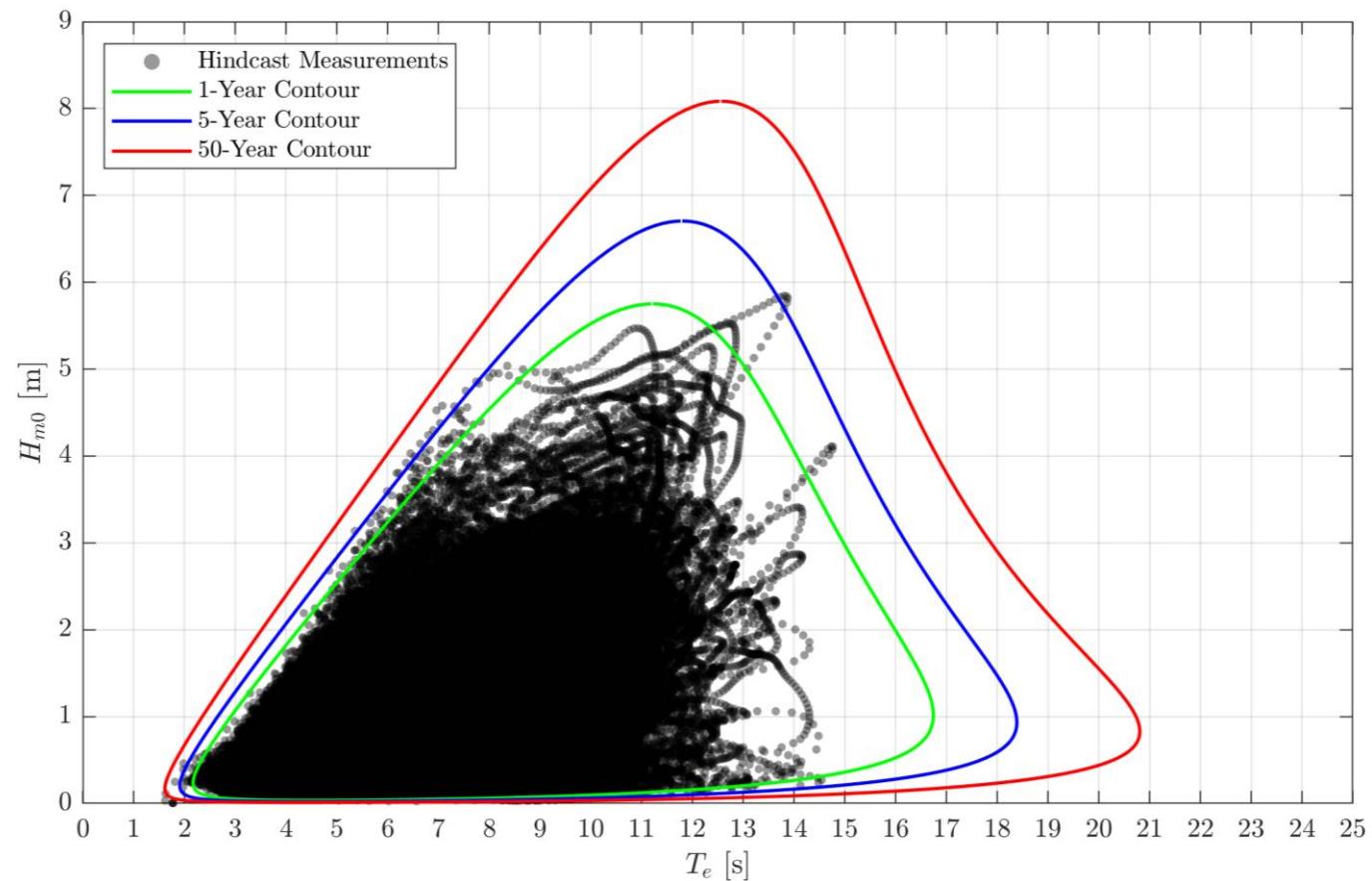
RESULTS | ENVIRONMENTAL CONTOURS



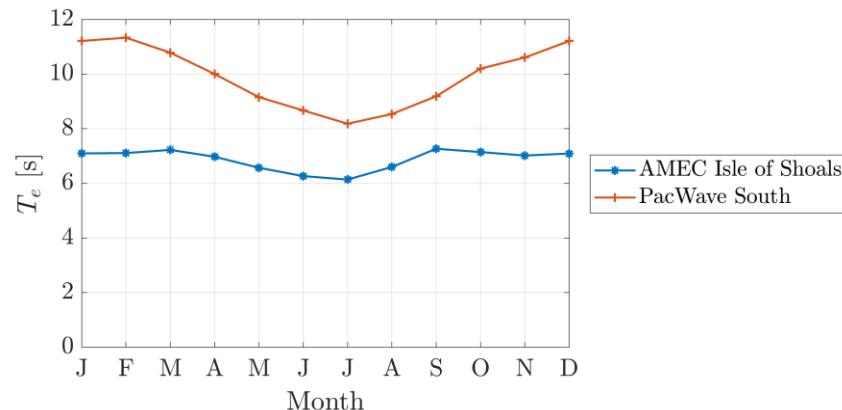
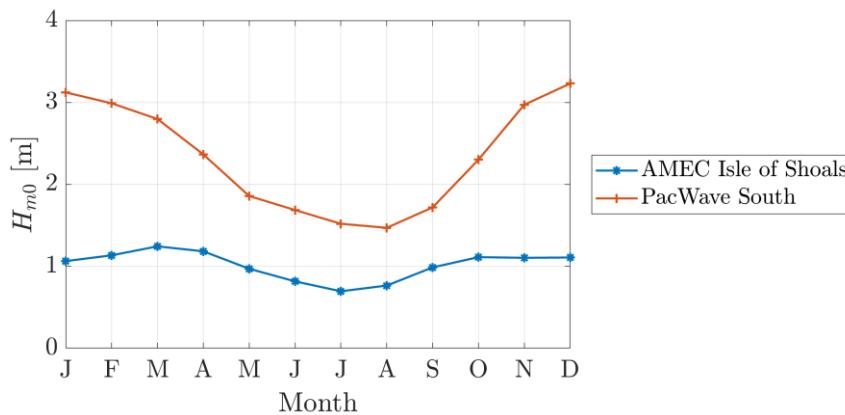
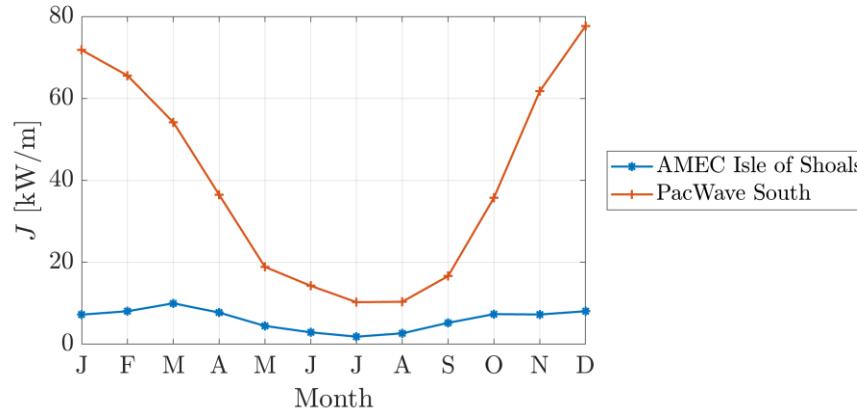
- Extreme conditions for 1-, 5-, and 50-year return periods
- Utilized OMAE 2020 method
[Haselsteiner et al. 2020, Neary et al. 2021]

H_{m0} [m]	T_e [s]
4.0	6.0
6.0	8.5
8.1	12.6
6.0	15.3
4.0	16.8

*50-year contour values



RESULTS | COMPARISON TO PACWAVE SOUTH WEC TEST SITE



AMEC Isle of Shoals

PacWave South

H_{m0} [m]	T_e [s]	\bar{J} [kW/m]
1.5 – 2.0	8 - 9	13.5
3.0 – 3.5	10 - 11	59.5

*Sea state contributing greatest % of wave power

1-Year		5-Year		50-Year	
H_{m0} [m]	T_e [s]	H_{m0} [m]	T_e [s]	H_{m0} [m]	T_e [s]
5.8	11.2	6.7	11.8	8.1	12.6
9.5	13.5	10.8	14.0	12.6	14.6

*Sea state corresponding to peak H_{m0} value for n-year return period

TP	FP	FDP
III	III(2)	III(2)120°
I	II(4)	II(4)280°

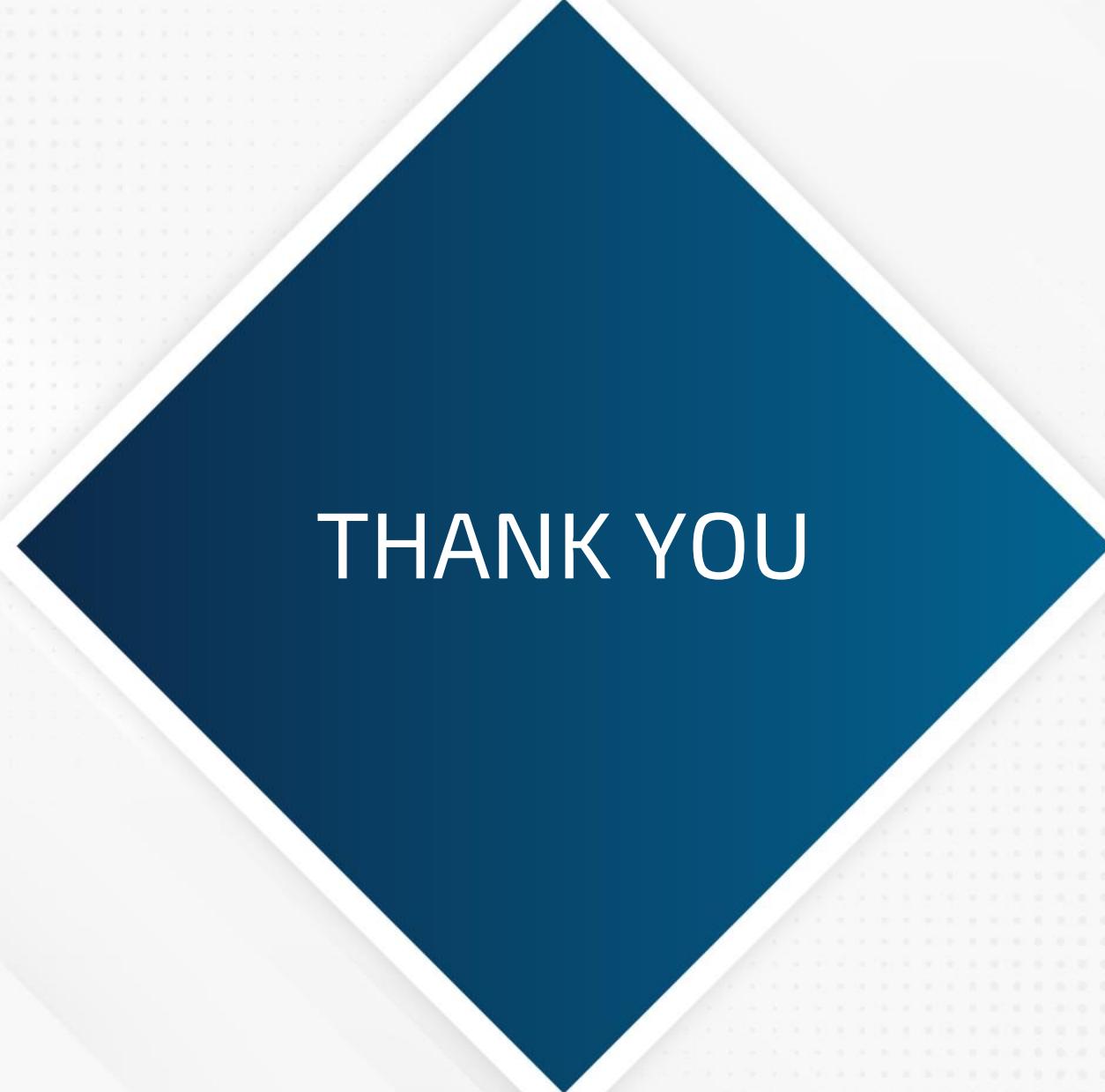
*Wave resource classification [Ahn et al. 2022]



CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK



- Estimated and catalogued the wave climate at the AMEC open-ocean WEC test sites following international standards for analysis, characterization, and classification to enable commensurable comparison between test sites
- Presented preliminary commensurable comparison between AMEC and PacWave sites for several key IEC parameters
- Future work will expand this estimation and cataloging to additional US WEC test sites



THANK YOU

REFERENCES



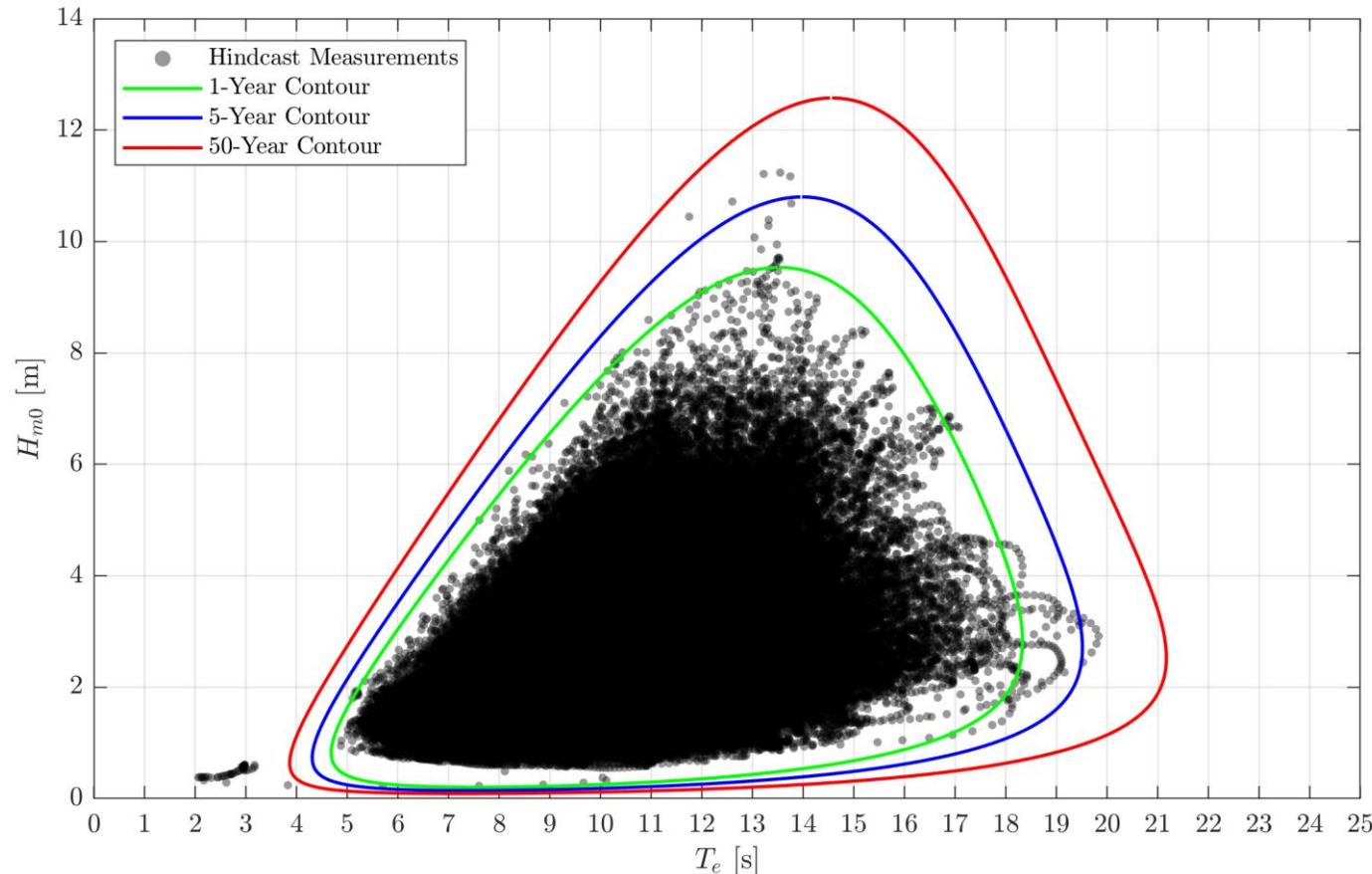
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APPENDIX | IEC PARAMETER EQUATIONS



- Omnidirectional wave power: $J = \rho g \sum_{i,j} c_{g,i} S_{ij} \Delta f_i \Delta \theta_j$
- Significant wave height: $H_{m0} = 4\sqrt{m_0}$
 - $m_n = \sum_i f_i^n (\sum_j S_{ij} \Delta \theta_j) \Delta f_i$
- Energy period: $T_e = \frac{m_{-1}}{m_0}$
- Spectral width: $\epsilon_0 = \sqrt{\frac{m_0 m_{-2}}{m_{-1}^2} - 1}$
- Direction of maximum directionally resolved wave power: θ_J , value corresponding to maximum value of J_θ, J_{θ_J}
 - $J_\theta = \rho g \sum_{i,j} c_{g,i} S_{ij} \Delta f_i \Delta \theta_j \cos(\theta - \theta_j) \delta$
 - $\delta = 1, \cos(\theta - \theta_j) \geq 0$
 - $\delta = 0, \cos(\theta - \theta_j) < 0$
- Directionality coefficient: $d_\theta = \frac{J_{\theta_J}}{J}$

APPENDIX | PACWAVE SOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL CONTOURS



Latitude	Longitude	Depth [m]
44.5670	-124.229	67.7