Spatial structure of directional wave spectra in hurricanes.



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Set the basis to be used to asses the ability of numerical models to simulate the wave field in hurricanes.

Characterize the structure of the directional spectrum in the hurricane domain.

•Finding the sites of generation of the dominant waves.





METHODOLOGY

NDBC directional buoy database in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico.

✤Directional Spectra was:

Estimated from the Fourier moment using the Maximum Entropy Method (Ardhuin algorithm, Lygre and Krogstad, 1986)

 Respect to the center of the hurricane using the track, the propagation direction and the Radius of maximum winds



• HRD (Hurricane Researcg Division) wind map database





SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

- Findings are consistent with those found using remote sensing data (e.g. Scanning Radar Altimeter data, Wright et al. 2001).
 - ✤Highest waves are in the right forward quadrant of the hurricane.
 - *©Where the spectral shape tends to become uni-modal.*
 - ✤More complex spectral shapes are observed in the rear quadrants of the spectra.

Where a tendency of the spectra is to become bi-modal and tri-modal.





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Partitioning (following Portilla et al.2009)



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SWELL "SOURCE"

Deep water dispersion relationship

 $\omega^2 = gk$ $\omega = Angular frequency$ k = Wavenumber

Wave energy travels at the Group Velocity

$$C_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = \frac{g}{2\omega} = \frac{distance}{time}$$



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22-Oct-2005 01:30

30 min

50

45

40

35

³⁰ [s/u]

20

300



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Hs of all Hurricanes (fixed data)







Thanks



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