

## No. 34 Standard Wave Data

(1992)  
(Rev.1  
June 2000)  
(Corr.1  
Nov 2001)  
(Rev.2  
Dec 2022  
Complete  
Revision)

1. This recommendation is intended for sea-going ships of length 90 m and greater operating in unrestricted service, excluding vessels that operate at a fixed location focusing on design wave loads for both strength and fatigue assessments.
2. The scatter diagram given in Table 1 describes the wave data of the North Atlantic as defined in Figure 1.
3. It is recommended to use a design lifetime of 25 years for strength and fatigue assessments.
4. The extreme design wave loads for the strength assessment are evaluated at a return period of 25 years.
5. The design wave loads at the probability level of  $10^{-2}$  are selected for the fatigue assessment as the reference value to derive their long-term prediction distribution.

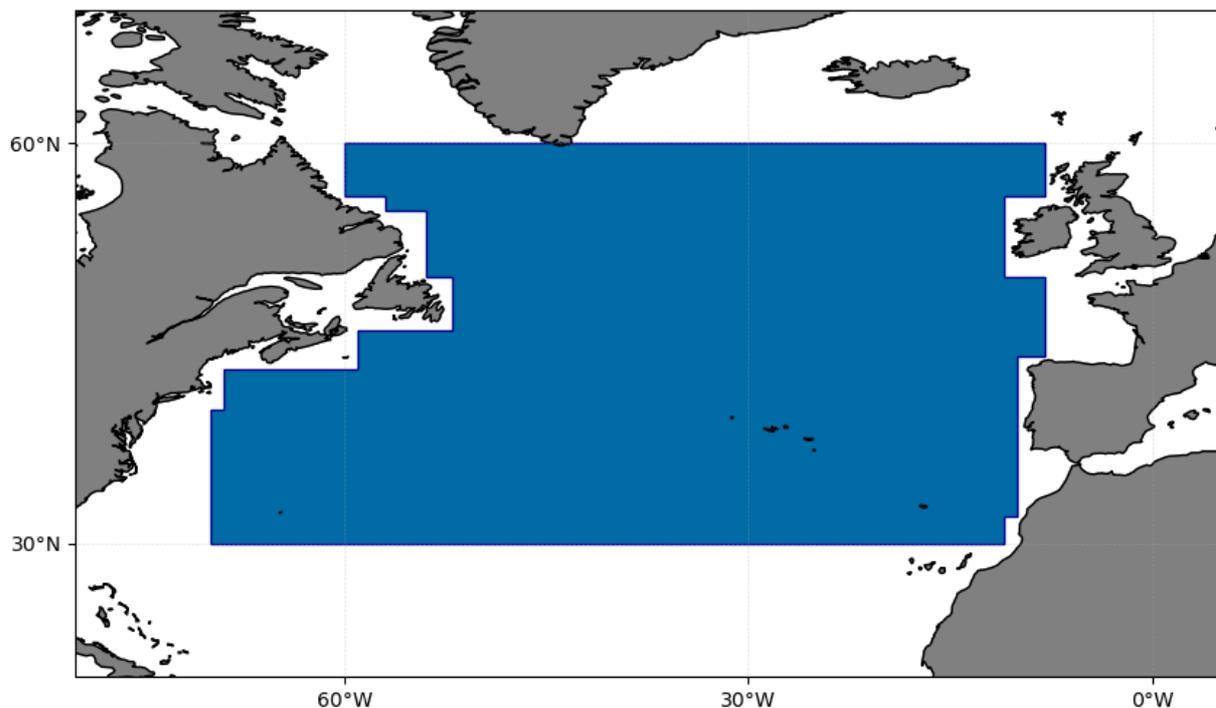


Figure 1: Definition of the extent of the North Atlantic

Table 1: Probability of sea-states in the North Atlantic described as occurrence per 100,000 observations.

		Mean wave period, $T_{0m1}$ (s)															Sum	
		4.5	5.5	6.5	7.5	8.5	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.5	13.5	14.5	15.5	16.5	17.5	18.5	19.5	
Significant wave height, $H_s$ (m)	0.5	6.82	202.00	333.61	187.76	45.59	4.74	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	780.73
	1.5	0.33	2028.35	12750.82	11693.39	7215.76	3006.80	846.07	160.77	20.63	1.79	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37724.81
	2.5	0.00	3.38	2805.81	8517.74	7835.85	5885.37	3608.30	1805.81	737.71	246.00	66.96	14.88	2.70	0.40	0.05	0.00	31530.96
	3.5	0.00	0.00	23.06	2742.51	4666.81	4100.83	2936.41	1713.38	814.68	315.65	99.66	25.64	5.38	0.92	0.13	0.01	17445.07
	4.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.06	1759.81	2069.19	1715.42	1151.29	625.51	275.12	97.96	28.24	6.59	1.24	0.19	0.02	7812.64
	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	149.74	811.81	791.81	609.66	375.67	185.26	73.12	23.09	5.84	1.18	0.19	0.02	3027.47
	6.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.02	147.59	305.37	271.71	190.23	104.79	45.42	15.49	4.16	0.88	0.15	0.02	1086.83
	7.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.77	88.62	107.20	86.26	53.35	25.36	9.27	2.60	0.56	0.09	0.01	378.09
	8.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	9.40	38.70	36.80	25.95	13.63	5.33	1.55	0.34	0.05	0.01	131.78
	9.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.34	15.15	12.51	7.39	3.12	0.94	0.20	0.03	0.00	48.88
	10.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.81	5.73	5.96	4.08	1.90	0.60	0.13	0.02	0.00	19.23
	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.29	2.68	2.23	1.18	0.40	0.08	0.01	0.00	7.89
	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	1.01	1.14	0.72	0.27	0.06	0.01	0.00	3.32
	13.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.51	0.42	0.18	0.04	0.00	0.00	1.37
	14.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.19	0.21	0.12	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.57
	15.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.22
	16.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.08
	17.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.04
	18.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02
Sum	7.15	2233.73	15913.30	23223.54	21674.58	16031.12	10301.81	5868.69	2909.77	1230.31	437.79	129.62	31.47	6.11	0.92	0.09	100000.00	

The  $H_s$  and  $T_{0m1}$  values are class midpoints.  $T_{0m1} = 2\pi \frac{m_{-1}}{m_0}$ , where  $m_n$  is the spectral moment of order n.

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6. JONSWAP wave spectrum with  $\gamma=1.5$  is recommended for the North Atlantic, described by the following expression:

$$S(\omega) = \alpha S_{PM}(\omega) \gamma^{\exp\left[\frac{(\omega/\omega_p-1)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]}$$

Where:

$S_{PM}(\omega)$  is the Bretschneider or two-parameter Pierson-Moskowitz spectrum, expressed as follows:

$$S_{PM}(\omega) = \frac{5}{16} H_s^2 \left(\frac{2\pi}{T_p}\right)^4 \omega^{-5} \exp\left[-\frac{5}{4} \left(\frac{2\pi}{T_p}\right)^4 \omega^{-4}\right]$$

$\gamma$  is the non-dimensional peak shape parameter, taken as 1.5

$\alpha$  is the normalizing factor, may be taken as  $\frac{1}{5} \left(\frac{1}{0.1160+0.0594\sqrt{\gamma}+0.0246\gamma}\right)$

$H_s$  is the significant wave height [m]

$\omega$  is the angular wave frequency [rad/s]

$\omega_p$  is the peak angular frequency [rad/s]

$T_p$  is the peak wave period (s)

$$\sigma = \begin{cases} 0.07 & \text{for } \frac{\omega}{\omega_p} \leq 1 \\ 0.09 & \text{for } \frac{\omega}{\omega_p} > 1 \end{cases}$$

The relationship between the mean wave period,  $T_{0m1}$  in the scatter diagram in Table 1 and the peak wave period  $T_p$  can be evaluated by the following equation:

$$T_{0m1} = (0.7757 + 0.0965\sqrt{\gamma} - 0.0144\gamma)T_p$$

7. It is recommended to use a wave directional spreading, defined as follows:

$$S_w(\omega, \theta) = S(\omega) * G(\theta)$$

Where:

$G(\theta)$  is the spreading function, given by the following equation:

$$G(\theta) = k \cos^n(\theta - \theta_0), -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq (\theta - \theta_0) \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$\theta_0$  is the mean wave direction

$\theta$  is the wave direction at which the spectrum is evaluated

$n$  is the cosine spreading power, recommended value is 3

$k$  is the normalisation factor, expressed as follows:

$$k = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right)}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)}$$

$\Gamma$  is the Gamma function.  $k = \frac{3}{4}$  for  $n = 3$

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8. For evaluation of the design wave loads for strength assessment, it is recommended to use a speed of 5 knots. It is noted that it may be necessary to apply a higher speed when evaluating roll related responses for vessels with very low metacentric height and operating without reduced speed in stern quartering seas. Furthermore, 75% of the design speed is recommended for evaluation of design wave loads for fatigue assessment.

9. In long-term predictions, all wave headings (0-360 deg) can be assumed to have an equal probability of occurrence and at most 30 deg spacing between headings should be applied.

**References**

1. Technical Background for IACS Recommendation 34 (Rev.2 Dec 2022).
2. Technical Background Rule Reference for IACS Common Structural Rules for Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers (01 Jan 2020).

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