

Indian Ocean Dipole modulated wave climate of eastern Arabian Sea

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Indian Ocean Dipole modulated wave climate of eastern Arabian Sea

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lution between the eastern and western tropical IO (Saji et al., 2003) and the regions of positive anomaly (during positive IOD (PIOD)) continuously vary with year (Vinayachandran et al., 2009). The PIOD event is associated with decreases (increases) of SST and increases (decreases) of sea level pressure over the eastern (western) tropical IO. The negative phase of the IOD is the intensification of the normal condition (Vinayachandran et al., 2009). The Dipole Mode Index (DMI) is the quantitative representation of strength of IOD and is a measure of the anomalous zonal SST gradient across the equatorial IO. It is defined as the difference between SST anomaly in a western (60–80° E, 10° S–10° N) and an eastern (90–110° E, 10–0° S) box. Seasonal phase locking is the important characteristic of the DMI time series, thus a significant anomaly may appear in June and peak in October. It is moderately correlated with nino3 (ENSO) index, but it is strongly correlated with equatorial winds over the IO (Saji et al., 1999). Monthly DMI are available in the website of Japan Agency of Marine-Earth Science and Technology (www.jamstec.go.jp).

The tropical IO displays strong inter-annual climate variability associated with the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and IOD (Murtugudde et al., 2000; Slingo and Annamalai, 2000). Baquero-Bernal et al. (2002) found that IOD shows good correlation with ENSO in the equatorial Pacific Ocean. However, the correlation between the strength of ENSO and IOD is not linear (Shimoda and Han, 2005). IOD co-occurring with ENSO are forced by a zonal wind shift in the descending branch of Walker circulation in the eastern IO, but the processes that initiate IOD in the absence of ENSO are not clear (Vinayachandran et al., 2009).

The annual cycle of the surface wind field over the IO is dominated by the alteration between boreal summer and winter monsoon seasons. Strong westerly in the equatorial IO is limited during short transition period between the monsoons. The equatorial zonal wind reaches maximum around April–May and October–November (Hastenrath and Polzin, 2004). The impact of IOD on the wind pattern in the equatorial IO is examined in the following studies. SST and SLP (sea level pressure) variation produced by IOD cause easterly zonal wind anomaly especially in its zonal component in equatorial

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IO (Reverdin, 1985; Murtugudde et al., 2000; Saji et al., 1999; Webster et al., 1999; Sreenivas et al., 2012). The IOD forced wind anomalies are maximum in the central equatorial IO (Sreenivas et al., 2012) and the significant anomalies appear around June, intensify in the following months and peak in October. The anomalous easterlies weaken the eastward Wyrтки jets (Wyrтки, 1971) in the equatorial IO (Reverdin, 1985). The wind anomaly produced during IOD has longer duration, but the wind anomaly with ENSO present has shorter duration (Rao et al., 2002).

The wave climate of eastern AS shows large response to seasons due to the alteration of surface winds between boreal summer and winter monsoon seasons (Glejin et al., 2013a; Kumar et al., 2014). Apart from seasons, other locally and remotely generated waves also influence the wave climate of this region (Neetu et al., 2006; Aboobacker et al., 2011; Glejin et al., 2013a, b; Anoop et al., 2014). Even though the influence of IOD on the wind pattern of IO is reported (Saji et al., 1999), the role of this event on the wind generated wave climate of IO is not yet studied. Glejin et al. (2013c) pointed out the possibility of influence of IOD on the wave climate of southeast coast of India, but further analysis on this topic in this region has not been carried out. Most of the studies in the past have focused on the influence of IOD on the wind pattern of equatorial IO.

In this paper, we examine the impact of IOD on the surface wind field of Arabian Sea and its impact on the wave climate of eastern Arabian Sea. Figure 1a shows the study area. The data sets used in this study and the details of the numerical models are described in Sect. 2. Section 3 describes results and discussion, and the main findings are summarized in Sect. 4.

2 Data and methods

The major challenge for the wave climate study in eastern AS is the scarcity of long-term observational data. Here, in the present study we used the available measured data using Datawell directional waverider buoy off Ratnagiri (available from 2010 to

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2014) and off Honnavar (available from 2008 to 2014) off central west coast of India. Among these, Ratnagiri is the northern and Honnavar is the southern location and these locations are spaced at ~ 350 km apart. The details of the data analysis are similar to that presented in Kumar et al. (2014). The spectral climatology of the study area is presented by Kumar and Anjali (2015).

Due to scarcity of sufficient measured data, we used reanalysis product of ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) (i) ERA-40 (Uppalla et al., 2005) for the period 1958–1978 and (ii) ERA-Interim (Dee et al., 2011) for the period 1979–2014 for deriving the wind climatology. Spatial resolution of ERA-40 is $1.5^\circ \times 1.5^\circ$ and ERA-Interim is $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$. ERA-Interim is the improved version of ERA-40 and it shows marked improvement for wind and wave data from ERA-40 (Dee et al., 2011). Performance of ERA-Interim was evaluated over tropical and north IO and showed good performance with observation for wind and wave (Kumar et al., 2013; Shanas and Kumar, 2014; Kumar and Naseef, 2015). For SST data we used the daily averaged Tropflux SST with $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ resolution from 1979 to 2014 (Kumar et al., 2012).

In order to simulate the directional wave spectrum at the buoy location, we have used the coupled system which includes the third-generation spectral wave models WAVEWATCH III (WW3) 4.18 and Simulating Waves Nearshore (SWAN) 41.01. WW3 is the wave model developed by NOAA/NCEP (Tolman, 1991, 2009) and is based on finite difference solving of the energy balance equation of the spectral wave action in the approximation of phase averaging. The coastal wave model SWAN is a third-generation, phase averaged numerical wave model for the simulation of waves in waters of deep, intermediate and finite depth (Booij et al., 1999). The physical parameterization of model physics of WW3 is described in several works (e.g. Tolman, 1991, 2009) and that for SWAN by Booij et al. (1999), Ris et al. (1999) and Bunney (2011). We have implemented a coarser resolution WW3 model with a resolution of $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$ in latitude and longitude covering the entire domain in the IO ($20\text{--}78^\circ$ E and 70° S $\text{--}35^\circ$ N) and a SWAN model with relatively finer grid of 1 min in the NIO ($70\text{--}75^\circ$ E and $10\text{--}20^\circ$ N). We used high-resolution bathymetry from the 1 min gridded elevations/bathymetry for

the world (ETOPO1) database (Amante and Eakins, 2009) available from the National Geophysical Data Centre (NGDC, United States).

Wave frequencies were discretized over 25 bins from 0.04 to 1 Hz on a logarithmic scale; direction was binned into 36 intervals of 10° each. The coarser model WW3 runs were done using physical processes contained in source term package-2 (ST2) (Tolman and Chalikov, 1996) and the two dimensional energy density spectra of time series obtained from it are used as the boundary conditions for the higher-resolution near shore wave model SWAN. WW3 terms included depth induced breaking (Hasselmann et al., 1973) and bottom friction. The wind growth and white capping (Komen et al., 1984), quadruplet and triad interaction processes were activated. The wave model is driven by the 10 m surface wind fields from ERA-Interim at every 6 h interval.

Comparison of the significant wave height (SWH) estimated in deep water with WW3 used measured wave data collected using a moored Seatex buoy (Oceanor, Norway) under the National Data Buoy Programme (Premkumar et al., 2000) at AS2 location in the AS (15.00° N; 69.00° E; water depth ~ 3000 m) during October–December 2009. The heave data of the buoy is recorded at 2 Hz for 17 min duration and from the recorded heave data, the wave spectrum is obtained through fast Fourier Transform and the SWH is estimated from the zeroth spectral moment (m_0) as $SWH = 4\sqrt{m_0}$. For quantitative comparison between measured and model output, several error statistics have been determined; Pearson's linear correlation coefficient r , root-mean-square (RMS) error, bias, and scatter index (SI).

Comparison of the hindcast SWH with the measured SWH at the deep water location shows that the hindcast values are mostly within 15 % of the measured SWH (Fig. 2). The RMS error indicates that the major errors in the hindcast SWH do not exceed 0.19 m and the model underestimates the SWH values. The scatter index indicates low dispersion of the data.

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3 Results and discussion

The months of October and November are the calm period for the AS (Glejin et al., 2013a), and during this time the DMI reaches its maximum value. For this particular period we examined the role of DMI on the wave climate of eastern AS and observed that during October surface waves in this region show response to DMI. We selected six locations (Fig. 1a) along the eastern AS which are at more than 100 km away from the coast of India (Table 1). The time series of SWH and mean wave period (MWP) with DMI from 1979 to 2013 are shown in Fig. 3a. Correlation and partial correlation of the wave parameters with DMI and SOI (southern oscillation index) are shown in Table 1 and it shows that SWH is negatively related and MWP is positively related to DMI. The influence of IOD increases towards south, but after removing ENSO (SOI) the correlation values in all locations decreases and maximum correlation is observed in the central AS (location L4). This implies that if influences of ENSO are removed, then IOD have more impact on the central eastern AS. Impact of ENSO with and without IOD is checked here and identified that without IOD, the impact of ENSO is significant only in the southern part of eastern AS. From this it is certain that in the eastern AS region IOD has more impact than ENSO and its effect is dominant off the central west coast of India. The anomaly in the SWH varies between -0.2 and 0.4 m and that for MWP from -2 to 1 s. Maximum SWH and MWP anomaly is observed during 1997, which is the strongest IOD year for the study period.

The composite climatology (using ERA-40 and ERA-I) of October wind pattern (from 1958 to 2014) of AS and a part of equatorial IO is shown in Fig. 1b. The eastern AS region shows comparatively strong wind compared to the western AS. The wind from the northern AS passes parallel to the Indian west coast to eastern equatorial IO after merging with equatorial westerly, while over the central AS the wind vectors are from northerly direction and again shift its direction at south to north-westerly before merging with the westerly equatorial winds and north-westerly component of wind blowing parallel to the Indian coast. This pattern of wind is due to the low pressure in the east-

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ern equatorial IO due to the warm water in this region compared to western equatorial IO (Vinayachandran et al., 2009).

Pure positive IOD and combined events are considered following Aparna et al. (2012). A pure IOD event is that which occurred in the absence of an ENSO event (Rao et al., 2002). A positive (negative) IOD event that co-occurred with an El Niño (La Nina) is a combined IOD event. A pure ENSO event is defined similarly. The combined events are strong only if both El Niño and positive IOD events are strong. Figure 1c and d is the wind pattern during pure positive and combined IOD events respectively and these figures illustrate the wind pattern in the eastern AS, the north-westerly wind vectors being modified to north-easterly as observed from its climatology. Instead of going to eastern equatorial IO it blows to western IO. This can be perceived as more strong in combined event of PIOD with comparatively weak wind vectors along the southwest of India. During the NIOD events (Fig. 1e and f) wind blows over the central and eastern AS as north-westerly which is in contrast to the wind pattern during PIOD. This modification in the wind pattern over the central AS to either westward or eastward direction from its general climatology pattern during the PIOD or NIOD events is due to the IOD induced temperature variability in the equatorial IO.

Measured frequency-directional spectra of surface waves from the two locations off the central west coast of India are shown in Fig. 4. The wind pattern of corresponding years is shown in Fig. 4a and year wise SST anomaly in west, east and DMI index for October is shown in Fig. 3a and b. For the years 2008–2014, it can be seen that maximum positive DMI index is observed during 2011 (Fig. 3a). During this year the wind in eastern AS has shifted its direction as north-easterly. Its influence is clearly visible in the frequency-directional spectrum of waves at Ratnagiri and Honnavar, as the decrease in short period waves from northwest (NW) direction. This difference in higher energy at Ratnagiri than Honnavar is clearly evident from Fig. 4b and c and is caused by the alteration of wind direction to NE before reaching Honnavar. So the dissipation of NW waves and weak wind at Honnavar region causes decrease in the

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SST anomaly which brings a weakening of wind field over the central and south of central west coast of India. Whereas, during NIOD events wind vectors turn to north-westerly instead of northerly winds in the composite climatology over the region during October. This PIOD change in direction of wind pattern in AS causes the decrease in wave height off central and south of central west coast of India. The signature of IOD on the wave climate mainly depends on the modification of wind field induced by the phase of IOD events. If this wind pattern is absent even during strong IOD event, then the signature of IOD on the wave climate is also absent. This alteration of wind pattern mainly depends on the IOD induced SST variability in eastern and western equatorial IO. Some other unknown factors may also cause slight modification in the wind, requiring more analysis to understand this variability. From this study it is clear that IOD has an impact on the wave climate off west coast of India especially off the central west coast of India due to the decrease of north-westerly short period waves.

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Table 1. Correlation and partial correlation of SWH and MWP with DMI and NINO3 time series.

	Correlation with DMI		Partial correlation with DMI (ENSO removed)		Correlation with ENSO		Partial correlation with ENSO (DMI removed)	
	SWH	MWP	SWH	MWP	SWH	MWP	SWH	MWP
L1 (22° N; 67° E)	-0.16	0.37	-0.19	0.23	-0.02	0.30	0.11	0.10
L2 (19° N; 70.5° E)	-0.27	0.48	-0.20	0.29	-0.19	0.45	0.03	0.20
L3 (16.5° N; 71.5° E)	-0.38	0.68	-0.31	0.51	-0.22	0.53	0.03	0.17
L4 (13° N; 73° E)	-0.56	0.69	-0.40	0.52	-0.46	0.59	-0.15	0.25
L5 (10.5° N; 74.5° E)	-0.59	0.57	-0.34	0.33	-0.59	0.60	-0.33	0.35
L6 (7.5° N; 76° E)	-0.59	0.55	-0.35	0.27	-0.56	0.61	-0.29	0.40

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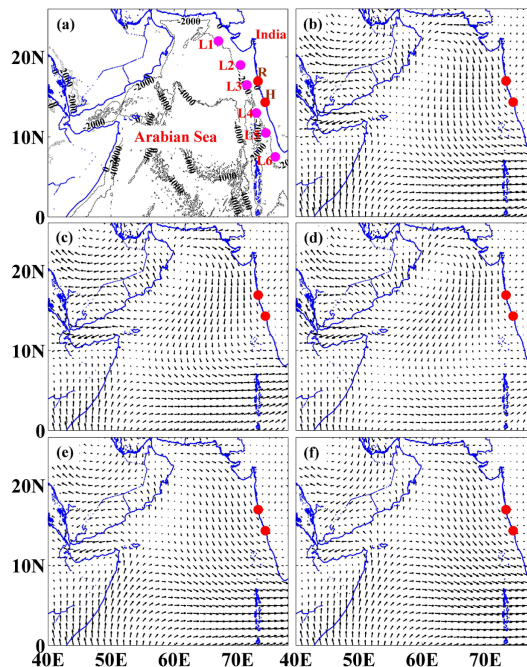


Figure 1. (a) The six locations considered to study the role of DMI on the wave climate are L1–L6. The wave measuring locations (R–Ratnagiri and H–Honnavar) in central eastern AS are shown as red dots, (b) composite climatology of wind pattern during October in AS and part of equatorial Indian Ocean from 1958 to 2014. Averaged wind pattern during (c) pure positive IOD, (d) combined positive IOD, (e) pure negative IOD and (f) combined negative IOD from 1958 to 2014.

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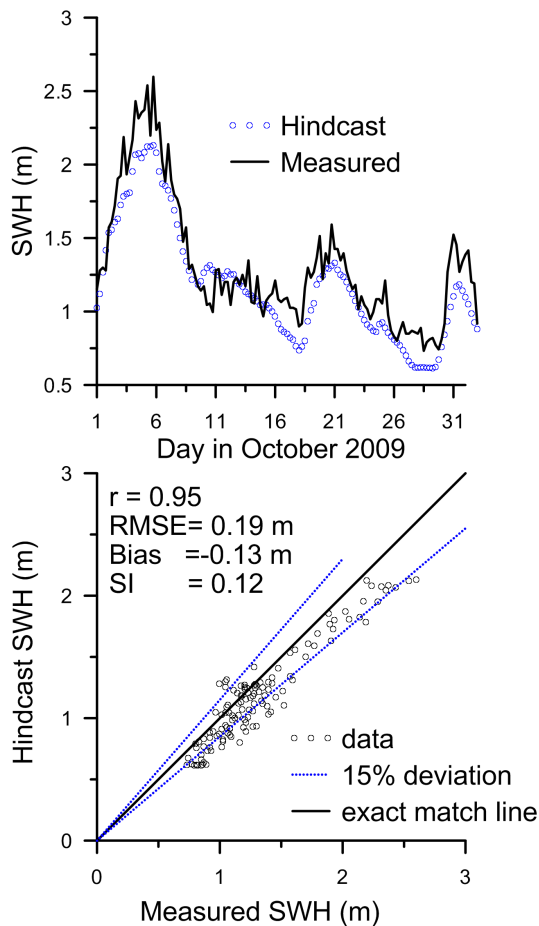


Figure 2. Comparison of hindcast SWH values with measured values during October 2009 at deep water location.

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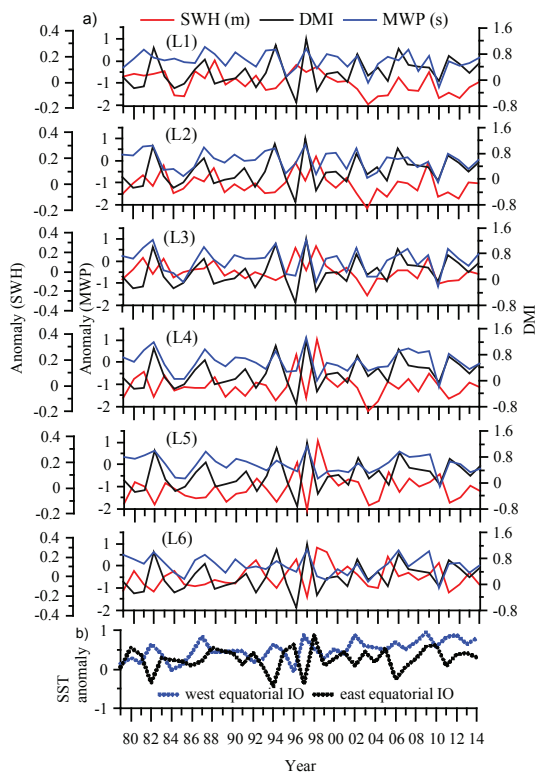


Figure 3. (a) Anomaly of significant wave height (SWH) and mean wave period (MWP) at selected six locations off west coast of India. Locations are shown in Fig. 1. (b) Plot of SST anomaly in west and east equatorial IO.

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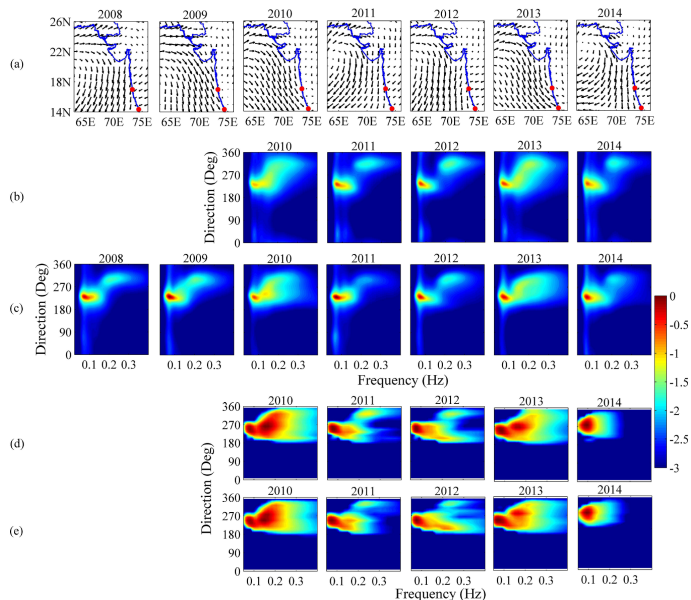


Figure 4. Averaged wind pattern of October from 2008 to 2014 and the wave measurement locations are marked as red dots **(a)**. Averaged measured wave frequency-directional spectra from 2008 to 2014 off Ratnagiri **(b)** and off Honnavar **(c)** Modeled directional spectrum off Ratnagiri **(d)** and off Honnavar from 2010 to 2014 **(e)**. Color bar is for spectral energy ($\text{m}^2 \text{Deg Hz}^{-1}$) and is shown in logarithmic scale base to 10. SST anomalies of eastern and western equatorial IO with dipole mode index are shown in Fig. 3.

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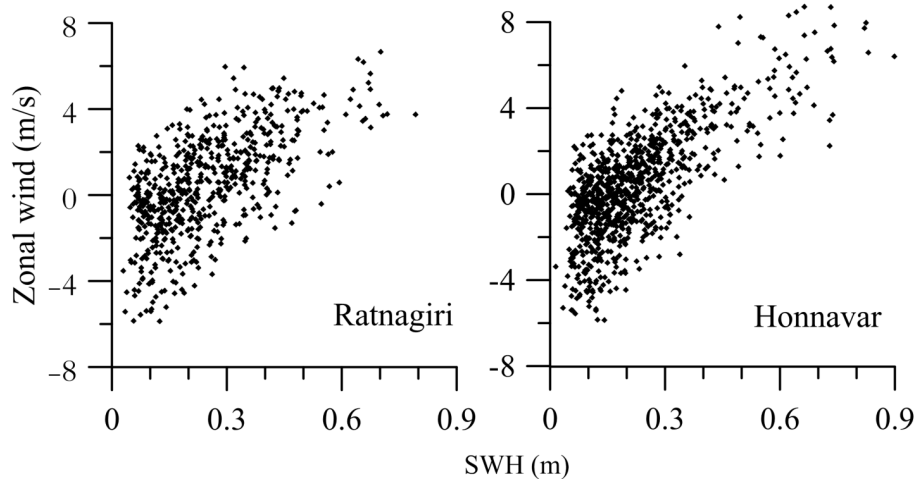


Figure 5. Scatter plot of zonal wind within 14–20° N and 70–73° E with SWH of high frequency range (0.14–0.29 Hz) and NW direction waves (280–320°) off Honnavar (from 2008 to 2014) and off Ratnagiri (from 2010 to 2014).

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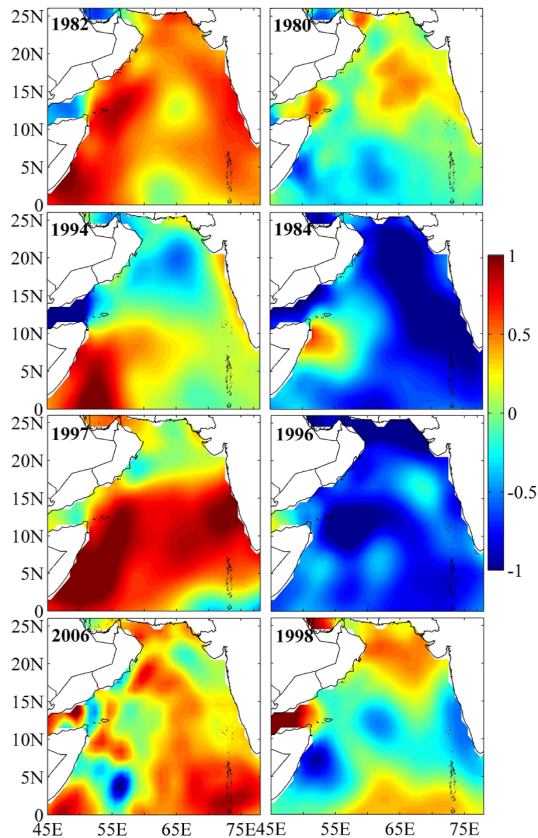


Figure 6. SST anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) of four strong positive (first column) and four negative (second column) IOD years from 1979 to 2014. Years are shown inside the figure and SST anomaly of eastern and western equatorial IO with Dipole Mode Index for corresponding years are shown in Fig. 3.

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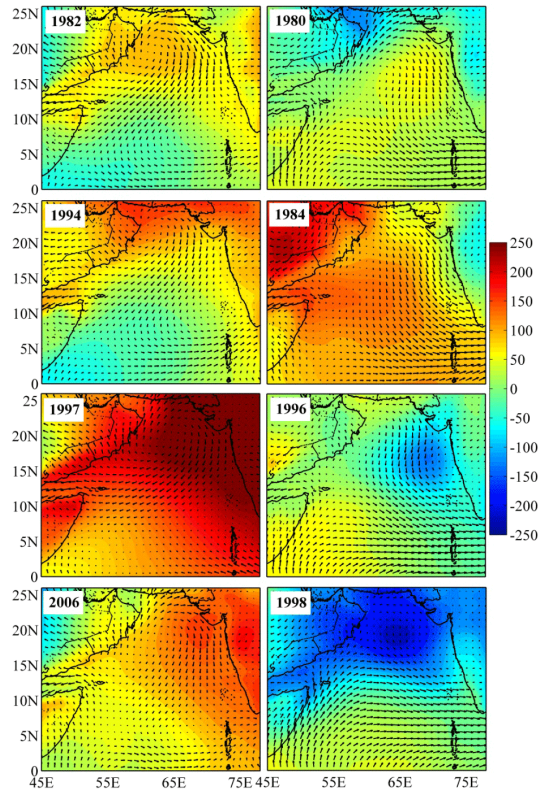


Figure 7. Wind vector (m s^{-1}) and SLP anomaly (Pa) of four strong positive (first column) and four negative (second column) IOD years from 1979 to 2014. Years are shown inside the figure and SST anomaly of eastern and western equatorial IO with Dipole Mode Index for corresponding years are shown in Fig. 3.

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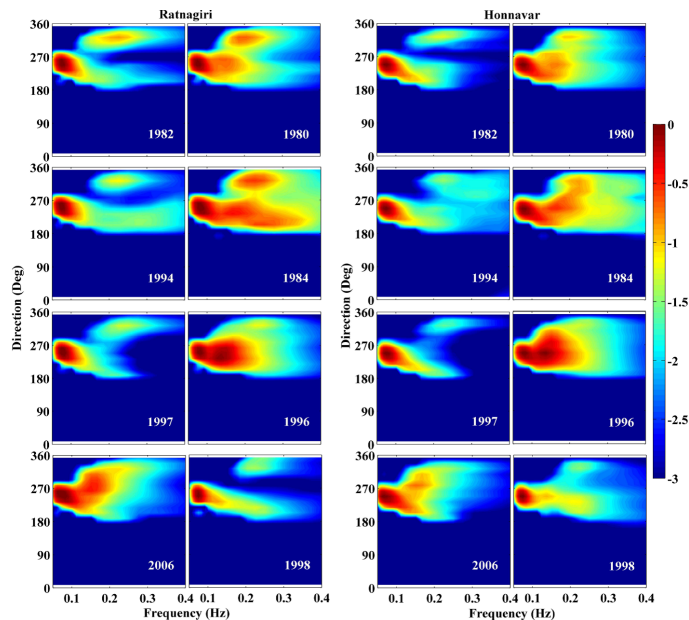


Figure 8. Modeled directional spectrum off Honnavar and Ratnagiri for selected positive and negative IOD years (columns one and three for positive IOD and two and four for negative IOD). Corresponding years are shown inside the figures and dipole mode index is shown in Fig. 3. The spectral energy is shown in logarithmic scale base to 10.

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