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Interactive comment on “Predicting freakish sea state with an operational third generation wave model” by T. Waseda et al.

Anonymous Referee #4

Received and published: 28 January 2014

The prediction of rogue or freak waves is surely one of the most attractive subject in the water waves community. Clearly, predictions cannot be made on a deterministic bases and they requires some stochastic approach. In particular in the present case, wave spectra from wind wave models are considered and their shape and energetic content are related to the appearance of rogue wave. In particular, the Onomichi–Maru marine accident is revisited using a third generation wind wave model. It is found that a moving gale system is associated with the development of the freakish sea. Under such condition the spectrum is narrow and energetic: those are perfect conditions for the development of the modulational instability. This is an excellent paper that shows once more that accidents may occur for some specific condition of the spectrum.

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