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## ***Interactive comment on “Automated classification of the atmospheric circulation patterns that drive regional wave climates” by J. Pringle et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #2**

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1. To analyze the characteristics of freak waves the authors use data from some buoys. The number of buoys, their location in the coastal zone, the duration of data registration are not described in the manuscript. It is known that freak waves occur at some moments of time at some points in the space. These anomalously large waves exist short time and then disappear. If several buoys are used, it is clear that they do not register all the freak waves, but a part. Among six freak waves (Table 3), 4 freaks are observed for geopotential pattern CP03 . The number of freak waves in Table 3 is small. It is difficult to do statistical conclusions using six events. According data presented in Table 3 one can not say anything about what pattern is most preferred for the appearance of freaks. May be not all freak waves are accounted? Or buoys are located at wrong place. If, for example, all the freak waves have been taken into account, the most pre-

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ferred pattern of geopotential would be another. 2. It is necessary to do estimations showing that the buoys detect a sufficient percentage of freaks to make a conclusion about the reliability of the presented data.

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Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 1127, 2014.

**NHESSD**

2, C174–C175, 2014

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