

The First Steps Towards The Realization Of Energy From Oceanic Waves In Jamaica

Alton Daley¹, Jean Francois Dorville², Michael Taylor³

¹Department of Physics, University of the West Indies, Mona, Mona Kingston, Jamaica W.I.

²The Caribbean Geophysical and Numerical Research Group, Baie-Mahault, Guadeloupe, FWI
³alton.daley@mymona.uwi.edu

Jamaica : Typical Developing Tropical Island

- 2.89 M inhabitant but not well distributed on the territory
- Kingston historical agglomeration (> 800K inhab)
- GDP of 9,200USD (USA 59,531USD & UK 39,720USD)
- Large Energy needs in Kingston vicinity due to industrialisation and A/C (Average TMax > 33.62±0.51C)
- Area of 2,890,299 km² (266 inhab/km²)
- 48% of the population are younger than 24 yo and 8% older than 65 yo
- 21,000 km of road with 15,000 km paved
- Railways up to 2013 less than 218 km

Distribution of population around the island

50% of Renewable Energy in Grid for 2030

Power Installed > 1.1 GW

2019 : Solar Farm 57 MW...Wind 62.7 MW...Hydro 20 MW

Electricity consumption : commercial & industrial 64 % (large 19 - small 45)..residential 33 %..public service 3%

Must multiply by 2.6 the percentage of Solar and Wind Energy

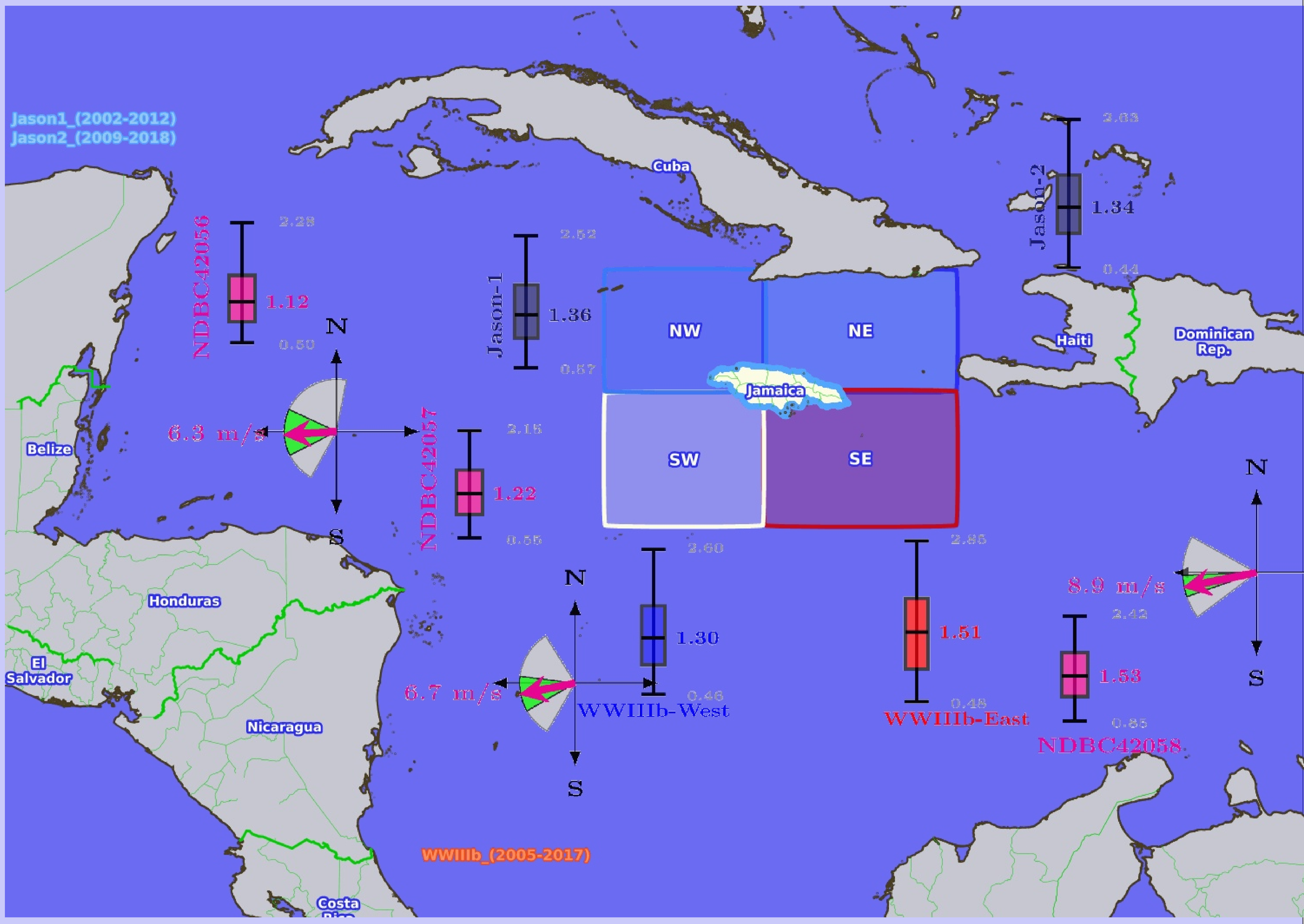
Wave Energy a Good Solution

Wave motion vertical and horizontal can be converted to electrical or pneumatic energy

Wave available all around the island

Wave can have negative effect on the coastline -conversion of energy can protect these areas-

Map of oceanic conditions around Jamaica



Lack of Local Measurement

Compared to other areas the number of insitu measures around Jamaica vicinity is low:

Caribbean Area	4.10 ⁻⁵ buoys/km ²	Requires other source of data
Puerto-Rico	3.10 ⁻² buoys/km ²	
Jamaica	8.10 ⁻⁷ buoys/km ²	

Map of Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean showing buoy locations (NDBC, NOAA, French West Indies, etc.)

Need for remote measure

Altimetric data from Jason 1 (2001) & Jason 2 (2008) satellite

Measure of elevation of the sea surface at frequency around 1 or 20 Hz using reflectance of electromagnetic signal at the sea surface from 1300 km

Low density of point (75 points per day - one every 11 min)

Allows validation of numerical model

Allows monitoring of wave climatology

Gives trend during extreme event

Description of altimetric measure by satellite

Example of tracks follow by Jason 2 around Jamaica

Need of Numerical Model

Wave Watch III

3rd generation of energy wave propagation model

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} + \nabla_x \cdot \dot{x}N + \frac{\partial}{\partial k} \dot{k}N + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \dot{\theta}N = \frac{g}{\sigma}$$

$$S = S_{source} + S_{stnk} = S_{in} + S_{in} + S_{xx} + S_{Ls} + S_{Ll} + S_{Lr} + S_{Lb} + S_{Lr} + S_{Lc} + S_{Lc} + S_{Lr}$$

Simulation of November 2012

Relative average error between observation and modeling during Hurricane Matthew 2016 (H5) October 1st to 5th

- 10.17% - 20.5%
- +7.33% - 40.9%
- +0.14% - 16.3%

Example of Wave Energy Converter From top to bottom: Dragon 2006, Polinder 2005, Oyster 2019

Seasonal variability

Hurricane season (ASO) have effect on extreme Hs values but has a low potential

=> MJJ is the best season for Wave Energy

=> NDJ provide longest wave (Tp) North Sweel

=> ASO provide extem conditions but low average

Wave Energy Potential

Wave energy (Ew) is computed using WaveWatchIII data form 1999 to 2018 based on Ew = 1/2 Hs**2 Tp

Average Wave Energy potential is defined from 3.31 to 10.1 kW / m around Jamaica

Sector SE received best wave energy.

Best season period are in the order MAJ, FMA, NDJ and ASO (i.e., hurricane season)

Best month during the last twenty years is June with 20 kW / m.

Conclusion

Wave Potential of 3.306 – 10.089 kW/m equivalent to a maximum of 5 households

30 MW Wave Energy farm is proposed for the SE area of Jamaica (St. Thomas) with 30 - 40 WEC with rated power ranging from 750 kW-1MW

Energy cost estimation of 7.6c/kWh - 10.8c/kWh with Oyster device on 20 years

Abstract :

Jamaica a medium sized island of 1022 km of coastline located in the Greater Antilles Arc of the Caribbean has made significant strides in achieving its goal of 30 % renewables on the electricity grid by 2030. The renewable energy sources harnessed by the country at this moment includes: wind, solar and hydro. Presently some consideration has been given to exploiting the power from the waves that constantly wash ashore the islands coastline. This study aims to highlight the behaviour of the sea state of the water mass surrounding the island. Access to this information should allow officials and investors to make a more conscious decision on the applicability of this green energy source.

The study uses a combination of in-situ (NOAA/NDBC buoys), satellite (altimetric) and modelled data (NCEP/NOAA/WW3) to develop an understanding of the behaviour of the main wave variables: significant wave height (Hs), wave period (Tp) and wave direction (Dirn) both spatially and temporally. All of which are necessary to create a comprehensive picture of the wave energy potential of Jamaica. The study also highlights an investigation into the distribution of Hs, Tp, and Dirn datasets provided by NDBC buoys, NCEP/NOAA/WW3 simulation and Jason 1&2 satellites. Finally each of these variables provided by the datasets was divided into four geographic sectors (NE, SE, NW, SW) and there distribution scrutinized.

The results show that the SE coast of the island produces the best waves conditions (Hs > 1.5 m and Tp < 7.5 s) equivalent to 10.089 kW/m. The best periods for production are in the order May-July, February-April and November-January, with May-June affected by tropical storms and hurricanes. The assessment carried out on the variables from each dataset showed that the variables in question were from a population with similar distribution.

About the author: Alton Daley

Bachelor of Science Energy and Environmental Physics
MPHIL candidate in Applied Physics - Renewable Energy at Physics Department of Faculty of Science and Technology, UWI Mona
Intern Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) Barbados
Specialist in Climate variability, Numerical Modelling, Data Analysis, Atmosphere and Oceanic wave
Numerical Model : WRF, WaveWatch III

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