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Statistical Characteristics of Winds and Waves around Japan

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Summary: A database was newly constructed for the purpose of investigating winds and waves around Japan. The database is based on numerical forecast data for 10 years. The forecast data were composed of significant wave height, significant wave period, peak wave direction, mean wind speed and mean wind direction. They were calculated at intervals of two minutes in space and twelve hours in time.

In this paper, the statistical characteristics of the database are compared with several existing databases and their features are clarified in two sea areas, one is facing the Pacific Ocean and the other is in Japan Sea as a closed sea area. Using the advantage of high spatial resolution and a large number of data in the database, the detailed distributions of winds and waves in an average and in extreme conditions around Japan are also examined. In addition to the examination, evaluation of statistical characteristics among Japanese navigation areas is carried out.

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