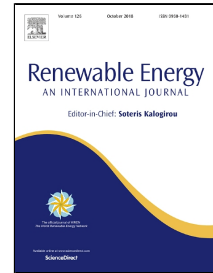


# Accepted Manuscript

A parameter study and optimization of two body wave energy converters

Elie Al Shami, Xu Wang, Ran Zhang, Lei Zuo



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1 A parameter study and optimization of two body wave energy converters

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9

10 Abstract

11 This paper studies the multidisciplinary nature of two body wave energy converters by a  
12 parametric study based on the Taguchi method which helps to understand the effect of different  
13 dependent parameters on the wave energy conversion performance. Seven different parameters  
14 are analyzed and their effect on the maximum captured power, resonance frequency and  
15 bandwidth is studied. An interesting comparison between a cylindrical submerged body and a  
16 spherical one was made in terms of the system's viscous damping and hydrodynamics. The best  
17 system parameter combinations based on the maximum output power, best resonant frequency  
18 and frequency bandwidth were identified from the outcomes of the Taguchi method and  
19 optimized to capture the maximum power to operate in the specific (Australian) sea regions  
20 where the waves' frequencies are relatively low. This paper should provide a guideline for  
21 designers to tune their parameters based on the desired performance and sea state.

22  
23 Keywords: parameter, optimization, two body wave energy converters, power, bandwidth,  
24 Taguchi method

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## 1. Introduction

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Renewable energy has been established as one of the most prolific development areas in the twenty first century. The difficulties surrounding exploiting renewable energy resources are no longer related to developing novel technologies, but rather related to the transition and implementation of the renewable harvesting systems within the petrol based power grids around the world.

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Solar energy, hydropower and wind energy are all being harvested by technologies which are witnessing a high rise in usage, and have been well established and optimized within industry manufacturers. Ocean energy conversion technology on the other hand, while it has a potentially higher efficiency and reduced complexity, is struggling to find its place in the renewable energy market.

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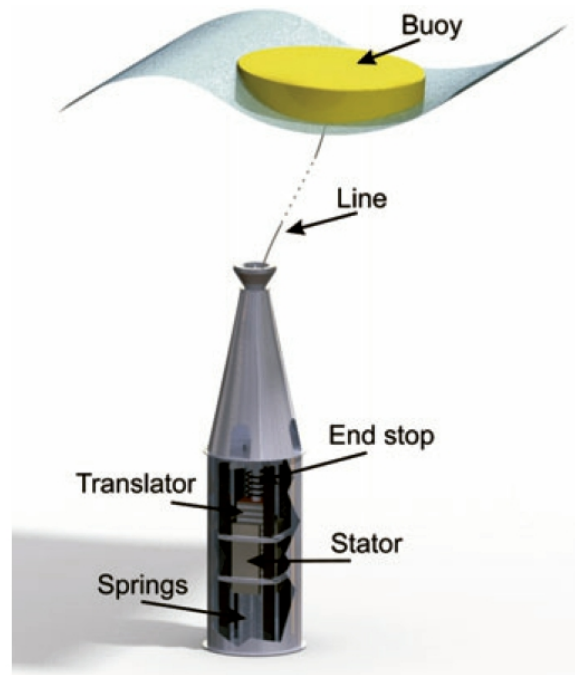
There are three main types of WECs: point absorbers, terminators, and attenuators, and many modes of operation [1]. These devices have undergone much research and development since there were more than 1000 WEC devices in 2009. With such large amount of research and development, one must attribute the difficulties of the wave energy converter development to the multidisciplinary nature of harvesting power from ocean waves. For example, hydropower is highly accounted for fluid and thermo dynamics, this results in a convergence and simplicity of the focus on developing hydropower energy harvesters. On the other hand, as presented in [2], wave energy harvesters are related to many disciplines and factors, as their performance is highly affected by the PTO (power take-off) system, the hydrodynamic design, and dynamics and control in an attempt to increase the WEC efficiency for different sea states.

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This multidisciplinary nature results in difficulties to optimize WECs, as there are many parameters to be optimized (PTO coefficients, geometry, control algorithm, operating conditions

49 ...), and these parameters are not independent. For example, the operating conditions set the  
 50 sizing and geometry affecting the hydrodynamic performance, which affect the optimized PTO  
 51 parameters or coefficients, and this causes a change in the control algorithm.



52  
 53 **Figure 1: Point absorber coupled with a linear generator [3]**

54 As mentioned earlier, WECs come in different types and operation modes, but the heaving  
 55 point absorber offers many advantages over other types of WECs because of the low complexity  
 56 and high reliability, which are important for an offshore platform as argued in [1], [2] and [4].  
 57 Also, coupling the heaving point absorber with a linear generator offers lower maintenance than  
 58 that with other PTO techniques, and resonating the point absorber with the incoming waves  
 59 offers relatively high efficiency as many control methods can be adopted.

60 There have been many attempts to optimize the heaving point absorbers, either by altering  
 61 the geometry and operational coefficients, or by proposing new control methods to resonate the  
 62 device with the incoming wave which maximizes the power output. A heaving point absorber  
 63 was hydro-dynamically modeled to resonate with the incoming wave and was optimized with the

64 change of the floater's radius as illustrated in [5]. An active phase control method for heaving  
65 point absorbers was proposed to optimize the power output [6]. The PTO damping and the  
66 natural resonating frequency of a heaving buoy were optimized for operating in the Australian  
67 seas [7]. Two shapes of buoys with different diameters and drafts were studied in an attempt to  
68 optimize a heaving point absorber [8]. It was concluded that the shape didn't have a considerable  
69 effect on the power output, while the increase of diameter results in an increase of power output  
70 for a 1 body WEC. The different geometric parameters that affect the resonance frequency,  
71 absorbed power and production cost were researched through a parametric study and  
72 optimization of a resonating heaving point absorber [9]. The power output of a heaving point  
73 absorber was optimized by applying a latching control method in a fully non-linear 3D CFD  
74 simulation of a floating spherical buoy [10]. It was concluded that the traditional boundary  
75 element methods overestimate the generated power. Non-dimensional hydrodynamic equations  
76 which are used to optimize the radius and draft of a cylindrical heaving point absorber were  
77 derived [11].

78 The heaving point absorber presents a simple and well optimized solution for harvesting  
79 wave energy with the main drawback being the operation at high ocean waves frequencies, as  
80 this will require very large masses and dimensions to lower the resonating frequency of the  
81 device. The solution to this is inclusion of a submerged oscillating body; the increase of the  
82 degrees of freedom lowers the resonating frequency and increases the captured power at low  
83 frequencies as illustrated in [3], [12], [13], and [14].

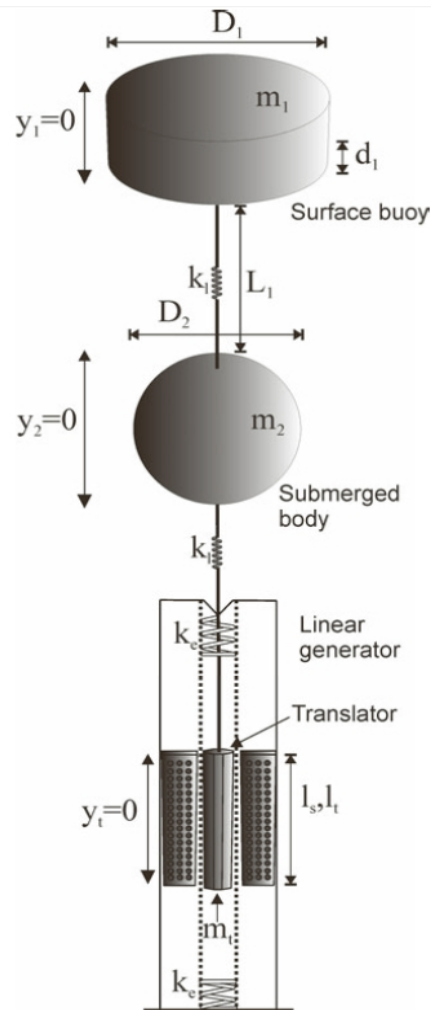


Figure 2: 2 body (heaving point absorber with a submerged body) WEC [15]

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 85  
 86 There have been many attempts to optimize two body WECs based on different disciplines:  
 87 Bozzi et al [12] studied the power output of different dimensions of buoys with and without the  
 88 inclusion of a submerged body in the Italian seas, and concluded that a smaller buoy with a  
 89 submerged body can increase the capture width ratio by as much as 25% compared to a larger  
 90 buoy without a submerged body. The effect of the dynamics of a two-body WEC with optimized  
 91 PTO coefficients on the generated power was studied with the change of the submerged body  
 92 mass [14]. A multiple degrees of freedom WEC was modeled, and the parameters affecting the  
 93 power output were studied [16]. It was concluded that the added mass of the submerged body

94 and the buoyancy of the floater have the greatest effect on the generated power. The response of  
95 a two-body WEC was studied under the variation of the design parameters with a focus on the  
96 hydrodynamic mathematical modeling [17]. It was concluded that the design parameters have a  
97 big impact on the generated power, especially those parameters related to the resonant frequency.  
98 A parametric study including geometric design parameters, PTO coefficients, and sea state for a  
99 two-body wave energy converter was conducted [18], and some dependencies between the  
100 altering parameters were concluded. A two body WEC using non-linear forces on the floater was  
101 optimized [19]. The performance was increased by using a curved shape of the buoy to decrease  
102 the viscous losses. The optimal operating conditions were established to maximize the power  
103 generation efficiency. A new optimization procedure for a two body WEC was suggested [20].  
104 The new optimization procedure iterates all the design parameters (PTO damping, submerged  
105 added mass, buoy dimensions and draft) based on the various yearly operating conditions to  
106 conclude with an optimal design.

107 In spite of all the previous work done for optimizing the two body WECs, there is a lack of  
108 a comprehensive optimization study which incorporates all the different parameters affecting the  
109 output power, resonance frequency and bandwidth. Therefore, this paper will present a  
110 parametric study, design and optimization procedure which study the effects of the different  
111 parameters.

112 All these parameters could be intrinsically dependent, and the design and optimization  
113 procedure must be capable of studying the magnitude of each parameter's effect as well as the  
114 best combination of parameters that produces the highest power at a low operating frequency and  
115 with an acceptable bandwidth.

116 Taguchi method will be used to study and optimize a two body WEC based on 7 different  
117 parameters: PTO damping coefficient, PTO stiffness coefficient, diameter of the buoy, shape and  
118 volume of the submerged body, submerged body depth, and the buoy's draft. Taguchi method  
119 was simplified and widely applied for process optimization of chemical industries by Taguchi in  
120 the 1950's [21]. It can evaluate the response of a system with different parameters, and the  
121 magnitude of the effect of each parameter. Even though this method is developed and used in the  
122 industries, it is ideally applicable to optimize a two body WEC, considering the fact that all the  
123 different parameters are connected, and studying the effect of one or two design parameters  
124 won't have a great value for a comprehensive multidisciplinary wave energy harvesting system.  
125 After conducting the parameter study using Taguchi method, the parameter combinations of two  
126 optimal output targets are identified, one has the highest power and the other has the best  
127 resonance frequency and bandwidth. The parameter combinations would be iterated and  
128 optimized based on the Taguchi method outcomes to derive the final optimized system for the  
129 Australian ocean waves' state.

130 This paper is a part of a project dedicated to design a WEC for the Australian seas.  
131 According to [7] and [22] the biggest wave energy potential lies in the southern Australian coast  
132 with an average wave period between 8 s and 12 s. Thus, the low frequency operation is a main  
133 focus of the optimization procedure, and the inclusion of a submerged body is selected for the  
134 design.

135 The submerged body plays a role in increasing the captured power as well as reducing the  
136 resonant frequency due to the increase of the added mass and the system's inertia. The added  
137 mass is caused by the volume of water that the submerged body is trying to displace while  
138 oscillating. The shape of the submerged body would influence the added mass and the system



139 inertia (like a cylinder for example) has a large effect on viscous damping coefficient. The  
140 increased viscous damping coefficient results in a decrease in the captured power [14] and [23].  
141 Therefore, comparing the shapes of two different submerged bodies would present an interesting  
142 result for the parameter study.

143 The hydrodynamic coefficients will be simulated using the software Ansys Aqwa, the  
144 viscous damping coefficients will be estimated from literature, and the power will be calculated  
145 using a Matlab code in the frequency domain.

146 The rest of the paper is divided as follows: the mathematical dynamic model will be  
147 developed and described in the second section, the parameter study using Taguchi method will  
148 be presented in the third section, the results will be discussed in the fourth section, the design  
149 will be optimized and iterated in the fifth section, and the conclusions will be given in the last  
150 section.

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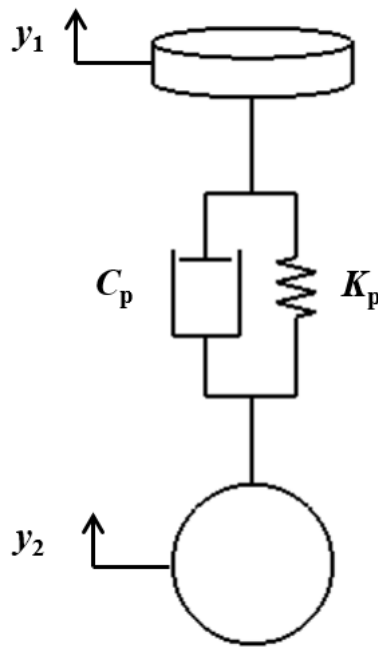
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## 2. Mathematical model



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**Figure 3: Sketch of the two body WEC system**

165 Applying the Newton's second law to the two degrees of freedom system, in the frequency

166 domain, where  $j=1$  represents the floater,  $j=2$  represents the submerged body, and  $y_j$  represents

167 the displacement in the vertical heave direction, with  $\dot{y}_j$  and  $\ddot{y}_j$  representing the instantaneous

168 velocity and acceleration of each of the floater and the submerged body respectively. Assuming

169 potential flow theory which sets the wave as a regular sinusoid function (with the wave

170 amplitude  $y_w$  taken in this work as 1m), the harmonic excitation can be assumed by:  $y_j = Y_j e^{st}$ ,

171  $s = i\omega$ , where  $i$  is the imaginary unit, and  $\omega$  is the wave frequency is rad/s. The PTO is placed

172 between the buoy and the submerged body taking advantage of the relative movement between

173 the two, and the hydrodynamic interactions between the floater and the submerged body are

174 assumed to be negligible since the distance between them is 20 m or more [12].

175

176 For the floater:

$$177 \quad M_1 \ddot{y}_1 + k_p(y_1 - y_2) + c_p(\dot{y}_1 - \dot{y}_2) + k_h y_1 + F_{vd1} + c_{r1} \dot{y}_1 = F_{we1} \quad (1)$$

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179 For the submerged body:

$$180 \quad M_2 \ddot{y}_2 + k_p(y_2 - y_1) + c_p(\dot{y}_2 - \dot{y}_1) + F_{vd2} + c_{r2} \dot{y}_2 = F_{we2} \quad (2)$$

181  $F_{wej}$  is the wave excitation force exerted on the oscillating bodies composed of both the Froude-

182 Krylov and the wave diffraction forces; according to the potential flow theory, this force is

183 calculated by integrating the incident wave potential pressure (Froude-Krylov) and diffracted

184 wave potential pressure (diffraction) over the surfaces of the oscillating bodies, this term can be

185 solved using a BEM (Boundary Element Method) for the integral around the boundaries of the

186 oscillating bodies leading to a linear wave excitation proportional to the wave elevation and can

187 be written as:  $F_{wej} = F_j e^{st}$ , where  $F_j$  is the complex amplitude of the wave excitation force and

188 is calculated using Ansys Aqwa.

189  $M_j$  is the total mass of each of the floater and the submerged body, which is composed of both the

190 physical dry mass  $m_j$  and the hydrodynamic added mass  $m_{aj}$ :  $M_j = m_j + m_{aj}$ , and  $c_{rj}$  is the

191 radiation damping coefficient. The hydrodynamic added mass and radiation damping coefficient

192 represent the radiation forces on the oscillating bodies, these parameters are also calculated using

193 a BEM with Ansys Aqwa, and they represent the linear solution of the integral of the radiated

194 wave potential over the surfaces of the oscillating bodies.

195  $k_h$  is the hydrostatic stiffness of the floater, generating a spring stiffness effect due to the

196 difference between the weight and the buoyancy forces. The submerged body has neutral

197 buoyancy, resulting in the buoyancy force always equaling the weight force, and the absence of

198 the hydrostatic spring force term in Equation (2).

199 The PTO force,  $F_p$  is simulated by a linear force of a spring damper system:

$$200 \quad F_p = k_p(y_{j+1} - y_j) + c_p(\dot{y}_{j+1} - \dot{y}_j) \quad (3)$$

201 where  $k_p$  and  $c_p$  are the PTO's stiffness and damping coefficients respectively. This equation  
 202 neglects the electrical circuit term of the linear generator which add another degree of freedom to  
 203 the equations [24]. The effect of the electrical circuit term is included in the damping coefficient  
 204 of  $c_p$ .

205 The viscous damping force is modeled according to the non-linear Morison equation:

$$206 \quad F_{vd} = \frac{1}{2}\rho a_j c_{dj} \dot{y}_j^2 \quad (4)$$

207 where  $\rho$  is the density of water,  $a_j$  is the cross sectional area of the body in question and  $c_{dj}$  is  
 208 the dimensionless viscous damping coefficient. Since all other equations are linear and the  
 209 viscous damping force equation is of the second order, it would be more convenient to linearize  
 210 this equation based on the work done by [25] to solve all the equations in the frequency domain.

211 The linearized viscous damping equation is:

$$212 \quad F_{vd} = \frac{1}{2}\rho a_j c_{dj} \frac{8}{3\pi} V_{max} \dot{y}_j \quad (5)$$

213 where  $V_{max}$  is the maximum velocity reached by the oscillating body in the heave direction. The  
 214 viscous drag damping forces on the floater are assumed to be negligible, especially compared to  
 215 the wave excitation forces [26]. Therefore,  $c_{vd2}$  in Equation (3) is given by

$$216 \quad c_{vd2} = \frac{1}{2}\rho a_2 c_{d2} \frac{8}{3\pi} V_{max} \quad (6)$$

217

218

219 By applying Fourier transform onto Equations (1) and (2), and neglecting the radiation damping  
 220 on the submerged body [14] (this will also be shown the next section where the hydrodynamic

221 simulations are presented), the displacements of the floater and submerged oscillating bodies are  
 222 given by the following equation:

223

$$224 \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{Y_1}{y_w} \\ \frac{Y_2}{y_w} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} M_1 s^2 + (c_p + c_{r1})s + (k_p + k_h) & -c_p s - k_p \\ -c_p s - k_p & M_2 s^2 + (c_p + c_{vd2})s + k_p \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{F_1}{y_w} \\ \frac{F_2}{y_w} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

225 The PTO is connected between the float and the submerged body, the average power is  
 226 calculated as follows:

$$227 P_{average} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T c_p (\dot{y}_1 - \dot{y}_2)^2 dt = \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 c_p |Y_1 - Y_2|^2 \quad (8),$$

228 where T is the period of the wave in s.  $Y_1 - Y_2$  can be calculated from solving equation (7).

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### 3. Parametric study

241 As discussed earlier, Taguchi method is a parameter study and optimization method  
242 simplified and applied by Taguchi in the 1950s for optimization of industrial chemical processes.  
243 This method studies the response of a system output for variation of different parameters, which  
244 are generally correlated in a way or the other. It is based on statistical analysis which studies the  
245 sensitivity of the target variables to the input variables in order to improve the quality of the  
246 product/outcome/design. Taguchi method is best suitable for the systems where their optimum  
247 operational conditions are dependent on different input parameters correlated with each other.  
248 The effect of each parameter on the system in Taguchi method is similar to a signal/noise ratio.  
249 Taguchi method should be applied in the second and third phases of product design. For WECs,  
250 the first phase of design would be to establish a concept, for the case of this paper, a two-body  
251 point absorber which utilizes the relative movement of a buoy and submerged body imposed by  
252 the wave loadings to harvest wave energy. The second stage is referred as robust design, and it is  
253 to determine all the different parameters and dimensions of the design, these are the parameters  
254 in Table 1. The third stage is to optimize the design with a parametric study of the different input  
255 parameters affecting the output performance of the WEC using Taguchi method. This method  
256 relays on orthogonal arrays which significantly reduces the number of iterations and simulations  
257 needed to determine the effect of each parameter on the desired output performance [27].  
258 Therefore, Taguchi method's mathematical formulations and orthogonal arrays formulate the L8  
259 matrix presented in Appendix A which can study the effect of 7 different dependent variables on  
260 the performance of the proposed two-body WEC without the need to find the mathematical  
261 correlations between them. The parametric study and simulations are conducted using both  
262 Microsoft Excel and Matlab software, with the hydrodynamic parameter inputs from Ansys

263 Aqwa simulations. This section will present the parametric study of Taguchi method.  
 264 Optimizations based on this method will be presented later on.

265 This paper would study the effect of seven different parameters on the output performance  
 266 of a two body WEC. The output performance is represented by the maximum average power  
 267 generated by the system, the resonant frequency and the operational bandwidth. The parameters  
 268 chosen are preferably set as two extreme levels.

269 **Table 1: Taguchi method parameters**

		Level 1	Level 2
Parameter 1	PTO damping	Off-control	On-control
Parameter 2	PTO stiffness	min	max
Parameter 3	Diameter of buoy	min	max
Parameter 4	Submerged body	cylinder	sphere
Parameter 5	Submerged body Volume	min	max
Parameter 6	Buoy's Draft	min	max
Parameter 7	Submerged body depth	min	max

270  
 271 Table 1 presents the different parameters studied by Taguchi method. Parameter 1, the PTO  
 272 damping, off-control would be set as Level 1 which has a constant damping coefficient value  
 273 equal to  $100 \text{ kNsm}^{-1}$ . The on-control would be set as Level 2. The on-control algorithm is the  
 274 impedance matching control scheme where the PTO damping coefficient is changing with the  
 275 ocean wave excitation frequency and have to match the variable external hydrodynamic and  
 276 viscous damping of the system, that is,  $c_p = c_{r1} + \frac{1}{2}\rho a_2 c_{d23\pi} \frac{8}{V_{max}}$ . A submerged body is added  
 277 to the system, which is considered as a passive control method [3]. Therefore, the PTO damping  
 278 is adjusted and changed to be equal to the external damping, which should refine the  
 279 performance further. Parameter 2, the PTO stiffness, would be set in two levels;  $100 \text{ kN/m}$  in  
 280 Level 1 and  $200 \text{ kN/m}$  in Level 2. Parameter 3, the Buoy's diameter, will be set in two levels,  $4$   
 281  $\text{m}$  in Level 1 and  $6 \text{ m}$  in Level 2. It is known that increasing the size of the buoy would increase

282 the absorbed power. Parameter 4, the shape of the submerged body is set to be a cylinder in  
 283 Level 1, and to be a sphere in Level 2. Having a sphere as a submerged body should increase the  
 284 power because of the low viscous damping of the system, but having a cylinder as a submerged  
 285 oscillating body should have a lower power due to the large viscous damping of the system, a  
 286 lower resonant frequency and a larger bandwidth because of the large added mass, viscous  
 287 damping and system inertia. Parameter 5, the volume of the submerged body, is set as 33.51 m<sup>3</sup>  
 288 in Level 1 and 113.1 m<sup>3</sup> in Level 2 (diameter being altered between 4 m and 6 m) with the same  
 289 cross sectional area of the sphere and the cylinder in order to consistently compare their viscous  
 290 damping coefficient, the hydrodynamic coefficients, the physical weights, and volumes.  
 291 Parameter 6, the buoy's draft, is set in two levels, 1 m in Level 1 and 2 m in Level 2. Increasing  
 292 the draft should decrease the radiating capabilities of the buoy, and therefore lowers the extracted  
 293 power. Finally, Parameter 7, the depth of the submerged body, is set in two levels; 20 m for  
 294 Level 1, and 40 m for Level 2. Both these depth values should prevent the submerged body from  
 295 the disturbance in the radiating capabilities caused by the hydrodynamic effects between the  
 296 floating and submerged bodies. The hydrodynamic effect should be limited to the excitation  
 297 force on the submerged body. Appendix A includes the full Taguchi L8 matrix

298 **Table 2: Taguchi method L8 matrix**

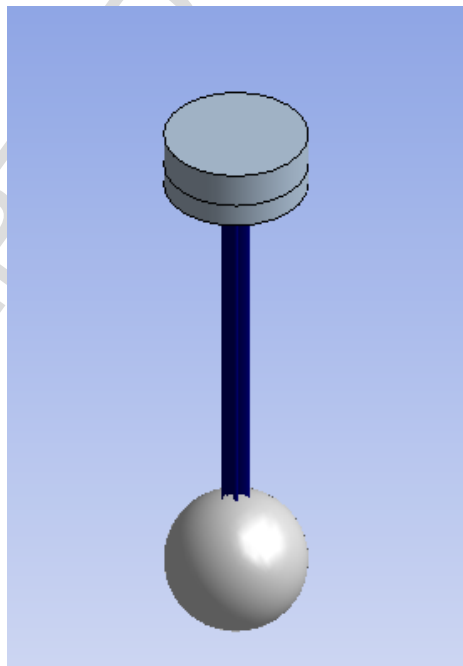
	Parameter 1	Parameter 2	Parameter 3	Parameter 4	Parameter 5	Parameter 6	Parameter 7
System	PTO damping (N.s/m)	PTO Stiffness (N/m)	Diameter of buoy (m)	Submerged body geometry	Submerged body Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Buoy's Draft (m)	Submerged body depth (m)
1	cp=100000	k1=100,000	4	Cylinder	33.51	1	20
2	cp=100000	k1=100,000	4	Sphere	113.1	2	40
3	cp=100000	k2=200,000	6	Cylinder	33.51	2	40
4	cp=100000	k2=200,000	6	Sphere	113.1	1	20
5	Variable	k1=100,000	6	Cylinder	113.1	1	40
6	Variable	k1=100,000	6	Sphere	33.51	2	20
7	Variable	k2=200,000	4	Cylinder	113.1	2	20
8	Variable	k2=200,000	4	Sphere	33.51	1	40

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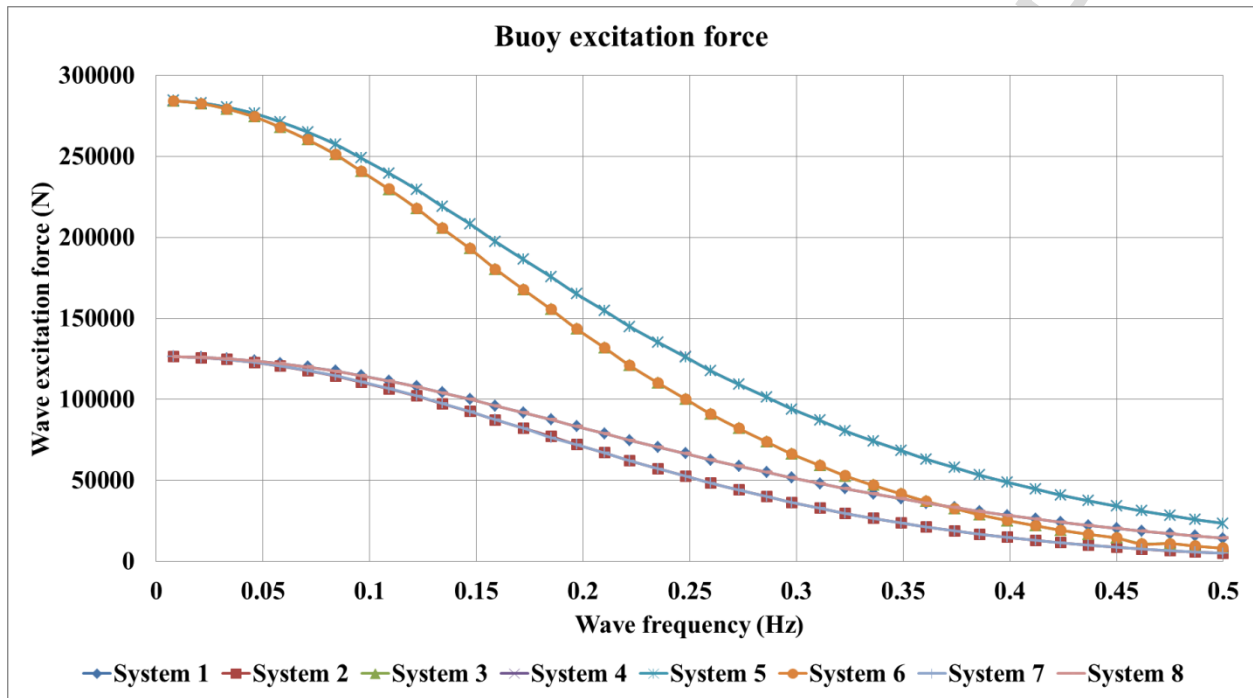
300 Table 2 presents the Taguchi method L8 matrix; the columns present every parameter and  
301 their levels, while every row combines different parameters and their levels to represent a  
302 standalone system. S.b. stands for submerged body. It should be noted that the fourth parameter  
303 not only affects the hydrodynamic properties of the system (wave excitation force, added mass  
304 and radiation damping), but also has a considerable impact on the system's dynamics and  
305 generated power through the difference in the viscous damping coefficient which is chosen to be  
306 0.1 for the sphere and 1 for the cylinder, these viscous damping coefficient values are derived  
307 from the literature for smooth bodies operating at the high Reynolds number [23, 28-31].

308 The Taguchi method matrix contains 8 different test runs or systems, each with different set  
309 of parameters. Every system is modeled using a CAD model and simulated in Ansys Aqwa to  
310 calculate its hydrodynamic coefficients. For example, System 4 is modeled using a CAD model  
311 and simulated in Ansys Aqwa as shown in Figure 4. These coefficients are used for calculation  
312 of the power vs frequency curve of each system from Equation (7) and (8) using Matlab codes.



313  
314 **Figure 4: System 4 modeled in Ansys Aqwa**

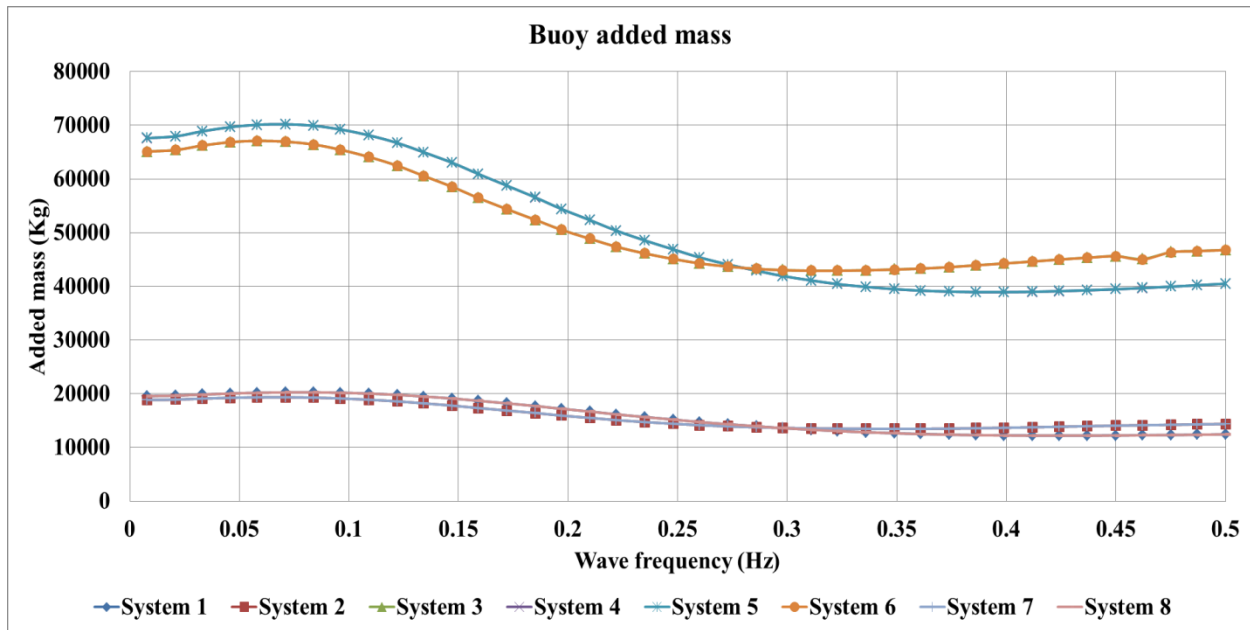
315 Figures 5-10 represent the results simulated in Ansys Aqwa. Figures 5, 6 and 7 represent  
 316 the buoy's excitation force, added mass and radiation damping coefficient respectively for the  
 317 eight systems, while Figures 8, 9 and 10 represent the submerged body's excitation force, added  
 318 mass and radiation damping respectively for the eight systems.



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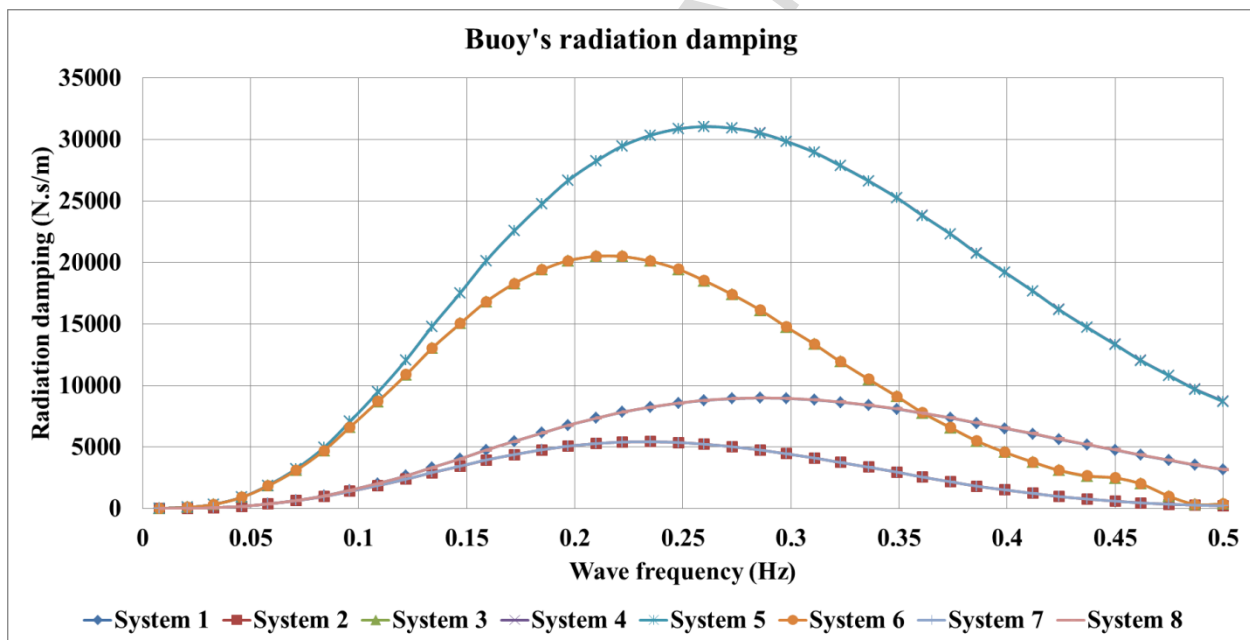
Figure 5: Buoy's excitation force for the 8 systems



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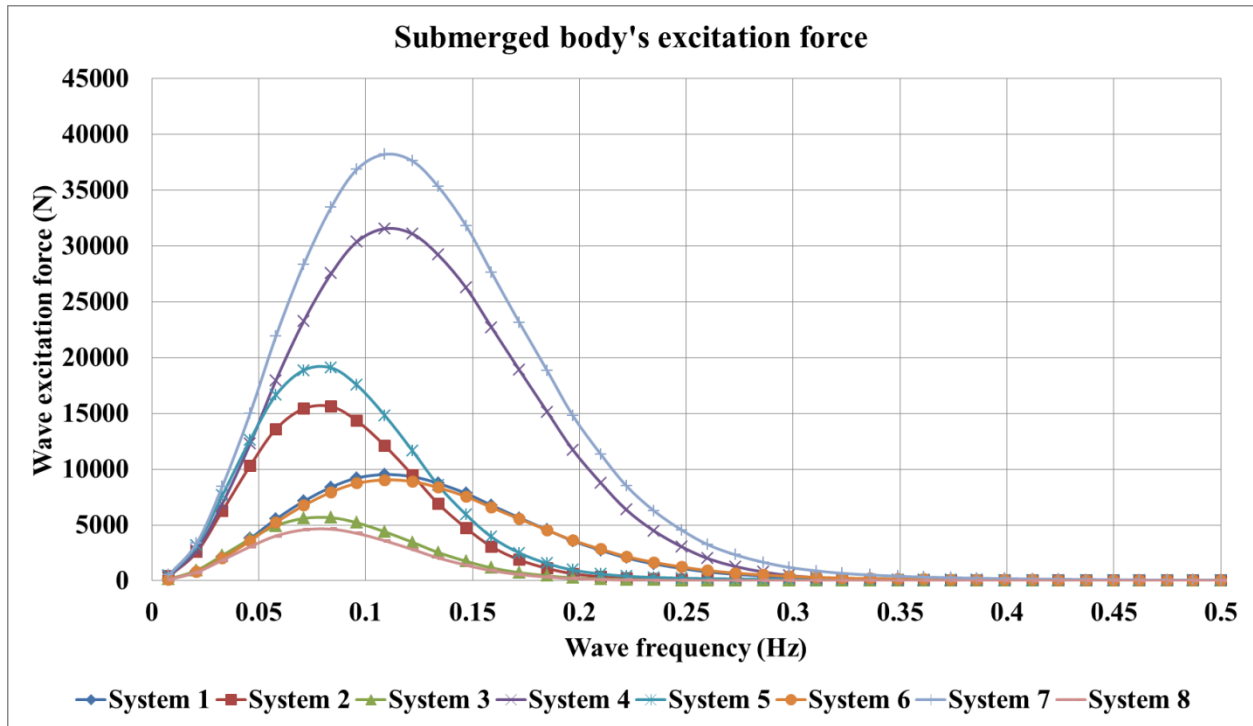
Figure 6: Buoy's added mass for the 8 systems



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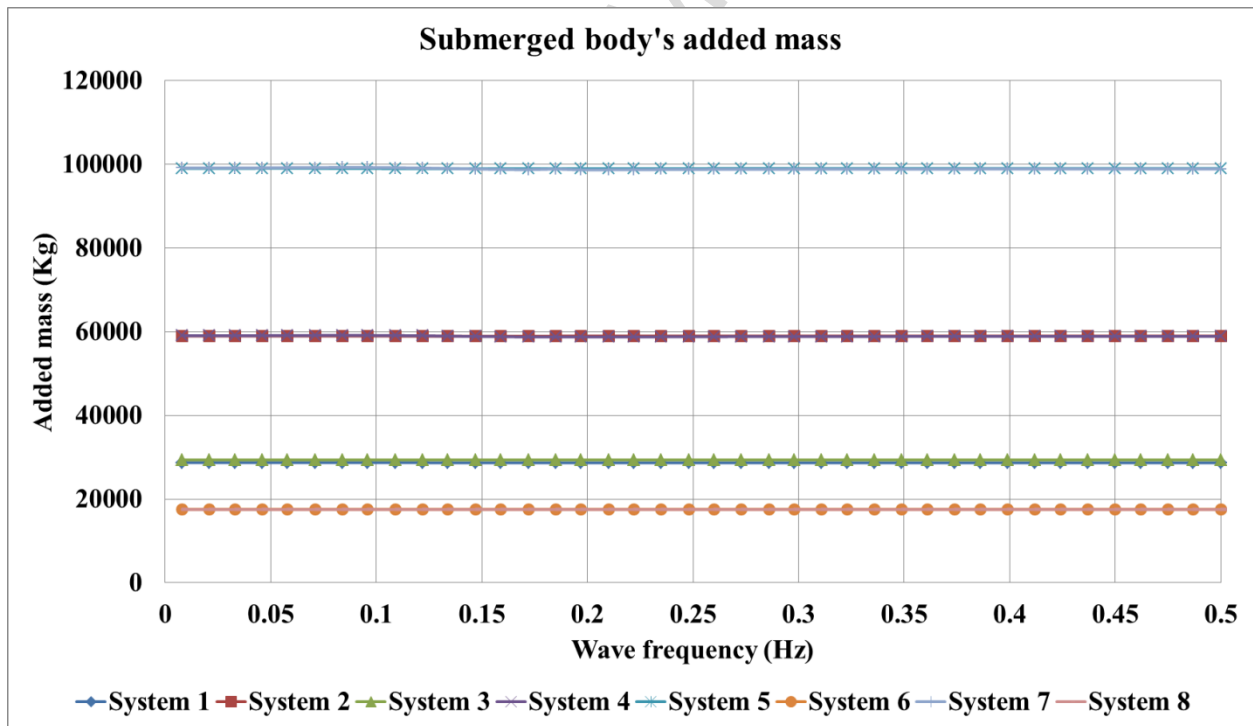
Figure 7: Buoy's radiation damping for the 8 systems



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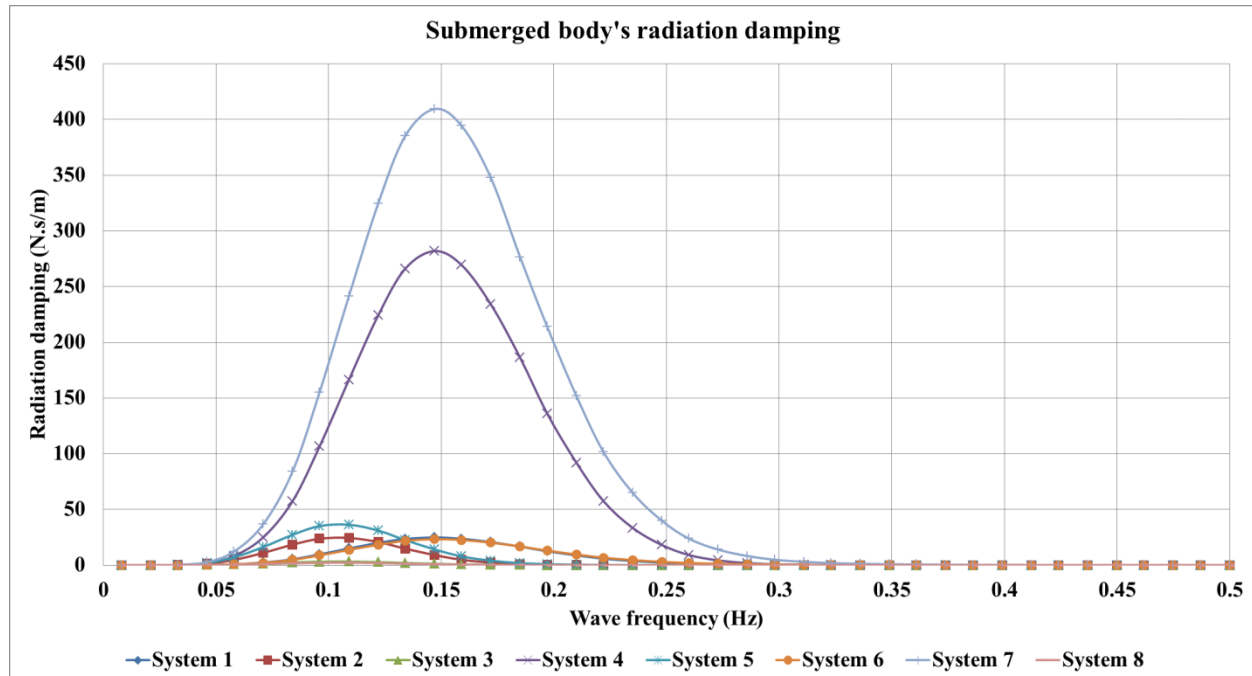
Figure 8: Submerged body's excitation force for the 8 systems



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Figure 9: Submerged body's added mass for the 8 systems



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**Figure 10: Submerged body's radiation damping for the 8 systems**

331 The first apparent conclusion from the Ansys Aqwa results is that the radiation damping

332 of the submerged body is negligible compared to the radiation damping of the buoy as shown in

333 Figures 5 and 10. Also, the depth effect is only reflected by a peak frequency difference and

334 magnitude difference of the excitation force exerted on the submerged body; this can be seen in

335 Figure 8. Systems 5 and 7 for example have the same shape and volume of the submerged body,

336 but System 7's submerged body is placed at a smaller depth than System 5, hence System 7's

337 submerged body has a 1900N larger wave excitation force than System 5's submerged body, the

338 same observation can be made between Systems 2 and 4, 1 and 3, and Systems 6 and 8. The rest

339 of the systems with the same depth have the same hydrodynamic coefficients, which confirm the

340 assumption that the submerged body is placed at a depth where there are no hydrodynamic

341 interactions between the two oscillating bodies. Taking a closer look at each of the above figures;

342 Figure 5 reflects that the buoy's wave excitation force increases with the buoy's diameter. As

343 Systems 3, 4, 5 and 6 have a larger buoy diameter than the other systems (6 m vs. 4 m) and thus  
344 having a larger wave excitation force in Figure 5. Also, the draft increase causes a decrease in  
345 the wave excitation force. As for example Systems 3, 4, 5, and 6 all has the same buoy diameter,  
346 but Systems 3 and 6 both have a larger draft of 2 m than Systems 4 and 5, and thus they have a  
347 lower wave excitation force as seen in Figure 5. The same comparison can be made between  
348 Systems 1, 4 and Systems 3, 7. Systems 3 and 4 have a larger buoy diameter, a wider wave  
349 pressure surface area than Systems 1 and 7 (6 m vs. 4 m), which results in higher hydrodynamic  
350 performance all around of Systems 3 and 4 than that of Systems 1 and 7. This is because the  
351 shape and the volume have the largest effect on the wave excitation force, added mass and  
352 radiation damping. The decreased wave excitation force of System 3 and 6 is due to the decrease  
353 in the radiating capabilities out of the increased draft. This is because the extra submerged depth  
354 of the buoy decreases its interaction with the incoming wave, and therefore decreases the wave  
355 excitation force on the buoy. This is also manifested in Figure 7 where the extra draft highly  
356 reduces the radiation damping of the buoy. This is because Systems 3, 4, 5, and 6 all have the  
357 same buoy diameter, but Systems 3 and 6 both have a larger draft of 2 m, and thus they have  
358 lower radiation damping as seen in Figure 7. The same comparison can be made between  
359 Systems 1, 4 and Systems 3, 7. In Figure 6, it is noticed that the diameter also has the largest  
360 effect on the added mass, and the draft has a slight effect. This is because Systems 3, 4, 5 and 6  
361 have a larger buoy diameter than the other systems (6 m vs. 4 m) and thus having more added  
362 mass (2 to 3 times higher).

363 Figure 8 represents the wave excitation force exerted on the submerged body, it is expected to  
364 see that the wave excitation force increases with the increase in the submerged body's size. It is  
365 also noticed that the wave excitation force exerted on the cylinder is higher than the one exerted

366 on a sphere for the same volume and depth. As for example Systems 4 and 7 both have the same  
367 submerged body volume ( $113.1 \text{ m}^3$ ) and the same depth (20 m), but it is seen from Figure 8 that  
368 the excitation force exerted on System 7's cylindrical submerged body is higher than the one  
369 exerted on System 4's spherical submerged body. The same comparison can be made between  
370 Systems 5 and 2. The difference is less pronounced in other systems because of the low  
371 excitation force. Also, the increase in the submerged body's depth decreases the wave excitation  
372 force, which is expected, since the extra depth of the submerged body further away from the  
373 surface of the water limits the interaction of the submerged body with the surface wave. Figure 9  
374 represents the added mass of the submerged body of each of the 8 systems. It is noticed that the  
375 added masses are constant versus wave frequency. Similar to the outcome trend of Figure 8, the  
376 added mass of a cylinder is higher than that of the sphere for the same volume. As for example  
377 Systems 5 and 7 have the cylindrical submerged body of a volume of  $113.1 \text{ m}^3$  and possess a  
378 higher added mass of 100,000 Kg than Systems 4 and 2 which have 60,000 Kg of added mass at  
379 the same volume but with a spherical submerged body. Finally, Figure 10 shows the cylindrical  
380 submerged body having higher radiation damping. The increase in depth would reduce the  
381 dynamic interactions between the surface wave and the submerged body, thus reducing the  
382 radiation damping, this follows the same trend as the outcomes of Figure 8.

383 The main noticeable behavior of Figures 8-10 is that the cylindrical shape of the submerged body  
384 exhibits higher hydrodynamic properties than the spherical shape, and this is due to the  
385 cylindrical flat shape displacing more volume of water while oscillating, thus increasing the  
386 system's inertia and enhancing the hydrodynamic properties while operating underwater.

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388 These results are imported to a Matlab code which is based on Equation (8) to calculate the  
389 power (W) vs. frequency (Hz) curve shown in Figure 11 and the output of each system in the  
390 Taguchi method's matrix.

391

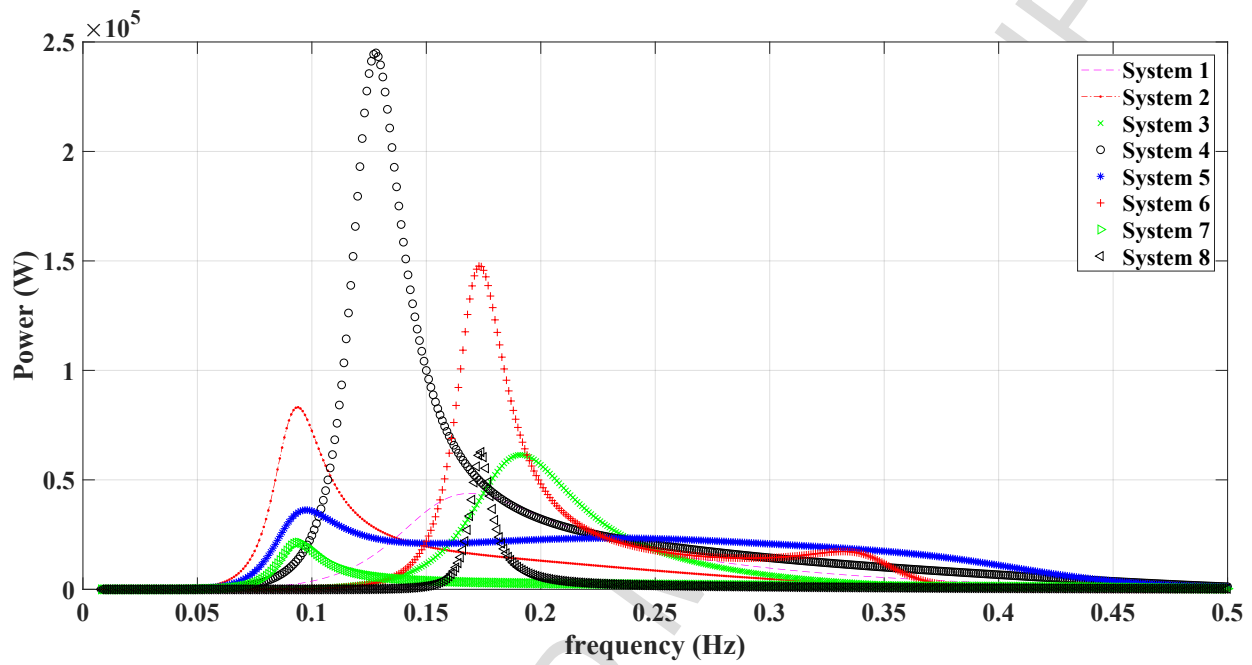


Figure 11: Output power vs frequency for the 8 systems



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#### 4. Discussions

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Figure 11 shows the output power vs. frequency for the 8 systems, and Table 3 includes numerical values of the results in Figure 11. The three main output performance attributes presented are the maximum power, the resonant frequency, and the bandwidth. It should be noted that the resonant frequency is desired to be low for two reasons: a) it is extremely hard to lower the resonant frequency of a designed system, while it is easy to increase it; b) this paper is a part of a project dedicated to design a wave energy converter for the Australian oceans where the operating frequency is relatively low (0.0833Hz-0.125Hz). In the wave energy conversion systems, the bandwidth is usually measured as the frequency range where the generated power is 50% of the maximum power, also known as the half power bandwidth.

**Table 3: Output performance attributes of the 8 systems**

System	Max Power (kW)	Resonance frequency (Hz)	Bandwidth (Hz)
1	43.806	0.170	0.087
2	83.152	0.095	0.032
3	61.432	0.192	0.059
4	245.000	0.129	0.030
5	36.210	0.098	0.258
6	147.620	0.174	0.028
7	21.327	0.095	0.016
8	62.690	0.175	0.011

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It is seen from Table 3 that System 4 resulted in the highest produced power of 245 kW, which is expected considering it has a large buoy, a large submerged body and low viscous damping (sphere). Systems 2 and 7 demonstrated the lowest resonant frequency at 0.095 Hz, followed by System 5 of 0.098 Hz, the undamped resonant frequency is  $f_r = \sqrt{\frac{k_h + k_p}{\sum_{j=1}^2 M_j}}$ , and the results are expected since the systems with the large submerged bodies had the lowest resonant frequency because of the large physical and added mass produced by the large volumes. System

414 5 had the largest bandwidth with 0.258 Hz of operational range. Since System 5 has the largest  
 415 resonant damping and a resonant frequency very close to the resonant frequency of Systems 2  
 416 and 7 which is the minimum resonant frequency of all the eight systems, equal to 0.095 Hz.  
 417 System 5 will be qualified as the best in terms of operating frequencies, and System 4 will be  
 418 qualified as the best in terms of maximum generated power. The large bandwidth and resonant  
 419 damping of System 5 are correlated with the high system inertia and viscous damping introduced  
 420 by the large cylindrical oscillating submerged body.

421 The systems of the best performance presented predictable results, but the Taguchi  
 422 method outcomes do not only present the best combination in favor of a specific output  
 423 performance attribute, but also it can study the magnitude of the effect each parameter has on the  
 424 performance.

425 **Table 4: Parameter effects on the maximum output power**

		Level 1 Power (kW)	Level 2 Power (kW)	Power Effect (kW)	Power Effect (%)
Parameter 1	PTO damping	108.348	66.962	-41.386	44.064
Parameter 2	PTO Stiffness	77.697	97.612	19.915	21.204
Parameter 3	Diameter of buoy	52.744	122.566	69.822	74.340
Parameter 4	Submerged body	40.694	134.616	93.922	100.000
Parameter 5	Submerged body Volume	78.887	96.422	17.535	18.670
Parameter 6	Buoy's Draft	96.927	78.383	-18.544	19.744
Parameter 7	Submerged body depth	114.438	60.871	-53.567	57.034

426  
 427 Table 4 shows the numerical magnitude of the effect of each parameter on the maximum  
 428 generated average power. The third column is the average of the maximum power for all the  
 429 systems set with level 1, while the fourth column is the average of the maximum power for all  
 430 the systems set with level 2, the fifth column is the difference between the third and the fourth,  
 431 and finally, the last column is the percentage effect value of the fifth column with respect to the  
 432 maximum power. All the parameter effect tables in this paper will have the same structure.

433 Parameter 4, the shape of the submerged body, had the biggest effect on the maximum  
 434 generated power with a 93.922 kW increase in average power going from a cylindrical

435 submerged body to a spherical submerged body. That is because the added viscous damping of a  
436 cylinder is much larger than the viscous damping of a sphere. The buoy's diameter had the  
437 second biggest effect on maximum generated average power, as increasing the diameter from 4m  
438 to 6m resulted in a 69.822 kW increase in the maximum output power. This is nothing surprising  
439 as it is widely known that for heaving point absorbers increasing the volume of the floater will  
440 increase the absorbed power. One rather unexpected result is the magnitude of the effect the  
441 depth of the submerged body on the maximum generated power. Increasing the depth of the  
442 submerged body from 20m to 40m resulted in a 53.567 kW decrease in the maximum generated  
443 power, which is almost 77% of the magnitude of the buoy's diameter effect. The physical cause  
444 is due to the three to four times reduction and peak frequency shift of the wave excitation force  
445 on the submerged body. Since the submerged body's physical and added masses are much larger  
446 than the buoy's, the changes of the wave excitation force on the submerged body have a higher  
447 manifestation in the system's dynamics. The PTO damping coefficient had an unusual effect on  
448 the power, as applying the control scheme, where the PTO damping coefficient is changing and  
449 equal to the external mechanical damping, should increase the maximum generated power.  
450 However, in this case the power was reduced by 41.386 kW. This indicates that the constant  
451 PTO damping coefficient value chosen in parameter 1, level 1 is close to the optimal value where  
452 the maximum power is harvested [14, 32], and that impedance matching for two-body point  
453 absorbers are not as effective as that for one-body point absorbers. This might be due to non-  
454 linear viscous damping forces acting on the submerged body. It should be noted that other  
455 control algorithms such as latching or phase control might give different results, but these control  
456 algorithms might have dominating effects on the performance of the proposed two-body point  
457 absorber as they have been shown being able to increase the captured power by a factor of two

458 [33]. Therefore, a simple impedance matching scheme was chosen for this study in order to  
 459 properly evaluate the effects of the other geometric and hydrodynamic design parameters. The  
 460 PTO stiffness, submerged body volume and buoy's draft had minor effects on the maximum  
 461 generated power ranging between 17 kW and 20 kW, as their effects on the resonant frequency  
 462 and the bandwidth are more manifested. However, it should be noted that increasing the draft  
 463 reduces the maximum power. This is caused by the reduction in the radiating capabilities  
 464 (reduction in the wave excitation force and the radiation damping).

465 **Table 5: Parameter effects on the resonant frequency**

		Level 1 resonance frequency (Hz)	Level 2 resonance frequency (Hz)	Frequency Effect (Hz)	Frequency Effect (%)
Parameter 1	PTO damping	0.147	0.136	-0.011	14.97
Parameter 2	PTO Stiffness	0.134	0.148	0.014	18.37
Parameter 3	Diameter of buoy	0.134	0.148	0.015	19.73
Parameter 4	Submerged body	0.139	0.143	0.005	6.12
Parameter 5	Submerged body Volume	0.178	0.104	-0.074	100.00
Parameter 6	Buoy's Draft	0.143	0.139	-0.004	5.44
Parameter 7	Submerged body depth	0.142	0.140	-0.002	2.72

467 Table 5 presents the numerical values of the magnitude of the effect each parameter has on  
 468 the resonant frequency using the same method as Table 4. There is one notable parameter which  
 469 had a great effect on the resonant frequency and that is the submerged body volume. Increasing  
 470 the volume of the submerged body from 33.51 m<sup>3</sup> to 113.1 m<sup>3</sup> (the diameter from 4 m to 6 m)  
 471 will decrease the resonant frequency by a 0.074 Hz. This is due to the increase of physical mass  
 472 and added mass with the increase of the volume, which reduces the resonant frequency according

473 to the equation  $f_r = \frac{\sqrt{k_h + k_p}}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^2 M_j}}$ . The rest of the parameters had a lower effect on the resonant  
 474 frequency. The PTO stiffness increase will increase the resonant frequency as the stiffness  
 475 increases the value of the numerator in the previous equation. The diameter of the buoy increase  
 476 will increase both the hydrodynamic stiffness  $k_h$  and added mass and will therefore increase the

477 values of both the denominator and numerator in the undamped resonant frequency equation, and  
 478 will cause a slight increase of the resonant frequency by 0.015 Hz as a result. The rest of the  
 479 parameters had a negligible effect on the resonant frequency.

480 **Table 6: Parameter effects on the bandwidth**

		Level 1 Bandwidth (Hz)	Level 2 Bandwidth (Hz)	Bandwidth effect (Hz)	Bandwidth effect (%)
Parameter 1	PTO damping	0.052	0.079	0.027	33.563
Parameter 2	PTO Stiffness	0.101	0.029	-0.072	90.125
Parameter 3	Diameter of buoy	0.037	0.094	0.057	71.688
Parameter 4	Submerged body	0.105	0.025	-0.080	100.000
Parameter 5	Submerged body Volume	0.046	0.084	0.038	46.938
Parameter 6	Buoy's Draft	0.097	0.034	-0.063	78.375
Parameter 7	Submerged body depth	0.040	0.090	0.050	62.313

481  
 482  
 483 Table 6 presents the numerical value of the magnitude of the effect each parameter has on  
 484 the bandwidth using the same method as Table 4. The shape of the submerged body had the  
 485 largest effect on the bandwidth with a bandwidth decrease of 0.08 Hz going from a cylinder to a  
 486 sphere. This is due to the increase of the system's inertia caused by the cylindrical shape and the  
 487 increase of both the viscous and radiation damping. The submerged body depth, the buoy's draft,  
 488 submerged body volume and diameter of the buoys all had a similar effect on the bandwidth  
 489 because of the change in the hydrodynamic properties of the system. Increasing the buoy's draft  
 490 reduced the bandwidth because of the decrease in the radiating capabilities. Increasing the  
 491 volume of the submerged body increases the bandwidth because of the increase of the viscous  
 492 damping. Finally, increasing the diameter of the buoy increases the bandwidth because of the  
 493 increase in the hydrodynamic properties. The PTO damping had a negligible effect on the  
 494 bandwidth because the difference between the variable damping and the constant damping is  
 495 small. The PTO damping would have larger effect on the bandwidth if the difference between the  
 496 variable damping and the constant damping is large. Finally, the PTO stiffness had a very

497 interesting effect on the bandwidth. This parameter wasn't expected to have an effect on the  
498 system's bandwidth, as it is widely known that in resonant oscillating systems, the system's  
499 stiffness affects the resonant frequency while the damping affects the bandwidth. Doubling the  
500 PTO stiffness reduced the bandwidth by 0.072 Hz, therefore, the PTO stiffness is the second  
501 largest parameter affecting bandwidth after the submerged body's shape. From Figure 7 and the  
502 viscous damping equation of the submerged body; it is seen that both the radiation and viscous  
503 damping values (the maximum viscous damping force would occur at the region of maximum  
504 submerged body velocity) change with the frequency. The higher PTO stiffness value would  
505 increase the resonant frequency of the system moving the resonant power peak further away  
506 from the area with the largest viscous and radiation damping, thus reducing the system's  
507 bandwidth.

## 508 5. Optimization

509 Section 4 presented a parametric study of a two body WEC, and the effect of each  
510 parameter on the maximum generated power, resonant frequency and bandwidth has been  
511 investigated.

512 This section will present an optimization method based on the Taguchi method's outcomes  
513 in an attempt to design a two- body WEC suitable for the Australian oceans where the ocean  
514 wave's frequencies change between 0.0833 Hz and 0.125 Hz. System 4 produced the highest  
515 average power of 254 kW but with a high resonant frequency at 0.129 Hz and a relatively small  
516 bandwidth at 0.0296 Hz. On the other hand, System 5 presented the best performance in terms of  
517 operational frequency with a low resonant frequency of 0.098 Hz and a large bandwidth of 0.258  
518 Hz, but a very low maximum power of 36.21 kW. Having large power but a high operational  
519 frequency isn't practical, and having a low operational frequency with low power output isn't

520 efficient. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the fourth section, Systems 4 and 5 will undergo  
521 an optimization procedure in order to increase the output power of System 5, and reduce the  
522 resonant frequency and increase the bandwidth of System 4. In System 5, increasing the power  
523 output will have a negative effect on the resonant frequency and bandwidth, while in System 4,  
524 this optimization of the operation frequency and bandwidth will have a negative effect on the  
525 power output, but the goal is to iterate and compromise in order to design a system with  
526 acceptable power output and can operate in the Australian oceans with a relatively large  
527 bandwidth.

528 The optimizations done on System 4 without changing its fundamental shape are:

- 529 • Reducing the PTO stiffness from 200 kN/m to 100 kN/m.
- 530 • Decreasing the buoy's draft from 1 m to 0.7 m.
- 531 • Increasing the depth of the submerged body from 20 m to 40 m.
- 532 • Increasing diameter of the submerged body from 6 m to 7 m.

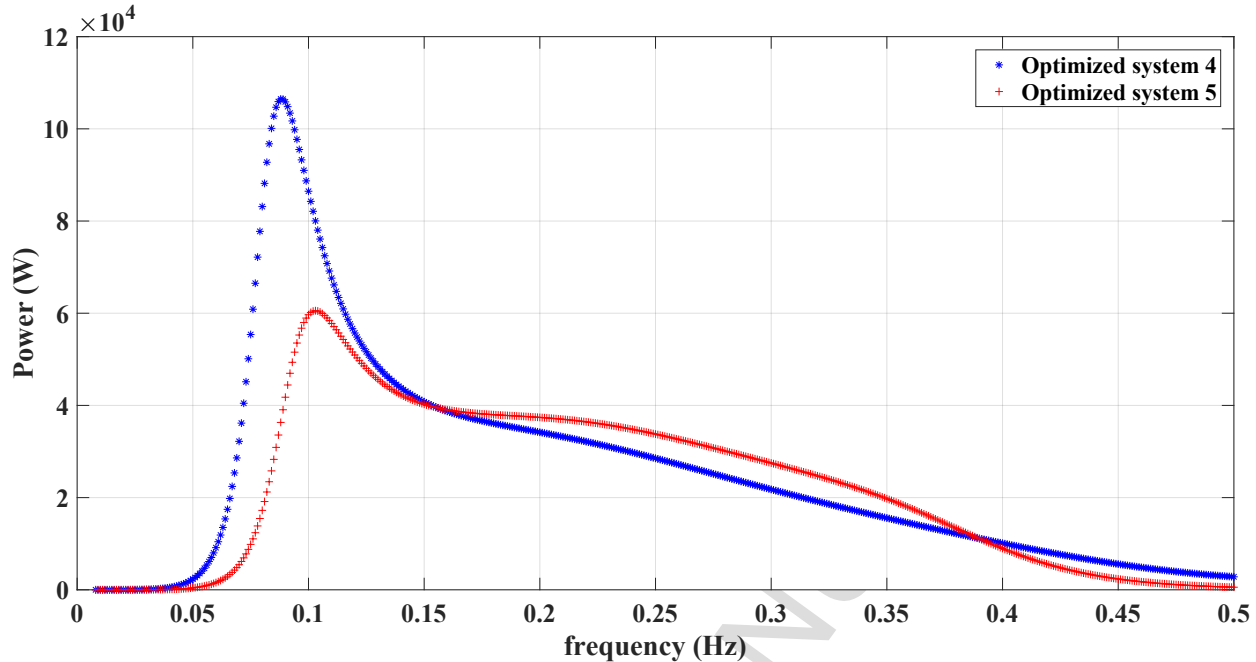
533 The first change targets reduction of the resonant frequency, the last three changes target  
534 broadening the bandwidth and should increase the operational range of the system, while the last  
535 change targets the increase of both the physical and added masses of the submerged body which  
536 also helps to reduce the resonant frequency.

537 The optimizations done on System 5 without changing its fundamental shape are:

- 538 • Increasing the diameter of the buoy from 6 m to 7 m.
- 539 • Decreasing the depth of the submerged body from 40m to 20m.

540 Both these optimizations should increase the captured power with a considerable increase of the  
541 system's hydrodynamic performance.

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543

544 **Figure 12: Optimized systems' output power vs. frequency**

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**Table 7: Performance of the optimized systems**

System	Max power (kW)	Resonance Fr (Hz)	Bandwidth (Hz)	Bandwidth @50% max power (Hz)
4 optimized	106.470	0.089	0.048	0.048
5 optimized	60.548	0.104	0.193	0.193

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Figure 12 represents the power vs. frequency curve, and Table 7 represents the numerical values for the output performance of both the optimized systems. System 4's maximum captured power has decreased because of the decrease in the hydrodynamic capabilities of the system caused by the increase in the submerged body's depth and the increase of the viscous damping with the increase of the submerged body's volume, but the resonant frequency and bandwidth are much more appropriate because of the optimizations applied. As for System 5, the



555 maximum captured power has almost doubled but at the price of a slight performance decrease in  
556 terms of resonant frequency and bandwidth.

557 Taking a closer look at Figure 12 shows that OS4 (Optimized System 4) has doubled the  
558 extracted peak power from 0.080 Hz to 0.156 Hz, and OS5 (Optimized System 5) has a slight  
559 more power in the 0.156 Hz- 0.390 Hz range. This is a clear indication that OS4 is better suited  
560 for the Australian sea conditions where the wave frequencies are mostly below 0.156 Hz. Table 7  
561 confirms the findings of Figure 12, even though OS5 has a maximum power of 60.548 kW at a  
562 resonant frequency of 0.104 Hz, which makes it well established to function in areas with low  
563 frequencies, OS4 has a higher maximum power peak of 106.470 kW (76% increase) at a lower  
564 resonant frequency of 0.089 Hz (well within the average of Australian waves' frequencies).

565 The fourth column of Table 7 represents the bandwidth of the optimized systems. OS4's  
566 bandwidth might seem low at 0.048Hz, especially compared to OS 5's 0.193Hz bandwidth, but  
567 taking a closer look at the numbers indicate that this range is almost entirely within the range of  
568 frequencies of Australian ocean waves. With an upper bound of 0.123 Hz which is very close to  
569 the upper bound of Australian ocean waves frequencies (0.125Hz), and a lower bound of  
570 0.075Hz, which means that this bandwidth includes the lower bound of the Australian ocean  
571 waves frequencies (0.0833Hz).

572 Therefore, this section presented an optimization method based on the parametric study  
573 outcomes obtained from the Taguchi method, and iterated two derived systems to optimize them  
574 for the Australian sea conditions with some sacrifices in maximum power. OS4 is clearly better  
575 suited for this project with higher absorbed power in the range of the target locations (low  
576 frequency operation) than OS5.

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## 6. Conclusion

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This paper identified the problem of the multidisciplinary nature of wave energy converters. A parametric study was conducted to investigate the effect of the system parameters on the wave energy conversion performance of the heaving point absorber with a submerged body based on the Taguchi method.

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The parametric study was used to identify the best combination of parameters in a system to deliver the best output performance. The output performance attributes studied were: the maximum absorbed average power, the resonant frequency and the bandwidth of the system. One important aspect looked at was the shape of the submerged body which was altered between a cylinder and a sphere. A cylindrical shape presents excellent hydrodynamic properties with high added mass and radiating capabilities which results in high system inertia and should perform well at low frequencies but it has high viscous damping compared to the spherical shape, which results in a lower absorbed power. Even though the spherical submerged body has less added mass and radiating capabilities, it can capture more power with the low viscous damping. Therefore a study was made to determine the best system in terms of both operational frequency range and captured power.

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According to the outcomes of the Taguchi method, it was found that the shape of the submerged body had the largest effect on captured power, followed by the buoy's diameter, submerged body depth and PTO damping. The rest of the parameters had a lower effect on the captured power. The volume of the submerged body had the biggest effect on the resonant frequency, in comparison, the rest of the parameters had a negligible effect on the resonant frequency. Finally, almost all the parameters had an effect on the bandwidth. The submerged body shape and PTO stiffness have the largest effects, and the PTO damping has a negligible

601 effect, this is a good indication of the dependency of all the parameters and how the system  
602 parameters affect the upper and lower bounds of the operational range.

603 Finally, two systems were identified from the Taguchi method, they are System 4 and  
604 System 5. System 4 had the maximum captured power peak, and System 5 had the best  
605 operational frequencies range. These two systems were further optimized from the findings of  
606 Taguchi method in an attempt to capture the maximum power while operating at low  
607 frequencies, which are suitable for the Australian ocean waves' state. It was found that OS4 had  
608 the best overall performance, and that a two body WEC system with a spherical submerged body  
609 should be optimized to present good system inertia and result in good performance at low  
610 frequencies, but at the cost of a reduction in the captured power.

611 The parametric study and optimization method presented in this paper should provide a  
612 future guide for two-body WEC designs, and compromises must be made to achieve a good  
613 performance at a certain sea state.

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#### 615 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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617 financial support.

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## Appendix A

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Table 8 : Taguchi method' L8 matrix and outcomes

INPUT VARIABLES									OUTPUT MEASURE: NOMINAL (TARGET):
RUN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		AVERAGE
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		43806
2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2		83152
3	1	2	2	1	1	2	2		61432
4	1	2	2	2	2	1	1		245000
5	2	1	2	1	2	1	2		36210
6	2	1	2	2	1	2	1		147620
7	2	2	1	1	2	2	1		21327
8	2	2	1	2	1	1	2		62690
AVERAGE	1	108,347.50	77,697.00	52,743.75	40,693.75	78,887.00	96,926.50	114,438.25	
	2	66,961.75	97,612.25	122,565.50	134,615.50	96,422.25	78,382.75	60,871.00	
EFFECT-	-	41,385.75	19,915.25	69,821.75	93,921.75	17,535.25	-18,543.75	- 53,567.25	
SETTINGS									
Col.		Variable		Level1		Level 2			
1 - A		PTO damping		100,000 Ns/m		Variable=External damping			
2 - B		PTO Stiffness		100,000 kN/m		200,000 kN/m			
3		Diameter of buoy		4 m		6 m			
4 - C		Submerged body geometry		Sphere		Cylinder			
5		Submerged body Volume		33.51 m <sup>3</sup>		113.1 m <sup>3</sup>			
6		Buoy's Draft		1 m		2 m			
7		Submerged body depth		20 m		40 m			

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## Appendix B

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Table 9: Physical properties of the systems

System	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PTO damping (N.s/m)	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	Variable	Variable	Variable	Variable
PTO Stiffness (N/m)	100,000	100,000	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	200,000	200,000
Buoy's diameter (m)	4	4	6	6	6	6	4	4
Buoy's height (m)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Buoy's dry mass (kg)	12906	25811	58075	29038	29038	58075	25811	12906
Buoy's Draft (m)	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1
Buoy's hydrostatic stiffness (N/m)	126605	126605	284860	284860	284860	284860	126605	126605
Submerged body geometry	Cylinder	Sphere	Cylinder	Sphere	Cylinder	Sphere	Cylinder	Sphere
Submerged body Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	33.51	113.1	33.51	113.1	113.1	33.51	113.1	33.51
Submerged body depth (m)	20	40	40	20	40	20	20	40
Submerged body radius (m)	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	2
Submerged body height (m)	2.667	-	2.667	-	4	-	4	-
Submerged body dry mass (kg)	34415	116154	34415	116154	116154	34415	116154	34415
Simulation water depth (m)	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400
Water density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027
viscous drag coefficient	1	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.1
Wave height (m)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

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**A parameter study and optimization of two body wave energy converters****Highlights document**

- Two-body wave energy converters were parametrically studied using Taguchi method.
- The results form a design guideline of two-body converters.
- The converters with different submerged body shapes are optimized.
- The coupled design parameters and their effects of the converters are identified.



**Table 1: Taguchi method L8 matrix**

	Parameter 1	Parameter 2	Parameter 3	Parameter 4	Parameter 5	Parameter 6	Parameter 7
System	PTO damping (N.s/m)	PTO Stiffness (N/m)	Diameter of buoy (m)	Submerged body geometry	Submerged body Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Buoy's Draft (m)	Submerged body depth (m)
1	$c_p=100000$	$k_1=100,000$	4	Cylinder	33.51	1	20
2	$c_p=100000$	$k_1=100,000$	4	Sphere	113.1	2	40
3	$c_p=100000$	$k_2=200,000$	6	Cylinder	33.51	2	40
4	$c_p=100000$	$k_2=200,000$	6	Sphere	113.1	1	20
5	Variable	$k_1=100,000$	6	Cylinder	113.1	1	40
6	Variable	$k_1=100,000$	6	Sphere	33.51	2	20
7	Variable	$k_2=200,000$	4	Cylinder	113.1	2	20
8	Variable	$k_2=200,000$	4	Sphere	33.51	1	40

**Table 2: Output performance attributes of the 8 systems**

System	Max Power (kW)	Resonance frequency (Hz)	Bandwidth (Hz)
1	43.806	0.170	0.087
2	83.152	0.095	0.032
3	61.432	0.192	0.059
4	245.000	0.129	0.030
5	36.210	0.098	0.258
6	147.620	0.174	0.028
7	21.327	0.095	0.016
8	62.690	0.175	0.011

**Table 3: Parameter effects on the maximum output power**

		<b>Level 1 Power (kW)</b>	<b>Level 2 Power (kW)</b>	<b>Power Effect (kW)</b>	<b>Power Effect (%)</b>
<b>Parameter 1</b>	<b>PTO damping</b>	<b>108.348</b>	<b>66.962</b>	<b>-41.386</b>	<b>44.064</b>
<b>Parameter 2</b>	<b>PTO Stifness</b>	<b>77.697</b>	<b>97.612</b>	<b>19.915</b>	<b>21.204</b>
<b>Parameter 3</b>	<b>Diameter of buoy</b>	<b>52.744</b>	<b>122.566</b>	<b>69.822</b>	<b>74.340</b>
<b>Parameter 4</b>	<b>Submerged body</b>	<b>40.694</b>	<b>134.616</b>	<b>93.922</b>	<b>100.000</b>
<b>Parameter 5</b>	<b>Submerged body Volume</b>	<b>78.887</b>	<b>96.422</b>	<b>17.535</b>	<b>18.670</b>
<b>Parameter 6</b>	<b>Buoy's Draft</b>	<b>96.927</b>	<b>78.383</b>	<b>-18.544</b>	<b>19.744</b>
<b>Parameter 7</b>	<b>Submerged body depth</b>	<b>114.438</b>	<b>60.871</b>	<b>-53.567</b>	<b>57.034</b>

**Table 4: Parameter effects on the resonant frequency**

		<b>Level 1 resonance frequency (Hz)</b>	<b>Level 2 resonance frequency (Hz)</b>	<b>Frequency Effect (Hz)</b>	<b>Frequency Effect (%)</b>
<b>Parameter 1</b>	<b>PTO damping</b>	<b>0.147</b>	<b>0.136</b>	<b>-0.011</b>	<b>14.97</b>
<b>Parameter 2</b>	<b>PTO Stiffness</b>	<b>0.134</b>	<b>0.148</b>	<b>0.014</b>	<b>18.37</b>
<b>Parameter 3</b>	<b>Diameter of buoy</b>	<b>0.134</b>	<b>0.148</b>	<b>0.015</b>	<b>19.73</b>
<b>Parameter 4</b>	<b>Submerged body</b>	<b>0.139</b>	<b>0.143</b>	<b>0.005</b>	<b>6.12</b>
<b>Parameter 5</b>	<b>Submerged body Volume</b>	<b>0.178</b>	<b>0.104</b>	<b>-0.074</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Parameter 6</b>	<b>Buoy's Draft</b>	<b>0.143</b>	<b>0.139</b>	<b>-0.004</b>	<b>5.44</b>
<b>Parameter 7</b>	<b>Submerged body depth</b>	<b>0.142</b>	<b>0.140</b>	<b>-0.002</b>	<b>2.72</b>

**Table 5: Parameter effects on the bandwidth**

		<b>Level 1 Bandwidth (Hz)</b>	<b>Level 2 Bandwidth (Hz)</b>	<b>Bandwidth effect (Hz)</b>	<b>Bandwidth effect (%)</b>
<b>Parameter 1</b>	<b>PTO damping</b>	<b>0.052</b>	<b>0.079</b>	<b>0.027</b>	<b>33.563</b>
<b>Parameter 2</b>	<b>PTO Stifness</b>	<b>0.101</b>	<b>0.029</b>	<b>-0.072</b>	<b>90.125</b>
<b>Parameter 3</b>	<b>Diameter of buoy</b>	<b>0.037</b>	<b>0.094</b>	<b>0.057</b>	<b>71.688</b>
<b>Parameter 4</b>	<b>Submerged body</b>	<b>0.105</b>	<b>0.025</b>	<b>-0.080</b>	<b>100.000</b>
<b>Parameter 5</b>	<b>Submerged body Volume</b>	<b>0.046</b>	<b>0.084</b>	<b>0.038</b>	<b>46.938</b>
<b>Parameter 6</b>	<b>Buoy's Draft</b>	<b>0.097</b>	<b>0.034</b>	<b>-0.063</b>	<b>78.375</b>
<b>Parameter 7</b>	<b>Submerged body depth</b>	<b>0.040</b>	<b>0.090</b>	<b>0.050</b>	<b>62.313</b>

**Table 6: Performance of the optimized systems**

<b>System</b>	<b>Max power (kW)</b>	<b>Resonance Fr (Hz)</b>	<b>Bandwidth (Hz)</b>	<b>Bandwidth @50% max power (Hz)</b>
<b>4 optimized</b>	<b>106.470</b>	<b>0.089</b>	<b>0.048</b>	<b>0.048</b>
<b>5 optimized</b>	<b>60.548</b>	<b>0.104</b>	<b>0.193</b>	<b>0.193</b>

Table 7 : Taguchi method' L8 matrix and outcomes

INPUT VARIABLES								OUTPUT MEASURE:
								NOMINAL (TARGET):
RUN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	AVERAGE
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	43806
2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	83152
3	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	61432
4	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	245000
5	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	36210
6	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	147620
7	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	21327
8	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	62690
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>1</b>	108348	77697	52744	40694	78887	96927	114438
	<b>2</b>	66962	97612	122566	134616	96422	78383	60871
<b>EFFECT-</b>		-41386	19915	69822	93922	17535	-18544	-53567
<b>SETTINGS</b>								
<b>Col.</b>	<b>Variable</b>			<b>Level1</b>			<b>Level 2</b>	
1 - A	PTO damping			100,000 Ns/m			Variable=External damping	
2 - B	PTO stiffness			100,000 N/m			200,000 N/m	
3	Diameter of buoy			4 m			6 m	
4 - C	Submerged body geometry			Sphere			Cylinder	
5	Submerged body volume			33.51 m <sup>3</sup>			113.1 m <sup>3</sup>	
6	Buoy's draft			1 m			2 m	
7	Submerged body depth			20 m			40 m	

