Interactive comment on “The risks of extreme load extrapolation” by Stefan F. van Eijk et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper is clear and well-written. It addresses an important practical component of wind turbine design, namely, the extrapolation of loads to a 50-year return value as described in IEC-61400 DLC 1.1. The authors use a simple but effective example of how uncertainties associated with sample size can lead to poor design decisions. The authors should consider the following comments:

1. What is the procedure for obtaining the 50-year load from the data? There is some uncertainty associated with this value, and the authors should attempt to estimate it (for example, from a bootstrap procedure).

2. It is not clear how the results might differ should one choose a different distribution other than GEV for the fit. While an exhaustive study of many possible distributions is not required, some discussion and exploration of this is in order.