

Linearized SWE for infinitesimal disturbances

$$z_b, u, v, \eta = h - H \ll 1$$

Then all products of small quantities are neglected, so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} - f v &= -g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} + f u &= -g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{LSWE})$$

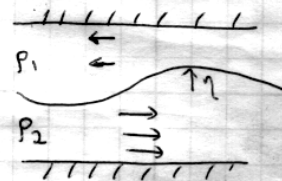
$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} (\eta - z_b) + H \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right] = 0$$

We'll see later that with appropriate redefinition of g and H , the exact same equations apply to systems with two or more layers with different densities. For a two layer system with $\rho_2 - \rho_1 \ll \rho_1$, we'll see:

$$g_{\text{eff}} = g \frac{\rho_2 - \rho_1}{\rho_1} \quad (\ll g!)$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \frac{H_1 H_2}{H_1 + H_2}$$

$$u_{\text{eff}} = u_2 - u_1$$

Poincaré Waves (CR6.3)

Strategy: Look for sinusoidal disturbances to the LSWE in a horizontally unbounded domain on an f -plane. All coeffs of LSWE constant (ind. of x, y, t) so this can work (represents Fourier transform of LSWE in x, y, t)

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} = \text{Re} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u} \\ \hat{v} \\ \hat{\eta} \end{pmatrix} e^{i(kx + ly - \omega t)} \right\} \quad \begin{aligned} (k, l) &= \text{hor. wavenumbers} \\ \omega &= \text{frequency} \end{aligned}$$

When we find a soln we take its real part to obtain a "physical" solution.

Note

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \leftarrow ik, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \leftarrow il, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \leftarrow -i\omega$$

$$-i\omega \hat{u} - f \hat{v} = -g \cdot ik \hat{\eta} \quad (1)$$

$$-i\omega \hat{v} + f \hat{u} = -g \cdot il \hat{\eta} \quad (2)$$

$$-i\omega \hat{\eta} + H_0 \{ ik \hat{u} + il \hat{v} \} = 0 \quad (3)$$

Eliminate $\hat{u}, \hat{v}$ in terms of $\hat{\eta}$ using (1) + (2)

$$\hat{u} = \frac{\omega l + ifl}{\omega^2 - f^2} g \hat{\eta}$$

$$\hat{v} = \frac{\omega l - ifl}{\omega^2 - f^2} g \hat{\eta}$$

(Polarization relations)

Plug into (3)

$$-i\omega \{ \omega^2 - f^2 - g H_0 (k^2 + l^2) \} \hat{\eta} = 0 \quad (\text{Dispersion relation})$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = 0, \quad \hat{u} = -\frac{ilg\hat{\eta}}{f} \Leftrightarrow \frac{g}{f} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = u_g, \quad \hat{v} = \frac{ikg\hat{\eta}}{f} \Leftrightarrow v = \frac{g}{f} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = v_g \quad (\text{Geostrophic mode})$$

$$\omega^2 = f^2 + c_0^2 \underbrace{(k^2 + l^2)}_{k^2}, \quad c_0 = (gH_0)^{1/2}$$

Note rotation only significant if $k \lesssim \frac{1}{R}$, $R = \frac{c_0}{f} = \text{Rossby radius};$

If we'd used full eqns,

$$-\omega(\omega^2 - f^2 - gH_0(k^2 + l^2)) \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

$$\text{or } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - f^2 + gH_0 \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \right) \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

This is useful for finite-domain problems.

Lab ($f = 2\Omega = 6.5^\circ$)
 $H = 0.1 \text{ m}$
 $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2 \Rightarrow c_0 = 1 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$
 $R = 16 \text{ cm}$
 $g' = 0.4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \Rightarrow c_0 = 0.2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$
 $R = 3 \text{ cm}$

Ocean $H = 1 \text{ km}$ ($H_1 = 1, H_2 = 0$)
 $g = 0.03 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$
 $\Rightarrow c_0 = 5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}, R = 50 \text{ km}$

Atm $H = 28 \text{ km}$ ($H_1 = H_2 = 5$)
 $g_{\text{eff}} = 0.7 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$
 $\Rightarrow c_0 = 40 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}, R = 400 \text{ km}$

Dispersion Diagram

For a wave propagating in the x direction ($x=k, l=0$)

$$c_{ph} = \frac{\omega}{k} \Rightarrow c_0 = \sqrt{gH_0}, \quad \left[c_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = \frac{c_0^2}{c_{ph}} < c_0 \right] \text{ later}$$

Note that $\omega > 0$ and $\omega < 0$ correspond to R and L moving waves. $f=0$ case - non-dispersive c_{ph} ind. of k .

For a R-moving wave with $k > 0, l=0, \omega > 0$,

$$\hat{u} = g \frac{k\omega g}{\omega^2 - f^2} \hat{\eta} = \frac{g}{c_0} \hat{\eta} \quad (f=0),$$

$$\hat{v} = g \frac{-ikfg}{\omega^2 - f^2} \hat{\eta} = 0 \quad (f=0)$$

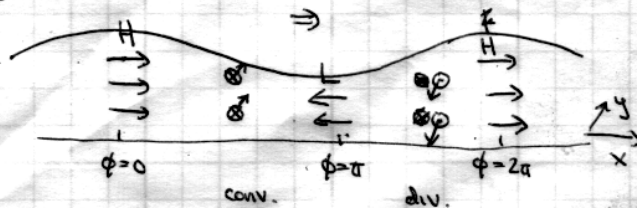
$$\text{i.e. } \hat{\eta}(x,t) = \text{Re } \hat{\eta} e^{i(kx + ly - \omega t)} = \eta_0 \cos(kx - \omega t) \quad \hat{\eta} = \eta_0 \text{ real,}$$

$$u(x,y) = \text{Re } \hat{u} e^{i(kx + ly - \omega t)} = \frac{kg\omega}{\omega^2 - f^2} \eta_0 \cos(kx - \omega t) \quad (\text{in phase with } \eta)$$

$$v(x,y) = \text{Re } \frac{-ikfg}{\omega^2 - f^2} \eta_0 e^{i(kx + ly - \omega t)} = \frac{kfg}{\omega^2 - f^2} \eta_0 \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

Note if $f=0, v=0$; and $c_{ph}=c_0$ for all k 's.
 (gravity wave)

At a given x , ϕ decreases at a rate $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = -\omega$, so we can



scroll from R to L to see behavior at one position

at a succession of times. Viewed this way, we see the column velocity changing due to condis turning + pressure gradients, and column height responding to div/con.

At $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2}$, $\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0$ and $\eta = 0$ so $g - \frac{f^2}{\eta + H} = f/H \Leftrightarrow$ wave carries no PV perturbation.

If $k > 0$, $\omega^2 - f^2 = c_0^2 k^2 \rightarrow 0$ so $\omega \approx \pm f$. These are inertial oscillations!

u and v become large w.r.t. η_0 , and $|\hat{u}| = |\hat{v}| = \frac{gf}{c_0^2 k} \eta_0$.

Note steady geostrophic modes with $\omega=0$ too, geostrophic + carry the PV in the flow.