1<sup>st</sup> International Rip Current Symposium, 2010

Alongshore differential topographically controlled wave-breaking and rip current circulation





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# □ 2D horizontal circulation ↔ vertical vorticity field

### **D** 2DH wave-averaged approach

- ⇒ generation of mean flow vertical vorticity is an
   old problem (*see Bowen (1969)*) but still an open one
   ⇒ improvement of 2DH circulation modeling is a necessary step for
   the development of more complex quasi-3D (*e.g. Haas et al. (2003)*)
  - or 3D (e.g. Mellor (2003), Ardhuin (2008), Reniers et al. (2008)) approaches.

### Vorticity generation by a bore in shallow water

NSWE theory ⇒ non-uniformities along the breaking-wave crest drive vertical vorticity, *Peregrine (1998)* 



For 2DH wave-averaged approaches, what is the resulting effect of this mechanism integrated over a wave period ?

2DH mean current vorticity ⇒ Bowen (1969) a pioneering work

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}_T}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{U}_T \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{U}_T + g \nabla \bar{\zeta} = \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{V}_s + \mathbf{F}_r$$

 $\mathbf{U}_T = \frac{1}{\bar{h}} \overline{\int_{-d}^{\zeta} \mathbf{u}_H \, dz} : \text{mean transport horizontal velocity}$  $R_i = -\frac{1}{\bar{h}} \frac{\partial S_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$ 

$$\frac{\partial \omega_T}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\omega_T \mathbf{U}_T) = \nabla \wedge \mathbf{R} + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{V}_s + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{F}_r$$

Outside the surf zone:  $\nabla \wedge \mathbf{R} = 0$ .

**Inside the surf zone:** the forcing term  $\nabla \wedge \mathbf{R}$  is implicitly related to wave energy dissipation (see Longuet-Higgins and Stewart 1973 and Battjes 1988).

ray

ek

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Reformulation of the mean momentum equation: Smith (2006)

$$\bar{h}\mathbf{U}_T = \overline{\int_{-d}^{\zeta} \mathbf{u}_H \, dz} = \bar{h}\mathbf{U} + \underbrace{\int_{-d}^{\zeta} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H \, dz}_{\tilde{\mathbf{M}}}$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( A(c_{gj} + U_j) \right) = -\frac{D_{b_m}}{\sigma}$$

$$A = E/\sigma \qquad \qquad \tilde{M}_i = Ak_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{U}.\nabla)\mathbf{U} + g\nabla\bar{\zeta} = \mathcal{D}\mathbf{e}_k - \nabla\tilde{J} + \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{M}}}{\bar{h}} \wedge (\nabla \wedge \mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{V}_s + \mathbf{F}_r$$
 wave front

$$\widetilde{J} = E \frac{k}{\sinh(2k\overline{h})} \qquad \qquad \mathcal{D} = \frac{D_{b_m}}{\overline{h}c_\phi}$$

## Wave-induced vertical vorticity

Vorticity equation for the wave-induced circulation: Bonneton et al (DCDS-S 2010)

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \omega (\mathbf{U} + \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{M}}}{\bar{h}}) \right) = \underbrace{\nabla \wedge (\mathcal{D} \mathbf{e}_k)}_{\sim \nabla \mathcal{D} \wedge \mathbf{e}_k} + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{V}_s + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{F}_r$$
$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{D_{b_m}}{\bar{h}c_{\phi}}$$
vorticity forcing term

<u>Remark</u> : the gradient of mean elevation (setup/setdown)

is not a driving force for the circulation  
but: 
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{U} + g\nabla \overline{\zeta} = \mathcal{D}\mathbf{e}_k - \nabla \widetilde{J} + \frac{\widetilde{\mathbf{M}}}{\overline{h}} \wedge (\nabla \wedge \mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{V}_s + \mathbf{F}_r$$

## Wave-induced vertical vorticity

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$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{D_{b_m}}{\bar{h}c_\phi}$$



Vorticity equation for a stationary wave forcing

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \omega (\mathbf{U} + \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{M}}}{\bar{h}}) \right) = \nabla \mathcal{D} \wedge \mathbf{e}_k + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{V}_s + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{F}_r$$
$$V_{s_i} = \frac{1}{\bar{h}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \nu_t \bar{h} (\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_i}) \right)$$
$$\nabla \mathcal{D} \wedge \mathbf{e}_k + \underbrace{\nabla \wedge \mathbf{V}_s}_{\sim \nu_t \nabla^2 \omega} \simeq 0$$

 ${\cal D}$  and  $\nu_t$  are the key parameters

□ 2DH SWAN/MARS coupling model based on

Smith's equations: Bruneau (2009, PhD.)

classical parametrisations:

 $\mathcal{D} \Rightarrow$  Battjes and Janssen (1978)  $\nu_t \Rightarrow$  Battjes (1975)

comparisons with field measurements

Biscarosse Beach 2007: Bruneau et al (2009, CSR)

# **Applications**





### **Applications**



 $\gamma$ -parametrisation: Smith and Kraus, 1990

#### Intertidal zone measurements



# **Applications**



MARS / SWAN model

Bruneau, Bonneton, Castelle and Pedreros (2008)

# **Applications**



**Applications** 



Hs=0.9m ,  $\theta$  =10°, mid-tide

# **Applications**



Bruneau, Bonneton, Castelle and Pedreros (2008)

The rip current mean circulation is driven by wave-energy dissipation gradients, perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation, which are due to non-uniformities along the bore crests

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \omega (\mathbf{U} + \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{M}}}{\bar{h}}) \right) = & \begin{bmatrix} \nabla \wedge (\mathcal{D} \mathbf{e}_k) \\ & \nabla \mathcal{D} \wedge \mathbf{e}_k \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{V}_s + \nabla \wedge \mathbf{F}_r \\ \mathcal{D} = & \frac{D_{b_m}}{\bar{h}c_{\phi}} \\ \text{vorticity (circulation) forcing term} \end{split}$$

 ${\cal D}$  and  $\nu_t$  are the key parameters for describing rip current circulation

### **Conclusion and perspectives**

Further works are required to better characterize  $\omega$ ,  $v_t$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ 

- $\Box$   $\omega$ ,  $v_t \Rightarrow$  drifter-based method
  - laboratory experiments: e.g. Castelle et al. (2010)
  - field experiments: e.g. MacMahan et al. (2009)



 $\square$   $\mathcal{D} \Rightarrow$  theoretical NSW shock-wave approaches

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{g}{4c_bT} \frac{(h_2 - h_1)^3}{h_2h_1}$$

Bonneton et al. (2010)

⇒ quantitative experimental validations

