# Turbulence of surface water waves

#### Quentin Aubourg, Nicolas Mordant

Laboratoire des Ecoulements Géophysiques et Industriels Université de Grenoble Alpes, France

WATU project



European Research Council Established by the European Commission





# Wave turbulence ?

# Weak Turbulence Theory





main hypotheses of weak turbulence theory:

- large system
- weak non linearity: time scale separation T<sub>linear</sub> << T<sub>nonlinear</sub>
- ➡ statistical theory for the **slow time evolution of statistical quantities** (PDF, Fourier spectrum...)



# example: thin elastic plate (flexion waves)

G. Düring, S. Rica, C. Josserand, PRL 97 (2006)

• dynamical nonlinear wave equation (Föppl - Von Karman eqs)

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{Eh^2}{12(1-\sigma^2)} \Delta^2 \zeta + \{\zeta, \chi\}$$
non linearity

$$\frac{1}{E}\Delta^2\chi = -\frac{1}{2}\{\zeta,\zeta\}$$

 $\zeta(x, y, t)$  deformation from flat plate  $\chi(x, y, t)$  Airy stress function  $\{f, g\} = f_{xx}g_{yy} + f_{yy}g_{xx} - 2f_{xy}g_{xy}$  *h* plate thickness *E* Young's modulus *σ* Poisson's coefficient *ρ* specific mass

weak turbulence theory → evolution equation for the wave action spectrum (kinetic equation)

$$\frac{dn_k^s}{dt} = 12\pi \int |J_{\mathbf{k}\mathbf{k}_1\mathbf{k}_2\mathbf{k}_3}|^2 \sum_{s_1s_2s_3} n_{\mathbf{k}_1}n_{\mathbf{k}_2}n_{\mathbf{k}_3}n_{\mathbf{k}} \left(\frac{1}{n_{\mathbf{k}}} + \frac{s_1}{n_{\mathbf{k}_1}} + \frac{s_2}{n_{\mathbf{k}_2}} + \frac{s_3}{n_{\mathbf{k}_3}}\right) \delta(\omega_k + s_1\omega_{k_1} + s_2\omega_{k_2} + s_3\omega_{k_3})$$
  
energy exchanges through wave resonances

stationary solutions → Kolmogorov-Zakharov spectrum

 $E_{\zeta}(k) = C \frac{P^{1/3}}{\left[12(1-\sigma^2)\right]^{1/6}} \frac{\ln^{1/3}(k^{\star}/k)}{\sqrt{E/\rho}k^3} \qquad P: \text{energy} \\ \text{dissipation rate}$ 

# wave turbulence

#### very diverse phenomenology

- weak turbulence
- **strong** wave turbulence: structures solitons, singularities
- multiple cascades in scales

(energy, action, momentum,...) Bose-Einstein condensate

- coexistence with Fluid Turbulence
- finite size effects



### wide range of applications:

not restricted to fluids !

- geophysics oceanic/atmospheric waves
  - ➡ climate modeling, wave forecasting
- plasmas confinement issues in ITER, solar winds
- non linear optics semiconductor/fiber lasers
- **condensed matter** formation of BEC, superfluid turbulence

### need for experimental input and for deeper statistical analysis

### Probe the fundamental nonlinear coupling for water waves

#### Gravity-capillary surface water waves

Linear dispersion relation :

$$\omega = \sqrt{gk + \frac{\gamma}{\rho}k^3}$$





#### our experiment:

$$\omega/2\pipprox$$
 1 to 60 Hz  $\lambda=2\pi/kpprox$  0.01 to 1m

across the gravity/capillary crossover

#### high speed Fourier transform profilometry: space and time resolved measurement

 $\omega = \sqrt{gk + \frac{\gamma}{\rho}k^3}$ water  $+TiO_2$ oscillating vessel (0-2 Hz) 70 cm 40 cm

water surface waves around the gravity/capillary crossover

#### Experimental observation of Weak Turbulence: space and time resolved measurement



#### **Spectral analysis**



# influence of magnitude of forcing





wave resonances ?

### **Resonance investigation**

50 40 2D solutions  $\mathbf{k}_3$  $\mathbf{k}_2$ ω<sup>min</sup> / 2π (Hz) 00 30  $\mathbf{k}_1$ 1D solutions 10  $\mathbf{k}_3$  $\mathbf{k}_2$  $\mathbf{k}_1$ 0∟ 0 10 20 30 40 50 ω<sub>2</sub>/ 2π (Hz)

Theoretical exact solutions

3-wave resonant interaction

$$\omega_1 = \omega_2 + \omega_3$$
$$\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3$$

Linear dispersion relation

$$\omega = \sqrt{gk + \frac{\gamma}{\rho}k^3}$$

### **Resonance investigation**

Theoretical exact solutions



#### 3 wave coherence

$$C(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) = |\langle \langle v^*(\omega_1)v(\omega_2)v(\omega_3) \rangle \rangle|$$



### **Resonance investigation**

Theoretical exact solutions

![](_page_14_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Resonance investigation (weak forcing)**

Bi-coherence

 $B(\omega_2,\omega_3)$ 

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

Aubourg & Mordant, PRL 2015

## **Resonance investigation:**

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

-1.5

-2

-2.5

#### role of approximate resonances: case of 1D interactions

3-wave quasi resonant interactions (1D case):

 $k_1 \pm \delta k = k_2 + k_3$  $\omega_1 = \omega_2 + \omega_3$ 

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

# **Resonance investigation (weak forcing)**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Perspectives

#### gravity surface waves: think bigger...

Coriolis facility: 13 m in diameter

surface waves or bilayer case (clear/salted water, no capillarity)

![](_page_20_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### gravity surface waves: think bigger...

with Q. Aubourg, A. Campagne, J. Sommeria & S. Viboud

# **Observation of nonlinear waves interactions**

on Surface gravity waves and Internal gravity waves

Coriolis Platform, LEGI, Grenoble, France

movie by Q. Aubourg

# 1D gravity surface waves (I. Redor)

**1D case**: 36 m linear wave flume

![](_page_22_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### strongly non linear wave turbulence in a vibrated plate: emergence of singularities

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

emergence of **coherent structures** (singularities) and **intermittency** coexisting with weak turbulence

influence of structures on energy transfer ?

#### the vibrating plate: a "simple" but rich model for wave turbulence !

Miquel, Alexakis, Josserand & Mordant, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2013

# Wave Turbulence of Internal waves ? (with P. Augier, A. Campagne, B. Voisin & J. Sommeria)

 generate turbulence in stratified fluid or stratified+rotating fluid at both low Fr number et high Re number

compare:

- forcing with waves (oscillating bodies or topography)
- forcing with vortices (moving cylinders)

Coriolis facility in Grenoble (fully reconstructed in 2014) supervisor: J. Sommeria

13 m in diameter 1m deep hydraulic scheme for salt/alcohol stratification rotation down to 10 s period

> 3D, 3 components time resolved PIV + Lagrangian particle tracking

![](_page_24_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_9.jpeg)

WATU

European Research Council Established by the European Commission