

2D Viscous internal waves and streaming

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Introduction

Viscosity can play an important role for internal waves generated in labs. The Reynolds number $Re = \frac{UL}{\nu}$ is several order of magnitude lower in labs experiments than in the ocean context.

Consequently, viscosity associated features might matter :

- Decay of internal wave beams
- Boundary layers
- Streaming

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The 2D Boussinesq model

2D Boussinesq model : Equations

- Momentum equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P + S \mathbf{e}_z + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

- Buoyancy advection equation

$$\partial_t S + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla S = 0$$

- Incompressible flow

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

2D Boussinesq model : Equations

Velocity field : $\mathbf{u} = (u, w)$

- Momentum equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P + S \mathbf{e}_z + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

- Buoyancy advection equation

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- Incompressible flow

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2D Boussinesq model : Equations

Nabla operator $\nabla = (\partial_x, \partial_z)$ and Laplacian operator $\Delta = \partial_x^2 + \partial_z^2$

- Momentum equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P + S \mathbf{e}_z + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

- Buoyancy advection equation

$$\partial_t S + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla S = 0$$

- Incompressible flow

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2D Boussinesq model : Equations

Pressure field P and the buoyancy field $S = -g \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0}$.

- Momentum equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P + S \mathbf{e}_z + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

- Buoyancy advection equation

$$\partial_t S + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla S = 0$$

- Incompressible flow

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

Casimirs, potential energy and background stratification

- The buoyancy advection equation implies the conservation of Casimirs :

$$C_f [S] = \iint S (x, z, t) dx dz$$

where f is any function.

- \implies The buoyancy field evolves by rearranging itself.
- The standard potential energy is defined by :

$$E_p [S] = - \iint S (x, z, t) z \, dx dz$$

- The background stratification is defined by :

$$E_p \left[b_{\text{bg}} \right] = \min_S \{ E_p [S] \mid C_f [S] = C_f \, \forall f \}$$

such that $b_{\text{bg}} (x, z, t) = \int_0^z N^2 (z') \, dz'$ where N is the local Brunt-Väisälä frequency .

Buoyancy and pressure disturbances

- We define the buoyancy disturbance fields by $b = S - b_{\text{bg}}$ and the pressure disturbance by $p = P - \int^z b_{\text{bg}}(z') \, dz'$
- Injecting this in the equations of motion, one gets :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} &= -\nabla p + b \mathbf{e}_z + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \partial_t b + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla b + N^2(z) w &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0 \end{cases}$$

Potential energy of the buoyancy disturbance

- For the standard expression of the potential energy, the fact that $b = 0$ is a minimum is not obvious:

$$E_p[S] - E_p[b_{bg}] = \Delta E_p[b] = - \iint b \, dx dz$$

- Let us introduce $f = \left(\int^z b_{bg} \right)^{-1}$, such that :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_f[b_{bg}] &= \mathcal{C}_f[b_{bg} + b] \\ &= \mathcal{C}_f[b_{bg}] - \Delta E_p[b] + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \iint \frac{f^{(k)}(b_{bg})}{k!} b^k \, dx dz \end{aligned}$$

- For $|b| \ll 1$ we have

$$\Delta E_p[b] \approx \iint \frac{b^2(x, z, t)}{2N^2(z)} dx dz$$

This relation is exact if $N^2 = \text{Cte}$.

2D Boussinesq model : Adimensionalization

- We assume $N^2 = \text{Cte}$ in the following
- $(\tilde{x}, \tilde{z}) = K(x, z)$ where K is a typical wave number (e.g. the wave number of the generator)
- $\tilde{t} = \Omega t$ where Ω is a typical frequency (e.g. the frequency of the generator)
- $\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{K}{\Omega} \mathbf{u}$
- $\tilde{b} = \frac{K}{N^2} b$
- $\tilde{P} = \frac{k^2}{\Omega^2} P$

2D Boussinesq model : Dimensionless parameters and adimensionalized equations

There are two independent dimensionless parameters :

- The Reynold number : $\text{Re} = \frac{\Omega}{\nu K^2}$
- The Fround number : $\text{Fr} = \frac{\Omega}{N}$

The resulting adimensionalized equations write :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} &= -\nabla P + \frac{1}{\text{Fr}^2} b \mathbf{e}_z + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \partial_t b + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla b + w &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0 \end{cases}$$

Wave and mean-flow decomposition

Zonally symmetric flows

We consider here the simplest case of zonally periodic flows :

- The averaging operator is defined by $\bar{u} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u \, dx$.
- The wave and mean-flow decomposition is defined by $(u, w, b, P) = (\bar{u}, \bar{w}, \bar{b}, \bar{P}) + (u', w', b', P')$
- Taking the mean part of the equations of motion leads to the **mean-flow equations** :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \bar{u} - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \partial_{zz} \bar{u} &= -\partial_z \overline{u' w'} \\ \bar{w} &= 0 \\ \bar{P} &= \overline{w'^2} \\ \partial_t \bar{b} &= -\partial_z \overline{b' w'} \end{cases}$$

Waves equations

- Subtracting the mean flow equations to the equations of motions leads to the **wave equations** :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t u' + \bar{u} \partial_x u' + w' \partial_z \bar{u} + u' \partial_x u' + w' \partial_z u' - \partial_z \overline{u' w'} + \partial_x P' - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta u' = 0 \\ \partial_t w' + \bar{u} \partial_x w' + u' \partial_x w' + w' \partial_z w' - \partial_z \overline{w'^2} + \partial_z P' - \frac{1}{\text{Fr}^2} b' - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta w' = 0 \\ \partial_t b' + \bar{u} \partial_x b' + u' \partial_x b' + w' \partial_z b' - \partial_z \overline{b' w'} + \underbrace{(1 + \partial_z \bar{b})}_{N^2(z)} w' = 0 \\ \partial_x u' + \partial_z w' = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

- Non-linear terms** leading to PSI.

Inviscid internal waves

Let us first ignore the non-linear and viscous terms in the wave equations :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u' + \bar{u} \partial_x u' + w' \partial_z \bar{u} + \partial_x P' & = 0 \\ \partial_t w' + \bar{u} \partial_x w' + \partial_z P' - \frac{1}{Fr^2} b' & = 0 \\ \partial_t b' + \bar{u} \partial_x b' + N^2 w' & = 0 \\ \partial_x u' + \partial_z w' & = 0 \end{cases}$$

As a direct consequence :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_z \overline{u' w'} & = \partial_t \left(\frac{1}{N^2} \overline{b' (\partial_x w' - \partial_z u')} + \frac{1}{N^4} \frac{\overline{b'^2}}{2} \partial_{zz} \bar{u} \right) \\ \overline{b' w'} & = -\partial_t \left(\frac{\overline{b'^2}}{2N^2} \right) \end{cases}$$

- We introduce $a \ll 1$ and associated slow variables $(Z, T, T_{\text{mf}}) = (az, at, a^3t)$ and assume $\bar{u} = \bar{u}(Z, T_{\text{mf}}) = O(1)$.
- WKB ansatz :

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \\ b\text{Fr}/N \\ P \end{bmatrix} = a \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a^j \begin{bmatrix} u_j(Z, T) \\ w_j(Z, T) \\ b_j(Z, T) \text{Fr}/N \\ P_j(Z, T) \end{bmatrix} \exp \left(i \frac{\Phi(Z, T)}{a} - ikx \right)$$

- We define $m = -\partial_Z \Phi$, $\omega = \partial_T \Phi$ and $\hat{\omega} = \omega - k\bar{u}$

WKB ansatz

Injecting the WKB ansatz and collecting the first order terms leads to :

$$\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} + a \left(\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ w_1 \\ b_1 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_1 \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \partial_T u_0 + w_0 \partial_Z \bar{u} \\ \partial_T w_0 + \partial_Z P_0 \\ \partial_T b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ \partial_Z w_0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{T}[\bar{u}, \phi_0]} \right) = 0$$

With :

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} i\hat{\omega} & 0 & 0 & -ik \\ 0 & i\hat{\omega} & -\frac{N}{\text{Fr}} & -im \\ 0 & \frac{N}{\text{Fr}} & i\hat{\omega} & 0 \\ -ik & -im & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Order zero

$$\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \implies \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \det \mathbf{M} \\ \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathcal{P} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} = 0 \iff \hat{\omega}^2 = \frac{N^2 k^2}{\text{Fr}^2 (k^2 + m^2)} \\ = \phi_0 \mathcal{P} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\omega}/k \\ -\hat{\omega}/m \\ -iN/m\text{Fr} \\ \hat{\omega}^2/k^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Dispersion relation

$$\hat{\omega}^2 = \frac{N^2 k^2}{\text{Fr}^2 (k^2 + m^2)}$$

- $-N \leq \text{Fr}\hat{\omega} \leq N$
- Phase and Group velocities :

$$\mathbf{c}_\varphi = \frac{\hat{\omega}}{\mathbf{k}^2} \mathbf{k} \quad , \quad \mathbf{c}_g = -\frac{\hat{\omega}}{\mathbf{k}^2} \frac{m}{k} \mathbf{k}^\perp$$

where $\mathbf{k}^\perp = (-m, k)$.

- $\mathbf{c}_\varphi \cdot \mathbf{c}_g = 0$

Order one

We take the scalar product of the order one terms with $\phi_0^* \mathcal{P}^\dagger$:

$$\mathcal{P}^\dagger \cdot \mathcal{T} [\bar{u}, \phi_0] = 0$$

After some algebra, we get the **wave-activity equation** :

$$\partial_t A + \partial_z (A w_g) = 0 \quad , \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} A &= \frac{E}{\hat{\omega}} \\ w_g &= -\frac{\text{Fr}^2 \hat{\omega}^3 m}{N^2 k^2} \end{cases}$$

where

$$E = \frac{1}{4} \left(|u_0|^2 + |w_0|^2 + \frac{\text{Fr}^2}{N^2} |b_0|^2 \right) = \frac{N^2 |\phi_0|^2}{2 \text{Fr}^2 m^2}$$

We can check that at leading order $\overline{u'w'} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{R}e [u_0 w_0^*] = k A w_g$ such that $\partial_z \overline{u'w'} \approx -\partial_t (k A)$

Viscous internal waves

We put the viscous operator back into the linearized wave equations :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u' + \bar{u} \partial_x u' + w' \partial_z \bar{u} + \partial_x P' - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta u' & = 0 \\ \partial_t w' + \bar{u} \partial_x w' + \partial_z P' - \frac{1}{\text{Fr}^2} b' - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta w' & = 0 \\ \partial_t b' + \bar{u} \partial_x b' + N^2 w' & = 0 \\ \partial_x u' + \partial_z w' & = 0 \end{cases}$$

We still have:

$$\overline{b'w'} = -\partial_t \left(\frac{\overline{b'^2}}{2N^2} \right)$$

We use the same assumptions and consider the same WKB ansatz in the following.

WKB ansatz

Injecting the WKB ansatz and collecting the first order terms leads to :

$$\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} + a \left(\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ w_1 \\ b_1 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_1 \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \partial_\tau u_0 + w_0 \partial_Z \bar{u} + \frac{i}{\text{Re}} (u_0 \partial_Z m + 2m \partial_Z u_0) \\ \partial_\tau w_0 + \partial_Z P_0 + \frac{i}{\text{Re}} (w_0 \partial_Z m + 2m \partial_Z w_0) \\ \partial_\tau b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ \partial_Z w_0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{T}[\bar{u}, \phi_0]} \right) = 0$$

With :

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} i\hat{\omega} + \frac{k^2 + m^2}{\text{Re}} & 0 & 0 & -ik \\ 0 & i\hat{\omega} + \frac{k^2 + m^2}{\text{Re}} & -\frac{N}{\text{Fr}} & -im \\ 0 & \frac{N}{\text{Fr}} & i\hat{\omega} & 0 \\ -ik & -im & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Order zero

$$\mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \det \mathbf{M} = 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ w_0 \\ b_0 \text{Fr}/N \\ P_0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathcal{P} \end{array} \right. \Leftrightarrow \hat{\omega} \left(\hat{\omega} - i \frac{k^2 + m^2}{\text{Re}} \right) = \frac{N^2}{\text{Fr}^2} \frac{k^2}{k^2 + m^2}$$

$$= \phi_0 \mathcal{P}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\omega}/k \\ -\hat{\omega}/m \\ -iN/m\text{Fr} \\ \frac{\hat{\omega}^2}{k^2} \left(1 - i \frac{(k^2 + m^2)}{\text{Re}\hat{\omega}} \right) \end{bmatrix}$$

Dispersion relation

k and ω are fixed by generation process (it has to be zonally symmetric for our calculation)

$$\hat{\omega} \left(\hat{\omega} - i \frac{k^2 + m^2}{\text{Re}} \right) = \frac{N^2}{\text{Fr}^2} \frac{k^2}{k^2 + m^2}$$

We can already remark a few things

- 4th order complex polynomial equation for m meaning there are 4 different complex solutions
- The symmetry $m \rightarrow -m$ indicates two important branches

Two branches :

$$k^2 + m^2 = \frac{\text{Re}\hat{\omega}}{2i} \left(1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4ik^2N^2}{\text{ReFr}^2\hat{\omega}^3}} \right) - 1$$

Large Reynold number limit

We now consider large values of the Reynold number (such that $\text{Fr}^2 \text{Re} |\hat{\omega}|^3 / 4k^2 N^2 \gg 1$). The solution then writes for upwardly propagating waves :

$$m_w = -\epsilon m_0 - \frac{ik^4 N^4}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0 \text{Re} |\hat{\omega}|^5}$$
$$m_{bl} = (\epsilon - i) \sqrt{\frac{\text{Re} |\hat{\omega}|}{2}}$$

where $m_0 = \sqrt{\frac{N^2 k^2}{\text{Fr}^2 \hat{\omega}^2}} - k^2$ is the inviscid value for m and $\epsilon = \text{sign}(\hat{\omega})$
Few remarks :

- m_w : Propagating branche
- $L_{\text{Re}} = 2\text{Fr}^4 \text{Re} m_0 |\hat{\omega}|^5 / k^4 N^4$: penetration length for the wave beam
- m_{bl} : Boundary layer branche
- $\delta_{\text{Re}} = \sqrt{2/\text{Re} |\hat{\omega}|}$: Boundary layer length

Boundary conditions

Boundary condition : transverse oscillation

Let us consider a horizontally set-up generator. The fluid is viscous with a **no-slip** boundary condition :

$$\mathbf{u}(x, z = h_b(x, t), t) = \partial_t h_b(x, t) \mathbf{e}_z$$

If we now suppose that $||b|| \ll 1$, we perform the wave and mean-flow decomposition and linearize this boundary condition to get :

$$\begin{cases} \bar{u}(z = 0, t) &= 0 \\ u'(x, z = 0, t) &= 0 \\ w'(x, z = 0, t) &= \partial_t h_b(x, t) \end{cases}$$

Important consequence : $\int_0^\infty \partial_z \overline{u'w'} dz = 0.$

Boundary condition : Progressive wave

Here we consider $h_b(x, t) = a \mathcal{R}e \left[e^{i(t-x)} \right]$ corresponding to $(\omega, k) = (1, 1)$. Considering waves propagating upwardly, using the polarisation :

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{cases} - \left(\frac{\phi_{0,w}(0)}{m_w(0)} + \frac{\phi_{0,bl}(0)}{m_{bl}(0)} \right) & = ia \\ \phi_{0,w}(0) + \phi_{0,bl}(0) & = 0 \end{cases} \\ \Rightarrow & \begin{cases} \phi_{0,w}(0) & = -ia \frac{m_{bl}(0) m_w(0)}{m_{bl}(0) - m_w(0)} \\ \phi_{0,bl}(0) & = ia \frac{m_{bl}(0) m_w(0)}{m_{bl}(0) - m_w(0)} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Computation of Reynold stress in the large Reynold number limit

General expression

$$\overline{u'w'} = -\frac{\hat{\omega}^2}{2} \left(|\phi_{0,w}|^2 \frac{m'_w}{|m_w|^2} e^{2 \int m''_w} + |\phi_{0,bl}|^2 \frac{m'_{bl}}{|m_{bl}|^2} e^{2 \int m''_{bl}} \right. \\ \left. + \operatorname{Re} \left[\phi_{0,w}^* \phi_{0,bl} \frac{m_{bl} + m_w^*}{m_{bl} m_w} \right] \operatorname{Re} \left[e^{i \int (m_w^* - m_{bl})} \right] \right. \\ \left. + \operatorname{Im} \left[\phi_{0,w}^* \phi_{0,bl} \frac{m_{bl} + m_w^*}{m_{bl} m_w} \right] \operatorname{Im} \left[e^{i \int (m_w^* - m_{bl})} \right] \right)$$

- Bulk streaming
- Boundary streaming

Large Reynold limit without mean-flow

$$\overline{u'w'} = \epsilon \frac{\hat{\omega}^2 a^2}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{m_0} \left(e^{-\frac{z}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0 \text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|^5}} - e^{-z\sqrt{\frac{\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}{2}}} \cos z \sqrt{\frac{\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}{2}} \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}} \left(e^{-z\sqrt{2\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}} - e^{-z\sqrt{\frac{\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}{2}}} \left(\cos z \sqrt{\frac{\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}{2}} + \sin z \sqrt{\frac{\text{Re}|\hat{\omega}|}{2}} \right) \right) \right\}$$

- Bulk streaming
- We have $\overline{u'w'}(z=0) = 0$

Large Reynold limit **with** mean-flow for the bulk term

$$\overline{u'w'} = \epsilon \frac{\hat{\omega}^2 |\phi_{0,w}|^2}{2m_0} e^{-\int \frac{dz}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0 \text{Re} |\hat{\omega}|^5}} = \epsilon \frac{a^2}{2m_0(0)} e^{-\int \frac{dz}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0 (1-\bar{u}) \text{Re} |1-\bar{u}|^5}}$$

where $\epsilon = \text{sign}(1 - \bar{u})$

Large Reynold limit **with** mean-flow for the bulk term : Stading wave forcing

We now consider a standing wave forcing corresponding in the superposition of two waves with equal amplitudes and opposite phase speeds :

$$\overline{u'w'} = \frac{a^2}{2m_0(0)} \left(\epsilon_- e^{-\int \frac{dz}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0(1-\bar{u})\text{Re}|1-\bar{u}|^5}} - \epsilon_+ e^{-\int \frac{dz}{2\text{Fr}^4 m_0(1+\bar{u})\text{Re}|1+\bar{u}|^5}} \right)$$

with $\epsilon_{\pm} = \text{sign}(1 \pm \bar{u})$