

GM Spectra

Zachary Erickson
25 May 2017

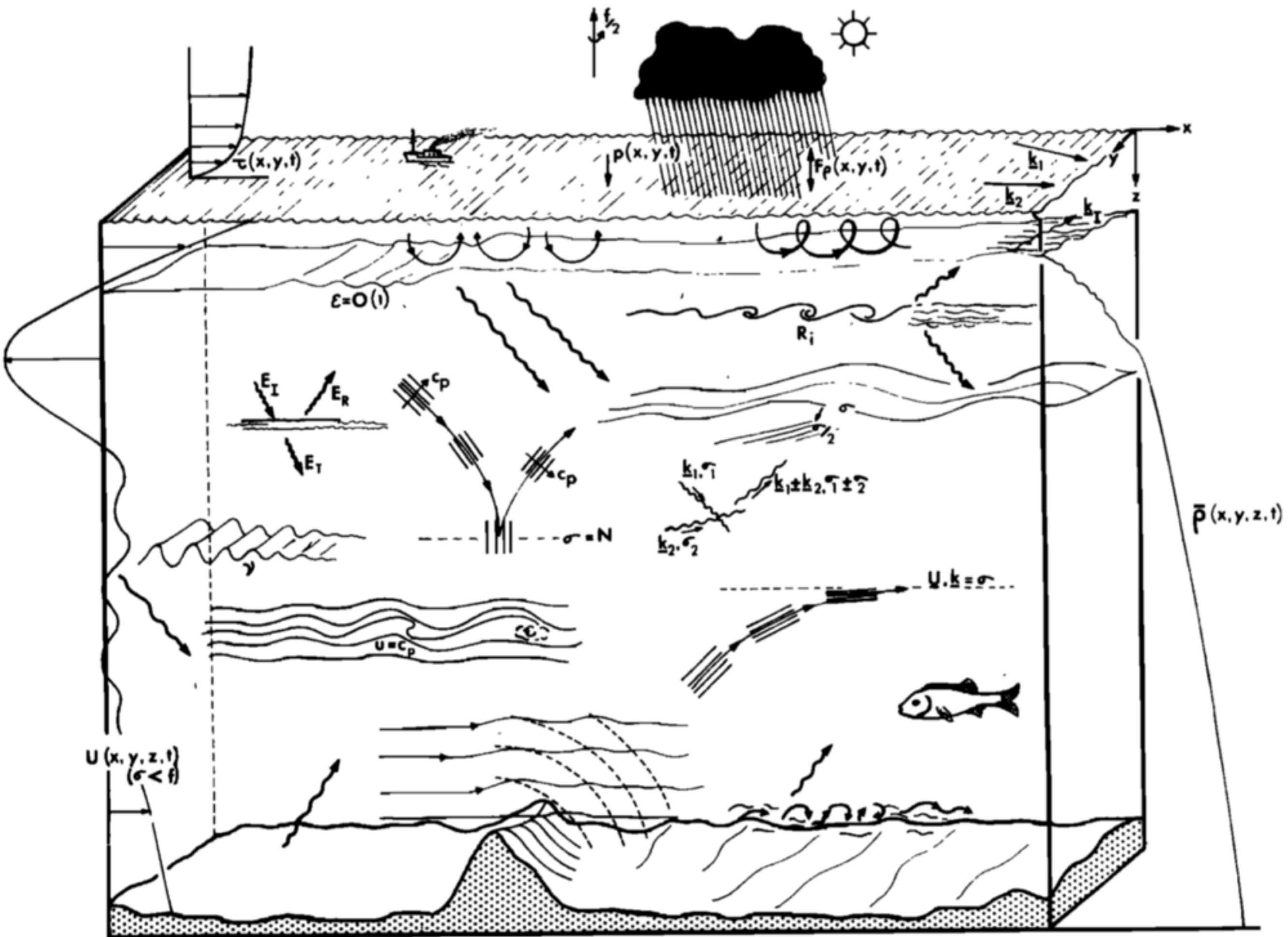
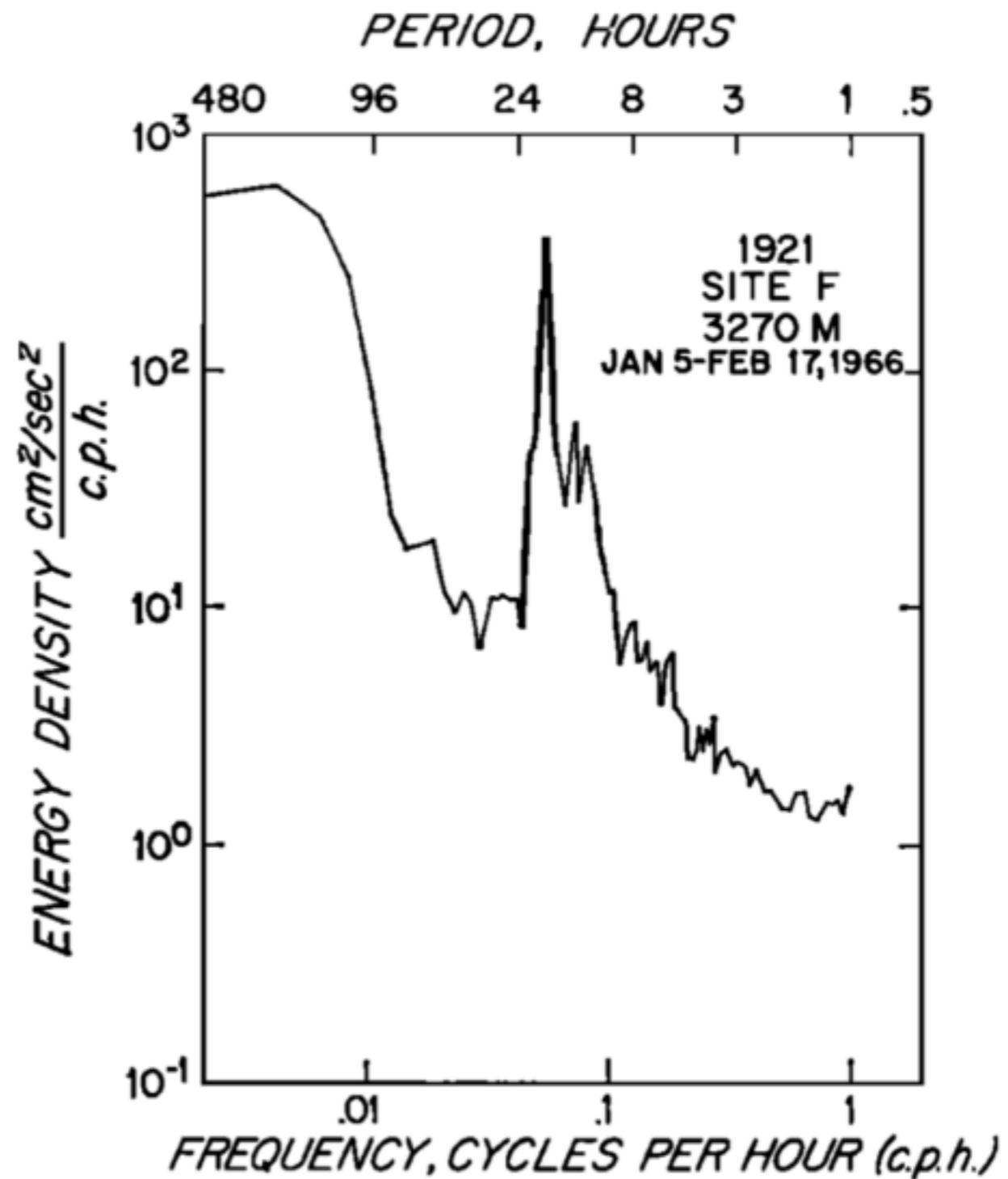


Fig. 5. Physical processes affecting internal waves.

(Thorpe, JGR, 1975)



“A generation of oceanographers has suffered the disappointments of ending up with uncorrelated measurements in what was intended as a coherent experiment” (Garrett and Munk, JGR, 1975)

GM spectra are

- descriptions of internal wave properties in the interior ocean,
- agnostic to generation and dissipation mechanisms,
- empirical, and
- improved over time largely due to better measurements.

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GM spectra assume internal wave field is

1. statistically stationary,
2. horizontally homogenous,
3. a linear superposition of waves,
4. well-approximated by WKB theory (spectral gap between internal waves and jets/eddies),
5. horizontally isotropic, and
6. vertically symmetric.

“The spectrum was developed on the basis of rank empiricism, with no trace of underlying theory” (Munk, 1981)

A timeline view of the GM spectra

GM72 (Garrett and Munk, Geophys. Fl. Dyn., 1972)

- first formulated spectra

GM75 (Garrett and Munk, JGR, 1975)

- extended to larger wavenumbers (smaller scales)

GM76 (Cairn and Williams, JGR, 1976)

- better fidelity around the buoyancy frequency

IWEX78 (Müller, Albers, and Willebrand, JGR, 1978)

- rigorous determination of best-fit parameters
- tests assumptions 1-6

GK91 (Gregg and Kunze, JGR, 1991; also Munk, 1981)

- high wavenumber roll-off

A few notes first...

The literature uses different variables in each paper, making it somewhat difficult to compare. For this lecture,

k as horizontal wavenumber (cycles per length)

m as vertical wavenumber (cycles per length)

ω as frequency (cycles per time)

(.) as dimensionless variable

($\hat{\cdot}$) as having dimensions (dimensionful?)

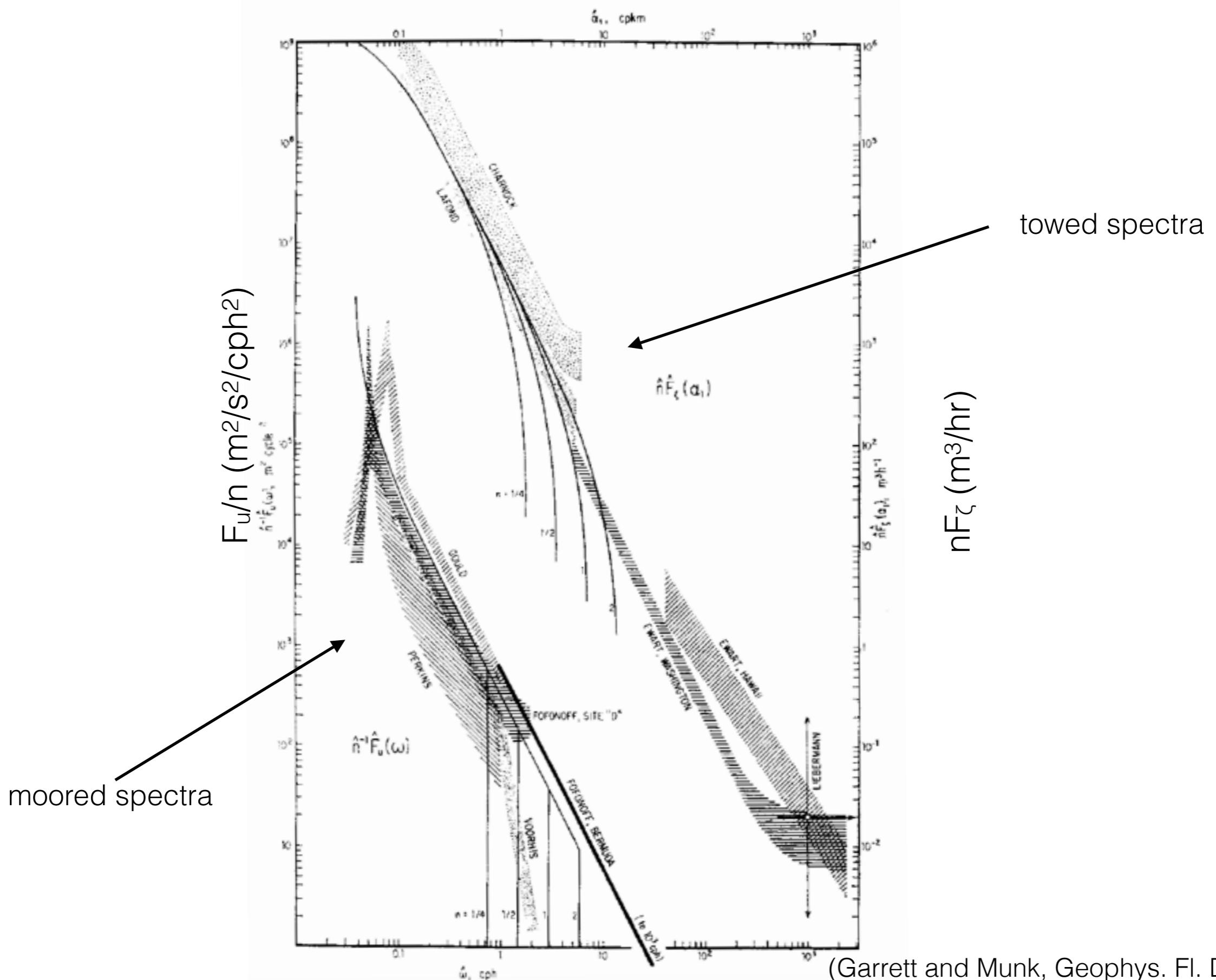
GM72

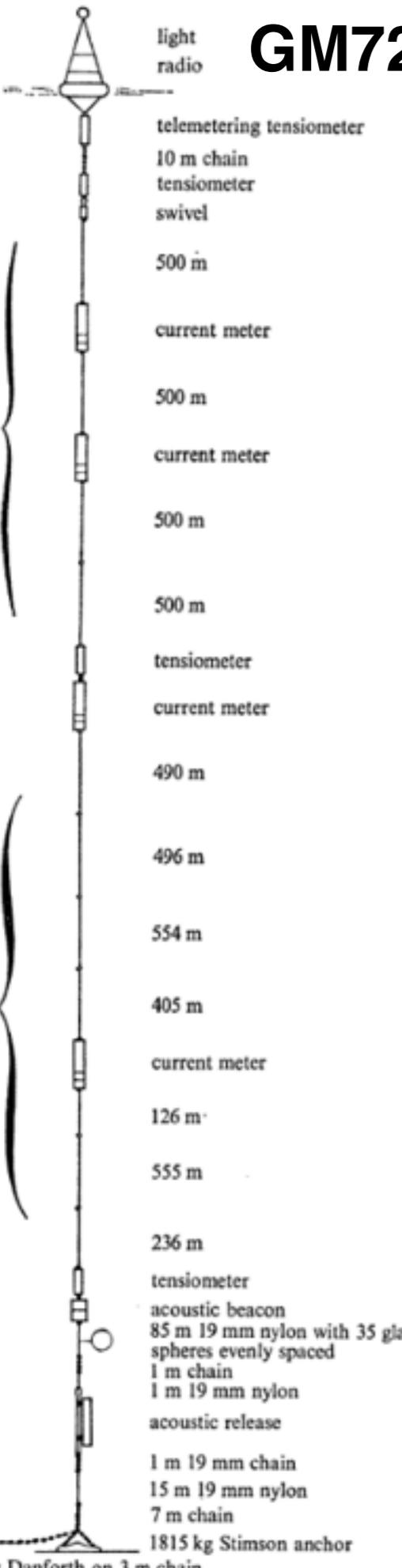
GM75

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IWEX78

GK91





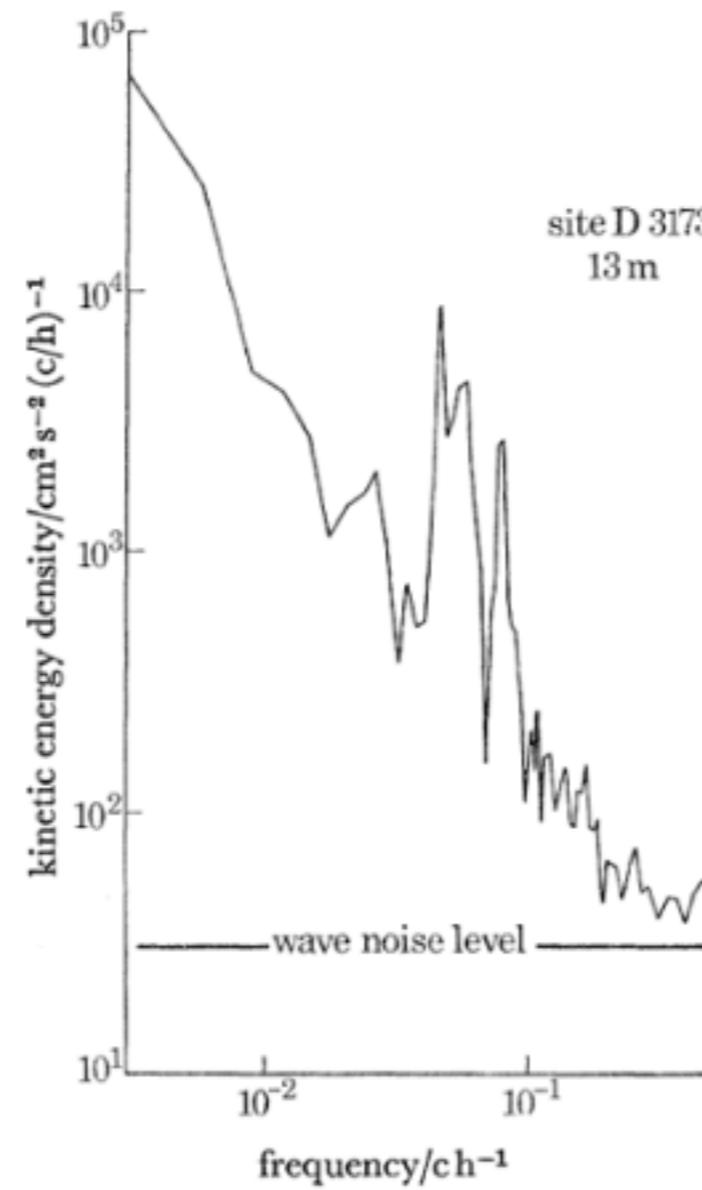
GM75

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GK91

- Types of data:
- Moored spectra $F(\omega)$



Types of data:

- Towed spectra $F(k)$

Typically, thermistor chains towed behind vessels, with the depth of a given isotherm found through interpolation. 8 meter vertical resolution was considered amazing.

GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Coherence

GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Coherence

co-variance of time series time series

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \swarrow \quad \searrow$$
$$\rho_{mn}(\tau) = \langle f_m(t)f_n(t + \tau) \rangle$$

GM72**GM75****GM76****IWEX78****GK91**

Coherence

co-variance of time series

time series

$$\rho_{mn}(\tau) = \langle f_m(t)f_n(t + \tau) \rangle$$

co-spectrum

quadrature-spectrum

$$C(\omega)_{mn} + iQ(\omega)_{mn} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \rho_{mn}(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

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Coherence

co-variance of time series

time series

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$$C(\omega)_{mn} + iQ(\omega)_{mn} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \rho_{mn}(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

coherence

phase lag

$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm} C_{nn})^{-1/2}$$

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Coherence

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Simple example: $m = n$

GM72**GM75****GM76****IWEX78****GK91**

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$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm} C_{nn})^{-1/2}$$

Simple example: $m = n$

$$Q_{mn} = 0$$

$$C_{mn} = F_n(\omega)$$

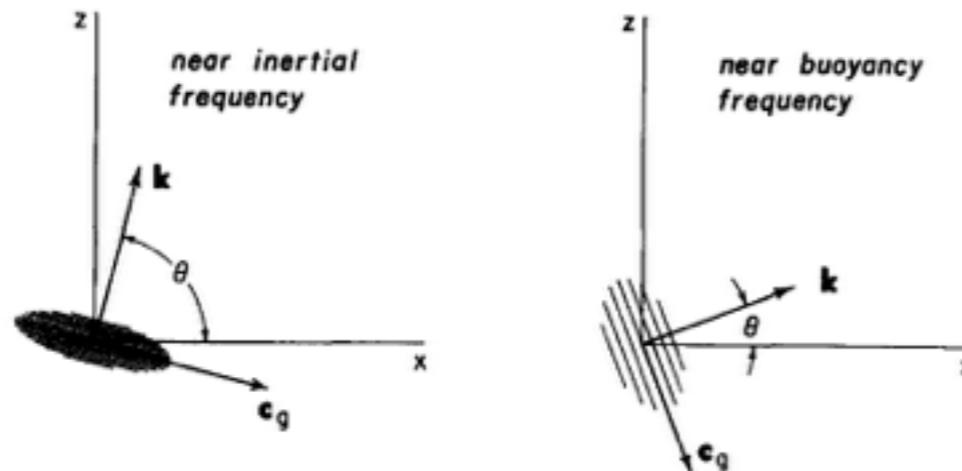
$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm} C_{nn})^{-1/2} = 1 e^{i0}$$

What scales are we interested in?

1. Frequency

A non-hydrostatic ocean follows the dispersion relation:

$$\omega^2 = \frac{k^2 N^2 + m^2 f^2}{m^2 + k^2} = N^2 \cos^2 \theta + f^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

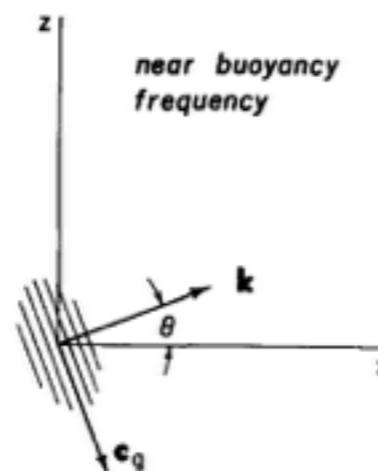
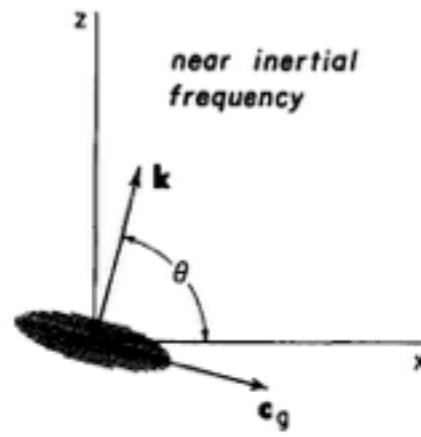


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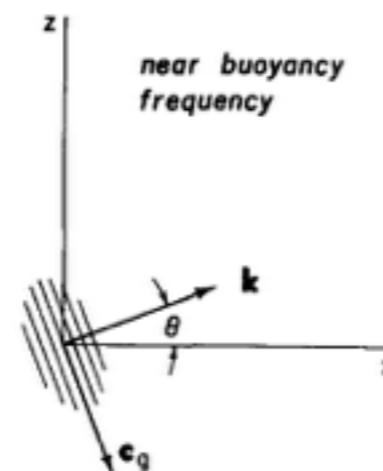
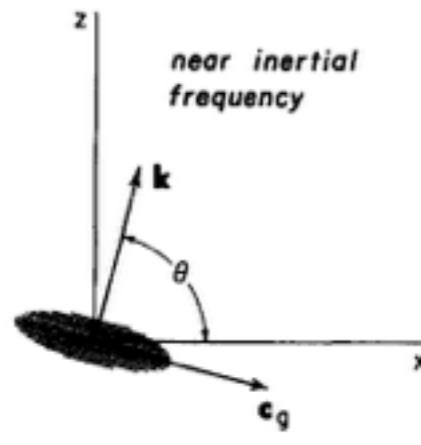
$$|f| \leq \omega \leq N$$

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$$\omega^2 = \frac{k^2 N^2 + m^2 f^2}{m^2 + k^2} = N^2 \cos^2 \theta + f^2 \sin^2 \theta$$



$$|f| \leq \omega \leq N$$

2. Horizontal/vertical wavenumber

??? (depends on how many modes are important)

Ideally, we will find some equation

$$E(k, \omega) = E_0 A(k) B(\omega)$$

Unfortunately, observations are inconsistent with this, and we must use the more general

$$E(k, \omega) = E_0 A(\lambda) B(\omega) k^*^{-1}$$

$$\lambda = k/k^*$$

$$k^*(\omega)$$

GM72

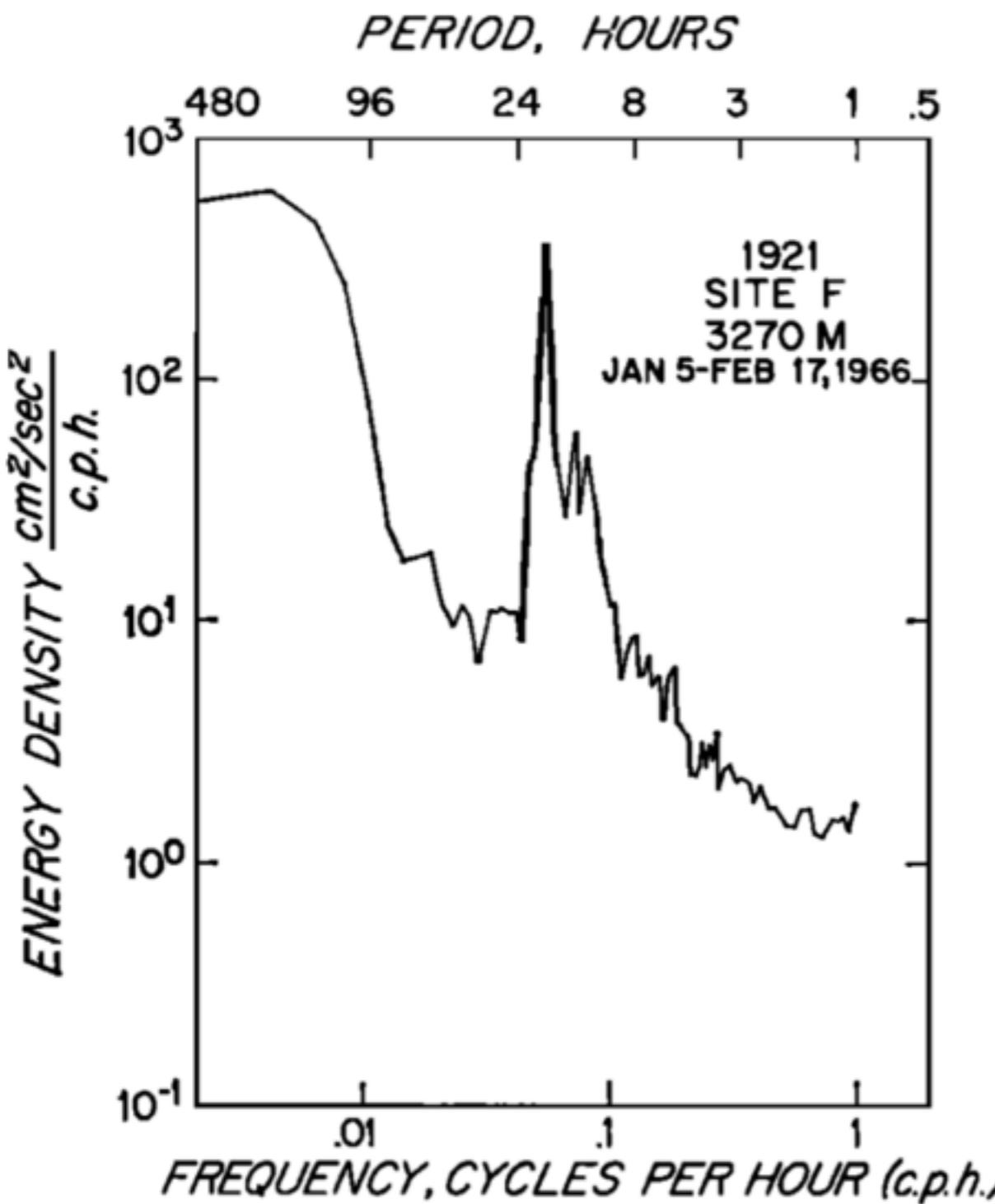
GM75

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What is $B(\omega)$?



(Webster, Rev. Geophys., 1968)

Easiest would be a simple power law, but that ignores the cusp seen near f .

Instead choose:

$$B(\omega) = \omega^{-p+2s} (\omega^2 - f^2)^{-s}$$

GM72

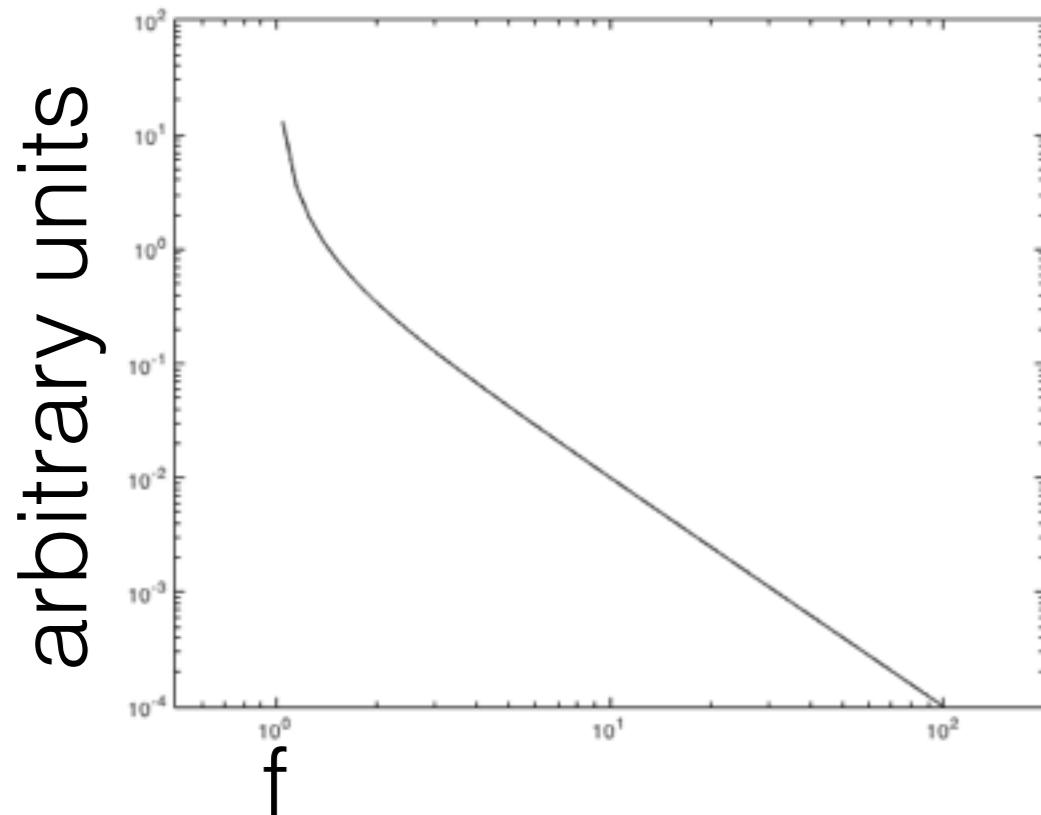
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What is $B(\omega)$?



Easiest would be a simple power law, but that ignores the cusp seen near f .

Instead choose:

$$B(\omega) = \omega^{-p+2s} (\omega^2 - f^2)^{-s}$$

s must be between 0 and 1;
“arbitrarily choose the mid-point, $s=1/2$ ”.

Empirical fit leads to $p = 2$

GM72

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What is $A(\lambda) = A(k/k^*)$?
What is k^* ?

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What is $A(\lambda) = A(k/k^*)$?
What is k^* ?

Simplest form for A: a plateau

$$A(\lambda) = 1 \text{ for } 0 < \lambda \leq 1$$

$$A(\lambda) = 0 \text{ for } \lambda \leq 0; \lambda > 1$$

GM72

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What is $A(\lambda) = A(k/k^*)$?
What is k^* ?

$$k^* = j_i \pi \left(\frac{\omega}{f} \right)^{r-1} (\omega^2 - f^2)^{1/2}$$

Simplest form for A: a plateau

$$A(\lambda) = 1 \text{ for } 0 < \lambda \leq 1$$

$$A(\lambda) = 0 \text{ for } \lambda \leq 0; \lambda > 1$$

where j_i is the number of modes

Empirical fit leads to $r = 1$

GM72

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$$\text{GM72: } E(k, \omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} E_0 f k^{*-1} (\omega^2 - f^2)^{-1/2},$$
$$k^* = j_i \pi (\omega^2 - f^2)^{1/2}$$
$$E_0 = 2\pi \times 10^{-5}$$
$$j_i = 20$$

$$\text{for } k < k^*$$

$$|f| < \omega < n$$

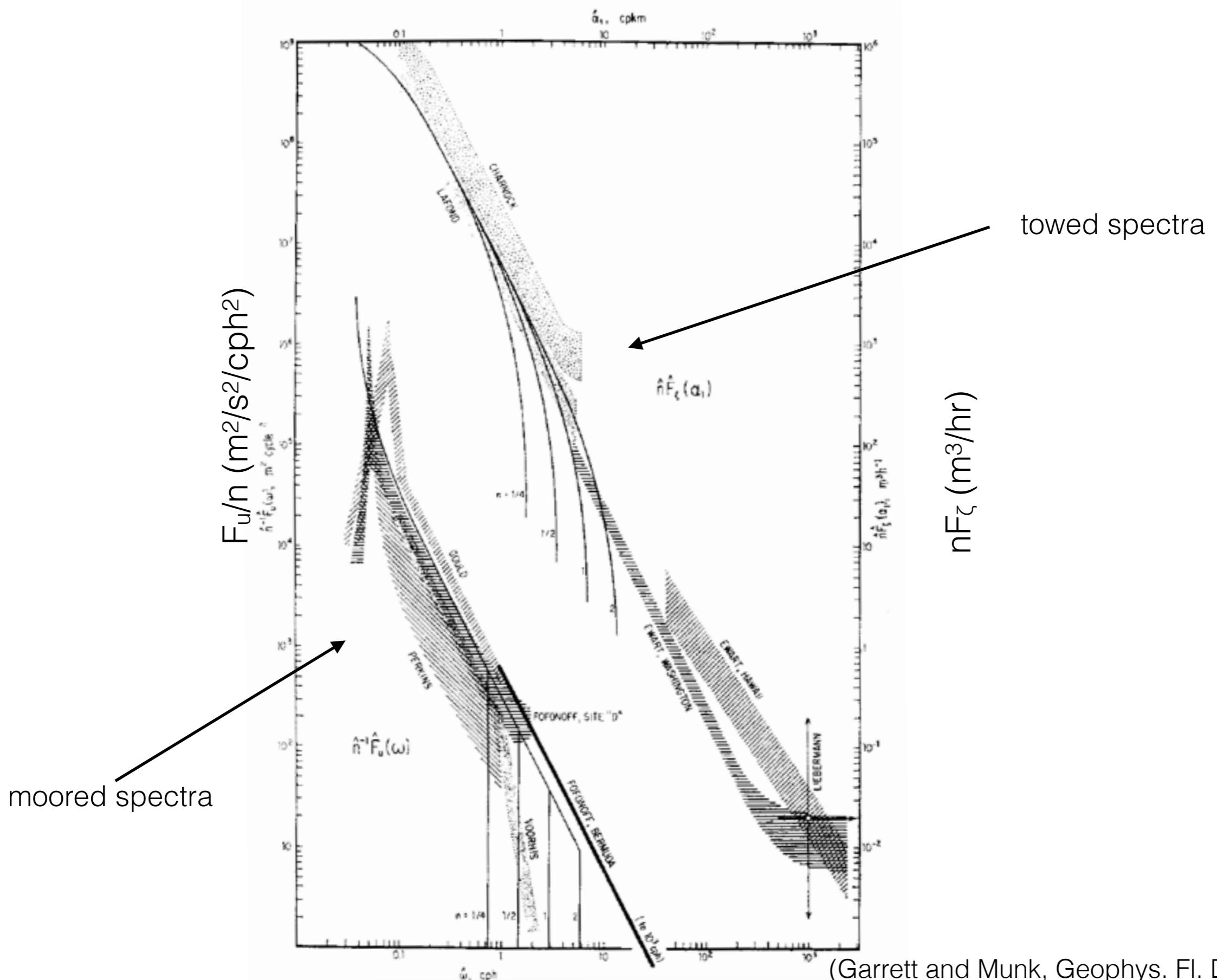
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GM72

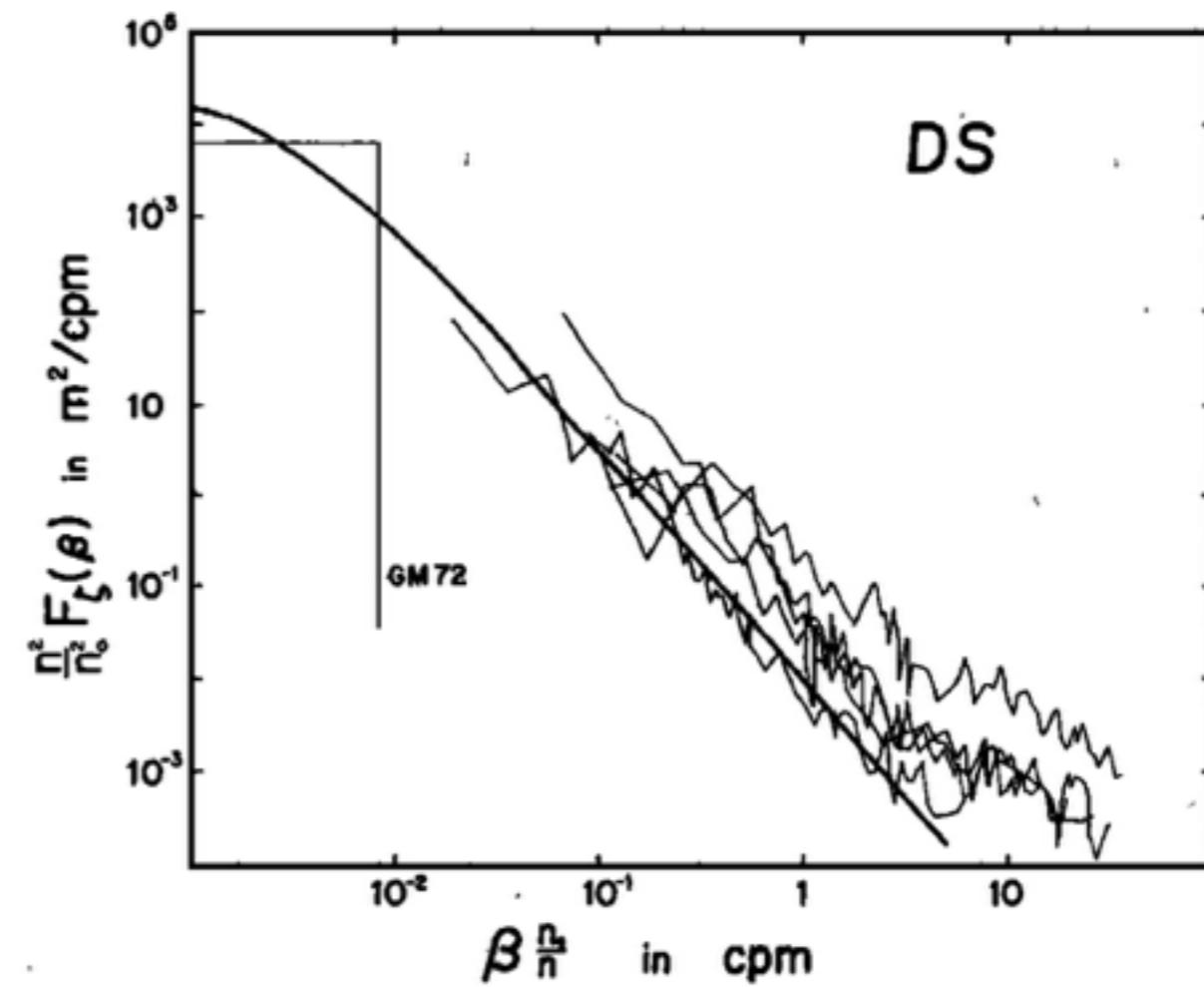
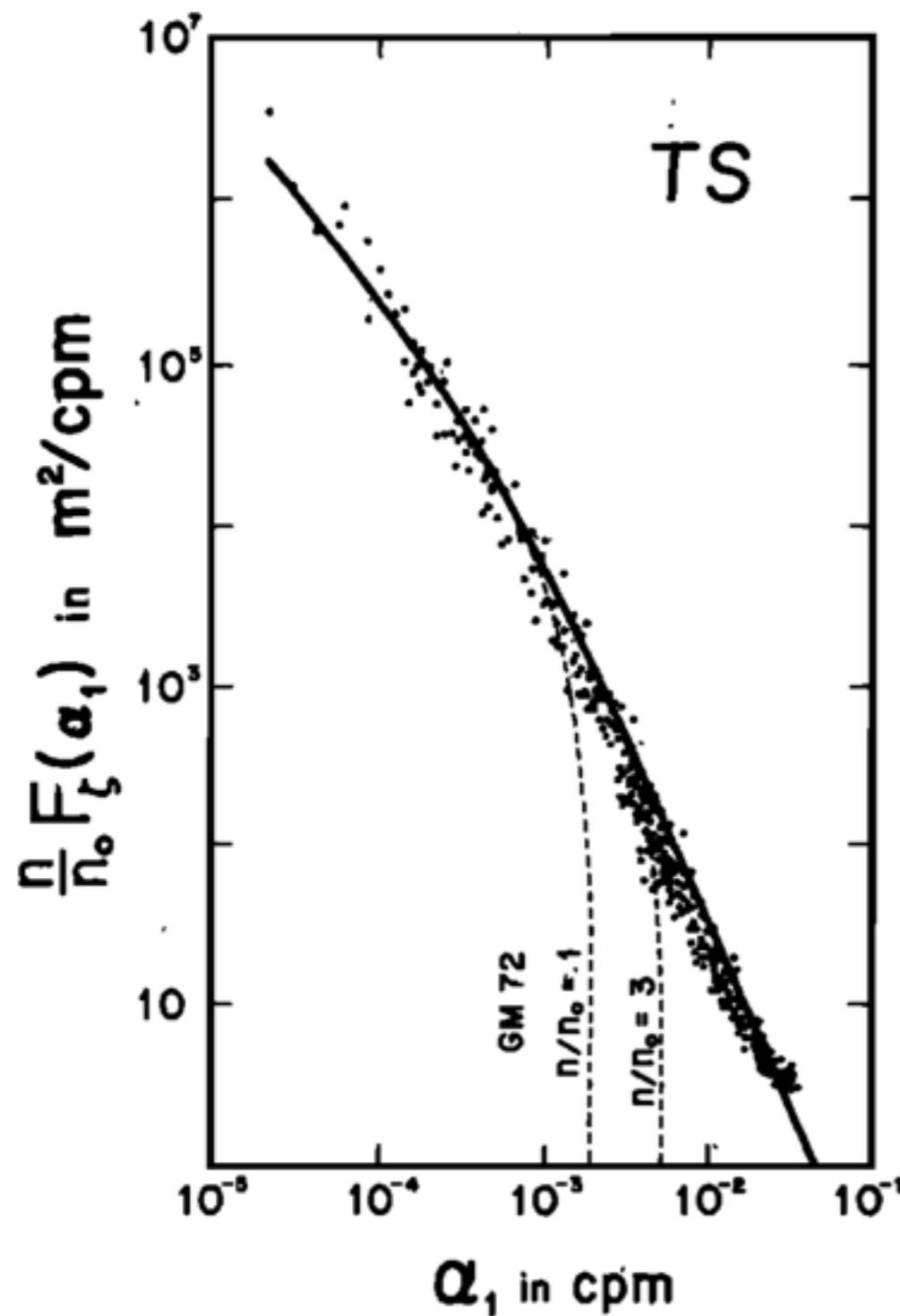
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New measurements: towed and dropped spectra



GM72

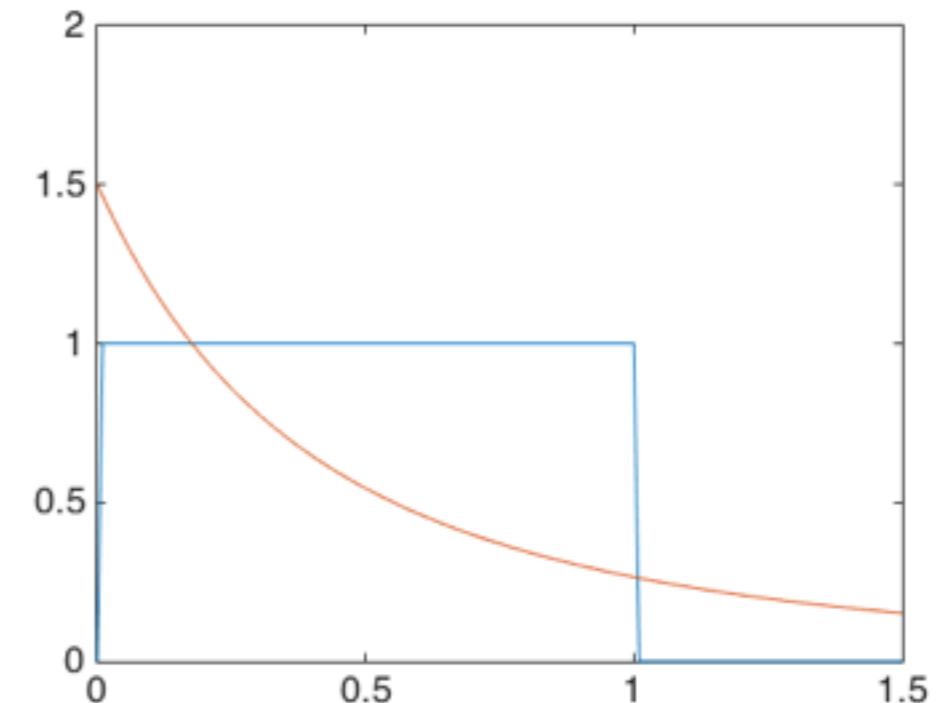
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GM72: $A(\lambda) = 1$ for $0 < \lambda \leq 1$
 $A(\lambda) = 0$ for $\lambda \leq 0; \lambda > 1$



GM75: $A(\lambda) = (t - 1)(1 + \lambda)^{-t}$, $t = 2.5$

GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

$$E(k,\omega) = E_0 A(k/k^*) B(\omega) k^{*-1}$$

$$E(m,\omega) = E_0 A(m/m^*) B(\omega) m^{*-1}$$

$$E(k,m)=\frac{2\pi^{-1}fE_0n(m/m^*)A(m/m^*)}{n^2k^2+f^2m^2}$$

for

$$k^* = j_i \pi (\omega^2 - f^2)^{1/2}$$

$$m^* = j_i \pi n$$

$$j^*=6$$

$$A(\lambda)=(t-1)(1+\lambda)^{-t}$$

$$B(\omega)=2\pi^{-1}f\omega^{-1}(\omega^2-f^2)^{-1/2}$$

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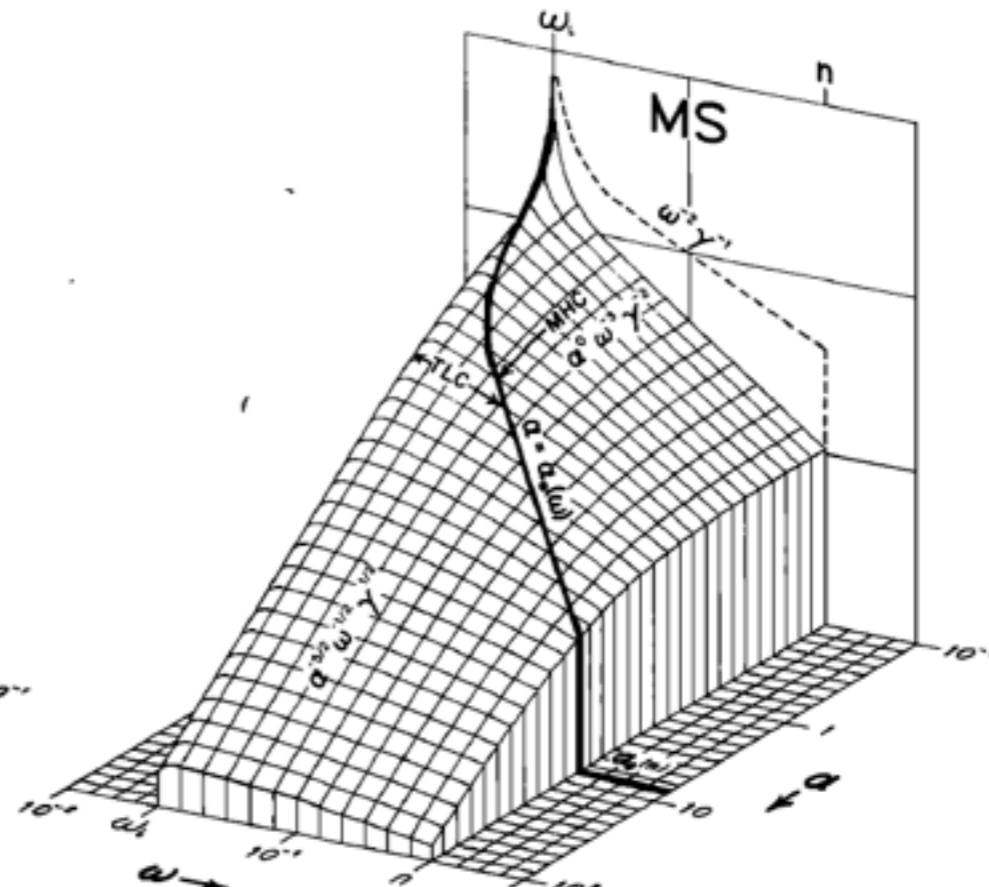
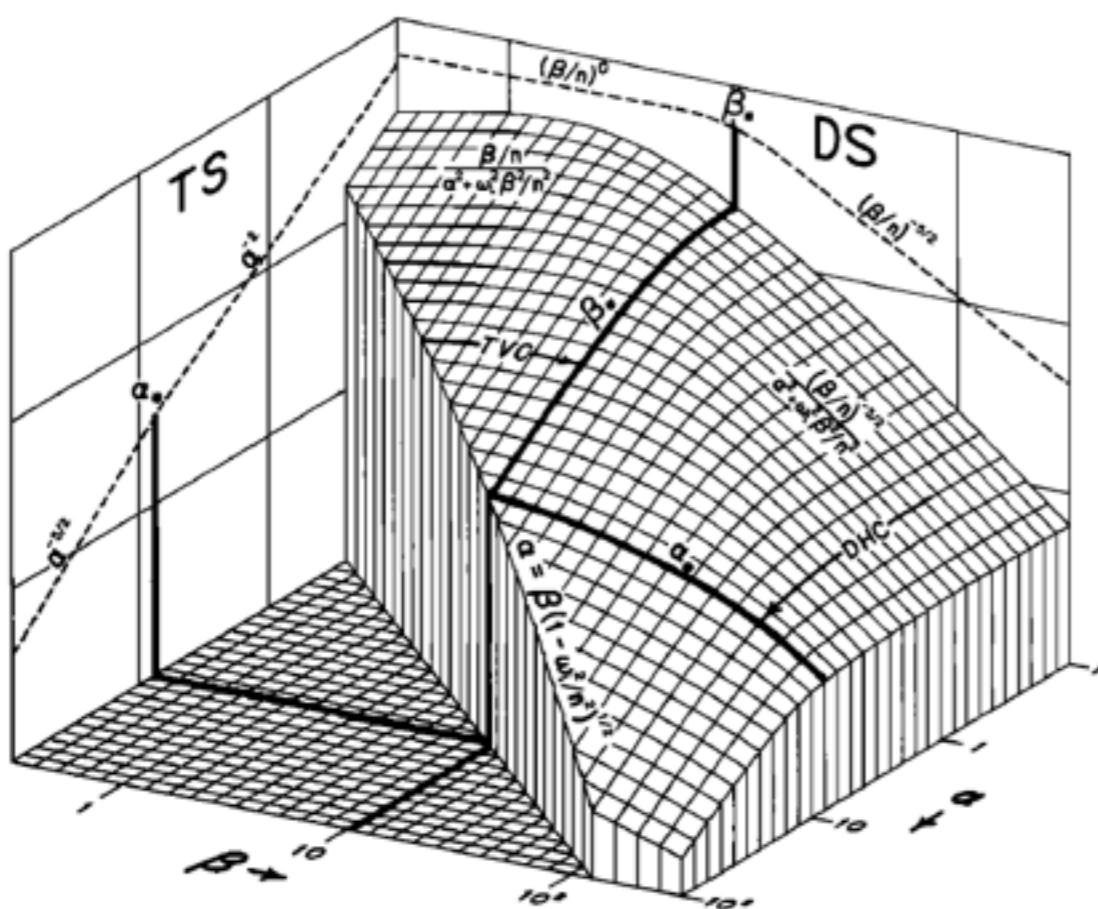
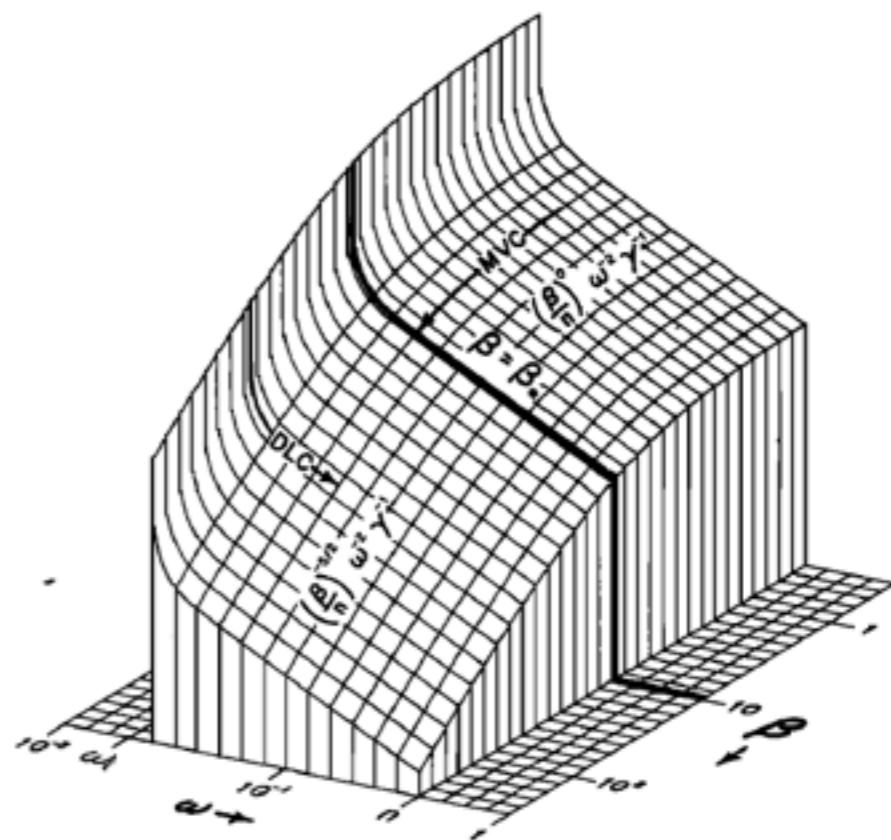


Fig. 1. A model for the energy spectrum of internal waves. The top left display is $E(\alpha, \beta)$ in wave number space (α being the horizontal and β the vertical wave number); the right-hand top and bottom displays are $E(\alpha, \omega)$ and $E(\beta, \omega)$, respectively (ω is frequency). Coordinates are dimensionless and plotted logarithmically, so that plane surfaces represent power laws, as designated. The moored spectrum ($MS(\omega) = \int E(\alpha, \omega) d\alpha$) is a projection on a vertical plane, as shown on the top right figure, and the towed spectrum and dropped spectrum are displayed similarly. Coherences (MHC, TLC, . . .) are related to various bandwidths, as indicated.



GM72

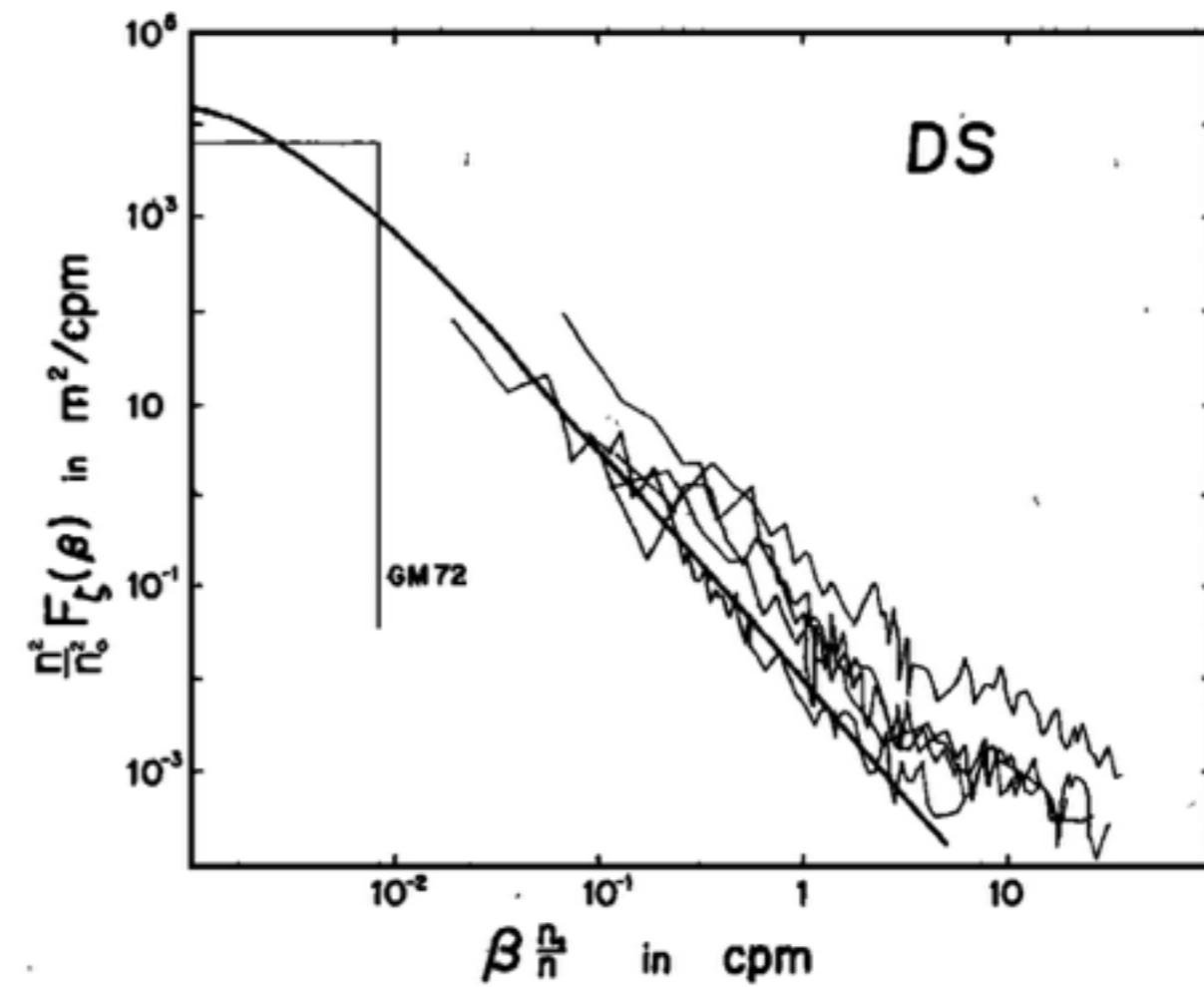
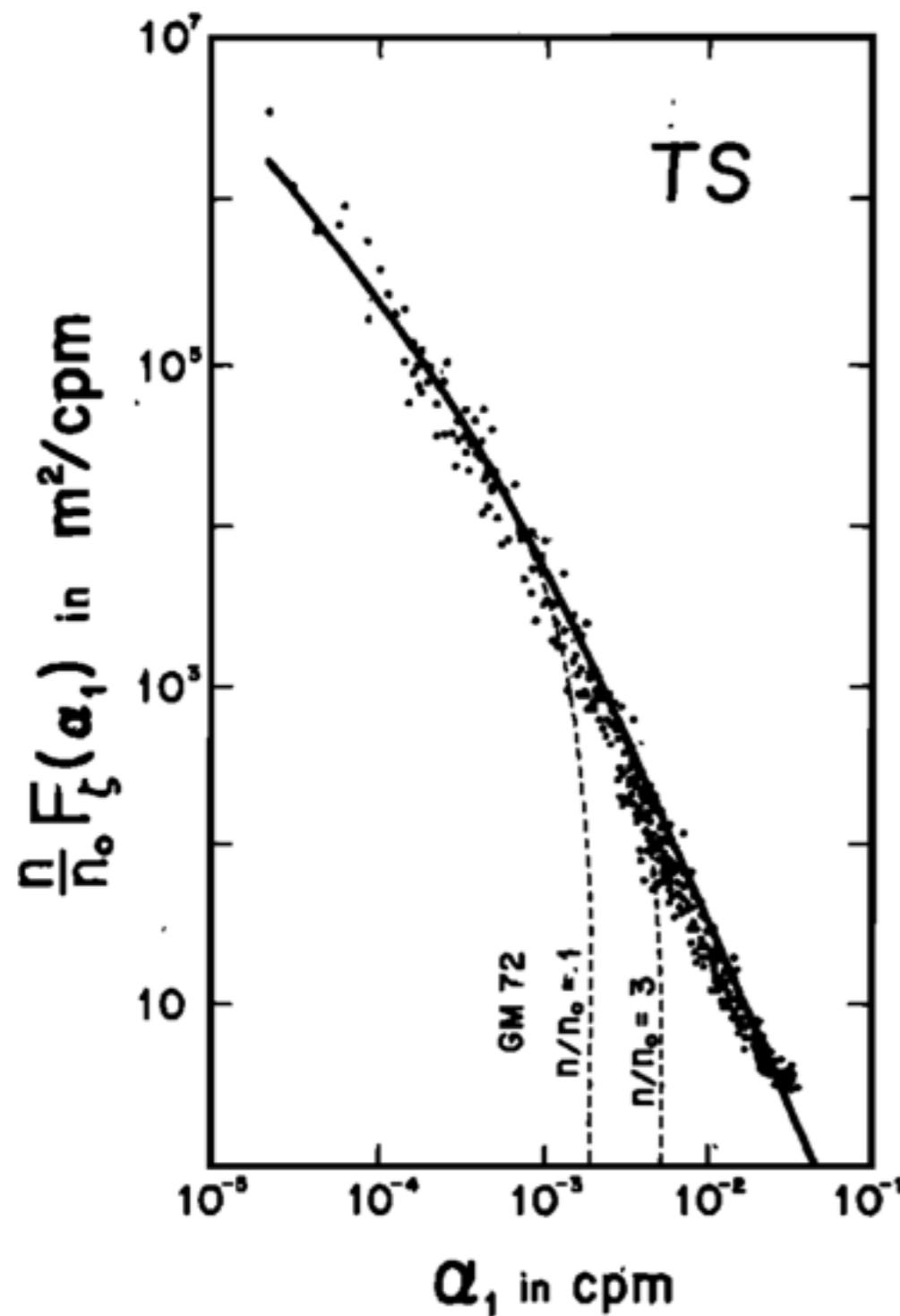
GM75

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New measurements: towed and dropped spectra



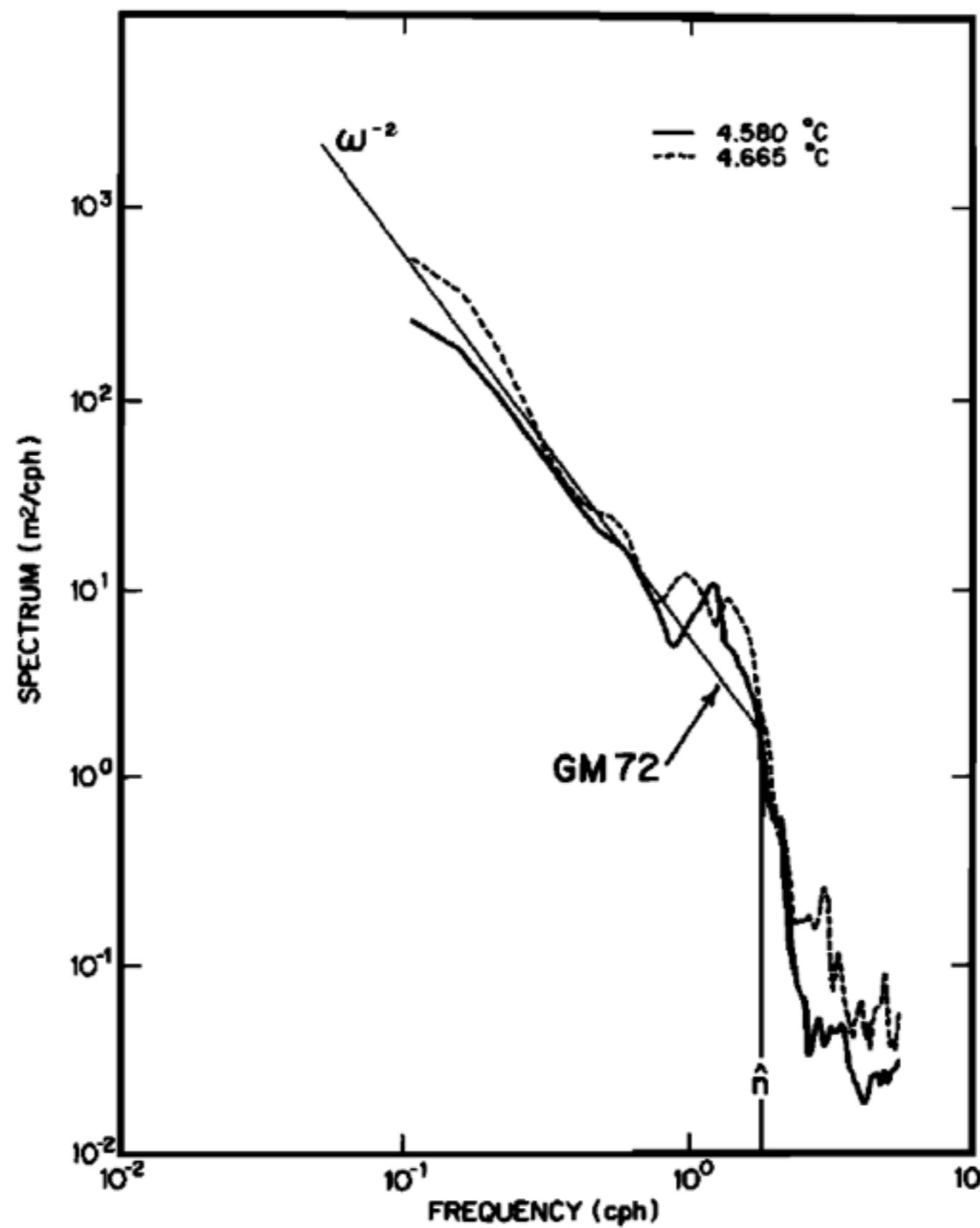
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GM72

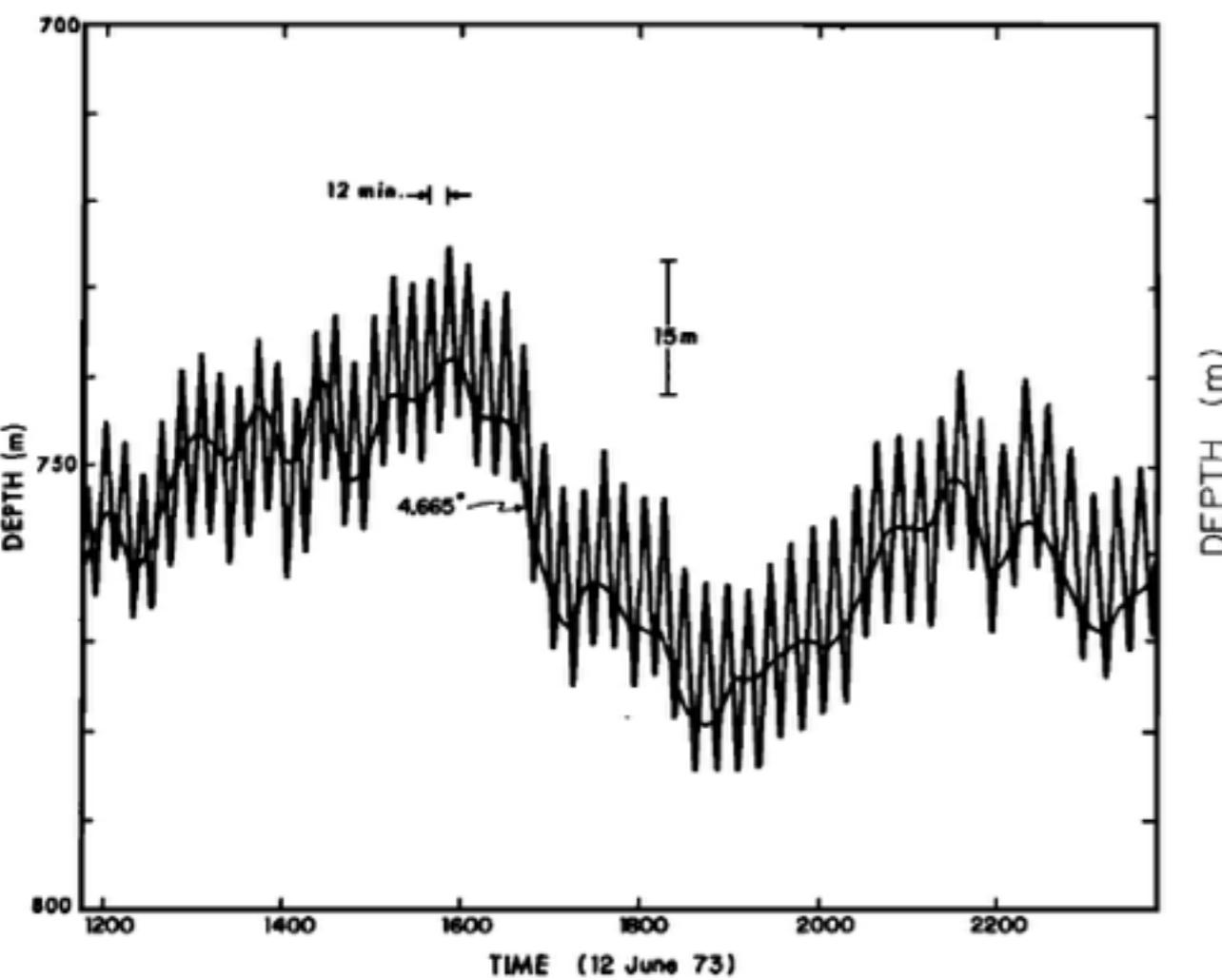
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New measurements:



(Cairns, JGR, 1975)

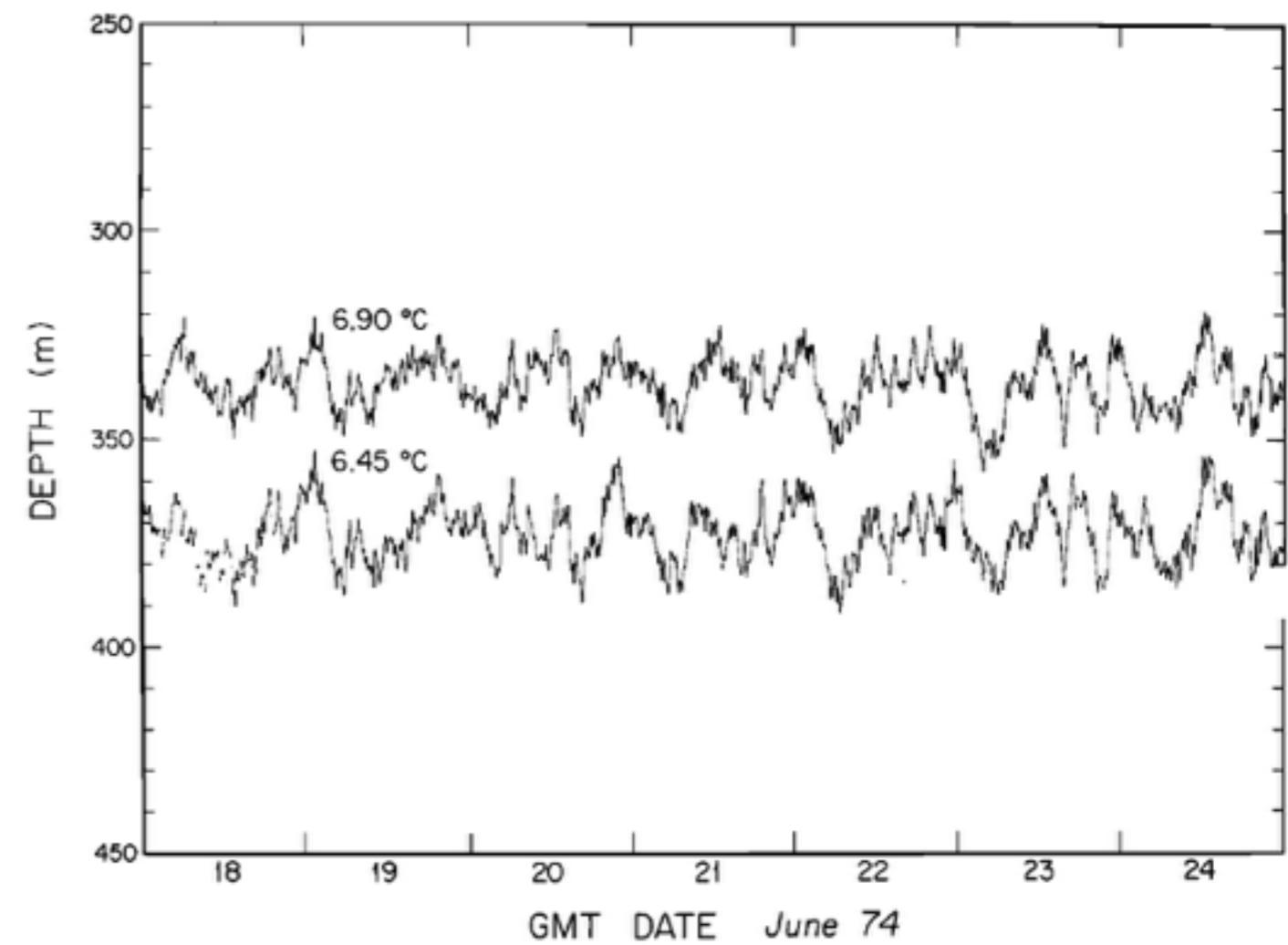


Fig. 1. Segments of the 6.90°C and 6.45°C isotherm records from Misery I.
Cairns and Williams, JGR, 1976)

GM72

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IWEX78

GK91

Internal Wave Observations From a Midwater Float, 2

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Naval Undersea Center, San Diego, California 92156

GORDON O. WILLIAMS

*Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
La Jolla, California 92037*

MISERY AND THE GARRETT-MUNK MODEL

This section of the paper was suggested by Christopher Garrett and Walter Munk and was written in collaboration with them.

GM72

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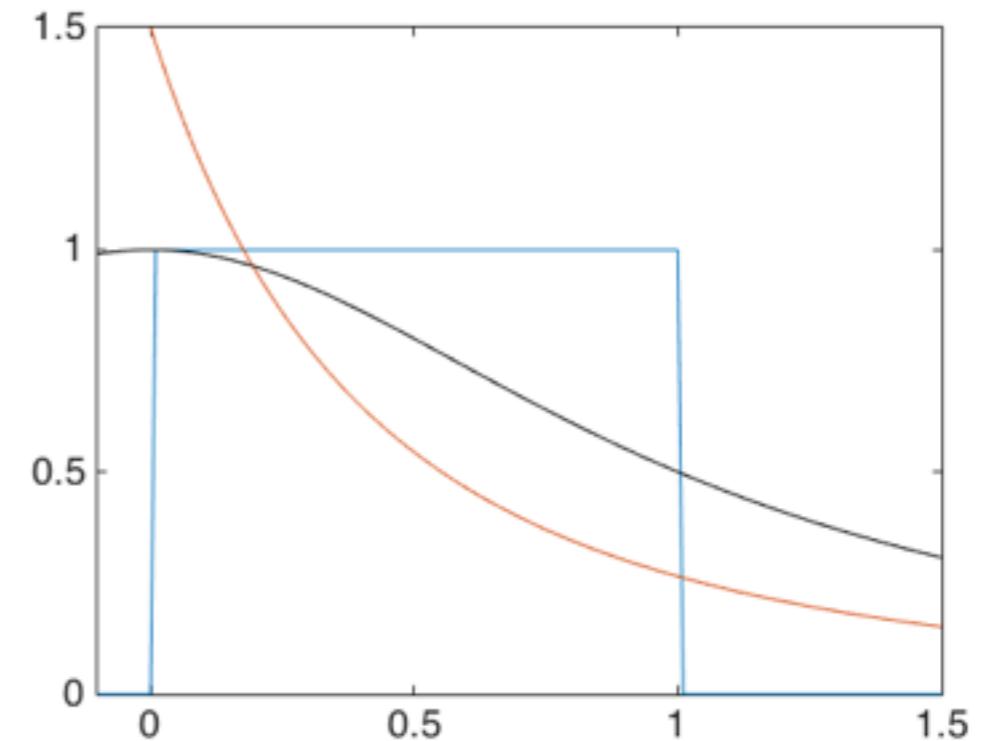
IWEX78

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GM72: $A(\lambda) = 1$ for $0 < \lambda \leq 1$
 $A(\lambda) = 0$ for $\lambda \leq 0; \lambda > 1$

GM75: $A(\lambda) = (t - 1)(1 + \lambda)^{-t}, \quad t = 2.5$

GM76: $A(\lambda) \sim (1 + \lambda^2)^{-t/2}, \quad t = 2$



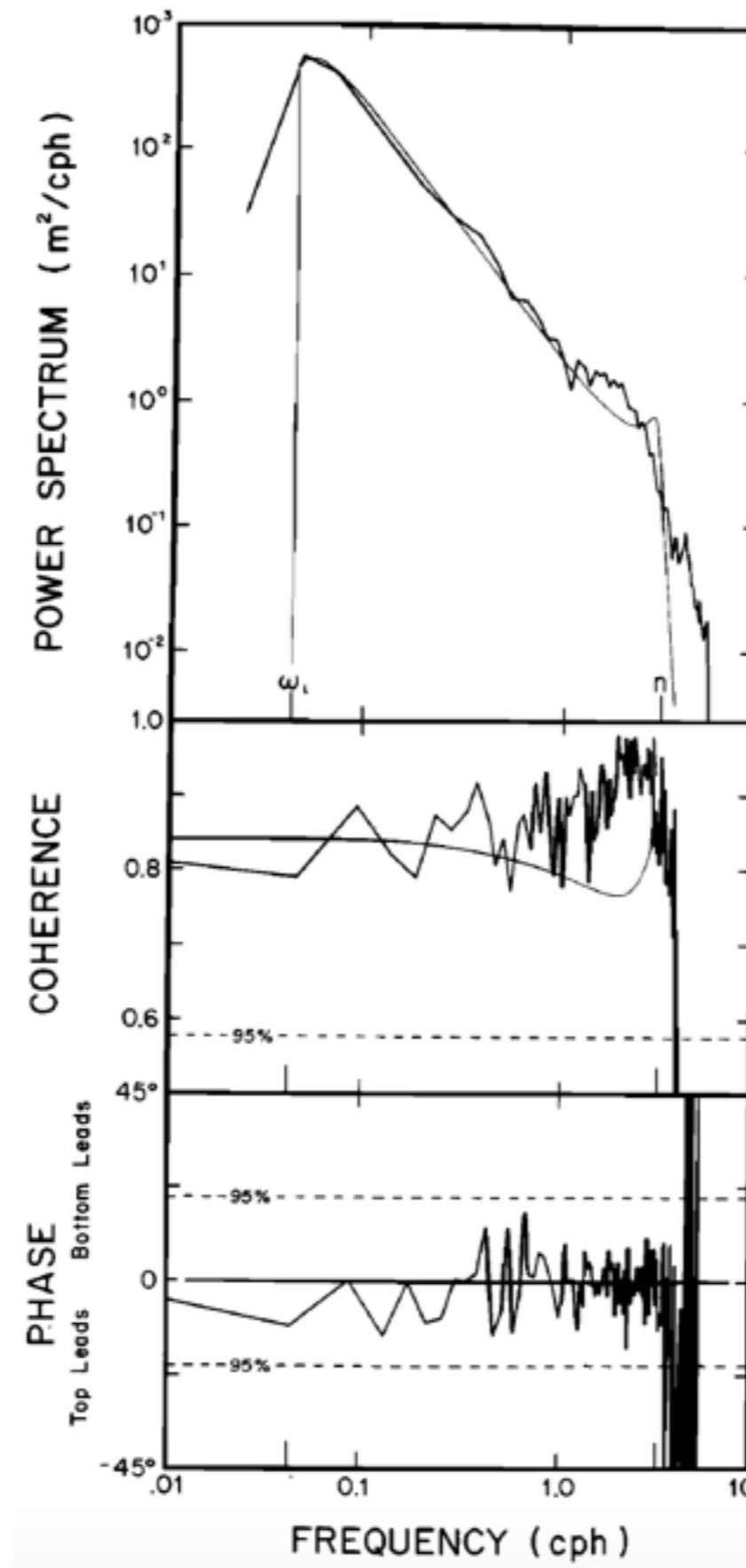
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GM72

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GK91

Let's look at one of our assumptions! Stationarity.

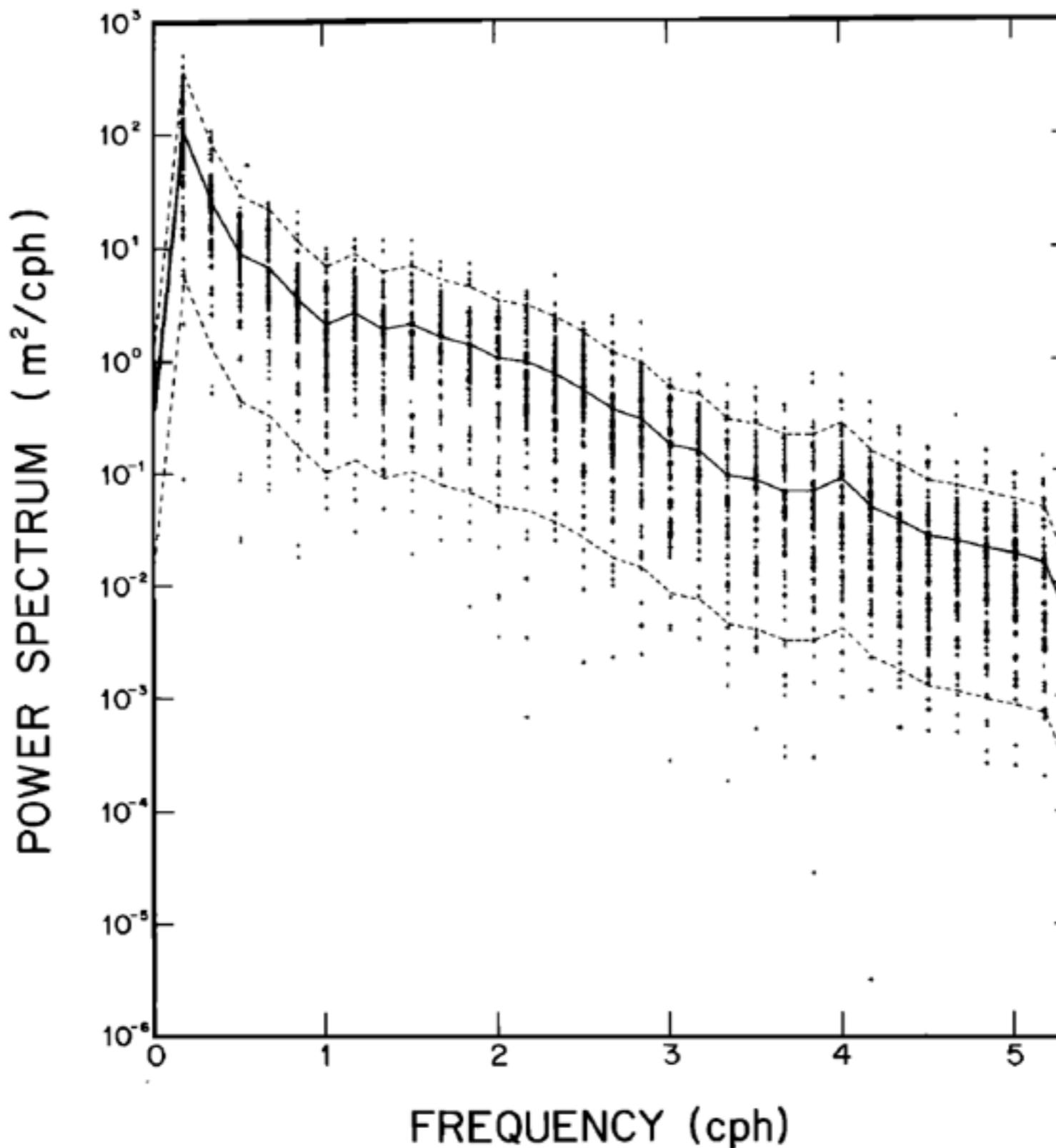


Fig. 6. Displacement spectra of 5.8-hour segments of the 6.60°C isotherm record. There are 74 estimates at each frequency, each with 2 d.f. The solid line is the average spectrum, and the dashed lines are the 90% confidence limits.

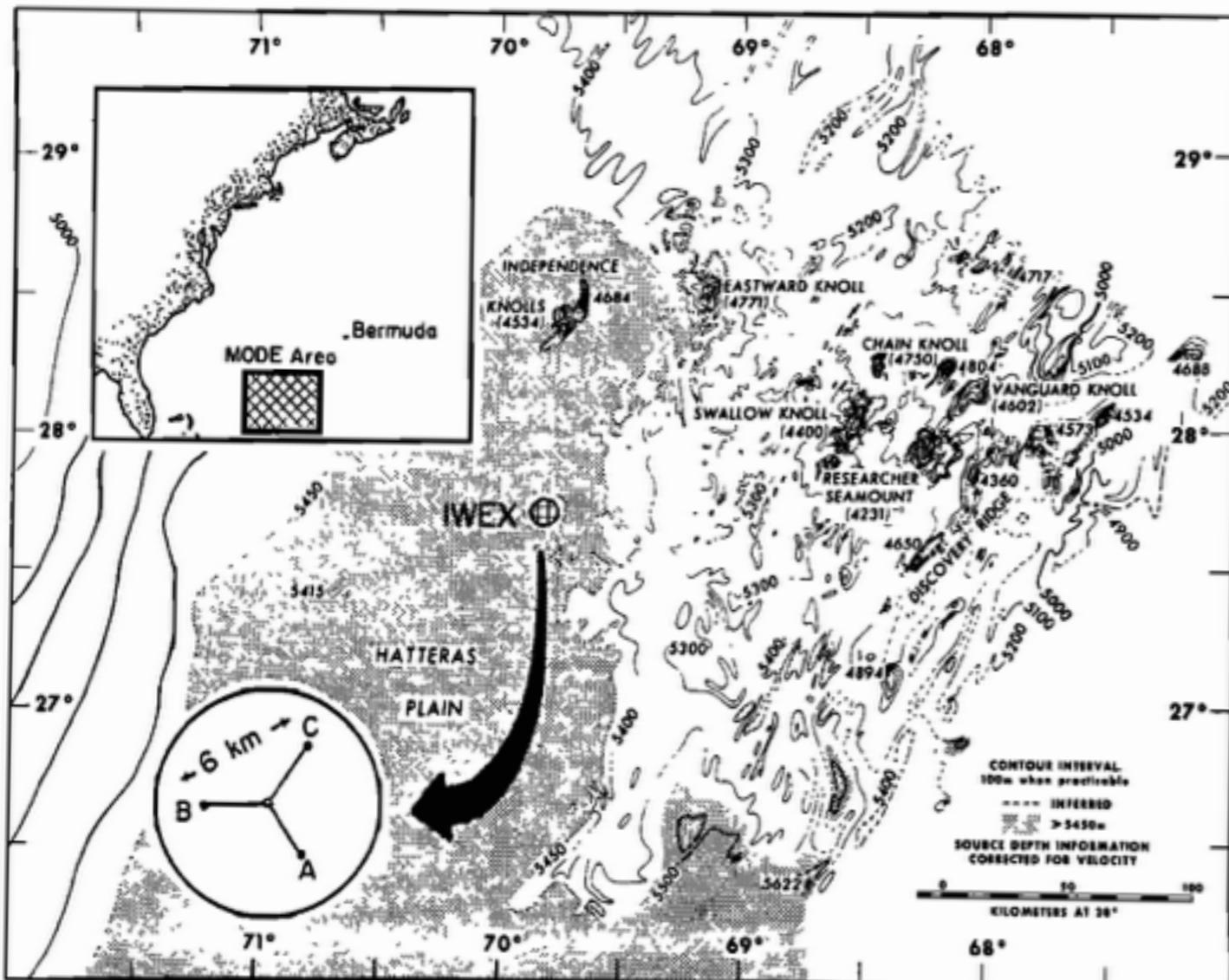
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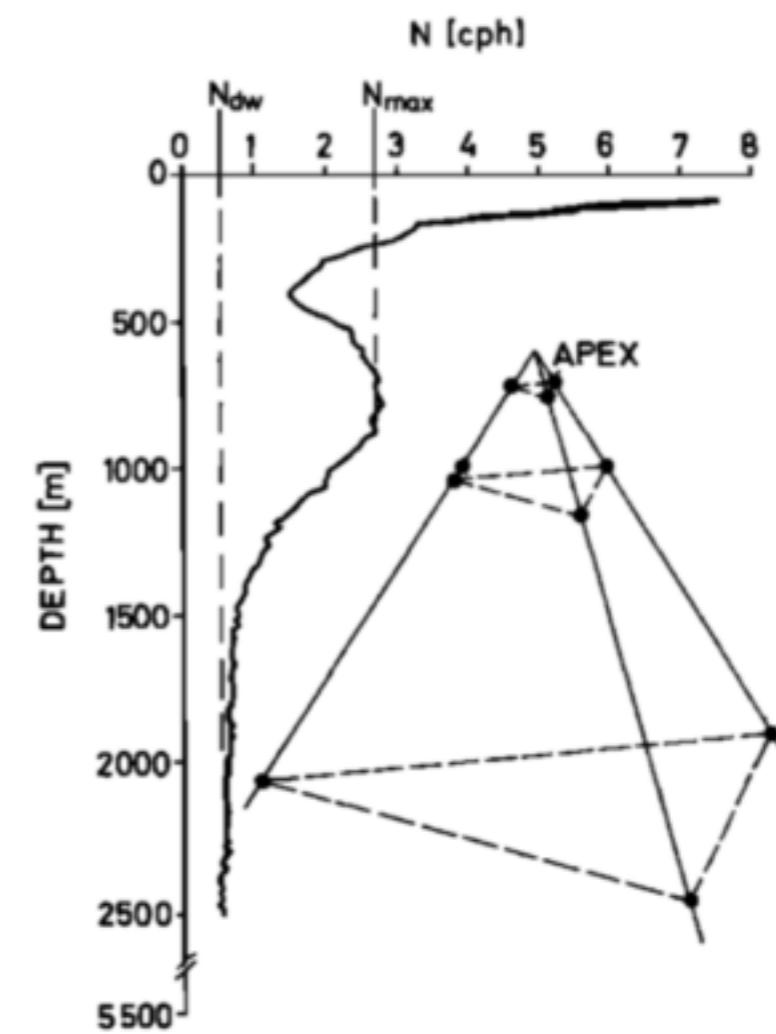
GM76

IWEX78

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(Briscoe, JGR, 1975)



(Müller, Olbers, and Willebrand, JGR, 1978)

Deployed for 40 days in late 1973 in the main thermocline.
Sensor spacings 1.4-1600 m (horizontal), 2.1-1447 m (vertical)

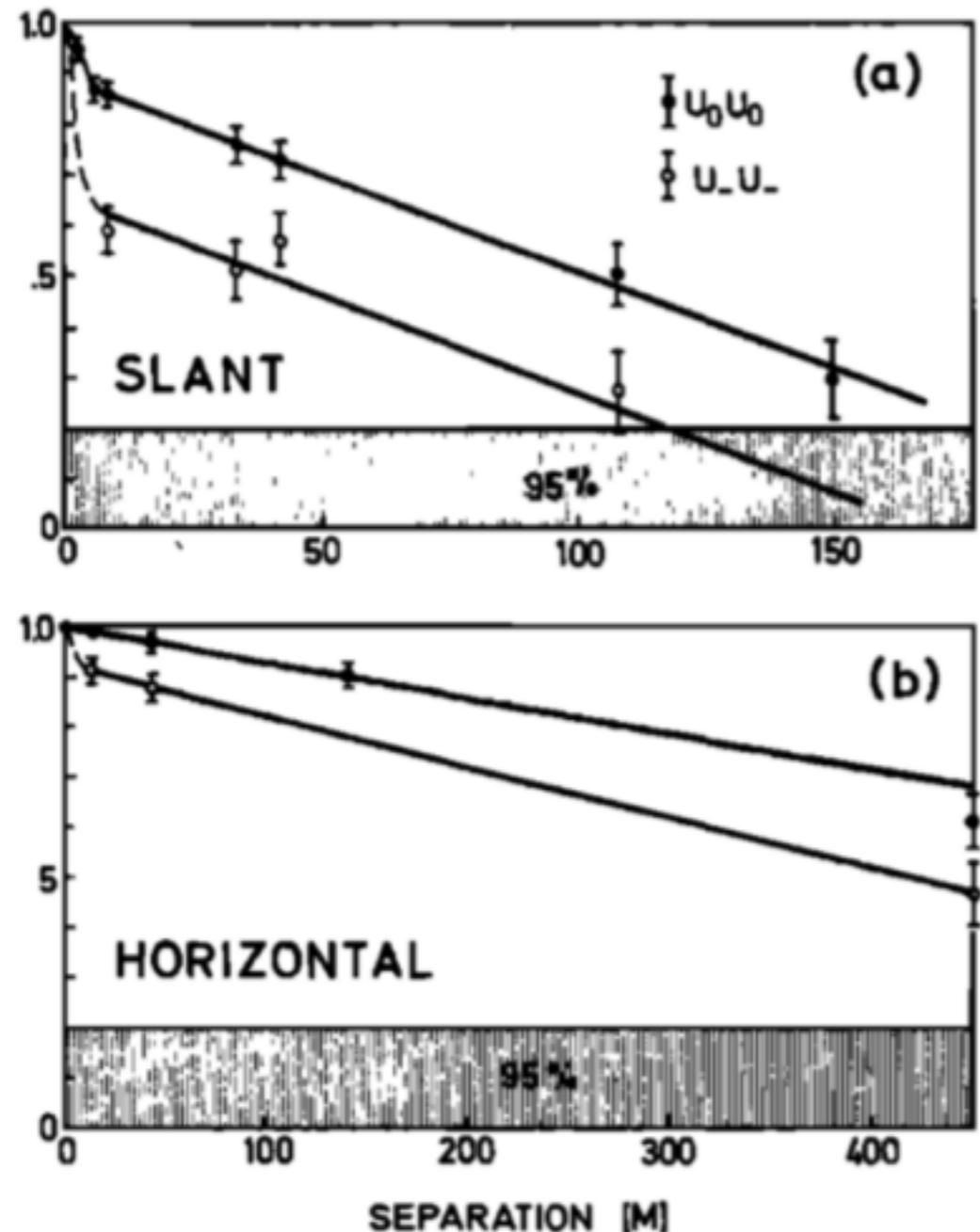
GM72

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Expect linear loss of coherence
with increased separation —
effect of fine structure at small
scales!

(Müller, Olbers, and Willebrand, JGR, 1978)

GM72

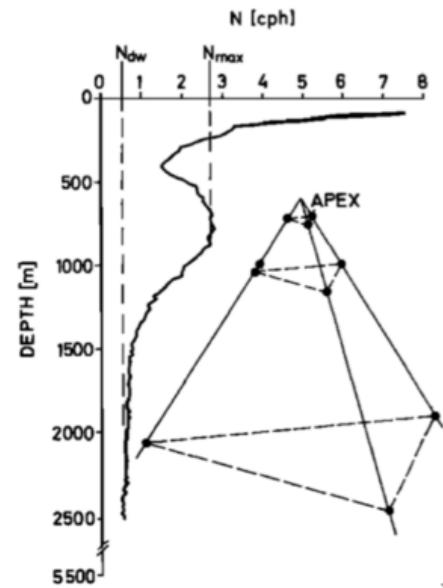
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Test GM assumptions



GM72

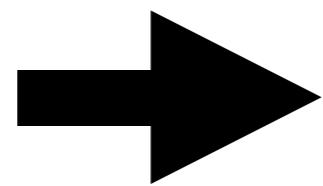
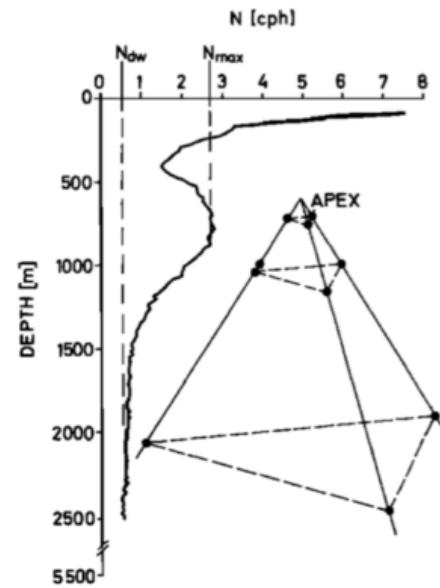
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Test GM assumptions



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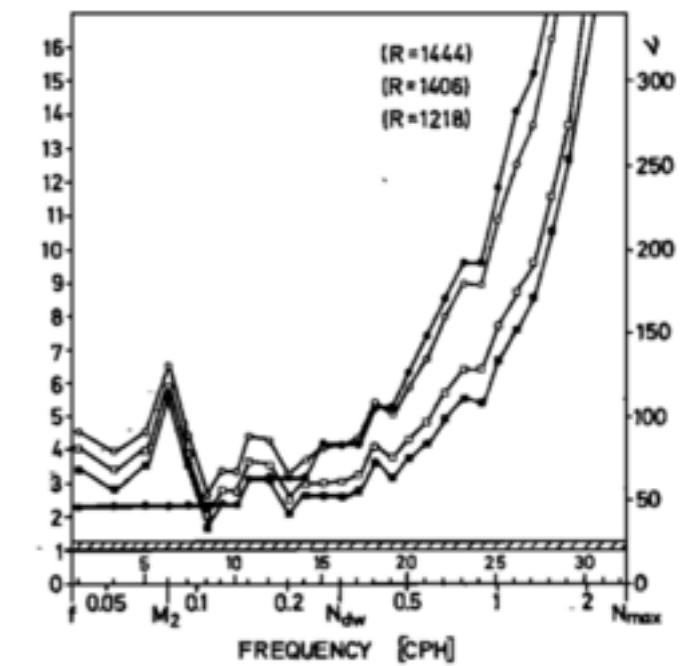
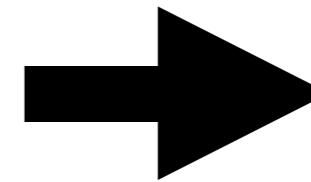
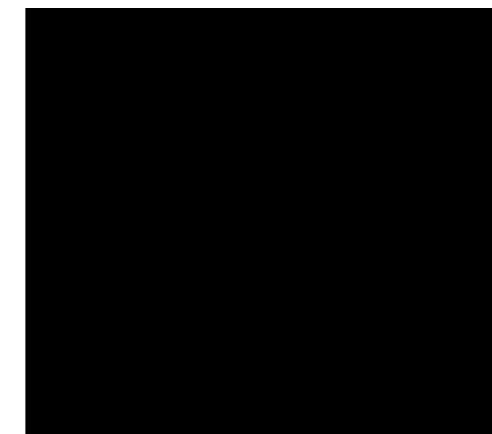
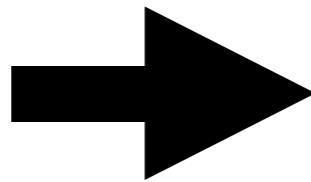
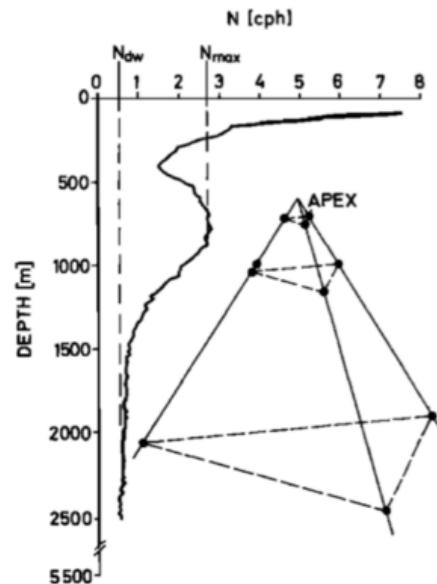
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Test GM assumptions



GM72

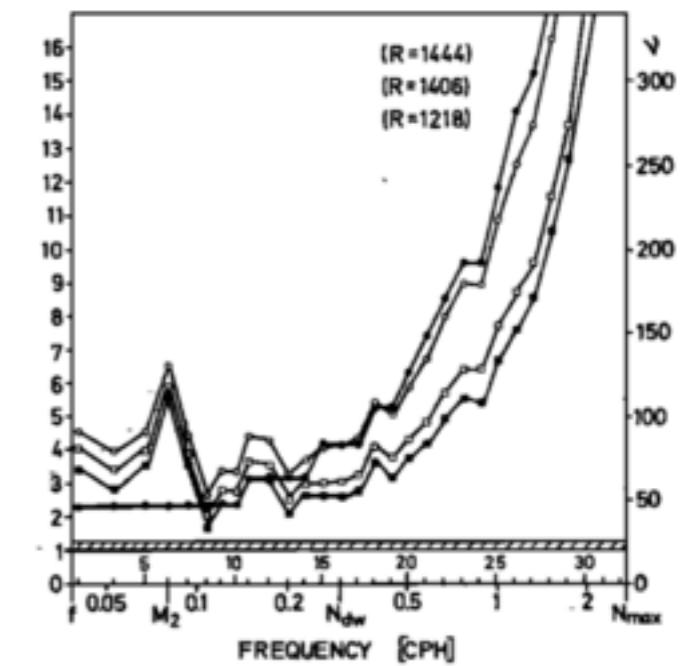
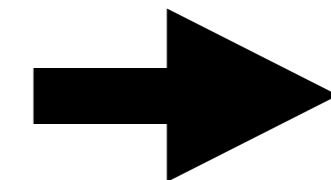
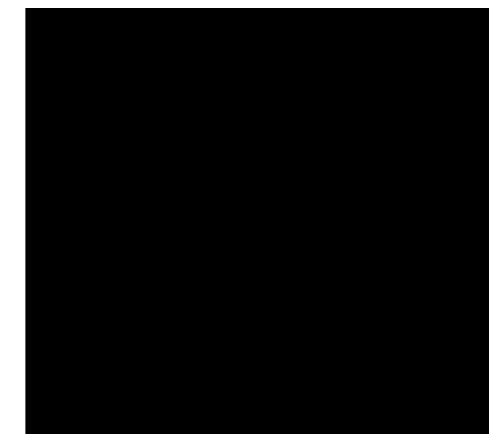
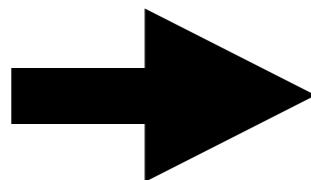
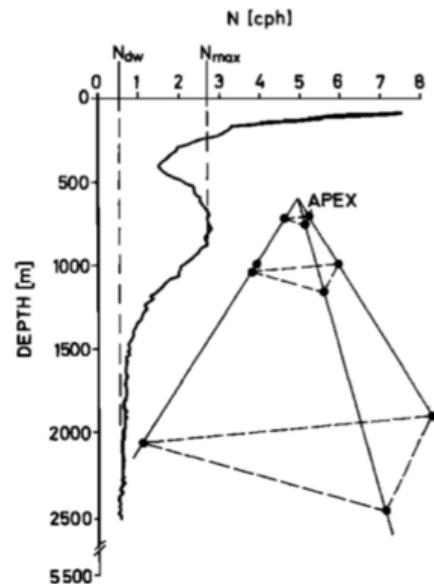
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Test GM assumptions



$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm}C_{nn})^{-1/2}$$

GM72

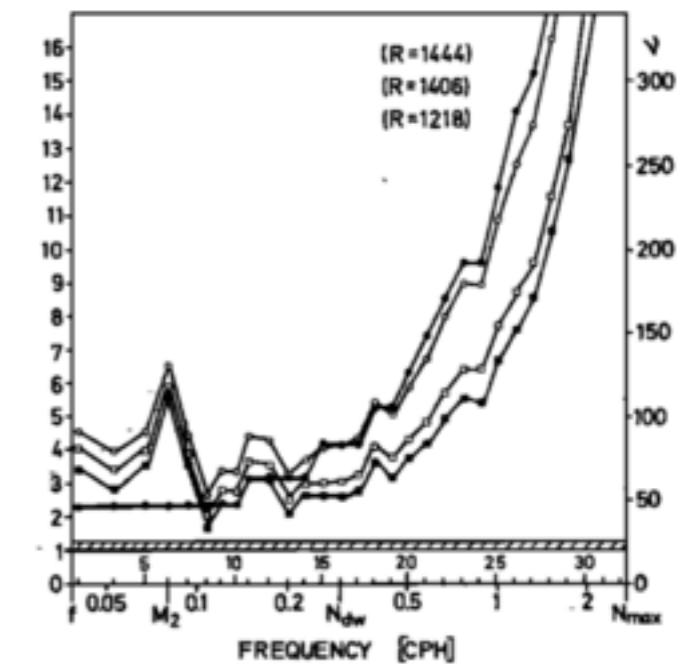
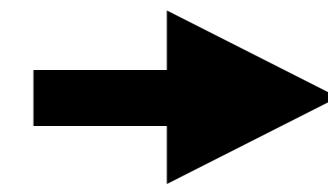
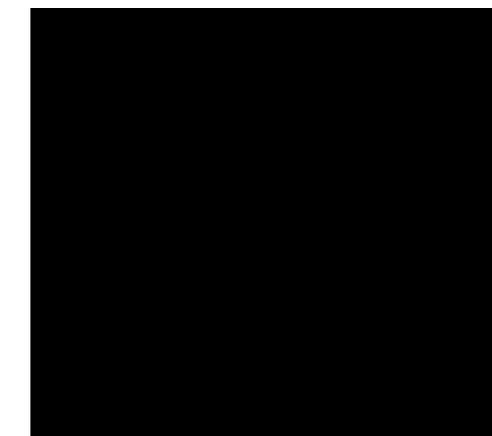
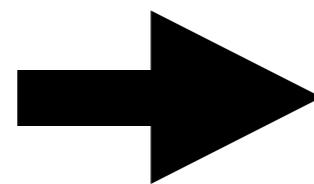
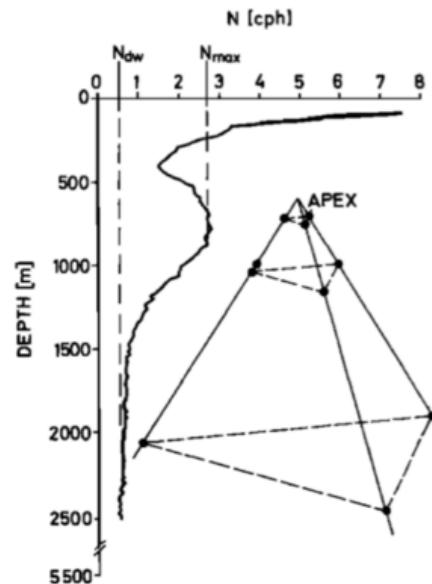
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Test GM assumptions



$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm}C_{nn})^{-1/2}$$

$$R_{mn} = 0 \quad (\text{no correlations; "zero model"})$$

GM72

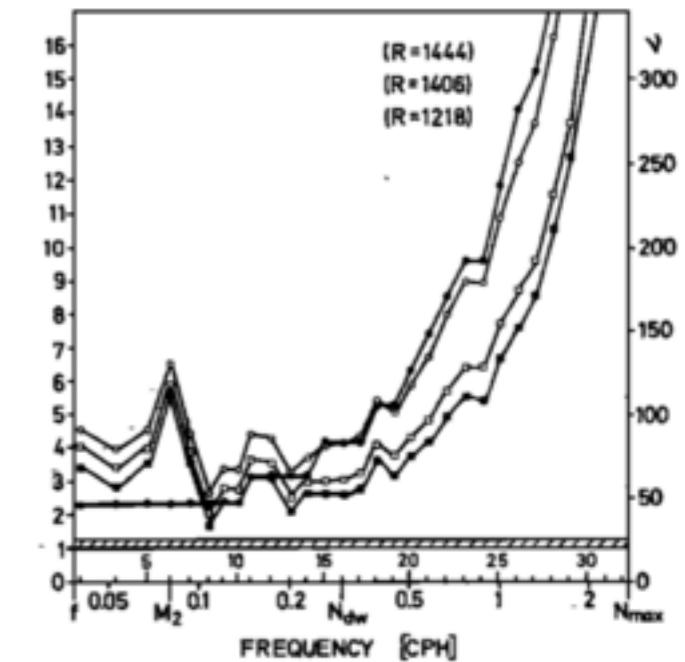
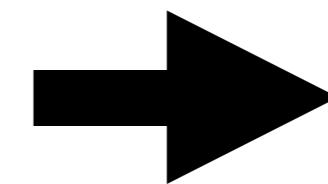
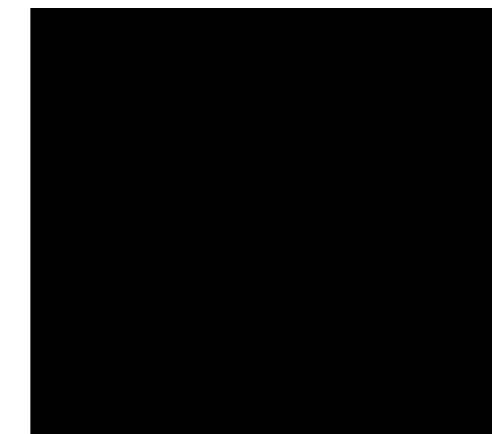
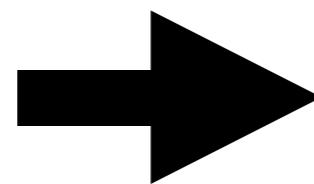
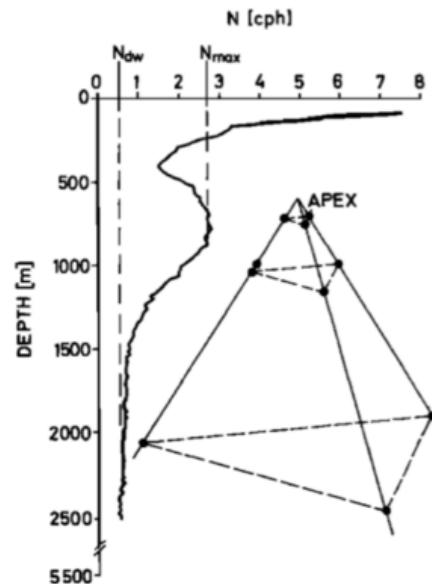
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions



$$R_{mn} e^{i\gamma_{mn}} = (C_{mn} + iQ_{mn})(C_{mm}C_{nn})^{-1/2}$$

$R_{mn} = 0$ (no correlations; “zero model”)

$$\Delta^2 = \frac{1}{L} \sum (R_{mn})^2 / \text{Var}(R_{mn}) \quad (\text{expect } = 1)$$

GM72

GM75

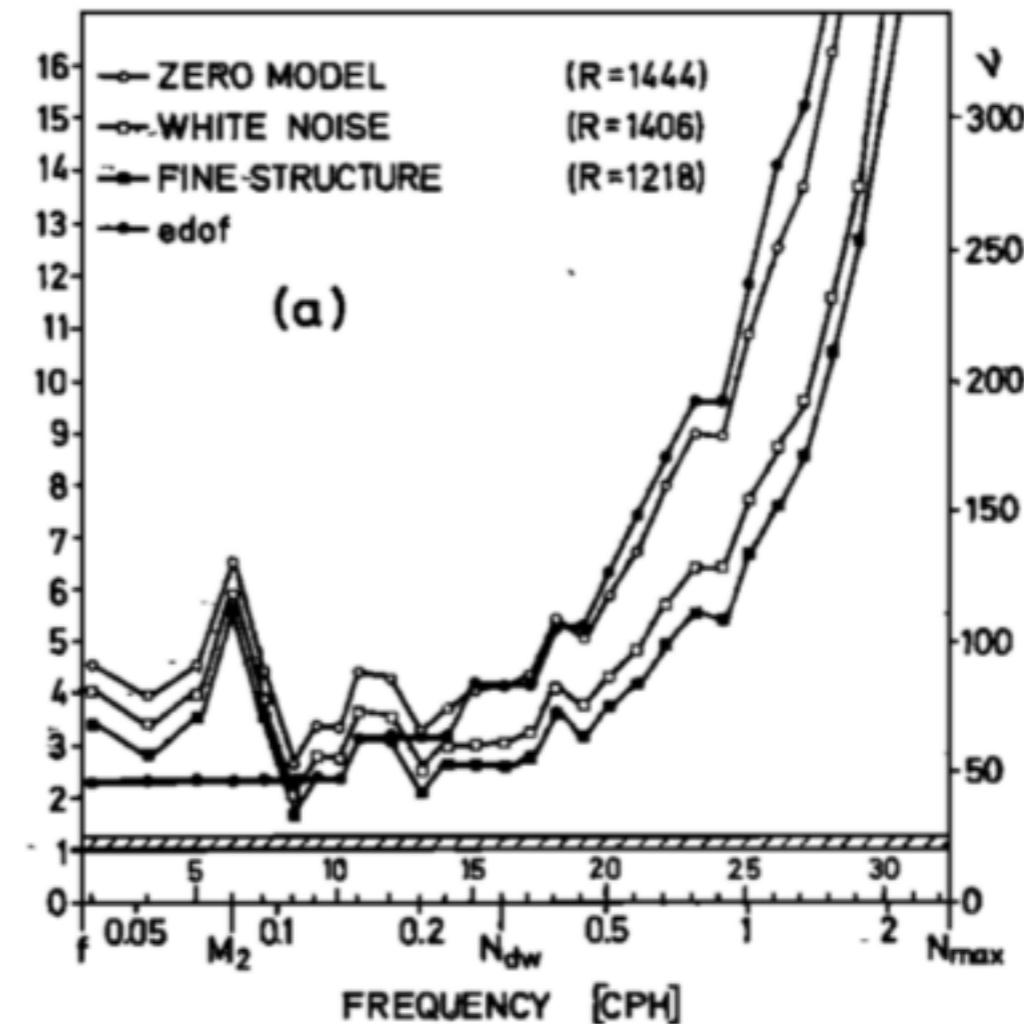
GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions

- Zero model: all coherences vanish
- White noise: all coherences vanish except for auto spectra
- Fine structure: all coherences from vertically separated instruments vanish



GM72

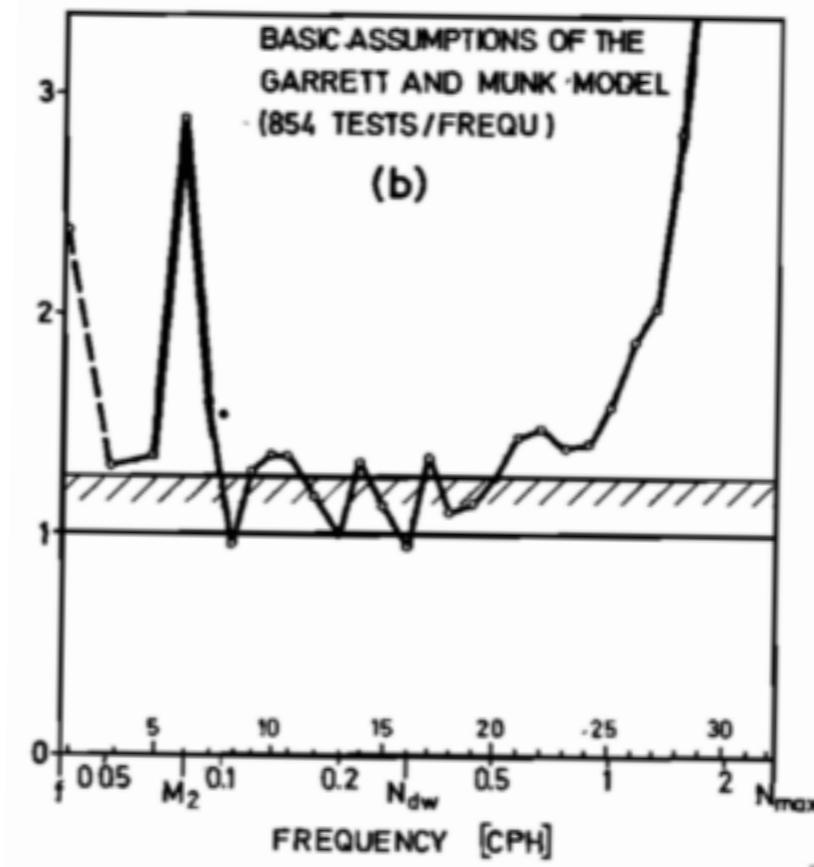
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions



Test GM assumptions

1. statistically stationary
2. horizontally homogenous
3. linear (superposition of waves)
4. well-approximated by WKB
theory (spectral gap between
internal waves and jets/eddies)
5. horizontally isotropic
6. vertically symmetric

GM72

GM75

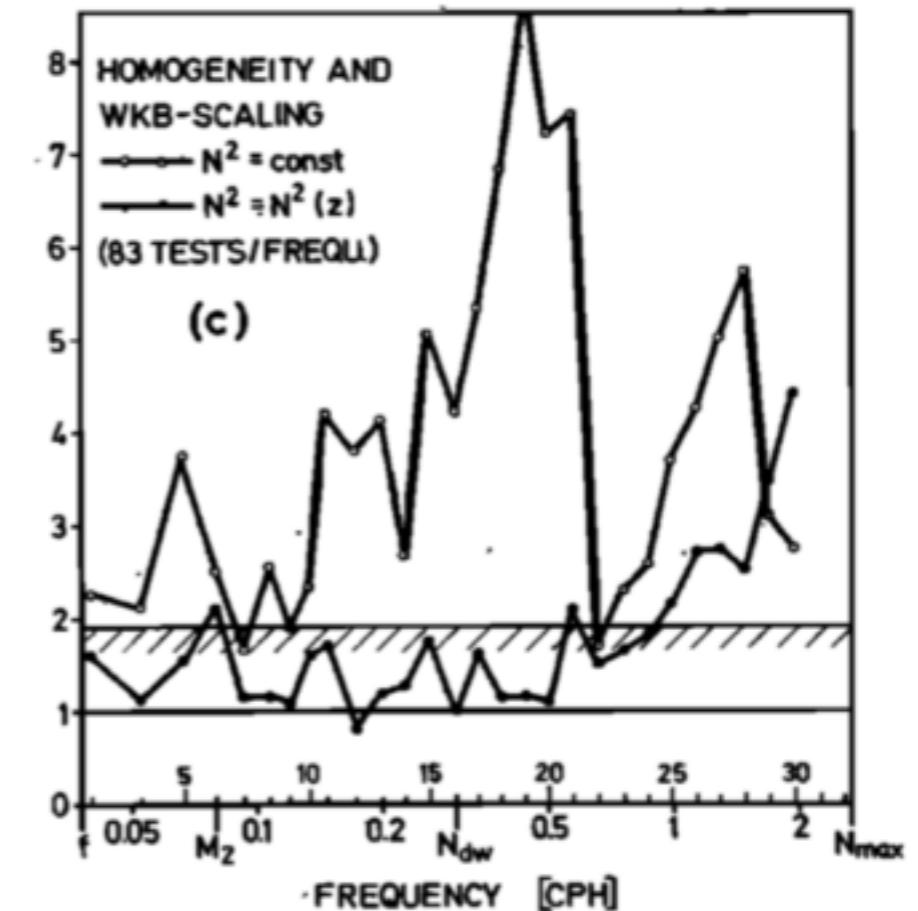
GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions

2. horizontally homogenous
4. well-approximated by WKB theory (spectral gap between internal waves and jets/eddies)



Test: coherences from different instruments are similar

GM72

GM75

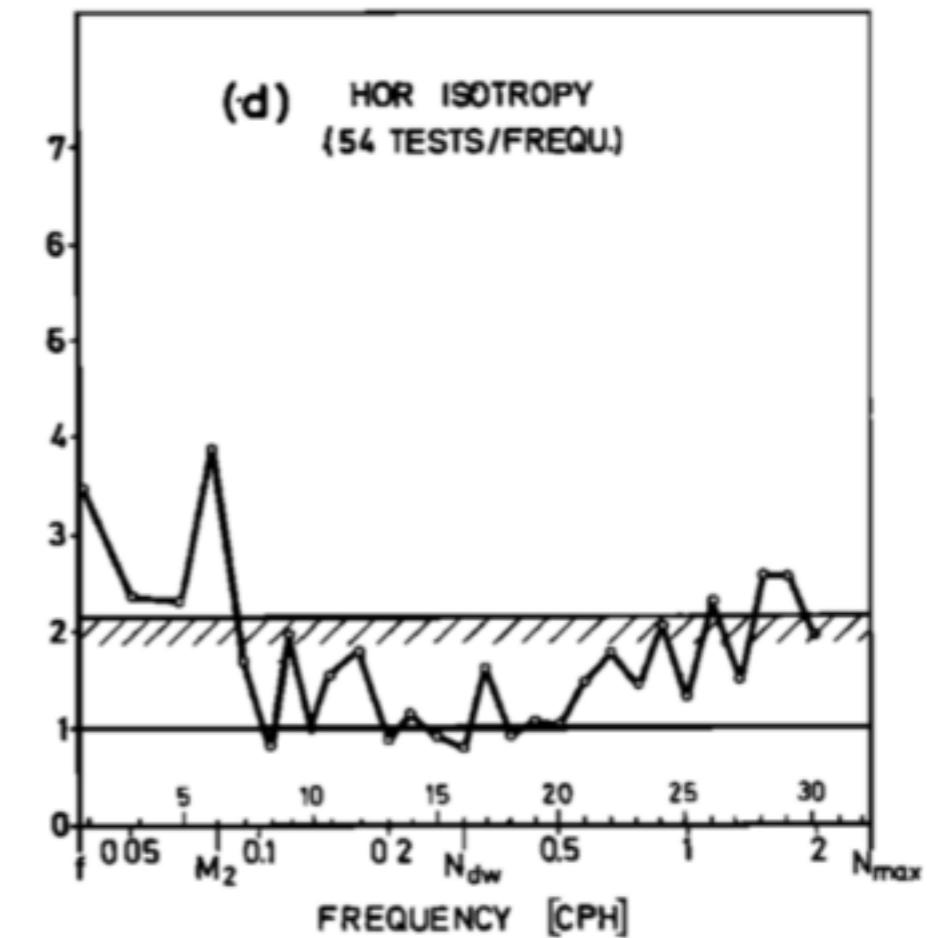
GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions

5. horizontally isotropic



Test: coherences do not change with rotation (about vertical axis)

GM72

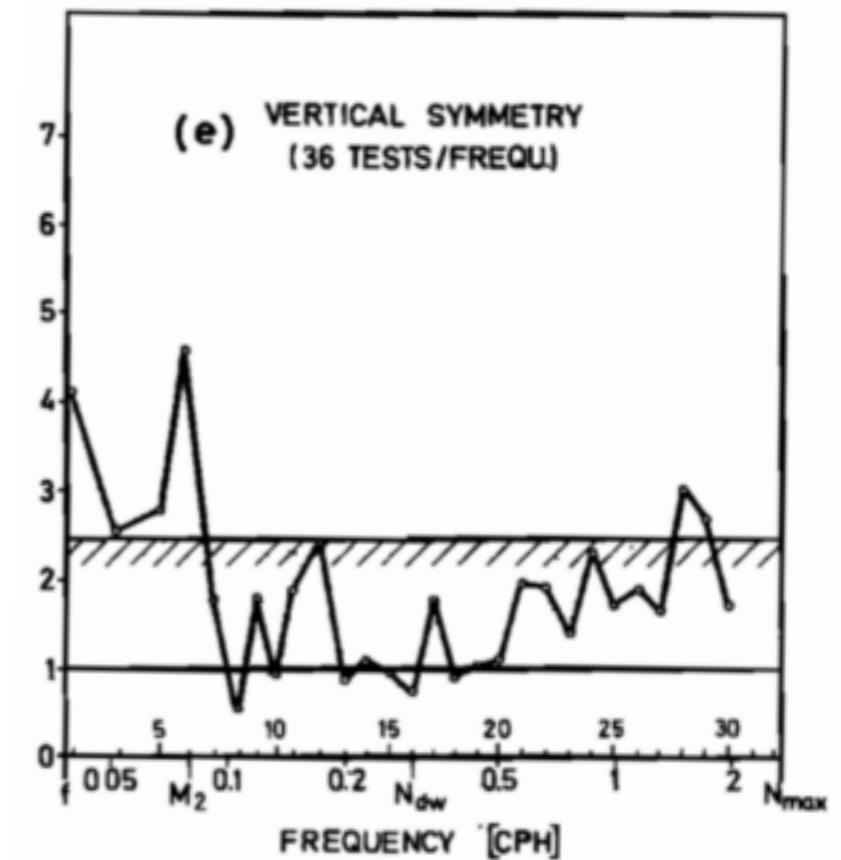
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions



6. vertically symmetric

Test: coherences do not change with reflection (about horizontal axis)

GM72

GM75

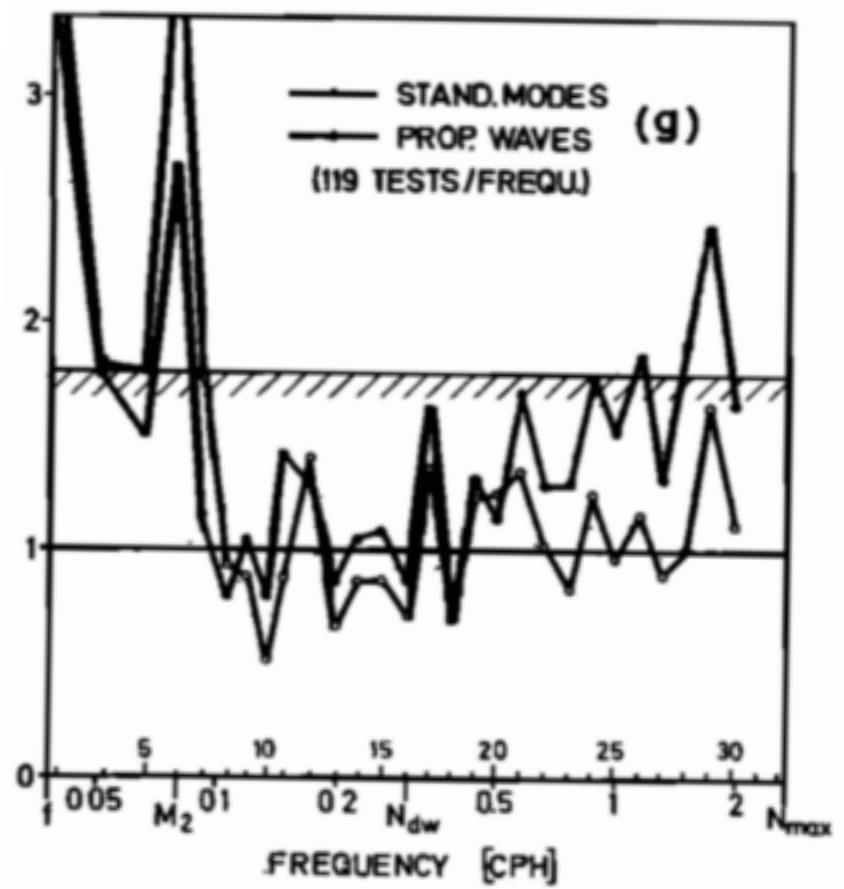
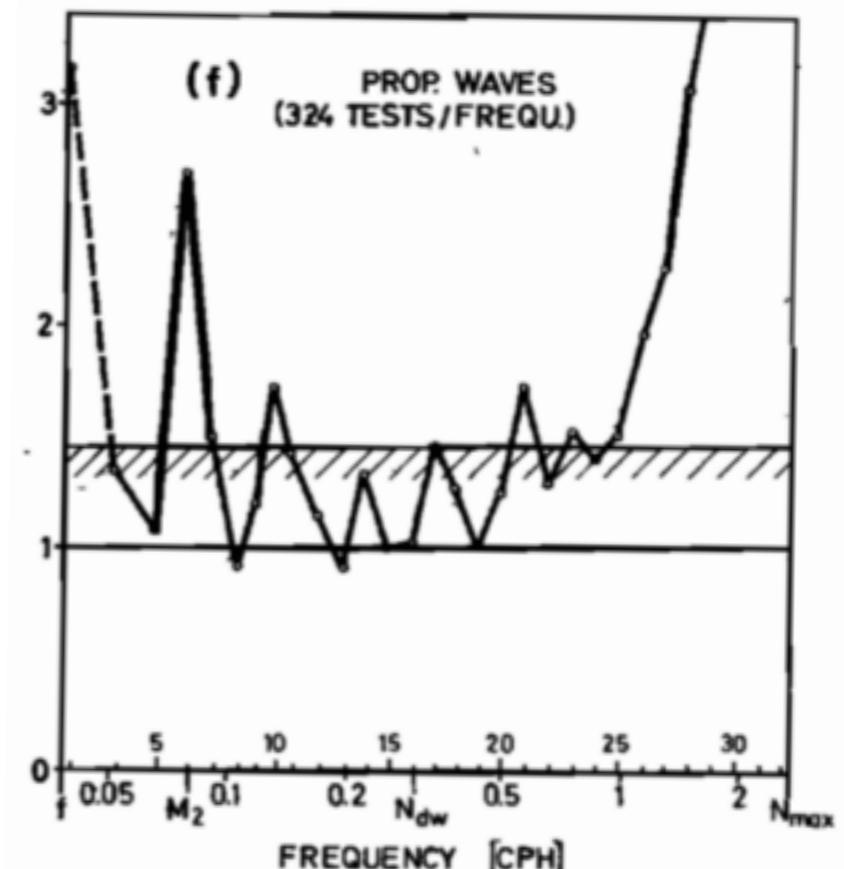
GM76

IWEX78

GK91

Test GM assumptions

3. linear (superposition of waves)



GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

IWEX model

$$E(k,\omega,\phi) = B(\omega)A(k,k^*)S(\phi,\omega)$$

GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

IWEX model

$$E(k, \omega, \phi) = B(\omega)A(k, k^*)S(\phi, \omega)$$

$$A(k, k^*) = I(t, s) \left\{ 1 + \left(\frac{k - k_P}{k^*} \right)^s \right\}^{-t/s}, \text{ for } k \geq k_P$$

GM72

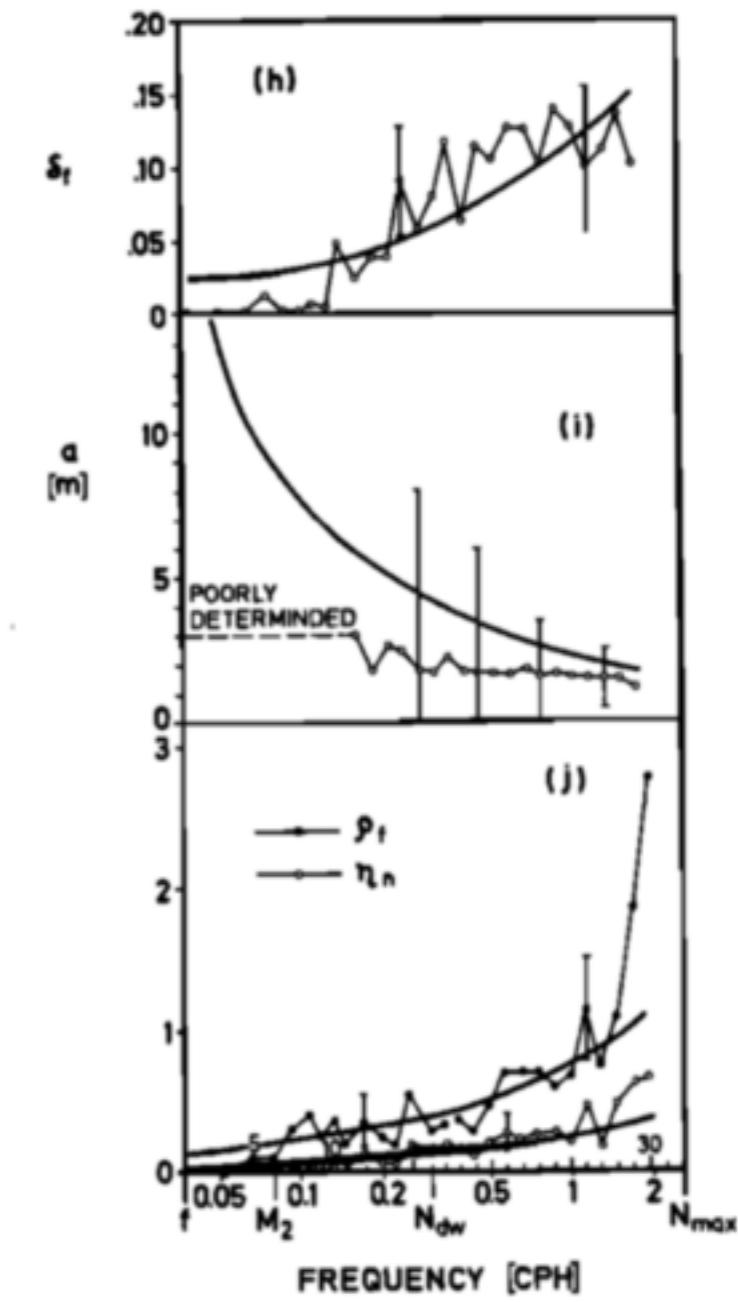
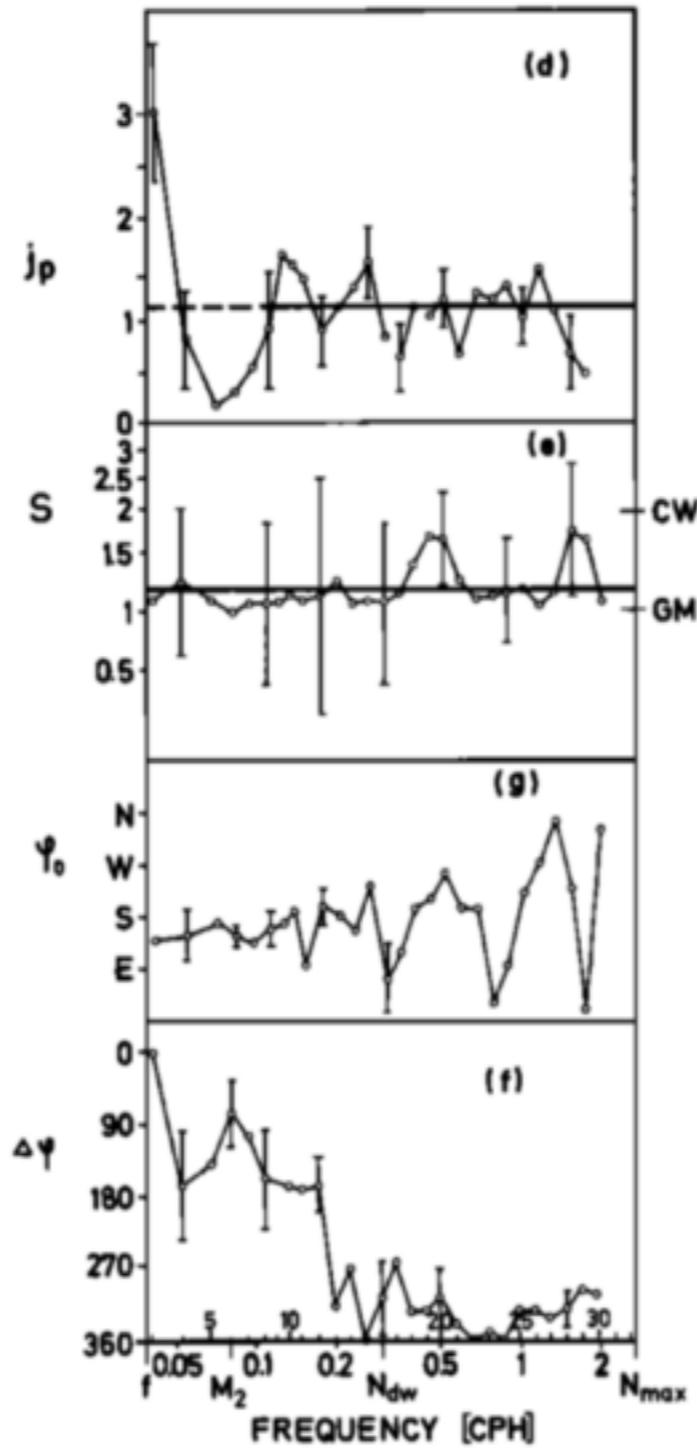
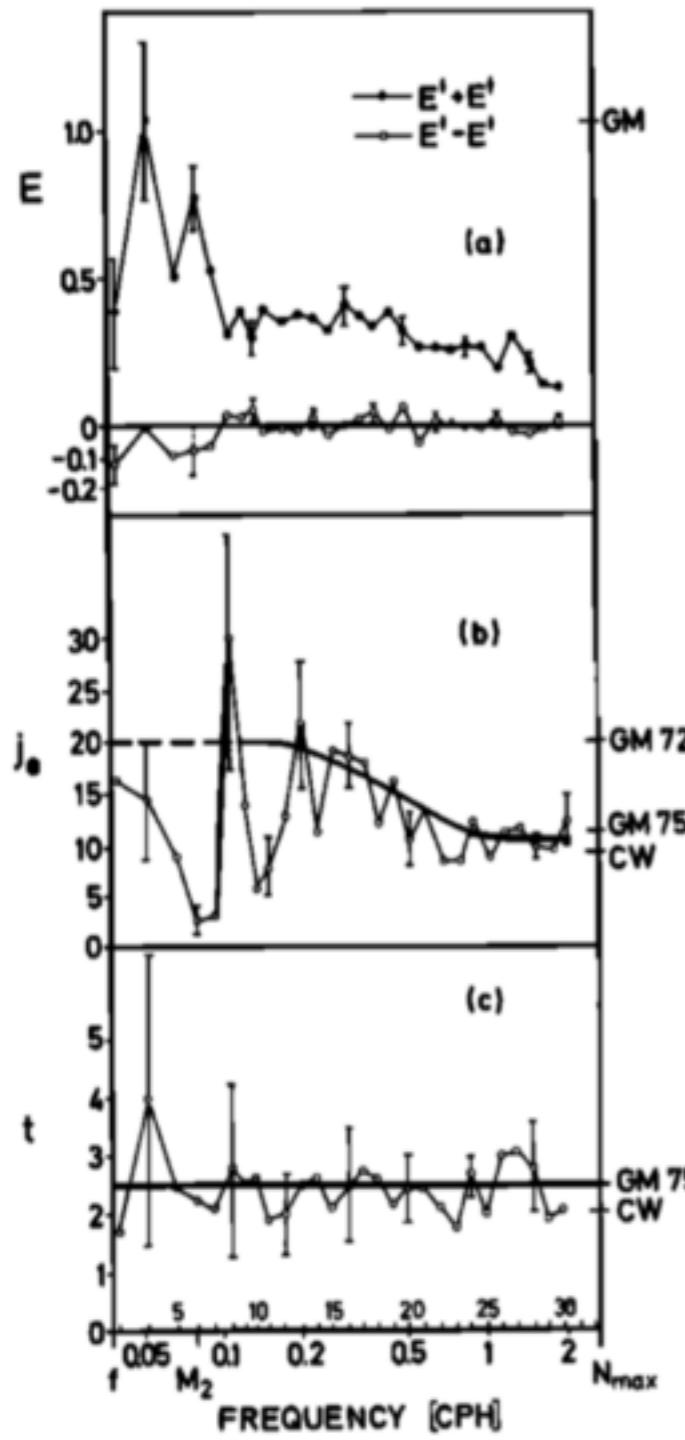
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

IWEX model



GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

IWEX model

$$E(k, \omega, \phi) = B(\omega) A(k, k^*) S(\phi, \omega)$$

$$A(k, k^*) = I(t, s) \left\{ 1 + \left(\frac{k - k_P}{k^*} \right)^s \right\}^{-t/s}, \text{ for } k \geq k_P$$

$$S(\phi, \omega) = \frac{\Gamma^2(p+1)2^{2p}}{2\pi\Gamma(2p+1)} \cos^{2p}\left(\frac{\phi - \phi_0}{2}\right)$$

$$B(\omega) = B(E^+, E^-, \delta_f, a, \rho_f, \eta_n)$$

GM72

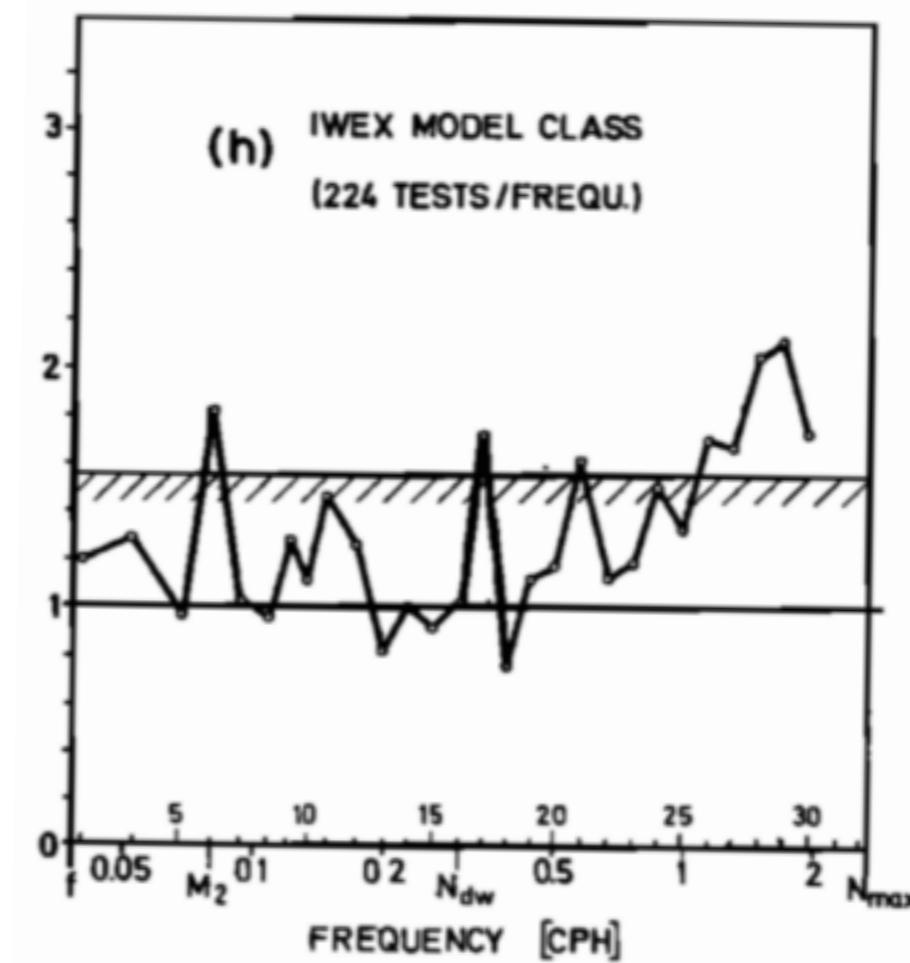
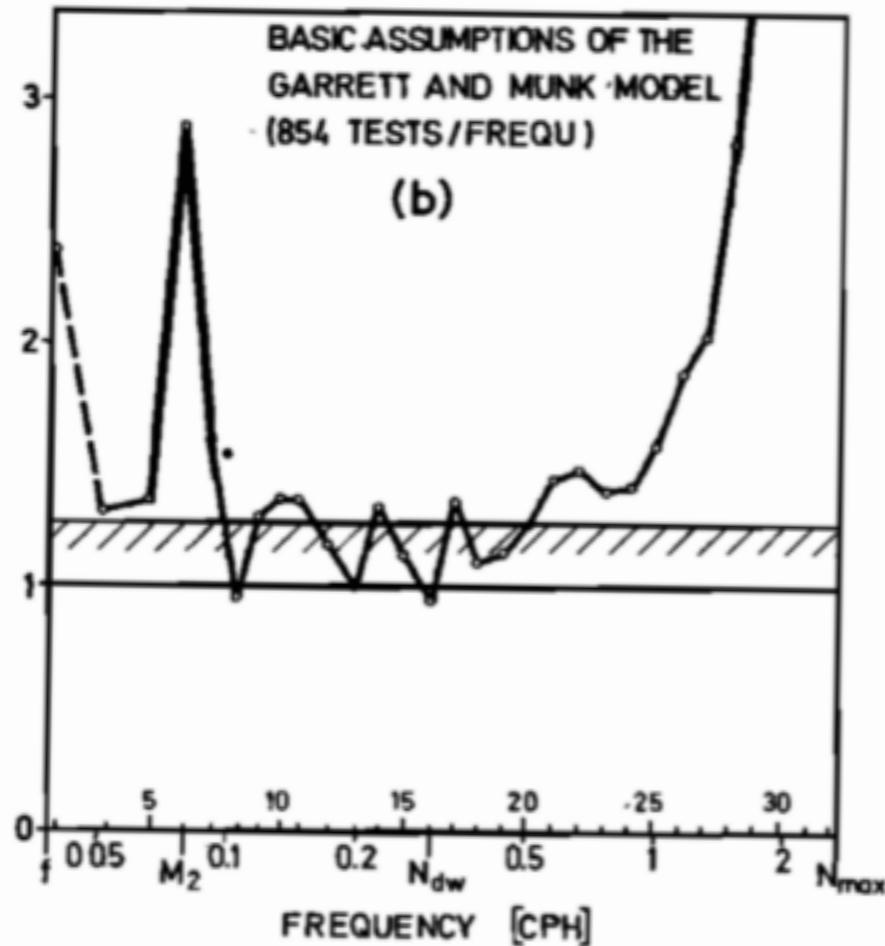
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

IWEX model



GM72

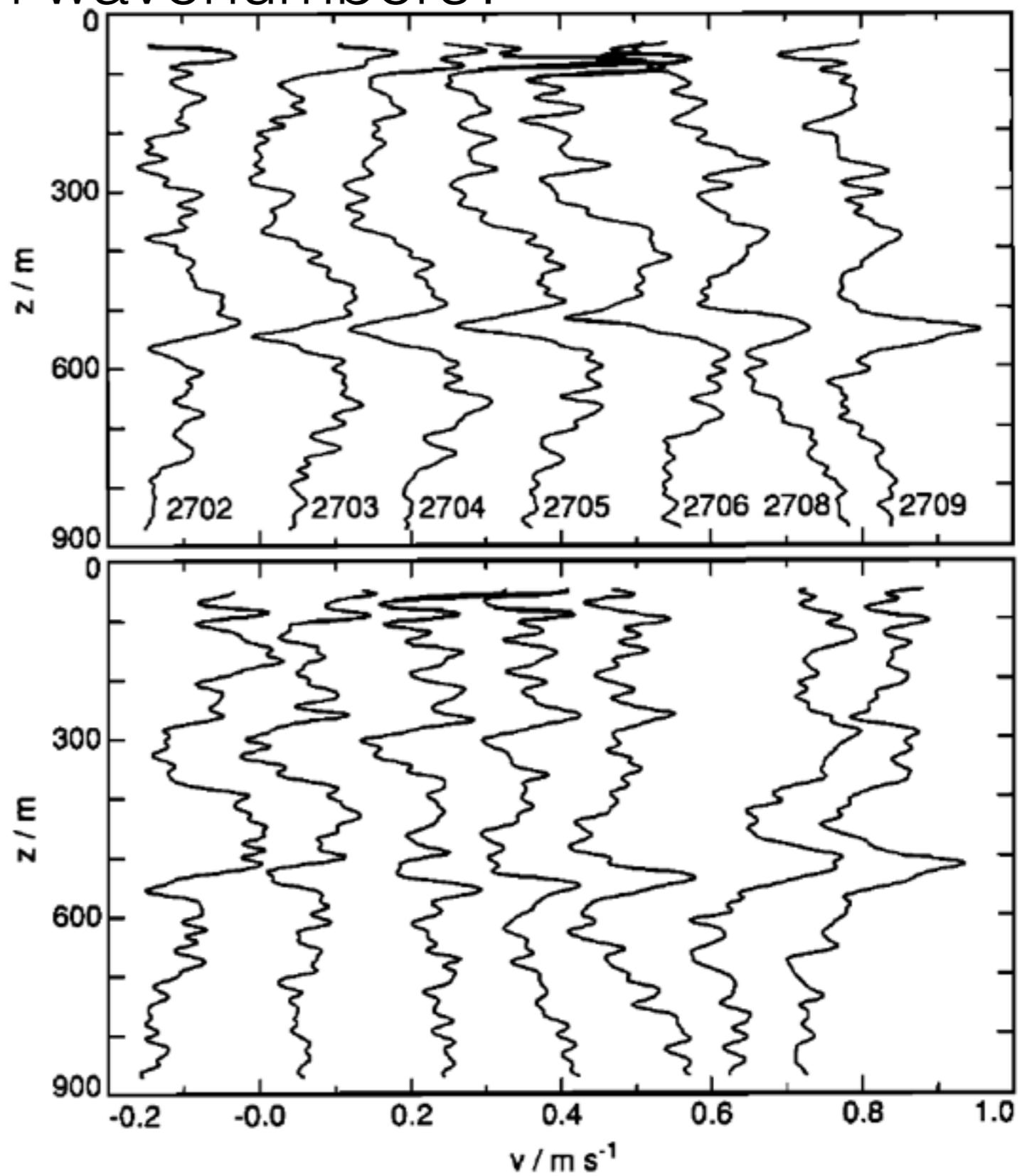
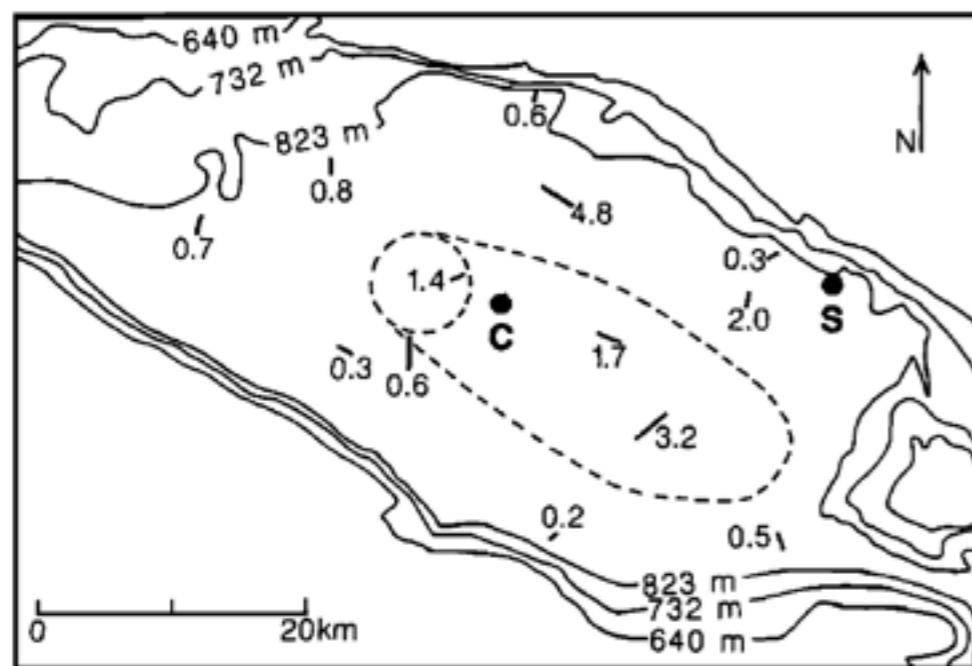
GM75

GM76

IWEX78

GK91

What about extremely high wavenumbers?



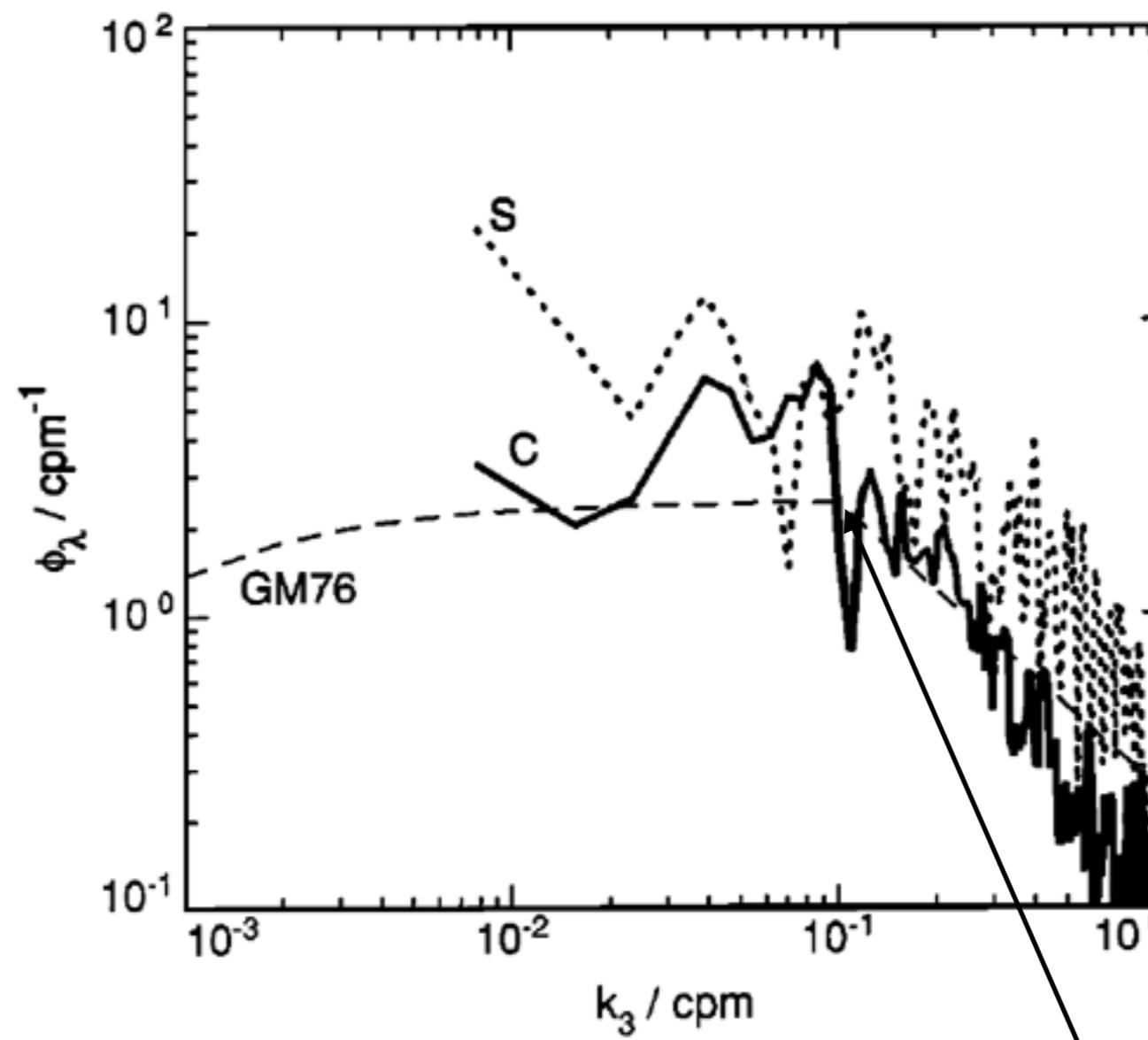
GM72

GM75

GM76

IWEX78

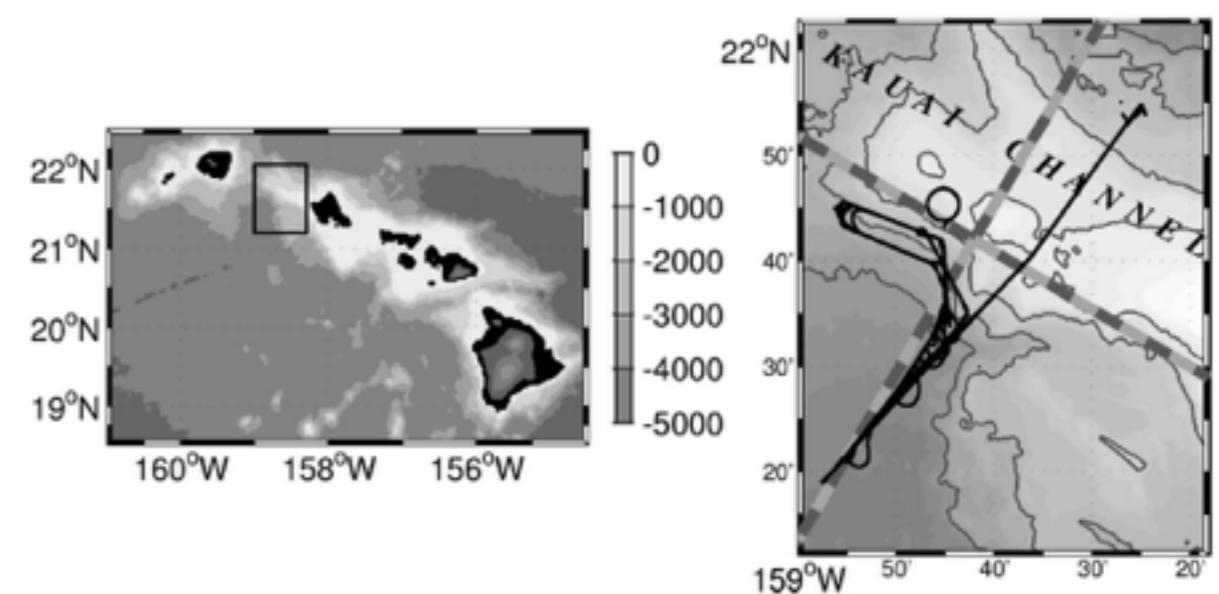
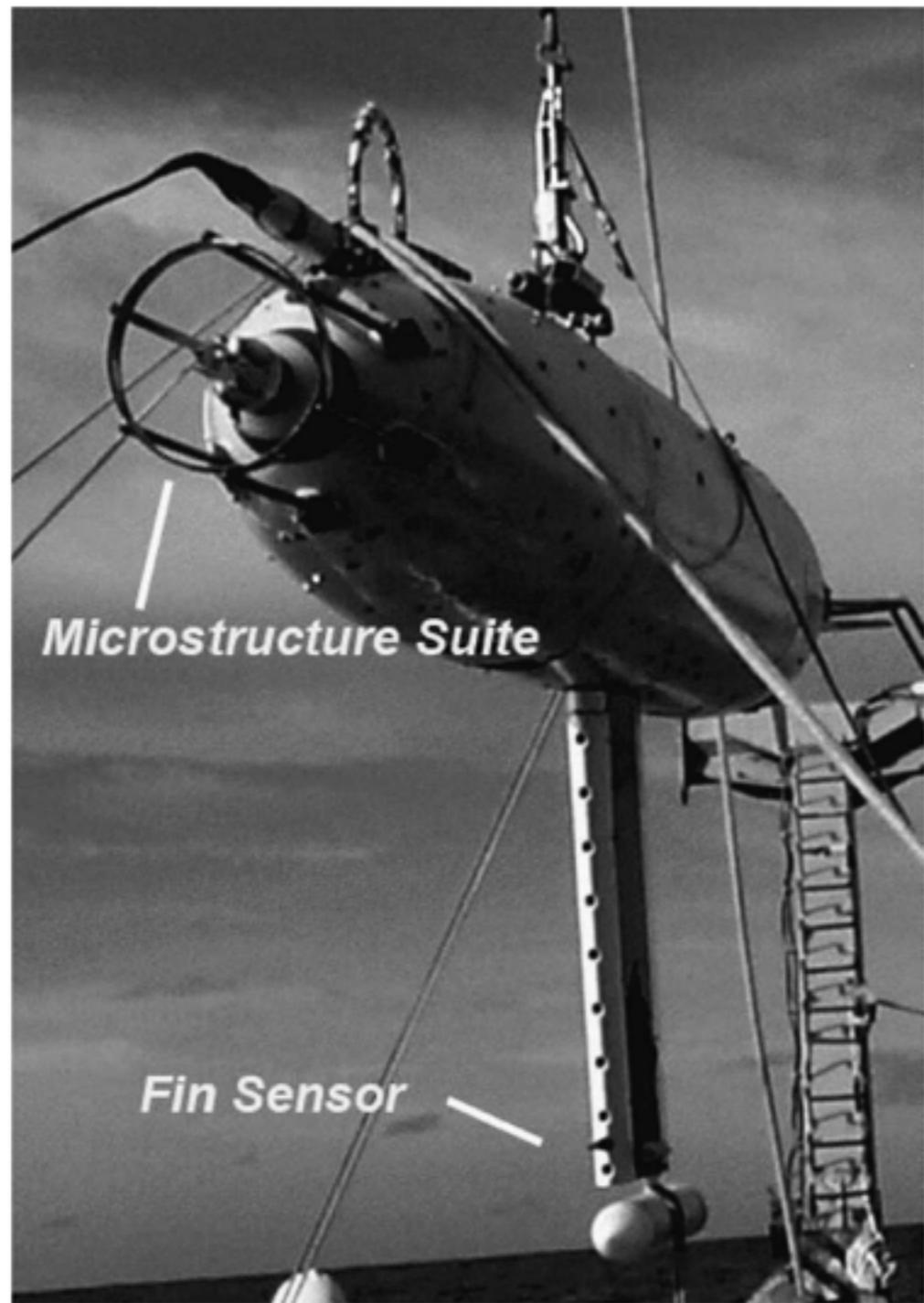
GK91



cut-off point set by Gargett et al., JPO, 1981.

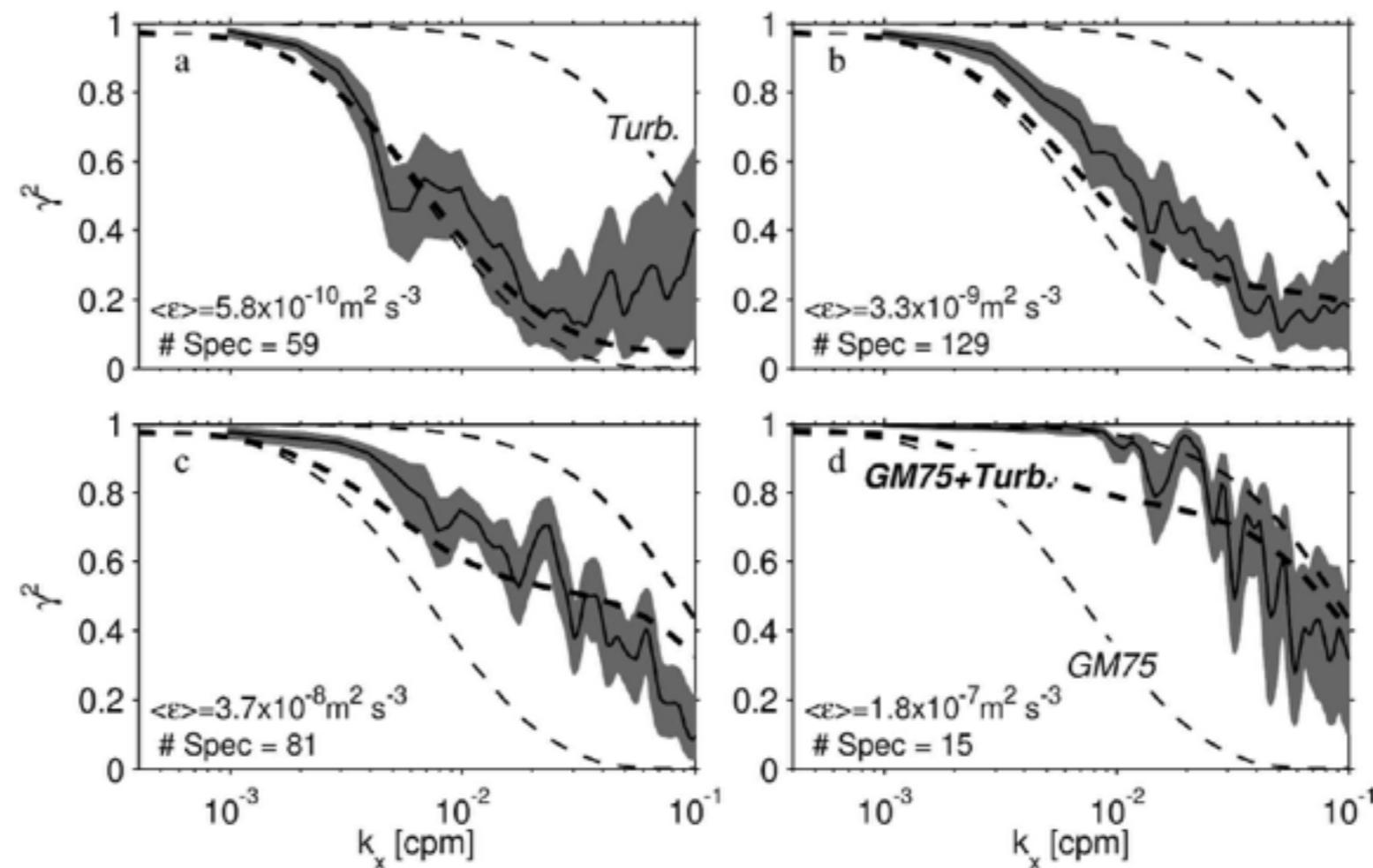
(Gregg and Kunze, JGR, 1991)

GM in the 21st century

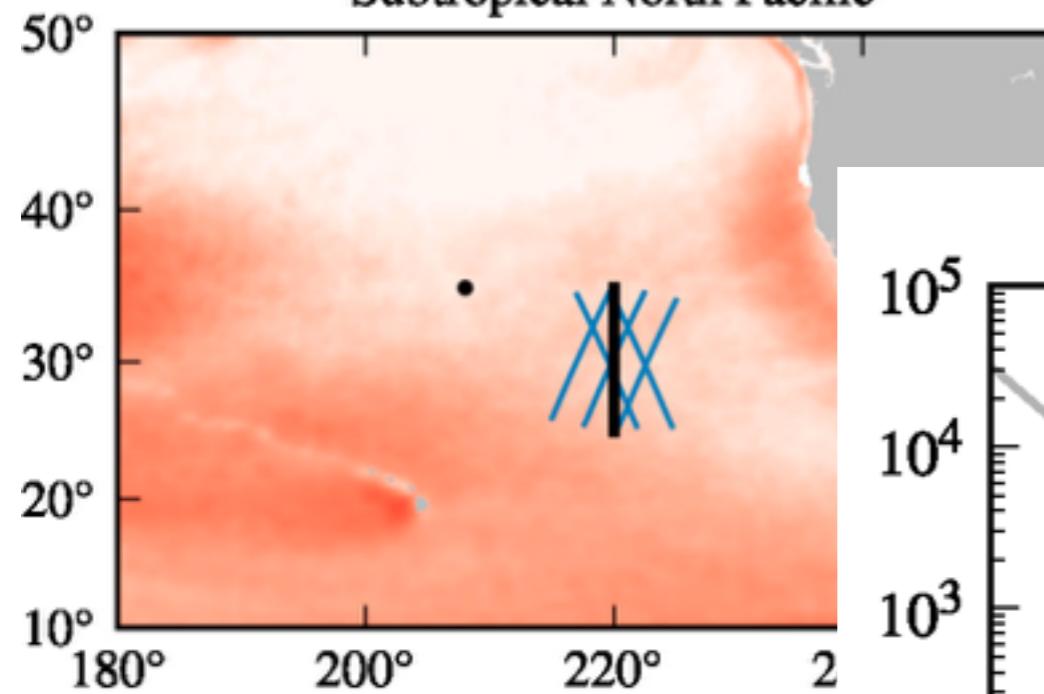


GM in the 21st century

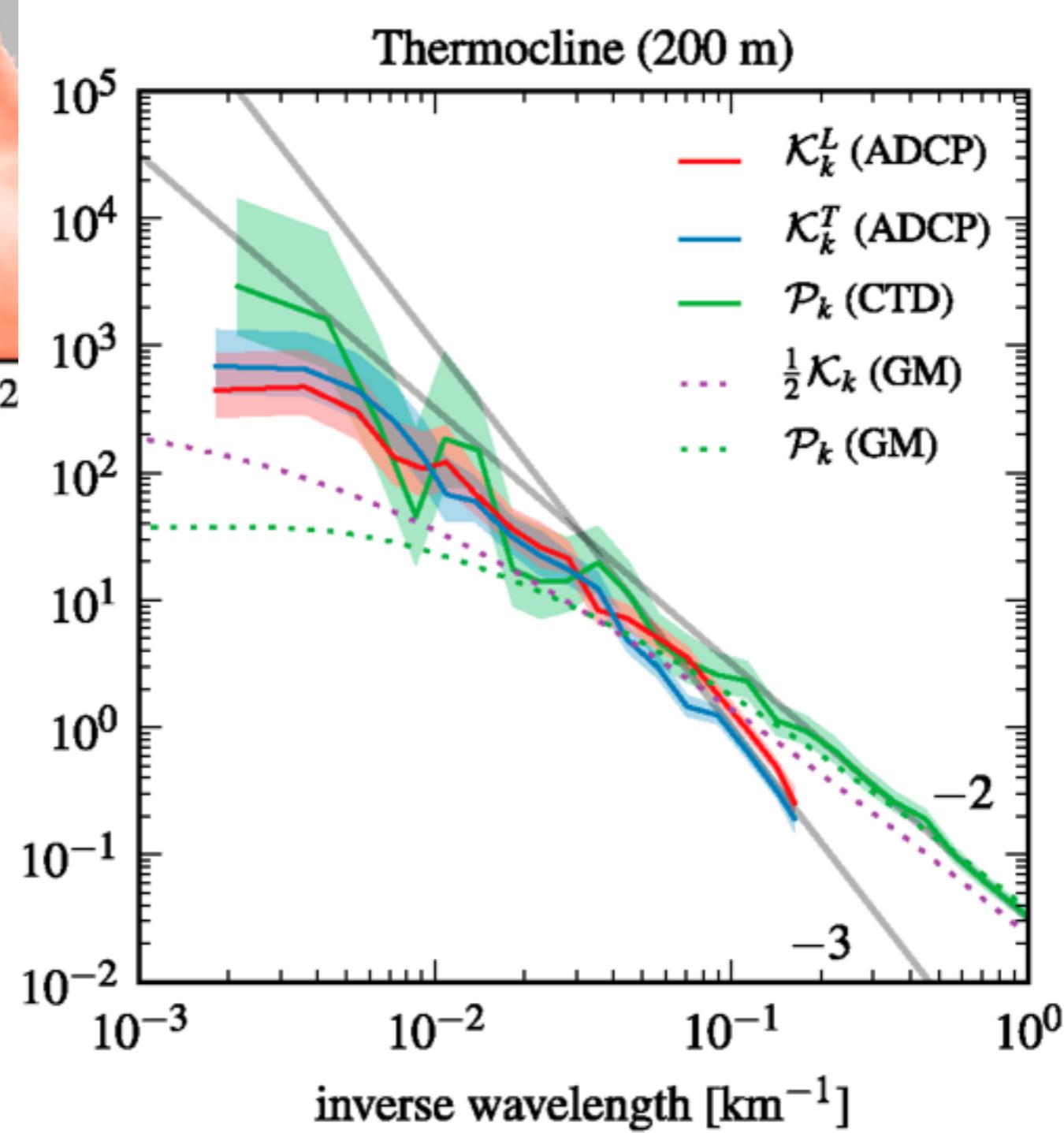
Towed vertical coherence

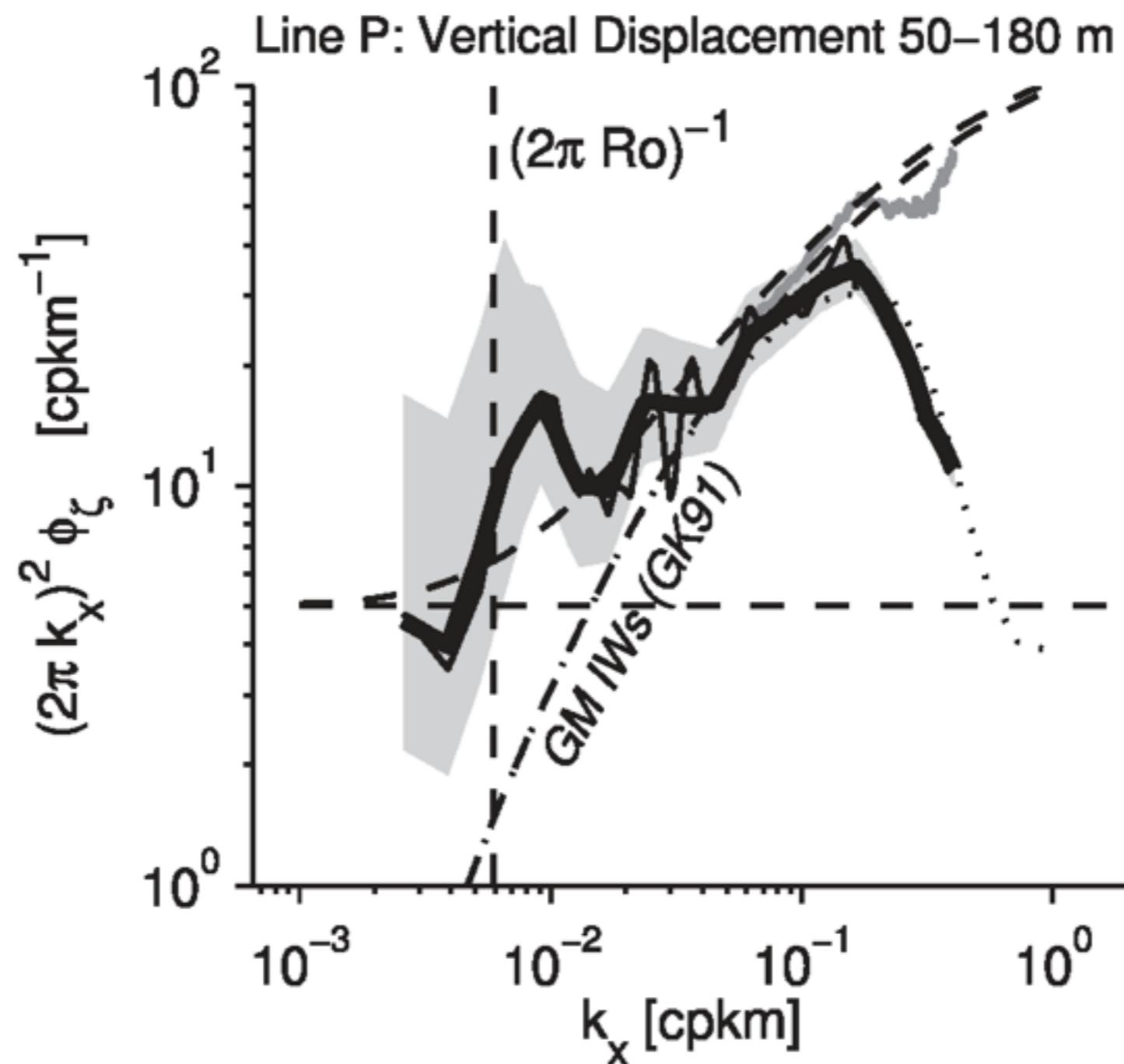


Subtropical North Pacific



Thermocline (200 m)





<http://jklymak.github.io/GarrettMunkMatlab/>