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Coastal Dynamics I (Technische Universiteit Delft)

# **Coastal Dynamics I**

# Chapter1:

**Soft measures**: beach nourishments; land reclamation; maintenance dredging **Hard measures**: seawall/revetment (permeable), Groyne, Jetty, Breakwater

Tidal inlet: Tide prevents inlet from closing

Obliquely approaching waves: non-zero angle between wave crests and depth contours

Shelf break; overgang naar echt diep water (100-200m depth)

**Shoreface**: part of sandy profile affected by waves

Shoalzone: waves gain amplitude until they break

Breaker/surfzone: waves break

Coastal morphodynamics (positive/negative): mutual adjustment of morphology and hydrodynamic

processes involving sediment transport

Regression (of sea): advance of coast Transgression (of sea): retreat of coast

## **Chapter 2:**

Surge level higher for **wide shelves**; wave energy lower (lot of damping due to bottom friction); higher tidal amplitude

**African coast:** Less sediments provide due to absence of real mountains due to fact that Africa is in middle of crustal

**Eustatic change:** absolute sea level change (movement of mean sea level w.r.t. land) **Isostatic deformation:** deformation of earths crust due to Eustatic sea-level changes

Glacio-isostasy: due to ice

• Hydro- isostasy:

**Continental sediments:** originating from rock

Carbonate sediments: formed of calcium carbonate from shells/remains of marine life

**Mud:** fluid-sediment mixture of (salt), water, silt, clay and organic materials (created via chemical weathering.)

Ratio mud/sand: increases for more chemical weathering which is for higher temperatures and

humidity

**Reef:** needs enough sunlight and warm water

**Fringing reef:** reef bordering the coast

Barrier reef: reef positioned offshore closing of a lagoon

Atoll reef: reef encircling a lagoon

**Salt Marshes:** found at moderate climates **Mangroves:** found in (sub)tropical regions

Formation of Delta: depends on the relative influence of river(&provided sediment), waves and tide

Ria: drowned river

**Elongated sand bars:** typical for tide dominated system



# Chapter3:

Wave steepness: ratio of H/L

**Period wind generated gravity waves:** 0.25s – 30s (Gravity is restoring force)

'sea': relatively short (order 10s) random & irregular oscillations of surface generated by local wave fields

'swell': sea that travelled for a while and has transformed due to frequency dispersion and damping

Capillary waves: small ripples (0.25s) that die out due to surface tension

Infra gravity waves: longer gravity waves (5min); merely shallow water phenomenon

Wave record stationary: short enough to be statistically stationary, long enough to get reliable

averages (15-30min used, 20min most common)

Short term statistics wave record: 1. Via wave-by-wave analysis. 2. Spectral analysis

Root-mean-square wave height: wave energy measure (since wave energy is related to H<sup>2</sup>)

Smallest frequency (longest wave) that can be determined: f<sub>min</sub>=1/T<sub>r</sub> (restricted by record length)

**Highest frequency:** f<sub>max</sub>=1/2deltat (from sampling interval)

Standard deviation can be estimated via area under variance density spectrum

Phase: in not too steep waves and deep water independent of each other and uniform distributed

Spectral peak: indicates point in the spectrum where most energy occurs

Waves at area of generation: relatively steep and short-crested White-capping: steepness induced wave breaking (H/L>0.14)

JONSWAP: characteristic for developing wind sea in oceanic waters

Pierson-Moskowitz: fully developed sea

Phase velocity(=propagation velocity=wave celerity): rate at which any phase of the wave (for

instance a crest) propagates in space **Shallow water for:** kh<0.31 or h/L<1/20

**Group speed:** is speed at which energy of waves move

Phase velocity > group speed in deep water; same for shallow

**Groupiness:** caused by interference of waves with different wave length **Dissipation processe(white capping&currents):** more effects on shorter waves

Period of **decades** conditions may **not be stationary** (due to for instance climate change)

**Gravitational acceleration:** varies due to varying distances and angles to the centre of the attracting mass

Centripetal acceleration: everywhere parallel to line connecting gravitational centers

**Differential pull/tide generating force:** difference between gravitational pull on ocean water masses that are located at different distances from the sun and the moon

- Normal components: small w.r.t. earth's own gravitational attraction
- Tangentianal/horizontal: same order as normal components but perpendicular to earth's gravity field and therefore cannot be neglected

Horizontal component: shifts water to side of earth facing sun(moon) and opposite side in tidal

bulges (pilling up of water = balanced by **pressure gradients**)

Solar tide: 12 hours (1/2 of solar day) Lunar tide: 12h25min (1/2 of lunar day)

**Sidereal day:** time needed for earth to rotate around own axis (=23h56min)

Sidereal month: 27.3 days (moon's revolution around earth)

Lunar month: 29.5 days

Spring tide: sun, earth and moon in one line

Neap tide: lunar and solar tide 90 degrees out of phase

Daily inequality: highs/lows on 1 day are not equal

- caused by earths (time-varying) declination
- zero at equator; increases with latitude
- at high latitude only on high and low
- period of one year

Spring/neap tide variation: result of linear summation of M2 and S2 having a slightly different period

**Tidal wave:** long wave; small amplitude (order 1m)

**Propagation of tide:** 

- influenced by friction and resonance which are set by shapes and depths of ocean basins
- Influenced by Coriolis

Amphidromic system: rotary system under influence of Coriolis and 'blocking' by land masses

**Amphidromic point:** node; place where amplitude of vertical tide is zero

Co-tidal lines/co-phase lines: lines of simultaneous HW

**Co-range lines:** lines connecting points with same tidal range

Geostrophic balance: balance between Coriolis and pressure gradient

# Chapter 4:

**Incoming radiation:** strongly dependent on latitude (also seasonal effect)

- Net gain at equator
- Net loss of heat at poles
- Balance at approximately 37 degree N & S
- Unequally distribution causes heat(advection) transport (wind 60% & ocean currents 40%)

**Inter Tropical Convergence Zone:** band of low air pressure around equator (eerste cel vanaf evenaar; over opp naar equator in atmosfeer van equator af)

**Doldrums:** prevailing winds near equator

**Tropical storms:** 

**Hurricanes: Near Americas** 

Cyclones: Near India & Africa

Typhoons: near SE-Asia and Australia

## Wind in (sub)Tropical area:

- Some are governed by trade winds
- Others by seasonally reversing Monsoons (result of larger amplitude of the seasonal cycle of land temperature compared to that of nearby oceans)

## **Zonal winds:**

- Polar easterlies high latitudes (>70)
- Strong westerlies at mid-latitudes (30-70)
- Extensive but moderate trade winds in sub tropics (10-30)
- Quieter Doldrums aroud equator (10N-10S)

#### Regional and local effects:

- Monsoons
- Cyclones
- Land and sea breezes (thermal winds)

**Thermohaline:** heat distributing ocean water circulation (density driven)



#### Wave environments:

- Storm wave climate: most important and energetic wave climate (driven by westerlies)
- West coast swell climate
- East coast swell climate
- **Protected sea climates:** areas protected from arrival of swell

# Tidal range:

- Micro-tidal regime: mean spring tidal range <2m (mostly at open coasts and fully enclosed seas)
- Meso-tidal regime: mean spring tidal range 2-4m
- Macro-tidal regime: mean spring tidal range >4m (often occurs at semi enclosed seas which enhance tidal amplification

Form factor F: characterizes tidal character:  $F=(K_1+O_1)/(M_2+S_2)$ 

Relative tidal range (RTR): delineates between wave/tidal dominated. RTR=MSTR/H<sub>b</sub>

- MSTR=mean spring tidal range
- H<sub>b</sub>= wave height just before breaking
- RTR<3 wave dominated beach; RTR>15 beaches gradually approach pure tidal flat situation

# **Chapter 5:**

Waves feel bottom: when the water depth becomes less than half the wave length

- Wave slows down
- Certain harmonic component retains frequency; c & L decrease (due to dispersion relation)
- Eventually **Shoaling:** concentration of wave energy due to waves 'cathing-up' when starting to feel bottom. Increase in wave height is result

Current present: wave energy not conserved anymore (might transfer between waves and current)

• In this case use wave action as conserved quantity

#### **Assumptions spectral integration:**

- The irregular wave field at one location can be represented by single value for theta
- Total energy propagates at wave group speed c<sub>g</sub>. (only case for narrow spectrum)

#### Group velocity cg:

- Deep water: independent of location (can be taken outside derivative)
- Intermediate/shallow depths: depend on location and therefore inside derivative

Additional energy input (S): due to wind; generally neglected for small near-shore zone Dissipation of wave energy (D):

- Most effective is wave breaking in surf zone (also deeper but then called White-capping)
- Other mechanism are bottom friction and interaction with vegetation

Shoaling also occurs for tidal waves/tsunamis when they encounter relatively shallow water Refraction: depth induced 'bending' of oblique waves

Wave rays **converge:** accumulation of wave energy -> increasing wave height

Wave rays **divergence**: energy is spread over a larger part of wave crest -> reducing wave height **Current refraction**: refraction due to mean currents (takes place if current velocity varies along wave crest)

**Diffraction:** energy transfer along wave crests induced by large (initial) variation of wave energy along crest. (waveheight will decrease along crest of the wave).

• Spreading behind obstacle dependent on ratio of a characteristic lateral dimension of the obstacle (e.g. length of detached breakwater to wavelength L)

**Wave breaking:** starts to occur when particle velocity exceeds the velocity of wave crest (wave celerity). Breaking corresponds to crest angle of 120

- In general: [H/L]<sub>max</sub>=0.142tanh(kh)
- In Deep water: [H₀/L₀]=0.142=1/7 (white capping; only limited part of energy dissipated)

Iribarren number: tan(a)/sqrt(H<sub>0</sub>/L<sub>0</sub>) (=ratio slope steepness vs. deep water wave steepness)

**Spilling breakers:** found along flat beaches; wave breaking at great distance from shore; gradually breaking; very little reflection; low Iribarren number

Plunging breaker: curling top; some energy reelected

**Surging breaker:** along rather steep shore for long swell waves; surging up and down the slope; narrow breaker zone; almost half of the energy reflected back in deeper water

**Surface roller:** air-water mixture which moves land inward; act as temporary storage of energy and momentum. (Organized wave energy is transferred in turbulent kinetic energy; ultimately dissipated via turbulence)

**Skewness:** asymmetry relative to horizontal axis (peaking of crest; flattening of trough due to shoaling) (=zero for first order sinus component; for higher order sinuses the crests will give much more weight)

• Skewness for irregular deep water wave field = 0

**Asymmetry:** asymmetry w.r.t. vertical axis due relative steepening of wave face resulting in pitched-forward wave shape (crest travels faster than trough since c=sqrt(gd)

Primary and secondary harmonic are not in phase

Non linearity's: become important in shallow water (a/h isn't small anymore)

Stokes higher order terms: correct for the non-linear surface elevation

- Second harmonic does not travel with speed as expected on own dispersion relation, but with speed of the primary harmonic (same phase)
- Therefore permanent wave form
- Narrow, peaked crests and long, flat troughs

**Changes towards shore:** first more skewed due to shoaling (remaining symmetric w.r.t. vertical axis); closer to surf zone phase shift -> increase in wave asymmetry and eventually decrease in wave skewness; ultimately pitching forward results in wave breaking

**Ursell number:** indicator of skewness: U=HL<sup>2</sup>/h<sup>3</sup>

Wave orbital motion: becomes also more skewed and asymmetric in shallow water. ->

- -> higher on-shore velocities at the crest; lower off-shore velocities at the trough
- Therefore net sediment transport in direction of the waves

**Wave boundary layer:** transition layer between the bed and layer of 'normal' oscillating flow (aprrox 1-10cm thick). Layer where orbital motion is affected by the bed

- Vortices generated (not included in linear wave theory
- Flow is generally turbulent
- Large shear stresses (due to large velocity gradient)
- Flow sticks to bed (no slip condition) due to viscosity and turbulence
- Thickness of layer restricted since it cannot develop because of changing wave directions
- Orbital motion incurs bed shear stress: can set sediment into motion



- 1. Under waves will vary in time and reverse with direction of orbital motion
- Friction in boundary layer: dissipation of energy from the flow above
- The thinner the layer; the larger the velocity gradients and hence the stresses

Water column above boundary layer: generally no vortices (in boundary layer however there might be)

Viscous stresses-> overshadowed by turbulence stresses in shallow waters

• Use however for turbulence stresses analogue to find a measure for turbulent viscosity **Turbulent viscosity:** from: wave boundary layer; wave breaking; slope or wind driven current **Longuet-Higgins streaming:** wave force pushing flow forward in boundary layer (causes net onshore directed sediment transport) Caused by turbulent shear stress.

**Particle excursion amplitude:** movement of particles due to orbital motion (dependent on wave period)

Increases for longer periods

**Adding bed shear stress & wave current:** not possible because would mean linear adding but velocities included are not linear. So only adding via velocities

**Current friction factor**: relates the bed shear stress to depth averaged current velocity **Wave friction factor**: relates the bed shear stress to free stream velocity

- Lower for longer periods since value for particle excursion amplitude will be larger
- Explained by idea that larger wave period gives boundary layer more time to develop resulting in a ticker boundary layer and smaller velocity gradients/shear stresses/friction factor

Momentum: product of mass and velocity (vector quantity; direction is same as velocity)

- Only contribution from wave trough level to wave crest (below wave trough velocity varies harmonically in time due to orbital motion giving zero time-avg result)
- Mean momentum: q<sub>non-breaking</sub>:rho\*g\*a²/2c=E/c (valid outside surfzone)
- Non-linear quantity in amplitude a (therefore mass flux = second order effect)
  - 1. In linear small amplitude approximation q=0
- In surf zone mass flux is substantially larger
  - 1.  $Q_{drift} = q_{non-breaking} + q_{roller} = E/c + aE_r/c$
  - **2.** E<sub>r</sub>=roller energy

**Undertow:** return current in the surf zone (required based on continuity)

- Important for seaward sediment transport
- Responsible for the severe beach erosion during heavy storms
- Uniform over water column

**Newtons second law:** rate of change of momentum of fluid element= force on the element **Radiation stress:** depth-integrated and wave averaged flow/flux of momentum due to waves

- If there is radiation stress (change in wave induced momentum flux) wave forces act on fluid resulting in:
  - 1. Lowering MWL in shoaling zone (set down)
  - 2. Raising MWL in surf zone (set up -> for irregular waves use H<sub>rms</sub>)
  - 3. Driving longshore current (in the case of waves obliquely approaching the shore)
- Components:
  - 1. transfer of momentum (in direction of wave crest); nE
  - 2. wave-induced pressure(acts normal to the plane); (n-1/2)E

- mainly focused in the region of water column above wave trough (below there is a much smaller uniform part until the bottom) -> has to balance with Undertow, since values change over water column Circulation current
- (normal) radiation stress in shallow water is larger than in deep water
- In breaking surf zone effect of surface roller will delay momentum release (therefore in reality landward shift of set-up)
- Changes caused by changes in: n, E & theta
- Increases in shoaling region (since n becomes larger)->wave setdown
- Decreases in surf zone due to wave breaking-> wave set up
- dS<sub>yy</sub>/dy only can be non-zero for gradient in wave height along coast (so is zero for along shore uniform)
- $dS_{yx}/dx$ = transport of y momentum in x direction; Cross shore gradient herein gives a net force in y-direction.

Shear stress due to waves: is zero for irrotational ideal fluid

Shear component of radiation stress: is zero for normal incident waves

**Momentum flux is non zero for ENTIRE water depth:** since u<sup>2</sup> is involved and is not zero **Longshore current:** 

#### Wave induced

- 1. Forced by cross-shore rate of variation of shear component  $S_{yx}$ 
  - Function of dissipation (=-crossshore gradient of wave energy)
  - Long shore current is confined to surfzone
  - Decreases from border breaker zone to zero at water line
  - No there for normally incident waves
- 2. In cross-shore direction balance was made with pressure gradient; but not possible for infinitely long coastline-> balance with bed shear stress
- **3. Turbulence:** due to waves only present in wave boundary layer (significantly increases bed shear stress; use free-stream velocity); due to currents(depth avg u) present in entire water column
  - since currents and waves may not have same direction -> bed-shear stress varies continuously during wave cycle
  - mean bed-shear stress: depends on angle between waves and current
- 4. In case of wave sheltering (due to for instance detached breakwater) wave setup is expected to be lower in sheltered area -> generates near-shore current towards sheltered area

#### Wind induced

- 1. Wind shear stress moves upper part of the water layer in direction of wind resulting in some sort of current
- 2. Wind set up is inversely proportional to water depth -> shallow coastal water can pile up very high (storm surge)
- **3.** Most effect near surface (less velocity near bottom)
- **4.** Effect on long shore current in littoral zone can be neglected; morphological impact is also limited due to limited velocity near bottom
- 5. More impact in coastal lagoons (Wadden sea)

#### Tidal induced



**Rip current:** due to long shore currents generated by set-up differences (can be generated by convergence and divergence of wave energy due to depth-refraction or sheltering effects). Will only develop for (nearly) normal incident waves)

Flood current: current velocity in the tidal wave propagation direction

**Flood/ebb velocity:** max around high and low water (characteristic for propagation of tide in relatively deep water, where bed friction has relatively little effect on the propagation -> result is **progressive wave,** so in phase)

**Rising period:** time it takes for water level to get from lowest elevation to highest elevation **Falling tide**; time it takes for water level to get from highest elevation to lowest elevation; does not necessarily coincide with ebb currents

Slack water: tidal flow reversal

Along Dutch coast: falling period > rising period (this phenomenon is called: tidal asymmetry)

- Can be explained by phase velocity for shallow water
  - 1. For high water the water depth is larger so larger c and larger velocity
  - 2. Opposite holds for low water
  - 3. Generally holds for open coast, might differ for basins

#### Phase relationship between horizontal- and vertical tide:

- Very complex
- Phase difference due to friction (also reduces the magnitudes of both tides)
- But also: tidal wave
- If phase difference it will be such that velocity peaks before tidal elevation

Phase differs along coast: getting larger northward

Along shore differences in tidal amplitude: related to position of amphidromic points Tidal asymmetry:

- Tide propagates up estuary: water depth and basin width change -> shoaling effects increase amplitude
- Friction reduces amplitude on the other hand. Has extra effect at low tide because flow will feel bottom more (also effect on velocity)
- **Net effect** depends on specific situation
  - 1. Case with no friction and reflection -> vertical and horizontal tides are in phase
  - 2. Friction included-> phase shift between tides which increases land inward
    - Extreme case: horizontal tide leads by phase difference of pi/2
    - Shorter rising period correspond to shorter flood duration than ebb duration
    - This means that max flood velocities are higher (since net avg discharge should be zero in absence of discharging rivers)
    - This is called flood dominant; expected for:
      - Large tide (large ratio tidal amplitude/waterdepth -> a/h)
      - For that case propagation of high water > low water ->rising
      - Increases for long basins
      - Might be counteracted by river flow which increases seaward directed velocities
      - In absence of river flow might be counteracted by intertidal storage areas (small water depths on flats cause high tide to propagate slower

- Case where ebb velocities are higher than flood is called: ebb dominant
  - Enhanced by fact that water level avg. over flood period is larger than over ebb period but discharge is the same -> ebb velocities must on avg be larger because of smaller flow cross-section

**Tidal Bore:** abrupt migrating rise in water level

• Uncommon; special combination of tidal conditions and morphology in estuary needed

**Asymmetries in horizontal tide** (i.e. ebb/flood dominant) have important influence on net import/export of sediment. (flood dominated-> import and ebb vice versa

**Seiches:** Free oscillations in basins of moderate size. Standing waves with frequency equal to resonance frequency of the basin

**Bound long wave:** long wave motion on wave group scale due to set-up differences due to difference in radiation stress in the different waves (with different size) in the wave group.

- 180 degrees out of phase with wave group (for perfect bound wave)
- In reality smaller correlation between long wave motion and group (negative offshore from surf zone; positive when entering surf zone)

**Surf beat:** low frequency water level oscillation (caused by time varying set-up due to waves in group might break at different moment)

# Chapter 6

**Sediment transport:** movement of sediment particles through a well-defined plane over a certain period of time

#### **Sediment:**

- D<sub>x</sub>= sediment particle diameter (in meters) for which x% by weight is finer
- Sediment well sorted: D<sub>90</sub>/D<sub>10</sub>= small (<1.5)
- Grain shape of importance
- Grain density (for quartz 2650 kg/m³); relative density is rhosediment/rho = 2.65
- Fall velocity (varies from 0.01 to 0.05 m/s
- Angle of repose
- Porosity (ratio of pore space to the whole sediment volume); 40% is frequently applied
- Sediment concentration c; In mass concentration or volume concentration; volume of solid particles/total volume

**Fall velocity:** balance between downward directed gravity force(minus buoyancy effect and upward directed drag force)

**Hindered settling:** in high concentration mixtures fall velocity of single particle is reduced due to presence of other particles. (particle down->flow must go upward)

**Critical shear stress:** point of imitation of motion

- Drag force: combination of skin friction and pressure difference
  - 1. Proportional to u<sup>2</sup>
  - 2. Proportional to D<sup>2</sup>
  - 3. Proportional to water density rho
- Lift force": from flow separation & flow concentration
  - 1. Also proportional to D<sup>2</sup> & u<sup>2</sup>

Bed load transport: transport of particles in thin layer close to bed

- Particles more or less constant in contact with bed
- Lower shear stress:



- 1. Shear stress > critical value -> particles start rolling/sliding over bed. Further increase make particles jump called **saltations**
- At higher shear stress, entire layer of sediment is moving -> called sheet flow
  - 1. Particles closer to bed start moving in multiple layers

**Suspended load transport:** transport of particles suspended in the water without any contact with bed

- Particles supported by turbulent diffusive force (keep them into suspension preventing them to settle)
- Suspended in relatively low concentrations (intergranular forces not of importance)
- However when Shield parameter is somewhat lower (below 0.8-1.0 instead of above) bed will not remain plane bed:
  - 1. Smaller en larger bed forms arise
  - 2. Orbital ripples have length in order of free stream orbital velocity amplitude
  - 3. Non orbital ripples are much smaller (scale with grain size)
  - **4.** Bed roughness is now related to ripple geometry (instead of grain diameter)
  - **5.** Flow separates behind ripple crest -> organized pattern of vortices is formed near bed
    - Vortices bring large amounts of sediment into suspension
    - So instead of for a plane bed in this case sediments keep into suspension due to the organized upward motion (instead of turbulence for plain)

Total load: sum of bed load and suspended load

Extra category called **wash load**: very fine particles that will only settle in in still water'; these particles do not contribute to bed level changes -> not taken into account

## Modeling of transport:

- Bed load transport:
  - 1. Exclusively determined by bed shear stress
  - **2.** Hence formulations expressed in terms of bed-shear stress due to currents and waves
  - **3.** Quasi steady approach: assumed that sediments reacts instantaneously to shear (inertia plays minor role)
- Suspended load transport:
  - **1.** Often modeled as flux via product of sediment concentration and horizontal velocity of water transporting sediment
  - 2. Does not respond instantaneously to hydrodynamic conditions
  - **3.** Other approach: energetics approach
    - Assumes that a certain portion of fluid energy is expended to keep sediment in motion
    - Result is quasi-steady formulation

For use of **shield in near shore**: influence of waves needs to be taken into account:

- Using time-averaged (wave averaged) bed shear stress for combined wave-current motion
- Or by instantaneous shear stress (varying over wave motion)

**Particle in suspension:** turbulent upward force > submerged weight of particle; particle than loses contact with bottom for some time

Assumed to move with velocity of flow

- 1. Velocity can be thought of as mean and oscillatory part (averaged zero)
- 2. Substituting of this velocity components in expression for sediment flux gives:
  - Current related part: due to (wave induced currents)
  - Wave-related suspended part: due to oscillatory motion; skewness of velocity signal might cause net transport
  - In general current part > wave related part

Sediment is non-uniform distributed over vertical: higher concentration near bottom

• Might give rise to net sediment transport even if depth-averaged velocity is zero

#### **Cross shore sediment transport:**

 in surfzone: bed load directed onshore (due to short wave skewness); suspended load offshore due to undertow

## Long shore sediment transport:

- refraction causes oscillatory motion to be almost perpendicular to the coast
- because of this transport is governed by slowly varying longshore current (wave- or tide induced)
- Role of waves in this direction is to stir up sediment

**Sediment continuity:** horizontal advection often<<vertical advection therefore often neglected **Rouse number:** non-dimensional number; defines sediment concentration profile, determines mode of transport. Is the ratio between downward sediment fall velocity and upward velocity on the grain

- Rouse number >2.5 all transport is bed load
- Rouse number < 0.8 only wash load
- In between sediment suspension

**Energetics approach:** basic idea is that certain amount of energy is needed to keep bed load moving and suspended load at certain height above bed.

• Therefore proportional to rate of energy dissipation of stream

#### Suspended load in morphological modeling:

- One type which is determined entirely by hydrodynamic conditions and sediment properties at point of consideration
- One which includes a **memory effect** and responds to conditions in all points it has come through in the past (rather important in Tidal inlet)

# **Chapter 7**

**Response of coastal profile to wave action:** depth depended; much faster for shallower depth **Upper shore:** consists out of surf zone; beach and first dune or cliff face

- Shallow depths -> responds fast to wave action
- Response is nearly instantaneously to wave action
- Surf zone bars: respond on time scale of events

Lower shore face: extends from outer surf zone to shelf break

- Large depths -> responds slowly to wave action
- On engineering time scales (hours to few decades) negligible activity compared to upper shoreface (on time scale of decades to millennia there are however changes!)

Back shore: dune or cliff high enough to prevent overwash and without alongshore gradients

• Shallow depths -> responds fast to wave action

# **Coastal engineering assumptions:**



- Morphological active zone: extends from first dune/cliff face to just a little offshore of surf zone
- Active zone profile remains at dynamic equilibrium when averaged over time (might however have instantaneous changes)
- When no long shore sediment transport gradients; amount of sediment in active zone remains unchanged (no structural loss

Oscillation dynamic behavior of real beach profile: caused by the fact that in reality waves and water levels vary a lot and therefore cause to profile to oscillate around equilibrium.

- Seems however to oscillate confined to a steady envelope
- Mean position is defined as: dynamic equilibrium profile

#### **Bruun:**

- Simple power law relating water depth to offshore distance
- Dimensional constant A used.
  - 1. Shape factor which depend on stability characteristics of bed material
  - 2. The larger A, the steeper the profile

#### Dean:

- Supported Bruun on semi-emperical grounds:
  - **1.** For certain grain size nature strives towards uniform energy dissipation/unit volume of water across the surf zone
  - **2.** Energy dissipation /unit volume = measure for 'destructive force' (responsible for offshore sediment transport) on sediment particle
  - 3. Energy dissipation rate depends on particle diameter
  - 4. A furthermore related to fall velocity (which depend on grain size)

In surf zone/intertidal area sand bars are found: Bars determine locations and rates of energy dissipation (due to wave breaking) and are therefore may dictate the morphological response Several beach states(6 in total): Two ends:

# • Reflective beaches:

- **1.** Relative steep and narrow beach face with berm and narrow surf zone without bars.
- 2. Nearshore & beach slopes 0.1-0.2
- 3. Relatively coarse sandy material
- 4. Large Irribarren parameter
- 5. Collapsing or surging breakers
- **6.** Corresponding waves have a low steepness( long and small amplitude waves)
- **7.** -> reflective beaches are result of period of mild wave climate that transport sediment onshore.
- 8. Found in swell/monsoon climate
- 9. Morphodynamic behavior is less dynamic

#### Dissipative beaches:

- 1. Wide and flat sandy coastal zone
- 2. Multiple linear bars
- 3. Dunes backing wide beach
- 4. Nearshore slope is about 0.01 beach slope abount 0.03
- 5. Fine sandy material
- **6.** Small Irribarren numbers (spilling breakers)

- 7. Result of high energy waves which break far offshore
- 8. Typical for storm climate
- **9.** High variability
- Two ends are in principle 2D structure of morphology
- Intermediate states act 3D structure of morphology (in less energetic conditions)
- Reset event can cause diverse 3D variability system into 2D variability (alongshore uniform) due to high energetic conditions
  - 1. Difference in flow velocities from Dissipative to Reflective or vice versa:
    - Dissipative to reflective:
      - Rips are being formed (at first large scales)
      - Later on they merge into large scales
      - You'll get circulation cells and bars at first still more or less parallel (rhythmic bar and beach)
      - When continues bars become almost perpendicular to coast (Transverse bar and beach)
      - When energy becomes less; hardly any 3D more and everything confined to coast
    - Reflective to dissipative (from less energetic to more energetic):
      - Length scales of rip current grow with width of surfzone
      - Formation of rhythmicity has large length scale a diss. to refl.
- Summer: high beach profile; high slope -> reflective beach (NL)
- Winter: low beach profile; gentle slope -> dissipative beach (NL)

#### Rips:

- Spacing approximately: surf zone width x4
- On open swell coast spacing from 100 to 500m (150-250 common)
- Multi bar beaches spacing increases seaward
- Lower the slope (hence wider surf zone) -> wider rip spacing

## Dimensionless fall velocity: H<sub>b</sub>/w<sub>s</sub>T

- For reflective beaches <1</li>
- For dissipative beaches >6

# Bars (longer timescales i.e. years):

- Move offshore under more energetic conditions
- Move onshore under during less energetic but skwed waves'
- Cycle:
  - 1. Initial formation in intertidal zone
  - 2. Bar moves offshore and grows until max size around initiation of surf zone
  - 3. Then gradually decrease in size and amplitude
  - 4. Finally disappear at end of active shoreface profile
  - 5. Cycle takes 4-5 years in SH coast
  - **6.** Around 15 years in NH
  - 7. Difference because steeper shoreface slope and larger bars in NH

**Dune erosion:** during high storm surges when waves can reach dune face; strong undertow transports sediment offshore

 High surge is requested to erode dune; if not available similar process occur on beach called a scarp



- Further offshore transport capacity of flow decreases-> sediments settles forming new coastal profile that better fits storm surge condition
- Sooner or later return of sediments (in a stable case)
- Sedimentation until depth of approximately 75% of the incoming wave height

Dune foot: position of slope change between gentle beach slope and steeper dune slope

- In Netherlands mostly above MSL
- During surges sometimes under water

#### **Cross-shore Transport on bottom:**

- Bottom transport = more important in surf zone
- Suspended load = more important outside surf zone
- Three contributions to velocity:
  - 1. Time mean component (streaming outside surf; undertow inside) (u)
  - 2. Low frequency motion at wave-group scale (u<sub>lo</sub>)
  - 3. Oscillatory motion at short wave scale (u<sub>bi</sub>)
- After Taylor series three most important terms are:
  - 1. Mean flow as transport velocity:  $3 < u |u_{hi}|^2 >$ 
    - Short waves will stir up sediment  $(|u_{hi}|^2)$  and mean flow (u; = undertow in surfzone) will transport it
    - Outside surf zone u is streaming (directed onshore)
    - So 0 far offshore; shoreward directed component outside surf zone; and offshore directed component in surf zone; getting to 0 at shore line.
  - 2. Short wave skewness:  $\langle u_{hi} | u_{hi} |^2 \rangle$ 
    - Product of orbital motion  $(u_{hi})$  and something interpretable as proportional to concentration  $(|u_{hi}|^2)$
    - In offshore waves are pure sinusoidal -> no contribution of this term since averaging sinus gives 0
    - But near shore waves get skewed (shoaling) and not perfect sinus anymore hence average is not 0 (larger forward motion (concentration) than backward motion (concentration)
    - Result of this is positive shoreward contribution until surf zone
    - In surf zone saw-tooth wave-> symmetrical again and avg =0
    - So contribution=0 offshore; has value towards surf zone (positive shoreward contribution); zero again in surf zone
  - 3. Correlation bound long waves and short wave envelope:  $3 < u_{lo} | u_{hi} |^2 >$ 
    - Again short waves  $(|u_{hi}|^2)$  stir up sediment, which is now transported by long wave velocity which changes:
    - Wave group-> variation in radiation stress-> gradient over wave group -> need force to compensate -> done by surface making a slope (water level gradient) -> Bound long wave
    - Bound long wave is present as long as wave group exists
    - Bounded because bounded by short waves
    - Peak of bounded wave during low waves of group and trough vice versa
    - During peak shoreward directed flow -> during low waves shoreward directed flow and during high waves opposite

- At the end there is an net offshore movement of sediment; because during high group waves the stirred up concentration is larger and at that time the bound long wave forces the sediment to flow offshore.
- But when entering surf zone the transport becomes shore ward, because in the surf zone wave groups disappear due to depth limiting wave breaking
- Because of this all waves get approximately the same height and bound long wave is free
- Now long wave starts to modulate waterline (reflects against water line)
   -> positive correlation, because larger water level allows larger waves
   (since larger depth)
- **4. Summation:** gives that usually in surf zone the return flow (under toe) is governing; but will be different under low waves which asymmetry dominated
- Onshore directed:
  - O LH streaming (outside surf)
  - O Wave asymmetry
  - o Free long waves (in surf zone)
- Offshore directed:
  - o Undertow (in surf)
  - O Bound long waves (outside surf zone)
- Down-hill (on average outside surf)
  - 0 gravity

#### **Cross-shore Transport suspended:**

- basic idea: equilibrium profile (purely suspended load) exists if <1<sub>s</sub>>=0
- in general 3th power of u corresponds to bed load; 4<sup>th</sup> power to suspended
- in this case:  $u=U_0+U_1=u_0\cos(wt)+U_1$ . With generally  $U_0>>U_1$  and  $U_0=symmetrical$  orbital velocity and  $U_1=perturbation$ :
  - 1. mean flow perturbation(outside surf; longuet higgens) =  $U_1=u_1$ 
    - after Taylor leading terms:
      - $4U_1U_0^2|U_0|$ ; again **fat** brings in suspension (via orbital motion) and normal causes carrying by mean flow (onshore transport because U mean outside surf is onshore directed LH)
      - Moreover a gravity component (due to slope) working against it (directed offshore); gamma\* $U_0^4|U_0|$ ; with gamma= $\tan(a)/w_s$
      - Both have to balance.
      - Note that gravitational term is determined by fall velocity whereas first term is not -> Larger particles will decrease gravitational effect whereas onshore transport stays the same
      - Hence coarser grains will transport on shore.
  - 2. second harmonic of primary wave  $U_1=u_2\cos(2wt)$ 
    - now also a symmetry contribution



# **Chapter 8**

**Coastal changes:** occur where there are spatial sediment transport **gradients** and/or sediment sinks or sources.

 Dominated by alongshore effects in case of human-induced changes on high-wave energy coasts

**Actual transport:** might be lower than **transport capacity** (based on hydrodynamics) due to process which prevent particles to erode (bottom protection; vegetation etc)

Short wave motion: small in long shore direction due to shoaling (fi is small)

- This means that the mean water motion is the main contributor to longshore sediment transport
- Although not involved with transport of sediment; have other function:
  - Magnitude in bed shear stress varies over wave cycle due to orbital motion
     ->peaks twice every wave cycle -> lot of sediments mobilized during peak
  - **2.** Breaking waves-> increase turbulence in water column -> suspended sediments easily brought up into upper part of flow

**Bulk transport formulas:** robust and easy to calibrate; no distribution of longshore transport over cross-shore:

- Cerc formula:
  - 1. Gives total longshore sediment transport over breaker zone
  - 2. Only effect of wave-generated longshore current included (no tidal current enz)
  - **3.** Limitations: 1: only wave-induced longshore current; 2: sand transport independent of sand properties as grain size; 3:only total sediment transport in breaker zone given

**Annual longshore transport:** take variability of **wave climate** into account:

- Can be done by schematization of wave climate in classes
- Requires that wave climate is divided into sectors with a certain percentage of occurrence

**Gross transport rates:** important to determine coastal response near breakwaters and groynes **Net longshore transport rate:** generally much higher than net cross-shore transport rates **In Mediterranean:** very difficult and totally different

Long term (years/decades) changes of shoreline on high energy coast: predominately due to human-induced longshore effects

**Cross shore movement:** occurs typically on short scale (days), therefore little impact on longer term changes in beach position (only when material is lost from system)

Solving coastal changes from sediment balance:

- Complex morphological computer models (Delft3D); sediment balance per cell in fine grid. Used in complex areas or in complex applications in which both long- and cross shore transport are important
- Single line/ one-line theory. Behavior of coast is mapped onto single line (coast line). Can be used if wave-induced longshore transport is dominant
  - **1.** Basic assumption: shape of cross shore profile does not change in time (eq. profile)
- Multiple line theories; same principle as one line but cross-shore profile is schematized into a number of sections (depth zones)

Littoral transport rates: dependend on near shore wave exposure and wave incidence angle

→ For given offshore wave climate coastal changes are determined by changes in depth contours, shoreline orientation and degree of which waves shoal, refract and diffract Spit: develop where longshore transport capacity is diminished due to coastline interruptions

# Chapter 9:

**Shoreline wave dominated environments:** characterized by elongated sediment (mainly sand) bodies

Pocket beaches: also fall in category of wave dominated systems

Tidal conditions: dominate in general in conditions where wave energy is relatively low

- Relative is the key; relative influence of waves and tides determine morphology
- Can be dominant in situations with restricted fetch or where incident wave energy is trapped or reflected (include tidal basins)

**Tidal basins:** result of breaktroughs and flooding of low lying areas due to global rise of post-glacial sea-level

- Other contributions: tectonic subsidence, fluvial erosion and glacial action
- Also subsidence due to human activity (impoldering, water extraction etc)
- Can also evolve due to formation of barriers enclosing body of water
- Fundamental characteristic is interaction of fresh- and salt water

#### Types of tidal basins:

- Tidal lagoons(tide dominated): basin enclosed by wave-shaped coastal barriers islands/spits
- **Tidal bays:** basins that are more open to deep water of sea/ocean in absence of barrier islands
- Estuaries (mix tide and river): different from bays in the sense that the experience a strong fresh-water run-off; different from river mouths in the sense that estuary is more controlled by tide than by river discharge. Sedimentation also imported from adjacent coastal region

**Sabkhas:** lagoon for which seawater inflow>outflow (due to evaporation); common on low latitude arid coasts

**Tidal inlet:** an opening in the shore that provides a connection between ocean or sea and a basin which is maintained by tidal currents

**Ebb shield:** most elevated outer edge of flood-tidal delta (flood tidal deltas equivalent of terminal lobe; helps to divert ebb-currents along margins of flood-tidal delta

**Feedback mechanism:** morphology of tidal basin is determined by hydraulic boundary conditions (relative dominance of waves vs. tide etc.), but morphology of basin also influences hydraulic boundary condition. Resulting geometric/hydraulic controls:

- Tidal prism: determined by combination of surface area of basin and tidal range
- Tidal distortion (difference in flow velocities/transport at high vs. low water): determined by combination of tidal range, channel depth and intertidal storage areas/flats
- Wave propagation: might be progressive or standing dependent on the length of the hasin
- **Difference in HW- and LW slack:** for very short basins (of great importance for net transport of fine sediments)



**Tidal delta:** extensive sand deposits at either side of tidal entrance due to strong sediment exchange between basin and outside area.

- **flood delta:** at 'inner' side.
  - 1. flood dominant channels shoal (less deep)
- **Ebb delta:** at outer side; reworked by waves
  - 1. Ebb dominant channels meander (deeper)
- A lot of wave action increases the net onshore sediment flux and decreases the net offshore sediment flux -> hence the flood delta grows for a situation with a lot of waves whereas the ebb delta decreases

when large river discharge in basin: tidal basin is often funnel shaped and not as branched (but potentially braided)

When no width restriction: flood and ebb current might follow different channels. When width restriction in general the same path.

**Relatively small basin:** if abundant sediment supply; flood-tidal delta spans entire basin area (like Wadden sea)

If this is the case; focus on ebb-tidal delta

Intertidal flats: serve to accommodate the tidal prism

• Highest one which stay dry are called: Supra-tidal flats/Salt marshes

High energy waves: help bars to bypass towards downdrift side

Bypassing also possible due to tides and waves together

#### **Currents near tidal inlet:**

- Partly tidal
  - 1. Concentrated in main channels
  - **2. Secondary flow components:** might be curvature induced (curvature of tidal current)
    - Does not change sign as the tide turns
    - Therefore in upper part of water column always directed away from centre of curvature of flow
    - Lower part always towards it
    - Contributes to maintenance of shoals.
- Partly wave driven
  - 1. In areas where waves are breaking
  - **2. Waves;** break in generall mostly on outer delta. Therefore not that much penetration. Wind might create new waves inside the basin
  - **3.** Problem is complex topography in outer delta. Therefore usual approach is difficult to use (split longshore and cross shore balances)
- Partly wind driven
  - 1. Occur mainly during storm events (episodic)
  - 2. Due to direct wind input or via wind set-up
    - wind shear stress components should be added to depth averaged momentum equations
    - More effective on shallower water
    - Set-up causes more water to enter basin. Because of this sometimes flood current suppresses ebb current. This might change inlet morphology drastically

# **Sediment transport patterns:**

- Flood channels on outer delta carry in general sediment from adjacent coasts to inlet (often during episodic events)
- Depending on sand demand of basin sand is transported into basin or into main ebb channel
  - 1. Part of Ebb sand output is picked up by long shore current and transported along delta edge
  - 2. Other part of ebb sand (+part of sand brought in by longshore drift) ends up in shoal system on outer delta
  - Eventually due to hydrodynamic & sediment transport processes there is longterm residual transport and slow migration of shoals in direction of longshore drift

Tidal prism: volume of water entering or leaving the basin per half tidal cycle

- Is much larger as wave induced littoral drift -> tide dominated inlet
- In opposite situation -> wave dominance
- Relates to **sand volume stored in outer delta** (changes in prism will thus induce changes in outer delta, sources of sand might be: adjacent barrier coast, back-barrier system (i.e. the basin) or from offshore, most probably a combination
- Small basin for <<1/4L and little intertidal storage. Then: P=A\*h</li>

**Coarse sediment:** is tough to react immediately to flow velocity (/or bed shear stress)

- Long-term mean bed load transport determined by:
  - 1. Residual flow velocity
  - **2.** Amplitude of M2 tidal current
  - 3. Amplitudes & phase (relative to M2) of M4 and M6 tidal currents
  - Interaction between M2 & M6 does not lead to net sediment transport regardless of phase angle (leads only to sawtooth asymmetry)
    - 1. But combination of M2, M4 and M6 has a contribution
- Reacts instantaneously
- Timescales of erosion and sedimentation: order smaller as tidal period

### Fine sediment transport

- **Memory effect of importance** (so suspended sediment transport not only depends on local instantaneous flow velocity)
- Does not react instantaneously
- Timescales of erosion and sedimentation: same order as tidal period
- Settle around flow reversal
  - 1. Controlled by duration of slack water

#### Large storage offering flat, 2 opposing effects:

- Large storage prism causes short slack duration in flow channel at HWS
- Other hand in this short period a strong settling can occur due to small water depth



# **Chapter 10**

**Strategies on coastal protection:** 

- Retreat
- Accommodate
- Protect

**Permeable low crested groynes:** used for beaches with small sediment deficit, result in more regular beach (no saw tooth as for impermeable ones)

**Shore face nourishment**; often half as expensive as beach nourishment