

# MEK4100 STOKES WAVES.

A real, and hence somewhat messy, application of the  
Poincare-Lindstedt's method

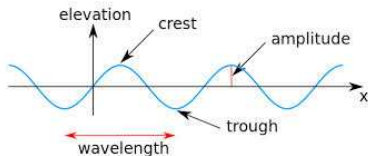
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# Motivation

# A first step from this...



## Surface gravity waves

- From ME3230, ME4320 etc: Linear periodic solution
- Smooth, rounded, regular.
- Real waves seldom look like this.

to this...



and this...



# Nonlinear periodic surface gravity waves

# Stokes waves

- Nonlinear periodic surface gravity waves of permanent shape
- First presented in 1847
- Stability and modulation still an active field of research
- Here: basic solution in infinite depth.

Described by two parameters:

- Amplitude  $a^*$
- Wavelength  $\lambda^* = 2\pi/k^*$

Wave celerity,  $c^*$ , surface elevation,  $\zeta^*$  and velocity potential,  $\phi^*$ , must be found.

\* marks dimensional coordinates.

Basic equations, scaling, introduction of expansion parameter ( $\epsilon$ ) and eigenvalue ( $c$ )



# Basic equations

Two surface conditions, the Laplace's equation in the fluid, vanishing velocity in infinite depth.

$$\zeta^*_{t^*} + \phi^*_{x^*} \zeta^*_{x^*} = \zeta^*_{z^*}, \quad z^* = \zeta^*; \quad (1)$$

$$\phi^*_{t^*} + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^* \phi^*)^2 + g \zeta^* = 0, \quad z^* = \zeta^*; \quad (2)$$

$$(\nabla^*)^2 \phi^* = 0, \quad z^* < \zeta^*; \quad (3)$$

$$\nabla^* \phi^* \rightarrow 0, \quad z^* \rightarrow -\infty; \quad (4)$$

Indices after comma: partial derivation.

# Dimensional analysis

4 parameters, apart from field variables,:

$$k^*, \quad a^*, \quad g, \quad c^* \quad (5)$$

Then

$$c^* = U^* f(\epsilon) \quad (6)$$

where  $U^* \equiv \sqrt{g/k^*}$  and  $\epsilon \equiv a^* k^*$  is **wave steepness**.

Linear celerity:

$$\epsilon \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow c^* = \text{const} \times U^*$$

# Scaling, simplification

Non-dimensional variables

$$\begin{aligned}z &= k^* z^* & x &= k^* x^* \\t &= k^* U^* t^* & \zeta^* &= a^* \zeta \\ \phi^* &= U^* a^* \phi\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

## Waves of permanent form

Phase variable:  $\theta = x - ct$

$\zeta = \zeta(\theta)$ ,  $\phi = \phi(\theta, z)$

Only two free variables.

# Dimensionless equations

Boundary conditions at  $z = \epsilon\zeta$ :

$$-c\phi_{,\theta} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon(\phi_{,\theta}^2 + \phi_{,z}^2) + \zeta = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$-c\zeta_{,\theta} + \epsilon\zeta_{,\theta}\phi_{,\theta} = \phi_{,z} \quad (9)$$

In the bulk of the fluid  $z < \epsilon\zeta$ :

$$\phi_{,\theta\theta} + \phi_{,zz} = 0 \quad (10)$$

At infinite depth  $z \rightarrow -\infty$ :

$$\phi_{,\theta}, \phi_{,z} \rightarrow 0 \quad (11)$$

$c$  is an explicit unknown (eigenvalue)

# The expansion

$$\zeta = \zeta_0(\theta) + \epsilon \zeta_1(\theta) + \epsilon^2 \zeta_2(\theta) + \dots \quad (12)$$

$$\phi = \phi_0(\theta, z) + \epsilon \phi_1(\theta, z) + \epsilon^2 \phi_2(\theta, z) + \dots \quad (13)$$

$$c = c_0 + \epsilon c_1 + \epsilon^2 c_2 + \dots \quad (14)$$

**Requirement:**  $\phi_i$  og  $\zeta_i$  must inherit period  $2\pi$  in  $\theta$

# Geometrical nonlinearity

## Challenges

- 1 Domain in which Laplace's equation is solved is unknown and must be established as part of the solution.
- 2 Surface conditions apply at unknown position  $z = \epsilon\zeta$ .

Point 1 is no problem in this particular case, but terms in surface conditions must be expanded. Example

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{,\theta}(\theta, \epsilon\zeta) &= \phi_{,\theta}(\theta, 0) + \epsilon\phi_{,\theta z}(\theta, 0)\zeta + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^2\phi_{,\theta zz}(\theta, 0)\zeta^2 \\ &= \phi_{0,\theta} + \epsilon(\phi_{0,\theta z}\zeta_0 + \phi_{1,\theta}) \\ &\quad + \epsilon^2\left(\frac{1}{2}\phi_{,\theta zz}\zeta_0^2 + \phi_{1,\theta z}\zeta_0 + \phi_{0,\theta z}\zeta_1 + \phi_{2,\theta}\right)\end{aligned}$$

where the argument  $(\theta, 0)$  is implicit in the lower two lines.

With expansion of  $c$  and nonlinearities: quite some book keeping.

# Hierarchy of equations and solutions



## $O(\epsilon^0)$ ; linear approximation

$$\begin{aligned} -c_0\phi_{0,\theta} + \zeta_0 &= 0 && \text{for } z = 0 \\ c_0\zeta_{0,\theta} + \phi_{0,z} &= 0 && \text{for } z = 0 \\ \phi_{0,\theta\theta} + \phi_{0,zz} &= 0 && \text{for } z < 0 \\ \phi_{0,\theta}, \phi_{0,z} &\rightarrow 0 && \text{for } z \rightarrow -\infty \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

The leading order periodic solution

$$\zeta_0 = \cos \theta \quad \phi_0 = e^z \sin \theta \quad c_0 = 1 \tag{16}$$

For  $z = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} -c_0\phi_{1,\theta} + \zeta_1 &= c_1\phi_{0,\theta} - \frac{1}{2}(\phi_{0,\theta}^2 + \phi_{0,z}^2) + c_0\phi_{0,\theta z}\zeta_0 \\ c_0\zeta_{1,\theta} + \phi_{1,z} &= -c_1\zeta_{0,\theta} + \zeta_{0,\theta}\phi_{0,\theta} - \phi_{0,\theta zz}\zeta_0 \end{aligned}$$

For  $z < 0$  (this part is equal for all  $O(\epsilon^n)$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{1,\theta\theta} + \phi_{1,zz} &= 0 & \text{for } z < 0 \\ \phi_{1,\theta}, \phi_{1,z} &\rightarrow 0 & \text{for } z \rightarrow -\infty \end{aligned}$$

Elimination of  $\zeta_1$  from surface conditions  $\Rightarrow$

$$\phi_{1,\theta\theta} + \phi_{1,z} = 2c_1 \sin \theta \quad \text{for } z = 0 \quad (17)$$

may be interpreted as resonant forcing by surface pressure

Periodic solution  $\Rightarrow c_1 = 0$  and hence  $\phi_1 = 0$

$O(\epsilon^1)$

Surface elevation from surface condition

$$\zeta_1 = \frac{1}{2} \cos 2\theta, \quad \phi_1 = 0, \quad c_1 = 0$$

$O(\epsilon^2)$

Same structure as  $O(\epsilon)$ , but  $\phi_1 = c_1 = 0$  helps

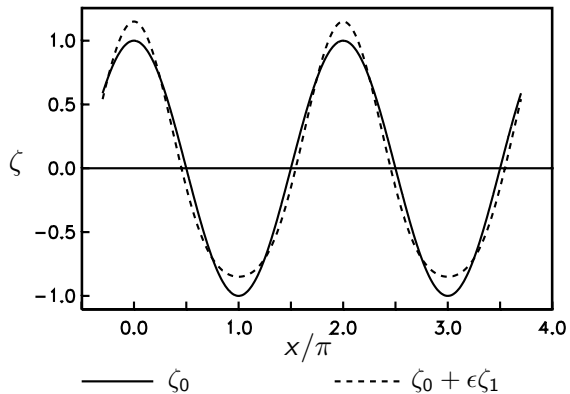
Surface condition  $\Rightarrow \phi_{2,\theta\theta} + \phi_{2,z} = (2c_2 - 1) \sin \theta$  for  $z = 0$

$\Rightarrow c_2 = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\phi_2 = 0$ .

The surface contribution  $\zeta_2 = \frac{3}{8} \cos(3\theta)$

$$c^* = \sqrt{\frac{g}{k^*}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} (a^* k^*)^2 + \dots \right)$$

## Wave form



# Higher orders

The expansions take the form of Fourier series

$$\zeta = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k \epsilon^k \cos(k+1)\theta \quad (18)$$

$$\phi = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k \epsilon^k e^{(k+1)z} \sin(k+1)\theta \quad (19)$$

The highest possible wave-steepness is  $\epsilon \approx 0.44$ , when the crests approach apexes of  $120^\circ$ .

The solution is always unstable in infinite depth.