

# Inverting for Near Shore Bathymetry from Surface Wave Properties

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Industrial Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Workshop

# Many coastal processes are affected by bathymetry

Bathymetry  
Inversion  
from Waves

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# Bathymetry is submarine topography

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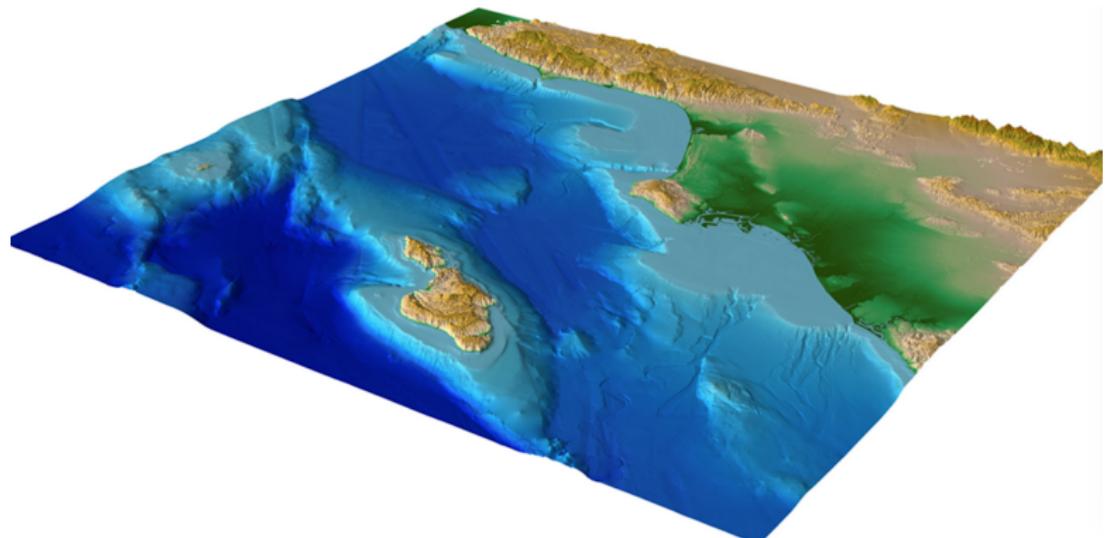
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# Direct measurements are expensive and challenging

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LARC



CRAB

# Inverse models estimate depth using data & physics

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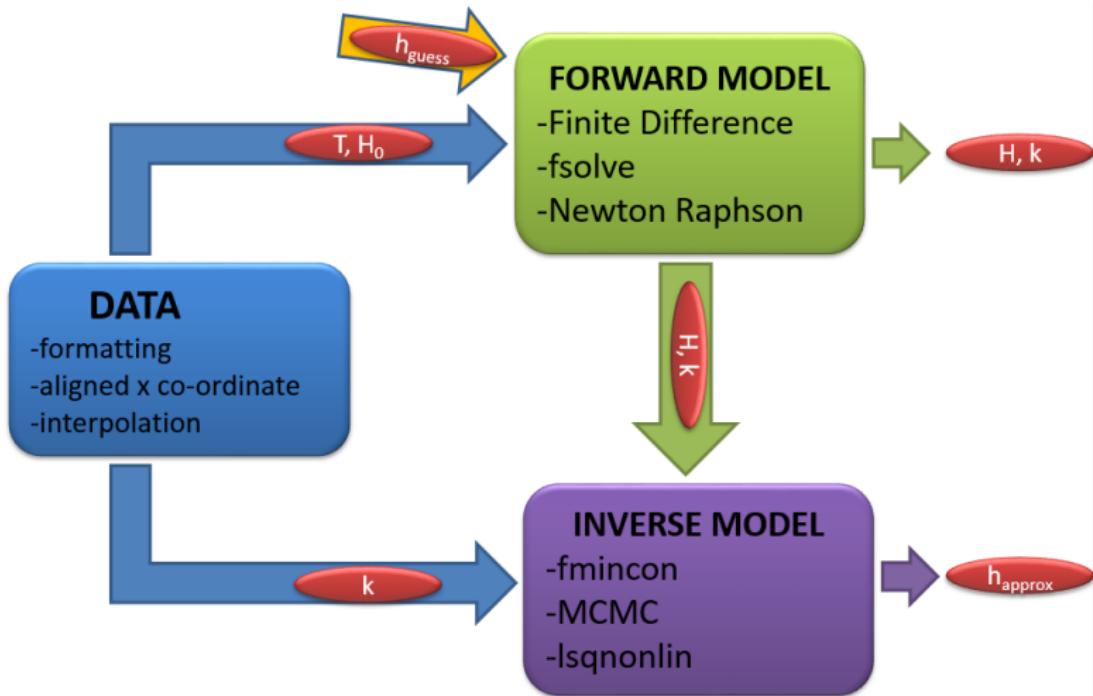
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# Bathymetry is related to surface wave properties

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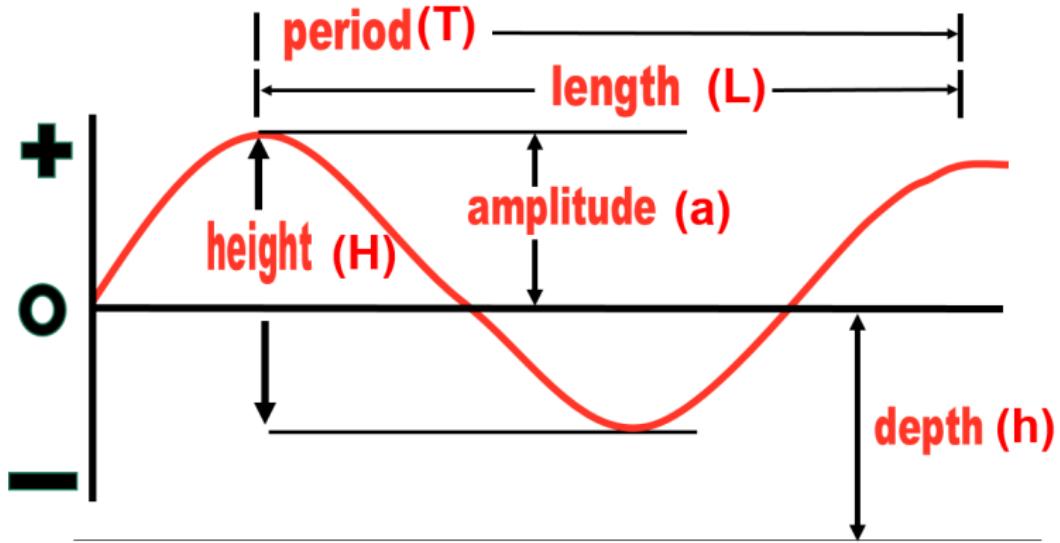
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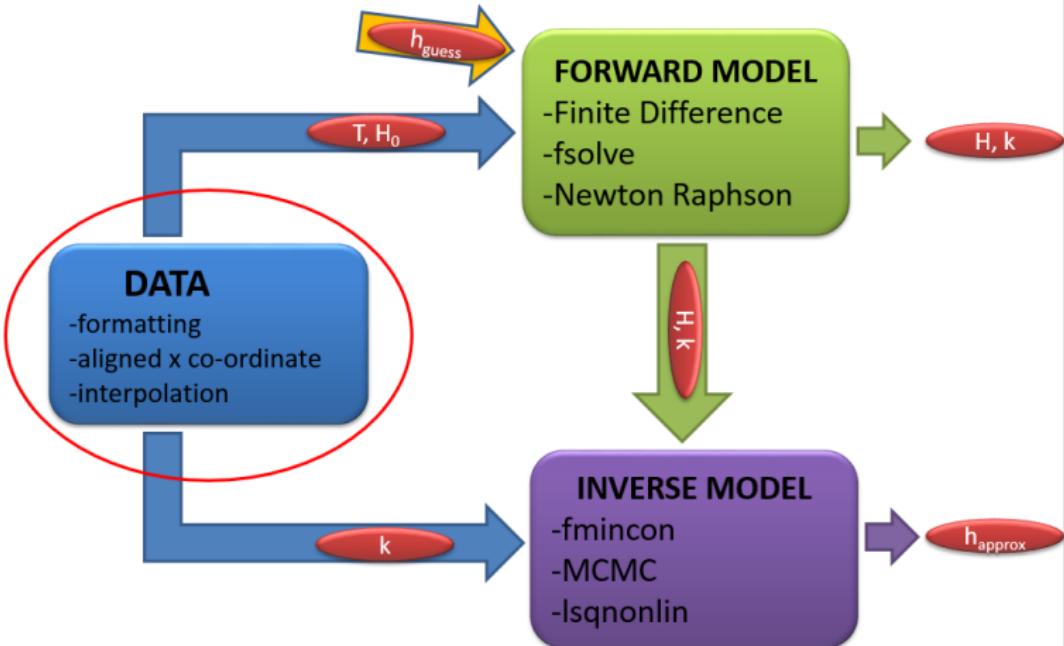
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$$\text{wave number: } k = \frac{2\pi}{L}$$

# Before we invert we need data



# Data was collected by the USACE in Duck, NC

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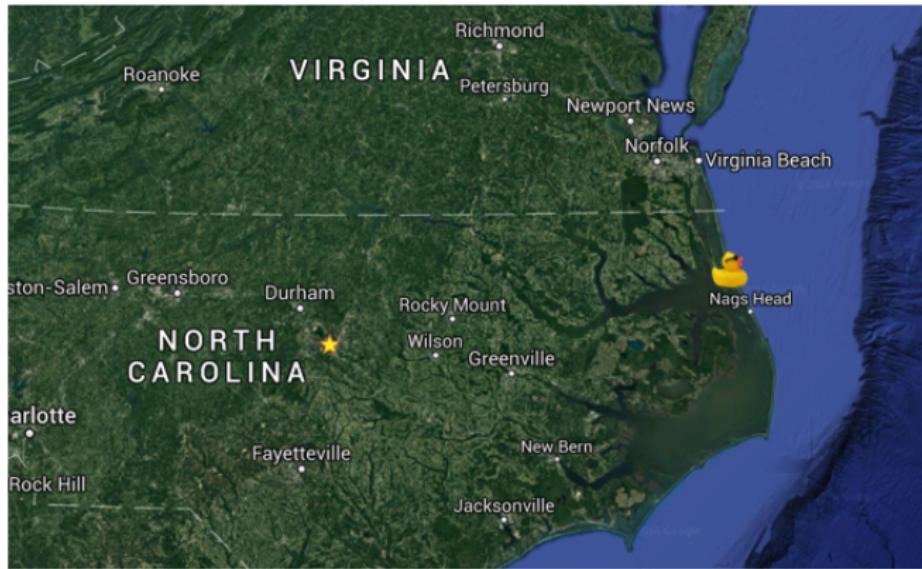
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# Model coordinate system has $x = 0$ m offshore

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# Remote sensing of surface properties are possible

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# Data includes $T$ , $H$ at offshore boundary; 1D $k$

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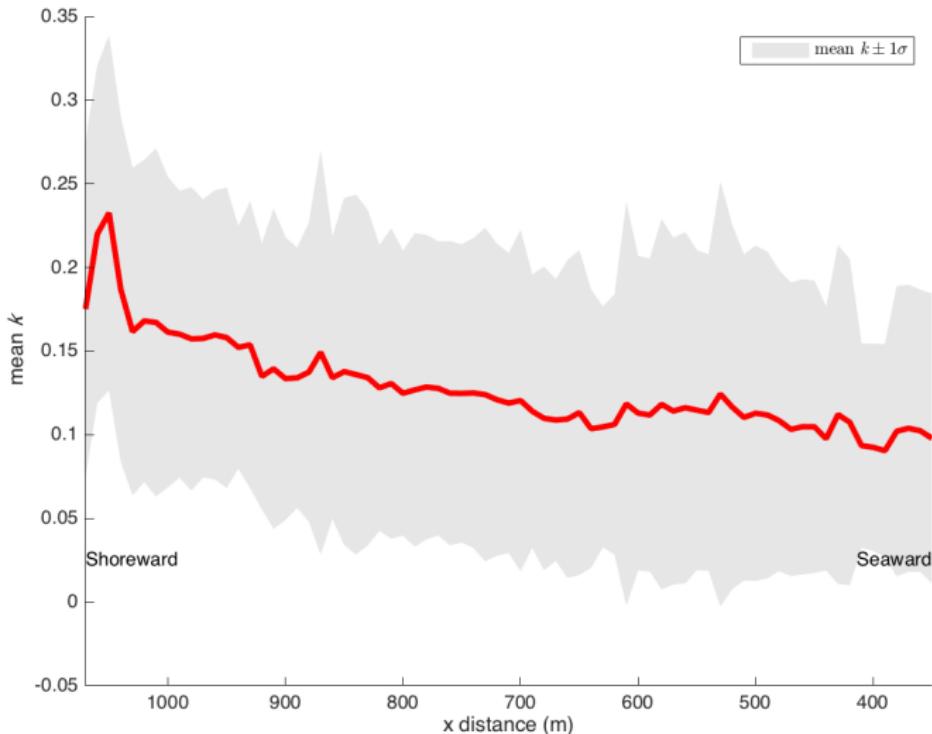
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# Known bathymetry is used for testing our results

## Bathymetry Inversion from Waves

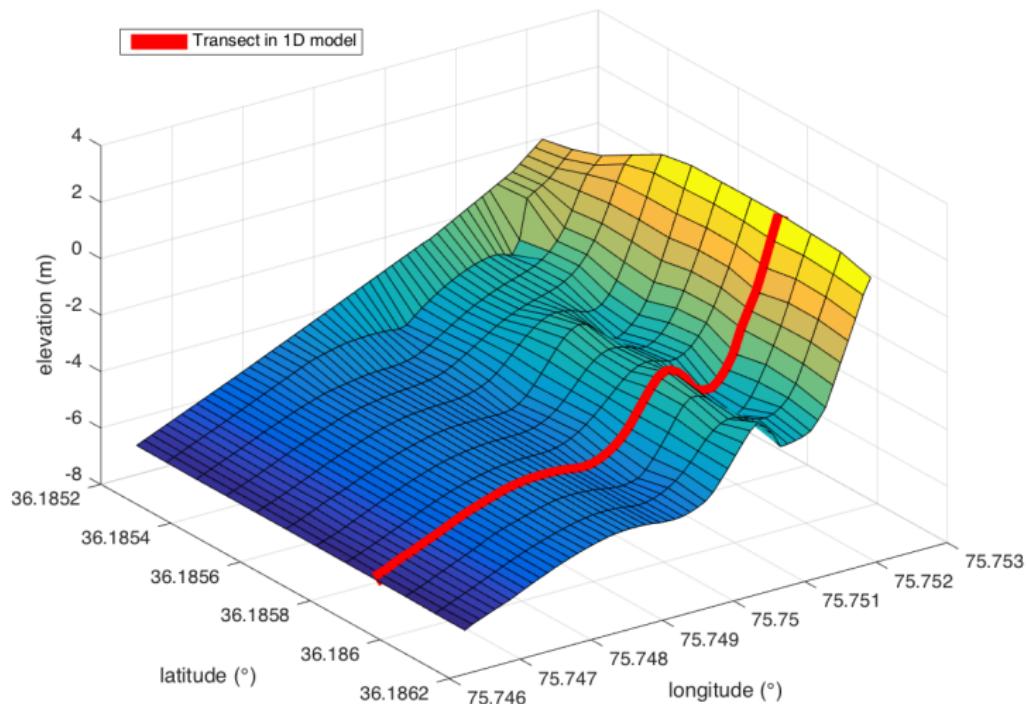
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# Forward model computes $k$ assuming $h_{guess}$ & BC

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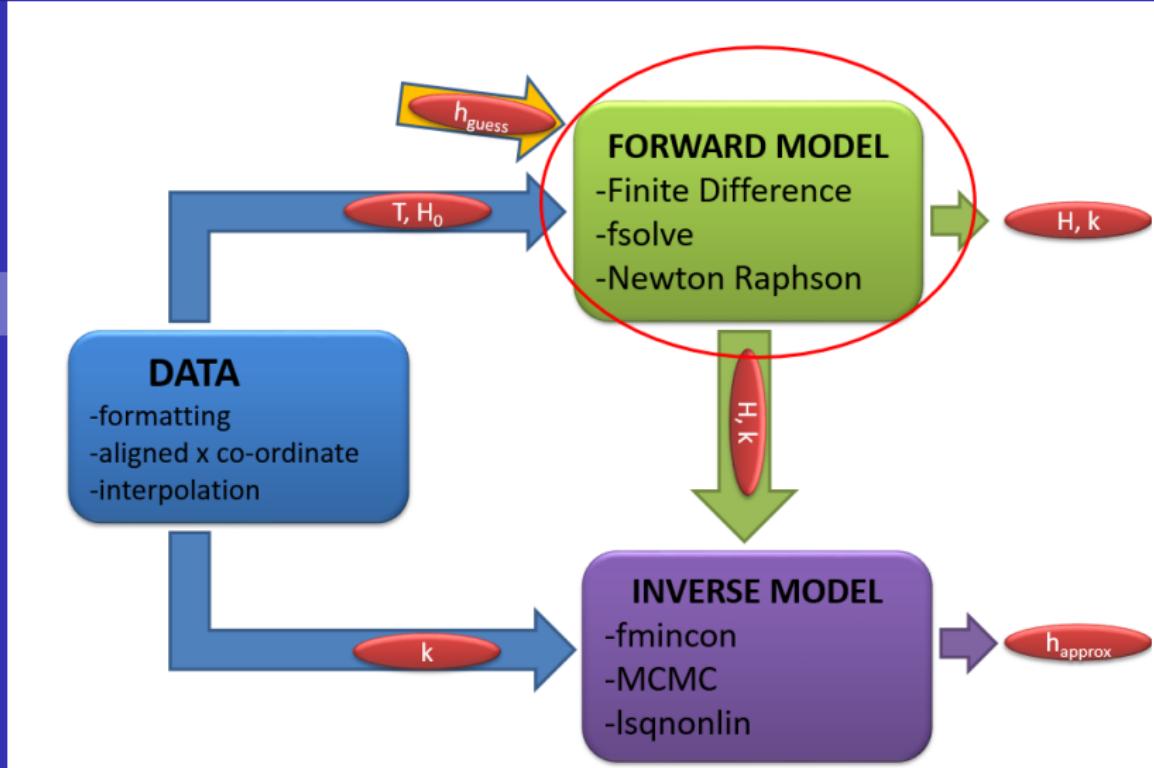
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# Wave dispersion relationship relates $k$ to $h$

Dispersion Relation [1]:

$$\sigma^2 = gk \tanh(kh) \iff \left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 = g \left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{2\pi h}{L}\right)$$

- Relates wave number ( $k$ ) and Period ( $T$ )
- Wave length ( $L$ ) varies with depth ( $h$ )
- Period ( $T$ ) remains constant

# 1D forward model relates $H$ and $h$

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Energy Flux Method [2]:

$$\frac{d}{dx} (EC_g) = -\delta$$

- Relates wave height ( $H$ ) and wave number ( $k$ )
- $E(\rho, g, \mathbf{H})$ : Wave Energy
- $C_g(\rho, \mathbf{k}, h)$ : Group celerity
- $\delta(\rho, g, T, \mathbf{H})$  : <sup>3</sup>Wave energy dissipation function

<sup>1</sup>Dean et al, 2000 (pg 64), <sup>2</sup>Edward et al, 1983 (pg 2) and <sup>3</sup>Alex et al, 2008 (pg 2).

# 1D forward model Results

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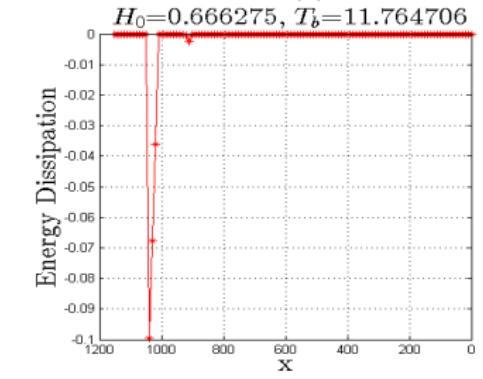
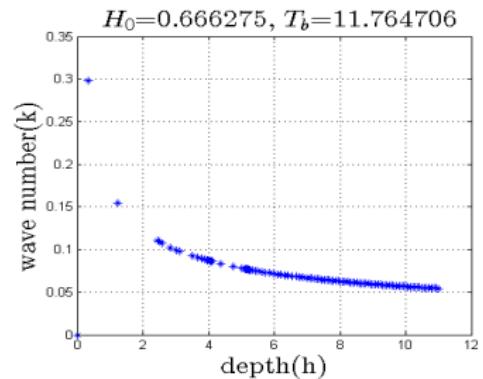
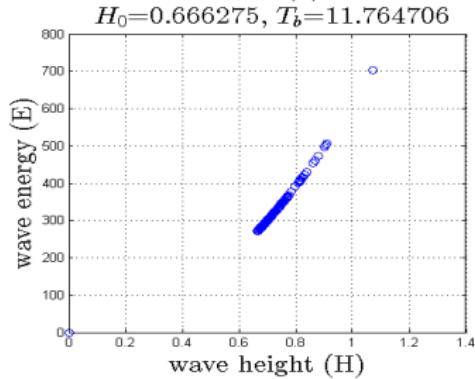
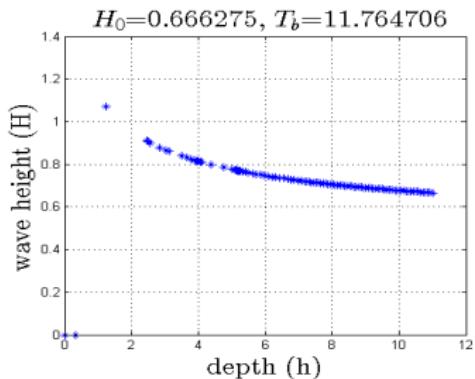
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# Invert for bathymetry given surface data & physics

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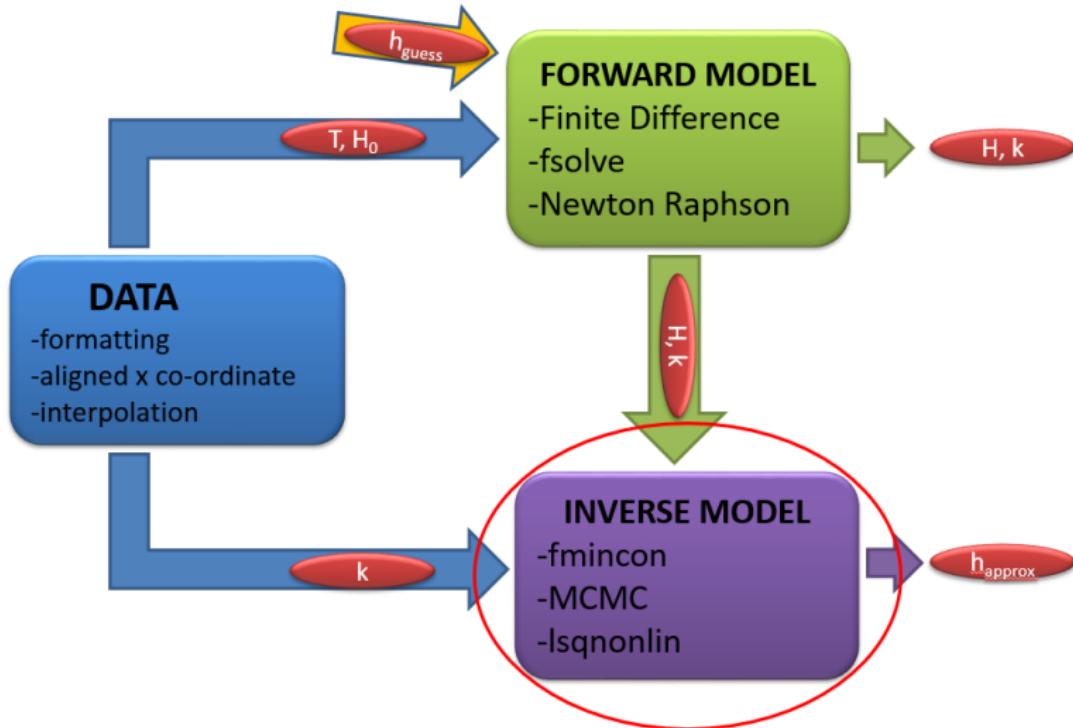
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# Solutions are computed using 3 inversion methods

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- ➊ Nonlinear Least Squares (`lsqnonlin`)
  - Logical place to start
- ➋ Bayesian MCMC (Metropolis)
  - Gives a distribution of depth estimates
- ➌ Tikhonov Regularization (`fmincon`)
  - Can deal with instabilities caused by noise in the measurements

# Manufactured “data” is used to test our algorithms

## Bathymetry Inversion from Waves

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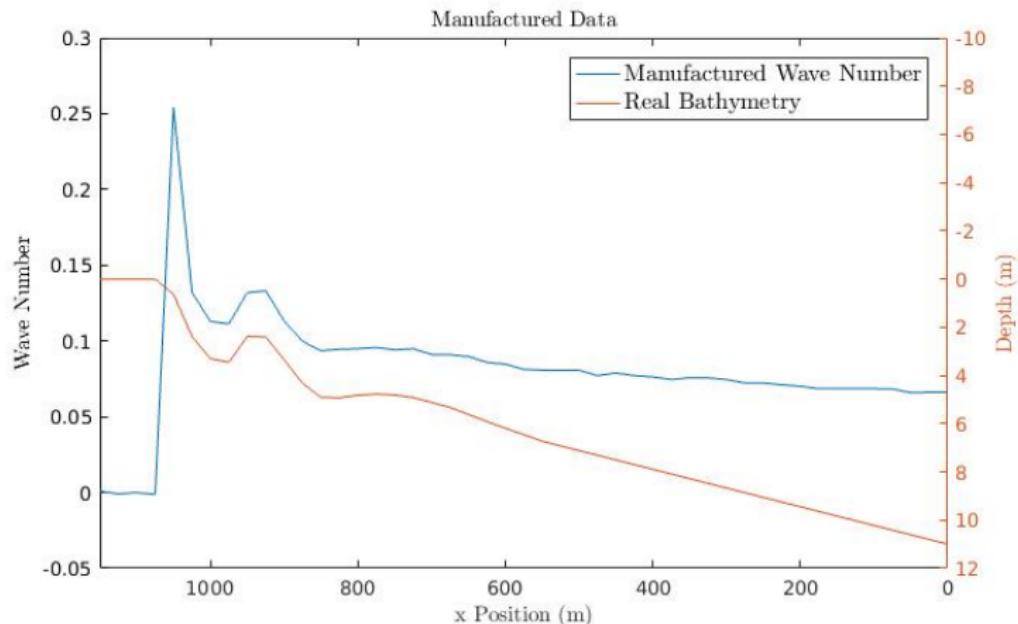
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# All methods capture the sandbar well

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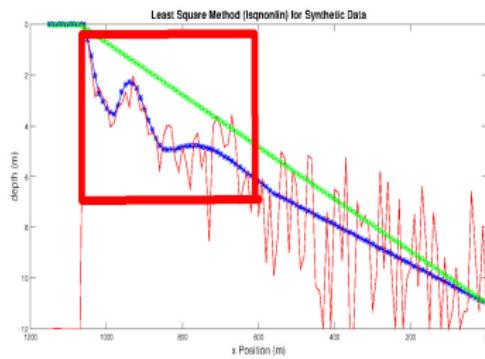
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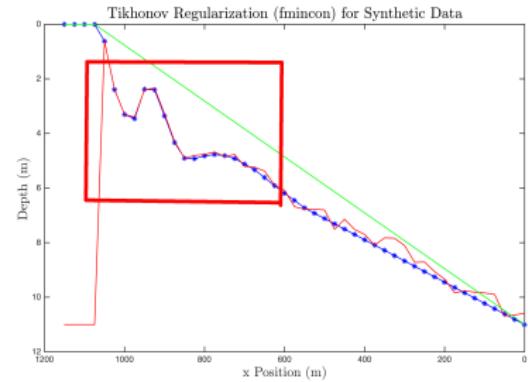
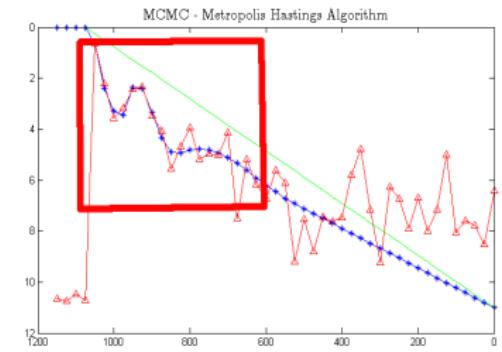
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- \*— True Bathymetry (h)
- Recovered Bathymetry
- Initial guess



# Real $k$ data is selected for a period with low noise

## Bathymetry Inversion from Waves

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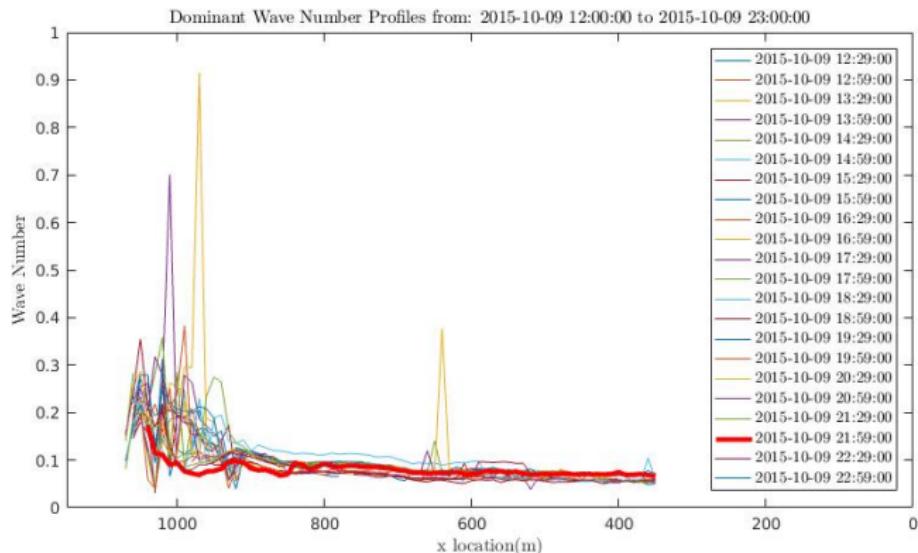
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# Bathymetry estimates perform well in shallow water

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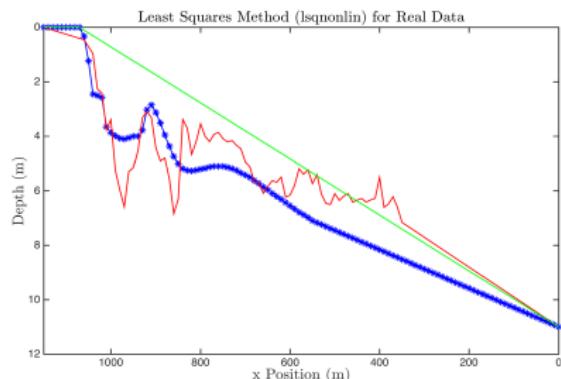
Data

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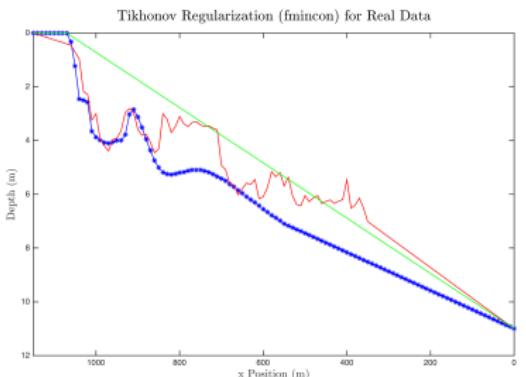
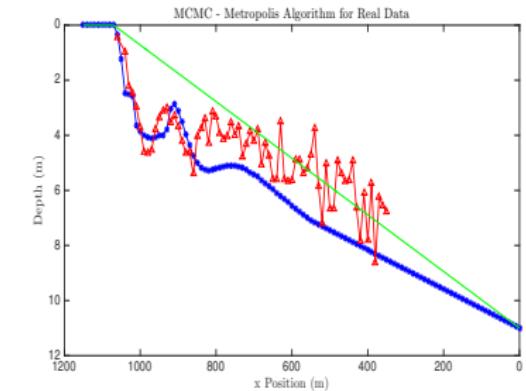
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- True Bathymetry ( $h$ )
- Recovered Bathymetry
- Initial guess



# Bathymetry estimates are limited by noisy $k$ data

## Bathymetry Inversion from Waves

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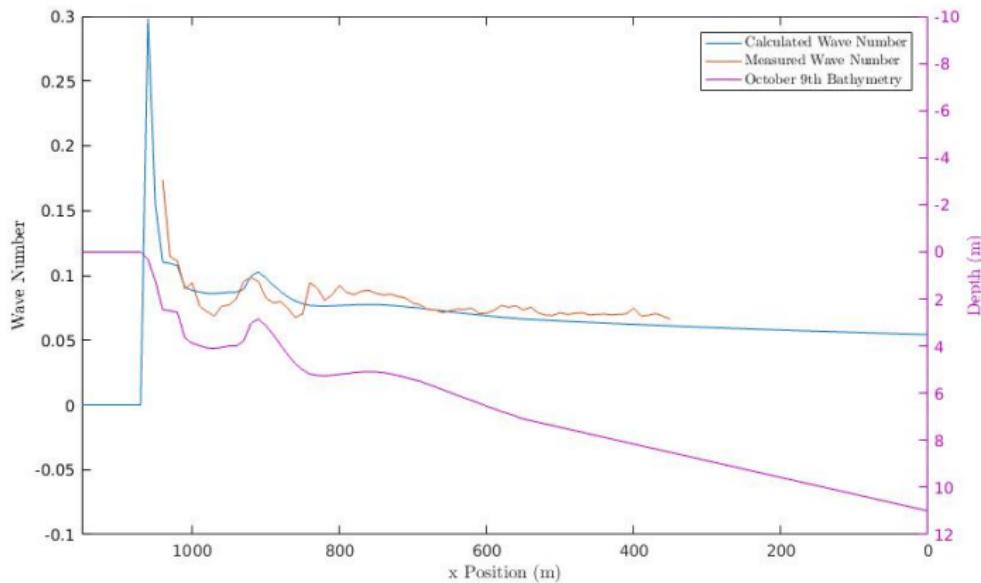
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# Missing data & deep water cause poor $h$ offshore

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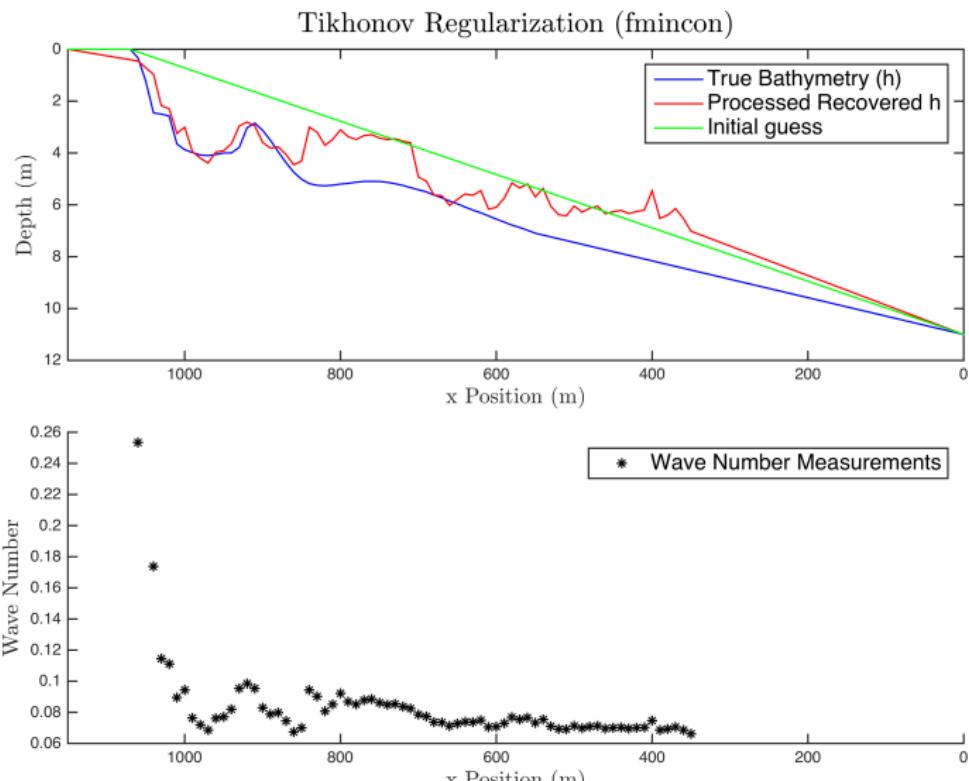
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# Future Directions

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- Non-linear wave theory
  - Linear wave theory is just a starting point!
- Inclusion of observed wave height,  $H$ , or other measured variables, along the profile
  - this method will allow for assimilation of other measured variables
- Application of further regularization methods
  - we heuristically “tuned” our regularization
  - perhaps incorporate prior knowledge?
- Incorporate uncertainty in measurements
- Expansion to 2D wave physics

**Thank you!  
Questions?**



**Acknowledgements:**  
NSF, USACE, SAMSI  
Anusha Madushani, Kimberly Kaufeld