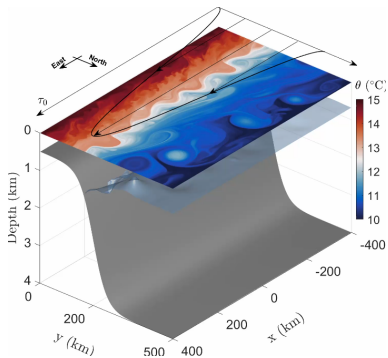


# Baroclinic dynamics in the presence of slopes



Julian Mak (HKUST + NOC)

# Overview

0. shelf seas and slopes, baroclinic eddies, and it's **parameterisation**

1. **baroclinic turbulence** over slopes

→ nonlinear simulations

→ parameterisations

→ **GEOMETRIC**: an eddy-mean interaction framework

→ parameterising suppression of fluxes

2. mechanism for slope suppression

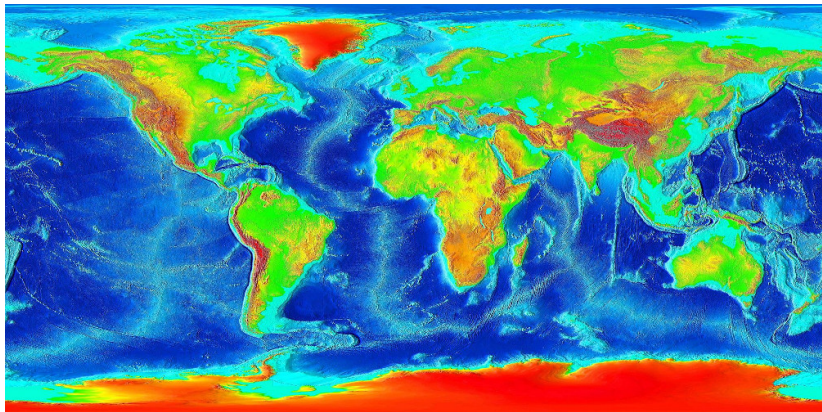
→ linear instability point of view?

→ revisiting the (sloped) **Eady problem**

→ interpretation in terms of **CRWs**

→ **GEOMETRIC** analysis

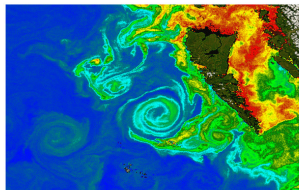
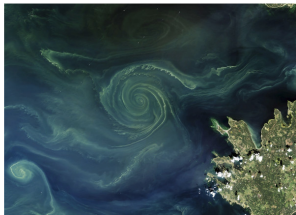
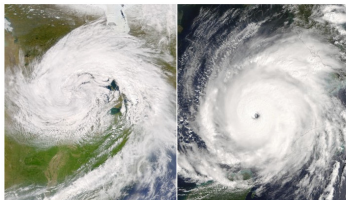
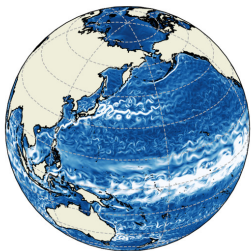
## Shelf seas + continental slopes



**Figure:** Locations of shelf seas denoted by the cyan colour. Taken from Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental\\_shelf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_shelf)) made from NOAA data.

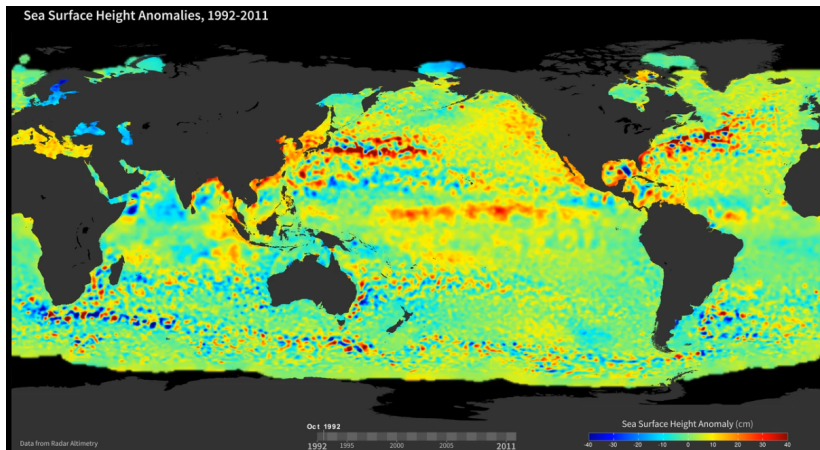
- ▶ exchange between shelves and open ocean important

# Baroclinic eddies

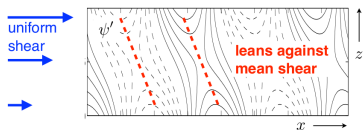




# Baroclinic eddies



# Baroclinic instability

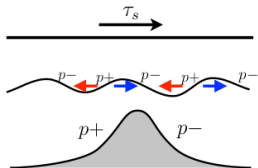


## ► baroclinic instability

→ reduces flow shear ( $\Rightarrow$  reducing tilt in isopycnal / isentrope)

→ fueled by **available potential energy**

## ► also important for momentum transport



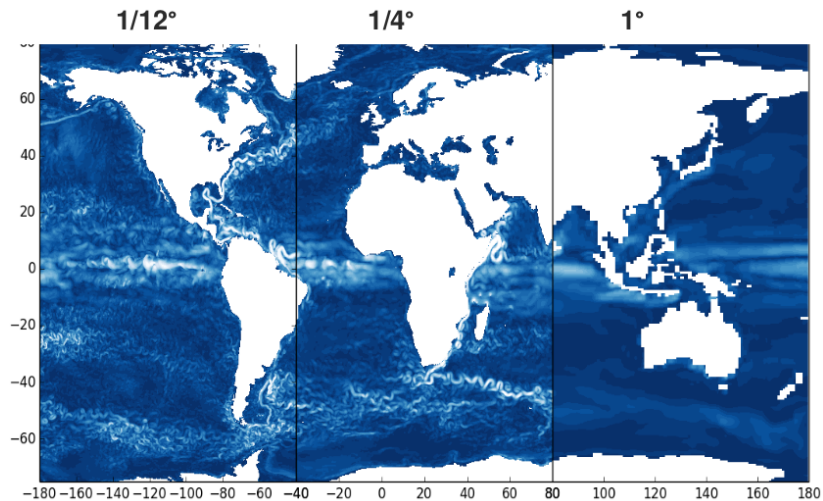
$$\begin{aligned} \overline{p' \nabla z'} &= -\overline{z' \nabla p'} \\ &= -\rho_0 f \overline{z' v'} \\ &= \frac{\rho_0 f}{N^2} \overline{b' v'} \end{aligned}$$

eddy form stress  $\longleftrightarrow$  eddy buoyancy flux

vertical momentum transfer  $\longleftrightarrow$  lateral heat transfer

(figures from David Marshall)

# Parameterisation






from Helene Hewitt (UKMO)

# Part 1: baroclinic turbulence over slopes

**JAMES** | Journal of Advances in  
Modeling Earth Systems\*

RESEARCH ARTICLE **Scalings for Eddy Buoyancy Fluxes Across Prograde Shelf/  
Slope Fronts**  
10.1029/2022MS003229

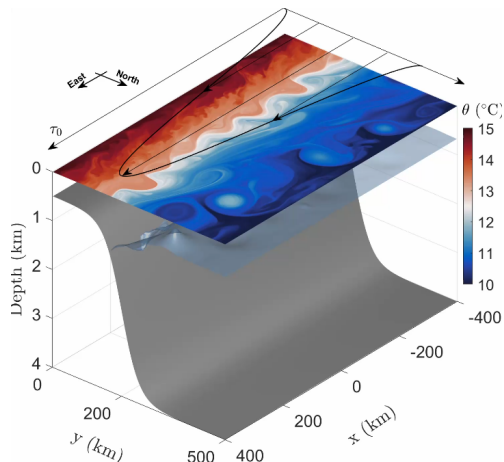
Huaiyu Wei<sup>1,2</sup> , Yan Wang<sup>1,2</sup> , Andrew L. Stewart<sup>3</sup> , and Julian Mak<sup>1,2</sup> 

**Parameterizing Eddy Buoyancy Fluxes Across Prograde Shelf/Slope Fronts  
Using a Slope-Aware GEOMETRIC Closure**

HUAIYU WEI<sup>a,b</sup> , YAN WANG<sup>a,b</sup> , AND JULIAN MAK<sup>a,b,c</sup> 

- ▶ most of the following is Huaiyu's PhD work (currently post-doc at UCLA)

# Baroclinic simulation over slopes



- ▶ wind forced simulation in MITgcm (2km resolution)
  - downwelling
  - favourable wind forcing
  - strong jet along shelf break
  - eddies on and off shelf have different length-scales ( $\sim L_d$ ) and different properties

Q. how to parameterise?

# Parameterisation

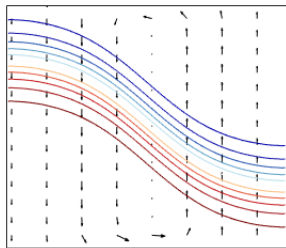
- ▶ **Gent–McWilliams (GM) scheme:**

$$\overline{u'b'} = -\kappa_{\text{gm}} \nabla \bar{b}$$

→ this one is really an **eddy-induced advection**

→ flattens isopycnals, parameterisation of **form stress**

(resembles but is not exactly **thickness diffusion**)



Gent & McWilliams (1990); Gent *et al.* (1995)

- ▶ widely used in ocean GCMs, many good things about it
  - positive-definite sink of APE
  - reduces spurious deep convection in models

# Parameterisation

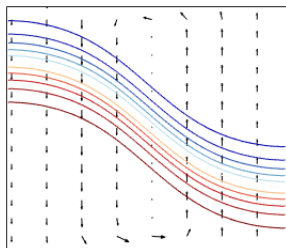
- ▶ **Gent–McWilliams (GM) scheme:**

$$\overline{u'b'} = -\kappa_{\text{gm}} \nabla \bar{b}$$

→ this one is really an **eddy-induced advection**

→ flattens isopycnals, parameterisation of **form stress**

(resembles but is not exactly **thickness diffusion**)



Gent & McWilliams (1990); Gent *et al.* (1995)

- ▶ widely used in ocean GCMs, many good things about it
  - positive-definite sink of APE
  - reduces spurious deep convection in models
- ▶ **eddy energy**  $E \leftrightarrow$  eddy activity, so

$$\kappa_{\text{gm}} = \kappa_{\text{gm}}(f(E), \dots) ?$$

→ mixing length theory  $\Rightarrow \kappa_{\text{gm}} \sim \sqrt{E}$  (e.g. Eden & Greatbatch, 2008; Jansen *et al.*, 2015)

# GEOMETRIC framework



# GEOMETRIC framework

Under QG dynamics, mean equation may be written as

$$\frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{u}}}{\partial t} + f(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}, \quad \mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} -M + P & N & 0 \\ N & M + P & 0 \\ -S & R & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

- ▶ rank 2 tensor  $\mathbf{E}$  encodes all fluctuation quantities

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \overline{v'^2 - u'^2}, \quad N = \overline{u'v'},$$

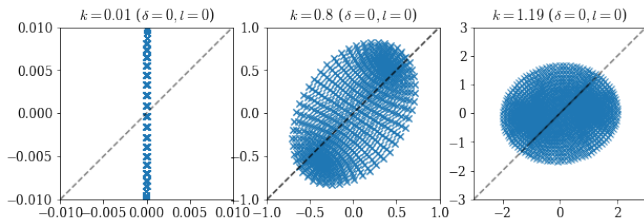
$$P = \frac{1}{2N_0} \overline{b'^2},$$

$$R = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{u'b'}, \quad S = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{v'b'},$$

→ Eliassen–Palm flux tensor

Q. parameterise in a **symmetry-preserving** way?

# Parameterisation: GEOMETRIC



**Figure:** Demonstration of eddy variance ellipses for Eady problem ( $v'$  and  $b'$  here).

- ▶ consider geometric parameters relating to eddy variance ellipses
  - anisotropy parameters  $\gamma_{b,m}$
  - angle parameters  $\phi_{b,m}$
- ▶ note  $\phi_m$  relates to actual eddy shape (cf. Tamarin *et al.*, 2016)
  - $\phi_b$  does not, but the vertical angle parameter  $\tan 2\phi_t = \gamma_b \tan 2\lambda$  does (e.g. Youngs *et al.*, 2017)

## Parameterisation: GEOMETRIC

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \overline{v'^2 - u'^2} = -\gamma_m E \cos 2\phi_m \cos^2 \lambda, \quad N = \overline{u'v'} = \gamma_m E \sin 2\phi_m \cos^2 \lambda,$$

$$P = \frac{1}{2N_0} \overline{b'^2} = E \sin^2 \lambda,$$

$$R = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{u'b'} = \gamma_b \frac{f_0}{N_0} E \cos \phi_b \sin 2\lambda, \quad S = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{v'b'} = \gamma_b \frac{f_0}{N_0} E \sin \phi_b \sin 2\lambda,$$

with geometric parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_m &= \frac{\sqrt{M^2 + N^2}}{K}, & \gamma_b &= \frac{N_0}{2f_0} \sqrt{\frac{R^2 + S^2}{KP}}, \\ \sin 2\phi_m &= \frac{N}{\sqrt{M^2 + N^2}}, & \sin \phi_b &= \frac{S}{\sqrt{R^2 + S^2}}, \\ \frac{K}{E} &= \cos^2 \lambda, & \frac{P}{E} &= \sin^2 \lambda, & \tan^2 \lambda &= \frac{P}{K}. \end{aligned}$$

# GEOMETRIC framework

- GM scheme close for buoyancy fluxes

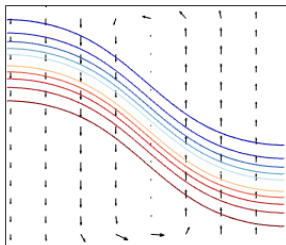
$$R = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{u'b'} = \gamma_b \frac{f_0}{N_0} E \cos \phi_b \sin 2\lambda,$$

$$S = \frac{f_0}{N_0^2} \overline{v'b'} = \gamma_b \frac{f_0}{N_0} E \sin \phi_b \sin 2\lambda.$$

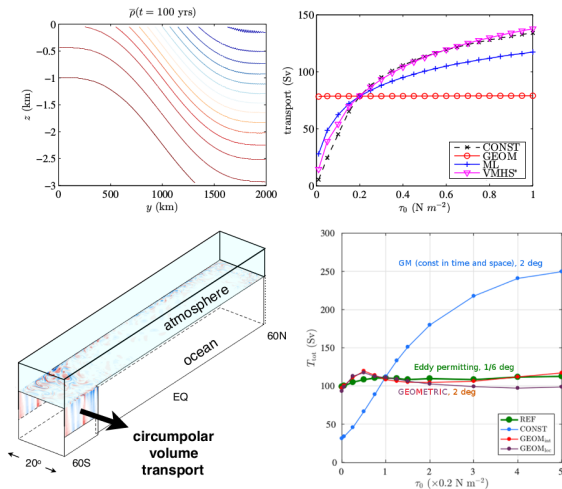
- $\|\mathbf{E}\|^2 \leq E$ , tensor may be bounded in terms of eddy energy, and bound implies

$$\kappa_{\text{gm}} = \alpha E \frac{(\partial \bar{b} / \partial z)^{1/2}}{|\nabla \bar{b}|^2} \equiv \alpha E \frac{N}{M^2},$$

- $\alpha \sim \gamma_b \sin 2\lambda (\cos \phi_b, \sin \phi_b)$  is **non-dimensional** and  $|\alpha| \leq 1$ !  
→ eddy efficiency parameter, **tunable** in parameterisations  
→ closed by including a prognostic eddy energy budget for  $E$

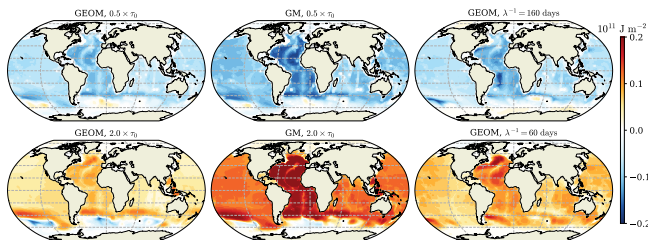
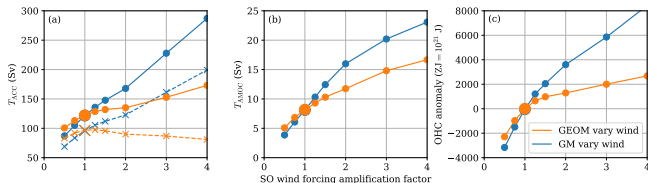


# Parameterisation: GEOMETRIC



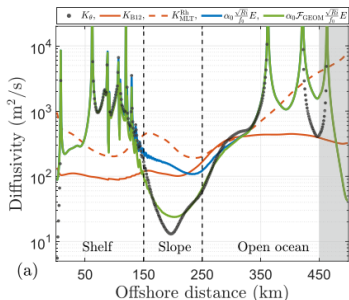
► get eddy saturation (mathematical reasons for this, ask me if interested)

# Parameterisation: GEOMETRIC



- reduces sensitivity of ocean heat content in ‘realistic’ model (NEMO ORCA2 here, but ‘works’ also in ORCA1)

# GEOMETRIC over slopes (Wei, et al., 2022)

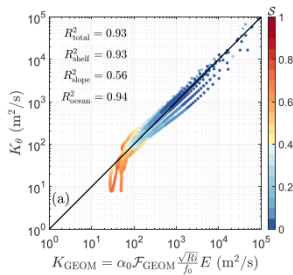
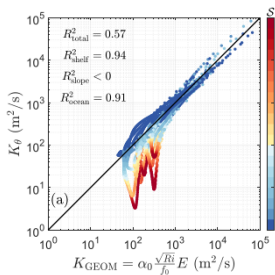


- ▶ diagnosed diffusivity ‘suppressed’ over slope region

→ least-squares type fitting for an over-determined system (Bachman & Fox-Kemper, 2013)

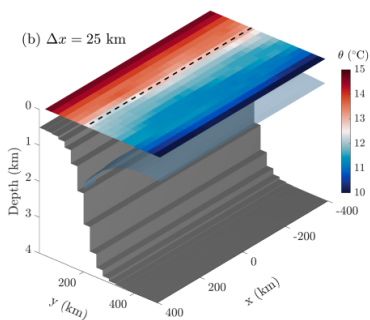
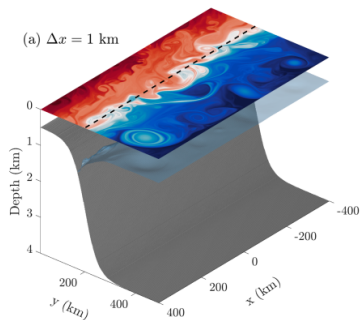
- ▶ suppression function fitted as

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{GEOM}}(S) = \frac{1}{\mu_1 S^{\mu_2} + 1}$$



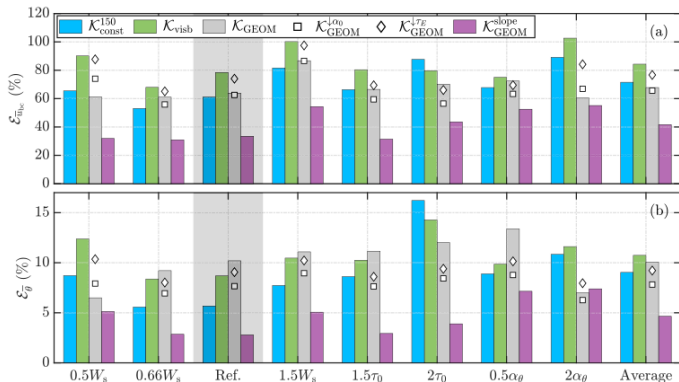
# GEOMETRIC over slopes (Wei, et al., 2024)

- ▶ suppressed GEOMETRIC ok from diagnostics, but in prognostic runs?





# GEOMETRIC over slopes (Wei, et al., 2024)



- relative errors of new variant is lowest

→ nonlinear feedbacks,  $\kappa_{gm}$  too large over shelves has effect over the domain via a 'pivot' mechanism

# Summary

- ▶ introduced GEOMETRIC framework
  - parameterisation in terms of geometric parameters
  - a framework for analysing eddy-mean interactions
  - key role of the  $\alpha$  eddy efficiency parameter
  
- ▶ suppression of eddy-mean interaction over slopes from simulations
  - can be represented through suppression of  $\alpha$  (Wei *et al.*, 2022)
  - functions reasonably well in prognostic calculations (Wei *et al.*, 2024)
  - ongoing work to see impacts in global models
  - recent **experimental** evidence for suppression of  $\alpha$  (Cheng *et al.*, 2025)

## Part 2: mechanism for slope suppression

PHYSICAL REVIEW FLUIDS 9, 083905 (2024)

Editors' Suggestion

**Edge-wave phase shifts versus normal-mode phase tilts in an Eady problem with a sloping boundary**

J. Mak<sup>\*</sup> N. Harnik E. Heifetz G. Kumar<sup>†</sup> E. Q. Y. Ong

- ▶ focus on **linear instability** of (modified) Eady problem

## Recap: suppression over slopes

- ▶ suggested suppression is

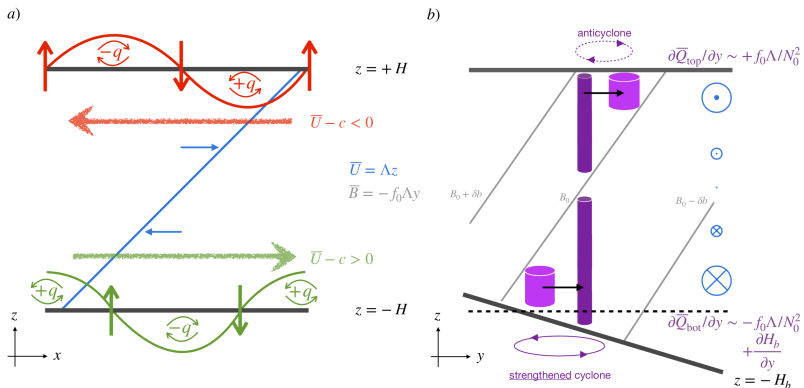
$$\kappa_{\text{gm}} = \alpha \mathcal{F}_{\text{GEOM}}(S) E \frac{N}{M^2}, \quad \mathcal{F}_{\text{GEOM}}(S) = \frac{1}{\mu_1 S^{\mu_2} + 1},$$

- ▶ from simulation results, it's not  $E$  or  $N/M^2$  that are suppressed, so

$$\alpha \mapsto \alpha \mathcal{F}_{\text{GEOM}}(S) ?$$

- Q. which part of  $\alpha \sim \gamma_b \sin 2\lambda(\cos \phi_b, \sin \phi_b)$  is being suppressed?
- Q. why? mechanisms?

# In the presence of a slope...



- consider **linear instability** point of view  
→ modified Eady problem with a slope

figure inspired from Chen *et al.* (2020)

# The equation

- ▶ standard QG, linear shear flow in vertical,  $\mathbf{u} = U\mathbf{e}_x = \Lambda z/H$ , be wise and linearise:

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Lambda z \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \left(\nabla^2 \psi + \frac{f_0^2}{N_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2}\right) = 0, \quad z \in (-H, H),$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - \frac{\Lambda}{H} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = H,$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - \left(\frac{\Lambda}{H} - \frac{N_0^2}{f_0} \frac{\partial H_b}{\partial y}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = -H.$$

# The equations

- ▶ sensible non-dimensionalisation (!!)

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \nabla^2 \psi + F^2 \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} \right) = 0, \quad z \in (-1, 1),$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = 1,$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - (1 - \delta) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = -1,$$

- ▶ with  $F^2 = (fL/NH)^2$ , and key parameter is

$$\delta = \frac{\partial H_b}{\partial y} \bigg/ \frac{\partial \rho / \partial y}{-\partial \rho / \partial z}$$

# The equations

- ▶ modal solutions, interior PV equations imply

$$\tilde{\psi}(z) = a \cosh \mu z + b \sinh \mu z, \quad \mu^2 = (k^2 + l^2)/F^2$$

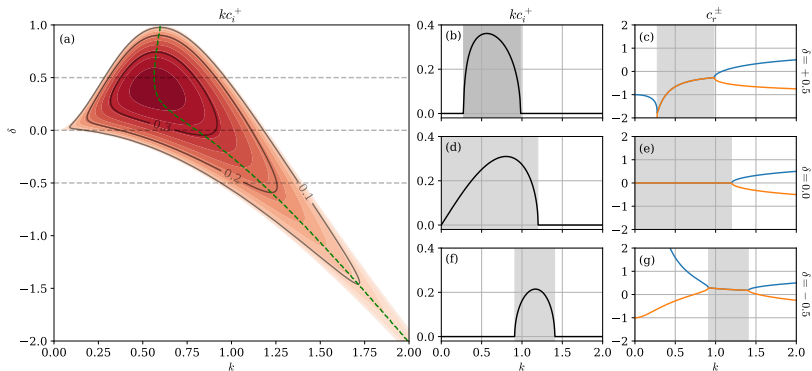
- ▶ boundary conditions fix the constants  $a$  and  $b$ , leading to ( $C = \cosh \mu$  and  $S = \sinh \mu$ )

$$0 = c^2 + \frac{\delta}{2\mu} \left( \frac{C}{S} + \frac{S}{C} \right) c + \frac{\delta^2}{4\mu^2} - \left( \frac{1 - \delta/2}{\mu} - \frac{C}{S} \right) \left( \frac{1 - \delta/2}{\mu} - \frac{S}{C} \right)$$

→ solve analytically/numerically



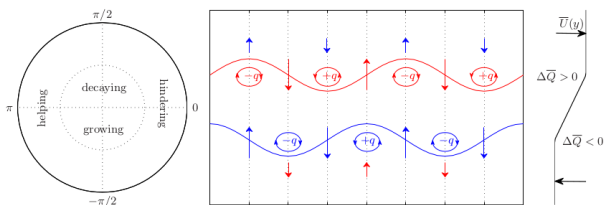
# Instability characteristics



- ▶ reduced growth rates when  $\delta < 0$  ('prograde' case)
- ▶ reduced bandwidth when  $\delta > 0$ , shuts off when  $\delta \geq 1$

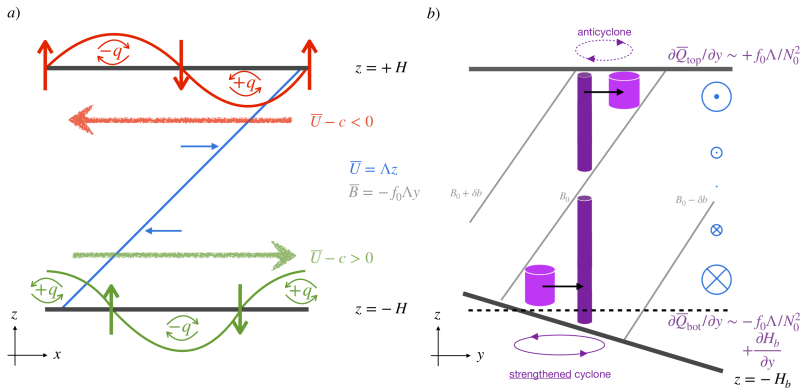
Q. mechanism?

# CRW mechanism

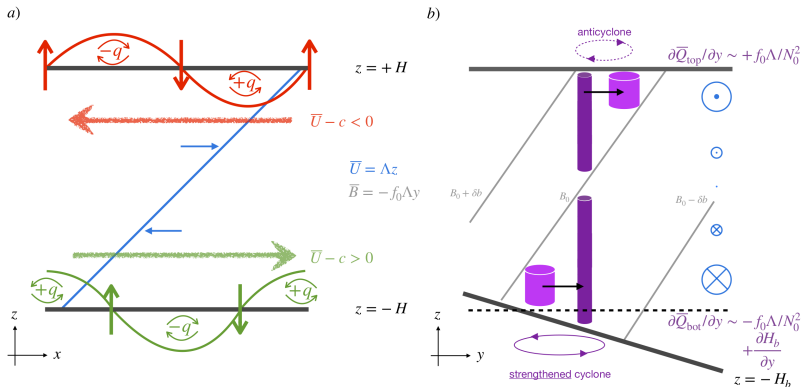


- ▶ each CRW can interfere with each other
  - domain of influence  $\sim$  **Green's function**
  - can affect amplitude and propagation
- ▶ **phase-locking?**
  - from mean flow and other wave
  - **modal instability** if phase-locked in constructively interfering configuration

# In the presence of a slope...



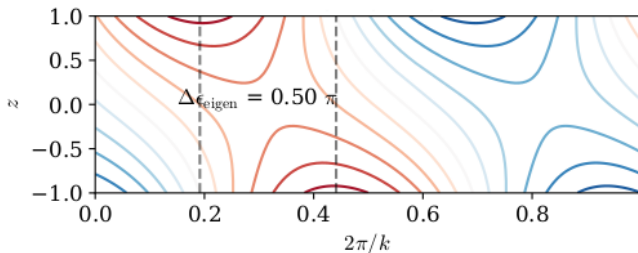
# In the presence of a slope...



- argument in terms of CRWs:  $\delta < 0$  makes bottom wave **faster**
  - $\Rightarrow$  bottom wave is such that  $(U + c) \nearrow$
  - $\Rightarrow$  for phase locking, want upper  $(U - c) \nearrow$ , so upper  $c \searrow$
  - $\Rightarrow$  Rossby waves  $c \sim k^{-1}$ , so want a larger  $k$ ...? (Chen et al., 2020)

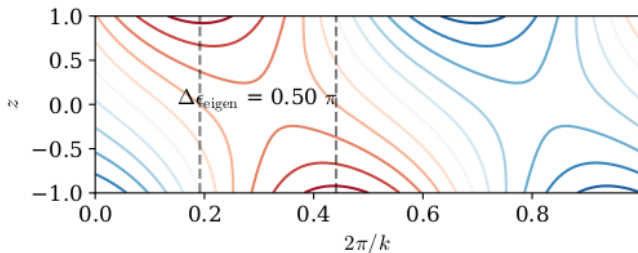
## In the presence of a slope...

- ▶ standard Eady problem (no slope), 2d problem ( $l = 0$ )
  - show normal-mode streamfunction  $\psi = \tilde{\psi}(z)e^{i(kx-ct)}$
  - leans into shear, diagnosed  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}} = \pi/2$



## In the presence of a slope...

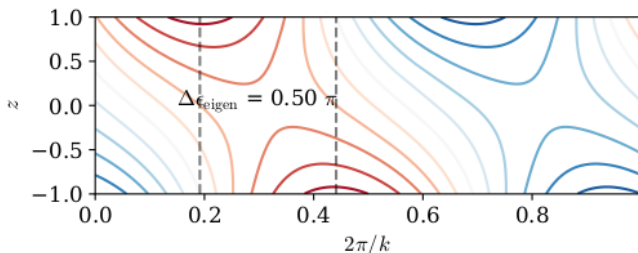
- ▶ standard Eady problem (no slope), 2d problem ( $l = 0$ )
  - show normal-mode streamfunction  $\psi = \tilde{\psi}(z)e^{i(kx-ct)}$
  - leans into shear, diagnosed  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}} = \pi/2$



Q. does the **phase-tilt** change with  $\delta$ ?

## In the presence of a slope...

- ▶ standard Eady problem (no slope), 2d problem ( $l = 0$ )
  - show normal-mode streamfunction  $\psi = \tilde{\psi}(z)e^{i(kx-ct)}$
  - leans into shear, diagnosed  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}} = \pi/2$



- Q. does the **phase-tilt** change with  $\delta$ ?
- Q. is the normal-mode phase-tilt even the right thing to look at, since we are talking about CRWs which are **edge-waves**?

# Edge-wave basis

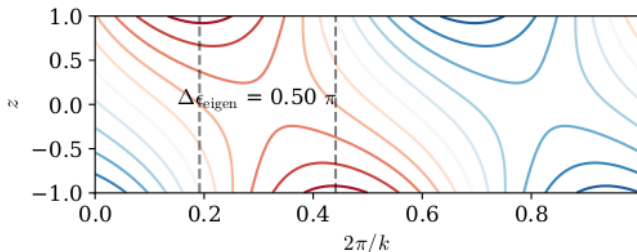


Figure: Streamfunction eigenfunction of most unstable mode in standard Eady problem.

- ▶ eigenfunction as a superposition of CRWs,  $\psi = \psi_T + \psi_B$   
→ combination, would like it in **edge-wave basis**  $\psi_{T,B}$  or  $q_{T,B}$
- Q. normal-mode **phase-tilt** is  $\pi/2$ , but is it really  $\pi/2$  in the edge-waves **phase-shift**?



# Edge-wave basis

- ▶ suppose  $\tilde{\psi} = \tilde{\psi}_T + \tilde{\psi}_B$ , and that  $\tilde{q} = \tilde{q}_T + \tilde{q}_B$
- ▶ modal solutions:

$$\tilde{q} = -\mu^2 \tilde{\psi} + \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{\psi}}{\partial z^2},$$

with bcs (cf. Davies & Bishop, 1994, no buoyancy perturbation on other boundary)

$$\left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}_T}{\partial z} \right|_{z=-1} = 0, \quad \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}_B}{\partial z} \right|_{z=+1} = 0.$$

- ▶ suppose we demand localised PV signature from edge-waves with ( $\delta$  is the Dirac  $\delta$ -distribution)

$$\tilde{q}_B = \hat{q}_B(t) \hat{\delta}(z+1), \quad \tilde{q}_T = \hat{q}_T(t) \hat{\delta}(z-1),$$

then from the Green's function we have

$$\tilde{\psi}_B = -\hat{q}_B \frac{\cosh \mu(1-z)}{\mu \sinh 2\mu}, \quad \tilde{\psi}_T = -\hat{q}_T \frac{\cosh \mu(1+z)}{\mu \sinh 2\mu}.$$

## Edge-wave basis

- ▶ take previous thing, with  $\hat{q}_T = T e^{i\epsilon_T}$  and  $\hat{q}_B = B e^{i\epsilon_B}$ , shove it into linearised EOM, tedious algebra gives

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{T} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} &= + \frac{k}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \frac{B}{T} \sin \Delta\epsilon, \\ \frac{1}{B} \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} &= - \frac{k(1-\delta)}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \frac{T}{B} \sin \Delta\epsilon, \\ -\frac{1}{k} \frac{\partial \epsilon_T}{\partial t} &= + \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \left( \cosh 2\mu + \frac{B}{T} \cos \Delta\epsilon \right) \right], \\ -\frac{1}{k} \frac{\partial \epsilon_B}{\partial t} &= - \left[ 1 - \frac{(1-\delta)}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \left( \cosh 2\mu - \frac{T}{B} \cos \Delta\epsilon \right) \right],\end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $\Delta\epsilon = \epsilon_T - \epsilon_B$ , edge-wave **phase-shift**  
→  $\Delta\epsilon > 0$  means the top *lags* bottom

# Edge-wave basis

- ▶ more illuminating if written in terms of **amplitude ratio**  $\tan \gamma = T/B$  and phase shift:

$$\frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial t} = \frac{k}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \sin \Delta\epsilon (\cos 2\gamma + \delta \sin^2 \gamma),$$
$$\frac{\partial \Delta\epsilon}{\partial t} = \frac{2k}{\mu \sinh 2\mu} \left[ \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \cosh 2\mu - \mu \sinh 2\mu + \left(\frac{1}{\sin 2\gamma} - \frac{\delta}{2} \tan \gamma\right) \cos \Delta\epsilon \right].$$

- ▶ two-dimensional dynamical system
  - analysis of **phase portraits**, related to **transient/non-modal growth**
  - **synchronised growth/decay** related to modal instabilities, or fixed points of the system
  - **bifurcations** (Hopf bifurcation here...?)

# Edge-wave basis

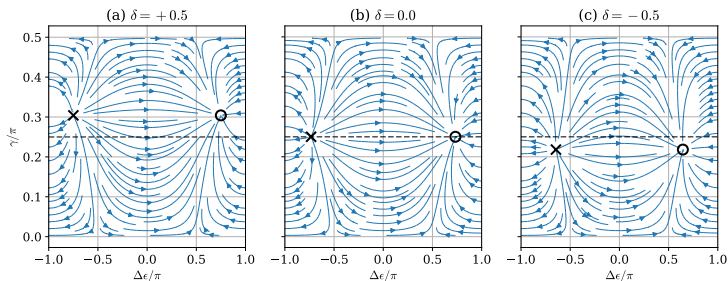


Figure: Phase portrait for the case of  $\delta = +0.5$ ,  $\delta = 0$ , and  $\delta = -0.5$ .

- ▶  $\delta < 0$  is where bottom wave is stronger ( $B > T$ )  
→  $\gamma = \arctan(T/B) < \pi/4$ , i.e.  $B < T$ , consistent, and vice-versa  
→ in fact, for synchronised growth, we should have

$$\left| \frac{1}{\tan \gamma} \right| = \left| \frac{B}{T} \right| = \sqrt{1 - \delta},$$

- ▶ BUT  $\Delta\epsilon \neq \pi/2$  (not remotely close!)

# Edge-wave basis

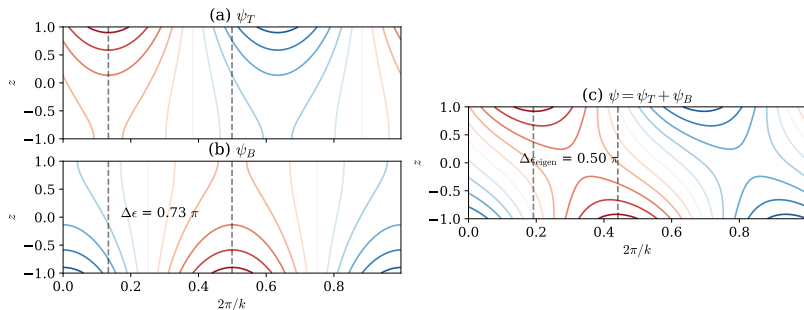
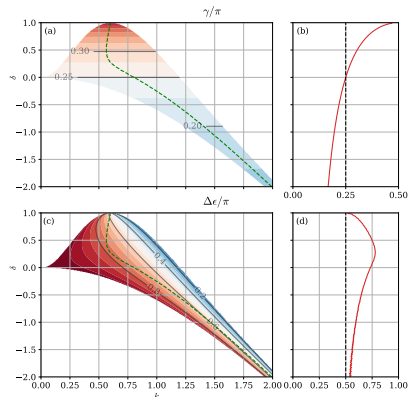


Figure: Edge-wave phase-shift vs normal-mode phase-tilt.

- ▶ mutual interaction matters!
  - in terms of mutual wave propagation, and constructive interference
  - $\pi/2$  is for optimal constructive interference, but not necessarily optimal for phase-locking (joint consideration required)
- ▶  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}} = \pi/2$  is a phase-tilt

# Edge-wave basis



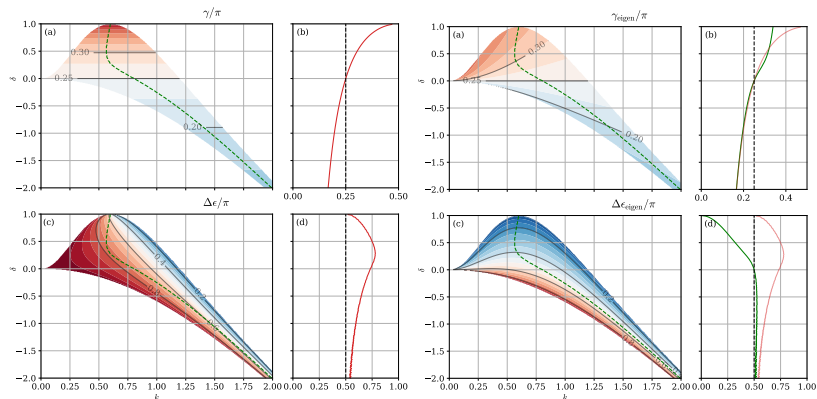
**Figure:** Amplitude ratio and edge-wave phase-shift over parameter space.

- ▶ amplitude ratio exactly as predicted varying with  $\delta$ , and physically consistent ( $\delta < 0$  has  $B > T$ )
- ▶ phase shifts expected for fixed  $\delta$  varying  $k$ 
  - in phase for  $k$  small, because interaction strong (and vice-versa)
- ▶ explanations just in terms of phase-locking incomplete

- ▶ strength of interaction  $\Rightarrow$  phase shift and phase locking

$\rightarrow \delta \searrow -\infty, B \nearrow, \text{interaction} \nearrow, \text{can offset by } k \nearrow$

# Edge-wave basis



**Figure:** Amplitude ratio and edge-wave phase-shift over parameter space, from (left) edge-waves and (right) eigenfunction itself.

►  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}}$  as efficiency for APE extraction? (dubious)

# Edge-wave basis

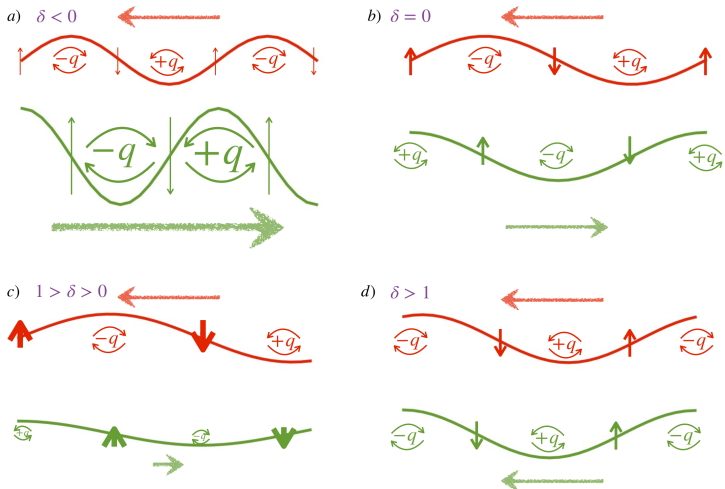


Figure: Schematic for  $\delta$  and its effects on the edge-waves.



# GEOMETRIC framework and links with CRWs?

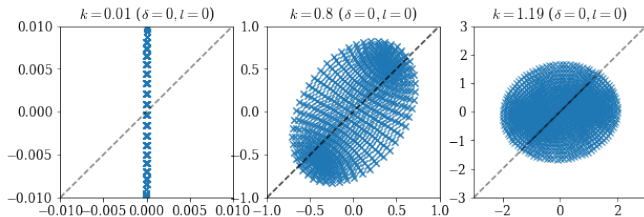


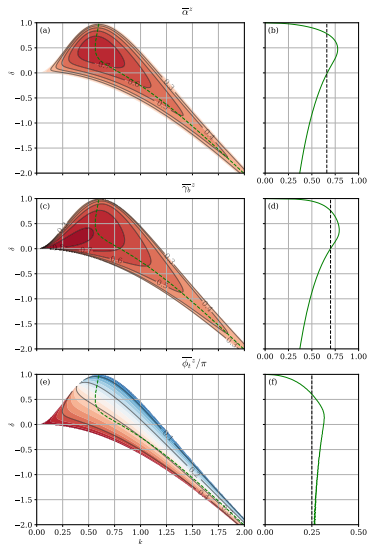
Figure: Demonstration of eddy variance ellipses for Eady problem ( $v'$  and  $b'$  here).

- ▶ for  $l=0$ , i.e. no meridional variation,  $u' = 0$ , and so  $R = N = 0$  while  $M^2 = K$ , and so

$$\gamma_m = 1, \quad \phi_m = 0, \quad \phi_b = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad \alpha = \pm \gamma_b \sin 2\lambda.$$

- ▶  $\phi_t \sim \Delta\epsilon$ ?

# GEOMETRIC framework and links with CRWs



- ▶  $\alpha$  very similar to the growth rate  
→ proxy for eddy energy extraction?
- $\alpha$  suppression mainly from eddy anisotropy  $\gamma_b$  (not shown; expected?)
- ▶  $\phi_t$  seems to have some relation with  $\Delta\epsilon$  (cf. barotropic case of Tamarin *et al.*, 2016)  
→ certainly better correlation than  $\Delta\epsilon_{\text{eigen}}$

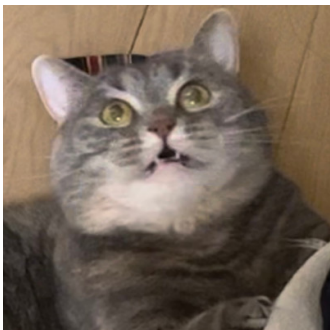
Figure: Geometric parameters for unstable modes.

# Summary

- ▶ cross slope suppression through inefficient instability mechanism?  
→ really is  $\alpha$  that is suppressed, suppression through eddy anisotropy  $\gamma_b$
- Q. analytical links between GEOMETRIC and CRWs? (e.g. Tamarin *et al.*, 2016)  
→ suggestive here numerically, did not attempt derivation (laziness...)
- ▶ edge-wave basis equivalent and physically more informative  
→ most works talk edge-waves phase-shifts, but present results for normal-mode phase-tilts  
→ constructed system manually here, but can do this more generally (using orthogonality in e.g., pseudo-momentum; Held, 1985)  
→ reduction to dynamical system formulation

# Outlook (theory biased)

- ▶ Eady problem is  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric, and several others are obviously (!?)  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric
  - Kelvin–Helmholtz (Qin *et al.*, 2019)
  - (modified) Phillips problem (David *et al.*, 2022)
  - Eady with  $\beta$ , Rayleigh problem (HD and MHD version), ...
- ▶ links with CRWs?
  - phase-locking  $\sim$  spontaneous  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry breaking?
  - bifurcations and stability boundaries  $\sim$  Krein collisions at exceptional points
- ? QM + QFT techniques applied to classical systems?
  - reality of spectrum (e.g. various works by Mostafazadeh)  $\sim$  no phase-locking  $\sim$  sufficient conditions for stability (e.g. Arnol'd 1966 etc.)?



**Figure:** Questions?



# Parameterisation: GEOMETRIC

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for NEMO releases. The browser address bar shows the URL `https://forge.nemo-ocean.eu/nemo/nemo-/releases`. The page header includes the NEMO logo and navigation links for 'Sign in' and 'Register'. A left sidebar contains a search bar and a navigation menu with items like 'Project', 'NEMO', 'Manage', 'Plan', 'Code', 'Build', 'Deploy', 'Releases', 'Monitor', and 'Analyze'. The main content area displays the 'Releases' section, starting with a paragraph about NEMO 5.0-beta's compatibility with hybrid CPU-GPU computing via PSyclone. Below this, there is a 'Physics' section, followed by an 'OCEAN' section containing three bullet points: 'Geometric parameterization for unresolved eddies', 'Light penetration scheme using 5 bands', and 'MFS (Mediterranean Forecasting System) bulk formulae'. A 'BIOGEOCHEMISTRY' section follows with one bullet point: 'New vertical sinking scheme'. The text is partially cut off at the bottom.

- ▶ in NEMO 5.0
- also in MITgcm and MOM6

# $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetry

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + z \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \left(\nabla^2 \psi + F^2 \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2}\right) = 0, \quad z \in (-1, 1),$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = 1,$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - (1 - \delta) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0, \quad z = -1,$$

- ▶ with  $F^2 = (fL/NH)^2$ , and key parameter is

Observation:

- ▶ **parity symmetry**  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $(x, y) \mapsto (-x, -y)$ , then  $(\partial_x, \partial_y) \mapsto (-\partial_x, -\partial_y)$ , velocity  $(u, v) \mapsto (-u, -v)$ , so streamfunction  $\psi \sim \int u \, dy \mapsto -(-\psi) = \psi$
- ▶ **time reversal symmetry**  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $t \mapsto -t$ , then  $\partial_t \mapsto -\partial_t$ ,  $\psi \mapsto -\psi$  by analogous argument
- ▶ system above is  **$\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric** (even number of minus signs to every term under the  $\mathcal{PT}$  mapping)



## $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetry (contd.)

- ▶ concept of  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry in quantum mechanics + QFT  
→ discrete symmetries
- ▶ operator  $\mathcal{H}$  is  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric if

$$(\mathcal{PT})\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{PT})^{-1} = \mathcal{H}, \quad (1)$$

(\* denotes complex and not Hermitian conjugate)

- ▶ interest in QM:  $\mathcal{PT}$  systems can have a real spectrum even if they are non-Hermitian (e.g., Bender & Boettcher, 1998)
- ▶ Eady problem can be described as  $c\phi = M\phi$  where

$$M = \frac{-1}{SC} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\delta}{2\mu}C^2 & \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \frac{CS}{\mu} - C^2 \\ \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \frac{CS}{\mu} - S^2 & \frac{\delta}{2\mu}S^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

and  $M$  is  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric ( $M$  is real and  $\mathcal{PT} = -I$ ; latter from David *et al.*, 2022, PoF)

# $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetry (contd.)

- ▶ if  $c\phi = M\phi$ , then for  $\Delta = \text{Tr}(M)^2 - 4\text{Det}(M)$ ,

$$c^2 - \text{Tr}(M) + \text{Det}(M) = 0, \quad c = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Tr}(M) \pm \sqrt{\Delta} \right) \quad (3)$$

- ▶ if  $\Delta < 0$ ,  $c_i \neq 0$  (i.e. instability)  
→  $c_r^+ = c_r^-$  since  $\sqrt{\Delta}$  purely imaginary
- ▶ if  $\Delta > 0$ ,  $c_i = 0$  (i.e. neutral)  
→  $c_r^+ \neq c_r^-$  since  $\sqrt{\Delta}$  purely real  
→ collision at  $\Delta = 0$ , exceptional points
- ▶ see David, Delplace & Venaille (2022), PoF for more

