

Since the morphodynamic time scale is  $T$  and the growth rate turns out to be of order  $10^{-1}$  the e - folding time is of order

$$t_e^* \approx 10 \frac{(1-n) g^* \tilde{D}_0^* (s-1) C^3}{8U_0^{*2} 2\pi} T_{tide}^* \approx 100 - 1000 \text{ years}$$

Note that  $T = S \frac{U_0^{*2}}{(1-n) g^* \tilde{D}_0^*} \omega^* t^*$        $S = \frac{8}{(s-1) C^3}$

# A REFINED APPROACH

- 1) Introduction of a tidal ellipse
- 2) Introduction of an angle between the bed shear stress and the depth averaged velocity
- 3) Analytical solution for a sinusoidal current
- 4) Sediment transport rate with a threshold value of  $\theta$
- 5) Finite amplitude sand banks

# Hydrodynamics

## Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial D^*}{\partial t^*} + \frac{\partial(D^* U^*)}{\partial x^*} + \frac{\partial(D^* V^*)}{\partial y^*} = 0 \quad D^* = \tilde{D}^* + \zeta^*$$

## Momentum equations

$$\frac{\partial U^*}{\partial t^*} + U^* \frac{\partial U^*}{\partial x^*} + V^* \frac{\partial U^*}{\partial y^*} = -g^* \frac{\partial \zeta^*}{\partial x^*} - \frac{\tau_x^*}{\rho^* D^*} + f^* V^*$$

$$\frac{\partial V^*}{\partial t^*} + U^* \frac{\partial V^*}{\partial x^*} + V^* \frac{\partial V^*}{\partial y^*} = -g^* \frac{\partial \zeta^*}{\partial y^*} - \frac{\tau_y^*}{\rho^* D^*} - f^* U^*$$

where the Coriolis parameter is defined by  $f^* = 2\Omega^* \sin \varphi$

## THE DIMENSIONLESS PROBLEM

By introducing dimensionless variables using the tidal excursion ( $U_0^*/\omega^*$ ) as length scale, the inverse of the tide angular frequency ( $\omega^{*-1}$ ) as time scale, the maximum value ( $U_0^*$ ) of the depth averaged velocity as velocity scale, the amplitude  $a^*$  of the tide to scale the free surface elevation and  $\tilde{D}_0^*$  to scale the vertical coordinate, the problem reads:

$$a \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial( DU )}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial( DV )}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad D = \tilde{D} + a\zeta$$

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} - r \frac{\tau_x}{D} + fV$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} - \frac{\tau_y}{D} - fU$$

The hydrodynamic problem is characterised by the following dimensionless parameters

$$a = \frac{a^*}{\tilde{D}_0^*} = \frac{U_0^*}{\sqrt{g^* \tilde{D}_0^*}} \quad r = \frac{U_0^*}{\omega^* \tilde{D}_0^*}$$

where  $a^*$  is defined as function of  $U_0^*$

Assuming a small amplitude tide, at the leading order of approximation the basic flow is described by

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} - r \frac{\tau_x}{D} + fV$$

The problem is balanced because for the basic flow the appropriate horizontal length scale is not  $U_0^* / \omega^*$

but  $L^* = \sqrt{g^* \tilde{D}_0^*} / \omega^*$ . Hence we should introduce

$X = ax$  and

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial X} - r \frac{\tau_x}{D} + fV$$

## THE BED SHEAR STRESS

A relationship between the bottom shear stress and the depth averaged velocity should be introduced to close the problem. Different formulae can be adopted, e.g a linear relationship or a more complex constitutive relationship like

$$(\tau_x, \tau_y) = \frac{(U \cos \phi - V \sin \phi, U \sin \phi + V \cos \phi) \sqrt{U^2 + V^2}}{C^2}$$

which accounts for Coriolis effects which deviate the bed shear stress with respect to the depth averaged velocity (de Swart & Hulscher, 1995). The values of  $\Phi$  can be obtained from 3D models. The resistance coefficient  $C$ , which depends on the bottom roughness  $z_r^*$ , can be evaluated by means of heuristic formulae, e.g.  $C=5.75 \log(11D_0^*/z_r^*)$

# Morphodynamics

## Sediment continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial h^*}{\partial t^*} + \frac{1}{(1-n)} \left[ \frac{\partial Q_x^*}{\partial x^*} + \frac{\partial Q_y^*}{\partial y^*} \right] = 0$$

By using dimensionless variables

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial T} = \frac{\partial Q_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q_y}{\partial y} \quad Q = \frac{Q^*}{\sqrt{(s-1)g^*d^*}}$$

where the morphodynamic time scale is introduced

$$T = \frac{t d}{(1-p) r \sqrt{\psi_d}} \quad \text{with } \psi_d = \frac{(\omega \tilde{D}_0^*)^2}{(s-1)g^*d^*}, \quad d = \frac{d^*}{\tilde{D}_0^*}$$



# THE SEDIMENT TRANSPORT RATE

Assuming that the suspended load is negligible, it is possible to identify two contributions : the bed load over an horizontal bed and the bed load induced by the bed slope :  $(Q_x, Q_y) = (Q_x^{(b)}, Q_y^{(b)}) + (Q_x^{(p)}, Q_y^{(p)})$

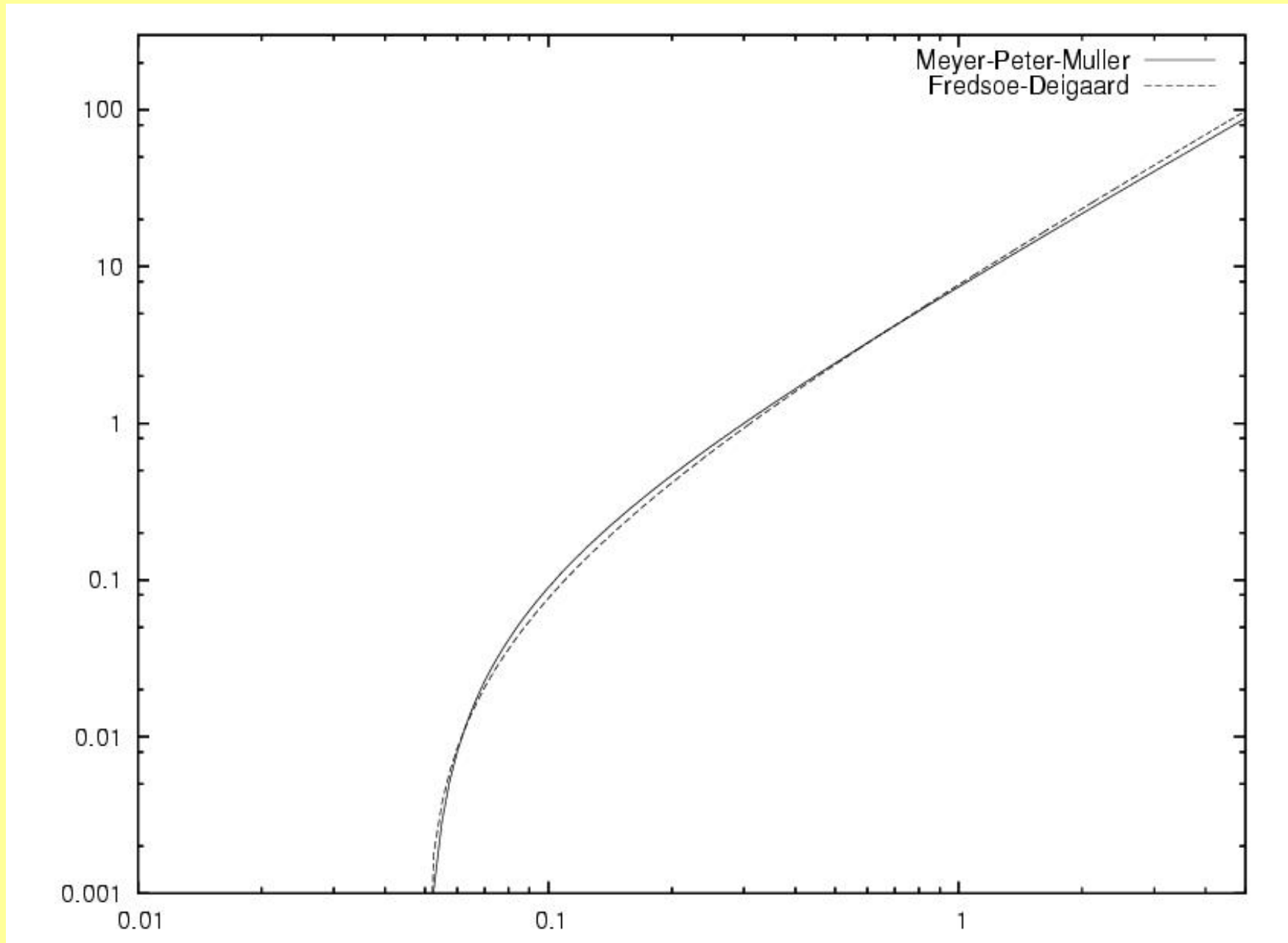
The bed load over a horizontal bed  
(Fredsoe & Deigaard formula)

$$(Q_x^{(b)}, Q_y^{(b)}) = \frac{(\mathcal{G}_x, \mathcal{G}_y)}{\mathcal{G}} \Phi(\mathcal{G})$$

$$\Phi(\mathcal{G}) = \frac{30}{\pi\mu} (\mathcal{G} - \mathcal{G}_c) (\sqrt{\mathcal{G}} - 0.7\sqrt{\mathcal{G}_c})$$

$\mathcal{G}$  is the Shield parameter,  $\mathcal{G}_c$  is its critical value,  $\mu \approx 1$

# Sediment transport rate



Shields parameter

The down - slope sediment transport rate is

$$\left( Q_x^{(p)}, Q_y^{(p)} \right) = \frac{G}{r} \Phi \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$G_{ss} = -1.7 \frac{\mathcal{G}_c}{\Phi} \frac{d\Phi}{d\mathcal{G}}, \quad G_{nn} = -\frac{0.55}{\sqrt{\mathcal{G}}}, \quad G_{sn} = G_{ns} = 0$$

$$\left( Q_x^{(p)}, Q_y^{(p)} \right) = \frac{\Phi}{r}$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \left( G_{ss} \frac{\mathcal{G}_x^2}{\mathcal{G}^2} + G_{nn} \frac{\mathcal{G}_y^2}{\mathcal{G}^2} \right) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \frac{\mathcal{G}_x \mathcal{G}_y}{\mathcal{G}^2} (G_{ss} - G_{nn}) \right];$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \left( G_{ss} \frac{\mathcal{G}_y^2}{\mathcal{G}^2} + G_{nn} \frac{\mathcal{G}_x^2}{\mathcal{G}^2} \right) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \frac{\mathcal{G}_x \mathcal{G}_y}{\mathcal{G}^2} (G_{ss} - G_{nn}) \right]$$

$$\nabla h = \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial h}{\partial n} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial s} = \frac{\nabla h \bullet \mathcal{G}_0}{|\mathcal{G}_0|} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}_0|} \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \mathcal{G}_{0x} + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \mathcal{G}_{0y} \right)$$

$$\frac{\overrightarrow{\partial h}}{\partial s} = \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \mathcal{G}_{0x} + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \mathcal{G}_{0y} \right) \frac{(\mathcal{G}_{0x}, \mathcal{G}_{0y})}{|\mathcal{G}_0|^2}$$

$$\frac{\overrightarrow{\partial h}}{\partial n} = \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \right) - \frac{\overrightarrow{\partial h}}{\partial s} = \left[ \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} - \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \mathcal{G}_{0x} + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \mathcal{G}_{0y} \right) \frac{\mathcal{G}_{0x}}{|\mathcal{G}_0|^2}, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} - \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \mathcal{G}_{0x} + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \mathcal{G}_{0y} \right) \frac{\mathcal{G}_{0y}}{|\mathcal{G}_0|^2} \right]$$

# THE TIME DEVELOPMENT OF A SMALL BOTTOM PERTURBATION

Let us consider a bottom perturbation of the flat bottom

$$h = \text{cost} + \varepsilon h_1 = \text{cost} + \varepsilon \left[ \Pi_1 e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right]$$

since  $a \ll 1$ ,  $\tilde{D} = D$

$$D = D_0 + \varepsilon D_1 \quad \text{with} \quad D_0 = 1, \quad D_1 = -\Pi_1 E, \quad E = e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)}$$

Moreover,

$$U = U_0 + \varepsilon U_1 \qquad V = V_0 + \varepsilon V_1$$

$$\zeta = \zeta_0 + \varepsilon a \zeta_1$$

$$\left( \tau_x, \tau_y \right) = \left( \tau_{x0}, \tau_{y0} \right) + \varepsilon \left( \tau_{x1}, \tau_{y1} \right)$$

## THE BASIC STATE (flat bottom)

We simulate the M2 constituent with a given tidal ellipse

$$U_0 = e^{it} + c.c.$$

$$V_0 = \frac{b}{a} e^{it} + c.c.$$

The tidal ellipse is forced by appropriate surface slopes

$$\frac{\partial \zeta_0}{\partial X} = -\frac{\partial U_0}{\partial t} - r \frac{\tau_{x0}}{Y_0} - fV_0$$

$$\frac{\partial \zeta_0}{\partial Y} = -\frac{\partial V_0}{\partial t} - r \frac{\tau_{y0}}{Y_0} - fU_0$$

where

$$X = ax, \quad Y = ay$$

# THE PERTURBATION PROBLEM

By plugging the expansions of  $U, V, \dots$  into continuity and momentum equations, we have

$$\left[ \frac{\partial U_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial y} \right] + U_0 \frac{\partial D_1}{\partial x} + V_0 \frac{\partial D_1}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial U_1}{\partial t} + U_0 \frac{\partial U_1}{\partial x} + V_0 \frac{\partial U_1}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial \zeta_1}{\partial x} - r[\tau_{x0} + \tau_{x1}] + fV_1$$

$$\frac{\partial V_1}{\partial t} + U_0 \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial x} + V_0 \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial \zeta_1}{\partial y} - r[\tau_{y0} + \tau_{y1}] - fU_1$$

If we write

$$U_1 = \Pi_1 \hat{U}_1 E, \quad V_1 = \Pi_1 \hat{V}_1 E, \dots$$

such that  $\hat{U}_1, \hat{V}_1, \dots$  depend only on time, the bed shear stress expansions can be easily worked out

$$(\tau_{x0}, \tau_{y0}) = T_0 R_0 (U_0, V_0)$$

$$(\tau_{x1}, \tau_{y1}) = \Pi_1 \left[ (\hat{U}_1, \hat{V}_1) T_0 R_0 + (U_0, V_0) \left( \hat{T}_1 R_0 + T_0 \frac{\hat{U}_1 U_0 + \hat{V}_1 V_0}{R_0} \right) \right] E$$

where

$$T_0 = \frac{1}{C_0^2}, \quad R_0 = \sqrt{U_0^2 + V_0^2}, \quad \hat{T}_1 = \frac{5}{C_0^5}$$



Combining the two momentum equations we obtain the equation

for the vorticity  $\hat{\eta}_1 = i\alpha_x \hat{V}_1 - i\alpha_y \hat{U}_1$

$$\frac{d\hat{\eta}_1}{dt} + i(\alpha_x U_0 + \alpha_y V_0)\hat{\eta}_1 = -if(\alpha_x \hat{U}_1 + \alpha_y \hat{V}_1) - r[-i\alpha_y \tau_{x0} + i\alpha_x \tau_{y0} \\ + \left( R_0 \hat{T}_1 (U_0 \hat{U}_1 + V_0 \hat{V}_1) + \frac{T_0}{R_0} \right) (-i\alpha_y U_0 + i\alpha_x V_0) + R_0 T_0 \hat{\eta}_1]$$

which can be written in the form

$$\frac{d\hat{\eta}_1}{dt} + F(t)\hat{\eta}_1 = G(t)$$

The solution can be obtained by expanding  $\hat{\eta}_1$  as a Fourier

series of time  $\left( \hat{\eta}_1 = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{\eta}_{1,n} e^{in t} \right)$  and solving an algebraic

linear system for the unknowns  $\hat{\eta}_{1,n}$

Continuity equation

$$\alpha_x \hat{U}_1 + \alpha_y \hat{V}_1 = \alpha_x \hat{U}_0 + \alpha_y \hat{V}_0$$

along with vorticity definition

$$\hat{\eta}_1 = i\alpha_x \hat{V}_1 - i\alpha_y \hat{U}_1$$

allow the two velocity components to be determined

$$\hat{U}_1 = \frac{\alpha_x (\alpha_x \hat{U}_0 + \alpha_y \hat{V}_0)}{\alpha_x^2 + \alpha_y^2} + \frac{i\alpha_y}{\alpha_x^2 + \alpha_y^2} \hat{\eta}_1$$

$$\hat{V}_1 = \frac{\alpha_y (\alpha_x \hat{U}_0 + \alpha_y \hat{V}_0)}{\alpha_x^2 + \alpha_y^2} - \frac{i\alpha_x}{\alpha_x^2 + \alpha_y^2} \hat{\eta}_1$$

Because of the presence of the small parameter  $\varepsilon$   
it is also possible to write

$$\left(Q_x^{(b)}, Q_y^{(b)}\right) = \left(Q_{x0}^{(b)}, Q_{y0}^{(b)}\right) + \varepsilon \left(Q_{x1}^{(b)}, Q_{y1}^{(b)}\right)$$

$$\Phi(\mathcal{G}) = \Phi_0 + \varepsilon \Phi_1;$$

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{30}{\pi\mu} (\mathcal{G}_0 - \mathcal{G}_c) \left( \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_0} - 0.7 \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_c} \right)$$

$$\Phi_1 = \frac{30}{\pi\mu} \mathcal{G}_1 \frac{3\mathcal{G}_0 - \mathcal{G}_c - 1.4 \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_0 \mathcal{G}_c}}{2\sqrt{\mathcal{G}_0}}$$

$$\left(Q_{x0}^{(b)}, Q_{y0}^{(b)}\right) = \dots \quad (\text{these functions are very long})$$

$$\left(Q_{x1}^{(b)}, Q_{y1}^{(b)}\right) = \dots \quad (\text{but simple to be obtained})$$

$$\left( Q_{x0}^{(p)}, Q_{y0}^{(p)} \right) = (0, 0)$$

$$\left( Q_{x1}^{(p)}, Q_{y1}^{(p)} \right) = \frac{\Phi_0}{r}$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x} \left( G_{ss0} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{x0}^2}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} + G_{nn0} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{y0}^2}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} \right) + \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial y} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{x0} \mathcal{G}_{y0}}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} (G_{ss0} - G_{nn0}) \right];$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial y} \left( G_{ss0} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{y0}^2}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} + G_{nn0} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{x0}^2}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} \right) + \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x} \frac{\mathcal{G}_{x0} \mathcal{G}_{y0}}{\mathcal{G}_0^2} (G_{ss0} - G_{nn0}) \right]$$

If the bottom perturbation  $h = \text{cost} + \varepsilon \left[ \Pi(T) e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right]$  along with the expansion of the sediment transport rate are considered and the notation  $(Q_{x1}, Q_{y1}) = \Pi(\hat{Q}_{x1}, \hat{Q}_{y1})E$  is employed, the sediment continuity equation at order  $\varepsilon$  leads to

$$\frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial T} = -i \left[ \alpha_x \hat{Q}_{x1} + \alpha_y \hat{Q}_{y1} \right] \Pi = \Gamma(t) \Pi$$

From

$$\frac{d\Pi}{dT} = \Gamma(t)\Pi$$

it follows

$$\Pi(T) = \Pi_0 \exp\left(\int \Gamma(t) dt\right)$$

The averaged growth rate

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) dt$$

Real part

 $\bar{\Gamma}_R$ 

Growth rate

Imaginary part

 $\bar{\Gamma}_I$ 

Migration speed of the  
perturbation

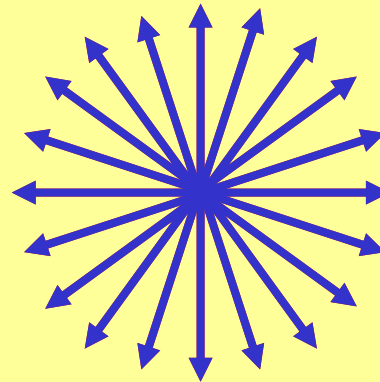
# STUDY CASES

## UNIDIRECTIONAL TIDES ( $e=0$ ):



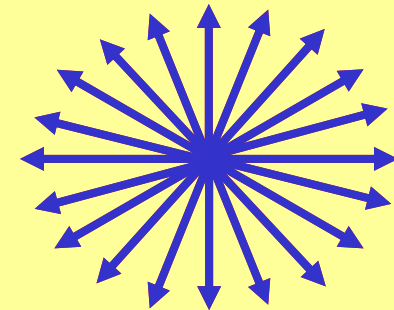
## LOW ELLIPTICITY TIDES:

"Sand banks are likely to occur where the tidal currents are rotary or have low ellipticity"  
Dyer & Huntley, Est. Coastal Shelf Science, 1999



$e = -1$

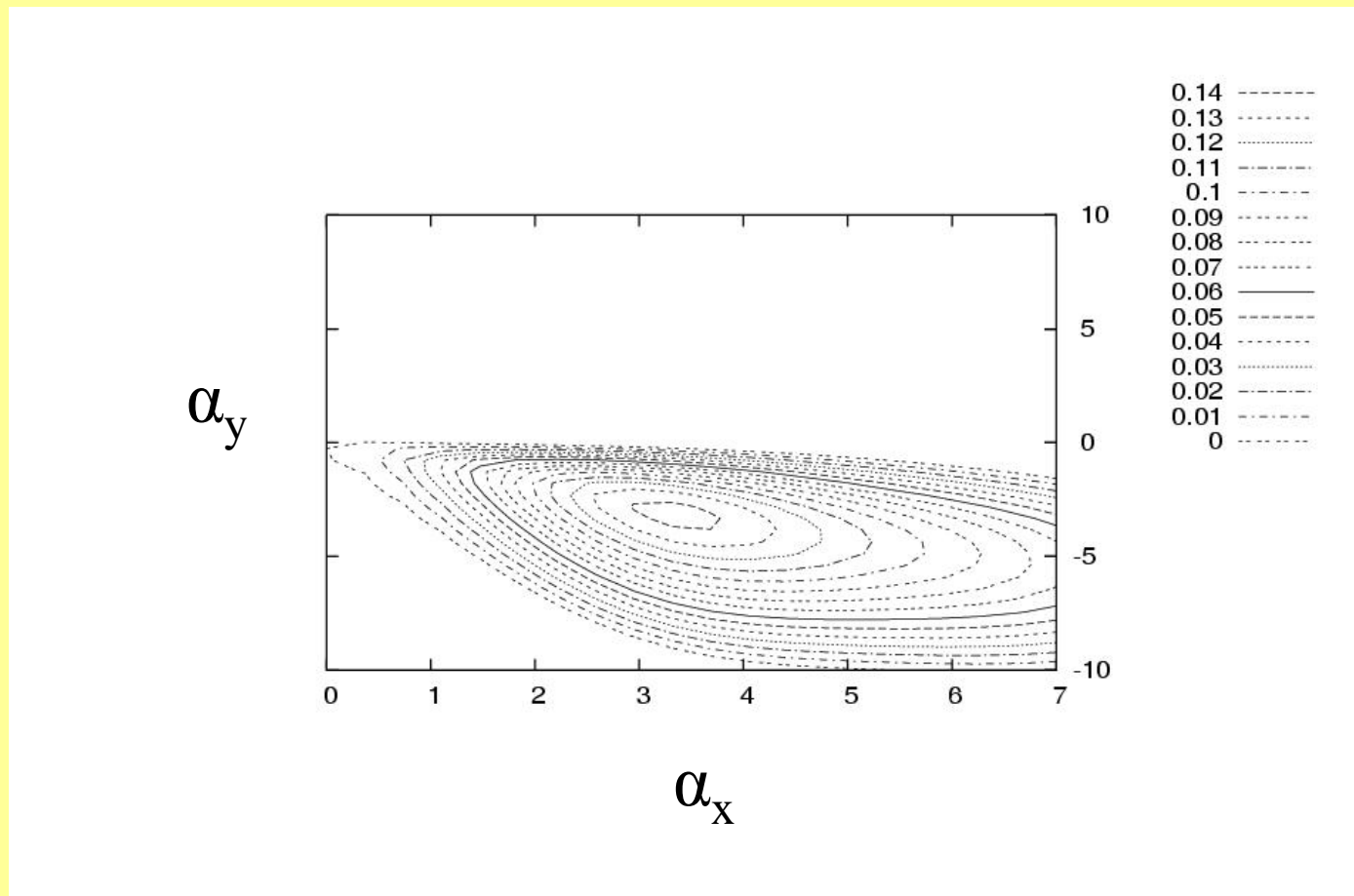
clock-wise rotating  
velocity vector



$e = 0.8$

counterclock-wise  
rotating velocity vector

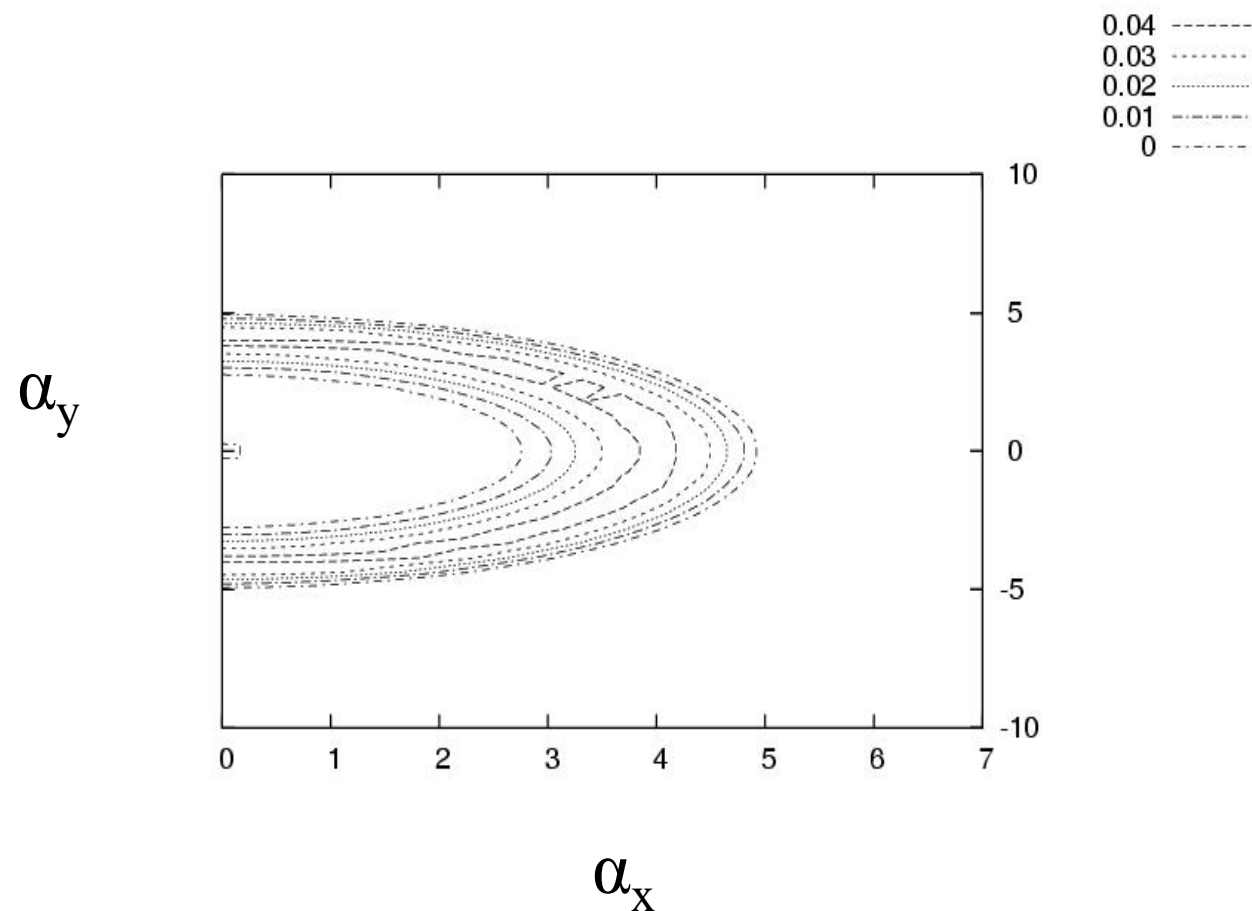
# Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)



$$f=0.8, r = 120, z_r=0.001, a/b=0, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

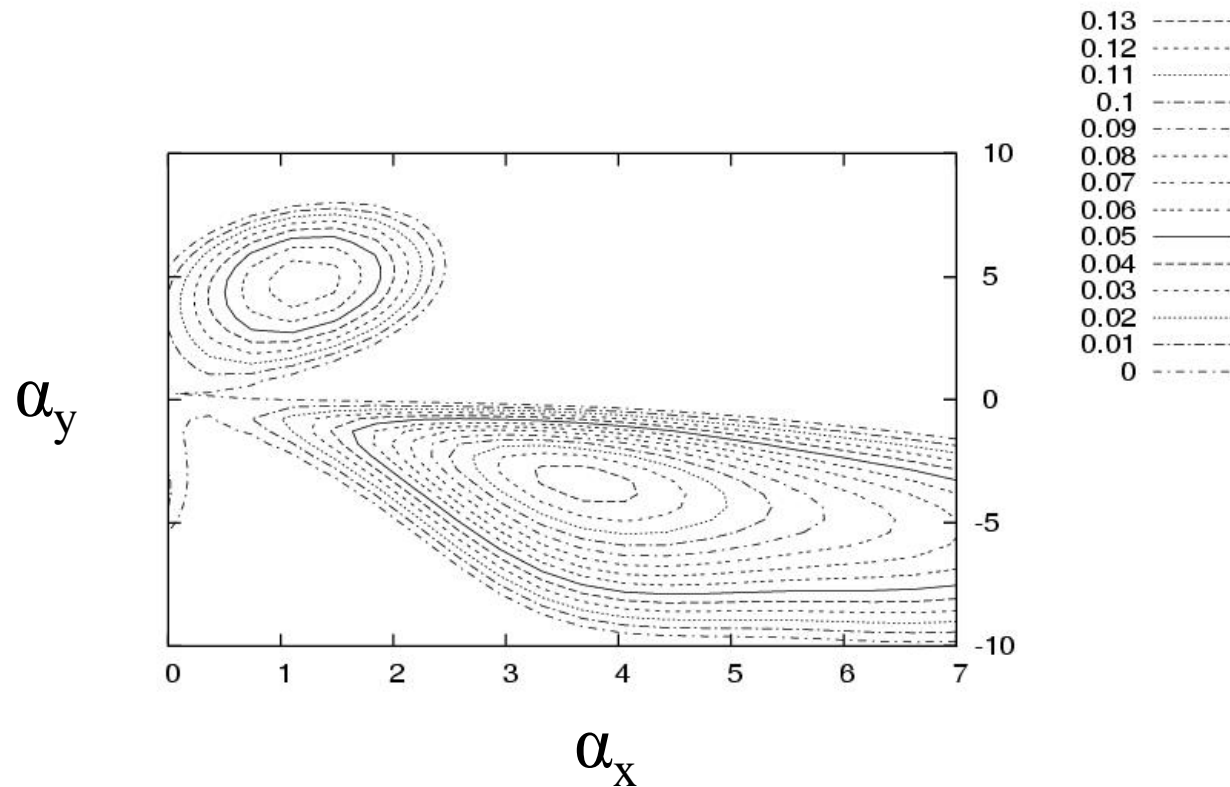


**Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)**



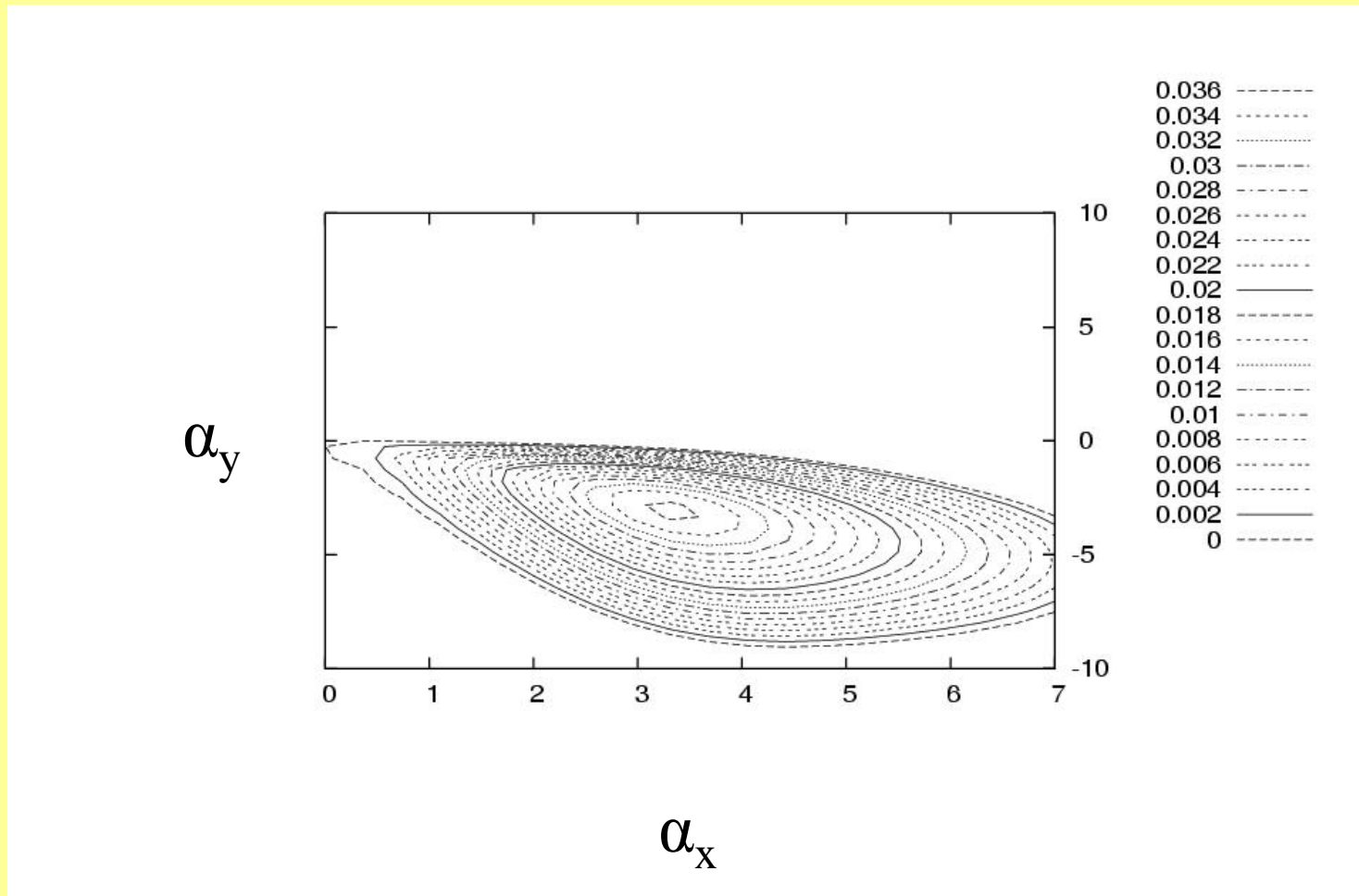
$$f=0.8, r = 120, z_r=0.001, a/b=1, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

# Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)



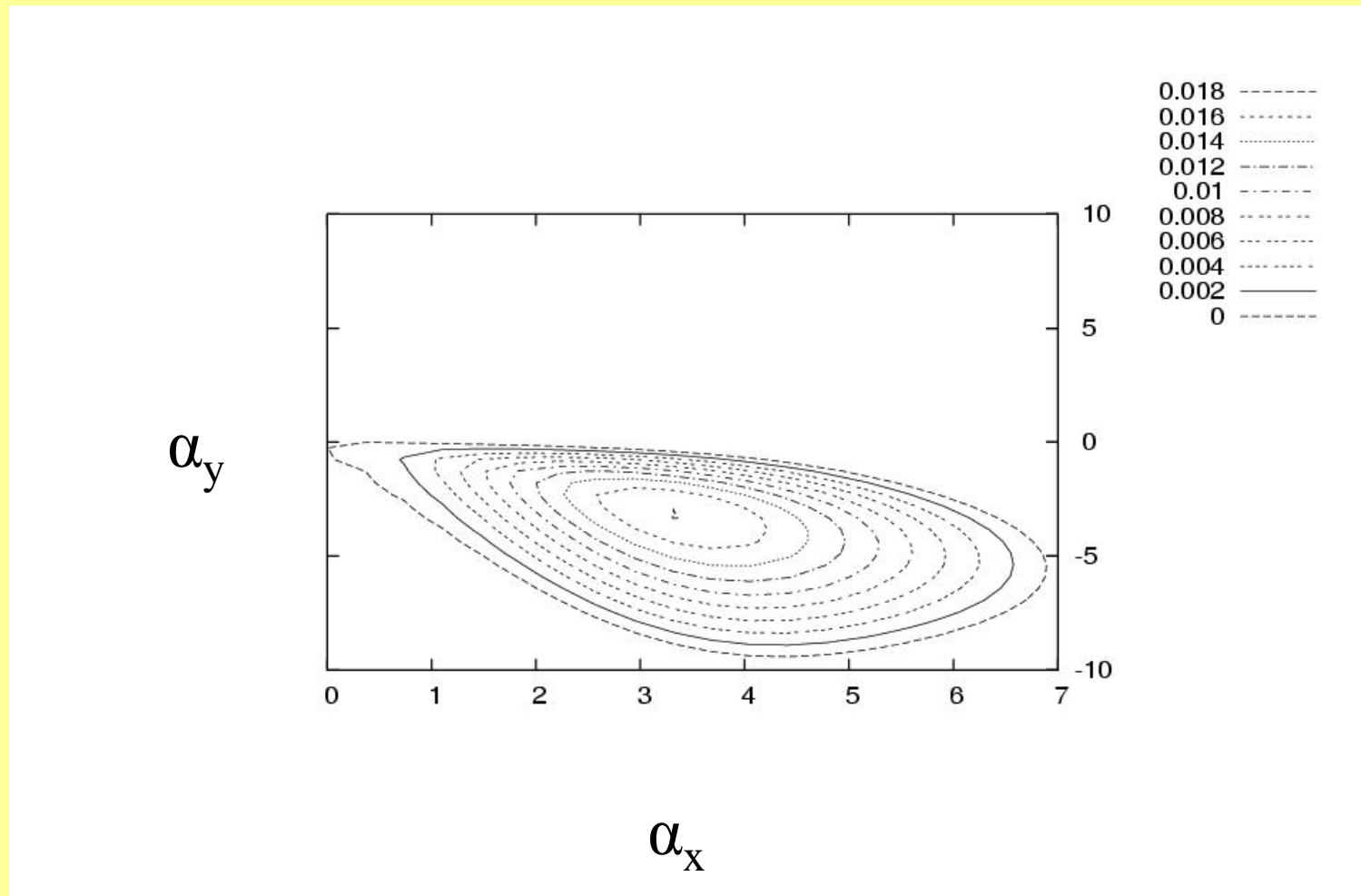
$$f=0.8, r = 120, z_r=0.001, a/b=0.2, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

# Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)



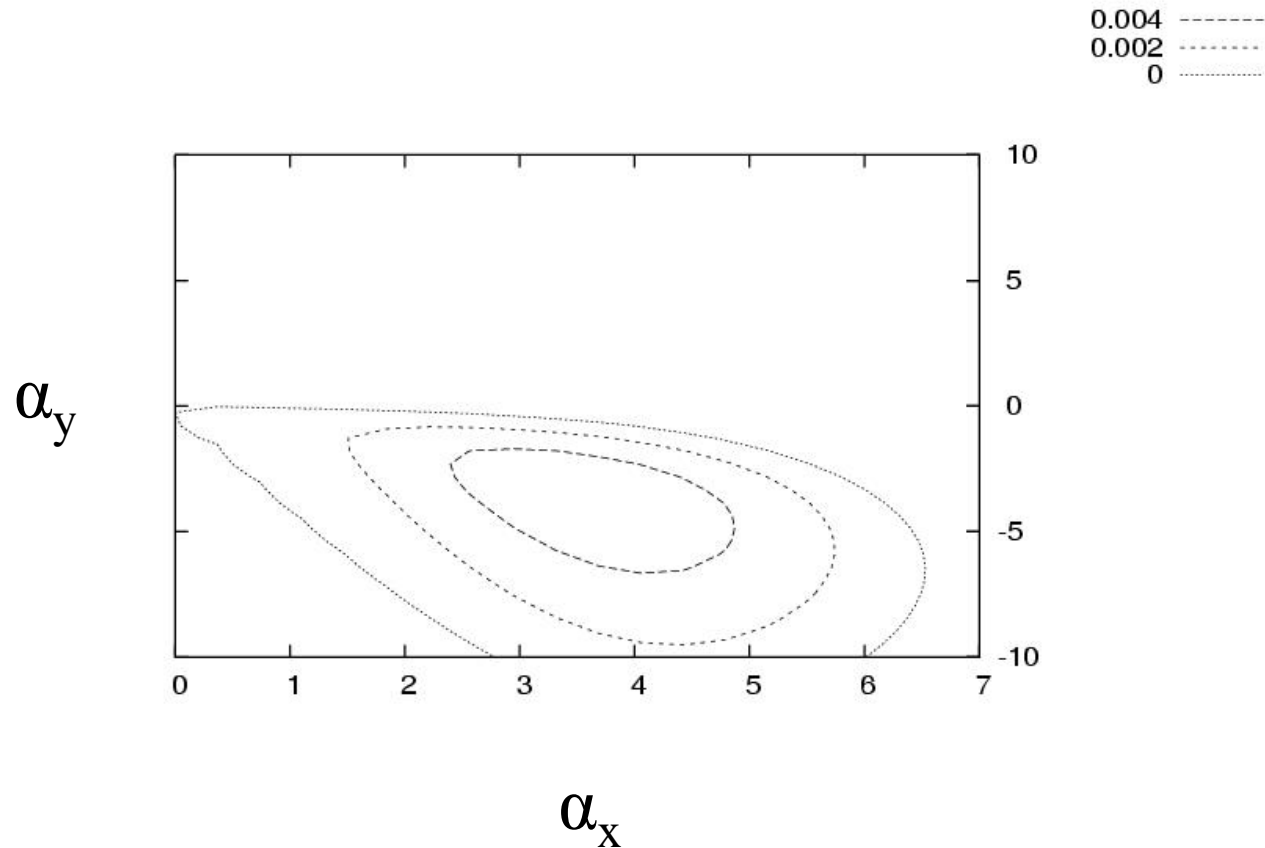
$$f=0.8, r=90, z_r=0.001, a/b=0.2, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

# Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)



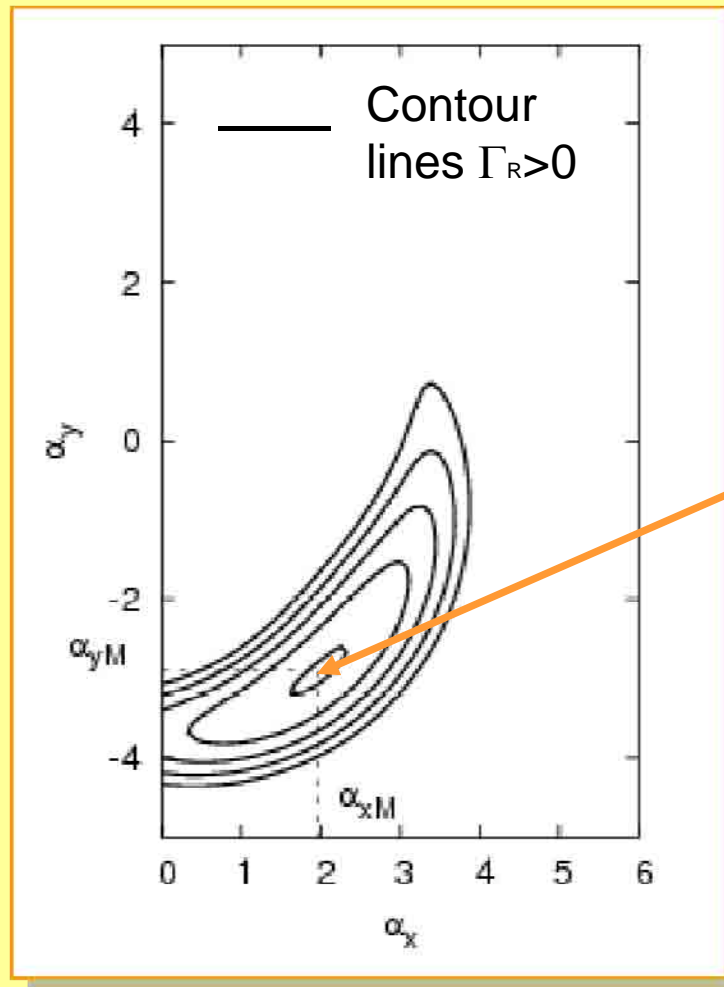
$$f=0.8, r=80, z_r=0.001, a/b=0.2, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

# Growth rate versus the wavenumbers of the bottom perturbation (the x-axis is aligned with the major axis of the tidal ellipse)



$$f=0.8, r=70, z_r=0.001, a/b=0.2, \Psi_d=0.0058$$

Semidiurnal tide  $U^*_0=0.55$  m/s  $\tilde{D}^*_0=30$  m  $e=0.9$  (clockwise rotating)  
 $d^*=0.2$  mm  $z^*_r=3$  cm  $\phi=7.5^\circ$



Largest growth rate:  
counter clockwise rotated  
sandbanks with  
wavelength equal to 7 km

Growth rate as a function  
of the wavenumbers

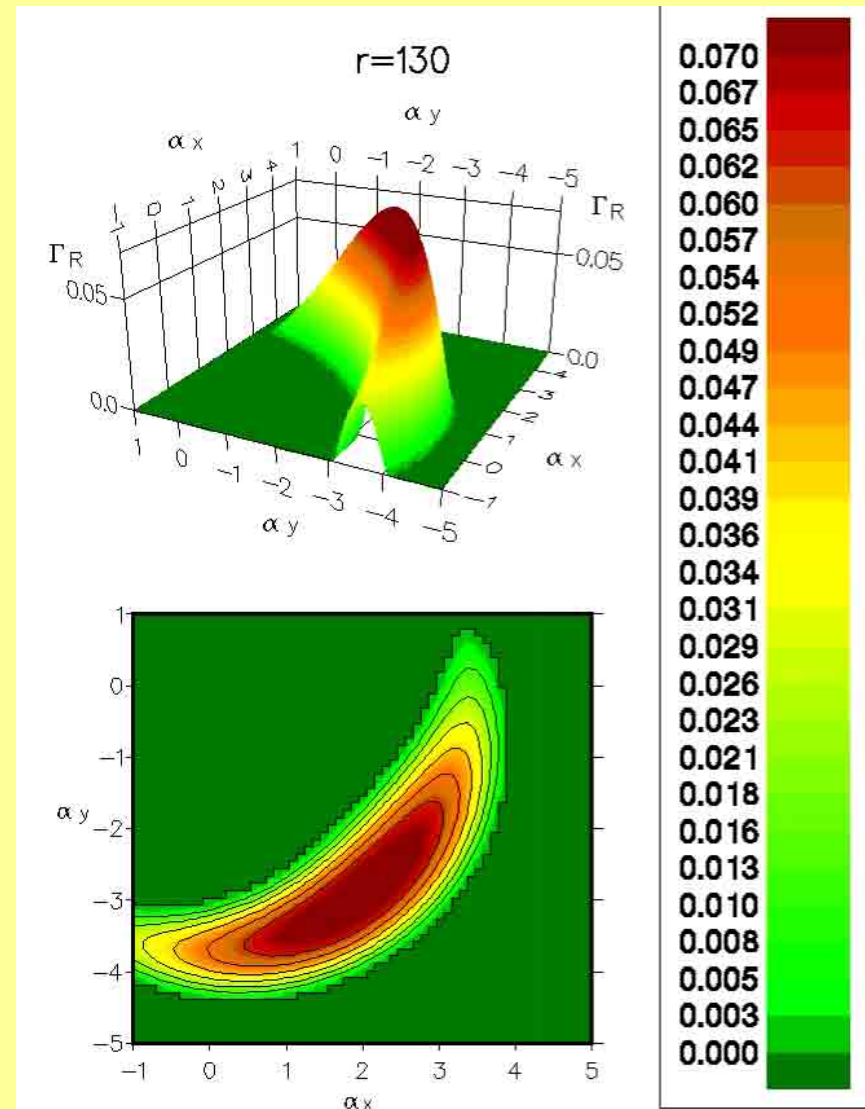
# SAND BANKS OF FINITE AMPLITUDE

Semidiurnal tide  $U^*_0=0.55$  m/s  $\tilde{D}^*_0=30$  m  $e=0.9$  (clockwise rotating)  
 $d^*=0.2$  mm  $z^*_r=3$  cm  $\phi=7.5^\circ$

As  $r$  tends to a critical value, ranging around 93, the growth rate decreases to 0.

Although the most unstable wave number decreases as  $r$  tends to its critical value, its limit value is still finite!!

It is possible to perform a weakly non linear stability analysis !!!



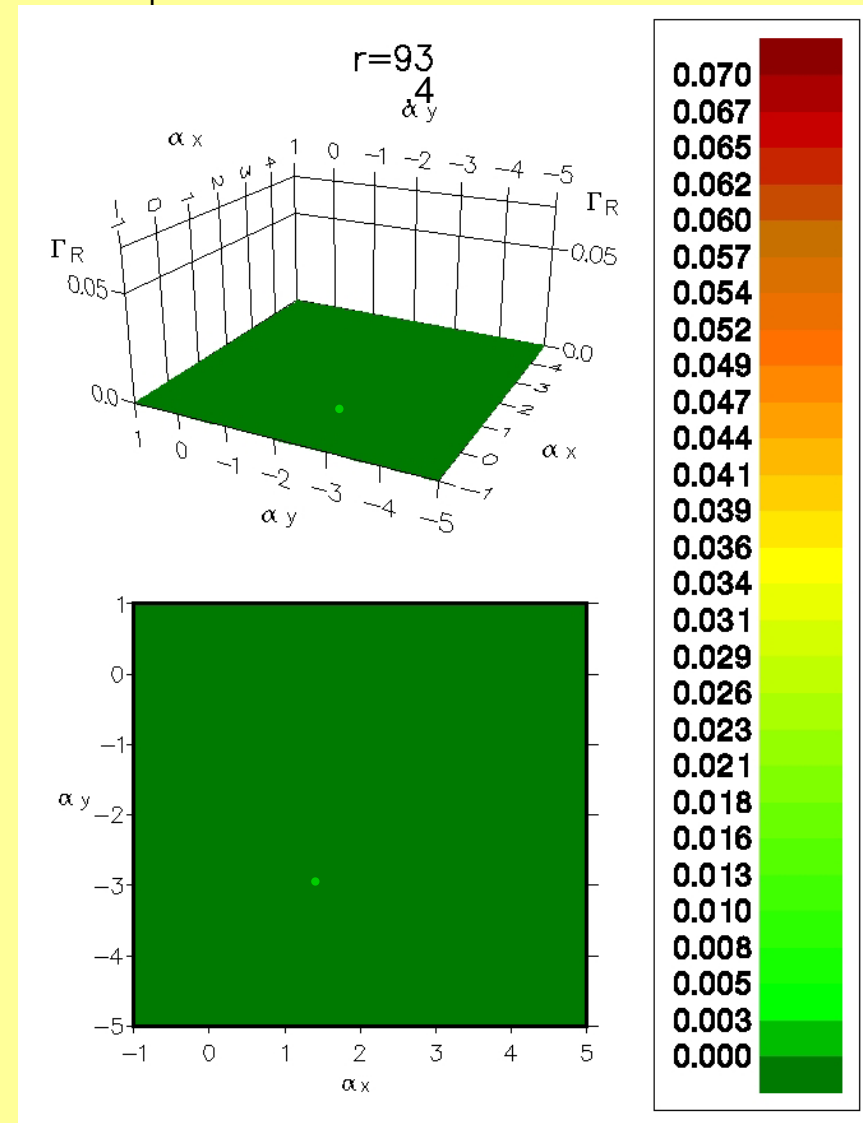
# SAND BANKS OF FINITE AMPLITUDE

Semidiurnal tide  $U^*_0=0.40$  m/s  $h^*_0=30$  m  $e=0.9$  (clockwise rotating)  
 $d^*_s=0.2$  mm  $z^*_r=3$  cm  $\phi=7.5^\circ$

As  $r$  tends to a critical value, ranging around 93, the growth rate decreases to 0.

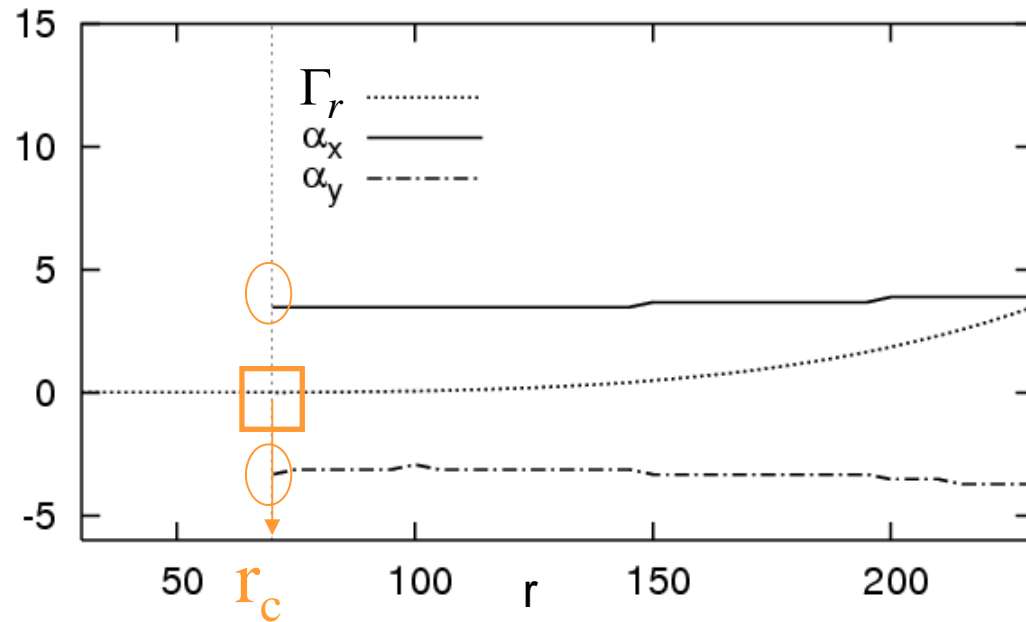
Although the most unstable wave number decreases as  $r$  tends to its critical value, its limit value is still finite!!

It is possible to perform a weakly non linear stability analysis !!!





# SAND BANKS OF FINITE AMPLITUDE

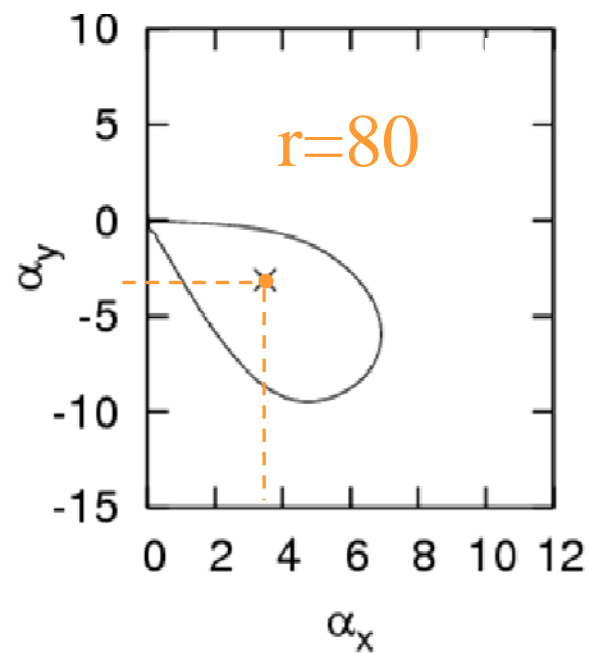
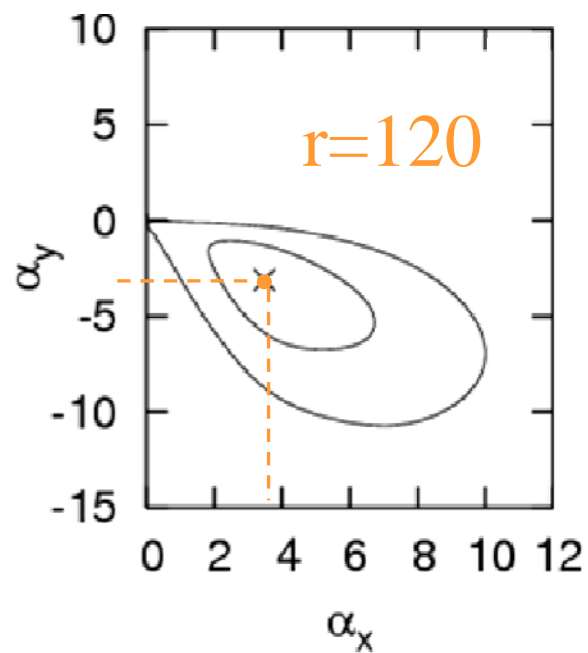


## PARAMETERS

$$e=0$$

$$R_p=11.4$$

$$\Psi_d=0.00551$$

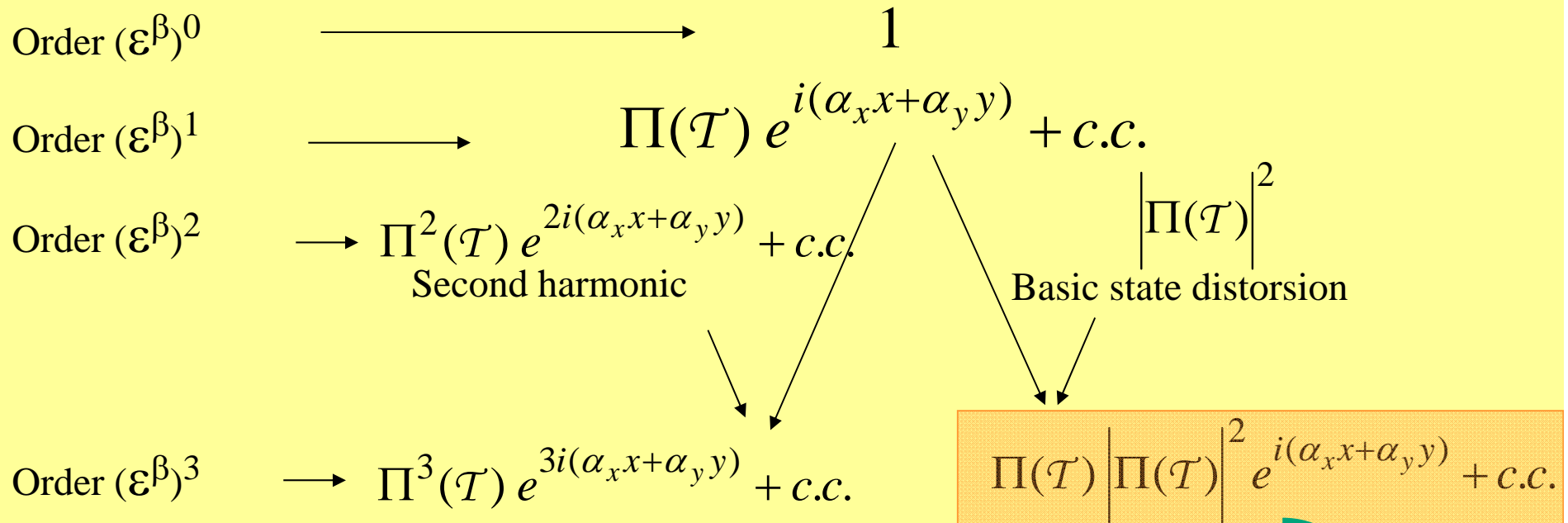


# WEAKLY NON LINEAR ANALYSIS

\*  $r = r_c + \varepsilon r_1$       Close to critical conditions

\*  $\mathcal{T} = \varepsilon T$       Slow time scale

## NON LINEAR INTERACTIONS



The term  $\varepsilon^{3\beta} \Pi(\mathcal{T}) |\Pi(\mathcal{T})|^2$  Should be balanced by

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial T} (\varepsilon^\beta \Pi(\mathcal{T})) = \varepsilon^{\beta+1} \frac{d\Pi(\mathcal{T})}{d\mathcal{T}}$$



$\beta = 1/2$



# WEAKLY NON LINEAR ANALYSIS

## BOTTOM PERTURBATION

Ampiezza del modo più instabile

Amplitude of the first superharmonic component

legato a  $\Pi_1^2$

$$h = 1 - \varepsilon^2 \left[ \Pi_1(\mathcal{T}) e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right] - \varepsilon \left[ \Pi_2(\mathcal{T}) e^{2i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right] +$$

$$- \varepsilon^2 \left[ \Pi_3(\mathcal{T}) e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. + \dots \right]$$

Average over a tidal cycle is vanishing

Principio di conservazione della massa per la fase solida  $O(\varepsilon^{3/2})$



$$\frac{d\Pi_1}{d\mathcal{T}} + \frac{d\Pi_3}{d\mathcal{T}} = a_1 \Pi_1 + a_2 |\Pi_1|^2 \Pi_1 + \cancel{\gamma \Pi_3}$$

Equazione Landau-Stuart



$$\left| \Pi_1(\mathcal{T}) \right| = \left[ \frac{\text{Re}(a_1)}{\exp[-2\text{Re}(a_1)\mathcal{T}] - \text{Re}(a_2)} \right]^{1/2} \quad \text{For } \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \infty \quad \left| \Pi_{1e} \right| = \left[ -\frac{\text{Re}(a_1)}{\text{Re}(a_2)} \right]^{1/2} \quad \text{EQ. AMP}$$

# WEAKLY NON LINEAR ANALYSIS

## BOTTOM PERTURBATION

Most unstable mode  
amplitude

Amplitude of the first  
superharmonic  
component

Linked to  $\Pi_1^2$

$$h = 1 - \varepsilon^2 \left[ \Pi_1(\mathcal{T}) e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right] - \varepsilon \left[ \Pi_2(\mathcal{T}) e^{2i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. \right] +$$

$$- \varepsilon^2 \left[ \Pi_3(\mathcal{T}) e^{i(\alpha_x x + \alpha_y y)} + c.c. + \dots \right]$$

Average over a tidal  
cycle is vanishing

Solid mass conservation  
for  $O(\varepsilon^{3/2})$

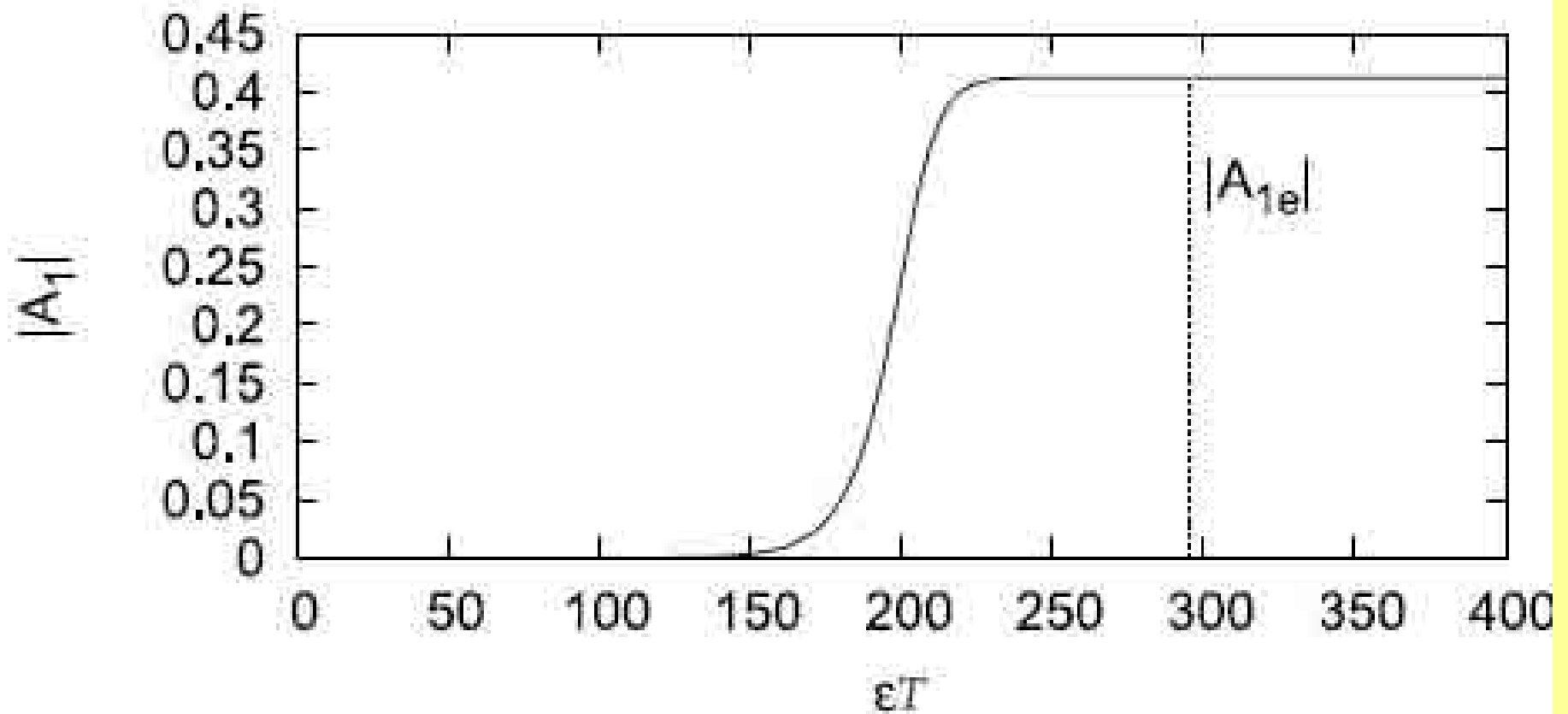


$$\frac{d\Pi_1}{d\mathcal{T}} + \frac{d\Pi_3}{d\mathcal{T}} = a_1 \Pi_1 + a_2 |\Pi_1|^2 \Pi_1 + \gamma \Pi_3$$

Equazione Landau-Stuart



$$\left| \Pi_1(\mathcal{T}) \right| = \left[ \frac{\text{Re}(a_1)}{\exp[-2\text{Re}(a_1)\mathcal{T}] - \text{Re}(a_2)} \right]^{1/2} \quad \text{For } \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \infty \quad \left| \Pi_{1e} \right| = \left[ -\frac{\text{Re}(a_1)}{\text{Re}(a_2)} \right]^{1/2} \quad \text{EQ. AMP}$$



**Figure 5.** Time development of the fastest growing mode amplitude  $|A_1|$  predicted on the basis of the Landau-Stuart equation (46) for  $r = 85$ ,  $e = -0.9$ ,  $z_r = 6 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $f = 0.8$ ,  $\varphi = 7.5^\circ$ ,  $d = 4 \times 10^{-6}$ ,  $\psi_p = 1.52 \times 10^{-2}$ ,  $\epsilon = 0.1$ . The temporal scale used in the plot is the slow time scale associated with the growth of the perturbations  $\mathcal{T} = \epsilon T$ .

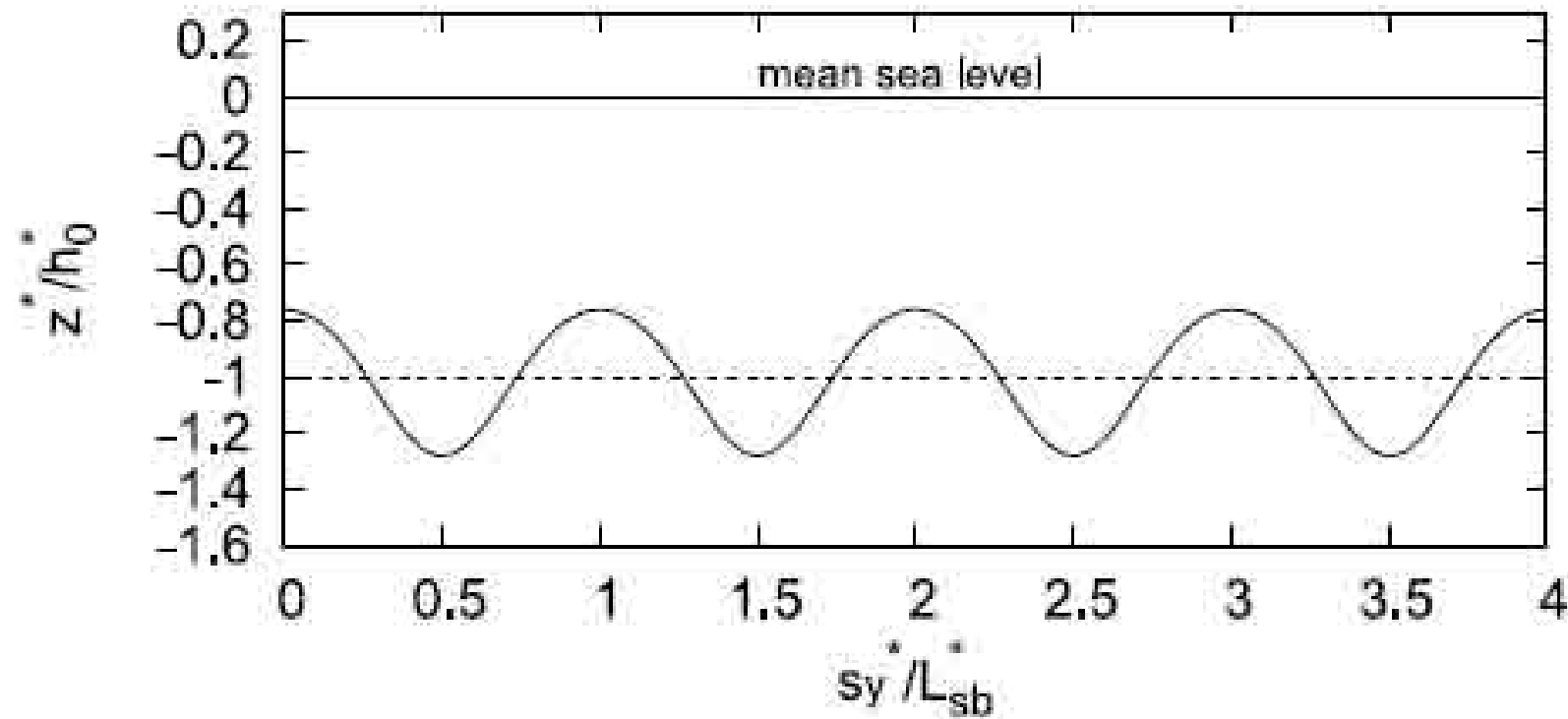


Figure 7. Equilibrium bottom profile in a plane orthogonal to the sand bank crests. The coordinate  $s_y^*$ , perpendicular to the sand bank crests, is scaled with the crest-to-crest distance  $L_{sb}^*$  of the bottom forms, while the average water depth  $h_0^*$  is used to scale the vertical coordinate  $z^*$ . The values of the dimensionless parameters are  $r = 85$ ,  $e = -0.9$ ,  $z_r = 6 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $f = 0.8$ ,  $\varphi = 7.5^\circ$ ,  $d = 4 \times 10^{-6}$ , and  $\psi_p = 1.52 \times 10^{-2}$ .

