



# On the wave-current interactions

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JONSMOD meeting. May 21-23, 2012



Some informations about the  
wave-current coupling...

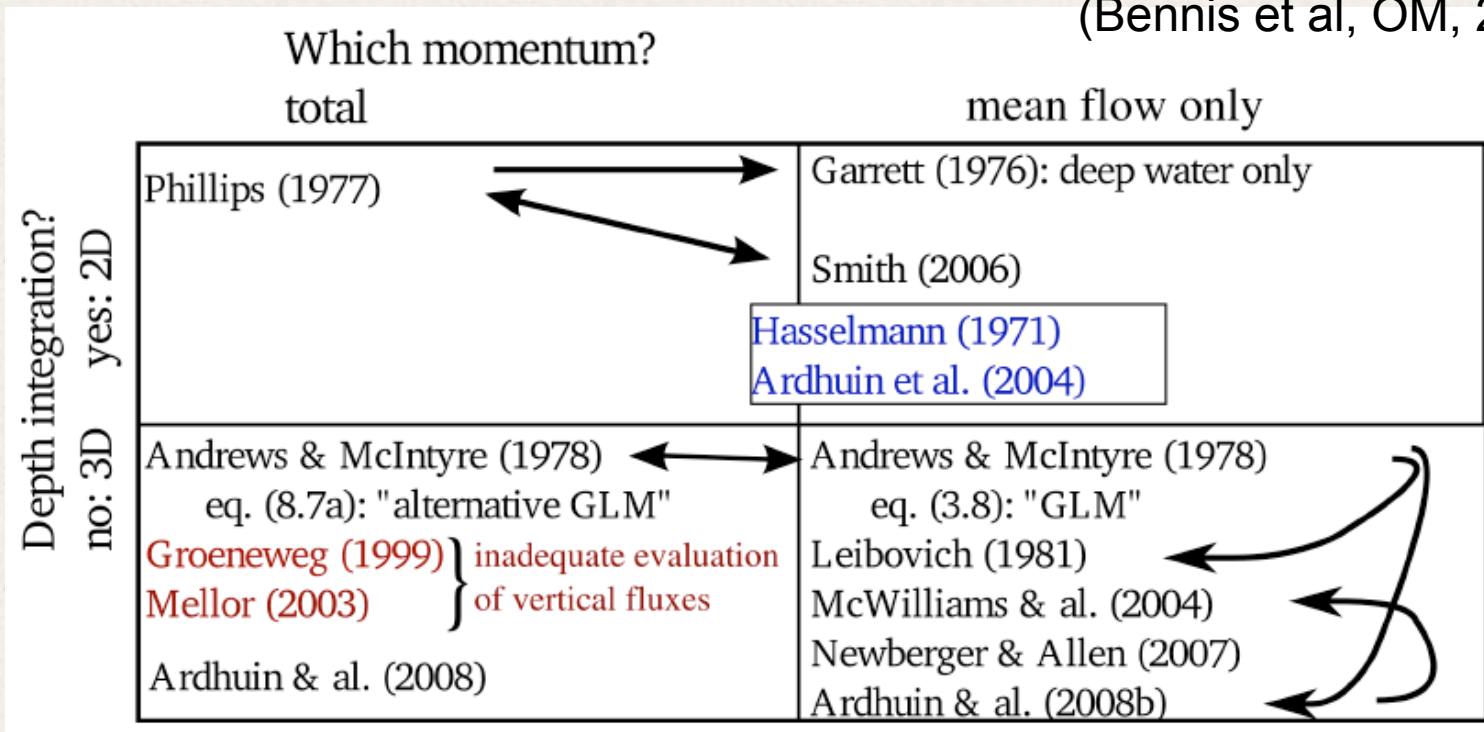
# 1. Coupled wave-current modelling

## a. The 3D challenge

Momentum equation formulated for:

- total momentum (includes Stokes drift): this is too complex  
(vertical flux of wave momentum is a strange beast)
- mean flow momentum only

(Bennis et al, OM, 2011)



# 1. Wave-current 3D coupling

## b. Summary

### Where we are now:

#### ➤ *2-way coupling of WAVEWATCH III and MARS3D with PALM*

\* Based on WWATCH version 3.14\_lfremer

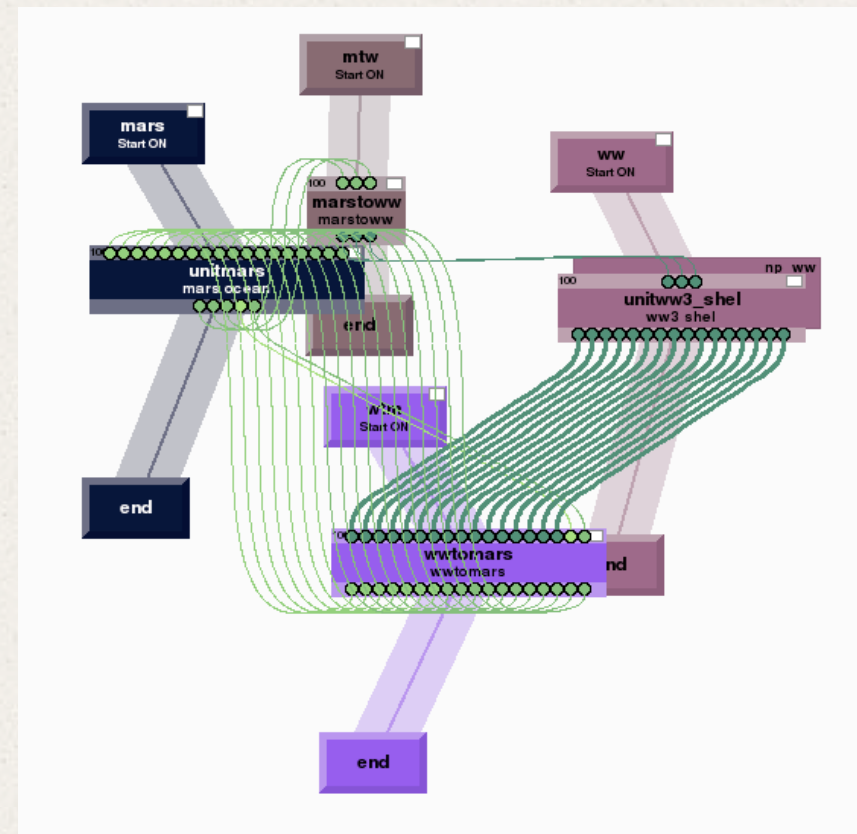
& SHOM and MARS3D version 8.0

\* Wrong equations (Mellor 2003 and 2008)  
well implemented

\* Correct equations implemented  
realistic validation OK (beach)

#### ➤ *Now working on:*

- *Mixing/friction parameterizations*
- *Rip currents*





Impact of the mixing due to the wave breaking on the bottom friction ... and the consequences

## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### a. Objectives

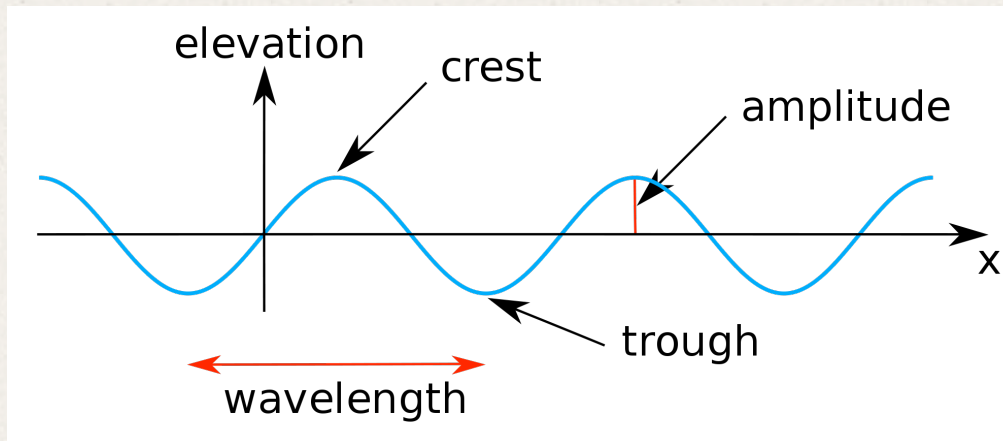
\* To evaluate the impact of wave breaking on the bottom friction and the consequences on the longshore current and on the set-up.

⇒ The parametrization of Mellor (2002) is used:  
the bottom friction depends on the turbulent kinetic energy .

- i) To redo the numerical experiments presented in Mellor (2002) paper  
+ Addition of wave breaking at the surface.  
=> comparison between the phase-averaged case and the phase-resolving case
- ii) Application in nearshore zone:
  - ML02 vs Walstra (2000)+Soulsby (1995).
  - Impact on the longshore current
  - Impact on the set-up

## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### a. Introduction



$$h(x,t) = a \cdot \cos(k \cdot x - w \cdot t)$$

- h: elevation
- a: amplitude
- k: wave number
- w: wave frequency
- $\Phi = (k \cdot x - w \cdot t)$ : wave phase



## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### b. Phase-averaged vs Phase-resolving

#### Equations for the phase-resolving case

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= \frac{\tau_{0x}}{h} + u_{bx}\omega\cos(\omega t) + \frac{1}{D} \frac{\partial \tau_x}{\partial \zeta}, & + \text{ Soulsby (1995)} \\ \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} &= \frac{1}{D^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \left( \frac{\nu_V}{s_k} \cdot \frac{\partial k}{\partial \zeta} \right) - \frac{\partial k}{\partial \zeta} \cdot \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \text{Prod} + \text{Buoy} - \epsilon, \\ \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial t} &= \frac{1}{D^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \left( \frac{\nu_V}{s_\epsilon} \cdot \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \zeta} \right) - \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \zeta} \cdot \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \frac{\epsilon}{k} (c_1 \text{Prod} + c_3 \text{Buoy} - c_2 \epsilon F_{wall}). \end{aligned}$$

#### Equations for the phase-averaged case

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} &= \frac{\bar{\tau}_{0x}}{h} + \frac{1}{D} \frac{\partial \bar{\tau}_x}{\partial \zeta}, \\ \frac{\partial \bar{k}}{\partial t} &= \frac{1}{D^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \left( \frac{\bar{\nu}_V}{s_k} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{k}}{\partial \zeta} \right) - \frac{\partial \bar{k}}{\partial \zeta} \cdot \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \overline{\text{Prod}} + \overline{\text{Buoy}} - \bar{\epsilon} + \bar{P}_k, \\ \frac{\partial \bar{\epsilon}}{\partial t} &= \frac{1}{D^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \left( \frac{\bar{\nu}_V}{s_\epsilon} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\epsilon}}{\partial \zeta} \right) - \frac{\partial \bar{\epsilon}}{\partial \zeta} \cdot \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}}{k} (c_1 \overline{\text{Prod}} + c_3 \overline{\text{Buoy}} - c_2 \bar{\epsilon} F_{wall}) + \bar{P}_{eps}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{P}_k = \omega u_b^2 (F_{1\Phi} F_{2z})^3, \quad \bar{\tau}_x|_{z=0} = \frac{\bar{u} \kappa S_{M0} \sqrt{2\bar{k}_0}}{\ln\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)}, \quad \bar{\tau}_x|_{z=0} = \frac{\bar{u} \kappa S_{M0} \sqrt{2\bar{k}_0}}{\ln\left(\frac{z}{z_0} + 1\right)}.$$

$$\bar{P}_{eps} = C \frac{\bar{\epsilon}}{k} \bar{P}_k.$$

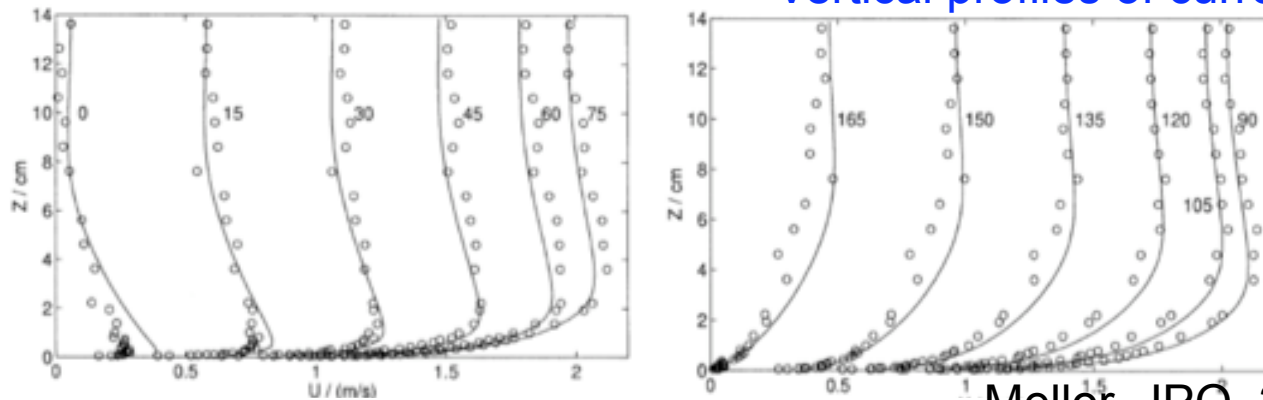


## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### b. Phase-averaged vs Phase-resolving

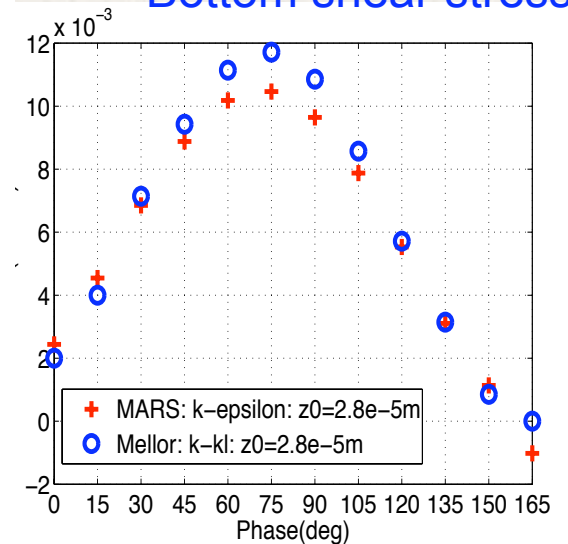
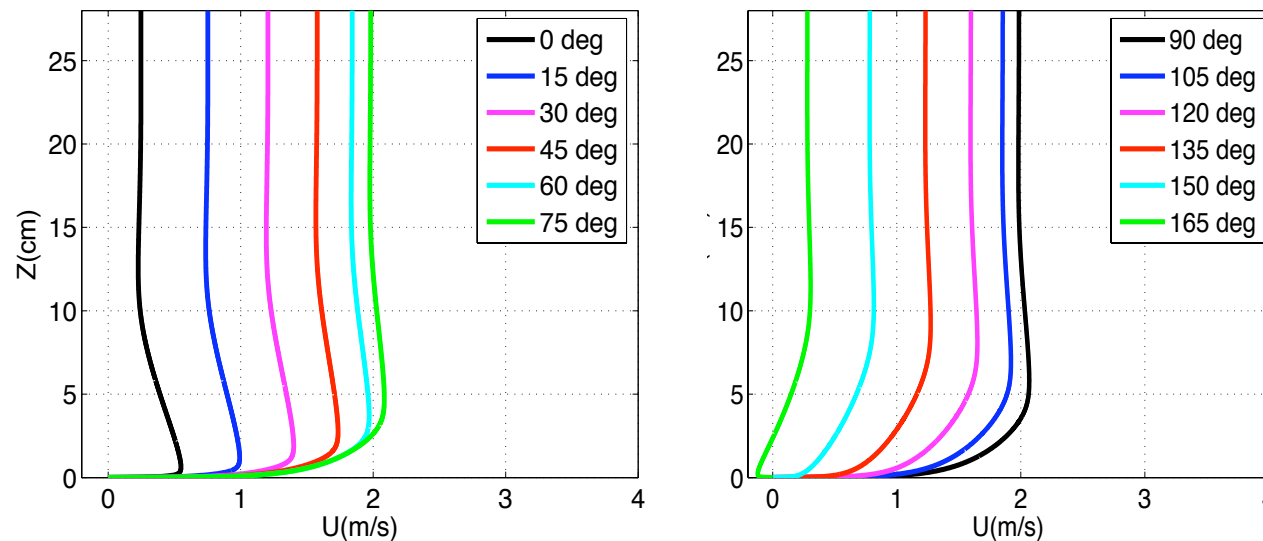
- Oscillations of the wave bottom boundary layer with the wave phase for pure oscillatory flow.

Vertical profiles of current



Mellor, JPO, 2002.

Bottom shear stress



Bennis et al, submitted, 2012.

## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### b. Phase-averaged vs Phase-resolving

Mean flow superimposed on an oscillatory flow:

\* Five meshes are tested:

- refined meshes with 1200 grid points.

- depth of the first grid point:

\*\* Mesh 1:  $z_{bot} = 3.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$  m.

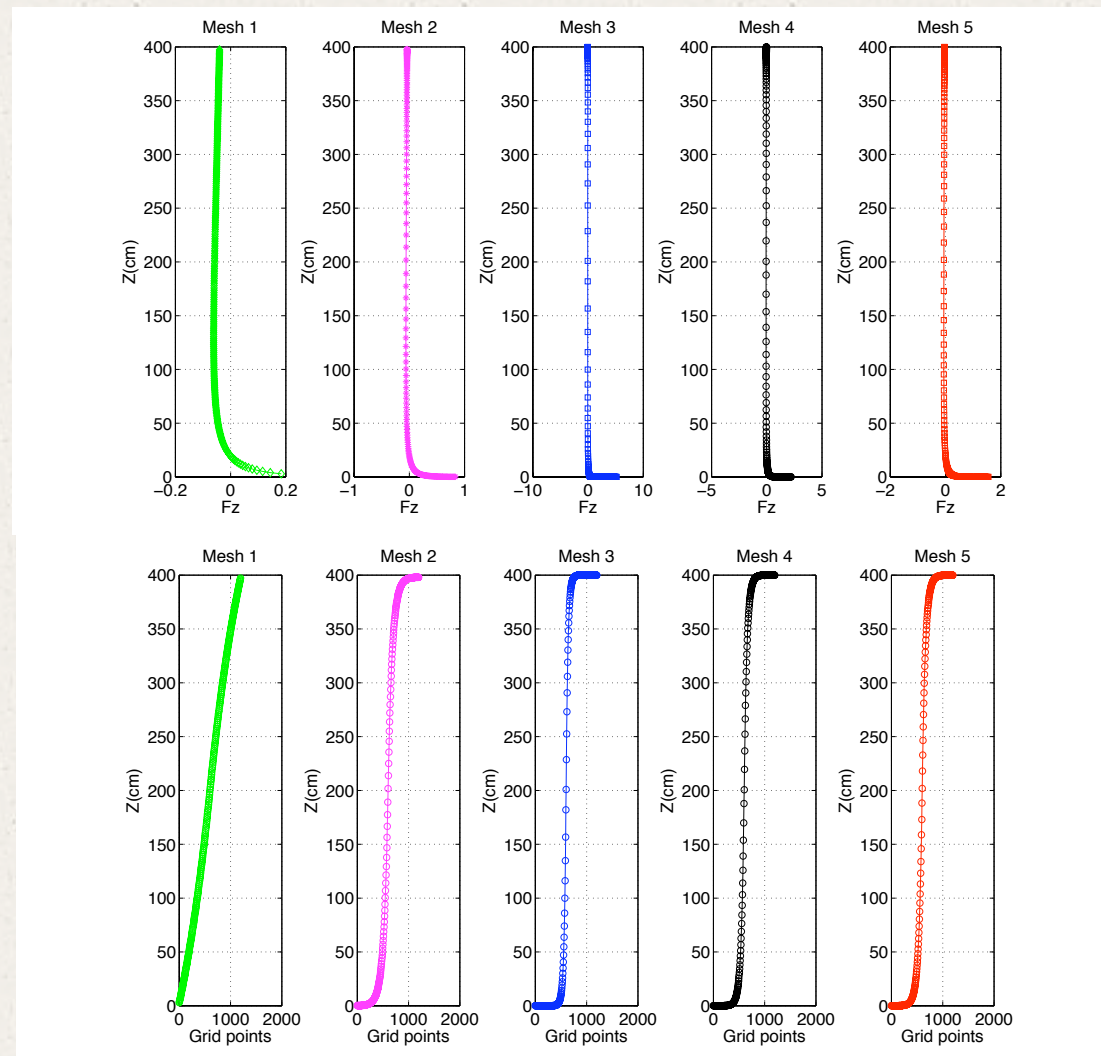
\*\* Mesh 2:  $z_{bot} = 9.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  m.

\*\* Mesh 3:  $z_{bot} = 3.2 \cdot 10^{-8}$  m.

\*\* Mesh 4:  $z_{bot} = 1.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$  m.

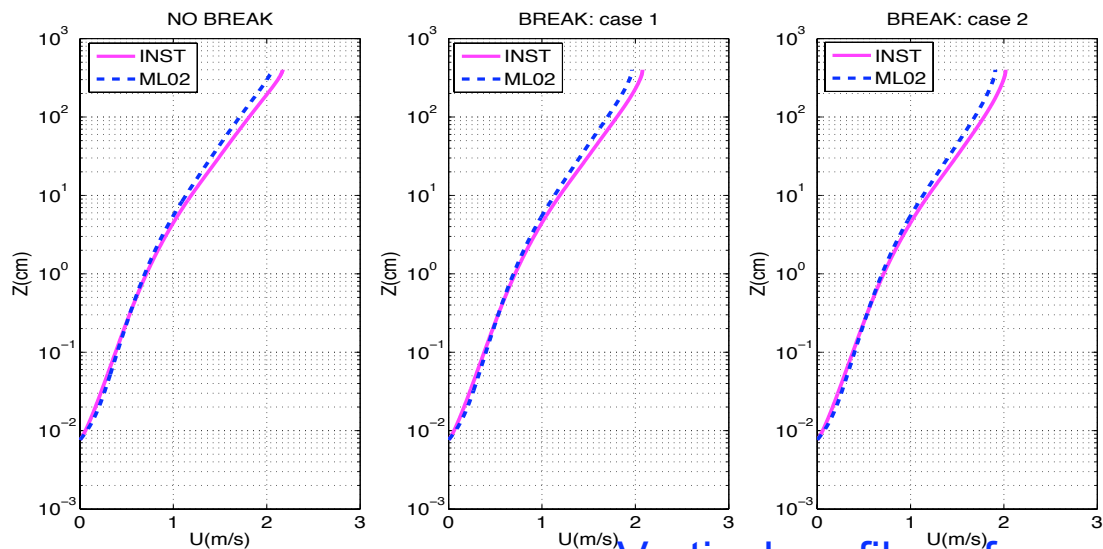
\*\* Mesh 5:  $z_{bot} = 7.6 \cdot 10^{-5}$  m.

=>  $0.2 < Fz(\text{bottom}) < 5$ .

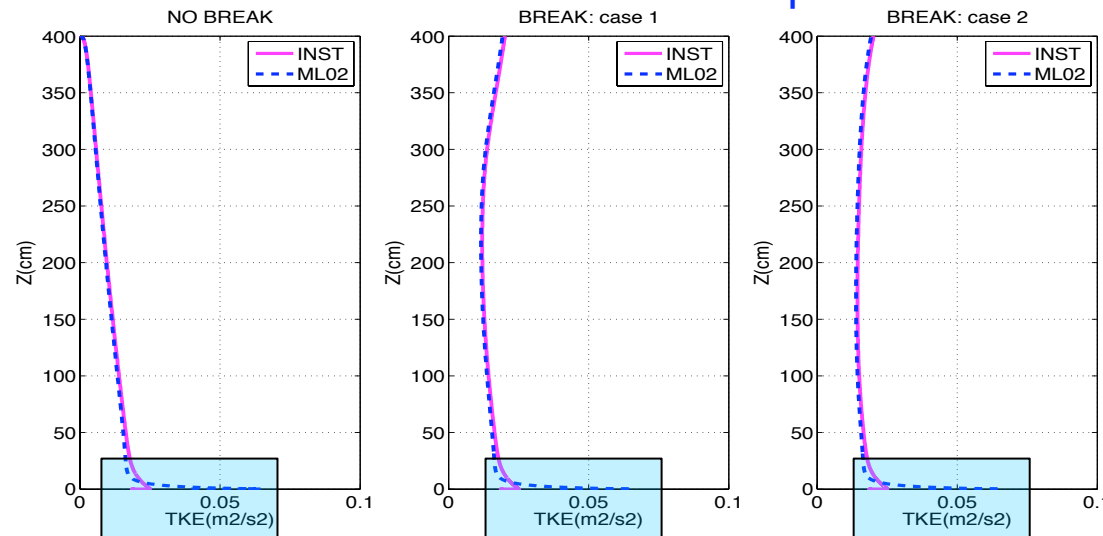


## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### b. Phase-averaged vs Phase-resolving

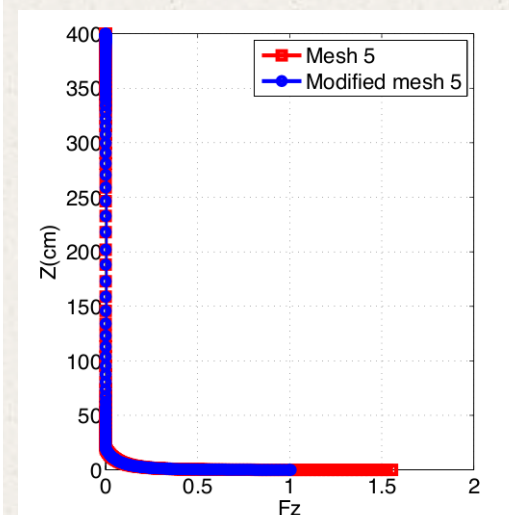


Vertical profiles of current



Vertical profiles of TKE

- The original Fz function must be changed.
- Currents are very close.
- TKE near the bottom is greatly enhanced.



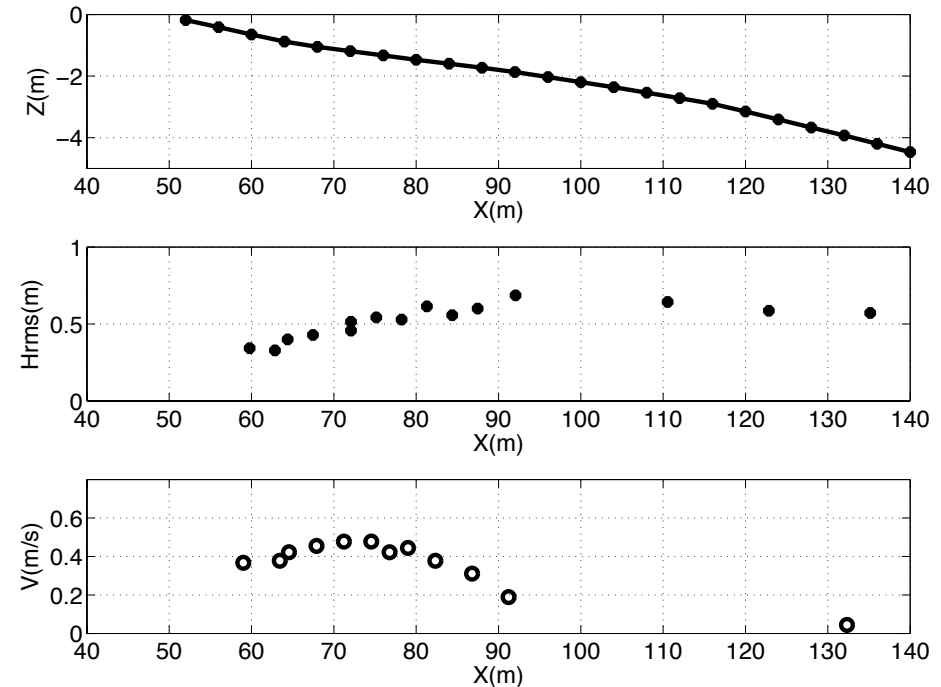
Bennis et al, submitted, 2012.

## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

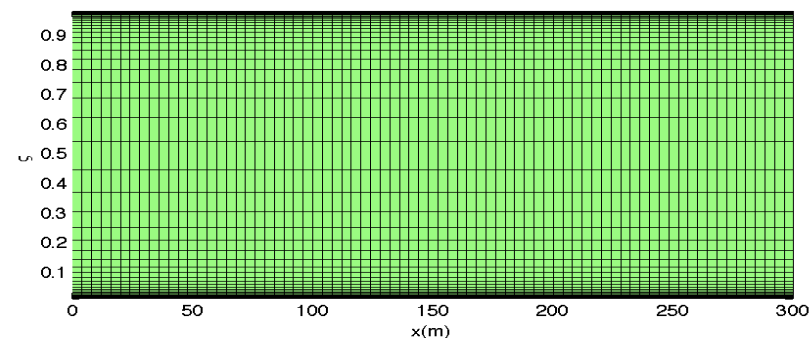
### c. Application in surf zone

- \* NSTS configuration:  
Leadbetter beach
- \* Simulations of 3D circulation in surfzone: MARS-WWATCHIII
  - $dx=4m$ ,  $dy=20m$
  - $dt=1s$
  - 100 sigma levels (refined mesh)
- \*  $H_s < 1.1m$ ,  $T=12s$ ,  $\theta=109$  deg
- \* Impact of the modelization of the bottom shear stress on the longshore current and set-up
  - Mellor (2002) vs Walstra (2000)+Soulsby(1995)

### Observations



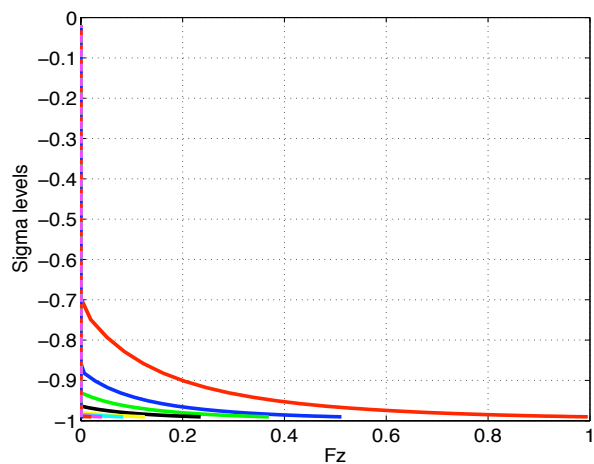
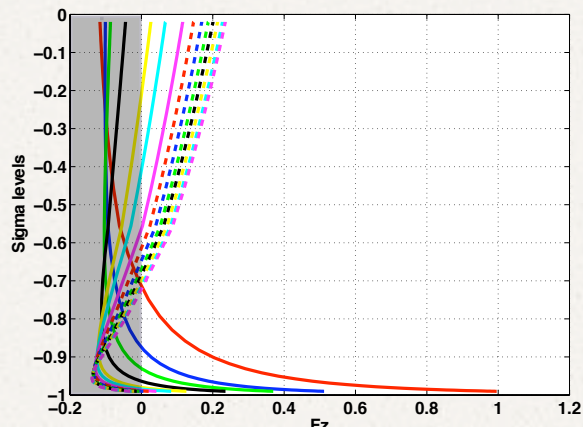
### Vertical mesh



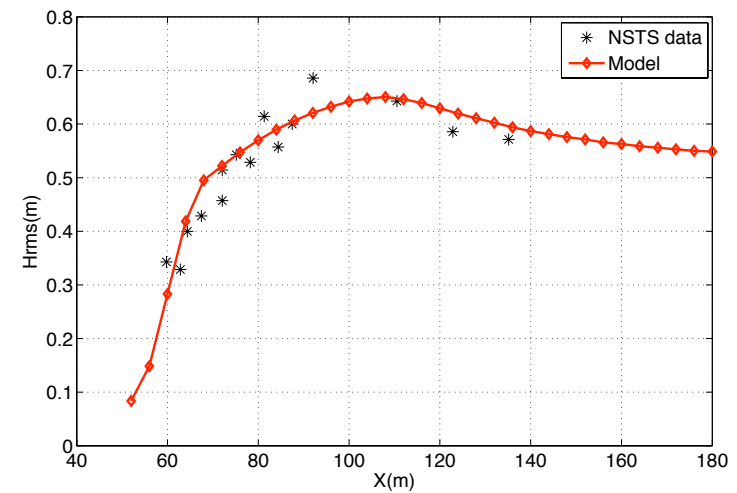
## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

### c. Application in surf zone

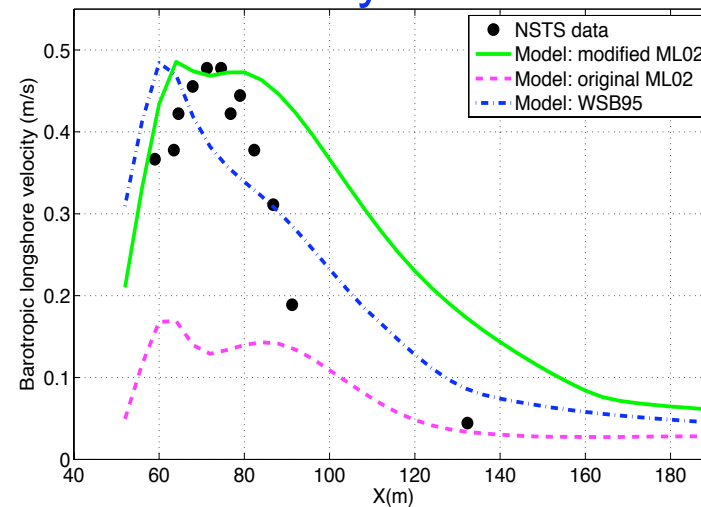
The  $F_z$  function must be changed:  
 => Inappropriated positive values near the surface



Hs is correctly simulated



The ML02 parametrization must be modified to correctly simulate the current



## 2. Bottom friction & mixing

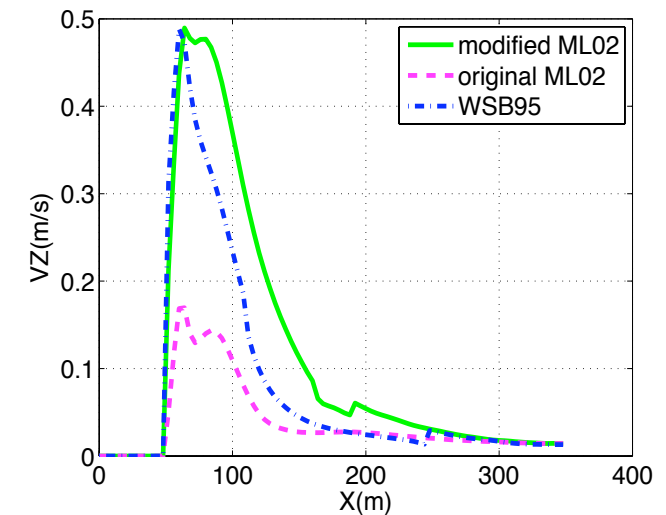
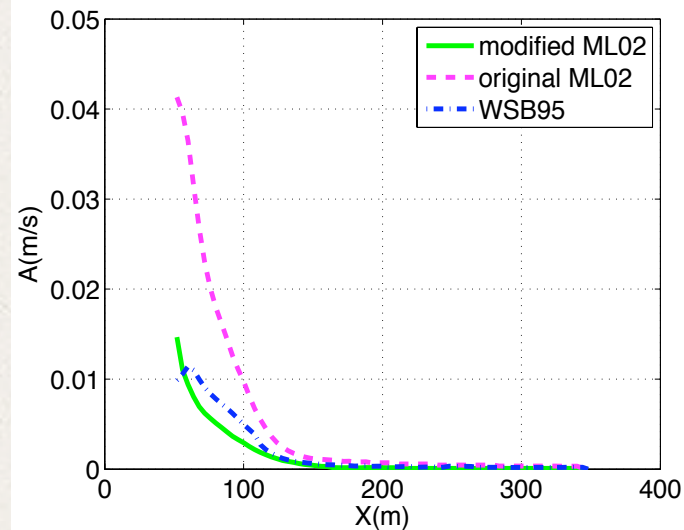
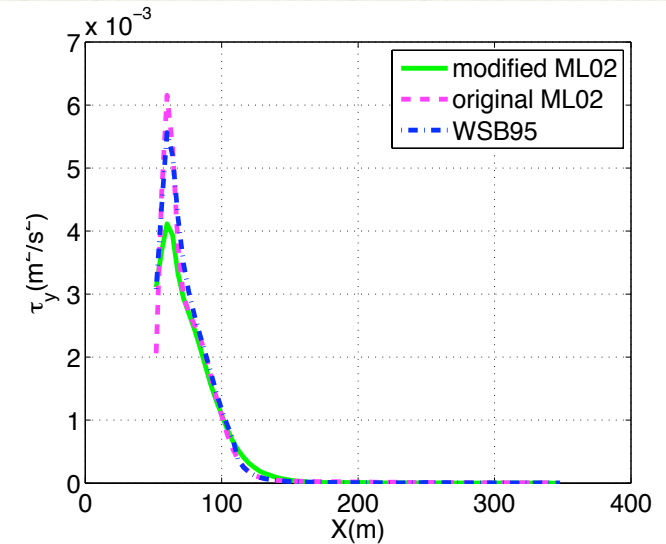
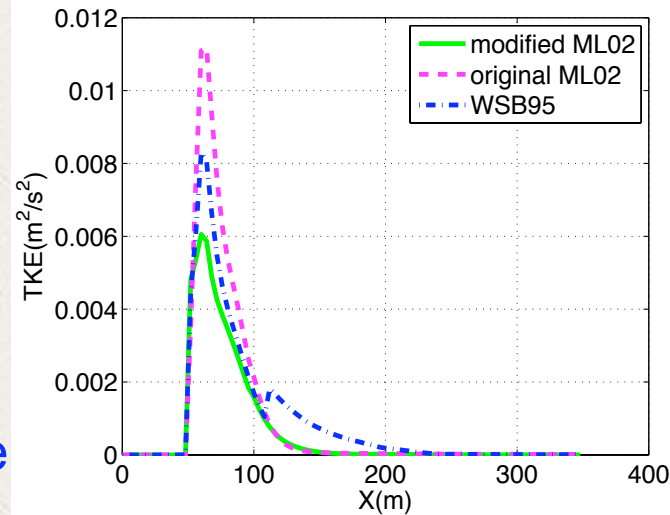
### c. Application in surf zone

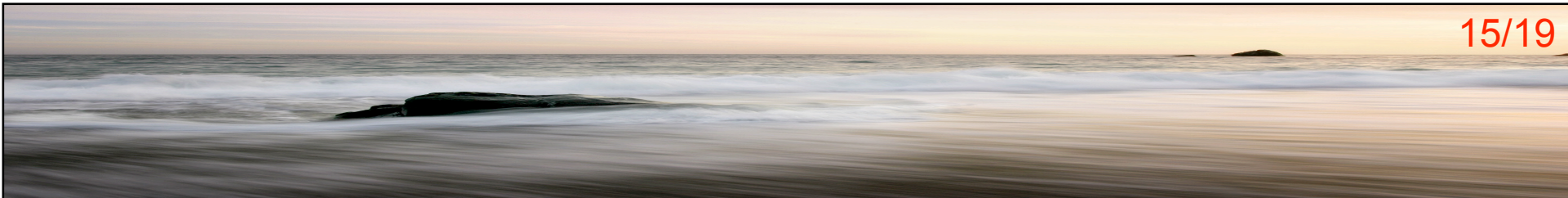
$$\tau_y|_{z=0} = A \cdot \hat{v},$$

$$A = \frac{\kappa S_{M0} \sqrt{2k_0}}{\ln\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)}.$$

\* TKE overestimated:  
=> weakest longshore  
current

\* Modified bottom  
stress gives similar A  
term than in the  
WSB95 case:  
=> longshore current  
is ok





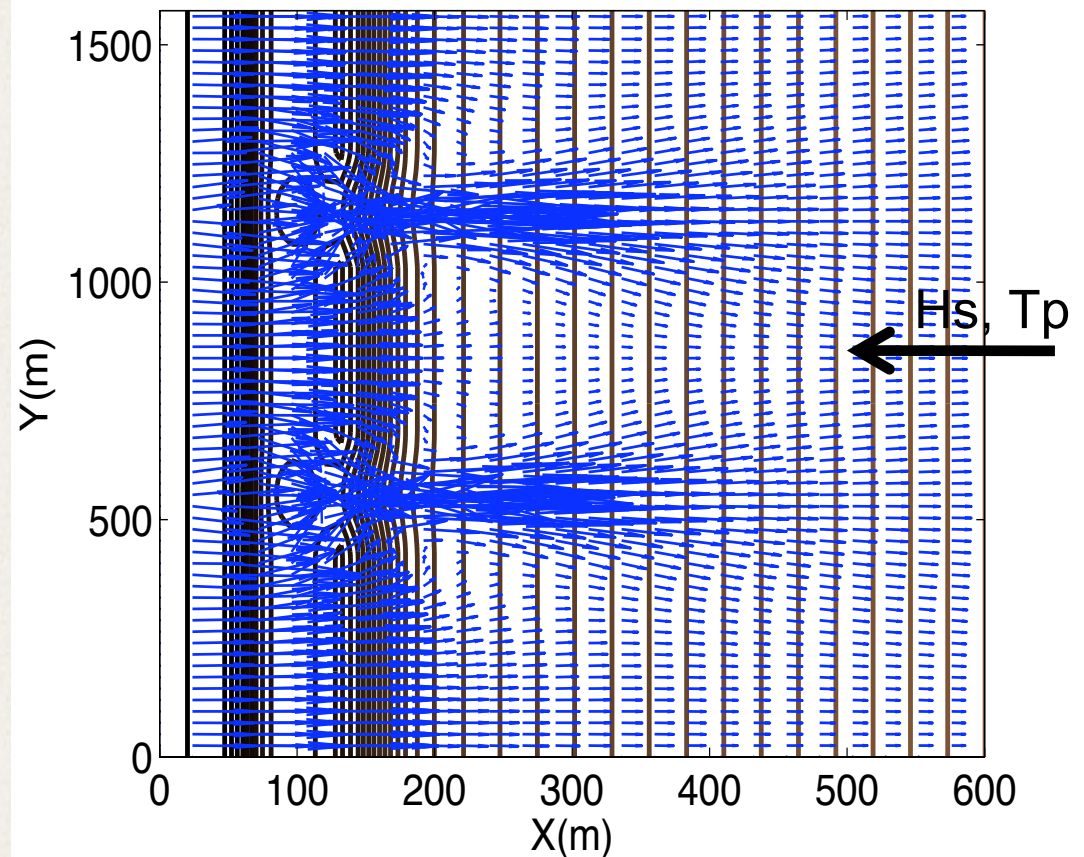
Rip currents...

### 3. Rip currents

#### a. Configuration & Objectives

- \* The bathymetry is an approximation of the beach profile measured at Duck on October 11, 1990
- \* Simulations of 3D circulation in surfzone: MARS-WWATCHIII
  - $dx=12m$ ,  $dy=12m$ ,  $dt=1s$
  - 15 sigma levels
- \*  $H_s=1m$ ,  $T=10s$ ,  $\theta=90$  deg
- \* **Comparison of results between the one-way mode and the two-mode**
  - barotropic currents
  - vorticity
  - forcing terms

One-way mode:  
vector current over bathymetry

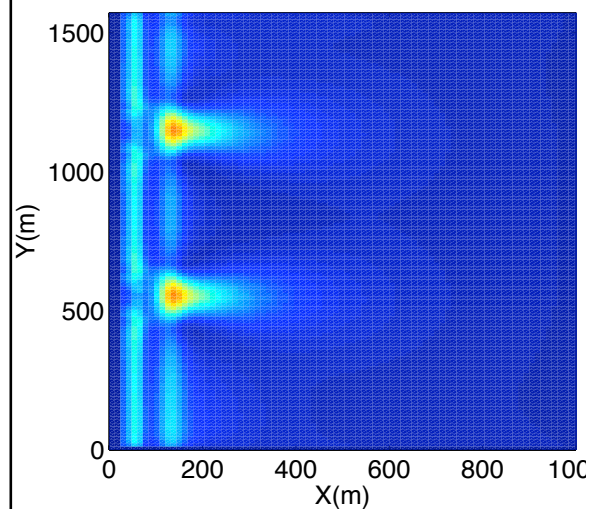




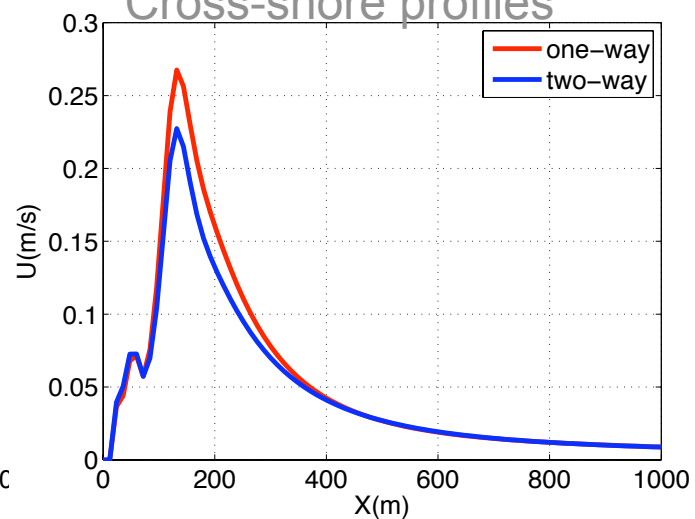
### 3. Rip currents

#### b. One-way mode vs Two-way mode: barotropic currents

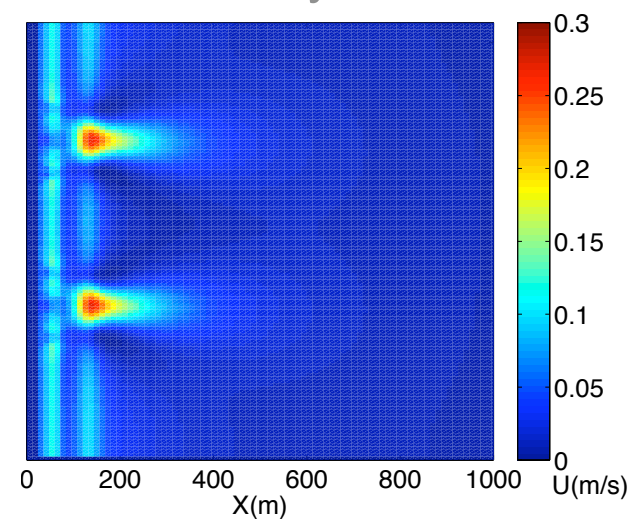
#### Two-way mode



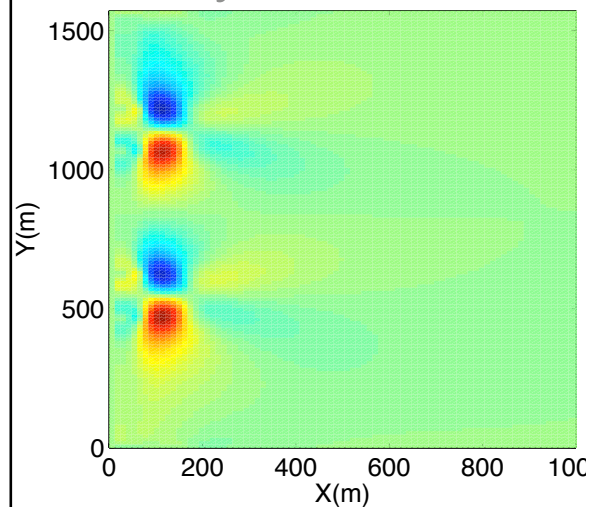
#### Cross-shore profiles



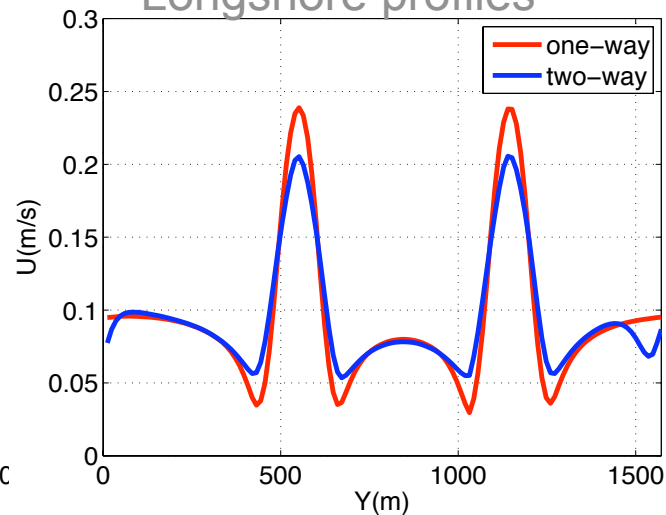
#### One-way mode



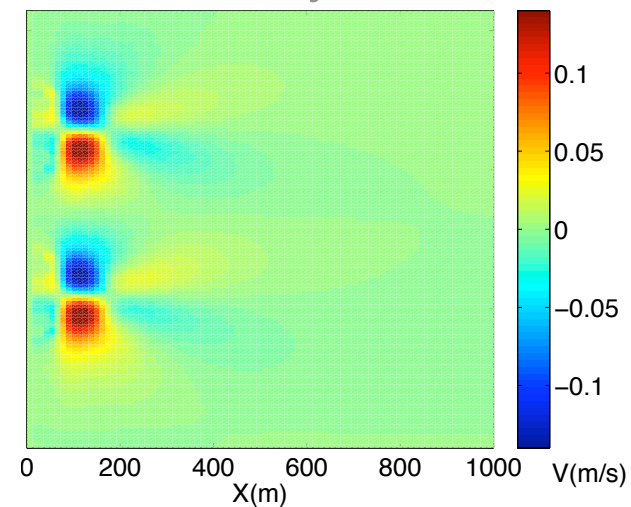
#### Two-way mode

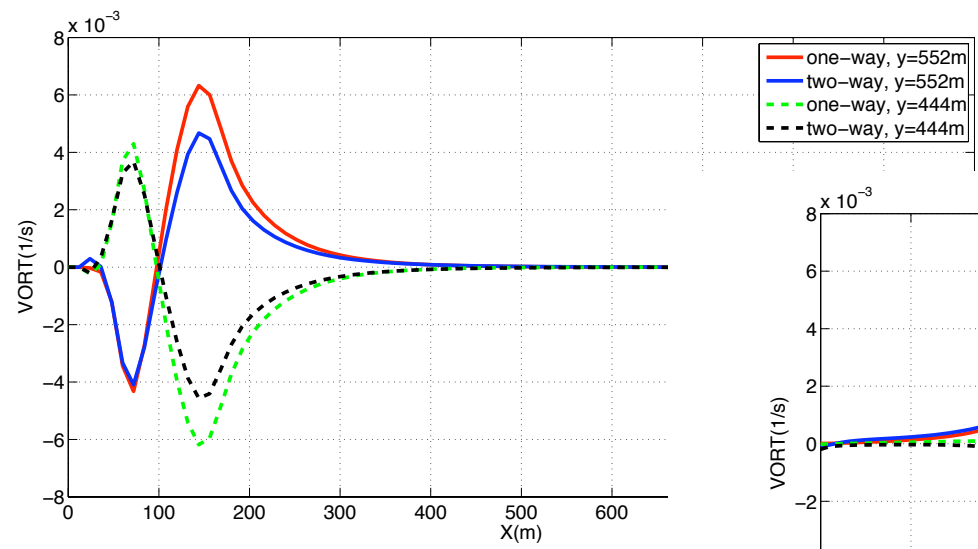
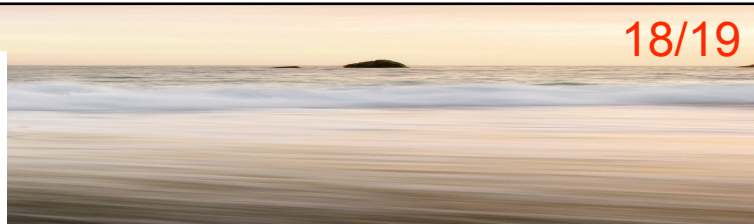


#### Longshore profiles

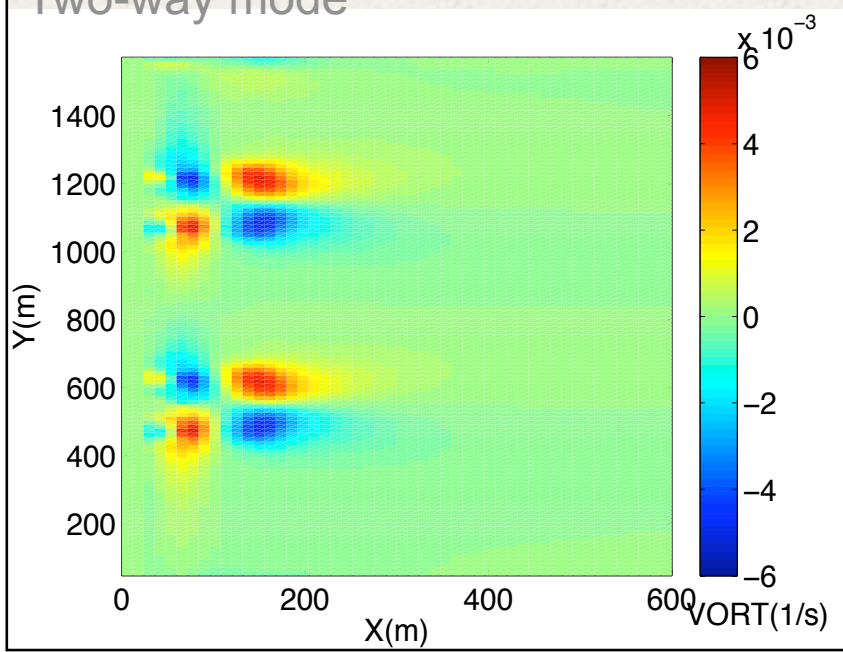
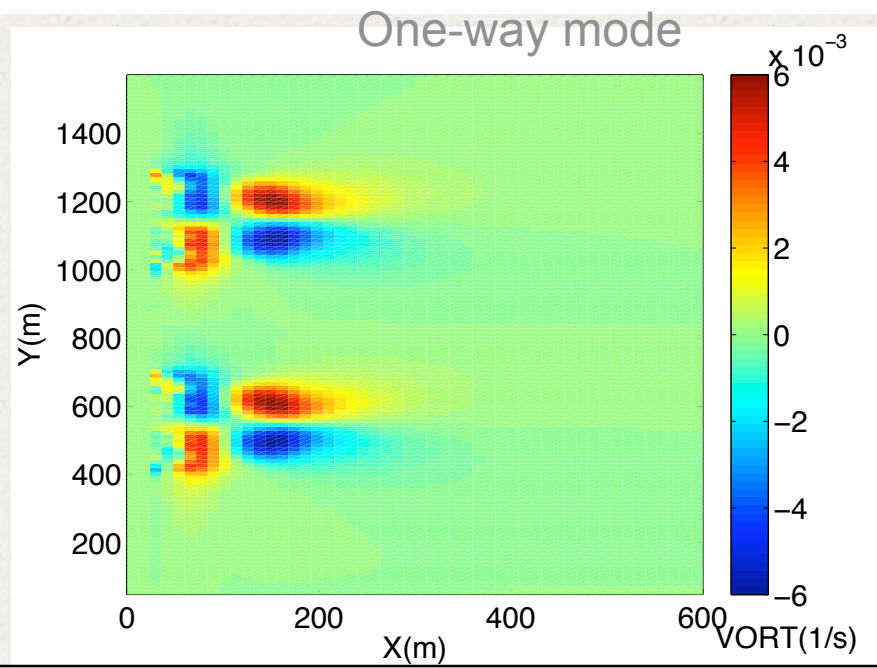
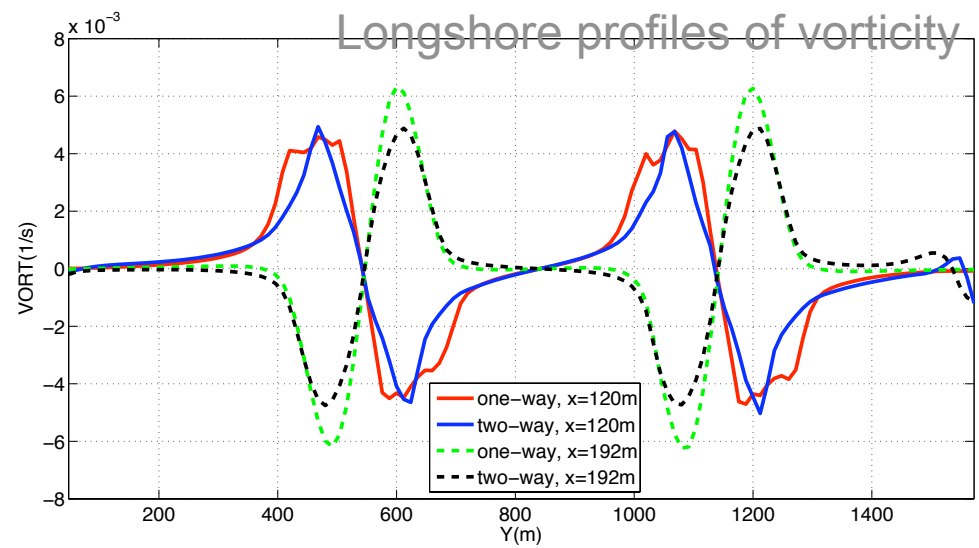


#### One-way mode





Cross-shore profiles of vorticity  
Two-way mode



### 3. Rip currents

#### d. Summary

#### TO CONCLUDE:

- \* Rip currents are correctly simulated by the 3D wave-current model
- \* One way-mode vs Two-way mode
  - The current intensity is reduced when the feedback is activated
  - The vorticity is reduced when the feedback is activated and its offshore extension is lesser
  - The forcing terms from breaking are less important for the two-way mode than for the one-way mode

=> Here the impact of the feedback is weak

#### IN THE FUTURE:

- \* High resolution numerical simulations
- \* To extend this study for other rip systems