# **ROGUE WAVES IN OCEANIC TURBULENCE**



## Francesco Fedele School of Civil & Environmental Engineering Georgia Institute of Technology, USA







# Rogue waves







# **DRAUPNER EVENT JANUARY 1995**



Extremely rare event according to Gaussian model!!!

But they still occur in open ocean !



#### **ROGUE WAVES**

Rare events of a normal population (*bad day at the tower*)

or typical events of a special population ? (*need of new physics*)



## ANSWER hidden in the statistical structure of weakly nonlinear random waves

#### **MAIN RESULT**

#### Crest exceedance for weakly nonlinear random fields

$$\Pr[\operatorname{crest} > h] \propto \int_{h}^{\infty} \frac{S}{2\pi} \sqrt{\partial_{tt} F \cdot \partial_{ss} F} \frac{d^2 \Pr(\eta > z)}{dh^2} dz$$

#### COROLLARY

the Generalized Tayfun distribution (GT) for the oceanic turbulence of Zakharov

$$\Pr(\operatorname{crest} > Z) = \exp\left[-\frac{\left(-1 + \sqrt{1 + 2\,\mu Z}\right)^2}{2\,\mu^2}\right] \left[1 + \frac{\lambda_{40}}{24} Z^2 \left(Z^2 - 3\right)\right]$$

## **MY CONTRIBUTION**

CONCEPT OF NONLINEAR STOCHASTIC WAVE GROUP (Nonlinear Slepian model)



TURBULENCE Uriel Frisch

#### 1.1 Turbulence and symmetries

In Chapter 41 of his *Lectures on Physics*, devoted to hydrodynamics and turbulence, Richard Feynman (1964) observes this:

Often, people in some unjustified fear of physics say you can't write an equation for life. Well, perhaps we can. As a matter of fact, we very possibly already have the equation to a sufficient approximation when we write the equation of quantum mechanics:

$$H\psi = -\frac{\hbar}{i}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t}.$$
(1.1)

Of course, if we only had this equation, without detailed observation of biological phenomena, we would be unable to reconstruct them. Feynman believes, and this author shares his viewpoint, that an analogous situation prevails in *turbulent* flow of an incompressible fluid. The equation, generally referred to as the Navier–Stokes equation, has been known since Navier (1823):

$$\partial_t \boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{v} = -\nabla p + v \nabla^2 \boldsymbol{v}, \qquad (1.2)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v} = 0. \tag{1.3}$$

It must be supplemented by initial and boundary conditions (such as the vanishing of v at rigid walls). We shall come back later to the choice of notation.

Quantum version of the The Nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation cousin of the Korteweg-de Vries Equation

$$i\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + k|u|^2 u = 0$$

 $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial \xi^3} + ku \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} = 0$ 

....START WITH STOKES EQUATIONS TO MODEL WAVE DYNAMICS ....and by multiple scale perturbation method & MUCH MORE ... ...you get the WAVE TURBULENCE of Zakharov ...

$$\eta(\underline{\mathbf{x}},t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_n}{2g}} |B_n| \cos(\underline{\mathbf{k}}_n \cdot \underline{\mathbf{x}} + |\varphi_n|) +$$

$$+\sum_{n,m} |B_n| |B_m| \left[ \Gamma_{nm}^{(+)} \cos(\underline{\mathbf{k}}_{n+m} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{x}} + |\varphi_{n+m}|) + \Gamma_{nm}^{(-)} \cos(\underline{\mathbf{k}}_{n-m} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{x}} + |\varphi_{n-m}|) \right]$$

A sea of weakly dispersive nonlinear waves

...moreover for deep water narrowband waves the Zakharov equation reduces to the NLS equation...

$$i\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + k|u|^2 u = 0$$

#### INTEGRABILITY

#### **Non-chaos**

Nonlinear interaction of waves and solitons

NONLINEAR FOURIER ANALYSIS

#### NON-INTEGRABILITY

#### Chaos

<u>PERIODIC ORBIT THEORY</u> *Turbulence: walk through a repertoire of recurrent patterns- Cvitanović, GATECH* 

Oceanic turbulence of Zakharov



Nonlinear interactions of *stochastic wave groups*?

$$\eta(\mathbf{x},t) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_j \cos(\mathbf{k}_j \bullet \mathbf{x} + \omega_j t + \varepsilon_j)$$

 $\eta(\mathbf{x},t)$ 

# Gaussian, ergodic & stationary process of time & space

 $\equiv$ 



What happens in the neighborhood of a point  $x_0$  if a large crest is recorded in time at  $x_0$ ?

$$\left\{ \eta \left( \mathbf{x}, t \right) \middle| \eta \left( \mathbf{x}_{0}, t_{0} \right) = h \right\} = h \Psi \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{0}, t - t_{0} \right) + \Delta$$
**SPACE-TIME covariance**

 $\Delta$  random residual, *h* Rayleigh variable





#### **Generic weakly nonlinear field \***

 $\eta = \eta_1 + f(\eta_1) \qquad f(\bullet) \text{ nonlinear}$  $O(\varepsilon)^{\uparrow} \qquad O(\varepsilon^2)^{\uparrow}$ 

#### **Nonlinear Conditional process**

$$\{\eta|\eta(x_0,t_0) = h\} = \{\eta|\eta_1(x_0,t_0) = h_1\}$$

**Difficult** to solve ...

**Easy ...** nonlinear function of a Gaussian stochastic group

## Non-Gaussian stochastic group

\* Fedele F. 2008. Rogue waves in oceanic turbulence *Physica D* ( in press)

$$S \Pr[\eta > h] = \int_{h}^{\infty} EX_{\max}(z) \Gamma(z,h) dz$$

#### stochastic wave group at focusing & Excursion set $\{\eta > h\}$



$$\Pr\left[\operatorname{crest} > h\right] \propto \int_{h}^{\infty} EX_{\max}(z)dz = \int_{h}^{\infty} \frac{S}{2\pi} \sqrt{\partial_{tt}F \cdot \partial_{ss}F} \frac{d^2 \Pr(\eta > z)}{dh^2} dz$$

# NONLINEAR EFFECTS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT

#### Second order effects: BOUND WAVES

LINEAR TERM



LINEAR & NON-LINEAR TERMS



NON LINEAR WAVE



**Crest-trough asymmetry** 

skewness>0

Third order effects : FREE WAVES

Crest-trough symmetry : kurtosis>3

Benjamin-Feir Index: BFI=steepness/bandwitdh

DOMINANT ONLY IN UNIDIRECTIONAL NARROWBAND SEAS !

## THE GENERALIZED TAYFUN (GT) DISTRIBUTION\*

$$Pr(crestheight > Z) = exp \left[ -\frac{\left(-1 + \sqrt{1 + 2\mu Z}\right)^2}{2\mu^2} \right] \left[ 1 + \frac{\lambda_{40}}{24} Z^2 (Z^2 - 3) \right]$$
  
Tayfun distribution

• GT similar to the GRAM-CHARLIER (GC) approximation of Tayfun & Fedele, OE 2007

•GT stems from the Zakharov model with no priori assumptions on the statistical structures of the solution as in GC models

steepness  

$$\mu \propto \int S_1 S_2 \Big[ k_1 + k_2 - \big| k_1 - k_2 \Big] dk_{1,2} \qquad \lambda_{40} \propto \int K_{12}^{34} S_1 S_2 S_3 \frac{1 - \cos\left(\Delta \omega_{1,2}^{3,4} t\right)}{\Delta \omega_{1,2}^{3,4} t} \delta_{12}^{34} dk_{1,2,3}$$

\* Fedele F. 2008. Rogue waves in oceanic turbulence *Physica D* ( in press)



#### WHAT ABOUT REALISTIC OCEANIC CONDITIONS ?

\* Fedele F. 2008. Rogue waves in oceanic turbulence *Physica D* (in press)

## VARIATIONAL WAVE ACQUISITION STEREO SYSTEM (VWASS)

Input stereo pair images. The rectangular domain (8 m x 8.7 m). The height of the waves is in the range ±0.2 cm.



#### **Reconstructed wave surface**



## PRELIMINARY RESULTS : wave statistics and spectra





**Generalized Tayfun ~ Tayfun** 

**SECOND ORDER EFFECTS DOMINANT !!** 

## BEYOND WAVES & SPECTRA: Euler Characteristic of excursion sets

*The geometry of random fields* Adler (1981), Adler, Taylor & Worsley (2007)

#### EC = #connected components - # holes



**EC counts number of large maxima** 

#### **One-to-one correspondence between large maxima & 3D upcrossings**

### as in one dimensional stochastic processes



# Euler characteristic EC of nonlinear wave fields (Piterbarg-Tayfun model)





 $\Pr[\max_{P \in S} \eta(P) > h] \approx EC(h)$ 

# CONCLUSIONS

•In open ocean rouge waves appear to be simply rare events of normal populations

•For special wave conditions (undirectional waves in wave flumes) third order resonant interactions are also dominant



# ATMOSPHERIC BOUNDARY LAYER & WIND-WAVE INTERACTION STEREO-VIDEO IMAGERY & HOT-WIRE/SONIC ANEMOMETRY EXPERIMENTS







Figure 1.3 Jeffreys' 'sheltering' model of wave generation. Curved lines indicate air flow; short, straight arrows show water movement, which will be explained more fully in Section 1.2.1. The rear face of the wave against which the wind blows experiences a higher pressure than the front face, which is sheltered from the force of the wind. Air eddies are formed in front of each wave, leading to differences in air pressure. The excesses and deficiencies of pressure are shown by plus and minus signs respectively. The pressure difference pushes the wave along.

#### **GLOBAL TEAM**

F. Fedele GATECH Savannah, Civil Engineering
A. Yezzi, G. Gallego GATECH Atlanta, Electrical Engineering
A. Benetazzo, University of Padua ITALY
J. Nelson, Skidaway Oceanographic Institute
M. A. Tayfun University of Kuwait
Reza Sadr, Texas AM university, USA
A. Boscolo Phoenix S.r.l. Padua ITALY

ROGUE WAVES, HURRICANE WAVES, GIANT WAVES, FREAK WAVES ......

