

LONG NONLINEAR INTERNAL WAVES

AND

QUASI-STEADY LEE WAVES

by

CHI-YUAN LEE

B.S., Cheng Kung University
(1964)

M.S., National Central University
(1966)

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Signature of Author.....
Joint Program in Oceanography, Massachusetts
Institute of Technology - Woods Hole Oceanographic
Institution, and Department of Earth and Planetary
Sciences, and Department of Meteorology,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, June 1972

Certified by..... Thesis Supervisor

Accepted by.....
Chairman, Joint Oceanography Committee in the
Earth Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of
Technology - Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

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ABSTRACT

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Chi-yuan Lee

Submitted to the Department of Meteorology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on May 5, 1972 in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Previous observation of large amplitude internal gravity waves generated by tidal flow over a submarine ridge in Massachusetts Bay have motivated us to consider the general problem of internal gravity wave generation by time-dependent flow of a stratified, inviscid fluid over topography. An internal Korteweg & deVries type equation for the stream function is derived using a three parameter expansion method, where the three small parameters correspond to nonlinear, dispersive, and non-Boussinesq effects. The nonlinear effect is found to depend crucially on the curvature of the basic density profile and vanishes for linear stratification, i.e., constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency. Numerical solutions to this KdV type equation for a variety of different conditions are then used to demonstrate the importance of nonlinearity on the generation of large amplitude internal waves in the breakdown of internal fronts. The numerical results are also in reasonable agreement with laboratory experiments in which a two-dimensional submarine ridge is moved to create transient internal disturbances. Additional numerical calculations show that a nonlinear model accurately describes the principal features observed in Massachusetts Bay.

Simple analytic models and laboratory experiments are also used to examine mixing and the generation of quasi-steady lee waves. A tall, rapidly oscillating ridge acts to mix the stratified fluid near the ridge; the circulation set up by the collapse of the mixed fluid is determined. In the second study, ray theory is used to analyse lee waves generated behind a low ridge being slowly towed periodically through a stratified fluid.

Thesis Supervisor: Robert C. Beardsley
Associate Professor of Oceanography

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A. General Motivation:

Temperature measurements made by Halpern (1970) at station T located 9 km west of Stellwagen Bank in Massachusetts Bay show that large amplitude internal wave trains with wave periods of 6 to 8 minutes and lasting for about 3 hours are generated by the semi-diurnal tidal flow. A warm front, i.e., a sudden rise in the general temperature level, accompanies the onset of these internal wave trains. Both the amplitude of the front and the amplitude of the internal wave itself are so large (almost 10 m) in comparison to the characteristic depth that nonlinearity which is neglected in linear wave theory can not be overlooked in a general analysis of the generating wave mechanics for this case. We shall assume that large internal disturbance (say, a blocking front) with a horizontal characteristic length ℓ is formed near Stellwagen Bank, and then use the smallness of the parameter $(D/\ell)^2$, where D is the vertical characteristic length, to derive a Korteweg & deVries-type governing equation (1895) for the internal motion. This nonlinear KdV-type equation may then be used to analyse the generation of internal waves from a long but otherwise arbitrary initial internal disturbance. This is the general aim of this research; we are not solely trying to explain the generation of these finite amplitude waves in Massachusetts Bay.

In order to demonstrate the importance of the nonlinear effect, two experimental records are shown in figure 1 and figure 2. These internal disturbances are measured using conductivity probes as shown

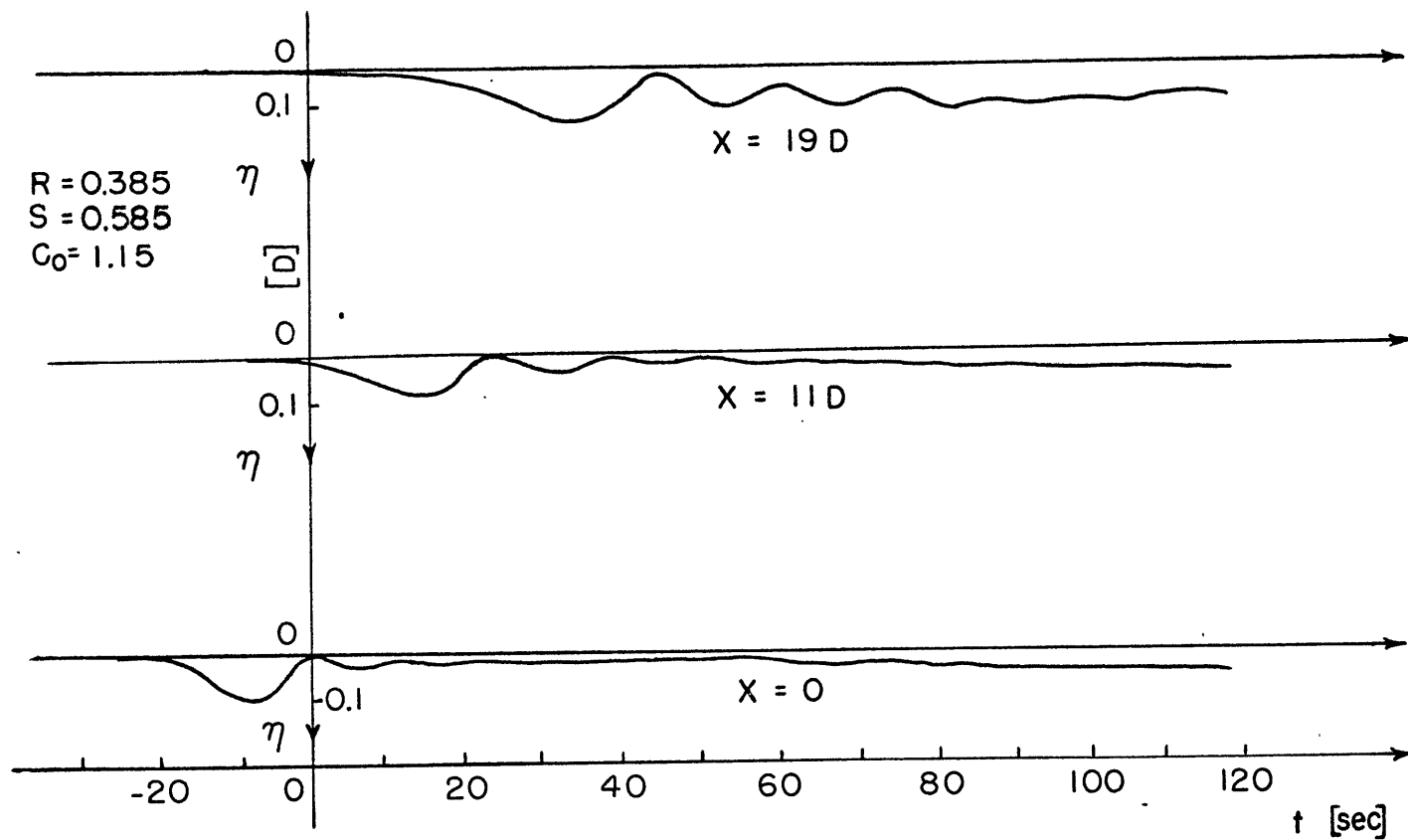


Figure 1. Results of experiment 1 showing the generation of waves by moving the ridge toward the probes for one half period of a sinusoidal path ($x = 0$ corresponds to the position of Probe A in figure 3. Probe A is located approximately 55 cm from the final position of the ridge).

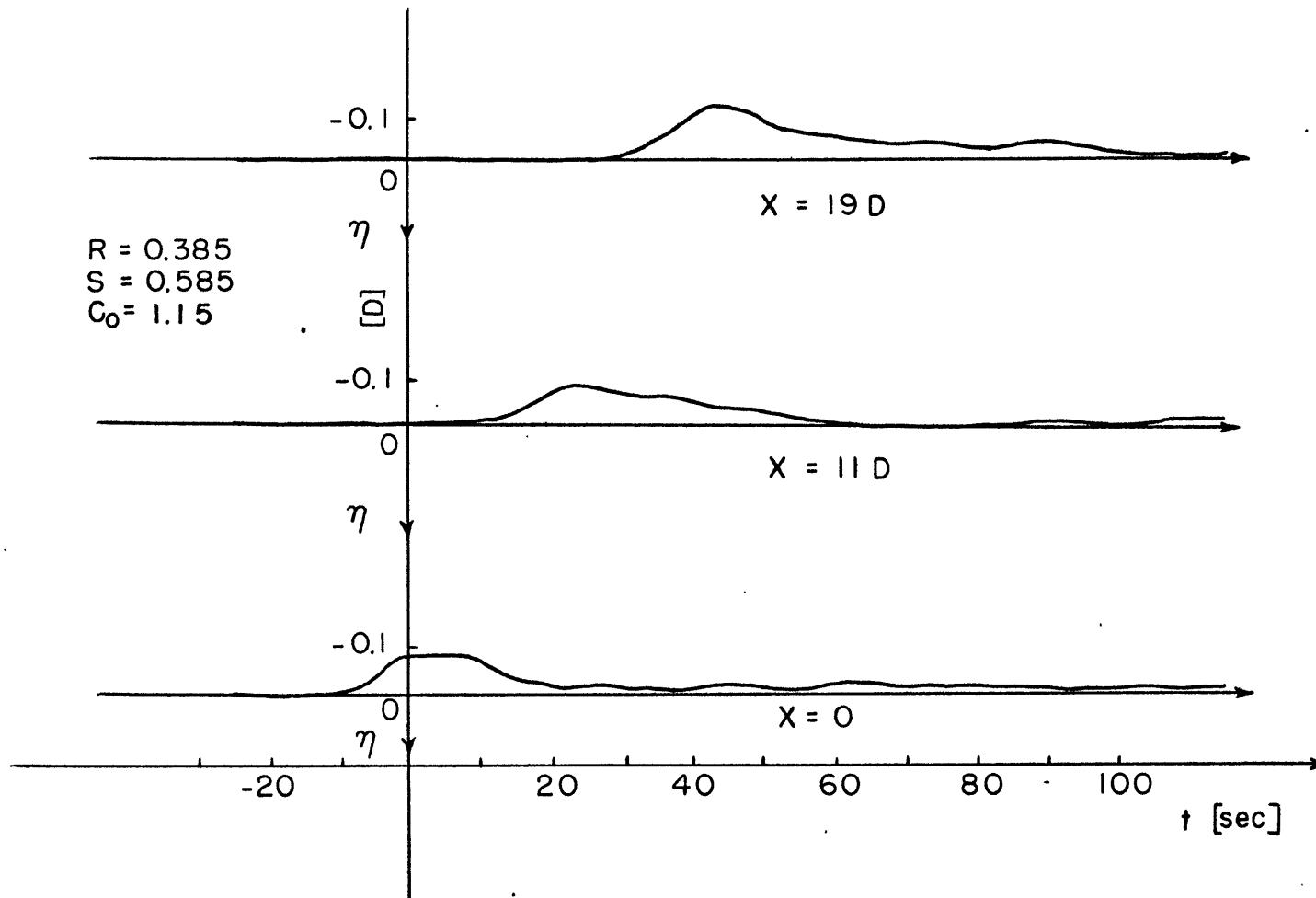


Figure 2 . Results of experiment 2 showing the generation of a solitary-type wave by moving the ridge away from the probes for one half period of a sinusoidal path ($x = 0$ corresponds to the position of Probe A in figure 3 . Probe A is located approximately 65 cm from the final position of the ridge).

in figure 3. The initial disturbances are produced by towing a ridge horizontally over one half period a sinusoidal path. When the ridge is moved toward the probes, the initial disturbance is a mound of heavier fluid, with the local isopycnal surfaces being elevated. The initial disturbance corresponds to a depression of the isopycnal surfaces, when the ridge is moved away from the probes. For the basic stratification used in our laboratory experiments, we will find (in chapter 3) that an initial elevation will have a negative nonlinear effect, while an depression will have a positive nonlinear effect. Thus, for a depression, the mass, momentum, and energy of the initial disturbance are held together like a "solitary wave", since the nonlinear effect tends to balance the dispersive effects. An initial elevation will disperse into several waves behind the initial front, however, since the negative nonlinear effect will reinforce the dispersive effect. Detailed numerical calculations for these two measurements will be given in chapter 3.

We will give in the remainder of this chapter a general discussion of the known nonlinear effects on surface and internal long waves. In chapter 2 we try to model the wave phenomena observed in Massachusetts Bay, develop a general classification of the internal motion driven by a moving submarine ridge, and then describe the experimental system and procedure used to illustrate our classification scheme. In chapter 3, a three parameter expansion method is used to derive a time dependent KdV equation for internal motion. Both experimental data and numerical calculations are used to demonstrate the importance of nonlinearity in the generation of long

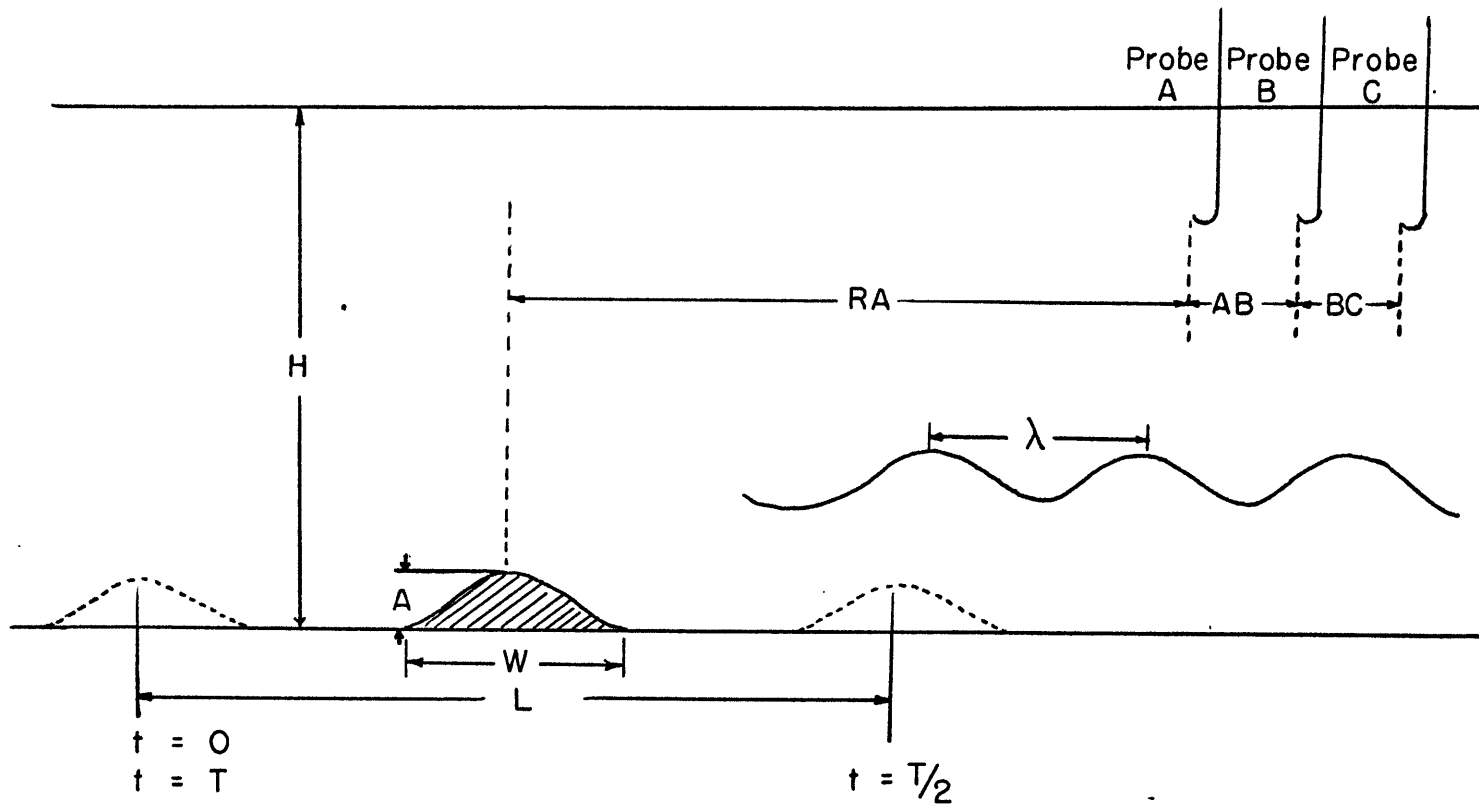


Figure 3 . Schematic of some of the physical dimensions in the experiment .

nonlinear internal waves, and the application to the large amplitude internal waves in Massachusetts Bay is explained. The influence of basic shear is analysed. The second order terms, i.e., the deviation from the classical KdV equation, are also obtained. In chapter 4, a ray theory and some experimental results are used to discuss quasi-steady lee trains. In chapter 5, we analyse mixing in a stratified fluid caused by rapid motion of the ridge.

B. Classical Long Surface Wave Theory:

We shall begin our analysis of long nonlinear internal waves by recalling some aspects of the classical long wave theory. Airy (1845) showed that when the pressure field is hydrostatic everywhere, the phase velocity of a progressive finite amplitude surface wave is equal to $(gH)^{1/2}$ everywhere where H is the local depth. It followed that the wave would tend to steepen ahead of their peaks, and the breaking of waves and consequent formation of "bores" could not be avoided. However, the lack of experimental support for Airy's theory led to the final discovery of solitary and cnoid waves by Scott Russell (1837, 1844), Rayleigh (1876), Stokes (1847, 1880), and Korteweg and deVries (1895). They showed that the tendency of a long surface wave to steepen ahead of its peak, which is proportional to the amplitude $a/H = \mathcal{E}$, may be balanced by an opposite tendency, due to the nonhydrostatic pressure field, which is proportional to the square of the wave number $H^2/\ell^2 = \mathcal{D}$, where ℓ is the wave length. Thus, an infinite sequence of permanent wave profiles exist, each with a particular ratio of \mathcal{E}/\mathcal{D} , the

Ursell parameter, such that the two tendencies to change the wave profile exactly cancel out. These waves are called "cnoidal" waves, because their wave profiles are exactly the square of the Jacobian elliptic function $CN(x)$ with different moduli constant. The two extreme limits are (1) the lower limit $\varepsilon / \delta \rightarrow 0$ corresponding to a linear sinusoidal wave, and (2) the upper limit of $\varepsilon / \delta \rightarrow \infty$ corresponding to solitary wave. A cnoid wave train with extremely long wave length can be approximately regarded as a sequence of solitary wave. Following Lighthill (1967), a regime diagram with the amplitude a and the characteristic wave length ℓ as the two axes can be constructed (see figure 4), which show that the solitary wave is a boundary which separates the natural evolution of a long finite amplitude disturbance into two quite different regimes. Numerical calculation (to be discussed in detail in chapter 3) shows that a point with a small deviation above (below) the solitary wave curve will tend to move up (down) and to the left (right) in figure 4, i.e., the nonequilibrium wave tends to steepen (flatten).

It is well known that the general mathematical analysis of nonlinear wave motion divides into two distinct approaches:

- (a) Stoke's expansion: development of a linear wave theory, and its subsequent extensions to finite amplitude wave using a regular perturbation expansion in the one small parameter a/ℓ . Fourier analysis is used in this case.
- (b) Shallow water theory: development of a time dependent KdV-type equation based on the two small parameter $\varepsilon = a/H$, $\delta = (H/\ell)^2$. The second approach allows us to

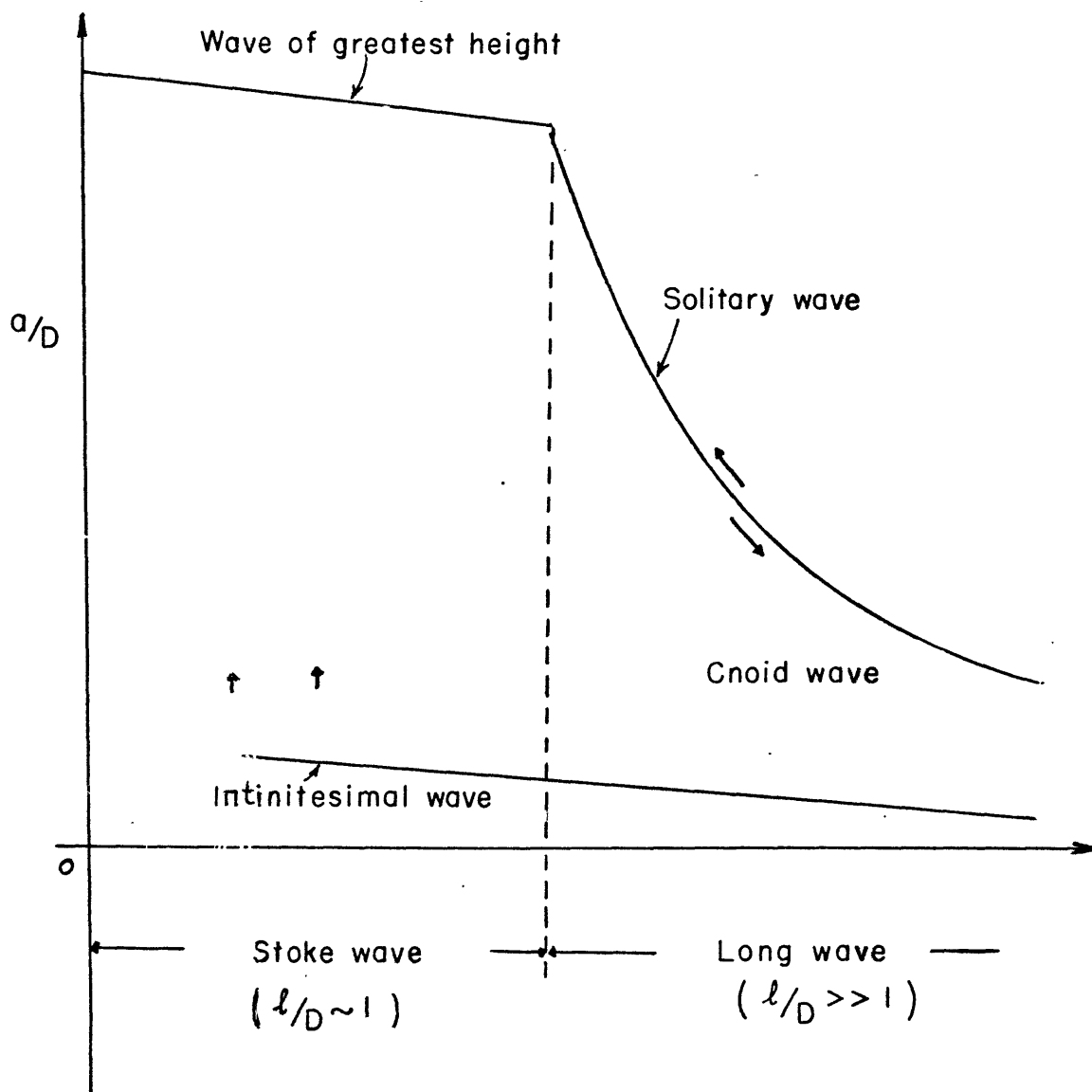


Figure 4. Numerical results showing that solitary wave is a boundary of natural evolution on Lighthill's diagram.

analysis the natural evolution of an arbitrary long disturbance in addition to the wave form solution in case (a).

- (c) Since the Stoke's expansion and shallow water theory are not completely reconciled, we will now compare the two approaches and discuss their principal differences.
- (1)(a) The Stoke's expansion (a) is derived on the small parameter a/ℓ and the parameter $(H/\ell)^2$ is assumed to be not less than order unity.
- (b) Shallow water theory (b) is based on two small parameters, $\mathcal{E} = a/H$ and $\mathcal{F} = (H/\ell)^2$. Note that $a/\ell = a/H \cdot H/\ell = \mathcal{E}\mathcal{F}^{1/2}$. If we take the limit $H \rightarrow 0$ for case (a), we do not obtain solitary or cnoid waves.
- (2)(a) To order (a/ℓ) , there is no phase velocity change, due to finite amplitude effect.
- (b) To order $(a/H, H^2/\ell^2)$, there is a change of phase velocity.
- (3)(a) To order (a/ℓ) , a sinusoidal wave will keep symmetric wave form.
- (b) A sinusoidal wave tends to distort and break.
- (4)(b) Can be easily used to treat an initial value problem for an arbitrarily long disturbance whereas (a) cannot.
- (5) Since higher harmonics are generated by nonlinearity using the Stoke's expansion, it seems necessary to check for the possibility of "self-interaction", i.e., the interaction between a wave and its higher harmonics. If the dispersion relation is $\omega = \omega(k)$, we need

$\omega(2k) - \omega(k) = \omega(k)$ for interaction between a primary wave and its first harmonic. This is generally impossible for internal and surface wave (except for capillary-gravity surface waves which have a special dispersion relation). However, the above resonance condition is almost satisfied in long wave theory due to the fact that for vanishing wave number, the dispersive curve approaches a straight line. Mei(1971) has discussed this self interaction mechanics in shallow water wave theory by means of an analogy with nonlinear optics.

Since we are primarily interested in the initial value problem, we will focus our attention on results obtained by the second approach (b). Utilizing temporal equations of the KdV-type, we will now examine the interaction between two surface solitary waves. Zabusky (1967) and Madsen and Mei (1969) have shown using the KdV equation that significant nonlinear interaction between two solitary waves occur only near the intersection of the crests. Numerical calculations show that when the solitary wave of large amplitude catch up with the smaller one, the amplitude of the larger peak decreases as the smaller one increases its amplitude and then exchange roles such that the one previously identified as the large peak now becomes the smaller and vice versa.

Nonlinear effects are understood in a really systematic manner only for nondispersive waves, and are called amplitude dispersion by Lighthill (1967). Although the study of the interaction of the frequency dispersion and the amplitude dispersion is only in its beginning stages, the study of nonlinear effects with the parameter

$(a/H)(H^2/\ell^2) \gg 1$ is rather well advanced. Different values of the amplitude in a "long wave" are propagated forward at different speeds. As time goes on, regions of large amplitude, being propagated faster, gradually catch up to regions of low amplitude. However, this catching up cannot proceed to where the higher amplitude actually overtakes the lower, since the amplitude must remain a single valued function of position. Immediately before this happens, a region with very large gradients of pressure, velocity, etc., will be generated which prevent further increase of wave amplitude by the frequency dispersive effects which we neglected in this process. Numerical calculations by Pregrine (1966) show that a wave train will be generated behind in the "front", the bore remaining nonturbulent since it can lose the necessary energy by backward radiation through a finite amplitude wave train. However, there is a maximum amplitude which is defined by the solitary waves. Beyond this, progressive steepening of the wave front to the point of turbulent "bore" formation is unavoidable. This analysis is only a first order approximation, however, since all terms need to be retained in order to obtain a final criterion for wave breaking.

The evolution of large scale variations on a finite amplitude periodic wave has been studied by Whitham (1965). To zeroth order the wave number, frequency, and amplitude satisfy a system of first order quasi-linear differential equations. These equations may be hyperbolic or elliptic. If elliptic, the characteristic velocity will have an imaginary part and instabilities will tend to destroy the coherence of the wave train (such as in deep water wave theory). If hyperbolic, wave properties will develop shocks (such as in shallow water wave theory).

A situation similar to the classical shock problem in gas dynamics arises in that more shock conditions exist than we actually need. These jump conditions correspond to the conservation of waves, mass, momentum, and energy. The conservation of waves corresponds to the conservation of entropy, which is discarded in gas dynamics by considering the real physical situation across the shock. However, the situation seems quite different in water waves. Benjamin (1954, 1956, 1967) chooses the conservation of waves as one of the shock conditions (although he did not point it out explicitly) to analyse a stationary surface wave train of finite amplitude and permanent form, thus dropping the conservation of momentum and energy. Real friction or dissipative processes make Benjamin's assumption more realistic in the natural phenomena. However, we will use only the conservation of energy and momentum in the analysis of wave generation.

C. Long Nonlinear Internal Wave Theory:

Our review of nonlinear wave motion has concerned up to now only surface wave dynamics in a constant density fluid. It is well known Benjamin (1966, 1967), Benney (1966) that long nonlinear internal waves are possible in a density stratified fluid. In analogy to the classical long wave theory, both Benjamin and Benney used a two parameter perturbation expansion method to find a governing equation similar to the KdV equation. However, Long (1965) pointed out that a third parameter, $\sigma = \Delta \rho / \bar{\rho}$, is critically important in long nonlinear internal waves, where $\Delta \rho$ is the variation of basic density stratification over a vertical characteristic length D , $\bar{\rho}$ is the vertically averaged density, and σ is its fractional change over the vertical characteristic

length. If σ is the same order or smaller than the nonlinear term a/D or the dispersive term D^2/ℓ^2 , the three parameter perturbation expansion method should be used. The "inertial" effect due to $\sigma = 0.1$ will be of equal importance as the nonlinear effect due to a finite amplitude $a/D = 0.1$; σ of this order are frequently used in laboratory experiments.

Long only examined stationary waves for the case of constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency. We will in chapter 3 formally use a three parameter perturbation expansion approach to find a time dependent KdV equation for arbitrary stratification and basic shear. We will then find that this additional term corresponding to $\sigma \neq 0$ tends to decrease the phase velocity. The physical meaning of this result is analogous to the frequency effect of the self-mass of a spring in a simple mass-spring system. We will also find that the nonlinear effect of internal wave motion is critically related to the basic density stratification and structure. For typical thermoclines, i.e., the density variation of the upper part of the fluid is much greater than that of the lower part, the nonlinear effect is to steepen (flatten) an isopycnal depression (elevation). An obvious difference from surface wave theory is that both an initial elevation and depression may become a solitary internal wave corresponding to different basic density structure while only initial elevations develop into surface solitary waves. We shall also find that the nonlinear effect vanishes for a constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency, and that no solitary waves exist unless we take a second order term of order $\xi\sigma$ into consideration. This conclusion agrees with Long's stationary wave analysis.

2. Development of Model Problem

A. Discussion of Massachusetts Bay Observation:

In order to simplify the complicated situation in Massachusetts Bay and make a reasonable model to represent the dominant features which are closely related to the generation of the internal wave trains observed in Massachusetts Bay, we begin by summarizing Halpern's data and discuss some possible physical interpretations.

- (a) The average time interval between the onset of 29 groups of high frequency fluctuations observed at station T was 12.4 hours. This strongly suggests that the dominant driving force is the semi-diurnal tidal flow.
- (b) The crests of the surface bands, which are generated by the internal waves, lie parallel to Stellwagen Bank and exhibit the same curvature. Thus it seems that the bank is a "wave source" or, at least, has a significant influence on these internal wave trains.
- (c) Speed measurements recorded at Stellwagen Bank (temperature measurements at the bank are missing) do not show the groups of large amplitude high frequency fluctuations. This means that these internal wave trains have to be generated somewhere between the bank and station T located 9 km west of the bank crest. This rules out a quasi-steady lee wave mechanism as a wave source.
- (d) The large abrupt rise in the mean level of these high frequency temperature oscillations may be related to the following three reasons although, as we will see, only one is

possible in Massachusetts Bay. (1) Nonlinear steepening of the long semi-diurnal tidal waves: Although the basic density stratification in Massachusetts Bay will produce a negative nonlinear effect (see chapter 3), and will make the warm front steepen, the distance (9 km) between Stellwagen Bank and station T is too short to allow a symmetric wave to deform into such a front. (2) Strong mixing near the bank: This is ruled out by the fact that the temperature rises at all depths. (3) Blocking effect: When the tidal current becomes very weak, the Froude number is very low. It is well known from the work of Long (1955) that blocking phenomena occur in a stratified flow for small Froude number. Thus, shortly before high water, the velocity of tidal flow decreases to this critical velocity and the lower part of the water column is then suddenly blocked by Stellwagen Bank, and only the upper part of the fluid or warm water is allowed to flow across the bank to form a sharp warm front. This warm front will be further steepened by the negative nonlinear properties associated to the specific density stratification in Massachusetts Bay. Although a cold front is also formed, its slope will be decreased by the nonlinear effect, so that the slope of the cold front will be very small at station T. The dispersive effect of the cold front is also decreased, preventing the generation of inter-

nal wave trains. Although we feel that the blocking effect of Stellwagen Bank is the likely candidate for creating the warm front, its effectiveness will be greatly decreased by the three dimensional structure of the bank. The width of the open end of Massachusetts Bay is approximately 70 km, where the length of the bank is approximately 40 km. Thus we expect some cold water may flow into Massachusetts Bay through these open parts during the blocking time interval; this may be one of the reasons why the length of the observed bands is only 10 km where the length of the bank is almost 40 km.

We will now construct a simple model to simulate some of the most important factors found in Massachusetts Bay. Our principle goal is to find the possible wave generating mechanics and not go into details of its modifications caused by the very complicated situation in Massachusetts Bay. We assume that a symmetric submarine ridge is towed back and forth periodically in a density stratified fluid in a long wave tank. The forcing and response are two-dimensional and the fluid is considered to be essentially inviscid. The major differences between this model and the tidal flow over Stellwagen Bank are:

- (1) Basic velocity shear: It is well known that strong velocity shears exist in tidal flow. According to Miles (1961) and Howard (1961), a sufficient condition for small amplitude stable motion in parallel stable stratified, inviscid flow is that Richardson number Ri has to be everywhere greater than $\frac{1}{4}$. Although Ri is

always greater than $1/4$ at Massachusetts Bay, Halpern reports that Ri was less than unity and was as low as 0.3 just prior to the initiation of the short-period internal waves. Since this Ri value is a ten-minute average, it may drop to less $1/4$ occasionally. Halpern's data indicate that the mean shear is almost perpendicular to the direction of propagation of the internal waves, so that it is unlikely that shear instability plays a significant role in the generation of these internal waves. While the neglect of shear greatly simplifies our laboratory experiments, we will include the influence of velocity shear in the direction of propagation on the nonlinear and dispersive effects in the theoretical analysis.

- (2) Three dimensional effect: In our experiments, the ridge occupies the whole width of the wave tank, while Stellwagen Bank obviously does not close the open end of Massachusetts Bay. From Halpern's aerial photographs of the surface bands, these internal waves seem to remain two dimensional for a relatively long distance westward of the bank. However, as mentioned before, the three dimensionality of the real topography reduces the blocking effect of the bank. One evidence is that the length of the observed bands is much smaller than the length of the bank, and their ends were wrinkled and compressed along their axes.
- (3) Horizontal variation of mean current: We assume that the "mean current" (relative to the moving ridge) is uniform

in space, while the actual east-west tidal flow in Massachusetts Bay has to vanish at shore.

- (4) The asymmetric shape of Stellwagen Bank: The slope of the west side of the bank is approximately three times the slope of the east side of the bank at the same latitude as station T. The asymmetric slope may be one of the reasons why the high frequency fluctuation was absent in the speed measurements 11 km east of the bank. Since the dispersive effects are proportional to $\delta = (D/L)^2$, the ratio of δ at east side to δ at west side is only approximately 1/10. This crucially restricts the generation of internal wave trains.
- (5) The change of total depth: We assume the total depth remains constant while the actual tidal amplitude is approximately 1.5 m in Massachusetts Bay. The phase lag of high or low water around Massachusetts Bay is approximately equal to (width of Massachusetts Bay)/(speed of long wave) = $\frac{40 \text{ km} \times 1000}{(9.8 \times 80)^{1/2}} \approx 20 \text{ min}$. This value is much smaller than the period of the tide.
- (6) The body force: The horizontal acceleration for the tidal flow is absent in the experiments, however, it is too small to be considered.

While a more realistic model could be developed from observational knowledge of the mean current structure in Massachusetts Bay, we feel that our simple two-dimensional model should contain most of the fundamental physics of the internal wave generation appropriate to Massa-

achusetts Bay. We will now consider the different general flow regimes which are possible in our model problem.

B. General Classification of Flow Regimes:

The properties of fluid motion in an inviscid flow depend on the scale and amplitude of the motion and on the physical parameters which characterize the problem. In the previous discussion, we found that for a given physical system, the ratio of scale and amplitude are crucially important in determining the fluid behavior. We will now define several dimensionless numbers, which depend on the relevant scales, which can be used to classify the flow into several quite different regimes. Assume that a symmetric ridge is towed periodically back and forth in a density stratified, inviscid fluid layer as shown schematically in figure 3. The relevant dimensional scales are:

L = the "excursion" of the oscillating ridge,

T = the period of the oscillating ridge,

A = the height of the ridge,

W = the streamwise width of the ridge,

H = the total depth of the layer,

N = the typical Brunt-Vaisala frequency of the fluid,

λ = the wave length,

U = the typical velocity of the moving ridge,

n = internal wave mode number.

In the experiments, the slope of the ridge A/W is almost kept constant and small enough to avoid significant boundary layer separation phenomena. As the ridge is moving, the fluid particles will

be forced to move up and down for L/λ times in a time interval T with a vertical amplitude $\sim A$, thus the vertical velocity w can be scaled as

$$w \sim (L/\lambda)(A/T).$$

Using the equation of continuity, the horizontal velocity of the fluid can be scaled as

$$u \sim w \frac{\lambda}{H} \sim \frac{A}{H} \frac{L}{T},$$

and the inverse of the square root of Richardson number, R_o , can be defined as

$$R_o = \frac{dU/dz}{N} \sim \frac{u/H}{N} \sim \left(\frac{A}{H}\right)\left(\frac{L}{H}\right)\left(\frac{f}{N}\right),$$

where $f = 2\pi/T$ is the frequency of the oscillating ridge.

It is well known from Miles (1960) that the flow may not keep stable for $R_o > 2$, so that mixing phenomena are expected for large R_o . However, potential flow occurs if we keep A/W very small and $U > \frac{NH}{n\pi}$ i.e., U exceeds the phase velocity an internal wave may have. In order to analyse the blocking effect of the ridge, we have to change the relevant horizontal velocity scale from the perturbation velocity u to the velocity of the ridge U . The internal Froude number Fi is defined

$$Fi = \frac{U}{(g'H)^{1/2}} \sim \left(\frac{L}{H}\right)\left(\frac{f}{N}\right),$$

where g' is the reduced gravity $g \frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho}$. Blocking occurs at very low Froude number. Since Fi is independent of A , the start of blocking does not depend on A even though the volume of fluid being blocked is proportional to $A \cdot U$. In a three dimensional space with A/H , L/H , and

f/N as three orthogonal axes (see figure 5), the wave regime is then bounded by two critical surfaces which represent the critical Richardson number and critical Froude number which separate the blocking and mixing regimes from the wave regime.

The wave regime can be further divided into three subregimes by using a parameter $R_L = L/\lambda$ (1) For $R_L \gg 1$, quasi-steady lee waves arise. This case occurs when the period T of the oscillating ridge is much greater than the period of lee waves, and the acceleration of the ridge can be neglected in the analysis. Note, however, that lee waves do not exist if $U > \frac{NH}{\pi c}$, the largest phase velocity an internal wave may have. (2) For $R_L \ll 1$, the ridge is considered to be a classical "wave maker"; the period of the wave is exactly the same as the period of the oscillating ridge. However, the ridge will no longer generate waves if $f > N$, i.e., the highest frequency an internal wave may have (3) For $R_L \sim 1$, an intermediate case between (1) and (2) arises with lee waves being superposed on long waves. These various regimes are illustrated in figure 5 .

In chapter 3, we will analyse the generation of large amplitude internal waves. This flow belongs in the blocking regime, since for a high ridge blocking produces a very large internal initial disturbance with a sharp front which evolves into a long nonlinear internal wave train. In chapter 4, we will analyse "quasi-steady" lee waves. By neglecting the acceleration of the ridge, we can consider the ridge as a moving wave "source" which emits waves along the rays in a $t-x$ diagram. In chapter 5, the mixing regime will be analysed. Here the oscillating ridge is viewed as a "mixer", emitting mixed fluid along

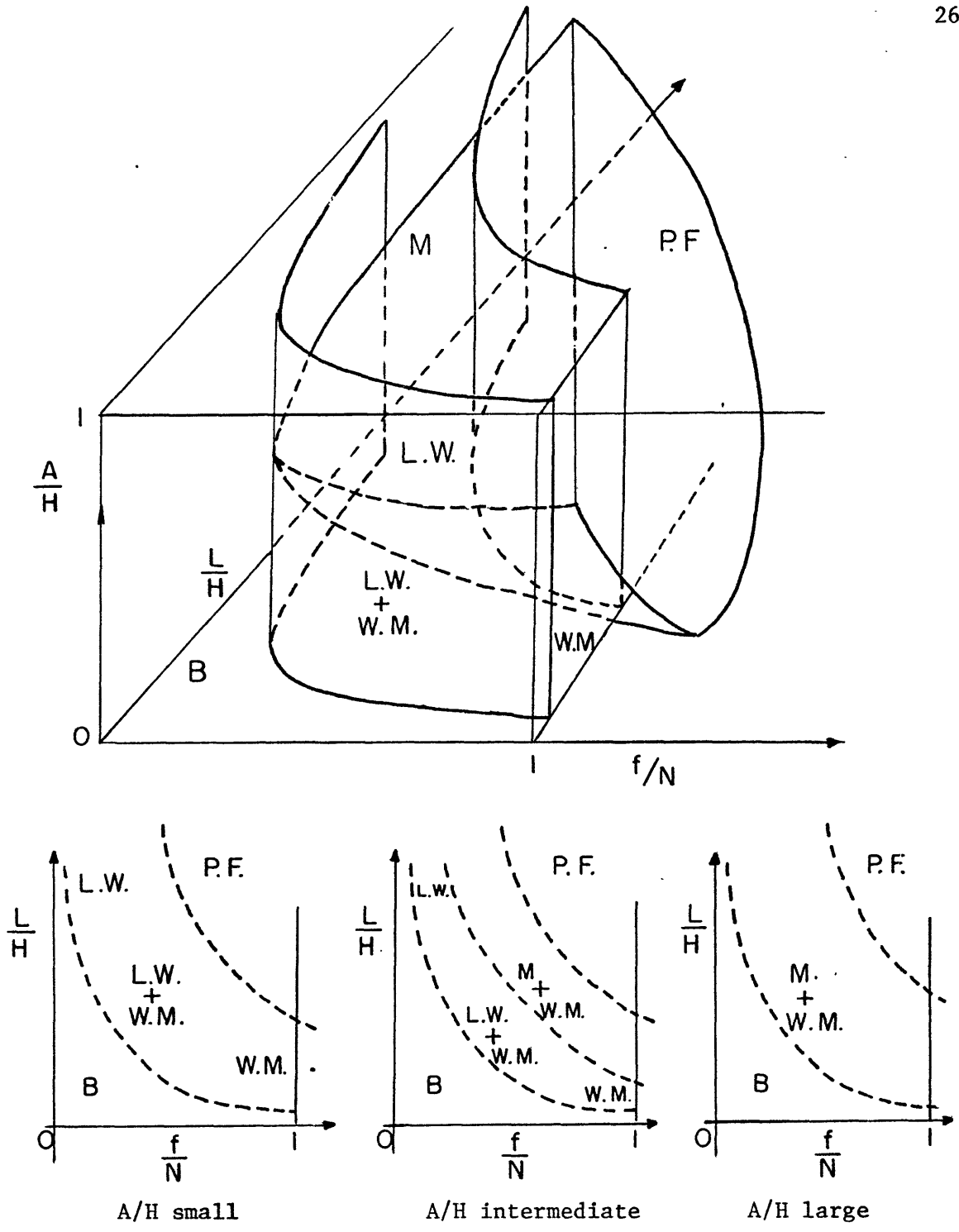


Figure 5. The classification of regimes: P.F. (potential flow), M. (mixing), W.M. (wave maker), L.W. (lee waves), and B. (blocking).

the neutral bouyancy level and causing the unmixed fluid to recirculate back to the ridge.

C. Description of Laboratory Experiment:

The two-dimensional inviscid model problem developed in the preceding section is directly applicable to a simple laboratory experiment. We will now describe the experimental apparatus and procedures.

A rectangular wave tank is used to contain the stratified salt water; it is 4.9 m long, 20.5 cm wide, and 38.4 cm deep. The tank is filled using a procedure attributed to Oster (1965). This allowed any arbitrary but stable basic stratification state to be made. Owing to the corrosive properties of salt water and the convenience for observation, two 50 gallon Tygon barrels are used in the filling system.

The filling procedure is essentially the same as used by Cacchione (1970). Several days before an experiment, the two 50 gallon Tygon barrels were filled to a predetermined volume with hot water. A predetermined amount of salt was added to one barrel and mixed carefully. After the tank had been cleaned, the ridge and wave absorbers put in place, and driving system tested, the siphon connecting the two barrels was primed and the stirrer in the fresh water barrel started. The tank was then filled from the fresh water barrel. The filling process took one day to complete. On the next day, vertical profiles of the index of refraction were taken over several stations using an American optical Company refractometer model 10402. These profiles were then converted into specific gravity profiles using the manufacturer's calibration curves.

A two inch thick screen was placed with an inclination to the side wall at each end of the wave tank (see Phillips et.al., 1968). These screens were used to absorb the internal waves and separate the disturbances caused by the driving wheels on the end walls.

The driving system of the experiment is designed to move the ridge along the bottom of the wave tank. In order to produce "quasi-steady" lee wave trains, the oscillating amplitude and period of the ridge must be much greater than the wave length and period of the lee wave itself. At the same time, we also wanted the motion of the ridge to be relatively smooth, i.e., any occasional irregular motions of the ridge must have time scales and amplitudes much smaller than the period and amplitude of the lee waves. So the drive system has to meet the following primary requirements of

- (1) relatively large, variable "excursion",
- (2) relatively long, variable period,
- (3) reasonably smooth and precise motion.

Since the experiment was designed to get usable data at reasonable cost, we employed wherever possible components left by former students (Cacchione, et.al.) and standard instruments available at the laboratory. In the resulting drive system, the ridge is moved by means of a wire/pully arrangement connected to a precision variable speed gear box assembly (see figure 6 and 7). A small amplitude rectilinear sinusoidal motion device was used to perturb the frequency of oscillator 1, which drives the synchronous motor 1. Motor 2 is driven at constant speed. Both motors are coupled through a differential gear to the

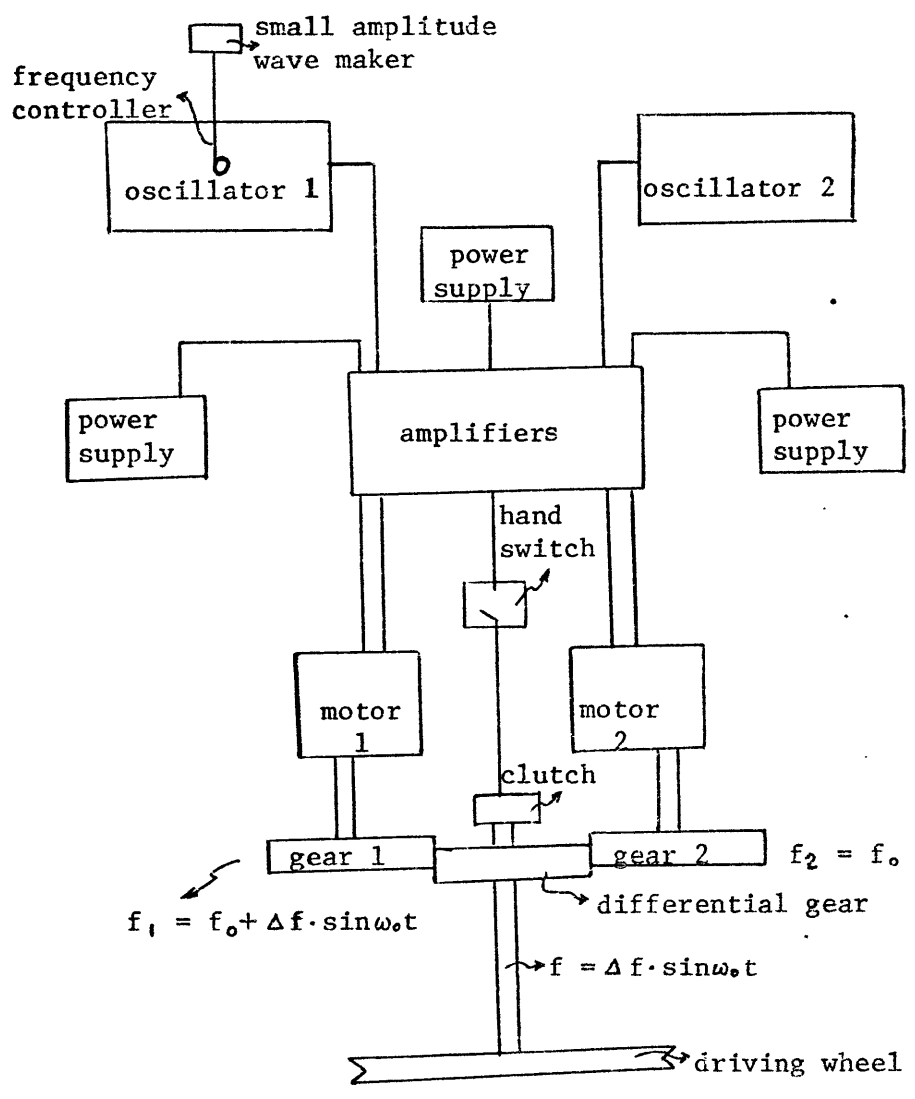


Figure 6 . Drive system.

A - B cross section

string
rubber

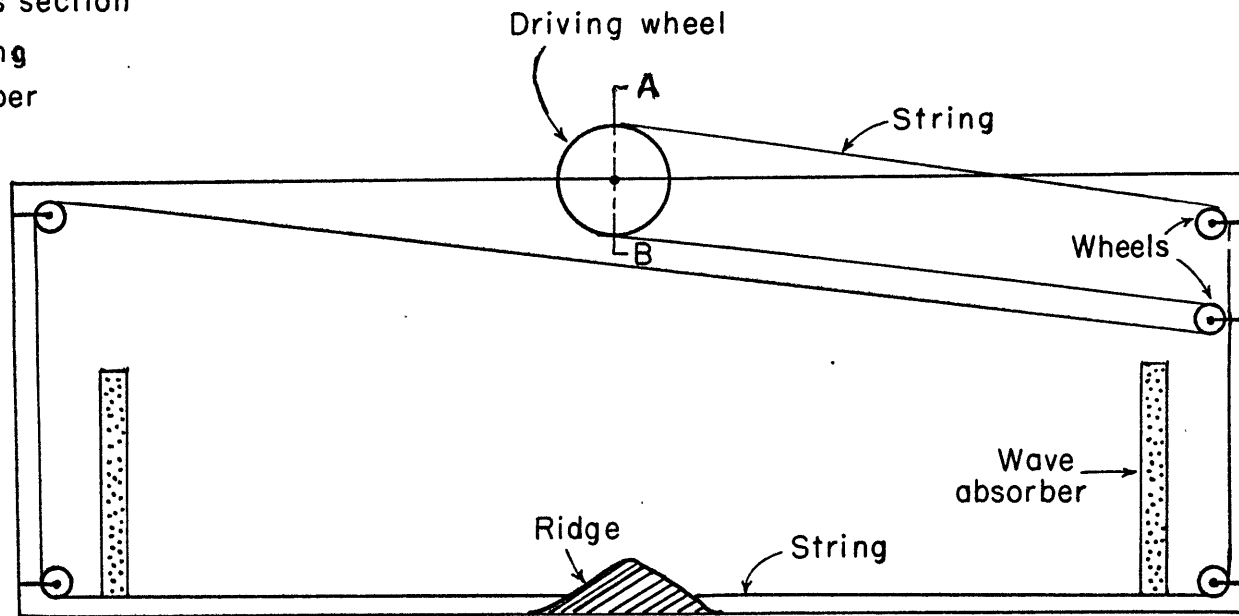
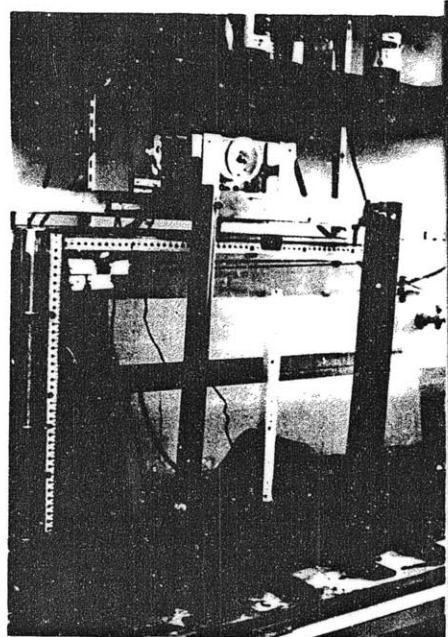


Figure 7. Schematic cross-section of apparatus, showing wave tank, ridge, wave absorbers, and driving wheel.

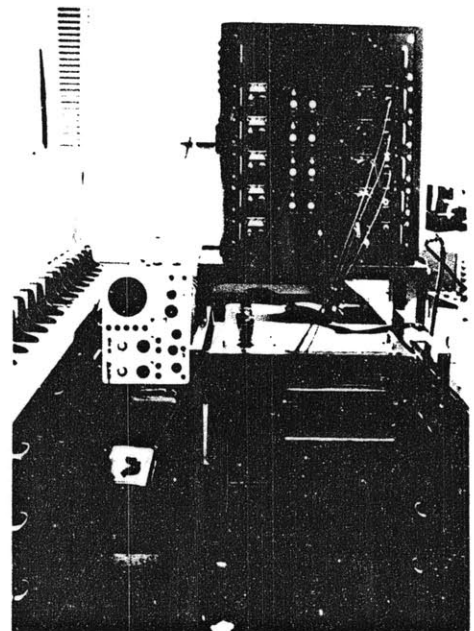
drive wheel so that the speed of the latter is only proportional to the perturbation frequency of oscillator 1. Thus "excursion" and period of the oscillating ridge can be changed by varying the amplitude and period of the frequency perturbation of oscillator 1.

The ridge is made by bending thin aluminium sheet into the symmetric shape desired and mounting on a smooth plexiglas plate. The shape of ridge can be approximately expressed by the curve $Ab^2/(x^2 + b^2)$ as shown in figure 8, where A is the maximum height of ridge, b is a constant. In order to avoid significant friction between the side wall and the ridge, two small wheels were put on each side of the ridge to press against the side walls. The gap between the side and the ridge may produce some unwanted minor disturbances, however, these disturbances were found to die out quickly with distance and to have little influence.

The variations of the properties of the internal disturbances as they propagated away from the ridge were measured with several AC conductivity probes built by Cacchione (1970). The vertical density gradient of the fluid was established using salinity stratification. The temperature variations in the water were found to be small except in thin boundary layer. Since salinity is approximately a linear function of conductivity in the range of salinity values we used, the change of salinity at a point can be approximately evaluated by the change of conductivity. Just before the start of each experiment, the conductivity probes were given static calibrations by raising and lowering them vertically by known increments while recording their output at each level; this gave an updated sensitivity coefficient for each



(A)



(B)

Figure 8 . (A) Photography of wave tank, ridge and drive wheel. (B) Oscilloscope, and recorder.

probe. The conductivity fluctuations of the fluid were recorded on a fast 4-channel Sanborn strip chart recorder. Potassium permanganate (KMnO_4) was used to make vertical dye streaks to determine the vertical profile of the horizontal velocity field and to make the mixed region visible.

3. Long Nonlinear Internal Waves, Theory and Experiment

A. Development of Theoretical Model:

(1) Basic Derivation of Long Nonlinear Internal Wave Equation.

In analogy to classical long surface wave theory, Benjamin (1954, 1966, 1967) did extensive work on stationary internal waves of finite amplitude and permanent form. Benney (1966) extended Benjamin's work to include the time-dependent properties by introducing a new two parameter expansion method. However, for internal waves, the density perturbation does not always equal the velocity perturbation. In order to make Benney's expansion method suitable for all density stratifications (especially for when the Boussinesq approximation applies), we include a third parameter σ in our analysis, where σ is the fractional change in the basic density over the vertical characteristic length D . In this section, we will use a three parameter expansion method based on the assumption that $\sigma \ll 1$; however, σ may or may not be the same order of magnitude as the nonlinear parameter $\mathcal{E} = a/D$ and the dispersive parameter $\mathcal{J} = D^2/\ell^2$, where a is the amplitude of the internal motion and ℓ is the horizontal characteristic length. Long (1964) studied a stationary case with constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency and found that solitary waves do not exist unless higher order terms are retained in his analysis. Long's solutions will then be a special case in the following analysis.

Assume a shallow water layer of incompressible, inviscid fluid with density ρ . The basic density state is $\bar{\rho}_0(z) = \rho_0(1 + \sigma \bar{\rho}(z))$ where $\sigma = \Delta\rho/\rho_0$, $\Delta\rho$ is the basic density change over the vertical

characteristic length, and p_0 is a constant. The two dimensional equations of motion are

$$f(u_t + uu_x + wu_z) = -p_x, \quad (3.1)$$

$$f(w_t + uw_x + ww_z) = -p_z - gf, \quad (3.2)$$

$$u_x + w_z = 0, \quad (3.3)$$

$$p_t + up_x + wp_z = 0. \quad (3.4)$$

where u is the horizontal velocity, w is the vertical velocity, p is the pressure, g is gravity, and the subscripts x , z , and t represent the derivatives to x , y , and t respectively. By eliminating the pressure term from equation (3.1) and (3.2), we get the vorticity equation

$$[f(u_t + uu_x + wu_z)]_z - p_x - [f(w_t + uw_x + ww_z)]_x = 0. \quad (3.5)$$

Now we will scale equations (3.3), (3.4), and (3.5) and make all variables dimensionless. Denoting dimensionless variables by prime, we have

$$x = lx', \quad z = Dz', \quad t = \frac{l}{(\sigma g D)^{1/2}} t',$$

$$u = \varepsilon (\sigma g D)^{1/2} u', \quad w = \varepsilon \cdot \frac{D}{l} (\sigma g D)^{1/2} w',$$

$$p = p_0 (1 + \sigma \bar{p}'(z) + \sigma \varepsilon p'(x, z, t)).$$

The horizontal characteristic length of the dominant structure of the internal disturbance, l , is chosen as the length in which the

deflection of a stream line changes from zero to its maximum value. D is defined as $D = H/n\pi$, where H is the total depth and n is the mode number. The time scale $\ell/(\sigma g D)^{1/2}$ is the time interval for ℓ to pass a certain point. The vertical velocity scale is $a/(\ell/(\sigma g D)^{1/2}) = \varepsilon \frac{D}{2} \sqrt{\sigma g h}$. The horizontal velocity scale $\varepsilon(\sigma g h)^{1/2}$ is obtained from the equation of continuity. Experimental data showed that the above scale provided quite good estimates of the magnitudes of the various quantities. Introducing these dimensionless variables into equations (3.3), (3.4), and (3.5) and dropping primes, we have

$$p_t - \bar{p}_z \psi_x + \varepsilon \psi_z p_x - \varepsilon \psi_x p_z = 0, \quad (3.6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[(1 + \sigma \bar{p} + \sigma \varepsilon p)(\psi_{zt} + \varepsilon \psi_z \psi_{zx} - \varepsilon \psi_x \psi_{zz}) \right]_z - p_x + \delta \left[(1 + \sigma \bar{p} \right. \\ & \left. + \sigma \varepsilon p)(\psi_{xt} + \varepsilon \psi_z \psi_{xx} - \varepsilon \psi_x \psi_{xz}) \right]_x = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where ψ is a stream function defined by

$$u = \frac{\psi}{z}, \quad w = -\psi_x. \quad (3.8)$$

Assume ε , δ , and σ are all small independent parameters, not necessarily of the same order of magnitude. The boundary conditions are

$$\psi_x = 0, \quad \text{at} \quad z = 0, \quad (3.9)$$

$$\psi_x = 0, \quad \text{at} \quad z = n\pi. \quad (3.10)$$

Following a procedure similar to Benney's (1966) two parameter expansion method, the stream function ψ and the perturbation density p are expanded using three parameters ε , δ , and σ as follows,

$$\psi(x, z, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon^i \delta^j \sigma^k \psi^{(i, j, k)}(x, z, t) \quad (3.11)$$

$$f(x, z, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon^i \delta^j \sigma^k f^{(i, j, k)}(x, z, t) \quad (3.12)$$

The zeroth order solution $\psi^{(0,0,0)}(x, z, t)$ will have a form,

$$\psi^{(0,0,0)}(x, z, t) = A(x, t) \phi^{(0,0,0)}(z), \quad (3.13)$$

$$A_t = -CA_x, \quad (3.14)$$

where $\phi^{(0,0,0)}(z)$ and C are eigenfunctions and eigenvalues of the following boundary value problem:

$$\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi^{(0,0,0)} = 0, \quad (3.15)$$

$$\phi^{(0,0,0)}(0) = \phi^{(0,0,0)}(n\pi) = 0.$$

In order to make the first order functions $\psi^{(1,0,0)}(x, z, t)$, $\psi^{(0,1,0)}(x, z, t)$, and $\psi^{(0,0,1)}(x, z, t)$ also separable, equation (3.14) must be modified to the following form

$$A_t = -CA_x + \varepsilon \Gamma A A_x + \delta S A_{xxx} + \sigma \beta A_x \quad (3.16)$$

with

$$\psi^{(1,0,0)}(x, z, t) = A^2 \phi^{(1,0,0)}(z), \quad (3.17)$$

$$\psi^{(0,1,0)}(x, z, t) = A_{xx} \phi^{(0,1,0)}(z), \quad (3.18)$$

$$\psi^{(0,0,1)}(x, z, t) = A \phi^{(0,0,1)}(z), \quad (3.19)$$

where the functions $\phi_{(z)}^{(1,0,0)}$, $\phi_{(z)}^{(0,1,0)}$, and $\phi_{(z)}^{(0,0,1)}$ and the constants Γ , s , and q are obtained by solving the following boundary value problems for r ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{P}_z}{c^2} \phi^{(1,0,0)} &= \frac{\Gamma}{c} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + \frac{1}{c} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{1}{c} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\ \phi^{(1,0,0)}(0) &= \phi^{(1,0,0)}(n\pi) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

for s ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} - \frac{\bar{P}_z}{c^2} \phi^{(0,1,0)} &= \frac{2s}{c} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \phi^{(0,0,0)} \\ \phi^{(0,1,0)}(0) &= \phi^{(0,1,0)}(n\pi) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

and for q ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} - \frac{\bar{P}_z}{c^2} \phi^{(0,0,1)} &= \frac{2q}{c^2} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - (\bar{P}_z \phi_z^{(0,0,0)})_z \\ \phi^{(0,0,1)}(0) &= \phi^{(0,0,1)}(n\pi) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.22)$$

The eigenvalue problem (3.15) yields an infinite set of eigenfunctions $\phi_n^{(0,0,0)}(z)$ and eigenvalues G_n^2 . The constants r , s , and q must take unique values if the boundary value problems (3.20), (3.21), and (3.22) are to have solutions. Corresponding to each mode $(\phi_n^{(0,0,0)}, C_n)$, it is found by suitable integrations that

$$\Gamma = \frac{\int_0^{n\pi} \bar{P}_{zz} \phi_n^{(0,0,0)^3} dz}{\int_0^{n\pi} \bar{P}_z \phi_n^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}, \quad (3.23)$$

$$S = + \frac{G_n}{2} \frac{\int_0^{n\pi} \phi_n^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}{\int_0^{n\pi} \bar{\rho}_z \phi_n^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}, \quad (3.24)$$

$$q = - \frac{G_n^3}{2} \frac{\int_0^{n\pi} \bar{\rho} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}{\int_0^{n\pi} \bar{\rho}_z \phi_n^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}. \quad (3.25)$$

The sign and magnitude of the constants r , s , and q are very important in the generating mechanics of long nonlinear internal waves. It is obvious that $r = 0$, i.e., the nonlinear effect vanishes identically, if the density stratification is linear with z . However, as long as the density stratification is stable ($\bar{\rho}_z > 0$), both s and q keep the same sign and non-zero value.

In general, data obtained in experimental work correspond directly to the displacement of the stream line η rather than to the stream function ψ . It is thus useful to establish the relation between the two functions. To first order approximation, the function η and ψ are

$$\eta(x, z, t) = A\eta^{(0,0,0)}(z) + \epsilon A^2 \eta^{(1,0,0)}(z) + \int A_{xx} \eta^{(0,1,0)}(z) + \sigma A_x \eta^{(0,0,1)}(z), \quad (3.26)$$

$$\psi(x, z, t) = A\phi^{(0,0,0)}(z) + \epsilon A^2 \phi^{(1,0,0)}(z) + \int A_{xx} \phi^{(0,1,0)}(z) + \sigma A_x \phi^{(0,0,1)}(z), \quad (3.27)$$

where the function $A(x, t)$ satisfies equation (3.16).

ψ and η can be related by using the vertical velocity ,

$$-\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = w = \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + (\bar{u}(z) + \epsilon u) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \quad \text{at } z = z_0 + \eta \quad (3.28)$$

where $\bar{u}(z)$ is the basic velocity shear. Introducing (3.26), and (3.27) into (3.28) and using a Taylor series expansion, we get

$$\phi^{(0,0,0)} = (c - \bar{u}) \eta^{(0,0,0)}, \quad (3.29)$$

$$\phi^{(1,0,0)} = (c - \bar{u}) \eta^{(1,0,0)} - r \eta^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{3}{2} \eta^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{1}{2} U_z \eta^{(0,0,0)^2}, \quad (3.30)$$

$$\phi^{(0,1,0)} = (c - \bar{u}) \eta^{(0,1,0)} - s \eta^{(0,0,0)}, \quad (3.31)$$

$$\phi^{(0,0,1)} = (c - \bar{u}) \eta^{(0,0,1)} - g \eta^{(0,0,0)}. \quad (3.32)$$

If $\bar{u}(z) = 0$ (the influences of shear will be analysed later), the zeroth order relation between ψ and η is simply

$$\psi^{(0,0,0)} = c \eta^{(0,0,0)}$$

Introducing this relation into (3.23), (3.24), and (3.25), we find that we need only to multiple the nonlinear coefficient r by a factor C to change $\psi^{(0,0,0)}$ directly to $\eta^{(0,0,0)}$.

Now the problem is how to determine the function $A(x, t)$ from experimental or field data of the form $\eta(x, z, t)$. From (3.26), we get

$$A(x, t) = \frac{\eta(x, t, z_0)}{\eta^{(0,0,0)}(z_0)} + O(\epsilon, \delta, \sigma) \quad (3.33)$$

where $\eta^{(0,0,0)}(z)$ can be calculated by equation (3.15) from the basic stratification, and the point $z = z_0$ is the depth at which the measurements are made. Although $\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}$ and $\frac{\partial A}{\partial x}$ are both zeroth order terms in equation (3.16), the combination $(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + C \frac{\partial}{\partial x})A$ is correct to first order, thus the introduction of (3.33) into equation (3.16) will only produce a second order error, which is allowed in our first order analysis. It is convenient and causes no loss of generality to put $\eta^{(0,0,0)}(z_0) = 1$. We then have

$$\eta_t + C\eta_x - \epsilon r \eta \eta_x + \delta s \eta_{xxx} - \sigma g \eta_x = 0. \quad (3.34)$$

For a wave solution of the form $\eta = \eta(x - C_p t)$ where C_p is the phase velocity, we have

$$C_p = C - \epsilon r \eta + \delta s \frac{\eta'''}{\eta'} - \sigma g.$$

Thus the nonlinear effect will increase (decrease) the phase speed if the sign of the product term $r \cdot \eta$ is negative (positive). This property is very important in the determination of the steepening or flattening of an initial disturbance. For a typical seasonal thermocline in the ocean in which the most temperature variation occurs in the upper half of the water column, the coefficient of the nonlinear term r is positive. Thus a warm front or a depression of the stream line will be steepened, and vice versa. From (3.25), we find that the coefficient q is always positive, thus the role of this inertial term is simply to decrease the phase velocity. The constant s is always positive. However, whether the phase speed is increased or decreased depends on the sign of η'''/η' . For a sinusoidal wave, the dispersive effect

is always to decrease the phase speed.

Three conservative quantities which correspond to mass, momentum, and energy can be derived from equation (3.34). These conservation equations can be written in the following form

$$\frac{\partial P_m}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q_m}{\partial x} = 0, \quad m = 1, 2, 3 \quad (3.36)$$

where

$$P_1 = \eta, \quad Q_1 = (c - \sigma g) \eta - \frac{r\varepsilon}{2} \eta^2 - S \delta \eta_{xx},$$

$$P_2 = \frac{1}{2} \eta^2, \quad Q_2 = \frac{1}{2} (c - \sigma g) \eta^2 - \frac{1}{3} r\varepsilon \eta^3 - S \delta (\eta \eta_{xx} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_x^2),$$

$$P_3 = \frac{1}{3} \eta^3 - \frac{S \delta}{r\varepsilon} \eta_x^2, \quad Q_3 = \frac{1}{3} (c - \sigma g) \eta^3 - \frac{r\varepsilon}{4} \eta^4 - S \delta (\eta^2 \eta_{xx} - \frac{2}{r\varepsilon} \eta_t \eta_x) - \frac{S^2 \delta^2}{r\varepsilon} \eta_{xx}^2.$$

It is obvious that an infinite sequence of conservation equations can be obtained, however, the complexity of the derivation increases rapidly with increasing m . These conservative quantities are very useful in theoretical analysis or numerical calculation. For a disturbance with η and its derivatives vanishing at $x = x_1$ and x_2 , or a periodic disturbance with wave length $\lambda = x_2 - x_1$, we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \eta dx = 0, \quad (3.37)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \eta^2 dx = 0, \quad (3.38)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left(\eta^3 - \frac{3S}{rE} \eta^2 \right) dx = 0 \quad (3.39)$$

Equations (3.37) and (3.38) can be easily used to check the accuracy of numerical predictions of the natural evolution of an localized or periodic disturbance.

(2) Discussion of Boussinesq Approximation

Most studies of internal motion in a weakly stratified fluid use the Boussinesq approximation which neglects density variations in the inertial terms of the equations of motion. After careful scaling for these variables, we find that the parameter σ appears only in the inertial terms of the vorticity equation (3.7). Since σ is an independent parameter, use of the Boussinesq approximation in a first order expansion is equivalent to the assumption that σ is a second order parameter, and in a second order expansion that σ is a third order parameter, and so on. By putting $\sigma = 0$ in the first order expansion, our results agree with Benjamin's (1966) analysis of stationary finite amplitude internal waves in a Boussinesq fluid.

(3) Discussion of Modifications due to Inclusion of Basic Shear $\bar{u}(z)$.

In this section the influences of the basic shear on the nonlinear and dispersive terms will be analysed. Assume there is no singular point ($\bar{u}(z) = C$) and the Richardson number Ri is greater than $1/4$ everywhere in the fluid layer. The order of magnitude of $\bar{u}(z)$ is $\sqrt{\sigma g D}$. For simplicity, we will only consider the case for the Boussinesq approximation, i.e., when $\sigma = 0$. Following a similar procedure, equation (3.15), (3.20), and (3.21) are modified to the following form

$$\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U^2} + \frac{\bar{u}_{zz}}{U} \right) \phi^{(0,0,0)} = 0 ,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} - \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U^2} + \frac{\bar{u}_{zz}}{U} \right) \phi^{(1,0,0)} &= \frac{1}{2U^2} \left[r(-2U\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + \right. \\ &\bar{u}_{zz}\phi^{(0,0,0)}) - 2U\phi_z^{(0,0,0)}\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2U\phi^{(0,0,0)}\phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\ &\left. + \phi^{(0,0,0)}(\bar{u}_z\phi^{(0,0,0)} - \bar{u}_{zzz}\phi^{(0,0,0)}) \right] , \end{aligned} \quad (3.40)$$

$$\phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} - \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U^2} + \frac{\bar{u}_{zz}}{U} \right) \phi^{(0,1,0)} = -\frac{2S}{U}\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + \frac{S\bar{u}_{zz}}{U^2}\phi^{(0,0,0)} - \phi^{(0,0,0)} , \quad (3.41)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma &= \frac{\int_0^{\pi} \frac{\phi^{(0,0,0)}}{U} \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U^2} + \frac{\bar{u}_{zz}}{U} \right) dz + \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\phi^{(0,0,0)^2}}{2U^2} (\bar{u}_z\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \bar{u}_{zzz}\phi^{(0,0,0)}) dz}{\int_0^{\pi} \frac{\phi^{(0,0,0)^2}}{U^2} \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U} + \frac{1}{2}\bar{u}_{zz} \right) dz} , \\ & \quad (3.42) \end{aligned}$$

$$S = \frac{-\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}{\int_0^{\pi} \frac{\phi^{(0,0,0)^2}}{U^2} \left(\frac{\bar{p}_z}{U} + \frac{1}{2}\bar{u}_{zz} \right) dz} . \quad (3.43)$$

where $U \equiv \bar{u}(z) - C$.

Since r and s are very complicated functions of $\bar{u}(z)$, we will compute several examples to illustrate the effects shear $\bar{u}(z)$ has on the nonlinear and dispersive term. The coefficients r , s , c , and Z_{\max} (where Z_{\max} is the position of the maximum of the eigenfunction $\phi_1^{(0,0,0)}(z)$) have been calculated and listed in table 1 for the several typical velocity and density profiles shown in figure 9. These examples indicate that profiles with the magnitude of speed increasing upward gives a negative nonlinear coefficient and vice versa, whereas $\bar{u}(z)$ which is symmetric in z about the mid-depth gives zero contribution to r .

(4) Special Case of Two Layer Density Model

We now examine the modifications to the general theory caused by a discontinuous two layer density field. Let $f = f_0 + \Delta f$ in $0 \leq z \leq h_1$ and $f = f_0$ in $h_1 \leq z \leq h_1 + h_2 = \pi$. The only possible internal long wave for a two layer system is the first mode which has a maximum vertical displacement at the interface. Equation (3.15) becomes

$$\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} = 0 \quad (3.44)$$

in each layer separately, and the solution satisfying the boundary condition $\phi^{(0,0,0)}(0) = \phi^{(0,0,0)}(\pi) = 0$ and continuity at the interface $z = h_1$ is

$$\phi^{(0,0,0)} = z/h_1, \quad 0 \leq z \leq h_1, \quad (3.45)$$

$$\phi^{(0,0,0)} = (\pi - z)/h_2, \quad h_1 \leq z \leq \pi. \quad (3.46)$$

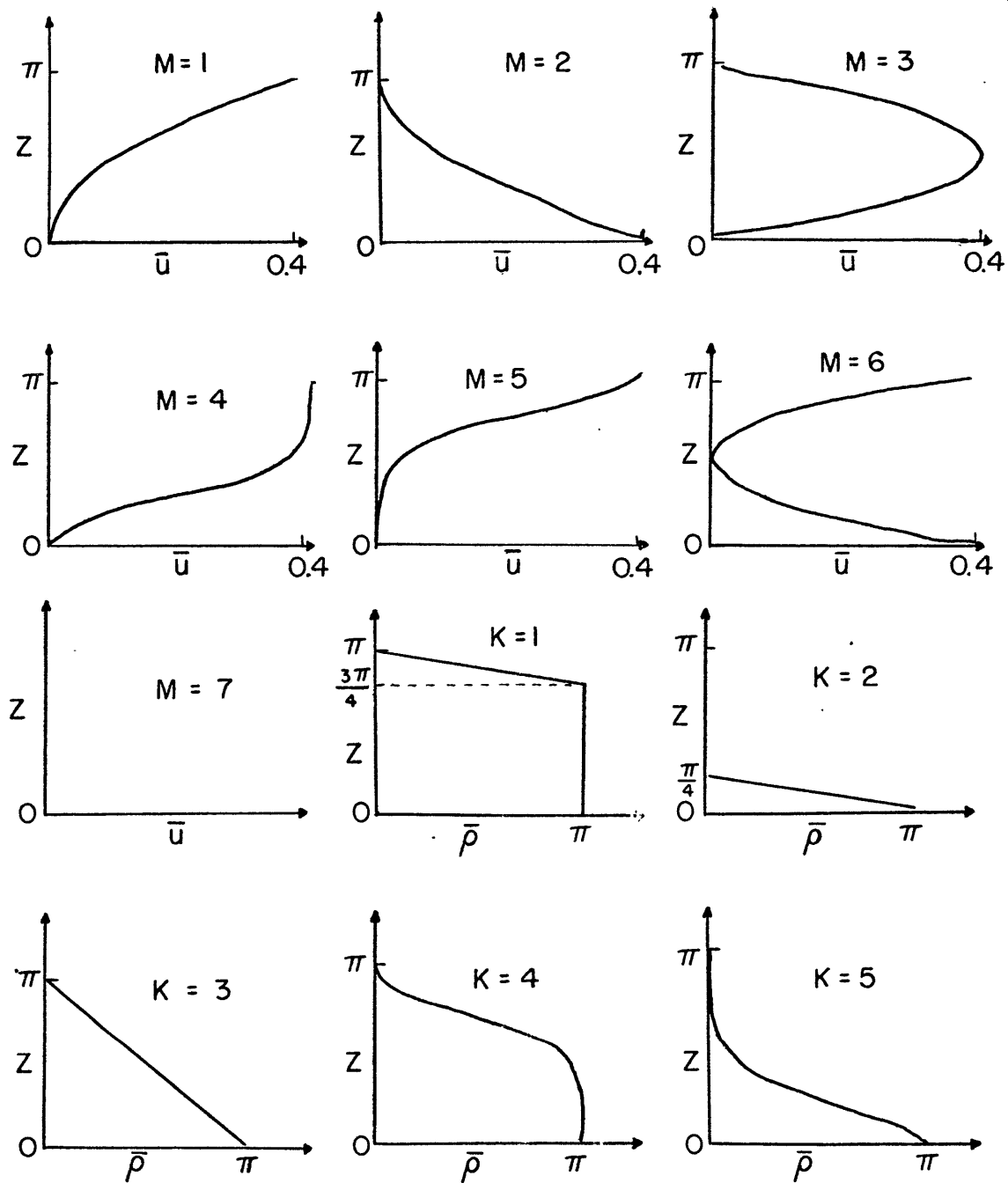


Figure 9 . Several typical velocity profiles $\bar{u}(z)$ ($M=1$ to 7) and density profiles $\bar{\rho}(z)$ ($K=1$ to 5) which are used to calculate the coefficients r and S in table 1 .

$\bar{u}(z)$ (M)	$\bar{p}(z)$ (K)	$C_o \sqrt{\sigma g D}$	$Z_{Max.}$ (H)	r	s
1	1	1.16	0.80	-2.43	0.23
1	2	0.88	0.20	2.56	0.24
1	3	1.17	0.52	-0.17	0.53
1	4	1.35	0.64	-0.85	0.51
1	5	1.21	0.38	0.87	0.53
2	1	0.88	0.80	-2.56	0.24
2	2	1.16	0.20	2.43	0.23
2	3	1.17	0.48	0.17	0.53
2	4	1.21	0.62	-0.87	0.53
2	5	1.35	0.36	0.85	0.51
3	1	0.98	0.80	-2.75	0.14
3	2	0.98	0.20	2.75	0.14
3	3	1.21	0.50	0.00	0.35
3	4	1.32	0.64	-0.91	0.36
3	5	1.33	0.36	0.91	0.36
4	1	1.23	0.80	-2.53	0.18
4	2	0.93	0.20	2.76	0.17
4	3	1.27	0.54	-0.19	0.41
4	4	1.46	0.66	-0.88	0.41
4	5	1.30	0.36	0.95	0.42
5	1	1.17	0.80	-2.37	0.25
5	2	0.88	0.20	2.53	0.27
5	3	1.17	0.54	-0.16	0.57
5	4	1.35	0.64	-0.80	0.54
5	5	1.20	0.38	0.84	0.57
6	1	1.14	0.78	-2.37	0.32
6	2	1.14	0.22	2.37	0.32
6	3	1.23	0.50	-0.00	0.68
6	4	1.35	0.64	-0.82	0.64
6	5	1.35	0.38	0.82	0.64
7	1	0.85	0.80	-2.54	0.21
7	2	0.85	0.20	2.54	0.21
7	3	1.00	0.50	0.00	0.50
7	4	1.12	0.64	-0.87	0.49
7	5	1.12	0.38	0.87	0.49

Table 1 . Numerical calculations of the coefficients of r, S, C , and $Z_{max.}$ using several typical velocity profiles and density profiles in figure 9 .

Since equation (3.44) is homogeneous, we can set $\phi^{(0,0,0)}(h_1) = 1$ with no loss of generality.

The phase velocity C can be easily found by considering the two-layer system as a continuously stratified fluid in the limit that $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ where Δ is the thickness of the interface over which the density variation occurs. Then we may take the limit of equation (3.15) at the interface

$$\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \int_{h_1 - \Delta}^{h_1 + \Delta} \left[\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \right] dz = 0$$

to get

$$\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \left[\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \right]_{h_1 - \Delta}^{h_1 + \Delta} + \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \int_{h_2 - \Delta}^{h_1 + \Delta} \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} dz = 0$$

Since \bar{p} and $\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)}$ are finite functions, the integral term vanishes as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$. This implies that the quantity $\left(\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \right)$ must be continuous across the interface (continuity of pressure). Introducing (3.45) and (3.46) into the above relation yields

$$c = (h_1, h_2)^{1/2}. \quad (3.47)$$

The constants r , s , and q can be calculated using (3.23), (3.24), (3.25), (3.45), and (3.46). After a little manipulation, we have

$$r = \frac{\int_0^\pi \bar{p}_{zz} \phi^{(0,0,0)^3} dz}{\int_0^\pi \bar{p}_z \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{(h_1 - h_2)}{h_1 h_2}, \quad (3.48)$$

$$s = + \frac{c}{2} \frac{\int_0^\pi \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}{\int_0^\pi \bar{p}_z \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz} = \frac{-1}{b} (h_1 h_2)^{1/2}, \quad (3.49)$$

$$q = - \frac{c^3}{2} \frac{\int_0^\pi \bar{p} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz}{\int_0^\pi \bar{p}_z \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} dz} = \frac{1}{2} h_2^{3/2} h_1^{1/2}. \quad (3.50)$$

From (3.48) it is obvious that r is positive if $h_1 > h_2$. This implies that a depression will be steepened ahead of its peak if $h_1 > h_2$, and an elevation will be steepened ahead of its peak if $h_1 < h_2$. The non-linear effect vanishes exactly if $h_1 = h_2$. Since q is always positive, the internal effect of $\Delta \phi$ tends to decrease the phase velocity. The constant s is always positive: however, the phase velocity variation due to the dispersive effect depends on the sign of η''' / η' . For a sinusoidal wave, the dispersive effect always decreases the phase velocity.

(5) Derivation of a Second Order KdV Equation

The governing equation (3.16) derived earlier is a valid approximation correct to first order only. In order to increase the valid time interval of prediction for an initial value problem, we need to calculate the second order terms in this asymptotic expansion.

Equation (3.1) is thus modified into the following form

$$A_t = -CA_x + \epsilon \Gamma AA_x + \int SA_{xxx} + \sigma^2 A_x + \epsilon^2 \lambda_1 (A^3)_x + \int \lambda_2 A_{xxxx} \\ + \sigma^2 \lambda_3 A_x + \epsilon \sigma \lambda_4 AA_x + \epsilon \int (\lambda_5 AA_{xxx} + \lambda_6 A_x A_{xx}) + \int \sigma \lambda_7 A_{xxx}. \quad (3.51)$$

and

$$\epsilon^2: \psi^{(2,0,0)} = A^3 \phi^{(2,0,0)}(z), \quad (3.52)$$

$$\int^2: \psi^{(0,2,0)} = A_{xxxx} \phi^{(0,2,0)}(z), \quad (3.53)$$

$$\sigma^2: \psi^{(0,0,2)} = A \phi^{(0,0,2)}(z), \quad (3.54)$$

$$\epsilon \int: \psi^{(1,1,0)} = AA_{xx} \phi_1^{(1,1,0)}(z) + A_x^2 \phi_2^{(1,1,0)}(z), \quad (3.55)$$

$$\epsilon \sigma: \psi^{(1,0,1)} = A^2 \phi^{(1,0,1)}(z), \quad (3.56)$$

$$\delta \sigma: \psi^{(0,1,1)} = A_{xx} \phi^{(0,1,1)}(z), \quad (3.57)$$

where the functions $\phi^{(2,0,0)}$, $\phi^{(0,2,0)}$, $\phi^{(0,0,2)}$, $\phi_1^{(1,1,0)}$, $\phi_2^{(1,1,0)}$, $\phi^{(1,0,1)}$, and $\phi^{(0,1,1)}$ and the constants $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5, \lambda_6$, and λ_7 are obtained by solving the following boundary value problems.

For $\phi^{(2,0,0)}$ and $\lambda_1 = O(\epsilon^2)$

$$\phi_{zz}^{(2,0,0)} - \frac{\bar{P}_z}{C^2} \phi^{(2,0,0)} = \frac{1}{3C^2} \left[6C\lambda_1 \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - 4\Gamma^2 \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right. \\ \left. - 4\Gamma \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 3\Gamma \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} - \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)^2} - \frac{1}{2} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_{zzzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
& + 2C \phi_z^{(1,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 8\gamma C \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} + 4C \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} \\
& - 2C \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzzz}^{(1,0,0)} - 4C \phi^{(1,0,0)} \phi_{zzzz}^{(0,0,0)} \Big], \quad (3.58)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^{(2,0,0)}(0) = \phi^{(2,0,0)}(\pi\pi) = 0.$$

For $\phi^{(0,2,0)}$ and $\lambda_2 = O(\delta^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{zz}^{(0,2,0)} - \frac{\bar{P}}{C^2} \phi^{(0,2,0)} &= \frac{1}{C^2} \left[2\lambda_2 C \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - S^2 \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right. \\
& \left. + 2SC(\phi^{(0,0,0)} + \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)}) - C^2 \phi^{(0,1,0)} \right], \quad (3.59)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^{(0,2,0)}(0) = \phi^{(0,2,0)}(\pi\pi) = 0.$$

For $\phi^{(0,0,2)}$ and $\lambda_3 = O(\sigma^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{zz}^{(0,0,2)} - \frac{\bar{P}}{C^2} \phi^{(0,0,2)} &= \frac{1}{C^2} \left[2\lambda_3 C \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2\gamma C (\bar{P} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)}) \right. \\
& \left. + 2\gamma C \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} - C^2 (\bar{P} \phi_z^{(0,0,1)}) + \gamma^2 \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right], \quad (3.60)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^{(0,0,2)}(0) = \phi^{(0,0,2)}(\pi\pi).$$

For $\phi^{(1,0,1)}$ and $\lambda_4 = O(\varepsilon\sigma)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{zz}^{(1,0,1)} - \frac{\bar{p}_z}{c^2} \phi^{(1,0,1)} &= \frac{1}{2c^2} \left\{ 2\lambda_4 c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4\gamma c (\bar{p}_z \phi_z^{(0,0,0)})_z \right. \\
&+ 4\gamma c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} - 4\gamma \delta \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4\gamma c \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} \\
&- 2\gamma \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2\gamma \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} - c \bar{p}_z \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \\
&- 2c^2 \bar{p}_z \phi_z^{(1,0,0)} + 2c \bar{p}_z \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} - 2c \bar{p}_z \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
&- 2c^2 \bar{p}_z \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} + 2\bar{p}_z c \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - 2\bar{p}_z c \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
&+ 2c \phi_z^{(0,0,1)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2c \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} - 2c \phi^{(0,0,1)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
&\left. - 2c \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,1)} - c^3 \phi_z \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} + c^3 \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)^2} \right\}, \quad (3.61)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^{(1,0,1)}(0) = \phi^{(1,0,1)}(\pi).$$

For $\phi_1^{(1,1,0)}$ and $\lambda_5 = o(\epsilon \delta)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{1zz}^{(1,1,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}_2}{c^2} \phi_1^{(1,1,0)} &= \frac{1}{c^2} \left[2\lambda_5 c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4rs \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right. \\
&+ 4sc \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} - 2s \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - 2c \phi^{(0,1,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
&+ s \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4rc \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} + 4rc \phi^{(0,0,0)} \\
&\left. + 2c \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} + 2c \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} - 2c^2 \phi^{(1,0,0)} \right], \\
\end{aligned} \tag{3.62}$$

$$\phi^{(0,1,0)}(0) = \phi_1^{(1,1,0)}(n\pi).$$

For $\phi_2^{(1,1,0)}$ and $\lambda_6 : 0 (\epsilon\delta)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{2zz}^{(1,1,0)} - \frac{\bar{p}_2}{c^2} \phi_2^{(1,1,0)} &= \frac{1}{2c^2} \left[2\lambda_6 c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - c^2 \phi_{1zz}^{(1,1,0)} \right. \\
&+ \bar{p}_2 \phi_1^{(1,1,0)} - 2rs \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4rc \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} + s \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \\
&+ 4rc \phi^{(0,0,0)} - 2c \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} - 2c \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \\
&\left. + 2c \phi_z^{(0,1,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right], \\
\end{aligned} \tag{3.63}$$

where $\phi_1^{(1,1,0)}$ in the right side of equation (3.63) can be eliminated from equation (3.62), and

$$\phi_2^{(1,1,0)}(0) = \phi_2^{(1,1,0)}(\pi\pi).$$

For $\phi^{(0,1,1)}$ and $\lambda_7 = 0(\delta\sigma)$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,1)} - \frac{\bar{p}}{c^2} \phi^{(0,1,1)} &= \frac{1}{c^2} \left[2\lambda_7 c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 25c(\bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)})_z \right. \\ &+ 25c \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} + 2\beta c \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} + 2\beta c \phi^{(0,0,0)} + 2\beta s \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \\ &\left. - c^2(\bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,1,0)})_z - c^2 \phi^{(0,0,1)} - c^2 \bar{p} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \right] \quad (3.64) \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^{(0,1,1)}(0) = \phi^{(0,1,1)}(\pi\pi).$$

The constants $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5, \lambda_6$, and λ_7 are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 &= \frac{1}{6c \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)2}} \left[4\Gamma^2 \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)2} - 10\Gamma \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)4} - 2 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)2} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 3 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)2} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} - 2c \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)2} \phi_z^{(1,0,0)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 8\Gamma c \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} - 6c \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$+ 4 \left(\phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(1,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4C \left(\phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(1,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right) \right), \quad (3.65)$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[S^2 \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} + 2CS \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \right. \\ \left. + 2SC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,1,0)} - C^2 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(0,1,0)} \right], \quad (3.66)$$

$$\lambda_3 = \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[2gC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,1)} \right. \\ \left. + C^2 \int \bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,1)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} - 2gC \int \bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} - g^2 \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \right], \quad (3.67)$$

$$\lambda_4 = \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[4rC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} - 4rC \int \bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \right. \\ \left. + 4rg \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} + 4gC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(1,0,0)} + 2g \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^3} \right. \\ \left. + C \int \bar{p} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} + 2C \int \bar{p} \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \right. \\ \left. + 2C^2 \int \bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(1,0,0)} - 2C \int \bar{p} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^3} + 2C \int \bar{p} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} \right. \\ \left. + 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,1)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zz}^{(0,0,1)} \right] \quad (3.68)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(0,0,1)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} - 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,1)} \\
& + C^3 \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} + 2C^3 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)^2} \quad (3.68)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_5 = & \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[4SC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(1,0,0)} - 4TS \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \right. \\
& + 2S \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^3} - 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(0,1,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4TC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} \\
& + 4TC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} - 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} \\
& \left. + 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} - 2C^2 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(1,0,0)} \right], \quad (3.69)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_6 = & \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[2TS \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} + 4TC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} \right. \\
& + S \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} + 4TC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} - 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \\
& \left. + 4C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} + 2C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_z^{(0,1,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,0)} \right], \quad (3.70)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_7 = & \frac{1}{2C \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2}} \left[2SC \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,0,1)} - 2SC \int \bar{\rho} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} \right. \\
& + 2\delta C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi_{zzz}^{(0,1,0)} + 2\delta C \int \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} + C^2 \int \bar{\rho} \phi_z^{(0,1,0)} \phi_z^{(0,0,0)} \\
& \left. - 2\delta S \int \phi_z^{(0,0,0)^2} - C^2 \int \phi^{(0,0,0)} \phi^{(0,0,1)} - C^2 \int \bar{\rho} \phi^{(0,0,0)^2} \right]. \quad (3.71)
\end{aligned}$$

B. Numerical Analysis and Comparison with Experiment;

(1) Generation of Long Nonlinear Internal Waves from a Front

We have already pointed out that the finite amplitude internal wave trains observed in Massachusetts Bay may be generated from the blocking front formed by the semidiurnal tidal flow near Stellwagen Bank. From the experimental results shown in figure 1 and 2, it is obvious that the nonlinear effect plays a very important role in the wave generating mechanism. However, we will now illustrate that dispersion rather than nonlinearity plays the major role, with the latter just increasing or decreasing dispersion. In this section we will solve equation (2.16) numerically to explore influences of dispersion and nonlinearity on wave generation.

In the classical theory of bores, the energy cannot be conserved across the bore front due to dissipation at the turbulent front. Lemoine (1948) tried to use linear wave theory to test the possibility that a stationary wave train behind a bore front could radiate the necessary energy away from the front and thus avoid a turbulent front. His results showed that the amplitude of the wave train needed to be so large that the assumption of linear theory is violated. In their theory of stationary wave trains on a bore, Benjamin and Lighthill (1954) examined in detail the constraints for which a finite amplitude long wave train is possible to exist behind a bore front. They showed that the necessary condition for a stationary cnoid wave train on a weak bore is that either the energy or the momentum or both of them cannot be kept constant across the front. On the other hand, for

nonstationary conditions, both energy and momentum can be conserved across the front which seems more reasonable for a smooth nonturbulent bore of inviscid fluid. In addition, we can even find out how these waves are generated from a front by solving the suitable initial value problem. The surface wave KdV equation has been solved numerically by many authors (Peregrine [1966], Zabusky and Kruskal [1965], Mei, Madsen, and Savage [1970]). For internal waves, the basic density stratification may change the sign of the coefficient of the nonlinear term. Since the form of the governing internal KdV equation remains identical to the surface wave equation, we will use the same general numerical method as Peregrine (1966).

In order to calculate the constants r , s , and q we have to solve the following boundary value problem

$$\phi_{zz} + f(c, z)\phi = 0 \quad (3.72)$$

with boundary conditions $\phi(0) = \phi(H) = 0$,

where c is the eigenvalue, ϕ is the corresponding eigenfunction, and $f(c, z)$ is an arbitrary function. The solution was found using the following second-order finite-difference approximation,

$$\frac{\phi_{i+1} - 2\phi_i + \phi_{i-1}}{\Delta z^2} + f(c, z_i)\phi_i = 0, \quad (3.73)$$

$$\phi_1 = 0, \quad (3.74)$$

$$\phi_N = 0, \quad (3.75)$$

where $z_i = \Delta z(i-1)$, $i = 1, \dots, N$, $\Delta z = H/(N-1)$, and $\phi_i = \phi(z_i)$.

Equation (3.72) is homogeneous so that we may assume that the eigenfunction is known at one point between the two boundaries. The method we used is to give an arbitrary value to ϕ_2 and an initial value C_T for the eigenvalue C . Then we can calculate ϕ_3, \dots, ϕ_N using (3.73) and (3.74). If ϕ_N does not satisfy equation (3.75), the calculation is repeated with a new value of C_T until convergence is reached.

The accuracy of the eigenfunction is improved by decreasing and reducing the convergence criteria on $\phi_N = 0$. Since here we are primarily interested in the first mode, introducing the first mode solutions into (3.23), (3.24), and (3.25) allows the constants r , s , and q to be found numerically. However, higher modes do make minor contributions in the initial disturbance and introduce some error to this initial value problem.

The governing equation (3.34) may be changed into several different forms, since the higher order terms in (3.34) may be manipulated using the following zeroth order relation

$$\eta_t + C\eta_x = 0 \quad (\varepsilon, \delta).$$

Such modifications introduce a second order error which can be neglected in our first order approximation. We then change (3.24) into the following form

$$\eta_t + C_0 \eta_x + R \eta \eta_x + S \eta_{xxt} = 0, \quad (3.76)$$

where $C_0 = C - \sigma q$, $R = -E\Gamma$, and $S = \int S / C$. The following second-order finite-difference analog to (3.76) is used

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\eta(i, j+1) - \eta(i, j)}{\Delta t} + (C_0 + R\eta(i, j)) \frac{[\eta(i+1, j+1) - \eta(i+1, j)]}{4\Delta x} \\ & + \frac{[\eta(i+1, j) - \eta(i-1, j)]}{4\Delta x} + \frac{S}{\Delta x^2 \Delta t} (\eta(i+1, j+1) - 2\eta(i, j+1) \\ & + \eta(i-1, j+1) - \eta(i+1, j) + 2\eta(i, j) \\ & - \eta(i-1, j)) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.77)$$

where $\eta(i, j) = \eta([i-1]\Delta x, [j-1]\Delta t)$. Gaussian elimination is used to calculate $\eta(i, j+1)$ using $\eta(i, j)$ and the boundary values $\eta(1, j+1)$ and $\eta(N, j+1)$. The integrating range in space is chosen large enough so that the boundary values remain almost constant over the period of integration. Furthermore, the integrating range translates with speed C_0 , thus, saving computing time. The above numerical procedure is mainly intended to be applied to initial value problems. For boundary value problems, equation (3.76) can be changed to the following form

$$\eta_x + \frac{1}{C_0} \eta_t - \frac{R}{C_0} \eta \eta_t - \frac{S}{C_0^2} \eta_{ttx} = 0. \quad (3.78)$$

This equation (3.78) has the same form as equation (3.76) with the interchange the independent variables x and t ; thus, our numerical procedure used for initial value problems may also be used in boundary value problems.

The accuracy of this numerical procedure can be checked by the following ways:

- (1) Conservation of η (this requirement is due to equation (3.77)),
- (2) Conservation of η^2 (this requirement is due to equation (3.78)),
- (3) Special case (a solitary wave is an exact stationary solution to equation (3.78), therefore, there will be no change in η if the initial condition is a solitary wave). The numerical results were essentially independent of any decrease in the time and space intervals Δt and Δx .

Since our governing KdV equation is based on an asymptotic expansion in several small parameters, we must check if the initial conditions and time interval of prediction we chose are compatible with this approximate equation. The following requirements are necessary.

- (1) The initial disturbance must propagate in the $+x$ direction only with positive phase velocity C_0 .

- (2) The dominant structure of the initial disturbance must satisfy the long wave approximation.
- (3) Since the magnitudes of the terms neglected in this equation are of order ϵ^2 , $\epsilon\delta$, and δ^2 , the accumulated error may become a magnitude of order unity after a time interval of $1/\epsilon^2$ or $1/\delta^2$. However, there will be no significant change in the initial disturbance before a time interval $1/\epsilon$. Thus the "usable" time range of this equation is $1/\epsilon \leq t < 1/\epsilon^2$. For internal waves in a continuously stratified fluid, the initial disturbance may consist of infinite modes. Although the experimental data showed that the first mode is the dominant one, the misrepresentation of the higher modes may introduce some additional error into our prediction.

The only stationary solution of the KdV equation with no motion at infinity is the solitary wave with its nonlinear term exactly balancing the dispersive term such that the shape of wave remains constant. The phase speed of the solitary wave is greater than the long wave speed. The typical KdV equation is

$$\eta_t + C_0 \eta_x + R \eta \eta_x + S \eta_{xxx} = 0, \quad (3.79)$$

and the solitary wave solution $\eta(x - ct)$ is

$$\eta = R \eta_0 \operatorname{sech}^2 \left\{ (R \eta_0 / 12S)^{1/2} (x - ct) \right\}, \quad (3.80)$$

$$C = C_0 + R \eta_0 / 3, \quad (3.81)$$

where $R = 3/2$, $S = -1/6$ for surface wave.

Now we will analyse the nonlinear and dispersive effects in the generation of long nonlinear internal waves from an internal front. The variations of the nonlinear and dispersive effects due to different basic density and velocity profiles are represented by the different combinations of R and S . The front structure consists of two different levels connected by one half of a solitary wave profile with $R = S = 1$ and $\eta_0 = 0.2$.

(A) Varying R with $S = 1$: The numerical calculations (shown in figure /0) show that

- (1) The phase speed of the crest of the leading wave is increased as R is increased.
- (2) The amplitude of the crest of the leading wave becomes larger and its width becomes shorter and the slope of the front increases as R is increased.
- (3) More wave crests are generated as R is increased.

Figure // . shows that trajectories of the leading wave crest for different R , and figure /2 shows that growth rates of the leading wave crest for different R . While the phase speed of the leading wave crest increases with increasing R and keeps almost constant with time except initially, the growth rate of the amplitude of the leading wave crest increases with R and decreases with time.

(B) Varying S with $R = 1$: The numerical calculations (shown in figure /3) show that

- (1) The phase speed of the crest of the leading wave is

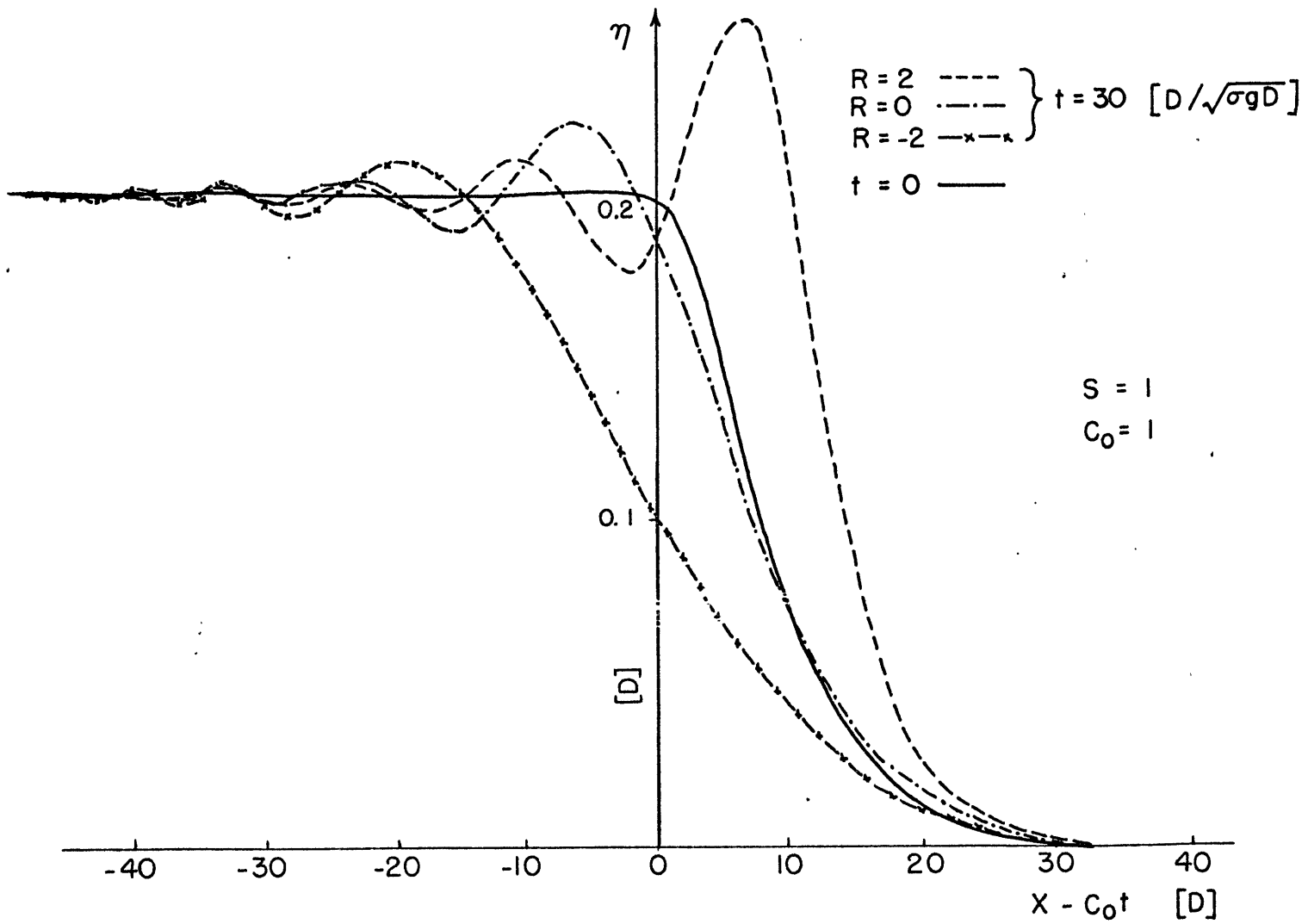


Figure 10. Numerical example illustrating the nonlinear effect on the generation of long waves on a front.

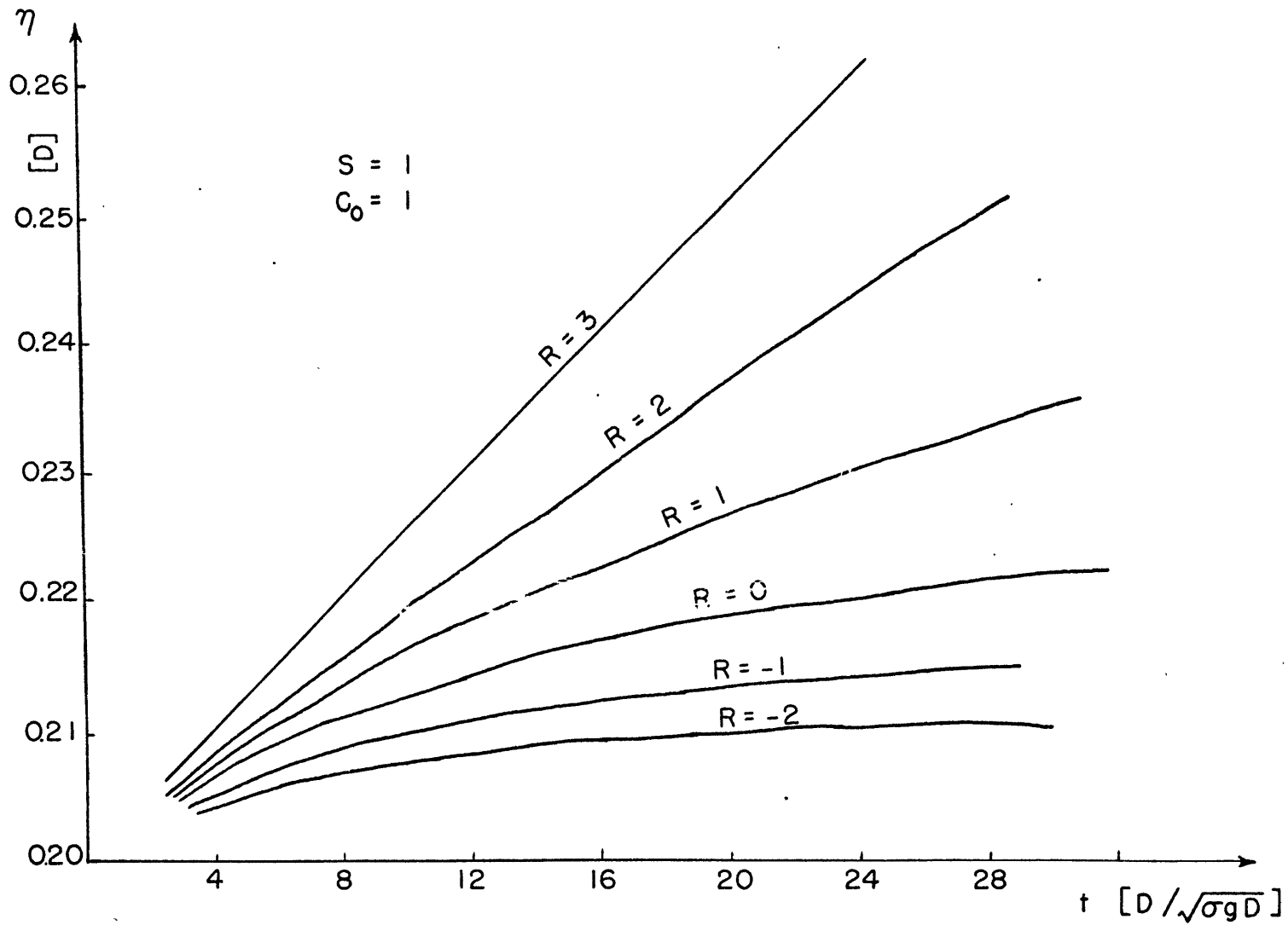


Figure /2. The growth of the amplitude of the leading wave for different R.

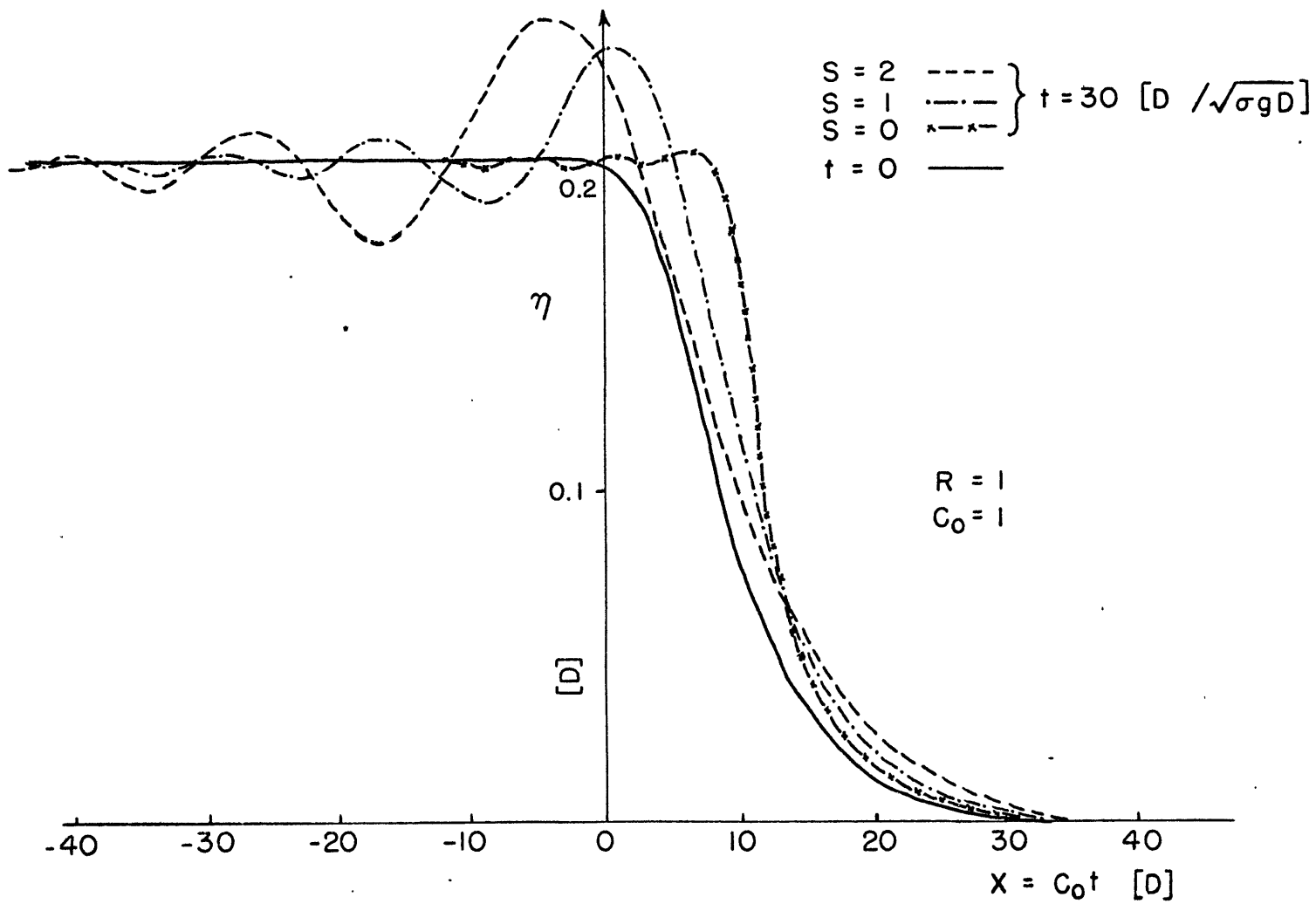


Figure 13. Numerical example illustrating the dispersive effect on the generation of long waves on a front.

decreased as S is increased.

- (2) The amplitude of the crest of the leading wave becomes large and its width becomes shorter as S is increased. Waves are not observed when $S = 0$, thus corresponding to Airy's theory.

- (3) More wave crests are generated as S is increased.

Figure /4 shows the trajectories of the leading wave crest for different S , and figure /5 shows the growth rates of the amplitude of the leading wave crest for different S . Here the phase speed of the leading wave crest decreases with increasing S and increases with time, while the growth rate of the amplitude of the leading wave crest increases with increasing S for small S and then keeps almost constant. The wave length (defined by the distance between the leading two wave crests) increases with time in both (A) and (B).

As an aside to this section, it is interesting to observe numerically how the solitary wave adjusts itself if there is a small deviation from the exact solution. The purpose of this investigation is to find whether the solitary wave is a boundary which separates two different regions of evolution of an isolated long disturbance or if the initial disturbance tends to evolve into a steady solitary wave profile. Two cases are analysed.

In the first case, corresponding to a decreased nonlinear effect, the wave amplitude decreases gradually and the wave length increases, with some small waves being formed behind the main peak. In the second case corresponding to an increased nonlinear terms, a reverse trend is shown (figure 4). Thus, the solitary wave clearly plays an important

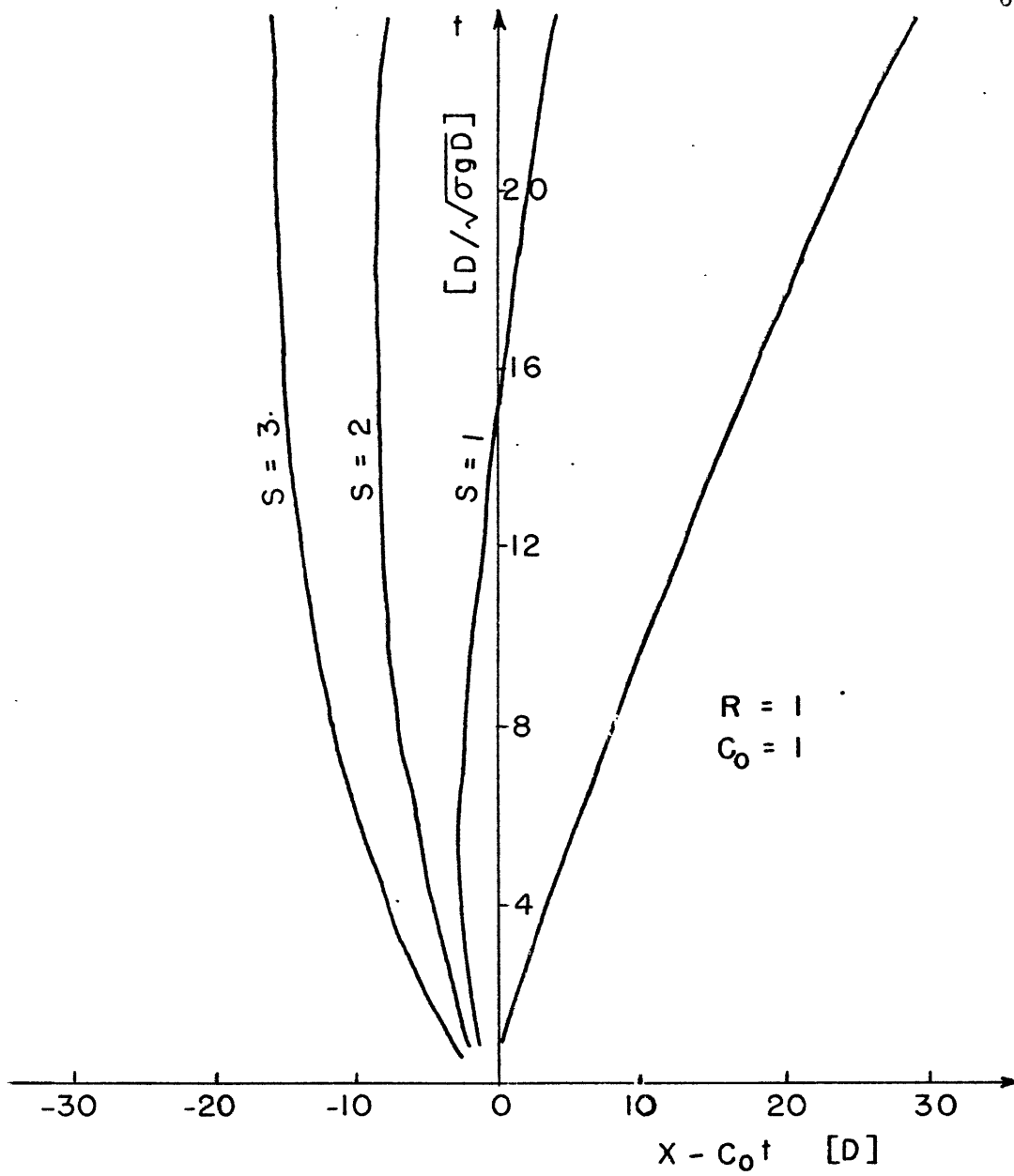


Figure 14. The trajectory of the peak of the leading wave with different S .

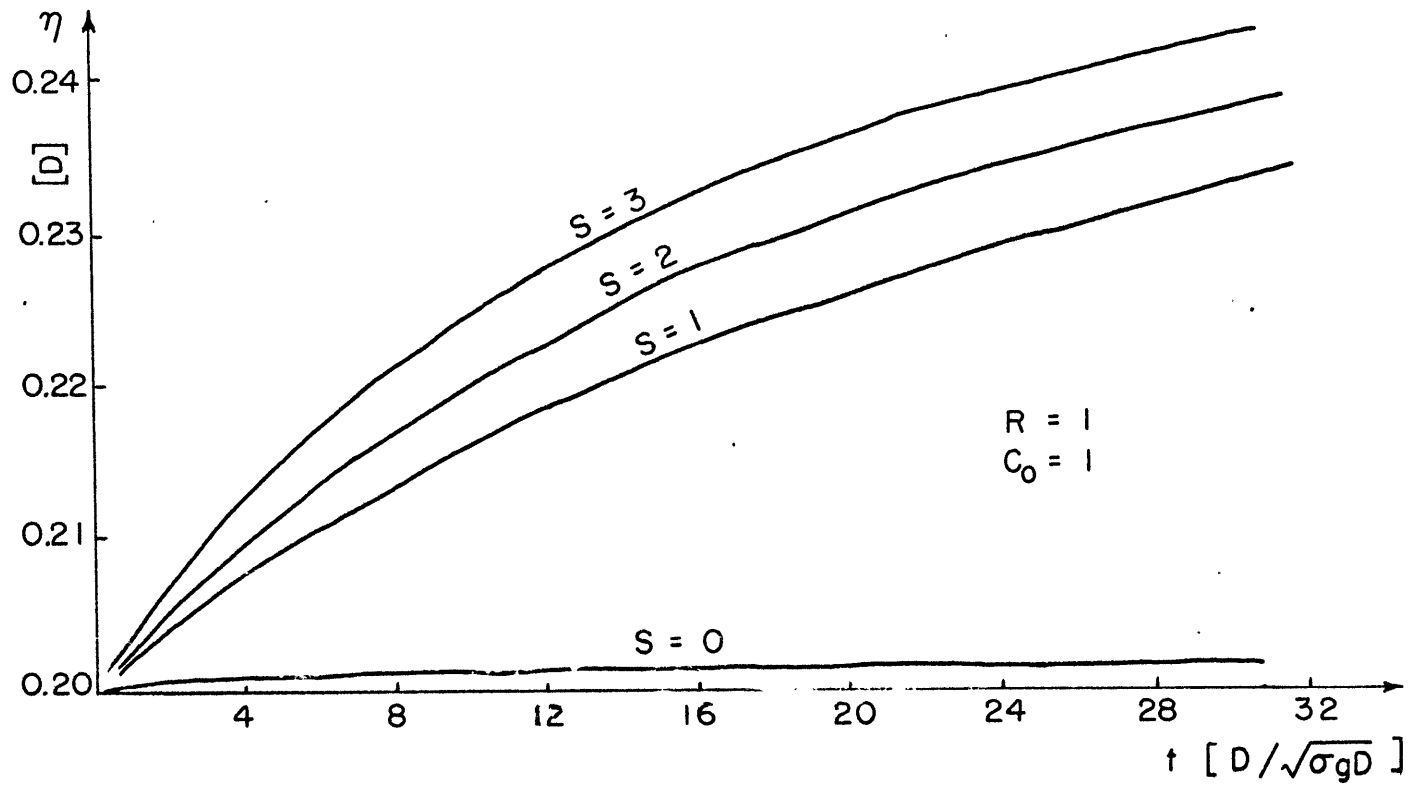


Figure 15. The growth of the amplitude of the leading wave for different S .

role in the natural evolution of certain long disturbances.

(2) Comparison of numerical solution with laboratory results.

In the four laboratory experiments to be discussed here, the appropriate physical dimensions as shown in figure 3 are: A = 6.5 cm, W = 17 cm, L = 10 cm, RA = 60 cm, AB = 51 cm, BC = 38 cm, T = 36 sec, H = 13.5 cm, $\sigma = 0.00274$ for experiments 1 and 2, and $\sigma = 0.00165$ for experiments 3 and 4.

Experiment 1: moving the ridge toward the probes for one half period of a sinusoidal path. The numerical calculations shown in figure 16 correspond to the laboratory observations shown in figure 1. Both illustrate the generation of a long nonlinear internal wave train from an initial elevation of the isopycnal surfaces. In these figures and those which follow, we choose to compare the numerically predicted isopycnal surface elevation with that inferred from direct conductivity measurements using the lowest order relationship,

$$\eta(t) = \frac{C^*(t) - \bar{C}^*}{d\bar{C}^*/dz}, \quad (3.82)$$

where \bar{C}^* and $d\bar{C}^*/dz$ are the average value and gradient of conductivity at the the depth of the probe. In our laboratory experiment, the conductivity of the saline fluid increase monotonically with depth. In Massachusetts Bay, density in the seasonal thermocline is primarily determined by the temperature field with the mean temperature decreasing with depth. To facilitate direct comparison of our results with Halpern's temperature observations, we plot our streamline elevation

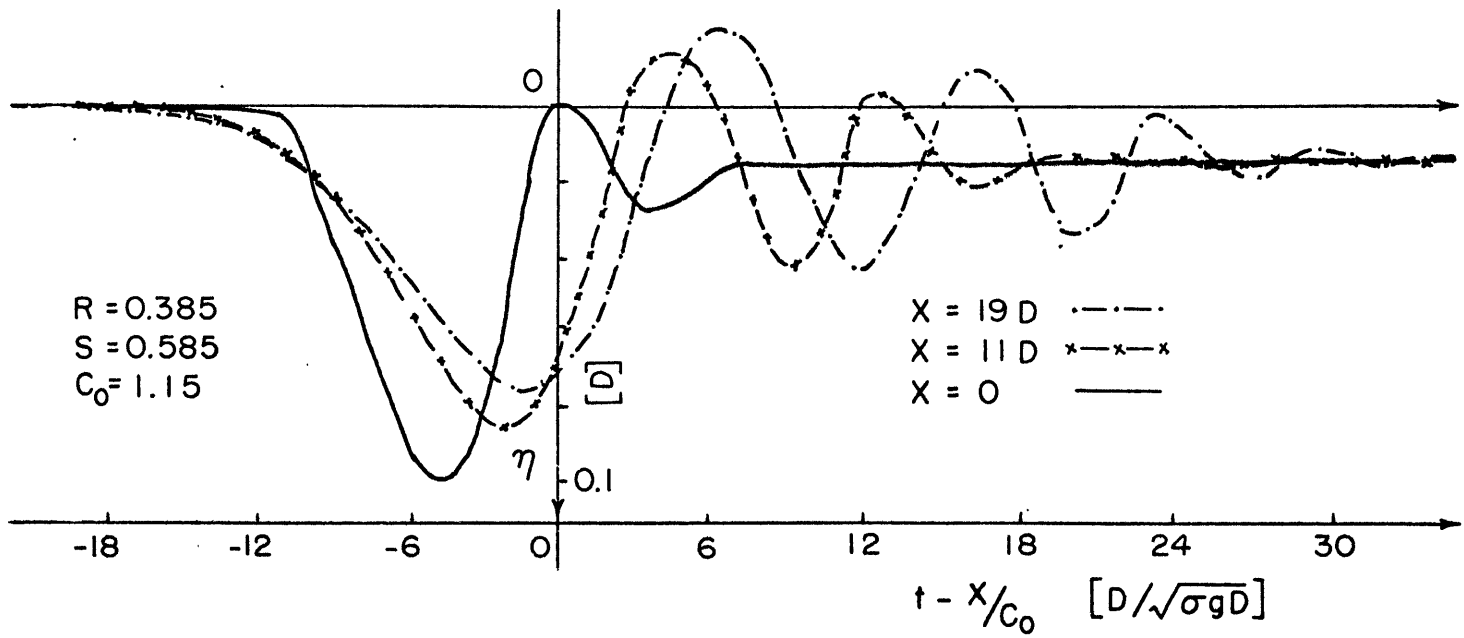


Figure 16. Numerical results corresponding to experiment 1.

results with the positive $+z$ direction downwards. These plots are then identical to temperature measurements if we had indeed used temperature to stratify our laboratory system.

Experiment 2: moving the ridge away from the probes for one half period of a sinusoidal path. Both the numerical prediction in figure 17 and the laboratory results in figure 2 show the generation of a solitary type wave from an initial depression of the isopycnal surfaces.

Experiment 3: moving the ridge for one complete period of a sinusoidal path. If we choose the maximum point of the streamline elevation in the experimental results (see in figure 18) as the beginning point of a "warm front", the "thermal" record looks similar to the warm front observed in Massachusetts Bay. An internal wave train is generated on this "warm front". Figure 19 illustrates the numerical calculations corresponding to the experimental results, which show the growth of the leading waves.

Experiment 4: moving the ridge for several periods. The experimental results and numerical results (see figure 20 and 21 respectively) show that several waves are generated on the initial periodic disturbance.

Comparison of the experimental and numerical results indicate relatively good agreement between observed and predicted phase speed and wave period (see table 2 for comparisons for experiments 3 and 4). However, the data also shows a general drift due to the probes themselves in addition to some net mass transport which may change the basic density structure.

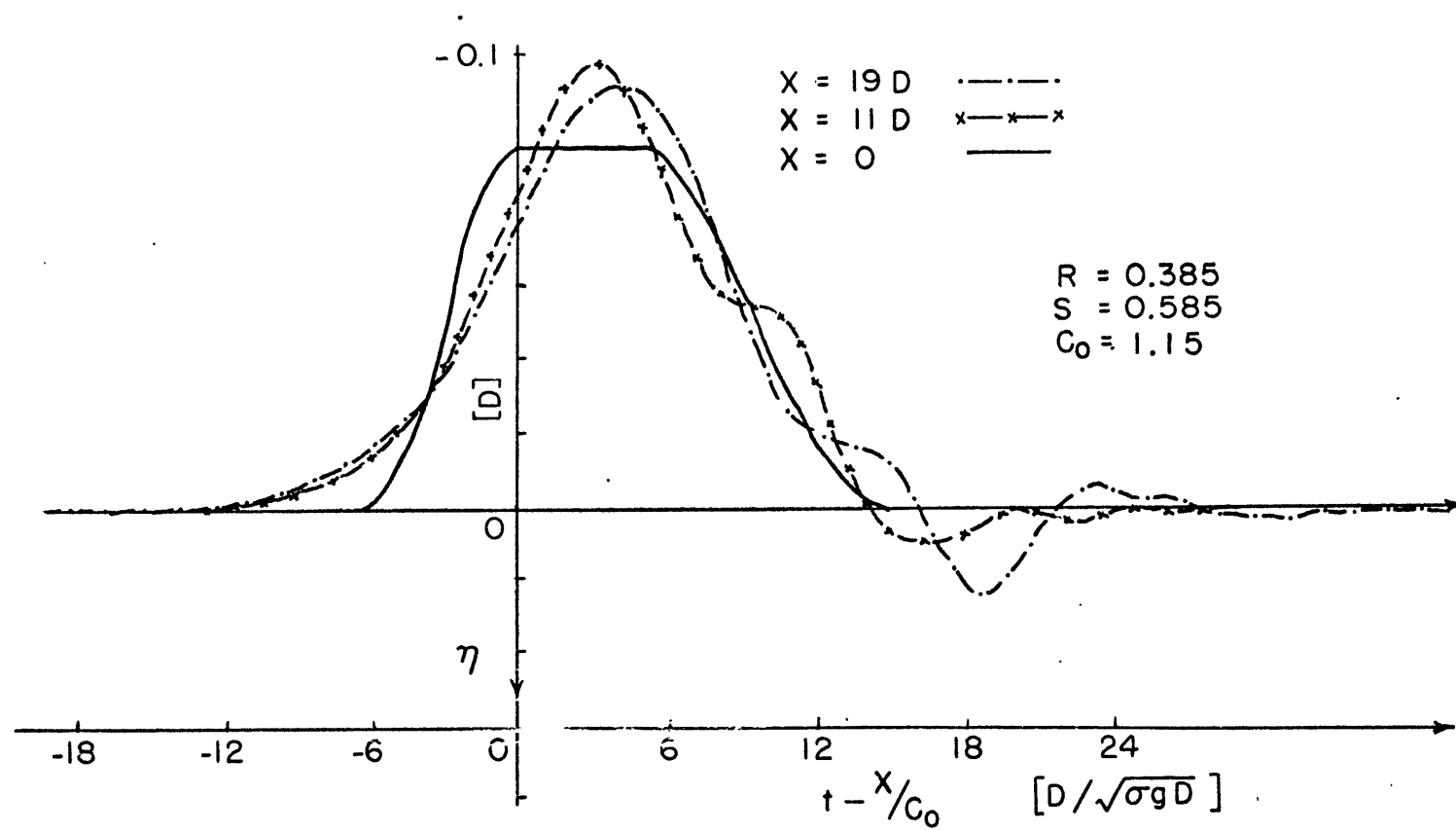


Figure 17. Numerical results corresponding to experiment 2.

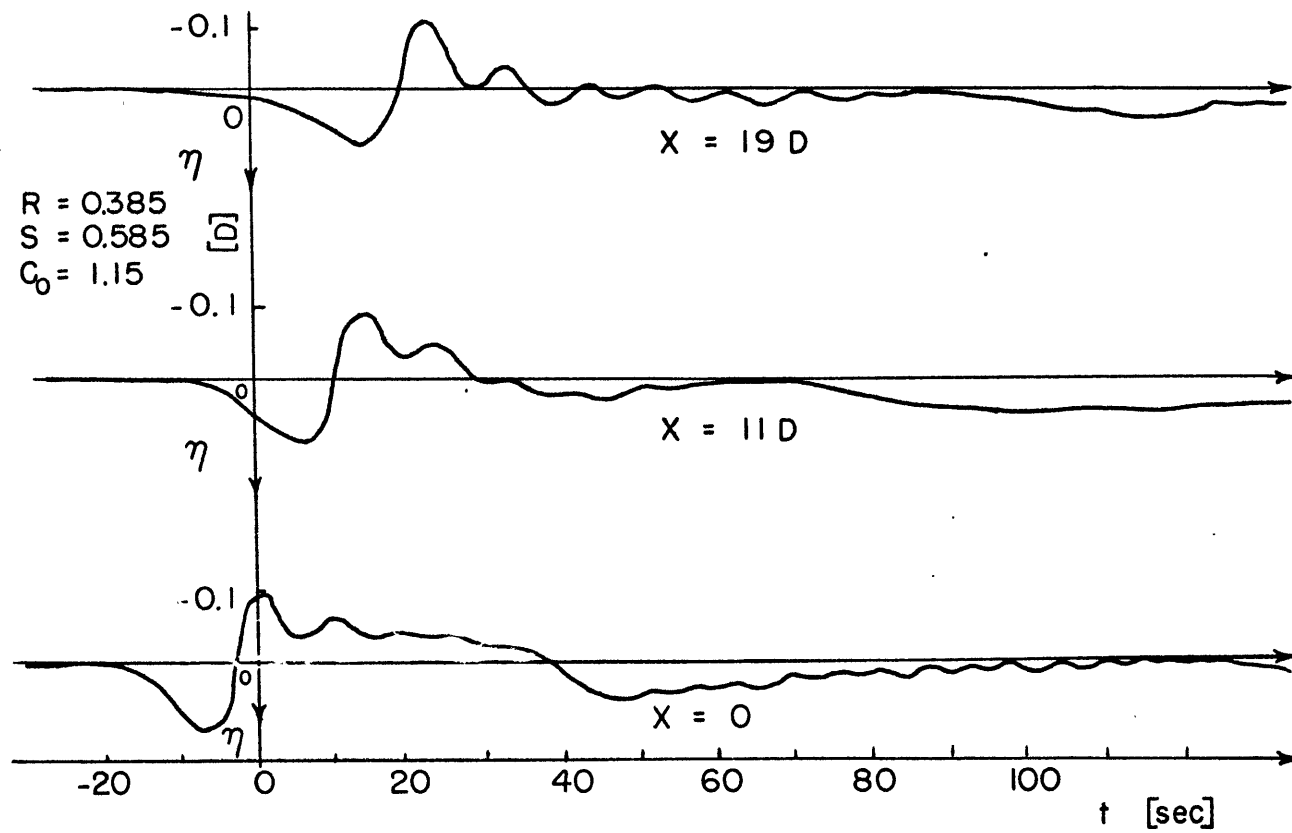


Figure 18. Results of experiment 3 showing the generation of waves by moving the ridge for one completely period of a sinusoidal path.

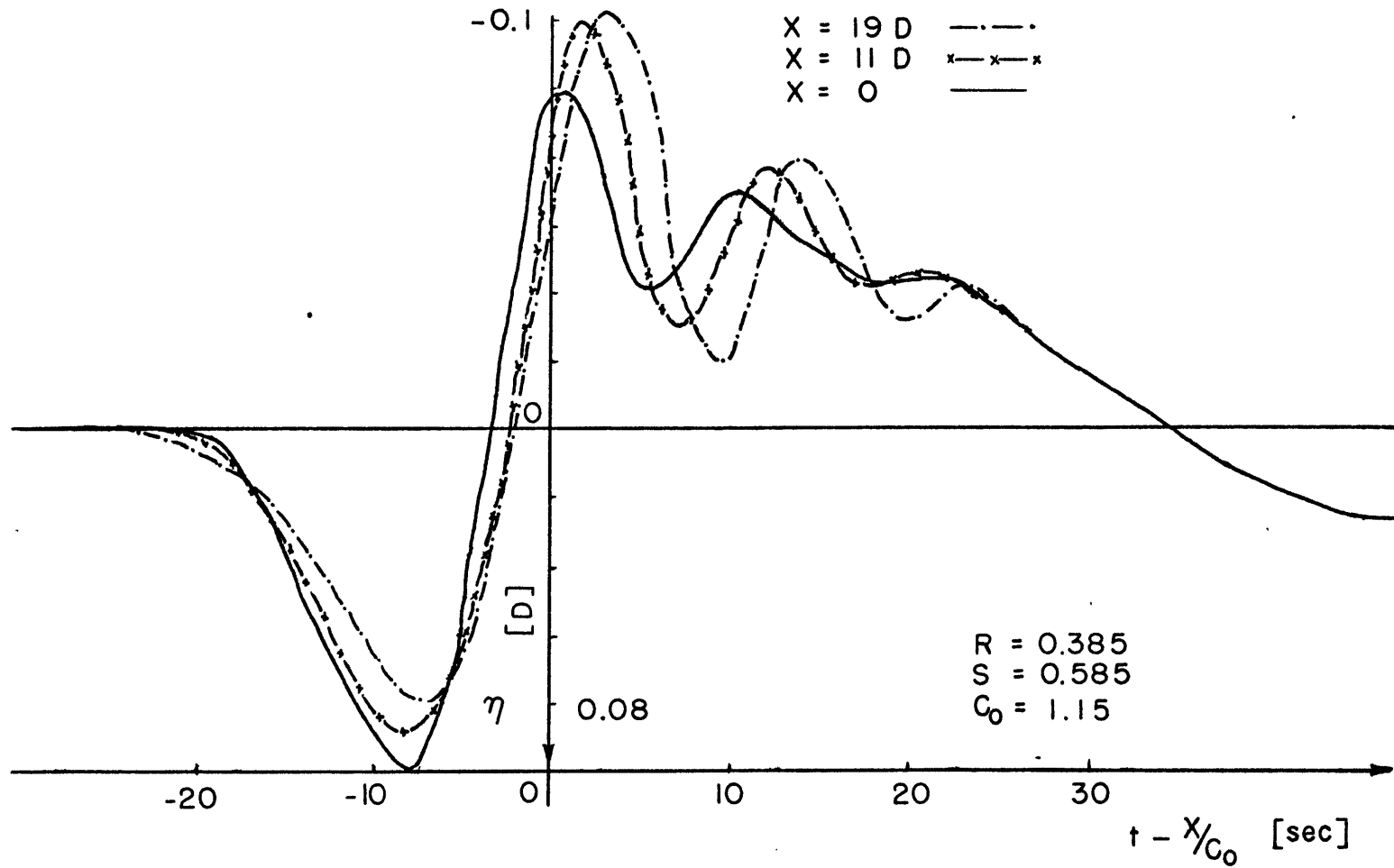


Figure 19. Numerical results of experiment 3.

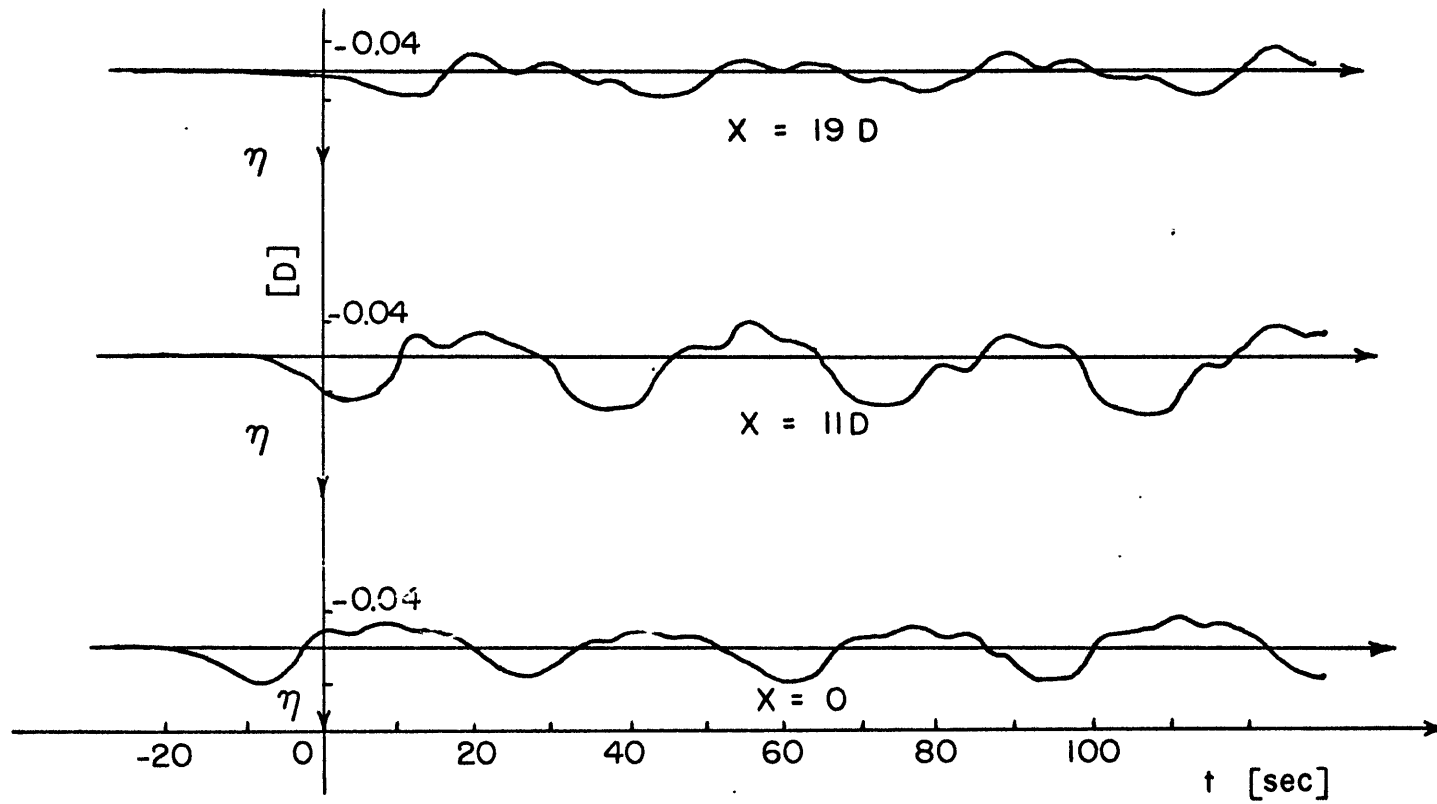


Figure 20. Results for experiment 4 showing the generation of wave trains by moving the ridge for several periods.

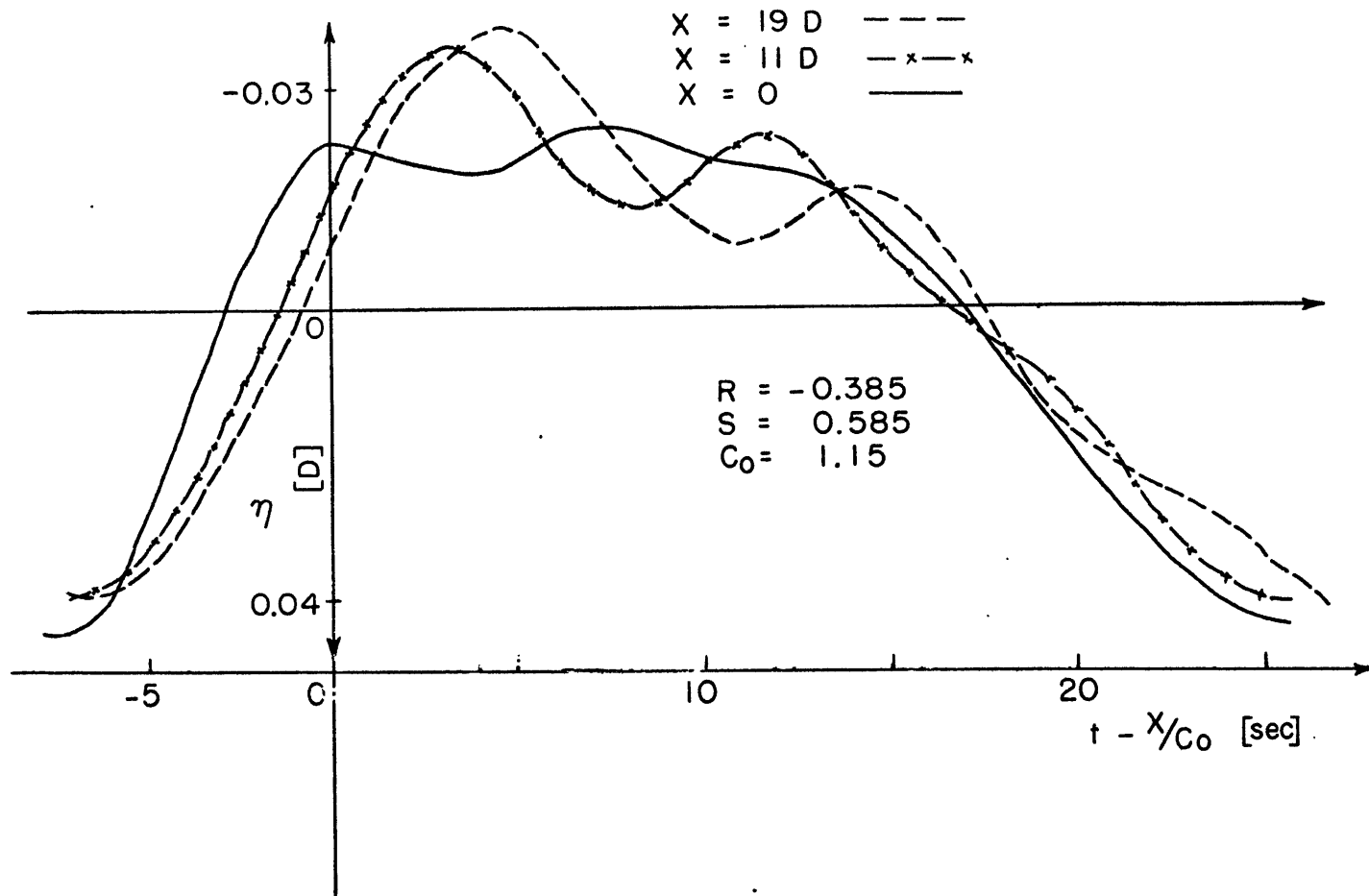


Figure 2 | . Numerical results corresponding to experiment 4 .

The experimental results show that the internal disturbances are mainly first mode due to the following reasons. (1) The higher modes have a phase speed much smaller than the velocity of the leading wave, and thus cannot catch up the frontal region in which we are interested. (2) The horizontal particle position as determined by dye streaks appeared to be quite asymmetric with depth. (3) Conductivity measurements are coherent at different depths, indicating that the vertical velocity at different depth are in phase. (4) Good agreement shown in table 2 between the experimental results and numerical results (based on the assumption that the lowest mode is the only energetic mode). Experiment 1 and 2 clearly demonstrate the influence of nonlinearity on the generation of waves. An additional numerical example is shown in figure 22 to demonstrate the nonlinear effect by contrasting predictions made from identical initial conditions but with nonlinear coefficients of opposite sign.

	Phase Velocity*	Wave Period**	Wave Length
Experiment 1	2.0 cm/sec.	11 sec.	22 cm.
Numerical Result	2.3 cm/sec.	12 sec.	27.6 cm.
Experiment 3	3.5 cm/sec.	10 sec.	35.0 cm.
Numerical Result	3.8 cm/sec.	10 sec.	38.0 cm.

Table 2.

* The propagating velocity of the leading wave peak.

** The time interval between the first and second wave peaks.

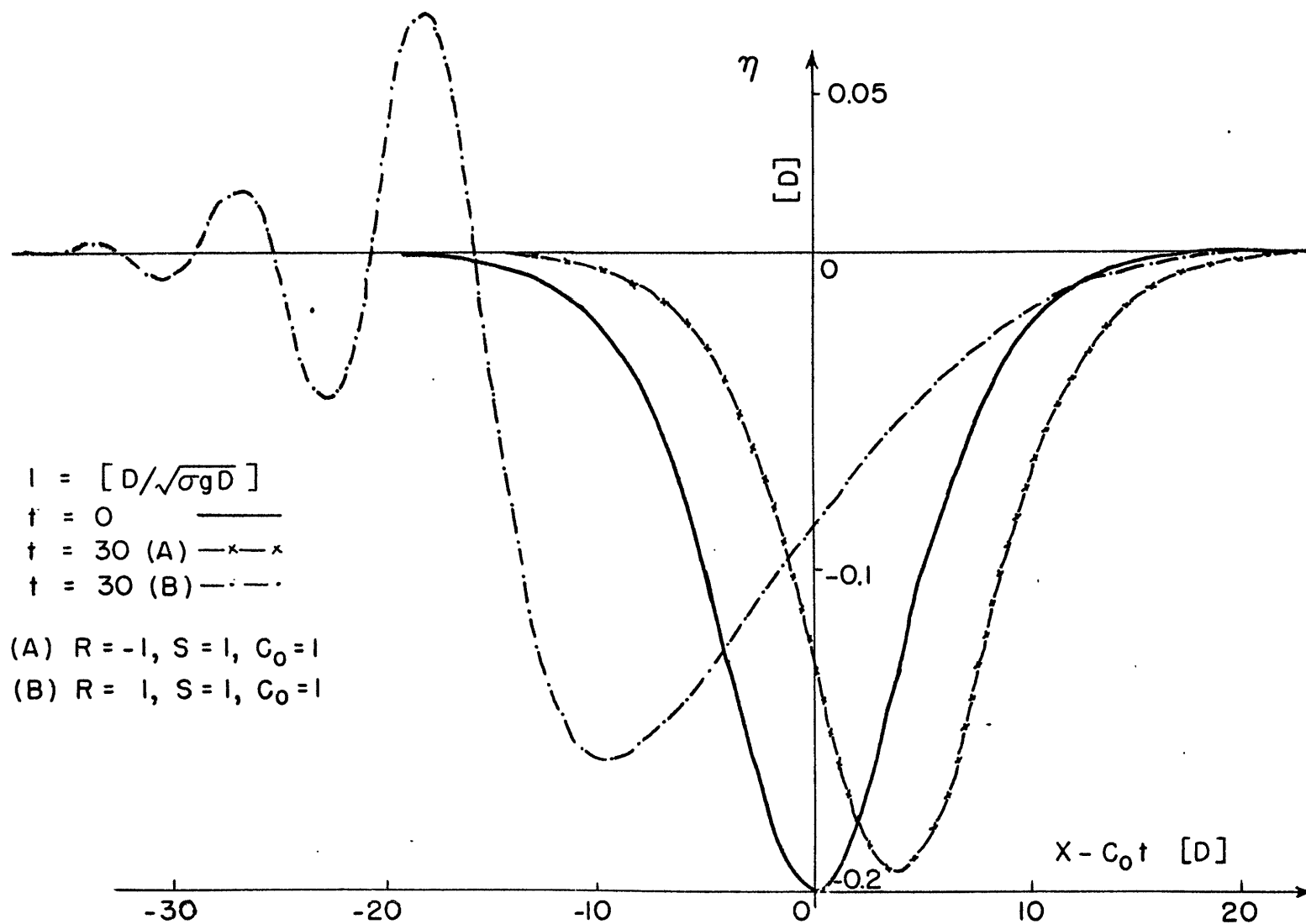


Figure 22. Numerical example illustrating the influence of nonlinear effect; (A) Nonlinear effect balances dispersive effect. (B) Reversing the sign of nonlinear effect causes wave train to be generated.

The discrepancy in the phase speed between the experimental and numerical results may be partially explained by the following reasons.

(1) The initial condition used in the numerical calculation is obtained by approximately matching several sinusoidal curve to the experimental trace measured at probe A in a way that the first derivative is continuous. The resulting error will influence the phase speed through the dispersive effect. (2) Due to truncation error, \mathcal{H} (see equation (3.37)) is not exactly conserved; the percentage error grows with time, i.e., 5.1% at probe B, and 8.8% at probe C (experiment 1); 1.5% at probe B, and 2.7% at probe C (experiment 3). (3) Accurate measurement of the density profile was quite difficult due to the relative precision of the refractometer, the smallness of the vertical density gradient, and the small depth of the fluid layer. The estimated error in C_p could be at least $\pm 5\%$. (4) Although viscous forces do not change the phase speed in linear wave theory, viscous damping by decreasing the wave amplitude influences the phase speed through the nonlinear effect. Since the wave amplitudes generated in the laboratory experiments are typically small, i.e., $a/D \sim 0.1$, viscous damping is probably negligible. (5) The neglect of higher order terms in the governing equation.

(3) Generation of wave trains in Massachusetts Bay.

The generation of a wave train from an initial front has already been discussed. However, the situation in Massachusetts Bay is quite different. First, the boundary conditions can not be considered constant as in the previous cases, thus periodic boundary conditions must be used and periodic solutions sought. However, in order to save computing time, we are going to calculate only the most interesting region, i.e., the region around the front. Second, the amplitudes of the front and waves are so large (almost 10 m), and the vertical characteristic length D is only 15 m (almost all variation of basic density occurs in the upper 15 m of the total depth in Massachusetts Bay), that the nonlinear parameter $\mathcal{E} = \frac{10m/2}{15m} \sim 0.33$. The dispersive parameter $\mathcal{D} = (D/\ell)^2$ changes from 1/600 at Stellwagen Bank to 0.1 at station T while the characteristic horizontal length ℓ changes from 400 m to 50 m. This decrease in ℓ is caused by the nonlinear steepening of the front.

Since the nonlinear parameter \mathcal{E} is so large, order $(\mathcal{E})^2$ terms must be added to the governing KdV equation,

$$\eta_t + C_0 \eta_x + \mathcal{E} T \eta \eta_x + \mathcal{D} S \eta_{xxx} + \mathcal{E}^2 \lambda_1 \eta^2 \eta_x = 0. \quad (3.83)$$

The generation of wave trains in Massachusetts Bay can be mainly divided into two stages (1) The nonlinear parameters \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{E}^2 are initially both much greater than the dispersive parameter \mathcal{D} , so that during the initial period of nonlinear steepening of the blocking

front, we may neglect dispersion and deal instead with the approximate balance

$$\eta_t + (C_0 + \sqrt{\epsilon}\eta + \lambda_1 \epsilon^2 \eta^2) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0. \quad (3.84)$$

Equation (3.84) implies that η will keep constant following the characteristic velocity $\frac{dx}{dt} = C_0 + \sqrt{\epsilon}\eta + \lambda_1 \epsilon^2 \eta^2$. Thus the dispersive parameter must increase quickly with time. (2) When the dispersive parameter δ becomes comparable to ϵ^2 , new waves start to form. Then $(D/\ell)^2 = \epsilon^2$ implies $\ell \sim 50$ m and the length of the front is approximately 100 m. At this stage ($t = T_0$), we have to solve the initial value problem numerically. The finite difference analogy to equation (3.83) is obtained by adding to equation (3.75) the nonlinear term proportional to ϵ^2 .

Since the cold front will be flattened by the nonlinear effect and does not lead to wave generation, we will only analyse the region around the warm front. For $t = T_0 + 42$ min., waves have already been formed behind the front (figure 23). If permanent waves are formed at the front, the only solution is a solitary wave. Assuming the waves at Massachusetts Bay are solitary internal waves, the following table shows the nonlinear effect on phase velocity.

	Long Wave Speed	Dispersive Effect + Nonlinear Effect	Wave Speed
Solitary Wave	0.41 m/sec.	+0.12 m/sec.	0.53 m/sec.
Linear Wave (Halpern's)	0.41 m/sec.	-0.06 m/sec.	0.35 m/sec.
Observation (Mass. Bay)	—	—	0.88 ± 0.22 m/sec.

For the wave length, linear wave theory gives 158 m corresponding to Halpern's observation of 200 m. The numerical calculation for the second stage shows that the "wave length" is 172 m (figure 23), however, it is well known that these solitary waves will gradually separate away from each other (Pregrine, 1966), so it is only a matter of time (~ 52 min.) for the "wave length" to become 200 m. This implies that the distance between station T and the point (corresponding to $t = T_0$) is approximately $(42 \text{ min.} + 52 \text{ min.}) \times 60 \text{ sec/min} \times 0.53 \text{ m/sec} \approx 4 \text{ km}$. Another numerical result shown in figure 24 shows the generation of waves from a periodic disturbance similar in shape to that observed in Massachusetts Bay.

The relevant parameters (see figure 5) in Massachusetts Bay are $A/H = 0.63$, $L/H = 106$, $f/N = 0.0073$, and $Fi = 0.26$. The nonlinear coefficient $R = -2.1$, the dispersive coefficient $S = 0.72$, and the long wave speed $C = 1.14$. All calculations presented in this section are based on the mean density structure observed in Massachusetts Bay in July, 1966 by Halpern (1971). The observed density profile and its corresponding first mode zero order eigenfunction $\phi_1^{(0,0)}(z)$ are shown in figure 25.

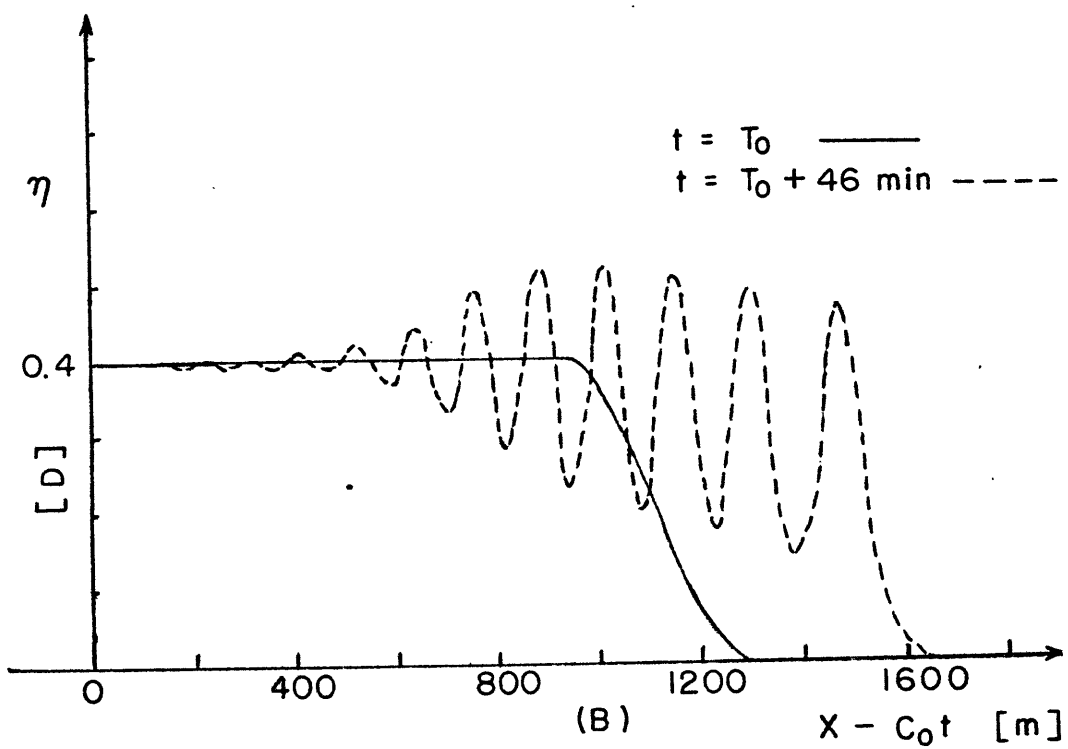
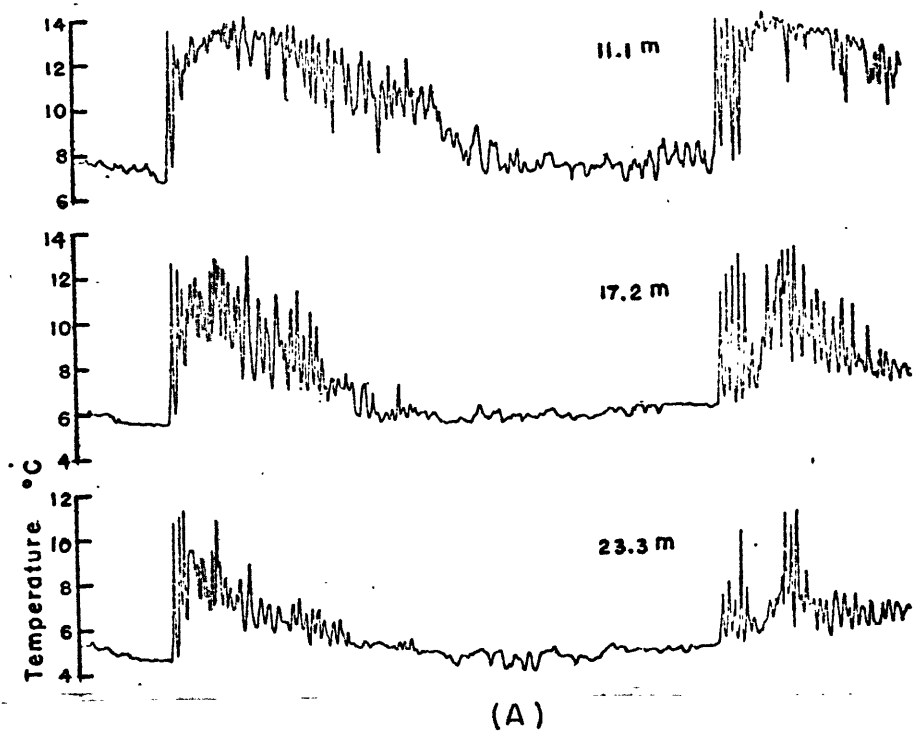


Figure 23. (A) Temperature measurements at Massachusetts Bay (Halpern, 1971). (B) Numerical results corresponding to (A).

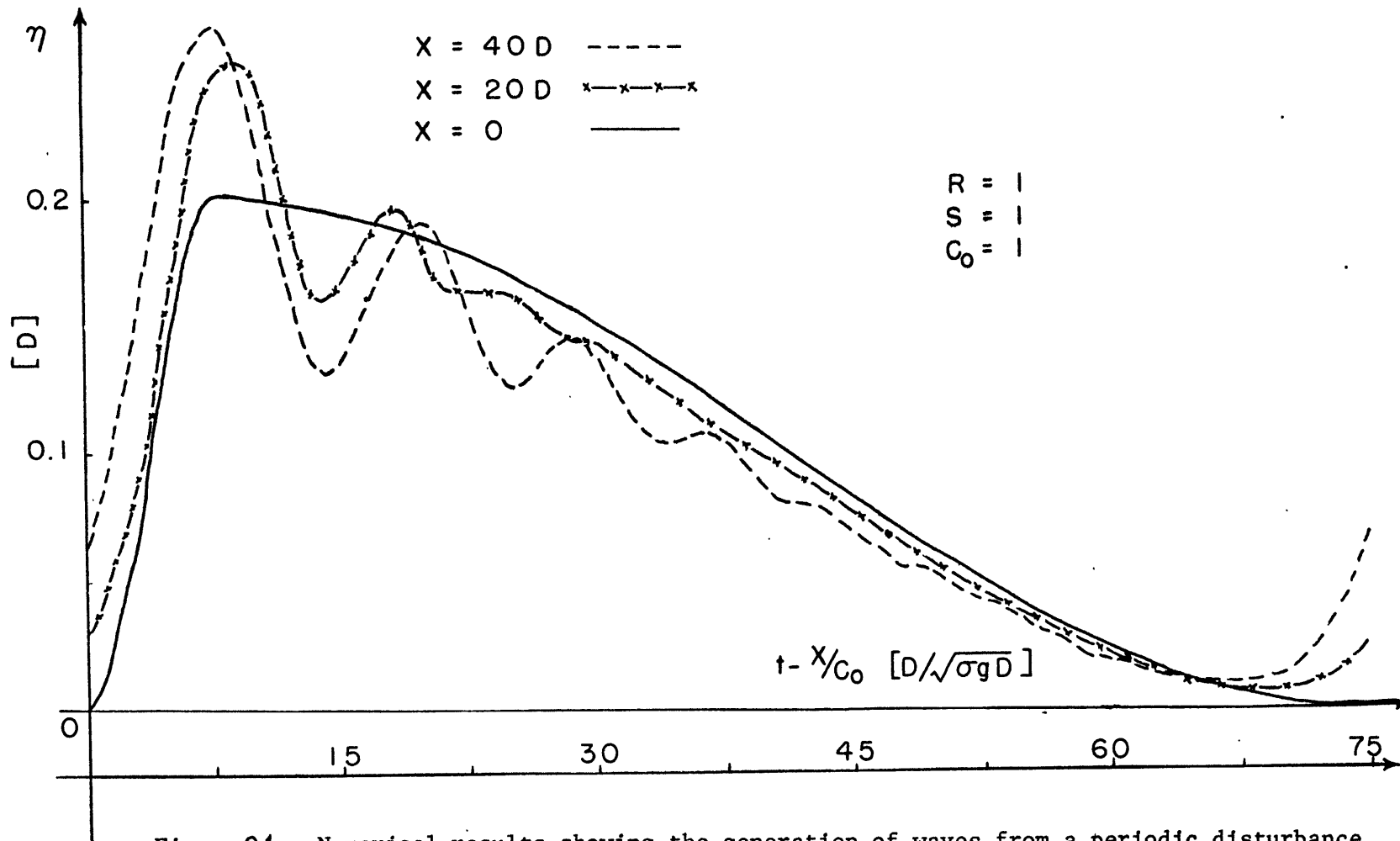


Figure 24. Numerical results showing the generation of waves from a periodic disturbance similar in shape to that observed in Massachusetts Bay.

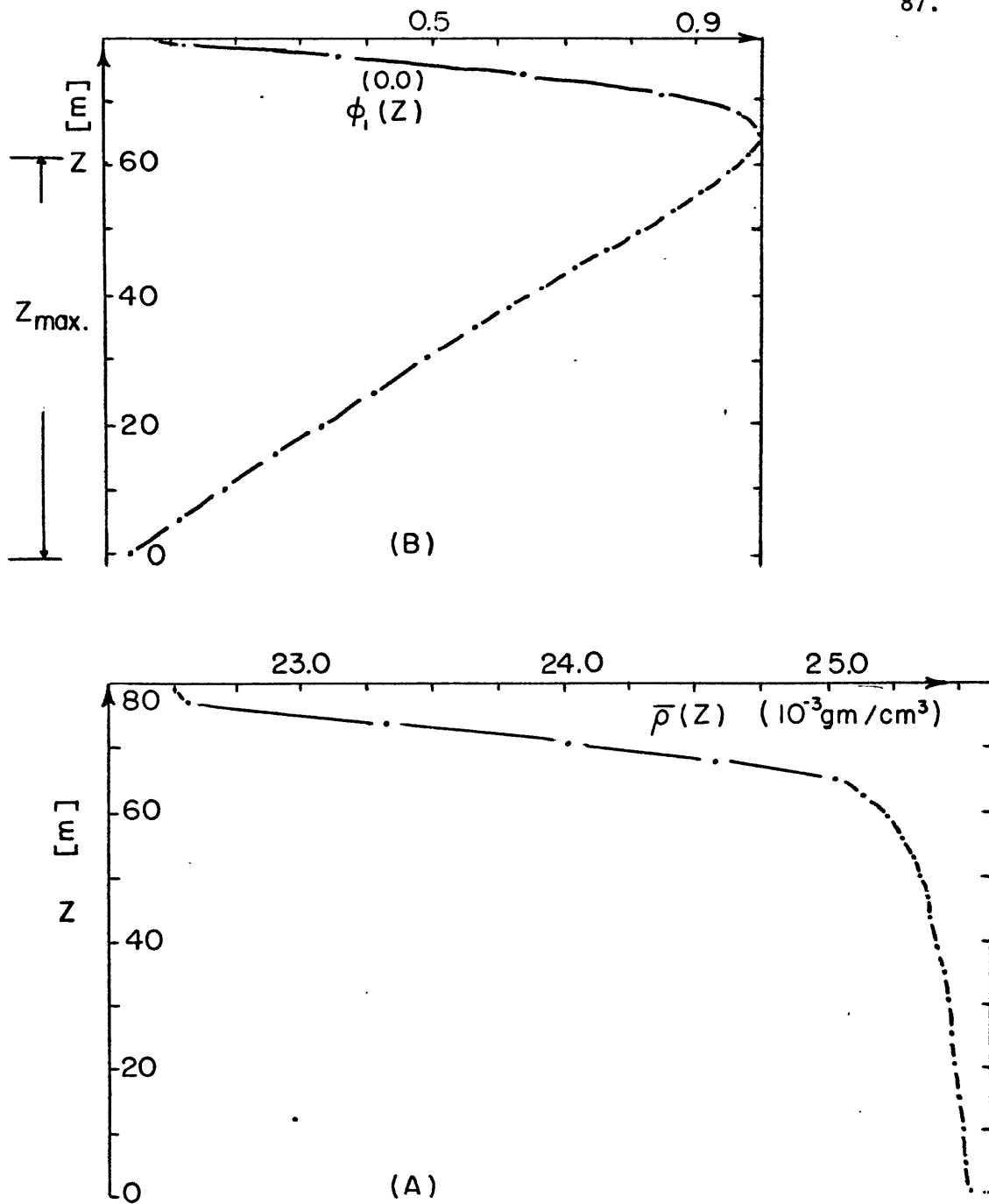


Figure 25. (A) Summer density structure at Massachusetts Bay measured by Halpern (1971). (B) The zero order first mode eigenfunction, $\phi_1^{(0,0)}(z)$, corresponding to density structure shown in (A).

The essential assumption of the quasi-steady approximation is that parameters characterizing the waves are slowly varying over a characteristic wave period. If this variation is slow enough then the waves must locally closely approximate periodic plane waves. The basic range of applicability of the quasi-steady approximation then depends on how accurately real waves systems correspond to periodic plane waves locally.

We assume that a low, smooth ridge is towed horizontally with a velocity $U(t)$ in a density stratified fluid layer. The equations of motion and continuity are when transformed into a coordinate system moving with the ridge,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u+U) + (u+U) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}, \quad (4.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w + (u+U) \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} - \rho g, \quad (4.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p'}{\partial t} + (u+U) \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x} + w \frac{\partial (\bar{p} + p')}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (4.3)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0. \quad (4.4)$$

The above system can also be transformed into the system (x', z', t) which is fixed in relation to the mean current $U(t)$, using the following transformation

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x' &= x - \int_{t_0}^t U(\theta) d\theta \\ z' &= z \\ t' &= t \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x'} , \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} , \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} - U(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} , \end{cases} \quad (4.5)$$

So that the governing equations become in this system moving with the mean current,

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t'} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x'} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x'} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z'} = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x'} , \quad (4.6)$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x'} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z'} = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z'} - p' g , \quad (4.7)$$

$$\frac{\partial p'}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x'} + w \frac{\partial (p' + \bar{p})}{\partial z'} = 0 , \quad (4.8)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x'} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z'} = 0 . \quad (4.9)$$

After this transformation, we see that the only difference introduced by a non-steady mean current is the addition of the body force $\frac{\partial U(t)}{\partial t}$. Thus if $\frac{\partial U(t)}{\partial t}$ is neglected by assumption of the quasi-steady approximation, we can treat the time dependent current as locally steady at any instant. For convenience in the following ray theory analysis, we will consider our coordinate system to be fixed

with respect to the mean current. However, we can and will easily transform our results back into the system fixed with respect to the ridge using transformation (4.5), since this latter coordinate system more easily describes the field measurement in which the ridge is at a fixed position.

It is well known from linearized wave theory that the wave number k and frequency ω will change according to certain conservation relations. Assume ω and k are derived from a phase function ϕ by the following equations,

$$\omega = - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} , \quad k = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} . \quad (4.10)$$

The wave parameters ω and k must satisfy the dispersion relationship

$$\omega = \Omega(k(x, t), f(x, t)) \quad (4.11)$$

where $f(x, t)$ is a parameter involving the local properties of the medium. The variation of ω and k are then governed by the following two equations,

$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial f} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} , \quad (4.12)$$

$$\frac{dk}{dt} = - \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial f} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} , \quad (4.13)$$

where $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + C_g \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$, and C_g is the group velocity, defined by

$$C_g = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial k} .$$

It is well known that the energy of a wave packet is affected by interaction with a non-uniform mean flow. Guided by earlier work by

Whitham (1965), Bretherton and Garrett (1967, 1968) have proved that for a wave packet in a moving and/or time dependent medium, the quantity E/ω' satisfies the following conservation equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} (E/\omega') + \frac{E}{\omega'} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \cdot Cg = 0,$$

where $\omega' = \omega - kU$ is the frequency of the waves measured in a frame of reference moving with the local mean velocity U of the medium. The wave energy density E is also measured in this frame of reference.

For quasi-steady internal waves in a time-dependent mean current $U(t)$, the dispersion relation is simply

$$\omega = \Omega \equiv kU(t) + \omega_0(k). \quad (4.14)$$

Introducing (4.14) into (4.13), we have

$$\frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + (Cg + U(t)) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x} = 0, \quad (4.15)$$

where $Cg = \frac{\partial}{\partial k} \omega_0(k)$. Equation (4.15) implies that k is constant following the characteristic line $\frac{dx}{dt} = Cg + U(t)$, where ω will change according to

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + (Cg + U(t)) \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} = kU_t. \quad (4.16)$$

We now multiply (4.15) by $U(t)$ and subtract from (4.16) to get

$$\frac{\partial (\omega - kU)}{\partial t} + (Cg + U) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\omega - kU) = 0. \quad (4.17)$$

This result (4.17) implies that the quantity $(\omega - kU)$ rather than ω

is conserved along the characteristic $\frac{dx}{dt} = C_g + U$. Thus, along the characteristic line $\frac{dx}{dt} = C_g + U$, equation (4.15) and (4.17) show that the energy density will remain the same as if there is no mean current $U(t)$, so if a energy density peak curve is formed in the frame fixed with the mean current $U(t)$, it will also occur in the frame fixed with the ridge.

It is well known that a stationary internal wave train may be generated on the lee side of a submarine ridge in a steady, density stratified mean current (Long [1953, 1954, 1955], Yih [1966]). However, we do not know the evolution of the flow when the mean current starts from rest. In this chapter we will analyse some simple time-dependent phenomena of lee waves with the assumption that the time derivative of the mean current is so small that the equivalent body force term in equation (4.6), $\partial u / \partial t$, can be entirely neglected. We then consider the lee waves as "quasi-steady" and treat the mean current as steady at any instant. The application of this "quasi-steady" analysis may be useful in explaining the internal wave trains generated by a low submarine ridge in a tidal flow, since the tidal period is generally much longer than the lee wave period. We choose to examine lee waves generated by a low ridge, since a high ridge prevents lee waves from propagating over the ridge and may cause waves to break.

Since the acceleration of the mean current is neglected in our analysis, ray theory can be used to interpretate these quasi-steady lee waves. Linear theory predicts that the wave energy propagates with the group velocity. In the experiments we find that the number

of lee waves gradually increases as the ridge starts to move, indicating that energy gradually propagates away from the ridge by means of these quasi-stationary waves. Since the phase velocity of the lee waves is identical to the velocity of the ridge, we conclude that the lee wave group velocity must be smaller than the phase velocity.

However, we will now show that this is a general property of internal waves. In a $x - t$ diagram, the moving ridge can be treated as a wave source which emits energy, with the energy propagating away from the ridge along rays whose slope equals the lee wave group velocity. The variation of the distance between two adjacent rays is proportional to the inverse of the energy density in space; thus, the formation of an energy density peak is quite possible as the lee wave group velocity decreases in time.

The dispersion relationship for linearized internal waves in a linearly stratified fluid contained between two horizontal rigid boundaries is

$$\omega^2 = \frac{k^2 N^2}{k^2 + \frac{\pi^2 n^2}{H^2}} \quad (4.18)$$

where N is the constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency, H is the total depth, n is the vertical mode number, and ω and k are the wave frequency and wave number. The phase velocity is

$$C_p = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{NH}{\pi n} \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{N^2}\right)^{1/2} \quad (4.19)$$

and group velocity is

$$C_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = \frac{NH}{n\pi} \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{N^2}\right)^{3/2}. \quad (4.20)$$

Since ω is always smaller than N for internal waves, the maximum magnitude of C_p and C_g is $NH/n\pi$ (corresponding to the longest wave).

From (4.19) and (4.20), we have

$$C_g = C_p \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{N^2}\right) \ll C_p. \quad (4.21)$$

This relationship means that the group velocity of an internal mode is always smaller than the phase velocity, the equal sign applying only in the limit of infinite wave length.

For lee waves, we have an additional relationship

$$\omega = kU, \quad (4.22)$$

where U is the velocity of the moving ridge. From (4.18) and (4.22), we can solve for the two unknowns, k and U , finding that

$$k = \pm \left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{n^2\pi^2}{H^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (4.23)$$

$$\omega = \left(N^2 - \frac{n^2\pi^2 U^2}{H^2} \right)^{1/2}. \quad (4.24)$$

where the (-) sign is for negative U and (+) sign is for positive U . Thus, both the period and the wave length increase as the velocity U increases. The maximum U , however, has to be smaller than $NH/n\pi$ in order to keep both k and ω real, since no wave may propagate in phase with a ridge moving faster than the maximum internal wave phase

speed. Introducing (4.24) into (4.20) then yields

$$C_g = \frac{\pi^2 \pi^2 U^3}{N^2 H^2} \quad (4.25)$$

Equation (4.25) implies that the wave energy propagates in space with a velocity proportional to the cubic of U , and that the wave energy propagates away from the ridge with the velocity C_E ,

$$C_E = C_p - C_g = C_p \cdot \frac{\omega^2}{N^2} = U \left(1 - \frac{\pi^2 \pi^2 U^2}{N^2 H^2} \right). \quad (4.26)$$

$C_E = 0$ for extremely long waves, and the energy begins to accumulate around the ridge. However, this is also where lee wave theory breaks down.

The wave energy propagates in $x - t$ space along the characteristic lines

$$X = \int_0^t U(\theta) d\theta + \frac{\pi^2 \pi^2 U^3(t_0)}{N^2 H^2} (t - t_0), \quad (4.27)$$

where t_0 is the time at which the wave is generated at the wave source (the moving ridge). In our reference frame fixed with the mean current, these characteristic lines are simple straight lines.

For simplicity, we write (4.27) in the following form

$$X = X_S(t_0) + C_g(t_0) \cdot (t - t_0), \quad (4.28)$$

where $x_s = \int_0^{t_0} U(\theta) d\theta$ is the position of the moving ridge. Differentiating (4.28) with respect to t_0 we have

$$\frac{\partial t}{\partial t_0} = \frac{-C_g \cdot U - (x - x_s) \frac{\partial C_g}{\partial t_0}}{C_g^2} + 1 \quad (4.29)$$

Here we treat t as a dependent variable and x , and t_0 as independent variables. Note that $U = \partial X_s / \partial t_0$. The energy density E is defined as

$$E \cdot \Delta X = E_0 \cdot \Delta X_s, \quad (4.30)$$

where $E_0 \cdot \Delta X_s$ is the total energy emitted by the wave source as it moves a distance ΔX_s . Equation (4.30) is a simple relationship of energy conservation. Since the energy travels along the rays, we may assume that E is the energy contained between two adjacent rays separated by a distance ΔX . Since

$$\frac{\Delta X_s}{\Delta X} = \frac{U(t_0) \cdot \Delta t_0}{C_g(t_0) \cdot \Delta t}, \quad (4.31)$$

conservation of energy requires

$$E = E_0 \cdot \frac{U(t_0)}{C_g(t_0)} \cdot \frac{\Delta t_0}{\Delta t}. \quad (4.32)$$

In the limit as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$, we may use (4.29) to obtain

$$\lim_{\substack{\Delta t \rightarrow 0 \\ \Delta t_0 \rightarrow 0}} E = E_0 \cdot \frac{U(t_0) \cdot C_g(t_0)}{C_g^2(t_0) - C_g(t_0)U(t_0) - (x - x_s) \frac{\partial C_g}{\partial t_0}} \quad (4.33)$$

The curve of the energy density peak is obtained by setting the denominator of (4.33) at zero. If x_p and t_p denote the $x - t$ position of the energy density peak, then

$$x_p = x_s + \frac{C_g^2 - U C_g}{\partial C_g / \partial t_0}, \quad (4.34)$$

Using (4.11), we have

$$t_p = t_0 + \frac{C_g - U}{\partial C_g / \partial t_0}. \quad (4.35)$$

By eliminating t_0 from (4.34) and (4.35), we may arrive at a single equation for x_p and t_p , but in general the procedure is not easy. Since $U > C_g$ for internal waves and the formation of the energy density peak is possible only when the rays are convergent ($\frac{\partial C_g}{\partial t_0} < 0$), $x_p > x_s$ and $t_p > t_0$ always. For lee waves, we introduce (4.25) into (4.34) and (4.35) to get

$$x_p = x_s + \frac{\pi^2 \pi^2}{3N^2 H^2} \cdot \frac{U^2(U^2-1)}{\partial U / \partial t_0}, \quad (4.36)$$

$$t_p = t_0 + \frac{1}{3U} \cdot \frac{(U^2-1)}{\partial U / \partial t_0}. \quad (4.37)$$

If $U = \sin \omega_0 t_0$,

$$x_s = \int_{\pi/2}^{t_0} \sin \omega_0 \theta d\theta = \frac{-1}{\omega_0} \cos \omega_0 t_0.$$

We then have

$$x_p = x_s - \frac{\pi^2 \pi^2}{6\omega_0 N^2 H^2} \sin 2\omega_0 t \sin \omega_0 t, \quad (4.38)$$

$$t_p = t_0 - \frac{1}{3\omega_0} \cot \omega_0 t_0. \quad (4.39)$$

A typical curve of the energy density peak is shown in figure 26.

From (4.38), it is obvious that no energy density peak is observed if the distance of the observation site from the mean location of the ridge is greater than x_s .

Now we will analyze the envelope of the lee wave trains that are found far away from the ridge. The amplitude of the waves when they are generated, i.e., the energy density E_0 at $x = x_s$, is assumed known. Using linearized theory and the Boussinesq approximation, we have

$$\nabla^2 \psi - \beta \psi_z + \frac{\beta g}{U^2} \psi = 0, \quad (4.40)$$

where ψ is the perturbation stream function, U is the steady velocity of the mean current, and the density is $\rho = \rho_0(1 - \beta z)$. The second term in (4.37) is ordinarily very small. If the vertical length scale is H , the ratio of the second term to the last term is $O(U^2/gH) \approx \epsilon^2 \sigma$ where ϵ is the nonlinear parameter and σ is the fractional change in mean density over H . By neglecting the second term and putting

$$\beta g = N^2, \text{ we have}$$

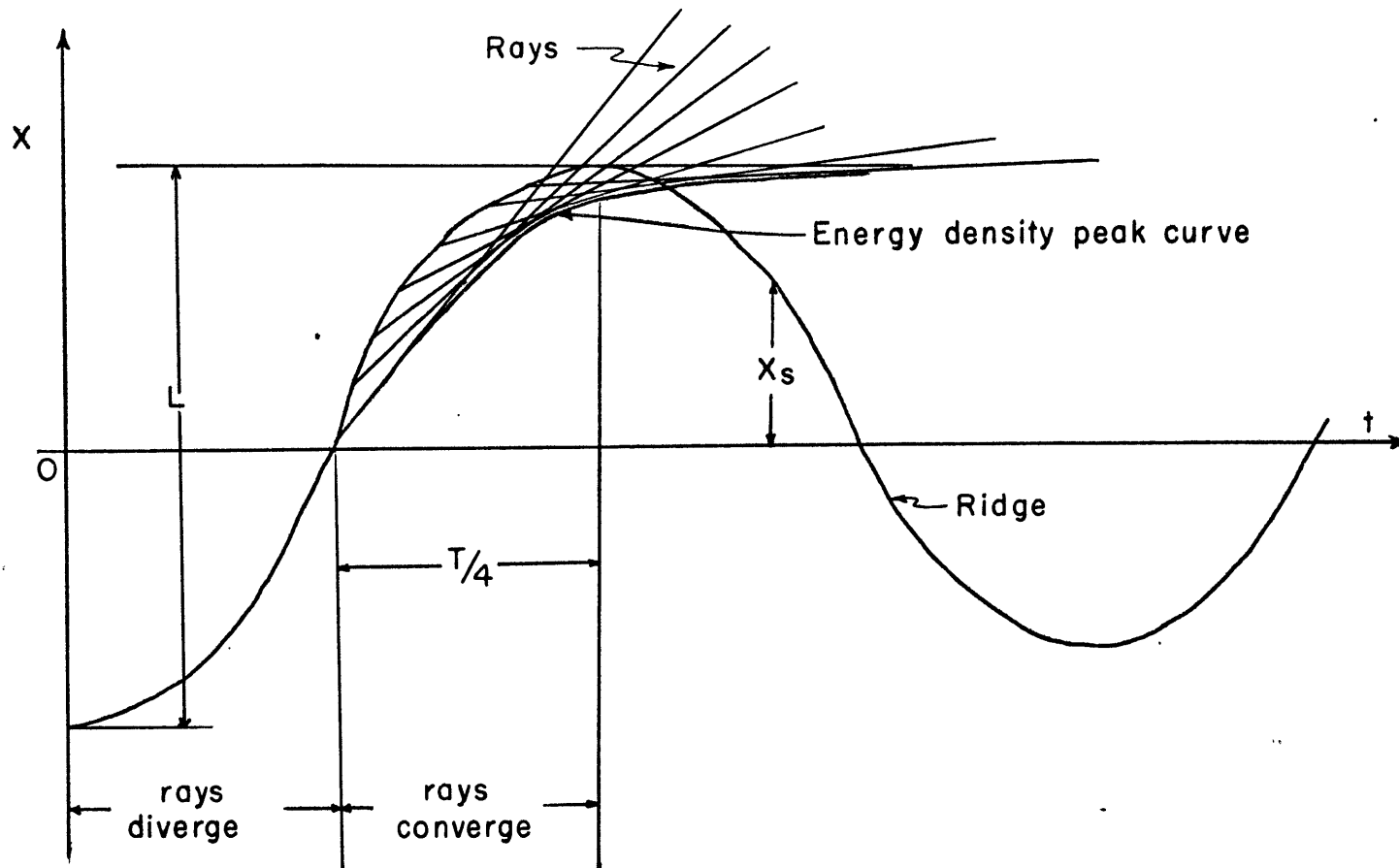


Figure 26. The rays and the energy density peak curve generated by a quasi-steady, periodic moving ridge.

$$\nabla^2 \psi + \frac{N^2}{U^2} \psi = 0. \quad (4.41)$$

Since $\psi = U\eta$, where η is the deflection of stream line, (4.41) can be transformed into the following form:

$$\nabla^2 \eta + \frac{N^2}{U^2} \eta = 0. \quad (4.42)$$

The boundary conditions are

$$\eta = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad z = H, \quad (4.43)$$

$$\eta = \frac{a^2 b}{a^2 + \chi^2} \quad \text{at} \quad z = 0. \quad (4.44)$$

Using the standard Fourier transform theory, we get

$$\eta = \frac{ab}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-k|z|} \frac{\sin\left\{\left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2\right)^{1/2}(z-H)\right\}}{\sin\left\{\left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2\right)^{1/2}H\right\}} \cdot e^{ikx} dk. \quad (4.45)$$

The disturbance generated by the moving ridge comprises the near field, which fades rapidly away from the "source", and the far field, which consists of an internal gravity wave. These wave solutions are due to the contributions from the poles of the integral (4.45) on the real axis of k . These poles are

$$k = k_n = \pm \left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{H^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad n=1, \dots, m,$$

where m is the largest integer such that k remains real. These poles which satisfy the lee wave dispersion relation (4.23) give rise to the following contributions,

$$\eta_n = (-1)^n \cdot iab \cdot e^{-k_n a} \cdot e^{ik_n x} \cdot \sin \frac{n\pi}{H} (z - H), \quad n=1, 2 \dots m. \quad (4.46)$$

Thus, for a fixed vertical mode number n , the wave amplitude $\eta_o(t)$ increases as $U(t)$ increases according to

$$\eta_o(t) \sim e^{-\left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{H^2}\right)^{1/2} \cdot a} \quad (4.47)$$

Equation (4.47) shows that for an arbitrary mode n , the amplitude approaches zero as the mean current $U(t)$ approaches zero. However, for a constant $U(t)$, the amplitude increases with the mode number n . In the limit $U(t) \rightarrow 0$, infinite modes may be generated by the moving ridge, however, the amplitude $\eta_o(t)$ approaches zero in this limit, because there is no energy to supply the generating mechanism. Our experimental results show that the internal waves generated by a low oscillatory ridge are mainly of the first mode. Thus at a fixed observation station well away from the ridge, we find that these internal wave trains are characterized by a relatively large amplitude first wave followed by several of decreasing size (figure 27, 28 & 29).

In a field experiment, the observation is made at a station fixed relative to the submarine ridge. Thus, in the $x - t$ diagram, the position of the observation station is $X_o'(t_o) = X_S(t_o) + X_o$,

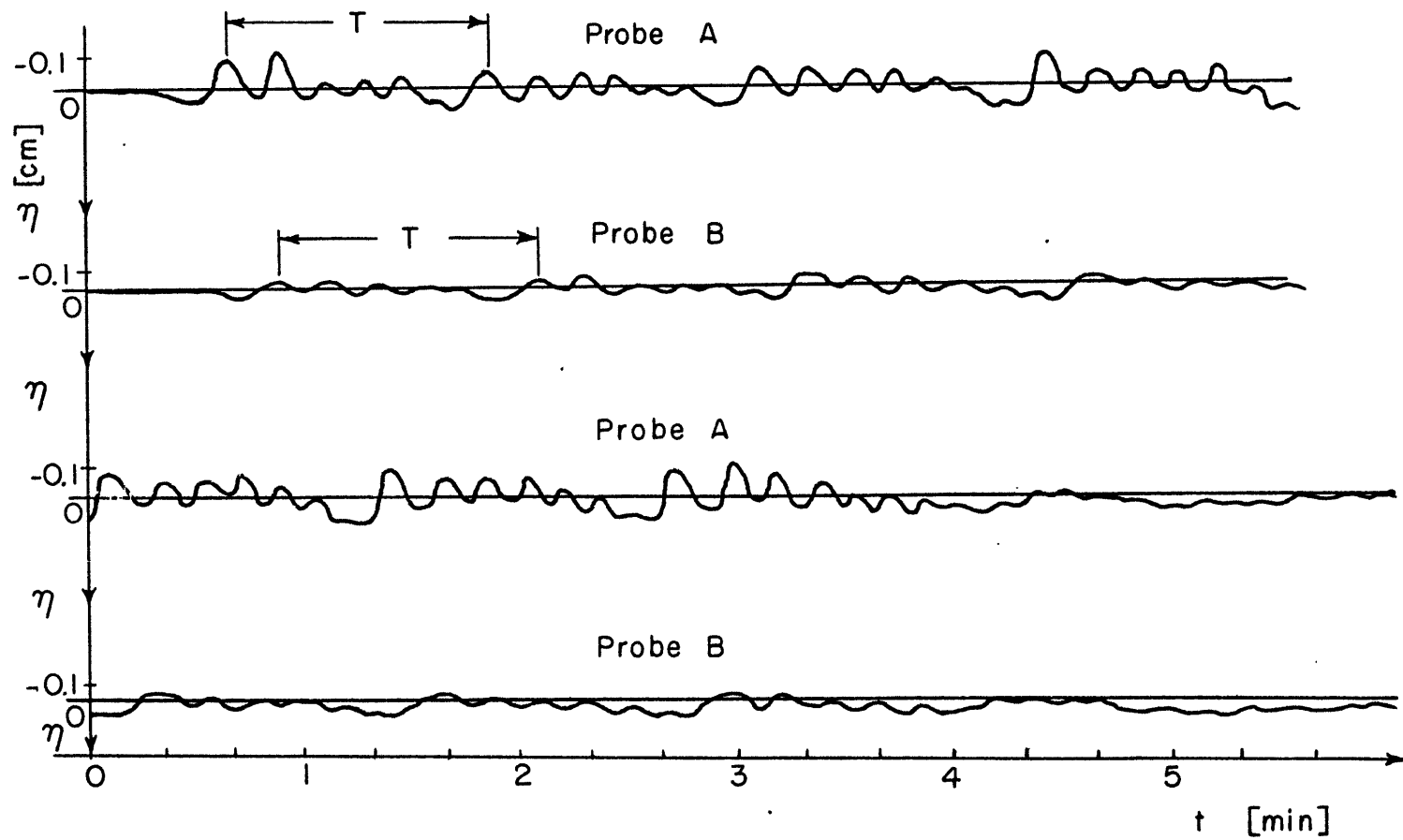


Figure 27. Quasi-steady lee wave trains: $RA = 57.5$ cm, $L = 55$ cm, $T = 76$ sec, $N = 0.1$ cycle/sec, $A = 2.3$ cm, $W = 12.5$ cm, and $H = 12.5$ cm.

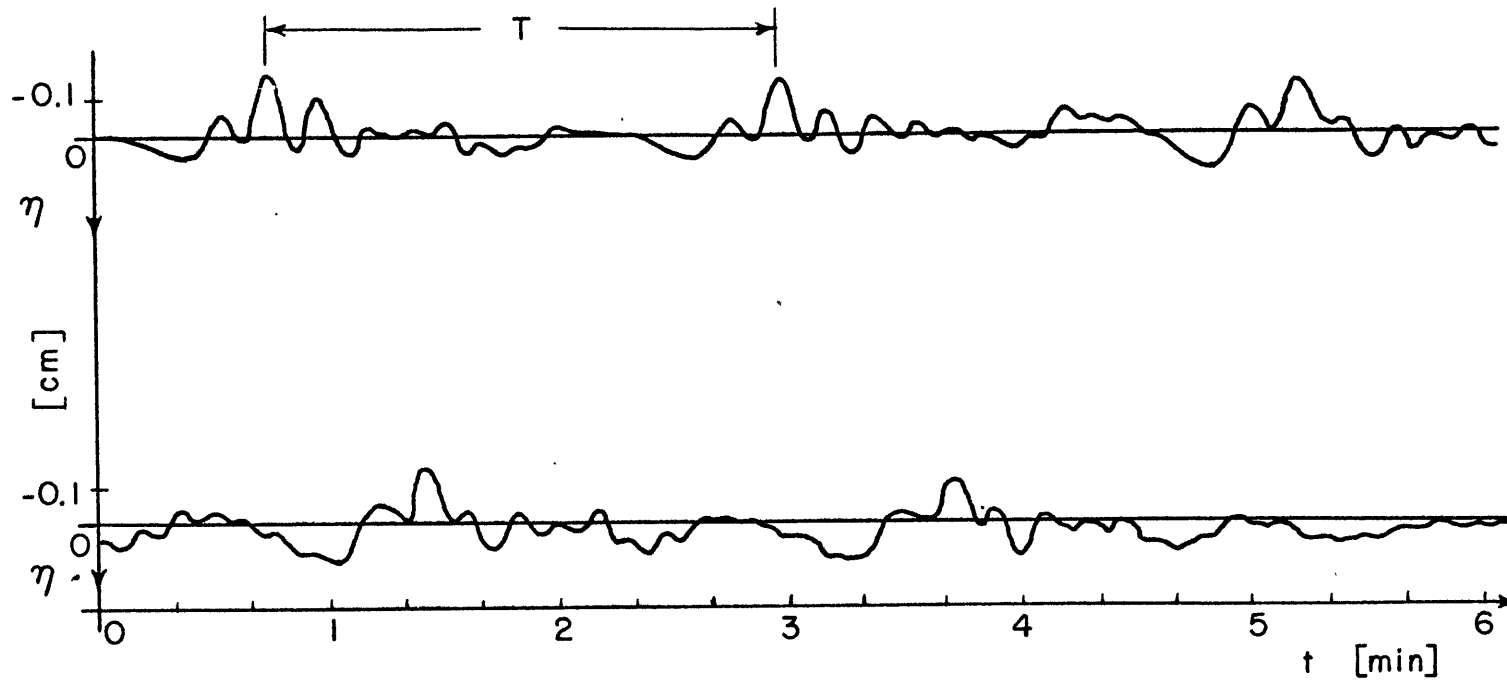


Figure 28. Longer period quasi-steady lee wave trains: $RA = 60$ cm, $L = 100$ cm, $T = 135$ sec, $N = 0.1$ cycle/sec, $A = 2.3$ cm, $W = 12.5$ cm, and $H = 12.5$ cm. Lower record is simple a continuation of upper record.

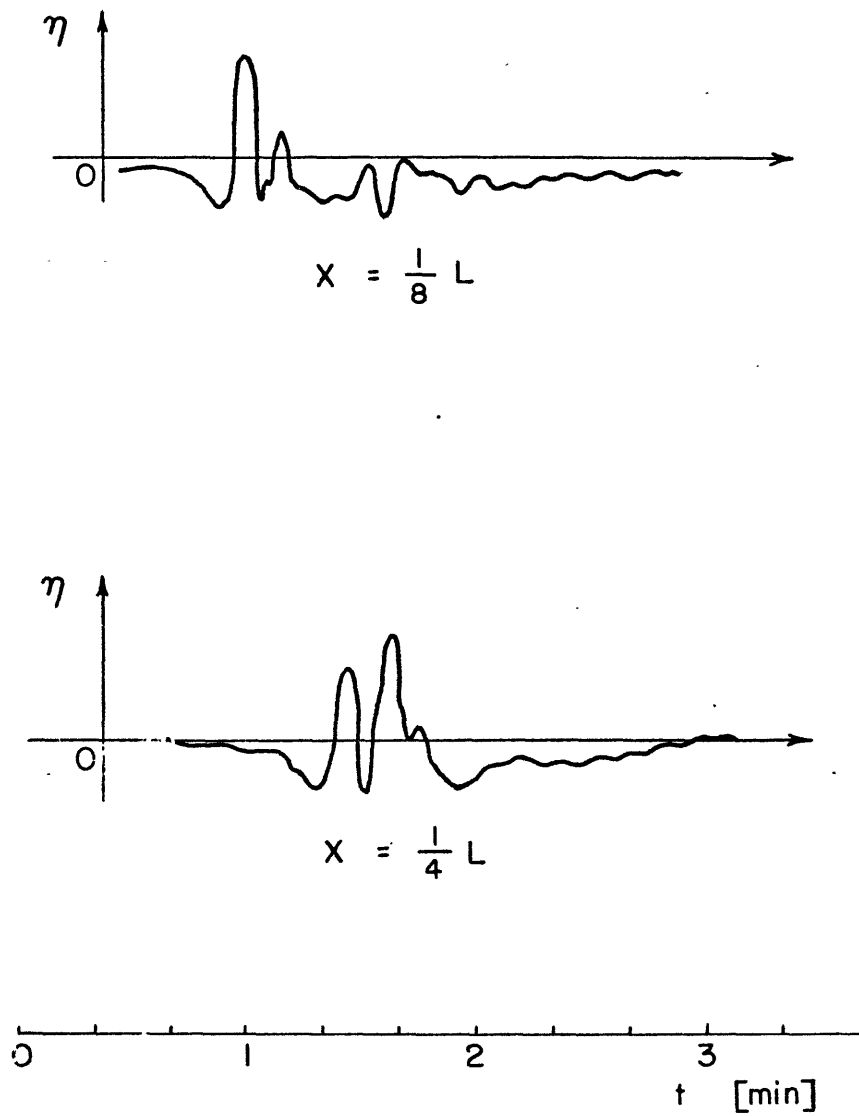


Figure 29. Measurements of the displacement of streamline at the energy density peak curve at $x = 1L/8$ and $x = 1L/4$ corresponding to figure 26.

where x_0 is the constant distance between the ridge and the station. This curve intersects the rays at some different points instead of at the points which correspond to the previous analysis for a station fixed in relation to the mean current. The frequency difference due to the relative motion of the reference frame is simply $kU(t)$, where k is the wave number, which is invariant in a time-dependent mean current $U(t)$. Part of the energy will be reflected as these waves propagate across the ridge. For a low smooth ridge, the transmission coefficient is approximately one, as can be shown using W.K.B. approximation (Bremmer [1951]).

During the experiments on quasi-steady lee wave generation, mixing was observed around the moving ridge. Although the mixing process was generally weak, its accumulative effect was appreciable. The influence of the mixed fluid was seen not only around the ridge but also at a distance from the ridge. In order to separate mixing from internal wave phenomena, a "mixer" was made using a high ridge which moved horizontally over a short excursion at a high frequency f_0 ($f_0 > N$). The mixed fluid was found to flow horizontally away from the "mixer" along its neutral buoyancy level like a horizontal wedge, causing the unmixed fluid to flow back in two shear layers at the top and the bottom of the ridge, as shown in figure 30, and to increase the mixing process near the ridge. These shear layers delineated the density difference which could be observed from the salinity conductivity probes (see figure 31).

The energy source of this system came from the moving ridge (or mean current in the ocean). This energy was transferred to the fluid by increasing the potential energy through mixing (Turner, 1966). The density discontinuity along the interface between the mixed and unmixed fluid generated a pressure gradient (Mei, 1969) which pushed the mixed fluid away from the mixing "source". The walls of the tank force a vertical and horizontal recirculation of the unmixed fluid as required by continuity of mass.

The fluid motion may be classified by the following regions, the interior region, the mixing region, and the shear layer zone, as shown in figure 30. We will now examine these different

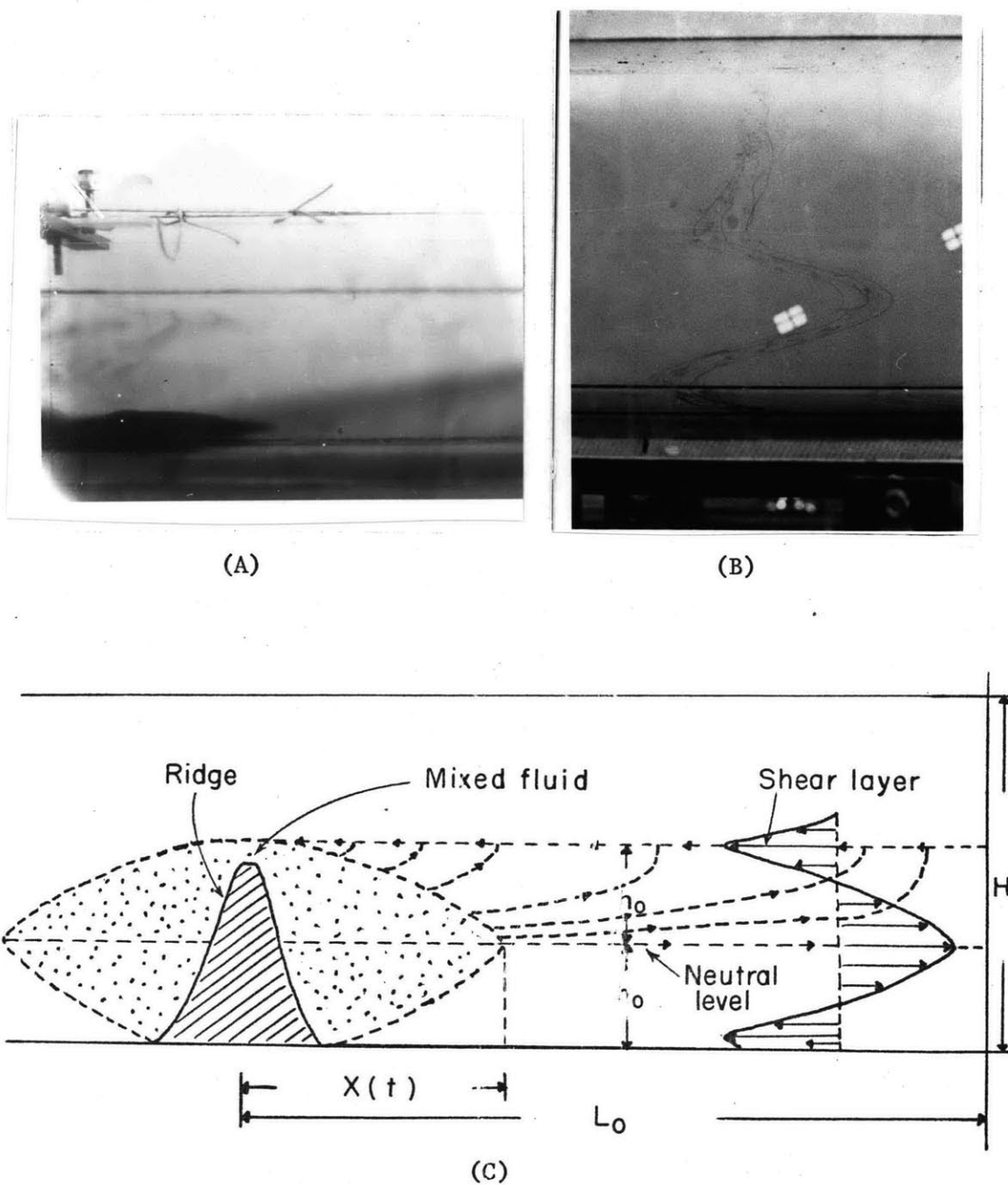


Figure 30. (A) Photograph showing formation of mixed fluid region (colored here by dark KMnO_4 dye). (B) Photograph of horizontal velocity profile. (C) A sketch of the experimental results showing the shape of the mixed fluid region, shear layers, and stream lines.

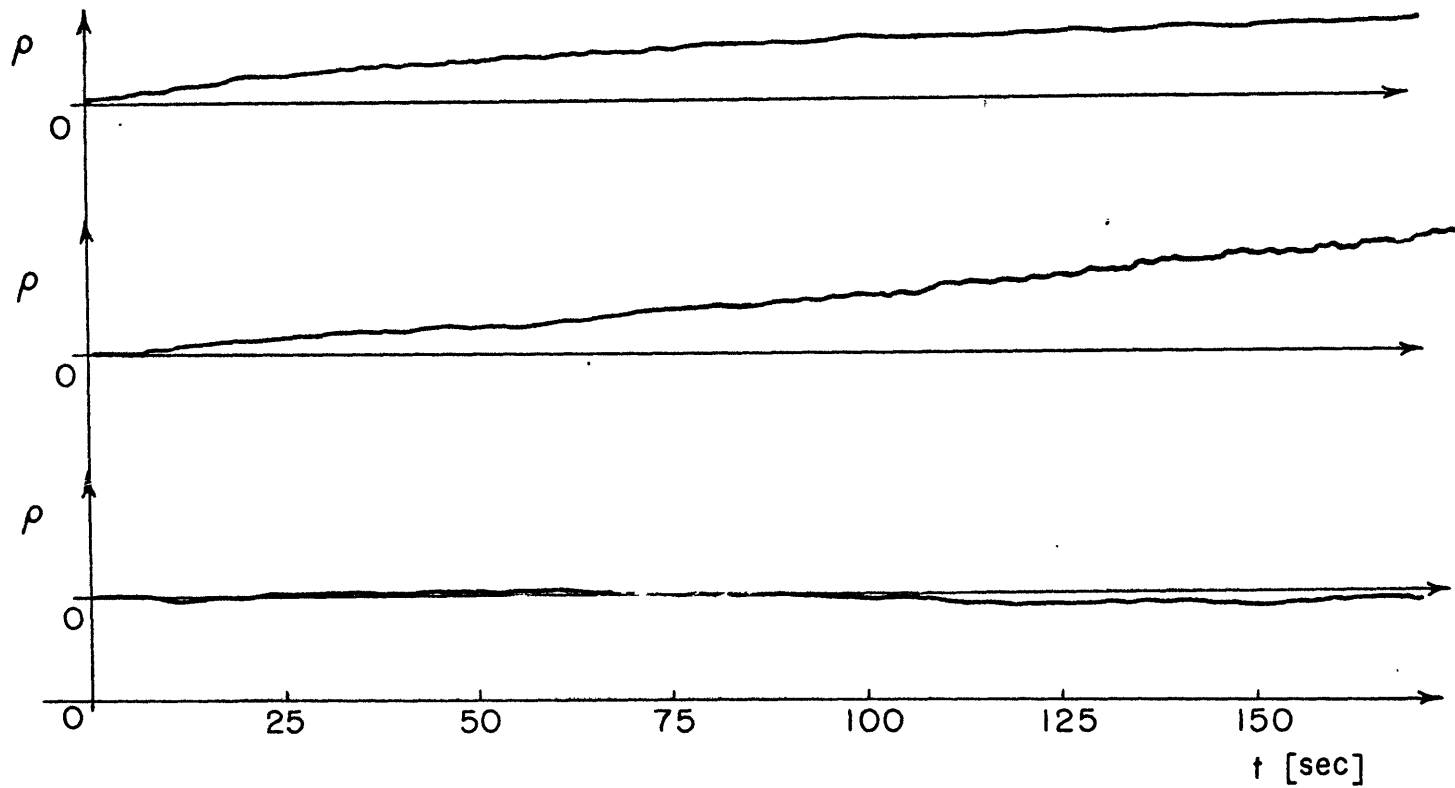


Figure 31. Typical density variations from the experimental results on mixing which show the formation of density jump: (A) Below the velocity shear layer ($z = h$). (B) Inside the shear layer. (C) Above the shear layer.

schematic regimes separately.

A. Interior Region:

The motion of the fluid in this region is quite similar to the slow motion of a solid body in a density stratified fluid (Foster and Saffman, 1970). The governing equations of the interior region are

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (5.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + w \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + u \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = 0, \quad (5.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = 0, \quad (5.3)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = -\rho g. \quad (5.4)$$

The neglect of the diffusion term in (5.2) is due to the very large Peclet number $Pe = \frac{U h_0^2}{KL} \gg 1$, where h_0 is the vertical characteristic length, L is the horizontal characteristic length, K is the diffusivity of salt, and U is the typical horizontal velocity. Equations (5.3) and (5.4) are results from the hydrostatic approximation. From (5.3) and (5.4) we have

$$p = p(z, t) \quad (5.5)$$

$$f = f(z, t) \quad (5.6)$$

Equations (5.2) and (5.6) imply

110.

$$W = W(z, t). \quad (5.7)$$

From (5.1) and (5.7), we have

$$U = f(z, t) - \chi \frac{\partial W}{\partial z}. \quad (5.8)$$

The boundary condition at the end of the tank is

$$U = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad \chi = L. \quad (5.9)$$

The equation of the interface between the mixed and stratified fluids is

$$\chi = g(z, t). \quad (5.10)$$

Then for a particle which remains on the interface,

$$\frac{D}{Dt} [\chi - g(z, t)] = 0,$$

or

$$U = \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} + W \frac{\partial g}{\partial z}. \quad (5.11)$$

Equation (5.8) and (5.9) imply that

$$U = (L - \chi) \frac{\partial W}{\partial z}. \quad (5.12)$$

Equations (5.10), (5.11), and (5.12) imply that

$$g_t + W g_z = W_z (L - g) \quad (5.13)$$

or

$$(L - g) W_z - g_z W - g_t = 0. \quad (5.14)$$

The solution of (5.14) is

$$w = \frac{\int g_t dz + c(t)}{L - g} \quad (5.15)$$

Due to vertical symmetry of the steady flow, the vertical velocity has to vanish at the neutral buoyancy level, i.e.,

$$w = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad z = 0. \quad (5.16)$$

Equation (5.16) then implies

$$w = \frac{1}{L - g} \int_0^z g_t dz.$$

For reasons which will become clear in the next section, we will choose

$$g = \bar{x}(t) \left[1 - \frac{z^2}{h_0^2} \right].$$

We then find

$$w = \frac{\bar{x}'(t) \cdot (h_0^2 z - \frac{1}{3} z^3)}{L h_0^2 - \bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 - z^2)}, \quad (5.17)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} u &= (L - x) \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = \frac{(L - x)}{(L - g)} \cdot (g_t + w g_z) \\ &= \frac{(L - x) \bar{x}'(t)}{L h_0^2 - \bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 - z^2)} \left\{ (h_0^2 - z^2) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{2z \bar{x}(t) (h_0^2 z - \frac{1}{3} z^3)}{L h_0^2 - \bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 - z^2)} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.18)$$

From (5.2) and (5.18), we have

$$f = f(z, 0), \quad \text{along the characteristic lines.}$$

The characteristic lines and streamfunction respectively are given by

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 z - \frac{1}{3} z^3)}{L h_0^2 - \bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 - z^2)},$$

$$\psi = (L - x) \frac{\bar{x}'(t)(h_0^2 z - \frac{1}{3} z^3)}{L h_0^2 - \bar{x}(t)(h_0^2 - z^2)}. \quad (5.19)$$

Since both diffusion and viscosity are neglected in the analysis of the unmixed fluid region, discontinuities such as density jumps and velocity shear layers cannot be avoided. The regions $z > h_0$ remain stationary because of the end walls, so that internal boundary layers form to close the recirculation. These fully nonlinear viscous layers help to reduce the vertical velocity to zero, make the density continuous, and carry the backward mass transport. The boundary layers at the end wall reduce the vertical velocity to zero, while the boundary layers at the interfaces between the mixed and unmixed fluids smooth out the density jumps and velocity discontinuities. Further discussion of these boundary layers (with the exception of the interfacial layer) is given by Foster and Saffman (1970).

B. Mixed Region:

The motion of this fluid is complicated. To simplify the situation, we neglect the turbulent motion and weak density gradients inside the mixed region and liken the case to the collapse of a homo-

geneous fluid mass in a density stratified fluid (Schooley and Stewart [1963], Jin Wu [1969], and Mei [1969]). The important difference of the case considered here is that newly mixed fluid is continuously generated by the moving ridge. Assuming the length of the horizontal axis of the mixed fluid $\chi(t)$ is large and the driving pressure gradient is small, we may again use a quasi-steady approximation, provided that L is so large that the constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency of the unmixed fluid stays constant in time. The governing equations are then

$$u u_x + w u_z = -P_x + \nu u_{zz} , \quad (5.20)$$

$$u w_x + w w_t = -P_z + \rho g + \nu w_{xx} , \quad (5.21)$$

$$u_x + w_z = 0 . \quad (5.22)$$

Guided by the experimental results, the following horizontal column solution is assumed

$$w = 0 , \quad (5.23)$$

$$u = f(z, t) , \quad (5.24)$$

f being a function to be determined later. From (5.20), (5.21), (5.23), and (5.24), the horizontal momentum equation becomes

$$\alpha \eta \eta_x + \nu u_{zz} = 0 . \quad (5.25)$$

Equation (5.25) means that the driving pressure gradient along the interface between the mixed and stratified fluid is balanced by the viscous force, where η is the height of the interface from the

neutral level and α is the square of the constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency of the stratified fluid.

In order to satisfy (5.25), $f(z, t)$ must assume a certain form. Since η is only a function of x and t , and α is a constant, this implies

$$U = f(z, t) = U_0(t)(A(t)z^2 + B(t)z + 1), \quad (5.26)$$

with $A(t)$ and $B(t)$ to be determined. The two boundary conditions for the mixed fluid are

$$\eta = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad X = \underline{X}(t), \quad (5.27)$$

$$\eta = h_0 \quad \text{at} \quad X = 0. \quad (5.28)$$

Although the mathematical forms of the boundary conditions are very simple, their correct physical interpretation is very important. It is well known (Kato and Phillips, 1969) that mixing causes vertical entrainment in a stratified fluid, and the height of vertical entrainment depends crucially on the strength of the mixing process. Thus h_0 in (5.28) represents the strength of the mixing process around the ridge, where the boundary condition (5.27) means that the tip of the mixed fluid region has to be at neutral buoyancy level.

It is obvious that there should be a close relation between h_0 and the horizontal speed $U_0(t)$ of the tip ($\eta = 0$). From (5.25), (5.26), and (5.27), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\eta^2 &= \frac{-4V}{\alpha} \int_x^{\bar{x}(t)} u_0(t) A(t) dx \\ &= \frac{-4V}{\alpha} u_0(t) A(t) (\bar{x}(t) - x).\end{aligned}\quad (5.29)$$

By introducing (5.28) into (5.29), we have

$$u_0(t) = \frac{-\alpha h_0^2}{4V} \cdot \frac{1}{A(t)} \cdot \frac{1}{\bar{x}(t)}.\quad (5.30)$$

we will now determine the two arbitrary functions $A(t)$ and $B(t)$.

Introducing (5.30) into (5.29) yields

$$\eta^2 = h_0^2 \frac{\bar{x}(t) - x}{\bar{x}(t)}\quad (5.31)$$

or

$$x = \bar{x}(t) - \frac{\bar{x}(t)\eta^2}{h_0^2}.\quad (5.32)$$

This result plus qualitative experimental evidence suggested the form used in the previous section for $g(z, t)$. However, from (5.26), η has to satisfy the following relation

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \eta^2 \int_0^t u_0(t') A(t') dt' + \eta \int_0^t u_0(t') B(t') dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^t u_0(t') dt'.\end{aligned}\quad (5.33)$$

By comparing (5.32) and (5.33), we see that

$$B(t) = 0 \quad (5.34)$$

$$\bar{x}(t) = -h_0^2 \int_0^t u_0(t') A(t') dt. \quad (5.35)$$

Equation (5.34) is an expected result since we have a symmetric flow with respect to $z = 0$. The solution to the integral equation (5.35) is

$$A(t) = - \frac{1}{h_0^2}. \quad (5.36)$$

Introducing (5.36) into (5.11) then yields

$$u_0(t) = \frac{\alpha h_0^4}{4\nu} \cdot \frac{1}{\bar{x}(t)}. \quad (5.37)$$

This is a very important relationship between the strength of the mixing process and the horizontal collapse speed. The physical interpretations of (5.37) are as follows.

- (a) $u_0(t)$ is proportional to the fourth power of h_0 ; thus u_0 depends crucially on the strength of the mixing process around the ridge.
- (b) $u_0(t)$ is proportional to α , which is expected since large α means a large driving pressure gradient along the interface.
- (c) $u_0(t)$ is decreased by an increase in viscosity ν .
- (d) $u_0(t)$ is proportional to $1/\bar{x}(t)$, because as $\bar{x}(t)$ is increased, the driving pressure gradient is decreased.

Other quantities are

$$u(z, t) = u_0(t) \left(\frac{h_0^2 - z^2}{h_0^2} \right), \quad (5.38)$$

$$\eta(x, t) = h_0 \left(1 - \frac{x}{\bar{x}(t)} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (5.39)$$

$$\bar{x}(t) = \left(\frac{\alpha h_0^4}{2\nu} t \right)^{1/2}. \quad (5.40)$$

In order that the above theory may be easily compared with experimental results, (5.40) has to be modified to avoid the singularity at $t = 0$.

Integrating (5.37) with respect to t , we have

$$x(t) = \left[x_0^2 + \frac{\alpha h_0^4}{2\nu} (t - t_0) \right]^{1/2} \quad (5.41)$$

where $x_0 = x(t)|_{t=t_0}$. We have initially assumed in this theoretical development that $x_0 \gg h_0$. The results of a typical mixing experiment are compared in figure 32 for $x_0/h_0 = 6.3$ with theoretical curves predicted using (5.41). The rough agreement suggests that the effective viscosity coefficient in the mixing region is of order $1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$ (at least 10^2 times the molecular value).

Since the quasi-steady approximation and the assumption of constant α do not accurately apply to these experiments, the theory and experimental results agree only qualitatively. The introduction of rotation would make this problem more interesting (Walsh, 1969) and is worthy of further investigation.

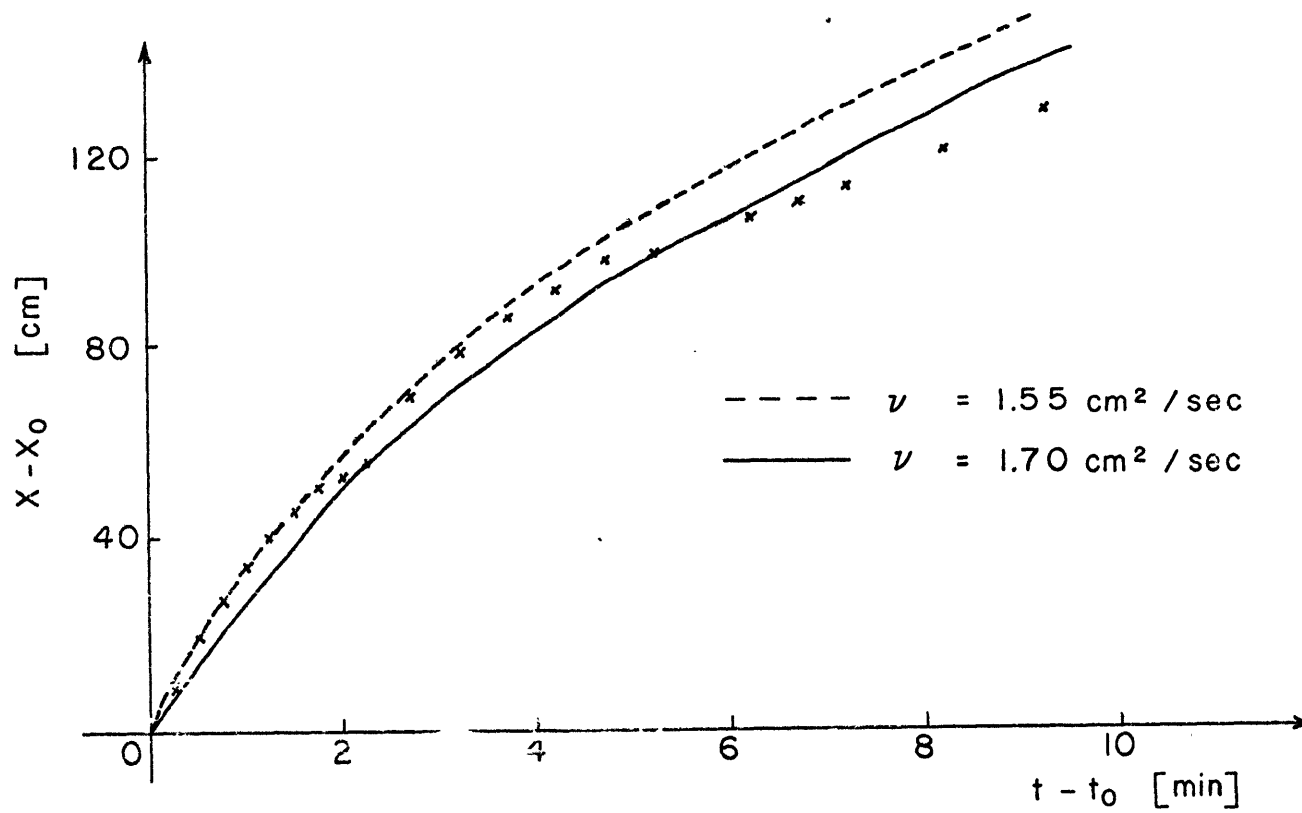


Figure 32. The cross points represent the observed trajectory of the tip of the mixed fluid region in a typical mixing experiment ($h_0 = 3.8 \text{ cm}$, $\alpha = 0.75$) where the solid and dash lines represent the theoretical results computed for different viscosity coefficients with $x = 24 \text{ cm}$.

6. Conclusion

The experimental results and numerical calculations have already demonstrated that nonlinearity is very important in the generation of long nonlinear internal gravity waves from a local isolated internal disturbance. While wave dispersion in surface and internal waves is similar, a major difference between long surface and internal wave theories is that the basic density stratification of the fluid can even change the sign of the nonlinear effect for internal waves. Thus, an internal solitary wave may exist for both an initial elevation or depression of the stream lines, whereas surface solitary waves exist for only an initial surface elevation. Assuming that the fractional change in the basic density over the vertical characteristic length is small (use Boussinesq approximation), it is found that an internal warm front or depression (corresponding to the first mode) tends to steepen in a typical seasonal thermocline, and long nonlinear internal wave trains will be generated on this depression due to the dispersive effect of the sharp front. A comparison of Halpern's temperature observations in Massachusetts Bay and our numerical results shows that a fully nonlinear model does give accurate estimates for the observed sharp warm front, the phase speed and the wave length of these internal waves. The finite amplitude effect vanishes identically to first order approximation for a linearly stratified fluid of constant Brunt-Vaisala frequency, which is often used. Inclusion of the non-Boussinesq term simply reduces the phase speed of the internal waves.

We should also point out that temperature observations made in the Straits of Gibraltar by Ziegenbein (1969, 1970), also suggest the presence of long nonlinear internal waves even though the water depth is not small in comparison to a typical wave length. This may be because the thermocline depth rather than the total water depth becomes the appropriate vertical characteristic length (Benjamin, 1967). A time-dependent KdV equation for this case is under investigation at present.

The experimental results for quasi-steady lee wave trains agree only qualitatively with ray theory, possibly because the excursion of the oscillating ridge is not really large enough in comparison to the wave length of the lee waves. The lee wave regime is bounded by several limits (mixing, blocking, and the maximum long internal wave speed). A possible application of this ray theory is to explain some small amplitude internal wave trains which occur without significant mean level change in a semi-diurnal tidal flow.

The mixing phenomena due to the moving ridge, which can be replaced by any other "mixer", is worthy of further investigation. Our analysis of a very simple model shows that the "mixer" is not only the source of the mixed fluid but also the sink of the unmixed fluid. The resulting circulation set up by the "mixer" causes internal density discontinuities and high velocity shear layers. The final steady state is that all the fluid below (approximately) the height of the top of the ridge will become homogeneous, and diffusion will gradually decrease the subsequent density jump. The summer vertical temperature profile in Massachusetts Bay seems to give a good proof

of this limiting case.

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Biographical Sketch

The author was born on June 6, 1942 in Szuchung province, China, and raised in Taiwan. He received a B.S. degree in civil engineering from Cheng Kung University in June 1964, and a M.S. degree in geophysics from the Institute of Geophysics, National Central University, in June 1966. He served for one year in the chinese military service before entering M. I. T. in September 1967. He married the former Shian-yun Yao in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1969.