



On solitary wave
interactions

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Focused Research Group:

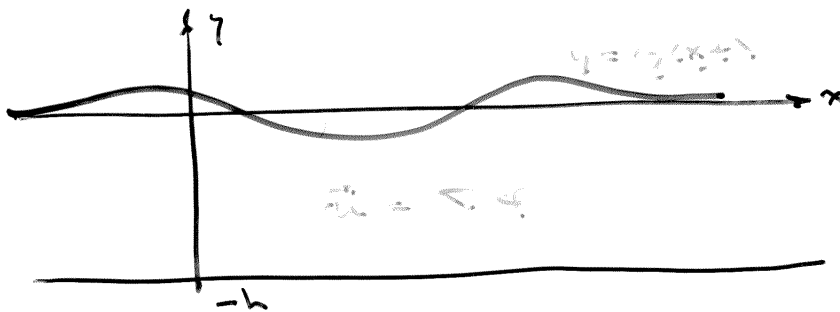
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|----------------------|--|
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3)

1) Surface water waves



$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \\ \nabla \wedge \vec{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$

(1) $\Delta \phi = 0$ within the fluid domain

$$\partial_n \phi = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad y = -h$$

$$\partial_t \eta = \partial_y \phi - \partial_x \eta \cdot \partial_x \phi$$

$$\partial_t \phi = -g\eta - \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2$$

$$\text{on} \quad \eta = \eta(x, t)$$

Conserved quantities

(2) (i) $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \eta \, dx = m_0$ mass

(ii) $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-h}^{\eta(x)} \partial_x \phi \, dy \, dx = \mu_0$ momentum

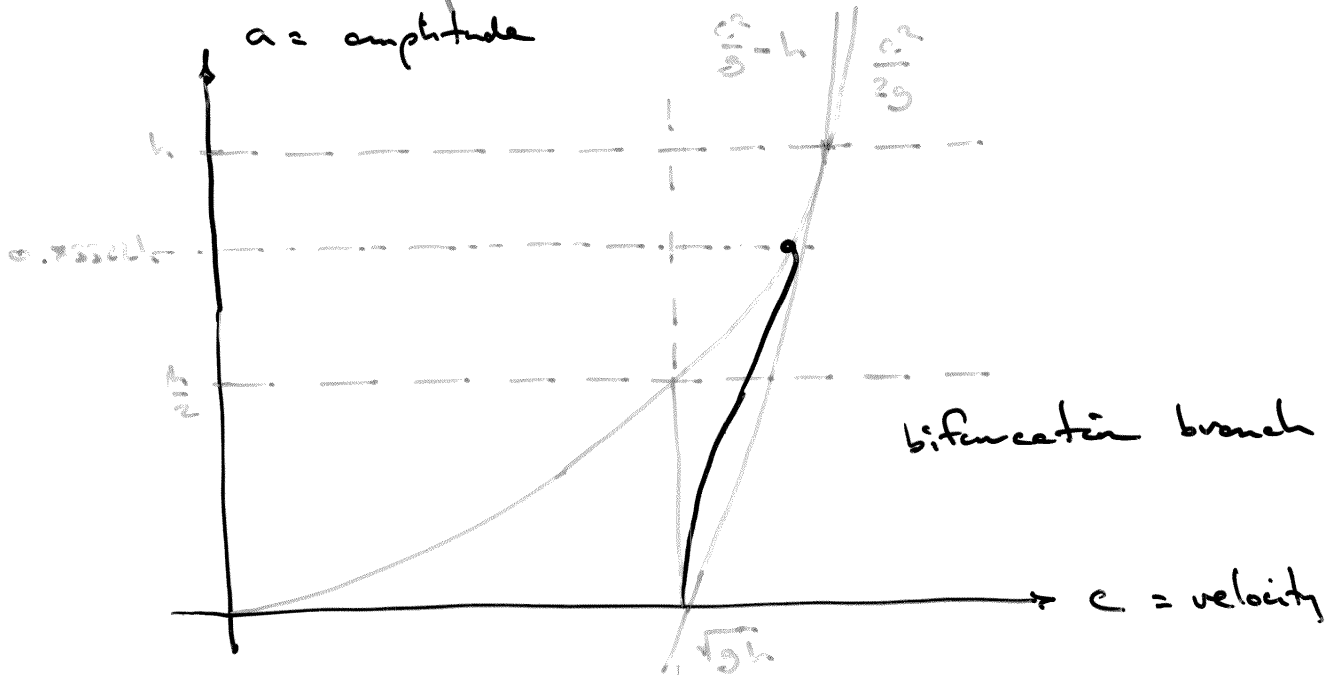
(iii) $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-h}^{\eta(x)} \left(\frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2 + \frac{g}{2} \eta^2 \right) dy \, dx = e_0$ energy

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Solitary waves in the free surface

$$\eta(x,t) = \eta(x-ct) \quad , \quad \varphi(x,y,t) = \varphi(x-ct, y)$$

bifurcation problem (from continuous spectrum)



Description: Stokes (1847) (1880)

Existence theory: Levrantiev (1947)
 Friedrichs & Hyers (1954)
 Beale (1979)
 Kirchgässner & Pöhlke (1980's)

Extremal form: Amick & Toland (1981)

Numerical simulations: Byatt-Smith & Longuet-Higgins (1976)
 Hunter & Vanden Broeck (1983)
 * Tanaka (1986)

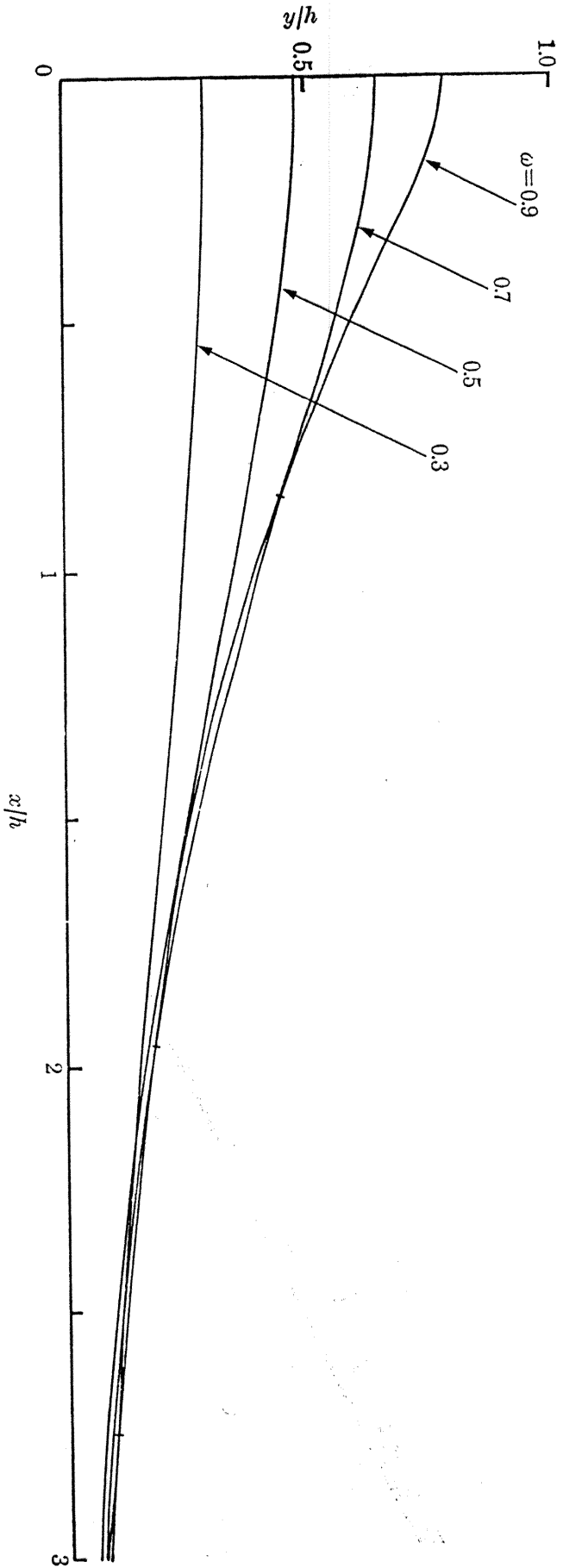


FIGURE 2. Surface profiles of solitary waves of different amplitudes, in water of constant depth.

Speed and profile of steep solitary waves

*R. A. D. Smith, K. C. Ingham & J. R. V. Kanwal
Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series A, Mathematical and Physical Sciences, 1981, vol. 381, pp. 1-14*

Comparison with the Korteweg-deVries (KdV) equation

$$(3) \quad \partial_{\tau} Q = \mp \left(\frac{1}{6} \partial_x^3 Q + \frac{3}{4} \partial_x (Q^2) \right)$$

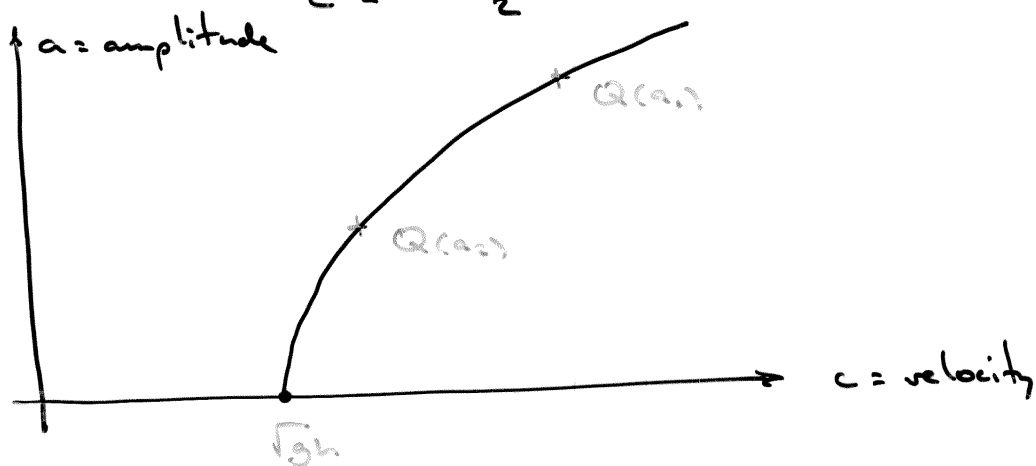
with the change of scales

$$X = \varepsilon(x \mp \sqrt{gh}t) \\ \tau = \varepsilon^3 t$$

The family of KdV solutions

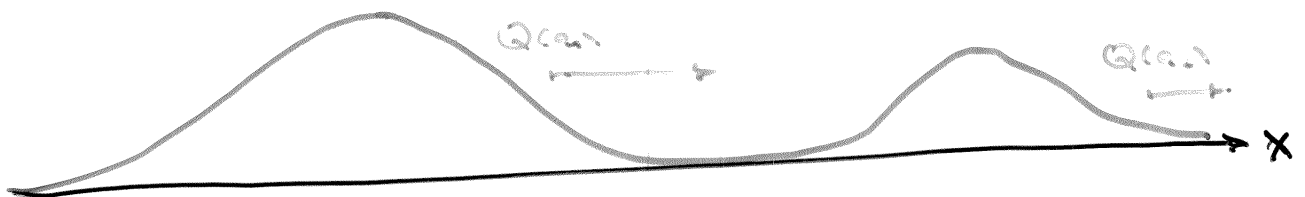
$$Q_{S_1}(X - c\tau) = a^2 \operatorname{sech}^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} a (X - c\tau) \right)$$

$$c = \pm \frac{g}{2} a^2$$



Multi solitons :

$$Q_{S_2}(X, \tau)$$



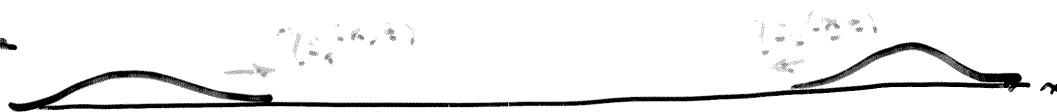
- Overtaking collisions
- Clean ('elastic') interactions

4)

2) binary collisions of solitary waves

counter-propagating:

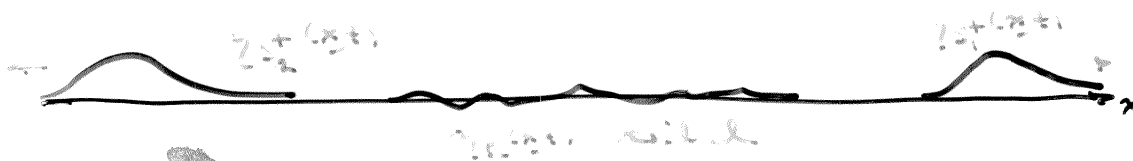
Initial data



$$\gamma_0(x) = \gamma_{s_1}(x) + \gamma_{s_2}(x)$$

where each is a Stokes solitary wave.

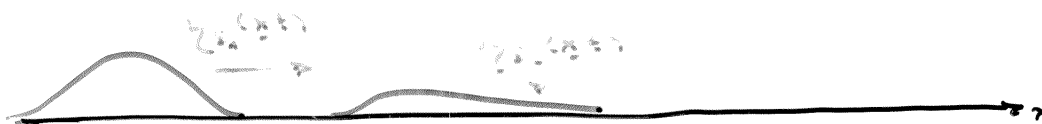
After collision the solution should look like



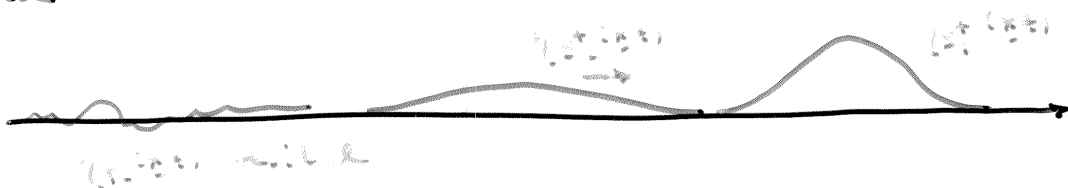
∴ this happens on a fast time scale.

co-propagating:

Initial data



After collision



∴ this happens on a substantially longer time scale, modeled by the KdV equation.

* Basic issues arising in head-on solitary wave collisions

(i) phase shift - small and negative

(ii) run-up (super-linear amplitude superposition)

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (\eta_{s_1}) + \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (\eta_{s_2}) < \sup_{x,t} (\eta(x,t))$$

and/or 'wall residence time'.

(iii) degree to which collisions are inelastic

$\eta(x,t)$ a solution of (1)

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} [\eta(x,t) - (\eta_{s_1}(x-c_1 t) + \eta_{s_2}(x-c_2 t))] = 0$$

Define the residual for $t \gg 1$

$$\eta(x,t) = (\eta_{s_1}^+(x-c_1^+ t + a_1 t) + \eta_{s_2}^+(x-c_2^+ t + a_2 t)) + \eta_{r_2}(x,t)$$

Conclusions:

(i) the residual is very small but always present.

(ii) there is a characteristic Fourier signature of the residual.

(iii) comparison with PSU experiments.

7) alt

3) Prior results: counter-propagating interactions

* Experimental

- Maxworthy (1976)
 - measurements of phase shift (negative) and run-up.
- Renouard, Seabra Santos & Temperville (1985)
 - negative phase shift and run-up.

My conclusion: experiments have not really pinned this down yet.

- nb: R. Pierce (unpublished, PSU)

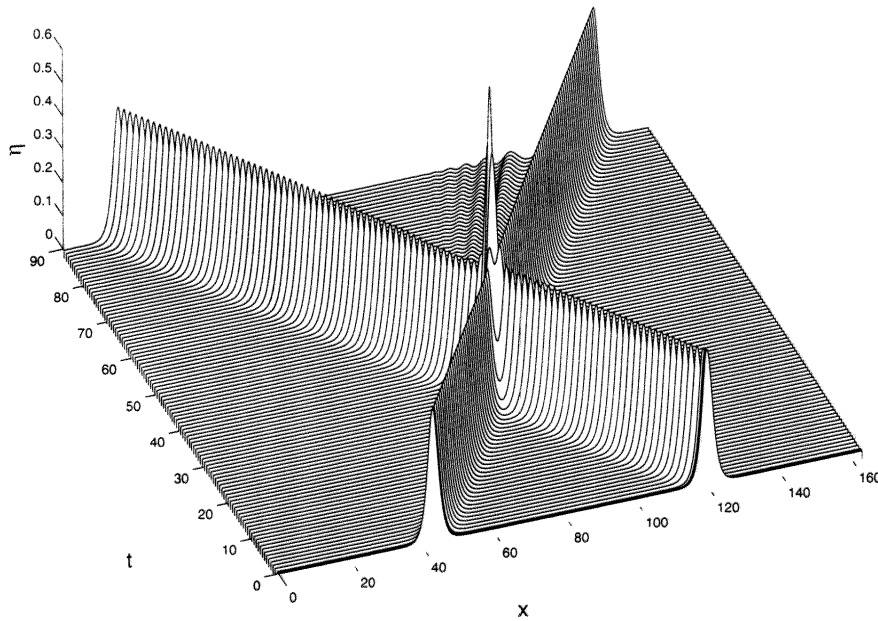
* Asymptotic analysis and numerical modeling

- Chan & Street (1970)
- Miura & Su (1980), (1982)
- Fenton & Reinecker (1982)
- Byatt-Smith (1988)
- Cooper, Weidman & Bale (1997)

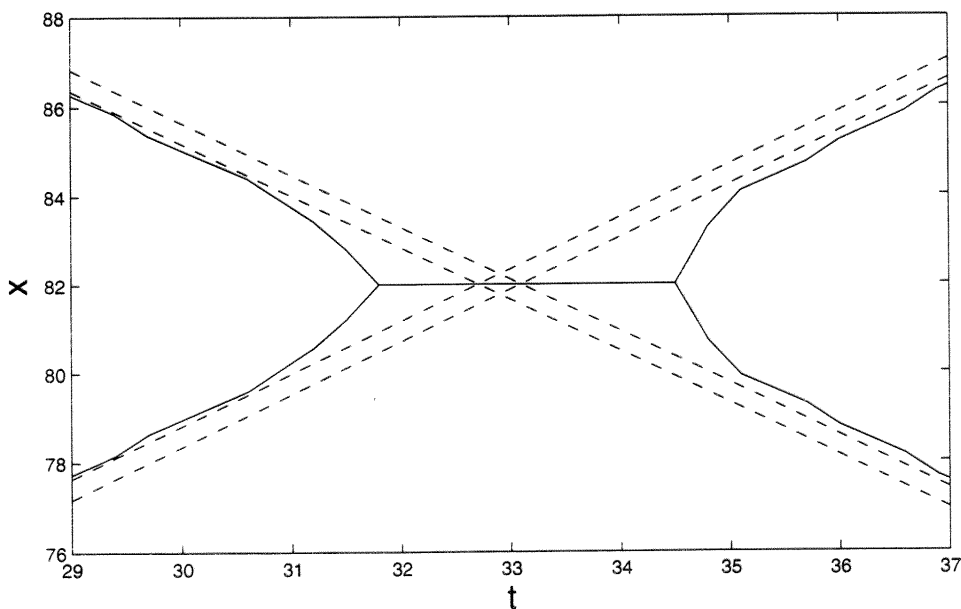
- Issues:
- predict the phase shift
 - compute the run-up
 - discuss the character of the dispersive residual
 - understand the speed of the reflected waves

Numerical results

- Symmetric head-on collisions



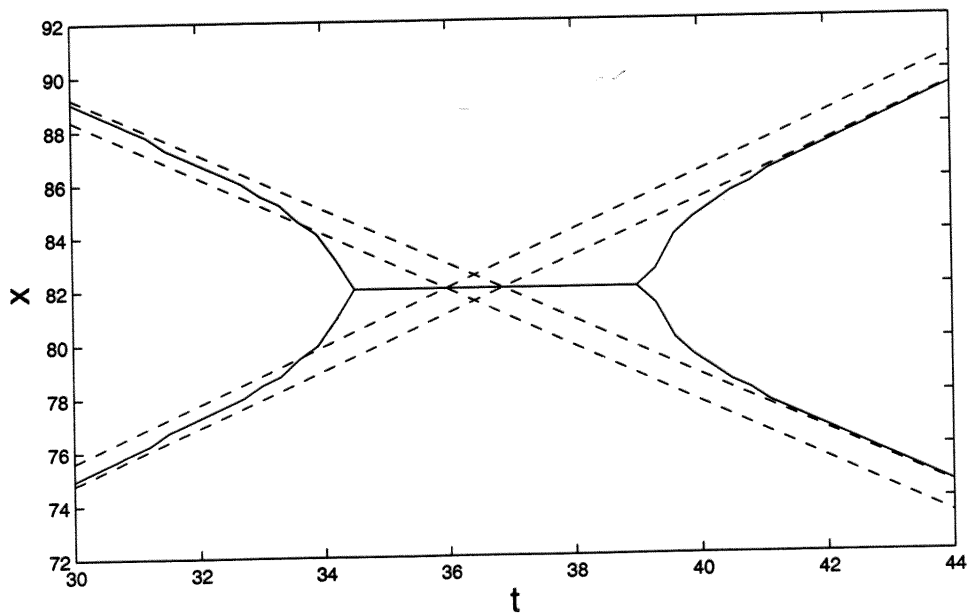
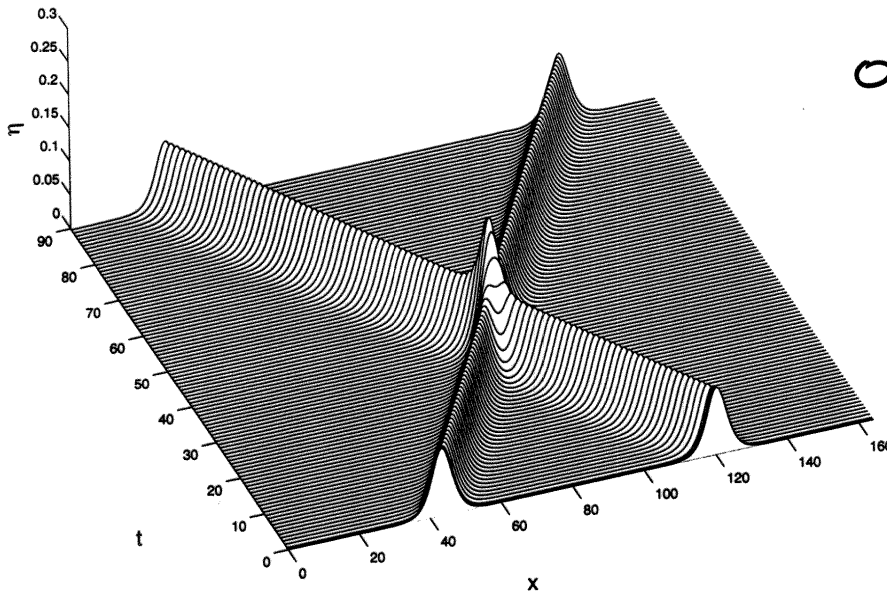
Amplitudes
 $a_1 = 0.5h$
 $a_2 = 0.5h$
initially



Numerical results (Euler)

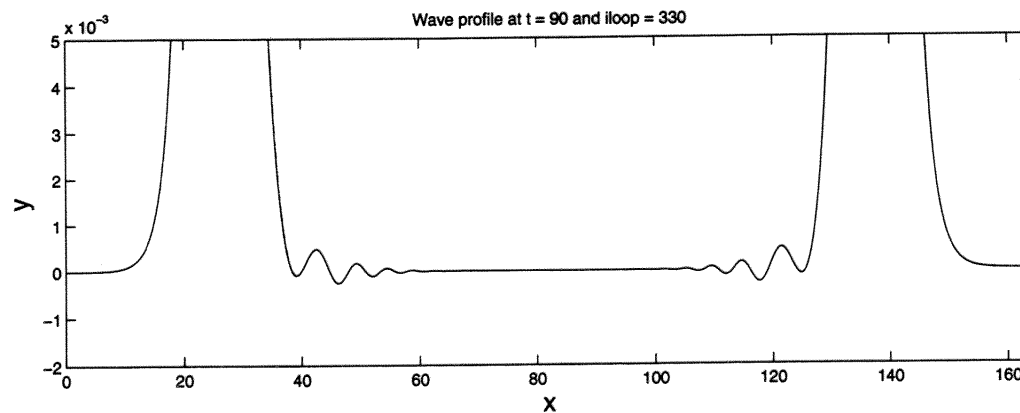
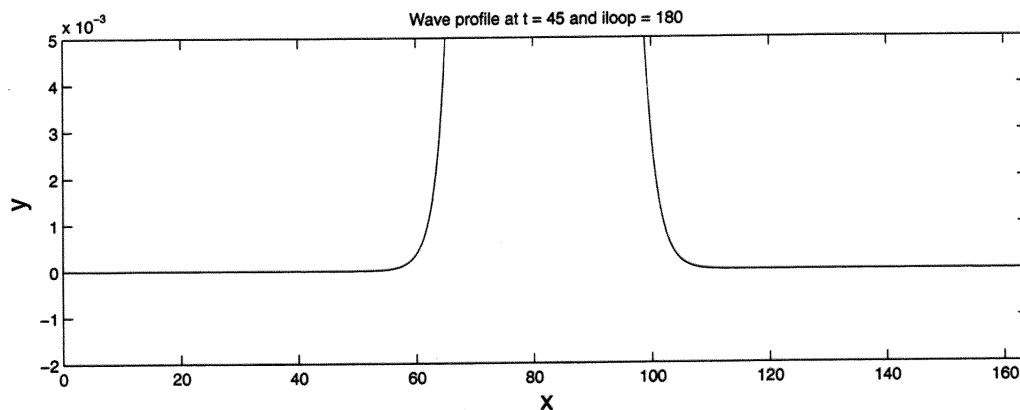
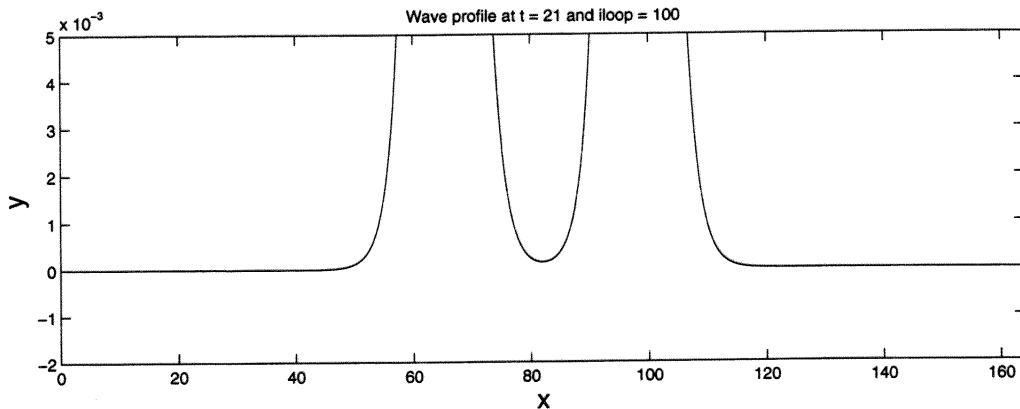
- Symmetric head-on collisions

Wave profile between $t = 0$ and $t = 90$



Numerical results

- Symmetric head-on collisions



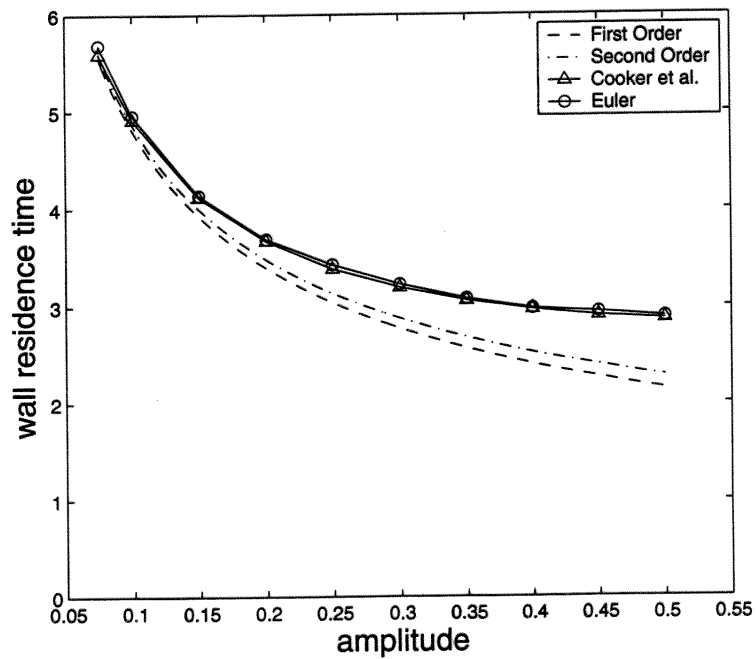
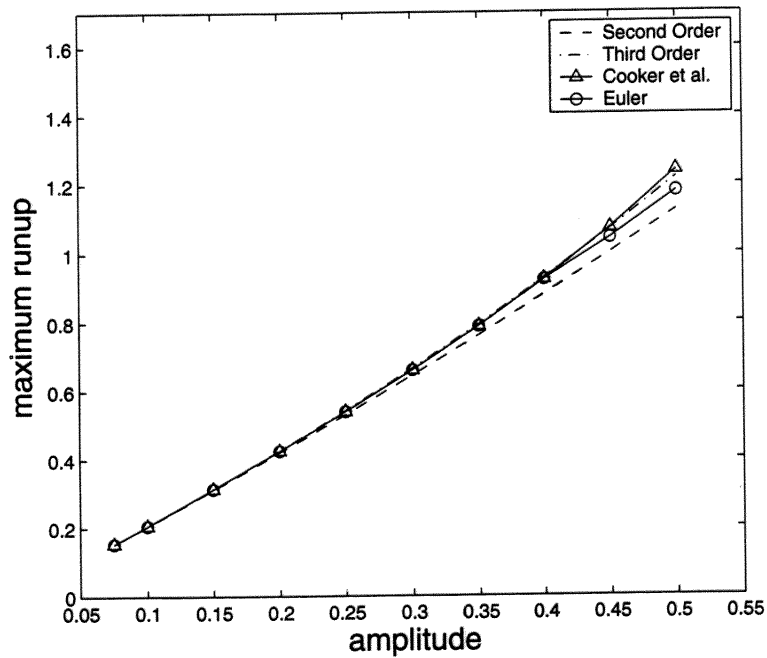
Initial amplitudes $a_1 = 0.1h$, $a_2 = 0.1h$

The residual is small but present;

$\Delta y \approx 10^{-3}$

Numerical results

- Symmetric head-on collisions



Su & Pirie (1980)

—△—△—

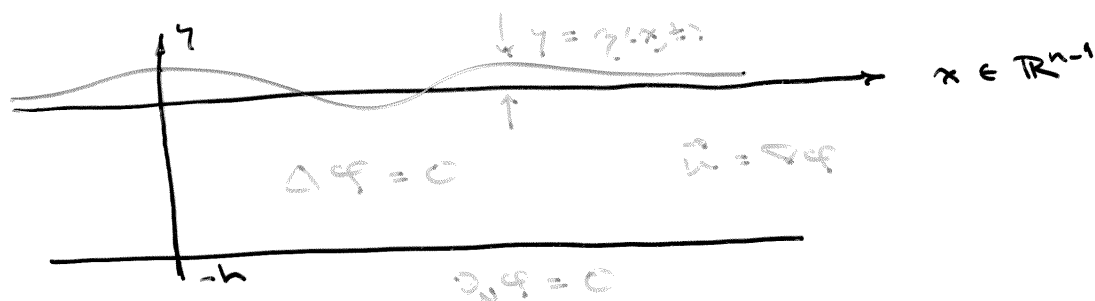
Cooker, Wiedman & Bale (1997)

—○—○—

Guyenne et al.

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The numerical method:



* Zakharov's Hamiltonian

(4) $H = K + U =$ kinetic + potential energy

$$U = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\rho}{2} \eta^2 dx$$

$$K = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-h}^{\eta(x)} \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \varphi|^2 dy dx$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \mathfrak{G}(\eta) \mathfrak{S} dx$$

where $\mathfrak{G}(\eta)$ is the Dirichlet-Neumann operator:

$$(5) \quad \mathfrak{S}(x) \mapsto \varphi(x, y) \mapsto \nabla \varphi(x, y) \cdot N dS_{\eta} := \mathfrak{G}(\eta) \mathfrak{S} dx$$

The equations of motion are expressed as

$$(6) \quad \partial_t \eta = \delta_{\mathfrak{S}} H = \mathfrak{G}(\eta) \mathfrak{S}$$

$$\partial_t \mathfrak{S} = -\delta_{\eta} H = -g\eta - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{\eta} \langle \mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{G}(\eta) \mathfrak{S} \rangle.$$

This is in the Hamiltonian form $\dot{z} = J \text{grad} H(z)$
for $z = (\eta, \mathfrak{S})$, where $J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

6)

Theorem: The Dirichlet-Neumann operator $G(\eta)$ is an analytic operator-valued function in domains $\{\eta \in \text{Lip}\}$.

L. Coifman & R. Rochberg (1985), Christ & Seeger (1988), Craig, Sulem & Yuen (1993)

+ This is to say that the Taylor expansion

$$(7) \quad G(\eta)\xi = G_0\xi + G_1(\eta)\xi + G_2(\eta)\xi + \dots$$

converges in $\mathcal{L}(H^1; L^2)$ for sufficiently small $\|\eta(x)\|_{\text{Lip}} < \varepsilon$

where $G_j(\alpha\eta) = \alpha^j G_j(\eta)$ for $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

+ Similarly, the Hamiltonian is

$$\begin{aligned} (8) \quad H(\eta, \xi) &= \int \frac{1}{2} \xi G(\eta) \xi + \frac{\rho}{2} \eta^2 dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} \xi G_0 \xi + \frac{\rho}{2} \eta^2 dx \\ &\quad + \sum_{j \geq 1} \int \frac{1}{2} \xi G_j(\eta) \xi dx \\ &= H^{(2)}(\eta, \xi) + \sum_{j \geq 1} H^{(j+2)}(\eta, \xi) \end{aligned}$$

Explicitly

$$G_0 \xi(x) = \mathcal{D} \tanh(chD) \xi, \quad \mathcal{D} = \frac{1}{c} \partial_x.$$

implemented using the Fourier transform.

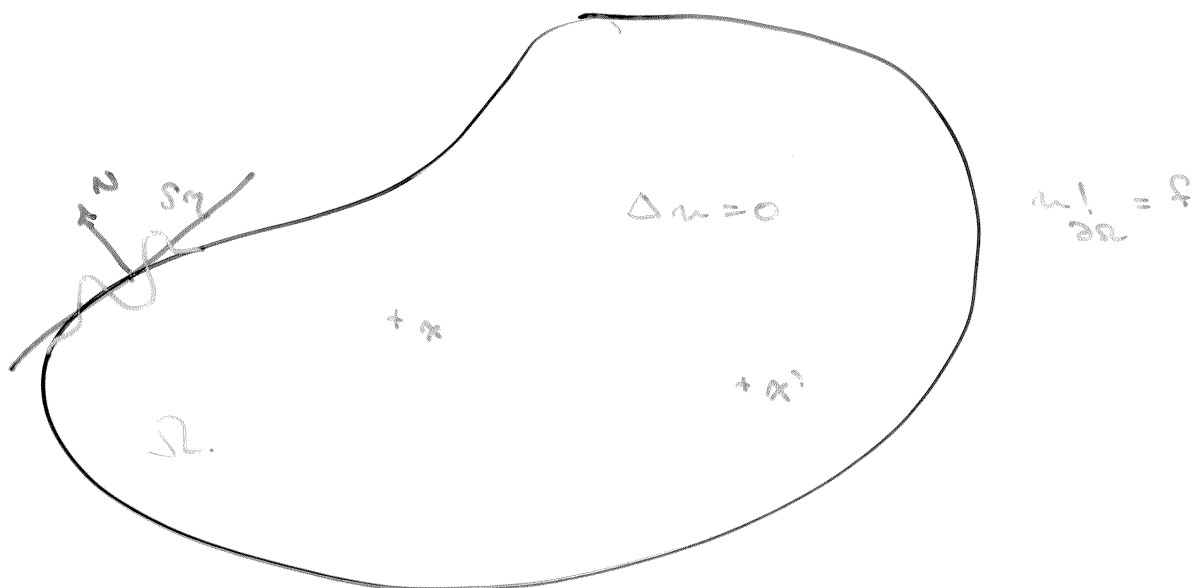
The numerical scheme is a surface spectral method.

$$\begin{aligned} (9) \quad \partial_t \eta^n &= \mathcal{D}_\xi (H^{(2)}(\eta^n, \xi^n) + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} H^{(j+2)}(\eta^n, \xi^n)) \\ \partial_t \xi^n &= -\mathcal{D}_\eta (H^{(2)}(\eta^n, \xi^n) + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} H^{(j+2)}(\eta^n, \xi^n)) \end{aligned}$$

ref: W. Craig & C. Sulem (1993), *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*

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Connection with the Hadamard variational formula.



The Green's function for a domain $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$g(x, x'; \Omega)$$

Variations with respect to domain [Hadamard 1914]

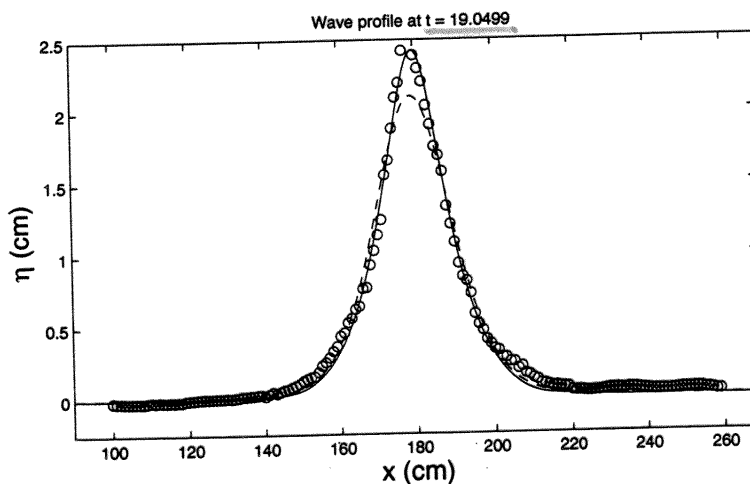
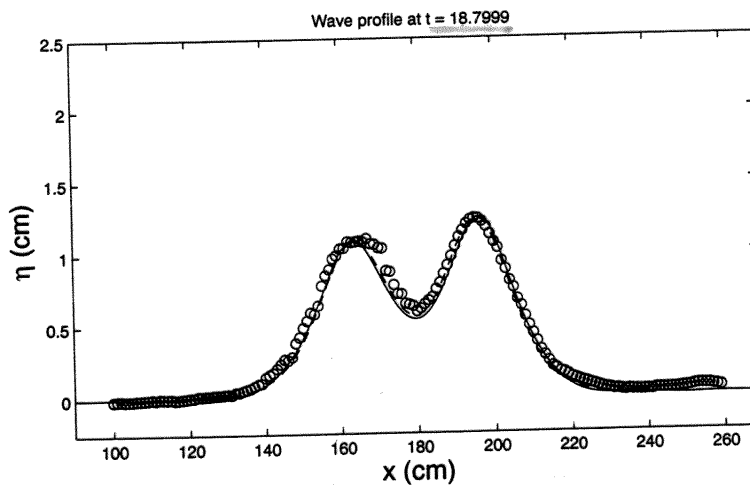
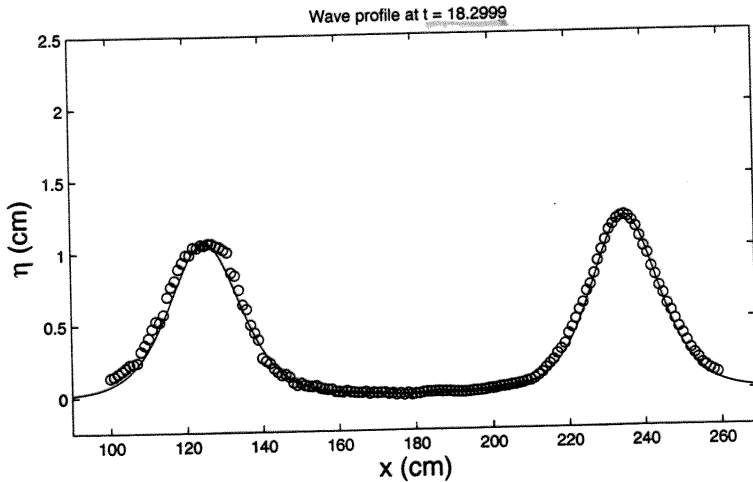
$$(10) \quad \delta g \cdot \delta \gamma(x, x') = \int_{\partial\Omega} N_i \nabla_i g(x, x') N_i \nabla_i g(x, x') \delta \gamma(x) dS$$

Recall the kernel of the Dirichlet - Neumann operator

$$(11) \quad G(\Omega)(x, x') = N_x \cdot \nabla_x N_{x'} \cdot \nabla_{x'} g(x, x')$$

Comparison with experiment

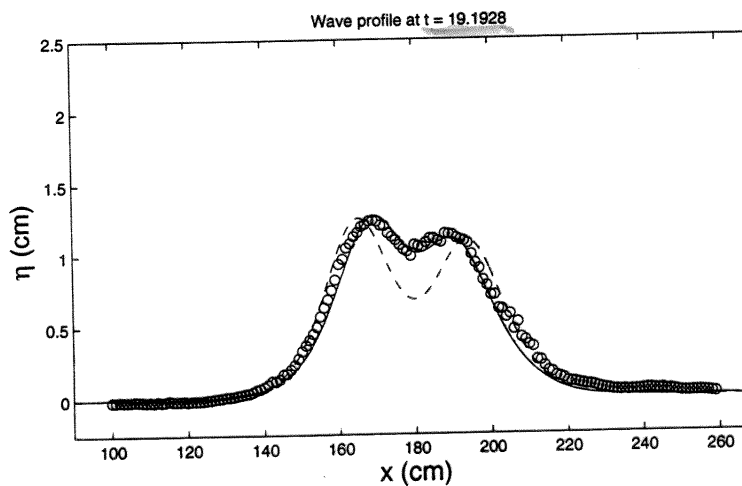
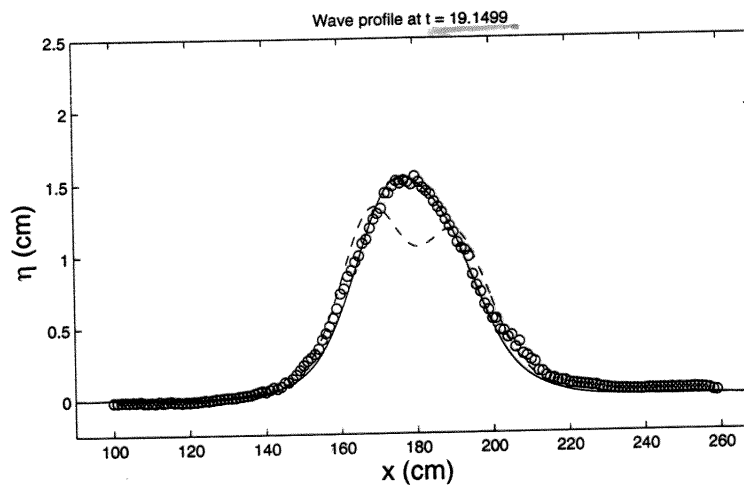
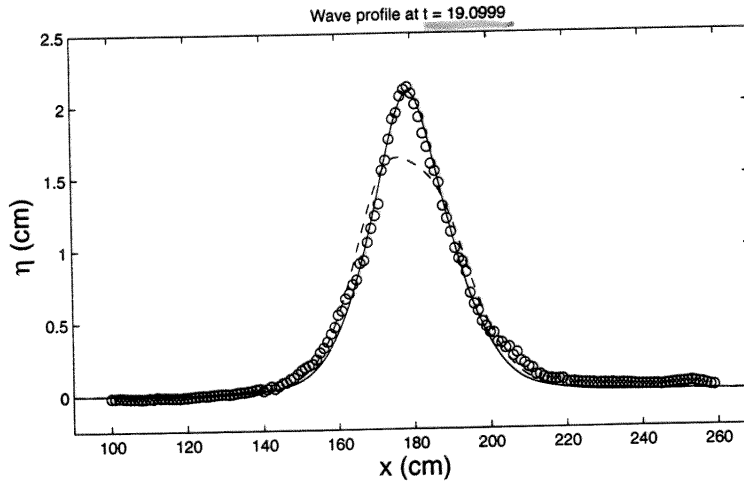
- Asymmetric head-on collision



- PSU wavetank (2004)
- Euler's equations, numerical
- two KdV solitons

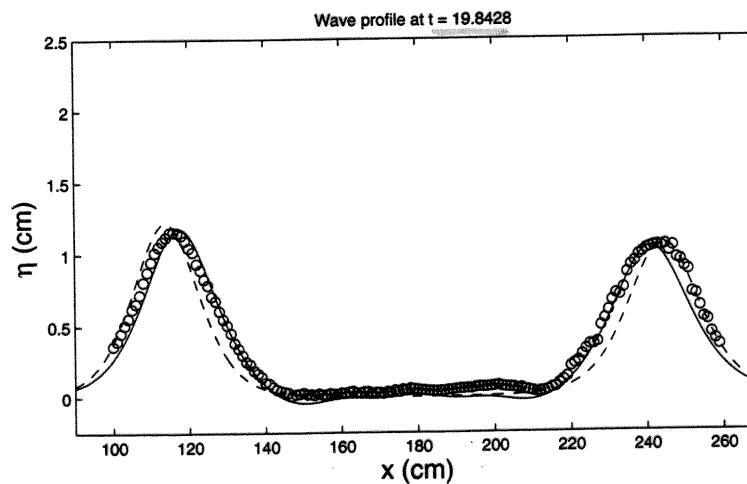
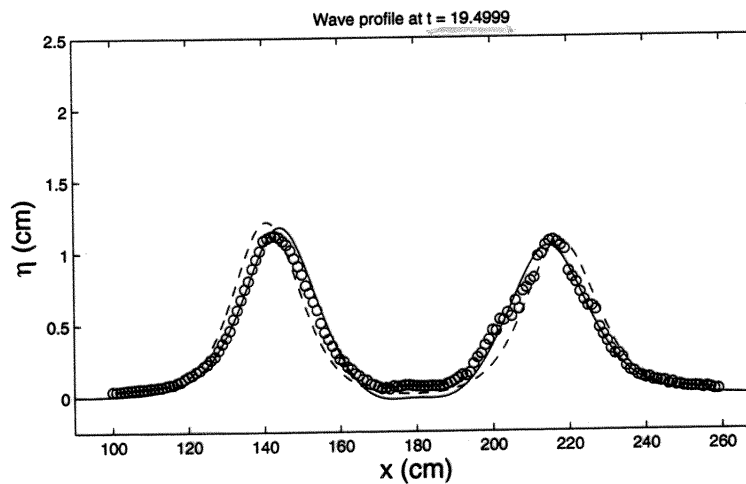
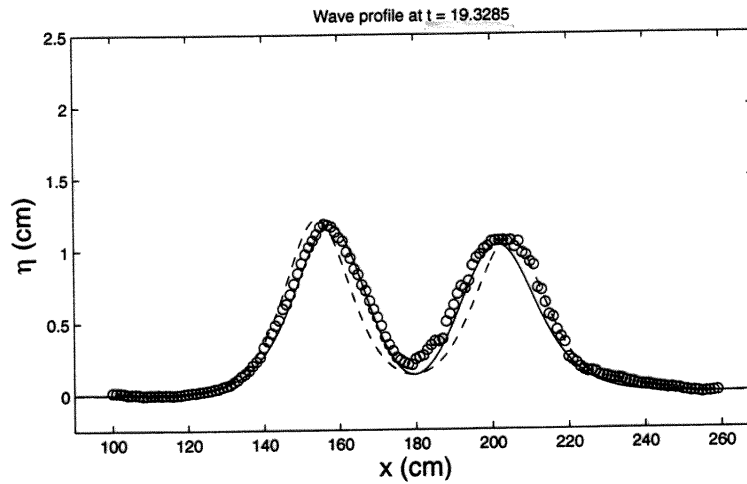
Comparison with experiment

- Asymmetric head-on collision



Comparison with experiment

- Asymmetric head-on collision



7)

Outline of our results

- (1) numerical simulations - counter propagating case
- (2) description of the numerical method
- (3) comparison with experiments (Penn State waketank)
- (4) several rigorous results
- (5) numerical simulations - co propagating case
and comparison with experiments
- (6) the criterion of P. Lax (1968)

Collaborative effort:

- J. Horvath, D. Henderson & team (PSU)
Experiments in their linear waketank
- P. Guyenne (McMaster Univ.)
Numerical simulations
- P. Guyenne, C. Sulem (McGill Toronto)
& D. Wright (Rice)
Analysis

Rigorous results:

Theorem 2. [Lyc. 1985] Prepare the initial data for the water wave problem for the long wave regime:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_0(\cdot) &= \gamma_0(\varepsilon x) & \partial_x \gamma_0(\cdot) &= v_0(\varepsilon x) \\ \|(\gamma_0, v_0)\|_{H^s} &\leq \varepsilon^2 C_0 & \text{recall } X &= \varepsilon x \end{aligned}$$

Then (i) solutions of equation (1) exist over long time intervals

$$t \in (-T_2, T_2), \text{ where } T_2 = C_1/\varepsilon^3.$$

and (ii) when data is prepared for a unidirectional case

$$(12) \quad \|KdU_+(\gamma_0, \partial_x \gamma_0)\|_{H^{s_0+1}} < \varepsilon^2 C_2$$

then the solution $\gamma(x, t)$ of (1) converges with $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ to a solution $Q(x, \tau)$ of the KdV equation (3+).

[Schneider & Wayne, 2000]

(iii) Replace condition (12) by the condition of localization of the initial data

$$(1 + |x|^2)^2 (\gamma_0(x), v_0(x)) \in H^{s_0}.$$

Then there exist two solutions of KdV (3±) such that

$$\sup_{[-T_2, T_2]} \|\gamma(x, t) - \varepsilon^2 (Q_+(Y_+, \tau) + Q_-(Y_-, \tau))\|_{H^{s_0-1}} < \varepsilon^{5/2} C.$$

$$\text{recall } \tau = \varepsilon^3 t, \quad Y_{\pm} = \varepsilon(x \mp \sqrt{g}h t)$$

9)
Theorem 3 [D. Wright 2004] Under the conditions of Theorem 2 (iii) then there is an estimate of solutions of (1) as follows:

$$\| \eta(x, t) - \varepsilon^2 (Q_+ + Q_-) - \varepsilon^4 P(x, T) - \varepsilon^4 (F_+(y_+, \tau) + F_-(y_-, \tau)) \|_{H^{2s-1}} \leq \varepsilon^{1/2} C_4$$

where the various functions satisfy

$$X = \varepsilon x \quad T = \varepsilon t$$

$$y_{\pm} = \varepsilon (x \mp \sqrt{3}h t)$$

$$\tau = \varepsilon^3 t$$

• long space + time scales

• moving frames

• slow time modulation

$$(13) \quad (\partial_T^2 - \partial_X^2) P = 3 \partial_X^2 (Q_+(y_+, \tau) Q_-(y_-, \tau))$$

wave eqn

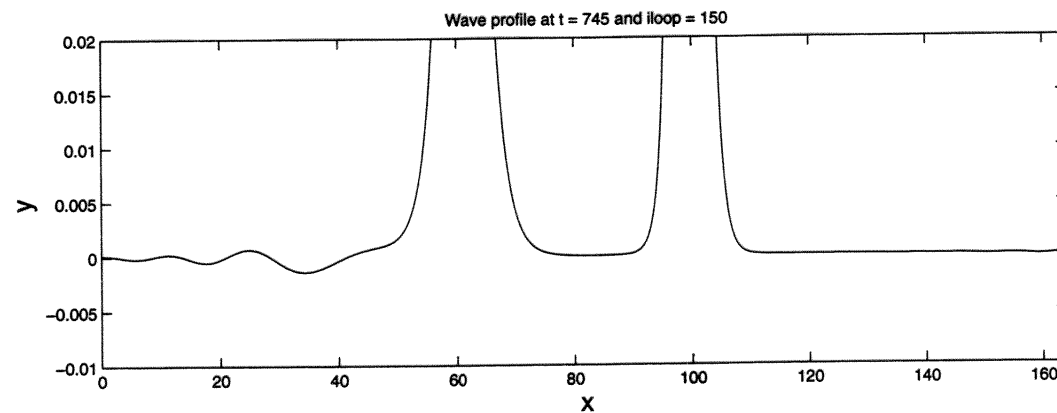
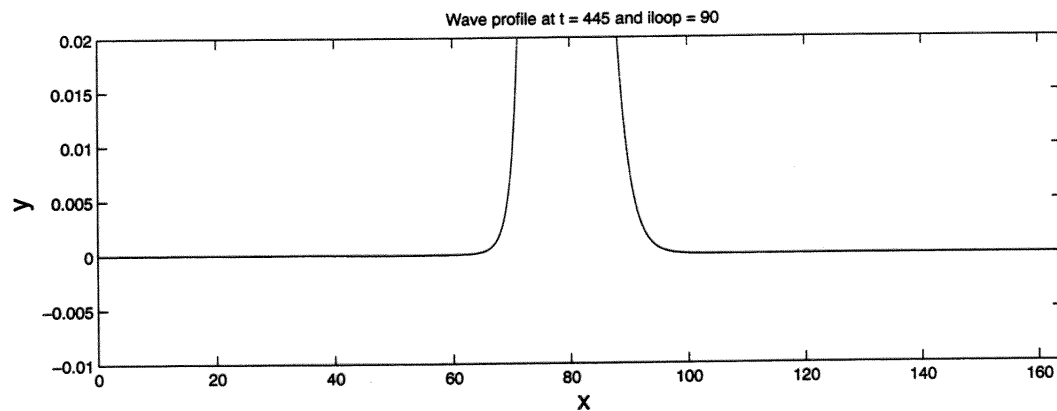
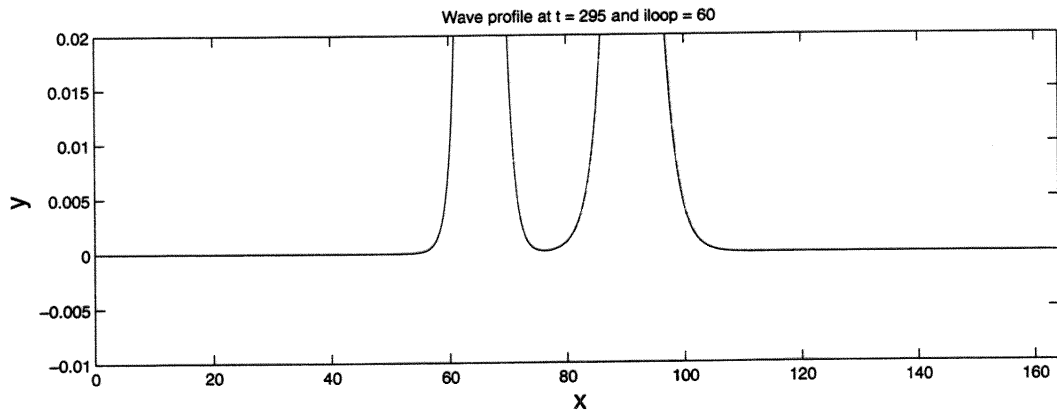
$$\partial_\tau F_{\pm} = \mp \left(\frac{1}{6} \partial_{y_{\pm}}^3 F_{\pm} + \frac{3}{2} \partial_{y_{\pm}} (Q_{\pm} F_{\pm}) \right) + J_{\pm}$$

linearized KdV eqn

The inhomogeneous terms J_{\pm} are explicit polynomials in Q_{\pm} , P .

Numerical results

- Overtaking collisions



$$a_1 = 0.4$$

$$a_2 = 0.3$$

Note the presence of a non-zero residual.

* Basic issues arising in overtaking solitary wave interactions

(i) phase shift - Large and positive

(ii) amplitude of the interaction

$$\forall t \quad \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (\gamma_{S_2}) < \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (\gamma(x,t)) < \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (\gamma_{S_1})$$

(where we chose $\|\gamma_{S_2}\|_{L^\infty} < \|\gamma_{S_1}\|_{L^\infty}$).

(iii) the residual is very small, but always nonzero

$$\gamma(x,t) \approx \gamma_{S_1}(x-c_1t) + \gamma_{S_2}(x-c_2t), \quad t \ll 0$$

$$\gamma(x,t) = \gamma_{S_1^+}(x-c_1^+t) + \gamma_{S_2^+}(x-c_2^+t) + \gamma_R(x,t), \quad t \gg 0$$

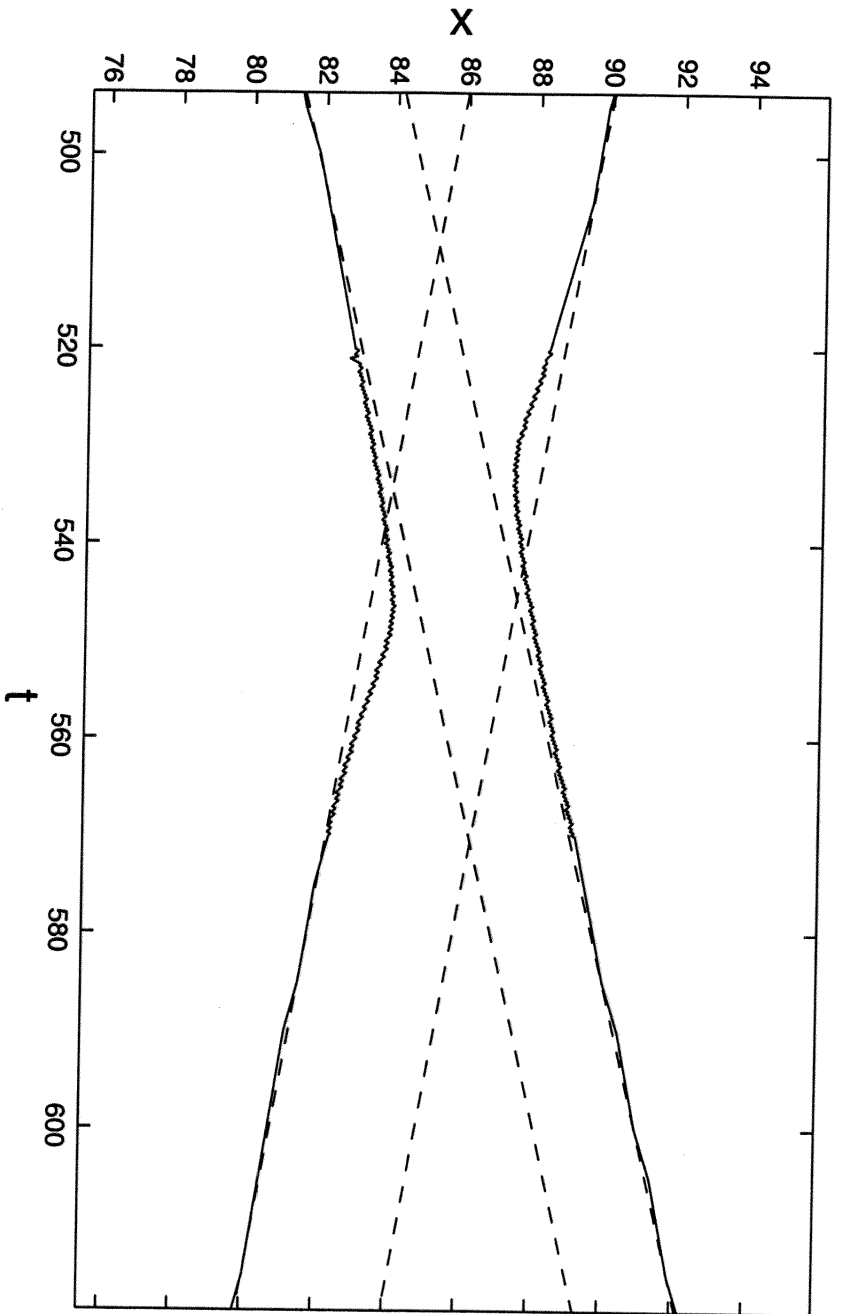
$$\text{Typically } \|\gamma_R(x,t)\|_{L^\infty} < 0.002 \|\gamma_{S_1}\|_{L^\infty}$$

(iv) the interaction type classification of Lenzi:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{class (a)} & & \text{class (b)} & & \text{class (c)} \\ \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) < 2.0 < & \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) < 5.52 < & \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) \end{array}$$

nb: For the KdV, the classes are as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{class (a)} & & \text{class (b)} & & \text{class (c)} \\ \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) < \frac{3+\sqrt{5}}{2} & & \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) < 3 & & \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right) \end{array}$$



Stochastic process (noisy)

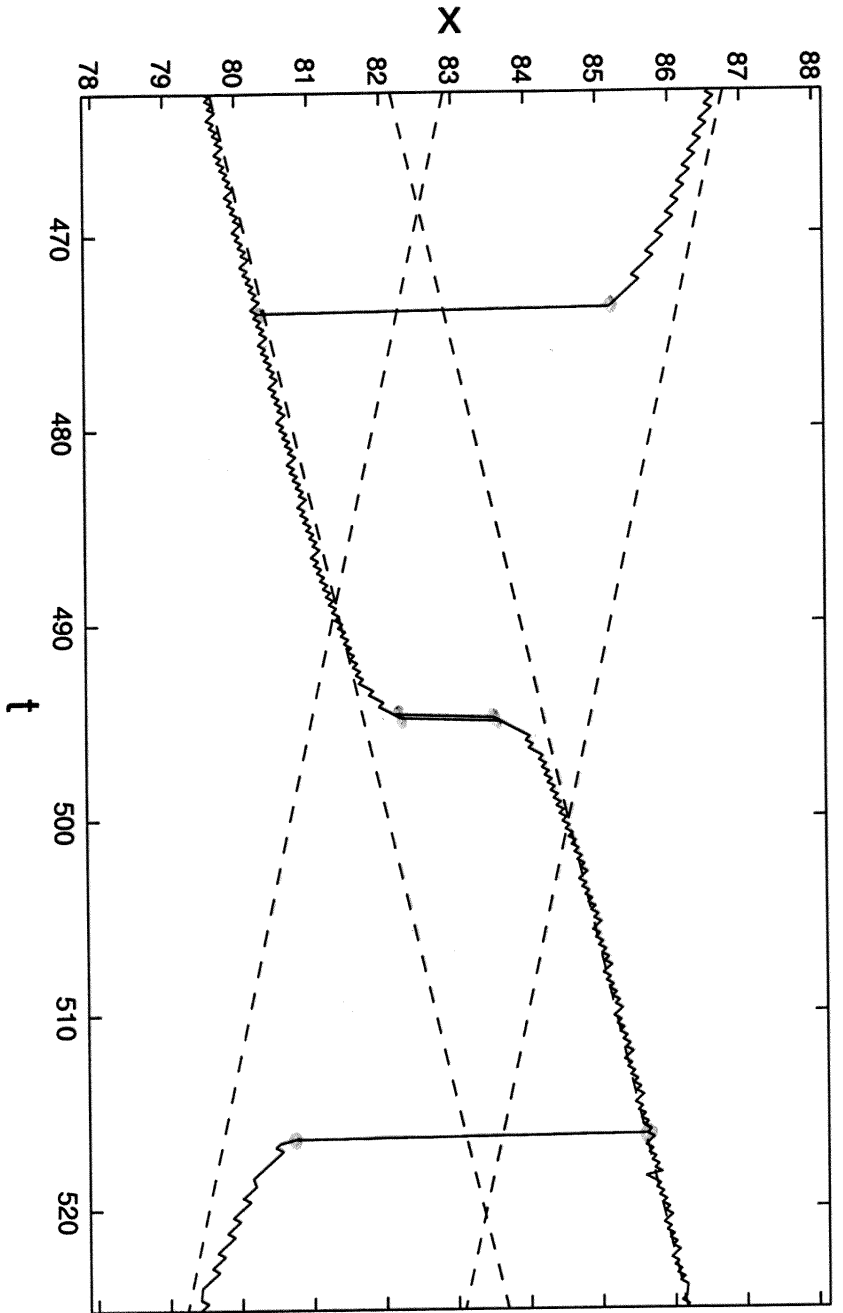
Euler equations

$$a_1 = 0.4$$

$$a_2 = 0.135$$

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = 2.909 \dots$$

case (ii), just prior to the transition to case (ii).



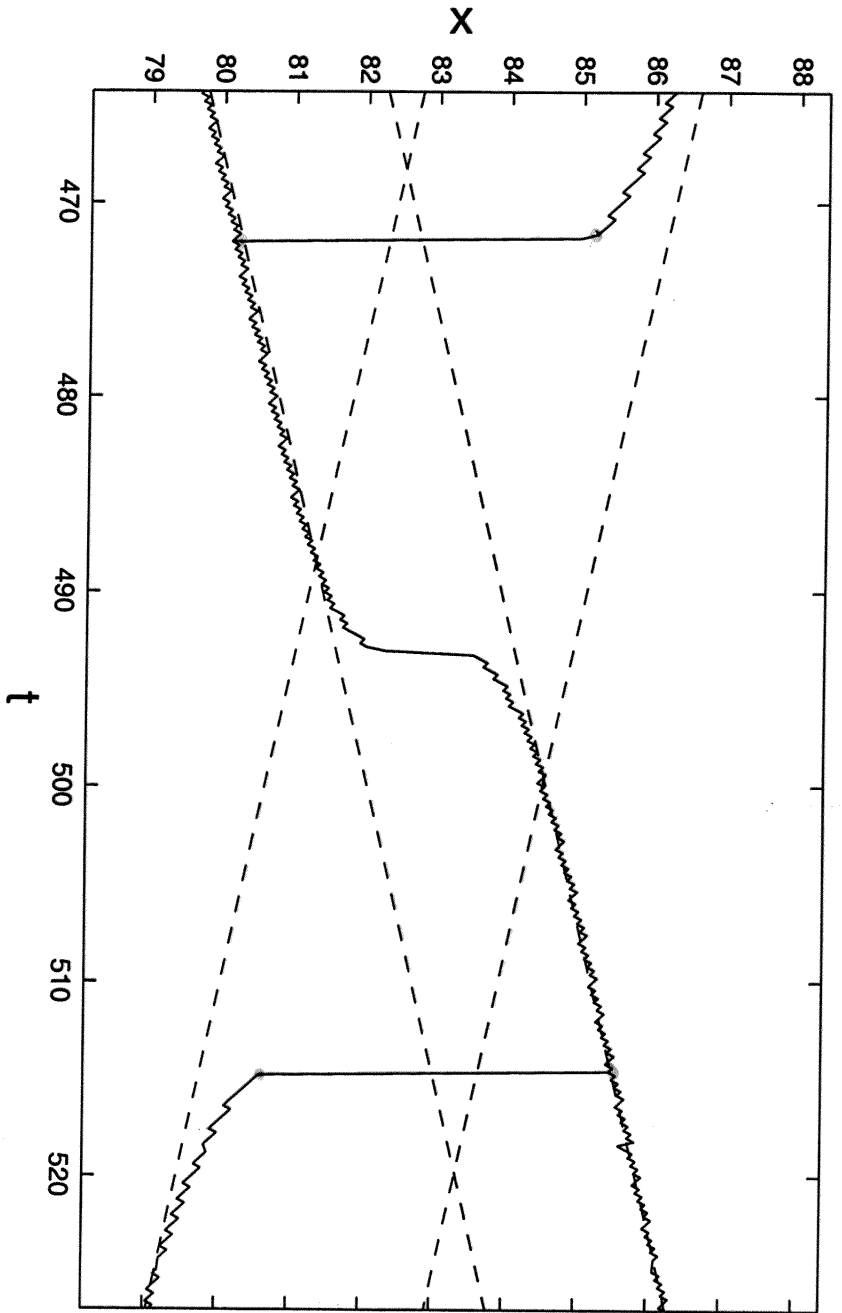
Euler equation

$$a_1 = 0.9$$

$$a_2 = 0.114$$

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = 3.509$$

case (1), just prior to the transition to case (2).



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Ergebnis Expansion

$a_1 = 0.14$

$a_2 = 0.115$

$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} = 3.89 \dots$

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