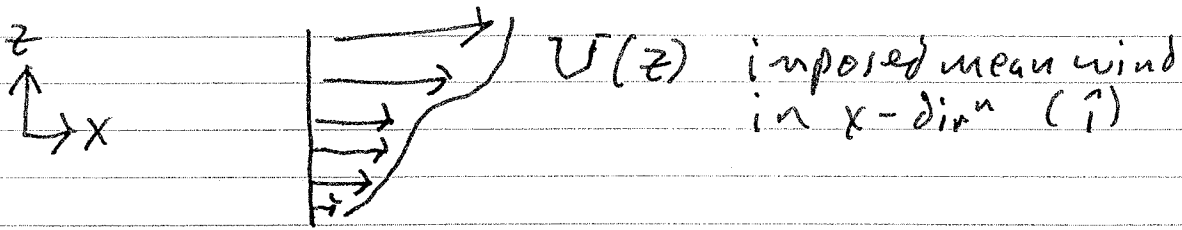


## Stratified flow over topography (lee waves).



Start w/ inviscid Boussinesq eq<sup>ns</sup> of motion:

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial \tau} + u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_i} - g \frac{\rho'}{\rho_0} \delta_{i3}$$

~~Let~~  $u_i = U(z) \delta_{i1} + u_i'$   $\rho_0$  is a const ref density value.

where the perturbation velocity components  $u_1', u_2', u_3'$  are small.

$\rho = \bar{\rho}(z) + \rho'$  [so  $\rho'$  is deviation from mean density]

$p = \bar{p}(z) + p'$  [where  $\frac{d\bar{p}}{dz} = -\bar{\rho}g$  defines  $\bar{p}$ ]

Linearize the eq<sup>ns</sup> of motion (neglect products of perturbations i.e. products of small quantities).

$$(1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + w \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x}$$

$$(2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial y}$$

$$(3) \frac{\partial w}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial z} - g \frac{\rho'}{\rho_0}$$

where  $u = u_1'$   $v = u_2'$   $w = u_3'$  so  $u, v, w$  are perturbation

Also use the incompressibility (and<sup>4</sup>)

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{full wind vector}$$

$$\therefore \nabla \cdot (\vec{U} + \vec{u}') = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \nabla \cdot \vec{u}' = 0 \quad \therefore \nabla \cdot \vec{u}' = 0$$

$\nabla \cdot \vec{u}' = 0$  since  $U = U(z)$

$$\therefore (4) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0 \quad [u, v, w \text{ are the perturbations, drop prime notation}]$$

Thermo energy eq<sup>n</sup> for non-diffusive liquid:

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial (\bar{\rho} + \rho')}{\partial t} + (U + u) \frac{\partial (\bar{\rho} + \rho')}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial (\bar{\rho} + \rho')}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial (\bar{\rho} + \rho')}{\partial z} = 0$$

Linearize it and use fact that  $\bar{\rho} = \bar{\rho}(z)$  (no  $x, y$  or  $t$  in it), get

$$\frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial x} + w \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{dz} = 0 \quad \left[ \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{dz} = \frac{\partial \bar{\rho}}{\partial z} \right. \\ \left. \text{since } \bar{\rho} = \bar{\rho}(z) \right]$$

$$\text{introduce } N^2 \equiv -\frac{g}{\rho_0} \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{dz}$$

$$\therefore (5) \quad \frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial x} - w \frac{N^2 \rho_0}{g} = 0$$

So we have 5 eq<sup>n</sup>s in 5 unknowns. Let's rewrite it as 1 eq<sup>n</sup> in 1 unknown (say  $w$ ). Steps are similar to what we did for internal gravity waves without an imposed mean wind.

$$\text{Take } \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2):$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)}_{-\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial z} \text{ from (4)}} + U \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)}_{-\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial z}} + \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} \frac{dU}{dz} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial^2 p'}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p'}{\partial y^2} \right)}_{\nabla_H^2 p'}$$

multiply by  $-\rho_0$ , get:

$$(6) \therefore \nabla_H^2 p' = \rho_0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial z} - \rho_0 \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} \frac{dU}{dz}$$

Take  $\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) (3)$ :

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \omega = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial p'}{\partial z} - \frac{g}{\rho_0} \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) e'}_{\text{from (5)}}$$

mult by  $-\rho_0$  and  
rearrange  
it, get:

This is  
 $\frac{\omega N^2 \rho_0}{g}$

$$(7) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial p'}{\partial z} = -\rho_0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \omega - \rho_0 N^2 \omega$$

(6) and (7) are 2 eq<sup>ns</sup> in 2 unknowns  $p', \omega$   
lets eliminate  $p'$ .

Take  $\nabla_H^2 (7)$ :

sub in from (6)

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ \nabla_H^2 p' \right] = -\rho_0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \nabla_H^2 \omega - \rho_0 N^2 \nabla_H^2 \omega$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ \rho_0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial z} - \rho_0 \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} \frac{dU}{dz} \right] \right\} \\ = -\rho_0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \nabla_H^2 \omega - \rho_0 N^2 \nabla_H^2 \omega$$

Note that  $\rho_0$  is common to every term.  $\therefore \div$  by  $\rho_0$  to get rid of it

expand out  $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [\dots] \right\}$  get

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} + \frac{dU}{dz} \frac{\partial w}{\partial x \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z \partial x} \frac{dU}{dz} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} \right] = - \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \nabla_H^2 w - N^2 \nabla_H^2 w$$

→ cancellation

$$\therefore \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} - \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \nabla_H^2 w + N^2 \nabla_H^2 w = 0$$

$$\therefore \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \nabla^2 w + N^2 \nabla_H^2 w - \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = 0$$

where  $U = U(z)$ ,  $N = N(z)$

(if  $U(z) = 0$ , this eq<sup>n</sup> reduces to our previous eq<sup>n</sup> for internal gravity waves).

4<sup>th</sup> order linear homogeneous p.d.e.


(coefficients are ~~constant~~ independent of  $x, y, \tau$  but not  $z$ .)

$\therefore$  pde should permit separable sol<sup>ns</sup> of the form:

$$w = \bar{w}(z) \exp[i(kx + ly - \omega\tau)]$$

i.e.  $w = \bar{w}(z) \exp[i(\vec{k}_H \cdot \vec{x} - \omega\tau)]$  where  $\vec{k}_H = k\hat{i} + l\hat{j}$  is horiz wavenumber vector.

Lets suppose topography varies only in  $x$ -dir<sup>n</sup> (same dir<sup>n</sup> as mean wind  $U$ ). Then we only care about wavenumber in  $x$ -dir<sup>n</sup>. So  $\vec{k}_H = k\hat{i}$ , or cosine

To bring out the main ideas of the motion, consider the simplest case of sinusoidal topography (monochromatic wave topography) . So topo height is  $\xi = \text{Re} [ a e^{ikx} ]$ , which is a  $\cos kx$ . More general topography (e.g. isolated ridge) can be written as a Fourier Integral. The solution to that more general problem can be written as an integral (over  $k$ ) of the solution to the single-wave problem.

We'll also restrict attention to steady state flow, so  $\omega = 0$ . [Note: flow appears steady in frame of ref fixed w.r. c. mountain but appears unsteady in frame of ref moving w/ the wind].

$$\text{So } w = W(z) e^{ikx} \quad (\text{well, real part})$$

Lower boundary cond<sup>n</sup> (kinematic):

$$\text{Impermeability cond<sup>n</sup>: } \vec{v} \cdot \hat{n} = 0 \quad \text{where } \hat{n} \text{ is normal to topo}$$

This cond<sup>n</sup> also means that a parcel on the mountain streamline stays on the mountain streamline (flow can be tangent to mtn but not  $\perp$  to mtn, on the mtn std).

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore w_{\text{parcel on mtn streamline}} &= \frac{D z_{\text{parcel on mtn streamline}}}{Dt} = \frac{D a e^{ikx}}{Dt} \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + (U+u) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] a e^{ikx} \\ &= (U+u) a i k e^{ikx} \end{aligned}$$

$u$  is pert.

$$\therefore W(z_{\text{mtn streamline}}) e^{ikx} = (U+v) a i k e^{ikx} \quad \div \text{ by } e^{ikx}$$

and linearize this cond<sup>n</sup>. 2 linearizing steps:  
neglect  $v$  term, and also approximate  
 $W(z_{\text{mtn streamline}})$  by  $W(0)$ . See my notes

on grav waves (Dyn I) or Kundu for discussion of  
this second linearizing approx.

$$\therefore W(0) = i k a U \quad \leftarrow \text{Also } U \text{ here is } U \text{ at } z=0. \text{ lower b.c.}$$

For an upper b.c. we want  $w$  to be finite and  
want the wave energy to be propagating upward,  
not downward (radiation condition).

Now plug  $w = W(z) e^{ikx}$  into the p.d.e., get

$$(U i k)^2 \left[ (i k)^2 + \frac{d^2}{dz^2} \right] W + N^2 (i k)^2 W$$

$$- \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} (i k U) i k W = 0$$

$$\therefore U^2 k^4 W - U^2 k^2 \frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} - N^2 k^2 W + U \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} k^2 W = 0$$

$$\div -k^2 U^2$$

$$\therefore \frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} + \left( \frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{1}{U} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} - k^2 \right) W = 0$$

$$\text{or: } \frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} + (\rho^2 - k^2) W = 0$$

where  $\rho^2 \equiv \frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{1}{U} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2}$  is the Scofield  
parameter.

If  $l^2 - k^2 > 0$  sol<sup>ns</sup> oscillate in  $z$

If  $l^2 - k^2 < 0$  sol<sup>ns</sup> are monotonic (exponential type).

For fixed environment ( $l$ ), get oscillatory behavior for small  $k$  (big wavelength i.e. wide mountains). Conversely, narrow mts yield evanescent waves (rapidly decaying w/  $z$ ).

If  $U(z) \rightarrow 0$  at some height then  $l^2 \rightarrow +\infty$ , positive infinity, use definition of  $l^2$  to see why

so  $\left| \frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} \right| \rightarrow \infty$   $\therefore$  oscillations become increasingly

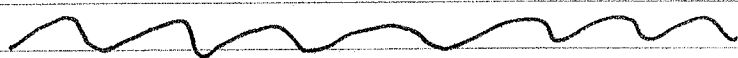
rapid (large vertical wavenumber). Level where

$U(z) \rightarrow 0$  is a critical layer.

Consider simplest case of sinusoidal topography

( $\xi = a e^{ikx}$ ) with  $U = \text{const}$  (not 0) and  $N = \text{const}$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \Big| U = \text{const}$$



$$\text{So } \frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} + \left( \frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2 \right) W = 0$$

Hit ridges at time intervals (periods) of

$$T = \frac{\lambda}{U} = \frac{2\pi}{kU}. \text{ So frequency of encounter}$$

$$\text{is } \frac{2\pi}{T} = kU.$$

+ | handout, pg 36 of Turner's "Buoyancy effects in fluids"

Case (a). Suppose frequency of encounter  $> N$

i.e.  $(kU)^2 > N^2 \quad \therefore \frac{N^2}{U^2} < k^2 \quad \therefore \frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2 < 0$

So get exponential (not oscillatory) sol<sup>n</sup>. Evanescent wave.

try  $w = e^{\gamma z}$   $\therefore$  ode says:  $\gamma^2 + \left(\frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2\right) = 0$

$$\gamma^2 = - \left( \frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2 \right) = \underbrace{k^2}_{+} - \underbrace{\frac{N^2}{U^2}}_{-}$$

$$\gamma = \pm \sqrt{k^2 - N^2/U^2}$$

$\therefore$  general sol<sup>n</sup> is:  $w = A \exp(\sqrt{k^2 - N^2/U^2} z) + B \exp(-\sqrt{k^2 - N^2/U^2} z)$

From finiteness (and<sup>n</sup>) must take  $A = 0$ .

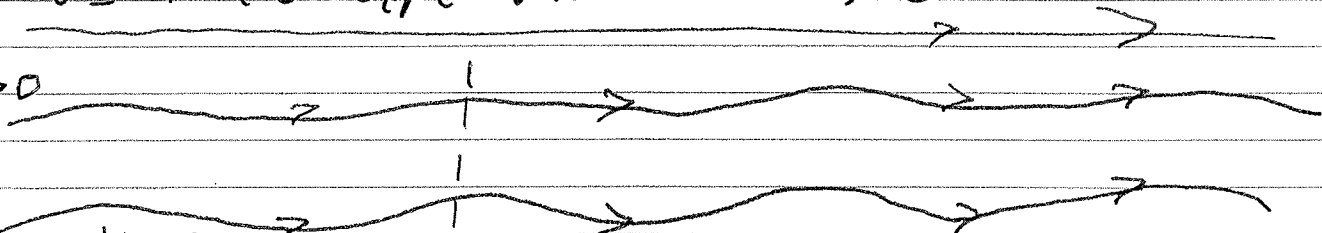
Then, from lower b.c.  $w(0) = ikaU$  must have

$ikaU = B$

$\therefore w(z) = ikaU \exp(-\sqrt{k^2 - N^2/U^2} z)$

$\therefore w = ikaU \exp(-\sqrt{k^2 - N^2/U^2} z) e^{ikx}$

Drawn for  $U > 0$



In this case taking Re of above expression yields  $w \propto \sin kx$

$\uparrow$  minus!

$x = 0$ ; keep in mind our assumed terrain was  $\xi = a \cos kx$

disturbance is in phase with topography and dies out with  $z$ .



Scale height  $h$  of this particular disturbance is height at which disturbance drops to  $e^{-1}$  of its stc value.

$$\therefore \exp\left[-\sqrt{k^2 a^2 - N^2/U^2} h\right] = \exp(-1)$$

$$\therefore h = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2 a^2 - N^2/U^2}} = \frac{1}{k \sqrt{1 - \frac{N^2}{U^2 k^2}}} > \frac{1}{k} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi}$$

So scale height is generally on the order of the wavelength (or larger).

So we get decay with  $z$ , not wave propagation for freq of encounter  $>$  Brunt-Väisälä frequency.

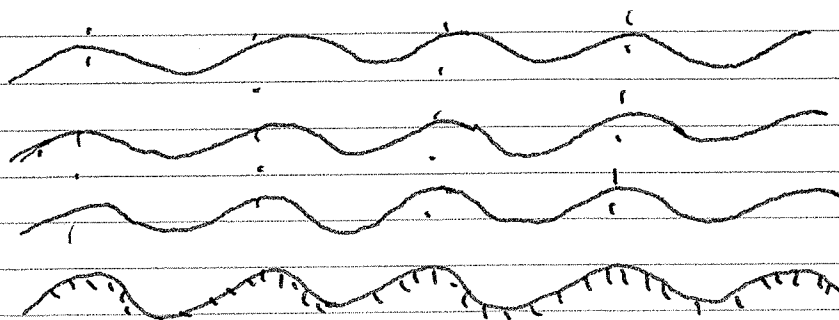
Case (b) As  $N \rightarrow kU$  (freq of encounter  $\rightarrow N$ ),

the  $z$ -dependence drops out of the sol<sup>n</sup>:

$$\frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} = 0$$

$\therefore W = a + bz$ . Finiteness cond<sup>n</sup> (at  $\infty$ ) yields  $b=0$   
Lower b.c. then yields  $c = ikaU$

$$\therefore w = ikaU e^{ikx}$$



- no attenuation  
- disturbance is in phase w/ topography.

case (c)  $k^2 U^2 < N^2$  (frequency of encounter  $< N$ )

$$\therefore \frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2 > 0$$

define  $\beta \equiv \sqrt{\frac{N^2}{U^2} - k^2}$  so  $\beta$  is real and pos.

$$\frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} + \beta^2 W = 0$$

$$\therefore W = A e^{i\beta z} + B e^{-i\beta z}$$

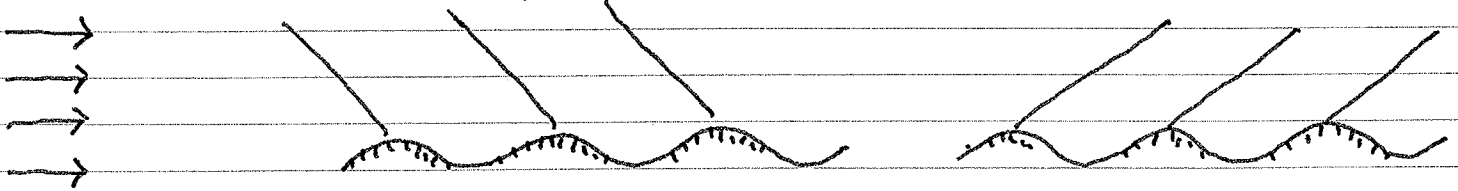
lower  
b.c.:  $W(0) = iakU \rightarrow iakU = A + B \rightarrow A = iakU - B$

$$\therefore W = (iakU - B) e^{i\beta z} + B e^{-i\beta z}$$

$$\therefore w = (iakU - B) e^{i(\beta z + kx)} + B e^{-i(\beta z - kx)}$$

What is value of  $B$ ? finiteness cond<sup>n</sup> doesn't help.

Consider behavior of  $e^{i(\beta z + kx)}$  and  $e^{-i(\beta z - kx)}$   
 $\uparrow$  phase is const where  $\beta z + kx = \text{const}$        $\uparrow$  phase is const where  $\beta z - kx = \text{const}$

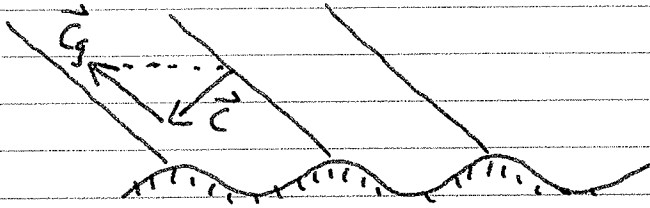


If mean flow is from the left (like this:  $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{matrix}$ ) then

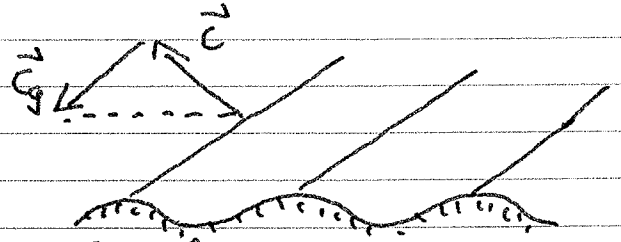
from energy considerations, the case on the right

isn't physically realistic, why? Consider a frame of ref moving with the mean flow. Then mountain (and phase lines) move in this direction  $\leftarrow$ .

So the two scenarios (in moving frame) look like:



In this case energy moves upward, away from boundary.



In this case energy moves downward, toward boundary.

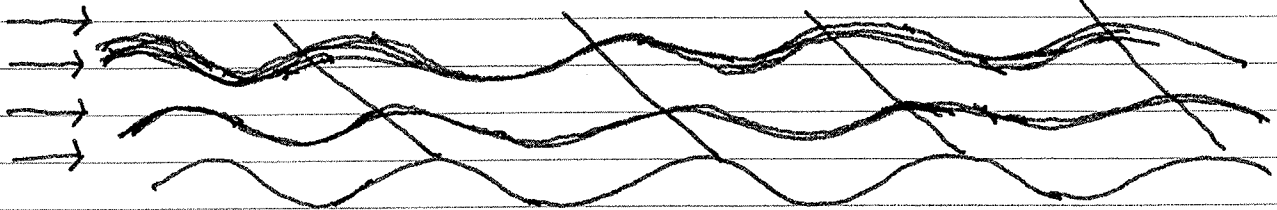
Radiation condition: energy flux must be outward from disturbance producing the wave motion (in this case, the ground).

So ~~the~~ scenario is not physical.

$\therefore$  set  $B = 0$

$$\therefore w = i a k U e^{i(\beta z + kx)}$$

so phase lines tilt upstream!



This sinusoidal topography is just 1 Fourier component. For isolated topography (e.g. bell-shaped ridge), can construct linear (small-amplitude) solutions by Fourier methods. See handout, pg. 36 of Turner's book.

→ handout (pg. 36 Turner) showing lee waves over an isolated ridge.

If stratified flow is confined beneath an upper stratum, resonance is possible (e.g. in a numerical model with "rigid lid" cond<sup>n</sup> instead of radiation cond<sup>n</sup>).

e.g.:

$$\xi = ae^{ikx}$$

Consider  $\frac{N^2}{\sigma^2} - k^2 > 0$  (so wavy sol<sup>n</sup>s)

$$\beta \equiv \sqrt{\frac{N^2}{\sigma^2} - k^2}$$

$$\therefore W = Ae^{i\beta z} + Be^{-i\beta z}$$

lower b.c.  $W(0) = ikaU$

$$\therefore ikaU = A + B \rightarrow A = ikaU - B$$

Top b.c.  $W(d) = 0$

$$\therefore 0 = Ae^{i\beta d} + Be^{-i\beta d} \rightarrow \text{so } A = -Be^{-2i\beta d}$$

↳ sub in from above

$$\therefore (ikaU - B)e^{i\beta d} + Be^{-i\beta d} = 0$$

$$B(e^{-i\beta d} - e^{i\beta d}) = -ikaU e^{i\beta d}$$

$$\therefore B(e^{i\beta d} - e^{-i\beta d}) = ikaU e^{i\beta d}$$

$$2iB \underbrace{(e^{i\beta d} - e^{-i\beta d})}_{2i} = ikaU e^{i\beta d}$$

$$\therefore 2iB \sin \beta d = ikaU e^{i\beta d}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{B = \frac{kaU e^{i\beta d}}{2 \sin \beta d}} \quad \therefore \boxed{A = -\frac{kaU e^{-i\beta d}}{2 \sin \beta d}}$$

$$\therefore W = \frac{kaU}{2\sin\beta d} \left( -e^{i\beta(z-d)} + e^{-i\beta(z-d)} \right)$$

mult by  $i$   
and  
rearrange

$$= \frac{ikaU}{\sin\beta d} \left( \frac{e^{i\beta(d-z)} - e^{-i\beta(d-z)}}{2i} \right)$$

$$= \frac{ikaU}{\sin\beta d} \sin[\beta(d-z)]$$

$$w = W e^{ikx} = \frac{ikaU}{\sin\beta d} \sin[\beta(d-z)] (\cos kx + i \sin kx)$$

Take real part

$$w = -\frac{kaU}{\sin\beta d} \sin[\beta(d-z)] \sin kx$$

see next pg  
for more  
about this  
solution.

Since  $\beta$  is real and positive (we've assumed we're dealing with "wavy" solutions) there's a singularity when  $\sin\beta d = 0$ :

$$\beta d = \sqrt{\frac{N^2}{v^2} - k^2} d = n\pi$$

resonance cond<sup>n</sup>

Waves reflect off top boundary, arrive back at bottom with same phase. An integral number of waves from top to bottom.

Now back to non-const  $V(z)$ ,  $N(z)$ :

$$\frac{d^2 W}{dz^2} + \left( \frac{N^2}{v^2} - \frac{1}{v} \frac{d^2 v}{dz^2} - k^2 \right) W = 0$$

acts locally as " $m^2$ ", square of vert comp wavenumber.

More about

the sol<sup>n</sup> of this problem:  $\Rightarrow$          

$$is \quad w = \frac{-kaU}{\sin \beta d} \sin[\beta(d-z)] \sin kx$$

scratch paper

$$\cos(a+b) = \cos a \cos b - \sin a \sin b$$

$$\cos(a-b) = \cos a \cos b + \sin a \sin b$$

$$\therefore \cos(a-b) - \cos(a+b) = 2 \sin a \sin b$$

$$\therefore \sin a \sin b = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(a-b) - \cos(a+b)]$$

Now use this identity to rewrite our sol<sup>n</sup> for  $w$  [use  $a = \beta(d-z)$ ,  $b = kx$ ]

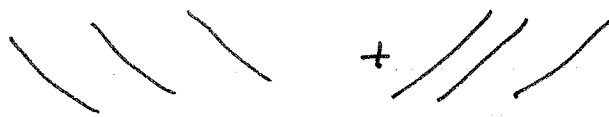
end of scratch

$$\therefore w = \frac{-kaU}{2 \sin \beta d} [\cos(\beta d - \beta z - kx) - \cos(\beta d - \beta z + kx)]$$

So get a sum of 2 waves, one tilts

forward, one tilts backward]. Energy propagates

$\uparrow z$



up from libby boundary  
and down from rigid lid.

The net effect is to get a cellular pattern (in  $xz$  plane)

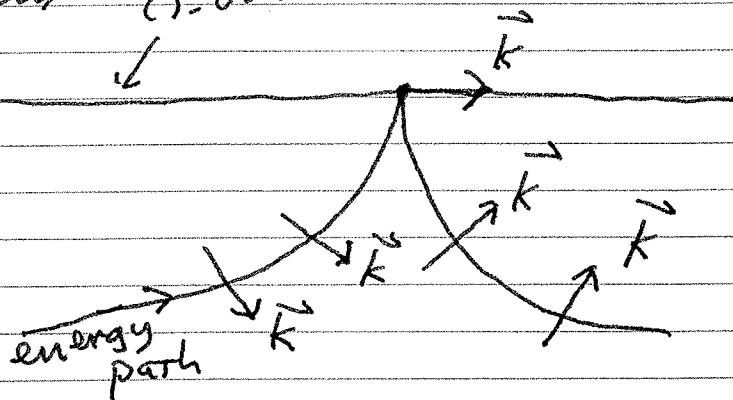
Two special <sup>levels</sup> ~~variables~~ in environment:

(a) Turning points in solution: region where

$$\left( \frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{1}{U} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} - k^2 \right) \text{ changes sign.}$$

( ) < 0 decaying exponential-like solutions  $c) = 0 \therefore$  vertical part of wavenumber  $\rightarrow 0$ .

( ) > 0 oscillatory solutions



all these wavenumbers have same horiz comp.

At turning point local  $\vec{k}$  becomes purely horizontal

$\therefore \vec{c}$  is horizontal  $\therefore \vec{c}_g \rightarrow 0$  [since  $\vec{c} + \vec{c}_g$  have to add up to a horiz vector]

$$\vec{c} + \vec{c}_g$$

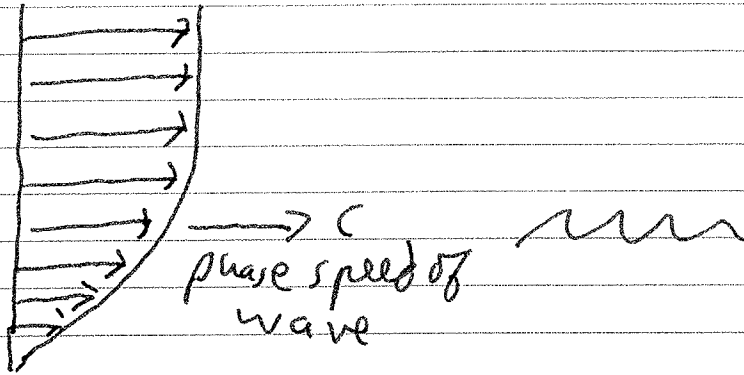
Get reflection at turning point.

(b) Critical layers

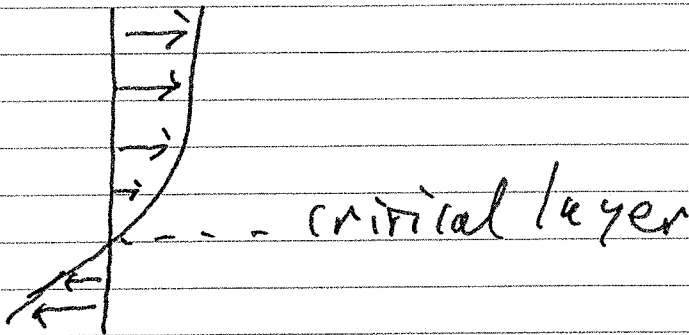
In general, if a wave is propagating at phase

speed  $c$ , e.g.  $f(z) e^{ik(x-ct)}$  in an environment with mean velocity comp  $U(z)$  then the level where  $U(z) = c$  is called a critical layer (level).

e.g.

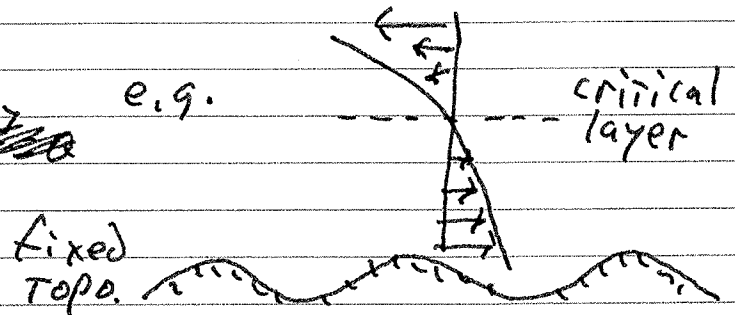


In frame of ref moving w/ wave, the wave appears stationary:



In our discussion of waves over topography, waves are stationary.  $\therefore$  critical layer is where  $U = 0$ .

e.g.



$$\text{Local vert wavenumber } m^2 = \frac{N^2}{U^2} - \frac{1}{U} \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} - k^2$$

$k$  has fixed horiz comp  $k$  but  $m$  varies. As critical layer is approached,  $U \rightarrow 0$  so  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . So  $k$  becomes increasingly vertical (and infinite).  $\therefore$  vertical scale of wave becomes increasingly fine. Get extremely large wind shear. Get turbulence. So, wave energy radiates upward from mtl to critical layer where it gets absorbed.

