

# Viscous Core-Annular Flows: A Laboratory Playground for Dispersive Hydrodynamics

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Dispersive Hydrodynamics Laboratory

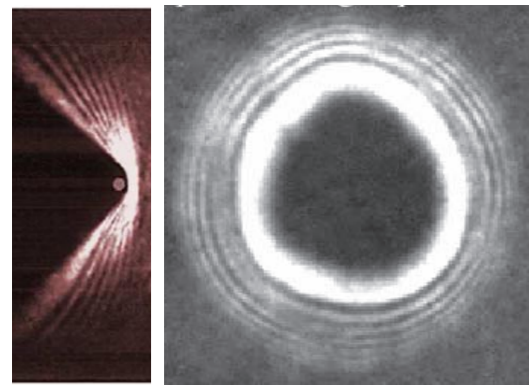
# Collaborators

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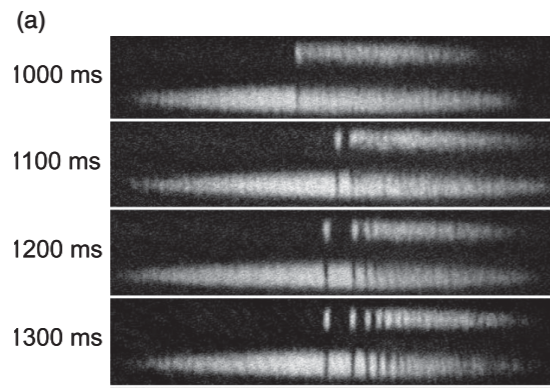
- Gennady El, Northumbria University, UK
- Dionyssis Mantzavinos, U Kansas, Lawrence
- Yifeng Mao, U Colorado, Boulder
- Sathya Chandramouli, Florida State University
- Michelle Maiden, U Colorado, Boulder
- Nicholas Lowman, NC State U, Raleigh

# Dispersive Hydrodynamics

## Superfluids

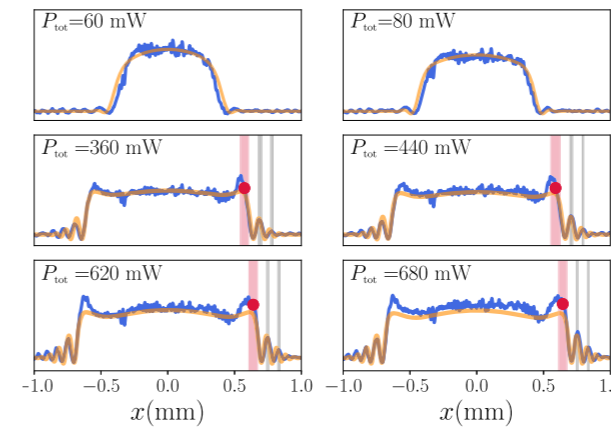


[Cornell JILA group 2004-2006]

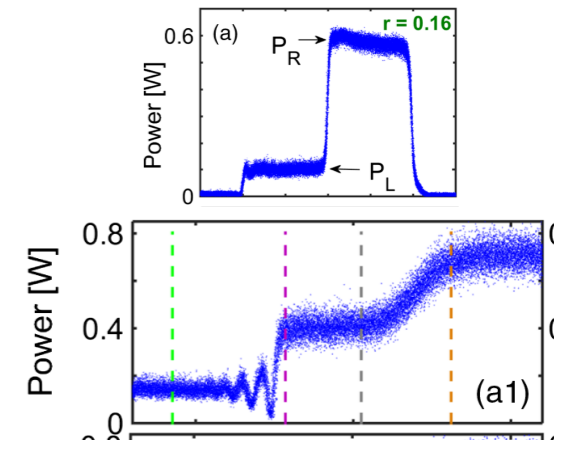


[Hamner *et al* 2011]

## Nonlinear optics



[Bienaimé *et al* 2021]

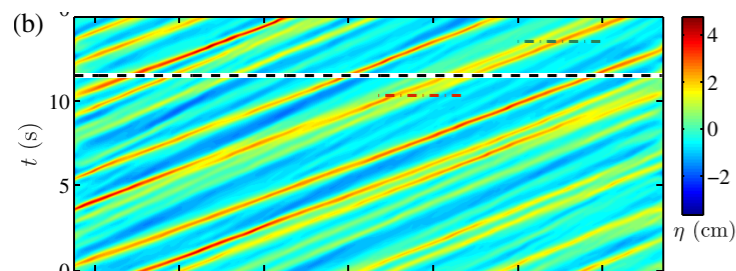


[Xu *et al* 2017]

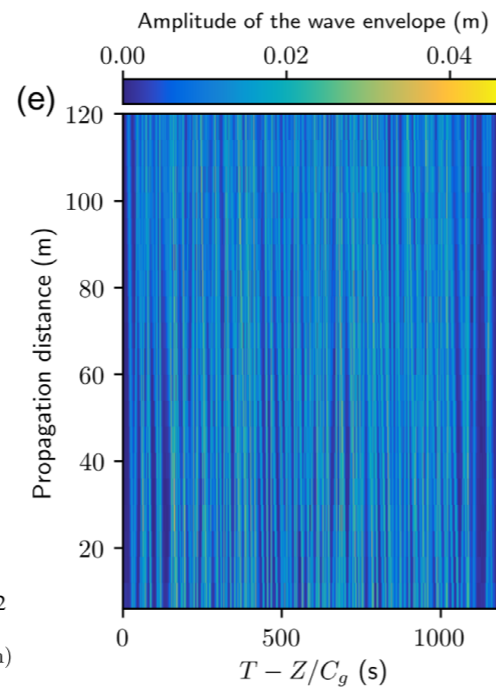
## Surface Waves



[Grawin 2004]

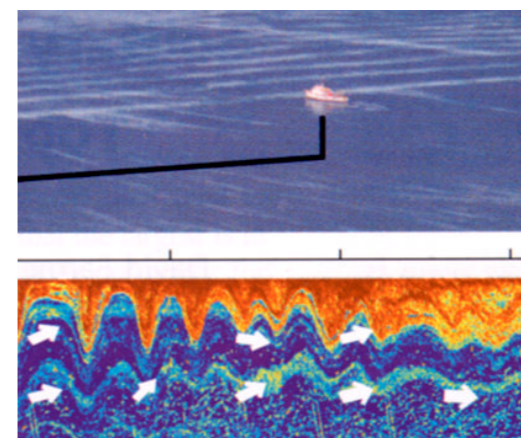


[Redor *et al* 2019]

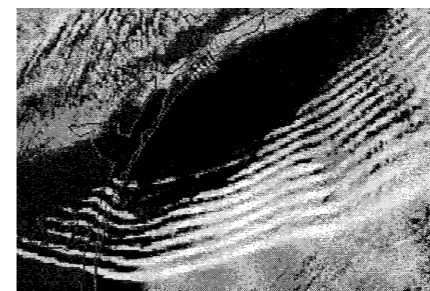


[Suret *et al* 2020]

## Internal Waves

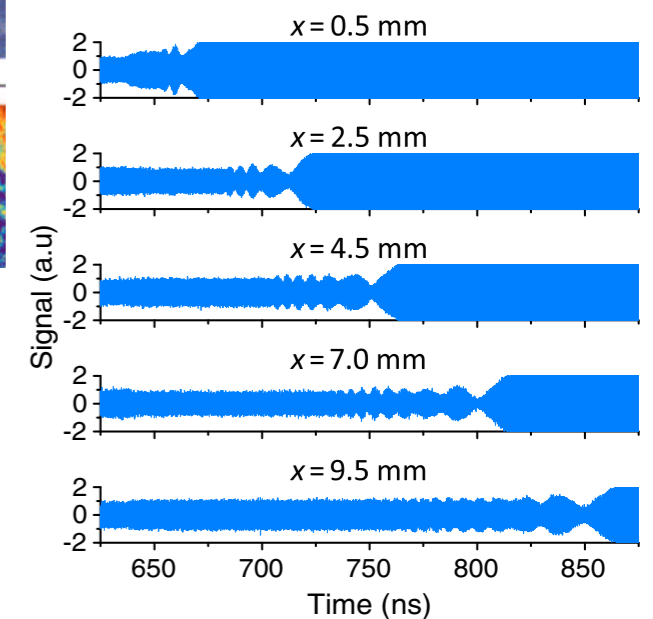


[Farmer, Armi 1999]



[Clarke 1997]

## Magnetic Spin Waves



[Janantha *et al* 2017]

# Dissipationless, Dispersive Fluid Dynamics

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... an applied mathematician's perspective:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{u}_t + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u})}_{\text{1st order system of conservation laws}} = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}[\mathbf{u}]}_{\text{higher order, dispersive operator}}, \quad \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_0 + \mathbf{A}e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)} + c.c., \quad |\mathbf{A}| \ll 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega = \omega(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{u}_0) \in \mathbb{R}$$

real valued  
dispersion relation

Mathematical models of BEC, optics, shallow water waves, internal waves in ocean and atmosphere, cold plasma, ....

*Dispersive regularization of conservation laws*

# Dispersive Hydrodynamics Programme

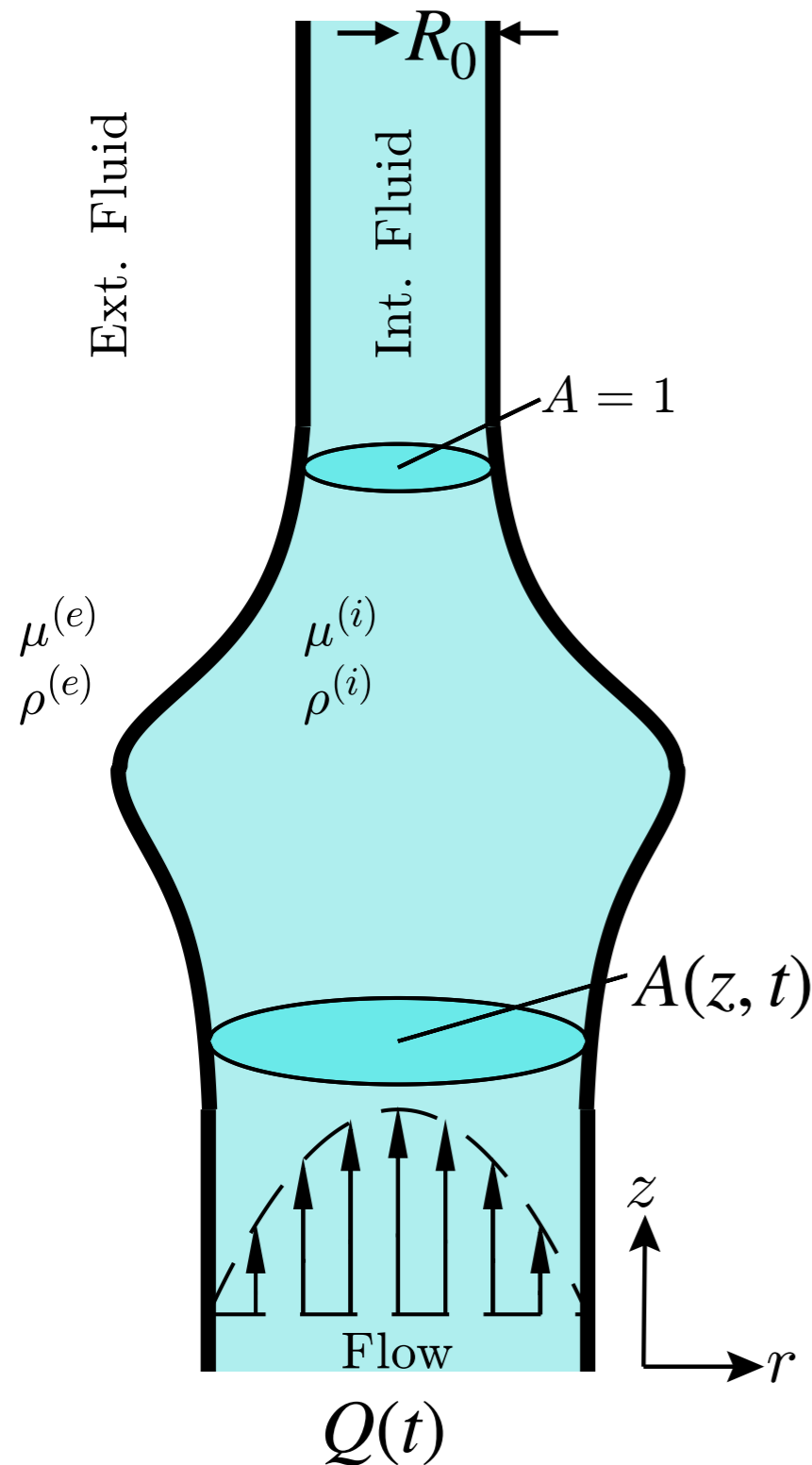
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- Goal: accurate description of dispersive hydrodynamics
- Mathematical approaches:
  - ◆ PDE (functional) analysis
  - ◆ Integrable systems
  - ◆ Modulation theory
- Problems:
  - ◆ Physical applications
  - ◆ Randomness (soliton gas)
  - ◆ Boundary value problems
  - ◆ Non-convexity
  - ◆ Multiple dimensions



Dispersive Hydrodynamics Program  
Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge, UK  
July 4–December 16

# Ex: Viscous Core-Annular Flow



## Physical setting:

two viscous fluids,  
inner fluid forms axisymmetric conduit

## Exterior fluid:

$\mu^{(e)}$  - viscosity  
 $\rho^{(e)}$  - density

## Interior fluid:

$\mu^{(i)}$  - viscosity  
 $\rho^{(i)}$  - density

## Key relations:

$\rho^{(i)} < \rho^{(e)}$  - buoyant flow  
 $\mu^{(i)} \ll \mu^{(e)}$

$$\text{Re} = \frac{T_{\text{momentum}}}{T_{\text{inertial}}} \approx 10^{-1} \quad \text{Pe} = \frac{T_{\text{mass}}}{T_{\text{inertial}}} \approx 10^5$$

# Multiscale Model Hierarchy

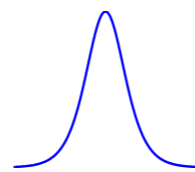
**Physical requirements:** (1) Miscibility (2) Buoyancy (3) High viscosity contrast  
(4) Stokes regime (5) Weak mass diffusion

**Microscopic** continuum model:  
two-fluid Stokes equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\nabla p = \mu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

**Mesososcopic** long wave interfacial  
model: conduit equation



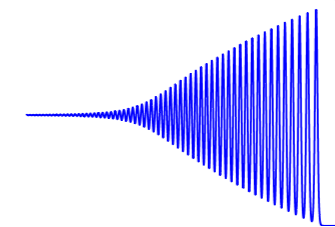
$$A_t + (A^2)_z - (A^2 (A^{-1} A_t)_z)_z = 0$$

**Macroscopic** modulated nonlinear  
wavetrains: Whitham equations

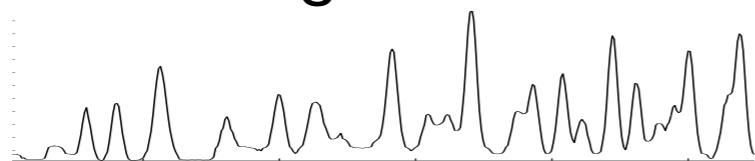
$$(\bar{A})_t + (\bar{A}^2 - 2k\omega \bar{A}_\theta^2)_z = 0$$

$$(\bar{A}^{-1} + k^2 \bar{A}^{-2} \bar{A}_\theta^2)_t - (2\ln \bar{A})_z = 0$$

$$k_t + \omega_z = 0$$



**Megasoscopic** soliton gas: kinetic equation



$$f_t + (Sf)_x = 0$$

$$S(a) = s(a) + \int_0^\infty K(a, a') f(a') [S(a) - S(a')] da'$$

# Conduit Equation

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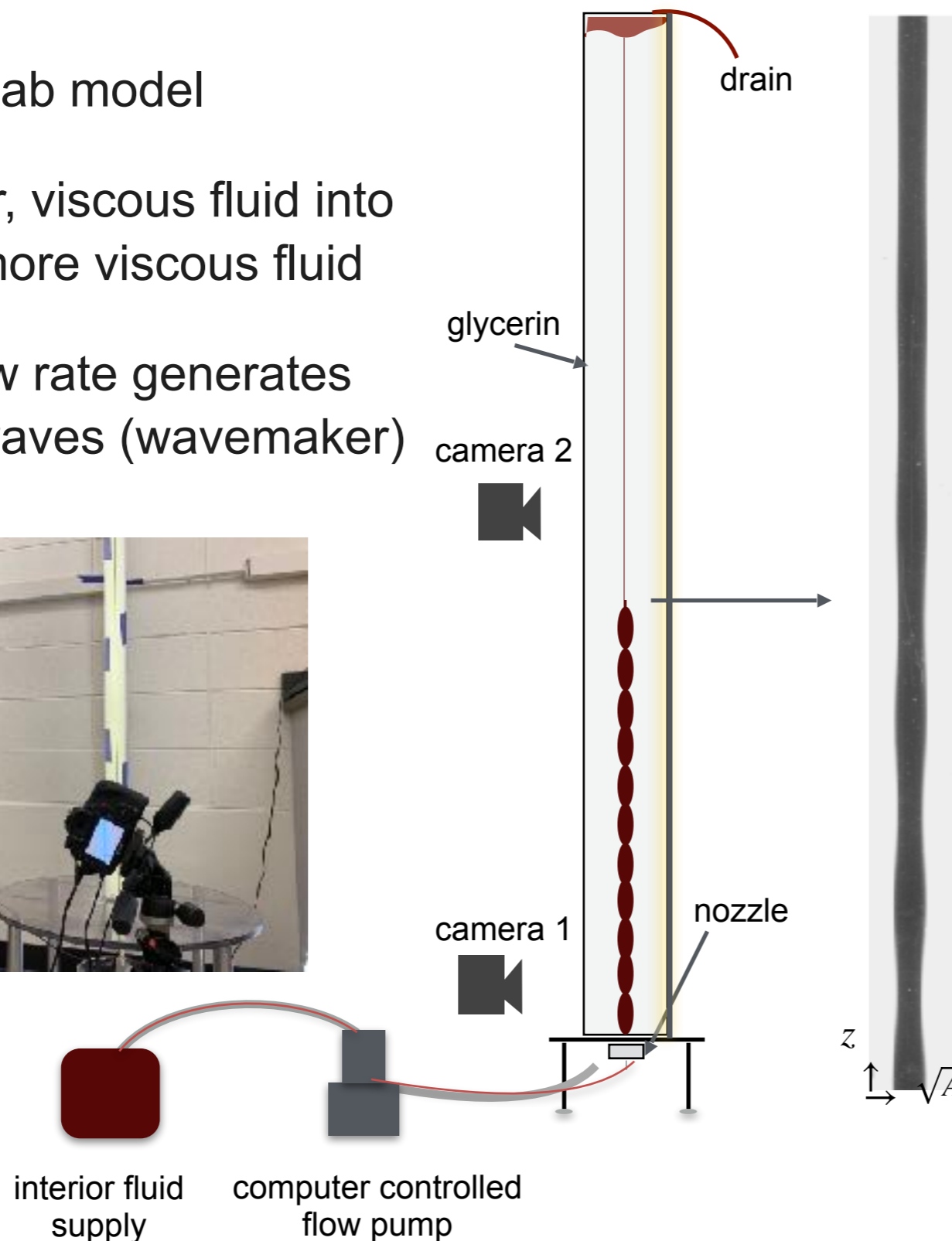
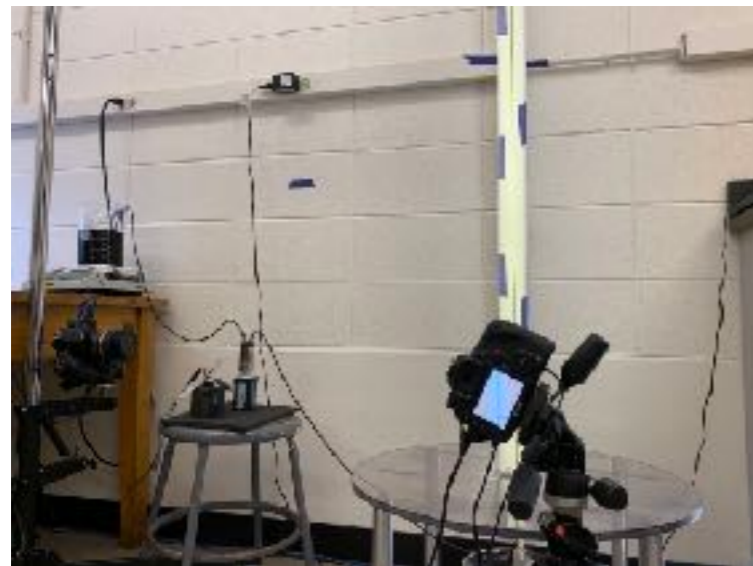
$$A_t + (A^2)_z = \left( A^2 (A^{-1} A_t / A^2) \right)_z$$

- $A(x, t)$ : conduit cross-sectional area
- Long wave approximation of Stokes equations w/ no amplitude restriction: scalar analog of Serre-Green-Naghdi, Choi-Camassa, ...
- Nonlocal, nonlinear dispersion: generalizes BBM equation
- Well-studied model, e.g.,
  - Asymptotic solitary wave stability [Simpson, Weinstein *SIMA* 2008]
  - Stability of periodic traveling waves [Maiden, Hofer *Proc Roy Soc A* 2016; Johnson, Perkins *SIMA* 2020]
  - Generalizes to models of magma [Scott, Stevenson 1984] and channelized glacier water flow [Stubblefield, Spiegelman, Creyts 2020]



# Conduit experiment

- ▶ Accessible lab model
- ▶ Inject lighter, viscous fluid into column of more viscous fluid
- ▶ Variable flow rate generates interfacial waves (wavemaker)



**Initial, boundary value problem:**

$$A(0,t) = \begin{cases} A(0,t+T), & t > 0 \\ 1, & t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Flow rate } Q(t) = Q_0 A(0,t)^2$$

**Nondimensionalization:**

Vertical length scale:

$$L = \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{8\epsilon}} \sim 0.2 - 0.3 \quad [\text{cm}]$$

Speed scale:

$$U = \frac{gR_0^2\Delta}{8\mu^{(i)}} \sim 0.3 - 0.5 \quad [\text{cm/s}]$$

Vertical long time scale:

$$T = \sqrt{\frac{8}{\epsilon}} \frac{\mu^{(i)}}{gR_0\Delta} \sim 0.4 - 1.0 \quad [\text{s}]$$

# Example Dynamics/Solutions

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solitary waves  
(solitons)



soliton gas



periodic traveling  
waves



dispersive shock  
waves



breathers

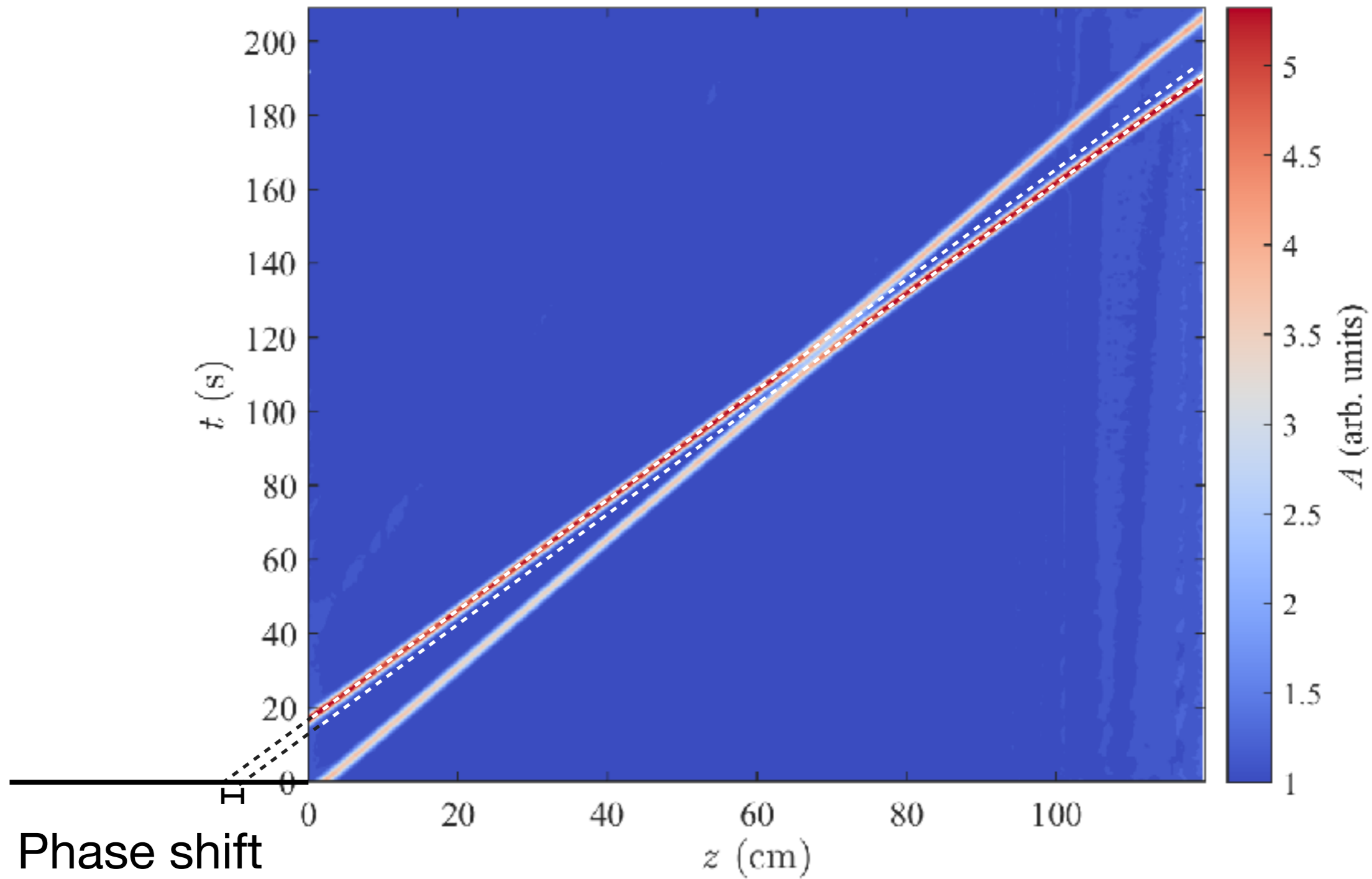


# Conduit Solitary Waves

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Lowman, Hoefler, El, *J Fluid Mech* 2014

# Two Solitons in a Viscous Fluid Conduit



# KdV 2-Soliton Lax Categories

COMMUNICATIONS ON PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS, VOL. XXI, 467–490 (1968)

## Integrals of Nonlinear Equations of Evolution and Solitary Waves\*

PETER D. LAX

Sec 1:

$$L_t = BL - LB = [B, L] \iff u_t = K(u)$$

$$L = \partial_{xx} + \frac{1}{6}u, \quad B = 24\partial_{xxx} + 3u\partial_x + 3\partial_x u, \quad K(u) = -uu_x - u_{xxx}$$

THEOREM 2.1. *For any pair of speeds  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  there exists a double wave, i.e., a solution  $d(x, t)$  of the KdV equation such that*

Sec 2:

$$(2.36) \quad d(x, t) \sim s(x - c_1 t - \theta_1^\pm; c_1) - s(x - c_2 t - \theta_2^\pm; c_2)$$

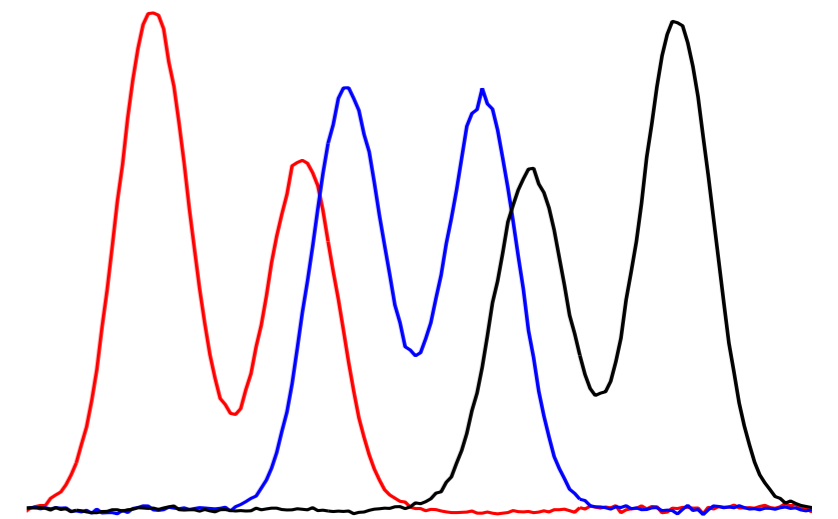
*tends to zero uniformly as  $t \rightarrow \pm \infty$ .*

$$\text{bimodal } \frac{c_1}{c_2} < \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \text{bi-uni-bi-uni-bimodal } \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} < \frac{c_1}{c_2} < 3$$

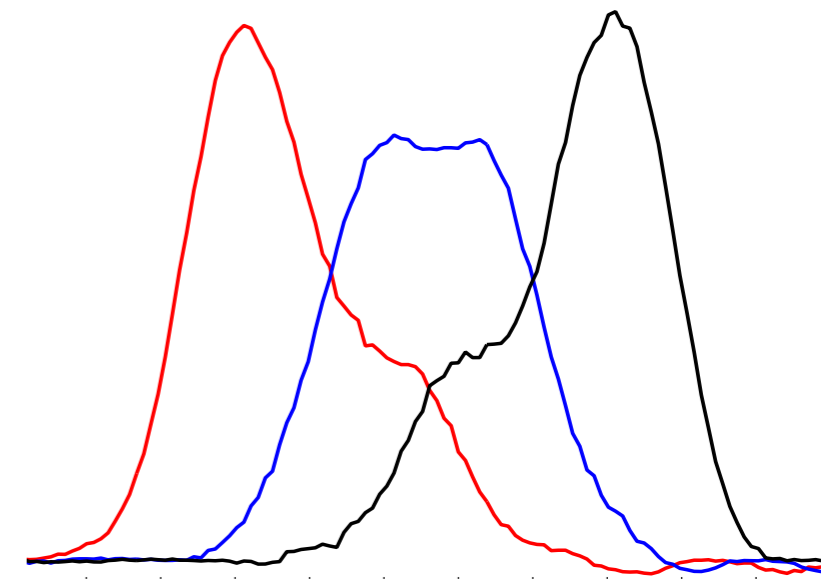
$$\text{bi-uni-bimodal } 3 < \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$



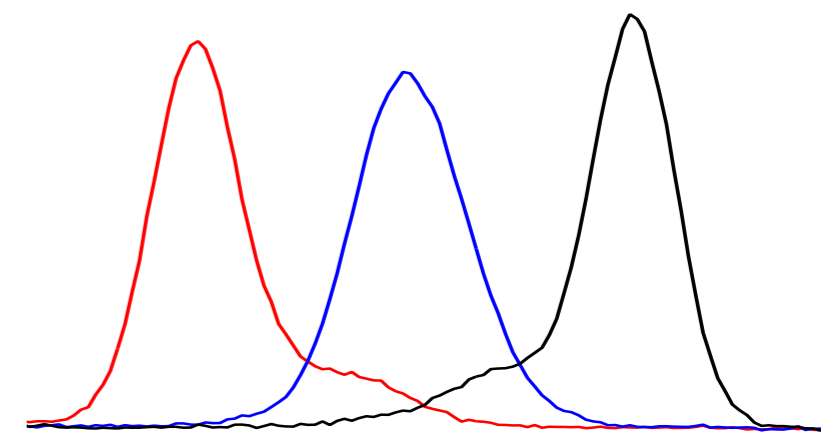
Bimodal



Mixed

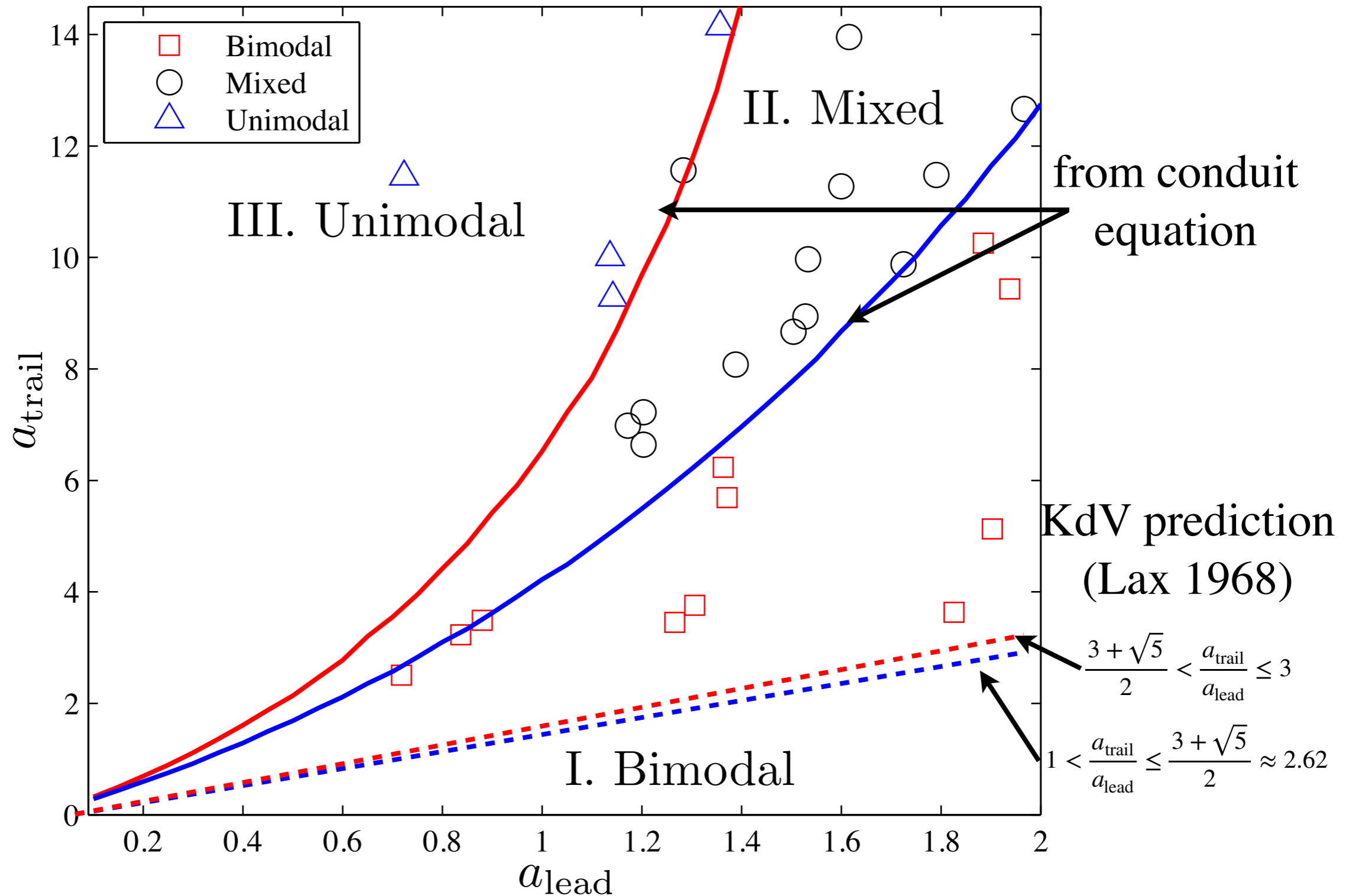


Unimodal



Soliton interaction geometries [Lowman, Hoefler, *EI JFM* 2014]

# Interaction Type Observations



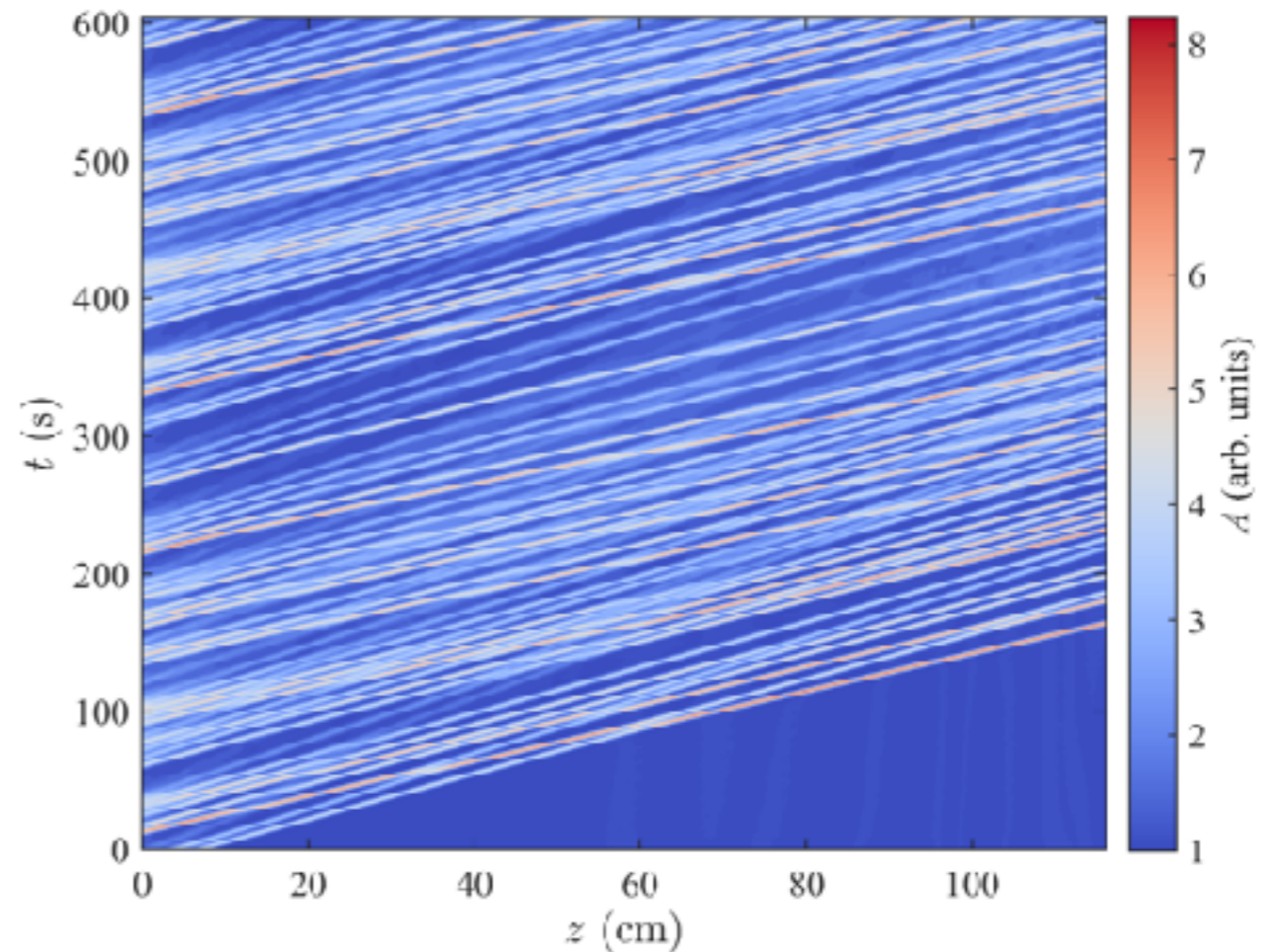
# Soliton Gas

pairwise soliton interactions  
characterize a soliton gas

Ex: KdV  $u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}v = (-\partial_{xx} - u)v = \lambda v \quad \lambda_i = -\eta_i^2$$

$$u(x, t) = 2\eta_i^2 \operatorname{sech}^2 [\eta_i(x - 4\eta_i^2 t - x_0)]$$



2 soliton phase shift  $\Delta(\eta_i, \eta_j) = \frac{\operatorname{sgn}(\eta_i - \eta_j)}{\eta_i} \ln \left| \frac{\eta_i + \eta_j}{\eta_i - \eta_j} \right|$  soliton interaction geometry effects higher order moments of a soliton gas

kinetic equation for density of states  $f(\eta)$   
[El *Phys Lett A* 2003]

$$f_t + (sf)_x = 0$$

$$s(\eta) = 4\eta^2 + \int_{\Gamma} \Delta(\eta, \mu) f(\mu) [s(\eta) - s(\mu)] d\mu$$

[Pelinovsky *et al Phys Lett A* 2013]





# The Wavemaker Problem

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Mao, Hofer *arXiv* 2022; Hofer, Mao, Mantzavinos *in preparation* 2022

# Modeling Experiment

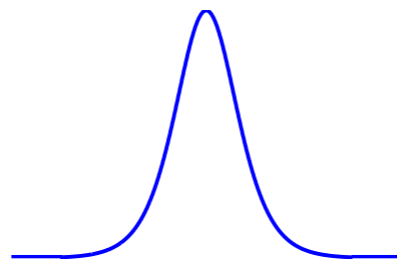
IBVP

$$A_t + 2AA_z - AA_{zzt} + A_t A_{zz} = 0$$

$$A(z,0) = 1, z > 0, \quad A(0,t) = q(t), t > 0, \quad q(0) = 0$$

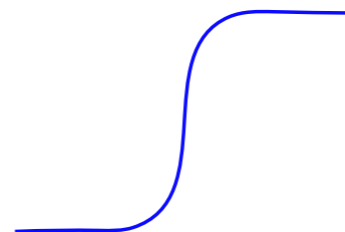
solitary  
wave

$$q(t) =$$



dispersive  
shock wave

$$q(t) =$$



periodic  
traveling wave

$$q(t) =$$



# Linear Waves

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linearized  
problem

$$\omega_0 > 0$$

$$A(z, t) = 1 + u(z, 2t), \quad |u| \ll 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_\tau + u_z - u_{zz\tau} = 0$$

$$u(z, 0) = 0, \quad z > 0, \quad u(0, \tau) = -\sin(\omega_0 \tau), \quad \tau > 0$$

linear  
dispersion

$$u(z, \tau) = e^{i(kz - \omega\tau)} \Rightarrow \omega(k) = \frac{k}{1 + k^2}, \quad k_\pm(\omega) = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2}}{\omega}$$

expect traveling wave with  $k_\pm(\omega_0)$  but which branch?

$$\omega = \omega_0 + i\epsilon, \quad 0 < \epsilon \ll \omega_0 \Rightarrow u(0, \tau) = e^{-i\omega_0\tau} e^{\epsilon\tau}$$

causality,  
radiation  
condition

$$k(\omega_0 + i\epsilon) \sim k(\omega_0) + i\epsilon \frac{dk}{d\omega}(\omega_0) = k(\omega_0) + \frac{i\epsilon}{c_g(\omega_0)}$$

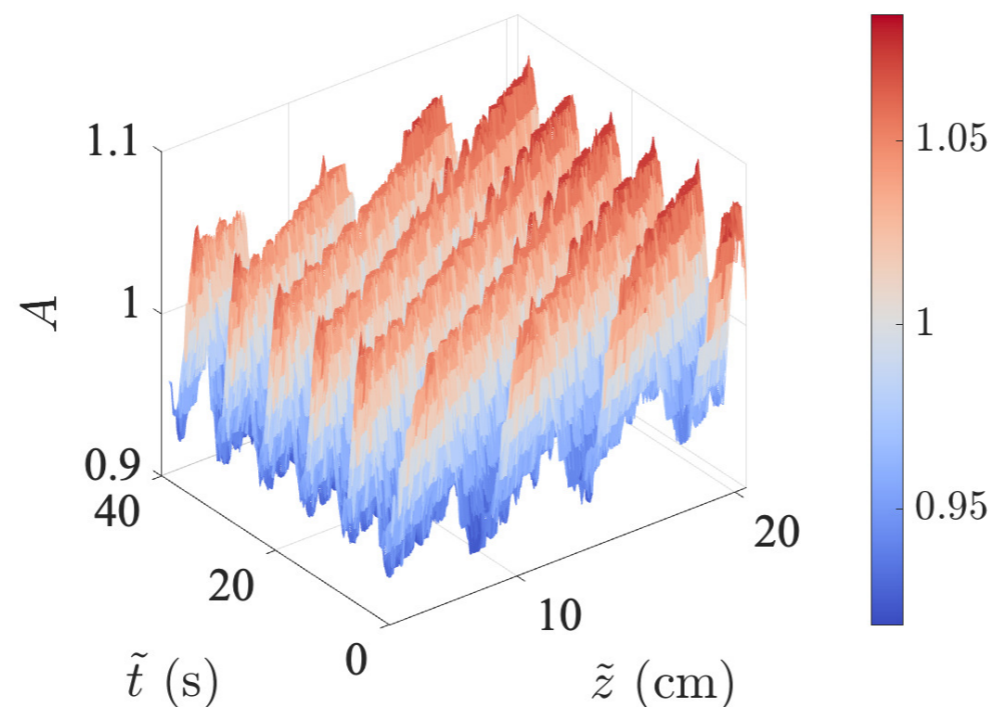
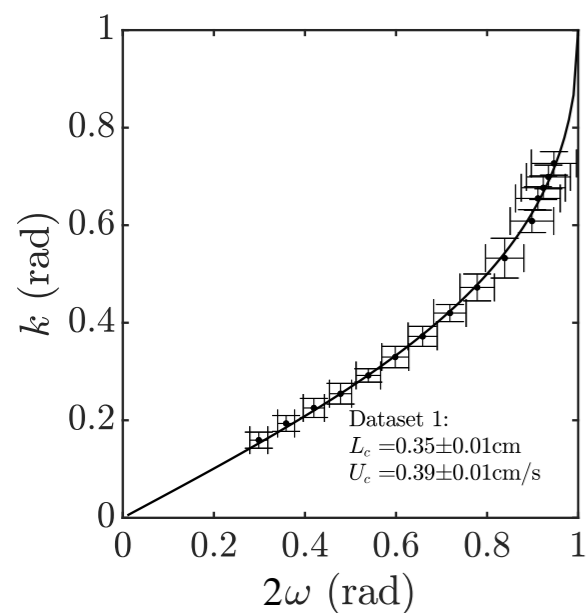
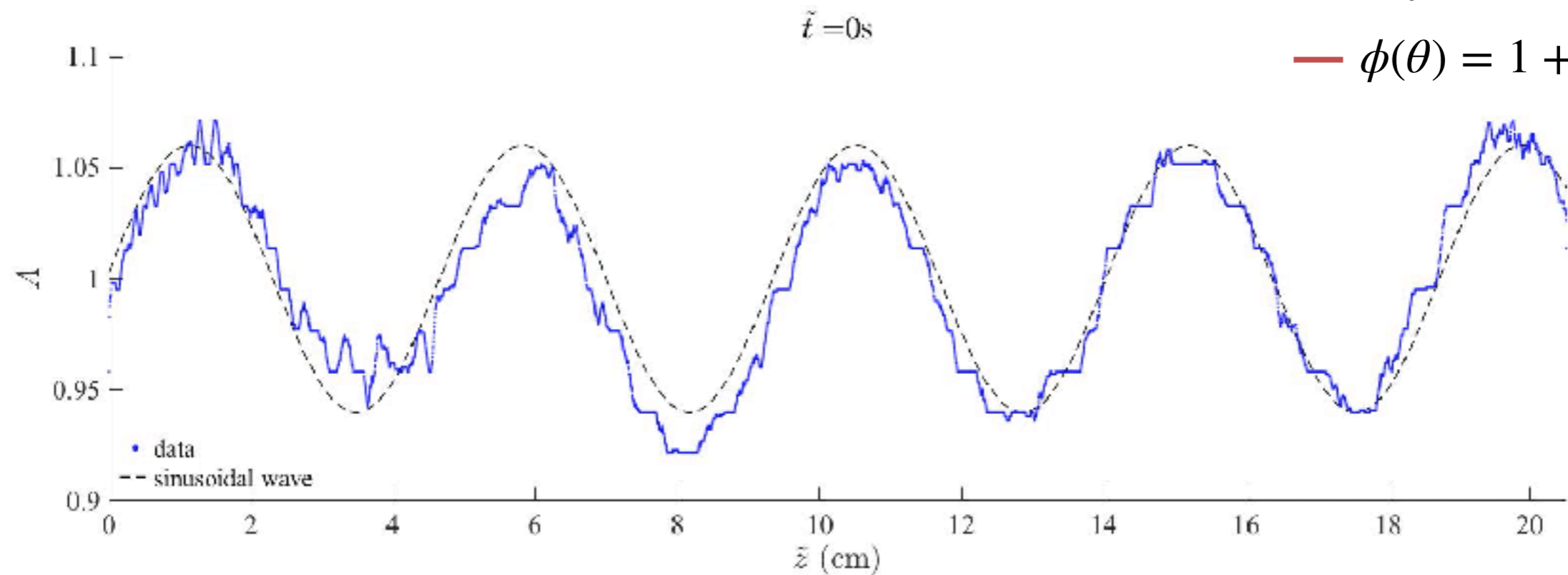
$$u(z, \tau) = e^{\epsilon(\tau - z/c_g)} e^{i(kz - \omega_0\tau)}, \quad u(\infty, \tau) = 0 \Rightarrow c_g(\omega_0) > 0$$

$$\omega_0 < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$1 / \frac{dk_\pm}{d\omega}(\omega_0) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - 4\omega_0^2 \mp \sqrt{1 - 4\omega_0^2} \right) \Rightarrow k = k_-(\omega_0)$$

# Propagating Linear Waves

- Experimental data
- $\phi(\theta) = 1 + \frac{a}{2} \sin(\theta)$



measurement

$$a = 0.12$$

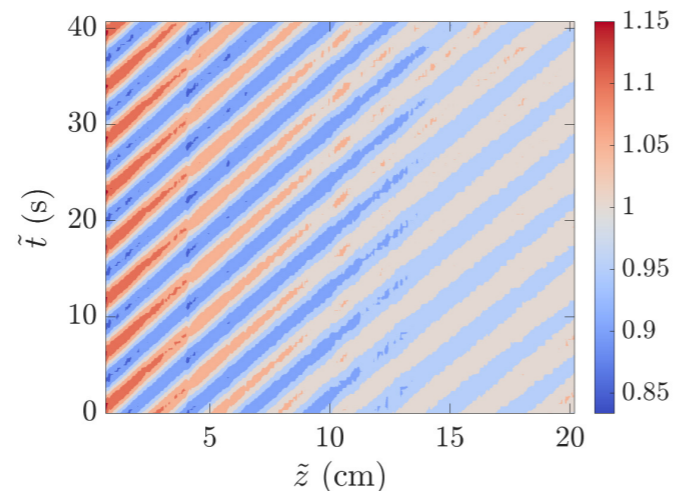
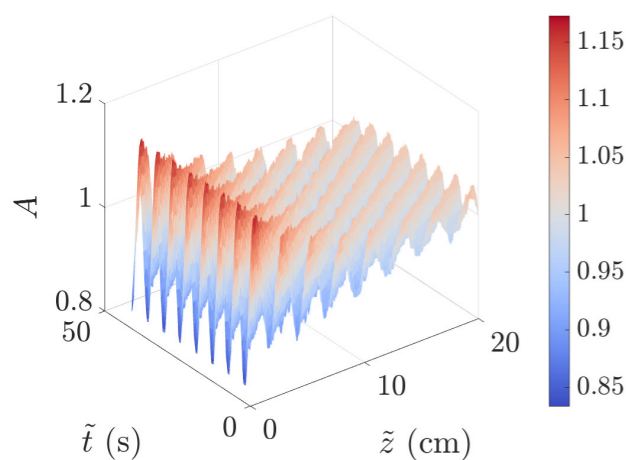
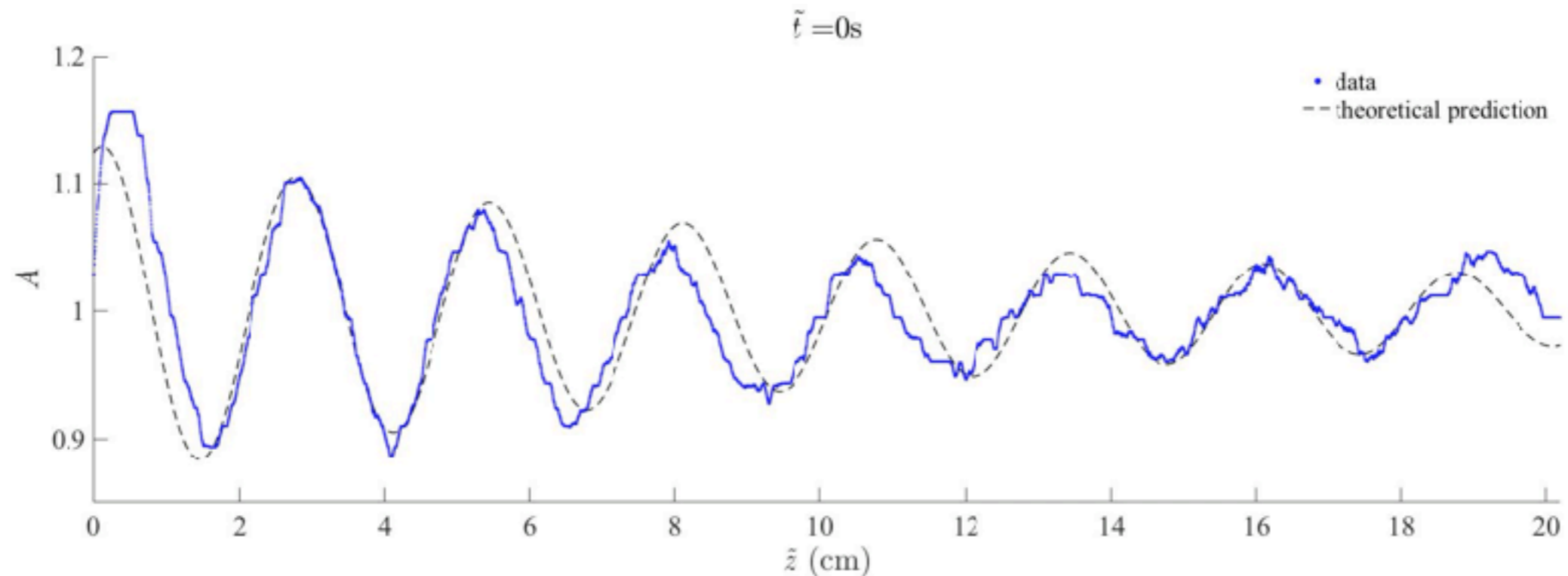
$$\omega_0 = 0.374 \pm 0.001 \text{ rad}$$

$$k = 0.46 \pm 0.01 \text{ rad}$$

linear theory

$$k(\omega_0) = 0.450 \pm 0.002 \text{ rad}$$

# Spatially Decaying Linear Waves



observed *upshift* in critical frequency  
explained by full 2-Stokes dispersion

measurement

$$a = 0.26 \pm 0.01$$

$$\omega_0 = 0.49 \pm 0.03 \text{ rad}$$

$$k = (0.81 \pm 0.01) + i(0.027 \pm 0.001) \text{ rad}$$

linear theory

$$k(\omega_0) = \begin{cases} 0.96 + i0.27 & \omega_0 = 0.52 \\ 0.82 & \omega_0 = 0.49 \text{ rad} \\ 0.66 & \omega_0 = 0.46 \end{cases}$$

# Modulation Theory

$$u_\tau + u_z - u_{zz\tau} = 0$$

seek slowly  
varying, periodic  
traveling wave

$$u(z, \tau) = a(Z, T)\cos(\Theta/\epsilon) + \epsilon u_1(\Theta, Z, T) + \dots, \quad \epsilon \ll 1$$

$$\Theta_Z = k(Z, T), \quad \Theta_T = -\omega(Z, T), \quad Z = \epsilon z, \quad T = \epsilon \tau$$

compatibility

$$\Theta_{ZT} = \Theta_{TZ} \Rightarrow k_T + \omega_Z = 0$$

$\mathcal{O}(1)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$

$$\omega(Z, T) = \frac{k(Z, T)}{1 + k(Z, T)^2}$$

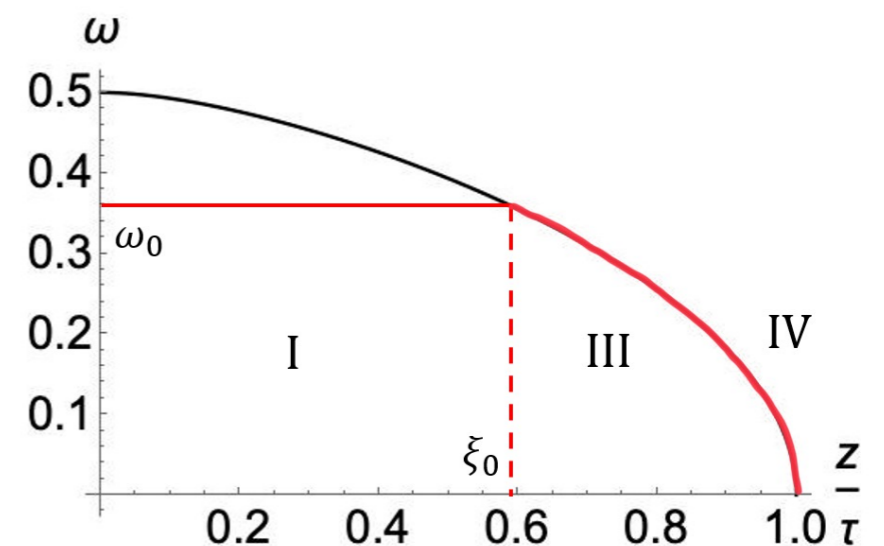
$$(a^2)_T + (\omega_k(k) a^2)_Z = 0$$

self-similar  
solution

$$0 < \omega_0 < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$k(Z, T) = \begin{cases} k_0 = k_-(\omega_0) & 0 < \xi \leq c_g(k_0) \\ \sqrt{\frac{-1 - 2\xi + \sqrt{1 + 8\xi}}{2\xi}} & c_g(k_0) < \xi \leq 1 \\ 0 & 1 < \xi \end{cases}$$

$$a(Z, T) = \frac{f(Z, T)}{\sqrt{T}}$$



but does not predict  $f(Z, T)$  nor  $\omega_0 > \frac{1}{2}$

# Long Time Asymptotics

$$u_\tau + u_z - u_{\tau z z} = 0, \quad z \geq 0, \tau \geq 0,$$

$$u(z, 0) = 0, \quad z \geq 0,$$

$$u(0, \tau) = \sin(-\omega_0 \tau), \quad \tau \geq 0.$$

solution via Unified transform

$$u(z, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathcal{C}} F(k; \omega_0) e^{\tau \phi(k; \xi)} dk$$

$$F(k; \omega_0) = \frac{\omega_0(1 - k^2)}{k^2(1 - 2\omega_0^2) - \omega_0^2(1 + k^4)}$$

$$\phi(k; \xi) = ik\xi - i \frac{k}{1 + k^2}$$

Vasan, Deconinck *Disc Cont Dyn Sys A* 2013;  
Fokas *A unified approach to boundary value problems* SIAM 2008

$\mathcal{C}$ : a small contour around  $k = i$

Depends on both  $\omega_0$  and  $\xi = z/\tau$   
Essential singularity:  $k = i$

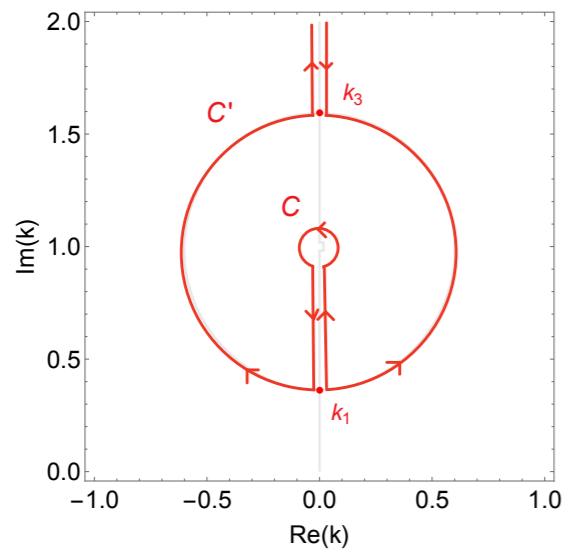
use the method of steepest descent

$$4 \text{ poles of } F: \kappa_j = \frac{\pm 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4\omega_0^2}}{\omega_0}$$

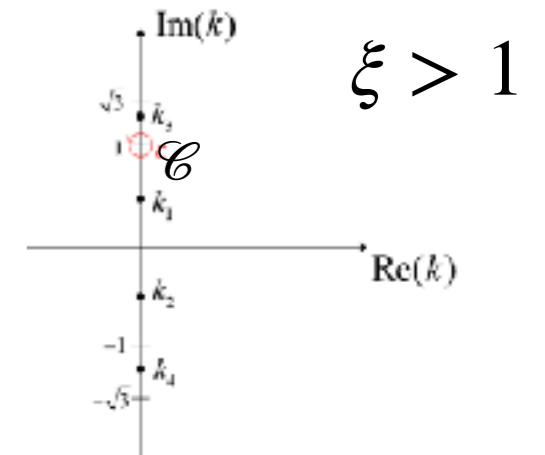
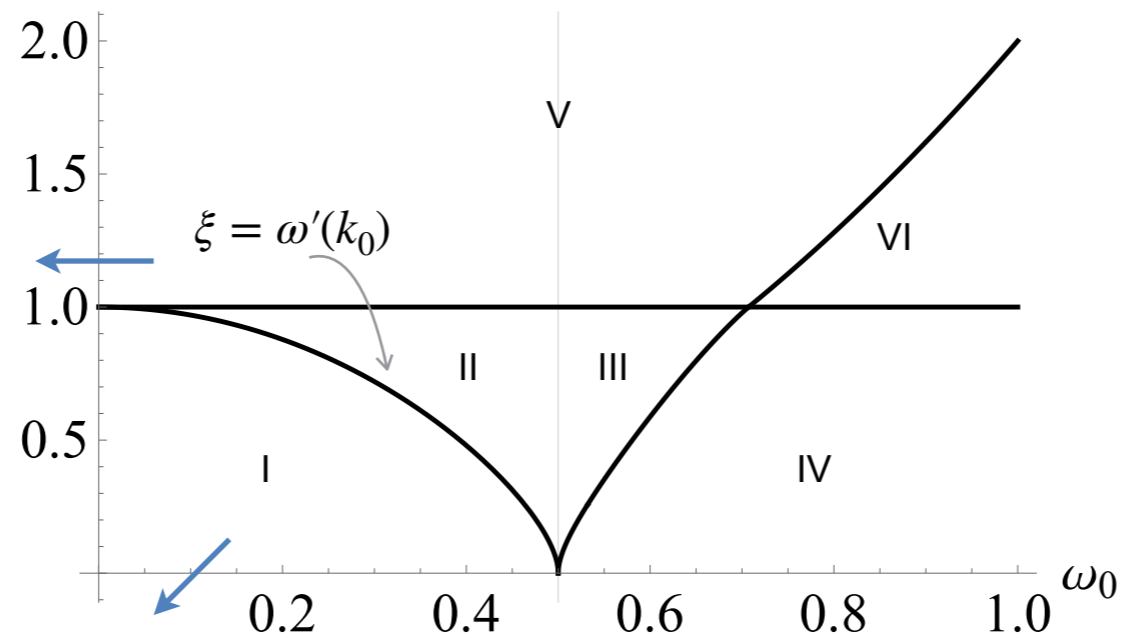
$$4 \text{ saddles } \phi_k = 0: k_j = \pm \sqrt{-1 - \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 8\xi}}{2\xi}}$$

# Contour Deformation

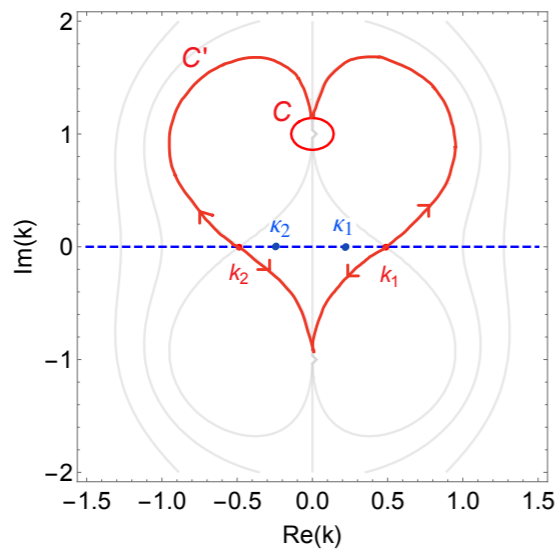
0 poles  
2 imaginary saddles



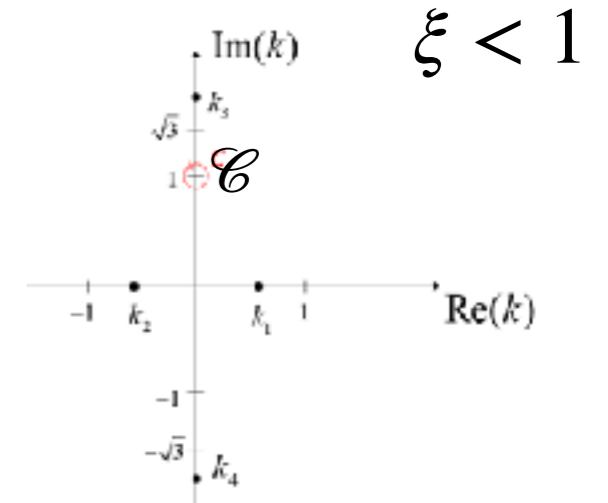
$$\xi = \frac{Z}{\tau}$$



$\xi > 1$



2 real poles  
2 real saddles

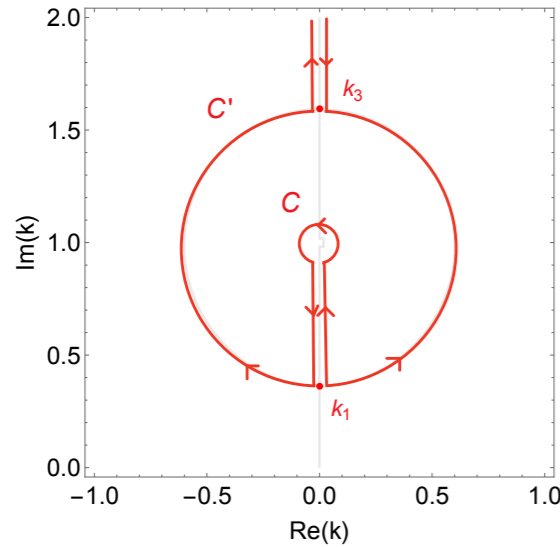


$\xi < 1$

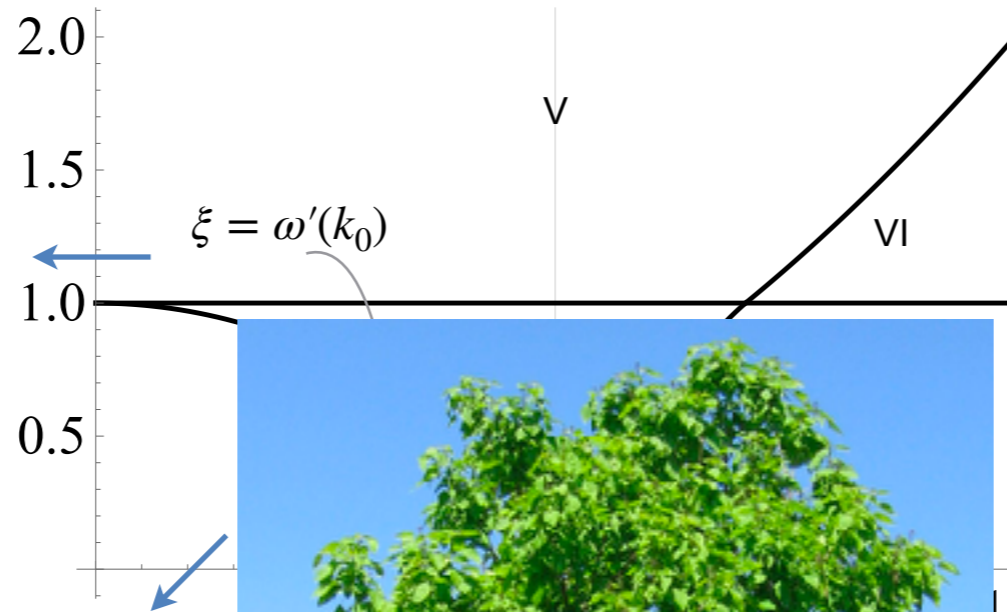


# Contour Deformation

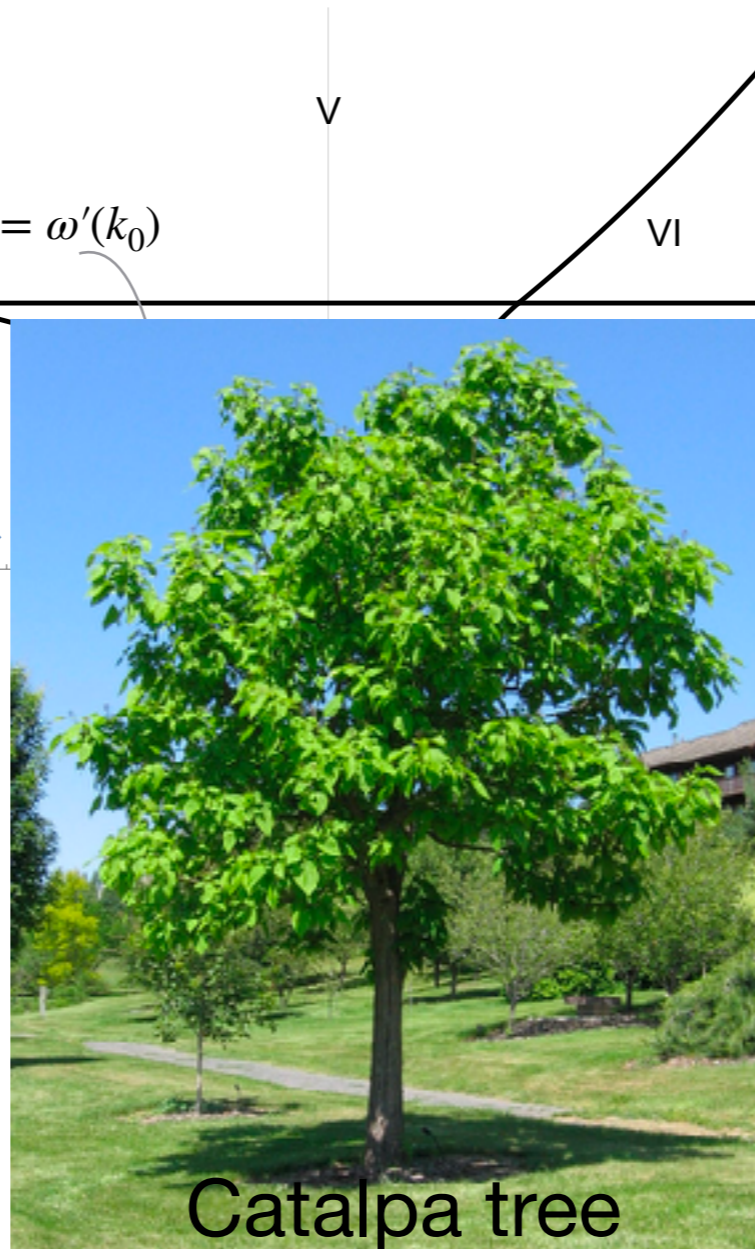
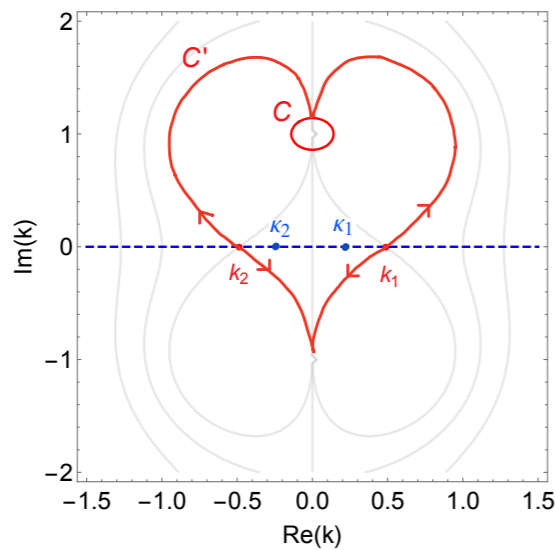
0 poles  
2 imaginary saddles



$$\xi = \frac{z}{\tau}$$



2 real poles  
2 real saddles



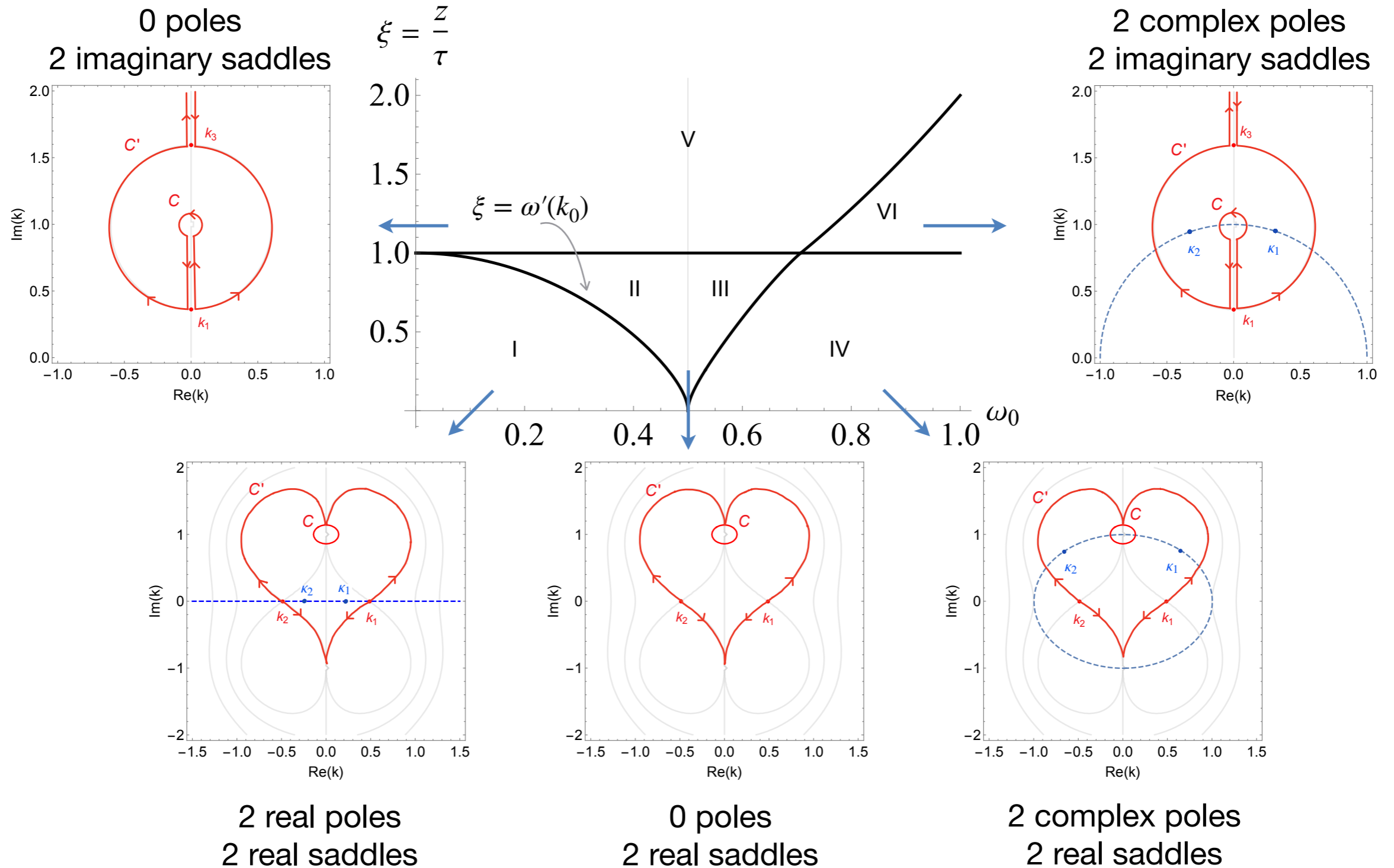
Catalpa tree

$\xi > 1$

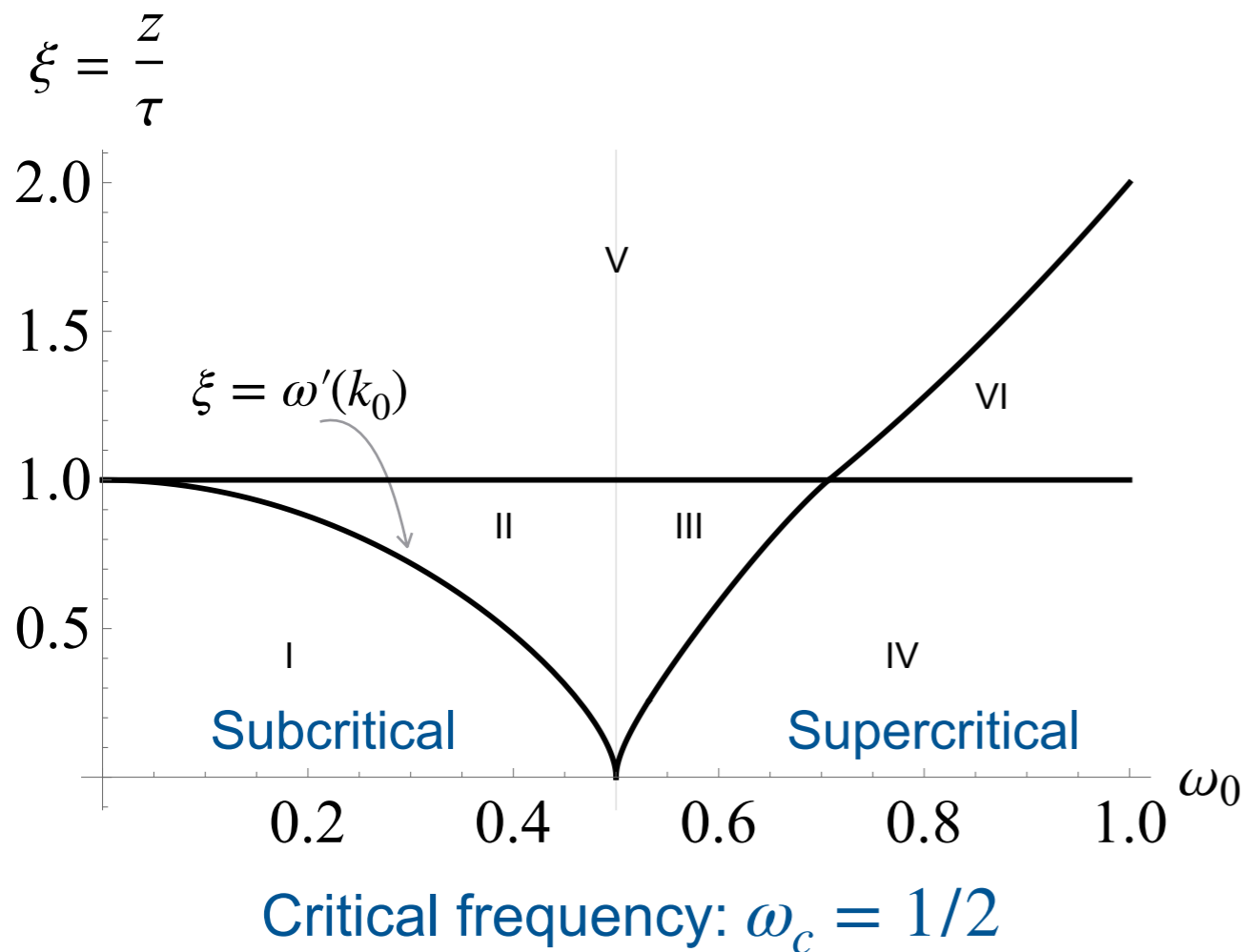
$\xi = 1$

$\xi < 1$

# Contour Deformation



# Approximate Solution



I Sinusoidal plane wave solution

$$u(z, \tau) = \sin \left[ (k(\omega_0)\xi - \omega_0) \tau \right] + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{-1/2}),$$

$$k(\omega_0) = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4\omega_0^2}}{2\omega_0}$$

II, III Algebraically decaying oscillatory solution of  $\mathcal{O}(\tau^{-1/2})$

IV Damped sinusoidal wave

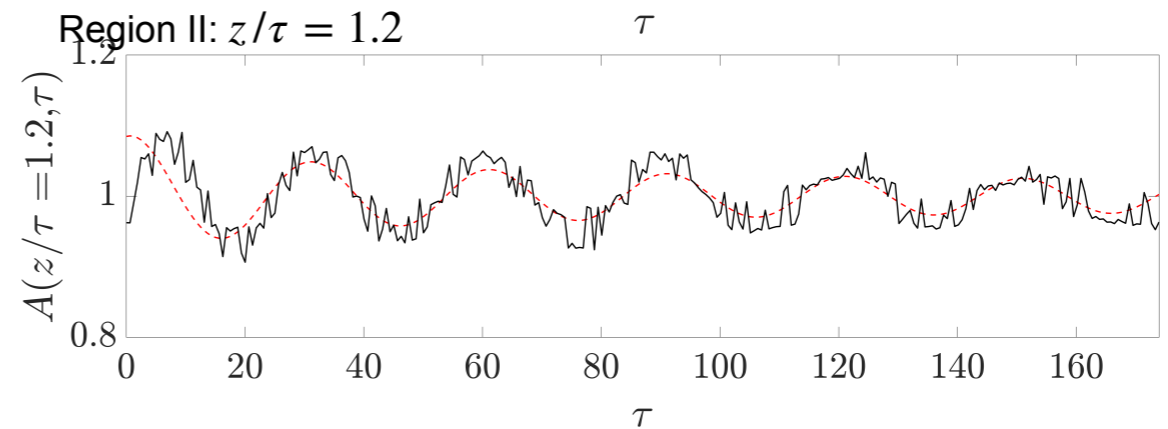
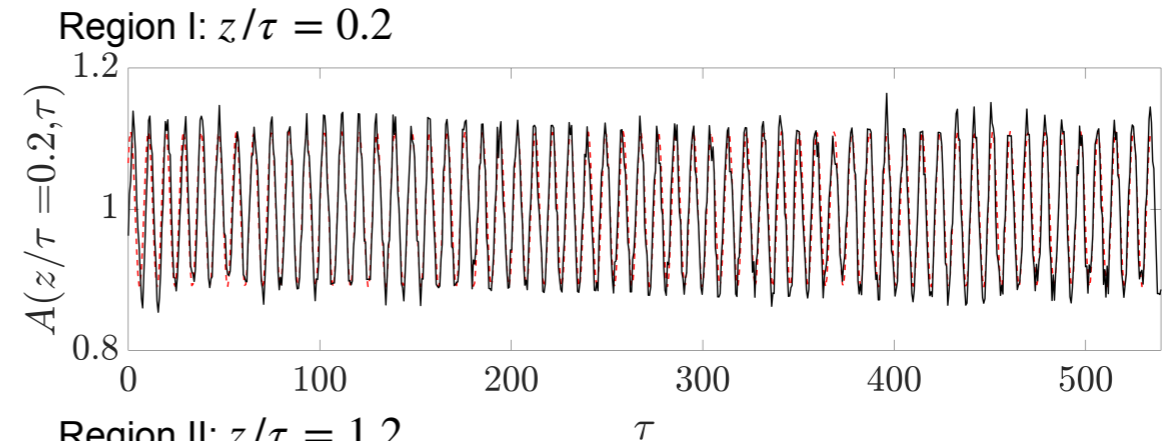
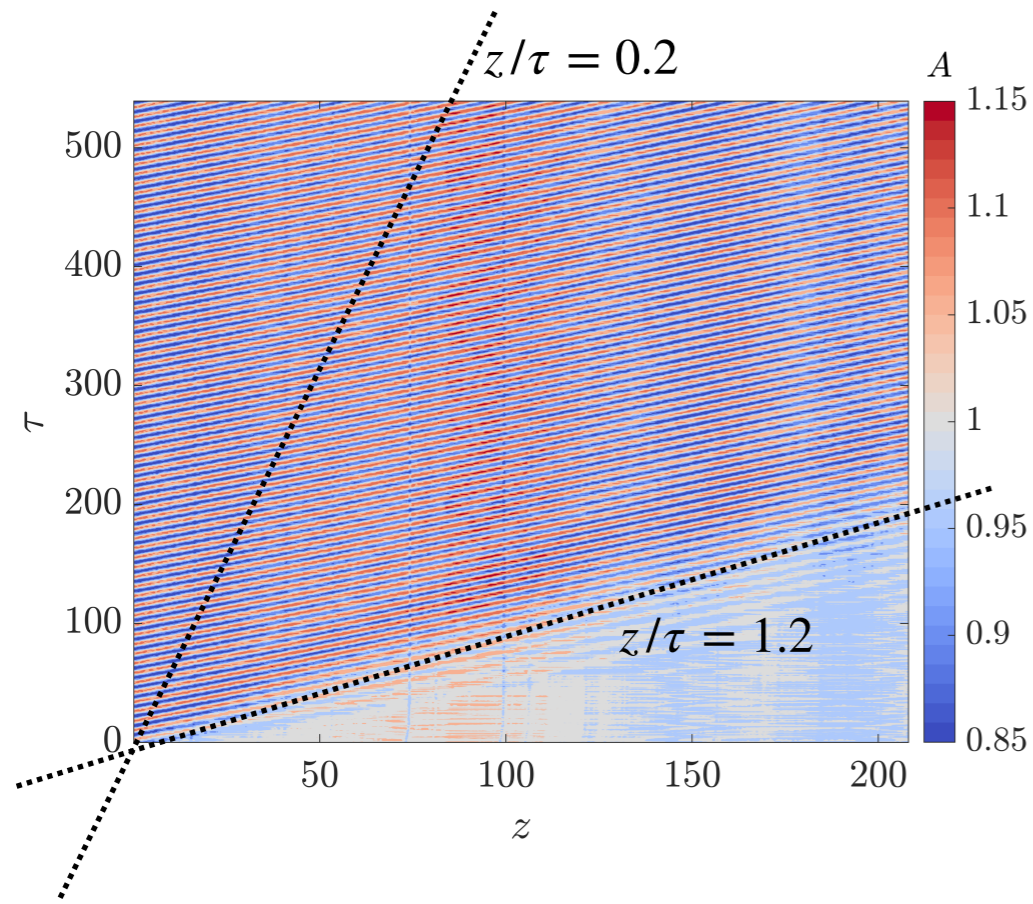
$$u(z, \tau) = \exp \left[ -k_{\text{Im}}\xi\tau \right] \sin \left[ (k_{\text{Re}}\xi - \omega_0) \tau \right] + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{-1/2})$$

$$k_{\text{Im}}(\omega_0) = \frac{\sqrt{4\omega_0^2 - 1}}{2\omega_0}, \quad k_{\text{Re}}(\omega_0) = \frac{1}{2\omega_0}$$

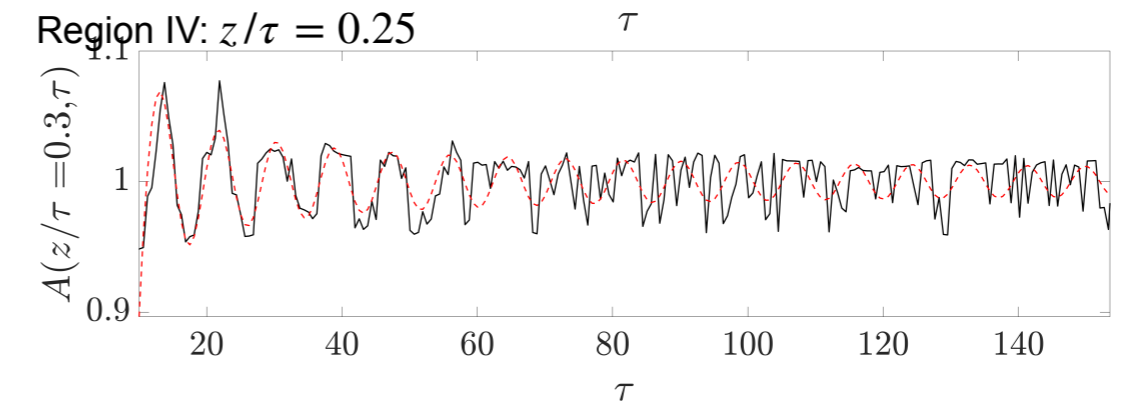
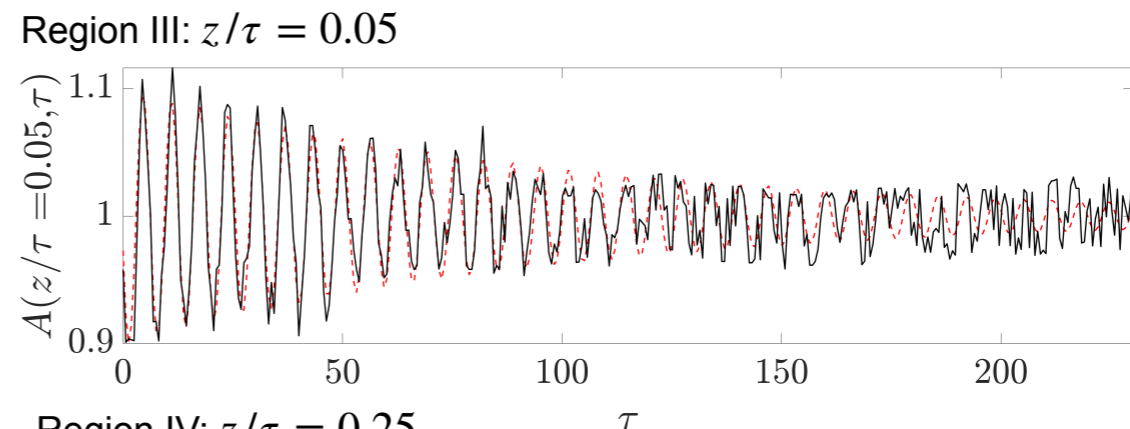
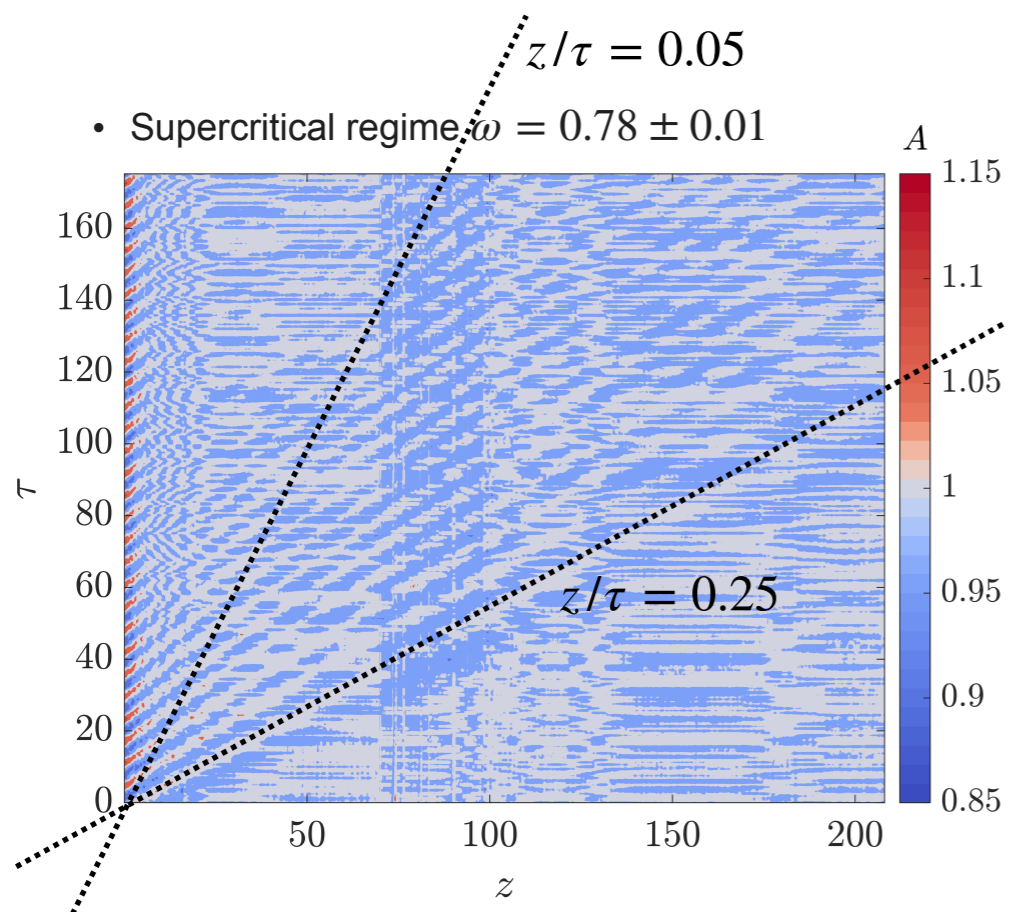
V Exponentially decaying solution of  $\mathcal{O}(\tau^{-1/2}e^{-\tau})$

VI Damped sinusoidal wave with a  $\mathcal{O}(\tau^{-1/2}e^{-\tau})$  correction

# Comparison with Experiment

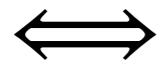


- Supercritical regime  $\omega = 0.78 \pm 0.01$



# Generalizations

radiation condition



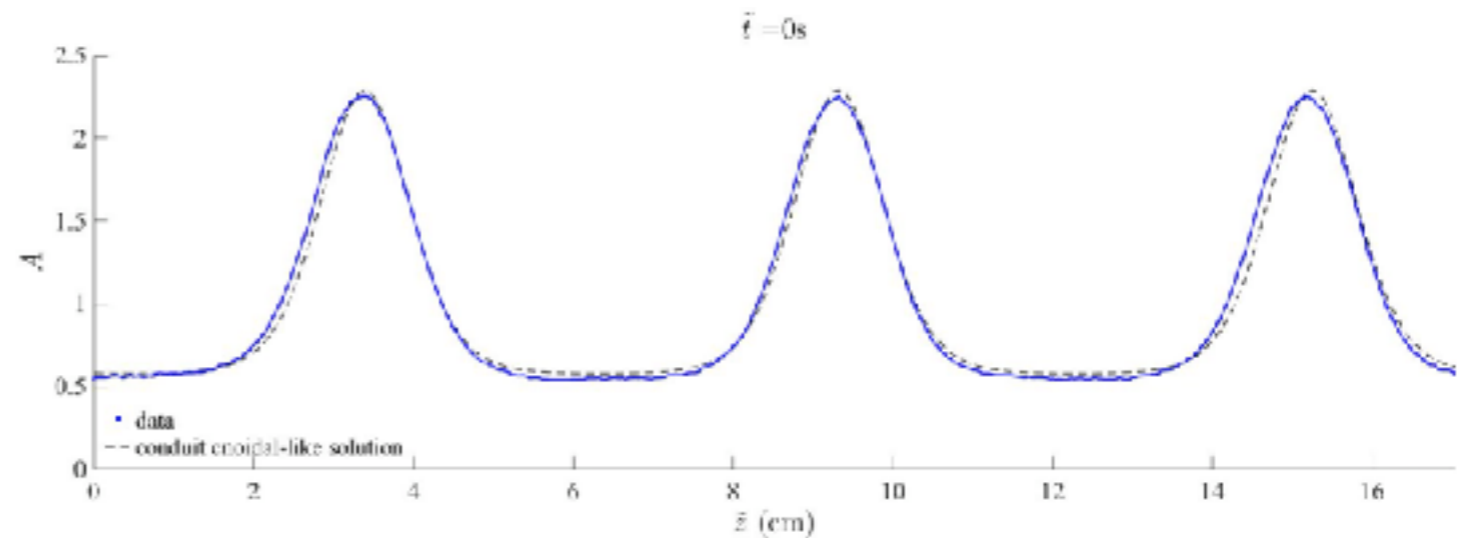
unique D2N map

[Fokas, van der Weele

*SAPM* 2021]

$$(1 - A_{-2}\partial_{xx}) u_t = iA_0u + A_1u_x + iA_2u_{xx} + A_3u_{xxx}$$

$$A_2 \geq 0, \quad A_3 \leq 0$$



$$A_t + 2AA_z - AA_{zzt} + A_tA_{zz} = 0, \quad A(0,t) = \phi(-\omega t)$$

$$A(z,t) = \phi(kz - \omega t) \Rightarrow (\phi')^2 = -\frac{2}{k^2}\phi - \frac{2}{\omega k}\phi^2 \ln \phi + A + B\phi^2$$

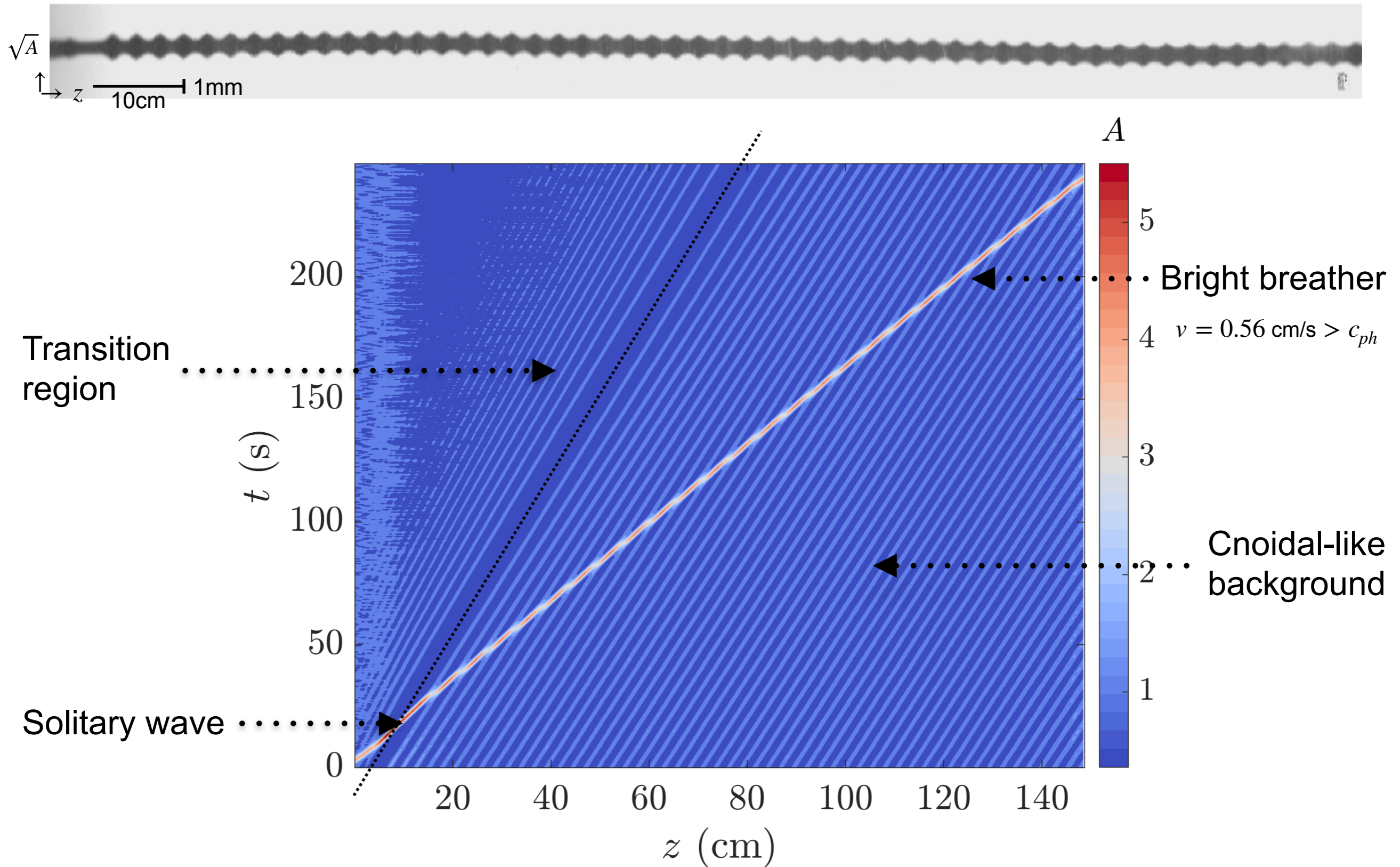
$\phi(\theta)$  = periodic traveling wave solution, cnoidal-like waves

**Soliton + Cnoidal Wave =  
Breather**

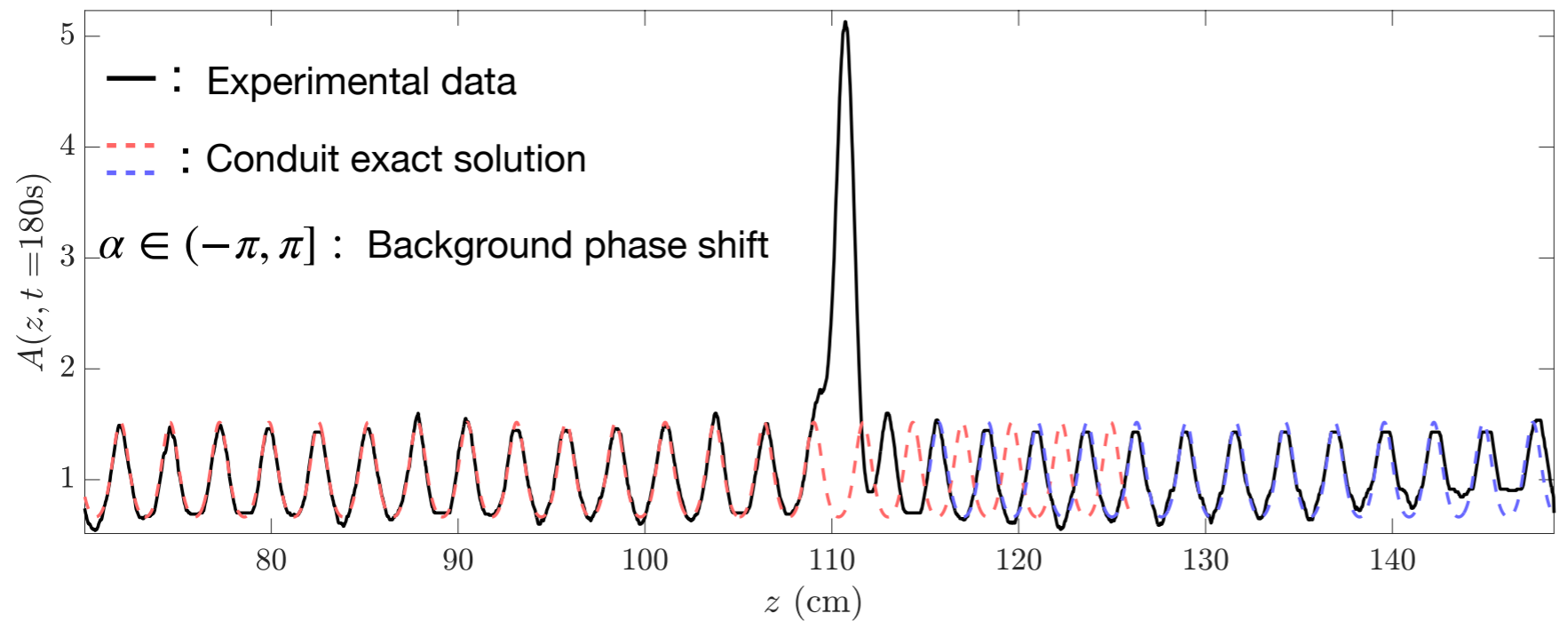
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Mao, Chandramouli, Hofer *in preparation* 2022

# Breather = Solitary Wave + Cnoidal-like Wave



# Bright Breather



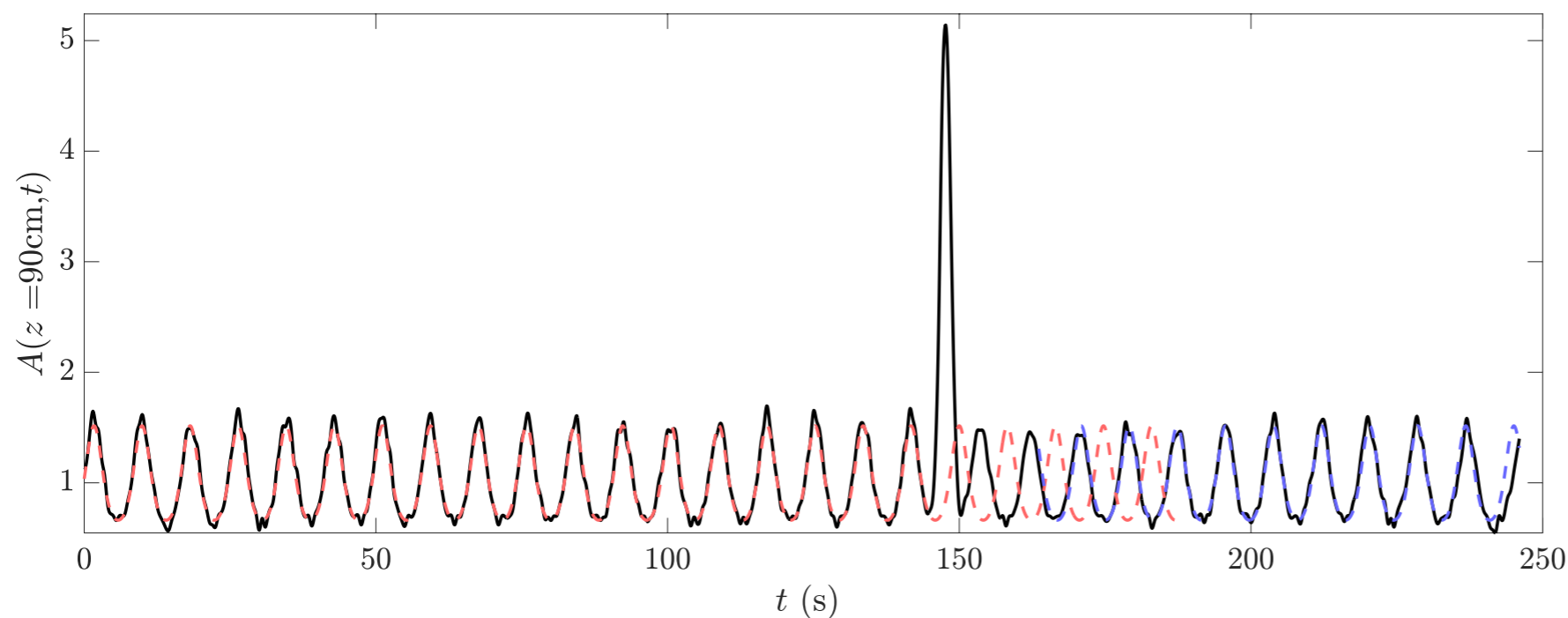
Cnoidal-like bkgd:

$$\bar{A} = 1,$$

$$a = 0.85,$$

$$k = 2.39 \text{ rad/cm},$$

$$\omega = 0.80 \text{ rad/s}.$$



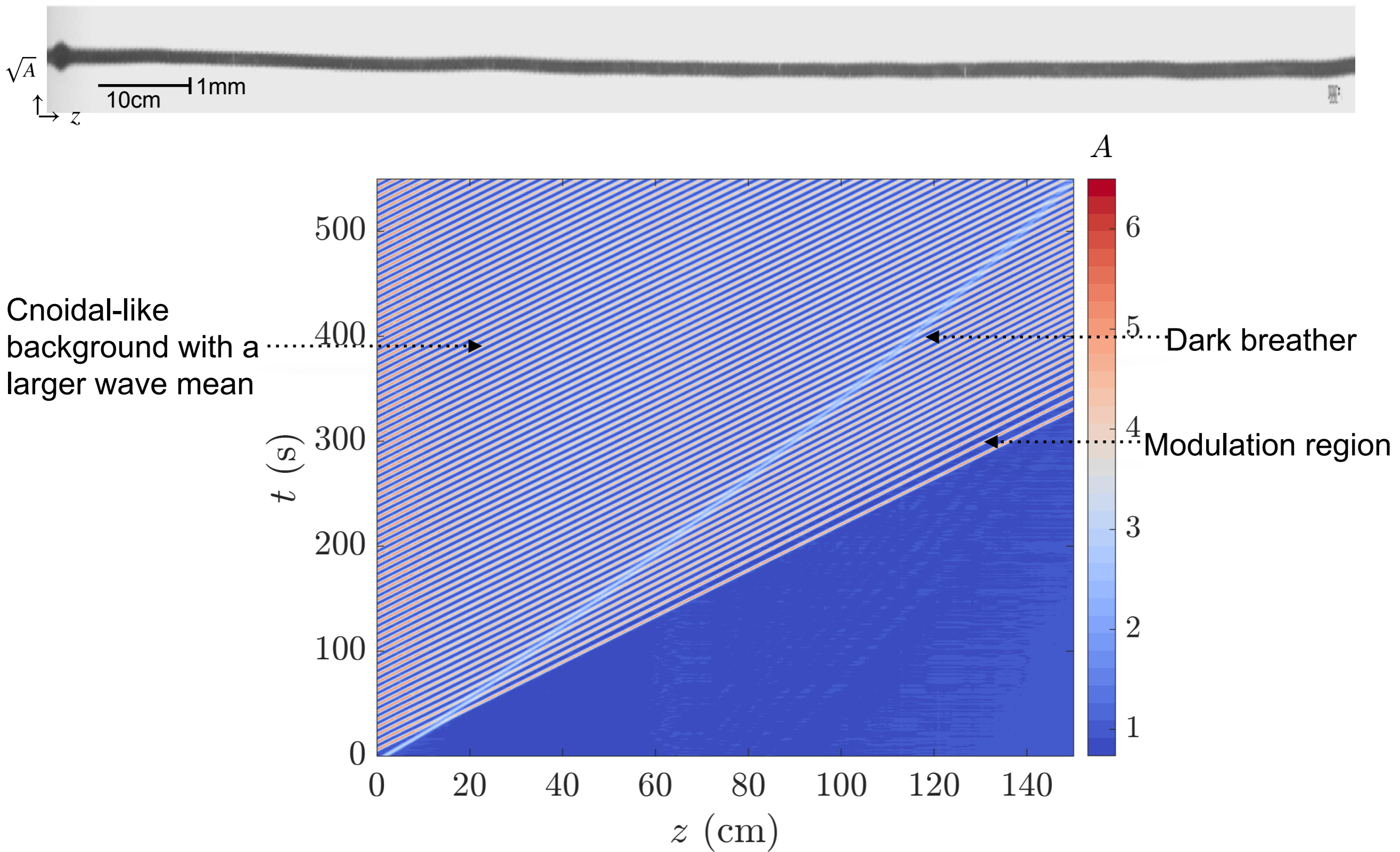
Phase shifts:

$$\alpha_z = 0.95\pi,$$

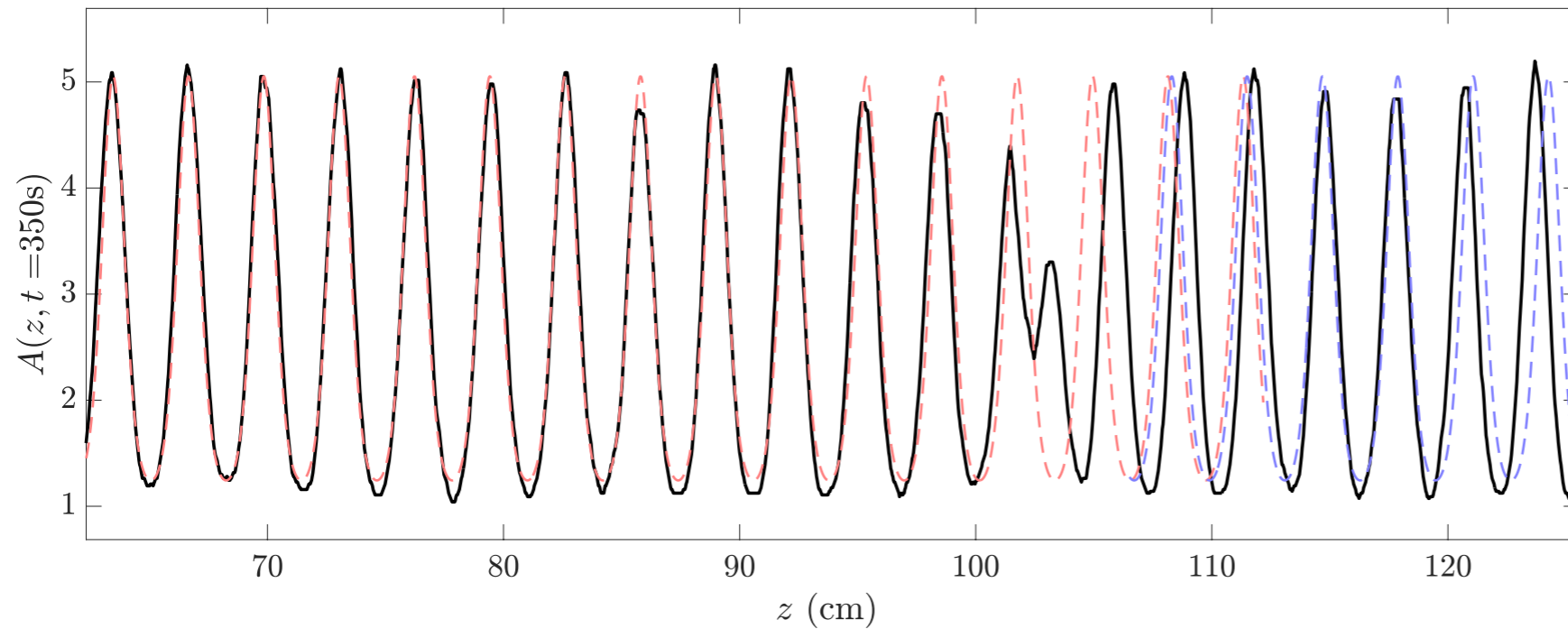
$$\alpha_t = 0.93\pi.$$



# Dark Breather



# Dark Breather Phase Shift



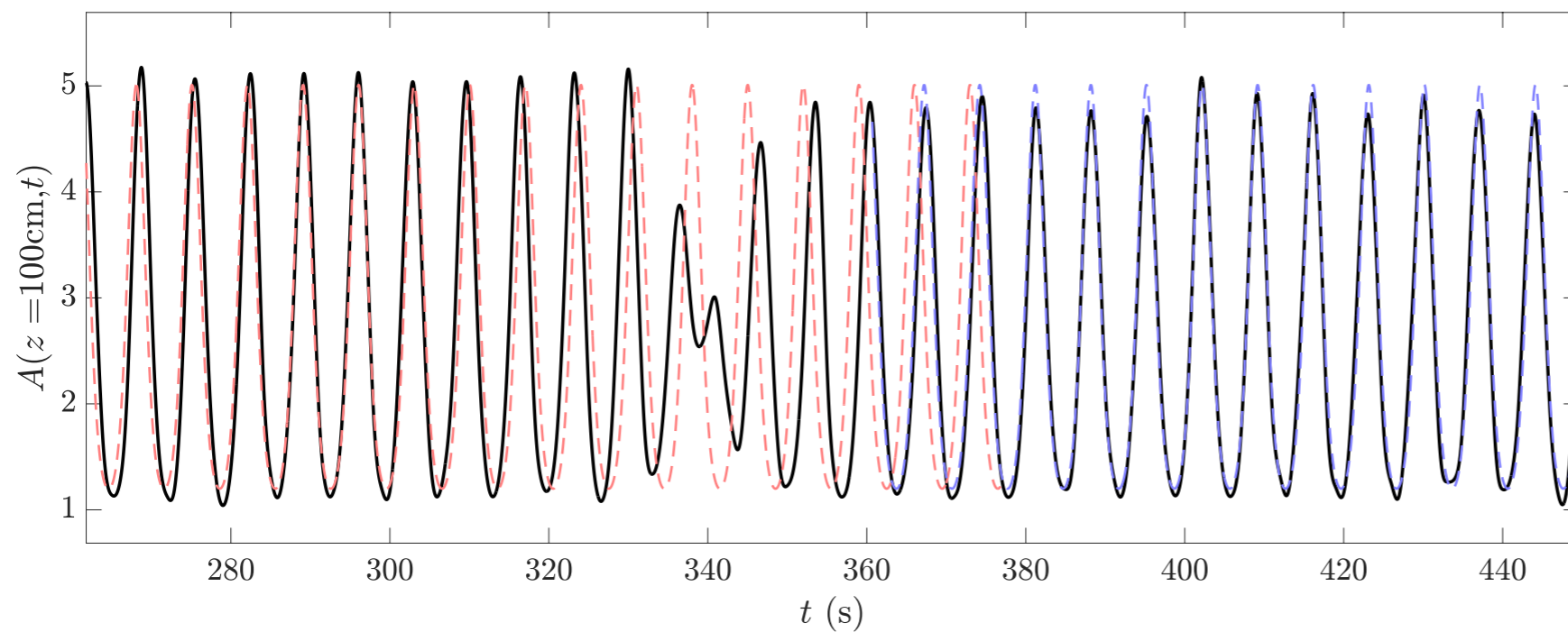
Cnoidal background:

$$\bar{A} = 2.63,$$

$$a = 3.81,$$

$$k = 1.93 \text{ rad/cm},$$

$$\omega = 0.93 \text{ rad/s}.$$



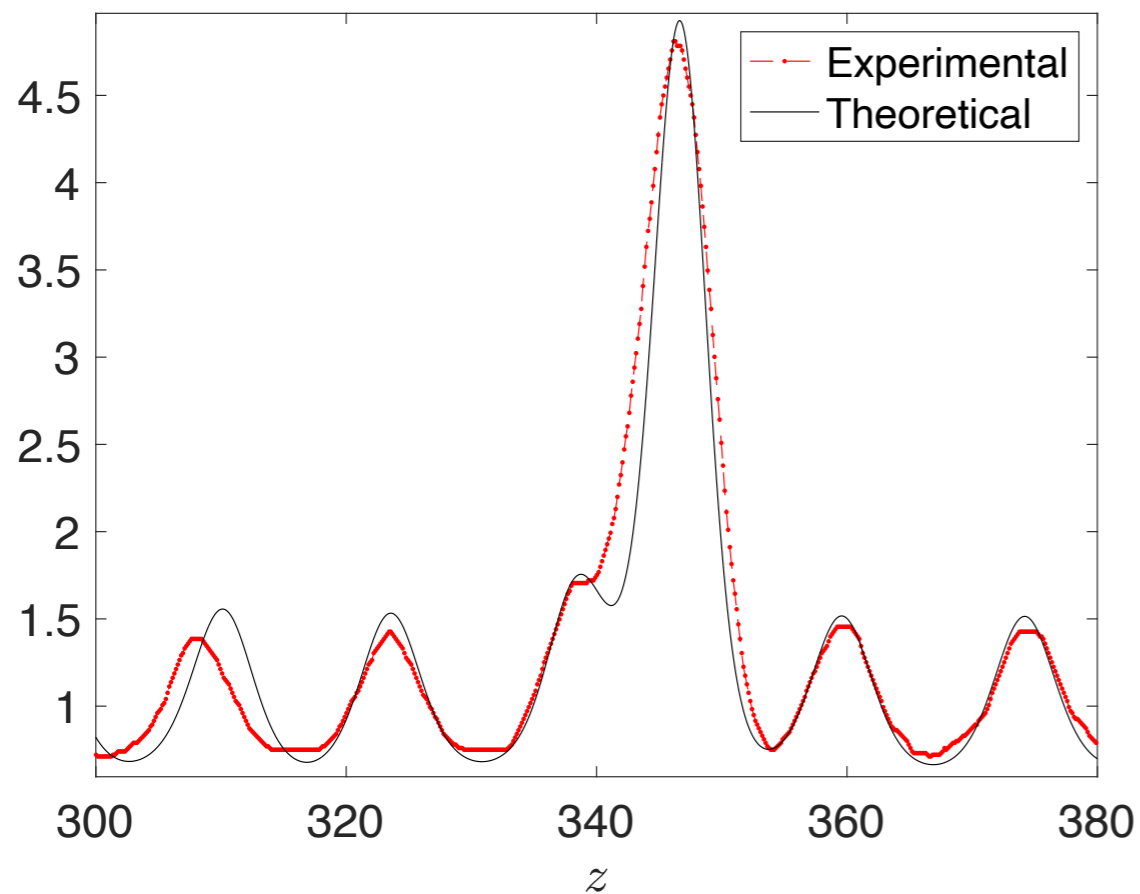
Phase shifts:

$$\alpha_z = -0.10\pi,$$

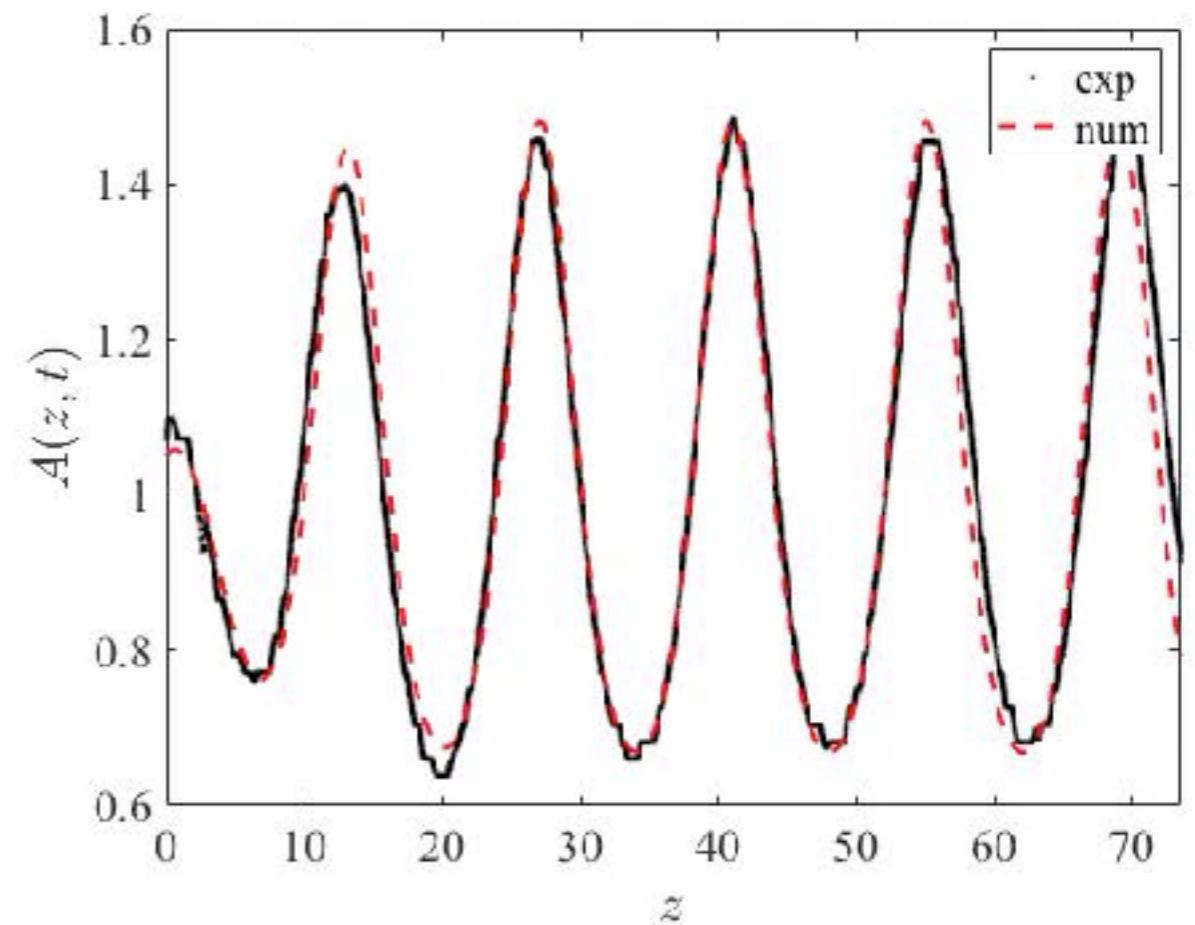
$$\alpha_t = -0.35\pi.$$

# Breather solutions of model equation

$$A_t + 2AA_z - AA_{zzt} + A_t A_{zz} = 0$$



stable bright breather solution



stable dark breather solution

# Conclusions

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- Viscous core-annular flows: versatile system for dispersive hydrodynamics
- Can test sophisticated mathematics in an accessible system
- Multiscale modeling: microscopic (Navier-Stokes), mesoscopic (conduit eq.), macroscopic (Whitham eqs.), and megascopic (kinetic eq.) scales
- Excellent agreement between theory and experiment

Thank you for your interest