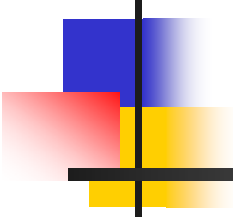


# Spectral Representation in Oceanography Observation and Modeling



---

Peter C Chu

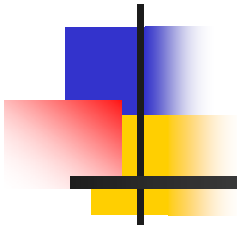
Naval Postgraduate School

Monterey, CA 93943

[pcchu@nps.edu](mailto:pcchu@nps.edu)

<http://www.oc.nps.navy.mil/~chu>

# Part-1 Optimal Spectral Decomposition (OSD)



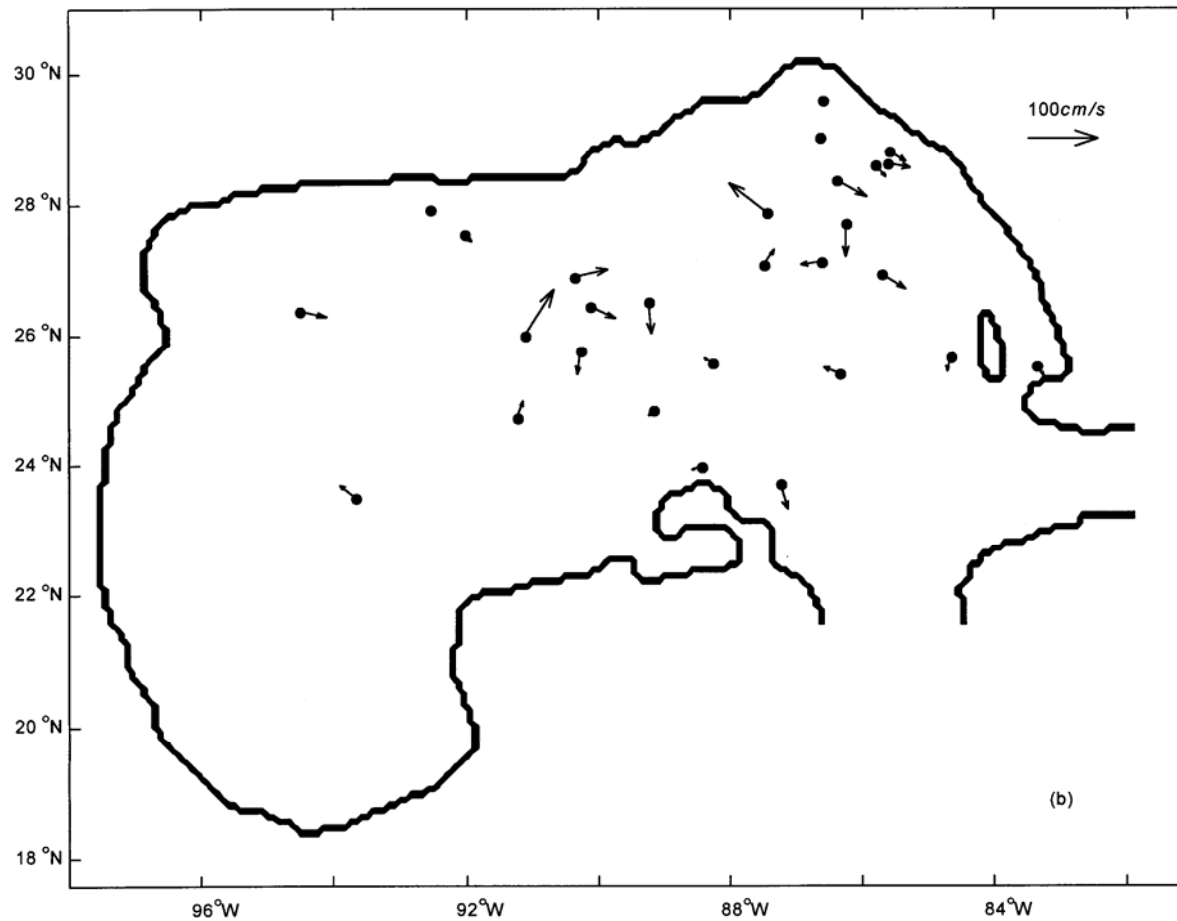


# References

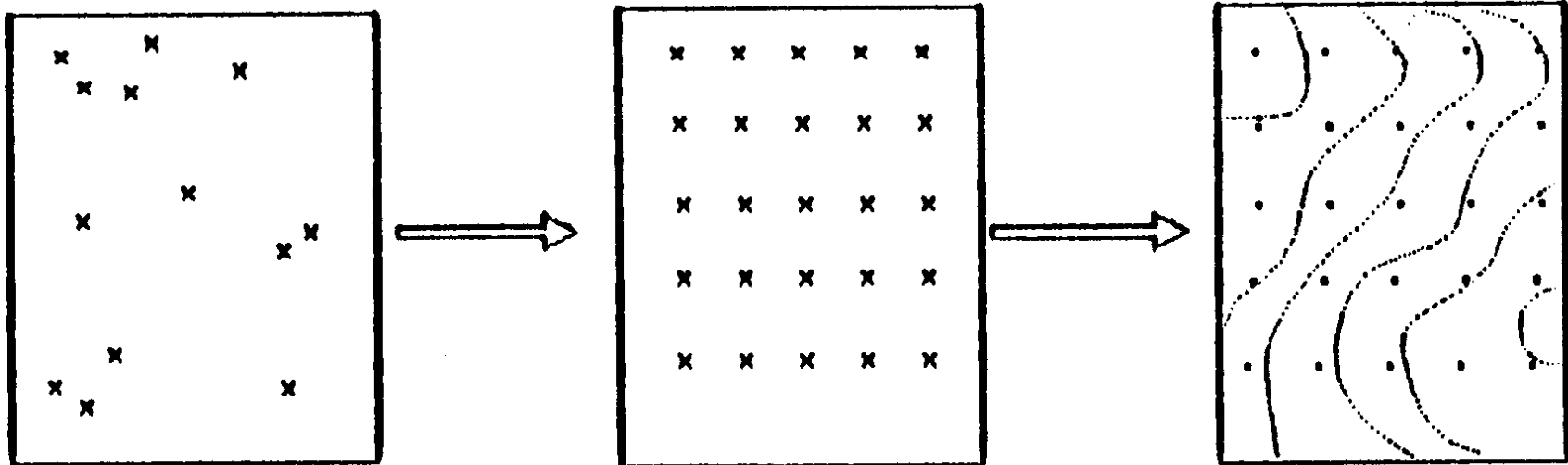
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- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, T.P. Korzhova, T.M. Margolina, and O.M. Melnichenko, 2003a: Analysis of sparse and noisy ocean current data using flow decomposition. Part 1: Theory. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 20 (4), 478-491.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, T.P. Korzhova, T.M. Margolina, and O.M. Melnichenko, 2003b: Analysis of sparse and noisy ocean current data using flow decomposition. Part 2: Application to Eulerian and Lagrangian data. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 20 (4), 492-512.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, and T.M. Margolina, 2004: Rotation method for reconstructing process and field from imperfect data. *International Journal of Bifurcation and Chaos*, in press.

# Observational Data (Sparse and Noisy)



# Most Popular Method for Ocean Data Analysis: Optimum Interpolation (OI)





# Three Necessary Conditions For the OI Method

---

- (1) First guess field
- (2) Autocorrelation functions
- (3) Low noise-to-signal ratio

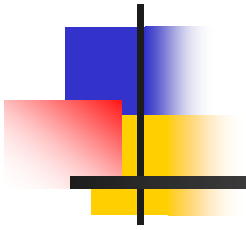


# Ocean velocity data

---

- (1) First guess field (?)
- (2) Unknown autocorrelation function
- (3) High noise-to-signal ratio

It is not likely to use the OI  
method to process ocean velocity  
data.







# Spectral Representation - a Possible Alternative Method

---

$$c(\mathbf{x}, z_k, t) = A_0(z_k, t) + \sum_{m=1}^M A_m(z_k, t) \Psi_m(\mathbf{x}, z_k),$$

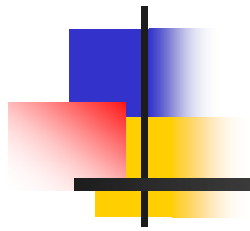


# Two approaches to obtain basis functions

---

- EOFs
- Eigenfunctions of Laplace Operator

$$\nabla_h^2 \Psi_m = -\lambda_m \Psi_m, \quad \Psi_m|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, M.$$



# Spectral Representation for Velocity



# Flow Decomposition

---

- 2 D Flow (Helmholtz)

$$\mathbf{u}_H = \mathbf{r} \times \nabla_H A_1 + \nabla_H A_3$$

- 3D Flow (Toroidal & Poloidal): Very popular in astrophysics

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r} \times \nabla A_1 + \mathbf{r}A_2 + \nabla A_3$$



# 3D Incompressible Flow

---

- When

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

- We have

$$\mathbf{u} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{r}\Psi) + \nabla \times \nabla \times (\mathbf{r}\Phi).$$



# Flow Decomposition

---

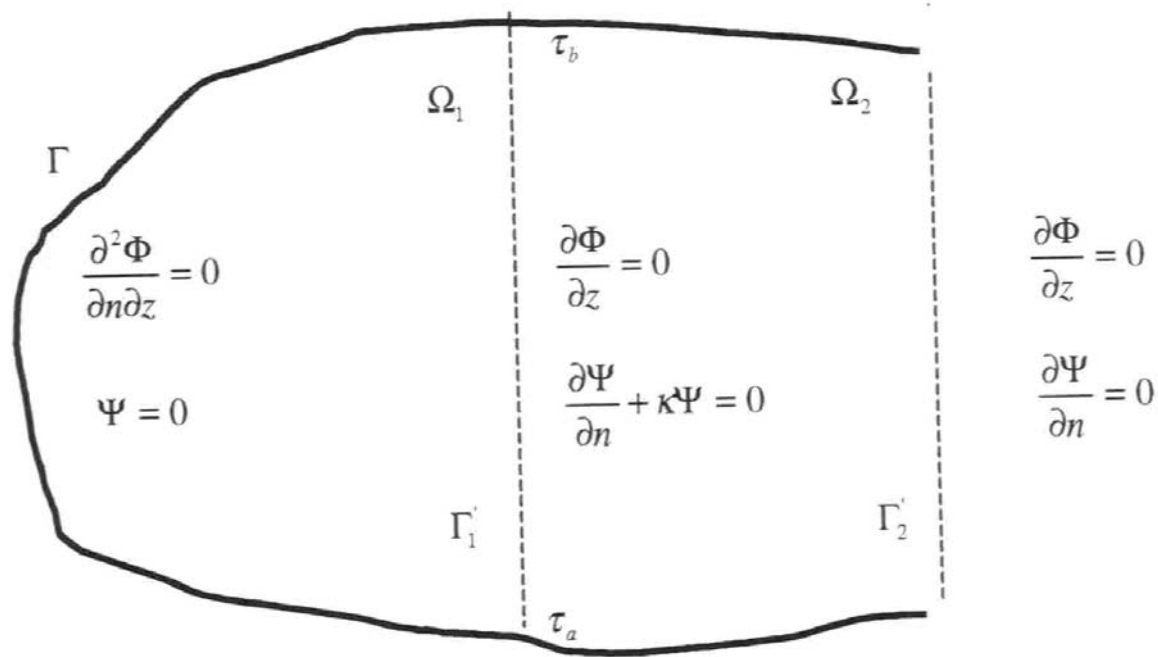
$$u = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x \partial z}, \quad v = -\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y \partial z},$$

- $\Delta \Psi = -\zeta$

$$\Delta \Phi = -w$$



# Boundary Conditions





# Basis Functions (Closed Basin)

---

$$\Delta \Psi_k = -\lambda_k \Psi_k, \quad \Psi_k|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, \infty$$

$$\Delta \Phi_m = -\mu_m \Phi_m, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi_m}{\partial n}|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad m = 1, \dots, \infty.$$





# Basis Functions (Open Boundaries)

---

$$\Delta \Psi_k = -\lambda_k \Psi_k,$$

$$\Delta \Phi_m = -\mu_m \Phi_m,$$

$$\Psi_k|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi_m}{\partial n}|_{\Gamma} = 0,$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial n} + \kappa(\tau) \Psi_k \right] |_{\Gamma'_1} = 0, \quad \Phi_m|_{\Gamma'_1} = 0,$$



# Spectral Decomposition

---

$$u_{KM} = \sum_{k=1}^K a_k(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Psi_k(x, y, z, \kappa^\circ)}{\partial y} + \sum_{m=1}^M b_m(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Phi_m(x, y, z)}{\partial x},$$
$$v_{KM} = - \sum_{k=1}^K a_k(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Psi_k(x, y, z, \kappa^\circ)}{\partial x} + \sum_{m=1}^M b_m(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Phi_m(x, y, z)}{\partial y}$$



# Optimal Mode Truncation

---

$$J(a_1, \dots, a_K, b_1, \dots, b_M, \kappa, P) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \|u_p^{obs} - u_{KM}\|_P^2 + \|v_p^{obs} - v_{KM}\|_P^2 \right) \rightarrow \min,$$



# Vapnik (1983) Cost Function

---

$$J_{emp} = J(a_1, \dots, a_K, b_1, \dots, b_M, \kappa, P).$$

$$\text{Prob} \left\{ \sup_{K, M, S} |\langle J(K, M, S) \rangle - J_{emp}(K, M, S)| \geq \mu \right\} \leq g(P, \mu)$$

$$\lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} g(P, \mu) = 0$$



# Optimal Truncation

---

- Gulf of Mexico, Monterey Bay, Louisiana-Texas Shelf
- $K_{\text{opt}} = 40, M_{\text{opt}} = 30$



## Determination of Spectral Coefficients (Ill-Posed Algebraic Equation)

---

$$\mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{QY},$$



## Rotation Method (Chu et al., 2004)

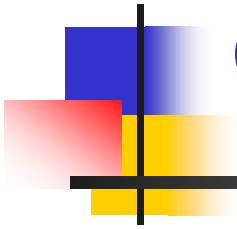
---

$$\mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Y},$$

$$J_1 = \|\mathbf{A}\|^2 - \frac{\|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Y}\|^2}{\|\mathbf{a}\|^2} \rightarrow \max,$$

# Part-2 Application in Data Analysis

Current Reversal in Louisiana-Texas  
Continental Shelf (LTCS)







# Reference

---

- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, and O.V. Melnichenko, 2004: Fall-winter current reversals on the Texas-Louisiana continental shelf, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, in press.



# Ocean Velocity Data

---

- 31 near-surface (10-14 m) current meter moorings during LATEX from April 1992 to November 1994
- Drifting buoys deployed at the first segment of the Surface Current and Lagrangian-drift Program (SCULP-I) from October 1993 to July 1994.

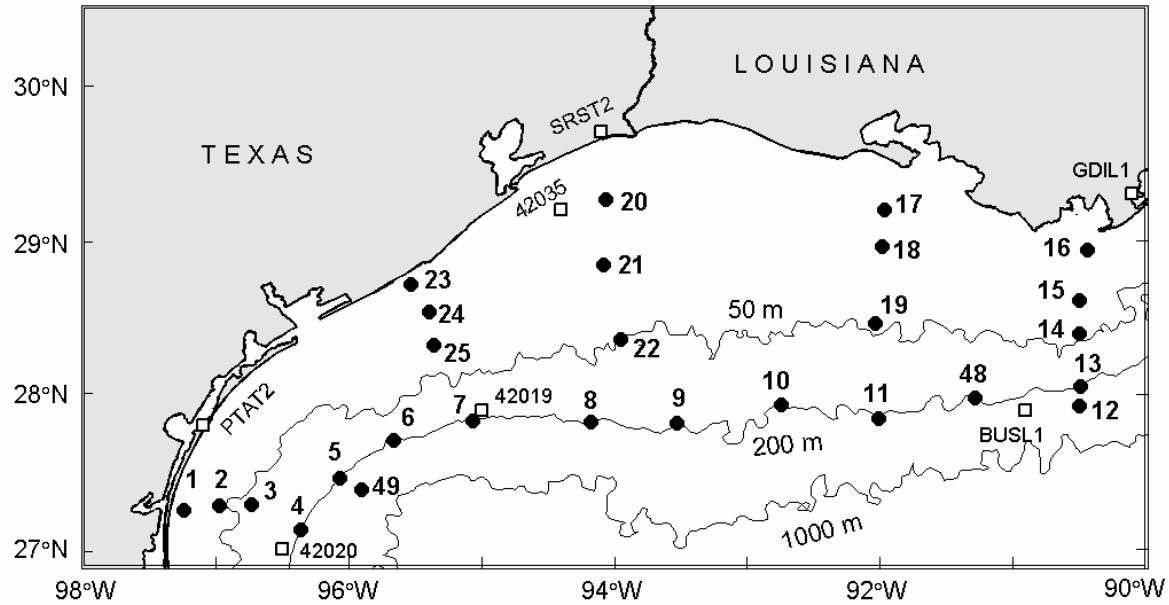


# Surface Wind Data

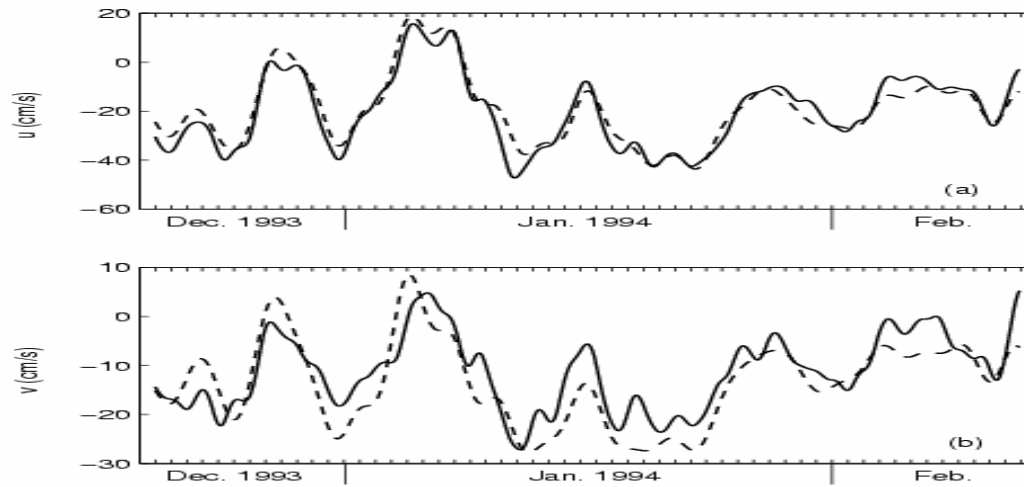
---

- **7 buoys of the National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) and industry (C-MAN) around LATEX area**

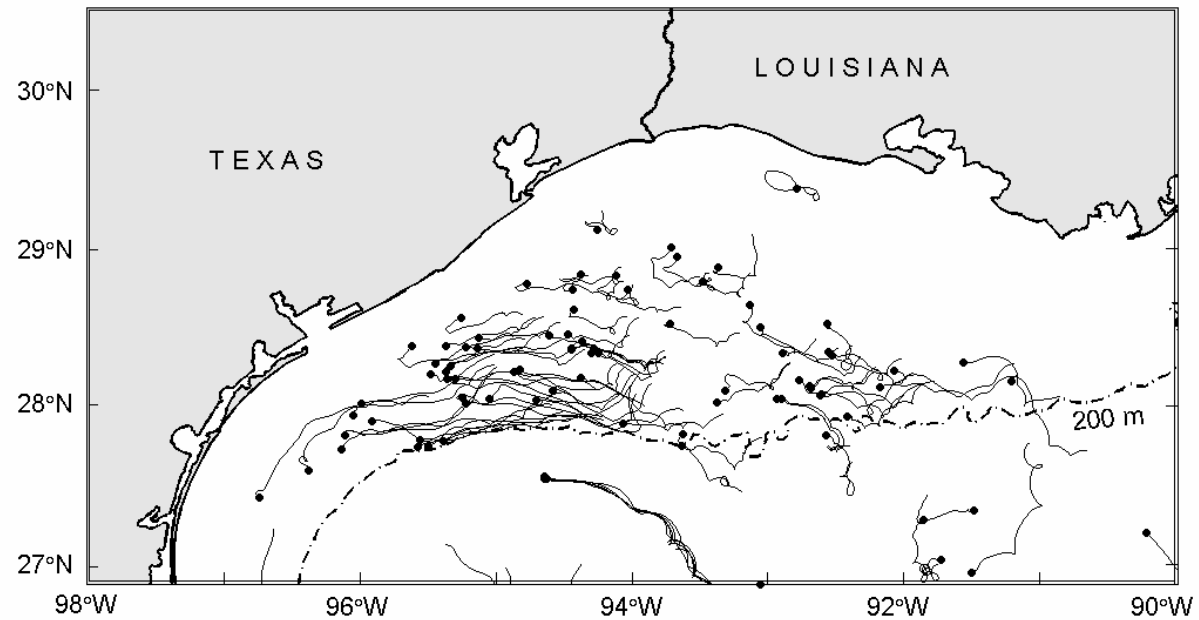
# Moorings and Buoys



# Reconstructed and observed circulations at Station-24.



# LTCS current reversal detected from SCULP-I drift trajectories.





# Probability of TLCS Current Reversal for Given Period (T)

---

- $n_0$  ~ 0-current reversal
- $n_1$  ~ 1-current reversal
- $n_2$  ~ 2-current reversals
- $m$  ~ all realizations

$$P_0(T) = \frac{n_0}{m}, P_1(T) = \frac{n_1}{m}, P_2(T) = \frac{n_2}{m},$$



# Fitting the Poisson Distribution

---

$$P_k(T) = \frac{1}{k!} (\mu T)^k \exp(-\mu T)$$

$$k=0, 1, 2$$

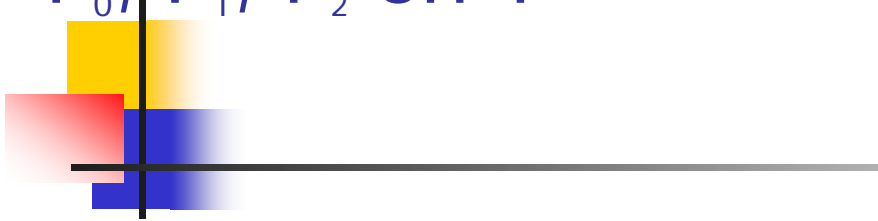
$\mu$  is the mean number of reversal for a single time interval

$$\mu \sim 0.08$$



# Dependence of

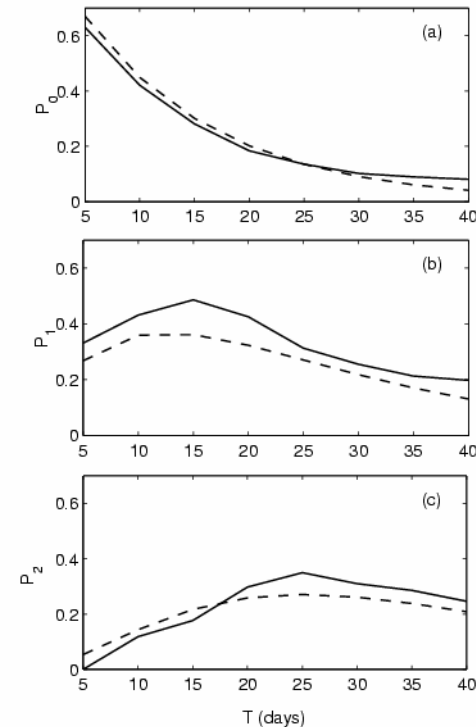
$P_0, P_1, P_2$  on  $T$



For observational periods larger than 20 days, the probability for no current reversal is less than 0.2.

For 15 day observational period, the probability for 1-reversal reaches 0.5

Data – Solid Curve  
Poisson Distribution Fitting – Dashed Curve





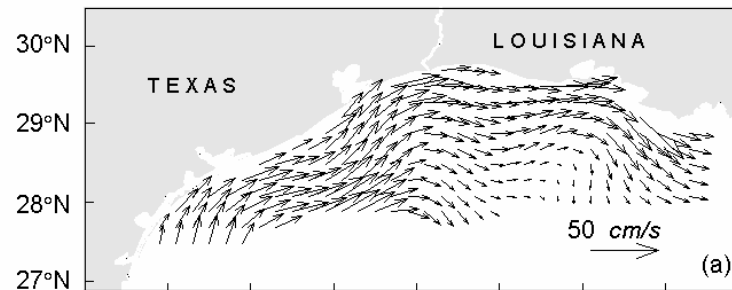
# Time Interval between Successive Current Reversals (not a Rare Event)

---

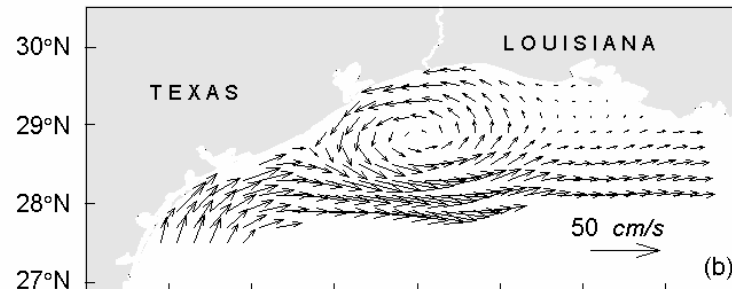
$$p(\tau) = \mu \exp(-\mu\tau)$$

# LTCS current reversal detected from the reconstructed velocity data

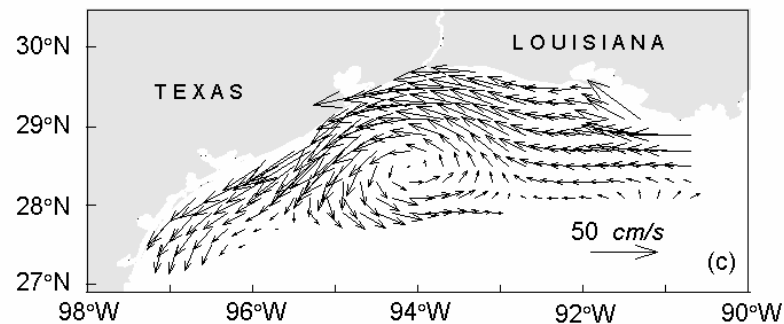
December 30, 1993



January 3, 1994



January 6, 1994





# EOF Analysis of the Reconstructed Velocity Filed

EOF	Variance (%)		
	01/21/93-05/21/93	12/19/93-04/17/94	10/05/94-11/29/94
1	80.2	77.1	74.4
2	10.1	9.5	9.3
3	3.9	5.6	6.9
4	1.4	3.3	4.6
5	1.1	1.4	2.3
6	0.7	1.1	0.8



## Mean and First EOF Mode

---

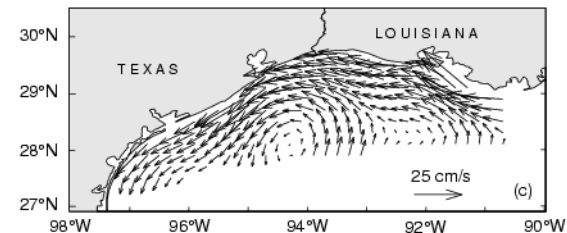
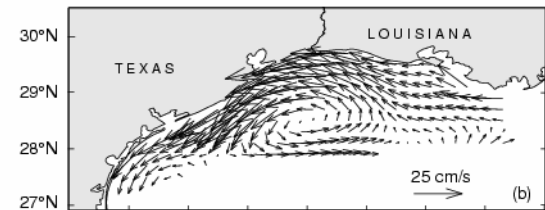
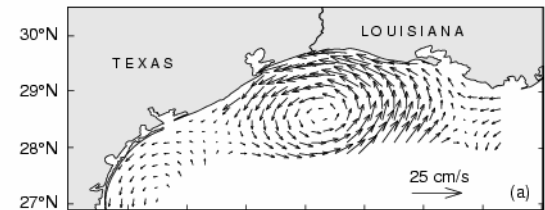
$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(x, y, t) = \bar{\mathbf{u}}(x, y) + A_1(t)\mathbf{u}_1(x, y),$$

# Mean Circulation

1. First Period  
(01/21-05/21/93)

2. Second Period  
12/19/93-  
04/17/94)

3. Third Period  
(10/05-11/29/94)



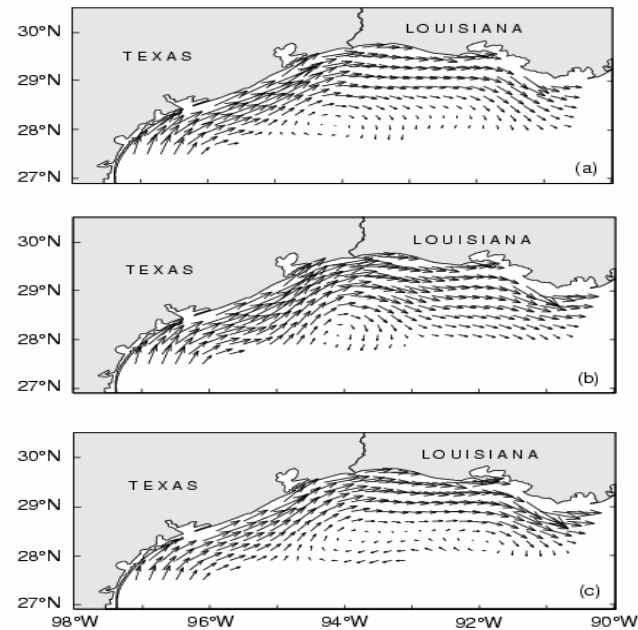
# EOF1

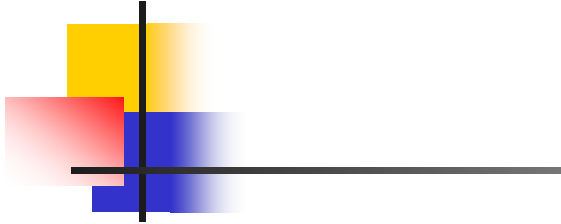


1. First Period  
(01/21-05/21/93)

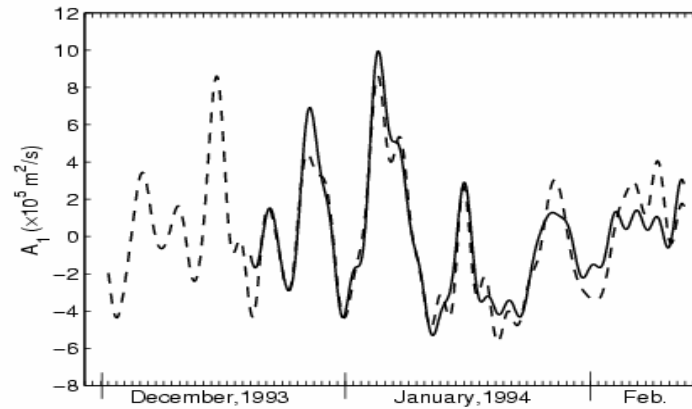
2. Second Period  
(12/19/93-04/17/94)

3. Third Period  
(10/05-11/29/94)





- Calculated  $A_1(t)$   
Using Current Meter  
Mooring (solid)  
and SCULP-1  
Drifters (dashed)



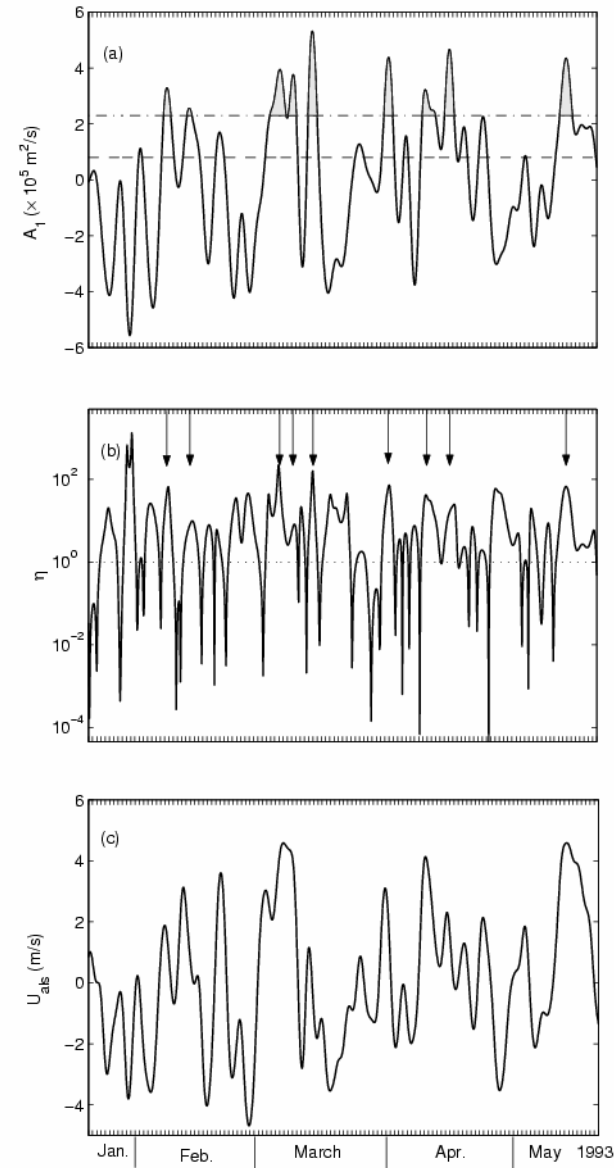




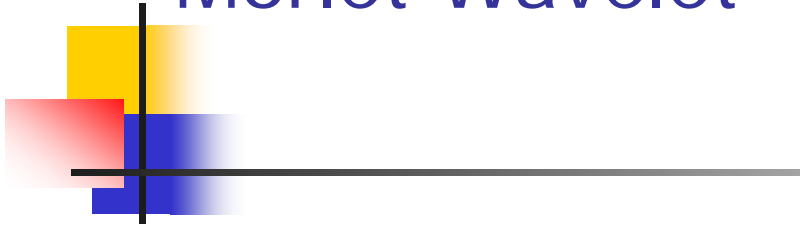
- 8 total reversals observed

$$\eta = A_1^2 / \sum_{n=2}^6 A_n^2$$

- $U_{als} \sim$  alongshore wind

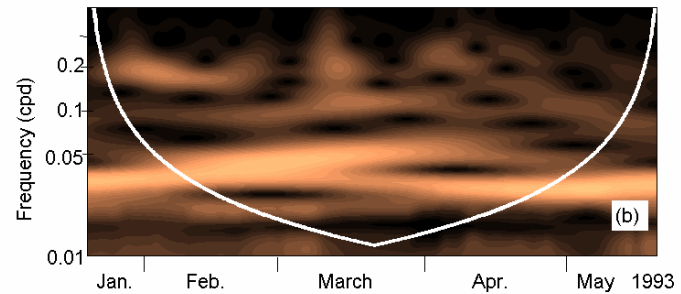
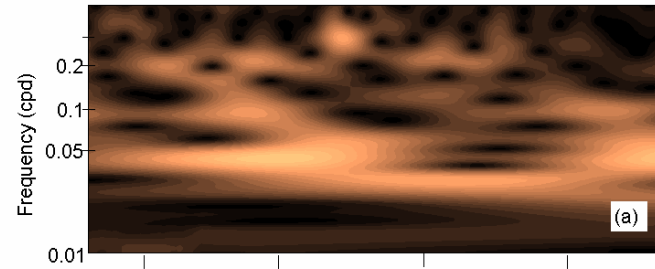


# Morlet Wavelet



■  $A_1(t)$

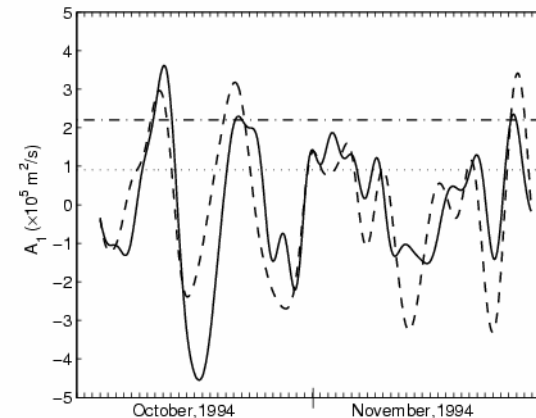
■  $U_{als}$



$$\Phi(t) = \pi^{-4} \exp(imt - t^2 / 2), \quad m = 6$$



- Regression between
  - $A_1(t)$  and Surface
  - Winds
- 
- Solid Curve  
(reconstructed)
  - Dashed Curve  
(predicted using  
winds)

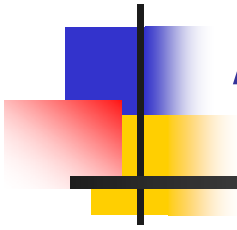


$$A_1(t) = \alpha[U(t) - \bar{U}] + \beta[V(t) - \bar{V}] + \gamma$$

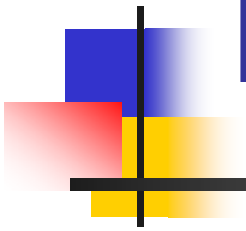
Part-3

Application in Modeling

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# How Long Can a Model Predict?





# References

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- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, T. M. Margolina, and O.V. Melnichenko, On probabilistic stability of an atmospheric model to various amplitude perturbations. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 59, 2860-2873.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, C.W. Fan, 2002: Backward Fokker-Planck equation for determining model valid prediction period. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 107, C6, 10.1029/2001JC000879.
- Chu, P.C., L. Ivanov, L. Kantha, O. Melnichenko, and Y. Poberezhny, 2002: Power law decay in model predictability skill. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 29 (15), 10.1029/2002GLO14891.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, L.H. Kantha, T.M. Margolina, and O.M. Melnichenko, and Y.A, Poberenzhny, 2004: Lagrangian predictability of high-resolution regional ocean models. *Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics*, 11, 47-66.



# Physical Reality

---

- $\mathbf{y}$
- Physical Law:  $d\mathbf{y}/dt = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{y}, t)$
- Initial Condition:  $\mathbf{y}(t_0) = \mathbf{y}_0$



# Atmospheric & Oceanic Models

---

- $\mathbf{X}$  is the prediction of  $\mathbf{Y}$
- $d\mathbf{X}/dt = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}, t) + q(t)\mathbf{X}$
- Initial Condition:  $\mathbf{X}(t_0) = \mathbf{X}_0$
- Stochastic Forcing:
  - $\langle q(t) \rangle = 0$
  - $\langle q(t)q(t') \rangle = q^2\delta(t-t')$





# Model Error

---



- $Z = X - Y$

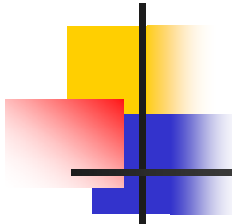
- Initial:  $Z_0 = X_0 - Y_0$



# Valid Prediction Period (VPP)

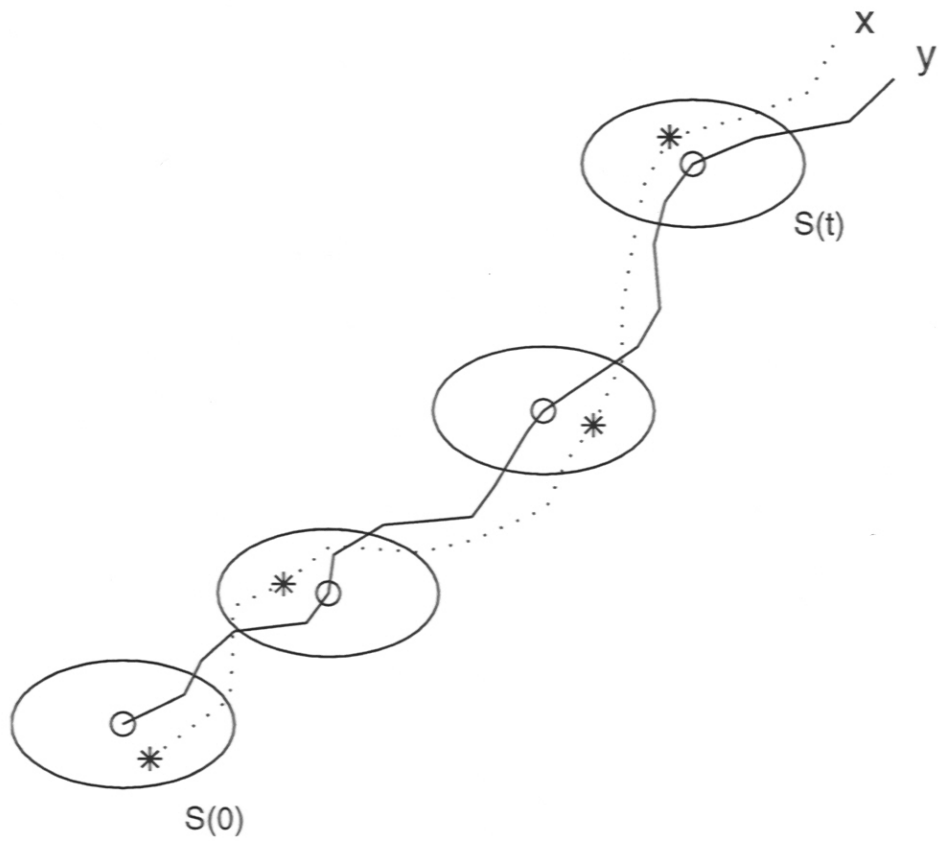
---

- VPP is defined as the time period when the prediction error first exceeds a pre-determined criterion (i.e., the tolerance level  $\varepsilon$ ).
- VPP is the First-Passage Time



# VPP

---





# Conditional Probability Density Function

---

- Initial Error:  $\mathbf{z}_0$
- $(t - t_0)$  ↗ Random Variable
- Conditional PDF of  $(t - t_0)$  with given  $\mathbf{z}_0$  ↗
  - $P[(t - t_0) | \mathbf{z}_0]$



# Two Approaches to Obtain PDF of VPP

---

- Analytical (Backward Fokker-Planck Equation)
- Practical (Optimum Spectral Analysis)



# Analytical Approach

---

Backward Fokker-Planck Equation



# Backward Fokker-Planck Equation

---

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} - [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}_0, t)] \frac{\partial P}{\partial \mathbf{z}_0} - \frac{1}{2} q^2 \mathbf{z}_0^2 \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \mathbf{z}_0 \partial \mathbf{z}_0} = 0$$

Model Physics

Stochastic Forcing



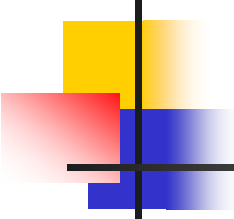
# Moments

---

$$\tau_1(\mathbf{z}_0) = \int_{t_0}^{\infty} P(t_0, \mathbf{z}_0, t - t_0)(t - t_0) dt$$

$$\tau_2(\mathbf{z}_0) = \int_{t_0}^{\infty} P(t_0, \mathbf{z}_0, t - t_0)(t - t_0)^2 dt$$





## Example: One Dimensional Error (Nicolis 1992), Population (ecology), or General Production (economics) Models

---

- 1D Dynamical System (Maximum Growing Manifold of Lorenz System)

$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = (\sigma - g\xi^2) + v(t)\xi, \quad 0 \leq \xi < \infty$$

$$\langle v(t) \rangle = 0, \quad \langle v(t)v(t') \rangle = q^2 \delta(t-t').$$

$$\sigma = 0.64, \quad g = 0.3, \quad q^2 = 0.2.$$



# Mean and Variance of VPP

---

$$(\sigma\xi_0 - g\xi_0^2) \frac{d\tau_1}{d\xi_0} + \frac{q^2\xi_0^2}{2} \frac{d^2\tau_1}{d\xi_0^2} = -1$$

$$(\sigma\xi_0 - g\xi_0^2) \frac{d\tau_2}{d\xi_0} + \frac{q^2\xi_0^2}{2} \frac{d^2\tau_2}{d\xi_0^2} = -2\tau_1$$

$$\tau_1 = 0, \quad \tau_2 = 0 \quad \text{for } \xi_0 = \varepsilon.$$

$$\frac{d\tau_1}{d\xi_0} = 0, \quad \frac{d\tau_2}{d\xi_0} = 0 \quad \text{for } \xi_0 = \xi_{\text{noise}}.$$



# Analytical Solutions

---

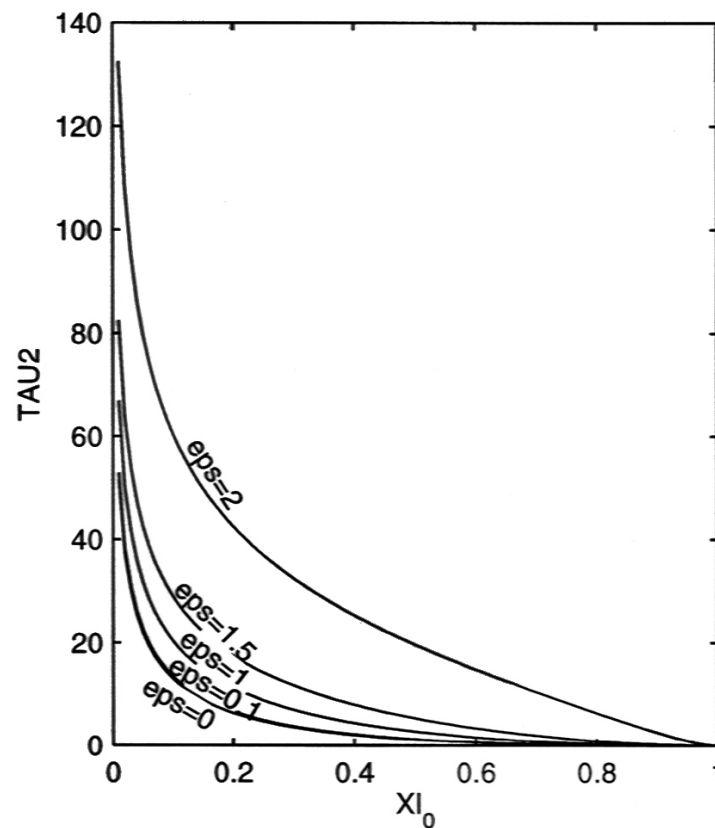
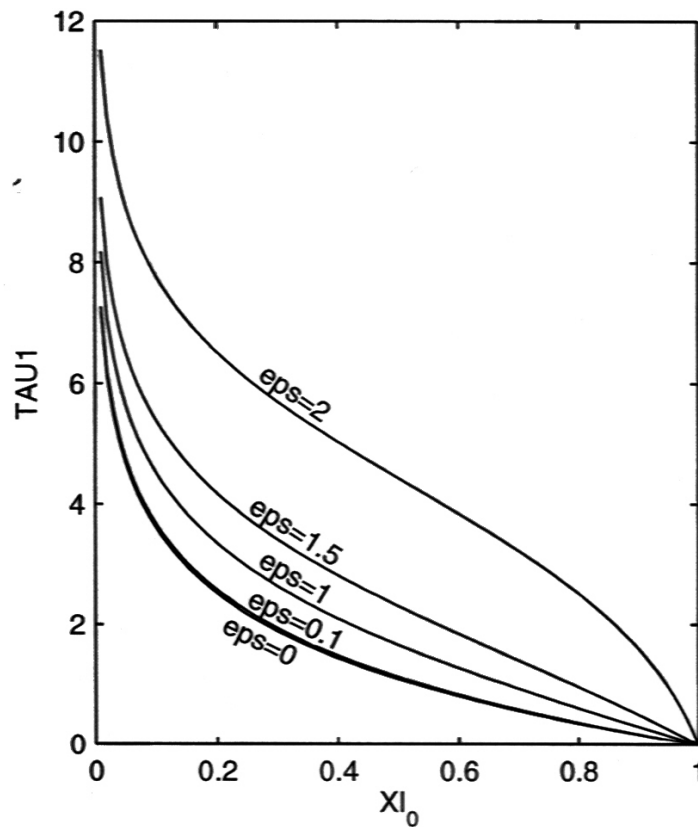
$$\tau_1(\bar{\xi}_0, \bar{\xi}_{noise}, \varepsilon) = \frac{2}{q^2} \int_{\bar{\xi}_0}^1 y^{-\frac{2\sigma}{q^2}} \exp\left(\frac{2\varepsilon g}{q^2} y\right) \left[ \int_{\bar{\xi}_{noise}}^y x^{\frac{2\sigma}{q^2}-2} \exp\left(-\frac{2\varepsilon g}{q^2} x\right) dx \right] dy$$

$$\tau_2(\bar{\xi}_0, \bar{\xi}_{noise}, \varepsilon) = \frac{4}{q^2} \int_{\bar{\xi}_0}^1 y^{-\frac{2\sigma}{q^2}} \exp\left(\frac{2\varepsilon g}{q^2} y\right) \left[ \int_{\bar{\xi}_{noise}}^y \tau_1(x) x^{\frac{2\sigma}{q^2}-2} \exp\left(-\frac{2\varepsilon g}{q^2} x\right) dx \right] dy$$

$$\bar{\xi}_0 = \xi_0 / \varepsilon,$$

$$\bar{\xi}_{noise} = \xi_{noise} / \varepsilon$$

# Dependence of tau1 & tau2 on Initial Condition Error ( $\xi_0/\varepsilon$ )





# Practical Approach

---

Optimum Spectral Decomposition  
(OSD)

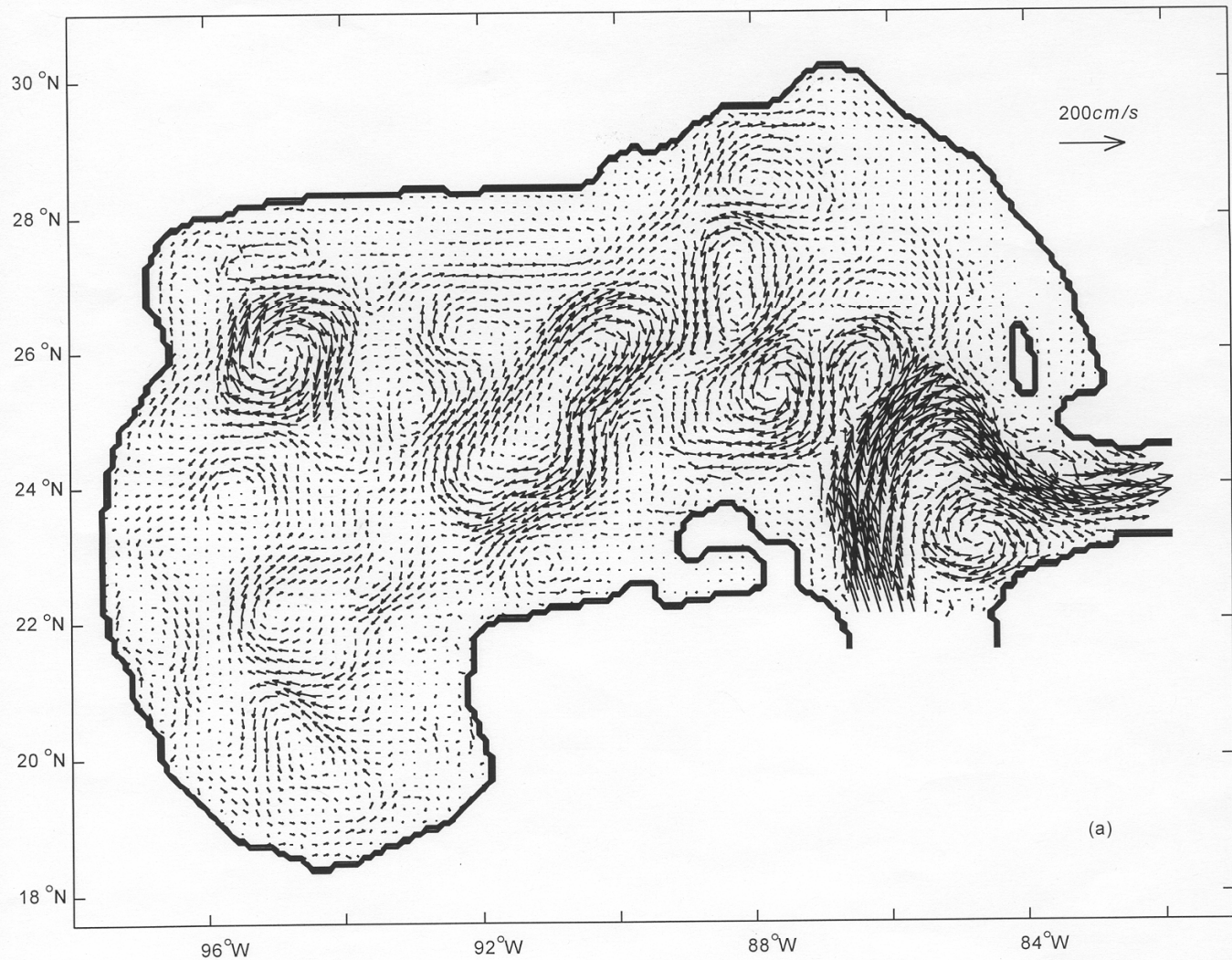


# Gulf of Mexico Forecast System

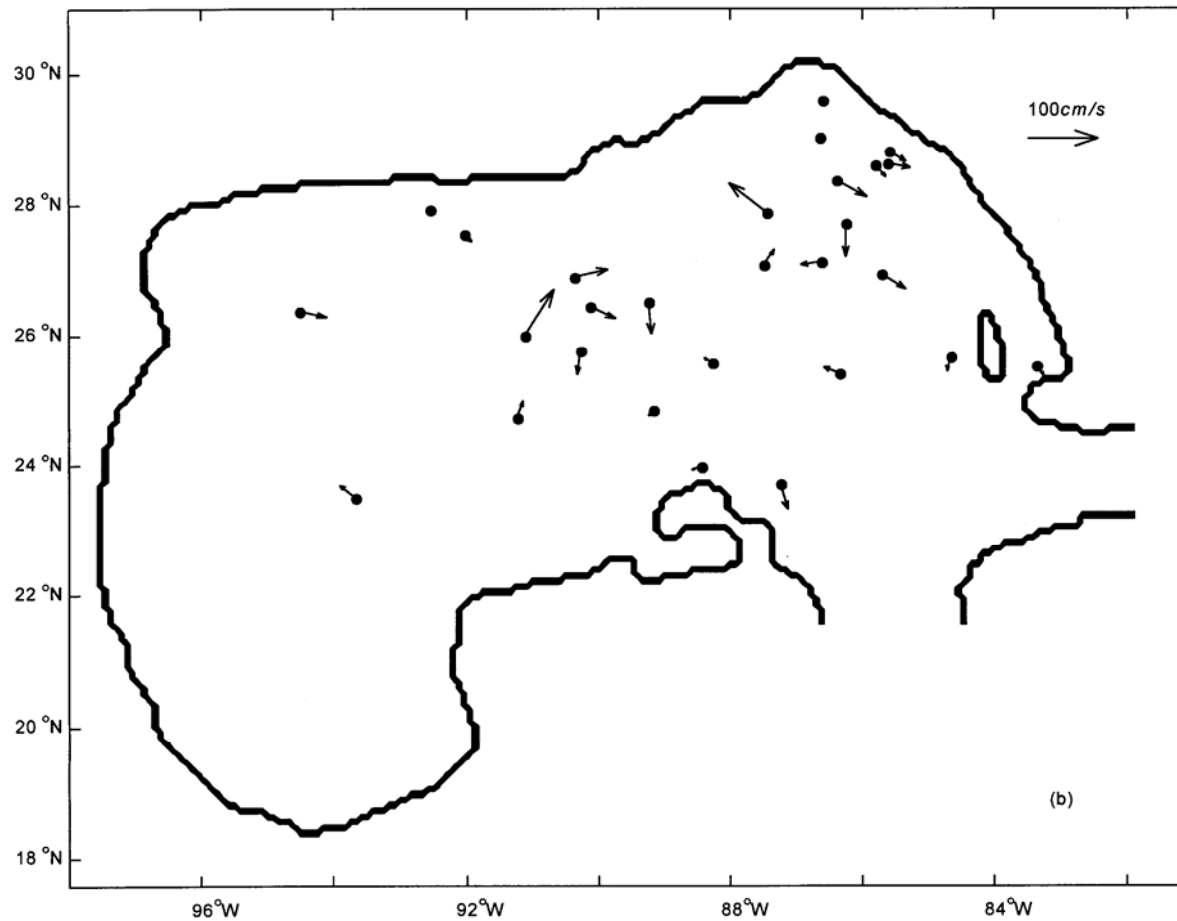
---

- University of Colorado Version of POM
- 1/12° Resolution
- Real-Time SSH Data (TOPEX, ESA ERS-1/2) Assimilated
- Real Time SST Data (MCSST, NOAA AVHRR) Assimilated
- Six Months Four-Times Daily Data From July 9, 1998 for Verification

# Model Generated Velocity Vectors at 50 m on 00:00 July 9, 1998

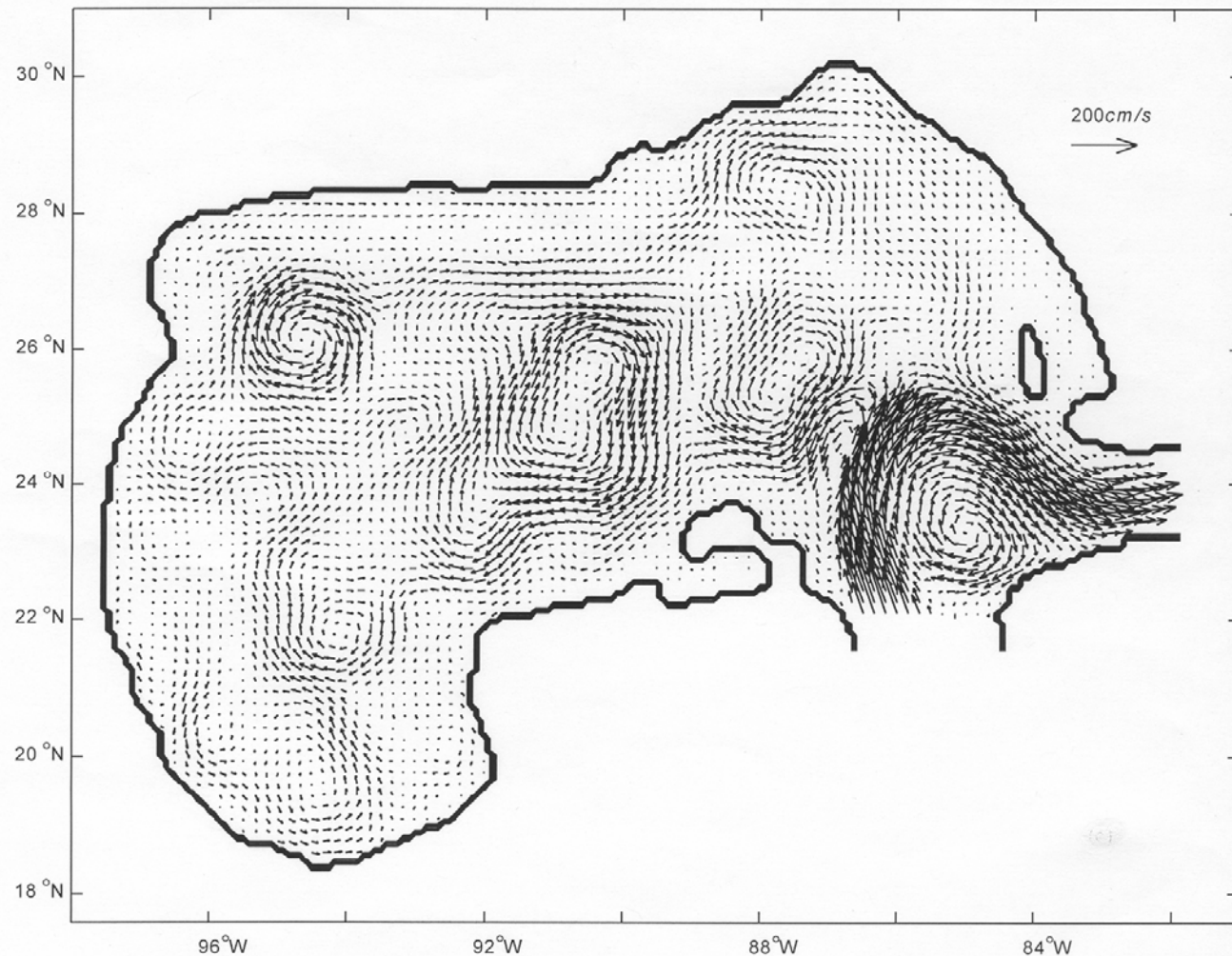


# (Observational) Drifter Data at 50 m on 00:00 July 9, 1998





Reconstructed Drift Data at 50 m on  
00:00 July 9, 1998 Using the OSD Method  
(Chu et al. 2002 a, b, JTECH)





# Error Mean and Variance

---

Error Mean

$$\mathbf{L}_1 = \langle \mathbf{z} \rangle$$

Error Variance

$$\mathbf{L}_2 = \langle (\mathbf{z} - \langle \mathbf{z} \rangle)^t (\mathbf{z} - \langle \mathbf{z} \rangle) \rangle$$



# Exponential Error Growth

---

$$L_1 \propto e^{\sigma t}, \quad L_2 \propto e^{\omega t},$$

Classical Linear Theory

No Long-Term Predictability



# Power Law

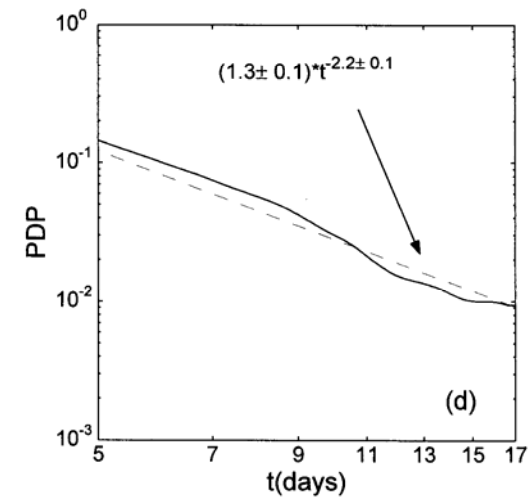
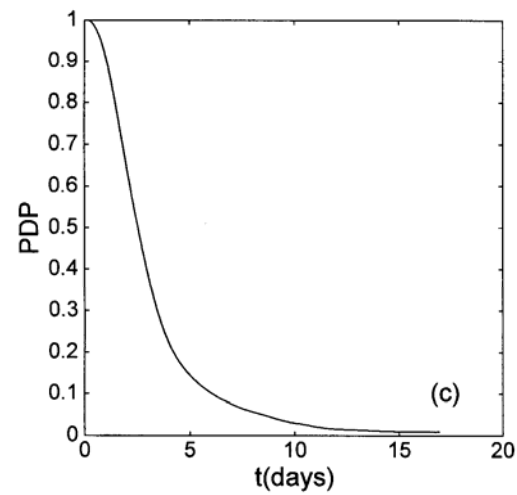
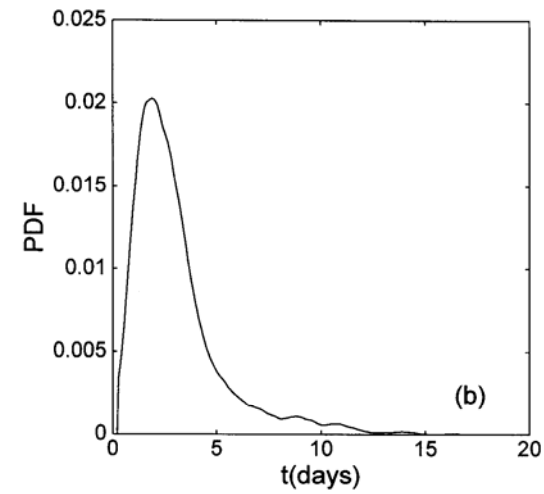
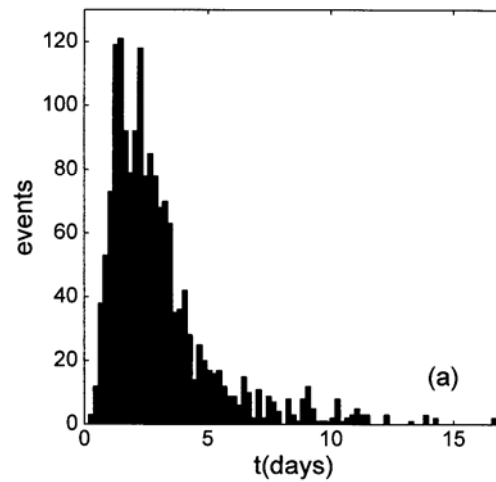
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$$L_1 \propto t^\alpha, \quad L_2 \propto t^\beta,$$

$$P(t_0, \mathbf{z}_0, \varepsilon, t - t_0) \sim t^{-\gamma} \quad \text{for large } t.$$

Long-Term Predictability May Occur

# Statistical Characteristics of VPP



# Predictability Tube

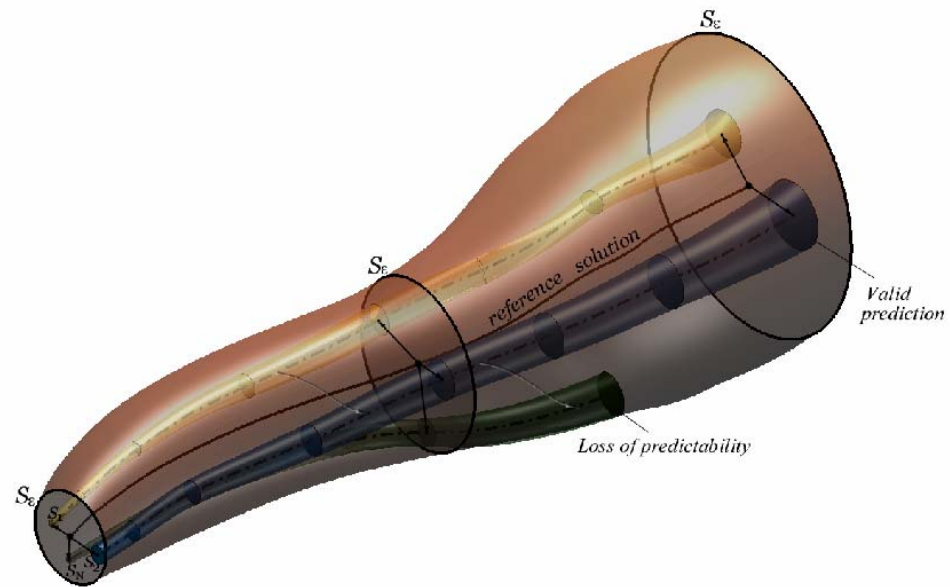


Fig. 31



# Conclusions

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- OSD is a useful tool for processing real-time velocity data with short duration and limited-area sampling.
- The scheme can handle highly noisy data.
- The scheme is model independent.
- The scheme can be used for velocity data assimilation.
- Phase Space Consideration