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Rossby Wave Eq.
(same as before)

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} - \alpha^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial y^2} \right) - \beta_0 \alpha^2 \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0$$

solutions of the form $\eta \propto \exp[i(lx + my - \omega t)]$
gives

$$-i\omega - \alpha^2 (-i\omega) [(il^2)^2 + (im^2)^2] - \beta_0 \alpha^2 \frac{il}{-i} = 0$$

$$\omega [1 - \alpha^2 (-\omega) (l^2 + m^2)] + \beta_0 \alpha^2 l = 0$$

Rossby
Wave
Dispersion

$$\omega = \frac{-\beta_0 \alpha^2 l}{1 + \alpha^2 (l^2 + m^2)} = \frac{-\beta_0 l}{\alpha^{-2} + (l^2 + m^2)} \quad \begin{matrix} m=0 \\ \downarrow \\ = \frac{-\beta_0 l}{\alpha^{-2} + l^2} \end{matrix}$$

$$c_x = \frac{\omega}{l} = -\frac{\beta_0 \alpha^2}{1 + \alpha^2 (l^2 + m^2)}$$

always negative
that is westward phase
propagation ALWAYS

fastest possible phase speed for $(\alpha^2 k_H)^2 \ll 1$ or $\alpha^2 \ll k_H^{-2}$ long waves
is

$$c_{max} = -\beta_0 \alpha^2 = -\frac{\beta_0}{f_0^2} gH \approx 10 \text{ m/s} \quad \text{in } 1000 \text{ m of water}$$

$$\beta_0 = \frac{2\Omega \cos \phi}{R} \approx \frac{7.292 \cdot 2 \cdot \cos \phi}{6300 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}} \approx \frac{f_0}{6 \times 10^6} \approx 10^{-11} \text{ m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{\beta_0}{f_0^2} \approx \frac{10^{-11} \text{ m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}}{10^{-8} \text{ s}^{-2}} \approx 10^{-3} \text{ m}^{-1} \text{ s} \quad c = \sqrt{gH} \approx 100 \text{ m/s} \quad \frac{\beta_0 \cdot c^2}{f_0^2} \approx 10^{-3} \text{ m}^{-1} \text{ s} \cdot \frac{10^4 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2}}{\text{s}^2} \approx 10 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\omega = - \frac{\beta_0 R^2}{1 + R^2 k_H^2} k$$

$$1 + R^2 k_H^2$$

$R = a = \sqrt{gH}/f$ Rossby Radius

$$(ak)^2 \gg 1 \quad \text{or} \quad a \gg k_H^{-1} \quad \text{short waves}$$

$$\omega \approx - \beta_0 \frac{k}{k_H^2}$$

$$\omega \approx - \beta_0 \left(\frac{k}{k^2 + l^2} \right)$$

$$(ak)^2 \ll 1 \quad \text{or} \quad a \ll k_H^{-1} \quad \text{long waves}$$

$$\omega \approx - \beta_0 R^2 k$$

$$c_p = \frac{\omega}{k} = - \beta_0 R^2 \quad \text{non-dispersive}$$

$$c_x = \frac{\omega}{k} = - \beta_0 R^2$$

$$c_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = - \beta_0 R^2 = c_p$$

Discuss Dispersion Relations

1. All Rossby waves propagate their phase to the West;
2. Mexican Hat for $\omega = \omega(k, l)$
3. $\omega = \omega(k, l=0)$
4. For each frequency ω , there exists both a short and a long wave;
5. Long waves are non-dispersive, i.e., phase velocity is the same for all such waves;
6. Short waves are dispersive, i.e., phase velocity varies with wave numbers;
7. A maximal frequency exists at which the eastward component of the group velocity is zero;
8. Long waves propagate their energy to the West (negative group velocity);
9. Short waves propagate their energy to the East (positive group velocity);
10. Group and phase velocities can always have components to the North or South.