

# The Generation and Dissipation of a Solitonic Wave that Travels in the Reverse Direction to the Flow in the Saint John River Estuary, New Brunswick Canada

by

Nicole Delpeche

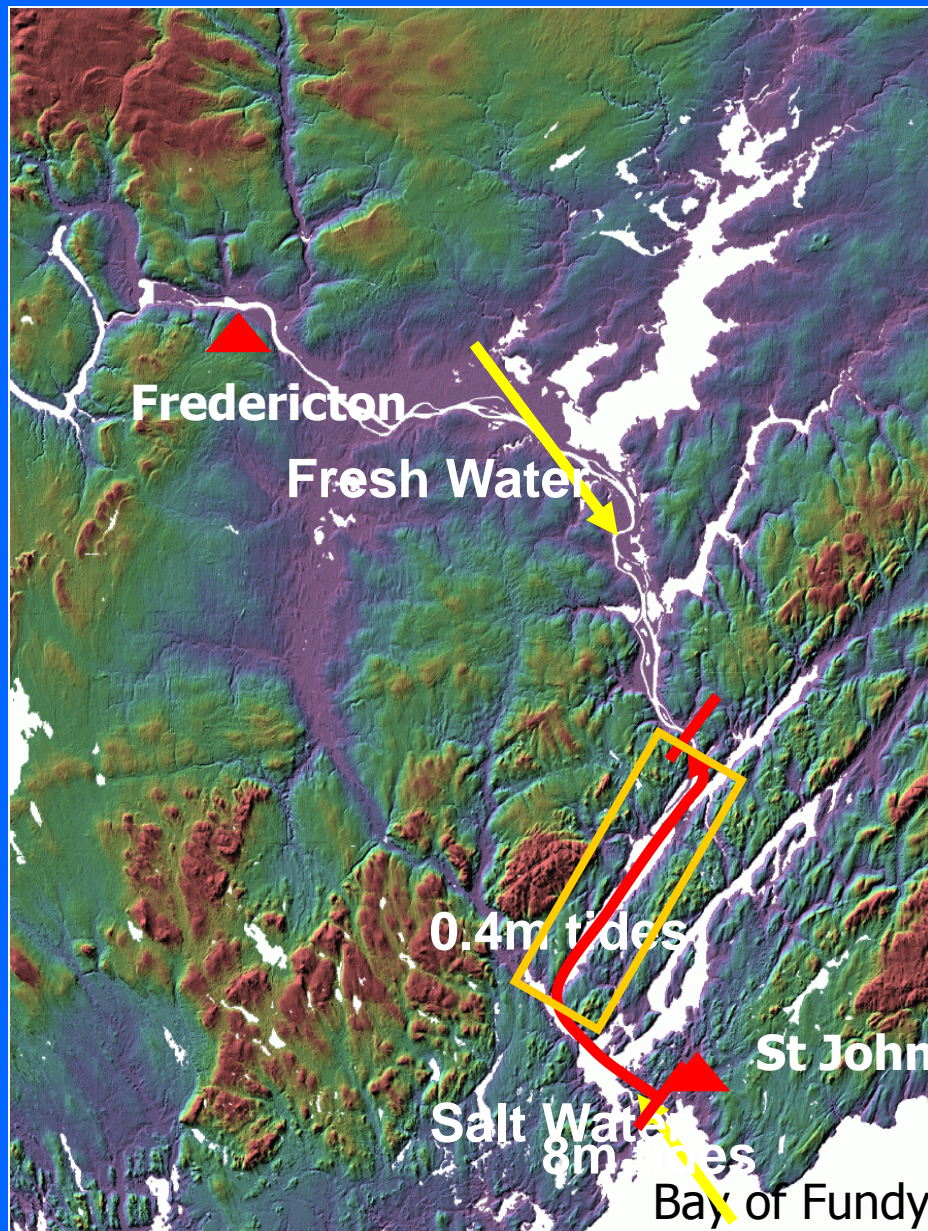
Collaborators: John Hughes Clarke and Susan Haigh

University of New Brunswick Canada (Ocean Mapping Group)

Waves Engineering Group

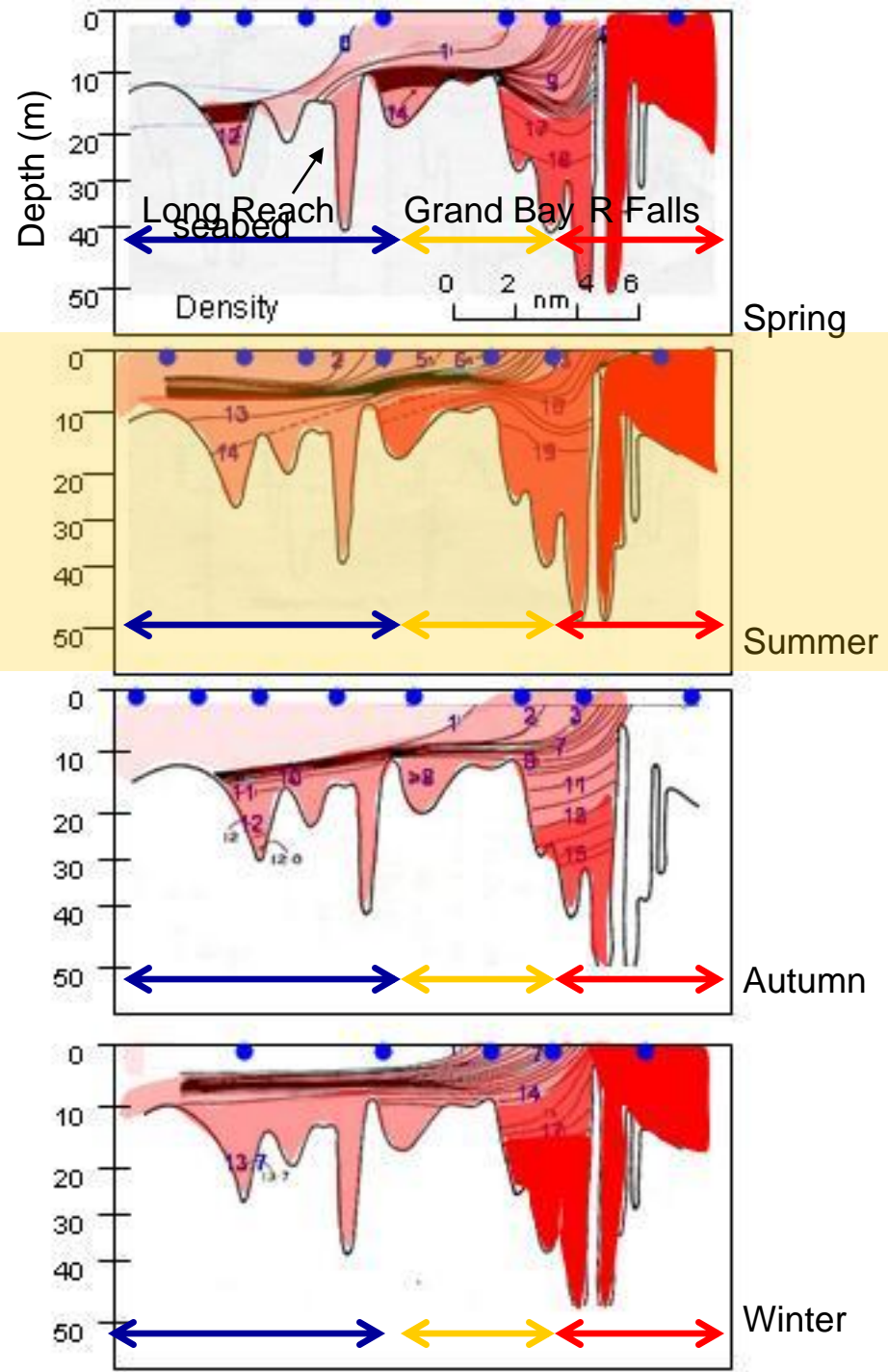
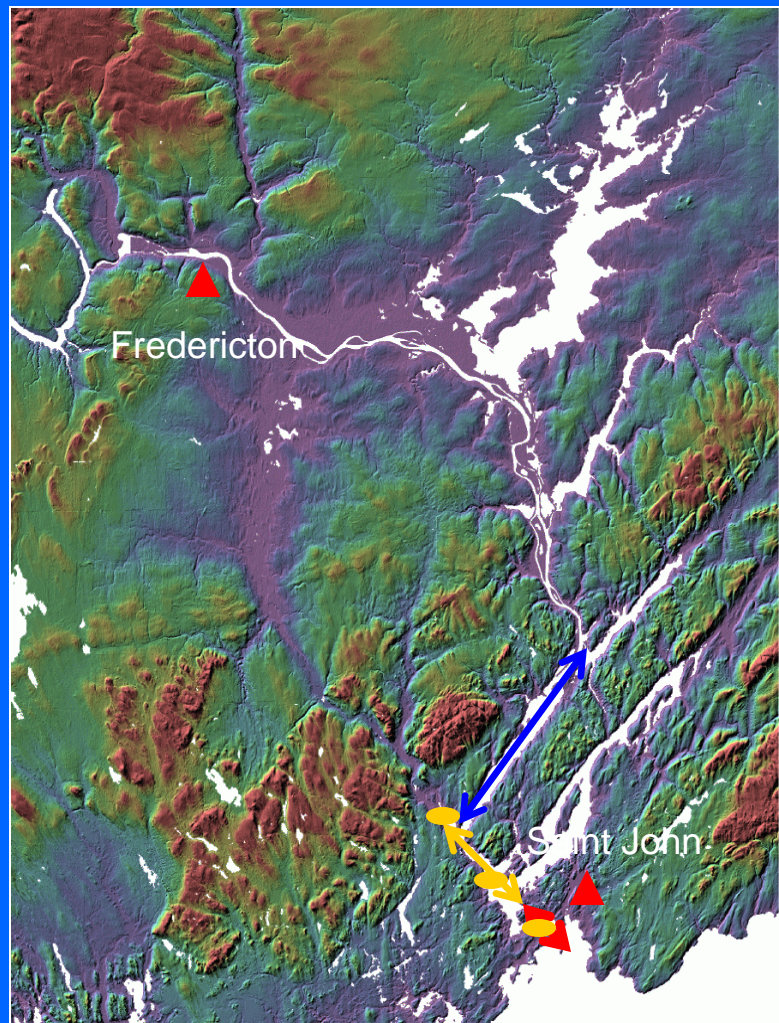
Institute of Cybernetics

Tallinn University of Technology



# Previous Research

Trites, R.W. (1959)  
Metcalf, C. et al. (1976)



# Interfacial Mixing

- Three known types of internal waves contributes to turbulent interfacial mixing

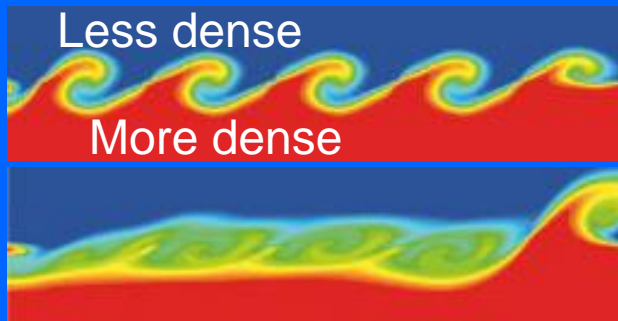
- Kelvin-Helmholtz

SHEAR, STRATIFICATION

Kelvin-Helmholtz

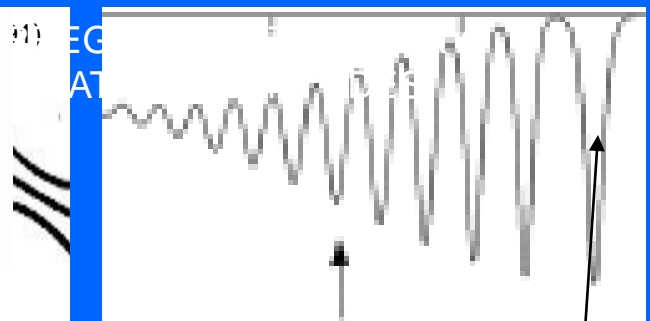
Holmboe

Soliton wave packets



$$Ri = \frac{g \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z}}{\rho \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}\right)^2}$$

Dyer (1997)



Leading wave



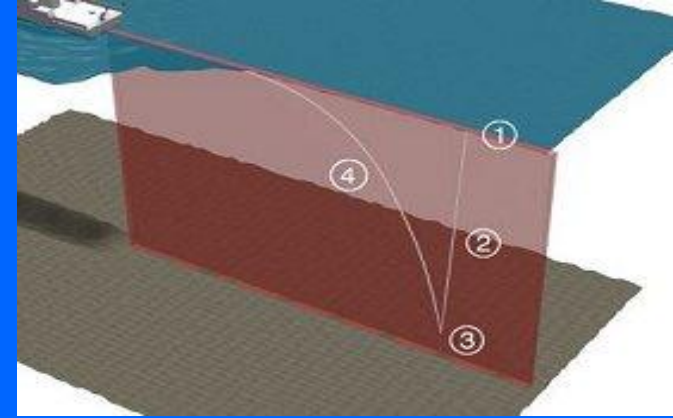
200 kHz  
echosounder

ADCP

CTD

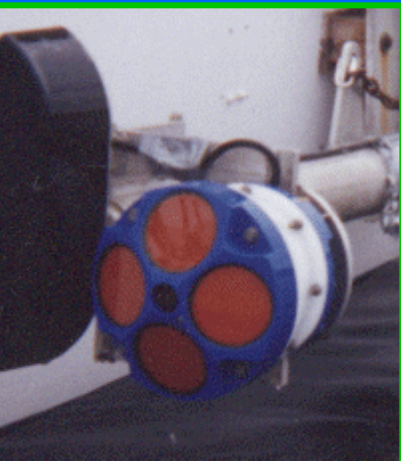
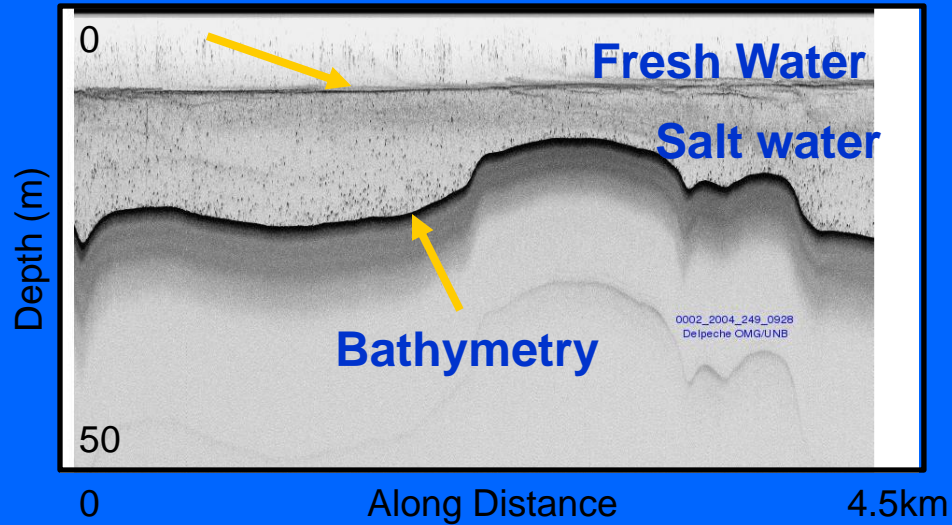
# Survey Sensors

V. Resolution = 0.1m →  
H. Resolution = 400 m



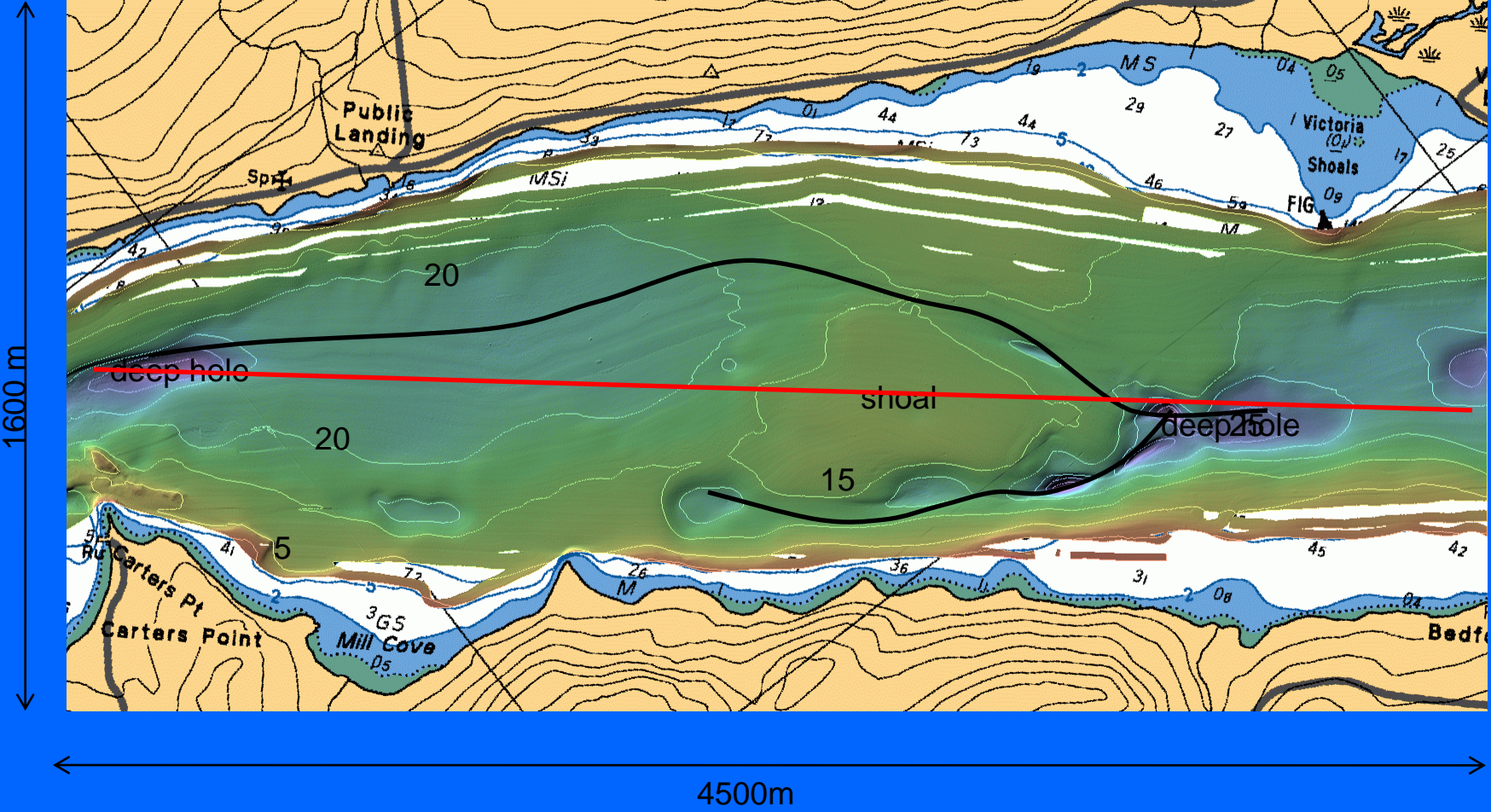
V. Resolution = 0.07 m.  
H. Resolution = 0.5 m

**pycnocline**



← V. Resolution = 0.5 m  
H. Resolution = 4 m

# Bathymetry

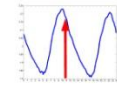
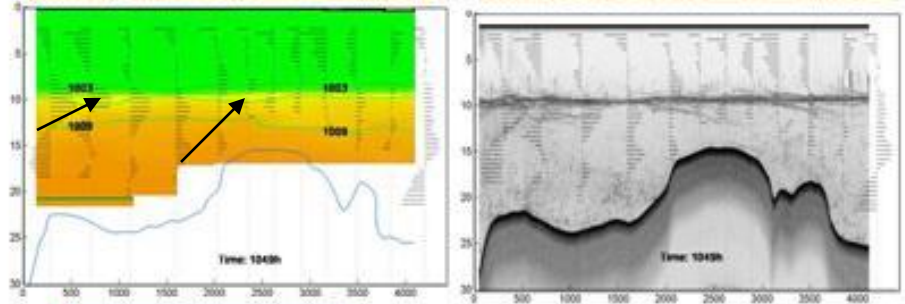
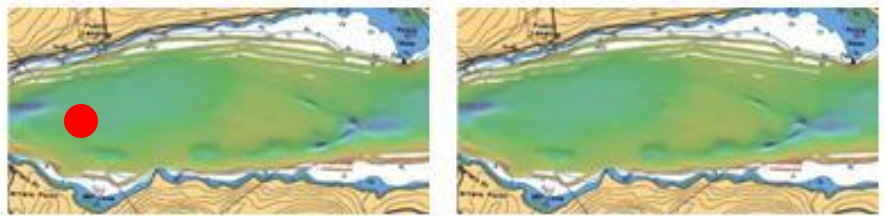
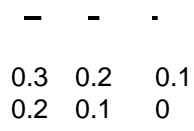


Density  $\text{kg/m}^3$



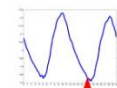
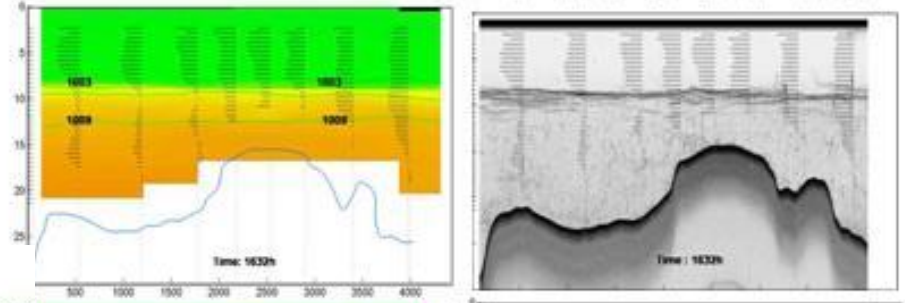
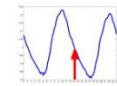
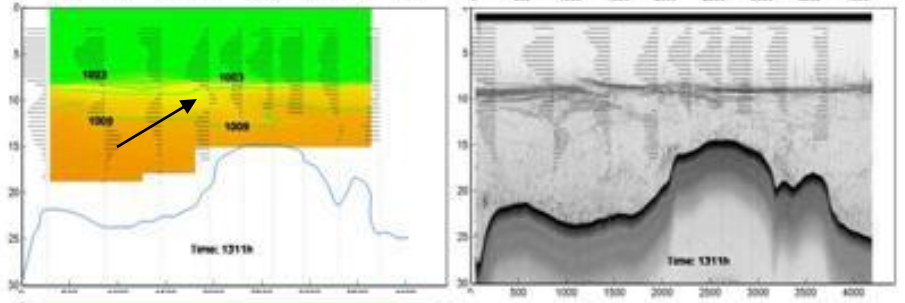
1009 1008 1002  
1012 1003 998

Velocity m/s



density

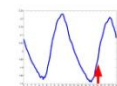
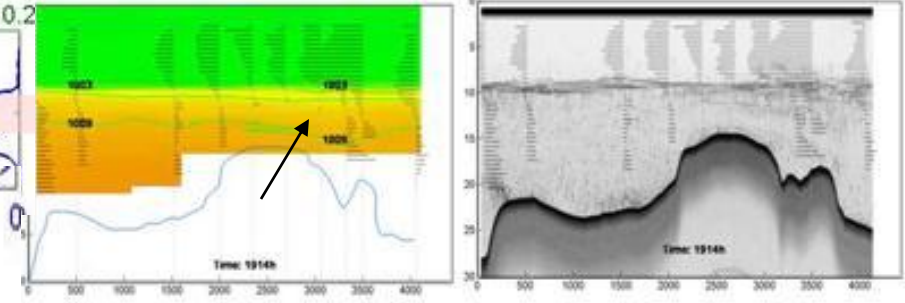
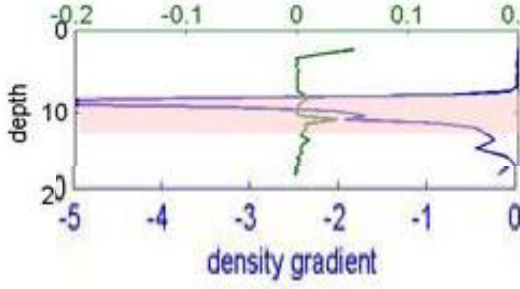
acoustic backscatter



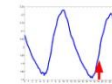
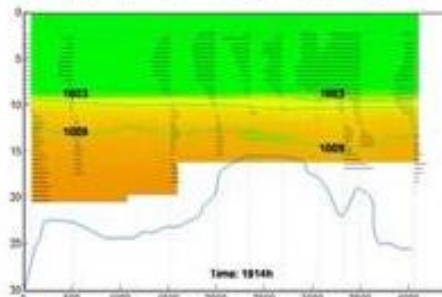
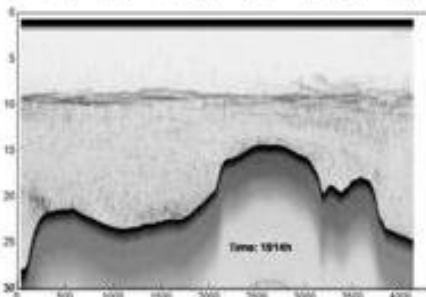
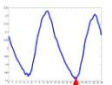
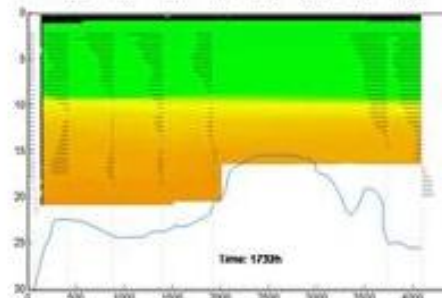
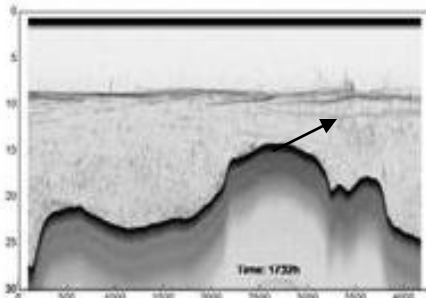
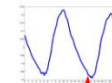
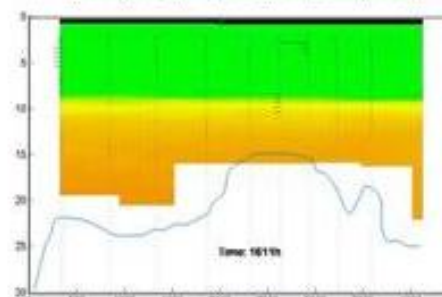
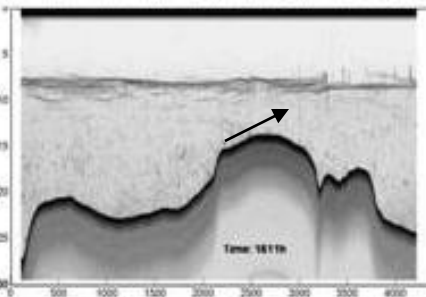
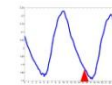
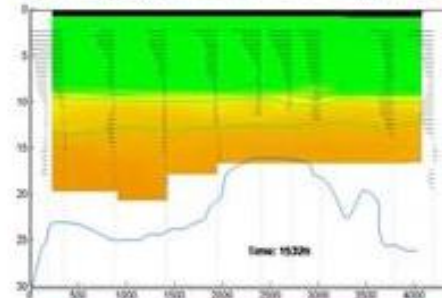
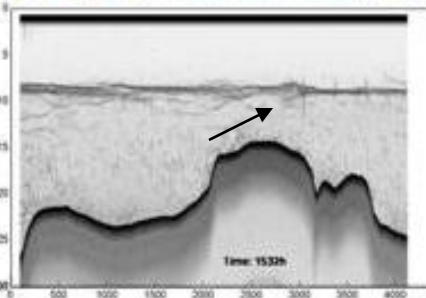
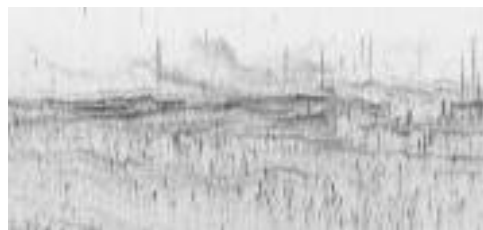
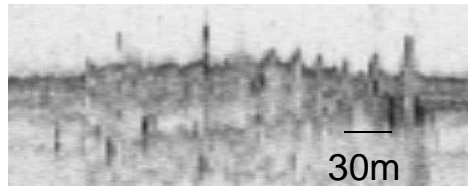
Gradient Richardson Number

$$0 < RI < 1$$

velocity gradient



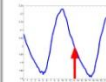
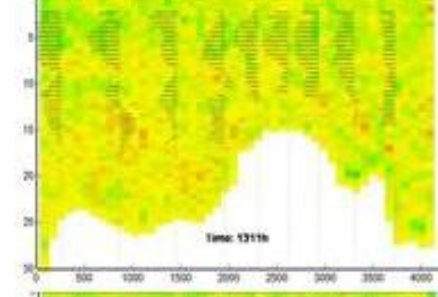
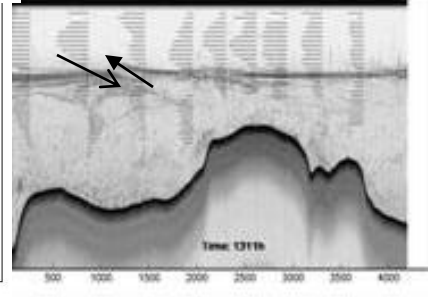
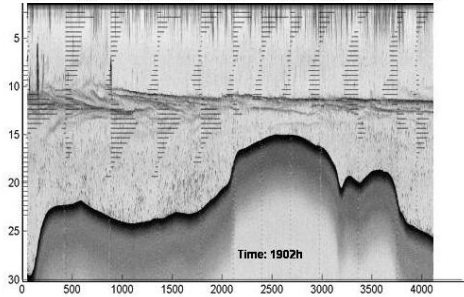
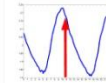
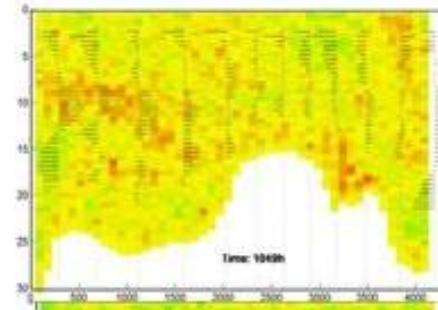
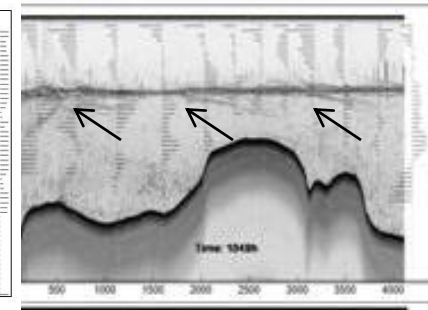
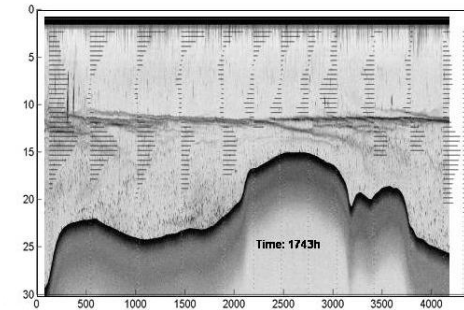
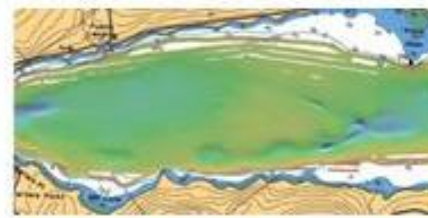
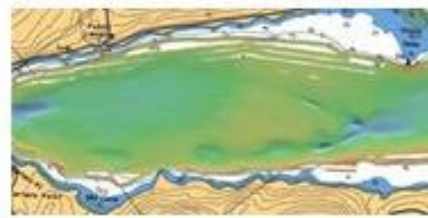
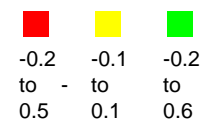




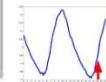
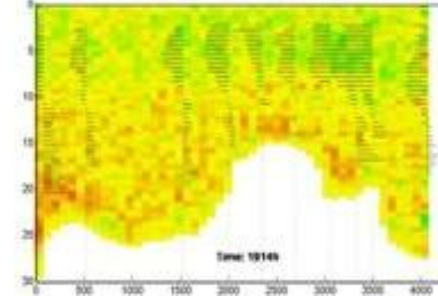
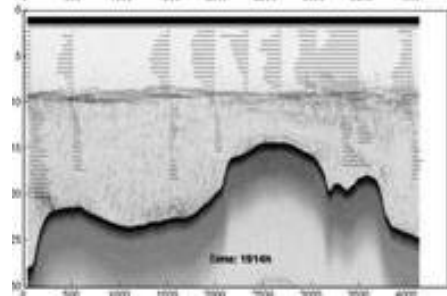
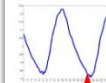
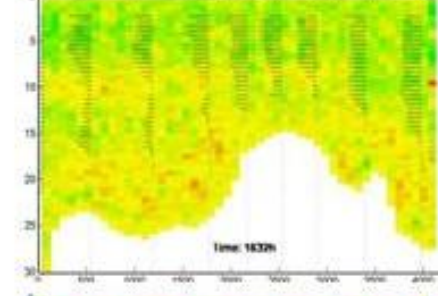
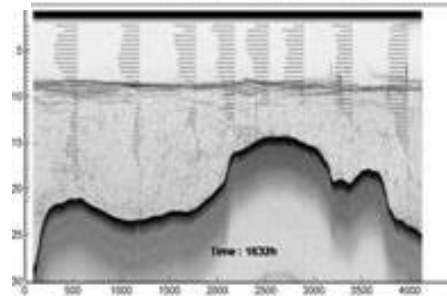
# Mixing

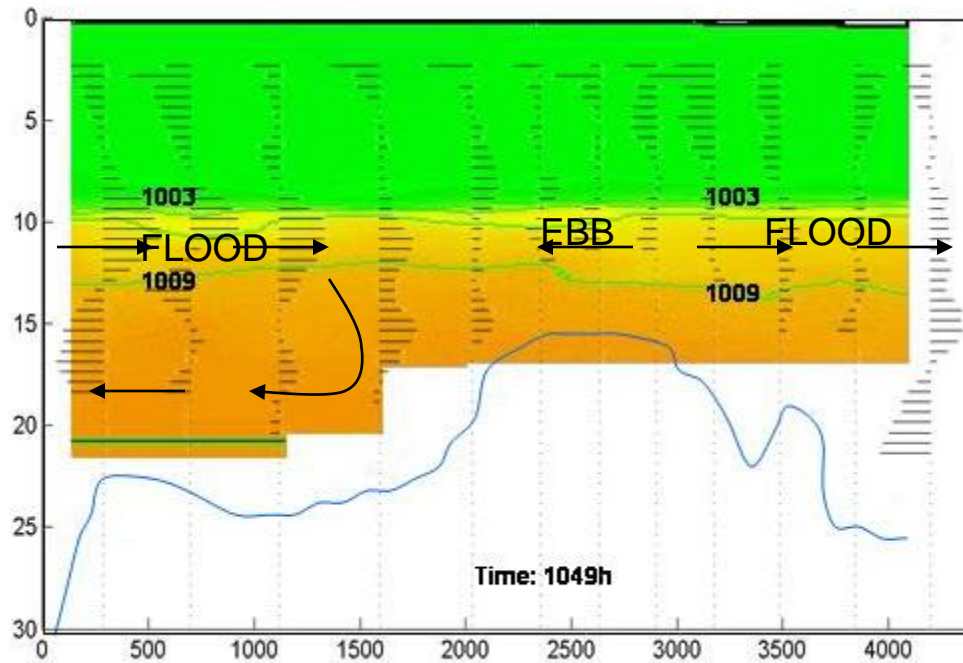
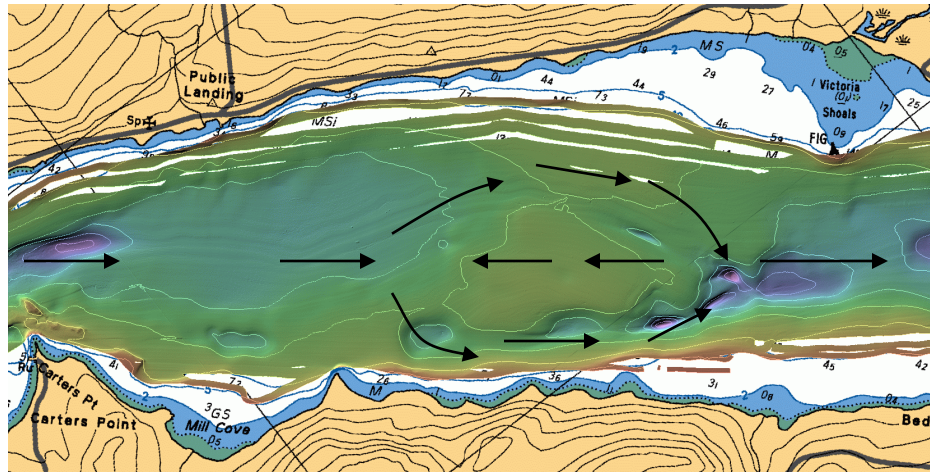
- Decrease in density observed at 500m (downstream of shoal) at high tide and at the 3000m marker (upstream of sill) at rising into high tide
- Gradient Richardson number calculated for  $0 < Ri < 1$
- Mixing was found to be occurring at the 500m marker
- Internal wave observed to diminish at the 3000m marker at neap tides. When this occurred the decrease in density took place
- For spring tides the internal wave did not appear. The decrease in density at the 3000m marker did not occur

Velocity m/s



velocity





# Conclusion

- At neap tides the soliton wave packet that develops upstream of the shoal appears to contribute to the decrease in density observed upstream
- Two contrasting circulation pattern appears to develop downstream and upstream of the shoal. The circulation pattern appears to be influenced by the bathymetry of the area
- The over-riding phenomena observed from the acoustic backscatter images appears to be influenced by the less dense water riding on top of more dense water.

# Questions