Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 8, 00784, 2006 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU06-A-00784 © European Geosciences Union 2006



Field observations of internal solitary wave run-up on a slope

M. Blokhina (1), D. Bourgault (1), R. Mirshak (2), D. Kelley (2)

(1) Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, (2) Dalhousie University, Canada, (marina@physics.mun.ca)

The development of an internal solitary wave train (ISW) shoaling on a sloping bottom is studied by field sampling on the flank of an island in the St. Lawrence Estuary, and with 2D non-hydrostatic numerical simulations. Observations made by moored ADCPs and a towed echosounder yield a detailed picture of the evolution of the train, in particular the transformation of the leading wave into a wave of elevation and its subsequent dissipation. The wave properties (amplitude, wavelength, phase speed, energy) are compared with the results of 2D non-hydrostatic numerical simulations. The kinetic and available potential energy of the wave as it propagates up-slope are inferred from the numerical simulations. Our analysis combining field observations and numerical results allowed us to estimate the dissipation rate of the wave energy.