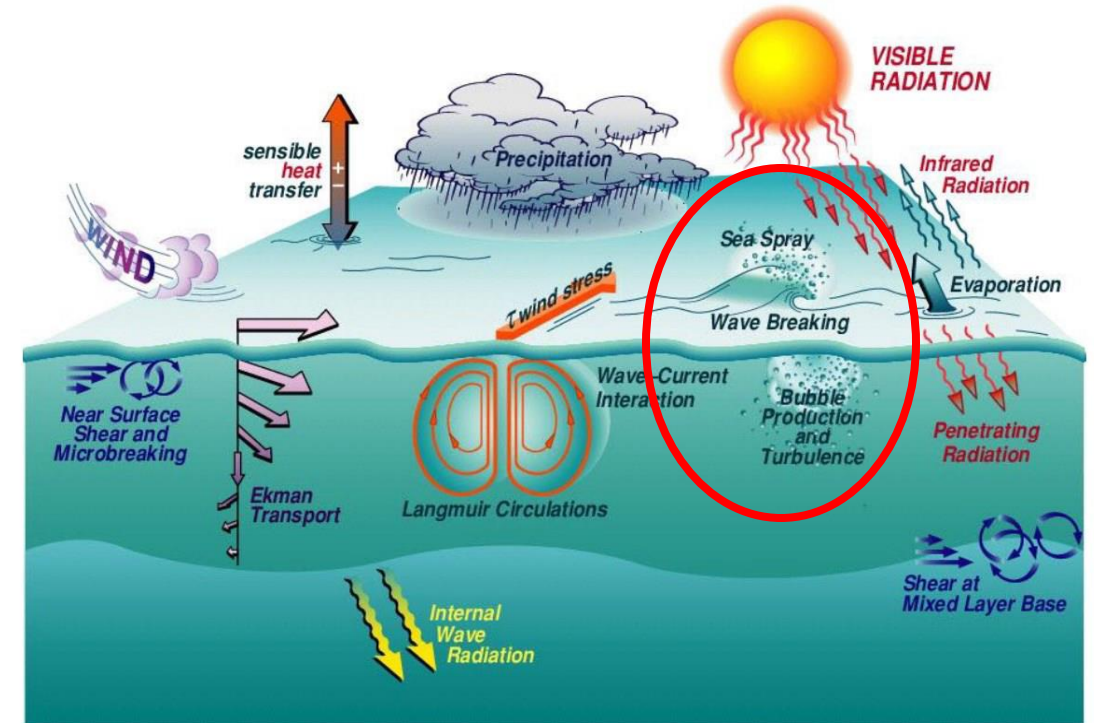


IMPERIAL

Coupled 2-D HOS-Basilisk simulations of multiple breaking waves in dispersively-focused wave groups

Canwei Jin; Adrian Callaghan; John Craske
08/07/2025

Breaking Waves

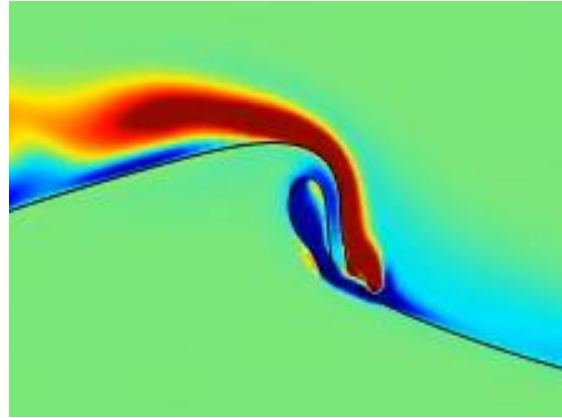


- Limit wave height
- Balance wind input
- Extreme wave load
- Enhance mass, momentum, energy transfer

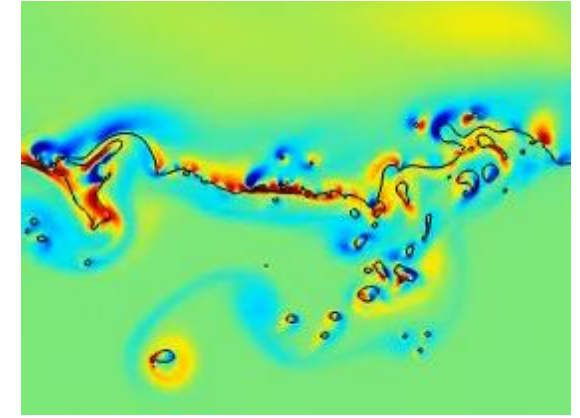
A Multiple-Scale Problem



Wind Wave Field
 $O(1\text{km} - 100\text{km})$



Individual Breaking Wave
 $O(0.1\text{m} - 10\text{m})$



Bubbles and Droplets
 $O(0.1\mu\text{m} - 1\text{cm})$

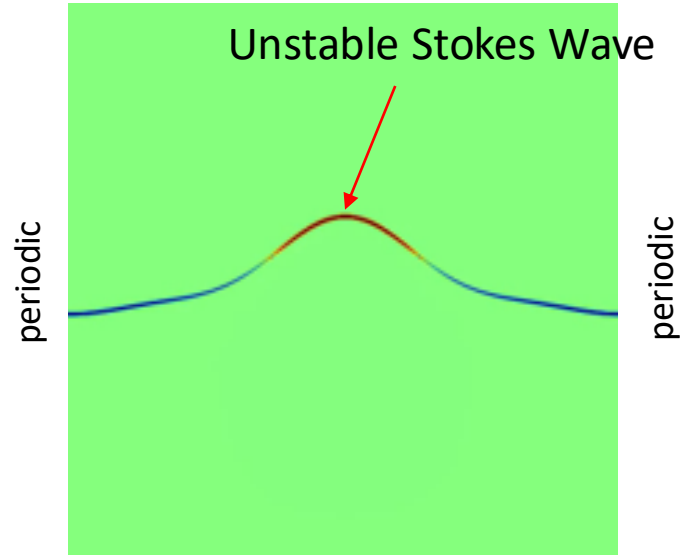
Evolution of wave field:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} + C_g \cdot \nabla F = S_{in} + S_{nl} + S_{diss}$$

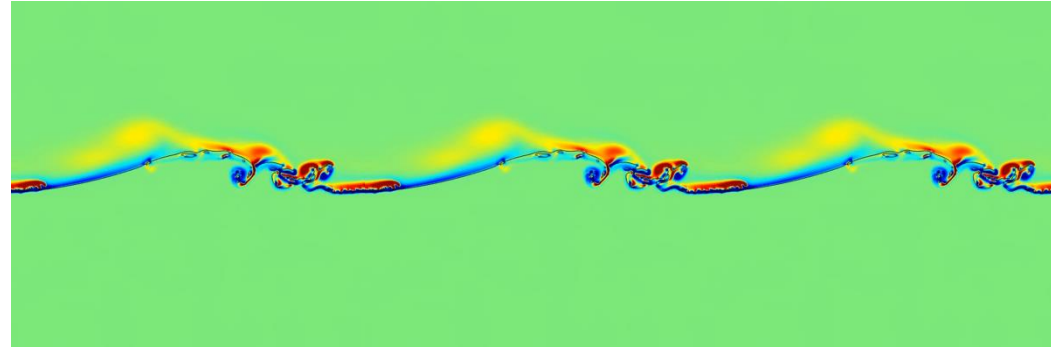
Least Understood
Dominated by Breaking Waves

F : energy density spectrum

Most Direct Numerical Simulation: Unstable Stokes Wave



e.g. Deike 2015, 2016



Unstable initial condition: practical mechanism leading to breaking

Close breaking wave interval: interact during active breaking

How to create a more realistic breaking wave ?

A More Realistic Breaking Wave: Dispersively-focused Wave

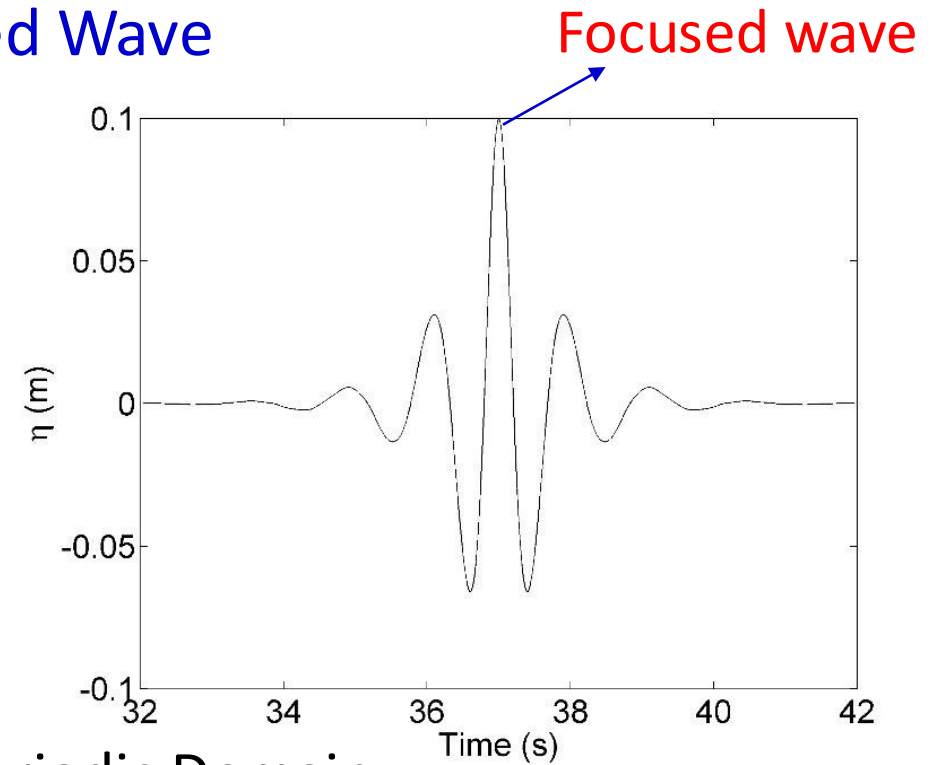
$$\eta = \sum a_i \cos(\omega_i t + k_i x + \phi_i)$$

Widely used both experimentally and numerically
Adjusting ϕ_i to create a large wave at focusing point

- A numerical wave tank

or simpler

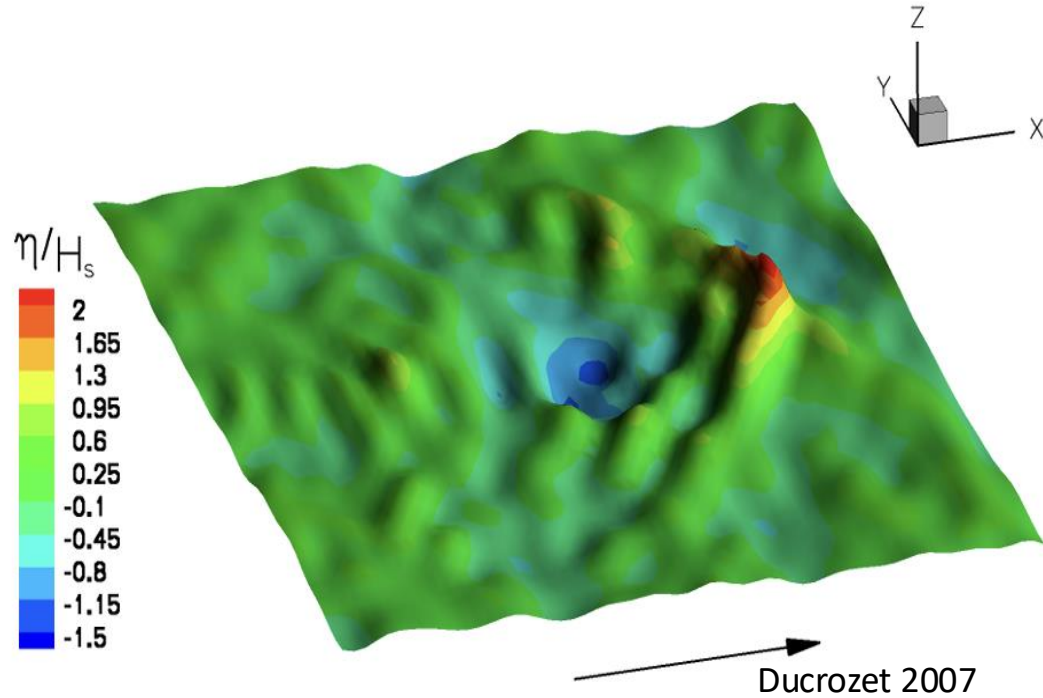
- Periodic Domain
- Initialise with multiple wave components



How to initialize a fully developed non-linear wave field in Basilisk?

To Generate Fully Non-linear Wave Field: HOS-ocean

HOS-ocean, a software based on **High-Order Spectral (HOS) method** which enables the simulation of **highly non-linear wave fields**.



Governing Equation:

$$\Delta\phi = 0$$

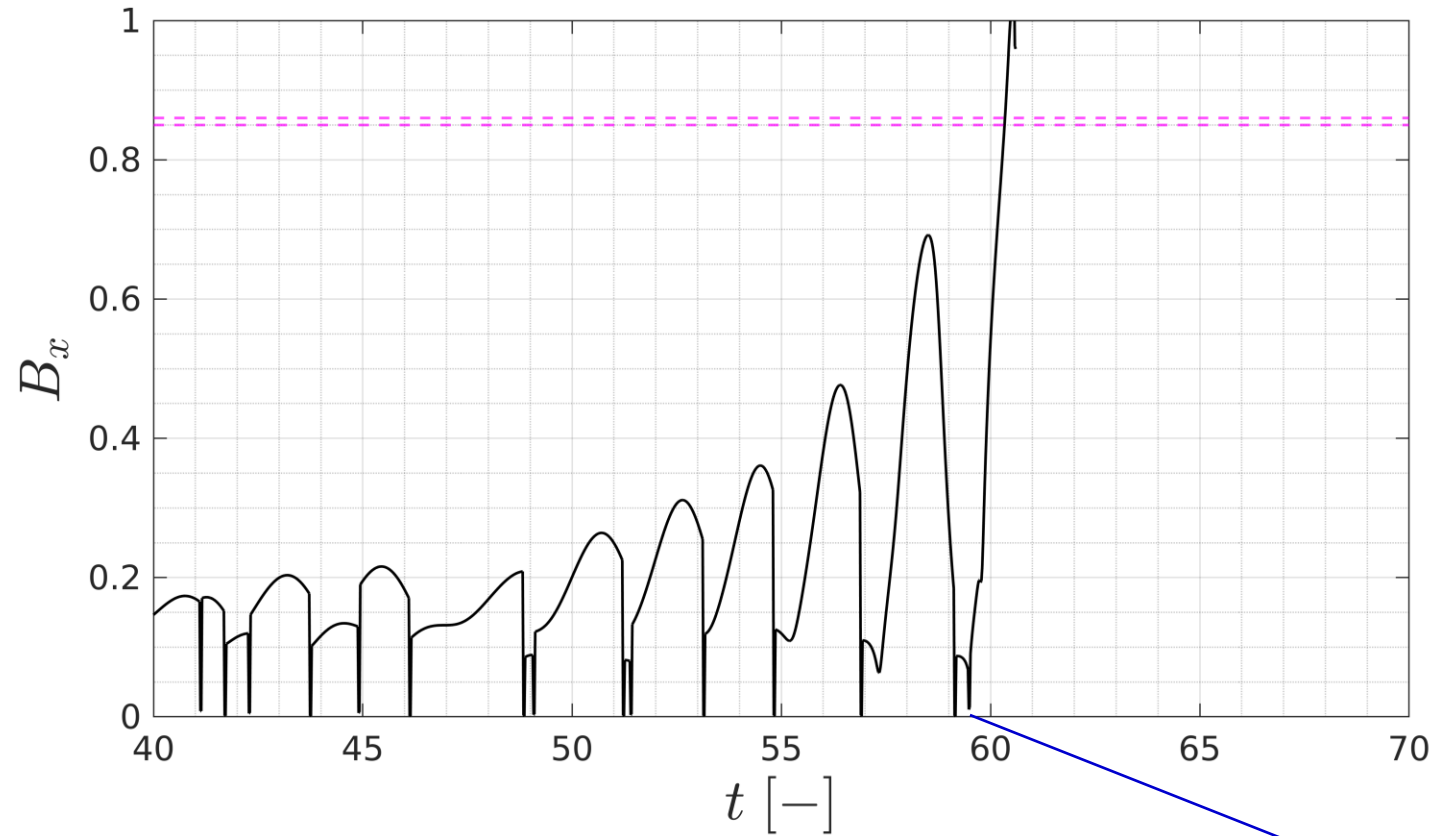
Free Surface Boundary Condition:

$$\frac{\partial\phi^s}{\partial t} = -g\eta - \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\phi^s|^2 + \frac{1}{2}(1 + |\nabla\eta|^2)\left(\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial\eta}{\partial t} = (1 + |\nabla\eta|^2)\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} - \nabla\phi^s \cdot \nabla\eta$$

Linearised wave field $\xrightarrow[\text{smooth transition}]{\text{HOS-Ocean}}$ Fully Developed Nonlinear Wave Field

Time from HOS-ocean to Basilisk



$B_x = \frac{u_x}{c_x}$: a diagnostic
parameter for wave
breaking
(Barthelemy 2018)

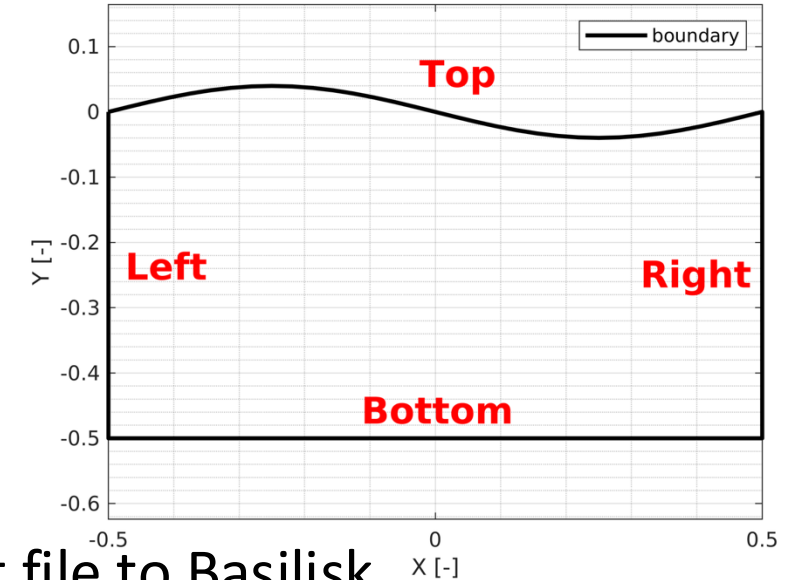
Last trough before $B_x > 0.85$
HOS result to Basilisk

HOS-Ocean to Basilisk: Boundary Element Method (BEM)

- Output of HOS-ocean: ϕ^S and η (Surface information)

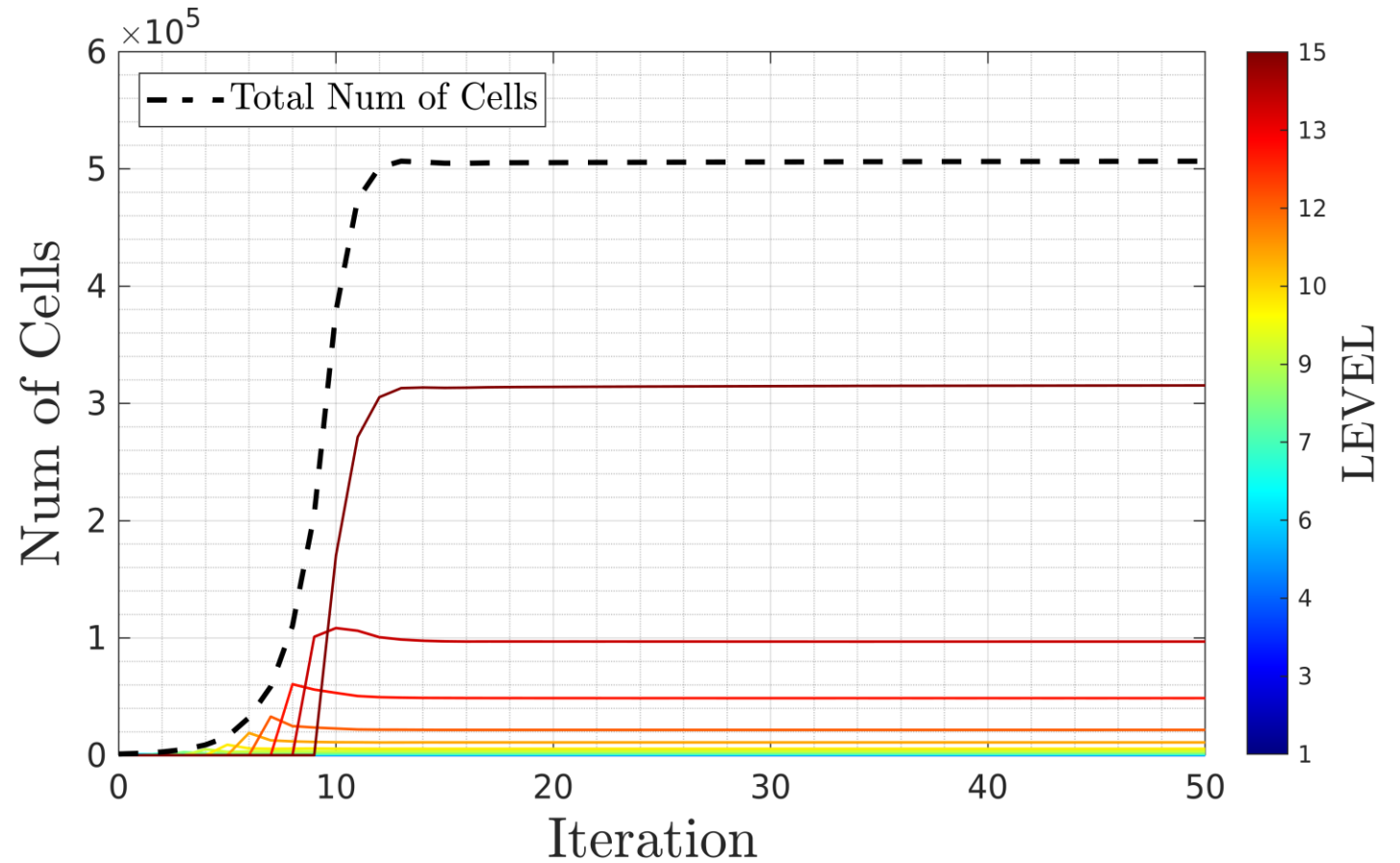
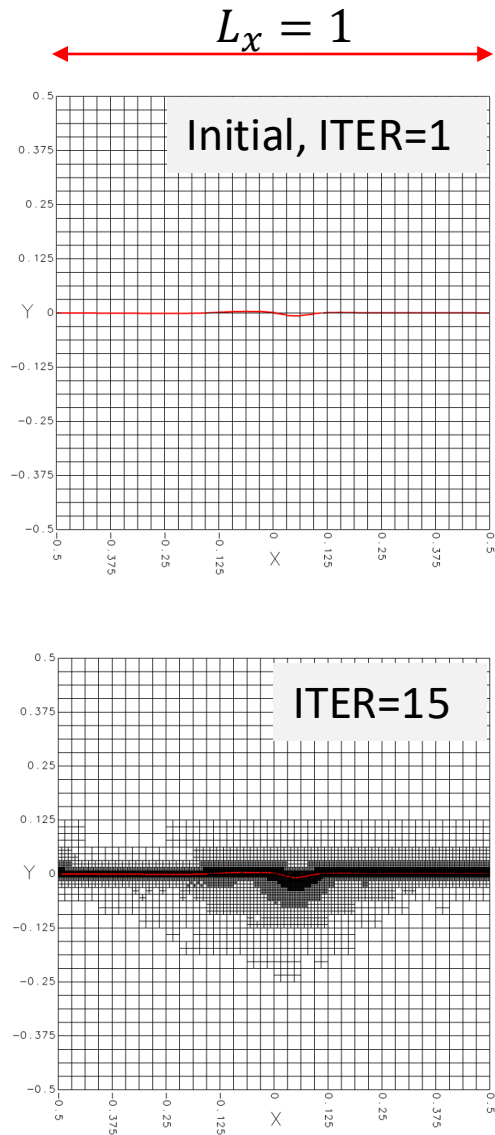
↓ BEM

- Basilisk Initial Condition: whole velocity field $\vec{u}(x, y)$
- Adaptive mesh: the mesh is **unknown** when preparing input file to Basilisk
- Boundary information (**known**): ϕ and $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n}$ input to Basilisk



Minimize the input file while maintain high-accuracy velocity field

Initial Basilisk AMR Iteration



AMR: $\xi = 10^{-5}$ for \vec{u} and f
Initial LEVEL: 5
Finest LEVEL: 15

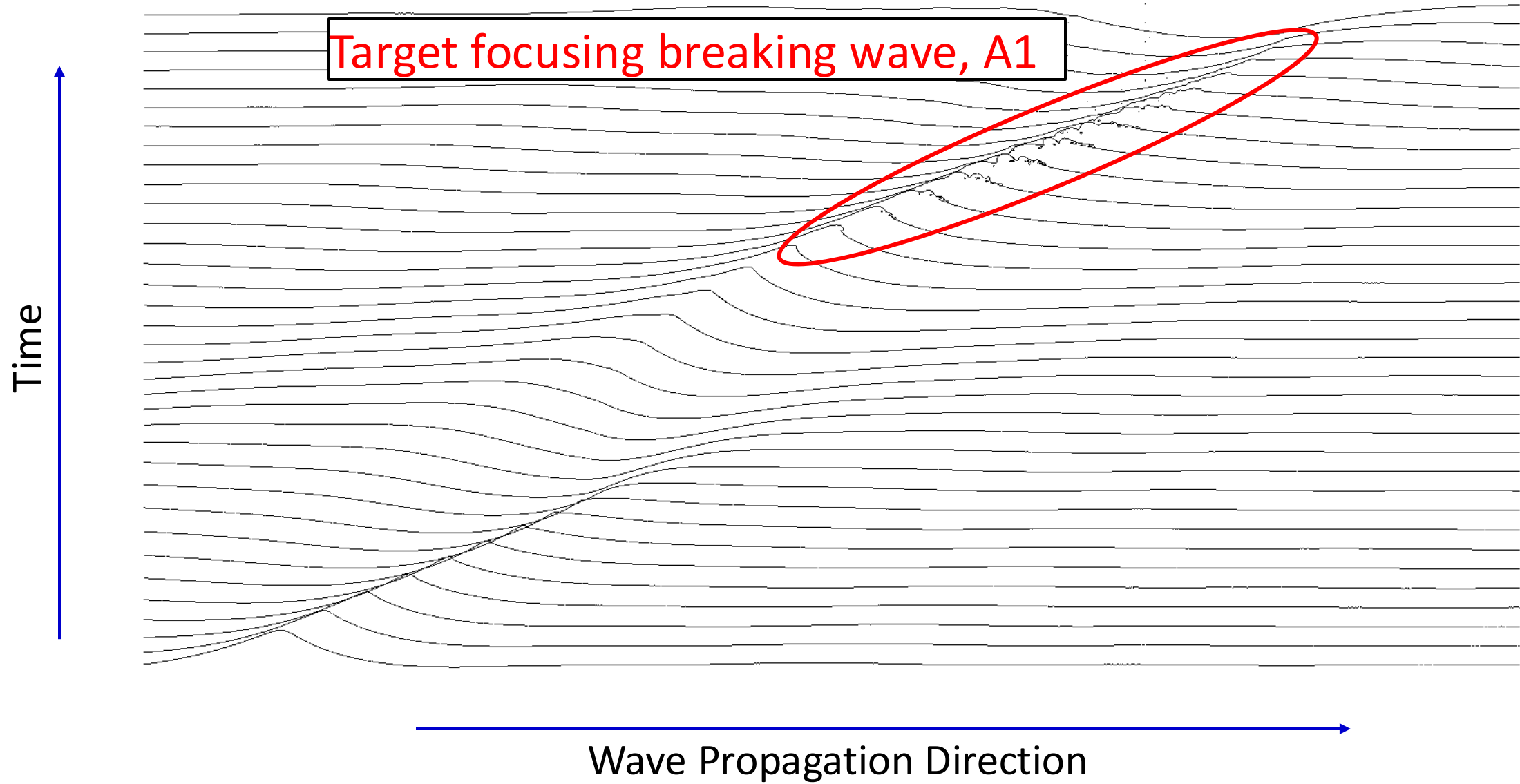
Non-dimensional parameter

$$\rho_w = 1$$

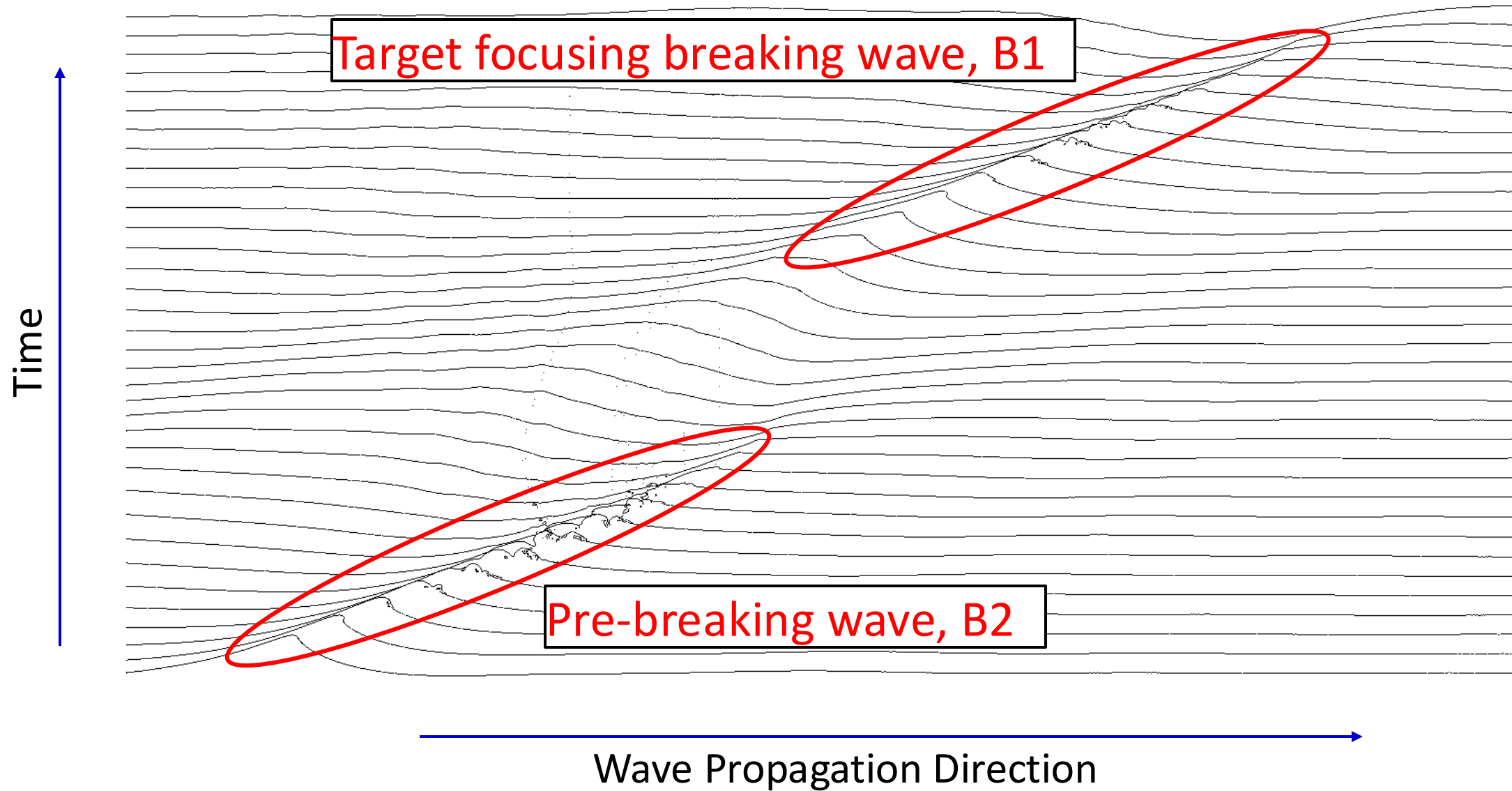
$$g = 1$$

$$L_x = 1$$

Scenario A



Scenario B



Breaking Scenario V.S. Global Spectral Wave Slope

Scenario A

- Recurrent wave group (non-breaking)



- Single breaking of target focusing wave **A1**



Scenario B

- Pre-breaking **B2**
- Target focusing breaking **B1**

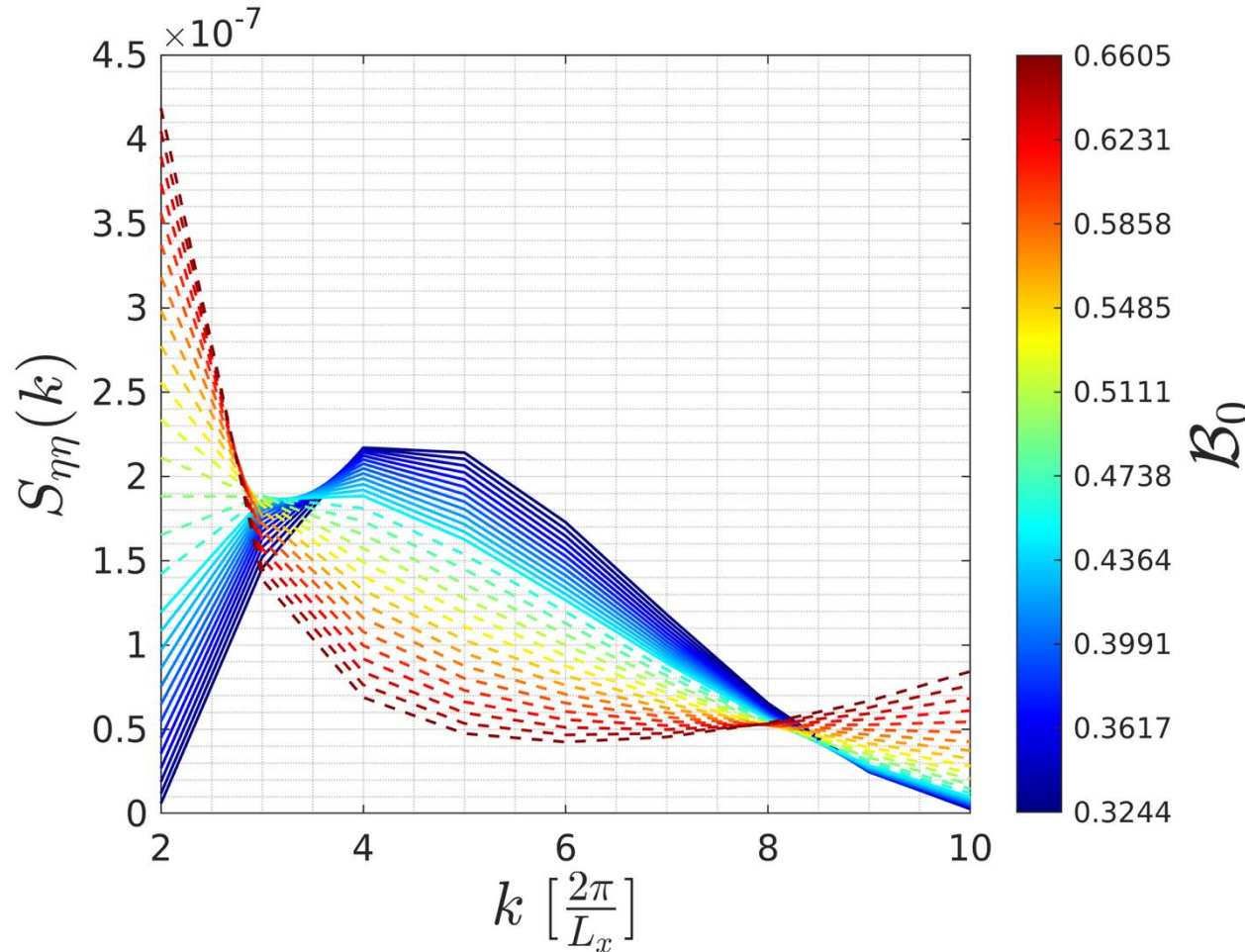
Increasing Wave Slope

Any difference of energy dissipation on Breaking Event A1 and B2?

Are the properties of the breaking wave influenced by bandwidth?

Bandwidth: a parameter describing how energy are distributed over a spectrum

A Wave Spectrum Controlling Slope, Energy and Bandwidth



Global Wave Slope: $S_0 = \sum a_i k_i$

Overall Spectral Energy: $E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \rho_w g \sum a_i^2$

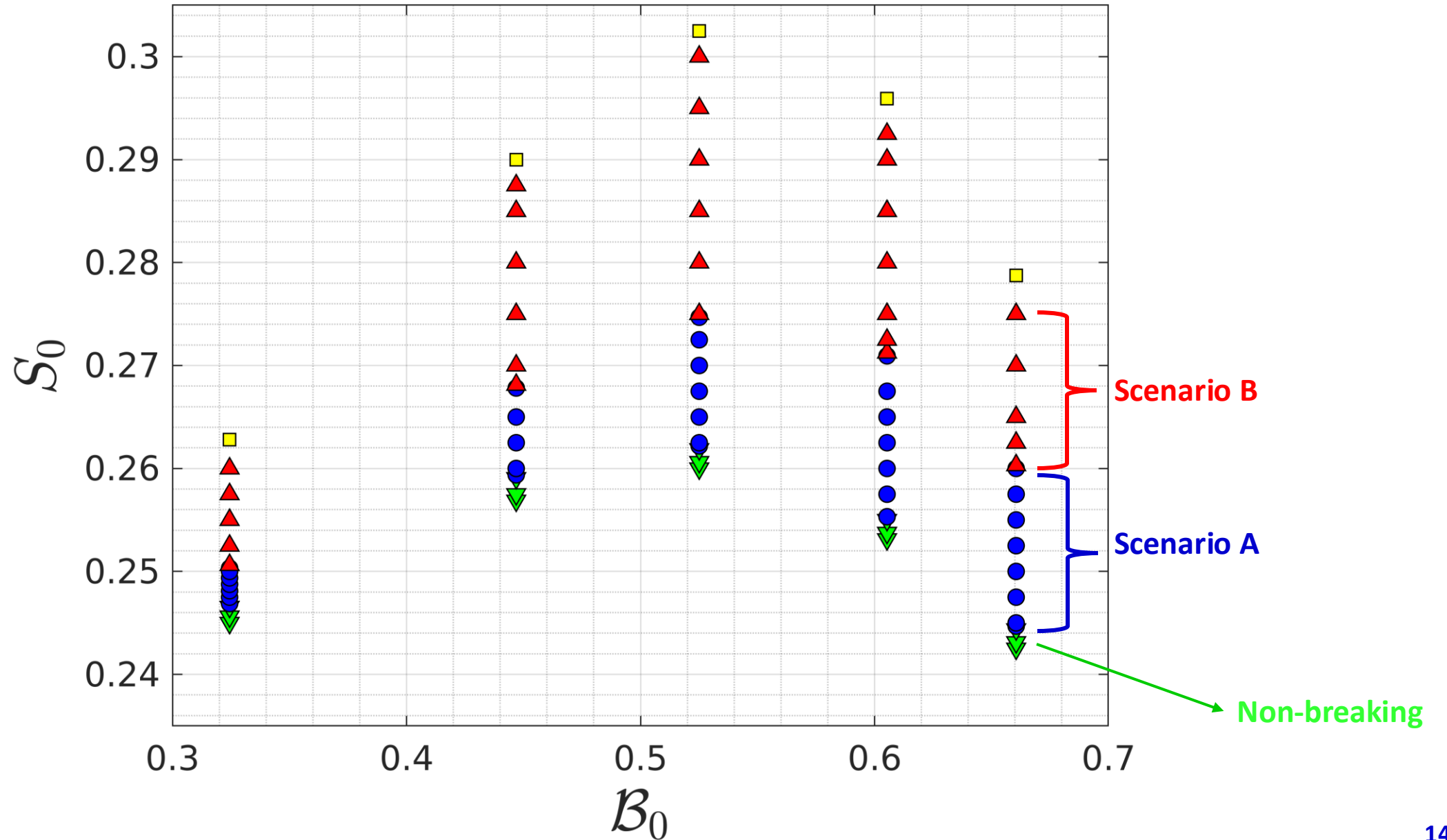
Bandwidth: $\mathcal{B}_0 = \sqrt{\frac{m_1 m_{-1}}{m_0^2} - 1}$

Smith, Venugopal & Wolfram (2006)

$$a_i = C_0 \frac{1}{k_i} + C_1 + C_2 \cdot k_i$$

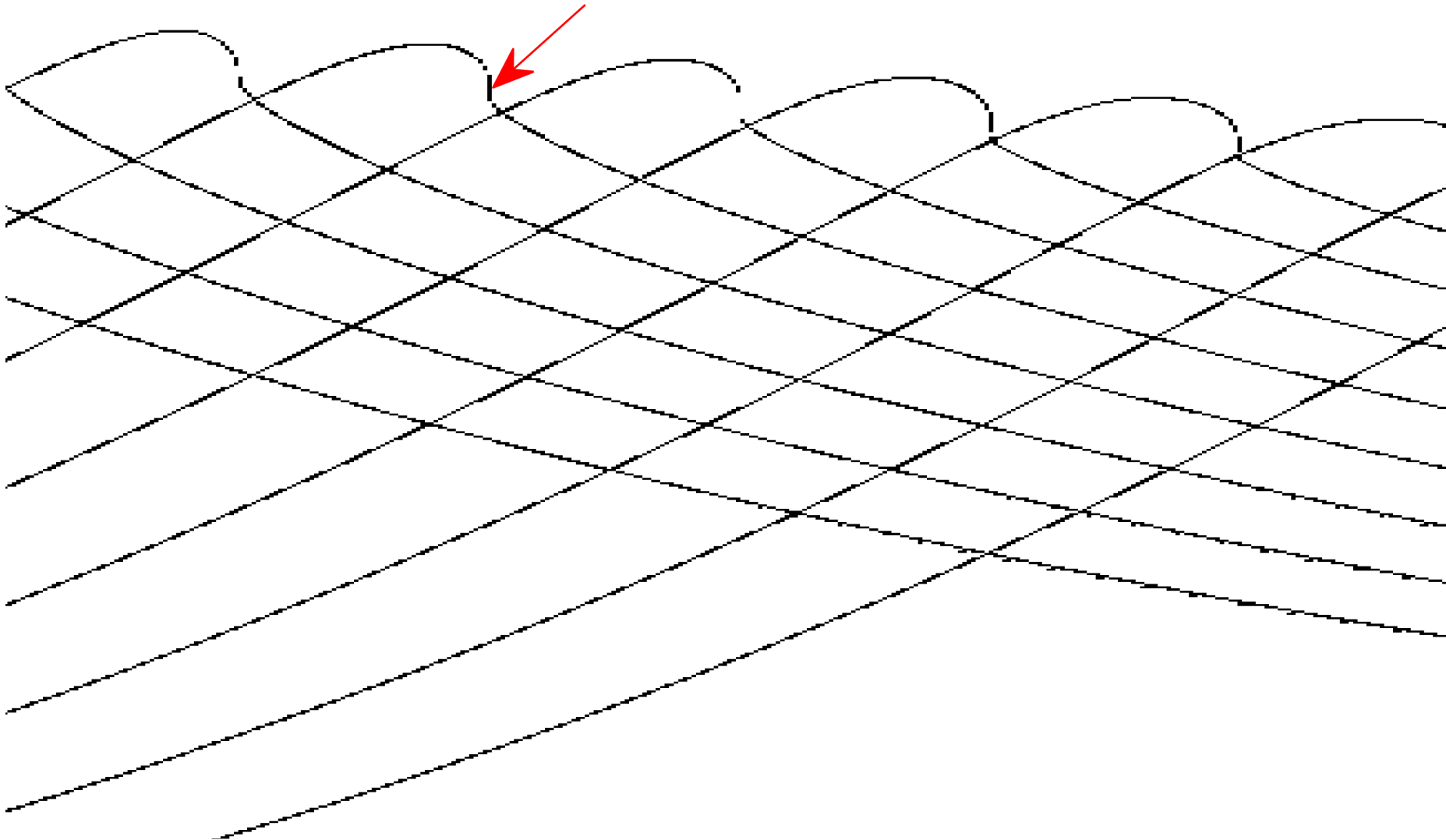
Spectra of same energy, global slope,
but different bandwidth

Breaking Onset Spectral Slope Is Non-Monotonically Dependent on Bandwidth



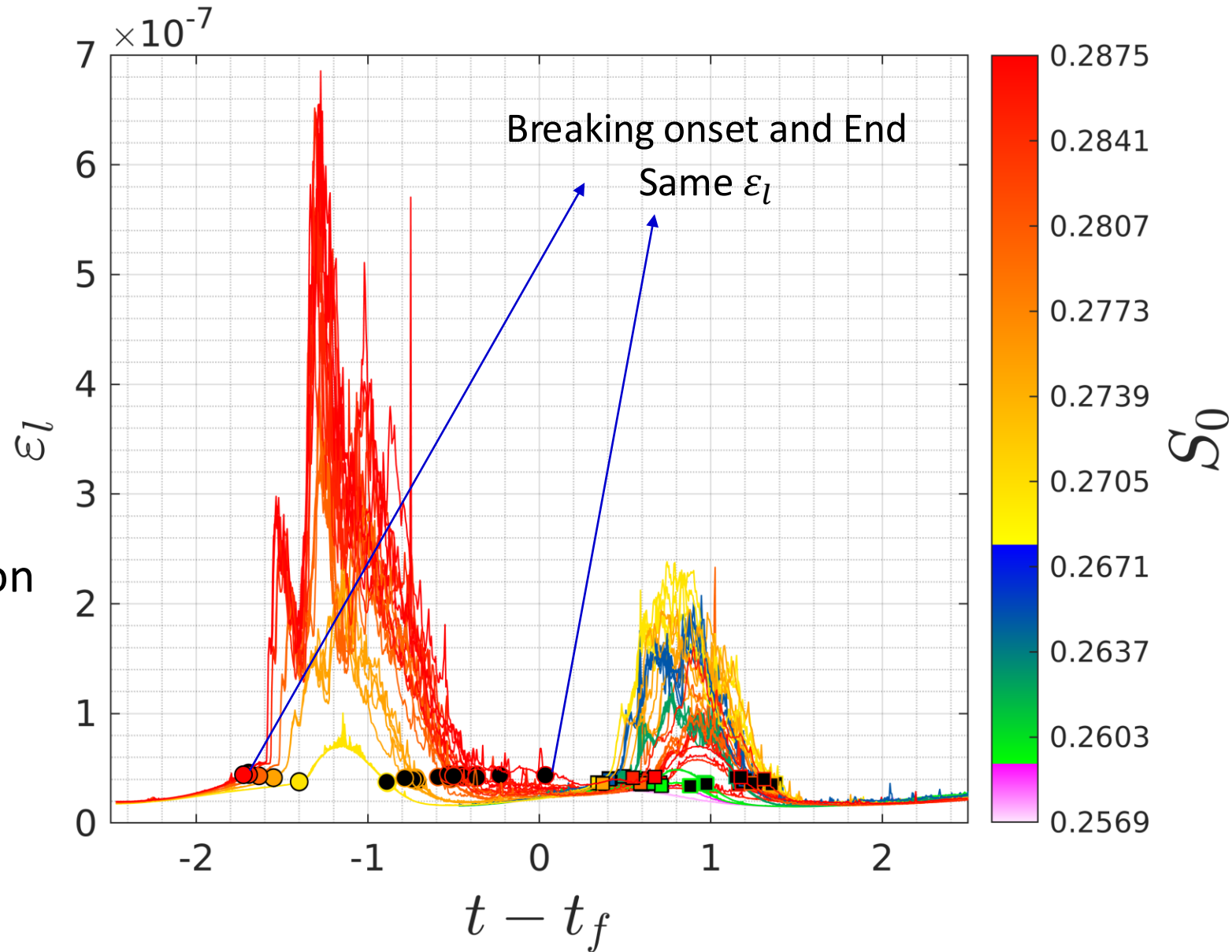
Definition of Breaking Start and End

Occurrence of multi-valued free surface

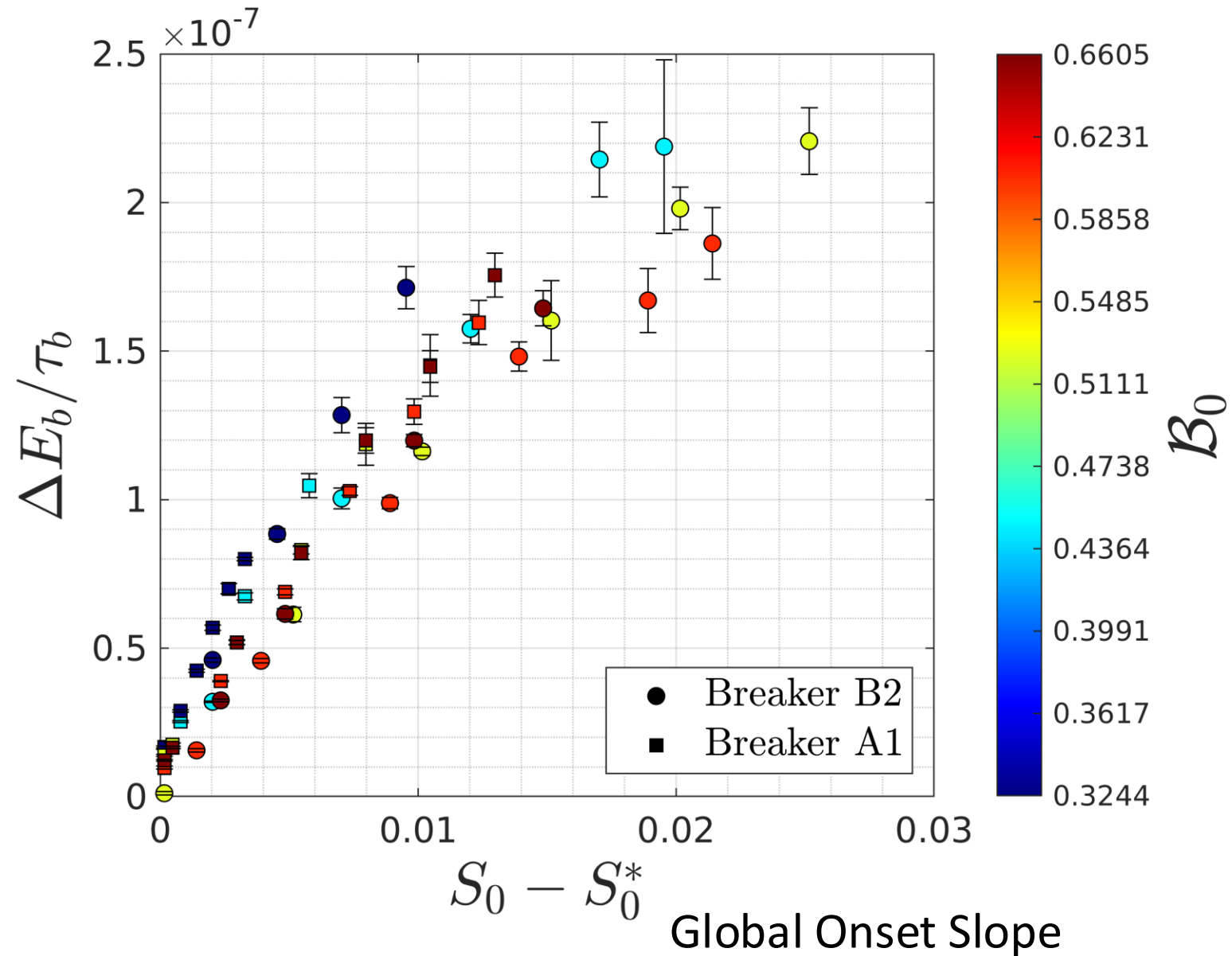


Definition of Breaking Start and End

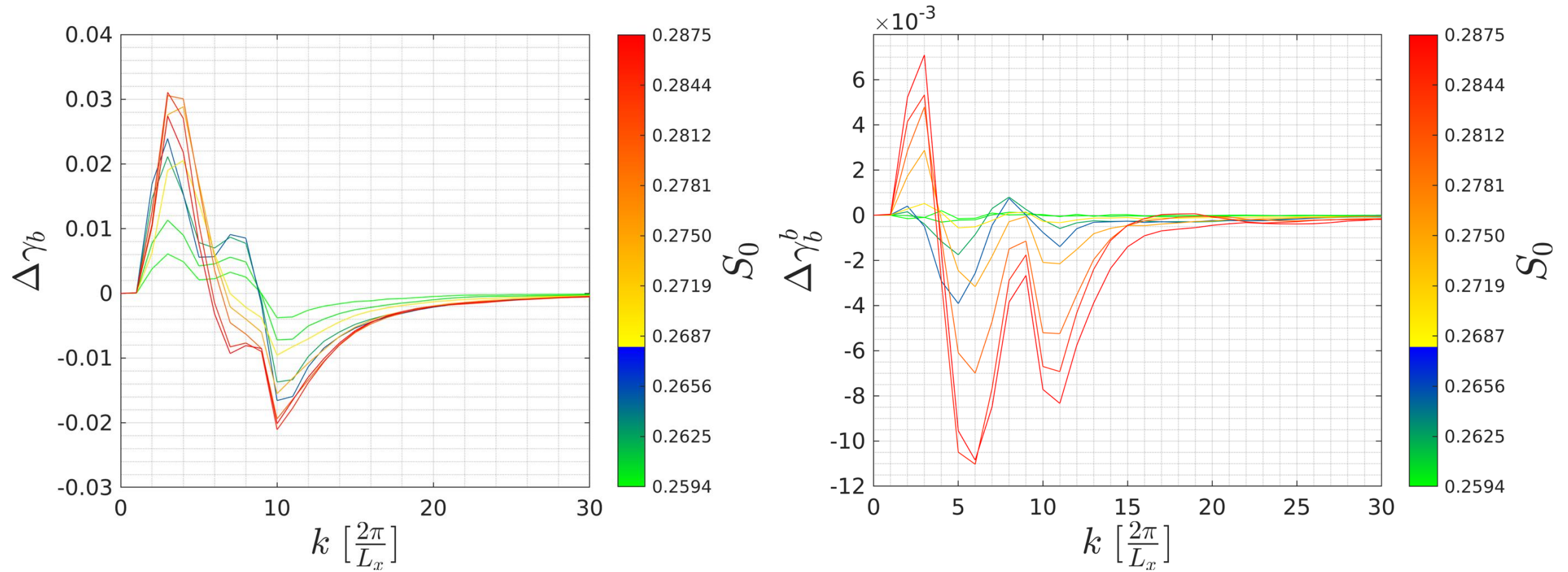
ε_l Energy dissipation rate



Energy Dissipation Rate: Slightly Influenced by Breaking Events and Bandwidth

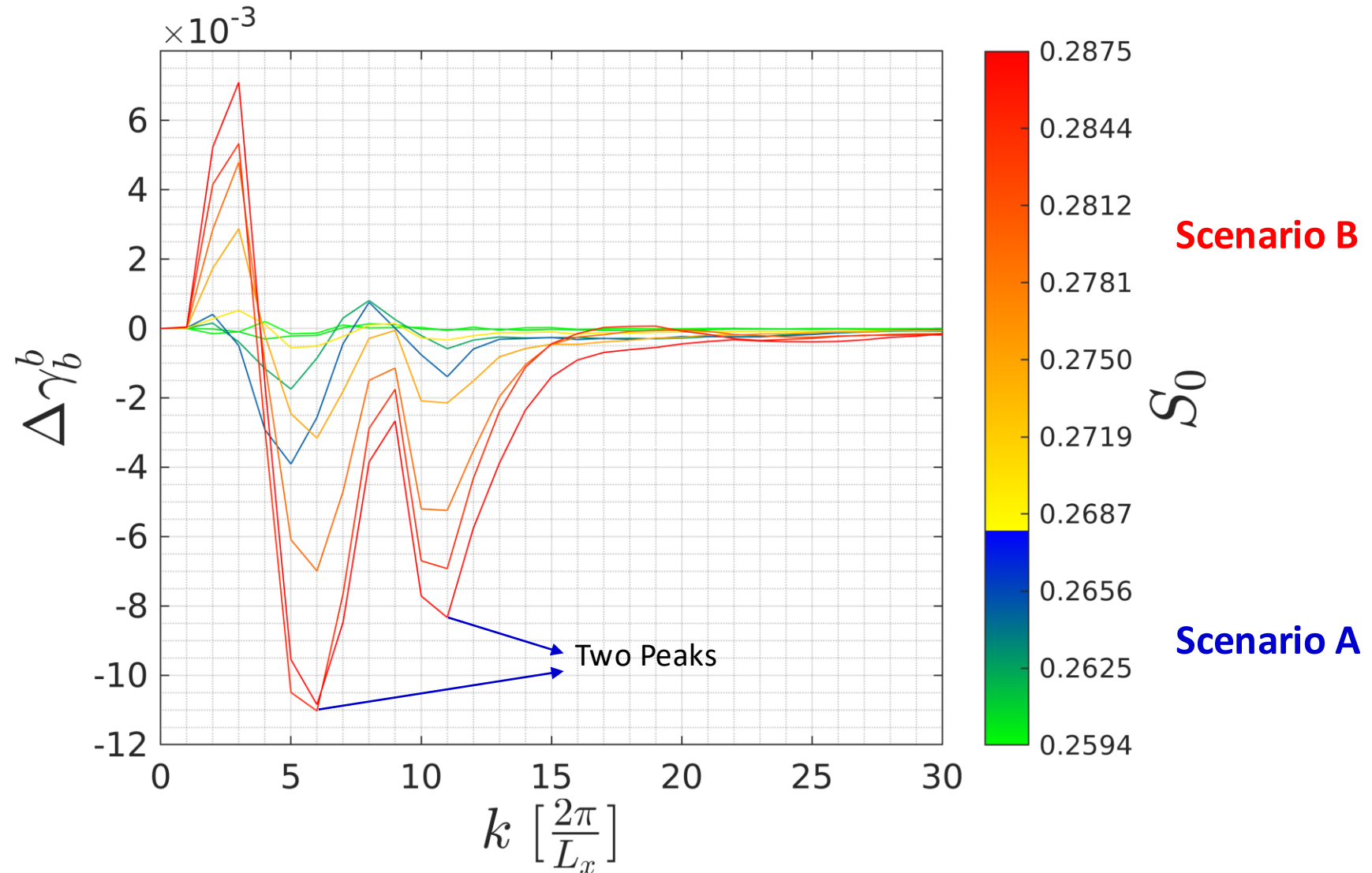


Spectral change significantly influenced by non-breaking nonlinear wave interaction



Normalized spectral change:
$$\Delta\gamma_b = \frac{a_{i,t_{end}}^2 - a_{i,t_{start}}^2}{\sum a_{i,input}^2}$$

Spectral Energy Dissipation: Similar Pattern for Different Breaking Events



Summary

- Non-monotonical dependence of breaking onset spectral slope on bandwidth
- Slight influence of breaking events and bandwidth on energy dissipation
- Spectral change over breaking duration is still significantly influenced by non-breaking wave non-linear interaction
- The spectral energy dissipation by breaking of different breaking events shows similar pattern

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EVD