# Exploring boundary layer and sediment transport processes under waves and currents using sound scattering

#### **Coastal nearshore flows**



Waves / currents

#### **River / estuary**



Streams



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### **APPROACH and METHODOLOGY**

Combine

physical modelling of sediment transport processes in highperformance experimental facilities (LEGI channel & flumes, european large-scale Hydralab facilities: CIEM-UPC, GWK Hannover) -under controlled flow forcing conditions -at moderate to full-scale forcing conditions (waves, currents, susp., beload, sheet flow transport)

High-resolution acoustic measurements of the multi-scale flow processes involved in the Sediment transport triad

Provide

physical models of sediment transport predictions (sed. Conc., sed flux) versus flow controlling parameters (flow bed vel, bed slope, bed shear, flow acceleration,...)

Fine-scale data for comparison / validation of numerical data of sediment transport under waves and currents

## Acoustic scattering system (ABS, ADV, ADVP, ADCP, UVP,..)



**Pressure scattered by a single sediment particle** 

$$p = A(r_{k,i}, r_{k,r}, a_p, \theta) \exp\left[i\omega_c t + ik_c \left(r_{k,i} + r_{k,r}\right)\right]$$

$$A = \frac{p_0 r_0}{2} a_p f_p(\theta, a_p) \frac{D_i D_r}{r_{k,i} r_{k,r}} \exp\left[-\alpha \left(r_{k,i} + r_{k,r}\right)\right]$$

Acoustic intensity scattered by a cloud of suspended sediments

$$\hat{p}^{2} = \frac{3(p_{0}r_{0})^{2}}{16\pi} \left( \frac{\int_{0}^{\infty} a_{p}^{2} \left| f_{p}\left(\theta_{0}, a_{p}\right) \right|^{2} n\left(a_{p}\right) da_{p}}{\rho_{p} \int_{0}^{\infty} a_{p}^{3} n\left(a_{p}\right) da_{p}} \right) C \iiint_{V} \left( \frac{D_{i}D_{r}}{\hat{r}_{i}\hat{r}_{r}} \right)^{2} \exp\left[-2\alpha\left(\hat{r}_{i}+\hat{r}_{r}\right)\right] dV$$
Sediment form and attenuation functions

 $\xi_s =$ 

Measured intensity for concentration / sediment size profiling

 $\langle a_s^2 f^2(\theta = \pi, x) \rangle$ 

$$\langle I \rangle = (RT)^2 \hat{p}^2 = A_{bi} A_s C \exp\left(-4 \int_{\hat{r}} \zeta_s C d\hat{r}\right)$$

 $A_s = \frac{1}{40}$ 

A<sub>bi</sub>: instrument constant



with

# **Why Acoustics**

- Applicable in opaque / turbid / sediment laden flows (up to 100 kg.m<sup>-3</sup>)
- → Acoustic scattering theory by natural sediments (100µm-1mm) becomes accessible and reliable
- Coherent scatt. and incoherent Rayleigh scattering are combined for fine-scale meas. of velocity, sed concentration, sed size meas., bedforms and nearbed interfaces
- Robust and relatively "cheap" technology (sensors, electronics, processing time)
- → Adapted for laboratory and field studies of sediment transport

# Acoustic measurement objective: the Hydralab4-WISE project (LEGI, NOC-L, UPC, EPFL)

Provide an unprecedented acoustic vision of sediment transport triad



A complete set of novel acoustic flow measuring instrumentation for: flow (velocity, ADVP), sediment transport (sed. conc., ADVP ABS sed. Flux ADVP, sed. Size, ACVP ABS), bedforms (bed interface tracking, ARP, ARI)

# **Some application examples**

### SAND TRANSPORT UNDER COASTAL NEARSHORE BREAKING WAVES



Large-scale wave flume experiments at UPC-CIEM





#### Acoustic measurements below breaking waves



### Suspended and bedload transport above ripples and dunes

#### **Migrating orbital Ripples under waves**





#### Acoustic flow and sediment flux above a ripple



#### **Migrating dunes under river flooding conditions**



35cm





### **Gravel-bed flows: Nearbed turbulence structure**

#### Gravel-bed channel (LEGI)



-Direct estimation of Double averaged (DA) momentum and TKE budgets

-Local flow characterization (mixing layer type analogy)

-Coherent flow structure dynamics and organization



Improvements in sediment transport rely on our capability to perform <u>fine-scale measurements</u> across the <u>Water Interface with Sediments</u> (<u>WISE</u>)

# **Thanks for your attention**





-SANDS

