

# Impact of Middle-Atmosphere Solar Tides on Gravity Waves

B. Ribstein, U. Achatz, F. Senf

Theory of Atmospheric Dynamics and Climate, Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt/Main, Germany

## Objectives

**Gravity Waves (GWs) and Solar Tides (STs) are main constituents of dynamical coupling between troposphere and the middle atm.**

- Diurnal heating forcing ( $O_3$ , water vapor, convection, condensation ...)
- *STs are large scale forced waves*, that modulate all dynamical fields in mesosph.
- *GWs are small scale free waves*, that shape mesosph. mean circulation.

**GWs and STs interaction ???**

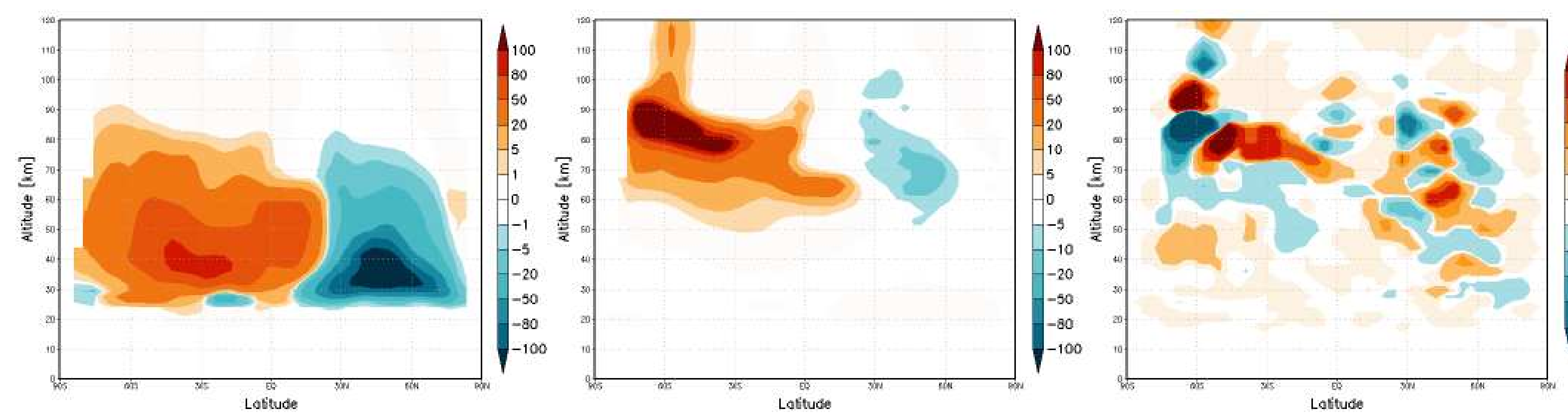


Figure 3: Left : deposition of momentum  $\langle \rho u'w' \rangle$  [kg/m/s/day]. Middle :  $F_{GWs}$  [m/s/day]. Right :  $\alpha_R$  [day<sup>-1</sup>].

## Dimensionalization

Values obtain for  $GWs$  outputs  $\langle \rho u'w' \rangle$ ,  $F_{GWs}$ ,  $\alpha_R$ ,  $\alpha_I$  ... in good agreement with a simple scale analysis.

## Important Result

*GWs and STs strongly interact together.*

- *STs influence the propagation of GWs*, but also their deposition of momentum and buoyancy (Fig. 3).
- Rayleigh friction and newtonian cooling coefficients ( $\alpha_R$ ,  $\alpha_I$ ) quantify the strength of the *STs - GWs* interaction.
- *GWs influence phase and amplitude of STs* (Fig. 4), via momentum deposition.

## STs model

In order to obtain *STs* (Fig. 4), study [2] is used, where :

- Linearisation of *KMCM - GCM* around the *climatology* (Background flow, Fig. 1) is considered,
- and *GWs* forcing ( $\alpha_R, \alpha_I$ ) from our *Ray tracer* is introduced (Fig. 3).

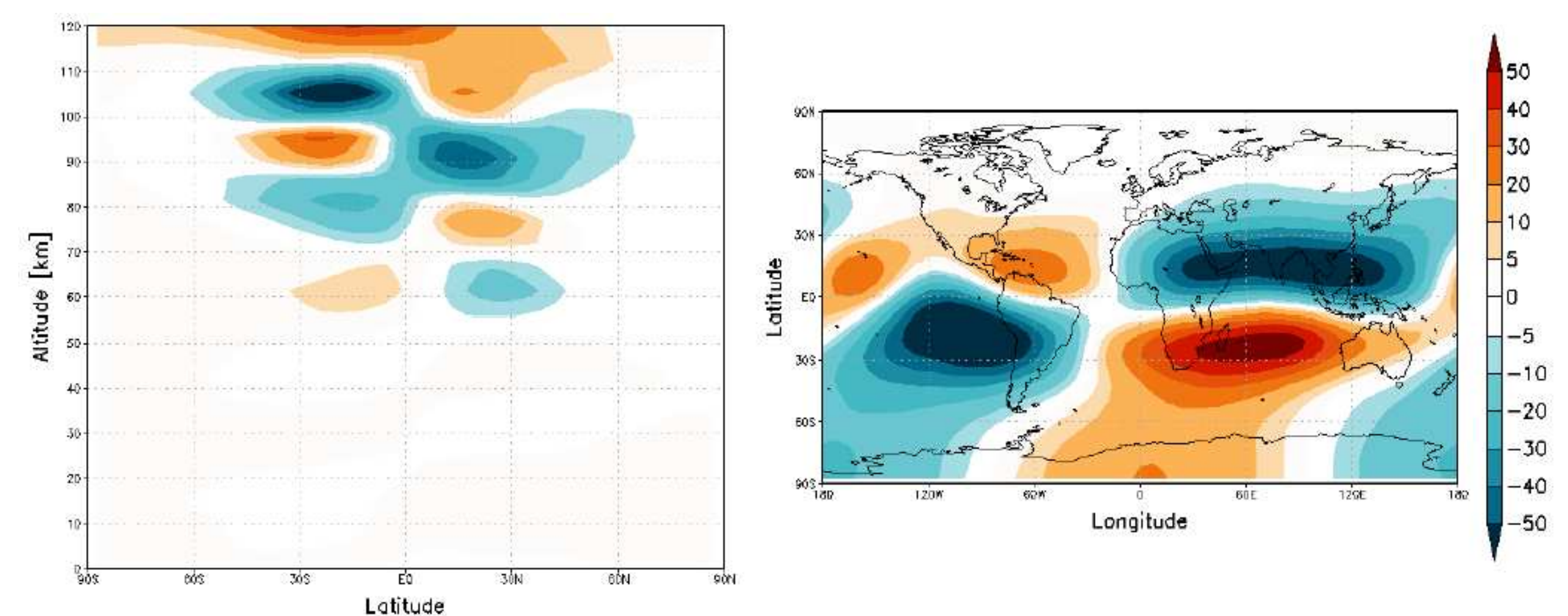


Figure 4: Diurnal tides  $V_{Tides}$  [m/s] with *GWs* forcing.

## Summary & Perspectives

- Through  $\alpha_R, \alpha_I$ , the study quantify the *STs - GWs* interaction and show how one (*STs*, *GWs*) influence the other (*GWs*, *STs*).
- 1<sup>st</sup> perspective: Convergence of the step-by-step approach.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> perspective: Direct coupling of *STs* and *GWs*.

## References

- [1] F. Senf and U. Achatz. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 116:D24110, 2011.
- [2] U. Achatz, N. Grieger and H. Schmidt. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 113:A08303, 2008.
- [3] J. Muraschko and al. *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*, accepted:10.1002/qj.2381, 2014.
- [4] A. Hertzog, C. Souprayen and A. Hauchecorne. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 107:D12, 2002.

## Contact Information

Email: ribstein@iau.uni-frankfurt.de

Phone: (+49) 69-798-40241

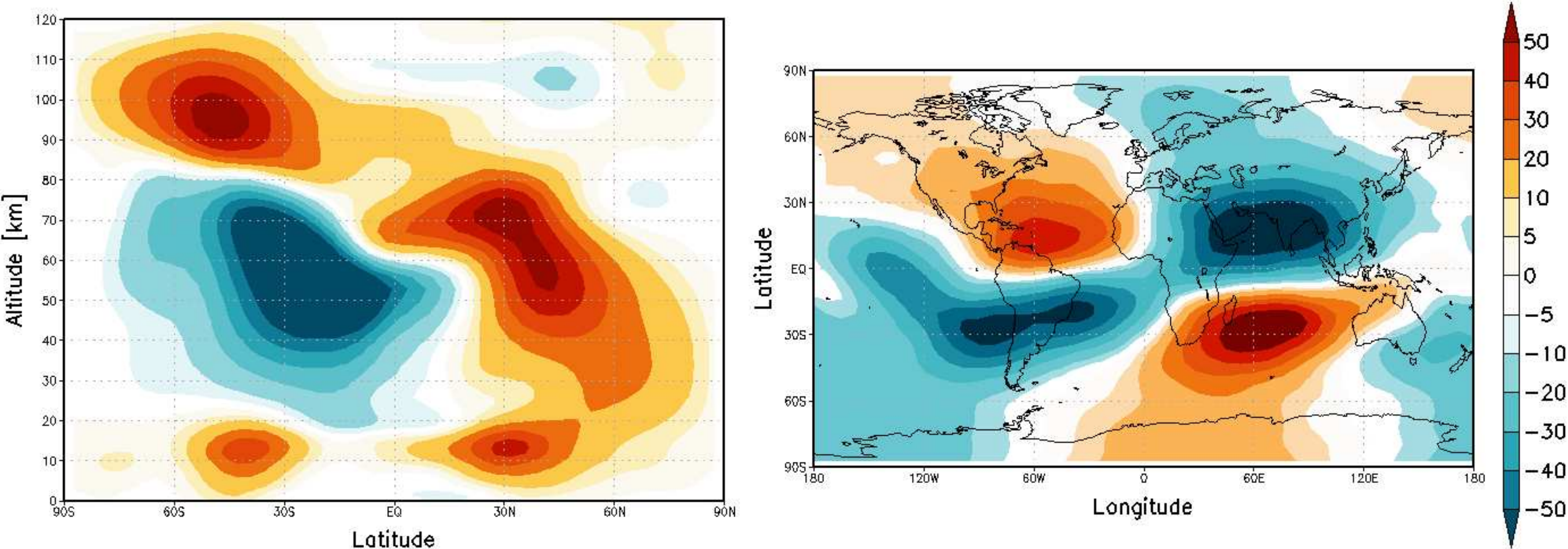


Figure 1: From *HAMMONIA - GCM*. Left : Climatology (January) of the zonal wind  $U$  [m/s]. Right : diurnal tides  $V_{Tides}$  [m/s]

## Introduction | Methodology

- *GWs - STs* interaction: step-by-step approach. Extension of studies [1,2].
- *GWs* propagate in a *climatology + STs* time-changing background flow, Fig. 1. Caustics problem is solved (intrinsic of all Ray tracer model).
- *STs* are solved using a *linearised GCM* with *climatology + GWs* forcing, Fig. 3

## Ray tracers model

- Model do not resolve *GWs*  $\implies$  parametrisation of *GWs*, based on *WKB*:

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{X}, T) &= \epsilon(x, t) & , & & A(\mathbf{X}, T) e^{i\phi(\mathbf{X}, T)/\epsilon} \\ \omega(\mathbf{X}, T) &= -\partial_T \phi & , & & \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{X}, T) = \partial_{\mathbf{X}} \phi \end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  leads to numerical Ray tracers.

- *GWs* propagate in time-changing background flow, on rays parallel to  $\mathbf{c}_g$ .
- “Wave-Action phase-space density Ray tracer” is implemented, using [1,3,4], in order to solve the impossibility of Rays to cross each other.
- Each ray attached to a finite volume conserved during the propagation (Fig. 2) in the 6D *location-wavenumber phase-space*.
- Propagation of a small spectrum of *GWs*, launched at 25km (all direction, see Fig. 2) with a constant emission source :

NEW RAY only emitted when OLD one has left

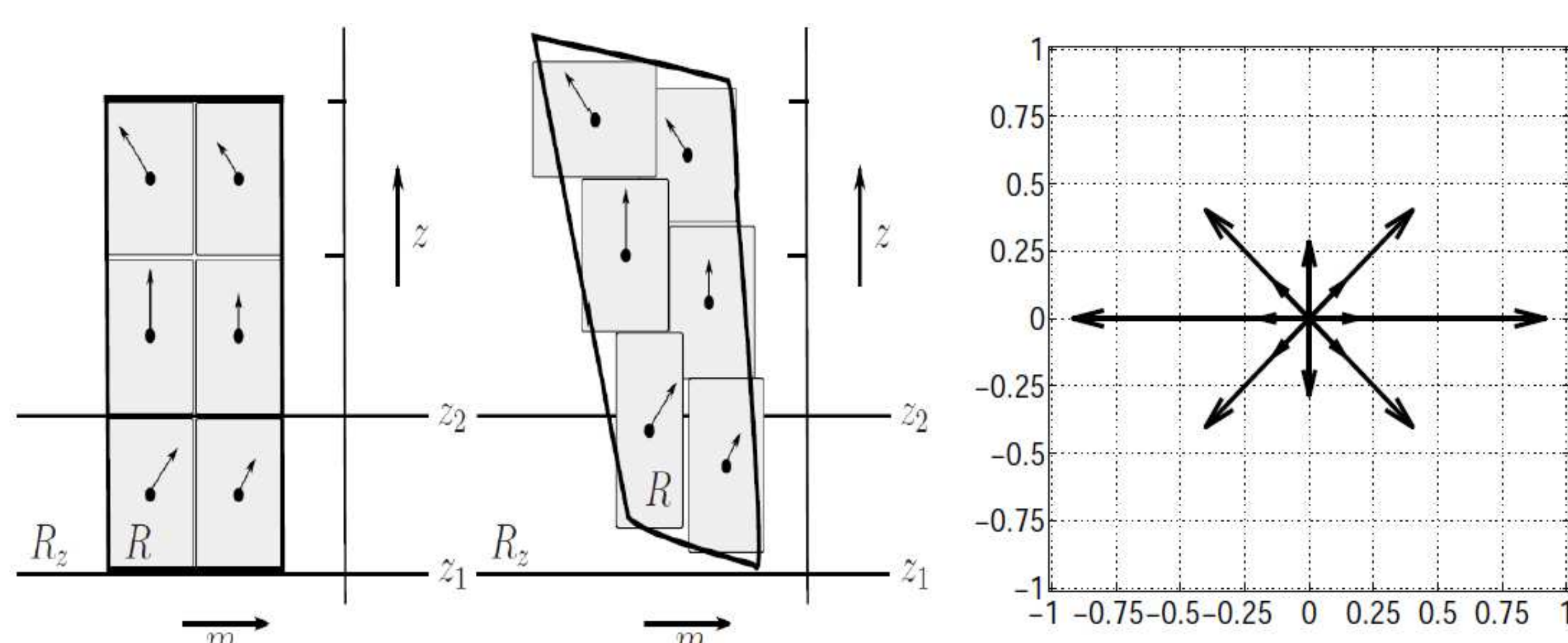


Figure 2: Left : Schematic illustration of the location-wavenumber conservation (from Muraschko et al.). Right : Initial phase velocity  $\vec{c}_\phi$  [nondim.]

- The Ray tracer model evaluate :

momentum fluxes ; buoyancy ; *GWs* dynamical forcing  $F_{GW}$  ; Rayleigh friction (for  $u$  and  $v$ ) and newtonian cooling coef. ( $\alpha_R$ ,  $\alpha_I$ ).

$$\begin{cases} F_{GW} = \frac{1}{\rho} [\partial_x(\rho u'^2) + \partial_y(\rho u'v') + \partial_z(\rho u'w')] + \text{“curvature terms”} \\ \alpha_R = \langle F_{GW} \times U_{Tides} \rangle / \langle (U_{Tides})^2 \rangle \\ \alpha_I / \Omega = \langle F_{GW} \times \partial_t U_{Tides} \rangle / \langle (\partial_t U_{Tides})^2 \rangle \end{cases}$$