



# Transformation of internal solitary waves under ridged ice cover

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**Abstract.** Internal wave-driven mixing is an important factor in the balance of heat and salt fluxes in the polar regions of the ocean. The breaking internal waves at the edge of the ice cover can essentially enhance the mixing and melting of ice in the Arctic Ocean and Antarctica. The internal solitary waves (ISWs) are generated by various sources, including tidal currents over the bottom topography, the interaction of ice keels with tides, varying in time wind, vortices, and lee waves. In the study, a numerical investigation of the transformation of ISW propagating from open water in the stratified sea under the edge of the ice cover is carried out to compare the depression ISW transformation and loss of energy on smooth ice surfaces, including those on the ice shelf and glacier outlets, with the processes beneath the ridged underside of the ice. They were carried out using a nonhydrostatic model which is based on the Reynolds averaged Navier-Stokes equations in the Boussinesq approximation for a continuously stratified fluid. The Smagorinsky turbulence model extended for stratified fluid was used to explicitly describe the small-scale turbulent mixing. Two series of numerical experiments were carried out in an idealized 2D setup. The first series aimed to study processes of the ISW-depression transformation under ice cover of constant submerged ice thickness. A loss of energy was estimated based on the budget of depth-integrated pseudoenergy before and after the wave transformation. The transformation of depression ISW is controlled by the blocking parameter  $\beta$ . For large positive and large negative values of parameter  $\beta$  which is the ratio of the height of the minimum depth of the upper layer under the ice cover to the incident wave amplitude. The energy loss was relatively small for large positive and large negative values of  $\beta$ . The maximal value of energy loss was about 38% and it is reached at  $\beta \approx 0$  for ISW. In the second series of experiments, a number of keels were located underside of the ice layer of constant thickness. The ISW transformation under ridged ice also depends on the blocking parameter  $\beta$ . For large keels ( $\beta < 0$ ), more than 40% is lost on the first keel, while for relatively small keels ( $\beta > 0.3$ ), the losses on the first keel are less than 6%. Energy losses due to all keels depend on the distance between them which is characterized by the parameter  $\mu$  which is the ratio keel depth to the distance between keels. If the tidal flow around the large keels is the source of internal waves, then under conditions of strongly ridged ice the waves excited by the tidal flow are dispersed in the vicinity of their formation.

## 1 Introduction

Internal wave-driven mixing is an important factor in the balance of heat and salt fluxes in the polar regions of the ocean (Guthrie et al., 2013). In these areas, internal gravity waves are generated by various sources, including tidal currents over the bottom topography e.g. (Urbancic et al., 2022), varying in time wind (Rainville and Woodgate, 2009), vortices (Johannessen



et al., 2019), and lee waves (Vlasenko et al., 2003). Another source of energy for internal waves in the near-surface pycnocline can be an interaction of ice keels with tides (Zhang et al., 2022a). These waves, in the form of internal solitary wave (ISW) chains, often propagate in pycnocline in a stratified ocean under ice cover. The interaction between internal waves and ice cover is complex and depends on both the characteristics of the ice and the characteristics of internal waves (Carr et al., 2019). ISW shear, convective instabilities, and breaking on topographic inhomogeneities extract kinetic energy from ISWs for turbulence and subsequent mixing increases the melting of ice. An increased level of dissipation of the energy of internal waves propagating from the open water should be expected at the edge of the ice cover, which can represent the edge of an ice shelf or a pack ice. In turn, the relief of the underside of the ice and, in particular, the presence of ice keels can essentially affect the ISW transformation, breaking, and energy dissipation. These aspects of the complicated problem of the interaction of internal waves and ice cover have not yet been investigated due to severe conditions for field observations in the polar regions of the ocean.

The problem of the transformation of a depression ISW under smooth ice cover is mathematically close to the problem of transformation of elevation IWS over a bottom step of constant height which was considered analytically (Grimshaw et al., 2008) and numerically using nonhydrostatic model (Maderich et al., 2009; Talipova et al., 2013). It was found that the transformation of ISW over the step in a two-layer fluid depends on the ratio of the thickness of the lower layer over the step to ISW amplitude. The transformation of the elevation IWS over a single obstacle (ridge) on the bottom was studied in the laboratory (Wessels and Hutter, 1996; Chen, 2007; Du et al., 2021) and numerically (Vlasenko and Hutter, 2001; Xu et al., 2016). The wave breaking on the lee side of the ridge was accompanied by the generation of the second mode of ISW. The propagation of ISW of elevation over corrugated bed (Carr et al., 2010) was accompanied by shear instability in the form of billows. The ISWs propagating from open water to ice were studied in the laboratory by Carr et al. (2019) for grease, level, and nilas ice. The experiments showed that the dissipation of turbulent kinetic energy under the ice is comparable to that at the ISW in the water column. The disintegration of ISW depression under a single ice keel was simulated by Zhang et al. (2022b). It was concluded that corresponding turbulent mixing can enhance the melting of ice keel.

In this study, a numerical investigation of the transformation of ISW propagating from open water in the stratified sea under the edge of the ice cover is carried out to compare the depression ISW transformation and loss of energy on smooth ice surfaces, including those on the ice shelf, with the processes beneath the ridged underside of the ice. The rest of the paper is organized as follows. The formulation of the problem, the model setup, and the relevant numerical tools are given in Section 2. Section 3.1 presents the simulation results for smooth ice cover, whereas the results of the simulation of ridged ice cover are considered in Section 3.2. The results of the simulations are summarized and discussed in Section 4.

## 2 Numerical experiment setup

The numerical simulations were carried out using a nonhydrostatic model (Kanarska and Maderich, 2003; Maderich et al., 2012). The numerical model used here is based on the Reynolds averaged Navier–Stokes equations in the Boussinesq approximation for a continuously stratified fluid. The Smagorinsky turbulence model extended for stratified fluid (Siegel and



60 Domaradzki, 1994) was used to explicitly describe the small-scale turbulent mixing in the ocean-scale ISWs. Two series of numerical experiments were carried out in an idealized 2D setup. First series aimed to study processes of the ISW-depression transformation under ice cover of constant submerged ice thickness (draft)  $h_{ice}$  (Fig. 1a). The second series was carried out to simulate the effect of ridged ice on the ISW-depression propagation in a similar two-layer stratification (Fig. 1b). The computational tank of constant depth  $H = 200$  m and length  $L = 10000$  m was used. It was assumed that the ice layer of length 65  $L_{ice} = 5000$  m is rigid and does not interact with ISWs. A coordinate  $x$  is directed along the computational domain, and  $z$  is directed vertically upward. Idealized stratification of the vertical distribution of potential density is considered in the form:

$$\sigma_{\theta} = \frac{(\sigma_{\theta 2} - \sigma_{\theta 1})}{2} \tanh\left(\frac{z - h_1}{\Delta h}\right) + \frac{(\sigma_{\theta 2} + \sigma_{\theta 1})}{2}, \quad (1)$$

Here  $h_1$  is the thickness of the upper layer of water,  $h_2 = H - h_1$  is the thickness of the lower layer, whereas  $h_{1+} = h_1 - h_{ice}$ . In the first series submerged ice thickness  $h_{ice}$  was constant along the computational tank varying in different numerical 70 experiments from 0.5 m to 40 m (Table 1). In the second series of the experiments, several keels were placed underside of the ice layer of constant thickness  $h_{ice}$  (Fig.1b). The ice keel shape was approximated by Versoria function (Skylingstad et al., 2003) as

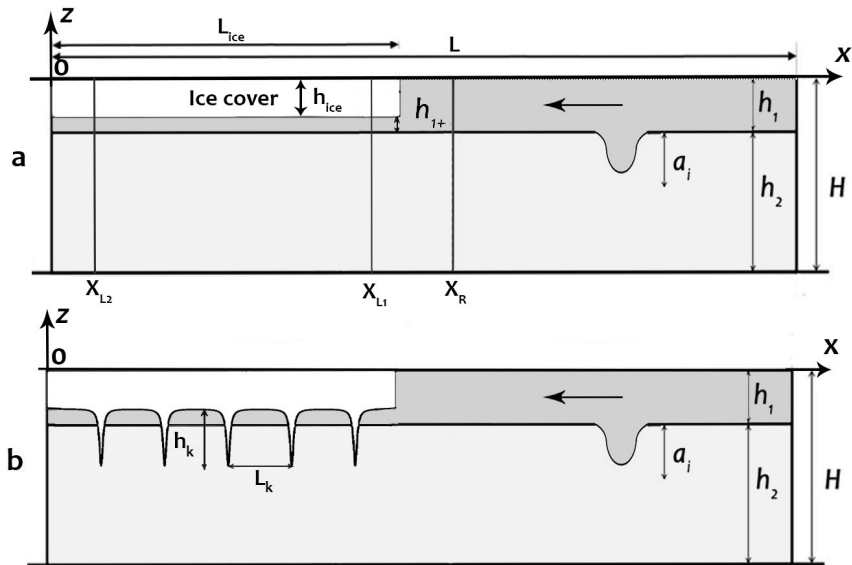
$$h_{keel}(\delta x) = \frac{h_k b_k^2}{b_k^2 + (\delta x)^2}, \quad (2)$$

where  $h_k$  is maximal keel penetration,  $b_k$  is a parameter governing to determine the keel width,  $\delta x = x - x_k$  is the horizontal 75 distance from the centre of the keel placed at  $x_k$ . The keel form was similar: i.e. the product of  $h_k b_k$  was constant. Following Zhang et al. (2022b), we define keel width as the horizontal width of the consolidated ice zone at a depth of 4 m (Marchenko, 2008). Typical values of  $h_k$  are 3 – 28 m (Strub–Klein and Sudom, 2012) reaching 45 m (Leppäranta, 2007), whereas typical keel width varies in the range of 3 – 200 m (Strub–Klein and Sudom, 2012). In the ocean the ratio of the maximum height of the keel  $h_k$  to the distance between the keels  $L_k$  varies from 1/20 for heavily ridged ice to 1/1000 for moderately ridged ice 80 (Lu et al., 2011).

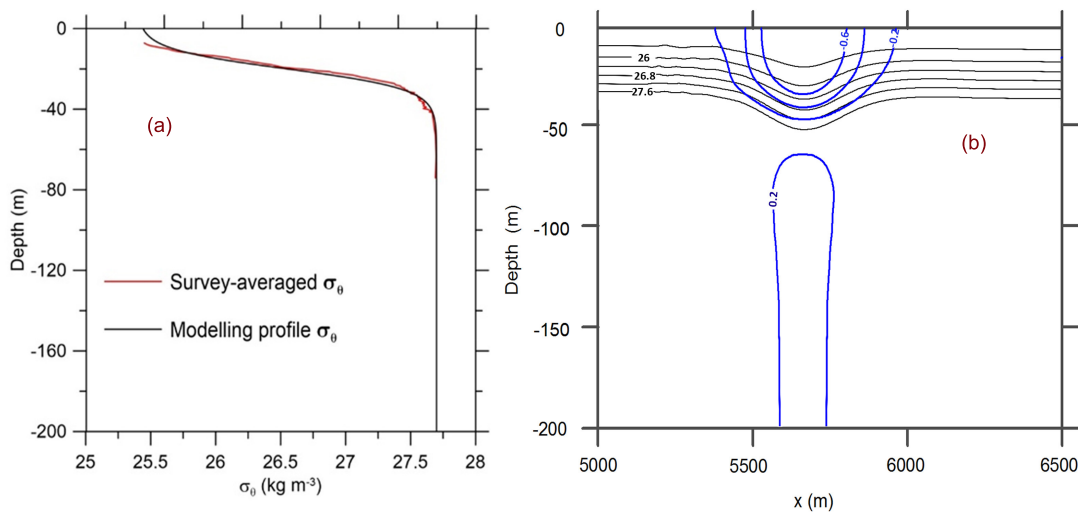
For this idealized case study, the vertical distribution of potential density anomaly mimics the summer profile of potential density over the Yermak Plateau (Randelhoff et al., 2017) in the Arctic Ocean as (1), where  $h_1 = 20$  m,  $\Delta h = 10$  m,  $\sigma_{\theta 1} = 25.4$  kg m<sup>-3</sup>,  $\sigma_{\theta 2} = 27.7$  kg m<sup>-3</sup>. As seen in Fig. 2, the summer profile of density has not a well-mixed surface layer due to the stratification caused by ice melting.

85 The free-slip boundary conditions were used at all boundaries except the ice layer. Ice-ocean tangential stress is parameterized using the quadratic bulk formula with a drag coefficient  $C_D$ . The value of  $C_D$  under ice varies in the range  $10^{-3} - 10^{-2}$  (Lu et al., 2011). No-flux condition was also used at all boundaries. The model was initialized using the iterative solution of the Dubreil-Jacotin-Long (DJL) equation (Dubreil-Jacotin, 1932) with the initial guess obtained from a weakly nonlinear theory. The DJLES spectral solver from the MATLAB package <https://github.com/mdunphy/DJLES/> was used to generate ISW of 90 depression.

To get around the difficulties associated with the numerical solution of the nonhydrostatic model equations in the presence of an ice layer, we considered the setting mirrored for the upper surface of the ocean, in which the ice layer was replaced by a



**Figure 1.** Sketch of the numerical configuration for simulation of ISWs transformation under the ice. (a) Smooth ice cover. (b) Ridged ice.



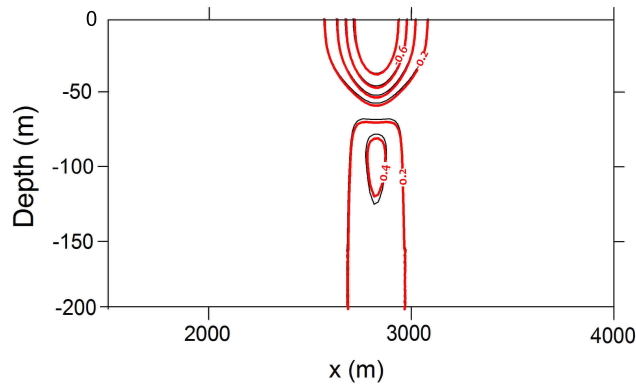
**Figure 2.** The comparison of the background stratification in the computational tank (1) with the survey averaged profile of anomaly of potential density  $\sigma_\theta$  (Randelhoff et al., 2017) (a); The vertical cross-section of potential density and horizontal velocity fields in the incident ISW of amplitude 15 m (b).



step on the bottom. Then the vertical profile (1) was replaced by the distribution

$$\sigma_{\theta} = \frac{(\sigma_{\theta 1} - \sigma_{\theta 2})}{2} \tanh\left(\frac{z - (H - h_1)}{\Delta h}\right) + \frac{(\sigma_{\theta 2} + \sigma_{\theta 1})}{2}, \quad (3)$$

95 where  $\sigma_{\theta 1} = 27.7 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ,  $\sigma_{\theta 2} = 25.4 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ . The initial wave of depression was changed, respectively, to a wave of elevation. This approach is accurate when we consider the problem with rigid lid approximation at the free surface. However, the numerical model is a free-surface model. Therefore, we conducted tests with ISWs of the same amplitude propagating as a wave of depression and as a wave of elevation in stratifications (1) and (3). The results of the comparison for horizontal velocity taking into account the mirrored of the vertical coordinate in Fig. 3 showed that the difference in the velocity between the two  
 100 configurations of the model does not exceed 1%.



**Figure 3.** The comparison of the vertical cross-section of horizontal velocity fields in a wave of depression (black line) and a wave of elevation (red line) in stratifications (1) and (3) at ISW amplitude 33 m.

In the first series of experiments, 48 runs were performed using the generalized vertical system of coordinates (Maderich et al., 2012). The vertical and horizontal grid resolution was  $400 \times 3000$ . These runs cover a range of incident ISW with moderate  $a_i = 8 \text{ m}$  and large amplitudes,  $a_i = 33 \text{ m}$  (Table 1). The incident ISW amplitude is defined as the maximum displacement of the undisturbed isopycnals. The wavelength  $\lambda_{0.5}$  is estimated as the half-width with which the amplitude of the wave is  
 105 reduced by half. It was considered two cases with different drag coefficients ( $C_D = 0.001$  and  $C_D = 0.01$ ) to investigate the influence of ice roughness on ISW transformation and energy loss. A wide range of ice cover drafts  $h_{ice}$  from 0.5 m to 40 m was considered to investigate processes under ice cover from first-year ice to the ice shelf front.

In the second series of experiments (see Table 2), 12 runs (K1-K12) were performed using a sigma-system of coordinates which allows for accurately describing flow around the keel. The vertical and horizontal grid resolution was also  $400 \times 3000$ .  
 110 The density stratification in this series was the same as in the first series. The ISW amplitude was  $a_i = 15 \text{ m}$ , wavelength  $\lambda_{0.5} = 320 \text{ m}$ , whereas drag coefficient  $C_D = 0.001$ . The ice draft was 1 m which mimics one-year ice. The keel's maximal penetration  $h_k$  varied from 7 m to 21 m, and the width of the keel varied from 67 to 200 m at the depth of 4 m. The ratio  $\mu = (h_{ice} + h_k)/L_k$  varies in experiments K1 – K3 from 0.008 to 0.088 (Table 2). To compare directly with the step case,



**Table 1.** The parameters of the first series of runs.

| Run   | $a_i$<br>m | $h_{ice}$<br>m         | $a_i/h_1$ | $C_D$ | $\beta$                          |
|-------|------------|------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1-6   | 33         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 1.65      | 0.001 | 0.6, 0.45, 0.3, 0, -0.3, -0.6    |
| 7-12  | 25         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 1.25      | 0.001 | 0.78, 0.6, 0.4, 0, -0.4, -0.8    |
| 13-18 | 15         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 0.75      | 0.001 | 1.3, 1, 0.7, 0, -0.7, -1.33      |
| 19-24 | 8          | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 0.4       | 0.001 | 2.44, 1.88, 1.25, 0, -1.25, -2.5 |
| 25-30 | 33         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 1.65      | 0.01  | 0.6, 0.45, 0.3, 0, -0.3, -0.6    |
| 31-36 | 25         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 1.25      | 0.01  | 0.78, 0.6, 0.4, 0, -0.4, -0.8    |
| 37-42 | 15         | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 0.75      | 0.01  | 1.3, 1, 0.7, 0, -0.7, -1.33      |
| 43-48 | 8          | 0.5, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 | 0.4       | 0.001 | 2.44, 1.88, 1.25, 0, -1.25, -2.5 |

**Table 2.** The parameters of the second series of runs.

| Run | $h_{ice}$<br>m | $h_k$<br>m | $b_k$<br>m | $L_k$<br>m | $\beta$ | $\mu$ | $E_{loss}$<br>% | $E_{tot}$<br>% |
|-----|----------------|------------|------------|------------|---------|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| K1  | 1              | 21         | 49.5       | 250        | -0.13   | 0.088 | -               | 82.4           |
| K2  | 1              | 21         | 49.5       | 500        | -0.13   | 0.044 | -               | 76.3           |
| K3  | 1              | 21         | 49.5       | 1000       | -0.13   | 0.022 | -               | 64.3           |
| K4  | 1              | 21         | 49.5       | > 5000     | -0.13   | -     | 41.2            | 47.4           |
| K5  | 1              | 14         | 33         | 250        | 0.33    | 0.06  | -               | 42.6           |
| K6  | 1              | 14         | 33         | 500        | 0.33    | 0.03  | -               | 40.2           |
| K7  | 1              | 14         | 33         | 1000       | 0.33    | 0.015 | -               | 29.8           |
| K8  | 1              | 14         | 33         | > 5000     | 0.33    | -     | 6.3             | 13.2           |
| K9  | 1              | 7          | 16.5       | 250        | 0.8     | 0.032 | -               | 43.6           |
| K10 | 1              | 7          | 16.5       | 500        | 0.8     | 0.016 | -               | 37.3           |
| K11 | 1              | 7          | 16.5       | 1000       | 0.8     | 0.008 | -               | 28.6           |
| K12 | 1              | 7          | 16.5       | > 5000     | 0.8     | -     | 3.5             | 10.2           |
| S1  | 22             | 0          | -          | -          | -0.13   | -     | 36.2            | 75.2           |
| S2  | 5              | 0          | -          | -          | 1       | -     | 8.8             | 22             |

calculations were made for step (S1) with the same draft as the height of the keel in the K1 experiment. In another experiment (S2), the step draft was chosen to be equal to the average draft in experiment K1.



### 3 Results

#### 3.1 First series of experiments

The results of the first series of experiments for the transformation of a depression ISW for an incident wave at the ice, layers were given for a wide range of ice drafts, incident wave amplitudes, and drag coefficients (Table 1). As it was shown  
120 by (Maderich et al., 2010; Talipova et al., 2013; Terletska and Maderich, 2022), the transformation of both elevation and depression ISW is controlled by the blocking parameter  $\beta$  which is the ratio of the height of the minimum depth of the upper layer under the ice floe  $h_{1+}$  to the incident wave amplitude  $a_i$ :

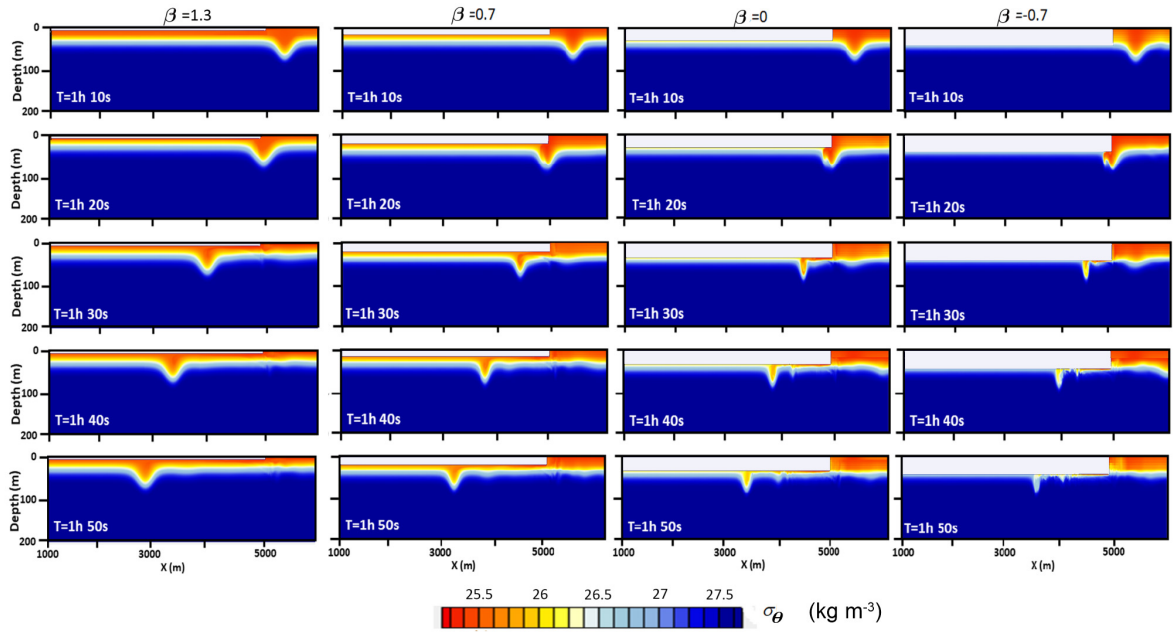
$$\beta = \frac{h_{1+}}{a_i}. \quad (4)$$

The snapshots of the density field for of incident ISW wave of amplitude  $a_i = 15$  m passing under the ice cover are shown  
125 in Fig. 4 for different  $\beta$ . Transformation under the thin ice ( $h_{ice} = 0.5$  m) with the  $\beta = 1.3$  occurs without any instability and essential disturbances. For increasing ice draft at  $\beta = 0.7$  ( $h_{ice} = 10$  m), it can be seen changing the form and amplitude of the incident wave passing under the ice. The amplitudes of reflected and transmitted waves were well predicted by the theoretical model (Grimshaw et al., 2008). For  $\beta = 0$  ( $h_{ice} = 20$  m) transmitted wave has a smaller amplitude and more energy transferred to reflected from the ice edge wave. Wave under ice transforms into strongly nonlinear boluses and more energy  
130 goes to reflected waves when the draft of the ice was equal to the depth of the upper layer ( $\beta = 0$ ). The bolus under ice becomes smaller and reflected waves form as a result of the strong interaction with the ice front at  $\beta = -0.7$  ( $h_{ice} = 30$  m).

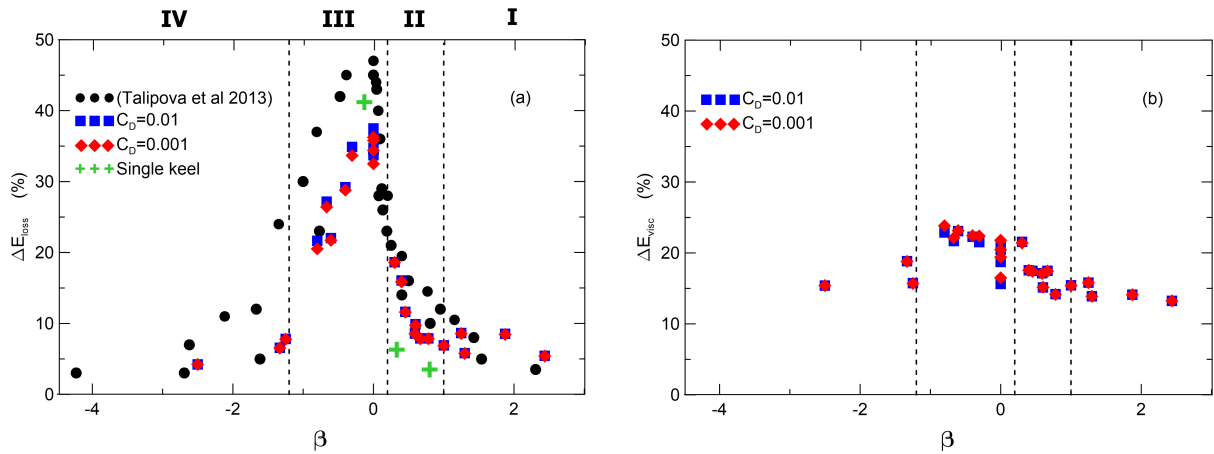
An important characteristic of the ISW-ice interaction is the loss of kinetic and available potential energy during the ISW transformation. Energy transformation due to mixing leads to the transition of energy to background potential energy and energy dissipation. A loss of energy was estimated based on the budget of depth-integrated pseudoenergy before and after the  
135 wave transformation following (Lamb, 2007) and (Maderich et al., 2010). The characteristics of the incoming and reflected wave were recorded in the cross-sections  $x_R$  (Fig. 1a), which are located near the ice edge, and in two cross-sections ( $x_{L1}$  placed at a distance of 500 m from the ice edge, and  $x_{L2}$  placed at a distance of 4500 m from the ice edge (Fig. 1a). The energy loss  $\Delta E_{loss}$  in the cross-section  $x_{L1}$  characterizes energy transformations in the vicinity of ice edge, whereas energy losses  $\Delta E_{visc}$  in the cross-section  $x_{L2}$  take into account the dissipation of energy due to the underside ice friction effects. The total  
140 energy of the incident, reflected, and transmitted waves by using the depth-integrated pseudoenergy flux  $F(x, t)$  was calculated to find the balance of the total energy

$$F(x, t) = \int_{-H}^0 (E_{PSE} + p)U dz, \quad (5)$$

where  $p$  is pressure disturbance due to passing wave,  $U$  is the horizontal velocities, and  $E_{PSE}$  is the pseudoenergy density, which is a sum of kinetic energy density  $E_k$  and available potential density  $E_a$  (part of the potential energy available for  
145 conversion into kinetic energy). For the calculation of  $E_a$ , we used a reference density profile that was obtained by an adiabatic rearranging of the density field. The volume integration of these flows outside the mixing zone allows us to estimate the energy



**Figure 4.** The snapshots of the density field for incident ISW waves with amplitude 15 m passing under the ice cover with different drafts.



**Figure 5.** (a) The ISW energy loss  $\Delta E_{loss}$  under the ice cover versus the blocking parameter  $\beta$  for various amplitudes of an incident wave (b)  $\Delta E_{visc}$  that take into account the dissipation of energy due to the underside ice friction effects versus the blocking parameter  $\beta$ .

of the incoming  $PSE_{in}$ , reflected  $PSE_{ref}$ , and transmitted under ice  $PSE_{tr}$  waves, where

$$\begin{aligned}
 PSE_{in} &= \int_{X_R}^L \int_{-H}^0 E_{PSE} dz dx = - \int_{t_1}^{t_2} F(X_R, t) dt, \\
 PSE_{tr1} &= \int_{X_R}^{X_{L1}} \int_{-H}^0 E_{PSE} dz dx = - \int_{t_2}^{t_3} F(X_{L1}, t) dt, \\
 PSE_{ref} &= \int_{X_R}^L \int_{-H}^0 E_{PSE} dz dx = \int_{t_2}^{t_3} F(X_R, t) dt, \\
 PSE_{tr2} &= \int_{X_{L2}}^{X_{L1}} \int_{-H}^0 E_{PSE} dz dx = - \int_{t_4}^{t_5} F(X_{L2}, t) dt.
 \end{aligned}$$





where  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5, t_6$  are time intervals when incoming, reflected, and transmitted waves pass the given cross-section. The  
 150 normalized energy loss  $\Delta E_{loss}$  and  $\Delta E_{visc}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta E_{loss} &= (PSE_{in} - PSE_{tr1} - PSE_{ref})/PSE_{in}, \\ \Delta E_{tot} &= (PSE_{in} - PSE_{tr2} - PSE_{ref})/PSE_{in}, \\ \Delta E_{visc} &= \Delta E_{tot} - \Delta E_{loss} = (PSE_{tr1} - PSE_{tr2})/PSE_{in}.\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

The energy loss as a result of wave transformation under ice  $\Delta E_{loss}$  at interval  $X_R - X_{L1}$  versus the blocking parameter  
 $\beta$  is shown in fig. 5a. This loss was relatively small for large positive and large negative values of  $\beta$ . The maximal value of  
 energy loss was about 38% and it is reached at  $\beta \approx 0$  for ISW. The character of energy losses and the relationship between  
 155 transmitted and reflected wave energy allows us to distinguish different regimes for ISW interaction under ice cover: the weak  
 interaction (I), moderate interaction (II), strong interaction (III), and reflection regime (IV). The weak interaction (I) is when  
 the ISW transforms under ice cover without any instability; the energy losses are caused mainly due to viscous dissipation. It  
 corresponds to values  $\beta > 0.5$ . The energy losses at cross-sections  $X_R - X_{L1}$  are about 10%. The amplitudes and number of  
 reflected and transmitted waves are well predicted by the theoretical model of (Grimshaw et al., 2008). Moderate interaction  
 160 (II) occurs when the waves become unstable under ice cover resulting in energy losses due to the turbulent mixing varying  
 from 10% to 20%. The strong interaction (III) of ISW with the ice is the regime when the flow under the ice was supercritical.  
 This regime is identified from the condition that the maximal composite Froude number  $Fr$  at the step cross-section is greater  
 than 1 where  $Fr$  is defined as

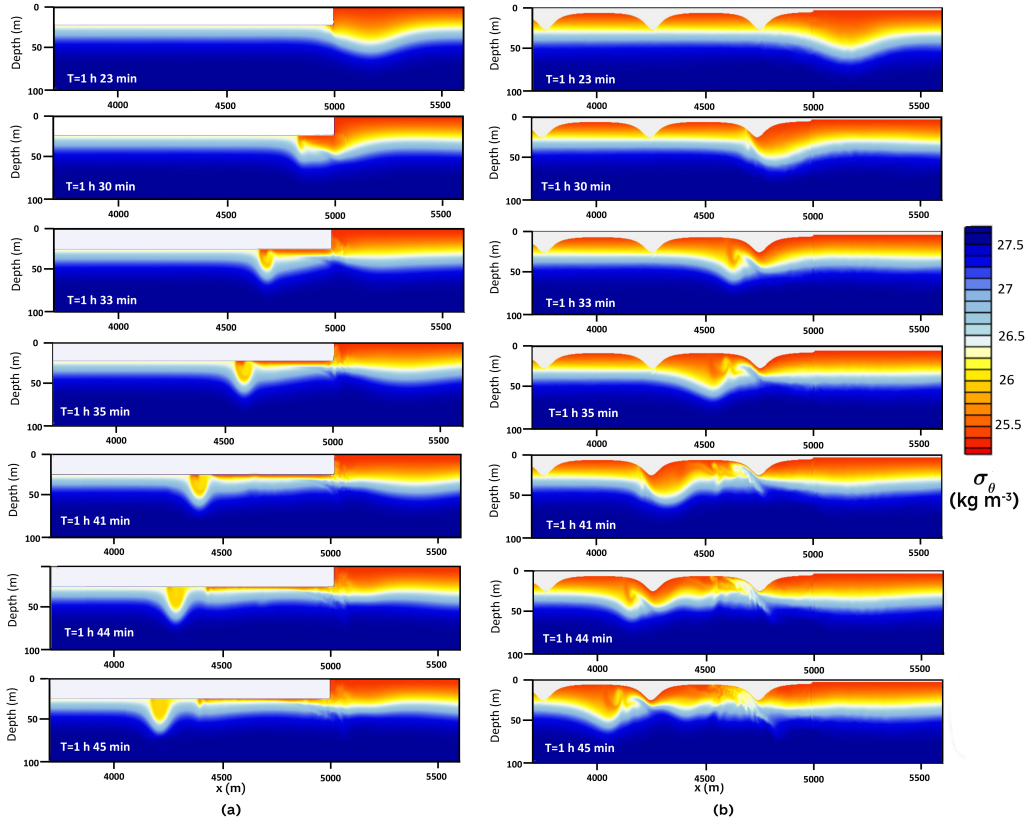
$$Fr^2 = \frac{(U_1)^2}{gh_1(x)} + \frac{(U_2)^2}{gh_2},\tag{8}$$

where  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are the layer-averaged velocities in each layer. The supercritical flow  $Fr_{max} = 1$  with ( $\beta = 0$ ) resulted in  
 bolus formation and intensive mixing which reaches about 40%. The reflection regime (IV) is when the height of the ice floe  
 is large enough to result in full reflection of the ISW wave. The energy losses are again small ( $\Delta E_{loss}$  less than 10%–15%). In  
 this regime, energy losses depend on the wave amplitude; small and moderate incident waves reflect without turbulent mixing.  
 This dependence  $\Delta E_{loss}$  on  $\beta$  is comparable to the values for the bottom step (Talipova et al., 2013) obtained using direct  
 170 simulation by the Navier-Stokes equations (Fig.5a). The differences can be explained by the fact that the real scale problem  
 was studied in this work, while in (Talipova et al., 2013) the propagation of ISWs in a laboratory-scale computing tray was  
 studied.

The difference between the energy losses in the cross-section  $X_R - X_{L2}$  and  $X_R - X_{L1}$  characterizes its losses due to  
 friction effects. This difference  $\Delta E_{visc} = \Delta E_{tot} - \Delta E_{loss}$  is shown in Fig.5b depending on  $\beta$ . As follows from the figure, the  
 175 contribution of friction is 15 – 20 % of the energy of the incident wave. The simulations showed weak dependence of energy  
 loss on the friction parameter  $C_D$  (Fig. 5).

### 3.2 Second series of experiments

The results of the second series of experiments for the transformation of depression ISW under the ridged ice were given for  
 different ice keel heights and distances between keels (Table 2). Similar to (4), we can introduce the blocking parameter for



**Figure 6.** (a) The transformation of ISW of depression under a smooth ice layer (Run S1); (b) The transformation of ISW of depression under a ridged ice layer (Run K2).

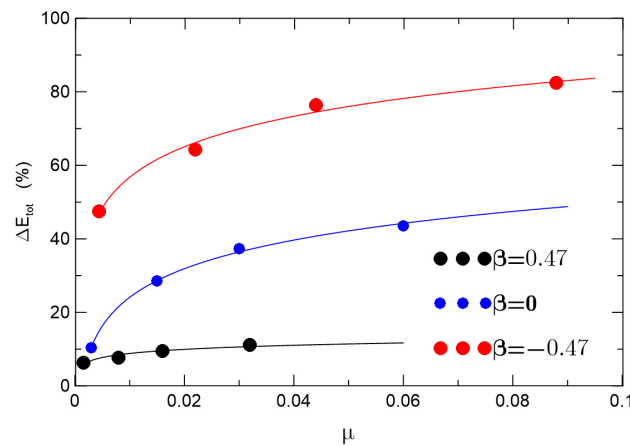
180 single keel in the form

$$\beta = \frac{h_1 - h_{ice} - h_k}{a_i} \tag{9}$$

The snapshots of the density field for incident ISW wave passing under the ice layer of the constant draft (Run S1 from Table 2) are compared in Fig.6 with wave passing under ridged ice (Run K2). In Run S1 an amplitude of ISW is comparable with the draft of ice and thickness of the upper layer, therefore interaction was strong. Initially (time interval: T=1h30'-1h35'), the wave propagated as a bolus propagating along the step (Fig. 6a). This process is accompanied by intensive mixing. Then bolus propagates gradually losing mass. Estimates of energy loss at a distance of 500 m from the ice front  $E_{loss}$  in Table 1 showed that 36.2% of energy was lost to mixing and dissipation, whereas loss of energy at the full length of ice cover (5000 m) was twice as much ( $E_{tot}=75.2%$ ). The processes of ISW disintegration and mixing for ridged ice essentially differ from the case of the ice layer of the constant draft. The snapshots of the density field of ISW passing under the ridged ice (Run K2) are shown



190 in Fig. 6 b. As seen in the figure, the flow accelerates at the rear side of the keel ( $T=1h30'$ ) entraining denser water from the underlying layers. The resulting vortex is accompanied by intense mixing ( $T=1h33'-1h45'$ ). The process of transformation of this wave with a slightly smaller amplitude is repeated on subsequent keels. As a result of passing through the first keel, the wave loses about 41% of its energy. Energy losses due to all keels depend on the distance  $L_k$  between them. When  $\beta = -0.13$   $E_{tot}$  change from 47% for single keel to 82.4 % for  $L_k = 250$  m. This means that energy losses on the first keel account for  
 195 about half of all losses. For  $L_k = 500$  m the energy loss due to all keels was 64.3 %. As  $\beta$  increases to 0.8, the contribution of the first keel decreases to 3.5 %. The parameter  $\mu = (h_{ice} + h_k)/L_k$  characterize the dependence of  $\Delta E_{tot}$  on height and distance between keels as seen in Fig. 7. As seen in Fig. 5a, the energy losses in the flow around the ridges can be of the same order as for the ice cover in which the draft is commensurate with the amplitude of the keels. It is shown that  $\Delta E_{tot}$  depends on the distance between keels for  $\beta$  around 0, and it is almost constant in the case of large positive and negative values of  $\beta$ . If  
 200 we assume that the tidal flow around the keels is the source of internal waves, then we can conclude that under conditions of strongly ridged ice, the waves excited by the tidal flow disperse in the vicinity of their formation.



**Figure 7.** The ISW energy loss  $\Delta E_{tot}$  under the ice cover estimated in the cross section  $X_R - X_{L2}$  versus parameter  $\mu$ . The logarithmic curves approximately calculated dependencies.

#### 4 Conclusions

In the study, a numerical investigation of the transformation of ISW propagating from open water in the stratified sea under the edge of the ice cover is carried out. We compared the depression ISW transformation and loss of energy on smooth ice surfaces, including those on the ice shelf and glacier outlets or fast ice, with the processes beneath the ridged underside of the ice. It was shown that the transformation of depression ISW under smooth ice cover is controlled by the blocking parameter  $\beta$ . Several regimes of ISW transformation under ice cover were identified: (I) the weak interaction, when the ISW transforms under ice cover without any instability; the energy losses are caused mainly due to viscous dissipation. It corresponds to values  
 205



210  $\beta > 0.5$ ; (II) moderate interaction, that occurs when the waves become unstable under ice cover resulting in energy losses due to the turbulent mixing varies from 10% to 20%; (III) strong interaction of ISW with the ice ( $\beta \simeq 1$ ) is the regime when the flow under the ice was supercritical and the values of energy loss were about 38 % ; and reflection regime (IV), when the depth of the ice cover is large enough to result in full reflection of the ISW wave. The ice roughness has relatively little effect on energy conversions under ice cover.

215 The ISW transformation under ridged ice also depends on the blocking parameter  $\beta$ . For large keels ( $\beta < 0$ ), more than 40 % is lost on the first keel, while for relatively small keels ( $\beta > 0.3$ ), the losses on the first keel are less than 6 %. The energy losses in the flow around the ridges can be of the same order as for ice cover in which the draft is commensurate with the amplitude of the keels. Energy losses due to all keels depend on the distance between them which is characterized by the parameter  $\mu$  which is the ratio keel depth to the distance between keels. If the tidal flow around the large keels is the source of internal waves, then under conditions of strongly ridged ice the waves excited by the tidal flow are dispersed in the vicinity of their formation.

220 The energy loss processes of ISWs under ice deserve more profound studies to bridge with ISWs mixing and heat balance of polar oceans (Pinkel, 2005). The next steps could be an explicit representation of heat and salt fluxes between ice cover due to the ISW interaction with the ridged ice.

*Code availability.* The codes that support the findings of this study, output files for all numerical experiments reported in the paper are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

225 *Author contributions.* VM designed the study and visualization of the results and wrote the manuscript with support from all authors. KT contributed to method development, simulation, contributed to the data processing and manuscript writing. ET contributed to the interpretation of the results and manuscript editing. All authors contributed to the article and approved the submitted version

*Competing interests.* The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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