

Dear Paul,

Our reply to the referees is below. The marked-up version is also included.  
Thanks for your efforts with our article.

Best wishes,

Houjun Wang

John Boyd

## Response to Referee #1

**General comments** *The authors compare the two methods for computing Hough functions: the one using normalized associated Legendre functions (ALF) and the other using the Chebyshev collocation. I don't see the authors' contributions either on scientific insights on Hough functions or on technical improvements for their computation. The manuscript, however, provides a good review on this subject and MATLAB code provided for the latter method may have educational value. Therefore, I recommend major revisions to elucidate the value of this paper.*

**Reply:** We thank the referee for his/her constructive comments. We will provide a point-by-point reply below. And we revise, clarify, and expand the manuscript accordingly.

But it may be helpful to state what we think what our article has made explicit and/or elaborated on the following points that can be considered as new and useful contribution to literature on computation of Hough functions:

1. We pointed out a correct way to implement the *normalized* ALF expansion method, which was not explicitly stated in the *limited* previous publications using this method;
2. Although Orszag (1974) stated the importance of including the parity factor for accuracy, but he didn't analyze the rate of convergence when the parity factor was omitted. Therefore, the analysis of convergence rates shown in Fig. 4 of our article represents a new result; and
3. The connection of the symmetric matrices and *completeness* of eigenvalues/eigenvectors are not explicitly stated in the previous publications on Hough functions that we know of. And here it is made *explicit*, even though it may be *obvious* now. But "most research consists mainly in realizing the obvious and that it is a slow and laborious process" (G. K. Batchelor, 1959)

### Major comments

**1.** *As discussed in the general comments, authors contribution is not clear. What is new from Boyd (1976)?*

**Reply:** a. Computing speeds have greatly improved. In those days, minimization of floating point operations was the sole criteria of merit. Today, eigenvalues of a  $1000 \times 1000$  matrix can be found in half a second on a laptop. For small and medium N where N is the size of the discretization matrix, ease of use and convenience of programming is more important than pure speed.

However, the regime of large N is still interesting for some applications. Our paper compares basis sets on both ease-of-use and floating point speed.

b. Development of fast algorithms for symmetric tridiagonal matrices has altered the efficiency questions we show more clearly in the new draft.

In 1976, most computations were performed on the CDC 6600 which had a floating point speed of 0.6 megaflops when applied to large linear algebra benchmarks. Boyds allocation of five hours on this machine thus allowed about 10 billion floating point operations. Since the state of the art eigensolver of those times, QR, had a cost of about  $O(N^3)$  operations where  $N$  is the size of the matrix, Boyds entire allocation, obtained by writing a short proposal to the NCAR computing program, would have been exhausted by finding the eigenvalues of a single matrix of dimension 1000. However, the CDC 6600 couldnt actually do problems of this size. Its core memory could only store about 50,000 numbers, so a single matrix  $200 \times 200$  exhausts memory!

In this environment, efficiency triumphed over other considerations.

In 2016, the question of “what is best” no longer has a unique answer. When the goal is to find thousands of eigenmodes, as might be desirable in Hough function/normal mode analysis of a global weather forecasting model, efficiency matters. The normalized ALF method, which yields a symmetric tridiagonal matrix that can be solved in  $O(N^2)$  operations or less versus the  $O(N^3)$  required by the dense matrices generated by the Chebyshev method, the normalized ALF method is a clear winner.

However, *in terms of convenience and ease of use, the collocation method using the parity-modified Chebyshev [cosine] series is the clear winner.*

On a modern laptop,  $10^{10}$  operations is less than half a second of execution time. Computational speed is now irrelevant for small  $N$ .

**2. Discuss advantages and disadvantages of Chebyshev method. Your results clearly show that the method using normalized ALF is superior. What are the problems with the ALF methods?**

**Reply:** Chebyshev polynomials are really just cosines. Much easier to use than ALF. Can be summed and interpolated by the FFT. Recursion is stable. ALF recursion is increasingly unstable as the zonal wavenumber increases, necessitating a bunch of tricks, etc. And the ALF methods are not as easy to program as the Chebyshev methods. Also see our reply to the comment #2 of referee #2 below.

**3. The ALF method lacks the code and the Chebyshev method lacks the details of computation (equations).**

**Reply:** We added the MATLAB code using the normalized ALF method. MATLAB function *pmn\_polynomial\_value.m* ([https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/m\\_src/legendre\\_polynomial/pmn\\_polynomial\\_value.m](https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/m_src/legendre_polynomial/pmn_polynomial_value.m)) is used to compute normalized associated Legendre polynomials. MATLAB function *lgwt.m* (<http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/4540-legendre-gauss-quadrature-weights-and-nodes/content/lgwt.m>) is used to compute the Gauss quadrature points. Also considering the cumbersome programming with the normalized ALF method, in computing the Hough functions for horizontal wind components, we use the central difference method with MATLAB function *central\_diff.m* ([http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/12-central-diff-m/content/central\\_diff.m](http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/12-central-diff-m/content/central_diff.m)).

We also simplified the portion of the MATLAB code for plotting Hough functions.

Chebyshev method is well described in Boyd’s book “Chebyshev and Fourier Spectral Methods” (as referenced in the article). We added a few remarks and the definition of the Chebyshev collocation points.

**4.a Comparisons deserve a separate section.**

**Reply:** OK, we made subsections out of them.

**4.b** *Which method is used to compute the reference?*

**Reply:** Doesn't matter as long as the "exact" answer is very accurate. Both methods are exponentially accurate, so we can use either. We actually used both to check one against the other. We also plot the Chebyshev or ALF coefficients and increase  $N$ , the number of degrees of freedom in our benchmarks, until the coefficients reach a "roundoff plateau", in the terminology of Boyd's book, Chapter 2, at around  $10^{-13}$ .

**4.c** *I believe the ALF method should be used. How do your results compare with previous studies?*

**Reply:** We agree for large  $N$ , but disagree for small  $N$ . Also as noted in the article, the advantage of using normalized ALF method, we get symmetric matrices and with all real eigenvalues; and the other methods can get a few inaccurate eigenvalues with nonzero imaginary parts. So an accuracy check, such as by comparing results with different truncations, or with different methods, is always helpful.

#### Minor comments

**Page 1, Line 7:** *MATLAB rather than Matlab.*

**Reply:** We did a global replacement.

**Page 2, Line -5:** *This paragraph is not easy to understand before the equations are shown in the next section.*

**Reply:** Move this paragraph to after the equations are shown.

**Page 3, Line 1:** *What is "x = 1"?*

**Reply:** Changed to  $\mu = 1$ .

**Page 5, Line 5:** *I suggest to rewrite the sentence in either forms below. We found that form (6b) rather than (11b) is advantageous ... It is advantageous to use ... Note that "advantage" is a transitive verb and requires an object. Form (6b) is chosen to advantage what?*

**Reply:** Revised to make it more accurate.

**Page 7, Line 19:** *We can use a general-purpose method to solve eigenvalue problem (in the ALF methods). I don't understand why the authors refer the Chebyshev method as general-purpose, implying the ALF methods to be special-purpose or tailored methods.*

**Reply:** What we mean is that the application of Chebyshev collocation methods doesn't change very much as problems/equations changed: it is usually straightforward to apply the collocation methods to different problems/equations. But for the ALF expansion method, as a Galerkin method, every time the problems/equations changed, such as when the zonal-mean wind is included, the derivations have to be redone again. To quote from Hesthaven et al. (2007, Chapter 3; referenced in our article): "The main drawback of the (Fourier-Galerkin) method is the need to derive and solve a different system of governing ODEs for each problem. This derivation may prove very difficult, and even impossible."

But we removed these statements in case they may cause confusion.

## Response to Referee #2

**General comments** *This paper presents implementation of two numerical methods for computing the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the Laplace tidal equation, the normalized associated Legendre polynomial expansion and Chebyshev collocation method, which have some advantages over the commonly used unnormalized associated Legendre polynomial expansion method. The authors also show results (Fig 4) that demonstrate how the parity factor in the Chebyshev collocation method affect numerical convergence. A Matlab routine for the Chebyshev method is included in the paper. The implementation is rather straightforward, and the presentation of the paper is clear.*

### Specific comments

**1. Parity factor:** *It will be helpful if the authors could briefly discuss why the parity factor is dependent on zonal wavenumber.*

**Reply:** We have added an appendix on the parity factor.

**2. Number of good eigenvalues (page 6 line 21 and Table 1):** *what are the percentages of good values for these modes using the unnormalized ALP method?*

**Reply:** It turns out that, when both the methods are implemented correctly (and the symmetric and anti-symmetric modes are computed separately, especially for the trickiest DW1 modes), the percentage of good values using the un-normalized ALP expansion method is the same as that of the normalized ALP expansion method. This is understandable as the recursive relationship for the normalized ALP expansion method can be derived directly from the recursive relationship for the un-normalized ALP expansion method.

However, the factorial factors (that convert the un-normalized ALPs to the normalized ALPs) grow rapidly with zonal wavenumber  $s$  and latitudinal degree, so we suspect that normalized versus unnormalized differences would appear for larger  $s$  and larger Legendre truncations. We can only say that differences are small in the parameter range for atmospherical tidal applications.

**3. Are the computational costs of the two methods comparable? How do they compare with the unnormalized ALP method?**

**Reply:** The computational costs are all very small, about a second or fractions of a second; so for most applications this question is of little concern now (also see our response to Major comment 1 of referee #1).

In addition, we have taken this opportunity to improve and clarify the manuscript in several places, as can be discerned from the marked-up version.

# On computation of Hough functions

Houjun Wang<sup>1,2</sup>, John P. Boyd<sup>3</sup>, and Rashid A. Akmaev<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CIRES, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado, USA.

<sup>2</sup>Space Weather Prediction Center, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado, USA.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

Correspondence to: Houjun Wang (houjun.wang@noaa.gov)

## Abstract.

Hough functions are the eigenfunctions of [the](#) Laplace's tidal equation governing fluid motion on a rotating sphere with a resting basic state. Several numerical methods have been used in the past. In this paper, we compare two of those methods: *normalized* associated Legendre polynomial expansion and Chebyshev collocation. Both methods are not widely used, but both have some advantages over the commonly-used unnormalized associated Legendre polynomial expansion method. Comparable results are obtained using both methods. For the first method we note some details on numerical implementation. The Chebyshev collocation method was first used for [the](#) Laplace tidal problem by Boyd (1976) and is relatively easy to use. A compact [Matlab-MATLAB](#) code is provided for this method. We also illustrate the importance and effect of including a *parity factor* in Chebyshev polynomial expansions for modes with *odd* zonal wavenumbers.

## 10 1 Introduction

Hough functions are the eigenfunctions of the eigenvalue problem of the following form:

$$\mathcal{F}(\Theta) + \gamma\Theta = 0, \tag{1}$$

where  $\mathcal{F}$  is a linear differential operator, the *Laplace's tidal operator*, defined as:

$$\mathcal{F}(\Theta) \equiv \frac{d}{d\mu} \left( \frac{1 - \mu^2}{\sigma^2 - \mu^2} \frac{d\Theta}{d\mu} \right) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2 - \mu^2} \left[ \frac{s}{\sigma} \frac{\sigma^2 + \mu^2}{\sigma^2 - \mu^2} + \frac{s^2}{1 - \mu^2} \right] \Theta, \tag{2}$$

15 with  $\mu = \sin \phi \in [-1, 1]$ ,  $\phi$  the latitude,  $s$  the zonal wavenumber, and  $\sigma$  the dimensionless frequency normalized by  $2\Omega$  ( $\Omega$  the earth's rotation rate), while

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{4a^2\Omega^2}{gh} \tag{3}$$

is the Lamb's parameter (Andrews et al., 1987, p. 154), with  $a$  the earth's radius,  $g$  the acceleration due to the earth's gravity, and  $h$  the so-called *equivalent depth*.

Several numerical methods have been used to solve the eigenvalue problem for the Laplace tidal equation in the past. Hough (1898) pioneered the solutions of the Laplace tidal equations using spherical harmonic expansion, or equivalently *spherical harmonic Galerkin* method, so eigenfunctions of the eigenvalue problem Eq. (1) that describe the latitudinal dependence are often called *Hough functions* (Flattery, 1967; Longuet-Higgins, 1968; Lindzen and Chapman, 1969). ~~The original method of computing Hough functions is based on expansion in terms of~~ Each function of latitude and longitude is expanded as a Fourier series in longitude using the usual Fourier functions,  $\cos(s\lambda)$  and  $\sin(s\lambda)$ , where  $s$ , an integer, is the “zonal wavenumber”,  $\lambda$  is the longitude. Each longitudinal trigonometric function is multiplied by a latitudinal basis function which depends on the zonal wavenumber  $s$ . Hough and his successors used a latitudinal basis of *unnormalized* associated Legendre polynomials (ALPs). Both Kato (1966) and Flattery (1967) used the *method of continued fractions* to solve for eigenvalues one by one with iterations. This is not the most convenient method to work with and some eigenvalues could be missed. Chen and Lu (2009) also discussed calculation of Hough functions following the same original formulation without showing any details on numerical procedures.

Computation of Hough functions based on expansion in terms of *normalized* ALPs was first used by Dikii (1965). It was later elaborated in a note by Groves (1981), along with a method of evaluating related wind functions. Jones (1970) used group-theoretical methods to obtain a matrix representation of Hough functions by expanding in normalized spherical harmonics.

Although it is closely related to the original method of expansion in terms of *unnormalized* ALPs, expansion in terms of the *normalized* ALPs leads to two symmetric matrices for symmetric and anti-symmetric modes. This has both *computational and conceptual* advantages over the original expansion in unnormalized ALPs: 1) the eigenvalue problem of symmetric matrix can be solved very accurately by Jacobi method (e.g., Demmel and Veselić, 1992), and 2) symmetry guarantees that all of the “eigenvalues are real and that there is an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors” (Golub and Van Loan, 1996, p. 393).

There is also another way of computing Hough functions or *global normal modes*, such as Longuet-Higgins (1968); Kasahara (1976); Žagar et al. (2015), also using spherical harmonic expansion, in which the equivalent depth is assigned (for each zonal wavenumber) and the frequency of the normal modes are obtained as the eigenvalues. This is different from eigenvalue problem for tidal waves in which the wave frequencies and zonal wavenumber are specified and eigenvalues are obtained and used to compute equivalent depths, just as stated in the original eigenvalue problem Eq. (1).

~~The Chebyshev~~

The collocation method was first used by Boyd (1976) to solve the eigenvalue problem for the Laplace tidal equation. It uses Chebyshev polynomials in the coordinate  $\mu = \sin \phi$ , applied to compute Hough functions by Boyd (1976). His latitudinal basis functions replace associated Legendre functions by cosine functions of colatitude  $\varphi$  multiplied by a “parity factor” which is equivalent to using an ordinary Fourier cosine or sine series in latitude. The Chebyshev collocation method is a general-purpose numerical method. Boyd (1976)  $\sin(\varphi)$  for *odd* zonal wavenumber  $s$  and the constant one for even zonal wavenumbers. The parity factor is explained in Appendix C. In addition, the modified latitudinal variable

$$\mu \equiv \cos(\varphi) = \sin(\phi) \in [-1, 1]$$

is often used to analyze and solve differential equations in spherical geometry. The reason is that trigonometric functions are replaced by powers of  $\mu$ , simplifying almost everything. And denoting the Chebyshev polynomials by  $T_n(x)$ , Chebyshev's famous identity shows that

$$T_n(\mu) = T_n(\cos(\varphi)) = \cos(n\varphi), \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

5 Thus a Fourier cosine series in colatitude is, with the same coefficients, also a Chebyshev polynomial series in  $\mu$ .

Boyd (1976) and Orszag (1974) listed several advantages of Chebyshev polynomial ~~expansion~~ collocation over spherical harmonic ~~expansion (basis function set becomes simpler and not restricted to spherical domain) as well as collocation method over Galerkin method (numerical quadrature is used to approximate the integrals)~~ Galerkin approximations. First, cosines/Chebyshev polynomials are much simpler than associated Legendre functions, which are different for each different zonal wavenumber  $s$ . Second, collocation, which *evaluates* and *interpolates*, is much easier to program than the Galerkin method, which *integrates*. These advantages make it ~~relative easy to work with~~ much easier to apply the Chebyshev collocation method than ~~with the~~ spherical harmonic Galerkin method: ~~derivation is no cumbersome and numerical implementation is straightforward~~. See also (Hesthaven et al., 2007, Chapter 3) for a discussion of advantages of Fourier-collocation methods over the Fourier-Galerkin methods.

15 ~~A few remarks on unnormalized versus normalized ALP expansion are also in order here. The unnormalized polynomials (not just ALPs, but Legendre and Chebyshev and Hermite polynomials too) have survived because the canonical unnormalized forms have polynomial coefficients that are integers or rational numbers. This is convenient for many applications, such as when using exact arithmetic in computer algebra. Note that this property carries over to the Galerkin matrix elements for the Hough differential equation, which are rational functions of  $r$  and  $s$  in Eq. (6). Also, for some purposes it is very convenient to use polynomials which are all 1 at  $x=1$ , as true for unnormalized Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials. The bad news is that unnormalized polynomials generate bigger roundoff errors in all calculations, not just computing matrix eigenvalues. The Galerkin matrix element formulas are more complicated for normalized polynomials. As we noted above, a particular advantage of working with normalized ALPs is that the discretization matrix becomes a symmetric matrix. Spectral discretizations often generate a few inaccurate eigenvalues with nonzero imaginary parts, but the eigenvalues of a symmetric tridiagonal matrix are always real.~~

25 In this paper we compare the solution of the eigenvalue problem for the Laplace tidal operator using two numerical methods, the ~~normalized~~ normalized ALP expansion method and the Chebyshev collocation method. Both methods are not widely used, but both have some advantages over the commonly-used unnormalized ALP expansion. For the first method we note some details of numerical implementation as the denominators in some terms of matrix entries can become zero. For the second method a compact Matlab-MATLAB code is provided to facilitate its use. We also discuss other related issues and show that there is no accuracy penalty in using the Chebyshev collocation method.

## 2 Computation of Hough functions ~~using normalized associated Legendre polynomial expansion~~

In this section, we compare two methods for computing Hough functions: one using the *normalized* associated Legendre polynomial (ALP) expansion, the other using the Chebyshev collocation method.

## 2.1 Computation of Hough functions using normalized associated Legendre polynomial expansion

The first method uses the expansion in terms of *normalized* associated Legendre polynomials (ALPs) (e.g., Groves, 1981). To solve the Laplace's tidal equation, first expand  $\Theta$  in terms of the *unnormalized* associated Legendre polynomials  $P_r^s$

$$\Theta = \sum_{r=s}^{\infty} c_r P_r^s(\mu). \quad (4)$$

Substituting into the Laplace tidal equation Eq. (1), one obtains

$$Q_{r-2}c_{r-2} + (M_r - \lambda)c_r + S_{r+2}c_{r+2} = 0, \quad (r \geq s), \quad (5)$$

where

$$Q_{r-2} = \frac{(r-s)(r-s-1)}{(2r-1)(2r-3)[s/\sigma - r(r-1)]}, \quad (6a)$$

$$M_r = \frac{\sigma^2[r(r+1) - s/\sigma]}{r^2(r+1)^2} + \frac{(r+2)^2(r+s+1)(r-s+1)}{(r+1)^2(2r+3)(2r+1)[s/\sigma - (r+1)(r+2)]} + \frac{(r-1)^2(r^2 - s^2)}{r^2(4r^2 - 1)[s/\sigma - r(r-1)]}, \quad (6b)$$

$$S_{r+2} = \frac{(r+s+2)(r+s+1)}{(2r+3)(2r+5)[s/\sigma - (r+1)(r+2)]}, \quad (6c)$$

and

$$\lambda = \frac{gh}{4a^2\Omega^2} = \frac{1}{\gamma}. \quad (7)$$

These equations were first given by Hough (1898); see also Lindzen and Chapman (1969).

The *normalized* associated Legendre polynomials  $P_{r,s}$  are defined in terms of the *unnormalized* associated Legendre polynomials  $P_r^s$  by

$$P_{r,s} = \left[ \frac{2(r+s)!}{(2r+1)(r-s)!} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} P_r^s. \quad (8)$$

Expanding  $\Theta$  in terms of the *normalized* associated Legendre polynomials  $P_{r,s}$

$$\Theta = \sum_{r=s}^{\infty} a_r P_{r,s}(\mu), \quad (9)$$

we have (Dikii, 1965; Groves, 1981)

$$L_{r-2}a_{r-2} + (M_r - \lambda)a_r + L_r a_{r+2} = 0 \quad (r \geq s), \quad (10)$$



where

$$L_r = \frac{[(r+s+1)(r+s+2)(r-s+1)(r-s+2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(2r+3)[(2r+2)(2r+5)]^{\frac{1}{2}}[s/\sigma - (r+1)(r+2)]}, \quad (11a)$$

$$M_r = -\frac{\sigma^2 - 1}{(s/\sigma + r)(s/\sigma - r - 1)} + \frac{(r-s)(r+s)(s/\sigma - r + 1)}{(2r-1)(2r+1)(s/\sigma + r)[s/\sigma - r(r-1)]} + \frac{(r-s+1)(r+s+1)(s/\sigma + r + 2)}{(2r+1)(2r+3)(s/\sigma - r - 1)[s/\sigma - (r+1)(r+2)]}. \quad (11b)$$

Equation (10) can be written in a matrix form for the coefficients vector  $x = [a_s, a_{s+1}, a_{s+2}, a_{s+3}, \dots]^T$  as the matrix eigenvalue problem  $F_0 x = \lambda x$ , with matrix  $F_0$  defined as

$$F_0 = \begin{bmatrix} M_s & 0 & L_s & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & M_{s+1} & 0 & L_{s+1} & 0 & \dots \\ L_s & 0 & M_{s+2} & 0 & L_{s+2} & \dots \\ 0 & L_{s+1} & 0 & M_{s+3} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & L_{s+2} & 0 & M_{s+4} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}. \quad (12)$$

Or it may be written as, respectively,  $F_1 x_1 = \lambda_1 x_1$ ,  $x_1 = [a_s, a_{s+2}, \dots]^T$  for symmetric modes, with matrix  $F_1$  defined as

$$F_1 = \begin{bmatrix} M_s & L_s & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ L_s & M_{s+2} & L_{s+2} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & L_{s+2} & M_{s+4} & L_{s+4} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}, \quad (13)$$

and  $F_2 x_2 = \lambda_2 x_2$ ,  $x_2 = [a_{s+1}, a_{s+3}, \dots]^T$  for antisymmetric modes, with matrix  $F_2$  defined as

$$F_2 = \begin{bmatrix} M_{s+1} & L_{s+1} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ L_{s+1} & M_{s+3} & L_{s+3} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & L_{s+3} & M_{s+5} & L_{s+5} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

These are real symmetric matrices and the eigenvalue problem can be solved accurately using the Jacobi methods (e.g., Golub and Van Loan, 1996, Chapter 8). The computed eigenvectors are the expansion coefficients.

15 A few remarks on unnormalized versus normalized ALP expansion are in order here. The unnormalized polynomials (not just ALPs, but Legendre and Chebyshev and Hermite polynomials too) have survived because the canonical unnormalized forms have polynomial coefficients that are integers or rational numbers. This is convenient for many applications, such as when using exact arithmetic in computer algebra. Note that this property carries over to the Galerkin matrix elements for the

Hough differential equation, which are rational functions of  $r$  and  $s$  in Eq. (6). Also, for some purposes it is very convenient to use polynomials which are all 1 at  $\mu = 1$ , as true for unnormalized Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials. The bad news is that unnormalized polynomials generate bigger roundoff errors in all calculations, not just computing matrix eigenvalues. The Galerkin matrix element formulas are more complicated for normalized polynomials. As we noted above, a particular advantage of working with normalized ALPs is that the discretization matrix becomes a symmetric matrix. Spectral discretizations often generate a few inaccurate eigenvalues with nonzero imaginary parts, but the eigenvalues of a symmetric tridiagonal matrix are always real.

A note on numerical implementation is relevant here, since denominators of terms in  $M_r$  can become zero. We found that form (6b), instead of ~~the form of~~ (11b), of  $M_r$  ~~can be used to advantage~~ should be used, even though the two forms are *equivalent*. In addition, we should set that last term of (6b) of  $M_r$  to zero when it becomes a form of  $0/0$ . Thus, to compute the ( $s = 2, \sigma = 1$ ) modes or SW2 (*semidiurnal, westward propagating, zonal wave number 2*) modes, we should set the last term of (6b) to zero when  $r = s = 2$ .

The Fortran 90 source code of the Jacobi eigenvalue algorithm implemented by Burkardt (2013) can be used to solve the two symmetric matrix eigenvalue problems. It can actually, for the ( $s = 1, \sigma = 0.5$ ) modes or DW1 (*diurnal, westward propagating, zonal wave number 1*) tide, compute the one ~~infinity~~ infinite eigenvalue with  $P_{2,1}$  as the eigemode, “the most important odd mode” (Lindzen and Chapman, 1969, p. 151) since  $P_{2,1} \propto \sin \phi \cos \phi$ . So in this way we will not miss any important eigenvalue or eigenfunction; see Section 3 for a discussion on the “missing” modes for the solar diurnal modes and the completeness of Hough functions. When using ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB, we can set any *inf* matrix entry to *realmax* and then use the ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB function *eig* to solve the matrix eigenvalue problem. It is also ~~preferable~~ preferable to compute eigenvalues for symmetric and anti-symmetric modes separately, especially when there are interior singularities, e.g., for the DW1 tide. A MATLAB implementation is shown in Appendix B1.

Using the method of expansions in the normalized associated Legendre polynomials, truncated at  $r_{max} = 60$  on 94 Gaussian quadrature points, we compute eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for several important solar tides. We use *solar day* instead of *sidereal day* in our computations. The first several equatorial symmetric and anti-symmetric modes for DW1 are shown in Fig. 1. The first several equatorial symmetric and anti-symmetric modes for SW2 of scalar fields are shown in Fig. 2(a)-(b). The first several equatorial symmetric and anti-symmetric modes for ( $s = 3, \sigma = 1.5$ ) modes or TW3 (*terdiurnal, westward propagating, zonal wave number 3*) for temperature field are shown in Fig. 3. For completeness, a method of computing Hough functions for the horizontal wind components by Groves (1981) (with correction) is presented in Appendix A.

### 3 ~~Computation of Hough functions using Chebyshev collocation method~~

#### 2.1 Computation of Hough functions using Chebyshev collocation method

The Chebyshev collocation method was first used by Boyd (1976) to solve the Laplace tidal problem. Expand  $\Theta$  in terms of the Chebyshev polynomials  $T_n(\mu)$ :

$$5 \quad \Theta(\mu) = \sin^m \varphi \sum_{n=0}^N b_n T_n(\mu), \quad \text{with } m = \text{mod}(s, 2), \quad (15)$$

which includes a *parity factor*  $\sin \varphi$  for the *odd* zonal wavenumber  $s$  (Orszag, 1974; Boyd, 1978), where  $\varphi$  is colatitude,  $\varphi = \pi/2 - \phi$ . ~~Note that the Chebyshev collocation method uses Chebyshev polynomials in the coordinate of  $\mu = \sin \phi$ , which is equivalent to using an ordinary Fourier cosine or sine series in latitude, albeit on nonuniform distributed Chebyshev grids clustered near the two boundary points.~~ See Appendix C for an explanation for parity factor. The Chebyshev collocation points can be defined in different ways. When the interior or “roots” points are used, they are defined as (e.g., Boyd, 2001, p. 571):

$$10 \quad \mu_i = \cos \left( \frac{(2i-1)\pi}{2N} \right), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \quad (16)$$

where  $N$  is total number of collocation points. By using the differential matrices, it is straightforward to apply the Chebyshev collocation methods to any differential operators. Discussion on property of Chebyshev polynomials and collocation method can be found in Boyd (2001) and Trefethen (2000). A ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB implementation is shown in Appendix ~~B~~ B2.

15 Parity requirement is discussed in Orszag (1974). To quote from Orszag (1974) “If parity requirements are violated, then differentiability is lost (at the boundaries, i.e., at the poles), possibly resulting in slow convergence of series expansions and associated Gibbs’ phenomena. It is important that assumed spectral representations not impose an incorrect symmetry on a solution if infinite-order accurate results are desired” (see also Boyd (1978)).

To show how accuracy is affected by the parity factor, we compare the eigenfunction expansion coefficients  $b_n$  computed with or without parity factor in Fig. 4. For both terdiurnal and pentadiurnal tides, when the parity factor is removed, only limited lower-order algebraic convergence rates are achieved:  $4^{th}$ -order for terdiurnal and  $7^{th}$ -order for pentadiurnal. When the parity factor is included, spectral or exponential convergence is restored. Thus including the parity factor improves the accuracy dramatically, so solutions are less affected by singularities when they exist. It is important to include the parity factor when computing eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for DW1 ( $s = 1, \sigma = 0.5$ ) modes (see ~~discussion below~~). A theoretical justification for the parity factor is given in Appendix C.

25 The ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB code listed in Appendix ~~B~~ B2 includes a *parity factor* for the odd zonal wavenumber. It also computes Hough modes for horizontal wind components. The computed eigenvalue in this case is just (negative)  $\gamma$  and from Eq (3) we can compute the corresponding equivalent depths  $h$ . Hough functions are simply the computed eigenvectors, with different normalization factors that are irrelevant, when Chebyshev differential matrices are used. So the eigenvalue and eigenvector problem we solve can be viewed as a direct discretization of the original operator eigenvalue problem (1).

## 2.2 Comparison of the two methods

Table 1 compares the number of good eigenvalues that can be obtained using the two methods. The “good” eigenvalue is defined as one whose *relative error*

$$E_{\text{rel}}(\hat{\lambda}) = \frac{|\lambda - \hat{\lambda}|}{|\lambda|}$$

is less than  $10^{-6}$ , where  $\lambda$  is the eigenvalue computed at high truncation  $N = 160$ , ~~considered to be accurate for purpose of comparison.~~ This definition is somewhat arbitrary, but is useful for comparisons.

5 It shows that for DW1 about 60% of the computed eigenvalues are good using the normalized ALP expansion method and about 50% of the computed eigenvalues are good using the Chebyshev collocation method; for SW2 a little over 50% of the computed eigenvalues are good using both methods; and for TW3 the number of good eigenvalues is about 75% for both methods. We note that for DW1 only about 15% of the computed eigenvalues are good *without parity factor*, contrasted to 50% *with parity factor*. This again illustrates the importance of preserving correct parity.

10 Considering the “unusual difficulties” in solving the eigenvalue problem of the Laplace tidal equation using general numerical methods, as remarked by Bailey et al. (1991), it is *remarkable* that Chebyshev collocation method with a parity factor for odd zonal wavenumber can be used so successfully in solving the eigenvalue problem of the Laplace tidal equation.

## 3 A remark on the completeness of Hough functions

15 Although the completeness of Hough functions for zonal wavenumber  $s$  and period  $T = (s + 1)/2$  days was questioned earlier by Lindzen (1965), ~~it completeness~~ was later proved by Holl (1970) , see also with further analysis by Homer (1992). Giwa (1974) proved by direct computation that, for zonal wavenumber  $s$  and period  $T = (s + 1)/2$  days, Hough functions for tidal oscillations are the same as the associated Legendre polynomials  $P_{s+1}^s$  and Hough functions form a *complete* set of orthogonal functions.

20 One advantage in using the *normalized* associated Legendre polynomials as basis functions, as shown in Section 2.1, is that the eigenvalue problem becomes an eigenvalue problem for two real symmetric matrices, one for symmetric modes and one for anti-symmetric modes. The spectral theory of (Hermitian) symmetric matrices tells us that these real symmetric matrices have “a complete set of orthogonal eigenvectors, and that the corresponding eigenvalues are real” (e.g., Lax, 2002, Chapter 28). Thus this approach in a heuristic way shows the completeness of Hough functions.

## 4 Summary and Conclusions

25 In this paper, we briefly survey the numerical methods for computing eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the Laplace tidal operator. In particular we compare two numerical methods: the *normalized* associated Legendre polynomial (ALP) expansion and Chebyshev collocation. The *normalized* ALP expansion method leads to two symmetric matrices which can be solved very accurately. It also has an advantage in providing another conceptual understanding for the completeness of eigenfunc-

tions (Hough functions) of [the](#) Laplace tidal operator. We also note some details on numerical implementation [and provide a MATLAB code](#).

The Chebyshev collocation method was first used by Boyd (1976) for computing the eigenvalues for the Laplace tidal problem. Here we compare this method with the ALP expansion and found that both are producing comparable results. Chebyshev collocation ~~is a general purpose numerical method~~ [method uses Fourier cosine series in colatitude as the basis functions](#) and is relatively easy to work with. A compact ~~Matlab~~ [MATLAB](#) code is provided to facilitate the use of Chebyshev collocation method for [the](#) Laplace tidal problem.

The Chebyshev polynomial expansion method is merely a Fourier cosine expansion method in disguise (Boyd, 2001). In using the Chebyshev collocation method, it is important to include a *parity factor* in Chebyshev polynomial expansion for *odd* zonal wavenumber modes.

## Appendix A: Hough functions for the horizontal wind components

Hough function for the horizontal wind components are (Groves, 1981; Lindzen and Chapman, 1969):

$$\Theta_u = \frac{(1-\mu^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sigma^2-\mu^2} \left[ \frac{s}{1-\mu^2} - \frac{\mu}{\sigma} \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] \Theta, \quad (\text{A1a})$$

$$15 \quad \Theta_v = \frac{(1-\mu^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sigma^2-\mu^2} \left[ \frac{(s/\sigma)\mu}{1-\mu^2} - \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] \Theta, \quad (\text{A1b})$$

for the eastward and northward components respectively. These can be evaluated numerically by discretizing the differential operators; or evaluated recursively as follows (Groves, 1981). Let

$$S_u = \cos\phi \Theta_u, \quad S_v = \cos\phi \Theta_v, \quad (\text{A2})$$

then from Eqs. (A1) we have

$$20 \quad \sigma S_u - \mu S_v - (s/\sigma)\Theta = 0, \quad (\text{A3a})$$

$$\mu S_u - \sigma S_v - (1/\sigma)\mathcal{D}\Theta = 0, \quad (\text{A3b})$$

where  $\mathcal{D} = (1-\mu^2)d/d\mu$ . Note that there misses the factor of  $1/\sigma$  before  $\mathcal{D}\Theta$  in Eq. (40) of Groves (1981). For  $s \geq 0$ , we expand  $S_u$  and  $S_v$  in terms of the normalized associated Legendre polynomials:

$$S_u = \sum_{r=s}^{\infty} u_r P_{r,s}(\mu), \quad S_v = \sum_{r=s}^{\infty} v_r P_{r,s}(\mu), \quad (\text{A4})$$

25 and use Eq. (9) for expansions of  $\Theta$ , as well as the recurrence relations for the normalized associated Legendre functions (which can be verified or derived from the recurrence relations for the unnormalized associated Legendre polynomials)

$$\mu P_{r,s} = b_r P_{r-1,s} + b_{r+1} P_{r+1,s}, \quad (\text{A5a})$$

$$\mathcal{D}P_{r,s} = (r+1)b_r P_{r-1,s} - r b_r P_{r+1,s}, \quad (\text{A5b})$$

where

$$b_r = [(r^2 - s^2)/(4r^2 - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (\text{A6})$$

then the coefficients of  $P_{r-1,s}$  give

$$5 \quad b_r u_r = \sigma v_{r-1} - b_{r-1} u_{r-2} - (1/\sigma)[(r-2)a_{r-2} b_{r-1} - (r+1)a_r b_r], \quad (\text{A7a})$$

$$b_r v_r = \sigma u_{r-1} - b_{r-1} v_{r-2} - (s/\sigma)a_{r-1}. \quad (\text{A7b})$$

The first several equatorial symmetric and anti-symmetric modes for SW2 ( $s = 2, \sigma = 1$ ) for the zonal wind components computed using the above method are shown in Fig. 2(c)-(f). We also used the second-order central finite difference method to discretize the differential operators in Eqs. (A1a) and (A1b). Comparison of Hough mode computations for wind components using the method presented above and the finite difference method showing no visual differences, except at the two end points where the one-sided finite difference has to be used. The ~~Matlab code for the Chebyshev collocation method also compute~~ MATLAB code listed in Appendix B1 also computes Hough functions for the horizontal wind components using the central difference method.

## 15 **Appendix B: Listing of the ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB codes for computing Hough functions**

In this Appendix, we list the ~~Matlab~~ MATLAB codes that can be used to compute eigenvalue and eigenvectors or Hough functions for the Laplace tidal equation. One uses the normalized ALP method and the other uses the Chebyshev collocation method.

### **B1 The normalized ALP method**

20 The first MATLAB code uses the normalized ALP method. MATLAB function *pmn\_polynomial\_value.m* ([https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/m\\_src/legendre\\_polynomial/pmn\\_polynomial\\_value.m](https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/m_src/legendre_polynomial/pmn_polynomial_value.m)) is used to compute normalized associated Legendre polynomials. MATLAB function *lgwt.m* (<http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/4540-legendre-gauss-quadrature-weights-and-nodes/content/lgwt.m>) is used to compute the Gauss quadrature points. And considering the cumbersome programming with the normalized ALP method, in computing the Hough functions for horizontal  
25 wind components, we use the central difference method with MATLAB function *central\_diff.m* ([http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/12-central-diff-m/content/central\\_diff.m](http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/12-central-diff-m/content/central_diff.m)).

```
% NALP_HOUGH - Compute Hough functions
% using normalized associated Legendre
% polynomials (ALP)
clear; format long e
```

```

a = 6.370d6; g = 9.81d0;
omega = 2.d0*pi/(24.d0*3600.d0);
%s = 1.d0; sigma = 0.4986348375d0; % DW1
5  s = 1.d0; sigma = 0.5d0;      % DW1
   %s = 2.d0; sigma = 1.0d0;    % SW2
   %s = 3.d0; sigma = 1.5d0;    % TW3
N = 62; N2 = N/2; sf = s/sigma;
% define L(r) and M(r)
10 L = zeros(N,1); M = zeros(N,1);
   for r = s:N+s-1
       i = r-s+1;
       % define L(r)
L(i) = sqrt((r+s+1)*(r+s+2)*(r-s+1)*(r-s+2))...
15       /((2*r+3)*sqrt((2*r+1)*(2*r+5))...
          *(sf-(r+1)*(r+2)));
       % define M(r)
       if (s == 2) && (r == 2)
           M(i) = -(sigma^2*(sf-r*(r+1)))...
20           /((r*(r+1))^2)...
           +(r+2)^2*(r+s+1)*(r-s+1)...
           /((r+1)^2*(2*r+3)*(2*r+1)...
              *(sf-(r+1)*(r+2)));
       else
25       M(i) = -(sigma^2*(sf-r*(r+1)))...
           /((r*(r+1))^2)...
           +(r+2)^2*(r+s+1)*(r-s+1)...
           /((r+1)^2*(2*r+3)*(2*r+1)...
              *(sf-(r+1)*(r+2)))...
30       +(r-1)^2*(r^2-s^2)...
           /(r^2*(4*r^2-1)*(sf-r*(r-1)));
       end % if
       if (M(i) == inf), M(i) = realmax; end
       end % for
35 % build F1 & F2 matix
f1 = zeros(N2,N2); f2 = zeros(N2,N2);
for i = 1:N2
f1(i,i) = M(2*i-1);
f2(i,i) = M(2*i);
40 if (i+1 <= N2)
    f1(i,i+1) = L(2*i-1);
    f1(i+1,i) = L(2*i-1);
    f2(i,i+1) = L(2*i);
    f2(i+1,i) = L(2*i);
end % if

```

```

end % for
% symmetric modes
[v1,d1] = eig(f1); lamb1 = diag(d1);
5  [~,ii] = sort(-lamb1);
   lamb1 = lamb1(ii); v1 = v1(:,ii);
   ht1 = 4.d0*a^2*omega^2/g.*lamb1/1000.d0;
% anti-symmetric modes
[v2,d2] = eig(f2); lamb2 = diag(d2);
10 [~,ii] = sort(-lamb2);
   lamb2 = lamb2(ii); v2 = v2(:,ii);
   ht2 = 4.d0*a^2*omega^2/g.*lamb2/1000.d0;
% Legendre-Gauss quadrature points
nlat = 94; [x,w] = lgwt(nlat,-1,1);
15 % normalized associated Legendre functions
   prs = pmn_polynomial_value(nlat,N+s,s,x);
% compute Hough modes
   h1 = zeros(nlat,N2); h2 = zeros(nlat,N2);
   for i = 1:N2
20   for j = 1:N2
       i1 = 2*j+s-1; i2 = 2*j+s;
       for ii = 1:nlat
           % symmetric modes
           h1(ii,i) = h1(ii,i) + v1(j,i)*prs(ii,i1);
25   % anti-symmetric modes
           h2(ii,i) = h2(ii,i) + v2(j,i)*prs(ii,i2);
       end
       end
       end
30 % put them together
   lamb = zeros(N,1); hough = zeros(nlat,N);
   for i = 1:N2
       for j = 1:nlat
           i1 = 2*i-1; i2 = 2*i;
35   lamb(i1) = lamb1(i);
       lamb(i2) = lamb2(i);
       hough(j,i1) = h1(j,i);
       hough(j,i2) = h2(j,i);
       end
40   end
   [~,ii] = sort(1./lamb);
   lamb = lamb(ii); hough = hough(:,ii);
% equivalent depth (km)
h = 4.d0*a^2*omega^2/g.*lamb/1000.d0;
% compute Hough functions for wind components

```



```

b1 = (sigma^2-x.^2).*sqrt(1.d0-x.^2);
b2 = sqrt(1.d0-x.^2)./(sigma^2-x.^2);
dhdx = central_diff(hough,x);
5 hough_u = diag(s./b1)*hough ...
    - diag(b2.*x./sigma)*dhdx;
hough_v = diag((s/sigma).*x./b1)*hough ...
    - diag(b2)*dhdx;
clf % plot Hough functions
10 for j = 1:60
    u = hough(:,j); subplot(10,6,j)
    plot(x, u, 'LineWidth',2), grid on
end

```

## **B2 The Chebyshev collocation method**

15 The second MATLAB code uses the Chebyshev collocation method. It includes a *parity factor* for modes with *odd zonal wave number wavenumbers* ( $s$ ) (Orszag, 1974; Boyd, 1978).

```

% CHEB_HOUGH - Compute Hough functions
% using Chebyshev collocation methods
clear; format long e
20 a = 6.370d6; g = 9.81d0;
    omega = 2.d0*pi/(24.d0*3600.d0);
    %s = 1.d0; sigma = 0.4986348375d0; % DW1
    s = 1.d0; sigma = 0.5d0; % DW1
    %s = 2.d0; sigma = 1.0d0; % SW2
25 %s = 3.d0; sigma = 1.5d0; % TW3
    parity_factor = mod(s,2);
    N = 62; [D1,D2,x] = cheb_boyd(N,parity_factor);
    a2 = (1-x.^2)./(sigma^2-x.^2);
    a1 = 2.*x.*(1-sigma^2)./(sigma^2-x.^2).^2;
30 a0 = -1./(sigma^2-x.^2).*(s/sigma) ...
    .* (sigma^2+x.^2)./(sigma^2-x.^2) ...
    +s^2./(1-x.^2);
    A = diag(a2)*D2 + diag(a1)*D1 + diag(a0);
    [v,d] = eig(A); lamb = real(diag(d));
35 % sort eigenvalues and -vectors
    [foo,ii] = sort(-lamb);
    lamb = lamb(ii); hough = real(v(:,ii));
    % equivalent depth (km)
    h = -4.d0*a^2*omega^2/g./lamb/1000.d0;
    % compute Hough functions for wind components

```

```

b1 = (sigma^2-x.^2).*sqrt(1.d0-x.^2);
b2 = sqrt(1.d0-x.^2)./(sigma^2-x.^2);
hough_u = diag(s./b1)*hough ...
5      - diag(b2.*x./sigma)*D1*hough;
hough_v = diag((s/sigma).*x./b1)*hough ...
      - diag(b2)*D1*hough;
clf % plot Hough functions
for j = 1:60
10  u = hough(:,j); subplot(10,6,j)
    plot(x, u, 'LineWidth',2), grid on
end

```

And here is the list of the [Matlab-MATLAB](#) codes for computing Chebyshev differential matrices *numerically* with an option for including the parity factor.

```

15  function [D1, D2, x] = cheb_boyd(N, pf)
    % CHEB_BOYD - Compute differential matrix
    % for Chebyshev collocation method;
    % It contains an optional parity factor (pf)
    t = (pi/(2*N)*(1:2:(2*N-1)))';
20  x = cos(t); n = 0:(N-1);
    ss = sin(t); cc = cos(t);
    sx = repmat(ss,1,N); cx = repmat(cc,1,N);
    nx = repmat(n,N,1); tx = repmat(t,1,N);
    tn = cos(nx.*tx);
25  if pf==0
        phi2 = tn;
        PT = -nx.*sin(nx.*tx);
        phiD2 = -PT./sx;
        PTT = -nx.^2.*tn;
30  phiDD2 = (sx.*PTT-cx.*PT)./sx.^3;
    else
        phi2 = tn.*sx;
        PT = -nx.*sin(nx.*tx).*sx + tn.*cx;
        phiD2 = -PT./sx;
35  PTT = -nx.^2.*tn.*sx ...
        - 2*nx.*sin(nx.*tx).*cx - tn.*sx;
        phiDD2 = (sx.*PTT-cx.*PT)./sx.^3;
    end
    D1 = phiD2 /phi2; % the first derivatives
    D2 = phiDD2/phi2; % the second derivatives

```

## Appendix C: The parity factor for basis functions on the sphere

Orszag (1974), Boyd (1978), Secs. 18.8 and 18.9 of Chapter 18 in Boyd (2001), and Boyd and Yu (2011), all provide a detailed analysis of the “parity factor”,  $\sin(\varphi)^{\text{mod}(s,2)}$ , multiplying each latitudinal basis function. Therefore, we shall content ourselves with a heuristic argument here. Note that the analysis here is restricted to scalars; components of vectors are discussed in Boyd (2001).

If  $f(\lambda, \varphi)$  is a smooth (infinitely differentiable) scalar function, then it should be continuous when followed along a meridian over the pole. However,  $\lambda$  jumps discontinuously as the pole is crossed. Continuity requires that

$$\lim_{\varphi \rightarrow 0} f(\lambda, \varphi) = f(\lambda + \pi, \varphi) \quad (\text{C1})$$

10 for all  $\lambda$ . Let us expand in a longitudinal Fourier series

$$f(\lambda, \varphi) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} a_s(\varphi) \cos(s\lambda) + b_s(\varphi) \sin(s\lambda) \quad (\text{C2})$$

Because the Fourier basis functions are linearly independent, each term must individually satisfy the continuity condition. All *even* wavenumbers have the property of invariance with respect to translation by  $\pi$  and therefore are unchanged when followed along a meridian over a pole:

$$15 \cos(2s[\lambda + \pi]) = \cos(2s\lambda + 2s\pi) = \cos(2s\lambda), \quad s = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (\text{C3})$$

However, all *odd* wavenumbers are *sign-reversed*:

$$\cos([2s - 1][\lambda + \pi]) = \cos([2s - 1]\lambda + [2s - 1]\pi) = -\cos([2s - 1]\lambda), \quad s = 1, 2, \dots \quad (\text{C4})$$

as illustrated in Fig. C.1. The continuity condition cannot be satisfied unless the limit as  $\varphi \rightarrow 0$  of all Fourier coefficients for all *odd* longitudinal wavenumbers is *the only value that is equal to its own negative, zero*, that is

$$20 \lim_{\varphi \rightarrow 0} a_{2s-1}(\varphi) = 0 \quad (\text{C5})$$

(and similarly for the sine coefficients), as shown schematically in Fig. C.2. The parity factor  $\sin(\varphi)$  enforces this zero for all odd wavenumbers. It is unnecessary for even longitudinal wavenumbers because trigonometric functions of even zonal wavenumber are continuous across the poles automatically.

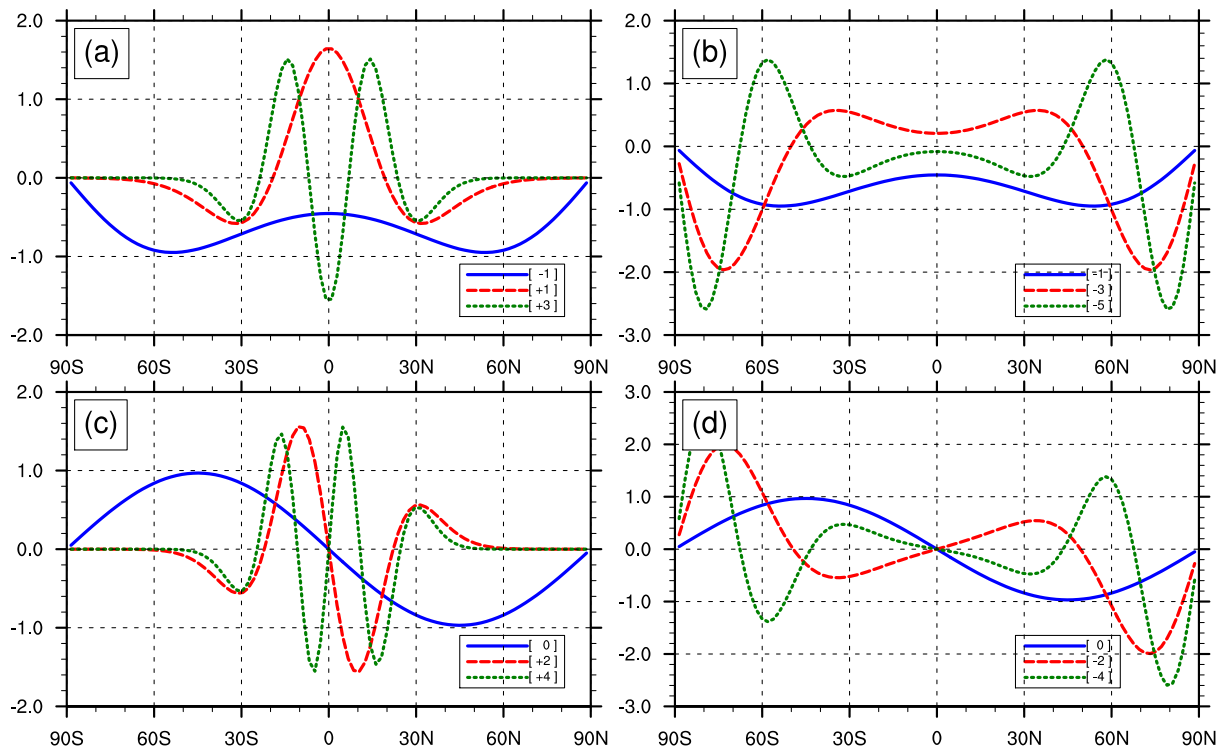
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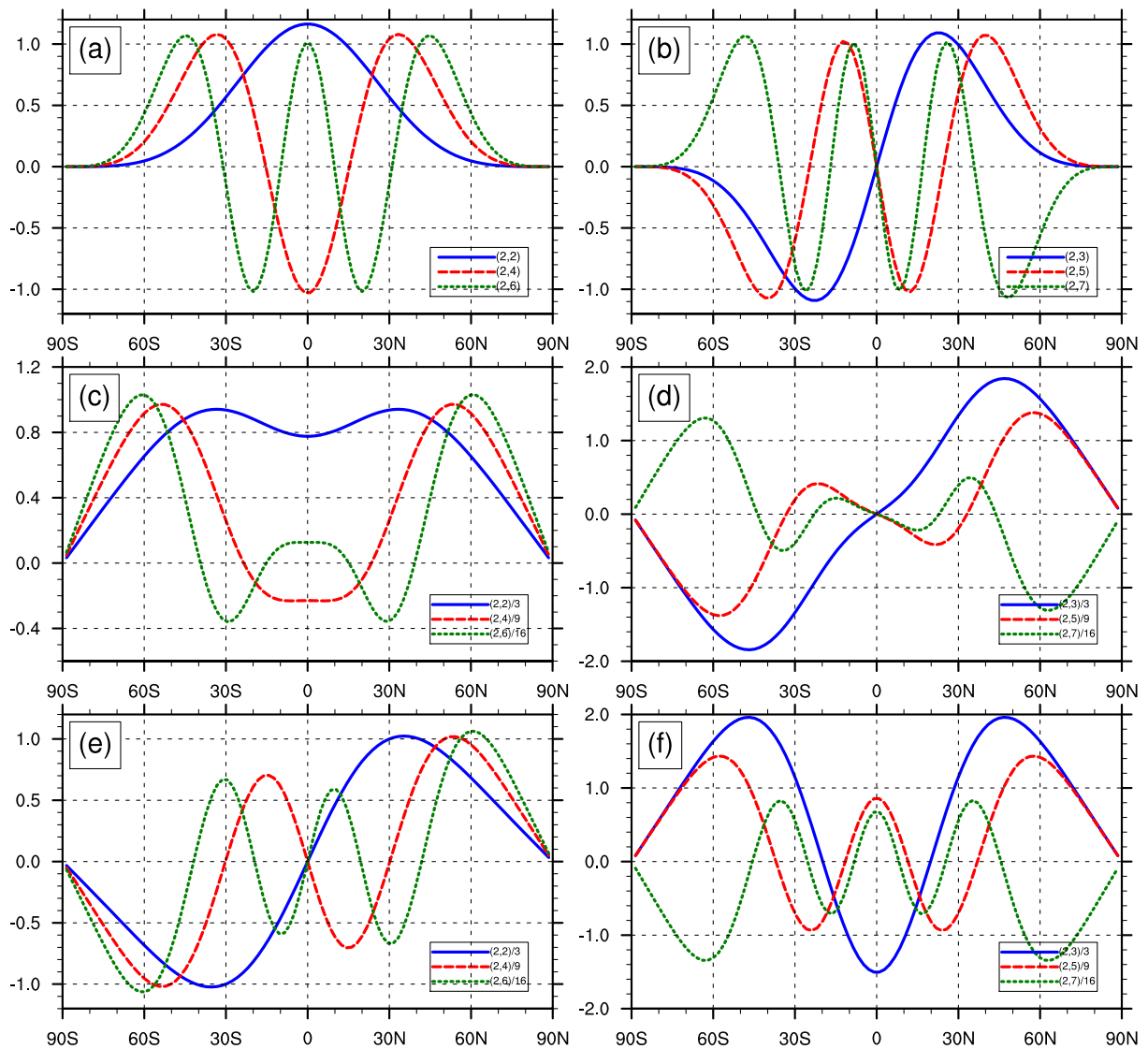
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**Table 1.** Number of good eigenvalues of three tidal waves DW1, SW2 and TW3 computed with different truncation  $N$  using two different methods: I - normalized ALP expansion, II - Chebyshev collocation.

$N$	DW1-I	DW1-II	SW2-I	SW2-II	TW3-I	TW3-II
8	2	0	2	0	3	1
16	6	1	6	5	10	6
24	10	3	10	9	16	13
32	16	9	14	13	22	19
40	22	14	20	18	28	25
48	28	15	24	22	36	32
56	32	24	29	27	42	39
64	38	29	34	32	48	45
72	43	29	38	37	56	52
80	49	39	44	42	62	59

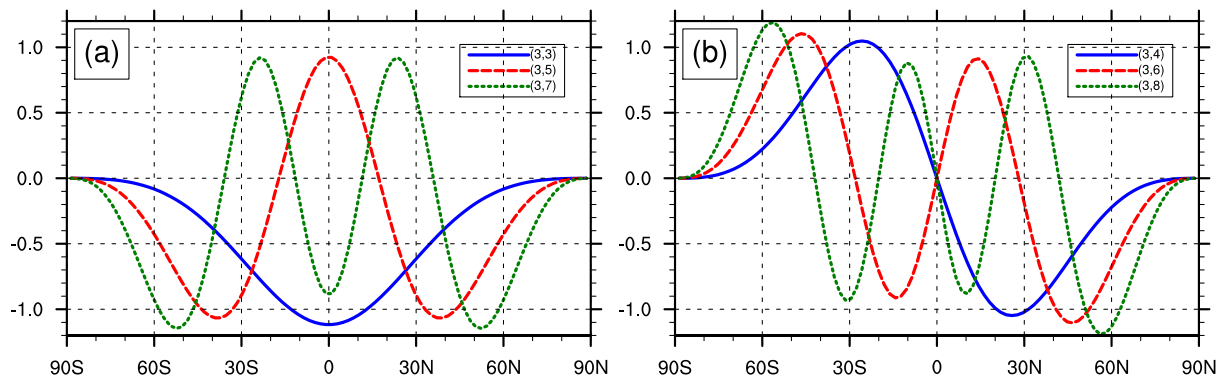


**Figure 1.** The first few symmetric and antisymmetric Hough modes for DW1 ( $s = 1, \sigma = 0.5$ ) of scalar fields, computed using the normalized associated Legendre polynomial (ALP) expansions. Panels (a) and (b) are for symmetric modes, (c) and (d) are for anti-symmetric modes. The labels are: [ -1 ] for the first *negative* mode with largest *negative* eigenvalue, [ +1 ] for the first *positive* mode with largest *positive* eigenvalue, and [ 0 ] for the so-called missing mode with *zero* eigenvalue or *infinite* equivalent depth.

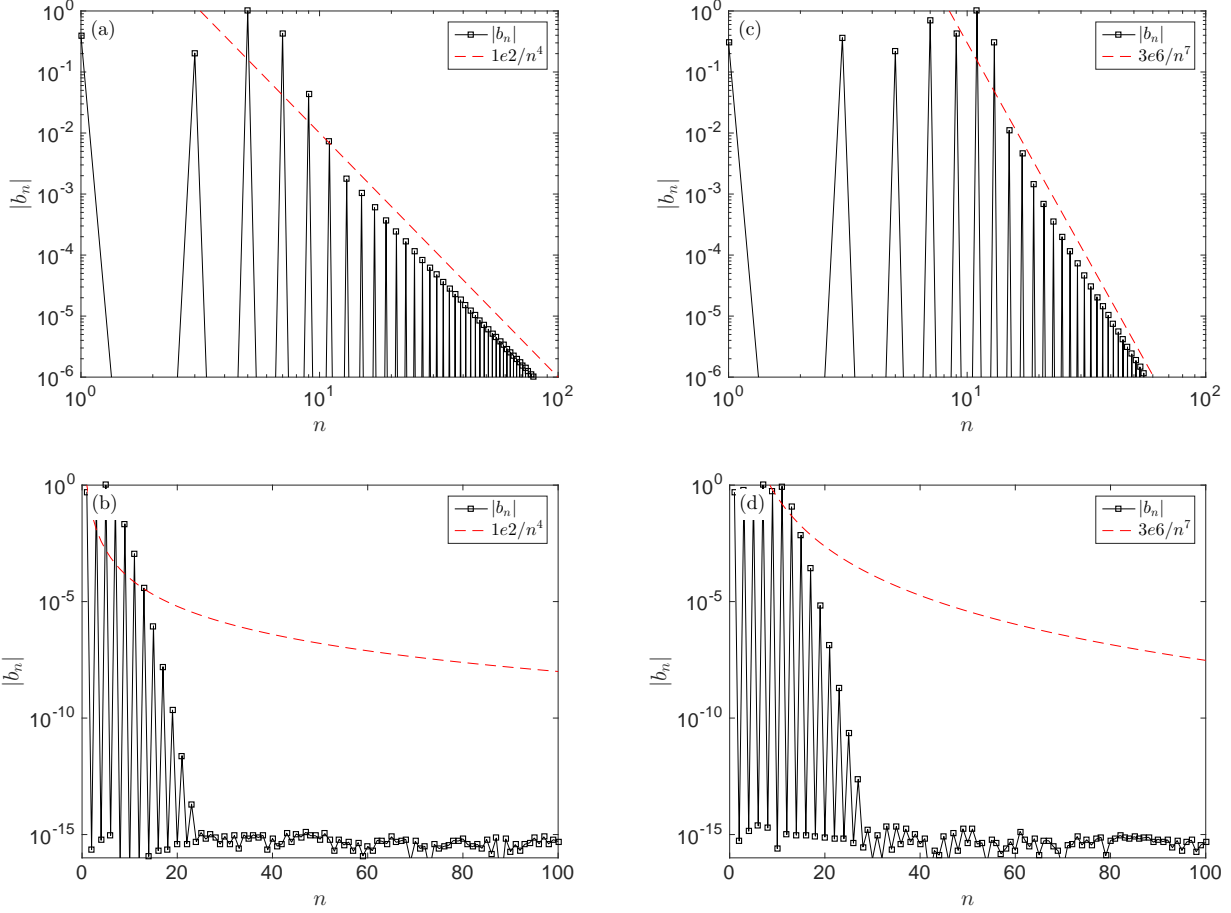


**Figure 2.** The first few symmetric and antisymmetric Hough modes for SW2 ( $s = 2, \sigma = 1$ ), computed using the normalized associated Legendre polynomial (ALP) expansions. The left panels are symmetric modes and the right panels are anti-symmetric modes, except panels (e) and (f) which are reversed. Panels (a) and (b) are for the scalar fields, (c) and (d) for the zonal wind component, (e) and (f) for the meridional wind component. The labels are conventional.

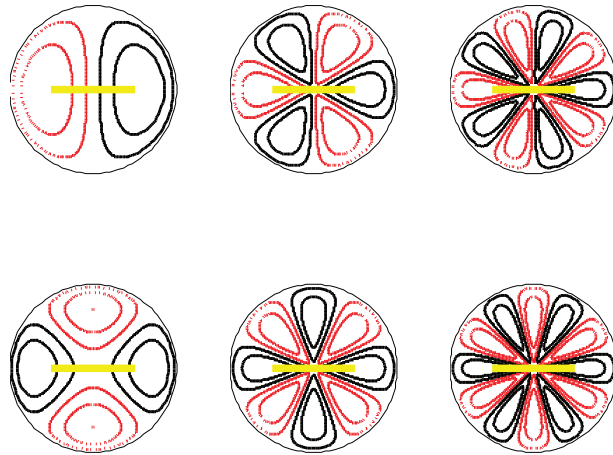




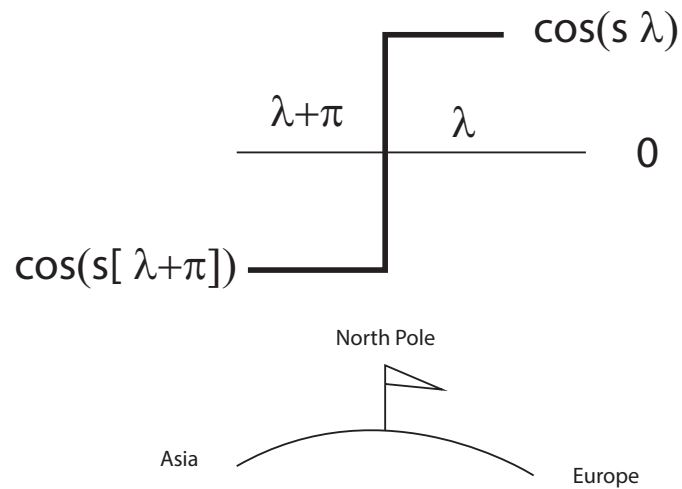
**Figure 3.** The first few symmetric and antisymmetric Hough modes for TW3 ( $s = 3, \sigma = 1.5$ ) of scalar fields, computed using the normalized associated Legendre polynomial (ALP) expansions. The left panels are symmetric modes and the right panels are anti-symmetric modes.



**Figure 4.** The absolute value of the expansion coefficients  $b_n$  in Eq. (15), truncated at  $N = 150$ . The left panels are for the terdiurnal tides,  $s=3, \sigma=1.5$ , for eigenfunction with eigenvalue  $\gamma=17.2098$ : (a) without parity factor, (b) with parity factor; The right panels are for pentadiurnal tides  $s=5, \sigma=2.5$ , for eigenfunction with eigenvalue  $\gamma=22.9721$ : (c) without parity factor, (d) with parity factor. An empirical fitting curve is also shown in red dash.



**Figure C.1.** Schematic isolines for Fourier terms  $a_s(\varphi)\cos(s\lambda)$  for various zonal wavenumbers  $s$ , shown in a polar projection. Positive-valued isolines are solid black while negative-valued isolines are red dashed. The thick yellow line segments depict a part of a meridian. For *odd* wavenumbers (upper panels), the yellow lines connect solid black contours to red dashed isolines – the function changes sign along the meridian.



**Figure C.2.** Schematic of the behavior of  $a_s(\varphi)\cos(s\lambda)$  along a meridian. If  $a_s(0) \neq 0$ , the Fourier term will have a jump discontinuity across the pole (thick black curve) when longitude jumps by  $\pi$ .