

Wave turbulence in vibrating  
plates:  
can one hear a Kolmogorov  
spectrum?

---

Christophe Josserand, Institut D'Alembert,  
CNRS & UPMC, Paris

Gustavo Düring & Sergio Rica

Thomas Humbert, Olivier Cadot and Cyril Touzé.

# Wave turbulence.

- developed originally for water waves (ocean waves)
- stationary observed states: statistical description of wave systems?
- for waves, the linear order is crucial since one can make an expansion analysis with a small parameter (wave amplitude)
- assuming weak nonlinearities, a kinetic equation for the wave amplitudes can be obtained using asymptotic closures at large times
- although experimental evidences, many questions remain (ocean waves, range of validity, mathematical proof ...)

# Wave turbulence in elastic plate

- elastic plates have dispersive waves and geometrical nonlinearities which suggest that wave turbulence can apply
- predicted theoretically in 2006 using classical wave turbulence arguments and shown in numerical simulations
- spectra of direct cascade of energy experimentally obtained with important differences with the theory.
- let know hear a Kolmogorov spectrum

Experiment movie by  
N. Mordant (LPS-ENS)



# Elastic plates

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{Eh^2}{12(1-\sigma^2)} \Delta^2 \zeta + \{\zeta, \chi\}$$

$$\frac{1}{E} \Delta^2 \chi = -\frac{1}{2} \{\zeta, \zeta\}$$

where E is the Young Modulus, h the plate thickness and:

$$\{f, g\} = f_{xx}g_{yy} + f_{yy}g_{xx} - 2f_{xy}g_{xy}$$

and  $\frac{1}{2} \{\zeta, \zeta\} = \zeta_{yy}\zeta_{xx} - \zeta_{xy}^2$  is the Gaussian curvature

# Wave turbulence framework

- classical wave/weak turbulence machinery applies (DJR 2006)
- the dissipationless equation has a Hamiltonian structure

$$H = \int \left[ \frac{h^2 E}{24(1 - \sigma^2)} (\Delta \zeta)^2 - \frac{1}{2E} (\Delta \chi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \chi \{ \zeta, \zeta \} \right]$$

$$\omega_k = \sqrt{\frac{E h^2}{12(1 - \sigma^2) \rho}} |k|^2.$$

## Using Fourier transform

$$H = h \int \left[ \frac{1}{2\rho h^2} p_{k_1} p_{-k_1} + \frac{h^2 E}{24(1-\sigma^2)} k_1^4 \zeta_{k_1} \zeta_{-k_1} \right] d^2 k_1 + \frac{h}{(2\pi)^2} \int T_{k_1 k_2; k_3 k_4} \zeta_{k_1} \zeta_{k_2} \zeta_{k_3} \zeta_{k_4} \delta(k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4) d^2 k_{1234}$$

With

$$p_k = \rho h \dot{\zeta}_k$$

$$T_{k_1 k_2; k_3 k_4} = \frac{E}{8} \left( \frac{1}{2|k_1 + k_2|^4} + \frac{1}{2|k_3 + k_4|^4} \right) (k_1 \times k_2)^2 (k_3 \times k_4)^2$$

Canonical variables:  $\zeta_k = \frac{X_k}{\sqrt{2}}(A_k + A_{-k}^*)$

$$p_k = -i \frac{X_k^{-1}}{\sqrt{2}}(A_k - A_{-k}^*)$$

$$X_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega_k \rho \hbar}}.$$

$$H = \int \omega_k A_k A_k^* dk + \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^2} \int X_{k_1} X_{k_2} X_{k_3} X_{k_4} T_{k_1 k_2; k_3 k_4} \sum_{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4} A_{k_1}^{s_1} A_{k_2}^{s_2} A_{k_3}^{s_3} A_{k_4}^{s_4} \delta(k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4) dk_{1234}$$

Equation for the cumulant: hierarchy. Need a closure (asymptotic arguments/random phase approximations).



# Kinetic equation for elastic plates

$$\frac{d}{dt}n(l_2p_2) =$$

$$\varepsilon^4 12\pi l_2 \sum_{s_1 s_2 s_3} \int |J_{-p_2 k_1 k_2 k_3}^{-l_2 s_1 s_2 s_3}|^2 n(s_1 k_1) n(s_2 k_2) n(s_3 k_3) n(l_2 p_2) \left( \frac{l_2}{n(l_2 p_2)} - \frac{s_1}{n(s_1 k_1)} - \frac{s_2}{n(s_2 k_2)} - \frac{s_3}{n(s_3 k_3)} \right) \\ \times \delta(k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - p_2) \delta(l_2 \omega(p_2) - s_1 \omega(k_1) - s_2 \omega(k_2) - s_3 \omega(k_3)) dk_{123}$$

with

$$n(k) = \langle a_k a_k^* \rangle$$

related to the  
canonical variable

$$\frac{d}{dt}n(l_2\mathbf{p}_2) = \epsilon^4 12\pi l_2 \sum_{s_1 s_2 s_3} \int \left| J_{\substack{-l_2 s_1 s_2 s_3 \\ -\mathbf{p}_2 \mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_3}} \right|^2 n(s_1 \mathbf{k}_1) n(s_2 \mathbf{k}_2) n(s_3 \mathbf{k}_3) n(l_2 \mathbf{p}_2) \left( \frac{l_2}{n(l_2 \mathbf{p}_2)} - \frac{s_1}{n(s_1 \mathbf{k}_1)} - \frac{s_2}{n(s_2 \mathbf{k}_2)} - \frac{s_3}{n(s_3 \mathbf{k}_3)} \right) \times \\ \times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2) \delta(l_2 \omega(\mathbf{p}_2) - s_1 \omega(\mathbf{k}_1) - s_2 \omega(\mathbf{k}_2) - s_3 \omega(\mathbf{k}_3)) d\mathbf{k}_{123}$$

Energy conservation

$$\mathcal{E} = \sum_{l_1} \int \omega(l_1 \mathbf{p}_1) n(l_1 \mathbf{p}_1, t) d\mathbf{p}_1$$

But no wave-action conservation!

H-Theorem

$$\mathcal{S}(t) = \sum_{l_1} \int \log[n(l_1 \mathbf{p}_1, t)] d\mathbf{p}_1$$

$$\frac{d\mathcal{S}}{dt} \geq 0$$

# 2 types of stationary solutions

- Rayleigh-Jeans equilibrium

$$n_k^{eq} = \frac{T}{\omega_k} = \frac{T}{hck^2}$$

- K-Z cascade of energy

$$n_k^{eq} = C \frac{P^{1/3}}{k^2} \log^{1/3} \left( \frac{k}{k_c} \right)$$

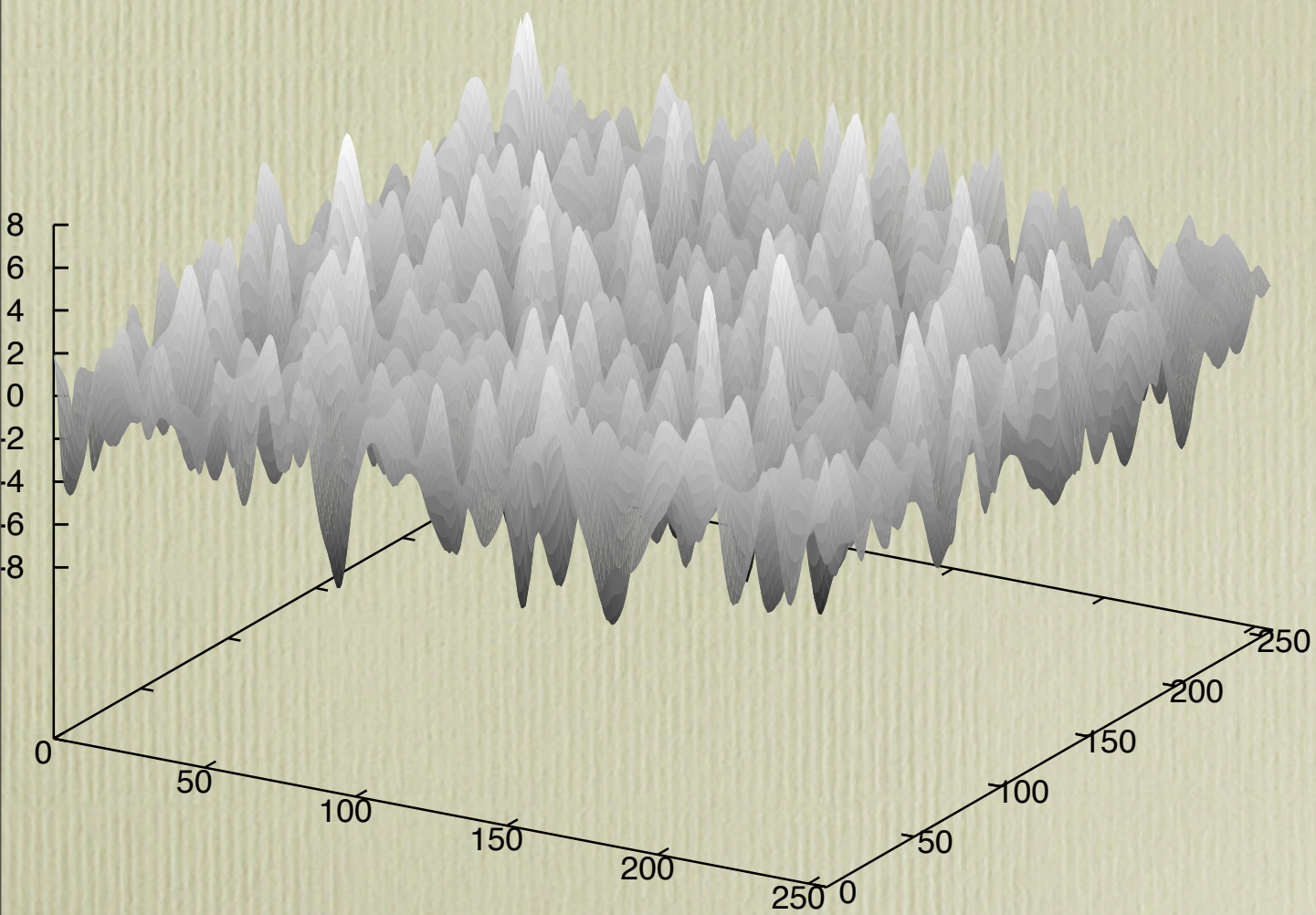
# Numerical simulations

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial t^2} = - \frac{Eh^2}{12(1 - \sigma^2)} \Delta^2 \zeta + \{\zeta, \chi\} + f_{in} + f_{diss}$$

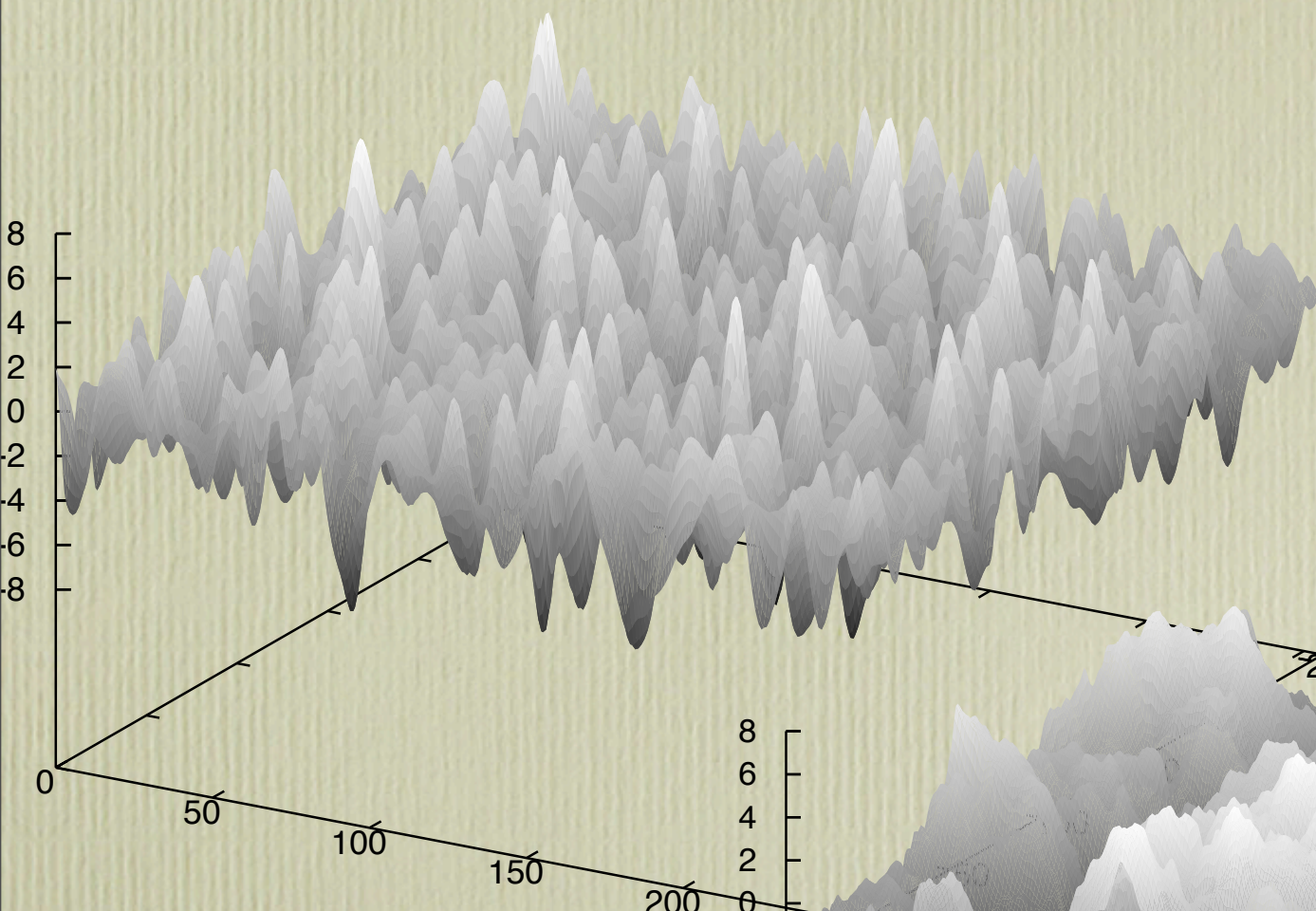
- pseudo-spectral method
- periodic boundary conditions
- Adams-Bashford scheme



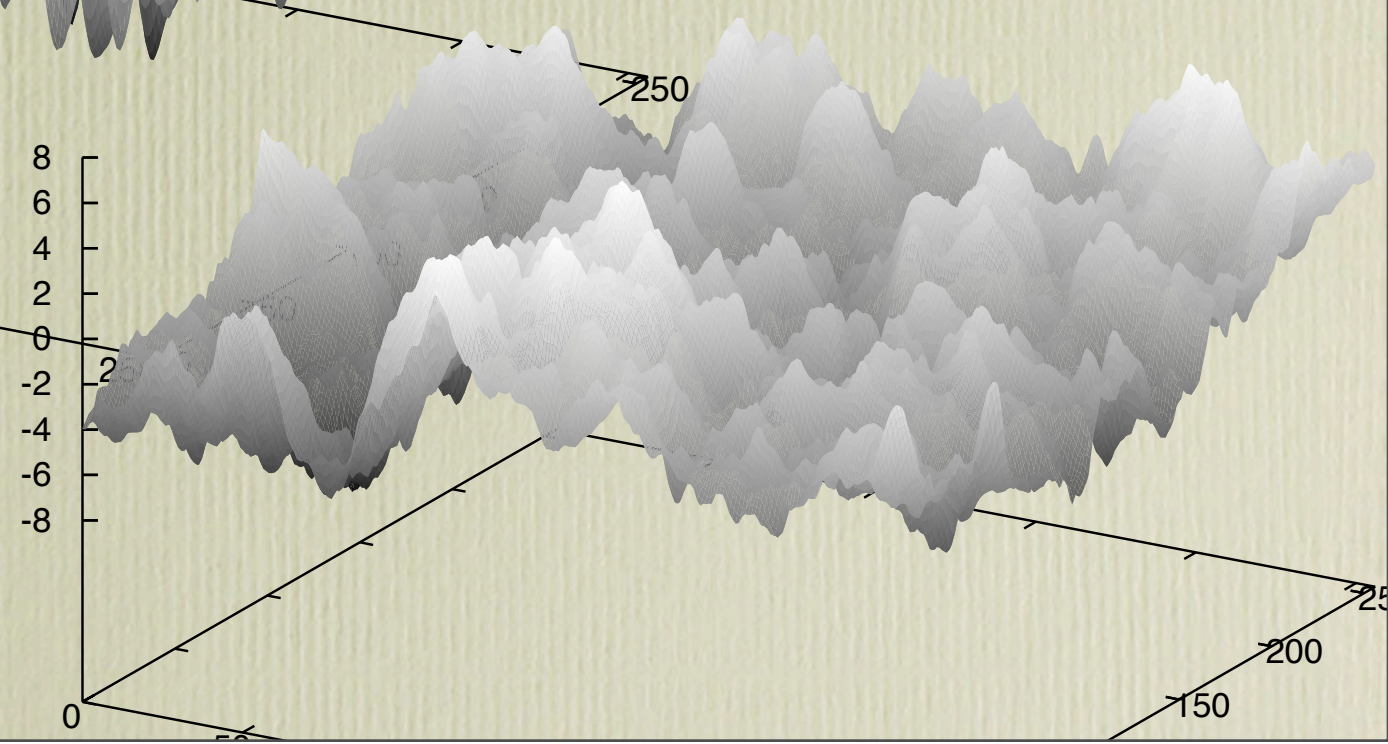
"dens.gnup.0" matrix

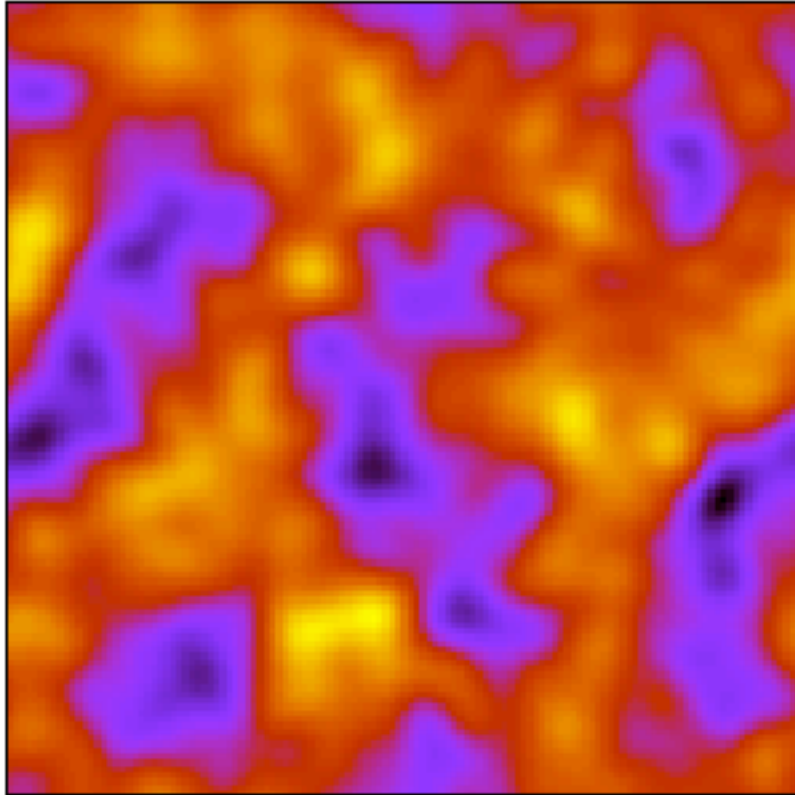


"dens.gnup.0" matrix



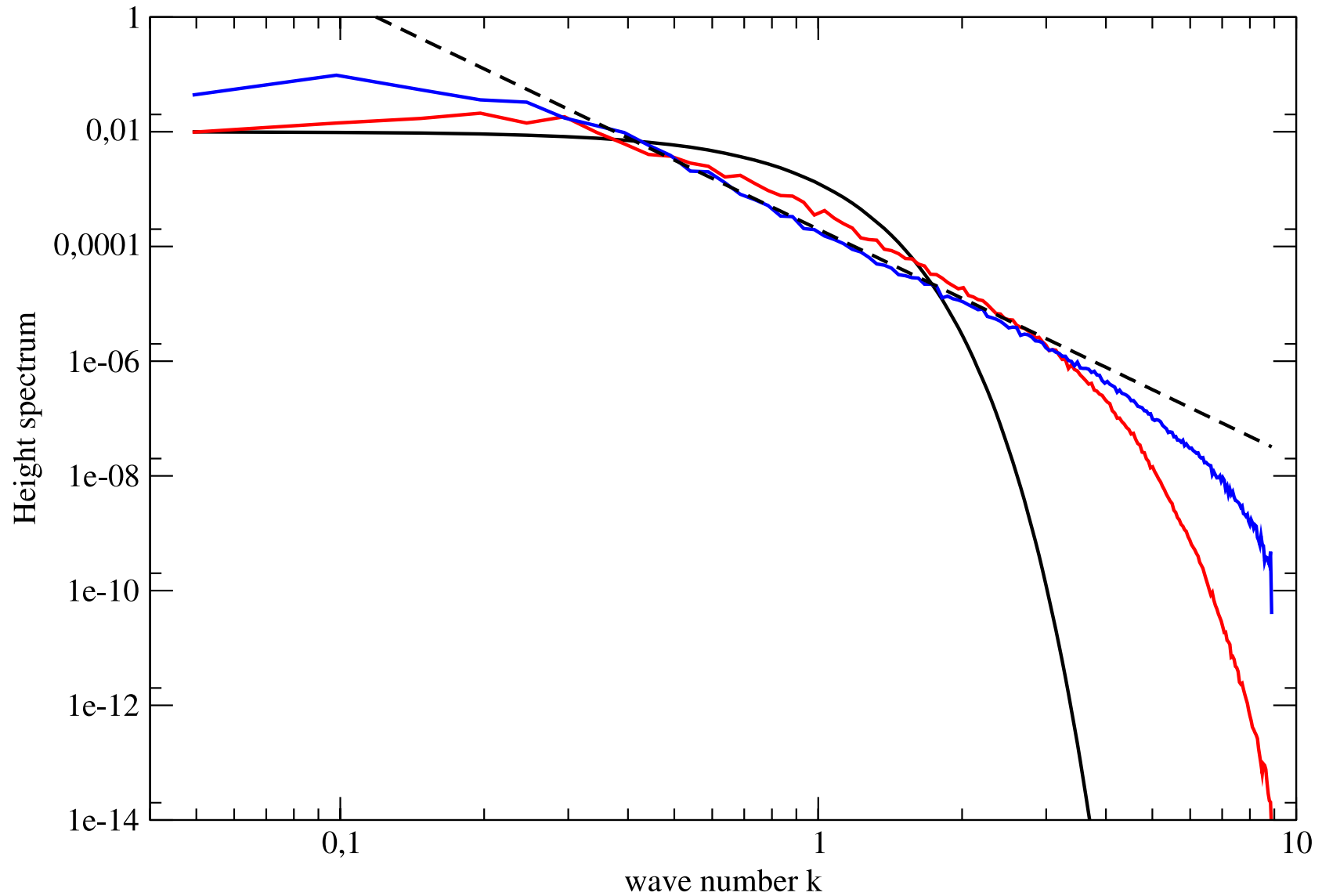
"dens.gnup.60" matrix



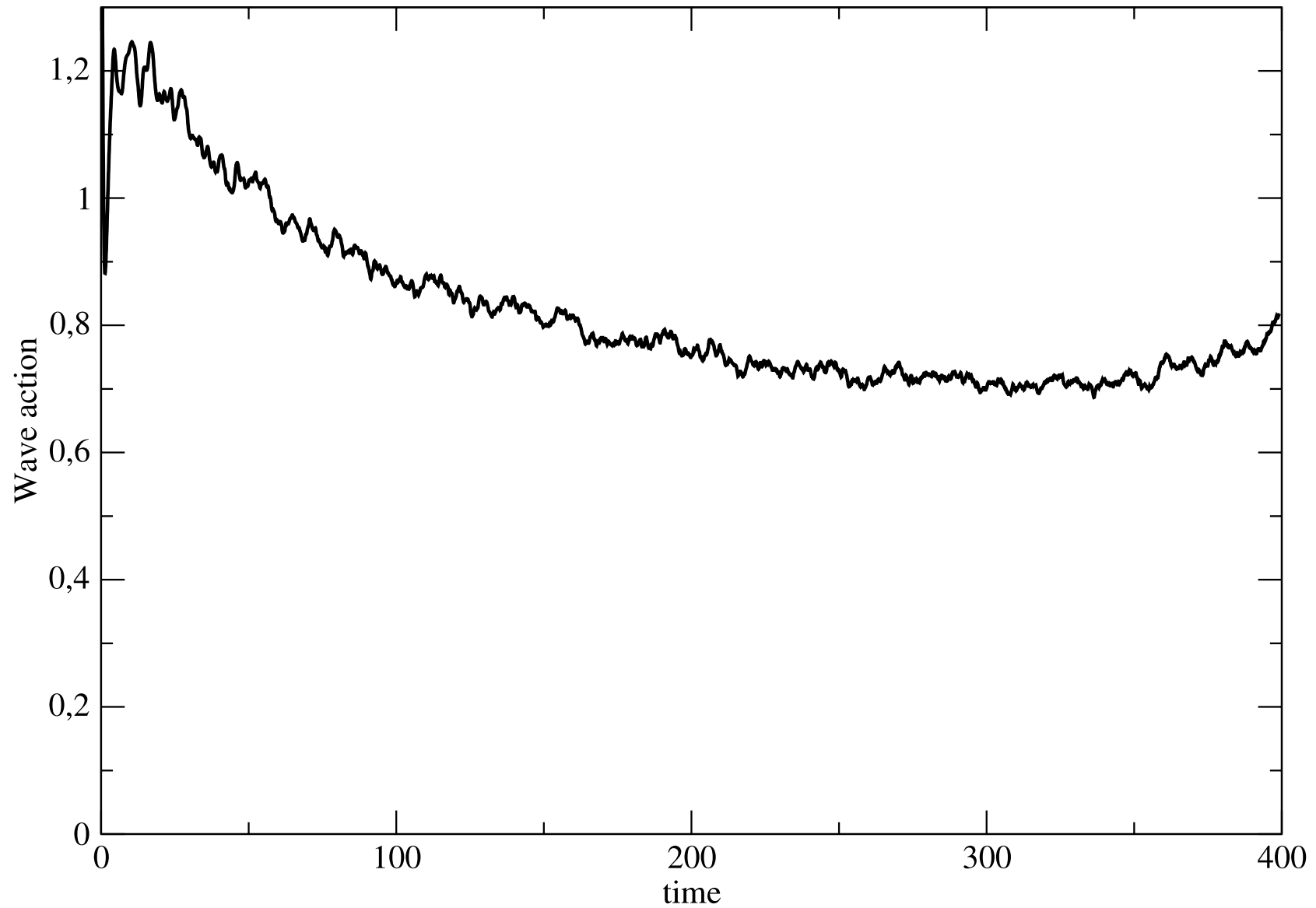




# Free spectrum



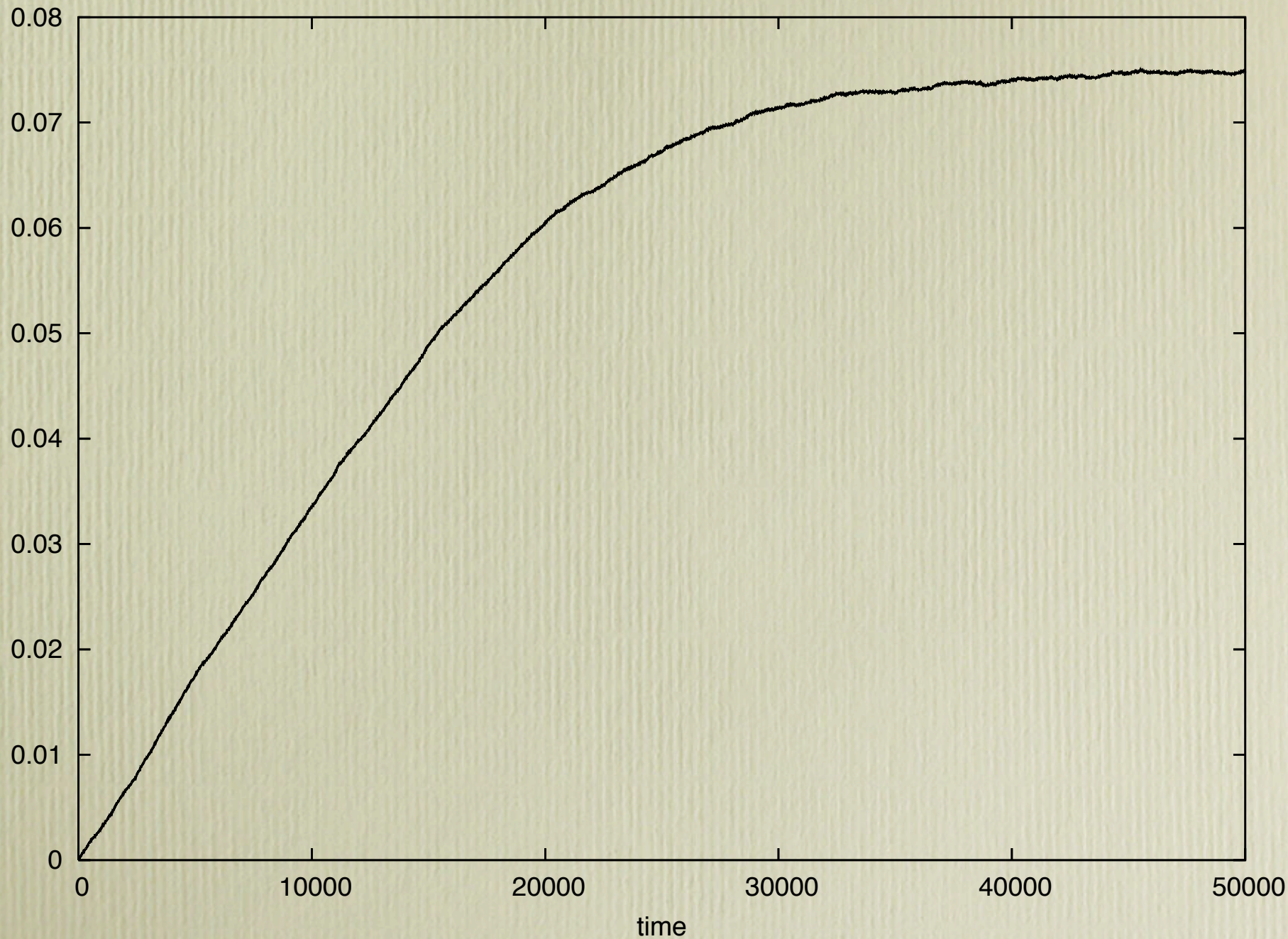
# Wave action

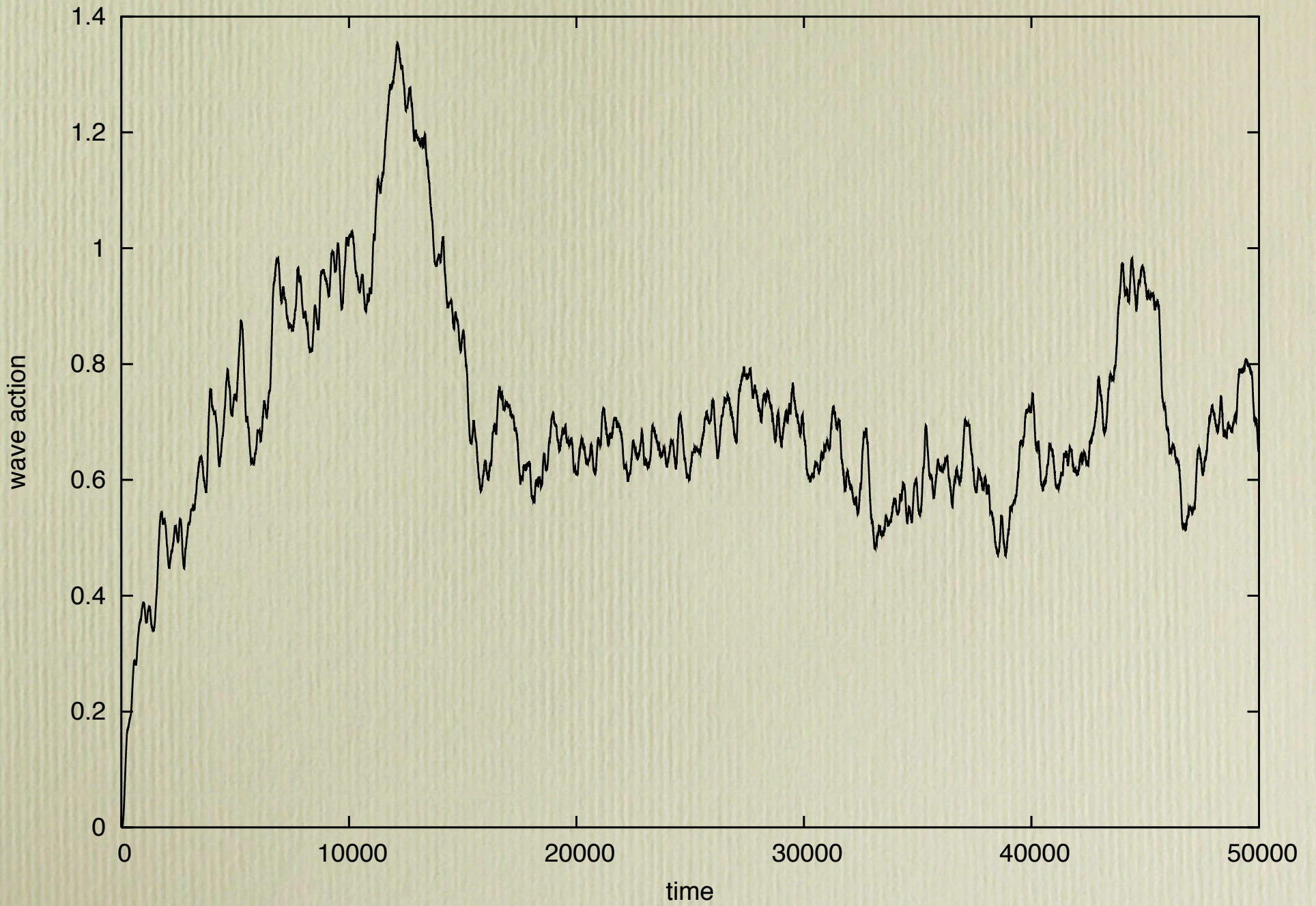


# Forced turbulence

- injection at large scale (white noise in a narrow wavenumber window)
- dissipation above a critical wavenumber  $k_c$
- wave action pumping (or not) at large scale to avoid numerical instability

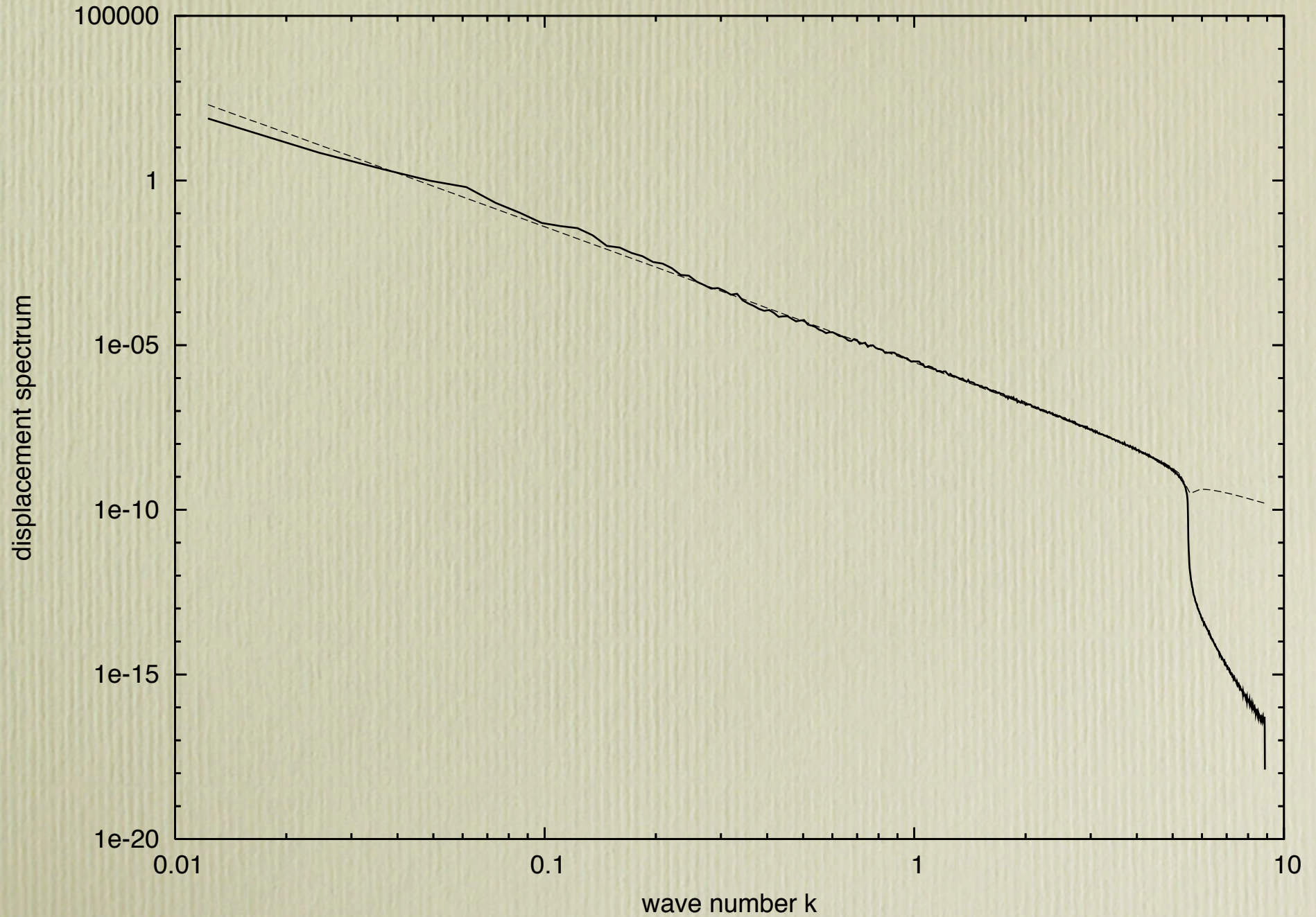
# Stationnary state?

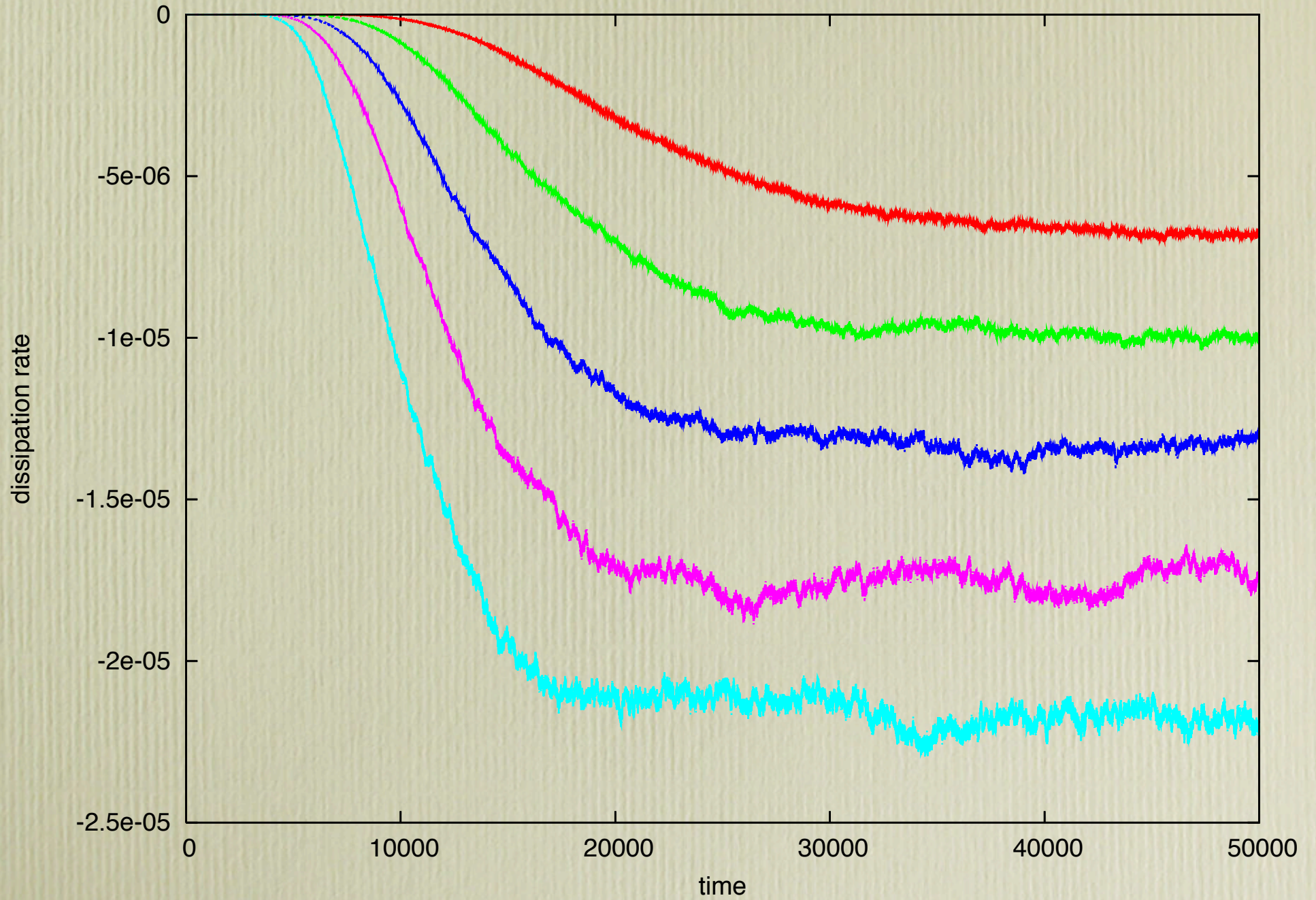


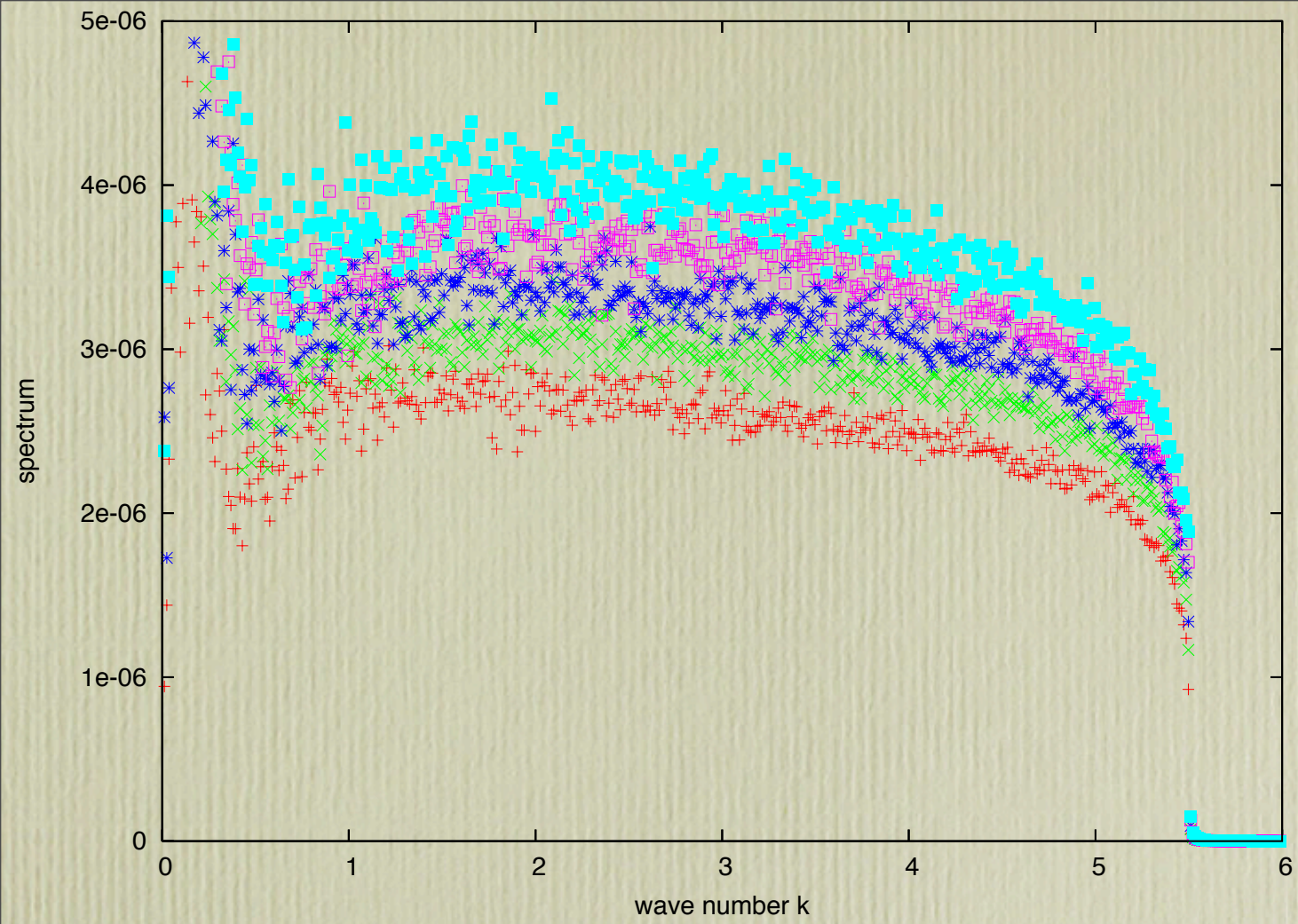


# Spectrum

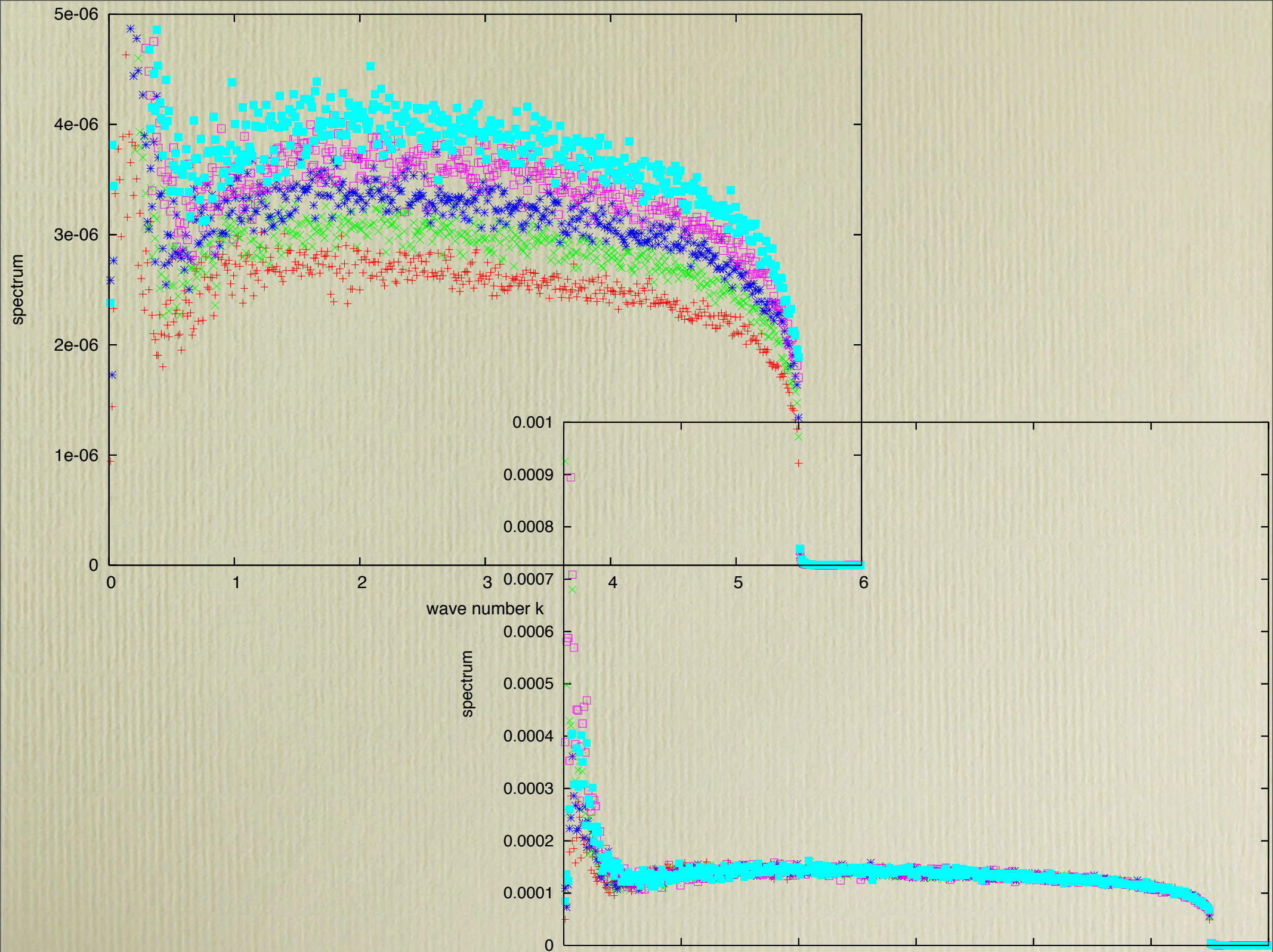
$$\langle |\zeta_k|^2 \rangle = \frac{n_k^{KZ}}{\rho \omega_k} \propto \frac{P^{1/3} \log(kd/k)^{1/3}}{k^4}$$









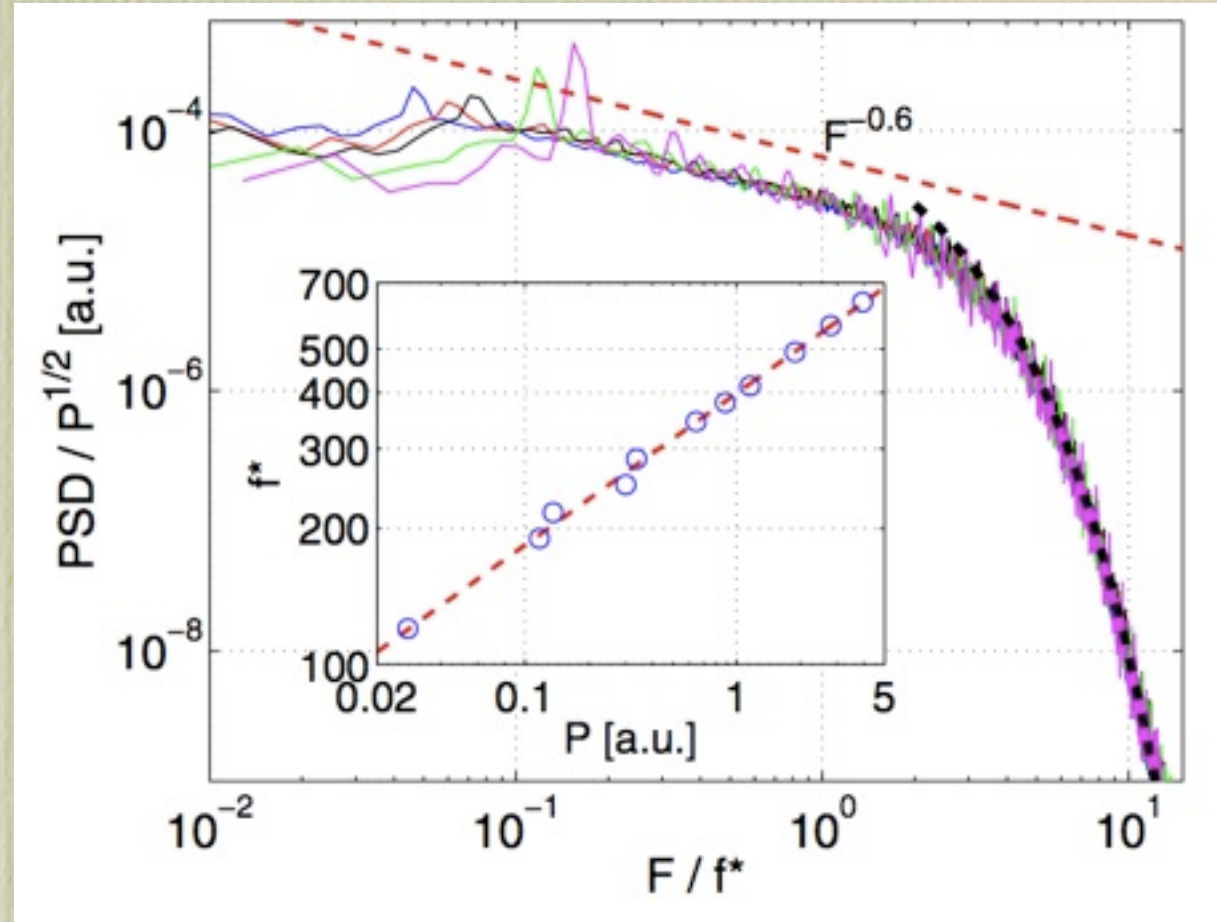
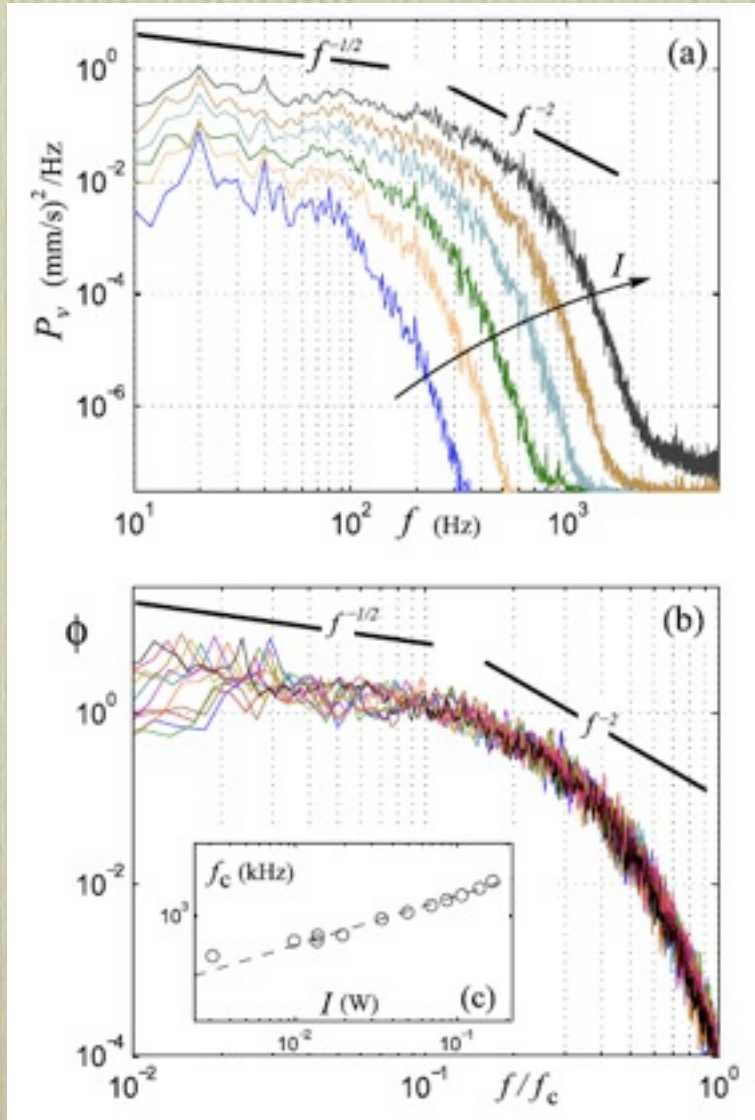


Experiment movie by  
N. Mordant (LPS-ENS)



# Experiments

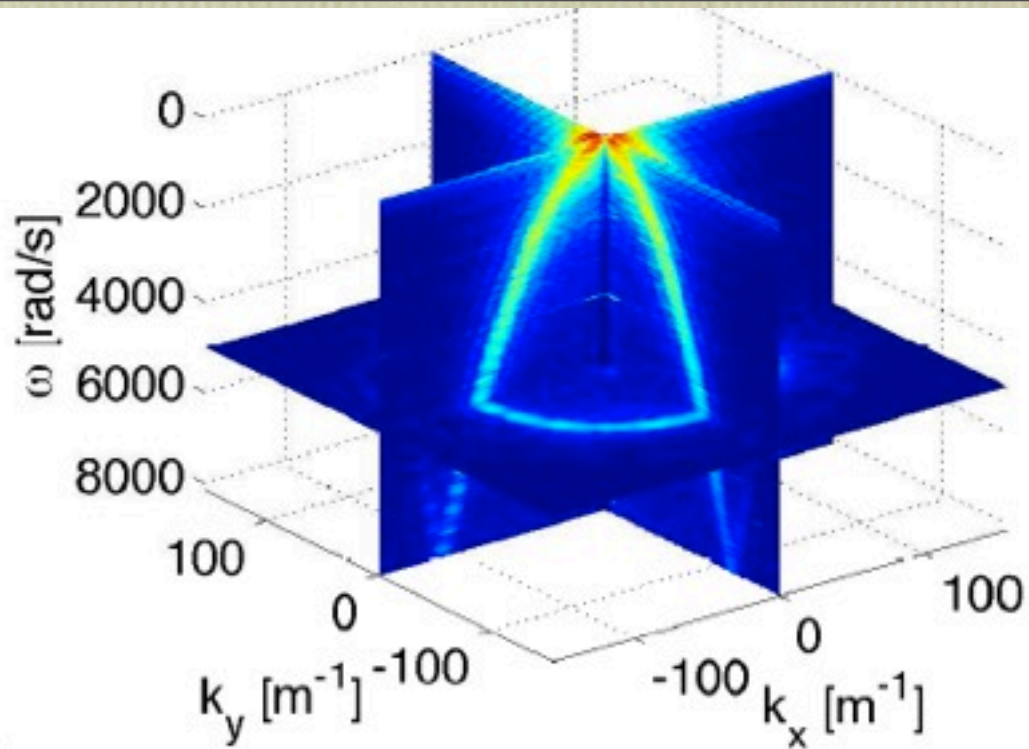
$$\langle |\zeta_\omega|^2 \rangle \propto E_0$$



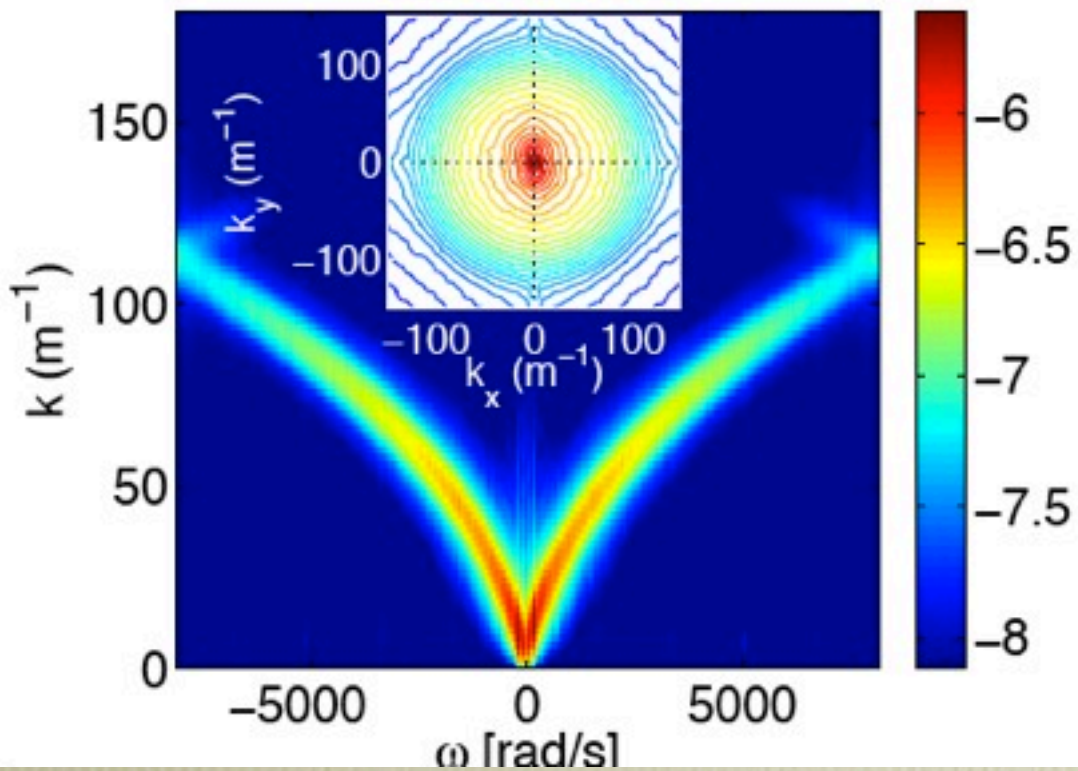
N. Mordant, PRL 234505 (2008).

A. Boudaoud, O. Cadot, B. Odille & C. Touzé, PRL 234504 (2008).

- experiments show important differences with the theoretical predictions
- dispersion relation (mean curvature, three wave interactions, finite amplitude effects)
- boundary conditions
- dissipation
- an-isotropy-homogenous assumption
- still a question of debate



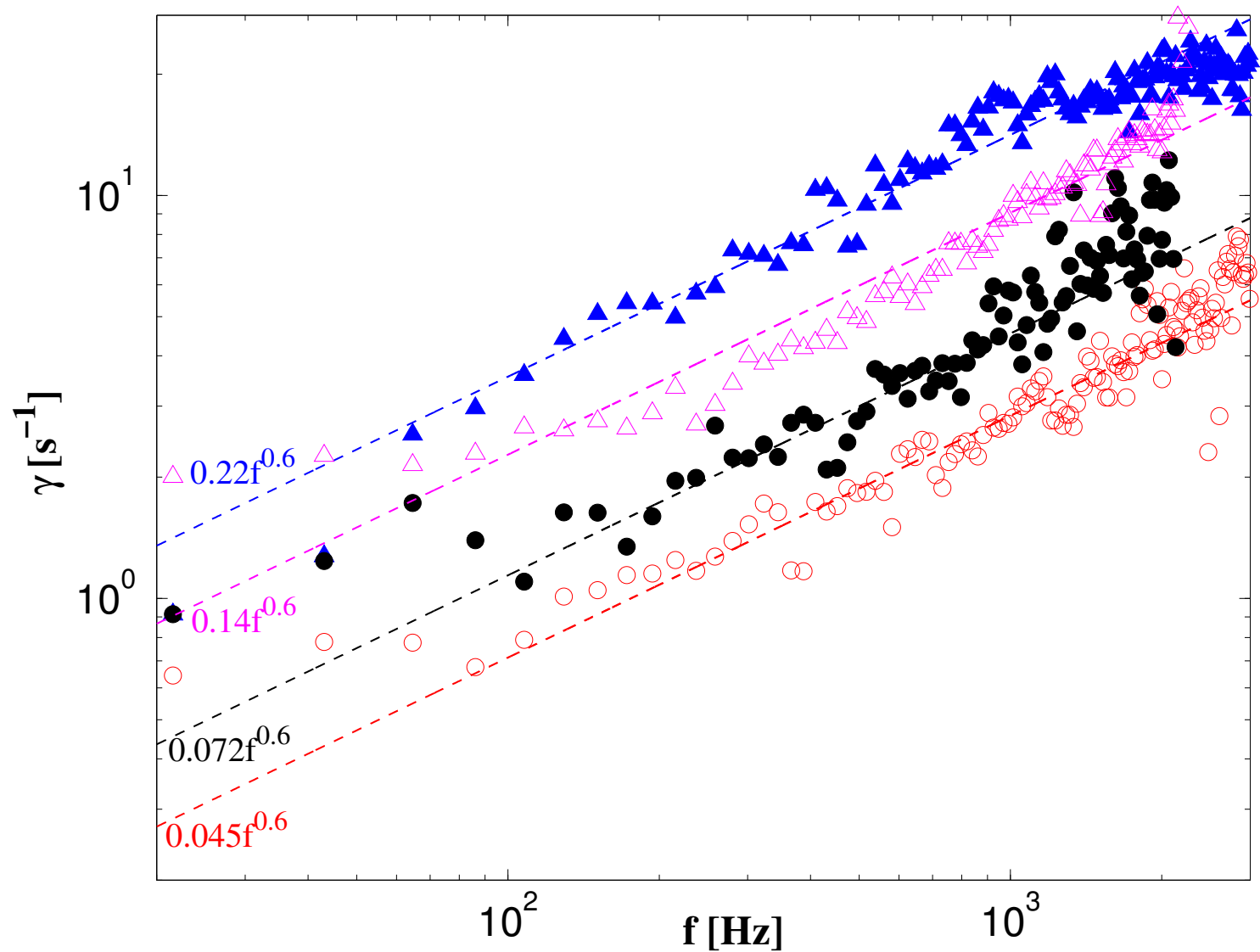
(a)



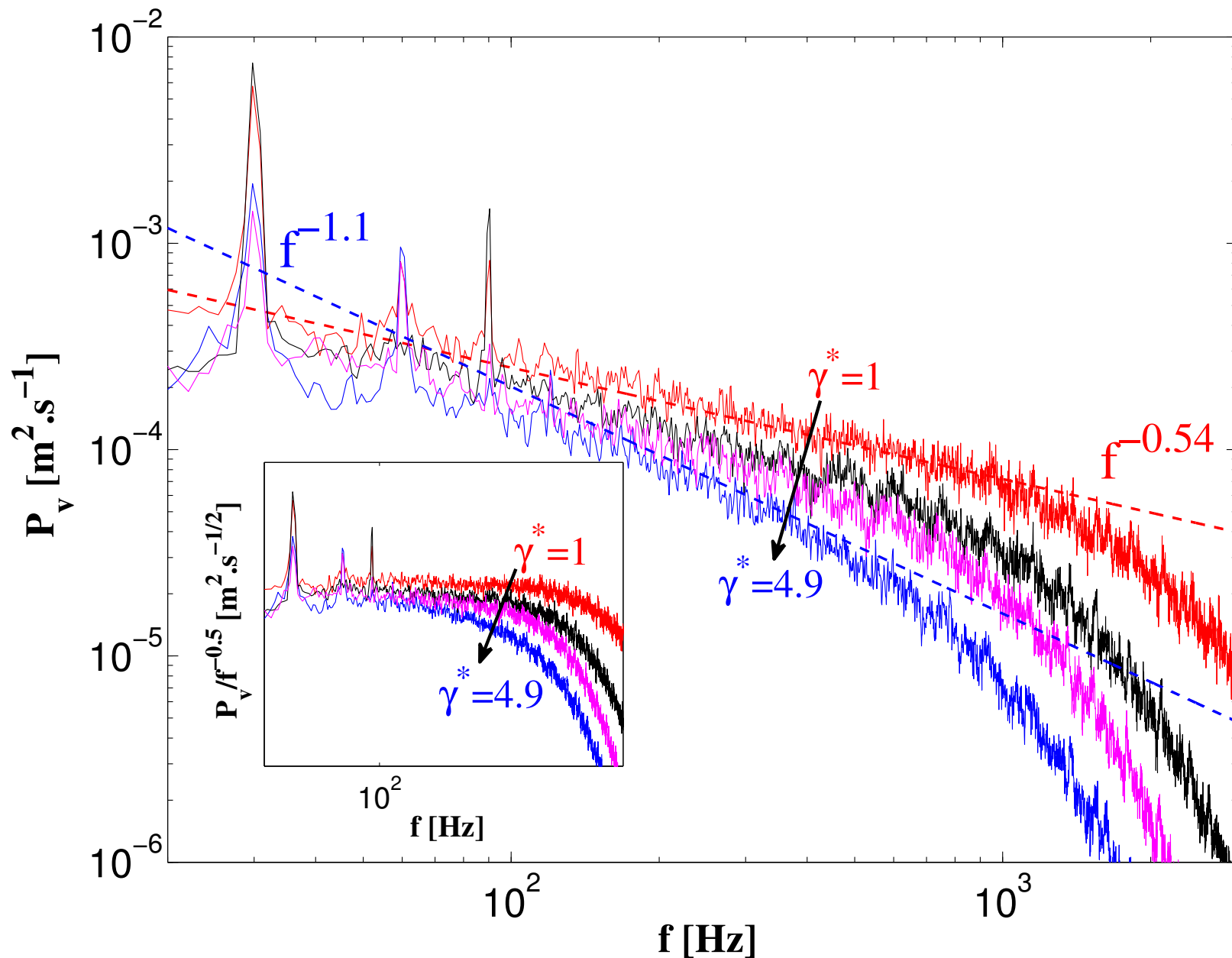
(a)

P. Cobelli, P. Petitjeans, A. Maurel, V. Pagneux & N. Mordant, PRL 103, 204301 (2009).

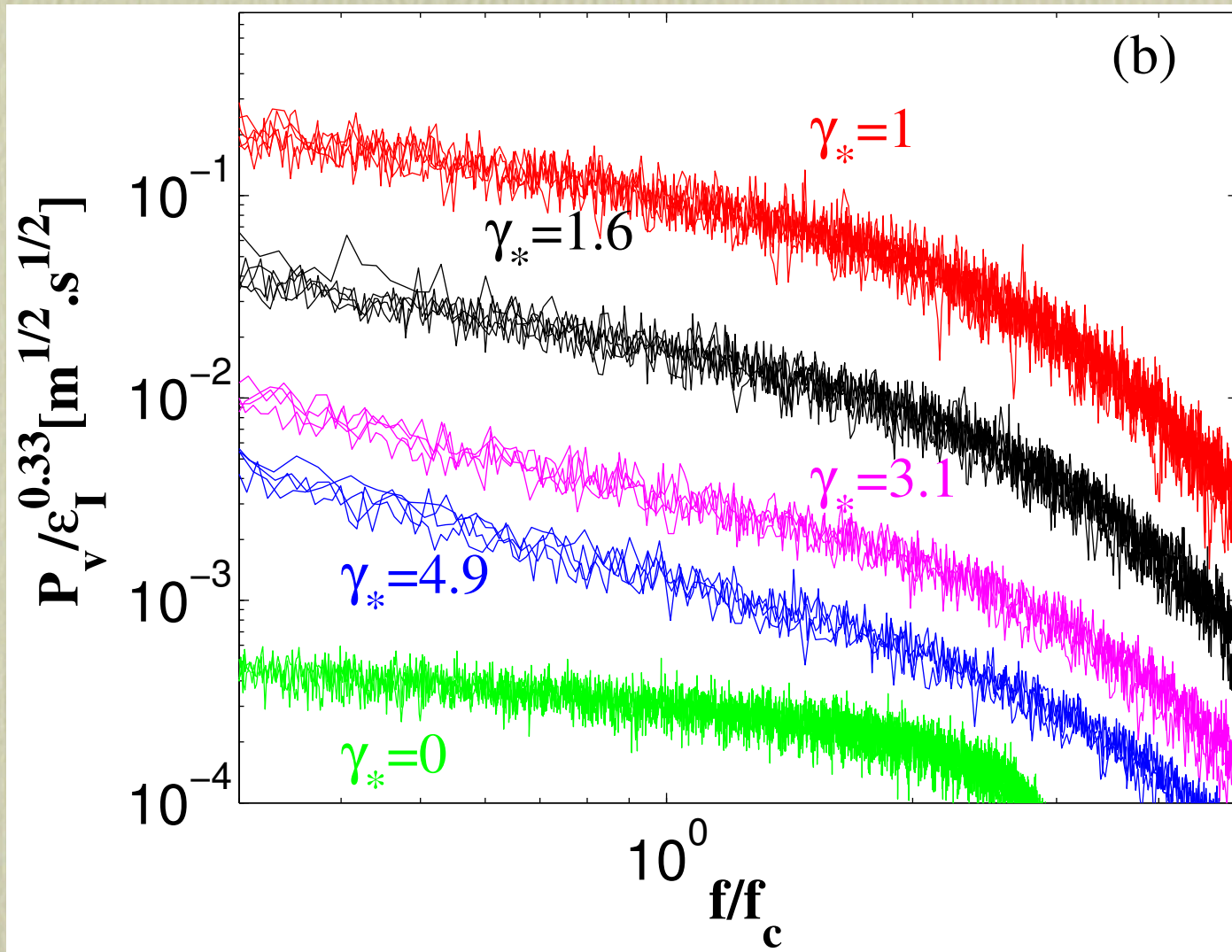
# Changing dissipation



# Changes slope!



# Numerically also!





# Conclusion

- vibrating plates is a great tool for investigating WT concepts
- WT applies and KZ spectrum is predicted
- However experiments show different spectra
- dissipation (at all scales) is a good candidate to explain the difference: need a modified WT theory to account for dissipation at all scales

# Perspectives

- model accounting for dissipation at every scale (local modal in wavenumber)
- forcing inverse cascade? It works.
- high amplitude forcing: d-cone dynamics!