Nonlinear superposition formulae of the Ito equation and a model equation for shallow water waves

This article has been downloaded from IOPscience. Please scroll down to see the full text article.
1991 J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. 241979
(http://iopscience.iop.org/0305-4470/24/9/010)
View the table of contents for this issue, or go to the journal homepage for more

Download details:
IP Address: 129.252.86.83
The article was downloaded on 01/06/2010 at 14:13

Please note that terms and conditions apply.

# Nonlinear superposition formulae of the Ito equation and a model equation for shallow water waves 

Xing-Biao $\mathrm{Hu} \ddagger$ and Yong $\mathrm{Li} \ddagger$<br>$\dagger$ Computing Center of Academia Sinica, Beijing, People's Republic of China<br>$\ddagger$ Department of Applied Mathematics, Tongji University, Shanghai, People's Republic of China

Received 25 September 1990


#### Abstract

In this paper, nonlinear superposition formulae of the Ito equation and a model equation for shallow water waves are proved under certain conditions. Some particular solutions of the Ito equation are obtained as an illustrative application of the obtained nonlinear superposition formula.


## 1. Introduction

As is well known, it is difficult to find particular solutions of a nonlinear differential equation in mathematics and physics. It is also difficult to find out another solution from a given solution of such an equation. However, recent research suggests that a new solution can usually be obtained from a given solution of an equation if the so-called Backlund transformation (вт) for the equation is found. Furthermore, if a nonlinear superposition formula of $\mathbf{a} \mathbf{~ в т ~ f o r ~ a ~ n o n l i n e a r ~ d i f f e r e n t i a l ~ e q u a t i o n ~ i s ~ d e r i v e d , ~}$ we can transform the problem of seeking exact solutions of the equation into purely algebraic operations. In general, we can derive a nonlinear superposition formula from the commutability of the вт. Unfortunately, a rigorous proof of the commutability of the вт for a general nonlinear evolution equation is lacking [1,2]. Therefore, it is necessary to prove a nonlinear superposition formula directly. Until now, some progress has been made in this field. To our knowledge, the main resuits on bilinear operator equations are as follows. In 1978, Hirota and Satsuma obtained nonlinear superposition formulae of KdV, MKdV, SG, etc, in bilinear form [3]. Since 1979, Nakamura has proved nonlinear superposition formulae of во [4], cKdV [5], MMKdV [6] and кP [7], respectively. During recent years, we have proved nonlinear superposition formulae of a model equation for shallow water waves [8], a fifth- and seventh-order KdV equation [ 9,10 ], DJkm equation [11], KdV, mKdV, mmKdV hierarchies [12] and Boussinesq hierarchies [13]. It is worth noticing that the nonlinear superposition formulae of the above-mentioned equations possess a unified and simple structure,

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{0} f_{12}=k\left(D_{x}+\lambda_{1}-\lambda_{2}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{2} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\lambda_{1}$ and $\lambda_{2}$ are parameters related to solutions $f_{0}, f_{1}, f_{2}$ and the вт, and the bilinear operator $D_{x}^{m} D_{t}^{n}$ is defined by [14]

$$
D_{x}^{m} D_{t}^{n} a \cdot b=\left.\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}-\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\prime}}\right)^{m}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}-\frac{\partial}{\partial t^{\prime}}\right)^{n} a(x, t) b\left(x^{\prime}, t^{\prime}\right)\right|_{x^{\prime}=x, t^{\prime}=t}
$$

In this paper, we consider the Ito equation and a model equation for shallow water waves and obtain a nonlinear superposition formula which is different from (1). The
contents are arranged as follows. In section 2, a nonlinear superposition formula of the Ito equation is proved under certain conditions. By using the nonlinear superposition formula, some particular solutions of the Ito equation are obtained in section 3. In section 4, we similarly present a nonlinear superposition formula of a model equation for shallow water waves. Finally, we list some bilinear operator identities in the appendix which are used in this paper.

## 2. Nonlinear superposition formula of the lto equation

The Ito equation reads [15]

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{t}\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f \cdot f=0 \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Through the dependent variable transform $u=2(\ln f)_{x x}$, (2) becomes

$$
u_{t t}+u_{x x x t}+3\left(2 u_{x} u_{t}+u u_{x t}\right)+3 u_{x x} \int_{-\infty}^{x} u_{t} \mathrm{~d} x^{\prime}=0
$$

Concerning (2), some work has been done. Hirota gave a two-parameter Br for the Ito (2) [15]. We generalized Hirota's result and presented the following bт with three parameters [16]:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(D_{i}+3 \gamma^{2} D_{x}-3 \gamma D_{x}^{2}+D_{x}^{3}-\lambda\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0  \tag{3a}\\
& \left(D_{x} D_{t}-\mu D_{x}-\gamma D_{t}+\gamma \mu\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0 \tag{3b}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\lambda, \mu$ and $\gamma$ are arbitrary constants. Jimbo and Miwa have pointed out that the Ito equation is related to Kac-Moody algebra $D_{3}^{(2)}$ [17]. In this section, we are going to give a nonlinear superposition formula of the Ito equation. In the following discussion, we set $y=\lambda=0$ in bт (3) for the sake of convenience. In this case, (3) becomes

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0 \\
& \left(D_{x} D_{t}-\mu D_{x}\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0 .
\end{align*}
$$

Let $f_{0}$ be a solution of the Ito equation (2), $f_{0} \neq 0$. Suppose that $f_{i}(i=1,2)$ is a solution of (2) which is related by $f_{0}$ under вт ( $3^{\prime}$ ) to $\mu_{i}$, i.e. $f_{0} \xrightarrow{\mu_{i}} f_{i}(i=1,2)$, and that $f_{12}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}=k D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2} \quad \text { (where } k \text { is a non-zero constant). } \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

From these assumptions, we deduce that

$$
\begin{aligned}
0=\left[\left(D_{x} D_{t}-\right.\right. & \left.\left.\mu_{1} D_{x}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right] f_{2}-\left[\left(D_{x} D_{t}-\mu_{2} D_{x}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2}\right] f_{1} \\
\stackrel{(\mathrm{~A} 1, \mathrm{~A} 2)}{=} & -f_{0_{x}} D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-f_{0_{1}} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left[\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{1}+\left(D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x}\right] \\
& -\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{0_{x}} f_{1} f_{2}+\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left[\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right)\left(f_{1} f_{2}\right)_{x}\right] \\
\stackrel{(4)}{=} & f_{0_{x}}\left[-D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}\right]-\frac{1}{k} f_{0} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{2 k} f_{0}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{t} \\
& +\frac{1}{2 k}\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left[D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}\right]_{x} \\
= & f_{0_{x}}\left(-D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}-\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{k}\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left(D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}+\frac{1}{k}\left(D_{1} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)-\frac{1}{k}\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}\right)_{x}
\end{aligned}
$$

which implies that

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{l} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}+\frac{1}{k} D_{2} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\frac{1}{k}\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}=c_{1}(t) f_{0}^{2} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c_{1}(t)$ is some function of $t$.
Next, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\left.0=\left|\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right| f_{2}-\mid\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right)\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2} \mid f_{1} \\
& \stackrel{(A 3, A 4)}{=}-f_{0} D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-3 f_{0_{x x}} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+3 f_{0_{x}}\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x} \\
&-\frac{1}{4} f_{0}\left[D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+3\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x x}\right] \\
& \stackrel{(4)}{=}-f_{0}\left(D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)-\frac{3}{k} f_{0_{x x}} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12} \\
&+\frac{3}{k} f_{0_{x}}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x}-\frac{3}{4 k} f_{0}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x x} \\
&=-f_{0}\left(D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{3}{4 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

which implies that

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{3}{4 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}=0 \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0=\left[\left(D_{t}+\right.\right.\left.\left.D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right]_{x} f_{2}-\left[\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2}\right]_{x} f_{1} \\
& \stackrel{(\mathrm{AS}, \mathrm{~A} 6)}{=} f_{0_{\mathrm{t}}} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-f_{0_{x}} D f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left[\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{t}+\left(D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x}\right] \\
&-2 f_{0_{x x x}} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{2} f_{0_{x}}\left[D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+3\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x x}\right] \\
&-\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left[\left(D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x}+\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x x x}\right] \\
& \stackrel{(4)}{=} f_{0_{x}}\left(-D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{2} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)-\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left(D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x} \\
&+\frac{1}{k} f_{0_{1}} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\frac{1}{2 k} f_{0}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{t}-\frac{2}{k} f_{0_{x x x}} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12} \\
&+\frac{3}{2 k} f_{0_{x}}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x x}-\frac{1}{2 k} f_{0}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x x x} \\
&= f_{0_{x}}\left(-D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{2} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\frac{1}{2 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right) \\
&+f_{0}\left(-\frac{1}{2} D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\frac{1}{2 k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\frac{1}{2} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-\frac{1}{2 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x} \\
& \stackrel{(6)}{=} f_{0_{x}}\left(\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right) \\
&-\frac{1}{2} f_{0}\left(\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x}
\end{aligned}
$$

which implies that

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3 k}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}=c_{2}(t) f_{0}^{2} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c_{2}(t)$ is some function of $t$. Here and in the following, we assume that there exists a $f_{12}$ determined by (4) such that $c_{1}(t)=0$ in (5) and $c_{2}(t)=0$ in (7), i.e.

$$
\begin{align*}
& D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}+\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\frac{1}{k}\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}=0 \\
& D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3 k}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}=0
\end{align*}
$$

Now we can show that the corresponding $f_{12}$ is a new solution of (2) which is related to $f_{1}$ and $f_{2}$ under bт ( $3^{\prime}$ ). In fact, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& -Q_{1} f_{0} \equiv-\left[\left(D_{x} D_{1}-\mu_{2} D_{x}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}\right] f_{0} \\
& =\left[\left(D_{x} D_{1}+\mu_{1} D_{x}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{0}\right] f_{12}-\left[\left(D_{x} D_{1}-\mu_{2} D_{x}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}\right] f_{0} \\
& \stackrel{(\mathrm{~A} 1, \mathrm{~A} 2)}{=}-f_{11_{x}} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-f_{1}, D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{2} f_{1}\left[\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{t}+\left(D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x}\right] \\
& +\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{1 x} f_{0} f_{12}-\frac{1}{2} f_{1}\left[\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right)\left(f_{0} f_{12}\right)_{x}\right] \\
& \stackrel{(4)}{=} f_{1_{x}}\left[-D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}\right]-k f_{1} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{k}{2} f_{1}\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{t} \\
& -\frac{k}{2}\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{2} f_{1}\left[D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}\right]_{x} \\
& =f_{1,}\left[-D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}-k D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}-k\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}\right] \\
& +\frac{1}{2} f_{1}\left[D_{1} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-\left(\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}+k D_{1} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+k\left(\mu_{1}-\mu_{2}\right) f_{1} f_{2}\right]_{x} \\
& \stackrel{\left(5^{\prime}\right)}{=} 0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus $Q_{1}=0$, i.e $\left(D_{x} D_{t}-\mu_{2} D_{x}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}=0$. Similarly, we can show that ( $D_{x} D_{t}-$ $\left.\mu_{1} D_{x}\right) f_{2} \cdot f_{12}=0$. Besides, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
-Q_{2} f_{0} \equiv- & -\left[\left(D_{1}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}\right] f_{0} \\
= & {\left[\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{0}\right] f_{12}-\left[\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}\right] f_{0} } \\
\stackrel{(\mathrm{~A} 3, \mathrm{~A} 4)}{=} & -f_{1} D_{1} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}-3 f_{1_{x x}} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+3 f_{1_{x}}\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x} \\
& -\frac{1}{4} f_{1}\left[D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+3\left(D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)_{x x}\right] \\
\stackrel{(4)}{=} & -f_{1}\left(D_{1} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}\right)-3 k f_{1_{x x}} D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2} \\
& +3 k f_{1_{x}\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x}-\frac{3 k}{4} f_{1}\left(D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right)_{x x}}^{=} \\
= & -f_{1}\left(D_{1} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3 k}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}\right) \\
& \stackrel{\left(7^{\prime}\right)}{=} 0
\end{aligned}
$$

which implies that

$$
Q_{2}=\left(D_{t}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{1} \cdot f_{12}=0
$$

Similarly, we can show that $Q^{2}=\left(D_{1}+D_{x}^{3}\right) f_{2} \cdot f_{12}=0$. Therefore, $f_{12}$ is a new solution of (2).

## 3. Particular solutions of the Ito equation

In this section we are going to derive some exact solutions of the Ito equation from вт ( $3^{\prime}$ ) and the nonlinear superposition formula (4). We seek particular solutions of the Ito equation according to the following steps. First, choose a given solution $f_{0}$ of (2). Secondly, from вт ( $3^{\prime}$ ) we find out $f_{1}$ and $f_{2}$ such that $f_{0} \xrightarrow{\mu_{i}} f_{i}(i=1,2)$ and, further, get a particular solution $\tilde{f}_{12}$ from (4). Then a general solution of (4) is $f_{12}=c(t) f_{0}+\tilde{f}_{12}$ (where $c(t)$ is an arbitrary function of $t$ ). Finally we substitute $f_{12}$ into (5) and (7). If $c(t)$ can be determined such that $c_{1}(t)=c_{2}(t)=0$, the corresponding $f_{12}$ is a new solution of the Ito equation (2). In what follows, we give four illustrative examples.
(i) Choose $f_{0}=1$. It is easily verified that


Therefore $f_{12}=\left(k_{1}^{3}-k_{2}^{3}\right) /\left(k_{1}^{3}+k_{2}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{e}^{\eta_{1}}+\mathrm{e}^{\eta_{2}}-\left(k_{1}-k_{2}\right) /\left(k_{1}+k_{2}\right) \mathrm{e}^{\eta_{1}+\eta_{2}}$ is a solution of the Ito equation (2), where $\eta_{i}=-k_{i} x+k_{i}^{3} t+\eta_{i}^{0}$ and $k_{i}, \eta_{i}^{0}$ are constants ( $i=1,2$ ).
(ii) It is easily verified that


Therefore $f_{12}=-1-x^{2}+\left[(4 / k) x+1+x^{2}+4 / k^{2}\right] \mathrm{e}^{\eta}$ is a solution of the Ito equation (2), where $\eta=-k x+k^{3} t+\eta^{0}$ and $k, \eta^{0}$ are constants.
(iii) It is easily verified that


Therefore $f_{12}=-2 / k^{3}-t+\frac{1}{6} x^{3}+\left[t-\frac{1}{6} x^{3}-(1 / k) x^{2}+\left(2 / k^{2}\right) x-2 / k^{3}\right] \mathrm{e}^{\eta}$ is a solution of the Ito equation (2), where $\eta=-k x+k^{3} t+\eta^{0}$ and $k, \eta^{0}$ are constants.
(iv) It is easily verified that


Therefore $t x+\frac{1}{12} x^{4},-x+(2 / k) \mathrm{e}^{\eta}+x \mathrm{e}^{\eta}$ and $\left(2 / k^{3}\right) x+t x+\frac{1}{12} x^{4}+[(2 / k) t+x t+$ $\left.\frac{1}{12} x^{4}+(2 / 3 k) x^{3}+\left(2 / k^{2}\right) x^{2}+\left(2 / k^{3}\right) x\right] \mathrm{e}^{\eta}$ are solutions of the Ito equation(2), where $\eta=-k x+k^{3} t+\eta^{0}$ and $k, \eta^{0}$ are constants.

## 4. Nonlinear superposition formula of a model equation for shallow water waves

The so-called model equation for shallow water waves is $[14,18]$

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{x}\left(D_{t}-D_{t} D_{x}^{2}+D_{x}\right) f \cdot f=0 \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hirota has given a two-parameter bt for (8) [14]. We presented the following threeparameter вт for (8) in [16]

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[D_{x}^{3}+\gamma D_{x}^{2}+\left(\frac{1}{3} \gamma^{2}-1\right) D_{x}+\lambda\right] f \cdot f^{\prime}=0} \\
& {\left[3 \bar{D}_{x} \bar{D}_{t}+\mu \bar{D}_{x}+\gamma \bar{D}_{t}+\left(\frac{1}{3} \gamma \mu-1\right)\right] f \cdot f^{\prime}=0} \tag{9}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\lambda, \mu$ and $\gamma$ are arbitrary constants. It is noticed that (8) is different from another model equation for shallow water waves $[18,14]$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{x}\left[D_{x}\left(D_{t}-\frac{2}{3} D_{t} D_{x}^{2}+D_{x}\right) f \cdot f\right] \cdot f^{2}-\frac{1}{3} D_{t}\left(D_{x}^{4} f \cdot f\right) \cdot f^{2}=0 . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

In [8] we have presented a nonlinear superposition formula of (10). In this section, we shall also present a nonlinear superposition formula of (8). For the sake of convenience in calculation, we set $\mu=\gamma=0$ in вт (9). In this case, (9) becomes

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(D_{x}^{3}-D_{x}+\lambda\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0 \\
& \left(3 D_{x} D_{t}-1\right) f \cdot f^{\prime}=0
\end{align*}
$$

In what follows, let $f_{0}$ be a solution of $(8), f_{0} \neq 0$. Suppose that $f_{i}(i=1,2)$ is a solution of ( 8 ) which is related by $f_{0}$ under вт ( $9^{\prime}$ ) with $\lambda_{i}$, i.e. $f_{0} \xrightarrow{\lambda_{t}} f_{i}(i=1,2)$, and that $f_{12}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}=k D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2} \quad \text { (where } k \text { is a non-zero constant). } \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus, similar to the calculations in section 2 , we can deduce respectively that

$$
\begin{align*}
& D_{t} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{k} D_{t} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}=c_{1}(t) f_{0}^{2}  \tag{12}\\
& -D_{x} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\left(\lambda_{2}-\lambda_{1}\right) f_{1} f_{2}+\frac{3}{4 k} D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}=0  \tag{13}\\
& -\frac{1}{k} D_{x} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{3}{4} D_{x}^{3} f_{1} \cdot f_{2}+\frac{1}{4}-D_{x}^{3} f_{0} \cdot f_{12}+\frac{1}{k}\left(\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2}\right) f_{0} f_{12}=c_{2}(t) f_{0}^{2} \tag{14}
\end{align*}
$$

from

$$
\begin{aligned}
& {\left[\left(3 D_{x} D_{t}-1\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right] f_{2}-\left[\left(3 D_{x} D_{t}-1\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2}\right] f_{1}=0} \\
& {\left[\left(D_{x}^{3}-D_{x}+\lambda_{1}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right] f_{2}-\left[\left(D_{x}^{3}-D_{x}+\lambda_{2}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2}\right] f_{1}=0} \\
& {\left[\left(D_{x}^{3}-D_{x}+\lambda_{1}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{1}\right]_{x} f_{2}-\left[\left(D_{x}^{3}-D_{x}+\lambda_{2}\right) f_{0} \cdot f_{2}\right]_{x} f_{1}=0}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $c_{1}(t)$ and $c_{2}(t)$ in (12) and (14) are some functions of $t$. Furthermore, if we assume that there exists an $f_{12}$ determined by (11) such that $c_{1}(t)=c_{2}(t)=0$, we can show that the corresponding $f_{12}$ is a new solution of (8) which is related to $f_{1}$ and $f_{2}$
under Bt ( $9^{\prime}$ ). Similarly, we can also obtain some particular solutions of (8) by the use of the above result.

## Acknowledgment

The authors would like to express their sincere thanks to Professor Tu Guizhang for his guidance and encouragement.

## Appendix

The following bilinear operator identities hold for arbitrary functions $a, b, c$ and $d$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(\bar{D}_{x} \bar{D}_{t} a \cdot b\right) c-\left(\bar{D}_{x} \overline{D_{t}} a \cdot c\right) \bar{b} \\
& =-a_{x} D_{t} b \cdot c-a_{t} D_{x} b \cdot c+\frac{1}{2} a\left[\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{t}+\left(D_{t} b \cdot c\right)_{x}\right]  \tag{A1}\\
& k_{1}\left(D_{x} a \cdot b\right) c-k_{2}\left(D_{x} a \cdot c\right) b \\
& =\left(k_{1}-k_{2}\right) a_{x} b c-\frac{1}{2} a\left[\left(k_{1}+k_{2}\right) D_{x} b \cdot c+\left(k_{1}-k_{2}\right)(b c)_{x}\right]  \tag{A2}\\
& \left(D_{t} a \cdot b\right) c-\left(D_{t} a \cdot c\right) b=-a D_{t} b \cdot c  \tag{A3}\\
& \left(D_{x}^{3} a \cdot b\right) c-\left(D_{x}^{3} a \cdot c\right) b \\
& =-3 a_{x x} D_{x} b \cdot c+3 a_{x}\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{x}-\frac{1}{4} a\left[D_{x}^{3} b \cdot c+3\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{x x}\right]  \tag{A4}\\
& \left(D_{t} a \cdot b\right)_{x} c-\left(D_{t} a \cdot c\right)_{x} b \\
& =a_{t} D_{x} b \cdot c-a_{x} D l_{t} b \cdot c-\frac{1}{2} a\left[\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{t}+\left(D_{t} b \cdot c\right)_{x}\right]  \tag{A5}\\
& \left(D_{x}^{3} a \cdot b\right)_{x} c-\left(D_{x}^{3} a \cdot c\right)_{x} b \\
& =-2 a_{x x x} D_{x} b \cdot c+\frac{1}{2} a_{x}\left[D_{x}^{3} b \cdot c+3\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{x x}\right] \\
& -\frac{1}{2} a\left[\left(D_{x}^{3} b \cdot c\right)_{x}+\left(D_{x} b \cdot c\right)_{x x x}\right] . \tag{A6}
\end{align*}
$$

## References

[1] Tu G Z 1979 Appl. Math. Comput. Math. 1 21-43
[2] Tu G Z 1982 Lett. Math. Phys. 6 63-71
[3] Hirota R and Satsuma J 1978 J. Phys. Soc. Japan 45 1741-50
[4] Nakamura A 1979 J. Phys. Soc. Japan 47 1335-40
[5] Nakamura A 1980 J. Phys. Soc. Japan 49 2380-6
[6] Nakamura A 1981 J. Math. Phys. 22 1608-13
[7] Nakamura A 1981 J. Math. Phys. 22 2456-62
[8] Li Y and Hu X B 1986 Sci. Expl. 6(4) 18-26
[9] Hu X B and Li Y 1988 Acta Math. Appl. Sinica 4(1) 46-54
[10] Hu X B and Li Y 1989 J. Tongji Univ. 17(1) 105-11
[11] Hu X B and Li Y 1991 Acta Math. Scientia 10(2)
[12] Hu X B and Li Y 1989 Bilinearization of KdV , MKdV and classical Boussinesq hierarchies Preprint Computing Center of Academia Sinica
[13] Hu X B, Li Y and Liu Q M 1989 Nonlinear superposition formula of Boussinesq hierarchy Preprint Computing Center of Academia Sinica
[14] Bullough R K and Caudrey P J (eds) 1980 Solitons, Topics in Current Physics vol 17 (Berlin: Springer) pp 157-76
[15] Ito M 1980 J. Phys. Soc. Japan 49 771-8
[16] Li Y and Hu X B 1989 J. Tongji Univ. 17(3) 377-84
[17] Jimbo M and Miwa T 1983 Publ. RIMS, Kyoto Univ. 19 943-1001
[18] Hirota R and Satsuma J 1976 J. Phys. Soc. Japan 40611 -12

