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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## The cusp solitons in optical fibres

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Abstract. We solve the higher-order nonlinear Schrödinger equation, which describes the propagation of femtosecond pulses in nonlinear fibres. A set of new soliton solutions is obtained.

For many years, much attention has been paid to soliton communication in optical fibres owing to its potential applications [1-4]. It is well known that the propagation of picosecond pulses in optical fibres is described by the nonlinear Schrödinger equation (NLS) [1, 2]. However, for ultrashort femtosecond pulses, the NLS is invalid and is substituted with a higher-order nonlinear Schrödinger equation given by [3, 4, 6]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{i} u_{z}-\frac{1}{2} \alpha u_{t t}+|u|^{2} u+\mathrm{i} \epsilon u_{t t t}+\mathrm{i} \delta|u|^{2} u_{t}+\mathrm{i} \rho u^{2} u_{t}^{*}=0 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $u=\left(n_{2} \omega_{0} / c\right)^{1 / 2} q, \alpha= \pm \beta_{\omega \omega}, \epsilon= \pm \frac{1}{6} \beta_{\omega \omega \omega}, \delta=\left(4 / \omega_{0}\right)+(2 \gamma / b)>0$, $\rho=\left(2 / \omega_{0}\right)+(2 \gamma / b)>0, q$ is the slowly-varying envelope of the electromagnetic field, $c$ is light speed, $n_{2}$ is the nonlinear index of refraction, $\beta_{\omega \omega}$ and $\beta_{\omega \omega \omega}$ are the dispersion parameters evaluated at the carrier frequency $\omega_{0}, b$ is the radius of the frequency-dependent electromagnetic mode propagation in the fibres, $\gamma$ is a parameter depending on the fibre geometry and $z$ and $t$ represent the space and time coordinates, respectively. If $\rho=0$, equation (1) becomes the Hirota equation [5], of which there exist $N$-soliton solutions at $\epsilon=-\frac{1}{6} \alpha \delta$. For $\rho \neq 0$, equation (1) is no longer integrable. However, the hyperbolic secant (bright) and hyperbolic tangent (dark) soliton solutions for equation (1) have been obtained [6]. In this letter, we present a set of cusp solitary wave solutions of equation (1). When the cusps are rounded off, we recover these solutions in [6].

We assume

$$
\begin{equation*}
u=\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\left(R t+\Omega z+\Phi_{0}\right)} W(z, t) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $R, \Omega$ and $\Phi_{0}$ are real constants and $W$ is the amplitude. Substituting equation (2) into equation (1), we have

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
W_{t t}=A W+B W^{3}  \tag{3}\\
W_{z}+\left(\epsilon A-\alpha R-3 \epsilon R^{2}\right) W_{t}+(3 \epsilon B+\delta+\rho) W^{2} W_{t}=0
\end{array}\right.
$$

where, $A$ and $B$ are real constants and

$$
\begin{equation*}
R=\frac{\frac{1}{2} \alpha B-1}{\rho-\delta-3 \epsilon B} \quad \Omega=\frac{1}{2} \alpha R^{2}+\epsilon R^{3}-A\left(\frac{1}{2} \alpha+3 \epsilon R\right) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

For equations (3), we obtain the exact solutions when $A$ is a parameter and $B=-(\delta+\rho) / 3 \epsilon$. Let $\xi=t+\left(\alpha R+3 \epsilon R^{2}-\epsilon A\right) z$, then equations (3) can be rewritten as

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{\xi \xi}=A W+B W^{3} . \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is easy to find the first integral of equation (5)

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{\xi}= \pm\left(A W^{2}+\frac{1}{2} B W^{4}-C\right)^{1 / 2} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the integral constant $C=\left.\left(A W^{2}+\frac{1}{2} B W^{4}\right)\right|_{\xi= \pm \infty}=0$ or $-A^{2} / 2 B$.
From equation (6), we have following solutions.
(1) When $A>0, B>0$, (i.e. $\epsilon<0$ ),

$$
\begin{equation*}
W=\frac{\sqrt{8 A P / B}}{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{A}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}-\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{A}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}} \quad P=\text { constant }>1 \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

(2) When $A>0, B<0$ (i.e. $\epsilon>0$ ),

$$
\begin{equation*}
W=\frac{\sqrt{-8 A P / B}}{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{A}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}+\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{A}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}} \quad P=\text { constant }>0 \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

(3) When $A<0, B>0$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
W=\sqrt{-\frac{A}{B}} \frac{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}+\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}}{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}-\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}} \quad P=\text { constant }>1 \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
W=\sqrt{-\frac{A}{B}} \frac{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}-\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}}{P \mathrm{e}^{\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}+\mathrm{e}^{-\sqrt{-A / 2}\left|\xi-\xi_{0}\right|}} \quad P=\text { constant } \geqslant 1 \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\xi_{0}$ is an arbitrary real constant.
The solutions (7)-(10) are of the solitary wave shape with a cusp at $\xi_{0}$. Obviously, equations (8) and (10) are nothing but the hyperbolic secant and hyperbolic tangent soliton solutions, respectively, presented previously, if the cusps are rounded off (i.e. $P=1$ ) [6].

In summary, we have obtained a set of cusp soliton solutions of the higher-order nonlinear Schrödinger equation (1). These results are expected to have an important application in future optical communications and other research.

## References

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