#### Solitons and breathers on wave background

Mark Hoefer<sup>1</sup>, Ana Mucalica<sup>2</sup>, and Dmitry E. Pelinovsky<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Colorado at Boulder (USA) and <sup>2</sup> McMaster University (Canada)

SouthEast University, Nanjing, China, August 21, 2023

We are dealing with the canonical model for the shallow water waves, the Korteweg–de Vries (KdV) equation:

$$u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0, \tag{KdV}$$

with the step-like data

$$\lim_{x \to -\infty} u(t, x) = u_{-}, \qquad \lim_{x \to +\infty} u(t, x) = u_{+}.$$

#### Applications: tidal bores, earthquake-generated waves

G. A. El, Adv. Fluid Mech. 47 (2007) 19-53G. A. El and M. A. Hoefer, Physica D 333 (2016) 11-65

We are dealing with the canonical model for the shallow water waves, the Korteweg–de Vries (KdV) equation:

$$u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0, \tag{KdV}$$

with the step-like data

$$\lim_{x \to -\infty} u(t, x) = u_{-}, \qquad \lim_{x \to +\infty} u(t, x) = u_{+}.$$

The step-like initial data results in the appearance of a rarefaction wave (RW) if  $u_+ > u_-$  and a dispersive shock wave (DSW) if  $u_+ < u_-$ .



We are dealing with the canonical model for the shallow water waves, the Korteweg–de Vries (KdV) equation:

$$u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0, \tag{KdV}$$

with the step-like data

$$\lim_{x \to -\infty} u(t, x) = u_{-}, \qquad \lim_{x \to +\infty} u(t, x) = u_{+}.$$

## Soliton propagation on RW and DSW background have been considered recently:

M. D. Maiden, D. V. Anderson, A. A. Franco, G. A. El, and M. A. Hoefer, Phys. Rev. Lett. **120** (2018) 144101
P. Sprenger, M. A. Hoefer, and G. A. El, Phys. Rev. E **97** (2018) 032218
T. Congy, G. A. El and M. A. Hoefer, J. Fluid Mech. **875** (2019) 1145–1174
K. van der Sande, G. A. El and M. A. Hoefer, J. Fluid Mech. **928** (2021) A21

We are dealing with the canonical model for the shallow water waves, the Korteweg–de Vries (KdV) equation:

$$u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0, \tag{KdV}$$

with the step-like data

$$\lim_{x \to -\infty} u(t, x) = u_{-}, \qquad \lim_{x \to +\infty} u(t, x) = u_{+}.$$

## This is the toy model for soliton gases analyzed in mathematics and observed in hydrodynamical experiments:

M. Bertola, R. Jenkins, and A. Tovbis (2022), arXiv: 2210.01350
M. Girotti, T. Grava, R. Jenkins, K. McLaughlin A. Minakov (2022), arXiv:2205.02601
T. Congy, G. A. El, G. Roberti, and A. Tovbis (2022) arXiv:2208.04472
Y. Mao, S. Chandramouli, W. Xu, and M. A. Hoefer (2023) arXiv: 2302.11161

Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Solitons and breathers on wave background



M. J. Ablowitz, J. T. Cole, M. A. Hoefer, Stud. Appl. Math. (2023) in print.

**Soliton-RW:** Depending on the initial amplitude of a solitary wave, it is either transmitted over or trapped inside the RW background.



FIG. 2. Trapped soliton example for  $\kappa_0 = 0.9$ , c = 1,  $x_0 = -15$ .

M. J. Ablowitz, X. D. Luo, and J. T. Cole, J. Math. Phys. 59 (2018), 091406

Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Solitons and breathers on wave background

This phenomenon was interpreted from the inverse scattering method:

$$\mathcal{L}v = \lambda v, \qquad \mathcal{L} := -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - u$$

and

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \mathcal{M}v, \qquad \mathcal{M} := -3u_x - 6u\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - 4\frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^3},$$
  
where  $\lim_{x \to -\infty} u(x, t) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \to +\infty} u(x, t) = c^2.$ 

- ▷ Transmitted soliton corresponds to an isolated eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $(-\infty, -c^2)$  outside the continuous spectrum on  $[-c^2, \infty)$ .
- ▷ Trapped soliton corresponds to a "pseudo–embedded" eigenvalue inside the continuous spectrum of  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $[-c^2, 0]$

M. J. Ablowitz, X. D. Luo, and J. T. Cole, J. Math. Phys. 59 (2018), 091406

**Soliton-DSW:** The rigorous IST method was applied for the step-like boundary conditions:

- ▷ N solitons added as poles in the IST method scatter towards zero boundary conditions as t evolves.
- ▷ Phase shifts of the *N* solitons were appropriately computed.
- ▷ These *N* solitons are considered to be transmitted solitons over the DSW background.
- No differences between transmitted and trapped solitons appear in the IST method.
- I. Egorova, Z. Gladka, V. Kotlyarov, and G. Teschl, Nonlinearity 26 (2013) 1839
- I. Egorova, J. Michor, and G. Teschl, arXiv: 2109.08423 (2021)

# **Main result:** Transmitted soliton on the RW background can be constructed via Darboux transformation.

A. Mucalica and D.E. Pelinovsky, Solitons on the rarefaction wave background via the Darboux transformation, Proc. R. Soc. A 478 (2022) 20220474

**Darboux transformation:** Let *u* be a solution of the KdV equation and  $v_0$  be a real solution of the Lax equations for  $\lambda = \lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v_0 \neq 0$ . Then,

$$\hat{u} := u + 2\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\log(v_0)$$

is a new solution of the KdV equation.

# **Main result:** Transmitted soliton on the RW background can be constructed via Darboux transformation.

A. Mucalica and D.E. Pelinovsky, Solitons on the rarefaction wave background via the Darboux transformation, Proc. R. Soc. A 478 (2022) 20220474

**Darboux transformation:** Let *u* be a solution of the KdV equation and  $v_0$  be a real solution of the Lax equations for  $\lambda = \lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v_0 \neq 0$ . Then,

$$\hat{u} := u + 2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \log(v_0)$$

is a new solution of the KdV equation.

If  $\lambda_0$  is below the bottom of the spectrum of  $\mathcal{L} = -\partial_x^2 - u$ , then  $v_0 \neq 0$  everywhere by Sturm's nodal theory.

Let u(x) = 0 for x < 0 and  $u(x) = c^2$  for x > 0 at initial time t = 0. Pick  $\lambda_0 = -\mu_0^2 < -c^2$  and obtain

$$v_0(x) = \begin{cases} e^{\mu_0(x-x_0)} + e^{-\mu_0(x-x_0)}, & x < 0, \\ c_1 e^{\nu_0 x} + c_2 e^{-\nu_0 x}, & x > 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\nu_0 := \sqrt{\mu_0^2 - c^2} > 0$ ,  $x_0$  is arbitrary, and  $(c_1, c_2)$  are uniquely found from the continuity of  $\nu_0$  and  $\nu'_0$  across x = 0.

Let u(x) = 0 for x < 0 and  $u(x) = c^2$  for x > 0 at initial time t = 0. Pick  $\lambda_0 = -\mu_0^2 < -c^2$  and obtain

$$v_0(x) = \begin{cases} e^{\mu_0(x-x_0)} + e^{-\mu_0(x-x_0)}, & x < 0, \\ c_1 e^{\nu_0 x} + c_2 e^{-\nu_0 x}, & x > 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\nu_0 := \sqrt{\mu_0^2 - c^2} > 0$ ,  $x_0$  is arbitrary, and  $(c_1, c_2)$  are uniquely found from the continuity of  $\nu_0$  and  $\nu'_0$  across x = 0.

The new solution is given by

$$\hat{u}(x) = \begin{cases} 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2[\mu_0(x-x_0)], & x < 0, \\ c^2 + 4\nu_0^2 \frac{\nu_0^2 + \mu_0^2 + (\nu_0^2 - \mu_0^2) \cosh(2\mu_0 x_0)}{[(\nu_0 + \mu_0) \cosh(\nu_0 x - \mu_0 x_0) + (\nu_0 - \mu_0) \cosh(\nu_0 x + \mu_0 x_0)]^2}, & x > 0. \end{cases}$$

The solution is bounded if  $x_0 \leq 0$ .

Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Let u(x) = 0 for x < 0 and  $u(x) = c^2$  for x > 0 at initial time t = 0. Pick  $\lambda_0 = -\mu_0^2 < -c^2$  and obtain

$$v_0(x) = \begin{cases} e^{\mu_0(x-x_0)} + e^{-\mu_0(x-x_0)}, & x < 0, \\ c_1 e^{\nu_0 x} + c_2 e^{-\nu_0 x}, & x > 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\nu_0 := \sqrt{\mu_0^2 - c^2} > 0$ ,  $x_0$  is arbitrary, and  $(c_1, c_2)$  are uniquely found from the continuity of  $\nu_0$  and  $\nu'_0$  across x = 0.

- ▷ The solitary wave decays differently as  $x \to -\infty$  (decay rate is  $\mu_0$ ) and as  $x \to +\infty$  (decay rate is  $\nu_0 = \sqrt{\mu_0^2 c^2}$ ).
- ▷ The Lax spectrum of the new solution is  $[-c^2, \infty)$  and a simple isolated eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 = -\mu_0^2 < -c^2$ .

Some evidences that no trapped solitons actually exist.

▷ Eigenfunctions of  $\mathcal{L}v = \lambda_0 v$  are bounded but not decaying if  $\lambda \in [-c_0^2, \infty)$ . No embedded eigenvalues exist if

$$u(x) \to c^2$$
 as  $x \to +\infty$  rapidly

▷ Darboux transformation does not produce any bounded solutions if  $\lambda_0 \in [-c_0^2, \infty)$ .

#### We shall prove that no trapped soliton exists for one example.

A. Mucalica and D.E. Pelinovsky, Solitons on the rarefaction wave background via the Darboux transformation, Proc. R. Soc. A 478 (2022) 20220474

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

$$u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$$

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

Eigenfunctions of  $\mathcal{L}v = \lambda v$  with  $\lambda = k^2$  are known explicitly:

$$\phi(x;k) = e^{-ikx} \left[ 1 - \frac{i\mu_0}{k + i\mu_0} e^{\mu_0(x - x_0)} \operatorname{sech}(\mu_0(x - x_0)) \right], \quad x < 0$$

and

$$\psi(x;k) = e^{i\varkappa x} \left[ 1 - \frac{i\mu_0}{\varkappa + i\mu_0} e^{-\mu_0(x-x_0)} \operatorname{sech}(\mu_0(x-x_0)) \right], \quad x > 0,$$

where 
$$\varkappa := \sqrt{c^2 + k^2}$$
.

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

 $u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$ 

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

The scattering data are obtained from the scattering relation:

 $\phi(x;k) = a(k)\overline{\psi}(x;k) + b(k)\psi(x;k), \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$ 

where  $\bar{\psi}$  is obtained from  $\psi$  by reflection  $\varkappa \mapsto -\varkappa$ .

Straightforward computation yields:

$$a(k) = \frac{(\varkappa + k) \left(\varkappa k + \mu_0^2 + i\mu_0(\varkappa - k) \tanh(\mu_0 x_0)\right)}{2\varkappa(\varkappa + i\mu_0)(k + i\mu_0)}$$

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

$$u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$$

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

 $\phi(x;k)$  and a(k) can be continued analytically for  $k \in \mathbb{C}$ , Im(k) > 0. Zeros of a(k) for Im(k) > 0 correspond to solutions of  $\mathcal{L}v = \lambda v$  with  $\lambda = k^2$  and  $\phi(x;k) \to 0$  as  $x \to -\infty$ .

However, k = ic is a branch point for  $\kappa := \sqrt{c^2 + k^2}$ . Branch cuts must be defined on  $i\mathbb{R}$ .

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

$$u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$$

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

By using

$$a(k) = \frac{(\varkappa + k) \left(\varkappa k + \mu_0^2 + i\mu_0(\varkappa - k) \tanh(\mu_0 x_0)\right)}{2\varkappa(\varkappa + i\mu_0)(k + i\mu_0)},$$

we are looking for roots  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  with Im(k) > 0 of equation

$$\varkappa k + \mu_0^2 + i\mu_0(\varkappa - k) \tanh(\mu_0 x_0) = 0.$$

If  $x_0 \to -\infty$ ,  $k = i\mu_0$  is a simple root of this equation for the eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 = k^2 = -\mu_0^2$  with either  $\mu_0 \in (c, \infty)$  or  $\mu_0 \in (0, c)$ .

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

$$u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$$

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

For every sufficiently large  $x_0 \ll -1$ , there exists an isolated real eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 \approx -\mu_0^2$  if  $\mu_0 \in (c, \infty)$ .

In this case,  $k_0 \in i\mathbb{R}$  and  $\varkappa_0 = \sqrt{c^2 + k_0^2} \in i\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\phi(x; k_0) = b_0 \psi(x; k_0) \to 0$  as  $x \to +\infty$ . The branch cut can be chosen for  $\text{Im}(k) \in [-c, c]$ .

Consider a linear superposition of a soliton and the step function:

$$u(x) = 2\mu_0^2 \operatorname{sech}^2(\mu_0(x - x_0)) + c^2 H(x),$$

where  $\mu_0 > 0$ ,  $x_0 < 0$ , and H(x) is the Heaviside step function.

For every sufficiently large  $x_0 \ll -1$ , there exists a resonant pole  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_0) \approx -\mu_0^2$  if  $\mu_0 \in (0, c)$ .

In this case  $k_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\varkappa_0 = \sqrt{c^2 + k_0^2} \in \mathbb{C}$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}(\varkappa_0) > 0$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(\varkappa_0) < 0$  so that  $\phi(x; k_0) = b_0 \psi(x; k_0) \to \infty$  as  $x \to +\infty$ . The branch cut can be chosen for  $|\operatorname{Im}(k)| \in [c, \infty)$ .

We use Zabusky–Kruskal scheme to recover transmission of a large soliton over the RW background and trapping of a small soliton



Lax spectrum contains an isolated eigenvalue for the transmitted soliton but does not contain any eigenvalues for the trapped soliton.



Let  $a^2$  be the background (which depends on time *t*) and the solitary wave with parameter  $\nu_0^2$  is

$$u(t,x) = a^{2} + 2\nu_{0}^{2}\operatorname{sech}^{2}[\nu_{0}(x - 4\nu_{0}^{2}t - 6a^{2}t - x_{0})].$$

Then,  $\nu_0 = \sqrt{\mu_0^2 - a^2}$  by direct scattering, where  $\mu_0^2$  is parameter of the solitary waves at zero background. The soliton amplitude is

$$A = a^2 + 2\nu_0^2 = 2\mu_0^2 - a^2.$$

We can detect numerically the background parameter  $a^2$  at time t > 0 from the location of the local maximum for the solitary wave.

In order to detect  $a^2(t)$  for the RW background, we solve  $u_t + 6uu_x = 0$  with

$$u(t,x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < -\varepsilon, \\ (2\varepsilon + 6t)^{-1}(x + \varepsilon), & -\varepsilon \le x \le \varepsilon + 6t, \\ 1, & x > \varepsilon + 6t. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\xi(t)$  be the numerically detected location of the solitary wave inside RW. Then,

$$a^{2}(t) = (2\varepsilon + 6t)^{-1}(\xi(t) + \varepsilon),$$

with which we compute the amplitude of the solitary waves

$$A(t) = 2\mu_0^2 - a^2(t).$$



Figure: Data analysis for the transmitted soliton: (a) Amplitude of the solitary wave versus time (black) and the limiting amplitude  $A_{\infty} = 2\mu_0^2 - c^2$  (red). (b) Amplitude of the solitary wave versus amplitude of the RW background detected numerically (black) and theoretically (red). The blue dots show the amplitude of the RW background.



Figure: Data analysis for the trapped soliton: (a) Amplitude of the solitary wave versus time (black) and the limiting amplitude  $A_{\infty} = 2\mu_0^2 - c^2$  (red). (b) Amplitude of the solitary wave versus amplitude of the RW background detected numerically (black) and theoretically (red). The blue dots show the amplitude of the RW background.

### Summary on Soliton-RW interactions

- A transmitted soliton over the RW background can be generated by using the Darboux transformation which adds an isolated eigenvalue to the spectrum.
- No trapped soliton exists as it is related to resonant poles of the Schrödinger equation.
- ▷ The final amplitude of the transmitted soliton is determined by the initial amplitude. The amplitude of the trapped soliton slowly decays towards the amplitude of the RW background.

Since the DSW is modeled by the modulated traveling periodic wave, we consider the interaction of the soliton with a family of traveling periodic waves. The normalized traveling wave of the KdV equation:

$$u(t,x) = 2k^2 \operatorname{cn}^2(x - ct;k), \qquad c = 4(2k^2 - 1).$$

with the period 2K(k).

Since the DSW is modeled by the modulated traveling periodic wave, we consider the interaction of the soliton with a family of traveling periodic waves. The normalized traveling wave of the KdV equation:

$$u(t,x) = 2k^2 \operatorname{cn}^2(x - ct; k), \qquad c = 4(2k^2 - 1)$$

with the period 2K(k).

This is the most general traveling periodic wave solution due to the scaling transformation

$$u(t,x) \Rightarrow \alpha^2 u(\alpha^3 t, \alpha x), \quad \alpha > 0,$$

the Galilean transformation

$$u(t,x) \Rightarrow \beta + u(t,x-6\beta t), \quad \beta \in \mathbb{R},$$

and the translational symmetry:  $u(t, x) \rightarrow u(t, x - \gamma), \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since the DSW is modeled by the modulated traveling periodic wave, we consider the interaction of the soliton with a family of traveling periodic waves. The normalized traveling wave of the KdV equation:

$$u(t, x) = 2k^2 \operatorname{cn}^2(x - ct; k), \qquad c = 4(2k^2 - 1).$$

with the period 2K(k).

sn, cn, and dn are real-valued Jacobi elliptic functions with

$$sn^2 + cn^2 = 1$$
,  $dn^2 + k^2 sn^2 = 1$ .

Parameter  $k \in (0, 1)$  is the elliptic modulus. Elliptic functions reduce to the trigonometric functions as  $k \to 0$  and to the hyperbolic functions as  $k \to 1$ .

## Question: What are properties of the solitary wave propagating on the traveling periodic wave background?

E. Kuznetsov, A. Mikhailov, JETP 40 (1974) 855
F. Gesztesy, R. Svirsky, Memoirs AMS 118 (1995) 1–88
X.R. Hu, S.Y. Lou, Y. Chen, Phys. Rev. E 85 (2012) 056607
A. Nakayashiki, Lett. Math. Phys. 111 (2021) 85

Due to periodicity of the interactions between the solitary wave and the periodic background, we refer to these solutions as *breathers* and study their properties (speed, localization, phase shift).

M. Hoefer, A. Mucalica and D.E. Pelinovsky, KdV breathers on cnoidal wave background, J. Physics A: Mathem. Theor. 56 (2023) 185701

One can again use the Darboux-Backlund transformation

$$\hat{u} := u + 2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \log(v_0),$$

where  $v_0(t, x) = v(x - ct)e^{\omega t}$  is a solution of the Lamé equation

$$v''(x) + 2k^2 \operatorname{cn}^2(x;k)v(x) + \lambda v(x) = 0$$

with some uniquely determined  $\omega = \omega(\lambda)$ .



Bright breathers correspond to  $\lambda$  in semi-infinite gap.

Dark breathers correspond to  $\lambda$  in the finite gap.

#### Bright breather





#### Dark breather





The Lamé equation

 $v''(x) + 2k^2 \operatorname{cn}^2(x;k)v(x) + \lambda v(x) = 0$ 

is solved with the explicit functions

$$v_{\pm}(x) = \frac{H(x \pm \alpha)}{\Theta(x)} e^{\mp x Z(\alpha)},$$

where  $\lambda = 1 - 2k^2 + k^2 \operatorname{cn}(\alpha; k)$  and

$$H(x) = \theta_1(\frac{\pi x}{2K}) = 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} q^{(n-1/2)^2} \sin(2n-1)(\frac{\pi x}{2K}),$$
  
$$\Theta(x) = \theta_4(\frac{\pi x}{2K}) = 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{n^2} \cos(2n)(\frac{\pi x}{2K}).$$

D. F. Lawden, Elliptic Functions and Applications, (Springer, 2013)

Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Solitons and breathers on wave background

Nontrivial relation between  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$ :

$$\lambda = 1 - 2k^2 + k^2 \operatorname{cn}(\alpha; k)$$



Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Solitons and breathers on wave background

The time evolution of the eigenfunctions follows from the separation of variables in the Lax system:

$$v_{\pm}(t,x) = \frac{H(x - ct \pm \alpha)}{\Theta(x - ct)} e^{\mp (x - ct)Z(\alpha) \mp t\omega(\alpha)},$$

where  $\omega(\alpha)$  is found from the time evolution equation:

$$\omega(\alpha) = (c_0 + 4\lambda - 2\phi_0(x)) \left[ Z(\alpha) \pm Z(x) \mp \frac{H'(x \pm \alpha)}{H(x \pm \alpha)} \right] \mp \phi'_0(x),$$

or equivalently at x = 0:

$$\omega(\alpha) = 4(\lambda + k^2 - 1) \left[ \frac{\Theta'(\alpha)}{\Theta(\alpha)} - \frac{H'(\alpha)}{H(\alpha)} \right]$$

Darboux transformation for  $\lambda$  in the semi-infinite gap is applied with

$$v_0(x,t) = c_+v_+(x,t) + c_-v_-(x,t)$$

where  $v_{\pm}(x,t) > 0$  and  $c_{\pm} > 0$ . We can use that

$$k^{2}\operatorname{cn}^{2}(x,k) = k^{2} - 1 + \frac{E(k)}{K(k)} + \partial_{x}^{2}\log\Theta(x)$$

and obtain the new solution

$$\hat{u} = u + 2\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\log(v_0) = 2\left[k^2 - 1 + \frac{E(k)}{K(k)}\right] + 2\partial_x^2\log\tau,$$

 $\tau = \Theta(x - c_0 t + \alpha_b) e^{\kappa_b (x - c_b t + x_0)} + \Theta(x - c_0 t - \alpha_b) e^{-\kappa_b (x - c_b t + x_0)}$ 

with uniquely defined parameters  $c_b > c_0$ ,  $\kappa_b > 0$ , and  $\alpha_b \in [0, K]$  for each  $\lambda$ .

Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

Darboux transformation for  $\lambda$  in the finite gap is applied with

 $v_0(x,t) = c_+v_+(x,t) + c_-v_-(x,t)$ 

but  $v_{\pm}(x, t)$  are sign-indefinite. However, translation of the new solution  $\hat{u} = \hat{u}(x + iK', t)$  yields a bounded solution

$$\hat{u} = u + 2\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\log(v_0) = 2\left[k^2 - 1 + \frac{E(k)}{K(k)}\right] + 2\partial_x^2\log\tau,$$

 $\tau = \Theta(x - c_0 t + \alpha_d) e^{-\kappa_d (x - c_d t + x_0)} + \Theta(x - c_0 t - \alpha_d) e^{\kappa_d (x - c_d t + x_0)}$ 

with uniquely defined parameters  $c_d < c_0$ ,  $\kappa_d > 0$ , and  $\alpha_d \in [0, K]$  for each  $\lambda$ .

### Bright breathers



Here  $\Delta_b = 2\pi \alpha_b/K(k)$  is normalized phase shift. We can prove  $\Delta'_b(\lambda) > 0$ ,  $\kappa'_b(\lambda) < 0$ , and  $c_b > c_0$ .

### Bright breathers



#### Dark breathers



Here  $\Delta_d = 2\pi \alpha_d / K(k)$  is normalized phase shift. We can prove  $\Delta'_d(\lambda) < 0$ , max  $\kappa_d(\lambda)$ , and  $c_d < c_0$ .

#### Dark breathers



#### Dark breathers

Limits  $k \to 0$  and  $k \to 1$  can be studied very precisely thanks to availability of the exact solutions in the closed form.

The limit  $k \rightarrow 1$  gives the 2-soliton solutions with two solitons of two different speeds.

The limit  $k \to 0$  for the bright breather of KdV yields the 1-soliton solution.

The limit  $k \rightarrow 0$  for the dark breathers of KdV yields the dark solitons of NLS in agreement with

 Zakharov, V. E.; Kuznetsov, E. A. Multiscale expansions in the theory of systems integrable by the inverse scattering transform. Phys. D 18 (1986), no. 1-3, 455–463.

#### Comparison between breathers and Soliton-DSW



### Summary on Soliton-DSW interactions

- ▷ A transmitted soliton over the DSW background can be related to the bright breather solution.
- ▷ A trapped soliton in the DSW background can be related to the dark breather solution.
- Parameters of the breather solutions are computed explicitly in terms of the Jacobi elliptic functions.

Defocusing NLS and modified KDV equations are also physically interesting models where similar problems are relevant and similar solutions can be constructed. For the defocusing MKDV,

$$u_t - 6u^2u_x + u_{xxx} = 0,$$

the normalized traveling wave is

$$u(x,t) = \phi_0(x+c_0t), \quad \phi_0(x) = k \operatorname{sn}(x;k), \quad c_0 = 1 + k^2$$

although it is not the most general solution of the MKDV equation. It corresponds to

$$\phi^{\prime\prime\prime} - 6\phi^2 \phi^\prime + c\phi^\prime = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi^{\prime\prime} - 2\phi^3 + c\phi = b,$$

with b = 0. The most general solution has  $b \neq 0$ .

The spectral problem is self-adjoint

$$\varphi_x = \begin{pmatrix} i\zeta & u \\ u & -i\zeta \end{pmatrix} \varphi,$$

hence the spectrum associated with the traveling periodic wave is purely real:  $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Explicit solutions for eigenfunctions are available:

$$p(x;z) = e^{s(z)x} e^{-\frac{i\pi x}{4K}} \frac{\theta_1\left(\frac{\pi(x-iz)}{2K}\right)}{\theta_4\left(\frac{\pi x}{2K}\right)\theta_4\left(\frac{i\pi z}{2K}\right)}$$
$$q(x;z) = e^{s(z)x} e^{-\frac{i\pi x}{4K}} \frac{\theta_4\left(\frac{\pi(x-iz)}{2K}\right)}{\theta_4\left(\frac{\pi x}{2K}\right)\theta_1\left(\frac{i\pi z}{2K}\right)},$$

where

$$s(z) = \frac{1}{2}Z(iz) - \frac{1}{2}Z(iz'), \quad z' = K'(k) - z$$

and

$$\zeta(z) = \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{dn}(iz) \mathrm{dn}(iz').$$

D. A. Takahashi, Phys. Rev E. 93 (2016) 062224



New solution for soliton on the periodic background is obtained with the Darboux transformation:

$$\hat{u} = u - \frac{4i\zeta_0 p_0 q_0}{p_0^2 - q_0^2},$$

where  $\varphi = (p_0, q_0)$  is a superposition of two linearly independent solutions with  $q_0 = \overline{p}_0$ . However, the new solution is singular and a bounded solution is obtained after the transformation:  $x \to x + iK'$ .

The solution surface of the breather on the periodic background:



The family of breathers on the periodic background:





Dmitry E. Pelinovsky, McMaster University

#### Solitons and breathers on wave background

Characteristics of the dark breather (phase shift, localization, speed)



Other models with modulationally stable periodic waves?

Benjamin–Ono equation, intermediate Long–Wave equation, Kadomtsev–Petviashvili-II equation?

Many thanks for your attention!