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Theory of nonlinear excitations in dusty plasma crystals

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Outline

A. Introduction

- (i) *Linear waves* in one-dimensional (1d) dust crystals;
- (ii) *Nonlinearity*: Origin and modeling.

B. Nonlinear effects on *transverse dust-lattice waves* (*TDLWs*): amplitude modulation, transverse envelope structures.

C. Nonlinear effects on *longitudinal dust-lattice waves* (*LDLWs*): modulation, longitudinal envelope excitations.

D. *Longitudinal localized excitations* : relation to soliton theories.

E. 1d *Discrete Breathers* (*Intrinsic Localized Modes*) : → poster.

F. Conclusions.

A. Intro.: Linear modes in a 1-dimensional plasma crystal.

Longitudinal Dust Lattice (LDL) mode:

- Horizontal oscillations ($\sim \hat{x}$): cf. *phonons* in atomic chains;
- Acoustic mode: $\omega(k = 0) = 0$;
- Restoring force provided by electrostatic interactions.

Transverse Dust Lattice (TDL) mode:

- Vertical oscillations ($\sim \hat{z}$);
- Optical mode:

$$\omega(k = 0) = \omega_g \neq 0$$

(center of mass motion);

- Single grain vibrations (propagating $\sim \hat{x}$ for $k \neq 0$):
Restoring force provided by the *sheath electric potential* (and interactions).

Transverse ($\sim \hat{y}$, in-plane, optical) d.o.f. suppressed.

Also: *No transverse shear- acoustic mode* (cf. 2d lattices).

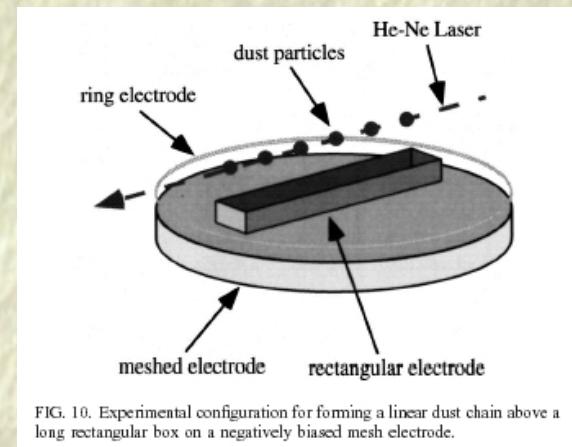


FIG. 10. Experimental configuration for forming a linear dust chain above a long rectangular box on a negatively biased mesh electrode.

* Figure from: S. Takamura *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas **8**, 1886 (2001).

Model Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_n \frac{1}{2} M \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}_n}{dt} \right)^2 + \sum_{m \neq n} U_{int}(r_{nm}) + \Phi_{ext}(\mathbf{r}_n)$$

where:

- *Kinetic Energy* (1st term);
- $U_{int}(r_{nm})$ is the (binary) *interaction potential energy*;
- $\Phi_{ext}(\mathbf{r}_n)$ accounts for ‘*external*’ *force fields*:
may account for *confinement potentials* and/or *sheath electric forces*, i.e. $F_{sheath}(z) = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z}$.

**Q.: Nonlinearity: Origin: where from ?
Effect: which consequence(s) ?**

Nonlinearity: Where does it come from?

- (i) *Interactions between grains:* Electrostatic character (e.g. repulsive, Debye), long-range, *anharmonicity*:

Expanding $U_{pot}(r_{nm})$ near equilibrium:

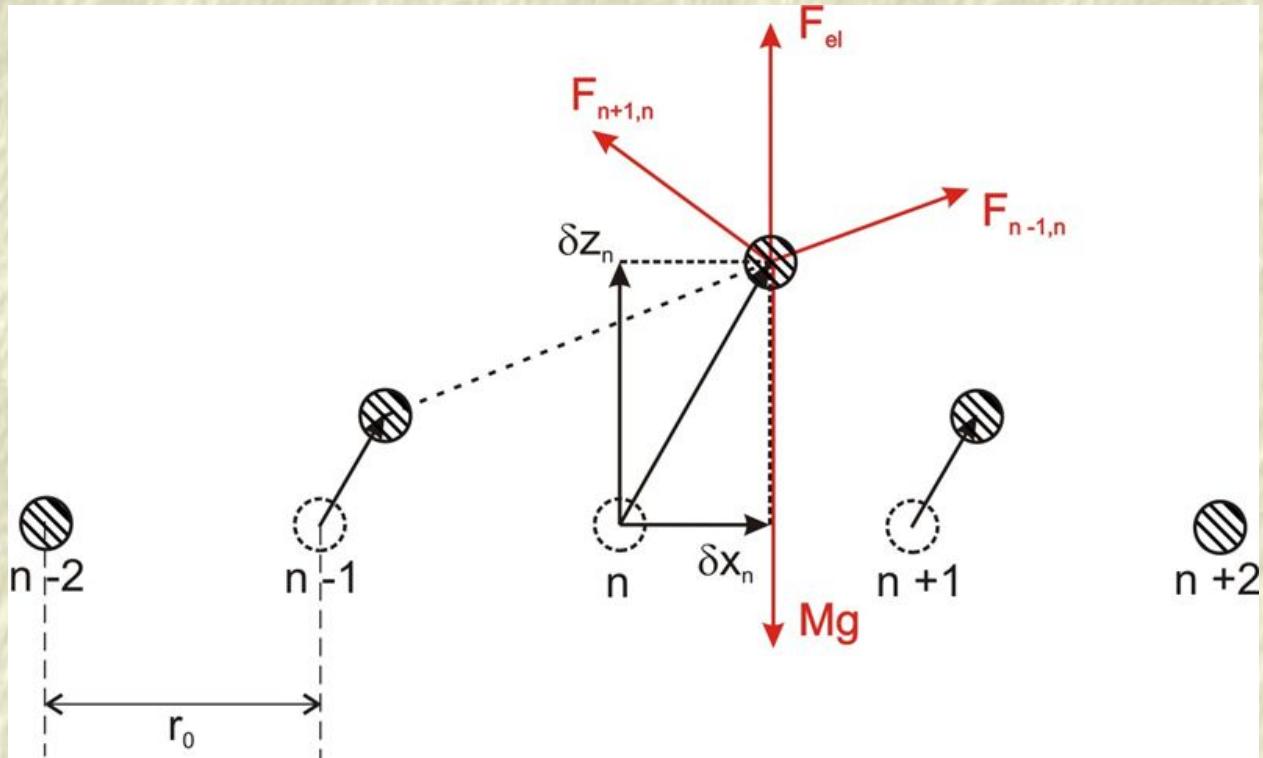
$$\Delta x_n = x_n - x_{n-m} = mr_0, \quad \Delta z_n = z_n - z_{n-m} = 0,$$

one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_{nm}(r) \approx & \frac{1}{2}M\omega_{L,0}^2(\Delta x_n)^2 + \frac{1}{2}M\omega_{T,0}^2(\Delta z_n)^2 \\
 & + \frac{1}{3}u_{30}(\Delta x_n)^3 + \frac{1}{4}u_{40}(\Delta x_n)^4 + \dots + \frac{1}{4}u_{04}(\Delta z_n)^4 + \dots \\
 & + \frac{1}{2}u_{12}(\Delta x_n)(\Delta z_n)^2 + \frac{1}{4}u_{22}(\Delta x_n)^2(\Delta z_n)^2 + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Nonlinearity: Where from? (*continued ...*)

- (ii) Mode *coupling* also induces non linearity:
anisotropic motion, *not* confined along one of the main axes
 $(\sim \hat{x}, \hat{z})$.



[cf. A. Ivlev et al., PRE **68**, 066402 (2003)]

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Nonlinearity: Where from? (*continued ...*)

- (iii) *Sheath environment: anharmonic vertical potential:*

$$\Phi(z) \approx \Phi(z_0) + \frac{1}{2}M\omega_g^2(\delta z_n)^2 + \frac{1}{3}M\alpha(\delta z_n)^3 + \frac{1}{4}M\beta(\delta z_n)^4 + \dots$$

cf. experiments [Ivlev *et al.*, PRL **85**, 4060 (2000); Zafiu *et al.*, PRE **63** 066403 (2001)];
 $\delta z_n = z_n - z_{(0)}$; α, β, ω_g are defined via $E(z)$, $[B(z)]^\dagger$ and $Q(z)$;
 (in fact, functions of n and P) $[\dagger$ V. Yaroshenko *et al.*, NJP 2003; PRE 2004]

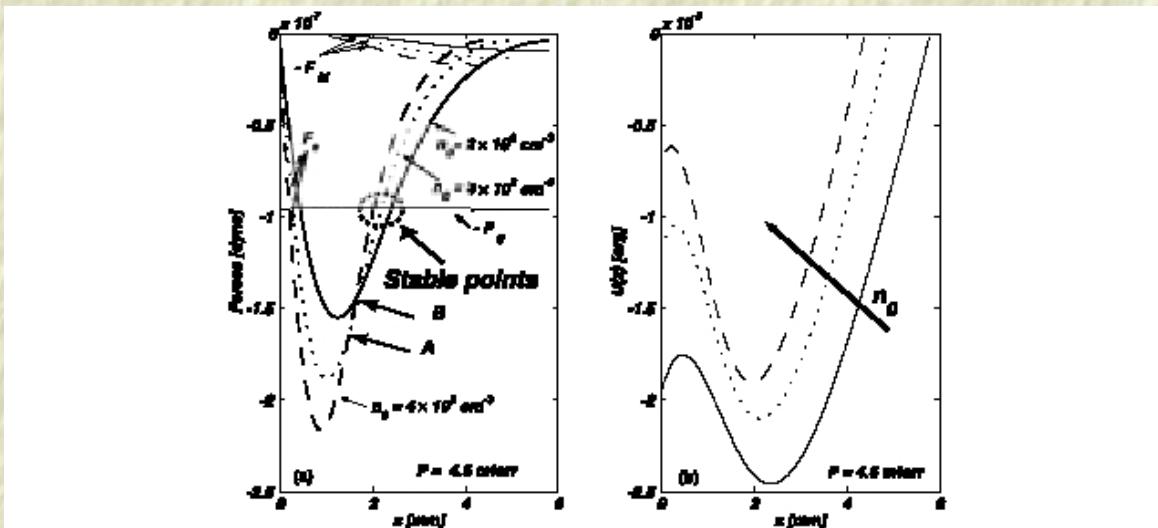


Figure 3: (a) Forces and (b) trapping potential profiles $U(z)$ as function of distance from the electrode for: $n_0 = 2 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (solid line), $n_0 = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (dashed line), $n_0 = 4 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (dotted line). The parameters are: $P = 4.6 \text{ mtorr}$, $T_e = 1 \text{ eV}$, $T_i = T_n = 0.05 \text{ eV}$, $R = 2.5 \mu\text{m}$, $\rho_d = 1.5 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $\phi_w = 6 \text{ V}$.

Source: Sorasio *et al.* (2002).

Part 1: *Transverse nonlinear oscillations*

The vertical n -th grain displacement $\delta z_n = z_n - z_{(0)}$ obeys

$$\frac{d^2 \delta z_n}{dt^2} + \nu \frac{d(\delta z_n)}{dt} + \omega_{T,0}^2 (\delta z_{n+1} + \delta z_{n-1} - 2\delta z_n) + \omega_g^2 \delta z_n + \alpha (\delta z_n)^2 + \beta (\delta z_n)^3 = 0. \quad (1)$$

* $\omega_{T,0} = [-qU'(r_0)/(Mr_0)]^{1/2} = \omega_{DL}^2 \exp(-\kappa) (1 + \kappa)/\kappa^3$ (†)

(†) (for Debye interactions); $\kappa = r_0/\lambda_D$ is the lattice parameter;

* $\omega_{DL} = [q^2/(M\lambda_D^3)]^{1/2}$; λ_D is the Debye length;

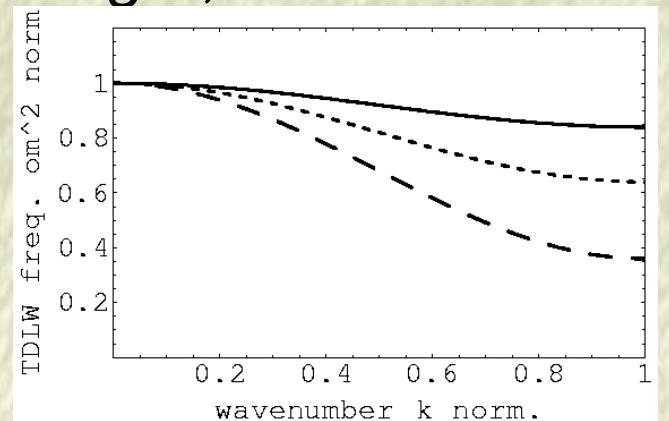
* Optical dispersion relation

(backward wave, $v_g < 0$) †:

$$\omega^2 = \omega_g^2 - 4\omega_{T,0}^2 \sin^2(kr_0/2)$$

* Rem.: ω_g and α, β : see $\Phi(z)$ above.

† Cf. experiments: T. Misawa et al., *PRL* **86**, 1219 (2001); B. Liu et al., *PRL* **91**, 255003 (2003).



Large amplitude oscillations - envelope structures

A reductive perturbation (multiple scale) technique, viz.

$$t \rightarrow \{t_0, t_1 = \epsilon t, t_2 = \epsilon^2 t, \dots\}, \quad x \rightarrow \{x_0, x_1 = \epsilon x, x_2 = \epsilon^2 x, \dots\}$$

yields ($\epsilon \ll 1$; damping omitted):

$$\delta z_n \approx \epsilon (A e^{i\phi_n} + \text{c.c.}) + \epsilon^2 \left[-\frac{2|A|^2}{\omega_g^2} + \left(\frac{A^2}{3\omega_g^2} e^{2i\phi_n} + \text{c.c.} \right) \right] + \dots$$

($\phi_n = nkr_0 - \omega t$); the harmonic amplitude $A(X, T)$:

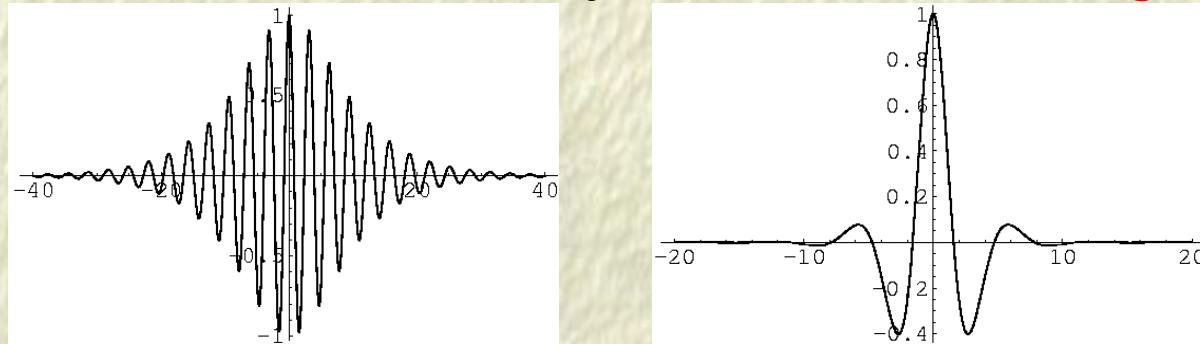
- depends on the *slow variables* $\{X, T\} = \{\epsilon(x - v_g t), \epsilon^2 t\}$;
- obeys the *nonlinear Schrödinger equation* (NLSE):

$$i \frac{\partial A}{\partial T} + P \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial X^2} + Q |A|^2 A = 0, \quad (2)$$

- *Dispersion coefficient*: $P = \omega''(k)/2 \rightarrow$ see dispersion relation;
- *Nonlinearity coefficient*: $Q = [10\alpha^2/(3\omega_g^2) - 3\beta]/2\omega$.

Modulational stability analysis & envelope structures

□ $PQ > 0$: Modulational instability of the carrier, *bright solitons*:



→ TDLWs: possible for short wavelengths i.e. $k_{cr} < k < \pi/r_0$.

Rem.: $Q > 0$ for all known experimental values of α, β .

[Ivlev et al., PRL **85**, 4060 (2000); Zafiu et al., PRE **63** 066403 (2001)]

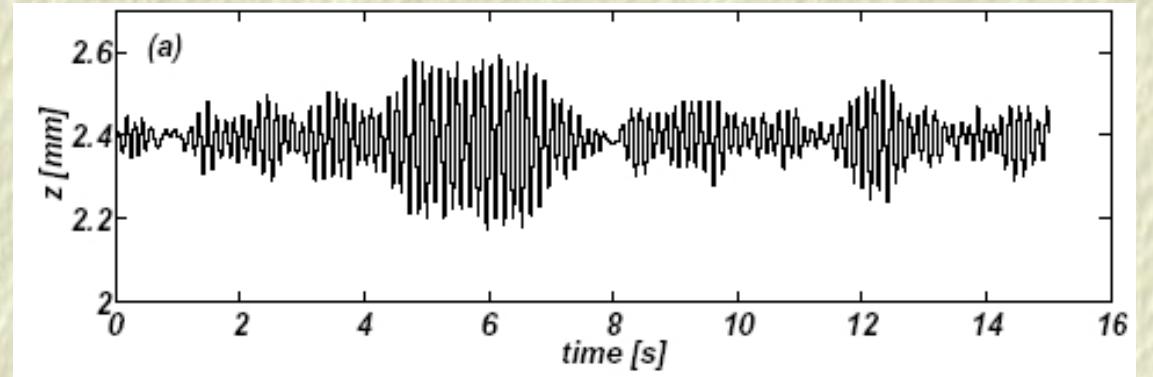
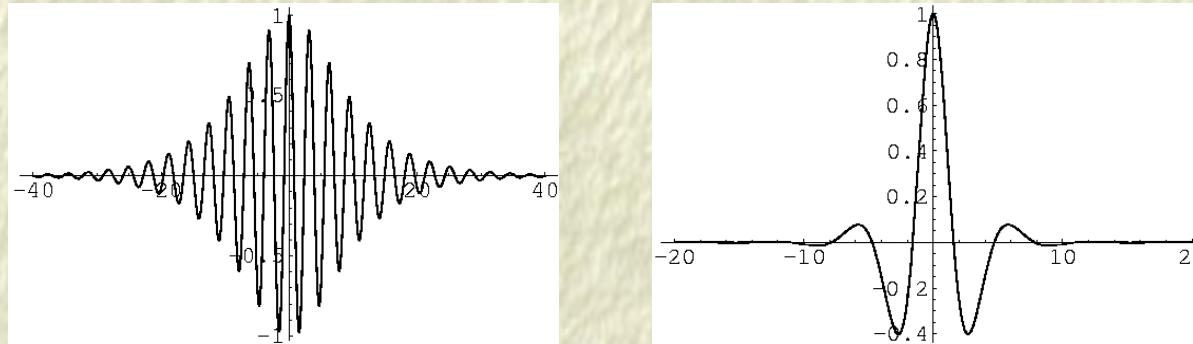


Figure 9: Dust grain oscillations induced by a 1% fluctuation in plasma density. The simulation parameters are: $P = 0.9 \text{ mtorr}$, $n_0 = 0.8 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $T_e = 1 \text{ eV}$, $T_i = T_n = 0.05 \text{ eV}$, $R = 2.5 \mu\text{m}$, $\rho_d = 1.5 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $\phi_w = 6 \text{ V}$, $\varsigma_t = 0.06$, $\varsigma_p = 1\% n_0$

Source: Sorasio et al. (2002).

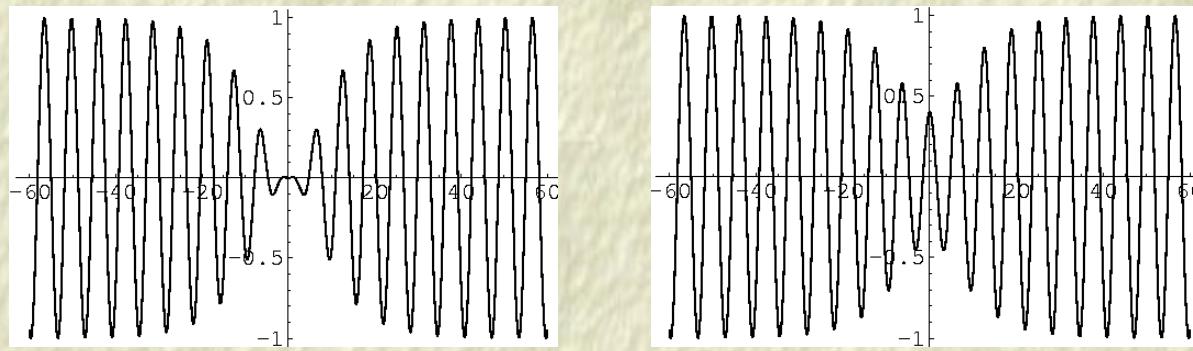
Modulational stability analysis & envelope structures

- $PQ > 0$: *Modulational instability* of the carrier, *bright solitons*:



→ TDLWs: possible for *short wavelengths* i.e. $k_{cr} < k < \pi/r_0$.

- $PQ < 0$: Carrier wave is *stable*, *dark/grey solitons*:



→ TDLWs: possible for *long wavelengths* i.e. $k < k_{cr}$.

Rem.: $Q > 0$ for *all* known experimental values of α, β

[Ivlev et al., PRL 85, 4060 (2000); Zafiu et al., PRE 63 066403 (2001)]

Part 2: **Longitudinal** excitations.

The *nonlinear* equation of longitudinal motion reads:

$$\frac{d^2(\delta x_n)}{dt^2} + \nu \frac{d(\delta x_n)}{dt} = \omega_{0,L}^2 (\delta x_{n+1} + \delta x_{n-1} - 2\delta x_n) \\ - a_{20} [(\delta x_{n+1} - \delta x_n)^2 - (\delta x_n - \delta x_{n-1})^2] \\ + a_{30} [(\delta x_{n+1} - \delta x_n)^3 - (\delta x_n - \delta x_{n-1})^3] \quad (3)$$

- $\delta x_n = x_n - nr_0$: longitudinal dust grain displacements
- Acoustic linear dispersion relation:

$$\omega^2 = 4\omega_{L,0}^2 \sin^2(kr_0/2) \equiv \omega_L^2(k)$$

$$-\omega_{0,L}^2 = U''(r_0)/M = 2\omega_{DL}^2 \exp(-\kappa) (1 + \kappa + \kappa^2/2)/\kappa^3 \quad (*)$$

(*) for Debye interactions; Rem.: $\omega_{DL} = [q^2/(M\lambda_D^3)]^{1/2}$.

Longitudinal envelope structures.

The reductive perturbation technique (cf. above) now yields:

$$\delta x_n \approx \epsilon [u_0^{(1)} + (u_1^{(1)} e^{i\phi_n} + \text{c.c.})] + \epsilon^2 (u_2^{(2)} e^{2i\phi_n} + \text{c.c.}) + \dots,$$

[Harmonic generation; Cf. experiments: K. Avinash PoP 2004.

where the amplitudes now obey the coupled equations:

$$i \frac{\partial u_1^{(1)}}{\partial T} + P_L \frac{\partial^2 u_1^{(1)}}{\partial X^2} + Q_0 |u_1^{(1)}|^2 u_1^{(1)} + \frac{p_0 k^2}{2\omega_L} u_1^{(1)} \frac{\partial u_0^{(1)}}{\partial X} = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_0^{(1)}}{\partial X^2} = -\frac{p_0 k^2}{v_{g,L}^2 - c_L^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial X} |u_1^{(1)}|^2 \equiv R(k) \frac{\partial}{\partial X} |u_1^{(1)}|^2$$

$$-Q_0 = -\frac{k^2}{2\omega} \left(q_0 k^2 + \frac{2p_0^2}{c_L^2 r_0^2} \right);$$

$v_{g,L} = \omega_L'(k)$; $\{X, T\}$ are slow variables (as above);

$p_0 = -r_0^3 U'''(r_0)/M \equiv 2a_{20}r_0^3$, $q_0 = U''''(r_0)r_0^4/(2M) \equiv 3a_{30}r_0^4$.

$R(k) > 0$, since $\forall k \quad v_{g,L} < \omega_{L,0} r_0 \equiv c_L$ (sound velocity).

Asymmetric *longitudinal* envelope structures.

- The system of Eqs. for $u_1^{(1)}$, $u_0^{(1)}$ may be combined into a closed (*NLSE*) equation (for $A = u_1^{(1)}$, here);

$$i \frac{\partial A}{\partial T} + \textcolor{blue}{P} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial X^2} + \textcolor{red}{Q} |A|^2 A = 0$$

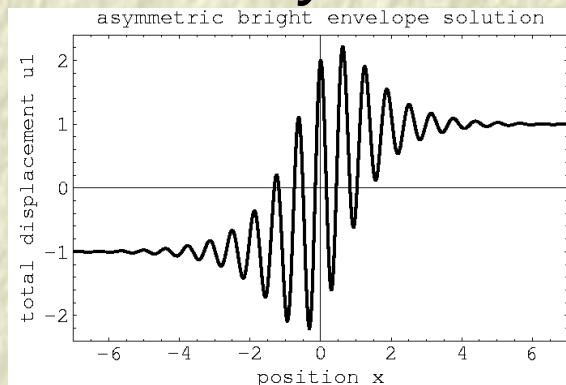
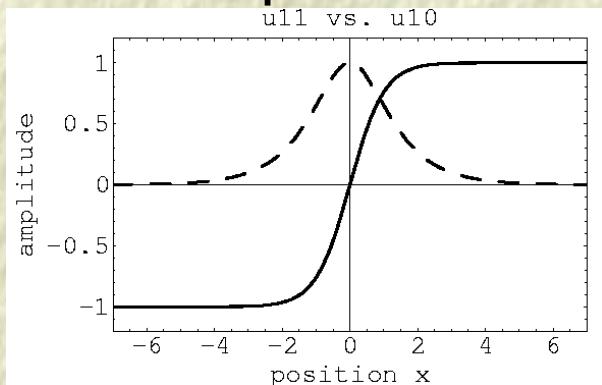
- $P = P_L = \omega_L''(k)/2 < 0$;
- $Q > 0 (< 0)$ prescribes *stability* (instability) at low (high) k .

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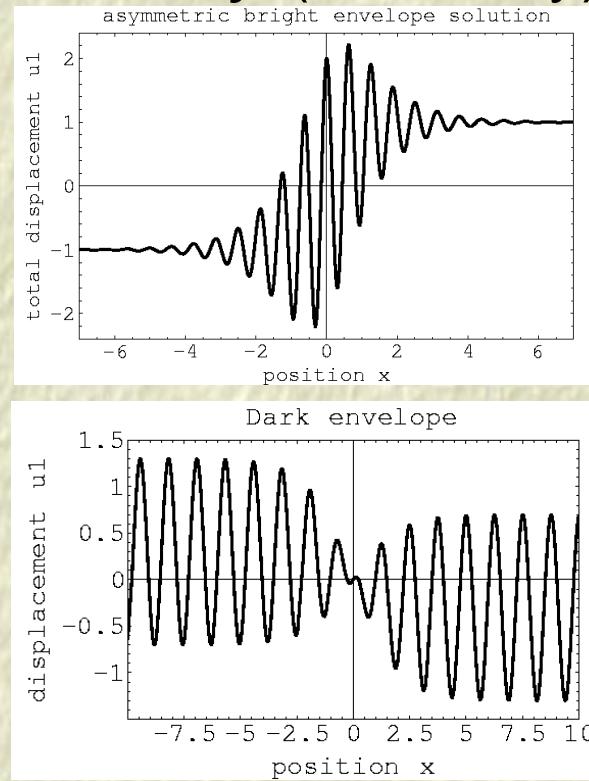
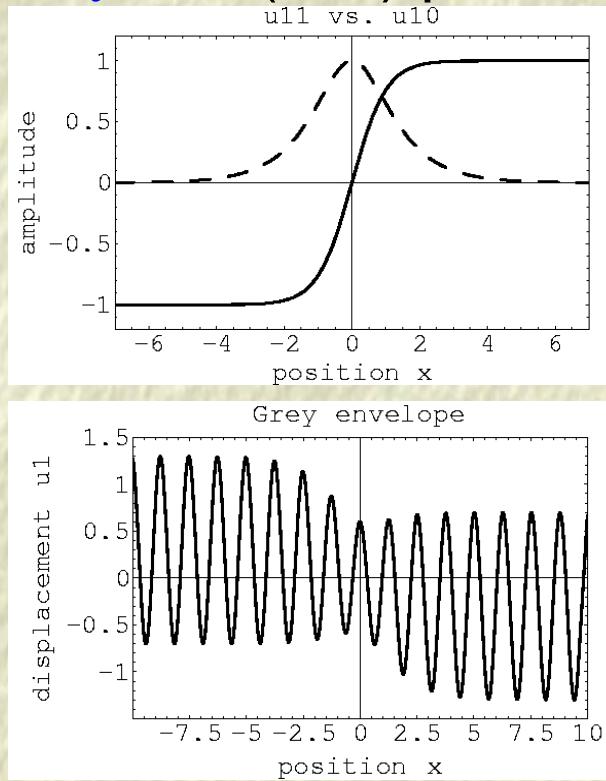
- $P = P_L = \omega_L''(k)/2 < 0$;
- $Q > 0 (< 0)$ prescribes *stability* (instability) at low (high) k .
- Envelope excitations are now **asymmetric**:



(at high k)

Asymmetric longitudinal envelope structures.

- The system of Eqs. for $u_1^{(1)}$, $u_0^{(1)}$ may be combined into a closed (NLSE) equation, which yields **asymmetric** envelope solutions.
- $P = P_L = \omega_L''(k)/2 < 0$;
- $Q > 0 (< 0)$ prescribes **stability** (instability) at *low* (*high*) k .



(at high k)

(at low k)

Part 3: **Longitudinal soliton formalism.**

Q.: *A link to soliton theories: the Korteweg-deVries Equation.*

- Continuum approximation, viz. $\delta x_n(t) \rightarrow u(x, t)$.
- “Standard” description: keeping lowest order nonlinearity,

$$\ddot{u} + \nu \dot{u} - c_L^2 u_{xx} - \frac{c_L^2}{12} r_0^2 u_{xxxx} = - p_0 u_x u_{xx}$$

$c_L = \omega_{L,0} r_0$; $\omega_{L,0}$ and p_0 were defined above.

- For near-sonic propagation (i.e. $v \approx c_L$), slow profile evolution in time τ and defining the relative displacement $w = u_\zeta$, one obtains

$$w_\tau - a w w_\zeta + b w_\zeta \zeta \zeta = 0$$

(for $\nu = 0$); $\zeta = x - vt$; $a = p_0/(2c_L) > 0$; $b = c_L r_0^2/24 > 0$.

- This KdV Equation yields soliton solutions, ... (\rightarrow next page)

The KdV description

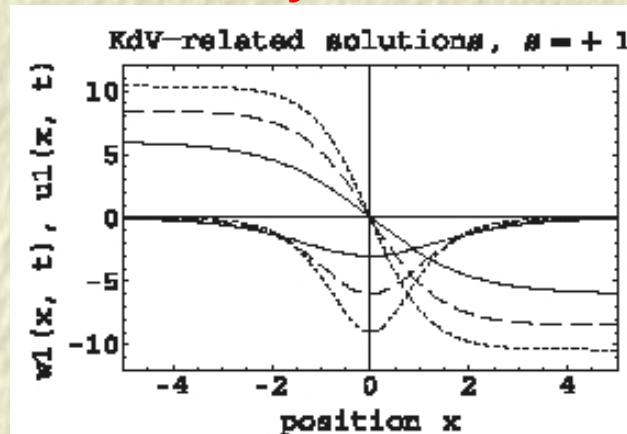
The Korteweg-deVries (KdV) Equation

$$w_{\tau} - a w w_{\zeta} + b w_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} = 0$$

yields **compressive** (only, here) solutions, in the form (here):

$$w_1(\zeta, \tau) = -w_{1,m} \operatorname{sech}^2 \left[(\zeta - v\tau - \zeta_0)/L_0 \right]$$

– This solution is a negative pulse for $w = u_x$,
describing a **compressive** excitation for the *displacement* $\delta x = u$,
i.e. a localized increase of **density** $n \sim -u_x$.



The KdV description

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$$w_1(\zeta, \tau) = -w_{1,m} \operatorname{sech}^2 \left[(\zeta - v\tau - \zeta_0)/L_0 \right]$$

- Pulse amplitude: $w_{1,m} = 3v/a = 6vv_0/|p_0|$;
- Pulse width: $L_0 = (4b/v)^{1/2} = [2v_1^2 r_0^2/(vv_0)]^{1/2}$;
- Note that: $w_{1,m} L_0^2 = \text{constant}$ (cf. experiments)[†].
- This solution is a negative pulse for $w = u_x$,
describing a **compressive** excitation for the *displacement* $\delta x = u$,
i.e. a localized increase of **density** $n \sim -u_x$.
- This is the standard treatment of dust-lattice solitons today ... [†]

[†] F. Melandsø 1996; S. Zhdanov *et al.* 2002; K. Avinash *et al.* 2003; V. Fortov *et al.* 2004.

Characteristics of the KdV theory

The *Korteweg - deVries* theory presented above:

- provides a *correct qualitative description of compressive excitations* observed in experiments;
- draws benefit from the *KdV “artillery”* of analytical know-how obtained in the past: *integrability, multi-soliton solutions, conservation laws, ...* ;

Characteristics of the KdV theory

The *Korteweg - deVries* theory presented above:

- provides a *correct qualitative description of compressive excitations* observed in experiments;
- benefits from the KdV “*artillery*” of analytical know-how obtained throughout the years: *integrability*, *multi-soliton* solutions, *conservation laws*, ... ;

but possesses a few drawbacks:

- *approximate derivation*: (i) propagation velocity v near (longitudinal) sound velocity c_L , (ii) time evolution terms omitted ‘*by hand*’, (iii) higher order nonlinear contributions omitted;
- *only accounts for compressive solitary excitations* (for Debye interactions); nevertheless, the existence of *rarefactive* dust lattice excitations is, *in principle, not excluded*.

Longitudinal soliton formalism (continued)

Q.: What if we also kept the next order in nonlinearity ?

Longitudinal soliton formalism (continued)

Q.: *What if we also kept the next order in nonlinearity ?*

– “*Extended*” description:

$$\ddot{u} + \nu \dot{u} - c_L^2 u_{xx} - \frac{c_L^2}{12} r_0^2 u_{xxxx} = - p_0 u_x u_{xx} + q_0 (u_x)^2 u_{xx}$$

$c_L = \omega_{L,0} r_0$; $\omega_{L,0}$, $p_0 \sim -U'''(r)$ and $q_0 \sim U''''(r)$ (cf. above).

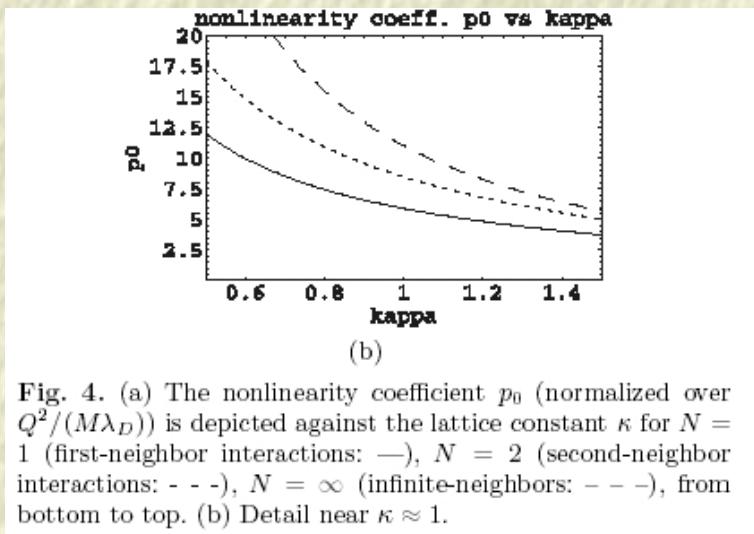


Fig. 4. (a) The nonlinearity coefficient p_0 (normalized over $Q^2/(M\lambda_D)$) is depicted against the lattice constant κ for $N = 1$ (first-neighbor interactions: —), $N = 2$ (second-neighbor interactions: - - -), $N = \infty$ (infinite-neighbors: - - -), from bottom to top. (b) Detail near $\kappa \approx 1$.

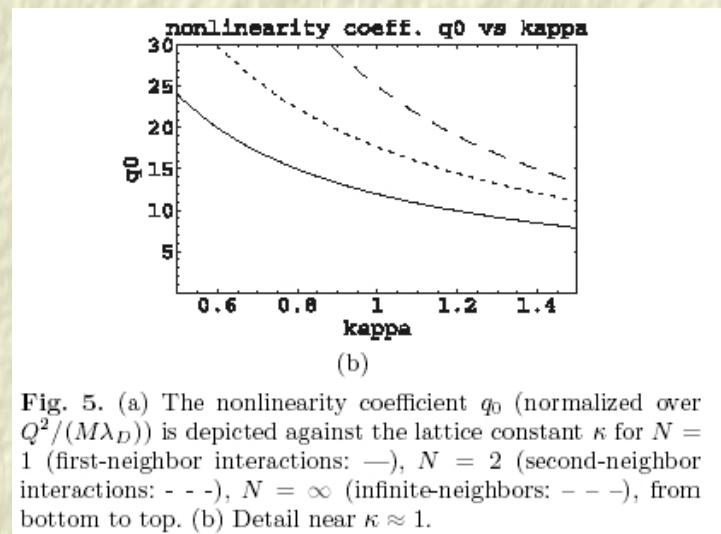


Fig. 5. (a) The nonlinearity coefficient q_0 (normalized over $Q^2/(M\lambda_D)$) is depicted against the lattice constant κ for $N = 1$ (first-neighbor interactions: —), $N = 2$ (second-neighbor interactions: - - -), $N = \infty$ (infinite-neighbors: - - -), from bottom to top. (b) Detail near $\kappa \approx 1$.

Rq.: q_0 is *not* negligible, compared to p_0 ! (instead, $q_0 \approx 2p_0$ practically!)

Longitudinal soliton formalism (continued)

Q.: *What if we also kept the next order in nonlinearity ?*

– “*Extended*” description: :

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$c_L = \omega_{L,0} r_0$; $\omega_{L,0}$, p_0 and q_0 were defined above.

– For *near-sonic propagation* (i.e. $v \approx c_L$), and defining the *relative displacement* $w = u_\zeta$, one has

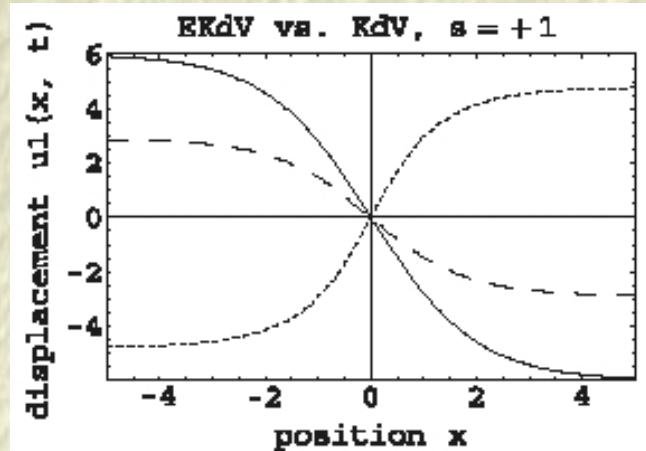
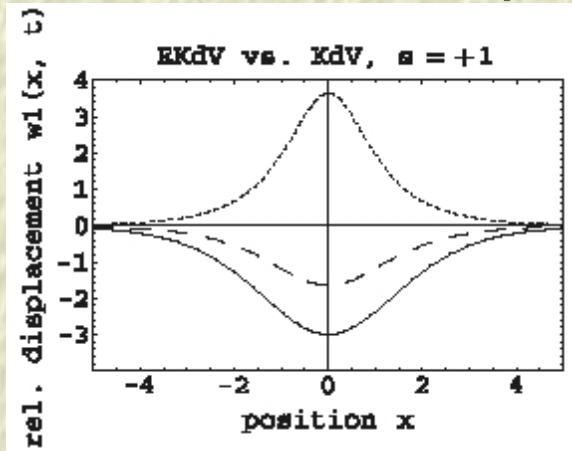
$$w_\tau - a w w_\zeta + \hat{a} w^2 w_\zeta + b w_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} = 0 \quad (4)$$

(for $\nu = 0$); $\zeta = x - vt$; $a = p_0/(2c_L) > 0$; $b = c_L r_0^2 / 24 > 0$;
 $\hat{a} = q_0/(2c_L) > 0$.

Characteristics of the EKdV theory

The *extended Korteweg - deVries Equation*:

- accounts for *both compressive and rarefactive excitations*;



(horizontal grain displacement $u(x, t)$)

- reproduces the correct *qualitative character* of the KdV solutions (amplitude - velocity dependence, ...);
- is previously widely studied, in literature;

Still, ...

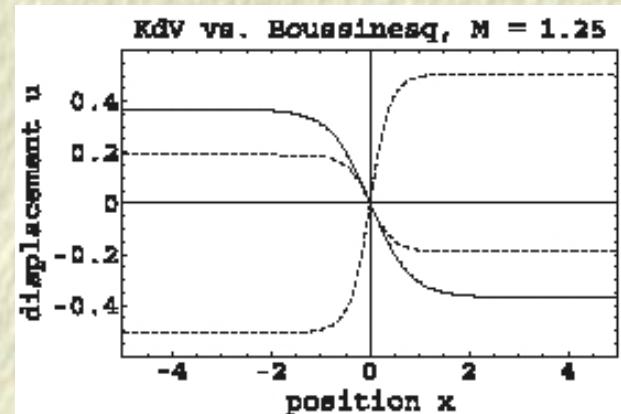
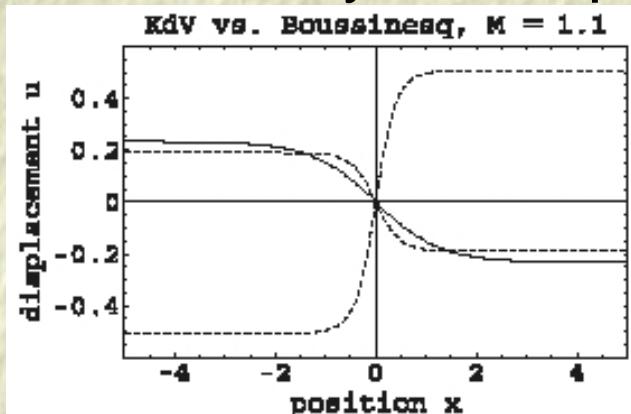
- It was derived under the *assumption*: $v \approx c_L$.

One more alternative: the Boussinesq theory

The *Generalized Boussinesq (Bq) Equation* (for $w = u_x$):

$$\ddot{w} - c_L^2 w_{xx} = \frac{c_L^2 r_0^2}{12} w_{xxxx} - \frac{p_0}{2} (w^2)_{xx} + \frac{q_0}{2} (w^3)_{xx}$$

- predicts *both compressive and rarefactive* excitations;
- reproduces the *correct qualitative character* of the KdV solutions (amplitude - velocity dependence, ...);
- has been widely studied in literature;
and, ...
- relaxes the velocity assumption, i.e. is valid $\forall v > c_L$.



Conclusions

We have seen that:

- *Energy localization* via *modulational instability* leading to the formation of *envelope excitations* is possible in both *transverse* and *longitudinal* directions ;
- Solitary waves can be efficiently modeled by existing soliton theories (e.g. KdV, EKdV, MKdV; more accurately: Boussinesq, EBq) ;
- *Compressive and rarefactive excitations* are predicted ;
- *Urge for experimental confirmation* (technical constraints?) ;
- Future directions: include dissipation (dust-neutral friction, ion drag); particle-wake effects; mode coupling effects; ... (*Realism!*)

Thank You !

Ioannis Kourakis

Padma Kant Shukla

Bengt Eliasson

Material from:

I. Kourakis & P.K. Shukla, *Phys. Plasmas*, **11**, 2322 (2004);
idem, *PoP*, in press (Aug. 2004).
idem, *Phys. Plasmas*, **11**, 1384 (2004).
idem, *European Phys. J. D*, **29**, 247 (2004).

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Appendix I: Solutions of the NLSE

Localized envelope excitations 1: *bright solitons*

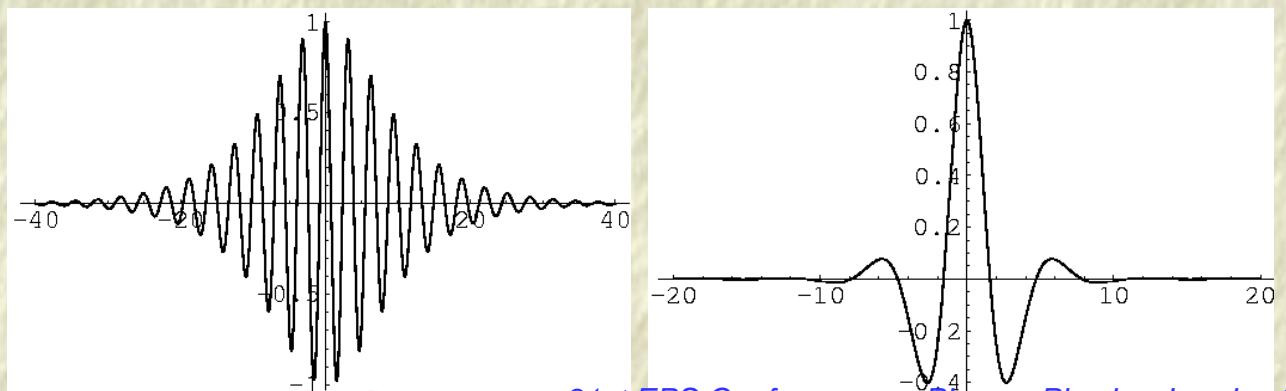
- The NLSE accepts various **soliton solutions**: $\psi = \rho e^{i\Theta}$; the *total* wavepacket is then: $u \approx \epsilon \rho \cos(kx - \omega t + \Theta)$ where the *amplitude* ρ and *phase correction* Θ depend on ζ, τ .
- Bright–type envelope soliton (pulse):

$$\rho = \rho_0 \operatorname{sech} \left(\frac{X - u_e T}{L} \right), \quad \Theta = \frac{1}{2P} \left[u_e X + (\Omega - \frac{1}{2} u_e^2) T \right]. \quad (5)$$

$$L = \sqrt{\frac{2P}{Q}} \frac{1}{\rho_0}$$

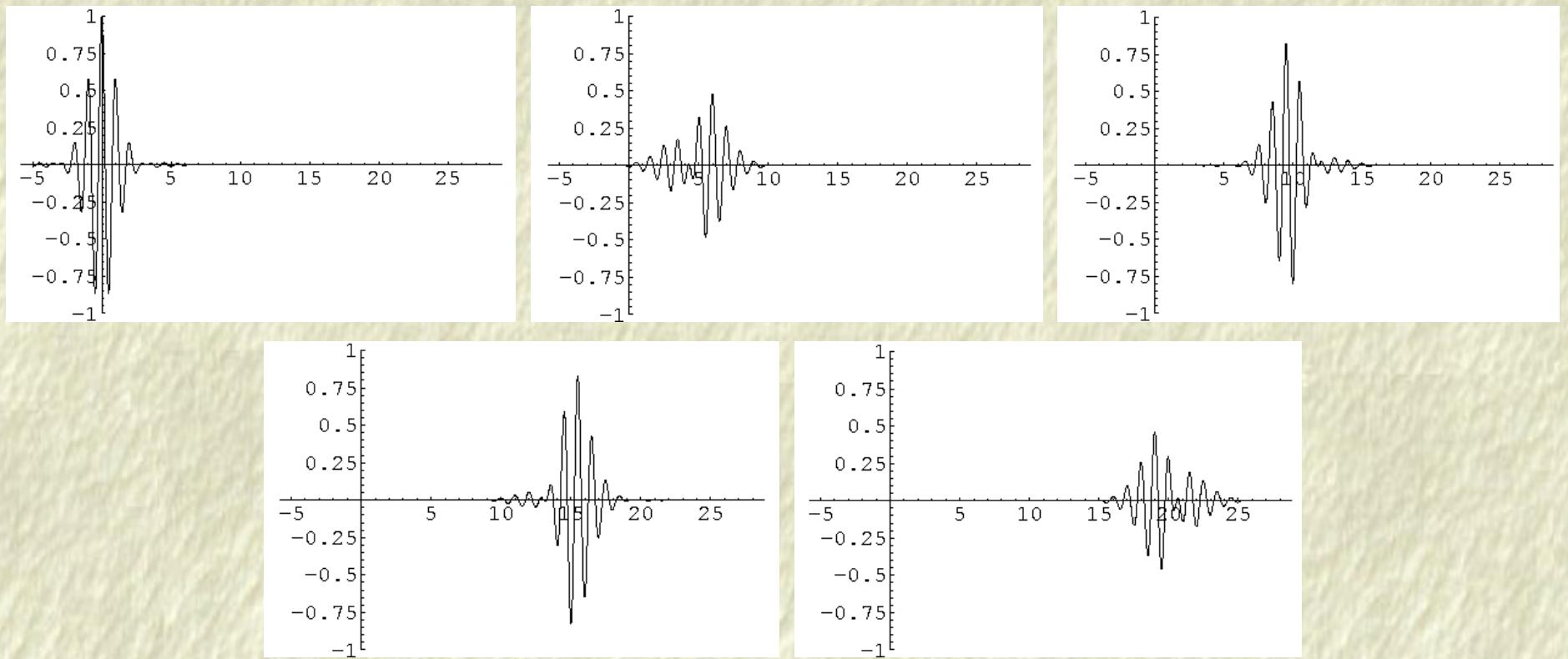
$$(X_0 = 0)$$

$$(\Theta_0 = 0)$$



Propagation of a bright envelope soliton (pulse)

This *envelope modulated wavepacket* is essentially a *propagating (and oscillating) localized pulse*, confining the *carrier wave*:

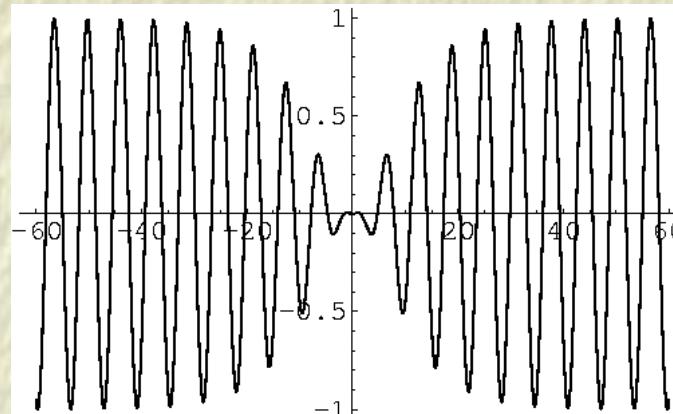


Localized envelope excitations 2: dark/grey solitons

□ Dark-type envelope solution (*hole soliton*):

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \pm \rho_1 \left[1 - \operatorname{sech}^2 \left(\frac{X - u_e T}{L'} \right) \right]^{1/2} = \pm \rho_1 \tanh \left(\frac{X - u_e T}{L'} \right), \\ \Theta &= \frac{1}{2P} \left[u_e X - \left(\frac{1}{2} u_e^2 - 2PQ\rho_1^2 \right) \tau \right] \\ L' &= \sqrt{2 \left| \frac{P}{Q} \right|} \frac{1}{\rho_1} \quad (X_0 = 0)\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

This is a
propagating
localized hole
(zero density void):



dark/grey solitons (continued...)

- ❑ Grey–type envelope solution (*void soliton*):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho &= \pm \rho_2 \left[1 - d^2 \operatorname{sech}^2 \left(\frac{X - u_e T}{L''} \right) \right]^{1/2} \\
 \Theta &= \dots \\
 L'' &= \sqrt{2 \left| \frac{P}{Q} \right| \frac{1}{d \rho_2}}
 \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

This is a
propagating
(non zero-density)
void:

