

Instability of peaked waves

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Joint work with

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Long-wave models

The *Korteweg–De Vries equation* (1895) governs dynamics of small-amplitude long waves in a fluid:

$$u_t + uu_x + \beta u_{xxx} = 0.$$

It arises from the dispersion relation for linear waves $e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$:

$$\omega^2 = c^2 k^2 + \beta k^4 + \mathcal{O}(k^6) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega - ck = \frac{1}{2c} \beta k^3 + \mathcal{O}(k^5).$$

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The *Ostrovsky equation* (1978) models rotation effects:

$$(u_t + uu_x + \beta u_{xxx})_x = \gamma^2 u,$$

as follows from:

$$\omega^2 = \gamma^2 + c^2 k^2 + \beta k^4 + \dots \quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega - ck = \frac{\beta}{2c} k^3 + \frac{\gamma^2}{2ck} + \dots$$

As $\beta \rightarrow 0$, we obtain *the reduced Ostrovsky equation*.

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The *Whitham equation* (1967) models full-dispersion effects:

$$u_t + uu_x + K * u_x = 0,$$

where the Fourier transform of the convolution kernel:

$$\hat{K}(k) = \sqrt{gh \frac{\tanh(kh)}{kh}} = \sqrt{gh} \left(1 - \frac{1}{6} k^2 h^2 + \dots \right)$$

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The *Camassa–Holm equation* (1994) models dispersion-modified nonlinear effects:

$$u_t + 3uu_x - u_{txx} = 2u_x u_{xx} + uu_{xxx}.$$

Traveling wave solutions

Traveling wave solutions are solutions of the form

$$u(x, t) = U(x - ct),$$

where $z = x - ct$ is the travelling wave coordinate and c is the wave speed. For fixed c , the wave profile U is either $2T$ -periodic or decaying to 0 at infinity.

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For the KdV equation, U satisfies

$$\beta \frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} - cU + U^2 = 0.$$

All solutions are smooth.

[ODE textbooks]

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For the reduced Ostrovsky equation, U satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dz} \left((c - U) \frac{dU}{dz} \right) + U(z) = 0.$$

Solutions are smooth if $c - U(z) > 0$ for all z .

[A.Geyer, D.P., 2017]

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$$K * U = (c - U)U.$$

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[M. Ehrnström, H. Kalisch, 2013] [M. Ehrnström, E. Wahlén, 2015]

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For the Camassa-Holm equation, U satisfies

$$(c - U) \left[\frac{d^2 U}{dz^2} - U \right] = 0.$$

All solutions are peaked with $U(z_0) = c$ for some $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

[R. Camassa, D. Holm, J. Hyman, 1994]

Stability of smooth and peaked periodic waves

- ▷ **KdV equation: smooth waves are linearly and orbitally stable**

[B. Deconinck et.al. 2009,2010]

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[J.Carter & H.Kalisch, 2014]
- ▷ Camassa-Holm, Degasperis–Procesi, Novikov: peaked waves are orbitally and asymptotically stable in energy space.
[A.Constantin & W.Strauss, 2000], [J.Lenells, 2005], [Z.Lin, Y.Liu, 2006], ...
but they are unstable w.r.t. piecewise smooth perturbations
[F.Natali & D.P. 2019]

1. Instability of peaked waves in the reduced Ostrovsky equation

$$(u_t + uu_x)_x = u$$

- ▷ Cauchy problem in Sobolev spaces
- ▷ Existence of peaked periodic waves
- ▷ Linear instability of the peaked wave

2. Instability of peaked waves in the Camassa–Holm equation

$$u_t + 3uu_x - u_{txx} = 2u_x u_{xx} + uu_{xxx}.$$

- ▷ Cauchy problem in Sobolev spaces
- ▷ Orbital stability of peakons in H^1
- ▷ Nonlinear instability of peakons in $H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$

Cauchy problem in Sobolev spaces

Consider Cauchy problem for *the reduced Ostrovsky equation*

$$\begin{cases} (u_t + uu_x)_x = u, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0. \end{cases}$$

- ▷ Local well-posedness for $u_0 \in H^s$ with $s > 3/2$
[A.Stefanov et. al., 2010]
- ▷ Zero mass constraint is necessary in the periodic domain:
 $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} u_0(x) dx = 0.$

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- ▶ Local solutions break in finite time for large initial data.
[Y.Liu & D.P. & A.Sakovich 2010]
- ▶ Global solutions exist for small initial data.
[R.Grimshaw & D.P. 2014]

Theorem (R.Grimshaw & D.P., 2014)

Let $u_0 \in H^3$ such that $1 - 3u_0''(x) > 0$ for all x . There exists a unique solution $u(t) \in C(\mathbb{R}, H^3)$ with $u(0) = u_0$.

Global solutions for small initial data

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The quantity $1 - 3u_{xx}$ appears in the Lax pair [A. Hone & M. Wang (2003)]

$$\begin{cases} 3\lambda\psi_{xxx} + (1 - 3u_{xx})\psi = 0, \\ \psi_t + \lambda\psi_{xx} + u\psi_x - u_x\psi = 0, \end{cases}$$

and in the conserved quantities [J. Brunelli & S.Sakovich (2013)]

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} u^2 dx \\ E_1 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left[(1 - 3u_{xx})^{1/3} - 1 \right] dx, \\ E_2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{(u_{xxx})^2}{(1 - 3u_{xx})^{7/3}} dx \end{aligned}$$

Wave breaking for large initial data

Lemma

Let $u_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^2$. The local solution $u \in C([0, T), H_{\text{per}}^2)$ blows up in a finite time $T < \infty$ in the sense $\lim_{t \uparrow T} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{H^2} = \infty$ if and only if

$$\liminf_{t \uparrow T} \inf_x u_x(t, x) = -\infty, \quad \text{while} \quad \limsup_{t \uparrow T} \sup_x |u(t, x)| < \infty.$$

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Theorem (J.Hunter, 1990)

Let $u_0 \in C_{\text{per}}^1$ and define

$$\inf_{x \in \mathbb{S}} u_0'(x) = -m \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{x \in \mathbb{S}} |u_0(x)| = M.$$

If $m^3 > 4M(4 + m)$, a smooth solution $u(t, x)$ breaks in a finite time.

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Theorem (Y.Liu, D.P. & A.Sakovich, 2010)

Assume that $u_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^2$. The solution breaks if

$$\text{either} \quad \int_{\mathbb{S}} (u'_0(x))^3 dx < - \left(\frac{3}{2} \|u_0\|_{L^2} \right)^{3/2},$$

$$\text{or} \quad \exists x_0 : \quad u'_0(x_0) < - (\|u_0\|_{L^\infty} + T_1 \|u_0\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

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Conjecture on sharp wave breaking:

Smooth solutions break in a finite time if $u_0 \in H^3$ yields sign-indefinite $1 - 3u_0''(x)$.

Travelling periodic waves

Let $c > 0$ and consider a periodic solution U of

$$\frac{d}{dz} \left((c - U) \frac{dU}{dz} \right) + U = 0. \quad (\text{ODE})$$

The solution U is smooth if and only if $(u, v) = (U, U')$ is a periodic orbit γ_E of the planar system

$$\begin{cases} u' = v, \\ v' = \frac{-u + v^2}{c - u}, \end{cases}$$

which has the first integral

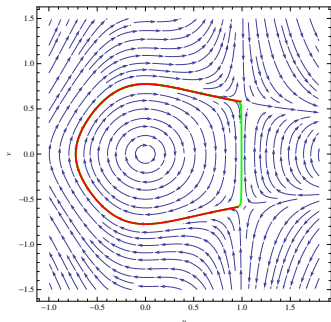
$$E(u, v) = \frac{1}{2}(c - u)^2 v^2 + \frac{c}{2} u^2 - \frac{1}{3} u^3.$$

The solution U is smooth if and only if $c - U(z) > 0$ for every z .

Existence of smooth periodic waves

Let $c > 0$. The first integral is

$$E(u, v) = \frac{1}{2}(c - u)^2 v^2 + \frac{c}{2} u^2 - \frac{1}{3} u^3.$$

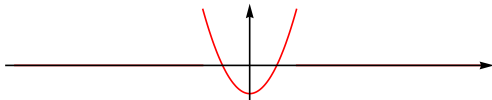


There exists a smooth family of periodic solutions parametrized by the energy $E \in (0, E_c)$, where $2T$ depends on E .

Peaked periodic wave

For $c = c_* := \pi^2/9$ there exists a solution with parabolic profile

$$U_*(z) := \frac{3z^2 - \pi^2}{18}, \quad z \in [-\pi, \pi],$$

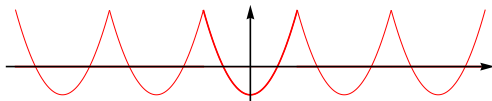


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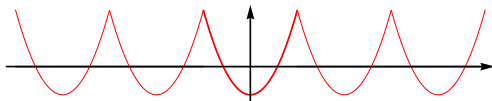


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The peaked periodic wave $U_* \in H_{\text{per}}^s(-\pi, \pi)$ for $s < 3/2$:

$$U_*(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{3n^2} \cos(nz),$$

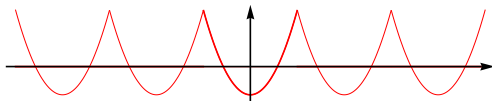
with $U_*(\pm\pi) = c_*$ and $U'_*(\pm\pi) = \pm\pi/3$.

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The peaked wave satisfies the border case:

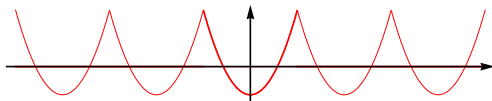
$$1 - 3U_*''(z) = 0 \text{ for } z \in (-\pi, \pi).$$

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Theorem (A.Geyer & D.P, 2019)

The peaked periodic wave U_ is the unique peaked solution with the jump at $z = \pm\pi$.*

See also [Bruell & Dhara, 2019]

Linear instability of the peaked periodic wave

We consider *co-periodic* perturbations of the traveling waves, that is, *perturbations with the same period $2T$ and zero mean*.

Using $u(t, x) = U_*(z) + v(t, z)$, where $z = x - ct$ yields the linearized evolution:

$$\begin{cases} v_t + \partial_z [(U_*(z) - c_*)v] = \partial_z^{-1} v, & t > 0, \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0. \end{cases} \quad (\text{linO})$$

Definition

The travelling wave U is *linearly unstable* if there exists $v_0 \in \text{dom}(\partial_z L)$ such that the unique global solution $v \in C(\mathbb{R}, \text{dom}(\partial_z L))$ satisfies $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|v(t)\|_{L^2} = \infty$, where

$$\text{dom}(\partial_z L) = \{v \in \dot{L}_{\text{per}}^2 : \partial_z [(c_* - U_*)v] \in \dot{L}_{\text{per}}^2\}.$$

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Theorem (Geyer & P., 2019)

The peaked travelling wave U is linearly unstable with

$$\|v(t)\|_{L^2} \geq C_0 e^{\pi t/6} \|v_0\|_{L^2}, \quad t > 0$$

for some $C_0 > 0$.

Linear instability of the peaked periodic wave

▷ **Step 1:** The *truncated problem*

$$\begin{cases} v_t + \frac{1}{6} \partial_z [(z^2 - \pi^2)v] = 0, & t > 0, \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0. \end{cases} \quad (\text{truncO})$$

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Method of characteristics. The characteristic curves $z = Z(s, t)$ are found explicitly and the solution of $V(s, t) := v(Z(s, t), t)$ is

$$V(s, t) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} [\pi \cosh(\pi t/6) - s \sinh(\pi t/6)]^2 v_0(s), \quad s \in [-\pi, \pi], \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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This yields the linear instability result for the truncated problem:

Lemma

For every $v_0 \in \text{dom}(\partial_z L) \ni!$ global solution $v \in C(\mathbb{R}, \text{dom}(\partial_z L))$. If v_0 is odd, then the global solution satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2} \|v_0\|_{L^2} e^{\pi t/6} \leq \|v(t)\|_{L^2} \leq \|v_0\|_{L^2} e^{\pi t/6}, \quad t > 0.$$

Linear instability of the peaked periodic wave

▷ **Step 2:** The *full evolution problem*

$$\begin{cases} v_t + \frac{1}{6}\partial_z [(z^2 - \pi^2)v] = \partial_z^{-1}v, & t > 0, \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0. \end{cases} \quad (\text{linO})$$

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Generalized Meth. of Char. Treat $\partial_z^{-1}v$ as a *source term* in (linO).

▷ truncated problem $v_t = A_0v$ has a unique global solution in \dot{L}_{per}^2

▷ Bounded Perturbation Theorem:

$A := A_0 + \partial_z^{-1}$ is the generator of C^0 -semigroup on \dot{L}_{per}^2

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Lemma

For every $v_0 \in \text{dom}(\partial_z L) \exists!$ global solution $v \in C(\mathbb{R}, \text{dom}(\partial_z L))$. If v_0 is odd and satisfies some constraints, then the solution satisfies

$$C\|v_0\|_{L^2}e^{\pi t/6} \leq \|v(t)\|_{L^2} \leq \|v_0\|_{L^2}e^{\pi t/6}, \quad t > 0.$$

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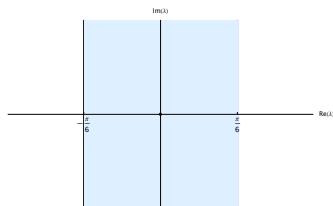
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The peaked periodic wave is *linearly unstable*.

Spectral instability of the peaked periodic wave



Theorem (Geyer & P., 2020)

$$\sigma(\partial_z L) = \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} : -\frac{\pi}{6} \leq \text{Re}(\lambda) \leq \frac{\pi}{6} \right\},$$

where $\partial_z L v := \partial_z [(c_* - U_*)v] + \partial_z^{-1} v$ with

$$\text{dom}(\partial_z L) = \left\{ v \in \dot{L}_{\text{per}}^2 : \partial_z [(c_* - U_*)v] \in \dot{L}_{\text{per}}^2 \right\}.$$

Nonlinear instability ???

Consider Cauchy problem for *the reduced Ostrovsky equation*

$$\begin{cases} (u_t + uu_x)_x = u, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0. \end{cases}$$

Does linear instability imply nonlinear instability?

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- ▷ Lack of well-posedness results for $u_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^s$ with $s < 3/2$.
- ▷ Lack of information on dynamics of peaked perturbations to the peaked periodic wave.

1. Instability of peaked waves in the reduced Ostrovsky equation

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- ▷ Linear instability of the peaked wave

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- ▷ Nonlinear instability of peakons in $H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$

Cauchy problem in Sobolev spaces

Let $\varphi(x) = e^{-|x|}$ be the Greens function satisfying $(1 - \partial_x^2)\varphi = 2\delta$.
The Cauchy problem for *the Camassa–Holm equation* can be written in the convolution form:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + uu_x + \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * (u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2) = 0, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0. \end{cases}$$

The quantity $m := (1 - \partial_x^2)u$ is referred as the momentum density.

Cauchy problem in Sobolev spaces

Let $\varphi(x) = e^{-|x|}$ be the Greens function satisfying $(1 - \partial_x^2)\varphi = 2\delta$.
The Cauchy problem for *the Camassa–Holm equation* can be written in the convolution form:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + uu_x + \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * (u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2) = 0, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0. \end{cases}$$

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- ▶ Local well-posedness for $u_0 \in H^s$ with $s > 3/2$.
[Y.Li-P.Olver (2000)] [Rodriguez (2001)]
- ▶ Local and global well-posedness for $u_0 \in H^3$ if $m_0 \geq 0$
[A.Constantin (2000)]
- ▶ Wave breaking for $u_0 \in H^3$ if $\exists x_0: (x - x_0)m_0(x) \leq 0$.
[A.Constantin, J. Escher (1998)]

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- ▶ Ill-posedness and norm inflation for $u_0 \in H^s$ with $s \leq 3/2$.
[P. Byers (2006)] [Z.Guo et al. (2018)]
- ▶ Global existence of weak solutions $u_0 \in H^1$ with $m_0 \geq 0$.
[A.Constantin, L. Molinet (2000)]
- ▶ Global existence of weak solutions $u_0 \in H^1$.
[A. Bressan, A.Constantin (2006)] [H. Holden, X. Raynaud (2007)]

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- ▶ Uniqueness of weak global solutions $u_0 \in H^1$.
[A. Bressan, G. Chen, Q. Zhang (2015)]
- ▶ Continuous dependence for $u_0 \in H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$ but no global existence in $H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$.
[F. Linares, G. Ponce, and T. Sideris (2019)]
- ▶ Local solutions may break in a finite time with $u_x(t, x) \rightarrow -\infty$ at some $x \in \mathbb{R}$ as $t \nearrow T$.

Existence and stability of peakons

For every $c \in \mathbb{R}$, $u(t, x) = c\varphi(x - ct)$ is a solution to

$$u_t + uu_x + \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * \left(u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2 \right) = 0.$$

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There exist two conserved quantities:

$$E(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (u^2 + u_x^2) dx, \quad F(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} u(u^2 + u_x^2) dx.$$

such that $\|u(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1} = \|u_0\|_{H^1}$ for almost every $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Theorem (A. Constantin–L.Molinet (2001))

φ is a unique (up to translation) minimizer of $E(u)$ in H^1 subject to $3F(u) = 2E(u)$. Consequently, global solutions with $u_0 \in H^3$ with $m_0 \geq 0$ close to φ in H^1 stay close to $\{\varphi(\cdot - a)\}_{a \in \mathbb{R}}$ in H^1 for all t .

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Theorem (A. Constantin–W. Strauss (2000))

For every small $\varepsilon > 0$, if the initial data satisfies

$$\|u_0 - \varphi\|_{H^1} < \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}\right)^4,$$

then the solution satisfies

$$\|u(t, \cdot) - \varphi(\cdot - \xi(t))\|_{H^1} < \varepsilon, \quad t \in (0, T),$$

where $\xi(t)$ is a point of maximum for $u(t, \cdot)$ and the maximal existence time $T > 0$ may be finite.

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$$u_t + uu_x + \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * \left(u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2 \right) = 0.$$

- ▷ Asymptotic stability of peakons for $u_0 \in H^1$ with $m_0 \geq 0$.
[L. Molinet (2018)]
- ▷ Asymptotic stability of trains of peakons and anti-peakons.
[L. Molinet (2019)]
- ▷ Inverse scattering for weak global solutions with multi-peakons.
[L.Li (2009)] [J. Eckhardt, A. Kostenko (2014)] [J. Eckhardt (2018)]

Instability of peakons

Consider solutions of the Cauchy problem:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + uu_x + Q[u] = 0, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}, \end{cases}$$

where $Q[u] := \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * (u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2)$. Moreover, assume that u_0 is piecewise C^1 with a single peak.

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Theorem (F. Natali–D.P. (2019))

For every $\delta > 0$, there exist $t_0 > 0$ and $u_0 \in H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$ satisfying

$$\|u_0 - \varphi\|_{H^1} + \|u'_0 - \varphi'\|_{L^\infty} < \delta,$$

such that the global conservative solution satisfies

$$\|u_x(t_0, \cdot) - \varphi'(\cdot - \xi(t_0))\|_{L^\infty} > 1,$$

where $\xi(t)$ is a point of peak of $u(t, \cdot)$ for $t \in [0, t_0]$.

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Weak formulation of the unique global conservative solution:

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(u\psi_t + \frac{1}{2}u^2\psi_x - Q[u]\psi \right) dxdt + \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_0(x)\psi(0,x)dx = 0,$$

where $\psi \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R})$.

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- ▷ If $u \in H^1(\mathbb{R})$, then $Q[u] \in C(\mathbb{R})$.
- ▷ If $u \in H^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap C^1(-\infty, 0) \cap C^1(0, \infty)$, then $Q[u] \in C(\mathbb{R}) \cap C^1(-\infty, 0) \cap C^1(0, \infty)$.

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where $Q[u] := \frac{1}{2}\varphi' * (u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2)$. Moreover, assume that u_0 is piecewise C^1 with a single peak.

If $u(t, \cdot + \xi(t)) \in H^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap C^1(-\infty, 0) \cap C^1(0, \infty)$ for $t \in (0, T)$ with $\xi(t) \in C^1(0, T)$, then

$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = u(t, \xi(t)), \quad t \in (0, T).$$

Decomposition near a single peakon

Consider a decomposition:

$$u(t, x) = \varphi(x - t - a(t)) + v(t, x - t - a(t)), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

where $a'(t) = v(t, 0)$. Then $v(t, x)$ satisfies the Cauchy problem:

$$\begin{cases} v_t = (1 - \varphi)v_x + \varphi w + (v|_{x=0} - v)v_x - \mathcal{Q}[v], & t \in (0, T), \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0, \end{cases}$$

where $w(t, x) = \int_0^x v(t, y) dy$.

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where $w(t, x) = \int_0^x v(t, y) dy$.

The characteristic coordinates $X(t, s)$ satisfies the IVP:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dX}{dt} = \varphi(X) - 1 + v(t, X) - v(t, 0), & t \in (0, T), \\ X|_{t=0} = s, \end{cases}$$

which has a unique solution since φ and v is Lipschitz continuous.
 $\Rightarrow X(t, 0) = 0$ is invariant in t .

Evolution near a single peakon

On characteristic curves, $V(t, s) := v(t, X(t, s))$ satisfies:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV}{dt} = \varphi(X)w(t, X) - \mathcal{Q}[v](X), \\ V|_{t=0} = v_0(s). \end{cases}$$

whereas $V'(t, s) := v_x(t, X(t, s))$ satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV'}{dt} = -\varphi'(X)V' + \varphi(X)V + \varphi'(X)w(t, X) - \frac{1}{2}(V')^2 + V^2 - P[v](X), \\ V'|_{t=0} = v'_0(s). \end{cases}$$

where $P[v](x) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(x-y) ([v(y)]^2 + \frac{1}{2}[v'(y)]^2) dy$.

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From one side of the peak, $V_0(t) = V(t, 0)$, $V'_0(t) = V'(t, +0)$:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(V_0 + V'_0) = (V_0 + V'_0) + V_0^2 - \frac{1}{2}(V'_0)^2 - Q[v](0) - P[v](0).$$

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Integrating with the integrating factors,

$$\frac{d}{dt} [e^{-t}(V_0 + V'_0)] = e^{-t} \left[V_0^2 - \frac{1}{2}(V'_0)^2 - Q[v](0) - P[v](0) \right] \leq e^{-t} V_0^2.$$

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where $P[v](x) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(x-y) ([v(y)]^2 + \frac{1}{2}[v'(y)]^2) dy$.

This yields the bound

$$V_0(t) + V'_0(t) \leq e^t \left[V_0(0) + V'_0(0) + \int_0^t e^{-\tau} V_0^2(\tau) d\tau \right], \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Proof of instability

- ▷ From orbital stability in H^1 [A. Constant, W. Strauss (2000)]
If $\|v_0\|_{H^1} < (\varepsilon/3)^4$, then

$$|V_0(t)| \leq \|v(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \|v(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1} < \varepsilon.$$

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- ▷ From the bound above, we have

$$V_0(t) + V'_0(t) \leq -\varepsilon^2 e^t,$$

hence $|V_0(t_0) + V'_0(t_0)| \geq 2$ for $t_0 := \log(2) - 2 \log(\varepsilon)$
 $\Rightarrow |V'_0(t_0)| > 1.$

Remarks

1. Instability of peakons with respect to peaked perturbations is consistent with local well-posedness for $u_0 \in H^1 \cap W^{1,\infty}$ and wave breaking in a finite time: $u_x(t, x) \rightarrow -\infty$ at some $x \in \mathbb{R}$.
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2. By means of characteristics, it follows that if $v_0 \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$, then $v(t, \cdot) \notin C^1(\mathbb{R})$ for $t > 0$ because of the single peak at $x = \xi(t)$.

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3. Since $v_0(0) + v'_0(0) < 0$ for instability, the unstable solution actually breaks in a finite time [L. Brandolese (2014)].
4. The same instability can be detected in the linearized equation

$$\frac{d}{dt}(V_0 + V'_0) = V_0 + V'_0,$$

from which $V_0(t) + V'_0(t) = e^t [V_0(0) + V'_0(0)]$.

Linearized instability

Consider the linearized equation at the single peakon:

$$\begin{cases} v_t = (1 - \varphi)v_x + \varphi w, \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0, \end{cases}$$

where $w(t, x) = \int_0^x v(t, y) dy$.

Theorem (F. Natali–D.P. (2019))

For every $v_0 \in H^1$, there exists a unique global solution $v \in C(\mathbb{R}, H^1)$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \|v(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1(0, \infty)}^2 &= \|v_0\|_{H^1(0, \infty)}^2 \\ &\quad + 2(e^t - 1) \int_0^\infty \varphi(s) \left([v_0(s)]^2 + \frac{1}{2} [v_0'(s)]^2 \right) ds \end{aligned}$$

Linear instability in H^1 contradicts orbital stability of peakons in H^1 !

Summary

1. Global solutions and wave breaking in the Ostrovsky equation

$$(u_t + uu_x)_x = u.$$

- ▷ *Peaked* wave is spectrally and linearly *unstable*.

2. Global solutions and breaking in the Camassa–Holm equation

$$u_t + 3uu_x - u_{txx} = 2u_xu_{xx} + uu_{xxx}.$$

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Thank you! Questions ???