



Exact Solutions > Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations > Second-Order Parabolic Partial Differential Equations > Schrodinger Equation with a Cubic Nonlinearity

$$1. \quad i \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + k|w|^2 w = 0.$$

Schrodinger (Schrödinger) equation with a cubic nonlinearity. Here, w is a complex functions of real variables x and t ; k is a real number, $i^2 = -1$. This equation occurs in various chapters of physics, including nonlinear optics, superconductivity, and plasma physics.

1°. Solutions:

$$w(x, t) = C_1 \exp\{i[C_2 x + (kC_1^2 - C_2^2)t + C_3]\},$$

$$w(x, t) = \pm C_1 \sqrt{\frac{2}{k}} \frac{\exp[i(C_1^2 t + C_2)]}{\cosh(C_1 x + C_3)},$$

$$w(x, t) = \pm A \sqrt{\frac{2}{k}} \frac{\exp[iBx + i(A^2 - B^2)t + iC_1]}{\cosh(Ax - 2ABt + C_2)},$$

$$w(x, t) = \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{t}} \exp\left[i \frac{(x + C_2)^2}{4t} + i(kC_1^2 \ln t + C_3)\right],$$

where A , B , C_1 , C_2 , and C_3 are arbitrary real constants. The second and third solutions are valid for $k > 0$. The third solution describes the motion of a soliton in a rapidly decaying case.

2°. N -soliton solutions for $k > 0$:

$$w(x, t) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{k}} \frac{\det \mathbf{R}(x, t)}{\det \mathbf{M}(x, t)}.$$

Here, $\mathbf{M}(x, t)$ is an $N \times N$ matrix with entries

$$M_{n,k}(x, t) = \frac{1 + \bar{g}_n(x, t)g_n(x, t)}{\bar{\lambda}_n - \lambda_k}, \quad g_n(x, t) = \gamma_n e^{i(\lambda_n x - \lambda_n^2 t)}, \quad n, k = 1, \dots, N,$$

where the λ_n and γ_n are arbitrary complex numbers that satisfy the constraints $\text{Im } \lambda_n > 0$ ($\lambda_n \neq \lambda_k$ if $n \neq k$) and $\gamma_n \neq 0$; the bar over a symbol denotes the complex conjugate. The square matrix $\mathbf{R}(x, t)$ is of order $N + 1$; it is obtained by augmenting $\mathbf{M}(x, t)$ with a column on the right and a row at the bottom. The entries of \mathbf{R} are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{n,k}(x, t) &= M_{n,k}(x, t) & \text{for } n, k = 1, \dots, N & \quad (\text{bulk of the matrix}), \\ R_{n,N+1}(x, t) &= g_n(x, t) & \text{for } n = 1, \dots, N & \quad (\text{rightmost column}), \\ R_{N+1,n}(x, t) &= 1 & \text{for } n = 1, \dots, N & \quad (\text{bottom row}), \\ R_{N+1,N+1}(x, t) &= 0 & & \quad (\text{lower right diagonal entry}). \end{aligned}$$

The above solution can be represented, for $t \rightarrow \pm\infty$, as the sum of N single-soliton solutions.

4°. For other exact solutions, see the [Schrodinger equation with a power-law nonlinearity](#) with $n = 1$ and the [nonlinear Schrodinger equation of general form](#) with $f(u) = ku^2$.

5°. The Schrodinger equation with a cubic nonlinearity is integrable by the inverse scattering method.

References

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