

The general analytic solution to continuous wave four-wave mixing in nonlinear fiber optics in Weierstraß notation

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Abstract

The general analytic solution to continuous wave four-wave mixing in nonlinear optical fibers is presented in terms of Weierstraß elliptic \wp , σ , ζ functions. Solutions are provided for the full complex envelopes for all four frequency modes, under all initial conditions, and without any undepleted pump approximation.

1 Introduction

Four-wave mixing (FWM) in nonlinear optical fibers is one of the fundamental parametric processes enabled by the Kerr nonlinearity. It underpins a wide range of applications, including wavelength conversion, parametric amplification, frequency-comb generation, and quantum light sources. Despite this broad relevance, obtaining closed-form analytic descriptions of FWM remains challenging because the underlying coupled-wave equations are nonlinear, phase-sensitive, and generally require numerical integration. As a result, most textbook treatments rely on simplifying assumptions such as undepleted pumps, negligible phase mismatch, or weak signal and idler powers.

Several works have presented analytic or semi-analytic solutions in specific regimes, including the undepleted-pump limit, the perfectly phase-matched case, or configurations with constrained input conditions. However, a fully general analytic solution—valid for arbitrary pump depletion, arbitrary phase mismatch, and arbitrary input power ratios—remains of significant theoretical and practical interest. Such a solution not only clarifies the structure of the FWM interaction but also provides a unified benchmark against which approximate models and numerical simulations can be evaluated.

In this work, we derive the general analytic solution for continuous-wave four-wave mixing in a nonlinear optical fiber. Beginning from the standard coupled-wave equations for the interacting fields, we identify the conserved quantities associated with the parametric interaction and use them to reduce the system to an integrable form. The resulting expressions describe the full evolution of the pump, signal, and idler amplitudes, including amplitude and phase dynamics, for arbitrary initial conditions. These solutions recover the known limiting cases and offer direct physical insight into gain behavior, conversion efficiency, and phase evolution across the full parameter space.

2 The continuous wave four-wave mixing system

The following coupled system of ordinary differential equations is taken from Agrawal and describes four-wave mixing in the continuous wave limit, i.e., in the absence of time derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dA_1}{dz} &= \frac{in_2\omega_1}{c} \left[\left(f_{11}|A_1|^2 + 2 \sum_{k \neq 1} f_{1k}|A_k|^2 \right) A_1 + 2f_{1234}A_2^*A_3A_4e^{i\Delta kz} \right], \\ \frac{dA_2}{dz} &= \frac{in_2\omega_2}{c} \left[\left(f_{22}|A_2|^2 + 2 \sum_{k \neq 2} f_{2k}|A_k|^2 \right) A_2 + 2f_{2134}A_1^*A_3A_4e^{i\Delta kz} \right], \\ \frac{dA_3}{dz} &= \frac{in_2\omega_3}{c} \left[\left(f_{33}|A_3|^2 + 2 \sum_{k \neq 3} f_{3k}|A_k|^2 \right) A_3 + 2f_{3412}A_1A_2A_4^*e^{-i\Delta kz} \right], \\ \frac{dA_4}{dz} &= \frac{in_2\omega_4}{c} \left[\left(f_{44}|A_4|^2 + 2 \sum_{k \neq 4} f_{4k}|A_k|^2 \right) A_4 + 2f_{4312}A_1A_2A_3^*e^{-i\Delta kz} \right].\end{aligned}\quad (2.1)$$

where:

- A_j are the slowly-varying complex field amplitudes for waves $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$
- z is the propagation distance
- ω_j are the angular frequencies of the respective waves
- c is the speed of light in vacuum
- n_2 is the nonlinear refractive index
- f_{jj} are the self-phase modulation (SPM) coefficients
- f_{jk} (for $j \neq k$) are the cross-phase modulation (XPM) coefficients
- f_{jklm} are the four-wave mixing (FWM) coefficients
- A^* denotes complex conjugation
- $\Delta k = \beta_1 + \beta_2 - \beta_3 - \beta_4$ is the phase mismatch
- $\beta_j = n(\omega_j)\omega_j/c$ are the propagation constants

The modal overlap integrals are defined in terms of the transverse distribution of the fiber mode $F_j(x, y)$ as:

$$f_{jklm} = \frac{\langle F_j^* F_k^* F_l F_m \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle |F_j|^2 \rangle \langle |F_k|^2 \rangle \langle |F_l|^2 \rangle \langle |F_m|^2 \rangle}}, \quad (2.2)$$

$$f_{jk} = f_{kj} = f_{jkk} \quad (2.3)$$

where $\langle \dots \rangle = \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\dots) dx dy$ denotes the transverse spatial integral.

Agrawal says of (2.1) that the equations “are quite general in the sense that they include the effects of SPM, XPM, and pump depletion on the FWM process; a numerical approach is necessary to solve them exactly.” That said, herein, they are solved analytically in full, as written, without any further approximation.

3 Simplifying parameter dependence

From (2.2), we observe the following symmetries among the wave mixing coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{1234} &= |f_{1234}|e^{i\theta}, \\ f_{2134} &= f_{1234} = |f_{1234}|e^{i\theta}, \\ f_{3412} &= f_{1234}^* = |f_{1234}|e^{-i\theta}, \\ f_{4312} &= f_{1234}^* = |f_{1234}|e^{-i\theta}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

where θ is the phase of f_{1234} . Consequently, we can conveniently renormalise the functions, and also absorb the phase θ as a global phase rotation of the modes, in such a way that the wave mixing coefficients all become equal to one. To do so, we introduce the following redefinition of the mode functions (take care to note that, while not crucial, the complex conjugates are shared among u, v in this choice of labels so as to later conveniently give one product over u and one over v):

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \sqrt{\frac{2n_2|f_{1234}|}{c}} \sqrt{\prod_{k=1}^4 \omega_k}, \\ u_1(z) &= \frac{T e^{-i\pi/4} e^{-i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_1}} A_1(z) e^{iz\beta_1}, \\ u_2(z) &= \frac{T e^{-i\pi/4} e^{-i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_2}} A_2(z) e^{iz\beta_2}, \\ u_3(z) &= \frac{T e^{i\pi/4} e^{-i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_3}} A_3^*(z) e^{-iz\beta_3}, \\ u_4(z) &= \frac{T e^{i\pi/4} e^{-i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_4}} A_4^*(z) e^{-iz\beta_4}, \\ v_1(z) &= \frac{T e^{-i\pi/4} e^{i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_1}} A_1^*(z) e^{-iz\beta_1}, \\ v_2(z) &= \frac{T e^{-i\pi/4} e^{i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_2}} A_2^*(z) e^{-iz\beta_2}, \\ v_3(z) &= \frac{T e^{i\pi/4} e^{i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_3}} A_3(z) e^{iz\beta_3}, \\ v_4(z) &= \frac{T e^{i\pi/4} e^{i\theta/4}}{\sqrt{\omega_4}} A_4(z) e^{iz\beta_4}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

We subsequently redefine the remaining phase modulation parameters as:

$$a_j = -i s(j)\beta_j, \quad (3.4)$$

$$a_{j,k} = a_{k,j} = -\frac{(\delta_{jk} - 2)s(j)s(k)f_{j,k}\omega_j\omega_k}{2|f_{1,2,3,4}|\sqrt{\prod_{l=1}^4 \omega_l}} \quad (3.5)$$

with Kronecker δ , and $s(j)$ defined such that $s(1) = s(2) = 1, s(3) = s(4) = -1$.

The four-wave mixing system in (2.1) is thus recast as:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dz}u_j(z) &= -\left(a_j + \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{j,k} u_k v_k\right) u_j + \prod_{k=1, k \neq j}^4 v_k, \\ \frac{d}{dz}v_j(z) &= \left(a_j + \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{j,k} u_k v_k\right) v_j - \prod_{k=1, k \neq j}^4 u_k\end{aligned}\quad (3.6)$$

4 Conserved quantities

Based on prior experience of similar systems we are prompted to ask if the system in (3.6) is a canonical Hamiltonian system, and indeed we confirm that it is with:

$$H(u_1, \dots, u_4, v_1, \dots, v_4) = -\sum_{j=1}^4 a_j u_j v_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 a_{j,k} u_j v_j u_k v_k + \prod_{j=1}^4 u_j + \prod_{j=1}^4 v_j, \quad (4.1)$$

$$\frac{d}{dz}u_j(z) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial v_j}, \quad (4.2)$$

$$\frac{d}{dz}v_j(z) = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial u_j}, \quad (4.3)$$

$$\frac{d}{dz}H = 0 \quad (4.4)$$

The conservation of H is to be expected as a consequence of (4.1) lacking an explicit z dependence. The pair u_j, v_j are Hamiltonian conjugates, and each pair represents one of four degrees of freedom in the system. We refer to their product $u_j v_j$ as the modal power and it evolves according to:

$$\frac{d}{dz}u_j v_j = \prod_{k=1}^4 v_k - \prod_{k=1}^4 u_k \quad (4.5)$$

As the right hand side of (4.5) is the same for all j , we may define constants γ_j and function $\rho(z)$ such that:

$$u_j(z)v_j(z) = \gamma_j - \rho(z) \quad (4.6)$$

from which it follows that there are 3 (read as $j > k$ to avoid over counting) intermodal power conservation laws of the form:

$$u_j(z)v_j(z) - u_k(z)v_k(z) = \gamma_j - \gamma_k. \quad (4.7)$$

The system has 4 degrees of freedom and four conserved quantities which is a requirement for integrability in the Liouville-Arnold sense. The γ_j constants can be determined from (4.7) and initial conditions, however, this provides three equations for four unknowns and thus a choice is available for normalisation. We choose to impose the constraint that:

$$\sum_{j=1}^4 \gamma_j = 0. \quad (4.8)$$

5 Solutions for modal powers in terms of Weierstraß \wp elliptic functions

One key thing to note in order to obtain elliptic functions solutions is that the derivative of the modal power in (4.5) is proportional to the difference of the two wave mixing product terms, and that the Hamiltonian in (4.1) contains their sum. We then note the simple but important identity:

$$\left(\prod_{k=1}^4 v_k - \prod_{k=1}^4 u_k \right)^2 - \left(\prod_{k=1}^4 v_k + \prod_{k=1}^4 u_k \right)^2 = -4 \prod_{j=1}^4 u_j v_j \quad (5.1)$$

which enables us to square (4.5) and replace wave mixing terms with phase modulation terms.

To proceed in this manner let us introduce the function Q which represents the phase modulation part of the Hamiltonian:

$$Q(u_1(z)v_1(z), \dots, u_4(z)v_4(z)) = a_0 + \sum_{j=1}^4 a_j u_j v_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 a_{j,k} u_j v_j u_k v_k \quad (5.2)$$

with $a_0 = H$, and observe that by squaring (4.5) and substituting (4.1), (4.6), (5.1), and (5.2), we obtain:

$$\left(\frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right)^2 = Q^2(\gamma_1 - \rho(z), \dots, \gamma_4 - \rho(z)) - 4 \prod_{j=1}^4 (\gamma_j - \rho(z)), \quad (5.3)$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right)^2 = \left(\sum_{l=0}^2 b_l \rho(z)^l \right)^2 - 4 \prod_{j=1}^4 (\gamma_j - \rho(z)), \quad (5.4)$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right)^2 = \sum_{l=0}^4 d_l \rho(z)^l, \quad (5.5)$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right)^2 = d_4 \prod_{l=1}^4 (\rho(z) - \lambda_l), \quad (5.6)$$

where b_l , and d_l are given in terms of other parameters and initial conditions in Appendices A and B, and where λ_l are the roots of the quartic polynomial in $\rho(z)$, i.e., $\sum_{l=0}^4 d_l \lambda^l = 0$. We now transform (5.6) from quartic to the standard cubic form of the Weierstraß \wp function using the classical trick which can be conceptualised in three steps:

$\rho(z) = q(z) + \lambda_1$	shift so rhs is 0 for $q(z) = 0$,
$s(z) = 1/q(z)$	invert to make the quartic a cubic,
$w(z) = C_1 s(z) + C_0$	shift and scale with C_j to match Weierstraß coefficients. (5.7)

The procedure sketched in (5.7) is implemented in the following single transformation:

$$\rho(z) = \lambda_1 + \frac{d_4}{-4w(z) \prod_{l=1}^3 \Omega_l + \frac{d_4}{3} \sum_{l=1}^3 \Omega_l}, \quad (5.8)$$

$$\Omega_l = \frac{1}{\lambda_{l+1} - \lambda_1},$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dz} w(z) \right)^2 = 4w(z)^3 - g_2 w(z) - g_3, \quad (5.9)$$

$$g_2 = d_0 d_4 - \frac{d_1 d_3}{4} + \frac{d_2^2}{12}, \quad (5.10)$$

$$g_3 = \frac{d_0 d_2 d_4}{6} - \frac{d_0 d_3^2}{16} - \frac{d_1^2 d_4}{16} + \frac{d_1 d_2 d_3}{48} - \frac{d_2^3}{216} \quad (5.11)$$

where the constants g_2 and g_3 are known as Weierstraß elliptic invariants.

Equation (5.9) defines the Weierstraß elliptic \wp function and the solution is:

$$w(z) = \wp(z - z_0, g_2, g_3) \quad (5.12)$$

where z_0 is a constant chosen to match initial conditions. This constant z_0 , and others that we will now introduce, can be obtained by inverting \wp using an elliptic integral, (e.g. Carlson's symmetric R_F integral). As \wp is an even function, it is necessary to also specify a corresponding condition for the derivative when inverting, i.e., to find z from known x, y we give conditions such as $\wp(z) = x, \wp'(z) = y$, where \wp' is the derivative of \wp known as Weierstraß p-prime. The points obtained during such an inversion are determined modulo the period lattice of the doubly periodic \wp . Let us proceed to define the point z_0 , and introduce the point z_1 as the pole of $\rho(z)$, and points μ_j as zeroes of $u_j(z)v_j(z)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \wp(z_0) &= \frac{d_2}{12} + \frac{d_3 \lambda_1}{4} + \frac{d_4 \lambda_1^2}{2} + \frac{-d_1 - 2d_2 \lambda_1 - 3d_3 \lambda_1^2 - 4d_4 \lambda_1^3}{4(-\rho(0) + \lambda_1)}, \\ \wp'(z_0) &= \frac{(d_1 + 2d_2 \lambda_1 + 3d_3 \lambda_1^2 + 4d_4 \lambda_1^3)}{4(\rho(0) - \lambda_1)^2} \left. \frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right|_{z=0}, \\ \wp(z_1) &= \frac{d_2}{12} + \frac{d_3 \lambda_1}{4} + \frac{d_4 \lambda_1^2}{2}, \\ \wp'(z_1) &= \frac{(-d_1 - 2d_2 \lambda_1 - 3d_3 \lambda_1^2 - 4d_4 \lambda_1^3) \sqrt{d_4}}{4}, \\ \wp(\mu_j - z_0) &= \frac{d_2}{12} + \frac{d_3 \lambda_1}{4} + \frac{d_4 \lambda_1^2}{2} - \frac{-d_1 - 2d_2 \lambda_1 - 3d_3 \lambda_1^2 - 4d_4 \lambda_1^3}{4(\gamma_j - \lambda_1)}, \\ \wp'(\mu_j - z_0) &= -\frac{(b_0 + b_1 \gamma_j + b_2 \gamma_j^2)(d_1 + 2d_2 \lambda_1 + 3d_3 \lambda_1^2 + 4d_4 \lambda_1^3)}{4(\gamma_j - \lambda_1)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.13)$$

The solutions for modal powers are then:

$$\begin{aligned} u_j(z)v_j(z) &= \rho(\mu_j) - \rho(z), \\ &= \frac{\wp'(z_1)}{\sqrt{d_4} (\wp(z_1) - \wp(\mu_j - z_0))} - \frac{\wp'(z_1)}{\sqrt{d_4} (\wp(z_1) - \wp(z - z_0))}, \\ &= \frac{\wp'(z_1)}{\sqrt{d_4} (\wp(z_1) - \wp(\mu_j - z_0))} \frac{(\wp(z - z_0) - \wp(\mu_j - z_0))}{(\wp(z - z_0) - \wp(z_1))} \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

6 Solutions for modes in terms of Weierstraß σ , ζ functions

Through substitution of (4.1), (4.5), (4.6), and (4.7) into (3.6), it can be shown that (3.6) can be written as logarithmic derivatives such that the right hand side is a function of ρ and its derivative ρ' in the form:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial z} u_j(z)}{u_j(z)} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho'(z) - \rho'(\mu_j)}{\rho(z) - \rho(\mu_j)} + \rho(z)\Lambda_{1,j} + \Lambda_{0,j}, \\ \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial z} v_j(z)}{v_j(z)} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho'(z) + \rho'(\mu_j)}{\rho(z) - \rho(\mu_j)} - \rho(z)\Lambda_{1,j} - \Lambda_{0,j},\end{aligned}\quad (6.1)$$

$$\Lambda_{0,j} = -a_j - \frac{\gamma_j}{4} \sum_{k,l=1}^4 a_{k,l} - \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{j,k} \gamma_k + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^4 \gamma_k \sum_{l=1}^4 a_{k,l} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^4 a_k, \quad (6.2)$$

$$\Lambda_{1,j} = \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{j,k} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k,l=1}^4 a_{k,l}. \quad (6.3)$$

We substitute (5.14) into (6.1) and use the Weierstraß elliptic function identity:

$$\frac{\wp'(x, g_2, g_3)}{\wp(x, g_2, g_3) - \wp(y, g_2, g_3)} = \zeta(x+y, g_2, g_3) + \zeta(x-y, g_2, g_3) - 2\zeta(x, g_2, g_3) \quad (6.4)$$

to write the right hand side in terms of ζ and constants:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial z} u(z, \mu_j)}{u(z, \mu_j)} &= \frac{(\zeta(z-z_0+z_1) - 2\zeta(z_1) - \zeta(z-z_0-z_1)) \Lambda_{1,j}}{\sqrt{d_4}} \\ &\quad + \zeta(z-2z_0+\mu_j) - \frac{\zeta(z-z_0-z_1)}{2} - \frac{\zeta(z-z_0+z_1)}{2} \\ &\quad - \frac{\zeta(\mu_j-z_0-z_1)}{2} - \frac{\zeta(\mu_j-z_0+z_1)}{2} + \Lambda_{0,j} + \Lambda_{1,j} \lambda_1 \\ \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial z} v(z, \mu_j)}{v(z, \mu_j)} &= - \frac{(\zeta(z-z_0+z_1) - 2\zeta(z_1) - \zeta(z-z_0-z_1)) \Lambda_{1,j}}{\sqrt{d_4}} \\ &\quad + \zeta(z-\mu_j) - \frac{\zeta(z-z_0-z_1)}{2} - \frac{\zeta(z-z_0+z_1)}{2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\zeta(\mu_j-z_0-z_1)}{2} + \frac{\zeta(\mu_j-z_0+z_1)}{2} - \Lambda_{0,j} - \Lambda_{1,j} \lambda_1\end{aligned}\quad (6.5)$$

Equations (6.5) can be integrated by noting that the Weierstraß ζ function is the logarithmic derivative of the Weierstraß σ function:

$$\zeta(z, g_2, g_3) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \sigma(z, g_2, g_3). \quad (6.6)$$

Performing the integration and taking exponentials gives the solutions for modes u_j, v_j :

$$u_j(z) = \frac{\alpha_j \sqrt{W_j} \sigma(z - 2z_0 + \mu_j) \exp\left(zr_{0,j} + \log\left(\frac{\sigma(z-z_0+z_1)}{\sigma(z-z_0-z_1)}\right)r_{1,j}\right)}{\sqrt{\wp(z_1) - \wp(z - z_0)}\sigma(\mu_j - z_0)\sigma(z - z_0)},$$

$$v_j(z) = \frac{\sqrt{W_j} \sigma(z - \mu_j) \exp\left(-zr_{0,j} - \log\left(\frac{\sigma(z-z_0+z_1)}{\sigma(z-z_0-z_1)}\right)r_{1,j}\right)}{\alpha_j \sqrt{\wp(z_1) - \wp(z - z_0)}\sigma(\mu_j - z_0)\sigma(z - z_0)} \quad (6.7)$$

where α_j is the integration constant that can be fixed by initial conditions to capture any phase offset between a mode and its conjugate, and where the other constants are:

$$W_j = \frac{\wp'(z_1)}{(\wp(z_1) - \wp(\mu_j - z_0))\sqrt{d_4}}, \quad (6.8)$$

$$r_{0,j} = \Lambda_{0,j} + \Lambda_{1,j}\lambda_1 - \frac{2\zeta(z_1)\Lambda_{1,j}}{\sqrt{d_4}} - \frac{\zeta(\mu_j - z_0 - z_1)}{2} - \frac{\zeta(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)}{2}, \quad (6.9)$$

$$r_{1,j} = \frac{\Lambda_{1,j}}{\sqrt{d_4}}. \quad (6.10)$$

7 When quartic terms cancel to leave a cubic

There will be no $\rho(z)^4$ term in the differential equation when $d_4 = 0$. For $d_4 = 0$, we require $b_2 \pm 2$, which is a parameter requirement, i.e., it cannot be achieved in general through tailored initial conditions of the modes. This case is simpler to solve in some ways but it is not easily obtained by taking the limit $d_4 \rightarrow 0$ because d_4 appears in the denominator in several places. When $d_4 = 0$, we get $\wp'(z_1) = 0$, i.e., z_1 is congruent to a half-period of the elliptic function, commonly denoted ω_i , for $i = 1, 2, 3$. It can then be shown either by solving the differential equation starting from the cubic, or by applying elliptic function identities to intermediate results in the quartic derivation, that the solutions for modes simplify to:

$$u_j(z) = \frac{\alpha_j 2\sigma(z - 2z_0 + 2z_1 + \mu_j) \exp\left(z\left(\Lambda_{0,j} + \frac{d_2}{3d_3}\Lambda_{1,j} - \zeta(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)\right)\right)}{\sqrt{d_3}\sigma(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)\sigma(z - z_0 + z_1)},$$

$$v_j(z) = \frac{2\sigma(z - \mu_j) \exp\left(-z\left(\Lambda_{0,j} + \frac{d_2}{3d_3}\Lambda_{1,j} - \zeta(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)\right)\right)}{\alpha_j \sqrt{d_3}\sigma(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)\sigma(z - z_0 + z_1)} \quad (7.1)$$

where the integration constant α_j is to be determined by initial conditions using (7.1) and is therefore not the same α_j as in (6.7), but where all other parameters retain their prior definitions. The modal power simplifies to:

$$u_j(z)v_j(z) = \frac{4\wp(\mu_j - z_0 + z_1)}{d_3} - \frac{4\wp(z - z_0 + z_1)}{d_3} \quad (7.2)$$

8 Plotting analytic vs numeric solution

To check the validity of the solutions, we evaluate the analytic solutions using Sympy in Python and we plot them against numeric solutions of the corresponding system of differential equations founds using scipy in Python.

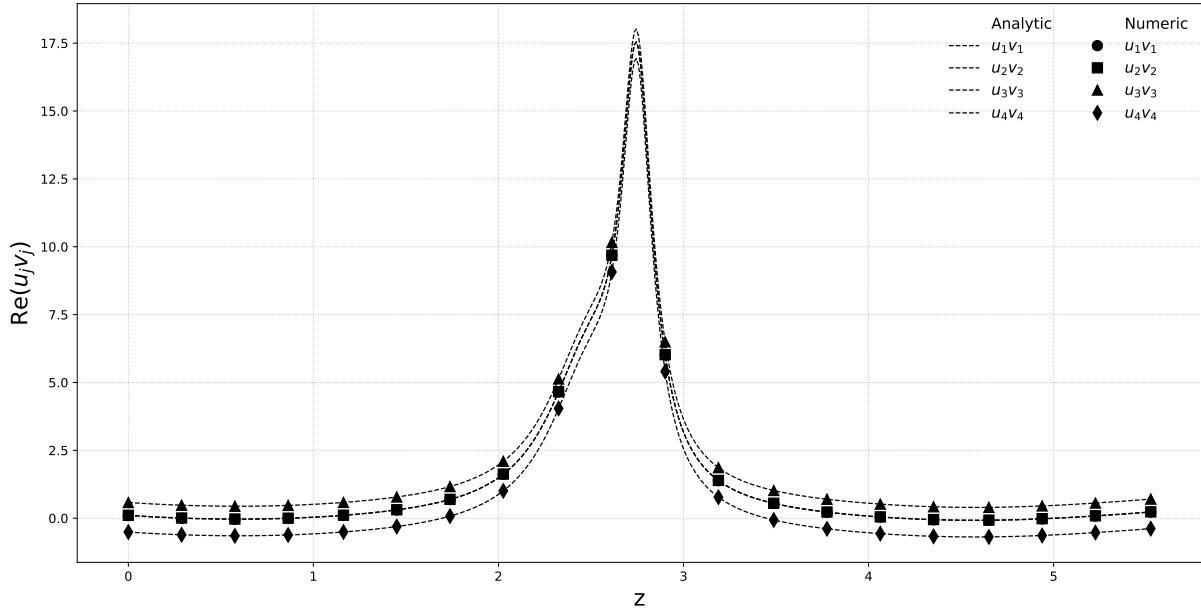


Figure 1: Real part of analytic Equation (5.14) against numeric solutions.

In Figures 1 and 2 we plot the real and imaginary parts, respectively, of the product of $u_j v_j$ in an abstract non-physical u, v scenario. The analytic dashed lines are shown to be in agreement with the numeric solutions shown as symbols.

In Figures 3 and 4 we plot the absolute value squared and phase, respectively, of A_j in a physical four-wave mixing case. The value of A_j was found using (6.7) to first obtain u_j, v_j , before converting to A_j, A_j^* using (3.3). The analytic dashed lines are shown to be in agreement with the numeric solutions shown as symbols. As expected in nonlinear fiber optic four-wave mixing, periodic intermodal power exchange is seen between modes in Figure 3, while the phase plot in Figure 4 is dominated by linear phase velocity effects with some nonlinear effects visible as areas of high curvature in the plotted lines.

9 Conclusion

Summarize results and possible future directions.

Acknowledgements

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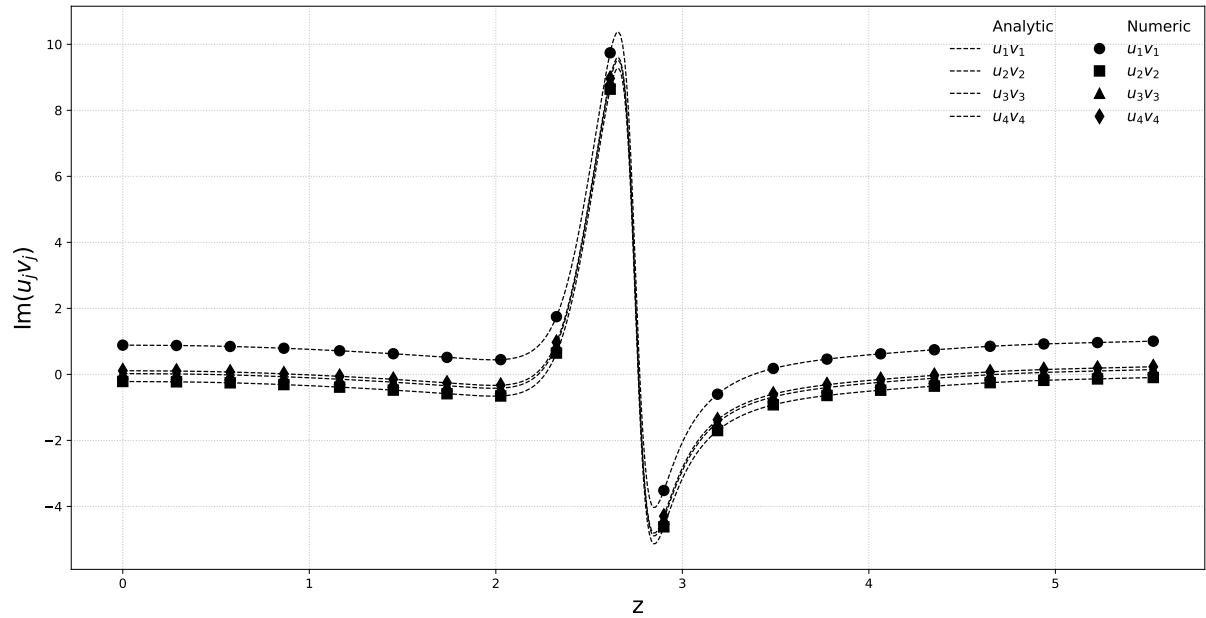


Figure 2: Imaginary part of analytic Equation (5.14) against numeric solutions.

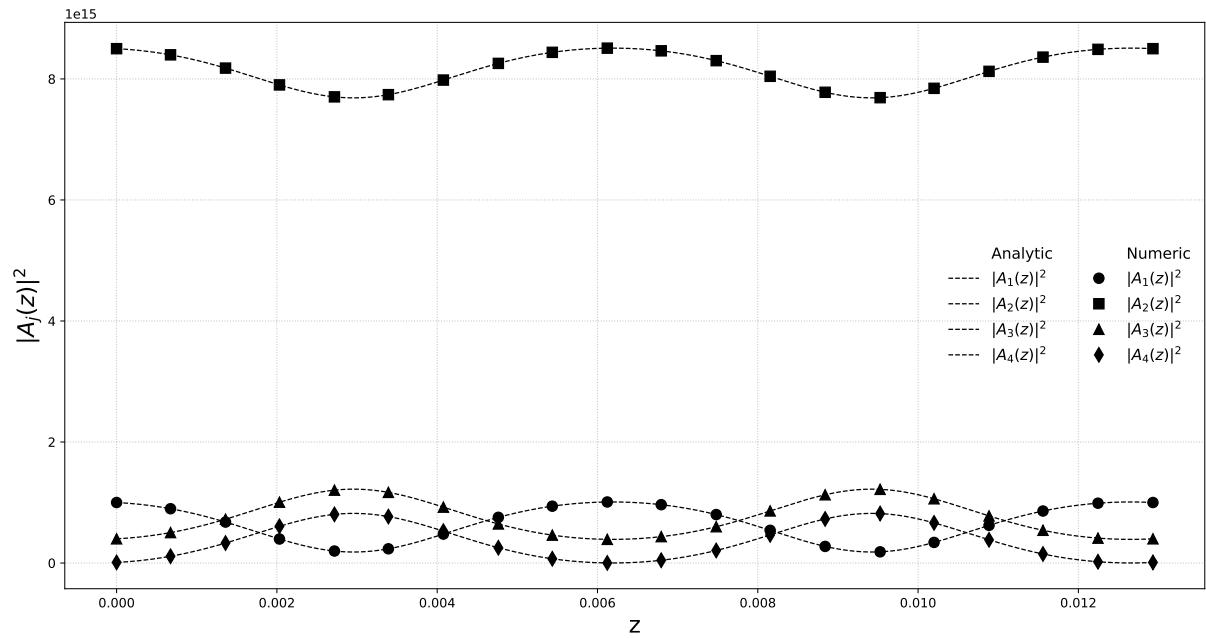


Figure 3: $|A_j|^2$ using analytic Equation (6.7) in (3.3) against numeric solutions.

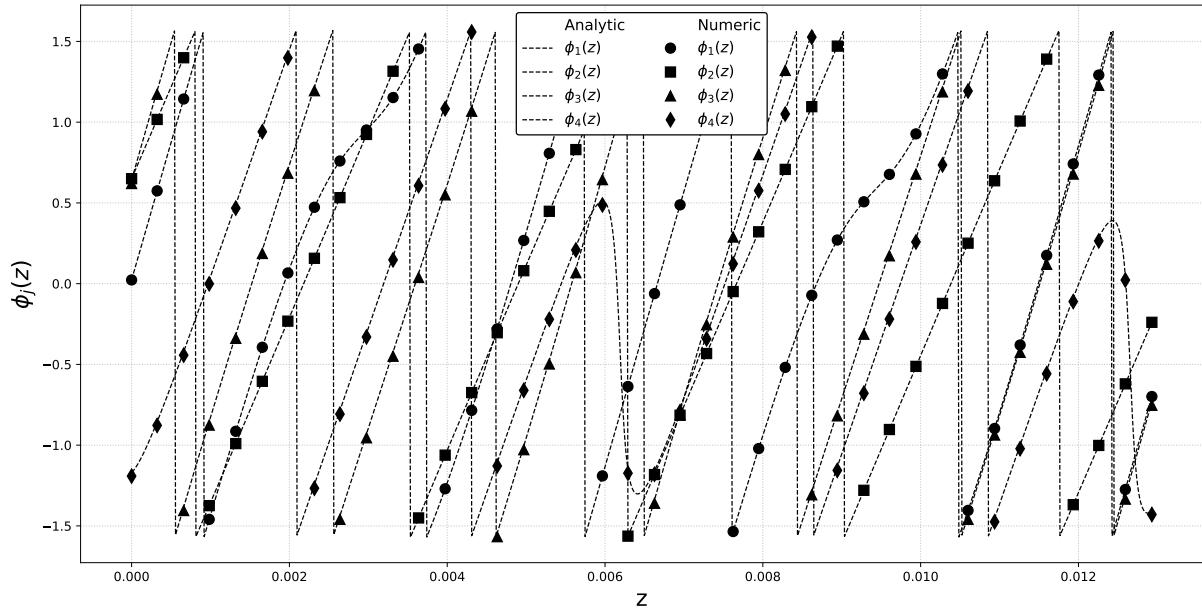


Figure 4: Phase ϕ_j using analytic Equation (6.7) in (3.3) against numeric solutions.

A Parameter definitions

$$\begin{aligned}
b_0 &= a_0 + \sum_{j=1}^4 a_j \gamma_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 a_{j,k} \gamma_j \gamma_k, \\
b_1 &= - \sum_{j=1}^4 a_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 (\gamma_j + \gamma_k) a_{j,k}, \\
b_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 a_{j,k}, \\
c_0 &= \prod_{j=1}^4 \gamma_j, \\
c_1 &= - \sum_{k=1}^4 \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^4 \gamma_j, \\
c_2 &= \frac{3}{2} \sum_{j=1}^4 \gamma_j^2 - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{j,k=1}^4 (\gamma_j - \gamma_k)^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^4 \gamma_j^2, \\
c_3 &= 0, \\
c_4 &= 1, \\
d_0 &= b_0^2 - 4c_0, \\
d_1 &= 2b_0 b_1 - 4c_1, \\
d_2 &= 2b_0 b_2 + b_1^2 - 4c_2, \\
d_3 &= 2b_1 b_2 - 4c_3, \\
d_3 &= 2b_1 b_2 - 4c_3, \\
d_4 &= b_2^2 - 4c_4
\end{aligned} \tag{A.1}$$

B Initial condition relations

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho(0) &= -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{j=1}^4 u_j(0) v_j(0), \\
\gamma_j &= u_j(0) v_j(0) - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{j=1}^4 u_j(0) v_j(0), \\
\left. \frac{d}{dz} \rho(z) \right|_{z=0} &= \prod_{j=1}^4 u_j(0) - \prod_{j=1}^4 v_j(0)
\end{aligned} \tag{B.1}$$