



Waves and currents in shallow water from the Korteweg-de Vries perspective.

Roger Grimshaw

University College London, Department of Mathematics, London, United Kingdom (r.grimshaw@ucl.ac.uk)

Using the variable-coefficient Korteweg-de Vries equation we examine the effect of a background current on solitary waves and periodic waves. The main results are obtained using an adaptation of the Whitham modulation theory, and the emphasis is on the effect of nonlinearity when compared to a completely linear theory.