



Article Dark Solitons in Acoustic Transmission Line Metamaterials

Jiangyi Zhang¹, Vicente Romero-García^{1,*}, Georgios Theocharis¹, Olivier Richoux¹, Vassos Achilleos¹ and Dimitrios J. Frantzeskakis²

- ¹ Laboratoire d'Acoustique de l'Université du Maine—CNRS UMR 6613, 72085 Le Mans, France; jiangyi.zhang.etu@univ-lemans.fr (J.Z.); georgios.theocharis@univ-lemans.fr (G.T.); olivier.richoux@univ-lemans.fr (O.R.); vassosnbi@gmail.com (V.A.)
- ² Department of Physics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Panepistimiopolis, Zografos, 15784 Athens, Greece; dfrantz@phys.uoa.gr
- * Correspondence: vicente.romero@univ-lemans.fr

Received: 10 June 2018; Accepted: 15 July 2018; Published: 20 July 2018



Abstract: We study dark solitons, namely density dips with a phase jump across the density minimum, in a one-dimensional, weakly lossy nonlinear acoustic metamaterial, composed of a waveguide featuring a periodic array of side holes. Relying on the electroacoustic analogy and the transmission line approach, we derive a lattice model which, in the continuum approximation, leads to a nonlinear, dispersive and dissipative wave equation. The latter, using the method of multiple scales, is reduced to a defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger equation, which leads to dark soliton solutions. The dissipative dynamics of these structures is studied via soliton perturbation theory. We investigate the role—and interplay between—nonlinearity, dispersion and dissipation on the soliton formation and dynamics. Our analytical predictions are corroborated by direct numerical simulations.

Keywords: acoustic metamaterials; nonlinear acoustics; solitons

1. Introduction

A dark soliton is an envelope soliton that has the form of a density dip with a phase jump across its density minimum. This localized waveform is supported on the top of a stable continuous wave background. Since dark solitons are fundamental nonlinear excitations of a universal model, the defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation, they have been studied extensively in diverse branches of physics. These include chiefly nonlinear optics [1] and Bose–Einstein condensates [2], but also discrete mechanical systems [3], thin magnetic films [4], complex plasmas [5], water waves [6], and so on. The interest of dark solitons arises from the fact that—since they are composite objects, consisting of a background wave and a soliton—they have a number of interesting properties that may find important applications. Indeed, as compared to the bright solitons (which are governed by the focusing NLS equation), they can be generated by a thresholdless process, are less affected by loss and background noise, and are more robust against various perturbations [1,2]. In addition, in optics, dark solitons have potential applications, e.g., in inducing steerable waveguides in optical media, or for ultradense wavelength-division-multiplexing [1].

Recently, important nonlinear effects—including higher harmonic generation [7–9], self-demodulation [10,11], and soliton formation [12–16], and others—have attracted much attention in acoustics, and especially in the context of acoustic metamaterials; these are periodic structures—thus featuring dispersion—which are characterized by negative effective parameters, i.e., negative mass density [17] and negative bulk modulus [18]. Usually, such metamaterials are acoustic waveguides loaded with resonators, presenting strong dispersion around the resonance frequency and Bragg

band [19,20]. Dissipation naturally plays a key role in such structures, especially in super-absorbing sound materials [21,22] (see also work in Refs. [23,24]). The combination of dispersion and dissipation [20,23,25–27] has mainly been investigated in the linear regime; nevertheless, the additional effect of nonlinearity, which is naturally introduced at high acoustic levels has not been studied in detail in acoustic metamaterials. This is also the case of studies on acoustic solitons of various types—pulse-like [12,13] and envelope bright ones [12,14]. As far as dark solitons are concerned, they were predicted to occur in acoustic waveguides loaded with an array with Helmholtz resonators [12], while the effect of dissipation was neglected. To the best of our knowledge, the dissipation-induced dynamics of dark solitons in acoustic metamaterials, has not been investigated so far.

In this work, we analytically and numerically study envelope dark solitons in a one-dimensional (1D) acoustic metamaterial composed of a waveguide featuring a periodic array of side holes. Based on the transmission line (TL) approach, which is widely used in acoustics [28–32], we model this system by a nonlinear dynamical lattice with losses. In the continuum approximation, the latter leads to a nonlinear, dispersive and dissipative wave equation. Employing the multiple scales perturbation method, we derive an effective defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation which supports dark soliton solutions. The effect of dissipation is also taken into regard, and is studied analytically by means of perturbation theory for solitons [33]. Numerical simulations, at the level of the nonlinear lattice model, are also performed showing a very good agreement with the analytical predictions relying on the NLS picture. The methodology of this work paves the way for relevant studies in double-negative acoustic metamaterials.

The paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, we introduce our setup, derive the 1D nonlinear lattice model, and study the linear properties of the system. In Section 3, we employ the multiple scale perturbation method to obtain the NLS equation and its envelope dark soliton solutions; both the lossless and dissipative cases are studied. Finally, in Section 4, we present our conclusions and discuss some future research directions.

2. Electro-Acoustic Analogue Modeling

2.1. Setup and Model

We consider plane wave propagation in a structure composed of a waveguide of radius r periodically loaded with an array of side holes of radius r_H and length l_H , and the distance between two consecutive cells is d, as shown in Figure 1a. We choose to work in a frequency range well below the first cut-off frequency of the higher propagating modes in the waveguide, and therefore the problem is considered as 1D.

In order to theoretically analyze the problem, we employ the electro-acoustic analogue modeling based on the transmission line (TL) approach. This allows us to derive a nonlinear, dispersive and dissipative discrete wave equation, which—in the continuum limit—can be treated analytically via the multiple scales perturbation method. The corresponding unit-cell circuit of the TL model is shown in Figure 1b, where the voltage *v* and the current *i* correspond to the acoustic pressure *p* and to the volume velocity *u* through the waveguide's cross-sectional area, respectively [12,28].

The first part of the unit-cell circuit, corresponding to the waveguide, is modeled by the inductance L_{ω} , the resistance R_{ω} and shunt capacitance C_{ω} . The linear part of the inductance and the capacitance are $L_{\omega 0} = \rho_0 d/S$ and $C_{\omega 0} = Sd/(\rho_0 c_0^2)$, respectively, where $S = \pi r^2$, ρ_0 and c_0 are the cross section of the waveguide, the density and the sound velocity of the fluid in the system, respectively. We consider weakly nonlinear wave propagation, where the celerity $c_{NL} \approx c_0 (1 + \beta_0 p / \rho_0 c_0^2)$, with β_0 being the nonlinear parameter, depends on the amplitude. Thus, we consider the capacitance C_{ω} to be nonlinear, depending on the pressure p, while the inductance L_{ω} linear [12]. The pressure-dependent

capacitance [14] can be expressed as $C_{\omega} = C_{\omega 0} - C'_{\omega} p_n$, where $C'_{\omega} = 2\beta_0 C_{\omega 0} / (\rho_0 c_0^2)$. The resistance $R_{\omega} = \text{Im}(kZ_c)d$, corresponds to the viscothermal losses at the boundaries of the waveguide wall:

$$k = \frac{\omega}{c_0} \left(1 + \frac{1-j}{s} (1 + (\gamma - 1)/\sqrt{Pr}) \right) \tag{1}$$

is the wavenumber and

$$Z_{c} = \frac{\rho_{0}c_{0}}{S} \left(1 + \frac{1-j}{s} (1 - (\gamma - 1)/\sqrt{Pr}) \right)$$
(2)

is the characteristic impedance of the waveguide, with γ being specific heat ratio, Pr the Prandtl number, $s = \sqrt{\omega \rho_0 r^2 / \eta}$, and η the shear viscosity.

The second part of the unit-cell circuit describes the effects of the holes that are considered to be linear (assuming sufficiently smoothed edges of the holes) [34,35]. The side holes could be modeled by a shunt *LR* circuit composed of the series combination of an inductance L_H and a resistance R_H . We study the regime where the wavelength λ of the sound wave is much bigger than the geometric characteristic of the side holes, i.e., $kr_H \ll 1$. The corresponding inductance could be given by $L_H = \rho_0(l_H + \Delta l_{Hi} + \Delta l_{Ho})/S_H$, where Δl_{Hi} and Δl_{Ho} are length corrections due to the radiation inside the waveguide and to the outer environment, respectively [36–38] (see more details in Appendix A) and S_H is the area of the side holes. The resistance $R_H = \rho_0 c_0 (kr_H)^2/(2S_H) = \rho_0 \omega^2/(2\pi c_0)$ corresponds to the radiation losses to the outer environment and the propagation losses due to viscous and thermal effects in the side holes [36].

Here, we should mention that we approximate the frequency-dependent viscothermal losses of the waveguide and the radiation losses due to the side holes by resistance, R_{ω} and R_H , respectively, with the corresponding constant value fixed at the characteristic frequency of the dark solitons (see below).

We now use Kirchhoff's voltage and current laws to derive the discrete nonlinear dissipative evolution equation for the pressure p_n in the *n*th cell of the lattice (see details in Appendix B):

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_H \frac{d}{dt} + R_H \end{pmatrix} \left(p_{n+1} - 2p_n + p_{n-1} - L_\omega C_{\omega 0} \frac{d^2 p_n}{dt^2} \\ -R_\omega C_{\omega 0} \frac{dp_n}{dt} + \frac{1}{2} L_\omega C'_\omega \frac{d^2 p_n^2}{dt^2} + \frac{1}{2} R_\omega C'_\omega \frac{dp_n^2}{dt} \right) \\ - \left(L_\omega \frac{d}{dt} + R_\omega \right) p_n = 0.$$

$$(3)$$



Figure 1. (color online) (a) waveguide loaded with an array of side holes; (b) corresponding unit-cell circuit.

2.2. Continuum Limit

We now focus on the continuum limit of Equation (3), corresponding to $n \to \infty$ and $d \to 0$ (but with *nd* being finite); in such a case, the pressure becomes $p_n(t) \to p(x, t)$, where x = nd is a continuous variable, and

$$p_{n\pm 1} = p \pm d\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{d^2}{2}\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} \pm \frac{d^3}{3!}\frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} + \frac{d^4}{4!}\frac{\partial^4 p}{\partial x^4} + O(d^5),\tag{4}$$

i.e., $p_{n+1} - 2p_n + p_{n-1} \approx d^2 p_{xx} + d^4 p_{xxxx}/12$, where subscripts denote partial derivatives. In order to understand more accurately the dynamics of the system, we keep terms up to order $O(d^4)$ coming from the periodicity of the side holes [14]. This way, we obtain the corresponding partial differential equation (PDE),

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_H \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + R_H \end{pmatrix} \left(d^2 \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} + \frac{d^4}{12} \frac{\partial^4 p}{\partial x^4} - L_\omega C_{\omega 0} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} - R_\omega C_{\omega 0} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} L_\omega C'_\omega \frac{\partial^2 p^2}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{2} R_\omega C'_\omega \frac{\partial p^2}{\partial t} \right) - \left(L_\omega \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + R_\omega \right) p = 0.$$

$$(5)$$

It is also convenient to express our model in dimensionless form by introducing the normalized variables τ and χ and normalized pressure P, which are defined as follows: τ is time in units of ω_B^{-1} , where $\omega_B = \pi c_0/d$ is the Bragg frequency; χ is space in units of c_0/ω_B and $p = \epsilon P_0 P$, where $P_0 = \rho_0 c_0^2$ and $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ is a formal dimensionless small parameter. Then, Equation (5) is reduced to the following dimensionless form:

$$(\partial_{\tau} + \gamma_{H}) \left[P_{\tau\tau} - P_{\chi\chi} - \zeta P_{\chi\chi\chi\chi} + \gamma_{\omega}P_{\tau} - \epsilon\beta_{0}(P^{2})_{\tau\tau} - \epsilon\beta_{0}\gamma_{\omega}(P^{2})_{\tau} \right] + m^{2}P_{\tau} + m^{2}\gamma_{\omega}P = 0,$$

$$(6)$$

where,

$$m^{2} = \frac{S_{H}d}{\pi^{2}l_{H}S}, \quad \gamma_{H} = \frac{R_{H}}{\omega_{B}L_{H}},$$

$$\gamma_{\omega} = \frac{R_{\omega}S}{\pi\rho_{0}c_{0}}, \qquad \zeta = \frac{\pi^{2}}{12}.$$
(7)

It is interesting to identify various limiting cases of Equation (6). First, in the linear limit ($\beta_0 = 0$, or $p^2 \ll 1$), in the absence of side holes ($m^2 \rightarrow 0$, $\gamma_H \rightarrow 0$) and without considering viscothermal losses ($\gamma_{\omega} \rightarrow 0$) and higher order spatial derivatives, Equation (6) is reduced to the linear wave equation, $P_{\tau\tau} - P_{\chi\chi} = 0$. In the linear limit, in the presence of side holes, in the long wavelength approximation and without considering viscothermal losses ($\gamma_{\omega} \rightarrow 0$), radiation losses ($\gamma_H \rightarrow 0$), and higher order spatial derivatives ($\zeta \rightarrow 0$), Equation (6) takes the form of the linear Klein–Gordon equation [39,40], $P_{\tau\tau} - P_{\chi\chi} + m^2 P = 0$. Finally, in the nonlinear lossless regime, and in the absence of sides holes, without considering higher order spatial derivatives, Equation (6) is reduced to the well-known Westervelt equation, $P_{\tau\tau} - P_{\chi\chi} - \epsilon \beta_0 (P^2)_{\tau\tau} = 0$, which is a common nonlinear model describing 1D acoustic wave propagation [10].

2.3. Linear Limit

We now consider the linear limit of Equation (6) in order to obtain the dispersion relation of the system. Assuming plane waves of the form $P \propto \exp[i(k\chi - \omega\tau)]$, we obtain the following complex dispersion relation connecting the wavenumber *k* and frequency ω ,

$$D(\omega,k) = -i\omega(-\omega^2 + k^2 - \zeta k^4 + m^2) - i\omega\gamma_H\gamma_\omega + \gamma_H(-\omega^2 + k^2 - \zeta k^4) + \gamma_\omega(-\omega^2 + m^2) = 0,$$
(8)

where γ_{ω} and γ_{H} account for the viscothermal losses in the waveguide and the losses (radiation losses and viscothermal losses) due to the side holes, respectively. In the absence of losses, Equation (8) is reduced to:

$$D(\omega, k_r) = -\omega^2 + k_r^2 - \zeta k_r^4 + m^2 = 0,$$
(9)

which is the familiar dispersion relation of the linear Klein–Gordon model [39,40], with a higher-order spatial derivative term ζk^4 accounting for the influence of the periodicity of the system to the dispersion relation. Although this term appears to lead to instabilities for large values of k, in the long-wavelength limit where k is sufficiently small, such instabilities do not occur. For frequencies between $0 \le \omega < m$, there is a band gap, and, for $m < \omega < \omega_B$, there is a propagating band, with the dispersion curve $\omega(k)$ having the form of hyperbola (see Figure 2).



Figure 2. (color online) (**a**,**b**) show the real and imaginary parts of the complex dispersion relation respectively. The blue circles (green stars) show the results from the TL (TMM) approach from Equation (10) [Equation (11)]; the blue dashed (green continuous) lines show the lossless dispersion relation obtained from the TL (TMM) approach from the lossless limit of Equation (10) (Equation (11)); (c) the frequency dependent qk'', the product of the nonlinearity and the dispersion coefficients of NLS equations.

Considering that all quantities in the dispersion relation (Equations (8) and (9)) are dimensionless, it is also relevant to express them in physical units. The frequency ω_{ph} and wavenumber k_{ph} in physical

units are connected with their dimensionless counterparts through $\omega = \omega_{ph}/\omega_B$ and $k = k_{ph}c/\omega_B$. Then, we rewrite Equation (8) with physical units as follows:

$$(-i\frac{\omega_{ph}}{\omega_B} + \gamma_H)(-\frac{\omega_{ph}^2}{\omega_B^2} + \frac{k_{ph}^2c_0^2}{\omega_B^2} - \zeta \frac{k_{ph}^4c_0^4}{\omega_B^4} - i\frac{\omega_{ph}}{\omega_B}\gamma_\omega) - i\frac{\omega_{ph}}{\omega_B}m^2 + m^2\gamma_\omega = 0.$$
(10)

The real and imaginary parts of Equation (10), shown in Figure 2, are found to be almost identical with the lossless case i.e., $\gamma_{\omega} = 0$ and $\gamma_H = 0$ (dashed blue lines). Thus, the medium is considered to be weakly lossy. In particular, below we neglect viscothermal losses in the waveguide ($\gamma_H = 0$), which are small compared to radiation losses. Furthermore, we assume that the remaining losses are sufficiently small, such that $\gamma_H = \epsilon^2 \gamma'_H$.

On the other hand, the green stars in Figure 2 show the corresponding results for the lossy dispersion relation obtained by using the transfer matrix method (TMM) [20]:

$$\cos(k_{ph}d) = \cos(kd) + i\frac{Z_c}{2Z_H}\sin(kd),$$
(11)

where *k* and *Z_c* are given by Equations (1) and (2), respectively, and $Z_H = i\omega_{ph}L_H + R_H$ is the input impedance of the side holes. For the lossless case, *k*, *Z_c* and *Z_H* are respectively reduced to $k = \omega/c_0$, $Z_c = \rho_0 c_0/S$ and $Z_H = i\omega_{ph}L_H$. The corresponding results are shown as thick green continuous lines in Figure 2. We find that the linear dispersion relation resulting from the TLM is in very good agreement with the one obtained by using the TMM, as shown in Figure 2 in the low frequencies regime.

Here, we mention that results shown in Figure 2 (as well as in Figures 3 and 4 in Section 3 below) are obtained with an air-filled waveguide at 18 °C. We use the following parameter values: d = 0.05 m, r = 0.025 m, $r_H = 0.005$ m, $l_H = 0.002$ m, $\beta_0 = 1.2$, $c_0 = 343.26$ m/s, $\rho_0 = 1.29$ kg/m³, $\gamma = C_p/C_v = 1.4$, $C_p = 1.005$ KJ/kg·K, $C_v = 0.718$ KJ/kg·K, Pr = 0.71 and $\eta = 1.84 \times 10^{-5}$ kg/m/s.

3. Dark Solitons

In this section, we use multiple scales perturbation method to describe the evolution of the pressure using an effective lossy NLS equation. From the latter equation, we can obtain the approximate analytical dark soliton solutions of our lattice system and study numerically their dynamics.

We start our analysis by introducing the slow variables,

$$\chi_n = \epsilon^n \chi, \quad \tau_n = \epsilon^n \tau, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$
(12)

and express *P* as an asymptotic series in ϵ ,

$$P = p_0 + \epsilon p_1 + \epsilon^2 p_2 + \dots$$
(13)

Then, substituting Equations (12) and (13) into Equation (6), we obtain a hierarchy of equations at various orders in ϵ (see more details in Appendix C).

The leading order $O(\epsilon^0)$, Equation (A8) in Appendix C, possesses a linear plane wave solution of the form

$$p_0 = A(\chi_1, \chi_2, \cdots, \tau_1, \tau_2, \cdots) \exp(i\theta) + \text{c.c.},$$
 (14)

where *A* is an unknown envelop function, $\theta = k_r \chi_0 - \omega \tau_0$ with the wave number k_r and the frequency ω satisfying the lossless dispersion relation, Equation (9), and c.c. denotes a complex conjugate.

Next, at the order $O(\epsilon^1)$, the solvable condition is that the secular part (i.e., the term $\propto \exp(i\theta)$) vanishes, which yields,

$$\left(k'\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\chi_1}\right)A(\chi_1, \chi_2, \cdots, \tau_1, \tau_2, \cdots) = 0,$$
(15)

where

$$k' = \frac{\partial k}{\partial \omega} = \frac{1}{v_g} = \frac{\omega}{k_r - 2\zeta k_r^3},\tag{16}$$

is the inverse group velocity. Equation (15) is satisfied as long as *A* depends on the variables χ_1 and τ_1 through the traveling-wave coordinate $\tilde{\tau}_1 = \tau_1 - k'\chi_1$, namely $A(\chi_1, \tau_1, \chi_2, \tau_2, \cdots) = A(\tilde{\tau}_1, \chi_2, \tau_2, \cdots)$. At the same order, we could obtain the form of the field p_1 ,

$$p_1 = 8\beta_0 \frac{i\omega^3}{D(2\omega, 2k_r)} A^2 e^{2i\theta} + Be^{i\theta} + c.c.,$$
(17)

where *B* is an unknown function that can be found at a higher-order approximation.

Finally, following the same process as above, the nonsecularity condition at $O(\epsilon^2)$ yields a lossy NLS equation for the envelop function *A*,

$$i\frac{\partial A}{\partial\chi_2} - \frac{1}{2}k_r''\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial\tilde{\tau}_1^2} - q|A|^2 A = -i\Lambda A,$$
(18)

where the dispersion, nonlinearity and dissipation coefficients are respectively given by,

$$k_r'' \equiv \frac{\partial^2 k_r}{\partial \omega^2} = \frac{1 - k_r'^2 + 6\zeta k_r^2 k_r'^2}{k_r - 2\zeta k_r^3},$$
(19)

$$q(\omega, k_r) = \beta_0^2 \frac{4\omega^4}{3(m^2 + 4\zeta k_r^4)(k_r - 2\zeta k_r^3)},$$
(20)

$$\Lambda = \frac{m^2 \gamma'_H}{2\omega (k_r - 2\zeta k_r^3)}.$$
(21)

The sign of the product $\sigma \equiv \text{sgn}(qk'')$ determines the nature of the NLS equation [39,40]. A focusing NLS equation with $\sigma = +1$ supports bright solitons, localized waves with vanishing tails towards infinity. A defocusing NLS equation with $\sigma = -1$ supports dark solitons, which are density dips, with a phase jump across the density minimum, on top of a non-vaninishing continuous wave background. Figure 2c shows that the product qk'' is always negative, i.e., $\sigma = -1$ in our case, which means that our system only supports dark solitons.

In the absence of losses ($\Lambda = 0$), the analytical dark soliton solution for the envelope function *A* is of the form,

$$A = \eta_0 \left\{ b_0 \tanh\left[\eta_0 b_0 \left(\sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \tilde{\tau}_1 - a_0 q \eta_0 \chi_2\right)\right] + ia_0 \right\} e^{-iq\eta_0^2 \chi_2},$$
(22)

where η_0 is a free parameter setting the amplitude of the dark soliton background, and parameters $a_0 = \sin \phi$, $b_0 = \cos \phi$ are connected by a relation, $a_0^2 + b_0^2 = 1$, with the effective angle 2ϕ corresponding to the phase shift across the dark soliton. The parameter $b_0 = \cos \phi$ characterizes the soliton intensity at the center. A black soliton is a special case of a dark soliton, with π phase shift and zero intensity at the center. When $\phi \neq 0$, the minimum intensity of a dark soliton does not equal zero, and we call it a gray soliton.

3.1. Black Solitons

We start with the black soliton, with $\phi = 0$, which at the NLS level is expressed as:

$$A = \eta_0 \tanh\left(\eta_0 \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \tilde{\tau}_1\right) \exp\left(-iq\eta_0^2 \chi_2\right).$$
(23)

The corresponding approximate black soliton solution of Equation (6) is as follows:

$$P(\chi,\tau) \approx 2\eta_0 \tanh\left[\epsilon\eta_0 \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \left(\tau - k_r'\chi\right)\right] \times \cos\left(\omega\tau - k_r\chi - \epsilon^2 q\eta_0^2\chi\right),$$
(24)

which is a function of parameters χ and τ . In the original coordinates, space x and time t, the approximate black soliton solution for the pressure p reads

$$p(x,t) \approx 2\epsilon \eta_0 P_0 \tanh\left[\epsilon \eta_0 \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \omega_B\left(t - \frac{k_r'}{c_0}x\right)\right] \times \cos\left(\omega \omega_B t - \frac{k_r \omega_B}{c_0}x - q\epsilon^2 \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B}{c_0}x\right),$$
(25)

where k'_r/c_0 is the inverse group velocity at the carrier frequency that is independent of the amplitude of the background $2\epsilon\eta_0 P_0$.

To ensure the balance between nonlinearity and dispersion, we should also pay attention to the dispersion length L_D and the nonlinearity length L_{NL} providing the length scales over which dispersive or nonlinear effects become important for pulse evolution. These lengths are expressed as follows [14]:

$$L_D = \frac{t_0^2 \omega_B c_0}{|k_r''|},$$
(26)

and

$$L_{NL} = \frac{P_0^2 c_0}{|q| \,\omega_B A_0^2},\tag{27}$$

where t_0 and A_0 are the characteristic width and the amplitude of the propagating envelope, respectively. From the black soliton solution, Equation (25), we find $t_0 = \left(\epsilon \eta_0 \sqrt{|q/k_r''|}\omega_B\right)^{-1}$ and $A_0 = \epsilon \eta_0 P_0$. Substituting them in Equations (26) and (27), we obtain $L_{NL}/L_D \sim 1$.

Now, we study numerically the evolution of the approximate black soliton solution of Equation (25) in the lattice. We start by integrating the lossless version of Equation (3) with a driver of the form given by Equation (25) at x = 0 with $\epsilon = 0.029$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 8816$ Pa) (170 dB) and carrier frequency f = 600 Hz. The numerical results are shown in Figure 3a,b. We observe that the black soliton with zero intensity at the center propagates with a constant velocity, amplitude and width as shown in the contour plot (Figure 3a). Good agreement between the simulations (blue line) calculated at t = 1.41 s and the corresponding analytical solution of Equation (25) (green dashed line) is shown in Figure 3b. In order to confirm that the black solitons are due to the balance between dispersion and nonlinearity, we also compare Figure 3a,b to the unbalanced case where the boundary condition has the same width but a smaller amplitude, $\epsilon = 0.0095$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 2888$ Pa) (160 dB), shown in Figure 3c,d. In Figure 3d, it is observed that the soliton is not formed and the initial wavepacket spreads.



Figure 3. (color online) (**a**) a contour plot of black soliton of the form of Equation (25), obtained by numerically integrating the lossless version of Equation (3) ($R_{\omega} = 0, R_H = 0$) with $\epsilon = 0.029$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 8816$ Pa) (170 dB) and carrier frequency f = 600 Hz; (**b**) numerical spatial profile of black soliton calculated at t = 1.41 s (blue line). Green dashed lines are the corresponding analytical envelope result of Equation (25). The light green thick line denotes the nonlinear length L_{NL} and dispersion length L_D , with $L_{NL} = L_D = 21.55$ m; (**c**) a numerical contour plot for dispersive effect, obtained by numerically integrating the lossless version of Equation (3) ($R_{\omega} = 0, R_H = 0$). Keeping the same width, we only decrease the amplitude of the driver to $\epsilon = 0.0095$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 2888$ Pa) (160 dB) such as the nonlinearity can not balance the dispersion; (**d**) numerical spatial profile of dispersive wave calculated at t = 1.41 s.

3.2. Black Solitons under Dissipation

We next study the dynamics of the black solitons under the presence of the radiation and viscothermal losses. The effective NLS (18), which includes a linear loss term, can be studied via the direct perturbation theory for dark solitons [33]. The loss term does not vanish for $\tilde{\tau}_1 \rightarrow \infty$ and, thus, in this limit (where $\partial^2 A / \partial \tilde{\tau}_1^2 \rightarrow 0$), the evolution of the black soliton's background $A \equiv \eta(\chi_2)$ is determined by the equation:

$$i\frac{\partial\eta}{\partial\chi_2} - q\left|\eta\right|^2 \eta = -i\Lambda\eta.$$
(28)

Solutions of Equation (28) can be sought in the form $\eta(\chi_2) = \eta_0(\chi_2) \exp[i\phi(\chi_2)]$, where $\eta_0(\chi_2)$ describes the loss-induced change of the background amplitude, and $\phi(\chi_2)$ is the spatically varying phase of the background. Substituting the above ansatz into Equation (28), and separating real and imaginary parts, we derive the equation for the amplitude of the background as follows:

$$\frac{\partial \eta_0}{\partial \chi_2} = -\Lambda \eta_0. \tag{29}$$

Integrating Equation (29), we find that the background amplitude decays according to the following exponential law:

$$\eta_0(\chi_2) = \eta_0(0) \exp(-\Lambda \chi_2).$$
(30)

In terms of the original space coordinate, the amplitude of the background of the black soliton decreases exponentially as:

$$\eta_0(x) = \eta_0(0) \exp\left(-\frac{x}{L_l}\right),\tag{31}$$

where

$$L_l = \frac{c_0}{\Lambda \epsilon^2 \omega_B} \tag{32}$$

is the dissipation length. Thus, the envelope of the approximate black soliton solution reads

$$p_{e}(x,t) \approx 2\epsilon P_{0}\eta_{0}(0)e^{\frac{-\Lambda\epsilon^{2}\omega_{B}}{c_{0}}x} \times \tanh\left[\epsilon\eta_{0}e^{\frac{-\Lambda\epsilon^{2}\omega_{B}}{c_{0}}x}\sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_{r}''}\right|}\omega_{B}\left(t-\frac{k_{r}'}{c_{0}}x\right)\right].$$
(33)

During propagation, the amplitude of background η decreases (due to the presence of loss), while the minimum intensity is always zero. The black soliton does not move against the background, and the velocity of the background only depends on the carrier frequency. Thus, the linear loss only affects the black soliton's background amplitude and width.

3.2.1. Dissipation Length « Nonlinearity Length and Dispersion Length

We numerically integrate the lattice model, Equation (3), using a driver corresponding to the black soliton shown in Figure 3 with $\epsilon = 0.029$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 8816$ Pa) (170 dB) and f = 600 Hz. The numerical result (blue line) shown in Figure 4 is in good agreement with the analytical result (green dashed line), Equation (31). The radiation and viscothermal losses strongly attenuate the background amplitude of the black soliton, according to the value of the dissipation length $L_l = 9.12$ m, which is much smaller than the nonlinearity and dispersion lengths, given by $L_{NL} = L_D = 21.5$ m, illustrated by the light green thick line in Figure 4.



Figure 4. (color online) Effects of radiation and viscothermal losses on black soliton propagation in an air-filled acoustic metamaterial with d = 0.05 m, r = 0.025 m, $r_H = 0.005$ m, $l_H = 0.002$, calculated at t = 1.41 s. Numerical dissipative black soliton (blue line) is obtained by integrating our lattice model Equation (3) with the driver corresponding to $\epsilon = 0.029$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 8816$ Pa) (170 dB) and f = 600 Hz, Equation (25) or Equation (33). The green dashed line is the corresponding analytical envelope result, Equation (33). The light green thick line denotes the nonlinear length L_{NL} and dispersion length L_D , with $L_{NL} = L_D = 21.55$ m.

3.2.2. Dissipation Length \geq Nonlinearity Length and Dispersion Length

Next, we choose the parameters of our setup so that $L_l \ge L_{NL}, L_D$. This is achieved by replacing air to water, and by decreasing the radius of the side holes. We now use the following parameters for the lattice: d = 0.05 m, r = 0.025 m, $r_H = 0.002$ m, $l_H = 0.002$ m, at 25 °C, with nonlinear parameter $\beta_0 = 3.6$, velocity $c_0 = 1483$ m/s, density $\rho_0 = 998.3$ kg/m³, specific heat ration $\gamma = C_p/C_v = 1.01$, specific heat (constant pressure) $C_p = 75.327$ KJ/mol/K, specific heat (constant volume) $C_v = 74.53$ KJ/mol/K, Prandtl number Pr = 7.01 and dynamic viscosity $\eta = 1.002 \ 10^{-3}$ kg/m/s. We use an envelope given by Equation (25) with $\epsilon = 0.01$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 4.39 \times 10^7$ Pa) and f = 1300 Hz. In this case, the background amplitude of the dark soliton is weakly attenuated, and the numerical results (blue lines) are in good agreement with the corresponding analytical ones (green dashed lines) in Figure 5, Equation (31).



Figure 5. (color online) Effects of radiation and viscothermal losses on black soliton propagation in an water-filled acoustic metamaterial with d = 0.05 m, r = 0.025 m, $r_H = 0.002$ m, $l_H = 0.002$ m, calculated at (**a**) t = 0.56 s; (**b**) t = 0.58 s and (**c**) t = 0.6 s, respectively. A numerical dissipative black soliton (blue line) is obtained by integrating the lattice model Equation (3) with the driver corresponding to $\epsilon = 0.01$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 4.39 \times 10^7$ Pa) and f = 1300 Hz. Green dashed line is the corresponding analytical envelope results, Equation (33). The light green thick line denotes the nonlinear length L_{NL} and dispersion length L_{D} , with $L_{NL} = L_D = 36.54$ m.

Below, we adopt the parameters corresponding to the water-filled acoustic metamaterial.

3.3. Gray Solitons

Apart from the stationary black soliton (characterized by a zero density minimum), there exists the moving gray soliton solution, with $\phi \neq 0$ (with a nonzero density minimum). The gray soliton solution of Equation (6) reads:

$$P(\chi,\tau) \approx 2\eta_0 b_0 \tanh\left[\epsilon\eta_0 b_0 \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \left(\tau - k_r'\chi\right) - \epsilon^2 a_0 b_0 q \eta_0^2 \chi\right] \\ \times \cos\left(\omega\tau - k_r \chi - \epsilon^2 q \eta_0^2 \chi\right) \\ - 2\eta_0 a_0 \sin\left(\omega\tau - k_r \chi - \epsilon^2 q \eta_0^2 \chi\right)$$
(34)

and is a function of parameters χ and τ . In terms of the original coordinates x and t, the approximate gray soliton solution for the pressure p(x, t) is given by:

$$p(x,t) \approx 2\epsilon \eta_0 P_0 b_0$$

$$\times \tanh\left[\epsilon \eta_0 b_0 \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \omega_B \left(t - \frac{k_r'}{c_0} x\right) - \epsilon^2 a_0 b_0 q \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B}{c_0} x\right]$$

$$\times \cos\left(\omega \omega_B t - \frac{k_r \omega_B}{c_0} x - q \epsilon^2 \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B}{c_0} x\right)$$

$$- 2\epsilon \eta_0 P_0 a_0 \sin\left(\omega \omega_B t - \frac{k_r \omega_B}{c_0} x - q \epsilon^2 \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B}{c_0} x\right).$$
(35)

Here, the velocity v_g is given by:

$$v_g = \left(\frac{k_r'}{c_0} + \frac{\epsilon a_0 \eta_0 \sqrt{|qk_r''|}}{c_0}\right)^{-1}$$
(36)

and is the sum of the background velocity, $v_b = c_0/k'_r$, controlled by the carrier frequency, and the gray soliton's velocity, $v_s = c_0/(\epsilon a_0 \eta_0 \sqrt{|qk''_r|})$, which depends on $a_0 = \sin \phi$ and η_0 .

We now focus on the numerical study of the evolution of the gray soliton in the lattice. We start with the lossless case, by integrating Equation (3) with a driver of the form given by Equation (35) at x = 0, with $\epsilon = 0.01$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 4.39 \times 10^7$ Pa) and f = 1300 Hz. The phase angle in the simulations is chosen as $\phi = \pi/4$, $\phi = \pi/8$ and $\phi = -\pi/8$ —see, respectively, Figure 6a–f. We observe that the gray solitons propagate at a constant velocity with a constant amplitude, width and minimum intensity, as shown in the contour plot in Figure 6a,c,e. The numerical spatial profiles calculated at t = 0.35 s (blue lines) are in good agreement with the corresponding analytical ones, Equation (35) (green dashed lines), as shown in Figure 6b,d,f.



Figure 6. (color online) (**a**) a contour plot of gray soliton of the form of Equation (35), obtained by numerically integrating the lossless lattice model of Equation (3) ($R_{\omega} = 0, R_H = 0$), with $\phi = \pi/4$, $\epsilon = 0.01$ ($2\epsilon\eta P_0 = 4.39 \times 10^7$ Pa) and f = 1300 Hz; (**b**) numerical spatial profile of gray soliton calculated at t = 0.58 s with $\phi = \pi/4$ (blue line); (**c**) contour plot of gray soliton with $\phi = \pi/8$; (**d**) numerical spatial profile of gray soliton calculated at t = 0.58 s with $\phi = -\pi/8$; (**f**) numerical spatial profile of gray soliton calculated at t = 0.58 s with $\phi = -\pi/8$; (**f**) numerical spatial profile of gray soliton calculated at t = 0.58 s with $\phi = -\pi/8$ (blue line). Black dashed lines in (**a**,**c**,**e**), presenting the information about the velocity of the gray solitons, are the corresponding analytical results, Equation (36). Green dashed lines in (**b**,**d**,**f**) stand for the corresponding analytical envelopes of gray solitons.

The phase angle ϕ determines the minimum intensity and the velocity of the gray soliton \vec{v}_{gray} , as well as the group velocity, $v_g = v_b + v_s$. Upon changing ϕ (from $\phi = \pi/4$ to $\phi = \pi/8$), we observe that the group velocity and the minimum intensity decrease (see Figure 6b,d). The change of sign of ϕ (from $\phi = \pi/8$ to $\phi = -\pi/8$) does not affect the minimum intensity of the gray soliton, as shown in Figure 6d,f. For $\phi = -\pi/8$, the gray soliton moves in a direction opposite to that of the background (see Equation (36)). Our analytical prediction of Equation (36), illustrated by black dashed lines in Figure 6a,c,e, is in full agreement with the numerical results.

3.4. Gray Solitons under Dissipation

According to the perturbation theory for dark solitons [33], the gray soliton of Equation (18) evolves as:

$$A = \eta_0 \left\{ b \tanh \left[\eta_0 b \left(\sqrt{\left| \frac{q}{k_r''} \right|} \tilde{\tau}_1 - a q \eta_0 \chi_2 - \sqrt{\left| \frac{q}{k_r''} \right|} t_0 \right) \right] + ia \right\} e^{-iq \eta_0^2 \chi_2 - i\sigma_0},$$
(37)

where

$$a = a_0 \exp(-\Lambda \chi_2), \tag{38}$$

$$b = b_0 \exp(-\Lambda \chi_2). \tag{39}$$

The background amplitude $A = \eta_0 \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = \eta_0 \exp(-\Lambda \chi_2)$ decays exponentially with the same rate as in the black soliton case, Equation (30). The first-order correction term is given by:

$$t_0 = \frac{a_0}{4b_0\eta_0} \exp(-\Lambda\chi_2) + \frac{3a_0}{4b_0\eta_0} \exp(\Lambda\chi_2) - \frac{a_0}{b_0\eta_0},$$
(40)

and σ_0 is an extra phase induced by the perturbation. In the original coordinates, *x* and *t*, the approximate form of the gray soliton reads:

$$p(x,t) \approx 2\epsilon \eta_0 P_0 b_0 e^{\frac{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \omega_B x}{c_0} x}$$

$$\times \tanh\left\{\epsilon \eta_0 b_0 e^{\frac{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \omega_B x}{c_0} x} \sqrt{\left|\frac{q}{k_r''}\right|} \omega_B \left[t - \frac{k_r'}{c_0} x\right]\right.$$

$$\left. -\epsilon a_0 e^{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B x}{c_0} x} \eta_0 \frac{\sqrt{\left|qk_r''\right|}}{c_0} x$$

$$\left. -\frac{1}{\epsilon \omega_B} \left(\frac{a_0}{4b_0 \eta_0} e^{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B x}{c_0} x} + \frac{3a_0}{4b_0 \eta_0} e^{\Lambda \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B x}{c_0} x} - \frac{a_0}{b_0 \eta_0}\right)\right]\right\}$$

$$\times \cos\left(\omega \omega_B t - \frac{k_r \omega_B x}{c_0} x - q \epsilon^2 \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B x}{c_0} x - \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B }{c_0} \sigma_0\right)$$

$$\left. - 2\epsilon \eta_0 P_0 a_0 e^{\frac{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \omega_B x}{c_0} x} - q \epsilon^2 \eta_0^2 \frac{\omega_B x}{c_0} x - \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B }{c_0} \sigma_0\right),$$

$$(41)$$

with the velocity

$$v_g = \left(\frac{k_r'}{c_0} + \epsilon a_0 e^{-\Lambda \epsilon^2 \frac{\omega_B}{c_0} x} \eta_0 \frac{\sqrt{|qk_r''|}}{c_0}\right)^{-1}.$$
(42)

During gray soliton propagation, both the background amplitude and the minimum intensity decrease exponentially due to losses, while the width increases (see Equation (41)).



Figure 7. (color online) (**a**) numerical spatial profile of dissipative gray soliton calculated at t = 0.58 s with $\phi = \pi/8$ (blue line). Green dashed lines are the corresponding analytical envelope, Equation (41); (**b**) the corresponding space-time diagram of dissipative gray soliton (blue circles). The slope of the black line shows the analytical velocity of dissipative gray solitons, Equation (42).

4. Conclusions

In conclusion, we have theoretically and numerically studied envelope dark (black and gray) solitons in 1D nonlinear acoustic metamaterial composed of a waveguide with a periodic array of side holes, featuring viscothermal and radiation losses. Based on the electro-acoustic analogy and transmission line approach, we derived a nonlinear lattice model. We studied the linear dispersion relation of our system, which was found to be in good agreement with the one obtained by using the transfer matrix method. We used a multiple scale perturbation method to analytically treat the problem, and derived an effective NLS model describing the evolution of the pressure. We predicted the existence of dark solitons and studied analytically their evolution in the presence of losses. We investigated the interplay between dissipation, nonlinearity and dispersion, as described by pertinent characteristic length scales, in the case of a water-filled acoustic metamaterial with a small radius of side holes. The numerical results were found to be in good agreement with the analytical predictions.

Our results and methodology pave the way for studies on nonlinear phenomena in double-negative acoustic metamaterials, e.g., waveguides periodically loaded with side holes and clamped elastic plates. Our works will also help in designing new nonlinear acoustic metamaterials supporting bright, gap, black and grey solitons. According to the properties of the solitons, i.e., propagation with no distortion of high amplitude waves, our studies could also pave the way to designing new devices in medical applications or to designing non destructive sensors.

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, V.R.-G., G.T., O.R., V.A. and D.J.F.; Methodology, J.Z., V.R.-G., G.T., O.R., V.A. and D.J.F.; Software, J.Z.; Investigation, J.Z., V.R.-G., G.T., O.R., V.A. and D.J.F.; Original Draft Preparation, J.Z.; Writing Review and Editing, J.Z., V.R.-G., G.T., O.R., V.A. and D.J.F.; Supervision, V.R.-G., G.T. and O.R.

Funding: D.J.F. also acknowledges that this work was made possible by NPRP Grant No. (9-329-1-067) from the Qatar National Research Fund (a member of the Qatar Foundation). The findings achieved herein are solely the responsibility of the author D.J.F.

Acknowledgments: Dimitrios J. Frantzeskakis (D.J.F.) acknowledges the warm hospitality at Laboratoire d'Acoustique de l'Université du Maine (LAUM), Le Mans, where most of his work was carried out.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest. The founding sponsors had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, and in the decision to publish the results.

Appendix A. Length Correction of the Side Holes

For $kr_H \ll 1$, the length corrections due to the radiation inside the waveguide and to the outer environment are

$$\Delta l_{Hi} = 0.82(1 - 0.235\epsilon_n - 1.32\epsilon_n^2 + 1.54\epsilon_n^3 - 0.86\epsilon_n^4)r_H$$
(A1)

and

$$\Delta l_{Ho} = (0.82 - 0.47^{0.8} \epsilon_n) r_H, \tag{A2}$$

respectively, with $\epsilon_n = r_H/r$.

Appendix B. Electro-Acoustic Analogue Modeling

Here, we derive the evolution equation for the pressure in the *n*th cell of the lattice as follows. Applying Kirchoff's voltage law for two successive cells yields

$$p_{n-1} - p_n = L_\omega \frac{d}{dt} u_n + R_\omega u_n, \tag{A3}$$

$$p_n - p_{n+1} = L_\omega \frac{d}{dt} u_{n+1} + R_\omega u_{n+1}.$$
 (A4)

Subtracting the two equations above, we obtain the differential-difference equation (DDE),

$$\hat{\delta}^2 p_n = \left(L_\omega \frac{d}{dt} + R_\omega \right) \left(u_n - u_{n+1} \right),\tag{A5}$$

where $\hat{\delta}^2 p_n \equiv p_{n+1} - 2p_n + p_{n-1}$. Then, Kirchhoff's current law yields

$$u_n - u_{n+1} = C_\omega \frac{d}{dt} p_n + u_H,\tag{A6}$$

where u_H is the current through $L_H R_H$ branch. Then, using the auxiliary Kirochoff's voltage law in the output loop of the unit-cell circuit, namely,

$$u_H = \hat{Q}^{-1} p_n, \quad \hat{Q} = L_H \frac{d}{dt} + R_H.$$
 (A7)

Substituting Equations (A6) and (A7) into Equation (A5) and recalling that the capacitance C_{ω} depends on the pressure, we obtain the evolution equation for the pressure, Equation (3).

Appendix C. Hierarchy of Equations in the Multiple Scale Perturbation Method

Here are the hierarchy of equations at various orders in ϵ ,

$$O(\epsilon^0): L_0 p_0 = 0, \tag{A8}$$

$$O(\epsilon^1): \widehat{L}_0 p_1 + \widehat{L}_1 p_0 = \widehat{N}_0 \left[p_0^2 \right], \tag{A9}$$

$$O(\epsilon^2): \hat{L}_0 p_2 + \hat{L}_1 p_1 + \hat{L}_2 p_0 = \hat{N}_0 \left[2p_0 p_1\right] + \hat{N}_1 \left[p_0^2\right],$$
(A10)

where linear operators \hat{L}_0 , \hat{L}_1 and \hat{L}_2 , as well as the nonlinear operators \hat{N}_0 , \hat{N}_1 are given by

$$\widehat{L}_{0} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{0}} \left(-\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0}^{2}} - \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{4}} + m^{2} \right),$$
(A11)

$$\begin{split} \widehat{L}_{1} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{1}} \left(-\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0}^{2}} - \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{4}} + m^{2} \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{0}} \left(-2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0} \partial \chi_{1}} + 2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0} \partial \tau_{1}} - 4 \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{3} \partial \chi_{1}} \right), \end{split}$$
(A12)
$$\widehat{L}_{2} &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{2}} + \gamma_{H}^{'} \right) \left(-\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0}^{2}} - \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{4}} \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{1}} \left(-2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0} \partial \chi_{1}} + 2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0} \partial \tau_{1}} - 4 \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{3} \partial \chi_{1}} \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{0}} \left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{1}^{2}} + 2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \tau_{0} \partial \tau_{2}} - \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{1}^{2}} - 2 \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \chi_{0} \partial \chi_{2}} \\ &- 6 \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{2} \partial \chi_{1}^{2}} - 4 \zeta \frac{\partial^{4}}{\partial \chi_{0}^{3} \partial \chi_{2}} \right) + m^{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau_{2}}, \end{aligned}$$
(A13)
$$\widehat{N}_{0} &= \beta_{0} \frac{\partial^{3}}{\partial \tau_{0}^{3}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\widehat{N}_1 = 3\beta_0 \frac{\partial^3}{\partial \tau_0^2 \partial \tau_1}.$$
(A15)

References

- 1. Kivshar, Y.S.; Luther-Davies, B. Dark optical solitons: Physics and applications. *Phys. Rep.* **1998**, *298*, 81–197. [CrossRef]
- 2. Frantzeskakis, D.J. Dark solitons in atomic Bose–Einstein condensates: From theory to experiments. *J. Phys. A Math. Theor.* **2010**, *43*, 213001. [CrossRef]
- 3. Denardo, B.; Galvin, B.; Greenfield, A.; Larraza, A.; Putterman, S.; Wright, W. Observations of localized structures in nonlinear lattices: Domain walls and kinks. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **1992**, *68*, 1730. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 4. Chen, M.; Tsankov, M.A.; Nash, J.M.; Patton, C.E. Microwave magnetic-envelope dark solitons in yttrium iron garnet thin films. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **1993**, *70*, 1707. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 5. Heidemann, R.; Zhdanov, S.; Sütterlin, R.; Thomas, H.M.; Morfill, G.E. Dissipative dark soliton in a complex plasma. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2009**, *102*, 135002. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Chabchoub, A.; Kimmoun, O.; Branger, H.; Hoffmann, N.; Proment, D.; Onorato, M.; Akhmediev, N. Experimental observation of dark solitons on the surface of water. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2013, 110, 124101. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- Sánchez-Morcillo, V.J.; Pérez-Arjona, I.; Romero-García, V.; Tournat, V.; Gusev, V.E. Second-harmonic generation for dispersive elastic waves in a discrete granular chain. *Phys. Rev. E* 2013, *88*, 043203. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 8. Jiménez, N.; Mehrem, A.; Picó, R.; García-Raffi, L.M.; Sánchez-Morcillo, V.J. Nonlinear propagation and control of acoustic waves in phononic superlattices. *CR PHYS* **2016**, *17*, 543–554. [CrossRef]

16 of 18

- 9. Zhang, J.; Romero-García, V.; Theocharis, G.; Richoux, O.; Achilleos, V.; Frantzeskakis, D.J. Second-Harmonic Generation in Membrane-Type Nonlinear Acoustic Metamaterials. *Crystals* **2016**, *6* 86. [CrossRef]
- 10. Hamilton, M.; Blackstock, D.T. Nonlinear Acoustics; Academic Press: San Diego, CA, USA, 1998.
- 11. Averkiou, M.A.; Lee, Y.S.; Hamilton, M.F. Self demodulation of amplitude and frequency modulated pulses in a thermoviscous fluid. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* **1993**, *94*, 2876–2883. [CrossRef]
- 12. Achilleos, V.; Richoux, O.; Theocharis, G.; Frantzeskakis, D.J. Acoustic solitons in waveguides with Helmholtz resonators: Transmission line approach. *Phys. Rev. E* 2015, *91*, 023204. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 13. Sugimoto, N.; Masuda, M.; Ohno, J.; Motoi, D. Experimental demonstration of generation and propagation of acoustic solitary waves in an air-filled tube. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **1999**, *83*, 4053. [CrossRef]
- 14. Zhang, J.; Romero-García, V.; Theocharis, G.; Richoux, O.; Achilleos, V.; Frantzeskakis, D.J. Bright and Gap Solitons in Membrane-Type Acoustic Metamaterials. *Phys. Rev. E* 2017, *96*, 022214. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 15. Deng, B.; Raney, J.R.; Tournat, V.; Bertoldi, K. Elastic Vector Solitons in Soft Architected Materials. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2017**, *118*, 204102 [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 16. Singhal, T.; Kim, E.; Kim, T.; Yang, J. Weak bond detection in composites using highly nonlinear solitary waves. *Smart Mater. Struct.* **2017**, *26*, 055011. [CrossRef]
- 17. Liu, Z.; Zhang, X.; Mao, Y.; Zhu, Y.Y.; Yang, Z.; Chan, C.T.; Sheng, P. Locally resonant sonic materials. *Science* **2000**, *289*, 1734–1736. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 18. Fang, N.; Xi, D.; Xu, J.; Ambati, M.; Srituravanich, W.; Sun, C.; Zhang, X. Ultrasonic metamaterials with negative modulus. *Nat. Mater.* **2006**, *5*, 452. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 19. Sugimoto, N.; Horioka, T. Dispersion characteristics of sound waves in a tunnel with an array of Helmholtz resonators. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* **1995**, *97*, 1446–1459. [CrossRef]
- 20. Bradly, C.E. Time harmonic acoustic Bloch wave propagation in periodic waveguides. Part I. Theory. J. Acoust. Soc. Am. **1994**, *96*, 1844–1853. [CrossRef]
- 21. Ma, G.; Yang, M.; Xiao, S.; Yang, Z.; Sheng, P. Acoustic metasurface with hybrid resonances. *Nat. Mater.* **2014**, *13*, 873–878. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 22. Romero-García, V.; Theocharis, G.; Richoux, O.; Merkel, A.; Tournat, V.; Pagneux, V. Perfect and broadband acoustic absorption by critically coupled sub-wavelength resonators. *Sci. Rep.* **2016**, *6*, 19519. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 23. Solymar, L.; Shamonina, E. Waves in Metamaterials; Oxford University Press: New York, NY, USA, 2009.
- 24. Henríquez, V.C.; García-Chocano, V.M.; Sánchez-Dehesa, J. Viscothermal Losses in Double-Negative Acoustic Metamaterials. *Phys. Rev. Appl.* **2017**, *8*, 014029. [CrossRef]
- 25. Zwikker, C.; Kosten, C.W. Sound Absorbing Materials; Elsevier: Amsterdam, The Netherland, 1949.
- 26. Theocharis, G.; Richoux, O.; García, V.R.; Merkel, A.; Tournat, V. Limits of slow sound propagation and transparency in lossy, locally resonant periodic structures. *New J. Phys.* **2014**, *16*, 093017. [CrossRef]
- 27. Bradley, C.E. Time harmonic acoustic Bloch wave propagation in periodic waveguides. Part II. Experiment. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* **1994**, *96*, 1854–1862. [CrossRef]
- 28. Bongard, F.; Lissek, H.; Mosig, J.R. Acoustic transmission line metamaterial with negative/zero/positive refractive index. *Phys. Rev. B* **2010**, *82*, 094306. [CrossRef]
- 29. Park, C.M.; Park, J.J.; Lee, S.H.; Seo, Y.M.; Kim, C.K.; Lee, S.H. Amplification of acoustic evanescent waves using metamaterial slabs. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2011**, 107, 194301. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 30. Lee, K.J.B.; Jung, M.K.; Lee, S.H. Highly tunable acoustic metamaterials based on a resonant tubular array. *Phys. Rev. B* **2012**, *86*, 184302. [CrossRef]
- 31. Fleury, R.; Alú, A. Extraordinary sound transmission through density-near-zero ultranarrow channels. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2013**, *111*, 055501. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 32. Rossing, T.D.; Fletcher, N.H. Principles of Vibration and Sound; Springer: New York, NY, USA, 1995.
- 33. Ablowitz, M.J.; Nixon, S.D.; Horikis, T.P.; Frantzeskakis, D.J. Perturbations of dark solitons. *Proc. R. Soc. A* **2011**, 467, 2597. [CrossRef]
- 34. Atig, M.; Dalmont, J.P.; Gilbert, J. Termination impedance of open-ended cylindrical tubes at high sound pressure level. *CR MECANIQUE* **2004**, *332*, 299–304. [CrossRef]
- 35. Buick, J.M.; Atig, M.; Skulina, D.J.; Campbell, D.M.; Dalmont, J.P.; Gilbert, J. Investigation of non-linear acoustic losses at the open end of a tube. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* **2011**, 129, 1261–1272. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- 36. Kalozoumis, P.A.; Richoux, O.; Diakonos, F.K.; Theocharis, G.; Schmelcher, P. Invariant currents in lossy acoustic waveguides with complete local symmetry. *Phys. Rev. B* **2015**, *92*, 014303. [CrossRef]

- 37. Dubos, V.; Kergomard, J.; Keefe, D.; Dalmont, J.-P.; Khettabi, A.; Nederveen, K. Theory of sound propagation in a duct with a branched tube using modal decomposition. *Acta Acust. United Acust.* **1999**, *85*, 153–169.
- 38. Dalmont, J.-P.; Nederveen, C.J.; Joly, N. Radiation impedance of tubes with different flanges: Numerical and experimental investigations. *J. Sound Vib.* **2001**, 244, 505–534. [CrossRef]
- 39. Remoissenet, M. Waves Called Solitons; Springer: Berlin, Germany, 1999.
- 40. Ablowitz, M.J. Nonlinear Dispersive Waves, Asymptotic Analysis and Solitons; Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, UK, 2011.



 \odot 2018 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).