

ANALYTICAL APPROXIMATIONS OF THE NONLINEAR  
SCHRÖDINGER EQUATION: APPLICATIONS TO OPTICAL  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION THEORY

**M. Secondini**, D. Marsella, and E. Forestieri  
TeCIP Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna  
Via G. Moruzzi 1, Pisa, Italy  
marco.secondini@sssup.it

The propagation of light in fiber-optic links is governed by the nonlinear Schrödinger equation with variable coefficients. Efficient numerical integration algorithms and analytical models for the evolution of the statistical properties of a stochastic signal are the main ingredients to solve several fundamental problems in the field of optical communication and information theory [1, 2].

Here, we introduce some approximated solutions of the equation and discuss their accuracy, complexity, and possible applications. In particular, as a working example, we consider the evaluation of the maximum information rate that can be reliably transmitted through a nonlinear fiber-optic channel [1, 3].

## References

- [1] P. P. Mitra, J. B. Stark, *Nonlinear limits to the information capacity of optical fiber communications*, Nature, 411 (2000), pp. 1027–1030.
- [2] M. Secondini, E. Forestieri, *The nonlinear Schrödinger equation in fiber-optic systems*, Rivista di Matematica dell'Università di Parma, 8 (2008), pp. 69–97.
- [3] M. Secondini, E. Forestieri, *Analytical fiber-optic channel model in the presence of cross-phase modulation*, IEEE Photon. Technol. Lett., 22 (2012), pp. 2016–2019.