

Stability of Gaussian-type light bullets in the cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinear media with different diffractions under \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials

Hai-Ping Zhu · Zhen-Huan Pan

Received: 10 January 2017 / Accepted: 21 April 2017 / Published online: 5 May 2017
© Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2017

Abstract From the governing equation $-(3 + 1)$ -dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation with cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities, different diffractions and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials, we obtain two kinds of analytical Gaussian-type light bullet solutions. The septimal nonlinear term has a strong impact on the formation of light bullets. The eigenvalue method and direct numerical simulation to analytical solutions imply that stable and unstable evolution of light bullets against white noise attributes to the coaction of cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities, dispersion, different diffractions and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential.

Keywords Cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearity · Different diffractions · \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential · Light bullet · Stability

1 Introduction

As one of dispersive nonlinear evolutionary equations [1–3], the nonlinear Schrödinger equation (NLSE) stands out as a prototypical and essential model to describe features of numerous fields in mathematical physics [4–7]. Based on NLSE, spatiotemporal opti-

cal similaritons in dual-core waveguide with an external source were studied [8]. In optics, high power of incident light makes the medium exhibit complicated nonlinearities. It is most common that Kerr nonlinearity compensates dispersion/diffraction to induce self-trapped soliton [9, 10]. The competition between focusing cubic and defocusing quintic nonlinearities supports stable soliton solution [11]. Higher-order nonlinearities lead to unstable soliton propagation in $(1 + 1)$ -dimension [12]. In previous literatures [13, 14], higher-order dissipative terms are introduced to suppress the collapse.

When higher-order nonlinearity is considered, spatial solitons can also propagate stably. Recently, dissipative term is considered to induce $(2 + 1)$ -dimensional bright spatial solitons in metal colloids with focusing quintic and defocusing septimal nonlinearities [15]. More recently, parity-time (\mathcal{PT}) symmetric potentials, which are introduced from quantum mechanics [16], are used to produce stable localized spatial solitons to interplay with power-law nonlinearity [17]. Light bullet in \mathcal{PT} -potentials has also been discussed [18]. Light bullet in the media with same diffraction and \mathcal{PT} -potentials have also been studied [19]. Sech-type and Gaussian-type light bullet solutions to the generalized $(3 + 1)$ -dimensional cubic-quintic NLSE in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials were reported [20]. Therefore, \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials become a good tool to stabilize spatial and spatiotemporal solitons [17–20]. Moreover, controllable behaviors of rogue waves in \mathcal{PT} -potentials have also extensively discussed [21–23].

H.-P. Zhu (✉)
College of Ecology, Lishui University, Lishui 323000,
Zhejiang, People's Republic of China
e-mail: zhp63521@126.com

Z.-H. Pan
College of Engineering and Design, Lishui University, Lishui
323000, Zhejiang, People's Republic of China

More recently, the stability of (1 + 1)-dimensional sech-type solitons is studied with the consequence of cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities and diffraction [24]. However, in this work [24], the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials have not been studied. Considering that Gaussian shape is very fundamental shape of pulse in the optical experiment, in this paper, we study the stability of Gaussian-type light bullets (spatiotemporal solitons) under the interplay among cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearity, dispersion, different diffractions and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials based on the following NLSE

$$iu_z + \beta_1 u_{xx} + \beta_2 u_{yy} + \beta_3 u_{tt} + \gamma_3 |u|^2 u + \gamma_5 |u|^4 u + \gamma_7 |u|^6 u + [v(x, y, t) + iw(x, y, t)]u = 0, \tag{1}$$

which describes the propagation of an optical pulse in a nonlinear medium of non-Kerr index which is perturbed by a complex profile $n = n_0[1 + \delta n_R(x, y, t) + i\delta n_I(x, y, t)]$ with complex envelope of the electrical field $u(z, x, y, t)$ and transverse spatial coordinates x, y and the retarded time t . The second to fourth terms describe different diffractions in (x, y) -directions and dispersion, the fifth to seventh terms denote the cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities. Last two terms represent the complex \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential with odd function of the real component $v(x, y, t) \equiv k_0^2 w_0^2 \delta n_R(x, y, t)$ describing the index guiding and even function of imaginary component $w(x, y, t) \equiv k_0^2 w_0^2 \delta n_I(x, y, t)$ describing the gain/loss distribution. In semiconductor optical amplifiers, the gain/loss levels are approximate to $\pm 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ at wavelengths of $\approx 1 \mu\text{m}$, which should be sufficient to observe \mathcal{PT} behavior [25].

When $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3$, Eq. (1) is the model in Ref. [19], where sech-type light bullet solutions were studied. If $\gamma_7 = 0$, higher-dimensional localized mode families were studied in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials with competing nonlinearities and same values of dispersion and diffractions [26]. If the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials disappear with $v(x, y, t) = w(x, y, t) = 0$ and $\beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$, Eq. (1) is the model in Ref. [24].

2 Analytical light bullet solutions

Assuming analytical solutions of Eq. (1) in the form $u(z, x, y, t) = \Phi(x, y, t) \exp[i\lambda z + i\Theta(x, y, t)]$, Eq. (1) is separated into real and imaginary parts as

$$\beta_1 \left[\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2} - \Phi \left(\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right] + \beta_2 \left[\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2} - \Phi \left(\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] + \beta_3 \left[\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial t^2} - \Phi \left(\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial t} \right)^2 \right] + [v(x, y, t) - \lambda] \Phi + \gamma_3 \Phi^3 + \gamma_5 \Phi^5 + \gamma_7 \Phi^7 = 0, \tag{2}$$

$$\beta_1 \left(\Phi \frac{\partial^2 \Theta}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} \right) + \beta_2 \left(\Phi \frac{\partial^2 \Theta}{\partial y^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial y} \right) + \beta_3 \left(\Phi \frac{\partial^2 \Theta}{\partial t^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial t} \right) + w(x, y, t) \Phi = 0. \tag{3}$$

Under two different \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials, we focus on two families of Gaussian-type light bullet solutions of Eq. (1) because Gaussian shape is very fundamental shape of pulse in the optical experiment.

2.1 Family 1

If the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential has the form

$$v(x, y, t) = -4 \left(\beta_1 b_1^4 x^2 + \beta_2 b_2^4 y^2 + \beta_3 b_3^4 t^2 \right) + \frac{w_1^2}{36 \beta_1 b_1^4} e^{-2b_1^2 x^2} + \frac{w_2^2}{36 \beta_2 b_2^4} e^{-2b_2^2 y^2} + \frac{w_3^2}{36 \beta_3 b_3^4} e^{-2b_3^2 t^2} - \gamma_3 \left(\frac{-v_1}{\gamma_7} \right)^{1/3} e^{-2b_1^2 x^2 - 2b_2^2 y^2 - 2b_3^2 t^2} - \gamma_5 \left(\frac{-v_1}{\gamma_7} \right)^{2/3} e^{-4b_1^2 x^2 - 4b_2^2 y^2 - 4b_3^2 t^2} + v_1 e^{-6b_1^2 x^2 - 6b_2^2 y^2 - 6b_3^2 t^2}, \tag{4}$$

$$w(x, y, t) = w_1 x e^{-b_1^2 x^2} + w_2 y e^{-b_2^2 y^2} + w_3 t e^{-b_3^2 t^2}, \tag{5}$$

with arbitrary constants $v_1, w_1, w_2, w_3, b_1, b_2$ and b_3 , and considering the localization of solution as $\{x, y, t\} \rightarrow \pm\infty$, Eq. (1) has solution

$$u(z, x, y, t) = \left(-\frac{v_1}{\gamma_7} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} \exp \left(-b_1^2 x^2 - b_2^2 y^2 - b_3^2 t^2 \right) \exp[i\psi(z, x, y, t)], \tag{6}$$

where $\psi(z, x, y, t) = -2(\beta_1 b_1^2 + \beta_2 b_2^2 + \beta_3 b_3^2)z + \frac{w_1 \sqrt{\pi}}{12 \beta_1 b_1^3} \text{erf}(b_1 x) + \frac{w_2 \sqrt{\pi}}{12 \beta_2 b_2^3} \text{erf}(b_2 y) + \frac{w_3 \sqrt{\pi}}{12 \beta_3 b_3^3} \text{erf}(b_3 t)$ with the error function $\text{erf}(X) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^X e^{-s^2} ds$ [27].

2.2 Family 2

If the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential reads

$$\begin{aligned}
 v(x, y, t) = & -\frac{4}{9} (\beta_1 b_1^4 x^2 + \beta_2 b_2^4 y^2 + \beta_3 b_3^4 t^2) \\
 & + \frac{9w_1^2}{100\beta_1 b_1^4} e^{-2b_1^2 x^2} + \frac{9w_2^2}{100\beta_2 b_2^4} e^{-2b_2^2 y^2} \\
 & + \frac{9w_3^2}{100\beta_3 b_3^4} e^{-2b_3^2 t^2} + v_2 e^{-2b_1^2 x^2 - 2b_2^2 y^2 - 2b_3^2 t^2} \\
 & - \gamma_3 \left(\frac{-v_2}{\gamma_7} \right)^{1/3} e^{-\frac{2}{3}(b_1^2 x^2 + b_2^2 y^2 + b_3^2 t^2)} \\
 & - \gamma_5 \left(\frac{-v_2}{\gamma_7} \right)^{2/3} e^{-\frac{4}{3}(b_1^2 x^2 + b_2^2 y^2 + b_3^2 t^2)}, \tag{7}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$w(x, y, t) = w_1 x e^{-b_1^2 x^2} + w_2 y e^{-b_2^2 y^2} + w_3 t e^{-b_3^2 t^2}, \tag{8}$$

with arbitrary constants $v_2, w_1, w_2, w_3, b_1, b_2$ and b_3 , and considering the localization of solution as $\{x, y, t\} \rightarrow \pm\infty$, solution of Eq. (1) reads

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(z, x, y, t) = & \left[\left(\frac{-v_2}{\gamma_7} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-b_1^2 x^2 - b_2^2 y^2 \right. \right. \\
 & \left. \left. - b_3^2 t^2 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} \exp[i\Psi(z, x, y, t)], \tag{9}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\Psi(z, x, y, t) = -\frac{2}{3}(\beta_1 b_1^2 + \beta_2 b_2^2 + \beta_3 b_3^2)z + \frac{3w_1\sqrt{\pi}}{20\beta_1 b_1^3} \text{erf}(b_1 x) + \frac{3w_2\sqrt{\pi}}{20\beta_2 b_2^3} \text{erf}(b_2 y) + \frac{3w_3\sqrt{\pi}}{20\beta_3 b_3^3} \text{erf}(b_3 t)$.

3 Stability of light bullets from the eigenvalue method

We use the eigenvalue method to study the linear stability of analytical solutions (6) and (9) of Eq. (1). The perturbed solution reads $u(z, x, y, t) = \{u_0(x, y, t) + \varepsilon[R(x, y, t) + I(x, y, t)] \exp(i\eta z)\} \exp(i\lambda z)$, where ε is an infinitesimal amplitude, $u_0(x, y, t)$ is an analytical solution (eigenmode) of Eq. (1), $R(x, y, t)$ and $I(x, y, t)$ are the real and imaginary parts of perturbation eigenfunctions, which may grow upon propagation with the perturbation growth rate η . If η exists nonzero imaginary parts, the perturbed solution is linearly unstable, otherwise solution becomes stable.

Inserting the perturbed solution into Eq. (1) and linearizing it around the first-order term of ε (the unperturbed one), the eigenvalue problem reads

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_+ & 0 \\ 0 & L_- \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R \\ I \end{pmatrix} = \eta \begin{pmatrix} I \\ R \end{pmatrix}, \tag{10}$$

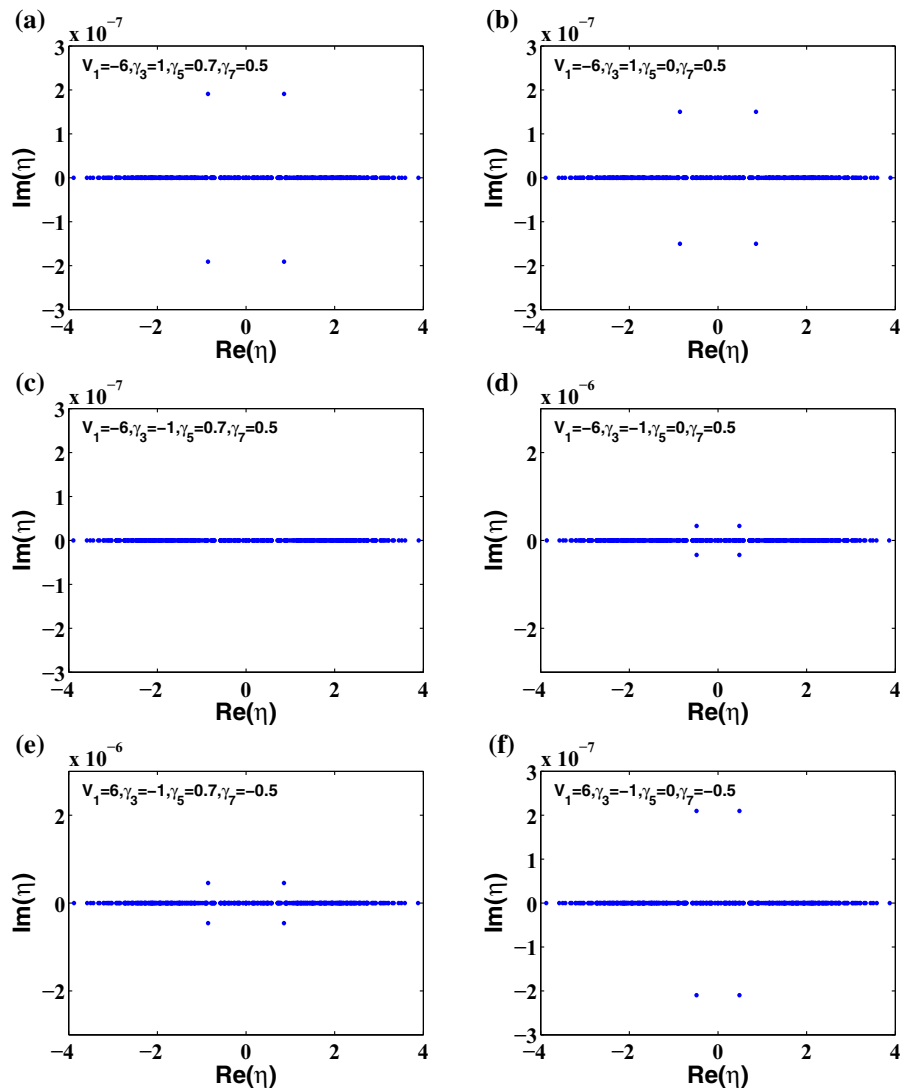
where η is an eigenvalue, R and I are eigenfunctions with Hermitian operators $L_{\pm} = -\beta_1 \partial_x^2 - \beta_2 \partial_y^2 - \beta_3 \partial_t^2 - \sigma_{\pm} \gamma_3 u_0^2(x, y, t) - \mu_{\pm} \gamma_5 u_0^4(x, y, t) - v_{\pm} \gamma_7 u_0^6(x, y, t) - (v + iw) + \eta$ with $\sigma_+ = 3, \sigma_- = 1, \mu_+ = 5, \mu_- = 1$ and $v_+ = 7, v_- = 1$.

From the eigenvalue spectra of the above problem (10), we know that the eigenvalue η of solution (6) with (4) and (5) is real value only in the medium of focusing quintic and septimal nonlinearities with defocusing cubic nonlinearity [See Fig. 1(c)] when all parameters are chosen as those in figure; thus, solution (6) is stable in this medium, where values of w_1, w_2 and w_3 are smaller than the threshold values when parameters $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \gamma_3, \gamma_5$ and γ_7 are chosen as some fixed values. For example, if parameters are chosen as $\beta_1 = 0.5, \beta_2 = 0.46, \beta_3 = 0.45, b_1 = 0.5, b_2 = 0.48, b_3 = 0.47$, the threshold values are close to $w_1 \sim 0.3, w_2 \sim 0.21, w_3 \sim 0.21$. If values of w_1, w_2 and w_3 are chosen as those bigger than these threshold values, analytical solution (6) evolves unstably, however, smaller than these threshold values, analytical solution (6) becomes stable.

However, the eigenvalue η exists imaginary parts in all other media, such as focusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities (See Fig. 1a), focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (See Fig. 1b), focusing septimal and defocusing cubic nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (See Fig. 1d), defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity (See Fig. 1e) and defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (See Fig. 1f); therefore, solution (6) is always unstable in these media. This result is different from that without considering \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential in Ref. [24].

The similar eigenvalue method is used to solution (9) under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential (7) and (8), and we find that the eigenvalue η exists imaginary parts in all media regardless of focusing or defocusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities. As some examples, Figure 2 shows the imaginary eigenvalues for solution (9) in the media with focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 2a), focusing quintic and septimal nonlinearities with defocusing cubic nonlinearity (Fig. 2b), defocusing cubic and focusing septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 2c) and defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing

Fig. 1 (Color online) Eigenvalues for solution (6) in the media with **a** focusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities, **b** focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity, **c** focusing quintic and septimal nonlinearities with defocusing cubic nonlinearity, **d** focusing septimal and defocusing cubic nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity, **e** defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity and **f** defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential (4) and (5). Parameters are chosen as $\beta_1 = 0.5$, $\beta_2 = 0.46$, $\beta_3 = 0.45$, $b_1 = 0.5$, $b_2 = 0.48$, $b_3 = 0.47$ with **a** $w_1 = 0.056$, $w_2 = 0.057$, $w_3 = 0.057$, **b** $w_1 = 0.1$, $w_2 = 0.11$, $w_3 = 0.11$, **c** $w_1 = 0.3$, $w_2 = 0.21$, $w_3 = 0.21$, **d** $w_1 = 0.65$, $w_2 = 0.7$, $w_3 = 0.7$, and **e**, **f** $w_1 = 0.37$, $w_2 = 0.38$, $w_3 = 0.38$. Other parameters are shown in figures



quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 2d). In these cases, solution (9) always evolves unstably.

4 Light bullets by interplay between cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential

In the previous section, the stability of light bullets in different media is discussed by the eigenvalue method. In this section, based on these results from the eigenvalue method, we further study the role of cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities in the formation of light bullets by the split-step Fourier method. According to this method, we split Eq. (1) into a linear part including

different diffraction and dispersion terms and a nonlinear part including the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential terms and cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinear terms. Actually, analytical solutions do not exactly describe the real situations; thus, it is valuable to study the stability of solutions against finite perturbations. We use the initial field coming from analytical solutions (6) and (9) with 5% initial white noise, and carry out the propagation of the optical pulse from z to $z + h$ in two steps with a small distance h , namely the nonlinear and linear parts play the role alone from z to $z + h/2$ (the first step) and then from $z + h/2$ to $z + h$ (the second step), respectively. This operation is worked again and again from initial distance to a long distance.

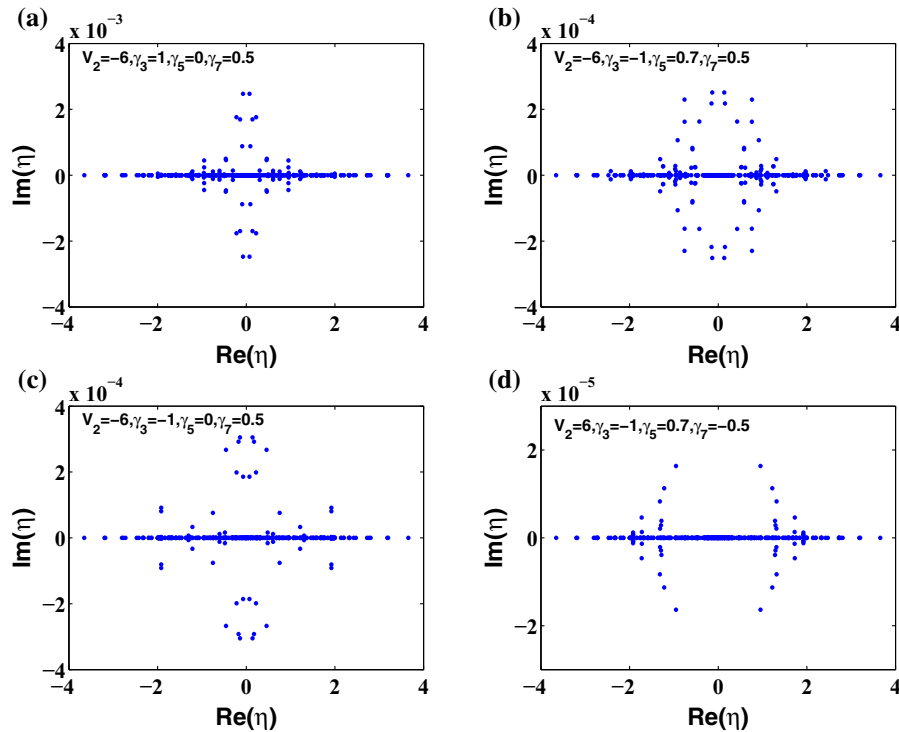


Fig. 2 (Color online) Eigenvalues for solution (9) in the media with **a** focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity, **b** focusing quintic and septimal nonlinearities with defocusing cubic nonlinearity, **c** defocusing cubic and focusing septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity and **d** defocusing cubic and septi-

mal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential (7) and (8). Parameters are chosen as $\beta_1 = 0.5, \beta_2 = 0.46, \beta_3 = 0.45, b_1 = 0.5, b_2 = 0.48, b_3 = 0.47$ with **a, c, d** $w_1 = 0.1, w_2 = 0.11, w_3 = 0.11$ and **b** $w_1 = 0.3, w_2 = 0.21, w_3 = 0.21$. Other parameters are shown in figures

It is noted that the split-step Fourier method implies the periodic boundary conditions; thus, we need to analyze carefully the longitude and transverse step sizes, and choose the transverse window in order to ensure the numerical precision lest numerical instabilities from periodic boundary conditions. In Refs.[28,29] computation precision in regard to the step size choice follows the criteria, namely step sizes in the longitude and transverse directions can be fixed from the spectrogram, and the transverse window can be chosen from the temporal figure.

From light bullet solutions (6) and (9), the septimal nonlinear coefficient γ_7 has strong impact on the formation of solution by influencing the amplitude of solutions. The real amplitude requires that $V_1\gamma_7 < 0$ or $V_2\gamma_7 < 0$, which indicates that light bullet solutions (6) and (9) can exist in focusing (positive) septimal nonlinearity with $\gamma_7 > 0$ as $V_1 < 0$ or $V_2 < 0$ and defocusing

(negative) septimal nonlinearity with $\gamma_7 < 0$ as $V_1 > 0$ or $V_2 > 0$.

The stability of light bullet solutions (6) and (9) is related to the association of different cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential. Figure 3a exhibits the initial shape of light bullet (6) with a 5% white noise. In the medium of focusing septimal and defocusing cubic nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity, the \mathcal{PT} complex potential is strong enough to inhibit the collapse of light bullet solutions caused by diffraction, dispersion and nonlinearities. In Fig. 3d, the numerical simulation does not yield any visible instability, and the influence of initial 5% white noise is suppressed, and light bullet (6) stably evolves over hundreds of diffraction/dispersion lengths except for some small oscillations around its surface.

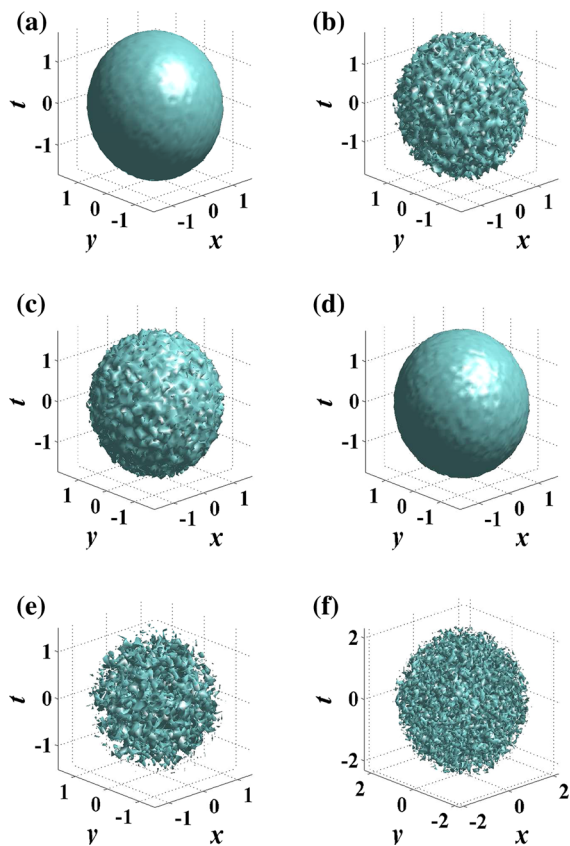


Fig. 3 (Color online) **a** Initial shape of intensity of light bullet (6); **b, c, e, f** Unstable light bullet (6) in the media corresponding to Figs. 1a, b, e, f at distance **b** $z = 200$, **c** $z = 400$, and **e, f** $z = 100$; **d** Stable light bullet (6) in the medium corresponding to Fig. 1c at distance $z = 400$. All parameters are chosen as those in Fig. 1

However, after the evolution of different distances, light bullet (6) displays unstable behaviors in the media of focusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities (Fig. 3b), focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 3c), defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 3e) and defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 3f). In these media, light bullet (6) cannot maintain its original shape, then is distorted and broken up, and ultimately collapses into noise.

Compared these plots in Figs. 3b, c, e and f, light bullet (6) is relatively stable in the medium of focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity because there only exist some large oscillations around its surface and little collapse

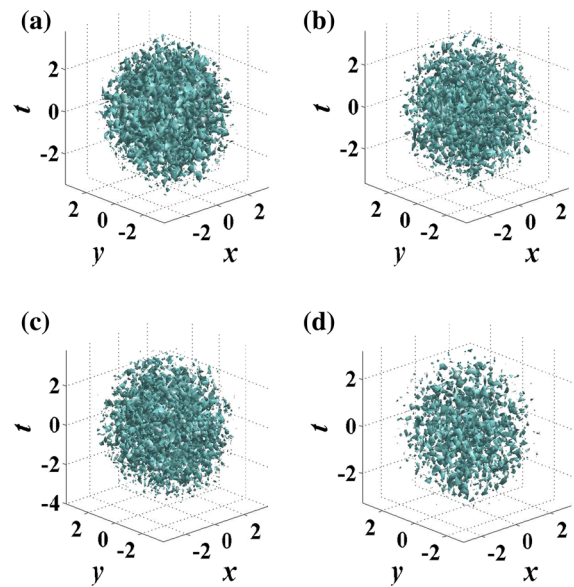


Fig. 4 (Color online) Unstable light bullet (9) in the media corresponding to Fig. 2. All parameters are chosen as those in Fig. 2

(Fig. 3c); however, the degree of collapse is strongest in the medium of defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity (Fig. 3e).

When light bullet (9) evolves in various nonlinear media, it is unstable regardless of focusing or defocusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials (7) and (8). Figure 4 demonstrates four examples of unstable evolution in the media corresponding to Fig. 2. In these cases, cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities, diffraction, dispersion and the \mathcal{PT} complex potential cannot exactly balance, and the 5% white noise strongly influences the stable evolution of light bullet (9). Along the evolutionary distance, light bullet (9) cannot maintain its original shape, alters from distortion to collapse and finally decays into noise.

5 Conclusions

In conclusion, a $(3 + 1)$ -dimensional NLSE with cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials is studied, and two kinds of analytical Gaussian-type light bullet solutions are derived. In these solutions, the septimal nonlinear term has a strong impact on the formation of light bullets. Based on these analytical solutions, the eigenvalue method and direct numerical simulation are used to study the sta-

bility of light bullet solutions. Results indicate that light bullet solution (6) is stable only in the medium of focusing septimal and defocusing cubic nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential; however, it is unstable in other media, such as focusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities, focusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity, defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with focusing quintic nonlinearity and defocusing cubic and septimal nonlinearities with disappearing quintic nonlinearity. Moreover, light bullet (9) is unstable in various nonlinear media regardless of focusing or defocusing cubic, quintic and septimal nonlinearities under the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials. These stable and unstable evolutions of light bullet against white noise attribute to the coaction of cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinearities, dispersion, diffraction and \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potential.

Acknowledgements This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 11375079).

References

- Kong, L.Q., Dai, C.Q.: Some discussions about variable separation of nonlinear models using Riccati equation expansion method. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **81**, 1553–1561 (2015)
- Dai, C.Q., Wang, X.G., Zhou, G.Q.: Stable light-bullet solutions in the harmonic and parity-time-symmetric potentials. *Phys. Rev. A* **89**, 013834 (2014)
- Zhang, B., Zhang, X.L., Dai, C.Q.: Discussions on localized structures based on equivalent solution with different forms of breaking soliton model. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **87**, 2385–2393 (2017)
- Wang, Y.Y., Dai, C.Q., Zhou, G.Q., Fan, Y., Chen, L.: Rogue wave and combined breather with repeatedly excited behaviors in the dispersion/diffraction decreasing medium. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **87**, 67–73 (2017)
- Dai, C.Q., Wang, Y., Liu, J.: Spatiotemporal Hermite–Gaussian solitons of a $(3 + 1)$ -dimensional partially nonlocal nonlinear Schrödinger equation. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **84**, 1157–1161 (2016)
- Dai, C.Q., Fan, Y., Zhou, G.Q., Zheng, J., Cheng, L.: Vector spatiotemporal localized structures in $(3 + 1)$ -dimensional strongly nonlocal nonlinear media. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **86**, 999–1005 (2016)
- Kong, L.Q., Liu, J., Jin, D.Q., Ding, D.J., Dai, C.Q.: Soliton dynamics in the three-spine α -helical protein with inhomogeneous effect. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **87**, 83–92 (2017)
- Raju, T.S.: Spatiotemporal optical similaritons in dual core waveguide with an external source. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **45**, 75–80 (2017)
- Aitchison, J.S., Weiner, A.M., Silberberg, Y., Oliver, M.K., Jackel, J.L., Leaird, D.E., Vogel, E.M., Smith, P.W.E.: Observation of spatial optical solitons in a nonlinear glass waveguide. *Opt. Lett.* **15**, 471–474 (1990)
- Dai, C.Q., Zhou, G.Q., Chen, R.P., Lai, X.J., Zheng, J.: Vector multipole and vortex solitons in two dimensional Kerr media. *Nonlinear Dyn.* (2017). doi:[10.1007/s11071-017-3399-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11071-017-3399-z)
- Skarka, V., Berezhiani, V.I., Miklaszewski, R.: Spatiotemporal soliton propagation in saturating nonlinear optical media. *Phys. Rev. E* **56**, 1080–1087 (1997)
- Bang, O., Rasmussen, J.J., Christiansen, P.L.: Subcritical localization in the discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation with arbitrary power nonlinearity. *Nonlinearity* **7**, 205–218 (1994)
- Rasmussen, J.J., Rypdal, K.: Blow-up in nonlinear Schrödinger equations-I, A general review. *Phys. Scr.* **33**, 481 (1986)
- Falcao-Filho, E.L., de Araujo, C.B., Boudebs, G., Leblond, H., Skarka, V.: *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 013901 (2013)
- Reyna, A.S., Jorge, K.C., de Araujo, C.B.: Two-dimensional solitons in a quintic-septimal medium. *Phys. Rev. A* **90**, 063835 (2014)
- Bender, C.M., Boettcher, S.: Real spectra in non-Hermitian Hamiltonians having \mathcal{PT} -symmetry. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **80**, 5243–5246 (1998)
- Wang, Y.Y., Dai, C.Q., Wang, X.G.: Stable localized spatial solitons in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials with power-law nonlinearity. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **77**, 1323–1330 (2014)
- Dai, C.Q., Wang, X.G.: Light bullet in parity-time symmetric potential. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **77**, 1133–1139 (2014)
- Dai, C.Q., Chen, R.P., Wang, Y.Y., Fan, Y.: Dynamics of light bullets in inhomogeneous cubic-quintic-septimal nonlinear media with \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **87**, 1675–1683 (2017)
- Chen, Y.X.: Sech-type and Gaussian-type light bullet solutions to the generalized $(3 + 1)$ -dimensional cubic-quintic Schrödinger equation in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric potentials. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **79**, 427–436 (2015)
- Li, J.T., Zhang, X.T., Meng, M., Liu, Q.T., Wang, Y.Y., Dai, C.Q.: Control and management of the combined Peregrine soliton and Akhmediev breathers in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric coupled waveguides. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **84**, 473–479 (2016)
- Li, J.T., Zhu, Y., Liu, Q.T., Han, J.Z., Wang, Y.Y., Dai, C.Q.: Vector combined and crossing Kuznetsov–Ma solitons in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric coupled waveguides. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **85**, 973–980 (2016)
- Dai, C.Q., Wang, Y.Y.: Controllable combined Peregrine soliton and Kuznetsov–Ma soliton in \mathcal{PT} -symmetric nonlinear couplers with gain and loss. *Nonlinear Dyn.* **80**, 715–721 (2015)
- Reyna, A.S., Malomed, B.A., de Araújo, C.B.: Stability conditions for one-dimensional optical solitons in cubic-quintic-septimal media. *Phys. Rev. A* **92**, 033810 (2015)
- Ultanir, E.A., Stegeman, G.I., Michaelis, D., Lange, C.H., Lederer, F.: Stable dissipative solitons in semiconductor optical amplifiers. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 253903 (2003)
- Dai, C.Q., Wang, Y.: Higher-dimensional localized mode families in parity-time-symmetric potentials with competing nonlinearities. *J. Opt. Soc. Am. B* **31**, 2286–2294 (2014)
- Abramowitz, M., Stegun, I.A.: Chapter 15, Handbook of Mathematical Functions with Formulas, Graphs, and Mathematical Tables. Dover, New York (1965)

28. Zhao, L., Sui, Z., Zhu, Q.H., Zhang, Y., Zuo, Y.L.: Improvement and precision analysis of the split-step Fourier method in solving the general nonlinear Schrödinger equation. *Acta Phys. Sin.* **58**, 4731–4737 (2009)
29. Dai, C.Q., Zhang, X.F., Fan, Y., Chen, L.: Localized modes of the $(n + 1)$ -dimensional Schrödinger equation with power-law nonlinearities in PT-symmetric potentials. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **43**, 239–250 (2017)