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General rogue wave solution to the discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation



Yasuhiro Ohta a, Bao-Feng Feng b,*

- ^a Department of Mathematics, Kobe University, Rokko, Kobe 657-8501, Japan
- ^b School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, United States of America

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ABSTRACT

In the present paper, we are concerned with the rogue wave solution to an integrable discrete nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation. First, through the KP–Toda reduction method, the general breather solution of the discrete NLS equation is deduced from two bilinear equations in discrete two-dimensional Toda-lattice hierarchy. Then, by taking an ingenious and successive limit to the breather solution, we derive the higher order rogue wave solution to the discrete NLS equation.

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1. Introduction

Rogue waves (RWs) or freak waves are spontaneously excited local nonlinear waves with large amplitudes which appear from nowhere and disappear with no trace [1]. The first rogue wave recorded, known as "The Draupner Wave", was measured in 1995 off the coast of Norway at 84 ft (25.6 m) with surrounding waves of approximately 40 ft (12 m), making the original rogue wave about twice the size of those around it [2]. Most recently, the record-breaking rogue wave was recorded off the coast of Vancouver Island in November 2020 measured at almost 58 ft (17.6 m) in comparison to surrounding waves of around 20 ft (6 m) [3]. The mathematical study of rogue waves starts with the rational solution of the nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation, a generic model in nonlinear waves. The simplest form of such waves was firstly discovered by Peregrine in the NLS equation [4], and their higher order forms were found in 1986 in [5] and later by many authors (see, for example, [6–12]). Such extreme waves have been observed in various different contexts such as oceanography [13], hydrodynamic [14,15], Bose–Einstein condensate [16], plasma [17] and nonlinear optic [14,18,19].

Motivated by these physical applications, rogue wave solutions have been found in many other nonlinear wave equations such as the derivative Schrödinger (NLS) equation [20–24], the Manakov system [25–27], Davey–Stewartson I and II equation [28,29], the three-wave equation [30], the Boussinesq equation [31], the Yajima–Oikawa equation [32,33]. There are some developments in the study of RW most recently, Yang et al. found universal rogue wave patterns for RW behind many soliton equations [27]. Miller et al. developed a robust inverse scattering transform for the analysis of RW of infinite order [34].

On the other hand, in spite of potential applications in optical waveguides [35,36], the study of rogue waves in discrete integrable systems is much less. As far as we are aware, the rogue waves in semi-discrete NLS equation, or the so-called Ablowitz-Ladik equation [37–40] and in semi-discrete complex short pulse equation have been reported in the literature [41]. The inverse scattering transform for the AL equation was studied and discrete soliton solutions including the Kuznetsov-Ma, Akhmediev breather and Peregrine soliton solutions were obtained [42]. The vector discrete rogue waves in the coupled AL equations were investigated in [43,44]. It should be pointed out that the correspondence of breather and first order rogue wave solutions between the NLS and AL equations was found and has been extended to periodic solutions between Manakov system and coupled AL equation [43].

Since the monumental work by Ablowitz and Hirota [45–48], the study of discrete integrable systems has attracted much attention [49]. Discrete integrable systems become continuous integrable systems when an appropriate limiting procedure is applied. Discrete integrable systems have rich but complicated mathematical structures which go to ones of continuous integrable systems in appropriate continuous limits. What about the possible rogue wave solutions in fully discrete systems? This natural question motivates

E-mail address: baofeng.feng@utrgv.edu (B.-F. Feng).

^{*} Corresponding author.

our present work. In the present paper, we attempt to construct the rogue wave solutions to the fully discrete nonlinear Schrödinger (fd-NLS) equation, which was originally discovered by Ablowitz and Ladik [45,46] and rediscovered by Hirota and Ohta through Hirota's bilinear approach [50]. The bright soliton solutions and the reduction from the two-component Kadomtsev–Petviashvili hierarchy was discussed in [51,52].

The remainder of the present paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we will construct general breather solution to the fd-NLS equation. We derive general rogue wave solutions to the fd-NLS equation by taking the limit to the general breather solution in Section 3. The paper is concluded in Section 4. In the Appendix, we give the derivation of two bilinear equations associated with fully discrete NLS equation from higher order discrete Kadomtsev–Petviashvili (KP) equation.

2. Breather solution for the fully discrete NLS equation

In order to derive breather solutions to the fd-NLS equation, we first give two bilinear equations in discrete KP-Toda hierarchy.

Lemma 1. The following τ function of discrete KP–Toda hierarchy

$$\tau_n(k, K, l, L) = \det_{1 \le i, j \le N} \left(m_{ij}^{(n)}(k, K, l, L) \right), \tag{1}$$

satisfies the discrete bilinear equations

$$\begin{cases} (1 - aA)\tau_{n}(k+1, K+1, l, L)\tau_{n}(k, K, l, L) \\ -\tau_{n}(k+1, K, l, L)\tau_{n}(k, K+1, l, L) \\ +aA\tau_{n+1}(k+1, K, l, L)\tau_{n-1}(k, K+1, l, L) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(2)

$$\begin{cases}
A(a-b)(1-aB)\tau_{n+1}(k+1,K,l+1,l+1)\tau_{n}(k,K+1,l,L) \\
-a(A-B)(1-Ab)\tau_{n+1}(k+1,K,l,L)\tau_{n}(k,K+1,l+1,L+1) \\
+Ab(1-aA)\tau_{n+1}(k,K,l+1,L+1)\tau_{n}(k+1,K+1,l,L) \\
-aB(1-aA)\tau_{n+1}(k+1,K+1,l,L)\tau_{n}(k,K,l+1,L+1) = 0,
\end{cases}$$
(3)

if the matrix element $m_{ii}^{(n)}$ satisfies

$$\begin{split} &m_{ij}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L) - m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = (-1)^{n+1}\phi_i^{(n)}(k,K,l,L)\psi_j^{(-n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ &m_{ij}^{(n)}(k+1,K,l,L) - m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = (-1)^n a\phi_i^{(n)}(k+1,K,l,L)\psi_j^{(-n)}(k,K,l,L), \\ &m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K+1,l,L) - m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = (-1)^n A\phi_i^{(n-1)}(k,K+1,l,L)\psi_j^{(-n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ &m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l+1,L) - m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = (-1)^n b\phi_i^{(n)}(k,K,l+1,L)\psi_j^{(-n)}(k,K,l,L), \\ &m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L+1) - m_{ii}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = (-1)^n B\phi_i^{(n-1)}(k,K,l,L+1)\psi_j^{(-n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \end{split}$$

where $\phi_i^{(n)}$ and $\psi_i^{(n)}$ are arbitrary functions satisfying the linear dispersion relations,

$$\begin{split} \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) - \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k-1,K,l,L) &= a\phi_{i}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) - \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K-1,l,L) &= A\phi_{i}^{(n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) - \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l-1,L) &= b\phi_{i}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) - \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L-1) &= b\phi_{i}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) - \phi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L-1) &= a\phi_{i}^{(n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k+1,K,l,L) - \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) &= a\psi_{j}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K+1,l,L) - \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) &= A\psi_{j}^{(n-1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K,l+1,L) - \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) &= b\psi_{j}^{(n+1)}(k,K,l,L), \\ \psi_{i}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L+1) - \psi_{j}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) &= B\psi_{i}^{(n-1)}(k,K,l,L). \end{split}$$

Here k, K, l, L are discrete independent variables and a, A, b, B are lattice constants.

The link of above two bilinear equations with higher order discrete KP hierarchy is given in the Appendix.

Based on the bilinear formulation, we are able to derive the breather solution of the fully discrete NLS equation, which is given by the following theorem.

Theorem 1. The fully discrete NLS equation,

$$\begin{cases} i(q_k^{t+1} - q_k^t) = (q_{k+1}^t + q_{k-1}^{t+1})(1 + \epsilon | q_k^t|^2) \Gamma_k^t, \\ \Gamma_{k+1}^t = \frac{1 + \epsilon | q_k^t|^2}{1 + \epsilon | q_k^{t+1}|^2} \Gamma_k^t, \end{cases}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

where $\epsilon=\pm 1$, admits the N-breather solution,

$$q_k^t = \frac{g_k^t}{f_k^t} \frac{1 - r}{2\sqrt{|r|}} e^{ik\theta} \left(\frac{1 - c}{1 - \bar{c}} \frac{1 + r\bar{c}}{1 + rc} \right)^t, \quad \Gamma_k^t = \frac{4rR}{(1 + r)^2} \frac{f_{k-1}^{t+1} f_k^t}{f_k^{t+1} f_{k-1}^t}, \tag{5}$$

where $\bar{}$ means complex conjugate, r is a real constant whose sign coincides with $\epsilon, \epsilon = {\rm sign}\, r, c$ is a complex constant, R and θ are determined by

$$\frac{1}{i}\frac{1+c}{1-\bar{c}}\frac{1-r\bar{c}}{1+rc} = Re^{i\theta},\tag{6}$$

and f_k^t and g_k^t are given by

$$f_k^t = \tau_k^t(0), \quad g_k^t = \tau_k^t(1),$$
 (7)

with

$$\tau_k^t(n) = \det_{1 \le i \le N} \left(A_{ij}^{(n)}(k, t) \right),\tag{8}$$

$$A_{ij}^{(n)} = \frac{1}{1 - rp_i\bar{p}_j} \left(a_i\varphi_n(p_i) \overline{a_j\varphi_{-n}(p_j)} + b_i\varphi_n(-p_i) \overline{b_j\varphi_{-n}(-p_j)} \right) - \frac{1}{1 + rp_i\bar{p}_i} \left(a_i\varphi_n(p_i) \overline{b_j\varphi_{-n}(-p_j)} + b_i\varphi_n(-p_i) \overline{a_j\varphi_{-n}(p_j)} \right),$$

$$(9)$$

$$\varphi_n(p) = \left(\frac{1-rp}{1+p}\right)^n \left(\frac{1+p}{1+rp}\right)^k \left(\frac{1+p}{1+rp}\frac{1+p/\bar{c}}{1+rcp}\right)^t,\tag{10}$$

where p_i , a_i , b_i are complex constants

Proof. We set

$$\phi_i^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = \sum_{\nu=1}^2 a_{i\nu} p_{i\nu}^n (1 - ap_{i\nu})^{-k} (1 - A/p_{i\nu})^{-K} (1 - bp_{i\nu})^{-l} (1 - B/p_{i\nu})^{-L}, \tag{11}$$

$$\psi_j^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) = \sum_{\mu=1}^2 b_{j\mu} q_{j\mu}^n (1 + aq_{j\mu})^k (1 + A/q_{j\mu})^k (1 + bq_{j\mu})^l (1 + B/q_{j\mu})^L, \tag{12}$$

where $p_{i\nu}$, $q_{j\mu}$, $a_{i\nu}$, $b_{j\mu}$ are arbitrary constants. Obviously, the $\phi_i^{(n)}$ and $\psi_j^{(n)}$ defined satisfy the above linear dispersion relations in Lemma 1. Therefore the determinant τ_n with element defined by

$$m_{ij}^{(n)}(k,K,l,L) \tag{13}$$

$$= \sum_{\nu=1}^{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^{2} \frac{a_{i\nu}b_{j\mu}}{p_{i\nu} + q_{j\mu}} \left(-\frac{p_{i\nu}}{q_{j\mu}} \right)^{n} \left(\frac{1 + aq_{j\mu}}{1 - ap_{i\nu}} \right)^{k} \left(\frac{1 + A/q_{j\mu}}{1 - A/p_{i\nu}} \right)^{k} \left(\frac{1 + bq_{j\mu}}{1 - bp_{i\nu}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1 + B/q_{j\mu}}{1 - B/p_{i\nu}} \right)^{l}$$

$$(14)$$

satisfies the bilinear equations (2)-(3).

Next, we proceed to the reduction procedure. By imposing

$$p_{i2} = -\frac{A}{a} \frac{1 - ap_{i1}}{p_{i1} - A}, \quad q_{j2} = -\frac{A}{a} \frac{1 + aq_{j1}}{q_{i1} + A},$$

we can show that τ_n satisfies the following reduction condition,

$$\tau_n(k+1, K-1, l, L) = \tau_n(k, K, l, L) \prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{q_{i1}q_{i2}}{p_{i1}p_{i2}},\tag{15}$$

it follows that the bilinear equations (2)-(3) are reduced to

$$\begin{cases} (1 - aA)\sigma_{k+1}^{t}(n)\sigma_{k-1}^{t}(n) - \sigma_{k}^{t}(n)\sigma_{k}^{t}(n) + aA\sigma_{k}^{t}(n+1)\sigma_{k}^{t}(n-1) = 0, \\ A(a - b)(1 - aB)\sigma_{k}^{t+1}(n+1)\sigma_{k}^{t}(n) - a(A - B)(1 - Ab)\sigma_{k}^{t}(n+1)\sigma_{k}^{t+1}(n) \\ +Ab(1 - aA)\sigma_{k-1}^{t+1}(n+1)\sigma_{k+1}^{t}(n) - aB(1 - aA)\sigma_{k+1}^{t}(n+1)\sigma_{k-1}^{t+1}(n) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(16)$$

by taking $\sigma_k^t(n) = \tau_n(k, 0, t, t)$. Furthermore by taking

$$A = -\epsilon \bar{a}, \quad B = -\epsilon \bar{b}, \quad q_{j1} = \frac{\bar{a}}{a} \frac{\bar{p}_{j1} + \epsilon a}{1 - \bar{a}\bar{p}_{j1}}, \quad b_{j1} = \frac{\bar{a}_{j1}}{a(1 - \bar{a}\bar{p}_{j1})}, \quad b_{j2} = \frac{\bar{a}_{j2}}{a(1 - \bar{a}\bar{p}_{j2})}, \tag{17}$$

where $\epsilon = +1$ or -1, $\sigma_k^t(n)$ satisfies the complex conjugate condition,

$$\sigma_k^t(-n)G = \overline{\sigma_k^t(n)G},$$

with a gauge factor G given below in Eq. (22). In order to simplify the final expression, let us parametrize by

$$|a|^2 = \epsilon \frac{r - 2 + 1/r}{4}, \quad b = \frac{2a}{1 - r} \frac{1 - rc}{1 + c}, \quad p_{i1} = \frac{1 - 1/r}{2a} \frac{1 - rp_i}{1 + p_i},$$
 (18)

$$a_{i1} = \epsilon \frac{r - 1/r}{4} a_i, \quad a_{i2} = -a(\bar{a} + \epsilon p_{i2}) b_i,$$
 (19)

where r is a real constant, c is a complex constant, p_i represents the complex wave number of the ith breather, a_i and b_i stand for the complex phase constants of the ith breather. We comment that ϵ is equal to the sign of r because of the positivity of $|a|^2$. Then we have

$$\begin{split} &\tilde{m}_{ij}^{n}(k,K,l,L) \\ &:= m_{ij}^{n}(k,K,l,L) \frac{-4}{(1-r)(1+p_{i})(1+\bar{p}_{j})} \left(-r\frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}^{2}}{1-r^{2}\bar{p}_{j}^{2}} \right)^{n} r^{K-k}(rc)^{-l} \left(r\bar{c} \frac{1-p_{i}^{2}/\bar{c}^{2}}{1-r^{2}\bar{c}^{2}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}^{2}}{1-r^{2}\bar{c}^{2}\bar{p}_{j}^{2}} \right)^{L} \\ &= \frac{a_{i}\bar{a}_{j}}{1-rp_{i}\bar{p}_{j}} \left(\frac{1-rp_{i}}{1+p_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{n} \left(\frac{1+p_{i}}{1+rp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{k} \left(\frac{1-rp_{i}}{1-p_{i}} \frac{1-r\bar{p}_{j}}{1-\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{K} \\ &\qquad \times \left(\frac{1+p_{i}}{1+rcp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}/c}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1+p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1+rp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{L} \\ &- \frac{a_{i}\bar{b}_{j}}{1+rp_{i}\bar{p}_{j}} \left(\frac{1-rp_{i}}{1+p_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{n} \left(\frac{1+p_{i}}{1-rp_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{k} \left(\frac{1-rp_{i}}{1-p_{i}} \frac{1+r\bar{p}_{j}}{1+\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{K} \\ &\qquad \times \left(\frac{1+p_{i}}{1+rcp_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}/c}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1+p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1+rp_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \\ &- \frac{b_{i}\bar{a}_{j}}{1+rp_{i}\bar{p}_{j}} \left(\frac{1+rp_{i}}{1-p_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}/c}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{n} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}}{1-rp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{k} \left(\frac{1+rp_{i}}{1+p_{i}} \frac{1-r\bar{p}_{j}}{1-\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{k} \\ &\qquad \times \left(\frac{1-p_{i}}{1-rcp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}/c}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-rp_{i}} \frac{1+\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \\ &+ \frac{b_{i}\bar{b}_{j}}{1-rp_{i}} \left(\frac{1+rp_{i}}{1-p_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \\ &\times \left(\frac{1-p_{i}}{1-rp_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{p}_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1+r\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \\ &+ \frac{b_{i}\bar{b}_{j}}{1-rp_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{p}_{j}} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{p}_{i}} \frac{1-\bar{p}_{j}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-p_{i}/\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}\bar{p}_{j}} \right)^{l} \\ &+ \frac{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}} \frac{1-\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac{1-\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}} \frac{1-\bar{c}\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}} \right)^{l} \\ &+ \frac{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}} \frac{1-\bar{c}\bar{c}\bar{c}}{1-r\bar{c}\bar{c}} \right)^{l} \left(\frac$$

and the bilinear equations (16) are reduced to

$$\begin{cases} (1+r)^{2}\tau_{k+1}^{t}(n)\tau_{k-1}^{t}(n) - 4r\tau_{k}^{t}(n)\tau_{k}^{t}(n) - (1-r)^{2}\tau_{k}^{t}(n+1)\tau_{k}^{t}(n-1) = 0, \\ (1-c)(1+r\bar{c})\tau_{k}^{t+1}(n+1)\tau_{k}^{t}(n) - (1-\bar{c})(1+rc)\tau_{k}^{t}(n+1)\tau_{k}^{t+1}(n) \\ -(1+\bar{c})(1-rc)\tau_{k-1}^{t+1}(n+1)\tau_{k+1}^{t}(n) + (1+c)(1-r\bar{c})\tau_{k+1}^{t}(n+1)\tau_{k-1}^{t+1}(n) = 0, \end{cases}$$

$$(20)$$

where $\tau_{\nu}^{t}(n)$ is given by

$$\tau_k^t(n) = \det_{1 \le i, j \le N} \left(\tilde{m}_{ij}^n(k, 0, t, t) \right) = \sigma_k^t(n) G, \tag{21}$$

with

$$G = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{-4}{(1-r)(1+p_i)(1+\bar{p}_i)} \left(-r\frac{1-\bar{p}_i^2}{1-r^2\bar{p}_i^2} \right)^n r^{-k} \left(\frac{\bar{c}}{c} \frac{1-p_i^2/\bar{c}^2}{1-r^2\bar{p}_i^2} \frac{1-\bar{p}_i^2}{1-r^2\bar{c}^2\bar{p}_i^2} \right)^t, \tag{22}$$

which is nothing but $\tau_k^t(n)$ in Theorem 1. For $f_k^t = \tau_k^t(0)$, $g_k^t = \tau_k^t(1)$, $\bar{g}_k^t = \tau_k^t(-1)$, the bilinear equations are written as

$$\begin{cases} (1+r)^2 f_{k+1}^t f_{k-1}^t - 4r f_k^t f_k^t - (1-r)^2 g_k^t \bar{g}_k^t = 0, \\ (1-c)(1+r\bar{c}) g_k^{t+1} f_k^t - (1-\bar{c})(1+rc) g_k^t f_k^{t+1} \\ - (1+\bar{c})(1-rc) g_{k-1}^{t+1} f_{k+1}^t + (1+c)(1-r\bar{c}) g_{k+1}^t f_{k-1}^{t+1} = 0, \end{cases}$$

from which the fully discrete NLS equation (4) is straightforwardly derived through the variable transformation (5). This completes the proof of Theorem 1. \Box

In the case of N = 1, we have one-breather solution,

$$\tau_k^t(n) = \frac{1}{1 - r|p|^2} \left(|a|^2 \varphi_n(p) \overline{\varphi_{-n}(p)} + |b|^2 \varphi_n(-p) \overline{\varphi_{-n}(-p)} \right)$$
 (23)

$$-\frac{1}{1+r|p|^2}\left(a\bar{b}\varphi_n(p)\overline{\varphi_{-n}(-p)}+\bar{a}b\varphi_n(-p)\overline{\varphi_{-n}(p)}\right),\tag{24}$$

with (5)–(10) where p, a, b are complex constants (the index 1 of p_1 , a_1 , b_1 are omitted for notational simplicity). The Akhmediev breather which is the breather solution localized in time t can be derived by taking the wave number p pure imaginary. If we require the regularity of the solution only on the lattice points, i.e., $f_k^t \neq 0$ for integers k and t, then r can be either positive or negative and the discrete NLS equations (4) of both focusing type and defocusing type admit regular breather solutions by locating the singularities (if exist) off the lattice points. On the other hand if we require the solution to be regular in whole real space, i.e., f_k^t is non-zero for all

real numbers k and t, then r has to be positive and only the focusing discrete NLS admits the regular breathers for generic parameters. An example is shown in Fig. 1. Some exceptional regular solutions for r < 0 can be derived from the above $\tau_k^t(n)$ but usually they are not called breathers and we do not discuss about such solutions.

3. Rogue wave solution to fully discrete NLS equation

The rogue wave solution of rational function type can be derived as a limit of the breather solution. In Theorem 1, we take

$$a_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^i c_{\nu} p_i^{2\nu - 1} \right), \quad b_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \sum_{\nu=1}^i c_{\nu} p_i^{2\nu - 1} \right), \tag{25}$$

and scale the τ function by $\tau_k^t(n)/\prod_{i=1}^N(p_i\bar{p}_i)^{2i-1}$ and finally take the limit $p_i \to 0$ successively for $i=1,2,\ldots,N$. Then the leading order of $\tau_k^t(n)$ in p_i 's gives a polynomial of k and t which turns to be the rogue wave solution. This result is summarized in the following theorem

Theorem 2. The Nth order rogue wave solution for the fully discrete NLS equation (4) is given by the variable transformations (5)–(7) and

$$\tau_k^t(n) = \det_{1 \le i, j \le N} \left(B_{ij}^{(n)}(k, t) \right) = \det_{1 \le i, j \le N} \left(\sum_{\nu=1}^{2 \min(i, j)} r^{\nu-1} \Phi_{2i-\nu}^{(n)} \overline{\Phi_{2j-\nu}^{(-n)}} \right), \tag{26}$$

where

$$\Phi_{i}^{(n)} = S_{i}(x(n)) + \sum_{\nu=1}^{\left[\frac{i+1}{2}\right]} c_{\nu} S_{i+1-2\mu}(x(n)). \tag{27}$$

Here $x(n) = (x_1(n), x_2(n), ..., x_h(n), ...)$ with

$$x_h(n) = \frac{(-1)^h}{h} \left((1 - (-r)^h)n - (1 - r^h)k - (1 - r^h + (1/\bar{c})^h - (rc)^h)t \right), \quad h = 1, 2, \dots,$$
(28)

where [] means the Gauss symbol and $S_{\mu}(x)$ is the so-called elementary Schur function defined by $\sum_{\mu=0}^{\infty} S_{\mu}(x) \lambda^{\mu} = \exp \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} x_h \lambda^h$. This solution has N complex parameters c_{μ} , $\mu = 1, 2, ..., N$.

Proof. Firstly $\varphi_n(p)$ in (10) is written as $\varphi_n(p) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n(x(n))p^n$. We rewrite $A_{ii}^{(n)}$ in Theorem 1 as

$$\begin{split} A_{ij}^{(n)} &= \frac{1}{1 - (rp_i\bar{p}_j)^2} \Big(a_i\varphi_n(p_i) - b_i\varphi_n(-p_i) \Big) \Big(\overline{a_j\varphi_{-n}(p_j) - b_j\varphi_{-n}(-p_j)} \Big) \\ &+ \frac{rp_i\bar{p}_j}{1 - (rp_i\bar{p}_j)^2} \Big(a_i\varphi_n(p_i) + b_i\varphi_n(-p_i) \Big) \Big(\overline{a_j\varphi_{-n}(p_j) + b_j\varphi_{-n}(-p_j)} \Big). \end{split}$$

Denoting $a_i - b_i = p_i d_i$ and $a_i + b_i = s_i$, the four factors in the above expression are written as

$$\begin{split} a_{i}\varphi_{n}(p_{i}) - b_{i}\varphi_{n}(-p_{i}) &= \sum_{\mu=0}^{\infty} S_{\mu}(x(n))p_{i}^{\mu}(a_{i} - (-1)^{\mu}b_{i}) \\ &= (p_{i}d_{i}, p_{i}s_{i}, p_{i}^{3}d_{i}, p_{i}^{3}s_{i}, \dots)^{t}(S_{0}(x(n)), S_{1}(x(n)), S_{2}(x(n)), S_{3}(x(n)), \dots), \\ \overline{a_{j}\varphi_{-n}(p_{j}) - b_{j}\varphi_{-n}(-p_{j})} &= \sum_{\mu=0}^{\infty} \overline{S_{\mu}(x(-n))p_{j}^{\mu}(a_{j} - (-1)^{\mu}b_{j})} \\ &= (S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{2}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{3}(\overline{x(-n)}), \dots)^{t}(\bar{p}_{j}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{3}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{3}\bar{s}_{j}, \dots), \\ a_{i}\varphi_{n}(p_{i}) + b_{i}\varphi_{n}(-p_{i}) &= \sum_{\mu=0}^{\infty} S_{\mu}(x(n))p_{i}^{\mu}(a_{i} + (-1)^{\mu}b_{i}) \\ &= (s_{i}, p_{i}^{2}d_{i}, p_{i}^{2}s_{i}, p_{i}^{4}d_{i}, \dots)^{t}(S_{0}(x(n)), S_{1}(x(n)), S_{2}(x(n)), S_{3}(x(n)), \dots), \\ \overline{a_{j}\varphi_{-n}(p_{j}) + b_{j}\varphi_{-n}(-p_{j})} &= \sum_{\mu=0}^{\infty} \overline{S_{\mu}(x(-n))p_{j}^{\mu}(a_{j} + (-1)^{\mu}b_{j})} \\ &= (S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{2}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{3}(\overline{x(-n)}), \dots)^{t}(\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{2}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{2}\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{4}\bar{d}_{j}, \dots), \end{split}$$

where tv means transpose of v. Thus we obtain

$$A_{ij}^{(n)} = \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} (rp_{i}\bar{p}_{j})^{2\lambda} (p_{i}d_{i}, p_{i}s_{i}, p_{i}^{3}d_{i}, p_{i}^{3}s_{i}, \dots)^{t} (S_{0}(x(n)), S_{1}(x(n)), S_{2}(x(n)), S_{3}(x(n)), \dots)$$

$$\times (S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{2}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{3}(\overline{x(-n)}), \dots)^{t} (\bar{p}_{j}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{3}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{3}\bar{s}_{j}, \dots)$$

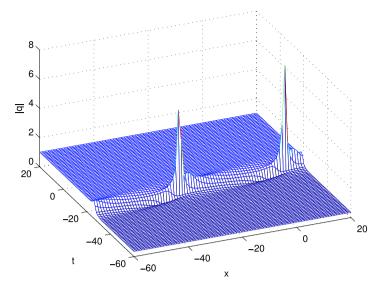


Fig. 1. One-breather solution for r = 0.5, c = 3 + 2i, p = 0.5i.

$$+ \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} (rp_{i}\bar{p}_{j})^{2\lambda+1}(s_{i}, p_{i}^{2}d_{i}, p_{i}^{2}s_{i}, p_{i}^{4}d_{i}, \dots)^{t}(S_{0}(x(n)), S_{1}(x(n)), S_{2}(x(n)), S_{3}(x(n)), \dots)$$

$$\times (S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{2}(\overline{x(-n)}), S_{3}(\overline{x(-n)}), \dots)^{t}(\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{2}\bar{d}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{2}\bar{s}_{j}, \bar{p}_{j}^{4}\bar{d}_{j}, \dots)$$

$$= \left(p_{i}d_{i} \quad p_{i}s_{i} \quad p_{i}^{3}d_{i} \quad p_{i}^{3}s_{i} \quad \dots\right) \begin{pmatrix} S_{0}(x(n)) & & & & & \\ S_{1}(x(n)) & S_{0}(x(n)) & & & & \\ S_{2}(x(n)) & S_{1}(x(n)) & S_{0}(x(n)) & & \\ S_{2}(x(n)) & S_{1}(x(n)) & S_{0}(x(n)) & & \\ S_{3}(x(n)) & S_{2}(x(n)) & S_{1}(x(n)) & S_{0}(x(n)) & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}) & S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}) & S_{2}(\overline{x(-n)}) & \dots \\ S_{0}(\overline{x(-n)}) & S_{1}(\overline{x(-n)}) & \dots \\ S_{$$

Therefore
$$\tau_k^t(n)$$
 in Theorem 1 is given in the form of the following determinant, $S_0(x(n))$

$$\tau_{k}^{t}(n) = \begin{pmatrix} p_{1}d_{1} & p_{1}s_{1} & p_{1}^{3}d_{1} & p_{1}^{3}s_{1} & \cdots \\ p_{2}d_{2} & p_{2}s_{2} & p_{2}^{3}d_{2} & p_{2}^{3}s_{2} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ p_{N}d_{N} & p_{N}s_{N} & p_{N}^{3}d_{N} & p_{N}^{3}s_{N} & \cdots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_{0}(x(n)) & S_{0}(x$$

Now let us take
$$a_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{i} c_{\nu} p_i^{2\nu - 1} \right), \quad b_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \sum_{\nu=1}^{i} c_{\nu} p_i^{2\nu - 1} \right).$$

Then we have $d_i = \sum_{\nu=1}^i c_\nu p_i^{2\nu-2}$ and $s_i = 1$, and the above $\tau_k^t(n)$ is $O(p_1\bar{p}_1p_2\bar{p}_2\cdots p_N\bar{p}_N)$ as $p_i \to 0$ for $1 \le i \le N$. In order to take the lowest order in p_1 , we consider the limit, $\tilde{\tau}_k^t(n) := \lim_{p_1 \to 0} \tau_k^t(n)/(p_1\bar{p}_1)$. In this limit, the leading order becomes $O((p_2\bar{p}_2\cdots p_N\bar{p}_N)^3)$, thus for picking up the lowest order in p_2 , we take the limit, $\lim_{p_2 \to 0} \tilde{\tau}_k^t(n)/(p_2\bar{p}_2)^3$. So the leading order becomes $O((p_3\bar{p}_3\cdots p_N\bar{p}_N)^5)$. Repeating this procedure, finally we obtain the τ function of rogue wave solution from that of breather $\tau_k^t(n)$

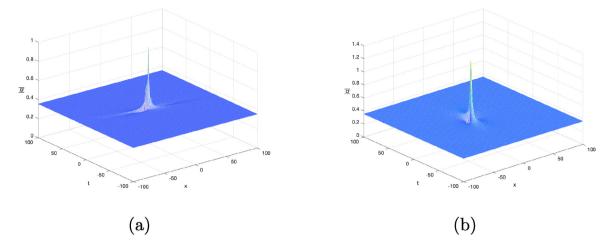


Fig. 2. First order rogue wave solution (a) r = 2.0, c = 1 + 2i, $c_1 = 2$ (b) r = 0.5, c = 1 + 2i, $c_1 = 2$.

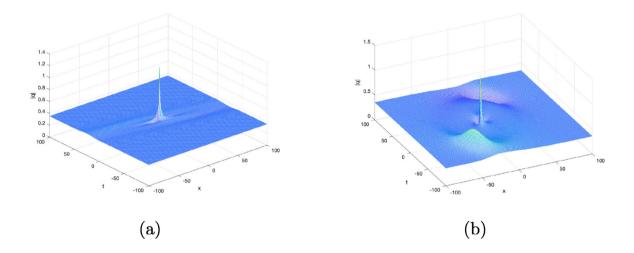


Fig. 3. Second order rogue wave solution (a) r = 2.0, c = 1 + 2i, $c_1 = 2.0$, $c_2 = 2 + 2i$; (b) r = 0.5, c = 2 + i, $c_1 = 2$, $c_2 = 2 + 2i$.

By calculating the matrix element, it is easy to see that the above determinant is equal to $\det_{1 \le i,j \le N} \left(B_{ij}^{(n)}(k,t) \right)$. We complete the proof of Theorem 2. \square

By taking N = 1 we obtain the fully discrete Peregrine rogue wave solution,

$$\tau_k^t(n) = (-(1+r)n + (1-r)k + (1-r+1/\bar{c} - rc)t + c_1)
\times ((1+r)n + (1-r)k + (1-r+1/c - r\bar{c})t + \bar{c}_1) + r,$$
(29)

where c_1 is a complex constant. Similarly to the breather solution, there are rogue wave solutions regular on the lattice for both focusing case (r > 0) and defocusing case (r < 0), since if there are zeros of f_k^t we can avoid explosion of solution by displacing the zeros off the lattice points. However for regularity of the solution on the real two dimensional space of (k, t), we have to take r positive. First order and second-order rogue wave solutions are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively.

There is an exceptional regular solution for r < 0 which is obtained by taking c real and $(\operatorname{Im} c_1)^2 > -r$ in (29), but this is not a rogue wave solution but a traveling wave solution. An example is shown in Fig. 4.

4. Concluding remarks

Even though the study of rogue waves has attracted much attention in more than one decade, the rogue wave solution in fully discrete integrable systems has not been reported yet. In this paper, we firstly constructed the general breather solution of the fully discrete NLS equation via the KP–Toda reduction method. Then we succeeded in constructing its general rogue wave solution by taking the limit of $p_i \rightarrow 0$ successively for $i=1,\ldots,N$. More study of rogue wave solutions in other discrete systems including non-integrable ones is called for in the future.

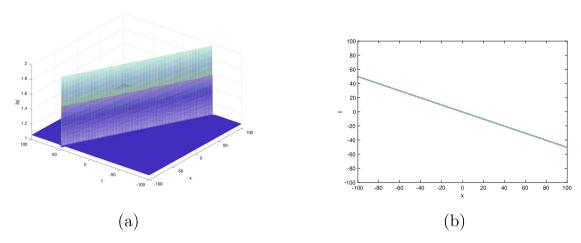


Fig. 4. Traveling wave solution with r = -0.5, c = 1.0, $c_1 = 1 + i$: (a) profile, (b) contour plot.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Yasuhiro Ohta: Concept, Method, Formulation, Revision. Bao-Feng Feng: Concept, Method, Writing.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix

The discrete two-dimensional Toda lattice hierarchy in bilinear form can be written as

 $\tau_n(k_1+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_1+1)\tau_n(k_1,\ldots,k_{\nu},K_1)$

$$\tau_{n}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_{1}+1)\tau_{n}(k_{1},\ldots,k_{\nu},K_{1}) - \frac{1}{\prod_{\nu=1}^{\nu}} \tau_{n}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_{1})\tau_{n}(k_{1},\ldots,k_{\nu},K_{1}+1) \\
+ A_{1} \sum_{h=1}^{\nu} \frac{a_{h}^{\nu}}{(1-a_{h}A_{1}) \prod_{\substack{i=1\\i\neq h}}^{\nu}} (a_{h}-a_{i}) \\
\times \tau_{n+1}(k_{1},\ldots,k_{h}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu},K_{1})\tau_{n-1}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_{1}+1) = 0,$$
(30)

where n is the lattice number, $k_1, \ldots, k_{\nu}, K_1$ are discrete independent variables, $a_1, \ldots, a_{\nu}, A_1$ are corresponding difference intervals and $\nu \geq 1$.

Eq. (2) is derived from the above bilinear equation with $\nu = 1$ and rewriting k_1 , K_1 , a_1 , A_1 to k, K, a, A, respectively. We also have the first modified Toda hierarchy.

$$\begin{split} &A_{2}\tau_{n+1}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_{1}+1)\tau_{n}(k_{\nu+1}+1,\ldots,k_{2\nu}+1,K_{2}+1)\\ &-A_{1}\prod_{i=1}^{\nu}\frac{a_{\nu+i}}{a_{i}}\tau_{n+1}(k_{\nu+1}+1,\ldots,k_{2\nu}+1,K_{2}+1)\tau_{n}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_{1}+1)\\ &+(A_{1}-A_{2})\prod_{i=1}^{\nu}\frac{1-a_{\nu+i}A_{1}}{1-a_{i}A_{1}}\tau_{n+1}(k_{1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1)\tau_{n}(k_{\nu+1}+1,\ldots,k_{2\nu}+1,K_{1}+1,K_{2}+1) \end{split}$$

$$-A_1 \sum_{h=1}^{\nu} \frac{(1-a_h A_2) \prod_{i=1}^{\nu} (a_h - a_{\nu+i})}{a_h (1-a_h A_1) \prod_{\substack{i=1 \ i \neq h}}^{\nu} (a_h - a_i)} \tau_{n+1}(k_h + 1, k_{\nu+1} + 1, \dots, k_{2\nu} + 1, K_2 + 1)$$

$$\times \tau_n(k_1+1,\ldots,k_{h-1}+1,k_{h+1}+1,\ldots,k_{\nu}+1,K_1+1)=0, \tag{31}$$

where $v \ge 0$ and a_h , A_h are difference intervals for discrete independent variables k_h , K_h , respectively. Here and hereafter we denote shifted independent variables only and omit unshifted independent variables for simplicity. Eq. (3) is derived from this bilinear equation by taking v = 1 and rewriting k_1 , k_2 , K_1 , K_2 , K_1 , K_2 , K_1 , K_2 , K_3 , K_4 , K_5 , K_5 , K_5 , K_6 , K_7 , K_8

In principle, the above two bilinear equations can be obtained from the discrete KP hierarchy,

$$\sum_{h\in I} \frac{a_h^{|I|-|J|-2} \prod_{j\in J} (a_h - a_j)}{\prod_{i\in I\setminus\{h\}} (a_h - a_i)} \tau_{I\setminus\{h\}} \tau_{J\cup\{h\}} = 0,$$
(32)

where I,J are finite sets of integers satisfying $|I| \geq |J| + 2$, a_h is the difference interval of k_h , τ_I means τ function with shifts of k_i ($i \in I$), i.e., $\tau_I = \tau(k_{i_1} + 1, k_{i_2} + 1, \dots, k_{i_{\nu}} + 1)$ for $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{\nu}\}$. By taking $I = \{-1, 0, 1, \dots, \nu\}$, $J = \phi$, we obtain

$$\sum_{h=-1}^{\nu} \frac{a_h^{\nu}}{\prod_{\substack{i=-1\\i\neq h}}^{\nu} (a_h - a_i)} \tau_{\{-1,0,1,\dots,\nu\}\setminus\{h\}} \tau_{\{h\}} = 0.$$
(33)

Taking the limit $a_0 \to \infty$, denoting $a_{-1} = 1/A_1$ and applying variable transformations $K_1 = k_{-1}$, $n = -k_{-1} - k_0$, the first bilinear equation (30) is derived. If we take $I = \{-1, 0, 1, \dots, \nu, 2\nu + 1\}$ and $J = \{-2, \nu + 1, \dots, 2\nu\}$, we have

$$\sum_{h=-1}^{\nu} \frac{(a_h-a_{-2}) \prod_{j=\nu+1}^{2\nu} (a_h-a_j)}{(a_h-a_{2\nu+1}) \prod_{j=-1}^{\nu} (a_h-a_i)} \tau_{I\setminus\{h\}} \tau_{J\cup\{h\}} + \frac{(a_{2\nu+1}-a_{-2}) \prod_{j=\nu+1}^{2\nu} (a_{2\nu+1}-a_j)}{\prod_{i=-1}^{\nu} (a_{2\nu+1}-a_i)} \tau_{I\setminus\{2\nu+1\}} \tau_{J\cup\{2\nu+1\}} = 0.$$

Similarly by taking the limit $a_0 \to \infty$, denoting $a_{-1} = 1/A_1$, $a_{-2} = 1/A_2$, taking $a_{2\nu+1} = 0$ and demanding τ independent of $k_{2\nu+1}$, the second bilinear equation (31) is recovered through variable transformations $K_1 = k_{-1}$, $K_2 = k_{-2}$, $n = -k_{-2} - k_{-1} - k_0$.

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