



Internal solitary waves in the ocean and atmosphere

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We will review observations of large-amplitude internal solitary waves in the coastal ocean and the atmospheric boundary layer. These natural sites provide a marvellous laboratory for the study of solitons. We will show how the Korteweg-de Vries equation, together with some pertinent extensions, may be used to model these waves. We will conclude with a discussion of some outstanding issues concerning the interaction of these waves with topography.