PROPAGATION OF A SOLITARY EXTRAORDINARY WAVE ACROSS AN EXTERNAL MAGNETIC FIELD IN A PLASMA

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The efficiency of electron acceleration by a short powerful laser pulse propagating across an external magnetic field is investigated. Conditions for the decay of a laser pulse with frequency close to the upper hybrid resonance frequency are analyzed. It is also shown that a laser pulse propagating as an extraordinary wave in cold, magnetized, low density plasma takes the form of a nonlinear wave with the modulated amplitude (envelope soliton). Finally, simulation results on the interaction of an electromagnetic pulse with a semi-infinite plasma, obtained with the help of an electromagnetic, relativistic PIC code are discussed and a comparison with the obtained theoretical results is presented.