

Existence of multi-bump solutions for coupled Schrödinger systems

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**Abstract:** The Schrödinger equation  $-\Delta u + \lambda^2 u = |u|^{2q-2}u$  has a unique positive radial solution  $U_\lambda$ , which decays exponentially at infinity. Hence it is reasonable that the Schrödinger system  $-\Delta u_1 + u_1 = |u_1|^{2q-2}u_1 - \varepsilon b(x)|u_2|^q|u_1|^{q-2}u_1$ ,  $-\Delta u_2 + u_2 = |u_2|^{2q-2}u_2 - \varepsilon b(x)|u_1|^q|u_2|^{q-2}u_2$  has multiple-bump solutions which behave like  $U_\lambda$  in the neighborhood of some points. For  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in H^1(\mathbf{R}^3) \times H^1(\mathbf{R}^3)$ , a nonlinear functional  $I_\varepsilon(u) = I_1(u_1) + I_2(u_2) - \frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x)|u_1|^q|u_2|^q dx$  is defined,

where  $I_1(u_1) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_1\|^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_1|^{2q} dx$  and  $I_2(u_2) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_2\|^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_2|^{2q} dx$ . It is proved that the solutions of the system are the critical points of  $I_\varepsilon$ . Let  $Z$  be the smooth solution manifold of the unperturbed problem and  $T_z Z$  is the tangent space. The critical point of  $I_\varepsilon$  is rewritten as the form of  $z + w$ , where  $w \in (T_z Z)^\perp$ . Using some properties of  $I_\varepsilon$ , it is proved that there exists a critical point of  $I_\varepsilon$  close to the form  $(\sum_{i=1}^n U(x - \xi_i), \sum_{i=1}^n V(x - \xi_i))$  which is a multi-bump solution.

**Key words:** coupled Schrödinger system; multi-bump solution; variational reduction method

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Nonlinear Schrödinger equations (NLS) have been broadly studied in many aspects, such as existence of solitary waves, concentration and multi-bump phenomena for semiclassical states. Menyuk<sup>[1]</sup> showed that some phenomenon can be described by the following two coupled nonlinear Schrödinger equations:

$$\begin{cases} i\phi_t + \phi_{xx} + (|\phi|^2 + b|\psi|^2)\phi = 0 \\ i\psi_t + \psi_{xx} + (|\psi|^2 + b|\phi|^2)\psi = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $b$  is a real positive constant depending on the anisotropy of the fiber. Looking for the standing wave solu-

tions of the form:

$$\phi(x, t) = e^{i\omega_1 t} u(x), \quad \psi(x, t) = e^{i\omega_2 t} v(x)$$

and performing a rescaling of variables, it follows that  $(u, v)$  satisfies the following system:

$$\begin{cases} -u'' + u = |u|^2 u + |v|^2 u & \text{in } \mathbf{R} \\ -v'' + \omega^2 v = |v|^2 v + |u|^2 v & \text{in } \mathbf{R} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\omega^2 = \omega_2^2/\omega_1^2$ . In recent years, many researchers have studied the nontrivial solutions of system (1)<sup>[2-11]</sup>. Maia et al.<sup>[8]</sup> studied the existence of solutions for a general system with perturbation terms.

In this paper, we will study the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u = |u|^{2q-2}u - \varepsilon b(x)|v|^q|u|^{q-2}u & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^3 \\ -\Delta v + \omega^2 v = |v|^{2q-2}v - \varepsilon b(x)|u|^q|v|^{q-2}v & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^3 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $\omega > 0$  and  $2 \leq q < 3$ . Our goal is to prove that, for  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small, system (2) possesses a nontrivial solution with two multi-bump components.

To state our main result, we first consider the following NLS equation:

$$-\Delta u + \lambda^2 u = |u|^{2q-2}u \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^3 \quad (3)$$

where  $\lambda > 0$ . It is well known that Eq. (3) has a unique positive radial solution  $U_\lambda$ , which decays exponentially at  $\infty$ <sup>[12]</sup>. Let  $U = U_1$ ,  $V = U_\omega$ , then  $(U, V)$  is a solution of system (2) with  $\varepsilon = 0$ . For  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  and for sufficiently separated  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n \in \mathbf{R}^3$ , a solution of system (2), which is close to  $(\sum_{i=1}^n U(x - \xi_i), \sum_{i=1}^n V(x - \xi_i))$ , is called an  $(n, n)$ -bump solution. Our aim is to find this kind of solution for system (2).

Throughout this paper, the following conditions for  $\omega$  and  $b(x)$  are satisfied:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} &\omega > \frac{q}{2q-1} \\ &b(x) \text{ is continuous and } b(x) > 0 \text{ for } x \in \mathbf{R}^3 \\ &\text{There exists } c > 0 \text{ and } \sigma > 0 \text{ such that } b(x) \geq c e^{-\sigma|x|} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (4)$$

Our main result is the following theorem.

**Theorem 1** Assume that (4) is satisfied. If  $n$  satisfies

$$n < 1 + \frac{(2q-1)\tilde{\omega}-q}{(2q-1)\sigma}$$

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where  $\tilde{\omega} = \min\{1, \omega\}$ . Then there exists  $\varepsilon(n) > 0$  such that, for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon(n)$ , the system (2) has an  $(n, n)$ -bump solution.

## 1 Abstract Setting

To prove our existence result we shall find critical points of a class of perturbation functionals. Below we outline the so-called finite dimensional reduction. The procedure has been widely used in the literature (see Refs. [13–18]).

Consider a Hilbert space  $H$  and let  $I_\varepsilon \in C^2(H, \mathbf{R})$  be a functional. We assume that there exists a smooth manifold  $Z \subset H$  such that

$$\|I'_\varepsilon(z)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (5)$$

as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  uniformly for  $z \in Z$ .

Let us consider the tangent space  $T_z Z$  of  $Z$  at  $z$  and let  $W = (T_z Z)^\perp$ . We shall look for the critical points of  $I_\varepsilon$  of the form  $z + w$  with  $w \in W$ . We first consider the auxiliary equation:

$$PI'_\varepsilon(z + w) = 0$$

where  $P$  denotes the projection onto  $W$ . In order to solve this equation, we assume that there exists  $\gamma > 0$  such that, for  $\varepsilon$  small enough,

$$\| [PI''_\varepsilon(z)]^{-1} \|_{L(W, W)} \leq \gamma \quad (6)$$

uniformly for  $z \in Z$ .

Fix  $z \in Z$ , and define  $B_{\varepsilon, \gamma} = \{w \in W: \|w\| \leq 2\gamma \|I'_\varepsilon(z)\|\}$ . We assume that

$$\|I''_\varepsilon(z + w) - I''_\varepsilon(z)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (7)$$

as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  uniformly for  $z \in Z$  and  $w \in B_{\varepsilon, \gamma}$ . Define the map  $S_\varepsilon: B_{\varepsilon, \gamma} \rightarrow W$ ,

$$S_\varepsilon(w) = w - [PI''_\varepsilon(z)]^{-1}(PI'_\varepsilon(z + w)) \quad (8)$$

According to the definition (8), the fixed point of  $S_\varepsilon$  is a solution of  $PI'_\varepsilon(z + w) = 0$ . It is possible to show that for  $\varepsilon$  small enough, the map  $S_\varepsilon$  maps the ball  $B_{\varepsilon, \gamma}$  into itself and is a contraction. As a consequence, there exists a unique  $w_{\varepsilon, z} \in B_{\varepsilon, \gamma}$  such that  $S_\varepsilon(w_{\varepsilon, z}) = w_{\varepsilon, z}$ . Moreover, one has that

$$\|w_{\varepsilon, z}\| \leq 2\gamma \|I'_\varepsilon(z)\|$$

Finally, one considers the reduced functional

$$\tilde{I}_\varepsilon(z) = I_\varepsilon(z + w_{\varepsilon, z}) \quad z \in Z$$

and proves that if  $z_\varepsilon \in Z$  is a critical point of  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon$ , then  $u_\varepsilon = z_\varepsilon + w_{\varepsilon, z_\varepsilon}$  is a critical point of  $I_\varepsilon$ .

## 2 Variational Reduction

In this section, we solve the auxiliary equation by verifying formulae (5), (6) and (7). We will use the nota-

tion  $E = H^1(\mathbf{R}^3)$ , endowed with two equivalent scalar products and norms

$$(u | v) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} (\nabla u \cdot \nabla v + uv) dx, \quad \|u\|^2 = (u | u)$$

$$(u | v)_\omega = \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} (\nabla u \cdot \nabla v + \omega^2 uv) dx, \quad \|u\|_\omega^2 = (u | u)_\omega$$

We will work on the space  $H = E \times E$ , equipped with the scalar product and norm:

$$(u | v) = (u_1 | v_1) + (u_2 | v_2)_\omega, \quad \|u\|^2 = \|u_1\|^2 + \|u_2\|_\omega^2$$

for  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2) \in H$ . For  $u_1, u_2 \in E$ , let

$$I_1(u_1) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_1\|^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_1|^{2q} dx$$

$$I_2(u_2) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_2\|_\omega^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_2|^{2q} dx$$

For  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in H$ , we define the functional of (2),

$$I_\varepsilon(u) = I_1(u_1) + I_2(u_2) - \frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) |u_1|^q |u_2|^q dx$$

Then the solutions of (2) are the critical points of  $I_\varepsilon$ .

For any positive integer  $n$  satisfying the assumption of Theorem 1 and  $0 < \delta < \frac{(2q-1)(\tilde{\omega} - \sigma(n-1)) - q}{(2q-1)(\tilde{\omega} - \sigma(n-1))}$ , define

$$T_\varepsilon = \left\{ \xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n) \in (\mathbf{R}^3)^n: |\xi_i - \xi_j| > (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \text{ for } i \neq j \right\}$$

where  $\xi_i = (\xi_{i1}, \xi_{i2}, \xi_{i3}) \in \mathbf{R}^3$ ,  $Z = \left\{ z_\xi = (z_{1\xi}, z_{2\xi}) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n U(x - \xi_i), \sum_{i=1}^n V(x - \xi_i) \right), \xi \in T \right\}$ .  $U$  and  $V$  are the solutions of (3) with  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda^2 = \omega^2$ , respectively, and

$$T_{z_\xi} Z = \text{span} \left\{ D_{\alpha z_\xi}^i = \left( \frac{\partial U(x - \xi_i)}{\partial x_\alpha}, \frac{\partial V(x - \xi_i)}{\partial x_\alpha} \right), \alpha = 1, 2, 3; i = 1, 2, \dots, n \right\}$$

$$W_\xi = (T_{z_\xi} Z)^\perp = \{u \in H: (u | v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in T_{z_\xi} Z\}$$

We also denote  $U(x - \xi_i)$  and  $V(x - \xi_i)$  by  $U_{\xi_i}$  and  $V_{\xi_i}$ , respectively.

In the following we shall solve the auxiliary equation by verifying formulae (5), (6) and (7).

**Lemma 1** The perturbation functional  $I_\varepsilon$  satisfies (5). More precisely, there exists  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$  we have  $\|I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi)\| \leq C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/(2q)(1-\delta)\tilde{\omega}}$  for any  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$ .

**Proof**

$$I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi)[(\phi_1, \phi_2)] = \left( I'_1(z_{1\xi})[\phi_1] + \varepsilon \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi}^{q-1} \phi_1 z_{2\xi}^q dx \right) +$$

$$\left( I'_2(z_{2\xi})[\phi_2] + \varepsilon \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi}^q z_{2\xi}^{q-1} \phi_2 dx \right)$$

For the first two terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| I'_1(z_{1\xi})[\phi_1] + \varepsilon \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi}^{q-1} \phi_1 z_{2\xi}^q dx \right| \leq \\ & C \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} U_{\xi_i}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j} dx \right)^{(2q-1)/(2q)} \|\phi_1\| + C\varepsilon \|\phi_1\| \leq \\ & C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/(2q)(1-\delta)} \|\phi_1\| \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\left| I'_2(z_{2\xi})[\phi_2] + \varepsilon \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi}^q z_{2\xi}^{q-1} \phi_2 dx \right| \leq C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/(2q)(1-\delta)} \|\phi_2\|$$

**Lemma 2** Assumption (6) in Section 1 holds. More precisely, there exists  $0 < \varepsilon_2 < \varepsilon_1$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_2$ , we have  $\| [PI''_\varepsilon(z_\xi)]^{-1} \| \leq \gamma$  on  $W_\xi$  for any  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$ .

**Proof** Since  $\| PI''_\varepsilon(z_\xi) - PI''_0(z_\xi) \| \leq C\varepsilon$ , it suffices to prove that  $\| [PI''_0(z_\xi)]^{-1} \| \leq \gamma$ . Let

$$z_i = z_{\xi_i} - \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 \sum_{j \neq i} (z_{\xi_i} | D_\alpha^j z_\xi) \| D_\alpha^j z_\xi \|^{-2} D_\alpha^j z_\xi$$

then  $z_i \in (T_{z_i})^\perp$ . Denoting  $V_1 = \text{span}\{z_i(x) \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , we have  $W_\xi = V_1 \oplus V_2$  and  $V_2 = V_1^\perp \cap W_\xi$ . One can verify that ①  $I''_0(z_\xi) |_{V_1}$  is negative definite; ②  $I''_0(z_\xi) |_{V_2}$  is positive definite. Therefore,  $PI''_0(z_\xi) |_{W_\xi}$  is invertible.

**Lemma 3** Assumption (7) in Section 1 holds.

**Proof** Direct computation yields

$$\begin{aligned} & (I''_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w) - I''_\varepsilon(z_\xi))[(\phi_1, \phi_2)][(\psi_1, \psi_2)] \leq \\ & C \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |w_1|^{2q} + |w_1| \left( \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\xi_i} \right)^{2q-1} + \right. \\ & \left. |w_1|^{2q-1} \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\xi_i} dx \right)^{(2q-2)/(2q)} \|\phi_1\| \|\psi_1\| + \\ & C \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |w_2|^{2q} + |w_2| \left( \sum_{i=1}^n V_{\xi_i} \right)^{2q-1} + \right. \\ & \left. |w_2|^{2q-1} \sum_{i=1}^n V_{\xi_i} dx \right)^{(2q-2)/(2q)} \|\phi_2\| \|\psi_2\| + \\ & C\varepsilon \|\phi\| \|\psi\| \end{aligned}$$

Using the Sobolev embedding theorem, for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (I''_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w) - I''_\varepsilon(z_\xi))[(\phi_1, \phi_2)][(\psi_1, \psi_2)] \leq \\ & C \left( \|w\|_{L^\infty}^{2q-2} + \|w\|_{L^\infty}^{(2q-2)/(2q)} + \|w\|_{L^\infty}^{(2q-1)(2q-2)/(2q)} \right) \|\phi\| \|\psi\| + \\ & C\varepsilon \|\phi\| \|\psi\| \leq C(\|w\|^{(2q-2)/(2q)} + \varepsilon) \|\phi\| \|\psi\| \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 1 and  $\|w\| \leq 2\gamma \|I'_\varepsilon(z)\|$ , we obtain assumption (7).

**Lemma 4** There exists  $0 < \varepsilon_3 < \varepsilon_2$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_3$  the auxiliary equation  $PI'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w) = 0$  has a unique  $w_{\varepsilon, \xi} \in W_\xi$  satisfying  $\|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  uniformly for  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$ .

**Proof** According to Lemma 2, the map  $S_\varepsilon$  defined by

(8) makes sense. One can easily verify that  $S_\varepsilon$  is a contraction and maps  $B_{\varepsilon, \gamma}$  into itself. Hence the auxiliary equation has a unique solution  $w_{\varepsilon, \xi} \leq 2\gamma \|I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi)\|$  for  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small.

### 3 The Regularity of $w_{\varepsilon, \xi}$ and Estimation of Its Derivative

In this section we will study the regularity of  $w_{\varepsilon, \xi}$  and estimate its derivative, and then we will use the critical point of the reduced functional to construct the solution of (2).

**Lemma 5** For  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_3$ ,  $w_{\varepsilon, \xi}$  is  $C^1$  with respect to  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$ .

We omit the proof.

In the following we estimate  $\partial_\xi w_{\varepsilon, \xi}$ .

**Lemma 6** There holds  $\partial_\xi w_{\varepsilon, \xi} \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  for  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$ .

**Proof** Since

$$0 = \frac{\partial H(\xi, w_{\varepsilon, \xi}, a, \varepsilon)}{\partial \xi} + \frac{\partial H(\xi, w_{\varepsilon, \xi}, a, \varepsilon)}{\partial (w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi), \alpha)} \frac{\partial (w_{\varepsilon, \xi}, a)}{\partial \xi}$$

we have

$$\left\| \frac{\partial w_{\varepsilon, \xi}}{\partial \xi} \right\| \leq C \left( \left\| I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}) \left[ \frac{\partial z_\xi}{\partial \xi} \right] \right\| + |a| + \|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}\| \right) \quad (9)$$

We estimate each term in the right hand side of (9). From Lemma 4, we have

$$\|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}\| \leq C \|I'_\varepsilon(\xi)\| \quad (10)$$

Secondly,

$$|a_i| \leq C(\|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}\| + \|I'_\varepsilon(\xi)\|) \leq C \|I'_\varepsilon(\xi)\| \quad (11)$$

Finally, we can deduce

$$\left\| I''_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}) \left[ \frac{\partial z_\xi}{\partial \xi} \right] \right\| \leq C(O_\varepsilon(1) + \|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)\|^{(2q-2)/(2q)} + \varepsilon) \quad (12)$$

Using Lemma 1 and combining (9) to (12), we obtain

$$\left\| \frac{\partial w_{\varepsilon, \xi}}{\partial \xi} \right\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \text{ uniformly for } \xi \in T_\varepsilon.$$

Defining  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi) = I_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi))$ , we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 7** If  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$  is a critical point of  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon$ , then  $z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)$  is a critical point of  $I_\varepsilon$ .

**Proof** We consider manifold  $Z_\varepsilon = \{z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi) : \xi \in T_\varepsilon\}$ . Since  $\xi \in T_\varepsilon$  is a critical point of  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon$ , then one has that  $(I_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)) |_{Z_\varepsilon})' = 0$ , namely,

$$I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)) [D_\alpha^i z_\xi + D_\alpha^i w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)] = 0 \quad (13)$$

Since  $I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}(\xi)) \in T_{z_\xi} Z$ , one has that

$$\| I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)) \| = \sup_{v \in T'_\varepsilon Z} | I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)) [v] | \quad (14)$$

Therefore, using Lemma 6 and combining (13) and (14), one has that  $\| I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)) \| \leq O_\varepsilon(1) \| I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)) \|$  for  $\varepsilon$  small enough, which implies  $I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)) = 0$ .

#### 4 Proof of Theorem 1

In this section, we will prove that the reduced functional has a critical point in  $T_\varepsilon$  for  $\varepsilon$  small enough in order to complete the proof of Theorem 1.

We consider the reduced functional

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi) &= I_\varepsilon(z_\xi + w_{\varepsilon, \xi}) = I_\varepsilon(z_\xi) + \\ &I'_\varepsilon(z_\xi) [w_{\varepsilon, \xi}, \xi] + O(\|w_{\varepsilon, \xi}\|^2) \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 1 and Lemma 4 it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi) &= I_1(z_{1\xi}) + I_2(z_{2\xi}) + \frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} z_{1\xi}^q z_{2\xi}^q dx + \\ &O\left(\varepsilon^2 \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi}^q z_{2\xi}^q dx \right)^{(2q-2)/q}\right) + O\left( \sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j} dx \right)^{(2q-1)/q} + \\ &O\left( \sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j} dx \right)^{(2q-1)/q} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(z_{1\xi}) &= \frac{1}{2} (z_{1\xi} | z_{1\xi}) - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} (z_{1\xi})^{2q} dx = \\ &nc_0 + \frac{n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j} dx \end{aligned}$$

with  $c_0 = I_1(U)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(z_{2\xi}) &= n\tilde{c}_0 + \frac{n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j} dx \end{aligned}$$

with  $\tilde{c}_0 = I_2(V)$ .

In the following, we argue by the method introduced in Refs.[19] and [20]. We define  $M_\varepsilon = \sup \{ \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi) : \xi \in T_\varepsilon \}$ . One can deduce the following lemma.

**Lemma 8** Assume that  $n \geq 2$ . Then there exists  $0 < \varepsilon_4 < \varepsilon_3$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_4$ ,  $M_\varepsilon > \sup \{ \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi) : \xi \in T_\varepsilon \}$  and  $|\xi_i - \xi_j| \in \left[ (1-\delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, (1-\delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + 1 \right]$  for some  $i \neq j$ .

For any  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_4$ , let  $\xi^k(\varepsilon) = (\xi_1^k(\varepsilon), \xi_2^k(\varepsilon), \dots, \xi_n^k(\varepsilon)) \in T_\varepsilon$  be a maximizing sequence of  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon$  for  $k=1, 2, \dots$ . Then Lemma 8 implies that  $\inf_k \min_{i \neq j} |\xi_i^k(\varepsilon) - \xi_j^k(\varepsilon)| \geq \left( (1-\delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + 1 \right)$ . Therefore, passing to subsequence if necessary, we may assume that either  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \xi_i^k(\varepsilon) = \xi_i^0(\varepsilon) \in \mathbf{R}^3$  with  $|\xi_i^0(\varepsilon) - \xi_j^0(\varepsilon)| \geq$

$\left( (1-\delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + 1 \right)$  for  $i \neq j$  or  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |\xi_i^k(\varepsilon)| = \infty$ . Define  $\pi(\varepsilon) = \{1 \leq i \leq n : |\xi_i^k(\varepsilon)| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty\}$  for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_4$ .

**Lemma 9** Assume that  $n \geq 2$ . Then there exists  $0 < \varepsilon(n) < \varepsilon_4$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon(n)$   $\pi(\varepsilon) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof** We argue by contradiction and assume that  $\pi(\varepsilon) \neq \emptyset$  along a sequence  $\varepsilon_m \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $\pi(\varepsilon_m) \supset \pi(\varepsilon_{m+1})$ , we may assume that  $\pi(\varepsilon_m) = \{1, 2, \dots, j_n\}$  for all  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  and for  $1 \leq j_n \leq n$ . We consider two cases: 1)  $j_n < n$ ; 2)  $j_n = n$ . For convenience of notations, we shall denote  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_m$  and  $\xi_i^k = \xi_i^k(\varepsilon_m)$ .

1)  $j_n < n$

Denoting

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_*^k &= (\xi_{j_n+1}^k, \xi_{j_n+2}^k, \dots, \xi_n^k) \\ \xi_*^k \rightarrow \xi_*^0 &= (\xi_{j_n+1}^0, \xi_{j_n+2}^0, \dots, \xi_n^0) \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^k) &= (n - j_n)c_0 - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{n - j_n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^k} dx + (n - j_n)\tilde{c}_0 - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2, \xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\frac{n - j_n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^k} dx + \\ &\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) z_{1\xi_*^k}^q z_{2\xi_*^k}^q dx + O(\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^k) - \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) &= j_n c_0 - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi_*^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\frac{j_n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + j_n \tilde{c}_0 - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi_*^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\frac{j_n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^k} dx - \sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^k} dx + \\ &\sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^k} dx - \sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^k} dx + \\ &\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) (z_{1\xi_*^k}^q z_{2\xi_*^k}^q - z_{1\xi_*^0}^q z_{2\xi_*^0}^q) dx + O(\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}) \quad (15) \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi_*^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} \leq \\ -\frac{2q-1}{q} \sum_{i=1}^{j_n} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^k} dx \quad (16) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi_*^k}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi_*^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} \leq \\ -\frac{2q-1}{q} \sum_{i=1}^{j_n} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^k}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^k} dx \quad (17) \end{aligned}$$

By (15), (16) and (17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^k) - \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) &\leq j_n c_0 + j_n \tilde{c}_0 + \\ &\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) (z_{1\xi_*^k}^q z_{2\xi_*^k}^q - z_{1\xi_*^0}^q z_{2\xi_*^0}^q) dx + O(\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}) \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and noticing that there holds  $|\xi_i^k| \rightarrow \infty$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, j_n$ , we have

$$M_\varepsilon \leq j_n c_0 + j_n \tilde{c}_0 + \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) + O(\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}) \quad (18)$$

On the other hand, let  $\xi_s^\varepsilon = \left( (4s - 2n - 2) \frac{2q-1}{2q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, 0, 0 \right) \in \mathbf{R}^3$ ,  $s = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then the open balls  $B_\varepsilon \left( \xi_s^\varepsilon, \frac{2q-1}{q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right)$  are mutually disjoint. Thus there are  $j_n$  integers from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  denoted by  $s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_{j_n}$  such that for  $i = 1, \dots, j_n$ ,  $j = j_n + 1, \dots, n$ , we have

$$|\xi_{s_i}^\varepsilon - \xi_j^0| \geq \frac{2q-1}{q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad (19)$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, j_n$ ;  $j = j_n + 1, \dots, n$ .

Letting  $\xi_i^\varepsilon = \xi_{s_i}^\varepsilon$ , we have

$$|\xi_i^\varepsilon - \xi_j^\varepsilon| > \frac{2q-1}{q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq j_n \quad (20)$$

$$|\xi_i^\varepsilon| \leq (n-1) \frac{2q-1}{q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, j_n \quad (21)$$

Letting  $\xi^\varepsilon = (\xi_1^\varepsilon, \dots, \xi_{j_n}^\varepsilon, \xi_{j_n+1}^0, \dots, \xi_n^0)$  and using (16) and (17), we have  $\xi^\varepsilon \in T_\varepsilon$ . Denoting  $\xi_j^\varepsilon$  by  $\xi_j^0$  for  $j_n + 1 \leq j \leq n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) - \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) &= j_n c_0 - \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi^\varepsilon}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + j_n \tilde{c}_0 - \\ &\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi^\varepsilon}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \\ &\sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx - \sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^0}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^0} dx + \\ &\sum_{i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx - \sum_{j_n+1 \leq i < j} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^0}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^0} dx + \\ &\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) (z_{1\xi^\varepsilon}^q z_{2\xi^\varepsilon}^q - z_{1\xi^0}^q z_{2\xi^0}^q) dx + O(\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}) \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi^\varepsilon}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{1\xi^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|U\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} \geq \\ -C \sum_{i=1}^{j_n} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi^\varepsilon}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{1}{2q} \|z_{2\xi^0}\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} + \frac{j_n}{2q} \|V\|_{L^{2q}}^{2q} \geq \\ -C \sum_{i=1}^{j_n} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Using (19) and (20), we have

$$-\int_{\mathbf{R}^3} U_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} U_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx \geq -C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)} \quad (25)$$

$$-\int_{\mathbf{R}^3} V_{\xi_i^\varepsilon}^{2q-1} V_{\xi_j^\varepsilon} dx \geq -C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)\omega} \quad (26)$$

Using (22) to (26), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) - \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) &\geq j_n c_0 + j_n \tilde{c}_0 - C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)} + \\ &\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) (z_{1\xi^\varepsilon}^q z_{2\xi^\varepsilon}^q - z_{1\xi^0}^q z_{2\xi^0}^q) dx \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Using assumption of  $b(x)$  and (21), we have

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x) (z_{1\xi^\varepsilon}^q z_{2\xi^\varepsilon}^q - z_{1\xi^0}^q z_{2\xi^0}^q) dx \geq C\varepsilon^{1+(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)\sigma(n-1)} \quad (28)$$

Combining (27) and (28), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) - \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) &\geq j_n c_0 + j_n \tilde{c}_0 - C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)} + \\ &C\varepsilon^{1+(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)\sigma(n-1)} \end{aligned}$$

According to the choice of  $\delta$ , when  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, we have

$$M_\varepsilon \geq \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) \geq j_n c_0 + j_n \tilde{c}_0 + \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi_*^0) + C\varepsilon^{1+(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)\sigma(n-1)}$$

which contradicts (18).

2)  $j_n = n$

Taking  $\xi^\varepsilon = (\xi_1^\varepsilon, \xi_2^\varepsilon, \dots, \xi_n^\varepsilon)$ , where  $\xi_i^\varepsilon = \left( (4i - 2n - 2) \frac{2q-1}{2q} (1 - \delta) \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, 0, 0 \right) \in \mathbf{R}^3$   $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , we have

$$M_\varepsilon \leftarrow \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) \leq n c_0 + n \tilde{c}_0 + C\varepsilon^{(2q-1)/q\tilde{\omega}(1-\delta)}$$

$$M_\varepsilon \geq \tilde{I}_\varepsilon(\xi^\varepsilon) \geq n c_0 + n \tilde{c}_0 + C\varepsilon^{1+(2q-1)/q(1-\delta)\sigma(n-1)}$$

It follows from the two cases that  $\pi(\varepsilon) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1** For  $n \geq 2$ , according to Lemma 9, if  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon(n)$ ,  $\tilde{I}_\varepsilon$  can achieve its maximum at some point  $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n) \in T_\varepsilon$ . Hence, according to Lemma 7 we know that  $z_\xi + w_\varepsilon(\xi)$  is a critical point of  $I_\varepsilon$ .

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## 薛定谔方程组多峰解的存在性

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**摘要:** Schrödinger 方程  $-\Delta u + \lambda^2 u = |u|^{2q-2}u$  有唯一的正径向对称解  $U_\lambda$ , 当  $r \rightarrow \infty$  时  $U_\lambda$  指数衰减到零. 因此可以预料薛定谔方程组  $-\Delta u_1 + u_1 = |u_1|^{2q-2}u_1 - \varepsilon b(x)|u_2|^q|u_1|^{q-2}u_1$ ,  $-\Delta u_2 + u_2 = |u_2|^{2q-2}u_2 - \varepsilon b(x)|u_1|^q|u_2|^{q-2}u_2$  存在在某些点附近形同  $U_\lambda$  的多峰解. 对于  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in H^1(\mathbf{R}^3) \times H^1(\mathbf{R}^3)$  定义非线性泛函  $I_\varepsilon(u) = I_1(u_1) + I_2(u_2) - \frac{\varepsilon}{q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} b(x)|u_1|^q|u_2|^q dx$ , 其中  $I_1(u_1) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_1\|^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_1|^{2q} dx$ ,  $I_2(u_2) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_2\|_\omega^2 - \frac{1}{2q} \int_{\mathbf{R}^3} |u_2|^{2q} dx$ . 证明了此泛函的临界点就是薛定谔方程组的解. 设  $Z$  为非扰动问题的解流形,  $T_z Z$  为此流形的切空间. 寻求  $I_\varepsilon$  的形如  $z + w$  的临界点, 其中  $w \in (T_z Z)^\perp$ . 应用  $I_\varepsilon$  的性质, 证明了  $I_\varepsilon$  存在近似于  $(\sum_{i=1}^n U(x - \xi_i), \sum_{i=1}^n V(x - \xi_i))$  的多峰解.

**关键词:** 耦合薛定谔方程组; 多峰解; 变分约化方法

**中图分类号:** O175.25