

# Dual formulation of the multi-state Schrödinger Poisson Equation

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# Nonlocal Shrodinger equations

$$(-\Delta + V)\phi + \lambda\phi = 0 \quad (1)$$

on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $V = K * |\phi|^2$  is some **symmetric** kernel.

# Nonlocal Shrodinger equations

The kernel is induced by electrostatic/gravitational potential  
 $K(x) \approx \pm|x|^{-1}$ :

$$-\Delta\phi(x) \pm \left( \int \frac{|\phi(y)|^2}{|x-y|} dy \right) \phi(x) + \phi(x) = 0$$

# Nonlocal Shrodinger equations

The "gravitational" case  $K(x) \approx -|x|^{-1}$

$$-\Delta\phi(x) - \left( \int \frac{|\phi(y)|^2}{|x-y|} dy \right) \phi(x) + \phi(x) = 0$$

was originally proposed by Ph. Choquard, as an approximation to Hartree–Fock theory for a one component plasma. Equation of similar types also appear to be a prototype of the so-called nonlocal problems, which arise in many situations and as a model of self-gravitating matter.

A generalized version in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  takes the form

$$-\Delta\phi - (I_\alpha * |\phi|^p) |\phi|^{p-2}\phi + \phi = 0 \quad (1)$$

where

$$I_\alpha = A(\alpha)|x|^{\alpha-n}; \quad A(\alpha) := \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n-\alpha}{2}\right)}{2^\alpha\pi^{n/2}\Gamma(\alpha/2)} \quad (2)$$

is the Riesz potential,  $\alpha \in (0, n)$ ,  $p \in (1, \infty)$  was considered by many authors in the last decades, using its variational structure as a critical point of the functional

$$E_{p,\alpha}(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( |\nabla u|^2 + |\phi|^2 - \frac{1}{2p} (I_\alpha * |\phi|^p) |\phi|^p \right) \quad (3)$$

on an appropriate space.

In particular, existence of solutions the case  $p = 2$  (and for more general singular interaction kernels) was studied by

- E. H. Lieb, *Existence and uniqueness of the minimizing solution of Choquard's non-linear equation*, Studies in Appl. Math. 57(2)93-105, 1976/77
- P.-L. Lions: *The Choquard equation and related questions*, Nonlinear Anal., 4 (6) pp. 1063-1072, 1980
- G.P. Menzala: *On regular solutions of a nonlinear equation of Choquard's type*, Proc. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh Sect. A, 86 (3-4) pp. 291-301, 1980

For existence, regularity and asymptotic behavior of solutions in the general case see V. Moroz and J. Van Schaftingen

- *Groundstates of nonlinear Choquard equations: Hardy-Littlewood-Sobolev critical exponent*, Commun. Contemp. Math. 17 , no. 5, 2015
- *A guide to the Choquard equation*, Vitaly Moroz & Jean Van Schaftingen. J. Fixed Point Theory Appl. 19 , no. 1, 773-813, 2017 and references therein.

The non-linear Schrödinger equation associated with  $E_{p,\alpha}$  takes the form

$$-i\partial_t\psi - \Delta\psi - a(I_\alpha * |\psi|^p)|\psi|^{p-2}\psi = 0 . \quad (4)$$

The number  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  is the strength of interaction. The case  $a > 0$  corresponds to the *attractive, gravitation-like* dynamics, and is related to Choquard's equation. The case  $a < 0$  is the repulsive, electrostatic case and is related to the Hartree system. In this lecture we deal with the attractive case.

Considering an eigenmode  $\psi = e^{-i\lambda t}\phi$  we get that  $\phi$  satisfy the non-linear eigenvalue problems

$$-\Delta\phi - a(I_\alpha * |\phi|^p)|\phi|^{p-2}\phi - \lambda\phi = 0 \quad (5)$$

which can be reduced to  $a = \lambda = 1$  by a proper scaling. However, the solutions of the time dependent nonlinear equation preserve the  $\mathbb{L}^2$  norm in time, so it is natural to look for stationary solutions under a prescribed  $\mathbb{L}^2$  norm (say,  $\|\phi\|_2 = 1$ ). It is not difficult to see that, in general, one can find a scaling  $\phi \mapsto \phi_\beta(x) = \beta^{-n/2}\phi(x/\beta)$  which preserves the  $\mathbb{L}^2$  norm and transform the strength of interaction in (5) into  $a = 1$ , making this parameter mathematically insignificant. There is, however, an exceptional case  $\alpha = n(p-1) - 2$ . In that case the first two terms in (5) are scaled identically under  $\mathbb{L}^2$  preserving scaling, so the size of the interaction coefficient  $a$  is mathematically significant in that case.



In the case  $p = 2$  and in the presence of a prescribed, scalar potential  $W$ , the  $\mathbb{L}^2$ -constraint version of (5) takes the form

$$-\Delta\phi + W\phi - a \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\phi(y)|^2}{|x-y|^{n-\alpha}} dy \right) \phi - \lambda\phi = 0, \quad \|\phi\|_2 = 1. \quad (6)$$

A solution is given by a minimizer of the functional

$$E_a^W(\phi) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (|\nabla\phi|^2 + W|\phi|^2) dx - \frac{a}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\phi(x)|^2 |\phi(y)|^2}{|x-y|^{n-\alpha}} dx dy \quad (7)$$

restricted to the  $\mathbb{L}^2$  unit sphere  $\|\phi\|_2 = 1$ .  $W$  a prescribed function satisfying

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} W(x) = \infty$$

## Exceptional case

D. Yinbin, L. Lu and S. Wei studied the equation in the exceptional case  $\alpha = n - 2$ , for  $n \geq 3$ ,  $a > 0$ .

$$-\Delta\phi + W\phi - a \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\phi(y)|^2}{|x-y|^2} dy \right) \phi - \lambda\phi = 0, \quad \|\phi\|_2 = 1 .$$

*Constraint minimizers of mass critical Hartree functionals: Existence and mass concentrations*, J. Mathematical physics, 56, 2015

In particular, they showed the existence of a critical strength  $\bar{a}_c > 0$ , depending on  $n$  but independent of  $W$ , such that  $E_a^W$  is bounded from below on the sphere  $\|\phi\|_2 = 1$  iff  $a \leq \bar{a}_c$ . Moreover, a minimizer of  $E_a^W$  exists if  $a < \bar{a}_c$ , and is a solution. It was also shown that  $a_c = \|\bar{\phi}\|_2$ , where  $\bar{\phi}$  is the unique, positive **unconstrained** solution of the equation of

$$-\Delta\bar{\phi}(x) - \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\bar{\phi}(y)|^2}{|x-y|^2} dy \right) \bar{\phi}(x) + \bar{\phi}(x) = 0 . \quad (8)$$

## Multi state system

The first object is to extend the  $\mathbb{L}^2$ -constraint Choquard equation (6) into a  $k$ -state system

$$-\Delta\phi_j + (W - aV)\phi_j - \lambda_j\phi_j = 0 \quad \|\phi_j\|_2 = 1, \quad ; \quad j = 1 \dots k$$

where

$$V(x) = I_\alpha * \left( \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\rho_i(y)}{|x-y|^{n-\alpha}} dy \right)$$
$$\rho_i := |\phi_i|^2$$

where  $(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k)$  constitutes an orthonormal  $k$ -sequence in  $\mathbb{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and

$$\beta_j > 0, \quad \sum_1^k \beta_j = 1 \tag{9}$$

are the *probabilities of occupation* of the states  $j = 1 \dots k$ .

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and the exceptional case  $\alpha = n - 2$

$$-\Delta\phi_j + W\phi_j - a \left( \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\phi_i(y)|^2}{|x-y|^2} dy \right) \phi_j - \lambda_j \phi_j = 0$$

where  $(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k)$  constitutes an orthonormal  $k$ -sequence in  $\mathbb{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and

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## Theorem

If  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k\}$  is a minimizer of

$$\mathcal{E}_{\beta, a}^{(\alpha)}(\vec{\psi}) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \left[ \langle \nabla \psi_j, \nabla \psi_j \rangle + \langle W \psi_j, \psi_j \rangle - \frac{a}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_i \langle |\psi_j|^2, l_\alpha * |\psi_i|^2 \rangle \right]$$

on all  $k$ - orthonormal frames  $\vec{\psi} = (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_k)$ , then it is a solution of the  $k$ -state Choquard system, while

$$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k$$

are successive eigenvalues starting from the minimal level  $\lambda_1$  and  $\phi_j$  the corresponding eigenstates.

## Dual formulation

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For the case of single state  $k = 1$ , the dual formulation of  $E_a^W$  for  $\alpha = 2$  on the constraint  $\mathbb{L}^2$  sphere takes the form of the functional  $V \mapsto \mathcal{H}_a^{W,\alpha}(V)$

$$\mathcal{H}_a^{W,2}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla V|^2 + \lambda_1(V)$$

over the *unconstrained* Beppo-Levi space  $V \in \dot{H}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Here the functional  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_1(V)$  is the leading (minimal) eigenvalue of the Schrödinger operator

$$-\Delta + W - aV \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n .$$



The extension of this dual formulation to the  $k$ -system for  $\alpha \in (0, 2]$  In case  $\alpha = 2$  it takes the form

$$\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,2}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla V|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V)$$

where  $\lambda_1(V) < \lambda_2(V) \leq \dots \lambda_k(V)$  are the leading  $k$  eigenvalues of the Schrödinger operator, while  $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \dots \beta_k > 0$ .

## If $\alpha \neq 2$ ?

Let us recall some definitions and theorems we use later

For  $V_1, V_2 \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 2)$ , consider the quadratic form

$$\langle V_1, V_2 \rangle_{\alpha/2} := A(-\alpha) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{(V_1(x) - V_1(y))(V_2(x) - V_2(y))}{|x - y|^{n+\alpha}} dx dy$$

where the constant  $A(-\alpha)$  is defined as in (2). If  $\alpha = 2$

$$\langle V_1, V_2 \rangle_{(1)} := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \nabla V_1 \cdot \nabla V_2 dx .$$

The closure of  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with respect to the norm induced by the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\alpha/2}$  is denoted by  $\dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2}$ . We denote the associated norm by  $\|\cdot\|_{\alpha/2}$ .<sup>1</sup> Recall that  $\dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2}$  is a Hilbert space so, in particular, is weakly locally compact.

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<sup>1</sup>Note that  $\dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  does not contain  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . In case  $\alpha = 2$  it is sometimes called Beppo-Levi space.

$\alpha = 2$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,2}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla V|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V)$$

where  $\lambda_1(V) < \lambda_2(V) \leq \dots \lambda_k(V)$  are the leading  $k$  eigenvalues of the Schrödinger operator, while  $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \dots \beta_k > 0$ .

$0 < \alpha < 2$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,\alpha}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V)$$

where  $\lambda_1(V) < \lambda_2(V) \leq \dots \lambda_k(V)$  are the leading  $k$  eigenvalues of the Schrödinger operator, while  $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \dots \beta_k > 0$ .

## Duality for a single component $k = 1$

$$\frac{1}{2} \langle I_\alpha * \rho, \rho \rangle := \sup_{V \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} \langle \rho, V \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} . \quad (10)$$

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$$\mathbf{H}^{(\alpha)}(\phi, V) = \langle (-\Delta + W)\phi, \phi \rangle + a \left[ \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} - \langle V, |\phi|^2 \rangle \right] . \quad (11)$$

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$$\inf_{V \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} \mathbf{H}^{(\alpha)}(\phi, V) = 2\mathcal{E}_a^{(\alpha)}(\vec{\phi}) \equiv$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[ \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla \phi \rangle + \langle W\phi, \phi \rangle - \frac{a}{2} \langle |\phi|^2, I_\alpha * |\phi|^2 \rangle \right] .$$

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$$\frac{1}{2} \left[ \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla \phi \rangle + \langle W\phi, \phi \rangle - \frac{a}{2} \langle |\phi|^2, I_\alpha * |\phi|^2 \rangle \right] .$$

Let  $\mathcal{H}_a^{W,\alpha}(V) = \inf_{\|\phi\|=1} \mathbf{H}^{(\alpha)}(\phi, V)$  .

$$\mathcal{H}_{,a}^{W,\alpha}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + \inf_{\|\phi\|_2=1} \langle (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi, \phi \rangle .$$



## Multi-level case

$$\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,\alpha}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + \inf_{\vec{\phi} \in \otimes^k \mathbb{H}^1} \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \langle (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi_j, \phi_j \rangle .$$

$$V \in \dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2} \mapsto G_{\beta,a}(V) := \inf_{\vec{\phi} \in \otimes^k \mathbb{H}^1} \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \langle (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi_j, \phi_j \rangle . \quad (12)$$

## Lemma

[Extended Rayleigh-Ritz] If  $\beta_1 \geq \beta_2 \dots \geq \beta_k$  then

$$G_{\beta,a}(V) = \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V)$$

where  $\lambda_j(V)$  are the  $k$  lowest eigenvalues of the operator  $-\Delta + W - aV$  arranged by increasing order. In particular,  $G_{\beta,a}$  is **concave** on  $\mathbb{H}_{\alpha/2}$ . If  $2 < n < 4 + \alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$  then  $G_{\beta,a}$  is weakly continuous on  $\mathbb{H}_{\alpha/2}$ . Moreover, the minimum in (12) is obtained at the eigenfunction  $\bar{\phi}_j$  of  $-\Delta + W - aV$  corresponding to  $\lambda_j$ .

# The Euler-Lagrange equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial V} \frac{1}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} = (-\Delta)^{\alpha/2} V$$

$$\bar{\partial}_V G_{\beta,a} = -a \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j |\bar{\phi}_j|^2$$

$$(-\Delta)^{\alpha/2} V - \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j |\bar{\phi}_j|^2 = 0 \quad \iff \quad V = I_\alpha * \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j |\bar{\phi}_j|^2 \right)$$

## Partial Proof

Let  $\bar{\phi}_j$  be the normalized eigenvalues of  $-\Delta + W - aV$  corresponding to  $\lambda_j(V)$ . Fix some  $m \geq j$  and let  $\mathbb{H}_m = \text{Sp}(\bar{\phi}_1, \dots, \bar{\phi}_m)$ . Let us restrict the supremum (12) to  $\mathbb{H}_m^k := \{\vec{\phi} := (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k), \phi_j \in \mathbb{H}_m\} \subset \mathbb{H}^k$ .

Then

$$\phi_j = \sum_{i=1}^m \langle \phi_j, \bar{\phi}_i \rangle \bar{\phi}_i, \quad (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi_j = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \langle \phi_j, \bar{\phi}_i \rangle \bar{\phi}_i .$$

Define  $\beta_{k+1} = \dots = \beta_m = 0$ . Then we can write, for any  $\vec{\phi} \in \mathbb{H}_m^k$

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \langle (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi_j, \phi_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m \beta_j \lambda_i |\langle \phi_j, \bar{\phi}_i \rangle|^2 . \quad (13)$$

Denote now  $\gamma_{i,j} := |\langle \phi_j, \bar{\phi}_i \rangle|^2$ . Then  $\{\gamma_{i,j}\}$  is  $m \times m$ , bi-stochastic matrix, i.e  $\sum_{i=1}^m \gamma_{i,j} = \sum_{j=1}^m \gamma_{i,j} = 1$  for all  $i, j = 1 \dots m$ . Consider now the infimum of  $\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m \tilde{\gamma}_{i,j} \lambda_i \beta_j$  over all bi-stochastic matrices  $\{\tilde{\gamma}_{i,j}\}$ . By Krain-Milman theorem, the minimum is obtained on an extreme point in the convex set of bi-stochastic matrices. By Birkhoff theorem, the extreme points are permutations so, from(13)

$$\forall \vec{\phi} \in \mathbb{H}_m^k, \quad \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \langle (-\Delta + W - aV)\phi_j, \phi_j \rangle \geq \sum_{j=1}^m \beta_{\pi(j)} \lambda_j$$

for some permutation  $\pi : \{1, \dots, m\} \mapsto \{1, \dots, m\}$ . Now, recall that  $\beta_j$  are assumed to be in descending order while  $\lambda_j$  are in ascending order by definition. By the discrete rearrangement theorem of Hardy, Littlewood and Polya [?] we obtain that the maximum on the right above is obtained at the identity permutation  $\pi(i) = i$ , that is, at the identity matrix

$\tilde{\gamma}_{i,j} := \langle \phi_j, \bar{\phi}_i \rangle = \delta_{i,j}$ . This implies that the eigenbasis  $\bar{\phi}_1, \dots, \bar{\phi}_k$  of the  $k$  leading eigenvalues is the minimizer of (12) on  $\mathbb{H}_m^k$  for any  $m \geq k$ .

In particular, the minimizer of (12) in  $\mathbb{H}_m^k$  is independent of  $m$ , as long as  $m \geq k$ . Suppose there exists some  $\vec{\psi} \in \mathbb{H}^k$  which is not contained in and finite dimensional subspace generated by eigenstates, for which (12) is strictly smaller than its value on the first  $k$ - leading eigenspace. Since the eigenstates of the Schrödinger operator under assumption generate the whole space we can find, for a sufficiently large  $m$ , an orthonormal base in  $\mathbb{H}_m^k$  for on which the left side of (12) is strictly larger than  $\sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V)$ , and we get a contradiction for this value of  $m$ .

## Theorem (Main)

- a: The functional  $V \mapsto \frac{a}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + G_{\beta,a}(V)$  is bounded from below on  $\dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2}$  for any  $a > 0$  if  $3 \leq n < 2 + \alpha$ .
- b: In the critical cases  $n = 3, \alpha = 1$  or  $n = 4, \alpha = 2$  there exists  $a = a_c^{(n)}(\vec{\beta}) > 0$  independent of  $W$  for which the functional is bounded from below if  $a < a_c^{(n)}(\vec{\beta})$  and unbounded if  $a > a_c^{(n)}(\vec{\beta})$ .
- c: Moreover, in the cases  $n = 3$  and  $n = 4, a < a_c^{(n)}(\vec{\beta})$  the functional is coercive on  $\dot{\mathbb{H}}_{\alpha/2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , namely

$$\lim_{\|V\|_{\alpha/2} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + G_{\beta,a}(V) = \infty \quad (14)$$

and a minimizer  $\bar{V}$  exists.

- d: If case [c] holds then there exists a solution of the Choquard system, induced by the minimizing potential  $\bar{V}$ .

# Proof of Main Theorem

## Theorem (Lieb-Thirring)

For the Schrödinger operator  $-\Delta - V$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a real valued potential  $V$  the numbers  $\mu_1(V) \leq \mu_2(V) \leq \dots \leq 0$  denote the (not necessarily finite) sequence of its negative eigenvalues. Then, for  $n \geq 3$  and  $\gamma \geq 0$

$$\sum_{j; \mu_j(V) < 0} |\mu_j(V)|^\gamma \leq L_{\gamma, n} \int V_+^{n/2 + \gamma} dx \quad (15)$$

where  $V_+ = \max\{0, V\}$  and  $L_{\gamma, n}$  is independent of  $V$ .

## Lemma (Critical Sobolev)

For  $\alpha \in (0, 2]$ ,  $n > 2$ , the space  $\dot{H}_{\alpha/2}$  is continuously embedded in  $L^{2n/(n-\alpha)}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , so there exists  $S = S_{n, \alpha} > 0$  such that

$$\|V\|_{2n/(n-\alpha)} \leq S_{n, \alpha} \sqrt{\langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2}}.$$

Recall that  $\lambda_j(V)$  are the eigenvalues of  $-\Delta + W - aV$ . Since  $W \geq 0$  it follows that  $\lambda_j(V) \geq \mu_j(aV)$ . Hence

$G_{\beta,a}(V) := \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j \lambda_j(V) \geq - \sum_{j; \mu_j(aV) < 0} \beta_j |\mu_j(aV)|$ . By Holder inequality, for  $\gamma \geq 1$ ,  $\gamma' = \gamma/(\gamma - 1)$  and (15)

$$G_{\beta,a}(V) \geq - \left( \sum_{j=1}^k |\beta_j|^{\gamma'} \right)^{1/\gamma'} \left( \sum_{j; \mu_j(aV) < 0} |\mu_j(aV)|^\gamma \right)^{1/\gamma} \geq -a^{1+n/2\gamma} L_{\gamma,n}^{1/\gamma} \|\vec{\beta}\|_{\gamma'} \left( \int V_-^{n/2+\gamma} dx \right)^{1/\gamma}.$$

Set now  $\gamma = \frac{2n}{n-\alpha} - n/2 \equiv \frac{(4+\alpha)n-n^2}{2(n-\alpha)}$ . Then, if  $2 < n < 2 + \sqrt{1+3\alpha}$  we get  $\gamma'_{n,\alpha} \geq 1$  and

$$G_{\beta,a}(V) \geq -a^{\frac{4}{4+\alpha-n}} L_{\gamma,n}^{1/\gamma} \|\beta\|_{\gamma'_{n,\alpha}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V_+^{\frac{2n}{n-\alpha}} \right)^{\frac{2(n-\alpha)}{(4+\alpha)n-n^2}}.$$

Using the critical Sobolev inequality

$$G_{\beta,a}(V) \geq -a^{\frac{4}{4+\alpha-n}} L_{\gamma,n}^{1/\gamma} \|\beta\|_{\gamma'} S_{n,\alpha}^{\frac{4}{(4+\alpha)-n}} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2}^{\frac{2}{(4+\alpha)-n}}$$



$$\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,\alpha}(V) = \frac{a}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2} + G_{\beta,a}(V) \geq a \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2}^{\frac{2}{4+\alpha-n}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \langle V, V \rangle_{\alpha/2}^{1-\frac{2}{4+\alpha-n}} - a^{\frac{n-\alpha}{4+\alpha-n}} L_{\gamma,n}^{1/\gamma} \|\beta\|_{\gamma',\alpha} S_{n,\alpha}^{\frac{4}{(4+\alpha)-n}} \right) \quad (16)$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{H}_{\beta,a}^{W,\alpha}$  is coercive for any  $a > 0$  if  $3 \leq n < 2 + \alpha$ . If

$n = 2 + \alpha$  then the functional is coercive if  $a < \frac{S_{n,\alpha}^{\frac{4}{n-(4+\alpha)}}}{2L_{\gamma,n}^{1/\gamma}} |\beta|_{\gamma',\alpha}^{-1}$ . Note that  $\gamma'_{n,\alpha} = \infty$  for  $n = 3, \alpha = 1$  and  $\gamma'_{n,\alpha} = 2$  for  $n = 4, \alpha = 2$ . Hence coercivity holds if

- $(\alpha, n) = (1, 3)$ :  $a < \frac{S_{3,1}^{-2}}{2L_{\gamma,3}^{1/\gamma}} |\beta|_{\infty}^{-1} < a_c^{(3)}(\beta)$
- $(\alpha, n) = (2, 4)$ :  $a < \frac{S_{4,2}^{-2}}{2L_{\gamma,4}^{1/\gamma}} |\beta|_2^{-1} < a_c^{(4)}(\beta)$

# Equi-energy distribution

$$\vec{\beta} = \mathbf{1}_k := \underbrace{(k^{-1}, \dots, k^{-1})}_k$$
$$|\vec{\beta}|_\infty^{-1} = k \quad ; \quad |\vec{\beta}|_2^{-1} = \sqrt{k}$$

so

$$a_c^{(3)}(\mathbf{1}_k) > O(k) \quad ; \quad a_c^{(4)}(\mathbf{1}_k) > O(k^{1/2})$$

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