

# Excited states in a parabolic trap

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# Introduction

Density waves in cigar-shaped Bose–Einstein condensates with repulsive inter-atomic interactions and a harmonic potential are modeled by the Gross-Pitaevskii equation

$$i v_{\tau} = -\frac{1}{2} v_{\xi\xi} + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 v + |v|^2 v - \mu v,$$

where  $\mu$  is the chemical potential.

Using the scaling transformation,

$$v(\xi, t) = \mu^{1/2} u(x, t), \quad \xi = (2\mu)^{1/2} x, \quad \tau = 2t,$$

the Gross–Pitaevskii equation is transformed to the semi-classical form

$$i \varepsilon u_t + \varepsilon^2 u_{xx} + (1 - x^2 - |u|^2) u = 0,$$

where  $\varepsilon = (2\mu)^{-1}$  is a small parameter.

# Ground state in the asymptotic theory

Limit  $\mu \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  is referred to as the **semi-classical** or **Thomas–Fermi** limit. Physically, it is the limit of large density.

Let  $\eta_\varepsilon$  be the positive solution of the stationary problem (ground state)

$$\varepsilon^2 \eta_\varepsilon''(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \mathbf{x}^2 - \eta_\varepsilon^2(\mathbf{x}))\eta_\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

For small  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a smooth solution  $\eta_\varepsilon \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  that decays to zero as  $|\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty$  faster than any exponential function such that

$$\eta_0(\mathbf{x}) := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \eta_\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} (1 - \mathbf{x}^2)^{1/2}, & \text{for } |\mathbf{x}| < 1, \\ 0, & \text{for } |\mathbf{x}| > 1, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\|\eta_\varepsilon - \eta_0\|_{L^\infty} \leq C\varepsilon^{1/3}, \quad \|\eta_\varepsilon'\|_{L^\infty} \leq C\varepsilon^{-1/3}.$$

Gallo & P., Asymptotic Analysis (2010)

# Excited states in the asymptotic theory

Let  $u_\varepsilon$  be the non-positive solution of the stationary problem (an excited state)

$$\varepsilon^2 u_\varepsilon''(x) + (1 - x^2 - u_\varepsilon^2(x))u_\varepsilon(x) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The excited states are classified by the number  $m$  of zeros of  $u_\varepsilon(x)$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

The product representation

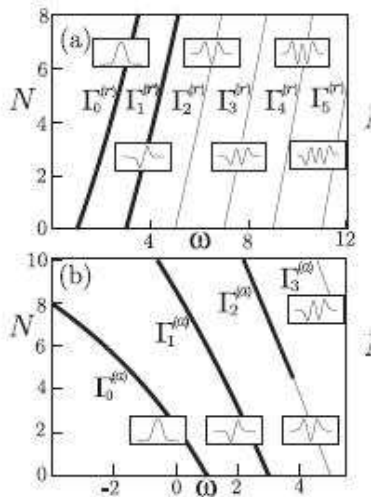
$$u(x, t) = \eta_\varepsilon(x)v(x, t)$$

brings the Gross–Pitaevskii equation to the equivalent form

$$i\varepsilon \eta_\varepsilon^2 v_t + \varepsilon^2 (\eta_\varepsilon^2 v_x)_x + \eta_\varepsilon^4 (1 - |v|^2)v = 0,$$

where  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} |v(x)| = 1$ .

# Stability of the $m$ -th excited state



Zeulin, Alfimov, Konotop, & Perez-Garcia, PRA (2008)

# Main objectives and results

- Study variational approximations of the  $m$ -th excited state
- Recover the equilibrium configurations and oscillation eigenfrequencies of the  $m$ -th excited state in the limit  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$
- Justify the variational results using rigorous methods, such as Lyapunov–Schmidt reductions
- Extend the results to vortices in two and three dimensions.

Coles, P., Kevrekidis, *Nonlinearity*, to be published (2010)  
P., *Nonlinear Analysis*, under consideration (2010).

# Variational construction

The equivalent Gross–Pitaevskii equation

$$i \varepsilon \eta_\varepsilon^2 v_t + \varepsilon^2 (\eta_\varepsilon^2 v_x)_x + \eta_\varepsilon^4 (1 - |v|^2) v = 0,$$

is the Euler–Lagrange equation for the Lagrangian  $L(v) = K(v) + \Lambda(v)$  with the kinetic energy

$$K(v) = \frac{i}{2} \varepsilon \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) (v \bar{v}_t - \bar{v} v_t) dx$$

and the potential energy

$$\Lambda(v) = \varepsilon^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) |v_x|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^4(x) (1 - |v|^2)^2 dx.$$

If  $\eta_\varepsilon \equiv 1$ , the Gross–Pitaevskii equation has the exact dark soliton

$$v_1(x, t) = \sqrt{1 - b^2(t)} \tanh(\varepsilon^{-1} B(t)(x - a(t))) + ib(t),$$

where

$$B = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{1 - b^2}, \quad a = a_0 + \sqrt{2} b_0 t, \quad b = b_0.$$

# Variational approximation of 1-soliton

For  $\eta_\varepsilon \neq 1$ , we substitute the dark soliton solution and compute the averaged Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(v_1) = & \frac{\varepsilon \dot{b}}{\sqrt{1-b^2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) \tanh(z) dx + b\sqrt{1-b^2} B \dot{a} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) \operatorname{sech}^2(z) dx \\
 & - \varepsilon b\sqrt{1-b^2} B B^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) z \operatorname{sech}^2(z) dx + (1-b^2) B^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^2(x) \operatorname{sech}^4(z) dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} (1-b^2)^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta_\varepsilon^4(x) \operatorname{sech}^4(z) dx,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $z = \varepsilon^{-1} B(x - a)$ ,  $B > 0$ , and  $a \in (-1, 1)$ .

Asymptotic analysis gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_1 := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{L(v_1)}{2\varepsilon} = & -\frac{\dot{b}}{\sqrt{1-b^2}} \left( a - \frac{1}{3} a^3 \right) + b\sqrt{1-b^2} (1-a^2) \dot{a} \\
 & + \frac{2}{3} (1-a^2) (1-b^2) B + \frac{1}{3B} (1-a^2)^2 (1-b^2)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$



# Main variational result for 1-soliton

Since  $\dot{B}$  is absent in  $L_1 := L_1(a, b, B)$ , variation of  $L_1$  with respect to  $B$  gives

$$B = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{1 - a^2} \sqrt{1 - b^2}.$$

Eliminating  $B$  from  $L_1(a, b, B)$ , the effective Lagrangian becomes

$$L_1(a, b) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} (1 - a^2)^{3/2} (1 - b^2)^{3/2} - 2\sqrt{1 - b^2} b \left( a - \frac{1}{3} a^3 \right).$$

The Euler–Lagrange equations are now

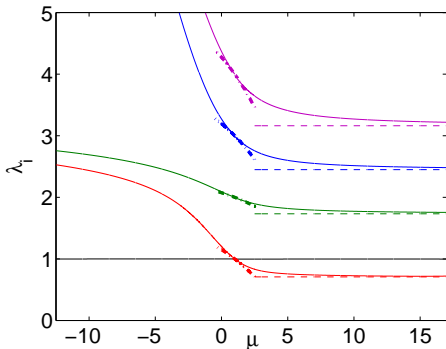
$$\dot{a} = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{1 - a^2} b, \quad \dot{b} = -\frac{\sqrt{2} a (1 - b^2)}{\sqrt{1 - a^2}},$$

which is equivalent to the linear oscillator equation

$$\ddot{a} + 2a = 0.$$

# Eigenfrequencies of 1-soliton

Recall the transformation  $\mu = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon}$  and  $\text{Im}(\lambda) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ .



P. & Kevrekidis, Cont.Math. **473**, 159 (2008)

# Lyapunov–Schmidt decomposition

The first excited state is an odd stationary solution such that

$$u_\varepsilon(0) = 0, \quad u_\varepsilon(x) > 0 \text{ for all } x > 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u_\varepsilon(x) = 0.$$

## Theorem

*For sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a unique solution  $u_\varepsilon \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  with properties above and there is  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\left\| u_\varepsilon - \eta_\varepsilon \tanh\left(\frac{\cdot}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) \right\|_{L^\infty} \leq C\varepsilon^{2/3}.$$

*In particular, the solution converges pointwise as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  to*

$$u_0(x) := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} u_\varepsilon(x) = \eta_0(x)\text{sign}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# Steps of the proof

## Step 1: Decomposition.

We substitute

$$u_\varepsilon(x) = \eta_\varepsilon(x) \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) + w_\varepsilon(x)$$

and obtain

$$L_\varepsilon w_\varepsilon = H_\varepsilon + N_\varepsilon(w_\varepsilon),$$

where

$$L_\varepsilon := -\varepsilon^2 \partial_x^2 + x^2 - 1 + 3\eta_\varepsilon^2(x) \tanh^2\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right),$$

$$H_\varepsilon(x) := \eta_\varepsilon(x) (\eta_\varepsilon^2(x) - 1) \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) + \sqrt{2}\varepsilon \eta'_\varepsilon(x) \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right)$$

and

$$N_\varepsilon(w_\varepsilon)(x) = -3\eta_\varepsilon(x) \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) w_\varepsilon^2(x) - w_\varepsilon^3(x).$$

# Steps of the proof

## Step 2: Linear estimates.

Using variable  $x = \sqrt{2}\varepsilon z$ , we obtain

$$\hat{L}_\varepsilon = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_z^2 + 2\varepsilon^2 z^2 - 1 + 3\hat{\eta}_\varepsilon^2(z) \tanh^2(z) = \hat{L}_0 + \hat{U}_\varepsilon(z),$$

where

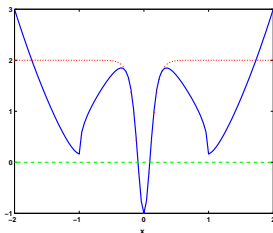
$$\hat{L}_0 := -\frac{1}{2}\partial_z^2 + 2 - 3\operatorname{sech}^2(z)$$

and

$$\hat{U}_\varepsilon(z) := 2\varepsilon^2 z^2 + 3(\hat{\eta}_\varepsilon^2(z) - 1) \tanh^2(z).$$

The spectrum of  $\hat{L}_0$  consists of two eigenvalues at 0 and  $\frac{3}{2}$  with eigenfunctions  $\operatorname{sech}^2(z)$  and  $\tanh(z)\operatorname{sech}(z)$  and the continuous spectrum on  $[2, \infty)$ .

# Steps of the proof



**Figure:** Potentials of operators  $L_\varepsilon$  (solid line) and  $L_0$  (dots) for the first excited state.

Resolvent of the unperturbed operator:

$$\exists C > 0, \alpha > 0 : \quad \forall \hat{f} \in L^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^\infty_\alpha(\mathbb{R}) : \quad \|\hat{L}_0^{-1} \hat{f}\|_{H^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} \leq C \|\hat{f}\|_{L^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha}.$$

Resolvent of the full operator:

$$\exists C > 0 : \quad \forall \hat{f} \in L^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}) : \quad \|\hat{L}_\varepsilon^{-1} \hat{f}\|_{H^2} \leq C \varepsilon^{-2/3} \|\hat{f}\|_{L^2}.$$

# Steps of the proof

## Step 3: Bounds on the inhomogeneous and nonlinear terms.

Recall that we are solving

$$L_\varepsilon w_\varepsilon = H_\varepsilon + N_\varepsilon(w_\varepsilon),$$

where

$$\hat{H}_\varepsilon \in L^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{w}_\varepsilon) : H^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto L^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}).$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 2)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{H}_\varepsilon\|_{L^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} &\leq \|\eta_\varepsilon\|_{L^\infty} \|(1 - \hat{\eta}_\varepsilon^2) \operatorname{sech}^2(\cdot)\|_{L^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} + \sqrt{2} \varepsilon \|\eta'_\varepsilon\|_{L^\infty} \|\operatorname{sech}^2(\cdot)\|_{L^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} \\ &\leq C \varepsilon^{2/3}. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $\hat{w}_\varepsilon \in H^2(\mathbb{R})$ , we have

$$\|\hat{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{w}_\varepsilon)\|_{L^2} \leq 3 \|\eta_\varepsilon\|_{L^\infty} \|\hat{w}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}^2 + \|\hat{w}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}^3 \leq 3 \|\hat{w}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}^2 + \|\hat{w}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}^3.$$

# Steps of the proof

## Step 4: Normal-form transformation.

Let

$$\hat{W}_\varepsilon = \hat{W}_1 + \hat{W}_2 + \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon, \quad \hat{W}_1 = \hat{L}_0^{-1} \hat{H}_\varepsilon, \quad \hat{W}_2 = -3\hat{L}_0^{-1} \hat{\eta}_\varepsilon \tanh(z) \hat{W}_1^2,$$

where

$$\exists C > 0: \quad \|\hat{W}_1\|_{H^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} \leq C \varepsilon^{2/3}, \quad \|\hat{W}_2\|_{H^2 \cap L^\infty_\alpha} \leq C \varepsilon^{4/3}.$$

The remainder term  $\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon$  solves the new problem

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon = \mathcal{H}_\varepsilon + \mathcal{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{H}_\varepsilon\|_{L^2} &\leq C \varepsilon^2, \\ \forall \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon \in B_\delta(H^2_{\text{odd}}): \quad \|\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon)\|_{L^2} &\leq C(\delta) \|\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\forall \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon, \hat{\phi}_\varepsilon \in B_\delta(H^2_{\text{odd}}): \quad \|\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon) - \mathcal{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{\phi}_\varepsilon)\|_{L^2} \leq C(\delta) \left( \|\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2} + \|\hat{\phi}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2} \right) \|\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon - \hat{\phi}_\varepsilon\|_{H^2}.$$



# Steps of the proof

## Step 5: Fixed-point arguments.

Since

$$\exists C > 0 : \quad \forall \hat{f} \in L^2_{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{R}) : \quad \|\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon^{-1} \hat{f}\|_{H^2} \leq C \varepsilon^{-2/3} \|\hat{f}\|_{L^2},$$

the map  $\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon \mapsto \mathcal{L}_\varepsilon^{-1} \mathcal{N}_\varepsilon(\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon)$  is a contraction in the ball  $B_\delta(H^2_{\text{odd}})$  if  $\delta \ll \varepsilon^{2/3}$ .

On the other hand, the source term  $\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon^{-1} \mathcal{H}_\varepsilon$  is as small as  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{4/3})$ . Therefore, Banach's Fixed-Point Theorem applies in the ball  $B_\delta(H^2_{\text{odd}})$  with  $\delta \sim \varepsilon^{4/3}$ .

**Step 6: Properties of  $u_\varepsilon(x)$ .** It remains to prove that  $u_\varepsilon(x) > 0$  for all  $x > 0$ . This property does not come immediately from the fixed-point solution

$$u_\varepsilon(x) = \eta_\varepsilon(x) \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) + w_\varepsilon(x),$$

where  $\|w_\varepsilon\|_{L^\infty} \leq C \varepsilon^{2/3}$ .

# Variational approximation of 2-solitons

A superposition of two dark solitons

$$v_2(x, t) = [A_1(t) \tanh(\varepsilon^{-1} B_1(t)(x - a_1(t))) + ib_1(t)] \times [A_2(t) \tanh(\varepsilon^{-1} B_2(t)(x - a_2(t))) + ib_2(t)], \quad (1)$$

where  $a_j \in (-1, 1)$ ,  $b_j \in (-1, 1)$ , and

$$A_j = \sqrt{1 - b_j^2}, \quad B_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{1 - a_j^2} \sqrt{1 - b_j^2}, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

Out-of-phase oscillations for

$$a_1 = -a, \quad a_2 = a, \quad b_1 = -b, \quad b_2 = b,$$

where

$$a \leq C_1 \varepsilon^{1/6}, \quad e^{-4Ba\varepsilon^{-1}} \leq C_2 \varepsilon^2 |\log(\varepsilon)|,$$

The first condition ensures that the dark solitons are close to the center of the harmonic potential. The second condition ensures that the overlapping between the dark solitons is small.

# Averaged Lagrangian for 2-solitons

Potential energy

$$\Lambda_2 := \frac{\Lambda(v_2)}{2\varepsilon} = \Lambda_+ + \Lambda_- + \Lambda_{\text{overlap}},$$

where

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (\Lambda_+ + \Lambda_-) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} (1 - a^2)^{3/2} (1 - b^2)^{3/2}.$$

and

$$\Lambda_{\text{overlap}} = -8\sqrt{2} (1 - a^2)^{3/2} (1 - b^2)^{5/2} e^{-4Ba\varepsilon^{-1}} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{1/3}) \right).$$

Kinetic energy

$$K_2 := \frac{K(v_2)}{2\varepsilon} = K_+ + K_- + K_{\text{overlap}},$$

where

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (K_+ + K_-) = -4\sqrt{1 - b^2} b \left( a - \frac{1}{3} a^3 \right).$$

# Main variational results for 2-solitons

In variables  $(a, b)$ , the Euler–Lagrange equations at the leading order give

$$\dot{a} = \sqrt{2}b, \quad \dot{b} = -\sqrt{2}a + 8\varepsilon^{-1} e^{-2\sqrt{2}a\varepsilon^{-1}},$$

or, equivalently,

$$\ddot{a} + 2a = 8\sqrt{2}\varepsilon^{-1} e^{-\frac{2\sqrt{2}a}{\varepsilon}}.$$

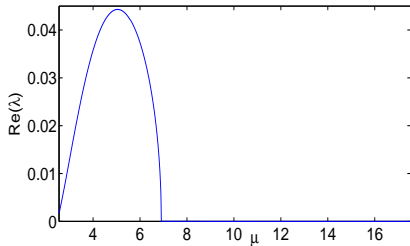
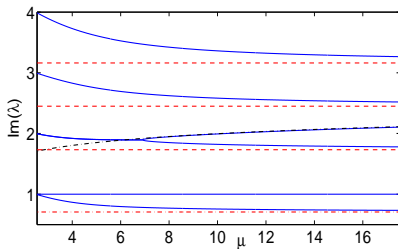
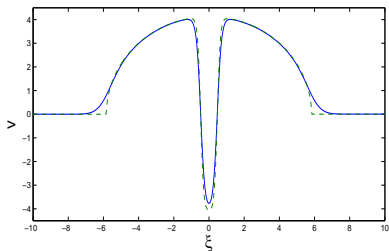
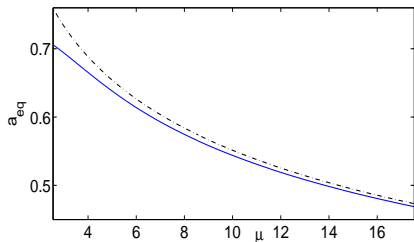
The equilibrium state  $a_0(\varepsilon)$  is given asymptotically by

$$a = \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{2}} \left( -\log(\varepsilon) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\log(\varepsilon)| + \frac{3}{2} \log(2) + o(1) \right) \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

The linear out-of-phase oscillations near the stationary state have squared frequency

$$\omega_0^2(\varepsilon) = -4 \log(\varepsilon) - 2 \log |\log(\varepsilon)| + 2 + 6 \log(2) + o(1), \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

# Eigenfrequencies of 2-solitons



# Rigorous results

The second excited state is an odd stationary solution such that

$$u_\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \text{ for all } |\mathbf{x}| > x_0, \quad u_\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) < 0 \text{ for all } |\mathbf{x}| < x_0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u_\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) = 0.$$

## Theorem

For sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a unique solution  $u_\varepsilon \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  with properties above and there exist  $a > 0$  and  $C > 0$  such that

$$\left\| u_\varepsilon - \eta_\varepsilon \tanh\left(\frac{\cdot - a}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{\cdot + a}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon}\right) \right\|_{L^\infty} \leq C\varepsilon^{2/3}$$

and

$$a = -\frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \log(\varepsilon) + \frac{1}{2} \log|\log(\varepsilon)| - \frac{3}{2} \log(2) + o(1) \right) \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

In particular,  $x_0 = a + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{5/3})$ .

# Steps of the proof

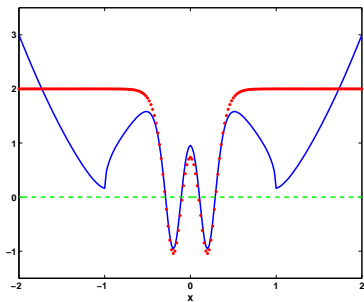


Figure: Potential of operator  $L_\varepsilon$  (solid line) and  $L_0$  (dots) for the second excited state.

Here the leading-order operator

$$\hat{L}_0(\zeta) = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_z^2 + 2 - 3\operatorname{sech}^2(z + \zeta) - 3\operatorname{sech}^2(z - \zeta), \quad \zeta = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\varepsilon},$$

has two eigenvalues in the neighborhood of 0 for large  $\zeta$  because of the double-well potential centered at  $z = \pm\zeta$ .

# Main variational results for $m$ -solitons

We can set up the leading-order averaged Lagrangian for  $m$  dark solitons:

$$L_m \sim -\sqrt{2} \sum_{j=1}^m (a_j^2 + b_j^2) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^m a_j b_j - 8\sqrt{2} \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} e^{-\sqrt{2}(a_{j+1}-a_j)\varepsilon^{-1}},$$

which generate the Euler–Lagrangian equations

$$\ddot{a}_j + 2a_j + 8\sqrt{2}\varepsilon^{-1} \left( e^{-\sqrt{2}(a_{j+1}-a_j)\varepsilon^{-1}} - e^{-\sqrt{2}(a_j-a_{j-1})\varepsilon^{-1}} \right) = 0.$$

The center of mass  $\langle \mathbf{a} \rangle = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m a_j$  satisfies

$$\langle \ddot{\mathbf{a}} \rangle + 2\langle \mathbf{a} \rangle = 0,$$

The normal coordinates

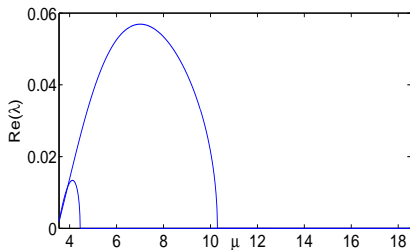
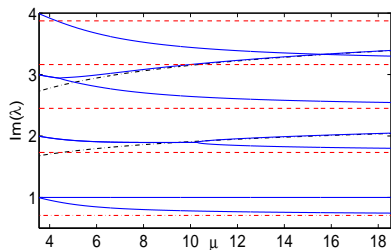
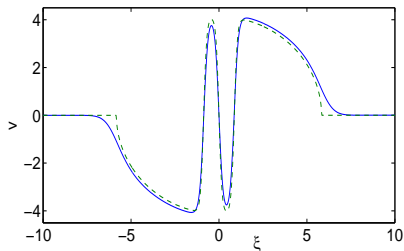
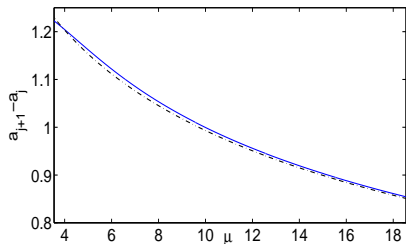
$$x_j = \sqrt{2}(a_{j+1} - a_j)\varepsilon^{-1}, \quad j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-1\},$$

satisfy

$$\ddot{x}_j + 2x_j + 16\varepsilon^{-2} (e^{-x_{j+1}} - 2e^{-x_j} + e^{-x_{j-1}}) = 0, \quad j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}.$$



# Eigenfrequencies of 3-solitons



# Summary of our results

- We predicted asymptotic dependence of the distance between dark solitons for  $m$ -excited states.
- We predicted asymptotic dependence of the eigenfrequencies of oscillations for  $m$ -excited states related to the dynamics of dark solitons with respect to each other and to the harmonic potential.
- We illustrated both asymptotic predictions numerically.
- We justified the existence results rigorously using fixed-point arguments and Lyapunov–Schmidt reductions.
- Analysis of vortices, dipoles, and other vortex configurations in the space of two dimensions is currently in progress.