

On some special solutions
and regimes

of the GROSS - PITAEVSKII
EQUATION

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joint works with: (for Traveling waves)

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and (for linear wave regime)

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INTRODUCTION

We consider the Gross - Pitaevskii equation on \mathbb{R}^N ($N \geq 1$)

$$i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \Delta \psi + \psi (1 - |\psi|^2) = 0$$

sometimes factor $\frac{1}{2}$ in the physical literature

where

$$\psi: \mathbb{R}^N \times]-\infty, +\infty[\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \simeq \mathbb{C}$$

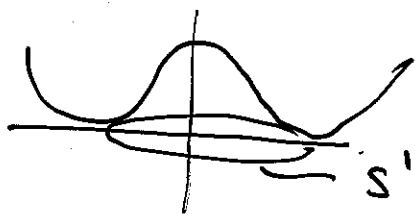
with boundary condition at infinity

$$|\psi| \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow +\infty.$$

FORMALLY CONSERVED QUANTITIES

ENERGY (Ginzburg - Landau type)

$$E(\psi(\cdot, t)) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |\nabla \psi(\cdot, t)|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (1 - |\psi|^2)^2$$



← Ginzburg - Landau potential

$$S' = \{ |x| = 1 \}.$$

MOMENTUM

$$P(\psi) = \frac{i}{2} \operatorname{Im} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \psi \nabla \bar{\psi} \quad [\text{HAS TO BE NORMALIZED}]$$

WE CONSIDER ONLY FINITE ENERGY SOLUTIONS!

HYDRODYNAMICAL FORMULATION

IF $|\psi| > 0$ on \mathbb{R}^N , then we may write

$$\Psi(x,t) = \sqrt{\rho(x,t)} \exp i \varphi(x,t) \quad [\text{Madlung transf.}]$$

where the function φ is real-valued and

$$\rho = |\Psi|^2$$

Setting $\vec{v} = \vec{\nabla} \varphi$, we obtain

$$(GP) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \vec{v}) = 0 \\ \rho \left(\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} \right) + \nabla \rho^2 = \rho \underbrace{\nabla \left(\frac{|\nabla \rho|^2}{8\rho^2} - \frac{\Delta \rho}{4\rho} \right)}_{\text{QUANTUM PRESSURE}} \end{cases}$$

If one neglects the R.H.S (QUANTUM PRESSURE) one obtains a Euler equation for irrotational fluid with pressure law

$$P(\rho) = \rho^2.$$



CONNECTIONS TO
FLUID DYNAMICS

↓ SOUND WAVES NEAR
 $\rho \approx 1$
SPEED OF SOUND
 $c_s = \sqrt{2}$

REMARK : Dispersion relation writes

$$\omega^2 = 2k^2 + k^4 \quad \text{QUANTUM PRESSURE}$$

NEGLECTING THE QUANTUM PRESSURE CORRESPONDS
TO A LONG-WAVE LIMIT!

TRAVELING WAVE SOLUTIONS

Special solutions of (GP) of the form

$$\psi(x, t) = U(x - \vec{c}t)$$

where $U: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is fixed. By invariance, we may assume that

$$\vec{c} = c e_1 = (c, 0, 0, 0) \quad , c \geq 0$$

The equation for the profile U is then the elliptic eq.

$$(TW)_c \cdot \quad ic \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1} = \Delta U + U(1 - |U|^2)$$

PROBLEM: STUDY FINITE ENERGY SOLUTIONS TO $(TW)_c$ ($E(U) < +\infty$)

- Existence, non-existence,
- Uniqueness
- Range of possible speeds
- stability

~~~~~> connected to the scattering problem. [Nakanishi - Gustafson - Tsai]

MANY OF THESE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN STUDIED (AND ANSWERED) IN THE PHYSICAL LITERATURE USING USING FORMAL EXPANSIONS + NUMERICAL (e.g. the work by JONES, PUTTERMAN, ROBERTS)

AIM: FIND RIGOROUS MATHEMATICAL PROOFS!

## II.2 Traveling waves in dimension $N=1$

In the one-dimensional case,  $(TW_c)$  is an ODE which may be explicitly integrated. We have

THEOREM 1. Let  $v$  be a finite energy solution to  $(TW_c)$ .

i) If  $c \geq \sqrt{2}$ , then  $v$  is constant

ii) If  $0 \leq c < \sqrt{2}$ , then up to a multiplication by a constant of modulus one, and up to translations, either  $v = \pm 1$  or

$$v = v_c(x) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{c^2}{2}} \operatorname{th} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2-c^2}}{2} x \right) + \frac{ic}{\sqrt{2}}$$

REMARK 1.  $|v_c(x)| \neq 0$ , unless  $c=0$   $v_0 = \operatorname{th} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$

$$ii) v_c(x) \rightarrow v_c^{\pm \infty} = \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{c^2}{2}} + \frac{ic}{\sqrt{2}}$$

exponentially fast.

iii) All non trivial waves are subsonic ( $c < \sqrt{2}$ ).

The momentum

$$P(v_c) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle i v_c', v_c \rangle$$

is well defined in view of the exponential decay if  $c \neq 0$ , then one may write  $v_c = p_c \exp i \varphi_c$

$$P(v_c) = -\frac{1}{2} \int p_c^2 \varphi_c'$$

which may be written as

$$P(v) = -\frac{1}{2} \int (\varphi^2 - 1) \varphi' + \frac{1}{2} \int \varphi'$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\varphi^2 - 1) \varphi' + \frac{1}{2} [\varphi(+\infty) - \varphi(-\infty)]$$

well defined in the energy space

This leads to introduce a slightly different definition for the momentum, namely

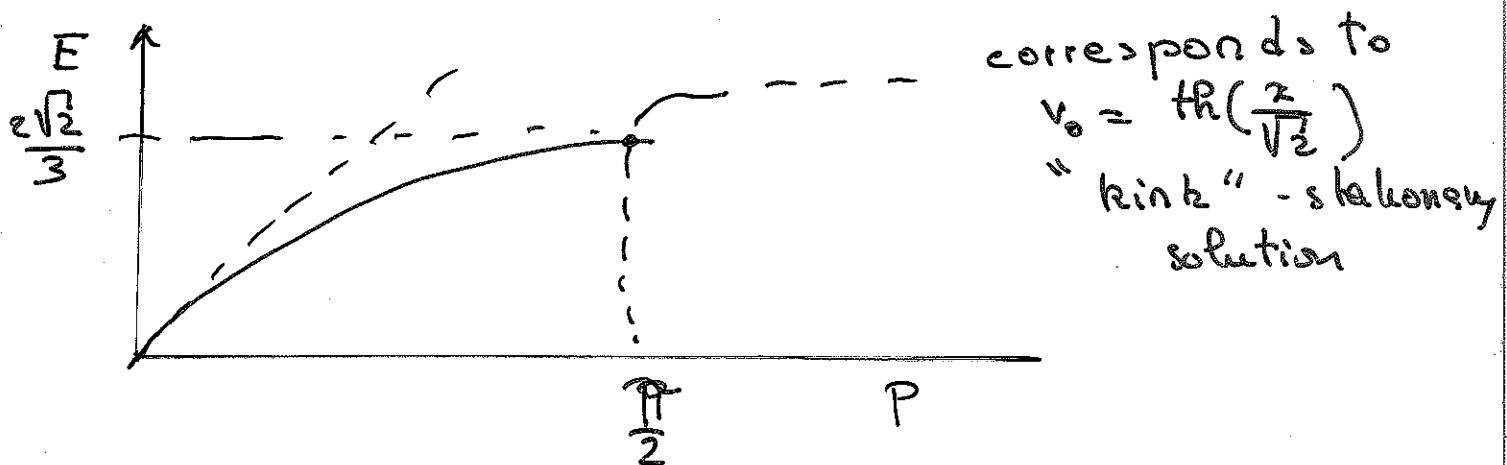
$$p(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (1 - \varphi^2) \varphi'$$

With this choice, we have

Proposition 1. We have the identities

$$\begin{cases} E(v_c) = \frac{(2-c^2)^{3/2}}{3} \\ p(v_c) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan\left(\frac{c}{\sqrt{2-c^2}}\right) - \frac{c}{2} \sqrt{2-c^2} \end{cases}$$

This yields a curve in the  $(E, p)$  momentum



strictly concave curve.

We have the variational interpretation of TW.

## Variational interpretation of (TW)

For  $\beta \geq 0$ , we consider the set

$$X_\beta = \left\{ u, \text{ s.t. } E(u) < \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \text{ and } p(u) = \beta \right\}$$

and the minimization problem

$$(P_\beta) \quad \text{Inf} \{ E(u), u \in X_\beta \}$$

(minimization of the energy keeping  $\beta$  fixed)

We have

Proposition 2. Let  $0 \leq \beta < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Then the minimization problem  $(P_\beta)$  is achieved by  $v_c$ , where  $c = c(\beta)$  is the only speed s.t.

$$\beta = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan \frac{c}{\sqrt{2-c^2}} - \frac{c}{2} \sqrt{2-c^2}$$

The proof relies on a concentration compactness method and the strict concavity of the curve  $(p(v_c), E(v_c))$ .

~~~~~> compactness for minimizing sequences

↓
ORBITAL STABILITY

(alternate approach by Ziwku Lin).

Connections to the KdV equation

Travelling waves to (TW_c) are related to the soliton of KdV as follows. Set

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{2-c^2}$$

and consider the scaled function

$$N_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \eta_c \left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

for $\eta_c \equiv 1 - |v_c|^2$. Then

$$N_\varepsilon(x) \equiv N(x) \equiv \frac{4}{2 \operatorname{ch}^2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)}$$

which is the classical soliton of KdV

$$\partial_t w + \partial_x^3 w + 6w \partial_x w = 0$$

KdV



III TRAVELLING WAVES IN DIMENSIONS TWO AND THREE

* No explicit solutions known

* aim: Construct solution using the variational principle (i.e. minimize the GL energy keeping the momentum p fixed)

~~~~> difficulty: Define the momentum (in a suitable space)

~~~~> first preliminary step: analyze properties of finite energy travelling waves

III.1 Some properties of solutions to (TW_c)

Most of the results proved by Ph. Gravejat in his thesis

THEOREM 2 (Gravejat 2003-2004, CMP). If U is a non trivial finite energy solution to (TW_c) then

$$0 \leq c \leq c_s = \sqrt{2} \quad (\text{speed of sound})$$

Moreover if $N=2$

$$0 < c < \sqrt{2} \quad (\text{subsonic waves})$$

Rk: Answers a series of physicists Roberts, Jones, Putterman.

Gravejat also studied the asymptotics at infinity of solutions

THEOREM 3 Let v be a finite energy solution to (TW_c). Then

i) There exists a constant v_∞ of modulus 1 s.t

$$v(x) \rightarrow v_\infty \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow +\infty$$

ii) Assume for simplicity that $v_\infty = 1$. Then

$$v \in W, \quad \text{where } W = \{1\} + V$$

$$V = \left\{ v: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \text{ s.t. } \begin{array}{l} \nabla v \in L^2, \operatorname{Re}(v) \in L^2 \\ \operatorname{Im} v \in L^4, \nabla \operatorname{Re}(v) \in L^{4/3} \end{array} \right\}$$

It turns out that W is a (reasonably) good space for (TW). Indeed, if one chooses as a definition for the momentum

$$P(v) = P_\pm(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int \langle i \partial_\pm v, v - 1 \rangle$$

then, we have

LEMMA E and P are well-defined continuous on W

Proof. Relies on the formulae

$$(1 - |1+w|^2)^2 = 4 \operatorname{Re}(w)^2 + 4 \operatorname{Re} w |w|^2 + |w|^4$$

(for the potential)

and

$$\langle i \partial_\pm v, v - 1 \rangle = \langle \partial_\pm \operatorname{Re}(v) \rangle \operatorname{Im} v - \partial_\pm (\operatorname{Im} v) (\operatorname{Re} v - 1)$$

+ various Hölder's inequalities,

VARIATIONAL FORMULATION OF (TW) [N=2, 3]

A general principle (Boussinesq (?)) asserts that solutions might be obtained minimizing the GL energy E keeping the momentum fixed.

This leads to consider, for $\beta \geq 0$ the function

$$E_{\min}(\beta) = \text{Inf} \left\{ E(v), v \in W, p(v) = \beta \right\}$$

where we recall

$$E(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (1 - |v|^2)^2$$

and

$$p(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \langle i \partial_x v, v - 1 \rangle.$$

The central question is

Q: is $E_{\min}(\cdot)$ achieved?

If the answer is yes, for every β , then one obtains a full curve of solutions in the $(\beta, E_{\min}(\beta))$ diagram.

In this approach, the speed c appears as a Lagrange multiplier related to the constraint.

Our main result is (N=2, 3)

THE GENERAL EXISTENCE RESULT

Set

$$\mathcal{P}_0 = \text{Inf} \left\{ p \geq 0, E_{\min}(p) = \sqrt{2p} \right\}$$

We have

THEOREM #. If $p \geq \mathcal{P}_0$, then the infimum $E_{\min}(p)$ is achieved, i.e. there exists a finite energy solution u_p of (TW) such that

$$\begin{cases} E(u_p) = E_{\min}(p) \\ P(u_p) = p \end{cases}$$

NOT ACHIEVED if $p < \mathcal{P}_0$
~~~~~ yields a full curve of solutions

The proof relies on

- properties of  $E_{\min}(p)$  in particular  
CONCAVITY
- a concentration-compactness argument  
[to face the non-compactness of the domain]
- a construction of approximate solutions  
[on a compact expanding domain]

Important difficulty the momentum is  
NOT DEFINED IN THE ENERGY SPACE -

We next present some of the ingredients.

## PROPERTIES OF THE CURVE $E_{\min}$

We have

THEOREM 5 i) For any  $p, q > 0$

$$|E_{\min}(p) - E_{\min}(q)| \leq \sqrt{2} |p - q|$$

In particular

$$0 \leq E_{\min}(p) \leq \sqrt{2} p$$

ii) The function  $p \mapsto E_{\min}(p)$  is

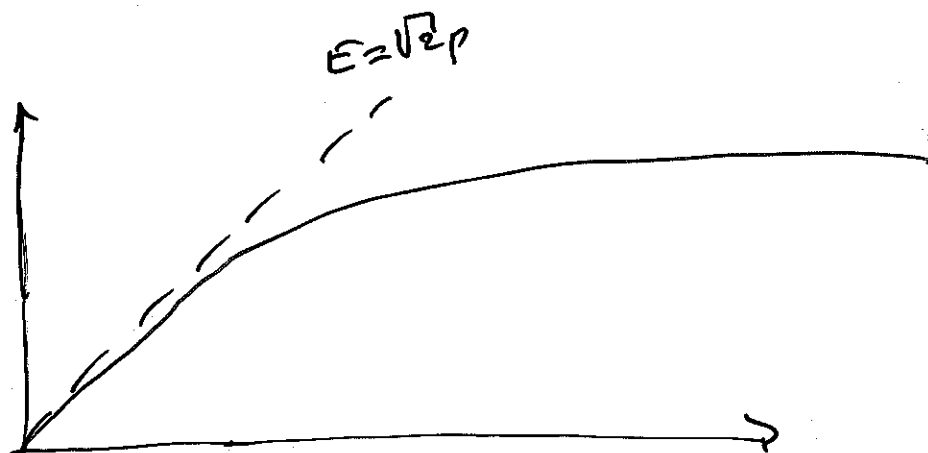
- CONTINUOUS
- NON-DECREASING
- CONCAVE
- $\frac{E_{\min}(p)}{p} \rightarrow 0$  as  $p \rightarrow +\infty$

As a consequence of concavity, we have

Corollary: The function  $E_{\min}(\cdot)$  is subadditive

$$\text{i.e. } \sum_{i=1}^p E_{\min}(p_i) \geq E_{\min}\left(\sum_{i=1}^p p_i\right) \quad (*)$$

Moreover, if (\*) is an equality and  $p \geq 2$  then  $E_{\min}$  is linear on  $(0, p = \sum p_i)$ .



Some ideas in the proof of i) One considers test functions  $v$  such that  $|v| \approx 1$ , i.e. of the form

$$v = \rho \exp i\varphi$$

(no vortex)

so that with  $\rho = 1 - \rho^2$ , we have

$$P(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} 2 \partial_{\pm} \varphi$$

$$E(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int \underbrace{|\nabla \rho|^2 + |\nabla \varphi|^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{2}}_{\text{QUADRATIC PART}} - \frac{1}{2} \int \underbrace{2 |\nabla \varphi|^3}_{\text{CUBIC}}$$

If one neglects the cubic term and keeps only the quadratic terms, optimization leads to

$$\sqrt{2} \partial_{\pm} \varphi \approx \rho$$

$$E(v) \approx \sqrt{2} P(v)$$

Some ideas in the proof of i) Concavity relies on the adaptation of an argument of O. Lopes, where comparison maps are constructed via a reflection.

For the asymptotics

$$\frac{E_{\min}(\beta)}{\beta} \rightarrow 0$$

we use explicit comparison maps involving

VORTEX SOLUTIONS

In view of Theorem 4 it remains to determine the value of

$$\mathcal{P}_0 \equiv \left\{ \mathcal{P} \geq 0, E_{\min}(\mathcal{P}) = \sqrt{2} \mathcal{P} \right\}.$$

The result depends on the dimension

LEMMA We have

$$\mathcal{P}_0 = 0 \quad \text{if } N=2 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{and } \mathcal{P}_0 > 0 \quad \text{if } N=3 \quad (3)$$

Idea of the proof of (2) [N=2]. We have

to show that

$$E_{\min}(\mathcal{P}) < \sqrt{2} \mathcal{P} \quad \forall \mathcal{P} > 0$$

i.e. to construct a comparison map  $v_{\mathcal{P}}$  such that

$$E(v_{\mathcal{P}}) < \sqrt{2} \mathcal{P} \quad P(v_{\mathcal{P}}) = \mathcal{P}.$$

For doing so, we rely on

FORMAL ASYMPTOTICS OF SOLUTIONS TO  
(TW<sub>e</sub>) to the (KP) soliton, as  $\mathcal{P} \rightarrow 0$ .

## THE TRANSSONIC KP-I LIMIT OF (TW)

Formal expansions by Jones, Putterman and Roberts show that solutions to (TW) approach as  $c \rightarrow \sqrt{2}$  (transsonic limit) to solitons to the (KP-I) equation

$$(KP-I) \quad \underbrace{\partial_1 w - w \partial_1 w - \partial_1^3 w}_{\text{KdV term}} + \underbrace{\partial_1^{-1} (\partial_2^2 w)}_{\text{transversal term}} = 0$$

The connection is as follows. Set

$$\varepsilon^2 = 2 - c^2 \quad \rho_\varepsilon = 1 - |u_\varepsilon|^2$$

and perform the change of variable

$$N_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon^2} \rho_\varepsilon \left( \frac{x_1}{\varepsilon}, \frac{\sqrt{2}x_2}{\varepsilon^2} \right) \quad (4)$$

the  $N_\varepsilon$  approximately solves (KP-I)

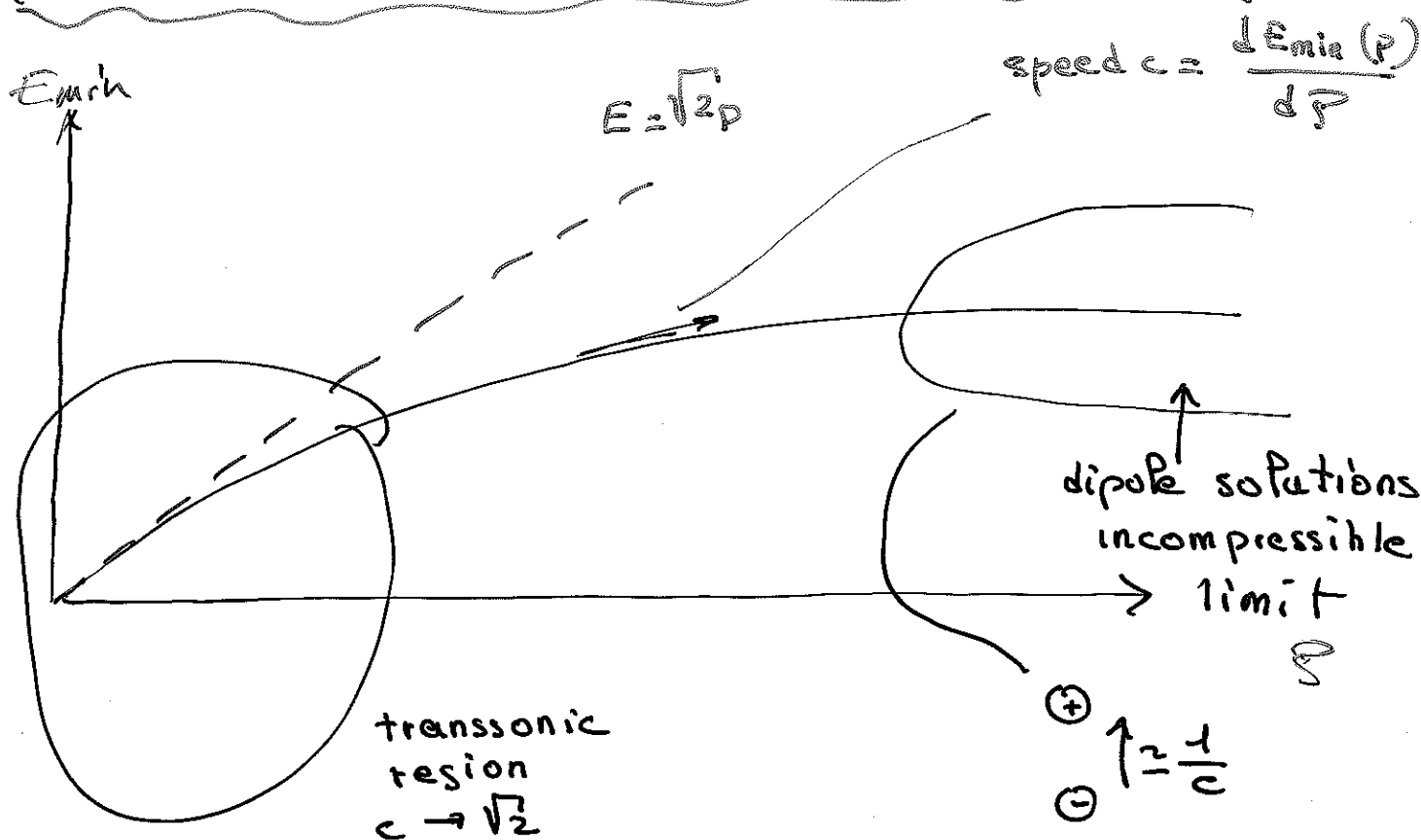
TO CONSTRUCT A MAP s.t.  $E(v_\rho) < \sqrt{2} \rho$ , we then use a KNOWN SOLUTION TO (KP-I)

and INVERT  $\psi \rightarrow \varphi$

We then compute  $E(v_\rho)$ , the momentum and conclude



$(\beta, E_{\min}(\beta))$  diagram in dimension  $N=2$



**REMARK**: In the dipole region earlier proofs base on asymptotic Ginzburg-Landau theory have been obtain in [B-Saut] using the mountain-pass theorem and by Chiron using minimization under constraint.

For a dipole solution

$$\begin{cases} E_{\min}(\beta) \approx 2\pi \log(\beta) \\ \beta \approx \frac{1}{c} \end{cases}$$

Proof of (3), i.e.  $\beta_0 > 0$  if  $N=3$

The fact that  $\beta_0 > 0$  in dimension 3 relies on the property that there are NO SOLUTIONS of arbitrary small energy:

THEOREM 6 Assume  $N=3$ . There exists a constant

$$\epsilon_0 > 0$$

such that  $(TW)_\epsilon$  has no solution verifying

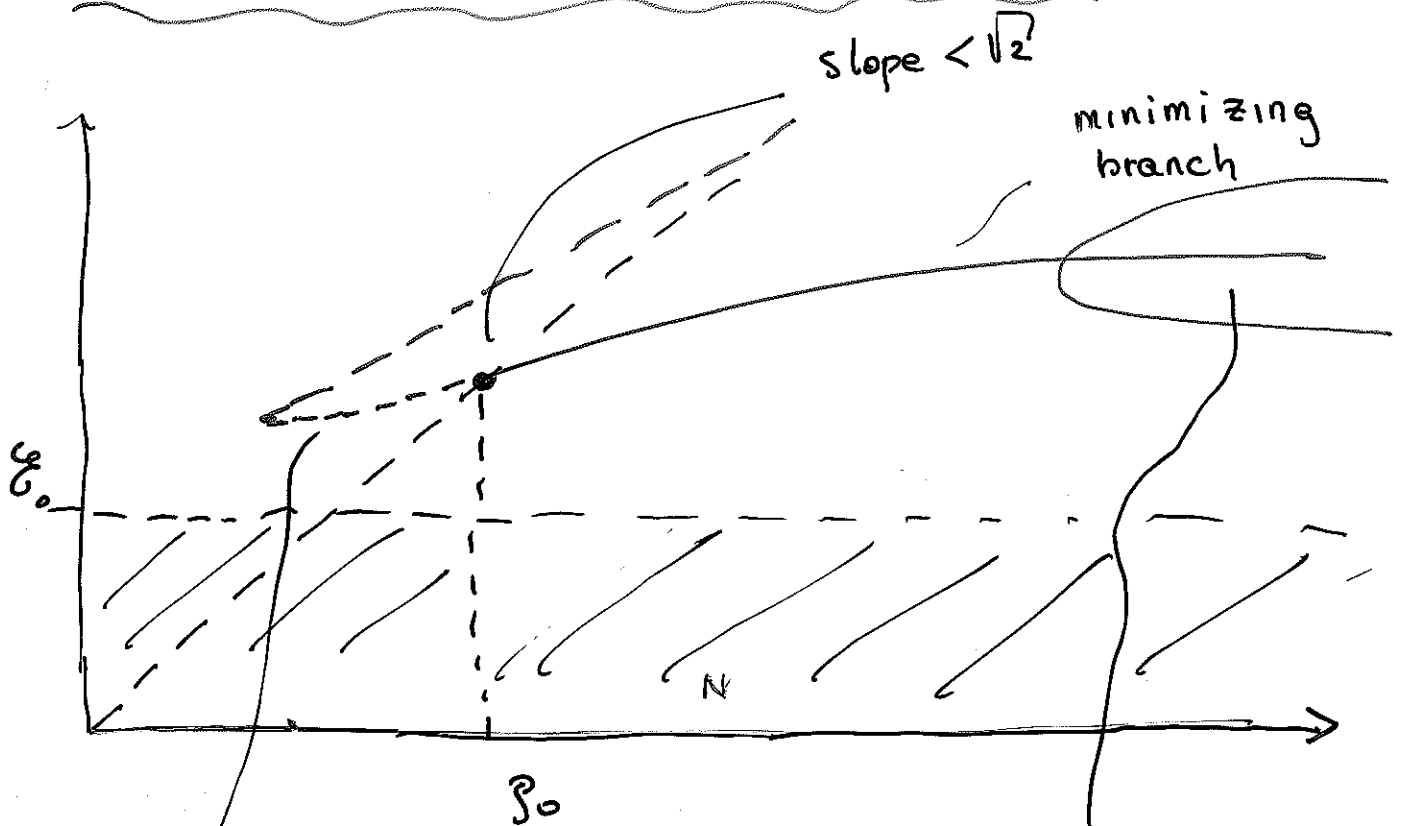
$$E(v) < \epsilon_0.$$

except the trivial ones.

The proof of Theorem relies on properties of the kernels related to  $(TW)$  and which are specific to dimension 3.

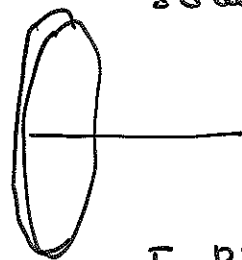
REMARK. Theorem 6 leaves open the possibility of a complete scattering theory in dimension  $N=3$  for initial data of small energy (established for  $N=4$  by Nakanishi, Gustafson, Tsai).

$(\beta, E_{\min}(\beta))$  diagram for  $N=3$



conjectural  
non-minimizing  
branch

vortex-ring  
solutions



[ previously  
established in  
B - Glandi-Smet ]

Jones, Putterman and Robert  
conjectured ANOTHER BRANCH OF SOLUTIONS  
here represented - - - - which has also  
a transonic band ( $c \rightarrow \sqrt{2}$ ,  $E(u) \sim \sqrt{2}p$   
 $E(u) \rightarrow \infty$ )

CHALLENGE: NO RIGOROUS MATHEMATICAL PROOF  
OF THAT BRANCH

# Mathematical results on the (KP-I) - Limit $N=2$

The formal convergence to (KP-I) found by Jones, Putterman and Roberts can be justified rigorously, for the minimizing maps  $(u_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon>0}$  constructed before in dimension  $N=2$

For  $\varepsilon > 0$  set

$$\varepsilon_\varepsilon = \sqrt{2 - c(u_\varepsilon)} \quad c(u_\varepsilon) \text{ speed of } u_\varepsilon$$

It can be shown that  $\varepsilon_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  and more precisely

$$\varepsilon_\varepsilon \propto \varepsilon$$

Set as before

$$N_\varepsilon = \frac{6}{\varepsilon_\varepsilon^2} \mathcal{D}_\varepsilon \left( \frac{x_1}{\varepsilon_\varepsilon}, \frac{\sqrt{2} x_2}{\varepsilon_\varepsilon^2} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{D}_\varepsilon = 1 - |u_\varepsilon|^2.$$

We have

THEOREM There exists a subsequence  $\varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0$

s.t

$$N_{\varepsilon_n} \rightarrow w \quad \text{in } C^{0,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

for some  $\alpha > 0$ , where  $w$  is a GROUND-STATE to (KP-I).

ingredients in the proof:

(A) Estimates for solution to the variational problem

+

(B) Good estimates (via Fourier for the kernels)

+

(C) Concentration compactness

+

(D) Concavity for the limit problem (KP-3)

Remark. There is an explicit known solution to (KP-2), the so-called "pump".

$$w(x_1, x_2) = 24 \frac{3 - x_1^2 + x_2^2}{(3 + x_1^2 + x_2^2)^2}$$

It is not known if the solution is unique nor (unique) groundstate.

### B) On a linear wave regime

(joint work with R. Danchin and D. Smets)

Another type of special solutions. Corresponds to a long wave-length regime. We introduce a parameter  $\varepsilon > 0$  and consider

$$i \frac{\partial u_\varepsilon}{\partial t} + \Delta u_\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} (|u_\varepsilon|^2 - 1) u_\varepsilon \quad (GP)_\varepsilon$$

[related to  $\varepsilon = 1$  by scaling  
 $u_\varepsilon = u_1 \left( \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right)$

For  $s > 0$  set

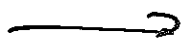
$$\Lambda_\varepsilon^s(u) = \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \||u|^2 - 1\|_{H^s}$$

If  $\Lambda_\varepsilon^s(u) \leq M$ ,  $\varepsilon$  small then

$$|u_\varepsilon| \geq \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow u_\varepsilon = \rho_\varepsilon \exp i\varphi$$

Set  $v = 2\nabla\varphi$ ,  $b = \sqrt{2} \left( \rho^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right)$  then

$(GP)_\varepsilon$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial b}{\partial t} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\epsilon} \operatorname{div} v = -\operatorname{div}(bv) \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\epsilon} \nabla b = -v \cdot \nabla v + 2\nabla \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \rho \right) \end{array} \right.$$

Linear wave operator  
of speed  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\epsilon}$

NL

$$u = \rho \exp i\varphi$$

$$v = 2\nabla\varphi, \quad b = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\epsilon} (\rho^2 - 1)$$

Our results assert that the solution to (GP) can be "compared" to the solution to the linear wave equation on times of order  $\epsilon^{-1}$