

On a critical and subcritical system of
subelliptic equations on unbounded domain of
Heisenberg group

Nasreddine Megrez

Department of Mathematics, Prince Sultan University
P.O. Box 66833 , Riyadh, 11586, Saudi Arabia.
email: nmegrez@psu.edu.sa, nmegrez@gmail.com

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Abstract

We give two existence results for the problem

$$(P) : \begin{cases} -\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n} u = q|v|^{q-2}v \text{ in } \Omega \\ -\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n} v = p|u|^{p-2}u \text{ in } \Omega \\ \lim_{|\xi| \rightarrow \infty} u(\xi) = 0 \\ \lim_{|\xi| \rightarrow \infty} v(\xi) = 0 \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \text{ (if } \Omega \neq \mathbb{H}^n) \end{cases}$$

where $\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n}$ is the Heisenberg Laplacian and \mathbb{H}^n is the Heisenberg group. The first existence result is established when Ω is a strongly asymptotically contractive domain, and $p, q \leq 2\frac{n+1}{n-1}$ are superlinear-subcritical, that is $1 > \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} > \frac{n}{n+1}$. The second existence result is established when $\Omega = \mathbb{H}^n$, and (p, q) is critical, that is $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = \frac{n}{n+1}$.

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1 Introduction and main result

We denote by \mathbb{H}^n the vector space \mathbb{R}^{2n+1} , of vectors $\xi := (x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n, t) := (x, y, t)$, endowed with the group action:

$$\xi \circ \xi_0 = (x + x_0, y + y_0, t + t_0 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i y_{0i} - y_i x_{0i})).$$

\mathbb{H}^n is a Lie group, called the Heisenberg group, and the corresponding Lie algebra of left invariant vector fields, is generated by:

$$\begin{cases} X_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + 2y_i \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, & i = 1, \dots, n, \\ Y_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} - 2x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, & i = 1, \dots, n, \\ T = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}. \end{cases}$$

We have $[X_i, Y_j] = -4T\delta_{i,j}$, $[X_j, X_k] = [Y_j, Y_k] = [X_j, T] = [Y_j, T] = 0$.

The Heisenberg Laplacian, (also called the subelliptic Laplacian, or the Kohn Laplacian), is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n} &:= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i^2 + Y_i^2) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_i^2} + 4y_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial t} - 4x_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_i \partial t} + 4(x_i^2 + y_i^2) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \\ &= \operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) \end{aligned}$$

where A is the following $(2n+1) \times (2n+1)$ matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 & 2y^t \\ 0 & I_n & -2x^t \\ 2y & -2x & 4(x^2 + y^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Observe that A is a positive semi definite matrix, with $\det(A) \equiv 0$ for all $(x, y, t) \in \mathbb{H}^n$, and $\operatorname{rank}(A) = 2n$.

A natural group of dilations on \mathbb{H}^n , is given by:

$$\delta_\lambda(\xi) := (\lambda x, \lambda y, \lambda^2 t), \quad \lambda > 0.$$

The Jacobian determinant of δ_λ is λ^N , where $N = 2n + 2$ is the homogeneous dimension of \mathbb{H}^n .

$N^* := \frac{2N}{N-2}$, is the critical Sobolev exponent for $\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n}$.

Let Ω be an open set of \mathbb{H}^n . We denote by $\overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\Omega)$ the Folland-Stein Sobolev space, defined as the closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$, under the norm:

$$\|u\|_{\overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\Omega)}^2 := \int_{\Omega} |\nabla_{\mathbb{H}^n} u|^2 d\xi.$$

Note that $S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n) = S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)$.

Definition 1.1. A domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{H}^n$ is said to be strongly asymptotically contractive (S.A.C for simplicity), if $\Omega \neq \mathbb{H}^n$ and for any sequence $\eta_j \in \mathbb{H}^n$ such that $|\eta_j| \rightarrow \infty$, there exists a subsequence η_{j_l} such that either

$$\text{i) } \left| \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{l=n}^{\infty} (\eta_{j_l} \circ \Omega) \right| = 0,$$

or

ii) $\exists \eta_0 \in \mathbb{H}^n$ such that for any $R > 0$ there exist an open set $M_R \subset \subset \eta_0 \circ \Omega$, a closed set Z of measure zero and an integer $l_R > 0$ such that

$$(\eta_{j_l} \circ \Omega) \cap B_R(0) \subset M_R \cup Z, \quad \text{for any } l \geq l_R.$$

Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{H}^n$ be unbounded, and p, q two positives real.

In this paper, we give two existence results for the problem

$$(P) : \begin{cases} -\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n} u = q|v|^{q-2}v \text{ in } \Omega \\ -\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n} v = p|u|^{p-2}u \text{ in } \Omega \\ \lim_{|\xi| \rightarrow \infty} u(\xi) = 0 \\ \lim_{|\xi| \rightarrow \infty} v(\xi) = 0 \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \text{ (if } \Omega \neq \mathbb{H}^n) \end{cases}$$

according to the following cases:

Case I: Ω is strongly asymptotically contractive domain, and $p, q \leq \frac{2N}{N-4}$, and are superlinear-subcritical, that is

$$1 > \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} > \frac{N-2}{N} = \frac{n}{n+1} \quad (1.1)$$

Case II: $\Omega = \mathbb{H}^n$, and (p, q) is critical, that is

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = \frac{N-2}{N} = \frac{n}{n+1} \quad (1.2)$$

Let \mathcal{H} be the Banach space $(S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n) \cap L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)) \times (S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n) \cap L^q(\mathbb{H}^n))$, equipped with the norm:

$$\|(u, v)\|_{\mathcal{H}} = \|u\|_{S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)} + \|v\|_{S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)}.$$

A weak solution of the problem (P) is a critical point of the functional J defined by:

$$J(u, v) := \int_{\Omega} \nabla_{\mathbb{H}^n} u \cdot \nabla_{\mathbb{H}^n} v d\xi - \int_{\Omega} [|u|^p + |v|^q] d\xi \quad (1.3)$$

where $\nabla_{\mathbb{H}^n} := (X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$

The quadratic part of J is well defined on $\overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\Omega) \times \overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\Omega)$, and the second part is well defined if $p, q \leq \frac{N+2}{N-2}$. However, for subcritical (p, q) ((1.1)), at less one of the variables p, q is greater then $\frac{N+2}{N-2}$. For this matter, we will use in case I, fractional Sobolev spaces

$$E_{s,t} = D\left((-\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n})^{\frac{s}{2}}\right) \times D\left((-\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n})^{\frac{t}{2}}\right), \quad s, t > 0, \quad s+t=2,$$

allowing us to take $p > \frac{N+2}{N-2}$, if $q < \frac{N+2}{N-2}$, and to use some compact sobolev embeddings. In case II, J is well defined and of class C^1 on \mathcal{H} , and in vertue of abstract concentration compactness we dont need compact embeddings.

Our main results are:

Theorem 1.2. *In the case I, the problem (P) has a weak solution in $E_{s,t}$*

Theorem 1.3. *In the case II, the problem (P) has a weak solution in \mathcal{H} .*

2 Functional analytic frame work

In this section, we expose an abstract analytic frame work.

2.1 Spectral families

For completion, we recall results on spectral families (see [7]). Let H be a Hilbert space endowed with a scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and its associated norm $\|\cdot\|$. Suppose there is a nondecreasing family $\{M(\lambda), \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}$ of closed subspaces of H , such that $\bigcap_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} M(\lambda) = \{0\}$, and $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} M(\lambda) = H$.

For any fixed λ , we have

$$M(\lambda - 0) := \overline{\bigcup_{\lambda' < \lambda} M(\lambda')} \subset M(\lambda) \subset M(\lambda + 0) := \bigcap_{\lambda' > \lambda} M(\lambda')$$

Definition 2.1. We say that the family $\{M(\lambda)\}$ is right continuous at λ if $M(\lambda + 0) = M(\lambda)$, left continuous if $M(\lambda - 0) = M(\lambda)$, and continuous if it is both right and left continuous.

Definition 2.2. The family $\{E(\lambda)\}$ of orthogonal projections on $M(\lambda)$, is called spectral family, and we have:

- i) $\{E(\lambda)\}$ is nondecreasing: $E(\lambda') \leq E(\lambda'')$ for $\lambda' < \lambda''$.
- ii) $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} E(\lambda) = 0$, and $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} E(\lambda) = id$.
- iii) $\{E(\lambda)\}$ is strongly right (resp. left) continuous if and only if $\{M(\lambda)\}$ is right (resp. left) continuous.
- iv) For any semiclosed interval $I =]\lambda', \lambda''] \subset \mathbb{R}$, we define $E(I)$ as the projection on the subspace $M(I) = M(\lambda'') \ominus M(\lambda')$ ¹, and we have

$$E(I) = E(\lambda'') - E(\lambda')$$

Definition 2.3. $\{E(\lambda)\}$ is said to be bounded from below if $E(\mu) = 0$ for some finite μ , that is, $\{E(\lambda)\} = 0$ for $\lambda < \mu$. The least upper bound of such μ is the lower bound of $\{E(\lambda)\}$.

$\{E(\lambda)\}$ is said to be bounded from above if $E(\mu) = id$ for some finite μ , that is, $\{E(\lambda)\} = id$ for $\lambda > \mu$. The greatest lower bound of such μ is the upper bound of $\{E(\lambda)\}$.

To any spectral family $\{E(\lambda)\}$, we associate a selfadjoint operator T defined by

$$T = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \lambda dE(\lambda) \tag{2.1}$$

on

$$D(T) = \left\{ u \in H : \|Tu\|^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)u, u \rangle < \infty \right\} \tag{2.2}$$

Theorem 2.4. (The spectral Theorem). *Every selfadjoint operator T admits an expression (2.1) by means of a spectral family $\{E(\lambda)\}$ which is uniquely determined by*

$$E(\lambda) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} [U(\lambda) + U(\lambda)^2] \tag{2.3}$$

where $U(\lambda)$ is the partially isometric operator that appears in the polar decomposition $T - \lambda = U(\lambda)|T - \lambda|$ ² of $T - \lambda$.

We have the following properties:

$$\langle Tu, v \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \lambda d\langle E(\lambda)u, v \rangle \text{ for } u \in D(T), v \in H \tag{2.4}$$

$$\langle Tu, u \rangle \leq \lambda \|u\|^2 \text{ for } u \in E(\lambda)H \tag{2.5}$$

¹ $A \ominus B := A \cap B^\perp$ is the orthogonal complement of B in A .

² $|A| = \sum \alpha_k \langle \cdot, \varphi_k \rangle \varphi_k$, where $\{\varphi_k\}$ is a set of eigenfunctions of A defining an orthonormal basis of H , and $\alpha_1 \geq \alpha_2 \geq \dots > 0$ satisfies $A^*A\varphi_k = \alpha_k^2\varphi_k$, $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\lambda\|u\|^2 \leq \langle Tu, u \rangle \leq \mu\|u\|^2 \text{ for } u \in E(\mu)H \ominus E(\lambda)H \quad (2.6)$$

$$\langle Tu, u \rangle \geq \mu\|u\|^2 \text{ for } u \in [E(\mu)H]^\perp \cap D(T) \quad (2.7)$$

2.2 A quadratic form on fractional Sobolev spaces

Suppose that T is semi bounded from below, that is, there exists a constant δ such that

$$\langle Tu, u \rangle \geq \delta\|u\|^2, \text{ for } u \in D(T) \quad (2.8)$$

For simplicity, we will take $\delta = 1$. Then $E(\lambda) = 0$ for $\lambda < 1$, where $\{E(\lambda), \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}$ denotes the spectral family associated with T . Hence one can define $T^{1/2}$ as

$$T^{1/2} := \int_1^{+\infty} \lambda^{1/2} dE(\lambda),$$

on

$$D(T^{1/2}) = \left\{ u \in H : \|T^{1/2}u\|^2 = \int_1^{+\infty} \lambda d\langle E(\lambda)u, u \rangle < \infty \right\}.$$

For each positive real s , one can define $T^{s/2}$ as

$$A^s := T^{s/2} = \int_1^{+\infty} \lambda^{s/2} dE(\lambda),$$

on

$$E^s := D(A^s) = \left\{ u \in H : \|A^s u\|^2 = \int_1^{+\infty} \lambda^s d\langle E(\lambda)u, u \rangle < \infty \right\}.$$

E^s is a Hilbert space, with the inner product

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{E^s} = \langle A^s u, A^s v \rangle$$

From (2.8), it follows that

$$\|A^s u\| \geq \|u\| \text{ for all } u \in E^s \quad (2.9)$$

For $s, t > 0$ with $s + t = 2$, we define the Hilbert space $E := E^s \times E^t$, with the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_E = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{E^s} + \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{E^t}$.

Let B be the bilinear form defined on $E \times E$ by

$$B[(u, v), (\varphi, \psi)] = \langle A^s u, A^t \psi \rangle + \langle A^s \varphi, A^t v \rangle$$

Since B is symmetric and continuous, it induces a self adjoint bounded linear operator $L : E \rightarrow E$ such that

$$B[z, \eta] = \langle Lz, \eta \rangle_E, \text{ for } z, \eta \in E,$$

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and L is defined by

$$Lz = \langle A^{-s}A^t v, A^{-t}A^s u \rangle_E, \text{ for } z = (u, v) \in E. \quad (2.10)$$

We consider the following eigenvalue problem

$$Lz = \lambda z \quad (2.11)$$

Using (2.10), the problem (2.11) is equivalent to

$$A^{-s}A^t v = \lambda u \quad (2.12)$$

and

$$A^{-t}A^s u = \lambda v \quad (2.13)$$

According to (2.9), A^s and A^t are isomorphisms, and then λ cannot be zero. Hence, injecting (2.12) in (2.13) we obtain

$$v = \lambda^2 v,$$

which yields that $\lambda = 1$ or $\lambda = -1$.

The corresponding eigenspaces are

$$E^+ = \{(u, A^{-t}A^s u) : u \in E^s\} \text{ for } \lambda = 1,$$

and

$$E^- = \{(u, -A^{-t}A^s u) : u \in E^s\} \text{ for } \lambda = -1.$$

and are orthogonal with respect to the bilinear form B , that is,

$$B(z^+, z^-) = 0 \text{ for all } z^+ \in E^+, z^- \in E^-.$$

We also have $E = E^+ \oplus E^-$.

We define the quadratic form Q associated with the bilinear form B , by

$$Q(z) = \frac{1}{2}B[z, z] = \langle A^s u, A^t v \rangle, \text{ for } z = (u, v) \in E \quad (2.14)$$

which yields for $z = z^+ + z^-$, $z^+ \in E^+$, $z^- \in E^-$, that

$$\frac{1}{2}\|z\|_E^2 = Q(z^+) - Q(z^-) \quad (2.15)$$

and that, there exists a constant $c_0 > 0$, such that

$$Q(z) \geq c_0 \|z\|_E^2 \text{ for } z \in E^+ \quad (2.16)$$

and

$$Q(z) \leq -c_0 \|z\|_E^2 \text{ for } z \in E^- \quad (2.17)$$

2.3 Rigorous variational formulation of the problem

We take $T = -\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n}$. In order to have the Poincaré type inequality (2.8), we shall work on a bounded or a strongly asymptotically contractive domain of $\Omega \subset \mathbb{H}^n$.

Let $H = L^2(\Omega)$, $A^s = (-\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n})^{\frac{s}{2}}$ and $E^s = D((-\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n})^{\frac{s}{2}})$.

The appropriate functional to be associated to problem (P) in case I is

$$J(u, v) := \int_{\Omega} A^s u \cdot A^t v \, d\xi - \int_{\Omega} [|u|^p + |v|^q] \, d\xi \quad (2.18)$$

where $s + t = 2$, $s, t > 0$ and

$$p \leq \frac{2N}{N-2s}, \quad q \leq \frac{2N}{N-2t}.$$

In case II we take $s = t = 1$, and hence we regain the form in (1.3).

3 Minimax theorem and Palais-Smale sequence

In this section, we establish the linking geometry of J on bounded or strongly asymptotically contractive domain of \mathbb{H}^n , to give a Palais-Smale sequence by the minimax principle used in [14] and [3].

Definition 3.1. Let S be a closed subset of a Banach space X , and Q a sub-manifold of X , with relative boundary ∂Q .

We say that S and ∂Q link if:

1. $S \cap \partial Q = \emptyset$.
2. $\forall h \in C^0(X, X)$ such that $h|_{\partial Q} = id$, there holds $h(Q) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

Theorem 3.2. Let $J : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^1 functional. Consider a closed subset $S \subset X$, and a sub-manifold $Q \subset X$, with relative boundary ∂Q . Suppose:

1. S and ∂Q link.
2. $\exists \delta > 0$ such that

$$J(z) \geq \delta \quad \forall z \in S,$$

$$J(z) \leq 0 \quad \forall z \in \partial Q.$$

Let

$$\Gamma := \{h \in C^0(X, X) \mid h|_{\partial Q} = id\},$$

and

$$c := \inf_{h \in \Gamma} \sup_{z \in Q} J(h(z)) \geq \delta.$$

Then there exists a sequence $(z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset X$, such that

$$\begin{cases} J(z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} c, \\ J'(z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

We choose numbers $\mu > 1$, $\nu > 1$, such that $\frac{1}{p} < \frac{\mu}{\mu + \nu}$, and $\frac{1}{q} < \frac{\nu}{\mu + \nu}$.

The following propositions give the linking geometry of J . Their proofs are similar to those in [3] and will be omitted.

Proposition 3.3. *There exist $\rho > 0$, $\delta > 0$, such that if we define*

$$S := \{(\rho^{\mu-1}u, \rho^{\nu-1}v) \mid \|(u, v)\| = \rho, (u, v) \in E^+\},$$

then

$$J(z) \geq \delta \quad \forall z \in S.$$

Proposition 3.4. *There exist $\sigma > 0$, $M > 0$, such that if we define*

$Q = \{\tau(\sigma^{\mu-1}u_+, \sigma^{\nu-1}v_+) + (\sigma^{\mu-1}u, \sigma^{\nu-1}v) \mid 0 \leq \tau \leq \sigma, 0 \leq \|(u, v)\|_E \leq M,$
and $(u, v) \in E^-\}$, where $z^+ = (u_+, v_+) \in E^+$, with u_+ some fixed eigenvector of $-\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^n}$, then

$$J(z) \leq 0 \quad \forall z \in \partial Q,$$

where ∂Q is the boundary of Q , relative to the subspace

$$\{\tau(\sigma^{\mu-1}u_+, \sigma^{\nu-1}v_+) + (\sigma^{\mu-1}u, \sigma^{\nu-1}v) \mid \tau \in \mathbb{R}, (u, v) \in E^-\}.$$

Proposition 3.5. *Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{H}^n$ be any bounded or unbounded domain of \mathbb{H}^n , and let $(z_k = (u_k, v_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset E$ be a Palais-Smale sequence of J at level c , that is,*

$$J(z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} c, \text{ and } J'(z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0. \quad (3.2)$$

Then $(z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ is bounded.

Proof. Let $(z_k = (u_k, v_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of E satisfying (3.2). Then, there exists a sequence $\varepsilon_k \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$, such that

$$|J'(z_k)\eta| \leq \varepsilon_k \|\eta\|_E \quad \forall \eta \in E. \quad (3.3)$$

Taking $\eta_k = \frac{pq}{p+q} \left(\frac{1}{p}u_k, \frac{1}{q}v_k \right)$, and using (3.2), we obtain

$$c + \varepsilon_k \|\eta\|_E \geq J(z_k) - J'(z_k)\eta_k = \left(\frac{pq}{p+q} - 1 \right) \int_{\Omega} |u_k|^p + |v_k|^q d\xi. \quad (3.4)$$

Hence, there exists a positive constant C such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^n} |u_k|^p + |v_k|^q d\xi \leq C(1 + \|z_k\|_E) = C(1 + \|u_k\|_{E^s} + \|v_k\|_{E^t}). \quad (3.5)$$

By considering $\eta = (\phi, 0)$ with $\phi \in E^s$, we obtain from (3.3)

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} A^s \phi \cdot A^t v_k d\xi \right| \leq p \int_{\Omega} |u_k|^{p-1} |\phi| d\xi + \varepsilon_k \|\phi\|_{E^s} \quad (3.6)$$

$$\leq C \left(\|u_k\|_{L^p(\Omega)}^{p-1} + 1 \right) \|\phi\|_{E^s}. \quad (3.7)$$

Taking $\phi = v_k$, we obtain

$$\|v_k\|_{E^t} \leq C \left(\|u_k\|_{L^p(\Omega)}^{p-1} + 1 \right). \quad (3.8)$$

Similar reasoning yields that

$$\|u_k\|_{E^s} \leq C \left(\|v_k\|_{L^q(\Omega)}^{q-1} + 1 \right). \quad (3.9)$$

Replacing (3.8) and (3.9) into (3.5), we obtain

$$\|u_k\|_{E^s} + \|v_k\|_{E^t} \leq C \left(\|u_k\|_{E^s}^{\frac{p-1}{p}} + \|v_k\|_{E^t}^{\frac{q-1}{q}} + 1 \right). \quad (3.10)$$

Since the exponents in the right-hand side of (3.10) are less than 1, the sequence z_k is bounded in E .

□

4 Existence in the subcritical case on a strongly asymptotically contractive domain

Proof of Theorem 1.2.

By Theorem 3.2, we obtain a critical sequence (z_k) on Ω satisfying equation (3.1). According to Proposition 3.5, the sequence is bounded, therefore a relabeled subsequence converges weakly to a limit z . Since J' is continuous in the weak topology $J'(z) = 0$.

We claim that $z \neq 0$. Suppose it were, then by compact Sobolev embeddings,

$$\int_{\Omega} [|u_k|^p + |v_k|^q] d\xi \rightarrow 0. \tag{4.1}$$

We also have $J'(z_k)z_k \rightarrow 0$ since z_k is bounded, but combining this with equation (4.1), one obtains that $\|z_k\|^2 \rightarrow 0$ contradicting (3.1) since $c > 0$.

□

5 Existence in the critical case on \mathbb{H}^n

5.1 Abstract concentration compactness

In this section, we recall the abstract concentration compactness due to I.SCHINDLER, and K.TINTAREV [16], and we give a version adapted to our problem.

Let H be a separable Hilbert space, and let D be a bounded multiplicative group of bounded linear operators on H .

Definition 5.1. We say that D is a set of dislocations if it satisfies the following conditions:

- P1)** Let $g_k \in D$. If $g_k \not\rightarrow 0$, and if $u_k \rightarrow 0$, then there exists a subsequence such that $g_k u_k \rightarrow 0$.
- P2)** If there exists a $u \in H \setminus \{0\}$ such that $g_k u \rightarrow 0$, then $g_k \rightarrow 0$.
- P3)** If $g_k \in D$, and $u_k \rightarrow 0$, then $g_k^* g_k u_k \rightarrow 0$.

Definition 5.2. Let $u, u_k \in H$. We say that u_k converges to u weakly with concentration, and we note $u_k \xrightarrow{D} u$, if $\forall \phi \in H^*$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{g \in D} (g(u_k - u), \phi) = 0.$$

If D is a compact group, concentrated weak convergence is equivalent to weak convergence.

Theorem 5.3. *Let $(u_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset H$ be a bounded sequence, and let D be a set of dislocations. Then there exist $(w^{(n)})_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset H$, $(g_k^{(n)})_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset D$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, such that for a renamed subsequence,*

$$\begin{aligned} g_k^{(1)} &= id, \quad g_k^{(n)^{-1}} g_k^{(m)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } n \neq m, \\ w^{(n)} &= w - \lim_k g_k^{(n)^{-1}} u_k, \\ u_k - \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} g_k^{(n)} w^{(n)} &\xrightarrow{D} 0. \end{aligned}$$

5.2 Concretisation of the abstract concentration compactness on E

Let D be the infinite multiplicative group of bounded linear operators defined on E by

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\lambda, \alpha}(u(\xi), v(\xi)) &= \left(\lambda^{\frac{2n+2}{p}} u(\alpha \circ \delta_\lambda \xi), \lambda^{\frac{2n+2}{q}} v(\alpha \circ \delta_\lambda \xi) \right) \\ &= (g_{\lambda, \alpha}^1 u, g_{\lambda, \alpha}^2 v) \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$, and λ is a positive real.

Lemma 5.4. *D is a set of dislocations.*

Proof. *Let $z := (u, v) \in \mathcal{H}$. Properties **P1**), **P2**) are clearly satisfied since we observe that*

$$g_k := g_{\lambda_k, \alpha_k} \rightarrow 0 \iff \alpha_k \rightarrow \infty, \text{ or } \lambda_k \rightarrow 0, \text{ or } \lambda_k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Observe that $g_k^ = g_k^{-1}$, which yields **P3**).*

□

The following theorem is a corollary of Theorem 5.3. See [15].

Theorem 5.5. *Let $(z_k = (u_k, v_k))_k$ be a bounded sequence in E . Then for a renamed subsequence, there exist $w^{(1)}, w^{(2)}, \dots \in E$, and $(\alpha_k^{(1)}, \lambda_k^{(1)}), (\alpha_k^{(2)}, \lambda_k^{(2)}), \dots \in \mathbb{H}^n \times \mathbb{R}_*^+$, such that*

$$w^{(n)} = w - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} g_{\frac{1}{\lambda_k^{(n)}}, -\alpha_k^{(n)}} z_k,$$

and for $r \neq m$

$$\lambda_k^{(r)} / \lambda_k^{(m)} \rightarrow \infty, \text{ or } \lambda_k^{(r)} / \lambda_k^{(m)} \rightarrow 0, \text{ or } |\alpha_k^{(r)} - \alpha_k^{(m)}| \rightarrow \infty.$$

The series $\sum_n g_{\lambda_k^{(n)}, \alpha_k^{(n)}} w^{(n)}$ converges absolutely in E , and:

$$z_k - \sum_n g_{\lambda_k^{(n)}, \alpha_k^{(n)}} w^{(n)} \xrightarrow{D} 0.$$

Lemma 5.6. *Let $(u_k)_k$ be a bounded sequence in $S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n) \cap L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)$.*

If $u_k \xrightarrow{D} 0$, then modulo a subsequence, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_k\|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)} = 0$, for all $p \geq 1$.

For the proof we need the following Sobolev embedding theorem [18]:

Theorem 5.7. *Let Ω be a bounded open set of \mathbb{H}^n . Then $S_1^2 \overset{\circ}{\circ}(\Omega)$ is compactly embedded in L^p , for $1 \leq p < N^*$.*

We need, also the following lemma, which is an adapted version of Lemma 1.1 in [10]:

Lemma 5.8. *Let $(u_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a bounded sequence in $S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)$, such that, for some $R > 0$*

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{y \in \mathbb{H}^n} \int_{B(y, R)} u_k^2 d\xi = 0 \quad (5.1)$$

Then $u_k \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$ in $L^s(\mathbb{H}^n)$, for $2 < s < N^$.*

Proof of Lemma 5.6. Note that $u_k \xrightarrow{D} 0 \implies \forall g \in D : gu_k \rightarrow 0$.

We will give the proof in two steps, the first step deal with the case $1 \leq p < N^*$, and the second deal with the case $p \geq N^*$:

Let $1 \leq p < N^*$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{H}^n$, $g = g_{1, -\alpha}$, and $B = B(\xi, R)$ be a ball of center ξ and radius R .

According to the Theorem 5.7, we obtain:

$$\|g_{1, -\alpha}^1 u_k\|_{L^p(B)}^p \leq C \|g_{1, -\alpha}^1 u_k\|_{S_1^2 \overset{\circ}{\circ}(B)}^2 \|g_{1, -\alpha}^1 u_k\|_{L^p(B)}^{p-2} \quad (5.2)$$

Let $\{B = B(\xi, R), \xi \in Z\}$ be a finite cover for \mathbb{H}^n . So, by summing inequalities (5.2) over $\xi \in Z$, we obtain:

$$\|u_k\|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)}^p \leq C \|u_k\|_{S_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)}^2 \sup_{\xi \in Z} \|g_{1, -\alpha}^1 u_k\|_{L^p(B(\xi, R))}^{p-2}$$

By the compactness of the embedding of $S_1^2 \overset{\circ}{\circ}(B)$ into $L^p(B)$, it follows that, modulo a subsequence, $g_{1, -\alpha}^1 u_k \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$ in $L^p(B)$.

Hence, $\|u_k\|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)} \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$ for $1 \leq p < N^*$.

Let us now deal with the case $p \geq N^*$.

Let $g = g_{\lambda_k^{-1}, 0}$, where $\lambda_k \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty$ is chosen such that

$$\int_{|u_k| > \lambda_k^{\frac{2n+2}{p}}} |u_k|^p \longrightarrow 0;$$

and let $w_k(\xi) = g_{\lambda_k^{-1}, 0}^2 u_k(\xi) = \lambda_k^{-\frac{2n+2}{p}} u_k(\delta_{\lambda_k^{-1}} \xi)$, i.e $u_k(\xi) = \lambda_k^{\frac{2n+2}{p}} w_k(\delta_{\lambda_k} \xi)$.

We have

$$\int_{|u_k| < \lambda_k^{\frac{2n+2}{p}}} |u_k|^p d\xi = \int_{|w_k| < 1} |w_k|^p d\xi \leq \int_{\mathbb{H}^n} |w_k(x)|^s d\xi, \text{ where } 2 < s < N^* \leq p.$$

Note that the hypothesis (5.1) is satisfied if we take $g = g_{1,y}$. So, according to

Lemma 5.8, $\int_{\mathbb{H}^n} |w_k(x)|^s d\xi \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$.

Hence $\|u_k\|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^n)} \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$ for $p \geq N^*$.

□

5.3 Proof of the main result

Proof of Theorem 1.3. To be able to use the linking geometry stated in Proposition 3.3 and Proposition 3.4, we shall work on a bounded domain Ω of \mathbb{H}^n . Note that $E^1 = \overset{\circ}{S}_1^2$.

By Theorem 3.2, we obtain a critical sequence (z_k) on Ω . Since $\overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\Omega) \subset \overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)$ we may consider $(z_k) \subset \overset{\circ}{S}_1^2(\mathbb{H}^n)$. Since J is invariant under the action of $g_{\lambda, \alpha}$, we conclude that the sequence $(g_{\lambda, \alpha} z_k)$, that we denote again by (z_k) , is a critical sequence on \mathbb{H}^n , and according to Proposition 3.5, it is bounded.

By Theorem 5.5, there exist $w^{(1)}, w^{(2)}, \dots \in E$, and $(\alpha_k^{(1)}, \lambda_k^{(1)})$, $(\alpha_k^{(2)}, \lambda_k^{(2)}) \dots \in \mathbb{H}^n \times \mathbb{R}_*^+$, such that

$$z_k - \sum_n g_k^{(n)} w^{(n)} \xrightarrow{D} 0,$$

where $g_k^{(n)} = g_{\lambda_k^{(n)}, \alpha_k^{(n)}}$.

(z_k) does not converge weakly with concentration to 0. In fact, if we suppose that $z_k \xrightarrow{D} 0$, we will have by Lemma 5.6, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|z_k\|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^n) \times L^q(\mathbb{H}^n)} = 0$ (modulo a subsequence), which shows that $J(z_k) \longrightarrow 0$. Contradiction. Then there exists a $w^{(n_0)} \neq 0$.

On the other hand, for some $g_k \in D$, we have

$$g_k z_k \rightharpoonup w^{(n_0)}.$$

Then,

$$J'(g_k z_k) \rightharpoonup J'(w^{(n_0)})$$

However, $J'(z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \implies J'(g_k z_k) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$. Then, $J'(w^{(n_0)}) = 0$.

□

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