Non-perturbative behavior of interacting Bosons at intermediate densities

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An Introduction to Lieb's Simplified Approach to the Bose Gas

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- Short book
- Pedagogical introduction.
- Preprint: arXiv: 2308.00290



Systems of interacting Bosons: What and why?

- Bosons are a part of the natural world:
 - ▶ Quantum particles are either Fermions or Bosons (in 3D).
 - ► Fermions: electrons, protons, neutrinos, etc...
 - ▶ Bosons: photons, Helium atoms, Higgs particle, etc...
- They exhibit non-trivial physical behavior at low temperatures: e.g. Bose-Einstein condensation, superfluidity, quantized vortices, etc...
- It is difficult to handle mathematically: for instance, Bose-Einstein condensation has never been proved in interacting models in the continuum at finite density.

Repulsive Bose gas

• Potential: $v(r) \ge 0$, $\hat{v} \ge 0$ and $v \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^3)$, on a torus of volume V:

$$H_N := -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \Delta_i + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le N} v(|x_i - x_j|)$$

- Ground state (zero temperature): ψ_0 , energy E_0 .
- Observables in the thermodynamic limit: for instance, ground state energy per particle

$$e_0 := \lim_{\substack{V, N \to \infty \\ \frac{N}{V} = \rho}} \frac{E_0}{N}.$$

• Main difficulty: dealing with the interactions.

• Low density: [Bogolyubov, 1947], [Lee, Huang, Yang, 1957]:

$$e_0 = 2\pi\rho a \left(1 + \frac{128}{15\sqrt{\pi}}\sqrt{\rho a^3} + o(\sqrt{\rho a^3}) \right)$$

proved: [Lieb, Yngvason, 1998], [Yau, Yin, 2009], [Fournais, Solovej, 2020], [Basti, Cenatiempo, Schlein, 2021].

• High density: Hartree energy:

$$e_0 \sim \frac{\rho}{2} \int v$$

proved: [Lieb, 1963].

The Simplified approach

- [Lieb, 1963], [Jauslin, 2025].
- $\psi_0 \ge 0$, so it can be thought of as a probability distribution.
- g_n : correlation functions of $V^{-N}\psi_0$

$$g_n(x_1,\cdots,x_n) := \frac{V^n \int dx_{n+1}\cdots dx_N \ \psi_0(x_1,\cdots,x_N)}{\int dy_1\cdots dy_N \ \psi_0(y_1,\cdots,y_N)}$$

• Factorization assumption: for n = 3, 4,

$$g_n(x_1,\cdots,x_n) = \prod_{1 \le i < j \le n} g_2(x_i - x_j), \quad u_n \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

Equations of the simplified approach

•
$$u := 1 - g_2$$
:
 $-\Delta u(x) = (1 - u(x)) (v(x) - 2\rho K(x) + \rho^2 L(x))$
 $K := u * S, \quad S(y) := (1 - u(y))v(y)$
 $L := u * u * S - 2u * (u(u * S)) + \frac{1}{2} \int dy dz \ u(y)u(z - x)u(z)u(y - x)S(z - y).$

• "Big" equation:

$$L \approx u * u * S - 2u * (u(u * S))$$

• Simple equation:

$$-\Delta u(x) = (1 - u(x))v(x) - 4eu(x) + 2e\rho \ u * u(x), \quad e = \frac{\rho}{2} \int dx \ (1 - u(x))v(x)$$

Theorems for the simple equation

• Theorem 1:

$$\frac{e}{\rho} \underset{\rho \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} \frac{1}{2} \int dx \ v(x).$$

This coincides with the Hartree energy.

• Theorem 2:

$$e = 2\pi\rho a \left(1 + \frac{128}{15\sqrt{\pi}}\sqrt{\rho a^3} + o(\sqrt{\rho}) \right)$$

This coincides with the Lee-Huang-Yang prediction.

• **Theorem 3**: The Simple equation predicts **Bose-Einstein condensation** at small densities.

Energy

 $v(x) = e^{-|x|}$, Big equation, Monte Carlo



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• Two-point correlation:

$$C_2(y-z) = \sum_{i,j} \langle \psi_0 | \, \delta(y-x_i) \delta(z-x_j) \, | \psi_0 \rangle \,.$$

• Radial distribution: spherical average and normalization:

$$G(r) := \frac{1}{\rho^2} \int \frac{dy}{4\pi r^2} \,\,\delta(|y| - r)C_2(y).$$

• Compute C_2 using

$$C_2(x) = 2\rho \frac{\delta e_0}{\delta v(x)}.$$



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• Structure factor: Fourier transform of G:

$$S(|k|) := 1 + \rho \int dx \ e^{ikx} (G(|x|) - 1).$$

- Directly observable in X-ray scattering experiments.
- Sharp peaks: order.

Structure factor



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- Correlation function:
 - Maximum above 1: there is a length scale at which it is more probable to find pairs of particles.
 - ▶ No long range order: Short-range order.
- Structure factor:
 - ▶ Sharpening of the peak.
 - ▶ Not Bragg peaks: No long range order: Short-range order.

Summary and outlook

- Using the Simplified approach, we were able to probe the repulsive Bose gas beyond the dilute regime.
- Evidence for non-trivial behavior at intermediate densities: short-range order.
- The intermediate density regime has not been studied much, due to the lack of tools to do so. As we have seen, there is non-trivial behavior there. This warrants further investigation, both theoretical and experimental.