

A mass conservative and energy diminishing numerical scheme for computing ground state of spin-1 Bose-Einstein condensates

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Abstract: A mass (or normalization) and magnetization conservative and energydiminishing numerical method is presented for computing the ground state of spin-1 (or F = 1 spinor) Bose – Einstein condensates (BECs). We begin with the coupled Gross – Pitaevskii equations, and the ground state is defined as the minimizer of the energy functional under two constraints on the mass and magnetization. By constructing a continuous normalized gradient flow (CNGF) which is mass and magnetization conservative and energy-diminishing, the ground state can be computed as the steady state solution of the CNGF. The CNGF is then discretized by the Crank – Nicolson finite difference method with a proper way to deal with the nonlinear terms, and we prove that the discretization is mass and magnetization conservative and energy-diminishing in the discretized level. Numerical results of the ground state and their energy of spin-1 BECs are reported to demonstrate the efficiency of the numerical method.

