

ON THE MULTI-COMPONENT NLS TYPE EQUATIONS ON SYMMETRIC SPACES: REDUCTIONS AND SOLITON SOLUTIONS

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Abstract. The fundamental properties of the multi-component nonlinear Schrödinger (MNLS) type models related to symmetric spaces are analyzed. New types of reductions of these systems are constructed. The Lax operators L and the corresponding recursion operators Λ are used to formulate some of the fundamental properties of the MNLS-type equations. The results are illustrated by specific examples of MNLS-type systems related to the **D.III** symmetric space for the $\mathfrak{so}(8)$ -algebra. The effect of the reductions on their soliton solutions is outlined.

1. Introduction

The (scalar) **nonlinear Schrödinger (NLS) equation** [26]

$$iu_t + u_{xx} + 2|u|^2u = 0, \quad u = u(x, t) \quad (1)$$

has numerous applications in a wide variety of physical problems [8, 24]. Its complete integrability has been proven at the very early stage of the inverse scattering method (ISM). Indeed, equation (1) allows Lax representation using as Lax operator the 2×2 **Zakharov–Shabat system** related to $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ -algebra

$$L(\lambda)\psi(x, t, \lambda) = (i\partial_x + q(x, t) - \lambda\sigma_3)\psi(x, t, \lambda) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$q(x, t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u(x, t) \\ -u^*(x, t) & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$