RESEARCH ARTICLE



General Soliton and (Semi-)Rational Solutions of a (2+1)-Dimensional Sinh-Gordon Equation

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Received: 29 July 2023 / Accepted: 18 September 2023 / Published online: 10 October 2023 © The Author(s) 2023

Abstract

In this paper, we investigate solutions of a (2+1)-dimensional sinh-Gordon equation. General solitons and (semi-)rational solutions are derived by the combination of Hirota's bilinear method and Kadomtsev-Petviashvili hierarchy reduction approach. General solutions are expressed as $N \times N$ Gram-type determinants. When the determinant size N is even, we generate solitons, line breathers, and (semi-)rational solutions located on constant backgrounds. In particular, through the asymptotic analysis we prove that the collision of solitons are completely elastic. When N is odd, we derive exact solutions on periodic backgrounds. The dynamical behaviors of those derived solutions are analyzed with plots. For rational solutions, we display the interaction of lumps. For semi-rational solutions, we find the interaction solutions between lumps and solitons.

Keywords Hirota's bilinear method \cdot Breather \cdot Lump \cdot (Semi-)rational solution \cdot Sinh-Gordon equation

1 Introduction

The study of solitons, breathers, rational solutions and their interactions is a main topic in the field of soliton theory and attracts great attention in recent years. Various explicit physical meaning solutions of integrable equations are found, such as algebra solitons, lumps, line breathers, rogue waves and peakon solutions, and so on. Studies of solitons are not only restricted in (1+1)-dimensional integrable equations. In fact, (2+1)-dimensional integrable systems have richer dynamic properties and they are more relevant to real world physics. Many (2+1)-dimensional integrable systems have been extensively studied, such as Davey-Stewartson (DS) equation [1-3], Mel'nikov equation [4], dispersive long

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wave equation [5], Fokas equation [6], et al. A variety of powerful methods have been developed to solve integrable equations, such as inverse scattering method [7], Darboux transformation method (DT) [8], Hirota's bilinear method [9], the dressing method [10], Riemann-Hilbert method [11], Kadomtsev-Petviashvili (KP) hierarchy reduction method [12] and so on. Among these methods, the KP reduction technique in conjunction with Hirota's bilinear method is very powerful to construct (semi-)rational solutions. This approach has been applied to many integrable systems [1-4, 13-16] to derive rational and semi-rational solutions. These pioneer works inspire us to study dynamics of (2+1)-dimensional nonlinear integrable equations.

In 1987, the sinh-Gordon equation, $q_{xt} + \sinh q = 0$, was extended to (2+1)-dimension by the inverse spectral transform [17]. The extended (2+1)-dimensional sinh-Gordon equation reads

$$\left(e^{-q} \left(e^q (q_{xt} + \sinh q) \right)_x \right)_x = \sigma^2 \left(e^{-q} \int_{-\infty}^x (e^q)_y dx \right)_{yt}$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \left(\left(e^{-q} \int_{-\infty}^x (e^q)_y dx \right)^2 \right)_{xt}, \quad \sigma^2 = \pm 1.$$

$$(1)$$

In [18], Lou proposed the following (2+1)-dimensional extended sinh-Gordon equation

$$\begin{cases} \left(\alpha\phi_{yt} + e^{-2\phi}(e^{2\phi}\phi_{xt})_{x}\right)_{y} = -(s_{x}e^{2\phi})_{xx}, \\ \left(e^{2\phi}\left(\phi_{xt} - \frac{1}{2}Ce^{2\phi} + \frac{1}{2}Ce^{-2\phi}\right)\right)_{x} + \alpha e^{2\phi}\phi_{yt} + \alpha e^{2\phi}(e^{2\phi}s)_{x} = 0. \end{cases}$$
(2)

This equation is related to the first negative KP equation by a two-dimensional Miura transformation. Here, *C* is arbitrary constant, $\alpha^2 = -1$ and $\alpha^2 = 1$ correspond to the KP I and KP II equation, respectively. In [19], by setting $2\phi = \omega$, $C = \frac{1}{2}$, $\alpha = 1$, $s = \theta$, the (2+1)-dimensional sinh-Gordon equation (2) is rewritten as

$$\begin{cases} \left(e^{\omega}\left(\omega_{xt}-\sinh\omega\right)\right)_{x}+e^{\omega}\omega_{yt}=-2e^{2\omega}(\theta_{x}+\omega_{x}\theta),\\ (\theta_{x}e^{\omega})_{xx}+\frac{1}{2}\left(\omega_{y}+\omega_{xx}+\frac{1}{2}\omega_{x}^{2}\right)_{yt}=0. \end{cases}$$
(3)

Upon the dependent variable transformation

$$\omega(x, y, t) = 2 \ln \frac{F(x, y, t)}{G(x, y, t)}, \quad \theta(x, y, t) = 2 \int_{x}^{-\infty} \left(\ln G(\xi, y, t) \right)_{yt} \left(\frac{G(\xi, y, t)}{F(\xi, y, t)} \right)^{2} d\xi,$$
(4)

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the sinh-Gordon equation (3) is transformed into the following bilinear form [19]

$$\begin{cases} (D_y + D_x^2)F \cdot G = 0, \\ (D_x^2 D_t + D_y D_t + 2D_x)F \cdot G = 0. \end{cases}$$
(5)

Besides, a bilinear Bäcklund transformation, Wronskian solutions and Pfaffian generalization of this equation were derived in [19]. Integrable discretization of the (2+1)-dimensional extended sinh-Gordon equation (3) was investigated in [20]. By using Hirota's bilinear method and KP hierarchy reduction technique, the rational solutions of algebraic solitons in the Gram determinant form are constructed in [21]. However, to the best of our knowledge, general solitons, line breathers, lumps on the constant and periodic backgrounds of the (2+1)-dimensional sinh-Gordon equation (3) have not been reported yet.

In this paper, we consider general solitons, line breather solutions and (semi-) rational solutions of the (2+1)-dimensional sinh-Gordon equation (3). We derive lump solutions and further explore semi-rational solutions consisting of lumps and solitons. Moreover, the dynamical behaviors of solitons, line breathers and lumps both on constant and periodic backgrounds are studied.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present the general solitons and (semi-)rational solutions of the sinh-Gordon equation. These solutions are expressed as $N \times N$ Gram-type determinant. In Section 3, we demonstrate the dynamic behaviors of solitons on the constant and periodic backgrounds, respectively. In Section 4, we present the line breather solutions on the constant and periodic grounds. In Section 5, the dynamics of rational solutions on the constant and periodic background are illustrated. In Section 6, semi-rational solutions of interactions of lumps and solitons are investigated. Finally we give the conclusion and discussion.

2 General Solitons and (Semi-)Rational Solutions in Determinant Form

In this part, we give the general solitons and (semi-)rational solutions of the sinh-Gordon Eq. (3). Bilinear sinh-Gordon equation (5) can be obtained from the following KP hierarchy equations

$$(D_{x_1}^2 - D_{x_2})\tau_{n+1} \cdot \tau_n = 0, \tag{6}$$

$$(D_{x_{-1}}(D_{x_1}^2 - D_{x_2}) - 4D_{x_1})\tau_{n+1} \cdot \tau_n = 0,$$
⁽⁷⁾

under the variables transformation $x_1 = -x$, $x_2 = -y$, $x_{-1} = \frac{t}{2}$, and $\tau_n = F$, $\tau_{n+1} = G$ (see ref. [21]). The rational algebraic solitons in the Gram-type determinant form of the sinh-Gordon equation (5) are presented in [21]. In the following we give more general soliton and (semi-)rational solutions.

Theorem 1 The bilinear sinh-Gordon equation (5) admits solutions

$$F = \tau_{n+1}, \quad G = \tau_n, \tag{8}$$

where $\tau_n = \det_{1 \le i,j \le N}(m_{i,j}^{(n)})$. The elements are defined as following

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i \delta_{i,j} e^{-\xi_i - \eta_j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \sum_{k=0}^{n_i} a_{i,k} \left(p_i \partial p_i + \xi'_i + n\right)^{n_i - k} \\ \times \sum_{l=0}^{n_j} b_{j,l} \left(q_j \partial q_j + \eta'_j - n\right)^{n_j - l} \frac{1}{p_i + q_j},$$
(9)

where

$$\xi_i' = -p_i x - 2p_i^2 y - \frac{1}{2p_i} t,$$
(10)

$$\eta'_{j} = -q_{j}x + 2q_{j}^{2}y - \frac{1}{2q_{j}}t,$$
(11)

$$\xi_i = -p_i x - p_i^2 y + \frac{1}{2p_i} t + \xi_{i,0}, \qquad (12)$$

$$\eta_j = -q_j x + q_j^2 y + \frac{1}{2q_j} t + \eta_{j,0}.$$
(13)

Here, N is a positive integer, n_i , n_j are nonnegative integers, $\delta_{i,j}$ is the Kronecker delta, and c_i , p_i , q_j , $\xi_{i,0}$, $\eta_{i,0}$ are arbitrary parameters.

The Gram determinant solutions can be obtained from solutions the KP hierarchy equations by introducing differential operators applied to those parameters of elements in the determinant [21]. The proof of the above theorem is similar to that in [21] and we omit the details here.

Remark 1 Four types of solutions (8) in Theorem 1 will be discussed under the following different parameter constraints:

I. soliton solutions as $c_i \neq 0, n_i = 0, i = 1, ..., N$;

II. line breathers as $c_i \neq 0, n_i = 0, i = 1, ..., N$;

III. rational solutions (lumps) as $c_i = 0$, $\sum_{k=1}^{N} n_k \ge 1$, i = 1, ..., N;

IV. semi-rational solutions (mixed solutions of lumps and solitons) as $\sum_{i=1}^{N} |c_i| > 0, \sum_{k=1}^{N} n_k \ge 1.$

Remark 2 To construct solitons, line breathers, rational and semi-rational solutions on the constant background, we set the size of the determinants to be even in Theorem 1. Meanwhile, to derive solutions on the periodic background, we take the odd size of the determinants.

In the following, we take appropriate parameter constraints to construct solitons, line breathers and lumps of the sinh-Gordon equation (3).

3 Dynamics of the Soliton Solutions

In this part, we study the dynamic behaviors of the soliton solutions of the sinh-Gordon equation (3) on constant and periodic backgrounds, respectively. To this end, we take parameters $n_i = 0$, (i = 1, 2, ..., N) in Theorem 1.

3.1 One-Soliton Solutions

To obtain one-soliton solutions on the constant background, we take N = 1 in Theorem 1. Then the first order determinant reads as

$$m_{1,1}^{(n)} = c_1 + \left(-\frac{p_1}{q_1}\right)^n \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1}, \quad n = 0, 1,$$
(14)

where

$$\xi_1 + \eta_1 = -(p_1 + q_1)x + (q_1^2 - p_1^2)y + \left(\frac{1}{2p_1} + \frac{1}{2q_1}\right)t + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0}, \quad (15)$$

and $p_1, q_1, \xi_{1,0}, \eta_{1,0}$ are arbitrary complex numbers. Let us consider the potential ω_x , where

$$\omega_x = 2\left(\ln\frac{F}{G}\right)_x = \frac{2(p_1+q_1)^2}{q_1(p_1+q_1)e^{-\xi_1-\eta_1} + \frac{-p_1}{p_1+q_1}e^{\xi_1+\eta_1} + q_1 - p_1}.$$
 (16)

Here we require $p_1q_1 < 0$ and $p_1 + q_1 > 0$ to avoid singularity. We remark here that the last equation can be rewritten as

$$\omega_x = \frac{2(p_1 + q_1)^2}{2\sqrt{-p_1q_1}\cosh(-\xi_1 - \eta_1 + \theta) + q_1 - p_1},$$

as $p_1 < 0, q_1 > 0$ or

$$\omega_x = \frac{2(p_1 + q_1)^2}{-2\sqrt{-p_1q_1}\cosh(-\xi_1 - \eta_1 + \theta) + q_1 - p_1}$$

as $p_1 > 0, q_1 < 0$, where $\exp(\theta) = (p_1 + q_1)\sqrt{-\frac{q_1}{p_1}}$. Plots of one-soliton solutions (16) under different parameters are shown in Fig. 1 with different parameters.

We set $p_1 = \alpha + \beta i$, $c_1 = \lambda i$ and $q_1 = -p_1^*$ with real α, β, λ . The tau functions *F* and *G* have the expression



Fig. 1 One-soliton solution ω_x (16) with parameter values **a** $p_1 = -2, q_1 = 3, c_1 = 1, y = 1, \xi_{1,0} = \eta_{1,0} = 0$; **b** $p_1 = 4, q_1 = -3, c_1 = 1, y = 2, \xi_{1,0} = \eta_{1,0} = 0$

$$F = c_1 + \left(-\frac{p_1}{q_1}\right) \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1}$$

= $\lambda i - \frac{\alpha + \beta i}{2\beta i(-\alpha + \beta i)} \exp\left[-2\beta i\left(x + 2\alpha y + \frac{t}{2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}\right) + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0}\right],$ (17)

$$G = c_1 + \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1} = \lambda \mathbf{i} + \frac{1}{2\beta \mathbf{i}} \exp\left[-2\beta \mathbf{i}\left(x + 2\alpha y + \frac{t}{2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}\right) + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0}\right].$$
(18)

Substituting F and G into the potential ω_x leads to

$$\omega_{x} = \frac{16\beta^{3}\lambda \exp(-2i\zeta + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0})}{(-\alpha - i\beta)\exp(-4i\zeta + 2\xi_{1,0} + 2\eta_{1,0}) + 4\alpha\beta\lambda \exp(-2i\zeta + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0}) + 4\beta^{2}\lambda^{2}(-\alpha + i\beta)},$$
(19)

where $\zeta = \beta x + 2\alpha\beta y + \frac{\beta}{2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}t$. In this case, solution (19) is periodic with periods π/β in *x*, $\pi/2\alpha\beta$ in *y* and $2\pi(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)/\beta$ in *t*. Figures of this periodic one-soliton solution are depicted in Fig. 2.

3.2 Two-Soliton Solutions on the Constant Background

For N = 2, we take $c_1 = c_2 = 1$ in Theorem 1. The tau function solutions F and G are expressed by 2×2 determinants

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \frac{p_1}{q_1} \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1} & -\frac{p_1}{q_2} \frac{1}{p_1 + q_2} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_2} \\ -\frac{p_2}{q_1} \frac{1}{p_2 + q_1} e^{\xi_2 + \eta_1} & 1 - \frac{p_2}{q_2} \frac{1}{p_2 + q_2} e^{\xi_2 + \eta_2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{p_1}{q_1} \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\zeta_1} - \frac{p_2}{q_2} \frac{1}{p_2 + q_2} e^{\zeta_2} + \frac{p_1 p_2}{q_1 q_2} \frac{(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)}{(p_1 + q_1)(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)(p_2 + q_2)} e^{\zeta_1 + \zeta_2},$$

(20)



Fig.2 Profiles of periodic one-soliton (19) with parameters $\alpha = \beta = 1, c_1 = 1, y = 1, \xi_{1,0} = \eta_{1,0} = 0$; **b** Density plot of ω_x

$$G = \begin{vmatrix} 1 + \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1} & \frac{1}{p_1 + q_2} e^{\xi_1 + \eta_2} \\ \frac{1}{p_2 + q_1} e^{\xi_2 + \eta_1} & 1 + \frac{1}{p_2 + q_2} e^{\xi_2 + \eta_2} \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= 1 + \frac{1}{p_1 + q_1} e^{\zeta_1} + \frac{1}{p_2 + q_2} e^{\zeta_2} + \frac{(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)}{(p_1 + q_1)(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)(p_2 + q_2)} e^{\zeta_1 + \zeta_2},$$
(21)

with

$$\zeta_i = \xi_i + \eta_i = -(p_i + q_i)x + (q_i^2 - p_i^2)y + \left(\frac{1}{2p_i} + \frac{1}{2q_i}\right)t + \xi_{i,0} + \eta_{i,0}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$
(22)

In what follows, we analyze the asymptotic behaviors of two-soliton solutions. For convenience, we set y = 0 and then the potential ω_x is expressed as

$$\omega_{x} = 2 \frac{A_{1}e^{\xi_{1}} + A_{2}e^{\xi_{2}} + A_{12}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + A_{112}e^{2\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + A_{122}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}}}{1 + B_{1}e^{\xi_{1}} + B_{2}e^{\xi_{2}} + B_{11}e^{2\xi_{1}} + B_{22}e^{2\xi_{2}} + B_{12}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + B_{112}e^{2\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + B_{122}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + B_{12}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{2}} + B_{12}e^{\xi_{1}+\xi_{$$

where

$$\begin{split} A_1 &= \frac{p_1 + q_1}{q_1}, \quad A_2 = \frac{p_2 + q_2}{q_2}, \quad B_1 = \frac{-p_1 + q_1}{q_1(p_1 + q_1)}, \quad B_2 = \frac{-p_2 + q_2}{q_2(p_2 + q_2)}, \\ A_{112} &= \frac{-p_1(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)(p_2 + q_2)}{q_1q_2(p_1 + q_1)^2(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)}, \quad A_{122} = \frac{-p_2(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)(p_1 + q_1)}{q_1q_2(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)(p_2 + q_2)^2}, \\ B_{11} &= \frac{-p_1}{q_1(p_1 + q_1)^2}, \quad B_{22} = \frac{-p_2}{q_2(p_2 + q_2)^2}, \\ B_{112} &= \frac{-p_1(-p_2 + q_2)(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)}{q_1q_2(p_1 + q_1)^2(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)(p_2 + q_2)}, \\ B_{122} &= \frac{-p_2(-p_1 + q_1)(p_1 - p_2)(q_1 - q_2)}{q_1q_2(p_1 + q_1)(p_1 + q_2)(p_2 + q_1)(p_2 + q_2)^2}, \\ B_{1122} &= \frac{p_1p_2(p_1 - p_2)^2(q_1 - q_2)^2}{q_1q_2(p_1 + q_1)^2(p_1 + q_2)^2(p_2 + q_1)^2(p_2 + q_2)^2}. \end{split}$$

Without loss of generality, we assume $p_i + q_i > 0$, (i = 1, 2) and $p_2q_2 < p_1q_1 < 0$. We denote the left-moving soliton along $\zeta_1 = 0$ as Soliton 1 and the right-moving soliton along $\zeta_2 = 0$ as Soliton 2. The asymptotic behaviours for the two-soliton solutions are analysed in the following.

Before collision $(t \to -\infty)$: Soliton 1 $(\zeta_1 \approx 0, \zeta_2 \to +\infty)$

$$\omega_x \to \frac{2(p_1 + q_1)^2}{(q_1 - p_1) + 2\sqrt{-p_1 q_1} \cosh(\zeta_1 - \theta_1)},$$
(24)

where θ_1 is defined by $\exp(\theta_1) = \frac{(p_1+q_1)(p_1+q_2)(p_2+q_1)}{(p_1-p_2)(q_1-q_2)} \sqrt{-\frac{q_1}{p_1}}$. Soliton 2 ($\zeta_2 \approx 0, \zeta_1 \to -\infty$)

$$\omega_x \to \frac{2(p_2 + q_2)^2}{(q_2 - p_2) + 2\sqrt{-p_2 q_2} \cosh(\zeta_2 - \theta_2)},$$
(25)

where θ_2 is defined by $\exp(\theta_2) = (p_2 + q_2)\sqrt{-\frac{q_2}{p_2}}$.

After collision $(t \to +\infty)$: Soliton 1 $(\zeta_1 \approx 0, \zeta_2 \to -\infty)$

 $\omega_x \to \frac{2(p_1 + q_1)^2}{(q_1 - p_1) + 2\sqrt{p_1 q_1} \cosh(\zeta_1 - \theta_3)},$

where θ_3 is defined by $\exp(\theta_3) = (p_1 + q_1)\sqrt{-\frac{q_1}{p_1}}$. Soliton 2 $(\zeta_2 \approx 0, \zeta_1 \to +\infty)$

$$\omega_x \to \frac{2(p_2 + q_2)^2}{(q_2 - p_2) + 2\sqrt{p_2 q_2} \cosh(\zeta_2 - \theta_4)},$$
(27)

(26)

where θ_4 is defined by $\exp(\theta_4) = \frac{(p_2+q_2)(p_1+q_2)(p_2+q_1)}{(p_1-p_2)(q_1-q_2)} \sqrt{-\frac{q_2}{p_2}}.$

From the asymptotic analysis, we find that the collision of two solitons is completely elastic, i.e., their shapes and velocities keep unchanged after the interaction. In particular, Soliton 1 has a phase shift θ and Soliton 2 has an opposite phase shift $-\theta$ with $\exp(\theta) = \frac{(p_1+q_2)(p_2+q_1)}{(p_1-p_2)(q_1-q_2)}$ after the collision. We depict the plots of the interaction of two solitons and the corresponding density plots on the constant background in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, respectively. We observe three types of two-soliton solutions. Figure 3 displays the interaction of two bright solitons. Figure 4 shows the interaction of two solitons both under the horizon. Figure 5 exhibits the interaction of two solitons with one under the horizon and the other above the horizon.



Fig. 3 Two-soliton solution ω_x on the constant background at y = 0 and the corresponding density plot with parameters $p_1 = -1, q_1 = \frac{5}{3}, p_2 = -\frac{1}{5}, q_2 = \frac{3}{5}, \xi_{i,0} = \eta_{i,0} = 0, c_1 = c_2 = 1$



Fig. 4 Two-soliton solution ω_x on the constant background at y = 0 and the corresponding density plot with parameters $p_1 = 2, q_1 = -\frac{5}{4}, p_2 = 1, q_2 = -\frac{3}{5}, \xi_{i,0} = \eta_{i,0} = 0, c_1 = c_2 = 1$

3.3 Two-Soliton Solutions on the Periodic Background

In order to derive two-soliton solutions on the periodic background, we take N = 3 and $q_3 = -p_3^*$ in Theorem 1. Then the tau functions F and G have the following determinant expressions

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(1)} & m_{1,2}^{(1)} & m_{1,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(1)} & m_{2,2}^{(1)} & m_{2,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(1)} & m_{3,2}^{(1)} & m_{3,3}^{(1)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(0)} & m_{1,2}^{(0)} & m_{1,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(0)} & m_{2,2}^{(0)} & m_{2,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(0)} & m_{3,2}^{(0)} & m_{3,3}^{(0)} \end{vmatrix},$$
(28)

with entries



Fig. 5 Two-soliton solution ω_x on the constant background at y = 0 and the corresponding density plot with parameters $p_1 = -1$, $q_1 = 2$, $p_2 = 5$, $q_2 = -3$, $\xi_{i,0} = \eta_{i,0} = 0$, $c_1 = c_2 = 1$

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i \delta_{i,j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \frac{1}{p_i + q_j} e^{\xi_i + \eta_j}, \quad 1 \le i, j \le 3, \quad n = 0, 1.$$
(29)

We put $p_3 = \alpha + \beta i$, $q_3 = -\alpha + \beta i$, $c_1 = c_2 = 1$, $c_3 = \lambda i$, and

$$\xi_i + \eta_i = -(p_i + q_i)x + (q_i^2 - p_i^2)y + \left(\frac{1}{2p_i} + \frac{1}{2q_i}\right)t + \xi_{i,0} + \eta_{i,0}, \quad i = 1, 2,$$
(30)

$$\xi_3 + \eta_3 = -2\beta i \left[x - 2\alpha y - \frac{1}{2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)} t \right] + \xi_{3,0} + \eta_{3,0}.$$
 (31)

We choose p_1, q_1, p_2, q_2 the same values as those in Fig. 3 and $p_3 = -q_3^* = 2 + 5i, c_3 = 2i$. Then we can generate two solitons on the periodic background (see Fig. 6).

4 Dynamics of the Line Breather Solutions

In this part, we study the dynamics of line breather solutions of sinh-Gordon equation (3) on both constant and periodic backgrounds. To construct line breather solutions, we take parameters $n_i = 0, i = 1, 2, ..., N$. For simplicity, we consider the line breather solutions on constant and periodic backgrounds by setting N = 2 and 3, respectively.

4.1 Line Breather Solutions on the Constant Background

To construct line breather solutions of sinh-Gordon equation (3) on the constant background, we choose $p_i, q_i, (i = 1, 2, ..., N)$ to be purely imaginary and $p_i \neq -q_i$. For



Fig. 6 Two-soliton solution ω_x on the periodic background at y = 0 and the corresponding density plot with parameters $p_1 = -1$, $q_1 = \frac{5}{3}$, $p_2 = -\frac{1}{5}$, $q_2 = \frac{3}{5}$, $p_3 = 2 + 5i$, $q_3 = -2 + 5i$, $\xi_{i,0} = \eta_{i,0} = 0$, $c_1 = c_2 = 1$, $c_3 = 2i$

N = 2, we set $p_1 = q_2 = pi$, $q_1 = p_2 = qi$, $c_1 = \alpha + \beta i$, $c_2 = -c_1^*$, where p, q, α, β are real numbers, $p \neq -q$ and β are nonzero. The potential ω_x has the expression

$$\omega_x = 2\Big(\ln\frac{F}{G}\Big)_x,\tag{32}$$

where

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} (\alpha + \beta i)e^{-\xi_1 - \eta_1} - \frac{p_i}{q_i} \frac{1}{p_i + q_i} & -\frac{p_i}{p_i} \frac{1}{p_i + p_i} \\ -\frac{q_i}{q_i} \frac{1}{q_i + q_i} & (-\alpha + \beta i)e^{-\xi_2 - \eta_2} - \frac{q_i}{p_i} \frac{1}{q_i + p_i} \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= -(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)e^{-\xi_1 - \eta_1 - \xi_2 - \eta_2} \Big[1 - \frac{p}{q}b_1e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1} - \frac{q}{p}b_2e^{\xi_2 + \eta_2} + b_{12}e^{\xi_1 + \eta_1 + \xi_2 + \eta_2} \Big],$$
(33)

$$G = \begin{vmatrix} (\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_{1}-\eta_{1}} + \frac{1}{p\mathbf{i}+q\mathbf{i}} & \frac{1}{p\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} \\ \frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+q\mathbf{i}} & (-\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_{2}-\eta_{2}} + \frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -(\alpha^{2} + \beta^{2})e^{-\xi_{1}-\eta_{1}-\xi_{2}-\eta_{2}} \left[1 + b_{1}e^{\xi_{1}+\eta_{1}} + b_{2}e^{\xi_{2}+\eta_{2}} + b_{12}e^{\xi_{1}+\eta_{1}+\xi_{2}+\eta_{2}} \right],$$
(34)

and

$$\xi_1 + \eta_1 = (p+q) \left[-ix + (p-q)y - \frac{i}{2pq}t \right] + \xi_{1,0} + \eta_{1,0},$$
(35)

$$\xi_2 + \eta_2 = (p+q) \left[-ix + (q-p)y - \frac{i}{2pq}t \right] + \xi_{2,0} + \eta_{2,0},$$
(36)

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{(p+q)(-\beta + \alpha i)}, \quad b_2 = \frac{1}{(p+q)(-\beta - \alpha i)}, \quad b_{12} = -\frac{(p-q)^2}{4pq(p+q)(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}.$$
(37)

To illustrate the dynamics of ω_x (32), we select the parameters $\alpha = 0, \beta = -1, p = \frac{1}{10}, q = \frac{2}{5}, y = 0$. In this case, the line breather solution admits

$$\omega_{x} = \frac{50i\left(4e^{\frac{3i}{4}(2x+25t)} + 9e^{\frac{1}{4}(2x+25t)}\right)}{\left(4e^{\frac{1}{2}(2x+25t)} - 34e^{\frac{1}{4}(2x+25t)} - 9\right)\left(4e^{\frac{1}{2}(2x+25t)} + 16e^{\frac{1}{4}(2x+25t)} - 9\right)}.$$
 (38)

with the periods $\frac{2\pi}{p+q}$ in x and $\frac{4pq\pi}{p+q}$ in t. The plot of the line breather is depicted in Fig. 7 with parameter values $\alpha = 0, \beta = -1, p = \frac{1}{10}, q = \frac{2}{5}, y = 0$. One can find that the figure appears periodicity. The maximum and minimum value of $|\omega_x|$ under these parameters are approximately 1.5152 and 0.3332, respectively.

4.2 Line Breather Solutions on the Periodic Background

For N = 3, we choose $p_i, q_j, i, j = 1, 2, 3$ to be purely imaginary and $p_1 = q_2 = pi, q_1 = p_2 = qi, p_3 = q_3 = mi, c_1 = \alpha + \beta i, c_3 = c_2 = -c_1^*$ to construct line breather solutions on the periodic background. In this case, we have potential $\omega_x = 2\left(\ln \frac{F}{G}\right)_x$, where

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} (\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_1 - \eta_1} - \frac{p}{q}\frac{1}{p\mathbf{i}+q\mathbf{i}} & -\frac{1}{2p\mathbf{i}} & -\frac{p}{2p\mathbf{i}}\frac{1}{p\mathbf{i}+m\mathbf{i}} \\ -\frac{1}{2q\mathbf{i}} & (-\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_2 - \eta_2} - \frac{q}{p}\frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} & -\frac{q}{m}\frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+m\mathbf{i}} \\ -\frac{m}{q}\frac{1}{m\mathbf{i}+q\mathbf{i}} & -\frac{m}{p}\frac{1}{m\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} & (-\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_3 - \eta_3} - \frac{1}{2m\mathbf{i}} \end{vmatrix},$$
(39)



Fig. 7 Line breather solution ω_x (38) on the constant background and the corresponding density plot with parameters $\alpha = 0, \beta = -1, p = \frac{1}{10}, q = \frac{2}{5}, y = 0$

$$G = \begin{vmatrix} (\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_1 - \eta_1} + \frac{1}{p+q} & \frac{1}{2p\mathbf{i}} & \frac{1}{p\mathbf{i}+m\mathbf{i}} \\ \frac{1}{q+q} & (-\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_2 - \eta_2} + \frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} & \frac{1}{q\mathbf{i}+m\mathbf{i}} \\ \frac{1}{m\mathbf{i}+q\mathbf{i}} & \frac{1}{m\mathbf{i}+p\mathbf{i}} & (-\alpha + \beta \mathbf{i})e^{-\xi_3 - \eta_3} + \frac{1}{2m\mathbf{i}} \end{vmatrix} .$$
(40)

Here $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3$ are given by (10)–(13). By taking the same parameter values as those in Fig. 7 and $p_3 = q_3 = i, c_3 = -i, \omega_x$ owns the expression

$$\begin{split} \omega_{x} &= (58436224e^{2i(2x+13t)} + 182613200e^{\frac{1}{4}i(22x+83t)} - 156241008e^{\frac{1}{4}i(14x+79t)} \\ &- 16008300e^{\frac{3}{4}i(2x+25t)} - 786671424e^{\frac{3}{2}i(2x+9t)} + 410879700e^{\frac{3}{4}i(6x+11t)} \\ &+ 123268068e^{\frac{1}{4}i(10x+29t)} - 4428675e^{\frac{1}{4}i(2x+25t)} + 36374184e^{i(t+2x)}) \\ /[(47432e^{\frac{3}{2}i(2x+9t)} - 23716e^{\frac{1}{2}i(2x+25t)} - 403172e^{\frac{1}{4}i(10x+29t)} + 70686e^{\frac{1}{4}i(2x+25t)} \\ &- 106722e^{i(t+2x)} + 6561)(47432e^{\frac{3}{2}i(2x+9t)} + 23716e^{\frac{1}{2}i(2x+25t)} + 189728e^{\frac{1}{4}i(10x+29t)} \\ &+ 33264e^{\frac{1}{4}i(2x+25t)} - 106722e^{i(t+2x)} - 6561)]. \end{split}$$

We depict the line breather solution (41) on the periodic background (see Fig. 8). The line breathers on the periodic background exhibit higher amplitudes than those on the constant background. As shown in Fig. 8, the maximum and the minimum values of $|\omega_x|$ are approximately 4.8392 and 0.1342, respectively.



Fig. 8 Line breather solution $\omega_x(41)$ on the periodic background and the corresponding density plot with parameters $\alpha = 0, \beta = -1, p = \frac{1}{10}, q = \frac{2}{5}, p_3 = q_3 = i, c_3 = -i, y = 0$

(11)

5 Dynamics of the Rational Solutions

In this part, we derive rational solutions to the sinh-Gordon equation (3) and investigate dynamic behaviors. In order to obtain rational solutions, we take $c_i = 0, (n_i = 1, i = 1, 2...,)$ in Theorem 1. Rational solutions of algebraic soliton types to the sinh-Gordon equation (3) were studied in [5], but lump type rational solutions have not been reported. In the following we consider lump type rational solutions to the potential $\frac{F}{G}$ both on constant and periodic backgrounds.

5.1 Rational Solutions on the Constant Background

We take the determinant size N = 2 and then

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(1)} & m_{1,2}^{(1)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(1)} & m_{2,2}^{(1)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(0)} & m_{1,2}^{(0)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(0)} & m_{2,2}^{(0)} \end{vmatrix},$$
(42)

with matrix entries

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left[\left(\xi_i' + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \times \left(\eta_j' + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) + \frac{p_i q_j}{(p_i + q_j)^2} \right] \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$
(43)

Here ξ'_i, η'_j are defined in (10)-(13), and $a_{i,1}, b_{j,1}, p_i, q_j$ are arbitrary complex numbers. Actually, when we take $q_1^* = p_1, q_2^* = p_2, p_2 + q_2 = -(p_1 + q_1), a_{1,1} = a_{2,1} = b_{1,1} = b_{2,1} = 0, y = 0$, the regularity of $\frac{F}{G}$ can be verified by a similar process in [4]. By taking $p_1 = q_1^* = \frac{7}{12} - \frac{7}{12}i$, $p_2 = q_2^* = -\frac{7}{12} + \frac{7}{12}i$, y = 0, we get

$$\frac{F}{G} = \frac{-390625t^4 + (-3001250x^2 + 3062500i)t^2 + 12005000xt - 5764801x^4 - 11764900ix^2 + 6002500}{390625t^4 + 3001250t^2x^2 + 5764801x^4 + 6002500}.$$
(44)

The positivity of the denominator ensures the regular property of the rational solution (44). Figure 9 displays lumps on the constant background. The figure depicts four peaks and four troughs. When $|p_1| = |p_2|$, the density plot Fig. 9f demonstrates that the center part is almost a circle. When $|p_1| \neq |p_2|$, the density plots Fig. 9d and e show that the center part is close to an ellipse.

5.2 Rational Solutions on the Periodic Background

In order to construct rational solutions to the sinh-Gordon equation (3) on the periodic background, we take N = 3, $q_3 = -p_3^*$ and p_3, c_3 to be purely imaginary in Theorem 1. Then the tau functions are expressed by



Fig. 9 Rational solutions of *F/G* given by (42) and the corresponding density plots on the constant background with parameters $y = 0, a_{1,1} = a_{2,1} = b_{1,1} = b_{2,1} = 0, \xi_{i,0} = 0, \eta_{j,0} = 0,$ **a** $p_1 = q_1^* = 1 - \frac{i}{2}, p_2 = q_2^* = -1 + \frac{i}{2};$ **b** $p_1 = q_1^* = \frac{1}{2} + i, p_2 = q_2^* = -\frac{1}{2} - i;$ **c** $p_1 = q_1^* = \frac{7}{10} - \frac{7}{10}i, p_2 = q_2^* = -\frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{10}i;$ **d**, **e** and **f** are density plots corresponding to **a**-**c** respectively

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(1)} & m_{1,2}^{(1)} & m_{1,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(1)} & m_{2,2}^{(1)} & m_{2,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(1)} & m_{3,2}^{(1)} & m_{3,3}^{(1)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(0)} & m_{1,2}^{(0)} & m_{1,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(0)} & m_{2,2}^{(0)} & m_{2,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(0)} & m_{3,2}^{(0)} & m_{3,3}^{(0)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (45)$$

with matrix entries

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left[\left(\xi_i' + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \left(\eta_j' + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) + \frac{p_i q_j}{(p_i + q_j)^2} \right] \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, \quad i, j = 1, 2,$$
(46)

and

$$\begin{cases} m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left(\xi_i^{\prime} + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & i = 1, 2; \quad j = 3, \\ m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left(\eta_j^{\prime} + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & j = 1, 2; \quad i = 3, \\ m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i e^{-\xi_i - \eta_j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & i = j = 3. \end{cases}$$

$$(47)$$

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Here $\xi_i, \eta_j, \xi'_i, \eta'_j$ are defined in (10)-(13), and $a_{i,1}, b_{j,1}, p_i, q_j$ are arbitrary complex numbers.

By taking the same parameter values of $p_i, q_i, i = 1, 2$ as those in Fig. 9 and $q_3 = -p_3^*$, p_3, c_3 to be purely imaginary, we generate the rational solutions on the periodic background (see Fig. 10).

6 Dynamics of the Semi-Rational Solutions

In this part, we study the dynamics of semi-rational solutions on the constant and periodic backgrounds to the sinh-Gordon equation. For this purpose, we set $c_i \neq 0, n_i = 1, i = 1, 2...$, in Theorem 1 and then the matrix entries $m_{i,j}^{(n)}$ are combinations of polynomials and exponential functions. In the following, we consider the potential $\frac{F}{C}$ and construct semi-rational solutions that consist of lumps and solitons.

6.1 Semi-Rational Solutions on the Constant Background

We take N = 2 in Theorem 1 to construct semi-rational solutions of the sinh-Gordon equation (3) on the constant background. In this case, the tau functions F and G are determinants



Fig. 10 Rational solutions *F/G* given by (45) and the corresponding density plots on the periodic background with parameters, **a** $p_3 = -q_3^* = -3i$, $c_3 = 5i$; **b** $p_3 = -q_3^* = -3i$, $c_3 = 5i$; **c** $p_3 = -q_3^* = -\frac{3}{2}i$, $c_3 = 5i$, and other parameter values are same as in Fig. 9. Besides, **d**-f are density plots corresponding to **a**-**c** respectively

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(1)} & m_{1,2}^{(1)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(1)} & m_{2,2}^{(1)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(0)} & m_{1,2}^{(0)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(0)} & m_{2,2}^{(0)} \end{vmatrix},$$
(48)

with entries

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i \delta_{i,j} e^{-\xi_i - \eta_j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left[\left(\xi_i' + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \times \left(\eta_j' + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) + \frac{p_i q_j}{(p_i + q_j)^2} \right] \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$
(49)

and $a_{i,1}, b_{j,1}, p_i, q_j$ are arbitrary complex numbers. Similar as subsection 5.1, the potential *F/G* is regular when $q_1^* = p_1, q_2^* = p_2, (p_2 + q_2) = -(p_1 + q_1), a_{1,1} = a_{2,1} = b_{1,1} = b_{2,1} = 0, c_2 = -c_1^*$. By setting $p_1 = q_1^* = \frac{7}{10} - \frac{7}{10}i, p_2 = q_2^* = -\frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{10}i$ and $c_2 = -c_1^* = 2 + 2i$, the semi-rational solution *F/G* depicts the interaction between solitons and lumps. As shown in Fig. 11, one soliton stands under the horizon, while the other one locates above the horizon with its amplitude decreasing as $y \to 0$ and merges into the background around y = 0. As y > 0, the soliton travels below the horizon and its amplitude becomes larger.



Fig. 11 Semi-rational solutions *F/G* given by (48) and the corresponding density plots on the constant background with parameters $a_{1,1} = a_{2,1} = b_{1,1} = b_{2,1} = 0$, $\xi_{i,0} = 0$, $\eta_{j,0} = 0$, $c_1 = -c_2^* = 2 + 2i$, $p_1 = q_1^* = \frac{7}{10} - \frac{7}{10}i$, $p_2 = q_2^* = -\frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{10}i$

6.2 Semi-Rational Solutions on the Periodic Background

Semi-rational solutions of the sinh-Gordon equation (3) on the periodic background are derived by setting N = 3, $q_3 = -p_3^*$ and p_3, c_3 to be purely imaginary in Theorem 1. In this case, we have

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(1)} & m_{1,2}^{(1)} & m_{1,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(1)} & m_{2,2}^{(1)} & m_{2,3}^{(1)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(1)} & m_{3,2}^{(1)} & m_{3,3}^{(1)} \end{vmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{vmatrix} m_{1,1}^{(0)} & m_{1,2}^{(0)} & m_{1,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{2,1}^{(0)} & m_{2,2}^{(0)} & m_{2,3}^{(0)} \\ m_{3,1}^{(0)} & m_{3,2}^{(0)} & m_{3,3}^{(0)} \end{vmatrix},$$
(50)

with entries

$$m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i \delta_{i,j} e^{-\xi_i - \eta_j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left[\left(\xi_i' + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \times \left(\eta_j' + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) + \frac{p_i q_j}{(p_i + q_j)^2} \right] \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, \quad i, j = 1, 2,$$
(51)

and

$$\begin{cases} m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left(\xi'_i + a_{i,1} - \frac{p_i}{p_i + q_j} + n\right) \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & i = 1, 2; \quad j = 3, \\ m_{i,j}^{(n)} = \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \left(\eta'_j + b_{j,1} - \frac{q_j}{p_i + q_j} - n\right) \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & j = 1, 2; \quad i = 3, \quad (52) \\ m_{i,j}^{(n)} = c_i e^{-\xi_i - \eta_j} + \left(-\frac{p_i}{q_j}\right)^n \frac{1}{p_i + q_j}, & i = j = 3. \end{cases}$$

Here $\xi_i, \eta_j, \xi'_i, \eta'_j$ are defined in (10)–(13), and $a_{i,1}, b_{j,1}, p_i, q_j$ are arbitrary complex numbers.

Setting $q_3 = -p_3^* = -i$, $c_3 = 2i$ and p_i , q_i , (i = 1, 2) the same values as those in Fig. 11, we derive semi-rational solutions consisting of solitons and lumps on the periodic background. The plots are shown in Fig. 12.

7 Conclusion

The KP hierarchy reduction method is a powerful method to investigate exact solutions of integrable equations and present Gram determinant structures of N-soliton solutions. Based on this approach, we give rational and semi-rational solutions in the $N \times N$ determinant form of the sinh-Gordon equation. Under different size of the determinant and parameters constraints, we obtain soliton solutions, line breathers, lump solutions and their interactions. For even N, we present local solutions on constant backgrounds. For odd N, we construct solutions on the periodic background. We study dynamic behaviors for solitons, line breathers, lumps and their interactions on both the constant and periodic backgrounds. Here the periodic backgrounds



Fig. 12 Semi-rational solutions F/G given by (50) and the corresponding density plots on the periodic background with parameters $p_3 = -q_3^* = -i$, $c_3 = -2i$, and other parameter values are same as those in Fig. 11

are caused by the trigonometric functions. Recently, solitons and rational solutions on elliptic functions attract much attention. How to construct solutions of the sinh-Gordon equation on those elliptic functions is left to be studied.

Acknowledgements The work of GFY is supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant No. 12371251, Shanghai Frontier Research Institute for Modern Analysis and "the Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities", and that of ZNZ is supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant No. 12071286, and by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness of Spain under contract PID2020-115273GB-I00(AEI/FEDER, EU).

Author Contributions Three authors have the same contributions.

Funding National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant Nos. 12371251 and 12071286.

Availability of data and materials Not applicable

Declarations

Conflict of interest No competing interests.

Ethics approval and consent to participate Not applicable.

Consent for publication All authors agree to publish this work in JNMP.

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