



# A linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential integrator for the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper, we generalize the exponential energy-preserving integrator proposed in the recent paper [SIAM J. Sci. Comput. 38 (2016) A1876–A1895] for conservative systems, which now becomes linearly implicit by further utilizing the idea of the scalar auxiliary variable approach. Comparing with the original exponential energy-preserving integrator which usually leads to a nonlinear algebraic system, our new method only involves a linear system with a constant coefficient matrix. Taking the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation for examples, we derive the concrete energy-preserving schemes and demonstrate their high efficiency through numerical experiments.

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## 1. Introduction

It is well-known that exponential integrators permit larger step sizes and achieve higher accuracy than nonexponential ones when the considered problem is a very stiff differential equation such as highly oscillatory ODEs or semidiscrete time-dependent PDEs. As to exponential integrators, the earlier attempts can date back to the original paper by Hersch [20], whereas the term “exponential integrators” was coined in the seminal paper by Hochbruck, Lubich, and Selhofer [22]. Readers are referred to Ref. [23] for details about exponential integrators. Over the years, there has been growing interest in structure-preserving exponential methods, which can preserve as much as possible the physical/geromeric properties of the dynamic system under consideration [18]. Due to the superior properties in the capability for the long-term computation, symplectic exponential methods have attracted much attention (e.g., see Refs. [33,39,45] and references therein). On the other hand, the energy conservation law is an important property of conservative systems and whether or not can preserve the energy conservation law of the original systems is a criterion to judge the success of a numerical method for their solution (e.g. see Refs. [14,29,47] and references therein). Thus, how to design energy-preserving schemes for conservative systems attracts a lot of interest in recent years. The noticeable ones include the discrete gradient methods (including the averaged vector field (AVF) method) [5,7,28,32,35], discrete variational derivative methods [10,14], Hamiltonian boundary value methods (HBVMs) [2], energy-preserving continuous stage Runge-Kutta (CSRK) methods [17,34,42] and local energy-preserving methods [3,15,25,44], and so on. However, to our best knowledge, most existing works on exponential integrators up to now focus on the construction of explicit schemes and fail to be energy-preserving. In Ref. [6], Celledoni et al. proposed some implicit exponential integrators that preserve both symmetry and energy of the cubic Schrödinger equation

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by using the symmetric projection approach [18]. Recently, combining the ideas of exponential integrators and discrete gradient methods, Li and Wu [30] proposed an energy-preserving exponential scheme for conservative systems, which was revisited and generalized more recently by Shen and Leok [39]. Unfortunately, such scheme is fully implicit. At each time step, one needs to solve a fully nonlinear system and thus it might be very time consuming. Compared with fully implicit schemes, linearly implicit schemes only require to solve a linear system, which leads to considerably lower costs than implicit ones [10]. As far as we know, there has been no reference considering linearly implicit exponential schemes for conservative systems, which can inherit the energy conservation property.

In this paper, taking the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation as examples, we propose a novel linearly implicit exponential scheme for conservative systems by combining the ideas of the exponential integrator and the scalar auxiliary variable (SAV) approach [37,38]. The proposed scheme can inherit the energy and enjoy the same computational advantages as the one (see [4]) provided by the classical SAV approach. The SAV approach as well as the earlier invariant energy quadratization (IEQ) approach [46,48] is developed based on the idea of the energy quadratization, which can result linearly implicit and energy stable schemes for gradient flows. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no reference considering the combination of the ideas of the SAV approach and the exponential integrator for developing linearly implicit energy-preserving schemes for energy-conserving systems. Taking the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation for examples, we first explore the feasibility.

The outline of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, based on idea of the SAV approach, the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation is reformulated into an equivalent system which inherits a modified energy. In Section 3, a second-order centered difference method is applied to the system and we show that the resulting semi-discrete system can preserve the semi-discrete energy. In Section 4, a linearly implicit exponential scheme is presented by combining the exponential integrator and the linearized Crank-Nicolson method, which inherits the fully discrete energy. Several numerical examples are shown to illustrate the power of our proposed scheme in Section 5. We draw some conclusions in Section 6.

## 2. Reformation of the model equation through the SAV approach

The Klein-Gordon equation is frequently used in mathematical models for problems in many fields of science and engineering, particularly in quantum field theory and relativistic quantum mechanics. Here, we consider the following nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation (NKGE)

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \omega^2 \Delta u(\mathbf{x}, t) + G'(u(\mathbf{x}, t)) = 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, t > 0, \\ u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \phi_1(\mathbf{x}), \partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \phi_2(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $t$  is the time variable,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the spatial variable,  $u := u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  is a real-valued function,  $\omega$  is a real parameter,  $\Delta$  is the usual Laplace operator,  $G(u)$  is a smooth potential energy function with  $G(u) \geq 0$ , and  $\phi_1 := \phi_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\phi_2 := \phi_2(\mathbf{x})$  are two given real-value initial data. The NKGE (2.1) conserves the Hamiltonian energy

$$E(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |\partial_t u|^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} |\nabla u|^2 + G(u) \right] d\mathbf{x} = E(0), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.2)$$

In the last few decades, various structure-preserving methods have been developed for solving the NKGE (2.1), including symplectic methods (e.g., see Refs. [13,31,33]), multisymplectic methods (e.g., see Refs. [24,36,41,49]) and energy-preserving methods (e.g., see Refs. [1,9,16,43]), etc. However, there has been no reference considering a linearly implicit structure-preserving exponential scheme for the NKGE (2.1) to our knowledge.

Following the idea of the SAV approach, we introduce a scalar auxiliary variable, as follows:

$$q := q(t) = \sqrt{G(u), 1) + C_0}.$$

Here  $(f, g)$  is the inner product defined by  $(f, g) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f \bar{g} d\mathbf{x}$  where  $\bar{g}$  denotes the conjugate of  $g$ , and  $C_0$  is a constant large enough to make  $q$  well-posed. The Hamiltonian energy (2.2) is then rewritten as

$$E(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |\partial_t u|^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} |\nabla u|^2 \right] d\mathbf{x} + q^2 - C_0. \quad (2.3)$$

According to the energy variational formula, the NKGE (2.1) can be reformulated into the following equivalent form

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = v, \\ \partial_t v = \omega^2 \Delta u - \frac{G'(u)}{\sqrt{G(u), 1) + C_0}} q, \\ \partial_t q = \frac{(G'(u), \partial_t u)}{2\sqrt{G(u), 1) + C_0}}, \\ u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \phi_1(\mathbf{x}), \partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \phi_2(\mathbf{x}), q(0) = \sqrt{G(u(\mathbf{x}, 0)), 1) + C_0}, \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $t > 0$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** The system (2.4) possesses the following modified energy

$$E(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |v|^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} |\nabla u|^2 \right] d\mathbf{x} + q^2 - C_0 = E(0), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.5)$$

**Proof.** Taking the inner products with  $v$  of the second equality of (2.4), we have, together with the first equality of (2.4)

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |v|^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} |\nabla u|^2 \right] d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{G'(u) \partial_t u}{\sqrt{G(u), 1} + C_0} q d\mathbf{x} = 0. \quad (2.6)$$

Multiplying the third equality of (2.4) by  $q$  gives

$$\frac{d}{dt} q^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{G'(u) \partial_t u}{\sqrt{G(u), 1} + C_0} q d\mathbf{x}. \quad (2.7)$$

Combining (2.6) and (2.7), one obtains (2.5) immediately.  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** The SAV approach can also be valid for a more general  $G(u)$ . Actually, if  $G(u)$  is unbounded from below, we can use the splitting strategy to divide  $G(u)$  into several differences which are bounded from below. Then the energy can be transformed into a quadratic form by introducing multiple scalar auxiliary variables and the corresponding model reformulation can be obtained (see Ref. [26]).

### 3. Energy-preserving spatial semi-discretization

For simplicity of notation, we shall introduce our scheme in one space dimension, i.e.  $d = 1$  in (2.4). Generalizations to  $d > 1$  are straightforward for tensor product grids and the results remain valid with modifications. For  $d = 1$ , the NKGE (2.4) is truncated on a bounded interval  $[a, b]$  with a periodic boundary condition.

Choose the mesh size  $h = (b - a)/N$  with  $N$  an even positive integer, and denote the grid points by  $x_j = jh$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$ ; let  $u_j$  and  $v_j$  be the numerical approximations of  $u(x_j, t)$  and  $v(x_j, t)$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$ , respectively, and  $u := (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{N-1})^T$ ,  $v := (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{N-1})^T$  be the solution vectors and define the following finite difference operators as

$$\delta_x^+ u_j = \frac{u_{j+1} - u_j}{h}, \quad \delta_x^2 u_j = \frac{u_{j+1} - 2u_j + u_{j-1}}{h^2}, \quad 0 \leq j \leq N-1.$$

In addition, for any  $u$  and  $v$ , we define the discrete inner product and notions as follows

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{l^2} = h \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} u_j \bar{v}_j, \quad \|v\|_{l^2}^2 = h \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} |v_j|^2, \quad \|\delta_x^+ u\|_{l^2}^2 = h \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} |\delta_x^+ u_j|^2.$$

Then we apply the second-order centered difference scheme for spatial discretization

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} u = v, \\ \frac{d}{dt} v = \omega^2 \delta_x^2 u - \frac{G'(u)}{\sqrt{\langle G(u), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q, \\ \frac{d}{dt} q = \frac{\langle G'(u), \frac{d}{dt} u \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(u), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}, \\ u_j(0) = \phi_1(x_j), \quad v_j(0) = \phi_2(x_j), \quad q(0) = \sqrt{\langle G(u(0)), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}, \\ u_0 = u_N, \quad u_{-1} = u_{N-1}, \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

where  $G(u) = (G(u_0), G(u_1), \dots, G(u_{N-1}))^T$  and  $0 \leq j \leq N$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** The semi-discrete system (3.1) admits the semi-discrete modified energy

$$E_h(t) = \frac{1}{2} \|v\|_{l^2}^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \|\delta_x^+ u\|_{l^2}^2 + q^2 - C_0 = E_h(0), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (3.2)$$

**Proof.** Taking the discrete inner products with  $v$  of the second equality of (3.1), we have, together with the first equality of (3.1)

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \|v\|^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \|\delta_x^+ u\|_{l^2}^2 \right] + \frac{\langle G'(u), \frac{d}{dt} u \rangle_{l^2}}{\sqrt{\langle G(u), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q = 0. \quad (3.3)$$

Multiplying with the third equality of (3.1) by  $q$  reads

$$\frac{d}{dt} q^2 = \frac{\langle G'(u), \frac{d}{dt} u \rangle_{l^2}}{\sqrt{\langle G(u), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q. \quad (3.4)$$

Combining (3.3) and (3.4), one obtains (3.2) immediately.  $\square$

#### 4. Construction of the linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential scheme

Choose  $\tau$  be the time step, and denote  $t_n = n\tau$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ; let  $u_j^n$  be the numerical approximation of  $u(x_j, t_n)$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$  and  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ; denote  $u^n$  as the solution vector at  $t = t_n$  and define

$$\delta_t u_j^n = \frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n}{\tau}, \quad u_j^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{u_j^{n+1} + u_j^n}{2}, \quad \hat{u}_j^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{3u_j^n - u_j^{n-1}}{2}, \quad 0 \leq j \leq N-1.$$

**Definition 4.1.** Throughout this paper, for a given sufficiently smooth function  $f$  in the neighborhood of zero ( $f(0) := \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  when 0 is a removable singularity),

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(k)}(0)}{k!} x^k,$$

and for a matrix  $A$ , the matrix-valued function is defined by

$$f(A) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(k)}(0)}{k!} A^k.$$

For more details about functions of matrices, please refer to Ref. [21].

Let  $z(t) = (u(t), v(t))^T$ ,  $f(u(t), q(t)) = \left( \frac{G'(u(t))}{\sqrt{\langle G(u(t)), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q(t), 0 \right)^T$  and

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} -\omega^2 B_2 & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, matrix  $B_2$  represents the operator  $\delta_x^2$  under the periodic boundary condition. In addition, it holds [19]

$$B_2 = F^H \Lambda F, \quad \Lambda = \text{diag}[\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{N-1}], \quad \lambda_j = -\frac{4}{h^2} \sin^2 \frac{j\pi}{N}, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $F$  is the discrete Fourier matrix of order  $N$  and  $F^H$  represents the conjugate transpose of  $F$ .

Integrating the equation (3.1) from  $t_n$  to  $t_{n+1}$ , we then have

$$z(t_n + \tau) = \exp(V) z(t_n) + \tau \int_0^1 \exp((1-\xi)V) S f(u(t_n + \xi\tau), q(t_n + \xi\tau)) d\xi, \quad (4.2)$$

$$q(t_n + \tau) = q(t_n) + \tau \int_0^1 \frac{\langle G'(u(t_n + \xi\tau)), \frac{d}{dt} u \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(u(t_n + \xi\tau)), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} d\xi, \quad (4.3)$$

where  $V = \tau SM$ .

Replacing  $f(u(t_n + \xi\tau), q(t_n + \xi\tau))$  and  $\frac{\langle G'(u(t_n + \xi\tau)), \frac{d}{dt} u \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(u(t_n + \xi\tau)), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}$  with the linearized Crank-Nicolson method  $f(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, q^{n+\frac{1}{2}})$

and  $\frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \delta_t u^n \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}$ , respectively, and we obtain the new scheme, as follows:

$$z^{n+1} = \exp(V)z^n + \tau \phi(V)Sf(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \quad (4.4)$$

$$q^{n+1} = q^n + \tau \frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \delta_t u^n \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}, \quad (4.5)$$

where

$$\phi(V) = \int_0^1 \exp((1-\xi)V) d\xi, \quad f(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) = \left( \frac{G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})^T}{\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, 0 \right)^T,$$

and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . The initial and boundary conditions in (3.1) are discretized as

$$u_j^0 = \phi_1(x_j), \quad v_j^0 = \phi_2(x_j), \quad q^0 = \sqrt{\langle G(u^0), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N, \\ u_0^n = u_N^n, \quad u_{-1}^n = u_{N-1}^n, \quad n \geq 0.$$

**Remark 4.1.** Since the proposed scheme (4.4)–(4.5) is a three level scheme, we calculate  $z^1$  and  $q^1$  by using  $u^0$  instead of  $\hat{u}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for the first step.

Then, we show that the scheme (4.4)–(4.5) can preserve the fully discrete modified energy. To begin with, we give the following preliminary lemma presented in Ref. [30].

**Lemma 4.1.** For any symmetric matrix  $M$ , and scalar  $\tau \geq 0$ , the matrix

$$A = \exp(V)^T M \exp(V) - M$$

is a nilpotent matrix, when  $S$  is skew symmetric.

We next have the result, as follows:

**Theorem 4.1.** The proposed scheme (4.4)–(4.5) can preserve the following discrete modified energy

$$E_h^{n+1} = E_h^n, \quad E_h^n = \frac{1}{2} \|v^n\|_{l^2}^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \|\delta_x^+ u^n\|_{l^2}^2 + (q^n)^2 - C_0, \quad (4.6)$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .

**Proof.** We first note that the matrix  $M$  is singular, and assume that  $\{M_\epsilon\}$  is a series of symmetric and nonsingular matrices, which converge to  $M$  when  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Let  $z_\epsilon^n$  and  $q_\epsilon^n$  satisfy the perturbed scheme

$$z_\epsilon^{n+1} = \exp(V_\epsilon)z_\epsilon^n + \tau \phi(V_\epsilon)Sf(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, q_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \quad (4.7)$$

$$q_\epsilon^{n+1} = q_\epsilon^n + \tau \frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \delta_t u_\epsilon^n \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}, \quad (4.8)$$

where  $V_\epsilon = \tau S M_\epsilon$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Denote  $\tilde{f}_\epsilon := M_\epsilon^{-1} f_\epsilon = M_\epsilon^{-1} f(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, q_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}})$  and

$$E_{\epsilon,h}^n = \frac{h}{2} (z_\epsilon^n)^T M_\epsilon z_\epsilon^n + (q_\epsilon^n)^2. \quad (4.9)$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} (z_\epsilon^{n+1})^T M_\epsilon z_\epsilon^{n+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ (z_\epsilon^n)^T \exp(V_\epsilon)^T + \tau f_\epsilon^T S^T \phi(V_\epsilon)^T \right] M_\epsilon \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon) z_\epsilon^n + \tau \phi(V_\epsilon) S f_\epsilon \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (z_\epsilon^n)^T \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) z_\epsilon^n + (z_\epsilon^n)^T \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon) - I \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T - I \right] M_\epsilon \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon) - I \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{2} (z_\epsilon^n)^T \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) z_\epsilon^n + (z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) + M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.10}$$

On the other hand, it follows from (4.8) that

$$\begin{aligned}
(q_\epsilon^{n+1})^2 - (q_\epsilon^n)^2 &= \frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u_\epsilon^{n+1} - u_\epsilon^n \rangle_{l^2}}{\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q_\epsilon^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= h((z_\epsilon^{n+1})^T - (z_\epsilon^n)^T) f_\epsilon \\
&= h(z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T - I \right] f_\epsilon + \tau h f_\epsilon^T S^T \phi(V_\epsilon)^T f_\epsilon \\
&= h(z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon + h \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T V_\epsilon^T \phi(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \tilde{f}_\epsilon \\
&= h(z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon + h \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.11}$$

Then, we can deduce from (4.10) and (4.11) that

$$\begin{aligned}
&E_{\epsilon,h}^{n+1} - E_{\epsilon,h}^n \\
&= \frac{h}{2} (z_\epsilon^{n+1})^T M_\epsilon z_\epsilon^{n+1} - \frac{h}{2} (z_\epsilon^n)^T M_\epsilon z_\epsilon^n + (q_\epsilon^{n+1})^2 - (q_\epsilon^n)^2 \\
&= \frac{h}{2} (z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - M_\epsilon \right] z_\epsilon^n + h(z_\epsilon^n)^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon \\
&\quad + \frac{h}{2} \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - M_\epsilon \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon + \frac{h}{2} \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T \left[ \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) \right] \tilde{f}_\epsilon \\
&= \frac{h}{2} (z_\epsilon^n + \tilde{f}_\epsilon)^T A_\epsilon (z_\epsilon^n + \tilde{f}_\epsilon) + \frac{h}{2} \tilde{f}_\epsilon^T C_\epsilon \tilde{f}_\epsilon = 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A_\epsilon = \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon) - M_\epsilon$  and  $C_\epsilon = \exp(V_\epsilon)^T M_\epsilon - M_\epsilon \exp(V_\epsilon)$ . The last equality is from Lemma 4.1 and the skew symmetry of the matrix  $C_\epsilon$ . Thus, when  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,  $z_\epsilon^n \rightarrow z^n$ ,  $q_\epsilon^n \rightarrow q^n$  and (4.9) lead to

$$E_h^{n+1} = E_h^n.$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.1.** Supposing  $\phi_1 \in H^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\phi_2 \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , it then follows from (4.6) that

$$\|v^n\|_{l^2} \leq C, \|\delta_x^+ u^n\|_{l^2} \leq C, |q^n| \leq C, n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

which implies that the proposed scheme is unconditionally stable.

**Remark 4.2.** It should be remarked that there have been various excellent works dedicated to deriving energy stable schemes based on exponential time integrations for gradient flows in recent years (e.g., see Refs. [8,12,27]). However, such schemes cannot be directly extended to construct energy-preserving schemes for general conservative systems since explicit approximations of the temporal integral of the nonlinear term do not satisfy a discrete analog of the chain rule that ensures the energy conservation.

Besides its energy-preserving property, a most remarkable thing about the above scheme is that it can be solved efficiently. We rewrite (4.4) and (4.5) as

$$u^{n+1} = \exp_{11} u^n + \exp_{12} v^n - \tau \phi_{12} \frac{G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})}{\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{4.12}$$

$$v^{n+1} = \exp_{21} u^n + \exp_{22} v^n - \tau \phi_{22} \frac{G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})}{\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}} q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{4.13}$$

$$q^{n+1} = q^n + \tau \frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \delta_t u^n \rangle_{l^2}}{2\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{l^2} + C_0}}, \tag{4.14}$$

where  $\exp(V)$  and  $\phi(V)$  are partitioned into

$$\exp(V) = \begin{pmatrix} \exp_{11} & \exp_{12} \\ \exp_{21} & \exp_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \phi(V) = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{11} & \phi_{12} \\ \phi_{21} & \phi_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Next, by eliminating  $q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$  in (4.12), we have

$$u^{n+1} + \gamma \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} = g^n, \quad (4.15)$$

where

$$\gamma = \frac{\tau \phi_{12} G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})}{4 \langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + 4C_0},$$

and

$$g^n = \exp_{11} u^n + \exp_{12} v^n - \tau \phi_{12} \frac{G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})}{\sqrt{\langle G(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + C_0}} q^n + \gamma \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u^n \rangle_{\ell^2}.$$

We take the discrete inner product of (4.15) with  $G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}})$  and have

$$\left(1 + \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \gamma \rangle_{\ell^2}\right) \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} = \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), g^n \rangle_{\ell^2}.$$

Notice  $\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \gamma \rangle_{\ell^2} \geq 0$ , since  $\phi_{12}$  is a symmetrical positive semidefinite matrix. We then obtain from the above that

$$\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} = \frac{\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), g^n \rangle_{\ell^2}}{1 + \langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), \gamma \rangle_{\ell^2}}. \quad (4.16)$$

After solving  $\langle G'(\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}), u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2}$  from the linear system (4.16),  $u^{n+1}$  is then updated from (4.15). Subsequently,  $q^{n+1}$  is obtained from (4.14). Finally, we get  $v^{n+1}$  from (4.13).

**Remark 4.3.** On the one hand,  $\exp(V)$  and  $\phi(V)$  can be efficiently implemented via the fast Fourier transform since the calculation of exponentials is time-consuming in general. Actually, according to Definition 4.1 and (4.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(V) &= I + V + \frac{V^2}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{V^k}{k!} + \cdots \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} F^H \cosh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F & F^H (\omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \sinh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F \\ F^H \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} \sinh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F & F^H \cosh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

By the similar argument as above, we obtain

$$\phi(V) = \begin{pmatrix} F^H \tau^{-1} (\omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \sinh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F & F^H (\tau \omega^2 \Lambda)^{-1} (\cosh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) - I) F \\ F^H \tau^{-1} (\cosh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) - I) F & F^H \tau^{-1} (\omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \sinh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) F \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, we should note that

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} &= \text{diag}[\lambda_0^{\frac{1}{2}}, \lambda_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, \lambda_{N-1}^{\frac{1}{2}}], \\ (\omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \sinh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) &= \text{diag}\left[\tau, \frac{\sinh(\tau \omega \lambda_1^{\frac{1}{2}})}{\omega \lambda_1^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \dots, \frac{\sinh(\tau \omega \lambda_{N-1}^{\frac{1}{2}})}{\omega \lambda_{N-1}^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right], \\ (\tau \omega^2 \Lambda)^{-1} (\cosh(\tau \omega \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}) - I) &= \text{diag}\left[\frac{\tau}{2}, \frac{\cosh(\tau \omega \lambda_1^{\frac{1}{2}}) - 1}{\tau \omega^2 \lambda_1}, \dots, \frac{\cosh(\tau \omega \lambda_{N-1}^{\frac{1}{2}}) - 1}{\tau \omega^2 \lambda_{N-1}}\right]. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, small modifications would allow us to efficiently implement  $\exp(V)$  and  $\phi(V)$  in two dimensional case.

**Table 1**Numerical error and convergence rate for the two schemes under different grid steps at  $t = 1$ .

Scheme	$(h, \tau)$	$L^2$ -error	order	$L^\infty$ -error	order
ESAVS	$(\frac{1}{10}, \frac{1}{100})$	1.287e-03	–	1.367e-03	–
	$(\frac{1}{20}, \frac{1}{200})$	3.217e-04	2.00	3.413e-04	2.00
	$(\frac{1}{40}, \frac{1}{400})$	8.044e-05	2.00	8.531e-05	2.00
	$(\frac{1}{80}, \frac{1}{800})$	2.011e-05	2.00	2.133e-05	2.00
EAVFS	$(\frac{1}{10}, \frac{1}{100})$	1.104e-03	–	1.050e-03	–
	$(\frac{1}{20}, \frac{1}{200})$	2.761e-04	2.00	2.621e-04	2.00
	$(\frac{1}{40}, \frac{1}{400})$	6.902e-05	2.00	6.551e-05	2.00
	$(\frac{1}{80}, \frac{1}{800})$	1.725e-05	2.00	1.638e-05	2.00

## 5. Numerical examples

In the previous sections, set the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation as an example, we present novel linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential integrators (denoted by ESAVS) for the conservative systems. In this section, we report the numerical performance in accuracy, CPU time and energy preservation of the energy-preserving exponential integrator schemes for the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation, respectively. Furthermore, we compare the proposed scheme with the exponential averaged vector field scheme (denoted by EAVFS) proposed in Ref. [30]. In addition, the standard fixed-point iteration is used for EAVFS and the iteration will be terminated when the infinity norm of the error between two adjacent iterative steps is less than  $10^{-14}$ . In order to quantify the numerical solution, we use the  $L^2$ - and  $L^\infty$ -norms of the error between the numerical solution  $u_j^n$  and the exact solution  $u(x_j, t_n)$ , respectively, as

$$e_{h,2}(t_n) = \left( h \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} |u_j^n - u(x_j, t_n)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad e_{h,\infty}(t_n) = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N-1} |u_j^n - u(x_j, t_n)|, \quad n \geq 0.$$

### 5.1. Nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation

We first consider the one dimensional nonlinear sine-Gordon equation as follows:

$$\partial_{tt}u - \partial_{xx}u + \sin(u) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t > 0, \quad (5.1)$$

with initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u_t(x, 0) = 4\operatorname{sech}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Equation (5.1) possesses the analytical solution

$$u(x, t) = 4 \arctan(t \operatorname{sech}(x)), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

First of all, we present the time mesh refinement tests to show the order of accuracy of the proposed scheme. We choose the parameter  $C_0 = 1$  and the computational domain  $\Omega = [-20, 20]$  with a periodic boundary condition.

The error and convergence order of EAVFS and ESAVS at time  $t = 1$  are given in Table 1, which can be observed that all schemes have second order accuracy in time and space and the error provided by ESAVS has the same order of magnitude as the one provided by EAVFS. Besides, we carry out comparisons on the computational cost of the two schemes in Fig. 1 by refining the mesh size gradually, which shows that the cost of ESAVS is cheaper. Moreover, as the refinement of mesh sizes, the advantage of ESAVS emerges, which implies that our scheme shows the remarkable performance in the efficiency. The long-term energy deviations are plotted in Fig. 2. It is clear that ESAVS and EAVFS can exactly preserve the discrete energies.

Then, we apply the proposed scheme to solve the following two dimensional nonlinear sine-Gordon equation

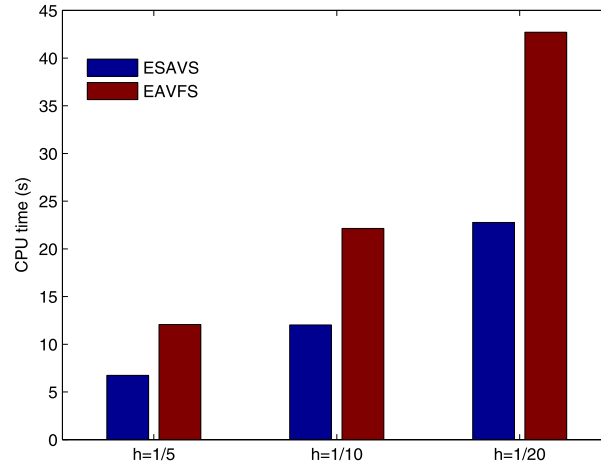
$$\partial_{tt}u - \partial_{xx}u - \partial_{yy}u + \sin(u) = 0, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad t > 0,$$

with initial conditions [11]

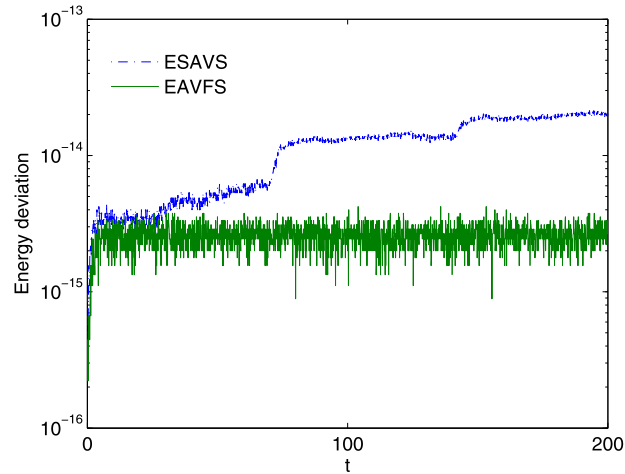
$$u(x, y, 0) = 4 \tan^{-1} \left[ \exp \left( \frac{4 - \sqrt{(x+3)^2 + (y+7)^2}}{0.436} \right) \right],$$

$$u_t(x, y, 0) = \frac{4.13}{\cosh \left( \frac{4 - \sqrt{(x+3)^2 + (y+7)^2}}{0.436} \right)}, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$





**Fig. 1.** CPU time of the two schemes for the soliton with different mesh sizes till  $t = 10$  under  $\tau = 0.001$ . The computations are carried out via Matlab 7.0 with Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7500 CPU @ 3.40 GHz.



**Fig. 2.** The energy deviation with  $h = \tau = 0.1$  over the time interval  $t \in [0, 200]$ .

We take computational domain  $\Omega = [-30, 10]^2$  with a periodic boundary condition and choose the parameter  $C_0 = 0$ . In Fig. 3, we carry out comparisons on the computational cost between two schemes by refining the mesh size gradually. It is clear to see that the cost of EAVFS is more expensive. Moreover, as the refinement of mesh sizes, the advantage of ESASVS emerges, which implies that our scheme is more preferable for large scale simulations than the EAVFS. Fig. 4 shows the collision precisely among four expanding circular ring solitons which are in good agreement with those given in Refs. [11,40]. Here, we should note that, following Refs. [11,40], the solution includes the extension across  $x = -10$  and  $y = -10$  by symmetry properties of the problem, and the numerical solution in terms of  $\sin(u/2)$  instead of  $u$  is displayed. Moreover, we also calculate the energy deviation for the two schemes over the time interval  $t \in [0, 100]$  and plot it in Fig. 5. As is clear, our scheme is comparable with the EAVFS.

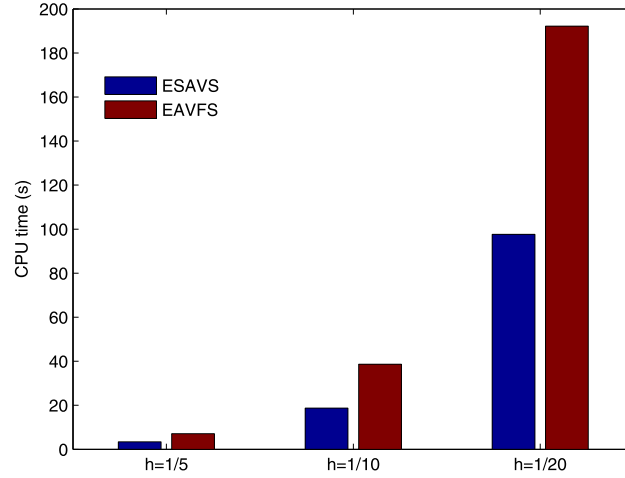
Finally, we consider the two dimensional nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation, as follows

$$\partial_{tt}u - \partial_{xx}u - \partial_{yy}u + u^3 = 0, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad t > 0,$$

with initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = 2\text{sech}(\cosh(x^2 + y^2)), \quad u_t(x, y, 0) = 0, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

We set the computational domain  $\Omega = [-10, 10]^2$  with a periodic boundary condition and take the parameter  $C_0 = 0$ . Fig. 6 presents the initial condition as well as numerical solutions at different times, which shows the expansion and propagation of the initial soliton to the whole domain until getting the boundary at  $t = 8$ . The long time energy deviation of the two schemes is displayed in Fig. 7, which behaves similarly as that of Fig. 5. Here, we omit the comparisons of the two schemes for the CPU time. This is because the obtained results behave similarly as that of Fig. 3.



**Fig. 3.** CPU time of the two schemes for the soliton with different mesh sizes till  $t = 1$  under  $\tau = 0.01$ . The computations are carried out via Matlab 7.0 with Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7500 CPU @ 3.40 GHz.

## 5.2. Nonlinear Schrödinger equation

In addition to the NKGE (2.1), the strategy presented in Sections 2 and 4 can also be used to propose linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential schemes for general Hamiltonian partial differential equations. To illustrate points, in this subsection, the following nonlinear Schrödinger equation is considered

$$\begin{cases} i\partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, t) + \Delta u(\mathbf{x}, t) + \beta |u(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 u(\mathbf{x}, t) = 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = u_0(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \end{cases} \quad (5.2)$$

where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  is the complex unit,  $t$  is the time variable,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the spatial variable,  $u := u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  is the complex-valued wave function,  $\Delta$  is the usual Laplace operator, and  $\beta$  is a given real constant. The NLSE (5.2) conserves the Hamiltonian energy

$$E(t) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( -|\nabla u(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} |u(\mathbf{x}, t)|^4 \right) d\mathbf{x} = E(0), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (5.3)$$

For simplicity, we take the one dimensional case i.e.  $d = 1$  in (5.2) as example and set the computational domain  $\Omega = [a, b]$  with a periodic condition boundary. We then let  $q := q(t) = \sqrt{(|u|^4, 1) + C_0}$ , and rewrite the energy functional (5.3) as

$$E(t) := \int_{\Omega} \left( -|\nabla u|^2 \right) dx + \frac{\beta}{2} q^2 - \frac{\beta}{2} C_0 = E(0), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (5.4)$$

According to the SAV reformulation, we obtain the following equivalent system

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = i \left( \Delta u + \beta \frac{|u|^2 u}{\sqrt{(|u|^4, 1) + C_0}} q \right), \\ \partial_t q = \frac{(|u|^2 u, \partial_t u) + (\partial_t u, |u|^2 u)}{\sqrt{(|u|^4, 1) + C_0}}, \end{cases} \quad (5.5)$$

with the consistent initial condition

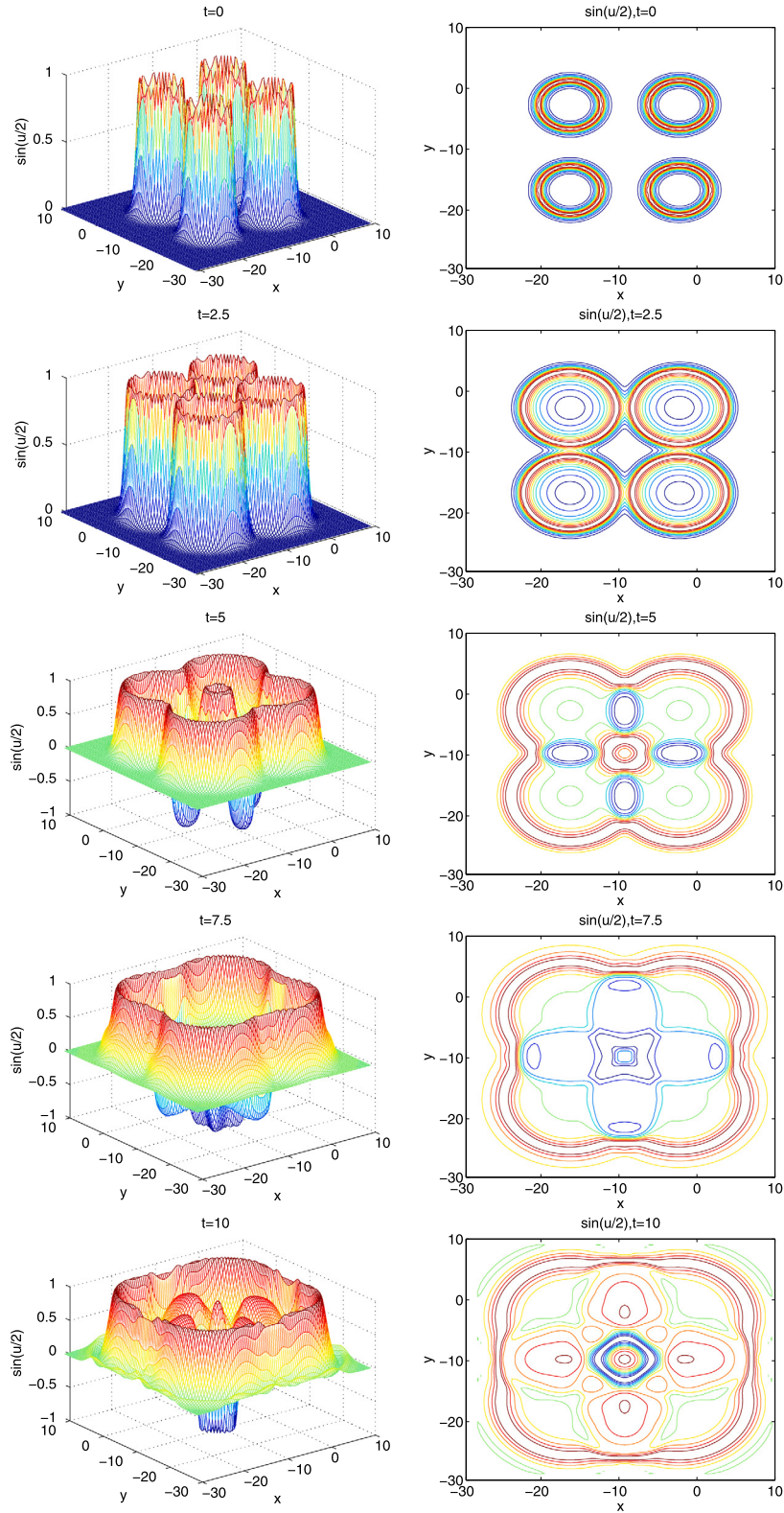
$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad q(0) = \sqrt{(|u_0(x)|^4, 1) + C_0}, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad (5.6)$$

and a periodic condition boundary.

Instead of the finite difference method for discretization of the spatial derivative in (5.5), we use the standard Fourier pseudo-spectral method. Actually, the Laplace operator  $\Delta$  is approximated by discrete Fourier transform (DFT) as

$$D_2 = F^H \Lambda F,$$

where



**Fig. 4.** Collision of four ring solitons (mesh plot (left) and contour plot (right)) in terms of  $\sin(u/2)$  at times  $t = 0, 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10$  with  $h = 0.2$  and  $\tau = 0.1$ .

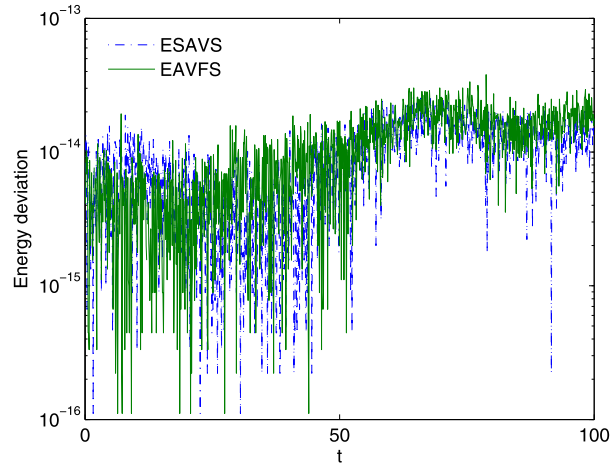


Fig. 5. The energy deviation over the time interval  $t \in [0, 100]$  with  $h = 0.2$  and  $\tau = 0.1$ .

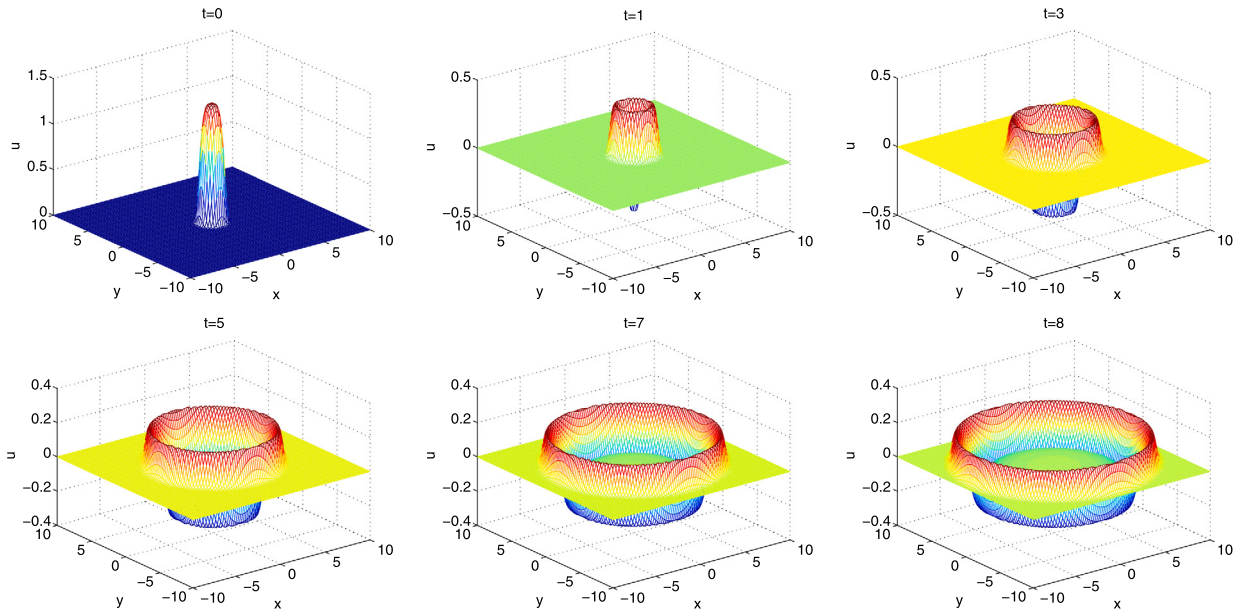


Fig. 6. The Snapshots of numerical solution at times  $t = 0, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8$  with  $h = \tau = 0.1$ .

$$\Lambda = -\left(\frac{2\pi}{b-a}\right)^2 \text{diag}\left[0^2, 1^2, \dots, \left(\frac{N}{2}\right)^2, \left(-\frac{N}{2}+1\right)^2, \dots, (-2)^2, (-1)^2\right].$$

We let  $u_j^n$  be the numerical approximation of  $u(x_j, t_n)$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$  and  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ; denote  $u^n$  as the solution vector at  $t = t_n$ . Then, by an argument similar to the scheme (4.4)–(4.5) to system (5.5), we have

$$\begin{cases} u^{n+1} = \exp(i\tau D_2)u^n + i\beta\tau \int_0^1 \exp(i\tau D_2(1-\xi))d\xi \frac{|\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 \hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\langle |\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^4, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{L^2} + C_0}}, \\ q^{n+1} = q^n + \frac{\langle |\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 \hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, u^{n+1} - u^n \rangle_{L^2} + \langle u^{n+1} - u^n, |\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 \hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \rangle_{L^2}}{\sqrt{\langle |\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^4, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{L^2} + C_0}}, \end{cases} \quad (5.7)$$

for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . The initial condition (5.6) is discretized as

$$u_j^0 = u_0(x_j), \quad q^0 = \sqrt{\langle |u^0|^4, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{L^2} + C_0}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

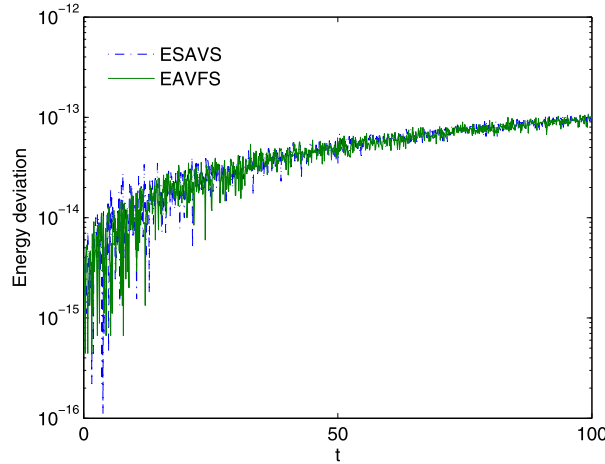


Fig. 7. The energy deviation over the time interval  $t \in [0, 100]$  with  $h = \tau = 0.1$ .

**Remark 5.1.** Note that the proposed scheme (5.7) is a three level scheme and we obtain  $u^1$  and  $q^1$  by using  $u^0$  instead of  $\hat{u}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for the first step.

**Theorem 5.1.** The proposed scheme (5.7) preserves the following modified energy

$$E_h^{n+1} = E_h^n, \quad E_h^n = \langle -D_2 u^n, u^n \rangle_{\ell^2} - \frac{\beta}{2} (q^n)^2 - \frac{\beta}{2} C_0.$$

**Proof.** The proof is similar to Theorem 4.1, thus, for brevity, we omit it.

Next, we show that the above scheme can be solved efficiently. Eqs. (5.7) can be rewritten as

$$u^{n+1} = \exp(i\tau D_2) u^n + \phi \gamma^n q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (5.8)$$

$$q^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + \frac{1}{2} \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} + q^n - \frac{1}{2} \langle \gamma^n, u^n \rangle_{\ell^2} - \frac{1}{2} \langle u^n, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}, \quad (5.9)$$

where

$$\phi = i\beta\tau \int_0^1 \exp(i\tau D_2(1-\xi)) d\xi, \quad \gamma^n = \frac{|\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 \hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\langle |\hat{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}|^4, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + C_0}}.$$

Then, by eliminating  $q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$  in (5.8), we have

$$u^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \phi \gamma^n \langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + \frac{1}{2} \phi \gamma^n \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} + b^n, \quad (5.10)$$

where

$$b^n = \exp(i\tau D_2) u^n + \phi \gamma^n q^n - \frac{1}{2} \phi \gamma^n \langle \gamma^n, u^n \rangle_{\ell^2} - \frac{1}{2} \phi \gamma^n \langle u^n, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}.$$

We take the inner product of (5.10) with  $\gamma^n$  and have, respectively,

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \langle \gamma^n, \phi \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}\right) \langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} - \frac{1}{2} \langle \gamma^n, \phi \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} = \langle \gamma^n, b^n \rangle_{\ell^2}, \quad (5.11)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \langle \phi \gamma^n, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} \langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \langle \phi \gamma^n, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}\right) \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2} = \langle b^n, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}. \quad (5.12)$$

Eqs. (5.11) and (5.12) form a  $2 \times 2$  linear system for the unknowns  $\left(\langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2}, \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}\right)^T$ .

Solving  $\left(\langle \gamma^n, u^{n+1} \rangle_{\ell^2}, \langle u^{n+1}, \gamma^n \rangle_{\ell^2}\right)^T$  from the  $2 \times 2$  linear system (5.11) and (5.12), and  $u^{n+1}$  is then updated from (5.10). Subsequently,  $q^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$  is obtained by (5.9). Finally, we have  $q^{n+1} = 2q^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - q^n$ .

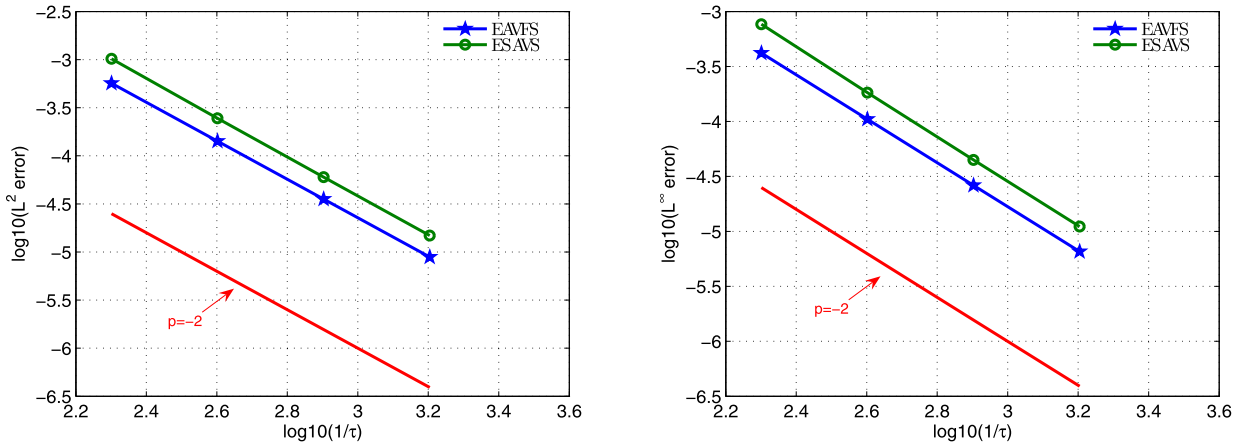


Fig. 8. Time step refinement tests using the two numerical schemes for the one dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation.

**Remark 5.2.** In addition, by an argument similar to Remark 4.3, we can deduce that

$$\exp(i\tau D_2) = F^H \exp(i\tau \Lambda) F, \quad \int_0^1 \exp(i\tau D_2(1-\xi)) d\xi = F^H \Sigma F,$$

where

$$\Sigma = \text{diag}\left[1, \frac{\exp(i\tau\lambda_1) - 1}{i\tau\lambda_1}, \dots, \frac{\exp(i\tau\lambda_{N-1}) - 1}{i\tau\lambda_{N-1}}\right].$$

We repeat the time step refinement test first and choose the parameter  $C_0 = 0$  and  $\beta = 2$ . The one dimensional Schrödinger equation (5.2) admits the analytical solution

$$u(x, t) = \text{sech}(x - 4t) \exp(i(2x - 3t)), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We choose the analytical solution at  $t = 0$  as the initial condition and set the computational domain  $\Omega = [-40, 40]$  with a periodic boundary condition. To test the temporal discretization errors of the two numerical schemes, we fix the Fourier node 4096 such that the spatial discretization errors are negligible.

The  $L^2$  errors and  $L^\infty$  errors in numerical solution of  $u$  at  $t = 1$  are calculated using two numerical schemes with various time steps, and the results are displayed in Fig. 8. In Fig. 9, we show the global  $L^2$  errors and  $L^\infty$  errors of  $u$  versus the CPU time using the two different schemes at  $t = 1$ . From Figs. 8 and 9, we can draw the following observations: (i) all schemes have second order accuracy in time; (ii) the error provided by the EAVFS is smaller, and the one provided by the proposed scheme has the same order of magnitude as the one of the ESAV scheme; (iii) for a given global error, the cost of the EAVFS is more expensive than the proposed scheme.

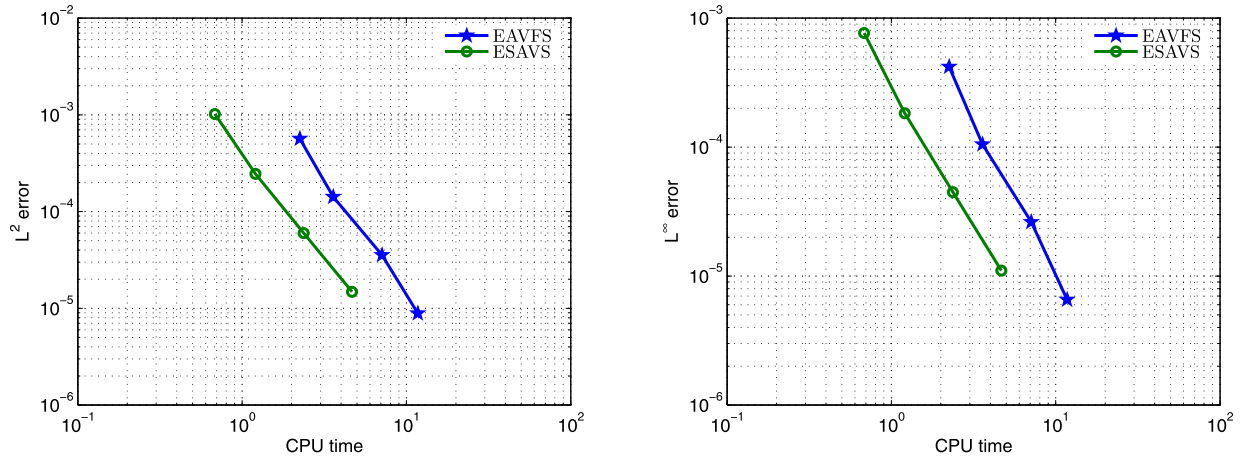
To further investigate the energy-preservation of the proposed scheme, we provide the energy errors using the two numerical schemes for the one dimensional Schrödinger equation over the time interval  $t \in [0, 100]$  in Fig. 10, which shows that all two methods can exactly preserve the discrete energies.

Next, we apply the proposed scheme to solve the two dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation which possesses the following analytical solution

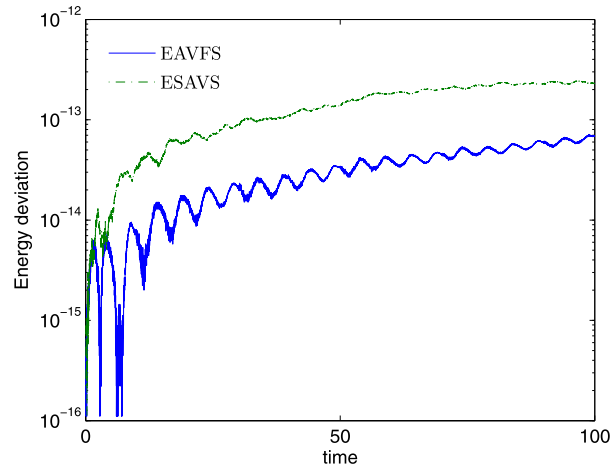
$$u(x, y, t) = A \exp(i(k_1 x + k_2 y - \omega t)), \quad \omega = k_1^2 + k_2^2 - \beta |A|^2, \quad (x, y) \in \Omega.$$

We choose the computational domain  $\Omega = [0, 2\pi]^2$  and take parameters  $A = 1$ ,  $k_1 = k_2 = 1$ ,  $\beta = -1$  and  $C_0 = 0$ . We first test the temporal accuracy of the two numerical schemes by fixing the Fourier node  $128 \times 128$  such that the spatial discretization errors are negligible. The  $L^2$  errors and  $L^\infty$  errors in numerical solution of  $u$  at  $t = 1$  calculated by using two numerical schemes with various time steps are shown in Fig. 11. Also, the global  $L^2$  errors and  $L^\infty$  errors of  $u$  versus the CPU time using the two different schemes at  $t = 1$  are investigated in Fig. 12. Again, the numerical results indicate that two numerical schemes are second order in time and the proposed scheme is much cheaper than EAVFS.

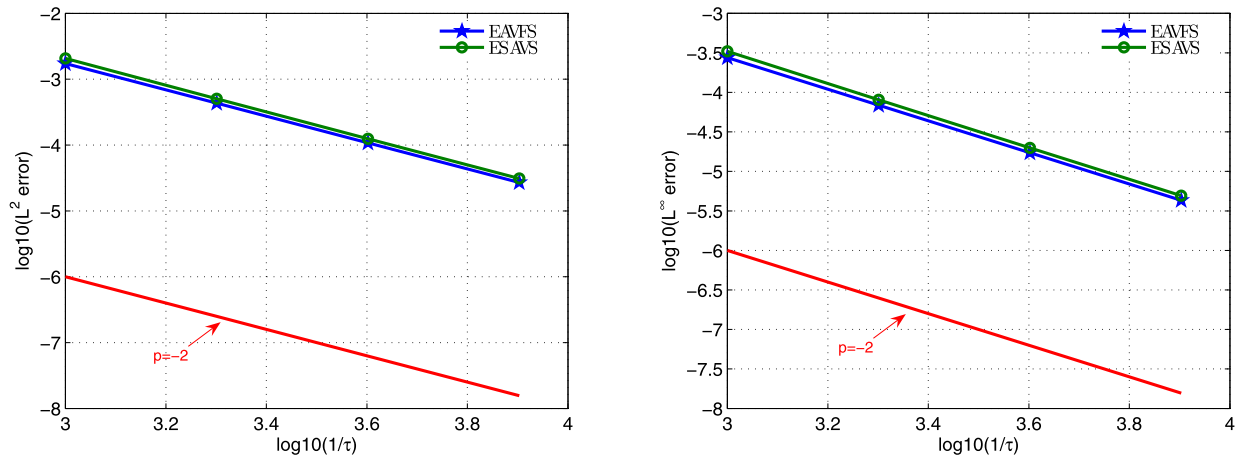
Second, we present the discrete energies for the numerical solutions given by the ESAVS and EAVFS, respectively in Fig. 13. The numerical results show that the discrete energies can be exactly preserved, which are consistent with our theoretical result in Theorem 5.1.



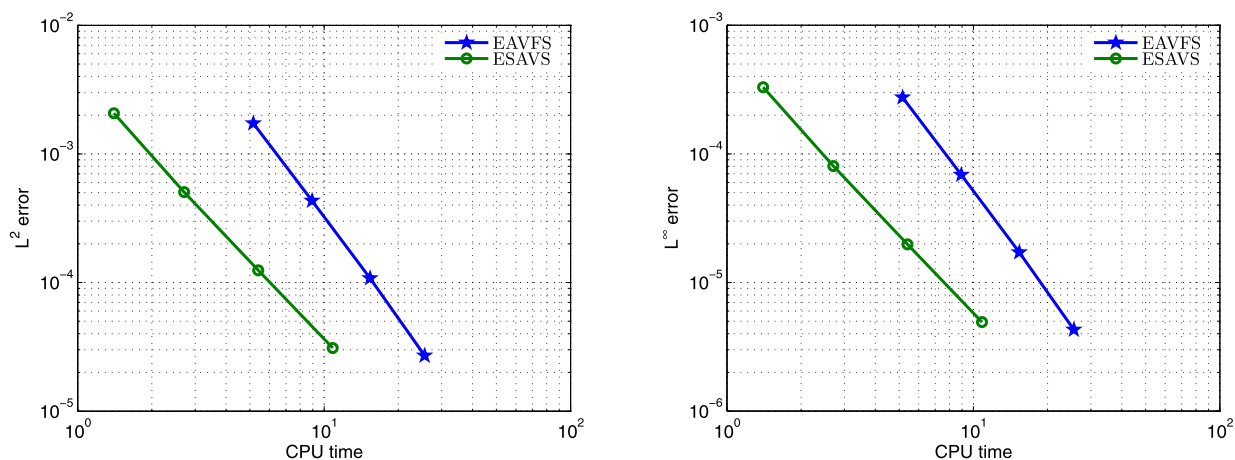
**Fig. 9.** The numerical error versus the CPU time using the two numerical schemes for the one dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation. The computations are carried out via Matlab 7.0 with Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7500 CPU @ 3.40 GHz.



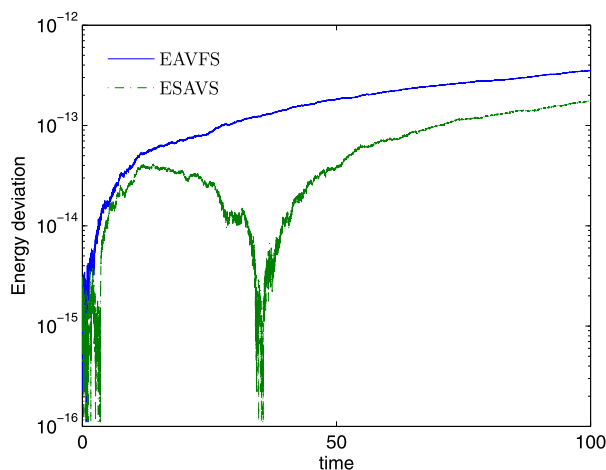
**Fig. 10.** The energy deviation using the two numerical schemes with time step  $\tau = 0.01$  and spatial collocation point  $N = 512$  for the one dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation.



**Fig. 11.** Time step refinement tests using the two numerical schemes for the two dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation.



**Fig. 12.** The numerical error versus the CPU time using the two numerical schemes for the two dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation. The computations are carried out via Matlab 7.0 with Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7500 CPU @ 3.40 GHz.



**Fig. 13.** The energy deviation using the two numerical schemes with time step  $\tau = 0.01$  and spatial collocation point  $32 \times 32$  for the two dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equation.

## 6. Concluding remarks

In this paper, we design a novel linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential scheme for the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation, respectively. The schemes are developed based on the exponential integrator in combination with the scalar auxiliary variable (SAV) technique and proved to preserve the discrete energy. Various numerical examples are carried out to illustrate theoretical analysis. Comparing with the exponential averaged vector field scheme, the proposed scheme shows remarkable efficiency. Here, we should note that, compared with existing energy-preserving exponential schemes (e.g., see Refs. [30,39]), the proposed method cannot preserve the discrete Hamiltonian energy. Thus, such trade-offs among methods should be more carefully investigated. In addition, to the best of our knowledge, the construction of higher order linearly implicit energy-preserving exponential schemes is still not available for conservative systems, which is an interesting topic for future studies.

## Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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