# EXISTENCE OF SOLUTION FOR A SINGULAR ELLIPTIC EQUATION WITH CRITICAL SOBOLEV-HARDY EXPONENTS

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Via the variational methods, we prove the existence of a nontrivial solution to a singular semilinear elliptic equation with critical Sobolev-Hardy exponent under certain conditions.

### 1. Introduction

In this paper, we consider the following elliptic problem:

$$-\Delta u - \mu \frac{u}{|x|^2} = \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)-2}}{|x|^s} u + a(x)|u|^{r-2}u + \lambda u, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N,$$
(1.1)

where  $N \ge 3$ ,  $0 \le \mu < \overline{\mu} \doteq ((N-2)/2)^2$ ,  $0 \le s < 2$ ,  $\lambda \ge 0$ , and  $2^*(s) \doteq 2(N-s)/(N-2)$  is the critical Sobolev-Hardy exponent; note that  $2^*(0) = 2^* \doteq 2N/(N-2)$  is the critical Sobolev exponent. The space  $H \doteq H(\mathbb{R}^N)$  is the completion of  $C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  in the norm

$$||u|| \doteq \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \left( |\nabla u|^2 - \mu \frac{u^2}{|x|^2} \right) dx \right)^{1/2}.$$
 (1.2)

By the Hardy inequality [8, 9], this norm is equivalent to the usual norm  $(\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |\nabla u|^2 dx)^{1/2}$ . The scalar product in *H* is

$$(u,v) \doteq \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \left( \nabla u \nabla v - \mu \frac{uv}{|x|^2} \right) dx \quad \forall u,v \in H.$$
(1.3)

We define  $H_r \subset H$  with

$$H_r \doteq \{ u \in H, \ u(x) = u(|x|) \}.$$
(1.4)

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The hypothesis for a(x) is as follows:

(A) a(x) is nonnegative and locally bounded in  $\mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $a(x) = O(|x|^{-s})$  in the bounded neighborhood *G* of the origin,  $a(x) = O(|x|^{-t})$  as  $|x| \to \infty$ ,  $0 \le s < t < 2$ ,  $2^*(t) < r < 2^*(s)$ , where  $2^*(t) \doteq 2(N-t)/(N-2)$  for  $0 \le t < 2$ .

The singular elliptic problems have received some attention in recent years. For example, Janneli [10] and Ferrero and Gazzolo [7] studied the semilinear elliptic equation

$$-\Delta u - \mu \frac{u}{|x|^2} = |u|^{2^* - 2} u + \lambda u, \quad x \in \Omega,$$
  
$$u(x) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega,$$
  
(1.5)

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N (N \ge 3)$  is a smooth bounded domain containing the origin 0. They proved that (1.5) has a nontrivial solution under certain conditions for  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ . Moreover, Cao in [4, 5] and Chen in [6] also studied the semilinear elliptic equation (1.5). They show that (1.5) has nontrivial solutions and a sign-changing solution under some conditions for  $\mu$ ,  $\lambda$ . Ghoussoub and Yuan in [9] considered the quasilinear problem

$$-\Delta_p u = \mu \frac{|u|^{q-2}u}{|x|^s} + \lambda |u|^{r-2}u, \quad x \in \Omega,$$
  
$$u(x) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega.$$
 (1.6)

They get that (1.6) has a positive solution and a sign-changing solution under some conditions for  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$ , r, q.

In the case when  $\Omega$  is an unbounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ , the corresponding problem becomes more complicated since the Sobolev embedding  $W^{1,p}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^q(\Omega)(p \ge 2)$  is not compact for all  $q \in [p, p^*]$ . However, by the Strauss lemma (see [13]), the embedding  $H_r(\mathbb{R}^N) \hookrightarrow L^q(\mathbb{R}^N)$  is compact for all  $q \in [2, 2^*)$ . Therefore, we can discuss the nontrivial solutions of (1.1) in  $H_r$  by variational methods. But there are also some difficulties for (1.1), because the embedding  $H_r \hookrightarrow L^{2^*(s)}(\mathbb{R}^N, |x|^{-s})$  is still not compact. In [11], as  $\lambda = 0$ , the existence of a nontrivial solution is given for (1.1) with s = 0, so it will be meaningful to study the existence of nontrivial solutions for (1.1) as  $s \in [0,2)$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . In this paper, we obtain the following existence results.

THEOREM 1.1. Suppose (A) and  $0 \le s < 2$ ,  $0 \le \mu < \overline{\mu}$ ,  $\lambda \ge 0$ . Assume that one of the following conditions holds:

(i) 
$$\lambda = 0$$
 and

$$\max\left\{\frac{N-s}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}+\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}}, \frac{N-s-2\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}}, 2^{*}(t)\right\} < r < 2^{*}(s),$$
(1.7)

(ii)  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_1(\mu)$  and  $0 \le \mu \le \overline{\mu} - 1$ , where  $\lambda_1(\mu) \doteq \inf_{u \in H \setminus \{0\}} (||u||^2 / \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} u^2 dx)$ . Then problem (1.1) has at least a nontrivial solution in  $H_r$ .

Throughout this paper, we will use the letter *C* to denote the natural various constants independent of *u*, and  $\int \cdot dx$  instead of  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \cdot dx$ .

#### 2. Proof of the main result

We first give some definitions and lemmas.

Definition 2.1. Let  $\{u_m\}$  be a sequence in  $H_r$ , if there exists a constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}^1$  such that

$$J(u_m) \longrightarrow c, \qquad J'(u_m) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{in } H_r^{-1}$$
 (2.1)

as  $m \to \infty$ , then  $\{u_m\}$  is called a (PS)<sub>c</sub> sequence in  $H_r$ .

LEMMA 2.2 (Hardy inequality [8, 9]). Assume that  $1 and <math>u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^N)$ . Then

$$\int \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \le \left(\frac{p}{N-p}\right)^p \int |\nabla u|^p dx.$$
(2.2)

LEMMA 2.3 (Sobolev-Hardy inequality [9]). Assume that  $1 and that <math>p^*(s) \doteq ((N-s)/(N-p))p$ ,  $0 \le s \le p$ . Then there exists a constant C > 0 such that for any  $u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^N)$ ,

$$\left(\int \frac{|u|^{p^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx\right)^{p/p^*(s)} \le C \int |\nabla u|^p dx.$$
(2.3)

LEMMA 2.4 [11]. Assume that hypothesis (A) holds. Then the embedding  $H \hookrightarrow L^r(\mathbb{R}^N, a(x))$  is compact.

Consider the energy functional

$$J(u) = \frac{1}{2} ||u|| - \frac{1}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \frac{1}{r} \int a(x) |u|^r dx - \frac{\lambda}{2} \int |u|^2 dx,$$
(2.4)

*by Lemma 2.4,* J(u) *is well defined and*  $J \in C^1(H, \mathbb{R})$ *; the critical points of the functional J correspond to weak solutions of problem (1.1).* 

*For*  $0 \le \mu < \overline{\mu}$ *, define the best Sobolev-Hardy constant:* 

$$A_{s} \doteq A_{s}(\mu) = \inf_{u \in H\{0\}} \frac{\int (|\nabla u|^{2} - \mu u^{2}/|x|^{2}) dx}{(\int |u|^{2^{*}(s)}/|x|^{s} dx)^{2/2^{*}(s)}}.$$
(2.5)

In [12], the author found that  $A_s$  is attained by the functions

$$y_{\varepsilon}(x) = \frac{\left(2\varepsilon(\bar{\mu}-\mu)(N-s)/\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}\right)^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}/(2-s)}}{|x|^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}-\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\bar{\mu}}}(\varepsilon+|x|^{(2-s)}\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\bar{\mu}}/\sqrt{\bar{\mu}})^{(N-2)/(2-s)}}$$
(2.6)

for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Moreover, the functions  $y_{\varepsilon}(x)$  solve the equation

$$-\Delta u - \mu \frac{u}{|x|^2} = \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)-2}}{|x|^s} u \quad in \ \mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\},$$
(2.7)

and satisfy

$$\int \left( \left| \nabla y_{\varepsilon} \right|^{2} - \mu \frac{\left| y_{\varepsilon} \right|^{2}}{|x|^{2}} \right) dx = \int \frac{\left| y_{\varepsilon} \right|^{2^{*}(s)}}{|x|^{s}} dx = A_{s}^{(N-s)/(2-s)}.$$
(2.8)

In the following, we first give some estimates for the extremal functions. Let

$$C_{\varepsilon} = \left(\frac{2\varepsilon(\bar{\mu}-\mu)(N-s)}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}}\right)^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}/(2-s)}, \qquad U_{\varepsilon}(x) = \frac{y_{\varepsilon}(x)}{C_{\varepsilon}}, \tag{2.9}$$

 $B_{2l} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^N, |x| < 2l\} \subset G \text{ with } l > 0 \text{ and } G \text{ is the domain in hypothesis (A), let } 0 \le \phi \le 1 \text{ be a cutting-off function in } C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^N) \cap H_r \text{, such that } \phi(x) = 1 \text{ in } B_l \text{ and } \phi(x) = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^N \setminus B_{2l}. \text{ Set } u_{\varepsilon}(x) = \phi(x)y_{\varepsilon}(x) \text{ and } v_{\varepsilon} = u_{\varepsilon}(x)/(\int |u_{\varepsilon}|^{2^*(s)}/|x|^s)^{1/2^*(s)}, \text{ so that } \int (|v_{\varepsilon}|^{2^*(s)}/|x|^s) = 1. \text{ In } [12], \text{ the author proved that the following estimates are true:}$ 

$$||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2} = A_{s} + O(\varepsilon^{(N-2)/(2-s)}),$$
 (2.10)

$$\int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{q} dx = \begin{cases} O\left(\varepsilon^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}q/(2-s)}\right), & 1 \le q < \frac{N}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}} + \sqrt{\bar{\mu}} - \mu}, \\ O\left(\varepsilon^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}q/(2-s)} |\ln\varepsilon|\right), & q = \frac{N}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}} + \sqrt{\bar{\mu}} - \mu}, \\ O\left(\varepsilon^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}(N-q\sqrt{\bar{\mu}})/((2-s)\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu})}\right), & \frac{N}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}} + \sqrt{\bar{\mu}} - \mu} < q < 2^{*}. \end{cases}$$
(2.11)

Moreover, we also need the following results.

LEMMA 2.5. Suppose that  $\gamma = \sqrt{\overline{\mu}} + \sqrt{\overline{\mu} - \mu}$ ,  $\dot{\gamma} = \sqrt{\overline{\mu}} - \sqrt{\overline{\mu} - \mu}$ ,  $0 \le \mu < \overline{\mu}$ , and  $0 \le s < 2$ , then,  $v_{\varepsilon}(x)$  satisfies the following estimates:

$$\int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{q}}{|x|^{s}} dx \geq \begin{cases} c_{1}\varepsilon\sqrt{\bar{\mu}q/(2-s)}, & 1 \leq q < \frac{N-s}{\gamma}, \\ c_{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{\bar{\mu}q/(2-s)} |\ln\varepsilon|, & q = \frac{N-s}{\gamma}, \\ c_{3}\varepsilon^{(\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}(N-s)-\bar{\mu}q)/(2-s)}\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\bar{\mu}}, & \frac{N-s}{\gamma} < q < 2^{*}(s), \end{cases}$$
(2.12)

where  $c_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3) are positive constants.

*Proof.* Let  $\omega_N$  denote the surface area of the (N-1) sphere  $S^{N-1}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . For  $1 \le q < 2^*(s)$ , we have

where  $B = (\int |u_{\varepsilon}|^{2^{*}(s)}/|x|^{s} dx)^{-q/2^{*}(s)}$ . If  $-2q\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu} + N - s - \hat{\gamma}q = 0$ , that is,  $q = (N-s)/\gamma$ ,

$$\int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{q}}{|x|^{s}} dx = BC_{\varepsilon}^{q} \left( O(1) + \omega_{N} \int_{1}^{l_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}/((s-2)\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu})} \frac{1}{r} dr \right) \ge B\dot{c}_{1}\varepsilon^{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}q/(2-s)} |\ln\varepsilon|, \qquad (2.14)$$

where  $\dot{c}_1 > 0$  is a constant.

If 
$$-2q\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}+N-s-\acute{\gamma}q<0$$
, that is,  $q>(N-s)/\gamma$ ,

$$\int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{q}}{|x|^{s}} dx = BC_{\varepsilon}^{q} \left( O(1) + O\left(\varepsilon^{-q((N-2)/(2-s)) + (\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}(N-s-\dot{\gamma}q)/(2-s)\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu})}\right) \right)$$
  
$$\geq B\dot{c}_{2}\varepsilon^{(\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}(N-s)-\bar{\mu}q)/(2-s)\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}},$$
(2.15)

where  $c'_2 > 0$  is a constant.

If  $-2q\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}+N-s-\dot{\gamma}q>0$ , that is,  $q<(N-s)/\gamma$ ,

$$\int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{q}}{|x|^{s}} dx = BC_{\varepsilon}^{q} \left( O(1) + \omega_{N} \int_{0}^{l} \left( \varepsilon + r^{(2-s)} \sqrt{\bar{\mu} - \mu} \sqrt{\bar{\mu}} \right)^{-q(N-2)/(2-s)} r^{N-s-1-q\dot{y}} dx \right)$$

$$= BC_{\varepsilon}^{q} \cdot O(1) \ge B\dot{c}_{3}\varepsilon \sqrt{\bar{\mu}}q^{/(2-s)},$$
(2.16)

where  $\dot{c}_3 > 0$  is a constant.

By

$$B = \left(\int \frac{|u_{\varepsilon}|^{2^{*}(s)}}{|x|^{s}} dx\right)^{-q/2^{*}(s)} = \left(\int \frac{|\phi(x)y_{\varepsilon}|^{2^{*}(s)}}{|x|^{s}} dx\right)^{-q/2^{*}(s)} \\ \ge \left(\int \frac{|y_{\varepsilon}|^{2^{*}(s)}}{|x|^{s}} dx\right)^{-q/2^{*}(s)} = A_{s}^{(2-N)q/2(2-s)},$$
(2.17)

we have finished the proof of Lemma 2.5.

LEMMA 2.6. Suppose (A) and  $0 \le s < 2$ ,  $0 \le \mu < \overline{\mu}$ ,  $\lambda \ge 0$ . Assume that one of the following conditions holds:

(i)  $\lambda = 0$  and

$$\max\left\{\frac{N-s}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}+\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}}, \frac{N-s-2\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}}, 2^{*}(t)\right\} < r < 2^{*}(s),$$
(2.18)

(ii)  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_1(\mu)$  and  $0 \le \mu \le \overline{\mu} - 1$ .

Then, there exists  $u_0 \in H_r$ ,  $u_0 \neq 0$ , such that the following inequality holds:

$$0 < \sup_{t \ge 0} J(tu_0) < \frac{2-s}{2(N-s)} A_s^{(N-s)/(2-s)}.$$
(2.19)

*Proof.* For  $t \ge 0$ , we consider the functions

$$g(t) \doteq J(tv_{\varepsilon}) = \frac{t^2}{2} ||v_{\varepsilon}||^2 - \frac{t^{2^*(s)}}{2^*(s)} - \frac{t^r}{r} \int a(x) |v_{\varepsilon}|^r dx - \frac{\lambda t^2}{2} \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^2 dx,$$
  
$$\bar{g}(t) = \frac{t^2}{2} ||v_{\varepsilon}||^2 - \frac{t^{2^*(s)}}{2^*(s)}.$$
(2.20)

Note that  $\lim_{t\to\infty} g(t) = -\infty$ , g(0) = 0, and g(t) > 0 as  $t \to 0^+$ , therefore,  $\sup_{t\geq 0} g(t) > 0$  must be attained by some  $0 < t_{\varepsilon} < +\infty$  and  $g'(t_{\varepsilon}) = 0$ . So we have

$$g'(t_{\varepsilon}) = t_{\varepsilon} ||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2} - t_{\varepsilon}^{2^{*}(s)-1} - t_{\varepsilon}^{r-1} \int a(x) |v_{\varepsilon}|^{r} dx - \lambda t_{\varepsilon} \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx = 0.$$

$$(2.21)$$

Then

$$||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2} = t_{\varepsilon}^{2^{*}(s)-2} + t_{\varepsilon}^{r-2} \int a(x) |v_{\varepsilon}|^{r} dx + \lambda \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx \ge t_{\varepsilon}^{2^{*}(s)-2}, \quad t_{\varepsilon} \le ||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2/(2^{*}(s)-2)}.$$
(2.22)

Moreover, by hypothesis (A), we have

$$||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2} \leq t_{\varepsilon}^{2^{*}(s)-2} + C||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2(r-2)/(2^{*}(s)-2)} \int_{B_{2l}} \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{r}}{|x|^{s}} + \lambda \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx.$$
(2.23)

From (2.23) and (2.10)–(2.12), as  $\varepsilon$  small enough, we get

$$t_{\varepsilon}^{2^*(s)-2} \ge \frac{A_s}{2}.$$
 (2.24)

By the simple computation, we know that the function  $\bar{g}(t)$  attains its maximum at  $t_0 = \|v_{\varepsilon}\|^{2/(2^*(s)-2)}$  and is increasing in the interval [0,  $t_0$ ]. So, by (2.10), (2.22), and (2.24),

we have

$$g(t_{\varepsilon}) \leq \bar{g}(t_{0}) - \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{A_{s}}{2}\right)^{r/(2^{*}(s)-2)} \int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{r}}{|x|^{s}} dx - \frac{\lambda}{2} \left(\frac{A_{s}}{2}\right)^{2/(2^{*}(s)-2)} \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx$$

$$\leq \frac{2-s}{2(N-s)} ||v_{\varepsilon}||^{2(N-s)/(2-s)} - C \int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{r}}{|x|^{s}} - C \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx \qquad (2.25)$$

$$= \frac{2-s}{2(N-s)} A_{s}^{(N-s)/(2-s)} + O\left(\varepsilon^{(N-2)/(2-s)}\right) - C \int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{r}}{|x|^{s}} - C \int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} dx.$$

In case (i), since

$$r > \max\left\{\frac{N-s}{\gamma}, \frac{N-s-2\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu}}{\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}}, 2^*(t)\right\},\tag{2.26}$$

by (2.12), we have

$$\int \frac{|v_{\varepsilon}|^{r}}{|x|^{s}} \ge c_{3}\varepsilon\sqrt{\overline{\mu}(N-s-\sqrt{\overline{\mu}r})/(2-s)}\sqrt{\overline{\mu}-\mu},$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{\overline{\mu}(N-s-\sqrt{\overline{\mu}r})}}{(2-s)\sqrt{\overline{\mu}-\mu}} < \frac{N-2}{2-s}.$$
(2.27)

Let  $u_0 = v_{\varepsilon}$ , choosing  $\varepsilon$  small enough, from (2.25), we can deduce that

$$\sup_{t \ge 0} J(tu_0) = g(t_{\varepsilon}) < \frac{2-s}{2(N-s)} A_s^{(N-s)/(2-s)}.$$
(2.28)

In case (ii),  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_1(\mu)$ . By (2.11), as  $\mu = \bar{\mu} - 1$ ,

$$\int |v_{\varepsilon}|^2 = O\Big(\varepsilon^{(N-2)/(2-s)} |\ln\varepsilon|\Big), \qquad (2.29)$$

as  $0 \le \mu < \bar{\mu} - 1$ ,

$$\int |v_{\varepsilon}|^{2} = O\Big(\varepsilon^{(N-2)/((2-s)\sqrt{\bar{\mu}-\mu})}\Big).$$
(2.30)

Choosing  $\varepsilon$  small enough, we also get (2.28). The proof of Lemma 2.6 is completed.  $\Box$ 

LEMMA 2.7. Suppose that  $c \in (0, (2-s)/(2(N-s))A_s^{(N-s)/(2-s)})$ . Then J(u) satisfies  $(PS)_c$  condition.

*Proof.* Let  $\{u_m\} \in H_r$  be a (PS)<sub>c</sub> sequence. Then we have

$$J(u_m) = \frac{1}{2} ||u_m||^2 - \frac{1}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \frac{1}{r} \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx - \frac{\lambda}{2} \int |u_m|^2 dx = c + o(1),$$
(2.31)

$$\langle J'(u_m), u_m \rangle = ||u_m||^2 - \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx - \lambda \int |u_m|^2 dx = o(1) ||u_m||.$$
(2.32)

Let  $(2.31) \times 2 - (2.32)$ , we have

$$2c + o(1) + o(1)||u_m|| \ge \left(1 - \frac{2}{2^*(s)}\right) \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + \left(1 - \frac{2}{r}\right) \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx. \quad (2.33)$$

From

$$||u_m||^2 = 2J(u_m) + \frac{2}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + \frac{2}{r} \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx + \lambda \int |u_m|^2 dx, \quad (2.34)$$

we get

$$\left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_1(\mu)}\right) ||u_m||^2 \le 2J(u_m) + \frac{2}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + \frac{2}{r} \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx$$

$$\le o(1) + o(1) ||u_m|| + C.$$

$$(2.35)$$

So, we conclude that  $\{u_m\}$  is bounded in  $H_r$ . Passing to a subsequence (still denoted by  $\{u_m\}$ ), as  $m \to \infty$ , we get that

$$u_{m} \rightarrow u \text{ weakly in } H_{r},$$

$$u_{m} \longrightarrow u \text{ strongly in } L^{q}(\mathbb{R}^{N}), \quad q \in [2, 2^{*}),$$

$$u_{m} \longrightarrow u \text{ a.e. in } \mathbb{R}^{N},$$

$$u_{m} \longrightarrow u \text{ strongly in } L^{r}(\mathbb{R}^{N}, a(x)).$$
(2.36)

It follows from the Sobolev-Hardy inequality (see [9]) that  $|u_m|^{2^*(s)-2}u_m$  is bounded in  $L^{2^*(s)/(2^*(s)-1)}(\mathbb{R}^N, |x|^{-s})$ , thus we have that

$$|u_m|^{2^*(s)-2}u_m \rightarrow |u|^{2^*(s)-2}u$$
 weakly in  $L^{2^*(s)/(2^*(s)-1)}(\mathbb{R}^N, |x|^{-s}).$  (2.37)

Since  $J'(u_m) \rightarrow 0$ , from (2.36) and (2.37), we obtain

$$\langle J'(u), u \rangle = ||u||^2 - \int \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \int a(x)|u|^r dx - \lambda \int |u|^2 dx = \lim_{m \to \infty} \langle J'(u_m), u \rangle = 0.$$
(2.38)

Set  $v_m \equiv u_m - u$ , by Brezis-Lieb lemma [2], we have

$$||u_m||^2 = ||v_m||^2 + ||u||^2 + o(1),$$
(2.39)

$$\int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx = \int \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + o(1).$$
(2.40)

Juan Li 3221

It follows directly from (2.31)–(2.40) that

$$\begin{split} o(1)||u_m|| &= \langle J'(u_m), u_m \rangle = ||u_m||^2 - \int \frac{|u_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \int a(x) |u_m|^r dx - \lambda \int |u_m|^2 dx \\ &= \langle J'(u), u \rangle + ||v_m||^2 - \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + o(1) = ||v_m||^2 - \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + o(1), \\ J(u) &= J(u_m) - \frac{1}{2} ||v_m||^2 + \frac{1}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + o(1) \\ &= c - \frac{1}{2} ||v_m||^2 + \frac{1}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + o(1). \end{split}$$

$$(2.41)$$

Since  $\{||v_m||\}$  is bounded, without loss of generality, we may assume that

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} ||\mathbf{v}_m||^2 = k. \tag{2.42}$$

Then we get that

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} \int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx = k.$$
 (2.43)

By the Sobolev-Hardy inequality,

$$\int \frac{|v_m|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx \le A_s^{-2^*(s)/2} ||v_m||^{2^*(s)}$$
(2.44)

for all  $m \in N$ . Then by taking  $m \to +\infty$ , we obtain

$$k \le A_s^{-2^*(s)/2} k^{2^*(s)/2}.$$
(2.45)

If k > 0, we have that  $k \ge A_s^{2^*(s)/(2^*(s)-2)}$ . By (2.41) we deduce that

$$J(u) = c - \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^*(s)}\right)k \le c - \frac{2^*(s) - 2}{22^*(s)}A_s^{2^*(s)/(2^*(s) - 2)} = c - \frac{2 - s}{2(N - s)}A_s^{(N - s)(2 - s)} < 0,$$
(2.46)

but from (2.38), we get

$$J(u) = J(u) - \frac{1}{2} \langle J'(u), u \rangle = \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^*(s)}\right) \int \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{r}\right) \int a(x) |u|^r dx \ge 0,$$
(2.47)

this contradiction implies k = 0. By the definition of  $v_m$ , we conclude that J(u) satisfies  $(PS)_c$  condition. We have completed the proof of Lemma 2.7.

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* By the Sobolev-Hardy inequality and Lemma 2.4, for any  $u \in H_r \setminus \{0\}$ , we have

$$J(u) = \frac{1}{2} ||u||^2 - \frac{1}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \frac{1}{r} \int a(x) |u|^r dx - \frac{\lambda}{2} \int |u|^2 dx$$
  

$$\geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\lambda}{2\lambda_1(\mu)}\right) ||u||^2 - \frac{C}{2^*(s)} ||u||^{2^*(s)} - \frac{C}{r} ||u||^r$$
  

$$\geq ||u||^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_1(\mu) - \lambda}{2\lambda_1(\mu)} - C(||u||^{2^*(s) - 2} + ||u||^{r-2})\right).$$
(2.48)

Clearly, for  $\rho > 0$  small enough, there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that  $J(u) \ge \beta$  for all  $u \in \partial B_{\rho} = \{u \in H_r, ||u|| = \rho\}$ . For  $u_0 \in H_r \setminus \{0\}, t \ge 0$ , we have

$$J(tu_0) = \frac{t^2}{2} ||u_0||^2 - \frac{t^{2^*(s)}}{2^*(s)} \int \frac{|u_0|^{2^*(s)}}{|x|^s} dx - \frac{t^r}{r} \int a(x) |u_0|^r dx - \frac{\lambda t^2}{2} \int |u_0|^2 dx. \quad (2.49)$$

Obviously,  $\lim_{t\to+\infty} J(tu_0) = -\infty$ , so we may choose  $t_0$  large enough, such that  $||t_0u_0|| > ||u_0|| = \rho$  for some  $u_0 \in \partial B_\rho$ , and  $J(t_0u_0) < 0$ . By Lemmas 2.6 and 2.7 and the mountain pass theorem given in [1] (or [3]), we get a sequence  $\{u_m\} \subset H_r$ ,  $u_m \to u$  strongly for some  $u \in H_r$ , and J(u) = c, J'(u) = 0. Thus u is a nontrivial solution of problem (1.1). we have finished the proof of Theorem 1.1.

*Remark 2.8.* If  $\lambda = 0$ , using similar ways, we can prove that problem (1.1) has at least a nontrivial solution in *H* when *r*,  $\mu$  satisfy the condition (i) of Theorem 1.1.

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