Wang *Advances in Difference Equations* 2014, 2014:73
http://www.advancesindifferenceequations.com/content/2014/1/73

Advances in Difference Equations
a SpringerOpen Journal

RESEARCH Open Access

New potential condition on homoclinic orbits for a class of discrete Hamiltonian systems

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Abstract
In the present paper, we establish an existence criterion to guarantee that the second-order self-adjoint discrete Hamiltonian system $\triangle[p(n)\triangle u(n-1)] - L(n)u(n) + \nabla W(n,u(n)) = 0$ has a nontrivial homoclinic solution, which does not need periodicity and coercivity conditions on $L(n)$.
MSC: 39A11; 58E05; 70H05

Keywords: homoclinic solution; discrete Hamiltonian system; critical point

1 Introduction

Consider the second-order self-adjoint discrete Hamiltonian system

$$\triangle\big[p(n)\triangle u(n-1)\big] - L(n)u(n) + \nabla W\big(n,u(n)\big) = 0, \tag{1.1}$$

where $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $u \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$, $\triangle u(n) = u(n+1) - u(n)$ is the forward difference, $p, L : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}\times\mathcal{N}}$ and $W : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}} \to \mathbb{R}$.

Discrete Hamiltonian systems can be applied in many areas, such as physics, chemistry, and so on. For more discussions on discrete Hamiltonian systems, we refer the reader to [1, 2].

As usual, we say that a solution $u(n)$ of system (1.1) is homoclinic (to 0) if $u(n) \to 0$ as $n \to \pm\infty$. In addition, if $u(n) \not\equiv 0$ then $u(n)$ is called a nontrivial homoclinic solution.

The existence and multiplicity of homoclinic solutions of system (1.1) or its special forms have been investigated by many authors. Papers [3–8] deal with the periodic case where p, L and W are periodic in n or independent of n. In contrast, if the periodicity is lost, because of lack of compactness of the Sobolev embedding, up to our knowledge, all existence results require a coercivity condition on L:

$$\lim_{|n|\to\infty}\Big[\inf_{x\in\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}},|x|=1}\big(L(n)x,x\big)\Big] = \infty. \tag{1.2}$$

For example, see [9–14]. In the above mentioned papers, except [14], L was always required to be positive definite.

In this paper, we derive an existence result which does not need periodicity and coercivity conditions on $L(n)$. To state our results precisely, we make the following assumptions.

(P) $p(n)$ is $\mathcal{N}\times\mathcal{N}$ real symmetric positive definite matrix for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(L) $L(n)$ is $\mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ real symmetric nonnegative definite matrix for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, and there exist a positive integer $N_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\beta > 0$ such that

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x|=1} \big(L(n)x, x\big) \geq \beta, \quad |n| \geq N_0,$$

where here and in the sequel, $(\cdot,\cdot)$ denotes the standard inner product in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$ and $|\cdot|$ is the induced norm.

(W1) $W(n,x)$ is continuously differentiable in x for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $W(n,0) = 0$, $W(n,x) \geq 0$ for all $(n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$.

(W2) $\lim_{|x|\to 0} \frac{\nabla W(n,x)}{|x|} = 0$ uniformly for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(W3) $\lim_{|x|\to\infty} \frac{|W(n,x)|}{|x|^2} = \infty$ uniformly for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(W4) $\widetilde{W}(n,x) := \frac{1}{2}(\nabla W(n,x),x) - W(n,x) \geq 0$, $\forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$, and there exist $\varepsilon \in (0,1)$, $c_0 > 0$, and $R_0 > 0$ such that

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x),x\big) \leq \frac{\beta(1-\varepsilon)}{2}|x|^2, \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \leq R_0$$

and

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x),x\big) \leq c_0|x|^2\widetilde{W}(n,x), \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \geq R_0.$$

Now, we are ready to state the main result of this paper.

Theorem 1.1 *Assume that p, L and W satisfy* (P), (L), (W1), (W2), (W3), *and* (W4). *If there exist $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$ such that*

$$\beta \geq 2c_0 \sup_{s\geq 0}\left[\frac{s^2}{2}\big(\big(p(n_0) + p(n_0+1) + L(n_0)\big)x_0, x_0\big) - W(n_0, sx_0)\right], \tag{1.3}$$

then system (1.1) *possesses a nontrivial homoclinic solution*.

In Theorem 1.1, we replace (L) and (W4) by the following assumptions:

(L′) $L(n)$ is $\mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ real symmetric nonnegative definite matrix for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, and it satisfies (1.2).

(W4′) $\widetilde{W}(n,x) := \frac{1}{2}(\nabla W(n,x),x) - W(n,x) \geq 0$, $\forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$, and there exist $c_0 > 0$ and $R_0 > 0$ such that

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x),x\big) \leq c_0|x|^2\widetilde{W}(n,x), \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \geq R_0.$$

Then we have the following corollary immediately.

Corollary 1.2 *Assume that p, L and W satisfy* (P), (L′), (W1), (W2), (W3) *and* (W4′). *Then system* (1.1) *possesses a nontrivial homoclinic solution*.

Remark 1.3 If $W(n,x)$ satisfies the well-known global Ambrosetti-Rabinowitz superquadratic condition:

(AR) there exists $\mu > 2$ such that

$$0 < \mu W(n,x) \leq \big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big), \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}} \setminus \{0\},$$

then there exists a constant $C_0 > 0$ such that

$$W(n,x) \geq C_0 |x|^{\mu}, \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \geq 1;$$

moreover $\widetilde{W}(n,x) > 0$ for all $(n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}} \setminus \{0\})$, and

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big) \leq \frac{2\mu}{\mu - 2} |x|^2 \widetilde{W}(n,x), \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \geq 1.$$

In addition, by virtue of (W2), there exists $\beta_1 > 0$ such that

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big) \leq \frac{\beta_1}{2} |x|^2, \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \leq 1.$$

These show that (W3) and (W4) hold with $R_0 = 1$, $c_0 = 2\mu/(\mu - 2)$ and $\beta > \beta_1$. Let $p(n) = I_{\mathcal{N}}$ and $L(n) = \lambda n^2/(1 + n^2) I_{\mathcal{N}}$ and choose $n_0 = 0$ and $x_0 = (1, 0, \ldots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$. In view of Theorem 1.1, if

$$\lambda > \max\left\{ \frac{4\mu}{\mu - 2} \sup_{s \geq 0} \big[s^2 - W(0, sx_0)\big], \beta_1 \right\},$$

then system (1.1) possesses a nontrivial homoclinic solution.

Example 1.4 Let $p(n) = I_{\mathcal{N}}$, $L(n) = [1 + \lambda n^2/(1 + n^2)] I_{\mathcal{N}}$ and

$$W(n,x) = |x|^2 \ln\big(1 + |x|^2\big). \tag{1.4}$$

Then

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big) = 2|x|^2 \ln\big(1 + |x|^2\big) + \frac{2|x|^4}{1 + |x|^2}.$$

It is easy to see that $\widetilde{W}(n,x) \geq 0$ for all $(n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$, and

$$\big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big) \leq (2 \ln 2 + 1)|x|^2, \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \leq 1,$$
$$\big(\nabla W(n,x), x\big) \leq 6|x|^2 \widetilde{W}(n,x), \quad \forall (n,x) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, |x| \geq 1.$$

These show that (W3) and (W4) hold with $R_0 = 1$, $c_0 = 6$ and $\beta > 2(2 \ln 2 + 1)$. We choose $n_0 = 0$ and $x_0 = (1, 0, \ldots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup_{s \geq 0} \left[\frac{s^2}{2} \big(\big(p(n_0) + p(n_0 + 1) + L(n_0)\big) x_0, x_0 \big) - W(n_0, sx_0) \right] \\ &\quad = \sup_{s \geq 0} \left[\frac{3s^2}{2} - s^2 \ln\big(1 + s^2\big) \right] < 6 - \ln 2. \end{aligned}$$

In view of Theorem 1.1, if $\lambda \geq 12(6 - \ln 2)$, then system (1.1) possesses a nontrivial homoclinic solution.

2 Preliminaries

Throughout this section, we always assume that p and L satisfy (P) and (L). Let

$$S = \{\{u(n)\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} : u(n) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}, n \in \mathbb{Z}\},$$
$$E = \left\{u \in S : \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left[\left(p(n+1)\triangle u(n), \triangle u(n)\right) + \left(L(n)u(n), u(n)\right)\right] < +\infty\right\},$$

and for $u, v \in E$, let

$$\langle u, v\rangle = \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left[\left(p(n+1)\triangle u(n), \triangle v(n)\right) + \left(L(n)u(n), v(n)\right)\right].$$

Then E is a Hilbert space with the above inner product, and the corresponding norm is

$$\|u\| = \left\{\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left[\left(p(n+1)\triangle u(n), \triangle u(n)\right) + \left(L(n)u(n), u(n)\right)\right]\right\}^{1/2}, \quad u \in E.$$

As usual, for $1 \leq s < +\infty$, set

$$l^s(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}) = \left\{u \in S : \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left|u(n)\right|^s < +\infty\right\}$$

and

$$l^\infty(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}) = \left\{u \in S : \sup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left|u(n)\right| < +\infty\right\},$$

and their norms are defined by

$$\|u\|_s = \left(\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left|u(n)\right|^s\right)^{1/s}, \quad \forall u \in l^s(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}});$$
$$\|u\|_\infty = \sup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\left|u(n)\right|, \quad \forall u \in l^\infty(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}),$$

respectively.

Lemma 2.1 *Suppose that* (L) *is satisfied. Then*

$$\|u\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}}\|u\| + \sum_{|s|\leq N_0-1}\left|\triangle u(s)\right|, \quad u \in E, \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$\|u\|_\infty \leq \max\left\{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\beta}}, \sqrt{\frac{2N_0}{\alpha}}\right\}\|u\|, \quad u \in E, \tag{2.2}$$

where $\alpha = \min_{|n|\leq N_0, |x|=1}(p(n)x, x)$.

Proof Since $u \in E$, it follows that $\lim_{|n|\to\infty} |u(n)| = 0$. Hence, there exists $n_* \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\|u\|_\infty = |u(n_*)|$. There are two possible cases.

Case (i). $|n_*| \geq N_0$. According to (L), one has

$$\|u\|_\infty^2 = \left|u(n_*)\right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{|s|\geq N_0} \left(L(s)u(s), u(s)\right) \leq \frac{1}{\beta}\|u\|.$$

Case (ii). $|n_*| < N_0$. Without loss of generality, we can assume that $n_* \geq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\|u\|_\infty &\leq \left|u(N_0)\right| + \sum_{s=n_*}^{N_0-1} \left|\triangle u(s)\right| \\
&\leq \left[\frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{|s|\geq N_0} \left(L(s)u(s), u(s)\right)\right]^{1/2} + \sqrt{\frac{N_0}{\alpha}} \left(\sum_{s=n_*}^{N_0-1} \alpha \left|\triangle u(s)\right|^2\right)^{1/2} \\
&\leq \sqrt{2}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{|s|\geq N_0} \left(L(s)u(s), u(s)\right) + \frac{N_0}{\alpha} \sum_{s=n_*}^{N_0-1} \left(p(s+1)\triangle u(s), \triangle u(s)\right)\right]^{1/2} \\
&\leq \max\left\{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\beta}}, \sqrt{\frac{2N_0}{\alpha}}\right\}\|u\|.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Cases (i) and (ii) imply that (2.1) and (2.2) hold. □

Now we define a functional Φ on E by

$$\Phi(u) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \left[\left(p(n+1)\triangle u(n), \triangle u(n)\right) + \left(L(n)u(n), u(n)\right)\right] - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} W\left(n, u(n)\right). \tag{2.4}$$

For any $u \in E$, there exists an $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $|u(n)| \leq 1$ for $|n| \geq n_1$. Hence, under assumptions (P), (L), (W1), and (W2), the functional Φ is of class $C^1(E, \mathbb{R})$. Moreover,

$$\Phi(u) = \frac{1}{2}\|u\|^2 - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} W(n, u), \quad \forall u \in E \tag{2.5}$$

and

$$\left\langle \Phi'(u), v\right\rangle = \langle u, v\rangle - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \left(\nabla W(n, u), v\right), \quad \forall u, v \in E. \tag{2.6}$$

Furthermore, the critical points of Φ in E are solutions of system (1.1) with $u(\pm\infty) = 0$, see [5, 6].

Let $e = \{e(n)\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \in E$ with $e(n_0) = x_0$ and $e(n) = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$ for $n \neq n_0$.

Lemma 2.2 *Suppose that* (L), (W1) *and* (W2) *are satisfied. Then*

$$\sup\left\{\Phi(se) : s \geq 0\right\} \leq \sup_{s\geq 0}\left[\frac{s^2}{2}\left(\left(p(n_0) + p(n_0+1) + L(n_0)\right)x_0, x_0\right) - W(n_0, sx_0)\right]. \tag{2.7}$$

Proof From (2.4) and the definition of e, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(se) &= \frac{s^2}{2}\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\bigl[\bigl(p(n+1)\triangle e(n),\triangle e(n)\bigr)+\bigl(L(n)e(n),e(n)\bigr)\bigr]-\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}W\bigl(n,se(n)\bigr)\\ &= \frac{s^2}{2}\bigl[\bigl(p(n_0+1)\triangle e(n_0),\triangle e(n_0)\bigr)+\bigl(p(n_0)\triangle e(n_0-1),\triangle e(n_0-1)\bigr)\\ &\quad+\bigl(L(n_0)e(n_0),e(n_0)\bigr)\bigr]-W\bigl(n_0,se(n_0)\bigr)\\ &= \frac{s^2}{2}\bigl(\bigl(p(n_0)+p(n_0+1)+L(n_0)\bigr)x_0,x_0\bigr)-W(n_0,sx_0).\end{aligned}\tag{2.8}$$

Now the conclusion of Lemma 2.1 follows by (2.8). □

Applying the mountain-pass lemma without the (PS) condition, by standard arguments, we can prove the following lemma.

Lemma 2.3 *Let* $W(n,x)\geq 0$, $\forall(n,x)\in\mathbb{Z}\times\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}}$. *Suppose that* (P), (L), (W1), (W2) *and* (W3) *are satisfied. Then there exist a constant* $c\in(0,\sup_{s\geq 0}\Phi(se)]$ *and a sequence* $\{u_k\}\subset E$ *satisfying*

$$\Phi(u_k)\to c,\qquad \bigl\|\Phi'(u_k)\bigr\|\bigl(1+\|u_k\|\bigr)\to 0.\tag{2.9}$$

Lemma 2.4 *Suppose that* (P), (L), (W1), (W2), (W3), *and* (W4) *are satisfied. Then any sequence* $\{u_k\}\subset E$ *satisfying*

$$\Phi(u_k)\to c>0,\qquad \bigl\langle\Phi'(u_k),u_k\bigr\rangle\to 0\tag{2.10}$$

is bounded in E.

Proof To prove the boundedness of $\{u_k\}$, arguing by contradiction, suppose that $\|u_k\|\to\infty$. Let $v_k=u_k/\|u_k\|$. Then $\|v_k\|=1$. By virtue of (2.5), (2.6), and (2.10), we have

$$\Phi(u_k)-\frac{1}{2}\bigl\langle\Phi'(u_k),u_k\bigr\rangle=\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\widetilde{W}(n,u_k)=c+o(1).\tag{2.11}$$

If $\delta:=\limsup_{k\to\infty}\|v_k\|_\infty=0$, then it follows from (L), (W4) and (2.11) that

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{|u_k|<R_0}\bigl|\bigl(\nabla W(n,u_k),u_k\bigr)\bigr| &\leq \frac{\beta}{2}\sum_{|u_k|<R_0}|u_k|^2\leq\frac{\beta}{2}\sum_{|s|\geq N_0}\bigl|u_k(s)\bigr|^2+\frac{\beta}{2}\sum_{|s|<N_0}\bigl|u_k(s)\bigr|^2\\ &\leq\frac{1}{2}\|u_k\|^2+N_0\beta\|u_k\|^2\|v_k\|_\infty^2\leq\biggl[\frac{1}{2}+o(1)\biggr]\|u_k\|^2\end{aligned}\tag{2.12}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0}\frac{|(\nabla W(n,u_k),u_k)|}{\|u_k\|^2} &\leq c_0\sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0}|v_k|^2\widetilde{W}(n,u_k)\leq c_0\|v_k\|_\infty^2\sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0}\widetilde{W}(n,u_k)\\ &\leq c_0(c+1)\|v_k\|_\infty^2\to 0,\quad k\to\infty.\end{aligned}\tag{2.13}$$

Combining (2.12) with (2.13) and using (2.5) and (2.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1+o(1) &\le \frac{\|u_k\|^2 - \langle \Phi'(u_k), u_k\rangle}{\|u_k\|^2} \le \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \frac{|(\nabla W(n,u_k),u_k)|}{\|u_k\|^2} \\ &= \sum_{|u_k|<R_0} \frac{|(\nabla W(n,u_k),u_k)|}{\|u_k\|^2} + \sum_{|u_k|\ge R_0} \frac{|(\nabla W(n,u_k),u_k)|}{\|u_k\|^2} \le \frac{1}{2} + o(1). \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

This contradiction shows that $\delta > 0$.

Going if necessary to a subsequence, we may assume the existence of $n_k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$\left|v_k(n_k)\right| = \|v_k\|_\infty > \frac{\delta}{2}.$$

Let $w_k(n) = v_k(n+n_k)$, then

$$\left|w_k(0)\right| > \frac{\delta}{2}, \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{2.15}$$

Now we define $\tilde{u}_k(n) = u_k(n+n_k)$. Then $\tilde{u}_k(n)/\|u_k\| = w_k(n)$ and $\|w_k\|_2 = \|v_k\|_2$. Passing to a subsequence, we have $w_k \rightharpoonup w$ in $l^2(\mathbb{Z},\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}})$, then $w_k(n) \to w(n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Clearly, (2.15) implies that $w(0) \neq 0$.

It is obvious that $w(n) \neq 0$ implies $\lim_{k\to\infty} |\tilde{u}_k(n)| = \infty$. Hence, it follows from (2.5), (2.10), and (W3) that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{k\to\infty} \frac{c+o(1)}{\|u_k\|^2} = \lim_{k\to\infty} \frac{\Phi(u_k)}{\|u_k\|^2} \\ &= \lim_{k\to\infty} \left[\frac{1}{2} - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \frac{W(n,u_k)}{|u_k|^2}|v_k|^2\right] \\ &= \lim_{k\to\infty} \left[\frac{1}{2} - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \frac{W(n+k_n,\tilde{u}_k)}{|\tilde{u}_k|^2}|w_k|^2\right] \\ &\le \frac{1}{2} - \liminf_{k\to\infty} \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \frac{W(n+k_n,\tilde{u}_k)}{|\tilde{u}_k|^2}|w_k|^2 \\ &= -\infty, \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction. Thus $\{u_k\}$ is bounded in E. □

3 Proof of theorem

Proof of Theorem 1.1 Applying Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4, we deduce that there exists a bounded sequence $\{u_k\} \subset E$ satisfying (2.9). By Lemma 2.2 and (1.3), one has

$$c \le \frac{\beta}{2c_0}. \tag{3.1}$$

Going if necessary to a subsequence, we can assume that $u_k \rightharpoonup \bar{u}$ in E and $\Phi'(u_k) \to 0$. Next, we prove that $\bar{u} \neq 0$.

Arguing by contradiction, suppose that $\bar{u} = 0$, *i.e.* $u_k \rightharpoonup 0$ in E, and so $u_k(n) \to 0$ for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Hence,

$$\|u_k\|_2^2 = \sum_{|n|\geq N_0} \left|u_k(n)\right|^2 + \sum_{|n|<N_0} \left|u_k(n)\right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{\beta}\|u_k\|^2 + o(1). \tag{3.2}$$

According to (W4) and (3.2), one gets

$$\sum_{|u_k|<R_0} \left(\nabla W(n,u_k), u_k\right) \leq \frac{\beta(1-\varepsilon)}{2} \sum_{|u_k|<R_0} |u_k|^2 \leq \frac{1-\varepsilon}{2}\|u_k\|^2 + o(1). \tag{3.3}$$

By virtue of (2.5), (2.6), and (2.9), we have

$$\Phi(u_k) - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle \Phi'(u_k), u_k\right\rangle = \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \widetilde{W}(n,u_k) = c + o(1). \tag{3.4}$$

Using (W4), (2.1), (3.1), (3.2), and (3.4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0} \left(\nabla W(n,u_k), u_k\right) &\leq c_0 \sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0} |u_k|^2 \widetilde{W}(n,u_k) \\
&\leq c_0\|u_k\|_\infty^2 \sum_{|u_k|\geq R_0} \widetilde{W}(n,u_k) \\
&\leq c_0 c\|u_k\|_\infty^2 + o(1) \\
&\leq c_0 c\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}}\|u_k\| + \sum_{|s|\leq N_0-1} \left|\triangle u_k(s)\right|\right)^2 + o(1) \\
&= \frac{c_0 c}{\beta}\|u_k\|^2 + o(1) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2}\|u_k\|^2 + o(1),
\end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

which, together with (2.6), (2.9), and (3.3), yields

$$\begin{aligned}
o(1) &= \left\langle \Phi'(u_k), u_k\right\rangle = \|u_k\|^2 - \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \left(\nabla W(n,u_k), u_k\right) \\
&\geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\|u_k\|^2 + o(1),
\end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

resulting in the fact that $\|u_k\| \to 0$. Consequently, it follows from (W1), (2.5), and (2.9) that

$$0 < c = \lim_{k\to\infty} \Phi(u_k) = \Phi(0) = 0.$$

This contradiction shows $\bar{u} \neq 0$. By standard arguments, we easily prove that $\bar{u}$ is a nontrivial solution of (1.1). □

Competing interests
The author declares that they have no competing interests.

Acknowledgements

This work is partially supported by Scientific Research Fund of Hunan Provincial Education Department (13A093, 07A066) and supported by Hunan Provincial Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 14JJ2133).

Received: 15 December 2013 Accepted: 10 February 2014 Published: 21 Feb 2014

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Cite this article as: Wang: New potential condition on homoclinic orbits for a class of discrete Hamiltonian systems. *Advances in Difference Equations* 2014, 2014:73