

Local Bifurcation of Steady State Solutions for A Class of Reaction-Diffusion System

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Abstract. In this paper, we study local bifurcation from the eigenvalue $\lambda = \lambda_0$ with multiplicity two of the Laplacian operator for the steady-state solutions of a class of reaction-diffusion equation with Robin boundary conditions on the two-dimensional rectangular area $[0, 2\pi] \times [0, \pi]$.

Introduction

In bifurcation theory, a natural problem is whether accurate descriptions parallel to that in Crandall-Rabinowitz [1][2] theorem are still possible at eigenvalues with multiplicity greater than one, at least in special cases [3][5]. Concerning eigenvalues of higher multiplicity, [4] are known of potential operators where bifurcation takes place. Local bifurcation from the branch of trivial solutions in an equation of the form $F(\lambda, u) = \Delta u + \lambda u + f(x, u) = 0$ where $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^1, \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a bounded domain and $f(x, u) = o(u)$ as $u \rightarrow 0$ has been widely treated in the literature.

Preliminaries

In this paper, we restrict ourselves in what follows to a special case of the reaction-diffusion equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta u + \lambda u + f(\bar{x}, u) & \text{in } \bar{x} = (x, y) \in \Omega \\ u(0, y, t) = u(2\pi, y, t) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi], t > 0 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x, 0, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x, \pi, t) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi], t > 0 \\ u(\bar{x}, 0) = u_0(\bar{x}) & t = 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $t \in [0, +\infty)$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^1$ and f satisfies the two following conditions: (i) $f \in C^3(\bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^1)$; (ii) $f(\bar{x}, 0) = f_u(\bar{x}, 0) = f_{uu}(\bar{x}, 0) = 0, f_{uuu}(\bar{x}, 0) = k \neq 0$.

It is easy to find that the question of steady state bifurcation from the double eigenvalue in (1) can be converted into the bifurcation problem of the following semi-linear elliptic equation:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta u + \lambda u + f(\bar{x}, u) = 0 & \text{in } \bar{x} = (x, y) \in \Omega \\ u(0, y) = u(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi] \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Next, we carry on the Taylor expansion about f at the point of $u = 0$ and we can get that

$$f(\bar{x}, u) = f(\bar{x}, 0) + f_u(\bar{x}, 0)u + \frac{1}{2!}f_{uu}(\bar{x}, 0)u^2 + \frac{1}{3!}f_{uuu}(\bar{x}, 0)u^3 + o(u^3) = \frac{k}{6}u^3 + o(u^3) = u^3 \left(\frac{k}{6} + o(1) \right)$$

Thus if $k > 0$, we can consider the case $f(\bar{x}, u) = u^3(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))$ where $\theta \in C^1(\bar{\Omega} \times R^1)$ and $\theta(\bar{x}, 0) = 0$. Of course, if $k < 0$, accordingly we consider $f(\bar{x}, u) = -u^3(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))$.

The Main Results

Theorem 1 Let $\Omega = [0, 2\pi] \times [0, \pi] \subset R^2$. Then there exist an $\varepsilon > 0$ and a neighbourhood U of $(\lambda_9, 0)$ in $R^1 \times C(\bar{\Omega})$ such that the set of all steady-state bifurcation solutions of (1) in U can be described as the union of four C^1 curves: $s \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \mapsto (\lambda_i(s), u_i(s))$, $i = 1, \dots, 4$, such that

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_i(s) = \lambda_9 + \sigma_i s^2 + o(s^2) \\ u_i(s) = s\phi_{\alpha_i} + o(s) \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha_1 = 0, \alpha_2 = \pi/4, \alpha_3 = \pi/2, \alpha_4 = 3\pi/4$, and

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 = -9/16, \sigma_2 = \sigma_4 = -21/32, \text{ for } k > 0$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 = 9/16, \sigma_2 = \sigma_4 = 21/32, \text{ for } k < 0.$$

Proof. On the basis of calculation, we label M as the vector space of all eigenfunctions $A = \sin x \cos 2y$ and $B = \sin 2x \cos y$ associated to the double eigenvalue $\lambda_9 = \lambda_{2,2} = \lambda_{1,4} = 5$ and denote $M^\perp = \{u \in C(\bar{\Omega}) : \int_\Omega u\phi = 0, \forall \phi \in M\}$. After that we introduce the normalized eigenfunction $\phi_\alpha(x, y) = \cos \alpha \sin x \cos 2y + \sin \alpha \sin 2x \cos y = \cos \alpha A + \sin \alpha B, \alpha \in [0, 2\pi)$, which is a parametric representation of all eigenfunctions ϕ with $\|\phi\|_{L^2} = \pi/\sqrt{2}$. Alongside with ϕ_α we introduce an orthogonal eigenfunction defined by $\psi_\alpha(x, y) = \sin \alpha \sin x \cos 2y - \cos \alpha \sin 2x \cos y$. Notice that $\phi_{\alpha-\pi/2} = \psi_\alpha$ and $D_\alpha \phi_\alpha = -\psi_\alpha$. Let (λ_n, u_n) be a sequence of solutions to (2) such that $\lambda_n \rightarrow \lambda_9$ and $u_n \rightarrow 0$ in $C(\bar{\Omega})$. We make the normalization: $\tilde{u}_n = u_n / \|u_n\|_\infty$. Then \tilde{u}_n verifies the equation

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \tilde{u}_n + \lambda_n \tilde{u}_n \pm \tilde{u}_n u_n^2 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u)) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \tilde{u}_n(0, y) = \tilde{u}_n(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi] \\ \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_n}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_n}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

The first formula of (3) can be transformed into $(-\Delta)^{-1}[\lambda_n \pm u_n^2(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))]\tilde{u}_n = \tilde{u}_n$. Thus that (3) is equivalent to a fixed point equation for a self-sequential compact operator in $C(\bar{\Omega})$. We all know that a compact operator can map a bounded set into a compact set, and taking into account that $\|\tilde{u}_n\|_\infty = 1$, passing to a subsequence still denoted by \tilde{u}_n , we have that $\tilde{u}_n \rightarrow u_0$ in $C(\bar{\Omega})$ with $\|u_0\|_\infty = 1$ and u_0 satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \Delta u_0 + \lambda_9 u_0 = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ u_0(0, y) = u_0(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi] \\ \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases}$$

It follows that $u_0 \in M$ and for some $\alpha \in [0, 2\pi)$ we can assume $u_0 = c\phi_\alpha$ with $c = \|\phi_\alpha\|^{-1}$. Writing $\tilde{u}_n = \phi_n + \psi_n$ with $\phi_n \in M, \psi_n \in M^\perp$ (so that $\phi_n \rightarrow c\phi_\alpha, \psi_n \rightarrow 0$); again writing

$t_n = \|u_n\|_\infty$ and simplifying the first formula of (3), we arrive that

$$\Delta(\phi_n + \psi_n) + \lambda_9(\phi_n + \psi_n) + (\lambda_n - \lambda_9)(\phi_n + \psi_n) \pm t_n^2(\phi_n + \psi_n)^3 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, t_n(\phi_n + \psi_n))) = 0.$$

Since $\phi_n \in M$, we get that $\Delta\phi_n + \lambda_9\phi_n = 0$. Then the above mathematical expression can be converted to

$$\Delta\psi_n + \lambda_9\psi_n + (\lambda_n - \lambda_9)(\phi_n + \psi_n) \pm t_n^2(\phi_n + \psi_n)^3 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, t_n(\phi_n + \psi_n))) = 0 \quad (4)$$

Multiplying by ϕ_α and integrating by parts we obtain $\frac{(\lambda_n - \lambda_9)}{t_n^2} \int_\Omega \phi_n \phi_\alpha \pm \int_\Omega (\phi_n + \psi_n)^3 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, t_n(\phi_n + \psi_n))) \phi_\alpha = 0$ from which it follows after passing to the limit that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_9}{t_n^2} = \mp c^2 \frac{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^4}{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^2}$. Similarly, multiplying (4) by ψ_α , integrating by parts and passing to the

limit we get that $\frac{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^4}{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^2} \int_\Omega \phi_\alpha \psi_\alpha = \int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^3 \psi_\alpha$. We have the left hand equals 0 from

$$\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha \psi_\alpha = \int_0^{2\pi} dx \int_0^\pi (\cos \alpha A + \sin \alpha B)(\sin \alpha A - \cos \alpha B) dy = 0. \text{ For the right hand, it can be checked}$$

$$\text{that } \int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^3 \psi_\alpha = \int_0^{2\pi} dx \int_0^\pi (\cos \alpha A + \sin \alpha B)^3 (\sin \alpha A - \cos \alpha B) dy = -\frac{3}{64} \pi^2 \sin 2\alpha \cos 2\alpha, \text{ so we obtain}$$

that the bifurcation is only possible from four values of α , namely $\alpha = 0, \pi/4, \pi/2, 3\pi/4$. Notice that there are other values of α . Since $\phi_{\pi+\alpha} = -\phi_\alpha$, we can find that the bifurcation occurs only at

$$\alpha = 0, \pi/4, \pi/2, 3\pi/4. \text{ Writing } s = ct_n, \sigma = \mp \frac{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^4}{\int_\Omega \phi_\alpha^2}, \text{ we have } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_9}{c^2 t_n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_9}{s^2} = \sigma, \text{ that is}$$

$$\lambda_n = \lambda_9 + s^2 \sigma + o(s^2). \text{ Through calculation we can get } \sigma_1 = \sigma_3 = -9/16, \sigma_2 = \sigma_4 = -21/32 \text{ for } k > 0.$$

$$\text{and } \sigma_1 = \sigma_3 = 9/16, \sigma_2 = \sigma_4 = 21/32 \text{ for } k < 0. \text{ Besides it follows from (4) that } \Delta\psi_n + \lambda_9\psi_n = O(t_n^2).$$

Since $(\Delta + \lambda_9)^{-1}$ is a bounded linear operator from M^\perp into itself, we can get

$$\psi_n = O(t_n^2), u_n = \|u_n\|_\infty \tilde{u}_n = t_n (c\phi_{\alpha+o(1)} + O(t_n^2)) = s\phi_{\alpha+o(1)} + O(s^3).$$

As a consequence of this analysis, any solution (λ_n, u_n) near the bifurcation point $(\lambda_9, 0)$ has the

$$\text{form } \begin{cases} \lambda_n = \lambda_9 + s^2 \sigma + o(s^2) \\ u_n = s\phi_{\alpha+o(1)} + O(s^3) \end{cases}. \text{ Now we turn to the actual construction of the bifurcated branches. Let}$$

α_0 be fixed as one of the four values $\alpha = 0, \pi/4, \pi/2, 3\pi/4$ given above. For s small we want to

$$\text{solve it: } \begin{cases} \Delta\psi + \lambda_9\psi + \sigma\phi_\alpha + s^2\sigma\psi \pm (\phi_\alpha + s^2\psi)^3 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, s\phi_\alpha + s^3\psi)) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi(0, y) = \psi(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi]. \text{ Denoting by } K \\ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases}$$

the inverse of Δ which is a compact and linear operator from $C(\bar{\Omega})$ into itself.

For α, σ, ψ in a small neighbourhood of $\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0$ respectively, the above problem is equivalent to $H(\alpha, \sigma, \psi, s) = 0$ where

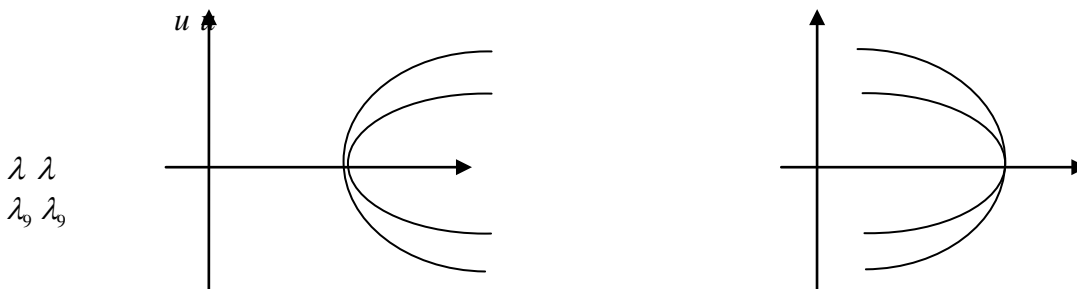
$H(\alpha, \sigma, \psi, s) = \psi + K \left(\lambda_9 \psi + \sigma \phi_\alpha + s^2 \sigma \psi \pm (\phi_\alpha + s^2 \psi)^3 (1 + \theta(\bar{x}, s \phi_\alpha + s^3 \psi)) \right)$ and $\psi_0 \in M^\perp$ is the unique solution of this equation

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \psi + \lambda_9 \psi + \sigma_0 \phi_{\alpha_0} \pm \phi_{\alpha_0}^3 = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi(0, y) = \psi(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi] \\ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases}$$

Let us apply the implicit function theorem in our setting. First we must notice that H is a C^1 function of its arguments in a neighbourhood Q of $(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0)$ in $R^1 \times R^1 \times M^\perp \times R^1$. Also, $H(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0) = 0$ and $D_{(\alpha, \sigma, \psi)} H(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0)(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\psi}) = \tilde{\psi} + K \left(\lambda_9 \tilde{\psi} + \tilde{\sigma} \phi_{\alpha_0} - \tilde{\alpha} (\sigma_0 \psi_{\alpha_0} \pm 3 \phi_{\alpha_0}^2 \psi_{\alpha_0}) \right)$. For some $(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\psi}) \in R^1 \times R^1 \times M^\perp$, we assume that $D_{(\alpha, \sigma, \psi)} H(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0)(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\psi}) = 0$. This means that $\tilde{\psi}$ solve the following problem

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \tilde{\psi} + \lambda_9 \tilde{\psi} + \tilde{\sigma} \phi_{\alpha_0} - (\sigma_0 \psi_{\alpha_0} \pm 3 \phi_{\alpha_0}^2 \psi_{\alpha_0}) \tilde{\alpha} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \tilde{\psi}(0, y) = \tilde{\psi}(2\pi, y) = 0 & \forall y \in [0, \pi] \\ \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}}{\partial n}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}}{\partial n}(x, \pi) = 0 & \forall x \in [0, 2\pi] \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Multiplying by ϕ_{α_0} , integrating in Ω and performing an integration by parts, we arrive at $\tilde{\sigma} = 0$ since $\int_{\Omega} \phi_{\alpha_0}^3 \psi_{\alpha_0} = 0$ holds. Multiplying by ψ_{α_0} instead, we get $(\sigma_0 \int_{\Omega} \psi_{\alpha_0}^2 \pm 3 \int_{\Omega} \phi_{\alpha_0}^2 \psi_{\alpha_0}^2) \tilde{\alpha} = 0$. In view of that $\int_{\Omega} \psi_{\alpha_0}^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{2}$ and $\int_{\Omega} \phi_{\alpha_0}^2 \psi_{\alpha_0}^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{8} - \frac{3}{64} \pi^2 \sin^2 2\alpha_0$, it is easy to see that the term inside brackets is always nonzero. Thus $\tilde{\alpha} = 0$ and (5) leads to $\tilde{\psi} = 0$. To summarize, $D_{(\alpha, \sigma, \psi)} H(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0)(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\psi})$ is one-to-one and hence an isomorphism since it can be viewed as a compact perturbation of the identity. $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, the implicit function theorem applies to three C^1 functions $\alpha: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow R^1$, $\sigma: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow R^1$, $\psi: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow M^\perp$ such that $\alpha(0) = \alpha_0$, $\sigma(0) = \sigma_0$, $\psi(0) = \psi_0$ and the set of solutions of $H(\alpha, \sigma, \psi, s) = 0$ near the point $(\alpha_0, \sigma_0, \psi_0, 0)$ can be expressed as $(\alpha(s), \sigma(s), \psi(s), s)$. This conclusion together with the form of (λ_n, u_n) gives in particular a unique curve of solutions to (2) such that $u(s) \sim s \phi_{\alpha_0}$ as $s \rightarrow 0$. Since α_0 can be taken as any of the four values $0, \pi/4, \pi/2, 3\pi/4$, we have exactly four branches of solutions near the bifurcation point $(\lambda_9, 0)$. The proof of the theorem is thus complete and the bifurcation graphic looks like this:



(i) for $k < 0$ (ii) for $k > 0$

Conclusion

Based on the analysis, we should mention that the nonlinearity $\pm u^3(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))$ can be replaced by $\pm u^{2m+1}(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))$, $m \in \mathbb{N}^+$, with no change basically in the proofs above together with mathematical induction. The next step of our work is that case $f(\bar{x}, u) = \pm u^2(1 + \theta(\bar{x}, u))$ and the corresponding local and steady state bifurcation problem of (1).

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