An application of differential Galois theory
to the computation of exact eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of some Sturm-Liouville problems

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## 1. Statement of the problem, motivations

2. Differential Galois approach
3. Main results
4. Applications

- Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential
- Bifurcation of homoclinic solutions of real coupled Ginzburg-Landau equations
- Linear stability of front waves in Alen-Cahn (Nagumo) equation


## Sturm-Liouville problems on $(-\infty, \infty) 1$

- Consider two real analytic functions $\mu(x), \nu(x): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$
\lim _{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{\mathrm{k}} \mu}{\mathrm{dx}^{\mathrm{k}}}=\lim _{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{\mathrm{k}^{\prime}} \nu}{\mathrm{dx}^{\mathrm{k}}}=0, \quad \forall k \geq 1 .
$$

- S-L problem: Determine the complex numbers $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ such that the differential equation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}^{2}}+\mu(x) \frac{\mathrm{d} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}}+\nu(x) \psi=\lambda \psi \tag{SLP}
\end{equation*}
$$

has a solution $\psi_{\lambda}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ satisfying

$$
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}|\psi(x)|^{2} \mathrm{dx}<\infty, \quad \text { i.e. } \quad \psi_{\lambda} \in \mathcal{L}^{2}(-\infty, \infty)
$$

## Sturm-Liouville problems on $(-\infty, \infty) 2$

- Our hypothesis on $\mu(x)$ and $\nu(x)$ allow us to change the convergence of the integral by the equivalent boundary conditions

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \psi_{\lambda}(x)=0 \tag{BC}
\end{equation*}
$$

- This set $\Sigma=\left\{\lambda \mid \exists \psi_{\lambda} \in \mathcal{L}^{2}(-\infty, \infty)\right\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ is called the point-spectrum of the problem.
- Functional analysis provides us existence theorems and bounds for the point-spectrum $\Sigma$.
- In general terms, it is not possible to determine exactly $\Sigma$ by algebraic means.
- In this work we present a methodology for some algebraically some Sturm-Lioville problems arising in dynamical systems and quantum mechanics.


## S-L problems and quantum potentials

- Let us consider a quantum-mechanical potential $V(x)$, for which the position is described by a real variable $x$. The stationary Schrödinger equation reads,

$$
E \psi(x)=\left(-\frac{\hbar^{2}}{2 m} \frac{\mathrm{~d}^{2}}{\mathrm{dx}^{2}}+V(x)\right) \psi(x)
$$

- We write $\lambda=-\frac{2 m E}{\hbar^{2}}$ and get a S-L problem in the form (SLP)

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}^{2}}+\frac{-2 m V(x)}{\hbar^{2}} \psi=\lambda \psi
$$

- The point-spectrum gives us the admissible values of energy for the system.


## S-L problems and structural stability of Homoclinics 1

- Let us consider an analytic Hamiltonian $H$ in $\mathbb{R}^{4}$, depending on a $\lambda, H=H(x ; \lambda),\left(x=\left(q_{1}, q_{2}, p_{1}, p_{2}\right)\right)$,

$$
\dot{q}_{i}=\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{i}} \quad \dot{p}_{i}=-\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{i}} .
$$

- Assume that the origin is saddle-saddle point.
- Let us assume that there exist an homoclinic orbit $x^{h}(t ; \lambda)$ do a for an open set of values of the parameter $\lambda$.

- Generic homoclinic orbits are structurally stable under Hamiltonian perturbations.


## S-L problems and structural stability of Homoclinics 2

- Generic homoclinic orbits are structurally stable under Hamiltonian perturbations.
- Its structural stability can be studied by means of its linear aproximation, the first variatonal equation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\dot{\xi}=\mathrm{J} \cdot \operatorname{Hess}\left(H\left(x^{h}(t), \lambda\right)\right) \xi \tag{VE}
\end{equation*}
$$

- If the (VE) has two linearly independent bounded solutions then the homoclinic orbit is not structurally stable and it may give rise to saddle-node or pitchfork biffurcations under suitable perturbations [Yagasaki 2010].
- We reduce the (VE) to its normal part, obtaining a second order equation the reduced normal variational equation,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}}{\mathrm{dt}^{2}} \eta+h(t, \lambda) \eta=0 \tag{RNVE}
\end{equation*}
$$

- If the ( NV ) has two linearly independent bounded solutions, then the (RNVE) as a solution in $\mathcal{L}^{2}(-\infty, \infty)$.


## S-L problems and linear stability of waves

- Let us consider a non-linear evolution equation,

$$
u_{t}=P\left(u_{x x}, u_{x}, u\right), \quad P \text { analytic }
$$

- Let us consider an stationary (or traveling wave) solution $v(x)$, equation along $v(x, t)$ is,

$$
\xi_{t}=\frac{\partial P}{\partial u_{x x}}(v) \xi_{x x}+\frac{\partial P}{\partial u_{x}}(v) \xi_{x}+\frac{\partial P}{\partial u}(v) \xi=L_{v}(\xi)
$$

- The linear stability of $v$ is then related to the eigenvalue problem,

$$
L_{v}(\xi)=\lambda \xi
$$

the stationary (wave) solution is linearly stable if all elements of the point spectrum have negative real part.

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## Picard-Vessiot theory in 2 Slides, 1

- Let $\Gamma$ be a Riemann surface and $z$ a non-constant meromorphic function.
- Let $K$ be the field of meromorphic functions on $\Gamma$.
- Then, $\left(K, \frac{d}{d z}\right)$ is a differential field.
- We deal with the integrability by quadratures of differential equations,

$$
\begin{equation*}
L(\psi)=\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}} \psi+f \frac{\mathrm{~d}}{\mathrm{dz}} \psi+g=0, \quad f, g \in K \tag{LE}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Let $\Gamma^{\times} \subset \Gamma$ be the Riemann surface obtained by removing the singularities of the operator $L$, and $\tilde{\Gamma} \rightarrow \Gamma^{\times}$the universal covering.
- There is a $\mathbb{C}$-vector space $E$ of holomorphic solutions in $\Gamma^{\times}$.


## Picard-Vessiot theory in 2 Slides, 2

- Let $\psi_{1}, \psi_{2}$ be a basis of $E$ and $P=K\left\langle\psi_{1}, \psi_{2}\right\rangle$ the differential field they span (endowed with the lift of $\frac{d}{d z}$ ). The extension $K \subset P$ is called the Picard-Vessiot extension of (LE).
- We consider field automorphisms that commute with the derivation Aut $_{\frac{d}{\mathrm{dz}}}(P / K) \subset \mathrm{GL}(E)$. They form a linear algebraic group that we call the Galois group.
- The analytic continuation gives a natural linear action of $\pi_{1}\left(\Gamma^{\times}\right)$and then a group morphism $\pi_{1}\left(\Gamma^{\times}\right) \rightarrow$ Aut $_{\frac{d}{d z}}(P / K)$. Its image is called the monodromy group.
- Recall that a singularity is called regular if any solution approaching that singularity is bounded by some meromorphic function.
- Theorem (Schlessinger): if the singularities of (LE) are regular then the monodromy group is Zariski closed into the Galois group.


## Local Fuchs-Frobenius theory 1

- Near a regular singularity $z=0$, the (LE) has the form,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}}+\frac{p(z)}{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}}+\frac{q(z)}{z^{2}} \psi=0 \tag{RS}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $p$ and $q$ holomorphic at $z=0$.

- Let $\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}$ be the roots of the indicial equation

$$
\alpha(\alpha-1)+p(0) \alpha+q(0) .
$$

We name them in such way that $\Re\left(\alpha_{1}\right) \leq \Re\left(\alpha_{2}\right)$.

- If $\alpha_{2}-\alpha_{1} \notin \mathbb{Z}$ then there are two solutions,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\psi_{1}(z)=z^{\alpha_{1}} F_{1}(z), \quad \psi_{2}(z)=z^{\alpha_{2}} F_{2}(z) \tag{NL}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $F_{1}, F_{2}$ holomorphic at $z$.

- In this basis, the monodromy operator clockwise around $z=0$
takes the form $\left(\begin{array}{ll}e^{2 \pi i \alpha_{1}} & \\ & e^{2 \pi i \alpha_{2}}\end{array}\right)$.


## Local Fuchs-Frobenius theory 2

- If $\alpha_{2}-\alpha_{1} \in \mathbb{Z}$ then we may have two solutions as in (NL) or two solutions as follows,

$$
\psi_{1}(z)=z^{\alpha_{1}} F_{1}(z), \quad \psi_{2}(z)=z^{\alpha_{2}} F_{2}(z)+\psi_{1}(z) \log (z)
$$

with $F_{1}, F_{2}$ holomorphic at $z$.

- In this basis, the monodromy operator clockwise around $z=0$ takes the form $\left(\begin{array}{cc}e^{2 \pi i \alpha_{1}} & 2 \pi i \\ & e^{2 \pi i \alpha_{2}}\end{array}\right)$.
- Key lemma: Assume that $\Re\left(\alpha_{1}\right)<0<\Re\left(\alpha_{2}\right)$, then:
(i) There is a non-zero solution $\psi_{1}$ which is bounded along any ray approaching the $z=0$.
(ii) Any other solution, independent with $\psi_{1}$, is unbounded along any ray approaching $z=0$.
(iii) The solution $\psi_{1}$ is an eigenvector of the monodromy around $z=0$ of eigenvalue $e^{2 \pi i \alpha_{1}}$.

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## Heuristics

- We present a heuristic idea for produce some Stiurm-Liouville problems that can be solved analitically.
- Let $\Gamma$ real algebraic curve given by an irreducible polynomial, $P(z, w)=0$.
- We consider in $\Gamma$ a real meromorphic vector field,

$$
\frac{\mathrm{dz}}{\mathrm{dx}}=f(z, w), \quad f(z, w) \in K
$$

and a real solution, $\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \Gamma, x \mapsto \gamma(x)$ connecting two zeros, namely $z_{ \pm}$.

- Let $\Gamma_{\text {loc }}$ be a neighbourhood of the path $\gamma$ and $K_{\text {loc }}$ its field of meromorphic functions.

- Let $g, h$ be meromorphic functions in $\Gamma$ and holomorphic in $\Gamma_{\text {loc }}$.
- We consider Sturm-Liouville problems with,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mu(x)=g(\gamma(x)), \quad \nu(z)=h(\gamma(x)) . \tag{CV}
\end{equation*}
$$

- The Sturm-Liouville problem,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}^{2}}+\mu(x) \frac{\mathrm{d} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}}+\nu(x) \psi=\lambda \psi \tag{SLP}
\end{equation*}
$$

is equivalent to the following. Determine for which values of lambda, the meromorphic differential equation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}}+\frac{g+\frac{d f}{d z}}{f} \frac{\mathrm{~d} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}}+\frac{h-\lambda}{f^{2}}=0 \tag{AE}
\end{equation*}
$$

has a solution defined along $\gamma$ tending to 0 at $z_{ \pm}$.

- Define $G_{l o c}$ the Galois group of (AE) as a differential equation with coefficients in $K_{\text {loc }}$.
- Define $G$ the Galois group of (AE) as a differential equation with coefficients in $K$.
- Remark: In general $G_{\text {loc }} \subset G$. If (AE) has exactly three regular singularities at $\Gamma$ then $G_{\text {loc }}=G$.
- Define,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mu_{ \pm}=\lim _{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \mu(x), & \nu_{ \pm}=\lim _{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \nu(x), \\
\alpha_{0}^{ \pm}=\mu_{-} \pm \sqrt{\nu_{-}^{2}-4\left(\mu_{-}-\lambda\right)} & \alpha_{1}^{ \pm}=\mu_{+} \pm \sqrt{\nu_{+}^{2}-4\left(\mu_{+}-\lambda\right)}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Main Result

- Theorem 1 [Yagasaki-B, 2010]: The following statements hold:
- Assume $\Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{+}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{+}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{+}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{-}\right)>0$ then al solutions of (SLP) satisfy the boundary conditions (BC).
- Assume one of the following conditions,
(i) $\Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{+}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{-}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{+}\right) \cdot \Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{-}\right)<0$.
(ii) $\Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{+}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{1}^{-}\right)>0, \Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{+}\right) \cdot \Re\left(\alpha_{0}^{-}\right)<0$.
then one solution of (SLP) satisfy the boundary conditions.
- Assume $\Re\left(\alpha_{i}^{+}\right) \cdot \Re\left(\alpha_{i}^{+}\right)<0$ for $i=0,1$ or equivalently

$$
\mid \Re\left(\sqrt { \mu _ { \pm } ^ { 2 } - 4 ( \nu _ { \pm } - \lambda ) } \left|>\left|\mu_{\mp}\right|\right.\right.
$$

then if there is a solution of (SLP) satisfying the boundary conditions $(B C)$ then $G_{l o c}$ is a group of triangular matrices, and henceforth solvable.

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## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 1

- We consider the normalized Schroedinger equation for the asymmetric Hulthen potential,

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}}+\nu(x) \psi=\lambda \psi, \quad \nu(x)=\frac{\alpha_{2}}{e^{x}+\alpha_{1}}-\frac{\alpha_{3}}{\left(e^{x}+\alpha_{1}\right)^{2}}(\mathrm{AHP})
$$



Shape of the function $\nu(x)$ in (AHP) for several values of $\alpha_{2}$ when $\alpha_{1}=10 / \alpha_{2}$ or 1 and $\alpha_{3}=10$. Solid and dashed lines represent the cases of $\alpha_{1}=10 / \alpha_{2}$ and 1 , respectively.

## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 2

- We know that possible eigenvalues are real numbers $\lambda$ satisfying,

$$
\max \left(\nu_{-}, 0\right)<\lambda<\frac{\alpha_{2}^{2}}{4 \alpha_{3}} .
$$

- We consider the change of variables,

$$
z=\gamma(x)=\frac{e^{x}}{e^{x}+1}
$$

- It takes the Equation (AHP) to its algebraic form,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}}+\frac{2 z-1}{z(z-1)} \psi+\frac{(z-1) \frac{\alpha_{3} \beta^{2}}{\alpha_{1}^{2}}-\lambda\left(z-z_{0}\right)}{z^{2}(z-1)^{2}\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{2}} \psi=0 \tag{AAHP}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $z_{0}=\frac{\alpha_{1}}{\alpha_{1}-1}$.

## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 3

- Equation (AAHP) is a Riemann equation and its solutions are expressed by a Riemann $P$ function

$$
P\left\{\begin{array}{cccc}
0 & 1 & z_{0} & \\
\rho_{1}^{+} & \rho_{2}^{+} & \rho_{3}^{+} & z \\
\rho_{1}^{-} & \rho_{2}^{-} & \rho_{3}^{-} &
\end{array}\right\}
$$

- The local exponents at $z=0,1$ and $z_{0}$ are

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \rho_{1}^{ \pm}= \pm \sqrt{\lambda-\nu_{-}}, \quad \rho_{2}^{ \pm}= \pm \sqrt{\lambda}, \\
& \rho_{3}^{ \pm}=\frac{1}{2}\left(1 \pm \frac{1}{\alpha_{1}} \sqrt{\alpha_{1}^{2}+4 \alpha_{3}}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 4

- Theorem [Kimura 1969]: Let us consider the Riemann function,

$$
P\left\{\begin{array}{cccc}
z_{1} & z_{2} & z_{3} & \\
\rho_{1}^{+} & \rho_{2}^{+} & \rho_{3}^{+} & z \\
\rho_{1}^{-} & \rho_{2}^{-} & \rho_{3}^{-} &
\end{array}\right\}
$$

and the differential field extension $\mathbb{C}(z) \subset \mathbb{C}(z)\langle P\rangle$. Its Galois group is a group of triangular matrices if and only if at least one of $\rho_{1}+\rho_{2}+\rho_{3},-\rho_{1}+\rho_{2}+\rho_{3}, \rho_{1}-\rho_{2}+\rho_{3}$ and $\rho_{1}+\rho_{2}-\rho_{3}$ is an odd integer, where $\rho_{j}=\rho_{j}^{+}-\rho_{j}^{-}$, $j=1,2,3$, denote the exponent differences.

- In our particular cases it yields,

$$
\lambda=\frac{\left(\left(2 k+1 \pm \rho_{3}\right)^{2}+4 \nu_{-}\right)^{2}}{16\left(2 k+1 \pm \rho_{3}\right)^{2}}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}
$$

## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 5

- Theorem: If for some integer $k \in\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\rho_{3}+1\right), 0\right)$

$$
\lambda=\frac{\left(\left(2 k+1+\rho_{3}\right)^{2}+4 \nu_{-}\right)^{2}}{16\left(2 k+1+\rho_{3}\right)^{2}} \in\left(\max \left(\nu_{-}, 0\right), \frac{\alpha_{2}^{2}}{4 \alpha_{3}}\right),
$$

then $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue for the (AHP).


Eigenvalues for (AHP) with $\alpha_{1}=1$ and $\alpha_{3}=10$. The dotted lines represent the upper bound $\sqrt{\lambda}=\frac{1}{2} \alpha_{2} / \sqrt{\alpha_{3}}$ and the lower bound $\sqrt{\lambda}=\sqrt{\nu_{-}}$.

## Spectrum of the asymmetric Hulthen potential 6



Eigenfunctions for (AHP) with $\alpha_{1}=1$ and $\alpha_{3}=10$ : (a) $\left(\nu_{-}, \sqrt{\lambda}\right)=(0,1.35078)$; (b) ( $0,0.850781$ ); (c) $(0,0.350781)$; (d)
(3.5, 1.99855); (e) (1.5, 1.29155); (f) (0.25, 0.528955).

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## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 1

- We consider the coupled real Ginzburg-Landau system of non-linear PDE $(s>0)$,

$$
\begin{align*}
& U_{t}=U_{x x}-U+\left(U^{2}+\beta_{1} V^{2}\right) U_{1}+\beta_{3} V \\
& V_{t}=V_{x x}-s V+\left(\beta_{1} U^{2}+\beta_{2} V^{2}\right) V+\beta_{3} U+\beta_{4} V^{2} \tag{GL}
\end{align*}
$$

- Stationary solutions are given by the ODE system

$$
\begin{align*}
& \ddot{x}_{1}=x_{1}-\left(x_{1}^{2}+\beta_{1} x_{2}^{2}\right) x_{1}-\beta_{3} x_{2}, \\
& \ddot{x}_{2}=s x_{2}-\left(\beta_{1} x_{1}^{2}+\beta_{2} x_{2}^{2}\right) x_{2}-\beta_{3} x_{1}-\beta_{4} x_{2}^{2}, \tag{SGL}
\end{align*}
$$

where $x_{1}=U, x_{2}=V$.

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 2

- It is Hamiltonian system (denote $y_{1}=\dot{x}_{1}, y_{2}=\dot{x}_{2}$ ),

$$
\begin{align*}
& H=\frac{1}{2}\left(-x_{1}^{2}-s x_{2}^{2}+\beta_{1} x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2}+y_{1}^{2}+y_{2}^{2}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{4}\left(x_{1}^{4}+\beta_{2} x_{2}^{4}\right)+\beta_{3} x_{1} x_{2}+\frac{1}{3} \beta_{4} x_{2}^{3} \tag{SGLH}
\end{align*}
$$

- For $\beta_{3}=0$ the origin $x=0$ is saddle-saddle with eigenvalues,

$$
\lambda_{1}=-\sqrt{s}, \quad \lambda_{2}=-1, \quad \lambda_{3}=1, \quad \lambda_{4}=\sqrt{s}
$$

- There are two orbits homoclinic to the origin:

$$
x_{ \pm}^{h}(t)=( \pm \sqrt{( } 2 \operatorname{sech}(t), 0, \pm \sqrt{2} \operatorname{sech}(t) \tanh (t), 0)
$$

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 3

- Reduced normal variational equation:

$$
\ddot{\eta}=\left(s-2 \beta_{1} \operatorname{sech}^{2}(t)\right) \eta .
$$

- Whic is transformed into a Riemann equation, $z=\operatorname{sech}^{2}(t)$, $\nu_{1}=s, \nu_{2}=2 \beta_{1}$,

$$
\frac{d^{2} \eta}{d z^{2}}+\frac{3 z-2}{2 z(z-1)} \frac{d \eta}{d z}+\frac{\nu_{1}-\nu_{2} z}{4 z^{2}(z-1)} \eta=0
$$

- Applying Kimura's result we derive integrability conditions:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta_{1}=\frac{(2 \sqrt{s}+2 \ell+1)^{2}-1}{8} \quad \ell=0,1,2, \ldots \tag{IC2}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 4



Integrability condition (IC2) for $\ell=0-4$. Saddle-node bifurcations may happen along red curves but along blue curves. Pitchfork bifurcations can occur along all curves.

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 5



Bifurcation diagram with parameter $\beta_{3}$ and $s=2$ : (a) $\beta_{1}=1.7071068, \beta_{2}=1$
y $\beta_{4}=2$; (b) $\beta_{1}=7.5355339, \beta_{2}=1$ y $\beta_{4}=2$; (c) $\beta_{1}=17.36396103$,
$\beta_{2}=10$ y $\beta_{4}=20$.

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 6



Profiles of homoclinic orbits on the branches of the previous diagrams. (a1,2) $\beta_{3}=1 ;(b 1,2) \beta_{3}=0.5 ; y(c 1,2), \beta_{3}=0.3$.

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 7



Bifurcation diagram with parameter $\beta_{1}, s=2, \beta_{2}=1$ y $\beta_{3}=\beta_{4}=0$.

## Bifurcation of Homoclinic orbits in G-L equations 8



Homoclinic orbits on the branches of $\ell=0-4$ on the previous diagram with $\beta_{1}=15$ : (a) $\ell=0$; (b) $\ell=1$; (c) $\ell=2$; (d) $\ell=3 \mathrm{y}$ (e) $\ell=4$ (lower branch).

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## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 1

- Let us consider the Allen-Cahn (or Nagumo) equation,

$$
u_{t}=u_{x x}+u(1-u)(u-\alpha), \quad \alpha \in(0,1) .
$$

- There is a traveling front solution $u(x, t)=\phi(x-c t)$ with $c=\sqrt{(2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}-\alpha\right)$ and

$$
\phi(x)=\frac{1}{e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}+1}}
$$



## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 2

- The linear stability of the wave front solution is determined by the S-L problem,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}^{2}}+\mu(x) \frac{\mathrm{d} \psi}{\mathrm{dx}}+\nu(x) \psi=\lambda \psi \tag{ACSLP}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $\mu(x)=\sqrt{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}-\alpha\right), \nu(x)=-3 \phi(x)^{2}+2(\alpha+1) \phi(x)-\alpha$.


Plots of $\nu(x)$ for $\alpha=0.1,0.3,0.5$.

## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 2

- We consider the change of variables,

$$
\frac{\mathrm{dz}}{\mathrm{dx}}=\frac{z(1-z)}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \gamma(x)=\frac{e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}}}{e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}}+1}
$$

- The algebraic form is a Riemann equation with singularites at 0,1 and $\infty$,

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}^{2} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}^{2}}+\frac{2(z+\alpha-1)}{z(z-1)} \frac{\mathrm{d} \psi}{\mathrm{dz}}+\frac{2\left(-3 z^{2}+2(2-\alpha) z+\alpha-1-\lambda\right)}{z^{2}(z-1)^{2}} \psi=0 .
$$

- The local exponents at $0,1, \infty$ are respectively

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \rho_{1}^{ \pm}=\frac{1}{2}\left(2 \alpha-1 \pm \sqrt{8 \lambda+(2 \alpha-3)^{2}}\right), \\
& \rho_{2}^{ \pm}=\frac{1}{2}\left(1-2 \alpha \pm \sqrt{8 \lambda+(2 \alpha+1)^{2}}\right), \quad \rho_{3}^{+}=3, \quad \rho_{3}^{-}=-2 .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 4

- Theorem: Assume that for $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ there is a solution for the (ACSL) satisfying the boundary conditions (BC). One of the following holds:
(a) $\alpha \in\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ and Theorem 1, (i) holds.
(b) $\alpha \in\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$ and Theorem 1, (ii) holds.
(c) $\lambda$ satisfies $\max (\alpha-1,-\alpha)<\lambda<\frac{1}{3}\left(\alpha^{2}-\alpha+1\right)$ and there is an integer $k$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda=\frac{\left(k^{2}-4\right)(k+1-2 \alpha)(k-1+2 \alpha)}{8 k^{2}} . \tag{IC3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Furthermore, conditions (a) and (b) are sufficient for the existence of solution for the boundary problem.

## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 5



Continuous spectra (the shaded region) for (ACSL) when $\alpha \in\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$.

## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 6



Eigenvalues given by (IC3) for $k=1,2$. The dotted line represents the lower bound $\lambda=\max (\alpha-1,-\alpha)$.

## Stability of wave front solutions of Allen-Cahn equation 7



Eigenfunctions for (ACSL): (a) $\lambda=0$; (b) $\alpha=0.35$; (c) 0.5 ; (d) 0.65 . Plates (b)-(c) show the functions for $\lambda=\frac{3}{2} \alpha(\alpha-1)$.

## References and related research

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Numerical computations and figures by K. Yagasaki using AUTO97.

