

## A HOPF BIFURCATION IN A MULTIPLE FREE BOUNDARY PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we study a Hopf bifurcation in a parabolic multiple free boundary problem. We are dealing with the following problem:

### Introduction

Consider the following problem:

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & v_t = Dv_{xx} - c^2v + H(x - s(t)) - H(x - m(t)) + H(x - n(t)), \\ & (x, t) \in \Omega^- \cup \Omega^+, \\ & v_x(0, t) = 0 = v_x(1, t), \quad t > 0, \\ & v(x, 0) = v_0(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ & \tau \frac{ds}{dt} = C(v(s(t), t)), \quad t > 0 \\ & \tau \frac{dm}{dt} = -C(v(m(t), t)), \quad t > 0 \\ & \tau \frac{dn}{dt} = C(v(n(t), t)), \quad t > 0 \\ & s(0) = s_0, \\ & m(0) = m_0, \\ & n(0) = n_0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $v(x, t)$  and  $v_x(x, t)$  are assumed to be continuous in  $\Omega$ . (this last requirement imposes a kind of boundary condition at the interface ).

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Here  $H(y)$  is the Heaviside function,  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, \infty)$ ,  $\Omega^- = \{(x, t) \in \Omega : 0 < x < s(t)\}$  and  $\Omega^+ = \{(x, t) \in \Omega : x \in (s(t), m(t)) \cup (m(t), 1)\}$ .

The velocity of the interface  $C(v)$  in (1), which specifies the evolution of the interface  $s(t)$ ,  $m(t)$  and  $n(t)$ , is determined from the first equation in (1) using asymptotic techniques ( see in [5,9] ). The function  $C(v)$  can be calculated as

$$C(v) = \frac{2v - \frac{c_1 - 2a}{c_1 + c_2}}{\left(\frac{c_1 - a}{c_1 + c_2} - v\right)\left(v + \frac{a}{c_1 + c_2}\right)},$$

where  $-c_1 < b < \frac{c_1(c_2 - a)}{c_1 + a}$  and  $c_1, c_2$  are positive constants.

We rewrite (1) as an abstract evolution equation.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d(v, s, m, n)}{dt} + \tilde{A}(v, s, m, n) &= F(v, s, m, n), \\ (v, s, m, n)(0) &= (v_0(\cdot), s_0, m_0, n_0) \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $\tilde{A}$  is a differential operator, and the nonlinear operator  $F$ .

Since the nonlinear forcing term  $F(v, s, m, n)$  contains a Heaviside function in its first component, the combination of this jump discontinuity and the nature of the dependence of  $v$  on  $s, m$  and  $n$  in the second, third and the fourth components of  $F$  makes it impossible to find a function space of the form  $X = L_p$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  such that  $F$  satisfies a Lipschitz condition on  $X \subset X \times R \times R \times R$ . Therefore, we need to make a regular problem for this one.

## 2. Well - Posedness

We now examine a free boundary value problem depending on a new parameter  $\mu \in R$ ,  $\mu = \frac{1}{\tau}$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned} (F) \quad v_t + Av &= H(x - s) - H(x - m) - H(x - n), \\ x &\in (0, 1) \setminus \{s, m, n\}, t > 0 \\ s(t) &= \mu C(v(t), t), \quad t > 0 \\ m(t) &= -\mu C(v(m(t)), t), \quad t > 0 \\ n(t) &= \mu C(v(n(t)), t), \quad t > 0 \\ v(x, 0) &= v_0(x), s(0) = s_0, m(0) = m_0, n(0) = n_0. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $A$  is the operator  $Av = -v_{xx} + c^2v$  together with Neumann boundary conditions  $v_x(0) = v_x(1) = 0$ . The results in this section apply to any invertible second order operator  $A$ . On the function  $C$ , we assume that  $C : I \subset_{open} R \rightarrow R$  is continuously differentiable, where  $I$  is open in  $R$ . For the application of semigroup theory to  $(F)$ , we choose the space  $X := L_2((0, 1))$  with norm  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .

We obtain more regularity for the solution by applying semigroup methods, considering  $A$  as a densely defined operator

$$\begin{aligned} A : D(A) \subset_{dense} X &\rightarrow X \\ D(A) &:= \{v \in H^{2,2}((0, 1)) : v_x(0) = v_x(1) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

For fixed  $s, m$  and  $n$ , the map  $t \mapsto (H(\cdot - s(t)) - H(\cdot - m(t)) - H(\cdot - n(t)))$  is locally Hölder-continuous into  $X$  on  $(0, T)$ , so by standard results for parabolic problems (see e.g. [4]) we obtain from the first equation in  $(F)$  that the following regularity holds for  $v$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *If  $(v, s, m, n)$  is a solution of  $(F)$ , then  $v(\cdot, t) \in D(A)$  and the map  $t \mapsto v(\cdot, t)$  is in  $C^0([0, T], X) \cap C^1((0, T), X)$ .*

An existence proof for  $(F)$  can be obtained along these lines, but it is impossible to get differential dependence on initial conditions this way, because the right hand side  $H(\cdot - s) - H(\cdot - m) + H(\cdot - n)$  is not regular enough. The remedy is that we decompose  $v$  in  $(F)$  into a part  $u$ , which will be a solution to a regular problem, and a part  $g$ , which will be explicitly known in terms of Green's function  $G$  of the operator  $A$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *Let  $G : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow R$  be a Green's function of the operator  $A$ . Define  $g : [0, 1]^4 \rightarrow R$  by*

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, s, m, n) &:= \int_s^m G(x, y)dy + \int_m^n G(x, y)dy \\ &= A^{-1}(H(\cdot - s) - H(\cdot - m) + H(\cdot - n))(x) \end{aligned}$$

and for each  $i(1 \leq i \leq 3)$  we define  $\gamma^i : [0, 1]^3 \rightarrow R$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^1(s, m, n) &:= g(s, s, m, n), \\ \gamma^2(s, m, n) &:= g(m, s, m, n), \\ \gamma^3(s, m, n) &:= g(n, s, m, n). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $g(\cdot, s, m, n) \in D(A)$  for all  $s, m, n$  and  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial s}(x, s, m, n) = G(x, s)$ ,  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial m}(x, s, m, n) = G(x, m)$ ,  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial n}(x, s, m, n) = G(x, n)$  are in  $H^{1,\infty}((0, 1) \times (0, 1))$ . Furthermore,  $\gamma^1$ ,  $\gamma^2$  and  $\gamma^3$  are in  $C^\infty([0, 1]^3)$ .

*Proof.* See [1] □

Applying the well-posedness theorem and the globality theorem together with the starting regularity of solutions to (F) (Proposition 2.2), as well as the regularity of the functions  $g$  and  $\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3\}$  (Proposition 2.3), we obtain the following result of the global solution.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $S(t) := (s(t), m(t), n(t))$ , and  $S_0 := (s_0, m_0, n_0)$ . Then :*

i) *For any  $1 > \alpha > 3/4$ ,  $(u_0, S_0) \in W \cap \tilde{X}^\alpha$  and  $\mu \in R$ , there exists a unique solution  $(u, S)(t) = (u, S)(t; u_0, S_0, \mu)$  of*

(R)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}(u, s, m, n) + \tilde{A}(u, s, m, n) &= \mu f(u, s, m, n) \\ (u, s, m, n)(0) &= (u(0), s(0), m(0), n(0)) = (u_0, s_0, m_0, n_0). \end{aligned}$$

*The solution operator*

$$(u_0, S_0, \mu) \mapsto (u, S)(t; u_0, S_0, \mu)$$

*is continuously differentiable from  $\tilde{X}^\alpha \times R$  into  $\tilde{X}^\alpha$  for all  $t > 0$ . Then functions  $v(x, t)$  is such that*

$$v(x, t) := u(t)(x) + g(x, S(t))$$

*and satisfies (F) with  $v(\cdot, 0) \in X^\alpha$  and  $v(S_0, 0) \in I$ .*

ii) *If  $(v, S)$  is a solution of (F) for some  $\mu \in R$  with initial conditions  $v_0 \in X^\alpha$ ,  $1 > \alpha > 3/4$ ,  $S_0 \in (0, 1)^3$  and  $v_0(s_0), v_0(m_0), v_0(n_0) \in I$ , then  $(u_0, S_0) := (v_0 - g(\cdot, x_0), S_0)$  in  $\tilde{X}^\alpha \cap W$  and*

$$(v(\cdot, t), S(t)) = (u, S)(t; u_0, S_0, \mu) + (g(\cdot, S(t)), 0),$$

*where  $(u, S)(t; u_0, S_0, \mu)$  is the unique solution of (R).*

iii) *For any  $1 > \alpha > 3/4$  and  $\mu \in R$ ,  $(v_0, S_0) \in U := \{(v, S) \in X^\alpha \times (0, 1) : v(s), v(m), v(n) \in I\}$ , the problem (F) has a unique solution for all  $t > 0$   $(v(x, t), S(t)) = (v, S)(x, t; v_0, S_0, \mu)$ . Additionally, the mapping  $(v_0, S_0, \mu) \mapsto (v, S)(\cdot, t; v_0, S_0, \mu)$  is continuously differentiable from  $X^\alpha \times R^4$  into  $X^\alpha \times R^3$  for all  $t > 0$ .*

### 3. A Hopf bifurcation

The stationary problem for (R) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
A\mu^* &= \mu C(u^*(s^*) + \gamma(s^*, m^*, n^*)) \cdot G(\cdot, s^*) + \mu C(\mu^*(m^*) \\
&\quad + \eta(s^*, m^*, n^*)) \cdot G(\cdot, m^*) + \mu C(\mu^*(n^*)) + \zeta(s^*, m^*, n^*) \cdot G(\cdot, n^*) \\
0 &= \mu C(u^*(s^*) + \gamma(s^*, m^*, n^*)) \\
0 &= -\mu C(u^*(m^*) + \eta(s^*, m^*, n^*)) \\
0 &= \mu C(u^*(n^*) + \zeta(s^*, m^*, n^*))
\end{aligned}$$

for  $(u^*, s^*, m^*, n^*) \in D(\tilde{A}) \cap W$ . For nonzero  $\mu$  the above system is equivalent to the pair of equations:  $u^* = 0, C(\gamma(s^*, m^*, n^*)) = 0, C(\eta(s^*, m^*, n^*)) = 0$  and  $C(\zeta(s^*, m^*, n^*)) = 0$ . We thus obtain the following:

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *If  $0 < \frac{1}{2} - a < \frac{1}{c^2}$ , then (R') has a unique stationary solution for all  $\mu \neq 0$  with  $n^* = 1 - s^* - m^*, s^* \in (0, 1)$ . Then linearization of  $f$  at  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*)$  is*

$$\begin{aligned}
Df(0, s^*, m^*, n^*)(\hat{u}, \hat{s}, \hat{m}, \hat{n}) &= (\hat{u}(s^*) + \gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{s} + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{m} \\
&\quad + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{n}) \cdot (G(s^*, n^*, n^*), 1, 0, 0) + (\hat{u}(m^*) + \eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{s} \\
&\quad + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{m} + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{n}) \cdot (G(s^*, m^*, n^*), 0, -1, 0) \\
&\quad + (\hat{u}(n^*) + \zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{s} + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{m} \\
&\quad + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)\hat{n}) \cdot (G(s^*, m^*, n^*), 0, 0, 1). \quad \blacksquare
\end{aligned}$$

The pair  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*)$  corresponds to a unique steady state  $(v^*, s^*, m^*, n^*)$  of (F) for  $\mu \neq 0$  with  $v^*(x) = g(x, s^*, m^*, n^*)$ . \blacksquare

We now show that a Hopf bifurcation occurs as the parameter  $\mu$  approaches zero.

**THEOREM 3.2. (Hopf-Bifurcation)** *Suppose that  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$  is a Hopf point for (R). Then there exist  $\epsilon_1 > 0$  and a  $C^0$ -curve*

$$\epsilon \in (-\epsilon_1, \epsilon_1) \mapsto (u_0(\epsilon), s_0(\epsilon), m_0(\epsilon), n_0(\epsilon), p(\epsilon), \mu(\epsilon)) \in \tilde{X}^\alpha \times R^+ \times R$$

such that

$$(u, s, m, n)(\cdot; u_0(\epsilon), s_0(\epsilon), m_0(\epsilon), n_0(\epsilon)\mu(\epsilon))$$

is a periodic solution of  $(R)$  of period  $p(\epsilon)$ .

Moreover,  $u_0(0) = 0, s_0(0) = s^*, m_0(0) = m^*, n_0(0) = n^*, p(0) = \frac{2\pi}{\beta}\mu(0) = \mu^*$  and

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{(u_0(\epsilon), s_0(\epsilon) - s^*, m_0(\epsilon) - m^*, n_0(\epsilon) - n^*)}{\epsilon} = \text{Re}\phi(\mu^*).$$

*proof.* The proof is similar to the single free boundary case which is in [4].  $\square$

We next have to check  $(R)$  for Hopf points. For this, we first solve the eigenvalue problem

$$-\tilde{A}(u, s, m, n) + \mu B(u, s, m, n) = \lambda(u, s, m, n)$$

which, by Proposition 3.1, is equivalent to

(2)

$$(A + \lambda)\mu = \mu(\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n$$

$$+ u(s^*)) \cdot G(\cdot, s^*) + \mu(\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m$$

$$+ \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n + u(m^*)) \cdot G(\cdot, m^*) + \mu(\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s$$

$$+ \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n + u(n^*)) \cdot G(\cdot, n^*)$$

$$\lambda_s = \mu(\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n + u(s^*))$$

$$\lambda_m = -\mu(\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n + u(m^*))$$

$$\lambda_n = \mu(\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)s + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*)m + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*)n + u(n^*)) \quad \blacksquare$$

Here we note that

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) &= -G(s^*, s^*) + \int_{s^*}^{m^*} G_x(s^*, y)dy + \int_{m^*}^{n^*} G_x(s^*, y)dy \\ &= -\eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) = \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \end{aligned}$$

$$\gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) = G(s^*, m^*) = -\eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) = \zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)$$

Furthermore,  $\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) < 0$  and  $\int_{s^*}^{m^*} G_x(s^*, y)dy = (v^*)(s^*) > 0$ . As a first result, we obtain that it suffices to find a unique, imaginary eigenvalue  $\lambda = i\beta$  of (2) with  $\beta > 0$  for some  $\mu^*$  in order for  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$  to be a Hopf point.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Assume that for  $\mu^* \in R - \{0\}$ , the  $] operator  $-\tilde{A} + \mu^*B$  has a unique pair  $\{\pm i\beta\}$  of imaginary eigenvalues. Then  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$  is a Hopf point for  $(R)$ .$*

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, let  $\beta > 0$ , and let  $\phi^*$  be the (normalized) eigenfunction of  $-\tilde{A} + \mu^*B$  with eigenvalue  $i\beta$ . We have to show that  $(\phi^*, i\beta)$  can be extended to a  $C^1$ -curve  $\mu \mapsto (\phi(\mu), \lambda(\mu))$  of eigendata for  $-\tilde{A} + \mu B$  with  $\lambda(\mu^*) \neq 0$ . To do this let  $\phi^* = (\psi_0, s_0, m_0, n_0) \in D(A) \times R \times R \times R$ . First, we can see that  $s_0 \neq 0$  or  $m_0 \neq 0$  or  $n_0 \neq 0$ . For, otherwise, by (3),  $(A + i\beta)\psi_0 = i\beta_{s_0}G(\cdot, s^*) - i\beta_{m_0}G(\cdot, m^*) + i\beta_{n_0}G(\cdot, n^*) = 0$  which is impossible, because  $A$  is symmetric. We consider the case of  $s_0 \neq 0, m_0 \neq 0$  and  $n_0 \neq 0$ . So without loss of generality, let  $s_0 = 1, m_0 = 1$  and  $n_0 = 1$ . Then by (3),  $E(\psi_0, i\beta, \mu^*) = 0$ , where  $E : D(A)_C \times C \times R \rightarrow X_C \times C$ ,

$$E(u, \lambda, \mu) := \begin{pmatrix} (A + \lambda)u - \mu \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ + u(s^*))G(\cdot, s^*) - \mu \cdot (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ + u(m^*))G(\cdot, m^*) - \mu \cdot (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ + u(n^*))G(\cdot, n^*) \\ \\ \lambda - \mu \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + u(s^*)) \\ \lambda + \mu \cdot (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + u(m^*)) \\ \lambda + \mu \cdot (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + u(n^*)) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The equation  $E(u, \lambda, \mu) = 0$  is equivalent to saying that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $-\tilde{A} + \mu B$  with eigenfunction  $(u, 1, 1)$ . Let's apply the implicit function theorem to the  $E$ . For this, we have to check that  $E$  is in  $C^1$  and that

$$(3) \quad D_{(u, \lambda)} E(\psi_0, i\beta, \mu^*) \in L(D(A)_C \times C, X_C \times C) \text{ is an isomorphism.}$$

Now it is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} D_u E(u, \lambda, \mu) \hat{u} \\ = (A + \lambda) \hat{u}(1, 0, 0) - \mu \hat{u}(s^*)(G(\cdot, s^*), 1, 0, 0) - \mu \hat{u}(m^*)(G(\cdot, m^*), 0, -1, 0) \\ - \mu \hat{u}(n^*)(G(\cdot, n^*), 0, 0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$D_\lambda E(u, \lambda, \mu) \hat{\lambda} = \hat{\lambda}(u, 1, 1)$$

$$D_\mu E(u, \lambda, \mu) \hat{\mu}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\hat{\mu}(\gamma_s(s^* m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*))((G(\cdot, s^*), 1, 0, 0) \\ &- \hat{\mu}(\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*))((G(\cdot, m^*), 0, -1, 0) \\ &- \hat{\mu}(\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*))((G(\cdot, n^*), 0, 0, 1) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

so  $E$  is in  $C^1$ . In addition, the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} &D_{(u, \lambda)} E(\psi_0, i\beta, \mu^*)(\hat{u}, \hat{\lambda}) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (A + i\beta)\hat{u} - \mu^*\hat{u}(s^*)G(\cdot, s^*) - \mu^*\hat{u}(m^*)G(\cdot, m^*) \\ \quad - \mu^*\hat{u}(n^*)G(\cdot, n^*) + \hat{\lambda}\psi_0 \\ \\ -\mu^*\hat{u}(s^*) + \hat{\lambda} \\ \mu^*\hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{\lambda} \\ -\mu^*\hat{u}(n^*) + \hat{\lambda} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

is compact perturbation of the mapping

$$(\hat{u}, \hat{\lambda}) \mapsto ((A + i\beta)\hat{u}, \hat{\lambda}),$$

which is invertible. As a consequence,  $D_{(u, \lambda)} E(\psi_0, i\beta, u^*)$  is a Fredholm operator of index 0. Thus to verify (3), it suffices to show that the system

$$\begin{aligned} (4) \quad &(A + i\beta)\hat{u} + \hat{\lambda}\psi_0 \\ &= \mu^*\hat{u}(s^*)G(\cdot, s^*) + \mu^*\hat{u}(m^*)G(\cdot, m^*) + \mu^*\hat{u}(n^*)G(\cdot, n^*) \\ &\hat{\lambda} = \mu^*\hat{u}(s^*) \\ &\hat{\lambda} = -\mu^*\hat{u}(m^*) \\ &\hat{\lambda} = \mu^*\hat{u}(n^*) \end{aligned}$$

necessarily implies that  $\hat{u} = 0$  and  $\hat{\lambda} = 0$ . Thus let  $(\hat{u}, \hat{\lambda})$  be a solution of (4), and define

$$\psi_1 := \psi_0 - G(\cdot, s^*) + G(\cdot, m^*) - G(\cdot, n^*).$$



Then we have that

$$(5) \quad (A + i\beta)\hat{u} + \hat{\lambda}\psi_1 = 0.$$

On the other hand, since  $\psi_0$  solve (2) with  $\lambda = i\beta$ ,  $s = m = n = 1$ , we have  $i\beta G(\cdot, s^*) - i\beta G(\cdot, m^*) + i\beta G(\cdot, n^*) = A\psi_0 + i\beta\psi_0 = (A + i\beta)\psi_1 + \delta_{s^*} - \delta_{m^*} + \delta_{n^*} + i\beta G(\cdot, s^*) - i\beta G(\cdot, m^*) + i\beta G(\cdot, n^*)$  in the weak sense, where  $\delta_s$  is the delta distribution centered at  $s$ . So  $\psi_1$  is a solution of the equations

$$(6) \quad (A + i\beta)\psi_1 = -\delta_{s^*} + \delta_{m^*} - \delta_{n^*}$$

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} i\beta &= \mu^* \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi_0(s^*)) \\ &= \mu^* \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ &\quad + \psi_1(s^*) + G(s^*, s^*) - G(s^*, m^*) + G(s^*, n^*)) \end{aligned}$$

and we have that

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} i\beta &= -\mu^* \cdot (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi_0(s^*)) \\ &= -\mu^* \cdot (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(m^*, s^*) \\ &\quad - G(m^*, m^*) + G(m^*, n^*)) \end{aligned} \quad \blacksquare$$

and we have

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} i\beta &= \mu^* \cdot (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi_0(n^*)) \\ &= \mu^* \cdot (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi_1(n^*) + G(n^*, s^*) \\ &\quad - G(n^*, m^*) + G(n^*, n^*)). \end{aligned} \quad \blacksquare$$

Equation (6) implies that

$$-\overline{\psi_1(s^*)} + \overline{\psi_1(m^*)} + \overline{\psi_1(n^*)} = \int_0^1 |A^{\frac{1}{2}}\psi_1|^2 + i\beta \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2.$$

So we have

$$Im(\psi_1(s^*) - \psi_1(m^*) + \psi_1(n^*)) = \beta \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2.$$

Adding (7), (8) and (9), we obtain that  $\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)$ ,  $\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)$ ,  $\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*)$ ,  $G(s^*, s^*)$ ,  $G(s^*, m^*)$  and  $G(s^*, n^*)$  are real valued. Therefore, since  $\beta \neq 0$ , we have

$$(10) \quad \mu^* \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2 = 2.$$

From (6), we can calculate  $\hat{u}(s^*) - \hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{u}(n^*)$  as

$$\int_0^1 \psi_1(A + i\beta)\hat{u} = -\hat{u}(s^*) + \hat{u}(m^*) - \hat{u}(n^*).$$

Thus together with (5), (6) and (10), we obtain

$$\hat{\lambda} \int_0^1 \psi_1^2 = \hat{u}(s^*) - \hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{u}(n^*) = 2 \frac{\hat{\lambda}}{u^*} = \hat{\lambda} \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2.$$

As a result, we have that

$$\hat{\lambda} \left( \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2 - \psi_1^2 \right) = 0,$$

which implies  $\hat{\lambda} = 0$ . So we conclude that  $\hat{\lambda} = 0$  and  $\hat{u} = 0$ . Therefore we obtain a  $C^1$ -curve  $\mu \mapsto (\phi(\mu), \lambda(\mu))$  of eigendata such that  $\phi(\mu^*) = \phi^*$  and  $\lambda(\mu^*) = i\beta$ . It remains to show that  $Re\lambda(\mu^*) \neq 0$ . Let  $\phi(\mu) = (\psi(\mu, 1, 1))$ . Implicit differentiation of  $E(\psi(\mu), \lambda(\mu), \mu) = 0$  implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & D_{(u, \mu)} E(\psi_0, i\beta, \mu^*)(\psi'(\mu^*), \lambda'(\mu^*)) \\ &= (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi'(\mu^*)(s^*) \\ &\cdot (G(\cdot, s^*), 1, 0, 0) - (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi'(\mu^*)(m^*)) \\ &\cdot (G(\cdot, m^*), 0, -1, 0) + (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \psi'(\mu^*)(n^*)) \\ &\cdot (G(\cdot, n^*), 0, 0, 1)). \end{aligned}$$

This means that the function  $\hat{u} := \psi'(\mu^*)$  and  $\hat{\lambda}(\mu^*)$  satisfy the equations

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} & (A + i\beta)\hat{u} - \mu^* \hat{u}(s^*)G(\cdot, s^*) - \mu^* \hat{u}(m^*)G(\cdot, m^*) - \mu^* \hat{u}(n^*)G(\cdot, n^*) + \hat{\lambda}\psi_0 \\ &= -(\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(s^*))G(\cdot, s^*) \\ &- (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(m^*))G(\cdot, m^*) \\ &- (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(n^*))G(\cdot, n^*), \end{aligned}$$

$$(12) \quad -\mu^* \hat{u}(s^*) + \hat{\lambda} = -(\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(s^*)) \blacksquare$$

$$(13) \quad \mu^* \hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{\lambda} = \eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(m^*) \blacksquare$$

$$(14) \quad -\mu^* \hat{u}(n^*) + \hat{\lambda} = \zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(n^*) \blacksquare$$

Using (11), (13), (14) and using  $\psi_1 := \psi_0 - G(\cdot, s^*) + G(\cdot, m^*) - G(\cdot, n^*)$  and (6), we obtain

$$(15) \quad (A + i\beta)\hat{u} + \hat{\lambda}\psi_1 = 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & -\overline{\hat{u}(s^*)} + \overline{\hat{u}(m^*)} - \overline{\hat{u}(n^*)} \\ &= \int_0^1 (A + i\beta)\psi_1 \bar{\hat{u}} \\ &= \int_0^1 \psi_1 \cdot ((A + i\beta)\bar{\hat{u}} + 2i\beta\hat{u}) \\ &= -\bar{\hat{\lambda}} \int_0^1 |\psi_1|^2 + 2i\beta \int_0^1 \psi_1 \bar{\hat{u}} \\ &= -\bar{\hat{u}} \frac{2}{\mu^*} + 2i\beta \int_0^1 \psi_1 \bar{\hat{u}}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (12), (13) and (14) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu^*(\hat{u}(s^*) - \hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{u}(n^*)) - 2\hat{\lambda} \\ &= 2(\gamma_s + \gamma_m + \gamma_n)(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{u}(s^*) - \hat{u}(m^*) + \hat{u}(n^*), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} & (\gamma_s + \gamma_m + \gamma_n)(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ &= -G(s^*, s^*) + G(s^*, m^*) - G(s^*, n^*) + \int_{s^*}^{n^*} G_s(s^*, y) dy. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we obtain

$$2i\beta\mu^* \int_0^1 \hat{u}\overline{\psi_1} = 2(\gamma_s + \gamma_m + \gamma_n)(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \hat{\lambda} \frac{2}{\mu^*} + 2i\beta \int_0^1 \hat{u}\overline{\psi_1},$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}\hat{\lambda} &= -\mu^*(\gamma_s + \gamma_m + \gamma_n)(s^*, m^*, n^*) \\ &= -\mu^* \frac{1}{\operatorname{csinh}c} (1 - \operatorname{cosh}c(1 - 2s^*)) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the steady state loses stability as  $\mu$  increases beyond  $\mu^*$ . For the case  $s_0 \neq 0$  and  $m_0 = n_0 = 0$ , let  $s_0 = 1$  and  $m_0 = n_0 = 0$  in (2). Then by a similar argument, we get the same results with

$$\operatorname{Re}\hat{\lambda} = -\mu^*\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) \neq 0.$$

In the case of  $n_0 = s_0 = 0$  and  $m_0 = 1$ , let  $s_0 = n_0 = 0$  and  $m_0 = 1$ . Then we have

$$\operatorname{Re}\hat{\lambda} = -\mu^*\gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) \neq 0.$$

In the case of  $s_0 = m_0 = 0$ , and  $n_0 = 1$ , let  $s_0 = m_0 = 0$  and  $n_0 = 1$ . Then we have

$$\operatorname{Re}\hat{\lambda} = -\mu^*\gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) \neq 0.$$

□

Now we will show that, whenever (R) admits a stationary solution, there is a unique  $\mu^* > 0$  such that  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$  is a Hopf point with  $n^* = 1 - s^* - m^*$ . Thus  $\mu^*$  is the origin of a branch of nontrivial periodic orbits. To do this, we only need to show that the function  $(u, \beta, \mu) \mapsto E(u, i\beta mu)$  has a unique zero with  $\beta > 0$  and  $\mu > 0$ . Let  $v' := u - G(\cdot, s^*) - G(\cdot, m^*) - G(\cdot, n^*)$  in the system  $E(u, i\beta, \mu) = 0$ .

Then this system is equivalent to the weak system of equations

(16)

$$(A + i\beta)v = -\delta_s^* + \delta_m^* - \delta_n^*$$

$$i\beta = \mu \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \gamma_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*) - G(s^*, m^*) + G(s^*, n^*) + v(s^*))$$

$$i\beta = -\mu \cdot (\eta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \eta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(m^*, s^*) + G(m^*, m^*) + G(m^*, n^*) + v(m^*))$$

$$i\beta = \mu \cdot (\zeta_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) + \zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(n^*, s^*) - G(n^*, m^*) + G(n^*, n^*) + v(n^*)).$$

Actually, this is just the eigenvalue problem for the formal linearization of  $(F)$  about  $(v^*, s^*, m^*, n^*)$ .

Now the first equation in (16) has for fixed  $\beta \leq 0$ , the unique solution  $v = -G_\beta(\cdot, s^*) + G_\beta(\cdot, m^*) - G_\beta(\cdot, n^*)$ , where  $G_\beta$  is Green's function for the operator  $A + i\beta$ . Thus it remains to solve the complex valued equation

$$i\beta = \mu \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*) - G_\beta(s^*, s^*) + G_\beta(s^*, m^*) - G_\beta(s^*, n^*))$$

$$i\beta = -\mu \cdot (\eta_m(s^*, m^*, n^*) - G(m^*, m^*) - G_\beta(m^*, s^*) + G_\beta(m^*, m^*) - G_\beta(m^*, n^*))$$

$$i\beta = \mu \cdot (\zeta_n(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(n^*, n^*) + G_\beta(n^*, s^*) + G_\beta(n^*, m^*) + G_\beta(n^*, n^*)).$$

So we obtain

$$i\beta = \mu \cdot (\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*) - G_\beta(s^*, s^*) + G_\beta(s^*, m^*) - G_\beta(s^*, n^*)) \\ = \mu \cdot ((v^*)'(s^*) - G_\beta(s^*, s^*) + G_\beta(s^*, m^*) - G_\beta(s^*, n^*)),$$

where  $\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*) = (v^*)'(s^*)$ . Since  $\gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*)$  is real valued, that is equivalent to the real valued system

$$(17) \quad \gamma_s(s^*, m^*, n^*) + G(s^*, s^*) - \operatorname{Re}G_\beta(s^*, s^*) = 0,$$

$$(18) \quad \mu \cdot \operatorname{Im}(G_\beta(s^*, s^*) - G_\beta(s^*, m^*) + G_\beta(s^*, n^*)) + \beta = 0.$$

Since the equation (17) does not depend on  $\mu$ , it suffices to find a unique solution  $\beta > 0$  of (17). Using (18), the unique  $\mu^* > 0$  can be calculated when  $\operatorname{Im}(G_\beta(s^*, s^*) - G_\beta(s^*, m^*) - G_\beta(s^*, n^*))$  is negative.

The following theorem summarizes what we have proved :

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Assume that  $0 < \frac{1}{2} - a < \frac{1}{c^2}$ , so that (R), respectively (2), has a unique stationary solution  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*)$ , respectively  $(v^*, s^*, m^*, n^*)$ , for all  $\mu > 0$  with  $n^* = 1 - s^* - m^*$ . Then there exists a unique  $\mu^* > 0$  such that the linearization  $-\tilde{A} + \mu^* B$  has a purely imaginary pair of eigenvalues. The point  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$  is then a Hopf point for (R) and there exists a  $C^0$ -curve of non-trivial periodic orbits for (R), (F), respectively, bifurcating from  $(0, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$ ,  $(v^*, s^*, m^*, n^*, \mu^*)$ , respectively.*

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