

On the one-peak stationary solutions for the Schnakenberg model with heterogeneity

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1 Introduction

In this paper, based on a recent work [4], we present our study on the existence and linear stability of one-peak stationary solutions for the following Schnakenberg model with heterogeneity:

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \varepsilon^2 u_{xx} = -u + g(x)u^2v, & x \in (-1, 1), t > 0, \\ \varepsilon v_t - Dv_{xx} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{c}{\varepsilon}g(x)u^2v, & x \in (-1, 1), t > 0, \\ u_x(\pm 1, t) = v_x(\pm 1, t) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where c is a positive constant and $g(x)$ is a positive function on the interval $(-1, 1)$. Moreover, $u(x, t)$ and $v(x, t)$ represent the density of two chemical substance at $t \geq 0$ and $x \in (-1, 1)$, and $\varepsilon^2 > 0$ and $D > 0$ are diffusion constants of u and v , respectively. This model, which describes an autocatalytic chemical reaction, was proposed by Schnakenberg [6], and is well-known as a model in pattern formation. $g(x)$ represent the reaction speed of the chemical reaction at $x \in (-1, 1)$ and may vary on the location x , for example by the effect of temperature. Here, we note that the standard Schnakenberg model [6] is the case $g(x) = 1$.

There are huge works on the study of the Schnakenberg model (see e.g. [8] and the reference therein.) Since we are interested in the study of spiky solutions of (1), we first mention the work of Iron, Wei, and Winter [2] which studied the non-heterogeneity case, i.e., $g(x) = 1$. They gave the results of the existence and stability of multi-peak symmetric solutions in details. In particular, it was shown that a one-peak solution, which concentrate at $x = 0$, is stable for any $D < +\infty$. The model, which has a heterogeneity term, was studied in [5, 3, 4, 1]. We also mention the related work [7] on N -spike cluster solutions for the one-dimensional Gierer-Meinhardt system with heterogeneity.

2 Main results

We need several preliminaries to explain our main results in details. First, let w be the unique solution of the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} w'' - w + w^2 = 0, & y \in \mathbb{R}, \\ w > 0, w(0) = \max_{\mathbb{R}} w, \lim_{|y| \rightarrow \infty} w(y) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

For the unique solution $w(y)$ above, the following facts is known:

$$w(y) = \frac{3}{2} \left(\cosh \frac{y}{2} \right)^{-2}, \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} w^2 dy = 6.$$

Let χ be a cut-off function satisfying the following properties:

$$\chi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}), \quad 0 \leq \chi \leq 1, \quad \chi(x) = 1 \left(|x| < \frac{1}{4} \right), \quad \chi(x) = 0 \left(|x| > \frac{1}{2} \right). \quad (3)$$

Next, we introduce the following function spaces:

$$H_N^2(-a, a) := \{u \in H^2(-a, a) \mid u'(\pm a) = 0\}, \quad a > 0. \quad (4)$$

Let $I := (-1, 1)$ and $I_\varepsilon := (-\varepsilon^{-1}, \varepsilon^{-1})$ for $\varepsilon > 0$. For a function $u : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we define the following rescaling notation: $\bar{u}(y) := u(\varepsilon y)$ for $y \in I_\varepsilon$.

Let us explain our main results. For $t \in (-1, 1)$, we define the notations $F(t)$ and $\xi(t)$ as follows:

$$F(t) := \frac{t^2}{24cD} + \frac{1}{g(t)}, \quad \frac{6c}{g(t)\xi(t)} = 1. \quad (5)$$

For the existence, we assume the following condition:

(A): Assume that $g \in C^3(I)$ and $g(x) > 0$. Moreover, there exists a point $t_0 \in I$ such that

$$F'(t_0) = 0, \quad F''(t_0) \neq 0. \quad (6)$$

We state the main result on the existence of a one-peak solution.

Theorem 1 *Assume the assumption (A). Then, for $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small, (1) admits a one-peak stationary solution $(u_\varepsilon(x), v_\varepsilon(x)) \in H_N^2(I) \times H_N^2(I)$ which satisfies the following:*

(1) $u_\varepsilon(x)$ concentrates at some point $x = t_\varepsilon \in B(\varepsilon^{3/4}, t_0) := \{t \in I \mid |t - t_0| \leq \varepsilon^{3/4}\}$.

(2) $u_\varepsilon(x)$ takes the following asymptotic form:

$$u_\varepsilon(x) = w_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon}(x) + \phi_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon}(x), \quad (7)$$

where

$$w_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon}(x) := \frac{1}{g(t_\varepsilon)\xi(t_\varepsilon)} w\left(\frac{x - t_\varepsilon}{\varepsilon}\right) \chi\left(\frac{x - t_\varepsilon}{r_0}\right), \quad r_0 := \frac{1}{10} \min\{t_0 + 1, 1 - t_0\}, \quad (8)$$

and $\phi_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon}(x)$ is a remainder term, namely $\phi_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon} \in H_N^2(I)$ such that

$$\|\overline{\phi_{\varepsilon, t_\varepsilon}}\|_{H^2(I_\varepsilon)} \leq C_0 \varepsilon \quad (9)$$

holds for some constant $C_0 > 0$ independent of $\varepsilon > 0$.

(3) $v_\varepsilon(x)$ satisfies

$$v_\varepsilon(t_\varepsilon) = \xi(t_\varepsilon) + O(\varepsilon) \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0. \quad (10)$$

Next, we study the linear stability of the solution $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ given in Theorem 1. We linearize the system (1) at $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ and obtain the following eigenvalue problem:

$$\begin{cases} \varepsilon^2 \varphi_\varepsilon'' - \varphi_\varepsilon + 2g(x)u_\varepsilon v_\varepsilon \varphi_\varepsilon + g(x)u_\varepsilon^2 \psi_\varepsilon = \lambda_\varepsilon \varphi_\varepsilon, & x \in (-1, 1), \\ D\psi_\varepsilon'' - \frac{2c}{\varepsilon}g(x)u_\varepsilon v_\varepsilon \varphi_\varepsilon - \frac{c}{\varepsilon}g(x)u_\varepsilon^2 \psi_\varepsilon = \varepsilon \lambda_\varepsilon \psi_\varepsilon, & x \in (-1, 1), \\ \varphi_\varepsilon'(\pm 1) = \psi_\varepsilon'(\pm 1) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

where λ_ε is an eigenvalue and $(\varphi_\varepsilon, \psi_\varepsilon) \neq (0, 0)$ is an eigenfunction. Now, we state the main result on the stability.

Theorem 2 *Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be sufficiently small. We assume that $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ is the solution given in Theorem 1. Then, we have the following result for large eigenvalues, namely $\lambda_\varepsilon \rightarrow \lambda_0 \neq 0$:*

(1) *We have $\text{Re}(\lambda_\varepsilon) < 0$. Thus, $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ is stable for any $D < +\infty$.*

For small eigenvalues, namely $\lambda_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have the following results:

(2) *It holds that*

$$\lambda_\varepsilon = -\varepsilon^2 \frac{g(t_\varepsilon) \int_{\mathbb{R}} w^3 dy}{3 \int_{\mathbb{R}} (w')^2 dy} F''(t_0) + o(\varepsilon^2) \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0. \quad (12)$$

(3) *If $F''(t_0) > 0$, then $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ is stable. If $F''(t_0) < 0$, then $(u_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon)$ is unstable.*

Remark 1 *We note that we can actually show that eigenvalues λ_ε satisfying $\text{Re}(\lambda_\varepsilon) \geq -4^{-1}$ are bounded. So we may assume that λ_ε has a limit, up to a subsequence.*

For Theorem 1, we construct one-peak solutions which concentrate at $t_0 \in (-1, 1)$ given by **(A)** by using the Liapunov-Schmidt reduction method. In particular, concentration points t_0 and amplitudes of one-peak solutions are determined by the interaction of the heterogeneity with the geometry of the domain, represented by Neumann Green function. For Theorem 2, we consider two cases: (i) The large eigenvalue case, namely $\lambda_\varepsilon \rightarrow \lambda_0 \neq 0$. (ii) The small eigenvalue case, namely $\lambda_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. For the large eigenvalue, by using the lemma of Wei and Winter ([2, 8]) for non-local eigenvalue problems, we can show $\text{Re}(\lambda_0) < 0$ for any $D < +\infty$. Thus, for sufficiently small $\varepsilon > 0$, the large eigenvalue λ_ε is a stable eigenvalue. For the small eigenvalue, by using several technical lemma, we show that the leading term of λ_ε is given by (12).

3 Remark on the generalized system

Finally, we refer to one-peak solutions for the generalized system. We can generalize the system (1), for example to the following system:

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \varepsilon^2 u_{xx} = -u + g_1(x)u^2v, & x \in (-1, 1), t > 0, \\ \varepsilon v_t - Dv_{xx} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{c}{\varepsilon}g_2(x)u^2v, & x \in (-1, 1), t > 0, \\ u_x(\pm 1, t) = v_x(\pm 1, t) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where $g_1(x)$ and $g_2(x)$, respectively, are positive and C^3 functions. By using the same way of [4], under the suitable assumption, we can construct one-peak solutions and obtain its stability results. For the system above, the assumption **(A)** become **(A')**: There exists a point $t_0 \in I$ such that

$$\tilde{F}(t_0) = 0, \quad \tilde{F}'(t_0) \neq 0, \quad \tilde{F}(t) := \frac{t}{12cD} - \frac{g_1'(t)g_2(t)}{g_1(t)^3}. \quad (14)$$

The amplitudes $\tilde{\xi}(t)$ of the solutions are given by

$$\frac{6cg_2(t)}{g_1(t)^2\tilde{\xi}(t)} = 1. \quad (15)$$

Moreover, the stability of the solution, which is constructed under the assumption **(A')**, is decided by the sign of $\tilde{F}'(t_0)$. For the analysis in details, see [4]. In particular, we can conclude that the heterogeneity $g_1(x)$ of the equation of u , namely the first equation of (13), has a stronger effect than $g_2(x)$ on the spike position and the stability.

Acknowledgements. This work was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 20J12212. This work was supported by the Research Institute for Mathematical Science, a Joint Usage/Research Center located in Kyoto University.

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