

# Multiplicity Result for a Class of Nonlinear Elliptic System in Variable Exponent Sobolev Spaces

Dany Nabab, Ouarda Saifia and Jean Vélin

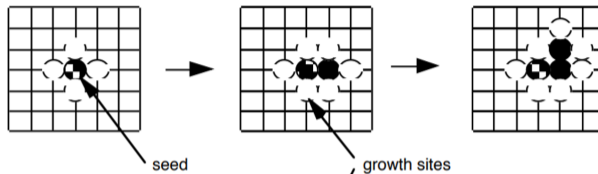
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## Présentation du problème: systèmes de Diffusion (D)

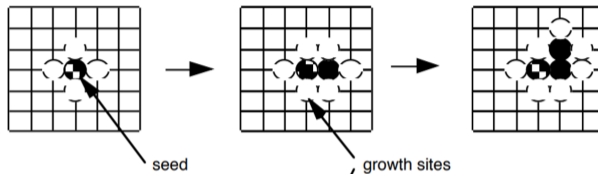


$$\frac{\partial[X_i]}{\partial t} = \mu_i ([X_i]_R - 2[X_i] + [X_i]_L)$$

$$\frac{\partial[X_i]}{\partial t} = \Delta[X_i]$$

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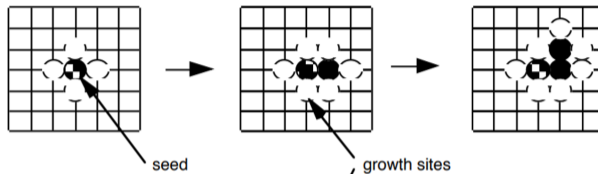


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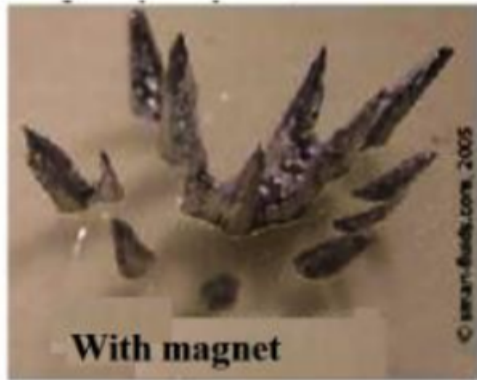
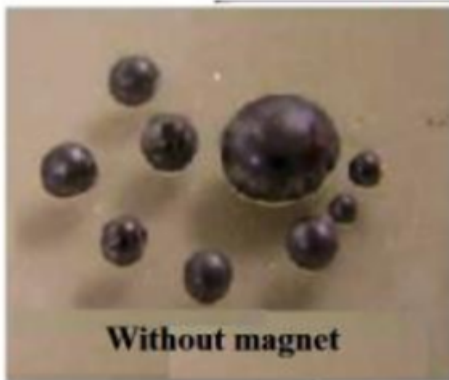
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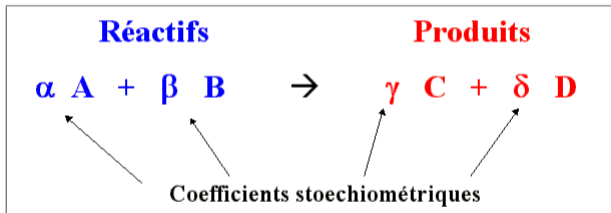
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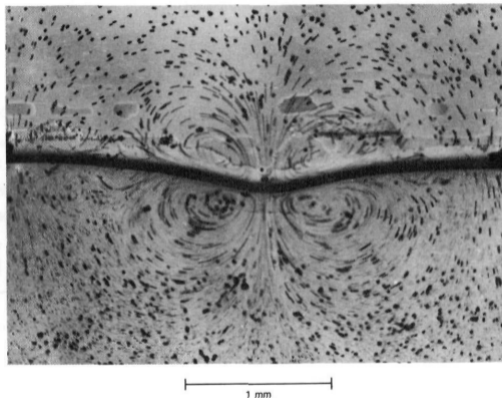
## Présentation du problème: systèmes de Réaction-Diffusion (RD)

Solution de type **GEL**:  $\alpha_i X_1 + \beta_i X_2 \rightarrow \text{produits}_i$ 

$$\frac{\partial [X_i]}{\partial t} = \Delta_{p_i(x)} [X_i] + c_i [X_1]^{\alpha_1} [X_2]^{\beta_i}$$

## Présentation du problème: systèmes de Réaction-Diffusion-Convection (RDC)

Solution PAS de type GEL:



$$\frac{\partial[X_i]}{\partial t} = \Delta_{p_i(x)}[X_i] + k_i[X_1]^{\alpha_i}[X_2]^{\beta_i} + d_{i,1}|\nabla[X_1]|^{\gamma_i} + d_{i,2}|\nabla[X_2]|^{\bar{\gamma}_i}$$



## Présentation du problème

## Systèmes de Réaction-Diffusion-Convection:

$$(S) \begin{cases} -\Delta_{p_i(x)} u_i = f_i(x, u_1, \dots, u_n, \nabla u_1, \dots, \nabla u_n) & \text{dans } \Omega \\ u_i = 0 & \text{sur } \partial\Omega \\ 1 \leq i \leq n \end{cases}$$

n=1: scalaire

n=2: vectoriel

## Termes sources:

$$|f_i(x, s_1, \dots, s_n, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)| \leq c_i(x) s_1^{\alpha_i(x)} s_2^{\beta_i(x)} + d_i(x) |\xi_1|^{\gamma_i(x)} + e_i(x) |\xi_2|^{\bar{\gamma}_i(x)},$$

$$(x, s_i, \xi_i) \in \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N$$

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## Espace fonctionnel de recherche

## Espaces d'Orlicz-Sobolev:

$$\prod_{i=1}^n W_0^{1,p_i(x)}(\Omega)$$

- [1] X. Fan, D. Zhao, *On the spaces  $L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$  and  $W_m^{p(x)}(\Omega)$* , Journal of mathematical analysis and applications, **263.2** (2001), 424-446.

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## Banks' Mean Value Theorem

## Theorem

Let  $f$  and  $\phi$  be real valued functions defined for  $x \in \Omega$  with  $f$  integrable over  $\Omega$  and

$$-\infty < m \leq \phi(x) \leq M < \infty.$$

Let  $\Omega(y) = \{x \in \Omega \mid \phi(x) \geq y\}$ . If

$$0 \leq \int_{\Omega(y)} f(x) dx \leq \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx$$

for all  $y \in [m, M]$ , then there exists a number  $\gamma \in [m, M]$  such that

$$\gamma \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx = \int_{\Omega} f(x) \phi(x) dx.$$



# Proof of Banks' Theorem I

**Step 1:** Banks proves the following equalities

- $\int_{\Omega} f(x)\phi(x)dx = m \int_{\Omega} f(x)dx + \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega(y)} f(x)dx \right) dy$
- $\int_{\Omega} f(x)\phi(x)dx = M \int_{\Omega} f(x)dx - \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega(y)^c} f(x)dx \right) dy$

with

$$\Omega(y) = \{x \in \Omega \mid \phi(x) \geq y\}.$$

**Step 2:** He assumes that

## Proof of Banks' Theorem II

- $\int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega(y)} f(x) dx \right) dy \geq 0$
- $\int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega(y)^c} f(x) dx \right) dy = (M - m) \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx - \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega(y)} f(x) dx \right) dy \geq 0$

**Step 3:** He deduces that

$$m \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx \leq \int_{\Omega} f(x) \phi(x) dx \leq M \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx$$

[1] D. Banks, *An integral inequality*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society 5 (14) (1963), 823-828.

## Adaptated Mean Value Theorem

## Theorem

Let  $u \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$  be the solution of a nonlinear elliptic equation of the form

$$-\Delta_{p(x)}u = h(x) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \quad (1)$$

where  $h$  is a sign-constant function. Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a Lipschitz continuous function satisfying  $-\infty < m \leq \phi(x) \leq M < \infty$  for some constants  $m, M$ . Then, for any sign-constant function  $\phi \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ , there exists a real  $\gamma \in [m, M]$ , depending on  $\varphi$ , such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \phi(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi dx = \gamma \int_{\Omega} h(x) \phi dx. \quad (2)$$



# Proof of the Adaptated Mean Value Theorem I

**Step 1:** We prove the following equalities

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) \phi(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx &= m \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \\
 &+ \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega(y))}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \right) dy \\
 \bullet \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) \phi(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx &= M \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \\
 &- \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega(y)^c)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \right) dy
 \end{aligned}$$

with

$$a_{(\epsilon, \Omega(y))}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\Omega(y) \cap \Omega_{\epsilon}} \star \Psi_{\epsilon}$$

## Proof of the Adaptated Mean Value Theorem II

**Step 2:** We prove that

- $\int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega(y))}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \right) dy \geq 0$
- $\int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega(y)^c)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \right) dy \geq 0$

To do so, we prove the existence of  $v_{(\phi_{\epsilon}, y)}$  such that

$$\nabla v_{(\phi_{\epsilon}, y)} = a_{(\epsilon, A(y))} \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega. \quad (3)$$

## Proof of the Adaptated Mean Value Theorem III

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, A(y))}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \right) dy &= \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla v_{(\phi_{\epsilon}, y)} dx \right) dy \\ &= \int_m^M \left( \int_{\Omega} h(x) v_{(\phi_{\epsilon}, y)}(x) dx \right) dy \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Step 3:** We deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} m \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx &\leq \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) \phi(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \\ &\leq M \int_{\Omega} a_{(\epsilon, \Omega)}(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi_{\epsilon} dx \end{aligned}$$

## Proof of the Adaptated Mean Value Theorem IV

that is, doing  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m \int_{\Omega} h(x) \varphi dx &= m \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi dx \leq \int_{\Omega} \phi(x) |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi dx \\ &\leq M \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi dx = M \int_{\Omega} h(x) \varphi dx \end{aligned}$$

- [1] K. Perera & E.A. Silva, *Existence and multiplicity of positive solutions for singular quasilinear problems*, Journal of mathematical analysis and applications **323** (2006), 1238–1252.
- [2] D.D. Hai, *Singular boundary value problems for the  $p$ -Laplacian*, Nonlinear Analysis: Theory, Methods & Applications **73** (2010), 2876–2881.

## Application 1

## Lemma

Let  $h \in L^\infty(\Omega)$  be a function such that  $\|h\|_\infty \leq 1$ , and let  $u \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$  be the weak solution of the Dirichlet problem

$$-\Delta_{p(x)} u = h(x) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (4)$$

Then, there exists a constant  $\bar{k}_p > 0$  and  $\tau \in (0, 1)$ , depending only on  $p$ ,  $N$ , and  $\Omega$ , such that

$$\|u\|_{1,\tau} \leq \bar{k}_p \|h\|_\infty^{\frac{1}{p^\pm - 1}} \quad (5)$$

with

$$p^\pm := \begin{cases} p^- & \text{if } \|h\|_\infty > 1 \\ p^+ & \text{if } \|h\|_\infty \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

## Proof of Application 1 I

By the MVT, there exists  $x_0 \in \Omega$  such that, for  $\varphi \in \left(W_0^{1,p(\cdot)}(\Omega)\right)_+$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(\|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-1}{p^{\pm}-1}} u)|^{p(x)-2} \nabla(\|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-1}{p^{\pm}-1}} u) \nabla \varphi \, dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-(p(x)-1)}{p^{\pm}-1}} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi \, dx \\ &= \|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-(p(x_0)-1)}{p^{\pm}-1}} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u \nabla \varphi \, dx = \|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-(p(x_0)-1)}{p^{\pm}-1}} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \varphi \, dx \\ &\leq \|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-(p^{\pm}-1)}{p^{\pm}-1}} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \varphi \, dx = \int_{\Omega} \|h\|_{\infty}^{-1} h(x) \varphi \, dx \leq \int_{\Omega} \varphi \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$-\Delta_{p(x)}(\|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-1}{p^{\pm}-1}} u) \leq 1.$$

## Proof of Application 1 II

By Fan's regularity theorem, there exists  $\tau \in (0, 1)$  and  $\bar{k}_p > 0$  such that

$$\|h\|_{\infty}^{\frac{-1}{p^{\pm}-1}} \|u\|_{C^{1,\tau}(\bar{\Omega})} \leq \bar{k}_p.$$

- [1] X. Fan, *Global  $C^{1,\alpha}$  regularity for variable exponent elliptic equations in divergence form*, Journal of Inequalities and Applications 235 (2) (2007), 397-417.

## Application 2

Let  $\zeta_i \in C^{1,\tau}(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $\tau \in (0, 1)$ , be the solutions of the Dirichlet problems

$$-\Delta_{p_i(x)} \zeta_i = m_i d(x)^{\alpha_i(x) + \beta_i(x)} \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \zeta_i(x) = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (6)$$

## Proposition

Assume that  $0 \leq \min\{\alpha_i^-, \beta_i^-\} \leq \alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+ \leq p_i^- - 1$ . Then it holds

$$-\Delta_{p_i(x)} \underline{u}_i \leq m_i \underline{u}_1^{\alpha_i(x)} \underline{u}_2^{\beta_i(x)} \text{ in } \Omega, \quad (7)$$

where  $\underline{u}_i = c_i \zeta_i$ , provided that  $c_i > 0$  is sufficiently small.



## Proof of Application 2 I

From the assumption  $0 \leq \min\{\alpha_i^-, \beta_i^-\} \leq \alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+ \leq p_i^- - 1$ , we may find  $c_i > 0$  small enough so that

$$(c_i k_0)^{\alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+} \geq c_i^{p_i^- - 1}.$$

Let  $\varphi_i \in W_0^{1, p_i(x)}(\Omega)$  with  $\varphi_i \geq 0$ . It holds

$$\begin{aligned} m_i \int_{\Omega} \underline{u}_1^{\alpha_i(x)} \underline{u}_2^{\beta_i(x)} \varphi_i \, dx &= m_i c_i^{\alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+} \int_{\Omega} \zeta_1^{\alpha_i(x)} \zeta_2^{\beta_i(x)} \varphi_i \, dx \\ &\geq (c_i k_0)^{\alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+} m_i \int_{\Omega} d(x)^{\alpha_i(x) + \beta_i(x)} \varphi_i \, dx \\ &= (c_i k_0)^{\alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \zeta_i|^{p_i(x) - 2} \nabla \zeta_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx \\ &\geq c_i^{p_i^- - 1} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \zeta_i|^{p_i(x) - 2} \nabla \zeta_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

## Proof of Application 2 II

Besides, Theorem 2 ensures the existence of  $x_i \in \Omega$  such that,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \underline{u}_i|^{p_i(x)-2} \nabla \underline{u}_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(c_i \zeta_i)|^{p_i(x)-2} \nabla(c_i \zeta_i) \nabla \varphi_i \, dx \\ &= c_i^{p_i(x_i)-1} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \zeta_i|^{p_i(x)-2} \nabla \zeta_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx \leq c_i^{p_i^- - 1} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \zeta_i|^{p_i(x)-2} \nabla \zeta_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we infer that

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla \underline{u}_i|^{p_i(x)-2} \nabla \underline{u}_i \nabla \varphi_i \, dx \leq m_i \int_{\Omega} \underline{u}_1^{\alpha_i(x)} \underline{u}_2^{\beta_i(x)} \varphi_i \, dx,$$

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## Main hypotheses

(H1)  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  ( $N \geq 2$ ) is a bounded domain with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

(H2)  $p_i \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $1 < p_i^- \leq p_i^+ < \infty$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

(H3)  $f_i(x, u_1, u_2, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) is of Carathéodory type.

(H4) There exists constants  $m_i, M_i > 0$  with functions  $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i, \bar{\gamma}_i \in C(\overline{\Omega})$ , s.t.  
 $m_i s_1^{\alpha_i(x)} s_2^{\beta_i(x)} \leq f_i(x, s_1, s_2, \xi_1, \xi_2) \leq M_i \left( s_1^{\alpha_i(x)} s_2^{\beta_i(x)} + |\xi_1|^{\gamma_i(x)} + |\xi_2|^{\bar{\gamma}_i(x)} \right)$   
( $i = 1, 2$ ), for a.e.  $x \in \Omega$  and for all  $s_1, s_2 > 0$ .

(H5)  $0 \leq \min\{\alpha_i^-, \beta_i^-\} \leq \alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+ \leq p_i^- - 1$   
and  $0 \leq \min\{\gamma_i^-, \bar{\gamma}_i^-\} \leq \max\{\gamma_i^+, \bar{\gamma}_i^+\} \leq p_i^- - 1$ .

## Existence theorem

## Theorem

*Under assumptions (H), system (S) has at least one positive nontrivial solution in  $C_0^{1,\nu}(\overline{\Omega}) \times C_0^{1,\nu}(\overline{\Omega})$  for certain  $\nu \in (0, 1)$ .*

For each  $(z_1, z_2) \in C_0^1(\overline{\Omega}) \times C_0^1(\overline{\Omega})$ , we consider the auxiliary problem

$$(S_{(z_1, z_2)}) \quad \begin{cases} -\Delta_{p_i(x)} u_i = f_i(x, z_1, z_2, \nabla z_1, \nabla z_2) & \text{in } \Omega \\ u_i = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \quad i = 1, 2. \end{cases}$$

Now, we introduce the closed, bounded and convex set

$$\mathcal{K}_C = \{(y_1, y_2) \in C_0^1(\overline{\Omega})^2 : \underline{u}_i \leq y_i \text{ in } \Omega \text{ and } \|\nabla y_i\|_\infty \leq C\}, \quad (9)$$

where  $C > 0$  is a constant sufficiently large.

## Proof of the existence theorem I

Define the map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T} : \mathcal{K}_C &\rightarrow C_0^1(\bar{\Omega}) \times C_0^1(\bar{\Omega}) \\ (z_1, z_2) &\mapsto \mathcal{T}(z_1, z_2) = (u_1, u_2)_{(z_1, z_2)}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(u_1, u_2)$  is required to satisfy  $(S_{(z_1, z_2)})$ . We prove that :

- $\mathcal{T}$  is well defined (Browder-Minty's theorem)
- $\mathcal{T}$  is compact (Fan's regularity theorem)
- $\mathcal{T}$  is continuous (Ascoli-Arzela's theorem)
- $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{K}_C) \subset \mathcal{K}_C$  (Weak comparison principle)
- $\mathcal{T}$  has at least one fixed point (Schauder's fixed point theorem)

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# Multiplicity theorem

## Theorem

Let  $Y$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of  $E$  and  $U$  be an open subset of  $Y$ . Assume that the application  $\mathcal{F}$  is compact and differentiable over the set  $U$ , with  $\mathcal{F}(0) = \mathcal{F}'(0) = 0$ , where  $0$  refers to the trivial function of  $E$ , and for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,  $0 \notin (I - t\mathcal{F})(\partial U)$ . Also, suppose the set

$$\Gamma = \{x \in U \setminus \{0\} \mid x = \mathcal{F}(x) \text{ and } 1 \text{ is not an eigenvalue of } \mathcal{F}'(x)\} \quad (10)$$

is not empty. Then

- 1  $\Gamma$  is finite;
- 2 For any  $x \in \Gamma$ ,  $x$  is isolated;
- 3 If  $\text{card}(\Gamma)$  is odd, problem  $x = \mathcal{F}(x)$  possesses at least  $\text{card}(\Gamma) + 1$  nontrivial solutions in  $U$ .





## Proof of the multiplicity theorem I

We prove the following points :

- For each  $x \in \Gamma$ ,  $x$  is isolated (Amann's theorem) (11)

- $\Gamma$  is finite (since  $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma) = \Gamma$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is compact) (12)

- $H_t = (1 - t)I + t(I - \mathcal{F}) = I - t\mathcal{F}$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ . (13)

- $i(\mathcal{F}, U, Y) = i(H_t, U, Y) = i(I, U, Y) = 1$ . (Amann's index fixed point) (14)

- $i(\mathcal{F}, U, Y) = i(\mathcal{F}, U_1, Y) + i(\mathcal{F}, U_2, Y)$ , (15)

- $$i(\mathcal{F}, U, Y) = \sum_{x \in \Gamma \cup \{0\}} i(\mathcal{F}, B(x, \rho), Y)$$
 (16)

$$+ i(\mathcal{F}, U \setminus \{\cup_{x \in \Gamma \cup \{0\}} B(x, \rho)\}, Y). \quad (17)$$

- $i(\mathcal{F}, B(0, \rho), Y) = d(I - \mathcal{F}, B(0, \rho), 0) = d(I - \mathcal{F}'(0), B(0, \rho), 0)$  (18)

$$= d(I, B(0, \rho), 0) = 1. \quad (19)$$

## Proof of the multiplicity theorem II

$$\bullet \sum_{x \in \Gamma} i(\mathcal{F}, B(x, \rho), Y) + i(\mathcal{F}, U \setminus \{ \cup_{x \in \Gamma \cup \{0\}} B(x, \rho) \}, Y) = 0. \quad (20)$$

$$\bullet i(\mathcal{F}, B(x, \rho), Y) = (-1)^m \text{ (Amann's theorem)} \quad (21)$$

- [1] H. Amann, *Lectures on some fixed point theorem*, Conselho nacional de pesquisas, Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada, 1975.
- [2] H. Amann, *Fixed point equations and nonlinear eigenvalue problems in ordered Banach spaces*, SIAM review, 18(4), 620-709, 1976.

## Application I

Consider the nonlinear Dirichlet system

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{p(x)} u = f_1(x, u, v, \nabla u, \nabla v) & \text{in } \Omega \\ -\Delta_{q(x)} v = f_2(x, u, v, \nabla u, \nabla v) & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = v = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} L(u, v) = S(u, v) & \text{in } \Omega \\ (u, v) = (0, 0) & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

If  $(u_1^*, u_2^*) \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) \times W_0^{1,q(x)}(\Omega)$  is a solution of (22) then

$(\phi_1^*, \psi_1^*) = T(u_1^*, u_2^*) \in W^{-1,p'(x)}(\Omega) \times W^{-1,q'(x)}(\Omega)$  is a solution of the fixed point problem

$$\begin{cases} (\phi, \psi) = (S \circ T)(\phi, \psi) & \text{in } \Omega \\ (\phi, \psi) = (0, 0) & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $T$  is the inverse operator of  $L$ .

## Application II

$$\mathcal{F} = S \circ T : L^\infty(\Omega)^2 \rightarrow L^\infty(\Omega)^2$$

We need to prove the following statements :

- $S \circ T$  is compact and differentiable over  $B(0, C) \subset (L^\infty(\Omega))^2$
- $(S \circ T)(0, 0) = (S \circ T)'(0, 0) = (0, 0)$
- $(0, 0) \notin (I - tS \circ T)(S(0, C))$
- $\Gamma = \{(u, v) \in B(0, C) \setminus \{(0, 0)\} \mid (u, v) = S \circ T(u, v)$   
and 1 is not an eigenvalue of  $(S \circ T)'(u, v)\}$  is not empty

- ① Introduction
- ② Mean Value Theory
- ③ Existence of one solution
- ④ Multiplicity theory
- ⑤ Existence of two solutions

## Additional hypotheses

(A1)  $p_i \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $2 \leq p_i^- \leq p_i^+ < \infty$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

(A2) There exists bounded functions  $g : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $h : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^{2N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2N}$  such that for any  $(u_1, u_2), (\Phi_1, \Phi_2) \in X^{-1, p_1'(x), p_2'(x)}(\Omega)$ ,

$$S'(u_1, u_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2] = \langle g(x, u_1, u_2), (\Phi_1, \Phi_2) \rangle \\ + \langle h(x, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2), (\nabla \Phi_1, \nabla \Phi_2) \rangle$$

(A3) There exists  $C > 1$  such that  $C(\|g(\cdot, u_1, u_2)\|_\infty + \|h(\cdot, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2)\|_\infty) < 1$

Typical example :  $S(u, v) = (S_1(u, v), S_2(u, v))$  with

$$S_i(u, v) = c_i(x)u^{\alpha_i(x)}v^{\beta_i(x)} + d_i(x)|\nabla u|^{\gamma_i(x)} + e_i(x)|\nabla v|^{\bar{\gamma}_i(x)}$$

# Existence theorem

## Theorem

*Under assumptions (H) and (A), system (S) has at least two different non-trivial solutions in  $C_0^1(\overline{\Omega}) \times C_0^1(\overline{\Omega})$ .*

- [1] L. Li, *Coexistence theorems of steady states for predator-prey interacting systems*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, 305(1), 143-166, 1988.

Step 1 :  $S \circ T$  is compact and differentiable over  $B(0, C)$ 

$(u_1, u_2) = T(z_1, z_2)$  if and only if  $(u_1, u_2)$  is the solution of the problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{p_1(x)} u_1 = z_1 & \text{in } \Omega \\ -\Delta_{p_2(x)} u_2 = z_2 & \text{in } \Omega \\ (u_1, u_2) = (0, 0) & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

- Existence :  $(u_1, u_2) \in C_0^{1,\alpha}(\Omega)^2$  ( $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ) satisfying (23).
- Compact embedding :  $C_0^{1,\alpha}(\Omega)^2 \hookrightarrow C_0^1(\Omega)^2$
- Inverse compactness :  $T : L^\infty(\Omega)^2 \rightarrow C_0^1(\Omega)^2$  is compact.
- Continuity :  $S : C_0^1(\Omega)^2 \rightarrow L^\infty(\Omega)^2$  is continuous.



Step 2 :  $(S \circ T)(0, 0) = (S \circ T)'(0, 0) = (0, 0)$  !

$(S \circ T)(0, 0) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (0, 0)$  is a solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{p_i(x)} u_i = f_i(x, u_1, u_2, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2) & \text{in } \Omega \\ u_i = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

Since  $L \circ T(g_1, g_2) = (g_1, g_2)$ , it follows for any  $(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) \in L^2(\Omega)^2$  that

$$\begin{aligned} (L \circ T)'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2] &= L'(T(g_1, g_2))[T'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2]] \\ &= L'(u_1, u_2)(T'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2]) = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2), \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

Step 2 :  $(S \circ T)(0, 0) = (S \circ T)'(0, 0) = (0, 0) \parallel$

- $L'(u_1, u_2)(V_1, V_2) = \left( -\operatorname{div}((p_1(x) - 1)|\nabla u|^{p_1(x)-2}\nabla V_1), -\operatorname{div}((p_2(x) - 1)|\nabla v|^{p_2(x)-2}\nabla V_2) \right)$
- $T'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2] = (L'(u_1, u_2))^{-1}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2),$
- $(S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2] = S'(u_1, u_2)[T'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2]] = (0, 0)$

Step 3 :  $(0, 0) \notin (I - tS \circ T)(S(0, C))$ 

Let  $(z_1, z_2) \in B(0, C)$ , and for any  $t \in (0, 1)$   $(u_1, u_2) = \mathcal{T}_t(z_1, z_2)$ , that is

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{p_i(x)} u_i = t f_i(x, z_1, z_2, \nabla z_1, \nabla z_2) & \text{in } \Omega \\ u_i = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow L(u_1, u_2) = tS(z_1, z_2).$$

Then

$$\|u_i\|_{1,\tau} \leq \bar{k}_{p_i} \|f_i(\cdot, z_1, z_2, \nabla z_1, \nabla z_2)\|_{\infty}^{\frac{1}{p_i^{\pm}-1}} \leq \bar{k}_{p_i} M_i \left( C^{\alpha_i^+ + \beta_i^+} + C^{\gamma_i^+} + C^{\bar{\gamma}_i^+} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_i^- - 1}} < C,$$

for  $C$  sufficiently large. It follows that for any  $(z_1, z_2) \in S(0, C)$

$$L(u_1, u_2) \neq tS(z_1, z_2) \Leftrightarrow (I - tS \circ T)(z_1, z_2) \neq (0, 0).$$

Step 4 :  $\Gamma$  is not empty I

## Lemma

Under assumptions (H) and (A), let  $(u_1, u_2) \in C_0^1(\Omega)^2$  satisfying

$$C(\|g(\cdot, u_1, u_2)\|_\infty + \|h(\cdot, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2)\|_\infty) < 1 \quad (25)$$

where  $g, h$  are defined in (A2) and  $C > 1$  is a constant large enough. Consider the set

$$E = \left\{ (V_1, V_2) \in H_0^1(\Omega)^2 \mid 1 = \sum_{i=1,2} \int_\Omega |\nabla u_i|^{p_i(x)-2} |\nabla V_i|^2 dx, \text{ and } \sum_{i=1,2} \int_\Omega |\nabla V_i|^2 dx \leq C \right\},$$

where  $C > 0$  is the same constant as in (25). Then

$$\inf_{(V_1, V_2) \in E} \left\{ \int_\Omega \langle (\Phi_1, \Phi_2) - (S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2], (V_1, V_2) \rangle dx \right\} > 0,$$



Step 4 :  $\Gamma$  is not empty II

## Proposition

*Under assumptions (H) and (A), let  $(u_1, u_2) \in C_0^1(\Omega)^2$  satisfying (25), and  $(g_1, g_2) = L(u_1, u_2)$ . Then 1 is not an eigenvalue of  $(S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2)$ .*

- [1] L. Li, *Coexistence theorems of steady states for predator-prey interacting systems*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, 305(1), 143-166, 1988.

Step 4 :  $\Gamma$  is not empty III

- $(I - (S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2))(\phi_1, \psi_1) = \lambda_1(I - (S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2))(\phi_1, \psi_1) > (0, 0)$
- $(I + P(1, 1) - h(\cdot, u_1, u_2))(\phi_1, \psi_1) > ((S \circ T)'(u_1, u_2) + P(1, 1) - h(\cdot, u_1, u_2))(\phi_1, \psi_1)$   
for any constant  $P > \|g(\cdot, u_1, u_2)\|_\infty$
- $T'(g_1, g_2) : L^2(\Omega)^2 \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)^2$  is compact, linear and positive
- $(S \circ T)'(g_1, g_2)[\Phi_1, \Phi_2] + P(1, 1)(V_1, V_2) - h(\cdot, \nabla u_1, \nabla u_2)(\nabla V_1, \nabla V_2)$  is compact, linear and positive
- $r [(I + P(1, 1) - h(\cdot, u_1, u_2))^{-1} \mathcal{A}(u_1, u_2)] < 1$  (Li's theorem)

*Thank You*