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# Fredholm Alternative for the $p$ -Laplacian: Bifurcation Approach (1st plenary lecture)

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$$\Delta_p u = \operatorname{div}(|\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u), \quad 1 < p < \infty$$

$$|\nabla u| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_N}\right)^2}, \quad x \in \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$$

$$u = u(x_1, \dots, x_N) : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$- \Delta_p u = \lambda |u|^{p-2} u \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = \inf_{\substack{u \in W_0^{1,p} \\ u \neq 0}} \frac{\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p}{\int_{\Omega} |u|^p}$$

principal eigenvalue of  $\Delta_p$

$\Omega$  bdd domain,  $\partial\Omega$  smooth

$\varphi_1$  eigenfunction associated with  $\lambda_1$ ,

$\varphi_1 > 0$  in  $\Omega$ ,  $\varphi \in C^{1,\alpha}(\overline{\Omega})$ ,

$\frac{\partial\varphi_1}{\partial\nu} < 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$

$$-\Delta_p \varphi_1 = \lambda_1 |\varphi_1|^{p-2} \varphi_1 \text{ in } \Omega, \varphi_1|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

We focus on existence and multiplicity

$$-\Delta_p u = \lambda |u|^{p-2} u + f \text{ in } \Omega, u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

for  $\lambda$  close to  $\lambda_1$ !



Fredholm alternative  $p=2$ :

$$-\Delta u = \lambda u + f \text{ in } \Omega, u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

1.  $\lambda \neq \lambda_1$  :  $\forall f \exists!$  sol'n

2.  $\lambda = \lambda_1$  : 2a.  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \exists \infty$  sol'n's

2b.  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \nexists$  sol'n

For  $p \neq 2$  the situation is not that simple (it is more interesting!):

1. For  $\lambda \neq \lambda_1$  ( $\lambda$  close  $\lambda_1$ ),  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0$

1a.  $1 < p < 2, \lambda < \lambda_1$   
1b.  $p > 2, \lambda > \lambda_1$  }  $\Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \exists 3$  sol'n's (at least one  $> 0$ ,  
at least one  $< 0$ )

2. For  $\lambda = \lambda_1$ ,  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi = 0 \Rightarrow \exists$  sol'n

All sol'n's are a priori bounded by a constant which depends on  $f$  !

3. For  $\lambda = \lambda_1$ ,  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \neq 0$ ,  $|\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1| \ll 1$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  2 sol'n's

For details see D., Giorg, Takáč, Ulm (Ind. Univ. Math. J. 2004)

Bifurcation approach :  $p = 2$

$$-\Delta u - \lambda u = f \text{ in } \Omega, u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

$$u = c\varphi_1 + u^T \quad \int_{\Omega} u^T \varphi_1 = 0$$

$$f = a\varphi_1 + f^T$$

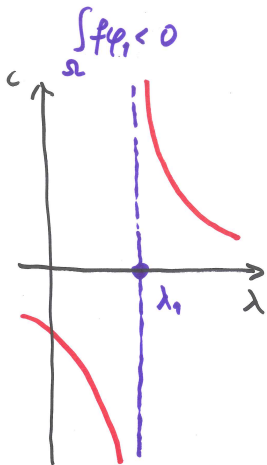
$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u^T - \lambda u^T + (\lambda_1 - \lambda)c\varphi_1 = f^T + a\varphi_1 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u^T|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(\lambda_1 - \lambda)c = a$$

$$c = \frac{a}{\lambda_1 - \lambda}, \lambda \neq \lambda_1$$

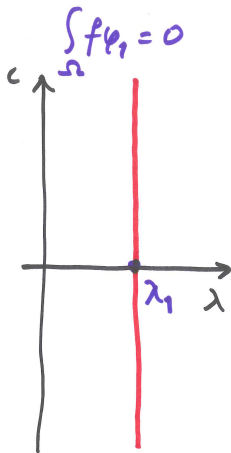
$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u^T - \lambda u^T = f^T & \text{in } \Omega \\ u^T|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$\lambda$  not an eigenvalue!

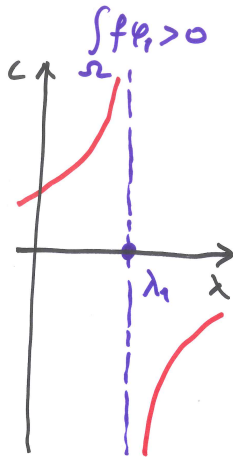


$$\lambda \neq \lambda_1 : c = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda}$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_1 : \nexists c = \dots$$

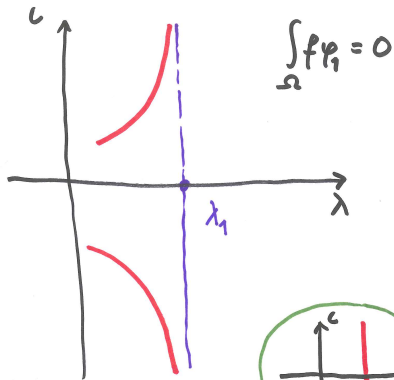


$$\lambda = \lambda_1 : \exists \infty \text{ solns}$$



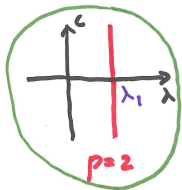


Motivated by the case  $p = 2$  we studied the bifurcation from  $\infty$  at  $\lambda = \lambda_1$ :

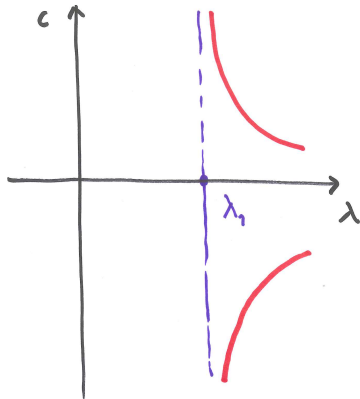


$1 < p < 2$

$$\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0$$

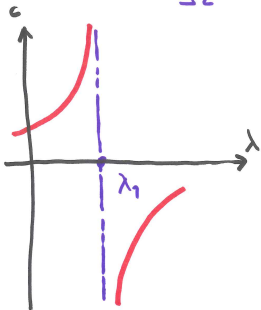


$p = 2$

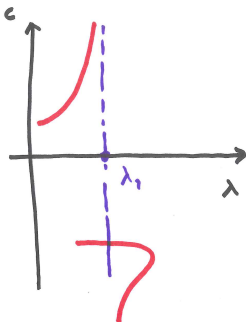


$p > 2$

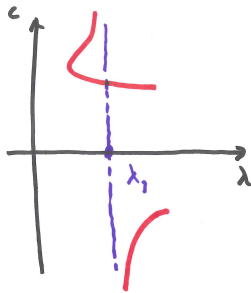
$$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 > 0 :$$



$|a| \gg 1, p > 1$

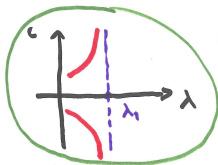


$|a| \ll 1, 1 < p < 2$

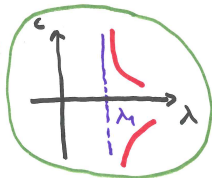


$|a| \ll 1, p > 2$

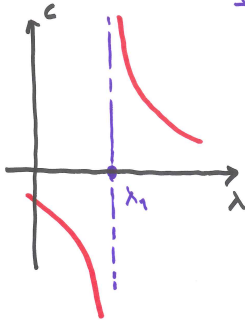
$a = 0:$   
 $1 < p < 2:$



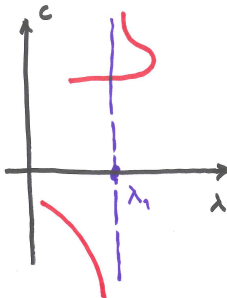
$a = 0:$   
 $p > 2:$



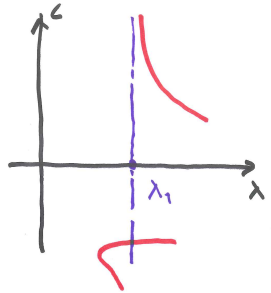
$$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 < 0 :$$



$|a| \gg 1, p > 1$

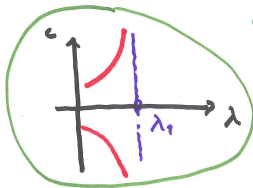


$|a| \ll 1, 1 < p < 2$

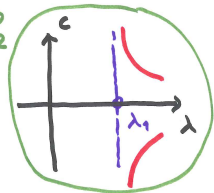


$|a| \ll 1, p > 2$

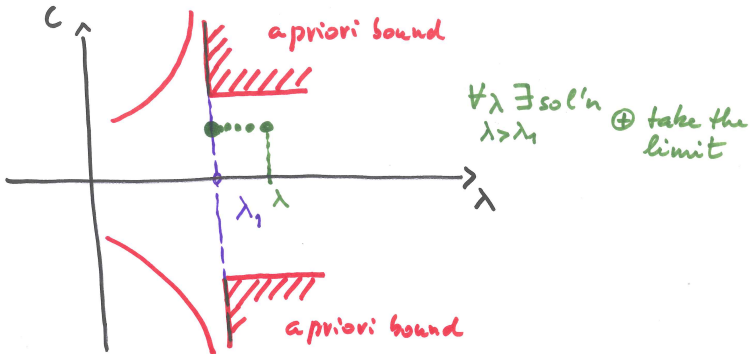
$a = 0$   
 $1 < p < 2$



$a = 0$   
 $p > 2$



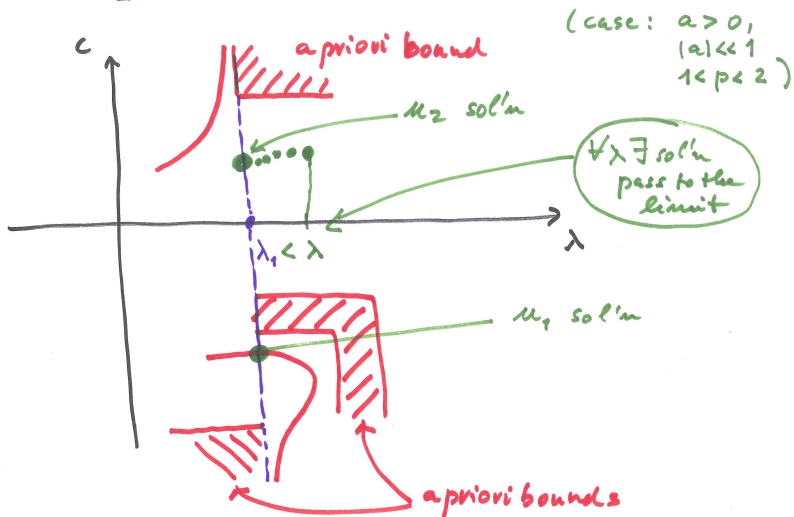
$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0$  : Fredholm alternative at  $\lambda_1$   
 ( $\lambda = \lambda_1$ )



( $1 < p < 2$ )

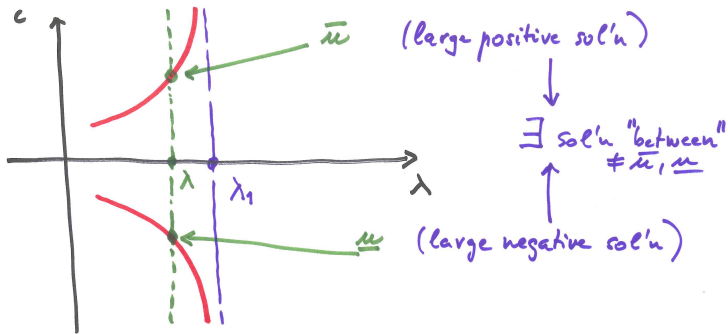
Similarly for  $p > 2$  !

$$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \neq 0, \quad \lambda = \lambda_1 \quad (\exists 2 \text{ sol'n's})$$



$$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0, \quad \lambda < \lambda_1, \text{ close to } \lambda_1, \quad 1 < p < 2:$$

(  $\exists$  3 sol'n's )

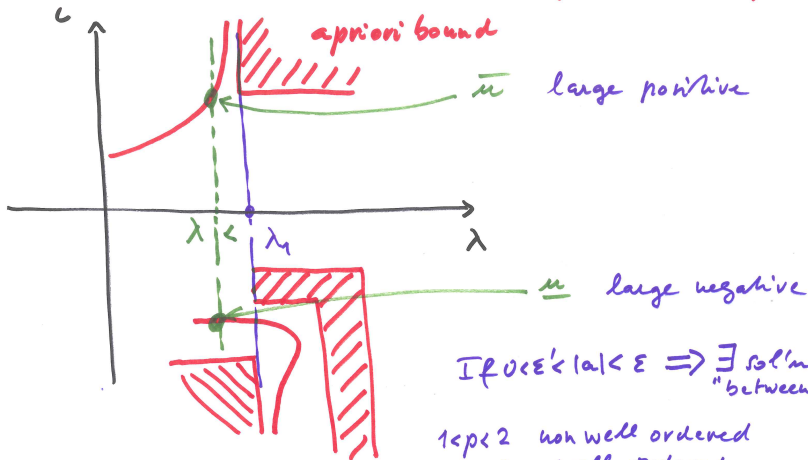


Remark:  $u, \bar{u}$  well-ordered for  $p > 2$   
 non well-ordered for  $1 < p < 2$

Similarly for  $p > 2!$

$$a = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \neq 0, \quad \lambda < \lambda_1, \quad 1 < p < 2, \quad |a| \ll 1$$

"close" ( $\exists$  3 sol'ns)



If  $0 < \varepsilon < |a| < \varepsilon \Rightarrow \exists$  sol'n "between"

$1 < p < 2$  non well ordered  
 $p > 2$  well ordered

Bifurcation from infinity at  $\lambda_1$   
for the  $p$ -Laplacian

$$\underbrace{\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v}_{(I(u), v)} - \lambda \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} |u|^{p-2} u v}_{(S(u), v)} = \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} f v}_{(F, v)}$$

$$u \neq 0 : v = \frac{u}{\|u\|^2}$$

$$I(u) - \lambda S(u) = \frac{F}{\|u\|^{2(p-1)}} = g(u)$$

$g(0) = 0$

$$I(u) - \lambda S(u) = \underbrace{g(u)}_{\text{higher order terms}}$$



$$\tilde{I}(\varphi_1) - \lambda_1 S(\varphi_1) = 0$$

bifurcation from  $(\lambda_1, 0)$  for

$$\tilde{I}(w) - \lambda S(w) = G(w)$$

is transformed by  $v = \frac{w}{\|w\|^2}$  to

bifurcation from  $(\lambda_1, \infty)$  for

$$\tilde{I}(u) - \lambda S(u) = F$$

Global bifurcation result from  $(\lambda_1, 0)$  for the  
 $p$ -Laplacian: Drábek (Annali Mat. Pura  
Appl. 1991).

We get the existence of two global branches which bifurcate from  $(\lambda_1, +\infty)$  ... "asymptotically close" to  $\tau \varphi_1$  with  $\tau \gg 1$

and

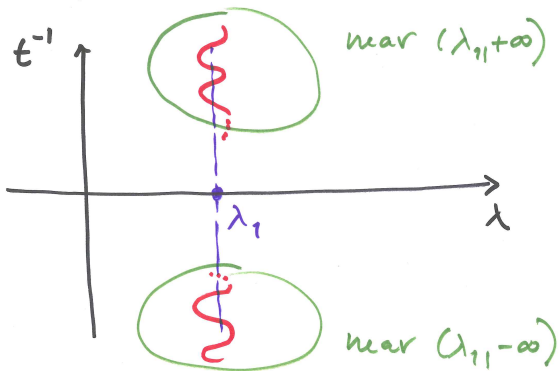
$(\lambda_1, -\infty)$  ... "asymptotically close" to  $-\tau \varphi_1$  with  $\tau \gg 1$

To describe these large sol'ns, we write

$$u = t^{-1}(\varphi_1 + v_t^T) = \underbrace{t^{-1}\varphi_1}_{\text{for } t \rightarrow 0} + \underbrace{t^{-1}v_t^T}_{\text{dominates}}$$

We also write  $\lambda = \lambda_1 + \mu$  and investigate sol'n's on bifurcation branches  $(\lambda, u) = (\lambda + \mu, t^{-1}(\varphi_1 + v\tau))$

with  $\mu, t$  small:



We investigate sol'n's  $u_m = t_n^{-1} \varphi_1 + t_n^{-1} u_m^T$  of

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u_m|^{p-2} \nabla u_m \cdot \nabla \phi = (\lambda_1 + \mu_m) \int_{\Omega} |u_m|^{p-2} u_m \phi + \int_{\Omega} f \phi \quad \forall \phi$$

with  $t_m \rightarrow 0$  and  $\mu_m \rightarrow 0$

and derive

$$\mu_m = -|t_n|^{p-2} t_n \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 + (p-2) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} \underbrace{Q_0}_{\geq 0} + (p-1) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} Q_1 \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 + o(|t_n|^{2(p-1)})$$

For  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0$ :

$$\mu_m = (p-2) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} \underbrace{Q_0}_{\geq 0} + o(|t_n|^{2(p-1)})$$

Choose a test function

$$\phi = |t_n|^{p-2} t_n (\varphi_1 + v_m^T)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \varphi_1 + \nabla v_m^T|^p - \lambda_1 \int_{\Omega} |\varphi_1 + v_m^T|^p \\ = \mu_m \int_{\Omega} |\varphi_1 + v_m^T|^p + |t_n|^{p-2} t_n \int_{\Omega} f(\varphi_1 + v_m^T) \end{aligned}$$

We have:

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla \varphi_1|^p - \lambda_1 \int_{\Omega} |\varphi_1|^p = 0$$

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla \varphi_1|^{p-2} \nabla \varphi_1 \cdot \nabla v_m^T - \lambda_1 \int_{\Omega} \varphi_1^{p-1} v_m^T = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& P \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_0^1 A(\nabla(\varphi_i + s v_n^T)) (1-s) ds \right) \nabla v_n^T \cdot \nabla v_n^T \\
& - P(p-1) \lambda_2 \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_0^1 |\varphi_i + s v_n^T|^{p-2} (1-s) ds \right) (v_n^T)^2 \\
& = \mu_n \left[ \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i^p + p \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_0^1 |\varphi_i + s v_n^T|^{p-2} (\varphi_i + s v_n^T) ds \right) v_n^T \right] \\
& \quad + |t_n|^{p-2} t_n \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_i + |t_n|^{2(p-1)} \int_{\Omega} f v_n^T
\end{aligned}$$

$$V_n^T = \frac{v_n^T}{|t_n|^{p-2} t_n} \rightarrow V^T \neq 0.$$

$$A(\vec{a}) = |\vec{a}|^{p-2} \left( \mathbb{I} + (p-2) \frac{\vec{a} \otimes \vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|^2} \right)$$

leads to the weighted norm :

$$\|v\| = \left( \int_{\Omega} \underbrace{|\varphi_i|^{p-2}}_{\text{weight}} \cdot |v|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \int_0^1 |\varphi_i + s v_m^T|^{p-2} (1-s) ds \right) (v_m^T)^2$$

leads to the weighted norm :

$$\|v\| = \left( \int_{\Omega} \underbrace{|\varphi_i|^{p-2}}_{\text{weight}} v^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Pass to the limit :

$$p \left( \int_{\Omega} A(\nabla \varphi_i) (\nabla V^T)^2 - (p-1) \lambda_n \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i^{p-1} |V^T|^2 \right)$$

$$- \int_{\Omega} f V^T = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{|\Omega_n|^{p-2}} \left( \frac{\mu_n}{|\Omega_n|^{p-2} \Omega} \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i^p + \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_i \right)$$

$$+ p \left( \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i^{p-1} V^T \right) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mu_n}{|\Omega_n|^{p-2} \Omega}$$





$$(p-2) \left[ \int_{\Omega} A(\nabla \varphi_1) (\nabla v^T)^2 - (p-1) \lambda_1 \int_{\Omega} \varphi_1^{p-1} (v^T)^2 \right]$$

$$Q_0 = Q(v^T, v^T) > 0 \text{ for } v^T \perp \varphi_1$$

$$= -(p-1) \underbrace{\left( \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \right) \int_{\Omega} \varphi_1^{p-1} v^T}_{Q_1}$$

$$+ \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{|tn|^{p-2} tn} \left( \frac{\mu_n}{|tn|^{p-2} tn} + \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 \right)$$



and the formula follows:

$$\mu_n = -|t_n|^{p-2} t_n \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 + (p-2) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} Q_0 \\ + (p-1) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} Q_1 \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 + \sigma(|t_n|^{2(p-1)})$$

in particular:  $\int_{\Omega} f \varphi_1 = 0$

$$\mu_n = (p-2) |t_n|^{2(p-1)} Q_0 + \sigma(|t_n|^{2(p-1)})$$

# Thank you for your attention!

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