

The steady-state solution analysis for the degenerate nonlocal parabolic equation

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Abstract

In this paper, we investigate the steady-state solution for the degenerate nonlocal parabolic equation. We prove that the equation corresponds to a unique steady-state solution under certain conditions.

Keywords: Parabolic Equation, The Steady-State Solution, Ohmic Heating, Nonlocal Parabolic Equation.

1. Introduction

In this short paper, we investigate the steady-state solution for the following parabolic equation with nonlocal and degenerate source, i.e.,

$$u_t - \nabla \cdot (u^3 \nabla u) = \frac{\lambda \exp(-u^4)}{\left(\int_{\Omega} \exp(-u^4) dx\right)^2}, \quad (1)$$

where $x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and $t > 0$.

With the homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions as

$$u(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, t > 0 \quad (2)$$

and

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x) > 0. \quad x \in \Omega \quad (3)$$

where $\lambda > 0$ and $\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 < \rho < |x| < R\}$.

In the past several decades, many physical phenomena have been formulated into nonlocal mathematical models. Let us mention, for instance, Lacey [1, 2] has obtained the nonlocal parabolic equations

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \nabla u = \frac{\lambda f(u)}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(u) dx\right)^2}, & x \in \Omega, t > 0, \\ u = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), & x \in \Omega \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

(4)

Where u is the temperature of the heated object.

Eq.(4), as a kind of Ohmic heating model, which comes from the more general parabolic-elliptic equations

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \nabla \cdot (\kappa(u) \nabla u) = \sigma(u) |\nabla \phi|^2, & x \in \Omega, t > 0, \\ \nabla \cdot (\sigma(u) \nabla \phi) = 0, & x \in \Omega, t > 0. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

(5)

Where ϕ is the voltage at the ends of the conductor.

These two equations were studied in [1, 2, 3] and [4-9] respectively.

Investigation on Eq.(1-3) mainly include three problems: the existence and uniqueness of the steady-state solution, the rate of blow-up and asymptotic analysis for the equations.

The work of this paper is motivated by the steady-state source problem

$$\nabla \cdot (w^3 \nabla w) + \frac{\lambda \exp(-w^4)}{\left(\int_{\Omega} \exp(-w^4) dx\right)^2} = 0, \quad (6)$$

(6)

where $x \in \Omega$, $w = 0$ and $x \in \partial\Omega$.

The existence of solution to the problem (6) has closely relationship with the following problem

$$\nabla \cdot (w^3 \nabla w) + \mu \exp(-w^4) = 0, \quad (7)$$

(7)

where $x \in \Omega$, $w = 0$ and $x \in \partial\Omega$.

Here we set $\mu \geq 0$ and $\lambda(\mu) = \mu(\int_{\Omega} \exp(-w^4) dx)^2$.

2. Main Results

The main result of this paper reads as follows:

Theorem 2.1

Assume that $\Omega = \{x \in R^2 : 0 < \rho < |x| < R\}$ and that

$\lambda^* = |\partial\Omega|^2 / 2$, we have

(i) If $0 < \lambda < \lambda^*$, the problem (6) corresponds a solution at least.

(ii) If $\lambda \geq \lambda^*$, the problem (6) have no solution.

Theorem 2.2

Assume that $\Omega = \{x \in R^2 : 0 < \rho < |x| < R\}$ and that

$\lambda^* = |\partial\Omega|^2 / 2$. If $0 < \lambda < \lambda^*$, then we have the problem

(6) corresponds a unique steady-state solution.

3. Proof of Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2

First of all, we prepare some definitions, notations which will be needed in the proof of our results.

We assume $w(r; \mu)$ is radially symmetric, Let $w(r; \mu)$ be a solution of (7). By the maximum principle, from (7), we have

$$(w^3 w_r)_r + \frac{1}{r} w^3 w_r + \mu \exp(-w^4) = 0, \rho < r < R;$$

$$w(\rho) = w(R) = 0$$

(8)

Which implies

$$-(r w^3 w_r)_r = \mu r \exp(-w^4), \rho < r < R,$$

(9)

and

$$-((r w^3 w_r)_r)_r = \mu r^2 w^3 w_r \exp(-w^4), \rho < r < R,$$

(10)

From (9), we obtain a unique solution

$$r_0 = r_0(\mu) \in (\rho, R)$$

Such that

$$w(r_0; \mu) = \max_{[r, R]} w(r; \mu) = M(\mu).$$

Integrating both sides of (9) and (10) over (r, r_0) , we have, for $\rho < r < R$,

$$\frac{1}{2} (r w^3 w_r)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \mu (r^2 e^{-w^4} - r_0^2 e^{-M^4}) + \frac{1}{2} r w^3 w_r,$$

This equality infers that

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} - r w^3 w_r\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \mu (r^2 e^{-w^4} - r_0^2 e^{-M^4}),$$

(11)

Set $L_1(\mu) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \rho^+} r w^3 w_r$ and $L_2(\mu) = \lim_{r \rightarrow R^-} r w^3 w_r$.

From (11), we have

$$L_1(\mu) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \mu (\rho^2 - r_0^2 e^{-M^4})}, & L_1(\mu) \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \mu (\rho^2 - r_0^2 e^{-M^4})}, & L_1(\mu) > \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases}$$

(12)

and $L_2(\mu) = \frac{1}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \mu (R^2 - r_0^2 e^{-M^4})}$

(13)

By the definition of $\lambda(\mu)$, it holds that

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\mu} (L_1(\mu) - L_2(\mu))$$

$$\text{Set } \Gamma(\mu) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\lambda(\mu)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu}} (L_1(\mu) - L_2(\mu)),$$

(14)

Combining (12) and (13), we have

$$\Gamma(\mu) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\mu} + \frac{1}{2} y_1} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\mu} + \frac{1}{2} y_2}, & L_1(\mu) \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\mu} + \frac{1}{2} y_1} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\mu} + \frac{1}{2} y_2}, & L_1(\mu) > \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

(15)

where $y_1 = R^2 - r_0^2 e^{-M^4}$ and $y_2 = \rho^2 - r_0^2 e^{-M^4}$.

Through a series of preparations, we derive a fact of $\Gamma(\mu)$.

Lemma 1

(i) If $L_1(\mu) \leq \frac{1}{2}$, hence $\Gamma(\mu) < (R + \rho) / \sqrt{2}$.

(ii) If $L_1(\mu) > \frac{1}{2}$,

hence $\Gamma(\mu) < (R + \rho) / \sqrt{2} \Leftrightarrow \mu r_0^2 e^{-M^4} > \frac{1}{2}$,

and $\Gamma(\mu) = (R + \rho) / \sqrt{2} \Leftrightarrow \mu r_0^2 e^{-M^4} = \frac{1}{2}$.

Through a series of calculation yields, we can prove the lemma 1. Here we omit the proof of lemma 1 because of the length of the article.

Proof of Theorem 2.1

Proof. Set $y = \frac{1}{2} - r w^3 w_r$. Combining (9) and (11), we have

$$\frac{1}{2} r \frac{dy}{dr} = y^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu r_0^2 e^{-M^4} - \frac{1}{4}. \quad (16)$$

In the case of $\mu = \mu_1$, we then obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} r \frac{dy}{dr} = y^2 \quad (17)$$

Now according to (9), (13) and Lemma 1, we see that there exists $r_1 > \rho$, such that

$$r_1 w^3(r_1; \mu_1) w_r(r_1; \mu_1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Integrating both sides of (17) over (r, r_0) , we have, for $r_1 < r < r_0$,

$$\frac{1}{1/2 - r w^3 w_r} = 2 + 2(\ln r_0 - \ln r),$$

This is a contradiction of the equation for $r \rightarrow r_1$ and we then complete the Proof of Theorem 2.1.

In order to prove Theorem 2.2, We need to derive a fact of the following two problems.

Lemma2

Denote $\mu r_0^2 (\mu) e^{-M^4(\mu)} = 1/2, \mu > 0,$ (18)

We then have a unique solution

$$\mu_I = \frac{(R - \rho)^2}{2\rho^2 R^2 (\ln R - \ln \rho)^2} \quad (19)$$

Proof. From (12), we have $\lim_{\mu \rightarrow \infty} L_1(\mu) = \infty$. Now according to theorem 2.1 and Lemma 1(ii), we obtain

$\mu r_0^2 (\mu) e^{-M^4(\mu)} > 1/2$ and $L_1(\mu) < 1/2$. which implies that there exists μ_I satisfies (18), Integrating

both sides of (17) over (ρ, r_0) and (r_0, R) respectively, we have

$$\frac{1}{1/2 - L_1(\mu_I)} - 2 = 2(\ln r_0 - \ln \rho), \quad (20)$$

and $2 - \frac{1}{1/2 - L_2(\mu_I)} = 2(\ln R - \ln r_0).$ (21)

Using (12) and (13), we infer that

$$\begin{cases} 1/2 - L_1(\mu_I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \mu_I \rho}, \\ 1/2 - L_2(\mu_I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \mu_I R}. \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

Combining (20) to (22), we obtain a unique solution

$$\mu_I = \frac{(R - \rho)^2}{2\rho^2 R^2 (\ln R - \ln \rho)^2}.$$

Lemma3

Denote $L_1(\mu) = \frac{1}{2}, \mu > 0,$ (23)

We then have a unique solution

$$\mu_{II} = \frac{(\arctan \frac{\sqrt{R^2 - \rho^2}}{\rho})^2}{2\rho^2 (\ln R - \ln \rho)^2}. \quad (24)$$

Proof. Similar to the proof of Lemma 2, we have

$$\frac{1}{2} r \frac{dy}{dr} = y^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_{II} \rho^2. \quad (25)$$

Integrating both sides of (17) over (ρ, r_0) and (r_0, R) respectively, we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} \arctan \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} = \ln r_0 - \ln \rho \quad (26)$$

and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} \arctan \frac{1 - 2L_2(\mu_{II})}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} \arctan \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\mu_{II}\rho^2}} = \ln R - \ln r_0$ (27)

From (13), we have

$$1/2 - L_2(\mu_{II}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{II} (R^2 - \rho^2)}. \quad (28)$$

Combining (26) to (28),we obtain a unique solution

$$\mu_{II} = \frac{\rho}{2\rho^2(\ln R - \ln \rho)^2} \cdot (\arctan \frac{\sqrt{R^2 - \rho^2}}{\rho})^2$$

Proof of Theorem 2.2

Proof.Set

$$G(\mu) = \frac{1}{4\mu} - \frac{1}{2}r_0^2 e^{-M^4}$$

(29)

in view of(16),we observe

$$\frac{1}{2}r \frac{dy}{dr} = y^2 - \mu G(\mu)$$

(30)

We have three steps to prove Theorem 2.2.

Step 1 If $0 < \mu < \mu_I$, Using lemma 2,it holds that

$$\mu r_0^2(\mu) e^{-M^4(\mu)} < 1/2,$$

which implies $G(\mu) > 0$. Using lemma 1 and Theorem 2.1,we obtain $L_1(\mu) < 1/2$.

Integrating both sides of (30) over (ρ, r_0) and (r_0, R) respectively,we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} \left(\ln \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}}{1 + 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} - \ln \frac{1 - 2L_1(\mu) - 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}}{1 - 2L_1(\mu) + 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} \right) = 4(\ln r_0 - \ln \rho)$$

(31)

and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} \left(\ln \frac{1 - 2L_2(\mu) - 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}}{1 - 2L_2(\mu) + 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} - \ln \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}}{1 + 2\sqrt{\mu G(\mu)}} \right) = 4(\ln R - \ln r_0)$$

(32)

From (12) and (13),we obtain

$$\begin{cases} 1/2 - L_1(\mu_I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}\mu\rho^2 + \mu G(\mu)}, \\ 1/2 - L_2(\mu_I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}\mu\rho^2 + \mu G(\mu)}. \end{cases}$$

(33)

Combining (31) to (33),we then have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{G(\mu)}} \left(\ln \frac{\sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)} - \sqrt{G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)} + \sqrt{G(\mu)}} - \ln \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)} - \sqrt{G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)} + \sqrt{G(\mu)}} \right) = 4\sqrt{\mu}(\ln R - \ln r_0),$$

which implies $G'(\mu) \neq 0$.

According to the definition of $\Gamma(\mu)$, we have

$$\Gamma(\mu) = \sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)} - \sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)}$$

(34)

Hence, we have $\Gamma'(\mu) > 0$ in the case of $0 < \mu < \mu_I$.

Step 2 If $\mu_I < \mu < \mu_{II}$, Using lemma 2 and lemma 3, it holds that

$$\mu r_0^2(\mu) e^{-M^4(\mu)} > \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } L_1(\mu) < 1/2,$$

which implies $G(\mu) < 0$.

Integrating both sides of (30) over (ρ, r_0) and (r_0, R) respectively,we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} \left(\arctan \frac{1}{2\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} - \arctan \frac{1 - 2L_1(\mu)}{2\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} \right) = 2(\ln r_0 - \ln \rho)$$

(35)

and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} \left(\arctan \frac{1 - 2L_2(\mu)}{2\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} - \arctan \frac{1}{2\sqrt{-\mu G(\mu)}} \right) = 2(\ln R - \ln r_0)$$

(36)

Combining (33)to(36),we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} \left(\arctan \frac{\sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} - \arctan \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} \right) = 2\sqrt{\mu}(\ln R - \ln r_0)$$

Which implies $G'(\mu) \neq 0$, $\mu_I < \mu < \mu_{II}$, Thus

$\Gamma'(\mu) =$

$$G'(\mu) \left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)}} \right) > 0.$$

Step 3 If $\mu > \mu_{II}$, Using lemma 2 and lemma 3, it holds that

$$\mu r_0^2(\mu)e^{-M^4(\mu)} > \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } L_1(\mu) < 1/2,$$

which implies $G(\mu) < 0$. Integrating both sides of (30) over (ρ, r_0) and (r_0, R) respectively, we also obtain (35) and (36). Combining (12) to (13), we obtain

$$\begin{cases} 1/2 - L_1(\mu_l) = -\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}\mu\rho^2 + \mu G(\mu)}, \\ 1/2 - L_2(\mu_l) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}\mu\rho^2 + \mu G(\mu)}. \end{cases}$$

(37)

Combining (35) to (37), we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} \left(\arctan \frac{\sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} + \arctan \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)}}{\sqrt{-G(\mu)}} \right) = 2\sqrt{\mu}(\ln R - \ln \rho),$$

which implies $G'(\mu) \neq 0$.

According to the definition of $\Gamma(\mu)$, we have

$$\Gamma(\mu) = \sqrt{R^2/2 + G(\mu)} + \sqrt{\rho^2/2 + G(\mu)}.$$

Hence, we have $\Gamma'(\mu) > 0$ in the case of $\mu > \mu_{II}$

We then complete the proof of Theorem 2.2.

4. Conclusions

In this paper, we consider the degenerate nonlocal parabolic equation

$$u_t - \nabla \cdot (u^3 \nabla u) = \frac{\lambda \exp(-u^4)}{\left(\int_{\Omega} \exp(-u^4) dx \right)^2},$$

with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition, where $\lambda > 0$, $\Omega = \{x \in R^2 : 0 < \rho < |x| < R\}$.

We prove that in the case of $0 < \lambda < |\partial\Omega|^2/2$, the equation corresponds to a unique steady-state solution.

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