

# Direct and inverse bifurcation problems for nonlinear Sturm-Liouville problems

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## 1 Introduction

We consider the nonlinear Sturm-Liouville problem

$$(1.1) \quad -u''(t) + f(u(t)) = \lambda u(t), \quad t \in I := (0, 1),$$

$$(1.2) \quad u(t) > 0, \quad t \in I,$$

$$(1.3) \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0,$$

where  $\lambda > 0$  is a positive parameter.  $f(u)$  is assumed to satisfy the conditions (A.1)–(A.2):

(A.1)  $f(u)$  is  $C^1$  for  $u \geq 0$  satisfying  $f(u) > 0$  for  $u > 0$ . Furthermore,  $f(0) = f'(0) = 0$ .

(A.2)  $f(u)/u$  is strictly increasing for  $u \geq 0$ . Moreover,  $f(u)/u \rightarrow \infty$  as  $u \rightarrow \infty$ .

The following are the typical examples of  $f(u)$  which satisfy (A.1) and (A.2).

$$(1.4) \quad f(u) = u^p \quad (u \geq 0),$$

$$(1.5) \quad f(u) = u^p + u^m \quad (u \geq 0),$$

$$(1.6) \quad f(u) = u^p \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+u^2}\right) \quad (u \geq 0),$$

where  $p > m > 1$  are constants.

Before stating our result, let us briefly recall some known facts (cf. [1]).

(a) For each given  $\alpha > 0$ , there exists a unique solution  $(\lambda, u) = (\lambda_q(\alpha), u_\alpha) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C^2(\bar{I})$  of (1.1)–(1.3) with  $\|u_\alpha\|_q = \alpha$ . Here,  $\|u_\alpha\|_q$  is the  $L^q$ -norm of  $u_\alpha$ , and  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  is called  $L^q$ -bifurcation curve.

(b) The set  $\{(\lambda_q(\alpha), u_\alpha) : \alpha > 0\}$  gives all solutions of (1.1)–(1.3) and is an unbounded curve of class  $C^1$  in  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times L^q(I)$  emanating from  $(\pi^2, 0)$ . Furthermore,  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  is strictly increasing for  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\lambda_q(\alpha) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

The objective here is to discuss inverse bifurcation problems for nonlinear Sturm-Liouville problems from an asymptotic point of view.

The direct bifurcation problem, that is, for a given nonlinear term  $f(u)$ , the problem to investigate the local and global behavior of bifurcation curve has a long history and has been studied by many authors. We refer to [1-17] and the references therein. However, it seems that there exists a few works concerning inverse bifurcation problems. We only refer to [21].

Recently, the following basic result was obtained in [20].

**Theorem 1.0 ([20]).** *Assume that  $f_1(u)$  and  $f_2(u)$  are unknown to satisfy (A.1)–(A.2). Further, assume that the connected components of the set  $V := \{u \geq 0 : f_1(u) = f_2(u)\}$  are locally finite. Let  $\lambda_2(1, \alpha)$  and  $\lambda_2(2, \alpha)$  be the  $L^2$ -bifurcation curves of (1.1)–(1.3) associated with the nonlinear term  $f(u) = f_1(u)$  and  $f(u) = f_2(u)$ , respectively. Assume that  $\lambda_2(1, \alpha) = \lambda_2(2, \alpha)$  for any  $\alpha > 0$ . Then  $f_1(u) \equiv f_2(u)$  for  $u \geq 0$ .*

Motivated by the result above, we here introduce an asymptotic approach to inverse bifurcation problem for (1.1)–(1.3). To be more precise, we assume that the nonlinear term  $f(u)$  is unknown. Then we show that, if the asymptotic formula for the  $L^q$ -bifurcation curve  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  is known precisely, then we are able to characterize the asymptotic property of  $f(u)$  for  $u \gg 1$ . Here,  $1 \leq q < \infty$  is a constant and we fix it throughout this paper. We call this idea *asymptotic approach for inverse bifurcation problems*.

As for the asymptotic behavior of  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  and  $u_\alpha$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ , it is known from [1] that

$$(1.7) \quad \frac{u_\alpha(t)}{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} \rightarrow 1$$

locally uniformly on  $I$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ . We set  $g(u) := f(u)/u$ . Then as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(1.8) \quad \lambda_q(\alpha) = g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) + \xi_\alpha,$$

where  $\xi_\alpha = O(1)$  is the remainder term. By (1.7), we see that  $\|u_\alpha\|_\infty = \alpha(1 + o(1))$  for  $\alpha \gg 1$ . By this and (1.8), for  $\alpha \gg 1$ ,

$$(1.9) \quad \lambda_q(\alpha) = g(\alpha) + o(g(\alpha)).$$

Motivated by (1.9), as a direct problem, more precise asymptotic formula for  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  has been given in [18].

**Theorem 1.1 ([18]).** *Let  $f(u) = u^p$ , where  $p > 1$  is a given constant. Then as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .*

$$(1.10) \quad \lambda_q(\alpha) = \alpha^{p-1} + C_0 \alpha^{(p-1)/2} + C_1 + o(1),$$

where

$$C_0 = \frac{2(p-1)}{q} C_2, \quad C_1 = \frac{2(p-1)}{q} C_2^2, \\ C_2 = \int_0^1 \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{1-s^2-2(1-s^{p+1})/(p+1)}} ds.$$

The formula (1.10) has been obtained first for  $q = 2$  in [15] by using the relationship between  $\lambda_2(\alpha)$  and the critical value associated with  $\lambda_2(\alpha)$ .

From a view point of Theorems 1.1, we consider the following inverse problem.

**Problem 1.** *Let  $f(u)$  be unknown to satisfy (A.1) and (A.2). Assume that as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$(1.11) \quad \lambda_q(\alpha) = g(\alpha) + Ag(\alpha)^{1/2} + O(1),$$

where  $A > 0$  is a constant. Then can you conclude that  $f(u) = u^p$  for some constant  $p > 1$ ?

To state our results, we assume additional conditions (A.3) and (A.4). We put  $f(u) := u^p h(u)$ .

(A.3)  $h(u)$  is a  $C^1$  function for  $u > 0$ , and there exists a constant  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that  $h(u) \geq \delta_0$  for  $u > 0$ . Furthermore, for an arbitrary fixed constant  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ , as  $u \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(1.12) \quad \max_{\epsilon \leq s \leq 1} \left| \frac{uh'(us)}{h(u)} \right| = O((u^{p-1}h(u))^{-1/2}),$$

$$(1.13) \quad \max_{0 \leq s \leq \epsilon} s^p \left| \frac{uh'(us)}{h(u)} \right| = O((u^{p-1}h(u))^{-1/2}).$$

(A.4) There exists a constant  $0 < \delta_1 \ll 1$  such that for  $(1 + \delta_1)v > u > v \gg 1$ ,

$$(1.14) \quad f(u) = f(v) + f'(v)(u - v) + O(f(v)/v^2)(u - v)^2.$$

The typical examples of  $h(u)$  (i.e.  $f(u)$ ) satisfying (A.3) and (A.4) are:

$$h(u) = 1 \quad (f(u) = u^p), \quad h(u) = 1 + u^{m-p} \quad \left( f(u) = u^p + u^m, \quad 1 < m \leq \frac{p+1}{2} \right).$$

The answer to Problem 1 is as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Assume that all conditions in Problem 1, (A.3) and (A.4) are satisfied. Then  $f(u) = u^p h(u)$  with  $p = 1 + (qA)/(2C_2)$  and  $h(u) = D + d(u)$ , where  $C_2$  is a constant in Theorem 1.1,  $A$  is a constant in (1.11),  $D > 0$  is an arbitrary positive constant and  $d(u) = O(u^{(1-p)/2})$  for  $u \gg 1$ .*

**Remark 1.3.** (i) The next inverse bifurcation problem we consider in a near future should be to establish the *asymptotic uniqueness* of unknown  $f(u)$  from the asymptotic behavior of  $\lambda_q(\alpha)$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

(ii) The condition (A.3) is not technical one. Indeed, if we consider  $f(u) = u^5 e^u$  and  $q = 2$ , then  $g(u) = u^4 e^u$  does not satisfy (A.3), and we know from [16] that as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$

$$(1.15) \quad \lambda_2(\alpha) = \alpha^4 e^\alpha + \frac{\pi}{4} \alpha^3 e^{\alpha/2} + \frac{\pi}{4} u^2 e^{\alpha/2} (1 + o(1)),$$

which is different from (1.11). Therefore, (1.11) does not hold without (A.3).

## 2 Sketch of the Proof of Theorem 1.2

In what follows,  $C$  denotes various positive constants independent of  $\alpha \gg 1$ . We write  $(\lambda, u_\alpha)$  for a unique solution pair of (1.1)–(1.3) with  $\|u_\alpha\|_q = \alpha$ . We begin with the fundamental

tools which play important roles in what follows. It is well known that

$$(2.1) \quad u_\alpha(t) = u_\alpha(1-t), \quad t \in I, \quad \|u_\alpha\|_\infty = u_\alpha\left(\frac{1}{2}\right),$$

$$(2.2) \quad u'_\alpha(t) > 0, \quad 0 \leq t < \frac{1}{2}.$$

Multiply (1.1) by  $u'_\alpha(t)$ . Then

$$(u''_\alpha(t) + \lambda u_\alpha(t) - f(u_\alpha(t))) u'_\alpha(t) = 0.$$

This along with (2.1) implies that

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}u'_\alpha(t)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda u_\alpha(t)^2 - F(u_\alpha(t)) &= \text{constant} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2 - F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty), \quad (\text{put } t = 1/2) \end{aligned}$$

where  $F(u) := \int_0^u f(s)ds$ . We set

$$(2.4) \quad L_\alpha(\theta) = \lambda(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2 - \theta^2) - 2(F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) - F(\theta)).$$

This along with (2.2) and (2.3) implies that for  $0 \leq t \leq 1/2$

$$(2.5) \quad u'_\alpha(t) = \sqrt{L_\alpha(u_\alpha(t))}.$$

By this and (2.1), we obtain

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q - \alpha^q &= 2 \int_0^{1/2} \frac{(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q - u_\alpha^q(t))u'_\alpha(t)}{\sqrt{L_\alpha(u_\alpha(t))}} dt = 2 \int_0^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} \frac{(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q - \theta^q)}{\sqrt{L_\alpha(\theta)}} d\theta \\ &= \frac{2\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_0^1 \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}} ds \\ &= \frac{2\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left\{ \int_0^1 \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{J(s)}} ds + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}} - \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{J(s)}} \right) ds \right\} \\ &= \frac{2\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^q}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (C_2 + M_\alpha), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.7) \quad J(s) := 1 - s^2 - \frac{2}{p+1}(1 - s^{p+1}),$$

$$(2.8) \quad B_\alpha(s) := 1 - s^2 - \frac{2}{\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} (F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) - F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)),$$

$$(2.9) \quad M_\alpha := \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}} - \frac{1-s^q}{\sqrt{J(s)}} \right) ds.$$

**Lemma 2.1.**  $f'(\alpha) \leq C\alpha^{p-1}$  for  $\alpha \gg 1$ .

Lemma 2.1 is proved by direct calculation. So we omit the proof. By (A.3) and Lemma 2.1, for  $\alpha \gg 1$ ,

$$(2.10) \quad C^{-1}\alpha^{p-1} \leq \lambda \leq C\alpha^{p-1},$$

$$(2.11) \quad C^{-1}\alpha^p \leq f(\alpha) \leq C\alpha^p,$$

$$(2.12) \quad C^{-1}\alpha^{p-1} \leq g(\alpha) \leq C\alpha^{p-1}.$$

The following Lemma 2.2 plays essential roles to prove Theorem 1.2.

**Lemma 2.2.**  $M_\alpha = O(g(\alpha)^{-1/2})$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

We tentatively accept this lemma and prove Theorem 1.2. Lemma 2.2 will be proved in Section 3.

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* By Lemma 2.2 and Taylor expansion, for  $\alpha \gg 1$ ,

$$(2.13) \quad \|u_\alpha\|_\infty = \alpha \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\sqrt{\lambda}}(C_2 + M_\alpha) \right)^{-1/q}$$

$$(2.14) \quad = \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{2}{q\sqrt{\lambda}}(C_2 + M_\alpha) + \frac{2(q+1)}{q^2\lambda}(C_2 + M_\alpha)^2(1 + o(1)) \right).$$

By this, Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{f(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} + \xi_\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{q\sqrt{\lambda}}(C_2 + M_\alpha) + O(\alpha^{1-p}) \right) \left( f(\alpha) + \frac{2\alpha}{q\sqrt{\lambda}}f'(\alpha)(C_2 + M_\alpha) + O(\alpha) \right) + \xi_\alpha \\ &= \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} + \frac{2C_2}{q\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( f'(\alpha) - \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} \right) + M_\alpha \frac{2C_2}{q\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( f'(\alpha) - \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} \right) + O(1) \\ &= \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} + \frac{2C_2}{q} \left( f'(\alpha) - \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} \right) (g(\alpha) + Ag(\alpha)^{1/2} + O(1))^{-1/2} + O(1) \\ &= \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} + \frac{2C_2}{q\sqrt{g(\alpha)}} \left( f'(\alpha) - \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} \right) + O(1). \\ &= g(\alpha) + Ag(\alpha)^{1/2} + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that for  $\alpha \gg 1$

$$(2.15) \quad f'(\alpha) - r \frac{f(\alpha)}{\alpha} = O(\sqrt{g(\alpha)}),$$

where  $r := 1 + (qA)/(2C_2)$ . Then we solve (2.15) directly, and easily obtain that  $r = p$ , and for  $\alpha \gg 1$

$$(2.16) \quad f(\alpha) = D\alpha^p + O(\alpha^{(p+1)/2}),$$

where  $D > 0$  is an arbitrary constant. Thus the proof is complete. ■

### 3 Proof of Lemma 2.2.

In this section, we prove Lemma 2.2. Let an arbitrary  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$  be fixed. For  $0 \leq s \leq 1$ , we put

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} K_\alpha(s) &:= J(s) - B_\alpha(s) \\ &= \frac{2}{\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} \{F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) - F(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)\} - \frac{2}{p+1}(1 - s^{p+1}). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} M_\alpha &= \int_0^1 \frac{(1 - s^q)K_\alpha(s)}{\sqrt{J(s)}\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}(\sqrt{J(s)} + \sqrt{B_\alpha(s)})} ds \\ &= \int_{1-\epsilon}^1 \frac{(1 - s^q)K_\alpha(s)}{\sqrt{J(s)}\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}(\sqrt{J(s)} + \sqrt{B_\alpha(s)})} ds \\ &\quad + \int_\epsilon^{1-\epsilon} \frac{(1 - s^q)K_\alpha(s)}{\sqrt{J(s)}\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}(\sqrt{J(s)} + \sqrt{B_\alpha(s)})} ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^\epsilon \frac{(1 - s^q)K_\alpha(s)}{\sqrt{J(s)}\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}(\sqrt{J(s)} + \sqrt{B_\alpha(s)})} ds \\ &:= M_{1,\alpha} + M_{2,\alpha} + M_{3,\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.1.** For  $\alpha \gg 1$

$$(3.3) \quad |M_{1,\alpha}| = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}).$$

*Proof.* By (3.1),

$$(3.4) \quad \frac{K'_\alpha(s)}{2} = -\frac{f(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty} + s^p.$$

This implies that

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{K'_\alpha(1)}{2} = \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\lambda}.$$

Since  $f(u) = g(u)u$ , for  $1 - \epsilon \leq s \leq 1$ , by Taylor expansion, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.6) \quad \frac{K_\alpha''(s)}{2} &= -\frac{f'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{\lambda} + ps^{p-1} \\
&= -\frac{g'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s + g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) + \xi_\alpha} + ps^{p-1} \\
&= -\frac{g'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s + g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \left(1 - \frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}(1 + o(1))\right) + ps^{p-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

We put

$$(3.7) \quad H(s, u) = ps^{p-1} \frac{h(us)}{h(u)} + us^p \frac{h'(us)}{h(u)}.$$

For  $u \gg 1$ ,

$$(3.8) \quad g'(u) = (p-1)u^{p-2}h(u) + u^{p-1}h'(u).$$

By this and (3.6), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.9) \quad \frac{K_\alpha''(s)}{2} &= -H(s, \|u_\alpha\|_\infty) \left(1 - \frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}(1 + o(1))\right) + ps^{p-1} \\
&= ps^{p-1} \left(1 - \frac{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}\right) - \|u_\alpha\|_\infty s^p \frac{h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} H(s, \|u_\alpha\|_\infty)(1 + o(1)).
\end{aligned}$$

By this and mean value theorem, for  $1 - \epsilon < s < s_1 < s_2 < 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.10) \quad \frac{K_\alpha''(s_1)}{2} &= ps_1^{p-1} \left(1 - \frac{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_1)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}\right) - \|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_1^p \frac{h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_1)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} H(s_1, \|u_\alpha\|_\infty)(1 + o(1)) \\
&= ps_1^{p-1} \left(\frac{h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_2)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}\right) \|u_\alpha\|_\infty (1 - s_1) - \|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_1^p \frac{h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s_1)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} H(s_1, \|u_\alpha\|_\infty)(1 + o(1)) \\
&= O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) + O\left(\frac{\xi_\alpha}{g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}\right) \\
&= O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $K_\alpha(1) = 0$ , by (3.5), (3.10) and Taylor expansion, for  $1 - \epsilon \leq s \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.11) \quad \frac{K_\alpha(s)}{2} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(K_\alpha(1) + K'_\alpha(1)(s-1) + \frac{1}{2}K_\alpha''(s_1)(s-1)^2\right) \\
&= \frac{\xi_\alpha}{2\lambda}(s-1) + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2})(s-1)^2.
\end{aligned}$$



By this, (3.1) and Taylor expansion, for  $1 - \epsilon \leq s \leq 1$ ,

$$(3.12) \quad J(s) \geq (p - 1 - \delta_1)(1 - s)^2,$$

$$(3.13) \quad B_\alpha(s) = J(s) - K_\alpha(s) \geq \frac{\xi_\alpha}{\lambda}(1 - s) + \frac{\delta_1}{2}(1 - s)^2.$$

Then we obtain

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} |M_{1,\alpha}| &\leq \int_{1-\epsilon}^1 \frac{(1-s^q)|K_\alpha(s)|}{J(s)\sqrt{B_\alpha(s)}} ds \\ &\leq C \int_{1-\epsilon}^1 \frac{(\xi_\alpha/\lambda) + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{-1/2}))(1-s)}{\sqrt{(\xi_\alpha/\lambda)(1-s) + (\delta_1/2)(1-s)^2}} ds \\ &= C \int_{1-\epsilon}^1 \sqrt{\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\lambda}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-s}} ds + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) \int_{1-\epsilon}^1 \frac{1-s}{\sqrt{(\delta_1/2)(1-s)^2}} ds \\ &\leq C \left( \sqrt{\frac{\xi_\alpha}{\lambda}} + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) \right) = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the proof is complete. ■

**Lemma 3.2.**  $M_{2,\alpha} = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2})$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f(u) = u^p h(u)$ , for  $0 \leq s \leq 1 - \epsilon$ ,

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} K_\alpha(s) &= \frac{1}{\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} \int_{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s}^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} t^p h(t) dt - \frac{1}{p+1} (1 - s^{p+1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(p+1)\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} \left\{ [t^{p+1} h(t)]_{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s}^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} - \int_{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s}^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} t^{p+1} h'(t) dt \right\} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{p+1} (1 - s^{p+1}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\xi_\alpha > 0$ , for  $\epsilon \leq s \leq 1 - \epsilon$ ,

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} \left| \int_{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s}^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} t^{p+1} h'(t) dt \right| &\leq \frac{1}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{p+1}} \int_{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s}^{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty} |t^{p+1} h'(t)| dt \\ &\leq \max_{\epsilon \leq s \leq 1} \left| \frac{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \right| (1 - s) \\ &= O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

By this and mean value theorem, for  $\epsilon \leq s < s_1 < 1 - \epsilon$ ,

$$\left| \frac{K_\alpha(s)}{2} \right| \leq \frac{1}{(p+1)\lambda \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^2} \left\{ \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{p+1} h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) - \|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{p+1} s^{p+1} h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.17) \quad & +O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) - \frac{1}{p+1}(1-s^{p+1}) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{p+1}(1-s^{p+1}) \left( \frac{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{p-1} h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \\
& \quad + \frac{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty^{p-1} s^{p+1}}{\lambda(p+1)} (h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty) - h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)) + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) \\
& \leq \frac{\xi_\alpha}{(p+1)\lambda} (1-s^{p+1}) + \left| \frac{\|u_\alpha\|_\infty h'(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty s)}{h(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)} \right| + O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}) \\
& = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}).
\end{aligned}$$

Note that for  $0 \leq s \leq 1 - \epsilon$ ,

$$(3.18) \quad J(s) \geq \delta_2 > 0.$$

By this and (3.14), for  $\epsilon \leq s \leq 1 - \epsilon$  and  $\alpha \gg 1$ ,

$$(3.19) \quad B_\alpha(s) \geq J(s) - K_\alpha(s) \geq \frac{\delta_2}{2} > 0.$$

Then by this and direct calculation, we obtain

$$|M_{2,\alpha}| \leq C \int_\epsilon^{1-\epsilon} |K_\alpha(s)|(1-s^q) ds = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2}).$$

Thus the proof is complete. ■

**Lemma 3.3.**  $M_{3,\alpha} = O(g(\|u_\alpha\|_\infty)^{-1/2})$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

The proof of Lemma 3.3 is similar to that of Lemma 3.2. So we omit the proof. Since  $\alpha = \|u_\alpha\|_\infty(1 + o(1))$ , Lemma 2.2 follows from Lemmas 3.1–3.3. Thus the proof is complete.

■

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