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Kyoto University
Structure of the stationary solution to Keller-Segel equation in one dimension

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I. Introduction

In the life cycle of cellular slime molds interesting phenomenon can be observed: slime mold first tend to distribute themselves uniformly over the space where a source of food (bacteria) is present. After exhausting their food supply, they begin to aggregate in a number of collecting points. The colony becomes slug form and it migrates to a source of food and forms a multicellular fruting body which is like plant. Eventually the fruting body spreads spores from its top, the spores grow into cellular slime molds.

In 1970 E. F. Keller and L. A. Segel [KS] proposed the equation which describes the aggregation process above:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= a\Delta u - \nabla \cdot \{u\nabla B(\rho)\} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\
\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= d\Delta \rho + fu - g\rho \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\
\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} &= \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\
u(x,0) &= u_0(x), \quad \rho(x,0) = \rho_0(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega.
\end{align*}
\]

Here, \( \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N, \quad N \geq 1 \) is a bounded domain with smooth boundary, \( u(x, t) \) denotes the population density of slime mold and \( \rho(x, t) \) denotes the concentration of chemotactic substance at the position \( x \in \Omega \) and the time \( t \in [0, \infty) \). \( a, \ d, \ f \) and \( g \) are positive constants. \( n \) denotes the outer normal vector of \( \partial \Omega \). \( u_0 \) and \( \rho_0 \) are the initial functions of slime mold and chemotactic substance respectively.

The equation of \( u_t \) is derived from the following fact by experiments: slime molds have a nature that they tend to migrate to chemotactic substance (this migration is called chemotaxis), these substance is secreted by themselves, and another slime molds aggregate to the substance. By this fact flux of \( u \) is presented as \( \overrightarrow{F} = \overrightarrow{F}_{\text{diffusion}} + \overrightarrow{F}_{\text{chemotaxis}} \); \( \overrightarrow{F}_{\text{diffusion}} = -a\nabla u \), \( \overrightarrow{F}_{\text{chemotaxis}} = u\nabla B(\rho) \), the equation of \( u_t \) is nonlinear one which includes diffusion term which is derived from Fick’s law and chemotaxis term. \( B \) is the smooth function of \( \rho \) with \( B'(\rho) > 0 \) for \( \rho > 0 \) which is called sensitivity function. Several forms have been suggested (see e.g. [S]): \( b_0\rho, \ b_0 \log \rho, \ \frac{b_0}{1+\rho}; \ b_0 > 0 \). The equation of \( \rho_t \) is linear one which includes diffusion, production and decrease term. Neumann condition as boundary condition describe reflecion one which means for example experiment by considering \( \Omega \) as schale.
Non-constant solution $u$ means that slime mold do not distribute uniformly. If $u(x_0)$ has much larger value than $u(x)$, $x$ in around $x_0$, we can interpret it as aggregation happens at $x_0$.

There are several results for each $B$ like above. As for stationary problem, existence and non-existence of non-constant solution is studied by bifurcation theory ($B$ is general like above) [S], existence of non-constant solution and position of aggregation part by variational methods ($B(\rho) = b_0 \log \rho$) [NT]. As for evolutional problem, existence of time local and global solution is studied ($B$ is general like above) [Y], blow up problem (mainly $B(\rho) = b_0 \rho$) [HV] [NSY]. Approximation method is also studied in [NY].

In this report, we consider the case when $N = 1$, $\Omega = (\alpha, \beta)$, $-\infty < \alpha < \beta < \infty$:

\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} B(\rho) \right) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\
\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= d \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} + fu - g\rho \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\
\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(\alpha, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(\beta, t) = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}(\alpha, t) = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}(\beta, t) &= 0 \quad \text{for } t \in (0, \infty), \\
u(x, 0) &= u_0(x), \quad \rho(x, 0) = \rho_0(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega.
\end{align*}

We assume following condition on $B$. Let $B'(\rho) = b(\rho)$,

\[ |b^{(i)}(\rho)| \leq b_0 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\rho^k} \right) \] for positive constant $b_0$,

where $i = 0, 1$, $k = k(i) \geq 0$. Under this assumption $B$ contains the all functions which are presented above.

For this system, we investigate the asymptotic behavior of solution by constructing attractor.

**II. Main theorems**

We can get the following two theorems about global solution and global attractor:

**Theorem 1** (global solution)

If

\[ u_0 \in L^2(\Omega), \quad u_0(x) \geq 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \rho_0 \in H^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}(\Omega), \quad \rho_0(x) > 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad 0 < \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}, \text{ fixed}, \]

then there exists a unique solution $u$, $\rho$ such that

\[ u \in C((0, \infty); H^1(\Omega)) \cap C([0, \infty); L^2(\Omega)) \cap C^1((0, \infty); \{H^1(\Omega)\}'), \]

\[ \rho \in C((0, \infty); H^2(\Omega)) \cap C([0, \infty); H^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}(\Omega)) \cap C^1((0, \infty); L^2(\Omega)). \]
Theorem 2 (global attractor)
Let $l$ an arbitrary positive constant and

$$X_l = \{(u, \rho) \in L^2(\Omega) \times H^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(\Omega); u(x) \geq 0, \rho(x) > 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \int_{\Omega} u(x) dx = l\},$$

where $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$, fixed. Then there exists a global attractor of $X_l$.\[\blacksquare\]

Global attractor $A_l$ is defined as follows (see e.g. [Te]):

Definition (global attractor)
We say that $A_l$ of $X_l$ is a global attractor for the semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ if $A_l$ is compact attractor that attracts the bounded sets of $X_l$, that is,

$$d(S(t)B, A_l) \to 0 \text{ as } t \to 0$$

for all bounded set $B$ in $X_l$.

Here, we define $d$ as semidistance of two sets $B_0$, $B_1$:

$$d(B_0, B_1) = \sup_{x \in B_0} \inf_{y \in B_1} \|x - y\|_{L^2 \times H^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}}.$$ 

Remark
In $N = 2$, for $B(\rho) = b_0 \rho$, $b_0 > 0$ if $l$ is sufficiently small and $\rho_0 \in H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega)$, $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$, fixed, then theorem 1 and theorem 2 hold.\[\blacksquare\]

III. Proof of theorems

We give the sketch of proof. Proof consists of several steps as following:

i) Existence of local solution.

ii) Smoothing effect.

iii) A priori estimate from below.

iv) A priori estimate from above.

v) Existence of attractor.

i) Existence of local solution

We first note the theorem on abstract evolution equation.

Let $V$, $H$ are separable Hilbert spaces such that $V$ is dense and compactly embedded in $H$ and their norms are $\|\cdot\|_V$ and $|\cdot|_H$ respectively. We also set space $V'$ such that $H$ is compactly embedded in $V'$ by identifying $H$ and $H'$. We denote the norm of $V'$ by $\|\cdot\|_{V'}$. 
We consider equation:

\[
\begin{cases}
\frac{dU}{dt} + AU = F(U), & 0 < t < \infty, \\
U(0) = U_0.
\end{cases}
\]

(AP)

We define assumptions on $A$ and $F$.

(Ai) $A$ is a bounded linear operator from $V$ to $V'$ and satisfying

\[
\langle AU, U \rangle_{V' \times V} \geq \delta \|U\|_V^2
\]

for some positive constant $\delta$.

(Fi) There exists constant $\theta$ such that $0 \leq \theta < 1$ and function $\phi$ from $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ which is smooth, increasing and satisfying

\[
\|F(U)\|_{V'} \leq C(\|U\|_V^\theta + 1)\phi(|U|_H)
\]

for all $U \in V$ and some positive constant $C$.

(Fii) There exists function $\psi$ from $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ which is smooth, increasing and satisfying

\[
\langle F(U) - F(\bar{U}), U - \bar{U} \rangle_{V' \times V} \leq C(\|U\|_V + \|\bar{U}\|_V)\psi(|U|_H + |\bar{U}|_H)\|U - \bar{U}\|_V
\]

for all $U, \bar{U} \in V$ and some positive constant $C$.

Under these assumptions, we can get the theorem:

**Theorem 3**

Assume (Ai), (Fi), (Fii) for (AP). Then for all $U_0 \in H$ there exists $T(U_0) > 0$ such that there exists unique weak solution and satisfying

\[
U \in L^2(0, T(U_0); V) \cap C([0, T(U_0)]; H) \cap H^2(0, T(U_0); V').
\]

Proof is derived by a priori estimate and Galerkin method [OY], [RY].

Let us apply this theorem to (KS). We formulate (KS) as (AP) with

\[
A, F : H^1(\Omega) \times H^{3/2+\epsilon}_n(\Omega) \to H^1(\Omega)' \times H^{3/2-\epsilon}(\Omega)',
\]

\[
A = \begin{bmatrix}
-a\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + a & 0 \\
0 & -d\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + g
\end{bmatrix},
F(U) = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(ub(\rho)\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}) \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(fu(\rho)\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x})
\end{bmatrix},
U = \begin{bmatrix}
u \\
\rho
\end{bmatrix},
\]

where $H^s_n = \{u \in H^s(\Omega); u'(\alpha) = u'(\beta) = 0\}$, for $s > 3/2$.

Then, if $u_0 \in L^2(\Omega), u_0(x) \geq 0$ in $\Omega$, $\rho_0 \in H^{3/2+\epsilon}(\Omega)$, $\rho_0(x) > 0$ in $\Omega$, then (KS) has a unique weak solution $u$ and $\rho$ locally in time, that is, there exist $T = T_{u_0, \rho_0} > 0$, such that $u$ and $\rho$ locally in time satisfy (KS), $u \geq 0$, $\rho > 0$ for $t \in [0, T]$ and

\[
u \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap H^1(0, T; H^1(\Omega)'),
\]

\[
\rho \in L^2(0, T; H^{3/2+\epsilon}_n(\Omega)) \cap C([0, T]; H^{3/2+\epsilon}(\Omega)) \cap H^1(0, T; H^{3/2-\epsilon}(\Omega')).
\]
ii) **Smoothing effect**

In this step also we note the following theorem for (AP) about regularity of solution. We define another assumptions on $A$ and $F$.

(Aii) $A$ is a linear operator from $\mathcal{D}(A)$ to $V'$ which is generator of analytic semigroup $\{e^{-tA}\}_{t\geq 0}$.

(Fiii) There exists constants $\gamma$, $\eta$ such that $0 < \eta < \gamma < 1$ and function $\mu$ from $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ which is smooth, increasing and satisfying

$$
\|F(U) - F(\tilde{U})\|_{V'} \leq \mu(\|A^\gamma U\|_{V'} + \|A^\gamma \tilde{U}\|_{V'}) \|A^\eta(U - \tilde{U})\|_{V'}
$$

for all $U, \tilde{U} \in \mathcal{D}(A), \mathcal{D}(A^\gamma), \mathcal{D}(A^\eta)$.

Under these assumptions, we can get the following theorem:

**Theorem 4**

Assume (Aii), (Fii), (Fiii) for (AP). If $U_0 \in \mathcal{D}(A^\gamma)$, then there exists unique strict solution and satisfying

$$
U \in C((0, T(U_0)]; \mathcal{D}(A)) \cap C([0, T(U_0)]; \mathcal{D}(A^\gamma)) \cap C^1((0, T(U_0)]; V').
$$

Proof is derived by semigroup method [OY].

Applying this theorem to local solution in i) with $\mathcal{D}(A^\gamma) = H^{2\gamma - 1} \times H_n(\Omega)^{2\gamma 1} \times H_{\partial}(\Omega)$, we get the result of regularity of solution to (KS).

iii) **A priori estimate from below**

We get a priori estimate from below by virtue of the second equation of (KS) which has production and decrease term:

Let $(u_0, \rho_0) \in X_1$ and $(u, \rho)$ be solution to (AP). Then $u \geq 0$, $\rho > 0$ for $t > 0$ and there exists $T_i > 0$, $\delta_i > 0$ such that $\rho > \delta_i$, for $t \geq T_i$,

where $T_i$, $\delta_i$ is independent on $u_0$, $\rho_0$.

iv) **Apriori estimate from above**

**Step1** Integrating the first equation of (KS) in $\Omega$ gives

$$
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u(x) dx = 0
$$

by Neumann condition, then $\|u(t)\|_{L^1} = l$, $t \geq 0$.

**Step2** Integrating the second equation of (KS) in $\Omega$ gives differential equation

$$
\frac{d}{dt} \|\rho(t)\|_{L^1} = f\|u\|_{L^1} - g\|\rho\|_{L^1}.
$$
Solving this in $\|\rho\|_{L^1}$,
\[ \|\rho(t)\|_{L^1} = \left(\|\rho_0\|_{L^1} - \frac{f_{1}}{g}\right)e^{-st} + \frac{f_{1}}{g}, \quad t \geq 0. \]

**Step 3** From Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequality:
\[ \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C\|u\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{2}{3}}\|u\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{ for all } u \in H^1(\Omega), \]
we get
\[ \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \varepsilon_1\|u\|_{L^2}^2 + \varepsilon_1\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^1}^2 + \frac{C_i}{\varepsilon_1}. \]
Hence,
\[ \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \varepsilon_1\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^1}^2 + \frac{C_i}{\varepsilon_1}. \]  \(1\)

**Step 4** Multiplying the first equation of (KS) by $u$ and integrating the product in $\Omega$, and noting $|b(\rho)| \leq b_0(1 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}) \leq C_i$ and $\int_{\Omega} u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} u^2 \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} dx$, then
\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt}\|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq -a\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^1}^2 + \varepsilon_2 C_i\|u\|_{L^4}^4 + \frac{C_i}{\varepsilon_2}\|\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}\|_{L^2}^2, \]
for positive constant $\varepsilon_2$.

From Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequality:
\[ \|u\|_{L^4(\Omega)} \leq C\|u\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{2}}\|u\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ for all } u \in H^1(\Omega), \]
we get
\[ \|u\|_{L^4}^4 \leq C^2\left(\|u\|_{L^2}^2 + \||\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2\right). \]
Taking $\varepsilon_2$ so small as $-a + \varepsilon_2 C_i C^2 < 0$, then
\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt}\|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \varepsilon_2 C_i\|u\|_{L^4}^4 - a_{\varepsilon_2}\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{C_i}{\varepsilon_2}\|\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}\|_{L^2}^2. \]  \(2\)

Next, multiplying the second equation by $\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}$ and integrating in $\Omega$, thanks to Schwartz inequality,
\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt}\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \frac{f}{\varepsilon_3}\|u\|_{L^2}^2 - g\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 - d_{\varepsilon_3}\|\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}\|_{L^2}^2, \]  \(3\)
where $-d_{\varepsilon_3} = -d + \varepsilon_3 f$ by taking $\varepsilon_3$ so small as $-d_{\varepsilon_3} < 0$.

Multiplying (3) by positive constant $K$ and add the inequality to (2) and using the inequality (1), then we get differential inequality:
\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt}\left(\|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + K\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}(t)\|_{L^2}^2\right) \leq -g\left(\|u\|_{L^2}^2 + K\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2\right) + C_i \]
by taking $K$ as $-d_{3}sK + \frac{C_{3}}{s^{2}} = 0$, and $\epsilon_{2}$ as $-\epsilon_{3} + \epsilon_{1}(\epsilon_{2}C_{3} + \frac{1}{K} + g) = 0$.

Solving this,

$$
\|u\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + K\left\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\right\|_{L^{2}}^{2} = \left(\|u_{0}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + K\left\|\frac{\partial \rho_{0}}{\partial x}\right\|_{L^{2}}^{2} - \frac{C_{3}}{2g}\right)e^{-2gt} + \frac{C_{1}}{2g}.
$$

(4)

**Step 5** Multiplying the second equation by $\rho$ and integrating the product in $\Omega$, then

$$
\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\|\rho(t)\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \leq \frac{f}{\epsilon_{4}}\|u\|_{L^{2}}^{2}g \epsilon_{4}\|\rho\|_{L^{2}}^{2} - d\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\|_{L^{2}}^{2}
$$

From (4),

$$
\frac{d}{dt}\|\rho(t)\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \leq -\epsilon_{4}\|\rho\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + 2\frac{f}{\epsilon_{4}}\left(C_{u0,e}e^{-2gt} + \frac{C_{1}}{2g}\right)
$$

Solving this,

$$
\|\rho(t)\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \leq C_{u0,e}e^{-2g_{4}t} + \frac{C_{1}}{2g}.
$$

**Step 6** First we note the next proposition.

**Proposition**

For solutions $u, \rho$ of $(KS)$

$$
\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\left(\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(t)\|_{L^{2}}^{2} - \leq a\|\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial x^{2}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + L(t)\|\frac{\partial^{3}u}{\partial x^{3}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + L(t),
$$

where $L(t) = C_{u0,e}e^{-2gt} + C_{1}, \quad \bar{g} > 0$ for $t \geq T_{1}$.

Sketch of proof is following. Multiplying the first equation of $(KS)$ by $\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}$, then

$$
\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \leq -a\|\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial x^{2}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + C_{1}\left(\|\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial x^{2}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + L(t)\|\frac{\partial^{3}u}{\partial x^{3}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + L(t)\right).
$$

We can estimate the latter three terms by Hölder's inequality and next inequality [Ta]

$$
\|u\|_{W^{m,r}} \leq C\left(\|u\|^{a}_{L^{2}}\|\frac{\partial^{m}u}{\partial x^{m}}\|_{L^{2}}^{a} + \|u\|_{L^{p}}\right)
$$

for $u \in W^{m,p}(\Omega)$, where $m$ and $j$ are integers satisfying $0 \leq j < m$, $1 \leq p < \infty$, $m - j - \frac{1}{p}$ is not a nonnegative integer, $\frac{j}{m} \leq a \leq 1$, $\frac{1}{r} = j + \frac{1}{p} - am \geq 0$, and $C$ is constant. Then we get the estimate in proposition.

Next we introduce another differential inequality. Operating $\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}$ and multiplying $\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}$ to the second equation of $(KS)$, and integrating the product in $\Omega$, then

$$
\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\|\frac{\partial^{2}\rho}{\partial x^{2}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \leq \frac{f}{\epsilon_{4}}\|\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} - g\|\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial x^{2}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} - d_{4}\|\frac{\partial^{3}\rho}{\partial x^{3}}\|_{L^{2}}^{2}.
$$

(6)
Multiplying positive constant $M$ by (4) and add (5) and (6), then we get differential inequality and solving it,

$$M||u||_{L^2}^2 + \|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 + KM\|\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \left(M||u_0||_{L^2}^2 + \|\frac{\partial \rho_0}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 + KM\|\frac{\partial \rho_0}{\partial x}\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\frac{\partial^2 \rho_0}{\partial x^2}\|_{L^2}^2 - \frac{L(t)}{2\overline{M}}\right)e^{-2\tilde{M}t} + \frac{L(t)}{2\overline{M}}.$$ 

v) Existence of attractor

Let us apply the known theorem about existence of attractor ([Te], theorem1.1.).

**Theorem 5 (Existence of global attractor)**

We assume that $H$ is a metric space and semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t\geq 0}$ on $H$ is continuous and uniformly compact for large $t$.

If there exists a bounded set $B$ of $H$ such that $B$ is absorbing in $H$, then the $\omega$-limit set of $B$, $A = \omega(B)$ is a global attractor.

By applying this theorem with $H = \bigcup_{t \geq T_1} S(t)X_I$, we get the existence of global attractor $A$ of $X_I$. 

**References**


