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Abstract

Full Text

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Physical Chemistry

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On a Stationary Solution for a System of Equations of Combustion Theory

(Presented by Academician Ya. B. Zel'dovich on 6 IX 1962)

The one-dimensional process of combustion of a combustible gas mixture is described by the system (see ⁽¹⁾)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= f(u)v, \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} - \lambda \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} &= -f(u)v. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Here u is the temperature of the mixture; v is the concentration of the active substance; $f(u)v$ is the reaction rate; $f(u) = 0$ for $u < \alpha$; $f(u) > 0$ for $u > \alpha$; $\lambda = D\rho c/k$; D is the diffusion coefficient; ρ is the density of the substance; c is its heat capacity, k is the coefficient of thermal conductivity.

A solution of system (1) of the form

$$u = \tilde{u}(x + mt + C), \quad v = \tilde{v}(x + mt + C), \quad (2)$$

where

$$m = \text{const} > 0, \quad C = \text{const}, \quad \tilde{u}(-\infty) = u_- < \alpha, \quad \tilde{u}(+\infty) = u_+ > \alpha,$$

$$\tilde{v}(-\infty) = v_- > 0, \quad \tilde{v}(+\infty) = 0,$$

is called stationary. For $\lambda = 1$, system (1) reduces to a single equation. The existence of a stationary solution for this equation was proved in ⁽¹⁾. There, the stationary solution for system (1) is also considered. In the present paper, the existence of the latter is proved for arbitrary $\lambda > 0$, and uniqueness for $0 < \lambda < 1$.

Let $\xi = x + mt$. Then the stationary solution will satisfy the system

$$m \frac{du}{d\xi} - \frac{d^2u}{d\xi^2} = f(u)v, \quad m \frac{dv}{d\xi} - \lambda \frac{d^2v}{d\xi^2} = -f(u)v. \quad (1')$$

This system has the first integral

$$m(u + v) - \frac{du}{d\xi} - \lambda \frac{dv}{d\xi} = C = \text{const}. \quad (3)$$

It is natural to assume that the stationary solution also satisfies the conditions

$$\left. \frac{du}{d\xi} \right|_{\xi=\pm\infty} = \left. \frac{dv}{d\xi} \right|_{\xi=\pm\infty} = 0. \quad (2')$$

From (3), (2), and (2') it follows that the numbers u_+ , u_- , v_- must satisfy the additional restriction $u_+ = u_- + v_-$.

Thus, it is required to prove that, for some $m = m_0$, there exists a solution of system (1') satisfying conditions (2) and (2'). Here it is assumed that $u_- < \alpha < u_+$, $v_- > 0$, $u_+ = u_- + v_-$. We replace the second equation of system (1') by the integral (3), where $C = mu_+$ (by virtue of the boundary conditions). Put $du/d\xi = p$. We shall regard u as the independent variable. Then instead of system (1') we obtain the system

$$\frac{dp}{du} = m - \frac{f(u)v}{p}, \quad \frac{dv}{du} = \frac{m}{\lambda p} (u + v - u_+) - \frac{1}{\lambda}. \quad (4)$$

Instead of conditions (2) and (2') we obtain the conditions

$$v|_{u=u_-} = v_-, \quad v|_{u=u_+} = 0, \quad p|_{u=u_-} = p|_{u=u_+} = 0. \quad (5)$$

It can be shown that through the singular point $u = u_+$, $v = 0$, $p = 0$ there pass three integral curves of system (4). Moreover, for two of them $p < 0$ for $u < u_+$ in a sufficiently small neighborhood of u_+ , and for one $p > 0$ for the same u . Only the last of these curves is meaningful to consider. Let $p = p(u, m)$, $v = v(u, m)$ be its equations. From the second equation of system (4), where $p = p(u, m)$, we find

$$v(u, m) = u_+ - u + \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \int_u^{u_+} \exp \left[-\frac{m}{\lambda} \int_u^{u_2} \frac{du_1}{p(u_1, m)} \right] du_2. \quad (6)$$

It follows from (6) that for $u < u_+$, in some neighborhood of u_+ , the inequalities

$$u_+ - u < v < \frac{1}{\lambda}(u_+ - u) \quad \text{for } \lambda < 1; \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda}(u_+ - u) < v < u_+ - u \quad \text{for } \lambda > 1. \quad (7')$$

hold.

Let $p = p_1(u, m)$ be the separatrix of the saddle at the point $u = u_+$, $p = 0$ for the equation $dp/du = m - f(u)(u_+ - u)/p$, passing above the u -axis for $u < u_+$; let $p = p_2(u, m)$ be the separatrix of the same kind for the equation $dp/du = m - f(u)(u_+ - u)/\lambda p$. For $u < u_+$ the inequalities

$$p_1(u, m) < p(u, m) < p_2(u, m) \quad \text{for } \lambda < 1; \quad (8)$$

$$p_2(u, m) < p(u, m) < p_1(u, m) \quad \text{for } \lambda > 1. \quad (8')$$

hold.

Indeed, we have, for example,

$$\frac{d\Delta p}{du} - \frac{f(u)(u_+ - u)}{pp_1} \Delta p = -\frac{f(u)}{p} [v - (u_+ - u)], \quad \Delta p = p - p_1.$$

Solving this equation under the condition $\Delta p|_{u=u_+} = 0$ and using (7) and (7'), we obtain $p_1(u, m) < p(u, m)$ for $\lambda < 1$; $p(u, m) < p_1(u, m)$ for $\lambda > 1$. From inequalities (8) and (8') it follows that the solution $p = p(u, m)$, $v = v(u, m)$ can be continued to the whole interval $u_- < u < u_+$. Direct calculation shows that the functions $p_1(u, m)$ and $p_2(u, m)$ are strictly positive for $m = 0$, $u_- \leq u < u_+$. As m increases, the quantities $p_1(u_-, m)$ and $p_2(u_-, m)$ decrease, and there exist such positive numbers m_1 and m_2 ⁽¹⁾ that $p_1(u_-, m_1) = 0$, $p_2(u_-, m_2) = 0$, $p_1(u, m_1) > 0$ for $u_- < u < u_+$; $p_2(u, m_2) > 0$ for $u_- < u < u_+$. Then, by virtue of (8) and (8'), there is an $m = m_0 > 0$ such that $p(u_-, m_0) = 0$, $p(u, m_0) > 0$ for $u_- < u < u_+$.

The equality $v(u_-, m_0) = v_-$ is then obtained automatically from (6). Thus, the curve $p = p(u, m_0)$, $v = v(u, m_0)$ will be the desired one. Solving the equation $du/d\xi = p(u, m_0)$, we find $u = \tilde{u}(\xi + C)$. $v = v(\tilde{u}(\xi + C), m_0) = \tilde{v}(\xi + C)$, where C is an arbitrary constant—the shift of the stationary wave along the ξ -axis.

We shall prove that for $\lambda < 1$ the number m_0 is determined uniquely, i.e., there is uniqueness of the stationary solution up to the shift C .

Suppose the contrary: let a solution of problem (4)–(5) exist for $m = m_1$ and for $m = m_2$, where $0 < m_1 < m_2$. Let p_1, v_1 be the solution corresponding to m_1 ; p_2, v_2 the solution corresponding to m_2 .

Subtracting from the equality $\frac{dp_2}{du} = m_2 - \frac{f(u)v_2}{p_2}$ the equality $\frac{dp_1}{du} = m_1 - \frac{f(u)v_1}{p_1}$, and from the equality $\frac{dv_2}{du} = \frac{m_2}{\lambda p_2}(u + v_2 - u_+) - \frac{1}{\lambda}$ the equality $\frac{dv_1}{du} = \frac{m_1}{\lambda p_1}(u + v_1 - u_+) - \frac{1}{\lambda}$, we obtain

$$\frac{d\Delta p}{du} - \frac{f(u)v_1}{p_1 p_2} \Delta p = \Delta m - \frac{f(u)}{p_2} \Delta v; \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{d\Delta v}{du} - \frac{m_2}{\lambda p_2} \Delta v = \frac{u - u_+ + v_1}{\lambda p_1} \left(\Delta m - \frac{m_2}{p_2} \Delta p \right), \quad (10)$$

where

$$\Delta p = p_2 - p_1, \quad \Delta v = v_2 - v_1, \quad \Delta m = m_2 - m_1.$$

Considering equality (9) as a linear equation with respect to Δp , and equality (10) as a linear equation with respect to Δv , and taking into account that $\Delta p = \Delta v = 0$ at $u = u_+$, we obtain, for $u_- < u < u_+$,

$$\Delta p = - \int_u^{u_+} \left[\Delta m - \frac{f(w)}{p_2(w)} \Delta v \right] \exp \left[- \int_u^w \frac{f(z)v_1(z)}{p_1(z)p_2(z)} dz \right] dw; \quad (11)$$

$$\Delta v = - \int_u^{u_+} [w + v_1(w) - u_+] \frac{1}{\lambda p_1} \left(\Delta m - \frac{m_2 \Delta p}{p_2} \right) \exp \left[- \int_u^w \frac{m_2 dz}{\lambda p_2(z)} \right] dw. \quad (12)$$

Investigating the singular point $u = u_+$, $v = 0$, $p = 0$ of system (4), one can show that, as $u \rightarrow u_+ - 0$,

$$p(u, m) = k(u_+ - u) + o(u_+ - u), \quad \text{where } k = \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{4\lambda^2} + \frac{f(u_+)}{\lambda}} - \frac{m}{2\lambda},$$

$$v(u, m) = l(u_+ - u) + o(u_+ - u), \quad \text{where } l = \frac{m + k}{m + \lambda k}.$$

Hence, from the inequality $dk/dm < 0$ and the inequality $dl/dm < 0$, valid for $\lambda < 1$, it follows that

$$\Delta p < 0, \quad \Delta v < 0 \quad \text{for} \quad u_+ - \delta < u < u_+, \quad (13)$$

where $\delta > 0$ is sufficiently small. In view of (6), $u + v_1(u) - u_+ > 0$ for $\lambda < 1$, $u_- < u < u_+$.

Hence, from equalities (11) and (12) it follows that inequalities (13) can be continued to the whole half-segment $u_- \leq u < u_+$. But this contradicts the assumption that, at $u = u_-$, the equalities $p_1 = p_2 = 0$, $v_1 = v_2 = v_-$ hold.

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1. Ya. B. Zel' dovich, ZhFKh, **22**, No. 1, 27 (1948).

Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

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