

On solution set of a two-parameter nonlinear oscillator: the Neumann problem

A. Gritsans, F. Sadyrbaev

Summary. Boundary value problems of the form $x'' = -\lambda f(x^+) + \mu g(x^-)$ (i), $x'(a) = 0 = x'(b)$ (ii) are considered, where $\lambda, \mu > 0$. In our considerations functions f and g may be nonlinear. We give description of a solution set F of the problem (i), (ii) - a set of all triples (λ, μ, α) such that $(\lambda, \mu, x(t))$ nontrivially solves the problem (i), (ii) and $|x'(z)| = \alpha$ at any zero of $x(t)$ (iii). It turns out that the solution set F is a union of solution surfaces F_i^\pm ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) and the non coinciding solution surfaces are centro-affine equivalent. Cross sections of the solution surface F_1^\pm with planes $\alpha = const$, $\mu = const$ and $\mu = const \cdot \lambda$ will be analyzed for the nonlinearities $f = g = x^3 + x^{41}$.

MSC: 34B15

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1 Introduction

We consider the Neumann problem

$$x'' = -\lambda f(x^+) + \mu g(x^-), \quad x'(a) = 0 = x'(b), \quad (1)$$

where λ and μ are the positive parameters, $x^+ = \max\{x, 0\}$, $x^- = \max\{-x, 0\}$ and functions f and g satisfy the following conditions (we formulate these conditions only for a function f , supposing that analogous conditions are fulfilled for a function g also):

(A1) f is a $[0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ continuous function, $f(x) > 0$ for all $x > 0$ and $f(0) = 0$, besides $\int_0^x f(s)ds \rightarrow +\infty$ as $x \rightarrow +\infty$;

(A2) a first zero function (the time map) $t_f(\alpha)$ to the Cauchy problem

$$x'' + f(x) = 0, \quad x(a) = 0, \quad x'(a) = \alpha > 0$$

is a $(0, +\infty) \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ continuous function;

(A3) for a some $k \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$f(0) = f'(0+) = \dots = f^{(k-1)}(0+) = 0, \quad 0 < f^{(k)}(0+) \leq +\infty; \quad (2)$$

(A4) $\frac{\int_0^x f(s)ds}{x^{\kappa-1}} \rightarrow +\infty$ as $x \rightarrow +\infty$ and $\frac{f(x)}{x^\kappa}$ is bounded for x large for a some $\kappa \geq 1$.

Definition 1.1 A **solution set** of the problem (1) is a set F of all triples (λ, μ, α) such that $(\lambda, \mu, x(t))$ nontrivially solves the problem (1) and

$$|x'(z)| = \alpha, \text{ at any zero } z \text{ of } x(t). \quad (3)$$

Remark 1.1. A solution of the equation $x'' = -\lambda f(x^+) + \mu g(x^-)$ is a C^2 -function. Therefore $x'(t)$ is continuous. If z_1 and z_2 are two consecutive zeros of $x(t)$ then it is known that $|x'(z_1)| = |x'(z_2)|$. Thus introduction of the normalization condition in the form (3) is justified.

Theorem 3.1 claims that the solution set is a union $F = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} F_i^\pm$ of solution surfaces. The solution surface F_i^+ (F_i^-) describes all C^2 -solutions of the problem (1) with exactly i zeros in the interval (a, b) and negative (positive) derivative at the first after a zero. Notion of a solution surface was introduced in [7] for the case of the Dirichlet boundary conditions.

2 Time maps

Let $T_f(\alpha, \lambda)$ be the first zero function (the time map) for the Cauchy problem $x'' + \lambda f(x) = 0$, $x(a) = 0$, $x'(a) = \alpha > 0$.

Theorem 2.1 *If a function f satisfies conditions (A1)-(A4) then*

1. the time map $T_f(\alpha, \lambda)$ is a continuous function and $T_f(\alpha, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} t_f\left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right)$ for all $\alpha, \lambda > 0$;
2. for any $\alpha, \beta, \lambda > 0$ the rescaling formula is valid

$$T_f(\beta, \lambda) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} T_f\left(\alpha, \lambda \frac{\alpha^2}{\beta^2}\right); \quad (4)$$

3. for a fixed $\alpha > 0$:

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} T_f(\alpha, \lambda) = +\infty, \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} T_f(\alpha, \lambda) = 0. \quad (5)$$

Proof. For 1. see [3].

2. For $\alpha, \beta, \lambda > 0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_f(\beta, \lambda) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} t_f\left(\frac{\beta}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} t_f\left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} t_f\left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\frac{\lambda \alpha^2}{\beta^2}}}\right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\lambda \alpha^2}{\beta^2}}} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} t_f\left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\frac{\lambda \alpha^2}{\beta^2}}}\right) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} T_f\left(\alpha, \lambda \frac{\alpha^2}{\beta^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

3. follows from conditions (A3) and (A4): the second limit was obtained in [3], but the first one can be proved using time map properties [6].

3 Description and properties of a solution set

Theorem 3.1 *Let functions f and g satisfy the conditions (A1)-(A4).*

1. *A solution set F of the problem (1) is a union of solution surfaces*

$$F_i^\pm = \left\{ (\lambda, \mu, \alpha) : T_f(\alpha, \lambda) + T_g(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i} \right\} \quad (i \in \mathbb{N}). \quad (6)$$

2. *Solution surfaces F_i^\pm are nonempty sets for any $i \in \mathbb{N}$.*

3. *Solution surfaces F_i^+ and F_i^- coincide for $i \in \mathbb{N}$.*

4. *Solution surfaces F_i^\pm and F_j^\pm do not intersect unless $i = j$.*

5. *For given $i \neq j$ the solution surfaces F_i^\pm and F_j^\pm are centro-affine equivalent under the mapping $\Phi_{i,j} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $(\lambda, \mu, \alpha) \mapsto (\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\mu}, \bar{\alpha})$, where $\bar{\lambda} = \left(\frac{j}{i}\right)^2 \lambda$, $\bar{\mu} = \left(\frac{j}{i}\right)^2 \mu$, $\bar{\alpha} = \frac{j}{i} \alpha$.*

Proof. 1. follows from [2] (see also [3]) and the definition of a solution set.

2. follows from the assertions 1 and 3 of the Theorem 2.1.

3. and 4. follow from the equations (6).

5. For given $i \neq j$ and $\alpha > 0$ set $\bar{\alpha} = \frac{j}{i} \alpha$. Suppose $(\lambda, \mu, \alpha) \in F_i^\pm$:

$$iT_f(\alpha, \lambda) + iT_g(\alpha, \mu) = 2(b-a).$$

Applying the rescaling formula (4), where $\bar{\alpha}$ replaces β , to the previous equation one has

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{\bar{\alpha}}{\alpha} T_f \left(\bar{\alpha}, \lambda \frac{\bar{\alpha}^2}{\alpha^2} \right) + i \frac{\bar{\alpha}}{\alpha} T_g \left(\bar{\alpha}, \mu \frac{\bar{\alpha}^2}{\alpha^2} \right) &= 2(b-a), \\ j T_f \left(\bar{\alpha}, \left(\frac{j}{i} \right)^2 \lambda \right) + j T_g \left(\bar{\alpha}, \left(\frac{j}{i} \right)^2 \mu \right) &= 2(b-a), \\ j T_f(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\lambda}) + j T_g(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\mu}) &= 2(b-a), \end{aligned}$$

therefore $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\mu}, \bar{\alpha}) \in F_j^\pm$. Since $\Phi_{i,j}^{-1} = \Phi_{j,i}$ one has $\Phi_{i,j}(F_i^\pm) = F_j^\pm$ and the surfaces F_i^\pm and F_j^\pm are centro-affine equivalent under the mapping $\Phi_{i,j}$. \square

Remark 3.1. Since solution surfaces F_i^\pm and F_j^\pm ($i \neq j$) are centro-affine equivalent they have similar shape. Therefore it is enough to study properties of one solution surface, for example F_1^\pm , in order to know properties of all the remainder solution surfaces.

In the rest of the article we focus on the problem (1) where $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$ are the concave-convex type nonlinearities and an interval (a, b) is $(0, 1)$. We consider cross sections of the solution surface F_1^\pm with the planes $\alpha = \text{const}$, $\mu = \text{const}$ and $\mu = \text{const} \cdot \lambda$.

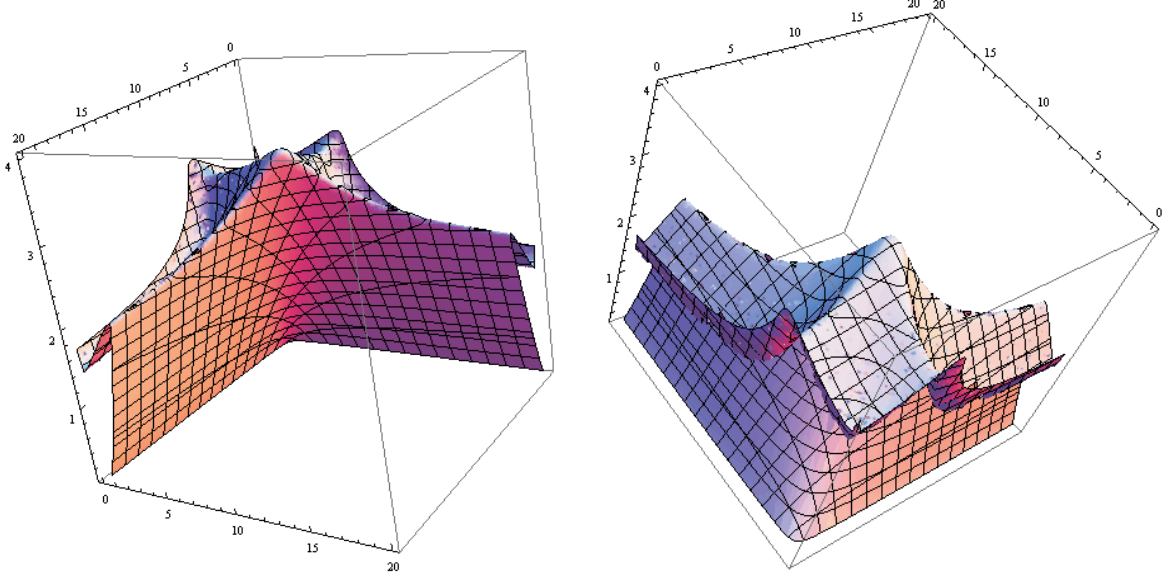


Figure 1: Two views of the solution surface F_1^\pm of the problem (1), where $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$ and $b - a = 1$.

4 Cross sections of a solution surface F_1^\pm with a plane $\alpha = \text{const}$

A cross section of a solution surface F_i^\pm with a plane $\alpha = \alpha_0 > 0$ (α_0 - fixed) is a set $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ (the curve) of all triples (λ, μ, α_0) such that

$$T_f(\alpha_0, \lambda) + T_g(\alpha_0, \mu) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i}. \quad (7)$$

In this paragraph we will identify a set $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ with its projection to the (λ, μ) -plane: $(\lambda, \mu, \alpha_0) \mapsto (\lambda, \mu)$.

Proposition 4.1

- Suppose $T_f(\alpha, \lambda_*) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i}$ for some $\lambda_* > 0$ and $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the curve $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ has a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_*$.
- Suppose $T_g(\alpha, \mu_*) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i}$ for some $\mu_* > 0$ and $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the curve $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ has a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \mu_*$.

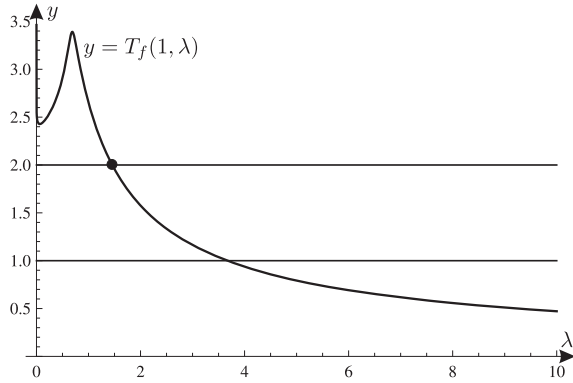


Figure 2: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(1, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at a point $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

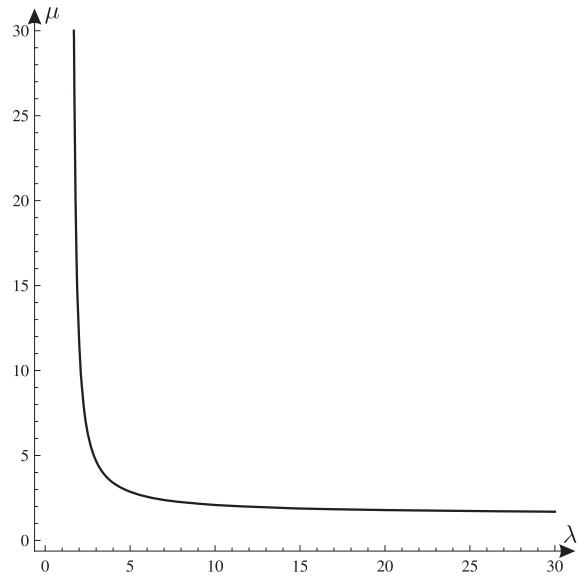


Figure 3: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=1}$ has a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \lambda_{*1}$ and a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

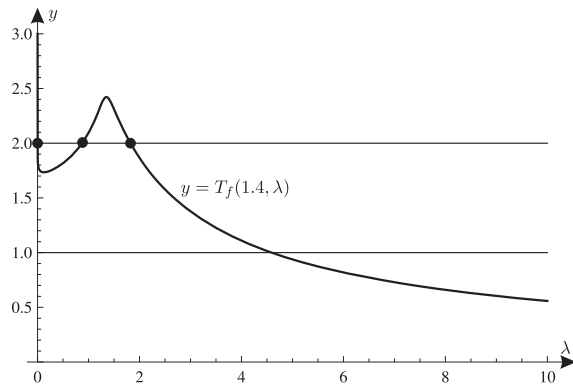


Figure 4: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(1.4, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at three points $\lambda = \lambda_{*j}$ ($j = 1, 2, 3$).

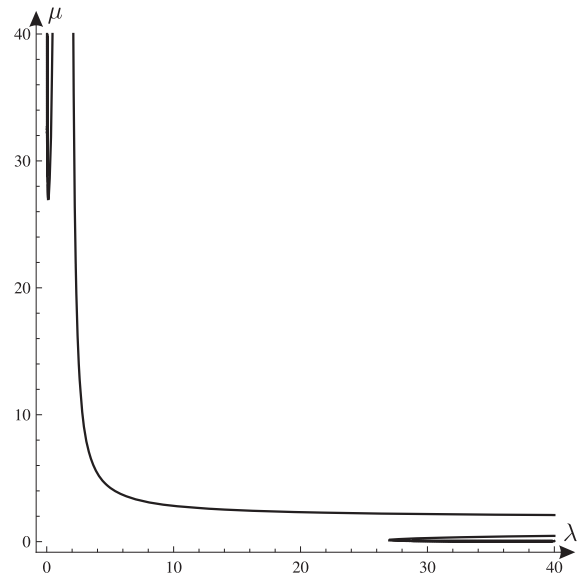


Figure 5: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=1.4}$ have three unbounded components, three horizontal asymptotes at $\mu = \lambda_{*j}$ and three vertical asymptotes at $\lambda = \lambda_{*j}$ ($j = 1, 2, 3$).

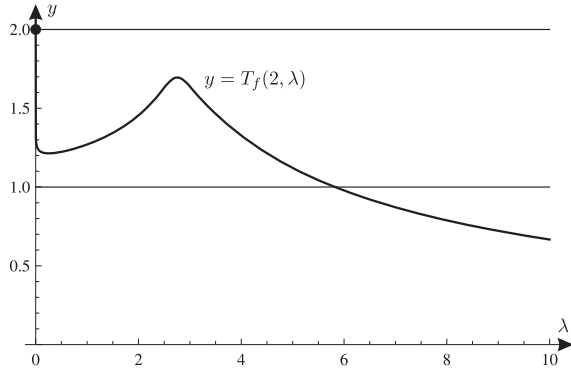


Figure 6: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(2, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at a point $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

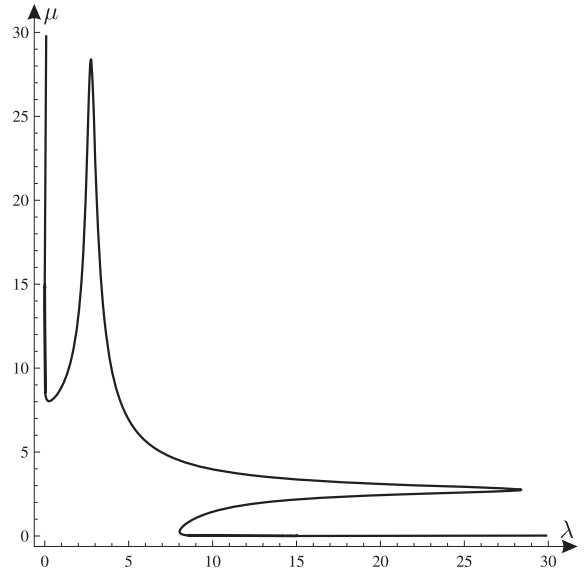


Figure 7: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=2}$ has a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \lambda_{*1}$ and a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

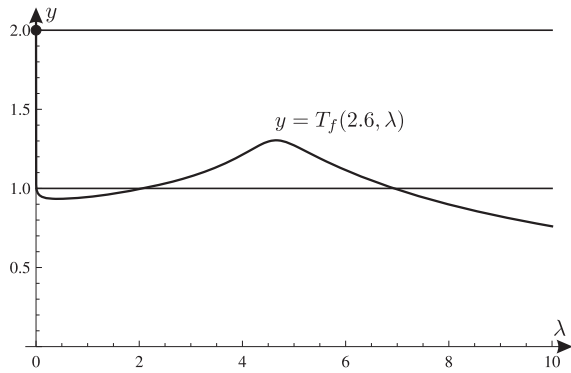


Figure 8: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(2.6, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at a point $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

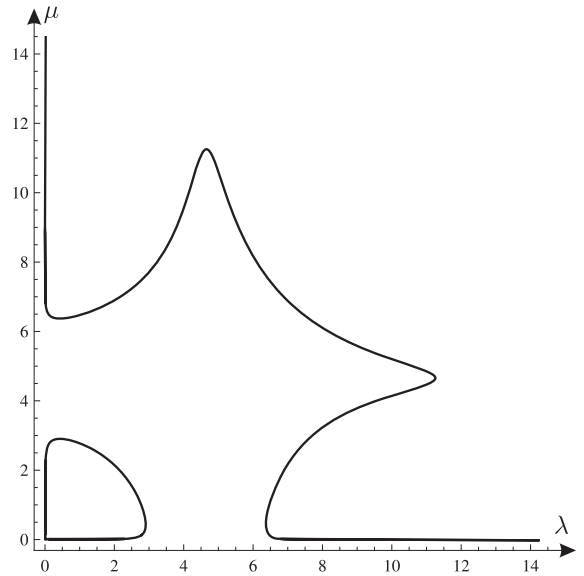


Figure 9: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=2.6}$ have two components (one component is unbounded, but the second one is separated and bounded), a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \lambda_{*1}$ and a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

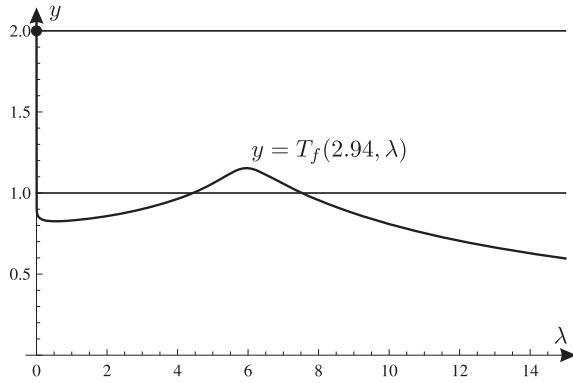


Figure 10: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(2.94, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at a point $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

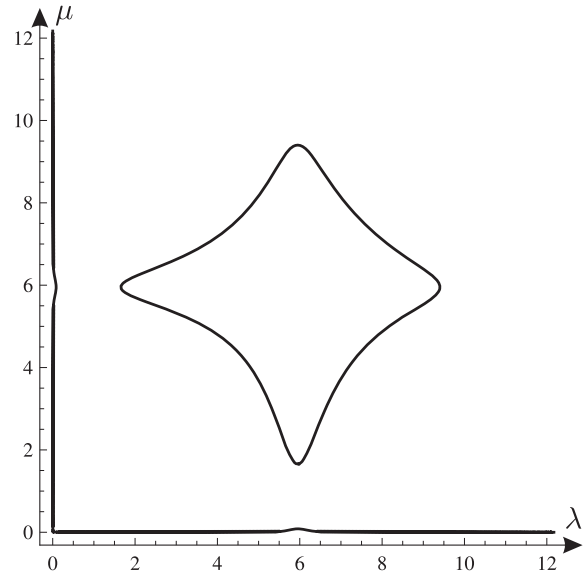


Figure 11: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=2.94}$ has two components (one component is unbounded, but the second one is separated and bounded), a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \lambda_{*1}$ and a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

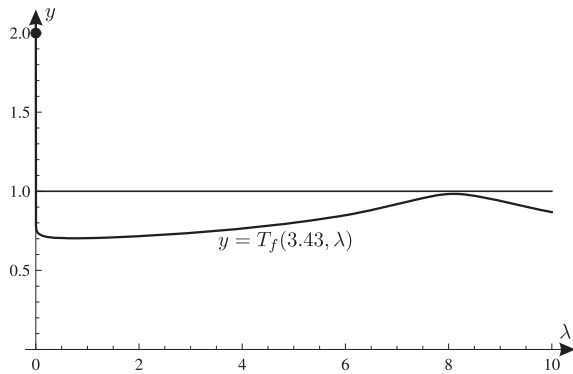


Figure 12: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(3.43, \lambda)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at a point $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

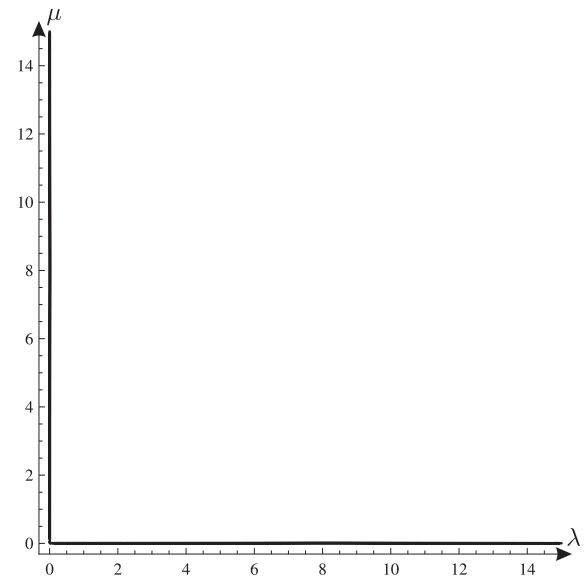


Figure 13: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The curve $F_1^{\pm}|_{\alpha=3.43}$ has a horizontal asymptote at $\mu = \lambda_{*1}$ and a vertical asymptote at $\lambda = \lambda_{*1}$.

5 Cross sections of a solution surface F_1^\pm with a plane $\mu = \text{const}$

A cross section of a solution surface F_i^\pm with a plane $\mu = \mu_0 > 0$ (μ_0 - fixed) is a set $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=\mu_0}$ (the curve) of all triples (λ, μ_0, α) such that

$$T_f(\alpha, \lambda) + T_g(\alpha, \mu_0) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i}. \quad (8)$$

In this paragraph we will identify a set $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=\mu_0}$ with its projection to the (λ, α) -plane: $(\lambda, \mu_0, \alpha) \mapsto (\lambda, \alpha)$.

Proposition 5.1 *Suppose $T_g(\alpha_*, \mu_0) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i}$ for some $\alpha_* > 0$ and $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the curve $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=\mu_0}$ has a horizontal asymptote at $\alpha = \alpha_*$.*

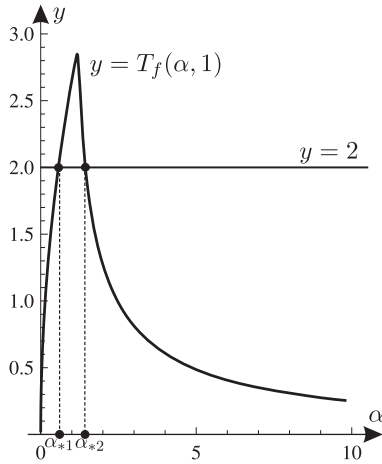


Figure 14: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(\alpha, 1)$ intersects with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$ at the two points $\alpha = \alpha_{*1}$ and $\alpha = \alpha_{*2}$.

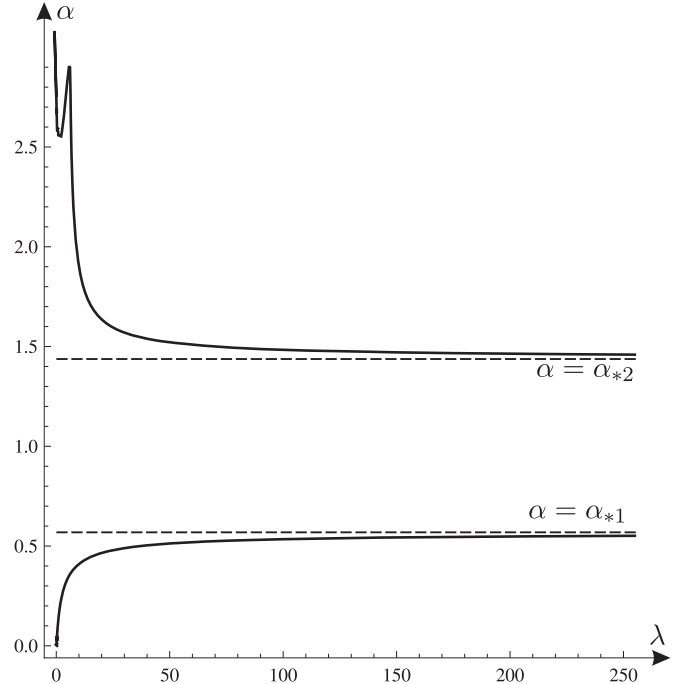


Figure 15: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The projection of the curve $F_1^\pm|_{\mu=1}$ to the (λ, α) -plane have two horizontal asymptotes at $\alpha = \alpha_{*1}$ and $\alpha = \alpha_{*2}$.

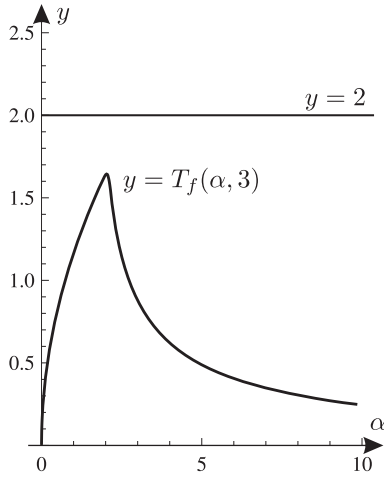


Figure 16: The case $f = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The graphic of the function $y = T_f(\alpha, 3)$ does not intersect with the line $y = \frac{2(b-a)}{1}$.

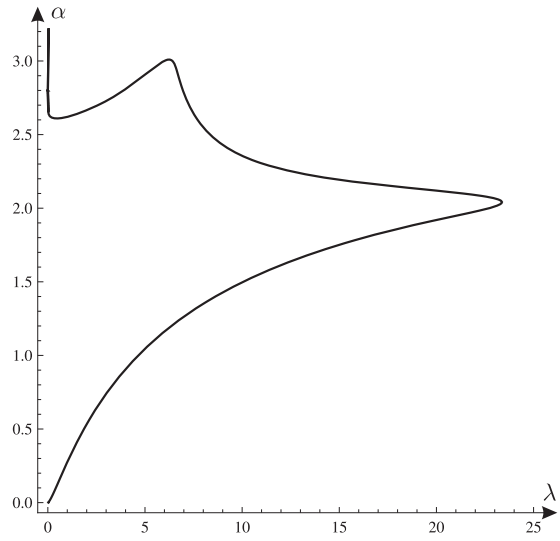


Figure 17: The curve $F_1^\pm|_{\mu=3}$ (actually curve's projection to the (λ, α) -plane) in the case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$.

6 Cross sections of a solution surface F_1^\pm with a plane $\mu = const \cdot \lambda$

A cross section of a solution surface F_i^\pm with a plane $\mu = k \cdot \lambda$ ($k > 0$ - fixed) is a set $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=k \cdot \lambda}$ (the curve) of all triples (λ, μ, α) such that

$$T_f(\alpha, \lambda) + T_g(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{2(b-a)}{i} \text{ and } \mu = k \cdot \lambda. \tag{9}$$

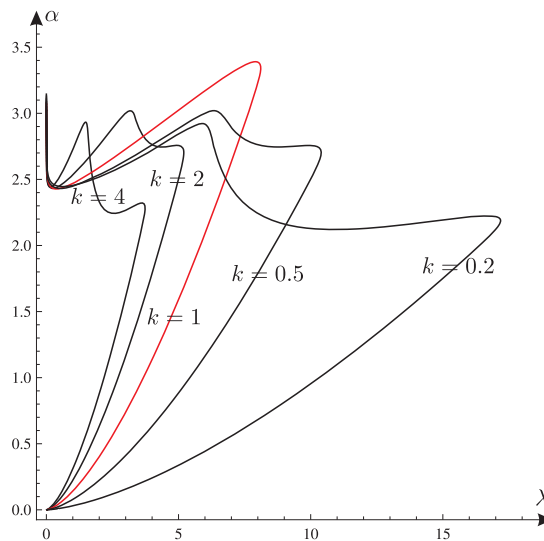


Figure 18: The case $f = g = x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{41}$, $b - a = 1$. The projections of the curves $F_1^\pm|_{\mu=k \cdot \lambda}$ to the (λ, α) -plane: $(\lambda, k \cdot \lambda, \alpha) \mapsto (\lambda, \alpha)$.

7 Conclusions

A two-parameter nonlinear oscillator with a Neumann boundary value conditions exhibits the following features.

1. A solution set is a union of solution surfaces F_i^\pm , besides any two solutions surfaces F_i^\pm and F_j^\pm ($i \neq j$) are centro-affine equivalent, in other words solution surfaces with different numbers have the same shape.
2. Cross sections $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ are similar to the branches of the classical Fučík spectrum if the functions $T_f(\alpha_0, \lambda)$ and $T_g(\alpha_0, \mu)$ are monotone in λ and μ respectively.
3. It is possible that cross sections $F_i^\pm|_{\alpha=\alpha_0}$ 1) have separate bounded components, 2) have multiple unbounded components.
4. It is possible that cross sections $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=\mu_0}$ have multiple unbounded components.
5. Suppose $f = g$. We conjecture that if 1) in a some neighborhood of a point (λ_0, μ_0) a solution surface F_i^\pm can be expressed as the graphic of a function $\alpha = \Omega(\lambda, \mu)$, 2) the function $\alpha = \Omega(\lambda, \mu)$ has a local strict extremum at the point (λ_0, μ_0) and $\alpha_0 = \Omega(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$, then $\lambda_0 = \mu_0$. This would mean that such points are

$$(\lambda_0, \lambda_0, \alpha_0) = \left(\left(\frac{it_f(\gamma_0)}{b-a} \right)^2, \left(\frac{it_f(\gamma_0)}{b-a} \right)^2, \frac{i\gamma_0 t_f(\gamma_0)}{b-a} \right),$$

where γ_0 is a strict extremum point of the function $\gamma t_f(\gamma)$, since the projection of the cross section $F_i^\pm|_{\mu=\lambda}$ (the curve) to the (λ, α) -plane due to the rescaling formula (4) has a parametrization without self crossings: $\alpha = p_i(\gamma)$, $\lambda = q_i(\gamma)$ ($\gamma > 0$), where $p_i(\gamma) = \frac{i\gamma t_f(\gamma)}{b-a}$ and $q_i(\gamma) = \left(\frac{it_f(\gamma)}{b-a} \right)^2$.

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А. Грицанс, Ф. Садырбаев. О множестве решений нелинейного осциллятора с двумя параметрами: задача Неймана

Аннотация. Рассматривается граничная задача $x'' = -\lambda f(x^+) + \mu g(x^-)$ (i), $x'(a) = 0 = x'(b)$ (ii), где $\lambda, \mu > 0$, при этом функции f и g могут быть нелинейными. Множество решений F задачи (i), (ii) - это множество всех троек (λ, μ, α) , таких что $(\lambda, \mu, x(t))$ является нетривиальным решением задачи (i), (ii) и $|x'(z)| = \alpha$ в нулях функции $x(t)$. Оказывается, что множество решений F является объединением поверхностей решений F_i^\pm ($i = 1, 2, \dots$), при этом не совпадающие поверхности решений центроаффинно эквивалентны. Для случая функций $f = g = x^3 + x^{41}$ указаны сечения поверхности решений F_1^\pm с плоскостями $\alpha = const$, $\mu = const$ и $\mu = const \cdot \lambda$.

A. Gricāns, F. Sadirbajevs. Par divu parametru nelineāra oscilatora atrisinājumu kopu: Neimana problēma

Anotācija. Tiek aplūkota robežproblēma $x'' = -\lambda f(x^+) + \mu g(x^-)$ (i), $x'(a) = 0 = x'(b)$ (ii), kur $\lambda, \mu > 0$, pie tam funkcijas f un g var būt arī nelineāras. Problēmas (i), (ii) atrisinājumu kopa F sastāv no visiem trijniekiem (λ, μ, α) , ka $(\lambda, \mu, x(t))$ ir problēmas (i), (ii) netriviāls atrisinājums un $|x'(z)| = \alpha$ funkcijas $x(t)$ nullu punktos. Izrādās, ka atrisinājumu kopa F ir atrisinājuma virsmu F_i^\pm ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) apvienojums, pie tam nesakrītošās atrisinājumu virsmas ir centro-afīni ekvivalentas. Tiek aplūkoti atrisinājumu virsmas F_1^\pm šķēlumi ar plaknēm $\alpha = const$, $\mu = const$ un $\mu = const \cdot \lambda$ nelinearitāšu $f = g = x^3 + x^{41}$ gadījumā.

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