Research Article

Viscous Regularization of Delta Shock Wave Solution for a Simplified Chromatography System

Xiumei Li and Chun Shen

School of Mathematics and Statistics Science, Ludong University, Yantai, Shandong 264025, China

Correspondence should be addressed to Chun Shen; shenchun3641@sina.com

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The delta shock wave for a simplified chromatography system is obtained in the Riemann solution when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. In fact, the result in this paper is the reasonable generalization of the result in Sun (2011) with $v_- = 0 < v_+$ which is exactly the critical situation for $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. The self-similar viscosity vanishing approach is also used to check the delta shock wave solution.

1. Introduction

The theory of nonlinear chromatography system is the foundation of chromatography separation process and also plays an important role in the modern industry. Recently, the delta shock wave has been captured numerically and experimentally by Mazzotti et al. [1, 2] in the Riemann solutions for the local equilibrium model of two-component nonlinear chromatography. Since then, extensive attention has been drawn on the formation of delta shock wave solution to all kinds of chromatography systems [3–6].

In [5], Sun considered the Riemann problem for a simplified chromatography system:

$$v_t + \left(\frac{v}{1+v} \right)_x = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$w_t + \left(\frac{w}{1+v} \right)_x = 0,$$

with the initial data

$$(v, w)(x, 0) = (v_{\pm}, w_{\pm}), \quad \pm x > 0, \quad (2)$$

where $v_{\pm}$ and $w_{\pm}$ are all given constants. She discovered that a delta shock wave solution also appears in the situation $v_- = 0 < v_+$ by employing the self-similar viscosity vanishing approach.

In the present paper, we extend the result from the critical situation $v_- = 0 < v_+$ in [5] to the general situation $-1 < v_- <$

$0 < v_+$ and discover that the delta shock wave also appears in the Riemann solution to (1) and (2). Actually, in the situation $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$, the Riemann solution to (1) and (2) is a delta shock wave connecting two constant states $(v_{\pm}, w_{\pm})$ whose propagation speed and strength are, respectively,

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{(1+v_-)(1+v_+)}, \quad \beta(t) = \frac{(w_-v_+ - w_+v_-)t}{(1+v_-)(1+v_+)}. \quad (3)$$

On the other hand, in the situation $v_- = 0 < v_+$ in [5], the propagation speed and strength of delta shock wave are, respectively,

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{1+v_+}, \quad \beta(t) = \frac{w_-v_+t}{1+v_+}. \quad (4)$$

If we let $v_- \rightarrow 0+$ in the situation $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$, then the result is identical with that for the situation $v_- = 0 < v_+$ in [5]. Thus, one can see that the situation $v_- = 0 < v_+$ is the critical one, where the delta shock wave can be obtained, and the result in this paper is the reasonable generalization of the result in [5].

Similar to [5], we also consider the following viscous regularization system:

$$v_t + \left(\frac{v}{1+v} \right)_x = \varepsilon v_{xx}, \quad (5)$$

$$w_t + \left(\frac{w}{1+v} \right)_x = 0,$$

which enables us to see that the delta shock wave is the reasonable choice of the Riemann solution to (1) and (2) when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$.

In addition, we emphasize that our result here is also reasonable in the sense of chromatography engineer since a simplified chromatography system can also be derived from the other nonlinear chromatography system:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_1 + \partial_x \left(\frac{u_1}{1 - u_1 + u_2} \right) &= 0, \\ \partial_t u_2 + \partial_x \left(\frac{u_2}{1 - u_1 + u_2} \right) &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

by introducing the change of variables

$$v = u_2 - u_1, \quad w = u_1 + u_2, \quad (7)$$

which is different from the derivation in [5]. Here u_1, u_2 are the nonnegative functions of the variables $(x, t) \in R \times R_+$ to denote the Langmuir-like and the anti-Langmuir-like components, respectively, which express transformations of the concentrations of two solutes. It is clear that the delta measure appears in w for the system (1) is equivalent to saying that the delta measures appear in both the state variables u_1 and u_2 for the system (6). It is easily derived that the strengths of the delta measures in u_1 and u_2 are equal to each other. In other words, the phenomena of singular concentrations in the two components u_1 and u_2 appear simultaneously for the system (6).

The system (1) is the simplest example for systems of Temple class [7]. In other words, the shock curves coincide with the rarefaction curves in the phase plane. Compared with general systems of conservation laws, well-posed results for systems of Temple class [8] are available for a much larger class of initial data due to the above feature. Furthermore, thanks to the particular structure, wave interactions for the systems of Temple class can also be dealt with completely [9–12], which enables us to solve the Cauchy problem for arbitrary data of bounded variation.

The self-similar viscosity vanishing approach was first proposed by Dafermos [13] to construct Riemann solutions for broad classes of 2×2 systems that include the equations of isentropic, Lagrangian, and gas dynamics. This method was widely used in [14] for the admissibility of weak solutions of the Riemann problem for hyperbolic systems of conservation laws, and the admissibility criterion was called the wave-fan criterion in [15]. Special attention was also paid in [6, 16–22] to the formation of the delta shock waves in the Riemann solutions for some systems of hyperbolic conservation laws.

There exist numerous excellent papers for the related equations and results about the measure-valued solutions for hyperbolic systems of conservation laws. The well-known examples are the transport equations [21, 23–27] (or called the pressureless Euler equations) and the Chaplygin gas dynamics equations [28, 29] which have been extensively studied. For the other related equations and results, we can refer to [30–35] and the related references therein.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, the Riemann problem of (1) and (2) is considered. In particular,

the delta shock wave does occur in the Riemann solution when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. In Section 3, we show that there exists a smooth solution for the regularized system (5) with the initial data (2). Then, by letting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we prove that the limit of the regularized solution is exactly the corresponding Riemann solution to (1) and (2) when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$.

2. The Riemann Problem for (1) and (2) in the Phase Space $v > -1$

In this section, we generalize the Riemann problem for (1) and (2) from the phase space $(v, w) \in [0, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$ in [5] to the phase space $(v, w) \in (-1, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$. Compared with the result in [5] that there are three kinds of the Riemann solutions to (1) and (2) in the phase space $(v, w) \in [0, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$, there exist six kinds of the Riemann solutions to (1) and (2) in the phase space $(v, w) \in (-1, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$ (Figure 1). In what follows, we first depict the properties of (1) and then list the Riemann solutions to (1) and (2) in the phase space $(v, w) \in (-1, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$ case by case. Finally, the generalized Rankine-Hugoniot relations of delta shock wave are derived in detail. We can also refer to [3, 4, 12] for the related results about the other nonlinear chromatography systems.

The characteristic eigenvalues of (1) are $\lambda_1 = 1/(1 + v)^2$ and $\lambda_2 = 1/(1 + v)$, respectively. Thus, it is clear to see that (1) is strictly hyperbolic in the phase space $v > 0$ and $-1 < v < 0$ and is nonstrictly hyperbolic on the line $v = 0$. The corresponding right characteristic vectors are $\vec{r}_1 = (v, w)^T$ and $\vec{r}_2 = (0, 1)^T$, respectively. Thus λ_1 is genuinely nonlinear for $v \neq 0$, and λ_2 is always linearly degenerate. Therefore, the associated waves are rarefaction waves R or shock waves S for the characteristic field λ_1 and contact discontinuities J for the characteristic field λ_2 . The Riemann invariants along the characteristic fields are w/v and v , respectively.

Now we are in a position to deliver the Riemann solutions to (1) and (2) according to the value of v as follows.

- (1) If $v_- > v_+ > 0$, then the Riemann solution of (1) and (2) can be expressed as $\tilde{R} + J$:

$$(v, w)(x, t) = \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \lambda_1(v_-)t, \\ \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1, \frac{w_-}{v_-} \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1 \right) \right), & \lambda_1(v_-)t \leq x \leq \lambda_1(v_+)t, \\ \left(v_+, \frac{v_+ w_-}{v_-} \right), & \lambda_1(v_+)t < x < \tau t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \tau t, \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

in which the propagation speed of R is $\xi = 1/(1 + v)^2$ for v from v_- to v_+ such that $0 < \xi < 1$ and that of J is $\tau = 1/(1 + v_+)$.

FIGURE 1: The Riemann solutions to (1) and (2) in all the situations.

- (2) If $0 < v_- < v_+$, then the Riemann solution of (1) and (2) can be expressed as $\vec{S} + J$:

$$(v, w)(x, t) = \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \sigma t, \\ \left(v_+, \frac{v_+ w_-}{v_-}\right), & \sigma t < x < \tau t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \tau t, \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

in which the propagation speed of S is $\sigma = 1/((1 + v_-)(1 + v_+))$ and that of J is $\tau = 1/(1 + v_+)$. It is clear to see that $0 < \sigma < \tau < 1$.

- (3) If $-1 < v_+ < 0 < v_-$, then the Riemann solution of (1) and (2) can be expressed as $\vec{R}_1 + \vec{R}_2$:

$$(v, w)(x, t)$$

$$= \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \lambda_1(v_-)t, \\ \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1, \frac{w_-}{v_-} \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1\right)\right), & \lambda_1(v_-)t \leq x < t, \\ \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1, \frac{w_+}{v_+} \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1\right)\right), & t < x \leq \lambda_1(v_+)t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \lambda_1(v_+)t. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

It should be emphasized that the state (v, w) in $\vec{R}_1$ is determined by $w/v = w_-/v_-$ which is on the left of the line $x = t$; otherwise, the state (v, w) in $\vec{R}_2$ is determined by $w/v = w_+/v_+$ which is on the right of the line $x = t$.

- (4) If $-1 < v_- < v_+ < 0$, then the Riemann solution of (1) and (2) can be expressed as $J + \vec{S}$:

$$(v, w)(x, t) = \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \tau t, \\ \left(v_-, \frac{v_- w_+}{v_+}\right), & \tau t < x < \sigma t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \sigma t, \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

in which the propagation speed of J is $\tau = 1/(1 + v_-)$ and that of S is $\sigma = 1/(1 + v_-)(1 + v_+)$. Here we notice that $1 < \tau < \sigma$.

- (5) If $-1 < v_+ < v_- < 0$, then the Riemann solution of (1) and (2) can be expressed as $J + \vec{R}$:

$$(v, w)(x, t) = \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \tau t, \\ \left(v_-, \frac{v_- w_+}{v_+}\right), & \tau t < x < \lambda_1(v_-)t, \\ \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1, \frac{w_+}{v_+} \left(\sqrt{\frac{t}{x}} - 1\right)\right), & \lambda_1(v_-)t \leq x \leq \lambda_1(v_+)t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \lambda_1(v_+)t, \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

in which the propagation speed of J is $\tau = 1/(1 + v_-) > 1$ and that of R is $\xi = 1/(1 + v)^2 > 1$ for v from v_- to v_+ .

- (6) For the case $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$, motivated by the result in [22], we consider that the Riemann solution to (1) and (2) is a delta shock wave δS connecting the two constant states (v_-, w_-) and (v_+, w_+) . In order to deal with it, we need the following definition of a delta shock wave solution in the framework introduced in [36] and used in [12, 37].

Let us suppose that $\Gamma = \{\gamma_i \mid i \in I\}$ is a graph in the closed upper half-plane $\{(x, t) \mid (x, t) \in (-\infty, \infty) \times [0, \infty)\}$, containing Lipschitz continuous arcs γ_i with $i \in I$, in which I is a finite index set. Let us also suppose that I_0 is the subset of I containing all indices of arcs linking to the x -axis and $\Gamma_0 = \{x_k^0 \mid k \in I_0\}$ is the set of initial points of the arcs γ_k with $k \in I_0$.

Definition 1. Let (v, w) be a pair of distributions, where w is represented in the form

$$w(x, t) = \widehat{w}(x, t) + \alpha(x, t) \delta(\Gamma), \quad (13)$$

in which $v, \widehat{w} \in L^\infty(R \times R_+)$ and the singular part should be defined by

$$\alpha(x, t) \delta(\Gamma) = \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i(x, t) \delta(\gamma_i). \quad (14)$$

Let us consider the initial data of the form

$$(v, w)(x, 0) = \left(v_0(x), \widehat{w}_0(x) + \sum_{k \in I_0} \alpha_k(x_k^0, 0) \delta(x - x_k^0) \right), \quad (15)$$

in which $v_0, \widehat{w}_0 \in L^\infty(R)$; then the earlier pair of distributions (v, w) are called a generalized delta shock wave solution of the simplified chromatography system (1) with the initial data (15) if the following integral identities

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{R_+} \int_R \left(v \psi_t + \frac{v}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt + \int_R v_0(x) \psi(x, 0) dx &= 0, \\ \int_{R_+} \int_R \left(\widehat{w} \psi_t + \frac{\widehat{w}}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt + \sum_{i \in I} \int_{\gamma_i} \alpha_i(x, t) \frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial l} \\ + \int_R \widehat{w}_0(x) \psi(x, 0) dx + \sum_{k \in I_0} \alpha_k(x_k^0, 0) \psi(x_k^0, 0) &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

hold for all test functions $\psi \in C_c^\infty(R \times R_+)$, in which $\partial \psi(x, t)/\partial l$ denotes the tangential derivative of a function ψ on the graph γ_i and $\int_{\gamma_i}$ denotes the line integral along the arc γ_i .

With the above definition, similar to that in [5], we can also construct the Riemann solution to (1) and (2) for the situation $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$ in the following theorem.

Theorem 2. For the case $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$, the Riemann problem (1) and (2) has the piecewise smooth Riemann solution in the form

$$(v, w)(x, t) = \begin{cases} (v_-, w_-), & x < \sigma t, \\ (v_\delta, \beta(t) \delta(x - \sigma t)), & x = \sigma t, \\ (v_+, w_+), & x > \sigma t, \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} v_\delta &= v_- + v_+ + v_- v_+, \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{1 + v_\delta} = \frac{1}{(1 + v_-)(1 + v_+)}, \\ \beta(t) &= \frac{(w_- v_+ - w_+ v_-) t}{(1 + v_-)(1 + v_+)}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

The measure solution (17) with (18) also satisfies the generalized Rankine-Hugoniot condition as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= \sigma, \\ \frac{d\beta(t)}{dt} &= \sigma[w] - \left[\frac{w}{1+v} \right], \\ \sigma[v] &= \left[\frac{v}{1+v} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Proof. Let us check that the δ -measure solution (17) with (18) obeys (1) in the sense of distributions. In other words, we only need to check that (17) with (18) satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left(v \psi_t + \frac{v}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt &= 0, \\ \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left(w \psi_t + \frac{w}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Actually, we can verify the first equation in (20) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left(v \psi_t + \frac{v}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\sigma t} \left(v_- \psi_t + \frac{v_-}{1+v_-} \psi_x \right) dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty \left(v_+ \psi_t + \frac{v_+}{1+v_+} \psi_x \right) dx dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^0 v_- \psi_t dx dt + \int_0^\infty \int_0^{\sigma t} v_- \psi_t dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\sigma t} \frac{v_- \psi_x}{1+v_-} dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty \left(v_+ \psi_t + \frac{v_+}{1+v_+} \psi_x \right) dx dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \int_{x/\sigma}^{+\infty} v_- \psi_t dt dx + \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\sigma t} \frac{v_- \psi_x}{1+v_-} dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_0^{x/\sigma} v_+ \psi_t dt dx + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty \frac{v_+ \psi_x}{1+v_+} dx dt \\
 &= - \int_0^\infty v_- \psi \left(x, \frac{x}{\sigma} \right) dx + \int_0^\infty \frac{v_-}{1+v_-} \psi(\sigma t, t) dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty v_+ \psi \left(x, \frac{x}{\sigma} \right) dt - \int_0^\infty \frac{v_+}{1+v_+} \psi(\sigma t, t) dt \\
 &= 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

in which the fact that $\psi(x, t)$ is compactly supported in the region $R \times R_+$ has been used.

Consequently, for the second equation of (20), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left(w \psi_t + \frac{w}{1+v} \psi_x \right) dx dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\sigma t} \left(w_- \psi_t + \frac{w_- \psi_x}{1+v_-} \right) dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty \left(w_+ \psi_t + \frac{w_+ \psi_x}{1+v_+} \right) dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \beta(t) (\psi_t(\sigma t, t) + \sigma \psi_x(\sigma t, t)) dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^{\sigma t} w_- \psi_t dx dt + \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\sigma t} \frac{w_- \psi_x}{1+v_-} dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty w_+ \psi_t dx dt + \int_0^\infty \int_{\sigma t}^\infty \frac{w_+ \psi_x}{1+v_+} dx dt \\
 & \quad + \int_0^\infty \beta(t) (\psi_t(\sigma t, t) + \sigma \psi_x(\sigma t, t)) dt \\
 &= \int_0^\infty (w_+ - w_-) \psi \left(x, \frac{x}{\sigma} \right) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{w_-}{1+v_-} - \frac{w_+}{1+v_+} \right) \psi(\sigma t, t) dt \\
 & + \int_0^\infty \beta(t) d\psi(\sigma t, t) \\
 &= \left[\frac{w_+ - w_-}{(1+v_-)(1+v_+)} + \frac{w_-}{1+v_-} - \frac{w_+}{1+v_+} - \beta'(t) \right] \\
 & \quad \times \int_0^\infty \psi(\sigma t, t) dt \\
 &= 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

in which the changes of variables and integration by parts have been used.

Through the earlier verification, we can conclude that (17) with (18) is indeed the piecewise smooth Riemann solution to (1) and (2) in the sense of distributions. $\square$

Remark 3. If we take the limit $v_- \rightarrow 0$ in the Riemann solution (17) with (18), then we can obtain the result which is identical with that in [5]. In other words, the Riemann solution to (1) and (2) for $0 = v_- < v_+$ can be seen as the critical situation for $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. Thus, the result in [5] can be seen as the special situation in this paper.

Remark 4. If we take the limit $v_- \rightarrow -1$ in the Riemann solution (17) with (18), then both the propagation speed and strength of the delta shock wave will tend to $+\infty$. In fact, both $\lambda_1 = 1/(1+v)^2$ and $\lambda_2 = 1/(1+v)$ tend to $+\infty$ if we let $v \rightarrow -1$ on the right. Thus, the line $v = -1$ in the phase space (v, w) can be seen as a singular curve.

Remark 5. The Riemann solution to (1) and (2) can be constructed simply if we take the Riemann initial data (2) in the phase space $(v, w) \in (-\infty, -1) \times (-\infty, \infty)$. However, it is difficult to construct the global Riemann solution to (1) and (2) if we require the Riemann initial data (2) in the phase space $(v, w) \in (-\infty, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty)$. In this situation, we at least need to make some criterions on the line $v = -1$.

3. Viscous Regularization of Delta Shock Wave Solution

In this section, we are only interested in the viscous regularization of delta shock wave solution to the Riemann problem (1) and (2). Thus, we confine our attention only to the situation $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$.

Performing the self-similar transformation $\xi = x/t$, we get the boundary value problem:

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\xi v_\xi + \left(\frac{v}{1+v} \right)_\xi &= \varepsilon v_{\xi\xi}, \\
 -\xi w_\xi + \left(\frac{w}{1+v} \right)_\xi &= 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

with the boundary conditions

$$(v, w)(\pm\infty) = (v_\pm, w_\pm). \tag{24}$$

By observing (23), we know that the solution of the first equation in (23) does not rely on the second one in (23). So, we can first consider the first equation in (23), namely,

$$\begin{aligned} -\xi v_\xi + \left(\frac{v}{1+v} \right)_\xi &= \varepsilon v_{\xi\xi}, \\ v(\pm\infty) &= v_\pm. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

With the similar deduction and calculation in Theorem 4.1 in [5], we can also obtain the same conclusion as follows.

Theorem 6. For each fixed $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a unique and monotonic smooth solution $v^\varepsilon(\xi)$ of the boundary value problem (25) for $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$.

Now, we turn our attention to the second equation in (23) and consider the existence of the solution $w(\xi)$. Based on Theorem 6, also with the similar deduction and calculation in Theorem 4.2 in [5], we can obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 7. For each fixed $\varepsilon > 0$, assume that $w(\xi)$ is a weak solution of the following boundary value problem:

$$\begin{aligned} -\xi w_\xi + \left(\frac{w}{1+v^\varepsilon} \right)_\xi &= 0, \\ w(\pm\infty) &= w_\pm, \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where $v^\varepsilon(\xi)$ is the solution of (25).

Then, one has $w^\varepsilon(\xi) \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$ which can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} w^\varepsilon(\xi) &= \begin{cases} w_- \exp \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\xi} \frac{v^\varepsilon(s)}{1+v^\varepsilon(s) - s(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} ds \right) & \text{for } \xi < \xi_\alpha^\varepsilon, \\ w_+ \exp \left(\int_{\xi}^{+\infty} \frac{-v^\varepsilon(s)}{1+v^\varepsilon(s) - s(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} ds \right) & \text{for } \xi > \xi_\alpha^\varepsilon, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where ξ_α^ε is the unique fixed point of $\xi = 1/(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi))$.

It follows from Theorem 6 that $v^\varepsilon(\xi)$ is strictly monotonically increasing with respect to ξ when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$, which enables us to see that both $1/(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi))$ and $1/(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi))^2$ are strictly monotonically decreasing with respect to ξ when $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. Thus, there exist unique fixed points of the following equations, and we use ξ_α^ε and ξ_β^ε to express as

$$\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{1+v^\varepsilon(\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon)}, \quad (28)$$

$$\xi_\beta^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi_\beta^\varepsilon))^2}, \quad (29)$$

respectively. Consequently, we take the limits $\xi_\alpha = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \xi_\alpha^\varepsilon$ and $\xi_\beta = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \xi_\beta^\varepsilon$, which will play very critical roles in the following discussion.

Lemma 8. For any $\eta > 0$, draws the conclusion that

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} v^\varepsilon(\xi) = \begin{cases} v_-, & \text{for } \xi < \xi_\beta - \eta, \\ v_+, & \text{for } \xi > \xi_\beta + \eta \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

is in uniform in the earlier intervals.

Proof. It is easy to take $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small such that $\xi_\beta^\varepsilon < \xi_\beta + \eta/4$ for $\xi_\beta = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \xi_\beta^\varepsilon$. If we take $\xi_1 = \xi_\beta + \eta/2$, then it is clear that $\xi_\beta^\varepsilon < \xi_1 - \eta/4$. From Theorem 6, we know that $v^\varepsilon(\xi) > 0$ if $-1 < v_- < 0 < v_+$. Then (25) can be written as

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-\xi + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi))^2} \right) = \frac{v^\varepsilon(\xi)}{v^\varepsilon(\xi)}. \quad (31)$$

By integrating (31) over (ξ_1, ξ) , we arrive at

$$v^\varepsilon(\xi) = v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \exp \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds. \quad (32)$$

Integrating (32) over $(\xi_1, +\infty)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} v_+ - v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) &= v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \int_{\xi_1}^{+\infty} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right) d\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Because $v^\varepsilon(\xi)$ is monotonically increasing in the real axis, we have $v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \geq 0$ and $v_- \leq v^\varepsilon(s) \leq v_+$. Thus, one can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} v_+ - v_- &\geq v_+ - v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \\ &= v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \int_{\xi_1}^{+\infty} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right) d\xi \\ &\geq v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \int_{\xi_1}^{+\infty} \exp \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-\frac{1}{2} (\xi - \xi_1) (\xi + \xi_1) + \frac{\xi - \xi_1}{(1+v_+)^2} \right) d\xi \\ &= v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \int_0^{+\infty} \exp \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \zeta^2 + \zeta \left(\frac{1}{(1+v_+)^2} - \xi_1 \right) \right) d\zeta \\ &\geq v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \cdot \varepsilon C_1 \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

for $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ and C_1 is a constant independent of ε , in which the change of variables $\zeta = \xi - \xi_1$ has been used. So, we can get $0 \leq v^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \leq (v_+ - v_-)/(\varepsilon C_1)$. Together with (32), we know that

$$v^\varepsilon(\xi) \leq \frac{v_+ - v_-}{\varepsilon C_1} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right). \quad (35)$$

In view of (29), we have

$$\begin{aligned} -s + \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} &= \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(s))^2} - \frac{1}{(1+v^\varepsilon(\xi_\beta^\varepsilon))^2} - (s - \xi_\beta^\varepsilon), \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

noticing that $\xi_\beta^\varepsilon + \eta/4 < \xi_1 < s$, by applying the mean value theorem, and then there exists $\xi_2 \in (\xi_\beta^\varepsilon, s)$ such that

$$-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} = \left(\frac{-2v^\varepsilon(\xi_2)}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(\xi_2))^3} - 1 \right) (s - \xi_\beta^\varepsilon) \leq -\frac{\eta}{4}. \quad (37)$$

So, we get the following inequality:

$$\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) \leq \frac{v_+ - v_-}{\varepsilon C_1} \exp\left(-\frac{\eta}{4\varepsilon}(\xi - \xi_1)\right), \quad (38)$$

which means that $\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $\xi > \xi_\beta + \eta$.

For any $\xi > \xi_\beta + \eta$, we have

$$v_+ - v^\varepsilon(\xi) = \int_\xi^{+\infty} \dot{v}^\varepsilon(s) ds. \quad (39)$$

Obviously, we know that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} v^\varepsilon(\xi) = v_+$ uniformly on $\xi > \xi_\beta + \eta$ in view of (38).

Now, we try to prove that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} v^\varepsilon(\xi) = v_-$ uniformly on $\xi < \xi_\beta - \eta$. Similarly, it is easy to take $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small such that $\xi_\beta^\varepsilon > \xi_\beta - \eta/4$. If we take $\xi_3 = \xi_\beta - \eta/2$, then we also have $\xi_\beta^\varepsilon > \xi_3 + \eta/4$. By integrating (25) over (ξ, ξ_3) , we have

$$\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) = \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \exp \int_{\xi_3}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds. \quad (40)$$

Integrating (25) over $(-\infty, \xi_3)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} v^\varepsilon(\xi_3) - v_- &= \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \int_{-\infty}^{\xi_3} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_3}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right) d\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

Thus, we get the following result:

$$\begin{aligned} v_+ - v_- &\geq v^\varepsilon(\xi_3) - v_- \\ &= \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \int_{-\infty}^{\xi_3} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_3}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right) d\xi \\ &\geq \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \int_{-\infty}^{\xi_3} \exp \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-\frac{1}{2}(\xi - \xi_3)(\xi + \xi_3) + \frac{\xi - \xi_3}{(1 + v_-)^2} \right) d\xi \\ &= \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\zeta^2 + \zeta \left(\frac{1}{(1 + v_-)^2} - \xi_3 \right) \right) d\zeta \\ &\geq \dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \cdot \varepsilon C_2 \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

for $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ and C_2 is a constant independent of ε , in which the change of variables $\zeta = \xi - \xi_3$ has also been used. Thus we have $\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi_3) \leq (v_+ - v_-)/(\varepsilon C_2)$, together with (40), and we also know that

$$\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) \leq \frac{v_+ - v_-}{\varepsilon C_2} \exp \left(\int_{\xi_3}^{\xi} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} \right) ds \right). \quad (43)$$

Similarly, by applying the mean value theorem, then there exists $\xi_4 \in (s, \xi_\beta^\varepsilon)$ such that

$$-s + \frac{1}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(s))^2} = \left(\frac{-2v^\varepsilon(\xi_4)}{(1 + v^\varepsilon(\xi_4))^3} - 1 \right) (s - \xi_\beta^\varepsilon) \geq \frac{\eta}{4}. \quad (44)$$

Combining (43) together with (44), we get

$$\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) \leq \frac{v_+ - v_-}{\varepsilon C_2} \exp \left(-\frac{\eta}{4\varepsilon}(\xi_3 - \xi) \right), \quad (45)$$

which implies that $\dot{v}^\varepsilon(\xi) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $\xi < \xi_\beta - \eta$.

Thus, for any $\xi < \xi_\beta - \eta$, we have

$$v^\varepsilon(\xi) - v_- = \int_{-\infty}^{\xi} \dot{v}^\varepsilon(s) ds. \quad (46)$$

Obviously, we can see that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} v^\varepsilon(\xi) = v_-$ uniformly on $\xi < \xi_\beta - \eta$ in view of (45). $\square$

Lemma 9. Let ξ_α and ξ_β be defined as above. Then, one has

$$\xi_\alpha = \xi_\beta = \frac{1}{(1 + v_-)(1 + v_+)}. \quad (47)$$

Proof. Take any $\phi(\xi) \in C_0^\infty(\xi_1, \xi_2)$ where $\xi_1 < \xi_\beta < \xi_2$. It follows from (25) that

$$\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \varepsilon v_{\xi\xi} \cdot \phi(\xi) d\xi = \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(-\xi v_\xi + \left(\frac{v}{1 + v} \right)_\xi \right) \phi(\xi) d\xi. \quad (48)$$

By employing integration by parts and applying the fact that ϕ is compactly supported in (ξ_1, ξ_2) , we have

$$\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \varepsilon v \phi''(\xi) d\xi = \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(v(\phi(\xi) + \xi \phi'(\xi)) - \frac{v}{1 + v} \phi'(\xi) \right) d\xi. \quad (49)$$

Taking the limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ in (49), it can be obtained from Lemma 8 that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_\beta} \left(v_- (\phi(\xi) + \xi \phi'(\xi)) - \frac{v_-}{1 + v_-} \phi'(\xi) \right) d\xi \\ &+ \int_{\xi_\beta}^{\xi_2} \left(v_+ (\phi(\xi) + \xi \phi'(\xi)) - \frac{v_+}{1 + v_+} \phi'(\xi) \right) d\xi = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Through simplifying (50), we get

$$\phi(\xi_\beta) \cdot \left(v_- \xi_\beta - \frac{v_-}{1 + v_-} - v_+ \xi_\beta + \frac{v_+}{1 + v_+} \right) = 0, \quad (51)$$

which leads to $\xi_\beta = 1/(1 + v_-)(1 + v_+)$ for the arbitrary of $\phi(\xi)$.

Let us turn back to calculate ξ_α ; we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + v_+) \xi_\beta &= \frac{1}{1 + v_-} \geq \xi_\alpha = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \xi_\alpha^\varepsilon \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1 + v^\varepsilon(\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon)} \geq \frac{1}{1 + v_+} = (1 + v_-) \xi_\beta. \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

It is clear that $1/(1 + \nu_-) > \xi_\beta > 1/(1 + \nu_+)$ for $-1 < \nu_- < 0 < \nu_+$. Furthermore, if we assume that $1/(1 + \nu_-) > \xi_\alpha > \xi_\beta$, through taking $\eta = (\xi_\alpha - \xi_\beta)/2 > 0$ here, then we can take $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small such that $\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon > \xi_\alpha - \eta = \xi_\beta + \eta$ for $\xi_\alpha = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \xi_\alpha^\varepsilon$. It can be derived from Lemma 8 that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \nu^\varepsilon(\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon) = \nu_+$. Thus, we arrive at $\xi_\alpha = 1/(1 + \nu_+)$ by applying (52), which contradicts the assumption $1/(1 + \nu_-) > \xi_\alpha > \xi_\beta$.

On the other hand, if we assume that $\xi_\beta > \xi_\alpha > 1/(1 + \nu_+)$, by taking $\eta = (\xi_\beta - \xi_\alpha)/2 > 0$ now, then we can also take $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small such that $\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon < \xi_\alpha + \eta = \xi_\beta - \eta$. It can be derived from Lemma 8 that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \nu^\varepsilon(\xi_\alpha^\varepsilon) = \nu_-$. Thus, we arrive at $\xi_\alpha = 1/(1 + \nu_-)$ by applying (52), which also contradicts the assumption $\xi_\beta > \xi_\alpha > 1/(1 + \nu_+)$.

From the above discussion, we can get the relation $\xi_\alpha = \xi_\beta = 1/(1 + \nu_-)(1 + \nu_+)$. The proof is completed. $\square$

Lemma 10. For any $\eta > 0$, one can obtain

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} w^\varepsilon(\xi) = \begin{cases} w_-, & \text{for } \xi < \xi_\beta - \eta, \\ w_+, & \text{for } \xi > \xi_\beta + \eta, \end{cases} \quad (53)$$

uniformly in the above intervals.

The process of this proof is similar to that of Lemma 5.3 in [5], and thus we omit it.

Theorem 11. Let $-1 < \nu_- < 0 < \nu_+$ and let $(\nu^\varepsilon(\xi), w^\varepsilon(\xi))$ be the solution of (23) and (24). Then, the limit of $(\nu^\varepsilon(\xi), w^\varepsilon(\xi))$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ is (17) with (18), namely, the corresponding Riemann solution of (1) and (2).

Proof. To prove it, we should consider the limit behavior of $w^\varepsilon(\xi)$ in the neighborhood of $\xi = \sigma = 1/(1 + \nu_-)(1 + \nu_+)$. We take $\phi(\xi) \in C_0^\infty(\xi_1, \xi_2)$ with $\xi_1 < \sigma < \xi_2$ and satisfy $\phi(\xi) = \phi(\sigma)$ on the neighborhood of $\xi = \sigma$ such as $N(\mu) = [\sigma - \mu, \sigma + \mu]$ for sufficiently small $\mu > 0$, which is called the sloping test functions in [22].

Then, by (26), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(-\xi w_\xi^\varepsilon + \left(\frac{w^\varepsilon}{1 + \nu^\varepsilon} \right)_\xi \right) \phi(\xi) d\xi \\ &= \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(w^\varepsilon \phi + w^\varepsilon \left(\xi - \frac{1}{1 + \nu^\varepsilon} \right) \phi' \right) d\xi = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

It follows from $\phi(\xi) = \phi(\sigma)$ for $\xi \in N(\mu)$ that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(w^\varepsilon \left(\xi - \frac{1}{1 + \nu^\varepsilon} \right) \phi' \right) d\xi \\ &= \int_{\xi_1}^{\sigma - \mu} \left(w_- \left(\xi - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_-} \right) \phi' \right) d\xi \\ &+ \int_{\sigma + \mu}^{\xi_2} \left(w_+ \left(\xi - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_+} \right) \phi' \right) d\xi \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= w_- \left(\sigma - \mu - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_-} \right) \phi(\sigma) \\ &- w_- \int_{\xi_1}^{\sigma - \mu} \phi d\xi - w_+ \left(\sigma + \mu - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_+} \right) \phi(\sigma) \\ &- w_+ \int_{\sigma + \mu}^{\xi_2} \phi d\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

By taking the limit $\mu \rightarrow 0$ above, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} \left(w^\varepsilon \left(\xi - \frac{1}{1 + \nu^\varepsilon} \right) \phi' \right) d\xi \\ &= \left(-\sigma[w] + \left[\frac{w}{1 + \nu} \right] \right) \phi(\sigma) \\ &- \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} (w_- H(\sigma - \xi) + w_+ H(\xi - \sigma)) \phi(\xi) d\xi, \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

in which H denotes the Heaviside function.

Combining (54) together with (56), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} (w^\varepsilon - w_- H(\sigma - \xi) - w_+ H(\xi - \sigma)) \phi(\xi) d\xi \\ &= \left(\sigma[w] - \left[\frac{w}{1 + \nu} \right] \right) \phi(\sigma) \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

for all sloping test functions $\phi(\xi) \in C_0^\infty[\xi_1, \xi_2]$. With the same technique in [5, 22], one can see that the conclusion can also be drawn for any test function $\phi(\xi) \in C_0[\xi_1, \xi_2]$.

By taking the limits $\xi_1 \rightarrow \sigma -$ and $\xi_2 \rightarrow \sigma +$ in (57), we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} w(\xi) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} w^\varepsilon(\xi) \\ &= w_- H(\sigma - \xi) + w_+ H(\xi - \sigma) \\ &+ \left(\sigma[w] - \left[\frac{w}{1 + \nu} \right] \right) \delta(\xi - \sigma). \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

Thus the limit of $w^\varepsilon(\xi)$ is exactly the corresponding Riemann solution (17) with (18) for w when $-1 < \nu_- < 0 < \nu_+$.

Finally, the value of $\nu(\xi)$ at the discontinuity point $\xi = \sigma$ should be calculated. Then, (26) can be changed into the following form:

$$\int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_2} w \cdot \left(\phi + \xi \phi' - \frac{\phi'}{1 + \nu} \right) d\xi = 0. \quad (59)$$

By substituting (58) into (59), through a simple calculation, one can arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\xi_1}^{\sigma - \mu} \left(\phi + \xi \phi' - \frac{\phi'}{1 + \nu} \right) d\xi + \int_{\sigma + \mu}^{\xi_2} \left(\phi + \xi \phi' - \frac{\phi'}{1 + \nu} \right) d\xi \\ &+ \left(\sigma[w] - \left[\frac{w}{1 + \nu} \right] \right) \left(\phi(\sigma) + \sigma \phi'(\sigma) - \frac{\phi'(\sigma)}{1 + \nu_\delta} \right) = 0; \end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

namely,

$$w_- \left(\sigma - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_-} \right) \phi(\sigma) - w_+ \left(\sigma - \frac{1}{1 + \nu_+} \right) \phi(\sigma) + \left(\sigma[w] - \left[\frac{w}{1 + \nu} \right] \right) \left(\phi(\sigma) + \sigma \phi'(\sigma) - \frac{\phi'(\sigma)}{1 + \nu_\delta} \right) = 0. \quad (61)$$

Since ϕ is arbitrary, one can obtain $\sigma = 1/(1 + \nu_\delta) = 1/(1 + \nu_-)(1 + \nu_+)$, which implies that $\nu_\delta = \nu_- + \nu_+ + \nu_+ \nu_-$. $\square$

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