Some Computer Assisted Proofs for Solutions of the Heat Convection Problems

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Abstract. This is a continuation of our previous results [9]. In [9], the authors considered the two-dimensional Rayleigh-Bénard convection and proposed an approach to prove the exsistence of the steady-state solutions based on the infinite dimensional fixed-point theorem using Newton-like operator with the spectral approximation and the constructive error estimates. We numerically verified several exact non-trivial solutions which correspond to the bifurcated solutions from the trivial solution. This paper shows more detailed results of verification for the given Prandtl and Rayleigh numbers. Particularly, we found a new and interesting solution branch which was not obtained in the previous study, and it should enable us to present an important information to clarify the global bifurcation structure. All numerical results discussed are taken into account of the effects of rounding errors in the floating point computations.

1. The Rayleigh-Bénard Problems

We consider a plane horizontal layer (see Fig.1) of an incompressible viscous fluid heated from below. At the lower boundary: z = 0 the layer of fluid is maintained at temperature $T + \delta T$ and the temperature of the upper boundary (z = h) is T.



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Fig.1. Fluid layer model

As well known, under the vanishing assumption in y-direction, the two-dimensional (x-z) heat convection model can be described as the following Oberbeck-Boussinesq approximations [1, 3]:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + uu_x + wu_z &= -p_x/\rho_0 + \nu \Delta u, \\ w_t + uw_x + ww_z &= -(p_z + g\rho)/\rho_0 + \nu \Delta w, \\ u_x + w_z &= 0, \\ \theta_t + u\theta_x + w\theta_z &= \kappa \Delta \theta. \end{cases}$$
(1)

Here,

u, w: velocity in x and z, respectively

p: pressure

 θ : temperature

 ρ : fluid density

 ρ_0 : density at temperature $T + \delta T$

 ν : kinematic viscosity

q: gravitational acceleration

 κ : coefficient of thermal diffusivity

$$*_{\xi} := \partial/\partial \xi (\xi = x, z, t)$$

$$\Delta := \partial^2/\partial x^2 + \partial^2/\partial z^2.$$

And ρ is assumed to be represented by

$$\rho - \rho_0 = -\rho_0 \alpha (\theta - T - \delta T),$$

where α is the coefficient of thermal expansion.

The Oberbeck-Boussinesq equations (1) have the following stationary solution:

$$u^* = 0$$
, $w^* = 0$, $\theta^* = T + \delta T - \frac{\delta T}{h}z$, $p^* = p_0 - g\rho_0(z + \frac{\alpha \delta T}{2h}z^2)$,

where p_0 is a constant. By setting

$$\hat{u} := u, \qquad \hat{w} := w, \qquad \hat{\theta} := \theta^* - \theta, \qquad \hat{p} := p^* - p,$$

we obtain the transformed equations:

$$\begin{cases} \hat{u}_t + \hat{u}\hat{u}_x + \hat{w}\hat{u}_z &= \hat{p}_x/\rho_0 + \nu\Delta\hat{u}, \\ \hat{w}_t + \hat{u}\hat{w}_x + \hat{w}\hat{w}_z &= \hat{p}_z/\rho_0 - g\alpha\hat{\theta} + \nu\Delta\hat{w}, \\ \hat{u}_x + \hat{w}_z &= 0, \\ \hat{\theta}_t + \delta T\hat{w}/h + \hat{u}\hat{\theta}_x + \hat{w}\hat{\theta}_z &= \kappa\Delta\hat{\theta}. \end{cases}$$
(2)

By further transforming to dimensionless variables:

$$t \to \kappa t$$
, $u \to \hat{u}/\kappa$, $w \to \hat{w}/\kappa$, $\theta \to \hat{\theta}h/\delta T$, $p \to \hat{p}/(\rho_0 \kappa^2)$

of (2), we have the dimensionless equations:

$$\begin{cases}
 u_t + uu_x + wu_z &= p_x + \mathcal{P}\Delta u, \\
 w_t + uw_x + ww_z &= p_z - \mathcal{P}\mathcal{R}\theta + \mathcal{P}\Delta w, \\
 u_x + w_z &= 0, \\
 \theta_t + w + u\theta_x + w\theta_z &= \Delta\theta.
\end{cases}$$
(3)

Here

$$\mathcal{R} := \frac{\delta T \alpha g}{\kappa \nu h} \quad \text{Rayleigh number}$$

and

$$\mathcal{P} := \frac{\nu}{\kappa}$$
 Prandtl number.

2. Fixed-point formulation of problem

In this section, we describe the problem concerned as a fixed point equation of a compact map on the appropriate function space. Since we only consider the the *steady-state solutions*, u_t , w_t and θ_t vanish in (3). And also assume that all fluid motion is confined to the rectangular region $\Omega := \{0 < x < 2\pi/a, 0 < z < \pi\}$ for a given wave number a > 0.

Let us impose periodic boundary condition (period $2\pi/a$) in the horizontal direction, stress-free boundary conditions ($u_z = w = 0$) for the velocity field and Dirichlet boundary conditions ($\theta = 0$) for the temperature field on the surfaces $z = 0, \pi$, respectively.

Furthermore, we assume the following evenness and oddness conditions:

$$u(x,z) = -u(-x,z), \quad w(x,z) = w(-x,z), \quad \theta(x,z) = \theta(-x,z).$$

We use the stream function Ψ satisfying

$$u = -\Psi_z, \quad w = \Psi_x$$

so that $u_x + w_z = 0$. By some simple calculations in (3) with setting $\Theta := \sqrt{PR\theta}$, we obtain

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{P}\Delta^2\Psi = \sqrt{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{R}}\,\Theta_x - \Psi_z\Delta\Psi_x + \Psi_x\Delta\Psi_z, \\
-\Delta\Theta = -\sqrt{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{R}}\,\Psi_x + \Psi_z\Theta_x - \Psi_x\Theta_z.
\end{cases} \tag{4}$$

From the boundary conditions, the functions Ψ and Θ can be assumed to have the following representations:

$$\Psi = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sin(amx) \sin(nz), \quad \Theta = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{mn} \cos(amx) \sin(nz).$$
(5)

We now define the following function spaces for integers $k \geq 0$:

$$X^{k} := \left\{ \Psi = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sin(amx) \sin(nz) \mid A_{mn} \in \mathbf{R}, \right.$$

$$\left. \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((am)^{2k} + n^{2k}) A_{mn}^{2} < \infty \right\},$$

$$Y^{k} := \left\{ \Theta = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{mn} \cos(amx) \sin(nz) \mid B_{mn} \in \mathbf{R}, \right.$$

$$\left. \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((am)^{2k} + n^{2k}) B_{mn}^{2} < \infty \right\}.$$

In order to get the enclosure of the exact solutions for the problem (4), we need some appropriate finite dimensional subspaces. For $M_1, N_1, M_2 \ge 1$ and $N_2 \ge 0$, we set $N := (M_1, N_1, M_2, N_2)$ and define the finite dimensional approximate subspaces by

$$S_N^{(1)} = \left\{ \Psi_N = \sum_{m=1}^{M_1} \sum_{n=1}^{N_1} \hat{A}_{mn} \sin(amx) \sin(nz) \mid \hat{A}_{mn} \in \mathbf{R} \right\},$$

$$S_N^{(2)} = \left\{ \Theta_N = \sum_{m=0}^{M_2} \sum_{n=1}^{N_2} \hat{B}_{mn} \cos(amx) \sin(nz) \mid \hat{B}_{mn} \in \mathbf{R} \right\},$$

$$S_N = S_N^{(1)} \times S_N^{(2)}.$$

Let denote an approximate solution of (4) by $\hat{u}_N := (\hat{\Psi}_N, \hat{\Theta}_N) \in S_N$. We now set

$$\begin{cases} f_1(\Psi, \Theta) := \sqrt{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{R}} \,\Theta_x - \Psi_z \Delta \Psi_x + \Psi_x \Delta \Psi_z, \\ f_2(\Psi, \Theta) := -\sqrt{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{R}} \,\Psi_x + \Psi_z \Theta_x - \Psi_x \Theta_z, \end{cases}$$

where

$$\Psi = \hat{\Psi}_N + w^{(1)}, \qquad \Theta = \hat{\Theta}_N + w^{(2)}.$$

Then (4) is rewritten as the problem with respect to $(w^{(1)}, w^{(2)}) \in X^4 \times Y^2$ satisfying

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{P}\Delta^{2}w^{(1)} = f_{1}(\hat{\Psi}_{N} + w^{(1)}, \hat{\Theta}_{N} + w^{(2)}) - \mathcal{P}\Delta^{2}\hat{\Psi}_{N}, \\
-\Delta w^{(2)} = f_{2}(\hat{\Psi}_{N} + w^{(1)}, \hat{\Theta}_{N} + w^{(2)}) + \Delta\hat{\Theta}_{N},
\end{cases} (6)$$

which is so-called a residual equation. Setting

$$w = (w^{(1)}, w^{(2)}),$$

$$h_1(w) = f_1(\hat{\Psi}_N + w^{(1)}, \hat{\Theta}_N + w^{(2)}) - \mathcal{P}\Delta^2\hat{\Psi}_N,$$

$$h_2(w) = f_2(\hat{\Psi}_N + w^{(1)}, \hat{\Theta}_N + w^{(2)}) + \Delta\hat{\Theta}_N,$$

$$h(w) = (h_1(w), h_2(w)),$$

by virtue of the Sobolev embeding theorem and the definition of f_1 and f_2 , h is a bounded continuous map from $X^3 \times Y^1$ to $X^0 \times Y^0$. Moreover, it is easily shown that for all $(g_1, g_2) \in X^0 \times Y^0$, the linear problem:

$$\begin{cases}
\Delta^2 \bar{\Psi} = g_1, \\
-\Delta \bar{\Theta} = g_2
\end{cases}$$
(7)

has a unique solution $(\bar{\Psi}, \bar{\Theta}) \in X^4 \times Y^2$. We denote this mapping by $\bar{\Psi} = (\Delta^2)^{-1} g_1$ and $\bar{\Theta} = (-\Delta)^{-1} g_2$, then the operator:

$$\mathcal{K} := (\mathcal{P}^{-1}(\Delta^2)^{-1}, (-\Delta)^{-1}): X^0 \times Y^0 \to X^3 \times Y^1$$

is a compact map because of the compactness of the imbedding $X^4 \hookrightarrow X^3$ and $Y^2 \hookrightarrow Y^1$ and the boundedness of $(\Delta^2)^{-1}: X^0 \to X^4, (-\Delta)^{-1}: Y^0 \to Y^2$. Thus, (6) is rewritten by a fixed-point equation:

$$w = Fw \tag{8}$$

for the compact operator $F := \mathcal{K} \circ h$ on $X^3 \times Y^1$. Therefore, by the Schauder fixed-point theorem, if we find a nonempty, closed, bounded and convex set $W \subset X^3 \times Y^1$, satisfying

$$FW \subset W$$
 (9)

then there exists a solution of (8) in W. The set W in (9) is referred as a candidate set of solutions.

3. Constructive error estimates and computable verification condition

In order to obtain the set W satisfying (9), we need a projection into S_N and its constructive a priori error estimates.

For $\Psi \in X^3$ and $\Theta \in Y^1$, let us define projections $P_N^{(1)}\Psi \in S_N^{(1)}$ and $P_N^{(2)}\Theta \in S_N^{(2)}$ by

$$\begin{cases}
(\Delta(P_N^{(1)}\Psi - \Psi), \Delta v_N^{(1)})_{L^2} = 0 & \forall v_N^{(1)} \in S_N^{(1)}, \\
(\nabla(P_N^{(2)}\Theta - \Theta), \nabla v_N^{(2)})_{L^2} = 0 & \forall v_N^{(2)} \in S_N^{(2)}.
\end{cases} (10)$$

Now we denote the L^2 -inner product and the L^2 -norm on Ω by $(\cdot,\cdot)_{L^2}$ and $\|\cdot\|_{L^2}$, respectively, and also define the H_0^1 -norm: $\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}$ and the H^k -norm: $\|u\|_{H^k}$ on Ω by $\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 = \|u_x\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u_z\|_{L^2}^2$ and $\|u\|_{H^k}^2 = \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}, i+j\leq k} \|\partial^{i+j}u/\partial^i x \partial^j z\|_{L^2}^2$, respectively. Naturally, the norms in X^k and Y^k are defined by H^k -norm on Ω .

norms in X^k and Y^k are defined by H^k -norm on Ω . For each $(g_1, g_2) \in X^0 \times Y^0$, let $(\psi, \theta) \in X^4 \times Y^2$ be the solution of (7), and let $(P_N^{(1)}\psi, P_N^{(2)}\theta) \in S_N$ be finite dimensional approximations defined by (10). Then, we have the constructive a priori error estimates of the form:

$$\|\psi - P_N^{(1)}\psi\|_{H^k} \le C_{1,k}\|g_1\|_{L^2}$$
 and $\|\theta - P_N^{(2)}\theta\|_{H^k} \le C_{2,k}\|g_2\|_{L^2}$. (11)

Here $C_{i,k}$ are numerically estimated, e.g., such as

$$C_{1,1} \le \max\{\frac{1}{(a^2 + (N_1 + 1)^2)^2}, \frac{1}{(a^2(M_1 + 1)^2 + 1)^2}\},$$

see [9] for details.

We now reformulate the verification condition (9) by applying the Newton-like method for nonlinear elliptic problems proposed by the author [6, 7]. Defining the projection from $X^3 \times Y^1$ into S_N by

$$P_N = (P_N^{(1)}, P_N^{(2)}),$$

the fixed-point problem w = Fw can be decomposed as the finite dimensional and infinite dimensional part as follows:

$$\begin{cases}
P_N w = P_N F w, \\
(I - P_N) w = (I - P_N) F w,
\end{cases}$$
(12)

where I is the identity map on $X^3 \times Y^1$. We assume that the restriction of the operator $P_N(I - \mathcal{K}f'(\hat{u}_N)) : X^3 \times Y^1 \longrightarrow S_N$ to S_N has an inverse

$$[I - P_N \mathcal{K} f'(\hat{u}_N)]_N^{-1} : S_N \longrightarrow S_N, \tag{13}$$

where $f'(\hat{u}_N)$ denotes the Fréchet derivative of $f := (f_1, f_2)$ at the approximate solution \hat{u}_N which coincides with h'(0). Then, we define the operator $\mathcal{N}_N : X^3 \times Y^1 \longrightarrow S_N$ by

$$\mathcal{N}_N w = P_N w - [I - P_N \mathcal{K} f'(\hat{u}_N)]_N^{-1} P_N (I - F) w$$

and the compact map $T: X^3 \times Y^1 \longrightarrow X^3 \times Y^1$ by

$$Tw = \mathcal{N}_N w + (I - P_N) Fw.$$

Since $w = Fw \Leftrightarrow w = Tw$, we have the computable verification condition of the form:

$$TW \subset W,$$
 (14)

where, usually, the candidate set W is taken to be as

$$W = W_N \oplus W_*$$

with $W_N \subset S_N$ and $W_* \subset S_N^{\perp}$. Therefore, (14) is equivalently rewritten as

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{N}_N W \subset W_N, \\
(I - P_N) F W \subset W_*.
\end{cases}$$
(15)

We omit the detailed verification procedures based upon this criterion(see, e.g., [6] [7] and [9] etc.).

4. Numerical Results

We successfully verified several kinds of bifurcating solutions which actually exist on the different bifurcation branches. By these results rather complicated bifurcation structure could be clarified for the concerned problem, while only solutions on relatively simple branches were enclosed in [9],

4.1. The trivial solution

It is clear that the problem (4) has a trivial solution $\Psi = \Theta = 0$ for all \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{R} . Fig.2 shows the isotherm of the temperature $T + \delta T - \frac{\delta T}{h}z$ when T = 0 and $\delta T = 5$.

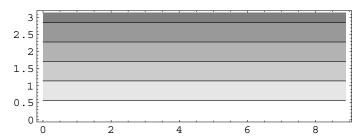


Fig.2 The isotherm of the temperature: stationary solution.

It is known that for small \mathcal{R} the fluid conducts heat diffusively, and at a critial point $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{C}}$, heat is transposed through the fluid by convection. It has been shown by Joseph [4] that (3) has a unique trivial solution for $\mathcal{R} < \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{C}}$. However, the global structure of bifurcated solutions after the critical Rayleigh point $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{C}}$ has not been known theoretically.

4.2. First and second bifurcated solutions from the trivial solution

In our preceding paper [9], we already verified for several nontrivial solutions corresponding on the first and second bifurcated solution branches. Namely, for the case that $a = 1/\sqrt{2}$ and $\mathcal{P} = 10$, the first solution branch appears after the critical Rayleigh number $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{C}} = 6.75$.

We obtained two non-trivial approximate solutions for various Rayleigh numbers \mathcal{R} of the form:

$$\hat{\Psi}_N = \sum_{m=1}^{M_1} \sum_{n=1}^{N_1} \hat{A}_{mn} \sin(amx) \sin(nz), \qquad \hat{\Theta}_N = \sum_{m=0}^{M_2} \sum_{n=1}^{N_2} \hat{B}_{mn} \cos(amx) \sin(nz)$$

for some M_1 , M_2 , N_1 and N_2 by Fourier-Galerkin method combined with Newton-Raphson iteration. Fig.3 shows the velocity field $(-(\hat{\Psi}_N)_z, (\hat{\Psi}_N)_x)$ at $\mathcal{R} = 50, \mathcal{P} = 10, M_1 = N_1 = M_2 = N_2 = 10$, respectively. We illustrate the particular value of coefficients, under the figures, which has the maximum absolute value in $\{\hat{A}_{mn}\}$ and $\{\hat{B}_{mn}\}$, respectively.

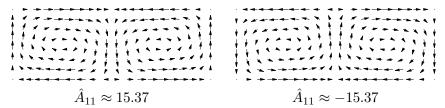


Fig.3 The velocity field of the first bifurcated solution.

Fig.4 shows the isotherm of the temperature

$$\theta^* = \delta T (1 - z/\pi - \Theta/\sqrt{\mathcal{RP}}\pi) + T$$

when T = 0, $\delta T = 5$.

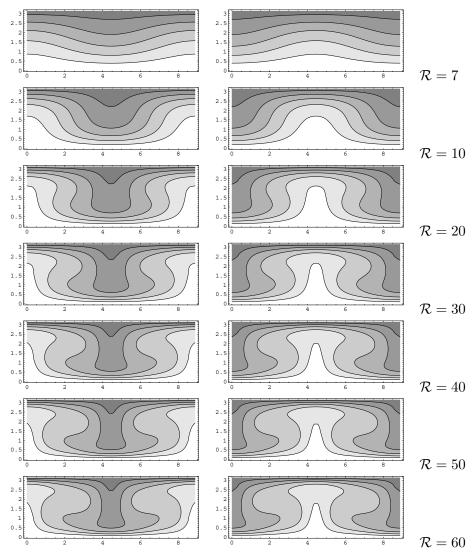
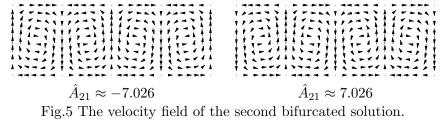


Fig.4 The isotherm of the temperature for the first bifurcated solution.

After the Rayleigh number

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{(a^2m^2 + n^2)^3}{a^2m^2} = 13.5 \quad (m = 2, n = 1, a = 1/\sqrt{2}),$$

we obtained two non-trivial approximate solutions which are expected to be second bifurcated solutions from the trivial solution. Fig.5 and Fig.6 show the velocity field at $\mathcal{R}=50, \mathcal{P}=10, M_1=N_1=M_2=N_2=10$ and the isotherm of the temperature, respectively.



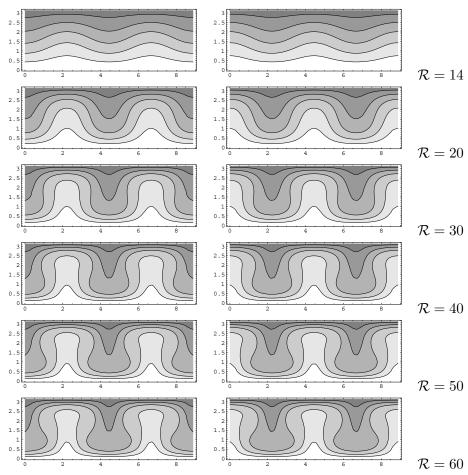


Fig.6 The isotherm of the temperature for the second bifurcated solution.

4.3. Third bifurcated solutions from the trivial solution

After the Rayleigh number

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{(a^2m^2 + n^2)^3}{a^2m^2} = 1331/36 \quad (m = 3, n = 1, a = 1/\sqrt{2}),$$

we obtained two non-trivial approximate solutions which are expected to be third bifurcated solutions from the trivial solution. Fig. 7 and Fig. 8 show the velocity field at $\mathcal{R} = 50, \mathcal{P} = 10, M_1 = N_1 = M_2 = N_2 = 10$ and the isotherm of the temperature, respectively.

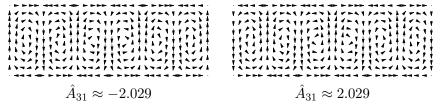


Fig.7 The velocity field of the third bifurcated solution.

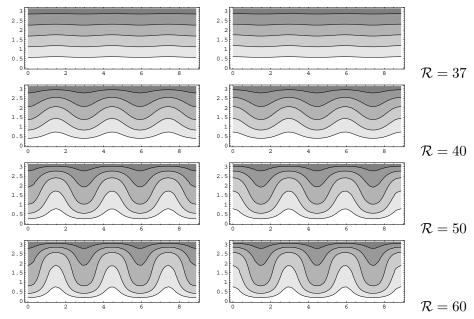


Fig.8 The isotherm of the temperature for the third bifurcated solution.

4.4. Another non-trivial solutions

We also calculated four different non-trivial approximate solutions after $\mathcal{R}=32.5$. According to those computational results, we expected the existence of another bifurcation curve which is bifurcated from the second bifurcation branch (cf.Fig.11). For example, we observed the phenomena as shown in Fig.9 and Fig.10 for the case that $\mathcal{R}=50, \mathcal{P}=10, M_1=N_1=M_2=N_2=10$. Actually we could verify such a solution branches.

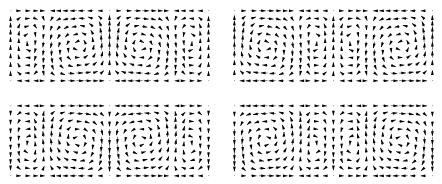


Fig. 9 The velocity field of the another non-trivial solutions.

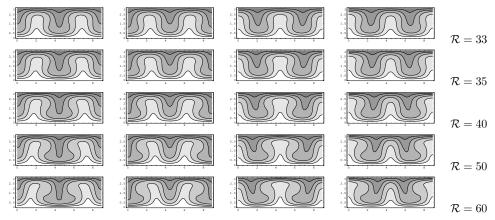


Fig.10 The isotherm of the temperature for the another non-trivial solutions.

4.5. Verification Results

As a whole, we succeeded to verify the exact solutions of (4) corresponding to the approximate solutions shown in Fig.11. The vertical axis

shows the absolute value of the coefficient of the approximate solution: $\hat{\Theta}_N = \sum_{m=0}^{M_2} \sum_{n=1}^{N_2} \hat{B}_{mn} \sin(amx) \sin(nz)$. Each dot implies that the verification procedure was resulted in success.

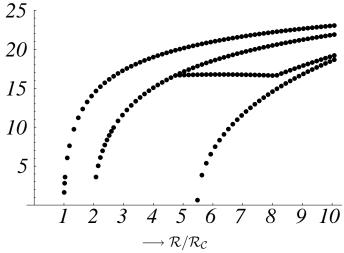


Fig.11 The bifurcation structure.

Particularly, for the case that $\mathcal{R} = 60$, $\mathcal{P} = 10$ with $N := M_1 =$ $M_2 = N_1 = N_2$, we could enclosed 10 different solutions whose error bounds are shown in Table.1. In the table, the half number of solutions would be obtained by some consideration of symmetric property of the problem. It might also be possible to show the pitchfork type bifurcation structure by appropriate drawing of the diagram. In Table.1, there exists a solution $(\Psi,\Theta) \in X^3 \times Y^1$ of (4) in

$$\Psi \in \hat{\Psi}_N + W_N^{(1)} + W_*^{(1)}, \\ \Theta \in \hat{\Theta}_N + W_N^{(2)} + W_*^{(2)}.$$

Table 1. Verification results; $\mathcal{R} = 60$, $\mathcal{P} = 10$

No.	N	$\ \hat{\Psi}_N\ _{L^2}$	$\ \hat{\Theta}_N\ _{L^2}$	$\ W_N^{(1)}\ _{L^{\infty}}$	$\ W_N^{(2)}\ _{L^{\infty}}$	$ W_*^{(1)} _{L^{\infty}}$	$ W_*^{(2)} _{L^{\infty}}$
1	45	17.44	34.89	1.40×10^{-9}	3.12×10^{-11}	2.46×10^{-11}	1.26×10^{-7}
2	45	17.44	34.89	1.40×10^{-9}	3.12×10^{-11}	2.46×10^{-11}	1.26×10^{-7}
3	30	8.14	30.57	2.35×10^{-6}	2.56×10^{-8}	7.75×10^{-8}	1.35×10^{-4}
4	30	8.14	30.57	2.35×10^{-6}	2.56×10^{-8}	7.75×10^{-8}	1.35×10^{-4}
5	50	9.62			8.77×10^{-10}		
6	50	9.62			8.77×10^{-10}		
7	50	9.62	29.43	9.75×10^{-9}	8.77×10^{-10}	6.96×10^{-11}	5.21×10^{-7}
8	50	9.62	29.43	9.75×10^{-9}	8.77×10^{-10}	6.96×10^{-11}	5.21×10^{-7}
9	20	2.84			9.56×10^{-7}		
10	20	2.84	19.49	3.40×10^{-5}	9.56×10^{-7}	1.75×10^{-6}	1.10×10^{-3}

Remark. In Fig.11, each dot shows the corresponding solution is verified in mathematically rigorous sense. Therefore, it also implies that we established a computer assisted proof in the analysis of concerned heat convection problem. However, from our verification results we cannot decide up to now whether the verified solutions are really bifurcated or simply isolated solutions. This question should be solved in our future work.

We used the following software for the verified numerical computations:

Fortran 90 library INTLIB_90 coded by Kearfott [5] with DIGITAL Fortran V5.4-1283 on Compaq Alpha Server GS320 (Alpha 21264 731MHz; Tru64 UNIX V5.1).

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