

# Finite Element Method for a Class of Nonlinear Problems I-Abstract Results\*

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This paper is devoted to the study of finite dimensional approximation of a class of nonlinear problems. Under some conditions, we show that the approximate solutions are convergent in the cases of branches of nonsingular solutions, limit points and simple bifurcation points. This work establishes the theoretical foundation of conforming element, nonconforming element and quasi-conforming element methods for Navier-Stokes equations and Von Karman's equations.

## 1. Problems and The Basic Assumptions

Let  $X$  be a real Hilbert space with the product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  and the corresponding norm  $\|\cdot\|$ ,  $\Lambda$  a subset in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $\tilde{X}$  a subspace of  $X$ , and  $X_0 \subset \tilde{X}$  be a closed subspace in  $\tilde{X}$ . Assume that  $A: X \rightarrow X$  is a bounded linear operator and  $G: \Lambda \times \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is a nonlinear operator. Denote  $T_0$  the orthogonal projection operator from  $X$  to  $X_0$  and set

$$(\lambda, v) \in \Lambda \times \tilde{X}, F(\lambda, v) = Av + G(\lambda, v), F_0(\lambda, v) = T_0 F(\lambda, v). \quad (1.1)$$

We consider the finite dimensional approximation of the following equation:

$$(\lambda, u) \in \Lambda \times X_0, F_0(\lambda, u) = 0. \quad (1.2)$$

For the parameter  $h$  in  $(0, 1)$ , we choose a finite dimensional subspace of  $\tilde{X}$ , say  $X_h$ . Define  $T_h: X \rightarrow X_h$  the orthogonal projection operator, and for  $(\lambda, v) \in \Lambda \times \tilde{X}$ ,  $F_h(\lambda, v) = T_h F(\lambda, v)$ . The finite dimensional approximation of (1.2) is the following problems:

$$(\lambda, u_h) \in \Lambda \times X_h, F_h(\lambda, u_h) = 0. \quad (1.3)$$

Generally,  $X_h$  is not a subspace of  $X_0$ , and the problem (1.3) is a "nonconforming" approximation of problem (1.2).

$\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$  is called having the approximability if for every  $v$  in  $X_0$ ,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \inf_{v_h \in X_h} \|v - v_h\| = 0. \quad \{X_h\}, X_0 \text{ is called to be weakly closed if for every}$$

weakly convergent sequence  $\{v_m\}$  with  $v_m$  in  $X_{h_m}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h_m \rightarrow 0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , the limit of the sequence is in  $X_0$ , where  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ .

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Operator  $A$  is uniformly  $X_h$ -elliptic if there exists a constant  $\eta > 0$  independent of  $h$ , such that,

$$v_h \in X_h, \quad (Av_h, v_h) \geq \eta \|v_h\|^2. \quad (1.4)$$

This paper is based on the following basic assumptions (H): i)  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$  has the approximability and is weakly closed; ii)  $A$  is uniformly  $X_h$ -elliptic; iii)  $G: \Lambda \times \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is  $p$ -times Gateaux differentiable for some  $p \geq 2$ , and the  $r$ th Gateaux derivative  $d^r G$  of  $G$  is  $r$ -linear for all  $r \leq p$ ; iv) for arbitrary  $h, h'$  in  $[0, 1]$ ,  $T_h G: \Lambda \times X_{h'} \rightarrow X$  is  $p$ -times Frechet differentiable, and the set  $\{\|T_h d^r G(\lambda, v)\|_{L_r(\mathbb{R}^k \times X_h, X)} \mid (\lambda, v) \in B \cap (\Lambda \times X_h), \quad h \in [0, 1]\}$  is bounded provided  $B$  is a bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^k \times X$  and  $r \leq p$ ; and v) if  $v_m \in X_{h_m}$  for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $v_m$  weakly converges to 0 and  $h_m \rightarrow 0$ , then  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (d_u G(\lambda, u) v_m, v_m) = 0$  for  $\forall (\lambda, u)$  in  $\Lambda \times X_0$ ; if  $(\lambda_m, v_m) \in \Lambda \times X_{h_m}$  for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(\lambda_m, v_m) \rightarrow (\lambda, v)$  in  $\Lambda \times X_0$  as  $h_m \rightarrow 0$  then  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|T_{h_m}(d^r G(\lambda_m, v_m) - d^r G(\lambda, v))\|_{L_r(\mathbb{R}^k \times X_{h_m}, X)} = 0$  for  $0 \leq r \leq p-1$ . Here

$d^0 G = G$ ,  $d_u G$  is the partial Gateaux derivative of  $G$  with respect to  $u$ , and  $\|\cdot\|_{L_r(Y, Z)} = \|\cdot\|_Z$  and  $\|\cdot\|_Z$  is the norm of  $Z$  for Banach spaces  $Y$  and  $Z$  (see [1]).

**Remark.** Actually, we want to discuss such a kind of nonlinear problems that  $A$  is  $X_0$ -elliptic and  $T_0 G: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is  $p$ -times Frechet differentiable and compact, and  $T_0 d^r G: \Lambda \times X_0 \rightarrow L_r(\mathbb{R}^k \times X_0, X_0)$  ( $r \geq 1$ ) are bounded operators. In this case (H) holds if  $X_h \subset X_0$  and  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$  has the approximability. When  $X_h \not\subset X_0$ ,  $X_h$  must possess some properties similar to those of  $X_0$  if we want to get convergent approximate solutions. We shall see that the assumptions (H) are enough for this purpose.

## 2. Branches of Nonsingular Solutions

In this section, let  $\{(\lambda, u(\lambda)) \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be a branch of nonsingular solutions of the equation (1.2), i.e.,  $F_0(\lambda, u(\lambda)) = 0$  and  $d_u F_0(\lambda, u(\lambda)): X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is an isomorphism for  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let (H) hold and  $\{(\lambda, u(\lambda)) \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be a branch of nonsingular solutions of equation (1.2). Assume  $\Lambda$  is closed and bounded. Then there exists a unique  $C^1$  mapping  $u_h: \Lambda \rightarrow X_h$ , for  $h$  sufficiently small, such that,

$$\begin{cases} F_h(\lambda, u_h(\lambda)) = 0, \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \|d^r(u(\lambda) - u_h(\lambda))\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^1, X)} = 0. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

**Proof.** First, we show that there exists  $h_0$  in  $(0, 1)$  independent of  $\lambda$  and a constant  $C$  independent of  $h$  and  $\lambda$ , such that,

$$\inf_{0 \neq v \in X_h} \sup_{0 \neq w \in X_h} |(d_u F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))v, w)| / \|v\| \|w\| \geq C > 0, \quad (2.2)$$

is true for  $h \leq h_0$  and  $\lambda$  in  $\Lambda$ . Otherwise, for each  $m$  in  $\mathbf{N}$ , there exists

$\lambda_m$  in  $\Lambda$  and  $v_m$  in  $X_{h_m}$ , such that,  $h_m \rightarrow 0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$m \in \mathbf{N}, \quad 1 = \|v_m\| > m \sup_{0 \neq w \in X_{h_m}} |(d_u F_{h_m}(\lambda_m, T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m))v_m, w)| / \|w\|. \quad (2.3)$$

By the weak closedness of  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$ , we can choose a subsequence  $\mathbf{N}'$  of  $\mathbf{N}$  and  $v_0$  in  $X_0$ , such that  $\{v_m\}_{m \in \mathbf{N}'}$  weakly convergent  $v_0$  and  $\{\lambda_m\}_{m \in \mathbf{N}'}$  converges to  $\lambda$  in  $\Lambda$ . By the approximability of  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$ ,  $T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m)$  converges to  $u(\lambda)$  and  $T_{h_m} v$  converges to  $v$  for  $\forall v$  in  $X_0$ . Thus (2.3) leads to

$$(Av_m, T_{h_m} v) + (d_u G(\lambda_m, T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m))v_m, T_{h_m} v) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } m \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } m \in \mathbf{N}'. \text{ Noticing } v)$$

$$(d_u G(\lambda_m, T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m))v_m, T_{h_m} v) \rightarrow (d_u G(\lambda, u(\lambda))v_0, v) \text{ as } m \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } m \in \mathbf{N}'. \text{ It follows}$$

$$\text{from } (Av_m, T_{h_m} v) \rightarrow (Av_0, v) \text{ that } (d_u F_0(\lambda, u(\lambda))v_0, v) = 0. \text{ Thus } v_0 = 0.$$

On the other hand, (2.3) gives that  $(Av_m, v_m) + (d_u G(\lambda_m, T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m))v_m, v_m) \rightarrow 0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$  and  $m \in \mathbf{N}'$ . Again by v) in (H), we get that

$$(d_u G(\lambda_m, T_{h_m} u(\lambda_m))v_m, v_m) \rightarrow 0. \text{ It follows from ii) in (H) that } \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty, m \in \mathbf{N}'} \|v_m\| = 0.$$

This is contradictory that  $\|v_m\| = 1$ .

Second, we show that

$$\|T_h u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda^*)\| \leq C \|\lambda - \lambda^*\|, \quad \forall \lambda, \lambda^* \in \Lambda, \quad (2.4)$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \|d^r(u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda))\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^1, X)} = 0. \quad (2.5)$$

where  $C$  is a constant independent of  $h$  and  $\lambda, \lambda^*$ .

Inequality (2.4) is obvious from the continuity of  $u(\lambda)$  and the boundedness of  $T_h$ .

For  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , there exist  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  in  $\Lambda$  such that,

$\min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|u(\lambda) - u(\lambda_i)\| \leq \varepsilon/3$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . And by the approach of  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$ , there exists  $\tilde{h}$  only dependent on  $\varepsilon$  and  $\lambda$ , such that  $\|u(\lambda_i) - T_h u(\lambda_i)\| < \varepsilon/3, h \in (0, \tilde{h}), 1 \leq i \leq n$ . Hence for  $h$  in  $(0, \tilde{h})$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , we have  $\|u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda)\| < \varepsilon$ . Thus we get  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \|u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda)\| = 0$ .

Noticing  $d'T_h = T_h d'$ , we can prove

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \|d'(u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda))\|_{L_r(\mathbb{R}^k, X)} = 0,$$

by the similar way. Hence (2.5) is proved to be true.

Thirdly, we show that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \|F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))\| = 0. \quad (2.6)$$

For  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  in  $\Lambda$  satisfy

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} (\|u(\lambda) - u(\lambda_i)\| + \|\lambda - \lambda_i\|) < \varepsilon.$$

Then for  $\forall \lambda \in \Lambda$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))\| &\leq \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{ \|F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda)) - F_h(\lambda_i, T_h u(\lambda_i))\| \\ &\quad + \|F_h(\lambda_i, T_h u(\lambda_i)) - F_h(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| + \|F_h(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| \}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

$\{(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda)) | \lambda \in \Lambda, h \in (0, 1)\}$  is a bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^k \times X$  because  $\{u(\lambda) | \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  is a bounded set in  $X$  and  $T_h$  is the orthogonal projection operator. It follows that

$$\min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda)) - F_h(\lambda_i, T_h u(\lambda_i))\| \leq M\varepsilon, \quad (2.8)$$

where  $M$  is a constant independent of  $h$  and  $\lambda$ . By v) in (H), there exists  $h'$  only dependent on  $\lambda_i$  and  $\varepsilon$ , such that,

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|F_h(\lambda_i, T_h u(\lambda_i)) - F_h(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| < \varepsilon. \quad (2.9)$$

is true for all  $h$  in  $(0, h')$ .

For the last term of the right hand of inequality (2.7), we have

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|F_h(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| = 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n. \quad (2.10)$$

In fact, let  $h_m$  be a sequence such that  $h_m \rightarrow 0$ , and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \|F_h(\lambda, u(\lambda))\| = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|F_{h_m}(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\|, \text{ and choose } w_m \text{ in } X_{h_m}$$

satisfying  $\|w_m\| = 1, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|F_{h_m}(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (F(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i)), w_m).$$

By the weak closedness of  $\{X_h\}$ ,  $X_0$ , there exists subsequence  $N'$  of  $N$  and  $w_0$  in  $X_0$ , such that  $\{w_m\}_{m \in N'}$  weakly converges to  $w_0$ . It follows that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty, m \in N'} (F(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i)), w_m) = (F(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i)), w_0) = 0. \text{ Hence (2.10) is true}$$

Thus we can choose  $h''$ , such that,  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|F_h(\lambda_i, u(\lambda_i))\| < \varepsilon$  for  $h \leq h''$ . Set  $\tilde{h} = \min\{h', h''\}$ , we have  $\|F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))\| < (M+2)\varepsilon$  for  $h \leq \tilde{h}$ . The equality (2.6) is proved.

Finally, we show the conclusions of theorem 1. By (2.2), (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6) and (iii) in (H), we can apply the theorem 1 in [2] and get that there exists an unique  $C^p$  mapping  $\lambda \rightarrow u_h(\lambda) \in X_n$  for  $h$  sufficiently small, such that,  $F_h(\lambda, u_h(\lambda)) = 0$ . and  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \|u(\lambda) - u_h(\lambda)\| = 0$ . By theorem 2 in paper [2], we can conclude that for  $1 \leq l \leq p-1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|d^l(u(\lambda) - u_h(\lambda))\|_{L_l(\mathbb{R}^t, X)} &\leq \|d^l(u(\lambda) - T_h u(\lambda))\|_{L_l(\mathbb{R}^t, X)} \\ &+ C \sum_{r=0}^l \|d^r F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))\|_{L_r(\mathbb{R}^t, X)}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

where  $C$  is a constant independent of  $\lambda$  and  $h$ . By the above method, we

$$\text{can prove } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \|d^r F_h(\lambda, T_h u(\lambda))\|_{L_r(\mathbb{R}^t, X)} = 0.$$

Theorem 1 is proved.

### 3. Singular Solutions

In this section, assume that  $T_0 G: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is a compact operator, and let  $(\lambda_0, u_0) \in \Lambda \times X_0$  is a singular point of  $F_0$ , i.e., i)  $F_0(\lambda_0, u_0) = 0$ . and ii)  $d_u F_0^0 \equiv d_u F_0(\lambda_0, u_0) \in L_1(X_0, X_0)$  is not an isomorphism from  $X_0$  to  $X_0$ . We want to solve equation (1.2) in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$ . Let  $\delta_{ij}$  be the Kronecker's delta,  $\text{sgn}(y)$  be the sign function, i.e.,  $\text{sgn}(y) = y/|y|$  for  $y \neq 0$  and  $\text{sgn}(0) = 0$ .

**Lemma 1.** There exists an integer  $r$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\varphi_{i,0}, \varphi_{i,0}^*$  in  $X_0$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq r$ , such that, I)  $d_u F_0^0 \varphi_{i,0} = 0$ ,  $(d_u F_0^0)^* \varphi_{i,0}^* = 0$ ,  $(\varphi_{i,0}, \varphi_{j,0}^*) = \delta_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq r$ ; II) let  $X_0^1$  be the Kernal of  $d_u F_0^0: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  and  $X_0^2 = d_u F_0^0 X_0$ , then  $X_0 = X_0^1 + X_0^2$  and  $X_0^1$  is the space spanned by  $\{\varphi_{1,0}, \dots, \varphi_{r,0}\}$  and  $X_0^2 = \{v \mid v \in X_0, (v, \varphi_{i,0}^*) = 0, 1 \leq i \leq r\}$ , and III)  $d_u F_0^0$  is an isomorphism from  $X_0^2$  to  $X_0^2$ .

**Proof.** Because  $A$  is  $X_0$ -elliptic and  $T_0 G$  is compact,  $T_0 A + d_u T_0 G$  is a Fredholm operator of index zero. We can immediately get lemma 1 by the

theory of Fredholm operator .

Denote , for  $h \in (0, 1)$  ,

$$\begin{cases} \varphi_{1,h} = T_h \varphi_{1,0}, \quad \varphi_{1,h}^* = T_h \varphi_{1,0}^*, \\ \varphi_{j,h} = T_h \varphi_{j,0} - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} (T_h \varphi_{j,0}, \varphi_{i,h}^*) \varphi_{i,h} / (\varphi_{i,h}, \varphi_{i,h}^*), \quad 2 \leq j \leq r. \\ \varphi_{j,h}^* = T_h \varphi_{j,0}^* - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} (T_h \varphi_{j,0}^*, \varphi_{i,h}) \varphi_{i,h}^* / (\varphi_{i,h}, \varphi_{i,h}^*), \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

From the approximability of  $\{X_h\}$  ,  $X_0$  , we know that  $\varphi_{j,h}, \varphi_{j,h}^*$  are well-defined when  $h$  is sufficiently small and that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\|\varphi_{j,h} - \varphi_{j,0}\| + \|\varphi_{j,h}^* - \varphi_{j,0}^*\|) = 0 \quad \text{with } 1 \leq j \leq r. \text{ Thus we have}$$

$$\text{Lemma 2. } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^r (\|\varphi_{i,0} - \varphi_{i,h}\| + \|\varphi_{i,0}^* - \varphi_{i,h}^*\|) = 0 \quad \text{and for } h \text{ sufficiently small, } \operatorname{sgn}(\varphi_{i,h}, \varphi_{j,h}^*) = \delta_{ij}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq r.$$

For the sake of convenience, assume that the conclusion of lemma 2 is true for all  $h \in (0, 1)$  . Then for  $h \in [0, 1)$  , denote

$$X_h^1 = \{v | v = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \varphi_{i,h}, c_i \in \mathbb{R}\} \text{ and } X_h^2 = \{v | v \in X_h, (v, \varphi_{j,h}^*) = 0, 1 \leq j \leq r\}.$$

And for  $v$  in  $X$  , define

$$Q_h v = v - \sum_{i=1}^r (v, \varphi_{i,h}^*) \varphi_{i,h} / (\varphi_{i,h}, \varphi_{i,h}^*). \quad (3.2)$$

**Lemma 3.**  $X_h = X_h^1 + X_h^2$  for  $h \in (0, 1)$  and  $\{X_h^2\}$  ,  $X_0^2$  has the approximability and the weak closedness.

**Proof.** Definition (3.2) tells us that every  $v$  in  $X_h$  can be expressed as a sum of an element in  $X_h^1$  and one in  $X_h^2$  . Now we show that this expressi--

on is unique. Let  $v + w = 0$  with  $u = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \varphi_{i,h}$  and  $w$  in  $X_h^2$  . It follows

from  $w$  in  $X_h^2$  that  $(u, \varphi_{j,h}^*) = 0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq r$  . On the other hand,  $(u, \varphi_{j,h}^*) = c_j$  . Thus  $u = 0$  , therefor  $w = 0$  . So  $X_h = X_h^1 + X_h^2$  .

For every  $\varphi$  in  $X_0^2$  ,  $\varphi - T_h \varphi = \varphi - Q_h T_h \varphi + (Q_h - I) T_h \varphi$  with  $I$  identify operator. By i) in (H),  $\lim \| \varphi - T_h \varphi \| = 0$  . And  $\lim (Q_h - I) T_h \varphi = \lim \sum_{i=1}^r (T_h \varphi, \varphi_{i,h}^*) \varphi_{i,h} / (\varphi_{i,h}, \varphi_{i,h}^*) = 0$  . Thus  $\lim (\varphi - Q_h T_h \varphi) = 0$  . The approximability holds .

If  $\varphi_m \in X_{h_m}^2$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $h_m \rightarrow 0$  and  $\varphi_m$  weakly converges to  $\varphi_0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\varphi_0 \in X_0$ . And  $0 = \lim (\varphi_m, \varphi_{j,h_m}^*) = (\varphi_0, \varphi_{j,0}^*)$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq r$ . Hence  $\varphi_0 \in X_0^2$ . The weak closedness is true.

According to lemmas 1 and 3, the problems (1.2) and (1.3) are equivalent to the following problems respectively:  $h \in [0, 1)$ ,

$$Q_h F_h(\lambda, u_h) = 0 \text{ and } (I - Q_h) F_h(\lambda, u_h) = 0. \quad (3.3)$$

Now we define, for  $v$  in  $X$  and  $(\xi, a) \in \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^l$ ,  $h \in [0, 1)$ ,

$$\mathcal{F}_h(\xi, a, v) = Q_h F_h(\lambda_0 + \xi, T_h u_0 + a^T \Phi_h + v), \quad (3.4)$$

where  $\Phi_h = (\varphi_{1,h}, \dots, \varphi_{r,h})^T$ . Then the first equation of (3.3) becomes

$$v_h \in X_h^2, \quad \mathcal{F}_h(\xi, a, v_h) = 0. \quad (3.5)$$

Set  $S_m^\rho = \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R}^m, \|x\| \leq \rho\}$  for  $\rho > 0$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . By lemma 1 and the implicit function theorem, we get a positive number  $\rho$  and an unique  $C^p$  mapping  $v_0: S_k^\rho \times S_l^\rho \rightarrow X_0^2$ , such that,

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{F}_0(\xi, a, v_0(\xi, a)) = 0, \quad v_0(0, 0) = 0, \\ d_v \mathcal{F}_0(\xi, a, v_0(\xi, a)) \text{ is an isomorphism from } X_0^2 \text{ to } X_0^2. \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

By the way used in section 2, we have the following results.

**Theorem 2.** Assume that (H) holds and  $T_0 G: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is compact and that  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a singular point of  $F_0$ , then there is, for  $h$  sufficiently small, an unique  $C^p$  mapping  $v_h: S_k^\rho \times S_l^\rho \rightarrow X_h^2$  satisfying

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{F}_h(\xi, a, v_h(\xi, a)) = 0, \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{(\xi, a) \in S_k^\rho \times S_l^\rho} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \|d^{(i)}(\xi, a) (v_0(\xi, a) - v_h(\xi, a))\|_{L_i(\mathbb{R}^{k+l}, X)} = 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.7)$$

For the convenience's sake, assume the conclusion of theorem 2 is true for all  $h \in (0, 1)$ . Then solving equation (3.3) in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  amounts to solve the following bifurcation equations:  $h \in [0, 1)$ ,

$$f_h(\xi, a) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} (F(\lambda_0 + \xi, T_h u_0 + a^T \Phi_h + v_h(\xi, a)), \varphi_{1,h}^*) \\ \vdots \\ (F(\lambda_0 + \xi, T_h u_0 + a^T \Phi_h + v_h(\xi, a)), \varphi_{r,h}^*) \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (3.8)$$

It is easy to verify

$$f_0(0, 0) = 0 \text{ and } d_x f_0(0, 0) = 0.$$

Now the approximation of the solutions of equation (1.3) amounts to the

approximation problem of the solutions of equation (3.8). In this paper, we will discuss the cases of limit points and simple bifurcation points. Other cases require further work. By the way in section 2, we can show the following results.

**Lemma 4.** Let the assumptions in theorem 2 hold. Then for  $i = 0, \dots, p-1$ ,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sup_{(\xi, a) \in S_k^p \times S_r^p} \|d_{(\xi, a)}^i (f_0(\xi, a) - f_h(\xi, a))\|_{L_i(\mathbb{R}^i \times \mathbb{R}^r)} = 0. \quad (3.9)$$

#### 4. Limit points and Simple Bifurcation points

First let  $(\lambda_0, u_0) \in \Lambda \times X_0$  is a limit point of  $F_0$ , i.e.,  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a singular point of  $F_0$  and

$$\text{rank}(d_{\xi} f_0(0, 0)) = r. \quad (4.1)$$

For convenience sake, set  $\xi = (\theta, \zeta)^T$ ,  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_r)$  and  $\text{rank}(d_{\theta} f_0(0, 0)) = r$ . Denote, for  $h \in [0, 1)$ ,  $(\theta, \zeta)^T \in S_k^p$ ,  $a \in S_r^p$ ,  $f_h(\theta, \zeta, a) = f_h((\theta, \zeta)^T, a)$ . Again by implicit function theorem, we get  $\rho' > 0$  and a unique  $C^p$  mapping  $\theta_0: S_k^{\rho'}$   $\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$  satisfying

$$\begin{cases} f_0(\theta_0(\zeta, a), \zeta, a) = 0, \quad \theta_0(0, 0) = 0, \\ d_{\theta} f_0(\theta_0(\zeta, a), \zeta, a) \text{ is an isomorphism from } \mathbb{R}^r \text{ to } \mathbb{R}^r. \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

By lemma 4 and theorem 1 in [3], we can conclude

**Lemma 5.** Let the assumptions in theorem 2 hold and (4.1) true. Then, for  $h$  sufficiently small, there exists a unique  $C^p$  mapping  $\theta_h: S_k^{\rho'} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$  satisfying,  $f_h(\theta_h(\zeta, a), \zeta, a) = 0$  and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \sup_{(\zeta, a) \in S_k^p} \|d_{(\zeta, a)}^i (\theta_0(\zeta, a) - \theta_h(\zeta, a))\|_{L_i(\mathbb{R}^r, \mathbb{R}^r)} = 0. \quad (4.3)$$

Theorem 2 and lemma 5 lead to the following results.

**Theorem 3.** Suppose that (H) holds and  $T_0 G: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is compact, and that  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a limit point of  $F_0$ . Then the following statements are true: 1) in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  there is a branch of solutions of equation (1.2), say  $\{(\lambda(t), u(t)) \mid t \in S_k^{\rho'}\}$ , satisfying  $F_0(\lambda(t), u(t)) = 0$  and  $(\lambda(0), u(0)) = (\lambda_0, u_0)$ , and 2) for  $h$  sufficiently small, there is a unique branch of solutions of equation (1.3), say  $\{(\lambda_h(t), u_h(t)) \mid t \in S_k^{\rho'}\}$ , satisfying

$$F_h(\lambda_h(t), u_h(t)) = 0, \quad t \in S_k^{\rho'}.$$



$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \sup_{t \in S_k^0} \{ \|d_t^i(\lambda(t) - \lambda_h(t))\|_{L_t(\mathbb{R}^1, \mathbb{R}^1)} + \|d_t^i(u(t) - u_h(t))\|_{L_t(\mathbb{R}^1, \mathbb{X})} \} = 0. \quad (4.4)$$

**Remark.** If  $k = r = 1$  and  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is nondegenerate turning point, i.e.,  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a limit point of  $F_0$  and

$$(d_{uu}^2 F_0(0,0)(\varphi_{1,0}, \varphi_{1,0}), \varphi_{1,0}^*) \neq 0, \quad (4.5)$$

then equation (1.3) has a nondegenerate turning point  $(\lambda_h^0, u_h^0)$ , provided (H) holds for  $p \geq 3$  and  $h$  is sufficiently small. And  $\lim \{ |\lambda_0 - \lambda_h^0| + \|u_0 - u_h^0\| \} = 0$ . This result can be proved by the way used in [3].

Finally, we discuss the case of simple bifurcation points. Let  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a singular point of  $F_0$  and

$$k = r = 1, \quad d_\lambda F_0(\lambda_0, u_0) \in d_\lambda F_0^0 X_0. \quad (4.6)$$

Under these conditions,  $f_0$  satisfies,  $f_0(0,0) = d_a f_0(0,0) = d_\lambda f_0(0,0) = 0$ , that is,  $(0,0)$  is a critical point of  $f_0$ . Set  $C_0 = d_{\lambda\lambda}^2 f_0(0,0)$ ,  $B_0 = d_{\lambda a}^2 f_0(0,0)$ ,  $A_0 = d_{aa}^2 f_0(0,0)$ . Call  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  a simple bifurcation point of  $F_0$ , if  $B_0^2 - A_0 C_0 > 0$ .

From [4], we know that in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$ , the solutions of equation (1.2) consist of two  $C^{p-2}$  branches which intersect transversally at the point  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$ , and they can be parametrized in the following way,  $i = 1, 2$ ,

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0 + \xi_i(t), \quad u_i(t) = u_0 + a_i(t) \varphi_{1,0} + v(\xi_i(t), a_i(t)), \quad |t| \leq t_0, \quad (4.7)$$

where  $\xi_i(t) = t\sigma_i(t)$ ,  $a_i(t) = t\delta_i(t)$ , and  $\xi_i(t)$  and  $a_i(t)$  are  $C^{p-2}$  functions,  $t_0$  is a positive number.

Similar to paper [4], we have

**Theorem 4.** Assume that (H) holds with  $p \geq 4$  and  $T_0 G: X_0 \rightarrow X_0$  is compact, and that  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  is a simple bifurcation point of  $F_0$ . Then there is a neighborhood  $U$  of  $(\lambda_0, u_0)$  in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{X}$ , such that, for  $h$  sufficiently small, the set  $\mathcal{S}_h$  of the solutions of (1.3) contained in  $U$  consists of two  $C^{p-2}$  branches. If these two branches intersect at a point  $(\lambda_h^0, u_h^0)$  in  $U$ , they can be parametrized in the form  $\{(\lambda_h^i(t), u_h^i(t)) \mid |t| \leq t_0\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , satisfying

$$\begin{cases} (\lambda_h^i(0), u_h^i(0)) = (\lambda_h^0, u_h^0), \quad i = 1, 2, \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^{p-3} \sup_{|t| \leq t_0} \{ |d_t^j(\lambda_h(t) - \lambda_h^i(t))| + \|d_t^j(u_h(t) - u_h^i(t))\| \} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \end{cases} \quad (4.8)$$

otherwise, the set  $\mathcal{S}_h$  is  $C^{p-2}$  diffeomorphic to (a part of) a nondegenerate hyperbola and the distance between  $\mathcal{S}_h$  and the set  $\mathcal{S}$  of the solutions of (1.2) contained in  $U$  converges to 0 as  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

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