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The effect of non-local convection on reaction-diffusion equations

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1. Introduction

We are concerned with the following reaction-diffusion-convection equation:

(1.1)
$$u_t = \left\{ u_x - \int_I K(x-y)u(t, y)dy \cdot u \right\}_x + \varepsilon f(u), \ x \in I \equiv (-1/2, 1/2), \ t > 0$$

subject to the boundary conditions

(1.2)
$$u_x - \int_I K(x-y)u(t, y)dy \cdot u = 0$$
 at $x = \pm 1/2$

and the initial condition

(1.3)
$$u(0, x) = u_0(x) \ge 0, x \in I.$$

This is a proto-type of spatially aggregating population models of biological individuals in a one dimensional finite habitat I, which was first proposed by Kawasaki [3] and discussed Nagai and Mimura [5] ($\varepsilon = 0$) and Mimura and Ohara [4] ($\varepsilon > 0$) in the whole interval $-\infty < x < \infty$. Here u = u(t, x) represents the population density at time t and position x. From an ecological point of view, the convection velocity in the right hand side of (1.1) is specified as

$$\int_{I} K(x-y) \cdot u(y) dy = \int_{x}^{1/2} K(x-y) \cdot u(y) dy + \int_{-1/2}^{x} K(x-y) \cdot u(y) dy,$$

where K(x) is an appropriate function satisfying K(x) < 0 (resp. > 0) for x > 0 (resp. x < 0). One knows that when

$$\int_{x}^{1/2} K(x-y) \cdot u(y) dy + \int_{-1/2}^{x} K(x-y) \cdot u(y) dy > 0 \quad (\text{resp.} < 0).$$

the individuals move to the right (resp. left) direction. This indicates that the individuals move toward the region of higher distribution. For the growth term $\varepsilon f(u)$, we assume that ε is a sufficiently small constant, which implies that the dispersal process is very fast compared with the growth process of the species. For the ecological interpretation, see Shigesada [7]. The boundary conditions