

## Lecture 5

### Reaction-Diffusion Models as Dynamical Systems

Models are of the form (1.1), where  $L$  in (1.1) has the form (1.3),  $L$  strongly uniformly elliptic and meeting the hypotheses of Thm 4.3.

Such systems are called parabolic in the terminology of pde's. Important references in this discussion include:

Friedman (1964) (a priori estimates)

Friedman (1976)

Pazy (1983)

Henry (1981) (analytic semi-groups)

Aman (1988, 1989, 1990) (quasi-linear problems)

Our sketch follows Mora (1983). (See also

Cantrell, Cosner and Hutson (1993a).)

A local solution is one that exists on some time interval  $[0, T)$

with  $0 < T < \infty$ . A global solution exists for all  $t > 0$ .

Generally speaking, the way that a local solution can fail to be global is by becoming infinite in finite time.

Sketch of the ideas behind results

(i) We have a pair of Banach spaces  $X, Y$  with

$X \subseteq Y$  and a linear operator  $A: X \rightarrow Y$

with certain properties including the continuity of

$A$  and  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

with  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda \leq -\Lambda_0$

(Here typically

$$Y = [L^p(\Omega)]^m$$

$$X = \{u \in [W^{2,p}(\Omega)]^m \mid B_i u_i = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, i = 1, \dots, m\}$$

(components of elements of  $X, Y$  are complex-valued functions)

(ii) If need be, we add a multiple of  $u_i$  (say  $c_i u_i$ ) to

$f_i(x, u_1, \dots, u_m)$  and subtract from  $L_i$  so that

each  $L_i$  in (1.1) satisfies hypotheses of Thm 4.5/4.6.

(iii) Then  $A$  will be the  $m \times m$  diagonal matrix of operators with  $-L_i$  in the  $i, i$  position,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .

(iv) Thm 4.5 / Thm 4.6  $\Rightarrow A^{-1}$  exists as a bounded continuous linear operator from  $Y$  into  $X$ .

A priori estimates (e.g.

$$\|u\|_{2,p} \leq C (\|u\|_{0,p} + \|L_i u\|_{0,p})$$

$$(5.1) \quad \Rightarrow \| (A + \lambda I)^{-1} u \|_Y \leq C \|u\|_Y / |\lambda|$$

for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| \geq R_0$  for some fixed  $R_0$

$$\text{and } -\frac{\pi}{2} - \delta < \arg \lambda < \frac{\pi}{2} + \delta$$

for some  $\delta > 0$  (Friedman 1976)

(v) From (5.1) we obtain that  $-A$  generates an analytic semigroup on  $Y$  (usually denoted  $e^{-tA}$ ),

where by a semi-group of linear operators we mean a family  $S(t)$  of operators defined for  $t \geq 0$

and depending continuously on  $t$  so that for each  $t \geq 0$ ,  $S(t)$  is a bounded linear operator from  $Y$  to  $Y$ , with

$$S(0) = I$$

$$S(s)S(t) = S(s+t)$$

(The operator  $-A$  is called the infinitesimal generator of  $e^{-tA}$ . The defining property of the infinitesimal

generator  $B$  of a semi-group  $S(t)$  is

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(h)u - u}{h} = Bu$$

for all  $u \in \text{dom } B$ , where the limit is taken in the metric induced by the norm of  $Y$ .)

(Again recall Friedman (1976), Pazy (1983), Henry (1981).)

The key properties of  $e^{-tA}$  are that it defines a semi-group of bounded linear operators on  $Y$ , which

depend analytically on  $t$  for  $t \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\operatorname{Im} t| < \delta$ ,

and for any such  $t$ , the operators

$$\frac{d(e^{-tA})}{dt}, \quad Ae^{-tA}$$

are also continuous on  $Y$ , with

$$\frac{d(e^{-tA}u)}{dt} = Ae^{-tA}u$$

for any  $u \in Y$ . Further, for  $t \in \mathbb{C}$  with

$|\operatorname{Im} t| < \delta$ , we have

$$(5.2) \quad \|Ae^{-tA}u\|_Y \leq (C/|t|) \|u\|_Y$$

for  $u \in Y$ ,  $C$  independent of  $u$ .

(Friedman (1976), Pazy (1983), Henry (1981))  
(Schechter as well)

(vi) We write (1.1) in the abstract form

$$(5.3) \quad \frac{du}{dt} = -Au + F(u)$$

$$u(0) = u_0 \in Y$$

where  $F(u)$  is the matrix with terms  $f_i(x, u_1, \dots, u_m)$

on the diagonal and zeros elsewhere. We express the solution as

$$(5.4) \quad u(t) = e^{-tA} u_0 + \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)A} F(u(s)) ds$$

An issue is to make clear that (5.4) makes sense in the context of (5.3). If we apply  $A$  to both sides of (5.4) we get

$$Au = Ae^{-tA} u_0 + \int_0^t A e^{-(t-s)A} F(u(s)) ds$$

All we get from (5.2) about the integrand is

$$\| A e^{-(t-s)A} F(u(s)) \| \leq \frac{c}{|t-s|} \| F(u(s)) \|_Y$$

But  $\int_0^t \frac{1}{|t-s|} ds$  is not integrable!

(vii) Operators which generate analytic semi-groups can be analyzed using techniques from complex variable theory, and the theory of Laplace transforms, which enable us to define so-called fractional

powers  $A^\gamma$  of  $A$ , for which

$$A^{-\alpha} u = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{\infty} s^{\alpha-1} e^{-As} u ds$$

$$A^{\alpha} = (A^{-\alpha})^{-1}$$

$$D(A^{\alpha}) = R(A^{-\alpha})$$

(5.2) is replaced by

$$\|A^\gamma e^{-tA} u\|_Y \leq (C/t^{1-\gamma}) \|u\|_Y$$

> So if we apply  $A^\gamma$  (instead of just  $A$ ) to (5.3) we get

$$(5.5) \quad A^\gamma u = A^\gamma e^{-tA} u_0 + \int_0^t A^\gamma e^{-(t-s)A} F(u(s)) ds$$

For  $0 < \gamma < 1$  the integral term is well-behaved if

$F(u)$  is bounded in  $Y$ , since  $\int_0^t \left[ \frac{1}{(t-s)^\gamma} \right] ds < \infty$

for  $0 < \gamma < 1$ .

(viii) Furthermore, we can define Banach spaces

$X^\gamma \subseteq Y$  by taking  $X^\gamma$  to be the

completion of  $X$  in  $Y$  with respect to the

norm

$$\|u\|_\gamma = \|A^\gamma u\|_Y$$

Since  $A^{-1}$  is a compact operator on  $Y$ , it

follows that the embedding of  $X^{\gamma_1}$  into  $X^{\gamma_2}$  is

compact.  $\delta_1 > \delta_2$ .

(ix) At this point we can use (5.3) to define a semi-flow on  $X^\delta$  for  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  provided  $F(u, s)$  is smooth in much the same way as we would for systems of ODE's.  $(F, P, H)$

(x) If we know that orbits which are bounded in  $X^{\delta_2}$  are also bounded in  $X^{\delta_1}$  for some  $\delta_1 > \delta_2$ , we may conclude that orbits in  $X^{\delta_2}$  are pre-compact (since  $X^{\delta_1} \hookrightarrow X^{\delta_2}$  compact)

What we actually get are bounds

$$\|e^{-tA} u\| \leq C e^{-\beta t} \|u\|_Y$$

$$\|A^\delta e^{-tA} u\| \leq C \left( \frac{e^{-\beta t}}{1+t^\delta} \right) \|u\|_Y$$

which gives bounds on  $\|u\|_Y$  when  $F(u)$  is bounded in  $Y$ .  $(F, P, H)$

(xi) In practice we usually aim for bounds on

$\vec{u} \in [C(\bar{\Omega})]^m$ . Such bounds imply bounds for

$f_i(x, u_1, \dots, u_m)$  in  $L^p(\bar{\Omega})$  for any  $p \in [1, \infty]$

if the  $f_i$  are smooth. So we can translate bounds on  $\vec{u}$  in  $[C(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  to conclude that orbits for the system are bounded in  $X^\gamma$  for any  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  and hence pre-compact in  $X^\delta$ .

(F, P, H)

(xii) (a) What does  $\vec{u} \in X^\gamma$  mean in terms of the smoothness of  $\vec{u}$ ?

(b) Are solutions to (5.3) classical solutions to (1.1)?

For (a), if we start with  $Y = [L^p(\Omega)]^m$  and

$X \subseteq [W^{2,p}(\Omega)]^m$ ,  $X^\gamma$  embeds into

$[C^{1+\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  provided  $0 < \alpha < 2\gamma - \left(\frac{n}{p}\right) - 1$

(Pazy 1983)

For (b), we need to assume  $f_i(x, u)$  are Hölder continuous in  $x$  and at least Lipschitz in  $u$ . In that case a priori estimates for parabolic equations analogous to Thms 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6 for elliptic equations guarantee the solutions are classical. (Included in notes for completeness.)

(Friedman 1964)

## Formal statements of Theorems

Theorem 5.1 Suppose that the domain  $\Omega$ , operators  $L_i$  and boundary conditions in (1.1) satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem 4.3 for  $i=1, \dots, m$ . Suppose for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , the function  $f_i(x, u_1, \dots, u_m) = f_i(x, \vec{u})$  is measurable and bounded uniformly in  $x$  in  $\bar{\Omega}$  when  $\vec{u}$  is restricted to a bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , and that  $f_i(x, \vec{u})$  is Lipschitz continuous in  $\vec{u}$ , uniformly for  $x \in \bar{\Omega}$  and  $\vec{u}$  restricted to any bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Let  $Y = [L^p(\Omega)]^m$  for some  $p > n$

and let  $X = \{ \vec{u} \in [W^{2,p}(\Omega)]^m \mid B_i u_i = 0$   
on  $\partial\Omega, i=1, \dots, m \}$ .

Let  $A$  be the matrix of operators  $-L_i$

as the  $i$ th diagonal element and with all

off-diagonal elements equal to 0. Let  $X^\gamma \subseteq Y$  denote the space generated by  $A^\gamma$  for  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ , so that

$$\|u\|_{X^\gamma} = \|A^\gamma u\|_Y$$

Then there exists a  $\gamma_0 \in (0, 1)$  such that for  $\gamma \in (\gamma_0, 1)$ , the system (1.1) generates a local semi-flow on  $X^\gamma$ . Bounded orbits in  $X^\gamma$  are pre-compact.

Notes: Henry (1981)

Key points in proof:

(i) A priori estimates of Agmon et al (1959)  $\Rightarrow$

-  $A$  generates an analytic semi-group on  $[W^{2,p}(\Omega)]^m$

(ii) General theory of analytic semi-groups allows

us to re-cast (1.1) as (5.3) and then to

define  $X^\gamma$

(iii) Since  $p > n$ , we can choose  $\gamma_0 \ni$

$$\gamma \in (\gamma_0, 1) \Rightarrow 0 < 2\gamma - \left(\frac{n}{p}\right) - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow X^\gamma \hookrightarrow [C^{1+\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})]^m \quad (\text{Parzy 1983})$$

(iv) Hypotheses on  $f_i \Rightarrow$  if  $\vec{u} \in [C^{1+\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})]^m$ ,

$$f_i \in L^p(\Omega) \text{ for } p \geq 1 \Rightarrow (f_1, \dots, f_m) \in Y$$

$\Rightarrow$  (5.5) is defined and (5.3) defines a semi-dynamical system on  $X^\gamma$

(v) Since  $(\lambda I + A)^{-1}$  exists as a linear compact operator on  $[L^p(\Omega)]^m$  for  $\lambda$  real and

sufficiently large, the embeddings  $X^{\gamma_1} \hookrightarrow X^{\gamma_2}$

for  $\gamma_1 > \gamma_2 > 0$  are compact, and hence

we get boundedness of compact orbits.

We may prefer to work in the more concrete spaces

$C(\bar{\Omega})$  or  $C^1(\bar{\Omega})$ . What will we need to do so?

Theorem 5.2 (Mora, 1983). Suppose the hypotheses

of Theorem 5.1 hold. Suppose in addition that

$f_i$  is  $C^2$  in  $x$  and  $\vec{u}$ ; i.e.,  $f_i \in C^2(\bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^m)$

for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

Then (1.1) generates a local semi-flow on  $[C(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  under Neumann boundary conditions. Under Dirichlet boundary conditions, (1.1) generates a local semi-flow on the subspaces of  $[C(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  and of  $[C^1(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  consisting of functions which are zero on  $\partial\Omega$ . Under Neumann or Robin boundary conditions, (1.1) generates a local semi-flow on the subspace of  $[C^1(\bar{\Omega})]^m$  consisting of functions satisfying the boundary conditions. In each case, bounded orbits are pre-compact.

### Global solutions

So far our results on reaction-diffusion models as semi-dynamical systems are local in time.

Some additional information is needed to conclude that a given orbit exists globally in time.

For a semi-dynamical system on a Banach space  $Z$  in which bounded orbits are pre-compact

it suffices to show that for each  $T > 0$  there is a  $B(T) < \infty$

so that

$$\sup \left\{ \|\vec{u}(t)\|_Z : 0 \leq t < T \right\} \leq B(T)$$

to conclude that the orbit  $u(t)$  exists for all  $t > 0$ .

In the models we consider it will suffice to show

that

$$\sup \left\{ |\vec{u}(x, t)| : x \in \bar{\Omega}, 0 \leq t < T \right\} \leq B(T)$$

because the bound on  $|\vec{u}| \Rightarrow$  a bound in

$[L^p(\Omega)]^m$  for any  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . From there,

(5.5) or analogues  $\Rightarrow$  boundedness in  $X^s$ ,

which play the role of state spaces for the

semi-dynamical system or which embed

in  $[C^{1+\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})]^m$ , which in turn embeds in

state spaces constructed from  $[C(\bar{\Omega})]^m$

or  $[C^1(\bar{\Omega})]^m$ . In many cases, it is

straightforward to get bounds on  $|\vec{u}|$ . However, there are some cases, such as predator-prey systems where we do not impose a quadratic mortality penalty on the predator, where we have to work fairly hard to get the required estimates.

## Classical Regularity for Parabolic Equations

For functions on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ , define

$$[f]_{\alpha, \alpha/2} = \sup_{\substack{(x,t), (y,s) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T] \\ (y,t) \neq (y,s)}} \left( \frac{|f(x,t) - f(y,s)|}{|x-y|^\alpha + |t-s|^{\alpha/2}} \right)$$

$$C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]) = \{f \in C(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]) \mid [f]_{\alpha, \alpha/2} < \infty\}$$

$C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$  is a Banach space with norm

$$\|u\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} = \sup_{\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]} |u(x,t)| + [u]_{\alpha, \alpha/2}$$

Let  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$  be the multi-index and define

$\partial_x^\beta$  as before. Let  $\partial_t$  denote the derivative w.r.t  $t$ .

$C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$  = the space of functions on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ ,

whose derivatives up to order two  $x$  and order 1  $t$  are

Hölder continuous, with norm

$$\|u\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}$$

$$= \sup_{(x,t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]} |u(x,t)| + \sum_{|\beta| \leq 2} \sup_{(x,t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]} |\partial_x^\beta u(x,t)|$$

$$+ \sup_{(x,t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]} |\partial_t u(x,t)| + \sum_{|\beta|=2} [\partial_x^\beta u(x,t)]_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + [\partial_t u(x,t)]_{\alpha, \alpha/2}$$

These spaces are Banach (Friedman 1964)

We also require the space  $C^{1+\delta, \delta/2}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$  whose

norm is given by

$$\|u\|_{1+\delta, \delta/2} = \|u\|_{\delta, \delta/2} + \sum_{|\beta|=1} \|\partial_x^\beta u\|_{\delta, \delta/2}$$

Theorem 5.3 (Friedman 1964). Suppose that  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain

with  $\partial\Omega$  of class  $C^{2+\alpha}$  and that  $L$  is an elliptic operator

of form (1.3), which is strongly uniformly elliptic, here

allowing coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_i$  and  $c$  to depend on  $t$  as well as  $x$ .

Suppose  $a_{ij}, b_i, c \in C^{2, \frac{d}{2}}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$ . If

$f(x, t) \in C^{2, \frac{d}{2}}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$ ,  $g(x, t) \in C^{2+d, 1+d}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$

and  $Lg = f$  for  $t = 0$ ,  $x \in \partial\Omega$ , then the

problem

$$(5.6) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - Lu = f(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$u(x, t) = g(x, t) \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T]$$

$$u = 0 \quad \text{on } (\Omega \times \{0\})$$

has a unique solution  $u \in C^{2+d, 1+d}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$  with

$$\|u\|_{2+d, 1+\frac{d}{2}} \leq C (\|f\|_{2, \frac{d}{2}} + \|g\|_{2+d, 1+\frac{d}{2}})$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $f$  and  $g$ .

Theorem 5.4 (Ladyženskaya et al 1968). Suppose

that  $\Omega$ ,  $L$  and  $f$  satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem 5.3.

Suppose that  $\gamma(x) \in C^{2+d}(\bar{\Omega})$  and  $\gamma(x)$ ,  $\beta(x)$  and  $h(x)$

$\in C^{1+d}(\partial\Omega)$ , with  $\gamma \geq 0$  and  $\beta > 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ .

Suppose also that

$$\gamma(x)g(x) + \beta(x)\frac{\partial g}{\partial \eta} = h(x)$$

on  $\partial\Omega$ .

Then the problem

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - Lu = f(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$u(x, 0) = g(x) \quad \text{in } \bar{\Omega}$$

$$\gamma(x)u(x, t) + \beta(x)\frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta}(x, t) = h(x) \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T]$$

has a unique solution in  $C^{2+d, 1+\frac{d}{2}}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$

so that

$$\|u\|_{2+d, 1+\frac{d}{2}} \leq C(\|f\|_{d, \frac{d}{2}} + \|g\|_{2+d} + \|h\|_{1+d})$$

where the norm  $h$  is taken in  $C^{1+d}(\partial\Omega)$ , the

norm of  $g$  is taken in  $C^{2+d}(\bar{\Omega})$ , and  $C$

is independent of  $f, g, h$ .

Lemma 5.5 (Friedman 1964). Suppose  $\Omega$  and  $L$  satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem 5.3. Suppose in addition that the coefficients  $a_{ij}$  are uniformly Lipschitz in  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ . Suppose that  $f(x, t)$  is continuous on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$  with  $f(x, 0) = 0$  on  $2\Omega$ .

Then for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , there is a constant  $C$  independent of  $f(x, t)$  so that any solution  $u$  of

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - Lu = f(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$u(x, t) = 0 \quad \text{on } (2\Omega \times (0, T]) \cup (\bar{\Omega} \times \{0\})$$

satisfies  $\|u\|_{1+\delta, \frac{\delta}{2}} \leq C \sup_{(x,t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]} |f(x, t)|$

An analogue holds if the Dirichlet condition is replaced

by

$$\gamma(x)u(x) + \beta(x)\frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta}(x) = 0$$

on  $2\Omega \times (0, T]$  with  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  as in Theorem 5.4

Theorem 5.3 / Lemma 5.5 and Theorem 5.4 / (Analogue to Lemma 5.5)

$\Rightarrow$  trajectories of semi-dynamical systems whose existence

is asserted in Theorem 5.1 correspond to classical solutions of (1.1)

if  $\Omega$ ,  $f_i$ , and the coefficients of  $L_i$  and  $B_i$  are sufficiently

smooth. Note that the  $f$  in (5.6) corresponds to

$$f_i(x, u_1(x, t), \dots, u_m(x, t))$$

and that the embedding properties of  $X^\delta$  enable us

to satisfy the hypotheses on  $f$  in Theorem 5.3. We

can apply Theorem 5.3 equation by equation in (1.1)

because we don't have coupling in derivative

terms (i.e. we are discussing semi-linear versus

quasi-linear problems here.)