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Nodal solutions for a class of degenerate BVP's,

In this talk we characterize the existence of nodal solutions for a generalized class of onedimensional diffusive logistic type equations, including

 $-u^{\prime\prime} = \lambda u - a(x)u^3, \qquad x \in [0, L],$

under the boundary conditions u(0) = u(L) = 0, where λ is regarded as a bifurcation parameter, and the non-negative weight function a(x) vanishes on some subinterval

$$[\alpha,\beta] \subset (0,L)$$

with $\alpha < \beta$.

At a later stage, the general case when a(x) vanishes on finitely many subintervals with the same length is analyzed. Finally, we construct some examples with classical non-degenerate weights, with a(x) > 0 for all $x \in [0, L]$, where the BVP has an arbitrarily large number of solutions with one node in (0, L). These are the first examples of this nature constructed in the literature.

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