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On the study of an SEIV epidemic model concerning vaccination and vertical transmission

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Abstract

In this work, we study an epidemic model with vaccination and vertical transmission. We get the basic reproduction number R_0 of the system and carry out a bifurcation analysis and obtain the conditions ensuring that the system exhibits backward bifurcation.

Mathematics Subject Classification : 34C05, 92D25 Keywords: epidemic model, vertical transmission, backward bifurcation

1 Introduction

At present, vaccination is a commonly used method for controlling disease[1,2], but in fact, for many infectious disease, the immunity which is acquired either by preventive vaccine or by infection will wane. In [3] and [4], Moghadas and J. Hui have presented a study of models with non-permanent immunity respectively. Mathematical models including vaccination aim at deciding on a

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vaccination strategy and at determining changes in qualitative behavior that could result from such a control measure [5,6].

Many infectious diseases in nature transmit through both horizontal and vertical modes. These contain such human diseases as rubella, herpes simplex, hepatitis B, and AIDS, etc. Busenberg and Cooke [7] studied a variety of diseases that transmit both horizontally and vertically, and gave a comprehensive survey of the formulation and the mathematical analysis of compartmental models that also incorporate vertical transmission. In this paper, we consider a model not only with non-permanent immunity but also with vertical transmission as following

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS(t)}{dt} = (1-b)A - \beta SI(1+\alpha I) - \mu S + \omega V - (1-p)\mu I, \\ \frac{dV(t)}{dt} = bA - \mu V - \omega V + \tau I, \\ \frac{dE(t)}{dt} = \beta SI(1+\alpha I) - \mu E - \sigma E, \\ \frac{dI(t)}{dt} = \sigma E - \tau I - p\mu I, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where S(t), V(t), E(t) and I(t) denote the number of the susceptible individuals, vaccinated individuals, exposed individuals but not yet infectious, and infectious individuals, respectively. All of the parameters are positive and have the following meaning: A is the recruitment rate of people (either by birth or by immigration) into the population (assumed susceptible); b is the fraction of recruited individuals who are vaccinated; β is the rate at which susceptible individuals become infected by those who are infectious; the natural birth rate and death rate are assumed to be identical and denoted by μ ; σ is the rate at which exposed individuals become infectious; τ is the rate at which infected individuals are treated; ω is the rate at which vaccine wanes; p is the proportion of the offspring of infective parents that are susceptible individuals.

2 The basic reproduction number

It is easy to see that the region $\{(S, V, E, I)|S > 0, V > 0, E \ge 0, I \ge 0\}$ is positively invariant for the model (1). Summing up the four equations in model (1), we have

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(S+V+E+I) = \mu[\frac{A}{\mu} - (S+V+E+I)].$$

Then, $\lim_{t\to\infty} \sup(S+V+E+I) \leq \frac{A}{\mu}$. So we study the dynamic behavior of model (1) on the region

$$\Sigma = \{ (S, V, E, I) | S > 0, V > 0, E \ge 0, I \ge 0, S + V + E + I \le \frac{A}{\mu} \},\$$

which is a positive invariant set for (1).

Corresponding to E = I = 0, model (1) always has a disease-free equilibrium, $P_0(\frac{A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)}, \frac{bA}{\mu+\omega}, 0, 0).$ Let $x = (E, I, S, V)^{\top}$. Then the model (1) can be written as $\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{F}(x) - \mathcal{V}(x)$,

where

$$\mathcal{F}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \beta SI(1+\alpha I) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathcal{V}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu E + \sigma E \\ \tau I + p\mu I - \sigma E \\ -(1-b)A + \beta SI(1+\alpha I) + \mu S - \omega V + (1-p)\mu I \\ \mu V + \omega V - \tau I - bA \end{pmatrix}$$

We have

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\beta A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu+\sigma & 0 \\ -\sigma & \tau+p\mu \end{pmatrix},$$

 \mathbf{SO}

$$\mathbf{V}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\mu + \sigma} & 0\\ \frac{\sigma}{(\mu + \sigma)(\tau + p\mu)} & \frac{1}{\tau + p\mu} \end{pmatrix}$$

In paper[8], the basic reproduction number is defined as the spectral radius of the next generation matrix $\mathbf{FV}^{-1}(\rho(\mathbf{FV}^{-1}))$. So, according to Theorem 2 in [8], the basic reproduction number of model (1), denoted R_0 , is

$$R_0 = \rho(\mathbf{FV^{-1}}) = \frac{\beta \sigma A[\mu(1-b) + \omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)(\mu+\sigma)(\tau+p\mu)}$$

Define

$$R_{1} = \frac{2\sqrt{\alpha\mu\beta M[(M-\omega\sigma\tau)+\mu\sigma(1-p)(\mu+\omega)]} - \beta[M-\omega\sigma\tau+\mu\sigma(1-p)(\mu+\omega)]}{\alpha\mu M},$$
$$R_{2} = \frac{\beta M-\omega\sigma\beta\tau+\mu\sigma\beta(1-p)(\mu+\omega)}{\alpha\mu M},$$

where $M = (\mu + \sigma)(\mu + \omega)(\tau + p\mu)$. **Remark 2.1.** It is easy to see that: (i) $R_1 \leq 1$; (ii) $R_2 \leq 1$, if and only if, $R_2 \leq R_1$.

3 Local stability of equilibria and bifurcation analysis

Theorem 3.1. The disease-free equilibrium P_0 is locally asymptotically stable for $R_0 < 1$ and unstable for $R_0 > 1$.

Proof. The linearized problem corresponding to (1) is $\frac{dX}{dt} = JX$, where

$$X = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T, (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in R^4_+,$$

and

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -\beta I(1 + \alpha I) - \mu & \omega & 0 & -\beta S(1 + 2\alpha I) - (1 - p)\mu \\ 0 & -\mu - \omega & 0 & \tau \\ \beta I(1 + \alpha I) & 0 & -\mu - \sigma & \beta S(1 + 2\alpha I) \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma & \tau - p\mu \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Jacobian matrix of (1) at P_0 is

$$J(P_0) = \begin{pmatrix} -\mu & \omega & 0 & -\frac{\beta A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} - (1-p)\mu \\ o & -\mu - \omega & 0 & \tau \\ 0 & 0 & -\mu - \sigma & \frac{\beta A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma & -\tau - p\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

with eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = -\mu, \lambda_2 = -\mu - \omega$, and the roots of the quadratic

$$f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + (\mu + \sigma + \tau + p\mu)\lambda + (\mu + \sigma)(\tau + p\mu) - \frac{\beta\sigma A[\mu(1-b) + \omega]}{\mu(\mu + \omega)}.$$

Because all the model parameter values are assumed positive, so it follows that $\lambda_1 < 0, \lambda_2 < 0$. Obviously, if $R_0 < 1$ then the roots of $f(\lambda)$ have negative real parts, therefore, P_0 is locally asymptotical stable when $R_0 < 1$; if $R_0 > 1$, then the roots of $f(\lambda)$ are real and one is positive, so that P_0 is unstable.

Theorem 3.2. (a) Let $R_2 < 1$. Then system (1) admits no real equilibria when $R_0 < R_1$, two endemic equilibria for $R_1 < R_0 < 1$, and a unique endemic

equilibrium P^* for $R_0 \ge 1$.

(b) Let $R_2 > 1$. Then system (1) admits no real equilibria when $R_0 < R_1$, no endemic equilibria for $R_1 < R_0 < 1$, and a unique endemic equilibrium P^* for $R_0 \ge 1$.

Proof. The endemic equilibria of system (1) , denoted $P^*(S^*, V^*, E^*, I^*)$, can be deduces by the system,

$$\begin{cases} (1-b)A - \beta S^* I^* (1+\alpha I^*) - \mu S^* + \omega V^* - (1-p)\mu I^* = 0, \\ bA - \mu V^* - \omega V^* + \tau I^* = 0, \\ \beta S^* I^* (1+\alpha I^*) - \mu E^* - \sigma E^* = 0, \\ \sigma E^* - \tau I^* - p\mu I^* = 0, \end{cases}$$
(2)

From (2), we can get $S^* = \frac{(\sigma+\mu)(\tau+p\mu)}{\alpha\beta(1+\alpha I^*)}$, $E^* = \frac{(\tau+p\mu)I^*}{\sigma}$, $V^* = \frac{bA+\tau I^*}{\mu+\omega}$, and I^* is positive which satisfies the equation $a_1I^{*2} + a_2I^* + a_3 = 0$, where

$$a_{1} = \alpha\beta(\omega\sigma\tau - M) - \mu\sigma\alpha\beta(1 - p)(\mu + \omega),$$

$$a_{2} = M(\mu\alpha R_{0} - \beta) + \omega\sigma\beta\tau - \mu\sigma\beta(1 - p)(\mu + \omega),$$

$$a_{3} = \mu M(R_{0} - 1).$$

It is easy to see that $a_1 < 0$; $a_2 > 0 \Leftrightarrow R_0 > R_2$; $a_3 > 0 \Leftrightarrow R_0 > 1$.

By the Descartes' rules of sings, we can see that when $a_3 > 0$ there is a unique endemic equilibrium ; when $a_3 < 0, a_2 > 0, a_2^2 - 4a_1a_3 > 0$ there are two endemic equilibria, and there are no endemic equilibria otherwise.

Furthermore, we find that there is a bifurcation point when $R_0 = R_1$ i.e., $a_3 < 0, a_2 > 0, a_2^2 - 4a_1a_3 = 0$. In fact,

$$a_2^2 - 4a_1a_3 = \left[\mu\alpha MR_0 + \beta \left(M + \mu\sigma(1-p)(\mu+\omega) - \omega\sigma\tau\right)\right]^2 - 4\mu\alpha\beta M \left[M + \mu\sigma(1-p)(\mu+\omega) - \omega\sigma\tau\right].$$

Thus, $a_2^2 - 4a_1a_3 \ge 0$ whenever $R_0 \ge R_1$. From the above mentioned, (a) and (b) can easily follow.

Let $S = x_1, V = x_2, E = x_3, I = x_4$, the system (1) becomes

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx_1}{dt} = (1-b)A - \beta x_1 x_4 (1+\alpha x_4) - \mu x_1 + \omega x_2 - (1-p)\mu x_4 := f_1, \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} = bA - \mu x_2 - \omega x_2 + \tau x_4 := f_2, \\ \frac{dx_3}{dt} = \beta x_1 x_4 (1+\alpha x_4) - \mu x_3 - \sigma x_3 := f_3, \\ \frac{dx_4}{dt} = \sigma x_3 - \tau x_4 - p\mu x_4 := f_4. \end{cases}$$
(3)

We will use the results in [9] to show that system (3) may exhibit a backward bifurcation when $R_0 = 1(\beta = \beta' = \frac{\mu(\mu+\omega)(\mu+\sigma)(\tau+p\mu)}{\sigma A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]})$. The eigenvalues of the

matrix,

$$J(P_0, \beta') = \begin{pmatrix} -\mu & \omega & 0 & -\frac{\beta' A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} - (1-p)\mu \\ 0 & -\mu - \omega & 0 & \tau \\ 0 & 0 & -\mu - \sigma & \frac{\beta' A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma & -\tau - p\mu \end{pmatrix},$$

are given by $\lambda_1 = -\mu$, $\lambda_2 = -\mu - \omega$, $\lambda_3 = -(\mu + \sigma + \tau + p\mu)$, $\lambda_4 = 0$. So $\lambda_4 = 0$ is a simple zero eigenvalue of the matrix $J(P_0, \beta')$ and the other eigenvalues are real and negative.

We denote a right eigenvector corresponding the zero eigenvalue $\lambda_4 = 0$ by $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)^T$. It can be deduced by $J(P_0, \beta')(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)^T = 0$, thus, we have

$$\begin{cases} -\mu w_1 + \omega w_2 - \left[\frac{\beta' A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} + (1-p)\mu\right] w_4 = 0, \\ (-\mu - \omega) w_2 + \tau w_4 = 0, \\ (-\mu - \sigma) w_3 + \frac{\beta' A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)} w_4 = 0, \\ \sigma w_3 + (-\tau - p\mu) w_4 = 0. \end{cases}$$

It implies $w_1 = \frac{\omega \tau \sigma - M - \sigma \mu (1-p)(\mu+\omega)}{\mu(\tau+p\mu)(\mu+\omega)}$, $w_2 = \frac{\tau \sigma}{(\tau+p\mu)(\mu+\omega)}$, $w_3 = 1, w_4 = \frac{\sigma}{\tau+p\mu}$. Then, the right eigenvector is

$$\mathbf{w} = \left(\frac{\omega\tau\sigma - M - \sigma\mu(1-p)(\mu+\omega)}{\mu(\tau+p\mu)(\mu+\omega)}, \frac{\tau\sigma}{(\tau+p\mu)(\mu+\omega)}, 1, \frac{\sigma}{\tau+p\mu}\right)^{\top}.$$
 (4)

In the same way, we can get the left eigenvector, denoted $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4)$, satisfying $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = 1$ is

$$\mathbf{v} = \left(0, 0, \frac{\tau + p\mu}{\mu + p\mu + \sigma + \tau}, \frac{(\tau + p\mu)(\mu + \sigma)}{\sigma(\mu + p\mu + \sigma + \tau)}\right).$$
(5)

Evaluating the partial derivatives at P_0 , we can get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_1 \partial x_4} &= \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_4 \partial x_1} = -\beta, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4^2} &= \frac{-2\alpha\beta A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_1 \partial x_4} &= \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4 \partial x_1} = \beta, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4^2} &= \frac{2\alpha\beta A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_4 \partial \beta} &= \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial \beta \partial x_4} = \frac{-A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4 \partial \beta} &= \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial \beta \partial x_4} = \frac{A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)}, \end{aligned}$$

all other second-order partial derivatives are equal to zero. Then, we evaluate the coefficient a and b,

$$a = \sum_{k,i,j=1}^{4} v_k w_i w_j \frac{\partial^2 f_k}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (P_0, \beta')$$

= $2v_1 w_1 w_4 \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_1 \partial x_4} (P_0, \beta') + v_1 w_4^2 \frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_4^2} (P_0, \beta')$
+ $2v_3 w_1 w_4 \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_1 \partial x_4} (P_0, \beta') + v_3 w_4^2 \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4^2} (P_0, \beta'),$

$$b = \sum_{k,i,=1}^{4} v_k w_i \frac{\partial^2 f_k}{\partial x_i \partial \beta} (P_0, \beta') = 2v_1 w_4 \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4 \partial \beta} (P_0, \beta') + 2v_3 w_4 \frac{\partial^2 f_3}{\partial x_4 \partial \beta} (P_0, \beta').$$

Taking into account of (4) and (5), we have

$$a = \frac{2\sigma\beta[\omega\tau\sigma - M - \sigma\mu(1-p)(\mu+\omega) + \sigma\alpha A(\mu(1-b)+\omega)]}{\mu(\tau+p\mu)(\mu+\omega)(\mu+p\mu+\sigma+\tau)}$$

and

$$b = \frac{2\sigma A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}{\mu(\mu+\omega)(\mu+p\mu+\sigma+\tau)}.$$

Obviously, the coefficient b is positive, so according to the results in [9], the sign of the coefficient a decides the local dynamics around the disease-free equilibrium for $\beta = \beta'$.

Remark 3.5. Let $\alpha' = \frac{M - \omega \sigma \tau + \sigma \mu (1-p)(\mu+\omega)}{\sigma A[\mu(1-b)+\omega]}$, we can get a > 0 when $\alpha > \alpha'$. In this case, the direction of the bifurcation of system (1) at R_0 is backward. In fact, when $R_0 = 1$, the condition $\alpha > \alpha'$ is equivalent to the condition $R_2 < 1$. So we have the following theorem.

Theorem 3.6. When $R_0 = 1$, system (1) exhibits a backward bifurcation for $R_2 < 1$; and exhibits a forward bifurcation for $R_2 > 1$.

Theorem 3.7. When $R_0 > 1$, the endemic equilibrium P^* of the system (1) is locally asymptotically stable if $b_3 > 0$ and $b_1b_2 - b_3 > 0$, where b_1, b_2 and b_3 are presented in the following proof.

Proof. The Jacobian matrix of (1) at P^* is

$$J(P^*) = \begin{pmatrix} -\beta I^*(1 + \alpha I^*) - \mu & \omega & 0 & -\beta S^*(1 + 2\alpha I^*) - (1 - p)\mu \\ 0 & -\mu - \omega & 0 & \tau \\ \beta I^*(1 + \alpha I^*) & 0 & -\mu - \sigma & \beta S^*(1 + 2\alpha I^*) \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma & \tau - p\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

The characteristic equation of the matrix $J(P^*)$ is $(\lambda + \mu)(\lambda^3 + b_1\lambda^2 + b_2\lambda + b_3) = 0$, where

$$\begin{split} b_1 &= \tau + p\mu + 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*), \\ b_2 &= (\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma) + (\tau + p\mu)(2\mu + \omega + \sigma) + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)(\mu + p\mu + \omega + \sigma + \tau) \\ &- \sigma \beta S^* (1 + 2\alpha I^*), \\ b_3 &= (\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma)(\tau + p\mu) + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)[(\mu + \omega)(p\mu + \tau + \sigma) + \sigma \tau] \\ &- (\mu + \omega)\sigma \beta S^* (1 + 2\alpha I^*). \end{split}$$

So

$$b_{1}b_{2} - b_{3} = [2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^{*}(1 + \alpha I^{*})]\tau^{2} + \{[2p\mu + 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^{*}(1 + \alpha I^{*})][2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^{*}(1 + \alpha I^{*})] - \sigma\beta S^{*}(1 + 2\alpha I^{*})\}\tau + [p\mu + 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^{*}(1 + \alpha I^{*})] \\ [(\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma) + p\mu(2\mu + \omega + \sigma) + \mu + p\mu + \omega + \sigma - \sigma\beta S^{*}(1 + 2\alpha I^{*})] \\ - p\mu(\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma) - \beta I^{*}(1 + \alpha I^{*})(\mu + \omega)(p\mu + \sigma) + (\mu + \omega)\sigma\beta S^{*}(1 + 2\alpha I^{*})\}$$

Obviously, $b_1 > 0$. Based on Hurwitz criterion, when $R_0 > 1$, the endemic equilibrium P^* of the system (1) is locally asymptotically stable if $b_3 > 0$ and $b_1b_2 - b_3 > 0$.

Theorem 3.8. The system (1) undergos Hopf bifurcation around the positive equilibrium when $R_0 > 1$ and the parameter τ crosses a critical value.

Proof. If Hopf bifurcation takes place, then there exists τ^* satisfied $(i)g(\tau^*) \equiv b_1(\tau^*)b_2(\tau^*) - b_3(\tau^*) = 0$, $(ii)\frac{d}{d\tau}Re(\lambda(\tau))|_{\tau=\tau^*} \neq 0$. The condition $b_1b_2 - b_3 = 0$ is given by $c_1\tau^2 + c_2\tau + c_3 = 0$, where

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*), \\ c_2 &= [2p\mu + 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)] [2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)] - \sigma \beta S^* (1 + 2\alpha I^*), \\ c_3 &= [p\mu + 2\mu + \omega + \sigma + \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)] [(\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma) + p\mu(2\mu + \omega + \sigma) + \mu + p\mu + \omega \\ &+ \sigma - \sigma \beta S^* (1 + 2\alpha I^*)] - p\mu(\mu + \omega)(\mu + \sigma) - \beta I^* (1 + \alpha I^*)(\mu + \omega)(p\mu + \sigma) \\ &+ (\mu + \omega)\sigma \beta S^* (1 + 2\alpha I^*). \end{aligned}$$

If $\tau = \tau^*$, we can get

$$\lambda^3 + b_1 \lambda^2 + b_2 \lambda + b_3 = \lambda^3 + b_1 \lambda^2 + b_2 \lambda + b_1 b_2 = (\lambda^2 + b_2)(\lambda + b_1) = 0, \quad (6)$$

which has three roots $\lambda_1(\tau) = i\sqrt{b_2}, \lambda_2 = -i\sqrt{b_2}, \lambda_3 = -b_1$. For all τ , the roots are in general of the form $\lambda_1(\tau) = \xi_1(\tau) + i\xi_2(\tau), \lambda_2(\tau) = \xi_1(\tau) - i\xi_2(\tau), \lambda_3 = -b_1$.

Substituting $\lambda_1(\tau) = \xi_1(\tau) + i\xi_2(\tau)$ into (6) and calculation the derivative, we have

$$B(\tau)\xi_{1}^{'}(\tau) - C(\tau)\xi_{2}^{'} + E(\tau) = 0, C(\tau)\xi_{1}^{'}(\tau) + B(\tau)\xi_{2}^{'} + F(\tau) = 0,$$

where

$$B(\tau) = 3\xi_1^2(\tau) + 2b_1(\tau)\xi_1(\tau) + b_2(\tau) - 3\xi_2^2(\tau),$$

$$C(\tau) = 6\xi_1(\tau)\xi_2(\tau) + 2b_1(\tau)\xi_2(\tau),$$

$$E(\tau) = b_1'(\tau)\xi_1^2(\tau) + b_2'(\tau)\xi_1(\tau) + b_3'(\tau) - b_1'(\tau)\xi_2^2(\tau),$$

$$F(\tau) = 2\xi_1(\tau)\xi_2(\tau)b_1'(\tau) + b_2'(\tau)\xi_2(\tau).$$

Since $C(\tau^*)F(\tau^*) + B(\tau^*)E(\tau^*) \neq 0$, so $\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\tau}Re(\lambda_1(\tau))|_{\tau=\tau^*} = -\frac{CF+BE}{B^2+C^2}|_{\tau=\tau^*}\neq 0$. By the same way, we can get that $\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\tau}Re(\lambda_2(\tau))|_{\tau=\tau^*}\neq 0$. And

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\tau}Re(\lambda_3(\tau))\mid_{\tau=\tau^*}=\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\tau}Re(-b_1(\tau))\mid_{\tau=\tau^*}\neq 0.$$

Thus, the transversal condition holds. This implies that a Hopf bifurcation takes place when $\tau = \tau^*$.

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