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Chunqing Lu* (clu@siue.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL 62026. *Bifurcation of Solutions to a Boundary Layer Problem*. Preliminary report.

Consider that a plate is semi-infinite with a porous surface and moves at a constant speed U_w in the direction parallel to a uniform stream flow. Assume the stream flow has a constant speed U_∞ , and that the same fluid is being injected or sucked. Then the generated laminar flow satisfies one of the Navier-Stokes equations: $U \frac{\partial U}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \tau_{XY}}{\partial Y}$. Set the shear stress $\tau_{XY} = K \left| \frac{\partial U}{\partial Y} \right|^{N-1} \frac{\partial U}{\partial Y}$ where $K > 0$ and $N \in (0, 1]$ are constant. Introducing a stream function and a similarity variable, we transform the above partial differential equation into an o.d.e

$$\left(|f''(\eta)|^{N-1} f''(\eta) \right)' + f(\eta) f''(\eta) = 0,$$

subject to boundary conditions

$$f(0) = -C, f'(0) = \xi, f'(+\infty) = 1,$$

where $\xi = \frac{U_w}{U_\infty}$, $C = \frac{BV_0(N+1)}{U_\infty}$ for a constant V_0 . This paper proves a new sufficient condition for the existence of multiple solutions to the boundary value problem. It does not require the lower boundedness of ξ , which is simpler and different from the known results. (Received November 17, 2011)