

# Blow-up and global sign-changing solutions of the nonlinear heat equation

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## The nonlinear heat equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \Delta u = |u|^\alpha u & \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ u(0) = u_0 & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (\text{NLH})$$

$\Omega$  is a bounded domain or the whole  $\mathbb{R}^N$ ,

$$\alpha > 0,$$

$$u_0 \in C_0(\Omega).$$

## Some known results

$$\mathcal{G} = \{u_0, u(t) \text{ is global}\},$$

$$\mathcal{G}_0 = \{u_0 \in \mathcal{G}, u(t) \rightarrow 0, t \rightarrow +\infty\},$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \{u_0, u(t) \text{ blows up}\}.$$

- There exists  $0 \neq u_0 \in \mathcal{G}_0$ .
- Given  $\varphi \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda\varphi \in \mathcal{B}$  if  $\lambda$  is large.
- $\varphi \geq 0$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathcal{G} \implies \lambda\varphi \in \mathcal{G}$  if  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

( $\mathcal{G}^+$  is starshaped with respect to 0.)

## Some Questions:

- Is  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_0$  convex?
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Consider

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \Delta u = |u|^\alpha u & \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ u(0) = u_0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_\eta u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (\text{NP})$$

- $\{u_0 \geq 0, u_0 \neq 0\} \subset \mathcal{B}$ .
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Theorem - Suppose  $\int \varphi \neq 0$ . Then  $\lambda \varphi \in \mathcal{B}$  if  $\lambda > 0$  is small.

Proof - Assume  $\int \varphi > 0$  and let  $v(t, x) = u(t, x)/\lambda$ . Then,

$$v_t - \Delta v = \lambda^\alpha |v|^\alpha v, \quad v(0) = \varphi.$$

Consider,  $z = e^{t\Delta} \varphi$ . Since  $\int \varphi > 0$ ,  $z(t) > 0$  for  $t$  large. Thus,  $v(t) > 0$  if  $\lambda$  is small.  $\square$

Remark - Let  $u$  be a stationary solution in  $\mathbb{R}$ :

$$-u'' = |u|^\alpha u, \quad u'(-1) = u'(1) = 0.$$

Then  $\lambda u \in \mathcal{G}_0$  for  $|\lambda| < 1$ .

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Theorem - There exists  $u_0 \in \mathcal{G}_0$  such that  $\int u_0 \neq 0$ .

Proof - The linearization of (NP) around 0 is the heat equation. Let  $M$  be the nonlinear stable manifold near 0,  $S = [1]^\perp$  the linear stable manifold,  $C = [1]$ .

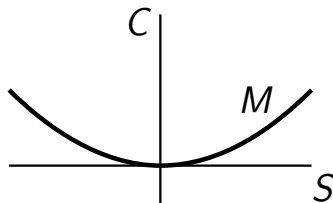




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For  $\varphi_S \in S$  we may choose  $u_0 = \varepsilon\varphi_S + c \in M$ . Suppose  $c \equiv 0$ . Define  $I(t) = \int u(t)$ . Then

$$I'(t) = \int |u(t)|^\alpha u(t) \implies I'(0) = \int |\varphi_S|^\alpha \varphi_S.$$

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Then  $I(t) \neq 0$  for  $t \approx 0$ . □

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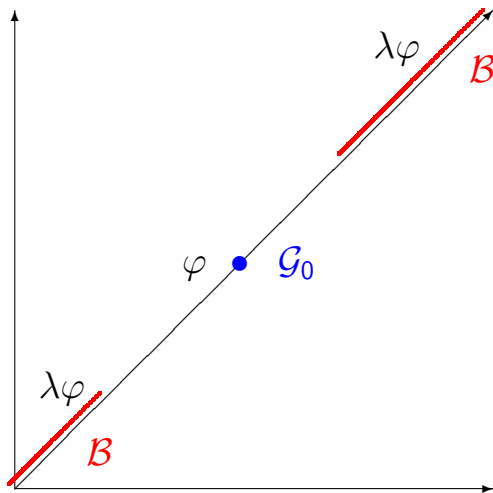
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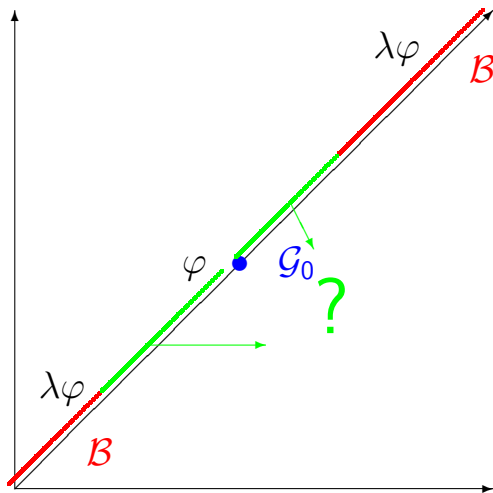
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$$\begin{cases} u_t - \Delta u = |u|^\alpha u, & \text{in } (0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^N \\ u(0) = u_0, & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^N, \end{cases} \quad (\text{CP})$$

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## The Cauchy Problem

- $u_0 \geq 0$ ,  $u_0 \neq 0$ , then  $u_0 \in \mathcal{B}$  (Fujita, '66).
- If  $\varphi \in L^1$ ,  $\int \varphi \neq 0$  then  $\lambda\varphi \in \mathcal{B}$  if  $\lambda$  is small.
- There exists  $\varphi \in L^1 \cap \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\int \varphi \neq 0$ .
- 0 is stable in  $L^\infty$ .
- There exists  $\varphi \in L^1 \cap \mathcal{G}_0$ ,  $\int \varphi = 0$ .  $\lambda\varphi \in \mathcal{G}_0$  for all  $|\lambda| < 1$  and  $\lambda\varphi \in \mathcal{B}$  if  $\lambda$  is large.



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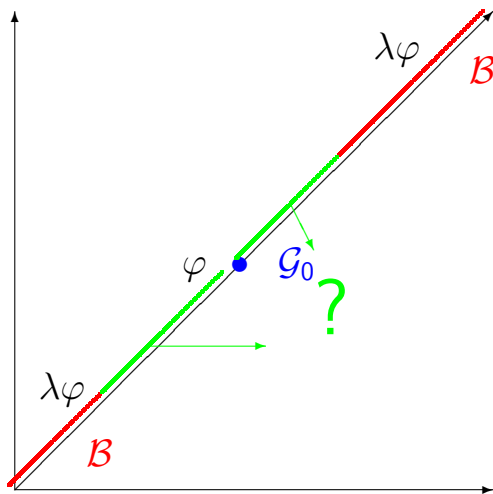
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## The Dirichlet Problem

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Proposition - Take  $\Psi$  a stationary sign-changing solution. Let  $\varphi_1$  be a first eigenvector of  $-\Delta - (\alpha + 1)|\Psi|^\alpha$ . If  $I = \int \Psi \varphi_1 \neq 0$  then  $\lambda \Psi \in \mathcal{B}$  if  $\lambda \approx 1$ ,  $\lambda \neq 1$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{G}$  is not star-shaped around 0.

Proof - Assume  $I > 0$ , call  $u_\lambda$  the solution starting at  $\lambda \Psi$  and set  $z_\lambda = \frac{u_\lambda - \Psi}{\lambda - 1}$ . Then

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But we know that  $u$  blows up if  $u_0 > \Psi$  or  $u_0 < \Psi$ .

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Theorem - If  $\alpha < \alpha_s$  then  $\mathcal{G}$  is not convex.

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To show the existence of  $u_0 \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $\int u_0\varphi_1 > 0$  we use a dynamical system argument.



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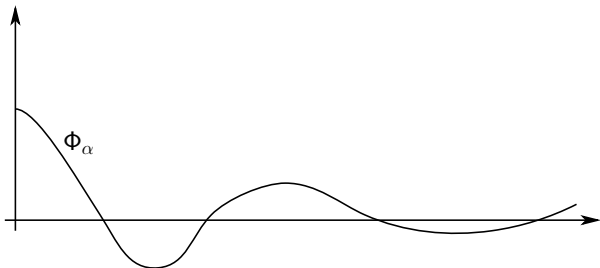
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To show the existence of  $u_0 \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $\int u_0\varphi_1 > 0$  we use a dynamical system argument.

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Consider  $\Omega = B_1$ . If  $\alpha < \alpha_s = 4/(N - 2)$  there are infinitely many stationary (radial) solutions.

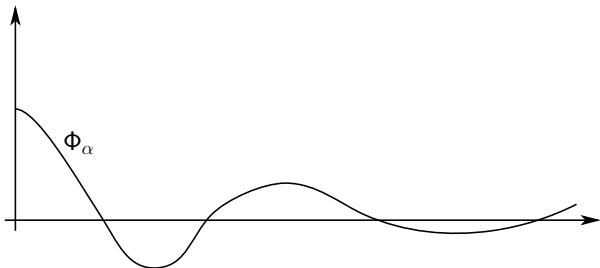


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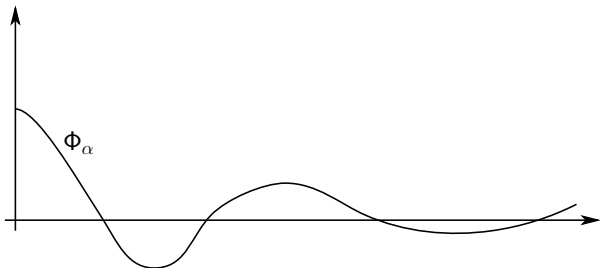


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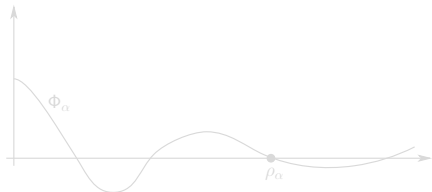
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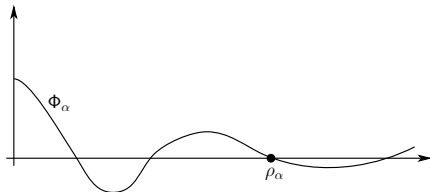
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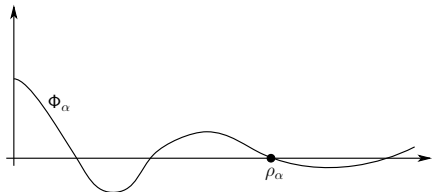
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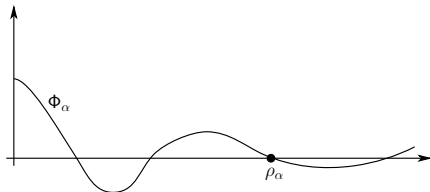
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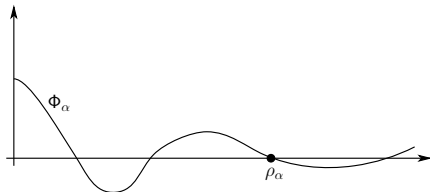
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## Nehari Functional

Consider

$$E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int |\nabla u|^2 - \frac{1}{\alpha + 2} \int |u|^{\alpha+2},$$

$$N(u) = \int |\nabla u|^2 - \int |u|^{\alpha+2},$$

$$e_* = \inf\{E(u), N(u) = 0\}.$$

## Known facts:

- $e_* > 0$ .
- If  $u$  is a stationary solution,  $N(u) = 0$ .
- $E(u(t))$  is nonincreasing.
- $E^- \subset \mathcal{B}$ .
- $W = \{E \leq e_*\} \cap \{N > 0\} \subset \mathcal{G}_0$ .
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- $u_0 \in Gz \implies u(t) \in W$  for  $t$  large.
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