

Stability of the trivial equilibrium in degenerate monostable reaction-diffusion equations

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Persistence vs. extinction for

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}(1-u) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^N$$



Scalar Fujita-type results

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}(1-u) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^N$$



Vectorial Fujita-type results — diffusion coupled systems

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u - u + v + u^{1+p}(1-u) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^N \\ \partial_t v = \Delta v + u - v + v^{1+q}(1-v) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^N \end{cases}$$



Further (intricate) diffusion processes

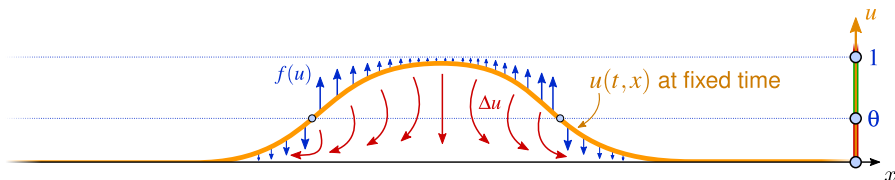
→ fast diffusion channels, adiabatic moving boundaries...

Reaction-diffusion equations

$u = u(t, x)$ represents the density of a population

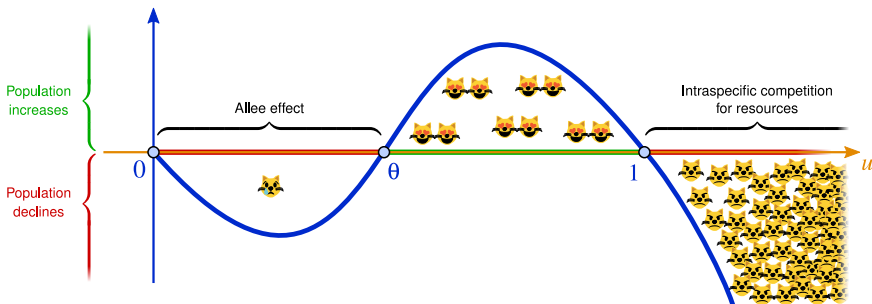


$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u + f(u), & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0, & x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$



Bistable : $f(u) = u(1 - u)(u - \theta)$

Strong Allee effect (low densities lead to negative growth)

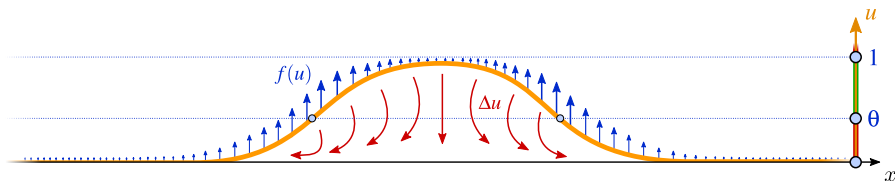


Reaction-diffusion equations

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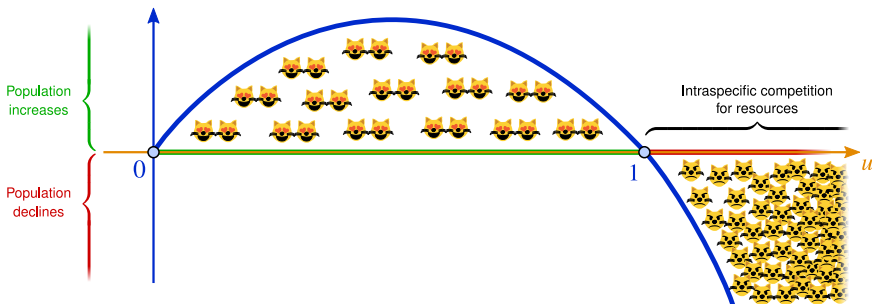


$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u + f(u), & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0, & x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$



Fisher-KPP : $f(u) = u(1 - u)$

No Allee effect (individual growth rate is maximized as $u \rightarrow 0$)

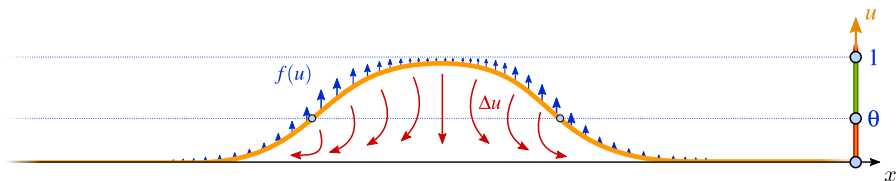


Reaction-diffusion equations

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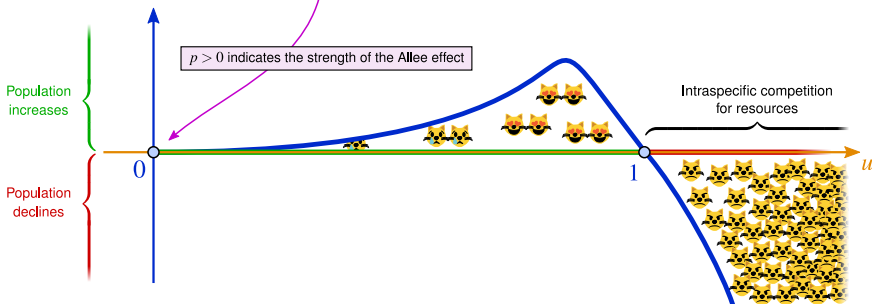


$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u + f(u), & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0, & x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$



Degenerate monostable: $f(u) = u^{1+p}(1-u)$

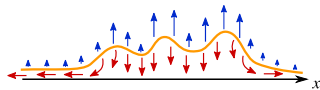
Weak Allee effect (harder to grow at low densities, but still positive growth)



Persistence vs. extinction

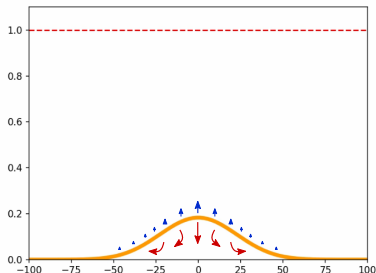
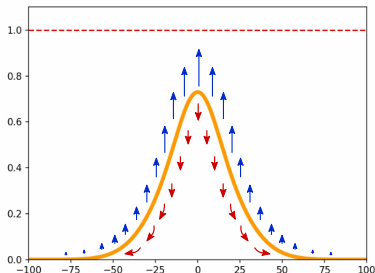
$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}(1-u), \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

➤ Persistence or extinction? competition between growth and diffusion



$p \leq 2$ } $\Rightarrow$ invasion

$p > 2$
and
 $u|_{t=0}$ "small" } $\Rightarrow$ extinction



➤ See [Aronson and Weinberger, 1978] [Quittner and Souplet 2019]

Theorem (Aronson and Weinberger, 1978)

Consider $(\star) : \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}(1-u) \quad t > 0 \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N$

1) $p \leq p_F := 2/N \Rightarrow$ systematic invasion (remind $p = 0$ is KPP)

2) $p > p_F \Rightarrow$ possible extinction

➤ Partial answer to know whether the solutions to $(\star)$ persist or go extinct

➤ Comparison principle with the underlying ODE $U' = U^{1+p}(1-U)$ does not help since

$$U(t=0) > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad U(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 1$$

➤ When $p > p_F$, “smallness” of the initial data u_0 is determinant*

➤ 2) is a straight consequence of Fujita’s theorem (see next slide)

➤ 1) is more subtle and lies on the construction of appropriate subsolution
see the book [Quittner, Souplet 2019] for an accessible proof

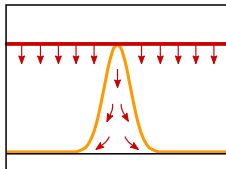
*mixture of L^1/L^∞ norms and fragmentation (defining fragmentation is quite difficult [Alfaro, Hamel, Roques (2024)] and has potentially a non-monotone effect [Garnier, Roques, Hamel (2012)])

Fujita blow-up phenomena

$$(\star) \quad \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

Diffusion part

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u$$



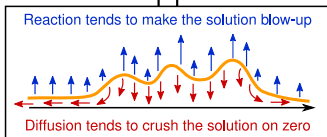
$$\|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} \leq c/t^{N/2}$$

Vanish with algebraic rate $N/2$

VS

Reaction part

$$U' = U^{1+p}$$



Global existence
or
blow-up in finite time?



$$U(t) = c/(T_{\text{boom}} - t)^{1/p}$$

Blows-up with algebraic rate $1/p$

Theorem (H.Fujita) (1966)

If $\frac{1}{p} > \frac{N}{2}$, then **reaction always prevails over diffusion**: any positive solution to $(\star)$ blows-up in finite time.

If $\frac{1}{p} < \frac{N}{2}$, then **diffusion may prevail over reaction**: $(\star)$ admits global positive solutions.

Heuristics: Why $2/N$?

$$(\star) \quad \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

Theorem (H.Fujita) (1966)

If $\frac{1}{p} > \frac{N}{2}$, then **reaction always prevails over diffusion**: any positive solution to $(\star)$ blows-up in finite time.

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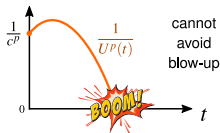
$$U' = U^{1+p} \xrightarrow{\text{solve}} \frac{1}{U^p(t)} = \frac{1}{U_0^p} - pt$$



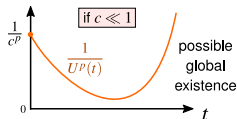
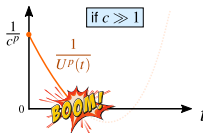
➤ Introduce time dependency on U_0 : $U_0 = U_0(t) = c/(1+t)^{N/2}$ As for the solutions to the Heat equation!

➤ This penalizes the growth of U : $\frac{1}{U^p(t)} = \frac{(1+t)^{Np/2}}{c^p} - pt$ Algebraic battle!

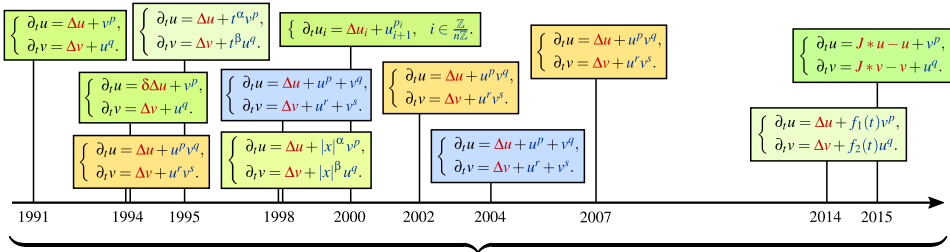
$$p < 2/N \Rightarrow U^{-p}(t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} -pt$$



$$p > 2/N \Rightarrow U^{-p}(t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} c^{-p}(1+t)^{Np/2}$$



Fujita-type results for systems



Always coupled by the reaction terms

- The aim of this presentation is to consider a Fujita-type problem that is coupled through the diffusion process:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = c \Delta u - \mu u + v v + u^{1+p}, & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d \Delta v + \mu u - v v + \kappa v^{1+q}, & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

$\kappa = 0$ or 1

The linear heat-exchanger system

$$(\text{HE})_{\text{diff}} : \begin{cases} \partial_t u = c\Delta u - \mu u + \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d\Delta v + \mu u - \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

➤ First approach : $c = d = \mu = \nu = 1$.

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{\sigma := u + v \quad \delta := u - v} \xrightarrow{\text{uncoupling}} \begin{cases} \partial_t \sigma = \Delta \sigma \\ \partial_t \delta = \Delta \delta - 2\delta \end{cases} \\ \updownarrow \\ \boxed{u = \frac{\sigma + \delta}{2} \quad v = \frac{\sigma - \delta}{2}} \end{array}$$

retrieve u and v

$$\begin{cases} \sigma(t) = G(t) * (u_0 + v_0), \\ \delta(t) = e^{-2t} [G(t) * (u_0 + v_0)] \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} u(t) = \frac{1+e^{-2t}}{2} [G(t) * u_0] + \frac{1-e^{-2t}}{2} [G(t) * v_0] \\ v(t) = \frac{1-e^{-2t}}{2} [G(t) * u_0] + \frac{1+e^{-2t}}{2} [G(t) * v_0] \end{cases}$$

$t \rightarrow \infty$
exponentially fast

$$\begin{cases} u_\infty(t) = G(t) * \left(\frac{u_0 + v_0}{2}\right) \\ v_\infty(t) = G(t) * \left(\frac{u_0 + v_0}{2}\right) \end{cases}$$

Asymptotic behavior of the linear heat-exchanger system

$$(HE)_{\text{diff}} : \begin{cases} \partial_t u = c\Delta u - \mu u + \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d\Delta v + \mu u - \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Behavior of the solutions of $(HE)_{\text{diff}}$)

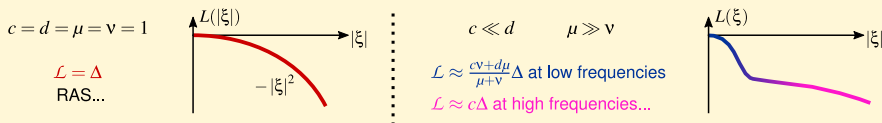
Let (u, v) be the solution to $(HE)_{\text{diff}}$ starting from (u_0, v_0) at $t = 0$. Then for all $t > 1$,

$$\|u(t) - u_\infty(t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq k e^{-t \frac{(\sqrt{\mu} + \sqrt{\nu})^2}{2}}, \quad \|v(t) - v_\infty(t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq k' e^{-t \frac{(\sqrt{\mu} + \sqrt{\nu})^2}{2}},$$

where

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u_\infty = \mathcal{L} u_\infty, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ u_\infty|_{t=0} = f(u_0, v_0) & x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t v_\infty = \mathcal{L} v_\infty, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ v_\infty|_{t=0} = g(u_0, v_0) & x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

The diffusive operator $\mathcal{L}$ is characterised through its Fourier transform $\widehat{\mathcal{L}f}(\xi) = L(\xi) \times \widehat{f}(\xi)$ where L is completely known — notice $L(\xi) = -|\xi|^2$ if $\mathcal{L} = \Delta$...



f and g are linear combinations of u_0 and v_0 altered by high-pass and low-pass frequency filters.

Decay rate of the linear heat-exchanger

$$(HE)_{\text{diff}} : \begin{cases} \partial_t u = c\Delta u - \mu u + \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d\Delta v + \mu u - \nu v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

Corollary (Decay rate)

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq \frac{k'}{t^{N/2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \|v(t)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq \frac{k'}{t^{N/2}} \quad \text{for all } t > 0.$$

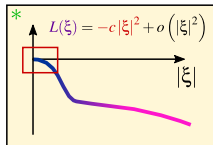
➤ Suffices to estimate $u_\infty(t)$ and $v_\infty(t)$ in $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)$

$$\|f\|_{L^\infty} \leq k \|\hat{f}\|_{L^1} \quad (\text{Hausdorff-Young inequality})$$

➤ Suffices to estimate $\hat{u}_\infty(t)$ and $\hat{v}_\infty(t)$ in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$

➤ Split $\int |\hat{u}_\infty(t, \cdot)|$ into high and low frequencies:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{u}_\infty(t)\|_{L^1} &\leq \underbrace{\|\hat{u}_\infty^{\text{high}}(t)\|_{L^1}}_{\text{Vanish exponentially fast}} + \|\hat{u}_\infty^{\text{low}}(t)\|_{L^1} \approx \int_{|\xi| < a} |\text{something bounded}| \times e^{tL(\xi)} d\xi \\ &\stackrel{*}{\lesssim} k \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} e^{-t|\xi|^2} d\xi \\ &= k \left(\frac{\pi}{t}\right)^{N/2} \end{aligned}$$



Fujita-type results for the heat-exchanger

$\kappa = 0$ or 1

$$(HE)_{\text{Fujita}}: \begin{cases} \partial_t u = c\Delta u - \mu u + \nu v + u^{1+p}, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d\Delta v + \mu u - \nu v + v^{1+q}, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Blow-up vs. global existence for the solutions of $(HE)_{\text{Fujita}}$)

$$\text{If } \frac{N}{2} < \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} & \text{if } \kappa = 0, \\ \max(\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{q}) & \text{if } \kappa = 1, \end{cases}$$

then **reaction always prevails over diffusion**:

any positive solution to $(HE)_{\text{Fujita}}$ blows-up in finite time.

$$\text{If } \frac{N}{2} > \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} & \text{if } \kappa = 0, \\ \max(\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{q}) & \text{if } \kappa = 1, \end{cases}$$

then **diffusion may prevail over reaction**: $(HE)_{\text{Fujita}}$ admits global positive solutions.

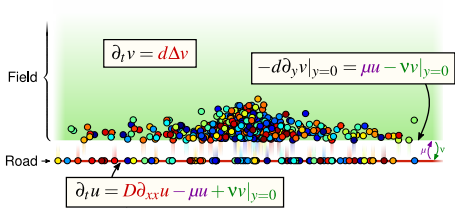
➤ **Possible global existence**: build super-solutions $F(t) \times (U(t,x), V(t,x))$, where (U, V) is the solution to the associated diffusive problem and F a to-be-found function.

➤ **Systematic blow-up**: pass the solution through an appropriate Gaussian blur and evaluate at place $x = 0$. This yields an ODE whom the blowing-up is equivalent to that of (u, v) .

Further (intricate) diffusion processes

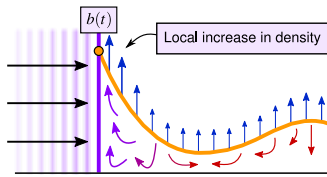
➤ The influence of a fast diffusion channel (a road) on Fujita exponents

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t v = d\Delta v + v^{1+p}, & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1}, \quad y > 0, \\ -d\partial_y v|_{y=0} = \mu u - v v|_{y=0}, & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1}, \\ \partial_t u = D\Delta_x u - \mu u + v v|_{y=0}, & t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1}. \end{cases}$$



L^∞ estimates established for the linear model in [Alfaro, Ducasse, Tréton – JDE 2023]

➤ The influence of an adiabatic inward-shifting boundary (a piston) on Fujita exponents



$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \partial_{xx} u + u^{1+p} & t > 0 \quad x > b(t) \\ -\partial_x u = b'(t)u & t > 0 \quad x = b(t) \end{cases}$$

Linear model studied in [Tréton, Zhang – arXiv 2025]

This work will be presented tomorrow (18:30 → 19:00, salle Saint-Julien)

Thanks for your attention!

The original paper of Fujita

Fujita

On the blowing up of solutions of the Cauchy problem for $\partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+\alpha}$

Journal of the Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo (1966)

Extinction with Allee effect

Aronson and Weinberger

Multidimensional nonlinear diffusion arising in population genetics

Advances in Mathematics (1978)

A well known book on the Fujita blow-up phenomena

Quittner and Souplet

Superlinear Parabolic Problems

Springer International Publishing (2019)

Fujita on the Heat exchanger

Tréton

Blow-up vs. global existence for a Fujita-type Heat exchanger system

SIAM Journal of Mathematical Analysis (2023)

The field-road model

Alfaro, Ducasse and Tréton

The field-road diffusion model: fundamental solution and asymptotic behavior

Journal of Differential Equations (2023)

The piston model

Tréton and Zhang

A piston to counteract diffusion: the influence of an inward-shifting boundary on the heat equation in half-space

arXiv:2505.03304 (2025)

→ This work will be presented tomorrow (18:30 → 19:00, salle Saint-Julien)

Fujita: possible global existence

$$(\star) \quad \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

Theorem (H.Fujita) (1966)

If $\frac{1}{p} < \frac{N}{2}$, then **diffusion may prevail over reaction**: $(\star)$ admits global positive solutions.



Build a global super solution:

$$\bar{u}(t, x) = f(t) \times u(t, x)$$

to be found   solution to the Heat equation



We ask then $\partial_t \bar{u} \geq \Delta \bar{u} + \bar{u}^{1+p}$



A sufficient condition to get that is $f'(t) = \frac{c(\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{L^\infty})}{(1+t)^{Np/2}} \times f^{1+p}(t)$



By solving we find f which is bounded if

 $p > 2/N$

and

 $\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{L^\infty}$ sufficiently small...

Fujita: systematic blow-up

$$(\star) \quad \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^{1+p}, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

Theorem (H.Fujita) (1966)

If $\frac{1}{p} > \frac{N}{2}$, then **reaction always prevails over diffusion**: any positive solution to $(\star)$ blows-up in finite time.

➤ Introduce for $\varepsilon > 0$, $\Phi_\varepsilon(x) := \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\pi}\right)^{N/2} \times e^{-\varepsilon|x|^2}$, so that $\|\Phi_\varepsilon\|_{L^1} = 1$ for any ε .

For $\lambda > 0$, $(\Delta - \lambda)\Phi_\varepsilon = (4\varepsilon^2|x|^2 - 2\varepsilon N + \lambda)\Phi_\varepsilon \geq (-2\varepsilon N + \lambda)\Phi_\varepsilon$
so that, for $\lambda := 2N\varepsilon$, $\Delta\Phi_\varepsilon \geq -\lambda\Phi_\varepsilon \quad (\star)$



➤ Call U_ε the solution u blurred by convolution with Φ_ε evaluated at $x = 0$:

$$U_\varepsilon(t) := [\Phi_\varepsilon * u(t, \cdot)](x=0) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \Phi_\varepsilon(z) u(t, z) dz$$

then

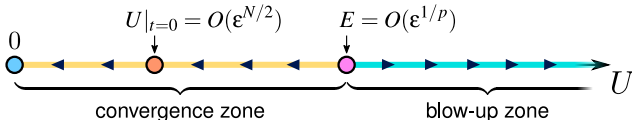
$$U_\varepsilon(t) \leq \|u(t)\|_{L^\infty}$$

remains to make this blow-up!

➤ $U'_\varepsilon = \Phi_\varepsilon * (\Delta u + u^{1+p}) \stackrel{\text{IBP}}{=} \Delta\Phi_\varepsilon * u + \Phi_\varepsilon * (u^{1+p}) \stackrel{\text{Jensen} + (\star)}{\geq} -\lambda\Phi_\varepsilon * u + (\Phi_\varepsilon * u)^{1+p} = -\lambda U_\varepsilon + U_\varepsilon^{1+p}$

Hence, $U_\varepsilon > U$, where

$$\begin{cases} U' = -\lambda U + U^{1+p}, \\ U|_{t=0} = U_0 = O(\varepsilon^{N/2}) \end{cases}$$



Heat-exchanger: systematic blow-up

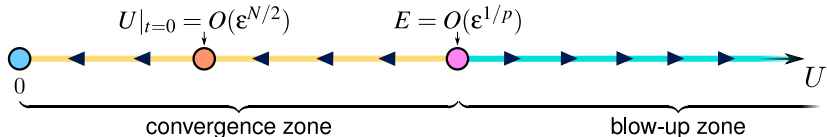
Scalar case

$$\triangleright \Phi_\varepsilon(x) := \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\pi}\right) e^{-\varepsilon|x|^2}$$

$$\triangleright U(t) := [\Phi_\varepsilon * u(t, \cdot)](0)$$

$\triangleright U \text{ blows-up} \Rightarrow u \text{ blows-up}$

$$\triangleright U'(t) \geq -2N\varepsilon U + U^{1+p}$$



$\triangleright$ For ε small enough, $U|_{t=0} > E$ when $\frac{1}{p} > \frac{2}{N}$

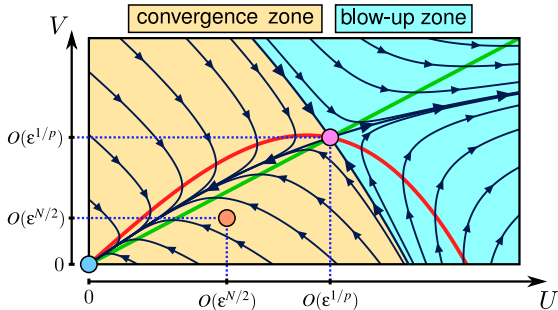
Heat exchanger

$$U(t) := [\Phi_\varepsilon * u(t, \cdot)](0)$$

$$V(t) := [\Phi_\varepsilon * v(t, \cdot)](0)$$

$$\begin{cases} U' \geq -(\mu + 2cN\varepsilon)U + vV + U^{1+p} \\ V' \geq \mu u - (v + 2dN\varepsilon)V \end{cases}$$

$\triangleright$ For ε small enough, $(U, V)|_{t=0} = \bullet$ is in **blow-up zone** when $\frac{1}{p} > \frac{2}{N}$



Linear heat-exchanger: Fourier transform approach

$$(HE)_{\text{diff}}: \begin{cases} \partial_t u = c\Delta u - \mu u + v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \partial_t v = d\Delta v + \mu u - v, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \end{cases}$$

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u} \\ \hat{v} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -c|\xi|^2 - \mu & v \\ \mu & -d|\xi|^2 - v \end{pmatrix}}_{=: A(\xi)} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u} \\ \hat{v} \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_+ \text{ and } \lambda_- \text{ the two eigenvalues of } A(\xi)$$

➤ Explicit solution in Fourier

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}(t, \xi) \\ \hat{v}(t, \xi) \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \left(1 - \frac{r}{\sqrt{s}}\right) e^{i\lambda_+ t} + \left(1 + \frac{r}{\sqrt{s}}\right) e^{i\lambda_- t} & \frac{v}{\sqrt{s}} e^{i\lambda_+ t} - \frac{v}{\sqrt{s}} e^{i\lambda_- t} \\ \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{s}} e^{i\lambda_+ t} - \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{s}} e^{i\lambda_- t} & \left(1 + \frac{r}{\sqrt{s}}\right) e^{i\lambda_+ t} + \left(1 - \frac{r}{\sqrt{s}}\right) e^{i\lambda_- t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}_0(\xi) \\ \hat{v}_0(\xi) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}_e(t, x) \\ \hat{v}_e(t, x) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}_\infty(t, x) \\ \hat{v}_\infty(t, x) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{(evanescent) + (persistent)} \end{aligned}$$

➤ Hausdorff–Young inequality $|u(t, x)| = \left| \frac{1}{(2\pi)^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \hat{u}(t, \xi) e^{i\xi \cdot x} d\xi \right| \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi)^N} \|\hat{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})}$

➤ For u (the same for v):

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_e(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} &\leq k \|\hat{u}_e(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq \tilde{k} e^{-\lambda t} && \text{exponential vanishing} \\ \|u_\infty(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)} &\leq \ell \|\hat{u}_\infty(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq \tilde{\ell} / t^{N/2} && \text{algebraical vanishing} \end{aligned}$$