

Nonlinear and Nonlocal Degenerate Diffusions on Bounded Domains

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**International Conference on
Qualitative Properties for Nonlinear Diffusion Equations**

Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

Tokyo, Japan, January 22-23, 2020

References:

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Homogeneous Dirichlet Problem for Fractional Nonlinear Degenerate Diffusion Equations

$$(HDP) \quad \begin{cases} u_t + \mathcal{L}F(u) = 0, & \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega \\ u(t, x) = 0, & \text{on the lateral boundary.} \end{cases}$$

where:

- $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ is a bounded domain with smooth boundary and $N \geq 1$.
- The linear operator \mathcal{L} will be:
 - sub-Markovian operator
 - densely defined in $L^1(\Omega)$.

A wide class of linear operators fall in this class:

The classical Laplacian and *all fractional Laplacians on domains*.

- The most studied nonlinearity is $F(u) = |u|^{m-1}u$, with $m > 1$.
We deal with Degenerate diffusion of Porous Medium type.
More general classes of “degenerate” nonlinearities F are allowed.
- The homogeneous boundary condition is posed on the lateral boundary, which may take different forms, depending on the particular choice of the operator \mathcal{L} .

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A Brief Summary about the Dirichlet Problem for PME in few “Blackboards”

The Classical Porous Medium Equation (PME)

**A Brief Summary about the Dirichlet Problem for PME
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$\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$ bounded domain.

$u_0 \in C_c^\infty(\Omega)$ smooth & compactly supported.

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \Delta u^m & \text{in } (0, \infty) \times \Omega \\ u = 0 & \text{on } (0, \infty) \times \partial\Omega \\ u(t=0) = u_0 & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases} \quad m > 1$$



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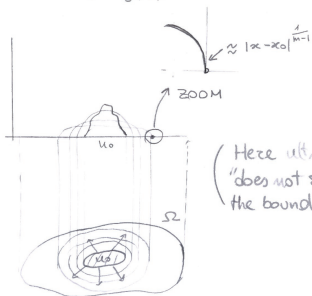
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(o) $0 < t < \underline{t}$ INITIAL TIMES

(Barenblatt behaviour)

$$u(t, x) \approx \left(C - \frac{|x|^2}{4t} \right)_+^{\frac{1}{m-1}} t^\alpha = B(t, x)$$



(Here $u(t, x)$
"does not see"
the boundary)

- o the support of $u(t)$ spreads from $\text{supp}(u_0)$ with finite speed (close to $B(t, x)$)
- o the support of $u(t)$ does NOT TOUCH the boundary $\partial\Omega$.

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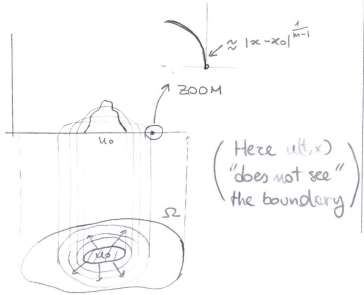
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(o) $0 < t < \underline{t}$ INITIAL TIMES

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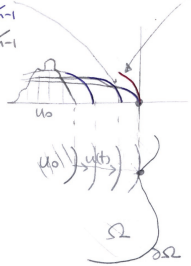
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- o the support of $u(t)$ does NOT TOUCH the boundary $\partial\Omega$.

$t = \underline{t}$ (the first "touching point")

- When the support of $u(t)$ touches $\partial\Omega$ for the first time.
- Transition of boundary behaviour:

"Barenblatt" Beh. VS "Elliptic" Beh.

$$|x-x_0|^{\frac{1}{m-1}} d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \quad \text{VS} \quad |x-x_0|^{\frac{1}{m}} d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m}}$$



(Here $u(t, x)$
"starts to see $\partial\Omega$ ")

the solution starts to "inflate"

$$\text{from } d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \ll d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m}} \quad (m > 1)$$

TO \nearrow

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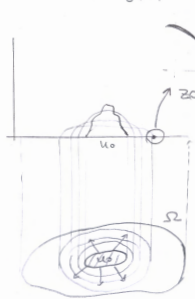
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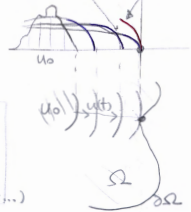
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(Here $u(t, x)$ "starts to see" $\partial\Omega$)

REGULARITY

- solutions are smooth when positive & bounded.
- Free boundary: delicate issue (CAFFARELLI, VAZQUEZ, WOLANSKI, KOCH, ...)

the solution starts to "inflat" from $d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \ll d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m}}$ ($m > 1$).

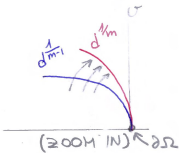


A Brief Summary about the Dirichlet Problem for PME in few "Blackboards"

(*) $\underline{t} < t < t_*$ (TRANSITION OF BOUNDARY BEHAVIOUR)
 REACHING THE BOUNDARY. ("forgetting u_0 ")

- Once the $\text{supp}(u(t, \cdot))$ touches the boundary of Ω , the solution starts to inflate. the behaviour at $\partial\Omega$ becomes the elliptic one:

$$u(t, x) \approx \frac{d(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}$$

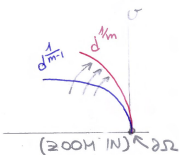


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- (*) $t \geq t_*$: POSITIVITY IN ALL Ω (INTERMEDIATE TIMES, & LARGE)

GLOBAL HARNACK PRINCIPLE:

$$C_0 \frac{\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{1/m}}{t^{1/m-1}} \leq u(t, x) \leq C_1 \frac{\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{1/m}}{t^{1/m-1}}$$

↓
 rewritten

$$C'_0 \frac{S(x)}{t^{1/m-1}} \leq u(t, x) \leq C'_1 \frac{S(x)}{t^{1/m-1}}$$

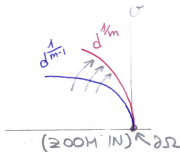
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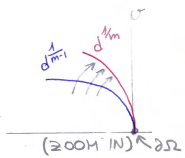
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rewritten

(ELLIPTIC THEORY)

Semilinear Structure: $S^m = V, p = 1/m < 1$

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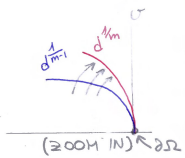
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SLOW MOTION DYNAMICS: (LOGARITHMIC TIME RESCALING)

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \Delta u^m \\ u(x=0) = u_0 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{SAME LATERAL B-C}} \begin{cases} v_t = \Delta v^m + \frac{v}{m-1} \\ v(t=0) = u_0 \end{cases}$$

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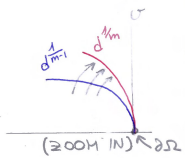
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(•) $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ASYMPTOTIC BEHAVIOUR
 $z^{\frac{1}{m-1}} |u(z,x) - S(x)| \xrightarrow[\tau \rightarrow +\infty]{\text{UNIF}} 0 \quad \left\} \quad u(t,x) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{\text{UNIF}} S(x)$

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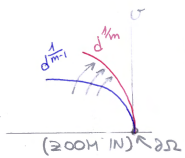
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$$\left| \frac{u(z,x)}{z^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} - 1 \right| \leq \frac{C}{1+z} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SHARP} \\ \left| \frac{v(t,x)}{S(x)} - 1 \right| \leq C e^{-t} \end{array} \right.$$

(•) $t \geq t_*$: POSITIVITY in all Ω (INTERMEDIATE TIMES) & LARGE

GLOBAL HARNACK PRINCIPLE:

$$C_0 \frac{\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \leq u(t,x) \leq C_1 \frac{\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}$$

rewritten

$$C'_0 \frac{S(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \leq u(t,x) \leq C'_1 \frac{S(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}$$

$$u(t,x) \propto \frac{S(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} = U(t,x)$$

SEPARATE VARIABLE SOLUTION.

(STATIONARY for RESCALED FLOW) ASSOCIATED ELLIPTIC PROBLEM.

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta S^m = \frac{S}{m-1} & \text{in } \Omega \\ S = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

Semilinear Structure: $S^m = V, p = \frac{1}{m} < 1$

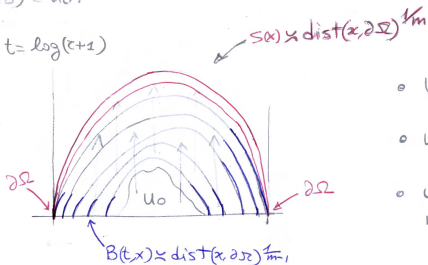
(ELLIPTIC THEORY)

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta V = \frac{p}{1-p} V^p & \text{in } \Omega \\ V = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

A Brief Summary about the Dirichlet Problem for PME in few "Blackboards"

$$\begin{cases} u_\tau = \Delta u^m \\ u(\tau=0) = u_0 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{(SAME INTEGRAL B.C.)}} \begin{cases} v_t = \Delta v^m + \frac{v}{m-1} \\ v(t=0) = u_0. \end{cases} \quad \text{SLOW MOTION DYNAMICS}$$

$$v(t, x) = \tau^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(\tau, x), \quad t = \log(\tau+1)$$



$$\bullet \quad v_t = \Delta v^m + \frac{v}{m-1}$$

$$\bullet \quad v_t \geq 0 \leftarrow \text{(BENJAN-CRANDELL)}$$



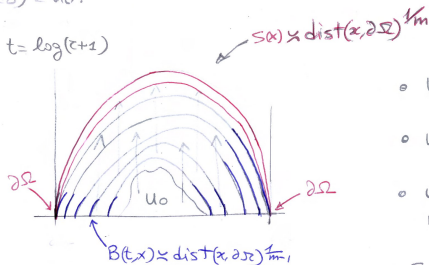
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• $S(x)$ REPRESENTS AN ABSOLUTE UPPER BOUND FOR ALL SOLUTIONS !!

"FRIENDLY GIANT".
(DANBERG-KENIG)

$$\begin{cases} u(\tau, x) = \frac{S(x)}{\tau^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \\ u(0, x) = +\infty \end{cases}$$

← RESCUING BACK.

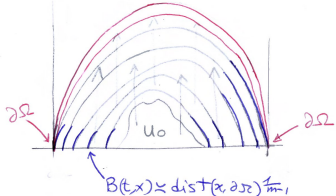
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SEPARATION OF VARIABLES

$$\begin{cases} u_T(\tau, x) = \frac{S(x)}{(T+\tau)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \\ u_T(0, x) = \frac{S(x)}{T^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \end{cases}$$



- $v_t = \Delta v^m + \frac{v}{m-1}$
- $v_t \geq 0 \leftarrow$ (BENJAN-CRANALL)
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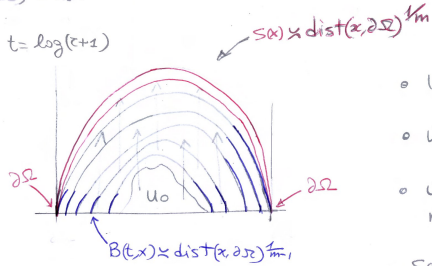
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CONVERGENCE IN RELATIVE ERROR WITH SHARP RATE:

$$\left| \frac{u(\tau, x)}{u(\tau, x)} - 1 \right| \leq \frac{C}{1+\tau} \quad \text{or} \quad \left| \frac{v(t, x)}{S(x)} - 1 \right| \leq C e^{-t}$$

The Fractional PME: Basic theory

- **The Setup of the Problem:
Nonlocal Operators and Nonlinearities**
- **Three Different Fractional Laplacians
on Bounded Domains**
- **A Common Setup Based on Green Functions**
- **More Examples**

Homogeneous Dirichlet Problem for Fractional Nonlinear Degenerate Diffusion Equations

$$(HDP) \quad \begin{cases} u_t + \mathcal{L}F(u) = 0, & \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega \\ u(t, x) = 0, & \text{on the lateral boundary.} \end{cases}$$

- We have seen what happens when $\mathcal{L} = -\Delta$ is the classical Laplacian
- We now focus our attention to a particular scenario:
 - When $\mathcal{L} = (-\Delta)^s$, with $s \in (0, 1)$ is a Fractional Laplacian: there are three different choices of fractional Laplacian on bounded domains.
 - When $F(u) = |u|^{m-1}u$, with $m > 1$ have the classical PME nonlinearity

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Three Different Fractional Laplacians on Bounded Domains

Reminder about the fractional Laplacian operator on \mathbb{R}^N

We have several equivalent definitions for $(-\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^N})^s$:

- ① By means of **Fourier Transform**,

$$((-\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^N})^s f)^\wedge(\xi) = |\xi|^{2s} \hat{f}(\xi).$$

This formula can be used for positive and negative values of s .

- ② By means of an **Hypersingular Kernel**:
if $0 < s < 1$, we can use the representation

$$(-\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^N})^s g(x) = c_{N,s} \text{P.V.} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{g(x) - g(z)}{|x - z|^{N+2s}} dz,$$

where $c_{N,s} > 0$ is a normalization constant.

- ③ **Spectral definition**, in terms of the heat semigroup associated to the standard Laplacian operator:

$$(-\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^N})^s g(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(-s)} \int_0^\infty \left(e^{t\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^N}} g(x) - g(x) \right) \frac{dt}{t^{1+s}}.$$

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The Spectral Fractional Laplacian operator (SFL)

$$(-\Delta_\Omega)^s g(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda_j^s \hat{g}_j \phi_j(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(-s)} \int_0^\infty \left(e^{t\Delta_\Omega} g(x) - g(x) \right) \frac{dt}{t^{1+s}}.$$

- Δ_Ω is the classical Dirichlet Laplacian on the domain Ω
- EIGENVALUES: $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_j \leq \lambda_{j+1} \leq \dots$ and $\lambda_j \asymp j^{2/N}$.
- EIGENFUNCTIONS: ϕ_j are the eigenfunctions of the classical Laplacian Δ_Ω :

$$\phi_1 \asymp \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad |\phi_j| \lesssim \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega),$$

and ϕ_j are as smooth as $\partial\Omega$ allows: $\partial\Omega \in C^k \Rightarrow \phi_j \in C^\infty(\Omega) \cap C^k(\bar{\Omega})$

$$\hat{g}_j = \int_\Omega g(x) \phi_j(x) \, dx, \quad \text{with} \quad \|\phi_j\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = 1.$$

The Green function of SFL satisfies, letting $\delta^\gamma(\cdot) := \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)$,

$$(K4) \quad \mathbb{G}(x, y) \asymp \frac{1}{|x-y|^{N-2s}} \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(x)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(y)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right), \quad \text{with} \quad \boxed{\gamma = 1}$$

Lateral boundary conditions for the SFL

$$u(t, x) = 0, \quad \text{in } (0, \infty) \times \partial\Omega.$$

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Definition via the hypersingular kernel in \mathbb{R}^N , “restricted” to functions that are zero outside Ω .

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where $s \in (0, 1)$ and $c_{N,s} > 0$ is a normalization constant.

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Introduced in 2003 by Bogdan, Burdzy and Chen.

Censored (Regional) Fractional Laplacians (CFL)

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = \text{P.V.} \int_{\Omega} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{|x - y|^{N+2s}} dy, \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{1}{2} < s < 1,$$

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Remarks.

- This is a third model of Dirichlet fractional Laplacian **not equivalent** to SFL nor to RFL.
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Introduced in 2003 by Bogdan, Burdzy and Chen.

Censored (Regional) Fractional Laplacians (CFL)

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = \text{P.V.} \int_{\Omega} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{|x - y|^{N+2s}} dy, \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{1}{2} < s < 1,$$

- It is a self-adjoint operator on $L^2(\Omega)$ with a discrete spectrum (λ_j, ϕ_j)
- EIGENFUNCTIONS: $\bar{\phi}_j \in C^{2s-1}(\bar{\Omega}) \cap C^{2s+\alpha}(\Omega)$ (MB, A.Figalli, J. L. Vázquez)

$$\phi_1 \asymp \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)^{2s-1} \quad \text{and} \quad |\phi_j| \lesssim \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)^{2s-1},$$

The Green function $\mathbb{G}(x, y)$ satisfies, letting $\delta^\gamma(\cdot) := \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)$,

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Assumptions on the inverse of \mathcal{L}

The linear operator $\mathcal{L} : \text{dom}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq L^1(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\Omega)$ is assumed to be densely defined and *sub-Markovian*, more precisely satisfying (A1) and (A2) below:

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Spectral powers of uniformly elliptic operators. Consider a linear operator A in divergence form, with uniformly elliptic bounded measurable coefficients:

$$A = \sum_{i,j=1}^N \partial_i (a_{ij} \partial_j), \quad s\text{-power of } A \text{ is:} \quad \mathcal{L}f(x) := A^s f(x) := \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k^s \hat{f}_k \phi_k(x)$$

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[General class of intrinsically ultra-contractive operators, Davies and Simon JFA 1984].

Fractional operators with “rough” kernels. Integral operators of Levy-type

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = \text{P.V.} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x+y) - f(y)) \frac{a(x, y)}{|x-y|^{N+2s}} dy.$$

where K is measurable, symmetric, bounded between two positive constants, and

$$|a(x, y) - a(x, x)| \chi_{|x-y| < 1} \leq c|x-y|^\sigma, \quad \text{with } 0 < s < \sigma \leq 1,$$

for some positive $c > 0$. We can allow even more general kernels.

The Green function satisfies a stronger assumption than (K2) or (K3), i.e.

$$(K4) \quad \mathbb{G}(x, y) \asymp \frac{1}{|x-y|^{N-2s}} \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(x)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(y)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right), \quad \text{with } \gamma = s$$

More Examples

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Sums of two Restricted Fractional Laplacians. Operators of the form

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where $(\Delta|_{\Omega})^s$ is the RFL. \mathcal{L} satisfies (K4) with $\gamma = s$.

Sum of the Laplacian and operators with general kernels. In the case

$$\mathcal{L} = a\Delta + A_s, \quad \text{with } 0 < s < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad a \geq 0,$$

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the measure ν on $\mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\}$ is invariant under rotations around origin and satisfies $\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} 1 \vee |x|^2 d\nu(y) < \infty$, together with other assumptions.

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$$\mathcal{L} = c - \left(c^{1/s} - \Delta \right)^s, \quad \text{with } c > 0, \quad \text{and } 0 < s \leq 1.$$

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A Detour about Elliptic Equations

- **Boundary behaviour Linear Elliptic problem**
- **Regularity and Sharp boundary behaviour for Semilinear Elliptic equations**
- **Parabolic solutions by separation of variables**

Boundary behaviour for Elliptic equations

We always assume that \mathcal{L} satisfies (A1), (A2) and zero Dirichlet boundary conditions.

The Linear Problem $\mathcal{L}v = f$ with $f \in L^{q'}(\Omega)$

Let \mathbb{G} be the kernel of \mathcal{L}^{-1} , and assume (K2) and that $0 \leq f \in L^{q'}$ with $q' > N/2s$. Then $q = \frac{q'}{q'-1} \in \left(0, \frac{N}{N-2s}\right)$ and the (weak dual) solution $v \geq 0$ satisfies $\forall x \in \Omega$

$$\|f\|_{L_{\delta^\gamma}^1} \delta(x)^\gamma \lesssim v(x) \lesssim \|f\|_{L^{q'}} \begin{cases} \delta(x)^\gamma, & 0 < q \in \left(0, \frac{N}{N-2s+\gamma}\right), \\ \delta(x)^\gamma \left(1 + |\log \delta(x)|\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}, & q = \frac{N}{N-2s+\gamma}, \\ \delta(x)^{\frac{N-q(N-2s)}{q}}, & q \in \left(\frac{N}{N-2s+\gamma}, \frac{N}{N-2s}\right). \end{cases}$$

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Some remarks about boundary behaviour for Linear Elliptic equations

Assuming (K2), that we recall here: [recall $\text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)^\gamma = \delta^\gamma$]

$$(K2) \quad c_{0,\Omega} \delta^\gamma(x) \delta^\gamma(y) \leq \mathbb{G}(x, y) \leq \frac{c_{1,\Omega}}{|x-y|^{N-2s}} \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(x)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(y)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right)$$

Consider for simplicity $\mathcal{L}v = f \in L^\infty(\Omega) \geq 0$, hence $q = 1$. Then we have:

$$\|f\|_{L^1_{\delta^\gamma}} \delta(x)^\gamma \lesssim v(x) \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty} \begin{cases} \delta(x)^\gamma, & 2s > \gamma, \\ \delta(x)^\gamma (1 + |\log \delta(x)|), & 2s = \gamma, \\ \delta(x)^{2s}, & 2s < \gamma, \end{cases}$$

The boundary behaviour may change depending on the relation between $2s$ and γ .

On the other hand, for eigenfunctions we always have

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Some remarks about boundary behaviour for Linear Elliptic equations

Assuming (K2), that we recall here: [recall $\text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)^\gamma = \delta^\gamma$]

$$(K2) \quad c_{0,\Omega} \delta^\gamma(x) \delta^\gamma(y) \leq \mathbb{G}(x, y) \leq \frac{c_{1,\Omega}}{|x-y|^{N-2s}} \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(x)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \left(\frac{\delta^\gamma(y)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right)$$

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$$\|f\|_{L_{\delta^\gamma}^1} \delta(x)^\gamma \lesssim v(x) \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty} \begin{cases} \delta(x)^\gamma, & 2s > \gamma, \\ \delta(x)^\gamma (1 + |\log \delta(x)|), & 2s = \gamma, \\ \delta(x)^{2s}, & 2s < \gamma, . \end{cases}$$

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Examples.

- For the RFL ($\gamma = s$) and CFL ($\gamma = 2s - 1$) we always have $\sigma = 1$ and $2s \neq \gamma(1 - p)$, hence

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Regularity. Under some mild assumptions on \mathcal{L} and $f \in C^\beta(\mathbb{R})$ for some $\beta > 0$, with $0 \leq f(a) \leq c_p a^p$ when $0 \leq a \leq 1$ for some $0 < p \leq 1$.

- Solutions are Hölder continuous in the interior, and (when the operator allows it) are classical in the interior, namely $C^{2s+\beta}(\Omega)$.
- Assuming moreover that \mathcal{L}^{-1} satisfies (K2), solutions are Hölder continuous up to the boundary:

$$\|u\|_{C^\eta(\bar{\Omega})} \leq C \quad \forall \eta \in (0, \gamma] \cap (0, 2s).$$

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Sharp boundary behaviour for Elliptic Equations

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Change of notations from Elliptic to Parabolic In order to make the elliptic results “compatible” with the parabolic, we will perform the change of notations

$$\boxed{m = \frac{1}{p} > 1} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{v = S^m} \quad \text{or} \quad v^p = S.$$

The elliptic equation transforms: (we deal only with pure powers for simplicity)

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Parabolic solutions by separation of variables. We have the following solution for the Dirichlet problem for the equation $u_t + \mathcal{L}u^m = 0$

$$u_T(t, x) = \frac{S(x)}{(T + t)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}$$

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 When $T = 0$ we have the so-called *Friendly Giant*, corresponding to the biggest possible initial datum (useful in the asymptotic study as $t \rightarrow \infty$.)

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Back to the Parabolic problem

- **Basic theory: existence, uniqueness and boundedness**
 - **The Dual problem: Existence and uniqueness**
 - **Mild Solutions and Time-Monotonicity**
 - **An “Almost Representation” Formula**
 - **Boundedness: Absolute Bounds and Smoothing effects.**
- **Elliptic VS Parabolic: Asymptotic Behaviour as $t \rightarrow \infty$**

The “dual” formulation of the problem

Recall the homogeneous Dirichlet problem:

$$(CDP) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u = -\mathcal{L}F(u), & \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega \\ u(t, x) = 0, & \text{on the lateral boundary.} \end{cases}$$

We can formulate a “dual problem”, using the inverse \mathcal{L}^{-1} as follows

$$\partial_t U = -F(u),$$

where

$$U(t, x) := \mathcal{L}^{-1}[u(t, \cdot)](x) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbb{G}(x, y)u(t, y) \, dy.$$

This formulation encodes the lateral boundary conditions in the inverse operator \mathcal{L}^{-1} .

Remark. This formulation has been used before by Pierre, Vázquez [...] to prove (in the \mathbb{R}^N case) uniqueness of the “fundamental solution”, i.e. the solution corresponding to $u_0 = \delta_{x_0}$, known as the Barenblatt solution.

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Recall that $\Phi_1 \asymp \delta^\gamma$ and

$$\|f\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)} = \int_{\Omega} f(x)\Phi_1(x) dx, \quad \text{and} \quad L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega) := \left\{ f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \|f\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)} < \infty \right\}.$$

Weak Dual Solutions (WDS)

A function u is a *weak dual solution* to the Dirichlet Problem for $\partial_t u + \mathcal{L}F(u) = 0$ in $Q_T = (0, T) \times \Omega$ if:

- $u \in C((0, T) : L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega))$, $F(u) \in L^1((0, T) : L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega))$;
- The following identity holds for every $\psi/\Phi_1 \in C^1_c((0, T) : L^\infty(\Omega))$:

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{L}^{-1}(u) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} dx dt - \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} F(u) \psi dx dt = 0.$$

Weak Dual Solutions for the Cauchy Dirichlet Problem (CDP)

A *weak dual solution* to the Cauchy-Dirichlet problem (CDP) is a weak dual solution to Equation $\partial_t u + \mathcal{L}F(u) = 0$ such that moreover

$$u \in C([0, T) : L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)) \quad \text{and} \quad u(0, x) = u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega).$$

**Assumption on the nonlinearity F**

Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous and non-decreasing function, with $F(0) = 0$. Moreover, it satisfies the condition:

(N1) $F \in C^1(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$ and $F/F' \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R})$ and there exists $\mu_0, \mu_1 > 0$ s.t.

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{m_1} = 1 - \mu_1 \leq \left(\frac{F}{F'}\right)' \leq 1 - \mu_0 = \frac{1}{m_0}}$$

where F/F' is understood to vanish if $F(r) = F'(r) = 0$ or $r = 0$.

The main example will be

$$F(u) = |u|^{m-1}u, \quad \text{with } m > 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_0 = \mu_1 = \frac{m-1}{m} < 1.$$

which corresponds to the nonlocal porous medium equation studied in [BV1].

A simple variant is the combination of two powers:

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Existence of Mild Solutions and Monotonicity Estimates

Theorem. (M. Crandall and M. Pierre, JFA 1982)

Let \mathcal{L} satisfy (A1) and (A2) and let F as satisfy (N1). Then for all $0 \leq u_0 \in L^1(\Omega)$, there exists a unique mild solution u to equation $u_t + \mathcal{L}F(u) = 0$, and the function

$$(1) \quad t \mapsto t^{\frac{1}{\mu_0}} F(u(t, x)) \quad \text{is nondecreasing in } t > 0 \text{ for a.e. } x \in \Omega.$$

Moreover, the semigroup is contractive on $L^1(\Omega)$ and $u \in C([0, \infty) : L^1(\Omega))$.

We notice that (1) is a weak formulation of the monotonicity inequality:

$$\partial_t u \geq -\frac{1}{\mu_0 t} \frac{F(u)}{F'(u)}, \quad \text{which implies} \quad \partial_t u \geq -\frac{1 - \mu_0}{\mu_0} \frac{u}{t}$$

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Existence of Mild Solutions and Monotonicity Estimates**Reminder about Mild solutions and their properties**

Mild (or semigroup) solutions have been obtained by Benilan, Crandall and Pierre via Crandall-Liggett type theorems; the underlying idea is the use of an Implicit Time Discretization (ITD) method: consider the partition of $[0, T]$

$$t_k = \frac{k}{n}T, \quad \text{for any } 0 \leq k \leq n, \quad \text{with } t_0 = 0, t_n = T, \text{ and } h = t_{k+1} - t_k = \frac{T}{n}.$$

For any $t \in (0, T)$, the (unique) semigroup solution $u(t, \cdot)$ is obtained as the limit in $L^1(\Omega)$ of the solutions $u_{k+1}(\cdot) = u(t_{k+1}, \cdot)$ which solve the following elliptic equation (u_k is the datum, is given by the previous iterative step)

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Usually such solutions are difficult to treat since a priori they are merely very weak solutions. We can prove the following result:

Proposition. Semigroup solutions are weak dual solutions

Let u be the unique semigroup (mild) solution to the (CDP) corresponding to the initial datum $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$ with $p \geq 1$. Then u is a weak dual solution of (CDP) and $u(t) \in L^p(\Omega)$ for all $t > 0$.

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Existence and uniqueness of weak dual solutions

Theorem. Existence of Weak Dual Solutions (M.B. and J. L. Vázquez)

For every nonnegative $u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)$ there exists a minimal weak dual solution to the (CDP). Such a solution is obtained as the monotone limit of the semigroup (mild) solutions that exist and are unique. The minimal weak dual solution is continuous in the weighted space $u \in C([0, \infty) : L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega))$.

Mild solutions (constructed by Crandall and Pierre) are weak dual solutions and if $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$ then $u(t) \in L^p(\Omega)$ for all $t > 0$.

Moreover, the time-monotonicity holds: for a.e. $x \in \Omega$

$$t \mapsto t^{\frac{1}{\mu_0}} F(u(t, x)) \quad \text{and} \quad t \mapsto t^{\frac{1-\mu_0}{\mu_0}} u(t, x) \quad \text{are nondecreasing in } t > 0 .$$

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The solution constructed in the above Theorem by approximation of the initial data from below is unique. We call it the *minimal solution*. In this class of solutions the standard comparison result holds, and also the weighted L^1 estimates.

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An “Almost” Representation Formula

For simplicity, from now on, we take $F(u) = u^m$, with $m > 1$.

Theorem. (First Pointwise Estimates) (M.B. and J. L. Vázquez)

Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to Problem (CDP) with $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$, $p > N/2s$. Then,

$$\int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x) \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx \leq \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx, \quad \text{for all } t_1 \geq t_0 \geq 0.$$

Moreover, for almost every $0 \leq t_0 \leq t_1$ and almost every $x_0 \in \Omega$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left(\frac{t_0}{t_1} \right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} (t_1 - t_0) u^m(t_0, x_0) &\leq \int_{\Omega} [u(t_0, x) - u(t_1, x)] \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx \\
 &\leq (m - 1) \frac{t_1^{\frac{m}{m-1}}}{t_0^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} u^m(t_1, x_0).
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark. As a consequence of the above inequality and Hölder inequality, we have that $u(t) \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ when $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$, with $p > N/(2s)$.

An “Almost” Representation Formula

For simplicity, from now on, we take $F(u) = u^m$, with $m > 1$.

Theorem. (First Pointwise Estimates)

(M.B. and J. L. Vázquez)

Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to Problem (CDP) with $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$, $p > N/2s$. Then,

$$\int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x) \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx \leq \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx, \quad \text{for all } t_1 \geq t_0 \geq 0.$$

Moreover, for almost every $0 \leq t_0 \leq t_1$ and almost every $x_0 \in \Omega$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{t_0}{t_1}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} (t_1 - t_0) u^m(t_0, x_0) &\leq \int_{\Omega} [u(t_0, x) - u(t_1, x)] \mathbb{G}(x, x_0) \, dx \\ &\leq (m-1) \frac{t_1^{\frac{m}{m-1}}}{t_0^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} u^m(t_1, x_0). \end{aligned}$$

Remark. As a consequence of the above inequality and Hölder inequality, we have that $u(t) \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ when $u_0 \in L^p(\Omega)$, with $p > N/(2s)$.

Sketch of the proof of the First Pointwise Estimates

We would like to take as test function

$$\psi(t, x) = \psi_1(t)\psi_2(x) = \chi_{[t_0, t_1]}(t) \mathbb{G}(x_0, x),$$

(This is NOT an admissible test in the Definition of WDS: approximation needed)

Plugging such test function in the definition of weak dual solution gives the formula

$$\int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) \mathbb{G}(x_0, x) \, dx - \int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x) \mathbb{G}(x_0, x) \, dx = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} u^m(\tau, x_0) \, d\tau.$$

This formula can be proven rigorously though careful approximation.

Next, we use the monotonicity estimates,

$$t \mapsto t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t, x) \quad \text{is nondecreasing in } t > 0 \text{ for a.e. } x \in \Omega.$$

to get for all $0 \leq t_0 \leq t_1$

$$\left(\frac{t_0}{t_1}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} (t_1 - t_0) u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \int_{t_0}^{t_1} u^m(\tau, x_0) \, d\tau \leq \frac{m-1}{t_0^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} t_1^{\frac{m}{m-1}} u^m(t_1, x_0). \quad \square$$

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The single power case $F(u) = u^m$. Absolute bounds.**Theorem. (Absolute upper bounds)**(M.B. & J. L. Vázquez)

Let u be a weak dual solution, then there exists constants $K_1 > 0$ depending only on N, s, m, Ω (but not on u_0 !!), such that (K1) assumption implies:

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq \frac{K_1}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}},$$

for all $t > 0$.

- This is a very strong regularization *independent* of the initial datum u_0 .
- Time decay is sharp, but only for large times, say $t \geq 1$. For small times when $0 < t < 1$ a better time decay is obtained in the form of smoothing effects.

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The single power case $F(u) = u^m$. Absolute bounds.

Sketch of the proof of Absolute Bounds

• STEP 1. *First upper estimates.* Recall the pointwise estimate:

$$\left(\frac{t_0}{t_1}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} (t_1 - t_0) u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx - \int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx .$$

for any $u \in \mathcal{S}_p$, all $0 \leq t_0 \leq t_1$ and all $x_0 \in \Omega$. Choose $t_1 = 2t_0$ to get

$$(*) \quad \boxed{u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \frac{2^{\frac{m}{m-1}}}{t_0} \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx .}$$

Recall that $u \in \mathcal{S}_p$ with $p > N/(2s)$, means $u(t) \in L^p(\Omega)$ for all $t > 0$, so that:

$$u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \frac{c_0}{t_0} \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx \leq \frac{c_0}{t_0} \|u(t_0)\|_{L^p(\Omega)} \|G_{\Omega}(\cdot, x_0)\|_{L^q(\Omega)} < +\infty$$

since $G_{\Omega}(\cdot, x_0) \in L^q(\Omega)$ for all $0 < q < N/(N - 2s)$, so that $u(t_0) \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ for all $t_0 > 0$.

• STEP 2. Let us estimate the r.h.s. of $(*)$ as follows:

$$u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \frac{c_0}{t_0} \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx \leq \|u(t_0)\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \frac{c_0}{t_0} \int_{\Omega} G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx .$$

Taking the supremum over $x_0 \in \Omega$ of both sides, we get:

$$\boxed{\|u(t_0)\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)}^{m-1} \leq \frac{c_0}{t_0} \sup_{x_0 \in \Omega} \int_{\Omega} G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) dx \leq \frac{K_1^{m-1}}{t_0} \quad \square}$$

The single power case $F(u) = u^m$. Absolute bounds.

Sketch of the proof of Absolute Bounds

- STEP 1. *First upper estimates.* Recall the pointwise estimate:

$$\left(\frac{t_0}{t_1}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} (t_1 - t_0) u^m(t_0, x_0) \leq \int_{\Omega} u(t_0, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) \, dx - \int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x) G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) \, dx.$$

for any $u \in \mathcal{S}_p$, all $0 \leq t_0 \leq t_1$ and all $x_0 \in \Omega$. Choose $t_1 = 2t_0$ to get

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Taking the **supremum over $x_0 \in \Omega$** of both sides, we get:

$$\|u(t_0)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}^{m-1} \leq \frac{c_0}{t_0} \sup_{x_0 \in \Omega} \int_{\Omega} G_{\Omega}(x, x_0) \, dx \leq \frac{K_1^{m-1}}{t_0} \quad \square$$

The single power case $F(u) = u^m$. Smoothing Effects

Define the exponents:

$$\vartheta_{1,\gamma} = \frac{1}{2s + (N + \gamma)(m - 1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \vartheta_1 = \vartheta_{1,0} = \frac{1}{2s + N(m - 1)}$$

Theorem. (Smoothing effects) (M.B. & J. L. Vázquez)

There exist universal constants $K_3, K_4 > 0$ such that:

L^1 - L^∞ SMOOTHING EFFECT: (K1) assumption implies for all $t > 0$:

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq \frac{K_3}{t^{N\vartheta_1}} \|u(t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{2s\vartheta_1} \leq \frac{K_3}{t^{N\vartheta_1}} \|u_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{2s\vartheta_1}$$

$L^1_{\Phi_1}$ - L^∞ SMOOTHING EFFECT: (K2) assumption implies for all $t > 0$:

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq \frac{K_4}{t^{(N+\gamma)\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}} \|u(t)\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}^{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}} \leq \frac{K_4}{t^{(N+\gamma)\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}} \|u_0\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}^{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}.$$

- A novelty is that we get instantaneous smoothing effects.
- Also the weighted smoothing effect is new (as far as we know).
- The time decay is better for small times $0 < t < 1$ than the one given by absolute bounds:

$$(N + \gamma)\vartheta_{1,\gamma} = \frac{N + \gamma}{2 + (N + \gamma)(m - 1)} < \frac{1}{m - 1}.$$

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The single power case $F(u) = u^m$. Smoothing Effects**Theorem. (Backward Smoothing effects)** (M.B. & J. L. Vázquez)


There exists a universal constant $K_4 > 0$ such that for all $t, h > 0$

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq \frac{K_4}{t^{(d+\gamma)\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}} \left(1 \vee \frac{h}{t}\right)^{\frac{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}{m-1}} \|u(t+h)\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}^{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}.$$

Proof. By the monotonicity estimates, the function $u(x, t)t^{1/(m-1)}$ is non-decreasing in time for fixed x , therefore using the smoothing effect, we get for all $t_1 \geq t$:

$$\begin{aligned} \|u(t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} &\leq \frac{K_4}{t^{(N+1)\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}} \left(\int_{\Omega} u(t, x)\Phi_1(x) dx\right)^{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}} \\ &\leq \frac{K_4}{t^{(N+1)\vartheta_{1,\gamma}}} \left(\frac{t_1^{-\frac{1}{m-1}}}{t^{-\frac{1}{m-1}}} \int_{\Omega} u(t_1, x)\Phi_1(x) dx\right)^{2s\vartheta_{1,\gamma}} \end{aligned}$$

where K_4 is as in the smoothing effects. Finally, let $t_1 = t + h$. □


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Elliptic VS Parabolic: Asymptotic Behaviour

Elliptic VS Parabolic: Asymptotic Behaviour as $t \rightarrow \infty$

Let S be the unique solution to the Elliptic Dirichlet Problem for $\mathcal{L}S^m = S$.

Theorem. (Asymptotic behaviour)

(M.B., A. Figalli, Y. Sire, J. L. Vázquez)

Let $u \geq 0$ be any nonnegative WDS to the Cauchy-Dirichlet problem. Then, unless $u \equiv 0$,

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} \left| t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t, x) - S(x) \right| \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

This result, gives a clear suggestion of what the boundary behaviour of parabolic solutions should be,

$$u(t, x) \asymp \mathcal{U}(t, x) = \frac{S(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}}$$

at least for large times, as it happens in the local case $s = 1$.

Hence, the boundary behaviour should be dictated by the behaviour of the solution to the elliptic equation.

We shall see that this is not always the case.

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Sharp Boundary Behaviour

- **(More) Assumptions on the operator & Spectral Kernels**
- **Upper Boundary Estimates**
- **Infinite Speed of Propagation**
- **Lower Boundary Estimates**
- **Harnack-type Inequalities**
- **Numerics**

Recall that the linear operator $\mathcal{L} : \text{dom}(A) \subseteq L^1(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\Omega)$ is assumed to be densely defined and *sub-Markovian*, and we have already explained the assumptions (K1) and (K2) on the inverse.

Assumptions on the kernel.

- Whenever \mathcal{L} is defined in terms of a kernel $K(x, y)$ via the formula

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x) - f(y)) K(x, y) dy,$$

assumption (L1) states that there exists $\underline{\kappa}_\Omega > 0$ such that

$$(L1) \quad \inf_{x, y \in \Omega} K(x, y) \geq \underline{\kappa}_\Omega > 0.$$

- Whenever \mathcal{L} is defined in terms of a kernel $K(x, y)$ and a zero order term:

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x) - f(y)) K(x, y) dy + B(x)f(x),$$

assumptions (L2) states that there exists $\underline{\kappa}_\Omega > 0$ and $\gamma \in (0, 1]$

$$(L2) \quad K(x, y) \geq \underline{\kappa}_\Omega \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^\gamma \text{dist}(y, \partial\Omega)^\gamma, \quad \text{and} \quad B(x) \geq 0,$$

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About the kernels of spectral nonlocal operators. Most of the examples of nonlocal operators, but the SFL, admit a representation with a kernel. A natural question is: does the SFL admit such a representation?

Let A be a uniformly elliptic linear operator. Define the s^{th} power of A :

$$\mathcal{L}g(x) = A^s g(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(-s)} \int_0^\infty (e^{tA} g(x) - g(x)) \frac{dt}{t^{1+s}}$$

Then it admits a representation with a Kernel **plus zero order term**:

$$A^s g(x) = P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (g(x) - g(y)) K(x, y) dy + \kappa(x)g(x).$$

where $K \geq 0$ is compactly supported in $\bar{\Omega} \times \bar{\Omega}$ with

$$K(x, y) \asymp \frac{1}{|x-y|^{N+2s}} \left(\frac{\Phi_1(x)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \left(\frac{\Phi_1(y)}{|x-y|^\gamma} \wedge 1 \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa(x) \asymp \frac{1}{\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{2s}}.$$

References.

- R. Song and Z. Vondracek. *Potential theory of subordinate killed Brownian motion in a domain*. Probab. Theory Relat. Fields (2003)
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Theorem. (Upper boundary behaviour)

(M.B., A. Figalli and J. L. Vázquez)

Let (A1), (A2), and (K2) hold. Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP). Let $\sigma \in (0, 1]$ be

$$\sigma = \frac{2sm}{\gamma(m-1)} \wedge 1$$

Then, there exists a computable constant $\bar{\kappa} > 0$, depending only on N, s, m , and Ω , (but not on u_0 !!) such that for all $t \geq 0$ and all $x \in \Omega$:

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Infinite Speed of Propagation

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Universal Lower Bounds

Theorem. (Universal lower bounds)

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Let \mathcal{L} satisfy (A1), (A2) and (L2). Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP) corresponding to $u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)$. Then there exists a constant $\underline{\kappa}_0 > 0$, so that the following inequality holds:

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$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x)-f(y)) K(x, y) dy + B(x)f(x), \quad \text{with } \begin{cases} K(x, y) \gtrsim \delta^\gamma(x) \delta^\gamma(y), \\ B(x) \geq 0, \end{cases}$$

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Sharp Lower boundary estimates

Sharp lower boundary estimates I: the non-spectral case.

Let $\sigma = \frac{2sm}{\gamma(m-1)} \wedge 1$. Let \mathcal{L} satisfy (A1) and (A2), and assume moreover that

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x) - f(y))K(x, y) dy, \quad \text{with } \inf_{x, y \in \Omega} K(x, y) \geq \underline{\kappa}_\Omega > 0.$$

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When $\sigma = 1$ we can establish a quantitative lower bound near the boundary that matches the separate-variables behavior for large times.

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Here, $t_* = \kappa_* \|u_0\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}^{-(m-1)}$, and the constants κ_* , $\underline{\kappa}_2$ depend only on N, s, γ, m , and Ω .

- It holds for $s = 1$, the local case, where there is finite speed of propagation.
- When $s = 1$, t_* is the time that the solution needs to be positive everywhere.
- When $\mathcal{L} = -\Delta$, proven by Aronson-Peletier ('81) and Vázquez ('04)
- Our method applies when \mathcal{L} is an elliptic operator with C^1 coefficients (new result).
- In the limit case $2sm = \gamma(m-1)$, we have $\sigma = 1$, but the estimates are not sharp, as we show below.

Positivity for large times II: the case $\sigma < 1$.

The intriguing case $\sigma < 1$ is where new and unexpected phenomena appear. Recall that

$$\sigma = \frac{2sm}{\gamma(m-1)} < 1 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad 0 < s < \frac{\gamma}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{2m}.$$

Solutions by separation of variables: the standard boundary behaviour?

Let S be a solution to the Elliptic Dirichlet problem for $\mathcal{L}S^m = c_m S$. We can define

$$\mathcal{U}(t, x) = S(x)t^{-\frac{1}{m-1}} \quad \text{where} \quad S \asymp \Phi_1^{\sigma/m}.$$

which is a solution to the (CDP), which behaves like $\Phi_1^{\sigma/m}$ at the boundary.

By comparison, we see that the same lower behaviour is shared ‘big’ solutions:

$$u_0 \geq \epsilon_0 S \quad \text{implies} \quad u(t) \geq \frac{S}{(\epsilon_0^{1-m} + t)^{1/(m-1)}}$$

This behaviour seems to be sharp: we have shown matching upper bounds, and also S represents the large time asymptotic behaviour:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left\| t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t) - S \right\|_{L^\infty} = 0 \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega).$$

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Different boundary behaviour when $\sigma < 1$. The next result shows that, in general, we cannot hope to prove that $u(t)$ is larger than $\Phi_1^{1/m}$, but always smaller than $\Phi_1^{\sigma/m}$.

Proposition. (Counterexample I) (M.B., A. Figalli and J. L. Vázquez)

Let (A1), (A2), and (K2) hold, and $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP). Then, there exists a constant $\hat{\kappa}$, depending only N, s, γ, m , and Ω , such that

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In particular, if $\sigma < 1$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \partial\Omega} \frac{u(t, x)}{\Phi_1(x)^{\sigma/m}} = 0 \quad \text{for any } t > 0.$$

When $\sigma = 1$ and $2sm = \gamma(m - 1)$, then

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Idea: The proposition above could make one wonder whether or not the sharp general lower bound could be actually given by $\Phi_1^{1/m}$, as in the case $\sigma = 1$.

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We next show that assuming (K4), the bound $u(t) \gtrsim \Phi_1^{1/m} t^{-1/(m-1)}$ is false for $\sigma < 1$.

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Let (A1), (A2), and (K4) hold, and let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP) corresponding to a nonnegative initial datum $u_0 \leq c_0 \Phi_1$ for some $c_0 > 0$.

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In particular, when $\sigma < 1$, we have $\alpha > \frac{1}{m} > \frac{\sigma}{m}$.

Under mild assumptions on the operator (for example SFL-type), we can prove:

$$0 \leq u_0 \leq A \Phi_1^{1 - \frac{2s}{\gamma}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad u(t) \leq [A^{1-m} - \tilde{C}t]^{-(m-1)} \Phi_1^{1 - \frac{2s}{\gamma}}$$

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Recall that we have a universal lower bound (under minimal assumptions on K)

$$u(t, x) \geq \underline{\kappa}_0 \left(1 \wedge \frac{t}{t_*}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} \frac{\Phi_1(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \quad \text{for all } t > 0 \text{ and all } x \in \Omega.$$

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Harnack-type Inequalities

- **Global Harnack Principle I. The non-spectral case.**
- **Consequences of GHP.**
- **Global Harnack Principle II. The remaining cases.**

Global Harnack Principle I. The non-spectral case.

Recall that

$$\Phi_1 \asymp \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)^\gamma, \quad \sigma = 1 \wedge \frac{2sm}{\gamma(m-1)}, \quad t_* = \kappa_* \|u_0\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}^{-(m-1)}.$$

Theorem. (Global Harnack Principle I. The non-spectral case.) (MB & AF & JLV)

Let (A1), (A2), (L1) and (K2). Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP). Also, when $\sigma < 1$, assume that $K(x, y) \leq c_1 |x - y|^{-(N+2s)}$ for a.e. $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and that $\Phi_1 \in C^\gamma(\Omega)$.

Then, there exist constants $\underline{\kappa}, \bar{\kappa} > 0$, so that the following inequality holds:

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The constants $\underline{\kappa}, \bar{\kappa}$ depend only on $N, s, \gamma, m, c_1, \underline{\kappa}_\Omega, \Omega$, and $\|\Phi_1\|_{C^\gamma(\Omega)}$.

- For large times $t \geq t_*$ the estimates are independent on the initial datum.
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Consequences of GHP with matching powers

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Corollary. (Local Harnack Inequalities of Elliptic/Backward Type)

Assume that the (GHP-I) holds for a weak dual solution u to the (CDP). Then there exists a constant \hat{H} depending only on $N, s, \gamma, m, c_1, \Omega$, s. t. for all $t > 0$ and $h \geq 0$

$$\sup_{x \in B_R(x_0)} u(t, x) \leq \hat{H} \left[\left(1 + \frac{h}{t}\right) \left(1 \wedge \frac{t}{t_*}\right)^{-m} \right]^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \inf_{x \in B_R(x_0)} u(t+h, x).$$

When $s = 1$, backward Harnack inequalities are typical of Fast Diffusion eq. ($m < 1$, possible extinction in finite time), and they do not happen when $m > 1$ (finite speed of propagation)

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(M.B., A. Figalli and J. L. Vázquez)

Let (A1), (A2), and (K2) hold, and let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP) corresponding to $u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)$. Assume that:

- either $\sigma = 1$ and $2sm \neq \gamma(m - 1)$;
- or $\sigma < 1$, $u_0 \geq \underline{\kappa}_0 \Phi_1^{\sigma/m}$ for some $\underline{\kappa}_0 > 0$, and (K4) holds.

Then there exist constants $\underline{\kappa}, \bar{\kappa} > 0$ such that the following inequality holds:

$$\underline{\kappa} \frac{\Phi_1(x)^{\sigma/m}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \leq u(t, x) \leq \bar{\kappa} \frac{\Phi_1(x_0)^{\sigma/m}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_* \text{ and all } x \in \Omega.$$

The constants $\underline{\kappa}, \bar{\kappa}$ depend only on $N, s, \gamma, m, \underline{\kappa}_0, \underline{\kappa}_\Omega$, and Ω .

- For large times, we can prove as before Local Harnack inequalities of Elliptic/Backward type.
- Also in this case the Sharp Asymptotic behaviour follows from GHP with matching powers.
- For small times we can not find matching powers for a global Harnack inequality (except for special data) and such result is *actually false* for $s = 1$ (finite speed of propagation).
- Backward Harnack inequalities for the linear heat equation $s = 1$ and $m = 1$, by Fabes, Garofalo, Salsa [Ill. J. Math, 1986] and also Safonov, Yuan [Ann. of Math, 1999]
- For $s = 1$, Intrinsic (Forward) Harnack inequalities by DiBenedetto [ARMA, 1988], Daskalopoulos and Kenig [EMS Book, 2007], cf. also DiBenedetto, Gianazza, Vespi [LNM, 2011].

Hence, in the remaining cases, we have only the following general result.

Theorem. (Global Harnack Principle III)

(M.B., A. Figalli and J. L. Vázquez)

Let \mathcal{L} satisfy (A1),(A2), (L2) and (K2). Let $u \geq 0$ be a weak dual solution to the (CDP) corresponding to $u_0 \in L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)$.

Then, there exist constants $\underline{\kappa}, \bar{\kappa} > 0$, so that the following inequality holds:

$$\underline{\kappa} \left(1 \wedge \frac{t}{t_*}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} \frac{\Phi_1(x)}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \leq u(t, x) \leq \bar{\kappa} \frac{\Phi_1(x_0)^{\sigma/m}}{t^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \quad \text{for all } t > 0 \text{ and all } x \in \Omega.$$

- This is sufficient to ensure interior regularity, under ‘minimal’ assumptions.
- This bound holds for all times and for a large class of operators.
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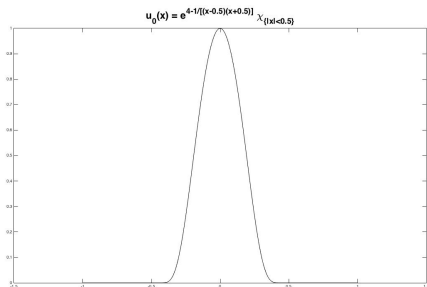
Numerical Simulations*

* Graphics obtained by numerical methods contained in: N. Cusimano, F. Del Teso, L. Gerardo-Giorda, G. Pagnini, *Discretizations of the spectral fractional Laplacian on general domains with Dirichlet, Neumann, and Robin boundary conditions*, SIAM Num. Anal. (2018).

Graphics and videos: courtesy of F. Del Teso (NTNU, Trondheim, Norway)

Numerics I. Matching

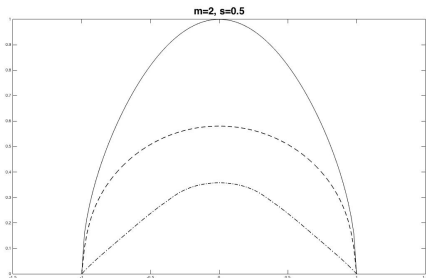
Numerical simulation for the SFL with parameters $m = 2$ and $s = 1/2$, hence $\sigma = 1$.



Left: the initial condition $u_0 \leq C_0 \Phi_1$

Right: solid line represents $\Phi_1^{1/m}$

the dotted lines represent $t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t)$ at time $t = 1$ and $t = 5$

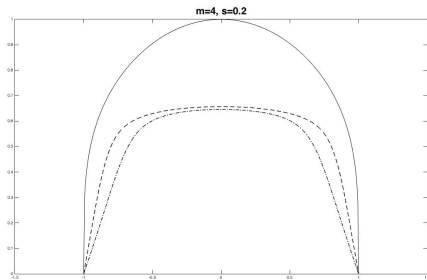
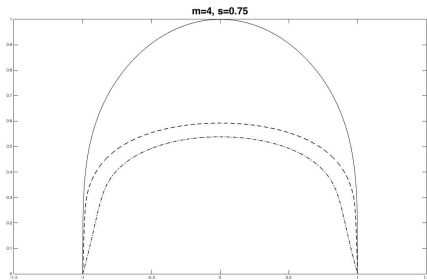


While $u(t)$ appears to behave as $\Phi_1 \asymp \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)$ for very short times

already at $t = 5$ it exhibits the matching boundary behavior $t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t) \asymp \Phi_1^{1/m}$

Numerics II. Matching VS Non-Matching

Compare $\sigma = 1$ VS $\sigma < 1$: same $u_0 \leq C_0 \Phi_1$, solutions with different parameters



Left: $t^{1/m-1} u(t)$ at time $t = 30$ and $t = 150$; $m = 4$, $s = 3/4$, $\sigma = 1$.

Matching: $u(t)$ behaves like $\Phi_1 \asymp \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)$ for quite some time, and only around $t = 150$ it exhibits the matching boundary behavior $u(t) \asymp \Phi_1^{1/m}$

Right: $t^{1/m-1} u(t)$ at time $t = 150$ and $t = 600$; $m = 4$, $s = 1/5$, $\sigma = 8/15 < 1$.

Non-matching: $u(t) \asymp \Phi_1$ even after long time.

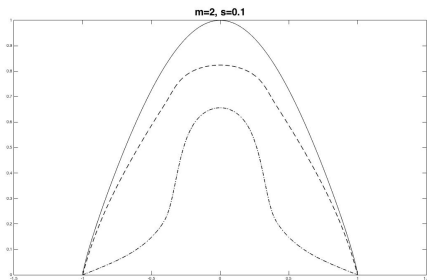
Idea: maybe when $\sigma < 1$ and $u_0 \lesssim \Phi_1$, we have $u(t) \asymp \Phi_1$ for all times...

Not True: there are cases when $u(t) \gg \Phi_1^{1-2s}$ for large times...

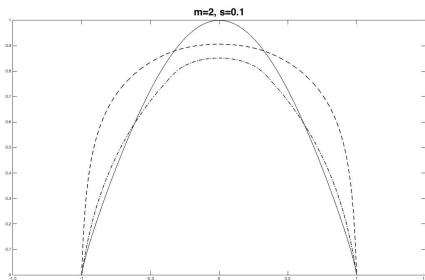
Numerics III. Non-Matching

Non-matching when $\sigma < 1$: same data u_0 , with $m = 2$ and $s = 1/10$, $\sigma = 2/5 < 1$

In both pictures, the solid line represents Φ_1^{1-2s} (anomalous behaviour)



Left: $t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t)$ at time $t = 4$ and $t = 25$.



$u(t) \asymp \Phi_1$ for short times $t = 4$, then $u(t) \sim \Phi_1^{1-2s}$ for intermediate times $t = 25$

Right: $t^{\frac{1}{m-1}} u(t)$ at time $t = 40$ and $t = 150$. $u(t) \gg \Phi_1^{1-2s}$ for large times.

Both non-matching always different behaviour from the asymptotic profile $\Phi_1^{\sigma/m}$.

In this case we show that if $u_0(x) \leq C_0 \Phi_1(x)$ then for all $t > 0$

$$u(t, x) \leq C_1 \left[\frac{\Phi_1(x)}{t} \right]^{\frac{1}{m}} \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \partial\Omega} \frac{u(t, x)}{\Phi_1(x)^{\frac{\sigma}{m}}} = 0 \quad \text{for any } t > 0.$$

Interior Regularity

The regularity results, require the validity of a Global Harnack Principle.
(R) The operator \mathcal{L} satisfies (A1) and (A2), and \mathcal{L}^{-1} satisfies (K2). Moreover, we consider

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} (f(x) - f(y))K(x, y) dy + B(x)f(x), \quad \text{with}$$

$$K(x, y) \asymp |x-y|^{-(N+2s)} \quad \text{in } B_{2r}(x_0) \subset \Omega, \quad K(x, y) \lesssim |x-y|^{-(N+2s)} \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^N \setminus B_{2r}(x_0).$$

As a consequence, for any ball $B_{2r}(x_0) \subset\subset \Omega$ and $0 < t_0 < T_1$, there exist $\delta, M > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < \delta \leq u(t, x) & \quad \text{for a.e. } (t, x) \in (T_0, T_1) \times B_{2r}(x_0), \\ 0 \leq u(t, x) \leq M & \quad \text{for a.e. } (t, x) \in (T_0, T_1) \times \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

The constants in the regularity estimates will depend on the solution only through δ, M .

Theorem. (Interior Regularity) (M.B., A. Figalli and J. L. Vázquez)

Assume (R) and let u be a nonnegative bounded weak dual solution to problem (CDP).

1. Then u is **Hölder continuous in the interior**. More precisely, there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that, for all $0 < T_0 < T_2 < T_1$,

$$\|u\|_{C_{t,x}^{\alpha/2s, \alpha}((T_2, T_1) \times B_r(x_0))} \leq C.$$

2. Assume in addition $|K(x, y) - K(x', y)| \leq c|x - x'|^\beta |y|^{-(N+2s)}$ for some $\beta \in (0, 1 \wedge 2s)$ such that $\beta + 2s \notin \mathbb{N}$. Then u is a **classical solution in the interior**.

More precisely, for all $0 < T_0 < T_2 < T_1$,

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Assume (R), hypothesis **2** of the interior regularity and in addition that $2s > \gamma$.

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- Since $u(t, x) \asymp \Phi_1(x)^{1/m} \asymp \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^{\gamma/m}$, the **spacial Hölder exponent is sharp**, while the Hölder exponent in time is the natural one by scaling. ($2s > \gamma$ implies $\sigma = 1$)
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Higher Interior Regularity for RFL.

Theorem. (Higher interior regularity in space) (M.B., A. Figalli, X. Ros-Oton)

Under the running assumptions **(R)**, then $u \in C_x^\infty((0, \infty) \times \Omega)$.
 More precisely, let $k \geq 1$ be any positive integer, and $\delta(x) = \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$,
 then, for any $t \geq t_0 > 0$ we have

$$|D_x^k u(t, x)| \leq C \delta(x)^{\frac{s}{m} - k},$$

where C depends only on N, s, m, k, Ω, t_0 , and $\|u_0\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}$.

- Higher regularity in time is a difficult open problem. It is connected to higher order boundary regularity in t . To our knowledge also open for the local case $s = 1$.
- When $m = 1$ (FHE) $u_t + (-\Delta|_\Omega)^s u = 0$ on $(0, 1) \times B_1$ we have $u \in C_x^\infty$

$$\|u\|_{C_x^{k, \alpha}((\frac{1}{2}, 1) \times B_{1/2})} \leq C \|u\|_{L^\infty((0, 1) \times \mathbb{R}^N)}, \quad \text{for all } k \geq 0.$$

Analogous estimates in time do not hold for $k \geq 1$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.
 Indeed, one can construct a solution to the (FHE) which is bounded in all of \mathbb{R}^N , but which is not C^1 in t in $(\frac{1}{2}, 1) \times B_{1/2}$. [Chang-Lara, Davila, JDE (2014)]

- Our techniques allow to prove regularity also in unbounded domains, and also for operator with more general kernels.
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Higher Interior Regularity for RFL.

Theorem. (Higher interior regularity in space) (M.B., A. Figalli, X. Ros-Oton)

Under the running assumptions **(R)**, then $u \in C_x^\infty((0, \infty) \times \Omega)$.
 More precisely, let $k \geq 1$ be any positive integer, and $\delta(x) = \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$,
 then, for any $t \geq t_0 > 0$ we have

$$|D_x^k u(t, x)| \leq C \delta(x)^{\frac{s}{m} - k},$$

where C depends only on N, s, m, k, Ω, t_0 , and $\|u_0\|_{L^1_{\Phi_1}(\Omega)}$.

- Higher regularity in time is a difficult open problem. It is connected to higher order boundary regularity in t . To our knowledge also open for the local case $s = 1$.
- When $m = 1$ (FHE) $u_t + (-\Delta_{|\Omega})^s u = 0$ on $(0, 1) \times B_1$ we have $u \in C_x^\infty$

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The End

Thank You!!!

Grazie Mille!!!