

Source-type solutions for the stable thin-film equation

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Consider the stable thin-film equation

$$(STF) \quad h_t + (h^n h_{zzz})_z = (h^m)_{zz}, \quad t > 0, z \in (Z_-(t), Z_+(t))$$

$$(FBC) \quad h = h_z = 0, \quad t > 0, z = Z_{\pm}(t)$$

$$(CLV) \quad \frac{dZ_{\pm}}{dt}(t) = \lim_{z \rightarrow Z_{\pm}(t)} (h^{n-1} h_{zzz}), \quad t > 0$$

$$(IC) \quad h(0, z) = \omega \delta(z)$$

- ▶ $h = h(t, z) \geq 0$ is the film height.
- ▶ $n > 0$ represents the mobility exponent.
- ▶ The term $+(h^m)_{zz}$, $m > 0$, represents the effect of the gravity.
- ▶ The functions $Z_{\pm}(t)$ define the boundary of the droplet.
- ▶ $\omega > 0$ and δ is the Dirac mass at the origin.
- ▶ (STF) is a fourth order degenerate parabolic equation.
- ▶ (FBC) are two homogeneous free boundary conditions.

- ▶ (CLV) is of kinematic character: the (vertically averaged) velocity of the film $h^{n-1}h_{zzz}$ at the contact lines equals the contact line velocities.
- ▶ (STF) is relevant to surface tension dominated motion of thin viscous films and spreading droplets. The second-order term in the equation, $(h^m)_{zz}$, arises as a cut off of van der Waals interactions.¹
- ▶ In terms of (vertically averaged horizontal) **velocity** $v = h^{n-1}h_{zzz}$:

$$h_t + (vh)_z = (h^m)_{zz}.$$

- ▶ Using (FBC) and (CLV), we obtain the **conservation of mass**:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{Z_-(t)}^{Z_+(t)} h(t, z) dz = 0.$$

¹H. P. Greenspan, *On the motion of a small viscous droplet that wets a surface*, J. Fluid Mech., **84** (1978), 125–143.

Self-similar / Source-type solutions

- ▶ In the case $m = n + 3$, (STF) enjoy a mass invariant scaling:

$$h \mapsto h_\lambda(t, z) = \lambda h(\lambda^{n+4}t, \lambda z), \quad \lambda > 0.$$

- ▶ Self-similar means that $h_\lambda = h, \forall \lambda > 0$. This yields

$$h(t, z) = t^{-\frac{1}{n+4}} \mathcal{H}\left(t^{-\frac{1}{n+4}} z\right) = t^{-\frac{1}{n+4}} h\left(1, t^{-\frac{1}{n+4}} z\right)$$

- ▶ $\mathcal{H} = h(1, \cdot)$ is the **profile**.
- ▶ Source-type means that

$$h(t, z) \longrightarrow \omega \delta(z) \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}) \quad \text{as } t \searrow 0.$$

This yields $\int \mathcal{H}(y) dy = \omega = \int h(t, z) dz \quad (t > 0).$

Equation satisfied by the profile

- ▶ The profile $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(y)$ satisfies

$$\mathcal{H}^n \mathcal{H}''' = \frac{1}{n+4} y \mathcal{H} + (n+3) \mathcal{H}^{n+2} \mathcal{H}'.$$

- ▶ We look for $\mathcal{H} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ regular, even and with compact support $[-a, a]$, $a > 0$, $\mathcal{H} > 0$ on $(-a, a)$ implying $Z_{\pm}(t) = \pm a t^{\frac{1}{n+4}}$.
- ▶ Define

$$H(x) = (n+4)^{1/n} a^{-4/n} \mathcal{H}(a(-1+x)).$$

The problem reduces to finding $H \in C^1([0, 1]) \cap C^\infty((0, 1])$ s.t.

$$(1a) \quad H^{n-1} H''' = -1 + x + \mu H^{n+1} H', \quad x \in (0, 1]$$

$$(1b) \quad H(0) = H'(0) = 0$$

$$(1c) \quad H'(1) = 0$$

$$(1d) \quad \int_0^1 H(x) dx = \kappa(\mu) := \frac{\sqrt{n+3}}{2\sqrt{\mu}} \omega$$

Here $\mu = (n+3)(n+4)^{-\frac{2}{n}} a^{2+\frac{8}{n}} > 0$.

Overview

In the case of standard thin-film equation

$$(TF) \quad h_t + (h^n h_{zzz})_z = 0,$$

(1a) reads

$$(1a') \quad H^{n-1} H''' = -1 + x.$$

Theorem [Bernis-Peletier-Williams, 1992]

Let $n \in (3/2, 3)$. There exists a unique non-negative solution $H \in C^1([0, 1]) \cap C^\infty((0, 1])$ to (1a')-(1b)-(1c). Moreover

$$H(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu (1 + o(1)) \quad \text{as } x \searrow 0,$$

where $\nu := \frac{3}{n} \in (1, 2)$ and $A := \nu(\nu - 1)(2 - \nu) > 0$.

Remarks

- 1 The leading order term

$$H_{TW}(x) := A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu$$

corresponds to the traveling-wave solution:

$$H_{TW}^{n-1} H_{TW}''' = -1, \quad x > 0$$

$$H_{TW}(0) = H'_{TW}(0) = 0$$

- 2 The same result holds for $0 < n < 3/2$ and $n = 3/2$ but for other leading order terms.
- 3 If $n \geq 3$, then there exist no solutions.
- 4 By scaling argument we can reach any mass $\omega > 0$ from any given solution of (1a')-(1b)-(1c) that is, (1a) without gravity.

Theorem [Giacomelli-Gnann-Otto, 2013]

Let $n \in (3/2, 3)$. The solution H satisfies:

$$H(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu \left(1 + v(x, x^\beta) \right) \text{ as } x \searrow 0,$$

for some $\beta \in (0, 1)$ and an analytic function $v = v(x, y)$ in a neighborhood of $(0, 0)$ with $v(0, 0) = 0$, $\partial_y v(0, 0) < 0$.

Remarks

- 1 For $3/2 < n < 3$, the droplet can only spread.
- 2 The fraction power x^β may be understood by writing $H = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu (1 + u)$ and linearizing around $u = 0$:

$$p\left(x \frac{d}{dx}\right) u := p(D)u = Ax, \quad p(\zeta) := (\zeta + 1)(\zeta - \alpha)(\zeta - \beta), \quad \alpha < 0.$$

Theorem [Beretta, 1997]

Let $n \in (3/2, 3)$. There exists a non-negative solution H to (1a)-(1b)-(1c)-(1d). Moreover

$$H(x) \sim H_{TW}(x) \quad \text{as } x \searrow 0.$$

- ▶ The uniqueness is an open problem.
- ▶ Our aim, which is stated in the next theorem, is to go beyond the regularity given by Beretta.
- ▶ In particular, the effect of the stabilization term $(h^{n+3})_{zz}$ on the regularity near the boundary will be highlighted.
- ▶ We expect that our analysis will be helpful in the well-posedness theory.

Main Result

Theorem [M.-Tayachi, 2021]

Let $3/2 < n < 3$. Then we have the following:

(i) There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for any $\mu > 0$ there exists a solution $H_\mu \in C^1([0, 1]) \cap C^\infty((0, 1))$ of (1a)-(1b)-(1c) satisfying

$$H_\mu(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu \left(1 + \bar{u} \left(x, b(\mu)x^\beta, \mu x^\gamma \right) \right), \quad x \searrow 0,$$

for some $b(\mu) > 0$, where $\bar{u}(x_1, x_2, x_3) : [0, \varepsilon^2] \times [0, \varepsilon] \times [0, \varepsilon^2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is analytic with

$$\bar{u}(0, 0, 0) = 0, \quad \partial_1 \bar{u}(0, 0, 0) > 0, \quad \partial_2 \bar{u}(0, 0, 0) < 0, \quad \partial_3 \bar{u}(0, 0, 0) > 0$$

and

$$0 < \beta := \frac{\sqrt{-3\nu^2 + 12\nu - 8} - 3\nu + 4}{2} < 1 < \gamma := 2 + \frac{6}{n}.$$

(ii) There exists $\bar{\mu} > 0$ such that the solution $H_{\bar{\mu}}$ satisfies also (1d).

Comments

- ▶ We have

$$\bar{u}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{A}{\rho(1)} (1 + O(\varepsilon)) x_1 - (1 + O(\varepsilon)) x_2 + \frac{\nu A^{-\frac{2}{3}}}{\rho(\gamma)} (1 + O(\varepsilon)) x_3.$$

- ▶ Our result shows that solutions depend analytically on two non-smooth variables (unless $n = 2$), whereas in the absence of gravity, there is only one such variable.
- ▶ This shows the effect of the gravity on the expansion of source type solutions.
- ▶ Since no uniqueness result is known yet, we are not necessarily expanding the solution obtained by Beretta.
- ▶ We construct and give refined asymptotic of the solution than that given by Beretta.
- ▶ We cannot reach any mass $\omega > 0$ by scaling as in the standard thin-film equation. This justify why we need Part (ii) in the previous theorem.

Linearization around H_{TW}

By writing $H(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu (1 + u(x)) = H_{TW}(x)(1 + u(x))$, the problem becomes

$$\begin{aligned} p(D)u &= Ax + A[(1+u)^{n-1} - 1 - (n-1)u] \\ &\quad - [(1+u)^{n-1} - 1]q(D)u \\ &\quad + \mu A^{-\frac{2\nu}{3}} x^\gamma (1+u)^{n+1} (D+\nu)(1+u), \quad x \in (0, 1] \\ u(0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Here $D = x\partial_x$ and $p(\xi) = (\xi + 1)(\xi - \alpha)(\xi - \beta)$.

$$n \in (3/2, 3) \implies \alpha \in (-2, 0), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

Equation in non-smooth variables

- ▶ x^{-1} and x^α are ruled out by the boundary condition.
- ▶ We introduce a second and third variable $y := bx^\beta$, $z := \mu x^\gamma$ for some $b, \mu > 0$ to be fixed later.
- ▶ We look for $u(x) = \bar{u}(x, bx^\beta, \mu x^\gamma)$. Hence $Du(x) = \bar{\mathbf{D}}\bar{u}(x, bx^\beta, \mu x^\gamma)$, where $\bar{\mathbf{D}} := x\partial_x + \beta y\partial_y + \gamma z\partial_z$.

- ▶ In the new variables

$$\begin{aligned} p(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u} &= Ax + A[(1 + \bar{u})^{n-1} - 1 - (n-1)\bar{u}] \\ &\quad - [(1 + \bar{u})^{n-1} - 1]q(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u} \\ &\quad + A^{-\frac{2}{3}}\nu z(1 + \bar{u})^{n+1}(\bar{\mathbf{D}} + \nu)(1 + \bar{u}) \end{aligned}$$

with $(\bar{u}, \partial_y \bar{u})(0, 0, 0) = (0, -1)$.

Strategy of the Proof

- ▶ Solve the corresponding linear problem: $p(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u} = \bar{f}$.
- ▶ Solve the nonlinear problem using a fixed point argument.
- ▶ We obtain a solution $H_{b,\mu}(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}}x^\nu \left(1 + u_{b,\mu}(x)\right)$ of (1a)-(1b).
- ▶ To fulfill condition (1c) we shoot with the parameter b . Thus, we obtain a solution $H_\mu := H_{\bar{b}(\mu),\mu}$ of (1a) which satisfies (1b) and (1c).
- ▶ We conclude by a shooting argument with μ to fulfill condition (1d).

Linear Problem

Notation: $\|\cdot\|$ is the sup norm on $Q_\varepsilon := [0, \varepsilon^2] \times [0, \varepsilon] \times [0, \varepsilon^2]$.
 $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. $(x, y, z) := (x_1, x_2, x_3)$.

Lemma

Let $\Lambda \leq \beta$ and $\bar{f}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ be a smooth function with $(\bar{f}, \partial_2 \bar{f})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0)$. Then

$$\bar{v}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (T_\Lambda \bar{f})(x_1, x_2, x_3) := \int_0^1 r^{-\Lambda} \bar{f}(rx_1, r^\beta x_2, r^\gamma x_3) \frac{dr}{r},$$

solves

$$(\bar{\mathbf{D}} - \Lambda) \bar{v} = \bar{f}, \quad (\bar{v}, \partial_2 \bar{v})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0).$$

Moreover $T_\Lambda \bar{\mathbf{D}} = \bar{\mathbf{D}} T_\Lambda$ and

$$\sum_{j=0}^1 \left\| \partial_1^k \partial_2^\ell \partial_3^m \bar{\mathbf{D}}^j \bar{v} \right\| \lesssim \left\| \partial_1^k \partial_2^\ell \partial_3^m \bar{f} \right\|, \quad (k, \ell, m) \in \mathbb{N}_0^3,$$

with $(k, \ell, m) \notin \{(0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0)\}$ if $\Lambda = \beta$.

- ▶ $(\bar{f}, \partial_2 \bar{f})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0) \rightarrow \bar{f}(x, y, z) = O(x + y^2 + z)^2$.² Hence $x \sim \varepsilon^2, y \sim \varepsilon, z \sim \varepsilon^2$.
- ▶ As a consequence, with $T := T_\beta T_{-1} T_\alpha$, the function $\bar{u}_0 := T\bar{f}$ is well defined, smooth and solves the linear problem with homogeneous boundary conditions

$$\rho(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u}_0 = \bar{f}, \quad (\bar{u}, \partial_2 \bar{u})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0).$$

Moreover

$$|\bar{u}_0|_1 = |T\bar{f}|_1 \lesssim |\bar{f}|_0,$$

where, for fixed $K, L, M \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$|\bar{h}|_0 := \sum_{k=0}^K \sum_{\ell=0}^L \sum_{m=0}^M \frac{\varepsilon^{2k+\ell+2m}}{k!\ell!m!} \left\| \partial_1^k \partial_2^\ell \partial_3^m \bar{h} \right\|$$

$$|\bar{h}|_1 := \sum_{j=0}^3 |\bar{\mathbf{D}}^j \bar{h}|_0.$$

$${}^2\bar{f}(x, y, z) = \int_0^y \int_0^s \partial_2^2 \bar{f}(0, \tau, 0) d\tau ds + \int_0^x \partial_1 \bar{f}(s, y, 0) ds + \int_0^z \partial_3 \bar{f}(x, y, s) ds.$$

Local Existence

The problem

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u} &= \bar{f}_{\bar{u}}, \quad \text{for } x_1, x_2, x_3 > 0, \\ (\bar{u}, \partial_2 \bar{u})(0, 0, 0) &= (0, -1), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}_{\bar{u}} &= Ax_1 - ((1 + \bar{u})^{n-1} - 1) q(\bar{\mathbf{D}})\bar{u} + A [(1 + \bar{u})^{n-1} - 1 - (n-1)\bar{u}] \\ &+ A^{-\frac{2}{3}\nu} x_3 (1 + \bar{u})^{n+1} (\bar{\mathbf{D}} + \nu) (1 + \bar{u}), \end{aligned}$$

can be written as a fixed point equation

$$\bar{u} = -x_2 + T\bar{f}_{\bar{u}} := \mathcal{T}(\bar{u})$$

For K, L, M fixed integers, let

$$\mathbf{S}_{K,L,M} := \left\{ \bar{v} \in C^{K+L+M+3}(Q_\varepsilon); (\bar{v}, \partial_2 \bar{v})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0) \text{ and } |\bar{v}|_1 \leq \varepsilon \right\},$$

where

$$|\bar{v}|_1 := |\bar{v}|_1 + \sum_{\substack{\alpha=(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3) \\ |\alpha|=K+L+M+3}} \frac{\varepsilon^{2\alpha_1+\alpha_2+2\alpha_3}}{\alpha_1! \alpha_2! \alpha_3!} \|\partial^\alpha \bar{v}\|.$$

Note that $(C^{K+L+M+3}(Q_\varepsilon), |\cdot|_1)$ is a Banach space and

$$\bar{u} \in \mathbf{S}_{K,L,M} \implies (\bar{f}_{\bar{u}}, \partial_2 \bar{f}_{\bar{u}})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0).$$

Goal: $\mathcal{T} : \mathbf{S}_{K,L,M} \longrightarrow \mathbf{S}_{K,L,M}$ is a contraction for ε sufficiently small.

Claim: We have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{T}(\bar{u}) - \mathcal{T}(\bar{v})|_1 &\lesssim \varepsilon |\bar{u} - \bar{v}|_1 \quad \text{for all } \bar{u}, \bar{v} \in \mathbf{S}_{K,L,M} \\ |\mathcal{T}(\bar{u})|_1 &\lesssim \varepsilon^2 \quad \text{for all } \bar{u} \in \mathbf{S}_{K,L,M} \end{aligned}$$

The proof uses the following estimates:

Lower order norms

$$(\bar{f}, \partial_2 \bar{f})(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0) \implies \|\bar{f}\| + \varepsilon \|\partial_2 \bar{f}\| \lesssim \varepsilon^2 (\|\partial_1 \bar{f}\| + \|\partial_2^2 \bar{f}\| + \|\partial_3 \bar{f}\|)$$

Algebra property

$$|\bar{f}\bar{g}|_0 \leq |\bar{f}|_0 |\bar{g}|_0$$

Nonlinear estimates

$$\begin{aligned} |G(\bar{f})|_0 &\leq G_1(|\bar{f}|_0), \\ |G(\bar{f}) - G(\bar{g})|_0 &\leq G_2(\max\{|\bar{f}|_0, |\bar{g}|_0\}) |\bar{f} - \bar{g}|_0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$G(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a_j z^j, \quad G_1(z) := \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |a_j| z^j \quad \text{and} \quad G_2(z) := \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (j+1) |a_{j+1}| z^j.$$

Claim: There exist $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ and \bar{u} analytic in Q_ε such that $\bar{u} = \mathcal{T}(\bar{u})$.

Proof:

- ▶ All the estimates are in terms of constants independent of K, L, M and ε does not depend on K, L, M .
- ▶ The complete metric spaces $\mathbf{S}_{K,L,M}$ are nested as K, L, M increase.
- ▶ They all share the same unique fixed point which is C^∞ and the Taylor series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\partial_1^k \partial_2^\ell \partial_3^m \bar{u}(0, 0, 0)}{k! \ell! m!} x_1^k x_2^\ell x_3^m$$

converges absolutely in Q_ε .

- ▶ The corresponding error terms converge uniformly to zero.
- ▶ The Taylor series also represents the solution.
- ▶ The solution is analytic.

How to reach $[0, 1]$?

Until now, we have constructed a local solution of (1a)-(1b)

$$H_{b,\mu}(x) = A^{-\frac{\nu}{3}} x^\nu (1 + u_{b,\mu}(x)) = H_{TW}(x) \left(1 + \bar{u} \left(x, bx^\beta, \mu x^\gamma \right) \right)$$

where $\bar{u}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ is analytic in $Q_\varepsilon = [0, \varepsilon^2] \times [0, \varepsilon] \times [0, \varepsilon^2]$.

Note that $H_{b,\mu}$ is defined for

$$0 \leq x \leq \hat{x}_{b,\mu}(\varepsilon) := \min \left\{ \varepsilon^2, \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{b} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}, \left(\frac{\varepsilon^2}{\mu} \right)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \right\}.$$

By ODE arguments, we can extend $H_{b,\mu}$ to a smooth solution of (1a)-(1b) on a maximal interval $(0, x_{b,\mu}^*)$ with

$$H_{b,\mu} > 0 \text{ in } (0, x_{b,\mu}^*) \text{ and } x_{b,\mu}^* \leq \infty.$$

Claim: Let $\mu > 0$ be fixed. Then there exists $\bar{b}(\mu) > 0$ such that the function $H_{\bar{b}(\mu), \mu}$ satisfies (1a)-(1b)-(1c). Moreover, $H'_{\bar{b}(\mu), \mu} > 0$ on $(0, 1)$.

Proof:

- ▶ We compare $H_{b, \mu}$ to H_{TW} by nonlinear ODE arguments to obtain

$$H'_{b, \mu}(x) > 0 \quad \text{for } x \searrow 0.$$

- ▶ This also gives by using monotonicity in b

$$x_{b, \mu}^* \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } b \rightarrow \infty.$$

- ▶ It follows that $H'_{b, \mu}$ must vanish somewhere.

- ▶ Setting

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{b}(\mu) &= \inf \left\{ b \geq 0; H'_{b, \mu}(x) = 0 \text{ for some } x \in (0, 1] \cap (0, x_{b, \mu}^*) \right\} \\ &:= \inf \mathcal{B}, \end{aligned}$$

we conclude the proof as follows.

- ▶ By continuous dependence and monotonicity $0 < \bar{b}(\mu) \in \mathcal{B}$.
- ▶ By contradiction: $\bar{\bar{x}}_{\bar{b}(\mu)} = 1$, where for $b \in \mathcal{B}$, $\bar{\bar{x}}_b$ stands for the first zero of $H'_{b,\mu}$.
- ▶ If $\bar{\bar{x}}_{\bar{b}(\mu)} < 1$, then $H'_{\bar{b}(\mu),\mu} < 0$ in a right neighborhood of $\bar{\bar{x}}_{\bar{b}(\mu)}$.
- ▶ Since $H'_{\bar{b}(\mu),\mu} > 0$ on $(0, \bar{\bar{x}}_{\bar{b}(\mu)})$ and by continuous dependence, we deduce that this property is satisfied by $H_{b,\mu}$ for b near $\bar{b}(\mu)$.
- ▶ This yields the existence of $0 < b < \bar{b}(\mu)$ such that $H'_{b,\mu}$ vanish somewhere.
- ▶ Clearly this contradicts the definition of $\bar{b}(\mu)$.

Remark: $H_\mu := H_{\bar{b}(\mu),\mu}$ solves (1a)-(1b)-(1c).

How to reach the mass?

Claim: There exists $\bar{\mu} > 0$ such that $H_{\bar{\mu}}$ satisfies (1d), namely

$$\int_0^1 H_{\bar{\mu}}(x) dx = \frac{\sqrt{n+3}}{2\sqrt{\bar{\mu}}} \omega.$$

Proof: Define

$$\mathcal{M}(\mu) := \frac{2\sqrt{\mu}}{\sqrt{n+3}} \int_0^1 H_{\mu}(x) dx.$$

It suffices to show that $\mathcal{M}([0, \infty)) = [0, \infty)$. For this end, we will show that

$$\mathcal{M}(\mu_j) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty,$$

for some sequence (μ_j) .

This will be done in three steps.

Step 1. Define

$$\mathcal{H}_\mu(y) = (n+4)^{-1/n} a^{4/n} H_\mu\left(1 - \frac{y}{a}\right),$$

and using some estimates in³, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} -H''_\mu(1) &= |H''_\mu(1)| \leq C_n \sqrt{n+4} H_\mu(1)^{1-n/2}, \\ \max\left(H_\mu(1)^{n/4}, \sqrt{\mu} H_\mu(1)^{1+n/2}\right) &\geq D_n, \end{aligned}$$

for some positive constants C_n, D_n depending only on n .

³E. Beretta, *Selfsimilar source solutions of a fourth order degenerate parabolic equation*, *Nonlinear Anal.*, **29** (1997), 741–760.

Step 2. Define

$$\alpha(\mu) = (n+4)^{-\frac{1}{n+4}} (n+3)^{-\frac{2}{n+4}} \mu^{\frac{2}{n+4}} H_\mu(1).$$

Then

$$\sup_{\mu>0} \alpha(\mu) = \infty.$$

Indeed, if not, by using the above estimates, we should have $1 \lesssim \mu^{-\frac{n}{2(n+4)}}$ for all $\mu > 0$. **Contradiction!**

In particular, there exists a sequence (μ_j) such that

$$\alpha_j := \alpha(\mu_j) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty.$$

Step 3. Let $\mathbf{v}_j = \mathbf{v}_j(y)$ be the solution of

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_j'' &= -2C_n \alpha_j^{1-n/2} + \alpha_j^2 (n+3) (\mathbf{v}_j - \alpha_j) \quad \text{for } y > 0, \\ \mathbf{v}_j(0) &= \alpha_j, \quad \mathbf{v}_j'(0) = 0, \end{cases}$$

The solution \mathbf{v}_j is given explicitly by

$$\mathbf{v}_j(y) = \frac{1}{(n+3)\alpha_j^{1+n/2}} \left[2C_n + (n+3)\alpha_j^{2+n/2} - 2C_n \cosh(\alpha_j \sqrt{n+3} y) \right].$$

By comparison argument, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}(\mu_j) = 2 \int_0^{a_j} \mathcal{H}_{\mu_j}(y) dy &\geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+3}} \arg \cosh \left(1 + \frac{n+3}{4C_n} \alpha_j^{2+n/2} \right) \\ &\rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

A continuity argument finishes the proof.

Concluding Remarks

- ▶ No analogous result for $0 < n \leq 3/2$. Clearly $A = 0$ for $n = 3/2$.
- ▶ Non existence for $n \geq 3$.
- ▶ Our arguments doesn't work for the unstable regime

$$h_t + (h^n h_{zzz})_z = - (h^{n+3})_{zz}.$$

- ▶ More precisely, with our approach we can construct a solution satisfying (1a)-(1b).
- ▶ To satisfy (1c)-(1d) we use some comparison arguments.
- ▶ This justify why we need the sign $+$ or equivalently $+\mu > 0$.
- ▶ To construct regular solutions satisfying Problem (1) in the unstable regime, the mass ω should be less then the critical mass

$$\omega_c = 2\pi\sqrt{2/3}.$$
⁴

⁴T. P. Witelski, A. J. Bernoff and A. L. Bertozzi, *Blowup and dissipation in a critical-case unstable thin film equation*, European J. Appl. Math., **15** (2004), 223–256.



Figure 1: *

Congratulations to **Professor Nader Masmoudi**, laureate of the 2022 King Faisal Prize in Science, focused on Mathematics.

