

# Characteristic points for the semilinear wave equation

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## The equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t^2 u = \partial_x^2 u + |u|^{p-1}u, \\ u(0) = u_0 \text{ and } u_t(0) = u_1, \end{cases}$$

where  $p > 1$ ,

$u(t) : x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow u(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

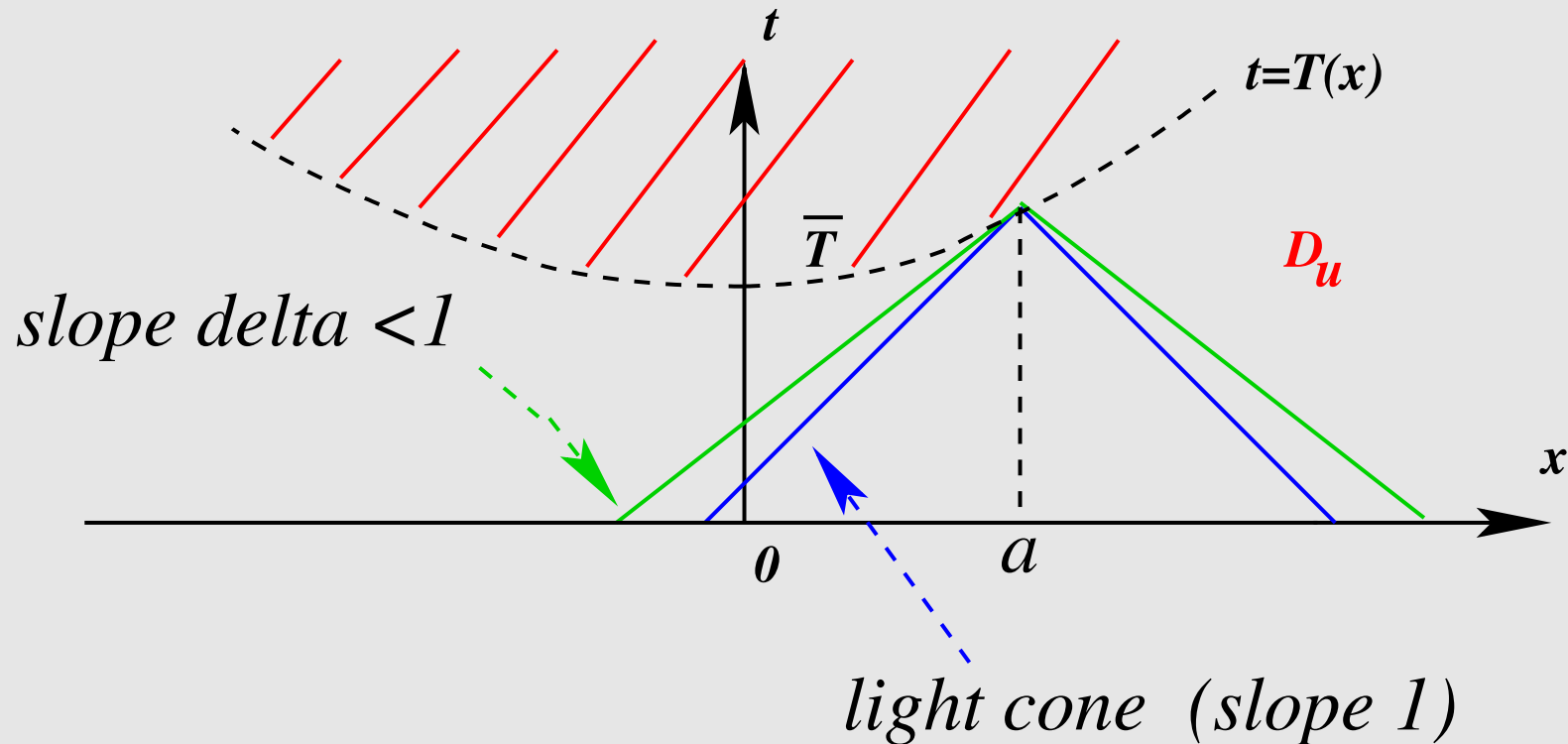
$u_0 \in H_{loc,u}^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $u_1 \in L_{loc,u}^2(\mathbb{R})$

and

$$\|v\|_{L_{loc,u}^2(\mathbb{R})} = \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \left( \int_{a-1}^{a+1} |v(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}.$$

## Definition: Non characteristic points and characteristic points

A point  $a$  is said *non characteristic* if the domain contains a cone with vertex  $(a, T(a))$  and slope  $\delta < 1$ .



The point is said *characteristic* if not.

- Notation:  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}$  is the set of all *non* characteristic points.
- Notation:  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}$  is the set of all characteristic points ( $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{R} = \mathbb{R}$ ).

## Similarity variables

**Selfsimilar transformation for all  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$**

$$w_{x_0}(y, s) = (T(x_0) - t)^{\frac{2}{p-1}} u(x, t), \quad y = \frac{x - x_0}{T(x_0) - t}, \quad s = -\log(T(x_0) - t).$$

$(x, t)$  in the light cone of vertex  $(x_0, T(x_0)) \iff (y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [-\log T(x_0), \infty)$ .

**Equation on  $w = w_{x_0}$ :** For all  $(y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [-\log T(x_0), \infty)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial_{ss}^2 w - \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_y (\rho(1 - y^2) \partial_y w) + \frac{2(p+1)}{(p-1)^2} w - |w|^{p-1} w \\ &= -\frac{p+3}{p-1} \partial_s w - 2y \partial_{sy}^2 w \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \rho(y) = (1 - |y|^2)^{\frac{2}{p-1}}$$

## A Lyapunov functional (Antonini-Merle)

$$E(w) = \int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{1}{2} (\partial_s w)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_y w)^2 (1 - y^2) + \frac{(p+1)}{(p-1)^2} w^2 - \frac{1}{p+1} |w|^{p+1} \right) \rho dy,$$

Thanks to a Hardy-Sobolev inequality,  $E = E(w, \partial_s w)$  is well defined in the energy space

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ q \in H_{loc}^1 \times L_{loc}^2(B) \mid \|q\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \equiv \int_{-1}^1 \left( q_1^2 + (\partial_y q_1)^2 (1 - y^2) + q_2^2 \right) \rho dy < +\infty \right\}.$$

## Properties of the Lyapunov functional $E$

**Lemma 1 (Monotonicity (Antonini-Merle))** *For all  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ :*

$$E(w(s_2)) - E(w(s_1)) = -\frac{4}{p-1} \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \int_{-1}^1 (\partial_s w)^2 (1 - |y|^2)^{\frac{2}{p-1}-1} dy ds.$$

**Lemma 2 (A blow-up criterion)** *Consider a solution  $W$  such that  $E(W(s_0)) < 0$  for some  $s_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $W$  blows up in finite time  $S > s_0$ .*

## Regularity of the blow-up set at a *characteristic point*

**Th.** The set of characteristic points  $\mathcal{S}$  is made of **isolated points**.

If  $a \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $T'_l(a) = 1$  and  $T'_r(a) = -1$ .

**Rk.** An important step of the proof is to prove first that  $\mathcal{S}$  has an empty interior.

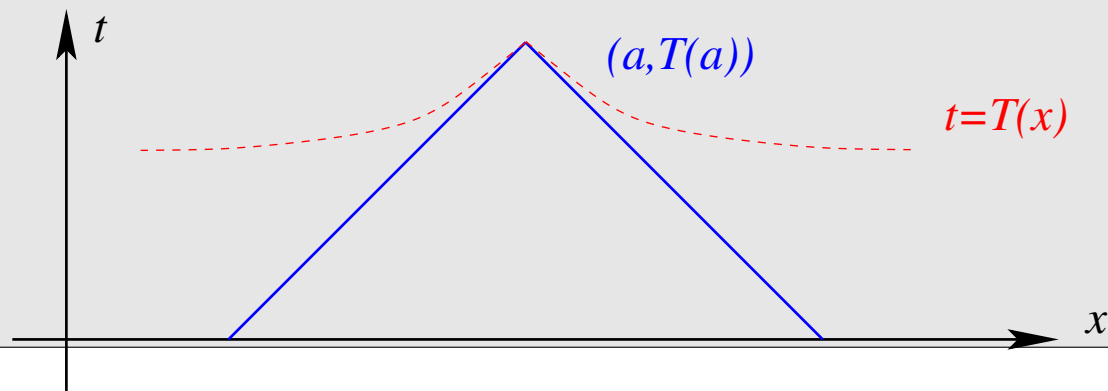
**Th. (the corner property)** If  $a \in \mathcal{S}$ , then for all  $x$  near  $a$ ,

$$\frac{1}{C}|x - a| |\log |x - a||^{-\gamma(a)} \leq T(x) - T(a) + |x - a| \leq C|x - a| |\log |x - a||^{-\gamma(a)} \quad (1)$$

where

$$\gamma(a) = \frac{(k(a) - 1)(p - 1)}{2} \text{ with } k(a) \in \mathbb{N}, k(a) \geq 2.$$

**Rk.** Estimate (1) remains valid after differentiation.



## Asymptotic behavior at a *characteristic point*

**Th.** If  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  is **characteristic**, then, there exist  $k(x_0) \geq 2$ ,  $e(x_0) = \pm 1$  and continuous  $d_i(s) = -\tanh \zeta_i(s)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  such that:

(i)

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_{x_0}(s) \\ \partial_s w_{x_0}(s) \end{pmatrix} - e(x_0) \sum_{i=1}^{k(x_0)} (-1)^i \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d_i(s), \cdot) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty,$$

(ii) Introducing

$$\bar{w}_{x_0}(\zeta, s) = (1 - y^2)^{\frac{1}{p-1}} w_{x_0}(y, s) \text{ with } y = \tanh \zeta \text{ and } \zeta_i(x_0) = -\operatorname{argth} d_i(s),$$

we get

$$\|\bar{w}_{x_0}(\zeta, s) - e(x_0) \sum_{i=1}^{k(x_0)} (-1)^i \cosh^{-\frac{2}{p-1}}(\zeta - \zeta_i(s))\|_{H^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R})} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty,$$



## Asymptotic behavior at a *characteristic point* (cont.)

(iii) For all  $i = 1, \dots, k(x_0)$  and  $s$  large enough,

$$\left(i - \frac{k(x_0) + 1}{2}\right) \frac{(p-1)}{2} \log s - C_0 \leq \zeta_i(s) \leq \left(i - \frac{k(x_0) + 1}{2}\right) \frac{(p-1)}{2} \log s + C_0.$$

(iv)  $E(w_{x_0}(s)) \rightarrow k(x_0)E(\kappa_0)$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Rk.

- As  $s \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $w_{x_0}$  becomes like a **decoupled** sum of *equidistant* stationary solutions (“solitons”), with *alternate* signs.
- In the  $\zeta$  variable, half of the solitons go to  $-\infty$ , and the other half to  $+\infty$ .
- The main difficulty in the proof is to prove that  $k(x_0) \geq 2$  (the case  $k(x_0) = 0$  is harder to eliminate).
- The  $\zeta_i(s)$  satisfy a Toda system:

$$\frac{1}{c_1} \zeta'_i(s) = e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_i - \zeta_{i-1})} - e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_{i+1} - \zeta_i)} + R_i \text{ with } R_i = o\left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_{j+1} - \zeta_j)}\right) \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty.$$

## Idea of the proof of the results in the *characteristic case*

The results are: the decomposition into solitons, the corner property and the fact that the interior of  $\mathcal{S}$  is empty.

6 main steps are needed:

- ▶ Step 1: Decomposition into a decoupled sum of  $k(x_0) \geq 0$  solitons, with no information on the signs or the distance between the solitons' centers (in the  $\xi$  variable).
- ▶ Step 2: Characterization of the case  $k(x_0) \geq 2$ . Proof of *the upper bound* in the corner property if  $k(x_0) \geq 2$ .
- ▶ Step 3: Excluding the case  $k(x_0) = 0$  if  $x_0 \in \partial\mathcal{S}$  (note that  $\partial\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{S}$  since  $\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathcal{S}$  is open).
- ▶ Step 4: Characterization of the case where  $x_0 \in \partial\mathcal{S}$  and  $k(x_0) = 1$ .
- ▶ Step 5: We prove that the interior of  $\mathcal{S}$  is empty, then that  $k(x_0) \geq 2$  for all  $x_0 \in \mathcal{S}$  (which gives *the upper bound* in the corner property by Step 2).
- ▶ Step 6: We prove that  $\mathcal{S}$  is made of isolated points.

## Comments

**Rk. 1:** A good understanding of the *non-characteristic* case is *crucial*.

**Rk. 2:** Excluding the case  $k(x_0) = 0$  is more difficult than excluding the case  $k(x_0) = 1$ .

In particular, we can't exclude directly the case  $k(x_0) = 0$  for all  $x_0 \in \mathcal{S}$ . We do it first when  $x_0 \in \partial\mathcal{S}$ , then prove that the interior of  $\mathcal{S}$  is empty, hence  $\partial\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}$ .

## Step 1: Decomposition into a decoupled sum of $k(x_0) \geq 0$ solitons

Take  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  a characteristic points. We have two estimates:

- ▷  $\|(w_{x_0}(s), \partial_s w_{x_0}(s))\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C_0$ ;
- ▷  $\int_{-\log T(x_0)}^{\infty} \int_{-1}^1 (\partial_s w_{x_0}(y, s))^2 \frac{\rho}{1-y^2} dy \leq C_0$ .

**Rk.** Unlike the non characteristic case, we can't have a covering argument, so we can't obtain the  $H^1 \times L^2$  norm bounded (in fact, we will show that it is unbounded).

## Step 1: Decomposition into a decoupled sum of $k(x_0) \geq 0$ solitons (cont.)

In the  $\bar{w}_{x_0}(\zeta, s)$  variable, we have

$$\|\bar{w}_{x_0}(\zeta, s)\|_{H^1(\mathbb{R})} \leq C_0.$$

For any sequence  $\zeta_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , we find a “local” limit in the sense that for some  $s_n \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\bar{w}_{x_0}(\zeta + \zeta_n, s + s_n) \rightarrow \bar{w}^* \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

uniformly on compact sets for  $(\zeta, s)$ , with  $w^*$  a stationary solution, due to the fact that

$$\int_{-\log T(x_0)}^{\infty} \int_{-1}^1 (\partial_s w_{x_0}(y, s))^2 \frac{\rho}{1-y^2} dy \leq C_0.$$

Since the energy is bounded, the number of non zero “local limits” is finite, and we end-up with the following result:

## Step 1: Decomposition into a decoupled sum of $k(x_0) \geq 0$ solitons (cont.)

**Prop.** There exist  $k(x_0) \geq 0$  and continuous  $d_i(s) \in (-1, 1)$  such that

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_{x_0}(s) \\ \partial_s w_{x_0}(s) \end{pmatrix} - \sum_{i=1}^{k(x_0)} e_i(x_0) \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d_i(s), \cdot) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty,$$

with

$$\zeta_{i+1}(s) - \zeta_i(s) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } d_i(s) = -\tanh \zeta_i(s).$$

**Rk.**

- ▷ If  $k(x_0) = 0$ , then the above sum is 0.
- ▷ At this level, we don't know that  $k(x_0) = 0$  and  $k(x_0) = 1$  don't occur.
- ▷ We have no information on the signs  $e_i(x_0)$ .
- ▷ We have no equivalent for  $\zeta_i(s)$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Step 2: Case $k(x_0) \geq 2$ ; A differential equation on the solitons' centers

Here, we assume that  $k(x_0) \geq 2$  (we don't prove that fact here).

Linearizing the equation in the  $w(y, s)$  setting around the sum of the solitons, we get the following Toda system on the solitons' centers in the  $\zeta$  variable: for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $s$  large enough, we have

$$\frac{1}{c_1} \zeta'_i = -e_{i-1} e_i e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_i - \zeta_{i-1})} + e_i e_{i+1} e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_{i+1} - \zeta_i)} + R_i$$

where

$$|R_i| \leq C J^{1+\delta_0}, \quad J(s) = \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} e^{-\frac{2}{p-1}(\zeta_{j+1}(s) - \zeta_j(s))},$$

$e_0 = e_{k+1} = 0$ , for some  $c_1 > 0$  and  $\delta_0 > 0$ .

## Step 2: Case $k(x_0) \geq 2$ (cont.)

Since for all  $i = 1, \dots, k(x_0) - 1$ , we have

$$\zeta_{i+1}(s) - \zeta_i(s) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty,$$

using ODE techniques, we find that

$$e_i e_{i+1} = -1 \text{ and } \zeta_i(s) \sim \left( i - \frac{k(x_0) + 1}{2} \right) \frac{(p-1)}{2} \log s.$$

The upper bound on the blow-up rate gives the *upper bound* in the corner property.



### Step 3: Excluding the case where $x_0 \in \partial\mathcal{S}$ and $k(x_0) = 0$

By contradiction, if  $x_0 \in \partial\mathcal{S}$  and  $k(x_0) = 0$ , then

$$\|w_{x_0}(s)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } E(w_{x_0}(s)) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty.$$

Fixing  $s_0$  large enough such that  $E(w_{x_0}(s_0)) \leq \frac{1}{4}E(\kappa_0)$ , we find  $x_1$  near  $x_0$  such that

$$x_1 \in \mathcal{R} \text{ and } E(w_{x_1}(s_0)) \leq \frac{1}{2}E(\kappa_0).$$

Since  $E(w_{x_1}(s)) \rightarrow E(\kappa_0)$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$  and  $E(w_{x_1}(s))$  is decreasing, it follows that

$$E(w_{x_1}(s_0)) \geq E(\kappa_0).$$

Contradiction.

## Step 4: Characterization of the case where $x_0 \in \partial S$ and $k(x_0) = 1$

In this case,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_{x_0}(s) \\ \partial_s w_{x_0}(s) \end{pmatrix} - e_1 \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d_1(s), y) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } E(w_{x_0}(s)) \geq E(\kappa_0).$$

Our “trapping” result implies that for some  $d(x_0) \in (-1, 1)$ ,

$$w_{x_0}(s) \rightarrow \kappa(d(x_0)) \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty.$$

Some elementary geometry and the precise knowledge of the case of non characteristic points gives that  $x_0$  is either left-non-characteristic or right-non-characteristic.

## Step 5: Conclusion without Isolatedness

Using the previous steps, we prove in the same time that  $k(x_0) \geq 2$  and the interior of  $\mathcal{S}$  is empty, together with precise estimate on the location of the solitons' centers.

We also get *the upper bound* in the corner property.

## Step 6: Characteristic points are isolated

Consider  $x_0 \in \mathcal{S}$ . From translation invariance of the equation in  $u(x, t)$ , we can assume that  $x_0 = T(x_0) = 0$ , hence,

$$0 \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } T(0) = 0.$$

We have just proved that for some integer  $k = k(0) \geq 2$ , for some continuous functions  $d_i(s)$ ,  $C_0 > 0$  and  $s_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_0(s) \\ \partial_s w_0(s) \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \kappa(d_i(s)) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } s \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$\forall s \geq s_0, \quad \left| \argth d_i(s) - \frac{\gamma_i}{2} \log s \right| \leq C_0 \text{ where } \gamma_i = (p-1) \left( \frac{k+1}{2} - i \right).$$

## Step 6: Characteristic points are isolated (cont.)

Introducing for  $x \neq 0$ ,  $B = B(x)$  by

$$-\frac{T(x)}{|x|} = 1 - B(x),$$

we translate *the upper bound* in the corner property as follows

$$0 < B \leq \frac{C_0}{|\log |x||^{\gamma_1}}.$$

We proceed in two parts:

- In Part 1, we use the algebraic relation between  $w_0$  and  $w_x$  and a dynamical study to derive the expansion of  $w_x$  where  $x$  is near  $0 \in \mathcal{S}$ .
- In Part 2, we show that  $x$  is non characteristic and measure the distance of  $T'(x)$  to 1 when  $x < 0$  (and to  $-1$  when  $x > 0$ ).

## Part 1: Expansion for $w_x$ .

### *Algebraic transformation*

Recalling the selfsimilar change of variables for  $w_0$  and  $w_x$ :

$$w_0(Y, S) = (-\tau)^{\frac{2}{p-1}} u(\xi, \tau), \quad Y = \frac{\xi}{-\tau}, \quad S = -\log(-\tau),$$

$$w_x(y, s) = (T(x) - \tau)^{\frac{2}{p-1}} u(\xi, \tau), \quad y = \frac{\xi - x}{T(x) - \tau}, \quad s = -\log(T(x) - \tau),$$

we get the following algebraic relation between  $w_x$  and  $w_0$

$$w_x(y, s) = (1 - (1 - B)xe^s)^{-\frac{2}{p-1}} w_0(Y, S), \quad Y = \frac{y + xe^s}{1 - (1 - B)xe^s} \quad S = s - \log(1 - (1 - B)xe^s).$$

This means that the expansion for  $w_0$  translates into an expansion for  $w_x$ :

## Part 1: Expansion for $w_x$ (cont.)

**Prop.** We have

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \sup_{L \leq s \leq L + |\log|x||} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(s) \\ \partial_s w_x(s) \end{pmatrix} - \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \kappa^* \left( \hat{d}_i(s), \hat{v}_i(s) \right) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \right) = 0$$

where

$$\hat{v}_i(x, s) = [B - (1 - \hat{d}_i(x, s))] x e^s, \quad \hat{d}_i(x, s) = d_i(S) \text{ and } -e^{-S(x, s)} = x(1 - B) - e^{-s}.$$

Moreover, for any  $d \in (-1, 1)$  and  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\kappa^*(d, \mu e^s, y)$  is a particular solution of the equation in selfsimilar variables, given by...

## Part 1: Definition of $\kappa^*(d, \nu, y)$

....  $\kappa^*(d, \nu, y) = (\kappa_1^*, \kappa_2^*)(d, \nu, y)$  where

$$\kappa_1^*(d, \nu, y) = \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - d^2)^{\frac{1}{p-1}}}{(1 + dy + \nu)^{\frac{2}{p-1}}} \text{ and } \kappa_2^*(d, \nu, y) = \nu \partial_\nu \kappa_1^*(d, \nu, y) = -\frac{2\kappa_0 \nu}{p-1} \frac{(1 - d^2)^{\frac{1}{p-1}}}{(1 + dy + \nu)^{\frac{p+1}{p-1}}}$$

where  $d \in (-1, 1)$  and  $\nu > -1 + |d|$ .

Note that for any  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $(y, s) \mapsto \kappa^*(d, \mu e^s, y)$  is an explicit solution to the equation in similarity variables. Moreover,

- when  $\mu = 0$ , we recover the stationary solutions  $\kappa(d, y)$ ;
- when  $\mu > 0$ , the solution exists for all  $(y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times \mathbb{R}$  and converges to 0 in  $\mathcal{H}$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ ;

- when  $\mu < 0$ , the solution exists for all  $(y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times \left(-\infty, \log\left(\frac{|d|-1}{\mu}\right)\right)$

and blows up at time  $s = \log\left(\frac{|d|-1}{\mu}\right)$ .



## Part 1: Proof: First, algebraic technique

**Rk.** The algebraic technique gives *explicit* parameters but *not on the whole interval*  $(-1, 1)$ .

Starting from the expansion of  $w_0$  and the algebraic relation between  $w_x$  and  $w_0$ , we get the result with the norm restricted to

$$y > y_1(x, s)$$

for some  $y_1(x, s) > -1$ :

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \sup_{L \leq s \leq L + |\log |x||} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(s) \\ \partial_s w_x(s) \end{pmatrix} - \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \kappa^* \begin{pmatrix} \hat{d}_i(s) \\ \hat{v}_i(s) \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}(y > y_1(x, s))} \right) = 0$$

## Part 1, Proof: Second, analytic technique

**Rk.** The analytic technique gives *non explicit* parameters, but *on the whole interval*  $(-1, 1)$ .

Since the result holds for  $w_0$  on the square  $(y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [L, L + 1]$ , **by continuity**, it holds also for  $w_x$  when  $|x|$  small on the same square. Performing a **modulation technique around the sum of  $\kappa^*(d_i, v_i)$** , we propagate the estimate with non explicit parameters up to

$$s = L + |\log |x||,$$

in the sense that

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \sup_{L \leq s \leq L + |\log |x||} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(s) \\ \partial_s w_x(s) \end{pmatrix} - \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \kappa^*(\bar{d}_i(s), \bar{v}_i(s)) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \right) = 0.$$

## Part 1: Conclusion of the proof of the expansion for $w_x$

Since  $y_1(x, s)$  is “close” to the center of the first soliton, comparing the two expansions for  $y \in (y_1, (x, s), 1)$  gives that **the parameters  $(\hat{d}_i(s), \hat{v}_i(s))$  and  $(\bar{d}_i(s), \bar{v}_i(s))$  are close**, and we get to the conclusion of the proposition:

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \sup_{L \leq s \leq L + |\log |x||} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(s) \\ \partial_s w_x(s) \end{pmatrix} - \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \kappa^* \begin{pmatrix} \hat{d}_i(s) \\ \hat{v}_i(s) \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \right) = 0.$$

## Part 2: Conclusion of the fact that $x$ is isolated

It happens that when  $s = L + |\log |x||$ , all the solitons for  $i \geq 2$  vanish, in the sense that

$$\forall i \geq 2, \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \kappa^* \left( \hat{d}_i(|\log |x|| + L), \hat{v}_i(|\log |x|| + L) \right) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} = 0.$$

Therefore, given  $\epsilon > 0$ , for  $L$  large enough and  $|x|$  small enough, we have

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(|\log |x|| + L) \\ \partial_s w_x(|\log |x|| + L) \end{pmatrix} + \kappa^* \left( \hat{d}_1(|\log |x|| + L), \hat{v}_i(|\log |x|| + L) \right) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \epsilon.$$

## Part 2: Using the energy behavior

Since we have the following

**Prop.** (*Energy minimum*)

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \forall s \geq -\log T(x), \quad E(w_x(s)) \geq E(\kappa_0),$$

it follows that

$$E\left(\kappa^*\left(\hat{d}_1(|\log|x|| + L), \hat{v}_i(|\log|x|| + L)\right)\right) \geq E(\kappa_0) - C\epsilon \quad (2)$$

on the one hand.

On the other hand, we have by direct computation

$$E(\kappa_0) \leq E(\kappa^*(d, \nu)) \leq E(\kappa_0) \left(3\lambda^2 - (2 - \epsilon)\lambda^3\right) \quad \text{where } \lambda = \frac{(1 - d^2)}{(1 + \nu)^2 - d^2}. \quad (3)$$

From (2) and (3), we see that

$$3\lambda^2 - (2 - \epsilon)\lambda^3 \geq 1 - C\epsilon, \quad \text{hence } |\lambda - 1| \leq C\epsilon.$$

## Part 2: Using the energy behavior (cont.)

Since we have in this regime

$$\left\| \kappa^*(d, \nu) - \begin{pmatrix} \kappa \left( \frac{d}{1+\nu}, 0 \right) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C|\lambda - 1|,$$

it follows that

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(|\log|x|| + L) \\ \partial_s w_x(|\log|x|| + L) \end{pmatrix} + \kappa \begin{pmatrix} \hat{d}_1(|\log|x|| + L) \\ 1 + \hat{\nu}_i(|\log|x|| + L), 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C\epsilon.$$

## Part 2: A trapping argument

Now, we recall the following result (from the non-characteristic case):

**Prop.** (Trapping result) *There exists  $\epsilon^* > 0$  such that if for some  $x^* \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $s^* \geq -\log T(x^*)$  and  $d^* \in (-1, 1)$  we have*

$$\|w_{x^*}(s^*) + \kappa(d^*, y)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \epsilon^*,$$

*then,  $w_{x^*}(s) \rightarrow \kappa(\bar{d})$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$  for some  $\bar{d}$  such that*

$$|\operatorname{argth} \bar{d} - \operatorname{argth} d^*| \leq C\epsilon^*.$$

## Part 2: Application to our case

Therefore, in our case, for some  $\bar{d}(x)$  such that

$$\left| \operatorname{argth} \bar{d}(x) - \operatorname{argth} \frac{\hat{d}_1(|\log |x|| + L)}{1 + \hat{\nu}_i(|\log |x|| + L)} \right| \leq C\epsilon^*,$$

we have  $w_x(s) \rightarrow -\kappa(\bar{d}(x))$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ .

From the knowledge of the non-characteristic case and the characteristic case,  
 **$x$  is not characteristic !!!!!**

Moreover,  $T'(x) = \bar{d}(x)$ .

$$\left| \operatorname{argth} T'(x) - \operatorname{argth} \frac{\hat{d}_1(|\log |x|| + L)}{1 + \hat{\nu}_i(|\log |x|| + L)} \right| \leq C\epsilon^*.$$



## Part 2: Final conclusion

This gives a bound on  $T'(x)$ :

$$\frac{1}{C|\log|x||^{\frac{(k(x_0)-1)(p-1)}{2}}} \leq T'(x) - 1 \leq \frac{C}{|\log|x||^{\frac{(k(x_0)-1)(p-1)}{2}}}$$

which gives by integration

$$\frac{|x|}{C|\log|x||^{\frac{(k(x_0)-1)(p-1)}{2}}} \leq T(x) - x \leq \frac{C|x|}{|\log|x||^{\frac{(k(x_0)-1)(p-1)}{2}}}$$

(remember that

$$x_0 = T(x_0) = 0).$$