

# Global solutions to reaction-diffusion equations with super-linear drift and multiplicative noise

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Based on joint work with:

Davar Khoshnevisan (Univ. of Utah), Tusheng Zhang (Univ. of Manchester)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(t, x) + b(u(t, x)) + \sigma(u(t, x)) \dot{W}(t, x), \quad (1)$$
$$t > 0, \quad x \in ]0, 1[,$$

$\dot{W}$  is **space-time white noise**,

homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions:

$$u(t, 0) = u(t, 1) = 0 \quad \text{for all } t > 0,$$

initial condition:  $u(0, x) = u_0(x)$ ,  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

$$b, \sigma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

**Classical case:**  $b$  and  $\sigma$  are globally Lipschitz (implies linear growth).

Krylov & Rozovskii (1979), Walsh (1986), ...

**Here:**  $b$  and  $\sigma$  will be **locally Lipschitz** with **superlinear growth**.

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# Related literature on spde's with coefficients with superlinear growth

**Mueller (1991)**. Considers  $b(u) \equiv 0$ ,  $\sigma(u) = u^\gamma$ , with  $1 \leq \gamma < \frac{3}{2}$  (locally Lipschitz, superlinear growth). Establishes existence of a global solution.

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**Mueller & Sowers (1993)**.  $b \equiv 0$ ,  $\sigma(u) = u^\gamma$ . Establish that for  $\gamma$  large enough, there is blowup in finite time.

**Mueller (2000)**.  $b \equiv 0$ ,  $\sigma(u) = u^\gamma$ ,  $\gamma > \frac{3}{2}$ . There exists  $\tau < \infty$  a.s. such that

$$P \left\{ \limsup_{t \uparrow \tau} \sup_{x \in [0,1]} u(t, x) = +\infty \right\} > 0.$$

**Monotonicity conditions:** Donati-Martin & Pardoux (1993), Cerrai (2003), Liu & Röckner (2015).

Typical case:  $b(u) = -u^3$  (locally Lipschitz, but pushes back towards origin).

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Deterministic case:  $\sigma \equiv 0$ 

Case of o.d.e.'s:

$$u'(t) = b(u(t)), \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad b: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+.$$

Then finite-time blowup occurs if and only if Osgood's condition holds:

$$\int_{u_0}^{+\infty} \frac{dz}{b(z)} < +\infty$$

( $b \uparrow +\infty$  quickly enough for the integral to be finite).

Example:  $b(u) = u^\gamma$  with  $\gamma > 1$ . Then finite-time blowup occurs.

# Deterministic case: $\sigma \equiv 0$ , continued

**Deterministic heat equation:**  $\sigma \equiv 0$ ,  $b(u) = u^\gamma$ ,  $\gamma > 1$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(t, x) + (u(t, x))^\gamma, \quad (2)$$

$$x \in ]0, 1[, \quad t > 0,$$

Dirichlet b.c.

$$u(0, x) = c u_0(x), \text{ where } u_0 \geq 0, u_0 \not\equiv 0, u_0 \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}_+), c > 0.$$

- $\gamma \in ]1, 3[$ : all classical solutions **blow up** in finite time.
- $\gamma > 3$ :
  - for  $c$  large enough, all classical solutions blow up in finite time.
  - for  $c$  small enough, there **exist small global solutions** (for  $c$  small,  $u^\gamma$  is small, and the solution stays near 0).
  - there exist small stationary solutions.

**Reference:** Galaktionov & Vasquez (2002).

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## Bonder &amp; Groisman (2009)

**Corollary.** The deterministic heat equation (2) may have a **global solution** even in the case where

$$\int_1^{+\infty} \frac{dz}{b(z)} < +\infty$$

For instance, this occurs if  $b(z) = z^\gamma$  and  $\gamma > 3$ .

Theorem 1 (Bonder & Groisman, 2009)

Suppose  $\sigma \equiv \sigma_0 \neq 0$ ,  $b \geq 0$ ,  $b$  is convex and

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Then finite-time blowup occurs in the SPDE (1), that is, there exists  $\tau < +\infty$  a.s. such that

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## Question

Is the Bonder & Groisman result optimal?

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$$\int_1^{+\infty} \frac{dz}{b(z)} = +\infty,$$

is there finite-time blowup?

For example, what happens for  $b(z) = |z| \log_+ |z|$  ?

## Definition

A *random field solution*  $u = \{u(t, x), t \geq 0, x \in [0, 1]\}$  of the stochastic heat equation (1) is a jointly measurable, adapted process such that, for all  $(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times [0, 1]$ ,

$$u(t, x) = (G_t * u_0)(x) + \int_{[0, t] \times [0, 1]} G_{t-s}(x, y) b(u(s, y)) ds dy \\ + \int_{[0, t] \times [0, 1]} G_{t-s}(x, y) \sigma(u(s, y)) W(ds, dy),$$

where  $G_t(x, y)$  is the heat kernel with zero Dirichlet boundary conditions.

## Remark

The stochastic integral is a “localized Walsh integral,” that is, we only require that

$$\int_{[0, t] \times [0, 1]} [G_{t-s}(x, y) \sigma(u(s, y))]^2 ds dy < \infty \quad \text{a.s.},$$

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## Main result

**Notation.** For  $\alpha \in ]0, 1]$ ,

$$\mathbb{C}_0^\alpha := \left\{ f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } f(0) = f(1) = 0 \text{ and} \right. \\ \left. \|f\|_{\mathbb{C}_0^\alpha} := \sup_{0 \leq x < y \leq 1} \frac{|f(y) - f(x)|}{|y - x|^\alpha} < \infty \right\}.$$

Theorem 2 (D., Khoshnevisan & Zhang (2017))

Suppose that:

- i.  $u_0 \in \cup_{0 < \alpha \leq 1} \mathbb{C}_0^\alpha$ ;
- ii.  $b$  and  $\sigma$  are locally Lipschitz functions such that

$$|b(z)| = O(|z| \log |z|) \quad \text{and} \quad |\sigma(z)| = o\left(|z|(\log |z|)^{1/4}\right), \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow \pm\infty.$$

Then the stochastic heat equation (1) has a random field solution  $u$  in  $C(\mathbb{R}_+ \times [0, 1])$  (global solution), and this solution is unique. In particular,  $u$  satisfies

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |u(t, x)| < \infty \quad \text{a.s. for all } T \in ]0, \infty[.$$

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Case where  $b$  and  $\sigma$  are globally Lipschitz

**Notation.** For a globally Lipschitz function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , there are constants  $c(f)$  and  $L(f)$  such that

$$|f(z)| \leq c(f) + L(f)|z|, \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**Remark.** One possible choice for  $L(f)$  is the Lipschitz constant  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{C}_0^1}$  of  $f$ . In this case, one can take  $c(f) = |f(0)|$ . Often, the smallest possible value of  $L(f)$  is smaller than  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{C}_0^1}$ .

## Proposition

Let  $u$  be the solution of (1). There exists  $A < +\infty$  such that, for all  $t \geq 0$ , for all  $k \in [2, \sqrt{L(b)}/L(\sigma)^2]$ ,

$$\sup_{x \in [0,1]} \mathbb{E} (|u(t, x)|^k) \leq \left[ A \left( \|u_0\|_{L^\infty} + \frac{c(b)}{L(b)} + \frac{c(\sigma)}{\sqrt{L(\sigma)}} \right) \cdot \exp(AL(b)t) \right]^k \quad (3)$$

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# Proof of Proposition

$(u_n)$ : sequence of Picard iterates used to construct the solution of (1).

Define

$$\mathcal{N}_{\beta,k}(u_n) := \sup_{t \geq 0} \sup_{x \in [0,1]} \left( e^{-\beta t} \|u_n(t, x)\|_k \right).$$

By a direct calculation:

$$\mathcal{N}_{\beta,k}(u_{n+1}) \leq C_{\beta,k} + L_{\beta,k} \mathcal{N}_{\beta,k}(u_n), \quad (4)$$

where

$$L_{\beta,k} := c \max \left( \frac{L(b)}{\beta}, \frac{k^{1/2} L(\sigma)}{\beta^{1/4}} \right)$$

and  $C_{\beta,k}$  is the constant on the r.h.s. of (3).

Choose  $\beta = 16c^4 L(b)$ . Then

$$L_{16c^4 L(b),k} \leq \max \left( \frac{1}{16}, \frac{k^{1/2} L(\sigma)}{2[L(b)]^{1/4}} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad (5)$$

since  $2 \leq k \leq \sqrt{L(b)}/L(\sigma)^2$ . Then (4) and (5) imply:

$$\mathcal{N}_{16c^4 L(b),k}(u) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{N}_{16c^4 L(b),k}(u_n) \leq 2C_{\beta,k}.$$

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## Uniform moment bounds

Let  $u$  be the solution of (1).

## Theorem 3

Suppose  $u_0 \in \mathbb{C}_0^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in ]0, 1]$ . Let  $w = \max(12, 6/\alpha)$ , fix  $T_0 > 0$ .

Assume that  $\sqrt{L(b)} > wL(\sigma)^2$ .

Then there exists  $A < \infty$  such that, for all  $T \in ]0, T_0]$ , for all  $k \in ]w, \sqrt{L(b)}/L(\sigma)^2]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left( \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |u(t, x)|^k \right) \\ & \leq \left[ A(1 \vee T)^{(1 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \wedge \frac{1}{4})} \left( \|u_0\|_{\mathbb{C}_0^\alpha} + k^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_1 + k^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_2 \mathcal{M}_3 e^{A L(b) T} \right) \right]^k, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where

$$\mathcal{M}_1 := c(b) + c(\sigma); \quad \mathcal{M}_2 := L(b) + L(\sigma); \quad \mathcal{M}_3 := \|u_0\|_{L^\infty} + \frac{c(b)}{L(b)} + \frac{c(\sigma)}{L(\sigma)}.$$

## Idea of proof of Theorem 3

By the Dirichlet boundary condition,

$$|u(t, x)| = |u(t, x) - u(t, 0)|.$$

Do a careful estimate of  $E[|u(t, x) - u(s, y)|^k]$ , keeping track of Lipschitz constants:

$$E[|u(t, x) - u(s, y)|^k] \leq \left[ A \left( \|u_0\|_{C_0^\alpha} + k^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_1 + k^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_2 \mathcal{M}_3 e^{A L(b) T} \right) \right]^k \\ \times \left( |t - s|^{\frac{\alpha}{2} \wedge \frac{1}{4}} + |x - y|^{\alpha \wedge \frac{1}{2}} \right)^k$$

In order to get the supremum inside the expectation, use an [anisotropic Kolmogorov Continuity Theorem](#) [D., Khoshnevisan & E. Nualart (2007)]:

$$E \left[ \sup_{\substack{(t,x) \neq (s,y) \\ s \leq t \leq T}} \frac{|u(t, x) - u(s, y)|^k}{\left( |t - s|^{\frac{\alpha}{2} \wedge \frac{1}{4}} + |x - y|^{\alpha \wedge \frac{1}{2}} \right)^{k\delta - w}} \right] \leq \text{r.h.s. of (6)}$$

for  $\delta \in ]\frac{w}{k}, 1[$ .

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## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 2

Recall the statement:

Theorem (D., Khoshnevisan & Zhang (2017))

Suppose that  $u_0 \in \cup_{0 < \alpha \leq 1} \mathbb{C}_0^\alpha$ , and  $b$  and  $\sigma$  are locally Lipschitz functions such that

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Then the stochastic heat equation (1) has a unique (global solution).

*Proof.* Define the truncation of the function  $b(z)$ :

$$b_N(z) := \begin{cases} b(-N) & \text{if } z < -N, \\ b(z) & \text{if } |z| \leq N, \\ b(N) & \text{if } z > N. \end{cases}$$

$\sigma_N(z)$  is defined similarly. Then  $b_N$  and  $\sigma_N$  are globally Lipschitz.



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## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 2 (continued)

In the spde, replace  $b$  by  $b_N$  and  $\sigma$  by  $\sigma_N$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u_N(t, x) + b_N(u_N(t, x)) + \sigma(u_N(t, x)) \dot{W}(t, x), \quad (7)$$

with same b.c. and i.c. Then (7) has globally Lipschitz coefficients.

Suppose (for simplicity) that  $b(z) = \theta_1 + \theta_2 |z| \log_+ |z|$ . Then

$$L(b_N) = \theta_2(1 + \log N), \quad L(\sigma_N) = o((\log N)^{1/4}).$$

In particular,

$$\frac{\sqrt{L(b_N)}}{(L(\sigma_N))^2} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow +\infty} +\infty.$$

Define

$$\tau_N^1 = \inf\{t \geq 0 : \sup_{x \in [0,1]} |u_N(t, x)| > N\}.$$

Will show:

$$\tau_\infty^1 := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \tau_N^1 = +\infty \quad \text{a.s.}$$

## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 2 (continued)

In the spde, replace  $b$  by  $b_N$  and  $\sigma$  by  $\sigma_N$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u_N(t, x) + b_N(u_N(t, x)) + \sigma(u_N(t, x)) \dot{W}(t, x), \quad (7)$$

with same b.c. and i.c. Then (7) has globally Lipschitz coefficients.

Suppose (for simplicity) that  $b(z) = \theta_1 + \theta_2 |z| \log_+ |z|$ . Then

$$L(b_N) = \theta_2(1 + \log N), \quad L(\sigma_N) = o((\log N)^{1/4}).$$

In particular,

$$\frac{\sqrt{L(b_N)}}{(L(\sigma_N))^2} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow +\infty} +\infty.$$

Define

$$\tau_N^1 = \inf\{t \geq 0 : \sup_{x \in [0,1]} |u_N(t, x)| > N\}.$$

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Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then

$$P\{\tau_N^1 < \varepsilon\} = P\left\{\sup_{t \in [0, \varepsilon]} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |u_N(t, x)| > N\right\}.$$

By Chebychev, this is

$$\leq \frac{1}{N^k} E \left[ \sup_{t \in [0, \varepsilon]} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |u_N(t, x)|^k \right] \quad (k > w = \max(12, \frac{6}{\alpha}))$$

By Theorem 3, this is

$$\leq \frac{1}{N^k} \left[ A \|u_0\|_{C_0^\alpha} (B + \log N) e^{A\varepsilon \log N} \right]^k \equiv C (B + \log N)^k N^{k(A\varepsilon - 1)}$$

$\rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ , if  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 > 0$  is small enough.

Therefore,  $\tau_\infty^1 \geq \varepsilon_0 > 0$  a.s.

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## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 2 (continued)

Therefore, non-explosion is guaranteed for  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  units of time.

By the Markov property, can restart at time  $\varepsilon_0$ : non-explosion is guaranteed for  $2\varepsilon_0$  units of time,  $\dots$ ,  $k\varepsilon_0$  units of time, for all  $k$ .

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## Another formulation of long-term existence

$L^2$ -initial condition:  $u_0 \in L^2[0, 1] =: \mathbb{L}^2$

Consider  $\mathbb{L}_{loc}^2$ -solutions: solutions up to a stopping time  $\tau$  (variational formulation of (1)).

## Theorem 4

Suppose in addition that  $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is bounded, and  $|b(z)| = O(|z| \log |z|)$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ . Then, every  $\mathbb{L}_{loc}^2$ -solution  $u$  of (1) is a long-time solution:

$$\sup_{t \in [0, \tau \wedge T]} \int_0^1 |u(t, x)|^2 dx < \infty \quad \text{a.s. for every } T \in [0, \infty[.$$

## Remark

(a) Suppose  $\tau$  is a maximal time up to which the solution can be constructed:

$$\sup_{t \in [0, \tau[} \|u(t)\|_{L^2[0,1]} = \infty \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Then Theorem 4 implies that  $\tau = \infty$  a.s.:  $\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|u(t)\|_{L^2[0,1]} < \infty$  a.s. for all  $T > 0$ .

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## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 4

Define

$$\tau(R) := \begin{cases} \inf \{t \in [0, \tau[: \|u(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2} > R\} & \text{if } \{\dots\} \neq \emptyset, \\ \tau & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To prove that  $P\{\sup_{t < \tau \wedge T} \|u(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2} = \infty\} = 0$ , it suffices to prove that

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} P\{\tau(R) < \tau \wedge T\} = 0 \quad \text{for all } T > 0. \quad (8)$$

Define

$$v_R(t, x) = \int_{[0, t] \times [0, 1]} G_{t-s}(x, y) \sigma(u(s \wedge \tau(R), y)) W(ds dy),$$

and

$$d_R := u - v_R,$$

so that on  $\{\tau > t\}$ ,

$$\dot{d}_R(t) = \frac{1}{2} d_R''(t) + b(v_R(t) + d_R(t)), \quad (9)$$

subject to initial condition  $d_R(0) = u_0$  and Dirichlet b.c.

## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 4 (continued)

By the Kolmogorov continuity theorem,  $v_R$  has a jointly continuous version.

Define

$$\tau_M(R) := \inf \left\{ t > 0 : \sup_{x \in [0,1]} |v_R(t, x)| > M \right\} \quad M > 0.$$

Then

$$\sup_{R>0} P \{ \tau_M(R) < T \} \leq \sup_{R>0} \frac{\mathbb{E}(\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |v_R(t, x)|)}{M} \leq \frac{A_T}{M}. \quad (10)$$

Define

$$D(t) := d_R(t \wedge \tau(R) \wedge \tau_M(R)), \quad V(t) := v_R(t \wedge \tau(R) \wedge \tau_M(R)) \quad [0 \leq t \leq T],$$

and the Lyapunov function [Fang & Zhang (2005)]

$$\Phi(r) := \exp \left( \int_0^r \frac{dz}{1 + z \log_+ z} \right) \quad [r > 0].$$

Notice that

$$\Phi'(r)[1 + r \log_+ r] = \Phi(r) \quad \text{for all } r \geq 0. \quad (11)$$

## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 4 (continued)

By the Chain Rule:

$$\Phi(\|D(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) = \Phi(\|u_0\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) + \int_0^t \Phi'(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \frac{d}{ds} \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 ds$$

Since

$$\frac{d}{ds} \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 = 2 \langle \dot{D}(s), D(s) \rangle_{\mathbb{L}^2} = 2 \langle \frac{1}{2} D''(s) + b(V(s) + D(s)), D(s) \rangle_{\mathbb{L}^2},$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\|D(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) &= \Phi(\|u_0\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) - \int_0^t \Phi'(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \|D'(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 ds \\ &\quad + 2 \int_0^t \Phi'(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \langle b(V(s) + D(s)), D(s) \rangle_{\mathbb{L}^2} ds. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

From the  $L \log L$  growth of  $b$ , can deduce

$$\langle b(V(s) + D(s)), D(s) \rangle_{\mathbb{L}^2} \leq \bar{C}(b, M) \left\{ \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \log_{\mathbb{L}} + \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 + 1 \right\}.$$

Consequence of Gross' log-Sobolev inequality:

$$\|h\|_{\mathbb{L}^2 \log_{\mathbb{L}}}^2 \leq \varepsilon \|h'\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 + K_\varepsilon \|h\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 + \|h\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \log_+ (\|h\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) + e^{-1},$$

with  $\varepsilon := 1/(2\bar{C}(b, M))$  to get

$$\langle b(V(s) + D(s)), D(s) \rangle_{\mathbb{L}^2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|D'(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 + c_* \left\{ \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 + \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \log_+ (\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) + 1 \right\}.$$

## Ideas in the proof of Theorem 4 (continued)

Combine with (12) to get rid of the term with  $D'(s)$ :

$$\Phi(\|D(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \leq \Phi(\|u_0\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) + C^* \int_0^t \Phi'(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \{1 + \|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \log_+(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2)\} ds.$$

Combine with the property (11) of  $\Phi$  to get

$$\Phi(\|D(t)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) \leq \Phi(\|u_0\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) + C \int_0^t \Phi(\|D(s)\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2) ds, \quad (13)$$

From Gronwall's inequality:

$$\sup_{R>0} \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi \left( \|d_R(T \wedge \tau(R) \wedge \tau_M(R))\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \right) \right] \leq C(b, M, T). \quad (14)$$

# Conclusion

Finally, we prove (8):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P \{ \tau(R) < \tau \wedge T \} \\
 & \leq P \{ \tau(R) < \tau \wedge T \leq \tau_M(R) \} + P \{ \tau_M(R) < T \} \\
 & \leq P \left\{ \Phi \left( \|d(T \wedge \tau(R) \wedge \tau_M(R))\|_{\mathbb{L}^2}^2 \right) \geq \Phi((R - M)^2) \right\} + \frac{A_T}{M} \quad (\text{by (10)}) \\
 & \leq \frac{C(b, M, T)}{\Phi((R - M)^2)} + \frac{A_T}{M}. \quad (\text{by (14)})
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $R \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $M \rightarrow \infty$ , to obtain (8).

Theorem 4 is proved. □

**Conclusion.** The Bonder-Groisman condition is essentially optimal!



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