REFINED REGULARITY FOR THE BLOW-UP SET AT NON CHARACTERISTIC POINTS FOR THE VECTOR-VALUED SEMILINEAR WAVE EQUATION

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider a blow-up solution for the complex-valued semilinear wave equation with power non-linearity in one space dimension. We show that the set of non characteristic points \( I_0 \) is open and that the blow-up curve is of class \( C^{1,\mu} \) on this set. In order to prove this result, we introduce a Liouville Theorem for that equation. Our results hold also for the case of solutions with values in \( \mathbb{R}^m \) with \( m \geq 3 \), with the same proof.

1. Introduction.

1.1. The problem and known results. We consider the following complex-valued one-dimensional semilinear wave equation

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial_t^2 u &= \partial_x^2 u + |u|^{p-1}u, \quad p > 1 \\
u(0) &= u_0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_t(0) = u_1,
\end{align*}
\]

where \( u(t): x \in \mathbb{R} \to u(x,t) \in \mathbb{R}^m \) with \( m \geq 2 \), \( u_0 \in H^1_{\text{loc},u} \) and \( u_1 \in L^2_{\text{loc},u} \), with

\[
||v||^2_{L^2_{\text{loc},u}} = \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \int_{|x-a| < 1} |v(x)|^2 dx \quad \text{and} \quad ||v||^2_{H^1_{\text{loc},u}} = ||v||^2_{L^2_{\text{loc},u}} + ||\nabla v||^2_{L^2_{\text{loc},u}}.
\]

In order to avoid complicated notations, we will state our results and give our proofs only in the case

\[ m = 2. \]

In that case, it is convenient to assume that \( u(x,t) \in \mathbb{C} \). In fact, the interested reader may find in [6] the necessary formalism to extend the proof to the case \( m \geq 3 \).

The Cauchy problem for equation (1) in the space \( H^1_{\text{loc},u} \times L^2_{\text{loc},u} \) follows from the finite speed of propagation and the wellposedness in \( H^1 \times L^2 \). See for instance Ginibre, Soffer and Velo [9], Ginibre and Velo [10], Lindblad and Sogge [14] (for the local in time wellposedness in \( H^1 \times L^2 \)). Existence of blow-up solutions follows from ODE techniques or the energy-based blow-up criterion of [13].

More blow-up results can be found in Caffarelli and Friedman [7], Alinhac [1] and [2], Kichenassamy and Littman [12, 11] Shatah and Struwe [25].

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The real case (in one space dimension) has been understood completely, in a series of papers by Merle and Zaag \cite{17, 18, 20} and \cite{21} and in Côté and Zaag \cite{8} (see also the note \cite{19}). Recently, the authors give an extension to higher dimensions in \cite{23} and \cite{22}, where the blow-up behavior is given, together with some stability results.

For other types of nonlinearities, we mention our recent contribution with Masmoudi and Zaag in \cite{5}, where we study the semilinear wave equation with exponential nonlinearity. In particular, we give the blow-up rate with some estimates.

In \cite{4}, the author considers the complex-valued solution of (1), characterizes all stationary solutions and gives a trapping result. In this paper, we aim at studying the structure of the set of non characteristic points and the regularity of the blow-up curve and the phase.

Let us first introduce some notations before stating our results.

If $u$ is a blow-up solution of (1), we define (see for example Alinhac \cite{1}) a continuous curve $\Gamma$ as the graph of a function $x \to T(x)$ such that the domain of definition of $u$ (or the maximal influence domain of $u$) is

$$D_u = \{(x,t) | t < T(x)\}. \tag{2}$$

From the finite speed of propagation, $T$ is a 1-Lipschitz function. The time $\bar{T} = \inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}} T(x)$ and the graph $\Gamma$ are called (respectively) the blow-up time and the blow-up graph of $u$.

Let us introduce the following non-degeneracy condition for $\Gamma$. If we introduce for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $t \leq T(x)$ and $\delta > 0$, the cone

$$C_{x,t,\delta} = \{(\xi, \tau) \neq (x,t) | \tau \leq t - \delta |\xi - x|\},$$

then our non-degeneracy condition is the following: $x_0$ is a non-characteristic point if

$$\exists \delta_0 = \delta(x_0) \in (0, 1) \text{ and } t_0(x_0) < T(x_0) \text{ such that } u \text{ is defined on } C_{x_0,T(x_0),\delta_0} \cap \{t \geq t_0\}. \tag{3}$$

If condition (3) is not true, then we call $x_0$ a characteristic point. Already when $u$ is real-valued, we know from \cite{20} and \cite{8} that there exist blow-up solutions with characteristic points.

We denote by $I_0$ the set of non characteristic points.

Given some $(x_0, T_0)$ such that $0 < T_0 \leq T(x_0)$, we introduce the following self-similar change of variables:

$$w_{x_0,T_0}(y, s) = (T_0 - t)^{\frac{2}{p-1}} u(x, t), \quad y = \frac{x - x_0}{T_0 - t}, \quad s = -\log(T_0 - t). \tag{4}$$

If $T_0 = T(x_0)$, then we write $w_{x_0}$ instead of $w_{x_0,T_0}$. This change of variables transforms the backward light cone with vertex $(x_0, T(x_0))$ into the infinite cylinder $(y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [-\log T(x_0), +\infty)$. The function $w_{x_0}$ (we write $w$ for simplicity) satisfies the following equation for all $|y| < 1$ and $s \geq -\log T_0$:

$$\partial^2_s w = \mathcal{L} w - \frac{2(p+1)}{(p-1)^2} w + |w|^{p-1} w - \frac{p+3}{p-1} \partial_s w - 2y \partial_y w, \tag{5}$$

where $\mathcal{L} w = \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_y (\rho (1 - y^2) \partial_y w)$ and $\rho(y) = (1 - y^2)^{\frac{2}{p-1}}$. \tag{6}
This equation will be studied in the space
\[
\mathcal{H} = \{ q \in H^1_{\text{loc}} \times L^2_{\text{loc}}((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}) \mid \| q \|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = \int_{-1}^1 \left[ |q_1|^2 + |q_1|^2(1 - y^2) + |q_2|^2 \right] \rho \, dy < +\infty \},
\]
which is the energy space for \( w \). Note that \( \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 \times L^2_p \) where
\[
\mathcal{H}_0 = \{ r \in H^1_{\text{loc}}((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}) \mid \| r \|_{\mathcal{H}_0}^2 = \int_{-1}^1 \left( |r'|^2(1 - y^2) + |r|^2 \right) \rho \, dy < +\infty \}.
\]
Let us define
\[
E(w, \partial_x w) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2} \left[ \partial_x w \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \partial_y w \right]^2 (1 - y^2) + \frac{p + 1}{(p - 1)^2} |w|^2 - \frac{1}{p + 1} |w|^{p+1} \rho dy. \tag{8}
\]
By the argument of Antonini and Merle \cite{3}, which works straightforwardly in the complex case, we see that \( E \) is a Lyapunov functional for equation (5). Similarly, some arguments of the real case, can be adapted with no problems to the complex case, others don’t.

Let us first briefly state our main result in \cite{4}, then we give the main results of this paper.

In \cite{4}, we proved the existence of the blow-up profile at non-characteristic points. More precisely, this is our statement (see Theorem 4 page 5895 in \cite{4}):

There exist positive \( \mu_0 \) and \( C_0 \) such that if \( u \) a solution of (1) with blow-up curve \( \Gamma : \{ x \to T(x) \} \) and \( x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \) is non-characteristic (in the sense (3)), then there exists \( d(x_0) \in (-1, 1) \) and \( \theta(x_0) \in \mathbb{R} \), \( s_0(x_0) \geq -\log T(x_0) \) such that for all \( s \geq s_0(x_0) \):

\[
\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_{x_0}(s) \\ \partial_x w_{x_0}(s) \end{pmatrix} - e^{i\theta(x_0)} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d(x_0), \ldots) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C_0 e^{-\mu_0(s - s(x_0))}. \tag{9}
\]

where \( \kappa(d, y) \) is given by the following:

\[
\forall (d, y) \in (-1, 1)^2, \quad \kappa(d, y) = \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - d^2)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}}{(1 + dy)^\frac{p+1}{2}} \text{ and } \kappa_0 = \left( \frac{2(p + 1)}{(p - 1)^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{p+1}}, \tag{10}
\]

Moreover, we have

\[
E(w(s), \partial_x w(s)) \geq E(\kappa_0, 0) \text{ as } s \to +\infty
\]

and

\[
\left\| w_{x_0}(s) - e^{i\theta(x_0)} \kappa(d(x_0)) \right\|_{H^1((-1, 1))} + \left\| \partial_x w_{x_0}(s) \right\|_{L^2(-1, 1)} \to 0 \text{ as } s \to +\infty.
\]

In the real case, relying on the existence of a blow-up profile, together with Liouville type Theorem, Merle and Zaag \cite{18} could prove the openness of the set of non-characteristic points on \( I_0 \) and the \( C^1 \) regularity of the blow-up curve restricted to \( I_0 \). Later, in \cite{24} Nouaili improved this by showing the \( C^{1, \alpha} \) regularity of \( T \). In this paper, we aim at showing the same result. In fact, the situation is more delicate since we have to deal with the regularity of the phase, a new feature with respect to the real case. More precisely, this is our main result:

**Theorem 1.1** (Regularity of the blow-up set and continuity of the blow-up profile on \( I_0 \)). Consider \( u \) a solution of (1) with blow-up curve \( \Gamma : \{ x \to T(x) \} \). Then, the set of non characteristic points \( I_0 \) is open and \( T(x) \) is of class \( C^{1, \mu_0} \) and \( \theta \) is of
class \(C^{\mu_0}\) on that set. Moreover, for all \(x \in I_0\), \(T'(x) = d(x) \in (-1, 1)\) on connected components of \(I_0\), where \(d(x)\) and \(\theta(x)\) are such that (9) holds.

Note that the holder parameter \(\mu_0\) is the same as the parameter displayed in the exponential convergence to the profile given in (9).

The proof of this theorem relies on this Liouville Theorem:

**Theorem 1.2** (A Liouville Theorem for equation (1)). Consider \(u(x,t)\) a solution to equation (1) defined on the cone \(C_{x_0,T_0,\delta}\), (3) such that for all \(t < T^*\),

\[
(T^* - t)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{||u(t)||_{L^2(B(x^*, \frac{r^*}{\delta}))}}{(T^* - t)^{1/2}} + (T^* - t)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{||\nabla u(t)||_{L^2(B(x^*, \frac{r^*}{\delta}))}}{(T^* - t)^{1/2}} \leq C^*,
\]

for some \((x_0, T_0) \in \mathbb{R}^2\), \(\delta \in (0,1)\) and \(C^* > 0\). Then, either \(u \equiv 0\) or \(u\) can be extended to a function (still denoted by \(u\)) defined in

\[
((x,t)| t < T_0 + d_0(x-x^*) | C_{x_0,T_0,\delta}, \text{ by } u(x,t) = e^{i\theta_0} \kappa_0 (\frac{1}{(T_0 - t + d_0(x-x^*))})^{\frac{1}{2}},
\]

for some \(T_0 \geq T^*\), \(d_0 \in [-\delta_*, \delta_*]\) and \(\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}\), where \(\kappa_0\) defined in (10).

Applying the self-similar variables transformation (4), we get this equivalent Theorem:

**Theorem 1.3** (A Liouville Theorem for equation (5)). Consider \(w(y,s)\) a solution to equation (5) defined for all \((y,s) \in (\frac{1}{\delta_*}, \frac{1}{\delta_*}) \times \mathbb{R}\) such that for all \(s \in \mathbb{R}\),

\[
||w_{x_0}||_{H^1(\frac{1}{\delta_*}, \frac{1}{\delta_*})} + ||\partial_s w_{x_0}(s)||_{L^2(\frac{1}{\delta_*}, \frac{1}{\delta_*})} \leq C^*
\]

for some \(\delta_* \in (0,1)\) and \(C^* > 0\). Then, either \(w \equiv 0\) or \(w\) can be extended to a function (still denoted by \(w\)) defined in

\[
((y,s)| -1 - T_0e^s < d_0y | -\frac{1}{\delta_*}, \frac{1}{\delta_*}) \times \mathbb{R} \text{ by } w(y,s) = e^{i\theta_0} \kappa_0 (\frac{1}{(1 + T_0e^s + d_0y)})^{\frac{1}{2}},
\]

for some \(T_0 \geq T^*\), \(d_0 \in [-\delta_*, \delta_*]\) and \(\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}\), where \(\kappa_0\) defined in (10).

For the proofs, we essentially follow the ideas developed in [18] together with [24]. However, we insist on the fact that our paper is not just a simple adaptation of the previous papers; in fact, we have to handle the phase and its regularity, and this turns out to be delicate point.

This paper is organized as follows: In section 2, we give the proof of Theorem 1.1 assuming the Liouville Theorem. In section 3, we state briefly some previous results for the complex-valued solution of (1), then give the outline of the proof of the Liouville Theorem.

2. Regularity of the blow-up curve. In this section, we give the outline of the proof of Theorem 1.1 assuming the Liouville Theorem. For the reader’s convenience, we recall from [18] and [24] the main steps insisting on the delicate points coming from the control of the phase. In order to do so, we proceed in 4 steps:
- In Step 1, we assume Theorem 1.2, and we study the differentiability of the blow-up curve at a given non characteristic point.
- In Step 2, we give two geometrical results for a non characteristic point.
- In Step 3, we use the results of the two previous parts to show that \( I_0 \) is open and that \( T \) is \( C^1 \) on this set.
- In Step 4, adapting the strategy of Nouaili [24], we refine the result of Step 3 and prove that \( T \) is of class \( C^{1,\mu_0} \) and the phase \( \theta \) is of class \( C^{\mu_0} \) on \( I_0 \).

\( \rightsquigarrow \) **Step 1**: Differentiability of the blow-up curve at a given non characteristic point.

In this step, we recall the result of the real case (Proposition 2 in [18]) which remains valid in the complex case with no change. For the reader convenience we introduce the result and we give the outline of the proof.

**Proposition 1** (Differentiability of the blow-up curve at a given non characteristic point). If \( x_0 \) is a non characteristic point, then \( T(x) \) is differentiable at \( x_0 \) and \( T'(x_0) = d(x_0) \) where \( d(x_0) \) is such that (9) holds.

**Proof of Proposition 1.** From translation invariance, we can assume that \( x_0 = T(x_0) = 0 \), we assume also that \( \theta(0) = 1 \). In order to prove that \( T(x) \) is differentiable when \( x = 0 \) and that \( T'(0) = d(0) \), we proceed by contradiction. From the fact that \( T(x) \) is 1-Lipschitz, we assume that there is a sequence \( x_n \) such that

\[
 x_n \to 0 \text{ and } T(x_n) \to d(0) + \lambda \text{ with } \lambda \neq 0 \text{ as } n \to \infty. \quad (15)
\]

Up to extracting a subsequence and to considering \( u(-x, t) \) (also solution to (1)), we can assume that \( x_n > 0 \).

We recall the following

**Proposition 2.** Let \( \delta_1 = \frac{1+\delta_0'}{2} \). For \( \sigma'_{\delta_1} = -\log \left( \frac{\delta_1(T(x_{n\,}) + \delta_0' x_{n\,})}{\delta_1 - \delta_0} \right) \), we have

\[
 \frac{\partial_x w_{\pm}(\sigma'_{\delta_1})}{\partial_x w_{\pm}(\sigma'_{\delta_1})} - \left( \frac{w_{\pm}(\sigma^*)}{\partial_x w_{\pm}(\sigma^*)} \right) \to 0 \text{ as } n \to \infty.
\]

where \( \pm = \text{sgn}\lambda \),

\[
 \sigma^* = \log \left( \frac{|\lambda| (\delta_1 - \delta_0)}{\delta_1 (\lambda + d(0) + \delta_0')} \right) \text{ and } w_{\pm}(y, s) = \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - d(0)^2)^{\frac{\pm s}{2}}}{(1 \pm e^s + d(0)y)^{\frac{\pm s}{2}}},
\]

is a solution to (5).

**Proof.** The proof is the same as in the real case (see page 63 in [18]), one can adapt it without difficulty. \( \square \)

Based on the sign of \( \lambda \), we discuss two cases:

**Case** \( \lambda < 0 \): Here, we reach a contradiction using Proposition 2 and the fact that \( u(x, t) \) cannot be extended beyond its maximal influence domain \( D_u \) defined by (2).

**Case** \( \lambda > 0 \): Here, a contradiction follows from the fact that \( w_{\pm}(y, s) \) exists for all \( (y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [-\log T(x_{n\,}), +\infty) \) and satisfies a blow-up criterion (given in Theorem 2 page 1147 in the paper of Antonini and Merle [3], which is also available for a complex-valued solution) at the same time.

Thus, (15) does not hold and \( T(x) \) is differentiable at \( x = 0 \) with \( T'(0) = d(0) \). This concludes the proof of Proposition 1. \( \square \)

\( \rightsquigarrow \) **Step 2**: Openness of the set of \( x \) such that (9) holds

We have from the dynamical study in self-similar variables (4) in [17] and [18]:
Lemma 2.1 (Convergence in self-similar variables for $x$ close to 0). For all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\eta$ such that if $|x| < \eta$ and $x$ is non characteristic, then, (9) holds for $w_x$ with $|d(x) - d(0)| \leq \epsilon$ and $|\theta(x) - \theta(0)| \leq \epsilon$.

Proof. We proceed as in the real case (Lemma 2.6 in [18]) with an additional control of the phase $\theta$.

As $0$ is non-characteristic, (9) holds, so $(w_0(s), \partial_s w_0(s))$ converges to $e^{i\theta(0)}\kappa(d(0),.)$ as $s \to \infty$ in the energy space $H$.

-For a fixed $s$, we have $(w_x(y, s), \partial_s w_x(y, s)) \to (w_0(y, s), \partial_s w_0(y, s))$ in $H$. In addition, from the continuity of solutions to equation (5) with respect to initial data, we have that for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exits $s_0(\epsilon) \geq s_1$ and $\eta(\epsilon) > 0$ such that for all $x \in (-\eta(\epsilon), \eta(\epsilon))$,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(., s) \\
\partial_s w_x(., s) \end{pmatrix} - e^{i\theta(0)} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d(0),.) \\
0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{H} \leq \epsilon.$$

-For a small enough fixed $\epsilon > 0$, we have that for all $x \in (-\eta(\epsilon), \eta(\epsilon))$, there exists $d(x)$ such that

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_x(y, s) \\
\partial_s w_x(y, s) \end{pmatrix} - e^{i\theta(x)} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(d(x), y) \\
0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{H} \to 0 \text{ as } s \to \infty,$$

where

$$|d(x) - d(0)| \leq C\epsilon \text{ and } |\theta(x) - \theta(0)| \leq C\epsilon.$$

We claim:

**Lemma 2.2** (The slope of $T(x)$ around 0 is less than $(1 + |d(0)|)/2$). It holds that

$$\forall x, y \in \left[-\frac{\eta}{10}, \frac{\eta}{10}\right], |T(x) - T(y)| \leq \frac{1 + |d(0)|}{2} |x - y|. \quad (16)$$

Proof. The proof in the real case stays valid without any change in the complex case. In fact, we never use the profile of $w$, we use only a geometrical construction. For more details see Lemma 2.7 in [18].

$\square$

$\Rightarrow$ Step 3: $C^1$ regularity of the blow-up set

Let $x_0$ be a non characteristic point. One can assume that $x_0 = T(x_0) = 0$ from translation invariance. From [4] and Proposition 1, we know (up to replacing $u(x, t)$ by $-u(x, t)$) that (9) holds with some $d(0) \in (-1, 1)$ and $\theta(0) = 1$, and that $T(x)$ is differentiable at 0 with

$$T'(0) = d(0). \quad (17)$$

Using Lemma 2.2, we see that for all $x \in \left[-\frac{\eta}{20}, \frac{\eta}{20}\right]$, $x$ is non characteristic in the sense (3). Using Proposition 1, we see that $T$ is differentiable at $x$ and $T'(x) = d(x)$ where $d(x)$ is such that (9) holds for $w_x$. Using Lemma 2.1, we see from (17) that $T'(x) = d(x) \to d(0) = T'(0)$ as $x \to 0$ and $\theta(x) = 1$.

$\Rightarrow$ Step 4: $C^{1,\mu_0}$ regularity of the Blow-up curve and $C^{\mu_0}$ regularity the phase $\theta$.

In this step, we conclude the proof of Theorem 1.1. In order to do so, we use in addition to the techniques used in the real case in [24], which remains valid in our case, a decomposition into real and imaginary parts in some inequalities, which gives a new information concerning the regularity of the phase.

We have the following result:
Lemma 2.3 (Locally uniform convergence to the blow-up profile). There exist positive $\mu_0 = \mu_0(p)$ and $C_0 = C_0(p)$ such that for all $x_0 \in I_0$, there exist $\delta > 0$, $s^* \in \mathbb{R}$, such that for all $X \in (x_0 - \delta, x_0 + \delta)$ and $s \geq s^*$,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} w_X(s) \\ \partial_s w_X(s) \end{pmatrix} - e^{i\theta(x_0)} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(T'(X), \cdot) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_{H} \leq C_0 e^{-\mu_0(s - s(x_0))}. \quad (18)$$

Proof. The same idea used in the real case can be adapted to the complex case without any difficulty. It is to use the result of Lemma 2.1 to prove that the convergence in (9) is locally uniform with respect to $x_0$. For more details see Lemma 2.4 in [24].

Translated back to the variables $u(x, t)$ and using the Hardy-Sobolev type inequality (Lemma 2.2 [17]), we get the following:

Lemma 2.4. There exist positive $\mu_0 = \mu_0(p)$ and $C = C(p)$ such that for all $x_0 \in I_0$, there exist $\delta > 0$, $0 < t^*(x_0) < \inf_{|x-x_0| \leq \delta} T(X)$, such that for all $X \in (x_0 - \delta, x_0 + \delta)$ and $t \in (t^*, T(X))$,

$$\sup_{|\xi - X| \leq \frac{1}{4}(T(X) - t)} \left| u(\xi, t) - e^{i\theta(x_0)} \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - T'(X)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-2}}}{(T(X) - t + T'(X)(\xi - X))^\frac{2}{p}} \right| \leq C(T(X) - t)^{\mu_0 - \frac{2}{p}}. \quad (19)$$

Let $x_0$ in $I_0$, and consider an arbitrary $\sigma \geq \frac{3}{4}$. For $\delta > 0$, $x \in (x_0 - \sigma, x_0 + \sigma)$, we define $t = t(x, \sigma)$ by:

$$\frac{|x_0 - x|}{T(x_0) - t} = \frac{1}{\sigma}. \quad (20)$$

On the one hand, using (19) with $X = \xi = x$, we get

$$\left| u(x, t) - e^{i\theta(x)} \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - T'(x)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-2}}}{(T(x) - t)^\frac{2}{p}} \right| \leq C(T(x) - t)^{\mu_0 - \frac{2}{p}} \quad (21)$$

On the other hand, using (19) $X = x_0$ and $\xi = x$, we get

$$\left| u(x, t) - e^{i\theta(x_0)} \kappa_0 \frac{(1 - T'(x_0)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-2}}}{(T(x_0) - t + T'(x_0)(x - x_0))^\frac{2}{p}} \right| \leq C(T(x) - t)^{\mu_0 - \frac{2}{p}} \quad (22)$$

From (21), (22) and (20) we derive

$$\left| e^{i(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x))} - \frac{(1 - T'(x_0)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-1}}}{(T'(x_0) \text{sign}(x - x_0) + \sigma)^\frac{2}{p-1}} \right| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}, \quad (23)$$

where $\text{sign}(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$, for $x \neq 0$.

We separate the real and imaginary part in (23),

$$|\sin(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x))\frac{(1 - T'(x_0)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-1}}}{(T'(x_0) \text{sign}(x - x_0) + \sigma)^\frac{2}{p-1}}| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}, \quad (24)$$

and,

$$|\cos(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x))\frac{(1 - T'(x_0)^2)^{\frac{1}{p'-1}}}{(T'(x_0) \text{sign}(x - x_0) + \sigma)^\frac{2}{p-1}}| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}. \quad (25)$$
From (24), \(|\sin(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x))| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}\). Hence, for \(x\) close enough to \(x_0\), we get
\[
|\theta(x_0) - \theta(x)| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}.
\]

Thus, \(\theta\) is \(C^{\mu_0}\) near \(x_0\).

In addition, for \(x\) close enough to \(x_0\),
\[
\cos(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x)) = 1 + O(\theta(x_0) - \theta(x)) = 1 + O(|x - x_0|^{2\mu_0}).
\]

Using (26) with (25),
\[
\left|\frac{(1 - T'(x_0)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{T'(x_0)\text{sign}(x - x_0) + \sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{(1 - T'(x)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{T(x) - T(x_0) + \sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}}\right| \leq C|x_0 - x|^{\mu_0}.
\]

At this level, we reduce to the real case to conclude. We introduce a change of variables
\[
f(\xi) = T(\xi + x_0) - T(x_0) - \xi T'(x_0)
\]
and prove that \(|f'(\xi)| \leq C|\xi|^{\mu_0}\), which is equivalent to the fact that \(T\) is \(C^{1,\mu_0}\).

3. Proof of the Liouville Theorem.

3.1. Preliminaries. In the following, we recall some results from [4], which we have used in this work. In the following Proposition we recall some dispersion estimates.

**Proposition 3** (A Lyapunov functional for equation (5)). Consider \(w(y, s)\) a solution to (5) defined for all \((y, s) \in (-1, 1) \times [s_0, +\infty)\) for some \(s_0 \in \mathbb{R}\). Then:

(i) For all \(s_2 \geq s_1 \geq s_0\), we have
\[
E(w(s_2)) - E(w(s_1)) = \frac{4}{p - 1} \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \int_{-1}^{1} (\partial_s w(y, s))^2 \frac{\rho(y)}{1 - y^2} dy ds
\]
where \(E\) is defined in (8).

(ii) For all \(s \geq s_0 + 1\), \(\int_{-1}^{1} |w|^{p+1} dy \leq C(E(w(s_0) + 1)^p\).

**Proof.** The proof is the same as in the real case. See [3] for (i). For (ii), see Proposition 2.2 in [16] for a statement and the proof of Proposition 3.1 page 1156 in [15] for the proof.

We recall the set of all stationary solutions in \(\mathcal{H}_0\) of equation (5).

**Proposition 4** (Characterization of all stationary solution of equation (5) in \(\mathcal{H}_0\)). Consider \(w \in \mathcal{H}_0\) a stationary solution of (5). Then, either \(w \equiv 0\) or there exist \(d \in (-1, 1)\) and \(\theta \in \mathbb{R}\) such that \(w(y) = e^{i\theta} \kappa(d, y)\) where \(\kappa(d, y)\) is given in (10).

**Proof.** The proof of this Proposition present more difficulties than the real case. In fact, in addition to the techniques used in the real case, we have used an ODE techniques for complex-valued equation, in particular, a decomposition \(w(y) = \rho(y)e^{i\theta(y)}\) with a delicate phase behavior \(\theta(y)\). For more details see Section 2 in [4].
3.2. Proofs of Theorem 1.3 and Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 1.3 assuming Theorem 1.2. The proof is the same as in the real case (see Section 3 in [18]). For the reader’s convenience we recall it. Consider $w(y,s)$ a solution to equation (5) defined for all $(y,s) \in \left( -\frac{1}{\delta_*}, \frac{1}{\delta_*} \right) \times \mathbb{R}$ for some $\delta_* \in (0,1)$ such that for all $s \in \mathbb{R}$, (14) holds.

If we introduce the function $u(x,t)$ defined by

$$ u(x,t) = (-t)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} w(y,s) \text{ where } y = \frac{x}{-t} \text{ and } s = -\log(-t), \quad (28) $$

then we see that $u(x,t)$ satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2 with $T_* = x_* = 0$, in particular (11) holds. Therefore, the conclusion of Theorem 1.2 holds for $u$. Using back (28), we directly get the conclusion of Theorem 1.3. \square

Now, we introduce the proof of the Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Consider a solution $u(x,t)$ to equation (1) defined in the backward cone $C_{x_0,T_0,\delta_*}$ (see (3)) such that (11) holds, for some $(x_*, T_*) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $\delta_* \in (0,1)$. From the bound (11) and the resolution of the Cauchy problem of equation (1), we can extend the solution by a function still denoted by $u(x,t)$ and defined in some influence domain $D_u$ of the form

$$ D_u = \{(x,t) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid t < T(x)\} \quad (29) $$

for some 1-Lipschitz function $T(x)$ where one of the following cases occurs:

- Case 1: For all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $T(x) \equiv \infty$.
- Case 2: For all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $T(x) < +\infty$. In this case, since $u(x,t)$ is known to be defined on $C_{x_*, T_*, \delta_*}$ (3), we have $C_{x_*, T_*, \delta_*} \subset D_u$, hence from (3) and (29)

$$ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad T(x) \geq T_* - \delta_*|x - x_*|. \quad (30) $$

In this case, we will denote the set of non characteristic points by $I_0$.

We will treat separately these two cases:

Case 1: $T(x) \equiv \infty$. In the following, we give the behavior of $w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)$ as $s \to -\infty$.

Proposition 5 (Behavior of $w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)$ as $s \to -\infty$). For any $(\bar{x}, \bar{T}) \in D_u$, it holds that as $s \to -\infty$,

either

$$ ||w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)||_{H^1(-1,1)} + ||\partial_s w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)||_{L^2(-1,1)} \to 0 \text{ in } H^1 \times L^2(-1,1), $$

or for some $\theta(\bar{x}, \bar{T}) \in \mathbb{R}$

$$ \inf_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}, \ |d| < 1} ||w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s) - e^{i\theta(\bar{x}, \bar{T})} d||_{H^1(-1,1)} + ||\partial_{s} w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}||_{L^2(-1,1)} \to 0 $$

where $\kappa_0$ defined in (10).

Now, we derive the behavior of the Lyapunov functional $E(w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s))$ defined by (8) as $s \to -\infty$.

Corollary 1 (Behavior of $E(w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s))$ as $s \to -\infty$). (i) For all $d \in (-1,1)$ and $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$ E(e^{i\theta} \kappa(d, .), 0) = E(\kappa_0, 0) > 0 \quad (31) $$

(ii) For any $(\bar{x}, \bar{T}) \in D_u$, either $E(w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)) \to 0$ or $E(w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)) \to E(\kappa_0) > 0$ as $s \to -\infty$.

In particular,

$$ \forall s \in \mathbb{R}, \quad E(w_{\bar{x}, \bar{T}}(s)) \leq E(\kappa_0). \quad (32) $$
Proofs of Proposition 5 and Corollary 1. The proof is similar to the real case (see Section 3 in [18]), we have only to adapt it with respect to our set of stationary solutions

\[ S \equiv \{0\} \cup \{e^{i\theta}\kappa(d,\cdot), |d| < 1, \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}. \]

In the following, we conclude the proof of Theorem 1.2, when case 1 holds.

**Corollary 2.** If for all \( x \in \mathbb{R}, T(x) \equiv +\infty \), then \( u \equiv 0 \).

**Proof.** In this proof we use the uniform bounds stated in the hypothesis of Theorem 1.2 and the bound for solutions in \((ii)\) of Proposition 3. Indeed, consider for arbitrary \( t \in \mathbb{R} \) and \( T > t \) the function \( w_{0,T} \) defined from \( u(x,t) \) and the transformation \((4)\). Note that \( w_{0,T} \) is defined for all \((y,s) \in \mathbb{R}^2\). If \( s = -\log(T-t) \), then we see from \((ii)\) in Proposition 3 and \((32)\) that

\[
\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} |w_{0,T}(y,s)|^{p+1}dy \leq C(E(w_{0,T}(s_0)) + 1)^p \leq C(E(\kappa_0) + 1)^p \equiv C_1.
\]

Using \((4)\), this gives in the original variables

\[
\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} |u(x,t)|^{p+1}dx \leq C_1(T-t)^{-\frac{2(p+1)}{p-1} + 1}.
\]

Fix \( t \) and let \( T \) go to infinity to get \( u(x,t) = 0 \) for all \( x \in \mathbb{R} \), and then \( u \equiv 0 \), which concludes the proof of Corollary 2 and thus the proof of Theorem 1.2 in the case where \( T(x) \equiv +\infty \).

**Case 2:** \( T(x) < +\infty \). In this case also, we conclude by the same way as in the real case in [18]. For the reader’s convenience we give the three important ideas used in order to conclude the proof:
- In Step 1, we localize a non characteristic point for some slope \( \delta_1 \).
- In Step 2, we give an explicit expression of \( w \) at non characteristic points.
- In Step 3, we see that the set of non characteristic points is given by the hole space \( \mathbb{R} \).
- In Step 4, we use this three previous steps to conclude the proof when \( T(x) < +\infty \).

\( \rightsquigarrow \) **Step 1:** Localization of a non characteristic point in a given cone with slope \( \delta_1 > 1 \): We claim the following:

**Proposition 6** (Existence of a non characteristic point with a given location). For all \( x_1 \in \mathbb{R} \) and \( \delta_1 \in (\delta_1, 1) \), there exists \( x_0 = x_0(x_1, \delta_1) \) such that

\[
(x_0, T(x_0)) \in \tilde{C}_{x_1, T(x_1), \delta_1} \text{ and } \tilde{C}_{x_0, T(x_0), \delta_1} \subset D_u.
\]

In particular, \( x_0 \) is non characteristic.

**Proof.** In the proof we use a geometrical construction (see Proposition 3.5 in [18]).

\( \square \)

**Remark:** From this Proposition, we see that we have at least a non characteristic point: In fact, Taking \( x_1 = x_* \) and \( \delta_1 = \frac{1 + \delta_*}{2} \), \( x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \) is non characteristic point (in the sense \((3)\)).

\( \rightsquigarrow \) **Step 2:** An explicit expression of \( w \) at non characteristic points:
We claim the following
Proposition 7 (Characterization of $w_{x_0}$ when $x_0$ is non characteristic). If $x_0$ is non characteristic, then there exist $d(x_0) \in (-1,1)$ and $\theta(x_0) \in \mathbb{R}$ such that for all $(y,s) \in (-1,1) \times \mathbb{R}$, $w_{x_0}(y,s) = e^{i\theta(x_0)}R(d(x_0),y)$.

Corollary 3. Consider $x_1 < x_2$ two non characteristic points. Then, there exists $d_0 \in (-1,1)$ and $\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that:

(i) for all $(y,s) \in (-1,1) \times \mathbb{R}$, $w_{x_1}(y,s) = w_{x_2}(y,s) = e^{i\theta_0}R(d_0,y)$,

(ii) for all $\bar{x} \in [x_1,x_2]$, $T(\bar{x}) = T(x_1) + d_0(x-x_1)$ and for all $(x,t) \in C_{\bar{x},T(\bar{x}),1}$,

$$u(x,t) = e^{i\theta_0}R_0 \frac{(1-d_0^2)^{1/2}}{((T(x_1)-t+d_0(x-x_1)))^{4/7}}.$$  

From (ii) of Corollary 3 and the remark after Proposition 6, we get the following:

Corollary 4. The set of non characteristic points is a non empty interval $I_0$ and there exist $d_0 \in (-1,1)$ and $\theta_0$ such that on $I_0$, the blow-up curve is a straight line with slope $d_0$. Moreover, for any $x_1 \in I_0$,

$$\forall (x,t) \in \bigcup_{\bar{x} \in I_0} C_{\bar{x},T(\bar{x}),1}, u(x,t) = e^{i\theta_0}R_0 \frac{(1-d_0^2)^{1/2}}{((T(x_1)-t+d_0(x-x_1)))^{4/7}}.$$  

$\Rightarrow$ Step 3: The set of non characteristic points is given by the hole space $\mathbb{R}$:

Lemma 3.1. We have

$I_0 = \mathbb{R}$.

Proof. The proof is the same as in the real case in [18], we have only to replace $\pm \theta$ by $e^{i\theta}$. In fact, it is base on a geometrical approach, which remains valid, regardless of the real or complex value of the solution.

$\Rightarrow$ Step 4: Conclusion:

In order to conclude the proof of Theorem 1.2. If $I_0 = \mathbb{R}$, then we see from Corollary 4 that the blow-up curve is a straight line of slope $d_0$ whose equation is

$$t = T(x) \text{ with } \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, T(x) = T(x_*) + d_0(x-x_*)$$

and that

$$D_u = \{ (x,t) \mid t < T(x_*) + d_0(x-x_*) \}$$

which contains $C_{x_*,T(x_*)},1$ by the fact that $T(x_*) \geq T_*$ (see (30)). Using (30) and (37), we see that $|d_0| \leq \delta_*$, hence $C_{x_*,T(x_*)},\delta_* \subset D_u$. Moreover, since $\bigcup_{x \in I_0} C_{\bar{x},T(\bar{x}),1} = D_u$, we see that (35) implies (12) with $T_0 = T(x_*)$ and $x_0 = x_*$. This concludes the proof of Theorem 1.2.

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