

Scattering of Small Solutions to the Generalized Benjamin-Bona-Mahony Equation

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Presentation Overview

- 1 Problem statement, intuition for the main theorem (scattering for GBBM)
- 2 Properties of the linear BBM
- 3 Rigorous proof of the main theorem, built up over several intermediate steps
- 4 Ideas for new approaches to long-time asymptotics?

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- We study the Cauchy problem for the **generalized Benjamin-Bona-Mahony equation (GBBM)**:

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xxt} + u_x + u^p u_x = 0 & \forall (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \\ u|_{t=0}(x) = u_0(x) & \forall x \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

- This models long waves propagating in water, or in elastic blood vessels.
- Global well-posedness of this problem in

$$C_x^2 \cap H_x^1$$

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Intuition for Scattering

- Energy conservation \Rightarrow if $u_0(x)$ is small then $u(x, t)$ should always remain small.
- In turn, for p large enough, we should have

$$u^p u_x \approx 0,$$

which means the PDE is nearly equal to **linearized BBM (LBBM)**:

$$u_t - u_{xxt} + u_x = 0$$

- So, possibly after waiting some time for dispersion to tame any problems with the nonlinearity (more on this later), we can expect solns. to GBBM to act like solns. to LBBM.
- We then say that small solutions to GBBM with $p \gg 1$ **scatter**, at least from an intuitive point of view

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Main Theorem

Theorem (Scattering in H^1 , Dziubański & Karch '96)

Suppose $s \geq 7/2$ and $p > 4$. Let $u(x, t)$ denote the solution to GBM with initial state $u_0(x)$.

Then, we can find $0 < \delta \ll 1$ such that

$$\|u_0\|_{L_x^1} + \|u_0\|_{H_x^s} < \delta$$

implies there exist functions $u_{\pm}(x, t) \in C_t^1(\mathbb{R}; H_x^s)$ satisfying the following:

- 1 u_{\pm} both provide classical solutions to LBBM and
- 2 $\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \|u_{\pm}(x, t) - u(x, t)\|_{H_x^1} = 0$.

The Road to the Main Thm.

- To say nonlinear solns. resemble linear ones, we should probably make sure we have a good idea what linear solutions look like
- Use the Fourier transform and asymptotics for oscillatory integrals (stationary phase method) to get basic information on LBBM solns.
- Need to prove a **dispersive estimate**
- Then, we show small solns. to the nonlinear problem also satisfy dispersive estimate: this is enough to prove the main thm.

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Basics of LBBM 1

- Focus for now on IVP for LBBM:

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xxt} + u_x = 0 & \forall (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \\ u|_{t=0}(x) = u_0(x) & \forall x \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

- Define an (invertible!) elliptic operator $M = 1 - \partial_x^2$, then LBBM can be written as

$$u_t = -M^{-1}\partial_x(u).$$

- The symbol of $\frac{1}{i}M^{-1}\partial_x$ (physically, the temporal frequency) is given by the **dispersion relation**

$$\omega(\xi) = \frac{\xi}{\langle \xi \rangle^2} \quad \left(\langle \xi \rangle = \sqrt{1 + \xi^2} \right)$$

Think of this as writing temporal freq. as function of spatial freq. ξ (AKA “wavenumber”)

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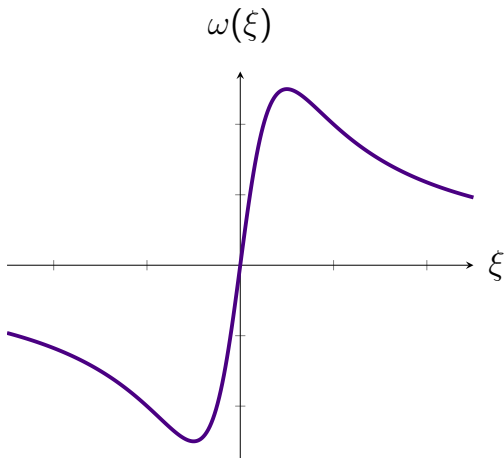
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- Using the Fourier transform, we can write soln. to LBBM as

$$e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0 \doteq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(\xi x - \omega(\xi)t)} \widehat{u}_0(\xi) \, d\xi.$$

- Think of this as a weighted sum of normal modes (sinusoidal waves)
- When u_0 is Schwartz, soln. can also be pictured as an approximately localized (on a certain time scale) wavepacket.

LBBM Asymptotics 1

- Study $u(x, t)$ on spacetime rays $\Gamma_c = \{x = ct\}$. Given a fixed ray slope c , define the **LBBM phase** by

$$\phi(\xi) = c\xi - \omega(\xi)$$

so along Γ_c write

$$u(x, t) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\phi(\xi)t} \widehat{u}_0(\xi) \, d\xi.$$

- Q: How does $u(x, t)$ behave as $t \rightarrow \infty$?

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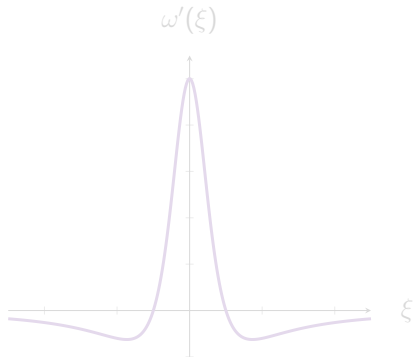
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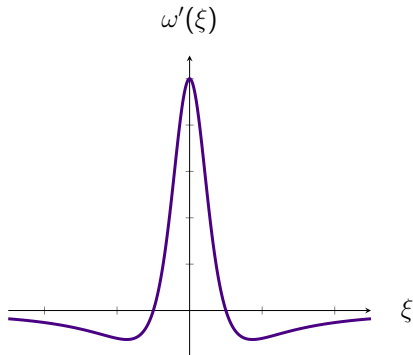
LBBM Asymptotics 2

- **A:** Use that the integrand oscillates!
- Dominant contribution to $u(x, t)$ along Γ_c comes at ξ for which $\phi'(\xi) = 0$: integrand oscillation is slowest here.
- Thus we look for ξ_0 such that $c = \omega'(\xi_0)$. Between 0 and $4\xi_0$ per c :



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- Thus we look for ξ_0 such that $c = \omega'(\xi_0)$. Between 0 and $4 \xi_0$ per c :



LBBM Asymptotics 3

- So: suppose \hat{u}_0 is localized around ξ_0 , then $e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0$ remains mostly localized in spacetime along $\Gamma_{\omega'(\xi_0)}$.
- Hence we can say the “velocity” of the wavepacket $e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0$ is $\omega'(\xi_0) =$ **group velocity**.
- If \hat{u}_0 is more spread out, all of its component normal modes have different group vel., meaning wave packet “disperses” into a bunch of separated normal mode pieces as $t \rightarrow \infty$.
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Stationary Phase Method

- Need the following approximation method to get more quantitative info on dispersion...

Theorem (Stationary Phase Estimate)

Suppose $\phi(\xi)$ is smooth, ξ_0 is the only zero of $\phi'(\xi)$, and there exists a natural number N such that

$$\phi^{(n)}(\xi_0) = 0 \text{ for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N - 1.$$

Next, suppose that $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is smooth and compactly supported. Then, for $t \gg 1$,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\xi) e^{i\phi(\xi)t} d\xi \approx C(\xi_0) f(\xi_0) e^{i\phi(\xi_0)t} t^{-\frac{1}{N}}$$

LBBM Asymptotics 4 + Dispersive Est.

- Since mass is conserved, wave dispersion implies the amplitude of a wavepacket decreases over time.
- Stationary phase estimate gives

$$\left\| e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0 \right\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim \|u_0\|_{L^1} t^{-1/3}, \quad t \gg 1,$$

- Above can be refined rigorously:

Proposition (LBBM Dispersive Estimate, Albert '89, Dziubański-Karch '96)

For any $s \geq \frac{7}{2}$, we have

$$\left\| e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0 \right\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim (\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s}) \langle t \rangle^{-1/3}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

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Discussion of Dispersive Est.

- Why do we need a Sobolev norm in dispersive est.? Recall: group velocity of a wavepacket tiny for $|\xi| \gg 1$
- So: if initial state consists of a high-frequency wave spatially localized around the origin, then even after a long time we will still see a high-frequency wave spatially localized near the origin.
- Thus any estimate on L_x^∞ -norm of linear soln should depend on a norm that weighs high frequencies heavily: a Sobolev norm is built to do just this, and $s = 7/2$ is the “magic number”

Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 1

- One can determine a critical frequency magnitude $n_0 \approx 2$ based on stationary points of $\omega(\xi)$: above this threshold, a frequency is considered “high”.
- Assume $n \geq n_0$ then split

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0 \right\|_{L^\infty} &= \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(\xi x - \omega(\xi)t)} \widehat{u}_0(\xi) \, d\xi \right\|_{L_x^\infty} \\ &\lesssim \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \left| \int_{-n}^n e^{it(c\xi - \omega(\xi))} \widehat{u}_0(\xi) \, d\xi \right| + \int_{|\xi| > n} |\widehat{u}_0(\xi)| \, d\xi \\ &= \text{Lo-Mid freq} + \text{Hi freq} \end{aligned}$$

- Lo-Mid term can be bounded using Prop. 3.1 in the notes (itself a corollary of van der Corput, see Souganidis and Strauss '90):

$$\text{Lo-Mid} \lesssim \left(t^{-1/3} + t^{-1/2} n^{3/2} \right) \|u_0\|_{L_x^1}.$$

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Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 2

- For Hi term, bound is more pedestrian:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{|\xi|>n} |\widehat{u}_0(\xi)| \, d\xi &= \int_{|\xi|>n} (\langle \xi \rangle^s |\widehat{u}_0(\xi)|) \langle \xi \rangle^{-s} \, d\xi \\ &\leq \| \langle \xi \rangle^s \widehat{u}_0(\xi) \|_{L^2_\xi} \left(\int_{|\xi|>n} \langle \xi \rangle^{-2s} \, d\xi \right)^{1/2} \\ &\lesssim_s \| u_0 \|_{H^s_x} n^{\frac{1}{2}-s}. \end{aligned}$$

- Putting Lo-Mid and Hi together, get

$$\| u(x, t) \|_{L^\infty} \lesssim \left(n^{\frac{1}{2}-s} + t^{-1/3} + t^{-1/2} n^{3/2} \right) \left(\| u_0 \|_{L^1_x} + \| u_0 \|_{H^s_x} \right).$$

- Choosing t suff. large and $n = t^{1/9}$ we see $s \geq 7/2$ needed to get Hi contribution dying faster than $t^{-1/3}$, DONE.

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Dispersive Est. for Nonlinear Case: Prelude

- Nice surprise: small nonlinear solns. also satisfy the same dispersive est.! This is basically all we need to prove scattering.
- Need the following easy bounds:

Lemma

Pick any $s > 0$. For any $p \in \mathbb{N}$ and any u in the appropriate fnc. space, we have

$$\|M^{-1}\partial_x u\|_{L^1} \lesssim \|u\|_{L^1},$$

$$\|M^{-1}\partial_x u\|_{H^s} \lesssim \|u\|_{H^s}, \quad \text{and}$$

$$\|u^{p+1}\|_{H^s} \lesssim \|u\|_{L^\infty}^p \|u\|_{H^s}.$$

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Dispersive Est. for Nonlinear Case

Theorem (Nonlinear Solutions with Linear Decay, Albert '89, Dziubański-Karch '96)

Let $s \geq \frac{7}{2}$ and suppose $u_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap H^s(\mathbb{R})$. If $p > 4$ then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} < \delta$$

implies the soln. $u(x, t)$ to GBBM satisfies

$$\|u(x, t)\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim_{u_0} \langle t \rangle^{-1/3} \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- Proof uses classical PDE tools: bootstrap estimates & Duhamel's formula to treat nonlinear term perturbatively.

Nonlinear Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 1

- Start by defining

$$q(t) \doteq \sup_{\tau \in [0, t]} \left[\|u(x, \tau)\|_{L_x^\infty} \langle \tau \rangle^{1/3} + \|u(x, \tau)\|_{H_x^s} \right].$$

To prove claim (+ get extra persistence of H_x^s regularity!) it suffices to show $q(t)$ is bounded.

- I claim $q(t)$ is bounded if u_0 small and there is some $C > 0$ indep. of x, t, u_0 s.t.

$$q(t) \leq C (\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} + q(t)^{p+1}).$$

Why? Assume above holds, then bootstrap boundedness of $q(t)$ (next two slides)

Nonlinear Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 2

Let $A > 1$ satisfy

$$\|\varphi\|_{L^\infty} \leq A \|\varphi\|_{H^s} \quad \forall \varphi \in H^s.$$

Pick $\eta \ll 1$ so that

$$\eta > C (3A\eta)^{p+1}.$$

Then, pick $\delta < \eta$ such that

$$\eta \geq C \left(\delta + (3A\eta)^{p+1} \right).$$

Having picked δ , we now suppose

$$\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} < \delta$$

as in the statement of the claim.

Nonlinear Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 3

By Sobolev embedding

$$q(0) \leq (1 + A)\delta < 2A\eta \quad (\text{conclusion holds at time } 0).$$

Additionally, if we **assume** $q(t) \leq 3A\eta$ for some particular t , then since

$$q(t) \leq C \left(\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} + q(t)^{p+1} \right).$$

we have

$$q(t) \leq C \left(\delta + (3A\eta)^{p+1} \right) \leq \eta < 2A\eta \quad (\text{assumption implies conclusion})$$

Since $q(t)$ cts., the bootstrap principle then implies $q(t) \leq 2A\eta$ for all $t \geq 0$!

Nonlinear Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 4

Thus it remains to prove

$$q(t) \leq C (\|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} + q(t)^{p+1}).$$

Start using Duhamel form of GBBM (method of integrating factors): if $f(u) = (p+1)^{-1}u^{p+1}$,

$$u(x, t) = e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} u_0 - \int_0^t e^{(t-\tau)M^{-1}\partial_x} M^{-1}\partial_x f(u(x, \tau)) \, d\tau.$$

By the LBBM dispersive estimate and easy bounds from our lemma,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle t \rangle^{1/3} \|u(x, t)\|_{L^\infty} &\lesssim \|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} \\ &\quad + \langle t \rangle^{1/3} \int_0^t \langle t - \tau \rangle^{-1/3} \left(\|u\|_{L^\infty}^{p-1} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \|u\|_{L^\infty}^p \|u\|_{H^s} \right) \, d\tau \end{aligned}$$

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Nonlinear Dispersive Est.: Proof Sketch 5

Recognizing integrand as \approx binomial expansion, can use $1 = \langle \tau \rangle \langle \tau \rangle^{-1}$ and definition of $q(t)$ to get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle t \rangle^{1/3} \|u(x, t)\|_{L^\infty} &\lesssim \|u_0\|_{L^1} + \|u_0\|_{H^s} \\ &\quad + q(t)^{p+1} \left(\langle t \rangle^{1/3} \int_0^t \langle t - \tau \rangle^{-1/3} \langle \tau \rangle^{(1-p)/3} d\tau \right). \end{aligned}$$

The integral is bounded unif. in t precisely when $p > 4!$

A similar arg. gives us a similar bound on $\|u\|_{H_x^s}$, hence we find

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Re-statement of Main Theorem

Corollary (Scattering in H^1 , Dziubański-Karch '96)

Under the same hypotheses as the previous theorem (small initial data, $p > 4$), there exist functions $u_{\pm}(x, t) \in C_t^1(\mathbb{R}; H_x^s)$ such that, if soln. $u(x, t)$ solves GBBM,

- 1 u_{\pm} both provide classical solutions to LBBM and
- 2 we have

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In particular,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \|u_{\pm}(x, t) - u(x, t)\|_{H_x^1} = 0.$$

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Proof of Main Thm.

Define

$$u_+(x, t) \doteq e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} \left(u_0 - \int_0^\infty e^{-\tau M^{-1}\partial_x} M^{-1} \partial_x f(u(x, \tau)) \, d\tau \right),$$

which is obviously a solution to LBBM (one can show this is always finite, and in fact in $H_x^s \forall t$). u_- can be constructed by analogy.

Using Duhamel and product estimates, get

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Proof of Main Thm.

Define

$$u_+(x, t) \doteq e^{tM^{-1}\partial_x} \left(u_0 - \int_0^\infty e^{-\tau M^{-1}\partial_x} M^{-1} \partial_x f(u(x, \tau)) \, d\tau \right),$$

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- By the same logic used to predict scattering for $p \gg 1$, we find that we can't expect nonlinearity to be a "small perturbation" for $p \approx 1$. This means very different methods must be used!
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- Basic intuition says solns. to GBBM with nonlinear term $u^p u_x$, $p \gg 1$, scatter to linear solns. Can prove this rigorously (with $p > 4$) via careful analysis of linear solns.
- The key tool underlying most of the hard analysis: dispersive estimate for LBBM. One can nearly guess the correct dispersive estimate using intuition from the method of stationary phase.
- Proving scattering is easy once one shows that initially small (in the right norm!) nonlinear solns. obey the same dispersive estimate as solns. to LBBM.
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Questions?