An exponential growth condition in H^2 for the pullback attractor of a non-autonomous reaction-diffusion equation

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Abstract

Some exponential growth results for the pullback attractor of a reaction-diffusion when time goes to $-\infty$ are proved in this paper. First, a general result about $L^p \cap H^1_0$ exponential growth is established. Then, under additional assumptions, an exponential growth condition in H^2 for the pullback attractor of the non-autonomous reaction-diffusion equation is also deduced.

Key words: reaction-diffusion equations, non-autonomous (pullback) attractors, invariant sets, H^2 -exponential growth.

Mathematics Subject Classifications (2000): 35B41, 35Q35

1 Introduction and setting of the problem

Let us consider the following problem for a non-autonomous reaction-diffusion equation:

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \Delta u = f(u) + h(t) & \text{in } \Omega \times (\tau, +\infty), \\
u = 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega \times (\tau, +\infty), \\
u(x, \tau) = u_{\tau}(x), & x \in \Omega,
\end{cases}$$
(1)

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where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ is a bounded open set, $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$, $u_{\tau} \in L^2(\Omega)$, $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ and $h \in L^2_{loc}(\mathbb{R}; L^2(\Omega))$. We assume that there exist positive constants α_1 , α_2 , k, l, and p > 2 such that

$$-k - \alpha_1 |s|^p \le f(s)s \le k - \alpha_2 |s|^p, \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{R}, \tag{2}$$

$$f'(s) \le l, \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{R}.$$
 (3)

Let us denote

$$\mathcal{F}(s) := \int_0^s f(r)dr.$$

Then, there exist positive constants $\tilde{\alpha}_1$, $\tilde{\alpha}_2$ and \tilde{k} such that

$$-\widetilde{k} - \widetilde{\alpha}_1 |s|^p \le \mathcal{F}(s) \le \widetilde{k} - \widetilde{\alpha}_2 |s|^p, \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(4)

It is well-known (see, e.g. [8] or [11]) that under the conditions above, for any initial condition $u_{\tau} \in L^{2}(\Omega)$, there exists a unique solution $u(\cdot) = u(\cdot; \tau, u_{\tau})$ of (1), i.e., a unique function $u \in L^{2}(\tau, T; H_{0}^{1}(\Omega)) \cap L^{p}(\tau, T; L^{p}(\Omega)) \cap C^{0}([\tau, T]; L^{2}(\Omega))$ for all $T > \tau$, such that

$$u(t) - \int_{\tau}^{t} \Delta u(s) ds = u_{\tau} + \int_{\tau}^{t} (f(u(s)) + h(s)) ds \quad \forall t \ge \tau,$$

where the equality must be understood in the sense of the dual of $H_0^1(\Omega) \cap L^p(\Omega)$.

Therefore, we can define a process $U = \{U(t, \tau), \tau \leq t\}$ in $L^{2}(\Omega)$ as

$$U(t,\tau)u_{\tau} = u(t;\tau,u_{\tau}) \quad \forall u_{\tau} \in L^{2}(\Omega), \quad \forall \tau \leq t.$$
 (5)

A pullback attractor for the process U defined by (5) (cf. [3], [4], [5]) is a family $\mathcal{A} = \{\mathcal{A}(t): t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ of compact subsets of $L^2(\Omega)$ such that

- a) $U(t,\tau)\mathcal{A}(\tau) = \mathcal{A}(t)$ for all $\tau \leq t$,(invariance property),
- b) $\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} \sup_{u_{\tau} \in B} \inf_{v \in \mathcal{A}(t)} |U(t,\tau)u_{\tau} v| = 0$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$, for any bounded subset $B \subset L^2(\Omega)$, (pullback attraction),

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the norm in $L^{2}(\Omega)$.

It can be proved (see, for instance, [2] and [7]) that, under the above conditions, if in addition h satisfies

$$\int_{-\infty}^{t} e^{\lambda_1 s} |h(s)|^2 ds < +\infty \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, \tag{6}$$

where λ_1 denotes the first eigenvalue of $-\Delta$ with zero Dirichlet boundary condition in Ω , then there exists a pullback attractor for the process U defined

by (5), and satisfying

$$\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} \left(e^{\lambda_1 \tau} \sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)} |v|^2 \right) = 0. \tag{7}$$

Several studies on this model have already been published (see, for example, [1], [6], [9], [10], [12]).

More precisely, we proved in [1] that, under the above conditions, if Ω is regular enough, then for any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ the set $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ is a bounded subset of $L^p(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)$, and if moreover $h \in W^{1,2}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}; L^2(\Omega))$, then $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ is also a bounded subset of $H^2(\Omega)$. Therefore, the aim of this paper is to continue with the analysis of this model in the sense of proving that the family $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ satisfies also an exponential growth condition on the space $L^p(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)$, and finally in $H^2(\Omega)$ provided some additional assumptions are fulfilled.

This will be carried out in the next section where we first prove an exponential growth condition for the attractor $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ in $L^p(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)$ when $\tau \to -\infty$. We also prove, under appropriate additional assumptions, an exponential growth condition in $H^2(\Omega)$ for $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$.

2 An exponential growth condition for the pullback attractor.

First, we recall a lemma (see [8]) which is necessary for the proof of our results.

Lemma 2.1 Let X, Y be Banach spaces such that X is reflexive, and the inclusion $X \subset Y$ is continuous. Assume that $\{u_n\}$ is a bounded sequence in $L^{\infty}(t_0, T; X)$ such that $u_n \rightharpoonup u$ weakly in $L^q(t_0, T; X)$ for some $q \in [1, +\infty)$ and $u \in C^0([t_0, T]; Y)$.

Then, $u(t) \in X$ for all $t \in [t_0, T]$ and

$$||u(t)||_X \le \sup_{n\ge 1} ||u_n||_{L^{\infty}(t_0,T;X)} \quad \forall t \in [t_0,T].$$

We will denote by (\cdot, \cdot) the scalar product in $L^2(\Omega)$, by $\|\cdot\| = |\nabla \cdot|$ the norm in $H^1_0(\Omega)$, by $\|\cdot\|_{H^2(\Omega)}$ the norm in $H^2(\Omega)$, and by $\|\cdot\|_{L^p(\Omega)}$ the norm in $L^p(\Omega)$. We will use $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ to denote either the duality product between $H^{-1}(\Omega)$ and $H^1_0(\Omega)$ or between $L^{p'}(\Omega)$ and $L^p(\Omega)$.

For each integer $n \geq 1$, we denote by $u_n(t) = u_n(t; \tau, u_\tau)$ the Galerkin approximation of the solution $u(t; \tau, u_\tau)$ of (1), which is given by

$$u_n(t) = \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_{nj}(t)w_j, \tag{8}$$

and is the solution of

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{d}{dt} (u_n(t), w_j) = \langle \Delta u_n(t), w_j \rangle + (f(u_n(t)), w_j) + (h(t), w_j), \\
(u_n(\tau), w_j) = (u_\tau, w_j) & j = 1, ..., n,
\end{cases}$$
(9)

where $\{w_j: j \geq 1\}$ is the Hilbert basis of $L^2(\Omega)$ formed by the eigenfunctions associated to $-\Delta$ in $H_0^1(\Omega)$.

We prove the following result.

Theorem 1 Assume that $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ satisfies (2) and (3). Suppose moreover that $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ is a bounded C^{κ} domain, with $\kappa \geq \max(2, N(p-2)/2p)$, $h \in L^2_{loc}(\mathbb{R}; L^2(\Omega))$, and condition (6) holds. Then $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ satisfies

$$\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} \left\{ e^{\lambda_1 \tau} \left(\sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)} \|v\|^2 + \sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)} \|v\|_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \right) \right\} = 0.$$
 (10)

PROOF. From the inequality (9) of [1], for any $t \ge \tau$ we have

$$|u_n(r)|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{r} ||u_n(s)||^2 ds + \int_{\tau}^{r} ||u_n(s)||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p ds$$

$$\leq C_1 \left(|u_{\tau}|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{t} |h(s)|^2 ds + (t - \tau) \right),$$
(11)

for all $r \in [\tau, t]$, and all $n \ge 1$, where $C_1 := \frac{\max\{1, \lambda_1^{-1}, 2k |\Omega|\}}{\min\{1, 2\alpha_2\}}$.

Also, integrating inequality (10) of [1] with respect to s from τ to r, we obtain

$$(r - \tau) \left(\|u_{n}(r)\|^{2} + \|u_{n}(r)\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \right)$$

$$\leq C_{2} \left(\int_{\tau}^{r} \|u_{n}(s)\|^{2} ds + \int_{\tau}^{r} \|u_{n}(s)\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} ds \right)$$

$$+ \frac{(t - \tau)}{\min\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_{2}\}} \int_{\tau}^{t} |h(s)|^{2} ds$$

$$+ \frac{4\tilde{k}}{\min\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_{2}\}} |\Omega| (t - \tau),$$

$$(12)$$

for any $t \geq \tau$, all $r \in [\tau, t]$, and all $n \geq 1$, where $C_2 := \frac{\max\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_1\}}{\min\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_2\}}$.

From (11) and (12) we now obtain that

$$(r - \tau) \left(\|u_n(r)\|^2 + \|u_n(r)\|_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \right) \le C_1 C_2 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_\tau^t |h(s)|^2 ds + (t - \tau) \right) + \frac{(t - \tau)}{\min\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_2\}} \int_\tau^t |h(s)|^2 ds + \frac{4\tilde{k}}{\min\{1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_2\}} |\Omega| (t - \tau),$$
(13)

for any $t \ge \tau$, all $r \in [\tau, t]$, and all $n \ge 1$. In particular, from (13) we deduce

$$||u_n(r)||^2 + ||u_n(r)||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \le C_3 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+2} |h(s)|^2 ds + 1 \right),$$
 (14)

for all $r \in [\tau + 1, \tau + 2]$, and any $n \ge 1$, where

$$C_3 := \max \left\{ C_1 C_2 + \frac{2}{\min \left\{ 1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_2 \right\}}, 2C_1 C_2 + \frac{8\tilde{k}}{\min \left\{ 1, 2\tilde{\alpha}_2 \right\}} \left| \Omega \right| \right\}.$$

It is well known (see [8] or [11]) that $u_n(\cdot) = u_n(\cdot; \tau, u_\tau)$ converges weakly to $u(\cdot) = u(\cdot; \tau, u_\tau)$ in $L^2(\tau, t; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^p(\tau, t; L^p(\Omega))$, for all $t > \tau$. Thus, from (14) and Lemma 2.1, we in particular obtain

$$||u(\tau+1)||^2 + ||u(\tau+1)||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \le C_3 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+2} |h(s)|^2 ds + 1 \right).$$

Multiplying this inequality by $e^{\lambda_1(\tau+1)}$ and using (5), we have

$$e^{\lambda_{1}(\tau+1)} \left(\|U(\tau+1,\tau)u_{\tau}\|^{2} + \|U(\tau+1,\tau)u_{\tau}\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \right)$$

$$\leq C_{3}e^{\lambda_{1}} \left(e^{\lambda_{1}\tau} |u_{\tau}|^{2} + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+2} e^{\lambda_{1}s} |h(s)|^{2} ds + e^{\lambda_{1}\tau} \right),$$

$$(15)$$

for all $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$, and all $u_{\tau} \in L^{2}(\Omega)$.

As $\mathcal{A}(\tau+1) = U(\tau+1,\tau)\mathcal{A}(\tau)$, it follows from (15) that

$$e^{\lambda_{1}(\tau+1)} \left(\|v\|^{2} + \|v\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \right)$$

$$\leq C_{3}e^{\lambda_{1}} \left(e^{\lambda_{1}\tau} \sup_{w \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)} |w|^{2} + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+2} e^{\lambda_{1}s} |h(s)|^{2} ds + e^{\lambda_{1}\tau} \right),$$

for all $v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau + 1)$, and any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$.

Finally, this inequality implies

$$e^{\lambda_{1}\tau} \left(\|v\|^{2} + \|v\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \right)$$

$$\leq C_{3}e^{\lambda_{1}} \left(e^{\lambda_{1}(\tau-1)} \sup_{w \in \mathcal{A}(\tau-1)} |w|^{2} + \int_{\tau-1}^{\tau+1} e^{\lambda_{1}s} |h(s)|^{2} ds + e^{\lambda_{1}(\tau-1)} \right),$$
(16)

for all $v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)$, and any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$. Taking into account (6) and (7), from (16) we obtain (10).

Theorem 2 In addition to the assumptions in Theorem 1, assume moreover that $h \in W^{1,2}_{loc}(\mathbb{R}; L^2(\Omega))$, and satisfies

$$\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} e^{\lambda_1 \tau} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+1} |h'(s)|^2 ds = 0$$
 (17)

and

$$\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} e^{\lambda_1 \tau} |h(\tau)|^2 = 0. \tag{18}$$

Then $\mathcal{A}(\tau)$ satisfies that

$$\lim_{\tau \to -\infty} \left(e^{\lambda_1 \tau} \sup_{v \in A(\tau)} \|v\|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2 \right) = 0. \tag{19}$$

PROOF. From inequality (11) in [1], taking $t = \tau + 3$ and $\varepsilon = 2$, we have

$$|u'_{n}(r)|^{2} \leq (4l+3) \int_{\tau+1}^{\tau+3} |u'_{n}(s)|^{2} ds$$

$$+ \int_{\tau+1}^{\tau+3} |h'(s)|^{2} ds,$$
(20)

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, and any $n \ge 1$.

Analogously, and if we take $s = \tau + 1$ and $r = t = \tau + 3$ in inequality (10) of [1], we have

$$\int_{\tau+1}^{\tau+3} |u'_n(s)|^2 ds + ||u_n(\tau+3)||^2 + 2\widetilde{\alpha}_2 ||u_n(\tau+3)||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p$$

$$\leq ||u_n(\tau+1)||^2 + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} |h(s)|^2 ds + 4\widetilde{k} |\Omega| + 2\widetilde{\alpha}_1 ||u_n(\tau+1)||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p,$$
(21)

for all $n \geq 1$.

From (21) and (20), we obtain

$$|u'_{n}(r)|^{2} \leq (4l+3) \left(\|u_{n}(\tau+1)\|^{2} + 2\widetilde{\alpha}_{1} \|u_{n}(\tau+1)\|_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \right)$$

$$+ (4l+3) \left(\int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} |h(s)|^{2} ds + 4\widetilde{k} |\Omega| \right)$$

$$+ \int_{\tau+1}^{\tau+3} |h'(s)|^{2} ds,$$

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, and any $n \ge 1$.

Owing to this inequality and (14), there exists a constant $\tilde{C}_1 > 0$ such that

$$|u'_n(r)|^2 \le \tilde{C}_1 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} \left(|h(s)|^2 + |h'(s)|^2 \right) ds + 1 \right),$$
 (22)

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, and any $n \ge 1$.

From inequality (13) of [1], and thanks to (22), we have

$$|\Delta u_n(r)|^2 \le 8\tilde{C}_1 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_\tau^{\tau+3} \left(|h(s)|^2 + |h'(s)|^2 \right) ds + 1 \right) + 8|h(r)|^2 + 4l^2 |u_n(r)|^2 + 4(f(0))^2 |\Omega|,$$

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, and any $n \ge 1$, and therefore, by (11) we obtain that there exists a constant $\tilde{C}_2 > 0$ such that

$$|\Delta u_n(r)|^2 \leq \tilde{C}_2 \left(|u_\tau|^2 + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} \left(|h(s)|^2 + |h'(s)|^2 \right) ds + 1 + \sup_{r \in [\tau+2, \tau+3]} |h(r)|^2 \right),$$
(23)

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, and any $n \ge 1$.

It is well known that, in particular, $u_n(\cdot) = u_n(\cdot; \tau, u_\tau)$ converges weakly to $u(\cdot) = u(\cdot; \tau, u_\tau)$ in $L^2(\tau + 2, \tau + 3; H_0^1(\Omega))$ and $u(\cdot; \tau, u_\tau) \in C^0([\tau + 2, \tau + 3]; H_0^1(\Omega))$. Then, by Lemma 2.1, inequality (23) and the equivalence of the norms $|\Delta v|$ and $||v||_{H^2(\Omega)}$, we have that there exists a constant $\tilde{C}_3 > 0$ such that

$$||u(r;\tau,u_{\tau})||_{H^{2}(\Omega)}^{2}$$

$$\leq \tilde{C}_{3} \left(|u_{\tau}|^{2} + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} \left(|h(s)|^{2} + |h'(s)|^{2} \right) ds + 1 + \sup_{r \in [\tau+2,\tau+3]} |h(r)|^{2} \right),$$
(24)

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$, any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$, and $u_{\tau} \in L^{2}(\Omega)$.

Now, observe that by Cauchy inequality,

$$|h(r)| \le |h(\tau+2)| + \left(\int_{\tau+2}^{\tau+3} |h'(s)|^2 ds\right)^{1/2},$$

for all $r \in [\tau + 2, \tau + 3]$. Thus, from (24), and using (5), we deduce that there exists a constant $\tilde{C}_4 > 0$ such that

$$||U(\tau+2,\tau)u_{\tau}||_{H^{2}(\Omega)}^{2} \leq \widetilde{C}_{4}\left(|u_{\tau}|^{2} + \int_{\tau}^{\tau+3} \left(|h(s)|^{2} + |h'(s)|^{2}\right) ds + |h(\tau+2)|^{2} + 1\right),$$

for all $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$, $u_{\tau} \in L^2(\Omega)$.

From this inequality, and the fact that $\mathcal{A}(\tau) = U(\tau, \tau - 2)\mathcal{A}(\tau - 2)$, we obtain

$$||v||_{H^{2}(\Omega)}^{2} \leq \widetilde{C}_{4} \left(\sup_{w \in \mathcal{A}(\tau-2)} |w|^{2} + \int_{\tau-2}^{\tau+1} (|h(s)|^{2} + |h'(s)|^{2}) ds + |h(\tau)|^{2} + 1 \right), \tag{25}$$

for all $v \in \mathcal{A}(\tau)$, and any $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$.

Now, thanks to (6), (7), (17) and (18), we obtain (19) from (25).

Remark 3 In theorems 1 and 2, the pullback attraction property is not needed. In fact, both theorems are also valid for any family $\{A(\tau) : \tau \in \mathbb{R}\}$ of nonempty subsets of $L^2(\Omega)$ satisfying (7) and the semi-invariance property

$$\mathcal{A}(\tau+n) \subset U(\tau+n,\tau)\mathcal{A}(\tau),$$

for all $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ and any integer $n \geq 1$.

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