

# Order Preserving Semiflows Revisited

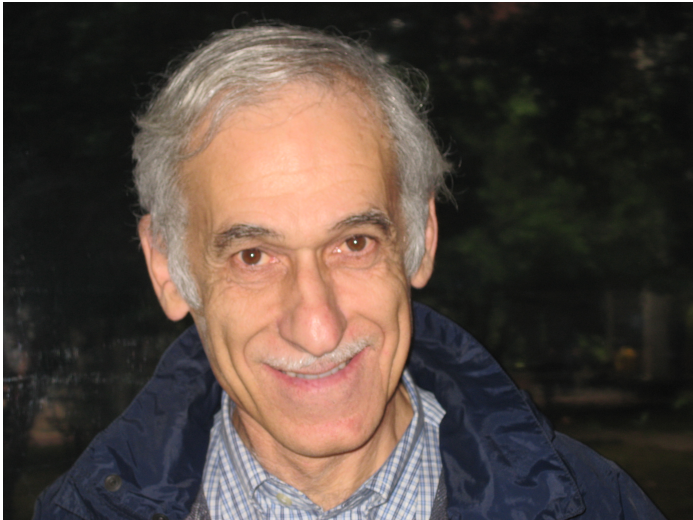
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CAMGSD - Instituto Superior Técnico

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In honor of Giorgio Fusco

To Giorgio Fusco



# Introduction

Linear scalar parabolic equations exhibit a natural discrete Liapunov functional (the zero crossing number):

**The number of zeros of a solution is a nonincreasing function of time.**

This is at the root of a most complete description of the geometric properties of nonlinear semiflows generated by semilinear scalar parabolic equations.

Natural questions are:

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- (ii) Do such functionals determine a class of problems?

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- The zero number in linear parabolic equations
- Semiflows with discrete Lyapunov functions
- Linear operators with the zero number property
- Order structures preserved by semigroups
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# Linear scalar parabolic equations

For a positive, consider the linear problem

$$(P) \quad u_t = a(x)u_{xx} + b(t, x)u_x + c(t, x)u, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad u_x(0) = u_x(1) = 0,$$

and let

$$C_n^1([0, 1]) = \{\varphi \in C^1([0, 1]) : \varphi'(0) = \varphi'(1) = 0\}.$$

Then (P) defines an injective solution operator

$$S(t, t_0) : C_n^1([0, 1]) \rightarrow C_n^1([0, 1]), \quad t \geq t_0.$$

If  $b = b(x)$ ,  $c = c(x)$ , (P) generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $\{T(t) = S(t, 0)\}_{t \geq 0}$ .

Define the **zero number**  $z : C_n^1([0, 1]) \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$z(\varphi) = \#\{\text{strict sign changes of } \varphi \text{ in } [0, 1]\}$$

$z(S(t, t_0)\varphi)$  is a monotone nonincreasing function of  $t > t_0$ ,

[Sturm, Niquel, Matano, Henry, Angenent, ...]

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Let  $\mathcal{N} \subset C_n^1([0, 1])$  denote the dense subset of functions with all zeros nondegenerate (i.e.  $\varphi(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi'(x) \neq 0$ ).

### Theorem [Angenent '1988]

For  $\psi \in C_n^1([0, 1])$ ,  $\psi \neq 0$ ,

- (i) the set  $\Theta = \{t \in (t_0, +\infty) : S(t, t_0)\psi \notin \mathcal{N}\}$  is finite;
- (ii) for  $t \in \Theta$  there exists an  $\varepsilon_0$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$ ,

$$z(S(t + \varepsilon, t_0)\psi) < z(S(t - \varepsilon, t_0)\psi).$$

# Discrete Lyapunov functions

Semilinear reaction-diffusion equations

$$u_t = u_{xx} + f(x, u, u_x), \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad u_x(0) = u_x(1) = 0,$$

with  $f \in C^2([0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ , define semiflows in  $X = H^1(0, 1)$ . The zero number  $z$  provides a **discrete Lyapunov function** for the difference of any two solutions  $u_1, u_2$

$$z(u_1(t, \cdot) - u_2(t, \cdot)) \text{ is nonincreasing for } t > 0.$$

A different example is provided by differential delay equations

$$\dot{x}(t) = h(x(t), x(t-1))$$

with  $h \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$  and monotone feedback conditions  $h_v(u, v) \leq 0$ , defining semiflows in  $X = C^0[-1, 0]$ .



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For the ( $\pm$ ) feedback conditions, let

$$V^+(\varphi) = 2 \lfloor \frac{z(\varphi) + 1}{2} \rfloor, \quad V^-(\varphi) = 2 \lfloor \frac{z(\varphi)}{2} \rfloor + 1,$$

*notice that  $V^+(\varphi)$  is even and  $V^-(\varphi)$  is odd.*

Then, in each feedback case,  $V^\pm$  provides a **discrete Lyapunov function** for the difference of any two solutions  $x_t^j(\theta) = x^j(t + \theta)$ ,  $\theta \in [-1, 0]$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ ,

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# Generators of semiflows with zero number decay

## Theorem

Let  $A$  be the infinitesimal generator of a  $C_0$ -semigroup of bounded linear operators  $\{T(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ ,  $T(t) : C_n^1([0, 1]) \rightarrow C_n^1([0, 1])$ , such that

- (i) the set  $\Theta = \{t \in (t_0, +\infty) : T(t)\psi \notin \mathcal{N}\}$  is finite;
- (ii)  $z(T(t_1)\varphi) \geq z(T(t_2)\varphi)$  for all  $0 < t_1 \leq t_2$ .

If  $D(A) = C^3([0, 1]) \cap C_n^1([0, 1])$ , then there exist  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in C^1(0, 1)$ , with  $\alpha$  nonnegative, such that for all  $\varphi \in D(A)$  we have

$$(A\varphi)(x) = \alpha(x)\varphi_{xx}(x) + \beta(x)\varphi_x(x) + \gamma(x)\varphi(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

# Sketch of the proof

## Step 1: Use the Taylor expansion

Introduce families of functions  $a^\xi, b^\xi, c^\xi : \xi \in [0, 1] \mapsto D(A)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}a^\xi(\xi) &= a_x^\xi(\xi) = b^\xi(\xi) = 0, \quad \xi \in [0, 1] \\a_{xx}^\xi(\xi) &= c^\xi(\xi) = 1, \quad \xi \in [0, 1] \\b_x^\xi(\xi) &= 1, \quad \xi \in (0, 1) \\a_x^\xi(x)(x - \xi) &> 0, \quad x \in (0, 1) \setminus \{\xi\}\end{aligned}$$

Given  $\varphi \in D(A)$  we can uniquely decompose  $\varphi$  in the form

$$\varphi = \varphi(x)c^x + \varphi_x(x)b^x + \varphi_{xx}(x)a^x + \psi^{x,\varphi}$$

where  $\psi^{x,\varphi} \in D(A)$  satisfies  $\psi^{x,\varphi}(x) = \psi_x^{x,\varphi}(x) = \psi_{xx}^{x,\varphi}(x) = 0$ .

Then, if  $(A\psi^{x,\varphi})(x) = 0$ , we obtain

$$(A\varphi)(x) = \alpha(x)\varphi_{xx}(x) + \beta(x)\varphi_x(x) + \gamma(x)\varphi(x)$$

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Step 2: Use  $\psi^\xi = \psi^{\xi, \varphi}$  to perturb all degenerate zeros  $x \neq \xi$

Let  $\varphi^{\xi, \lambda} = a^\xi + \lambda \psi^\xi$ . Notice that  $a^\xi$  has a degenerate zero at  $x = \xi$ .

At a degenerate zero  $x \neq \xi$  of  $\varphi^{\xi, \lambda}$  we have

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Then

$$\Psi(x) = \frac{\psi^\xi(x)}{a^\xi(x)} = \frac{1}{\lambda}, \quad \Psi_x(x) = \frac{\psi_x^\xi(x)a^\xi(x) - \psi^\xi(x)a_x^\xi(x)}{(a^\xi(x))^2} = 0,$$

and  $x \neq \xi$  is a degenerate zero of  $\varphi^{\xi, \lambda}$  if and only if  $\lambda^{-1}$  is a critical value of  $\Psi : [0, 1] \setminus \{\xi\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . By Sard the set of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\varphi^{\xi, \lambda} : [0, 1] \setminus \{\xi\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has a degenerate zero has Lebesgue measure zero.



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Step 3: Show that  $(A\psi^{x,\varphi})(x) = 0$

Again let  $\varphi^{\xi,\lambda} = a^\xi + \lambda\psi^\xi$  with  $\psi^\xi = \psi^{\xi,\varphi}$ . For small  $t > 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}(T(t)\varphi^{\xi,\lambda})(\xi) &= (T(t)\varphi^{\xi,\lambda})(\xi) - \varphi^{\xi,\lambda}(\xi) \\ &= ((Aa^\xi)(\xi) + \lambda(A\psi^\xi)(\xi))t + (o(t))(\xi) + \lambda(o(t))(\xi).\end{aligned}$$

If  $(A\psi^\xi)(\xi) \neq 0$ , there is  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  (sufficiently large) such that:

$$(T(t)\varphi^{\xi,\lambda_0})(\xi) < 0, \quad 0 < t \leq t_0;$$

Moreover,  $\varphi^{\xi,\lambda_0}$  has exactly one degenerate zero in  $[\xi - \delta, \xi + \delta]$  and a finite number of nondegenerate zeros in  $[0, 1] \setminus (\xi - \delta, \xi + \delta)$ .

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# Order structures preserved by semigroups

The discrete Liapunov functional  $z$  endows  $X$  with an order structure preserved by the semigroup  $T(t)$  [Fusco+Lunel '1997]:

▷  $z$  defines on  $X$  an *order structure*  $(\mathcal{N}, \sim, <)$  if:

(a)  $z$  defines in  $\mathcal{N}$  an *equivalence relation*  $\sim$

$$\text{for } \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{N} \quad \varphi \sim \psi \text{ iff } z(\varphi) = z(\psi)$$

(b)  $z$  defines in  $\mathcal{N} / \sim$  a *total order*  $<$

$$\text{for } [\varphi], [\psi] \in \mathcal{N} / \sim \quad [\varphi] < [\psi] \text{ iff } z(\varphi) < z(\psi)$$

▷  $T(t)$  *preserves the order structure*  $(\mathcal{N}, \sim, <)$  if:

(a)  $z(T(t)\varphi)$  is defined for all  $t \in \Phi = \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{ \text{discrete set} \}$

(b)  $z(T(t')\varphi) \leq z(T(t)\varphi)$  for all  $t, t' \in \Phi, t' > t$

(c)  $(\mathcal{N} / \sim)$  is complete  $[\varphi]_1 \leftarrow [\varphi]_2 \leftarrow [\varphi]_3 \leftarrow \dots$



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# A class of order preserving semiflows

*Do different order structures determine other classes of linear operators  $A$ ?*

For instance, the semigroup  $T(t)$  with **periodic boundary conditions** in fact preserves the order structure defined by  $V^+ : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \{0, 2, 4, \dots\}$ .

Therefore, it is natural to consider **nonseparated linear boundary conditions**

$$C_{bc}^1([0, 1]) = \{\varphi \in C^1([0, 1]) : B_0(\varphi) = B_1(\varphi) = 0\}$$

where  $B_0, B_1 : C^1([0, 1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are the boundary operators

$$\begin{cases} B_0(\varphi) = \varphi'(0) + \delta_{00}\varphi(0) + \delta_{01}\varphi(1) \\ B_1(\varphi) = \varphi'(1) + \delta_{10}\varphi(0) + \delta_{11}\varphi(1) \end{cases}$$

[Coddington+Levinson]

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[Coddington+Levinson]

## Theorem

Let  $A$  be the infinitesimal generator of a  $C_0$ -semigroup of bounded linear operators  $\{T(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ ,  $T(t) : C_{bc}^1([0, 1]) \rightarrow C_{bc}^1([0, 1])$  that preserves the order structure  $(\mathcal{N}, \sim, <)$  defined by  $V^- (V^+)$ .

If  $D(A) = C^3([0, 1]) \cap C_{bc}^1([0, 1])$ , then there exist  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in C^1(0, 1)$ , with  $\alpha$  nonnegative, such that for all  $\varphi \in D(A)$  we have

$$(A\varphi)(x) = \alpha(x)\varphi_{xx}(x) + \beta(x)\varphi_x(x) + \gamma(x)\varphi(x), \quad 0 < x < 1 .$$

Furthermore, the cross-boundary constants satisfy

$$\delta_{01} \leq 0 \quad , \quad \delta_{10} \geq 0 \quad \left( \delta_{01} \geq 0 \quad , \quad \delta_{10} \leq 0 \right) .$$

The cross-boundary conditions essentially prevent zeros to occur on the boundary when  $z(\varphi)$  is even, since in this case the cross-boundary values of  $\varphi'$  and  $\varphi$  have the wrong sign:

$$\varphi'(0) = -\delta_{01}\varphi(1) \text{ if } \varphi(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi'(1) = -\delta_{10}\varphi(0) \text{ if } \varphi(1) = 0 .$$

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# A degenerate illustration

The cross-boundary conditions play the role of negative feedback conditions.

As a highly degenerate illustration consider  $\alpha = \gamma = 0$ ,  $\beta = 1$ . Then we have

$$u_t = u_x, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

and the solutions  $u(x, t) = \phi(t + x)$  correspond to left translations along  $[0, 1]$ .

Take the boundary operator  $B_1$  with  $\delta_{11} = 0$  and  $\delta_{10} = \delta > 0$ . This implies

$$u_x(1) = -\delta u(0),$$

and we obtain the negative feedback differential delay equation

$$\dot{u}(t) = -\delta u(t - 1).$$



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Thank you





