

Blow-up for Degenerate and Singular Nonlinear Parabolic Systems with Nonlocal Source

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Abstract

Existence of a unique classical nonnegative solution is established and sufficient conditions for the solution that exists locally or blows up in finite time are obtained for the degenerate and singular parabolic system $x^{p_1}u_t - (x^{r_1}u_x)_x = \int_0^a g(v(x,t))dx$, $x^{p_2}v_t - (x^{r_2}v_x)_x = \int_0^a f(u(x,t))dx$ in $(0, a) \times (0, T)$, where $T \leq \infty$, $a \geq 0$ are constants, f, g are given functions. Furthermore, under certain conditions it is proved that the blow-up set of the solution is the entire interval $[0, a]$. These extend a recent work of Zhou, Mu and Li, which considered the particular systems with localized sources.

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1 Introduction

In this paper, we consider degenerate and singular nonlinear reaction-diffusion equations with nonlocal source of the form

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1}u_t - (x^{r_1}u_x)_x = \int_0^a g(v(x,t))dx, & (x,t) \in (0,a) \times (0,T), \\ x^{p_2}v_t - (x^{r_2}v_x)_x = \int_0^a f(u(x,t))dx, & (x,t) \in (0,a) \times (0,T), \\ u(0,t) = u(a,t) = v(0,t) = v(a,t) = 0, & t \in (0,T), \\ u(x,0) = u_0(x), v(x,0) = v_0(x), & x \in [0,a], \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where $u_0(x), v_0(x) \in C^{2+\alpha}([0,a])$ for some $\alpha \in (0,1)$ are nonnegative nontrivial functions. $u_0(0) = u_0(a) = v_0(0) = v_0(a) = 0$, u_0 and v_0 satisfy compatibility conditions, $T > 0$, $a > 0$, $r_1, r_2 \in [0,1)$, $|p_1| + r_1 \neq 0$, $|p_2| + r_2 \neq 0$.

Let $D = (0,a)$ and $\Omega_t = D \times (0,t]$. \bar{D} and $\bar{\Omega}_t$ are their closures, respectively. Since $|p_1| + r_1 \neq 0$, $|p_2| + r_2 \neq 0$, the coefficients of u_t, u_x, u_{xx} and v_t, v_x, v_{xx} may tend to 0 or ∞ as x tends to 0, and thus we can regard the equations as degenerate and singular.

Floater [11] and Chan and Liu [6] investigated the blow-up properties of the problem

$$\begin{cases} x^q u_t - u_{xx} = u^p, & (x,t) \in (0,a) \times (0,T), \\ u(0,t) = u(a,t) = 0, & t \in (0,T), \\ u(x,0) = u_0(x), & x \in [0,a]. \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

The motivation for studying problem (1.2) comes from Ockendon's model (see [15]) for the flow in a channel of a fluid whose viscosity depends on temperature

$$xu_t = u_{xx} + e^u,$$

where u represents the temperature of the fluid. Floater in [11] approximated e^u by u^p and considered equation (1.2). In [4], Chan and Chan considered the problem

$$\begin{cases} x^q u_t - u_{xx} = f(u), & (x,t) \in (0,a) \times (0,T), \\ u(0,t) = u(a,t) = 0, & t \in (0,T), \\ u(x,0) = u_0(x), & x \in [0,a]. \end{cases} \quad (1.3)$$

For $q = 0$, it is the heat equation; the problem (1.3) and (1.2) (cf. [18, p. 10]) may be used to describe the temperature $u(x,t)$ of a homogeneous and isotropic rod having a constant cross-sectional area with respect to x , and a thermal conductivity K independent of x ; inside the rod, there is a nonlinear source producing heat (due to an exothermic reaction) at $Kf(u)$ per unit volume per unit time; the object has an initial distribution of temperature $u_0(x)$, and the temperature at each of its ends is kept at zero.

For $q = 1$, the problem (1.3) may be used to describe the temperature u of the channel flow of a fluid with a temperature-dependent viscosity in the boundary layer (cf. [5, 15]); here, x and t denote the coordinates perpendicular and parallel to the channel wall, respectively; hence, t_b corresponds to the downstream position where u blows up at some x . In a heat conduction problem with t denoting the time, the term x^q corresponds to the reciprocal of the diffusivity (cf. [2, p. 9]); thus for $q > 0$, the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of the object approaches to zero as x tends to zero; also for a fixed $x \in D$, x^q is a decreasing function of q ; physically, decreasing x or increasing q has the effect of shifting the blow-up point towards $x = 0$.

In [8], Chen and Xie discussed the degenerate and singular semilinear parabolic equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t - (x^\alpha u_x)_x = \int_0^a f(u(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ u(0, t) = u(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

They established the local existence and uniqueness of a classical solution. Under appropriate hypotheses, they obtained some sufficient conditions for the global existence and blow-up of a positive solution.

In [9], Chen et al. consider the following degenerate nonlinear reaction diffusion equation with nonlocal source

$$\begin{cases} x^q u_t - (x^\gamma u_x)_x = \int_0^a u^p dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ u(0, t) = u(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases}$$

They established the local existence and uniqueness of a classical solution. Under appropriate hypotheses, they also got some sufficient conditions for the global existence and blow-up of a positive solution. Furthermore, under certain conditions, it is proved that the blow-up set of the solution is the whole domain.

Very recently, Jun Zhou et al. [18] generalized the results of [9] and investigated the blow-up properties of the following parabolic system

$$\begin{cases} x^{q_1} u_t - (x^{r_1} u_x)_x = \int_0^a (v(x, t))^{p_1} dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ x^{q_2} v_t - (x^{r_2} v_x)_x = \int_0^a (u(x, t))^{p_2} dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ u(0, t) = u(a, t) = v(0, t) = v(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad v(x, 0) = v_0(x), & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

Under certain conditions, Jun Zhou et al. proved that the blow-up set of the solution of (1.5) is the whole domain. The existence of a unique classical nonnegative solution is

established and sufficient conditions for solution that exist globally or blows up in finite time are obtained.

In [14], J. Li et al. considered the effect of the singularity, degeneracy and localized reaction on the behavior of the solution of following problem

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1}u_t - (x^{r_1}u_x)_x = v^{q_1}(x_0, t), & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ x^{p_2}v_t - (x^{r_2}v_x)_x = u^{q_2}(x_0, t), & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ u(0, t) = u(a, t) = v(0, t) = v(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad v(x, 0) = v_0(x), & x \in [0, a], \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

and show that the blow-up set of the solution of (1.6) is the whole domain.

Motivated by the results of the papers [8, 9, 18], we slightly modify the method developed by Jun Zhou et al. [18] and Y. Chen et al. [9] and extend the results of [9, 18] to a degenerate and singular parabolic system (1.1). The difficulties are the construction of the corresponding upper solution of (1.1). It is different from [6, 7, 11, 18] that under certain conditions the blow-up set of the solution of (1.1) is the whole domain. But this is consistent with the conclusions in [1, 16, 17].

Before stating our main results, we make some assumptions on the initial data $u_0(x), v_0(x)$ and $f(s), g(s)$ as follows:

$$(A_1) \quad f, g \in C^2([0, \infty)), \quad f(0) \geq 0, \quad g(0) \geq 0, \quad f'(s) > 0, \quad g'(s) > 0, \quad f''(s) \geq 0, \\ g''(s) \geq 0 \text{ for } s > 0 \text{ and } \int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{f(s)} < \infty, \quad \int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{g(s)} < \infty \text{ for some } s_0 > 0,$$

$$(A_2) \quad (u_0(x), v_0(x)) \in C^{2+\beta}([0, a]) \times C^{2+\beta}([0, a]) \text{ for some } \beta \in (0, 1) \text{ and}$$

$$(u_0(0), v_0(0)) = (u_0(a), v_0(a)) = (0, 0), \quad (u_0(x), v_0(x)) \neq (0, 0) \text{ if } x \in (0, a).$$

This paper is organized as follows. In the next section, we show the existence of a unique classical solution. In Section 3, we give some criteria for the solution $(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ to blow-up in finite time and discuss the blow-up set.

2 Local Existence

In this section, we start with the definition of an upper solution of system (1.1).

Definition 2.1. A pair of nonnegative functions $(\bar{u}(x, t), \bar{v}(x, t))$ is called an upper so-

lution of (1.1) if $(\bar{u}(x, t), \bar{v}(x, t)) \in (C([0, a] \times [0, T]))^2$ is such that

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} \bar{u}_t - (x^{r_1} \bar{u}_x)_x \geq \int_0^a g(\bar{v}(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ x^{p_2} \bar{v}_t - (x^{r_2} \bar{v}_x)_x \geq \int_0^a f(\bar{u}(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T), \\ \bar{u}(0, t) \geq 0, \bar{u}(a, t) \geq 0, & t \in (0, T) \\ \bar{v}(0, t) \geq 0, \bar{v}(a, t) \geq 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ \bar{u}(x, 0) \geq \bar{u}_0(x), \bar{v}(x, 0) \geq \bar{v}_0(x), & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

Similarly, $(\underline{u}(x, t), \underline{v}(x, t)) \in (C([0, a] \times [0, T]))^2$ is called a lower solution if it satisfies all the reversed inequalities in (2.1).

In order to prove the existence of a unique positive solution to (1.1), we must construct the following comparison principle.

Lemma 2.2. *Let $b_1(x, t)$ and $b_2(x, t)$ be continuous nonnegative functions defined on $[0, a] \times [0, r]$ for any $r \in (0, T)$, and let $(u(x, t), v(x, t)) \in (C(\bar{\Omega}_r) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_r))^2$ satisfy*

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} u_t - (x^{r_1} u_x)_x \geq \int_0^a b_1(x, t) v(x, t) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ x^{p_2} v_t - (x^{r_2} v_x)_x \geq \int_0^a b_2(x, t) u(x, t) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ u(0, t) \geq 0, u(a, t) \geq 0, v(0, t) \geq 0, v(a, t) \geq 0, & t \in (0, r], \\ u(x, 0) \geq 0, v(x, 0) \geq 0, & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases}$$

Then $u(x, t) \geq 0$ and $v(x, t) \geq 0$ on $[0, a] \times [0, T]$.

Proof. Jun Zhou et al. proved this lemma in [18], so we omit it. \square

Lemma 2.3. *Let (u, v) be the nonnegative solution of (1.1). Let us assume that a pair of nonnegative functions $(w(x, t), z(x, t)) \in (C(\bar{\Omega}_r) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_r))^2$ is such that*

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} w_t - (x^{r_1} w_x)_x \geq (\leq) \int_0^a g(z(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ x^{p_2} z_t - (x^{r_2} z_x)_x \geq (\leq) \int_0^a f(w(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ w(0, t) \geq (=)0, w(a, t) \geq (=)0, & t \in (0, r], \\ z(0, t) \geq (=)0, z(a, t) \geq (=)0, & t \in (0, r], \\ w(x, 0) \geq (\leq)u_0(x), z(x, 0) \geq (\leq)v_0(x), & x \in [0, a]. \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

Then $(w(x, t), z(x, t)) \geq (\leq)(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ on $[0, a] \times [0, T]$.

Proof. We only consider the case “ \geq ” (as for the other case “ \leq ” the proof is similar). Let $\varphi_1(x, t) = w(x, t) - u(x, t)$ and $\varphi_2(x, t) = z(x, t) - v(x, t)$. Subtracting (1.1) from (2.2) and using the mean value theorem, we obtain

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} \varphi_{1t} - (x^{r_1} \varphi_{1x})_x \geq \int_0^a g'(\eta_2) \varphi_2(x, t) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ x^{p_2} \varphi_{2t} - (x^{r_2} \varphi_{2x})_x \geq \int_0^a f'(\eta_1) \varphi_1(x, t) dx, & (x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, r], \\ \varphi_1(0, t) \geq 0, \quad \varphi_1(a, t) \geq 0, & t \in (0, r], \\ \varphi_2(0, t) \geq 0, \quad \varphi_2(a, t) \geq 0, & t \in (0, r], \\ \varphi_1(x, 0) \geq 0, \quad \varphi_2(x, 0) \geq 0, & x \in [0, a], \end{cases}$$

where η_1 and η_2 are some intermediate values between (w, u) and (z, v) satisfying $f'(\eta_1), g'(\eta_2) \geq 0$. Then Lemma 2.2 ensures that $(\varphi_1(x, t), \varphi_2(x, t)) \geq (0, 0)$, that is, $(w(x, t), z(x, t)) \geq (u(x, t), v(x, t))$ on $[0, a] \times [0, T]$. \square

Obviously, $(0, 0)$ is a lower solution of (1.1), and we need to construct an upper solution. We modify the proof of Jun Zhou et al. [18, Lemma 2.2] to show the following result.

Lemma 2.4. *There exists a positive constant $t_0 (t_0 < T)$ such that the problem (1.1) has an upper solution $(h_1(x, t), h_2(x, t)) \in (C(\overline{\Omega}_{t_0}) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_{t_0}))^2$.*

Proof. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x) &= \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^{1-r_1} \left(1 - \frac{x}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{x}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ \varphi(x) &= \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^{1-r_2} \left(1 - \frac{x}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^{\frac{1-r_2}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{x}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

and let K_0 be a positive constant such that

$$K_0 \psi(x) + f(0) \geq f(u_0(x)), \quad K_0 \varphi(x) + g(0) \geq g(v_0(x)).$$

Introduce the positive constants $M_1 = \sup_{x \in [0, a]} \psi(x)$, $M_2 = \sup_{x \in [0, a]} \varphi(x)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} b_{20} &= \int_0^1 \left(s^{1-r_1} (1-s) + s^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}} (1-s)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) ds, \\ b_{10} &= \int_0^1 \left(s^{1-r_2} (1-s) + s^{\frac{1-r_2}{2}} (1-s)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) ds, \\ N_1 &= a f'(f^{-1}(2K_0 M_1 + f(0))) (2b_{10} K_0 + g(0)), \\ N_2 &= a g'(g^{-1}(2K_0 M_2 + g(0))) (2b_{20} K_0 + f(0)). \end{aligned}$$

Let $K_{10} \in \left(0, \frac{1-r_1}{2-r_1}\right)$ and $K_{20} \in \left(0, \frac{1-r_2}{2-r_2}\right)$ be positive constants such that

$$K_{10} \leq \left(\frac{2a^{2-r_1}N_1}{K_0}\right)^{-\frac{2}{1-r_1}}, \quad K_{20} \leq \left(\frac{2a^{2-r_2}N_2}{K_0}\right)^{-\frac{2}{1-r_2}}.$$

Let $K_1(t), K_2(t)$ be the positive solutions of the initial value problems

$$K_1'(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{f'(f^{-1}(2K_0M_1 + f(0)))(b_{10}K_2(t) + g(0))}{a^{p_1-1}K_{10}^{p_1}[K_{10}(1-K_{10})^{1-r_1} + K_{10}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-K_{10})^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}}]}, & p_1 \geq 0, \\ \frac{f'(f^{-1}(2K_0M_1 + f(0)))(b_{10}K_2(t) + g(0))}{a^{p_1-1}(1-K_{10})^{p_1}[K_{10}(1-K_{10})^{1-r_1} + K_{10}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-K_{10})^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}}]}, & p_1 < 0, \\ K_1(0) = K_0, \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

$$K_2'(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{g'(g^{-1}(2K_0M_2 + g(0)))(b_{20}K_1(t) + f(0))}{a^{p_2-1}K_{20}^{p_2}[K_{20}(1-K_{20})^{1-r_2} + K_{20}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-K_{20})^{\frac{1-r_2}{2}}]}, & p_2 \geq 0, \\ \frac{g'(g^{-1}(2K_0M_2 + g(0)))(b_{20}K_1(t) + f(0))}{a^{p_2-1}(1-K_{20})^{p_2}[K_{20}(1-K_{20})^{1-r_2} + K_{20}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-K_{20})^{\frac{1-r_2}{2}}]}, & p_2 < 0, \\ K_2(0) = K_0. \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

Since $K_1(t)$ and $K_2(t)$ are increasing functions, we can choose $t_0 > 0$ such that

$$K_1(t) \leq 2K_0, \quad K_2(t) \leq 2K_0 \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, t_0].$$

Set

$$h_1(x, t) = f^{-1}(K_1(t)\psi(x) + f(0)), \quad h_2(x, t) = g^{-1}(K_2(t)\varphi(x) + g(0)).$$

Then $h_1(x, t) \geq 0$ and $h_2(x, t) \geq 0$ on $\bar{\Omega}_{t_0}$. We show that $(h_1(x, t), h_2(x, t))$ is an upper solution of (1.1) in Ω_{t_0} . To do this, let us construct two functions J_1 and J_2 by

$$J_1 = f'(h_1) \left[x^{p_1} h_{1t} - (x^{r_1} h_{1x})_x - \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right],$$

and

$$J_2 = g'(h_2) \left[x^{p_2} h_{2t} - (x^{r_2} h_{2x})_x - \int_0^a f(h_1) dx \right].$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1 &= f'(h_1) \left[x^{p_1} h_{1t} - (x^{r_1} h_{1x})_x - \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right] \\
&= x^{p_1} (f(h_1))_t - r_1 x^{r_1-1} (f(h_1))_x - x^{r_1} (f(h_1))_{xx} \\
&\quad - f'(h_1) \int_0^a g(h_2) dx + x^{r_1} f''(h_1) h_{1x}^2 \\
&\geq x^{p_1} K_1'(t) \psi(x) - K_1(t) (r_1 x^{r_1-1} \psi_x + x^{r_1} \psi_{xx}) \\
&\quad - f'(h_1) \int_0^a (K_2(t) \varphi(x) + g(0)) dx \\
&= x^{p_1} K_1'(t) \psi(x) + K_1(t) \left[\frac{2-r_1}{a^{2-r_1}} + \left(\frac{(1-r_1)^2}{4} x^{(r_1-3)/2} (a-x)^{1/2} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2} x^{(r_1-1)/2} (a-x)^{-1/2} + \frac{1}{4} x^{(r_1+1)/2} (a-x)^{-3/2} \right) \frac{1}{a^{1-r_1/2}} \right] \\
&\quad - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t) \psi(x) + f(0))) (b_{10} K_2(t) + g(0)) \\
&\geq x^{p_1} K_1'(t) \psi(x) + x^{(r_1-1)/2} (a-x)^{-1/2} \frac{K_1(t)}{2a^{1-r_1/2}} \\
&\quad - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t) M_1 + f(0))) (b_{10} K_2(t) + g(0)), \\
J_2 &= g'(h_2) \left[x^{p_2} h_{2t} - (x^{r_2} h_{2x})_x - \int_0^a f(h_1) dx \right] \\
&\geq x^{p_2} K_2'(t) \varphi(x) + x^{(r_2-1)/2} (a-x)^{-1/2} \frac{K_2(t)}{2a^{1-r_2/2}} \\
&\quad - a g'(g^{-1}(K_2(t) M_2 + g(0))) (b_{20} K_1(t) + f(0)).
\end{aligned}$$

For $(x, t) \in (0, aK_{10}) \times (0, t_0] \cup (a(1-K_{10}), a) \times (0, t_0]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1 &\geq x^{(r_1-1)/2} (a-x)^{-1/2} \frac{K_1(t)}{2a^{1-r_1/2}} - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t) M_1 + f(0))) (b_{10} K_2(t) + g(0)) \\
&\geq \left[\frac{K_{10}^{\frac{r_1-1}{2}}}{2a^{2-r_1}} \right] K_0 - a f'(f^{-1}(2K_0 M_1 + f(0))) (2b_{10} K_0 + g(0)) \\
&= \left[\frac{K_{10}^{\frac{r_1-1}{2}}}{2a^{2-r_1}} \right] K_0 - N_1 \geq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

For $(x, t) \in (0, aK_{20}) \times (0, t_0] \cup (a(1-K_{20}), a) \times (0, t_0]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
J_2 &\geq x^{(r_2-1)/2} (a-x)^{-1/2} \frac{K_2(t)}{2a^{1-r_2/2}} - a g'(g^{-1}(K_2(t) M_2 + g(0))) (b_{20} K_1(t) + f(0)) \\
&\geq \left[\frac{K_{20}^{\frac{r_2-1}{2}}}{2a^{2-r_2}} \right] K_0 - N_2 \geq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

For $(x, t) \in [aK_{10}, a(1 - K_{10})] \times (0, t_0]$ by (2.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &\geq x^{p_1} K_1'(t) \psi(x) - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t)M_1 + f(0)))(b_{10}K_2(t) + g(0)) \\ &\geq \begin{cases} a^{p_1} K_{10}^{p_1} K_1'(t) [K_{10}(1 - K_{10})^{1-r_1} + K_{10}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1 - K_{10})^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}}] \\ \quad - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t)M_1 + f(0)))(b_{10}K_2(t) + g(0)), & p_1 \geq 0, \\ a^{p_1} (1 - K_{10})^{p_1} K_1'(t) [K_{10}(1 - K_{10})^{1-r_1} + K_{10}^{\frac{1}{2}}(1 - K_{10})^{\frac{1-r_1}{2}}] \\ \quad - a f'(f^{-1}(K_1(t)M_1 + f(0)))(b_{10}K_2(t) + g(0)), & p_1 < 0, \end{cases} \\ &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

For $(x, t) \in [aK_{20}, a(1 - K_{20})] \times (0, t_0]$ by (2.4), we can get $J_2 \geq 0$ with the same argument as that for J_1 . Thus, $J_1(x, t) \geq 0$, $J_2(x, t) \geq 0$ in Ω_{t_0} . Since $f'(s) > 0$ and $g'(s) > 0$ in Ω_{t_0} , we have

$$x^{p_1} h_{1t} - (x^{r_1} h_{1x})_x - \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \geq 0, \quad x^{p_2} h_{2t} - (x^{r_2} h_{2x})_x - \int_0^a f(h_1) dx \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_{t_0},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} h_1(0, t) &= h_1(a, t) = f^{-1}(f(0)) = 0, & 0 < t < t_0, \\ h_2(0, t) &= h_2(a, t) = g^{-1}(g(0)) = 0, & 0 < t < t_0, \\ h_1(x, 0) &= f^{-1}(K_0 \psi(x) + f(0)) \geq f^{-1}(f(u_0(x))) = u_0(x), \\ h_2(x, 0) &= g^{-1}(K_0 \varphi(x) + g(0)) \geq g^{-1}(g(v_0(x))) = v_0(x). \end{aligned}$$

So $(h_1(x, t), h_2(x, t))$ is an upper solution of (1.1). The proof is complete. \square

To show the existence of the classical solution $(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ of (1.1), let us introduce a cutoff function $\rho(x)$. By Dunford and Schwartz [10, p. 1640], there exists a nondecreasing $\rho(x) \in C^3(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\rho(x) = 0$ if $x \leq 0$ and $\rho(x) = 1$ if $x \geq 1$. Let

$$0 < \delta < \min \left\{ \frac{1 - r_1}{2 - r_1} a, \frac{1 - r_2}{2 - r_2} a \right\},$$

$$\rho_\delta(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq \delta, \\ \rho\left(\frac{x}{\delta} - 1\right), & \delta < x < 2\delta, \\ 1, & x \geq 2\delta, \end{cases}$$

and $u_{0\delta}(x) = \rho_\delta(x)u_0(x)$, $v_{0\delta}(x) = \rho_\delta(x)v_0(x)$. We note that

$$\frac{\partial u_{0\delta}(x)}{\partial \delta} = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq \delta, \\ -\frac{x}{\delta^2} \rho'\left(\frac{x}{\delta} - 1\right) u_0(x), & \delta < x < 2\delta, \\ 0, & x \geq 2\delta, \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial v_{0\delta}(x)}{\partial \delta} = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq \delta, \\ -\frac{x}{\delta^2} \rho' \left(\frac{x}{\delta} - 1 \right) v_0(x), & \delta < x < 2\delta, \\ 0, & x \geq 2\delta. \end{cases}$$

Since ρ is nondecreasing, we have $\frac{\partial u_{0\delta}(x)}{\partial \delta} \leq 0$ and $\frac{\partial v_{0\delta}(x)}{\partial \delta} \leq 0$. From $0 \leq \rho(x) \leq 1$, we have $u_0(x) \geq u_{0\delta}(x)$, $v_0(x) \geq v_{0\delta}(x)$ and $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} u_{0\delta}(x) = u_0(x)$, $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} v_{0\delta}(x) = v_0(x)$.

Let $D_\delta = (\delta, a)$, let $w_\delta = D_\delta \times (0, t_0]$, let \overline{D}_δ and \overline{w}_δ be their respective closures, and let $S_\delta = \{0, a\} \times (0, t_0]$. We consider the following regularized problem

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} u_{\delta t} - (x^{r_1} u_{\delta x})_x = \int_0^a g(v_\delta(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ x^{p_2} v_{\delta t} - (x^{r_2} v_{\delta x})_x = \int_0^a f(u_\delta(x, t)) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ u_\delta(0, t) = u_\delta(a, t) = v_\delta(0, t) = v_\delta(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, t_0], \\ u_\delta(x, 0) = u_{0\delta}(x), \quad v_\delta(x, 0) = v_{0\delta}(x), & x \in \overline{D}_\delta. \end{cases} \quad (2.5)$$

By using Schauder's fixed point theorem, we have the following theorem.

Theorem 2.5. *The problem (2.5) admits a unique nonnegative solution*

$$(u_\delta, v_\delta) \in (C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2.$$

Moreover, $0 \leq u_\delta \leq h_1(x, t)$, $0 \leq v_\delta \leq h_2(x, t)$, $(x, t) \in \overline{w}_\delta$, where $h_1(x, t)$ and $h_2(x, t)$ are given by Lemma 2.4.

Proof. By using Lemma 2.3, there exists at most one nonnegative solution (u_δ, v_δ) . To prove existence, we use the Schauder fixed point theorem. Let

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \{v_1 \in C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta) : 0 \leq v_1(x, t) \leq h_2(x, t), (x, t) \in \overline{w}_\delta\}, \\ X_2 &= \{u_1 \in C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta) : 0 \leq u_1(x, t) \leq h_1(x, t), (x, t) \in \overline{w}_\delta\}. \end{aligned}$$

We note that X_1 and X_2 are closed convex subsets of the Banach space $C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta)$. In order to obtain the conclusion, we define another set $X = X_1 \times X_2$. Obviously $(C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$ is a Banach space with the norm

$$\| (v_1, u_1) \|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} = \| v_1 \|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + \| u_1 \|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}, \quad \text{for any } (v_1, u_1) \in (C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$$

and X is a closed convex subset of the Banach space $(C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$. For any $(v_1, u_1) \in (X_1 \times X_2)$, let us consider the following linearized uniformly parabolic problem

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} W_{\delta t} - (x^{r_1} W_{\delta x})_x = \int_0^a g(v_1) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ x^{p_2} Z_{\delta t} - (x^{r_2} Z_{\delta x})_x = \int_0^a f(u_1) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ W_\delta(\delta, t) = W_\delta(a, t) = Z_\delta(\delta, t) = Z_\delta(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, t_0], \\ W_\delta(x, 0) = u_{0\delta}(x), \quad Z_\delta(x, 0) = v_{0\delta}(x), & x \in [\delta, a]. \end{cases} \quad (2.6)$$

By construction, $(0, 0)$ and $(h_1(x, t), h_2(x, t))$ are lower and upper solutions of problem (2.6). We also note that

$$x^{-p_1+r_1}, x^{-p_1-1+r_1}, x^{-p_1}, x^{-p_2+r_2}, x^{-p_2-1+r_2}, x^{-p_2} \in C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta)$$

and

$$x^{-p_1} \int_\delta^a g(v_1) dx, x^{-p_2} \int_\delta^a f(u_1) dx \in C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta), \quad u_{0\delta}, v_{0\delta} \in C^{2+\alpha}(\overline{D}_\delta).$$

It follows from Ladde et al. [12, Theorem 4.2.2 on p. 143] that problem (2.6) has a unique solution $(W_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1), Z_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1)) \in (C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$ such that

$$0 \leq W_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1) \leq h_1(x, t), \quad 0 \leq Z_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1) \leq h_2(x, t).$$

Thus, we can define a mapping T from X into $(C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$ such that

$$T(v_1(x, t), u_1(x, t)) = (W_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1), Z_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1)),$$

where $(W_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1), Z_\delta(x, t; v_1, u_1))$ denotes the unique solution of (2.6) corresponding to $(v_1(x, t), u_1(x, t)) \in X$. To use the Schauder fixed point theorem, we need to verify that T maps X into itself and that T is continuous and compact. In fact, $TX \subset X$, and the embedding operator from the Banach space $(C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$ to the Banach space $(C^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(\overline{w}_\delta))^2$ is compact. Therefore, T is compact. To show that T is continuous, let us consider sequence $v_{1n}(x, t)$ which converges to $v_1(x, t)$ uniformly and $u_{1n}(x, t)$ which converges to $u_1(x, t)$ uniformly in the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}$. We know that $v_1(x, t) \in X_1$ and $u_1(x, t) \in X_2$. So we get a sequence $\{(v_{1n}(x, t), u_{1n}(x, t))\} \in X$, which converges to $(v_1(x, t), u_1(x, t))$ uniformly in the norm $\|\cdot, \cdot\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}$. Let $(W_{\delta n}(x, t), Z_{\delta n}(x, t))$ and $(W_\delta(x, t), Z_\delta(x, t))$ be the solutions of (2.6) corresponding to $(v_{1n}(x, t), u_{1n}(x, t))$ and $(v_1(x, t), u_1(x, t))$, respectively. Without loss of generality, let us assume that

$$\begin{aligned} \|v_{1n}(x, t)\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} &\leq \|v_1(x, t)\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + 1, & \text{for any } n \geq 1, \\ \|u_{1n}(x, t)\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} &\leq \|u_1(x, t)\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + 1, & \text{for any } n \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Let $W(x, t) = W_{\delta n}(x, t) - W_\delta(x, t)$, $Z(x, t) = Z_{\delta n}(x, t) - Z_\delta(x, t)$. Then we have

$$\begin{cases} x^{p_1} W_t - (x^{r_1} W_x)_x = \int_\delta^a (g(v_{1n}) - g(v_1)) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ x^{p_2} Z_t - (x^{r_2} Z_x)_x = \int_\delta^a (f(u_{1n}) - f(u_1)) dx, & (x, t) \in w_\delta, \\ W(\delta, t) = W(a, t) = Z(\delta, t) = Z(a, t) = 0, & t \in (0, t_0], \\ W(x, 0) = 0, \quad Z(x, 0) = 0, & x \in \overline{D}_\delta. \end{cases}$$

From Ladyženskaja et al. [13, Theorem 4.5.2 on p. 320], there exist positive constants C_1 (independent of g, v_{1n} and v_1) and C_2 (independent of f, u_{1n} and u_1) such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|W\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} &\leq C_1 \left\| \int_\delta^a (g(v_{1n}) - g(v_1)) \right\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} \\ &\leq C_1 a \|g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} \|v_{1n} - v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}, \end{aligned}$$

and we note that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} \leq \|g'(h_2)\|_{\infty} \\
& + \sup_{\substack{\delta \leq x \\ \tilde{x} \leq a}} \frac{|g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))(x, t) - g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))(\tilde{x}, t)|}{|x - \tilde{x}|^{\alpha}} \\
& + \sup_{\substack{0 \leq t \\ \tilde{t} \leq t_0}} \frac{|g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))(x, t) - g'(v_1 + \tau(v_{1n} - v_1))(x, \tilde{t})|}{|t - \tilde{t}|^{\alpha/2}} \\
& \leq \|g'(h_2)\|_{\infty} + \max_{0 \leq s \leq h_2(x, t)} |g''(s)| (\|v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + \|v_{1n}\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}) \\
& \leq \|g'(h_2)\|_{\infty} + \max_{0 \leq s \leq h_2(x, t)} |g''(s)| (2\|v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + 1),
\end{aligned}$$

where $\tau \in (0, 1)$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|W\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} & \leq C_1 a (\|g'(h_2)\|_{\infty} \\
& + \max_{0 \leq s \leq h_2(x, t)} |g''(s)| (2\|v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + 1)) \|v_{1n} - v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} \\
& \leq C'_1 \|v_{1n} - v_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\|Z\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} & \leq C_2 a (\|f'(h_1)\|_{\infty} \\
& + \max_{0 \leq s \leq h_1(x, t)} |f''(s)| (2\|u_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} + 1)) \|u_{1n} - u_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2} \\
& \leq C'_2 \|u_{1n} - u_1\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\|(W, Z)\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} = \|W\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} + \|Z\|_{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2} \leq C \|(v_{1n} - v_1, u_{1n} - u_1)\|_{\alpha, \alpha/2}.$$

This shows that the mapping T is continuous. By the Schauder fixed point theorem, the proof is complete. \square

Now we can prove the following local existence result.

Theorem 2.6. *There exists some $t_0 < T$ such that problem (1.1) has a unique nonnegative solution $(u(x, t), v(x, t)) \in (C(\overline{\Omega}_{t_0}) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_{t_0}))^2$.*

Proof. By Theorem 2.5, the problem (2.5) has a unique nonnegative solution $(u_{\delta}, v_{\delta}) \in (C^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(\overline{\omega}_{\delta}))^2$. It follows from Lemma 2.3 that $(u_{\delta_1}, v_{\delta_1}) \leq (u_{\delta_2}, v_{\delta_2})$ if $\delta_1 > \delta_2$. Therefore, $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} (u_{\delta}(x, t), v_{\delta}(x, t))$ exists for all $(x, t) \in (0, a] \times [0, t_0]$. Let

$$(u(x, t), v(x, t)) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} (u_{\delta}(x, t), v_{\delta}(x, t)), \quad (x, t) \in (0, a] \times [0, t_0]$$

and define $(u(0, t), v(0, t)) = (0, 0), t \in [0, t_0]$. We show that $(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ is a classical solution of (1.1) in Ω_{t_0} . For any $(x_1, t_1) \in \Omega_{t_0}$, there exist three domains

$$Q' = (a'_1, a'_2) \times (t'_2, t'_3], \quad Q'' = (a''_1, a''_2) \times (t''_2, t''_3], \quad Q''' = (a'''_1, a'''_2) \times (t'''_2, t'''_3]$$

such that $(x_1, t_1) \in Q' \subset Q'' \subset Q''' \subset (0, a) \times (0, t_0]$ with

$$0 < a'''_1 < a''_1 < a'_1 < x_1 < a'_2 < a''_2 < a'''_2 < a$$

and

$$0 < t'''_2 < t''_2 < t'_2 < t_1 < t'_3 < t''_3 < t'''_3 < t_0.$$

By the conditions of f and g , we know that $h_1(x, t)$ and $h_2(x, t)$ are finite on \bar{Q}''' . For any constant $q > 1$ and some positive constants K_3 and K_4 , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_\delta\|_{L^q(Q''')} &\leq \|h_1\|_{L^q(Q''')} \leq K_3, \quad \|v_\delta\|_{L^q(Q''')} \leq \|h_2\|_{L^q(Q''')} \leq K_3, \\ \|x^{-p_1} \int_\delta^a g(v_\delta) dx\|_{L^q(Q''')} &\leq (a_1^*)^{-p_1} \left\| \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right\|_{L^q(Q''')} \leq K_4, \\ \|x^{-p_2} \int_\delta^a f(u_\delta) dx\|_{L^q(Q''')} &\leq (a_2^*)^{-p_2} \left\| \int_0^a f(h_1) dx \right\|_{L^q(Q''')} \leq K_4, \end{aligned}$$

where $a_1^* = a'''_1$ if $q_1 \geq 0$, $a_1^* = a'''_2$ if $q_1 < 0$, and $a_2^* = a'''_1$ if $q_2 \geq 0$, $a_2^* = a'''_2$ if $q_2 < 0$. By the local L^p -estimate of Ladyženskaja et al. [13, pp. 341–342, 352], $(u_\delta, v_\delta) \in (W_q^{2,1}(Q''))^2$. By the embedding theorem in [15, pp. 61, 80], $W_q^{2,1}(Q'') \hookrightarrow H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')$ if we choose $q > 2/(1 - \alpha)$. Then, $\|u_\delta\|_{H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')} \leq K_5$ and $\|v_\delta\|_{H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')} \leq K_5$, for some positive constant K_5 , and we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\| x^{-p_1} \int_\delta^a g(v_\delta) dx \right\|_{H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')} \leq (a_1^*)^{-p_1} \left\| \int_\delta^a g(h_2) dx \right\|_\infty \\ &+ \sup_{\substack{(x, t) \in Q'' \\ (\tilde{x}, \tilde{t}) \in Q''}} \frac{|\int_\delta^a g(v_\delta) dx| \cdot |x^{-p_1} - \tilde{x}^{-p_1}|}{|x - \tilde{x}|^\alpha} \\ &+ \sup_{\substack{(x, t) \in Q'' \\ (\tilde{x}, \tilde{t}) \in Q''}} \frac{|x^{-p_1} \int_\delta^a g'(v_\delta(x, \tilde{t}) + \tau(v_\delta(x, t) - v_\delta(x, \tilde{t}))) (v_\delta(x, t) - v_\delta(x, \tilde{t})) dx|}{|t - \tilde{t}|^{\alpha/2}} \\ &\leq (a_1^*)^{-p_1} \left\| \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right\|_\infty \\ &+ \left\| \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right\|_\infty \cdot \|x^{-p_1}\|_{H^\alpha(a''_1, a''_2)} + (a_1^*)^{-p_1} \left\| \int_0^a g(h_2) dx \right\|_\infty \cdot \|v_\delta\|_{H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')} \\ &\leq K_6 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left\| x^{-p_2} \int_\delta^a f(u_\delta) dx \right\|_{H^{\alpha, \alpha/2}(Q'')} \leq K_6$$

for some positive K_6 , which is independent of δ , where $\tau \in (0, 1)$. By Ladyženskaja et al. [16, pp. 351–352], we have

$$\|u_\delta\|_{H^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(Q')} \leq K_7, \quad \|v_\delta\|_{H^{2+\alpha, 1+\alpha/2}(Q')} \leq K_7$$

for some positive constant K_7 independent of δ . This implies that $u_\delta, u_{\delta t}, u_{\delta x}, u_{\delta xx}$ and $v_\delta, v_{\delta t}, v_{\delta x}, v_{\delta xx}$ are equicontinuous in Q' . By the Ascoli–Arzela theorem, we know that

$$\|u\|_{H^{2+\alpha', 1+\alpha'/2}(Q')} \leq K_8, \quad \|v\|_{H^{2+\alpha', 1+\alpha'/2}(Q')} \leq K_8$$

for some $\alpha' \in (0, \alpha)$ and some positive constant K_8 independent of δ , and that the derivatives of u and v are uniform limits of the corresponding partial derivatives of u_δ and v_δ , respectively. Hence $(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ satisfy (1.1), and

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (u(x, t), v(x, t)) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} (u_\delta(x, t), v_\delta(x, t)) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} (u_{0\delta}(x, t), v_{0\delta}(x, t)) \\ &= (u_0(x), v_0(x)). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from $0 \leq u(x, t) \leq h_1(x, t)$, $0 \leq v(x, t) \leq h_2(x, t)$ and $h_1(x, t) \rightarrow 0, h_2(x, t) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ or $x \rightarrow a$ that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (u(x, t), v(x, t)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} (u(x, t), v(x, t)) = (0, 0).$$

Thus $(u, v) \in C(\overline{\Omega}_{t_0}) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_{t_0})$ is the solution of (1.1) in Ω_{t_0} . This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 2.7. *Let T be the supremum over t_0 for which there is a unique nonnegative solution $(u(x, t), v(x, t)) \in (C(\overline{\Omega}_{t_0}) \cap C^{2,1}(\Omega_{t_0}))^2$ of (1.1). Then (1.1) has a unique nonnegative solution $(u(x, t), v(x, t)) \in (C([0, a] \times [0, T]) \cap C^{2,1}((0, a) \times (0, T)))^2$. If $T < \infty$, then $\limsup_{t \rightarrow T} \max_{x \in [0, a]} (|u(x, t)| + |v(x, t)|) = \infty$.*

Proof. The proof of this theorem is similar to the proof of [11, Theorem 2.5], so we omit it. \square

3 Blow-up of Solutions

In this section, we give some global blow-up result of the solution of (1.1). In order to obtain the blow-up result, we assume that $p_1 \geq r_1 - 1, p_2 \geq r_2 - 1$ and $f(s), g(s)$ satisfy

$$f(s) + g(t) \geq \eta \min\{f(s+t), g(s+t)\} \equiv h(s+t), \quad (3.1)$$

for some positive constant η .

Remark 3.1. Since $(s+t)^p \leq 2^{p-1}(s^p + t^p)$, power functions satisfy the property (3.1).

Now, we consider the eigenvalue problem

$$-(x^{r_1}\varphi_1'(x))' = \lambda_1 x^{p_1}\varphi_1(x), \quad x \in (0, a), \quad \varphi_1(0) = \varphi_1(a) = 0. \quad (3.2)$$

Using the argument by Jun Zhou et al. [18], we can make $\varphi_1(x)$ satisfy

$$\max_{x \in [0, a]} x^{p_1}\varphi_1(x) = 1. \quad (3.3)$$

Analogously, we consider the eigenvalue problem

$$-(x^{r_2}\varphi_2'(x))' = \lambda_2 x^{p_2}\varphi_2(x), \quad x \in (0, a), \quad \varphi_2(0) = \varphi_2(a) = 0. \quad (3.4)$$

As above, we can obtain

$$\max_{x \in [0, a]} x^{p_2}\varphi_2(x) = 1. \quad (3.5)$$

Let $C_1 = \int_0^a \varphi_1(x)dx$, $C_2 = \int_0^a \varphi_2(x)dx$ and $\lambda = \max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$, $C = \min\{C_1, C_2\}$. Then we have the following result.

Theorem 3.2. *Let $(u(x, t), v(x, t))$ be the solution of problem (1.1). Then the solution of (1.1) blows up in finite time.*

Proof. We set

$$U(t) = \int_0^a x^{p_1}\varphi_1(x)u(x, t)dx, \quad V(t) = \int_0^a x^{p_2}\varphi_2(x)v(x, t)dx.$$

By (1.1), (3.2) and (3.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} U'(t) &= \int_0^a x^{p_1}\varphi_1(x)u_t(x, t)dx = \int_0^a \left((x^{r_1}u_x)_x + \int_0^a g(v)dx \right) \varphi_1(x)dx \\ &= -\lambda_1 U(t) + C_1 \int_0^a g(v)dx \geq -\lambda U(t) + C \int_0^a g(v)dx \end{aligned}$$

and

$$V'(t) \geq -\lambda V(t) + C \int_0^a f(u)dx.$$

Using Jensen's inequality and (3.3), (3.5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} U'(t) &\geq -\lambda U(t) + C \int_0^a g(v)dx \geq -\lambda U(t) + Cag \left(\frac{1}{a} \int_0^a vdx \right) \\ &\geq -\lambda U(t) + Cag \left(\frac{1}{a} \int_0^a x^{p_2}\varphi_2(x)v(x, t)dx \right) \\ &\geq -\lambda U(t) + Cag \left(\frac{V(t)}{a} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

and

$$V'(t) \geq -\lambda V(t) + Caf \left(\frac{U(t)}{a} \right). \quad (3.7)$$

Since $\int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{f(s)} < \infty$, $\int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{g(s)} < \infty$, and $h(s+t) = h(y)$, we have $\int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{h(y)} < \infty$. Then we can obtain

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(y)}{y} = \infty.$$

In fact, we have $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} h(y) = \infty$ for $\int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{h(y)} < \infty$. By $h''(y) \geq 0$ (by $f''(s) \geq 0, g''(s) \geq 0$), we have that $h'(y)$ is nondecreasing if $y > 0$. Using L'Hospital's principle, we obtain $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(y)}{y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} h'(y)$. Assume by contradiction that $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} h'(y) = N < \infty$. Then there exists $y_0 \geq s_0$ such that $h(y) \leq \frac{3}{2}Ny$, and we have

$$\int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{h(y)} \geq \frac{2}{3N} \int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{y} = \infty.$$

Since $\lambda > 0$, by $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(y)}{y} = \infty$, we know that there exists $s_1 \geq s_0$ such that $\frac{h(y)}{y} \geq \frac{2\lambda}{C}$ if $y \geq s_1$. Let $(u_0(x), v_0(x))$ be sufficiently larger such that

$$\int_0^a x^{p_1} u_0(x) \varphi_1(x) \geq \frac{as_1}{2}, \quad \int_0^a x^{p_2} v_0(x) \varphi_2(x) \geq \frac{as_1}{2}.$$

Now, by (3.6), (3.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} U'(t) + V'(t) &= Ca \left(g \left(\frac{V(t)}{a} \right) + f \left(\frac{U(t)}{a} \right) \right) - \lambda(U(t) + V(t)) \\ &\geq Cah \left(\frac{U(t) + V(t)}{a} \right) - \lambda a \left(\frac{U(t) + V(t)}{a} \right), \end{aligned}$$

and integrating this inequality over t from 0 to T , we have

$$\begin{aligned} T &\leq a \int_0^T \frac{d \frac{U(t)+V(t)}{a}}{Cah \left(\frac{U(t)+V(t)}{a} \right) - \lambda a \left(\frac{U(t)+V(t)}{a} \right)} = a \int_{\frac{U(0)+V(0)}{a}}^{\frac{U(t)+V(t)}{a}} \frac{dy}{Cah(y) - \lambda ay} \\ &= \frac{1}{C} \int_{\frac{U(0)+V(0)}{a}}^{\frac{U(t)+V(t)}{a}} \frac{dy}{h(y) - \frac{\lambda y}{C}} \leq \frac{2}{C} \int_{s_0}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{h(y)} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. \square

Now, we discuss the global blow-up under the following hypothesis.

Case 1: $p_1 > 0, r_1 = 0$ or $p_2 > 0, r_2 = 0$.

Chan et al. [3,7] showed that Green’s function $G(x, \xi, t - \tau)$ associated with the operator $L = x^p(\partial/\partial t) - \partial^2/\partial^2x$ with the first boundary condition exists. For ease of reference, we state their results in the following lemma.

Lemma 3.3. (i) For $t > \tau$, $G(x, \xi, t - \tau)$ is continuous for $(x, t, \xi, \tau) \in ([0, a] \times (0, T]) \times ((0, a] \times [0, T))$.

(ii) For each fixed $(\xi, \tau) \in (0, a] \times [0, T)$, $G_t(x, \xi, t - \tau) \in C([0, a] \times (\tau, T])$.

(iii) In $\{(x, t, \xi, \tau) : x \text{ and } \xi \text{ are in } (0, a), T \geq t > \tau \geq 0\}$, $G(x, \xi, t - \tau)$ is positive.

Lemma 3.4. For fixed $x_0 \in (0, a]$, given any $x \in (0, a)$ and any finite time T , there exist positive constants C_1 (depending on x and T) and C_2 (depending on T) such that

$$\int_0^a G(x, \xi, t)d\xi > C_1, \quad \int_0^a G(x_0, \xi, t)d\xi < C_2.$$

Now we give the global blow-up result.

Theorem 3.5. Under the assumption of Case 1, if the solution of (1.1) blows up at the point $x_0 \in (0, a)$, then the blow-up set of the solution of (1.1) is $[0, a]$.

Proof. Obviously, the system (1.1) is completely coupled. Therefore, u and v blow up simultaneously if the solution (u, v) blows up in finite time. Without loss of generality, we assume $p_1 > 0, r_1 = 0$, and $u(x, t)$ blows up in finite time T . By Green’s second identity we have

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^a \xi^{p_1} G(x, \xi, t)u_0(\xi)d\xi + \int_0^t \int_0^a G(x, \xi, t - \tau) \int_0^a g(v(y, \tau))dyd\xi d\tau \quad (3.8)$$

for any $(x, t) \in (0, a) \times (0, T)$. Since $u(x, t)$ blows up at $x = x_0$, we have $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} u(x_0, t) = \infty$. By (3.8) and Lemma 3.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(x_0, t) &= \int_0^a \xi^{p_1} G(x_0, \xi, t)u_0(\xi)d\xi + \int_0^t \int_0^a G(x_0, \xi, \tau) \int_0^a g(v(y, t - \tau))dyd\xi d\tau \\ &\leq C_2 a^{p_1} \max_{x \in [0, a]} u_0(x) + C_2 \int_0^t \int_0^a g(v(y, t - \tau))dyd\tau, \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \int_0^t \int_0^a g(v(y, t - \tau))dyd\tau = \infty. \quad (3.9)$$

On the other hand, for any $x \in (0, a)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &\geq \int_0^a \xi^{p_1} G(x, \xi, t) u_0(\xi) d\xi + C_1 \int_0^t \int_0^a g(v(y, t - \tau)) dy d\tau \\ &\geq C_1 \int_0^t \int_0^a g(v(y, t - \tau)) dy d\tau, \quad t \in (0, T). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the above inequality and (3.9) that $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} u(x, t) = \infty$. For any $\tilde{x} \in \{0, a\}$, we can always find a sequence $\{(x_n, t_n)\}$ such that $(x_n, t_n) \rightarrow (\tilde{x}, T)$ ($n \rightarrow \infty$) and $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} u(x_n, t_n) = \infty$. Thus, the blow-up set is $[0, a]$, and this completes the proof. \square

Case 2: $p_1 = 0, 0 \leq r_1 < 1$ or $p_2 = 0, 0 \leq r_2 < 1$.

We assert that the blow-up set is the whole domain under certain assumptions.

Theorem 3.6. *Under the assumption of Case 2 and if there exists $M \in (0, +\infty)$ such that*

$$(x^{r_1} u_{0x}(x))_x \leq M \quad \text{or} \quad (x^{r_2} v_{0x}(x))_x \leq M \quad \text{in} \quad (0, a),$$

if the solution of (1.1) blows up at the point $x_0 \in (0, a)$, then the blow-up set of the solution of (1.1) is $[0, a]$.

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof presented in [8, 18], so we omit it. \square

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