

# Neumann Problem for Coupled Diffusion Systems with Localized Nonlinear Reactions

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## Abstract

This paper deals with the Neumann problem for coupled diffusion systems with localized nonlinear reactions. We give the blow-up conditions and the asymptotic behavior of the blow-up solution.

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**Keywords:** Diffusion equations; Localized source; Asymptotic behavior

## 1 Introduction and main results

We consider positive solutions to the system of diffusion equations coupled with localized source

$$u_{it} = \Delta u_i + u_{i+1}^{p_i}(x_0, t) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad u_{k+1} := u_1, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad (1.1)$$

with homogeneous Neumann boundary values

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial \nu} = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad (1.2)$$

and nontrivial, nonnegative and bounded initial data

$$u_i(x, 0) = u_{i0}(x) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $p_i > 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ).  $\Omega \in R^N$  is a bounded domain with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ , and  $\nu$  is the outward unit normal vector on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

Equations (1.1) describe a physical phenomenon where the reaction in a dynamical system is driven by the temperature at a single point (see [1, 4, 7]).

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The uncoupled single equation of (1.1) and some its variants were studied by some authors (see [2, 5]). In [2], Chadam et al. studied the single more general equation

$$u_t = \Delta u + f(u(x_0(t), t)), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0,$$

with Neumann boundary conditions. They gave the blow-up conditions, and proved that the blow-up set is the whole region  $\bar{\Omega}$  if a solution blows up at finite time  $T$ . They also showed that  $u(x_0, t) \leq (\frac{2}{(p-1)(T-t)})^{\frac{1}{p-1}}$  for  $f(s) = s^p$ , ( $p > 1$ ).

We remark that a lot of work have been done in the past few years on the blow-up problems for coupled systems (see [3, 6-9]). In the special cases  $k = 2$  of (1.1)-(1.3), the blow-up rate and blow-up set were studied in [9]. There are some works on the blow-up rate for a general semilinear diffusion system

$$u_{it} = \Delta u_i + u_{i+1}^{p_i} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad u_{k+1} := u_1, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, +\infty)$$

with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions, where  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^N$  or  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^N$  (see [3, 8] and references therein).

Motivated by the above mentioned works, the aim of this paper is to present the asymptotic behavior of the blow-up solution to the system (1.1)-(1.3). Now, we introduce some useful symbols to state our results. Let  $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k)^T$  be the solution of the following linear algebraic system

$$A\alpha := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -p_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -p_2 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -p_{k-1} \\ -p_k & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \dots \\ \alpha_{k-1} \\ \alpha_k \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \dots \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.4)$$

A series of standard computations yield  $\det A = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^k p_i$ . We shall see that  $\det A = 0$  is the critical global existence curve. A direct computation also shows that

$$\alpha_i = \frac{1 + p_i + \sum_{j=i+1}^{k+i-2} p_i \dots p_j}{\prod_{i=1}^k p_i - 1} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k). \quad (1.5)$$

From (1.4), we see that

$$\alpha_i + 1 = p_i \alpha_{i+1} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad \alpha_{k+1} := \alpha_1. \quad (1.6)$$

Now we state the main results of this paper.

**Theorem 1.1** (i) If  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i \leq 1$  (i.e.  $\det A \geq 0$ ), then every solution of the system (1.1)-(1.3) is global in time; (ii) If  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i > 1$  (i.e.  $\det A < 0$ ), then all solutions of (1.1)-(1.3) blow up in finite time.

**Theorem 1.2** *Let  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  be the solution of (1.1)-(1.3) in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$ , which blows up in finite time  $T$ . Then there exist positive constants  $C_i$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} u_i(x, t)(T - t)^{\alpha_i} \leq C_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ),  $(x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T)$ , uniformly in  $\bar{\Omega}$ .*

Finally, we give a brief line of the rest of this paper. In Section 2, we give the blow-up conditions and prove Theorem 1.1. The proof of Theorem 1.2 is the subject of Section 3.

## 2 Blow up in finite time

In this section, we characterize when all solutions to the problem (1.1)-(1.3) are global in time or blow up. Now, we start our arguments with the maximum principle that will be used in the sequel.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  be a classical solution of the problem*

$$\begin{aligned} u_{it} - \Delta u_i &\geq c_i(x, t)u_{i+1}(x_0, t) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad u_{k+1} := u_1, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial \nu} &= 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad (x, t) \in \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ u_i(x, 0) &\geq 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad x \in \Omega. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

If  $0 \leq c_i(x, t) < C_i$ , then  $u_i(x, t) \geq 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), for all  $(x, t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ .

**Proof.** Set  $w_i = e^{-Kt}u_i$ , where  $K = \sum_{i=1}^k C_i$ . We claim  $w_i \geq 0$  on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T']$  for any  $T' < T$ . In fact, if  $\min(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) < 0$  for some  $(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T']$ , without loss of generality, we assume that  $\min(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)(x, t)$  takes negative minimum at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$  and  $w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \leq w_i(\bar{x}, \bar{t}), i = 2, \dots, k$ . Using the first inequality in (2.1), we find that

$$w_{1t} - \Delta w_1 \geq -Kw_1(x, t) + c_1(x, t)w_2(x_0, t), \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times [0, T']. \tag{2.2}$$

If  $(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \in \Omega \times (0, T']$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} w_{1t}(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) - \Delta w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) &\geq -Kw_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) + c_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t})w_2(x_0, \bar{t}) \\ &\geq -Kw_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) + C_1w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) > 0, \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

here we use  $0 \leq c_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \leq C_1$  and  $w_2(x_0, \bar{t}) \geq \min(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)(x_0, \bar{t}) \geq \min(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ . On the other hand,  $w_1(x, t)$  attains negative minimum at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ , so  $w_{1t}(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) - \Delta w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \leq 0$ , which leads to a contradiction to inequality (2.3).

If  $(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) \in \partial\Omega \times (0, T']$ , we have  $\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial \nu}(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = 0$ . In this case, we may choose a small  $\epsilon > 0$  satisfying  $\epsilon < -(K - C_1)w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ , and find a point  $x_\epsilon \in \Omega$ , sufficiently close to  $\bar{x}$ , such that

$$w_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) \leq w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) + \frac{\epsilon}{3K}, \quad w_{1t}(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}, \quad -\Delta w_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}.$$

Then combining these inequalities with (2.2), we obtain  $c_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t})w_2(x_0, \bar{t}) \leq w_{1t}(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) - \Delta w_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) + Kw_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t}) \leq \epsilon + Kw_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ . It follows that  $\epsilon \geq -Kw_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) + c_1(x_\epsilon, \bar{t})w_2(x_0, \bar{t}) \geq -(K - C_1)w_1(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ , which contradicts our choice of  $\epsilon$ . Thus,  $\min(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k) \geq 0$  on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T)$  and  $u_i(x, t) \geq 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T)$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1(i).** For  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i < 1$ , we follow from (1.5) that  $-\alpha_i > 1$ . Construct  $\bar{u}_i(x, t) = (M + t)^{-\alpha_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), where  $M > 0$  is to be determined later. Define  $\bar{u}_{k+1} = \bar{u}_1$  and  $\alpha_{k+1} = \alpha_1$ . It will be obtained from (1.6) that  $\bar{u}_{it} - \Delta \bar{u}_i = -\alpha_i(M + t)^{-\alpha_i - 1} > (M + t)^{-p_i \alpha_i + 1} = \bar{u}_{i+1}^{p_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ). It is easy to see that  $\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial \nu} = 0$ ,  $x \in \partial\Omega$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and  $\bar{u}_i(x, 0) \geq u_{i0}(x)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), where we take  $M$  sufficiently large. It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $(\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2, \dots, \bar{u}_k) \geq (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$ , which implies  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  globally exists.

For  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i = 1$ , set  $\bar{u}_i = Ae^{L_i t}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), where  $A > 0$ ,  $L_i$  are to be determined. A simple computation shows  $\bar{u}_{it} - \Delta \bar{u}_i = AL_i e^{L_i t} \geq A^{p_i} e^{p_i L_i t} = \bar{u}_{i+1}^{p_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), where  $\bar{u}_{k+1} := \bar{u}_1$ ,  $L_{k+1} := L_1$ , if we choose  $L_i$  large enough and  $L_i = p_i L_{i+1}$ . In the case of  $i = 1$ , we must confirm  $L_1 = p_1 L_2 = p_1 p_2 L_3 = \dots = L_1 \prod_{i=1}^k p_i$ . Noticing  $\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial \nu} = 0$ ,  $x \in \partial\Omega$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and  $\bar{u}_i(x, 0) \geq u_{i0}(x)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) for  $A$  sufficiently large, by Lemma 2.1, we have  $(\bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2, \dots, \bar{u}_k) \geq (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$ , which implies  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  globally exists. We have proved Theorem 1.1(i) for system (1.1)-(1.3).  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1(ii).** Since the initial data are nontrivial, without loss of generality we assume that  $u_{10}(x) \geq 0$  and  $u_{10}(x) \neq 0$ . Let  $v$  be the solution of  $v_t - \Delta v = 0$  in  $\Omega \times (0, \infty)$  with  $v(x, 0) = u_{10}(x)$ . It follows from the maximum principle for the heat equation that  $u_1 \geq v$  as long as  $u_1$  exists. Moreover,  $v(x, t) > 0$  in  $\Omega \times (0, \infty)$ . On the other hand,  $u_k$  satisfies  $u_{kt} - \Delta u_k = u_1^{p_k}(x_0, t) \geq v^{p_k}(x_0, t) > 0$  in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$  with  $u_{k0}(x) \geq 0$ . So  $u_k(x, t) > 0$  in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$ . Similarly, we have  $u_i(x, t) > 0$  ( $i = 2, 3, \dots, k - 1$ ) in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$ . Therefore, without loss of generality, we may assume  $u_{i0}(x) > 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) for  $x \in \bar{\Omega}$ .

Now, we prove the non-existence of global solutions by constructing a blow-up subsolution of the system (1.1)-(1.3). Consider the ODE system

$$\begin{aligned} f'_i(t) &= f_i^{p_i} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad f_{k+1} := f_1, \quad t > 0, \\ f_i(0) &= a_i > 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_i = \min_{\bar{\Omega}} u_{i0}(x)$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have  $(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) \geq (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$ .

We claim that exist a constants  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\left(\prod_{i=1}^k f_i\right)'(t) \geq \delta \left(\prod_{i=1}^k f_i(t)\right)^m$ , where  $m = 1 + \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i}$  (the claim is to be proved later).

For  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i > 1$ , (1.5) implies that  $m > 1$ . Noting  $\left(\prod_{i=1}^k f_i\right)(0) = \prod_{i=1}^k a_i > 0$ , it follow that  $\left(\prod_{i=1}^k f_i\right)(t)$  blows up in finite time. So dose  $(u_1, \dots, u_k)$ , which implies that Theorem 1.1(ii) holds.

Now we prove the claim. We denote first by

$$\tilde{A} := \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p_2 & -1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & p_{k-1} & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & p_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

and then observe that the linear algebraic system  $\tilde{A}(\frac{1}{q_1}, \frac{1}{q_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{q_{k-1}}, \frac{1}{q_k})^T = (m - 1, m - 1, \dots, m - 1, m - 1)^T$  exists a unique solution  $(\frac{1}{q_1}, \frac{1}{q_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{q_{k-1}}, \frac{1}{q_k})^T$  with  $\frac{1}{q_1} = \frac{m-1}{\det \tilde{A}} [1 + p_k + p_k p_{k-1} + \dots + p_k p_{k-1} p_{k-2} \dots p_2]$ . By using  $p_i \frac{1}{q_i} - \frac{1}{q_{i+1}} = m - 1$ , we can deduce the other  $\frac{1}{q_i}$  ( $i = 2, 3, \dots, k$ ). After a series of computation, we get  $\frac{1}{q_i} > 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{q_i} = 1$  which imply that  $0 < \frac{1}{q_i} < 1$  or equivalently  $q_i > 1$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ). Then we use Hölder’s inequality to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\prod_{i=1}^k f_i(t)\right)^m &= f_2^{p_1 \frac{1}{q_1} + 1 - \frac{1}{q_2}} f_3^{p_2 \frac{1}{q_2} + 1 - \frac{1}{q_3}} f_4^{p_3 \frac{1}{q_3} + 1 - \frac{1}{q_4}} \dots f_1^{p_k \frac{1}{q_k} + 1 - \frac{1}{q_1}} \\ &= (f_2^{p_1+1} f_3 f_4 \dots f_k)^{\frac{1}{q_1}} (f_1 f_3^{p_2+1} f_4 \dots f_k)^{\frac{1}{q_2}} \dots (f_1^{p_k+1} f_2 f_3 f_4 \dots f_{k-1})^{\frac{1}{q_k}} \\ &\leq C(f_2^{p_1+1} f_3 f_4 \dots f_k + f_1 f_3^{p_2+1} f_4 \dots f_k + \dots + f_1^{p_k+1} f_2 f_3 f_4 \dots f_{k-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above inequality with  $f'_i(t) = f_{i+1}^{p_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ),  $f_{k+1} := f_1$ , we have proved our claim.  $\square$

### 3 Asymptotic behavior

In this section, we concern with the asymptotic behavior of blow-up solution near the blow-up time and the set of blow-up points. We first give an important lemma.

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $w \in C^{2,1}(\bar{\Omega} \times (0, T))$  be a solution of the problem*

$$\begin{aligned} w_t - \Delta w &= g(t), & (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} &= 0, & (x, t) \in \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ w(x, 0) &= w_0(x) \geq 0, & x \in \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

*Then we have  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \|w(\cdot, t)\|_\infty = +\infty$  if and only if  $\int_0^T g(s) ds = +\infty$ . Furthermore, if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \|w(\cdot, t)\|_\infty = +\infty$ , then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \frac{w(x, t)}{G(t)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow T} \frac{\|w(\cdot, t)\|_\infty}{G(t)} = 1$ , uniformly in  $\bar{\Omega}$ , where  $G(t) = \int_0^t g(s) ds$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $G(x, y; t - \tau)$  be Green’s function associated with the heat operator  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta$ . Note that the function  $G(x, y; t - \tau)$  possesses the properties  $G(x, y; t - \tau) \geq 0$ ,  $\int_\Omega G(x, y; t) dy = 1$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} w(x, t) &= \int_\Omega G(x, y; t) w_0(y) dy + \int_0^t \int_\Omega G(x, y; t - \tau) g(\tau) dy d\tau \\ &= \int_\Omega G(x, y; t) w_0(y) dy + \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\int_0^t g(\tau)d\tau \leq w(x, t) \leq \|w_0\|_\infty + \int_0^t g(\tau)d\tau$ ,  $(x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T)$ . From the inequality, we see that Lemma 3.1 holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2** *Let  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  be a solution to the problem (1.1)-(1.3). If  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  blows up in finite time  $T$ , then  $u_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) blow up simultaneously.*

**Proof.** Suppose on the contrary that  $u_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) do not blow up simultaneously in finite time  $T$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $u_1$  blows up in finite time  $T$  and  $u_2$  is bounded on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ . That is, there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $0 \leq u_2 \leq C$  for all  $(x, t) \in \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ . From the Lemma 3.1, we know that  $u_1$  is bounded on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Remark.** Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2 imply that the blow-up set of a blow-up solution of (1.1)-(1.3) is the whole region  $\bar{\Omega}$ .

In the following, we intend to prove the result of Theorems 1.2. For convenience, from now on we write  $g_i(t) = u_{i+1}^{p_i}(x_0, t)$ ,  $G_i(t) = \int_0^t g_i(s)ds$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ),  $u_{k+1} := u_1$ , and use the notation  $f(t) \sim g(t)$  for  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} \frac{f(t)}{g(t)} = 1$ . By Lemma 3.1, as  $t \rightarrow T$ , we have

$$G_i(t)' = g_i(t) = u_{i+1}^{p_i}(x_0, t) \sim G_{i+1}^{p_i}(t) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k), \quad u_{k+1} := u_1, \quad G_{k+1}(t) := G_1(t).$$

**Lemma 3.3** *If  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  is the solution of (1.1)-(1.3) with blow-up time  $T$ , then there exist positive constants  $C_i$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow T} G_i(t)(T - t)^{\alpha_i} \leq C_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) uniformly in  $\bar{\Omega}$ .*

**Proof.** By similar arguments in the proof of Theorem 1.1(ii), we have  $\left(\prod_{i=1}^k G_i\right)'(t) \geq \lambda \left(\prod_{i=1}^k G_i(t)\right)^{1 + \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i}}$ , as  $t \rightarrow T$ , where  $\lambda$  is a positive constant. We get by integrating

$$\prod_{i=1}^k G_i(t) \leq C(T - t)^{-\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i} \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow T. \tag{3.1}$$

With (3.1) at hand, we claim there exist  $C_i > 0$  such that  $G_i(t) \leq C_i(T - t)^{-\alpha_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), as  $t \rightarrow T$ . In fact, we only need to show the case  $i = 1$ . On the contrary, noting  $G_i(t)' \sim G_{i+1}^{p_i}(t)$ , if there exist two sequences  $\{t_n\}$ , ( $0 < t_n < T$ ), and  $\{c_n\}$  with  $t_n \rightarrow T^-$  and  $c_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  such that  $G_1(t_n) \geq c_n(T - t_n)^{-\alpha_1}$ , for large  $n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} G_k(t) &\geq G_k(t_n) + c \int_{t_n}^t G_1^{p_k}(s)ds \geq cG_1^{p_k}(t_n)(t - t_n) \geq cc_n^{p_k}(T - t_n)^{-p_k\alpha_1}(t - t_n), \\ G_{k-1}(t) &\geq G_{k-1}(t_n) + c \int_{t_n}^t G_k^{p_{k-1}}(s)ds \geq c^{1+p_{k-1}}c_n^{p_{k-1}p_k}(T - t_n)^{-p_{k-1}p_k\alpha_1} \int_{t_n}^t (s - t_n)^{p_{k-1}}ds \\ &= \frac{1}{p_{k-1}+1}c^{1+p_{k-1}}c_n^{p_{k-1}p_k}(T - t_n)^{-p_{k-1}p_k\alpha_1}(t - t_n)^{p_{k-1}+1}, \\ &\dots\dots \\ G_1(t) &\geq e(p_1, \dots, p_{k-1})c_n^{\prod_{i=1}^k p_i}(T - t_n)^{-\alpha_1 \prod_{i=1}^k p_i}(t - t_n)^{1 + \sum_{l=1}^{k-1} \prod_{i=1}^l p_i} \end{aligned}$$

where  $c$  is a suitable constant and  $e(p_1, \dots, p_{k-1})$  is a constant depending only on  $p_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ ). Multiplying the above inequalities, we get

$$\prod_{i=1}^k G_i(t) \geq e c_n^\theta (T - t_n)^{-p\alpha_1} (t - t_n)^q, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $e, \theta > 0$  is are constants depending only on  $p_i$ , and

$$p = \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \prod_{i=k-l}^k p_i, \quad q = 1 + (1 + p_{k-1}) + \dots + (p_1 p_2 \dots p_{k-1} + p_1 p_2 \dots p_{k-2} + \dots + p_1 + 1).$$

Taking  $t = t' := \frac{T+t_n}{2}$  in (3.2), we have  $t' \rightarrow T$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$\prod_{i=1}^k G_i(t') \geq e c_n^\theta 2^{-q} (T - t_n)^{-p\alpha_1 + q} \geq e c_n^\theta 2^{-p\alpha_1} (T - t')^{-p\alpha_1 + q}. \quad (3.3)$$

Using the definitions of  $\alpha_i$ ;  $p$ ;  $q$ , after a series of complicated but standard computations, we have  $-p\alpha_1 + q = -\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i$ , which implies inequality (3.3) contradicts (3.1) since  $c_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . So the claim  $G_1(t) \leq C_1(T - t)^{-\alpha_1}$  as  $t \rightarrow T$  is true. Proceeding in a similar way with the other (in)equalities, we conclude  $G_i(t) \leq C_i(T - t)^{-\alpha_i}$  ( $i = 2, \dots, k$ ), as  $t \rightarrow T$ .  $\square$

We obtain the conclusion of the Theorem 1.2 by combining Lemmas 3.1 and 3.3.  $\square$

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