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Global regularity of stable solutions to semilinear equations

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In this talk, I will announce some recent results on the global regularity of stable solutions to semilinear equations. These are a follow-up to the interior estimates in [2].

Given a bounded domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ of class $C^{1,1}$, we consider stable solutions to $a_{ij}(x)u_{ij}+b_i(x)u_i+f(u)=0$ in Ω vanishing on the boundary. Here, stability amounts to the nonnegativity of the principal eigenvalue of the linearized equation. We will show that stable solutions are globally Hölder continuous when $n \leq 9$. This dimension is optimal, since there are examples of unbounded stable solutions for $n \geq 10$. Before our work, the only optimal result [1] involved the model operator, the Laplacian, and needed a C^3 regularity assumption on the domain.

To prove the global result, flattening out the boundary, it will suffice to establish a priori estimates on half-balls. Our bounds

there will be independent of the nonlinearity $f \in C^1$, which we assume to be nonnegative, nondecreasing, and convex. For the extension of these estimates to $C^{1,1}$ domains, it is essential to make the constants in our bounds depend on specific norms of the coefficients, namely, the $C^{0,1}$ norm of a_{ij} and the L^{∞} norm of b_i .

References

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- [2] I.U. Erneta, Stable solutions to semilinear elliptic equations for operators with variable coefficients. To appear in Commun. Pure Appl. Anal. (2022)

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