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*Evolution and long-time behaviour of the free boundary in nonlinear Stefan problems*

We consider the following free boundary problem

$$\begin{cases} u_t - d\Delta u = f(u) & \text{for } x \in \Omega(t), t > 0, \\ u = 0 \text{ and } u_t = \mu|\nabla_x u|^2 & \text{for } x \in \Gamma(t), t > 0, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x) & \text{for } x \in \Omega_0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\Omega(t) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) is bounded by the free boundary  $\Gamma(t)$ , with  $\Omega(0) = \Omega_0$ ,  $\mu$  and  $d$  are given positive constants. Our assumptions on  $f(u)$  include monostable, bistable and combustion type nonlinearities.

We show that the free boundary  $\Gamma(t)$  is  $C^1$  outside the convex hull of  $\Omega_0$ , and as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , either  $\Gamma(t)$  remains bounded and  $u(t, \cdot) \rightarrow 0$  in the  $L^\infty$  norm, or  $\Gamma(t)$  goes to infinity in the sense that it is contained in an annulus of the form  $\{R(t) - C_0 \leq |x| \leq R(t)\}$ , with  $R(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Moreover,  $R(t)/t \rightarrow k_0 > 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

This is joint work with Hiroshi Matano (Tokyo) and Kelei Wang (Sydney).