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Susan Friedlander* (susanfri@usc.edu), Math Dept, 3620 S. Vermont, USC, Los Angeles, CA 90089, and **Natasa Pavlovic** and **Vlad Vicol**. *Nonlinear instability for the critically dissipative quasi-geostrophic equation.*

We prove that linear instability implies nonlinear instability in the energy norm for the critically dissipative quasi-geostrophic equation. (Received January 25, 2009)