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On hyperbolic mixed problems with dynamic and Wentzell boundary conditions

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Abstract

We study mixed hyperbolic systems with dynamic and Wentzell boundary conditions. The boundary condition contains a tangential operator which is strongly elliptic on the boundary. We prove results of generation of strongly continuous groups and well-posedness.

Keywords: Hyperbolic problems, dynamic boundary conditions, Wentzell boundary conditions
2010 MSC: 35L53, 47D06.

1 Introduction

The aim of this paper is the study of a problem in the form

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} D_t^2 u(t, x) = A(x, D_x)u(t, x) + f(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ D_t^2 \gamma u(t, x') = \nabla_\tau \cdot (B(x') \nabla_\tau \gamma u)(t, x') + F(x', D_x)u(t, x') + h(t, x'), \\ (t, x') \in (0, T) \times \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ D_t u(0, x) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega. \end{array} \right. \quad (1.1) \quad \boxed{\text{eq3.1}}$$

Roughly speaking (precise assumptions will be given in the following), $A(x, D_x)$ is a strongly elliptic differential operator in divergence form in the bounded domain Ω with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$; γf is the trace of f on $\partial\Omega$; ∇_τ is the tangential gradient in $\partial\Omega$, $\nabla_\tau \cdot$ is the divergence operator in $\partial\Omega$, $B(x')$ is a positive definite symmetric operator in the tangent space $T_{x'}(\partial\Omega)$, with $x' \in \partial\Omega$, $F(x', D_x)$ is a linear differential operator of order not exceeding one (not necessarily tangential) and coefficients defined in $\partial\Omega$.

(1.1) is strictly connected with the problem

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$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} D_t^2 u(t, x) = A(x, D_x)u(t, x) + f(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ A(x', D_x)u(t, x') = \nabla_\tau \cdot (B(x')\nabla_\tau u)(t, x') + F(x', D_x)u(t, x') + h(t, x'), \quad (t, x') \in (0, T) \times \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ D_t u(0, x) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega. \end{array} \right. \quad (1.2) \quad \text{eq0.2}$$

formally obtained replacing in (1.1) $D_t^2 \gamma u(t, x')$ in the second equation with the trace of the second term in the first equation. In case (1.2) one usually speaks of Wentzell boundary conditions.

A physical interpretation of (1.2) is given in [10], Chapter 6.

In our knowledge, problems (1.1) and (1.2) have been always considered in the particular case that

$$F(x', D_x) = -\beta(x') \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A} - c(x'), \quad (1.3) \quad \text{eq0.3}$$

where we indicate with $\frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A}$ the conormal derivative associated with $A(x, D_x)$. See, for example, [1], [9], [12], often connected with problems of control.

The most general results are contained in [2], where $F(x', D_x)$ is in the form (1.3) with $\beta(x') > 0$ which is allowed (to some extent) to be unbounded and with infimum equal to 0. The authors do not even assume that the coefficients of $A(x, D_x)$ and $B(x')$ are continuous; they need to be just measurable and bounded. They work in the basic space $L^2(\bar{\Omega}, d\mu) := L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(\partial\Omega, dS/\beta)$ with $F(x', D_x)$ as in (1.3). They show that a certain operator connected with (1.1) and (1.2) is self-adjoint and upper bounded. This allows to formulate theorems of well-posedness in a certain generalized sense. They consider also the case when D_t^2 is replaced by $D_t^2 + aD_t$ (this is the telegraph equation).

Roughly speaking, in this paper we want to show that, at least in case of "regular coefficients" for $A(x, D_x)$ and $B(x')$, (1.1) and (1.2) are well posed whenever the operator $F(x', D_x)$ has bounded and measurable coefficients in $\partial\Omega$.

This is the plan of this paper: Section 2 is dedicated to the proof of Theorem 2.1. We begin by considering a particular case, with $F(x', D_x) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A} - \gamma$. In this situation the result is essentially known (see for this also [3]), but we have decided to give a complete proof in order to make the paper more or less self-contained. The general statement is obtained by combining an estimate of the conormal derivative of the solution to a hyperbolic Cauchy-Dirichlet system (see Theorem 2.10) with a perturbation theorem of Miyadera type (Theorem 2.12). The estimate is inspired by a nice result due to I. Lasiecka, J. L. Lions, R. Triggiani (see [8]).

The final Section 3 contains developments and applications of Theorem 2.1 to a generalization of (1.1), and to (1.2).

To conclude this preliminary section, we describe some notations we are going to use.

If Ω is a domain with smooth boundary and $x' \in \partial\Omega$, we shall indicate with $\nu(x')$ the unit normal vector to $\partial\Omega$ in x' , pointing outside Ω , with $\frac{\partial}{\partial \nu}$ the corresponding normal derivative. $T_{x'}(\partial\Omega)$ will be the tangent space to $\partial\Omega$ in x' and $T(\partial\Omega)$ the tangent bundle. If A is the differential operator

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n D_{x_i} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \cdot) + \sum_{j=1}^n a_j(x) D_{x_j} + a_0(x),$$

and $x' \in \partial\Omega$, we set

$$D_{\nu_A} u(x') = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu_A}(x') = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x') D_{x_j} u(x') \nu_i(x').$$

C will indicate a positive constant we are not interested to precise. In a sequence of formulas we shall write C_1, C_2, \dots . If the constants depend on T , we shall write $C(T), C_1(T), \dots$.

If X and Y are normed spaces, we shall indicate with $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ the space of linear bounded operators from X to Y . If $X = Y$, we shall write $\mathcal{L}(X)$. If V is a Hilbert space, we shall indicate with V^* the space of antilinear bounded functionals in V .

2 The main theorem

se2

As we said, in this section we shall study a simplified version of (1.1). We begin by stating our assumptions.

(A1) Ω is an open bounded subset of \mathbb{R}^n lying on one side of its boundary $\partial\Omega$, which is a submanifold of \mathbb{R}^n of dimension $n-1$ and class C^2 .

(A2) $A_0(x, D_x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n D_{x_i} [a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \cdot]$,
with $a_{ij} \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ ($1 \leq i, j \leq n$), real valued, $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) \xi_i \xi_j \geq \nu |\xi|^2,$$

for any $x \in \overline{\Omega}$, $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$, for some ν positive.

(A3) $\forall x' \in \partial\Omega$ $B(x')$ is symmetric and positive definite element of $\mathcal{L}(T_{x'}(\partial\Omega))$.

(A4) $B(x')$ depends smoothly on x' , in the sense that, if u is a C^1 section with values in $T(\partial\Omega)$, $B(\cdot)u(\cdot)$ is a C^1 section.

(A5) $F(x', D_x)u(x') = \sum_{j=1}^n f_j(x') D_{x_j} u(x') + f_0(x') u(x')$, with $f_j \in L^\infty(\partial\Omega)$ ($0 \leq j \leq n$).

We set

$$H = L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(\partial\Omega), \quad (2.1)$$

Of course, H is a Hilbert space with the usual scalar product

$$((f_0, h_0), (f_1, h_1))_H = \int_{\Omega} f_0(x) \overline{f_1(x)} dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} h_0(x') \overline{h_1(x')} d\sigma,$$

where σ is the standard Riemannian measure in $\partial\Omega$. We set also

$$V = \{(\phi, \psi) \in H^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\partial\Omega) : \gamma\phi = \psi\}. \quad (2.2)$$

We equip V with the scalar product

$$\begin{aligned} & ((\phi_0, \psi_0), (\phi_1, \psi_1))_V \\ &:= \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi_0(x) \overline{D_{x_i} \phi_1(x)} dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} [B(x') \nabla_{\tau} \psi_0(x') \cdot \overline{\nabla_{\tau} \psi_1(x')} + \psi_0(x) \overline{\psi_1(x')}] d\sigma. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

We introduce the following operator A_2 in $H \times H$:

$$\begin{cases} D(A_2) = W := \{(\phi, \psi) \in H^2(\Omega) \times H^2(\partial\Omega) : \psi = \gamma\phi\}, \\ A_2(\phi, \psi) = (A_0(\cdot, D_x)\phi, \nabla_{\tau} \cdot (B(\cdot) \nabla_{\tau} \psi) + F(\cdot, D_x)\phi). \end{cases}$$

The main result of this section is the following

th0.1

Theorem 2.1. Suppose that (A1)-(A5) are fulfilled. We introduce the following operator M :

$$\begin{cases} D(M) = W \times V, \\ M((\phi, \psi), (f, h)) = ((f, h), A_2(\phi, \psi)) \end{cases}$$

Then M is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in $V \times H$.

We begin the proof of Theorem 2.1 by recalling the well known procedure of identifying the element (f, h) of H with the element $J(f, h)$ of V^* defined as

$$(J(f, h), (\phi, \psi)) = ((f, h), (\phi, \psi))_H = \int_{\Omega} f(x) \overline{\phi(x)} dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} h(x') \overline{\psi(x')} d\sigma, \quad (\phi, \psi) \in V.$$

From Poincaré inequality, we deduce

$$|(J(f, h), (\phi, \psi))| \leq \|(f, h)\|_H \|(\phi, \psi)\|_H \leq C_0 \|(f, h)\|_H \|(\phi, \psi)\|_V,$$

for any (ϕ, ψ) in V . We deduce that $\|J(f, h)\|_{V^*} \leq C_0 \|(f, h)\|_H$. So the identification of (f, h) with $J(f, h)$ carries to $\|(f, h)\|_{V^*} \leq C_0 \|(f, h)\|_H$ and $H \hookrightarrow V^*$. We introduce the operator A_0 , defined as follows:

$$\begin{cases} D(A_0) = \{(u, v) \in V : \exists (f, h) \in H : ((u, v), (\psi, \psi))_V = ((f, h), (\phi, \psi))_H \ \forall (\phi, \psi) \in V\}, \\ A_0(u, v) = (f, h). \end{cases} \quad (2.4) \quad \text{eq0.9}$$

The following result is well known (for a proof, see [11], Chapter 2.2).

1e2.2 **Lemma 2.2.** *If A_0 is the linear operator defined in (2.4), $D(A_0)$ is dense in H , A_0 is self-adjoint and positive and $D(A_0^{1/2}) = V$.*

Concerning $D(A_0)$, we have:

1e0.2 **Lemma 2.3.** *Suppose that (A1)-(A4) hold. Then*

$$D(A_0) = W$$

and $\forall (u, v) \in W$

$$A_0(u, v) = (-A_0(\cdot, D_x)u, -\nabla_\tau \cdot (B(\cdot)\nabla_\tau v) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu_A} + v).$$

Proof. We consider the operator $A_1 : W \rightarrow H$,

$$A_1(u, v) = (-A_0(\cdot, D_x)u, -\nabla_\tau \cdot (B(\cdot)\nabla_\tau v) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu_A} + v).$$

It is immediately seen, employing Green's formula, that

$$A_1 \subseteq A_0. \quad (2.5) \quad \text{eq0.10}$$

On the other hand, as A_0 is self adjoint and positive, $-A_0$ is the infinitesimal generator of an analytic semigroup in H . By Theorem 4.1 in [6], the same happens for A_1 . So $\rho(A_0) \cap \rho(A_1) \neq \emptyset$. This, together with (2.5), implies the conclusion. \square

Remark 2.4. By Lemma 2.3, in case $F(\cdot, D_x) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A} - \gamma$, $A_2 = -A_0$.

Now we are able to employ the following result (see [7], Theorem 7.2):

th0.3 **Theorem 2.5.** *Let B be the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in the Banach space X . Assume that $0 \in \rho(B)$. Define*

$$\begin{cases} D(M_0) = D(B^2) \times D(B), \\ M_0(u, v) = (v, B^2 u). \end{cases}$$

Then M_0 is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in the Banach space $D(B) \times X$.

co0.4 **Corollary 2.6.** *Suppose that (A1)-(A4) hold. We introduce the following operator M_0 :*

$$\begin{cases} D(M_0) = W \times V, \\ M_0((\phi, \psi), (f, h)) = ((f, h), -A_0(\phi, \psi)). \end{cases} \quad (2.6) \quad \text{eq0.11A}$$

Then M_0 is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in $V \times H$.

Proof. We set $B := iA_0^{1/2}$. Then B is skew-adjoint and $D(B) = V$. By Stone's theorem, B is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group of isometries in H . We have $B^2 = -A_0$. So the conclusion follows from Theorem 2.5. \square

We shall indicate with $(e^{tM_0})_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ the group generated by M_0 in $V \times H$.

Remark 2.7. If $(\phi, \psi) \in V$ and $(\alpha, \beta) \in H$, we shall often write $(\phi, \psi, \alpha, \beta)$ instead of $((\phi, \psi), (\alpha, \beta))$

eq2.8A

Remark 2.8. If $(\phi, \psi, \alpha, \beta)$ belongs to $V \times H$ and its components are real valued, then the components of $e^{tM_0}(\phi, \psi, \alpha, \beta)$ are real valued. In case $(\phi, \psi, \alpha, \beta) \in W \times V$, This can be easily deduced from the uniqueness of the solution of the problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} D_t^2 u(t, x) = A_0(x, D_x)u(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \Omega, \\ D_t^2 \gamma u(t, x') = \nabla_\tau \cdot (B(x') \nabla_\tau \gamma u)(t, x') - \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu_A}(t, x') - \gamma u(t, x'), \\ (t, x') \in \mathbb{R} \times \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, x) = \phi(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ D_t u(0, x) = \alpha(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \end{array} \right.$$

which follows from Corollary 2.6. The general case follows by continuity.

re2.8

Remark 2.9. Suppose that the assumptions (A1)-(A4) are satisfied. Let $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_0 \in H^2(\partial\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H^1(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_1 \in H^1(\partial\Omega)$, so that $(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1) \in W \times V$. Let

$$(\phi(t), \psi(t), \alpha(t), \beta(t)) = e^{tM_0}(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1). \quad (2.7)$$

eq0.14

Then $\phi \in \cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}(\mathbb{R}; H^j(\Omega))$, $\psi \in \cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}(\mathbb{R}; H^j(\partial\Omega))$, $\psi = \gamma\phi$, $\alpha = D_t\phi$, $\beta = D_t\psi = \gamma\alpha$. Moreover,

$$D_t^2 \phi(t, x) = A_0(x, D_x)\phi(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \Omega.$$

So ϕ is also the solution of the mixed Cauchy-Dirichlet problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} D_t^2 \phi(t, x) = A_0(x, D_x)\phi(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in (a, b) \times \Omega, \\ \phi(t, x') = \psi(t, x'), \quad (t, x') \in (a, b) \times \partial\Omega, \\ \phi(0, x) = u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ D_t \phi(0, x) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega. \end{array} \right. \quad (2.8)$$

eq2.8

Now we want to replace $-\frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A} - \gamma$ with an essentially arbitrary differential operator of order not exceeding one. To this aim, the key fact is the following result, following the idea of [8], Theorem 2.1. For a slightly different situation, see also [5].

th2.10

Theorem 2.10. Suppose that the conditions (A1)-(A4) are fulfilled. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, with $a < b$. Then there exists $C(a, b)$ positive such that, $\forall (u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)$ belonging to $W \times V$,

$$\left\| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{L^2((a, b) \times \partial\Omega)} \leq C \|(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)\|_{V \times H},$$

with $\phi(t)$ first component of $e^{tM_0}(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)$ (see Remark 2.9).

Proof. We continue to employ the notation (2.7). Concerning the proof, it suffices to consider the case that the components of $(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)$ are real valued, so that, by Remark 2.8, ϕ is real valued.

We set

$$N := \|u_0\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^2 + \|\gamma u_0\|_{H^1(\partial\Omega)}^2 + \|u_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\gamma u_1\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)}^2.$$

By simplicity of notation, we shall write, given a certain expression E , that $E = O(N)$ if there exists C positive, possibly depending on (a, b) , but not $(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)$, such that

$$|E| \leq C \|(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)\|_{V \times H}^2.$$

For example,

$$\max_{t \in [a, b]} \{\phi(t)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} + \|\psi(t)\|_{H^1(\partial\Omega)} + \|\alpha(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|\beta(t)\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)}\} = O(N).$$

We introduce a function $h \in C^1(\bar{\Omega}; \mathbb{R}^n)$ such that, for each $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, if $x' \in \partial\Omega$,

$$h_j(x') = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{i,j}(x') \nu_i(x').$$

If $b \in H^1(\Omega)$, we have, by Green's formula,

$$\int_{\Omega} h(x) \cdot \nabla_x b(x) dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} A(x') b(x') d\sigma(x') - \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}_x(h)(x) b(x) dx, \quad (2.9) \quad \boxed{\text{eq3.15}}$$

with

$$A(x') = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j}(x') \nu_i(x') \nu_j(x'), \quad x' \in \partial\Omega.$$

We have also that in $(a, b) \times \partial\Omega$, for $j = 1, \dots, n$, employing the notation (2.7),

$$D_{x_j} \phi(t, x') = \nu_j(x') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') + T_j \psi(t, x'), \quad (2.10) \quad \boxed{\text{eq3.16A}}$$

with T_j differential operator of order one in $\partial\Omega$, with coefficients in $C^1(\partial\Omega)$. Then, by Remark 2.9,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} D_t^2 \phi(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(t, x) dt dx \\ &= \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} A_0(x, D_x) \phi(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(t, x) dt dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.11) \quad \boxed{\text{eq3.16}}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} D_t^2 \phi(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(t, x) dt dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \alpha(b, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(b, x) dx - \int_{\Omega} \alpha(a, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(a, x) dx \\ & \quad - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \alpha(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \alpha(t, x) dt dx. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\Omega} \alpha(b, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(b, x) dx - \int_{\Omega} \alpha(a, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(a, x) dx \right| \\ & \leq C(a, b) (\|\alpha(b, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|\phi(b, \cdot)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} + \|\alpha(a, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|\phi\|_{C([a,b]; H^1(\Omega))}) \\ & = O(N). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by (2.9),

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \alpha(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \alpha(t, x) dt dx \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \alpha^2(t, x) dt dx \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| \int_a^b \left(\int_{\partial\Omega} A(x') \beta(t, x')^2 d\sigma \right) dt - \int_a^b \left(\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}_x h(x) \alpha(t, x)^2 dx \right) dt \right| \\ & \leq C (\|\beta\|_{C([a,b]; L^2(\partial\Omega))}^2 + \|\alpha\|_{C([a,b]; L^2(\Omega))}^2) \\ & = O(N). \end{aligned}$$

So, by (2.11),

$$\int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} A_0(x, D_x) \phi(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(t, x) dt dx = O(N).$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} A_0(x, D_x) \phi(t, x) h(x) \cdot \nabla_x \phi(t, x) dt dx \\ &= \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_i} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) D_{x_k} \phi(t, x)) dt dx \\ & \quad - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) D_{x_i} (h_k(x) D_{x_k} \phi(t, x)) dt dx \\ &= \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_i} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) D_{x_k} \phi(t, x)) dt dx \\ & \quad - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) D_{x_i x_k} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) dt dx \\ & \quad - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) D_{x_k} \phi(t, x) D_{x_i} h_k(x) dt dx \\ &:= I_1 - I_2 + O(N). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} -I_2 &= - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_k} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) D_{x_i} \phi(t, x) h_k(x)) dt dx \\ & \quad + \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_k} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x)) D_{x_i} \phi(t, x) dt dx \\ &= - \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_k} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) D_{x_i} \phi(t, x) h_k(x)) dt dx \\ & \quad + \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{x_k x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) D_{x_i} \phi(t, x) dt dx \\ & \quad + \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) D_{x_i} \phi(t, x) D_{x_k} (a_{ij}(x) h_k(x)) dt dx \\ &:= -I_3 + I_2 + O(N). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$I_2 = \frac{I_3}{2} + O(N).$$

We deduce that

$$I_1 - \frac{I_3}{2} = O(N).$$

(2.12) eq3.18

We have

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_{(a,b) \times \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n D_{x_i} (a_{ij}(x) D_{x_j} \phi(t, x) h_k(x) D_{x_k} \phi(t, x)) dt dx \\ &= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x') D_{x_j} \phi(t, x') \nu_i(x') \sum_{k=1}^n h_k(x') D_{x_k} \phi(t, x') dt d\sigma \\ &= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial \Omega} (D_{\nu_A} \phi(t, x'))^2 dt d\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

By (2.10), we have

$$D_{\nu_A} \phi(t, x') = A(x') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x') \nu_i(x') T_j \psi(t, x')$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial \Omega} A(x')^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma \\ & \quad + \int_{(a,b) \times \partial \Omega} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') S_1 \psi(t, x') dt d\sigma + O(N), \end{aligned}$$

with S_1 differential operator of order one in $\partial\Omega$, while

$$\begin{aligned}
I_3 &= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} A(x') \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x') D_{x_j} \phi(t, x') D_{x_i} \phi(t, x') dt d\sigma \\
&= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} A(x') \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(x') (\nu_j(x') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') + T_j \psi(t, x')) \\
&\quad \times (\nu_i(x') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') + T_i \psi(t, x')) dt d\sigma \\
&= \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} A(x')^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma \\
&\quad + \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') S_2 \psi(t, x') dt d\sigma + O(N),
\end{aligned}$$

with S_2 differential operator of order one in $\partial\Omega$. From (2.12) we deduce

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} A(x')^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma + \int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') (S_1 - \frac{1}{2} S_2) \psi(t, x') dt d\sigma = O(N),$$

and, as $A(x')^2$ is lower bounded by a positive constant, for some C_0 positive independent of (u_0, ξ, v_0, η_0) , s ,

$$\int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma \leq C_0 [N + N^{1/2} (\int_{(s,T) \times \partial\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma)^{1/2}],$$

implying

$$\int_{(a,b) \times \partial\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(t, x')^2 dt d\sigma \leq \frac{(C_0 + \sqrt{C_0^2 + 4C_0})^2}{4} N.$$

□

co0.9 **Corollary 2.11.** *Suppose (A1)-(A4) hold. Let $T \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega)$ with $\gamma u_0 \in H^2(\partial\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H^1(\Omega)$ with $\gamma u_1 \in H^1(\partial\Omega)$, so that $(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1) \in W \times V$. Let*

$$(\phi(t), \psi(t), \alpha(t), \beta(t)) = e^{tM_0}(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1) \quad (2.13)$$

eq2.9

Moreover, if $x' \in \partial\Omega$, let $G(x', D_x)u(x') = \sum_{j=1}^n g_j(x') D_{x_j} u(x') + g_0(x') u(x')$, with $g_j \in L^\infty(\partial\Omega)$. Then there exists $C(T)$ positive, independent of u_0 and u_1 , such that

$$\|G(\cdot, D_x)\phi\|_{L^2((-T,T) \times \partial\Omega)} \leq C(T) \|(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)\|_{V \times H}.$$

Proof. Let

$$g(x') = (g_1(x'), \dots, g_n(x')).$$

If we set

$$k(x') := g(x') \cdot \nu(x'),$$

then $t(x') := g(x') - k(x')\nu(x')$ is tangential to $\partial\Omega$ in x' . So

$$G(x', D_x)\phi(t, x') = k(x') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, x') + t(x') \cdot \nabla_\tau \psi(t, x') + g_0(x') \psi(t, x').$$

and

$$\|G(\cdot, D_x)\phi(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)} \leq C_0 (\|\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)} + \|\psi(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1(\partial\Omega)}) \quad (2.14)$$

eq0.16A

So the conclusion follows from Theorem 2.10. □

Now we recall the following perturbation result of Miyadera type (see [4], Corollary 3.16):

th0.10

Theorem 2.12. *Let A be the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup $(T(t))_{t \geq 0}$ on a Banach space X and let $B \in \mathcal{L}(D(A), X)$ satisfy, for some $t_0 > 0$, $q \in [0, 1)$,*

$$\int_0^{t_0} \|BT(t)x\| dt \leq q\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in D(A).$$

Then $A + B$, with domain $D(A)$, is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup in X .

co2.13

Corollary 2.13. *Let A be the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group $(T(t))_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ on a Banach space X and let $B \in \mathcal{L}(D(A), X)$ satisfy, for some $t_0 > 0$, $q \in [0, 1]$,*

$$\int_{-t_0}^{t_0} \|BT(t)x\| dt \leq q\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in D(A).$$

Then $A + B$, with domain $D(A)$, is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in X .

Proof. As $((T(t))_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ is a group, if we set $T_-(t) := T(-t)$, with $t \geq 0$, $(T_-(t))_{t \geq 0}$ is a strongly continuous semigroup with infinitesimal generator $-A$. By Theorem 2.12, $-A - B$, with domain $D(A)$, is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup. As both $\pm(A + B)$ are infinitesimal generators of strongly continuous semigroups, $A + B$ is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group. \square

Now we are able to prove Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.1 We set $X = V \times H$, $A = M_0$ and we introduce the following operator B :

$$\begin{cases} B : W \times V \rightarrow V \times H, \\ B(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1) = (0, 0, 0, F(\cdot, D_x)u_0 + \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial \nu_A} + \gamma u_0). \end{cases}$$

Setting $G(\cdot, D_x) = F(\cdot, D_x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu_A} + \gamma$, we have, taking $t_0 \in (0, 1]$, with the position (2.13),

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-t_0}^{t_0} \|Be^{tM_0}(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)\|_{V \times H} dt \\ & \leq (2t_0)^{1/2} (\int_{-t_0}^{t_0} \|G(\cdot, D_x)\phi(t)\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)}^2 dt)^{1/2} \leq C(1)(2t_0)^{1/2} \|(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)\|_{V \times H}. \end{aligned}$$

So the assumptions of Corollary 2.13 are satisfied and the conclusion follows from the fact that $M = M_0 + B$.

3 Developments of Theorem 2.1

se3

We shall employ the following well known fact, concerning strongly continuous semigroups:

pr3.1A

Proposition 3.1. *Let A be the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup $(T(t))_{t \geq 0}$ in the Banach space X . Let $x \in D(A)$ and $f \in W^{1,1}(0, T; X) + C([0, T]; X) \cap L^1(0, T; D(A))$. Then the Cauchy problem*

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) = Au(t) + f(t), & t \in [0, T], \\ u(0) = x \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution u in $C^1([0, T]; X) \cap C([0, T]; D(A))$ given by the variation of parameter formula

$$u(t) = T(t)x + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds.$$

We consider the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} D_t^2 u(t, x) + a(x)D_t u(t, x) = A(x, D_x)u(t, x) + f(t, x), & (t, x) \in (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ D_t^2 \gamma u(t, x') + b(x')D_t \gamma u(t, x') = \nabla_\tau \cdot (B(x')\nabla_\tau \gamma u)(t, x') + F(x', D_x)u(t, x') + h(t, x'), \\ (t, x') \in (0, T) \times \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ D_t u(0, x) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega. \end{cases} \quad (3.1) \quad \text{eq3.1A}$$

We introduce the following assumptions:

(B1) (A1), (A3), (A4), (A5) hold;

$$A(x, D_x) = A_0(x, D_x) + \sum_{j=1}^n a_j(x) D_{x_j} + a_0(x),$$

with A_0 as in (A2), $a_j \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ ($0 \leq j \leq n$);

(B2) $a \in L^\infty(\Omega)$, $b \in L^\infty(\partial\Omega)$.

Then we have:

pr3.1 **Proposition 3.2.** Suppose that (B1)-(B2) hold. We introduce the following operator M_1 :

$$\begin{cases} M_1 : V \times H \rightarrow V \times H, \\ M_1(v_0, v_1, w_0, w_1) = (0, 0, \sum_{j=1}^n a_j(\cdot) D_{x_j} v_0 + a_0(\cdot) v_0 - a(\cdot) w_0, -b(\cdot) w_1). \end{cases}$$

Then

(I) $M + M_1$, with domain $W \times V$, is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous group in $V \times H$;

(II) consider the problem (3.1), with $T \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Suppose, moreover, that:

(a) $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_0 \in H^2(\partial\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H^1(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_1 \in H^1(\partial\Omega)$;

(b) $f(t, x) = f_1(t, x) + f_2(t, x)$, with $f_1 \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^1(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$, $\gamma f_1 \in C([0, T]; L^2(\partial\Omega)) \cap L^1(0, T; H^1(\partial\Omega))$, $f_2 \in W^{1,1}(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$;

(c) $h(t, x') = \gamma f_1(t, x') + h_1(t, x')$, with $h_1 \in W^{1,1}(0, T; L^2(\partial\Omega))$.

Then (3.1) has a unique solution u belonging to $\cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}([0, T]; H^j(\Omega))$, with γu belonging to $\cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}([0, T]; H^j(\partial\Omega))$.

Proof. (I) follows from Theorem 2.1 and the fact that M_1 belongs to $\mathcal{L}(V \times H)$.

(II) We set $\phi := u$, $\psi := \gamma u$, $\alpha := D_t u$, $\beta := \gamma \alpha = D_t \psi$. Then (3.1) can be written in the equivalent form

$$\begin{cases} (\phi'(t), \psi'(t), \alpha'(t), \beta'(t)) = (M + M_1)(\phi(t), \psi(t), \alpha(t), \beta(t)) + (0, 0, f(t), h(t)), & t \in [0, T], \\ (\phi(0), \psi(0), \alpha(0), \beta(0)) = (u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1). \end{cases} \quad (3.2) \quad \text{eq3.2}$$

Then $(u_0, \gamma u_0, u_1, \gamma u_1)$ belongs to $W \times V$, while

$$(0, 0, f(t), h(t)) = (0, 0, f_1(t), \gamma f_1(t)) + (0, 0, f_2(t), h_1(t)),$$

with the first summand in

$$C([0, T]; V \times H) \cap L^1(0, T; W \times V) = C([0, T]; V \times H) \cap L^1(0, T; D(M + M_1)),$$

the second summand in $W^{1,1}(0, T; V \times H)$. By Proposition 3.1, (3.2) has a unique solution in $C^1([0, T]; V \times H) \cap C([0, T]; W \times V)$. \square

We conclude with an application to (1.2).

Proposition 3.3. Consider the problem (1.2), with the assumption (B1) and $T \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Suppose, moreover, that:

(a) $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_0 \in H^2(\partial\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H^1(\Omega)$, $\gamma u_1 \in H^1(\partial\Omega)$;

(b) $f \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^1(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$, $\gamma f \in C([0, T]; L^2(\partial\Omega)) \cap L^1(0, T; H^1(\partial\Omega))$;

(c) $h \in W^{1,1}(0, T; L^2(\partial\Omega))$.

Then (1.2) has a unique solution u belonging to $\cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}([0, T]; H^j(\Omega))$, with γu belonging to $\cap_{j=0}^2 C^{2-j}([0, T]; H^j(\partial\Omega))$. Here $A(x', D_x)u(t, x')$ is intended as $D_t^2 \gamma u - \gamma f$.

Proof. The problem is equivalent to (3.1) with $a \equiv 0$, $b \equiv 0$ and h replaced by $\gamma f + h$. So the conclusion follows from Proposition 3.2. \square

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