EXPONENTIAL DECAY OF WEAK SOLUTIONS FOR HYPERBOLIC SYSTEMS OF FIRST ORDER WITH DISCONTINUOUS COEFFICIENTS(1)

BY

HANG-CHIN LAI

ABSTRACT. The weak solution of the Cauchy problem for symmetric hyperbolic systems with discontinuous coefficients in several space variables satisfying the fact that the coefficients and their first derivatives are bounded in the distribution sense is identically equal to zero if it is exponential decay.

1. Introduction. For hyperbolic systems of first order with sufficiently smooth coefficients, the existence theorem and the uniqueness theorem of solutions for the Cauchy problem were proved by Petrovskii, Leary and others (cf. Gel'fand [3]). Gel'fand [3] proposed the question of what conditions assure the existence and the uniqueness of solutions of the Cauchy problem in the case of discontinuous coefficients. Recently, Conway [1], and Hurd and Sattinger [4] investigated such problems. Conway proved the existence theorem for the case of a single linear equation in several space variables and the uniqueness theorem for a quasi-linear equation. Hurd and Sattinger proved the existence theorem for the case of first order hyperbolic systems in several space variables and the uniqueness theorem in the case of one space variable. They also proved the existence theorem and the uniqueness theorem for hyperbolic equations of second order. On the other hand, Masuda [5] proved a theorem on the exponential decay of solutions for hyperbolic equations with smooth variable coefficients. In this paper we shall prove a result on the exponential decay of weak solutions for first order hyperbolic systems with discontinuous coefficients.

2. Preliminaries and the main result. Let \( E^{n+1} \) be the \((n+1)\)-dimensional Euclidean space with points denoted by \((x, t)\), where \( x \) is a point in the \(n\)-dimensional Euclidean space and is denoted by its coordinates \((x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)\). Let \( \mathbb{D} \) be the half space \( \{(x, t) \in E^{n+1} | t \geq 0\} \). The hyperplane \( t = \tau \) is denoted by \( H_\tau \). We consider two (vector-valued) functions \( u = (u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_l) \) and \( v = (v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_l) \) defined in \( \mathbb{D} \) and put

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\[ (u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{l} u_i v_i \quad \text{and} \quad |u|^2 = (u, u). \]

The space \( L^2(\Omega) \) is the Hilbert space consisting of all measurable functions \( u = (u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_l) \) for which
\[
\iint_{\Omega} |u|^2 \, dx \, dt < \infty.
\]

For brevity we use the notation
\[
(u, u) = \|u\|^2 = \iint_{\Omega} |u|^2 \, dx \, dt.
\]

In the following, \( f \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \) for a function or a vector-valued function \( f \) defined on a region \( \Omega \) in some Euclidean space means that \( f \) or every component of \( f \) is square integrable on every compact subset of \( \Omega \).

Now we consider the following Cauchy problem of the first order symmetric hyperbolic system:

\[
\begin{align*}
& (1) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \sum_{i=1}^{l} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(A_i u) + Bu + C = 0, \\
& (2) \quad u(x, 0) = \psi(x),
\end{align*}
\]

where \( A_i \) (\( 1 \leq i \leq n \)) are \( l \times l \) symmetric matrices, \( B \) is an \( l \times l \) matrix, \( C \) is an \( l \times 1 \) matrix and each element of these matrices belongs to \( L^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \). Moreover, we suppose that \( A_i, B \) and their first derivatives in the distribution sense are bounded in \( \Omega \).

A (vector-valued) function \( u \) is called a weak solution of the Cauchy problem (1), (2) for the Cauchy data \( \psi(x) \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(H^0) \) if \( u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \) satisfies (2) and
\[
\int_0^t \int_{H^s} \left[ \left\langle u, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial s} \right\rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\langle A_i u, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right\rangle - \left\langle Bu, \phi \right\rangle - \left\langle C, \phi \right\rangle \right] \, dx \, ds
\]
\[
\quad + \int_{H^0} \left\langle \psi, \phi \right\rangle \, dx - \int_{H^t} \left\langle u, \phi \right\rangle \, dx = 0
\]
for any \( t > 0 \) and for any function \( \phi \in C^1[0, \infty; H^{1,2}(E^n)] \). Here the space \( H^{1,2}(E^n) \) is the closure of \( C^\infty_0(E^n) \) by the norm
\[
\| \phi \|_1 = \left( \int_{E^n} \left| \sum_{|a| \leq 1} |D^a \phi|^2 \right| \, dx \right)^{1/2},
\]
and the space \( C^1[0, \infty; H^{1,2}(E^n)] \) consists of all functions \( \phi \) with the following properties: (i) \( \phi \) is measurable in \( E^n \), (ii) for almost all \( t \in [0, \infty) \), the func-
tion \( \phi(x, t) \) in \( x \) belongs to \( H^{1,2}_0(\mathbb{R}^n) \), and (iii) the norm \( \|\phi\|_1 \) as a function of \( t \) belongs to \( C^1([0, \infty)) \).

The theorem which we shall prove is as follows:

**Theorem.** Suppose that \( u \in L^2_{1,\text{loc}}(\mathbb{D}) \) is a weak solution of the Cauchy problem for the symmetric hyperbolic system

\[
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_i^t u) + Bu = 0,
\]

under the assumption stated above. Further suppose that the following conditions (i), (ii) and (iii) are valid:

(i) The coefficients \( A^i, B \) and their first derivatives in the distribution sense are bounded in \( \mathbb{D} \).

(ii) Let \( \Delta t = t' - t \), \( \Delta x_i = x'_i - x_i \), and \( \Delta A_i = A_i(x_1', x_2', \ldots, x_n', t) - A_i(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n, t) \). Then there exist nonnegative locally integrable functions \( \nu(t), \mu_i(t) (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) bounded in \([0, \infty]\) such that, in \( \mathbb{D} \),

\[
|\langle B\xi, \xi \rangle| \leq \nu(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle, \quad \left| \left\langle \frac{\Delta A_i}{\Delta x_i}, \xi, \xi \right\rangle \right| \leq \mu_i(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n)
\]

for any vector \( \xi \).

(iii) For any compact set \( \mathcal{H}_t \) in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) there exists a constant \( K (> 0) \) such that

\[
\int_{\mathcal{H}_t} \langle u, u \rangle \, dx \leq Ke^{-2\alpha t}, \quad t \in [0, \infty),
\]

for any constant \( \alpha > 0 \).

Then \( u \) is identically equal to zero in \( \mathbb{D} \).

3. The energy inequality. We modify the coefficients of (4) by the standard mollifier method. Let \( w^{(1)}_k (k = 1, 2, \ldots) \) be an infinitely differentiable nonnegative function on \( \mathbb{R}^n \) with support contained in \( |x| \leq 1/k \) and satisfying

\[
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w^{(1)}_k(x) \, dx = 1. \quad \text{Further, let } w^{(2)}_k (k = 1, 2, \ldots) \text{ be an infinitely differentiable function on } (-\infty, \infty) \text{ with compact support } |t| \leq 1/k \text{ and satisfying } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} w^{(2)}_k(t) \, dt = 1.
\]

Denote by \( w_k(y, s) \) the product \( w^{(1)}_k(y) w^{(2)}_k(s) \). For any function \( f \) locally integrable in \( \mathbb{D} \), we put

\[
f_k(x, t) = f \ast w_k(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} f(y, s) w_k(x - y, t - s) \, dy \, ds.
\]
Then \( f_k (k = 1, 2, \ldots) \) is infinitely (many times) differentiable in \( \mathcal{D} \) and \( f_k \) tends to \( f \) in the \( L^p \)-norm \( (p \geq 1) \) on every compact subset of \( \mathcal{D} \) as \( k \) tends to infinity.

We put \( A_k (x, t) = (a_{ij}^k (x, t)) \) for a matrix \( A(x, t) = (a_{ij}(x, t)) \) with \( a_{ij} \in L^f_{1 \text{loc}}(\mathcal{D}) \), where \( a_{ij}^k (x, t) = a_{ij} * w_k (x, t) \). In such a manner, we consider matrices \( A_i^k \) \( (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) and \( B_k \) for matrices \( A^i \) \( (i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, n) \) and \( B \) in (4), respectively. Thus we have a system

\[
(4') \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_i^k u) + B_k u = 0.
\]

First we have the following

**Lemma 1.** The conditions in the Theorem imply that

(ii) there exists a nonnegative function \( \mu(t) \in L^1_{\text{loc}}((0, \infty)) \) being bounded and satisfying

\[
\left| \langle B_k \xi, \xi \rangle \right| \leq \mu(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle
\]

for any \( \xi \).

**Proof.** It is almost obvious that there exists \( \nu_0(\xi) \in L^1_{\text{loc}}((0, \infty)) \) satisfying

\[
\left| \langle B_k \xi, \xi \rangle \right| \leq \nu_0(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle.
\]

In fact, we have

\[
|\langle B_k \xi, \xi \rangle| = \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^l b_{ij}^k (x, t) \xi_i \xi_j \right| = \left| \int \int \sum_{i,j=1}^l b_{ij}^k (y, s) \xi_i \xi_j w_k (x - y, t - s) dy ds \right|
\]

\[
\leq \left( \int_{\text{supp}} w_k (x - y) dy \right) \left( \int_0^\infty \nu(s) w_k (t - s) ds \xi, \xi \right) = \nu_0(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle
\]

where \( \nu_0(t) = \int_0^\infty \nu(s) w_k (t - s) ds \in L^1_{\text{loc}}((0, \infty)) \) and bounded.

Next we have only to show that there exist nonnegative functions \( \mu_i(t) \in L^1_{\text{loc}}((0, \infty)) \) \( (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) being bounded such that

\[
|\langle (\partial A_i^k / \partial x_i) \xi_i, \xi \rangle| \leq \mu_i(t) \langle \xi_i, \xi \rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, n).
\]

Since \( \langle (\Delta_i A_i^k / \Delta x_i + \mu_i(t)) \xi_i, \xi \rangle \geq 0 \) and since \( w_k \) is positive, the convolution of \( [\Delta_i A_i^k / \Delta x_i + \mu_i(t)] \) and \( w_k \) is nonnegative, so \( \langle [\Delta_i A_i^k / \Delta x_i + \mu_i(t)] * w_k (x, t) \xi_i, \xi \rangle \geq 0 \) implies that
\[ \langle [\Delta_i A_i^k(x, t)/\Delta t + \mu_i^t(t)] \xi, \xi \rangle \geq 0 \]

where \( \mu_i^t(t) = \int_0^\infty \mu_i^t(t-s) w_k^{(2)}(s) ds \in L^1_{loc}([0, \infty)) \) is bounded. By passing through the limit, with respect to the difference quotients we have

\[ \langle (\partial A_i^k/\partial x_i) \xi, \xi \rangle \geq -\mu_i^t(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, n. \]

Similarly, we have \( \langle (\partial A_i^k/\partial x_i) \xi, \xi \rangle \leq \mu_i^t(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle \), and hence \( \langle (\partial A_i^k/\partial x_i) \xi, \xi \rangle \rangle \leq \mu_i^t(t) \langle \xi, \xi \rangle \). Thus putting \( \mu(t) = \nu_0(t) + (\frac{1}{2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i^t(t) \), we then obtain (ii)'.

Q.E.D.

Lemma 2. If a function \( A \) on \( \mathbb{R}^n \) and its derivatives in the distribution sense are bounded, then the smoothed functions \( A_k \) and \( \partial A_k/\partial x_i \) \( (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) are uniformly bounded (independent of \( k \)), where \( A_k = A * w_k \) and \( w_k \) is a mollifier.

It is easy to prove this lemma, so we omit the proof here (cf. [6]).

Now consider the Cauchy problem

\[ \partial \phi/\partial t + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i^k \partial \phi/\partial x_i - B_k^* \phi = F, \]

(6)

\[ \phi(x, 0) = 0 \]

for any given function \( F \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \) with compact support. It is well known in the classical theory that the solution \( \phi \) of (5) and (6) (depending on \( k \)) is sufficiently smooth and has compact support. This support is also independent of \( k \). Here \( A_i^k \) and \( B_k^* \) are the smooth matrices associated with the matrices \( A_i \) and the transpose \( B_k^* \) of \( B \) respectively.

By assuming (ii)' in Lemma 1, we prove that for the solution \( \phi_k \) of the Cauchy problem (5), (6), integrals \( \int_0^t \int H_S \langle \phi_k, \phi_k \rangle dx ds \) and \( \int_0^t \int H_S (\partial \phi_k/\partial x_i, \partial \phi_k/\partial x_i) dx ds \) are bounded uniformly (independent of \( k \)). We start from the following lemma about the energy inequality.

Lemma 3. Let \( \phi \) with compact support in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) be a solution of the Cauchy problem

\[ \partial \phi/\partial t + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i^k \partial \phi/\partial x_i - B_k^* \phi = F, \]

(5)

\[ \phi(x, 0) = \psi(x) \]

for any given \( \psi \in C^\infty_0(\mathbb{R}^n) \) and \( F \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \) with compact support. Suppose that the coefficients of (5) satisfy the condition (ii)' in Lemma 1. Then the inequality

\[ \int_{H_t} \langle \phi, \phi \rangle dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_S} \langle \phi, \phi \rangle dx ds \]

\[ \leq e^{2\lambda t} \left( \int_{H_0} \langle \psi, \psi \rangle dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_S} \langle F, F \rangle dx ds \right) \]
holds for a sufficiently large $\lambda$ and for any $t \in [0, \infty)$.

Proof. It is obvious that

$$
\int_0^t \int_{H_S} \left\{ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}, \phi \right\} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\langle A_k^i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \phi \right\rangle - \left\langle B_k^i \phi, \phi \right\rangle \, dx \, ds = \int_0^t \int_{H_S} \left\langle F, \phi \right\rangle \, dx \, ds
$$

implies

$$
\int_0^t \int_{H_S} \left\{ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}, \phi \right\} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_k^i \phi), \phi \right\rangle - \left\langle B_k \phi, \phi \right\rangle \, dx \, ds
$$

$$
= \int_0^t \int_{H_S} \left\langle F, \phi \right\rangle \, dx \, ds.
$$

By differentiating with respect to $t$, we have

$$
(9) \int_{H_t} \left\{ -\left\langle \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}, \phi \right\rangle + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_k^i \phi), \phi \right\rangle + \left\langle B_k \phi, \phi \right\rangle \right\} \, dx = \int_{H_t} \left\langle -F, \phi \right\rangle \, dx.
$$

It is clear that

$$
\int_{H_t} \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_k^i \phi), \phi \right\rangle \, dx = \int_{H_t} \left\langle \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} A_k^i \right) \phi, \phi \right\rangle \, dx + \int_{H_t} \left\langle A_k^i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \phi \right\rangle \, dx
$$

and

$$
\int_{H_t} \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_k^i \phi), \phi \right\rangle \, dx = -\int_{H_t} \left\langle A_k^i \phi, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right\rangle \, dx = -\int_{H_t} \left\langle A_k^i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \phi \right\rangle \, dx
$$

so we have

$$
(10) \quad -\frac{1}{2} \int_{H_t} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\langle \frac{\partial A_k^i \phi}{\partial x_i}, \phi \right\rangle \, dx = \int_{H_t} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\langle A_k^i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \phi \right\rangle \, dx.
$$

Since $\phi \in C^\infty(\mathcal{F})$ has compact support in $\mathbb{R}^n$, we see that

$$
(11) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_{H_t} \left\langle \phi, \phi \right\rangle \, dx = 2 \int_{H_t} \left\langle \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}, \phi \right\rangle \, dx.
$$

Set $\phi = e^{\lambda t} \nu$ and $f = e^{-\lambda t} F$ for a constant $\lambda > 0$. Then (10) and (11) are satisfied by $\nu$ instead of $\phi$ and we have
\[ \int_{H_t} \left\langle \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}, v \right\rangle \, dx \]

\[ = \int_{H_t} \left\{ \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{n} A_{ikj} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i}, v \right\rangle + \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_{ikj}^i}{\partial x_i} v, v \right\rangle + \left\langle (B_k - \lambda I) v, v \right\rangle + \left\langle f, v \right\rangle \right\} \, dx, \]

which is equivalent to (9), where \( I \) denotes the identity matrix. Applying the identity (10), we then have

\[ 2 \int_{H_t} \left\langle \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}, v \right\rangle \, dx = 2 \int_{H_t} \left\langle f, v \right\rangle \, dx + \int_{H_t} \left\langle \left[ 2(B_k - \lambda I) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_{ikj}^i}{\partial x_i} \right] v, v \right\rangle \, dx. \]

Therefore, by the virtue of (11), we get

\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{H_t} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx = 2 \int_{H_t} \langle f, v \rangle \, dx + \int_{H_t} \left\langle \left[ 2(B_k - \lambda I) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_{ikj}^i}{\partial x_i} \right] v, v \right\rangle \, dx. \]

Integrating this identity with respect to \( t \) from 0 to \( t \), we have

\[ \int_{H_t} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx - \int_{H_0} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx = 2 \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle f, v \rangle \, ds \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \left\langle \left[ 2B_k + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_{ikj}^i}{\partial x_i} \right] v, v \right\rangle \, dx \]

\[ - 2\lambda \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle v, v \rangle \, ds \, dx. \]

By \( v(x, 0) = \phi(x, 0) = \psi(x) \), we have

\[ \int_{H_t} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx - \int_{H_0} \langle \psi, \psi \rangle \, dx \]

\[ \leq \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle |f| \rangle^2 g^{-2}(s) \, dx \, ds + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} |v|^2 g^2(s) \, dx \, ds \]

\[ + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \left\langle \left[ 2B_k + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_{ikj}^i}{\partial x_i} \right] v, v \right\rangle \, dx \, ds - 2\lambda \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx \, ds \]

where we assume that \( g(t) (\neq 0) \) together with \( g^{-1}(t) \) is an arbitrary locally square integrable function on \([0, \infty)\). Therefore we have
\[ \int_{H_t} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx \, ds \]

\[ \leq \int_{H_0} \langle \psi, \psi \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} g^{-2}(s) |f|^2 \, dx \, ds + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \left( 2B_k + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial A_i^k}{\partial t} \right) \langle v, v \rangle \, dx \, ds. \]

Choose \( g(t) \) such that \( g^2(t) = 2\lambda - 2\mu(t) - 1 \geq 1 \) for a sufficiently large \( \lambda \), where \( \mu(t) \) is such a function as in Lemma 1. Then

\[ \int_{H_t} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle v, v \rangle \, dx \, ds \leq \int_{H_0} \langle \psi, \psi \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} g^{-2}(s) |f|^2 \, dx \, ds \]

or

\[ \int_{H_t} \langle \phi, \phi \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle \phi, \phi \rangle \, dx \, ds \]

\[ \leq e^{2\lambda t} \left[ \int_{H_0} \langle \psi, \psi \rangle \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} \langle F, F \rangle \, dx \, ds \right]. \]

This proves our lemma.

An analogous inequality is satisfied by energy integrals \( ||u(t)||_1 \) defined as

\[ ||u(t)||_1 = \left( \int_{H_t} (|u|^2 + |D^1 u|^2) \, dx \right)^{1/2}, \]

where \( D^1 u = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \) and \( |D^1 u|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right|^2 \). It follows that

**Lemma 4.** Under the assumption in the Theorem, the solution \( \phi \) of (5), (7) with compact support satisfies the following inequality:

\[ \int_{H_t} (|\phi|^2 + |D^1 \phi|^2) \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} (|\phi|^2 + |D^1 \phi|^2) \, dx \, ds \]

\[ \leq C e^{4\lambda t} \left[ \int_{H_0} (|\psi|^2 + |D^1 \psi|^2) \, dx + \int_0^t \int_{H_s} (|F|^2 + |D^1 F|^2) \, dx \, ds \right] \]

or simply denoted by

\[ ||\phi(t)||_1^2 + \int_0^t ||\phi(s)||_1^2 \, ds \leq C e^{4\lambda t} \left( ||\psi||_1^2 + \int_0^t ||F(s)||_1^2 \, ds \right) \]

where \( C \) is a constant and \( \lambda \) is sufficiently large.

**Proof.** Recall the equation

\[ L\phi \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n A_i^k \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} - B_k^* \phi = F. \]
Differentiating (5) with respect to $x_j$, we have

\begin{equation}
L \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{\partial A_i^k}{\partial x_j} \cdot \frac{\partial B_k^*}{\partial x_j} \phi = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_j}.
\end{equation}

For brevity, we put $V = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} = D^1 \phi$ and then

\[ LV = D^1 F + D^1 B_k^* \cdot \phi - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \cdot D^1 A_i^k \equiv b, \quad \text{say}. \]

It is evident that $b$ is continuous and has compact support, thus by the same argument as in the proof of Lemma 3, we obtain

\[
\int_{H_t} \langle U, U \rangle \, dx - \int_{H_0} \langle U, U \rangle \, dx
\]

\[
= 2 \int_{t}^{t} \int_{H_s} \left( e^{-\lambda s} b, U \right) \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
+ \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} \left( \left( 2B_k + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial A_i^k}{\partial x_i} \right) U, U \right) \, dx \, ds - 2\lambda \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} \langle U, U \rangle \, dx \, ds,
\]

where $U = e^{-\lambda t} V$ ($\lambda > 0$). Clearly we see

\[
\int_{H_t} \langle U, U \rangle \, dx - \int_{H_0} \langle U, U \rangle \, dx
\]

\[
\leq 2 \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} \left( e^{-\lambda s} b, U \right) \, dx \, ds + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} \langle (2\mu(s) - 2\lambda) U, U \rangle \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
= 2 \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} e^{-\lambda s} \left( D^1 F + D^1 B_k^* \phi - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} D^1 A_i^k \right), U \right) \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
+ \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} \langle (2\mu(s) - 2\lambda) U, U \rangle \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
\leq \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} |D^1 F| g^{-2}(s) \, dx \, ds + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} |D^1 B_k^* \phi| g^{-2}(s) \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
+ \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} e^{-2\lambda s} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right|^2 |D^1 A_i^k|^2 g^{-2}(s) \, dx \, ds
\]

\[
+ \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H_s} (3g^2(s) - 2\lambda + 2\mu(s)) |U|^2 \, dx \, ds,
\]

where $g(t)$ is locally integrable and nowhere zero in $[0, \infty)$. Let $M$ be the bound
of $D^1A_k^i$ ($i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$) and $C$ the bound of $D^1B_k^*$. It is known that $M$ and $C$ are independent of $k$. Choose $g^2(s) = (1/3)[2\lambda - 2\mu(s) - 1 - M] \geq 1$ for a sufficiently large $\lambda$. Then

$$\int_{H} \langle U, U \rangle dx + (1 + M) \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} \langle U, U \rangle dx ds$$

$$\leq \int_{H} \langle U, U \rangle dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} \langle D^1 F, D^1 F \rangle dx ds$$

$$+ C \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} \langle \phi, \phi \rangle dx ds + M \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} e^{-2\lambda s} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right) dx ds$$

or

$$\int_{H} |D^1 \phi|^2 dx + e^{2\lambda t} \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} e^{-2\lambda s} |D^1 \phi|^2 dx ds$$

$$\leq e^{2\lambda t} \left\{ \int_{H} |D^1 \psi|^2 dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |D^1 F|^2 dx ds + C \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |\phi|^2 dx ds \right\}.$$  

Thus

$$\int_{H} |D^1 \phi|^2 dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |D^1 \phi|^2 dx ds$$

$$\leq e^{2\lambda t} \left\{ \int_{H} |D^1 \psi|^2 dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |D^1 F|^2 dx ds + C \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |\phi|^2 dx ds \right\}. \quad (15)$$

Multiplying (8) by $(1 + Ce^{2\lambda t})$ and then adding to (15), we obtain

$$\int_{H} (|\psi|^2 + |D^1 \psi|^2) dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} (|\phi|^2 + |D^1 \phi|^2) dx ds + Ce^{2\lambda t} \int_{H} |\phi|^2 dx$$

$$\leq e^{2\lambda t} \left\{ \int_{H} (|\psi|^2 + |D^1 \psi|^2) dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} (|F|^2 + |D^1 F|^2) dx ds \right\}$$

$$+ Ce^{4\lambda t} \left\{ \int_{H} |\psi|^2 dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} |F|^2 dx ds \right\}.$$  

Therefore,

$$\int_{H} (|\phi|^2 + |D^1 \phi|^2) dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} (|\phi|^2 + |D^1 \phi|^2) dx ds$$

$$\leq M_t \left\{ \int_{H} (|\psi|^2 + |D^1 \psi|^2) dx + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{H} (|F|^2 + |D^1 F|^2) dx ds \right\}$$

where $M_t = \max(e^{2\lambda t}, Ce^{4\lambda t})$. The constant $C$ can be taken as larger than 1, so $M_t$ is chosen as $M_t = Ce^{4\lambda t}$.

4. Proof of the main theorem. The weak solution $u$ of the equation (4) satisfies the following equality:
for any $\phi \in C^\infty(D)$ with compact support in $D$ and for any fixed $t \in [0, \infty)$. We have to prove that $u$ vanishes identically in $D$ under our assumption. It suffices to show that $\int_0^\infty \int_D \langle u, F \rangle \, dx \, dt = 0$ for any $F \in C^\infty(D)$ with compact support in $D$. Let $\phi_k$ be the solution of (5), (6). Then (16) holds for $\phi = \phi_k$.

By (5) and (16),

$$
\int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, F \rangle \, dx \, ds = \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, F \rangle dx \, ds
$$

$$
= \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \left( u, \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} + B^* \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial s} \right) dx \, ds
$$

$$
- \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \left( u, \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} + B^* \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial s} \right) dx \, ds
$$

$$
- \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, \phi_k \rangle dx + \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, \phi_k \rangle dx,
$$

where $\tilde{H}_t$ is the support of $F$ in $H_t$. Since $\phi_k$ vanishes on the hyperplane $H_0$ and has compact support in $H_t$, we have

$$
\left| \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, F \rangle dx \, ds \right|
$$

$$
\leq \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \left| \left( u, \sum_{i=1}^n (A_i^* - A_i^0) \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} \right) \right| dx \, ds
$$

$$
+ \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle u, (B_k^* - B_k^0) \phi_k \rangle dx \, ds + \int_{\tilde{H}_t} |\langle u, \phi_k \rangle| dx
$$

It follows from Lemma 3 and Lemma 4 that

$$
\int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \langle \phi_k, \phi_k \rangle dx \, ds \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^t \int_{\tilde{H}_t} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} \right) dx \, ds
$$
are uniformly bounded (independent of $k$). On the other hand, $A_i^i \to A_i^i$ ($i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$) and $B_k^* \to B_k^*$ ($k \to \infty$) in $L^2$-norm on $\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t \subset \mathbb{D}$. Therefore, for $u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{D})$,

$$
\int_0^t \int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \left( A_i^i - A_i^1 \right) \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} \right|^2 \, dx \, ds \\
\leq \|u\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t)} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^t \int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_s} \left( A_i^i - A_i^1 \right)^2 \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial x_i} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \, dx \, ds \\
\to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad k \to \infty,
$$

and

$$
\int_0^t \int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_s} |u, (B_k^* - B_k^*) \phi_k| \, dx \, ds \leq \|u\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t)} \left( \int_0^t \int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_s} |(B_k^* - B_k^*) \phi_k|^2 \, dx \, ds \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad k \to \infty.
$$

By (iii) the last term on the right-hand side of (17) can be estimated as follows:

$$
\int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t} |u, \phi_k| \, dx \leq \|\phi_k\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t)} \left( \int_{\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t} |u|^2 \, dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|\phi_k\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t)} \cdot (Ke^{-2\alpha t})^{\frac{1}{2}}
$$

for any positive $\alpha$. Therefore,

$$
\left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{H}_s} \langle u, F \rangle \, dx \, ds \right| \leq K^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\phi_k\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{H}}_t)} e^{-\alpha t},
$$

which together with Lemma 3 yields

$$
\lim_{t \to \infty} \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{H}_s} \langle u, F \rangle \, dx \, ds \right| = 0.
$$

This proves that the weak solution $u$ vanishes identically on $\mathbb{D}$.

REFERENCES


INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS, NATIONAL TSING HUA UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA