

# A MEMORY TYPE BOUNDARY STABILIZATION OF A MIDLY DAMPED WAVE EQUATION

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**ABSTRACT:** We consider the wave equation with a mild internal dissipation. It is proved that any small dissipation inside the domain is sufficient to uniformly stabilize the solution of this equation by means of a nonlinear feedback of memory type acting on a part of the boundary. This is established without any restriction on the space dimension and without geometrical conditions on the domain or its boundary.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

In this paper we are concerned with the uniform stability of the solution to the following mixed problem:

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt}(t, x) + \alpha u_t(t, x) = \Delta u(t, x) + g(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(t, x) + \int_0^t k(t-s, x) u_s(s, x) ds = h(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Gamma_0, \\ u(t, x) = 0, & t > 0, x \in \Gamma_1, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), u_t(x) = u_1(x), & x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $R^n$  (the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space,  $n \geq 1$ ) with a boundary  $\Gamma = \partial\Omega$  of class  $C^2$ ;  $(\Gamma_0, \Gamma_1)$  is a partition of  $\Gamma$  such that  $\text{int}(\Gamma_1) \neq \emptyset$ ;  $\nu(x)$  denotes the outward normal vector to  $\Gamma$  at  $x \in \Gamma$ ;  $\frac{\partial}{\partial\nu}$  is the normal derivative on  $\Gamma$ ;  $\alpha$  is a positive number and  $g, h, u_0, u_1$  are given functions;  $\Delta$  is the Laplacian with respect to the spatial variable  $x$  and the subscript  $t$  denotes differentiation with respect to the variable  $t$ .

Problem (1.1) models, for instance, the evolution of sound in a compressible fluid with reflection of sound at the surface of the material. The boundary condition in (1.1) is general and covers a fairly large variety of different physical configurations. The physical meaning of this boundary condition as well as the following three particular cases

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial\nu}(t, x) + \zeta(x)p_t(t, x) = 0, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \Gamma, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial\nu}(t, x) + \beta(x)p_t(t, x) + \alpha(x)p(t, x) = 0, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \Gamma, \quad (1.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} m(x)\delta_{tt}(t, x) + d(x)\delta_t(t, x) + K(x)\delta(t, x) &= -p(t, x), \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial\nu}(t, x) + \delta_{tt}(t, x) &= 0, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \Gamma, \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

is discussed in [4]. See also references therein for questions of existence, uniqueness, regularity and asymptotic behavior. In [1] the exponential decay of the energy of problem (1.1) with the boundary condition (1.2) in the case  $\zeta(x) \equiv C$  a positive constant,  $g \equiv h \equiv 0$  and  $\alpha < 0$  on the  $n$ -dimensional open unit cube was established. More delicate is the same problem with boundary condition (1.2),  $g \equiv h \equiv 0$  without internal damping *i.e.*  $\alpha = 0$ . This is discussed in Komornik and Zuazua [2] and Zuazua [6].

Inspired by the method developed in [2], we shall prove exponential decay for solutions of problem (1.1) ( $h \equiv 0$ ) using an appropriately chosen energy functional. In fact, we shall uniformly stabilize the solution of the wave equation by a nonlinear feedback of memory type acting on a part of the boundary provided the equation contains a mild damping (however small it is) in the interior of the domain.

Let  $R_+$  denote the set of nonnegative real numbers and

$$H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega) = \{u \in H^1(\Omega) : u|_{\Gamma_1} = 0\} \quad (1.5)$$

where  $H^1(\Omega)$  is the usual Sobolev space.

By a real function  $a(t, x) \in L_{loc}^1(R_+; L^\infty(\Gamma_0))$  of positive type we mean a function satisfying

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Gamma_0} v(t) \int_0^t a(t-s)v(s)ds d\sigma dt \geq 0 \quad (1.6)$$

for all  $v \in C(R_+; H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega))$  and for every  $T > 0$ . See [3] for more information on functions of positive type.

In [4], Propst and Prüss have reformulated problem (1.1) (with  $\alpha = 0$ ) as an integral equation of variational type and then have used results and methods developed in the second author's monograph [5] to derive, among others the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.1** *Suppose that  $\Gamma_0$  and  $\Gamma_1$  are closed in  $\Gamma$ . Let  $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)$ ,  $u_1 \in H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)$ ,  $g \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(R_+; L^2(\Omega))$ ,  $h \in W_{loc}^{2,1}(R_+; L^2(\Gamma_0))$  and  $h \in C(R_+; H^{1/2}(\Gamma_0))$ ,  $k \in BV_{loc}(R_+; C^1(\Gamma_0))$  of positive type, either  $u_1 = 0$  on  $\Gamma_0$  or  $k$  is locally absolutely continuous in  $t$ , uniformly with respect to  $x \in \Gamma_0$  and  $k'$  (the derivative of  $k$  with respect to  $t$ ) is in  $BV_{loc}(R_+; L^\infty(\Gamma_0))$ , then there is a unique solution  $u \in C(R_+; H^2(\Omega)) \cap C^1(R_+; H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)) \cap C^2(R_+; L^2(\Omega))$  and  $u(t, x)$  satisfies (1.1) for all  $t \geq 0$  and almost all  $x$ .*

$W^{m,p}$  and  $C^m$  are the usual Sobolev space and the space of continuously differentiable functions up to order  $m$  respectively.  $BV$  is the space of functions of bounded variation.

## 2 Exponential decay

In this section we assume the existence of a regular strong solution to problem (1.1) in the sense of the preceding theorem with  $h \equiv 0$ .

Note that the Poincaré inequality holds in  $H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)$  *i.e.*

$$\exists \beta > 0, \quad \|v\|_2^2 \leq \beta \|\nabla v\|_2^2, \quad \text{for all } v \in H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega). \quad (2.7)$$

Combined with the trace inequality the preceding inequality (2.7) yields

$$\exists \gamma > 0, \quad \int_{\Gamma_0} v^2 d\sigma \leq \gamma \int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2 d\sigma, \quad \text{for all } v \in H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega). \quad (2.8)$$

We suppose that our boundary material is characterized by the function

$$k(t, x) = p(x)e^{-t}, \quad t \geq 0, \quad x \in \Gamma_0, \quad (2.9)$$

with  $0 \leq p(x) \in C^1(\Gamma_0)$  and  $\|p(x)\|_\infty = M$ .

Let us introduce the energy functional

$$E(u; t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (|u_t|^2 + |\nabla u|^2) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) \left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma. \quad (2.10)$$

Differentiating the energy functional (2.10) using (1.1) we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt}E(u; t) = -\alpha \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx - \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) \left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma + \int_{\Omega} u_t g dx. \quad (2.11)$$

**Remark 2.1** *Note that if  $g \equiv 0$ , then it is readily seen that the energy is decreasing.*

Next, for  $\varepsilon > 0$  we will define

$$E_{\varepsilon}(u; t) = E(u; t) + \varepsilon \varphi(u; t), \quad t \geq 0, \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$\varphi(u; t) = \int_{\Omega} u_t u dx. \quad (2.13)$$

For the sake of brevity, we will write  $E_{\varepsilon}(t)$  for  $E_{\varepsilon}(u; t)$  and  $\varphi(t)$  for  $\varphi(u; t)$ . Using the Poincaré inequality (2.7) we have

$$|\varphi(t)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \beta \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq (1 + \beta) E(t). \quad (2.14)$$

It then follows that

$$|E_{\varepsilon}(t) - E(t)| \leq \varepsilon(1 + \beta) E(t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.15)$$

We are now ready to prove our main theorem.

**Theorem 2.2** *Assume that  $h$  and  $k$  are as above. Let  $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)$ ,  $u_1 \in H_{\Gamma_1}^1(\Omega)$  and  $g \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(R_+; L^2(\Omega))$ . If*

$$\int_0^t e^{\varepsilon \omega s} \left( \int_{\Omega} g^2 dx \right) ds$$

*grows no faster than a polynomial as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for some  $\varepsilon$  satisfying*

$$0 < \varepsilon < \min \left\{ \frac{2\alpha}{5 + 4\alpha^2\beta}, \frac{2}{1 + 2M\gamma}, \frac{1}{1 + \beta} \right\}$$

*where  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are the constants in (2.7) and (2.8) and  $1/2 < \omega < 1$ , then there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that*

$$E(t) \leq C e^{-\varepsilon \omega t}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

**Proof:** Differentiating the functional  $E_\varepsilon(t)$  we find

$$\begin{aligned} E'_\varepsilon(t) &= E'(t) + \varepsilon\varphi'(t) \\ &= -\alpha \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx - \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) \left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma \\ &\quad + \int_\Omega u_t g dx + \varepsilon \int_\Omega u_{tt} u dx + \varepsilon \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

Using problem (1.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\Omega u_{tt} u dx &= -\alpha \int_\Omega u_t u dx + \int_\Omega (\Delta u) u dx + \int_\Omega u g dx \\ &= -\alpha \int_\Omega u_t u dx - \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) u \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds d\sigma \\ &\quad - \int_\Omega |\nabla u|^2 dx + \int_\Omega u g dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

Making use of the Hölder inequality and the algebraic inequality

$$ab \leq \lambda a^2 + \frac{1}{4\lambda} b^2, \quad a, b \in R, \lambda > 0, \quad (2.18)$$

we have the following estimates

$$\int_\Omega u_t u dx \leq c_1 \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx + \frac{1}{4c_1} \int_\Omega u^2 dx \quad (2.19)$$

$$\int_\Omega u_t g dx \leq c_2 \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx + \frac{1}{4c_2} \int_\Omega g^2 dx \quad (2.20)$$

$$\int_\Omega u g dx \leq c_3 \int_\Omega u^2 dx + \frac{1}{4c_3} \int_\Omega g^2 dx \quad (2.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) u \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds d\sigma &\leq \\ c_4 M \int_{\Gamma_0} u^2 dx + \frac{1}{4c_4} \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) &\left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

Replacing the expression (2.17) into (2.16) and taking into account the estimates (2.19)-(2.22) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E'_\varepsilon(t) &\leq -2\varepsilon E(t) - (\alpha - 2\varepsilon) \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx + (\alpha c_1 \varepsilon + c_2) \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx \\ &\quad + \beta \left( \frac{\alpha \varepsilon}{4c_1} + c_3 \varepsilon \right) \int_\Omega |\nabla u|^2 dx + 2M c_4 \gamma \varepsilon \int_\Omega |\nabla u|^2 dx \\ &\quad - \left( 1 - \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon}{4c_4} \right) \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x) \left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_s(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{4c_3} + \frac{1}{4c_2} \right) \int_\Omega g^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

Note that we have used the inequalities (2.7) and (2.8) in (2.23). Let us choose  $c_1 = 2\alpha\beta$ ,  $c_2 = \varepsilon$ ,  $c_3 = 1/8\beta$  and  $c_4 = 1/4M\gamma$ , then (2.23) yields

$$\begin{aligned} E'_\varepsilon(t) &\leq -\varepsilon E(t) - \left\{ \alpha - \left( \frac{5}{2} + 2\alpha^2\beta \right) \varepsilon \right\} \int_\Omega u_t^2 dx + \left( 2\beta\varepsilon + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon} \right) \int_\Omega g^2 dx \\ &\quad - \left\{ 1 - \left( M\gamma + \frac{1}{2} \right) \varepsilon \right\} \int_{\Gamma_0} p(x)^2 \left( \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} u_t(s) ds \right)^2 d\sigma. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

Now we choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  so that  $\alpha - (\frac{5}{2} + 2\alpha^2\beta)\varepsilon \geq 0$  and  $1 - (M\gamma + \frac{1}{2})\varepsilon \geq 0$ , i.e.,

$$\varepsilon \leq \min \left\{ \frac{2\alpha}{5 + 4\alpha^2\beta}, \frac{2}{1 + 2M\gamma} \right\}. \quad (2.25)$$

Hence,

$$E'_\varepsilon(t) \leq -\varepsilon E(t) + K(\varepsilon, \beta) \int_\Omega g^2 dx. \quad (2.26)$$

It follows from (2.15) that

$$(1 - (1 + \beta)\varepsilon)E(t) \leq E_\varepsilon(t) \leq (1 + (1 + \beta)\varepsilon)E(t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.27)$$

If moreover  $\varepsilon > 0$  satisfies  $\varepsilon < 1/(1 + \beta)$ , let  $a$  be any real number such that  $0 < a \leq 1 - (1 + \beta)\varepsilon$ , then

$$aE(t) \leq E_\varepsilon(t) \leq (2 - a)E(t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.28)$$

Using (2.28) in (2.16) we deduce

$$E'_\varepsilon(t) \leq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2 - a}E_\varepsilon(t) + K(\varepsilon, \beta) \int_\Omega g^2 dx. \quad (2.29)$$

Consequently,

$$E_\varepsilon(t) \leq \left\{ E_\varepsilon(0) + K(\varepsilon, \beta) \int_0^t e^{\varepsilon\omega s} \left( \int_\Omega g^2 dx \right) ds \right\} e^{-\varepsilon\omega t}, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (2.30)$$

where  $\omega = 1/(2 - a)$ . Once again in view of (2.28) we infer from (2.30) that

$$E(t) \leq \left\{ \frac{2 - a}{a}E(0) + \frac{K(\varepsilon, \beta)}{a} \int_0^t e^{\varepsilon\omega s} \left( \int_\Omega g^2 dx \right) ds \right\} e^{-\varepsilon\omega t}, \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2.31)$$

The proof is now complete.

**Remark 2.2** *It is clear from the proof that  $\alpha$  may depend on the spatial variable  $x$ .*

**Remark 2.3** *If the mild damping is in the boundary instead of the equation, i.e.,*

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt}(t, x) = \Delta u(t, x) + g(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(t, x) + \alpha u_t(t, x) + \int_0^t k(t - s, x)u_t(s, x)ds = h(t, x), & t > 0, x \in \Gamma_0, \\ u(t, x) = 0, & t > 0, x \in \Gamma_1, \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), u_t(x) = u_1(x), & x \in \Omega, \end{cases}$$

then considering the energy functional (2.10) we proceed as in [2] with  $\alpha(x) = m(x) \cdot \nu(x)$  where  $m(x) = x - x^0$ ,  $x^0 \in R^n$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_0 &= \{x \in \Gamma : m(x) \cdot \nu(x) > 0\}, \\ \Gamma_1 &= \{x \in \Gamma : m(x) \cdot \nu(x) \leq 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

The appropriate perturbed energy functional is

$$E_\varepsilon(u; t) = E(u; t) + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} u_t \{(n-1)u + 2(m(x) \cdot \nabla u)\} dx, \quad t \geq 0.$$

In this case we do not impose to the function  $h$  (and  $g$ ) to vanish identically, we are restricted however to the space dimension condition  $n \leq 3$  when  $cl(\Gamma_0) \cap cl(\Gamma_1) \neq \emptyset$  because of the limited validity of Grisvard's inequality (see [2] and [6]).

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