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# Lower Decay Estimates for Non-Degenerate Kirchhoff Type Dissipative Wave Equations

By

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## Abstract

We consider the Cauchy problem for non-degenerate Kirchhoff type dissipative wave equations  $\rho u'' + a(\|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2)Au + u' = 0$  and  $(u(0), u'(0)) = (u_0, u_1)$ , where  $u_0 \neq 0$ . We derive the lower decay estimate  $\|u(t)\|^2 \geq Ce^{-\beta t}$  for  $t \geq 0$  with  $\beta > 0$  for the solution  $u(t)$ .

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $H$  be a real Hilbert space with inner product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  and norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Let  $A$  be a linear operator on  $H$  with dense domain  $\mathcal{D}(A)$ . We assume that the operator  $A$  is self-adjoint and nonnegative such that  $(Av, v) \geq 0$  for  $v \in \mathcal{D}(A)$ . The  $\alpha$ -th power of  $A$  with dense domain  $\mathcal{D}(A^\alpha)$  is denoted by  $A^\alpha$  for  $\alpha > 0$ , and the graph-norm of  $A^\alpha$  is denoted by  $\|v\|_\alpha = (\|v\|^2 + \|A^\alpha v\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $v \in \mathcal{D}(A^\alpha)$ . We use that  $\|A^{1/2}v\|^2 = (Av, v)$  for  $v \in \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})$ .

We study on the Cauchy problem for the non-degenerate Kirchhoff type dissipative wave equations :

$$\begin{cases} \rho u'' + a\left(\|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2\right)Au + u' = 0, & t \geq 0 \\ (u(0), u'(0)) = (u_0, u_1) \in \mathcal{D}(A) \times \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2}), \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $u = u(t)$  is an unknown real value function,  $' = d/dt$ , and  $\rho$  is a positive constant.

For the non-local nonlinear term  $a(M) \in C^0([0, \infty)) \cap C^1((0, \infty))$ , we assume that as follows :

$$\underline{\text{Hyp.1}} \quad K_1 \leq a(M) \leq K_2 + K_3 M^\gamma \quad \text{for } M \geq 0$$

$$\underline{\text{Hyp.2}} \quad 0 \leq a'(M)M \leq K_4 a(M) \quad \text{for } M > 0$$

with  $\gamma > 0$  and  $K_j > 0$  ( $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ).

From Hyp.1, we see that

$$K_1 M \leq \int_0^M a(\mu) d\mu \leq \left( K_2 + \frac{K_3}{\gamma+1} M^\gamma \right) M. \quad (1.2)$$

For typical examples, we have that

$$a(M) = 1 + M^\gamma, \quad (1 + M)^\gamma, \quad \log(2 + M^\gamma).$$

In the case of one dimension, (1.1) describes small amplitude vibrations of an elastic string (see [3], [4], [6]).

We obtain the following global existence theorem (see Theorem 4.1 and Proposition 5.1).

**Theorem 1.1** *Suppose that Hyp.1 and Hyp.2 are fulfilled. If the initial data  $(u_0, u_1)$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}(A) \times \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})$  and satisfy  $u_0 \neq 0$ , and moreover, the coefficient  $\rho$  and the initial data  $(u_0, u_1)$  satisfy the smallness condition (4.1), then the problem (1.1) admits a unique global solution  $u(t)$  in the class*

$$C^0([0, \infty); \mathcal{D}(A)) \cap C^1([0, \infty); \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})) \cap C^2([0, \infty); H).$$

Moreover, the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies

$$\|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2 \geq Ce^{-\alpha t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \quad (1.3)$$

with some  $\alpha > 0$ .

In previous paper [10], we have derived the upper decay estimates of the solution  $u(t)$  of (1.1) in the case of  $a(M) = (1 + M)^\gamma$  with  $\gamma > 0$  and  $A = -\Delta = -\sum_{j=1}^N \partial^2/\partial x_j^2$  with domain  $\mathcal{D}(A) = H^2(\mathbb{R}^N)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} \|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2 &\leq C(1+t)^{-1}, \quad \|u'(t)\|^2 + \|Au(t)\|^2 \leq C(1+t)^{-2}, \\ \|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2 + \|u''(t)\|^2 &\leq C(1+t)^{-3} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

(see [5], [8] for  $a(M) = 1 + M^\gamma$  with  $\gamma \geq 1$ , that is,  $a(\cdot) \in C^1([0, \infty))$ ).

On the other hand, Ghisi and Gobino [5] have derived the lower decay estimate (1.3) for (1.1) (see [9] for bounded domains).

The purpose of this paper is to derive the lower decay estimate for  $\|u(t)\|^2$ .

For the non-local nonlinear term  $a(M) \in C([0, \infty)) \cap C^2((0, \infty))$ , we assume that as follows :

Hyp.3  $|a''(M)|M^2 \leq K_5 a(M)$  for  $M > 0$

with  $K_5 > 0$ .

We obtain the following lower decay estimate of the solution  $u(t)$  of (1.1) (see Theorem 5.4). Our main result is as follows.

**Theorem 1.2** *Suppose that the assumption of Theorem 1.1 and Hyp.3 are fulfilled. Then, the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies*

$$\|u(t)\|^2 \geq C e^{-\beta t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \tag{1.4}$$

with some  $\beta > 0$ .

The notations we use in this paper are standard. Positive constants will be denoted by  $C$  and will change from line to line.

## 2 Local Existence and Energy

We have the following local existence theorem by standard arguments (see [1], [2], [7], [11] and the references cited therein).

**Proposition 2.1** *Suppose that Hyp.1 and Hyp.2 are satisfied. If the initial data  $(u_0, u_1)$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}(A) \times \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})$ , then the problem (1.1) admits a unique local solution  $u(t)$  in the class  $C^0([0, T]; \mathcal{D}(A)) \cap C^1([0, T]; \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})) \cap C^2([0, T]; H)$  for some  $T = T(\|u_0\|_2, \|u_1\|_1) > 0$ .*

*Moreover,  $\|u(t)\|_2 + \|u'(t)\|_1 < \infty$  for  $t \geq 0$ , then we can take  $T = \infty$ .*

In what follows, let  $u(t)$  be a solution of (1.1) under the assumption of Proposition 2.1.

We set that

$$M(t) = \|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2 \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$E(t) = \rho \|u'(t)\|^2 + \int_0^{M(t)} a(\mu) d\mu \tag{2.2}$$

for simplicity of the notations.

**Proposition 2.2** *Under the assumption of Proposition 2.1, the solution  $u(t)$  of (1.1) satisfies that*

$$E(t) + 2 \int_0^t \|u'(s)\|^2 ds = E(0), \quad (2.3)$$

$$M(t) \leq K_1^{-1} E(0), \quad (2.4)$$

$$a(M(t)) \leq K_2 + K_3 (K_1^{-1} E(0))^\gamma \quad (\equiv I(0)), \quad (2.5)$$

$$\|u(t)\|^2 \leq 6(\|u_0\|^2 + \rho E(0)). \quad (2.6)$$

for  $t \geq 0$ .

*Proof.* Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $2u'(t)$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} E(t) + 2\|u'(t)\|^2 = 0, \quad (2.7)$$

and integrating (2.7) in time  $t$ , we obtain (2.3).

Moreover, it follows from (5.1) and (2.2) that

$$K_1 M(t) \leq E(t) \leq E(0),$$

and from Hyp.2 that

$$a(M(t)) \leq K_2 + K_3 M(t)^\gamma \leq I(0).$$

Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $u(t)$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|^2 + a(M(t))M(t) = \rho \left( \|u'(t)\|^2 - \frac{d}{dt} (u'(t), u(t)) \right),$$

and we observe from the Young inequality that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u(t)\|^2 + 2 \int_0^t a(M(s))M(s) ds \\ & \leq \|u_0\|^2 + 2\rho \int_0^t \|u'(s)\|^2 ds + \|u_0\|^2 + \rho \|u_1\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u(t)\|^2 + 2\rho^2 \|u'(t)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \|u(t)\|^2 + 2 \int_0^t a(M(s))M(s) ds \\ & \leq 2\|u_0\|^2 + \rho \left( \rho \|u_1\|^2 + 2\rho \|u'(t)\|^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|u'(s)\|^2 ds \right) \\ & \leq 2\|u_0\|^2 + 3\rho E(0) \end{aligned}$$

which implies the desired estimate (2.6).  $\square$

### 3 Several Estimates

In order to obtain a-priori estimates of the solution  $u(t)$ , we assume that

$$\rho \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} \leq \frac{1}{K_4 + 1} \quad (3.1)$$

where  $M(t)$  is defined by (5.1).

**Proposition 3.1** *Under the assumption (3.1), the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies*

$$\frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq G(t) \leq G(0), \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$G(t) = \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \rho Q(t), \quad (3.3)$$

$$Q(t) = \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2 \|A^{1/2}u(t)\|^2 - |(A^{1/2}u'(t), A^{1/2}u(t))|^2}{a(M(t))M(t)^2} \quad (\geq 0). \quad (3.4)$$

*Proof.* We have from (1.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\ &= \frac{1}{a(M(t))M(t)^2} (2(a(M(t))Au, Au')M(t) - (a(M(t))Au, Au)M'(t)) \\ &= \frac{1}{a(M(t))M(t)^2} \left( 2(\|A^{1/2}u'\|^2 + \rho(A^{1/2}u'', A^{1/2}u'))M(t) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \left( \frac{1}{2}|M'(t)|^2 + \rho \left( \|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2 - \frac{1}{2}M''(t) \right) M'(t) \right) \right) \\ &= -2Q(t) + \rho R(t) \end{aligned}$$

where we set

$$R(t) = \frac{2(A^{1/2}u'', A^{1/2}u')M(t) + (\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2 - \frac{1}{2}M''(t)) M'(t)}{a(M(t))M(t)^2}.$$

Since we observe

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{d}{dt}Q(t) \\
&= -\frac{a'(M(t))M'(t)M(t)^2 + 2a(M(t))M(t)M'(t)}{(a(M(t))M(t)^2)^2} \\
&\quad \times \left( \|A^{1/2}u'\|^2 M(t) - \frac{1}{4}|M'(t)|^2 \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{2(A^{1/2}u'', A^{1/2}u')M(t) + \|A^{1/2}u'\|^2 M'(t) - \frac{1}{2}M'(t)M''(t)}{a(M(t))M(t)^2} \\
&= -\frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \frac{a'(M(t))M(t) + 2a(M(t))}{a(M(t))^2 M(t)^2} \left( \|A^{1/2}u'\|^2 M(t) - \frac{1}{4}|M'(t)|^2 \right) + R(t) \\
&= -\frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \left( 2 + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{a(M(t))} \right) Q(t) + R(t),
\end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \rho Q(t) \right) \\
&\quad + 2 \left( 1 + \frac{\rho M'(t)}{2M(t)} \left( 2 + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{a(M(t))} \right) \right) Q(t) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we observe

$$1 + \frac{\rho M'(t)}{2M(t)} \left( 2 + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{a(M(t))} \right) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{K_4 + 1} (2 + K_4) \geq 0$$

and  $Q(t) \geq 0$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{dt}G(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \rho Q(t) \right) \leq 0$$

which implies the desired estimate (3.2).  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2** *Under the assumption (3.1), the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies*

$$\frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq B(0), \tag{3.5}$$

where

$$B(0) = \max \left\{ \frac{\|u_1\|^2}{M(0)}, \frac{K_4 + 1}{K_4} I(0)^2 G(0) \right\}. \tag{3.6}$$

*Proof.* Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $2u'(t)/M(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \left(2 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)}\right) \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} &= -a(M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \\ &\leq 2a(M(t)) \frac{\|Au(t)\| \|u'(t)\|}{M(t)} \\ &\leq a(M(t))^2 \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where we used the Young inequality.

Since

$$1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \geq \frac{K_4}{K_4 + 1} \quad \text{and} \quad a(M(t))^2 \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq I(0)^2 G(0),$$

we have

$$\rho \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{K_4}{K_4 + 1} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq I(0)^2 G(0)$$

and hence, we obtain (3.6).  $\square$

*Remark.* If the nonnegative function  $f(t)$  satisfies

$$f'(t) + af(t) \leq b, \quad t \geq 0$$

with positive constants  $a$  and  $b$ , then

$$f(t) \leq \max\{f(0), b/a\}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Indeed, taking

$$g(t) = \max\{f(0), b/a\}, \quad t \geq 0,$$

we see that  $-ag(t) + b \leq 0$  and  $g'(t) = 0$ , and hence,

$$g'(t) + ag(t) \geq b \quad \text{and} \quad f(0) \leq g(0).$$

Thus, by the comparison principle, we conclude.

## 4 Global Existence

**Theorem 4.1** *Suppose that Hyp.1 and Hyp.2 are fulfilled. If the initial data  $(u_0, u_1)$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}(A) \times \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})$  are satisfies  $u_0 \neq 0$  and*

$$2\rho G(0)^{\frac{1}{2}} B(0)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \frac{1}{K_4 + 1}, \quad (4.1)$$

then the problem (1.1) admits a unique global solution  $u(t)$  in the class

$$C^0([0, \infty); \mathcal{D}(A)) \cap C^1([0, \infty); \mathcal{D}(A^{1/2})) \cap C^2([0, \infty); H)$$

and the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies

$$\|u(t)\|^2 \leq 6(\|u_0\|^2 + \rho E(0)), \quad (4.2)$$

$$E(t) \leq E(0), \quad a(M(t)) \leq I(0), \quad (4.3)$$

$$\rho \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} \leq \frac{1}{K_4 + 1}, \quad (4.4)$$

$$\frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq G(0), \quad \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq B(0). \quad (4.5)$$

*Proof.* Let  $u(t)$  be a solution on  $[0, T]$ . Since we observe from (3.2), (3.5), and (4.1) that

$$\rho \frac{|M'(0)|}{M(0)} \leq 2\rho \frac{\|u_1\|}{M(0)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{\|Au_0\|}{M(0)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \leq 2\rho B(0)^{\frac{1}{2}} G(0) < \frac{1}{K_4 + 1},$$

putting

$$T = \sup\{t \in [0, \infty) \mid \rho \frac{|M'(s)|}{M(s)} < \frac{1}{K_4 + 1} \text{ for } 0 \leq s < t\},$$

we see that  $T_1 > 0$ . If  $T_1 < T$ , we have

$$\rho \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} < \frac{1}{K_4 + 1} \text{ for } 0 \leq t < T_1, \quad \text{and} \quad \rho \frac{|M'(T_1)|}{M(T_1)} = \frac{1}{K_4 + 1}.$$

Again, from (3.2), (3.5), and (4.1) it follows that

$$\rho \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} \leq 2\rho \frac{\|u'(t)\|}{M(t)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{\|Au(t)\|}{M(t)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \leq 2\rho B(0)^{\frac{1}{2}} G(0) < \frac{1}{K_4 + 1}$$

for  $0 \leq t \leq T$ , and hence, we obtain  $T_1 \geq T$ , and we see that the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies the estimates (2.3)–(2.6), (3.2), and (3.5), which implies (4.2)–(4.5).

Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $2Au'(t)/a(M(t))$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{a(M(t))} + \|Au(t)\|^2 \right) \\ & + 2 \left( 1 + \frac{\rho a'(M(t))M(t)}{2a(M(t))} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{a(M(t))} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \frac{\rho a'(M(t))M(t)}{2a(M(t))} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} & \geq 1 - \frac{K_4}{2} \rho \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} \\ & \geq 1 - \frac{K_4}{2} \frac{1}{K_4 + 1} \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$



we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{a(M(t))} + \|Au(t)\|^2 \right) \leq 0,$$

and hence,

$$\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2 + \|Au(t)\|^2 \leq C \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

Thus, we observe that  $\|u(t)\|_2 + \|u'(t)\|_1 \leq C$ , and by the second statement of Proposition 2.1, we conclude that the problem (1.1) admits a unique global solution.  $\square$

## 5 Lower Decay Estimates

**Proposition 5.1** *Under the assumption of Theorem 4.1, it holds that*

$$M(t) \geq Ce^{-\alpha t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \quad (5.1)$$

with some  $\alpha > 0$ .

*Proof.* Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $2u'(t)/M(t)^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)^2} + \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \right) + 2 \left( 1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)^2} \\ &= \frac{-2a(M(t)) + a'(M(t))M(t)}{M(t)} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \\ &\leq C \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \leq \alpha \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \end{aligned}$$

with some  $\alpha > 0$ , where we used Hyp.2 and (4.4).

Since  $1 + \rho M'(t)/M(t) \geq 0$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)^2} + \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \right) \leq \alpha \left( \rho \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)^2} + \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \right)$$

and hence, we obtain

$$\rho \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)^2} + \frac{a(M(t))}{M(t)} \leq Ce^{\alpha t} \quad \text{or} \quad M(t) \geq Ce^{-\alpha t}$$

where we used the assumption that  $a(M(t)) \geq K_1 > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 5.2** *Under the assumption of Theorem 4.1, it holds that*

$$\frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq C \quad \text{for } t \geq 0. \quad (5.2)$$

*Proof.* Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $(2Au'(t) + \rho^{-1}Au(t))/M(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + a(M(t)) \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{(Au(t), u'(t))}{M(t)} \right) \\ & + \left( 1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a(M(t))}{\rho} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} \\ & = - (a(M(t)) + a'(M(t))M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} - \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

Moreover, taking (5.3) + (3.7)  $\times \rho^{-1}K_1^{-1}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} F(t) + \left( 1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a(M(t))}{\rho} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} \\ & + \frac{1}{\rho K_1} \left( 2 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} = R(t) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F(t) &= H(t) + \frac{(Au(t), u'(t))}{M(t)}, \\ H(t) &= \rho \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + a(M(t)) \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{K_1} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \quad (\geq 0), \\ R(t) &= - (a(M(t)) + a'(M(t))M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} - \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \\ & \quad - \frac{a(M(t))}{\rho K_1} \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since we observe from the Young inequality and Hyp.1 that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|(Au(t), u'(t))|}{M(t)} &\leq \frac{K_1}{2} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{2K_1} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\ &\leq \frac{a(M(t))}{2} \frac{\|Au(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{2K_1} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)}, \end{aligned}$$

and from (4.4) that

$$1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \geq \frac{K_4}{K_4 + 1} \quad (> 0)$$

and from (4.3)–(4.5) that

$$|R(t)| \leq C \frac{|M'(t)|}{M(t)} \leq C,$$

we have

$$\frac{d}{dt}F(t) + \nu F(t) \leq C$$

with some  $\nu > 0$ , and hence,

$$F(t) \leq C \quad \text{or} \quad H(t) \leq C$$

which implies the desired estimate (5.2).  $\square$

**Proposition 5.3** *Under the assumption of Theorem 4.1 and Hyp.3, it holds that*

$$\frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \leq C \quad \text{for } t \geq 0. \quad (5.4)$$

*Proof.* Taking the inner product of (1.1) with  $(2u''(t) + \rho^{-1}u'(t))/M(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + a(M(t)) \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{2} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{(u''(t), u'(t))}{M(t)} \Big) + \left( 1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\ & + \frac{a(M(t))}{\rho} \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{2\rho} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} \\ & = (-a(M(t)) + 3a'(M(t))M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} (-a'(M(t))M(t) + a''(M(t))M(t)^2) \left( \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right)^3 \\ & - \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \left( \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{(u''(t), u'(t))}{M(t)} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

Moreover, taking (5.5)+(3.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt}G(t) + \left( 1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a(M(t))}{\rho} \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\ & + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{2\rho} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} + \left( 2 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \right) \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} = S(t) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
G(t) &= K(t) + \frac{(u''(t), u'(t))}{M(t)}, \\
K(t) &= \rho \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + a(M(t)) \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{a'(M(t))M(t)}{2} \frac{|M'(t)|^2}{M(t)^2} \\
&\quad + \left(\frac{1}{2\rho} + \rho\right) \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)}, \\
S(t) &= (-a(M(t)) + 3a'(M(t))M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \frac{\|A^{1/2}u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} (-a'(M(t))M(t) + a''(M(t))M(t)^2) \left(\frac{M'(t)}{M(t)}\right)^3 \\
&\quad - \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \left(\frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{(u''(t), u'(t))}{M(t)}\right) - a(M(t)) \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since we observe from the Young inequality that

$$\frac{|(u''(t), u'(t))|}{M(t)} \leq \frac{\rho}{2} \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{M(t)} + \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)}$$

and from (4.4) that

$$1 + \rho \frac{M'(t)}{M(t)} \geq \frac{K_4}{K_4 + 1} \quad (> 0)$$

and from (4.3)–(4.5), (5.2) that

$$|S(t)| \leq C + \frac{K_4}{2(K_4 + 1)} \frac{\|u'(t)\|^2}{M(t)},$$

we have

$$\frac{d}{dt}G(t) + \nu G(t) \leq C$$

with some  $\nu > 0$ , and hence,

$$G(t) \leq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad K(t) \leq 0$$

which implies the desired estimate (5.4).  $\square$

**Theorem 5.4** *Suppose that the assumption of Theorem 4.1 and Hyp.3 are fulfilled. Then, the solution  $u(t)$  satisfies*

$$\|u(t)\|^2 \geq C e^{-\beta t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \tag{5.6}$$

with some  $\beta \geq \alpha > 0$ .

*Proof.* Using (1.1), we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2} &= \frac{1}{\|u(t)\|^4} (2(Au(t), u'(t))\|u(t)\|^2 - 2M(t)(u(t), u'(t))) \\ &= \frac{-2}{\|u(t)\|^2} \left( \rho(Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t), u''(t)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + a(M(t))((Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t), Au(t))) \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t), Au(t)) = \|Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t)\|^2.$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{d}{dt} \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2} + \frac{2a(M(t))}{\|u(t)\|^2} \|Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t)\|^2 \\ &= \frac{-2\rho}{\|u(t)\|^2} \rho(Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t), u''(t)) \\ &\leq 2\rho \frac{1}{\|u(t)\|} \|Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t)\| \frac{\|u''(t)\|}{\|u(t)\|} \\ &\leq \frac{2K_1}{\|u(t)\|^2} \|Au(t) - \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}u(t)\|^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{2K_1} \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{\|u(t)\|^2}, \end{aligned}$$

and moreover, by  $a(M(t)) \geq K_1 > 0$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2} \leq C \frac{\|u''(t)\|^2}{\|u(t)\|^2} = C \frac{\|u''(t)\|}{M(t)} \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2} \leq \nu \frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2}$$

with some  $\nu \geq 0$ , where we used (5.4). Therefore, we obtain

$$\frac{M(t)}{\|u(t)\|^2} \leq Ce^{\nu t}$$

and hence

$$\|u(t)\|^2 \geq Ce^{-\nu t} M(t) \geq Ce^{-\nu t} e^{-\alpha t} = Ce^{-\beta t}$$

with some  $\beta \geq \alpha > 0$ , where we used (5.1).  $\square$

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