

On the control of solutions of
a viscoelastic equation

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1 Introduction

Cavalcanti *et al.* studied

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau + a(x)u_t \\ + |u|^\gamma u = 0, \quad \gamma > 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty) \\ u(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \quad t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ($n \geq 1$) bounded with $\partial\Omega$ regular,
 $g \geq 0$ with

$$-\xi_1 g(t) \leq g'(t) \leq -\xi_2 g(t), \quad t \geq 0$$

and $\|g\|_{L^1((0, \infty))}$ is small enough,
 $a : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ such that

$$a(x) \geq a_0 > 0 \quad \text{on } \phi \neq \omega \subset \Omega,$$

with ω satisfying some geometry restrictions.

- An exponential decay result obtained.
- This extends the result of Zuazua, with $g = 0$.
- Berrimi and Messaoudi obtained the same result under weaker conditions on g and ω .

- Cavalcanti *et al* considered

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} - k_0 \Delta u + \int_0^t \operatorname{div}[a(x)g(t - \tau) \nabla u(\tau)] d\tau \\ + b(x)h(u_t) + f(u) = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \end{aligned}$$

under similar conditions on g and

$$a(x) + b(x) \geq \delta > 0, \quad \forall x \in \Omega.$$

They established an exponential stability for g decaying exponentially and h linear and polynomial stability for g decaying polynomially and h nonlinear.

- Cavalcanti *et al* have also studied

$$\begin{aligned} & |u_t|^\rho u_{tt} - \Delta u - \Delta u_{tt} + \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau \\ & -\gamma \Delta u_t = 0, \quad \rho > 0, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0, \end{aligned}$$

A global existence result for $\gamma \geq 0$ and an exponential decay for $\gamma > 0$ were established.

- This last result has been extended to a situation, where a source term is present, by Messaoudi and Tatar.

- Also, Messaoudi considered

$$\begin{aligned} & u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau \\ & + au_t |u_t|^m = b|u|^\gamma u, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty) \end{aligned}$$

and showed, under suitable conditions on g , that solutions with negative energy blow up in finite time if $\gamma > m$ and continue to exist if $m \geq \gamma$.

In the absence of the viscoelastic term ($g = 0$), the problem has been extensively studied and many results concerning global existence and nonexistence have been proved. For instance, for the problem

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - \Delta u + au_t |u_t|^m = b|u|^\gamma u, & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty) \\ u(x, t) = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), & x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$a, b, m, \gamma \geq 0$

- For $a = 0$, the source term $b|u|^\gamma$, ($\gamma > 0$) causes finite time blow up of solutions with negative initial energy

- For $b = 0$, the damping term $au_t |u_t|^m$ assures global existence for arbitrary initial data.

- For $ab \neq 0$, in the linear damping case ($m = 0$), a blow up result established by Levine for solutions with negative initial energy.

- Georgiev and Todorova studied the nonlinear damping case ($m > 0$). They showed that solutions with negative energy continue to exist globally 'in time' if $m \geq \gamma$ and blow up in finite time if $\gamma > m$ and the initial energy is sufficiently negative.

- Messaoudi proved the blow up result for solutions with negative initial energy only.

- Results of same nature were established by Levine and Serrin, and Levine and Park,

Vitillaro, Messaoudi and Said-Houari, and others.

Our problem

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t-\tau)\Delta u(\tau)d\tau = 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty) \\ u(x, t) = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), & x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Conditions

(G1) $g : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is a bounded \mathcal{C}^1 function such that

$$g(0) > 0, \quad 1 - \int_0^\infty g(s)ds = l > 0.$$

(G2) There exists a positive constant ξ such that

$$g'(t) \leq -\xi g(t), \quad t \geq 0,$$

Proposition *Let $(u_0, u_1) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$ be given. Assume that g satisfies (G1). Then problem (3) has a unique global solution*

$$\begin{aligned} u &\in C([0, \infty); H_0^1(\Omega)), \\ u_t &\in C([0, \infty); L^2(\Omega)) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Remark Condition (G1) is necessary to guarantee the hyperbolicity of the system (3).

The modified energy

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(t) &: = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \int_0^t g(s)ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_2^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t), \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where

$$(g \circ v)(t) = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \|v(t) - v(\tau)\|_2^2 d\tau. \quad (6)$$

Lemma *The modified energy satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}'(t) &= \frac{1}{2} (g' \circ \nabla u)(t) - \frac{1}{2} g(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (g' \circ \nabla u)(t) \leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

2 Exponential decay

Theorem *Let $(u_0, u_1) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$ be given. Assume that g satisfies (G1) and (G2). Then there exist positive constants k and K such that the solution given by (2.2) satisfies*

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq K e^{-kt}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0 > 0.$$

Proof We define

$$F(t) := \mathcal{E}(t) + \varepsilon_1 \Psi(t) + \varepsilon_2 \chi(t) \quad (8)$$

where ε_1 and ε_2 are positive constants to be specified later and

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(t) &: = \int_{\Omega} u u_t dx \\ \chi(t) &: = - \int_{\Omega} u_t \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau)) d\tau dx. \end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to see that for ε_1 and ε_2 so small, we have

$$\alpha_1 F(t) \leq \mathcal{E}(t) \leq \alpha_2 F(t), \quad (9)$$

holds for two positive constants α_1 and α_2 .

Direct, but lengthy, estimates give

$$\Psi'(t) \leq \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx - \frac{l}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx + \frac{(1-l)}{2l} (g \circ \nabla u)(t). \quad (10)$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \chi'(t) &\leq \delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2\} \|\nabla u\|_2^2 \\ &\quad + (2\delta + \frac{1}{2\delta})(1-l)(g \circ \nabla u)(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p(-(g' \circ \nabla u)(t)) \\ &\quad + (\delta - \int_0^t g(s) ds) \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Since $g(0) > 0$ then there exists $t_0 > 0$ such that

$$\int_0^t g(s) ds \geq \int_0^{t_0} g(s) ds = g_0 > 0, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (12)$$

A combination of (10) - (12) leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
F'(t) \leq & -[\varepsilon_2\{g_0 - \delta\} - \varepsilon_1] \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx \\
& - \left[\frac{\varepsilon_1 l}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2\} \right] \|\nabla u\|_2^2 \\
& + \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\varepsilon_1(1-l)}{2\xi l} - \varepsilon_2 \left\{ \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p \right. \right. \\
& \left. \left. + \frac{(1-l)}{\xi} \left(2\delta + \frac{1}{2\delta} \right) \right\} \right] (g' \circ \nabla u)(t).
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Choose δ so small that

$$\begin{aligned}
g_0 - \delta & > \frac{1}{2}g_0 \\
\frac{1}{l}\delta\{1 + 2(1-l)^2\} & < \frac{1}{8}g_0.
\end{aligned}$$

Whence δ is fixed, the choice of any two positive constants ε_1 and ε_2 satisfying

$$\frac{1}{4}g_0\varepsilon_2 < \varepsilon_1 < \frac{1}{2}g_0\varepsilon_2 \tag{14}$$

will make

$$\begin{aligned}
k_1 & = \varepsilon_2\{g_0 - \delta\} - \varepsilon_1 > 0 \\
k_2 & = \frac{\varepsilon_1 l}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2\} > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Pick ε_1 and ε_2 so small that (9) and (14) remain valid and

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\varepsilon_1(1-l)}{2\xi l} - \varepsilon_2 \left\{ \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p + \frac{(1-l)}{\xi} \left(2\delta + \frac{1}{2\delta} \right) \right\} > 0$$

Therefore (13) becomes

$$F'(t) \leq -\beta\mathcal{E}(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \tag{15}$$

We then use (9) to arrive at

$$F'(t) \leq -\beta\alpha_1 F(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (16)$$

A simple integration of (16) leads to

$$F(t) \leq F(t_0)e^{\beta\alpha_1 t_0} e^{-\beta\alpha_1 t}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (17)$$

Again by the (9), (17) yields

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq \alpha_2 F(t_0)e^{\beta\alpha_1 t_0} e^{-\beta\alpha_1 t}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (18)$$

This completes the proof.

Remark By repeating the same procedure, the same result holds for

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t-\tau)\Delta u(\tau)d\tau \\ + a(x)u_t + b|u|^\gamma u = 0, \quad b \neq 0 \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, \infty)$$