

# On the decay of solutions in an abstract integro-differential equation

Salim A. Messaoudi

Mathematical Sciences Department

King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals  
Dhahran 31261, Saudi Arabia

E-mail: [messaoud@kfupm.edu.sa](mailto:messaoud@kfupm.edu.sa)

# 1 Our problem:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt}(t) + Au(t) - \int_0^t g(t-s)Au(s)ds + f(u) &= 0, & t > 0 \\ u(0) = u_0 \in V, & \quad u_t(0) = u_1 \in H, & (1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $A : V \longrightarrow V'$  is a “differential” operator.

## Hypotheses:

(H1) There exists an operator  $B : V \longrightarrow H$  such that

$$\langle Au, v \rangle_{V' \times V} = \langle Bu, Bv \rangle_{H \times H} \quad (2)$$

(H2)  $g : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a differentiable function satisfying

$$g(0) > 0, \quad 1 - \int_0^\infty g(s)ds = l > 0 \quad (3)$$

$$g'(t) \leq -\xi g^p(t), \quad t \geq 0, \quad 1 \leq p < \frac{3}{2}. \quad (4)$$

(H3) There exists a constant  $C_p > 0$  such that

$$\|v\|^2 \leq C_p \|Bv\|^2, \quad \forall v \in V, \quad (5)$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the norm in  $H$ .

(H4)  $f : V \rightarrow H$  such that

$$\|f(v)\| \leq C_p \|Bv\|^\alpha, \quad \forall v \in V, \quad \alpha \geq 1$$

(H5) There exists  $F : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} F(u(t)) &= \langle f(u(t)), u_t \rangle \\ F(u(t)) - \langle f(u(t)), u \rangle &\leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition:** By a weak solution of (1), we mean a function

$$u \in C([0, T]; V) \cap C^1([0, T]; H)$$

satisfying, for almost every  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle u_t(t), v \rangle + \langle Bu(t), Bv \rangle \\ + \langle f(u(t)), v \rangle - \int_0^t g(t-s) \langle Bu(s), Bv \rangle ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
+ \langle f(u(t)), v \rangle &= 0, \quad \forall v \in V \\
u(0) &= u_0 \in V, \quad u_t(0) = u_1 \in H
\end{aligned}$$

### The energy

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \int_0^t g(s) ds \right) \|Bu(t)\|^2 \quad (6) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} (g \circ Bu)(t) + F(u(t)),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(g \circ v)(t) = \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \|v(t) - v(\tau)\|^2 d\tau \quad (7)$$

**Remark.** Condition  $p < 3/2$  is made so that

$$\int_0^\infty g^{2-p}(s) ds < \infty.$$

## 2 Decay of solutions

Let

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

$\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 > 0$  and

$$\Psi(t) := \langle u, u_t \rangle_{H \times H} \quad (9)$$

$$\chi(t) := - \langle u_t, \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau)) d\tau \rangle_{H \times H}.$$

**Lemma 2.1** *For  $r > 1$  and  $0 < \theta < 1$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t g(t-s) \|w(s)\|^2 ds &\leq \left( \int_0^t g^{1-\theta}(t-s) \|w(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{1/r} \\ &\quad \times \left( \int_0^t g^{(r-1+\theta)/(r-1)}(t-s) \|w(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{r/(r-1)} \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** It suffice to note that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^t g(t-s) \|w(s)\|^2 ds = \\ &\int_0^t g^{(1-\theta)/r}(t-s) \|w(s)\|^{2/r} g^{(r-1+\theta)/r}(t-s) \|w(s)\|^{2(r-1)/r} ds \end{aligned}$$

and apply Holder's inequality.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $v(t)$  be such that  $Bv \in L^\infty((0, T); H)$  and  $g$  be a continuous function on  $[0, T]$  and suppose that  $0 < \theta < 1$  and  $p > 1$ . Then, there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t g(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \leq \\ & C \left( \sup_{0 < s < T} \|Bv(s)\|^2 \int_0^t g^{1-\theta}(s) ds \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p-1+\theta}} \cdot \\ & \times \left( \int_0^t g^p(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{\theta}{p-1+\theta}} \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** By using lemma 2.1 with

$$r = (p-1+\theta)/(p-1),$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t g(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \leq \quad (10) \\ & \left( \int_0^t g^{1-\theta}(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p-1+\theta}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\times \left( \int_0^t g^p(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{\theta}{p-1+\theta}}$$

It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t g^{1-\theta}(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \leq \\ & C \sup_{0 < s < T} \|Bv(s)\|^2 \int_0^t g^{1-\theta}(s) ds \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

By combining (10) and (11), the proof of the lemma is complete.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $v(t)$  be such that  $Bv \in L^\infty((0, T); H)$  and  $g$  be a continuous function on  $[0, T]$  and suppose that  $p > 1$ . Then, there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\int_0^t g(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \leq \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& C \left( t \|Bv(t)\|^2 + \int_0^t \|Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{(p-1)/p} \\
& \times \left( \int_0^t g^p(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{1/p}.
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** We use (10), for  $\theta = 1$  to arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^t g(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \leq \\
& \left( \int_0^t \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{(p-1)/p} \\
& \times \left( \int_0^t g^p(t-s) \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds \right)^{1/p}.
\end{aligned}$$

It suffices to note that

$$\int_0^t \|Bv(t) - Bv(s)\|^2 ds =$$

$$t\|Bv(t)\|^2 + \int_0^t \|Bv(s)\|^2 ds$$

to obtain (12). This completes the proof.

**Lemma 2.4** *If  $u$  is the solution of (1) then the energy satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}'(t) &= \frac{1}{2}(g' \circ Bu)(t) + g(t)\|Bu(t)\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}(g' \circ Bu)(t) \leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

**Proof.** By multiplying "scalarly" equation (1) by  $u_t$  and using (2)-(4) and some manipulations, we obtain (13).

**Lemma 2.5.** *For  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  small enough, we have*

$$\alpha_1 L(t) \leq \mathcal{E}(t) \leq \alpha_2 L(t), \quad (14)$$

*holds for two positive constants  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$ .*

**Proof.** Straightforward computations, using (2), (5),

lead to

$$\begin{aligned}
L(t) &\leq \mathcal{E}(t) + (\varepsilon_1/2) \|u_t\|^2 + (\varepsilon_1/2) \|u\|^2 \\
&+ (\varepsilon_2/2) \|u_t\|^2 + (\varepsilon_2/2) \left\| \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\|^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

By using

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left\| \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\| \\
&\leq \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \|(u(t) - u(\tau))\| d\tau \\
&\leq \left( \int_0^t \left( \sqrt{g(t-\tau)} \right)^2 \|(u(t) - u(\tau))\|^2 d\tau \right)^{1/2} \\
&\times \left( \int_0^t \left( \sqrt{g(t-\tau)} \right)^2 d\tau \right)^{1/2} \\
&= \left( \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \|(u(t) - u(\tau))\|^2 d\tau \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^t g(t-\tau) d\tau \right)^{1/2} \\
&\leq ((1-l)(g \circ Bu)(t))^{1/2},
\end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
L(t) &\leq \mathcal{E}(t) + [(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)/2] \|u_t\|^2 + (\varepsilon_1/2) C_p \|Bu\|^2 \\
&+ (\varepsilon_2/2) C_p (1-l)(g \circ Bu)(t) \leq \alpha_2 \mathcal{E}(t).
\end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

Similarly we have

$$\begin{aligned}
L(t) &\geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - [(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2) / 2]\right) \|u_t\|^2 \\
&+ \left(\frac{1}{2} - (\varepsilon_1/2) C_p\right) \|Bu(t)\|^2 + F(u(t)) \\
&+ \left[\frac{1}{2} - (\varepsilon_2/2) C_p(1 - l)\right] (g \circ Bu)(t) \geq \alpha_1 \mathcal{E}(t)
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

for  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  small enough.

**Lemma 2.6** *Under the assumptions (2)-(5), the functional*

$$\Psi(t) := \langle u, u_t \rangle_{H \times H}$$

*satisfies, along the solution of (1)*

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi'(t) &\leq \|u_t\|^2 - \frac{l}{2} \|Bu\|^2 - F(u) \\
&+ \frac{1}{l} \left[ \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right] (g^p \circ Bu)(t).
\end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

**Proof** By using equation (1), we see:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi'(t) &= \langle u, u_{tt} \rangle_{H \times H} + \|u_t\|^2 \\
&= \|u_t\|^2 - \|Bu\|^2 - \langle u, f(u) \rangle_{H \times H}
\end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \langle Bu, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)Bu(\tau)d\tau \rangle \\
& \leq \|u_t\|^2 - \|Bu\|^2 - F(u) \\
& + \langle Bu, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)Bu(\tau)d\tau \rangle_{H \times H}
\end{aligned}$$

Estimate the fourth term in the RS of (20) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle Bu, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)Bu(\tau)d\tau \rangle_{H \times H} \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2}\|Bu\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau)Bu(\tau)d\tau \right\|^2 \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2}\|Bu\|^2 + \tag{21} \\
& \quad \frac{1}{2}\left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau)B(u(\tau) - u(t) + u(t))d\tau \right\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

Use Cauchy-Schwarz, Young's inequalities, and

$$\int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \leq \int_0^\infty g(\tau) d\tau = 1 - l,$$

to obtain, for any  $\eta > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau) B(u(\tau) - u(t) + u(t)) d\tau \right\|^2 \\ & \leq \left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau) (Bu(\tau) - Bu(t)) d\tau \right\|^2 \\ & \quad + \left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau) Bu(t) d\tau \right\|^2 \\ & + 2 < \int_0^t g(t - \tau) B(u(\tau) - u(t)) d\tau, \quad (22) \\ & \quad \int_0^t g(t - \tau) Bu(t) d\tau > \\ & \leq (1 + \eta) \left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau) Bu(t) d\tau \right\|^2 \\ & + (1 + \frac{1}{\eta}) \left\| \int_0^t g(t - \tau) (Bu(\tau) - Bu(t)) d\tau \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality again  $\implies$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\| \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(B(u(\tau)) - u(t))d\tau \right\|^2 \\
&= \left( \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \|Bu(\tau) - Bu(t)\| d\tau \right)^2 \quad (23) \\
&= \left( \int_0^t g^{1-p/2} g^{p/2} (t-\tau) \|B(u(\tau)) - u(t)\| d\tau \right)^2 \\
&\leq \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) \int_0^t g^p(t-\tau) \|B(u(\tau)) - u(t)\|^2 d\tau
\end{aligned}$$

Thus (22) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\| \int_0^t g(t-\tau) B(u(\tau)) - u(t) + u(t) d\tau \right\|^2 \\
&\leq (1+\eta) \left( \int_0^t g(t-\tau) d\tau \right)^2 \|Bu(t)\|^2 \\
&+ (1 + \frac{1}{\eta}) \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t) \quad (24) \\
&\leq (1+\eta)(1-l)^2 \|Bu(t)\|^2 \\
&+ (1 + \frac{1}{\eta}) \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t).
\end{aligned}$$

Combining (20)-(24)  $\implies$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) \leq & \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} [-1 + (1 + \eta)(1 - l)^2] \|Bu\|^2 \\ & + (1 + \frac{1}{\eta}) \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t) - F(u). \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Choose  $\eta = l/(1 - l)$  so proof is completed.

**Lemma 2.7** *Under the assumptions (2)-(5), the functional*

$$\chi(t) := - \langle u_t, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau)) d\tau \rangle$$

*satisfies, along the solution of (1)*

$$\begin{aligned} \chi'(t) \leq & \delta \{1 + 2(1 - l)^2 + (\frac{\mathcal{E}(0)}{l})^{\alpha-1}\} \|Bu\|^2 \\ & + \{2\delta + \frac{1}{\delta}\} \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) (g^p \circ \nabla u)(t) \\ & + \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p(-(g' \circ Bu)(t)) \\ & + \{ \delta - \int_0^t g(s) ds \} \|u_t\|^2, \quad \forall \delta > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned}
\chi'(t) &:= - \left\langle u_{tt}, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&- \left\langle u_t, \int_0^t g'(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&- \left( \int_0^t g(\tau)d\tau \right) \|u_t(t)\|^2 \\
&= - \left\langle Au(t), \int_0^t g(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&+ \left\langle \int_0^t g(t - s)Au(s)ds, \int_0^t g(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&\left\langle -f(u), \int_0^t g(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&- \left\langle u_t, \int_0^t g'(t - \tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\rangle \\
&- \left( \int_0^t g(\tau)d\tau \right) \|u_t(t)\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

All the terms are treated in a similar way except

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle -f(u), \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \rangle \\
& \leq \delta \|f(u)\|^2 + \frac{1}{4\delta} \left\| \int_0^t g(t-\tau)(u(t) - u(\tau))d\tau \right\|^2 \\
& \leq \delta C_p^2 \|Bu\|^{2\alpha} + \frac{1}{4\delta} \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau)d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t) \\
& \leq \delta C_p^2 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(0)}{l} \right)^{\alpha-1} \|Bu\|^2 + \frac{1}{4\delta} \left( \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau)d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t)
\end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.8** *Let  $(u_0, u_1) \in V \times H$  be given. Assume that  $g$  satisfies (3) and (4). Then, for each  $t_0 > 0$ , there exist strictly positive constants  $K$  and  $k$  such that the solution of (1) satisfies, for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(t) & \leq K e^{-kt}, & p = 1 \\
\mathcal{E}(t) & \leq K(1+t)^{-1/(p-1)}, & p > 1.
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

**Proof**

Since  $g$  is positive, continuous, and  $g(0) > 0$  then for any  $t_0 > 0$  we have

$$\int_0^t g(s)ds \geq \int_0^{t_0} g(s)ds = g_0 > 0, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \tag{28}$$

Use of above lemmas  $\implies$

$$L'(t) \leq -[\varepsilon_2\{g_0 - \delta\} - \varepsilon_1] \|u_t\|^2 - \varepsilon_1 F(u)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_1 l}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2 + C_p^2 \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}(0)}{l}\right)^{\alpha-1}\} \right] \|Bu\|^2 \\
& - \xi \left( \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p - \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_1}{l} + \varepsilon_2 \left\{ 2\delta + \frac{1}{\delta} \right\} \right] \right. \\
& \quad \left. \int_0^t g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) (g^p \circ Bu)(t)
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

At this point we choose  $\delta$  so small that

$$g_0 - \delta > \frac{1}{2}g_0$$

$$\frac{2}{l}\delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2 + C_p^2 \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}(0)}{l}\right)^{\alpha-1}\} < \frac{1}{4}g_0.$$

Whence  $\delta$  is fixed, the choice of any two positive constants  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{4}g_0\varepsilon_2 < \varepsilon_1 < \frac{1}{2}g_0\varepsilon_2 \tag{30}$$

will make

$$k_1 = \varepsilon_2 \{g_0 - \delta\} - \varepsilon_1 > 0$$

$$k_2 = \frac{\varepsilon_1 l}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \delta \{1 + 2(1-l)^2 + C_p^2 \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}(0)}{l}\right)^{\alpha-1}\} > 0.$$

We then pick  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  so small that (11) and (30) re-

main valid and

$$\left( \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon_2 \frac{g(0)}{4\delta} C_p - \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_1}{l} + \varepsilon_2 \left\{ 2\delta + \frac{1}{\delta} \right\} \right] \int_0^\infty g^{2-p}(\tau) d\tau \right) > 0$$

Therefore, for all  $t \geq t_0$ . we have

$$L'(t) \leq -\beta \left[ \|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu\|^2 + (g^p \circ Bu)(t) + F(u) \right] \quad (31)$$

**Case 1.**  $p = 1$ : We combine (6), (14) and (30) to get

$$L'(t) \leq -\beta_1 \mathcal{E}(t) \leq -\beta_1 \alpha_1 L(t) \quad \forall t \geq t_0 \quad (32)$$

A simple integration of (32) leads to

$$L(t) \leq L(t_0) e^{\beta_1 \alpha_1 t_0} e^{-\beta_1 \alpha_1 t}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (33)$$

which implies

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq \alpha_2 L(t_0) e^{\beta_1 \alpha_1 t_0} e^{-\beta_1 \alpha_1 t} = K e^{-kt}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (34)$$

**Case 2.**  $p > 1$ :

Conditions (3) and (4)  $\implies$

$$\int_0^\infty g^{1-\theta}(\tau) d\tau < \infty, \quad \theta < 2 - p,$$

so lemma 2.2 yields

$$\begin{aligned} (g \circ Bu)(t) &\leq C \{(g^p \circ Bu)(t)\}^{\theta/(p-1+\theta)} \\ &\times \left\{ \left( \int_0^\infty g^{1-\theta}(\tau) d\tau \right) \mathcal{E}(0) \right\}^{(p-1)/(p-1+\theta)} \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Therefore we get, for  $\sigma > 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^\sigma(t) &\leq C \mathcal{E}^{\sigma-1}(0) (\|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu\|^2 + F(u)) \\ &\quad + C \{(g \circ Bu)(t)\}^\sigma \\ &\leq C \mathcal{E}^{\sigma-1}(0) (\|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu\|^2 + F(u)) \\ &\quad + C \left\{ \mathcal{E}(0) \int_0^\infty g^{1-\theta}(\tau) d\tau \right\}^{\sigma(p-1)/(p-1+\theta)} \\ &\quad \times \{(g^p \circ Bu)(t)\}^{\sigma\theta/(p-1+\theta)}, \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

where  $C$  is a generic positive constant. By choosing  $\theta = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\sigma = 2p - 1$  (hence  $\sigma\theta/(p - 1 + \theta) = 1$ ), estimate (36) gives

$$\mathcal{E}^\sigma(t) \leq C \{ \|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu\|_2^2 + (g^p \circ Bu)(t) + F(u) \} \quad (37)$$

Combining (14), (31) and (37), we obtain

$$L'(t) \leq -\beta_2 \mathcal{E}^\sigma(t) \leq -\beta_2 (\alpha_1)^\sigma L^\sigma(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0, \quad (38)$$

where  $\beta_2 > 0$ . Integration of (38) gives

$$L(t) \leq C(1+t)^{-1/(\sigma-1)}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \quad (39)$$

As a consequence of (39), we have

$$\int_0^\infty L(t)dt + \sup_{t \geq 0} tL(t) < \infty. \quad (40)$$

Using Lemma 3.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & g \circ Bu \leq \\ & C \left[ \int_0^\infty \|Bu(s)\|^2 ds + \sup_t t \|Bu(t)\|^2 \right]^{\frac{p-1}{p}} (g^p \circ Bu)^{1/p} \\ & \leq C \left[ \int_0^\infty L(s) ds + tL(t) \right]^{(p-1)/p} (g^p \circ \nabla u)^{1/p} \\ & \leq C (g^p \circ \nabla u)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$g^p \circ \nabla u \geq C(g \circ \nabla u)^p. \quad (41)$$

So (31) becomes

$$L'(t) \leq -C [\|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu(t)\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)^p(t) + F(u)]. \quad (42)$$

Also,

$$\mathcal{E}^p(t) \leq C [\|u_t\|^2 + \|Bu(t)\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)^p(t) + F(u)]. \quad (43)$$

Combining the last two inequalities and (14), we obtain

$$L'(t) \leq -CL^p(t), \quad t \geq t_0. \quad (44)$$

A simple integration of (44) yields

$$L(t) \leq K(1+t)^{-1/(p-1)}, \quad t \geq t_0.$$

This completes the proof.

**Remark .** Estimates (27) also hold for all  $t \in [0, t_0]$  by virtue of continuity and boundedness of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

### 3 Applications:

#### 1) Vector-valued Equation

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt}(t) + Au(t) - \int_0^t g(t - \tau)Au(\tau)d\tau = 0, \text{ in } (0, \infty) \\ u(0) = u_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, u_t(0) = u_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n. \end{cases} \quad (45)$$

where  $A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a symmetric positive definite matrix

$u : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a one-variable vector-valued function

It is easy to verify that there exists a nonsingular symmetric matrix  $B : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$A = B^2$$

Define

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = \frac{1}{2}|u'(t)|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \int_0^t g(s)ds\right)|Bu(t)|^2 + \frac{1}{2}g \circ Bu(t)$$

where

$$g \circ Bu(t) = \int_0^t g(t - s)|Bu(t) - Bu(s)|^2 ds$$

**Theorem 3.1:** *Under the conditions (3) and (4) on  $g$ , the solution of (45) satisfies*

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq Ke^{-kt}, \quad p = 1$$

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq K(1+t)^{-1/(p-1)}, \quad p > 1.$$

**Proof.** Take

$$H = V = \mathbb{R}^n$$

equipped with the norm  $|\cdot|$  and use

$$Av \cdot w = Bv \cdot Bw, \quad \forall v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Also,

$$|u| = |B^{-1}Bu| \leq C_p|Bu|$$

## 2) Wave Equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau \\ + |u|^{\beta-2} u = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, \infty) \\ u(x, t) = 0, x \in \partial\Omega, t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), x \in \Omega, \end{array} \right. \quad (46)$$

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) bounded with  $\partial\Omega$  regular,  $g \geq 0$  satisfying (3) and (4), and

$$\begin{aligned} 2 &\leq \beta \leq 2(n-1)/(n-2), & n &> 2 \\ \beta &\geq 2, & n &= 1, 2 \end{aligned}$$

In this problem, we take

$$H = L^2(\Omega), \quad V = H_0^1(\Omega), \quad A = -\Delta$$

It is well known that

$$\langle -\Delta u, v \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx, \quad \forall u, v \in V$$

and, by Poincare, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} u^2 dx \leq C_p \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx$$

Also,

$$f(u) = |u|^{\beta-2}u \quad \text{and} \quad F(u) = \frac{1}{\beta} \int_{\Omega} |u|^{\beta}$$

which gives

$$F(u(t)) - \langle f(u(t)), u \rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\beta} - 1\right) \int_{\Omega} |u|^{\beta} \leq 0$$

The energy is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(t) : &= \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \int_0^t g(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|^2 \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \frac{1}{\beta} \int_{\Omega} |u|^{\beta} dx. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.2:** *Under the conditions (3) and (4) on  $g$ , the solution of (46) satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(t) &\leq K e^{-kt}, & p &= 1 \\ \mathcal{E}(t) &\leq K(1+t)^{-1/(p-1)}, & p &> 1. \end{aligned}$$

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