

# A THREE-POINT BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM WITH AN INTEGRAL CONDITION FOR A THIRD-ORDER PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

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*Received 9 February 2004*

We prove the existence and uniqueness of a strong solution for a linear third-order equation with integral boundary conditions. The proof uses energy inequalities and the density of the range of the operator generated.

## 1. Introduction

In the rectangle  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, T)$ , we consider the equation

$$f(x, t) = \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( a(x, t) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) \quad (1.1)$$

with the initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = 0, \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad (1.2)$$

the final condition

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}(x, T) = 0, \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad (1.3)$$

the Dirichlet condition

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad \forall t \in (0, T), \quad (1.4)$$

and the integral condition

$$\int_l^1 u(x, t) dx = 0, \quad 0 \leq l < 1, \quad t \in (0, T). \quad (1.5)$$

In addition, we assume that the function  $a(x, t)$  and its derivatives satisfy the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < a_0 < a(x, t) < a_1 \quad \forall x, t \in \Omega, \\ \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial x} \right| &\leq b \quad \forall x, t \in \Omega, \\ c'_k < \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial t^k}(x, t) < c_k \quad \forall x, t \in \Omega, \quad k = \overline{1, 3}, \text{ with } c'_1 > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

Over the last few years, many physical phenomena were formulated into nonlocal mathematical models with integral boundary conditions [1, 9, 10, 11]. The reader should refer to [13, 14] and the references therein. The importance of these kinds of problems has also been pointed out by Samarskii [22]. This type of boundary value problems has been investigated in [2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 12, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25] for parabolic equations, in [21, 24] for hyperbolic equations, and in [15, 16, 17] for mixed-type equations. The basic tool in [5, 15, 16, 17, 20, 25] is the energy inequality method which, of course, requires appropriate multipliers and functional spaces. In this paper, we extend this method to the study of a linear third-order partial differential equation.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this paper, we prove the existence and uniqueness of a strong solution of the problem (1.1)–(1.5). For this, we consider the solution of problem (1.1)–(1.5) as a solution of the operator equation

$$Lu = \mathcal{F}, \quad (2.1)$$

where the operator  $L$  has domain of definition  $D(L)$  consisting of functions  $u \in L^2(\Omega)$  such that  $(\partial^{k+1}u/\partial t^k \partial x)(x, t) \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $k = \overline{1, 3}$  and satisfying the conditions (1.4)–(1.5).

The operator  $L$  is considered from  $E$  to  $F$ , where  $E$  is the Banach space consisting of function  $u \in L^2(\Omega)$ , with the finite norm

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_E^2 &= \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right|^2 \right] dx dt \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 \right] dx dt \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|^2 + |u|^2 \right] dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

$F$  is the Hilbert space of functions  $\mathcal{F} = (f, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ , with the finite norm

$$\|\mathcal{F}\|_F^2 = \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) |f(x, t)|^2 dx dt, \quad (2.3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\Theta(x) &= \begin{cases} (1-l)^2, & 0 < x \leq l, \\ (1-x)^2, & l \leq x < 1, \end{cases} \\ \Phi(x) &= \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < l, \\ 1, & l \leq x < 1. \end{cases}\end{aligned}\tag{2.4}$$

### 3. An energy inequality and its application

**THEOREM 3.1.** *For any function  $u \in D(L)$ , the a priori estimate*

$$\|u\|_E \leq k \|Lu\|_F \quad \text{for } u \in D(L),\tag{3.1}$$

where  $k^2 = 40 \exp(cT)/k_1$  with  $k_1 = \inf \{1/4, (c'_3 - 3cc'_1 + 3c^2c'_1 - c^3a_1 - b^2)/2, a_0^2/2, (3/2)(ca_0 - c_1)\}$ . The constant  $c$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}\sup_{(x,t) \in \Omega} \left( \frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \right) &< c < \inf_{(x,t) \in \Omega} \left( \frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + 1 \right), \\ c'_3 - 3cc'_1 + 3c^2c'_1 - c^3a_1 - b^2 &> 0, \\ c'_2 - 2cc'_1 + c^2a_1^2 + ca_0 - c_1 &> 0.\end{aligned}\tag{3.2}$$

*Proof.* Let

$$Mu = \begin{cases} (1-l)^2 \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}, & 0 < x < l, \\ (1-x)^2 \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} + 2(1-x)J_x \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3}, & l < x < 1, \end{cases}\tag{3.3}$$

where  $J_x u = \int_l^x u(x,t) dx$ .

We consider the quadratic form obtained by multiplying (1.1) by  $\exp(-ct)\overline{Mu}$ , with the constant  $c$  satisfying (3.2), integrating over  $\Omega = (0,1) \times (0,T)$ , and taking the real part:

$$\Phi(u,u) = \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} \exp(-ct) f(x,t) \overline{Mu} dx dt.\tag{3.4}$$

By substituting the expression of  $Mu$  in (3.4), integrating with respect to  $x$ , and using the Dirichlet and integral conditions, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} \exp(-ct) f(x, t) \overline{Mu} dx dt \\
&= \int_0^T \int_0^1 \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} \int_0^T \int_0^1 \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - 3c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + 3c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - c^3 a \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) \left| J_x \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad - 2 \operatorname{Re} \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) a(x, t) u \frac{\partial^3 \overline{u}}{\partial t^3} dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^1 \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) a(x, t) \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
&\quad - \int_0^1 \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) \left( \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial^2 \overline{u}}{\partial x \partial t} dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
&\quad - \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - 2c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + c^2 a \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
&\quad - 2 \operatorname{Re} \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) \frac{\partial a}{\partial x} u J_x \frac{\partial^3 \overline{u}}{\partial t^3} dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Integrating by parts  $-2 \operatorname{Re} \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) a(x, t) u \frac{\partial^3 \overline{u}}{\partial t^3} dx dt$  with respect to  $t$ , and using the initial conditions, the final conditions, and the elementary inequalities, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^T \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} \int_0^T \int_0^1 \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - 3c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + 3c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - c^3 a \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) \left| J_x \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - 3c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + 3c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - c^3 a \right] |u|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} \int_0^T \int_I \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ a - \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right| \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \int_0^1 \frac{\Theta(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - 2c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + c^2 a + \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right| \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& + \int_0^1 \Phi(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ a - \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right| \right] \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& - \int_0^1 \Phi(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - 2c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + c^2 a + \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right| \right] |u|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& \leq 17 \int_0^T \int_I \Theta(x) \exp(-ct) |f|^2 dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

From (1.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) a^2 \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \leq 2 \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt + 2 \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left( \frac{\partial a}{\partial x} \right)^2 \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad + 4 \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) |f|^2 dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Combining this last inequality with (3.6) and using the conditions (3.2) yield

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right|^2 \right] dx dt \\
& + \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 \right] dx dt + \int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) \left[ \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|^2 + |u|^2 \right] dx dt \\
& \leq k \int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) |f(x, t)|^2 dx dt,
\end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

which is the desired inequality.  $\square$

It can be proved in a standard way that the operator  $L : E \rightarrow F$  is closable. Let  $\bar{L}$  be the closure of this operator, with the domain of definition  $D(\bar{L})$ .

*Definition 3.2.* A solution of the operator equation  $\bar{L}u = \mathcal{F}$  is called a strong solution of problem (1.1)–(1.5).

The a priori estimate (3.1) can be extended to strong solutions, that is, we have the estimate

$$\|u\|_E \leq c \|\bar{L}u\|_F \quad \forall u \in D(\bar{L}). \tag{3.9}$$

This last inequality implies the following corollaries.

**COROLLARY 3.3.** A strong solution of (1.1)–(1.5) is unique and depends continuously on  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**COROLLARY 3.4.** The range  $R(\bar{L})$  of  $\bar{L}$  is closed in  $F$  and  $\overline{R(\bar{L})} = R(\bar{L})$ .

Corollary 3.4 shows that to prove that problem (1.1)–(1.5) has a strong solution for arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ , it suffices to prove that set  $R(L)$  is dense in  $F$ .

#### 4. Solvability of problem (1.1)–(1.5)

To prove the solvability of problem (1.1)–(1.5) it is sufficient to show that  $R(L)$  is dense in  $F$ . The proof is based on the following lemma.

LEMMA 4.1. *Suppose that the function  $a(x, t)$  and its derivatives are bounded. Let  $u \in D_0(L) = \{u \in D(L), u(x, 0) = 0, (\partial u / \partial t)(x, 0) = 0, (\partial^2 u / \partial t^2)(x, T) = 0\}$ . If for  $u \in D_0(L)$  and some functions  $w(x, t) \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,*

$$\int_{\Omega} h(x) f \bar{w} dx dt = 0, \quad (4.1)$$

where

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - l, & 0 < x < l, \\ 1 - x, & l < x < 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

holds, for arbitrary  $u \in D_0(L)$ , and then  $w = 0$ .

*Proof.* The equality (4.1) can be written as follows:

$$\int_{\Omega} h(x) \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \bar{w} dx dt = \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \bar{v} dx dt, \quad (4.3)$$

for a given  $w(x, t)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \begin{cases} (1 - l)w, & 0 < x < l, \\ w - \int_l^x \frac{w}{1 - \zeta} d\zeta, & l < x < 1, \end{cases} \\ A(t)u &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( h(x) a(x, t) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right), \\ Nv &= \begin{cases} (1 - l)v, & 0 < x < l, \\ (1 - x)v + J_x v, & l < x < 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

For  $v = w - \int_l^x (w/(1 - \zeta)) d\zeta$ ,  $l < x < 1$  we deduce  $\int_l^x v(\zeta, t) d\zeta = (1 - x) \int_l^x (w/(1 - \zeta)) d\zeta$ , then  $\int_l^1 v(\zeta, t) d\zeta = 0$ .

Following [25], we introduce the smoothing operators with respect to  $t$ ,  $(J_{\epsilon}^{-1}) = (I - \epsilon(\partial^3/\partial t^3))^{-1}$ , and  $(J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^* = (I + \epsilon(\partial^3/\partial t^3))^{-1}$  which provide the solution of the respective problems:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{\epsilon} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^3 u_{\epsilon}}{\partial t^3} &= u, & u_{\epsilon}(x, 0) &= 0, & \frac{\partial u_{\epsilon}}{\partial t}(x, 0) &= 0, & \frac{\partial^2 u_{\epsilon}}{\partial t^2}(x, T) &= 0, \\ v_{\epsilon}^* + \epsilon \frac{\partial^3 v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial t^3} &= v, & v_{\epsilon}^*(x, 0) &= 0, & \frac{\partial v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial t}(x, T) &= 0, & \frac{\partial^2 v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial t^2}(x, T) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

And also, we have the following properties: for any  $u \in L^2(0, T)$ , the function  $J_\epsilon^{-1}u \in W_2^3(0, T)$ ,  $(J_\epsilon^{-1})^*u \in W_2^3(0, T)$ . If  $u \in D(L)$ ,  $J_\epsilon^{-1}u \in D(L)$ .

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|J_\epsilon^{-1}u - u\|_{L^2(0, T)} = 0, \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|(J_\epsilon^{-1})^*u - u\|_{L^2(0, T)} = 0. \quad (4.6)$$

Substituting the function  $u$  in (4.3) by the smoothing function  $u_\epsilon$  and using the relation  $A(t)u_\epsilon = J_\epsilon^{-1}A(t)u + \epsilon J_\epsilon^{-1}B_\epsilon(t)u$ , where  $B_\epsilon(t) = (3\partial/\partial t)((\partial A(t)/\partial t)(\partial u_\epsilon/\partial t)) + (\partial^3 A(t)/\partial t^3)u_\epsilon$ , we obtain

$$\int_\Omega u N \frac{\partial^3 \bar{v}_\epsilon^*}{\partial t^3} dx dt = \int_\Omega A(t) u \bar{v}_\epsilon^* dx dt - \epsilon \int_\Omega B_\epsilon(t) u \bar{v}_\epsilon^* dx dt. \quad (4.7)$$

The operator  $A(t)$  has a continuous inverse in  $L^2(0, 1)$  defined by

$$A^{-1}(t)g = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{1-l} \int_0^x \frac{d\zeta}{a(\zeta, t)} \int_0^\zeta g(\eta) d\eta + \frac{C_1(t)}{1-l} \int_0^x \frac{d\zeta}{a(\zeta, t)}, & 0 < x < l, \\ \int_l^x \frac{-d\zeta}{(1-\zeta)a(\zeta, t)} \int_l^\zeta g(\eta) d\eta + C_2(t) \int_l^x \frac{d\zeta}{(1-\zeta)a(\zeta, t)} + u(l), & l < x < 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.8)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} C_1(t) &= \frac{(1-l)u(l) + \int_0^l (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t)) \int_0^\zeta g(\eta) d\eta}{\int_0^l (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t))}, \\ C_2(t) &= \frac{-(1-l)u(l) + \int_l^1 (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t)) \int_l^\zeta g(\eta) d\eta}{\int_l^1 (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t))}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

Then we have  $\int_l^1 A^{-1}(t)u = 0$ , hence, the function  $J_\epsilon^{-1}u = u_\epsilon$  can be represented in the form

$$u_\epsilon = J_\epsilon^{-1}A^{-1}(t)A(t)u. \quad (4.10)$$

The adjoint of  $B_\epsilon(t)$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} B_\epsilon^*(t)v &= \frac{1}{a}(J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} v + \frac{3}{a}(J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right) - G_\epsilon(v)(x) \\ &\quad + \frac{\int_0^x (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t))}{\int_0^1 (d\zeta/a(\zeta, t))} G_\epsilon(v)(1), \end{aligned} \quad (4.11)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} G_\epsilon(v)(x) &= \int_0^x \left[ \frac{3}{a}(J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t \partial \zeta} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right) - \frac{3}{a^2} \frac{\partial a}{\partial \zeta} (J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{a}(J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial^4 a}{\partial t^3 \partial \zeta} v \right) - \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial a}{\partial \zeta} (J_\epsilon^{-1})^* \left( \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} v \right) \right] d\zeta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.12)$$

Consequently, equality (4.7) becomes

$$\int_{\Omega} u N \frac{\overline{\partial^3 v_{\epsilon}^*}}{\partial t^3} dx dt = \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \overline{h_{\epsilon}} dx dt, \quad (4.13)$$

where  $h_{\epsilon} = v_{\epsilon}^* - \epsilon B_{\epsilon}^*(t) v_{\epsilon}^*$ .

The left-hand side of (4.13) is a continuous linear functional of  $u$ , hence the function  $h_{\epsilon}$  has the derivatives  $\partial h_{\epsilon} / \partial x$ ,  $(1-x)(\partial h_{\epsilon} / \partial x) \in L^2(\Omega)$ , and the condition  $h_{\epsilon}(0, t) = 0$  is satisfied.

From the equality

$$(1-x) \frac{\partial h_{\epsilon}}{\partial x} = \left[ I - \epsilon \frac{1}{a} (J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^* \left( \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} \right) \right] (1-x) \frac{\partial v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial x} - 3\epsilon \frac{1}{a} (J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (1-x) \frac{\partial v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial x} \right), \quad (4.14)$$

and since the operator  $(J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^*$  is bounded in  $L^2(\Omega)$ , for sufficiently small  $\epsilon$ , we have  $\|\epsilon(1/a)(J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^*(\partial^3 a / \partial t^3)\| < 1$ . Hence, the operator  $I - \epsilon(1/a)(J_{\epsilon}^{-1})^*(\partial^3 a / \partial t^3)$  has a bounded inverse in  $L^2(\Omega)$ . We conclude that  $(1-x)(\partial v_{\epsilon}^* / \partial x) \in L^2(\Omega)$ . Similarly, we conclude that  $(\partial / \partial x)((1-x)(\partial v_{\epsilon}^* / \partial x))$  exists and belongs to  $L^2(\Omega)$ , and the condition  $v_{\epsilon}^*(0, t) = 0$  is satisfied.

Putting  $u = \int_0^t \int_{\eta}^{\zeta} \exp(c\tau) v_{\epsilon}^* d\tau d\eta d\zeta$  in (4.3), where the constant  $c$  satisfies (3.2) and using the proprieties of smoothing operator, we obtain

$$\int_{\Omega} \exp(ct) v_{\epsilon}^* \overline{Nv} dx dt = - \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \overline{v_{\epsilon}^*} dx dt - \epsilon \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \frac{\overline{\partial^3 v_{\epsilon}^*}}{\partial t^3} dx dt, \quad (4.15)$$

and from

$$\begin{aligned} & -\epsilon \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \frac{\overline{\partial^3 v_{\epsilon}^*}}{\partial t^3} dx dt \\ &= 3 \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\ & - 3 \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} \right] \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x} \frac{\overline{\partial^2 u}}{\partial t \partial x} dx dt \\ & + 3 \int_0^1 \frac{h(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x} \right|^2 dx|_{t=T} \\ & + 3 \int_0^1 \frac{h(x)}{2} \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 dx|_{t=T} \\ & - \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) a \left| \frac{\partial^3 v_{\epsilon}^*}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\ & - \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\overline{\partial^3 u}}{\partial t^2 \partial x} dx dt, \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\varepsilon \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \frac{\overline{\partial^3 v_{\varepsilon}^*}}{\partial t^3} dx dt \\
& \leq \varepsilon \left\{ 3 \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} \right| \right] \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \right. \\
& \quad + \frac{3}{2} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + \left| \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} \right| \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad - \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) a \left| \frac{\partial^3 v_{\varepsilon}^*}{\partial t^3} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad + \frac{3}{2} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left| \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} \right| \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left| \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} \right| \left| \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial t^3 \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \left| \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \right\}. \tag{4.17}
\end{aligned}$$

Integrating the first term on the right-hand side by parts in (4.15), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\varepsilon \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \overline{v_{\varepsilon}^*} dx dt \\
& = \frac{3}{2} \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left[ \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right] \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad - \int_{\Omega} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left\{ \frac{\partial^3 a}{\partial t^3} - 3c \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + 3c^2 \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - c^3 a \right\} \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx dt \\
& \quad - \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} h(x) \exp(-ct) a \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& \quad + \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - 2c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + c^2 a \right\} \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& \quad - \int_0^1 h(x) \exp(-ct) \left\{ \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} - ca \right\} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x} dx \Big|_{t=T}. \tag{4.18}
\end{aligned}$$

This last equality gives

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\varepsilon \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} A(t) u \overline{v_{\varepsilon}^*} dx dt \\
& \leq - \int_0^1 h(x) \exp(-ct) \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + a - ca \right| \left| \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T} \\
& \quad + \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} h(x) \exp(-ct) \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} - 2c \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + c^2 a + ca - \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \right\} \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|^2 dx \Big|_{t=T}. \tag{4.19}
\end{aligned}$$

By using the conditions (3.2), inequalities (4.17) and (4.19), we obtain

$$\operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} \exp(ct) v_{\varepsilon}^* \overline{N v} dx dt \leq 0 \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0. \tag{4.20}$$

This implies  $\operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} \exp(ct)(v_{\varepsilon}^* - v)\overline{N}v dx dt + \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Omega} \exp(ct)v\overline{N}v dx dt \leq 0$ , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_0^l \exp(-ct)(1-l)|v|^2 dx dt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_l^1 \int_0^l \exp(-ct)(1-x)|v|^2 dx dt + \int_0^T \int_l^1 \exp(-ct)|J_x v|^2 dx dt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_0^l \frac{1-l}{2l} \exp(-ct)|J_x v|^2 dx dt \leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

Then  $v = 0$ .

Finally from (4.4), we conclude  $w = 0$ . □

**THEOREM 4.2.** *The range  $R(\bar{L})$  of  $\bar{L}$  coincides with  $F$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $F$  is Hilbert space, then  $R(\bar{L}) = F$  if and only if the relation

$$\int_{\Omega} \Theta(x) f \bar{g} dx dt = 0 \quad (4.22)$$

holds.

Arbitrary  $u \in D_0(L)$  and  $\mathcal{F} = (f, 0, 0, 0) \in F$  implies  $f = 0$ . Taking in (4.22),  $u \in D_0(L)$ , and using Lemma 4.1, we obtain

$$w = \begin{cases} (1-l)g, & 0 < x < l, \\ (1-x)g, & l < x < 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.23)$$

then  $g = 0$ . □

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