Energy decay of solutions for a wave equation with a constant weak delay and a weak internal feedback

Abbes Benaissa¹, Aissa Benguessoum¹ and Salim A. Messaoudi²

¹Laboratory of Analysis and Control of PDE’s, Djillali Liabes University, P.O. Box 89, Sidi Bel Abbes 22000, Algeria
²Department of Mathematics and Statistics, KFUPM, Dhahran 31261, Saudi Arabia

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider the wave equation with a weak internal constant delay term:

$$u''(x,t) - \Delta_x u(x,t) + \mu_1(t) u'(x,t) + \mu_2(t) u'(x,t-\tau) = 0$$

in a bounded domain. Under appropriate conditions on $\mu_1$ and $\mu_2$, we prove global existence of solutions by the Faedo–Galerkin method and establish a decay rate estimate for the energy using the multiplier method.

Keywords: nonlinear wave equation, delay term, decay rate, multiplier method.

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1 Introduction

In this paper we investigate the decay properties of solutions for the initial boundary value problem for the linear wave equation of the form

$$\begin{cases}
u''(x,t) - \Delta_x u(x,t) + \mu_1(t) u'(x,t) + \mu_2(t) u'(x,t-\tau) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times [0, +\infty[, \\
u(x,t) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times [0, +\infty[, \\
u(x,0) = u_0(x), & \text{on } \Omega, \\
u_t(x,0) = u_1(x) & \text{on } \Omega \times [0, \tau[, \\
u_t(x,t-\tau) = f_0(x,t-\tau) & \text{on } \Omega \times [0, \tau[,
\end{cases} \tag{P}$$

where $\Omega$ is a bounded domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, with a smooth boundary $\partial \Omega = \Gamma$, $\tau > 0$ is a time delay and the initial data $(u_0,u_1,f_0)$ belong to a suitable function space.

In absence of delay ($\mu_2 = 0$), the energy of problem (P) is exponentially decaying to zero provided that $\mu_1$ is constant, see, for instance, [3, 4, 7, 8] and [12]. On the contrary, if $\mu_1 = 0$ and $\mu_2 > 0$ (a constant weight), that is, there exists only the internal delay, the system (P)...
becomes unstable (see, for instance, [5]). In recent years, the PDEs with time delay effects have become an active area of research since they arise in many practical problems (see, for example, [1, 19]). In [5], it was shown that a small delay in a boundary control could turn a well-behaved hyperbolic system into a wild one and, therefore, delay becomes a source of instability. To stabilize a hyperbolic system involving input delay terms, additional control terms will be necessary (see [13, 15, 20]). For instance, the authors of [13] studied the wave equation with a linear internal damping term with constant delay ($\tau = \text{const}$ in the problem (P)) and determined suitable relations between $\mu_1$ and $\mu_2$, for which the stability or alternatively instability takes place. More precisely, they showed that the energy is exponentially stable if $\mu_2 < \mu_1$ and they also found a sequence of delays for which the corresponding solution of (P) will be unstable if $\mu_2 \geq \mu_1$. The main approach used in [13] is an observability inequality obtained with a Carleman estimate. The same results were obtained if both the damping and the delay are acting on the boundary. We also recall the result by Xu, Yung and Li [20], where the authors proved a result similar to the one in [13] for the one-space dimension by adopting the spectral analysis approach.

In [17], Nicaise, Pignotti and Valein extended the above result to higher space dimensions and established an exponential decay.

Our purpose in this paper is to give an energy decay estimate of the solution of problem (P) in the presence of a delay term with a weight depending on time. We use the Galerkin approximation scheme and the multiplier technique to prove our results.

2 Preliminaries and main results

First assume the following hypotheses:

(H1) $\mu_1: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ is a non-increasing function of class $C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ satisfying

$$\left| \frac{\mu_1'(t)}{\mu_1(t)} \right| \leq M,$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.1)

(H2) $\mu_2: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function of class $C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$, which is not necessarily positive or monotone, such that

$$|\mu_2(t)| \leq \beta \mu_1(t),$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2)

$$|\mu_2'(t)| \leq \tilde{M} \mu_1(t),$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.3)

for some $0 < \beta < 1$ and $\tilde{M} > 0$.

We now state a Lemma needed later.

Lemma 2.1 (Martinez [10]). Let $E: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a non increasing function and $\phi: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ an increasing $C^1$ function such that

$$\phi(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(t) \rightarrow +\infty \quad \text{as} \quad t \rightarrow +\infty.$$ 

Assume that there exist $\sigma > -1$ and $\omega > 0$ such that

$$\int_{S}^{+\infty} E^{1+\sigma}(t) \phi'(t) \, dt \leq \frac{1}{\omega} E^\sigma(0) E(S), \quad 0 \leq S < +\infty.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.4)
Then

$$E(t) = 0 \quad \forall t \geq \frac{E(0)^{2/\sigma}}{\omega|\sigma|}, \quad \text{if} \quad -1 < \sigma < 0,$$

$$E(t) \leq E(0) \left( \frac{1 + \sigma}{1 + \omega \sigma \phi(t)} \right) \gamma \quad \forall t \geq 0, \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma > 0,$$

$$E(t) \leq E(0) e^{1 - \omega \phi(t)} \gamma \quad \forall t \geq 0, \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma = 0.\quad (2.6)$$

We introduce, as in [13], the new variable

$$z(x, \rho, t) = u_t(x, t - \tau \rho), \quad x \in \Omega, \rho \in (0,1), \quad t > 0.\quad (2.8)$$

Then, we have

$$\tau z_t(x, \rho, t) + z_{\rho}(x, \rho, t) = 0, \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega \times (0,1) \times (0, +\infty).\quad (2.9)$$

Therefore, problem (P) takes the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
&u''(x, t) - \Delta u(x, t) + \mu_1(t) u'(x, t) + \mu_2(t) z(x, 1, t) = 0, \quad x \in \Omega, t > 0,
&\tau z_t(x, \rho, t) + z_{\rho}(x, \rho, t) = 0, \quad x \in \Omega, \rho \in (0,1), t > 0,
&u(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial \Omega, t > 0,
&z(x, 0, t) = u'(x, t), \quad x \in \Omega, t > 0,
&u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega,
&z(x, \rho, 0) = f_0(x, -\tau \rho), \quad x \in \Omega, \rho \in (0,1).
\end{aligned}\quad (2.10)$$

Let $\xi$ be a positive constant such that

$$\tau \beta < \xi < \tau(2 - \beta).\quad (2.11)$$

We define the energy of the solution by:

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} ||u'(t)||^2_2 + \frac{1}{2} ||\nabla x u(t)||^2_2 + \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx,\quad (2.12)$$

where

$$\xi(t) = \xi \mu_1(t).$$

We have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let $(u_0, u_1, f_0) \in (H^2(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)) \times H^1_0(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega; H^1(0,1))$ satisfy the compatibility condition

$$f_0(\cdot,0) = u_1.$$

Assume that (H1) and (H2) hold. Then problem (P) admits a unique global weak solution

$$u \in L^\infty_{\text{loc}}((-\tau, \infty); H^2(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)), \quad u' \in L^\infty_{\text{loc}}((-\tau, \infty); H^1_0(\Omega)), \quad u'' \in L^\infty_{\text{loc}}((-\tau, \infty); L^2(\Omega)).$$

Moreover, for some positive constants $c$, $\omega$, we obtain the following decay property:

$$E(t) \leq c E(0) e^{-\omega \int_0^t \mu_1(s) \, ds}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.\quad (2.13)$$
Lemma 2.3. Let \((u, z)\) be a solution to the problem (2.10). Then, the energy functional defined by (2.12) satisfies

\[ E'(t) \leq - \left( \mu_1(t) - \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} - \frac{|\mu_2(t)|}{2} \right) \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2 - \left( \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} - \frac{|\mu_2(t)|}{2} \right) \|z(x, 1, t)\|_2^2 \leq 0. \] (2.14)

Proof. Multiplying the first equation in (2.10) by \(u_t(x, t)\), integrating over \(\Omega\) and using Green’s identity, we obtain:

\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \|\nabla u(x, t)\|_2^2 + \mu_1(t) \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2 + \mu_2(t) \int_{\Omega} u_t(x, t - \tau) u_t(x, t) \, dx = 0. \] (2.15)

We multiply the second equation in (2.10) by \(\xi(t)z\) and integrate over \(\Omega \times (0, 1)\) to obtain:

\[ \xi(t) \tau \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z_t(x, \rho, t) z(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx + \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z_{\rho}(x, \rho, t) z(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx = 0. \] (2.16)

This yields

\[ \frac{\xi(t) \tau}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx + \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx = 0, \]

which gives

\[ \frac{\tau}{2} \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left( \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx \right) - \xi'(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx \right] \]

\[ + \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, 1, t) \, dx - \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_{\Omega} u_t^2(x, t) \, dx = 0. \] (2.17)

Consequently,

\[ \frac{\tau}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx \right) \]

\[ = \frac{\tau}{2} \xi'(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx - \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, 1, t) \, dx + \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_{\Omega} u_t^2(x, t) \, dx. \] (2.17)

Combination of (2.15) and (2.17) leads to

\[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2 + \|\nabla u(x, t)\|_2^2 + \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx \right] \]

\[ = -\mu_1(t) \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2 - \mu_2(t) \int_{\Omega} z(x, 1, t) u_t(x, t) \, dx \]

\[ + \frac{1}{2} \xi'(t) \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 z^2(x, \rho, t) \, d\rho \, dx - \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, 1, t) \, dx + \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} \|u_t(x, t)\|_2^2. \]
Recalling the definition of $E(t)$ in (2.12), we arrive at

$$
E'(t) = -\left(\mu_1(t) - \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau}\right)\|u_t(x,t)\|^2_H - \mu_2(t)\int_{\Omega} z(x,1,t)u_t(x,t)\,dx
+ \frac{1}{2}\xi'(t)\int_{\Omega}\int_{0}^{1} z^2(x,\rho,t)\,d\rho\,dx - \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau}\int_{\Omega} z^2(x,1,t)\,dx.
$$

Due to Young’s inequality, we have

$$
\int_{\Omega} z(x,1,t)u_t(x,t)\,dx \leq \frac{1}{2}\|u_t(x,t)\|^2_H + \frac{1}{2}\|z(x,1,t)\|^2_H. \tag{2.19}
$$

Inserting (2.19) into (2.18), we obtain

$$
E'(t) \leq -\left(\mu_1(t) - \frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} - \frac{|\mu_2(t)|}{2}\right)\|u_t(x,t)\|^2_H - \left(\frac{\xi(t)}{2\tau} - \frac{\beta_2}{2}\right)\|z(x,1,t)\|^2_H
\leq -\mu_1(t)\left(1 - \frac{\xi}{2\tau} - \frac{\beta_2}{2}\right)\|u_t(x,t)\|^2_H - \mu_1(t)\left(\frac{\xi}{2\tau} - \frac{\beta_2}{2}\right)\|z(x,1,t)\|^2_H \leq 0. \tag{2.20}
$$

This completes the proof of the lemma. \hfill \Box

3 Global existence

Throughout this section we assume $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)$ and $u_1 \in H^1_0(\Omega)$, $f_0 \in L^2(\Omega; H^1(0,1))$.

We employ the Galerkin method to construct a global solution. Let $T > 0$ be fixed and denote by $V_k$ the space generated by $\{w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_k\}$ where the set $\{w_k, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a basis of $H^2(\Omega) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)$.

Now, we define for $1 \leq j \leq k$ the sequence $\phi_j(x, \rho)$ as follows:

$$
\phi_j(x,0) = w_j.
$$

Then, we may extend $\phi_j(x,0)$ by $\phi_j(x,\rho)$ over $L^2(\Omega \times (0,1))$ such that $(\phi_j)_j$ form a basis of $L^2(\Omega; H^1(0,1))$ and denote by $Z_k$ the space generated by $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \ldots, \phi_k\}$.

We construct approximate solutions $(u_k, z_k), k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, in the form

$$
u_k(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{k} g_{jk}(t)w_j, \quad z_k(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{k} h_{jk}(t)\phi_j,
$$

where $g_{jk}$ and $h_{jk}$ ($j = 1, 2, \ldots, k$) are determined by the following system of ordinary differential equations:

$$
\begin{cases}
(u''_k(t), w_j) + (\nabla u_k(t), \nabla w_j) + \mu_1(t)(u'_k, w_j) + \mu_2(t)(z_k, w_j) = 0, \\
1 \leq j \leq k, \\
z_k(x,0,t) = u'_k(x,t),
\end{cases} \tag{3.1}
$$
associated with the initial conditions

\[ u_k(0) = u_{0k} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} (u_{0j}, w_j) w_j \to u_0 \text{ in } H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ as } k \to +\infty, \]

\[ u_k'(0) = u_{1k} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} (u_{1j}, w_j) w_j \to u_1 \text{ in } H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ as } k \to +\infty, \]

and

\[
\begin{cases}
(z_{kt} + z_{kj}, \phi_j) = 0, & 1 \leq j \leq k, \\
\end{cases}
\]

\[ z_k(\rho, 0) = z_{0k} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} (f_{0j}, \phi_j) \phi_j \to f_0 \text{ in } L^2(\Omega; H^1(0, 1)) \text{ as } k \to +\infty. \]  

By virtue of the theory of ordinary differential equations, the system (3.1)–(3.5) has a unique local solution which is extended to a maximal interval \([0, T_k]\) (with \(0 < T_k \leq +\infty\) by Zorn lemma. Note that \(u_k(t)\) is of class \(C^2\).

In the next step, we obtain a priori estimates for the solution of the system (3.1)–(3.5), so that it can be extended beyond \([0, T_k]\) to obtain a solution defined for all \(t > 0\). Then, we utilize a standard compactness argument for the limiting procedure.

**The first estimate.** Since the sequences \(u_{0k}, u_{1k}\) and \(z_{0k}\) converge, then from (2.14) we can find a positive constant \(C\) independent of \(k\) such that

\[ E_k(t) + \int_0^t a_1(s) ||u_k'(s)||_2^2 ds + \int_0^t a_2(s) ||z_k(x, 1, s)||_2^2 ds \leq E_k(0) \leq C, \]

where

\[ E_k(t) = \frac{1}{2} ||u_k'(t)||_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} ||\nabla u_k(t)||_2^2 + \frac{\xi(t)}{2} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 z_k^2(x, \rho, t) d\rho \, dx, \]

\[ a_1(t) = \mu_1(t) \left( \frac{1 - \frac{\kappa}{2\tau} - \frac{\beta}{2}}{2} \right) \text{ and } a_2(t) = \mu_1(t) \left( \frac{\kappa}{2\tau} - \frac{\beta}{2} \right). \]

These estimates imply that the solution \((u_k, z_k)\) exists globally in \([0, +\infty[\).

**Estimate (3.6) yields**

\[ (u_k) \text{ is bounded in } L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1_0(\Omega)), \]

\[ (u_k') \text{ is bounded in } L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega)), \]

\[ \mu_1(t)(u_k^2(t)) \text{ is bounded in } L^1(\Omega \times (0, T)), \]

\[ \mu_1(t)(z_k^2(x, \rho, t)) \text{ is bounded in } L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; L^1(\Omega \times (0, 1))), \]

\[ \mu_1(t)(z_k^2(x, 1, t)) \text{ is bounded in } L^1(\Omega \times (0, T)). \]

**The second estimate.** We first estimate \(u_k'(0)\). Replacing \(w_j\) by \(u_k'(t)\) in (3.1) and taking \(t = 0\), we obtain:

\[ ||u_k'(0)||_2 \leq ||\Delta x u_{0k}||_2 + \mu_1(0)||u_{1k}||_2 + ||\mu_2(0)||z_{0k}||_2 \]

\[ \leq ||\Delta x u_0||_2 + \mu_1(0)||u_1||_2 + ||\mu_2(0)||z_0||_2 \leq C. \]
Differentiating (3.1) with respect to $t$, we get

$$(u''_k(t) + \Delta_x u'_k(t) + \mu_1(t) u''_k(t) + \mu'_1(t) u'_k(t) + \mu_2(t) z'_k(1, t) + \mu'_2(t) z_k(1, t), w_j) = 0.$$ 

Multiplying by $s''_k(t)$, summing over $j$ from 1 to $k$, it follows that

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla_x u'_k(t)\|^2 \right) + \mu_1(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) \, dx + \mu'_1(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) u'_k(t) \, dx + \mu_2(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) z'_k(x, 1, t) \, dx + \mu'_2(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) z_k(x, 1, t) \, dx = 0. \quad (3.12)$$

Differentiating (3.4) with respect to $t$, we get

$$\left( \tau z''_k(t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} z'_k(t) \phi_j \right) = 0.$$ 

Multiplying by $h'_k(t)$, summing over $j$ from 1 to $k$, it follows that

$$\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|z'_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\rho} \|z'_k(t)\|^2 = 0. \quad (3.13)$$

Taking the sum of (3.12) and (3.13), we obtain that

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla_x u'_k(t)\|^2 + \int_0^1 \tau \|z'_k(x, \rho, t)\|^2_{\overline{H}(\Omega)} \, d\rho \right) + \mu_1(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \, dx = - \mu_2(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) z'_k(x, 1, t) \, dx - \mu'_1(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) u'_k(t) \, dx - \mu'_2(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) z_k(x, 1, t) \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \|u''_k(t)\|^2 \leq 0.$$

Using (H1), (H2), Cauchy–Schwarz and Young’s inequalities, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla_x u'_k(t)\|^2 + \int_0^1 \tau \|z'_k(x, \rho, t)\|^2_{\overline{H}(\Omega)} \, d\rho \right) + \mu_1(t) \int_{\Omega} u''_k(t) \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \, dx \leq |\mu_2(t)||u''_k(t)||z'_k(x, 1, t)||_2 + |\mu'_1(t)||u''_k(t)||_2 ||u'_k(t)||_2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u''_k(t)\|^2 \leq |\mu_2(t)||u''_k(t)||_2 ||z_k(x, 1, t)||_2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u''_k(t)\|^2 \leq \frac{|\mu_2(t)|^2}{2} \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \leq \frac{|\mu'_1(t)|}{4} \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \|u'_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \leq c' \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{|\mu'_1(t)|}{4} \|u'_k\|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \leq c' \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \leq c' \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_1(t) \|u''_k\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2 \leq c' \|u''_k(t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_1(t) \|u''_k\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z'_k(x, 1, t)\|^2.$$
Integrating the last inequality over \((0, t)\) and using (3.6), we get
\[
\left( \|u_t''(t)\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x u_t'(t)\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|z_t'(x, \rho, t)\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \, d\rho \right)
\leq \left( \|u_0''\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x u_0'(0)\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|z_0'(x, \rho, 0)\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \, d\rho \right) + 2M \int_0^t \mu_1(s) \|u_k'(s)\|_2^2 \, ds
\]
\[+ 2M \int_0^t \mu_1(s) \|z_k(x, 1, s)\|_2^2 \, ds + 2c' \int_0^t \|u_k''(s)\|_2^2 \, ds.
\]
\[
\leq C + C' \int_0^t \left( \|u_k''(s)\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x u_k'(s)\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|z_k'(x, \rho, s)\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \, d\rho \right) \, ds.
\]
Using Gronwall’s lemma, we deduce that
\[
\|u_t''(t)\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x u_t'(t)\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|z_t'(x, \rho, t)\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \, d\rho \leq Ce^{C'T}
\]
for all \(t \in \mathbb{R}^+\), therefore, we conclude that
\[
(u_t'') \text{ is bounded in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega)), \quad (3.14)
\]
\[
(u_k') \text{ is bounded in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; H_0^1(\Omega)), \quad (3.15)
\]
\[
(\tau z_k') \text{ is bounded in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega \times (0, 1))). \quad (3.16)
\]
Applying Dunford–Pettis’ theorem, we deduce from (3.7), (3.8), (3.9), (3.10), (3.11), (3.14), (3.15) and (3.16), replacing the sequence \(u_k\) with a subsequence if necessary, that
\[
\begin{align*}
\quad u_k & \to u \quad \text{weak-star in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)), \quad (3.17) \\
\quad u_k' & \to u' \quad \text{weak-star in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; H_0^1(\Omega)), \quad (3.18) \\
\quad u_k'' & \to u'' \quad \text{weak-star in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega)), \quad (3.19) \\
\quad u_k' & \to \chi \quad \text{weak in } L^2(\Omega \times (0, T); \mu_1(t)), \quad (3.20) \\
\quad z_k & \to z \quad \text{weak-star in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; H_0^1(\Omega; L^2(0, 1))), \\
\quad z_k' & \to z' \quad \text{weak-star in } L_2^\infty(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega \times (0, 1))), \\
\quad z_k(x, 1, t) & \to \psi \quad \text{weak in } L^2(\Omega \times (0, T); \mu_1(t))
\end{align*}
\]
for suitable functions
\[
\begin{align*}
\quad u & \in L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)), \quad z \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega \times (0, 1))), \\
\quad \chi & \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T); \mu_1(t)), \quad \psi \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T); \mu_1(t)),
\end{align*}
\]
for all \(T \geq 0\). We have to show that \(u\) is a solution of (P).

From (3.15) we have that \((u_k')\) is bounded in \(L^\infty(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))\). Then \((u_k')\) is bounded in \(L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))\). Since \((u_k'')\) is bounded in \(L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))\), then it is bounded in \(L^2(0, T; L^2(\Omega))\), too. Consequently, \((u_k')\) is bounded in \(H^1(\Omega)\).

Since the embedding \(H^1(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^2(\Omega)\) is compact, using the Aubin–Lions theorem [9], we can extract a subsequence \((u_{k'}')\) of \((u_k)\) such that
\[
\begin{align*}
\quad u_{k'}' & \to u' \quad \text{strongly in } L^2(\Omega). \quad (3.20) \\
\quad u_{k'}' & \to u' \quad \text{strongly and a.e. in } Q. \quad (3.21)
\end{align*}
\]
Similarly we obtain
\[ z_\zeta \rightarrow z \text{ strongly in } L^2(\Omega \times (0,1) \times (0,T)) \quad (3.22) \]
and
\[ z_\zeta \rightarrow z \text{ strongly and a.e. in } \Omega \times (0,1) \times (0,T). \quad (3.23) \]
It follows at once from (3.17), (3.18), (3.19), (3.20) and (3.22) that for each fixed \( v \in L^2(0,T;L^2(\Omega)) \) and \( w \in L^2(0,T;L^2(\Omega) \times (0,1)) \)

\[
\int_0^T \int_\Omega (u'' - \Delta_x u + \mu_1(t)u' + \mu_2(t)z_\zeta) v \, dx \, dt = 0
\]
and
\[
\int_0^T \int_\Omega (\tau z'' + \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} z_\zeta) w \, dx \, dp \, dt = 0
\]
as \( \zeta \rightarrow +\infty \). Thus the problem (P) admits a global weak solution \( u \).

**Uniqueness.** Let \( (u_1,z_1) \) and \( (u_2,z_2) \) be two solutions of problem (2.10). Then \((w,\tilde{w}) = (u_1,z_1) - (u_2,z_2)\) satisfies

\[
\begin{align*}
w''(x,t) - \Delta_x w(x,t) + \mu_1(t)w'(x,t) + \mu_2(t)\tilde{w}(x,1,t) &= 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times ]0, +\infty[, \\
\tau \tilde{w}'(x,\rho,t) + \tilde{w}_\rho(x,\rho,t) &= 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times [0,1] \times ]0, +\infty[, \\
w(x,t) &= 0, & \text{on } \partial \Omega \times ]0, +\infty[, \\
\tilde{w}(x,0,t) &= w'(x,t), & \text{in } \Omega \times ]0, +\infty[, \\
w(x,0) &= 0, w'(x,0) = 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times ]0,1[, \\
\tilde{w}(x,\rho,0) &= 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times ]0,1[.
\end{align*}
\]

Multiplying the first equation in (3.26) by \( w' \), integrating over \( \Omega \) and using integration by parts, we get

\[
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|w'\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x w\|_2^2 \right) + \mu_1(t)\|w'\|_2^2 + \mu_2(t)\tilde{w}(x,1,t), w' \) = 0. \quad (3.27)
\]

Multiplying the second equation in (3.26) by \( \tilde{w} \), integrating over \( \Omega \times (0,1) \) and using integration by parts, we get

\[
\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\tilde{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dp} \|\tilde{w}\|_2^2 = 0. \quad (3.28)
\]

Then

\[
\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 \|\tilde{w}\|_2^2 \, dp + \frac{1}{2} \left( \|\tilde{w}(x,1,t)\|_2^2 - \|w'\|_2^2 \right) = 0. \quad (3.29)
\]

From (3.27), (3.29), using the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality we get

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|w'\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x w\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|\tilde{w}\|_2^2 \, dp \right) + \mu_1(t)\|w'\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{w}(x,1,t)\|_2^2 \\
&= -\mu_2(t)\tilde{w}(x,1,t), w' \) + \frac{1}{2} \|w'\|_2^2 \\
&\leq |\mu_2(t)| \|\tilde{w}(x,1,t)\|_2 \|w'\|_2 + \frac{1}{2} \|w'\|_2^2.
\end{align*}
\]

Using Young’s inequality, we obtain

\[
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \|w'\|_2^2 + \|\nabla_x w\|_2^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|\tilde{w}\|_2^2 \, dp \right) \leq c\|w'\|_2^2,
\]
where $c$ is a positive constant. Then integrating over $(0, t)$, using Gronwall’s lemma, we conclude that
\[ \|w'(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla w(t)\|^2 + \tau \int_0^1 \|\bar{w}(\rho(t))\|^2 d\rho = 0. \]
Hence, uniqueness follows.

## 4 Asymptotic behavior

From now on, we denote by $c$ various positive constants which may be different at different occurrences. We multiply the first equation of (2.10) by $\phi' E^\theta u$, where $\phi$ is a bounded function satisfying all the hypotheses of Lemma 2.1. We obtain
\[ 0 = \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} u \left( u'' - \Delta u + \mu_1(t) u' + \mu_2(t) z(x, 1, t) \right) dx dt \]
\[ = \left[ E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' dx \right]_S^T - \int_S^T (qE^{\theta-1} \phi' + E^\theta \phi'') \int_{\Omega} uu' dx dt \]
\[ - 2 \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} u'^2 dx dt + \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} (u'^2 + |\nabla u|^2) dx dt \]
\[ + \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \mu_1(t) \int_{\Omega} uu' dx dt + \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \mu_2(t) \int_{\Omega} uz(x, 1, t) dx dt. \]
Similarly, we multiply the second equation of (2.10) by $E^\theta \phi' \xi(t)e^{-2\tau \rho} z(x, \rho, t)$ and get
\[ 0 = \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} e^{-2\tau \rho} \xi(t) z \left( \tau z_t + z_{\rho} \right) dx d\rho dt \]
\[ = \left[ \frac{1}{2} E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \tau \int_{\Omega} e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 dx d\rho \right]_S^T - \frac{1}{2} \int_S^T \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 (E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \tau e^{-2\tau \rho}) z^2 dx d\rho dt \]
\[ + \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 \xi(t) \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2) + \tau e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 \right) dx d\rho dt \]
\[ = \left[ \frac{1}{2} E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \tau \int_{\Omega} e^{-2\tau (t)} z^2 dx d\rho \right]_S^T - \frac{\tau}{2} \int_S^T \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 dx d\rho dt \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2} \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \left( e^{-2\tau z^2 (x, 1, t)} - z^2 (x, 0, t) \right) dx dt + \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \tau \int_0^1 \int_{\Omega} e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 dx d\rho dt. \]
Taking their sum, we obtain
\[ A \int_S^T E^{\theta+1} \phi' dt \leq - \left[ E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' dx \right]_S^T + \int_S^T (qE^{\theta-1} \phi' + E^\theta \phi'') \int_{\Omega} uu' dx dt \]
\[ + 2 \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} u'^2 dx dt - \int_S^T \mu_1(t) E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' dx dt \]
\[ - \int_S^T \mu_2(t) E^\theta \phi' \int_{\Omega} uz(x, 1, t) dx dt - \left[ \frac{1}{2} E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \tau \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 dx d\rho \right]_S^T \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2} \int_S^T \left( E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \right) \tau \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 dx d\rho dt \]
\[ - \frac{1}{2} \int_S^T E^\theta \phi' \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} \left( e^{-2\tau (t)} z^2 (x, 1, t) - z^2 (x, 0, t) \right) dx dt, \]
where $A = 2 \min\{1,e^{-2\tau}\}$. Using the Cauchy–Schwarz and Poincaré’s inequalities and the definition of $E$ and assuming that $\phi'$ is a bounded non-negative function on $\mathbb{R}^+$, we get

$$\left| E^q(t) \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' \, dx \right| \leq cE(t)^{q+1}.$$  

By recalling (2.14), we have

$$\int_{S}^{T} qE E^{q-1} \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' \, dx \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q(t) |E'(t)| \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q(t)(-E'(t)) \, dt \leq cE^{q+1}(S),$$

and

$$\int_{S}^{T} E^q \phi'' \int_{\Omega} uu' \, dx \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q+1(t)(-\phi'') \leq cE^{q+1}(S) \int_{S}^{T} (-\phi'') \, dt \leq cE^{q+1}(S),$$

and

$$\int_{S}^{T} E^q \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu^2 \, dx \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \frac{1}{\mu_1(t)} \int_{\Omega} \mu_1(t) uu^2 \, dx \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \frac{\phi'}{\mu_1(t)} (-E') \, dt. \quad (4.2)$$

Define

$$\phi(t) = \int_{0}^{t} \mu_1(s) \, ds. \quad (4.3)$$

It is clear that $\phi$ is a non-decreasing function of class $C^1$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$, $\phi$ is bounded and

$$\phi(t) \to +\infty \text{ as } t \to +\infty. \quad (4.4)$$

So, we deduce, from (4.2), that

$$\int_{S}^{T} E^q \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu^2 \, dx \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q(-E') \, dt \leq cE^{q+1}(S), \quad (4.5)$$

By the hypothesis (H1), Young’s and Poincaré’s inequality and (2.14), we have

$$\left| \int_{S}^{T} E^q \phi' \int_{\Omega} uu' \, dx \, dt \right| \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \frac{\phi'}{\mu_1(t)} ||u||_2 ||u'||_2 \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \frac{\phi'}{\mu_1(t)} ||u||_2^2 \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \frac{\phi'}{\mu_1(t)} ||u'||_2 \, dt \leq cE^{q+1}(S).$$

Recalling that $\xi' \leq 0$ and the definition of $E$, we have

$$\int_{S}^{T} (E^q \xi(t))' \tau \int_{0}^{1} e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 \, d\rho \, dt \leq \int_{S}^{T} (E^q \xi(t))' \tau \int_{0}^{1} e^{-2\tau \rho} z^2 \, d\rho \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q E' \, dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q(-E'(t)) \, dt \leq cE^{q+1}(S),$$
\[
\int_{S}^{T} E^q \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} e^{-2r z^2(x,1,t)} dx dt \leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} z^2(x,1,t) dx dt \\
\leq c \int_{S}^{T} E^q (-E') dt \\
\leq c E^{q+1}(S),
\]

\[
\int_{S}^{T} E^q \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} z^2(x,0,t) dx dt = \int_{S}^{T} E^q \xi(t) \int_{\Omega} u'^2(x,t) dx dt \\
\leq c E^{q+1}(S),
\]

where we have also used the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality. Combining these estimates and choosing \( \varepsilon' \) sufficiently small, we conclude from (4.1) that

\[
\int_{S}^{T} E^{q+1} \phi' dt \leq C E^{q+1}(S).
\]

This ends the proof of Theorem 2.2.

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**References**


Wave equation with a constant weak delay and a weak internal feedback


