

DEDICATED TO PROFESSOR MIECZYSLAW KUCHARZEWSKI
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THE LIMITING PROPERTIES OF THE SOLUTIONS OF SYSTEMS
OF PARABOLIC FUNCTIONAL - DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Summary. The subject paper is the continuation of the paper [6].

Let u be the solution of the system

$$u_t^i = f^i(t, x, u, u_x^i, u_{xx}^i, u(t, \cdot)) \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (1)$$

with linear boundary conditions (see (3)). We will establish certain sufficient propositions by which the solution u of (1) has the limit s , as $t \rightarrow \infty$, where the function s is the solution of certain system which depends on $f = (f^1, \dots, f^m)$. Then after introduction of a more strict assumption on f , than the parabolicity in the sense given by J. Szarski in [7], there will be proved a analogous condition for the solution u . These results are essential generalisation of theorem proved in [4]. Moreover using the same assumption about f , we finally get also certain theorems for which the results of [1], [2] and [3], [5] are particular cases. These problems cannot be solved without the assumption of the strong parabolicity of f , (see def. 8).

1. Definitions and notations

Since the notations and definitions presented in [6], are still obligatory, we will repeat them only in a short way.

Let D be a domain in the space R^{n+1} of the variables $(t, x) = (t, x_1, \dots, x_n)$. The projection of D onto the t -axis is $(0, \infty)$ and onto R^n is S_0^1 . Notice that S_0^1 may be bounded or not.

Let us denote by $E_T = E \cap \{(t, x) : t > T, x \in R^n\}$ for every $E \subset R^{n+1}$ and $T > 0$.

D_p is a subset of such points $(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) \in \bar{D}$, which have a lower half-neighbourhood (for $t < \tilde{t}$) containing in the domain D . $S_{\tilde{t}}$ stands for the projection onto R^n of $D_p \cap \{t : t = \tilde{t}\}$, for $\tilde{t} > 0$. Let Σ denote the subset of ∂D lying in the layer $0 < t < \infty$, for which $\Sigma \cap D_p = \emptyset$, $S_0 = \partial D \cap \{t : t = 0\}$.

Assumption A. S_0 and $S_{\tilde{t}}$ are bounded sets for any $\tilde{t} > 0$.

Let $g^i: \Sigma^1 \rightarrow R_+$ and $h^i: \Sigma^1 \rightarrow R_+$ be given on $\Sigma^1 \subset \Sigma$ for $i=1, \dots, m$. We define at every $(t, x) \in \Sigma^1$ the direction $l^i(t, x)$, orthogonal to t -axis, $l^i(t, x)$ penetrate in D_p , (comp. [6]).

If $S \subset R^n$ then we denote $\bar{C}(S, R^m)$ the space of bounded and continuous functions $z: S \rightarrow R^m$.

Let $u = (u^1, \dots, u^m) \in R^m$, $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n) \in R^n$, $r = (r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{qn}) \in R^{n^2}$, where $r_{ij} = r_{ji}$, and $f = (f^1, \dots, f^m): \{(t, x, u, q, r, z)\} \rightarrow R^m$ where $z \in \bar{C}(S_0^1, R^m)$ and $(t, x) \in D_p$.

Function $u: \bar{D} \rightarrow R^m$ we call Σ -regular in D if for $i = 1, \dots, m$, u^i are continuous in \bar{D} , u_x^i , u_{xx}^i and u_t^i are continuous in D_p , and there exists $\frac{du^i}{dl^i}$ on Σ^1 .

We say that u is Σ -regular solution of the system (1) if u is a Σ -regular function and if it is a solution of (1) in D_p , where $u(t, \cdot): S_{\tilde{t}} \rightarrow R^m$, and $u(t, \cdot)(x) = u(t, x)$.

The parabolicity of f (see [7] and [8]) is defined as follow:

We say that f is parabolic in D with respect to the Σ -regular function u , if for every pair of arguments $r, \tilde{r} \in R^{n^2}$ such that

$$\tilde{r} \geq r \iff \forall \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in R^n, \text{ it is } \sum_{j,k=1}^n (\tilde{r}_{jk} - r_{jk}) \alpha_j \alpha_k \geq 0,$$

the inequality

$$f^i(t, x, u(t, x), u_x^i(t, x), \tilde{r}, u(t, \cdot)) - f^i(t, x, u(t, x), u_x^i(t, x), r, u(t, \cdot)) \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

for $(t, x) \in D_p$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, holds.

We shall consider the system (1) with following boundary conditions: for $i = 1, \dots, m$

$$\begin{cases} u^i(t, x) = \varphi_1^i(t, x) & \text{for } (t, x) \in (\Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1) \\ M^i(u)(t, x) = h^i(t, x)u^i(t, x) - g^i(t, x) \frac{d}{dl^i} u^i(t, x) = \varphi_2^i(t, x) & \text{for } (t, x) \in \Sigma^1 \\ u^i(0, x) = \varphi_0^i(x) & \text{for } x \in S_0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Definition 1: We say that u , Σ -regular in D , satisfies strong boundary inequalities if, for $i = 1, \dots, m$,

$$\varphi_0^1(x) < 0 \text{ on } S_0, \varphi_1^1(t,x) < 0 \text{ on } \Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1$$

$$\varphi_2^1(t,x) < 0 \text{ on } \Sigma^1.$$

2. Somme lemmas

Using the Theorems 4 and 5 given in Remark 5 in 6, we will formulate Lemma 1 under the Assumption B_1 and Lemma 2 under the Assumption B_2 .

Lemma 1. Let u be the Σ -regular solution of the system (1) in D_p , satisfying the boundary condition (3) and such that f is parabolic with respect to the u . Let us assume, that there exists $T_0 \geq 0$ and the Σ -regular function $v : (D_p)_{T_0} \rightarrow R^m$, which satisfies for $(t,x) \in (D_p)_{T_0}$ and $i = 1, \dots, m$ inequality

$$v_t^1(t,x) > f^1(t,x, v(t,x), v_x^1(t,x), v_{xx}^1(t,x), v(t,\cdot)) \quad (4)$$

where $v(t,\cdot) \in \bar{C}(S_t, R^m)$. If the difference $u-v$ satisfies the strong boundary inequalities according to Definition 1, on $(\Sigma)_{T_0} \cup S_{T_0}$ then $u \leq v$ in $(D_p)_{T_0}$.

Lemma 2. Let $T_0 \geq 0$, and the Σ -regular function $v : (D_p)_{T_0} \rightarrow R^m$ satisfies the inequality

$$v_t^1(t,x) < f^1(t,x, v(t,x), v_x^1(t,x), v_{xx}^1(t,x), v(t,\cdot)) \quad (5)$$

where $v(t,\cdot) \in \bar{C}(S_t, R^m)$. If u satisfies the assumptions of Lemma 1 and the difference $v-u$ satisfies the strong boundary inequalities on $(\Sigma)_{T_0} \cup S_{T_0}$ $v \leq u$ in $(D_p)_{T_0}$.

Corollary 1: If we create two families of functions v_ε and v_ε such that:

1^o $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists T_0$ such that all assumptions of Lemmas 1, 2 hold in $(D_p)_{T_0}$

2^o $\forall \varepsilon > 0, v_\varepsilon(t,x) > 0, v_\varepsilon(t,x) < 0$ in $(D_p)_{T_0}$

3^o $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists T_1 \geq T_0$ such that

$$v_\varepsilon(t,x) < \varepsilon \text{ and } v_\varepsilon(t,x) > -\varepsilon \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_1}$$

then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|u(t,\cdot)\|_t = 0$,

where $\|z(\cdot)\|_t = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sup_{x \in S_t} |z(x)|$ (see [6] corollary 2)

3. The main theorem

Now we will prove two theorems concerning the limiting properties of the solution u . They will depend on properties of function f .

We will need some additional definitions and assumptions.

Definition 2. Let us denote:

$$\Sigma_{\infty} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; \exists \{(t_{\nu}, x_{\nu})\} : (t_{\nu}, x_{\nu}) \in \bar{\Sigma}, \nu=1, 2, \dots, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} t_{\nu} = \infty, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x_{\nu} = x\}$$

$$S_{\infty} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; x \notin \Sigma_{\infty}, \exists \{(t_{\nu}, x_{\nu})\} : (t_{\nu}, x_{\nu}) \in D_p, \nu=1, 2, \dots, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} t_{\nu} = \infty, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x_{\nu} = x\}$$

$$\Sigma_{\infty}^1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; \exists \{(t_{\nu}, x_{\nu})\} : (t_{\nu}, x_{\nu}) \in \Sigma^1, \nu=1, 2, \dots, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} t_{\nu} = \infty, \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x_{\nu} = x\}$$

$$\tilde{\Sigma}_{\infty} = \Sigma_{\infty} \setminus \Sigma_{\infty}^1$$

Assumption C. $S_{\infty} = S_{\infty}^1$ and this set can be bounded or not.

Assumption D. There exists a function \tilde{f} of the argument (x, u, q, r, z) where $x \in S_{\infty}$, u, q, r are arbitrary, and $z \in \bar{C}(S_{\infty}, \mathbb{R}^m)$, such that:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists T > 0, \forall (t, x) \in (D_p)_T, u, q, r \text{ are arbitrary } z \in \bar{C}(S_{\infty})$$

$$\text{for } i=1, \dots, m \quad |f^i(t, x, u, q, r, z) - \tilde{f}^i(x, u, q, r, z)| < \varepsilon.$$

Definition 3. Let $s \in \bar{C}(\bar{S}_{\infty}, \mathbb{R}^m) \cap C^2(S_{\infty}, \mathbb{R}^m)$, which for every $i=1, \dots, m$ has the first derivatives of s^i bounded on $S_{\infty} \cup \Sigma_{\infty}^1$, and which fulfills the system

$$0 = \tilde{f}(x, s(x), s_x^i(x), s_{xx}^i(x), s(\cdot)) \quad i=1, \dots, m \quad (6)$$

and also boundary conditions on Σ_{∞} , which will be defined further (see Def 7)

Definition 4. Let for every $\xi \in (0, \xi_0), p_{\xi}: [-\delta, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, be define in the following way

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_{\xi}(t) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sup_{\substack{\tau \geq t \\ x \in S_{\tau}}} |f^i(\tau, x, s(x) + \xi, s_x^i(x), s_{xx}^i(x), s(\cdot) + \xi)| \text{ for } t \geq 0 \\ p_{\xi}(t) = p_{\xi}(0) \text{ for } -\delta \leq t < 0, \text{ where } \delta > 0 \text{ arbitrary.} \end{array} \right. \quad (7)$$

Assumption E. Assume that for every $\zeta \in C^2(S)$ the functions $f^1(t, x, \zeta(x), \zeta_x^1(x), \zeta_{xx}^1(x), \zeta(\cdot))$ are continuous in \bar{D} and $\tilde{f}^1(x, \zeta(x), \zeta_x^1(x), \zeta_{xx}^1(x), \zeta(\cdot))$ are continuous in \bar{S}_∞ , for $i=1, \dots, m$.

Remark 1. The function p_ξ defined in (7) in virtue of Assumption E satisfies the following conditions: 1^0 $p_\xi(t) \geq 0$ for $t \in [-\delta, \infty)$, 2^0 $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_\xi(t) = 0$ (what follows from the Assumptions D, E and (6)), 3^0 p_ξ is continuous and non-increasing in $[-\delta, \infty)$, 4^0 $p_\xi(t) \geq |f^1(t, x, s(x) + \xi) - s_x^1(x), s_{xx}^1(x), s(\cdot) + \xi)|$ if $s(x) \in C^2(\bar{S}_\infty)$, for every $t \geq 0$, $x \in S_t$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, $\xi \in (0, \xi_0)$.

If Assumption E does not hold, then we can take an arbitrary p requiring only the conditions $1^0 - 4^0$ to be satisfied. Therefore we can replace the Assumption E by a weaker one:

Assumption E₁. For every $\xi \in (0, \xi_0)$ there exists $p_\xi: [-\delta, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, which satisfies all the conditions $1^0 - 4^0$ of the Remark 1.

Remark 2. If $S_\infty \neq S_0^1$, thus $S_\infty \subset S_0^1$, it should be necessary to extend s defined on \bar{S}_∞ on the whole S_0^1 . This would be possible if the boundary of S_∞ should be sufficiently regular, what generally does not hold.

Definition 5. Let \mathcal{L} be the function of argument (t, x, u, q, s) where $(t, x) \in (D_p)_{T_0}$ for certain $T_0 \geq 0$, $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $s \in \bar{C}(S_0^1)$, and its values belong to \mathbb{R}^m .

Assumption F. For $T_0 \geq 0$ there exist four functions: \mathcal{L}_k $k=1, 2$ (see Def 5) and $W^1: S_0^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ and $W^2: S_0^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ continuous in \bar{S}_0^1 , of class C^2 in S_0^1 , which have the derivative $\frac{d}{dt} W^k(x)$, $k=1, 2$ if $(t, x) \in \sum_{i=1}^m S_i^1$. We assume that:

1^0 For every continuous function $\varphi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ the functions \mathcal{L}_k, W^k , $k = 1, 2$ satisfy for $i=1, \dots, m$ and arbitrary $\xi \in (0, \xi_0)$ the inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{sgn} W^k [f^1(t, x, \varphi(t) W^k(x) + \xi + s(x), \varphi(t) W_x^k(x) + s_x^1, s_{xx}^1, \varphi(t) W(\cdot) + \\ & + \xi + s(\cdot)) - f^1(t, x, s(x) + \xi, s_x^1(x), s_{xx}^1(x), s(\cdot) + \xi) \leq \\ & \leq -\varphi(t) \mathcal{L}_k^1(t, x, W^k(x), W_x^k(x), W(\cdot)) \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_0}. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

2° the functions W^1, W^2 satisfy the conditions (for $i=1, \dots, m, k=1, 2$)

$$a) 1 \leq (-1)^{k+1} W^k(x) \leq K \quad \text{for } x \in \bar{S}_0^1$$

$$b) (-1)^{k+1} \sum_{j=1}^n W_{x_j x_1}^{k_i}(x) \alpha_j \alpha_1 \leq 0 \quad \text{for } x \in S_0^1$$

and every $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$

c) there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$L_k^1(t, x, W^k(x), W_x^k(x), W(\cdot)) + (-1)^k \lambda W^k(x) > 0 \quad \text{in } (D_p)_{T_0}$$

$$d) (-1)^{k+1} M^k(W)(t, x) > 0 \quad \text{on } (\Sigma^1)_{T_0}$$

Assumption G. Let us denote:

$$H_0 = \{ \Phi: \bar{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, \Phi^i(t, x) = \varphi(t) W^i(x) \quad i=1, \dots, m \}$$

where $\varphi \in C^1([0, \infty), \mathbb{R}_+)$ and $W^i(x) = W^k(x)$ $k=1, 2$, as regular as it was assumed in Assumption F, and satisfying the conditions a), b). We assume that f is parabolic with respect to every function $\Phi \in H_0$.

Definition 6. Let $\phi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $(t, x) \in A \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ and $\tilde{\phi}: B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $x \in B \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. B is the projection of A onto \mathbb{R}^n . Let us denote

$$\lim_{(t,x) \in A, t \rightarrow \infty} \phi(t, x) = \tilde{\phi}(x) \quad \text{if:}$$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists T(\varepsilon) \geq 0, \forall (t, x) \in A_T, |\phi(t, x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| < \varepsilon$$

We introduce the following assumption concerning boundary conditions:

Assumption H. $\exists h_0 \in (0, 1)$ such that $h^i(t, x) > h_0$ on Σ^1 for $i=1, \dots, m$, and there exist functions: $\tilde{\varphi}_1^i: \Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\tilde{\varphi}_2^i: \Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\tilde{g}^i: \Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\tilde{h}^i: \Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\tilde{l}^i: \Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, moreover $\tilde{g}^i(x)$ are bounded functions on $\Sigma_\infty^1 \cup S_\infty$. We assume that:

$$\lim_{(t,x) \in \Sigma^1, t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_2^1(t, x) = \tilde{\varphi}_2^1(x),$$

$$\lim_{(t,x) \in \Sigma^1, t \rightarrow \infty} g^1(t, x) = \tilde{g}^1(x), \quad \lim_{(t,x) \in \Sigma^1, t \rightarrow \infty} h^1(t, x) = \tilde{h}^1(x)$$

$$\lim_{(t,x) \in \Sigma^1, t \rightarrow \infty} l^1_j(t,x) = \tilde{Y}^1_j(x), \quad j=1, \dots, n, \quad \lim_{(t,x) \in \Sigma^1, t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^1_1(t,x) = \tilde{\varphi}^1_1(x)$$

for $i=1, \dots, m$ (see Def 6).

Now we can formulate the boundary conditions for the function s :

Definition 7. For $i=1, \dots, m$ we have

$$s^i(x) = \tilde{\varphi}^i_1(x) \quad \text{on} \quad \Sigma^i_\infty,$$

$$\tilde{h}^i(x)s^i(x) - \tilde{g}^i(x) \frac{d}{d^1(x)} s^i(x) = \tilde{\varphi}^i_2(x) \quad \text{on} \quad \Sigma^i_\infty.$$

Theorem 1. Let us suppose that the Assumptions C, B_1, B_2 , hold, and that there exists $T_0 \geq 0$ for which Assumptions F and G hold in $(D_p)_{T_0}$. There hold also the Assumptions D, E_1 and H . If there exists the solution s of the system (6), as regular as it was assumed in Definition 3, and which satisfies boundary conditions according to Definition 7, then for Σ -regular solution u of the system (1) in $(D_p)_T$, satisfying the boundary conditions (3) on $(\Sigma)_T$, and such that f^0 is parabolic with respect to the u , the condition

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|u(t, \cdot) - s(\cdot)\|_t = 0 \quad \text{is held (see Corollary 1).}$$

Proof: For arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, we put $\varepsilon_1 = h_0 \varepsilon$ and let $T_1 \geq T_0$ be so large that from Assumption H we get

$$|\varphi^i_1(t,x) - \tilde{\varphi}^i_1(x)| < \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_1 \quad \text{for} \quad (t,x) \in (\Sigma^i)_{T_1}$$

and

$$|\varphi^i_2(t,x) - \tilde{\varphi}^i_2(x)| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2} \quad \text{for} \quad (t,x) \in (\Sigma^i)_{T_1}$$

We take, according with the Assumption F , the functions $W^k_1(x)$ for suitable $\lambda_1 > 0$ and we create two functions:

$$v^1(t,x) = J(t) W^1(x) + \varepsilon, \quad v^2(t,x) = J(t) W^2(x) - \varepsilon \quad \text{where} \quad J(t) > 0$$

for $t \geq 0$ we will establish later. We have chosen T_1 in such a way that for $\tilde{u} = u - s$:

$$|\tilde{u}^i(t,x)| = |u^i(t,x) - s^i(x)| \leq |\varphi^i_1(t,x) - \tilde{\varphi}^i_1(x)| + |\tilde{\varphi}^i_1(x) - s^i(x)| < \varepsilon_1 \quad (9)$$

on $(\Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1)_{T_1}$ for $i=1, \dots, m$. We have also

$$M^1(\tilde{u}^1)(t, x) = \varphi_2^1(t, x) - [h^1(t, x)s^1(x) - g^1(t, x) \frac{d}{dl^1(t, x)} s^1(x)].$$

It is easy to see that in virtue of the Assumption H, for $\frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}$ there exists $T_2 \geq T_1$ such that

$$|h^1(t, x)s^1(x) - g^1(t, x) \frac{d}{dl^1(t, x)} s^1(x) - \tilde{\varphi}_2^1(x)| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}$$

for every $(t, x) \in \Sigma_{T_2}^1$, and therefore

$$|M^1(\tilde{u}^1)(t, x)| < \varepsilon_1 \quad \text{for } (t, x) \in (\Sigma^1)_{T_2}, \quad i=1, \dots, m. \quad (10)$$

Farther on $(\Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1)_{T_1}$, we have

$$v^1(t, x) = J(t) W^1(x) + \varepsilon > \varepsilon > h_0 \varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 \quad \text{and}$$

$$v^1(t, x) < -h_0 \varepsilon = -\varepsilon_1 \quad i=1, \dots, m. \quad \text{In virtue of (9) there is}$$

$$v^1(t, x) > \tilde{u}^1(t, x) > v^1(t, x) \quad \text{on } (\Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1)_{T_1} \quad \text{for } i=1, \dots, m.$$

Because $M^1(v^1)(t, x) = J(t) [h^1(t, x) W^1(x) - g^1(t, x) \frac{d}{dl^1(t, x)} W^1(x)] + h^1(t, x)\varepsilon$, therefore $M^1(v^1)(t, x) > h_0 \varepsilon = \varepsilon_1$ and similarly $M^1(v^1)(t, x) < -\varepsilon_1$ on $(\Sigma^1)_{T_1}$. It results from the, above statements and from (10) that for $i=1, \dots, m$

$$M^1(v^1 - \tilde{u}^1)(t, x) > 0, \quad M^1(u^1 - v^1)(t, x) > 0 \quad \text{on } (\Sigma^1)_{T_2}$$

We denote by $K_0 = \sup_{x \in S_{T_2}} |\tilde{u}(T_2, x)|$. Now we construct the function J .

According to Assumption E_1 we take, for the ε fixed above the function p_ε . We construct the function $\bar{p}: [-\delta, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, which satisfies the conditions $1^0 - 3^0$ of E_1 , and such that:

$$\bar{p}(t) > p_\varepsilon(t) \quad \text{for } t > 0,$$

$$\bar{p}(0) > \max(p_\varepsilon(0), \frac{\lambda_1 K_0}{(1-e^{-1}) \exp(-\lambda_1 T_2)}),$$

$\bar{p}(t) = \bar{p}(0)$ for $t \in [-\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, 0)$. For this $\bar{p}(t)$ we set

$$J(t) = \int_{-\frac{1}{\lambda_1}}^t \bar{p}(\tau) \exp \lambda_1 (\tau - t) d\tau.$$

This function has all the properties as it was formulated in the paper [6], particularly $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} J(t) = 0$. For our purpose we have now:

$$\begin{aligned} v^1(\tau_2, x) &= J(\tau_2) w^1(x) + \varepsilon > \int_{-\frac{1}{\lambda_1}}^0 \bar{p}(\tau) \exp[\lambda_1 (\tau - \tau_2)] d\tau \geq \\ &\geq \bar{p}(0) \frac{1}{\lambda_1} [1 - e^{-1}] \exp(-\lambda_1 \tau_2) > K_0 \geq \tilde{u}^1(\tau_2, x) \text{ on } S_{\tau_2}, \text{ for } i=1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

and analogously

$$v^1(\tau_2, x) < -K_0 \leq \tilde{u}^1(\tau_2, x) \text{ on } S_{\tau_2}.$$

Now we will prove that the functions v and v satisfy inequalities (4), (5) if on the right-hand side we will set the new function ζ defined as follows:

$$\zeta^1(t, x, u, q, r, z) = f^1(t, x, u + s, q + s_x^1, r + s_{xx}^1, z + s(\cdot)) \text{ for } (t, x) \in D_p, u, q, r, z$$

arbitrary. Setting $\tilde{u} = u - s$ we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}_t^1 &= u_t^1 = f^1(t, x, u(t, x)) u_x^1(t, x), u_{xx}^1(t, x) u(t, \cdot) = \\ &= f^1(t, x, \tilde{u} + s, \tilde{u}_s^1 + s_x^1, \tilde{u}_{xx}^1 + s_{xx}^1, \tilde{u}(r, \cdot) + s(\cdot)) = \\ &= \zeta^1(t, x, \tilde{u}, \tilde{u}_x^1, \tilde{u}_{xx}^1, \tilde{u}(t, \cdot)). \end{aligned}$$

Now we will show that ζ is parabolic with respect to \tilde{u} . If $\tilde{r} \geq r$ then $\tilde{r} + s_{xx}^1 \geq r + s_{xx}^1$ and since

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta^1(t, x, \tilde{u}, \tilde{u}_x^1, \tilde{r}, \tilde{u}(t, \cdot)) &- \zeta^1(t, x, \tilde{u}, \tilde{u}_x^1, r, \tilde{u}(t, \cdot)) = \\ &= f^1(t, x, \tilde{u} + s, \tilde{u}_x^1 + s_x^1, \tilde{r} + s_{xx}^1, \tilde{u}(t, \cdot) + s(\cdot)) - \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - f^1(t, x, \tilde{u} + s, \tilde{u}_x^1 + s_x^1, r + s_{xx}^1, \tilde{u}(t, \cdot) + s(\cdot)) = \\
& = f^1(t, x, u, u_x^1, \tilde{r} + s_{xx}^1, u(t, \cdot)) - \\
& - f^1(t, x, u, u_x^1, r + s_{xx}^1, u(t, \cdot)) \geq 0 \quad \text{in virtue of parabolicity} \\
& \text{of } f^1 \text{ with respect to } u.
\end{aligned}$$

Now applying successively the properties of J and p , the condition a) of the Assumption F, after that the inequality (8), the conditions c) and b) of the Assumption F, and finally the Assumption G, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
v_t^1(t, x) & = W^1(x) \frac{dJ}{dt} \geq \bar{p}(t) - \lambda_1 W^1(x) J(t) \geq \\
& \geq -\lambda_1 W^1(x) J(t) + f^1(t, x, s(x) + \varepsilon, s_x^1(x), s_{xx}^1(x), s(\cdot) + \varepsilon) \geq \\
& \geq [-\lambda_1 W^1(x) + L_1^1(t, x, W^1(x), W_x^1(x), W(\cdot))] J(t) + \\
& + f^1(t, x, v(t, x) + s(x), v_x^1(t, x) + s_x^1, s_{xx}^1, v(t, \cdot) + s(\cdot)) > \\
& > f^1(t, x, v(t, x) + s(x), v_x^1(t, x) + s_x^1, v_{xx}^1 + s_{xx}^1, v(t, \cdot) + s(\cdot)) = \\
& = \zeta^1(t, x, v(t, x), v_x^1(t, x), v_{xx}^1(t, x), v(t, \cdot)) \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Analogously we obtain:

$$v_t^1(t, x) < \zeta^1(t, x, v(t, x), v_x^1(t, x), v_{xx}^1(t, x), v(t, \cdot)) \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_1}.$$

We have proved that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $T_2(\varepsilon) \geq T_0$ such that in $(D_p)_{T_2}$ the function v_ε and v_ε satisfy all the assumptions of the Lemmas 1 and 2. Therefore $v_\varepsilon(t, x) < \tilde{u}(t, x) < v_\varepsilon(t, x)$ in $(D_p)_{T_2}$.

Now we set $\eta = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} > 0$ and for $\frac{\eta}{2}$ we find $T_3 \geq T_2(\frac{\eta}{2}) \geq T_0$ such that for $i=1, \dots, m$

$$v_{\frac{\eta}{2}}^1(t, x) = J(t) W^1(x) + \frac{\eta}{2} < \eta, v_{\frac{\eta}{2}}^2(t, x) = J(t) W^2(x) - \frac{\eta}{2} > -\eta \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_3}.$$

Since in such a way constructed two families v_η and v_η satisfy all the assumptions of corollary 1, our proof is closed.

Remark 3. In the case of a homogeneous boundary problem we can put $\xi = 0$ in (8) of the Assumption F. The proof of Theorem 1 is then much simpler one (comp. [6], Theorem 1).

4. Some examples

Example 1. The function $u(t, x) = (\sin \frac{x}{\sqrt{a}}) \frac{t}{1+t^2}$ is the solution of the equation

$$u'_t = au_{xx} + u + (\sin \frac{x}{\sqrt{a}}) \frac{2t}{(1+t^2)^2}, \text{ where the domain } D_p = (0 < x < \sqrt{a}) \times (0, \infty).$$

This solution satisfies homogeneous boundary conditions (comp. example 2 in [6]).

We have also $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(t, x) = \sin \frac{x}{\sqrt{a}} = s(x)$.

This function s satisfies the equation $as_{xx} + s = 0$ and is equal to zero for $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = \pi\sqrt{a}$. All the assumptions of the theorem 1 are fulfilled except the Assumption F, that will be shown later. That means F is the sufficient condition but it is not necessary, obviously. In the case of one equation we can put $v(t, x) = J(t)w(x)$ and $v(t, x) = -V(t, x)$, having $\mathcal{E} = 0$. (Comp. also the example 1 in [6]). Assume that there exist J and w fulfilling F with a), b), c), d). The inequality (8) obtains the form

$$\begin{aligned} as_{xx} + v + s + (\sin \frac{x}{\sqrt{a}}) \frac{2t}{(1+t^2)^2} - [as_{xx} + s + (\sin \frac{x}{\sqrt{a}}) \frac{2t}{(1+t^2)^2}] &= \\ \equiv v(t, x) = J(t)w(x) &\leq -J(t) \mathcal{L}(w)(x) \end{aligned}$$

in virtue of c) we have $J(t)w(x) < -\lambda J(t)w(x)$ hence $(1+\lambda)w(x) < 0$. This contradicts the condition a) in D.

Example 2. In the paper [4] there was proved the theorem 4 concerning convergence as $t \rightarrow \infty$ of the solution u of the following almost-linear equation

$$F[u] = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) u_{x_i x_j} + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k(x) u_{x_k} - u_t = f(t, x, u) \quad (11)$$

for every $(t, x) \in G \times (0, \infty)$, where $G \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is bounded. Under the assumptions: $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t, x, z) = f_1(x, z)$ uniformly with respect to $x \in G$, where f is non decreasing with respect to z , it is proved that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(t, x) = s(x)$, where s is the solution of the equation

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) s_{x_i} x_j + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k(x) s_{x_k} - f_1(x, s(x)) = 0$$

for every $x \in G$. The proof of theorem 4 was carried out owing to the following assumption: there exists V such that: $1^\circ V(t, x) > 0$ in \bar{D} , $2^\circ \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} V(t, x) = 0, 3^\circ \exists T \geq 0$ such that $F(V) \leq -|f(t, x, s(x)) - f_1(x, s(x))|$ in D_T . It is easy to prove that from the condition 3° follows that V and $v = -V$ satisfy inequalities (4) and (5) respectively, but not inversely. But we have another argument because of which the theorem 1, proved above, is weaker than the theorem 4 in [4]. We will show that the following condition results from the Assumption F.

$$F(w) \leq -\beta, \quad \beta > 0 \quad (12)$$

(which was assumed in [4]) but not inversely. The inequality (8) has now the form:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n b_k v_{x_k} - f(t, x, v+s) + f(t, x, s) \leq -J(t) \mathcal{L}(t, x, w, w_x^1).$$

Since $f(t, x, s) - f(t, x, v+s) < 0$ we can put $\mathcal{L}(w) = -\sum_{k=1}^n b_k w_{x_k}$ and the inequality c) obtains the form:

$$-\sum_{k=1}^n b_{x_k}(x) w_{x_k}(x) - \lambda w(x) > 0 \quad \text{hence} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n b_k(x) w_{x_k} < -\lambda w(x) \leq -\lambda,$$

using the condition b) we have $\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) w_{x_i} x_j \leq 0$, setting $\lambda = \beta$ we get

$$F(w) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) w_{x_i} x_j + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k(x) w_{x_k} - w_t \leq -\beta$$

But obviously from (12) we cannot conclude that there exists $\lambda > 0$ for which $\sum_{k=1}^n b_k(x) w_{x_k} < -\lambda w$. This requires another form of assumption c) in order to obtain the equivalence of the both assumptions (comp. Example 3).

Remark 4. When we consider the space $R^1 \ni x$, the assumption $S_0^1 = S_\infty$ is obviously superfluous. If $S_\infty \subset S_0^1$, it is possible to extend the functions s on the whole S_0^1 maintaining the class of regularity. In this case the Theorems 1 and 2 of [6] are simple corollaries of the above theorem.

5. Strong parabolicity of f , and Theorem 2

Now we carry into effect the modification of the condition c) of F, that we have talked about before. We will establish a property of f , which will be called the strong parabolicity.

Definition 8. We will call strongly parabolic every function f for which there exist functions $a^1: D_p \rightarrow R^{n^2}$, $1=1, \dots, m$ such that:

1° there exist 1 such that $a^1 \neq 0$ in D_p and for $1=1, \dots, m$,

$$a_{jk}^1(t, x) = a_{kj}^1(t, x) \text{ in } D_p,$$

2° $\sum_{j,k=1}^n a_{jk}^1(t, x) \chi_j \chi_k \geq 0$ in D_p , $1=1, 2, \dots, m$, for every $\chi = (\chi_1, \dots, \chi_n)$,

3° for every pair of symmetric matrices $r = [r_{ij}]$, $\tilde{r} = [\tilde{r}_{ij}]$ for which

$$\tilde{r} \geq r \iff \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\tilde{r}_{ij} - r_{ij}) \chi_i \chi_j \geq 0, \text{ the following inequalities, for } 1=1, \dots, m,$$

$$f^1(t, x, u, q, \tilde{r}, z) - f^1(t, x, u, q, r, z) \geq \sum_{j,k=1}^n a_{jk}^1(t, x) (\tilde{r}_{jk} - r_{jk}) \quad (13)$$

for every $(t, x) \in D_p$, u, q arbitrary and $z \in \bar{C}(S_t)$, hold.

Remark 5. The Definition 8 was introduced in paper [5] (the condition H) with an additional assumption: there exists k such that $a_{kk}^1(t, x) \geq a^1(t) > 0$ in D_p , what will be superfluous now.

Remark 6. The strong parabolicity of f with respect to the function u , would be difficult to define, because a^1 could then become dependent on u . This assumption would be too weak for our needs.

Assumption F_1 . We keep in virtue all the assumptions of F, except the condition c) instead of which now we introduce:

c_1) there exists $\lambda_1 > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{L}_k^i(t, x, W(x), W_x^i(x), W(\cdot)) + (-1)^k \lambda_1 W^i(x) + \\ & + (-1)^k \sum_{j=1}^n a_{j1}^i(t, x) W_{x_j x_1}^i > 0 \text{ for every } (t, x \in (D_p)_T. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 7. The stronger property of f allows us to employ weaker condition c_1) instead of c) (taking into account the inequalities

$$(-1)^k \sum_{j=1}^n a_{j1}^i(t, x) W_{x_j x_1}^i \geq 0).$$

We notice also that Assumption G is superfluous if f is strong parabolic.

Now we can formulate:

Theorem 2. We assume that the domain D has a property resulting from Assumption C, and that Assumptions D, B_1, B_2 hold. Moreover let f be strong parabolic and the Assumption F_1 hold in $(D_p)_{T_0}$ and H on $(\Sigma)_{T_0}$ for certain $T_0 \geq 0$. If there exists the solution s of (6) as regular as it was required in Definition 3, and satisfying the boundary conditions in agreement with Definition 7, then the Σ -regular solution of the system (1) satisfying the boundary conditions (3) has the following property

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|u(t, \cdot) - s(\cdot)\|_t = 0$$

We omit the proof quite analogous to the proof of theorem 1.

6. Example 3

We will show that the criterion given by theorem 2 is essentially stronger than that given by theorem 1. It is easy to see that from c_1) it results $F(W) \leq -\beta$ (comp. (11)) for $\lambda_1 = \beta$. But now the inverse inclusion: $F(W) \leq -\beta \implies C_1$, is true. This follows immediately, since for W we have

$$-F(W) - \lambda W \geq \beta - \lambda W \geq \beta - \lambda k > 0 \text{ if only } 0 < \lambda < \frac{\beta}{k}$$

and for $W = -W$, we verify C_1). Therefore the theorems 4 and 5 of the paper [4] become corollaries of the theorem 2.

7. The case of the limit zero, and Theorem 3

It is worthy to stress that the fundamental theorems concerning asymptotic stability proved by M. Krzyżański in [1], [2] and their generalization in [3], [5], do not result from theorems contained in [6]. Now using the strong parabolic property, we will obtain this generalization.

Assumption F₂. For $T_0 \geq 0$ there exist four functions: L_k $k=1,2$ (see Def. 5) and W_1, W_2 as regular as it was supposed in Assumption F. Now we assume that:

1° For every continuous function $\varphi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow R_+$ the functions L_k, W_k , $k=1,2$, satisfy for $i=1, \dots, m$ and arbitrary $\xi(0, \xi_0)$ the inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{sgn} W \left[f^1(t, x, \varphi(t) W(x) + \xi, \varphi(t) W_x^1(x), 0, \varphi(t) W(\cdot) + \xi) - \right. \\ & \left. - f^1(t, x, \xi, 0, 0, \xi) \right] \leq -\varphi(t) L_k^1(t, x, W(x), W_x^1(x), W(\cdot)) \text{ in } (D_p)_{T_0}. \end{aligned}$$

2° The functions W_1, W_2 satisfy the conditions a) b) d), which were formulated in Assumption F, and the condition c_1) from Assumption F₁

Assumption E₂: There exists $p_\xi: [-\delta, \infty) \rightarrow R$ such that: $\forall \xi \in (0, \xi_0)$

1° $p_\xi(t) > 0$, 2° $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_\xi(t) = 0$, 3° p_ξ is continuous and non-increasing, 4° $p_\xi(t) \geq |f^1(t, x, \xi, 0, 0, \xi)|$ in D_p , for $i = 1, \dots, m$ (comp. [6]).

Assumption H₁: Let $h^1(t, x) \geq h_0 \in (0, 1)$ on Σ^1 , for $i=1, \dots, m$.

We have:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \tau(\varepsilon) \geq 0, \text{ such that } |\varphi_1^1(t, x)| < \varepsilon \text{ for every } (t, x) \in \varepsilon(\Sigma \setminus \Sigma^1)_{\tau(\varepsilon)}, |\varphi_2^1(t, x)| < \varepsilon \text{ for every } t(x) \in \Sigma^1_{\tau(\varepsilon)}.$$

Let us notice that now we do not need neither the sets S_∞ and Σ_∞ nor the Assumption C.

Theorem 3. Assume that f is strongly parabolic in $(D_p)_{T_0}$, for $T_0 \geq 0$. If B_1, B_2, H_1 and E_2 hold, and moreover F_2 (for the same T_0), then the Σ -regular solution u of system (1) satisfying the boundary conditions (3) has the following property $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|u(t, \cdot)\|_t = 0$

We omit the proof which is analogous to the proof of theorem 2 in [6].

In the similar way we can formulate two theorems on the convergence of the solution to $+\infty$ or $-\infty$ under the assumption of strong parabolicity of f , using again the conditions c_1).

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