

STABILIZATION FOR A NONLINEAR BEAM EQUATION WITH LOCALIZED DAMPING *

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Abstract

In this paper, we investigate the exponential decay of the energy of the equation

$$u_{tt} + \Delta^2 u - M \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx \right) \Delta u + a(x) u_t = 0$$

with boundary clamped condition and a local linear dissipation of the type $a(x) u_t$. The method of proof is direct and is based on the multipliers technique and some integral inequalities due to Haraux and we obtain explicit decay rate.

1 Introduction

In this paper we establish the exponential decay of the energy of solutions for the localized damped nonlinear equation

$$u_{tt} + \Delta^2 u - M \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx \right) \Delta u + a(x) u_t = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

where $M(s)$, $s > 0$, is a nonnegative real function, Ω is a bounded open set of $\mathbb{R}^n$ with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$. We fix $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and we set

$$m(x) = x - x_0, \quad \Gamma_0 = \{x \in \partial\Omega; m(x) \cdot \nu(x) > 0\}$$

and $\Gamma_1 = \partial\Omega \setminus \Gamma_0$, where $\nu = \nu(x)$ is the outward normal to $\partial\Omega$.

Let $R(x_0) = \max_{x \in \Omega} |m(x)|$, $a \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ and $\nabla a \in (L^\infty(\Omega))^n$ be a nonnegative function at $x \in \Omega$ such that

$$a(x) \geq a_0 > 0 \quad \text{a. e. in } \omega \quad (1.2)$$

where ω is a neighborhood of Γ_0 and a_0 is a positive constant.

When $n = 1$, $M(s) = m_0 + ms$, $m > 0$, equation (1.1) represent the model originally proposed by Woinowsky-Kriger [20], for the transversal vibrations of an extensible beam subject to an axial internal force and $u(x, t)$ is the transverse deflection. If $n = 2$ the equation (1.1) represent the "Berger approximation" of the Von Kármán equations, modelling the nonlinear vibrations of a plate [15], pg. 501 – 507.

We study (1.1) submitted to boundary clamped conditions described by

$$u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (1.3)$$

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and initial data

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \text{ and } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = u_1(x) \text{ in } \Omega. \quad (1.4)$$

Decay rates of energy of the wave equations with localized damping was studied by Zuazua [19], Nakao [14], Tébou [17] and Martinez [12] by different methods. The same problem in the context of a Bernoulli-Euler equation (1.1) was investigated by Tucsnak [16], with a linear damping and by Charão [5] considering a nonlinear damping. Both authors obtained estimates of decay considering the local damping effective in a neighborhood of the whole boundary $\partial\Omega$ and $M(s) = \alpha s$, $\alpha > 0$. In the proof they used a unique continuation result of Kim [9] and a compactness argument, a technique developed by Zuazua [19]. This technique introduce in the estimates constants that are not controllable.

We solve the problem through a method introduced by Tébou [17] for the study of the wave equation which is based on the multipliers technique and on some integral inequalities due to Haraux [7], [8]. As in the proof does not use "compactness-uniqueness" argument the constants that appear in the decay rate are explicit and do not depend on the initial data. Furthermore the damping is effective only in a neighborhood of Γ_0 .

The existence and uniqueness of the solutions for (1.1) or similar models has been studied by Ball [1] and Medeiros [13] among others authors. Decay estimates of solutions when the damping term is effective everywhere in Ω has been studied by Ball [2], Biler [3], Brito [4], Pereira [6] and Vasconcelos [18].

2 Notations, Assumptions and Main Results

Throughout this paper, we denote by $|\cdot|$ the norm in $L^2(\Omega)$ and $R(x_0) = \max_{x \in \Omega} |m(x)|$.

The existence and uniqueness of solutions for (1.1) is guaranteed by the following result.

Theorem 2.1. *Suppose that $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a bounded domain with regular boundary and $a \in L^\infty(\Omega)$. Then we have:*

1. If $u_0 \in H^4(\Omega) \cap H_0^2(\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H_0^2(\Omega)$, then the problem (1.1), (1.3) and (1.4) admits an unique solution u in the class

$$u \in C([0, T]; H^4(\Omega) \cap H_0^2(\Omega)) \cap C^1([0, T]; H_0^2(\Omega)).$$

2. If $u_0 \in H_0^2(\Omega)$, $u_1 \in L^2(\Omega)$, then the problem (1.1) admits an unique solution having the regularity

$$u \in C([0, T]; H_0^2(\Omega)) \cap C^1([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)).$$

Proof. The result follows by means of the standard semigroup techniques or Faedo-Galerkin procedure. For details see [13] and [18].

The energy associated the (1.1) is given by

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} |u'(t)|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\Delta u(t)|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \widehat{M}(|\nabla u(t)|^2),$$

where

$$\widehat{M}(\lambda) = \int_0^\lambda M(\xi) d\xi. \quad (2.5)$$

It is easy to verify that the energy E satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} E(t) = - \int_\Omega a(x) |u'(x, t)|^2 dx, \quad (2.6)$$

admitting that $a(x) \geq 0$, a.e. in Ω , we have that the energy is decreasing.

The objective of this work is to study the asymptotic behavior in time of the energy for the solutions of (1.1) when $a(x) u'$ is effective only in the subset $\omega \subset \Omega$.

From now on we assume that $M \in C^1[0, +\infty)$ is a increasing function such that

$$M(\lambda) \geq m_0 > 0 \text{ for all } \lambda \in (0, \infty). \quad (2.7)$$

The main result of this paper is the following:

Theorem 2.2. *Consider $\{u_0, u_1\} \in H_0^2(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$. Let ω be a neighborhood of Γ_0 , $a \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ satisfying (1.2) and M satisfying (2.7). Then there exists a positive constant τ_0 , such that*

$$E(t) \leq \left[\exp\left(1 - \frac{t}{\tau_0}\right) \right] E(0), \quad \forall t \geq 0, \quad (2.8)$$

where τ_0 is independent of the initial data.

The following Lemma reduces the proof of Theorem 2.2 to the proof of an appropriate estimate.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $E : [0, \infty[\rightarrow [0, \infty[$ be a nonincreasing locally absolutely continuous function and assume that there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that*

$$\int_s^\infty E(t) dt \leq CE(s) \quad \forall s \in [0, \infty[. \quad (2.9)$$

Then

$$E(t) \leq \left[\exp\left(1 - \frac{t}{C}\right) \right] E(0), \quad \forall t \geq C. \quad (2.10)$$

Proof. The proof is due to Haraux and can be found in [7], [8] and Komornik [10].

Let us consider s and T real numbers such that $0 \leq s \leq T < \infty$ and $Q_s = \Omega \times]s, T[$ the cylindrical domain of $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ with lateral bounded $\Sigma_s = \Gamma \times]s, T[$.

The estimate (2.9) is obtained by means of the following lemma:

Lemma 2.2. *Let u be the solution of (1.1), $q \in (W^{2,\infty}(\Omega))^n$, $\xi \in W^{2,\infty}(\Omega)$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Then we have the identities,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_{Q_s} (\operatorname{div} q - \alpha) (|u'|^2 - |\Delta u|^2) dxdt + \left(u'(t), q \cdot \nabla u(t) + \frac{1}{2} \alpha u(t) \right) \Big|_s^T + \\ & + 2 \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \frac{\partial q_k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} dxdt + \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \left(q \cdot \nabla u + \frac{1}{2} \alpha u \right) dxdt + \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \int_{Q_s} \{ \operatorname{div} q - \alpha \} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dxdt + \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla q_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} dxdt + \\ & + \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta q \cdot \nabla u dxdt = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s} q \cdot \nu |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma, \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & (u'(t), \xi u(t)) \Big|_s^T - \int_{Q_s} \xi (|u'|^2 - |\Delta u|^2) dxdt + \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta \xi u dxdt + \\ & + 2 \int_{Q_s} \Delta u (\nabla u \cdot \nabla \xi) dxdt + \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla \xi u dxdt + \\ & + \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \xi dxdt + \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \xi u dxdt = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

with the summation convention of repeated indices.

Proof. The first identity is obtained multiplying the equation in (1.1) by $q \cdot \nabla u + \frac{1}{2} \alpha u$ and integrating on Q_s . The identity in (2.12) is obtained by means of the multiplier $u\xi$.

3 Proof of Theorem 2.2

The proof consists in proving the estimate (2.10) and will be done in several steps. It is enough to consider $u_0 \in H^4(\Omega) \cap H_0^2(\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H_0^2(\Omega)$ and then to use density.

Step 1. Applying (2.11) with $\alpha = n - 1$, $q(x) = m(x)$ and observing that $\operatorname{div} m = n$ and $\Delta q = 0$, we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_s^T (|u'(t)|^2 + |\Delta u(t)|^2 + M(|\nabla u(t)|^2) |\nabla u(t)|^2) dt + \int_s^T |\Delta u(t)|^2 = \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s} m(x) \cdot \nu |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma - \left(u', m(x) \cdot \nabla u + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u \right) \Big|_s^T - \\ & - \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \left(m(x) \cdot \nabla u + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u \right) dxdt. \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

Since M is increasing we have that $\widehat{M}(s) \leq sM(s)$, where $\widehat{M}(s)$ was defined in (2.5), and therefore from (3.13) follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_s^T E(t) dt \leq - \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \left(m(x) \cdot \nabla u + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u \right) dxdt - \\ & - \left(u'(t), m(x) \cdot \nabla u(t) + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u(t) \right) \Big|_s^T + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s} m(x) \cdot \nu |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

Setting,

$$X(t) = \left(u'(t), m(x) \cdot \nabla u(t) + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u(t) \right),$$

follows that

$$|X(t)| \leq \frac{R(x_0)}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u'|^2 dx + \frac{R(x_0)}{2} K_0^2 \int_{\Omega} |\Delta u|^2 dx \leq R(x_0) \max\{1, K_0^2\} E(t),$$

where K_0 is the immersion's constant of the $H_0^2(\Omega) \hookrightarrow H_0^1(\Omega)$.

On the other hand, from (2.6) and Holder's Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & - \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \left(m(x) \cdot \nabla u + \frac{(n-1)}{2} u \right) dx dt \leq \\ & \leq \|a\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} R^2(x_0) K_0^2 E(s) + \frac{1}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Defining $\Sigma_s(x_0) = \Gamma_0 \times (s, T)$ and remembering that $m(x) \cdot \nu(x) > 0$ on Γ_0 we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s} m(x) \cdot \nu(x) |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} m(x) \cdot \nu(x) |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma \leq \frac{R(x_0)}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma.$$

Substituting the above estimates in (3.14) we find

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt \leq C_1 E(s) + \frac{R(x_0)}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma, \quad (3.15)$$

where $C_1 = R(x_0) \left(2 \max\{1, K_0^2\} + \|a\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} R(x_0) K_0 \right)$.

Step 2. Estimate of $\int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma$.

Consider $h \in (W^{2,\infty}(\Omega))^n$ such that

$$h = \nu \text{ on } \Gamma_0, \quad h \cdot \nu \geq 0 \text{ on } \Gamma, \quad h = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \setminus \widehat{\omega},$$

where $\widehat{\omega}$ is another neighborhood of Γ_0 strictly contained in ω . For the construction of such function to see Lions [11].

Choosing $\alpha = 0$ and $q = h$ in the identity in (2.11) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Sigma_s} h(x) \cdot \nu(x) |\Delta u|^2 d\Sigma = \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \operatorname{div} h (|u'|^2 - |\Delta u|^2) dx dt + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega}} u'(t) h \cdot \nabla u(t) dx|_s^T + \\ & + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \Delta h \cdot \nabla u dx dt + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} a(x) u' (h \cdot \nabla u) dx dt - \\ & - \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \operatorname{div} h M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla h_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} dx dt + \\ & + 4 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} dx dt \leq \| \operatorname{div} h \|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} (|u'|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2) dx dt + \\ & + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega}} u'(t) h \cdot \nabla u(t) dx|_s^T + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \Delta h \cdot \nabla u dx dt + 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} a(x) u' (h \cdot \nabla u) dx dt + \\ & 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla h_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} dx dt + 4 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} dx dt \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

Observing that

- $2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \Delta h \cdot \nabla u \, dx dt \leq 2 \|\Delta h\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} K_0 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 \, dx dt.$
- $4 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} \Delta u \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} \, dx dt \leq 2 \left\| \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x_j} \right\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} (1 + K_1) \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 \, dx dt.$
- $\left| 2 \int_{\widehat{\omega}} u'(t) h \cdot \nabla u(t) \, dx \right| \leq 2 \|h\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \left(\int_{\widehat{\omega}} |u'(t)|^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{\widehat{\omega}} |\nabla u(t)|^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \leq 4K_0 \|h\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} E(t).$ Therefore

$$2 \int_{\widehat{\omega}} u'(t) h \cdot \nabla u(t) \, dx \Big|_s^T \leq 8K_0 \|h\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} E(s).$$

- $2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} a(x) u' (h \cdot \nabla u) \, dx dt \leq \int_s^T 2 \sqrt{R(x_0)} \|a\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}^{1/2} |E'(t)|^{1/2} \|h\|_{(L^\infty(\Omega))^n} K_0 \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{E(t)}{R(x_0)} \right)^{1/2} dt \leq$

$$\leq 4R(x_0) K_0^2 \|a\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \|h\|_{(L^\infty(\Omega))^n}^2 E(s) + \frac{1}{2R(x_0)} \int_s^T E(t) \, dt.$$

Taking in consideration that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} \right| \leq n |\nabla u|$$

and $a(x) \geq a_0 > 0$ in $\widehat{\omega}$, we have:

$$2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla h_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} \, dx dt \leq 2 \|\nabla h_k\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} n \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \, dx dt$$

and

$$\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |u'|^2 \, dx dt \leq \frac{1}{a_0} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} a(x) |u'|^2 \, dx dt \leq \frac{1}{a_0} \int_s^T |E'(t)| \, dt \leq \frac{1}{a_0} E(s).$$

By the construction of h follows

$$\int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} |\Delta u|^2 \, d\Sigma = \int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} (h(x) \cdot \nu(x)) |\Delta u|^2 \, d\Sigma \leq \int_{\Sigma_s} (h(x) \cdot \nu(x)) |\Delta u|^2 \, d\Sigma. \quad (3.17)$$

Multiplying (3.16) by $\frac{R(x_0)}{2}$, as a consequence of (3.17) and the estimates above we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{R(x_0)}{2} \int_{\Sigma_s(x_0)} |\Delta u|^2 \, d\Sigma &\leq C_2 E(s) + C_3 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 \, dx dt + \\ &+ C_4 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \, dx dt + \frac{1}{4} \int_s^T E(t) \, dt, \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

where C_2 , C_3 and C_4 are constants independents of the initial data.

Substituting (3.18) in (3.15) we find

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt &\leq (C_1 + C_2) E(s) + C_3 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt + \\ &+ C_4 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt \leq (C_1 + C_2) E(s) + \\ &+ C_5 \left(\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt + \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

where $C_5 = \max\{C_3, C_4\}$.

Step 3. Estimate of $\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt$ and $\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt$.

We introduce the function η , that satisfies

$$\eta \in W^{2, \infty}(\Omega), 0 \leq \eta \leq 1, \eta = 1 \text{ in } \widehat{\omega}, \eta = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \setminus \omega.$$

Applying (2.12) with $\xi = \eta^2$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(u'(t), \eta^2 u(t) \right) \Big|_0^T - \int_{Q_s} \eta^2 (|u'|^2 - |\Delta u|^2) dx dt + \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta \eta^2 u dx dt \\ &+ 2 \int_{Q_s} \Delta u (\nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2) dx dt + \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \eta^2 dx dt + \\ &+ \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2 u dx dt + \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \eta^2 u dx dt = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

From (3.20) and properties of η follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt + \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt = \\ &- \left(u'(t), \eta^2 u(t) \right) \Big|_s^T + \int_{Q_s} \eta^2 |u'|^2 dx dt - \\ &- 2 \int_{Q_s} \Delta u (\nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2) dx dt - \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta \eta^2 u dx dt - \\ &\int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2 u dx dt - \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \eta^2 u dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

Now, observe that,

$$\begin{aligned} &\bullet \ 2 \int_{Q_s} \Delta u (\nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2) dx dt \leq \frac{1}{4} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt + 4 \|\nabla \eta^2\|_\infty^2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\nabla u|^2 dx dt \\ &\bullet \ \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta \eta^2 u dx dt \leq \|\Delta \eta^2\|_\infty^2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |u|^2 dx dt + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{m_0} \|\Delta \eta^2\|_\infty^2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 dx dt + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s, T)} |\Delta u|^2 dx dt \end{aligned}$$

- $\int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \nabla u \cdot \nabla \eta^2 u \, dxdt \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \, dxdt +$
 $+\frac{\|\nabla \eta^2\|_\infty^2}{2} \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 \, dxdt.$
- $\int_{Q_s} a(x) u' \eta^2 u \, dxdt \leq \int_s^T \sqrt{\|a\|_\infty} |E'(t)|^{1/2} K_1 |\Delta u(t)| \, dt \leq$
 $\leq 4 \|a\|_\infty K_1^2 C_5 E(s) + \frac{1}{8C_5} \int_s^T E(t) \, dt,$ where K_1 is the immersion's constant of the $H_0^2(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^2(\Omega)$.
- $\int_{Q_s} \eta^2 |u'|^2 \, dxdt \leq \frac{1}{a_0} \int_{Q_s} \eta^2 a(x) |u'|^2 \, dxdt \leq \frac{1}{a_0} E(s).$
- $\left(u'(t), \eta^2 u(t) \right) \Big|_s^T \leq 2K_2 E(s),$ where $K_2 = \max\{1, K_1^2\}.$

Using the estimates above in (3.21) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{C_5}{2} \left(\int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |\nabla u|^2 \, dxdt + \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} |\Delta u|^2 \, dxdt \right) \leq \\
& \leq \left(4K_1^2 C_5 \|a\|_\infty + \frac{C_5}{a_0} + 2C_5 K_2 \right) E(s) + \\
& + 4C_5 \|\nabla \eta^2\|_\infty^2 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} |\nabla u|^2 \, dxdt + \left(\frac{C_5}{m_0} \|\Delta \eta^2\|_\infty^2 + \frac{C_5}{2} \|\nabla \eta^2\|_\infty^2 \right) \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 \, dxdt + \\
& + \frac{1}{8} \int_s^T E(t) \, dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.22}$$

Substituting (3.22) in (3.19) we find

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_s^T E(t) \, dt & \leq C_6 E(s) + C_7 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 \, dxdt + C_8 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} |\nabla u|^2 \, dxdt \leq \\
& \leq C_6 E(s) + C_7 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} a(x) M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 \, dxdt + C_8 \int_{\widehat{\omega} \times (s,T)} a(x) |\nabla u|^2 \, dxdt,
\end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

because $a(x) \geq a_0 > 0$ in $\omega \supset \widehat{\omega}$.

Let us consider a special multiplier to absorb the terms of the right side of (3.23). We introduce $z(t) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \cap H^2(\Omega)$ solution of the problems

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta z = a(x) u & \text{in } \Omega \\ z = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases} \tag{3.24}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta z' = a(x) u' & \text{in } \Omega \\ z' = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \tag{3.25}$$

Elementary calculations show that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla z|^2 dx &\leq C \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 dx \\ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla z'|^2 dx &\leq C \int_{\Omega} a(x) |u'|^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (3.26)$$

Multiplying the equation in (1.1) by z and integrating by parts on Q_s we find

$$\int_{Q_s} u'' z dx dt + \int_{Q_s} \Delta u \Delta z dx dt - \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) u \Delta z dx dt + \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' z dx dt = 0. \quad (3.27)$$

Now from (3.24) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{Q_s} M(|\nabla u|^2) \Delta z u dx dt &= \int_{Q_s} a(x) M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 dx dt, \\ \int_{Q_s} \Delta z \Delta u dx dt &= - \int_{Q_s} \Delta u a(x) u dx dt = \int_{Q_s} \nabla u \nabla (a(x) u) dx dt \leq \\ &\leq C \int_{Q_s} a(x) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3.28)$$

Substituting (3.28) in (3.27) we conclude that

$$\int_{Q_s} a(x) M(|\nabla u|^2) |u|^2 dx dt + \int_{Q_s} a(x) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt \leq - \int_{\Omega} u' z dx \Big|_s^T + \int_{Q_s} u' z' dx dt - \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' z dx dt. \quad (3.29)$$

From Poincaré's Inequality and (3.26) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| - \int_{\Omega} u' z dx \right| &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u'|^2 dx + \frac{K_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla z|^2 dx \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u'|^2 dx + \frac{K_0 C}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 dx \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u'|^2 dx + \frac{K_0 K_1 C}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta u|^2 dx \leq C_9 E(t). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$- \int_{\Omega} u' z dx \Big|_s^T \leq 2C_9 E(s).$$

Using (3.24), (3.26) and the immersion of $H_0^2(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{Q_s} a(x) u' z dx dt &= \int_s^T \left\{ \left(\int_{\Omega} a(x)^2 |u'|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{\Omega} |z|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \right\} dt \leq \\ &\leq C \|a\|_{\infty}^{1/2} \int_s^T \frac{1}{\varepsilon} |E'(t)|^{1/2} \cdot \varepsilon E(t)^{1/2} dt \leq \\ &\leq \frac{C \|a\|_{\infty}}{\varepsilon} \int_s^T |E'(t)| dt + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

From (3.26) follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{Q_s} u' z' dx dt &\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \int_s^T \int_{\Omega} |u'|^2 dx dt + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_s^T \int_{\Omega} |z'|^2 dx dt \leq \\ &\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt + \frac{CK_1}{\varepsilon} \int_s^T \int_{\Omega} a(x) |u'|^2 dx dt \leq \\ &\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt + \frac{CK_1}{\varepsilon} \int_s^T |E'(t)| dt \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \int_s^T E(t) dt + C_{10} E(s). \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the estimates above in (3.29) and backing in (3.23) follows that

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \int_s^T E(t) dt \leq C_{11} E(s). \quad (3.30)$$

Choosing $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ and taking the limit when $T \rightarrow +\infty$ we obtain the estimate (2.9) and this concludes the proof.

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