

# ON A SYSTEM OF NONLINEAR PARTIAL FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract.** We consider a system of a semilinear hyperbolic functional differential equation (where the lower order terms contain functional dependence on the unknown functions) with initial and boundary conditions and a quasilinear elliptic functional differential equation (containing  $t$  as a parameter) with boundary conditions. Existence of solutions for  $t \in (0, T)$  will be shown and some examples will be formulated.

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## 1. Introduction

In the present paper we consider weak solutions of the following system of equations:

$$(1.1) \quad u''(t) + Q(u(t)) + \varphi(x)h'(u(t)) + H(t, x; u, z) + \psi(x)u'(t) = F_1(t, x; z),$$

$$(1.2) \quad - \sum_{j=1}^n D_j[a_j(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u)] + a_0(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u, z) = F_2(t, x; u)$$

$$(t, x) \in Q_T = (0, T) \times \Omega$$

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a bounded domain and we use the notations  $u(t) = u(t, x)$ ,  $u' = D_t u$ ,  $u'' = D_t^2 u$ ,  $z(t) = z(t, x)$ ,  $Dz = \left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial z}{\partial x_n} \right)$ ,  $Q$  may be e.g. a linear second order symmetric elliptic differential operator in the variable  $x$ ;  $h$  is a  $C^2$  function having certain polynomial growth,  $H$  contains nonlinear functional (non-local) dependence on  $u$  and  $z$ , with some polynomial growth and  $F_1$  contains some functional dependence on  $z$ . Further, the functions  $a_j$  define a quasilinear elliptic differential operator in  $x$  (for fixed  $t$ ) with functional dependence on  $u$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and on  $u, z$  for  $i = 0$ , respectively. Finally,  $F_2$  may non-locally depending on  $u$ . The system (1.1), (1.2) consists of a semilinear

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hyperbolic functional equation and an elliptic functional equation (containing the time  $t$  as a parameter).

This paper was motivated by some problems which were modelled by systems consisting of (functional) differential equations of different types (see [11]. In [3] S. Cinca investigated a model, consisting of an elliptic, a parabolic and an ordinary nonlinear differential equation, which arise when modelling diffusion and transport in porous media with variable porosity. In [5] J.D. Logan, M.R. Petersen and T.S. Shores considered and numerically studied a similar system which describes reaction-mineralogy-porosity changes in porous media with one-dimensional space variable. J. H. Merkin, D.J. Needham and B.D. Sleeman considered in [6] a system, consisting of a nonlinear parabolic and an ordinary differential equation, as a mathematical model for the spread of morphogens with density dependent chemosensitivity. In [2], [7], [8] the existence of solutions of such systems were studied.

In Section 2 the existence of weak solutions will be proved for  $t \in (0, T)$ , in Section 3 some examples will be shown. In a separate paper we shall prove existence and certain properties of solutions for  $t \in (0, \infty)$ .

## 2. Solutions in $(0, T)$

Denote by  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  a bounded domain having the uniform  $C^1$  regularity property (see [1]),  $Q_T = (0, T) \times \Omega$ . Denote by  $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$  the Sobolev space of real valued functions with the norm

$$\|u\| = \left[ \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n |D_j u|^p + |u|^p \right) dx \right]^{1/p} \quad (2 \leq p < \infty, \quad D_j u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j}).$$

The number  $q$  is defined by  $1/p + 1/q = 1$ . Further, let  $V_1 \subset W^{1,2}(\Omega)$  and  $V_2 \subset W^{1,p}(\Omega)$  be closed linear subspaces containing  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ ,  $V_j^*$  the dual spaces of  $V_j$ , the duality between  $V_j^*$  and  $V_j$  will be denoted by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , the scalar product in  $L^2(\Omega)$  will be denoted by  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ . Finally, denote by  $L^p(0, T; V_j)$  the Banach space consisting of the set of measurable functions  $u : (0, T) \rightarrow V_j$  with the norm

$$\|u\|_{L^p(0, T; V_j)} = \left[ \int_0^T \|u(t)\|_{V_j}^p dt \right]^{1/p}$$

and  $L^\infty(0, T; V_j)$ ,  $L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$  the set of measurable functions  $u : (0, T) \rightarrow V_j$ ,  $u : (0, T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ , respectively, with the  $L^\infty(0, T)$  norm of the functions  $t \mapsto \|u(t)\|_{V_j}$ ,  $t \mapsto \|u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$ , respectively.

Now we formulate the assumptions on the functions in (1.1), (1.2).

(A<sub>1</sub>).  $Q : V_1 \rightarrow V_1^*$  is a linear continuous operator such that

$$\langle Qu, v \rangle = \langle Qv, u \rangle, \quad \langle Qu, u \rangle \geq c_0 \|u\|_{V_1}^2$$

for all  $u, v \in V_1$  with some constant  $c_0 > 0$ .

(A<sub>2</sub>).  $\varphi, \psi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are measurable functions satisfying with constants  $c_1, c_2$

$$0 < c_1 \leq \varphi(x) \leq c_2, \quad c_1 \leq \psi(x) \leq c_2 \text{ for a.a. } x \in \Omega.$$

(A<sub>3</sub>).  $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a twice continuously differentiable function satisfying

$$h(\eta) \geq 0, \quad |h''(\eta)| \leq \text{const}|\eta|^{\lambda-1} \text{ for } |\eta| > 1 \text{ where}$$

$$1 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0 = \frac{n}{n-2} \text{ if } n \geq 3, \quad 1 < \lambda < \infty \text{ if } n = 2.$$

(A<sub>4</sub>).  $H : Q_T \times L^2(Q_T) \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function for which  $(t, x) \mapsto H(t, x; u, z)$  is measurable for all fixed  $u \in L^2(Q_T), z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$ ,  $H$  has the Volterra property, i.e. for all  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $H(t, x; u, z)$  depends only on the restriction of  $u$  and  $z$  to  $Q_t$  (i.e. it does not depend on  $u(\tau, x), z(\tau, x)$  for  $\tau > t$ ). Further, the following inequality holds for all  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $u \in L^2(\Omega), z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} |H(t, x; u, z)|^2 dx \\ & \leq \text{const} \left[ \|z\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}^2 + 1 \right] \left[ \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} h(u) dx d\tau + \int_{\Omega} h(u) dx + 1 \right]; \end{aligned}$$

and for all fixed number  $K > 0$ , there exists a bounded (nonlinear) operator  $z \mapsto M(K, z) \in \mathbb{R}^+, z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} |H(\tau, x; u_1, z) - H(\tau, x; u_2, z)|^2 dx \right] d\tau \\ & \leq M(K, z) \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} |u_1 - u_2|^2 dx \right] d\tau \text{ if } \|u_j\|_{L^\infty(0, T; V_1)} \leq K. \end{aligned}$$

(The last inequality means that  $H(t, x; u, z)$  is locally Lipschitz in  $u$  and the Lipschitz constant is bounded if  $z$  is bounded in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$ .)

Finally,  $(z_k) \rightarrow z$  in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$  implies

$$H(t, x; u_k, z_k) - H(t, x; u_k, z) \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } L^2(Q_T) \text{ uniformly if } \|u_k\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq \text{const.}$$

(A<sub>5</sub>).  $F_1 : Q_T \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function satisfying  $(t, x) \mapsto F_1(t, x; z) \in L^2(Q_T)$  for all fixed  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  and  $(z_k) \rightarrow z$  in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$  implies that  $F_1(t, x; z_k) \rightarrow F_1(t, x; z)$  in  $L^2(Q_T)$ .

Further,

$$\int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; z)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|z\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}^{\beta_1} \right]$$

with some constant  $\beta_1 > 0$ .

(B<sub>1</sub>) The functions

$$a_j : Q_T \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (j = 1, \dots, n),$$

$$a_0 : Q_T \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times L^2(Q_T) \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

are such that  $a_j(t, x, \xi; u)$ ,  $a_0(t, x, \xi; u, z)$  are measurable functions of variables  $(t, x) \in Q_T$  for all fixed  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ ,  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$ ,  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  and continuous functions of variable  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  for all fixed  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$ ,  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  and a.a. fixed  $(t, x) \in Q_T$ .

Further, if  $(u_k) \rightarrow u$  in  $L^2(Q_T)$  then for all  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ , a.a.  $(t, x) \in Q_T$ , for a subsequence

$$a_j(t, x, \xi; u_k) \rightarrow a_j(t, x, \xi; u) \quad (j = 1, \dots, n),$$

$$a_0(t, x, \xi; u_k, z) \rightarrow a_0(t, x, \xi; u, z).$$

(B<sub>2</sub>) For  $j = 1, \dots, n$

$$|a_j(t, x, \xi; u)| \leq g_1(u)|\xi|^{p-1} + [k_1(u)](t, x)$$

where  $g_1 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a bounded, continuous (nonlinear) operator,

$$k_1 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^q(Q_T) \text{ is continuous and}$$

$$\|k_1(u)\|_{L^q(Q_T)} \leq \text{const}(1 + \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\gamma);$$

$$|a_0(t, x, \xi; u, z)| \leq g_2(u, z)|\xi|^{p-1} + [k_2(u, z)](t, x)$$

where

$$g_2 : L^2(Q_T) \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ and } k_2 : L^2(Q_T) \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^q(Q_T)$$

are continuous bounded operators such that

$$\|k_2(u, z)\|_{L^q(Q_T)} \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\gamma \right]$$

with some constant  $\gamma \geq 0$ .

(B<sub>3</sub>) The following inequality holds for all  $t \in [0, T]$  with some constants  $c_2 > 0$ ,  $\beta > 0$  (not depending on  $t$ ):

$$\int_{Q_T} \sum_{j=1}^n [a_j(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u) - a_j(t, x, Dz^*(t), z^*(t); u)] [D_j z(t) - D_j z^*(t)] dx dt +$$

$$\int_{Q_T} [a_0(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u, z) - a_0(t, x, Dz^*(t), z^*(t); u, z^*)] [z(t) - z^*(t)] dx dt \geq$$

$$\frac{c_2}{1 + \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\beta} \|z - z^*\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}^p.$$

(B<sub>4</sub>) For all fixed  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$  the function

$$F_2 : Q_T \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ satisfies } (t, x) \mapsto F_2(t, x; u) \in L^q(Q_T),$$

$$\|F_2(t, x; u)\|_{L^q(Q_T)} \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\gamma \right]$$

(see  $(B_2)$ ) and

$$(u_k) \rightarrow u \text{ in } L^2(Q_T) \text{ implies } F_2(t, x; u_k) \rightarrow F_2(t, x; u) \text{ in } L^q(Q_T).$$

Finally,

$$\frac{\beta_1}{2} \frac{\beta + \gamma}{p - 1} < 1.$$

**Theorem 2.1.** *Assume  $(A_1) - (A_5)$  and  $(B_1) - (B_4)$ . Then for all  $u_0 \in V_1$ ,  $u_1 \in L^2(\Omega)$  there exist  $u \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1)$ ,  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  such that*

$$u' \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega)), \quad u'' \in L^2(0, T; V_1^*),$$

$u, z$  satisfy (1.1) in the sense: for a.a.  $t \in [0, T]$ , all  $v \in V_1$

$$(2.1) \quad \langle u''(t), v \rangle + \langle Q(u(t)), v \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x)h'(u(t))vdx + \int_{\Omega} H(t, x; u, z)vdx +$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \psi(x)u'(t)vdx = \int_{\Omega} F_1(t, x; z)vdx$$

and the initial conditions

$$(2.2) \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad u'(0) = u_1.$$

Further,  $u, z$  satisfy (1.2) in the sense: for a.a.  $t \in (0, T)$ , all  $w \in V_2$

$$(2.3) \quad \int_{\Omega} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n a_j(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u) \right] D_j w dx +$$

$$\int_{\Omega} a_0(t, x, Dz(t), z(t); u, z) w dx = \int_{\Omega} F_2(t, x; u) w dx.$$

*Proof.* The proof is based on the results of [10], the theory of monotone operators (see, e.g., [4], [9], [12]) and Schauder's fixed point theorem as follows.

Consider the problem (2.1), (2.2) for  $u$  with an arbitrary fixed  $z = \tilde{z} \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$ . According to [10] assumptions  $(A_1) - (A_5)$  imply that there exists a unique solution  $u = \tilde{u} \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1)$  with the properties  $\tilde{u}' \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ ,  $\tilde{u}'' \in L^2(0, T; V_1^*)$  satisfying (2.1) and the initial condition (2.2). Then consider problem (2.3) for  $z$  with the above  $u = \tilde{u}$ . According to the theory of monotone operators there exists a unique solution  $z \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$  of (2.3). By using the notation  $S(\tilde{z}) = z$ , we shall show that the operator  $S : L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^p(0, T; V_2)$  satisfies the assumptions of Schauder's fixed point theorem: it is continuous, compact and there exists a closed ball  $\overline{B_R(0)} \subset L^p(0, T; V_2)$  such that

$$(2.4) \quad S(\overline{B_R(0)}) \subset \overline{B_R(0)}.$$

Then Schauder's fixed point theorem will imply that  $S$  has a fixed point  $z^* \in L^p(0, T; V_2)$ . Defining  $u^*$  by the solution of (2.1), (2.2) with  $z = z^*$ , functions  $u^*, z^*$  satisfy (2.1) - (2.3).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *The operator  $S : L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^p(0, T; V_2)$ , defined by  $S(\tilde{z}) = z$  is compact.*

*Proof.* Let  $(\tilde{z}_k)$  be a bounded sequence in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$  and consider the (unique) solution  $\tilde{u}_k$  of (2.1), (2.2) with fixed  $z = \tilde{z}_k$ . We show that  $(\tilde{u}_k)$  is bounded in  $L^\infty(0, T; V_1)$  and  $(\tilde{u}'_k)$  is bounded in  $L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ . Indeed, applying the arguments in the proof of Theorem 2.1 in [10], one gets the unique solutions  $\tilde{u}_k$  of (2.1), (2.2) as the (weak) limit of Galerkin approximations

$$\tilde{u}_{mk}(t) = \sum_{l=1}^m g_{lm}^k(t)w_l, \text{ where } g_{lm}^k \in W^{2,2}(0, T)$$

and  $w_1, w_2, \dots$  is a linearly independent system in  $V_1$  such that the linear combinations are dense in  $V_1$ , further, the functions  $\tilde{u}_{mk}$  satisfy (for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ )

$$(2.5) \quad \langle \tilde{u}''_{mk}(t), w_j \rangle + \langle Q(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)), w_j \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x)h'(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t))w_j dx + \int_{\Omega} H(t, x; \tilde{u}_{mk}, \tilde{z}_k)w_j dx + \int_{\Omega} \psi(x)\tilde{u}'_{mk}(t)w_j dx = \int_{\Omega} F_1(t, x; \tilde{z}_k)w_j dx,$$

$$(2.6) \quad \tilde{u}_{mk}(0) = u_{m0}, \quad \tilde{u}'_{mk}(0) = u_{m1},$$

where  $u_{m0}, u_{m1}$  ( $m = 1, 2, \dots$ ) are linear combinations of  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m$ , satisfying  $(u_{m0}) \rightarrow u_0$  in  $V_1$  and  $(u_{m1}) \rightarrow u_1$  in  $L^2(\Omega)$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .

Multiplying (2.5) by  $(g_{lm}^k)'(t)$ , summing with respect to  $j$  and integrating over  $(0, t)$ , by Young's inequality we find

$$(2.7) \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \langle Q(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)), \tilde{u}_{mk}(t) \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x)h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t))dx + \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} H(\tau, x; \tilde{u}_{mk}, \tilde{z}_k)\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)dx \right] d\tau + \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} \psi(x)|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)|^2 dx \right] d\tau = \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z}_k)\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)dx \right] d\tau + \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \langle Q(\tilde{u}_{mk}(0)), \tilde{u}_{mk}(0) \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x)h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(0))dx \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z}_k)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \text{const},$$

where the constant does not depend on  $m, k, t$ . (See [10].)

By using  $(A_2)$ ,  $(A_4)$ ,  $(A_5)$  and the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain from (2.7)

$$(2.8) \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{c_0}{2} \|\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)\|_{V_1}^2 + c_1 \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t))dx \leq \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z}_k)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau +$$

$$\text{const} \left\{ 1 + \int_0^t \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(\tau)) dx \right] d\tau \right\}.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)) dx \leq \\ & \text{const} \left\{ 1 + \int_0^t \left[ \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(\tau)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(\tau)) dx \right] d\tau \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where the constant does not depend on  $k, m, t$ . Thus by Gronwall's lemma

$$(2.9) \quad \|\tilde{u}'_{mk}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)) dx \leq \text{const}$$

and so by  $(A_1)$  and (2.8)

$$(2.10) \quad \|\tilde{u}_{mk}(t)\|_{V_1} \leq \text{const},$$

where the constants do not depend on  $k, m, t$ . The inequalities (2.9), (2.10) imply that the weak limits  $\tilde{u}_k, \tilde{u}'_k$  of  $(\tilde{u}_{mk})$  and  $(\tilde{u}'_{mk})$ , respectively, are bounded in  $L^\infty(0, T; V_1), L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ , respectively.

Consequently, by the well known compact embedding theorem (see [4]) there is a subsequence of  $(\tilde{u}_k)$ , again denoted by  $(\tilde{u}_k)$ , for simplicity, which is convergent in  $L^2(Q_T)$  to some  $\tilde{u}$  and  $(\tilde{u}_k) \rightarrow \tilde{u}$  a.e. in  $Q_T$ .

Now we show that the sequence of solutions  $z_k$  of (2.3) with  $u = \tilde{u}_k$  converges in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$  to the solution of (2.3) with  $u = \tilde{u}$ . By  $(B_3)$

$$(2.11) \quad \frac{c_2}{1 + \|\tilde{u}_k\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\beta} \|z_k - z\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}^p \leq$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{Q_T} \sum_{j=1}^n [a_j(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k) - a_j(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}_k)] (D_j z_k - D_j z) dt dx + \\ & \int_{Q_T} [a_0(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k, z_k) - a_0(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}_k, z)] (z_k - z) dt dx = \\ & \int_{Q_T} [F_2(t, x; \tilde{u}_k) - F_2(t, x; \tilde{u})] (z_k - z) dt dx - \\ & \int_{Q_T} \sum_{j=1}^n [a_j(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}_k) - a_j(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u})] (D_j z_k - D_j z) dt dx - \\ & \int_{Q_T} [a_0(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}_k, z) - a_0(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}, z)] (z_k - z) dt dx. \end{aligned}$$

By using Hölder's inequality, it is not difficult to show that all the terms on the right hand side of (2.11) converge to 0 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Indeed, by  $(B_4)$

$$(2.12) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|F_2(t, x; \tilde{u}_k) - F_2(t, x; \tilde{u})\|_{L^q(Q_T)} = 0$$

and  $z_k - z$  is bounded in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$  and thus in  $L^p(Q_T)$ , since  $(B_3)$  implies

$$(2.13) \quad \int_{Q_T} \sum_{j=1}^n [a_j(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k) - a_j(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k)] D_j z_k dt dx + \int_{Q_T} [a_0(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k, z_k) - a_0(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k, 0)] z_k dt dx \geq \frac{c_2}{1 + \|\tilde{u}_k\|_{L^2(Q_t)}^\beta} \|z_k\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}^p$$

and for the left hand side of (2.13) we have by Hölder's inequality and  $(B_2)$

$$(2.14) \quad \int_{Q_T} \sum_{j=1}^n [a_j(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k) - a_j(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k)] D_j z_k dt dx + \int_{Q_T} [a_0(t, x, Dz_k, z_k; \tilde{u}_k, z_k) - a_0(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k, 0)] z_k dt dx = \int_{Q_T} F_2(t, x; \tilde{u}_k) z_k dt dx - \int_{Q_T} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n a_j(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k) D_j z_k + a_0(t, x, 0, 0; \tilde{u}_k, 0) z_k \right] dt dx$$

and the absolute value of the right hand side of (2.14) can be estimated by

$$\{ \|F_2(t, x; \tilde{u}_k)\|_{L^q(Q_T)} + \text{const} [\|k_1(\tilde{u}_k)\|_{L^q(Q_T)} + c(\tilde{u}_k)] \} \|z_k\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}$$

and so (2.13), (2.14) and  $p > 1$  imply that  $\|z_k\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)}$  is bounded.

The further terms on the right hand side of (2.11) can be estimated similarly, by using Hölder's inequality. E.g.

$$(2.15) \quad \int_{Q_T} |a_0(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}_k, z) - a_0(t, x, Dz, z; \tilde{u}, z)|^p dt dx \rightarrow 0$$

because by  $(B_1)$  the integrand converges to 0 a.e. in  $Q_T$  for a subsequence and by  $(B_2)$  the sequence of the integrands is equiintegrable, so Vitali's theorem implies (2.15) for a subsequence, which holds for the original sequence, too, by Cantor's trick.

Consequently, from (2.11) one obtains

$$(2.16) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|z_k - z\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)} = 0.$$

□

**Lemma 2.3.** *The operator  $S : L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^p(0, T; V_2)$  is continuous.*



*Proof.* Assume that

$$(2.17) \quad (\tilde{z}_k) \rightarrow \tilde{z} \text{ in } L^p(0, T; V_2).$$

Now we show that for the solutions  $\tilde{u}_k$  of (2.1), (2.2) with  $z = \tilde{z}_k$

$$(2.18) \quad (\tilde{u}_k) \rightarrow \tilde{u} \text{ in } L^2(Q_T)$$

and a.e. in  $Q_T$  for a subsequence where  $\tilde{u}$  is the solution of (2.1), (2.2) with  $z = \tilde{z}$ . Then from the second part of the proof of Lemma 2.2 we shall obtain

$$(2.19) \quad (z_k) \rightarrow z \text{ in } L^p(0, T; V_2)$$

for the original sequence (by using Cantor's trick) where  $z_k$  and  $z$  are the solutions of (2.3) with  $u = \tilde{u}_k$  and  $u = \tilde{u}$ , respectively.

In the proof of (2.18) we use the (uniqueness) Theorem 4.1 of [10]. Since  $(\tilde{z}_k)$  is bounded in  $L^p(0, T; V_2)$ ,  $(\tilde{u}_k)$  is bounded in  $L^2(Q_T)$  (see the proof of Lemma 2.2). Further,  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{u}_k$  are weak solutions of (1.1) (i.e. of (2.1)) with  $z = \tilde{z}$  and  $z = \tilde{z}_k$ , respectively and satisfy the initial conditions (2.2), thus

$$(2.20) \quad \tilde{u}''(t) + Q(\tilde{u}(t)) + \varphi(x)h'(\tilde{u}(t)) + H(t, x; \tilde{u}, \tilde{z}) +$$

$$\psi(x)\tilde{u}'(t) = F_1(t, x; \tilde{z}),$$

$$(2.21) \quad \tilde{u}_k''(t) + Q(\tilde{u}_k(t)) + \varphi(x)h'(\tilde{u}_k(t)) + H(t, x; \tilde{u}_k, \tilde{z}) +$$

$$\psi(x)\tilde{u}_k'(t) = F_1(t, x; \tilde{z}_k) + H(t, x; \tilde{u}_k, \tilde{z}) - H(t, x; \tilde{u}_k, \tilde{z}_k).$$

Theorem 4.1 of [10] implies that for the solutions  $\tilde{u}$  of (2.20) and  $\tilde{u}_k$  of (2.21) we have for any  $s \in [0, T]$  an estimation of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{u}_k(s) - \tilde{u}(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 &\leq \text{const} \int_{Q_T} \left| \int_0^t [F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z}_k) - F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})] d\tau \right|^2 dt dx + \\ &\text{const} \int_{Q_T} \left| \int_0^t [H(\tau, x; \tilde{u}_k, \tilde{z}_k) - H(\tau, x; \tilde{u}_k, \tilde{z})] d\tau \right|^2 dt dx, \end{aligned}$$

where the right hand side is converging to 0 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  by  $(A_4)$ ,  $(A_5)$ .

So, we have proved (2.18) which completes the proof of Lemma 2.3.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** *There is a closed ball*

$$\overline{B_R(0)} = \{z \in L^p(0, T; V_2) : \|z\|_{L^p(0, T; V_2)} \leq R\}$$

such that  $S(\overline{B_R(0)}) \subset \overline{B_R(0)}$ .

*Proof.* According to (2.8) we have for the sequence  $(\tilde{u}_m)$  of Galerkin approximation of the solution of (2.1), (2.2) (with  $z = \tilde{z}$ )

$$(2.22) \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{u}'_m(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{c_0}{2} \|\tilde{u}_m(t)\|_{V_1}^2 + c_1 \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_m(t)) dx \leq \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \text{const} \left\{ 1 + \int_0^t \|\tilde{u}'_m(\tau)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \int_0^t \left[ \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_m(\tau)) dx \right] d\tau \right\}$$

where the constants do not depend on  $m, t, \tilde{z}$ . Hence, by Gronwall's lemma one obtains

$$(2.23) \quad \|\tilde{u}'_m(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_{\Omega} h(\tilde{u}_m(t)) dx \leq \text{const} \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 d\tau + \text{const} \int_0^t \left[ \int_0^T [1 + \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})\|_H^2 d\tau] \cdot e^{t-s} \right] ds = \text{const} \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})\|_H^2 d\tau + \text{const},$$

where the constants are independent of  $m, t, \tilde{z}$ . Thus by (2.22) and  $(A_5)$  we find

$$\|\tilde{u}_m(t)\|_{V_1}^2 \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \int_0^T \|F_1(\tau, x; \tilde{z})\|_H^2 d\tau \right] \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{z}\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)}^{\beta_1} \right],$$

which implies (for the limit of  $(\tilde{u}_m)$ )

$$(2.24) \quad \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{z}\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)}^{\beta_1} \right].$$

On the other hand, by (2.13), (2.14) we have for the solution  $z$  of (2.3) with  $u = \tilde{u}$

$$(2.25) \quad \frac{c_2}{1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^{\beta}} \|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)}^p \leq \|F_2(t, x; \tilde{u})\|_{L^q(Q_T)} \|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)} +$$

$$\text{const} [\|k_1(\tilde{u})\|_{L^q(Q_T)} + c(\tilde{u})] \|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)},$$

where the first constant does not depend on  $\tilde{u}$ , further, by  $(B_2)$

$$(2.26) \quad \|k_1(\tilde{u})\|_{L^q(Q_T)} \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^{\gamma} \right] \text{ and}$$

$$c(\tilde{u}) \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^{\gamma} \right].$$

The inequalities (2.25), (2.26) imply

$$(2.27) \quad \|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)}^{p-1} \leq$$

$$\text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\beta \right] \cdot \left[ \|F_2(t, x; \tilde{u})\|_{L^q(Q_T)} + 1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^\gamma \right]$$

thus by (2.24) and (B<sub>4</sub>)

$$(2.28) \quad \|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)} \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^{\frac{\beta+\gamma}{p-1}} \right] \leq \text{const} \left[ 1 + \|\tilde{z}\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)}^{\frac{\beta_1(\beta+\gamma)}{2(p-1)}} \right],$$

where the constants do not depend on  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{z}$ .

According to the assumption (B<sub>4</sub>)

$$(2.29) \quad \frac{\beta_1(\beta + \gamma)}{2(p - 1)} < 1,$$

thus for sufficiently large  $R$

$$\tilde{z} \in \overline{B_R(0)} = \{ \tilde{z} \in L^p(0, T; V_2), \quad \|\tilde{z}\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)} \leq R \}$$

implies

$$\|z\|_{L^p(0,T;V_2)} \leq R, \text{ i.e. } z \in \overline{B_R(0)}.$$

So the proof of Lemma 2.4 is completed. □

Finally, Lemmas 2.2 - 2.4 and Schauder's fixed point theorem imply that  $ST$  has a fixed point and, consequently, there exists a solution of (2.1), (2.3).

### 3. Examples

Let the operator  $Q$  be defined by

$$\langle Qu, v \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \left[ \sum_{j,l=1}^n a_{jl}(x)(D_l u)(D_j v) + d(x)uv \right] dx,$$

where  $a_{jl}, d \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ ,  $a_{jl} = a_{lj}$ ,  $\sum_{j,l=1}^n a_{jl}(x)\xi_j\xi_l \geq c_0|\xi|^2$ ,  $d \geq c_0$  with some positive constant  $c_0$ . Then, clearly, assumption (A<sub>1</sub>) is satisfied.

If  $h$  is a  $C^2$  function such that  $h(\eta) = |\eta|^{\lambda+1}$  if  $|\eta| > 1$  then (A<sub>3</sub>) is satisfied.

The condition (A<sub>4</sub>) is satisfied e.g. if

$$H(t, x; u, z) = \chi(t, x)g_1(L_1z)g_2(L_2u) \text{ where } \chi \in L^\infty(Q_T),$$

$$L_1 : L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T), \quad L_2 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T)$$

are continuous linear operators (having the Volterra property);  $g_1$  is a globally Lipschitz bounded function,  $g_2$  is a globally Lipschitz function. The operator  $F_1 : Q_T \times L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  may have the form  $F_1(t, x; z) = f_1(t, x, L_3z)$ , where  $f_1(t, x, \mu)$  is measurable in  $(t, x)$ , continuous in  $\mu$  and

$$|f_1(t, x, \mu)| \leq \text{const}|\mu|^{\beta_1/2} + \tilde{f}_1(t, x), \text{ where}$$

$$0 \leq \beta_1 \leq 2, \quad \tilde{f}_1 \in L^2(Q_T), \quad L_3 : L^p(0, T; V_2) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T)$$

is a linear continuous operator. Then  $(A_5)$  is fulfilled.

Now we formulate examples for  $a_j$  satisfying  $(B_1) - (B_3)$ :

$$a_j(t, x, \xi; u) = \alpha(t, x, L_4 u) \xi_j |\zeta|^{p-2}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n \text{ where } \zeta = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n),$$

$\alpha(t, x, \nu)$  is measurable in  $(t, x)$ , continuous in  $\nu$  and satisfies

$$\frac{\text{const}}{1 + |\nu|^\beta} \leq \alpha(t, x, \nu) \leq \text{const}(1 + |\nu|^\gamma)$$

with some positive constants,  $L_4, L_5 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^\infty(Q_T)$  are continuous linear operators;

$$a_0(t, x, \xi; u, z) = \alpha_0(t, x, L_5 u) \xi_0 |\xi_0|^{p-2} + cz + (\text{sg}c)\alpha_1(L_6 z),$$

where  $\alpha_0(t, x, \nu_1)$  is measurable in  $(t, x)$ , continuous in  $\nu_1$ ,  $c \geq 0$  is a constant and

$$\frac{\text{const}}{1 + |\nu_1|^\beta} \leq \alpha_0(t, x, \nu_1) \leq \text{const}(1 + |\nu_1|^\gamma)$$

with some positive constants,  $L_6 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T)$  is a continuous linear operator and  $\alpha_1$  is a bounded globally Lipschitz function with sufficiently small Lipschitz constant. If the values of  $\alpha, \alpha_0$  are between two positive constants then  $L_4, L_5$  may be  $L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T)$  continuous linear operators.

Finally, the function  $F_2 : Q_T \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  may have the form  $F_2(t, x; u) = f_2(t, x, L_7 u)$  where  $f_2(t, x, \mu)$  is measurable in  $(t, x)$ , continuous in  $\mu$  and

$$|f_2(t, x, \mu)| \leq \text{const}|\mu|^\gamma + \tilde{f}_2(t, x),$$

$$0 \leq \gamma \leq 1, \quad \tilde{f}_2 \in L^2(Q_T) \text{ and } L_7 : L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(Q_T)$$

is a continuous linear operator. Then  $(B_4)$  is satisfied.

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