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**ON THE SOLVABILITY OF A  
MULTIDIMENSIONAL VERSION OF THE  
GOURSAT PROBLEM FOR A SECOND  
ORDER HYPERBOLIC EQUATION WITH  
CHARACTERISTIC DEGENERATION**

**Abstract.** A multidimensional version of the Goursat problem is considered for a second order hyperbolic equation with characteristic degeneration. Using the technique of functional spaces with a negative norm the correct formulation of this problem in the Sobolev weighted space is given.

**Mathematics Subject Classification.** 35L80.

**Key words and phrases.** Hyperbolic equation with characteristic degeneration, multidimensional version of the Goursat problem, Sobolev weighted space, functional space with a negative norm.

**რეზიუმე.** განხილულია გურსას ამოცანის მრავალგანზომილებიანი ვერსია მეორე რიგის ჰიპერბოლური განტოლებისათვის მახასიათებელი გადაგვარებით. უარყოფით ნორმიანი ფუნქციონალური სივრცეების ტექნიკის გამოყენებით მოცემულია ამ ამოცანის კორექტული ფორმულირება სობოლევის წონიან სივრცეში.

In the space of variables  $x_1, x_2, t$  we shall consider a second order degenerating hyperbolic equation of the form

$$Lu \equiv u_{tt} - u_{x_1 x_1} - (|x_2|^m u_{x_2})_{x_2} + a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u = F, \quad (1)$$

where  $a_i, i = 1, \dots, 4, F$  are the given real functions and  $u$  is the desired real function,  $1 \leq m = \text{const} < 2$ .

Denote by

$$D : \frac{2}{2-m} x_2^{\frac{2-m}{2}} < t < 1 - \frac{2}{2-m} x_2^{\frac{2-m}{2}}, \quad 0 < x_2 < \left(\frac{2-m}{4}\right)^{\frac{2}{2-m}}$$

the unbounded domain lying in a half-space  $x_2 > 0$  bounded by the characteristic surfaces

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 : t - \frac{2}{2-m} x_2^{\frac{2-m}{2}} &= 0, \quad 0 < x_2 < \left(\frac{2-m}{4}\right)^{\frac{2}{2-m}}, \\ S_2 : t + \frac{2}{2-m} x_2^{\frac{2-m}{2}} &= 1, \quad 0 < x_2 < \left(\frac{2-m}{4}\right)^{\frac{2}{2-m}} \end{aligned}$$

of equation (1) and by the two-dimensional surface  $S_0 : x_2 = 0, 0 < t < 1$  on which this equation has characteristic degeneration. It will be assumed below that in the domain  $D$  the coefficients  $a_i, i = 1, \dots, 4$ , of equation (1) are the bounded functions from the class  $C^2(\bar{D})$ .

For equation (1) we shall consider a multidimensional version of the Goursat problem formulated as follows: in the domain  $D$  find a solution  $u(x_1, x_2, t)$  of equation (1) satisfying the boundary condition

$$u|_{S_1} = 0. \quad (2)$$

In a similar manner we formulate the problem for the equation

$$\begin{aligned} L^* v \equiv v_{tt} - v_{x_1 x_1} - (|x_2|^m v_{x_2})_{x_2} - (a_1 v)_{x_1} - \\ - (a_2 v)_{x_2} - (a_3 v)_t + a_4 v = F \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

in the domain  $D$  using the boundary condition

$$v|_{S_2} = 0, \quad (4)$$

where  $L^*$  is the formal conjugate operator of  $L$ .

Similar problems, in which, along with condition (2), it is required that the condition  $u|_{S_0} = 0$  or  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}|_{S_0} = 0$  be fulfilled on the section  $S_0$  of the boundary  $\partial D$  of the domain  $D$ , are investigated in [1-6] for  $m = 0$  when equation (1) is not the degenerating one and has, in its principal part, a wave operator. As will be shown below, by virtue of the degeneration character of equation (1), where  $1 \leq m < 2$ , we can get rid of the fulfillment of any boundary condition on the section  $S_0$  of the boundary  $\partial D$  of the domain  $D$ , since problem (1), (2) will turn out to be correctly formulated. In the case of a second order hyperbolic equation with noncharacteristic degeneration of the form

$$u_{tt} - |x_2|^m u_{x_1 x_1} - u_{x_2 x_2} + a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u = F$$

a multidimensional variant of the first Darboux problem is studied in [7]. Other variants of the multidimensional Goursat and Darboux problems are treated in [8–10].

Denote by  $E$  and  $E^*$  the classes of functions from the Sobolev space  $W_2^2(D)$  satisfying the boundary condition (2) or (4), respectively. Let  $W_+(W_+^*)$  be the Hilbert space with weight obtained by the closure of the space  $E(E^*)$  with respect to the norm

$$\|u\|_{1,+}^2 = \int_D (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2 + u^2) dD.$$

*Remark 1.* Since  $m \geq 1$ , by virtue of the familiar embedding theorems for Sobolev weighted spaces [11] the class of functions  $E_0(E_0^*)$  belonging to the space  $C^\infty(\overline{D})$ , having the bounded carriers (i.e.,  $\text{diam supp } u < +\infty$ ), satisfying the boundary condition (2) ((4)) and vanishing in some neighborhood (each function has its own neighborhood) of the surface  $S_0$ , is a dense subspace of the weighed space  $W_+(W_+^*)$ . Therefore, below it will be sometimes convenient for us to use, instead of the spaces  $E$  and  $E^*$ , the spaces  $E_0$  and  $E_0^*$ .

Denote by  $W_-(W_-^*)$  the space with negative norm constructed with respect to  $L_2(D)$  and  $W_+(W_+^*)$  [12].

Consider the condition

$$M = \sup_{\overline{D}} |x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}} a_2(x_1, x_2, t)| < +\infty \quad (5)$$

on the lower coefficient  $a_2$  in equation (1).

The uniqueness theorem for solutions of problem (1), (2) belonging to the Sobolev space  $W_2^2(D)$  is provided by

**Lemma 1.** *Let condition (5) be fulfilled. Then for any  $u \in W_2^2(D)$  satisfying the condition*

$$\int_{S_1} \left[ u^2 + x_2^{\frac{m}{2}} u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \right)^2 \right] ds < +\infty \quad (6)$$

there holds the following a priori estimate

$$\|u\|_{1,+} \leq c(\|f\|_{1,*} + \|F\|_{L_2(D)}), \quad (7)$$

where the positive constant  $c$  does not depend on  $u$ ;  $f = u|_{S_1}$ ,  $F = Lu$ ,

$$\|f\|_{1,*}^2 = \int_{S_1} \left[ f^2 + x_2^{\frac{m}{2}} f_{x_1}^2 + x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial N} \right)^2 \right] ds,$$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial N}|_{S_1} = -(1 + x_2^{-m})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + x_2^m \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \right]$  is the derivative with respect to the conormal which is the internal differential operator on the characteristic surface  $S_1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $n = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_0)$  be the unit vector of the external normal to  $\partial D$ , i.e.,  $\nu_1 = \cos(\widehat{n, x_1})$ ,  $\nu_2 = \cos(\widehat{n, x_2})$ ,  $\nu_0 = \cos(\widehat{n, t})$ . By definition, the derivative with respect to the conormal on the boundary  $\partial D$  of the domain  $D$  for the operator  $L$  is calculated by the formula

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial N} = \nu_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \nu_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - x_2^m \nu_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}.$$

Applying integration by parts, we have for  $u \in W_2^2(D)$  and  $\lambda = \text{const} > 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} u_{tt} u_t dD &= \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} u_t^2 \nu_0 ds + \int_D \lambda e^{-\lambda t} u_t^2 dD, \quad (8) \\
-2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1 x_1} u_t + (x_2^m u_{x_2})_{x_2} u_t] dD &= -2 \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} (u_{x_1} u_t \nu_1 + \\
&\quad + x_2^m u_{x_2} u_t \nu_2) ds + 2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} (u_{x_1} u_{x_1 t} + x_2^m u_{x_2} u_{x_2 t}) dD = \\
&= -2 \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} (u_{x_1} u_t \nu_1 + x_2^m u_{x_2} u_t \nu_2) ds + \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) dD = \\
&= -2 \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} (u_{x_1} u_t \nu_1 + x_2^m u_{x_2} u_t \nu_2) ds + \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} (u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) \nu_0 ds + \\
&\quad + \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda (u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) dD. \quad (9)
\end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu_0|_{S_0} = \nu_1|_{S_0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial N}|_{S_0} = 0, \\
n|_{S_1} = (0, (1 + x_2^{-m})^{-\frac{1}{2}} x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}}, -(1 + x_2^{-m})^{-\frac{1}{2}}), \quad (10) \\
\nu_0|_{S_2} \geq 0, \quad (\nu_0^2 - \nu_1^2 - x_2^m \nu_2^2)|_{S_1 \cup S_2} = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

On multiplying both parts of equation (1) by  $2e^{-\lambda t} u_t$ , where  $F = Lu$ , and integrating the resulting expression with respect to the domain  $D$  we obtain by virtue of (6) and (8)–(10)

$$\begin{aligned}
2(Lu, e^{-\lambda t} u_t)_{L_2(D)} &= \int_{S_1 \cup S_2} e^{-\lambda t} [(u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) \nu_0 - \\
&\quad - 2(u_{x_1} u_t \nu_1 + x_2^m u_{x_2} u_t \nu_2)] ds + 2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + \\
&\quad + a_3 u_t + a_4 u] u_t dD + \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda [u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] dD = \\
&= \int_{S_1 \cup S_2} e^{-\lambda t} \nu_0^{-1} [(\nu_0 u_{x_1} - \nu_1 u_t)^2 + x_2^m (\nu_0 u_{x_2} - \nu_2 u_t)^2 + \\
&\quad + (\nu_0^2 - \nu_1^2 - x_2^m \nu_2^2) u_t^2] ds + 2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [\lambda (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) + \\
&\quad + 2(a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u) u_t] dD \geq \\
&\geq 2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [\lambda (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) + 2(a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u) u_t] dD -
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} \left[ (1 + x_2^{-m})^{-\frac{1}{2}} u_{x_1}^2 + (1 + x_2^{-m})^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \right)^2 \right] ds \geq \\
& \geq 2 \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \left[ \lambda (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) + 2(a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u) u_t \right] dD - \\
& \quad - 2 \int_{S_1} \left[ x_2^{\frac{m}{2}} u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \right)^2 \right] ds. \tag{11}
\end{aligned}$$

In deriving inequality (11), we used the fact that

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \right)^2 \Big|_{S_1} = x_2^m (\nu_0 u_{x_2} - \nu_2 u_t)^2 \Big|_{S_1}.$$

The structure of the domain  $D$  allows one to easily verify the validity of the inequality

$$\int_D u^2 dD \leq c_0 \left[ \int_{S_1} u^2 ds + \int_D u_t^2 dD \right] \tag{12}$$

for some  $c_0 = \text{const} > 0$  not depending on  $u \in W_2^2(D)$ .

By inequality (5) we readily obtain

$$|2a_2 u_x u_t| \leq 2M(x_2^{\frac{m}{2}} u_{x_2}) u_t \leq M(x_2^m u_{x_2}^2 + u_t^2). \tag{13}$$

By virtue of (12) and (13), inequality (11) implies for sufficiently large  $\lambda$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
2(Lu, e^{-\lambda t} u_t)_{L_2(D)} & \geq c_1 \int_D (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2 + u^2) dD - \\
& - c_2 \int_{S_1} \left[ u^2 + x_2^{\frac{m}{2}} u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^{-\frac{m}{2}} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \right)^2 \right] ds, \tag{14}
\end{aligned}$$

where the positive constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  do not depend on  $u$  and the constant  $c_1$  can be chosen arbitrarily large depending on  $\lambda$ . Therefore (14) obviously implies estimate (7). ■

*Remark 2.* Since for the operator  $L$  the derivative with respect to the conormal  $\frac{\partial}{\partial N}$  is the internal differential operator on the characteristic surfaces of equation (1), by virtue of (2) and (4) we find for the functions  $u \in E$  and  $v \in E^*$  that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial N} \Big|_{S_1} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial N} \Big|_{S_2} = 0. \tag{15}$$

**Lemma 2.** *Let condition (5) be fulfilled. Then for all  $u \in E$ ,  $v \in E^*$  we have the inequalities*

$$\|Lu\|_{W_-^*} \leq c_1 \|u\|_{W_+}, \tag{16}$$

$$\|L^*v\|_{W_-} \leq c_2 \|v\|_{W_+^*}, \tag{17}$$

where the positive constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  do not depend on  $u$  and  $v$ , respectively,  $\|\cdot\|_{W_+} = \|\cdot\|_{W_+^*} = \|\cdot\|_{1,+}$ .

*Proof.* By the definition of a negative norm for  $u \in E$  and by equalities (2), (4), (10), (15) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|Lu\|_{W_-^*} &= \sup_{v \in W_+^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} = \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} = \\
&= \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_D [u_{tt}v - u_{x_1x_1}v - (x_2^m u_{x_2})_{x_2}v + a_1 u_{x_1}v + a_2 u_{x_2}v + \\
&+ a_3 u_tv + a_4 uv] dD = \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_{\partial D} [u_tv\nu_0 - u_{x_1}v\nu_1 - x_2^m u_{x_2}v\nu_2] ds + \\
&+ \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_D [-u_tv_t + u_{x_1}v_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2}v_{x_2} + a_1 u_{x_1}v + a_2 u_{x_2}v + \\
&+ a_3 u_tv + a_4 uv] dD = \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_{S_1 \cup S_2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} v ds + \\
&+ \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_D [-u_tv_t + u_{x_1}v_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2}v_{x_2} + a_1 u_{x_1}v + a_2 u_{x_2}v + \\
&+ a_3 u_tv + a_4 uv] dD = \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \int_D [-u_tv_t + u_{x_1}v_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2}v_{x_2} + \\
&+ a_1 u_{x_1}v + a_2 u_{x_2}v + a_3 u_tv + a_4 uv] dD. \tag{18}
\end{aligned}$$

In view of condition (5) and the Schwartz inequality we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| \int_D [-u_tv_t + u_{x_1}v_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2}v_{x_2}] dD \right| &\leq 3 \left[ \int_D (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + \right. \\
&+ x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) dD \left. \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \int_D (v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2) dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 3 \|u\|_{W_+} \|v\|_{W_+^*}, \tag{19}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left| \int_D [a_1 u_{x_1}v + a_2 u_{x_2}v + a_3 u_tv + a_4 uv] dD \right| \leq \\
&\leq \sup_D |a_1| \|u_{x_2}\|_{L_2(D)} \|v\|_{L_2(D)} + M \left( \int_D x_2^m u_{x_2}^2 dD \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v\|_{L_2(D)} + \\
&+ \sup_D |a_3| \|u_t\|_{L_2(D)} \|v\|_{L_2(D)} + \sup_D |a_4| \|u\|_{L_2(D)} \|v\|_{L_2(D)} \leq \\
&\leq \left( M + \sum_{i=1, i \neq 2}^4 \sup_D |a_i| \right) \|u\|_{W_+} \|v\|_{W_+^*} = \tilde{c} \|u\|_{W_+} \|v\|_{W_+^*}. \tag{20}
\end{aligned}$$

From (18)–(20) it follows that

$$\|Lu\|_{W_-^*} \leq (3 + \tilde{c}) \sup_{v \in E^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}^{-1} \|u\|_{W_+} \|v\|_{W_+^*} = c_1 \|u\|_{W_+},$$

which proves inequality (16). Since the proof of inequality (17) is quite similar to that of inequality (16), Lemma 2 is thereby completely proved. ■

*Remark 3.* By virtue of inequality (16) ((17)) the operator  $L : W_+ \rightarrow W_-^*$  ( $L : W_+^* \rightarrow W_-$ ) with the dense definition domain of  $E(E^*)$  admits a closure which is a continuous operator from the space  $W_+(W_+^*)$  into the space  $W_-^*(W_-)$ . If we denote this closure as previously by  $L(L^*)$ , it will be defined throughout the Hilbert space  $W_+(W_+^*)$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Problems (1), (2) and (3), (4) are mutually conjugate, i.e., the equality*

$$(Lu, v) = (u, L^*v). \quad (21)$$

*holds for any  $u \in W_+$  and  $v \in W_+^*$ .*

*Proof.* By Remark 3 it is enough to prove equality (21) when  $u \in E$  and  $v \in E^*$ . In that case it is obvious that  $(Lu, v) = (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)}$ . therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} (Lu, v) &= (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} = \int_{\partial D} [u_t v \nu_0 - u_{x_1} v \nu_1 - x_2^m u_{x_2} v \nu_2] ds + \\ &+ \int_{\partial D} [a_1 \nu_1 + a_2 \nu_2 + a_3 \nu_0] uv ds + \int_D [-u_t v_t + u_{x_1} v_{x_1} + \\ &+ x_2^m u_{x_2} v_{x_2} - u(a_1 v)_{x_1} - u(a_2 v)_{x_2} - u(a_3 v)_t + a_4 uv] dD = \\ &= \int_{\partial D} [u_t v \nu_0 - u_{x_1} v \nu_1 - x_2^m u_{x_2} v \nu_2] ds + \int_{\partial D} [a_1 \nu_1 + a_2 \nu_2 + \\ &+ a_3 \nu_0] uv ds - \int_{\partial D} [u v_t \nu_0 - u v_{x_1} \nu_1 - x_2^m u v_{x_2} \nu_2] ds + \\ &+ \int_D [u v_{tt} - u v_{x_1 x_1} - u(x_2^m v_{x_2})_{x_2} - u(a_1 v)_{x_1} - \\ &- u(a_2 v)_{x_2} - u(a_3 v)_t + a_4 uv] dD = \int_{\partial D} \left[ \left( v \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} - u \frac{\partial v}{\partial N} \right) + \right. \\ &\left. + (a_1 \nu_1 + a_2 \nu_2 + a_3 \nu_0) uv \right] ds + (u, L^*v)_{L_2(D)}. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Since condition (5) implies  $a_2|_{S_0} = 0$ , by virtue of (2), (4), (10) and (15) we readily obtain equality (21) from (22), which proves Lemma 3. ■

Consider the conditions

$$\Omega|_{S_1} \leq 0, \quad (\lambda \Omega + \Omega_t)|_D \leq 0, \quad (23)$$

where the second inequality is fulfilled for sufficiently large  $\lambda$ ,  $\Omega = a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4$ .

**Lemma 4.** *Let conditions (5) and (23) be fulfilled. Then for any  $u \in W_+$  we have the inequality*

$$c \|u\|_{L_2(D)} \leq \|Lu\|_{W_-^*} \quad (24)$$

*where the positive constant  $c$  does not depend on  $u$ .*



*Proof.* By Remarks 1 and 3 it is enough to show that inequality (24) is fulfilled when  $u \in E_0$ . If  $u \in E_0$  and thus vanishes in some neighborhood of the surface  $S_0$ , then one can easily verify that the function

$$v(x_1, x_2, t) = \int_t^{\varphi_2(x_1, x_2)} e^{-\lambda\tau} u(x_1, x_2, \tau) d\tau, \quad \lambda = \text{const} > 0,$$

where  $t = \varphi_2(x_1, x_2)$  is an equation of the characteristic surface  $S_2$ , belongs to the space  $E_0^*$  and the equalities

$$v_t(x_1, x_2, t) = -e^{-\lambda t} u(x_1, x_2, t), \quad u(x_1, x_2, t) = -e^{\lambda t} v_t(x_1, x_2, t). \quad (25)$$

are fulfilled.

In view of (10), (15) and (25) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} &= \int_{\partial D} \left[ v \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} + (a_1\nu_1 + a_2\nu_2 + a_3\nu_0)uv \right] ds + \\ &+ \int_D [-u_t v_t + u_{x_1} v_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2} v_{x_2} - ua_{1x_1} v - ua_{1x_2} v - ua_{2x_2} v - \\ &\quad - ua_{2x_1} v - ua_{3t} v - ua_{3x_1} v + a_4 uv] dD = \int_D e^{-\lambda t} u_t u dD + \\ &+ \int_D e^{\lambda t} [-v_{x_1 t} v_{x_1} - x_2^m v_{x_2 t} v_{x_2} + a_{1x_1} v_t v + a_{1x_2} v_t v_{x_1} + a_{2x_2} v_t v + \\ &\quad + a_{2x_1} v_t v_{x_2} + a_{3t} v_t v + a_3 v_t^2 - a_4 v_t v] dD. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

By (2) we obtain similarly to (8) and (9)

$$\begin{aligned} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} u_t u dD &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} u^2 \nu_0 ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda u^2 dD = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{-\lambda t} u^2 \nu_0 ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda v_t^2 dD = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 \nu_0 ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda v_t^2 dD, \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_D e^{\lambda t} [-v_{x_1 t} v_{x_1} - x_2^m v_{x_2 t} v_{x_2}] dD &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Since  $v|_{S_2} = 0$ , for some  $\alpha$  we have  $v_t = \alpha\nu_0$ ,  $v_{x_1} = \alpha\nu_1$ ,  $v_{x_2} = \alpha\nu_2$  on  $S_2$ . Therefore, recalling that the surface  $S_2$  is characteristic, we obtain

$$(v_t^2 - v_{x_1}^2 - x_2^m v_{x_2}^2)|_{S_2} = \alpha^2 (\nu_0^2 - \nu_1^2 - x_2^m \nu_2^2)|_{S_2} = 0. \quad (29)$$

By virtue of  $\nu_0|_{S_0} = 0$ ,  $\nu_0|_{S_1} \leq 0$ , and equalities (4), (29) we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 \nu_0 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds = \\
& = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 \nu_0 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds - \\
& - \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds \geq \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 \nu_0 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + \\
& + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 - v_{x_1}^2 - x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds = 0. \tag{30}
\end{aligned}$$

Taking into account (27), (28) and (30), we obtain from (26)

$$\begin{aligned}
(Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 \nu_0 ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda v_t^2 dD - \\
& - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{\lambda t} [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda [v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD + \\
& + \int_D e^{\lambda t} [a_1 v_t v_{x_1} + a_2 v_t v_{x_2} + a_3 v_t^2 + (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4) v_t v] dD \geq \\
& \geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD + \int_D e^{\lambda t} [a_1 v_t v_{x_1} + \\
& + a_2 v_t v_{x_2} + a_3 v_t^2 + (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4) v_t v] dD. \tag{31}
\end{aligned}$$

Using  $\nu_0|_{S_1} \leq 0$  and conditions (4), (10), (23) and performing integration by parts we derive

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_D e^{\lambda t} (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4) v_t v dD &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{\lambda t} (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + \\
& + a_{3t} - a_4) v^2 \nu_0 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} [\lambda (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4) + \\
& + (a_{1x_1} + a_{2x_2} + a_{3t} - a_4)_t] v^2 dD \geq 0, \tag{32}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda$  is a sufficiently large positive number.

With (32) taken into account (31) implies

$$\begin{aligned}
(Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} &\geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD + \\
& + \int_D e^{\lambda t} [a_1 v_t v_{x_1} + a_2 v_t v_{x_2} + a_3 v_t^2] dD \geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 +
\end{aligned}$$

$$+x_2^m v_{x_2}^2]dD - \left| \int_D e^{\lambda t} [a_1 v_t v_{x_1} + a_2 v_t v_{x_2} + a_3 v_t^2]dD \right|. \quad (33)$$

Assuming

$$\mu = \max \left( \sup_D |a_1|, \sup_D |a_3| \right)$$

by condition (5) we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_D e^{\lambda t} [a_1 v_t v_{x_1} + a_2 v_t v_{x_2} + a_3 v_t^2]dD \right| \leq \\ & \leq \int_D e^{\lambda t} \left[ \frac{\mu}{2} (v_{x_1}^2 + v_t^2) + M \frac{1}{2} (x_2^m v_{x_2}^2 + v_t^2) + \mu v_t^2 \right] dD \leq \\ & \leq \left( \frac{1}{2} M + \frac{3}{2} \mu \right) \int_D e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

By virtue of (34) and (25) inequality (33) implies

$$\begin{aligned} (Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} & \geq \left[ \frac{\lambda}{2} - \left( \frac{1}{2} M + \frac{3}{2} \mu \right) \right] \int_D e^{\lambda t} [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD \geq \\ & \geq \sigma \left[ \int_D e^{\lambda t} v_t^2 dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \int_D [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \\ & = \sigma \left[ \int_D e^{-\lambda t} u^2 dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \int_D [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \\ & \geq \sigma \inf_D e^{-\lambda t} \|u\|_{L_2(D)} \left[ \int_D [v_t^2 + v_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m v_{x_2}^2] dD \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

where  $\sigma = \left( \frac{\lambda}{2} - \left( \frac{1}{2} M + \frac{3}{2} \mu \right) \right) > 0$  for sufficiently large  $\lambda$ , and  $\inf_D e^{-\lambda t} = \text{const} > 0$  by the structure of the domain  $D$ .

Since  $v|_{S_2} = 0$ , similarly to (12) one can easily show that the inequality

$$\int_D v^2 dD \leq c_0 \int_D v_t^2 dD$$

is valid for some  $c_0 = \text{const} > 0$  not depending on  $v$ . Thus we conclude that, in the space  $W_+(W_+^*)$ , the norm

$$\|u\|_{W_+(W_+^*)}^2 = \int_D (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2 + u^2) dD$$

is equivalent to the norm

$$\|u\|^2 = \int_D (u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2) dD. \quad (36)$$

Therefore, retaining the previous notation  $\|u\|_{W_+(W_+^*)}$  for norm (36), we obtain from (35)

$$(Lu, v)_{L_2(D)} \geq \sigma \inf_D e^{-\lambda t} \|u\|_{L_2(D)} \|v\|_{W_+^*}. \quad (37)$$

If now we apply the generalized Schwartz inequality

$$(Lu, v) \leq \|Lu\|_{W_-^*} \|v\|_{W_+^*}$$

to the left-hand side of (37), then after reducing by  $\|v\|_{W_+^*}$ , we obtain inequality (24) where  $c = \sigma \inf_D e^{-\lambda t} = \text{const} > 0$ . Lemma 4 is thereby completely proved. ■

Consider the conditions

$$a_4|_{S_2} \geq 0, \quad (\lambda a_4 - a_{4t})|_D \geq 0, \quad (38)$$

where the second inequality holds for sufficiently large  $\lambda$ .

**Lemma 5.** *Let conditions (5) and (38) be fulfilled. Then for any  $v \in W_+^*$  the inequality*

$$c\|v\|_{L_2(D)} \leq \|L^*v\|_{W_-} \quad (39)$$

holds for a constant  $c = \text{const} > 0$  which does not depend on  $v \in W_+^*$ .

*Proof.* Like in the case of Lemma 4, by Remarks 1 and 3 it is enough to show that inequality (39) is valid for  $v \in E_0^*$ . Assume that  $v \in E_0^*$  and introduce into the consideration the function

$$u(x_1, x_2, t) = \int_{\varphi_1(x_1, x_2)}^t e^{\lambda \tau} v(x_1, x_2, \tau) d\tau, \quad \lambda = \text{const} > 0,$$

where  $t = \varphi_1(x_1, x_2)$  is an equation of the characteristic surface  $S_1$ . It is easy to verify that the function  $u(x_1, x_2, t)$  belongs to the class  $E_0$  and the following equalities are fulfilled:

$$u_t(x_1, x_2, t) = e^{\lambda t} v(x_1, x_2, t), \quad v(x_1, x_2, t) = e^{-\lambda t} u_t(x_1, x_2, t). \quad (40)$$

From (10), (15) and (40) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (L^*v, u)_{L_2(D)} &= \int_{\partial D} \left[ u \frac{\partial v}{\partial N} - (a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + a_3 v_0) v u \right] ds + \\ &+ \int_D [-v_t u_t + v_{x_1} u_{x_1} + x_2^m v_{x_2} u_{x_2} + a_1 v u_{x_1} + a_2 v u_{x_2} + a_3 v u_t + \\ &+ a_4 u v] dD = - \int_D e^{\lambda t} v_t v dD + \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1 t} u_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2 t} u_{x_2}] dD + \\ &+ \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u] u_t dD. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

Similarly to (27)–(30), we can prove the equalities

$$\begin{aligned}
-\int_D e^{\lambda t} v_t v \, dD &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{\lambda t} v^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{\lambda t} \lambda v^2 \, dD = \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{\lambda t} v^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda u_t^2 \, dD = \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} u_t^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda u_t^2 \, dD, \tag{42}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_D e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1 t} u_{x_1} + x_2^m u_{x_2 t} u_{x_2}] \, dD &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 \, ds + \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} \lambda [u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \, dD, \tag{43}
\end{aligned}$$

$$(u_t^2 - u_{x_1}^2 - x_2^m u_{x_2}^2)|_{S_1} = 0, \tag{44}$$

as well as the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
&-\frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} u_t^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 \, ds = \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} u_t^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 \, ds + \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_2} e^{-\lambda t} [u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 \, ds \geq \\
&\geq -\frac{1}{2} \int_{S_1} e^{-\lambda t} [u_t^2 - u_{x_1}^2 - x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \nu_0 \, ds = 0. \tag{45}
\end{aligned}$$

In deriving (45), we used the fact that  $\nu_0|_{S_2} \geq 0$ .

By virtue of (42)–(45) equality (41) implies

$$\begin{aligned}
(L^* v, u)_{L_2(D)} &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda [u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] \, dD + \\
&+ \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u] u_t \, dD. \tag{46}
\end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that  $\nu_0|_{S_2} \geq 0$  and conditions (2), (10), (38) and performing integration by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_D e^{-\lambda t} a_4 u u_t \, dD &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial D} e^{-\lambda t} a_4 u^2 \nu_0 \, ds + \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda a_4 - a_{4t}) u^2 \, dD \geq 0. \tag{47}
\end{aligned}$$

By (47) we find from (46) that

$$\begin{aligned} (L^*v, u)_{L_2(D)} &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} \lambda [u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] dD + \\ &+ \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t] u_t dD \geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [u_t^2 + u_{x_1}^2 + \\ &+ x_2^m u_{x_2}^2] dD - \left| \int_D e^{-\lambda t} [a_1 u_{x_1} + a_2 u_{x_2} + a_3 u_t + a_4 u] u_t dD \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, like in deriving inequality (35), from (33) we obtain

$$(L^*v, u)_{L_2(D)} \geq \left[ \frac{\lambda}{2} - \left( \frac{1}{2}M + \frac{3}{2}\mu \right) \right] \inf_D e^{-\lambda t} \|v\|_{L_2(D)} \|u\|_{W_+}. \quad (48)$$

For sufficiently large  $\lambda$  the latter inequality immediately implies (39). This proves Lemma 5. ■

**Definition 1.** For  $F \in L_2(D)$  the function  $u$  will be called a strongly generalized solution of problem (1), (2) from the class  $W_+$  provided that  $u \in W_+$  and there exists a sequence of functions  $u_n \in E_0$  such that  $u_n \rightarrow u$  in the space  $W_+$  and  $Lu_n \rightarrow F$  in the space  $W_-^*$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n - u\|_{W_+} = 0, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|Lu_n - F\|_{W_-^*} = 0.$$

**Definition 2.** For  $F \in W_-^*$  the function  $u$  will be called a strongly generalized solution of problem (1), (2) from the class  $L_2$  provided that  $u \in L_2(D)$  and there exists a sequence of functions  $u_n \in E_0$  such that  $u_n \rightarrow u$  in the space  $L_2(D)$  and  $Lu_n \rightarrow F$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , in the space  $W_-^*$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n - u\|_{L_2(D)} = 0, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|Lu_n - F\|_{W_-^*} = 0.$$

By the results of [13] Lemmas 2–5 give rise to the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.** *Let conditions (5), (23) and (38) be fulfilled. Then for any  $F \in W_-^*$  there exists a unique strongly generalized solution  $u$  of problem (1), (2) from the class  $L_2$ , for which the estimate*

$$\|u\|_{L_2(D)} \leq c \|F\|_{W_-^*} \quad (49)$$

where the positive constant  $c$  does not depend on  $F$ , is valid.

**Theorem 2.** *Let conditions (5), (23) and (38) be fulfilled. Then for any  $F \in L_2(D)$  there exists a unique strongly generalized solution  $u$  of problem (1), (2) from the class  $W_+$ , for which estimate (49) holds.*

Similar results hold for problem (3), (4) as well.

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