

## MIXED PROBLEMS FOR THE WAVE EQUATION WITH A SINGULAR OBLIQUE DERIVATIVE

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**Introduction.** Let  $\Omega$  be a domain in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  with a compact  $C^\infty$  boundary  $\Gamma$ , and consider the mixed problem

$$(0.1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \square u \equiv \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \Delta_x u = f(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, t_0), \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} |_\Gamma = g(x', t) \quad \text{on } \Gamma \times (0, t_0), \\ u |_{t=0} = u_0(x) \quad \text{on } \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} |_{t=0} = u_1(x) \quad \text{on } \Omega, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\nu = \nu(x)$  is a non-vanishing real  $C^\infty$  vector field defined in a neighborhood of  $\Gamma$ . We say that (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed when there exists a unique solution  $u(x, t)$  in  $C^\infty(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, t_0])$  for any  $(f, g, u_0, u_1) \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, t_0]) \times C^\infty(\Gamma \times [0, t_0]) \times C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}) \times C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$  satisfying the compatibility condition of infinite order.

In the case where  $\nu$  is not tangent to  $\Gamma$  anywhere, various results have been obtained. It has been well known for a long time that the problem (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed if  $\nu$  is parallel anywhere to the normal vector  $n$  of  $\Gamma$  (the Neumann boundary condition). Ikawa [3] showed that (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed also if  $\nu$  is oblique (i.e. not parallel to  $n$ ) anywhere on  $\Gamma$  (the oblique boundary condition). When these two types are mixed, the shape of  $\Omega$  has to be taken into consideration. Ikawa [4, 5, 6] examined it in detail.

In the present paper we shall study (0.1) in the case where  $\nu$  is not necessarily non-tangent to  $\Gamma$ . We assume that  $\nu$  is tangent to  $\Gamma$  at finite number of points (of  $\Gamma$ ). And we call them singular points. At each singular point the Lopatinski condition is not satisfied; therefore, the mixed problem frozen there is not  $C^\infty$  well-posed (cf. Sakamoto [13]). We can classify the behavior of  $\nu$  near each singular point into the following three types: As  $x' (\in \Gamma)$  passes the singular point in the direction of the tangential component of  $\nu(x')$  to  $\Gamma$ ,

- (I)  $\langle \nu(x'), n(x') \rangle$  changes sign from positive to negative;
- (II)  $\langle \nu(x'), n(x') \rangle$  changes sign from negative to positive;