

### 30. On the Mixed Problem with d'Alembertian in a Quarter Space

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**Introduction.** In this note we consider the mixed problem

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{cases} \square u \equiv (D_t^2 - D_x^2 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} D_{y_j}^2)u = f(t, x, y) & \text{in } (0, \infty) \times \mathbf{R}_+^n, \\ Bu \equiv (D_x + b_0(t, y)D_t + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} b_j(t, y)D_{y_j} + c(t, y))u|_{x=0} \\ = g(t, y) & \text{on } (0, \infty) \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1}, \\ D_t u|_{t=0} = u_1(x, y) & \text{on } \mathbf{R}_+^n, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0(x, y) & \text{on } \mathbf{R}_+^n, \end{cases}$$

where  $D_t = -i\partial/\partial t$ ,  $D_x = -i\partial/\partial x$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $c(t, y) \in \mathcal{B}^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1})^1$  and  $b_j(t, y)$  ( $j=0, 1, \dots, n-1$ ) are real-valued functions belonging to  $\mathcal{B}^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1})$ . Let us say that (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed when there exists a unique solution  $u(t, x, y)$  in  $C^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^n)$  for any  $(u_0, u_1, f, g) \in C^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^n) \times C^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^n) \times C^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^n) \times C^\infty(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1})$  satisfying the compatibility condition of infinite order.

When  $b_0, \dots, b_{n-1}$  and  $c$  are all constant, by Sakamoto [4] we know a necessary and sufficient condition for  $C^\infty$  well-posedness. If  $b_0 < 1$  (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed, and in the case  $n \geq 3$  it is so only if  $b_0 < 1$ . Agemi and Shiota in [1] studied (0.1) precisely when  $n=2$ ,  $c=0$  ( $b_j$  is constant). Tsuji in [6] treated the case that  $b_0, \dots, b_{n-1}$  and  $c$  are variable, and showed the existence of the solution in the Sobolev space. Furthermore, he stated that the Lopatinski condition must be satisfied at any point if (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed. Ikawa [2] investigated (0.1) in a general domain in the case  $n=2$ ,  $b_0=0$ .

In our note we shall study  $C^\infty$  well-posedness and the propagation speed of (0.1). Consider the following equation in  $\lambda$ :

$$\sqrt{1 - \lambda^2} = b_0(t, y) + |b'(t, y)| \lambda \quad (b' = (b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})).$$

Then, if  $b_0(t, y) < 1$  this equation has a positive root or no real root. In the former case we denote the positive root by  $\lambda_0(t, y)$ , and in the latter case set  $\lambda_0(t, y) = 1$ .

**Theorem 1.** *If  $\sup_{(t, y) \in \mathbf{R}_+^1 \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1}} b_0(t, y) < 1$ , then (0.1) is  $C^\infty$  well-posed*

*and has a finite propagation speed less than  $\sup_{(t, y) \in \mathbf{R}_+^1 \times \mathbf{R}^{n-1}} \lambda_0(t, y)^{-1}$ .*

For a constant  $v > 0$  we set  $C_v(t_0, x_0, y_0) = \{(t, x, y) : (t - t_0)v + ((x - x_0)^2$

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1)  $\mathcal{B}^\infty(M)$  denotes the set  $\{h(z) \in C^\infty(M); |h|_m = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} |D_z^\alpha h(z)| < \infty \text{ for } m=0, 1, \dots\}$ .

$+|y-y_0|^2)^{1/2} < 0\}$ . Fix the point  $(t_0, x_0, y_0)$ , and let us have constants  $v, \delta (> 0)$  such that  $u(t, x, y) = 0$  on  $C_v(t_0, x_0, y_0) \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x > 0\}$  for any  $u \in C^\infty(\bar{R}_+^1 \times \bar{R}_+^n)$  satisfying  $\square u = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x > 0\}$ ,  $u|_{t=t_0-\delta} = D_t u|_{t=t_0-\delta} = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{t = t_0 - \delta, x > 0\}$  and  $Bu = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x = 0\}$ . Then we call the infimum of the  $v$  the propagation speed at  $(t_0, x_0, y_0)$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\sup_{(t,y) \in R_+^1 \times R^{n-1}} b_0(t, y) < 1$ . The propagation speed

of (0.1) at any  $(t_0, 0, y_0)$  is not smaller than  $\lambda_0(t_0, y_0)^{-1}$ .

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**§ 1. Reduction to the equation on the boundary.** Let us prove Theorem 1. We assume that  $b(z) = (b_0(z), \dots, b_{n-1}(z))$  and  $c(z)$  ( $z = (t, y)$ ) are constant when  $|z|$  is large. The general case is reduced to this case. Let  $b(z) = b$  and  $c(z) = \bar{c}$  for  $|z| \geq z_0$  ( $z_0$  is a large constant). Solving the Cauchy problem, we can assume in the problem (0.1) that  $u_0 = u_1 = 0, f = 0$ . Then the compatibility condition of infinite order implies that every  $D_j^i g(+0, y)$  ( $j = 0, 1, \dots$ ) equals zero. Denote by  $C_+^\infty(R^n)$  the set of  $C^\infty$  functions in  $R^n$  whose support lies in  $\{t_0 \leq t\}$  for some  $t_0 \in R$ . We know that the Dirichlet problem

$$\begin{cases} \square w(z, x) = 0 & \text{in } R^n \times R_+^1, \\ w|_{x=0} = h(z) & \text{on } R^n \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution  $w(z, x)$  in  $C_+^\infty(R^n \times \bar{R}_+^1)$  for any  $h(z) \in C_+^\infty(R^n)$  and has a finite propagation speed, which equals one. We set (for  $h \in C_+^\infty(R^n)$ )

$$Th = Bw. \quad 2)$$

**Theorem 1.1.** There exists a unique solution  $h$  of the equation  $Th = g$  in  $C_+^\infty(R^n)$  for any  $g \in C_+^\infty(R^n)$ , and it has a finite propagation speed less than  $\sup_{z \in R^n} \lambda_0(z)^{-1}$ .

This theorem yields Theorem 1 in Introduction.

**§ 2. Proof of Theorem 1.1.** We denote by  $H_{m,r}(R^n)$  ( $\gamma \in R^n, m \in R$ ) the functional space  $\{u(z) : e^{-r|z|} u(z) \in H_m(R^n)\}$ . Let us define the Laplace-Fourier transformation  $F_\gamma$  ( $\gamma \in R^n$ ) by

$$F_\gamma[u] = \hat{u}(\zeta) = \int e^{-i(\sigma - i\gamma)z} u(z) dz \quad (\zeta = \sigma - i\gamma), \quad u \in C_0^\infty(R^n),$$

and denote by  $\bar{F}_\gamma$  the inverse transformation

$$\left( \text{i.e. } \bar{F}_\gamma[f](z) = (2\pi)^{-n} e^{rz} \int e^{i\sigma z} f(\sigma - i\gamma) d\sigma \right).$$

The norm  $\langle h \rangle_{m,r}$  of  $H_{m,r}(R^n)$  is defined by

$$\langle h \rangle_{m,r}^2 = (2\pi)^{-n} \int |\sigma - i\gamma|^{2m} |\hat{h}(\sigma - i\gamma)|^2 d\sigma \quad (\gamma \neq 0).$$

**Proposition 2.1.** We have  $\tau^2 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \eta_j^2 - \xi^2 \neq 0$  for  $(\tau, \eta, \xi) \in R^{n+1}$

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2) Let the coefficients of  $B$  be extended smoothly to  $t < 0$ .

$-i\Gamma$  ( $\Gamma = \{(\zeta, \xi) = (\tau, \eta, \xi) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}; \tau > (|\eta|^2 + \xi^2)^{1/2}\}$ ).

**Corollary.** *If  $(\tau, \eta) \in \mathbf{R}^n - i\Gamma$  ( $\Gamma = \{\zeta = (\tau, \eta) \in \mathbf{R}^n; \tau > |\eta|\}$ ), the equation  $\tau^2 - \sum_{j=1}^n \eta_j^2 - \xi^2 = 0$  in  $\xi$  has a root  $\xi_+(\tau, \eta)$  with a positive imaginary part and a one with negative imaginary part (cf. § 3 of Sakamoto [4]).*

Let us set (for  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$ )

$$R_\gamma h = \overline{F}_\gamma [(\xi_+(\sigma - i\gamma) + b \cdot (\sigma - i\gamma) + c)\hat{h}(\sigma - i\gamma)],$$

$$R_\gamma^* h = \overline{F}_{-\gamma} [(\xi_+(\sigma - i\gamma) + b \cdot (\sigma + i\gamma) + D_z \cdot b + \bar{c})\hat{h}(\sigma + i\gamma)].$$

Then we have  $Th = R_\gamma h$  ( $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ) for  $h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$  and have

$$(R_\gamma h, g)_{L^2} = (h, R_\gamma^* g)_{L^2}, \quad h, g \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n) \quad (\gamma \in \Gamma).$$

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $m \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $S$  be any compact set of  $\dot{\Sigma} = \{\zeta = (\tau, \eta) \in \mathbf{R}^n; \tau > (\sup_{z \in \mathbf{R}^n} \lambda_0(z)^{-1})|\eta|\}$ . There is a constant  $\gamma_0(m, S)$  such that if  $|\gamma| \geq \gamma_0(m, S)$  and  $\gamma \in K_S = \{\gamma = \mu\zeta : \zeta \in S, \mu > 0\}$  the following estimates hold:*

- (i)  $|\gamma| \langle h \rangle_{m, \gamma} \leq C \langle R_\gamma h \rangle_{m, \gamma}, \quad h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n),$
- (ii)  $|\gamma| \langle h \rangle_{-m, -\gamma} \leq C \langle R_\gamma^* h \rangle_{-m, -\gamma}, \quad h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n).$

This lemma is proved by means of the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $S$  be a compact set in  $\dot{\Sigma}$ . Then there is a constant  $\delta (> 0)$  such that*

$$\text{Im } \xi_+(\zeta) + b(z) \cdot \text{Im } \zeta \geq \delta |\text{Im } \zeta|, \quad \zeta \in \mathbf{R}^n - iK_S, \quad z \in \mathbf{R}^n.$$

**Proof.** In view of the corollary of Proposition 2.1, we see that  $(-\text{Im } \zeta, -\text{Im } \xi_+(\zeta)) \in \Gamma$  if  $\zeta \in \mathbf{R}^n - i\Gamma$ . On the other hand, if  $\gamma \in K_S$ ,  $\xi < 0$  and  $(\gamma, \xi) \in \Gamma$  there is a small constant  $\delta (> 0)$  such that  $\xi \leq -(b + \delta\omega) \cdot \gamma$  for any  $\omega (\omega \in \mathbf{R}^n, |\omega| = 1)$ . Therefore we have

$$\text{Im } \xi_+(\zeta) + (b - \delta \text{Im } \zeta / |\text{Im } \zeta|) \text{Im } \zeta \geq 0, \quad \zeta \in \mathbf{R}^n - iK_S, \quad z \in \mathbf{R}^n.$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** It suffices to show that for any  $g \in H_m(\mathbf{R}^n)$  satisfying  $\text{supp } [g] \subset \dot{\Sigma}' + z_1 (z_1 \in \mathbf{R}^n)$  there exists a solution  $h(\in H_{m, \tilde{\gamma}}(\mathbf{R}^n), \tilde{\gamma} \in \dot{\Sigma})$  of  $R_{\tilde{\gamma}} h = g$  whose support lies in  $\dot{\Sigma}' + z_1$ . Here  $\dot{\Sigma}'$  is the set  $\{\gamma' \in \mathbf{R}^n; \gamma' \cdot \gamma > 0 \text{ for any } \gamma \in \dot{\Sigma}\}$ . Lemma 2.1 yields a solution  $h_{\tilde{\gamma}} \in H_{m, \tilde{\gamma}}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  satisfying  $R_{\tilde{\gamma}}^* h_{\tilde{\gamma}} = g$  ( $\tilde{\gamma} \in \dot{\Sigma}$  and  $|\tilde{\gamma}|$  is sufficiently large). Set

$$\tilde{R}_{\tilde{\gamma}} f = \overline{F}_{\tilde{\gamma}} [(\xi_+(\zeta) + \tilde{b} \cdot \zeta + \bar{c})\hat{f}(\zeta)] \quad (\zeta = \sigma - i\gamma).$$

Then we can write

$$\tilde{R}_{\tilde{\gamma}} h_{\tilde{\gamma}} = (\tilde{b} - b(z)) \cdot D_z h_{\tilde{\gamma}} + (\bar{c} - c(z)) h_{\tilde{\gamma}} + g.$$

The support of the right term lies in  $\dot{\Sigma}' + \tilde{z} (\tilde{z} \in \mathbf{R}^n)$ . Noting that  $\tilde{b}$  and  $\bar{c}$  are constant, we see  $\text{supp } [h_{\tilde{\gamma}}] \subset \dot{\Sigma}' + \tilde{z}$  by Paley-Wiener's theorem (cf. Sakamoto [4]). Therefore  $h_{\tilde{\gamma}} \in \bigcap_{\gamma \in \dot{\Sigma}} H_{m, \gamma}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . Hence we have  $|\gamma| \langle h_{\tilde{\gamma}} \rangle_{m, \gamma} \leq C \langle g \rangle_{m, \gamma}$  for any large  $|\gamma| (\gamma \in \dot{\Sigma})$ , which implies  $\text{supp } [h_{\tilde{\gamma}}] \subset \dot{\Sigma}' + z_1$ .

**§ 3. Sketch of proof of Theorem 2.** Theorem 2 is proved in the same way as in the proof of Theorem 4.1 of [5]. The idea of the proof is suggested by Kajitani [3] and Appendix of Ikawa [2]. Assume that there are positive constants  $\delta$  and  $v (< \lambda_0(t_0, y_0)^{-1})$  such that  $u(t, x, y) = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x > 0\}$  for any  $u \in C^\infty(\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+^1 \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+^n)$  satisfying  $\square u = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x > 0\}$ ,  $u|_{t=t_0-\delta} = D_t u|_{t=t_0-\delta} = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{t = t_0 - \delta, x > 0\}$

and  $Bu=0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x=0\}$ . In order to show that this is a contradiction, we have only to construct an asymptotic solution  $u_N(t, x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^N e^{ik\phi(t, x, y)} v_n(t, x, y) (ik)^{-n} (k > 0)$  such that  $\square u_N = e^{ik\phi} \square v_N \times (ik)^{-N}$  near  $\bar{C}_v \cap \{0 \leq t_0 - t \leq \delta, x \geq 0\}$ ,  $u_N|_{t=t_0-\delta} = D_t u_N|_{t=t_0-\delta} = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{t = t_0 - \delta, x > 0\}$ ,  $Bu_N = 0$  on  $C_v \cap \{0 < t_0 - t < \delta, x=0\}$  and  $v_0(t_0, 0, y_0) \neq 0$ . Therefore we have the eiconal equation with  $B\phi=0$  and the transport equation with  $Bv_n=0$ . From the latter we get the equation for  $v_n|_{x=0}$ . Let  $(1, a) \in \mathbf{R}_{(t, y)}^n$  be the direction of the characteristic curve of this equation at  $(t_0, y_0)$ . Then, choosing the phase function  $\phi$  appropriately, we have  $|a| = \lambda_0(t_0, y_0)^{-1}$ . Thus the required asymptotic solution is obtained.

### References

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