

## SOME RESULTS ON EXACT CONTROLLABILITY OF PARABOLIC SYSTEMS

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we first discuss the exact controllability of a linear parabolic system governed by bilinear control as a coefficient like  $uy$  and then give a result of the locally exact null-controllability of a semilinear parabolic system. Our main method is based on the Implicit Function Theorem.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\Omega \subset R^n$ ,  $n \in N$  be a bounded domain with a sufficiently smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . We will first consider the exact controllability (reachability) of the following bilinear control system

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} y_t - \Delta y = uy, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ y(x, t) = g(x), & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ y(x, 0) = y_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $Q_T = \Omega \times (0, T)$ ,  $\Sigma_T = \partial\Omega \times (0, T)$ .

In the context of heat-transfer, the term  $uy$  describes the heat-exchange at point  $x$  at time  $t$  of the given substance according to Newton's Law (see e.g. [19] pp. 155-156). In this case,  $u$  is proportional to the heat-transfer coefficient, which depends on the substance at hand, its surface area and the environment. More generally, the

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bilinear control  $u$  can be linked to the use of various means (“catalysts”) that can accelerate or decelerate the reaction at hand.

Let us recall that, in its general form, it is said that the system at hand is approximately controllable in the given (linear phase-) space  $H$  at time  $T > 0$  if, by selecting a suitable available (“traditionally” linear additive) control, it can be steered in  $H$  from any initial state into any neighborhood of any desirable target state at time  $T$ . In turn, it is exact controllable if it can be steered in  $H$  from any initial state within the given time-interval  $[0, T]$  to the given state exactly.

We refer to the early paper [12] by J.M. Ball, J.E. Marsden and M. Slemrod on controllability of an abstract infinite dimensional bilinear system, which appears to be the first work on this subject in the framework of pde’s. In [12], the global approximate controllability of the rod equation  $u_{tt} + u_{xxxx} + k(t)u_{xx} = 0$  with hinged ends and of the wave equation  $u_{tt} - u_{xx} + k(t)u = 0$  with Dirichlet boundary conditions, where  $k$  is control (the axial load), was shown making use of the nonharmonic Fourier series approach under the additional (nontraditional) assumption that all the modes in the initial data are active. We refer to just one additional paper, [13], on bilinear controllability for pde’s, dealing with the simultaneous control of the rod equation and a simple Schrödinger equation. In [10], A.Y. Khapalov discussed the non-negative approximate controllability of a parabolic system with superlinear term governed by a bilinear control, and in [11], he also discussed the bilinear null-controllability of a parabolic system with the reaction term satisfying Newton’s Law.

Our first main result is on the exact controllability (reachability) of (1.1).

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $n = 1$ ,  $\Omega = (0, 1)$ ,  $Q_T = (0, 1) \times (0, T)$ . Assume that  $\theta \in W^{2,\infty}(\Omega)$ ,  $\theta > 0$  in  $\overline{\Omega}$ , and  $\Delta\theta \geq 0$  a.e. in  $\Omega$ ,  $g(\cdot) \in C(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $g(x) > 0$  in  $\overline{\Omega}$  and  $\theta(x) = g(x)$ ,  $\forall x \in \{0, 1\}$ , then there exists a  $T(\theta) > 0$  such that for any  $y_0(x) \in L^2(\Omega)$ , there exists a control  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$  such that the corresponding solution to (1.1) in  $C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$  satisfies*

$$y(x, T) = \theta(x) \text{ a.e. in } \Omega.$$

Next, we will consider the locally exact null-controllability of the following semilinear parabolic system governed in a nonempty subdomain  $\omega \subset \Omega$  by a locally additive control  $u$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{cases} y_t - \Delta y + f(y) = \chi_\omega u, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ y(x, t) = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ y(x, 0) = y_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $\chi_\omega$  is the characteristic function of  $\omega$ ,  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$  is the control,  $y_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $f(\cdot) \in C^1(R)$ ,  $f(0) = 0$  and satisfies the following conditions

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & |f(s_1) - f(s_2) - f'(0)(s_1 - s_2)| \\ & \leq C(|s_1|^{p-1} + |s_2|^{p-1})|s_1 - s_2|, \forall s_1, s_2 \in R, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C > 0$ ,  $p > 1$  such that  $p \leq (n + 4)/4$ . It is known (e.g.[4]) that there exists  $C > 0$  and  $\eta > 0$  such that when

$$(1.4) \quad \|y_0\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq \eta,$$

the solution to (1.2) exists and is unique in  $C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))$ . Moreover,

$$(1.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|y_1 - y_2\|_{L^\infty([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))} \\ & \leq C(\|y_0^1 - y_0^2\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|u_1 - u_2\|_{L^2(Q_T)}), \end{aligned}$$

for any pair of  $(y_0^i, u_i)$  as in (1.4),  $y^i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  being the solution to (1.2) with those data.

The controllability of linear and semilinear parabolic systems with traditionally additive control has been analysed in several recent papers. Among them, let us mention [2,3,6,7,8,20] in what concerns null controllability and for approximate controllability, we refer to [2,4,5,6]. We note also that it is shown in [6] that for any  $\beta > 2$ , there exists functions  $f = f(s)$  with  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(s) \sim |s| \log^\beta(1 + |s|)$  as  $|s| \rightarrow \infty$  such that (1.2) is not null controllable for all  $T > 0$ . For general systems of the form (1.2), the best one one can expect is the local null controllability i.e., the exact null controllability for initial data in a neighborhood of the origin.

Our second main result is as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $f(\cdot) \in C^1(R)$  satisfies (1.3) and (1.4), then there exists  $\rho > 0$  such that for all  $y_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $\|y_0\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \rho$ , there are  $y \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))$  and  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$  which satisfies (1.2) and such that  $y(\cdot, T) = 0$ .*

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is devoted to giving some technical lemmas we will use below. In section 3 and section 4, we will prove theorems 1.1 and 1.2 by implicit function theorem.

## 2. PRELIMINARY LEMMAS

In order to prove the above theorems, we need the following results ([21]). Denote by  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  the space of continuous linear mappings from  $X$  into  $Y$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  are Banach spaces. Let  $D$  be a dense subset of  $X$ .

**Definition 2.1.** The function  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  is strongly *Fréchet* differentiable at  $a \in X$  if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\|G(v) - G(x) - M(v - x)\| < \varepsilon \|v - x\|,$$

whenever  $x, v$  satisfies  $\|x - a\|, \|v - a\| < \delta(\varepsilon)$ . Here the linear mapping  $M = G'(a) : D \rightarrow Y$  is the *Fréchet* derivative of  $G$  at  $a$ .

**Definition 2.2.** The function  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  is Hadamard differentiable at  $a \in X$  if there exists  $M \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  such that, for any continuous function  $\omega : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  for which  $\omega'(0^+)$  exists and  $\omega(0) = a$ , the function  $F = G \circ \omega$  is differentiable at  $0^+$ , with  $F'(0^+) = M\omega'(0^+)$ , thus

$$G(\omega(t)) - G(\omega(0)) - M\omega'(0^+)t = o(t) \text{ as } t \downarrow 0,$$

where  $M$  is the Hadamard derivative.

**Definition 2.3.** The function  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  is strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $a \in X$  if  $F = G \circ \omega$  is strongly differentiable at  $0^+$ , that is

$$\lim_{(t, u) \downarrow (0, 0)} (u - t)^{-1}[F(u) - F(t)] = F'(0^+).$$

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  have a Gâteaux variation  $\delta G(x; h)$  at all points in a convex neighborhood  $\Omega$  of  $x_0 \in X$  and all  $h \in X$ . If  $\delta G(\cdot; \cdot)$  is continuous at  $(x_0, 0)$ , then  $G$  is strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $x_0$ .

**Definition 2.4.** The function  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  is restricted strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $a$  if the strongly Hadamard differentiable property holds, with  $\omega$  restricted to be strongly differentiable.

**Definition 2.5.** The linear mapping  $M : D \rightarrow Y$  is called approximately outer invertible if, for each  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ , there exists a bounded linear mapping  $B_\mu : Y \rightarrow X$ , and a bound  $\Gamma$ , depending on  $\mu$ , for which

$$\|(B_\mu M B_\mu - B_\mu)y\| \leq \mu \|B_\mu y\| \text{ and } \|B_\mu y\| \leq \tau_\mu \|y\|, \quad \forall y \in Y,$$

then each  $B_\mu$  is called an approximately outer invertible of  $M$ , with bound function  $\Gamma(\cdot)$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be two real Hilbert spaces; Let  $M : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$  be a compact linear operator; then  $M$  is approximately outer invertible.

The following lemma will be the main tool in our proof of the above theorems.

**Lemma 2.3.** (Implicit Function Theorem) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be real Banach spaces, with  $a \in X$ . Let  $S$  be a closed convex cone in  $Y$ . Let the function  $G : X \rightarrow Y$  be restricted strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $a$ . Let  $b := G(a)$  and assume  $b \in S$ . Let the Hadamard derivative  $M = G'(a) : X \rightarrow Y$  be bounded linear

with approximate outer inverse  $B_\mu$  and bound function  $\Gamma(\mu) = k_0\mu^{-\gamma}$ , with  $\gamma < 1$ . Then for sufficiently small  $\mu$ , whenever  $c$  satisfies  $-[G(a) + G'(a)c] \in S$ , and  $\|c\| = 1$ , there exists a solution  $x = a + tc + \eta(t) \in X$  to  $-G(x) \in S$ , valid for all sufficiently small  $t < 0$ , with  $x \neq a$ . With an appropriate choice of  $\mu = \mu(t) \downarrow 0$  as  $t \downarrow 0$ ,  $\|\eta(t)\|_{\mu(t)=o(t)}$  as  $t \downarrow 0$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** [6] For the system

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{cases} q_t - \Delta q + a(x, t)q = \chi_\omega v(x, t), & \text{in } Q_T, \\ q = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ q(x, 0) = q_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

we have, for any  $q_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $a \in L^\infty(Q_T)$ , there exists a control  $v \in L^\infty(Q_T)$  such that the corresponding solution to (2.1) satisfies

$$q(\cdot, T) = 0.$$

Moreover,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq C(T, \|a\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)})\|q_0\|_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

*Proof.*

**Step 1.** Let  $z = y - \theta(x)$ ,  $z_0(x) = y_0(x) - \theta(x)$ , from (1.1), we have  $z$  satisfies

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} z_t - z_{xx} = u(z + \theta(x)) + \theta_{xx}, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ z|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ z(x, 0) = z_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

It is known (e.g.[9]) that for any  $T > 0$ , system (3.1) admits a unique solution in  $C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))$ .

In order to prove theorem 1.1, it is sufficient to prove that there exists a  $T(\theta) > 0$  such that (3.1) is exact null controllable.

Notice that  $\theta \in W^{2, \infty}(\Omega)$ , we have  $\theta \in C(\overline{\Omega})$  by Sobolev Embedding Theorem. Hence,  $\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta} \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ . Define the mapping  $G : L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $G(z_0, u) = z(x, T)$ , where  $z$  is the solution to (3.1). We will first prove that  $G$  is strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta})$ .

By Lemma 2.1, we are sufficient to prove  $G$  has a Gâteaux variation  $\delta G((z_0, u); (h_0, v))$  at all points  $(z_0, u) \in L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$  and all  $(h_0, v) \in L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$  and  $\delta G(\cdot; \cdot)$  is continuous at  $((0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}); (0, 0))$ .

In fact, for any  $(z_0, u) \in L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$ , any  $(h_0, v) \in L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $Z^\varepsilon$  and  $Z$  satisfy the following systems

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{cases} Z_t^\varepsilon - Z_{xx}^\varepsilon = (u + \varepsilon v)(Z^\varepsilon + \theta(x)) + \theta_{xx}, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ Z^\varepsilon|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ Z^\varepsilon(x, 0) = z_0 + \varepsilon h_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{cases} Z_t - Z_{xx} = u(Z + \theta(x)) + \theta_{xx}, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ Z|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ Z(x, 0) = z_0, & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

respectively.

Let  $w^\varepsilon(x, t) = (Z^\varepsilon - Z)/\varepsilon$ , from (3.2) and (3.3), we have

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{cases} w_t^\varepsilon - w_{xx}^\varepsilon = uw^\varepsilon + v(Z^\varepsilon + \theta(x)), & \text{in } Q_T, \\ w^\varepsilon|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ w^\varepsilon(x, 0) = h_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Let  $V_2(Q_T) = C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))$  with the norm

$$\|y\|_{V_2(Q_T)} = \|y\|_{L^\infty([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))} + \|y\|_{L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))},$$

from (3.3) and (3.4), it is easily seen that (see e.g. [9])

$$(3.5) \quad \|w^\varepsilon\|_{V_2(Q_T)} \leq C,$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $\varepsilon$ .

From (3.5), we have

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} w_\varepsilon &\rightarrow w && \text{strongly in } L^2(Q_T), \\ &&& \text{weakly in } L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \text{ and} \\ &&& \text{weakly star in } L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $w$  satisfies

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{cases} w_t - w_{xx} = uw + v(Z + \theta(x)), & \text{in } Q_T, \\ w|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ w(x, 0) = h_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $Z$  is the solution to (3.3).

It is easily seen that the solution  $w$  to (3.7) satisfies  $\delta G((z_0, u); (h_0, v)) = w(x, T)$ . Let  $\{(z_0^k, u^k)\}$  and  $\{(h_0^k, v^k)\} \in L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$  satisfy

$$(3.8) \quad (z_0^k, u^k) \rightarrow (0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T),$$

$$(3.8) \quad (h_0^k, v^k) \rightarrow (0, 0) \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T),$$

then we have  $\delta G((z_0^k, u^k); (h_0^k, v^k)) = w^k(x, T)$ , where  $w^k, Z^k$  satisfy the following systems

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{cases} w_t^k - w_{xx}^k = u^k w^k + v^k (Z^k + \theta(x)), & \text{in } Q_T, \\ w^k|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ w^k(x, 0) = h_0^k(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{cases} Z_t^k - Z_{xx}^k = u^k (Z^k + \theta(x)) + \theta_{xx}, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ Z^k|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ Z^k(x, 0) = z_0^k, & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

respectively, and  $\delta G((0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}); (0, 0)) = 0$ .

In view of  $n = 1$ , we have  $V_2(Q_T) \hookrightarrow L^6(Q_T)$ . By (3.8), (3.9) and (3.11), we have

$$(3.12) \quad \|Z^k\|_{L^6(Q_T)} \leq C_1 \|Z^k\|_{V_2(Q_T)} \leq C_2$$

(where  $C_2$  is independent of  $k$ ). Furthermore, by (3.8), (3.9), (3.10) and Hölder inequality, we have (see e.g. [9])

$$(3.13) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|w^k\|_{V_2(Q_T)} \\ & \leq C_3 (\|h_0^k\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|v^k Z^k\|_{L^{\frac{6}{5}}(Q_T)} + \|v^k \theta\|_{L^2(Q_T)}) \\ & \leq C_4 (\|h_0^k\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|Z^k\|_{L^6(Q_T)} \|v^k\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \|\theta\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \|v^k\|_{L^2(Q_T)}) \\ & \leq C_4 (\|h_0^k\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + C_2 \|v^k\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \|\theta\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \|v^k\|_{L^2(Q_T)}) \leq C_5. \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_5$  is independent of  $k$ .

By (3.8), (3.9) and (3.13), we have

$$\|w^k(x, T)\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \rightarrow 0,$$

this implies  $\delta G(\cdot ; \cdot)$  is continuous at  $((0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}); (0, 0))$ .

**Step 2.** In this step, we will prove that the linear operator  $G'(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) : L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  is compact. In fact,  $G(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) = 0$ . Let  $U$  be a bounded domain of  $L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)$ , then for any  $(h_0, v) \in U$ ,  $G'(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta})(h_0, v) = w(x, T)$ , where  $w$  is the solution to the following system,

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{cases} w_t - w_{xx} = -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}w + v\theta(x), & \text{in } Q_T, \\ w|_{x=0,1}, \\ w(x, 0) = h_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Notice that  $\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta} \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ , (3.14) enjoys the following properties: for any  $(h_0, v) \in U$ , the corresponding solution  $w_{h_0}^v$  to (3.14) satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \{w_{h_0}^v\} & \text{ is bounded in } L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)), \\ \{\sqrt{t} (w_{h_0}^v)_t\} & \text{ is bounded in } L^2(Q_T), \\ \{\sqrt{t}w_{h_0}^v\} & \text{ is bounded in } L^2(0, T; H^2(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^1(\Omega)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can select a sequence  $\{w_{h_0^k}^{v^k}\} \subset U$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} w_{h_0^k}^{v^k} & \rightharpoonup \widehat{w} && \text{weakly in } L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \text{ and} \\ & && \text{weak-star in } L^2(Q_T), \\ \sqrt{t} (w_{h_0^k}^{v^k})_t & \rightharpoonup \sqrt{t} \widehat{w}_t && \text{weakly in } L^2(Q_T), \\ w_{h_0^k}^{v^k}(t) & \rightarrow \widehat{w}(t) && \text{strongly in } L^2(\Omega) \text{ and} \\ & && \text{uniformly in } L^2(\Omega) \text{ on every compact interval } [\delta, T]. \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $G'(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) : L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  is compact.

**Step 3.** In this step, we will prove that the system (3.14) is exact null controllable, that is, for any  $h_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ , there exists a control  $v_{h_0}$  such that the corresponding solution to (3.14) satisfies  $w(x, T) = 0$ .

In fact, set

$$J(\varphi^0) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{Q_T} \theta \varphi^2 dxdt + \int_{\Omega} h_0(x) \varphi(x, 0) dx, \quad \forall \varphi^0 \in L^2(\Omega),$$

where  $\varphi$  is the corresponding solution to the dual system of (3.14),

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{cases} \varphi_t + \varphi_{xx} - \frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta} \varphi = 0, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ \varphi|_{x=0,1} = 0, \\ \varphi(x, T) = \varphi^0(x), & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$



Similarly to the argument of [2], noticing that  $\theta(x) \geq C > 0$  in  $\Omega$ , we have, for any  $h_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ , the functional  $J$  achieves its minimum at a unique point  $\hat{\varphi}^0$ . If we set  $v_{h_0} = \hat{\varphi}$ , where  $\hat{\varphi}$  is the solution to (3.15) with  $\varphi^0 = \hat{\varphi}^0$ , we have the corresponding solution to (3.14) with  $v_{h_0} = \hat{\varphi}$  satisfies  $w(x, T) = 0$ .

In fact,  $\forall \psi^0 \in L^2(\Omega)$  and  $\forall \rho \in R$ , we have

$$J(\hat{\varphi}^0 + \rho\psi^0) \geq J(\hat{\varphi}^0),$$

hence,

$$(3.16) \quad \int_{Q_T} \theta \hat{\varphi} \psi dx dt + \int_{\Omega} h_0(x) \psi(x, 0) dx = 0,$$

where  $\psi$  is the solution to (3.15) with  $\varphi^0 = \psi^0$ .

Multiplying (3.14) by  $\psi$  and (3.15) (with  $\varphi = \psi$ ,  $\varphi^0 = \psi^0$ ) by  $w$  and integrating by parts, we have

$$(3.17) \quad \int_{Q_T} \theta \hat{\varphi} \psi dx dt = \int_{\Omega} w(x, T) \psi^0(x) dx - \int_{\Omega} h_0(x) \psi(x, 0) dx.$$

By (3.16) and (3.17), we have

$$\int_{\Omega} w(x, T) \psi^0(x) dx = 0, \quad \forall \psi^0 \in L^2(\Omega).$$

Hence,

$$w(x, T) = 0.$$

Furthermore, similar to [6], we have

$$\|v_{h_0}\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq C \|h_0\|_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

**Step 4.** In this step, we will prove that the system (3.1) is locally exact null controllable by lemma 2.3.

In fact,  $G(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) = 0$ . From step 3, we have, for any  $h_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ , there exists a control  $v_{h_0} \in L^2(\Omega)$  such that  $G'(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta})(h_0, v_{h_0}) = 0$ . Let  $c = (h_0, v_{h_0})$  (we may assume that  $\|c\|_{L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T)} = 1$ ) and  $S = \{0\} \subset L^2(\Omega)$ , we have  $-(G(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta}) + G'(0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta})c) = 0 \in S$ . From step 1 to step 3,  $G$  satisfies all the conditions of lemma 2.3, hence, by lemma 2.3, we have the equation  $G(z_0, u) = 0$  has local solution,

$$\begin{aligned} z_0 &= 0 + th_0 + \eta_1(t), \\ u &= -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta} + tv_{h_0} + \eta_2(t), \end{aligned}$$

for  $t > 0$  sufficiently small,  $(z_0, u) \neq (0, -\frac{\theta_{xx}}{\theta})$ ,  $\|\eta_1(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = o(t)$  ( $t \rightarrow 0$ ),  $\|\eta_2(t)\|_{L^2(Q_T)} = o(t)$  ( $t \rightarrow 0$ ), this implies the system (3.1) is locally null controllable, that is, there exists  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  sufficiently small such that for any  $z_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$  satisfies  $\|z_0\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \varepsilon_0$ , there exists a control  $u \in L^2(Q_T)$  such that the corresponding solution to (3.1) satisfies

$$z(x, T) = 0.$$

**Step 5.** Multiplying (3.1) by  $z(x, t)$  and integrating over  $\Omega$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, t) dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} |z_x(x, t)|^2 dx \\ &= 2 \int_{\Omega} uz^2(x, t) dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} u\theta(x)z(x, t) dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}(x)z(x, t) dx \\ &\leq 2 \int_{\Omega} uz^2(x, t) dx + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, t) dx \\ &\quad + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, t) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} (2u + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} + 1) z^2(x, t) dx \\ &\quad + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx \\ &\leq \text{esssup}_{Q_t} (2u + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} + 1) \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, t) dx \\ &\quad + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $r(t) = \int_{\Omega} z^2(x, t) dx$ , we have

$$\frac{dr(t)}{dt} \leq \text{esssup}_{Q_t} (2u + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} + 1) r(t) + \|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx.$$

Let  $r(0) = \|z(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$ ,  $u < 0$  be the constant, we have

$$\frac{dr(t)}{dt} \leq (u + 1)r(t) + |u| \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) &\leq e^{(u+1)t} \|z(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_0^t e^{(u+1)(t-\tau)} \left( |u| \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx \right) d\tau \\ &= e^{(u+1)t} \|z(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \left( |u| \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx \right) \int_0^t e^{(u+1)(t-\tau)} d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|z(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 &\leq e^{(u+1)t} \|z(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{e^{(u+1)t} - 1}{u + 1} \left( |u| \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx \right) \\ &= e^{(u+1)t} \|z(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{|u|(e^{(u+1)t} - 1)}{u + 1} \int_{\Omega} \theta^2(x) dx \\ &\quad + \frac{e^{(u+1)t} - 1}{u + 1} \int_{\Omega} \theta_{xx}^2(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, given  $T_1 > 0$ , we can select the constant  $u_1 < 0$  ( $u_1$  depends on  $z_0$ ) such that  $|u_1|$  is sufficiently large, then there exists  $M_1 > 0$  ( $M_1$  depends on  $\theta$ , but independent of  $z_0$ ), such that  $\|z(\cdot, T_1)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq M_1$ . Furthermore, noticing that  $\theta > 0$  and  $\theta_{xx} \geq 0$ , if we select  $u = \frac{-\theta_{xx}}{\theta}$  in  $(T_1, T_2)$ , then for

$$(3.18) \quad \begin{cases} z_t - z_{xx} = \frac{-\theta_{xx}}{\theta} z, & \text{in } \Omega \times (T_1, T_2), \\ z = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (T_1, T_2), \\ z(x, T_1) = z(x, T_1), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

we have

$$(3.19) \quad \|z(T_2)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq e^{-\lambda(T_2-T_1)} \|z(T_1)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq M_1 e^{-\lambda(T_2-T_1)},$$

where  $\lambda > 0$  the first eigenfunction of  $-\Delta$  in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

Hence for any  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ , there exists  $T_2(\theta) > 0$  sufficiently large such that  $\|z(T_2)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \varepsilon_0$ .

Then by step 4, for the following system,

$$(3.20) \quad \begin{cases} z_t - z_{xx} = u(z + \theta(x)) + \theta_{xx}(x), & \text{in } \Omega \times (T_2, T_2 + 1), \\ z = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (T_2, T_2 + 1), \\ z(x, T_2) = z(T_2), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

there exists a control  $u_2 \in L^2(Q_T)$  such that the corresponding solution to (3.20) satisfies

$$z(x, T_2 + 1) = 0.$$

Thus let  $T = T_2 + 1$ , if we select  $u$  as follows

$$u = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T_1), \\ \frac{-\theta_{xx}}{\theta}, & \text{in } \Omega \times (T_1, T_2), \\ u_2, & (T_2, T), \end{cases}$$

then the corresponding solution to (3.1) satisfies

$$z(x, T) = 0.$$

This completes the proof of theorem 1.1.

#### 4. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

The proof of theorem 1.2 is similar to that of theorem 1.1, we just give a sketch of it.

*Proof.* Define the mapping  $G : L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $G(y_0, u) = y(x, T)$ , where  $y$  is the solution to (1.2).

With the similar argument in theorem 1.1, we have  $\delta G((y_0, u); (h_0, v)) = p(x, T)$ , where  $p$  is the solution to the following system.

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{cases} p_t - \Delta p + f'(Y(x, t, y_0, u))p = \chi_\omega v, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ p = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ p(x, 0) = h_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $Y$  satisfies

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{cases} Y_t - \Delta Y + f(Y) = \chi_\omega u, & \text{in } Q_T, \\ Y = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ Y(x, 0) = y_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Similar to theorem 1.1, we can easily prove that  $\delta G(\cdot; \cdot)$  is continuous at  $((0, 0); (0, 0))$  which implies  $G$  is strongly Hadamard differentiable at  $(0, 0)$  and  $G'(0, 0) : L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(Q_T) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  is compact by lemma 2.1 and lemma 2.2. Hence lemma 2.3 and lemma 2.4 implies theorem 1.2.

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