

ON THE SEMI-LINEAR WAVE EQUATIONS (I)

Meng-Rong Li

Abstract. In this work we consider the triviality of the solutions of the initial-boundary value problems for some semi-linear wave equations.

INTRODUCTION

In this paper we work with the triviality of the solutions of the initial-boundary value problems for the semi-linear wave equation

$$(SL) \quad \begin{cases} \square u + f(u) = 0 & \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } [0, T] \times \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, \cdot) = u_0 \in H_0^1(\Omega), \quad \dot{u}(0, \cdot) = u_1 \in L^2(\Omega), \end{cases}$$

where $0 < T \leq \infty$ and $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a bounded domain on which the divergent theorem is applicable and $(L^2(\Omega), \|\cdot\|_2)$, $(H_0^1(\Omega), \|\cdot\|_{1,2})$ are the usual spaces of Lebesgue and Sobolev. Further, we employ the following abridgements:

$$\cdot := \partial/\partial t, \quad \nabla := (\partial/\partial x_1, \dots, \partial/\partial x_n), \quad Du := (\dot{u}, \nabla u), \quad \square := \partial^2/\partial t^2 - \Delta,$$

$$|Du|^2 := \dot{u}^2 + |\nabla u|^2, \quad A_u(t) := \|Du\|_2^2(t) = \int_{\Omega} |Du(t, x)|^2 dx,$$

$$a_u(t) := \int_{\Omega} u(t, x)^2 dx, \quad F(s) := \int_0^s f(r) dr,$$

$$E_u(t) := \int_{\Omega} (|Du(t, x)|^2 + 2F(u(t, x))) dx.$$

For a Banach space X and $0 < T \leq \infty$, we set

$$C^k(0, T, X) := \text{space of } C^k\text{-functions } [0, T] \rightarrow X,$$

$$H1 := C^0(0, T, H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap C^1(0, T, L^2(\Omega)),$$

$$H2 := C^1(0, T, H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap C^2(0, T, L^2(\Omega)).$$

Received December 16, 1996.

Communicated by S.-B. Hsu.

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: 34.

Key words and phrases: Sobolev space, wave equations, differentiable in Sobolev space.

Jörgens [2] proved the existence for global solutions of IBVP (SL) for $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^3$ and a non-linearity of the form $f(u) = ug(u^2)$. Jörgens' result permits the treatment for example for the wave equation $\square u + u^3 = 0$. Browder [1] generalized Jörgens' result to $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n$. Von Wahl and Heinz [10] extended Browder's result. Li [7] proved the non-existence of global solutions of IBVP (SL) under the assumptions $E(0) < 0$, $a'(0) > 0$ and

$$\eta f(\eta) - 2(1 + 2\alpha) F(\eta) \leq 2\alpha C_\Omega^2 \eta^2 \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The result of Li [7] allows treatment of IBVP (SL) for $f(u) = u^p$, $p \in [1, n/n - 2]$. In this case Li [6] showed the uniqueness of the solutions. For further contributions to the theme "blow-up", see John [3] and Racke [8]. In [7] we have an interesting result which says that the solutions of IBVP (SL) must be the trivial function if $u_0 \equiv 0 \equiv u_1 \equiv f(0)$ and

$$\eta f(\eta) + 2F(\eta) \geq -k|\eta|^p \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The proof is based on the following Lemma 1.

1. FUNDAMENTAL LEMMAS

Lemma 1. *Suppose that $b : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is a C^2 -function with $b(0) = 0 = b'(0)$ and there exist two constants k_1, k_2 such that*

$$(1) \quad b''(t) + k_1 b'(t) + k_2 b(t) \leq 0.$$

Then $b \equiv 0$.

Proof of Lemma 1. We prove this lemma under two instances: $k_1 = 0$ and $k_1 \neq 0$.

1) For $k_1 = 0$ and $k_2 \geq 0$, by the positivity of b and the inequality (1) we find

$$b''(t) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

and

$$(2) \quad b'(t) \leq b'(0) = 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Integrating the inequality (2) from 0 to t we obtain the inequality $b(t) \leq 0$. Herewith it follows automatically the assertion of Lemma 1 for the case $k_1 = 0$ and $k_2 \geq 0$. We show next the case $k_1 = 0$ and $k_2 \leq 0$.

We set $k_2 := -r^2$. Then, by the inequality (1) we get

$$(3) \quad b''(t) - r^2 b(t) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Multiplying inequality (3) with $\exp(rt)$, we then arrive at the following estimate

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(e^{rt} \cdot b'(t) - r e^{rt} \cdot b(t) \right) = e^{rt} \cdot \left(b''(t) - r^2 b(t) \right) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

and so

$$e^{rt} \cdot b'(t) - r e^{rt} \cdot b(t) \leq b'(0) - r b(0) = 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

This means however $b'(t) - r b(t) \leq 0$. From the Gronwall inequality it follows at once the assertion of Lemma 1 for the case $k_1 = 0$.

2) Suppose now $k_1 \neq 0$. Through the transformation

$$B(t) := e^{kt} \cdot b(t), \quad k := k_1/2,$$

the inequality (1) is transformed into

$$B''(t) - (k^2 - k_2) B(t) = e^{kt} \left(b''(t) + 2kb'(t) + k_2 b(t) \right) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

From the first step it follows the statement of Lemma 1. ■

We need the arguments below about the differentiability of a and A . The following Lemma 2 is important for us. We show Lemma 2 through the elementary knowledge about the integral calculus in Sobolev space.

Lemma 2. *Suppose that $u \in H^1$. Then a_u is continuously differentiable, a'_u and A_u are weakly differentiable in $(0, T)$ if \dot{u} is absolutely continuous. Further we have*

$$(4) \quad a'_u(t) = 2 \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) dx \quad \forall t \in (0, T),$$

where \dot{u} means the first partial derivative in time t of u in the sense of $L^2(\Omega)$. If $u \in H^2$ then $a_u \in C^2(0, T)$ and $A_u \in C^1(0, T)$. Furthermore we get

$$(5) \quad a''_u(t) = 2 \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t, x)^2 + u(t, x) \ddot{u}(t, x)) dx \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega) \quad \forall t \in (0, T)$$

and

$$(6) \quad A'_u(t) = 2 \int_{\Omega} (\nabla \dot{u}(t, x) \cdot \nabla u(t, x) + \dot{u}(t, x) \ddot{u}(t, x)) dx \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega) \quad \forall t \in (0, T).$$

Proof. We shall show the uniqueness of the solutions of the initial-boundary value problem for the semi-linear wave equation (SL). We can write a and A instead of a_u and A_u for convenience. Then we show first the differentiability

of a and the continuity of a' for $u \in H1$. Secondly, we show the absolute continuity of a' for $u \in H1$. Then it follows automatically that $a \in C^2(0, T)$ for u in $H2$. Thirdly, we show the absolute continuity of A for u in $H1$. Then A is differentiable automatically for u in $H2$. At the end we show the continuity of A' for $u \in H2$.

1) Continuous differentiability of a in $(0, T)$ for u in $H1$.

From the definition of $a(t)$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a(t+h) - a(t)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int_{\Omega} (u(t+h, x)^2 - u(t, x)^2) dx}{h} \\ &= \lim_h \frac{\int_{\Omega} (u(t+h, x) + u(t, x))(u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) dx}{h} \\ &\leq 2(\|u(t+h)\|_2 + \|u(t)\|_2) \cdot \frac{\|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2}{h}. \end{aligned}$$

By the differentiability of u in $L^2(\Omega)$ it follows the existence of the above limit. Using the definition of \dot{u} , we get

$$(7) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2}{h} = \dot{u}(t) \text{ in } L^2(\Omega) \text{ sense.}$$

This means that the identity (7) is valid in $L^2(\Omega)$, that is,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2}{h} = \|\dot{u}(t)\|_2$$

and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left\| \frac{u(t+h) - u(t)}{h} - \dot{u}(t) \right\|_2 = 0.$$

By the definition of $a(t)$ we have therefore

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} &\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a(t+h) - a(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) dx \right| \\ &= \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)}{h} (u(t+h, x) + u(t, x)) - 2u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) \right) dx \right|. \end{aligned}$$

We divide the identity (8) into two parts and obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a(t+h) - a(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) dx \right| \\
= & \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\left(\frac{u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)}{h} - \dot{u}(t, x) \right) \cdot (u(t+h, x) + u(t, x)) dx \right) \right. \\
& \left. + \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x) (u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) dx \right|. \tag{9}
\end{aligned}$$

From (9) it follows the following estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
& \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a(t+h) - a(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) dx \right| \\
& \leq \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\left(\frac{u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)}{h} - \dot{u}(t, x) \right) \cdot (u(t+h, x) + u(t, x)) \right) dx \right| \\
(10) \quad & + \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x) (u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) dx \right| \\
& \leq \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \|u(t+h) + u(t)\|_2 \cdot \left\| \frac{u(t+h) - u(t)}{h} - \dot{u}(t) \right\|_2 \\
& \quad + \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \|\dot{u}(t)\|_2 \|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2 = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Now we show the continuity of a' . By using the estimate (10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
a'(t+h) - a'(t) &= 2 \int_{\Omega} (u(t+h, x) \dot{u}(t+h, x) - u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x)) dx \\
(11) \quad &= 2 \int_{\Omega} u(t+h, x) (\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x)) dx \\
& \quad + 2 \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x) (u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) dx.
\end{aligned}$$

By the Hölder inequality and (11), we reach at the estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
(12) \quad & |a'(t+h) - a'(t)| \\
& \leq 2 \|u(t+h)\|_2 \|\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)\|_2 + 2 \|\dot{u}(t)\|_2 \|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2.
\end{aligned}$$

From the continuity of u and \dot{u} and the boundedness of $u(t+h)$ and $\dot{u}(t)$ in $L^2(\Omega)$ follows the continuity of a' . Hence a is continuously differentiable in $(0, T)$. By the same argument we can prove the existence of the limit of a' at $t = 0$.

2) We prove now the absolute continuity of $a'(t)$ in $(0, T)$ for those u in H^1 for which \dot{u} is absolutely continuous.

From the absolute continuity of \dot{u} and the inequality (12) it follows at once the absolute continuity of a' . With the help of the famous theorem for absolute continuity in reflexive Banach spaces, one sees the weak differentiability of a' in $(0, T)$. Further we get

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} & \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a'(t+h) - a'(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t, x)^2 + u(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x)) dx \right| \\ &= \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} 2 \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{u(t+h, x)\dot{u}(t+h, x) - u(t, x)\dot{u}(t, x)}{h} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. - \dot{u}(t, x)^2 - u(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x) \right) dx \right|. \end{aligned}$$

We divide the equation (13) into three parts and obtain

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} & \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a'(t+h) - a'(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t, x)^2 + u(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x)) dx \right| \\ &= \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} 2 \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)}{h} - \dot{u}(t, x) \right) \dot{u}(t+h, x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x)}{h} - \ddot{u}(t, x) \right) u(t, x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x))\dot{u}(t, x) dx. \right| \end{aligned}$$

By (14) we obtain the following estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{a(t+h) - a(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t, x)^2 + u(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x)) dx \right| \\ & \leq \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \|\dot{u}(t+h)\|_2 \left\| \frac{u(t+h) - u(t)}{h} - \dot{u}(t) \right\|_2 \\ & \quad + \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \|\dot{u}(t)\|_2 \|\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)\|_2 \\ & \quad + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|u(t)\|_2 \left\| \frac{\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)}{h} - \ddot{u}(t) \right\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Now we prove the continuity of a'' . Through the same arguments we have

got the following estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
 a''(t+h) - a''(t) &= 2 \int_{\Omega} \left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \dot{u}(t+h, x)^2 - \dot{u}(t, x)^2 \\ + u(t+h, x)\ddot{u}(t+h, x) - u(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x) \end{array} \right) \right] dx \\
 (15) \quad &= 2 \int_{\Omega} [\dot{u}(t+h, x)(\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x)) + \dot{u}(t, x)(\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x))] dx \\
 &\quad + 2 \int_{\Omega} [(\ddot{u}(t+h, x) - \ddot{u}(t, x))u(t+h, x) + (u(t+h, x) - u(t, x))\ddot{u}(t, x)] dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

From the Hölder inequality it follows the boundedness of $|a''(t+h) - a''(t)|$ with the bound

$$\begin{aligned}
 &2\|\dot{u}(t+h)\|_2\|\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)\|_2 + 2\|\dot{u}(t)\|_2\|\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)\|_2 \\
 &+ 2\|u(t+h)\|_2\|\ddot{u}(t+h) - \ddot{u}(t)\|_2 + 2\|\ddot{u}(t)\|_2\|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Because of the continuity of u, \dot{u} and \ddot{u} and the boundedness of $\dot{u}(t+h), \dot{u}(t), u(t+h)$ and $\ddot{u}(t)$ in $L^2(\Omega)$, by (15) it follows the continuity of a'' . Hence a' is continuously differentiable in $(0, T)$ for u in $H2$.

3) Analogously, if $u \in H2$, then $A \in C^1(0, T)$. Further, by the definition of A we have

$$\frac{A(t+h) - A(t)}{h} = \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\dot{u}(t+h, x)^2 - \dot{u}(t, x)^2}{h} + \frac{|\nabla u(t+h, x)|^2 - |\nabla u(t, x)|^2}{h} \right) dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left| \frac{A(t+h) - A(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} [\nabla \dot{u}(t, x) \cdot \nabla u(t, x) + \dot{u}(t, x)\ddot{u}(t, x)] dx \right| \\
 (16) \quad &= \left| \int_{\Omega} \left(\left(\frac{\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x)}{h} - \ddot{u}(t, x) \right) \cdot (\dot{u}(t+h, x) + \dot{u}(t, x)) \right) dx \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \int_{\Omega} \left(\begin{array}{c} \ddot{u}(t, x)(\dot{u}(t+h, x) - \dot{u}(t, x)) + \nabla \dot{u}(t, x) \\ \cdot \nabla(u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) \end{array} \right) dx \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \int_{\Omega} \left(\begin{array}{c} \nabla \left(\frac{u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)}{h} - \dot{u}(t, x) \right) \\ \cdot \nabla(u(t+h, x) + u(t, x)) \end{array} \right) dx \right|.
 \end{aligned}$$

From (16) it follows the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{A(t+h) - A(t)}{h} - 2 \int_{\Omega} [\nabla \dot{u}(t, x) \cdot \nabla u(t, x) + \dot{u}(t, x) \ddot{u}(t, x)] dx \right| \\ & \leq \left\| \frac{\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)}{h} - \ddot{u}(t) \right\|_2 (\|\dot{u}(t+h)\|_2 + \|\dot{u}(t)\|_2) \\ & \quad + \|\ddot{u}(t)\|_2 \|\dot{u}(t+h) - \dot{u}(t)\|_2 + \|\nabla \dot{u}(t)\|_2 \|\nabla(u(t+h) - u(t))\|_2 \\ & \quad + \left\| \nabla \left(\frac{u(t+h) - u(t)}{h} - \dot{u}(t) \right) \right\|_2 \|\nabla(u(t+h) + u(t))\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the assertions about A in Lemma 2 follow. ■

Definition 3. $u \in H1$ is a *weak solution* of the problem (SL) if

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} (\nabla u(s, x) \cdot \nabla \varphi(s, x) - \dot{u}(s, x) \dot{\varphi}(s, x) + f(u(s, x)) \varphi(s, x)) dx ds \\ & = \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(0, x) \varphi(0, x) - \dot{u}(t, x) \varphi(t, x)) dx \quad \forall \varphi \in H1. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 3. This definition is resulted through the multiplication with φ and integration from 0 to t . From this we obtain the following Lemma 4.

Lemma 4. *Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuously differentiable function with the property that $vf(v)$ and $F(v)$ are both in $L^1(\Omega)$ for each v in $H_0^1(\Omega)$; $f(v) \in W^{1,1}(0, T, L^2(\Omega))$ for each v in $H2$; $f(u) : H2 \rightarrow H1$ is local Lipschitz, i.e., there exists a function $M(\|u\|_{H2}, \|v\|_{H2})$ such that*

$$(17) \quad \|f(u) - f(v)\|_{H1} \leq M(\|u\|_{H2}, \|v\|_{H2}) \|u - v\|_{H2} \quad \forall u, v \in H2,$$

where $M(\|u\|_{H2}, \|v\|_{H2})$ is bounded if $\|u\|_{H2}$ and $\|v\|_{H2}$ are all bounded. Suppose $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$ and $u_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$. Then the problem (SL) has exactly one solution $u \in H1$ and $a \in C^1(0, T)$, $a'(t)$ is differentiable almost everywhere in $(0, T)$ and

$$(18) \quad a''(t) = 2 \int_{\Omega} (\dot{u}(t, x)^2 - |\nabla u(t, x)|^2 - u(t, x) f(u(t, x))) dx \text{ a.e. in } (0, T),$$

$$(19) \quad A'(t) = -2 \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x) f(u(t, x)) dx \text{ a.e. in } (0, T).$$

In order to facilitate the flow of the argument, we will postpone its proof to the end of the paper. We have the following main results.

2. MAIN RESULTS

The initial-boundary value problem for the damping wave equation

$$\square u + g(\dot{u}) = 0$$

has a solution in H1, provided $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is in C^1 such that $g'(t) \geq 0 \forall t \geq 0$ (see [9] p. 29). The triviality of the solutions of wave equation of this type will be discussed later in another work. Using the method here one can consider also the wave equation

$$\square u + f(u, \dot{u}) = 0$$

with the constraint

$$\xi \cdot f(\eta, \xi) \geq 0$$

or

$$f(\eta, \xi)^2 \leq k(|\eta|^p + \xi^2) \quad \forall (\eta, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^2, 2 \leq p \leq 2n/n - 2.$$

We have the following main results.

Theorem 5. *The initial-boundary value problem [IBVP] for the wave equation (SL) has exactly one global solution $u \equiv 0$ in H2 provided $u_0 \equiv 0 \equiv u_1$ and*

$$(20) \quad f(\eta)^2 \leq k(\eta^2 + |\eta|^p) \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}, \quad p \in [2, 2n/(n-2)].$$

Theorem 6. *Suppose that $u \in H1$ is a weak solution of the IBVP for the semi-linear wave equation (SL). Then we have $u \equiv 0$ and $f(0) = 0$ if $u_0 \equiv 0 \equiv u_1$ and there exists a positive constant k such that*

$$(21) \quad F(\eta) \geq -k\eta^2 \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Theorem 7. *Suppose that $\Omega := B_{r_2}(0) - \overline{B_{r_1}(0)}$, $r_2 > r_1 > 0$, is an annulus in \mathbb{R}^n and there exists two positive constants $k > 0$ and $p > 1$ such that*

$$(22) \quad \eta f(\eta) + 2F(\eta) \geq -k|\eta|^p \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then the IBVP for (SL) has exactly one global radial solution $u \equiv 0$ in H2 if f is local Lipschitz and

$$u_0 \equiv 0 \equiv u_1 \equiv f(0).$$

Remark 7. We here require no upper-bound on p . $f(u) = -mu + ku^q$ is a typical example for this condition.

3. PROOF OF THEOREM 5

It is evident that $u \equiv 0$ is a solution of the IBVP for the semi-linear wave equation (SL). Suppose that $0 \neq u \in H^2$ is another solution of (SL). Since the continuity of A and $u_0 = 0 = u_1$, it follows that $A(0) = 0$ and the following supremum exists

$$(23) \quad t_1 := \sup\{t \geq 0 : A(t) \leq 1\}.$$

By (20) and Lemma 4 we find the inequality

$$(24) \quad A'(t) \leq A(t) + k \left(A(t) + \int_{\Omega} |u|^p(t, x) dx \right).$$

For $2 \leq p \leq 2n/(n-2)$ we have the Sobolev inequality

$$(25) \quad \|u\|_p^p(t) \leq k_1 \|Du\|_2^p(t) = k_1 A(t)^{\frac{p}{2}}.$$

Through (23) (24) and (25) we arrive at

$$(26) \quad A'(t) \leq (1+k)A(t) + k \cdot k_1 A(t)^{\frac{p}{2}} \leq k_2 A(t) \quad \text{for } t \text{ in } [0, t_1]$$

since $A(t) \leq 1 \forall t \in [0, t_1]$, where $k_2 := 1 + k + 2^{-1}pk_1$.

Multiply the inequality (26) with $\exp(-k_2 t)$. Then it brings to

$$(27) \quad (\exp(-k_2 t) \cdot A(t))' = \exp(-k_2 t)(A'(t) - k_2 A(t)) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \in [0, t_1].$$

By (27) we have found

$$A(t) \leq A(0) \cdot \exp(k_2 t) = 0 \quad \forall t \in [0, t_1].$$

Hence we get $u \equiv 0$ in $[0, t_1]$. Repeating the above process, we reach at $u \equiv 0$ in \mathbb{R}^+ . This contradicts $u \neq 0$. ■

Corollary 5. *Theorem 5 is true particularly for the well-defined functions*

$$f(u) = u^{p/2} + u^{q/2}, u^{p/2} - u^{q/2}, \quad p, q \in [2, 2n/n-2]$$

or under the assumption

$$f(\eta)^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^m k_i |\eta|^{p_i} \quad \forall \eta \in \mathbb{R},$$

where $k_i =$ positive constants, $p_i \in [2, 2n/n-2]$.

Application of Theorem 5. *For a local Lipschitz function f there exists exactly one solution $u \in H^1$ of the IBVP for the wave equation (SL), provided $u_0 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ and $u_1 \in L^2(\Omega)$.*

The existence and uniqueness of solutions are well known but our proof for uniqueness is short. We now show it below. Suppose that u and v are two solutions of (SL). Then

$$\square(u - v) + f(u) - f(v) = 0, (u - v)(0, \cdot) = 0 = (\dot{u} - \dot{v})(0, \cdot).$$

We set

$$g(u - v) := f(u) - f(v).$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(u - v)\|_2(t) &= \|f(u) - f(v)\|_2(t) \leq M(\|u\|_{1,2}, \|v\|_{1,2})\|u - v\|_{1,2}(t) \\ &\leq M(\|u\|_{1,2}, \|v\|_{1,2})\|D(u - v)\|_2(t). \end{aligned}$$

Like the proof in Theorem 5 we get $\|D(u - v)\|_2(t) \equiv 0$ and the uniqueness of the solutions of this problem (SL) follows. ■

4. PROOF OF THEOREM 6

We choose

$$\varphi_\varepsilon(s, \cdot) = \frac{u(s + \varepsilon, \cdot) - u(s, \cdot)}{\varepsilon} \in H^1$$

in Definition 3 and let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Then we can get the estimate

$$A(t) = -2 \int_{\Omega} F(u(t, x)) dx \leq 2ka(t).$$

With the help of Poincaré inequality it follows

$$(28) \quad C_{\Omega}^2 \int_{\Omega} u(t, x)^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x)^2 dx \leq \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u(t, x)|^2 + \dot{u}(t, x)^2) dx := A(t).$$

By (28) we have therefore

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\Omega} a'(t) &= 2C_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \dot{u}(t, x) dx \leq C_{\Omega}^2 a(t) + \int_{\Omega} \dot{u}(t, x)^2 dx \\ &\leq A(t) \leq 2ka(t) \quad \forall t \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

So it brings to

$$(29) \quad a'(t) - 2kC_{\Omega}^{-1}a(t) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Multiplying the inequality (29) with $\exp(-rt)$, $r := 2kC_{\Omega}^{-1}$, we obtain

$$(e^{-rt}a(t))' = e^{-rt}(a'(t) - ra(t)) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

herewith

$$(30) \quad a(t) \leq a(0) \exp(rt) = 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

since $u_0 \equiv 0 \equiv u_1$. By (30) it follows immediately that $u \equiv 0$ and $f(0) = 0$. ■

Corollary 6. *Theorem 6 is valid particularly for monotonic increasing function f with $f(0) = 0$. For instance, $f(u) = u^{2p-1}$, $-1 + \exp u$.*

5. PROOF OF THEOREM 7

It is clear that $u \equiv 0$ is a radial solution of IBVP for the wave equation (SL).

1) Suppose that $0 \neq u(t, |x|) = u(t, r)$, $r = |x|$, is another radial solution in H^2 of (SL). We set

$$u(t, r) = v(t, r)r^{(1-n)/2}, \quad v_r(t, r) := \frac{\partial v(t, r)}{\partial r}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{u}(t, r) &= \ddot{v}(t, r)r^{(1-n)/2}, \quad r_i := \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} = \frac{x_i}{r}, \\ u_i(t, r) &:= \frac{\partial u(t, r)}{\partial x_i} = v_r(t, r) r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-1}x_i + \frac{1-n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2}x_iv(t, r) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} u_{ii} &= v_{rr}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2}x_i^2 + v_r \left(r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-1} - \frac{1+n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-3}x_i^2 + \frac{1-n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-3}x_i^2 \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1-n}{2}v \left(-\frac{3+n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-4}x_i^2 + r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2} \right) \\ &= v_{rr}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2}x_i^2 + v_r \left(r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-1} - nr^{\frac{1-n}{2}-3}x_i^2 \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1-n}{2}v \left(-\frac{3+n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-4}x_i^2 + r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u &= v_{rr}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}} + v_r \left(nr^{\frac{1-n}{2}-1} - nr^{\frac{1-n}{2}-3}r^2 \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1-n}{2}v \left(-\frac{3+n}{2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}-4}r^2 + nr^{\frac{1-n}{2}-2} \right) \\ &= v_{rr}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}} - \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{4r^2}r^{\frac{1-n}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

We set

$$G(v) = \int_0^v g(s)ds, \quad g(v) = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{4r^2}v + r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}f\left(r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}v\right).$$

Then the equation (SL) will be transformed into the following equation

$$(RG) \quad \begin{aligned} \ddot{v} - \partial^2 v / \partial r^2 + g(v) &= 0 \quad \text{in } [0, T] \times (r_1, r_2), \\ v(0, r) = u_0 r^{(n-1)/2} &\equiv 0 \equiv \dot{v}(0, r), v(t, r_1) \equiv 0 \equiv v(t, r_2). \end{aligned}$$

Choose $\eta = r^{(1-n)/2}v$ in (22), then we get

$$(31) \quad \begin{aligned} \eta f(\eta) + 2F(\eta) &= r^{-(n-1)/2}v f\left(r^{-(n-1)/2}v\right) + 2F\left(r^{-(n-1)/2}v\right) \\ &\geq -kr^{-(n-1)p/2}|v|^p. \end{aligned}$$

From (31) it follows therefore

$$(32) \quad \begin{aligned} v g(v) + 2G(v) &= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{4r^2}v^2 + r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}v f\left(r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}v\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{4r^2}v^2 + 2r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\int_0^v f\left(r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}s\right)ds \\ &= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{2r^2}v^2 + r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}v f\left(r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}v\right) + 2r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\int_0^{r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}v} f(s)ds \\ &= \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{2r^2}v^2 + r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\left(v f\left(r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}v\right) + 2r^{\frac{n-1}{2}}F\left(r^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}v\right)\right) \\ &\geq \frac{(n-1)(n-3)}{2r^2}v^2 - kr^{-(n-1)(p/2-1)}|v|^p \geq -k_1(v^2 + |v|^p), \end{aligned}$$

with $k_1 := \max\{-2^{-1}(n-1)(n-3)r^{-2} + kr^{(1-n)(p/2-1)} : r \in [r_1, r_2]\}$.

2) Because $v \in H^2$ is a solution of (RG), we have found that

$$(33) \quad \begin{aligned} &\int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(t, s)\ddot{v}(t, s) - \dot{v}(t, s)v_{rr}(t, s) + \dot{v}(t, s)g(v(t, s)))ds = 0, \\ &\int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(t, s)\ddot{v}(t, s) + \dot{v}_r(t, s)v_r(t, s) + \dot{v}(t, s)g(v(t, s)))ds \\ &= \dot{v}(t, r_2)v_r(t, r_2) - \dot{v}(t, r_1)v_r(t, r_1) = 0, \\ &\frac{d}{dt} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(t, s)^2 + v_r(t, s)^2 + 2G(v(t, s)))ds = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By (33) we therefore reach the following identity

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(t, s)^2 + v_r(t, s)^2 + 2G(v(t, s))) ds \\
 (34) \quad & = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(0, s)^2 + v_r(0, s)^2 + 2G(v(0, s))) ds \\
 & = 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} G(v(0, s)) ds = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

by $v(0, r) = 0 = \dot{v}(0, r)$. Multiplying the equation (RG) with v and integrating from r_1 to r_2 , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v^2(t, s) ds = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (\dot{v}(t, s)^2 - v_r(t, s)^2 - v(t, s)g(v(t, s))) ds, \\
 (35) \quad & 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds = -\frac{\hat{a}''(t)}{2} - \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (v(t, s)g(v(t, s)) + 2G(v(t, s))) ds,
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\hat{a}(t) := \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v(t, r)^2 dr$ and $v_r := \frac{\partial v(t, r)}{\partial r}$.

By (32) and (35) we obtain

$$(36) \quad 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \leq -\frac{\hat{a}''(t)}{2} + k_1 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} (v(t, s)^2 + |v(t, s)|^p) ds.$$

By the Sobolev embedding $H_0^1(r_1, r_2) \subset C_0^0(r_1, r_2) \subset L^p(r_1, r_2)$, there exists a positive constant k_2 such that

$$(37) \quad \int_{r_1}^{r_2} |v(t, s)|^p ds \leq k_2 \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} (v(t, s)^2 + v_r(t, s)^2) ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}}.$$

By the inequalities (36) and (37) we have found that

$$2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \leq -\frac{\hat{a}''(t)}{2} + k_1 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v(t, s)^2 ds + k_1 k_2 \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} (v(t, s)^2 + v_r(t, s)^2) ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{a}''(t) + 4 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \\
 (38) \quad & \leq 2k_1 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v(t, s)^2 ds + 2k_1 k_2 \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} (v(t, s)^2 + v_r(t, s)^2) ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This yields the estimate

$$(39) \quad \hat{a}''(t) + 4 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \leq 2k_1 \hat{a}(t) + k_3 \left(\hat{a}(t)^{\frac{p}{2}} + \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} \right),$$

where $k_3 := 2^{\frac{p}{2}} k_1 k_2$.

3) By using $v(0, r) = 0 = \dot{v}(0, r)$, we get $v_r(0, r) = 0 = \dot{v}_r(0, r)$, $\hat{a}(0) = 0$ and the following supremum exists for $p > 2$

$$(40) \quad t_2 := \sup \left\{ \bar{t} : \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \leq k_4, \hat{a}(t) \leq 1, t \leq \bar{t} \right\},$$

$$k_4 := \min \left\{ 1, (4/k_3)^{2/(p-2)} \right\}.$$

Through the definition (40), in $[0, t_2]$ we find that

$$(41) \quad \begin{aligned} k_3 \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} &= k_3 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \left(\int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \right)^{\frac{p}{2}-1} \\ &\leq k_3 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \cdot k_4^{\frac{p}{2}-1} \\ &\leq k_3 \cdot \left[\left(\frac{4}{k_3} \right)^{\frac{2}{p-2}} \right]^{\frac{p}{2}-1} \cdot \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds \\ &\leq 4 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_r(t, s)^2 ds. \end{aligned}$$

From the inequalities (38), (39) and (41) we obtain

$$\hat{a}''(t) \leq 2k_1 \hat{a}(t) + k_3 \hat{a}(t)^{\frac{p}{2}} \leq \left(2k_1 + \frac{pk_3}{2} \right) \hat{a}(t) \quad \forall t \in [0, t_2],$$

since $\hat{a}(t) \leq 1$ in $[0, t_2]$. By $\hat{a}(0) = 0 = \hat{a}'(0)$ and Lemma 1 it follows

$$\hat{a}(t) \equiv 0 \quad \forall t \in [0, t_2].$$

Note that t_2 must be ∞ , for otherwise it will produce a contradiction to the definition of t_2 . For $p \in [1, 2]$, from Lemma 1 and the inequality (39) it follows that $\hat{a}(t) \equiv 0$. So $u \equiv 0$. This is however a contradiction to the assumption $u \neq 0$. ■

6. PROOF OF LEMMA 4

We show the existence and uniqueness of the solutions of the IBVP (SL) through an elementary method.

By [5, p. 95; 4, p. 31], we suppose that $v_1 \in H^2$ is the existing solution of the IBVP for the wave equation

$$\begin{aligned} \square v_1 + f(u_0) &= 0 \text{ in } [0, T] \times \Omega, v_1(t, x) = 0 \text{ on } [0, T] \times \partial\Omega, \\ v_1(0, \cdot) &= u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \dot{v}_1(0, \cdot) = u_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

Then we have $v_1(t) \in H^2(\Omega)$ for each $t \in [0, T]$ and we get also

$$\begin{aligned} E'_{v_1}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\dot{v}_1(t, x)^2 + |\nabla v_1(t, x)|^2 + 2v_1(t, x)f(u_0(x))) dx \\ &= 2 \int_{\Omega} [\dot{v}_1(t, x)(\dot{v}_1(t, x) + f(u_0(x))) + \nabla v_1(t, x) \cdot \nabla \dot{v}_1(t, x)] dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 2 we have therefore the identity

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} a''_{v_1}(t) &= \int_{\Omega} (\dot{v}_1(t, x)^2 + v_1(t, x)\ddot{v}_1(t, x)) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} (\dot{v}_1(t, x)^2 - |\nabla v_1(t, x)|^2 - v_1(t, x)f(u_0(x))) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $v_{m+1} := Sv_m \in H^2$ is the existing solution of the IBVP for the wave equation

$$\begin{aligned} \square v_{m+1} + f(v_m) &= 0 \text{ in } [0, T] \times \Omega, v_{m+1}(t, x) = 0 \text{ on } [0, T] \times \partial\Omega, \\ v_{m+1}(0, \cdot) &= u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \dot{v}_{m+1}(0, \cdot) = u_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

Then we have found that $v_{m+1}(t) \in H^2(\Omega)$ for each $t \in [0, T]$ and

$$\begin{aligned} E'_{v_{m+1}}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\dot{v}_{m+1}(t, x)^2 + |\nabla v_{m+1}(t, x)|^2 \\ &\quad + 2v_{m+1}(t, x)f(v_m(t, x))) dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2 once more we obtain therefore the identity

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} a''_{v_{m+1}}(t) &= \int_{\Omega} (\dot{v}_{m+1}(t, x)^2 - |\nabla v_{m+1}(t, x)|^2 \\ &\quad - v_{m+1}(t, x)f(v_m(t, x))) dx. \end{aligned}$$

After some long computations one can verify the following statements.

- (1) v_m is uniformly bounded in $H1$ and in $H2$.
- (2) v_m is a Cauchy sequence in $H1$ and in $H2$.

Hence we reach at the assertions of Lemma 4. ■

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author thanks the referee for his interest and comments on this paper and his careful correction of the English usage.

REFERENCES

1. F. E. Browder, On non-linear wave equations, *Math. Z.* **80** (1962), 249-264.
2. K. Jörgens, Das Anfangswertproblem im Großen für eine Klasse nichtlinearer Wellengleichungen, *Math. Z.* **77** (1961), 295-307.
3. F. John, Blow-up for quasilinear wave equations in three space dimensions, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.* **36** (1981), 29-51.
4. A. Haraux, Semilinear Hyperbolic Problems in Bounded Domains, Math. Reports, Vol. 3, Harwood Academic Publ., 1987.
5. J. Lions and E. L-Magenes, Non-homogenous Boundary Value Problems and Applications, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1972.
6. M. R. Li, Nichtlineare Wellengleichungen 2. Ordnung auf beschränkten Gebieten, Ph.D. Dissertation, Tübingen, 1994.
7. M. R. Li, Abschätzungen für die Lebensspanne von Lösungen semilinearer Wellengleichungen, preprint.
8. R. Racke, Lectures on Nonlinear Evolution Equations: Initial Value Problems, Aspects of Math. Braunschweig Wiesbaden Vieweg, 1992.
9. W. A. Strauss, Nonlinear Wave Equations, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, 1989.
10. W. von Wahl and E. Heinz, Zu einem Satz von F. E. Browder über nichtlineare Wellengleichungen, *Math. Z.* **141** (1975), 33-45.

Department of mathematical Sciences, National Chengchi University
Taipei, Taiwan