

## INITIAL BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEMS FOR A MODEL OF QUASILINEAR WAVE EQUATION

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**Abstract:** In this paper, the authors consider the IBVP for a class of second-order quasilinear wave equation. By the method of characteristic analysis, the global smooth resolvability are obtained under certain hypotheses on the initial data, which extend the result of Yang and Liu [8].

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### 1 Introduction

In this paper we consider the initial-boundary value problems (IBVP) for the following quasilinear wave equation

$$u_{tt} - k(u_x)_x + \gamma u_t = 0, \quad t \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $k(v)$  is a sufficiently smooth function such that

$$k(0) = 0, 0 < k_0 \leq k'(v) \leq k_1, |k''(v)| \leq k_2, \quad (1.2)$$

and  $k_0, k_1, k_2, \gamma$  are positive constants.

Equation (1.1) arises in a variety of ways in several areas of applied mathematics and physics. When  $\gamma = 0$ , equation (1.1) serves to model the transverse vibrations of a finite nonlinear string, for its Cauchy problem, Klainerman and Majda [1] proved that the second order derivatives of the  $C^2$  solution  $u = u(t, x)$  must blow up in a finite time, Greenberg and Li [5] proved global smooth solutions do exist under the dissipative boundary condition.

For the case that  $\gamma \neq 0$ , in a significant piece of work Nishida [2] considered the initial-value problem for (1.1), using a Riemann invariant argument, the global smooth resolvability has been proved if the initial data are small in an appropriate sense.

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For other results related to (1.1) and nonlinear string equation, we may refer to [3, 4, etc].

In this paper, we consider equation (1.1) on the strip  $[0, 1] \times (0, \infty)$  with the following initial and fixed boundary data

$$x = 0 : k(u_x) = u_t = 0, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (1.3)$$

$$x = 1 : u_t = 0, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (1.4)$$

$$t = 0 : u = \varepsilon f(x), u_t = \varepsilon g(x), \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad (1.5)$$

where

$$f(x) \in C^2([0, 1]).$$

We also require the compatibility conditions

$$g(0) = g(1) = 0, k'(0)f'(0) + \gamma g'(0) = 0. \quad (1.6)$$

We will show that problem (1.1) and (1.3)–(1.5) admits a unique global  $C^1$  solution.

## 2 Preliminaries and Main Theorem

If in  $(t, x)$  space we set  $u_t = w, u_x = v$ , then (1.1) is transformed into the dissipative quasilinear system

$$\begin{cases} v_t - w_x = 0, \\ w_t - k(v)_x = -\gamma w. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

The eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  and the Riemann invariants  $r$  and  $s$  for system (2.1) are, respectively,

$$-\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda = \sqrt{k'(v)} > 0, \quad (2.2)$$

$$2r = w + \int_0^v \sqrt{k'(y)} dy, \quad 2s = w - \int_0^v \sqrt{k'(y)} dy. \quad (2.3)$$

Thus problems (2.1) and (1.3)–(1.5) can be written as

$$\begin{cases} r_t - \lambda r_x = -\gamma(r + s), \\ s_t + \lambda s_x = -\gamma(r + s), \\ t = 0 : (r(0, x), s(0, x)) = (r_0(x), s_0(x)) \quad x \in [0, 1], \\ x = 0 : r(t, 0) = s(t, 0) = 0; \quad x = 1 : r(t, 1) = s(t, 1) \quad t \geq 0, \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

where

$$r_0(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_0^{v_0(x)} \sqrt{k'(y)} dy - g(x) \right), s_0(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( - \int_0^{v_0(x)} \sqrt{k'(y)} dy - g(x) \right).$$

Our main result of this paper may be stated as

**Theorem 2.1** Assume that (1.2) and (1.6) hold, if  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, then IBVP (1.1) and (1.3)–(1.5) admits a unique global  $C^1$  solution.

**Remark 2.1** Theorem 2.1 shows that the interior dissipative effect of the equation in guaranteeing the global existence of classical solution which is different to that of the dissipative effect of boundary in [5].

### 3 Proof of Main Theorem

By the local existence theorem of smooth solutions (see [7]), we only need to establish the uniform  $C^1$  estimates for the solutions of (2.4) a priori. For our purpose, we give the following lemma which play an important role in our analysis.

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $r(t, x), s(t, x)$  be the solution to problem (2.4), then it holds for any  $t \geq 0$  that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \max \{ |(r, s)(\cdot, \tau)| \} \leq \max \{ |(r_0(x), s_0(x))| \}.$$

**Proof** Let

$$J(t) = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \max \{ |(r, s)(\cdot, \tau)| \}. \quad (3.1)$$

For every fixed  $T > 0$ , without loss of generality, we assume that  $J(t)$  is reached by  $r(t, x)$  first at some point

$$(t, x) \in D(T) = [0, T] \times [0, 1],$$

then for arbitrary  $(t, x) \in D$ , let

$$\xi = f_i(\tau; t, x) \quad (i = 1, 2)$$

be the forward and backward characteristics passing through point  $(t, x)$ , that is,

$$\frac{df_i(\tau; t, x)}{d\tau} = \lambda_i(\tau; f_i(\tau; t, x)) \neq 0, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\tau = t : f_i(t; t, x) = x, i = 1, 2. \quad (3.3)$$

Now we discuss the backward characteristics, the other cases can be treated similarly. For the backward characteristics  $\xi = f_2(\tau; t, x)$ , there are two possibilities.

(1)  $\xi = f_2(\tau; t, x)$  intersects the interval  $[0, 1]$  on the  $x$ -axis at  $(0, x_0)$ , thus we have

$$|r(t, x)| \leq \exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \gamma du \right\} |r_0(x)| + \int_0^t \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_\tau^t \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau. \quad (3.4)$$

Due to

$$\exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \gamma du \right\} < 1 \quad (3.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_\tau^t \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau &\leq \int_0^t \gamma \exp \left\{ - \gamma(t - \tau) \right\} |s| d\tau \\ &\leq \left( 1 - \exp \left\{ - \int_\tau^t \gamma du \right\} \right) |s|, \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

then it follows from (3.4)–(3.6) that

$$J(t) \leq J(0). \quad (3.7)$$

(2)  $\xi = f_2(\tau; t, x)$  interacts the boundary  $x = 1$  at  $(t_1, 1)$ , then by (2.4) we have

$$|r(t, x)| \leq \exp \left\{ - \int_{t_1}^t \gamma du \right\} |r(t_1, 1)| + \int_{t_1}^t \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^t \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau. \quad (3.8)$$

Then from  $(t_1, 1)$  we draw a forward characteristic which interacts the boundary  $x = 0$  at  $(t_2, 0)$ , along this characteristic, similar to (3.8), it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} |r(t_1, 1)| &= |s(t_1, 1)| \\ &\leq \exp \left\{ - \int_{t_2}^{t_1} \gamma du \right\} |s(t_2, 0)| + \int_{t_2}^{t_1} \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^{t_1} \gamma du \right\} |r| d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

Thus, for the backward characteristic  $\xi = f_2(\tau; t_2, 0)$  passing through point  $(t_2, 0)$ , there are still two possibilities:

- (2a) the backward characteristic interacts the interval  $[0, 1]$  on the  $x$ -axis;
- (2b) the backward characteristic interacts the boundary  $x = 1$ .

Noting that the monotonicity of the characteristic, after finite times refraction, the characteristic must interact the interval  $[0, 1]$  on the  $x$ -axis. Without loss of generality, we may assume that the backward characteristic from  $(t_2, 0)$  interacts the interval  $[0, 1]$  at  $(x_0, 0)$ , so we have

$$\begin{aligned} |s(t_2, 0)| &= |r(t_2, 0)| \\ &\leq \exp \left\{ - \int_0^{t_2} \gamma du \right\} |r_0(x)| + \int_0^{t_2} \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^{t_2} \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Combining (3.8)–(3.10), we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |r(t, x)| &\leq \exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \gamma du \right\} |r_0(x)| + \exp \left\{ - \int_{t_2}^t \gamma du \right\} \cdot \int_0^{t_2} \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^{t_2} \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau \\ &\quad + \exp \left\{ - \int_{t_1}^t \gamma du \right\} \cdot \int_{t_2}^{t_1} \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^{t_1} \gamma du \right\} |r| d\tau \\ &\quad + \int_{t_1}^t \gamma \exp \left\{ - \int_{\tau}^t \gamma du \right\} |s| d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

The combination of (3.1) and (3.11) yields

$$J(t) \leq \exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \gamma du \right\} |r_0(x)| + \left( 1 - \exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \gamma du \right\} \right) J(t). \quad (3.12)$$

Noting that (3.5), (3.12) imply (3.7) too.

By (3.7), we immediately get the conclusion of Lemma 2.1.

Next, in order to prove Theorem 2.1 it suffices to establish a uniform a priori estimate on  $C^0$  norm to the first order derivatives of the  $C^1$  solution to IBVP (2.4). To this end, we differentiate (2.4) with respect to  $x$ , it is easy to see that

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dr_x}{dt} = \lambda_x r_x - \gamma(r+s), \\ \frac{Ds_x}{Dt} = -\lambda_x s_x - \gamma(r+s), \\ t=0 : (r_x(0, x), s_x(0, x)) = (r'_0(x), s'_0(x)) \quad x \in [0, 1], \\ x=0 : r_x(t, 0) = s_x(t, 0); \quad x=1 : r_x(t, 1) = s_x(t, 1) \quad t \geq 0, \end{cases} \quad (3.13)$$

where

$$\frac{d}{dt} = \partial_t - \lambda \partial_x, \quad \frac{D}{Dt} = \partial_t + \lambda \partial_x,$$

and the initial data for  $(r_x, s_x)$  can be easily derived from (2.3) and (2.4).

**Lemma 3.2** Assume that (1.2) holds, if  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, then we have

$$|r_x(t, x)| \leq k_3, |s_x(t, x)| \leq k_3, \quad (3.14)$$

where

$$k_3 = \max\{|r_x(0, x)|, |s_x(0, x)|\}.$$

**Proof** Noting that (1.2), by the continuity of  $\lambda$ , with the help of the local result and a standard continuity argument, for the time being we suppose that

$$|\lambda_x(t, x)| \leq k_4, \quad (3.15)$$

then we can use the method similar to Lemma 3.1 and easily verify the following facts

$$|r_x(t, x)| \leq k_3, |s_x(t, x)| \leq k_5,$$

where  $k_5 > 0$  is a constant, and we have  $|\lambda_x(t, x)| \leq k_4$ , which verifies the a priori assumption (3.15). The details will be omitted.

Applying Lemma 3.1 and Lemma 3.2, Theorem 2.1 is obtained.

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## 一个拟线性波动方程模型的初边值问题

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**摘要:** 本文研究了一类二阶拟线性波动方程的初边值问题. 利用特征分析和局部解延拓的方法, 在一定的假设条件下得到了经典解的整体存在性, 进一步推广了杨晗和刘法贵的结果<sup>[8]</sup>.

**关键词:** 拟线性波动方程; 初边值问题; 整体经典解; 特征分析

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