



## A HIGH ORDER ITERATIVE SCHEME ASSOCIATED WITH A DIRICHLET-ROBIN PROBLEM FOR A NONLINEAR CARRIER EQUATION IN THE ANNULAR MEMBRANE

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we consider an initial and boundary value problem for a nonlinear Carrier wave equation, with a source term containing four variables

$$f = f(x, t, u, \int_{\rho}^1 xu^2(x, t) dx).$$

Motivated by recent results for Carrier equation, we establish here a high order iterative scheme to obtain a convergent sequence at a rate of order  $N$ .

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we consider the following nonlinear Carrier wave equation in the annular membrane

$$u_{tt} - \mu(\|u(t)\|_0^2)(u_{xx} + \frac{1}{x}u_x) = f(x, t, u, \|u(t)\|_0^2), \quad \rho < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < T, \quad (1.1)$$

associated with Robin-Dirichlet conditions

$$u(\rho, t) = u_x(1, t) + \zeta u(1, t) = 0, \quad (1.2)$$

and initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \tilde{u}_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = \tilde{u}_1(x), \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\mu, f, \tilde{u}_0, \tilde{u}_1$  are given functions, and  $\rho, \zeta$  are given constants, with  $0 < \rho < 1$ . In equation (1.1), the nonlinear terms  $\mu(\|u(t)\|_0^2)$  and  $f(x, t, u, \|u(t)\|_0^2)$  depend on the integral  $\|u(t)\|_0^2 = \int_{\rho}^1 x u^2(x, t) dx$ . Equation (1.1) herein is the bidimensional nonlinear wave equation describing nonlinear vibrations of the annular membrane  $\Omega_1 = \{(x, y) : \rho^2 < x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$ . In the vibration processing, the area of the annular membrane and the tension at various points change in time. The condition on the boundary  $\Gamma_1 = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$ , that is  $u_x(1, t) + \zeta u(1, t) = 0$ , describes elastic constraints where  $\zeta$  the constant has a mechanical signification. Here, the boundary conditions on  $\Gamma_{\rho} = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = \rho^2\}$  requiring  $u(\rho, t) = 0$ , it means that the annular membrane is fixed.

In [1], Carrier established the equation which models vibrations of an elastic string when changes in tension are not small

$$\rho u_{tt} - \left(1 + \frac{EA}{LT_0} \int_0^L u^2(y, t) dy\right) u_{xx} = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $u(x, t)$  is the  $x$  - derivative of the deformation,  $T_0$  is the tension in the rest position,  $E$  is the Young modulus,  $A$  is the cross - section of a string,  $L$  is the length of a string and  $\rho$  is the density of a material.

In [10], a high order iterative scheme was established in order to get a convergent sequence at a rate of order  $N$  ( $N \geq 1$ ) to a local unique weak solution of a nonlinear Carrier wave equation as follows

$$u_{tt} - \mu(\|u(t)\|_0^2)(u_{xx} + \frac{1}{x}u_x) = f(x, t, u), \quad \rho < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < T,$$

associated with the Robin-Dirichlet conditions (1.2), where  $\mu \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$  and there exist constants  $p > 1, \mu_* > 0, \mu_1 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$  such that

$$\begin{cases} 0 < \mu_* \leq \mu(z) \leq \mu_1(1 + z^p), \text{ for all } z \geq 0, \\ |\mu'(z)| \leq \mu_2(1 + z^{p-1}), \text{ for all } z \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

Motivated by results for nonlinear wave equations in [3] and [4], where recurrent sequences converge at a rate of order 1 or 2, we will construct a high order iterative scheme to obtain a convergent sequence at a rate of order  $N$  to a local weak solution of problems (1.1)-(1.3). This scheme is established based on a high order method for solving operator equation  $F(x) = 0$ , it also has been applied in [5]-[10], [14] and some other works. It is well known that Newton's method and its variants are used to solve nonlinear operator equations, see [11] and references therein.

In this paper, we associate with equation (1.1) a recurrent sequence  $\{u_m\}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^2 u_m}{\partial t^2} - \mu(\|u_m(t)\|_0^2) \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_m}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{\partial u_m}{\partial x} \right) \\ = & \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] (u_m - u_{m-1})^i \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j, \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

$\rho < x < 1, 0 < t < T$ , where  $A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] = \frac{1}{i!j!} D_3^i D_4^j f(x, t, u_{m-1}, \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2)$ , with  $u_m$  satisfying (1.2), (1.3) and  $u_0 \equiv 0$ . If  $f \in C^N([\rho, 1] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ , then we prove that the sequence  $\{u_m\}$  converges at a rate of order  $N$  to a local weak solution of problems (1.1)-(1.3). In our proofs, the Faedo - Galerkin approximation method associated with a priori estimates, the weak convergence, compactness techniques and a known fixed point theorem are used. We would like to emphasize here that the assumptions for the function  $\mu$  and its derivatives are bounded by a polynomials as in [4]-[6], [14] will be ignored in the process of proving. Our results can be regarded as an extension and improvement of the corresponding results of [3]-[10], [13] and [14].

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Put  $\Omega = (\rho, 1), Q_T = \Omega \times (0, T), T > 0$ . We will omit the definitions of the usual function spaces and denote them by the notations  $L^p = L^p(\Omega), H^m = H^m(\Omega)$ . Let  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  be either the scalar product in  $L^2$  or the dual pairing of a continuous linear functional and an element of a function space. The notation  $\|\cdot\|$  stands for the norm in  $L^2$  and we denote by  $\|\cdot\|_X$  the norm in the Banach space  $X$ . We call  $X'$  the dual space of  $X$ . We denote  $L^p(0, T; X), 1 \leq p \leq \infty$  the Banach space of real measurable functions  $u : (0, T) \rightarrow X$ , such that  $\|u\|_{L^p(0, T; X)} < +\infty$ , with

$$\|u\|_{L^p(0, T; X)} = \begin{cases} \left( \int_0^T \|u(t)\|_X^p dt \right)^{1/p}, & \text{if } 1 \leq p < \infty, \\ \text{ess sup}_{0 < t < T} \|u(t)\|_X, & \text{if } p = \infty. \end{cases}$$

For  $f \in C^k([\rho, 1] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ ,  $f = f(x, t, y_1, y_2)$ , we put  $D_1 f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ ,  $D_2 f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$ ,  $D_{2+i} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i}$  with  $i = 1, 2$ , and  $D^\alpha f = D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_4^{\alpha_4} f$ ,  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^4$ ,  $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_4 = k$ ,  $D^{(0, \dots, 0)} f = f$ ;

On  $H^1 \equiv H^1(\Omega)$ ,  $H^2 \equiv H^2(\Omega)$ , we shall use the following norms

$$\|v\|_{H^1} = \left( \|v\|^2 + \|v_x\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$\|v\|_{H^2} = \left( \|v\|^2 + \|v_x\|^2 + \|v_{xx}\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{2.2}$$

respectively.

Note that  $L^2$ ,  $H^1$ ,  $H^2$  are also the Hilbert spaces with respect to the corresponding scalar products

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \int_\rho^1 x u(x) v(x) dx, \quad \langle u, v \rangle + \langle u_x, v_x \rangle, \quad \langle u, v \rangle + \langle u_x, v_x \rangle + \langle u_{xx}, v_{xx} \rangle, \tag{2.3}$$

respectively. The norms in  $L^2$  and  $H^1$  induced by the corresponding scalar products (2.3) are denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_0$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_1$  and  $\|\cdot\|_2$ , respectively.

We put

$$V_1 = \{v \in H^1 : v(\rho) = 0\}. \tag{2.4}$$

Then,  $V_1$  is a closed subspace of  $H^1$  and two norms  $\|v\|_{H^1}$  and  $\|v_x\|$  are equivalent norms on  $V_1$ , and  $V_1$  is continuously and densely embedded in  $L^2$ . Identifying  $L^2$  with  $(L^2)'$  (the dual of  $L^2$ ), we have  $V_1 \hookrightarrow L^2 \hookrightarrow V_1'$ ; On the other hand, the notation  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is used for the pairing between  $V_1$  and  $V_1'$ .

We then have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** *The following inequalities are fulfilled:*

- (i)  $\sqrt{\rho} \|v\| \leq \|v\|_0 \leq \|v\|$  for all  $v \in L^2$ ,
- (ii)  $\sqrt{\rho} \|v\|_{H^1} \leq \|v\|_1 \leq \|v\|_{H^1}$  for all  $v \in H^1$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *The embedding  $V_1 \hookrightarrow C^0(\overline{\Omega})$  is compact and for all  $v \in V_1$ , we have*

- (i)  $\|v\|_{C^0(\overline{\Omega})} \leq \sqrt{1-\rho} \|v_x\|$ ,
- (ii)  $\|v\| \leq \frac{1-\rho}{\sqrt{2}} \|v_x\|$ ,

- (iii)  $\|v\|_0 \leq \frac{1-\rho}{\sqrt{2\rho}} \|v_x\|_0,$
- (iv)  $\|v_x\|_0^2 + v^2(1) \geq \|v\|_0^2,$
- (v)  $|v(1)| \leq \sqrt{3} \|v\|_1.$

**Remark 2.3.** Since two norms  $v \mapsto \|v\|$  and  $v \mapsto \|v\|_0$  are equivalent on  $L^2$ , two norms  $v \mapsto \|v\|_{H^1}$  and  $v \mapsto \|v\|_1$  are equivalent on  $H^1$ , and five norms  $v \mapsto \|v\|_{H^1}, v \mapsto \|v\|_1, v \mapsto \|v_x\|, v \mapsto \|v_x\|_0$  and  $v \mapsto \sqrt{\|v_x\|_0^2 + v^2(1)}$  are equivalent on  $V_1$ .

Now, we define the bilinear form

$$a(u, v) = \zeta u(1)v(1) + \int_{\rho}^1 x u_x(x)v_x(x) dx, \text{ for all } u, v \in V_1, \tag{2.5}$$

where  $\zeta \geq 0$  is a constant. We then have the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.4.** *The symmetric bilinear form  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  defined by (2.5) is continuous on  $V_1 \times V_1$  and coercive on  $V_1$ , i.e.,*

(i)  $|a(u, v)| \leq C_1 \|u\|_1 \|v\|_1,$

(ii)  $a(v, v) \geq C_0 \|v\|_1^2,$

for all  $u, v \in V_1$ , with  $C_0 = \frac{1}{2} \min\{1, \frac{2\rho}{(1-\rho)^2}\}$  and  $C_1 = 1 + 3\zeta$ .

**Remark 2.5.** By Lemma 2.4, the norms  $v \mapsto \|v\|_{H^1}, v \mapsto \|v\|_1, v \mapsto \|v_x\|, v \mapsto \|v_x\|_0, v \mapsto \sqrt{\|v_x\|_0^2 + v^2(1)}$  and  $v \mapsto \|v\|_a = \sqrt{a(v, v)} = \sqrt{\|v_x\|_0^2 + \zeta v^2(1)}$  are equivalent on  $V_1$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** *There exists the Hilbert orthonormal base  $\{w_j\}$  of the space  $L^2$  consisting of eigenfunctions  $w_j$  corresponding to eigenvalues  $\lambda_j$  such that*

(i)  $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_j \leq \lambda_{j+1} \leq \dots, \lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda_j = +\infty,$

(ii)  $a(w_j, v) = \lambda_j \langle w_j, v \rangle$  for all  $v \in V_1, j = 1, 2, \dots$

Furthermore, the sequence  $\{w_j/\sqrt{\lambda_j}\}$  is also the Hilbert orthonormal base of  $V_1$  with respect to the scalar product  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

On the other hand,  $w_j$  satisfies the following boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} Aw_j \equiv -w_{jxx} - \frac{1}{x}w_{jx} = -\frac{1}{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (xw_{jx}) = \lambda_j w_j, \text{ in } \Omega, \\ w_j(\rho) = w_{jx}(1) + \zeta w_j(1) = 0, w_j \in C^\infty([\rho, 1]). \end{cases} \tag{2.6}$$

The proof of Lemma 2.6 can be found in [[12], p.87, Theorem 7.7], with  $H = L^2$  and  $V = V_1$ , and  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  as defined by (2.5).

We also note that the operator  $A : V_1 \rightarrow V_1'$  in ( 2.6) is uniquely defined by the Lax-Milgram's lemma, i.e.,

$$a(u, v) = \langle Au, v \rangle \text{ for all } u, v \in V_1. \tag{2.7}$$

**Lemma 2.7.** *Three norms*

$$v \mapsto \|v\|_{H^2},$$

$$v \mapsto \|v\|_2 = \sqrt{\|v\|_0^2 + \|v_x\|_0^2 + \|v_{xx}\|_0^2}$$

and

$$v \mapsto \sqrt{\|v_x\|_0^2 + \|Av\|_0^2}$$

are equivalent on  $V_1 \cap H^2$ .

Finally, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}_+; \mathbb{R})$ . if the function  $\Phi_g$  is defined as follows:*

$$\Phi_g(r) = \begin{cases} \sup_{0 \leq u \leq r} |g(u)|, & r > 0, \\ |g(0)|, & r = 0, \end{cases} \tag{2.8}$$

then  $\Phi_g \in C(\mathbb{R}_+; \mathbb{R}_+)$  and  $\Phi_g$  is nondecreasing such that

$$g(x) \leq \Phi_g(x), \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}_+. \tag{2.9}$$

The proof of Lemma 2.8 can be found in [[15], Appendix 1].

### 3. A HIGH ORDER ITERATIVE SCHEME

First, we say that  $u$  is a weak solution of problems (1.1)-(1.3) if

$$u \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1 \cap H^2), \quad u_t \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1), \quad u_{tt} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2), \tag{3.1}$$

and  $u$  satisfies the following variational equation

$$\langle u_{tt}(t), v \rangle + \mu \left( \|u(t)\|_0^2 \right) a(u(t), v) = \langle f(x, t, u, \|u(t)\|_0^2), v \rangle, \tag{3.2}$$

for all  $v \in V_1$ , and a.e.,  $t \in (0, T)$ , together with the initial conditions

$$u(0) = \tilde{u}_0, \quad u_t(0) = \tilde{u}_1, \tag{3.3}$$

where  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the symmetric bilinear form on  $V_1$  defined by (2.5).

Now, we make the following assumptions:

$$(H_1) \quad \tilde{u}_0 \in V_1 \cap H^2, \quad \tilde{u}_1 \in V_1;$$

- (H<sub>2</sub>)  $\mu \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ , and there exists a constant  $\mu_* > 0$  such that  $\mu(z) \geq \mu_* > 0$ , for all  $z \geq 0$ ;
- (H<sub>3</sub>)  $f \in C^0([\rho, 1] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+)$  such that  $f(\rho, t, 0, z) = 0, \forall t, z \geq 0$  and
  - (i)  $D_3^i D_4^j f \in C^0([\rho, 1] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+), 1 \leq i + j \leq N,$
  - (ii)  $D_1 D_3^i D_4^j f \in C^0([\rho, 1] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+), 0 \leq i + j \leq N - 1.$

**Remark 3.1.** The following assumptions for the function  $\mu$  made in [10] are not needed here:  $\mu \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$  and there exist constants  $p > 1, \mu_* > 0, \mu_1 > 0, \mu_2 > 0$  such that

- (i)  $0 < \mu_* \leq \mu(z) \leq \mu_1(1 + z^p),$  for all  $z \geq 0,$
- (ii)  $|\mu'(z)| \leq \mu_2(1 + z^{p-1}),$  for all  $z \geq 0.$

Fix  $T^* > 0.$  For each  $M > 0$  given, we set the constants  $\tilde{K}_M(\mu), \bar{K}_M(f)$  as follows:

$$\tilde{K}_M(\mu) = \sup_{0 \leq z \leq M^2} (\mu(z) + |\mu'(z)|)$$

and

$$\bar{K}_M(f) = \max_{0 < i+j \leq N-1} \|D_3^i D_4^j f\|_{C^0(A_*(M))},$$

where  $\|f\|_{C^0(A_*(M))} = \sup\{|f(x, t, y, z)| : (x, t, y, z) \in A_*(M)\},$  and

$$A_*(M) = [\rho, 1] \times [0, T^*] \times \left[-\sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}}M, \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}}M\right] \times [-M^2, M^2].$$

For each  $M > 0$  and  $T \in (0, T^*],$  we put

$$\begin{aligned} W(M, T) &= \{u \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1 \cap H^2) : u_t \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1), u_{tt} \in L^2(Q_T), \\ &\quad \|u\|_{L^\infty(0, T; V_1 \cap H^2)} \leq M, \|u_t\|_{L^\infty(0, T; V_1)} \leq M, \|u_{tt}\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq M\}, \\ W_1(M, T) &= \{u \in W(M, T) : u_{tt} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we establish the following recurrent sequence  $\{u_m\}.$  The first term is chosen as  $u_0 \equiv 0,$  suppose that

$$u_{m-1} \in W_1(M, T), \tag{3.4}$$

we find  $u_m \in W_1(M, T) (m \geq 1)$  satisfying the linear variational problem

$$\begin{cases} \langle u_m''(t), v \rangle + \mu_m(t) a(u_m(t), v) = \langle F_m(t), v \rangle, \forall v \in V_1, \\ u_m(0) = \tilde{u}_0, u_m'(0) = \tilde{u}_1, \end{cases} \tag{3.5}$$

in which

$$\begin{cases} \mu_m(t) = \mu \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 \right), \\ F_m(x, t) = \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}](u_m - u_{m-1})^i \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j, \\ A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] = \frac{1}{i!j!} D_3^i D_4^j f(x, t, u_{m-1}, \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2), \\ i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_+, 0 \leq i + j \leq N - 1. \end{cases} \tag{3.6}$$

Now, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(H_1)$ ,  $(H_2)$ ,  $(H_3)$  hold. Then there exist a constant  $M > 0$  depending on  $\tilde{u}_0, \tilde{u}_1, \mu, \zeta, \rho$  and  $T > 0$  depending on  $\tilde{u}_0, \tilde{u}_1, \mu, f, \zeta, \rho$  such that, for  $u_0 \equiv 0$ , there exists a recurrent sequence  $\{u_m\} \subset W_1(M, T)$  defined by (3.5) and (3.6).*

*Proof. Step 1. Approximating solutions.* Consider the basis  $\{w_j\}$  for  $V_1$  as in Lemma 2.6. Put

$$u_m^{(k)}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^k c_{mj}^{(k)}(t) w_j, \tag{3.7}$$

where the coefficients  $c_{mj}^{(k)}$  satisfy the system of nonlinear differential equations

$$\begin{cases} \langle \ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle + \mu_m^{(k)}(t) a(u_m^{(k)}(t), w_j) = \langle F_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle, \quad j = 1, \dots, k, \\ u_m^{(k)}(0) = \tilde{u}_{0k}, \quad \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(0) = \tilde{u}_{1k}, \end{cases} \tag{3.8}$$

in which

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{u}_{0k} = \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j^{(k)} w_j \longrightarrow \tilde{u}_0 \text{ strongly in } V_1 \cap H^2, \\ \tilde{u}_{1k} = \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j^{(k)} w_j \longrightarrow \tilde{u}_1 \text{ strongly in } V_1, \end{cases} \tag{3.9}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \mu_m^{(k)}(t) = \mu \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2 \right), \\ F_m^{(k)}(x, t) = \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}](u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1})^i \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j \end{cases} \tag{3.10}$$

with

$$A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] = \frac{1}{i!j!} D_3^i D_4^j f(x, t, u_{m-1}, \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2), \quad i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_+, 0 \leq i+j \leq N-1. \tag{3.11}$$

The system (3.8), (3.9) can be written in the form

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{c}_{mj}^{(k)}(t) + \lambda_j \mu_m^{(k)}(t) c_{mj}^{(k)}(t) = \langle F_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle, \quad 1 \leq j \leq k, \\ c_{mj}^{(k)}(0) = \alpha_j^{(k)}, \quad \dot{c}_{mj}^{(k)}(0) = \beta_j^{(k)}. \end{cases} \tag{3.12}$$



It can see that, system (3.12) is equivalent to system of integral equations

$$c_{mj}^{(k)}(t) = \alpha_j^{(k)} + t\beta_j^{(k)} - \lambda_j \int_0^t (t-s)\mu[c_m^{(k)}](s)c_{mj}^{(k)}(s)ds \quad (3.13)$$

$$+ \int_0^t (t-s)F_{mj}[c_m^{(k)}](s) ds,$$

$1 \leq j \leq k$ , where

$$\mu[c_m^{(k)}](t) = \mu \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right),$$

$$F_{mj}[c_m^{(k)}](t) = \langle F_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle, \quad 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$c_m^{(k)} = (c_{m1}^{(k)}, \dots, c_{mk}^{(k)}).$$

Note that by (3.4), it is not difficult to prove that the system (3.13) has a unique solution  $c_{mj}^{(k)}(t)$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$  on interval  $[0, T_m^{(k)}] \subset [0, T]$ , so let us omit the details.

The following estimates allow one to take  $T_m^{(k)} = T$  independent of  $m$  and  $k$ .

*Step 2. A priori estimates.* Put

$$S_m^{(k)}(t) = X_m^{(k)}(t) + Y_m^{(k)}(t) + \int_0^t \left\| \ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 ds, \quad (3.14)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} X_m^{(k)}(t) = \left\| \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 + \mu_m^{(k)}(t) \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_a^2, \\ Y_m^{(k)}(t) = \left\| \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_a^2 + \mu_m^{(k)}(t) \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2. \end{cases} \quad (3.15)$$

Then, it follows from (3.8), (3.14) and (3.15) that

$$S_m^{(k)}(t) = S_m^{(k)}(0) + \int_0^t \dot{\mu}_m^{(k)}(s) \left[ \left\| u_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_a^2 + \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 \right] ds \quad (3.16)$$

$$+ 2 \int_0^t \langle F_m^{(k)}(s), \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(s) \rangle ds + 2 \int_0^t a \left( F_m^{(k)}(s), \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(s) \right) ds$$

$$+ \int_0^t \left\| \ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 ds$$

$$= S_m^{(k)}(0) + \sum_{j=1}^4 I_j.$$

We shall estimate all the terms  $I_j$  on the right-hand side of (3.16).

*The term  $I_1$ .* By (3.10), we have

$$\dot{\mu}_m^{(k)}(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mu \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) = 2\mu' \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) \langle u_m^{(k)}(t), \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(t) \rangle. \quad (3.17)$$

By using assumption  $(H_2)$  and the following inequalities:

$$\left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0 \leq \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_1 \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{C_0}} \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_a \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*}} \sqrt{S_m^{(k)}(t)}, \quad (3.18)$$

$$\left\| \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0 \leq \sqrt{S_m^{(k)}(t)}, \quad (3.19)$$

we deduce from (2.9) and (3.17) that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \dot{\mu}_m^{(k)}(t) \right| &\leq 2 \left| \mu' \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) \right| \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0 \left\| \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0 \\ &\leq 2 \Phi_{\mu'} \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*}} S_m^{(k)}(t) \\ &\leq 2 \Phi_{\mu'} \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} S_m^{(k)}(t) \right) \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*}} S_m^{(k)}(t). \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

Using the following inequality

$$\begin{aligned} S_m^{(k)}(t) &\geq \mu_m^{(k)}(t) \left[ \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_a^2 + \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right] \\ &\geq \mu_* \left[ \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_a^2 + \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

from (3.20), it leads to

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_0^t \dot{\mu}_m^{(k)}(s) \left[ \left\| u_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_a^2 + \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 \right] ds \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t \Phi_{\mu'} \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} S_m^{(k)}(s) \right) \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*}} S_m^{(k)}(s) \frac{1}{\mu_*} S_m^{(k)}(s) ds \\ &= \int_0^t \Phi_1 \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (3.22)$$

where  $\Phi_1(z) = \frac{2}{\mu_*} \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*}} z^2 \Phi_{\mu'} \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} z \right)$ .

*The term  $I_2$ .* Using the inequalities  $(a+b)^p \leq 2^{p-1}(a^p + b^p)$ , for all  $a, b \geq 0, p \geq 1$ ;  $s^q \leq 1 + s^p$ , for all  $s \geq 0, lq \in (0, p]$ , we get from (3.10) that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| F_m^{(k)}(x, t) \right| \\ &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left| u_m^{(k)}(t) - u_{m-1}(t) \right|^i \\ &\quad \times \left| \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right|^j \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( |u_m^{(k)}(t)| + |u_{m-1}(t)| \right)^i \\
 &\quad \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \right)^{2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_{C^0([\rho,1])} + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_{C^0([\rho,1])} \right)^i \\
 &\quad \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \right)^{2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{1-\rho} \right)^i \left( \|\nabla u_m^{(k)}(t)\| + \|\nabla u_{m-1}(t)\| \right)^i \\
 &\quad \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \|\nabla u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|\nabla u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \right)^i \\
 &\quad \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^i \\
 &\quad \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
 &= \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{i+2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}} + M \right)^{i+2j} \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \tag{3.23} \\
 &\quad \times 2^{i+2j-1} \left[ \left( \sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}} \right)^{i+2j} + M^{i+2j} \right] \\
 &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \times 2^{i+2j-1} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0 \mu_*} \right)^{N-1} + 1 + M^{2N-2} \right] \\
 & \leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \\
 & \quad \times 2^{i+2j} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0 \mu_*} \right)^{N-1} \right] \\
 & \leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} \right)^{N-1} \right] \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \\
 & \quad \times 2^{i+2j} \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(t) \right)^{N-1} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 & \leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} \right)^{N-1} \right] \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} \\
 & \quad \times \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i 2^{i+2j} \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(t) \right)^{N-1} \right] \\
 & = \xi_2(M, \rho) \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(t) \right)^{N-1} \right], \tag{3.24}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_2(M, \rho) & = \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{C_0 \mu_*} \right)^{N-1} \right] \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} \\
 & \quad \times \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i 2^{i+2j}.
 \end{aligned}$$

It implies from (3.15) and (3.24) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_2 & = 2 \int_0^t \langle F_m^{(k)}(s), \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(s) \rangle ds \tag{3.25} \\
 & \leq 2\xi_2(M, \rho) \int_0^t \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right)^{N-1} \right] \sqrt{S_m^{(k)}(s)} ds \\
 & = \int_0^t \Phi_2 \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right) ds,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Phi_2(z) = 2\xi_2(M, \rho)(1 + z^{N-1})\sqrt{z}$ . The term  $I_3$ . By (3.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla F_m^{(k)}(x, t) \\ &= D_1 f[u_{m-1}] + D_3 f[u_{m-1}] \nabla u_{m-1} \\ &+ \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} (D_1 A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] + D_3 A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] \nabla u_{m-1}) (u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1})^i \\ &\times \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right)^j \\ &+ \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] i (u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1})^{i-1} (\nabla u_m^{(k)} - \nabla u_{m-1}) \\ &\times \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right)^j, \end{aligned} \tag{3.26}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \nabla F_m^{(k)}(x, t) \right| \\ &\leq \left| D_1 f[u_{m-1}] + D_3 f[u_{m-1}] \nabla u_{m-1} \right| \\ &+ \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \left| (D_1 A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] + D_3 A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] \nabla u_{m-1}) (u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1})^i \right. \\ &\times \left. \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right)^j \right| \\ &+ \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \left| A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] i (u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1})^{i-1} (\nabla u_m^{(k)} - \nabla u_{m-1}) \right. \\ &\times \left. \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right)^j \right| \\ &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + |\nabla u_{m-1}|) \\ &+ \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} (1 + |\nabla u_{m-1}|) \left| u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1} \right|^i \\ &\times \left| \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right|^j \\ &+ \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{i}{i!j!} \left| u_m^{(k)} - u_{m-1} \right|^{i-1} \left| \nabla u_m^{(k)} - \nabla u_{m-1} \right| \\ &\times \left| \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 - \left\| u_{m-1}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right|^j \\ &\leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + |\nabla u_{m-1}|) \end{aligned} \tag{3.27}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} (1 + |\nabla u_{m-1}|) \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \\
& \times \left( \|\nabla u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|\nabla u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \right)^i \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{i}{i!j!} |\nabla u_m^{(k)} - \nabla u_{m-1}| \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \\
& \times \left( \|\nabla u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|\nabla u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \right)^{i-1} \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\nabla F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 \tag{3.28} \\
& \leq \bar{K}_M(f) \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} + \|\nabla u_{m-1}\|_0 \right) \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} + \|\nabla u_{m-1}\|_0 \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \\
& \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^i \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{i}{i!j!} \|\nabla u_m^{(k)}(t) - \nabla u_{m-1}(t)\|_0 \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^{i-1} \\
& \times \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{i-1} \left( \|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_1 \right)^{2j} \\
& \leq \bar{K}_M(f) \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} + M \right) + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho^2}{2}} + M \right) \\
& \times \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0 \mu_*}} + M \right)^{i+2j} \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{i}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^{i-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0 \mu_*}} + M \right)^{i+2j} \\
& \leq \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}} \right)^i \left( \sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0 \mu_*}} + M \right)^{i+2j}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{i}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^{i-1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}} + M\right)^{i+2j} \\
 \leq & \bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \\
 & + 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i \left(\sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}} + M\right)^{i+2j} \\
 \leq & 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i \left(\sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}} + M\right)^{i+2j} \\
 \leq & 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i 2^{i+2j-1} \\
 & \times \left[ \left(\sqrt{\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}}\right)^{i+2j} + M^{i+2j} \right] \\
 \leq & 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) \\
 & \times \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i 2^{i+2j-1} \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}\right)^{N-1} + 1 + M^{2N-2} \right] \\
 \leq & 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \\
 & \times \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i 2^{i+2j} \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}\right)^{N-1} \right] \\
 \leq & 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{1}{C_0\mu_*}\right)^{N-1} \right] \\
 & \times \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i 2^{i+2j} \left[ 1 + \left(S_m^{(k)}(t)\right)^{N-1} \right] \\
 = & \xi_3(M, \rho) \left[ 1 + \left(S_m^{(k)}(t)\right)^{N-1} \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_3(M, \rho) & = 2N\bar{K}_M(f) (1 + M) (1 + M^{2N-2}) \\
 & \times \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{1}{C_0\mu_*}\right)^{N-1} \right] \sum_{0 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\rho}}\right)^i 2^{i+2j}.
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, (3.24) and (3.28) give

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_1 &= \sqrt{\|F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2 + \|\nabla F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2} \\ &\leq \|F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 + \|\nabla F_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0 \\ &\leq [\xi_2(M, \rho) + \xi_3(M, \rho)] \left[1 + \left(S_m^{(k)}(t)\right)^{N-1}\right]. \end{aligned} \tag{3.29}$$

Hence, it follows from (3.15) and (3.29) that

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= 2 \int_0^t a\left(F_m^{(k)}(s), \dot{u}_m^{(k)}(s)\right) ds \\ &\leq \frac{2C_1}{\sqrt{C_0}} \int_0^t \|F_m^{(k)}(s)\|_1 \sqrt{S_m^{(k)}(s)} ds \\ &\leq \frac{2C_1}{\sqrt{C_0}} [\xi_2(M, \rho) + \xi_3(M, \rho)] \int_0^t \left[1 + \left(S_m^{(k)}(s)\right)^{N-1}\right] \sqrt{S_m^{(k)}(s)} ds \\ &= \int_0^t \Phi_3\left(S_m^{(k)}(s)\right) ds, \end{aligned} \tag{3.30}$$

where  $\Phi_3(z) = \frac{2C_1}{\sqrt{C_0}} [\xi_2(M, \rho) + \xi_3(M, \rho)] (1 + z^{N-1}) \sqrt{z}$ .

The term  $I_4$ . Equation (3.8) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\langle \ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle + \mu_m^{(k)}(t) \langle Au_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle = \langle F_m^{(k)}(t), w_j \rangle, \quad j = 1, \dots, k. \tag{3.31}$$

Thus, it follows after replacing  $w_j$  with  $\ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(t)$  and integrating that

$$\begin{aligned} I_4 &= \int_0^t \|\ddot{u}_m^{(k)}(s)\|_0^2 ds \\ &\leq \int_0^t \left[\mu_m^{(k)}(s) \|Au_m^{(k)}(s)\|_0 + \|F_m^{(k)}(s)\|_0\right]^2 ds \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t \left(\mu_m^{(k)}(s)\right)^2 \|Au_m^{(k)}(s)\|_0^2 ds + 2 \int_0^t \|F_m^{(k)}(s)\|_0^2 ds \\ &= I_4^{(1)} + I_4^{(2)}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.32}$$

We shall estimate step by step two integrals  $I_4^{(1)}, I_4^{(2)}$ .

*Estimate  $I_4^{(1)}$ .* By using  $(H_2)$  and (2.9), we deduce from (3.10) and (3.18), that

$$\left|\mu_m^{(k)}(t)\right| = \mu \left(\|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2\right) \leq \Phi_\mu \left(\|u_m^{(k)}(t)\|_0^2\right) \leq \Phi_\mu \left(\frac{S_m^{(k)}(t)}{C_0\mu_*}\right). \tag{3.33}$$



Therefore, we obtain from (3.21) and (3.33) that

$$\begin{aligned} I_4^{(1)} &= 2 \int_0^t \left( \mu_m^{(k)}(s) \right)^2 \left\| Au_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 ds \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t \Phi_\mu \left( \frac{S_m^{(k)}(s)}{C_0 \mu_*} \right) S_m^{(k)}(s) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

*Estimate  $I_4^{(2)}$ .* We again use the inequality (3.24), we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_4^{(2)} &= 2 \int_0^t \left\| F_m^{(k)}(s) \right\|_0^2 ds \\ &\leq 2\xi_2^2(M, \rho) \int_0^t \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right)^{N-1} \right]^2 ds \\ &\leq 4\xi_2^2(M, \rho) \int_0^t \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right)^{2(N-1)} \right] ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.35)$$

It follows from (3.32), (3.34) and (3.35) that

$$\begin{aligned} I_4 &\leq 2 \int_0^t \Phi_\mu \left( \frac{S_m^{(k)}(s)}{C_0 \mu_*} \right) S_m^{(k)}(s) ds \\ &\quad + 4\xi_2^2(M, \rho) \int_0^t \left[ 1 + \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right)^{2(N-1)} \right] ds \\ &= \int_0^t \Phi_4 \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (3.36)$$

where  $\Phi_4(z) = 2z\Phi_\mu\left(\frac{z}{C_0\mu_*}\right) + 4\xi_2^2(M, \rho)(1 + z^{2(N-1)})$ .

Now, we need an estimate on the term  $S_m^{(k)}(0)$ . We have

$$S_m^{(k)}(0) = \|\tilde{u}_{1k}\|_0^2 + \|\tilde{u}_{1k}\|_a^2 + \mu \left( \|\tilde{u}_{0k}\|_0^2 \right) \left[ \|\tilde{u}_{0k}\|_a^2 + \|A\tilde{u}_{0k}\|_0^2 \right]. \quad (3.37)$$

By means of the convergences (3.9), we can deduce the existence of a constant  $M > 0$  independent of  $k$  and  $m$  such that

$$S_m^{(k)}(0) \leq \frac{M^2}{4}. \quad (3.38)$$

Combining (3.16), (3.22), (3.25), (3.30), (3.36) and (3.38), it leads to

$$S_m^{(k)}(t) \leq \frac{M^2}{4} + \int_0^t \Psi \left( S_m^{(k)}(s) \right) ds, \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq T_m^{(k)} \leq T, \quad (3.39)$$

where

$$\Psi(z) = \sum_{i=1}^4 \Phi_i(z), \quad \Psi \in C(\mathbb{R}_+; \mathbb{R}_+) \text{ and } \Psi \text{ is nondecreasing.} \quad (3.40)$$

Then we can show that there exists a constant  $T > 0$  independent of  $k$  and  $m$  such that

$$S_m^{(k)}(t) \leq M^2 \quad \forall t \in [0, T], \text{ for all } k \text{ and } m \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{3.41}$$

Indeed, put  $y(t) = \frac{M^2}{4} + \int_0^t \Psi(S_m^{(k)}(s)) ds$  and  $G(w) = \int_0^w \frac{dz}{\Psi(z)}$ , we have

$$\begin{cases} S_m^{(k)}(t) \leq y(t), \\ y(0) = \frac{M^2}{4} = M_1, \\ y'(t) = \Psi(S_m^{(k)}(t)) \leq \Psi(y(t)). \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$G(y(t)) - G(M_1) = \int_{M_1}^{y(t)} \frac{dz}{\Psi(z)} = \int_0^t \frac{y'(s) ds}{\Psi(y(s))} \leq t. \tag{3.42}$$

By (3.40), we can deduce the existence of a constant  $C_* = C_*(M) > 0$  such that

$$\Psi(z) \geq C_*(M)(1 + z^2),$$

for all  $z \geq 0$ . So  $G_\infty = \int_0^\infty \frac{dz}{\Psi(z)} < \infty$  and  $w \mapsto G(w) = \int_0^w \frac{dz}{\Psi(z)}$  is a continuous and nondecreasing function on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ , it leads to the function  $G^{-1} : [0, G_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is defined and continuous, nondecreasing on  $[0, G_\infty)$ .

Choose  $T \in (0, T^*]$  such that  $T \leq \int_{M_1}^{M^2} \frac{dz}{\Psi(z)} = G(M^2) - G(M_1)$ . Then we obtain

$$G(y(t)) \leq t + G(M_1) \leq T + G(M_1) \leq G(M^2) < G_\infty, \quad \forall t \in [0, T],$$

it means that

$$S_m^{(k)}(t) \leq y(t) \leq G^{-1}G(M^2) = M^2.$$

Hence we can take constant  $T_m^{(k)} = T$  for all  $k$  and  $m$ . Therefore, we have

$$u_m^{(k)} \in W(M, T), \text{ for all } k \text{ and } m \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{3.43}$$

*Step 3. Convergence.* From (3.43), we can extract from  $\{u_m^{(k)}\}$  a subsequence  $\{u_m^{(k_i)}\}$  such that

$$\begin{cases} u_m^{(k_i)} \rightarrow u_m \text{ in } L^\infty(0, T; V_1 \cap H^2) \text{ weak}^*, \\ \dot{u}_m^{(k_i)} \rightarrow u'_m \text{ in } L^\infty(0, T; V_1) \text{ weak}^*, \\ \ddot{u}_m^{(k_i)} \rightarrow u''_m \text{ in } L^2(Q_T) \text{ weak}, \\ u_m \in W(M, T). \end{cases} \tag{3.44}$$

By the compactness lemma of Lions ([2], p. 57) and applying the theorem of Fischer-Riesz, from (3.44), one has a subsequence of  $\{u_m^{(k)}\}$ , denoted by the

same symbol satisfying

$$\begin{cases} u_m^{(k)} \rightarrow u_m \text{ strongly in } L^2(0, T; V_1) \text{ and a.e. in } Q_T, \\ \dot{u}_m^{(k)} \rightarrow \dot{u}'_m \text{ strongly in } L^2(Q_T) \text{ and a.e. in } Q_T. \end{cases} \quad (3.45)$$

From (3.45) and dominated convergence theorem, we obtain

$$F_m^{(k)} \rightarrow F_m \text{ strongly in } L^2(Q_T). \quad (3.46)$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \mu_m^{(k)}(t) - \mu_m(t) \right| &= \left| \mu \left( \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) - \mu \left( \left\| u_m(t) \right\|_0^2 \right) \right| \\ &\leq 2M \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \left\| u_m^{(k)}(t) - u_m(t) \right\|_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.47)$$

Hence, from (3.44) and (3.47), we get

$$\mu_m^{(k)} \rightarrow \mu_m \text{ strongly in } L^2(0, T). \quad (3.48)$$

Passing to limit in (3.8), (3.9), we have  $u_m$  satisfying (3.5), (3.6) in  $L^2(0, T)$ .

On the other hand, it follows from (3.5) and (3.44) that

$$u_m'' = -\mu_m(t) Au_m + F_m \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2). \quad (3.49)$$

Therefore,  $u_m \in W_1(M, T)$  and Theorem 3.2 is proved.  $\square$

Next, to obtain the main result, we put

$$W_1(T) = \{v \in L^\infty(0, T; V_1) : v' \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2)\},$$

then  $W_1(T)$  is a Banach space with respect to the norm

$$\|v\|_{W_1(T)} = \|v\|_{L^\infty(0, T; V_1)} + \|v'\|_{L^\infty(0, T; L^2)}.$$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let (H<sub>1</sub>)-(H<sub>3</sub>) hold. Then, there exist constants  $M > 0$  and  $T > 0$  such that*

- (i) *Problem (1.1)-(1.3) has a unique weak solution  $u \in W_1(M, T)$ .*
- (ii) *The recurrent sequence  $\{u_m\}$ , defined by (3.5) and (3.6) converges at a rate of order  $N$  to the solution  $u$  strongly in the space  $W_1(T)$  in the sntse*

$$\|u_m - u\|_{W_1(T)} \leq C \|u_{m-1} - u\|_{W_1(T)}^N, \quad (3.50)$$

*for all  $m \geq 1$ , where  $C$  is a suitable constant. On the other hand, the estimate is fulfilled*

$$\|u_m - u\|_{W_1(T)} \leq C_T \beta_T^{N^m}, \text{ for all } m \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (3.51)$$

*where  $C_T$  and  $0 < \beta_T < 1$  are the constants depending only on  $T$ .*

*Proof. Existence.* We can prove that  $\{u_m\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $W_1(T)$ .

Indeed, let  $w_m = u_{m+1} - u_m$ . Then  $w_m$  satisfies the variational problem

$$\begin{cases} \langle w_m''(t), v \rangle + \mu_{m+1}(t) a(w_m(t), v) + [\mu_{m+1}(t) - \mu_m(t)] \langle Au_m(t), v \rangle \\ \quad = \langle F_{m+1}(t) - F_m(t), v \rangle, \forall v \in V_1, \\ w_m(0) = w_m'(0) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.52)$$

Taking  $v = w_m'(t)$  in (3.52)<sub>1</sub>, after integrating in  $t$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} Z_m(t) &= \int_0^t \mu'_{m+1}(s) \|w_m(s)\|_a^2 ds \\ &\quad - 2 \int_0^t [\mu_{m+1}(s) - \mu_m(s)] \langle Au_m(s), w_m'(s) \rangle ds \\ &\quad + 2 \int_0^t \langle F_{m+1}(s) - F_m(s), w_m'(s) \rangle ds \\ &:= J_1 + J_2 + J_3, \end{aligned} \quad (3.53)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Z_m(t) &= \|w_m'(t)\|_0^2 + \mu_{m+1}(t) \|w_m(t)\|_a^2 \\ &\geq \|w_m'(t)\|_0^2 + \mu_* \|w_m(t)\|_a^2 \\ &\geq \|w_m'(t)\|_0^2 + \mu_* C_0 \|w_m(t)\|_1^2 \\ &\geq 2\sqrt{\mu_* C_0} \|w_m'(t)\|_0 \|w_m(t)\|_1, \end{aligned} \quad (3.54)$$

and all integrals on the right - hand side of (3.53) are estimated as follows.

*Estimating  $J_1$ .* It follows from (3.44) that

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu'_m(t)| &= 2 \left| \mu' \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 \right) \right| |\langle u_m(t), u_m'(t) \rangle| \\ &\leq 2\tilde{K}_M(\mu) \|u_m(t)\|_0 \|u_m'(t)\|_0 \\ &\leq 2\tilde{K}_M(\mu) \|u_m(t)\|_1 \|u_m'(t)\|_0 \\ &\leq 2M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu), \end{aligned} \quad (3.55)$$

this implies that

$$J_1 = \int_0^t \bar{\mu}'_{m+1}(s) \|w_m(s)\|_a^2 ds \leq \frac{2}{\mu_*} M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \int_0^t Z_m(s) ds. \quad (3.56)$$

*Estimating  $J_2$ .*

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu_{m+1}(t) - \mu_m(t)| &= \left| \mu \left( \|u_{m+1}(t)\|_0^2 \right) - \mu \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 \right) \right| \\ &\leq \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \left| \|u_{m+1}(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 \right| \\ &\leq 2M \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \|w_m(t)\|_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.57)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_2 &= -2 \int_0^t [\mu_{m+1}(s) - \mu_m(s)] \langle Au_m(s), w'_m(s) \rangle ds \tag{3.58} \\
 &\leq 4M \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \int_0^t \|w_m(s)\|_0 \|Au_m(s)\|_0 \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds \\
 &\leq 4M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \int_0^t \|w_m(s)\|_1 \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds \\
 &\leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{\mu_* C_0}} M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu) \int_0^t Z_m(s) ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

*Estimating  $J_3$ .* By using Taylor's expansion for the function  $f(x, t, u_m, \|u_m\|_0^2)$  around the point  $(x, t, u_{m-1}, \|u_{m-1}\|_0^2)$  up to order  $N$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &f[u_m] - f[u_{m-1}] \\
 := &f(x, t, u_m, \|u_m\|_0^2) - f(x, t, u_{m-1}, \|u_{m-1}\|_0^2) \tag{3.59} \\
 = &\sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_{m-1}] w_{m-1}^i(t) \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j \\
 &+ \sum_{i+j=N} A_{ij} f[\tau_m] w_{m-1}^i(t) \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tau_m = \left( x, t, u_{m-1} + \theta w_{m-1}, \theta \|u_m\|_0^2 + (1 - \theta) \|u_{m-1}\|_0^2 \right), \quad 0 < \theta < 1.$$

Hence, it follows from (3.6), (3.59) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &F_{m+1}(t) - F_m(t) \tag{3.60} \\
 = &\sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} A_{ij} f[u_m] w_m^i(t) \left( \|u_{m+1}(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j \\
 &+ \sum_{i+j=N} A_{ij} f[\tau_m] w_{m-1}^i(t) \left( \|u_m(t)\|_0^2 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0^2 \right)^j.
 \end{aligned}$$

From (3.60), it yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\|F_{m+1}(t) - F_m(t)\|_0 \tag{3.61} \\
 \leq &\bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \|w_{mx}(t)\|_0 \right)^i (\|u_{m+1}(t)\|_0 + \|u_m(t)\|_0)^j \\
 &\times (\|u_{m+1}(t)\|_0 - \|u_m(t)\|_0)^j
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{i+j=N} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)} \right)^i (\|u_m(t)\|_0 + \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0)^j \\
& \times (\|u_m(t)\|_0 - \|u_{m-1}(t)\|_0)^j \\
\leq & \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \|w_{mx}(t)\|_0^i (2M)^j \|w_m(t)\|_0^j \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{i+j=N} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^i (2M)^j \|w_{m-1}(t)\|_0^j \\
\leq & \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i (2M)^j \|w_m(t)\|_1^{i+j-1} \|w_m(t)\|_1 \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{i+j=N} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^{i+j} (2M)^j \\
\leq & \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i 2^j M^{i+2j-1} \|w_m(t)\|_1 \\
& + \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{i+j=N} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i (2M)^j \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^N \\
= & \alpha_T \|w_m(t)\|_1 + \bar{\alpha}_T \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^N,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_T &= \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{1 \leq i+j \leq N-1} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i 2^j M^{i+2j-1}, \\
\bar{\alpha}_T &= \bar{K}_M(f) \sum_{i+j=N} \frac{1}{i!j!} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right)^i (2M)^j.
\end{aligned}$$

It leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
J_3 &= 2 \int_0^t \langle F_{m+1}(s) - F_m(s), w'_m(s) \rangle ds \tag{3.62} \\
&\leq 2 \int_0^t \|F_{m+1}(s) - F_m(s)\|_0 \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds \\
&\leq 2 \int_0^t \left( \alpha_T \|w_m(s)\|_1 + \bar{\alpha}_T \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^N \right) \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds \\
&\leq 2\alpha_T \int_0^t \|w_m(s)\|_1 \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds + 2\bar{\alpha}_T \int_0^t \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^N \|w'_m(s)\|_0 ds
\end{aligned}$$

$$\leq T\bar{\alpha}_T \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^{2N} + \left(\frac{\alpha_T}{\sqrt{\mu_*C_0}} + \bar{\alpha}_T\right) \int_0^t Z_m(s)ds.$$

Then, we deduce, from (3.53), (3.56), (3.58) and (3.62) that

$$Z_m(t) \leq T\bar{\alpha}_T \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^{2N} + \bar{\beta}_T \int_0^t Z_m(s)ds, \tag{3.63}$$

where  $\bar{\beta}_T = \frac{2}{\mu_*} M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu) + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\mu_*C_0}} M^2 \tilde{K}_M(\mu) + \left(\frac{\alpha_T}{\sqrt{\mu_*C_0}} + \bar{\alpha}_T\right)$ .

By using Gronwall’s lemma, we obtain from (3.63) that

$$\|w_m\|_{W_1(T)} \leq \mu_T \|w_{m-1}\|_{W_1(T)}^N, \tag{3.64}$$

with  $\mu_T = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_*C_0}}\right) \sqrt{T\bar{\alpha}_T \exp(T\bar{\beta}_T)}$ . Then, it follows from (3.64) that

$$\|u_m - u_{m+p}\|_{W_1(T)} \leq (1 - \beta_T)^{-1} (\mu_T)^{\frac{-1}{N-1}} \beta_T^{N^m}, \tag{3.65}$$

for all  $m$  and  $p$ .

Taking  $T > 0$  small enough, such that  $\beta_T = (\mu_T)^{\frac{1}{N-1}} M < 1$ . It follows that  $\{u_m\}$  is the Cauchy sequence in  $W_1(T)$ . Then there exists  $u \in W_1(T)$  such that

$$u_m \longrightarrow u \text{ strongly in } W_1(T). \tag{3.66}$$

*Uniqueness.* Applying a similar argument used in the proof of Theorem 3.2,  $u \in W_1(M, T)$  is a unique local weak solution of problem (1.1)-(1.3). Taking the limit in (3.65) as  $p \rightarrow +\infty$  for fixed  $m$ , we get (3.51). Also with a similar argument, (3.50) follows. Theorem 3.3 is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 3.4.** In order to construct a  $N$ - order iterative scheme, we need the condition  $(H_3)$ . Then, we get a convergent sequence at a rate of order  $N$  to a unique local weak solution of the problem. This condition of  $f$  can be relaxed if we only consider the existence of solutions (see [3], [14]).

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