

On a Mixed Problem for Hyperbolic Equations with Discontinuous Boundary Conditions

By

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1. Mixed problems for hyperbolic equations have been studied by many authors. For variable coefficients the powerful tool is the theorem of Hille-Yosida ([3], [4], [5], [7]). In this case the mixed problems have been treated completely by Mizohata [5] and Ikawa [3].

On the other hand Čehlov [2] has shown the existence of a weak solution for mixed problems under discontinuous boundary conditions. He has imposed the assumption that the space domain is a half space and the equation is the wave equation. His method is the Fourier-Laplace transformation.

In this note we consider a mixed problem under discontinuous boundary conditions of Dirichlet or Neumann type. We proceed mainly along the lines of [3] and [5].

2. Let Ω be a bounded domain in the n -dimensional Euclidean space R^n with boundary $\partial\Omega$ of class C^∞ . We assume that $\partial\Omega$ consists of two measurable sets $\partial_1\Omega$ and $\partial_2\Omega$ having no common points. Further let us assume that

$$(2.1) \quad \partial_2\Omega \cap \overline{\partial_1\Omega} = \phi.$$

We set

$$(u, v)_k = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} D^\alpha u \overline{D^\alpha v} dx,$$

$$\|u\|_k^2 = (u, u)_k$$

and

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$$(u, v) = (u, v)_0, \quad \|u\| = \|u\|_0.$$

Let us denote by $H^k(\Omega)$ the Sobolev space with norm $\|\cdot\|_k$ and by $K(\Omega)$ the completion of all u each of which belongs to $C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$ and vanishes in a neighborhood of $\partial_1\Omega$ with $H^1(\Omega)$ norm.

Consider the elliptic operator L of second order on $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$:

$$(2.2) \quad L = - \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(a_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) + \sum_i b_i(x, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + c(x, t),$$

where the coefficients are all in $C^\infty(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$. We assume that $a_{ij}(x)$ ($=a_{ji}(x)$) are real valued and positive definite on $\bar{\Omega}$ and we consider the following equation for real valued $h_i(x)$, $h(x) \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$:

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u + Lu + \left(2 \sum_i h_i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + h(x) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u = f.$$

Let us impose the following boundary condition

$$(2.4) \quad B_1 u(x, t) = u(x, t) = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial_1\Omega \times [0, T],$$

$$(2.5) \quad B_2 u(x, t) = \left\{ \frac{d}{dn} - \langle h, \gamma \rangle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \sigma(x, t) \right\} u(x, t) = 0$$

on $\partial_2\Omega \times [0, T]$,

where

$$\frac{d}{dn} = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}(x) \cos(\nu, x_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \quad (\nu \text{ is the exterior normal vector}),$$

$$\langle h, \gamma \rangle = \sum_i h_i(x) \cos(\nu, x_i)$$

and $\sigma(x)$ is C^∞ on $\partial_2\Omega$. The equation (2.3) has been considered in [3] and [5] under the boundary condition $B_1 u = 0$ or $B_2 u = 0$ on $\partial\Omega \times [0, T]$.

Now we define the boundary condition (2.5) in the weak sense as follows:

Definition 2.1. Let $u(\cdot, t)$ be in $H^1(\Omega)$ and $(Lu)(\cdot, t)$ be in $L^2(\Omega)$ for $0 \leq t \leq T$. Further we assume that u is in $\mathcal{E}_1^1(H^1(\Omega))[0, T]$.¹⁾ Then u is said to satisfy the boundary condition (2.5) weakly on $\partial_2\Omega \times [0, T]$,

1) For the Banach space E the letter $\mathcal{E}_k^k(E)[0, T]$ means the set of E -valued functions which are k -times continuously differentiable in $0 \leq t \leq T$.

if the following equality holds on $[0, T]$;

$$(2.6) \quad \left(\left\{ -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) \right\} u, \varphi \right) = \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right) + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \left(\sigma u - \langle h, \gamma \rangle \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right) \varphi dS$$

for any $\varphi \in K(\Omega)$.

In addition we define the boundary condition for vector functions as follows.

Definition 2.2. Let $U = \{u, v\}$ be in $H^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega)$ and Lu be in $L^2(\Omega)$. Then U is said to satisfy the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2 \Omega$, if the following equality holds for any $\varphi \in K(\Omega)$;

$$(2.7) \quad \left(\left\{ -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) u, \varphi \right\} \right) = \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right) + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} (\sigma u - \langle h, \gamma \rangle v) \varphi dS.$$

In this note we shall prove the following theorems, where we assume that $f(x, t) \in \mathcal{E}_i^0(K(\Omega)) [0, T]$ and $f(x, 0)$ has compact support in Ω .

Theorem 1. Suppose that $u_0(x), v_0(x) \in K(\Omega)$, $Lu_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ and $\{u_0, v_0\}$ satisfies the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2 \Omega$. Then there is a unique solution $u(x, t) \in \mathcal{E}_i^1(K(\Omega)) [0, T] \cap \mathcal{E}_i^2(L^2(\Omega)) [0, T]$ of the equation (2.3) satisfying

$$(2.8) \quad u = u_0, u_t = v_0 \quad \text{on } t=0 \text{ (initial condition)}$$

and

$$(2.9) \quad B_2 u = 0 \quad \text{weakly on } \partial_2 \Omega \times [0, T].$$

Theorem 2. In addition to the assumption of Theorem 1, assume that $u_0 \in H_{loc}^2(\bar{\Omega} - S)$,²⁾ where S is the boundary of $\partial_1 \Omega (\partial_2 \Omega)$. Then $u(x, t)$ also belongs to $H_{loc}^2(\bar{\Omega} - S)$. Thus the solution satisfies $B_2 u = 0$

2) The space $H_{loc}^2(\bar{\Omega} - S)$ is the set of functions belonging to locally H^2 in $\bar{\Omega} - S$.

in the interior of $\partial_2\Omega$.

Remark. Here we have assumed (2.1). Hence if $\partial_1\Omega$ is an $(n-2)$ -dimensional compact manifold, our theorem holds. With difference method, Babaeva and Namazov [1] has shown the existence of the solution for our problem also when $\partial_2\Omega$ is an $(n-2)$ -dimensional compact manifold.

3. Let us consider the space $H=K(\Omega)\times L^2(\Omega)$ with the inner product

$$(U_1, U_2)_H = \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_j} \right) + (v_1, v_2) \\ + \int_{\partial_2\Omega} \sigma(x) u_1 \bar{u}_2 dS + c_1(u_1, u_2),$$

where $U_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$ ($i=1, 2$) and c_1 is a sufficiently large constant depending only on a_{ij} and σ . We denote by $\|U\|_H$ the H -norm of U . Obviously the space H is complete and by the well-known interpolation relation (see e.g. [6]) the norm $\|U\|_H$ is equivalent to $\|u\|_1 + \|v\|_0$ ($U = \{u, v\}$).

The formulation in this section is radically due to the book of H.G. Garnir.³⁾

Set the operator $A(t)$ in such a way that

$$(3.1) \quad A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -L & -M \end{pmatrix},$$

where $M = 2 \sum_i h_i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + h(x)$ (see (2.3)). Then $A(t)$ is a closed operator from H to itself having the following definition domain

$$(3.2) \quad D(A(t)) = \{U = \{u, v\} \mid u, v \in K(\Omega), Lu \in L^2(\Omega)$$

and U satisfies the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2\Omega$ in the sense of Definition 2.2\}.

3) *Les Problèmes aux Limites de la Physique Mathématique*, Birkhäuser, 1958.

Since $D(A(t))$ is independent of t , we write simply by $D(A)$.

Remark. Mizohata [5] and Ikawa [3] have set

$$H = H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$$

and

$$D(A) = (H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)) \times H_0^1(\Omega)$$

for the case of the Dirichlet type boundary condition. They have set also for the case of the Neumann type boundary condition as follows:

$$H = H^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$$

and

$$D(A) = \left\{ U = \{u, v\} \mid u \in H^2(\Omega), v \in H^1(\Omega) \text{ and } \frac{d}{dn}u - \langle h, \nu \rangle v + \sigma u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \right\}.$$

Lemma 1. *There is a positive constant c_2 depending only on $A(t)$ and $\sigma(x)$ such that it holds that for any $U \in D(A)$,*

$$|(U, A(t)U)_H + (A(t)U, U)_H| \leq c_2 \|U\|_H^2.$$

Proof. We easily see

$$\begin{aligned} (3.3) \quad & (U, A(t)U)_H + (A(t)U, U)_H \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j} \right) + (v, -Lu - Mv) \\ & \quad + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \sigma u \bar{v} dS + c_1(u, v) \\ & \quad + \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \right) + (-Lu - Mv, v) \\ & \quad + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \sigma v \bar{u} dS + c_1(v, u). \end{aligned}$$

Since U satisfies the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2 \Omega$ (see Definition 2.2), we have

$$(3.4) \quad \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j} \right) + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \sigma u \bar{v} dS$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (Lu, v) - \left(\sum_i b_i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + cu, v \right) \\
&\quad + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \langle h, \gamma \rangle v \bar{v} dS.
\end{aligned}$$

Further it is easily seen that

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.5) \quad (Mv, v) + (v, Mv) &= 2 \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \langle h, \gamma \rangle v \bar{v} dS \\
&\quad - 2 \sum_i \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial x_i} v, v \right) + (hv, v) + (v, hv).
\end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.4), (3.5) and (3.3), we have proved the lemma.

Lemma 2. *If λ is real and $|\lambda| \geq c_2$, we have for any $U \in D(A)$*

$$\|(\lambda I - A(t))U\|_H \geq (|\lambda| - c_2)\|U\|_H.$$

Proof. We easily see

$$\|(\lambda I - A(t))U\|_H^2 \geq \lambda^2 \|U\|_H^2 - \lambda \{(U, A(t)U)_H + (A(t)U, U)_H\}.$$

By Lemma 1 we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\|(\lambda I - A(t))U\|_H^2 &\geq (\lambda^2 - |\lambda|c_2)\|U\|_H^2 \\
&\geq \{(|\lambda| - c_2)^2 + c_2(|\lambda| - c_2)\}\|U\|_H^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Now set for any $\varphi, \psi \in K(\Omega)$

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.6) \quad B_i[\varphi, \psi] &= \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_j} \right) \\
&\quad + \left(\sum_i b_i \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + c\varphi, \psi \right) + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \sigma \varphi \bar{\psi} dS \\
&\quad - \lambda \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \langle h, \gamma \rangle \varphi \bar{\psi} dS \\
&\quad + \lambda(M\varphi, \psi) + \lambda^2(\varphi, \psi).
\end{aligned}$$

Then using the interpolation relation for the trace of functions (see e.g. [6]), we see that there is a positive constant c_3 such that if λ is real and $|\lambda| \geq c_3$, it holds for any $\varphi \in K(\Omega)$,

$$|B_i[\varphi, \varphi]| \geq c_3^{-1} \|\varphi\|_1^2.$$

It is easily seen that

$$|B_t[\varphi, \psi]| \leq c_4 \|\varphi\|_1 \|\psi\|_1 \quad \text{for any } \varphi, \psi \in K(\Omega).$$

Hence by the theorem of Lax-Milgram we have the following

Lemma 3. *For any given anti-linear functional l on $K(\Omega)$ there is a unique solution $u \in K(\Omega)$ of the equation*

$$B_t[u, \varphi] = l(\varphi) \quad \text{for any } \varphi \in K(\Omega).$$

From Lemma 3 we immediately see that

Lemma 4. *If λ is real and $|\lambda| \geq c_3$, then for any $F \in H$ there is a unique solution $U \in D(A)$ of the equation*

$$(3.7) \quad (\lambda I - A(t))U = F.$$

Proof. Put $U = \{u, v\}$ and $F = \{f, g\}$. Then the equation (3.7) is equivalent to

$$(3.8) \quad v = \lambda u - f$$

and

$$(3.9) \quad Lu + \lambda(\lambda + M)u = g + (\lambda + M)f.$$

Let us put in Lemma 3

$$l(\varphi) = ((\lambda + M)f + g, \varphi) - \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \langle h, \gamma \rangle f \bar{\varphi} dS.$$

Then l satisfies the assumption of Lemma 3 by the well-known inequality. Thus there is a $u \in K(\Omega)$ such that $B_t[u, \varphi] = l(\varphi)$ for any $\varphi \in K(\Omega)$. In particular, taking φ as in $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$, we see that (3.9) holds and $Lu \in L^2(\Omega)$. Hence we get from (3.6), (3.8) and (3.9)

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i,j} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} \right) + \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} u \bar{\varphi} dS \\ & \quad - \int_{\partial_2 \Omega} \langle h, \gamma \rangle v \bar{\varphi} dS \\ & = \left(- \left\{ \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(a_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) \right\} u, \varphi \right) \quad \text{for any } \varphi \in K(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

By Definition 2.2, this equality implies that U satisfies the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2\Omega$. Thus $U \in D(A)$. Therefore we have completed the proof.

Let us rewrite by new c_2 the maximum of c_2 and c_3 . Then combining Lemmas 2 and 4, we obtain

Lemma 5. *If $|\lambda| \geq c_2$, then it holds that*

$$\|(\lambda I - A(t))^{-1}\|_H \leq \frac{1}{|\lambda| - c_2}.$$

4. In this section we shall prove that $D(A)$ is dense in H . Let us denote by $C_{(0)}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_-^n)$ the set of C^∞ functions on $x_n \leq 0$ having compact support there. Then we have

Lemma 6. *For u in $C_{(0)}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_-^n)$ there is a sequence $\{\varphi_i\}$ in $C_{(0)}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_-^n)$ such that*

(i) $\varphi_i \rightarrow u$ in $H^1(\mathbb{R}_-^n)$

(ii) $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \varphi_i = 0$ on $x_n = 0$

and

(iii) if $u(x', x_n) \neq 0$ for the fixed x' and any x_n , then each $\varphi_i(x', x_n)$ vanishes also for the x' and any x_n .

The proof of Lemma 6 is familiar, so it is sufficient to show construction of φ_i . The functions φ_i are given as follows;

$$\varphi_i(x', x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} \alpha_i(s) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n}(x', s) ds,$$

where

$$\alpha_i(s) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s > -\frac{1}{i} \\ 1 & \text{if } s < -\frac{2}{i}. \end{cases}$$

For the bounded function $\sigma(x')$ on $x_n = 0$, let us take a new sequence

4) Put $x' = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$.

$\{\varphi_i \exp(x_n \sigma(x'))\}$. Then we have also the following

Lemma 7. For u in $C_{(0)}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ there is a sequence $\{\varphi_i\}$ in $C_{(0)}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that the properties (i), (iii) in Lemma 6 hold and in the place of (ii) the following property holds:

$$(ii) \quad \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} + \sigma(x') \right) \varphi_i = 0 \quad \text{on } x_n = 0.$$

Generalizing Lemma 7, we prove the following

Lemma 8. For any $u \in K(\Omega)$, there is a sequence $\{\varphi_i\} \subset C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$ satisfying $\left(\frac{d}{dn} + \sigma(x) \right) \varphi_i = 0$ on $\partial_2 \Omega$ such that each φ_i vanishes in a neighborhood of $\bar{\partial}_1 \Omega$ and $\varphi_i \rightarrow u$ in $H^1(\Omega)$.

Proof. We may assume that u is in $C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$ and $u = 0$ in a neighborhood of $\bar{\partial}_1 \Omega$. For each point P in $\bar{\Omega}$ let us take an open neighborhood $U(P)$ in such a way that

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{U(P)} &\subset \Omega && \text{for } P \in \Omega, \\ u &= 0 \text{ in } U(P) && \text{for } P \in \overline{\partial}_1 \Omega \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\overline{U(P)} \cap \overline{\partial}_1 \Omega = \emptyset \quad \text{for } P \in \partial_2 \Omega.$$

Since (2.1) holds from our assumption, such a selection of $U(P)$ is possible.

Now there is a finite point set $\{P_1, \dots, P_N\}$ and the union of $U(P_k)$ ($1 \leq k \leq N$) covers $\bar{\Omega}$. Let the function α_k be in $C_0^\infty(U(P_k))$ such that $\sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_k \equiv 1$ in Ω . We assume that the points P_1, \dots, P_N ($N' \leq N$) are in $\partial_2 \Omega$. Each subdomain $\overline{U(P_k)} \cap \bar{\Omega}$ ($1 \leq k \leq N'$) can be mapped in a one to one C^∞ way into $y_n \leq 0$ ⁵⁾ such that the operator $\frac{d}{dn}$ on $U(P_k)$ is transformed into $\frac{\partial}{\partial y_n}$. Applying Lemma 8 for $\alpha_k u$ on $y_n \leq 0$, we can find a sequence $\{\varphi_i^{(k)}\} \subset C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$ ($1 \leq k \leq N'$) having the following property that

5) We denote by (y_1, \dots, y_n) the new coordinate.

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \varphi_i^{(k)} &= 0 \quad \text{in a neighborhood of } \overline{\partial_1 \Omega}, \\ \left(\frac{d}{dn} + \sigma(x) \right) \varphi_i^{(k)} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial_2 \Omega \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\varphi_i^{(k)} \rightarrow \alpha_k u \quad \text{in } H^1(\Omega).$$

Setting

$$(4.2) \quad \varphi_i = \sum_{k=1}^{N'} \varphi_i^{(k)} + \sum_{k=N'+1}^N \alpha_k u,$$

we easily see

$$\varphi_i \rightarrow u \quad \text{in } H^1(\Omega).$$

The other properties of $\{\varphi_i\}$ is obvious from (4.1) and (4.2). Hence we have finished the proof.

Finally we have

Lemma 9. *The definition domain $D(A)$ (see (3.2)) is dense in H .*

Proof. Let the vector function $\{u, v\}$ be in $H (= K(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega))$. First we take a sequence $\{v_i\} \subset C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ converging to v in $L^2(\Omega)$. Secondly we set $u_i = \varphi_i$ for the sequence $\{\varphi_i\}$ in Lemma 8. Obviously, $\{u_i, v_i\} \rightarrow \{u, v\}$ in H . Since $\left(\frac{d}{dn} + \sigma(x) \right) u_i = 0$ on $\partial_2 \Omega$, we see that (2.7) holds by Green's formula. Thus each $\{u_i, v_i\}$ satisfies the boundary condition (B_2) on $\partial_2 \Omega$. Hence $D(A)$ is dense in H .

5. In virtue of Lemma 5 and 9, we can apply the theory of evolution equations quite similarly as in [3] and [5] as follows. Suppose that $F(t) = \{0, f(t)\}$ is in $D(A)$ and $F(t), AF(t) \in \mathcal{E}_i^0(H)[0, T]$. Then for any given $U_0 = \{u_0, v_0\} \in D(A)$, there is a unique solution $U(t) = \{u(t), v(t)\} \in D(A) \cap \mathcal{E}_i^1(H)[0, T]$ of the equation

$$(5.1) \quad \frac{d}{dt} U(t) = AU(t) + F(t) \quad \text{in } 0 < t \leq T$$

with the initial condition $U(0) = U_0$. The equation (5.1) is equivalent to

(2.3). Since $v = u_t$ and (2.7) holds, we see that u satisfies the boundary condition (2.5) weakly on $\partial_2 \Omega \times [0, T]$ (see Definition 2.1). Hence Theorem 1 in Section 2 has been shown.

The statement of Theorem 2 is proved quite similarly as in Theorem 1, if we add to the definition domain $D(A)$ the condition that $u \in H_{loc}^2(\bar{\Omega} - S)$.

Finally, we show the energy inequality for $U(t) \in D(A) \cap \mathcal{E}_1^1(H)[0, T]$. It is easily seen that from Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{d}{dt} \|U(t)\|_H^2 &= (U'(t), U(t))_H + (U(t), U'(t))_H \\ &= (AU(t) + F(t), U(t))_H + (U(t), AU(t) + F(t))_H \\ &\leq 2c_2 \|U(t)\|_H^2 + 2\|U(t)\|_H \|F(t)\|_H. \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows

$$\|U(t)\|_H \leq e^{c_2 t} \left(\|U(0)\|_H + \int_0^t \|F(s)\|_H ds \right).$$

Hence

$$\|u(t)\|_1 + \|u'(t)\|_0 \leq C e^{c_2 t} \left(\|u(0)\|_1 + \|v(0)\|_0 + \int_0^t \|f(s)\|_0 ds \right).$$

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