

LONG-TIME BEHAVIOUR OF WAVE EQUATIONS WITH NONLINEAR INTERIOR DAMPING

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ABSTRACT. We prove the existence of attractors for higher dimensional wave equations with nonlinear interior damping which grows faster than polynomials at infinity.

1. **Introduction.** The main purpose of the paper is to investigate the long-time behaviour of the following wave equation:

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + g(u_t) + f(u) = 0 \quad \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \quad (1.1)$$

with boundary condition

$$u = 0 \quad \text{on } (0, +\infty) \times \partial\Omega \quad (1.2)$$

and with initial data condition

$$u(0, \cdot) = u_0, \quad u_t(0, \cdot) = u_1 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad (1.3)$$

where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a bounded domain with a sufficiently smooth boundary.

The problem of the existence of attractors for autonomous wave equations with linear interior damping was investigated in [1], [2], [5], [9], [12], [17] and references therein. In [3], [6], [15] the existence of attractors for wave equations with nonlinear interior damping was established assuming a large value for the damping. In [13] attractors were studied without assuming large value for the damping in the two-dimensional case. For the three-dimensional case the large damping restriction has been removed in [16] and later the result of [16] is improved in [10].

In all articles mentioned above attractors were studied under a polynomial growth condition at infinity on the damping term. In [7] the attractors were investigated for one-dimensional wave equations without upper restriction on the growth of the damping term, where the embedding $H^1(\Omega) \subset C(\overline{\Omega})$ available in the one-dimensional case is critically used.

In this paper, we study the existence of attractors for higher dimensional wave equations with nonlinear interior damping which grows faster than polynomials at infinity. The paper organized as follows: In the next section we state our main result, in Section 3 we establish the asymptotic compactness property of solutions of (1.1)-(1.3), and finally in Section 4 we prove the existence of a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ -attractor for the problem (1.1)-(1.3).

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2. Statement of the main result. We begin with the assumptions on the functions f and g .

Assumption 2.1.

$$\bullet \quad g \in C^1(R), \quad g(0) = 0, \quad g \text{ is odd function and } g'(\cdot) \geq \alpha > 0, \quad (2.1)$$

$$\bullet \quad |g'(s)| \leq c(1 + g^2(s)), \quad \forall s \in R, \quad (2.2)$$

$$\bullet \quad \liminf_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(ks)}{g(s)} > 1 \quad \text{for some } k > 1, \quad (2.3)$$

$$\bullet \quad |g(s - t)| \leq \beta |g(s) - g(t)|, \quad \forall s, t \in R, \quad \text{for some } \beta > 0, \quad (2.4)$$

$$\bullet \quad f \in C^1(R), \quad |f'(s)| \leq c, \quad \liminf_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(s)}{s} > -\lambda_1, \quad (2.5)$$

where λ_1 is the first eigenvalue of $-\Delta$ with zero Dirichlet data.

Remark 2.1. The class of functions which satisfy conditions (2.1)-(2.4) is quite large. It is easy to see that if a function satisfying (2.1)-(2.2) also has non-decreasing derivative on R_+ , then it satisfies (2.3) and (2.4). For example, $g_1(s) = |s|^p s + s$ ($p \geq 0$) and $g_2(s) = \begin{cases} e^s - 1, & \text{if } s \geq 0 \\ -e^{-s} + 1, & \text{if } s < 0 \end{cases}$ are such functions.

Applying Galerkin’s method one can prove the following existence theorem.

Theorem 2.1. *Assume that Assumption 2.1 holds and*

$$u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \quad u_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega}).$$

Then for every $T > 0$ there exists a unique strong solution $u(t, x)$ of problem (1.1)-(1.3) on $[0, T] \times \Omega$, that is $u \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L^2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$ and

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + g(u_t) + f(u) = 0, \quad \text{a.e. on } [0, T] \times \Omega.$$

Remark 2.2. In the case when g and f satisfy certain polynomial growth conditions Theorem 2.1 was proved in [8] for initial data (u_0, u_1) such that $u_0 \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, $u_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ and $g(u_1) \in L^2(\Omega)$. In [4], the existence of strong solutions of wave equations with nonlinear damping satisfying some polynomial growth conditions was studied for a larger class of initial data.

Let us define a generalized solution:

Definition 2.1. A function $u \in C([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap C^1([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))$ possessing the properties $u(0, \cdot) = u_0$ and $u_t(0, \cdot) = u_1$ is said to be generalized (weak) solution to problem (1.1)-(1.3) on $[0, T] \times \Omega$, iff there exists a sequence of strong solutions $\{u^n(t, x)\}$ to problem (1.1)-(1.3) with initial data (u_0^n, u_1^n) instead of (u_0, u_1) such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\|u - u^n\|_{C([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega))} + \|u_t - u_t^n\|_{C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))} \right) = 0.$$

Using density argument and Theorem 2.1 we have the following theorem.

Theorem 2.2. *Assume that Assumption 2.1 holds and $(u_0, u_1) \in \mathcal{H} := H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$. Then for every $T > 0$ the problem (1.1)-(1.3) has a unique generalized solution on $[0, T] \times \Omega$, which satisfies*

$$E(u(t), u_t(t)) + \int_{\tau}^t \int_{\Omega} g(u_t(s, x)) u_t(s, x) dx ds + \int_{\Omega} F(u(t, x)) dx$$

$$\leq E(u(\tau), u_t(\tau)) + \int_{\Omega} F(u(\tau, x)) dx, \quad 0 \leq \tau \leq t < T. \tag{2.6}$$

Moreover if $v(t, x)$ is a generalized solution to (1.1)-(1.3) on $[0, T] \times \Omega$ with initial data (v_0, v_1) and $\max \{ \|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}, \|(v_0, v_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \} \leq R$, then there exists $C = C(R) > 0$ such that

$$E(u(t) - v(t), u_t(t) - v_t(t)) \leq CE(u_0 - v_0, u_1 - v_1), \quad \forall t \in [0, T],$$

where $F(u) = \int_0^u f(v) dv$, $E(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} (\|\nabla u\|^2 + \|v\|^2)$ and $\|\cdot\|$ is a norm in $L^2(\Omega)$.

Thus under Assumption 2.1, problem (1.1)-(1.3) generates a continuous semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ in \mathcal{H} by the formula $S(t)(u_0, u_1) = (u(t), u_t(t))$, where $u(t, x)$ is a generalized solution with initial data (u_0, u_1) .

Now let us introduce the following family of sets:

$\mathfrak{B} = \{B : B \text{ is a bounded subset of } \mathcal{H} \text{ and for any } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists}$

$$m = m(\varepsilon, B) > 0 \text{ such that } \sup_{(u,v) \in B} \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |u(x)| > m\}} |\nabla u(x)|^2 dx \leq \varepsilon \}.$$

Definition 2.2. We say that a set $\mathcal{A} \in \mathfrak{B}$ is a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ -attractor for the semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ iff

- \mathcal{A} is compact in \mathcal{H} ;
- \mathcal{A} is invariant, i.e. $S(t)\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}, \forall t \geq 0$;
- $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{v \in B} \inf_{u \in \mathcal{A}} \|S(t)v - u\|_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$ for each $B \in \mathfrak{B}$.

Our main result is:

Theorem 2.3. Under Assumption 2.1 the semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ generated by the problem (1.1)-(1.3) possesses a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ -attractor.

Remark 2.3. By the definition we see that the projection of an element of \mathfrak{B} on $H_0^1(\Omega)$ is a bounded set which has a ‘‘compactness’’ (or regularity) property in some sense. We will use this property to prove asymptotic compactness (see proof of Lemma 3.2).

Remark 2.4. By the definition it follows that a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ -attractor is maximal as invariant set belonging to \mathfrak{B} and minimal as closed attractor attracting every element of \mathfrak{B} . Since every bounded subset of $(H_0^1(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)) \times L^2(\Omega)$ and $W^{1, 2+\varepsilon}(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$ belongs to \mathfrak{B} , a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ -attractor attracts each bounded subset of $(H_0^1(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)) \times L^2(\Omega)$ and $W^{1, 2+\varepsilon}(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$ in the topology of \mathcal{H} , where $\varepsilon > 0$.

3. Asymptotic compactness. Let $u(t, x)$ be a strong solution of (1.1)-(1.3) with initial data (u_0, u_1) . We use decomposition used in [5], [6] and [8]. So we decompose $u(t, x)$ as a sum $w(t, x) + v(t, x)$, where

$$\begin{cases} w_{tt} - \Delta w + g(w_t) + f(u) = 0 & \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \\ w = 0 & \text{on } (0, +\infty) \times \partial\Omega \\ w(0, \cdot) = 0, \quad w_t(0, \cdot) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} v_{tt} - \Delta v + g(v_t + w_t) - g(w_t) = 0 & \text{in } (0, +\infty) \times \Omega \\ v = 0 & \text{on } (0, +\infty) \times \partial\Omega \\ v(0, \cdot) = u_0, \quad v_t(0, \cdot) = u_1 & \text{in } \Omega \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

Lemma 3.1. *Let Assumption 2.1 holds. Then for every $(u_0, u_1) \in \mathcal{H}$, there exists a unique strong solution $w \in W^{2,\infty}(0, \infty; L^2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, \infty; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, \infty; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$ of (3.1) such that*

$$\|\Delta w(t)\| + \|\nabla w_t(t)\| + \|w_{tt}(t)\| \leq c(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall t \geq 0, \quad (3.3)$$

where $c(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function.

Proof. Since uniqueness of the strong solution is trivial, we will prove the existence of a solution which satisfies (3.3). Let $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be eigenfunctions of $-\Delta$ in $H_0^1(\Omega)$, i.e.

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \varphi_i = \lambda_i \varphi_i, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \varphi_i|_{\Omega} = 0, & \end{cases}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since $\Omega \subset R^n$ is a bounded domain with sufficiently smooth boundary, by standard elliptic theory we have $\varphi_i \in C^\infty(\overline{\Omega})$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Set $w^m(t) = \sum_{j=1}^m a_{mj}(t)\varphi_j$ and consider the following system of ordinary differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \langle w^m(t), \varphi_j \rangle + \langle \nabla w^m(t), \nabla \varphi_j \rangle + \left\langle g\left(\frac{d}{dt} w^m(t)\right), \varphi_j \right\rangle \\ + \langle f(u(t)), \varphi_j \rangle = 0, \quad j = \overline{1, m} \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

with initial conditions

$$a_{mj}(0) = 0, \quad a'_{mj}(0) = 0, \quad j = \overline{1, m} \quad (3.5)$$

where $\langle w, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\Omega} w(x)\varphi(x)dx$ and $u(t, x)$ is the generalized solution of (1.1)-(1.3) with initial data (u_0, u_1) . Existence theory of ordinary differential equations implies that there exists a solution of (3.4)-(3.5) on $[0, T_m)$. Multiplying both sides of (3.4) by $2\lambda_j \frac{d}{dt} a_{mj}(t)$, summing from 1 to m and integrating over $[0, t] \subset [0, T_m)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\nabla w_t^m(t)\|^2 + \|\Delta w^m(t)\|^2 + 2 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g'(w_t^m(s, x)) |\nabla w_t^m(s, x)|^2 dx ds \\ & = -2 \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} f'(u(s, x)) u_{x_j}(s, x) w_{tx_j}^m(s, x) dx ds, \end{aligned}$$

which together with (2.1), (2.5) and (2.6) yields

$$\|\nabla w_t^m(t)\|^2 + \|\Delta w^m(t)\|^2 \leq c_1(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}})T_m, \quad 0 \leq t < T_m.$$

Hence $w^m(t, \cdot)$ can be extended to an interval $[0, T]$ and

$$\|\nabla w_t^m(t)\|^2 + \|\Delta w^m(t)\|^2 \leq c_1(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}})T, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T. \quad (3.6)$$

Differentiating both sides of (3.4), multiplying by $2\frac{d^2}{dt^2}a_{mj}(t)$, summing from 1 to m and integrating over $[0, t]$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|w_{tt}^m(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla w_t^m(t)\|^2 + 2 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g'(w_t^m(s, x)) |w_{tt}^m(s, x)|^2 dx ds \\ &= \|w_{tt}^m(0)\|^2 - 2 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} f'(u(s, x)) u_t(s, x) w_{tt}^m(s, x) dx ds, \end{aligned}$$

which again together with (2.1), (2.5) and (2.6) yields

$$\|w_{tt}^m(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla w_t^m(t)\|^2 \leq c_2(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall t \geq 0. \tag{3.7}$$

On the other hand multiplying both sides of (3.4) by $\frac{d}{dt}a_{mj}(t)$, summing from 1 to m and integrating over $[0, T]$ we find

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t^m(s, x)) w_t^m(s, x) dx ds \leq c_3(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}})T$$

and consequently

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} N(g(w_t^m(s, x))) dx ds \leq c_3(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}})T, \tag{3.8}$$

where $N(x) = \int_0^x g^{-1}(y) dy$. Taking into account (3.6), (3.7) and applying [11, Theorem 14.4, p. 131] to (3.8) we can say that there exists a subsequence $\{m_k\}$ such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} w^{m_k} \rightharpoonup w \text{ weakly star in } L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)) \\ w_t^{m_k} \rightharpoonup w_t \text{ weakly star in } L^\infty(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \\ w_{tt}^{m_k} \rightharpoonup w_{tt} \text{ weakly star in } L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega)) \\ \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t^{m_k}) \psi dx ds \rightarrow \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t) \psi dx ds, \quad \forall \psi \in L^\infty((0, T) \times \Omega) \end{array} \right. \tag{3.9}$$

Now passing to limit in (3.4) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle w_{tt}(t), \varphi_j \rangle + \langle \Delta w(t), \varphi_j \rangle + \langle g(w_t(t)), \varphi_j \rangle \\ &+ \langle f(u(t)), \varphi_j \rangle = 0, \quad \text{a.e. on } [0, T], \quad j = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

from which we find that $g(w_t) \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ and $w \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L_2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$ satisfies (3.1)₁ a.e. on $[0, T] \times \Omega$.

Now let us prove inequality (3.3). Passing to limit in (3.7) we have

$$\|w_{tt}(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla w_t(t)\|^2 \leq c_2(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \text{for a.a. } t \geq 0. \tag{3.10}$$

Denoting $z^m(t) = w^m(t + \Delta t) - w^m(t)$, from (3.4) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle z_{tt}^m(t), \varphi_j \rangle + \langle \nabla z^m(t), \nabla \varphi_j \rangle + \langle g(w_t^m(t + \Delta t)) - g(w_t^m(t)), \varphi_j \rangle \\ &+ \langle f(u(t + \Delta t)) - f(u(t)), \varphi_j \rangle = 0, \quad j = \overline{1, m} \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

Multiplying both sides of (3.11) by $\frac{d}{dt}(a_{mj}(t + \Delta t) - a_{mj}(t))$, summing from 1 to m and integrating over $[0, T]$ we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (g(w_t^m(t + \Delta t)) - g(w_t^m(t)))(w_t^m(t + \Delta t) - w_t^m(t)) dx dt \\ & \leq l(\|z_t^m(0)\|^2 + \|\nabla z^m(0)\|^2) + \int_0^T \|u(t + \Delta t) - u(t)\|^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

which together with (2.1), (2.5), (2.6) and (3.7) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{(\Delta t)^2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (g(w_t^{m_k}(t + \Delta t)) - g(w_t^{m_k}(t)))(w_t^{m_k}(t + \Delta t) - w_t^{m_k}(t)) dx dt \leq \\ & \leq c_4(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \text{for } \Delta t > 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $l > 0$ and $c_4(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function. Taking into account (3.9) and applying Fatou’s lemma from last inequality we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{(\Delta t)^2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (g(w_t(t + \Delta t)) - g(w_t(t)))(w_t(t + \Delta t) - w_t(t)) dx dt \\ & \leq c_4(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \text{for } \Delta t > 0, \end{aligned}$$

and consequently

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g'(w_t(t, x)) |w_{tt}(t, x)|^2 dx ds \leq c_4(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T \geq 0. \tag{3.12}$$

Now differentiating (3.1)₁ with respect to t we obtain

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_{tt} - \Delta w_t + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(w_t) + f'(u)u_t = 0. \tag{3.13}$$

By (2.2) and (3.12) we find $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(w_t) = g'(w_t)w_{tt} \in L^1((0, T) \times \Omega)$, which together with $g(w_t) \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ yields $g(w_t) \in C(0, T; L^1(\Omega))$. Applying [14, Lemma 8.1, p.275] we have $g(w_t) \in C_s(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$. On the other hand since $\Delta w_t \in L^\infty(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega))$ and $f'(u)u_t \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ from (3.13) we find $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_{tt} \in L^1(0, T; L^1(\Omega) + H^{-1}(\Omega))$, which together with $w_{tt} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$ yields $w_{tt} \in C(0, T; L^1(\Omega) + H^{-1}(\Omega))$. Applying again [14, Lemma 8.1, p.275] we have $w_{tt} \in C_s(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$.

Denote

$$g_n(z) = \begin{cases} g(-n), & z < -n, \\ g(z), & -n \leq z \leq n, \\ g(n), & z > n \end{cases} .$$

Since $g_n(w_t) \in L^\infty(0, T; L^\infty(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$ by (3.13) have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_{tt}(s), g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds + \int_0^t \langle \nabla w_t(s), \nabla g_n(w_t(s)) \rangle ds \\ & + \int_0^t \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(w_t(s)), g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds + \int_0^t \langle f'(u)u_t, g_n(w_t) \rangle ds = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

Let us estimate each integral in (3.14):

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_{tt}(s), g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds = \langle w_{tt}(t), g_n(w_t(t)) \rangle - \int_0^t \left\langle w_{tt}(s), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds \\ & = \langle w_{tt}(t), g_n(w_t(t)) \rangle - \int_0^t \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |w_t(s, x)| \leq n\}} g'_n(w_t(s, x)) |w_{tt}(s, x)|^2 dx ds \\ & \geq - \|w_{tt}(t)\| \|g(w_t(t))\| - \int_0^t \int_\Omega g'(w_t(s, x)) |w_{tt}(s, x)|^2 dx ds. \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \langle \nabla w_t(s), \nabla g_n(w_t(s)) \rangle ds \\ & = \int_0^t \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |w_t(s, x)| \leq n\}} g'_n(w_t(s, x)) |\nabla w_t(s, x)|^2 dx ds \geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.16}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(w_t(s)), g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds = \langle g(w_t(t)), g_n(w_t(t)) \rangle \\ & - \int_0^t \left\langle g_n(w_t(s)), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g_n(w_t(s)) \right\rangle ds = \langle g(w_t(t)), g_n(w_t(t)) \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \|g_n(w_t(t))\|^2 \\ & \geq \frac{1}{2} \|g_n(w_t(t))\|^2. \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

Using (2.5) and Young inequality (see [11]) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \langle f'(u)u_t, g_n(w_t) \rangle ds \geq -c \int_0^t \int_\Omega |u_t(s, x)| |g_n(w_t(s, x))| dx ds \\ & \geq -c \int_0^t \int_\Omega |u_t(s, x)| |g(w_t(s, x))| dx ds \geq -c \int_0^t \int_\Omega g(u_t(s, x)) u_t(s, x) dx ds \\ & - c \int_0^t \int_\Omega g(w_t(s, x)) w_t(s, x) dx ds. \end{aligned} \tag{3.18}$$

Taking into account (3.15)-(3.18) in (3.14) we find

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \|g_n(w_t(t))\|^2 &\leq \|w_{tt}(t)\| \|g(w_t(t))\| + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g'(w_t(s, x)) |w_{tt}(s, x)|^2 dx ds \\ &\quad + c \left[\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(u_t(s, x)) u_t(s, x) dx ds + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(s, x)) w_t(s, x) dx ds \right] \end{aligned}$$

which together with (2.6), (3.10) and (3.12) implies

$$\|g(w_t(t))\| \leq c_5(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}) + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(s, x)) w_t(s, x) dx ds, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (3.19)$$

where $c_5(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function.

Denote by $K(t)$ a solution operator of (3.1), i.e. $(w(t), w_t(t)) = K(t)(u_0, u_1)$. Let $(u_0, u_1) \in (H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)) \times (H_0^1(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega}))$, $(u(t), u_t(t)) = S(t)(u_0, u_1)$, $(w(t), w_t(t)) = K(t)(u_0, u_1)$ and $v(t, \cdot) = u(t, \cdot) - w(t, \cdot)$. As shown above $w \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L^2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$. Then by Theorem 1.1, $v \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L^2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$ satisfies (3.2)₁ a.e. on $(0, T) \times \Omega$ for every $T > 0$. Multiplying (3.2)₁ by v_t , integrating over $(s, t) \times \Omega$ and taking into account (2.4) we obtain

$$E(v(t), v_t(t)) + \frac{1}{\beta} \int_s^t \int_{\Omega} g(v_t(s, x)) v_t(s, x) dx ds \leq E(v(s), v_t(s)), \quad \forall t \geq s \geq 0, \quad (3.20)$$

and using Young inequality (see [11])

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(s, x)) w_t(s, x) dx ds \\ &\leq \beta \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} (g(u_t(s, x)) - g(v_t(s, x)))(u_t(s, x) - v_t(s, x)) dx ds \\ &\leq 3\beta \left[\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(u_t(s, x)) u_t(s, x) dx ds + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(v_t(s, x)) v_t(s, x) dx ds \right] \\ &\leq c_6(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall t > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

where $c_6(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function. Using density argument it is easy to see that (3.21) also holds for every $(u_0, u_1) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$.

By (3.19) and (3.21) we have

$$\|g(w_t(t))\| \leq c_7(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad t \geq 0,$$

where $c_7(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function. Taking into account the last inequality together with (2.6) and (3.10) in equation (3.1)₁ we obtain (3.3). \square

Lemma 3.2. *Assume that Assumption 2.1 holds and $B \in \mathfrak{B}$. Then for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exist $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$ and $T_0 = T_0(\varepsilon, B) > 0$ such that*

$$\|S(T)\theta - K(T)\theta\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \varepsilon, \quad \forall T \geq T_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \forall \theta \in O_\delta(B), \quad (3.22)$$

where $O_\delta(B)$ is δ -neighbourhood of B in \mathcal{H} .

Proof. Let $\theta = (u_0, u_1) \in (H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)) \times (H_0^1(\Omega) \cap C(\overline{\Omega}))$, $(u(t), u_t(t)) = S(t)(u_0, u_1)$ and $(w(t), w_t(t)) = K(t)(u_0, u_1)$. Then as mentioned in proof of Lemma 3.1, the function

$$v = u - w \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L^2(\Omega)) \cap W^{1,\infty}(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$$

satisfies (3.2)₁ a.e. on $(0, T) \times \Omega$ for every $T > 0$.

$$\text{Set } \widehat{u}_0(x) = \begin{cases} u_0(x) + m, & u_0(x) < -m \\ 0, & |u_0(x)| \leq m \\ u_0(x) - m, & u_0(x) > m \end{cases}.$$

Multiplying (3.2)₁ by $\frac{1}{t+1}(v(t, x) - \widehat{u}_0(x))$ and integrating over $(0, T) \times \Omega$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} \|\nabla v(t)\|^2 dt - \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} \langle \nabla v(t), \nabla \widehat{u}_0 \rangle dt - \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} \|v_t(t)\|^2 dt \\ & \leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt - \int_0^T \int_\Omega g(u_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_0^T \int_\Omega g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} (u_0(x) - \widehat{u}_0(x)) dx dt \\ & \quad - \int_0^T \int_\Omega g(u_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} (u_0(x) - \widehat{u}_0(x)) dx dt \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} \|u_0 - \widehat{u}_0\|^2 - \frac{1}{T+1} \langle v_t(T), v(T) - \widehat{u}_0 \rangle + \langle u_1, u_0 - \widehat{u}_0 \rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

Now let us estimate first four terms on the right side of (3.23).

Using Young and Jensen inequalities (see [11]) we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_\Omega g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt \right| \leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega N(\lambda g(w_t(t, x))) dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_0^T \int_\Omega M \left(\frac{1}{\lambda(t+1)} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds \right) dx dt \leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega N(\lambda g(w_t(t, x))) dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \frac{t}{\lambda(t+1)} M \left(\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds \right) dx dt \leq \int_0^T \int_\Omega N(\lambda g(w_t(t, x))) dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_0^T \int_\Omega \frac{1}{\lambda(t+1)} \int_0^t M(v_t(s, x)) ds dx dt, \quad \forall \lambda > 1, \end{aligned} \tag{3.24}$$

where $M(z) = \int_0^z g(x) dx$ and $N(z) = \int_0^z g^{-1}(x) dx$. By (2.1) and (2.3) there exists $l(k) > 1$ such that

$$g(kx) \geq l(k)g(x), \quad \forall x \in R,$$

and consequently

$$g(k^n x) \geq (l(k))^n g(x), \quad \forall x \in R.$$

The last inequality together with (2.1) yields that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} N((l(k))^n g(w_t(t, x))) dx dt \\ & \leq (l(k))^n \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) g^{-1}((l(k))^n g(w_t(t, x))) dx dt \\ & \leq (l(k))^n k^n \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) w_t(t, x) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3.25)$$

Setting $\lambda = (l(k))^n$, by (3.24)-(3.25) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt \right| \\ & \leq (l(k))^n k^n \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) w_t(t, x) dx dt \\ & \quad + \frac{\ln(T+1)}{(l(k))^n} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(v_t(t, x)) v_t(t, x) dx dt, \end{aligned}$$

which together with (3.21) implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt \right| \\ & \leq \left((l(k))^n k^n + \frac{\ln(T+1)}{(l(k))^n} \right) c_6(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T \geq 0, n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.26)$$

By the same way we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(u_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t v_t(s, x) ds dx dt \right| \\ & \leq \left((l(k))^n k^n + \frac{\ln(T+1)}{(l(k))^n} \right) c_8(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T \geq 0, n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.27)$$

where $c_8(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function. By definition of $\widehat{u}_0(x)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(w_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} (u_0(x) - \widehat{u}_0(x)) dx dt \right| \leq m \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{t+1} |g(w_t(t, x))| dx dt \\ & \leq m \int_0^T \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |w_t(t, x)| \leq \rho\}} \frac{1}{t+1} |g(w_t(t, x))| dx dt \\ & \quad + m \int_0^T \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |w_t(t, x)| > \rho\}} \frac{1}{t+1} |g(w_t(t, x))| dx dt \\ & \leq mg(\rho) \ln(T+1)mes\Omega + \frac{m}{\rho} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{t+1} g(w_t(t, x)) w_t(t, x) dx dt \\ & \leq mg(\rho) \ln(T+1)mes\Omega + \frac{m}{\rho} c_6(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T \geq 0, \forall \rho > 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.28}$$

Similarly we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} g(u_t(t, x)) \frac{1}{t+1} (u_0(x) - \widehat{u}_0(x)) dx dt \right| \\ & \leq mg(\rho) \ln(T+1)mes\Omega + \frac{m}{\rho} c_8(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T \geq 0, \forall \rho > 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.29}$$

Taking into account (3.26)-(3.29) in (3.23) we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} \|\nabla v(t)\|^2 dt \leq \frac{1}{2} \ln(T+1) \|\nabla \widehat{u}_0\|^2 + \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} \|v_t(t)\|^2 dt \\ & \quad + \left((l(k))^n k^n + \frac{\ln(T+1)}{(l(k))^n} + \frac{m}{\rho} \right) (c_6(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}) + c_8(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}})) \\ & \quad + 2mg(\rho) \ln(T+1)mes\Omega + \frac{1}{T+1} \|v_t(T)\| \|v(T) - \widehat{u}_0\| + \frac{1}{2} \|u_0 - \widehat{u}_0\|^2 \\ & \quad + \|u_1\| \|u_0 - \widehat{u}_0\|, \quad \forall T \geq 0, \forall \rho > 0, \forall m > 0, n = 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned}$$

which together with (2.1) and (3.20) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \ln(T+1)E(v(T), v_t(T)) \leq \int_0^T \frac{1}{t+1} E(v(t), v_t(t)) dt \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \ln(T+1) \int_{\{x: x \in \Omega, |u_0(x)| > m\}} |\nabla u_0|^2 dx + 2mg(\rho) \ln(T+1)mes\Omega \\ & \quad + c_9(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}) \left((l(k))^n k^n + \frac{\ln(T+1)}{(l(k))^n} + \frac{m}{\rho} \right) \\ & \quad + c_9(\|(u_0, u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}}), \quad \forall T > 0, \forall \rho > 0, \forall m > 0, n = 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned}$$

where $c_9(\cdot) : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is a nondecreasing function. Choosing m and n large enough then ρ small enough, from the last inequality we obtain (3.22) for large T . \square

Now we can prove the asymptotic compactness property of solutions, which is included in the following theorem:

Theorem 3.1. *Assume Assumption 2.1 holds and $B \in \mathfrak{B}$. Then any sequence of the form $\{S(t_n)\theta_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$, $t_n \rightarrow \infty$, $\theta_n \in O_{\varepsilon_n}(B)$, $\varepsilon_n \searrow 0$, has a convergent subsequence in \mathcal{H} .*

Proof. Since by Lemma 3.1 the sequence $\{K(t_n)\theta_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is relatively compact in \mathcal{H} , there exists a subsequence $\{K(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m}\}_{m=1}^\infty$ which converges in \mathcal{H} . So for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $N_1 = N_1(\varepsilon)$, such that

$$\|K(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m} - K(t_{n_k})\theta_{n_k}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \quad \forall m, k \geq N_1. \quad (3.30)$$

On the other hand by Lemma 3.2, there exists $N_2 = N_2(\varepsilon)$, such that

$$\|S(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m} - K(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \quad \forall m \geq N_2,$$

which together with (3.30) gives that

$$\|S(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m} - S(t_{n_k})\theta_{n_k}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \varepsilon, \quad \forall m, k \geq \max\{N_1, N_2\}.$$

In other words $\{S(t_{n_m})\theta_{n_m}\}_{m=1}^\infty$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathcal{H} and consequently converges in \mathcal{H} . \square

From this theorem immediately the following corollary follows.

Corollary 1. *Under Assumption 2.1 for every $B \in \mathfrak{B}$, the sets $\omega(B) = \bigcap_{t \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{\tau \geq t} S(\tau)B}$ and $\hat{\omega}(B) = \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \bigcap_{t \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{\tau \geq t} S(\tau)O_\varepsilon(B)}$ are nonempty invariant compacts which attract B .*

4. Proof of Theorem 2.3. Since $\theta \in \mathfrak{B}$, for every $\theta \in \mathcal{H}$, by Corollary 3.1 the set $\omega(\theta) = \bigcap_{t \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{\tau \geq t} S(\tau)\theta}$ is nonempty invariant compact which attracts a semitrajectory beginning from θ . Set

$$Z = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{H}, S(t)\varphi = \varphi, \quad \forall t \geq 0\}.$$

It is easy to see that under condition (2.5) the set Z belongs to \mathfrak{B} .

Let $\theta = (u_0, u_1) \in \mathcal{H}$ and $(\varphi_0, \varphi_1) \in \omega(\theta)$. By the definition of $\omega(\theta)$ there exists a sequence $\{t_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ such that $t_n \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$S(t_n)(u_0, u_1) \rightarrow (\varphi_0, \varphi_1) \text{ strongly in } \mathcal{H}. \quad (4.1)$$

On the other hand by (2.6) the Lyapunov function $L(u(t), u_t(t)) := E(u(t), u_t(t)) + \int_{\Omega} F(u(t, x)) dx$ is nonincreasing and lower bounded on any semitrajectory $\bigcup_{t \geq 0} (u(t), u_t(t))$. So there exists a constant l , such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} L(S(t)(u_0, u_1)) = l,$$

which together with (4.1) yields

$$L(\varphi_0, \varphi_1) = l, \quad \forall (\varphi_0, \varphi_1) \in \omega(\theta). \quad (4.2)$$

Set $(\varphi(t), \varphi_t(t)) = S(t)(\varphi_0, \varphi_1)$. Since $(\varphi(t), \varphi_t(t)) \in \omega(\theta)$, by (2.1), (2.6) and (4.2) we have $\varphi(t) \equiv \varphi_0$, $\varphi_1 = 0$ and consequently $(\varphi_0, \varphi_1) \in Z$. Thus $\omega(\theta) \subset Z$ for every $\theta \in \mathcal{H}$.

Now let us show that $\widehat{\omega}(Z) = \bigcap_{\varepsilon>0} \bigcap_{t \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{\tau \geq t} S(\tau)O_\varepsilon(Z)}$ is a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ - attractor. By Corollary 3.1 the set $\widehat{\omega}(Z)$ is invariant and compact. Hence it is sufficient to prove that $\widehat{\omega}(Z)$ attracts every element of \mathfrak{B} . Assume it is not true. Then there exist $\varepsilon_0 > 0$, $B \in \mathfrak{B}$, $\{v_n\} \subset B$, $t_n \rightarrow \infty$ such that

$$\inf_{u \in \widehat{\omega}(Z)} \|S(t_n)v_n - u\| \geq \varepsilon_0, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \tag{4.3}$$

By Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.1 for any $\delta > 0$ there exists $T(\delta) > 0$ such that

$$S(t)B \subset O_\delta(\omega(B)), \quad \forall t \geq T(\delta). \tag{4.4}$$

On the other hand as shown above for any $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\varphi \in \omega(B)$ there exists $t(\varepsilon, \varphi) > 0$ such that

$$S(t)\varphi \in O_\varepsilon(\omega(\varphi)) \subset O_\varepsilon(Z), \quad \forall t \geq t(\varepsilon, \varphi). \tag{4.5}$$

By the continuity of $S(t)$ and (4.5) there exists $\delta(t(\varepsilon, \varphi), \varphi) > 0$ such that

$$S(t(\varepsilon, \varphi))O_{\delta(t(\varepsilon, \varphi), \varphi)}(\varphi) \in O_\varepsilon(Z).$$

Since $\omega(B)$ is compact and $\omega(B) \subset \bigcup_{\varphi \in \omega(B)} O_{\delta(t(\varepsilon, \varphi), \varphi)}(\varphi)$, there exist $\delta_\varepsilon > 0$ and a finite number $O_{\delta_\varepsilon}(\varphi_i^\varepsilon)$, t_i^ε ($i = \overline{1, k_\varepsilon}$) such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} O_{\delta_\varepsilon}(\omega(B)) \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{k_\varepsilon} O_{\delta_\varepsilon}(\varphi_i^\varepsilon) \\ S(t_i^\varepsilon)O_{\delta_\varepsilon}(\varphi_i^\varepsilon) \in O_\varepsilon(Z), \quad i = \overline{1, k_\varepsilon} \end{array} \right. .$$

Now let $\varepsilon_m \searrow 0$. Then by the argument above done for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$, there exist $\delta_m > 0$, $k_m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\{\varphi_i^m\}_{i=1}^{k_m} \subset \omega(B)$, $\delta_i^m > 0$ ($i = \overline{1, k_m}$) and $t_i^m > 0$ ($i = \overline{1, k_m}$) such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} O_{\delta_m}(\omega(B)) \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{k_m} O_{\delta_i^m}(\varphi_i^m) \\ S(t_i^m)O_{\delta_i^m}(\varphi_i^m) \in O_{\varepsilon_m}(Z), \quad i = \overline{1, k_m} \end{array} \right. . \tag{4.6}$$

Since $t_n \rightarrow \infty$, for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists $n_m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$t_{n_m} \geq m + T(\delta_m) + \max_{1 \leq i \leq k_m} t_i^m.$$

On the other hand by (4.4) and (4.6) for every v_{n_m} there exists $t_{i_m}^m$ ($i_m \in \{1, 2, \dots, k_m\}$) such that $S(T(\delta_m) + t_{i_m}^m)v_{n_m} \in O_{\varepsilon_m}(Z)$. So setting $\tau_m = t_{n_m} - T(\delta_m) - t_{i_m}^m$ and $w_m = S(T(\delta_m) + t_{i_m}^m)v_{n_m}$ we have $\tau_m \rightarrow \infty$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$ and $w_m \subset O_{\varepsilon_m}(Z)$ for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Consequently by Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.1 there exists a subsequence $\{m_\nu\}$ such that

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{u \in \widehat{\omega}(Z)} \|S(\tau_{m_\nu})w_{m_\nu} - u\| = 0,$$

or

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{u \in \widehat{\omega}(Z)} \|S(t_{n_{m_\nu}})v_{n_{m_\nu}} - u\| = 0.$$

The last equality contradicts (4.3). Thus $\widehat{\omega}(Z)$ is a global $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})_{\mathfrak{B}}$ - attractor.

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