

92. Characteristic Boundary Value Problems for Hyperbolic Equations

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§ 1. Problems and results. We study a priori estimates of the solution u of boundary value problems in the half space:

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} P(D_x, D_z)u(x, z) = f(x, z) & \text{for } x > 0, z \in \mathbf{R}^n, \\ B_j(D_x, D_z)u|_{x=0} = g_j(z) & \text{for } z \in \mathbf{R}^n, j = 0, 1, \dots, \mu^+ - 1. \end{cases}$$

Let $(x, z) = (x, y, t)$ denote the variables in $\mathbf{R}_x \times \mathbf{R}_y^{n-1} \times \mathbf{R}_t$ and $(\xi, \zeta) = (\xi, \eta, \tau)$ denote the covariables corresponding to $(D_x, D_y, D_t) = (\partial/\partial x, \partial/\partial y, \partial/\partial t)$. We assume

(P1) $P(D) = P(D_x, D_y, D_t)$ is a homogeneous differential operator of order m with constant coefficients and strictly hyperbolic with respect to D_t , and

(P2) the boundary $\{x=0\}$ is characteristic to P , i.e.

$$(1.2) \quad P^0(1, 0, 0) = 0,$$

where $P^0(\xi, \eta, \tau)$ is the principal symbol of $P(\xi, \eta, \tau)$.

There exists from (P1) a positive constant γ_0 such that

$$(1.3) \quad P(\xi, \eta, \tau) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } (\xi, \eta, \tau) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_0\}.$$

Moreover, thanks to (P1) and (P2), we have an expression

$$(1.4) \quad P(D_x, D_y, D_t) = P_{m-1}(D_z)D_x^{m-1} + P_{m-2}(D_z)D_x^{m-2} + \dots + P_0(D_z),$$

where

$$(1.5) \quad P_{m-1}(\eta, \tau) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } (\eta, \tau) \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_0\}.$$

From (1.3) and (1.5), we have always $m-1$ non real roots of the characteristic equation $P(\xi, \zeta) = 0$ for parameters $\zeta \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_0\}$. We denote them by $\xi_1^+(\zeta), \dots, \xi_{\mu^+}^+(\zeta), \xi_1^-(\zeta), \dots, \xi_{\mu^-}^-(\zeta)$, where \pm mean the sign of imaginary parts. $\mu^+ + \mu^- = m-1$, and μ^\pm are independent on the parameter ζ .

We introduce boundary operators

$$(1.6) \quad B_j(D_x, D_z) = \sum_{k=0}^{m_j} B_{j,k}(D_z)D_x^k$$

of total order b_j ($m_j \leq b_j$). We assume

(B1) the number of boundary conditions is μ^+ i.e. $j=0, 1, \dots, \mu^+ - 1$ in (1.6), and

(B2) $0 \leq m_j \leq m-1$ i.e. $m_* = \max_j m_j < m-1$.

We define a polynomial of ξ with parameter ζ by

$$(1.7) \quad \begin{aligned} P^+(\xi, \zeta) &= \sum_{j=1}^{\mu^+} (\xi - \xi_j^+(\zeta)) \\ &= P_\mu^+(\zeta)\xi^{\mu^+} + \dots + P_1^+(\zeta)\xi + P_0^+(\zeta). \end{aligned}$$

Dividing $B_j(\xi, \zeta)$ by $P^+(\xi, \zeta)$ as polynomials of ξ , we have the quotient

$S_j(\xi, \zeta)$ and the remainder term $B'_j(\xi, \zeta)$;

$$(1.8) \quad B_j(\xi, \zeta) = S_j(\xi, \zeta)P^+(\xi, \zeta) + B'_j(\xi, \zeta),$$

where $B'_j(\xi, \zeta) = \sum_{k=0}^{\mu^+} B'_{j,k}(\zeta)\xi^k$, $S_j(\xi, \zeta) = \sum_{k=0}^{m_j - \mu^+} [S_{j,h}(\zeta)\xi^h]$
 for $m_j \geq \mu^+$ and $S_j(\xi, \zeta) = 0$ for $m_j < \mu^+$.

The Lopatinski-Shapiro matrix is defined by $B'(\zeta) = \{B'_{j,k}(\zeta); j, k = 0, 1, \dots, \mu^+ - 1\}$. Its determinant $R(\zeta) = \det B'(\zeta)$ is called the Lopatinski-Shapiro determinant. Let $A(\zeta) = \{A_{j,k}(\zeta)\}$ be the inverse matrix of $B'(\zeta)$.

The Fourier-Laplace transform is defined by

$$\hat{u}(\xi, \eta, \sigma - i\gamma) = \widehat{e^{-\gamma t} u(\xi, \eta, \sigma)} \quad \text{for real } \sigma \text{ and } \gamma > 0.$$

The norms of the weighted Sobolev spaces $H_{s,t;\gamma}(\mathbb{R}^{n+1}_{x,z})$ are

$$\|u\|^2_{s,t;\gamma} = \iiint (|\xi|^2 + |\eta|^2 + \sigma^2 + \gamma^2)^s (|\eta|^2 + \sigma^2 + \gamma^2)^t |\hat{u}(\xi, \eta, \sigma - i\gamma)|^2 d\xi d\eta d\sigma$$

and those of $H_{s;\gamma}(\mathbb{R}^n_x)$ are

$$\langle v \rangle^2_{s;\gamma} = \iiint (|\eta|^2 + \sigma^2 + \gamma^2)^s |\hat{v}(\eta, \sigma - i\gamma)|^2 d\eta d\sigma.$$

We introduce an index depending on the coefficients in (1.4). Dividing $P_j(\zeta)$ by $P_{m-1}(\zeta)$ as polynomials in τ , we have the remainder $P'_j(\eta)$. Let l be maximal number of $\{j'\}$ such that $\deg_\eta P'_{m-j}(\eta) < j$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, j'$ ($1 \leq j' \leq m$). Let $\nu = 1/l$, if $1 \leq l \leq m - 1$ and $\nu = 0$, if $l = m$.

Main results. Assume (P1), (P2), (B1), (B2) and

$$(L_\theta) \quad \begin{cases} \text{there exist } \theta \geq 0, \gamma_1 > 0 \text{ and } C > 0 \text{ such that} \\ |A_{k,j}(\zeta)| \leq \frac{C|\zeta|^{k-b_j+\theta}}{|\text{Im } \tau|^\theta} \text{ for all } \zeta = (\eta, \tau) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_1\}. \end{cases}$$

Then, the unique solution u of (1.1) satisfies one of the following inequalities:

if $\mu^+ = m - 1$,

$$(1.9) \quad \gamma \|u\|^2_{|m-1;\gamma} + \sum_{k=0}^{m-2} \langle \gamma_k u \rangle^2_{m-1-k;\gamma} \leq C \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \|f\|^2_{|0;\gamma} + \frac{1}{\gamma^{2\theta}} \sum_{j=0}^{\mu^+-1} \langle g_j \rangle^2_{m-1-b_j+\theta;\gamma} \right),$$

if $1 \leq \mu^+ \leq m - 2$,

$$(1.10) \quad \begin{aligned} & \gamma^{1+2\alpha[m-2]} \|u\|^2_{|m-1, -\alpha[m-2];\gamma} + \sum_{k=0}^{\mu^+-1} \langle \gamma_k u \rangle^2_{m-1-k;\gamma} \\ & + \sum_{k=\mu^+}^{m-2} \gamma^{2\alpha[k]} \langle \gamma_k u \rangle^2_{m-1-k-\alpha[k];\gamma} \\ & \leq \frac{C}{\gamma^{2\theta}} \left\{ \frac{\|f\|^2_{|0, \theta+m_*+1;\gamma}}{\gamma^{1+2(m_*+1)}} + \sum_{j=0}^{\mu^+-1} \langle g_j \rangle^2_{m-1-b_j+\theta;\gamma} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha[k] = (k - \mu^+) \nu + \min\{\mu^+ \nu, 1\}$.

Remark. In the case of non characteristic boundary, the condition (L_θ) gives

$$(1.11) \quad \gamma \|u\|^2_{|m,-1;\gamma} + \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \langle \gamma_k u \rangle^2_{m-1-k;\gamma} \leq \frac{C}{\gamma^{2\theta}} \left\{ \frac{\|f\|^2_{|0;\gamma}}{\gamma} + \sum_{j=0}^{\mu^+-1} \langle g_j \rangle^2_{m-1-b_j+\theta;\gamma} \right\}.$$

(See [1], [5].) Comparing (1.10) with (1.11), we see losses of tangential

regularity (cf. [3, p. 622, Th. 3]). Estimates without loss for symmetric hyperbolic systems of first order are studied by A. Majda and S. Osher [3] for the uniform Lopatinski-Shapiro condition (Kreiss condition) and by T. Ohkubo [4] for maximal non positive conditions.

Examples of $P(D)$. (i) (trivial one).

$$P(D) = a_1 D_{y_1} + \dots + a_{n-1} D_{y_{n-1}} + D_t, \quad \text{where } a_t \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Then, $\mu^+ = \mu^- = 0$.

(ii) $P(D) = D_t^2 + 2(D_t D_y + D_y D_x + D_x D_t)$. Then, $\mu^+ = 1, \mu^- = 0, \nu = 1$. $\xi^+(\zeta) = (-\tau^2 - 2\tau\eta)/2(\eta + \tau)$.

(iii) $P(D) = D_t(D_t^2 - D_y^2 - D_x^2)$. Then, $\mu^+ = \mu^- = 1, \nu = 0, \xi^+(\zeta) = \pm^+ \sqrt{\tau^2 - \eta^2}$ and $|\xi^+(\zeta)| = O(|\zeta|)$.

(iv) $P(D) = D_t(D_t^2 - D_y^2 - D_x^2) + (2/3)D_y^2 D_x$. Then, $\mu^+ = \mu^- = 1, \nu = 1, \xi^+(\zeta) = \{\eta^2/3 \pm^+ \sqrt{\eta^4/9 + \tau^2(\tau^2 - \eta^2)}\}/\tau, |\xi^+(\zeta)| = O(|\zeta|^2/|\text{Im } \tau|)$ and $|\xi^-(\zeta)| = O(|\zeta|)$.

(v) $P(D) = D_t(D_t^2 - D_y^2 - D_x^2) + (1/3)D_y^3$. Then, $\mu^+ = \mu^- = 1, \nu = 1/2, \xi^+(\zeta) = \pm^+ \sqrt{-\eta^2 + \tau^2 + \eta^3/3\tau}, |\xi^+(\zeta)| = O(|\zeta|^{1+1/2} |\text{Im } \tau|^{-1/2})$.

§ 2. Sketch of the proofs. Since $P_{m-1}(\zeta) \neq 0$ for ζ in $\mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_0\}$, the defining equation of characteristic roots $\xi_j(\zeta)$ is

$$(2.1) \quad \xi^{m-1} + \frac{P_{m-2}(\zeta)}{P_{m-1}(\zeta)} \xi^{m-2} + \dots + \frac{P_0(\zeta)}{P_{m-1}(\zeta)} = 0.$$

Main difficulties arise from the fact that the characteristic roots may be singular, when ζ tends to real zeros of $P_{m-1}^0(\zeta)$. The number of singular roots is equal to l introduced in § 1 and depends in general on γ . We have, however, the following estimates.

Lemma 1. (i) There exist $\gamma > 0$ and $C_\gamma > 0$ such that

$$(2.2) \quad |\xi_j(\zeta)| \leq \frac{C_\gamma}{|\text{Im } \tau|^\nu} |\zeta|^{1+\nu} \quad \text{for } \zeta \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma\}$$

$$(j=1, 2, \dots, m-1).$$

(ii) If $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_j \leq m-1$,

$$(2.3) \quad |\xi_{i_1}(\zeta) \dots \xi_{i_j}(\zeta)| \leq \frac{C_\gamma |\zeta|^{j+\min\{j\nu, 1\}}}{|\text{Im } \tau|^{\min\{j\nu, 1\}}} \quad \text{for } \zeta \text{ in (i)}.$$

(iii) If $m_j \geq \mu^+$,

$$(2.4) \quad |S_{j,h}(\zeta)| \leq \frac{C_\gamma |\zeta|^{b_j - \mu^+ - h + (m_j - \mu^+ - h)\nu}}{|\text{Im } \tau|^{(m_j - \mu^+ - h)\nu}} \quad \text{for } \zeta \text{ in (i)}$$

$$(h=0, 1, \dots, m_j - \mu^+).$$

Proof. (i) We have only to transform (2.1) by $u = |\text{Im } \tau|^\nu |\xi|^{-1-\nu}$ in order to obtain an algebraic equation of u with bounded coefficients.

(ii) If $j\nu \leq 1$, (2.3) follows immediately from (2.2). Let $j\nu > 1$. We define index sets $\mathcal{G}^{(j)} = \{I = (i_1, \dots, i_j) \in N^j; 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_j \leq m-1\}$ equipped with the lexicographic order. Abbreviating $(-1)^j \xi_{i_1}(\zeta) \dots \xi_{i_j}(\zeta)$ to $\mathcal{E}_I(\zeta)$, we introduce a polynomial of one variable x :

$$R(x; \zeta) = \prod_{l \in \mathcal{J}(\mu)} (x - E_l(\zeta)) \\ = x^{(m-j)} + r_{(m-j)-1}(\zeta)x^{(m-j)-1} + \dots + r_0(\zeta).$$

Since $r_{(m-j)-l}(\zeta)$ is a homogeneous symmetric polynomial of $\xi_1(\zeta), \dots$, of order lj , it is written by the fundamental symmetric polynomials A_1, \dots, A_{m-1} of $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{m-1})$. More precisely, there exist quasi-homogeneous polynomials $G_{j,l}(A_1, \dots, A_{m-1}) = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} A_1^{\alpha_1} \dots A_{m-1}^{\alpha_{m-1}}$ such that

$$r_{(m-j)-l}(\zeta) = G_{j,l}(A_1(\zeta), \dots, A_{m-1}(\zeta)), \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_{m-1} \leq l \text{ and } \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + (m-1)\alpha_{m-1} = lj.$$

Therefore, $|r_{(m-j)-l}(\zeta)| \leq C|\zeta|^l (|\zeta|/|\text{Im } \tau|)^l$. On the other hand, all the roots of an algebraic equation $x^p + a_1x^{p-1} + \dots + a_p = 0$ have a majorant $\max\{|pa_1|, |pa_2|^{1/2}, \dots, |pa_p|^{1/p}\}$. Hence, $E_l(\zeta)$ has a majorant $C|\zeta|^l (|\zeta|/|\text{Im } \tau|)$.

(iii) (2.4) is shown by the mathematical induction. Q.E.D.

Main results depend on the following two propositions.

Proposition 2. *Under the assumptions (P1) and (P2), there exist $\gamma_2 > 0$ and $C > 0$ such that*

$$(2.5) \quad \gamma |u|_{m-1; \gamma}^2 \leq C \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} |Pu|_{0; \gamma}^2 + \sum_{k=0}^{m-2} \langle \gamma_k u \rangle_{m-1-k; \gamma}^2 \right) \quad \text{for all } \gamma \geq \gamma_2.$$

Proposition 3. *When $\mu^+ \leq m-2$, we have*

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left| \int_{C^-(\zeta)} \frac{e^{-ix \cdot \xi} \xi^{\mu}}{P^-(\xi, \zeta)} d\xi \right|^2 dx \leq \frac{C_r |\zeta|^{2\{-m+\mu^++1+(\mu^++\nu+1)\}}}{|\text{Im } \tau|^{1+2(\mu^++\nu+1)}}$$

for $\zeta \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \{\text{Im } \tau < -\gamma_2\}$, where $P^-(\xi, \zeta) = P(\xi, \zeta)/P^+(\xi, \zeta)$ and $C^-(\zeta)$ denotes a closed curve in the lower half plane $\{\text{Im } \xi < 0\}$ surrounding $\xi_1^-(\zeta), \dots, \xi_{\mu^+}^-(\zeta)$.

To prove Proposition 2, we use a partially detailed version of Lemma 8.2.1 in [2] to exclude the term $\langle \gamma_{m-1} u \rangle_0^2$ from the right hand side of (2.5).

The guidelines for the proof of the main estimates are the same as they were in [5], [1], though calculations are more complicated.

Remark. In the main estimates, the loss of tangential regularity due to Lemma 1 is inevitable. But, it seems that the loss due to Proposition 3 should be improved ([6]).

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