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FOR A SYSTEM OF REACTION-DIFFUSION EQUATIONS**

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LING MA†

Abstract. This paper proves the convergence of a semidiscrete scheme for a system of reaction diffusion equations. The global existence and dissipativity results of the system are also obtained.

Key words. maximum principles, semigroups, reaction diffusion equations.

AMS(MOS) subject classifications. 35K55, 65N15

1. Introduction. We consider a system of reaction diffusion equations:

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} = d\Delta \alpha - (f(\beta) + \kappa_1)\alpha$$

$$(1.2) \quad \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial t} = d\Delta \beta + (f(\beta) + \kappa_1)\alpha - \kappa_2\beta$$

in the minimally smooth bounded spatial domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with the boundary conditions:

$$(1.3) \quad \alpha|_{\partial\Omega} = \zeta, \quad \beta|_{\partial\Omega} = \eta$$

where κ_1, κ_2, d are positive constants and ζ, η satisfy

$$(1.4) \quad \Delta \zeta = \Delta \eta = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad \zeta, \eta \in \mathcal{C}^2(\bar{\Omega}), \quad \text{nonnegative on } \partial\Omega.$$

Furthermore f satisfies:

$$(1.5) \quad f \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) \quad \text{and} \quad f(x) \geq 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

In the case of $\Omega = (-1, 1)$, $f(\beta) = \beta^2$ this system describes autocatalysis of chemical species A, B in isothermal chemical reactions, where α and β are their nondimensionalized concentrations of A and B respectively. d is the nondimensionalized diffusion coefficient. A detailed background is fully discussed in Scott[7].

Using numerical integration methods such as the orthogonal collocation technique Brindley, Kaas-Peterson, Merkin and Scott [2] obtained some results concerning the long time behaviour of the system in the above-mentioned case. In this note we shall prove the convergence of a semidiscrete scheme for the case $n = 1$. As a preliminary result we shall prove the global existence and dissipativity of the system in more spatial dimensions. This is done in section 2. In section 3 we propose our scheme and convergence is proved in section 4.

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2. Global Existence and Dissipativity. In this section we consider the following system of reaction diffusion equations which is equivalent to (1.1)-(1.3):

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= d\Delta u - (f(\beta) + \kappa_1)\alpha \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} &= d\Delta v + (f(\beta) + \kappa_1)\alpha - \kappa_2\beta \text{ in } \Omega \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.3) \quad \alpha = u + \zeta \quad \beta = v + \eta$$

with ζ and η satisfy (1.4), with boundary conditions:

$$(2.4) \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \quad v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

and initial conditions:

$$(2.5) \quad u(x, 0) = \varphi(x), \quad v(x, 0) = \psi(x).$$

Our theorem concerning the global existence is as follows:

THEOREM 1. *Assume that $\varphi, \psi \in W^{2,p} \cap W_0^{1,p}$ for some $p > n$ and $\varphi + \zeta \geq 0, \psi + \eta \geq 0$ in Ω . Then the initial-boundary value problem (2.1)-(2.5) has a pair of unique classical solution: $u(x, t), v(x, t)$ for $t > 0$ and $(u + \zeta)(x, t) \geq 0$, and $(v + \eta)(x, t) \geq 0$ for all $t > 0$.*

Proof of Theorem 1. We adopt the approach of semigroups of linear operators. Since the method is standard we will only sketch the proof. Details can be constructed following Henry[4] or Pazy[5].

We start by considering the closed linear operator $A = -d\Delta$ with the domain $D(A) = W^{2,p}(\Omega) \cap W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ in the pivoting space $L^p(\Omega)$. It is well known that $-A$ generates an analytic semigroup on L^p denoted by e^{-At} and that the fractional powers of A are well defined. We denote the domain of A^α by X^α for $\alpha > 0$. Endowed with the norm $\|A^\alpha u\|_{L^p}$ X^α is a Banach space.

It is known (see [4], pp.39-40) that for $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$

$$(2.6) \quad X^\alpha \hookrightarrow W^{1,p}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow C^\mu(\bar{\Omega}) \quad \text{for } \mu = 1 - n/p$$

Fix $\alpha : \alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$ then $\varphi, \psi \in X^1 \hookrightarrow X^\alpha$.

For $u, v \in X^\alpha$ define

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(u, v)(x) &= -(f(v + \eta) + \kappa_1)(u + \zeta) \\ F_2(u, v)(x) &= (f(v + \eta) + \kappa_1)(u + \zeta) - \kappa_2(v + \eta) \end{aligned}$$

Then F_1, F_2 are locally Hölder continuous on $X^\alpha \times X^\alpha$ thanks to (2.6) and (1.5). The local solution (u, v) to (2.1)-(2.5) are constructed through the mild solution argument. First we show that

$$(2.7) \quad u(t) = e^{-At}\varphi + \int_0^t e^{-A(t-s)} F_1(u(s), v(s)) ds$$

$$(2.8) \quad v(t) = e^{-At}\psi + \int_0^t e^{-A(t-s)} F_2(u(s), v(s)) ds$$

has a unique pair of solution $(u, v) \in C([0, T] : X^\alpha \times X^\alpha)$ for some $T > 0$. Since $\varphi, \psi \in D(A)$ It can be shown that (see [4], pp.71)

$$u, v \in C^\theta([0, T]; D(A^\alpha)) \quad \text{for some } \theta > 0$$

Then (u, v) is the unique pair of solution for the ordinary differential equation in $L^p(\Omega)$ (see [4] pp.53):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du}{dt} &= -Au + F_1(u, v) \\ \frac{dv}{dt} &= -Av + F_2(u, v) \end{aligned}$$

with the initial conditions: $u(0) = \varphi, v(0) = \psi$. Next we show that (see [4], pp.71) for any $\gamma \in (0, 1)$, $t \rightarrow \frac{du}{dt}(t) \in X^\gamma$ is locally Hölder continuous in $(0, T]$.

It follows that $Au = \frac{du}{dt} - F_1(u, v)$ is Hölder continuous in Ω and therefore $u(x, t)$ similarly $v(x, t)$ are classical solutions to (2.1)-(2.5) by Schauder regularity theory.

To obtain global existence in time, since F_1, F_2 maps bounded sets of $X^\alpha \times X^\alpha$ into bounded sets in L^p , it suffices to prove certain a priori estimates which constitutes the following lemma:

LEMMA 1. *Assume the conditions of theorem 1 are satisfied. Then there exists a constant c which depends only on intial and boundary data such that:*

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{L^p} &< c, \quad \|Au\|_{L^p} < c \\ \|v\|_{L^p} &< c, \quad \|Av\|_{L^p} < c \quad \forall t \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

In this note c will always denote a constant that depends only on the initial and boundary data.

Proof of Lemma 1. $\alpha = u + \zeta$, $\beta = v + \eta$ satisfy (1.1)-(1.3) with the initial values:

$$\alpha(x, 0) = \varphi + \zeta, \quad \beta(x, 0) = \psi + \eta.$$

The nonnegativity of the function f enables us to apply maximum principles (See [3]) to (1.1), we have then α can not attain its negative minimum nor positive maximum in Ω therefore $\alpha \geq 0$ in Ω . It follows from (1.2) that

$$\frac{\partial \beta}{\partial t} \geq d\Delta\beta - \kappa_2\beta.$$

The maximum principle again gives us that $\beta \geq 0$. Now add (1.2) to (1.1) we have then

$$\frac{\partial(\alpha + \beta)}{\partial t} = d\Delta(\alpha + \beta) - \kappa_2\beta \leq d\Delta(\alpha + \beta).$$

We have then $\alpha + \beta$ is nonnegative and bounded above by its initial and boundary data. It follows that $\alpha(\cdot, t), \beta(\cdot, t)$ therefore $u(\cdot, t), v(\cdot, t)$ are bounded in $L^\infty(\Omega)$ for all $t > 0$. It follows then that $\|u\|_{L^p}, \|v\|_{L^p}$ are bounded for all time $t \geq 0$.

Now by virtue of (2.9) we have then

$$\|F_i(u(t), v(t)) - F_i(u(s), v(s))\|_{L^p(\Omega)} \leq c|t - s|^\theta \quad i = 1, 2$$

for $t, s \in (0, T)$ where c is a constant depending only on the initial and boundary data.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} Au(t) &= Ae^{-At}\phi + (1 - e^{-At})F_1(u(t), v(t)) \\ &\quad + \int_0^t Ae^{-A(t-s)}F_1(u(s), v(s)) - F_1(u(t), v(t)) ds, \end{aligned}$$

recall that $\|e^{-At}\|_{op} \leq Me^{-\mu t}$, and $\|Ae^{-At}\|_{op} \leq Mt^{-1}e^{-\mu t}$ for some $M > 0$ we have therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \|Au(t)\|_{L^p(\Omega)} &\leq Me^{-\mu t}\|A\phi\|_{L^p(\Omega)} + (1 + e^{-\mu t})M \\ &\quad + M \int_0^t (t-s)^{-1}e^{-\mu(t-s)}(t-s)^\theta ds \\ &\leq c. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $\|Av(t)\| \leq c$. The proof of Lemma 1 therefore Theorem 1 is complete. \square

Our next lemma will be used in section 4.

LEMMA 2. Assume that in addition to the hypothesis of the Theorem 1 that $\Delta\varphi, \Delta\psi \in W^{2,p} \cap W_0^{1,p}$. Then $\|u(t)\|_{W^{4,p}}, \|v(t)\|_{W^{4,p}}$ remain bounded for all $t > 0$.

Proof. As in Lemma 1, we have $\|Au\|_{L^p}, \|Av\|_{L^p}$ are bounded for all time t , the same argument will then gives us the result observing that

$$\mathcal{D}(A^2) \hookrightarrow W^{4,p}. \quad \square$$

The rest of this section will be devoted to the study of the long time behavior of (1.1)-(1.4). First we have the following dissipativity result:

THEOREM 2. Assume that the conditions of the theorem 1 are satisfied. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\alpha(\cdot, t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} &\leq M \\ \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\beta(\cdot, t)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} &\leq M \end{aligned}$$

where M is a positive constant independent of the initial data φ, ψ if $\varphi + \zeta \geq 0, \psi + \eta \geq 0$ in Ω .

Proof. Consider γ such that:

$$(2.10) \quad \frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial t} = d\Delta\gamma + \kappa_2\beta$$

with boundary conditions: $\gamma|_{\partial\Omega} = M_0 - (\zeta + \eta)$ where M_0 is a positive constant large enough such that $M_0 - (\zeta + \eta) \geq 0$ and initial condition $\gamma(x, 0) = \gamma_0$ where γ_0 is smooth and pointwise nonnegative on Ω .

We have from maximum principle that $\gamma \geq 0$ on Ω .

Take the sum of (2.6) with (1.1), (1.2) we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)}{\partial t} &= d\Delta(\alpha + \beta + \gamma), \\ (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)|_{\partial\Omega} &= M_0. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the semigroup theory that

$$\|(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)(\cdot, t) - M_0\|_{L^\infty} \longrightarrow 0.$$

The result therefore follows. \square

REMARK. In the case of homogeneous boundary conditions (Dirichlet or Neumann type) we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\alpha(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\beta(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = 0.$$

Proof. Take $L^2(\Omega)$ inner product of (1.1) with α we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\alpha\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + (\nabla \alpha, \nabla \alpha) &= -(f(\beta) + \kappa_1) \alpha, \alpha \\ &\leq -\kappa_1 \|\alpha\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\alpha\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = 0.$$

Add (1.1) and (1.2) we have

$$\frac{\partial(\alpha + \beta)}{\partial t} = d\Delta(\alpha + \beta) - \kappa_2\beta = d\Delta(\alpha + \beta) - \kappa_2(\alpha + \beta) + \kappa_2\alpha$$

Since $-A_0 = d\Delta - \kappa_2$ generates an analytic semigroup on $L^2(\Omega)$ therefore

$$\beta(\cdot, t) = e^{-A_0 t}(\alpha + \beta)(\cdot, 0) + \int_0^t e^{-A_0(t-\tau)} \kappa_2 \alpha(\tau) d\tau - \alpha(\cdot, t).$$

Since $\|e^{-A_0 t}\| \leq e^{-\lambda t}$ for some $\lambda > 0$ the result for $\beta(\cdot, t)$ therefore follows. \square

3. Approximation Problem. We consider an approximation problem for (1.1)-(1.4) in the spetial case of one spatial dimension and $\Omega = (-1, 1)$. We consider the boundary conditions as in [2]:

$$(3.1) \quad \alpha = \alpha_l \quad \text{at} \quad x = -1, \quad \alpha = \alpha_r \quad \text{at} \quad x = 1;$$

$$(3.2) \quad \beta = \beta_l \quad \text{at} \quad x = -1, \quad \beta = \beta_r \quad \text{at} \quad x = 1.$$

The initial conditions are:

$$(3.3) \quad \alpha(x, 0) = \alpha_0(x), \quad \beta(x, 0) = \beta_0(x)$$

where α_0, β_0 satisfy the boundary conditions (3.1)-(3.2). First let us observe that we applied maximum principles to get global existence in time for (1.1)-(1.4). We would like to have a simidiscrete approximation problem to (1.1)-(1.2), (3.1)-(3.2) and compatible initial conditions where the discrete version of the maximum principle applies. This motivates our choice of the following discrete problem.

We discretize $I=[-1,1]$ into $(N+1)$ equilength intervals with interior grid points $x_\nu = -1 + \nu h, \nu = 1, 2, \dots, N$ where $h = \frac{2}{(N+1)}$. The Laplacian operator is discretized by the 3-point approximation. Define

$$t_u(x, h, t) = \frac{1}{h^2}(u(x-h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x+h, t)) - \Delta u(x, t)$$

for sufficiently smooth u .

Suppose that $u(\cdot, t) \in H^4(I)$ a Sobolev imbedding theorem then guarantees that $\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}$ is Hölder continuous with exponent $\frac{1}{2}$. One has then by mean value theorem that:

$$(3.4) \quad \|t_u(x, h, t)\|_{L^\infty(I)} \leq ch^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

where c depends only on $\|u\|_{H^4}$. If $\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}$ is Lipschitz then we would have instead of (3.4)

$$\|t_u(x, h, t)\|_{L^\infty(I)} \leq ch.$$

We may therefore have a semidiscretized problem which consists of $2N$ ordinary differential equations:

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{d\vec{\alpha}}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}(A\vec{\alpha} - c_b^\alpha) - (D_\beta + \kappa_1)\vec{\alpha}$$

$$(3.6) \quad \frac{d\vec{\beta}}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}(A\vec{\beta} - c_b^\beta) + (D_\beta + \kappa_1)\vec{\alpha} - \kappa_2\vec{\beta}$$

with the initial conditions:

$$(3.7) \quad \vec{\alpha}(0) = (\alpha_0(x_1), \alpha_0(x_2), \dots, \alpha_0(x_N))^T$$

$$(3.8) \quad \vec{\beta}(0) = (\beta_0(x_1), \beta_0(x_2), \dots, \beta_0(x_N))^T$$

where $D_\beta = \text{diag}(f(\beta_1), f(\beta_2), \dots, f(\beta_N))$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\alpha} &= (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N)^T \\ \vec{\beta} &= (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N)^T. \end{aligned}$$

A is a matrix of order $N \times N$:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} c_b^\alpha &= (\alpha_l, 0, \dots, 0, \alpha_r)^T, \\ c_b^\beta &= (\beta_l, 0, \dots, 0, \beta_r)^T. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that A is a positive definite matrix with eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_k = 2 - 2 \cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{N+1}\right), k = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

4. Convergence Results. In R^N define two discrete inner products and associated norms by

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{u}, \vec{v})_{0,h} &= h \sum_{\nu=1}^N u_\nu v_\nu, \|\vec{u}\|_{0,h}^2 = (\vec{u}, \vec{u})_{0,h} \\ (\vec{u}, \vec{v})_{1,h} &= \frac{1}{h} (A^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{u}, A^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{v})_{0,h}, \|\vec{u}\|_{1,h}^2 = (\vec{u}, \vec{u})_{1,h} \end{aligned}$$

For $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_N)$, $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_N)$ and $h = \frac{2}{N+1}$.

We also define

$$\|\vec{u}\|_{\infty,h} = \max_{1 \leq \nu \leq N} |u_\nu|, \quad \|\vec{u}\|_0 = \sqrt{\sum_{\nu=1}^N u_\nu^2}.$$

We are now ready to state our main theorem:

THEOREM 3. Assume that α_0, β_0 satisfy the boundary conditions (3.1)-(3.2) and

$$\alpha_0, \beta_0 \in H^2; \Delta\alpha_0, \Delta\beta_0 \in H^2 \cap H_0^1; \alpha_0 \geq 0, \beta_0 \geq 0 \quad \text{on } I.$$

Let $\alpha(x, t), \beta(x, t)$ be the classical solutions to (1.1)-(1.2), (3.1)-(3.3) and

$$\vec{\alpha}_s(t) = (\alpha(x_1, t), \alpha(x_2, t), \dots, \alpha(x_N, t))^T, \vec{\beta}_s(t) = (\beta(x_1, t), \beta(x_2, t), \dots, \beta(x_N, t))^T,$$

Then:

1) For any integer $N > 0$ (3.5)-(3.8) have a unique pairs of solutions $\vec{\alpha}(t), \vec{\beta}(t)$, defined for all $t > 0$, and

$$(4.1) \quad \|\vec{\alpha}\|_{\infty,h}, \|\vec{\beta}\|_{\infty,h} \leq \max(\alpha_l + \beta_l, \alpha_r + \beta_r, \|\vec{\alpha}_0 + \vec{\beta}_0\|_{\infty,h});$$

2) For any $T > 0$, there exists a constants C which depends on T and the initial and boundary data such that:

$$(4.2) \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\vec{\alpha}(t) - \vec{\alpha}_s(t)\|_{0,h} \leq Ch^{\frac{3}{2}},$$

$$(4.3) \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\vec{\alpha}(t) - \vec{\alpha}_s(t)\|_{1,h} \leq Ch^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Furthermore we have:

$$(4.4) \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \max_{1 \leq \nu \leq N} |\alpha_\nu(t) - \alpha(x_\nu, t)| \leq Ch^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Similar results hold for $(\vec{\beta}(t) - \vec{\beta}_s(t))$.

REMARK. The order of convergence in (4.2)-(4.4) can be replaced by h^2, h, h respectively if the solution has more regularity, e.g., if $\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}$ is Lipschitz continuous.

Proof. 1) The global existence and estimates (4.1) of (3.5)-(3.8) follows from the discretized maximum principle. The proof is analogous to the continuous case.

2) Observe that $\vec{\alpha}_s, \vec{\beta}_s$ satisfy:

$$(4.5) \quad \frac{d\vec{\alpha}_s}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}(A\vec{\alpha}_s - c_b^\alpha) - (D_{\beta_s} + \kappa_1)\vec{\alpha}_s + G^\alpha$$

$$(4.6) \quad \frac{d\vec{\beta}_s}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}(A\vec{\beta}_s - c_b^\beta) + (D_{\beta_s} + \kappa_1)\vec{\alpha}_s - \kappa_2\beta + G^\beta$$

and

$$\vec{\alpha}_s(0) = \vec{\alpha}(0), \quad \vec{\beta}_s(0) = \vec{\beta}(0)$$

where $D_{\beta_s} = \text{diag}(f(\beta(x_1)), f(\beta(x_2)), \dots, f(\beta(x_N)))$ and

$$(4.7) \quad G^\alpha = (t_\alpha(x_1, h, t), t_\alpha(x_2, h, t), \dots, t_\alpha(x_N, h, t)),$$

$$(4.8) \quad G^\beta = (t_\beta(x_1, h, t), t_\beta(x_2, h, t), \dots, t_\beta(x_N, h, t)).$$

t_α, t_β are defined in (3.4).

Let $\varepsilon_\alpha(t) = \vec{\alpha}(t) - \vec{\alpha}_s(t)$, $\varepsilon_\beta(t) = \vec{\beta}(t) - \vec{\beta}_s(t)$, We have then

$$(4.9) \quad \frac{d\varepsilon_\alpha}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}A\varepsilon_\alpha - \kappa_1\varepsilon_\alpha - G_\alpha + D_{\beta_s}\vec{\alpha}_s - D_\beta\vec{\alpha}$$

$$(4.10) \quad \frac{d(\varepsilon_\alpha + \varepsilon_\beta)}{dt} = -\frac{d}{h^2}A(\varepsilon_\alpha + \varepsilon_\beta) - \kappa_2\varepsilon_\beta - G$$

where $G = G^\alpha + G^\beta$, $\varepsilon_\alpha, \varepsilon_\beta$ also satisfy the initial conditons:

$$(4.11) \quad \varepsilon_\alpha(0) = 0, (\varepsilon_\alpha + \varepsilon_\beta)(0) = 0.$$

(4.10)-(4.11) yield then

$$(4.12) \quad \varepsilon_\beta(t) = \int_0^t e^{-\left(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_2\right)(t-\tau)} (\kappa_2 \varepsilon_\alpha(\tau) - G) d\tau - \varepsilon_\alpha(t).$$

Since every component of $\beta_s(t), \beta(t)$ are bounded by the initial and boundary data and $f \in C^1(R, R)$

$$(4.13) \quad \begin{aligned} D_{\beta_s} \vec{\alpha}_s - D_{\beta} \alpha &= -D_{\beta_s} \varepsilon_\alpha - \text{diag}(f(\beta(x_1)) \\ &\quad - f(\beta_1), f(\beta(x_2)) - f(\beta_2), \dots, f(\beta(x_N)) - f(\beta_N)) \vec{\alpha} \\ &= -D_{\beta_s} \varepsilon_\alpha + D \varepsilon_\beta, \end{aligned}$$

where D is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal elements are bounded and the bounds depend only on the initial and boundary value data.

It follows then from (4.9), (4.12), (4.13) that

$$\frac{d\varepsilon_\alpha}{dt} = -\left(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_1\right)\varepsilon_\alpha - D_{\beta_s} \varepsilon_\alpha - G^\alpha + D \left[\int_0^t e^{-\left(\frac{d}{h^2}(t-\tau)A + \kappa_2\right)} (\kappa_2 \varepsilon_\alpha(\tau) - G) d\tau - \varepsilon_\alpha(t) \right].$$

Therefore

$$(4.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_\alpha(t) &= \int_0^t e^{-\left(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_1\right)(t-\tau)} \left[-D_{\beta_s} \varepsilon_\alpha - G^\alpha \right. \\ &\quad \left. - D \varepsilon_\alpha + D \int_0^\tau e^{-\left(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_2\right)(\tau-\omega)} (\kappa_2 \varepsilon_\alpha(\omega) - G) d\omega \right] d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that given $\|\cdot\|_0$ norm on R^N and $T \in \mathcal{L}(R^N, R^N)$, T is synamic, $\|T\|$ is the largest of the absolute value of the eigenvalues of T , therefore there exists constants c_1, c_2 which depends only on the initial and boundary data that

$$\|D_{\beta_s} + D\| \leq c_1, \|D\| \leq c_2.$$

Obviously

$$\|e^{(\mu A + \lambda)(t-\tau)}\| \leq e^{\lambda(t-\tau)}$$

if A is positive definite and $\lambda > 0$ and $\mu > 0$, (4.14) then leads to

$$(4.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\varepsilon_\alpha(t)\|_0 &\leq \int_0^t e^{-\kappa_1(t-\tau)} \left[c_1 \|\varepsilon_\alpha(\tau)\|_0 + \|G^\alpha\|_0 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + c_2 \int_0^\tau e^{-\kappa_2(\tau-\omega)} (\kappa_2 \|\varepsilon_\alpha(\omega)\|_0 + \|G\|_0) d\omega \right] d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Note that from the definition of G , G^α and (3.4), $\|G\|_0 \leq c'N^{\frac{1}{2}}h^{\frac{3}{2}} \leq c_3h$. Similarly $\|G^\alpha\|_0 \leq c_4h$ we obtain from (4.15) that after integration by parts

$$(4.16) \quad \|\varepsilon_\alpha(t)\|_0 \leq c_5 \int_0^t e^{-\lambda_0(t-\tau)} \|\varepsilon_\alpha(\tau)\|_0 d\tau + c_6h$$

where $c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6, \lambda_0$ are some constants independent of h and N . (4.2) therefore follows from Gronwall's inequality and the fact that $\|\varepsilon_\alpha\|_{0,h} = h^{\frac{1}{2}}\|\varepsilon_\alpha\|_0$.

To prove (4.3) apply $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ to (4.13) and observe that $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ commutes with $e^{\mu A + \lambda}$ for any real μ, λ , we obtain

$$(4.17) \quad A^{\frac{1}{2}}\varepsilon_\alpha(t) = \int_0^t e^{-(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_1)(t-\tau)} \left[-(D_{\beta_s} + D)' A^{\frac{1}{2}}\varepsilon_\alpha - A^{\frac{1}{2}}G^\alpha \right. \\ \left. + D' \int_0^\tau e^{-(\frac{d}{h^2}A + \kappa_2)(\tau-\omega)} (\kappa_2\varepsilon_\alpha(\omega) - G) d\omega \right] d\tau.$$

where $D' = A^{\frac{1}{2}}DA^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, and $(D_{\beta_s} + D)' = A^{\frac{1}{2}}(D_{\beta_s} + D)A^{-\frac{1}{2}}$.

Clearly

$$(4.18) \quad \|D'\| = \|D\|, \quad \|(D_{\beta_s} + D)'\| = \|(D_{\beta_s} + D)\|.$$

To estimate $\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}G\|_0$ observe

$$\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}G\|_0^2 = (AG, G) = G_1^2 + \sum_{1 < \nu < N} (G_{\nu+1} - G_\nu)^2 + G_N^2$$

Therefore $\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}G\|_0 \leq c_7h$ for some c_7 independent of h and N .

Since

$$\|\varepsilon_\alpha\|_{1,h} = \frac{1}{h^{\frac{1}{2}}} \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}\varepsilon_\alpha\|_0$$

(4.3) follows from similar arguments through (4.17). To complete proof of our theorem let $\varepsilon_\alpha = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_N)$ observe that

$$|\varepsilon_\nu| \leq \sum_{0 \leq k < \nu} |\varepsilon_{k+1} - \varepsilon_k| \quad (\varepsilon_0 = 0) \\ \leq N^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{\varepsilon_1^2 + \sum_{1 < k < N} (\varepsilon_{k+1} - \varepsilon_k)^2 + \varepsilon_N^2} \\ \leq N^{\frac{1}{2}} \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}\varepsilon_\alpha\|_0 \\ \leq c_8 \|\varepsilon_\alpha\|_{1,h}$$

for some positive constant c_8 . (4.3) therefore follows from (4.2) and above inequality.

The results for $(\vec{\beta}(t) - \vec{\beta}_s(t))$ follows from (4.12) and (4.2)-(4.4). \square

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