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| Title            | On the critical decay and power for semilinear wave equations in odd space dimensions |
| Author(s)        | Kubo, H.  |
| Citation         | Hokkaido University Preprint Series in Mathematics, 274, 1-22                         |
| Issue Date       | 1994-12-1   |
| DOI              | 10.14943/83421  |
| Doc URL          | <a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2115/69025">http://hdl.handle.net/2115/69025</a>       |
| Type             | bulletin (article)  |
| File Information | pre274.pdf  |



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**ON THE CRITICAL DECAY  
AND POWER FOR SEMILINEAR  
WAVE EQUATIONS IN ODD  
SPACE DIMENSIONS**

**Hideo Kubo**

**Series #274. December 1994**

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# ON THE CRITICAL DECAY AND POWER FOR SEMILINEAR WAVE EQUATIONS IN ODD SPACE DIMENSIONS

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**1. Introduction and Statements of Results.** In this paper we consider the initial value problem to semilinear wave equations:

$$\begin{aligned}u_{tt} - \Delta_x u &= F(u) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}_x^n \times [0, \infty), \\u(x, 0) &= \phi(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}^n,\end{aligned}\tag{1.1}$$

where  $u$  is a real valued function and  $\phi, \psi$  have appropriate regularity. To begin with, we mention a typical example of the nonlinear term, that is,  $F(u) = |u|^p$  with  $p > 1$ . It is known that if the initial data are large in a certain sense, the solution to the initial value problem (1.1) blows up in finite time. (See e.g. [5]). Therefore it is necessary to exist a global solution that the initial data are sufficiently small. However under this smallness assumption on the initial data, F. John [8] obtained such a remarkable result that if  $1 < p < p_0(n)$ , any nontrivial solution blows up in finite time and that if  $p > p_0(n)$ , then a unique global solution exists, when  $n = 3$  and the initial data are compactly supported. Here  $p_0(n)$  is the positive root of the quadratic equation:

$$(n-1)p^2 - (n+1)p - 2 = 0.\tag{1.2}$$

When  $2 \leq n \leq 4$ , we know the criticality of the value  $p_0(n)$  in the above sense. (See for instance [6], [7], [15] and [20]). Moreover when  $n = 2, 3$ , J. Schaeffer [14] proved blow-up of solutions if  $p = p_0(n)$ . Furthermore if  $1 < p < p_0(n)$ , T.C. Sideris [15] showed the blow-up result in general space dimensions. On the other hand, when  $n \geq 5$ , only for the following cases we know the global existence results;  $p$  is large enough or  $F(u)$  is sufficiently smooth with  $F(0) = F'(0) = 0$ . (See [3], [4], [12] and [13]).

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We now turn our attention to the decay rate of the initial data, because it plays an important role to determine a global behavior of the solutions as well as the power  $p$ . Let the initial data satisfy either

$$\sum_{|\alpha| \leq [n/2]+2} |\partial_x^\alpha \phi(x)| + \sum_{|\alpha| \leq [n/2]+1} |\partial_x^\alpha \psi(x)| \leq \varepsilon(1 + |x|)^{-(\kappa+1)} \quad (1.3)$$

or

$$\phi \equiv 0, \quad \psi(x) \geq \varepsilon(1 + |x|)^{-(\kappa+1)}, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $\kappa$  and  $\varepsilon$  are positive parameters. When  $n = 3$ , F. Asakura [2] proved that if  $\kappa > \kappa_0 = 2/(p-1)$  and  $p > p_0(n)$ , a unique global solution exists by assuming (1.3) with  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small. Moreover it is proved that if  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$  and (1.4) holds, any classical solution blows up in finite time.

This result extended to two space dimensional case. And for the critical case where  $\kappa = \kappa_0$ , the global existence results obtained when  $n = 2, 3$ . (See [1], [11] and [17-19]). Moreover when  $n \geq 4$ , H. Takamura [16] proved the blow-up result if  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$ . Furthermore when  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$  and  $n \geq 2$ , we know the following upper bound of the lifespan:

$$T_\varepsilon \leq C\varepsilon^{-(p-1)/(2-(p-1)\kappa)}, \quad C = C(n, p, \kappa) > 0. \quad (1.5)$$

(See [1], [16], [17, 19]).

On the other hand, in [9] the author has proved the global existence result and obtained the lower bound of the lifespan, provided the initial data are radially symmetric, the space dimension is odd and either  $p > \max(p_0(n), (n-3)/2)$  or the nonlinear term is sufficiently smooth. Therefore when  $n = 5$ , we can show the existence of a global solution to the problem (1.6) below for arbitrary  $p > p_0(5)$ .

The aim of this paper is to consider the case where  $n \geq 7$  and to remove the lower restriction  $p > (n-3)/2$ . Then our problem is written as

$$u_{tt} - u_{rr} - \frac{n-1}{r}u_r = F(u) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T = (0, \infty) \times [0, T), \quad (1.6a)$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad u_t(r, 0) = g(r) \quad \text{for } r > 0, \quad (1.6b)$$

where  $n = 2m + 3$  with  $m$  a positive integer and  $T > 0$ . We assume that  $f \in C^2([0, \infty))$ ,

$g \in C^1([0, \infty))$  and that

$$\sum_{j=0}^2 |f^{(j)}(r)| \langle r \rangle^{\kappa+j} + \sum_{j=0}^1 |g^{(j)}(r)| \langle r \rangle^{1+\kappa+j} \leq \varepsilon, \quad (1.7)$$

where  $\kappa, \varepsilon$  are positive parameters and we have set  $\langle r \rangle = \sqrt{1+r^2}$ .

As to  $F(u)$  we suppose the following hypothesis (H):

$$F(\lambda) \in C^1(\mathbb{R}), \quad F(0) = F'(0) = 0 \text{ and there are constants } p > 1, \quad A > 0$$

such that

$$p > p_0(n) \quad \text{and} \quad p < \frac{n+1}{n-3} = \frac{m+2}{m} \quad (H)$$

and

$$|F'(u) - F'(v)| \leq Ap|u - v|^{p-1} \quad \text{for } u, v \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We now define the lifespan  $T_\varepsilon$  by the maximal time interval where a solution  $u \in C^2(\Omega_T)$  to the problem (1.6) exists uniquely. Then our main result is

**Main Theorem.** *Suppose that (1.7) and (H) hold. We also assume  $m \geq 2$ . Then there is a positive number  $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_0(n, F, \kappa)$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$*

$$T = T_\varepsilon = \infty \quad \text{if } \kappa \geq \kappa_0 = 2/(p-1), \quad (1.8a)$$

$$T = T_\varepsilon \geq C\varepsilon^{-(p-1)/(2-(p-1)\kappa)} \quad \text{if } 0 < \kappa < \kappa_0, \quad (1.8b)$$

where  $C = C(n, F, \kappa) > 0$ .

**Remarks.** 1) In [9], we have dealt with the case where  $m = 1$ . Indeed the conclusions are still holds, without assuming the upper bound of  $p$  in the condition (H). However when  $m \geq 2$ , we need the assumption in order to control the singularity of the solution at  $r = 0$ .

2) The lower bound in (1.8b) is optimal with respect to the order of  $\varepsilon$  by (1.5).

This paper is organized as follows. First we shall study a solution to a linear wave equation in Section 2. Section 3 is devoted to obtain preliminary estimates. In the final section we shall get basic a priori estimates to prove Main Theorem. Throughout this paper, we shall denote various constants depending only on  $n, F$  and  $\kappa$  by  $C, C_0, C_1$  and so on.

At the end of this section, we mention that for the even space dimensional case, similar results obtained recently. The detail will be published elsewhere.

**2. Linear Wave Equations.** The aim of this section is to obtain decay estimates for a solution to a linear wave equation:

$$u_{tt} - u_{rr} - \frac{n-1}{r}u_r = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, \infty) \times [0, \infty). \quad (2.1)$$

We consider a function defined by

$$u^0(r, t) = \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} g(\lambda)K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda + \partial_t \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} f(\lambda)K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda, \quad r \neq 0, \quad (2.2)$$

where we have set

$$K(\lambda, r, t) = \frac{(-1)^m}{2m!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{r}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \frac{1}{2\lambda}\right)^m \phi^m(\lambda, r, t),$$

$$\phi(\lambda, r, t) = (\lambda - t + r)(t + r - \lambda).$$

Here we summarize some known results obtained in [10], Lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, and Section 3.

**Lemma 2.1.** *We suppose that  $(r, t) \in \Omega$  and  $|r - t| \leq \lambda \leq r + t$ . Then we have*

$$|\partial^\alpha \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)| \leq Cr^{2m-|\alpha|} \quad \text{for } |\alpha| \leq 2m, \quad (2.3)$$

$$|K(\lambda, r, t)| \leq Cr^{-m-1}\lambda^{m+1}. \quad (2.4a)$$

Moreover if we further assume  $0 < t \leq 2r$ , we get

$$|\partial^\alpha K(\lambda, r, t)| \leq Cr^{-m-1}\lambda^{m+1-|\alpha|} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq |\alpha| \leq m+1, \quad (2.4b)$$

where  $\partial^\alpha = \partial_\lambda^{\alpha_1} \partial_r^{\alpha_2} \partial_t^{\alpha_3}$  with  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  a multi-index.

**Proposition 2.2.** *We suppose  $f \in C^2([0, \infty))$  and  $g \in C^1([0, \infty))$ . Then  $u^0$  belongs to  $C^2(\Omega)$  and satisfies (2.1) and (1.6b).*

We now state the main result of this section.

**Proposition 2.3.** We suppose (1.7). Then we have for  $(r, t) \in \Omega$

$$|u^0(r, t)| \leq C_0 \varepsilon r^{1-m} \langle r \rangle^{-1} \Psi_\kappa(r, t). \quad (2.5a)$$

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| \leq C_0 \varepsilon r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t), \quad |\alpha| = 1, \quad (2.5b)$$

where we have set

$$\Psi_\kappa(r, t) = \begin{cases} \langle t+r \rangle^{-\kappa+m} & \text{if } 0 < \kappa < m+1, \\ \langle t+r \rangle^{-1} \left(1 + \log \frac{\langle t+r \rangle}{\langle t-r \rangle}\right) & \text{if } \kappa = m+1, \\ \langle t+r \rangle^{-1} \langle t-r \rangle^{-\kappa+m+1} & \text{if } \kappa > m+1. \end{cases}$$

Before we prove the above proposition, we prepare the following two lemmas.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let  $(r, t) \in \Omega$  satisfy  $t \geq 2r > 0$ . Then we have for  $|\alpha| \leq 1$

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| \leq C r^{-m-|\alpha|} \int_{t-r}^{t+r} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \lambda^{m-j-1} |G_k(\lambda)| + |G_m(\lambda)| \right\} d\lambda, \quad (2.6)$$

where we have set

$$G_j(\lambda) = \lambda^{j+1} g(\lambda) + (\lambda^{j+1} f(\lambda))', \quad 0 \leq j \leq m-1,$$

$$G_m(\lambda) = -(\lambda^{m+1} g(\lambda))' - (\lambda^{m+1} f(\lambda))''.$$

**Proof:** Since  $K(\lambda, r, t) = r^{-2m-1} \sum_{j=0}^m C_j \lambda^{j+1} \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)$ , one can write  $u^0(r, t)$  as

$$u^0(r, t) = r^{-2m-1} \sum_{j=0}^m C_j u_j(r, t), \quad (2.7)$$

where we have set

$$\begin{aligned} u_j(r, t) &= \int_{t-r}^{t+r} g(\lambda) \lambda^{j+1} \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda \\ &\quad + \partial_t \int_{t-r}^{t+r} f(\lambda) \lambda^{j+1} \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda \\ &\equiv U_g + \partial_t U_f. \end{aligned}$$

First we assume  $|\alpha| = 0$ . When  $0 \leq j \leq m-1$ , we have

$$\partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) \Big|_{\lambda=t \pm r} = 0,$$



hence we get

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t U_f &= - \int_{t-r}^{t+r} f(\lambda) \lambda^{j+1} \partial_\lambda^{j+1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda \\ &= \int_{t-r}^{t+r} (f(\lambda) \lambda^{j+1})' \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$u_j(r, t) = \int_{t-r}^{t+r} G_j(\lambda) \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda \quad \text{for } 0 \leq j \leq m-1, \quad (2.8a)$$

where  $G_j(\lambda)$  is given in (2.6). When  $j = m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}u_m(r, t) &= - \int_{t-r}^{t+r} (g(\lambda) \lambda^{m+1})' \partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda \\ &\quad - \partial_t \int_{t-r}^{t+r} (f(\lambda) \lambda^{m+1})' \partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda.\end{aligned}$$

As to the second term, proceeding as before, we have

$$u_m(r, t) = \int_{t-r}^{t+r} G_m(\lambda) \partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda, \quad (2.8b)$$

where  $G_m(\lambda)$  is given in (2.6). By (2.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned}|\partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)| &\leq Cr^{2m-j} \leq Cr^{m+1} \lambda^{m-j-1}, \quad 0 \leq j \leq m-1 \\ |\partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)| &\leq Cr^{m+1}.\end{aligned}$$

Substituting these estimates into (2.8), we obtain (2.6) with  $|\alpha| = 0$ .

Next we assume  $|\alpha| = 1$ . It follows from (2.8) that

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u_j(r, t) &= \int_{t-r}^{t+r} G_j(\lambda) \partial_{r,t}^\alpha \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda, \quad 0 \leq j \leq m-1, \\ \partial_{r,t}^\alpha u_m(r, t) &= \int_{t-r}^{t+r} G_m(\lambda) \partial_{r,t}^\alpha \partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t) d\lambda.\end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

By (2.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned}|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha \partial_\lambda^j \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)| &\leq Cr^{2m-j-1} \leq Cr^m \lambda^{m-j-1}, \quad 0 \leq j \leq m-1, \\ |\partial_{r,t}^\alpha \partial_\lambda^{m-1} \phi^m(\lambda, r, t)| &\leq Cr^m.\end{aligned}$$

Substituting these estimates into (2.9), we obtain (2.6). The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $(r, t) \in \Omega$  satisfy  $0 < t \leq 2r$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |u^0(r, t)| &\leq Cr^{-m-1} \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \{\lambda^{m+1}|g(\lambda)| + \lambda^m|f(\lambda)|\} d\lambda \\ &\quad + Cr^{-m-1}|t \pm r|^{m+1}|f(|t \pm r|)|, \end{aligned} \quad (2.10a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| &\leq Cr^{-m-1} \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \{\lambda^m|g(\lambda)| + \lambda^{m-1}|f(\lambda)|\} d\lambda \\ &\quad + Cr^{-m-1}|t \pm r|^{m+1}\{|g(|t \pm r|)| + |f'(|t \pm r|)|\} \\ &\quad + Cr^{-m-1}|t \pm r|^m|f(|t \pm r|)| \quad \text{for } |\alpha| = 1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.10b)$$

**Proof:** First we prove (2.10a). From (2.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} u^0(r, t) &= \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} g(\lambda)K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda + \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} f(\lambda)\partial_t K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda \\ &\quad + f(r+t)K(r+t, r, t) - \partial_t|r-t| \cdot f(|r-t|)K(|r-t|, r, t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

By (2.4) we have for  $|r-t| \leq \lambda \leq r+t$

$$|K(\lambda, r, t)| \leq Cr^{-m-1}\lambda^{m+1} \quad \text{and} \quad |\partial_{r,t}^\alpha K(\lambda, r, t)| \leq Cr^{-m-1}\lambda^m, \quad |\alpha| = 1, \quad (2.12)$$

hence (2.10a) follows.

Next we prove (2.10b). From (2.11) we have for  $|\alpha| = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t) &= \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} g(\lambda)\partial_{r,t}^\alpha K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda + \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} f(\lambda)\partial_{r,t}^\alpha \partial_t K(\lambda, r, t)d\lambda \\ &\quad + g(r+t)K(r+t, r, t) - \partial_{r,t}^\alpha|r-t| \cdot g(|r-t|)K(|r-t|, r, t) \\ &\quad + f(r+t)\partial_t K(r+t, r, t) - \partial_{r,t}^\alpha|r-t| \cdot f(|r-t|)\partial_t K(|r-t|, r, t) \\ &\quad + \partial_{r,t}^\alpha \left( f(r+t)K(r+t, r, t) \right) - \partial_t|r-t| \cdot \partial_{r,t}^\alpha \left( f(|r-t|)K(|r-t|, r, t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Employing (2.12), we get (2.10b). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**End of Proof of Proposition 2.3:** First we consider the case  $t \geq 2r > 0$ . By (1.7) we have  $|G_j(\lambda)| \leq C\epsilon\langle\lambda\rangle^{j-\kappa}$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq m-1$  and  $|G_m(\lambda)| \leq C\epsilon\langle\lambda\rangle^{m-\kappa-1}$ , where we have set  $G_j$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq m$  in (2.6). Substituting these estimates into (2.6) we have for  $|\alpha| \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} |\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| &\leq C\epsilon r^{-m-|\alpha|} \int_{t-r}^{t+r} \langle\lambda\rangle^{m-\kappa-1} d\lambda \\ &\leq C\epsilon r^{1-m-|\alpha|} \langle t+r \rangle^{m-\kappa-1}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies (2.5).

Next we consider the case where  $0 < t \leq 2r$ . By (1.7) and (2.10a) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |u^0(r, t)| &\leq C\epsilon r^{-m-1} \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \lambda^m \langle \lambda \rangle^{-\kappa} d\lambda \\ &\quad + C\epsilon r^{-m-1} |t \pm r|^{m+1} \langle t \pm r \rangle^{-\kappa}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13a)$$

When  $0 < r \leq 1$ , it is enough to show  $|u^0(r, t)| \leq C\epsilon r^{-m+1}$ . Since  $\lambda^m \langle \lambda \rangle^{-\kappa} \leq 3r \langle \lambda \rangle^{m-1-\kappa}$  for  $|t-r| \leq \lambda \leq t+r$ , we get the above inequality.

When  $r \geq 1$ , we have  $r^{-1} \leq C \langle t+r \rangle^{-1}$ . Therefore we have from (2.13a)

$$|u^0(r, t)| \leq C\epsilon r^{-m} \langle t+r \rangle^{-1} \left( \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m-\kappa} d\lambda + \langle t \pm r \rangle^{m+1-\kappa} \right), \quad (2.14)$$

which implies (2.5a).

Finally we prove (2.5b). It follows from (1.7) and (2.10b) that for  $|\alpha| = 1$

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| \leq C\epsilon r^{-m-1} \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m-\kappa-1} d\lambda + C\epsilon r^{-m-1} |t \pm r|^m \langle t \pm r \rangle^{-\kappa}. \quad (2.13b)$$

It is easy to see that  $|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha u^0(r, t)| \leq \epsilon C r^{-m}$  for  $0 < r \leq 1$ . When  $r \geq 1$ , noting that (2.13b) implies (2.14), we obtain (2.5b). The proof is complete.  $\square$

**3. Preliminaries.** In this section we derive some preliminary estimates. Since  $p > p_0(n)$  by (H), we have  $\kappa_0 = 2/(p-1) < (m+1)p - 1$ . Therefore without loss of generality we may assume

$$\kappa \leq (m+1)p - 1, \quad (3.1)$$

because if (1.7) holds for some  $\tilde{\kappa}$ , then (1.7) necessarily holds for any  $\kappa \leq \tilde{\kappa}$ . If we notice that

$$m+1 - mp = \begin{cases} p-1 + 1 - (p-1)\kappa & \text{if } \kappa = m+1, \\ p-1 + m+2 - (m+1)p & \text{if } \kappa > m+1 \end{cases}$$

and employ Lemma 3.4 with  $q = p$  in [9], we obtain

**Lemma 3.1.** *We suppose (3.1) and  $p > p_0(n)$  hold. Then we have*

$$\int_{-\xi}^{\xi} \left\langle \frac{\xi + \eta}{2} \right\rangle^{m+1-mp} \left( 2 + \log \frac{1+\xi}{1+|\eta|} \right)^p d\eta \leq C \langle \xi \rangle^{p-1} \Phi_\kappa(\xi), \quad (3.2)$$

$$\int_{-\xi}^{\xi} \left\langle \frac{\xi + \eta}{2} \right\rangle^{m+1-mp} \langle \eta \rangle^{p(m+1-\kappa)} d\eta \leq C \langle \xi \rangle^{p+m-\kappa} \Phi_\kappa(\xi) \quad \text{if } \kappa > m+1, \quad (3.3)$$

where we have set  $\Phi_\kappa(s) = \max(1, \langle s \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa})$  for  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Next we prove the following lemma which will be used in the proof of Propositions 4.3 and 4.5 below.

**Lemma 3.2.** We suppose (3.1),  $p > p_0(n)$  and

$$m + 2 - mp > 0 \quad (3.4)$$

hold. Then we have for  $(r, t) \in \Omega = (0, \infty) \times [0, \infty)$

$$I \equiv \int_0^t d\tau \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r), \quad (3.5a)$$

$$J \equiv \int_0^t d\tau \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r), \quad (3.5b)$$

where  $\lambda_\pm = t - \tau \pm r$ . Moreover for  $t \geq 2r$  and  $0 < r \leq 1$  we have

$$J' \equiv \int_0^{t-2r} d\tau \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r). \quad (3.5c)$$

Furthermore for  $r \geq 1$  we have

$$P_\pm \equiv \int_0^t \langle \lambda_\pm \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(|\lambda_\pm|, \tau) d\tau \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r). \quad (3.6)$$

Here  $\Psi_\kappa$  is given in (2.5).

**Proof:** First we prove (3.5a). Let  $0 < \kappa < m + 1$ . Introducing the characteristic coordinates  $\xi = \lambda + \tau$ ,  $\eta = \lambda - \tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \langle \xi \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} d\xi \int_{r-t}^{\xi} \left\langle \frac{\xi + \eta}{2} \right\rangle^{m+1-mp} d\eta \\ &\leq C \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \langle \xi \rangle^{m+2-p\kappa} d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

because the  $\eta$ -integral is dominated by  $C \langle \xi \rangle^{m+2-mp}$  by (3.4). Therefore we have

$$I \leq C \Phi_\kappa(t+r) I' \quad \text{with} \quad I' = \int_{|t-r|}^{t+r} \langle \xi \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)} d\xi, \quad (3.7)$$

because

$$m + 2 - p\kappa = -(\kappa - m) + 2 - (p - 1)\kappa. \quad (3.8)$$

Note that (3.7) is also holds for the case where  $\kappa \geq m + 1$ , if we use (3.2) (resp. (3.3)) when  $\kappa = m + 1$  (resp.  $\kappa > m + 1$ ). Therefore our aim becomes

$$I' \leq Cr\Psi_\kappa(r, t). \quad (3.9)$$

When either  $t \geq 2r > 0$  or  $0 < r \leq 1$  holds, since  $\langle \xi \rangle$  is equivalent to  $\langle t + r \rangle$ , we have  $I' \leq Cr\langle t + r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)}$ , which implies (3.9). When  $0 < t \leq 2r$  and  $r \geq 1$ , we have  $C \leq r\langle t + r \rangle^{-1}$ . Therefore we get (3.9), hence obtain (3.5a).

Next we prove (3.5b). When  $|\lambda_-| \geq 1$ , we have

$$\lambda - \text{integral} \leq C \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda.$$

When  $|\lambda_-| \leq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda - \text{integral} \leq C & \left( \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\min(1, \lambda_+)} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} d\lambda \right. \\ & \left. + \int_1^{\max(1, \lambda_+)} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \right), \end{aligned}$$

because  $\lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \leq C \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp}$  for  $\lambda \geq 1$  and  $\Psi_\kappa(\lambda, \tau) \leq C \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)}$  for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ . Combining these estimates, we arrive at

$$J \leq C(\tilde{J} + I),$$

where  $I$  is given in (3.5a) and we have set

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{J} &= \int_\Sigma \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} d\tau \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\min(1, \lambda_+)} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} d\lambda, \\ \Sigma &= \{\tau \in [0, t] : |\lambda_-| \leq 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

When  $t \geq 2r > 0$  or  $0 < r \leq 1$  or  $0 < \kappa \leq m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{J} &\leq C \langle t - r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_{t-r-1}^{t-r+1} (1 + |\lambda_-|)^{m-(m-1)p} d\tau \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} d\lambda \\ &\leq Cr \langle t + r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)}. \end{aligned}$$

Here the last inequality follows from the following inequality deduced by (3.4):

$$m + 1 - (m - 1)p > 0. \quad (3.10)$$

Since

$$-p(\kappa - m) = -(\kappa - m) + 2 - (p - 1)\kappa - (m + 2 - mp), \quad (3.11)$$

noting (3.4), we get

$$\tilde{J} \leq Cr\langle t+r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)} \Phi_\kappa(t+r) \leq Cr\Psi_\kappa(r,t)\Phi_\kappa(t+r).$$

When  $0 < t \leq 2r$ ,  $r \geq 1$  and  $\kappa > m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{J} &\leq C\langle t-r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_{t-r-1}^{t-r+1} d\tau \int_0^1 \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} d\lambda \\ &\leq C\langle t-r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \leq C\langle t-r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)} \Phi_\kappa(t-r), \end{aligned}$$

by (3.10), (3.11) and (3.4). If  $m < \kappa \leq m+1$ , we have

$$\tilde{J} \leq C\Phi_\kappa(t+r) \leq Cr\langle t+r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)} \Phi_\kappa(t+r),$$

because for any  $\mu \in (0, 1]$ ,  $r\langle t+r \rangle^{-\mu}$  is bounded below for this case. If  $\kappa > m+1$ , we get

$$\tilde{J} \leq Cr\langle t+r \rangle^{-1} \langle t-r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)} \Phi_\kappa(t+r).$$

Therefore we obtain the desired estimate for  $\tilde{J}$ , hence (3.5b) holds.

Next we prove (3.5c). Analogously to the treatment of  $J$ , we have

$$J' \leq CI + C\langle t \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_{(t-r-1)_+}^{t-2r} (1 + \lambda_-^{m+1-mp}) d\tau \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} d\lambda,$$

where  $I$  is given in (3.5a) and  $(t-r-1)_+ = \max(t-r-1, 0)$ . By (3.4) we have

$$\int_{(t-r-1)_+}^{t-2r} \lambda_-^{m+1-mp} d\tau \leq C(t-r)^{m+2-mp} \leq C\langle t \rangle^{m+2-mp}.$$

Therefore by (3.5a) and (3.8) we obtain (3.5c),

Finally we prove (3.6). We consider only  $P_-$ , because  $P_+$  can be handled analogously. Let  $t \geq 2r \geq 2$ . When  $0 < \kappa < m+1$ , we have

$$P_- \leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^t \langle \lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\tau,$$

because  $|\lambda_-| + \tau \geq C(t-r) \geq C(t+r)$ . Changing the variable by  $\lambda = \lambda_-$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} P_- &\leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_{-r}^{t-r} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\lambda \\ &\leq 2C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^{t-r} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\lambda \\ &\leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{m+2-p\kappa}, \end{aligned}$$

by (3.4). Using (3.8) we obtain (3.6), because  $r \geq 1$ .

When  $\kappa = m+1$ , we have

$$P_- \leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p}(Q_- + Q_+),$$

where we have set

$$\begin{aligned} Q_- &= \int_0^{t-r} \langle \lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} \left(1 + \log \frac{\langle t-r \rangle}{\langle 2\tau - t + r \rangle}\right)^p d\tau, \\ Q_+ &= \int_{t-r}^t \langle -\lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} \left(1 + \log \frac{\langle 2\tau - t + r \rangle}{\langle t-r \rangle}\right)^p d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that

$$Q_+ \leq \left(1 + \log \frac{\langle t+r \rangle}{\langle t-r \rangle}\right)^p \int_{t-r}^t \langle -\lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\tau \leq C\langle r \rangle^{m+2-mp},$$

by (3.4). Changing the variable by  $\eta = t-r-2\tau$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} Q_- &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{-(t-r)}^{t-r} \left\langle \frac{t-r+\eta}{2} \right\rangle^{m+1-mp} \left(1 + \log \frac{\langle t-r \rangle}{\langle \eta \rangle}\right)^p d\eta \\ &\leq C\langle t-r \rangle^{p-1} \Phi_\kappa(t-r), \end{aligned}$$

by (3.2) with  $\xi = t-r$ . Similarly we can deal with case where  $\kappa > m+1$ , if we use (3.3).

We omit further detail.

Next we let both  $0 < t \leq 2r$  and  $r \geq 1$  hold. When  $0 < \kappa \leq m$ , changing the variable by  $\lambda = \lambda_-$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} P_- &\leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_{-r}^{t-r} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\lambda \\ &\leq 2C\langle t+r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^r \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\lambda \\ &\leq C\langle t+r \rangle^{m+2-p\kappa}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies (3.6) by (3.8).

When  $m < \kappa \leq m + 1$ , we have  $\Psi_\kappa(|\lambda_-|, \tau) \leq (|\lambda_-| + \tau)^{-(\kappa-m)+\delta}$ , where  $\delta = 0$  if  $m < \kappa < m + 1$  and if  $\kappa = m + 1$ , we took  $\delta$  so small that  $0 < p\delta < 1$  holds. Therefore we have

$$P_- \leq C \int_0^t \langle \lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-p\kappa+p\delta} d\tau \leq C \Phi_\kappa(t+r) \int_0^t \langle \lambda_- \rangle^{m-\kappa-1+p\delta} d\tau,$$

by (3.8). Since the integral is bounded, we get

$$P_- \leq C \Phi_\kappa(t+r) \leq Cr(t+r)^{-(\kappa-m)} \Phi_\kappa(t+r),$$

because  $m < \kappa \leq m + 1$ .

When  $\kappa > m + 1$ , we have

$$P_- = C(Q'_- + Q'_+),$$

where we have set

$$Q'_- = \int_0^{t-r} \langle \lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} \langle t-r \rangle^{-p} \langle \tau - \lambda_- \rangle^{p(m+1-\kappa)} d\tau,$$

$$Q'_+ = \int_{t-r}^t \langle -\lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-mp} \langle \tau - \lambda_- \rangle^{-p} \langle t-r \rangle^{p(m+1-\kappa)} d\tau.$$

As to  $Q'_+$ , we have

$$Q'_+ \leq \langle t-r \rangle^{m+1-\kappa} \int_{t-r}^t \langle -\lambda_- \rangle^{m+1-(m+1)p} d\tau \leq C \langle t-r \rangle^{m+1-\kappa},$$

because  $m + 2 - (m + 1)p < 0$  if  $p > p_0(n)$ . Changing the variable by  $\eta = t - r - 2\tau$ , we get

$$Q'_- \leq \frac{1}{2} \langle t-r \rangle^{-p} \int_{-(t-r)}^{t-r} \left\langle \frac{t-r+\eta}{2} \right\rangle^{m+1-mp} \langle \eta \rangle^{p(m+1-\kappa)} d\eta$$

$$\leq C \langle t-r \rangle^{m-\kappa} \Phi_\kappa(t-r),$$

by (3.3) with  $\xi = t - r$ . Combining these estimates, we arrive at (3.6), because there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $C \leq r \langle t+r \rangle^{-1}$  in this case. The proof is complete.  $\square$

**4. Basic A Priori Estimates.** We consider the following integral equation associated with the initial value problem (1.6):

$$u(r, t) = u^0(r, t) + L(u)(r, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \quad (4.1)$$



where  $u^0$  is given by (2.2) and we have set

$$L(u)(r, t) = \int_0^t w(r, t, \tau) d\tau,$$

$$w(r, t, \tau) = \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} G(\lambda, \tau) K(\lambda, r, t - \tau) d\lambda$$

with  $\lambda_{\pm} = t - \tau \pm r$  and  $G(\lambda, \tau) = F(u)(\lambda, \tau)$ .

We now introduce a Banach space  $X$  on which we will construct a solution of (4.1):

$$X = \{u(r, t) \in C^{1,0}(\Omega_T) : \|u\| < \infty\},$$

where the norm  $\|u\|$  is defined by

$$\|u\| = \sum_{i=0}^1 \sup_{(r,t) \in \Omega_T} |r^{m+i-1} \partial_r^i u(r, t)| \langle r \rangle^{1-i} \Psi_{\kappa}^{-1}(r, t).$$

Here  $\Psi_{\kappa}$  is given in (2.5). Since (H) implies

$$|F'(u)| \leq Ap|u|^{p-1}, \quad |F(u)| \leq A|u|^p \quad \text{for } u \in R, \quad (4.2)$$

we obtain

**Lemma 4.1.** *Suppose (H) holds. Setting  $G(\lambda, \tau) = F(u)(\lambda, \tau)$  for  $u \in X$ , we have*

$$|G(\lambda, \tau)| \leq C\|u\|^p \lambda^{-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{-p} \Psi_{\kappa}^p(\lambda, \tau), \quad (\lambda, \tau) \in \Omega_T, \quad (4.3)$$

$$|\partial_{\lambda} G(\lambda, \tau)| \leq C\|u\|^p \lambda^{-(m-1)p-1} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_{\kappa}^p(\lambda, \tau), \quad (\lambda, \tau) \in \Omega_T. \quad (4.4)$$

For  $u \in X$  the integral operator  $L(u)$  satisfies the following inhomogeneous wave equation. (For the proof, see [10], Section 4).

**Proposition 4.2.** *We suppose that (3.1) and (H) hold and that  $u$  belongs to  $X$ . Then we have  $L(u)(r, t) \in C^2(\Omega_T)$ . Moreover  $L(u)$  satisfies the zero initial data and*

$$\left(\partial_t^2 - \partial_r^2 - \frac{n-1}{r} \partial_r\right) L(u) = F(u) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T.$$

In what follows, we examine the quantitative properties of  $L(u)$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let the hypotheses of the preceding proposition be fulfilled. Then we have for  $(r, t) \in \Omega_T$*

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha L(u)(r, t)| \leq C_1 \|u\|^p r^{1-m-|\alpha|} \langle r \rangle^{|\alpha|-1} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r), \quad |\alpha| \leq 1. \quad (4.5)$$

**Proof:** We prove (4.5) by dividing the argument into the cases.

**Case 1:**  $0 < r \leq 1$ .

It follows that for  $|\alpha| \leq 1$

$$\partial_{r,t}^\alpha L(r, t) = \int_0^{(t-2r)_+} \partial_{r,t}^\alpha w(r, t, \tau) d\tau + \int_{(t-2r)_+}^t \partial_{r,t}^\alpha w(r, t, \tau) d\tau \equiv A_{|\alpha|} + B_{|\alpha|},$$

because  $w(r, t, t) = 0$ . Here we have set  $(t-2r)_+ = \max(t-2r, 0)$ . To begin with, we consider  $A_{|\alpha|}$ . Since  $t-\tau \geq 2r$  for  $\tau \leq t-2r$ , we get similarly to (2.6)

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha w(r, t, \tau)| \leq Cr^{-m-|\alpha|} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \{\lambda^m |G(\lambda, \tau)| + |G_m(\lambda, \tau)|\} d\lambda,$$

where we have set  $G_m(\lambda, \tau) = -\partial_\lambda(\lambda^{m+1}G(\lambda, \tau))$ . From (4.3) and (4.4) we have

$$|G_m(\lambda, \tau)| \leq C \|u\|^p \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau).$$

Therefore we have from this and (4.3)

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha w(r, t, \tau)| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-|\alpha|} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda,$$

hence we get

$$|A_{|\alpha|}| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-|\alpha|} J \leq C \|u\|^p r^{1-m-i} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r), \quad (4.6)$$

by (3.5b).

We now turn our attention to  $B_{|\alpha|}$ . By (2.4a) we have

$$|w(r, t, \tau)| \leq Cr^{-m-1} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m+1} |G(\lambda, \tau)| d\lambda. \quad (4.7a)$$

Moreover for  $0 < t-\tau \leq 2r$ , we get similarly to (2.10b)

$$|\partial_{r,t}^\alpha w(r, t, \tau)| \leq Cr^{-m-1} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^m |G(\lambda, \tau)| d\lambda + Cr^{-m-1} |\lambda_\pm|^{m+1} |G(|\lambda_\pm|, \tau)|. \quad (4.7b)$$

Since  $0 < r \leq 1$ , we have

$$|\lambda_-| \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_+ \leq 3r \leq 3,$$

hence by (4.3) we have

$$|G(\lambda, \tau)| \leq C \|u\|^p \lambda^{-(m-1)p} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)}. \quad (4.8)$$

Substituting this into (4.7a), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |w(r, t, \tau)| &\leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^{3r} \lambda^{m+1-(m-1)p} d\lambda \\ &\leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)}, \end{aligned}$$

because of (3.10). We also get from (4.7b), (4.8) and (3.10)

$$\begin{aligned} |\partial_{r,t} w(r, t, \tau)| &\leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^1 \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} d\lambda \\ &\quad + C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \\ &\leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining these estimates, we obtain for  $|\alpha| \leq 1$

$$|B_{|\alpha|}| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-|\alpha|} \int_{(t-2r)_+}^t \langle \tau \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} d\tau \leq C \|u\|^p r^{1-m-|\alpha|} \langle t \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)},$$

which implies (4.5) by virtue of (3.11).

**Case 2:**  $r \geq 1$ .

First we prove (4.5) with  $\alpha = 0$ . By (4.7a), (4.3) and (3.10) we have

$$|w(r, t, \tau)| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda,$$

hence we get

$$|L(r, t)| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} I \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r)$$

by (3.5a).

Next we prove (4.5) with  $|\alpha| = 1$ . We divide  $\partial_{r,t} L$  into  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  as before. Note that (4.6) is still valid for  $r \geq 1$ , because we did not use the assumption  $0 < r \leq 1$  to

derive it. Moreover (4.7b) also holds for  $r \geq 1$  if  $0 < t - \tau \leq 2r$ . Therefore by (4.3) and (3.10) we have

$$|\partial_{r,t} w(r, t, \tau)| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \\ + C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} \langle \lambda_\pm \rangle^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(|\lambda_\pm|, \tau).$$

Therefore by (3.5b) and (3.6), we get

$$|B_1| \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m-1} (J + P_\pm) \leq C \|u\|^p r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t + r).$$

We thus obtain (4.5). The proof is complete.  $\square$

To proceed further, we now introduce an auxiliary norm  $\| \|u\| \|$  for  $u \in X$  by

$$\| \|u\| \| = \sup_{(r,t) \in \Omega} |r^m u(r, t)| \Psi_\kappa^{-1}(r, t).$$

**Lemma 4.4.** *Suppose that (H) holds. Set  $\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau) = F(u)(\lambda, \tau) - F(v)(\lambda, \tau)$  for  $u, v \in X$ . Then we have for  $(\lambda, \tau) \in \Omega_T$*

$$|\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| \leq CM \lambda^{-(m-1)p-1} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau), \quad (4.9)$$

where we have set  $M = \| \|u - v\| \| (\|u\|^{p-1} + \|v\|^{p-1})$ . Moreover we have

$$|\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| \leq CN_1 \lambda^{-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau), \quad (4.10)$$

$$|\partial_\lambda \tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| \leq CN_1 \lambda^{-(m-1)p-1} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) + CN_2 \lambda^{-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau), \quad (4.11)$$

where we have set  $N_1 = \| \|u - v\| \| (\|u\|^{p-1} + \|v\|^{p-1})$  and  $N_2 = \| \|u - v\| \|^{p-1} (\|u\|^m + \|v\|^m)$ .

**Proof:** Noting that

$$\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau) = (u - v) \int_0^1 F'(\theta u + (1 - \theta)v) d\theta,$$

hence we have by (4.2)

$$|\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| \leq Ap 2^{p-1} |u - v| (|u|^{p-1} + |v|^{p-1}).$$

One can easily obtain (4.9) and (4.10) from the above.

By (4.2) and (H) we have

$$|\partial_\lambda \tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| \leq |F'(u)| |\partial_\lambda u - \partial_\lambda v| + |\partial_\lambda v| |F'(u) - F'(v)| \\ \leq Ap |u|^p |\partial_\lambda u - \partial_\lambda v| + Ap |\partial_\lambda v| |u - v|^{p-1}.$$

Using  $\| \| \cdot \| \|$  for the second term, we get (4.11).  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5.** *Suppose (H) and (3.1) hold. let  $u, v$  belong to  $X$ . Then we have for  $(r, t) \in \Omega_T$*

$$|L(u)(r, t) - L(v)(r, t)| \leq C_2 M r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \Phi_\kappa(t+r), \quad (4.12)$$

and for  $i = 0, 1$

$$|\partial_r^i (L(u) - L(v))(r, t)| \leq (C_3 N_1 + C_4 N_2) r^{1-m-i} \langle r \rangle^{i-1} \Phi_\kappa(t+r). \quad (4.13)$$

Moreover if we further assume  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$ , we then obtain (4.12) and (4.13) with  $\Phi_\kappa(t+r)$  replaced by  $\langle t \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa}$ .

**Proof:** We have from (4.1)

$$\tilde{L}(r, t) \equiv L(u)(r, t) - L(v)(r, t) = \int_0^t \tilde{w}(r, t, \tau) d\tau, \quad (4.14)$$

where  $\tilde{w}$  is equal to  $w$  defined in (4.1) with  $G$  replaced by  $\tilde{G}$ . First we prove (4.12). Since we have (4.7a) with  $w$  and  $G$  replaced by  $\tilde{w}$  and  $\tilde{G}$  respectively, by (4.9) we get

$$|\tilde{L}(r, t)| \leq C M r^{-m-1} J \quad (4.15)$$

where  $J$  is given in (3.5b). Therefore it is easy to see that (4.12) holds if we use (3.5b).

Next we prove (4.13). When  $r \geq 1$  and  $i = 0$ , proceeding as in the proof of Proposition 4.3, we obtain (4.13), because by (4.10)  $\tilde{G}$  has the same estimate as  $G$  with  $\|u\|^p$  replaced by  $N_1$ . Therefore it is enough to consider the case where either  $0 < r \leq 1$  or  $r \geq 1$  and  $i = 1$ . Setting for  $i = 0, 1$

$$\tilde{A}_i = \int_0^{(t-2r)_+} \partial_r^i \tilde{w}(r, t, \tau) d\tau, \quad \tilde{B}_i = \int_{(t-2r)_+}^t \partial_r^i \tilde{w}(r, t, \tau) d\tau,$$

we then have  $\partial_r^i \tilde{L}(r, t) = \tilde{A}_i + \tilde{B}_i$ . Since by (4.10)  $\tilde{B}_i$  can be handled similarly to  $B_i$ , we concentrate on estimating  $\tilde{A}_i$ . Therefore we may assume  $0 \leq \tau \leq t - 2r$ . Similarly to (2.6) we have

$$|\partial_r^i \tilde{w}(r, t, \tau)| \leq C r^{-m-i} \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} \{\lambda^m |\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| + |\tilde{G}_m(\lambda, \tau)|\} d\lambda,$$

where we have set  $\tilde{G}_m(\lambda, \tau) = -\partial_\lambda(\lambda^{m+1}\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau))$ . Employing (4.10) and (4.11) we have

$$|\partial_r^i \tilde{w}(r, t, \tau)| \leq Cr^{-m-i} \left( N_1 \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \right. \\ \left. + N_2 \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) d\lambda \right),$$

hence we get

$$|\tilde{A}_i| \leq Cr^{-m-i}(N_1 J + N_2 J'),$$

where  $J$  and  $J'$  is given in (3.5b) and (3.5c). We thus obtain (4.13).

Finally we consider the case where  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$ . When  $t \geq r/2 > 0$  or  $0 < r \leq 2$ , the conclusion directly follows from (4.12) and (4.13). Therefore we assume  $0 < t \leq r/2$  and  $r \geq 2$  in what follows. Let  $0 \leq \tau \leq t$  and  $|\lambda_-| \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_+$ . Since  $r - t \geq r/2 \geq 1$  for the case,  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda + \tau$  and  $\lambda - \tau$  are equivalent to  $\langle r \rangle$ . In particular, for an arbitrary  $\kappa > 0$  we get  $\Psi_\kappa(\lambda, \tau) \leq C\langle r \rangle^{-(\kappa-m)}$ . Here  $\Psi_\kappa$  is given in (2.5).

To begin with, we claim that

$$I \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \langle t \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa}, \quad (4.16a)$$

$$J \leq Cr \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \langle t \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa}, \quad (4.16b)$$

where  $I$  and  $J$  is given by (3.5a) and (3.5b). Indeed, from the above remarks we have

$$J \leq CI \\ \leq C\langle r \rangle^{-p(\kappa-m)} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \langle \lambda \rangle^{m+1-mp} d\lambda \\ \leq C\langle r \rangle^{m+1-p\kappa} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} d\lambda \\ \leq C\langle r \rangle \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \langle t \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa},$$

because  $m - p\kappa = -(\kappa - m) - (p - 1)\kappa$ . We thus get (4.16), because  $r \geq 1$ . Employing (4.15) and (4.16b), we find that the assertion concerning (4.12) holds.

Next we prove the assertion concerning (4.13). As to the case where  $i = 0$ , similarly to (4.15) we have

$$|\tilde{L}(r, t)| \leq CN_1 r^{-m-1} I,$$

if we use (4.10) instead of (4.9) and notice (3.10). By (4.16a) we get the desired result.

Next we consider the case where  $i = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq t - \tau \leq 2r$  for  $t \leq r/2$  and  $0 \leq \tau \leq t$ , similarly to (2.10b) we have

$$|\partial_r \tilde{w}(r, t)| \leq Cr^{-m-1} \int_{|\lambda_-|}^{\lambda_+} \lambda^m |\tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)| d\lambda + |P'|,$$

where we have set

$$P' = \tilde{G}(\lambda_+, \tau)K(\lambda_+, r, t - \tau) - \tilde{G}(|\lambda_-|, \tau)K(|\lambda_-|, r, t - \tau).$$

Therefore we have by (4.10)

$$|\partial_r \tilde{L}(r, t)| \leq CN_1 r^{-m-1} J + \int_0^t |P'| d\tau.$$

By (4.16b) we have only to consider  $P'$ . Setting  $H(\lambda, r, t, \tau) = \tilde{G}(\lambda, \tau)K(\lambda, r, t - \tau)$ , we obtain

$$P' = \int_0^1 \frac{d}{ds} H(\lambda(s), r, t, \tau) ds = (\lambda_+ - |\lambda_-|) \int_0^1 (\partial_\lambda H)(\lambda(s), r, t, \tau) ds,$$

where we put  $\lambda(s) = s\lambda_+ + (1-s)|\lambda_-|$ . By (2.4), (4.10) and (4.11), for  $|\lambda_-| \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_+$  we get the following similarly to the proof of (4.16):

$$\begin{aligned} |(\partial_\lambda H)(\lambda, r, t, \tau)| &\leq CN_1 r^{-m-1} \lambda^{m-(m-1)p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{1-p} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) \\ &\quad + CN_2 r^{-m-1} \lambda^{m+1-mp} \Psi_\kappa^p(\lambda, \tau) \\ &\leq C(N_1 + N_2) r^{-m-1} \langle r \rangle^{m+1-p\kappa} \\ &\leq C(N_1 + N_2) r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \langle t \rangle^{-(p-1)\kappa}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lambda_+ - |\lambda_-| = 2t$ , we therefore get

$$\int_0^t |P'| d\tau \leq C(N_1 + N_2) r^{-m} \Psi_\kappa(r, t) \langle t \rangle^{2-(p-1)\kappa}.$$

We thus proved all the assertions of Proposition 4.5 □

**End of the Proof of Main Theorem:** To begin with, we shall show that a solution to the integral equation (4.1) exists uniquely. We define a sequence of functions  $\{u_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  by

$$u_{k+1} = u_0 + L(u_k) \quad \text{for } k \geq 0, \quad u_0 = u^0,$$

where  $u^0$  is given by (2.2). By (2.5) we have  $\|u_0\| \leq C_0\varepsilon$ . It follows from (4.5), (4.12) and (4.13) that for  $u, v \in X$

$$\|L(u)\| \leq C_1\|u\|^p\Phi_\kappa(T), \quad (4.17)$$

$$\|L(u) - L(v)\| \leq C_2\|u - v\|(\|u\|^{p-1} + \|v\|^{p-1})\Phi_\kappa(T), \quad (4.18a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|L(u) - L(v)\| &\leq C_3\|u - v\|(\|u\|^{p-1} + \|v\|^{p-1})\Phi_\kappa(T) \\ &\quad + C_4\|u - v\|^{p-1}(\|u\|^m + \|v\|^m)\Phi_\kappa(T), \end{aligned} \quad (4.18b)$$

First we consider the case where  $\kappa \geq \kappa_0$ . Then we have  $\Phi_\kappa(T) \leq 1$ . Therefore by (4.17),  $u_k \in X$  for any  $k$ . Let  $\varepsilon_2$  be so small that

$$2C_0\varepsilon_2 \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 2^{p+2}C_5(C_0\varepsilon_2)^{p-1} \leq 1 \quad (4.19)$$

with  $C_5 = \sum_{i=1}^4 C_i$ . Then if we use (4.18), we find a solution  $u \in X$  to the integral equation (3.1) for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_2$  and arbitrary  $T > 0$  by following [8], p.257-p.259. (See also [9], Section 5).

Next we treat the case where  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$ . We take a positive number  $\varepsilon_1$  satisfying

$$\varepsilon_1 \leq \varepsilon_2 \quad \text{and} \quad 2^{p+2}C_5(\sqrt{2})^{2-(p-1)\kappa}(C_0\varepsilon_1)^{p-1} < 1. \quad (4.20)$$

Since  $2 - (p-1)\kappa > 0$  by  $0 < \kappa < \kappa_0$ , there is a number  $t_\varepsilon > 1$  uniquely such that

$$2^{p+2}C_5(\sqrt{2}t_\varepsilon)^{2-(p-1)\kappa}(C_0\varepsilon)^{p-1} = 1 \quad \text{for each } \varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_1]. \quad (4.21)$$

Then considering (4.19) and (4.20), for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_1$  and  $0 < T \leq t_\varepsilon$  we have

$$2C_0\varepsilon \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 2^{p+2}C_5(T)^{2-(p-1)\kappa}(C_0\varepsilon)^{p-1} \leq 1,$$

because  $\langle T \rangle \leq \sqrt{2} \max(T, 1)$ . Hence for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_1$  we get a solution on  $\Omega_T$  by iteration.

Finally we claim that the unique solution  $u \in X$  to (4.1) is also an unique solution to the initial value problem (1.6). It is easy to see that  $u$  satisfies (1.6) by Propositions 2.2 and 4.2. Moreover  $u$  becomes the unique solution to the problem. Indeed, if we set

$$v(r, t) = u(r, t) - (u^0(r, t) + L(u)(r, t)), \quad (r, t) \in \Omega_T.$$



Then  $v(r, t)$  satisfies (2.1) in  $\Omega_T$  with the zero initial data. Furthermore by (2.5b) and (4.5) with  $|\alpha| = 1$ ,  $\partial_{r,t}v(r, t) = O(r^{-m})$  as  $r \rightarrow 0$ . Then the uniqueness follows from the argument similar to [10], Lemma 3.2. Therefore we thus obtain the unique solution to the problem (1.6). Moreover (1.8b) follows from (4.21), because  $T_\varepsilon \geq t_\varepsilon$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

### Acknowledgment

The author would like to acknowledge Professor Kôji Kubota for his valuable advices.

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