



Research article

Spatial decay estimates for the coupled system of wave-plate type with thermal effect

Jincheng Shi¹ and Yan Liu^{2,*}

¹ Department of Applied Mathematics, Guangzhou Huashang College, Guangzhou 511300, China

² Department of Applied Mathematics, Guangdong University of Finance, Guangzhou 510521, China

* **Correspondence:** Email: ly801221@163.com.

Abstract: In this article, we investigate the spatial decay estimates for the biharmonic conduction equations within a coupled wave-plate system incorporating thermal effects in a two-dimensional cylindrical domain. Using the method of a second-order differential inequality, we can obtain the spatial decay estimates result for these equations. When the distance tends to infinity, the energy can decay exponentially. This result shows us that the Saint-Venant principle is also valid for the hyperbolic-parabolic coupled system.

Keywords: spatial decay estimates; wave-plate type with thermal effect; hyperbolic-parabolic coupled equations; Saint-Venant principle

Mathematics Subject Classification: 35B44, 35B33

1. Introduction

Over the last fifty years, many authors studied the Saint-Venant principle in both applied mathematics and mechanics. The results of the classical Saint-Venant principle have been greatly expanded by a large number of investigations. In order to track the results about the Saint-Venant's principle, one could see articles by Horgan [1, 2], Horgan and Knowles [3]. The Saint-Venant type theorem states that the energy expression can decay exponentially when the axial distance from the near end to infinity along a semi-infinite strip or cylinder for different type of equations. For example, in [4], the authors studied the spatial behavior for the high order equation. In [5], the the authors studied the spatial behavior for the transient heat conduction. In [6], the partial behavior for the primitive equations was studied. In [7,8], the authors studied the spatial behavior for the fluid flow in porous medium. In order to obtain the decay results, they must impose a priori assumptions that the solutions algebraically decay to zero at infinity.

In recent years, the biharmonic equation is used to describe the behavior of a two-dimensional

physical field within a plane. It can represent many different physical phenomena, including sound waves, electric fields, and magnetic fields. Many important applications are studied in applied mathematics and mechanics. In order to obtain the Saint-Venant type result for the biharmonic equations, many studies and various methods have been proposed for researching the spatial behavior for the solutions of the biharmonic equations in a semi-infinite strip in R^2 . We mention the studies by Knowles [9, 10], Flavin [11], Flavin and Knops [12], and Horgan [13]. We note that some time-dependent problems concerning the biharmonic operator were considered in the literature. We mention the papers by Liu and Lin [14], Knops and Lupoli [15], and Song [16, 17] in connection with the spatial behavior of solutions for a fourth-order transformed problem associated with the slow flow of an incompressible viscous fluid along a semi-infinite strip. Other results for the Saint-Venant principle may be found in [18–22].

In [23], the authors studied the properties of solutions for the wave plate type. The equations were a coupled system with a thermal effect. They obtained the analytic property. The exponential stability was also obtained by using the method of a C_0 -semigroup. The equations have the following form:

$$\begin{cases} \rho_1 u_{,tt} - \Delta u - \mu \Delta u_{,t} + a \Delta v = 0, \\ \rho_2 v_{,tt} + \gamma \Delta^2 v + a \Delta u + m \Delta \theta = 0, \\ \tau \theta_{,t} - k \Delta \theta - m \Delta v_{,t} = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

The above system was used to describe the system constituted by an elastic membrane and an elastic plate that are subject to a thermal effect (see [24]). Here, u represents the vertical deflection of the membrane, v represents the vertical deflection of the plate, and θ represents the difference of temperature. $\rho_1, \rho_2, \mu, a, \gamma, m, \tau$, and k are all nonnegative coefficients.

In the present paper, we take $a = 0$. This is to say, the vertical deflection of the membrane does not have any effect on the system. Equation (1.1) turns to

$$\begin{cases} \rho v_{,tt} + \gamma \Delta^2 v + m \Delta \theta = 0, \\ \tau \theta_{,t} - k \Delta \theta - m \Delta v_{,t} = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

Here Δ is the harmonic operator, and Δ^2 is the biharmonic operator. The comma is used to indicate partial differentiation and the differentiation, with respect to the direction x_k is denoted as $,k$, thus $u_{, \alpha}$ denotes $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_\alpha}$, and $u_{,t}$ denotes $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$.

Our problem is considered on the domain Ω_0 which is an unbounded region defined by

$$\Omega_0 := \{(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1 > 0, 0 < x_2 < h\}, \quad (1.3)$$

with h being a fixed positive constant. We denote the notation

$$L_z = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1 = z \geq 0, 0 \leq x_2 \leq h\}. \quad (1.4)$$

The problem is considered in the time interval $[0, T]$, where T is a fixed positive constant.

We must add some a priori asymptotic decay assumptions for solutions at infinity.

$$\begin{aligned} v(x_1, x_2, t), \dot{v}(x_1, x_2, t), v_{, \alpha}(x_1, x_2, t), \theta(x_1, x_2, t), \theta_{,1}(x_1, x_2, t) &\rightarrow 0, \\ v_{, \alpha t}(x_1, x_2, t), v_{, \alpha \beta}(x_1, x_2, t), v_{, \alpha \beta \beta}(x_1, x_2, t) &\rightarrow 0, \\ (\text{uniformly in } x_2) \text{ as } x_1 &\rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

In this paper, we study the spatial decay estimates for the system (1.2). Since equations of (1.2) are hyperbolic-parabolic coupled equations, it is difficult to construct the energy function. How to control the energy function by its own differentiation will be the main difficulty of this article. We have never seen any results about the Saint-Venant principle for system (1.2). If we follow the previous method that the energy function is controlled by its own derivative, we cannot obtain the desired result for this system of equations. The weighted energy method will be used, and a second-order differential inequality will be derived. This method is firstly used in current research on the Saint-Venant principle. We think this method is applicable to the study of other biharmonic operators. From these points, the result obtained in this paper is new and interesting.

In this paper, we are concerned with the spatial decay estimates for the coupled system of wave-plate type with a thermal effect. We formulate some energy expressions in section 2. In section 3, we derive some important inequalities and formulate a second-order differential inequality. We derive our main spatial decay estimates for the solutions in section 4. The usual summation convention is employed with repeated Greek subscripts α summed from 1 to 2. Hence,

$$u_{,\alpha\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_\alpha^2}.$$

A is an area element on the $x_1 - x_2$ plane, $dA = dx_2 d\xi$.

2. Definitions of the energy functions

In the following, we will define some energy functions that will be used in deriving our result. Multiplying both sides of (1.2)₁ by $\exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}(\xi - z)$ and integrating, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}(\rho v_{,\eta\eta} + \gamma v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta\beta} + m\theta_{,\alpha\alpha})dAd\eta \\ &= \frac{\omega\rho}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,t}^2 dA \\ &\quad - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta} dAd\eta - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}v_{,1\beta\beta} dAd\eta \\ &\quad - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta - \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta \\ &= \frac{\omega\rho}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,t}^2 dA \\ &\quad + \frac{\gamma\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha 1} dAd\eta \\ &\quad - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}v_{,1\beta\beta} dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta \\ &\quad - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

We define a function

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(z, t) &= \frac{\omega\rho}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,t}^2 dA \\
&+ \frac{\gamma\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA \quad (2.2) \\
&- m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta.
\end{aligned}$$

Inserting (2.2) into (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(z, t) &= -\gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha 1} dAd\eta + \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}v_{,1\beta\beta} dAd\eta \\
&+ m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta. \quad (2.3)
\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying both sides of (1.2)₂ by $\exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}$ and integrating, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}(\tau\theta_{,\eta} - k\theta_{,\alpha\alpha} - mv_{,\alpha\alpha\eta}) dAd\eta \\
&= \tau \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,\eta} dAd\eta + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta \\
&+ k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta \\
&- m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}v_{,1\eta} dAd\eta \quad (2.4) \\
&= \tau \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,\eta} dAd\eta + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta \\
&+ k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta \\
&+ \frac{m}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}^2 dx_2 d\eta.
\end{aligned}$$

We define a function

$$\begin{aligned}
F_2(z, t) &= \tau \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,\eta} dAd\eta \\
&+ m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta. \quad (2.5)
\end{aligned}$$

Inserting (2.5) into (2.4), we can also obtain

$$F_2(z, t) = -k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}\theta_{,1} dAd\eta - \frac{m}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}^2 dx_2 d\eta. \quad (2.6)$$

Multiplying both sides of (1.2)₁ by $\exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta$ and integrating,

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta(\rho v_{,\eta\eta} + \gamma v_{\alpha\alpha\beta\beta} + m\theta_{\alpha\alpha})dAd\eta \\
 &= -\rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\eta}v_{,\eta}dAd\eta + \rho\omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,\eta}dAd\eta \\
 &\quad + \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,t}dA - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta}dAd\eta \\
 &\quad - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\beta\beta}dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta \\
 &\quad - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta\theta_{,1}dAd\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

We define a function

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_3(z, t) &= -\rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\eta}v_{,\eta}dAd\eta + \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,t}dA \\
 &\quad + \omega\rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,\eta}dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta \\
 &\quad - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta}dAd\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

Inserting (2.8) into (2.7), we can also obtain another expression of $F_3(z, t)$.

$$F_3(z, t) = \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\beta\beta}dAd\eta + \frac{m}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2 dx_2 d\eta. \tag{2.9}$$

Multiplying both sides of (1.2)₂ by $\exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta$ and integrating, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta(\tau\theta_{,\eta} - k\theta_{,\alpha\alpha} - mv_{,\alpha\alpha\eta})dAd\eta \\
 &= \frac{\tau\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\tau}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\
 &\quad + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta\theta_{,1}dx_2 d\eta \\
 &\quad + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\eta}dAd\eta + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\eta}dAd\eta \\
 &= \frac{\tau\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\tau}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\
 &\quad + k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta - \frac{k}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2 dx_2 d\eta \\
 &\quad + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\eta}dAd\eta + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\eta}dAd\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

We define a function

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_4(z, t) &= \frac{\tau\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\tau}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\
 &+ k \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta + m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\eta} dAd\eta \\
 &+ m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Inserting (2.11) into (2.10), we can obtain another expression of $F_4(z, t)$

$$F_4(z, t) = \frac{k}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2 dx_2 d\eta. \tag{2.12}$$

Multiplying both sides of (1.2)₁ by $\exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}$ and integrating, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}(\rho v_{,\eta\eta} + \gamma v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta\beta} + m\theta_{\beta\beta}) dAd\eta \\
 &= -\rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\eta}v_{,\eta} dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta \\
 &+ \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dA - \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\
 &- \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,1\alpha\alpha} dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta \\
 &+ \rho\omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dAd\eta \\
 &= \rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta + \rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,1\eta}v_{,\eta} dAd\eta \\
 &+ \rho\omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dAd\eta + \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dA \\
 &- \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\beta\beta} dx_2 d\eta \\
 &- m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.13}$$

We define a function

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_5(z, t) &= -\rho \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta - \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dA \\
 &+ \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\
 &+ m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$-\rho\omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta}dAd\eta. \quad (2.14)$$

Inserting (2.14) into (2.13), we also have

$$F_5(z, t) = -\frac{\rho}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}^2 dx_2 d\eta + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\beta\beta} dx_2 d\eta \\ - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta. \quad (2.15)$$

We now define a new function

$$F(z, t) = F_1(z, t) + k_1 F_2(z, t) + k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho} F_3(z, t) + k_2 F_4(z, t) + k_3 F_5(z, t), \quad (2.16)$$

with k_1, k_2 , and k_3 being positive constants that will be determined later.

A combination of (2.2), (2.5), (2.8), (2.11), (2.14), and (2.16) gives

$$F(z, t) = \frac{\omega\rho}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\ + \frac{\omega\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dA + (k_1 k + m) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta \\ + \tilde{k}_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta + \tilde{k}_2 \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,\eta} dA \\ + \tilde{k}_3 \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta v_{,\eta} dAd\eta - \tilde{k}_4 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta} dAd\eta \\ + \tilde{k}_5 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha} dAd\eta + k_2 \frac{\tau}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\ + \tilde{k}_6 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta + \tilde{k}_7 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta \\ + k_2 m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,\eta} dAd\eta - k_3 \rho \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dAd\eta \\ - k_3 \rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta} dA + k_3 \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\ + k_3 m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA, \quad (2.17)$$

with

$$\tilde{k}_1 = (k_1 m - k_3 \rho), \quad \tilde{k}_2 = k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho}, \quad \tilde{k}_3 = k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho}, \quad \tilde{k}_4 = k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho} \gamma, \\ \tilde{k}_5 = \left(k_2 k - k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho} m \right), \quad \tilde{k}_6 = k_2 \frac{\tau \omega}{2}, \quad \tilde{k}_7 = k_2 m.$$

From the definition of $F(z, t)$ in (2.16), we can also get another expression of $F(z, t)$ by combining Eqs (2.3), (2.6), (2.9), (2.12), and (2.15)

$$\begin{aligned}
F(z, t) = & -\gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\alpha\eta} v_{,\alpha 1} dA d\eta + \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\eta} v_{,1\beta\beta} dA d\eta \\
& - (m+k) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\eta} \theta_{,1} dA d\eta + \frac{k}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta) \theta^2 dx_2 d\eta \\
& - \frac{(m+\rho)}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\eta}^2 dx_2 d\eta + \gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) \theta v_{,1\beta\beta} dA d\eta \\
& + \frac{m}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta) \theta^2 dx_2 d\eta - m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\alpha\alpha} \theta_{,\beta} dA d\eta \\
& + \frac{\gamma}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta) v_{,\alpha\alpha} v_{,\beta\beta} dx_2 d\eta.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.18}$$

Equalities (2.17) and (2.18) will play important roles in deriving the main result of this paper in the next section.

3. Some basic inequalities

We now begin to bound $F(z, t)$ in (2.17).

Using the Schwarz inequality, the fourth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| (k_1 k + m) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\eta} \theta_{,\alpha} dA d\eta \right| \\
& \leq \frac{k_1 m}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\eta} v_{,\alpha\eta} dA d\eta \\
& \quad + \frac{2(k_1 k + m)^2}{k_1 m} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) \theta_{,\alpha} \theta_{,\alpha} dA d\eta,
\end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

the sixth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho} \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) \theta v_{,\eta} dA d\eta \right| \\
& \leq k_1 \frac{\tau}{2\rho} \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) \theta^2 dA d\eta \\
& \quad + k_1 \frac{\tau}{2\rho} \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta) (\xi - z) v_{,\eta}^2 dA d\eta,
\end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

the seventh term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| k_1 \frac{\tau}{\rho} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t) (\xi - z) \theta v_{,t} dA \right| \\
& \leq k_1 \frac{\tau}{2\rho} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t) (\xi - z) \theta^2 dA + k_1 \frac{\tau}{2\rho} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t) (\xi - z) v_{,t}^2 dA,
\end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

the eighth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| -\frac{k_1\tau}{\rho}\gamma \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta}dAd\eta \right| \\ & \leq \frac{k_1^2\tau^2}{\rho^2k_3\gamma} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_3\gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta\beta}dAd\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

the tenth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| k_2m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}v_{,\alpha\eta}dAd\eta \right| \\ & \leq \frac{2k_2^2m}{k_1} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\alpha}\theta_{,\alpha}dAd\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_1m}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta}dAd\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

the eleventh term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| k_2m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta v_{,1\eta}dAd\eta \right| \\ & \leq \frac{2(k_2m)^2}{k_1m} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2dAd\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_1m}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,1\eta}^2dAd\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

the twelfth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| k_3\rho\omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\eta}dAd\eta \right| \\ & \leq \frac{k_3\rho\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\beta\beta}dAd\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_3\rho\omega}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2dAd\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

the thirteenth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| k_3\rho \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,t}dA \right| \\ & \leq \frac{k_3\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha}v_{,\beta\beta}dA \\ & \quad + \frac{k_3\rho}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,t}^2dA, \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

and the fifteenth term on the right side of (2.17) can be bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| k_3 m \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} \theta_{,\beta} dA d\eta \right| \\ & \leq \frac{k_3 \gamma}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_3 m^2}{2\gamma} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) \theta_{,\beta} \theta_{,\beta} dA d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

Combining (2.17) and (3.1)–(3.9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} F(z, t) & \geq \left(\frac{\omega\rho}{2} - \frac{k_3\omega\rho}{2} - \frac{k_1\tau\omega}{2\rho} \right) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\eta}^2 dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{\rho}{2} - \frac{\tau k_1}{2\rho} - \frac{k_3\rho}{2} \right) \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z) v_{,t}^2 dA \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{\gamma\omega}{2} - \frac{k_3\rho\omega}{2} \right) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\beta} v_{,\alpha\beta} dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{\gamma}{2} - \frac{k_3\rho}{2} \right) \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\beta} v_{,\alpha\beta} dA \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{3k_1 m}{4} - k_3\rho \right) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\eta} v_{,\alpha\eta} dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{k_2\tau\omega}{2} - \frac{k_1\tau\omega}{2\rho} - \frac{2(k_2 m)^2}{k_1 m} \right) \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) \theta^2 dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \left(\frac{k_2\tau}{2} - \frac{k_1\tau}{2\rho} \right) \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z) \theta^2 dA \\ & \quad + \tilde{k} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) \theta_{,\beta} \theta_{,\beta} dA d\eta \\ & \quad + \frac{k_3\gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z) v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dA d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

with

$$\tilde{k} = \left(k_2 k - \frac{k_1 \tau m}{\rho} - \frac{2(k_1 k + m)^2}{k_1 m} - \frac{(k_1 \tau)^2}{\rho^2 k_3 \gamma} - \frac{2k_2^2 m}{k_1} - \frac{k_3 m^2}{2\gamma} \right).$$

If we suggest

$$k > \frac{2 \left(\frac{k_1 \tau m}{\rho} + \frac{2(k_1 k + m)^2}{k_1 m} + \frac{(k_1 \tau)^2}{\rho^2 k_3 \gamma} + \frac{2k_2^2 m}{k_1} + \frac{k_3 m^2}{2\gamma} \right)}{k_2}$$

and choose

$$k_1 = \frac{\rho^2}{4\tau}, \quad k_2 = \frac{2k_1}{\rho}, \quad k_3 = \min \left\{ \frac{\gamma}{2\rho}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{mk_1}{4\rho} \right\}, \quad \omega = \frac{16k_2 m}{k_1 \tau},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
F(z, t) &\geq \frac{\omega\rho}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,t}^2 dA \\
&+ \frac{\gamma\omega}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA \\
&+ \frac{k_1m}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta + \frac{k_2\tau}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\
&+ \frac{k_2\tau\omega}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_1k}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_3\gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\
&= G(z, t).
\end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

In this part we will derive a second-order differential inequality to obtain our result.

Differentiating (2.17) with respect to z and using the same method as deriving (3.11), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
-\frac{\partial F(z, t)}{\partial z} &\geq \frac{\omega\rho}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)v_{,t}^2 dA \\
&+ \frac{\gamma\omega}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA \\
&+ \frac{k_1m}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta + \frac{k_2\tau\omega}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2 dAd\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_2\tau}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)\theta^2 dA + \frac{k_1k}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta_{,\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_3\gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

Differentiating (2.17) again with respect to z , we also obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 F(z, t)}{\partial z^2} &\geq \frac{\omega\rho}{4} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\eta}^2 dx_2 d\eta + \frac{\rho}{4} \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega t)v_{,t}^2 dx_2 \\
&+ \frac{\gamma\omega}{4} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dx_2 d\eta + \frac{\gamma}{4} \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega t)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dx_2 \\
&+ \frac{k_1m}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dx_2 d\eta + \frac{k_2\tau\omega}{8} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta^2 dx_2 d\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_2\tau}{4} \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega t)\theta^2 dx_2 + \frac{k_1k}{2} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)\theta_{,\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dx_2 d\eta \\
&+ \frac{k_3\gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_{L_z} \exp(-\omega\eta)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dx_2 d\eta.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

Using the Schwarz inequality in (2.18) and combining (3.12) and (3.13), we can obtain

$$F(z, t) \leq k_4 \left(\frac{-\partial F(z, t)}{\partial z} \right) + k_5 \frac{\partial^2 F(z, t)}{\partial z^2}, \quad (3.14)$$

with k_4 and k_5 being computable positive constants.

Inequality (3.14) is the key inequality that will be used in deriving our main result.

4. Spatial decay estimates for the solutions

We will obtain the following theory in this paper.

Theorem 4.1. *Let (u, v) be a classical solution (the solution is smooth and differentiable) of the initial boundary value problems (1.2)–(1.5). For the energy expression $G(z, t)$ defined in (3.11), we can obtain the decay estimates*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\omega\rho}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\eta}^2 dAd\eta + \frac{\rho}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,i}^2 dA \\ & + \frac{\gamma\omega}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dAd\eta + \frac{\gamma}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\beta} dA \\ & + \frac{k_1 m}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\eta}v_{,\alpha\eta} dAd\eta + \frac{k_2 \tau}{4} \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega t)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dA \\ & + \frac{k_2 \tau \omega}{8} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta^2 dAd\eta + \frac{k_1 k}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)\theta_{,\beta}\theta_{,\beta} dAd\eta \\ & + \frac{k_3 \gamma}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{L_\xi} \exp(-\omega\eta)(\xi - z)v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta}v_{,\alpha\alpha\beta} dAd\eta \\ & \leq F(0, t)e^{-k_7 z}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

where k_7 is a positive constant that will be defined later.

Proof. We now rewrite (3.14) as the following inequality:

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial z^2} - \frac{k_4}{k_5} \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} - \frac{1}{k_5} \geq 0. \quad (4.2)$$

Inequality (4.2) can be rewritten as

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} - k_6 \right) \left[\frac{\partial \varphi(z, t)}{\partial z} + k_7 \varphi(z, t) \right] \geq 0, \quad (4.3)$$

where k_6 and k_7 satisfy

$$k_7 - k_6 = -\frac{k_4}{k_5}, \quad k_6 k_7 = \frac{1}{k_5}. \quad (4.4)$$

Solving (4.4), we have

$$k_6 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{k_4}{k_5} \right)^2 + \frac{4}{k_5}} + \frac{k_4}{k_5} \right), \quad k_7 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{k_4}{k_5} \right)^2 + \frac{4}{k_5}} - \frac{k_4}{k_5} \right).$$

Inequality (4.3) can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[\exp(-k_6 z) \left(\frac{\partial \varphi(z, t)}{\partial z} + k_7 \varphi(z, t) \right) \right] \geq 0. \quad (4.5)$$

Integrating (4.5) from z to ∞ , we have

$$\frac{\partial \varphi(z, t)}{\partial z} + k_7 \varphi(z, t) \leq 0. \quad (4.6)$$

Solving (4.6) and using (3.11), we can obtain the desired result (4.1). \square

5. Conclusions

Inequality (4.1) shows the spatial decay estimates result that the solutions can decay exponentially as the distance from the entry section tends to infinity. The result can be viewed as a version of Saint-Venant principle. Using the result (4.1), we can also obtain point-wise decay estimates for the solutions. This is the specific property for the biharmonic equation. Next, we will give a numerical simulation of solutions for these equations. What is more, the structural stability for these equations in an unbounded domain would be interesting. We will study it in another paper.

Author contributions

All authors of this article have contributed equally. All authors have read and approved the final version of the manuscript for publication.

Use of Generative-AI tools declaration

The authors declare they have not used Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the creation of this article.

Acknowledgments

The first author is supported by the Natural Science foundation of Guangzhou Huashang College(2024HSTS09). The second author is supported by Guangdong Natural Science foundation (2023A1515012044).

Conflict of interest

The authors declare there are no conflicts of interest.

References

1. C. O. Horgan, Recent developments concerning Saint-Venant's principle: an update, *Appl. Mech. Rev.*, **42** (1989), 295–303. <https://doi.org/10.1115/1.3152414>

2. C. O. Horgan, Recent development concerning Saint-Venant's principle: an second update, *Appl. Mech. Rev.*, **49** (1996), S101–S111. <https://doi.org/10.1115/1.3101961>
3. C. O. Horgan, J. K. Knowles, Recent development concerning Saint-Venant's principle, *Adv. Appl. Mech.*, **23** (1983), 179–269. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0065-2156\(08\)70244-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0065-2156(08)70244-8)
4. M. C. Leseduarte, R. Quintanilla, Spatial behavior in high order partial differential equations, *Math. Methods Appl. Anal.*, **41** (2018), 2480–2493. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mma.4753>
5. R. J. Knops, R. Quintanilla, Spatial decay in transient heat conduction for general elongated regions, *Q. Appl. Math.*, **76** (2018), 611–625. <https://doi.org/10.1090/qam/1497>
6. Y. F. Li, S. Z. Xiao, P. Zeng, The applications of some basic mathematical inequalities on the convergence of the primitive equations of moist atmosphere, *J. Math. Inequal.*, **15** (2021), 293–304. <https://doi.org/10.7153/jmi-2021-15-22>
7. X. J. Chen, Y. F. Li, Spatial properties and the influence of the Soret coefficient on the solutions of time-dependent double-diffusive Darcy plane flow, *Electron. Res. Arch.*, **31** (2022), 421–441. <https://doi.org/10.3934/era.2023021>
8. Y. F. Li, X. J. Chen, Spatial decay bound and structural stability for the double-diffusion perturbation equations, *Math. Biosci. Eng.*, **20** (2023), 2998–3022. <https://doi.org/10.3934/mbe.2023142>
9. J. K. Knowles, On Saint-Venant's principle in the two dimensional linear theory of elasticity, *Arch. Rational. Mech. Anal.*, **21** (1966), 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00253046>
10. J. K. Knowles, An energy estimate for the biharmonic equation and its application to Saint-Venant's principle in plane elastostatics, *Indian. J. Pure Appl. Math.*, **14** (1983), 791–805.
11. J. N. Flavin, On Knowles' version of Saint-Venant's principle in two-dimensional elastostatics, *Arch. Rational Mech. Anal.*, **53** (1974), 366–375. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00281492>
12. J. N. Flavin, R. J. Knops, Some convexity considerations for a two-dimensional traction problem, *Z. Angew. Math. Phys.*, **39** (1988), 166–176. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00945763>
13. C. O. Horgan, Decay estimates for the biharmonic equation with applications to Saint-Venant principles in plane elasticity and Stokes flows, *Quart. Appl. Math.*, **42** (1989), 147–157.
14. Y. Liu, C. H. Lin, Phragmen-Lindelof type alternative results for the stokes flow equation, *Math. Inequal. Appl.*, **9** (2006), 671.
15. R. J. Knops, C. Lupoli, End effects for plane Stokes flow along a semi-infinite strip, *Z. Angew. Math. Phys.*, **48** (1997), 905–920. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s000330050072>
16. J. C. Song, Improved decay estimates in time-dependent Stokes flow, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, **288** (2003), 505–517. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmaa.2003.09.007>
17. J. C. Song, Improved spatial decay bounds in the plane Stokes flow, *Appl. Math. Mech.-Engl. Ed.*, **30** (2009), 833–838. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10483-009-0703-z>
18. Y. F. Li, X. J. Chen, Phragmén-Lindelöf alternative results in time-dependent double-diffusive Darcy plane flow, *Math. Meth. Appl. Sci.*, **45** (2022), 6982–6997. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mma.8220>

19. Y. F. Li, X. J. Chen, Phragmén-Lindelöf type alternative results for the solutions to generalized heat conduction equations, *Phys. Fluids*, **34** (2022), 091901. <https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0118243>
20. C. O. Horgan, L. E. Payne, Phragmén-Lindelöf type results for Harmonic functions with nonlinear boundary conditions, *Arch. Rational Mech. Anal.*, **122** (1993), 123–144. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00378164>
21. L. E. Payne, J. C. Song, Spatial decay bounds for the Forchheimer equations, *Int. J. Eng. Sci.*, **40** (2002), 943–956. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0020-7225\(01\)00102-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0020-7225(01)00102-1)
22. W. H. Chen, R. Ikehata, Optimal large-time estimates and singular limits for thermoelastic plate equations with the Fourier law, *Math. Method Appl. Sci.*, **46** (2023), 14841–14866. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mma.9349>
23. M. L. Santos, J. E. Munoz Rivera, Analytic property of a coupled system of wave-plate type with thermal effect, *Differ. Integral Equ.*, **24** (2011), 965–972. <https://doi.org/10.57262/die/1356012895>
24. A. E. H. Love, *A treatise on the mathematical theory of elasticity*, 4 Eds., Dover Publications, New York, 1922.



AIMS Press

©2025 the Author(s), licensee AIMS Press. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>)