



Research article

Spatial decay bound and structural stability for the double-diffusion perturbation equations

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Abstract: In this paper, we study the double-diffusion perturbation equations when the flow is through a porous medium. If the initial conditions satisfy some constraint conditions, the Saint-Venant type spatial decay of solutions for double-diffusion perturbation equations is obtained. Based on the spatial decay bound, the structural stability for the double-diffusion perturbation equations is also established.

Keywords: perturbation equations; spatial decay; Saint-Venant type; structural stability

1. Introduction

The asymptotic behavior or norm of solutions to initial-boundary value problems of various partial differential equations has received attention for many years, and a large number of results have been obtained (see [1–10]). These results can be regarded as a study of the Saint-Venant principle type which has been commonly used in engineering mechanics.

We note that Payne and Song [11] studied the Forchheimer equation

$$\begin{aligned} b|\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + (1 + \gamma T)\mathbf{u} + \nabla p - \mathbf{g}T &= 0, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0, \\ T_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T - \Delta T &= 0, \\ |\mathbf{u}|, |T| = O(1), |u_3|, |\nabla T|, |p| &= o(x_3^{-1}), \text{ as } x_3 \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$, T and p denote the velocity, temperature and pressure in the semi-infinite pipe, respectively. b and γ are positive constants. The vector $\mathbf{g} = (g_1, g_2, g_3)$ represents a gravity field. Using the maximum principle, they first got the maximum value of the temperature and then obtained the exponential decay result of the solutions. Using a similar method, other studies that obtained the desired results can be seen in [12–17].

In this paper, we consider the following cylindrical domain

$$\Omega = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in D, x_3 > 0\},$$

where D is a bounded simply connected region in the (x_1, x_2) -plane with the piecewise smooth boundary ∂D . We let $D(z)$ denote the cross-section of Ω at $x_3 = z$, i.e.,

$$D(z) = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in D, x_3 = z > 0\}.$$

We present the non-dimensional perturbation equations in the form of (see [18, 19])

$$u_i + RTk_i - p_{,i} - Ck_i\varphi = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (1.1)$$

$$u_{i,i} = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (1.2)$$

$$T_t + u_i T_{,i} = u_3 + \Delta T, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (1.3)$$

$$\epsilon_1 \varphi_t + Le u_i \varphi_{,i} = u_3 + \Delta \varphi, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (1.4)$$

with the following initial-boundary conditions

$$u_i = 0, T = \varphi = 0, \text{ on } \partial D \times \{x_3 > 0\} \times (0, t), \quad (1.5)$$

$$u_i = f_i(x_1, x_2, t), T = h(x_1, x_2, t), \varphi = H(x_1, x_2, t), \text{ on } D \times (0, t), \quad (1.6)$$

$$T = \varphi = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times \{t = 0\}, \quad (1.7)$$

$$|\mathbf{u}|, |T|, |\varphi| = O(1), |u_3|, |\nabla T|, |\nabla \varphi|, |p| = o(x_3^{-1}), \text{ as } x_3 \rightarrow \infty. \quad (1.8)$$

Here φ is the concentration perturbation, Le is the Lewis number, $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon Le$ (ϵ is the porosity), R and C are the Rayleigh and salt Rayleigh numbers, respectively, and $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, k_2, k_3) = (0, 0, 1)$. The prescribed functions $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3)$, h and H are continuously differentiable and f_i satisfies the constraint condition

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} = 0.$$

It can be seen from Eqs (1.3) and (1.4) that we cannot obtain the maximum values of temperature and concentration perturbations as in the previous studies. Therefore, the spatial decay results we derive will not be obtained by using the previous methods. We must adopt a new method to overcome the difficulty of being able to obtain the maximum value of the temperature. To do this, we derive the L^4 norms of T and φ . There is no Laplacian term in Eq (1.1), so we need to use the Sobolev inequality to derive a nonlinear differential inequality about the L^2 norms of the the velocity and its gradient.

The second aim is to study the structural stability of solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8). The concept of structural stability was first proposed by Hirsch and Smale [20]. Structural stability of this type involves studying whether a small change in a coefficient in the equations will induce a dramatic change in the solution. There is a large number of studies that investigated have studied the structural stability of various types of partial differential equations. Scott [12] considered a porous medium of Darcy type and obtained the continuous dependence on boundary reaction terms. Considering the simultaneous existence of multiple fluids in a bounded region, Li et al. [21] obtained the structural stability of resonant penetrative convection in a Brinkman-Forchheimer fluid interfacing with a Darcy fluid. Liu et al. [22] assumed that Boussinesq fluid interfaced with a Darcy fluid in a bounded region

in \mathbb{R}^2 , and they obtained the continuous dependence on the interface parameters. For more papers one can refer to [23–30]. Clearly, most of the above articles mainly focused on the structural stability of solutions on bounded regions. The innovation of this work is to extend the study of structural stability in a bounded region to a semi-infinite cylinder. In this work, we still need the prior bounds of the L^4 norm of T and φ , the H^1 norm of u , and the spatial decay estimate of solutions.

We declare that in Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) and in the whole paper, the usual summation convention is employed with repeated Latin subscripts summed from 1 to 3 and repeated Greek alphabet summed from 1 to 2. The comma is used to indicate partial differentiation, e.g., $u_{i,j}u_{i,j} = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j}\right)^2$ and $u_{\alpha,\beta}u_{\alpha,\beta} = \sum_{\alpha,\beta=1}^2 \left(\frac{\partial u_\alpha}{\partial x_\beta}\right)^2$.

The plan of the paper is as follows. In the next section, we derive the a priori bounds for T , φ and u in the region Ω . The third section is devoted to deriving the spatial decay bound for the solution. In Section 4, we prove the continuous dependence on the coefficients R and C . In the Section 5, a convergence result is proved for Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) when $(R, C) \rightarrow (0, 0)$.

2. Preliminaries of the problem

To obtain the main result, we shall make frequent use of the following inequalities.

Lemma 2.1 (see [11, 31]) If $v|_{\partial D} = 0$, then

$$\lambda_1 \int_D |v|^2 dA \leq \int_D v_{,\alpha} v_{,\alpha} dA,$$

where λ_1 is the smallest positive eigenvalue of

$$\Delta_2 \vartheta + \lambda \vartheta = 0, \text{ in } D, \vartheta = 0, \text{ on } \partial D.$$

Lemma 2.2 (see [32, 33]) If $v_i \in C^1(D \times (0, \infty))$ and v_i vanishes on ∂D for $x_3 \geq z$ and if v_i vanishes as $x_3 \rightarrow \infty$, then

$$\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (v_i v_i)^3 dA d\xi d\eta \leq k_1 \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dA d\xi \right]^3,$$

where $k_1 = \frac{1}{27} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^4$.

We can prove the following lemmas.

Lemma 2.3 If $\int_D f_\alpha dA = 0$, $f_i \in L^2(D)$, then

$$\int_D u_3 p dA \leq n_1(t),$$

where $n_1(t)$ is a positive computable function.

Proof. From Eq (1.1), we can have

$$u_\alpha(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) - p_{,\alpha}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

for $\alpha = 1, 2$. Since $\int_D f_\alpha dA = 0$, we integrate Eq (2.1) on D to obtain

$$p|_{\partial D} = \int_D p_{,\alpha} dA = \int_D u_\alpha dA = \int_D f_\alpha dA = 0.$$

Therefore, using Lemma 2.1 we obtain

$$\int_D u_3 p dA \leq \left[\int_D f_3^2 dA \int_D p^2 dA \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \left[\int_D f_3^2 dA \int_D p_{,\alpha} p_{,\alpha} dA \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (2.2)$$

In light of Eq (2.1), from Eq (2.2) we can obtain

$$\int_D u_3 p dA \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_D f_i f_i dA. \quad (2.3)$$

Choosing $n_1(t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_D f_i f_i dA$, from Eq (2.3) we can have Lemma 2.3.

Lemma 2.4 Letting

$$\widehat{h}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = h(x_1, x_2, t) e^{-\sigma_1 x_3}, \quad \sigma_1 > 0 \quad (2.4)$$

and assuming $h \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} T T_{,3} dAd\eta &\leq n_2(t) + \varepsilon_1 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \varepsilon_2 e^{-\omega t} \int_\Omega T^2 dAd\xi + \left(\varepsilon_3 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} L_M^2\right) \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \varepsilon_4 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta + \varepsilon_5 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} T^3 T_{,3} dAd\eta &\leq n'_2(t) + \varepsilon'_1 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \varepsilon'_2 e^{-\omega t} \int_\Omega T^2 dAd\xi + \left(\varepsilon'_3 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon'_4} L_M^6\right) \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \varepsilon'_4 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta + \varepsilon'_5 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

where $L_M = \sup_{\Omega \times (0,t)} \{|\nabla h(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)|, |\nabla H(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)|\}$, $n_2(t)$ and $n'_2(t)$ are computable functions and $\omega, \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon'_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, 5)$ are positive constants.

Proof. From the definition of \widehat{h} , we can conclude that \widehat{h} has the same initial-boundary conditions as T . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
-\int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} T T_{,3} dAd\eta &= -\int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h} T_{,3} dAd\eta = \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} (\widehat{h} T_{,i})_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\
&= \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h} (T_{,\eta} + u_i T_{,i} - u_3) dAd\xi d\eta \\
&= \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta + e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} \widehat{h} T dAd\xi \\
&+ \omega \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h} T dAd\xi d\eta - \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,\eta} T dAd\xi d\eta \\
&- \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,i} u_i T dAd\xi d\eta - \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} \widehat{h} u_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&- \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} h^2 f_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&\doteq A_1(t) + A_2(t) + A_3(t) + A_4(t) + A_5(t) + A_6(t) \\
&- \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} h^2 f_3 dAd\xi d\eta. \tag{2.7}
\end{aligned}$$

By the Hölder inequality and the Young inequality, we obtain

$$A_1(t) \leq \varepsilon_1 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,i} \widehat{h}_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta, \tag{2.8}$$

$$A_2(t) \leq \varepsilon_2 e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} T^2 dAd\xi + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} \widehat{h}^2 dAd\xi, \tag{2.9}$$

$$A_3(t) \leq \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_3 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon_3} \omega^2 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \tag{2.10}$$

$$A_4(t) \leq \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_3 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon_3} \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,\eta}^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \tag{2.11}$$

$$A_5(t) \leq \varepsilon_4 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} L_M^2 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta, \tag{2.12}$$

$$A_6(t) \leq \varepsilon_5 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_5} \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}^2 dAd\xi d\eta. \tag{2.13}$$

Inserting Eqs (2.8)–(2.13) into Eq (2.7) and choosing

$$\begin{aligned}
n_3(t) &= \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,i} \widehat{h}_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} \widehat{h}^2 dAd\xi \\
&+ \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}_{,\eta}^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \left(\frac{1}{2\varepsilon_3} \omega^2 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_5} \right) \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \widehat{h}^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&- \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} h^2 f_3 dAd\xi d\eta, \tag{2.14}
\end{aligned}$$

we can obtain Eq (2.5). Using a similar method, we can also obtain Eq (2.6).

If we let

$$\widehat{H}(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = H(x_1, x_2, t)e^{-\sigma_2 x_3}, \sigma_2 > 0, \quad (2.15)$$

we can obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 2.5 Assuming $H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi \varphi_{,3} dAd\eta &\leq n_3(t) + (\delta_1 + \frac{1}{4\delta_4} L_M^2) \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \delta_2 e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} \varphi^2 dAd\xi + \delta_3 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \delta_4 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta + \delta_5 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^3 \varphi_{,3} dAd\eta &\leq n'_3(t) + (\delta'_1 + \frac{1}{4\delta'_4} L_M^2) \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \delta'_2 e^{-\omega t} \int_{\Omega} \varphi^2 dAd\xi + \delta'_3 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \delta'_4 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta + \delta'_5 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

where $n_3(t)$ and $n'_3(t)$ are computable functions and $\delta_i, \delta'_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, 5)$ are positive constants.

Now, we multiply Eq (1.1) by u_i , and integrate in $[z, \infty) \times D(\xi)$ to have

$$\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} [u_i + RTk_i - p_{,i} - Ck_i\varphi] u_i dAd\xi = 0.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} u_i u_i dAd\xi &= -R \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} T u_3 dAd\xi \\ &+ C \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \varphi u_3 dAd\xi - \int_{D(z)} p u_3 dA. \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

Using the Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta &\leq -R \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T u_3 dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} C^2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} p u_3 dAd\eta, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta &\leq -2R \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T u_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ C^2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} p u_3 dAd\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (2.19)$$

To obtain the bound for $\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega \times (0,t))}^2$, we have to seek bounds for $\|T\|_{L^2(\Omega \times (0,t))}^2$ and $\|\varphi\|_{L^2(\Omega \times (0,t))}^2$. To do this, we multiply Eq (1.3) by $e^{-\omega\eta} T$, and integrate in $[z, \infty) \times D(\xi) \times (0, t)$ to have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} T^2 dAd\xi &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega T^2 + T_{,i} T_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &= \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T u_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} u_3 T^2 dAd\eta - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} T T_{,3} dAd\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} e^{-\omega t} \epsilon_1 \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \varphi^2 dAd\xi &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 + \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} L e \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3 \varphi^2 dAd\eta - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi \varphi_{,3} dAd\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (2.21)$$

Combining Eqs (2.19)–(2.21) with $z = 0$, using Lemma 2.3 and Eqs (2.5), (2.16) and (1.6) and choosing

$$\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \delta_1 = \frac{1}{2}, \epsilon_3 = \delta_3 = 1, \epsilon_4 = \epsilon_5 = \frac{1}{32R}, \delta_4 = \delta_5 = \frac{1}{16}, \omega > \max\left\{4 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_4} L_M^2, \frac{4C^2}{\epsilon_1} + \frac{4}{\epsilon_1} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_1 \delta_4} L_M^2\right\},$$

we can obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 2.6 If $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\omega t} R \int_\Omega T^2 dAd\xi &+ e^{-\omega t} \epsilon_1 \int_\Omega \varphi^2 dAd\xi \\ &+ \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} \left[u_i u_i + R \omega T^2 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 + 2R T_{,i} T_{,i} + \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\leq n_4(t), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$n_4(t) = 4 \int_0^t e^{-\omega\eta} n_1(\eta) d\eta + 4R n_3 2(t) + 2n_3(t)$$

$$+ 2R \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} f_3 h^2 dAd\eta + Le \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega\eta} f_3 H^2 dAd\eta. \quad (2.22)$$

Now using the Schwarz inequality and Lemmas 2.2 and 2.6 in Eq (2.18), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u_i u_i dAd\xi &\leq 2R^2 \int_{\Omega} T^2 dAd\xi + 2C^2 \int_{\Omega} \varphi^2 dAd\xi + n_1(t) \\ &\leq 2 \max \left\{ R, \frac{C^2}{\epsilon_1} \right\} e^{\omega t} n_4(t) + n_1(t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

To get our main result, we also need the bound for $\|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|_{L^2(\Omega \times (0,t))}$. We note that

$$\int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{i,j} dAd\xi = \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} (u_{i,j} - u_{j,i}) u_{i,j} dAd\xi + \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{j,i} dAd\xi. \quad (2.24)$$

Using the divergence theorem and Eqs (1.2) and (1.5), we have

$$- \int_z^{\infty} \int_{\zeta}^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{j,i} dAd\xi d\zeta = \int_z^{\infty} \int_{D(\zeta)} u_{3,j} u_{j,3} dAd\zeta = - \int_{D(z)} u_3^2 dA.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\int_z^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{j,i} dAd\xi = - \int_{D(z)} u_3 u_{3,3} dA. \quad (2.25)$$

Now letting

$$F_i(x_1, x_2, x_3, t) = f_i(x_1, x_2, t) e^{-\sigma_3 x_3}, \quad \sigma_3 > 0,$$

we can know that F_i has the same boundary condition as u_i . Using Eq (1.6), from Eq (2.25) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{j,i} dAd\xi d\zeta &= - \int_D F_3 u_{3,3} dA = \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} (F_3 u_{i,3})_{,i} dAd\xi \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} F_{3,i} u_{i,3} dAd\xi \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,3} u_{i,3} dAd\xi + \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} F_{3,i} F_{3,i} dAd\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

For the first term on the right of Eq (2.24), we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} (u_{i,j} - u_{j,i}) u_{i,j} dAd\xi &= -R \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} (T_{,j} u_{3,j} - T_{,i} u_{i,3}) dAd\xi \\ &\quad + C \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} (\varphi_{,j} u_{3,j} - \varphi_{,i} u_{i,3}) dAd\xi \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{3,j} u_{3,j} dAd\xi + \frac{1}{8} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,3} u_{i,3} dAd\xi \\ &\quad + 8R^2 \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} T_{,j} T_{,j} dAd\xi + 8C^2 \int_0^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} \varphi_{,j} \varphi_{,j} dAd\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

Inserting Eqs (2.26) and (2.27) into Eq (2.24), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} u_{i,j} u_{i,j} dAd\xi &\leq 16R^2 \int_0^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} T_{,j} T_{,j} dAd\xi + 16C^2 \int_0^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \varphi_{,j} \varphi_{,j} dAd\xi \\ &+ 2 \int_0^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} F_{3,i} F_{3,i} dAd\xi, \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_{i,j} u_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &\leq 16R^2 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,j} T_{,j} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ 16C^2 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi_{,j} \varphi_{,j} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ 2 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} F_{3,i} F_{3,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\leq 8 \max\{R, 2C^2\} n_4(t) + 2 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} F_{3,i} F_{3,i} dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (2.29)$$

We summarize the above results as the following lemma.

Lemma 2.7 If $f \in H^1(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\int_\Omega u_i u_i dAd\xi \leq n_5(t), \quad \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} u_{i,j} u_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta \leq n_6(t),$$

where $n_5(t) = 2 \max\{R, \frac{C^2}{\epsilon_1}\} e^{\omega t} n_4(t) + n_1(t)$ and $n_6(t) = 8 \max\{R, 2C^2\} n_4(t) + 2 \int_0^t \int_\Omega e^{-\omega\eta} F_{3,i} F_{3,i} dAd\xi d\eta$.

For the bounds of $\|T\|_{L^4(\Omega)}$ and $\|\varphi\|_{L^4(\Omega)}$, we can prove the following lemma.

Lemma 2.8 If $f \in H^1(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^4 dAd\xi \leq n_7(t), \quad \epsilon_1 \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} \varphi^4 dAd\xi \leq n_8(t),$$

where $n_7(t)$ and $n_8(t)$ are positive computable functions.

Proof. We compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^4 dAd\xi \right\} &+ \omega \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^4 dAd\xi \\ &= 4 \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^3 [\Delta T + u_3 - u_i T_{,i}] dAd\xi \\ &= -12 \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^2 T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi + 4 \int_\Omega e^{-\omega t} T^3 u_3 dAd\xi \\ &+ \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega t} h^3 f_3 dA + 4 \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega t} T^3 T_{,3} dA. \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

Using the Hölder inequality and Lemmas 2.2 and 2.6, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 4 \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T^3 u_3 dAd\xi &\leq 4 \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T^6 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{6}} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} u_3^6 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{12}} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} u_3^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \\
 &\leq \frac{4}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_4(t)} \sqrt[4]{k_1} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} u_{3,i} u_{3,i} dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 &\leq \frac{2 \sqrt[4]{k_1}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_4(t)} \left[\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi + \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} u_{3,i} u_{3,i} dAd\xi \right]. \tag{2.31}
 \end{aligned}$$

Inserting Eq (2.31) into Eq (2.30) and integrating Eq (2.30) from 0 to t , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T^4 dAd\xi + \omega \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} T^4 dAd\xi d\eta &\leq \frac{2 \sqrt[4]{k_1}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_4(t)} \left[\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta + \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} u_{3,i} u_{3,i} dAd\xi d\eta \right] \\
 + \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega \eta} h^3 f_3 dAd\eta + 4 \int_0^t \int_{D(0)} e^{-\omega \eta} T^3 T_{,3} dAd\eta. \tag{2.32}
 \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 2.7, Eq (2.6) and Lemma 2.6, we have, from Eq (2.32)

$$\int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} T^4 dAd\xi + \omega \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} T^4 dAd\xi d\eta \leq n_7(t), \tag{2.33}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_7(t) &= \frac{2 \sqrt[4]{k_1}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_4(t)} \left[\frac{1}{2R} n_4(t) + n_6(t) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2R} \delta_i \varepsilon'_1 n_4(t) + \varepsilon'_2 n_4(t) + \frac{1}{R\omega} (\varepsilon'_3 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon'_4} L_M^6) n_4(t) \\
 &\quad + \varepsilon'_4 n_4(t) + \varepsilon'_5 n_4(t) + n'_2(t).
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for φ we have

$$\epsilon_1 \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega t} \varphi^4 dAd\xi + \epsilon_1 \omega \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} \varphi^4 dAd\xi d\eta \leq n_8(t), \tag{2.34}$$

where $n_8(t)$ is a positive function which is similar to $n_7(t)$.

3. Spatial decay bound

In this section, we shall derive the spatial decay bounds for the solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8). To do this, we define

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(z, t) &= e^{-\omega t} \int_z^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} [2RT^2 + \epsilon_1 \varphi^2] dAd\xi \\
 &\quad + \int_0^t \int_z^{\infty} \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} u_i u_i + R\omega T^2 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 + 2RT_{,i} T_{,i} + 2\varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta. \tag{3.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

If we choose $z = 0$ in Eq (3.1), using Lemma 2.6, we can conclude that $F(0, t)$ can be bounded by known data.

We define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(z, t) &= \int_z^\infty F(\xi, t) d\xi = e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [2RT^2 + \epsilon_1 \varphi^2] dAd\xi \\ &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} u_i u_i + R\omega T^2 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 + 2RT_{,i} T_{,i} + 2\varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Combining Eqs (2.19)–(2.21) and choosing that $\omega \geq \frac{2(2+C^2)}{\epsilon_1}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(z, t) &\leq - \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} p u_3 dAd\xi d\eta + R \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} u_3 T^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &- 2R \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T T_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ Le \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3 \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta - 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi \varphi_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\doteq I_1(z, t) + I_2(z, t) + I_3(z, t) + I_4(z, t) + I_5(z, t). \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Using the Hölder inequality, Lemma 2.1 and Young's inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(z, t) &\leq \left[\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} p^2 dAd\xi d\eta \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_i u_i dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_3(z, t) &\leq 2R \left[\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} d\xi e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,3}^2 dAd\xi d\eta \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq R \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

$$I_5(z, t) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta. \quad (3.6)$$

Using the Hölder inequality, Eq (2.23), Lemma 2.2 and Young's inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(z, t) &\leq R \int_0^t \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T^6 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} d\eta \\ &\leq \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{4\omega}} \int_0^t \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} R\omega T^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} 2RT_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{3}{4}} d\eta \\ &\leq \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{4\omega}} \left[\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} R\omega T^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} 2RT_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

and

$$I_4(z, t) \leq \frac{\sqrt[4]{2k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{\epsilon_1 \omega}} Le \left[\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} 2\varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \right]. \quad (3.8)$$

Inserting Eqs (3.4)–(3.8) into Eq (3.3) and combining Eq (3.2), we obtain

$$\mathcal{F}(z, t) \leq \frac{1}{a_1(t)} \left[- \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathcal{F}(z, t) \right], \quad (3.9)$$

where

$$\frac{1}{a_1(t)} = \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{4\omega}} \max \left\{ \frac{\sqrt[4]{2}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_1}} Le, 1 \right\}. \quad (3.10)$$

Integrating Eq (3.9) from 0 to z , we obtain

$$\mathcal{F}(z, t) \leq \mathcal{F}(0, t) e^{-a_1(t)z}. \quad (3.11)$$

Combining Eqs (3.2) and (3.11) we can obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 3.1 If $f \in H^1(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then the solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) decay exponentially as $z \rightarrow \infty$. Specifically,

$$\begin{aligned} & e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [2RT^2 + \epsilon_1 \varphi^2] dAd\xi \\ & + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} u_i u_i + R\omega T^2 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \omega \varphi^2 + 2RT_{,i} T_{,i} + 2\varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ & \leq \mathcal{F}(0, t) e^{-a_1(t)z}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\omega > \max \left\{ \frac{2(2+C^2)}{\epsilon_1}, 4 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_4} L_M^2, \frac{4C^2}{\epsilon_1} + \frac{4}{\epsilon_1} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_1 \delta_4} L_M^2 \right\}$ and $a_1(t)$ has been defined in Eq (3.10).

Remark 3.1 Theorem 1 shows that the solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) decay exponentially with the space variable. This decay result can be regarded as the Saint-Venant principle type result.

4. Continuous dependence on R and C

We now consider two solutions to Eqs (1.1)–(1.8), namely (u_i, T, φ, p) and $(u_i^*, T^*, \varphi^*, p^*)$, for different coefficients (R, C) and (R^*, C^*) in Eq (1.1), respectively, but they have the same initial-boundary conditions. Letting

$$v_i = u_i - u_i^*, \Sigma = T - T^*, \theta = \varphi - \varphi^*, \pi = p - p^*, r = R - R^*, c = C - C^*,$$

then $(v_i, \Sigma, \theta, \pi)$ satisfy

$$v_i + rTk_i + R^* \Sigma k_i - \pi_{,i} - ck_i \varphi - C^* k_i \theta = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (4.1)$$

$$v_{i,i} = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (4.2)$$

$$\Sigma_t + v_i T_{,i} + u_i^* \Sigma_{,i} = v_3 + \Delta \Sigma, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (4.3)$$

$$\epsilon_1 \theta_t + Lev_i \varphi_{,i} + Leu_i^* \theta_{,i} = v_3 + \Delta \theta, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (4.4)$$

with the following initial-boundary conditions

$$v_i = 0, \Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ on } \partial D \times (0, t), \quad (4.5)$$

$$v_i = 0, \Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ on } D \times (0, t), \quad (4.6)$$

$$\Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times \{t = 0\}, \quad (4.7)$$

$$|v|, |\Sigma|, |\theta| = O(1), |v_3|, |\nabla \Sigma|, |\nabla \theta|, |\pi| = o(x_3^{-1}), \text{ as } x_3 \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4.8)$$

To obtain our main result, we prove the following lemmas.

Lemma 4.1 The solutions of Eqs (4.1)–(4.8) satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &\leq -2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3 v_{3,3} dAd\eta \\ &+ 8 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \left[(R^*)^2 \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + (C^*)^2 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ 8 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \left[r^2 T_{,i} T_{,i} + c^2 \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We start with the identity

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &= \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} (v_{i,j} - v_{j,i}) v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{j,i} dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

Using Eq (4.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} (v_{i,j} - v_{j,i}) v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &= \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [v_{i,j} - v_{j,i}] v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &= -r \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [T_{,j} v_{3,j} - T_{,i} v_{i,3}] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &- R^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [\Sigma_{,j} v_{3,j} - \Sigma_{,i} v_{i,3}] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ c \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [\varphi_{,j} v_{3,j} - \varphi_{,i} v_{i,3}] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ C^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [\theta_{,j} v_{3,j} - \theta_{,i} v_{i,3}] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

By using the Hölder inequality and Young's inequality, from Eq (4.10) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (v_{i,j} - v_{j,i}) v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ 4r^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T_{,i} T_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ 4(R^*)^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ 4c^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ 4(C^*)^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta. \tag{4.11}
\end{aligned}$$

Using a similar method to that of Eq (2.25), we can obtain

$$\int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_{i,j} v_{j,i} dAd\xi d\eta = - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 v_{3,3} dAd\eta. \tag{4.12}$$

Inserting Eqs (4.11) and (4.12) into Eq (4.9), we may have Lemma 4.1.

Lemma 4.2 The L^2 norm of v satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta &\leq -2R^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma v_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ 4 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} [r^2 T^2 + c^2 \varphi^2] dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ (C^*)^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\eta.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof. We multiply Eq (4.1) by $e^{-\omega\eta} v_i$ and integrate in $D(z) \times (z, \infty) \times (0, t)$ to have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta &= -r \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T v_3 dAd\xi d\eta - R^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma v_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&+ c \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi v_3 dAd\xi d\eta + C^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta v_3 dAd\xi d\eta \\
&- \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \pi v_3 dAd\eta.
\end{aligned}$$

Noting that $\pi_{,\alpha} = v_{,\alpha}$, and by using Lemma 2.1, the Hölder inequality and Young's inequality again, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta + 2r^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} T^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\quad - R^* \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma v_3 dAd\xi d\eta + 2c^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \varphi^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}(C^*)^2 \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

From Eq (4.13) we may have Lemma 4.2.

Next, we seek the bounds for the L^2 norms of Σ and θ . We write the results as the following lemma.

Lemma 4.3 If $f \in L^4(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\omega t} \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma^2 dAd\xi + \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} [\omega \Sigma^2 + \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i}] dAd\xi d\eta \\ \leq -2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\eta + 2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\eta \\ + 2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\eta + \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \Sigma dAd\xi d\eta \\ + \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_7(t) e^{\omega t}} \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We multiply Eq (4.3) by $e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma$ and integrate in $D(\xi) \times (z, \infty) \times (0, t)$ to have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} e^{-\omega t} \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma^2 dAd\xi + \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega \Sigma^2 + \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ = - \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\eta + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\eta \\ + \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\eta + \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i T \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\ + \int_0^t \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \Sigma dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

By using the Hölder inequality and Lemmas 2.1, 2.2 and 2.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} v_i T \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi &\leq \left[\int_z \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\quad \cdot \left[\int_z \int_{D(\xi)} (v_i v_i)^2 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \left[\int_z \int_{D(\xi)} T^4 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_z \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{n_7(t)} \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (v_i v_i)^3 dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \left[\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_i v_i dAd\xi \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi + \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{2\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_7(t)} e^{\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_i T \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta & \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{2\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_7(t)} e^{\omega t} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta. \quad (4.15)
\end{aligned}$$

Inserting Eq (4.15) into Eq (4.14), we can obtain Lemma 4.3.

Similar to Lemma 4.3, we can obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 4.4 If $f \in L^4(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
e^{-\omega t} \epsilon_1 \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \theta^2 dAd\xi & + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& \leq -2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} \theta \theta_{,3} dAd\eta + 2Le \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} u_3^* \theta^2 dAd\eta \\
& + 2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3 \varphi \theta dAd\eta + \frac{2}{\omega} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_8(t)} e^{\omega t} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta.
\end{aligned}$$

In Lemma 4.4, we have used the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3 \theta dAd\xi d\eta & \leq \frac{1}{4} \omega \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3^2 dAd\xi d\eta. \quad (4.16)
\end{aligned}$$

Now, we assume that δ_1 and δ_2 are positive constants such that

$$\delta_1 \geq 16(C^*)^2 \delta_2, \delta_2 \leq \frac{1}{16R^*}, \omega \geq \max\{4\delta_1, \frac{12}{\delta_1}(C^*)^2\}, \quad (4.17)$$

and the boundary conditions satisfy

$$2\delta_1 \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_8(t)} e^{\omega t} + 2R^* \frac{\sqrt[4]{k_2}}{\sqrt[4]{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{n_7(t)} e^{\omega t} \leq \delta_2. \quad (4.18)$$

If we define

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(z, t) &= e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} [R^* \Sigma^2 + \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
 &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} R^* \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} R^* \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_1 \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_1 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} [v_i v_i + \delta_2 v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.19}$$

then combining Lemmas 4.1–4.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(z, t) &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \delta_2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 v_{3,3} dAd\eta + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\eta \\
 &- 2R^* \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\eta - 2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta \theta_{,3} dAd\eta \\
 &+ 2R^* \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\eta + 2Le\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \theta^2 dAd\eta \\
 &+ 2R^* \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\eta + 2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \varphi \theta dAd\eta \\
 &+ 4 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} [r^2 T^2 + 2r^2 T_{,i} T_{,i} + c^2 \varphi^2 + 2c^2 \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i}] dAd\xi d\eta.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.20}$$

Based on the above lemmas, we can obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 4.1 If $f \in L^4(\Omega \times (0, t))$, $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$ and the inequality given by Eq (4.18) holds, then the solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) continuously depend on the coefficients R and C , i.e.,

$$(u_i, T, \varphi, p) \rightarrow (u_i^*, T^*, \varphi^*, p^*), \text{ as } (R, C) \rightarrow (R^*, C^*).$$

Specifically, either the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 &e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [R^* \Sigma^2 + \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
 &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} R^* \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} R^* \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_1 \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_1 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta_2 v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta \\
 &\leq a_5(t)(r^2 + c^2) e^{-a_2(t)z} + (r^2 + c^2) \frac{a_2(t)a_3(t)}{a_2(t) - a_1(t)} [e^{-a_1(t)z} - e^{-a_2(t)z}]
 \end{aligned}$$

holds, or the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
& e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [R^* \Sigma^2 + \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
& + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} R^* \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} R^* \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \omega \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_1 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta_2 v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& \leq a_5(t) (r^2 + c^2) e^{-a_2(t)z} + (r^2 + c^2) a_2(t) a_3(t) z e^{-a_2(t)z}
\end{aligned}$$

holds, where $a_1(t)$, $a_2(t)$, $a_3(t)$ and $a_5(t)$ are positive computable functions and ω is a sufficiently large positive constant.

Remark 4.1 In particular, the continuous dependence of the pressure p on the coefficients R and C can be obtained by Eq (3.1) easily.

Remark 4.2 Theorem 4.1 shows that small perturbations of the coefficients R and C will not have a huge impact on the solution of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8).

Proof. We define

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(z, t) &= \int_z^\infty E(\xi, t) d\xi = e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [R^* \Sigma^2 + \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
& + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} R^* \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} R^* \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_1 \epsilon_1 \omega \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_1 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta_2 v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.21}$$

Using Theorem 3.1, from Eq (4.20) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(z, t) &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta \\
& - 2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta - 2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta \theta_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + 2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\xi d\eta + 2Le\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + 2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\xi d\eta + 2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \varphi \theta dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + 4(r^2 + c^2) \max\left\{\frac{1}{R}, \frac{1}{\epsilon_1}, 1\right\} \mathcal{F}(0, t) e^{-a_1(t)z},
\end{aligned} \tag{4.22}$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 v_{3,3} dAd\xi d\eta = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3^2 dAd\eta \leq 0.$$

By using the Hölder inequality and Young's inequality, we have

$$-2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \leq \frac{R^*}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta, \quad (4.23)$$

$$-2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta \theta_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \leq \frac{\delta_1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} dAd\xi d\eta. \quad (4.24)$$

Similar to Eq (3.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & 2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ & \leq \frac{\sqrt[4]{2k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{\omega}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \frac{1}{2} R^* [\omega \Sigma^2 + \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i}] dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 2Le\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} u_3^* \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta \\ & \leq \frac{2\sqrt[4]{k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{\omega \epsilon_1}} Le \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \frac{1}{4} \delta_1 [\epsilon_1 \omega \theta^2 + 2\theta_{,i} \theta_{,i}] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.26)$$

Using the Hölder inequality, Young's inequality, Lemmas 2.1, 2.2 and 2.8 and Eq (2.34), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & 2R^* \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\xi d\eta \\ & \leq 2R^* \int_0^t e^{-\omega\eta} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_3^2 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} T^4 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma^4 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} d\eta \\ & \leq 2R^* \sqrt[4]{n_7(t) e^{\omega t}} \int_0^t e^{-\omega\eta} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_3^2 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma^2 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{8}} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma^6 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{8}} d\eta \\ & \leq \frac{2R^* \sqrt[8]{n_7^2(t) e^{2\omega t} k_1}}{\sqrt[8]{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t e^{-\omega\eta} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} v_3^2 dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} dAd\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} d\eta \\ & \leq \frac{4\sqrt[8]{(R^*)^4 n_7^2(t) e^{2\omega t} k_1}}{\sqrt[8]{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} v_3^2 + \frac{1}{4} R^* \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\delta_1 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \varphi \theta dAd\xi d\eta \\ & \leq \frac{2\sqrt[8]{(\delta_1)^4 n_8^2(t) e^{2\omega t} k_1}}{\sqrt[8]{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} \left[\frac{1}{2} v_3^2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_1 \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

Inserting Eqs (4.23)–(4.28) into Eq (4.22), we obtain

$$\mathcal{E}(z, t) \leq \frac{1}{a_2(t)} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathcal{E}(z, t) \right] + a_3(t) (r^2 + c^2) e^{-a_1(t)z}, \quad (4.29)$$

where

$$\frac{1}{a_2(t)} = \max \left\{ \frac{R^*}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}}, \frac{\delta_1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}}, \frac{\sqrt[4]{2k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{\omega}}, \frac{2\sqrt[4]{k_1 n_5^2(t)}}{\sqrt[4]{\omega \epsilon_1}} Le, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} + \frac{4\sqrt[8]{(R^*)^4 n_7^2(t) e^{2\omega t k_1}}}{\sqrt[8]{\lambda_1}} + \frac{2\sqrt[8]{(\delta_1)^4 n_8^2(t) e^{2\omega t k_1}}}{\sqrt[8]{\lambda_1}} \right\},$$

$$a_3(t) = 4 \max \left\{ \frac{1}{R}, \frac{1}{\epsilon_1}, 1 \right\} \mathcal{F}(0, t).$$

Integrating Eq (4.29) from 0 to z , we obtain

$$\mathcal{E}(z, t) \leq \mathcal{E}(0, t) e^{-a_2(t)z} + a_2(t) a_3(t) e^{-a_2(t)z} (r^2 + c^2) \int_0^z e^{(a_2(t) - a_1(t))\xi} d\xi. \quad (4.30)$$

If $a_2(t) \neq a_1(t)$, it follows from Eq (4.30) that

$$\mathcal{E}(z, t) \leq \mathcal{E}(0, t) e^{-a_2(t)z} + (r^2 + c^2) \frac{a_2(t) a_3(t)}{a_2(t) - a_1(t)} \left[e^{-a_1(t)z} - e^{-a_2(t)z} \right]. \quad (4.31)$$

If $a_2(t) = a_1(t)$, it follows from Eq (4.30) that

$$\mathcal{E}(z, t) \leq \mathcal{E}(0, t) e^{-a_2(t)z} + (r^2 + c^2) a_2(t) a_3(t) z e^{-a_2(t)z}. \quad (4.32)$$

On the other hand, we choose $z = 0$ in Eq (4.20) and use the boundary conditions Eqs (4.5) and (4.6) to obtain

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathcal{E}(0, t) \leq 4 \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} e^{-\omega \eta} \left[r^2 T^2 + 2r^2 T_{,i} T_{,i} + c^2 \varphi^2 + 2c^2 \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i} \right] dA d\xi d\eta.$$

Using Lemma 2.6, we have

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathcal{E}(0, t) \leq a_4(t) [r^2 + c^2], \quad (4.33)$$

where $a_4(t) = 4 \max \left\{ \frac{1}{R\omega}, \frac{1}{R}, 1, \frac{2}{\epsilon_1 \omega} \right\}$. Choosing $z = 0$ in Eq (4.29) and then inserting Eq (4.33) into Eq (4.29), we have

$$\mathcal{E}(0, t) \leq a_5(t) (r^2 + c^2), \quad (4.34)$$

where $a_5(t) = \frac{a_4(t)}{a_2(t)} + a_3(t)$.

Combining Eqs (4.21), (4.31), (4.32) and (4.34), we can complete the proof of Theorem 4.1.

5. Convergence result on R and C

We now assume that $(u_i^*, T^*, \varphi^*, p^*)$ are the solutions to Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) with $R = C = 0$, but have the same initial-boundary conditions as (u_i, T, φ, p) . We also let

$$v_i = u_i - u_i^*, \Sigma = T - T^*, \theta = \varphi - \varphi^*, \pi = p - p^*,$$

then $(v_i, \Sigma, \theta, \pi)$ satisfy

$$v_i + RTk_i - \pi_{,i} - Ck_i \varphi = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (5.1)$$

$$v_{i,i} = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (5.2)$$

$$\Sigma_t + v_i T_{,i} + u_i^* \Sigma_{,i} = v_3 + \Delta \Sigma, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t) \quad (5.3)$$

$$\epsilon_1 \theta_t + Lev_i \varphi_{,i} + Leu_i^* \theta_{,i} = v_3 + \Delta \theta, \text{ in } \Omega \times (0, t), \quad (5.4)$$

with the following initial-boundary conditions

$$v_i = 0, \Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ on } \partial D \times \{x_3 > 0\} \times (0, t), \quad (5.5)$$

$$v_i = 0, \Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ on } D \times (0, t), \quad (5.6)$$

$$\Sigma = \theta = 0, \text{ in } \Omega \times \{t = 0\}, \quad (5.7)$$

$$|v|, |\Sigma|, |\theta| = O(1), |v_3|, |\nabla \Sigma|, |\nabla \theta|, |\pi| = o(x_3^{-1}), \text{ as } x_3 \rightarrow \infty. \quad (5.8)$$

Similar to Lemmas 4.1 and 4.2, noting that $R^* = C^* = 0$ by recalculation we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_{i,j} v_{i,j} dAd\xi d\eta &\leq -2 \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_3 v_{3,3} dAd\eta \\ &+ 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [R^2 T_{,i} T_{,i} + C^2 \varphi_{,i} \varphi_{,i}] dAd\xi d\eta, \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta &\leq 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} [R^2 T^2 + C^2 \varphi^2] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_{D(z)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_i v_i dAd\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (5.10)$$

Now we define a new function

$$\begin{aligned} F(z, t) &= e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [\Sigma^2 + \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\ &+ \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (5.11)$$

Choosing $\omega > 8$ and $\delta = 2 \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \sqrt{e^{\omega t} [\sqrt{n_7(t)} + \sqrt{n_8(t)}]}$ and combining Lemmas 4.3 and 4.4 and Eqs (5.9) and (5.10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} F(z, t) &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} v_i v_i dAd\xi d\eta \\ &- 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \Sigma \Sigma_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta - 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} \theta \theta_{,3} dAd\xi d\eta \\ &+ 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} u_3^* \Sigma^2 dAd\xi d\eta + 2Le \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega \eta} u_3^* \theta^2 dAd\xi d\eta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 T \Sigma dAd\xi d\eta + 2 \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} v_3 \varphi \theta dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + 2(R^2 + C^2) \max\left\{\frac{1}{R}, \frac{1}{\epsilon_1}, 1\right\} \mathcal{F}(0, t) e^{-a_1(t)z},
\end{aligned} \tag{5.12}$$

where we have used Theorem 3.1.

Combining Eqs (4.23)–(4.28), (5.11) and (5.12), we can conclude that

$$F(z, t) \leq \frac{1}{a_2(t)} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} F(z, t) \right] + a_3(t)(R^2 + C^2)e^{-a_1(t)z}. \tag{5.13}$$

Through the analysis similar to that in Section 3, from Eq (5.13) we can obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 5.1 If $f \in L^4(\Omega \times (0, t))$, $\int_D f_\alpha dA = 0$ and $h, H \in L^\infty(\Omega \times (0, t))$, then

$$(u_i, T, \varphi, p) \rightarrow (0, 0, 0, 0), \text{ as } (R, C) \rightarrow (0, 0).$$

Specifically, either the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
& e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [\Sigma^2 + \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
& + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& \leq a_5(t)(R^2 + C^2)e^{-a_2(t)z} + (R^2 + C^2) \frac{a_2(t)a_3(t)}{a_2(t) - a_1(t)} [e^{-a_1(t)z} - e^{-a_2(t)z}]
\end{aligned}$$

holds, or the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
& e^{-\omega t} \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} (\xi - z) [\Sigma^2 + \epsilon_1 \theta^2] dAd\xi \\
& + \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) \left[\frac{1}{2} \omega \Sigma^2 + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_{,i} \Sigma_{,i} + \frac{1}{4} \omega \epsilon_1 \theta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \theta_{,i} \theta_{,i} \right] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_z^\infty \int_{D(\xi)} e^{-\omega\eta} (\xi - z) [v_i v_i + \delta v_{i,j} v_{i,j}] dAd\xi d\eta \\
& \leq a_5(t)(R^2 + C^2)e^{-a_2(t)z} + (R^2 + C^2) a_2(t) a_3(t) z e^{-a_2(t)z}
\end{aligned}$$

holds.

6. Conclusions

In this paper, we prove the spatial decay estimate and structural stability on the coefficients R and C of the solutions of Eqs (1.1)–(1.8) in a semi-infinite cylinder, where it is assumed that the solution satisfies the homogeneous boundary conditions on the side of the cylinder. This is a generalization of

the literatures. However, if the solutions satisfy the nonlinear conditions on the side of the cylinder, the method in this paper will not be fully applicable. We note that Shi and Luo [34] studied the structural stability for the double-diffusion perturbation equations with nonlinear boundary conditions in a bounded region. How to deal with nonlinear boundary conditions is still an open problem in an unbounded domain. We suggest that this problem can be solved in the future by establishing an appropriate “energy function”. Using methods similar to those in Li et al. [35–37], we will also study the problem of the function perturbation to Eqs (1.1)–(1.8).

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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