

## Interfaces in solutions of diffusion-absorption equations

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**Abstract.** We study the properties of interfaces in solutions of the Cauchy problem for the nonlinear degenerate parabolic equation  $u_t = \Delta u^m - u^p$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T]$  with the parameters  $m > 1, p > 0$  satisfying the condition  $m + p \geq 2$ . We show that the velocity of the interface  $\Gamma(t) = \partial\{\text{supp } u(x, t)\}$  is given by the formula  $\mathbf{v} = \left[ -\frac{m}{m-1} \nabla u^{m-1} + \nabla \Pi \right]_{\Gamma(t)}$  where  $\Pi$  is the solution of the degenerate elliptic equation  $\text{div}(u \nabla \Pi) + u^p = 0, \Pi = 0$  on  $\Gamma(t)$ . We give explicit formulas which represent the interface  $\Gamma(t)$  as a bijection from  $\Gamma(0)$ . It is proved that the solution  $u$  and its interface  $\Gamma(t)$  are analytic functions of time  $t$  and that they preserve the initial regularity in the spatial variables.

### Interfaces en soluciones de las ecuaciones de absorción-difusión

**Resumen.** Se estudian las propiedades de las interfaces de las soluciones del problema de Cauchy para ecuaciones parabólicas no lineales degeneradas  $u_t = \Delta u^m - u^p$  en  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T]$  con parámetros  $m > 1, p > 0$  que satisfagan la condición  $m + p \geq 2$ . Se demuestra que la velocidad de la interface  $\Gamma(t) = \partial\{\text{supp } u(x, t)\}$  viene dada por la fórmula  $\mathbf{v} = \left[ -\frac{m}{m-1} \nabla u^{m-1} + \nabla \Pi \right]_{\Gamma(t)}$ , donde  $\Pi$  es la solución de la ecuación elíptica degenerada  $\text{div}(u \nabla \Pi) + u^p = 0, \Pi = 0$  sobre  $\Gamma(t)$ . Se deducen las formulas que representan explícitamente la interface  $\Gamma(t)$  como una biyección de  $\Gamma(0)$ . Se demuestra que la solución  $u$  y su interface  $\Gamma(t)$  son analíticas como funciones del tiempo  $t$  y que conservan la regularidad inicial respecto de las variables espaciales.

## 1. Lagrangian coordinates

We study the Cauchy problem

$$u_t = \Delta u^m - u^p \quad \text{in } S = \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T), \quad u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \quad (1)$$

with the parameters  $m > 1, p > 0$  subject to the condition  $m + p \geq 2$ . It is known that in the case  $m > 1, p \in (0, 1)$  the initially compact support can split into several components and that the solution vanishes in a finite time. We refer to [1, Ch.3] for the background information on the behavior of interfaces in solutions of problem (1).

We are concerned with the study of the interface dynamics and regularity. In the one-dimensional case, the study of the interface regularity was performed in [3, 4] but the method proposed and developed in these papers does not directly apply to the multidimensional case.

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Let  $u(x, t)$  be a continuous solution of problem (1) and  $\Omega(t) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : u(x, t) > 0\}$ . For the sake of presentation we assume that the set  $\Omega(0)$  is one-connected in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , which means that the solution only has the outer interface. Our arguments extend without any change to the case when the set  $\partial\{\overline{\Omega(0)}\}$  consists of a finite number of simple-connected components.

Since  $\Omega(0)$  is one-connected in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and the solution is continuous,  $\Omega(t)$  is also one-connected for  $t \in (0, T_+)$  with some  $T_+$ . The solution  $u(x, t)$  is strictly positive inside  $\bigcup_{t \in (0, T_+]} \Omega(t)$ , which allows us to take a set  $\mathcal{D} \subset \Omega(0)$  with the smooth boundary  $\gamma$  such that  $\mathcal{D} \times (0, T_+] \subset \bigcup_{t \in (0, T_+]} \Omega(t)$  and  $u \geq \delta$  on  $\Sigma = \gamma \times [0, T_+]$  with some  $\delta > 0$ . Adopt the notation  $D = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\omega(t) = \Omega(t) \setminus \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\omega = \omega(0)$ . The weak solution to the Cauchy problem (1) solves the initial-and-boundary value problem

$$u_t = \Delta u^m - u^p \text{ in } E = D \times (0, T_+], \quad u(x, 0) = u_0 \text{ in } D, \quad (\nabla u^m, \mathbf{n})|_{\Sigma} = \phi(x, t) \quad (2)$$

with a prescribed function  $\phi$ ;  $\mathbf{n}$  denotes the unit vector of outer normal to  $\Sigma$ . Notice that since the solution  $u$  of the Cauchy problem (1) is smooth inside its support, we have  $\phi \in C^\infty(\Sigma)$ .

**Definition 1** *A function  $u(x, t)$  is said to be a weak solution of problem (2) if  $u$  is bounded, nonnegative and continuous in  $\overline{E}$ ,  $\nabla u^m \in L_2(E)$ , and for every test-function  $\eta \in C^1(\overline{E})$ , vanishing for  $t = T_+$  and all  $x$  large enough*

$$\int_E (u \eta_t - \nabla \eta \cdot \nabla u^m - \eta u^p) dx dt + \int_D u_0 \eta(x, 0) dx + \int_{\Sigma} \eta \phi dS = 0. \quad (3)$$

Let us consider the following auxiliary mechanical problem: the flow of the politropic gas with density  $u$ , pressure  $p = m/(m-1)u^{m-1}$ , and velocity  $\mathbf{v}$  through the porous medium that occupies the region  $D$ . It is assumed that the surface  $\Sigma$  is immobile and that the total mass of the gas is constant. We will describe the gas flow using *Lagrangian coordinates* [6]. In this description all characteristics of the motion are considered as functions of the initial positions of the particles and time  $t$ . Let us denote by  $X(\xi, t)$  the position of the particle that initially occupied the position  $\xi \in \omega$ , and by  $U(\xi, t)$  the density at this particle. The flow is described by the following relations:

$$X_t(\xi, t) = \mathbf{v}[X(\xi, t), t] \quad \text{in } Q = \omega \times (0, T], \quad T \leq T_+, \quad (\text{equation of the trajectories}) \quad (4)$$

$$U \det [\partial X / \partial \xi] = u_0 \quad \text{in } Q \quad (\text{the mass conservation law}). \quad (5)$$

These equations are endowed with the initial and boundary conditions:  $X(\xi, 0) = \xi$ ,  $U(\xi, 0) = u_0(\xi)$  in  $\omega$  (the initial data),  $\mathbf{v}|_{\Sigma} = 0$  (the surface  $\Sigma$  is immobile),  $U(\xi, t) = 0$  on  $\Gamma = \partial\omega \times [0, T]$  (the free boundary). Let us assume that for a prescribed vector-field  $\mathbf{v}(X, t) \in L_2(Q)$  and a given set of the initial and boundary data we can construct a solution  $(X, t), U$  of problem (4)–(5). This solution generates the map  $\xi \mapsto x = X(\xi, t)$ , which we assume to be such that  $|J| = \det [\partial X / \partial \xi]$  is separated away from zero and infinity. Consider the function

$$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} U(\xi, t) & \text{for } x = X(\xi, t), (\xi, t) \in \overline{Q}, \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

For any test-function  $\eta(x, t)$  satisfying the conditions of Definition 1 the following equality holds:

$$-\int_D \eta(x, 0) u_0 dx = \int_0^T \frac{d}{dt} \left( \int_{\omega(t)} \eta u dx \right) dt = \int_0^T \int_D (\eta_t u + u \nabla_x \eta \cdot \mathbf{v}) dx dt. \quad (7)$$

Comparing (7) with (3) we see that the function  $u(x, t)$  is a weak solution of problem (2) if  $\mathbf{v} = -m/(m-1)\nabla_x u^{m-1} + \nabla_x \Pi$ , where  $\Pi$  is a weak solution of the degenerate elliptic problem

$$\operatorname{div}_x (u \nabla_x \Pi) = -u^p \quad \text{in } \omega(t), \quad \Pi|_{\partial\omega(t)} = 0, \quad u(\nabla \Pi, \mathbf{n})|_{\Sigma} = -\phi. \quad (8)$$

Gathering conditions (4)–(5) with (8), and writing the latter in Lagrangian coordinates, we arrive at the the Lagrangian counterpart of problem (2): it is requested to find a solution  $X = I + Y$ ,  $P = m/(m-1)U^{m-1}$ , and  $\pi(\xi, t) = \Pi(x, t)$  of the system of nonlinear equations

$$\begin{cases} (I + \nabla^* Y)Y_t + \nabla (P - \pi) = 0, & P|J|^{m-1} - P_0 = 0 & \text{in } Q, \\ \operatorname{div} \left( u_0 J^{-1} (J^{-1})^* \nabla \pi \right) + u_0^p |J|^{1-p} = 0 & \text{in } \omega \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

under the initial and boundary conditions  $Y(\xi, 0) = 0$ ,  $P(\xi, 0) = P_0 \equiv m/(m-1)u_0^{m-1}$  in  $\omega$ ,  $P = 0$ ,  $\pi = 0$  on  $\Gamma$ ,  $P^{1/(m-1)}(\nabla \pi, \mathbf{n}) = -\phi (m/(m-1))^{1/(m-1)}$ ,  $Y(\xi, t) = 0$  on  $\Sigma$ .

**Theorem 1** *Let  $(Y, P, \pi)$  be a solution of problem (9) such that  $\nabla P, \nabla \pi \in L_2(Q)$  and  $|J|$  is separated away from zero and infinity. If for every  $t \in (0, T]$  the map  $\xi \mapsto I + Y(\xi, t)$  is a bijection between  $\omega$  and  $\omega(t)$ , then formula (6) defines a weak solution of problem (2). The interface of this solution is given by (4).*

## 2. The function spaces

Adopt the notation  $d \equiv d_\xi = \operatorname{dist}(\xi, \partial\omega)$ ,  $d_{\xi, \eta} = \min(d_\xi, d_\eta)$ ,  $|D^k v| = \sum_{|\beta|=k} |D^\beta v|$ , ( $\beta$  is a multi-index.) Given a set  $G \subseteq Q$  and a number  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , we define the seminorms and norms:  $|u|_G^{(0)} = \sup_G |u|$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \{u\}_G^{(\alpha)} &= \sup_{G, \xi \neq \eta} \left\{ d_{\xi, \eta}^\alpha \frac{|u(\xi, t) - u(\eta, t)|}{|\xi - \eta|^\alpha} \right\} + \sup_{G, t \neq \tau} \left\{ d^{\alpha/2} \frac{|u(\xi, t) - u(\xi, \tau)|}{|t - \tau|^{\alpha/2}} \right\}, \\ \langle u \rangle_{0, G} &= |u|_G^{(0)} + \{u\}_G^{(\alpha)}, \quad \langle u \rangle_{1, G} = |u|_G^{(0)} + |Du|_G^{(0)} + \{Du\}_G^{(\alpha)}, \quad \langle u \rangle_{2k+1, G} = \\ &= \sum_{2r+|\beta|=0}^k |D_t^r D^\beta u|_G^{(0)} + \sum_{2r+|\beta|=k+1}^{2k+1} |d^{|\beta|-k+r} D_t^r D^\beta u|_G^{(0)} + \sum_{2r+|\beta|=2k+1} \{d^{k+1} D_t^r D^\beta u\}_G^{(\alpha)}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $P_0 \in C^1(\bar{\omega})$ ,  $P_0 = 0$  on  $\partial\omega$ , and  $|\nabla P_0| + P_0 \geq \kappa > 0$  in  $\bar{\omega}$ . Then the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional manifold  $\partial\omega$  can be parametrized as follows: 1) given an arbitrary point  $\xi_0 \in \partial\omega$  we may introduce a local coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the origin  $\xi_0$  so that the axis  $\xi_n$  coincides with the inner normal to  $\partial\omega$  at  $\xi_0$ ; 2) there exists  $\rho > 0$  such that for every  $\xi_0 \in \partial\omega$  the set  $B_\rho(\xi_0) \cap \partial\omega$  is defined by the formulas  $\xi_i = y_i$  if  $i \neq n$ ,  $y_n = P_0(y', \xi_n)$ ,  $y' = (y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in B_\rho(\xi_0) \cap \{\xi_n = 0\}$ . We set  $\omega_\rho = \omega \setminus \cup_{\xi_0 \in \partial\omega} B_\rho(\xi_0)$ , denote  $D = B_\rho(\xi_0) \times (0, T]$ , and define

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{W_{2k+1}(D)} &= \langle u \rangle_{2k+1, D} + \sum_{0 \leq 2r+|\beta| \leq k-1} \sum_{i \neq N} \left| d^{-\alpha/2} D_t^r D_{\xi_i} (D^\beta u) \right|_D^{(0)} \\ &+ \sum_{0 \leq 2r+|\beta| \leq k-2} \sum_{i, j \neq N} \left| d^{-\alpha} D_t^r D_{\xi_i \xi_j}^2 (D^\beta u) \right|_D^{(0)} \\ &+ \sum_{k \leq 2r+|\beta| \leq 2k} \sum_{i \neq N} \left| d^{-\alpha/2+r+|\beta|-k+1} D_t^r D_{\xi_i} (D^\beta u) \right|_D^{(0)} \\ &+ \sum_{k-1 \leq 2r+|\beta| \leq 2k-1} \sum_{i, j \neq N} \left| d^{-\alpha+r+|\beta|-k+2} D_t^r D_{\xi_i \xi_j}^2 (D^\beta u) \right|_D^{(0)} \quad k \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

The Banach spaces  $V(k, Q)$  are defined as completion of the space  $C^\infty(\overline{Q})$  in the norms  $\|u\|_{V(k, Q)} = \sup_{\xi_0 \in \partial\Omega} \|u\|_{W(k, B_\rho(\xi_0) \times (0, T))} + \|u\|_{H^{k+\alpha, (k+\alpha)/2}(Q \setminus \{\omega_\rho \times (0, T)\})}$ , where  $\|\cdot\|_{H^{k+\alpha, (k+\alpha)/2}}$  denotes the standard Hölder norm. If a function  $w$  does not depend on  $t$ , we consider the function  $\tilde{w}(\xi, t) \equiv w(\xi)$  with the dummy variable  $t$  and use the notation  $\|w\|_{V(2k+1, \omega)} = \|\tilde{w}\|_{W(2k+1, Q)}$ . The Banach spaces  $\Lambda_i$  are defined as completion of  $C^\infty(\overline{Q})$  with respect to the norms  $\|u\|_{\Lambda_i} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!M^k} \|t^k D_t^k u\|_{V(i, Q)}$ . In this definition  $M$  is a finite number which will be specified later. The elements of  $\Lambda_i$ , viewed as functions of the variable  $t$  depending on  $\xi \in \overline{\Omega}$  as a parameter, are real analytic. The norms of the functions defined on the surface  $\Sigma \subset Q$  are given by  $\|g\|_{V(2k, \Sigma)} = \inf \{ \|G\|_{V(2k+1, Q)} : (\nabla G, \mathbf{n})|_\Sigma = g \}$ ,  $\|g\|_{\Lambda_{2k}(\Sigma)} = \inf \{ \|G\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} : (\nabla G, \mathbf{n})|_\Sigma = g \}$ .

### 3. Assumptions and results

Let

$$\begin{cases} P_0, u_0^{m+p-2} \in V(2k+1, \omega) \text{ with some } k \geq 2, \alpha \in (0, 1), & P_0 \in C^1(\overline{\omega}), \\ P_0 + |\nabla P_0| \geq \kappa > 0 \text{ in } \overline{\omega}, & P_0 > 0 \text{ in } \omega, \quad P_0 = 0 \text{ on } \partial\omega. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

**Theorem 2** *Let  $n = 1, 2, 3$  and conditions (10) be fulfilled. There exists  $\epsilon^* < 1$ ,  $M$  and  $T^*$  such that for every  $\|P_0\|_{V(2k+1, \omega)} < \epsilon^*$  problem (9) has in the cylinder  $Q$  with  $T < T^*$  a unique solution  $(X, P, \pi)$ . The function  $P$  is strictly positive inside  $\omega$  and  $P = 0$  on  $\partial\omega$ . The vector  $X(\xi, t)$  is represented in the form  $X = \xi + \nabla v + \mathbf{rot} \mathbf{s}$ , ( $X = \xi + v_\xi$  if  $n = 1$ ). The solution  $(X, P, \pi)$  satisfies the estimate*

$$\|\pi\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} + \|v\|_{\Lambda_{2k+3}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \|s_i\|_{\Lambda_{2k+3}} + \|P\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} \leq C (\|P_0\|_{V(2k+1, \omega)} + \|\phi\|_{\Lambda_{2k}(\Sigma)})$$

with a finite constant  $C$  independent of  $X, \pi$ , and  $P$ .

**Theorem 3** *Under the conditions of Theorem 2, there exists  $T^*$  such that*

1. for every  $t \in [0, T^*]$  mapping

$$X(\xi, t) = \xi - \int_0^t (J^{-1})^* \nabla_\xi (P - \pi)(\xi, \tau) d\tau \quad (11)$$

is a bijection of  $\overline{\omega}$  onto  $\overline{\omega(t)}$  and the set  $X(\partial\omega, t)$  is a  $(n-1)$ -dimensional manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ;

2. the weak solution  $u(x, t)$  of problem (2) is defined by formulas (6) and (11) and is continuous in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T^*]$ ; moreover, for every  $t \in [0, T^*]$  we have  $\partial(\overline{\text{supp } u(x, t)}) = X(\partial\omega, t)$ ;
3. the set  $\text{supp } u(x, t)$  is defined by formula (11), where  $\nabla \Pi|_{\Gamma(t)} = 0$  if  $m+p > 2$ .

**Theorem 4** *Under the conditions of Theorem 2, the function  $p(x, t)$  satisfies conditions (10) in  $\omega(t)$ , and  $p - \Pi \in V(2k+3, \omega(t))$ ,  $p, \Pi \in V(2k+1, \omega(t))$ . Moreover, for every fixed  $\xi \in \overline{\omega}$  the functions  $x = X(\xi, t)$ ,  $P(\xi, t) = p(x, t)$ ,  $\pi(\xi, t) = \Pi(x, t)$  are real analytic function of the variable  $t$  and  $\|P\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} + \|\pi\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} \leq K \|P_0\|_{V(2k+1, \omega)}$ .*

**Remark 1** It is easy to show that the regularity results stated in Theorem 4 remain true until the moment when the surface  $\partial\omega(t)$  changes the topology i.e when  $\partial\{\overline{\text{supp } p(x, t)}\}$  ceases to be a  $(n-1)$ -dimensional manifold and there appears a point of auto-intersection.

**Corollary 1** *The Cauchy problem for the porous medium equation  $u_t = \Delta u^m$  with  $m > 1$  can be viewed as a partial case of problem (1). Passing to the Lagrangian coordinates we arrive at problem (9) with  $\Pi \equiv 0$ . It follows from Theorems 3, 4 that the interface velocity is defined by the Darcy law,  $\mathbf{v} = -\nabla p$ , and that the inclusion  $p(x, 0) \in V(2k+1, \omega)$  implies the inclusion  $p(x, t) \in V(2k+3, \omega(t))$ . By iteration we have that the solution  $p(x, t)$  and its interface are infinitely differentiable with respect to the spatial variables and analytic in  $t$ . This recovers recent results of [2, 5].*

## 4. Solution of problem (9). The linear model

Problem (9) is considered as the nonlinear equation  $\mathcal{F}(v, \mathbf{s}, P, \pi) = 0$ , where  $Y = \nabla v + \mathbf{rot} \mathbf{s}$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{G}$  the Fréchet derivative of  $\mathcal{F}$  at the initial state  $v = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{rot} \mathbf{s} = 0$ ,  $P_0$ , and  $\pi_0$ , where  $\pi_0$  is the solution of the degenerate elliptic problem

$$\operatorname{div}(u_0 \nabla \pi_0) + u_0^p = 0 \quad \text{in } \omega, \quad (\nabla(\pi_0 + P_0), \mathbf{n})|_{\Sigma \cap \{t=0\}} = 0, \quad \pi = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma \cap \{t=0\}. \quad (12)$$

The solution of the equation  $\mathcal{F}(v, \mathbf{s}, P, \pi) = 0$  is obtained as the limit of the sequence of solutions of the linear problems  $x_{n+1} = x_n - \mathcal{G}^{-1} \langle \mathcal{F}(x_n) \rangle$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , with  $x_n = (v_n, \mathbf{s}_n, P_n, \pi_n)$ ,  $x_0 = (0, 0, P_0, \pi_0)$  (the modified Newton method). Construction of the operator  $\mathcal{G}^{-1}$  reduces to solving the following problem: given the functions  $\Phi, \Psi, H$ , one has to find a solution  $(Y, P, \pi)$ ,  $Y = \nabla v + \mathbf{rot} \mathbf{s}$ , of the linear system

$$\begin{cases} Y_t + \nabla(P - \pi) = \Phi, & P + (m-1)P_0 \operatorname{div} Y = \Psi \quad \text{in } Q, \\ \operatorname{div}(u_0 \nabla \pi - u_0 \mathbf{D}(v) \cdot \nabla \pi_0) + (1-p)u_0^p \Delta v = H \quad \text{in } Q, & [\mathbf{D}(v)]_{ij} = 2D_{\xi_i \xi_j}^2 v, \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

under the initial and boundary conditions  $Y(\xi, 0) = 0$ ,  $P(\xi, 0) = 0$ ,  $\pi(\xi, 0) = \pi_0$  in  $\omega$ ,  $P = 0$ ,  $\pi = 0$  on  $\Gamma$ ,  $Y = 0$ ,  $u_0 [(\nabla \pi, \mathbf{n}) + P/((m-1)P_0)(\nabla \pi_0, \mathbf{n})] = \psi(m/m-1)^{1/(m-1)}$  on  $\Sigma$ . Separating the potential and divergence-free parts of the prescribed vector  $\Phi = \nabla f + \mathbf{rot} \sigma$  we may split problem (13) into separate problems for defining  $v$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $P$ , and  $\mathbf{s}$ . The vector  $\mathbf{s}$  is found from the first equation in (13) by integration in  $t$ ,  $P$  is defined from the second equation in (13). The scalar functions  $v$  and  $\pi$  are defined as the solutions of the parabolic and elliptic equations, coupled in the right-hand sides:

$$\begin{aligned} v_t - (m-1)P_0 \Delta v &= \pi + f - \Psi \quad \text{in } Q, & (\nabla v, \mathbf{n}) &= 0 \text{ on } \Sigma, & v &= 0 \text{ on } \Gamma \text{ and for } t = 0, \\ \operatorname{div}(u_0 \nabla \pi) &= \operatorname{div}(u_0 \mathbf{D}(v) \cdot \nabla \pi_0) + (p-1)u_0^p \Delta v + H \quad \text{in } \omega, & & & & (14) \\ u_0 [(\nabla \pi, \partial \mathbf{n}) - (\Delta v - \Psi/((m-1)P_0))(\nabla \pi_0, \partial \mathbf{n})] &|_{\Sigma} = \psi, & \pi &= 0 \text{ on } \Gamma, & \pi &= \pi_0 \text{ for } t = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Existence of a solution to the linear parabolic-elliptic system (14) is proved by application of the Contraction Mapping Principle. To this end, we separately study the degenerate elliptic and parabolic problems:

$$(1) \begin{cases} \operatorname{div}(u_0 \nabla \pi) = h \text{ in } \omega, \\ \pi = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma, (\nabla \pi, \mathbf{n}) = g \text{ on } \Sigma, \end{cases} \quad (2) \begin{cases} v_t - (m-1)P_0 \Delta v = F \text{ in } Q, \\ (\nabla v, \mathbf{n}) = 0 \text{ on } \Sigma, v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma, v(\xi, 0) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

**Lemma 1** 1) *Let  $u_0^{m-2}h \in \Lambda_{2k+1}$ ,  $g \in \Lambda_{2k, \Sigma}$  with  $k \geq 1$ . Then problem (15)<sub>1</sub> has a unique classical solution that satisfies the estimate  $\|\pi\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}} \leq K(1 + \|P_0\|)(\|w\| + \|g\| + \|u_0^{m-2}h\|)$ .*

2) *If  $F \in \Lambda_{2k+1}$  with a sufficiently large constant  $M$  and  $P_0 \in V(2k+1, \omega)$  with  $k \geq 1$ , then problem (15)<sub>2</sub> has a unique classical solution  $v$  satisfying the estimate  $\|v\|_{\Lambda_{2k+3}} \leq L\|F\|_{\Lambda_{2k+1}}$ .*

3) *Let  $m+p \geq 2$  and  $P_0, f, u_0^{p-1}\Psi, u_0^{m-2}H \in \Lambda_{2k+1}$ ,  $\psi \in \Lambda_{2k, \Sigma}$  with  $k \geq 2$ . Then there exists  $\bar{T} > 0$  such that for every  $T \in (0, \bar{T})$  problem (14) has a unique solution  $(v, \pi) \in \Lambda_{2k+3} \times \Lambda_{2k+1}$ .*

Once problem (9) is solved, the regularity of the solution to problem (2) easily follows provided that the bijectivity of the mapping  $\omega \mapsto \omega(t)$  is established. In the one-dimensional case, the last condition is a byproduct of the second equation in (9) (the function  $X(\xi, t)$  is bounded and monotone in  $\xi$ ). The situation is not that simple in the multidimensional case where the topology of the set  $\omega(t)$  may change with time. To establish bijectivity of the mapping  $\omega \mapsto \omega(t)$  amounts to proving that  $X(\partial\omega, t) = \partial\omega(t)$  for every  $t > 0$ . The inclusion  $X(\partial\omega, t) \subset \partial\omega(t)$  follows from the second equation in (9). To prove the inverse inclusion we take two arbitrary points  $\xi, \eta \in \partial\omega$ ,  $\xi \neq \eta$ , the point  $\xi_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|\eta - \xi_0| = 1$  and  $\cos(\xi - \eta, \eta - \xi_0) = 0$ . We consider the function  $\cos(X(\xi, t) - X(\eta, t), X(\eta, t)) = \frac{(X(\xi, t) - X(\eta, t), X(\eta, t))}{|X(\xi, t) - X(\eta, t)||X(\eta, t)|}$ . Using representation (11) and the estimates on the solution  $(v, \pi)$  of the problem posed in Lagrangian coordinates we check that there exists  $T^*$ , independent of the choice of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$ , such that  $\cos(X(\xi, t) - X(\eta, t), X(\eta, t)) < 1/2$  for  $t < T^*$ , which means that the particles initially located at the points  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  do not belong to the same ray and, thus, their trajectories cannot hit one another within the time interval  $[0, T^*]$ .

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