

Workshop

**“Direct, Inverse And Control Problems For  
PDE’s”**

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**An ultraparabolic problem arising from  
age–dependent population diffusion**

## The problem.

Find  $u : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ , satisfying

- $u_t(t, a, x) + u_a(t, a, x) = -d(t, a, x) + \Delta u(t, a, x),$   
 $t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \Omega,$
- $u(t, 0, x) = b(t, x), \quad t \in [0, T], x \in \Omega,$
- $u(t, a, x) = 0, \quad t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \partial\Omega,$
- $u(0, a, x) = u_0(a, x), \quad a > 0, x \in \Omega.$

$u(t, a, x)$  = density of members of age  $a$  and position  $x$  at time  $t$ . Hence

$$P(t, x) := \int_0^{+\infty} u(t, a, x) da, \quad N(t) := \int_{\Omega} P(t, x) dx$$

are the spatial density of population and the number of individuals.

$\Rightarrow L^1(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega)$  = state space for the density  $u$ .

The death term  $d$  and the birth process  $b$  are assumed to be of the form

- $d(t, a, x) = -\mu(t, a, x)u(t, a, x),$
- $b(t, x) = \int_0^{+\infty} \beta(t, a, x)u(t, a, x) da.$

$\mu(t, a, x)$  and  $\beta(t, a, x)$  represent the mortality rate and the fertility rate.

Hence we have a problem with a **nonlocal boundary condition**.

**Method of characteristics** : G. Di Blasio [1979], Kunisch, Schappacher and Webb [1985], J. Dyson, E. Sanchez, R. Vilella–Bressan, G. F. Webb [2007], . . . .

**Sum of Operators** : G. Di Blasio and L. Lamberti [1978], Iannelli and Busemberg [1983], Da Prato and Sinestrari [1987].

**Evolution Operators** : A. Rhandi and R. Schnaubelt, [1999], P. Magal and S. Ruan [2007].

## Sum of Operators, Evolution Operators:

Rewrite the equation in the following form

$$u_t(t, a, x) = -u_a(t, a, x) - \mu(t, a, x)u(t, a, x) + \Delta u(t, a, x),$$

prove that the operator in the  $(a, x)$  variables

$$A := -\partial/\partial a - \mu I + \Delta$$

(  $+$  boundary and initial conditions ) generates a strongly continuous semigroup. Finally solve the equation

$$u'(t) = Au(t)$$

## The method of characteristics.

Find  $u : [0, T] \rightarrow L^1(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega)$ , satisfying

- $Du(t, a, x) = -\mu(t, a, x)u(t, a, x) + \Delta u(t, a, x),$   
 $t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \Omega$
- $u(t, 0, x) = \int_0^{+\infty} \beta(t, a, x)u(t, a, x) da,$   
 $t \in [0, T], x \in \Omega,$
- $u(t, a, x) = 0, \quad t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \partial\Omega,$
- $u(0, a, x) = u_0(a, x), \quad a > 0, x \in \Omega,$

where

$$Du(t, a, \cdot) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(t+h, a+h, \cdot) - u(t, a, \cdot)}{h}.$$

$u$  is called a **strong solution** of the original problem

## Fixed point argument

Find a function  $u$  satisfying

$$(1) \quad Du(t, a, x) = -\mu(t, a, x)u(t, a, x) + \Delta u(t, a, x), \\ t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \Omega$$

$$(2) \quad u(t, 0, x) = b(t, x), \quad t \in [0, T], x \in \Omega,$$

$$(3) \quad u(t, a, x) = 0, \quad t \in (0, T), a > 0, x \in \partial\Omega,$$

$$(4) \quad u(0, a, x) = u_0(a, x), \quad a > 0, x \in \Omega,$$

supplemented by the condition

$$(5) \quad b(t, x) = \int_0^{+\infty} \beta(t, a, x)u_b(t, a, x) da$$

Denoting by  $u_b$  the solution of (1)–(4), for a given  $b$ , and by  $b \rightarrow S(b)$  the operator

$$S(b) := \int_0^{+\infty} \beta(t, a, x)u_b(t, a, x) da$$

find a fixed point of  $S$ .

## Solve (1)–(4)

Set, for fixed  $t, a > 0$ ,

- $m_1(s, x) := \mu(t - a + s, s, x); u_{0,1}(x) := b(t - a, x),$   
if  $a \leq t$ ,
- $m_2(s, x) := \mu(s, a - t + s, x); u_{0,2}(x) := u_0(a - t, x),$   
if  $a > t$

if  $u_i$  are solutions of the following problems,  $i = 1, 2$ ,

$$\begin{cases} u_s(s, x) = -m_i(s, x)u(s, x) + \Delta u(s, x), & s > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ u(s, x) = 0, & s > 0, x \in \partial\Omega, \\ u(0, x) = u_{0,i}(x), & x \in \Omega. \end{cases}$$

then the solution of (1)–(4) is given by

$$u(t, a, x) := \begin{cases} u_1(t, x), & \text{if } a \leq t \\ u_2(a, x), & \text{if } a > t. \end{cases}$$



## Nonautonomous Parabolic equations in $L^1(\Omega)$

$$\begin{cases} v_s(s, x) = -m(s, x)v(s, x) + \Delta v(s, x) + f(s, x), \\ \quad \quad \quad s \in (0, T), \quad x \in \Omega, \\ v(s, x) = 0, \quad \quad \quad s > 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \\ v(0, x) = v_0(x), \quad \quad x \in \Omega. \end{cases}$$

**Assumptions:**  $m : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is measurable and there exists  $M \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+)$  verifying the properties

- $m(s, x) \leq M(s) \quad s \in \mathbb{R}_+, \quad x \in \Omega;$
- $|m(s, x) - m(s, y)| \leq M(s)d(x, y), \quad s \in \mathbb{R}_+, \quad x, y \in \Omega.$

In addition, for some  $\theta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,

- $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)), \quad v_0 \in W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega).$

Then there exists a “regular” solution  $v$ , for each  $T > 0$ .

**more precisely:**  $v$  satisfies the properties

- $v \in C(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega));$
- $v_s, \Delta v \in L^1(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega))$

In addition there exists  $c = c(\theta)$ , satisfying

- $\|v(s)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)} \leq e^{\mathcal{M}(s)} [ \|v_0\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)} + \int_0^s \|f(\sigma)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)} d\sigma ],$
- $\|v_s\|_{L^1(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega))}, \leq ce^{\mathcal{M}(T)} [ \|v_0\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)} + \|f\|_{L^1(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)) } ],$
- $\|\Delta v\|_{L^1(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega))} \leq ce^{\mathcal{M}(T)} [ \|v_0\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)} + \|f\|_{L^1(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)) } ]$

where

$$\mathcal{M}(s) := \int_0^s M(\sigma) d\sigma$$

## Assumptions

$\mu \geq 0$  and  $\beta \geq 0$  are measurable, continuous with respect to  $t$  and there exist  $\mu_0 \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+)$ ,  $\beta_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$  and  $b_0 > 0$  satisfying, for  $t > 0$ ,  $a > 0$  and  $x, y \in \Omega$

- $\mu(t, a, x) \leq \mu_0(a)$ ;  $|\mu(t, a, x) - \mu(t, a, y)| \leq \mu_0(a)d(x, y)$ ;
- $\beta(t, a, x) \leq \beta_0(a)$ ;  $|\beta(t, a, x) - \beta(t, a, y)| \leq \beta_0(a)d(x, y)$ ,
- $\beta_0(a)e^{\int_0^a \mu_0(\sigma) d\sigma} \leq b_0$ .

In addition, for some  $\theta \in (0, 1/2)$

- $u_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega))$ ,
- $\int_0^{+\infty} e^{\int_a^{a+T} \mu_0(\sigma) d\sigma} \|u_0(a, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} da < +\infty$

## Existence 1

**Theorem 1.** Given  $b \in C(0, T; L^1(\Omega)) \cap B(0, T; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega))$  there exists  $u = u_b \in C(0, T; L^1(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega))$  satisfying (1)–(4). Furthermore

- $\int_0^{+\infty} \|u(t, a, \cdot)\| da \leq \int_0^t \|b(s, \cdot)\| ds + \int_0^{+\infty} \|u_0(a, \cdot)\| da.$
- $\int_0^{+\infty} \|u(t, a, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} da \leq \int_0^t e^{\int_0^{t-s} \mu_0(\sigma) d\sigma} \|b(s, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} ds$   
 $+ \int_0^{+\infty} e^{\int_a^{a+t} \mu_0(\sigma) d\sigma} \|u_0(a, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} da$

and

- $\int_0^T \int_0^{+\infty} \|\Delta u(t, a, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} da dt \leq \dots$
- $\int_0^T \int_0^{+\infty} \|Du(t, a, \cdot)\|_{W^{2\theta, 1}} da dt \leq \dots$

.

**Proof.** The assertions follow from results on parabolic equations  $\dots$ .

## Existence 2

**Theorem 2** Let the assumptions on  $\mu, \beta$  and  $u_0$  hold. Then there exists a unique  $u \in C(0, T; L^1(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \Omega))$ , verifying

- $u \in B(0, T; L^1(\mathbb{R}_+; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)))$
- $\Delta u \in L^1(0, T; L^1(\mathbb{R}_+; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)))$
- $Du \in L^1(0, T; L^1(\mathbb{R}_+; W^{2\theta, 1}(\Omega)))$

solution of (1)–(4) satisfying

$$u(t, 0, x) = \int_0^{+\infty} \beta(t, a, x) u(t, a, x) da.$$

Moreover  $u$  satisfies estimates similar to those of  $u_b$ , given by Theorem 1.

**Proof.** We use a fixed point argument and the results of Theorem 1.