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## Propagation of Analytic and Gevrey Regularity for a Class of Semi-Linear Weakly Hyperbolic Equations.

MASSIMO CICOGNANI - LUISA ZANGHIRATI (\*)

### 1. Introduction and notations.

Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} = \mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_x^n$  ( $t$  the «time variable»),  $\Omega_+ = \Omega \cap \{t > 0\}$ ,  $\overline{\Omega}_+ = \Omega \cap \{t \geq 0\}$ ,  $\Omega_0 = \Omega \cap \{t = 0\}$  and let  $u(t, x)$  be a real solution of a semilinear equation

$$(1.1) \quad P_m(t, x, \partial_{t,x})u + G(t, x, u^{(a)})_{|a| \leq m-1} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_+ \quad (u^{(a)} = \partial_{t,x}^a u)$$

where  $G$  is an analytic function of its arguments and  $P_m(t, x, \partial_{t,x})$  is a homogeneous differential operator of order  $m \geq 2$  with analytic coefficients in  $\Omega$  which is hyperbolic with respect to the hypersurfaces  $t = t_0$ .

We are concerned with the problem of the propagation of the analytic regularity of  $u$  in a domain of influence  $D \subset \overline{\Omega}_+$  provided that the Cauchy data are analytic functions in  $\bar{\omega}$ ,  $\omega$  a open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\bar{\omega} \subset \Omega_0$  and  $D \cap \{t = 0\} \subset \omega$ .

From the results of Alinhac and Metivier [2] we know that if  $P_m$  is strictly hyperbolic and  $u$  is  $C^\infty$ , then  $u$  is analytic in  $D$ .

Weakly hyperbolic equations has been considered by Spagnolo [8].

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He proved that if (1.1) is of the type

$$(1.2) \quad \partial_t^2 u - \sum_{h,k=1}^n \partial_{x_k} (a_{hk}(t, x) \partial_{x_h} u) = G(t, x, u)$$

then  $u$  is analytic in  $D$  under one of the following conditions:

a) the coefficients  $a_{hk}$  have the form  $a_{hk}(t, x) = b(t)a_{hk}^0(x)$  and  $u$  is of class  $C^1$ ;

b) the solution  $u$  is assumed to belong to some Gevrey class of order less than two.

Here we consider the case where (1.1) is a weakly hyperbolic equation of the form  $\partial_t^m u + G(t, x, u^{(\alpha)})_{|\alpha| \leq m-1} = 0$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , and prove that the solution is analytic in every cylinder  $[0, T] \times \omega$  contained in  $\bar{\Omega}_+$  if  $u$  is assumed to be in some Gevrey class of order  $\sigma_1$  smaller than  $1/\rho$  with a index  $\rho \leq 1 - 1/m$  which is determined by the derivatives of  $u$  that really appear as arguments of  $G$ . In fact we shall prove a more general result (see Theorem 1 below) considering also the propagation of the regularity of  $u$  in Gevrey classes when  $G$  and the Cauchy data are not analytic but Gevrey functions of order  $\sigma \in ]1, \sigma_1[$ .

Note that our result with  $m = 2$  is not covered by [8] since the derivatives of  $u$  do not appear in the non linear terms of (1.2).

We denote by  $\mathcal{G}^\sigma(\mathcal{O})$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma < \infty$ ,  $\mathcal{O}$  an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the space of Gevrey functions of index  $\sigma$ , i.e. the space of all functions in  $C^\infty(\mathcal{O})$  which satisfy for every compact subset  $K$  of  $\mathcal{O}$ :

$$|\partial^\alpha v(x)| \leq CA^{|\alpha|} a^{|\alpha|}, \quad x \in K, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n,$$

$C, A$  constants depending on  $K$  (and  $v$ ).

Moreover we denote by  $\gamma^\sigma(\mathcal{O})$ ,  $1 < \sigma < \infty$ , the space of all functions  $v$  in  $C^\infty(\mathcal{O})$  satisfying the following condition: for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , for every compact subset  $K$  of  $\mathcal{O}$  there exists a constants  $c_\varepsilon$  such that:

$$|\partial^\alpha v(x)| \leq c_\varepsilon \varepsilon^{|\alpha|} a^{|\alpha|}, \quad x \in K, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n,$$

It is  $\mathcal{G}^\sigma(\mathcal{O}) \subset \gamma^{\sigma_1}(\mathcal{O}) \subset \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\mathcal{O})$  for every  $1 \leq \sigma < \sigma_1 < \infty$ . We write  $v \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(K)$ ,  $v \in \gamma^\sigma(K)$  if  $v \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\mathcal{O})$ ,  $v \in \gamma^\sigma(\mathcal{O})$  respectively for some open neighbourhood  $\mathcal{O}$  of the compact set  $K$ .

Consider a function  $G(t, x, u^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$ , where  $(t, x) \in \Omega$  ( $\Omega$  an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  containing the origin),  $\mathcal{A} \subset \{(\alpha_0, \alpha') \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \times \mathbb{Z}_+^n, |\alpha| \leq m-1\}$ ,  $m$  a positive integer,  $m \geq 2$ . Let  $\rho = \max_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} |\alpha'| / (m - \alpha_0)$  and assume that  $G$  is a Gevrey function of index  $\sigma$  of its arguments for some  $\sigma \in ]1, 1/\rho[$ . Moreover assume that  $g_j$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq m-1$ , are

given Gevrey functions of index  $\sigma$  in  $\bar{\omega}$ ,  $\omega$  and open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\bar{\omega} \subset \Omega_0$ . Then we have:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $u$  be a solution of the problem:*

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t^m u + G(t, x, u^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{a}} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega_+, \\ \partial_t^k u|_{t=0} = g_k & \text{in } \omega, k = 0, 1, \dots, m-1. \end{cases}$$

If  $u \in \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\bar{\Omega}_+)$  for some  $\sigma_1 \in ]\sigma, 1/\varrho[$  then  $u \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\mathcal{C})$  for every cylinder

$$\mathcal{C} = [0, T_1] \times \omega \subset \bar{\Omega}_+.$$

In particular if  $G, g_0, \dots, g_{m-1}$  are analytic functions and  $u \in \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\bar{\Omega}_+)$  for some  $\sigma_1 \in ]1, 1/\varrho[$ , then  $u$  is analytic in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Note that the Cauchy problem for the linearized equation

$$P = \partial_t^m + \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{a}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial u^{(\alpha)}}(t, x, u^{(\alpha)}) \partial_{t,x}^\alpha$$

of (1.3) at a solution  $u$  may present phenomena of non existence or non uniqueness if  $u$  is in a Gevrey class of order greater or equal than  $1/\varrho$  (see Komatsu [5], Mizohata [7], Agliardi [1]). Thus it seems difficult to weaken the hypotheses of Theorem 1 as it concerns the a priori regularity of  $u$  (cf. the above condition a) and b) for the equation (1.2) in [8]: if the coefficients are as in condition a) then the Cauchy problem for the linearized equation of (1.2) at a  $C^\infty$  solution  $u$  is well posed in  $C^\infty$ . In the case of general coefficients, condition b) ensures that the Cauchy problem for the linearized equation at  $u \in G^{\sigma_1}$  is well posed in  $G^{\sigma_1}$  as in our Theorem 1).

We shall give the proof of Theorem 1 in section 3 after some preliminary lemmas which are the subject of next section 2.

## 2. Preliminary lemmas.

Let  $\mu > n/2$ ,  $0 < \varrho < 1$  be two fixed real numbers. For every  $\tau > 0$  we denote by  $\mathcal{X}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the space of all  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that:

$$\|\langle D \rangle^\mu \exp(\tau \langle D \rangle^\varrho) u\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)} < \infty,$$

where  $\langle \xi \rangle = (1 + |\xi|^2)^{1/2}$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$\mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is a Hilbert space with respect to the inner product:

$$\langle u, v \rangle = (2\pi)^{-n} \int \langle \xi \rangle^{2\mu} \exp(2\tau \langle \xi \rangle^\varrho) \widehat{u}(\xi) \overline{\widehat{v}(\xi)} d\xi,$$

$\widehat{u}$  the Fourier transform of  $u$ .

We denote the corresponding norm by  $\|\cdot\|_\tau$ , i.e.

$$\|u\|_\tau = \|\langle D \rangle^\mu \exp(\tau \langle D \rangle^\varrho) u\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

Since  $\mu > n/2$  and  $0 < \varrho < 1$ , it is easy to prove, as for the usual Sobolev spaces, that  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is an algebra. More precisely we have:

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *There exists a constant  $c_0$ , depending only on  $n$  and  $\mu$ , such that*

$$(2.1) \quad \|uv\|_\tau \leq c_0 \|u\|_\tau \|v\|_\tau, \quad u, v \in \mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

For  $\omega$  an open ball of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we introduce the space  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega})$  of the restrictions to  $\omega$  of the elements in  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega}) = \{v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n); \exists u \in \mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n), u = v \text{ in } \omega\}$$

endowed with the norm

$$(2.2) \quad \|v\|_{\tau, \omega} = \|E_\tau(v)\|_\tau,$$

$E_\tau(v)$  the element of minimum norm in the closed convex subset  $\mathcal{E}(v) = \{u \in \mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n); u = v \text{ in } \omega\}$  of the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

Thus,  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega})$  is the quotient space of  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with the closed subspace  $M = \{u \in \mathcal{H}_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n); u = 0 \text{ in } \omega\}$ .

Note that the Paley Wiener Theorem implies  $\mathcal{G}^\sigma(\bar{\omega}) \subset \mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega})$  with continuous injection for  $\sigma < 1/\varrho$  and every  $\tau > 0$ .

In view of Proposition 2.1,  $\mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega})$  is a normed algebra and (2.1) is valid with the same constant  $c_0$  (and  $\|\cdot\|_{\tau, \omega}$  instead of  $\|\cdot\|_\tau$ ) for  $u, v \in \mathcal{H}_\tau(\bar{\omega})$ .

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $w \in \gamma^{1/\varrho}(\bar{\omega})$  be a real valued function and let  $\phi \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(w(\bar{\omega}))$  for a  $\sigma \in [1, 1/\varrho[$ . Then we can find positive constants  $\tau_0, C, R$  such that for every  $0 < \tau \leq \tau_0$*

$$(2.2) \quad \|\phi^{(q)}(w)\|_{\tau, \omega} \leq CR^q q!^\sigma, \quad q \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

where  $R$  depends only on  $\phi$  and  $\omega$ ,  $\tau_0$  depends on  $\phi, w$  and  $\omega$ , whereas  $C$  is a majorant of  $\|w\|_{\tau_0, \omega}$ .

PROOF. Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\overset{\circ}{K} \supset \bar{\omega}$  and  $w \in \in \gamma^{1/\varrho}(K)$  and let us denote  $H = w(K)$ . then we have:

$$\sup_H |\phi^{(q)}| \leq R_0 R_1^q q!^\sigma \quad (\exists R_0, R_1, \forall q),$$

$$\sup_K |\partial^\alpha w| \leq c_h h^{|\alpha|} \alpha!^{1/\varrho} \quad (\forall h \exists c_h, \forall \alpha).$$

By using Faa-De Bruno's formula, we obtain

$$(2.3) \quad |\partial^\gamma \phi^{(q)}(w(x))| \leq 2^\sigma R_0 (2^\sigma R_1)^q q!^\sigma ((2d)^\sigma R_1 h c_h)^{|\gamma|} |\gamma|^{|\gamma|/d}$$

for every  $x \in K, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n, q \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$  where the constant  $d$  depends only on  $\sigma$  and  $n$ .

Let  $\chi \in \gamma^{1/\varrho}(\mathbb{R}^n), \text{supp } \chi \subset K, \chi = 1$  in a neighbourhood of  $\bar{\omega},$  and

$$\sup |\partial^\alpha \chi| \leq l_h h^{|\alpha|} \alpha!^{1/\varrho} \quad (\forall h \exists l_h, \forall \alpha).$$

From (2.3) it follows:

$$|\xi^\gamma (\chi \overline{\phi^{(q)}(w)})(\xi)| \leq C_h (A_h h)^{|\gamma|} |\gamma|^{|\gamma|/\varrho} R^q q!^\sigma, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where  $C_h = 2^\sigma R_0 l_h \text{meas}(K), A_h = (2d)^\sigma R_1 c_h + 1, R = 2^\sigma R_1.$

Hence, by the arbitrariness of  $\gamma:$

$$(2.4) \quad |(\chi \overline{\phi^{(q)}(w)})(\xi)| \leq C_1 \exp(-k_1 \langle \xi \rangle^\varrho) R^q q!^\sigma$$

for a constant  $k_1 \geq d' A_1^{-\varrho}, d'$  depending only on  $n, \sigma, \varrho.$

From (2.4) it follows (2.2) for every  $\tau \leq k_1/2 = \tau_0,$  with

$$C = C_1 \left( \int \langle \xi \rangle^{2\mu} \exp(-2\tau_0 \langle \xi \rangle^\varrho) d\xi \right)^{1/2}$$

and the proof is complete.

Now we introduce some notations: we consider the sequence  $m_p = a(p!^\sigma / (p + 1)^2),$  where  $\sigma \geq 1$  and the constant  $a$  is chosen in order to satisfy:

$$\sum_{0 \leq \beta \leq \alpha} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} m_{|\beta|} m_{|\alpha - \beta|} \leq m_{|\alpha|},$$

$$\sum_{0 < \beta \leq \alpha} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} m_{|\beta|} m_{|\alpha - \beta| + 1} \leq |\alpha| m_{|\alpha|}.$$

For  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $p \geq 1$  we define  $M_p = \varepsilon^{1-p} m_p$  and for  $w \in \gamma^e(\bar{\omega})$ ,  $p \geq 1$  we let

$$|w|_{p, \tau} = \sup_{|\alpha| = p} \|\partial_x^\alpha w\|_{\tau, \omega},$$

$$[w]_{p, \tau} = \sup_{0 < q \leq p} \frac{|w|_{q, \tau}}{M_q}.$$

As in [2], from Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 2.2 we can prove the following lemma by the method of majorant series:

**LEMMA 2.3.** *If  $w$  and  $\phi$  satisfy the hypotheses of Lemma 2.2, then there exist  $\tau_0, L, \delta_0 > 0$  such that for every  $p \geq 1$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $0 \leq \tau \leq \tau_0$  the condition*

$$(2.5) \quad \varepsilon[w]_{p, \tau} \leq \delta_0$$

implies:

- i)  $[\phi(w)]_{p, \tau} \leq L[w]_{p, \tau}$ ,
- ii)  $|\phi(w)|_{p+1, \tau} \leq L(|w|_{p+1, \tau} + M_{p+1}[w]_{p, \tau})$ ,
- iii) for  $|\alpha| = p+1$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$\|\partial_x^\alpha (\phi(w) \partial_j w) - \phi(w) \partial^\alpha \partial_j w\|_{\tau, \omega} \leq$$

$$\leq (p+1)L\{|w|_{p+1, \tau} + M_{p+1}(1 + [w]_{p, \tau})^2\},$$

where  $\tau_0$  is the constant found in Lemma 2.2,  $L$  and  $\delta_0$  depend only on  $\phi$  and  $\|\text{grad } w\|_{\tau_0, \omega}$ .

Lemma 2.3 can be extended to functions  $w = (w_1, \dots, w_\nu)$  with values in  $\mathbb{R}^\nu$ , by defining  $|w|_{p, \tau} = \max_{1 \leq j \leq \nu} |w_j|_{p, \tau}$ . In fact we have:

**LEMMA 2.4.** *Let  $w = (w_1, \dots, w_\nu)$ ,  $w_j$  real functions in  $\gamma^{1/e}(\bar{\omega})$ , and let  $\phi(x, w) \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\bar{\omega} \times w(\bar{\omega}))$  for a  $\sigma \in [1, 1/e[$ . There exist four positive constants  $\tau_0, \varepsilon_0, \delta_0, L$  such that for  $p \geq 1$ ,  $\varepsilon \in ]0, \varepsilon_0]$ ,  $\tau \in [0, \tau_0]$ , condition (2.5) implies:*

- j)  $[\phi(\cdot, w)]_{p, \tau} \leq L(1 + [w]_{p, \tau})$ ,
- jj)  $|\phi(\cdot, w)|_{p+1, \tau} \leq L\{|w|_{p+1, \tau} + M_{p+1}(1 + [w]_{p, \tau})\}$ ,
- jjj) for  $|\alpha| = p+1$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \nu$  it is

$$\|\partial_x^\alpha (\phi(\cdot, w) \partial_j w_k) - \phi(\cdot, w) \partial^\alpha \partial_j w_k\|_{\tau, \omega} \leq$$

$$\leq (p+1)L\{|w|_{p+1, \tau} + M_{p+1}(1 + [w]_{p, \tau})^2\}.$$

In next section we apply Lemma 2.4 to functions  $w(t, x)$ ,  $\phi(t, x, w(t, x))$ , where  $w \in \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}([0, T_1]; \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\bar{\omega})^v)$ ,  $\phi \in \mathcal{G}^{\sigma}([0, T_1] \times \bar{\omega} \times w([0, T_1] \times \bar{\omega}))$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma < \sigma_1 < 1/\rho$  for which  $t$  is considered as a parameter. By Lemma 2.4 there exist positive constants  $\tau_0, \varepsilon_0, \delta_0, L$  such that for every integer  $p \geq 1$ ,  $\varepsilon \in ]0, \varepsilon_0]$ ,  $0 \leq \tau \leq \tau_0$ , if  $\varepsilon[w(t, \cdot)]_{p, \tau} \leq \delta_0$  for every  $t \in [0, T_1]$  then j), jj), jjj) are true uniformly with respect to  $t$  in this interval.

For the function  $w(t, x)$  we use also the seminorms we are going to introduce. Let  $c, T$  be positive constants such that  $cT \leq \tau_0$ ,  $T \leq T_1$  and let

$$M_p^t = (\varepsilon \exp(-\lambda t))^{1-p} m_p = \exp(-\lambda t(1-p)) M_p,$$

where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is a parameter which will be chosen in a suitable way at the end of the proof of Theorem 1.1. For  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq T$ ,  $p \geq 1$  we define:

$$|w|_p^t = \max_{|\beta|=p} \|\partial_x^\beta w(t, \cdot)\|_{\mathcal{C}(T-t), \omega},$$

$$[w]_p^t = \max_{1 \leq q \leq p} \frac{|w|_q^t}{M_q^t}.$$

Moreover, for the solution  $u$  of (1.3) we write:

$$\Phi_p^t(u) = \max_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_1} |\partial_{t,x}^\alpha u|_p^t,$$

$$\Psi_p(u) = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \max_{1 \leq q \leq p} \frac{\Phi_q^t(u)}{M_{q-1}^t}, \quad p \geq 2,$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_1 = \{(\alpha_0, \alpha') \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \times \mathbb{Z}_+^n; (\alpha_0, \alpha' + e_j) \in \mathcal{A}, j = 1, \dots, n\} \cup \{(\alpha_0, 0) \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \times \mathbb{Z}_+^n, \alpha_0 \leq m-1\},$$

$\{e_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq n}$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1.

By deriving the equations (1.3) with respect to  $x_j$  we get:

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t^m \partial_j u + \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial u^\alpha} \partial_{t,x}^\alpha \partial_j u = -\frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} & \text{in } ]0, T_1] \times \omega, \\ \partial_t^k \partial_j u|_{t=0} = \partial_j g_k & \text{in } \omega, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, m-1. \end{cases}$$



Now we apply the operator  $\partial_x^\beta$  to (3.1), so obtaining:

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{cases} Pv_{\beta,j} = f_{\beta,j} & \text{in } ]0, T_1] \times \omega, \\ \partial_t^k v_{\beta,j}|_{t=0} = g_{k,\beta,j} & \text{in } \omega, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, m-1, \end{cases}$$

where  $P$  is the linear operator

$$\partial_t^m + \sum_{\alpha \in \alpha} \frac{\partial G}{\partial u^{(\alpha)}}(t, x, u^{(\alpha)}) \partial_{t,x}^\alpha,$$

$$v_{\beta,j} = \partial_x^\beta \partial_j u,$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\beta,j} = & -\partial_x^\beta \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j}(t, x, u^{(\alpha)}) \right) + \\ & - \sum_{\alpha \in \alpha} \left\{ \partial_x^\beta \left[ \frac{\partial G}{\partial u^{(\alpha)}}(t, x, u^{(\alpha)}) \partial_{t,x}^\alpha \partial_j u \right] - \frac{\partial G}{\partial u^{(\alpha)}}(t, x, u^{(\alpha)}) \partial_{t,x}^\alpha \partial_x^\beta \partial_j u \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$g_{k,\beta,j} = \partial_x^\beta \partial_j g_k(x), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, m-1.$$

From the hypotheses of Theorem 1 it follows that  $P$  can be written in the form  $P = \partial_t^m + \sum_{j=1}^m P_j(t, x, D_x) D_t^{m-1}$ , where  $P_j$  is a linear operator of order less or equal to  $\varrho_j$  with coefficients in  $\mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\bar{\Omega}_+)$ ; also  $f_{\beta,j} \in \mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}(\bar{\Omega}_+)$  whereas  $g_{k,\beta,j} \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\bar{\omega})$ .

We extend the coefficients in the lower order terms of  $P$  outside a neighborhood of  $[0, T_1] \times \bar{\omega}$  to functions in  $\mathcal{G}^\sigma(\mathbb{R}^{n+1})$  with compact support and denote by  $\tilde{P}$  the linear operator in  $[0, T_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n$  obtained in this way. Moreover, we set  $\tilde{f}_{\beta,j}(t) = E_{c(T-t)}(f_{\beta,j}(t))$ ,  $\tilde{g}_{k,\beta,j} = E_{cT}(g_{k,\beta,j})$ , where  $E_\tau$  is the extension operator defined at the beginning of section 2.

By letting

$$A = \langle D_x \rangle^e, \quad U_{\beta,j} = {}^t(A^{m-1} \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}, A^{m-2} \partial_t \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}, \dots, \partial_t^{m-1} \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}),$$

$$F_{\beta,j} = {}^t(0, \dots, \tilde{f}_{\beta,j}), \quad G_{\beta,j} = {}^t(A^{m-1} \tilde{g}_{0,\beta,j}, A^{m-2} \tilde{g}_{1,\beta,j}, \dots, \tilde{g}_{m-1,\beta,j}),$$

the problem

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{cases} \tilde{P} \tilde{v}_{\beta,j} = \tilde{f}_{\beta,j} & \text{in } ]0, T_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \partial_t^k \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}|_{t=0} = \tilde{g}_{k,\beta,j} & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, m-1, \end{cases}$$

is equivalent to a system

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t U_{\beta,j} + AU_{\beta,j} = F_{\beta,j} & \text{in } ]0, T_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n, \\ U_{\beta,j}|_{t=0} = G_{\beta,j} & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n, \end{cases}$$

where  $A = (a_{i,k}(t, x, D_x))$  is a suitable  $m \times m$  matrix of pseudo-differential operators with symbols that satisfy:

$$(3.5) \quad |\partial_t^l \partial_x^\gamma \partial_\xi^\alpha a_{i,k}(t, x, \xi)| \leq C^{l+|\alpha|+|\gamma|+1} \alpha! (\gamma! l!)^\sigma \langle \xi \rangle^{e-|\alpha|}$$

( $\exists C, \forall l, \alpha, \gamma, \forall (t, x, \xi) \in [0, T_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ).

In [3] Cattabriga-Mari proved that the Cauchy problem (3.4) is well posed in  $\mathcal{G}^{\sigma_1}$  and constructed for it a fundamental solution  $M(t, s)$ ,  $t, s \in [0, T_2]$ ,  $T_2 \leq T_1$  a suitable positive number depending only on the constant  $C$  in (3.5). It is  $M(t, s) = M_1(t, s)R(t, s)$  where  $R(t, s)$  is an operator applying continuously  $(\partial_\tau \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^n))^m$  into itself for every  $\tau$ ,  $M_1(t, s)$  is a matrix of pseudo-differential operators of infinite order on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with symbol  $M_1(t, s; x, \xi)$  satisfying:

$$(3.6) \quad |\partial_t^k \partial_x^\gamma \partial_\xi^\alpha M_1(t, s; x, \xi)| \leq C_1^{k+|\alpha|+|\gamma|+1} \alpha! (\gamma! k!)^{\sigma_1} \langle \xi \rangle^{-|\alpha|} \exp(c|t-s| \langle \xi \rangle^e),$$

$t, s \in [0, T_2], x, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

We can prove the following lemma (cf. Propositions 2.8 and 2.12 in [4]):

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Let  $Q(x, D_x)$  be a pseudo-differential operator of infinite order with symbol  $q$  satisfying*

$$(3.7) \quad |\partial_x^\beta \partial_\xi^\alpha q(x, \xi)| \leq C_\alpha L^{-|\beta|} (\beta!)^{1/e} \langle \xi \rangle^{-|\alpha|} \exp(\delta \langle \xi \rangle^e), \quad \delta \geq 0,$$

for every  $x, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . There exist two positive constants  $A$  and  $\delta_1$  depending only on  $\mu, \varrho, n$  and  $L$  in (3.7) such that

$$(3.8) \quad \|Qu\|_\tau \leq A \|u\|_{\tau+\delta}$$

for every  $u \in \mathcal{C}_{\tau+\delta}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\tau \leq \delta_1$ .

**PROOF.** Let  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that  $\psi(\xi) = 1$  for  $|\xi| \leq 1/2$  and set  $\psi_j(\xi) = \psi(\xi/j)$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Let us consider the operators

$$R_j(x, D_x) =$$

$$= \exp(\tau \langle D_x \rangle^e) \langle D_x \rangle^\mu \psi_j(D_x) Q(x, D_x) \psi_j(D_x) \langle D_x \rangle^{-\mu} \exp(-(\tau + \delta) \langle D_x \rangle^e).$$

Our aim is to prove that the symbols  $r_j(x, \xi)$  satisfy

$$(3.9) \quad |\partial_x^\beta \partial_\xi^\alpha r_j(x, \xi)| \leq C_{\alpha, \beta}$$

for every  $x, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and every  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , provided that  $\tau \leq \delta_1$ , with constants  $C_{\alpha, \beta}$  depending on  $\alpha, \beta, n$  and  $\mu$ , and  $\delta_1$  depending on  $\mu, \rho, n$  and  $L$  in (3.7). Then (3.8) will follow as a consequence of the Calderón-Vaillancourt theorem about the  $L^2$  boundness of pseudo-differential-operators with symbols in the space  $S_{0,0}^0$ .

The symbol  $r_j(x, \xi)$  is represented by means of an oscillatory integral

$$r_j(x, \xi) = Os - (2\pi)^{-n} \int \int \exp(i(x - y)(\eta - \xi)) a_j(y, \eta, \xi) dy d\eta,$$

$$a_j(y, \eta, \xi) = \exp(\tau \langle \eta \rangle^\rho) \langle \eta \rangle^\mu \psi_j(\eta) q(\gamma, \xi) \psi_j(\xi) \langle \xi \rangle^{-\mu} \exp(-(\tau + \delta) \langle \xi \rangle^\rho).$$

For  $N = 0, 1, \dots$ , and  $\delta_1$  a positive constant to be fixed later on, we put  $\Omega_N = \{\eta; (N/\delta_1)^{1/\rho} \leq |\xi - \eta| \leq ((N + 1)/\delta_1)^{1/\rho}\}$  and we write

$$r_j(x, \xi) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} r_{j,N}(x, \xi) \text{ with}$$

$$(3.10) \quad r_{j,N}(x, \xi) =$$

$$= \int_{\Omega_N} \left[ \int \exp(i(x - y)(\eta - \xi)) \langle x - y \rangle^{-2l} (1 - \Delta_\eta)^l a_j(y, \eta, \xi) dy \right] (2\pi)^{-n} d\eta,$$

$l$  a fixed integer greater than  $n/2$ .

Integrating by parts  $N$  times with respect to  $y$  in (3.10) we get

$$|r_{j,N}(x, \xi)| \leq C_1 (L_1 \delta_1^{-1/\rho})^{-N} \exp((\tau/\delta_1) N)$$

with  $C_1$  depending on  $n$  and  $\mu$ ,  $L_1$  depending on  $n, \mu, \rho$  and  $L$  in (3.7). Then we can choose  $\delta_1 = (L_1/2e)^\rho$  to have (3.9) with  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ . In the same way, we can achieve (3.9) for  $|\alpha|, |\beta| > 0$ , completing the proof.

Returning to the fundamental solution  $M(t, s)$  of (3.4) constructed in [3], from Lemma 3.1 it follows that there exist constants  $A_0 > 0, T_3 \in ]0, T_2[, T_3$  depending on the constant  $C_1$  in (3.6), such that

$$(3.11) \quad \|M(t, s) V\|_{c(T-t)} \leq A_0 \|V\|_{c(T-s)},$$

for  $0 \leq s < t \leq T \leq T_3$  and every  $V \in (\mathcal{D}_{c(T-s)}(\mathbb{R}^n))^m$  with  $c$  the same constant that appears in the right side of (3.6).

Hence, for the solution

$$U_{\beta,j}(t, x) = \int_0^t (M(t, s)F_{\beta,j}(s))(x) ds + M(t, 0)G_{\beta,j}(x)$$

of (3.4), we have for  $t \in [0, T]$ :

$$\|U_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t)} \leq A_0 \left( \int_0^t \|F_{\beta,j}(s)\|_{c(T-s)} ds + \|G_{\beta,j}\|_{cT} \right).$$

If  $\alpha = (\alpha_0, \alpha') \in \mathcal{A}_1$  (see the definition at the end of section 2), then  $\alpha_0 + |\alpha'|/\varrho \leq m - 1$ . Hence:

$$\|\partial_{t,x}^\alpha \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t)} \leq \|A^{m-1-\alpha_0} \partial_t^{\alpha_0} \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t)} \leq \|U_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t)},$$

$0 \leq t \leq T \leq T_3$ .

Since the solution of (3.2) is unique ([3],[4],[7],[9]), we have  $v_{\beta,j}(t, x) = \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}(t, x)$  for  $(t, x) \in [0, T_3] \times \omega$ . By  $\|\partial_{t,x}^\alpha v_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t), \omega} \leq \|\partial_{t,x}^\alpha \tilde{v}_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t)}$  and  $\|f_{\beta,j}(s)\|_{c(T-s), \omega} = \|F_{\beta,j}(s)\|_{c(T-s)}$  from the above inequalities we obtain:

$$(3.12) \quad \max_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_1} \|\partial_{t,x}^\alpha v_{\beta,j}(t)\|_{c(T-t), \omega} \leq A_0 \left( \int_0^t \|f_{\beta,j}(s)\|_{c(T-s), \omega} ds + \|G_{\beta,j}\|_{cT} \right),$$

$0 \leq t \leq T \leq T_3$ .

Taking the maximum value for  $|\beta| = p$  and  $j = 1, \dots, n$  in the left side of (3.12) we have the seminorm  $\Phi_{p+1}^t(u)$  of the solution  $u$  of (1.3). Our next aim is to estimate  $\|f_{\beta,j}(s)\|_{c(T-s), \omega}$  from above by seminorms  $\Phi_{p+1}^t(u)$  in order to deduce from (3.12) an inequality to which we are able to apply Gronwall's Lemma, so obtaining estimates for  $\Phi_{p+1}^t(u)$ . We state the following Lemma, which is an easy consequence of Lemma 2.4. (See [2] for details).

LEMMA 3.2. *There exist positive constants  $\varepsilon_0, \tau_0, \delta_0, L$  such that for  $p \geq 2, 0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0, cT \leq \tau_0, \lambda \geq 0$  the condition*

$$(3.13) \quad \varepsilon \Psi_p(u) \leq \delta_0$$

*implies:*

$$\|f_{\beta,j}(t, \cdot)\|_{c(T-t), \omega} \leq Lp \{ \Phi_{p+1}^t(u) + M_p^t (1 + \Psi_p(u))^2 \}$$

*for every  $|\beta| = p, j = 1, \dots, n$ .*

Next we fix  $T = \min \{T_3, \tau_0/c\}$ , where  $\tau_0$  is the constant in Lemma 3.2 and  $T_3, c$  are the constants for which (3.11) holds. From (3.12) and Lemma 3.2 it follows that for  $p \geq 2$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  the condition (3.13) implies:

$$(3.14) \quad \Phi_{p+1}^t(u) \leq LA_0 p \int_0^t \{ \Phi_{p+1}^s(u) + M_p^s (1 + \Psi_p(u))^2 \} ds + G_p,$$

$0 \leq t \leq T$ , where  $G_p = A_0 \max_{|\beta|=p, 1 \leq j \leq n} \|G_{\beta,j}\|_{cT}$ .

By using Gronwall's inequality and letting  $LA_0 = L_0$ , we obtain from (3.14)

$$(3.15) \quad \Phi_{p+1}^t(u) \leq G_p \exp[L_0 p t] + L_0 p (1 + \Psi_p(u))^2 \int_0^t \exp(L_0 p (t-s)) M_p^s ds.$$

For  $\lambda \geq 6L_0$ ,  $p \geq 2$  we have:

$$(3.16) \quad p \int_0^t \exp(L_0 p (t-s)) M_p^s ds \leq p M_p \frac{\exp(\lambda(p-1)t)}{\lambda(p-1) - L'p} \leq (3/\lambda) M_p^t.$$

Since  $g_k \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\bar{\omega})$ , it is  $G_p \leq A_1 \varepsilon_1^{1-p} m_p$  for suitable positive constants  $A_1, \varepsilon_1$ . Hence for  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 2L_0$ ,  $p \geq 2$

$$(3.17) \quad G_p \exp(L_0 p t) \leq A_1 M_p^t.$$

From (3.15), (3.16), (3.17) we obtain for  $p \geq 2$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \tilde{\varepsilon}_0 = \min(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_0)$ ,  $\lambda \geq \lambda_0 = 6L_0$ :

$$(3.18) \quad \Phi_{p+1}^t(u) \leq L_1 (1 + (\Psi_p(u))^2 / \lambda) M_p^t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

Summing up, we have proved that:

$$(3.19) \quad \text{Condition (3.13) implies inequality (3.18)}$$

for  $p \geq 2$ ,  $\varepsilon \in ]0, \tilde{\varepsilon}_0]$ ,  $\lambda \geq \lambda_0$ .

Now we let  $H = \max(2L_1, \Psi_2(u))$ ,  $\lambda = \max(\lambda_0, 2HL_1)$  and fix  $\varepsilon \in ]0, \tilde{\varepsilon}_0]$  such that  $\varepsilon H < \delta_0$ , where  $\delta_0$  is the same constant as in Lemma 3.2. In this way we have  $L_1(1 + H^2/\lambda) \leq H$ .

Since  $\Psi_{p+1}(u) = \max(\Psi_p(u), \sup_{t \in [0, T]} (\Phi_{p+1}^t(u)/M_p^t))$ , by using (3.19) it is easy to prove inductively that

$$\Psi_p(u) \leq H, \quad p \geq 2.$$

This means

$$\|\partial_x^\beta u(t, \cdot)\|_{C(T-t, \omega)} \leq HM_q^{t-1}$$

for every  $\beta$ ,  $|\beta| = q \geq 2$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq T$ . Hence  $u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma(\omega)$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T$ . Moreover, from equations (1.3), by using the method of majorant series (see for example [6] we can prove that  $u$  is a Gevrey function of index  $\sigma$  also with respect to  $t \in [0, T]$ . By applying this result a finite number of times in the cylinders  $[T, 2T] \times \omega, \dots, [k_0 T, T_1] \times \omega$ , we obtain  $u \in \mathcal{G}^\sigma([0, T_1] \times \omega)$ .

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