

Concerning solutions of an exterior boundary-value problem for a system of non-linear parabolic equations

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In paper [2] we have considered Fourier's first problem in an unbounded domain for the system of equations

$$(0.1) \quad \frac{\partial u_s}{\partial t} = F_s \left(x, t, u_s, \frac{\partial u_s}{\partial x_j}, \frac{\partial^2 u_s}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \right),$$
$$s, i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j, k = 1, \dots, m, \quad x = (x_1, \dots, x_m).$$

We have proved in it certain uniqueness and existence theorems for solutions of this problem as well as a theorem concerning inequalities between the solutions of two systems of the form (0.1). In the existence theorem we have assumed the existence of a solution of a suitable problem in bounded domains. Using the same method as in [2] we discuss in the present paper theorems analogous to the mentioned above but concerning an exterior non-linear boundary value problem for (0.1) ⁽¹⁾. In proving these theorems we refer to fragments of the proofs in [2].

Theorem I of this paper constitutes a generalization of a well known theorem proved by M. Krzyżański [3] for one linear equation with bounded coefficients and for a linear boundary condition. Theorems analogous to I and II have been established by J. Szarski [6], [7], [8] in domains whose intersections with planes $t = \text{const}$ are bounded. W. Mlak [5] has proved a theorem similar to II for strong inequalities in a bounded domain.

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§ 1. Let Δ be a bounded and closed domain of the m -dimensional Euclidean space C^m of the variables x_1, \dots, x_m and let S be its complementary domain. As in [3], the boundary $F\Delta$ of Δ is assumed to be represented by the equation

$$(1.1) \quad \Gamma(x) = 0,$$

⁽¹⁾ These results without the proofs have been included in [1] (part 2).

where $\Gamma(x)$, $x = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$, is a function with continuous and bounded derivatives of second order in the domain \mathcal{S} , while it is of class C^1 in the closure $\bar{\mathcal{S}}$ and satisfies the condition

$$(1.2) \quad |\text{grad } \Gamma(x)| \geq \Gamma_0 > 0.$$

We define

$$(1.3) \quad D^h = \mathcal{S} \times (0, h), \quad \sigma^h = F\Delta \times (0, h), \quad 0 < h \leq +\infty.$$

The functions $F_s(x, t, y_i, z_j, z_{jk})$ appearing on the right-hand side of (0.1) are assumed to be defined for $(x, t) \in D^h$ and arbitrary y_i, z_j, z_{jk} ($i = 1, \dots, n; j, k = 1, \dots, m$). The following definition given by J. Szarski is used here: the s -th equation of (0.1) is said to be parabolic with respect to a sequence of functions $w_1(x, t), \dots, w_n(x, t)$ of class C^1 if for every two systems of numbers z_{jk}, \bar{z}_{jk} ($j, k = 1, \dots, m$), $z_{jk} = z_{kj}$, $\bar{z}_{jk} = \bar{z}_{kj}$, such that the quadratic form

$$\sum_{j,k=1}^m (z_{jk} - \bar{z}_{jk}) \lambda_j \lambda_k$$

is non-positive for arbitrary $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$, the inequality

$$F_s \left(x, t, w_i(x, t), \frac{\partial w_s(x, t)}{\partial x_j}, z_{jk} \right) - F_s \left(x, t, w_i(x, t), \frac{\partial w_s(x, t)}{\partial x_j}, \bar{z}_{jk} \right) \leq 0$$

is satisfied. If every equation of the system (0.1) is parabolic with respect to a solution $u_i(x, t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) of this system, such a solution is called a parabolic one.

Let $\varphi_i(x)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) be arbitrarily given functions defined and continuous for $x \in \mathcal{S}$ while $G_s(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ($s = 1, \dots, n$) are defined for $(x, t) \in \sigma^h$ and arbitrary y_1, \dots, y_n .

For every $(x, t) \in \sigma^h$ and every s ($s = 1, \dots, n$) let l_s be a straight half-line entering the interior of D^h (at point (x, t)) and parallel to the plane $t = 0$. The existence of a positive constant γ_0 such that

$$(1.4) \quad \cos(l_i, n_0) \geq \gamma_0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in \sigma^h$$

is assumed, n_0 being the normal to σ^h directed to the interior of D^h .

The problem which we will call (F) consists in finding a parabolic solution $u_i(x, t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) of (0.1), regular in D^h (*) possessing the derivatives du_s/dl_s at points of σ^h , fulfilling the initial condition

$$(1.5) \quad u_i(x, 0) = \varphi_i(x) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad x \in \mathcal{S}$$

(*) I.e. continuous in the closure \bar{D}^h of D^h , possessing the derivative $\frac{\partial u_s}{\partial t}$ and continuous derivatives $\frac{\partial u_s}{\partial x_j}, \frac{\partial^2 u_s}{\partial x_j \partial x_k}$ ($s = 1, \dots, n; j, k = 1, \dots, m$) in D^h .

and the boundary condition

$$(1.6) \quad \frac{du_s}{dt} + G_s(x, t, u_1, \dots, u_n) = 0 \quad (s = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in \sigma^h.$$

We will say that the function $F_s(x, t, y_i, z_j, z_{jk})$ satisfies the (\mathcal{L}) -condition if there exist positive constants L_0, \dots, L_4 such that for arbitrary $y_i, z_j, z_{jk}; \bar{y}_i, \bar{z}_j, \bar{z}_{jk}$ ($i = 1, \dots, n; j, k = 1, \dots, m$), $y_s \geq \bar{y}_s$, we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & F_s(x, t, y_i, z_j, z_{jk}) - F_s(x, t, \bar{y}_i, \bar{z}_j, \bar{z}_{jk}) \\ & \leq L_0 \sum_{j,k=1}^m |z_{jk} - \bar{z}_{jk}| + (L_1|x| + L_2) \sum_{j=1}^m |z_j - \bar{z}_j| + (L_3|x|^2 + L_4) \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i - \bar{y}_i|, \end{aligned}$$

where, as usually, $|x| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^m x_i^2\right)^{1/2}$. Further, the function $G_s(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n)$ is said to satisfy the $(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ -condition if there is a positive constant L such that for arbitrary y_i, \bar{y}_i ($i = 1, \dots, n$), $y_s \geq \bar{y}_s$, the inequality

$$G_s(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n) - G_s(x, t, \bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n) \leq L \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i - \bar{y}_i|$$

holds.

By $E_2(M, K)$ or shortly E_2 we denote the class of functions $\psi(x, t)$, defined in an unbounded domain, for which there exist positive constants M, K such that the inequality

$$|\psi(x, t)| \leq M \exp(K|x|^2)$$

is satisfied in this domain.

§ 2. THEOREM I. *If the functions F_s and G_s ($s = 1, \dots, n$) fulfil the conditions (\mathcal{L}) and $(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ respectively, then the problem (F) has no more than one solution of class E_2 in the domain D^h .*

Proof. Let us take two arbitrary solutions $u_i^{(1)}$ and $u_i^{(2)}$ of the problem (F) belonging to E_2 in D^h . We shall show that

$$u_i \stackrel{\text{df}}{=} u_i^{(1)} - u_i^{(2)} \equiv 0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

From the definition of class E_2 it follows that there exist $M, K_0 > 0$ such that

$$(2.1) \quad |u_i| \leq M \exp(K_0|x|^2) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in D^h.$$

It may be assumed that

$$(2.2) \quad \Gamma(x) \equiv |x| \quad \text{for} \quad |x| > R_0,$$

where R_0 is the radius of a sphere $|x| = R_0$ situated in \mathcal{C}^m and containing the boundary $F\Delta$ in its interior. From that and from the assumptions of § 1 it follows that there exist $A, B > 0$ such that

$$(2.3) \quad \left| \sum_{j=1}^m \Gamma'_{x_j}(x) \right| \leq A, \quad \left| \sum_{j,k=1}^m \Gamma''_{x_j x_k}(x) \right| \leq B \quad \text{in } S.$$

We shall make use of the function

$$(2.4) \quad H(x, t; K) = \exp \left\{ \frac{K[\Gamma(x) - p(K)]^2}{1 - \mu(K)t} + \nu(K)t \right\}, \quad K > K_0,$$

constructed by M. Krzyżański [3], where

$$(2.5) \quad p(K) = \frac{nL + 1}{2K\Gamma_0\gamma_0},$$

$$(2.6) \quad \mu(K) = 4KL_0A^2 + 2L_1A + \frac{nL_3 + 1}{K},$$

and

$$(2.7) \quad \nu(K) = \max \left\{ \frac{(KL_0B + KL_1Ap + L_3pn)^2 + 2KL_0A^2 + L_3p^2n + L_4n + 1}{\gamma^2}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{[KL_0B + KA(L_1R_0 + L_2)]^2 + 2KL_0A^2 + n(L_3R_0^2 + L_4) + 1}{\gamma^2} \right\},$$

γ being arbitrarily chosen from the interval $(0, 1)$.

First, we shall give the proof of the theorem for the part $D^{h_0} = S \times \times (0, h_0)$ of D^h , where

$$(2.8) \quad h_0 = \frac{1 - \gamma}{\mu(K)}.$$

Write

$$(2.9) \quad \mathcal{F}H(x, t; K) \\ = L_0 \sum_{j,k=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \right| + (L_1|x| + L_2) \sum_{j=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_j} \right| + (L_3|x|^2 + L_4)nH - \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}.$$

We shall show that the function $H(x, t; K)$ satisfies the following inequality

$$(2.10) \quad \mathcal{F}H(x, t; K) \leq -H(x, t; K) \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in D^{h_0}.$$

Indeed, (2.8) yields:

$$(2.11) \quad 0 < \gamma \leq 1 - \mu t \leq 1.$$

Taking advantage of (2.4), (2.3) and (2.11) we get

$$(2.12) \quad \mathcal{F}H \leq \frac{H}{(1 - \mu t)^2} \{ 4K^2L_0A(\Gamma - p)^2 + 2KL_0A^2 + 2KBL_0|\Gamma - p| + \\ + (L_1|x| + L_2)2KA|\Gamma - p| + (L_3|x|^2 + L_4)n - \mu K(\Gamma - p)^2 - \nu\gamma^2 \}.$$

If $|x| > R_0$, then in view of (2.2), the inequality $|x| \leq ||x| - p| + p$ and (2.6) we obtain

$$\mathcal{F}H \leq \frac{H}{(1-\mu t)^2} \left\{ -\left[||x| - p| - (KL_0B + pKL_1A + npL_3) \right]^2 + \right. \\ \left. + (KL_0B + pKL_1A + npL_3)^2 + 2KL_0A^2 + np^2L_3 + nL_4 - v\gamma^2 \right\}.$$

Hence by (2.7) we get (2.10).

If $|x| \leq R_0$, then from (2.6) and (2.12) it follows that

$$\mathcal{F}H \leq \frac{H}{(1-\mu t)^2} \left\{ -\left[|r - p| - (KL_0B + KA(L_1R_0 + L_2)) \right]^2 + \right. \\ \left. + (KL_0B + KA(L_1R_0 + L_2))^2 + 2KL_0A^2 + n(L_3R_0^2 + L_4) - v\gamma^2 \right\}.$$

By virtue of (2.7) we see that now inequality (2.10) is also verified. Further, we substitute

$$(2.13) \quad u_i^{(1)} = v_i^{(1)}H(x, t; K), \quad u_i^{(2)} = v_i^{(2)}H(x, t; K) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

Putting $v_i = v_i^{(1)} - v_i^{(2)}$ we have

$$(2.14) \quad u_i = v_iH(x, t; K).$$

Let us choose an increasing sequence $\{R_\alpha\}$, $R_\alpha > R_0$, $R_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ as $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$. The part of the boundary of domain D^h lying on the plain $t = 0$ will be denoted by S^0 . Furthermore, denote by $D_\alpha^{h_0}$ and S_α^0 the parts of domains D^{h_0} and S^0 respectively contained inside the cylindric surface Σ_α with the equation $|x| = R_\alpha$. Put $C_\alpha^{h_0} = D^{h_0} \cap \Sigma_\alpha$. We will consider the sequence with the terms

$$A_\alpha = \max_{(i)} \max_{(x,t) \in D_\alpha^{h_0}} |v_i(x, t)| \quad (\alpha = 1, 2, \dots).$$

From (2.14) it follows that the theorem will be proved if we show that $A_\alpha = 0$ for any α . Observe that the sequence $\{A_\alpha\}$ is non decreasing and $A_\alpha \geq 0$ for every α . Therefore it suffices to prove that $A_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ as $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$. For this purpose notice that for any α there exists an integer i_α and a point $(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in \overline{D_\alpha^{h_0}}$ such that $A_\alpha = |v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)|$. A priori the following cases are possible:

$$1) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in S_\alpha^0, \quad 2) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in D_\alpha^{h_0}, \quad 3) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in \sigma^{h_0}, \quad 4) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in C_\alpha^{h_0}.$$

Evidently in case 1) $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) = 0$ and so $A_\alpha = 0$. In case 2) we have either 2') $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) = 0$ or 2'') $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) > 0$ or 2''') $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) < 0$. Case 2') means that $A_\alpha = 0$. If 2'') holds, then the same reasoning as in the proof of theorem I of [2] leads to the inequality

$$(2.15) \quad 0 \leq \frac{\partial v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)}{\partial t} H(x_\alpha, t_\alpha; K) \leq v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \mathcal{F}H(x_\alpha, t_\alpha; K),$$

and thus, by (2.10), we prove the impossibility of case 2''). Case 2''') may be, as in [2], reduced to 2'') by the substitution $\bar{v}_i = -v_i$.

In case 3) we have: 3') $v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a) = 0$, which means that $A_a = 0$ or 3'') $v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a) > 0$ or 3''') $v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a) < 0$. If 3'') holds, then

$$(2.16) \quad \frac{dv_{i_a}(x_a, t_a)}{dl_{i_a}} \leq 0,$$

since in the contrary case there would exist such a point (x_0, t_0) lying in the interior of D^{h_0} that $v_{i_a}(x_0, t_0) > v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a)$, and this contradicts the definition of $v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a)$.

On the other hand, by (1.6), (2.13) and (2.14), we obtain

$$\frac{dv_{i_a}}{dl_{i_a}} H + v_{i_a} \frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + G_{i_a}(x_a, t_a, v_1^{(1)} H, \dots, v_n^{(1)} H) - G_{i_a}(x_a, t_a, v_1^{(2)} H, \dots, v_n^{(2)} H) = 0,$$

whence, according to the $(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ -condition, we get

$$(2.17) \quad -\frac{dv_{i_a}}{dl_{i_a}} H \leq v_{i_a} \frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + L \sum_{i=1}^n |v_i| H \leq v_{i_a} \left(\frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + LHn \right).$$

The sign of $\Gamma(x)$ in equation (1.1) may be chosen so that

$$(2.18) \quad \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial x_i} = |\text{grad } \Gamma(x)| \cos(x_i, n_0).$$

Therefore, on account of (1.1), (1.2), (1.4), (2.5) and (2.17) we derive

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{dv_{i_a}}{dl_{i_a}} H &\leq v_{i_a} H \left(\frac{-2Kp}{1-\mu t_a} |\text{grad } \Gamma| \cos(n_0, l_{i_a}) + nL \right) \\ &\leq v_{i_a} H (-2Kp\Gamma_0\gamma_0 + nL) = -v_{i_a} H < 0, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (2.16). Repeating the same reasoning for the function $\bar{v}_{i_a} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -v_{i_a}$ one may show that case 3''') is also impossible. Therefore, in each case 1)-3) we have $A_a = 0$.

In case 4), by (2.1) and (2.14), we obtain

$$|v_{i_a}(x_a, t_a)| \leq \frac{M \exp(K_0|x_a|^2)}{\exp\left\{\frac{K(\Gamma-p)^2}{1-\mu t_a} + \nu t_a\right\}} = \frac{M \exp(K_0 R_a^2)}{\exp\left\{\frac{K(R_a-p)^2}{1-\mu t_a} + \nu t_a\right\}} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \alpha \rightarrow \infty.$$

From the previous considerations it follows that the last inequality holds for all cases 1)-4). Consequently $A_a \rightarrow 0$ as $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$, q.e.d.

If $h > h_0$, then the change of the variable $t = \tilde{t} + jh_0$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots$) enables us to prove the theorem successively for the parts of D^h contained in the zones: $jh_0 \leq t \leq (j+1)h_0$.

§ 3. Let us now take a system of functions $\chi_s(y_1, \dots, y_n, \tau)$ ($s = 1, \dots, n$), where τ denotes a sequence of variables different from y_1, \dots, y_n . We will say that the function χ_s fulfils the (W)-condition with regard to the variables y_1, \dots, y_n if for $y_i \leq \bar{y}_i$, $i \neq s$, $y_s = \bar{y}_s$, we have

$$\chi_s(y_1, \dots, y_n, \tau) \leq \chi_s(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n, \tau).$$

THEOREM II. *If*

1° $u_i^{(1)}(x, t)$, $u_i^{(2)}(x, t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) are regular solutions of class E_2 in D^h of the systems of equations

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{\partial u_s^{(1)}}{\partial t} = F_s^{(1)}\left(x, t, u_i^{(1)}, \frac{\partial u_s^{(1)}}{\partial x_j}, \frac{\partial^2 u_s^{(1)}}{\partial x_j \partial x_k}\right) \quad (s = 1, \dots, n),$$

$$(3.2) \quad \frac{\partial u_s^{(2)}}{\partial t} = F_s^{(2)}\left(x, t, u_i^{(2)}, \frac{\partial u_s^{(2)}}{\partial x_j}, \frac{\partial^2 u_s^{(2)}}{\partial x_j \partial x_k}\right) \quad (s = 1, \dots, n),$$

respectively,

2° for each s ($s = 1, \dots, n$) the equation with index s of system (3.1) is parabolic with respect to the sequence $u_i^{(1)}(x, t)$, or the equation with the same index of system (3.2) is parabolic with respect to the sequence $u_i^{(2)}(x, t)$,

3° for each s the function $F_s^{(1)}$ or $F_s^{(2)}$ satisfies the (W)-condition with respect to the variables y_1, \dots, y_n and the (L)-condition,

4° $F_s^{(1)}(x, t, y_i, z_j, z_{jk}) \leq F_s^{(2)}(x, t, y_i, z_j, z_{jk})$ ($s = 1, \dots, n$) in the domain of existence of these functions,

5° $u_i^{(1)}(x, 0) \leq u_i^{(2)}(x, 0)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) for $x \in S$,

6° the functions $u_i^{(1)}(x, t)$ and $u_i^{(2)}(x, t)$ fulfil the boundary conditions

$$(3.3) \quad \frac{du_s^{(1)}}{dl_s} + G_s^{(1)}(x, t, u_1^{(1)}, \dots, u_n^{(1)}) = 0 \quad (s = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in \sigma^h,$$

$$(3.4) \quad \frac{du_s^{(2)}}{dl_s} + G_s^{(2)}(x, t, u_1^{(2)}, \dots, u_n^{(2)}) = 0 \quad (s = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in \sigma^h,$$

respectively,

7° $G_s^{(1)}(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n) \leq G_s^{(2)}(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ($s = 1, \dots, n$) for $(x, t) \in \sigma^h$, $-\infty < y_i < +\infty$,

8° for each s ($s = 1, \dots, n$) the function $G_s^{(1)}$ or $G_s^{(2)}$ fulfils condition (\bar{L}) and condition (W) with regard to the variables y_1, \dots, y_n ,

then the inequalities

$$u_i^{(1)}(x, t) \leq u_i^{(2)}(x, t) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

are satisfied everywhere in D^h .

Proof. The functions $u_i^{(1)}$ and $u_i^{(2)}$ belong to the class E_2 in D^h ; therefore there exist $M, K_0 > 0$ such that (2.1) is satisfied for $u_i \stackrel{\text{df}}{=} u_i^{(1)} - u_i^{(2)}$.

We shall give the proof of theorem II for the domain D^{h_0} defined in the proof of theorem I. If $h > h_0$, then the change of the variable $t = \tilde{t} + jh_0$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots$) enables us to prove the theorem for the whole domain D^h . Furthermore, we shall restrict ourselves to the case where all the equations of (4.1) are parabolic (with respect to $u_i^{(2)}(x, t)$), all the functions $F_s^{(2)}$ satisfy the (\mathcal{L}) and the (\mathcal{W})-conditions and likewise all the functions $G_s^{(2)}$ satisfy the (\mathcal{L}) and the (\mathcal{W})-conditions. The reasoning in the other cases is similar.

We retain here the notation introduced in the proof of theorem I. Using transformations (2.13) and (2.14) we denote

$$\bar{A}_\alpha = \max_{(i)} \max_{(x,t) \in \bar{D}_\alpha^{h_0}} v_i(x, t).$$

The theorem will be proved if we show that $\bar{A}_\alpha \leq 0$ for any α . For every α there exist an index i_α and a point $(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in \bar{D}_\alpha^{h_0}$ such that $\bar{A}_\alpha = v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)$. Consider the cases:

$$1) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in S_\alpha^0, \quad 2) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in D_\alpha^{h_0}, \quad 3) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in \sigma^{h_0}, \quad 4) (x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in C_\alpha^{h_0}.$$

In case 1) we infer by assumption 5° and relation (2.14), that $\bar{A}_\alpha \leq 0$. In case 2) we have: 2') $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \leq 0$ or 2'') $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) > 0$. 2') means that $\bar{A}_\alpha \leq 0$. When 2'') holds, then the same reasoning as in the proof of theorem II of [2] leads us to inequality (2.15), where $\mathcal{F}H$ is defined by (2.9) and, as was shown in the proof of theorem I, $\mathcal{F}H \leq -H < 0$. This contradiction shows that case 2'') is impossible. In case 3) the inequality $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \leq 0$ means that $\bar{A}_\alpha \leq 0$. Suppose now that $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) > 0$. From the definition of $v_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)$ it follows that inequality (2.16) is satisfied. On the other hand, by (3.3), (3.4), (2.13) and (2.14) we get

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{dv_{i_\alpha}}{dt_{i_\alpha}} H + v_{i_\alpha} \frac{dH}{dt_{i_\alpha}} + G_{i_\alpha}^{(1)}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_n^{(1)}H) - \\ - G_{i_\alpha}^{(2)}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(2)}H, \dots, v_n^{(2)}H) = 0.$$

By virtue of assumption 7°

$$(3.6) \quad G_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_n^{(1)}H) - G_{i_\alpha}^{(2)}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_n^{(1)}H) \leq 0.$$

Let q ($1 \leq q \leq n$) denote the number of those functions among v_1, \dots, v_n which assume a positive value at point (x_α, t_α) . Without loss of generality it may be assumed that these are the functions v_1, \dots, v_q (thereby $i_\alpha \leq q$). According to the (\mathcal{W})-condition we get

$$(3.7) \quad G_{i_\alpha}^{(2)}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_q^{(1)}H, v_{q+1}^{(1)}H, \dots, v_n^{(1)}H) - \\ - G_{i_\alpha}^{(2)}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_q^{(1)}H, v_{q+1}^{(2)}H, \dots, v_n^{(2)}H) \leq 0.$$

By virtue of condition $(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ we derive

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{aligned} & v_{i_a} \frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + G_{i_a}^{(2)}(x_a, t_a, v_1^{(1)}H, \dots, v_q^{(1)}H, v_{q+1}^{(2)}H, \dots, v_n^{(2)}H) - \\ & - G_{i_a}^{(2)}(x_a, t_a, v_1^{(2)}H, \dots, v_q^{(2)}H, v_{q+1}^{(2)}H, \dots, v_n^{(2)}H) \\ & \leq v_{i_a} \frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + L \sum_{i=1}^q |v_i| H \leq v_{i_a} \left(\frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + nLH \right). \end{aligned}$$

But in view of (1.1), (1.2), (1.4), (2.5) and (2.18) we have, as in the proof of theorem I,

$$\frac{dH}{dl_{i_a}} + nLH \leq -H < 0.$$

Now adding (3.8), (3.7), (3.6) we obtain, by (3.5), $dv_{i_a}/dl_{i_a} > v_{i_a} > 0$ which contradicts (2.16). Thus we have proved that $\bar{A}_a \leq 0$ in each of the cases 1)-3). In case 4), by (2.14) and (2.1), the following relation is satisfied

$$\bar{A}_a \leq \frac{M \exp(K_0 R_a^2)}{\exp\left\{\frac{K(R_a - p)^2}{1 - \mu t_a} + \nu t_a\right\}} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } a \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thereby this relation holds for the cases previously considered. On the other hand the sequence $\{\bar{A}_a\}$ is non-decreasing. Hence we conclude that for every a , $\bar{A}_a \leq 0$, which completes the proof.

The corollary inserted in [2] concerning the weakening of the (\mathcal{L}) -condition is also true here relating to theorems I and II.

§ 4. Using the notation of § 2 let us put

$$(4.1) \quad \bar{R} = \max(R_0, p(K)), \quad h_1 = \frac{1 - \gamma}{\mu(K + k_0)}, \quad 0 < \gamma < 1, \quad k_0 > 0.$$

LEMMA. If $K > \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{nL_s + 1}{AL_0}}$ and $k_0 > 0$, then the inequality

$$\frac{H(x, t; K)}{H(x, t; K + k_0)} \leq \exp\{-k_0[\Gamma(x) - p(K + k_0)]^2\}$$

holds for $|x| > \bar{R}$, $(x, t) \in D^{h_1}$ (see (1.3)).

Proof. By (2.5) we have $p(K + k_0) < p(K)$. Hence and from (2.2) we deduce that $[\Gamma(x) - p(K)]^2 \leq [\Gamma(x) - p(K + k_0)]^2$ for $|x| > \bar{R}$. By

virtue of (2.7) $\nu(K+k_0) > \nu(K)$. Owing to (2.6), for $K > \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{nL_0+1}{AL_0}}$, we obtain $\mu(K+k_0) > \mu(K)$. Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{H(x, t; K)}{H(x, t; K+k_0)} \\ & \leq \exp \left\{ \frac{K[\Gamma-p(K)]^2}{1-\mu(K)t} - \frac{K[\Gamma-p(K+k_0)]^2}{1-\mu(K+k_0)t} - \frac{k_0[\Gamma-p(K+k_0)]^2}{1-\mu(K+k_0)t} + \right. \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. + [\nu(K) - \nu(K+k_0)]t \right\} \\ & \leq \exp \left\{ -\frac{k_0[\Gamma-p(K+k_0)]^2}{1-\mu(K+k_0)t} \right\} \leq \exp \{-k_0[\Gamma-p(K+k_0)]^2\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now let $\Phi_i(x, t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) be arbitrary continuous functions of class E_2 in D^{h_1} and let $G_s(x, t, y_1, \dots, y_n)$ be given functions defined for $(x, t) \in \sigma^{h_1}$, $-\infty < y_i < +\infty$, and fulfilling the (\bar{L}) -condition.

Take an increasing sequence $\{R_\alpha\}$, $R_\alpha > \bar{R}$, $R_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ as $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$.

THEOREM III. *If*

1° for arbitrary $\Phi_i(x, t)$ continuous in \bar{D}^{h_1} and for every α there exists a parabolic solution $u_i^\alpha(x, t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) of (0.1), regular in $D_\alpha^{h_1}$ and fulfilling the conditions

$$(4.2) \quad u_i^\alpha(x, t) = \Phi_i(x, t) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{on the set } S_\alpha^0 + C_\alpha^{h_1},$$

$$(4.3) \quad \frac{du_s^\alpha}{dl_s} + G_s(x, t, u_1^\alpha, \dots, u_n^\alpha) = 0 \quad (s = 1, \dots, n) \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in \sigma^{h_1},$$

2° the functions F_s and G_s ($s = 1, \dots, n$) satisfy the conditions (L) and (\bar{L}) respectively,

3° the functions $F_s(x, t, 0, 0, 0)$ belong to E_2 in D^{h_1} while $g_s(x, t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} G_s(x, t, 0, \dots, 0)$ are bounded for $(x, t) \in \sigma^{h_1}$,

4° $\varphi_i(x)$ are given continuous functions of class E_2 in S ;
then the problem (F) (for $h = h_1$, see § 1) possesses at least one solution and this solution belongs to E_2 in D^{h_1} .

Proof. First, we shall prove that the sequences $\{u_i^\alpha(x, t)\}$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$), $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ (see assumption 1°), are almost uniformly convergent in D^{h_1} . For this purpose let us choose continuous functions $\Phi_i(x, t)$ of class E_2 in D^{h_1} so that $\Phi_i(x, 0) = \varphi_i(x)$ for $x \in S$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$).

It may be assumed that the functions $\varphi_i(x)$, $\Phi_i(x, t)$ and $F_i(x, t, 0, 0, 0)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) belong to the class $E_2(M, K_0)$ with the same constants M and K_0 .

We introduce the substitution

$$(4.4) \quad u_i^\alpha = v_i^\alpha H(x, t; K) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n),$$

where $H(x, t; K)$ is given by (2.4) with

$$(4.5) \quad K = \max \left(K_0, \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{nL_3 + 1}{AL_0}} \right).$$

For an arbitrary fixed α let i_α and (x_α, t_α) be an integer and a point respectively for which

$$\bar{A}_\alpha \stackrel{\text{df}}{=} \max_{(i)} \max_{(x,t) \in D_\alpha^{h_1}} |v_i^\alpha(x, t)| = |v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)|$$

and consider the following cases:

1) $(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in D^{h_1}$. Making use of the property of function (2.4) one can prove, as in the proof of theorem III included in [2], that for this case

$$(4.6) \quad |v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)| \leq M,$$

M being a constant appearing in the definition of class $E_2(M, K_0)$.

2) $(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in S_\alpha^0 + C_\alpha^{h_1}$. Now from (4.2) and (4.4) we derive (4.6);

3) $(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \in \sigma^{h_1}$. Suppose $v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) > 0$. By (4.3) and (4.4) the function $v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha$ satisfies the boundary condition which may be written in the form

$$-\frac{dv_{i_\alpha}^\alpha}{dl_{i_\alpha}} H = v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha \frac{dH}{dl_{i_\alpha}} + G_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, v_1^\alpha H, \dots, v_n^\alpha H) - G_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, 0, 0, \dots, 0) + G_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha, 0, 0, \dots, 0).$$

According to the $(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ -condition we have

$$-\frac{dv_{i_\alpha}^\alpha}{dl_{i_\alpha}} \leq v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha \frac{dH}{dl_{i_\alpha}} + L \sum_{i=1}^n |v_i^\alpha| H + g_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)$$

and hence, by (1.1) and (2.18) we get

$$-\frac{dv_{i_\alpha}^\alpha}{dl_{i_\alpha}} \leq v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha \left[\frac{-2Kp}{1-\mu t} |\text{grad } \Gamma| \cos(n_\alpha, l_{i_\alpha}) + nL \right] + \frac{g_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)}{H}.$$

By our assumption $g_{i_\alpha}(x, t)$ is bounded. We may assume that $g_{i_\alpha}(x_\alpha, t_\alpha)/H \leq M$. Furthermore, relations (1.2), (1.3) and (2.5) yield

$$-\frac{dv_{i_\alpha}^\alpha}{dl_{i_\alpha}} \leq v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha (-2Kp\Gamma_0\gamma_0 + nL) + M \leq -v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha + M.$$

On the other hand $dv_{i_\alpha}^\alpha/dl_{i_\alpha} \leq 0$. Hence we deduce that $v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha \leq M$. If $v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) < 0$, then, repeating the above reasoning for the function $\bar{v}_{i_\alpha}^\alpha = -v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha$, we should have $v_{i_\alpha}^\alpha(x_\alpha, t_\alpha) \geq -M$, or in each of the cases 1)-3) $\bar{A}_\alpha \leq M$ for every α . Therefore for a natural number $\beta > \alpha$ we get $\bar{A}_\beta \leq M$ too. Putting

$$(4.7) \quad u_i^{\alpha\beta} = u_i^\alpha - u_i^\beta, \quad v_i^{\alpha\beta} = v_i^\alpha - v_i^\beta \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

we have

$$(4.8) \quad u_i^{\alpha\beta} = v_i^{\alpha\beta} H(x, t; K) \quad \text{and} \quad |v_i^{\alpha\beta}| \leq 2M \quad \text{for} \quad (x, t) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}.$$

Let $\overset{*}{v}_i^\alpha, \overset{*}{v}_i^\beta$ be the functions defined by the relations

$$(4.9) \quad u_i^\alpha = \overset{*}{v}_i^\alpha H(x, t; K + k_0), \quad u_i^\beta = \overset{*}{v}_i^\beta H(x, t; K + k_0) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n),$$

k_0 being a positive constant. Denoting $\overset{*}{v}_i^{\alpha\beta} = \overset{*}{v}_i^\alpha - \overset{*}{v}_i^\beta$ we obtain

$$(4.10) \quad u_i^{\alpha\beta} = \overset{*}{v}_i^{\alpha\beta} H(x, t; K + k_0) \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

Let us denote

$$A_{\alpha\beta} = \max_{(i)} \max_{(x,t) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}} |\overset{*}{v}_i^{\alpha\beta}(x, t)|.$$

Evidently, there exist an index $i_{\alpha\beta}$ and a point $(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta}) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}$ for which $A_{\alpha\beta} = |\overset{*}{v}_{i_{\alpha\beta}}^{\alpha\beta}(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta})|$. If this point belongs to $D_a^{h_1}$, then likewise as in the proof of theorem III in [2] it can be shown that $A_{\alpha\beta} = 0$. Further, if $(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta}) \in \sigma^{h_1}$, then using the same reasoning as in the proof of theorem I of this paper, one can show that $A_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ too. Finally, let us consider the case: $(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta}) \in S_a^0 + C_a^{h_1}$. Owing to (4.8), (4.10) and the lemma we have

$$|\overset{*}{v}_{i_{\alpha\beta}}^{\alpha\beta}(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta})| \leq \frac{2MH(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta}; K)}{H(x_{\alpha\beta}, t_{\alpha\beta}; K + k_0)} \leq 2M \exp\{-k_0[R_a - p(K + k_0)]^2\}.$$

According to the above considerations we conclude that the inequalities

$$(4.11) \quad |\overset{*}{v}_i^{\alpha\beta}(x, t)| \leq 2M \exp\{-k_0[R_a - p(K + k_0)]^2\} \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

hold for $(x, t) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}$. Now let a_0 be an arbitrary integer. Put

$$N_0 = \max_{\overline{D}_{a_0}^{h_1}} H(x, t; K + k_0).$$

From (4.10) and (4.11) we derive the inequalities

$$|u_i^{\alpha\beta}(x, t)| \leq 2MN_0 \exp\{-k_0[R_a - p(K + k_0)]^2\} \quad \text{for} \quad a > a_0, \quad (x, t) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}.$$

Hence we deduce that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $a_1(\varepsilon), a_1 > a_0$, such that for $\beta > a > a_1$ the inequalities $|u_i^{\alpha\beta}(x, t)| < \varepsilon$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) hold for $(x, t) \in \overline{D}_a^{h_1}$. It means that the sequences $\{u_1^\alpha(x, t)\}, \dots, \{u_n^\alpha(x, t)\}$ almost uniformly converge in \overline{D}^{h_1} .

It is easy to see that the limit functions of these sequences belong to class E_2 in D^{h_1} .

Similarly as in the proof of theorem III of [2] it can be shown that these functions constitute a solution of the (F)-problem for the domain D^{h_1} .

Remark I. By theorem I it is the unique solution of the considered problem.

Remark II. If the domain \mathcal{S} (see § 1) is the half-space

$$\mathcal{S}\{x_1 > 0, -\infty < x_i < +\infty, (i = 1, \dots, n)\},$$

then the theorems similar to I, II and III can be proved when instead of $H(x, t; K)$ defined by (2.4) the function

$$H_1(x, t; K) = \exp \left\{ \frac{K[(x_1 - p_1(K))^2 + \sum_{i=2}^m x_i^2]}{1 - \mu_1(K)t} + \nu_1(K)t \right\}$$

is applied (see [3]).

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