

CLASSICAL SOLUTIONS  
OF THE TWO-PHASE STEFAN-TYPE PROBLEM

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**1. Introduction.** In this paper we shall be concerned with the following two-sided Stefan-type problem for the heat equation:

Given  $T$ ,  $0 < T < \infty$ , a function  $s(t)$ ,  $0 < s(t) < 1$ ,  $0 \leq t < T$ , defines two regions  $\Omega_T$  and  $\Omega'_T$ :

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \Omega_T &= \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R} \times (0, T) : 0 < x < s(t)\}, \\ \Omega'_T &= \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R} \times (0, T) : s(t) < x < 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we look for a function  $s(t)$ ,  $0 < s(t) < 1$ , and two other functions  $u(x, t)$  and  $v(x, t)$  satisfying:

(a) the equations

$$(1.2) \quad u_t = a^2 u_{xx} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$(1.3) \quad v_t = b^2 v_{xx} \quad \text{in } \Omega'_T$$

with  $a$  and  $b$  some positive constants;

(b) the initial conditions

$$(1.4) \quad s(0) = d, \quad 0 < d < 1, \quad \dot{s}(0) = c, \quad c \in \mathbf{R},$$

$$(1.5) \quad u(x, 0) = p(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq d, \quad v(x, 0) = q(x), \quad d \leq x \leq 1,$$

$p$  and  $q$  given continuous functions;

(c) the boundary conditions for  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$

$$(1.6) \quad u(0, t) = \varphi(t), \quad v(1, t) = \psi(t), \quad 0 \leq t < T,$$

$\varphi$  and  $\psi$  given continuous functions satisfying compatibility conditions  $\varphi(0) = p(0)$  and  $\psi(0) = q(1)$ ;

(d) the boundary conditions on the free boundary  $x = s(t)$ ,  $0 < t < T$ ,

$$(1.7) \quad \ddot{s}(t) = H(s(t), \dot{s}(t), u(t), v(t), t),$$

$$(1.8) \quad \begin{aligned} u_x(s(t), t) &= f(s(t), \dot{s}(t), u(t), v(t), t), \\ v_x(s(t), t) &= g(s(t), \dot{s}(t), u(t), v(t), t). \end{aligned}$$

In these equations we have used the following notation:

$$(1.9) \quad u(t) = u(s(t), t), \quad v(t) = v(s(t), t),$$

$f, g$  and  $H$  are continuous functions defined in some neighbourhood of the set  $A$ :

$$(1.10) \quad A = [0, 1] \times \mathbf{R} \times \{|u| \leq 4\|\varphi\| + 1\} \times \{|v| \leq 4\|\psi\| + 1\} \times [0, T],$$

where

$$\|\varphi\| = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |\varphi(t)|,$$

satisfying the Lipschitz condition with respect to all but the last argument. Due to (1.7) our problem is a free boundary problem with (1.7) describing the dynamics of a material wall separating two different media.

Physically, functions  $f$  and  $g$  describe influence of the flux of heat flow through a point  $x = s(t)$ . The process itself changes the position of the point  $x = s(t)$ .

We say that a triple  $(u, s, v)$  forms a *classical solution* of our problem if

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx}, u_t &\in C(\Omega_T), & v_{xx}, v_t &\in C(\Omega'_T), \\ u_x &\in C(\bar{\Omega}_T \cap \mathbf{R} \times (0, T)), & v_x &\in C(\bar{\Omega}'_T \cap \mathbf{R} \times (0, T)), \\ u &\in C(\bar{\Omega}_T), & v &\in C(\bar{\Omega}'_T), \\ \ddot{s} &\in C([0, T]) \end{aligned}$$

and  $u, s$  and  $v$  satisfy (1.2)–(1.8).

The main result of this paper is the following

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $\varphi, \psi, p, q$  and  $H$  be as above. If  $T > 0$  is sufficiently small, then there exists a unique solution  $(u, s, v)$  of the system (1.2)–(1.8).*

G. Lamé, B. P. Clapeyron (1831) and J. Stefan (1889) were probably the first who considered free boundary problems. Since that time many authors have studied them by using various methods (see [1]–[3], [8] and [10]). For the one-sided Stefan-type problem, the existence of a unique solution, local and global in time, has been proved by Tabisz [9]. We acknowledge useful discussion with A. Krzywicki and K. Tabisz during the preparation of this paper.

**2. Integral equation.** It is well known that if a pair  $(u, v)$  forms a classical solution of (1.2)–(1.6) for  $0 < t < T$ , then  $u, v$  satisfy the integral equation (cf.

[5], Sections 60 and 61)

$$(2.1) \quad u(x, t) = a^2 \int_0^t G_\xi(x, t, 0, \tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau + \int_0^d G(x, t, \xi, 0) p(\xi) d\xi \\ + \int_0^t [G(x, t, s(\tau), \tau) \dot{s}(\tau) - a^2 G_\xi(x, t, s(\tau), \tau)] u(s(\tau), \tau) d\tau \\ + a^2 \int_0^t G(x, t, s(\tau), \tau) f(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau) d\tau, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega_T,$$

$$(2.2) \quad v(x, t) = -b^2 \int_0^t G'_\xi(x, t, 1, \tau) \psi(\tau) d\tau - \int_0^1 G'(x, t, \xi, 0) q(\xi) d\xi \\ - \int_0^t [G'(x, t, s(\tau), \tau) \dot{s}(\tau) - b^2 G'_\xi(x, t, s(\tau), \tau)] v(s(\tau), \tau) d\tau \\ - b^2 \int_0^t G'(x, t, s(\tau), \tau) g(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau) d\tau, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega'_T,$$

$G$  and  $G'$  are the Green functions for the heat equation in the half-planes  $x > 0$  and  $x < 1$ , respectively:

$$(2.3) \quad G(x, t, \xi, \tau) = \frac{1}{2a(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\xi)^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{(x+\xi)^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) \right],$$

$$(2.4) \quad G'(x, t, \xi, \tau) = \frac{1}{2b(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\xi)^2}{4b^2(t-\tau)}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{(x+\xi-2)^2}{4b^2(t-\tau)}\right) \right].$$

**THEOREM 2.** *If a triple  $(u, s, v)$  forms a classical solution of the system (1.2)–(1.8) for some  $T > 0$ , then  $u(t)$  and  $v(t)$  (cf. (1.9) for definition) are solutions of the system*

$$(2.5) \quad u(t) = 2a^2 \int_0^t G_\xi(s(t), t, 0, \tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau \\ + 2 \int_0^d G(s(t), t, \xi, 0) p(\xi) d\xi \\ + 2 \int_0^t [G(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau) \dot{s}(\tau) - a^2 G_\xi(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau)] u(\tau) d\tau \\ + 2a^2 \int_0^t G(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau) f(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau) d\tau,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.6) \quad v(t) = & -2b^2 \int_0^t G'_\xi(s(t), t, 1, \tau) \psi(\tau) d\tau - 2 \int_d^1 G'(s(t), t, \xi, 1) q(\xi) d\xi \\
& - 2 \int_0^t [G'(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau) \dot{s}(\tau) - b^2 G'_\xi(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau)] v(\tau) d\tau \\
& - 2b^2 \int_0^t G'(s(t), t, s(\tau), \tau) g(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau) d\tau,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $s(t)$  is a solution of ordinary differential equation (1.7).

Conversely, if for some  $T > 0$ ,  $(u, s, v)$  forms a solution of the system (1.7), (2.5), (2.6) and, moreover,  $0 < s(t) < 1$ ,  $0 < t < T$ , then  $u(x, t)$  and  $v(x, t)$  given by (2.1) and (2.2) together with  $s(t)$  form a classical solution of the system (1.2)–(1.8).

**Proof.** Using (2.1), (2.2) and (1.7)–(1.8) we obtain (2.5) and (2.6) by taking  $x \rightarrow s(t) \pm 0$  and making use of the known properties of heat potentials (cf. [5]).

Conversely, let  $\tilde{u}$ ,  $\tilde{v}$  and  $s$  be the solutions of the system (1.7), (2.5), (2.6). It is well known that  $u(x, t)$  and  $v(x, t)$  defined by (2.1) and (2.2) satisfy the heat equations  $u_t = a^2 u_{xx}$  in  $\Omega_T$  and  $v_t = b^2 v_{xx}$  in  $\Omega'_T$  respectively, regularity conditions  $u_t, u_{xx} \in C(\Omega_T)$  and  $v_t, v_{xx} \in C(\Omega'_T)$ ,  $u \in C(\bar{\Omega}_T)$ ,  $v \in C(\bar{\Omega}'_T)$ , and boundary conditions  $u(x, 0) = p(x)$ ,  $v(x, 0) = q(x)$ ,  $u(0, t) = \varphi(t)$ ,  $v(1, t) = \psi(t)$ , with compatibility conditions  $\varphi(0) = p(0)$  and  $\psi(0) = q(1)$  (cf. [3], Section 5).

Now passing to the limit  $x \rightarrow s(t) \pm 0$  in (2.1) and (2.2) we obtain

$$u(s(t), t) = \tilde{u}(t), \quad v(s(t), t) = \tilde{v}(t),$$

and hence (1.7) on the free boundary  $x = s(t)$ . To show that

$$u_x \in C(\Omega_T \cap \mathbf{R} \times (0, T)) \quad \text{and} \quad v_x \in C(\Omega'_T \cap \mathbf{R} \times (0, T))$$

we can use the argument of Tabisz [9]. We consider the auxiliary problem:

$$\bar{u}_t = a^2 \bar{u}_{xx} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_t = b^2 \bar{v}_{xx}$$

satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{u}(0, t) &= \varphi(t), & \bar{u}(x, 0) &= p(x), \\
\bar{u}_x(s(t), t) &= f(s(t), \dot{s}(t), u(t), v(t), t)
\end{aligned}$$

for  $0 < t < T$  and  $0 \leq x \leq d$ ; and

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{v}(1, t) &= \psi(t), & \bar{v}(x, 0) &= q(x), \\
\bar{v}_x(s(t), t) &= g(s(t), \dot{s}(t), u(t), v(t), t)
\end{aligned}$$

for  $0 < t < T$  and  $d \leq x \leq 1$ . The method of heat potentials guarantees the existence and uniqueness of  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$  and continuity of  $\bar{u}_x$  and  $\bar{v}_x$  up to the boundary. If we express  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$  in the forms (2.1) and (2.2) and compare

with the original formulas (2.1) and (2.2), passing to the limit  $x \rightarrow s(t) \pm 0$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{u}(t) - u(t) &= \int_0^t (G\dot{s} - a^2 G_\xi)(\bar{u} - u) d\tau, \\ \bar{v}(t) - v(t) &= - \int_0^t (G'\dot{s} - b^2 G'_\xi)(\bar{v} - v) d\tau.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, due to the integrability with respect to  $\tau$  of kernels  $G\dot{s} - a^2 G_\xi$  and  $G'\dot{s} - b^2 G'_\xi$  we obtain  $\bar{u} = u$ ,  $\bar{v} = v$  and, in consequence,  $u_x = f$ ,  $v_x = g$  on the free boundary.

**3. Existence and uniqueness for small time.** Due to Theorem 2 it suffices to prove the existence and uniqueness of a solution for the system (1.7), (2.5), (2.6). This system can be solved by applying the Banach contraction theorem. This method has appeared first in [6], and explicitly in Friedman's memoir [4].

**THEOREM 3.** *For sufficiently small  $T > 0$  there exists a unique solution of the system (1.7), (2.5), (2.6).*

**Proof.** Let  $C[0, T]$  be the Banach space of continuous functions defined on  $[0, T]$  with supremum norm. Let  $B_M^T$  denote the closed ball centred at  $(0, 0)$  and of radius  $M > 0$  in  $C[0, T] \oplus C[0, T]$  (with the norm  $\|(x, y)\| = \|x\| + \|y\|$ ). We define a transformation

$$\Phi: B_M^T \rightarrow C[0, T] \oplus C[0, T]$$

putting  $\Phi(u, v) = (\bar{u}, \bar{v})$ , where  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$  are the right-hand sides of (2.5) and (2.6), respectively, with  $s$  given by (1.7).

**LEMMA 1.** *For every  $M > 0$  and  $T > 0$  there exists  $T_1$ ,  $0 < T_1 \leq T$ , such that, for any  $(u, v) \in B_M^T$ , the equation (1.7) with the initial conditions (1.4) has a unique solution  $s$  defined on  $[0, T_1]$  such that*

$$(3.1) \quad |s(t) - d| \leq 2^{-1} \min\{d, 1 - d\} \equiv \alpha \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T_1],$$

$$(3.2) \quad |\dot{s}(t)| \leq w \quad \text{for some } w \geq 0 \text{ and } t \in [0, T_1].$$

Furthermore, if  $s_i(t)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , are solutions of (1.7) corresponding to  $(u_i, v_i) \in B_M^T$ , respectively, and  $s_i(0) = d$ ,  $\dot{s}_i(0) = c$ , then there exists a constant  $N \geq 0$  such that

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned}|s_1(t) - s_2(t)| &\leq Nt \{ \|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\| \}, & t \in [0, T_1], \\ |\dot{s}_1(t) - \dot{s}_2(t)| &\leq Nt \{ \|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\| \}, & t \in [0, T_1].\end{aligned}$$

The proof of this lemma is similar to that of the theorem on continuous dependence on the parameter of solutions of ordinary differential equations (cf. [7]).

LEMMA 2. *There exist constants  $M > 0$  and  $T_2$ ,  $0 < T_2 \leq T_1$ , such that*

$$\Phi(B_M^T) \subset B_M^T \quad \text{for all } T \text{ (} 0 < T \leq T_2 \text{)}.$$

Proof. Without restriction of generality of our considerations we can put  $p = q = 0$  (cf. [9]). Let us write (2.5) in the form

$$\bar{u} = I_1 + \dots + I_4$$

with  $I_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ) denoting successive integrals appearing in (2.5). Now we shall estimate  $I_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ) similarly as in [4]. Applying the substitution

$$\beta = \frac{s(t)}{2a(t-\tau)^{1/2}}$$

and using the fact that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = 2(\pi)^{1/2}$$

we obtain

$$|I_1| \leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G_\xi| |\varphi| d\tau \leq 4 \|\varphi\|$$

and

$$|I_2| \leq 2 \int_0^t |G| |\dot{s}| |u| d\tau \leq C \|u\| t^{1/2}$$

for some constant  $C \geq 0$ . By (3.2) and (3.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |I_3| &\leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G_\xi| |u| d\tau \\ &\leq \|u\| \int_0^t \frac{1}{2a(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \left| \frac{s(t)-s(\tau)}{t-\tau} \right| \exp\left(\frac{(s(t)-s(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) d\tau \\ &\quad + \|u\| \int_0^t \frac{1}{2a(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \left| \frac{s(t)+s(\tau)}{t-\tau} \right| \exp\left(-\frac{(s(t)+s(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) d\tau \\ &\leq C \|u\| t^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Of course, for  $(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau) \in A$  (cf. (1.10)) by (3.2) and the Lipschitz condition for  $f$  we obtain

$$|f(s(\tau), \dot{s}(\tau), u(\tau), v(\tau), \tau)| \leq C(\|u\| + \|v\| + 1),$$

and hence

$$|I_4| \leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G| |f| d\tau \leq C(\|u\| + \|v\| + 1) t^{1/2}.$$

Hence, for  $M = 4\|\varphi\| + 1$  and  $T_2^* = \min\{T_1, [(4M + 1)C]^{-2}\}$  we obtain  $\|u\| \leq M$ , which implies  $\|\bar{u}\| \leq M$  in  $[0, T_2^*]$ .

Writing similarly  $\bar{v} = J_1 + \dots + J_4$  for  $\bar{v}$  given by (2.6) we have, by Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} |J_1| &\leq 2b^2 \int_0^t |G'_\xi| |\psi| d\tau \\ &\leq 2b^2 \frac{\|\psi\|}{\pi^{1/2}} \left[ \int_0^t \frac{s(t)}{2b(t-\tau)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(s(t))^2}{4b^2(t-\tau)}\right) d\tau \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_0^t \frac{2-s(t)}{2b(t-\tau)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(2-s(t))^2}{4b^2(t-\tau)}\right) d\tau \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting

$$\beta = \frac{s(t)}{2b(t-\tau)^{1/2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma = \frac{2-s(t)}{2b(t-\tau)^{1/2}},$$

respectively, we obtain  $|J_4| \leq 4\|\psi\|$ . Similarly as before we get

$$|J_2| \leq 2 \int_0^t |G'| |\dot{s}| |v| d\tau \leq C \|v\| t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_1.$$

By (3.1) and  $|s(t) + s(\tau) - 2| > d$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T_1$  we have

$$|J_3| \leq 2b^2 \int_0^t |G'_\xi| |v| d\tau \leq C \|v\| t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_1.$$

Also, by the argument similar to that used in estimating  $I_4$ , we obtain

$$|J_4| \leq 2b^2 \int_0^t |G'| |g| d\tau \leq C (\|u\| + \|v\| + 1) t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_1.$$

Putting

$$M = \max\{4\|\varphi\| + 1, 4\|\psi\| + 1\} \quad \text{and} \quad T_2 = \min\{T_2^*, [(4M + 1)C]^{-2}\}$$

we conclude that  $\|v\| \leq M$  implies  $\|\bar{v}\| \leq M$  in  $[0, T_2]$ , and hence

$$\Phi(B_M^T) \subset B_M^T \quad \text{for any } T \in [0, T_2].$$

LEMMA 3. *There exists a constant  $T_3$ ,  $0 < T_3 \leq T_2$ , such that the mapping  $\Phi: B_M^T \rightarrow B_M^T$ ,  $0 < T \leq T_3$  (with  $M > 0$  provided by Lemma 2) is a contraction.*

Proof. Let  $0 < T \leq T_2$  and  $(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2) \in B_M^T$ . To estimate

$$\Phi(u_1, v_1) - \Phi(u_2, v_2)$$

we write

$$(3.4) \quad \bar{u}_1 - \bar{u}_2 = \bar{I}_1 + \dots + \bar{I}_4 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_1 - \bar{v}_2 = \bar{J}_1 + \dots + \bar{J}_4,$$

where  $\bar{I}_i, \bar{J}_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ) denote the differences of successive integrals appearing on the right-hand side in (2.5), (2.6). Further we denote by

$$G^i = G(s_i(t), \dots), \quad f^i = f(s_i(t), \dots), \quad \dots$$

the functions  $G, f, \dots$  appearing in (2.5) and (2.6) which correspond to  $(u_i, v_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , respectively.

By Lemma 1,  $s_i(t) \geq d - \alpha > 0$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T_2$ , so by the Mean Value Theorem we obtain

$$|I_1| \leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G_\xi^1 - G_\xi^2| |\varphi| d\tau \leq C \|s_1 - s_2\| t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

We now apply to every summand in  $\bar{I}_2$  the algebraic identity

$$\bar{A}\bar{B}\bar{C} - ABC = (\bar{A} - A)\bar{B}\bar{C} + (\bar{B} - B)A\bar{C} + (\bar{C} - C)AB$$

and proceed similarly as in [4]:

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{I}_2| &\leq 2 \int_0^t |G^1 \dot{s}_1 u_1 - G^2 \dot{s}_2 u_2| d\tau \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t |G^2| |\dot{s}_2| |u_1 - u_2| d\tau + 2 \int_0^t |G^2| |\dot{s}_1 - \dot{s}_2| |u_1| d\tau \\ &\quad + 2 \int_0^t |G^1 - G^2| |\dot{s}_1| |u_1| d\tau \equiv I_{21} + I_{22} + I_{23}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2 we obtain

$$I_{21} \leq C \|u_1 - u_2\| t^{1/2},$$

$$I_{22} \leq C \|\dot{s}_1 - \dot{s}_2\| t^{1/2} \leq C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

We have also  $I_{23} \leq I_{231} + I_{232}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} I_{231} &= 2Mw \int_0^t \frac{1}{2a(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \\ &\quad \times \left| \exp\left(-\frac{(s_1(t) - s_1(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{(s_2(t) - s_2(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) \right| d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_{232} &= 2Mw \int_0^t \frac{1}{2a(\pi(t-\tau))^{1/2}} \\ &\quad \times \left| \exp\left(-\frac{(s_1(t) + s_1(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{(s_2(t) + s_2(\tau))^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right) \right| d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Using the inequality  $|e^{-x} - e^{-y}| \leq |x - y|$  for  $x, y \geq 0$ , we have

$$I_{231} \leq Ct^{1/2} (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

Likewise, by (3.1) and the Mean Value Theorem, we obtain

$$I_{232} \leq Ct^{1/2} (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{I}_3| &\leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G_\xi^1 u_1 - G_\xi^2 u_2| d\tau \\ &\leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |u_1 - u_2| |G_\xi^1| d\tau + 2a^2 \int_0^t |G_\xi^1 - G_\xi^2| |u_2| d\tau \\ &\leq 2a^2 (\|u_1 - u_2\| \|\dot{s}\| + M \|\dot{s}_1 - \dot{s}_2\|) + C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$|\bar{I}_3| \leq C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

To estimate  $\bar{I}_4$ , we write

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{I}_4| &\leq 2a^2 \int_0^t |G^1 f^1 - G^2 f^2| d\tau \\ &\leq 2a^2 \left( \int_0^t |G^1 - G^2| |f^2| d\tau + \int_0^t |G^1| |f^1 - f^2| d\tau \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then, by Lemma 1 and the Lipschitz condition for  $f$ , we have

$$|\bar{I}_4| \leq C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

Hence, by (3.4),

$$(3.5) \quad \|\bar{u}_1 - \bar{u}_2\| \leq C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2} \quad \text{for some } C \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

In an analogous way we can establish an estimate of  $\bar{v}_1 - \bar{v}_2$ :

$$(3.6) \quad \|\bar{v}_1 - \bar{v}_2\| \leq C (\|u_1 - u_2\| + \|v_1 - v_2\|) t^{1/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_2.$$

The inequality (3.6) together with (3.5) implies the existence of  $T_3 > 0$  such that the map  $\Phi$  is a contraction on  $B_M^T$ ,  $0 < T \leq T_3$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 3 and, consequently, of Theorem 1.

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*Reçu par la Rédaction le 25. 4. 1984;  
en version modifiée le 15. 11. 1984*

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