

Rothe's Method to Semilinear Hyperbolic Integrodifferential Equations¹

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we consider an application of Rothe's method to abstract semi-linear hyperbolic integrodifferential equations in Hilbert spaces. With the aid of Rothe's method we establish the existence of a unique strong solution.

Key words: Rothe's Method, Positive Definite Operator, V-Elliptic Operator, Lax-Milgram Lemma.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we are concerned with the application of Rothe's method to the following semi-linear hyperbolic integrodifferential equation

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{d^2 u}{dt^2}(t) + Au(t) = \int_0^t a(t-s)k(s, u(s))ds + f(t), \quad a.e. \quad t \in I$$

$$u(0) = U_0 \in \mathcal{V}, \quad \frac{du}{dt}(0) = U_1 \in \mathcal{V}$$

where u is an unknown function from $I = [0, T]$, $0 < T < \infty$, into a real Hilbert space \mathfrak{H} , A is a bounded linear operator from another Hilbert space \mathcal{V} into its dual space \mathcal{V}^* , k is a nonlinear mapping from $[0, T] \times \mathcal{V}$ into \mathfrak{H} , a and f , respectively, are real-valued and \mathfrak{H} -valued functions on $[0, T]$.

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Earlier, some of the applications of Rothe's method to the homogeneous and nonhomogeneous linear hyperbolic problems have been considered by Rektorys [6], Putlar[5] and Streiblova [8] (other references are cited in these papers).

Kačur [4] has applied Rothe's method to a semilinear hyperbolic equation under a global Lipschitz-like condition on nonlinear forcing term. Recently, Bahuguna [1,2] has employed Rothe's method to a more general case of the problem considered by Kačur [4] and has proved the local existence under local Lipschitz condition on nonlinear forcing terms.

Similar kinds of nonlinear integral perturbations as in (1.1) have been investigated by Bahuguna and Raghavendra [3] (see also [2]) for nonlinear parabolic problems with the aid of Rothe's method.

2. ASSUMPTIONS AND MAIN RESULT

Let \mathcal{V} and \mathcal{H} be two real Hilbert spaces such that \mathcal{V} is dense in \mathcal{H} and the embedding of \mathcal{V} in \mathcal{H} is compact. We denote by $\|\cdot\|$ and $|\cdot|$ the respective norms of \mathcal{V} and \mathcal{H} . Furthermore, the inner product in \mathcal{H} and the usual duality pairing between \mathcal{V}^* and \mathcal{V} are denoted by (u, v) , $u, v \in \mathcal{H}$; and $\langle f, v \rangle \in \mathcal{V}^*$, $v \in \mathcal{V}$; respectively. Let I denote the interval $[0, T]$ where $0 < T < \infty$ is arbitrary. We introduce the following hypotheses:

(H₁) The bounded linear operator $A: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}^*$ is symmetric and \mathcal{V} -elliptic, i.e.

$$\langle Au, v \rangle = \langle Av, u \rangle \text{ and } \langle Au, u \rangle \geq \alpha \|u\|^2$$

for all $u, v \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\alpha > 0$ is a constant.

(H₂) $k: I \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ is continuous in both variables and satisfies

$$|k(t, u)| \leq C_1 \|u\| + C_2$$

for all $t \in I$ and all $u \in \mathcal{V}$, where C_1 and C_2 are positive constants.

(H₃) The mapping k satisfies

$$|k(t, u) - k(t, v)| \leq L(t) \|u - v\|$$

for $t \in I$ a.e. and all $u, v \in \mathcal{V}$, where $L \in L^1(I)$ is nonnegative.

(H₄) Functions $f: I \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ and $a: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are Lipschitz continuous.

To apply Rothe's method to equation (1.1), we proceed as follows. For every positive integer n denote by $\{t_j^n\}$ the partition of the interval I defined by $t_j^n = j \cdot h$, $h = \frac{T}{n}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$. Setting

$$(2.1) \quad u_0^n = U_0, \quad u_{-1}^n = U_0 - hU_1$$

$$(2.2) \quad u_{-2}^n = h^2(f(0) - AU_0) - 2hU_1 + U_0,$$

we successively look for a solution $u_j^n \in \mathcal{V}$ of the variational identity

$$(2.3) \quad \left(\frac{u - 2u_{j-1}^n + u_{j-2}^n}{h^2}, v \right) + \langle Au, v \rangle = \left(h \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} a(t_j^n - t_i^n) k(t_i^n, u_i^n) + f(t_j^n), v \right)$$

for all $v \in \mathcal{V}$ and $j=1,2,\dots,n$. The existence of a unique solution satisfying (2.3) is a consequence of Lax-Milgram Theorem, see Rektorys [7, p. 383]. Denote

$$(2.4) \quad z_j^n = \frac{u_j^n - u_{j-1}^n}{h}, \quad s_j^n = \frac{z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n}{h}, \quad j=0,1,\dots,n$$

and define Rothe's sequences $\{U^n\}$ and $\{Z^n\}$ of Lipschitz continuous functions respectively from I into \mathcal{V} and from I into \mathfrak{H} by

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{cases} U^n(t) = u_{j-1}^n + \frac{1}{h}(t - t_{j-1}^n)(u_j^n - u_{j-1}^n) \\ Z^n(t) = z_{j-1}^n + \frac{1}{h}(t - t_{j-1}^n)(z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n) \end{cases}$$

and sequences $\{u^n\}$, $\{z^n\}$, $\{s^n\}$ of step functions from $(-h, T]$ into \mathcal{V} , by

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{array}{lll} u^n(t) = u_0^n & & u^n(t) = u_j^n \\ z^n(t) = z_0^n & t \in (-h, 0] & z^n(t) = z_j^n \quad t \in (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n] \\ s^n(t) = s_0^n & & s^n(t) = s_j^n \end{array}$$

After proving some *a priori* bounds for the sequences of functions $\{U^n\}$, $\{Z^n\}$, $\{u^n\}$, $\{z^n\}$ and $\{s^n\}$ we prove the following main existence result for equation (1.1).

Theorem 2.1. *Assume that Hypotheses (H_1) , (H_2) , and (H_4) hold and let $AU_0 \in \mathfrak{H}$. Then there exists a function u in $Lip(I, \mathcal{V})$ with the properties*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du}{dt} &\in L_\infty(I, \mathcal{V}) \cap \mathcal{C}(I, \mathfrak{H}), \quad \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} \in L_\infty(I, \mathfrak{H}) \\ Au &\in L_\infty(I, \mathfrak{H}), \quad u(0) = U_0, \quad \frac{du}{dt}(0) = U_1 \end{aligned}$$

and u satisfies the identity

$$(2.7) \quad \left(\frac{d^2u}{dt^2}(t), v \right) + \langle Au(t), v \rangle = (K(u)(t) + f(t), v)$$

for $t \in I$ a.e. and for all $v \in \mathcal{V}$, where

$$(2.8) \quad K(u)(t) = \int_0^t a(t-s)k(s, u(s))ds$$

In addition, if (H_3) is also satisfied, then u is unique.

For the notational convenience, we drop the superscript n and denote for $0 \leq i, j \leq n$ by

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{cases} a_{j,i} = a(t_j - t_i) \\ k_j = k(t_j, u_j) \\ f_j = f(t_j) \end{cases}$$

Henceforth, C will represent a generic constant independent of j, h and n . Below we state and prove all lemmas required in the proof of Theorem 2.1 which is proved at the end.

Lemma 2.1. *Assume that hypotheses (H_1) , (H_2) and (H_4) hold. Then there exists a positive integer N such that*

$$|z_j|^2 + \|u_j\|^2 \leq C, \quad j=1,2,\dots,n, \quad n > N.$$

Proof. Using the notations of (2.4) and (2.9) in (2.3), for all $v \in \mathcal{V}$ and $j=1,2,\dots,n$, we have

$$(2.10) \quad (z_j - z_{j-1}, v) + h \langle Au_j, v \rangle = h^2 \left(\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} a_{j,i} k_i, v \right) + h(f_j, v).$$

Putting $v=z_j$ in (2.10), using (H_2) and the identities

$$\begin{aligned} 2(z_j - z_{j-1}, z_j) &= |z_j|^2 + |z_j - z_{j-1}|^2 - |z_{j-1}|^2, \\ 2 \langle Au_j, u_j - u_{j-1} \rangle &= \|u_j\|_A^2 + \|u_j - u_{j-1}\|_A^2 - \|u_{j-1}\|_A^2, \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$(2.11) \quad |z_j|^2 - |z_{j-1}|^2 + \|u_j\|_A^2 - \|u_{j-1}\|_A^2 \leq Ch|z_j|^2 + Ch^2 \sum_{i=0}^{j-2} \|u_i\|_A^2 + Ch.$$

Choose a positive integer N such that $CT/N < 1$. Then for $n > N$ inequality (2.11) implies that

$$(2.12) \quad (1 - Ch)[|z_j|^2 + \|u_j\|_A^2] \leq (1 + Ch^2)[|z_{j-1}|^2 + \|u_{j-1}\|_A^2] + Ch^2 \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} \|u_i\|_A^2 + Ch.$$

Applying inequality (2.12) recursively, we obtain

$$(2.13) \quad (1 - Ch)^j [|z_j|^2 + \|u_j\|_A^2] \leq (1 + jCh^2)^j [|z_0|^2 + \|u_0\|_A^2] + jCh.$$

Inequality (2.13) implies

$$|z_j|^2 + \|u_j\|_A^2 \leq C$$

which together with the \mathcal{V} -ellipticity of A proves the assertion of the lemma.

Lemma 2.2. *Assume the hypotheses of Lemma 2.1 and let $AU_0 \in \mathcal{H}$. Then there exists a positive integer N such that*

$$\|z_j\|_A^2 + |s_j|^2 \leq C, \quad j=1,2,\dots,n, \quad n > N.$$

Proof. We rewrite (2.10) as

$$(2.14) \quad (s_j, v) + \langle Au_j, v \rangle = h \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (a_{j,i} k_i, v) + (f_j, v).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} (s_j, v) + \langle Au_j - Au_{j-1}, v \rangle &= (s_{j-1}, v) + h(a_{j,j-1} k_{j-1}, v) \\ &\quad + h \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} [(a_{j,i} - a_{j-1,i}) k_i, v] \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.15) \quad + (f_j - f_{j-1}, v).$$

Putting $v = s_j$ in (2.15) using (H_2) and (H_2) and (H_4) we obtain

$$(2.16) \quad \begin{aligned} & |s_j|^2 - |s_{j-1}|^2 + \|z_j\|_A^2 - \|z_{j-1}\|_A^2 \\ & \leq C h |s_j|^2 + C h^2 \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} \|z_i\|_A^2 + C h. \end{aligned}$$

We assume that N is large enough such that $C \frac{T}{N} < 1$. For $n > N$, inequality

(2.16) then implies that

$$(2.17) \quad \begin{aligned} & (1 - C h) [|s_j|^2 + \|z_j\|_A^2] \\ & \leq (1 + C h^2) [|s_{j-1}|^2 + \|z_{j-1}\|_A^2] \\ & + C h^2 \sum_{i=0}^{j-2} \|z_i\|_A^2 + C h. \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding similarly as in Lemma 1.1 we obtain the required result of the lemma.

Remark 2.1. Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2 imply the estimates

$$\begin{aligned} \|u^n(t)\| + \|U^n(t)\| + \|z^n(t)\| + \|Z^n(t)\| + |s^n(t)| & \leq C, \\ \|U^n(t) - u^n(t)\| + |Z^n(t) - z^n(t)| & \leq \frac{C}{n}, \\ \|U^n(t) - U^n(s)\| + \|Z^n(t) - Z^n(s)\| & \leq C |t - s| \end{aligned}$$

for all $t, s \in I$ and $n > N$.

Lemma 2.3. Assume the hypotheses of Lemma 2.2. Then there exists $u \in Lip(I, \mathcal{V})$ with the properties

$$\frac{du}{dt} \in L_\infty(I, \mathcal{V}) \cap \mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{H}), \quad \frac{d^2u}{dt} \in L_\infty(I, \mathcal{H})$$

such that

$$U^n \rightarrow u \text{ in } \mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{V}) \text{ and } Z^n \rightarrow \frac{du}{dt} \text{ in } \mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{H}).$$

Proof. Since $\{u^n\}$ and $\{z^n\}$ are uniformly bounded in \mathcal{V} , and \mathcal{V} is compactly embedded in \mathcal{H} , there exists a subsequence $\{n_k\}$ of the indices $\{n\}$ such that

$$u^{n_k}(t) \rightarrow u(t) \text{ and } z^{n_k}(t) \rightarrow z(t) \text{ in } \mathcal{H} \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

for some functions u and z from I into \mathcal{H} . Remark 2.1 implies that

$$U^{n_k}(t) \rightarrow u(t) \text{ and } Z^{n_k}(t) \rightarrow z(t) \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

We notice that the families $\{U^{n_k}\}$ and $\{Z^{n_k}\}$ are equicontinuous in $\mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{H})$. Also, $\{U^{n_k}(t)\}$ and

$\{Z^{n,k}(t)\}$ are relatively compact in \mathfrak{H} for every $t \in I$. Therefore

$$U^{n,k} \rightarrow u \text{ and } Z^{n,k} \rightarrow z \text{ in } \mathcal{C}(I, \mathfrak{H}) \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now we show that $U^{n,k} \rightarrow u$ in $\mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{V})$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. We denote by

$$K^n(0) := h a_{10} k_0, \quad K^n(t) := \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} a_{ji} k_i,$$

for $t \in (t_{j-1}, t_j]$.

$$f^n(0) := f(0), \quad f^n(t) := f(t_j)$$

Clearly, $\{K^n(t)\}$ and $\{f^n(t)\}$ are uniformly bounded and $f^n(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ uniformly on I as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

From (2.14) for positive integers $p, q > N, t \in (0, T]$ and all $v \in \mathcal{V}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (s^p(t) - s^q(t), v) + (Au^p(t) - Au^q(t), v) \\ (2.18) \quad & = (K^p(t) - K^q(t) + f^p(t) - f^q(t), v). \end{aligned}$$

Putting $v = u^p(t) - u^q(t)$ in (2.18) and rearranging the terms, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2.19) \quad & \|u^p(t) - u^q(t)\|_A^2 \leq [|s^p(t) - s^q(t)| + |K^p(t) - K^q(t)| \\ & + |f^p(t) - f^q(t)|] \|u^p(t) - u^q(t)\| \leq C \|u^p(t) - u^q(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\{u^{n,k}\}$ converges in $\mathcal{C}(I, \mathfrak{H})$, inequality (2.19) implies that $\{u^{n,k}\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $\mathcal{C}(I, \mathcal{V})$. From Remark 2.1 it follows that $u : I \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ and $z : I \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}$ are Lipschitz continuous hence

$$\frac{du}{dt} \in L_\infty(I, \mathcal{V}) \text{ and } \frac{dz}{dt} \in L_\infty(I, \mathfrak{H}). \text{ Now for all } v \in \mathcal{V},$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2.20) \quad & (U^n(t), v) = \int_0^t \left(\frac{dU^{n,k}}{dt}(s), v \right) ds + (U_0, v) \\ & = \int_0^t (Z^{n,k}(s), v) ds + (U_0, v). \end{aligned}$$

We pass through the limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$ in (2.20) to obtain

$$(u(t), v) = \int_0^t (z(s), v) ds + (U_0, v).$$

Therefore $\frac{du}{dt}(t) = z(t)$ a.e. on I and hence $\frac{d^2u}{dt^2}(t) \in L_\infty(I, \mathfrak{H})$. The proof of the lemma is complete.

Lemma 2.4. *Assume the hypotheses of Lemma 2.3 and let $u(t)$ be defined as in Lemma 2.3.*

Then

$$K^n(t) \rightarrow K(u)(t) \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty \text{ in } \mathfrak{H} \text{ uniformly on } I.$$

The proof of Lemma 2.4 is same as the proof of Lemma 2.4 in [3] (also, see [2, Chapter IV]).

Proof of Theorem 1.1. For n_k , we write (2.3) as

$$(2.21) \quad \left(\frac{d}{dt} Z^{n_k}(t), v\right) + \langle Au^{n_k}(t), v \rangle = (K^{n_k}(t) + f^{n_k}(t), v)$$

for all $v \in \mathcal{V}$ and all $t \in (0, T]$. Integrating (2.21) over $(0, t)$, we get

$$(2.22) \quad \begin{aligned} (Z^{n_k}(t), v) - (U_1, v) + \int_0^t \langle Au^{n_k}(s), v \rangle ds \\ = \int_0^t (K^{n_k}(s) + f^{n_k}(s), v) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Passing through the limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$, using Lemma 2.4 and bounded convergence theorem, we have

$$(2.23) \quad \begin{aligned} (z(t), v) - (U_1, v) + \int_0^t \langle Au(s), v \rangle ds \\ = \int_0^t (K(u)(s) + f(s), v) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating (2.23) with respect to t , we get

$$(2.24) \quad \left(\frac{dz}{dt}(t), v\right) + \langle Au(t), v \rangle = (K(u)(t) + f(t), v)$$

for all $v \in \mathcal{V}$ and a.e. $t \in I$ which implies identity (2.7). Now we prove the uniqueness under hypothesis (H_3) . Let u_1 and u_2 be two functions satisfying the assertions of Theorem 2.1. Let $u := u_1 - u_2$ and let

$$(2.25) \quad W := \frac{a_0}{(\alpha)^{1/2}} \int_0^T w(s) ds, \text{ where } a_0 = \max_I |a(t)|.$$

We divide the interval I into a finite number of subintervals of equal lengths p such that

$$(2.26) \quad Wp^2 < \frac{1}{2}.$$

Let $t_1, t_2 \in [0, p]$ be such that

$$(2.27) \quad \left|\frac{du}{dt}(t_1)\right| = \max_{[0, p]} \left|\frac{du}{dt}(t)\right|,$$

$$(2.28) \quad \|u(t_2)\|_A = \max_{[0, p]} \|u(t)\|_A.$$

Then we have

$$(2.29) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_0^{t_1} \frac{d}{dt} \left|\frac{du}{dt}(t)\right|^2 dt + \int_0^{t_2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|_A^2 dt \\ \leq \int_0^p \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left|\frac{du}{dt}(t)\right|^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|_A^2\right] dt. \end{aligned}$$

Now from identity (2.7) for $v = \frac{du}{dt}(t)$, we have

$$(2.30) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left|\frac{du}{dt}(t)\right|^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|_A^2 \\ = 2(K(u_1)(t) - K(u_2)(t), \frac{du}{dt}(t)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\int_0^p \left[\left| \frac{d}{dt} \left| \frac{du}{dt}(t) \right|^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|_A^2 \right] dt \leq 2 \frac{a_0}{(\alpha)^{1/2}} \int_0^p \left(\int_0^t w(s) \|u(s)\|_A ds \right) \left| \frac{du}{dt}(t) \right| dt$$

$$(2.31) \quad \leq 2 W p^2 \|u(t_2)\|_A \left| \frac{du}{dt}(t_1) \right| \leq W p^2 \left[\left| \frac{du}{dt}(t_1) \right|^2 + \|u(t_2)\|_A^2 \right].$$

From inequalities (2.29), (2.26) and (2.31) we have

$$\frac{du}{dt}(t) \equiv 0, \quad u(t) \equiv 0 \text{ on } [0, p].$$

Repeating the above arguments for $[ip, (i+1)p]$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$, we have that $u(t) \equiv 0$ on I . Therefore $u_1 \equiv u_2$. The proof of Theorem 2.1 is thus complete.

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