

**On the global solvability for semilinear  
wave equations  
with smooth propagation speeds**

F. Hirose (Yamaguchi University, Japan)

joint work with

T. Inooka (Yamaguchi University)

and

T. D. Pham (Hanoi National University of Education)

# 1. Introduction

Cauchy problem of non-linear wave equation with time dependent propagation speed:

$$\begin{aligned}(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)u &= F(t, \partial_t u, \nabla u), \quad (t, x) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R}^n \\ (u(0, x), u_t(0, x)) &= (u_0(x), u_1(x)), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^n\end{aligned}$$

$u$ : real valued,  $u_0, u_1 \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  
 $a(t) \geq a_0 > 0$ ,  $F(t, 0, 0) = 0$ .

## Problem

Existence of a global solution with small data (=GS)  
under the influences of the variable coefficient

## 2. Background

### I. Constant coefficient

$$(\partial_t^2 - \Delta)u = F(\partial_t u, \nabla u), \quad F(0, 0) = 0$$

(GS) is valid under suitable assumptions to the nonlinear terms  $F(p, q)$ , the initial data  $(u_0, u_1)$  and the space dimension  $n$ .

### Linear wave equation

$$(\partial_t^2 - \Delta)u = 0$$

The properties: energy conservation,  $L^p$ - $L^q$  estimates, etc., are established.

## II. Linear wave equation with variable coefficient

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)u = 0$$

Generally, we **cannot** expect the properties: the energy conservation,  $L^2$  well-posedness,  $L^p$ - $L^q$  estimates, etc.

### Energy estimate

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left( a(t)^2 \|\nabla u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\partial_t u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow E'(t) = a'(t)a(t)\|\nabla u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \frac{2|a'(t)|}{a(t)} E(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow E(t) \leq \exp\left(2 \int_0^t \frac{|a'(s)|}{a(s)} ds\right) E(0)$$

Boundedness of the energy is not trivial if  $a(t)$  is oscillating **infinitely many times**.

$$\underline{0 < a_0 \leq a(t) \leq a_1}$$

- $a'(t) \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+) \Rightarrow E(t) \simeq E(0)$
- $a(t)$ : **periodic**  
 $\Rightarrow \exists(u_0, u_1)$ , s.t.  $\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} E(t) = \infty$  [Yagdjian '05]
- $a(t) \in C^2(\mathbf{R})$ ,  $|a'(t)|^2 + |a''(t)| \leq C(1+t)^{-2}$   
 $\Rightarrow E(t) \simeq E(0)$  [Reissig & Smith '05]
- $a(t) \notin C^1(\mathbf{R}_+)$ ,  $a(t) \in C^\alpha(\mathbf{R}_+)$ ,  $\alpha \in (0,1)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Gevrey  $1/(1-\alpha)$  well-posed  
[Colombini, DeGiorgi & Spagnolo '79]

$$\underline{a(t) \geq 0}$$

- $a(t) \in C^{m,\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_+)$ ,  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ ,  $m \in \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $m \geq 0$

⇒ Gevrey  $1 + (m + \alpha)/2$  well-posed

[Colombini, Jannelli & Spagnolo '84]

### Remarks.

- $f(x)$ : Gevrey class of order  $s \Leftrightarrow |\hat{f}(\xi)| \leq \exp(\rho \langle \xi \rangle^{1/s})$
- Linear wave equations with time dependent coefficients are studied as linearized model of Kirchhoff equation:

$$\partial_t^2 u + \left(1 + \int |\nabla u(t, x)|^2 dx\right) \Delta u = 0$$

[Arosio & Spagnolo '84], [Manfrin '05], [H. '02, '06]

### III. Monotone increasing coefficients

$$(\partial_t^2 - \lambda(t)^2 \Delta)u = 0, \quad \lambda(0) > 0, \quad \lambda'(t) \geq 0$$

#### Energy estimate

$$E'(t) = \lambda'(t)\lambda(t)\|\nabla u(t,\cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \frac{2\lambda'(t)}{\lambda(t)}E(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow E(t) \leq \frac{\lambda(t)^2}{\lambda(0)^2}E(0)$$

- $L^p$ - $L^q$  estimates [Reissig & Yagdjian '00], etc.

## IV. Mixed case

$$a(t) = \lambda(t)b(t)$$

$$\lambda(0) > 0, \lambda'(t) \geq 0, 0 < b_0 \leq b(t) \leq b_1$$

- $b(t) \in C^2(\mathbf{R}_+)$ : periodic,  $\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha > 1/2$   
 $\Rightarrow L^p$ - $L^q$  estimate [Reissig & Yagdjian '00]
- $b(t) \in C^2(\mathbf{R}_+)$ : periodic,  $\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  no  $L^p$ - $L^q$  estimate

**Remark.** Faster increasing  $\lambda(t)$  has a good influence for the estimate.



# Properties of the coefficient

$$a(t) = \lambda(t)b(t)$$

$$\lambda(0) > 0, \lambda'(t) \geq 0, 0 < b_0 \leq b(t) \leq b_1$$

▪ **smoothness:**  $a(t) \in C^m(\mathbf{R}_+)$ ,  $m \geq 1$

▪ **order of the derivatives:**

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \rho(t)^k, (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

▪ **increasing order:**  $\lambda(t)$

▪ **stabilization** (difference from a monotone function)

$$\int_0^t |a(s) - \lambda(s)| ds \leq \theta(t) = o\left(\int_0^t \lambda(s) ds\right) = o(\Lambda(t))$$

In this talk we restrict ourselves

$$\rho(t) = \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta, \quad \theta(t) = \Lambda(t) (\log \Lambda(t))^{-\gamma}$$

for  $\beta, \gamma \geq 0$  and  $t \gg 1$ , that is,

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

$$\int_0^t |a(s) - \lambda(s)| ds \leq \Lambda(t) (\log \Lambda(t))^{-\gamma}$$

**Remark.**  $\gamma = 0$  is a trivial case.

Example 1.  $\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha)$ ,  $b(t) \in C^m$ , periodic.

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda(t) \simeq t^{1-\alpha} \lambda(t) \\ |b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k \simeq t^{k(\alpha-1+\alpha\beta)} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha - 1 + \alpha\beta \geq 0, \gamma = 0$$

Example 2.  $\lambda(t) = (1+t)^p$ ,  $b(t) \in C^m$ , periodic.

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda(t) \simeq t \lambda(t) \\ |b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k \simeq (t^{-1} (\log t)^\beta)^k \end{cases}$$

such a constant  $\beta$  does not exist.

### Example 3.

$$\lambda(t) = (1 + t)^p, \quad b(t) = 2 + \cos((\log(1 + t))^\delta)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Lambda(t) \simeq t \lambda(t), \quad |b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k (t^{-1} (\log t)^{\delta-1})^k \\ \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \simeq t^{-1} (\log t)^\beta \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta - 1 \leq \beta, \quad \gamma = 0$$

Example 4.  $\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha)$ ,

$$b(t) = \begin{cases} p(t) & t \in I_j = [j^{1/\alpha}, j^{1/\alpha} + 1] \\ 1 & t \in [0, \infty) \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} I_j \end{cases}$$

$p(t) \in C^m$ , 1-periodic,  $p(t) > 0$ ,  $p^{(k)}(t) = 0$  near  $t = 0$  for  $k = 1, \dots, m$ .

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda(t) \simeq t^{1-\alpha} \lambda(t) \\ |b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k \simeq t^{k(\alpha-1+\alpha\beta)} \end{cases}$$

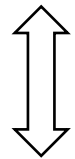
$$\Rightarrow \alpha - 1 + \alpha\beta \geq 0, \quad \gamma = 1/\alpha - 1$$

## V. Nonlinear equations

We restrict ourselves to the following special nonlinearity:

$$F(p, q) = |p|^2 - |q|^2$$

$$(\partial_t^2 - \Delta)u = |\partial_t u|^2 - |\nabla u|^2, (u_0(x), u_1(x))$$



$$v = 1 - \exp(-u) \quad (\text{Nirenberg's transformation})$$

$$(\partial_t^2 - \Delta)v = 0, (v_0(x), v_1(x)) = (1 - e^{-u_0}, u_1 e^{-u_0})$$

$$0 < v(t, x) < 1, t \in [0, T),$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow T-0} v(t, x) = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow T-0} u(t, x) = \infty$$

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)u = |\partial_t u|^2 - a(t)^2 |\nabla u|^2$$

$$\Updownarrow v = 1 - \exp(-u) \text{ (Nirenberg's transformation)}$$

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)v = 0$$

$a(t) \equiv a_0 \Rightarrow |v(t, x)| < 1$  if  $|v_0(x)| + |v_1(x)| \ll 1$

$a(t) \not\equiv \text{const.} \Rightarrow |v(t, x)| < 1$  does not follow from  $|v_0(x)| + |v_1(x)| \ll 1$

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)u = |\partial_t u|^2 - a(t)^2 |\nabla u|^2$$

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

**Theorem.** ([Reissig & Yagdjian '00]).

$m \geq 2$ ,  $\beta < 1 \Rightarrow$  (GS).

**Corollary.**

$\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha)$ ,  $b(t) \in C^2$ , *periodic*,  $\alpha > 1/2$   
 $\Rightarrow$  (GS).

**Remark.** (GS) for  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2)$  is an open problem.



### 3. Main Theorem

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)u = |\partial_t u|^2 - a(t)^2 |\nabla u|^2$$

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

$$\int_0^t |a(s) - \lambda(s)| ds \leq \Lambda(t) (\log \Lambda(t))^{-\gamma}$$

Motivation We want to derive benefits of the following properties of the coefficients for (GS):

- further smoothness:  $m \geq 3$ ;
- stabilization  $\gamma > 0$ .

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

$$\int_0^t |a(s) - \lambda(s)| ds \leq \Lambda(t) (\log \Lambda(t))^{-\gamma}$$

**Theorem.** ([H., Inooka & Pham]).

$$m \geq 2, \quad \beta < 1 + \gamma(1 - 1/m) \Rightarrow (\text{GS}).$$

**Corollary.**

$$\lambda(t) = \exp(t^\alpha), \quad b(t): \text{Example 4}, \quad \alpha > 1/(m + 1) \Rightarrow (\text{GS}).$$

# Comparison with the previous results

$$|b^{(k)}(t)| \leq C_k \left( \frac{\lambda(t)}{\Lambda(t)} (\log \Lambda(t))^\beta \right)^k, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

$$\int_0^t |a(s) - \lambda(s)| ds \leq \Lambda(t) (\log \Lambda(t))^{-\gamma}$$

	[HIP]	[RY]
General model ( $\beta <$ )	$1 + \gamma \left( 1 - \frac{1}{m} \right)$	1
Ex. 4 ( $\alpha >$ )	$\frac{1}{m + 1}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

## 4. Sketch of the proof

$$(\partial_t^2 - a(t)^2 \Delta)v = 0, \quad v(0, x) = v_0, \quad v_t(0, x) = v_1$$

**Proposition 1.** *(GS) is valid if the following estimate holds for  $s > n$ :*

$$\sup_{t, \xi} \{|v(t, x)|\} \leq C(\|v_0\|_{W^{s,1}} + \|v_1\|_{W^{s-1,1}}) \quad (*)$$

$$\underline{w(t, \xi) = \hat{v}(t, \xi)}$$

$$(\partial_t^2 + a(t)^2 |\xi|^2)w = 0, \quad w(0, \xi) = w_0, \quad w_t(0, \xi) = w_1$$

(\*) is valid if the following estimate holds:

$$|w(t, \xi)| \leq C|\xi|^{-\kappa} (|w_0(\xi)| + |\xi|^{-1}|w_1(\xi)|) \quad (**)$$

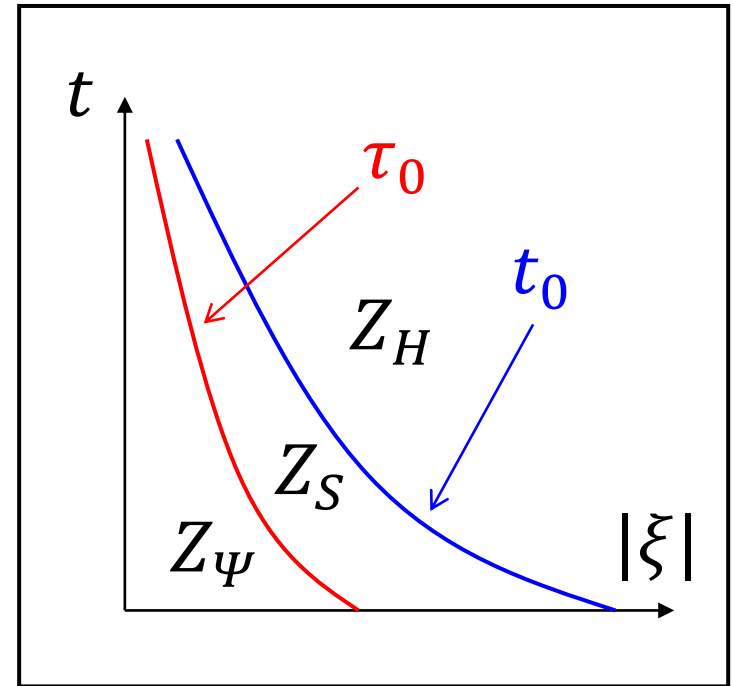
$$\tau_0 \lambda(\tau_0) |\xi| = N (\gg 1)$$

$$\Lambda(t_0) |\xi| = N (\log \Lambda(t_0))^{\gamma+1}$$

$$Z_\psi = \{(t, \xi) ; 0 \leq t \leq \tau_0\}$$

$$Z_S = \{(t, \xi) ; \tau_0 \leq t \leq t_0\}$$

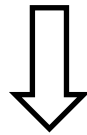
$$Z_H = \{(t, \xi) ; t_0 \leq t\}$$



## Estimate in $Z_H$

### Reduction to 1st order system

$$(\partial_t^2 + a(t)^2 |\xi|^2)w = 0$$



$$\partial_t W_1 = A_1 W_1$$

$$W_1 = \begin{pmatrix} w_t + ia|\xi|w \\ w_t - ia|\xi|w \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 & \overline{b_1} \\ b_1 & \phi_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

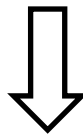
$$\phi_1 = \frac{a'}{2a} + ia|\xi|, \quad b_1 = \overline{b_1} = \frac{a'}{2a}$$

$$\lambda(t)|\xi||w(t, \xi)| + |w_t(t, \xi)| \simeq |W_1(t, \xi)|$$

# Diagonalization

$$M_1^{-1}A_1M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{\lambda_1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \overline{\delta_1} \\ \delta_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\partial_t W_1 = A_1 W_1$$



$$\partial_t W_2 = A_2 W_2, \quad W_2 = M_1^{-1} W_1$$

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_2 & \overline{b_2} \\ b_2 & \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{\lambda_1} \end{pmatrix} - M_1^{-1}(\partial_t M_1)$$

## Symbol classes in $Z_H$

$$f(t, \xi) \in S^{(p)}\{q, r\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |\partial_t^k f(t, \xi)| \leq C_k (\lambda |\xi|)^q \left( \frac{\lambda}{\Lambda} (\log \Lambda)^\beta \right)^{r+k} \quad (k = 1, \dots, p)$$

**Lemma.**  $f \in S^{(p)}\{q, r\}$ ,  $g \in S^{(p)}\{q', r'\} \Rightarrow$

(i)  $\partial_t f \in S^{(p-1)}\{q, r+1\}$ ;

(ii)  $fg \in S^{(p)}\{q+q', r+r'\}$ ;

(iii)  $S^{(p)}\{q, r\} \subset S^{(p)}\{q+1, r-1\}$ ;

(iv)  $b_1 \in S^{(m-1)}\{0, 1\}$ ,  $1/\phi_{1\mathfrak{s}} \in S^{(m)}\{-1, 0\}$ ,  $\phi_{1\mathfrak{s}} > 0$ .



## Proposition 2.

$$A_k = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_k & \overline{b_k} \\ b_k & \overline{\phi_k} \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_k = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \overline{\delta_k} \\ \delta_k & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \delta_k = \frac{\lambda_k - \phi_k}{\overline{b_k}}$$

$$b_k \in S^{(m-k)}\{-k+1, k\}, \quad 1/\phi_{k\mathfrak{S}} \in S^{(m-k)}\{-1, 0\}, \quad \phi_{k\mathfrak{S}} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{k+1} = M_k^{-1}(A_k - \partial_t)M_k$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_k & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{\lambda_k} \end{pmatrix} + M_k^{-1}(\partial_t M_k) = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{k+1} & \overline{b_{k+1}} \\ b_{k+1} & \overline{\phi_{k+1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b_{k+1} \in S^{(m-k-1)}\{-k, k+1\},$$

$$1/\phi_{(k+1)\mathfrak{S}} \in S^{(m-k-1)}\{-1, 0\}, \quad \phi_{(k+1)\mathfrak{S}} > 0,$$

$$\phi_{(k+1)\mathfrak{R}} = \phi_{k\mathfrak{R}} - \frac{\partial_t \log(1 - |\delta_k|^2)}{2}$$

After  $m - 1$  steps diagonalization

$$\partial_t W_m = A_m W_m$$

$$W_m = M_{m-1}^{-1} \cdots M_1^{-1} W_1, \quad A_m = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_m & \overline{b_m} \\ b_m & \phi_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b_m \in S^{(0)} \{-m+1, m\}, \quad \phi_{m\Re} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_t \log \left( \frac{a}{\prod_{k=1}^{m-1} (1 - |\delta_k|^2)} \right)$$

$$\partial_t |W_m|^2 = 2 \operatorname{Re}(A_m W_m, W_m) \leq 2(\phi_{m\Re} + |b_m|) |W_m|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow |W_m(t, \xi)|^2 &\leq \frac{a(t)}{a(t_0)} \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{1 - |\delta_k(t_0)|^2}{1 - |\delta_k(t)|^2} \\ &\quad \times \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t 2|b_m(s, \xi)| ds \right) |W_m(t_0, \xi)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t |b_m(s, \xi)| ds \leq C |\xi|^{-m+1} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{\lambda}{\Lambda^m} (\log \Lambda)^{m\beta} ds$$

$$\leq C (\log \Lambda(t_0))^{-(\gamma+1)(m-1)+m\beta}$$

$$= o(\log \Lambda(t_0))$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -(\gamma + 1)(m - 1) + m\beta < 1 \Leftrightarrow \beta < 1 + \gamma \left(1 - \frac{1}{m}\right)$$

$$\lambda(t) |\xi| |w(t, \xi)| + |w_t(t, \xi)| \simeq |W_1(t, \xi)| \simeq |W_m(t, \xi)|$$

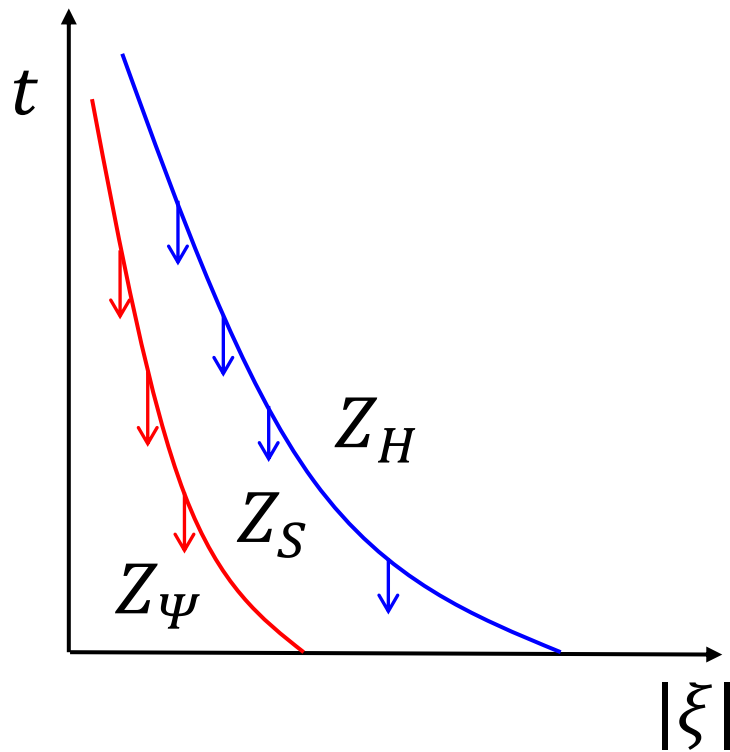
$$\leq C \sqrt{\frac{\lambda(t)}{\lambda(t_0)}} \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t |b_m(s, \xi)| ds\right) |W_m(t_0, \xi)|$$

$$\leq C \sqrt{\frac{\lambda(t)}{\lambda(t_0)}} |W_m(t_0, \xi)| \simeq \sqrt{\frac{\lambda(t)}{\lambda(t_0)}} |W_1(t_0, \xi)|$$

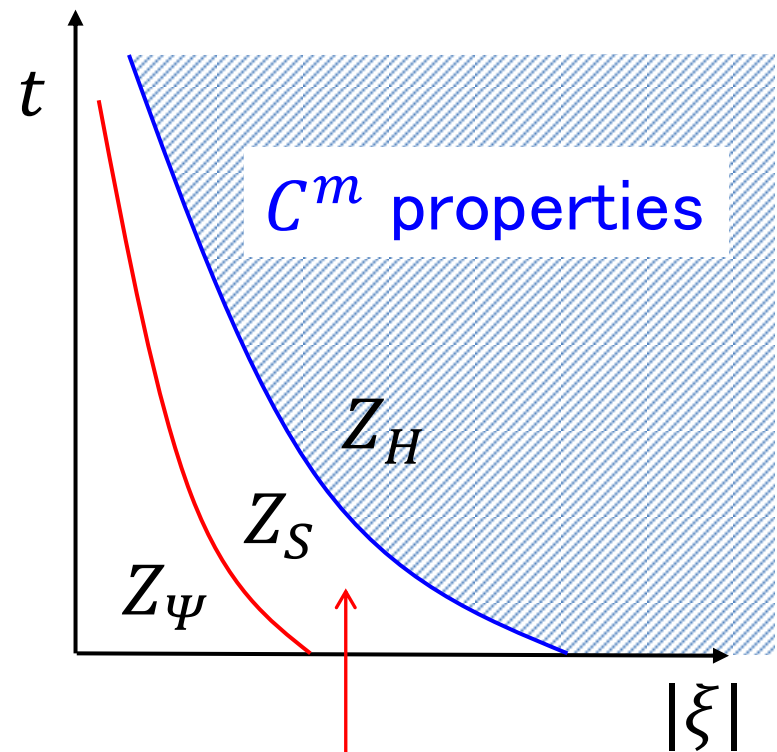
$$\tau_0 \lambda(\tau_0) |\xi| = N$$

$$\Lambda(t_0) |\xi| = N (\log \Lambda(t_0))^{\gamma+1}$$

$\lambda$ : larger



Influence of the properties



stabilization  $\gamma > 0$

## 5. Concluding remarks

Theorem ([H., Inooka & Pham]).

$$m \geq 2, \quad \beta < 1 + \gamma(1 - 1/m) \Rightarrow (\text{GS}).$$

- It will be prove that (GS) is not true if  $\beta > 1 + \gamma$  (cf. [H. '07]).
- Necessity of the smoothness is open problem.
- Application to Kirchhoff equation.
- Application to weakly hyperbolic problems.