

**GENERAL DECAY FOR A VON KARMAN PLATE SYSTEM WITH GENERAL  
TYPE OF RELAXATION FUNCTIONS ON THE BOUNDARY**

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we consider a von Karman plate system with general type of relaxation functions on the boundary. Using some properties of the convex functions without the assumption that initial value  $w_0 \equiv 0$  on the boundary, we study the general decay rate result.

Key words: von Karman plate; general decay; memory term; relaxation function; convexity; boundary condition  
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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this work is to investigate the general decay of the solutions to von Karman plate system with memory condition on the boundary:

$$w_{tt} + \Delta^2 w = [w, v] \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \quad (1.1)$$

$$\Delta^2 v = -[w, w] \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \quad (1.2)$$

$$v = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \nu} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma \times (0, \infty), \quad (1.3)$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} + \int_0^t h_1(t-s) \left( \mathcal{A}_1 w(s) + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial w(s)}{\partial \nu} \right) ds = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma \times (0, \infty), \quad (1.4)$$

$$w - \int_0^t h_2(t-s) (\mathcal{A}_2 w(s) - \alpha_2 w(s)) ds = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma \times (0, \infty), \quad (1.5)$$

$$w(x, 0) = w_0(x), \quad w_t(x, 0) = w_1(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (1.6)$$

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is a bounded domain with smooth boundary  $\Gamma$ ,  $x = (x_1, x_2)$ ,  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are small positive constants. The von Karman bracket  $[w, u]$  denotes the bilinear expression

$$[w, u] = w_{x_1 x_1} u_{x_2 x_2} - 2w_{x_1 x_2} u_{x_1 x_2} + w_{x_2 x_2} u_{x_1 x_1}.$$

Let us denote by  $\nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2)$  the external unit normal vector on  $\Gamma$  and by  $\tau = (-\nu_2, \nu_1)$  the corresponding unit tangent vector. Denoting by the differential operators  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$

$$\mathcal{A}_1 w = \Delta w + (1 - \lambda) A_1 w, \quad \mathcal{A}_2 w = \frac{\partial \Delta w}{\partial \nu} + (1 - \lambda) \frac{\partial A_2 w}{\partial \tau}$$

where

$$A_1 w = 2\nu_1 \nu_2 w_{x_1 x_2} - \nu_1^2 w_{x_2 x_2} - \nu_2^2 w_{x_1 x_1},$$

$$A_2 w = (\nu_1^2 - \nu_2^2) w_{x_1 x_2} + \nu_1 \nu_2 (w_{x_2 x_2} - w_{x_1 x_1})$$

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and the constant  $\lambda \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , represents Poisson's ratio. This system describes the transversal displacement  $w$  and the Airy-stress function  $v$  of a vibrating plate subjected to the boundary viscoelastic damping.

The stability of the solutions to a von Karman system was considered by several authors ([1-3]). The asymptotic behavior of the solutions to a von Karman plates with memory was studied by several authors ([4-6]). On the other hand, Rivera et al. [7] proved that the solution of system (1.1)-(1.6) decays exponentially provided the resolvent kernels satisfy

$$k_i(0) > 0, k_i'(t) \leq -C_1 k_i(t), k_i''(t) \geq -C_2 k_i'(t), \forall t \geq 0, (i = 1, 2), \quad (1.7)$$

for some positive constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Santos and Soufyane [8] improved the decay result of [7]. They assumed that the resolvent kernels satisfy

$$k_i(0) > 0, k_i(t) \geq 0, k_i'(t) \leq 0, k_i''(t) \geq \eta_i(t)(-k_i'(t)), (i = 1, 2), \quad (1.8)$$

where  $\eta_i : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a function satisfying the following conditions

$$\eta_i(t) > 0, \eta_i'(t) \leq 0, \int_0^{+\infty} \eta_i(t) dt = +\infty.$$

Kang [9] extended the results in [8] by considering general decay rates of the energy under  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$  and the generalized conditions

$$k_i(0) > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} k_i(t) = 0, k_i'(t) \leq 0, k_i''(t) \geq K(-k_i'(t)), (i = 1, 2), \quad (1.9)$$

where  $K$  is a positive function, with  $K(0) = K'(0) = 0$ , and  $K$  is linear or it is strictly increasing and strictly convex on  $(0, r]$ , for some  $0 < r < 1$ . The inequality in (1.9) has been introduced for the first time in [10]. These are weaker conditions on  $H$  than those introduced in [10]. Later, Park [11] obtained the general decay of the solution for system (1.1)-(1.6) with  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$  under the assumption (1.9) and  $w_0 \neq 0$  on a part of the boundary. Moreover, the stability of the solutions to the viscoelastic problems with the memory on the boundary has been studied by many authors ([12-19]).

Motivated by their results, we prove the general decay of the solution for the system (1.1)-(1.6) when the initial data  $w_0 \neq 0$  on  $\Gamma$  and the resolvent kernels  $k_i$  satisfy

$$k_i(0) > 0, k_i'(t) \leq 0, k_i''(t) \geq \xi_i(t)G_i(-k_i'(t)), (i = 1, 2), \quad (1.10)$$

where  $\xi_i : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a positive nonincreasing differential function and  $G_i$  is a positive function, with  $G_i(0) = G_i'(0) = 0$ , and  $G_i$  is a linear or it is strictly increasing and strictly convex on  $(0, r]$ , for some  $0 < r < 1$ . This is a more general condition than conditions (1.8) and (1.9). Recently, Feng and Soufyane [20] showed the general decay of the solution for system (1.1)-(1.6) with  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$  under the assumption (1.10) and  $w_0 = 0$  on a part of the boundary. The general stability result of viscoelastic equation, for relaxation function  $h$  satisfying  $h'(t) \leq -\xi(t)K(h(t))$ , has been investigated in [21-23].

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we present some notations and assumptions needed for our work. In Section 3 we prove the general decay of the solutions for the von Karman plate system with memory condition on the boundary.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we present some material needed in the proof of our main result. Throughout this paper we denote  $\|\cdot\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{L^2(\Gamma)}$  by  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $\|\cdot\|_\Gamma$ , respectively. Let us define the bilinear form

$$a(w, u) = \int_{\Omega} \{w_{x_1x_1}u_{x_1x_1} + w_{x_2x_2}u_{x_2x_2} + \mu(w_{x_1x_1}u_{x_2x_2} + w_{x_2x_2}u_{x_1x_1}) + 2(1 - \mu)w_{x_1x_2}u_{x_1x_2}\} dx.$$

We assume that there exists  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that

$$\Gamma = \{x \in \Gamma : \nu(x) \cdot (x - x_0) > 0\}.$$

Denoting by  $m(x) = x - x_0$ , the compactness of  $\Gamma$  implies that there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$m(x) \cdot \nu(x) \geq \delta > 0, \quad \forall x \in \Gamma. \quad (2.1)$$

The following identity will be used later.

**Lemma 2.1.** ([24]) For any  $w \in H^4(\Omega)$  and  $u \in H^2(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\int_{\Omega} (\Delta^2 w) u dx = a(w, u) + \int_{\Gamma} (\mathcal{A}_2 w) u - (\mathcal{A}_1 w) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma, \quad (2.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} (m \cdot \nabla w) \Delta^2 w dx &= a(w, w) + \int_{\Gamma} [(\mathcal{A}_2 w)(m \cdot \nabla w) - (\mathcal{A}_1 w) \frac{\partial (m \cdot \nabla w)}{\partial \nu}] d\Gamma \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} (m \cdot \nu) [w_{x_1x_1}^2 + w_{x_2x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1x_1} w_{x_2x_2} + 2(1 - \lambda) w_{x_1x_2}^2] d\Gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

We state the relative results of the Airy stress function and von Karman bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** ([25]) Let  $w, u$  be functions in  $H^2(\Omega)$  and  $v$  in  $H_0^2(\Omega)$ , where  $\Omega$  is a open bounded and connected set of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with regular boundary. Then

$$\int_{\Omega} [w, v] u dx = \int_{\Omega} [w, u] v dx. \quad (2.4)$$

We introduce the following binary operators

$$(h * w)(t) = \int_0^t h(t-s)w(s)ds, \quad (h \square w)(t) := \int_0^t h(t-s)|w(t) - w(s)|^2 ds$$

where  $*$  is the convolution product. By differentiating the term  $h \square w$ , we obtain the following lemma for the important property between these two operators.

**Lemma 2.3.** For  $h, w \in C^1([0, \infty) : \mathbb{R})$ , we have

$$(h * w)_t = -\frac{1}{2}h(t)|w(t)|^2 + \frac{1}{2}h' \square w - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ h \square w - \left( \int_0^t h(s)ds \right) |w|^2 \right]. \quad (2.5)$$

Now, we use the boundary conditions (1.4) and (1.5) to estimate the terms  $\mathcal{A}_1 w$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2 w$ . As shown in ([7-9]), differentiating (1.4) and (1.5) and applying the Volterra's inverse operator, we have

$$\mathcal{A}_1 w + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} = -\frac{1}{h_1(0)} \left\{ \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} + k_1 * \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} \right\}, \quad \mathcal{A}_2 w - \alpha_2 w = \frac{1}{h_2(0)} \{w_t + k_2 * w_t\},$$

where the resolvent kernel  $k_i, (i = 1, 2)$  satisfies

$$k_i + \frac{1}{h_i(0)} h_i' * k_i = -\frac{1}{h_i(0)} h_i'.$$

Denoting by  $\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{h_1(0)}$  and  $\gamma_2 = \frac{1}{h_2(0)}$ , we get

$$\mathcal{A}_1 w = -\alpha_1 \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} - \gamma_1 \left\{ \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} - k_1(t) \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} + k_1(0) \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} + k_1' * \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\}, \quad (2.6)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2 w = \alpha_2 w + \gamma_2 \{w_t - k_2(t)w_0 + k_2(0)w + k_2' * w\}. \quad (2.7)$$

Thus, we use the boundary conditions (2.6) and (2.7) instead of (1.4) and (1.5).

As in [12, 20], we consider the following assumptions on  $k_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

(A) The resolvent kernel  $k_i : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is twice differentiable functions such that

$$k_i(0) > 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} k_i(t) = 0, \quad k_i'(t) \leq 0 \quad (2.8)$$

and there exists a positive function  $G_i \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$  and  $G_i$  is a linear or it is strictly increasing and strictly convex  $C^2$  function on  $(0, r]$ ,  $r < 1$ , with  $G_i(0) = G_i'(0) = 0$ , such that

$$k_i''(t) \geq \xi_i(t)G_i(-k_i'(t)), \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (2.9)$$

where  $\xi_i : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a nonincreasing differentiable function.

From (A), we easily see that there exists  $t_0 > 0$  large enough such that

$$0 < -k_i'(t_0) \leq -k_i'(t) \leq -k_i'(0), \quad \text{for } t \in [0, t_0] \quad (2.10)$$

and

$$\max\{k_i(t), -k_i'(t), k_i''(t)\} < \min\{r, G(r)\}, \quad \text{for } t \geq t_0, \quad (2.11)$$

where  $G = \min\{G_1, G_2\}$ .

As  $\xi_i(t)$  and  $-k_i'(t)$  are positive nonincreasing continuous functions and  $G_i(t)$  is a positive continuous function, there exist positive constants  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  such that

$$a_i \leq \xi_i(t)G_i(-k_i'(t)) \leq b_i, \quad \text{for } t \in [0, t_0].$$

Therefore, for all  $t \in [0, t_0]$ , we obtain

$$k_i''(t) \geq \xi_i(t)G_i(-k_i'(t)) \geq a_i \frac{k_i'(t)}{k_i'(0)} = -c_i k_i'(t) \quad (2.12)$$

for some positive constant  $c_i$ .

The well-posedness of von Karman system plates with boundary conditions of memory type is given by the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** ([7]) Let  $k_i (i = 1, 2) \in C^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$  be such that  $k_i, -k'_i, k''_i \geq 0$ . If the initial data  $(w_0, w_1) \in (H^4(\Omega) \cap H^2(\Omega)) \times H^2(\Omega)$  satisfy the conditions

$$\mathcal{A}_1 w_0 + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} + \gamma_1 \frac{\partial w_1}{\partial \nu} = 0, \quad \mathcal{A}_2 w_0 - \alpha_2 w_0 - \gamma_2 w_1 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

then the solution of (1.1)-(1.6) has the following regularity

$$w \in C^1([0, T] : H^2(\Omega)) \cap C^0([0, T] : H^4(\Omega)).$$

The energy function of system (1.1)-(1.6) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} E(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \|w_t\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} a(w, w) + \frac{1}{4} \|\Delta v\|^2 + \frac{\alpha_1}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\gamma_1}{2} k_1(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} k_2(t) \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k'_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma - \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k'_2 \square w d\Gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

To get a general stability result, the following is needed.

**Remark 2.1.** 1. If  $G_i$  is a strictly convex on  $(0, r]$  and  $G_i(0) = 0$ , then

$$G_i(\theta x) \leq \theta G_i(x), \quad x \in (0, r] \quad \text{and } 0 \leq \theta \leq 1. \quad (2.14)$$

2. Let  $G^*$  be the convex conjugate of  $G$  in the sense of Young (see [26]); then

$$G^*(s) = s(G')^{-1}(s) - G[(G')^{-1}(s)] \leq s(G')^{-1}(s), \quad \text{if } s \in (0, G'(r)) \quad (2.15)$$

and  $G^*$  satisfies the following Young's inequality

$$ab \leq G^*(a) + G(b), \quad \text{if } a \in (0, G'(r)], \quad b \in (0, r]. \quad (2.16)$$

3. Let  $F$  be a convex function on  $[c, d]$ ,  $\varrho : \Omega \rightarrow [c, d]$  and  $p$  are integrable functions on  $\Omega$  such that  $p(x) \geq 0$  and  $\int_{\Omega} p(x) dx = p_0 > 0$ , then Jensen's inequality holds that

$$F\left(\frac{1}{p_0} \int_{\Omega} \varrho(x) p(x) dx\right) \leq \frac{1}{p_0} \int_{\Omega} F(\varrho(x)) p(x) dx. \quad (2.17)$$

### 3. GENERAL DECAY

In this section, we study the asymptotic behavior of the solutions for the system (1.1)-(1.6). To show the general decay property, we first prove the dissipative property. Multiplying (1.1) by  $w_t$  and using (2.2), (2.5), Young's inequality and the boundary conditions (2.6) and (2.7), we obtain the following.

**Lemma 3.1.** ([7]) The energy function  $E(t)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} E'(t) &\leq -\frac{\gamma_2}{2} \|w_t\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} k'_2(t) \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k''_2 \square w d\Gamma + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\gamma_1}{2} k'_1(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k''_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma + \frac{\gamma_1}{2} k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Since  $w_0 \neq 0$  on  $\Gamma$ , Lemma 3.1 says that  $E(t)$  may not be nonincreasing. So, we introduce the modified energy functional  $\mathcal{E}(t)$  by

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = E(t) + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 \int_t^{\infty} k_2^2(s) ds + \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \int_t^{\infty} k_1^2(s) ds. \quad (3.2)$$

Then from (3.1), we have

$$\mathcal{E}'(t) = E'(t) - \frac{\gamma_2}{2} k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \leq -\frac{\gamma_2}{2} \int_\Gamma k_2'' \square w d\Gamma - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \int_\Gamma k_1'' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \leq 0. \quad (3.3)$$

For suitable choice of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ , let us introduce the Lyapunov functional

$$L(t) := N_1 E(t) + N_2 \Upsilon(t)$$

where

$$\Upsilon(t) := \int_\Omega \left( m \cdot \nabla w + \frac{1}{2} w \right) w_t dx.$$

It is not difficult to see that  $L(t)$  satisfies  $q_0 E(t) \leq L(t) \leq q_1 E(t)$ , for some positive constants  $q_0$  and  $q_1$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** Under the assumption (A), the functional  $\Upsilon(t)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon'(t) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) |w_t|^2 d\Gamma - \frac{1}{2} \|w_t\|^2 - \|\Delta v\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) |\Delta v|^2 d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{3}{2} - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) a(w, w) - \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1}{4} - \alpha_2 C_\epsilon - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) \|w\|_\Gamma^2 - \alpha_1 \left( \frac{1}{4} - \alpha_1 C_\epsilon - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\epsilon \lambda_0}{\delta} \right) \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) [w_{x_1 x_1}^2 + w_{x_2 x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1 x_1} w_{x_2 x_2} + 2(1-\lambda)w_{x_1 x_2}^2] d\Gamma \\ &\quad + 4\gamma_2^2 C_\epsilon \left( \|w_t\|_\Gamma^2 + k_2^2(t) \|w\|_\Gamma^2 + k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + C(\delta_2) \int_\Gamma g_2 \square w d\Gamma \right) \\ &\quad + 4\gamma_1^2 C_\epsilon \left( \left\| \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 + C(\delta_1) \int_\Gamma g_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

for any  $0 < \delta_i < 1$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), where

$$C(\delta_i) = \int_0^\infty \frac{(-k_i'(s))^2}{g_i(s)} ds \quad \text{and} \quad g_i(t) = k_i''(t) - \delta_i k_i'(t) > 0. \quad (3.5)$$

*Proof.* According to [7-9], from (2.3) and (2.4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon'(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) |w_t|^2 d\Gamma - \frac{1}{2} \|w_t\|^2 - \|\Delta v\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) |\Delta v|^2 d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{2} a(w, w) - \int_\Gamma (\mathcal{A}_2 w) \left( m \cdot \nabla w + \frac{1}{2} w \right) d\Gamma + \int_\Gamma (\mathcal{A}_1 w) \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu} \left( m \cdot \nabla w + \frac{1}{2} w \right) d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) [w_{x_1 x_1}^2 + w_{x_2 x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1 x_1} w_{x_2 x_2} + 2(1-\lambda)w_{x_1 x_2}^2] d\Gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Applying Young's inequality we get

$$\left| - \int_\Gamma (\mathcal{A}_2 w) \left( m \cdot \nabla w + \frac{1}{2} w \right) d\Gamma \right| \leq \epsilon \|m \cdot \nabla w\|_\Gamma^2 + C_\epsilon \| \mathcal{A}_2 w - \alpha_2 w \|_\Gamma^2 - \left( \frac{\alpha_2}{4} - \alpha_2^2 C_\epsilon \right) \|w\|_\Gamma^2, \quad (3.7)$$

$$\left| \int_\Gamma (\mathcal{A}_1 w) \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu} \left( m \cdot \nabla w + \frac{1}{2} w \right) d\Gamma \right| \leq \epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu} (m \cdot \nabla w) \right\|_\Gamma^2 + C_\epsilon \left\| \mathcal{A}_1 w + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 - \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{4} - \alpha_1^2 C_\epsilon \right) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2, \quad (3.8)$$

where  $\epsilon$  is a positive constant. On the other hand, by the bilinear form  $a(w, u) + \int_\Gamma (\alpha_1 \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} + \alpha_2 w u) d\Gamma$  is strictly coercive on  $H^2(\Omega)$  and (2.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|m \cdot \nabla w\|_\Gamma^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial \nu} (m \cdot \nabla w) \right\|_\Gamma^2 &\leq \lambda_0 \left( a(w, w) + \alpha_2 \|w\|_\Gamma^2 + \alpha_1 \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{\lambda_0}{\delta} \int_\Gamma (m \cdot \nu) [w_{x_1 x_1}^2 + w_{x_2 x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1 x_1} w_{x_2 x_2} + 2(1-\lambda)w_{x_1 x_2}^2] d\Gamma, \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

where  $\lambda_0$  is a positive constant. Noting that

$$(k_2' * w)(t) = w(t)[k_2(t) - k_2(0)] - \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(t) - w(s))ds,$$

the boundary condition (2.7) can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_2 w - \alpha_2 w = \gamma_2 \{w_t + k_2(t)w - k_2(t)w_0 - \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(t) - w(s))ds\}. \quad (3.10)$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 w + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} = -\gamma_1 \left\{ \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} + k_1(t) \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} - k_1(t) \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} - \int_0^t k_1'(t-s) \left( \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(s)}{\partial \nu} \right) ds \right\}. \quad (3.11)$$

Using (3.6)-(3.11), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon'(t) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} (m \cdot \nu) |w_t|^2 d\Gamma - \frac{1}{2} \|w_t\|^2 - \|\Delta v\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} (m \cdot \nu) |\Delta v|^2 d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{3}{2} - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) a(w, w) - \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1}{4} - \alpha_2 C_\epsilon - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \alpha_1 \left( \frac{1}{4} - \alpha_1 C_\epsilon - \epsilon \lambda_0 \right) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\epsilon \lambda_0}{\delta} \right) \int_{\Gamma} (m \cdot \nu) [w_{x_1 x_1}^2 + w_{x_2 x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1 x_1} w_{x_2 x_2} + 2(1-\lambda)w_{x_1 x_2}^2] d\Gamma \\ &\quad + 4\gamma_1^2 C_\epsilon \left( \left\| \frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \left\| - \int_0^t k_1'(t-s) \left( \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(s)}{\partial \nu} \right) ds \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \right) \\ &\quad + 4\gamma_2^2 C_\epsilon \left( \|w_t\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_2^2(t) \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \left\| - \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(t) - w(s))ds \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

Using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (3.5), we have (see details in [21, 23])

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\| - \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(t) - w(s))ds \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\leq \int_0^t \frac{(-k_2'(s))^2}{g_2(s)} ds \int_{\Gamma} \int_0^t (k_2''(t-s) - \delta_2 k_2'(t-s)) |w(t) - w(s)|^2 ds d\Gamma \leq C(\delta_2) \int_{\Gamma} g_2 \square w d\Gamma, \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

and

$$\left\| - \int_0^t k_1'(t-s) \left( \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(s)}{\partial \nu} \right) ds \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \leq C(\delta_1) \int_{\Gamma} g_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma. \quad (3.14)$$

Substituting (3.13) and (3.14) into (3.12), we have (3.4).  $\square$

Next, we define the functionals

$$K_1(t) = \int_0^t f_1(t-s) \left\| \frac{\partial w(s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \quad \text{and} \quad K_2(t) = \int_0^t f_2(t-s) \|w(s)\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds$$

where  $f_i(t) = \int_t^\infty (-k_i'(s))ds$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** Under the assumption (A), the functionals  $K_1(t)$  and  $K_2(t)$  satisfy the estimates

$$K_1'(t) \leq 3k_1(0) \left\| \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k_1' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma, \quad (3.15)$$

$$K_2'(t) \leq 3k_2(0) \|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k_2' \square w d\Gamma. \quad (3.16)$$

*Proof.* Taking the derivative of the functional  $K_2(t)$  and using the fact  $f_2'(t) = k_2'(t)$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} K_2'(t) &= f_2(0)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)\|w(s)\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \\ &= \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)\|w(s) - w(t)\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds + 2 \int_{\Gamma} w(t) \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(s) - w(t)) ds d\Gamma + k_2(t)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

Using Young's inequality and (2.8), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &2 \int_{\Gamma} w(t) \int_0^t k_2'(t-s)(w(s) - w(t)) ds d\Gamma \\ &\leq 2k_2(0)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\int_0^t -k_2'(s) ds}{2k_2(0)} \int_{\Gamma} \int_0^t (-k_2'(t-s))|w(s) - w(t)|^2 ds d\Gamma \\ &\leq 2k_2(0)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k_2' \square w d\Gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

From (3.17) and (3.18), we get the estimate (3.16). Similarly, we can obtain the estimate (3.15).  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** Suppose that the assumption (A) holds. Then, for  $N_1, N_2 > 0$  large enough, there exist positive constants  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} L'(t) &\leq -\beta_1(\|w_t\|^2 + a(w, w) + \|\Delta v\|^2) + \beta_2(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu}\right\|_{\Gamma}^2) \\ &\quad - 4\gamma_2 k_2(0)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 - 4\gamma_1 k_1(0)\left\|\frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu}\right\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{\gamma_2}{4} \int_{\Gamma} k_2' \square w d\Gamma - \frac{\gamma_1}{4} \int_{\Gamma} k_1' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma, \text{ for } t \geq t_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

where  $t_0$  was introduced in (2.10).

*Proof.* Combining (3.1), (3.4) and (3.5), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} L'(t) &\leq -\frac{N_2}{2}\|w_t\|^2 - N_2\|\Delta v\|^2 - \gamma_2\left(\frac{N_1}{2} - 4\gamma_2 C_{\epsilon} N_2 - \frac{RN_2}{2\gamma_2}\right)\|w_t\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \gamma_1\left(\frac{N_1}{2} - 4\gamma_1 C_{\epsilon} N_2\right)\left\|\frac{\partial w_t}{\partial \nu}\right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{3}{2} - \epsilon\lambda_0\right)N_2 a(w, w) - \left(\alpha_2\left(\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 - \alpha_2 C_{\epsilon}\right)N_2 - 4\gamma_2^2 C_{\epsilon} k_2^2(t)N_2\right)\|w\|_{\Gamma}^2 \\ &\quad - \left(\alpha_1\left(\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 - \alpha_1 C_{\epsilon}\right)N_2 - 4\gamma_1^2 C_{\epsilon} k_1^2(t)N_2\right)\left\|\frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu}\right\|_{\Gamma}^2 - \frac{\gamma_2 \delta_2 N_1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k_2' \square w d\Gamma - \frac{\gamma_1 \delta_1 N_1}{2} \int_{\Gamma} k_1' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \gamma_2\left(\frac{N_1}{2} - 4\gamma_2 C_{\epsilon} C(\delta_2)N_2\right) \int_{\Gamma} g_2 \square w d\Gamma - \gamma_1\left(\frac{N_1}{2} - 4\gamma_1 C_{\epsilon} C(\delta_1)N_2\right) \int_{\Gamma} g_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\epsilon\lambda_0}{\delta}\right)N_2 \int_{\Gamma} (m \cdot \nu)[w_{x_1 x_1}^2 + w_{x_2 x_2}^2 + 2\mu w_{x_1 x_1} w_{x_2 x_2} + 2(1 - \lambda)w_{x_1 x_2}^2] d\Gamma \\ &\quad + k_2^2(t)\left(\frac{\gamma_2 N_1}{2} + 4\gamma_2^2 C_{\epsilon} N_2\right)\|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1^2(t)\left(\frac{\gamma_1 N_1}{2} + 4\gamma_1^2 C_{\epsilon} N_2\right)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu}\right\|_{\Gamma}^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $R = \max\{m(x) \cdot \nu(x) : x \in \Gamma\}$ . We first fix  $\epsilon > 0$  small such that

$$\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\epsilon\lambda_0}{\delta} > 0,$$

and then take  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  small such that

$$\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 - \alpha_1 C_{\epsilon} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 - \alpha_2 C_{\epsilon} > 0.$$

Next, applying the fact  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} k_i(t) = 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), we choose  $N_2$  large enough so that

$$\alpha_i\left(\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon\lambda_0 - \alpha_i C_{\epsilon}\right)N_2 - 4\gamma_i^2 C_{\epsilon} k_i^2(t)N_2 > 4\gamma_i k_i(0), \quad i = 1, 2.$$

From (2.8), (2.9) and (3.5), we have

$$-\delta_i k'_i(t) \leq k''_i(t) - \delta_i k'_i(t) = g_i(t) \Rightarrow \frac{-\delta_i k'_i(t)}{g_i(t)} \leq 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\delta_i (-k'_i(t))^2}{g_i(t)} \leq -k'_i(t), \quad i = 1, 2. \quad (3.20)$$

Integrating (3.20) and using (2.8), we obtain

$$\delta_i C(\delta_i) = \delta_i \int_0^\infty \frac{(-k'_i(s))^2}{g_i(s)} ds \leq k_i(0), \quad i = 1, 2.$$

By the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem, we find that  $\delta_i C(\delta_i) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\delta_i \rightarrow 0$ . Then there exists  $0 < \delta_0 < 1$  such that if  $\delta_i < \delta_0$ , then

$$\max\{4\delta_1 \gamma_1 C_\epsilon C(\delta_1) N_2, 4\delta_2 \gamma_2 C_\epsilon C(\delta_2) N_2\} < \frac{1}{8}.$$

Finally, taking  $N_1$  large enough so that

$$N_1 > \max\left\{8\gamma_1 C_\epsilon N_2, \left(8\gamma_2 C_\epsilon + \frac{R}{\gamma_2}\right) N_2\right\}$$

and choosing  $\delta_i = \frac{1}{2N_1} < \delta_0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), we have the estimate (3.19).  $\square$

Now, we are now ready to prove our main result.

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose that the assumption (A) holds. Then there exist positive constants  $\epsilon_0, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$  such that the energy functional satisfies, for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,

$$E(t) \leq \sigma_1 \left\{ 1 + \int_{t_0}^t e^{\sigma_2 \int_{t_0}^s \xi(\eta) d\eta} \left( k_2^2(s) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(s) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \right) ds \right\} e^{-\sigma_2 \int_{t_0}^t \xi(s) ds}, \quad \text{if } G \text{ is linear,} \quad (3.21)$$

$$E(t) \leq \kappa_1 G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{\kappa_2 \left( 1 + \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 \int_{t_0}^t G(k_2(s)) \xi(s) ds + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \int_{t_0}^t G(k_1(s)) \xi(s) ds \right)}{t \xi(t)} \right) - \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 \int_t^\infty k_2^2(s) ds - \frac{\gamma_1}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \int_t^\infty k_1^2(s) ds, \quad \text{if } G \text{ is nonlinear,} \quad (3.22)$$

where  $G_1(t) = tG'(\epsilon_0 t)$ ,  $G = \min\{G_1, G_2\}$  and  $\xi(t) = \min\{\xi_1(t), \xi_2(t)\}$ .

*Proof.* From (2.13) and (3.19), there exist positive constants  $\beta_3$  and  $\beta_4$  such that for  $t \geq t_0$ ,

$$L'(t) \leq -\beta_3 E(t) - \beta_4 \left( \int_\Gamma k'_2 \square w d\Gamma + \int_\Gamma k'_1 \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right) + \beta_2 \left( k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \right). \quad (3.23)$$

Applying (2.12) and (3.1), we see that, for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \beta_4 \int_\Gamma \int_0^{t_0} \left( -k'_2(s) |w(t) - w(t-s)|^2 - k'_1(s) \left| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right|^2 \right) ds d\Gamma \\ & \leq \frac{\beta_4}{c_0} \int_\Gamma \int_0^{t_0} \left( k''_2(s) |w(t) - w(t-s)|^2 + k''_1(s) \left| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right|^2 \right) ds d\Gamma \\ & \leq \frac{\beta_4}{c_0 \gamma_0} \left( \gamma_2 k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + \gamma_1 k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 - 2E'(t) \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.24)$$

where  $c_0 = \min\{c_1, c_2\}$  and  $\gamma_0 = \min\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2\}$ . Let  $\Phi(t) = L(t) + \frac{2\beta_4}{c_0 \gamma_0} E(t)$ , which is equivalent to  $E(t)$ .

Using (3.23) and (3.24), we obtain for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi'(t) & \leq -\beta_3 E(t) + \beta_5 \left( k_2^2(t) \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_\Gamma^2 \right) \\ & \quad - \beta_4 \left( \int_\Gamma \int_{t_0}^t k'_2(s) |w(t) - w(t-s)|^2 ds d\Gamma + \int_\Gamma \int_{t_0}^t k'_1(s) \left| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right|^2 ds d\Gamma \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.25)$$

where  $\beta_5 = \max\{\beta_2 + \frac{\beta_4\gamma_1}{c_0\gamma_0}, \beta_2 + \frac{\beta_4\gamma_2}{c_0\gamma_0}\}$ .

We consider the following two cases.

(1)  $G$  is linear: Multiplying (3.25) by the nonincreasing function  $\xi(t)$  and using (2.9) and (3.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \xi(t)\Phi'(t) &\leq -\beta_3\xi(t)E(t) + \beta_5\xi(t)\left(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right) \\ &\quad + \beta_4\left(\int_\Gamma\int_{t_0}^t k_2''(s)|w(t) - w(t-s)|^2 ds d\Gamma + \int_\Gamma\int_{t_0}^t k_1''(s)\left|\frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial\nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial\nu}\right|^2 ds d\Gamma\right) \\ &\leq -\beta_3\xi(t)E(t) + \beta_6\left(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right) - \frac{2\beta_4}{\gamma_0}E'(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta_6 = \max\{\beta_5\xi_0 + \frac{\beta_4\gamma_1}{\gamma_0}, \beta_5\xi_0 + \frac{\beta_4\gamma_2}{\gamma_0}\}$  and  $\xi(t) \leq \xi_0$ . This gives

$$(\xi(t)\Phi(t) + \frac{2\beta_4}{\gamma_0}E(t))' \leq -\beta_3\xi(t)E(t) + \beta_6\left(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right), \quad \forall t \geq t_0.$$

Hence, using the fact that  $I(t) = \xi(t)\Phi(t) + \frac{2\beta_4}{\gamma_0}E(t) \sim E(t)$ , we deduce that

$$I'(t) \leq -\beta_7\xi(t)I(t) + \beta_6\left(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right), \quad \forall t \geq t_0, \quad (3.26)$$

where  $\beta_7$  is a positive constant. We introduce

$$J(t) = I(t) - \beta_6 e^{-\beta_7 \int_{t_0}^t \xi(s) ds} \left( \int_{t_0}^t k_2^2(s) e^{\beta_7 \int_{t_0}^s \xi(\eta) d\eta} ds \|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + \int_{t_0}^t k_1^2(s) e^{\beta_7 \int_{t_0}^s \xi(\eta) d\eta} ds \left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2 \right). \quad (3.27)$$

From (3.26), we have

$$J'(t) \leq -\beta_7\xi(t)J(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0.$$

Integrating this over  $(t_0, t)$ , we obtain

$$J(t) \leq J(t_0) e^{-\beta_7 \int_{t_0}^t \xi(s) ds}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0.$$

Using the fact that  $I(t) \sim E(t)$  and (3.27), we get the estimate (3.21).

(2)  $G$  is nonlinear: First, we construct the functional

$$\Psi(t) = L(t) + \gamma_1 K_1(t) + \gamma_2 K_2(t),$$

which is nonnegative. From (2.13), (3.15), (3.16) and (3.19), we obtain

$$\Psi'(t) \leq -\rho_0 E(t) + \beta_2\left(k_2^2(t)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1^2(t)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right),$$

where  $\rho_0$  is some positive constant. Integrating this over  $(t_0, t)$ , we arrive at

$$\rho_0 \int_{t_0}^t E(s) ds \leq \Psi(t_0) + \beta_2\left(k_2(0)\|w_0\|_\Gamma^2 + k_1(0)\left\|\frac{\partial w_0}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2\right) + \int_{t_0}^t k_1(s) ds.$$

Therefore, from (2.8), we conclude that

$$\int_{t_0}^t E(s) ds < \infty.$$

Then, we define  $\eta_1(t)$  and  $\eta_2(t)$  by, for constants  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2 \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\eta_1(t) := \theta_1 \int_{t_0}^t \left\|\frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial\nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial\nu}\right\|_\Gamma^2 ds, \quad \eta_2(t) := \theta_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|w(t) - w(t-s)\|_\Gamma^2 ds \in (0, 1).$$

Using (2.9), (2.14), (2.17) and the fact that  $\xi_1(t)$  is a positive nonincreasing, we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \int_{t_0}^t k_1'(s) \left\| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \leq \int_{t_0}^t G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{k_1''(s)}{\xi_1(s)} \right) \left\| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \\
& \leq \frac{\eta_1(t)}{\theta_1} G_1^{-1} \left( \theta_1 \int_{t_0}^t \frac{k_1''(s)}{\xi_1(s) \eta_1(t)} \left\| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \right) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{\theta_1} G_1^{-1} \left( \theta_1 \int_{t_0}^t \frac{k_1''(s)}{\xi_1(s)} \left\| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \right) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{\theta_1} G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi_1(t)} \int_{t_0}^t k_1''(s) \left\| \frac{\partial w(t)}{\partial \nu} - \frac{\partial w(t-s)}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \right) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{\theta_1} G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_1'' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right), \tag{3.28}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi(t) = \min\{\xi_1(t), \xi_2(t)\}$ . Similarly, we can prove that

$$- \int_{t_0}^t k_2'(s) \|w(t) - w(t-s)\|_{\Gamma}^2 ds \leq \frac{1}{\theta_2} G_2^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_2'' \square w d\Gamma \right). \tag{3.29}$$

Combining (3.2), (3.25), (3.28) and (3.29), we see that for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi'(t) & \leq -\beta_3 \mathcal{E}(t) + \beta_8 \left( k_2(t) \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \right) \\
& \quad + \frac{\beta_4}{\theta_2} G_2^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_2'' \square w d\Gamma \right) + \frac{\beta_4}{\theta_1} G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_1'' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right), \tag{3.30}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta_8 = \max\{\beta_5 k_1(0) + \frac{\beta_3 \gamma_1}{2} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} k_1(s) ds, \beta_5 k_2(0) + \frac{\beta_3 \gamma_2}{2} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} k_2(s) ds\}$ . Now, for  $\epsilon_0 < r$ , we define the functional

$$R(t) := \Phi(t) G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right),$$

where  $\mathcal{E}(t)$  is the modified energy given in (3.2). Using (2.15), (2.16), (3.3), (3.30) and the fact that  $\mathcal{E}' \leq 0$ ,  $G' > 0$  and  $G'' > 0$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
R'(t) & \leq -\beta_3 G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \mathcal{E}(t) + \beta_8 G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \left( k_2(t) \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + k_1(t) \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 \right) \\
& \quad + \frac{\beta_4}{\theta_2} G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) G_2^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_2'' \square w d\Gamma \right) + \frac{\beta_4}{\theta_1} G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\xi(t)} \int_{\Gamma} k_1'' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right) \\
& \leq - \left[ \beta_3 \mathcal{E}(0) - (\beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0}) \epsilon_0 \right] \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \\
& \quad + \beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) + \frac{\beta_4}{\theta_0 \xi(t)} \left( \int_{\Gamma} k_2'' \square w d\Gamma + \int_{\Gamma} k_1'' \square \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} d\Gamma \right) \\
& \leq - \left[ \beta_3 \mathcal{E}(0) - (\beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0}) \epsilon_0 \right] \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \\
& \quad + \beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) - \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0 \gamma_0 \xi(t)} \mathcal{E}'(t),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta_0 = \min\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$  and  $\gamma_0 = \min\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2\}$ . Choosing  $\epsilon_0$  such that  $\rho_1 = \beta_3 \mathcal{E}(0) - (\beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0}) \epsilon_0 > 0$ , we have

$$R'(t) \leq -\rho_1 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} G' \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) + \beta_8 \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \beta_8 \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) - \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0 \gamma_0 \xi(t)} \mathcal{E}'(t).$$

Then, multiplying this by  $\xi(t)$ , we get

$$\xi(t)R'(t) \leq -\rho_1 \xi(t) \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} G'(\epsilon_0 \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)}) + \beta_8 \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) \right) \xi(t) - \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0 \gamma_0} \mathcal{E}'(t). \quad (3.31)$$

Taking  $\mathcal{F}(t) = \xi(t)R(t) + \frac{2\beta_4}{\theta_0 \gamma_0} \mathcal{E}(t)$  and using (3.31), we arrive at

$$\mathcal{F}'(t) \leq -\rho_1 \xi(t) G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) + \beta_8 \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) \right) \xi(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0, \quad (3.32)$$

where  $G_1 = tG'(\epsilon_0 t)$ . Applying (3.32) and the fact that  $\xi' \leq 0$ ,  $G_1' \geq 0$  and  $\mathcal{E}' \leq 0$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ t\xi(t)G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \right]' &\leq \xi(t)G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) \\ &\leq -\frac{1}{\rho_1} \mathcal{F}'(t) + \frac{\beta_8}{\rho_1} \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(t)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(t)) \right) \xi(t), \quad \forall t \geq t_0. \end{aligned}$$

Integrating this over  $(t_0, t)$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} t\xi(t)G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) &\leq t_0 \xi(t_0) G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t_0)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho_1} \mathcal{F}(t_0) + \frac{\beta_8}{\rho_1} \int_{t_0}^t \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(s)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(s)) \right) \xi(s) ds \\ &\leq \rho_2 \left( 1 + \int_{t_0}^t \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(s)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(s)) \right) \xi(s) ds \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho_2 = \max\{t_0 \xi(t_0) G_1 \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}(t_0)}{\mathcal{E}(0)} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho_1} \mathcal{F}(t_0), \frac{\beta_8}{\rho_1}\}$ . Therefore, we conclude that

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq \mathcal{E}(0) G_1^{-1} \left( \frac{\rho_2 \left( 1 + \int_{t_0}^t \left( \|w_0\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_2(s)) + \left\| \frac{\partial w_0}{\partial \nu} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 G(k_1(s)) \right) \xi(s) ds \right)}{t\xi(t)} \right), \quad \forall t \geq t_0.$$

Hence, applying (3.2), (3.22) is established.  $\square$

## Competing interests

The author declares that they have no competing interests.

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