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# INDIRECT STABILIZATION OF SEMILINEAR COUPLED WAVE SYSTEMS

RADHIA AYECHI, MOEZ KHENISSI, AND CAMILLE LAURENT

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we study the indirect stabilization problem for a system of two coupled semilinear wave equations with internal damping in a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The nonlinearity is assumed to be subcritical, defocusing and analytic. Under geometric control condition on both coupling and damping regions, we establish the exponential energy decay rate.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper is devoted to the study of the following semilinear coupled wave system in a bounded domain of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with a smooth boundary  $\Gamma = \partial\Omega$ :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}u - \Delta u + a(x)\partial_t u + b(x)\partial_t v + f_1(u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_{tt}v - \Delta v - b(x)\partial_t u + f_2(v) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u = v = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), v(x, 0) = v_0(x) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_t u(x, 0) = u_1(x), \partial_t v(x, 0) = v_1(x) & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where the damping term  $a \in L^\infty(\Omega)$  is a non-negative function, the coupling term  $b \in L^\infty(\Omega)$  is non-negative and the initial data  $(u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1)$  is in the energy space  $\mathcal{H} := (H_0^1(\Omega))^2 \times (L^2(\Omega))^2$ . We denote by  $\Delta$  the Laplace operator on  $\Omega$ . The non-linearity  $f_i \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , is assumed to be defocusing, energy subcritical and such that 0 is an equilibrium point. More precisely, we assume that there exists  $C > 0$  such that

$$f_i(0) = 0, sf_i(s) \geq 0, |f_i(s)| \leq C(1 + |s|)^p \text{ and } |f_i'(s)| \leq C(1 + |s|)^{p-1}, \quad (1.2)$$

with  $1 \leq p < 5$ .

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We will check that problem (1.1) is well posed. Then the associated energy  $E_{u,v}$  of a solution  $(u, v)$  at time  $t$  is defined by:

$$E_{u,v}(t) := E(u, v, \partial_t u, \partial_t v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + |\nabla v(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t v(x, t)|^2) dx + \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{G}(u(x, t), v(x, t)) dx, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\mathcal{G}(u, v) = \int_0^u f_1(s) ds + \int_0^v f_2(s) ds$ . A straightforward computation shows that this energy is non-increasing:

$$E'_{u,v}(t) = - \int_{\Omega} a(x) |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 dx \leq 0, \quad (1.4)$$

and system (1.1) is therefore dissipative. Due to assumption (1.2) and the Sobolev embedding  $H^1(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^6(\Omega)$ , for all  $E_0 \geq 0$  there exists  $C \geq 0$  such that

$$(u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \in \mathcal{H}, \text{ with } E(u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \leq E_0 \implies \frac{1}{C} \|(u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v})\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq E(u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \leq C \|(u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v})\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2. \quad (1.5)$$

The lower bound is a consequence of the positivity of  $\mathcal{G}(u, v)$  thanks to (1.2). The aim of this paper is to give sufficient conditions on the non-linearity and on both coupling and damping regions, ensuring the uniform exponential decay of the energy. More precisely, for some positive constants  $a_0$  and  $b_0$ , we assume that  $\omega_a$  and  $\omega_b$  are two open subsets of  $\Omega$ , so that

- $\text{Supp}(b) \subset \omega_a \subset \{a(x) \geq a_0 > 0\}$
- $\omega_b \subset \{b(x) \geq b_0 > 0\}$
- $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition <sup>1</sup>(see [10]).

Note that the assumptions imply  $\omega_b \subset \omega_a$ , where both particularly satisfy the geometric control condition. The classical results of Bardos-Lebeau-Rauch (see [10, 35]) imply that for the scalar equation with damping  $a\partial_t$ , the energy decays exponentially. It should be recalled that  $b$  is assumed nonnegative. Yet, replacing  $v$  by  $-v$  changes  $b$  to  $-b$  in equation (1.1). In particular, our result remains true in case  $b \leq 0$ , assuming that  $\omega_b \subset \{-b(x) \geq b_0 > 0\}$ . We will stick to the case  $b \geq 0$  in what follows to avoid confusion. Our main result is the following:

**Theorem 1.1.** *We assume that the open sets  $\omega_a$  and  $\omega_b$  satisfy the previous assumptions. If  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are real analytic and satisfy (1.2), then for any  $E_0 \geq 0$ , there exist  $C > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$  such that, for all solutions  $(u, v)$  of system (1.1) with  $E_{u,v}(0) \leq E_0$ ,*

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad E_{u,v}(t) \leq C e^{-\beta t} E_0. \quad (1.6)$$

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<sup>1</sup>We say that  $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition if every generalized geodesic (i.e. ray of geometric optics) traveling at speed one in  $\Omega$  meets  $\omega_b$  in a uniform time.

This result means that the damping " $a\partial_t u$ ", applied in only one equation for the system, stabilizes any solution of (1.1) to zero, which is an important property from the dynamical and control point of view.

The proof of this result is mainly of the type: "geometric control condition" + "unique continuation" implies "exponential decay".

Concerning the problem of stabilization of a linear damped wave equation, uniform exponential decay has been obtained in Bardos-Lebeau-Rauch [10] and Lebeau [35] under the usual geometric control condition (**GCC**). Roughly speaking, the assumption is that every ray of geometric optics enters the damping region in a uniform time. The geometric control condition is known to be not only sufficient but also necessary for the exponential decay of the linear damped equation. Note that a large amount of other results have been obtained in this context for different questions: obtaining different decay rates under weaker geometric assumptions (see for instance [8, 13] and the references therein) and studying the phenomenon induced by the infinite domain [6, 12, 31, 32, 15, 4].

The research about linear partially damped wave systems seems more recent, but the subject has been very active. There has been several results using the functional analytic method as the one of Alabau [3] and Alabau-Léautaud [4] (see also the survey [2]). We can also quote Klein [33], who obtained a general result with a matricial condition using microlocal analysis methods, and Cui-Wang [19] for a more specific problem. In this article, we will use the linear result of Ayechi-Khenissi [9] where the authors established the uniform stability when the coupling region is contained in the damping region and satisfied the geometric control condition. It is worth noting also that the question of the damping for a system of waves is closely related to the problems of controllability for systems for which there has been recent progress. We refer for instance to Alabau and Léautaud [1, 5] using functional analysis or Dehman-Léautaud- Le Rousseau [23] with microlocal methods. Moreover, in the context of a compact manifold, the general result of Cui-Laurent-Wang [18] proved the equivalence of observability with a system of ODE along the rays of geometric optics. It can be applied to prove the expected observability estimate for the model system of this article, but in the case without boundary. We refer to Remark 3.4 for more precision with the link with a natural ODE system along the bicharacteristic flow.

The case of a single semi-linear wave equation was studied in [28, 39, 40, 24] for  $p < 3$ . The first result for  $p \in [3, 5)$  was the one of Dehman, Lebeau and Zuazua [24]. This work was mainly concerned with the stabilization problem on the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with flat metric and stabilization active outside of a ball. Nevertheless, it settled a general scheme of proof for the stabilization of a nonlinear subcritical problem of the form: "propagation of compactness" + "unique continuation" implies "observability". However, the problem of the unique continuation problem under a general geometric control condition has not been solved in general. This problem was solved in Joly-Laurent [29] under the assumption of the analyticity of the nonlinearity. We will follow this scheme of proof concerning the nonlinear part of the proof.

Other stabilization results for the nonlinear wave equation can be found in Aloui-Ibrahim-Nakanishi [7] with a stronger geometric condition, but a large class of nonlinearity.

We also refer to Cavalcanti-Cavalcanti-Fukuoka-Pampu-Astudillo [16] and the references therein for some related equations with nonlinear damping. Some works have been done in the difficult critical case  $p = 5$ ; we can refer to [21, 34].

We begin this paper by proving the global existence and uniqueness results in section 2. In section 3, under geometric control condition on both damping and coupling terms, we first prove a compactness result and then a unique continuation result which ultimately will prove the exponential stabilization for the linear coupled system and the uniform stabilization result.

In the following, the norm on  $L^2(\Omega)$  is written  $\|\cdot\|$  and we write  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  for the scalar product on  $L^2(\Omega)$ . Furthermore,  $C$  will denote some constant (that could depend on the fixed parameters of the problem:  $\Omega, a, b, f$ ) with a value that can change from one line to another.

## 2. GLOBAL EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS

In this section, we prove the existence and uniqueness result of the semilinear coupled wave system (1.1) in the energy space. Then we reduce system (1.1) to a Cauchy problem:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{U}'(t) = \mathcal{A}\mathcal{U}(t) + \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}), \\ \mathcal{U}(0) = \mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, \partial_t u, \partial_t v)^T$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_0 = (u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1)^T$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) = (0, 0, -f_1(u), -f_2(v))^T$  and the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I \\ \Delta & 0 & -a(x) & -b(x) \\ 0 & \Delta & b(x) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with domain  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}) = (H_0^1(\Omega) \cap H^2(\Omega))^2 \times (H_0^1(\Omega))^2$ .

It is clear that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a maximal dissipative operator on the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  ([9]). Thus, by the Lummer-Philips theorem (see [37]), it generates a  $\mathcal{C}_0$  semigroup of contraction  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  on the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . In the following, we note:

$$\|u\|_{L_T^q L^r} := \left[ \int_0^T \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^r(\Omega)}^q dt \right]^{\frac{1}{q}}, \text{ for } T > 0, q, r \in [1, +\infty].$$

In this section, we will prove the following result:

### **Theorem 2.1.** *Cauchy problem*

*For any  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$  there exists a unique solution  $(u, v) \in (\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}_+, H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}_+, L^2(\Omega)))^2$  of the semilinear coupled wave system (1.1). Moreover, this solution satisfies the following Strichartz estimate: for every finite  $T > 0$  and  $(q, r)$  where*

$$\frac{1}{q} + \frac{3}{r} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad q \in \left[ \frac{7}{2}, +\infty \right] \quad (2.2)$$

there exists a constant  $C = C(\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}) > 0$  such that :

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(L^q([0,T], L^r(\Omega)))^2} \leq C(\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}). \quad (2.3)$$

Moreover, the solution is unique in  $(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}_+, H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}_+, L^2(\Omega))) \cap L_T^q L^r$  with suitable  $q$  and  $r$  as in (2.2).

The couple  $(q, r)$  will be chosen according to the nonlinearity, see for instance (2.9) for the explicit choice. In this theorem and in all the article, the solutions of (1.1) are meant to be as the usual Duhamel formulation, see below. It implies to be a solution in the distributional sense.

We prove this theorem by the fixed point method with a result of the Strichartz estimate for the linear coupled wave system. This result is given by the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Strichartz estimate*

Let  $T > 0$  and  $(q, r)$  satisfy (2.2). There exists  $C = C(T, q) > 0$  such that for every  $G_1, G_2 \in L^1([0, T], L^2(\Omega))$  and every  $(u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1) \in \mathcal{H}$ , the solution  $(u, v)$  of the following linear coupled wave system:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}u(x, t) - \Delta u(x, t) + a(x)\partial_t u(x, t) + b(x)\partial_t v(x, t) = G_1(t) & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_{tt}v(x, t) - \Delta v(x, t) - b(x)\partial_t u(x, t) = G_2(t) & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u(x, t) = v(x, t) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \partial_t u(x, 0) = u_1(x) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ v(x, 0) = v_0(x), \partial_t v(x, 0) = v_1(x) & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

satisfies the estimate

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(L^q([0,T], L^r(\Omega)))^2} \leq C (\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|(G_1, G_2)\|_{(L^1([0,T], L^2(\Omega)))^2}). \quad (2.5)$$

The central argument to prove the previous theorem is the use of the Strichartz estimate for a non-homogeneous damped wave equation given in [11, Corollary 1.2]. The last result was proved by Burq, Lebeau and Planchon (see [14]) for  $q \in [5, +\infty]$  and extended to a larger range by Blair, Smith and Sogge in [11]. We note that the Strichartz estimate was first established in the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by Strichartz [38] and Ginibre and Velo ([25], [26]) with  $q \in [2, +\infty]$ .

We note that the associated energy  $E$  of a solution  $(u, v)$  of system (2.4) at time  $t$  is defined by:

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + |\nabla v(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t v(x, t)|^2) dx.$$

In order to prove the previous theorem, we need the following energy estimate.

**Lemma 2.3.** *There exists  $C > 0$  such that for every  $T > 0$ ,  $G_1, G_2 \in L^1([0, T], L^2(\Omega))$  and every  $\mathcal{U}_0 = (u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1) \in \mathcal{H}$ , the energy  $E$  of the solution  $(u, v)$  of system (2.4)*

satisfies

$$\sqrt{E(t)} \leq C \left( \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|(G_1, G_2)\|_{(L^1([0,T], L^2(\Omega)))^2} \right) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T]. \quad (2.6)$$

*Proof.* We note  $G = (0, 0, G_1, G_2)$  and  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, \partial_t u, \partial_t v)$  such that  $(u, v)$  is the solution of the system (2.4). Then, for all  $t \in [0, T]$  we have, from the Duhamel formula,

$$\mathcal{U}(t) = \mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0 + \mathcal{W}(t), \quad (2.7)$$

where  $\mathcal{W}(t) = \int_0^t \mathcal{S}(t-s)G(s)ds$ . Since  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a semi group of contractions, then using (1.5), we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{U}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}} &\leq \|\mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\mathcal{W}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}, \\ &\leq \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|G\|_{L_T^1(\mathcal{H})}. \end{aligned}$$

□

*Proof of Theorem 2.2.* For all  $(q, r)$  satisfying (2.2) and using the Strichartz estimate for non-homogeneous damped wave equation given in [29, Theorem 2.1] (see also [11, Corollary 1.2]), we get

$$\begin{cases} \|u\|_{L_T^q L^r} \leq C \left( \|u_0\|_{H^1} + \|u_1\|_{L^2} + \|b\partial_t v\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|G_1\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \right), \\ \|v\|_{L_T^q L^r} \leq C \left( \|v_0\|_{H^1} + \|v_1\|_{L^2} + \|b\partial_t u\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|G_2\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \right). \end{cases}$$

Now, using Lemma 2.3 and the fact that  $b \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ , there exists  $C = C(T) > 0$  such that

$$\|b\partial_t u\|_{L_T^1 L^2} = \int_0^T \|b\partial_t u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \leq C \int_0^T \sqrt{E(t)} dt \leq C \left( \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|(G_1, G_2)\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^2} \right).$$

Finally, we get

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(L_T^q, L^r)^2} \leq C \left( \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|(G_1, G_2)\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^2} \right).$$

□

Now, we use Theorem 2.2 to deduce the global existence, the uniqueness and the Strichartz estimate for the solution of the semi-linear coupled wave system (1.1). The proof of this result proceeds in two steps:

**2.1. Local existence and uniqueness.** Note that assumptions (1.2) remain true if we replace  $p$  by another larger exponent as long as it remains smaller than 5. Therefore, we can assume without loss of generality that  $3 < p < 5$ .

The aim of this paragraph is to prove the following result:

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $R_0 > 0$ . Then, there exists  $T > 0$  so that for any  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ , with  $\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R_0$ , system (2.1) has a unique solution*

$$\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathcal{H}) \cap \left( (L_T^q L^r)^2 \times \mathcal{C}([0, T], L^2(\Omega))^2 \right) \quad \text{for } (q, r) = \left( \frac{2p}{p-3}, 2p \right).$$

Moreover, there exists  $C > 0$  so that for any  $\mathcal{U}_0, \mathcal{V}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$  with  $\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\mathcal{V}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R_0$ , and  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V}$  the associated solutions, then we have  $\|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{\mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathcal{H})} \leq C\|\mathcal{U}_0 - \mathcal{V}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ .

The proof of this result is based on the fixed point theorem. First, we search a suitable Banach space. Second, thanks to Duhamel's formula, we search a fixed point for the map  $\phi$  defined by:

$$\phi(\mathcal{U})(t) = \mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0 + \int_0^t \mathcal{S}(t-s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})(s)ds. \quad (2.8)$$

All the difficulty is to find a complete space on which  $\phi$  is defined and strictly contracting. The choice of the resolution space will be guided by the Strichartz estimates which give a gain in integrability compared to the Sobolev embeddings.

Let  $T > 0$ , and for the admissible couple

$$(q, r) = \left( \frac{2p}{p-3}, 2p \right), \quad (2.9)$$

we define the following Banach space:

$$E_T = \mathcal{C}([0, T], H_0^1(\Omega)) \cap L^q([0, T], L^r(\Omega)),$$

with norm:

$$\|\cdot\|_{E_T} := \max \left( \|\cdot\|_{L_T^q L^r}, \|\cdot\|_{L_T^\infty H_0^1} \right),$$

then we introduce space  $X_T = E_T^2 \times \mathcal{C}([0, T], L^2(\Omega))^2$ , with norm

$$\|Y\|_{X_T} := \|Y_1\|_{E_T^2} + \|Y_2\|_{(L_T^\infty L^2)^2}; \quad \text{for } Y = (Y_1, Y_2) \in X_T.$$

We need the following lemmas:

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then, for all  $\mathcal{U} \in X_T$  we have*

$$\|\phi(\mathcal{U})\|_{X_T} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}. \quad (2.10)$$

Moreover, for  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} \in X_T$  we have

$$\|\phi(\mathcal{U}) - \phi(\mathcal{V})\|_{X_T} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}. \quad (2.11)$$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U}_0 = (u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1) \in \mathcal{H}$  and let  $\mathcal{U} \in X_T$ . For all  $t \geq 0$  we have from (2.8)

$$\phi(\mathcal{U})(t) = \mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0 + \mathcal{W}(t), \quad (2.12)$$

where  $\mathcal{W}(t) = \int_0^t \mathcal{S}(t-s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})(s)ds$ , then we have

$$\|\phi(\mathcal{U})\|_{X_T} \leq \|\mathcal{S}(\cdot)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{X_T} + \|\mathcal{W}\|_{X_T}. \quad (2.13)$$

For all  $t \in [0, T]$ , we note  $\psi(t) = \mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0 = (\varphi, \varphi_1, \partial_t \varphi, \partial_t \varphi_1)$ . Since  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a semi group of contractions, then we have

$$\forall t \geq 0, \|\mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}},$$



so we get

$$\|\psi\|_{L_T^\infty(\mathcal{H})} = \|\mathcal{S}(\cdot)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{L_T^\infty(\mathcal{H})} \leq \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}. \quad (2.14)$$

Furthermore, using the Strichartz estimate for the damped wave equation given in [29, Theorem 2.1], we get:

$$\begin{cases} \|\varphi\|_{L_T^q L^r} \lesssim \|u_0\|_{H^1} + \|u_1\|_{L^2} + \|b\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^1 L^2}, \\ \|\varphi_1\|_{L_T^q L^r} \lesssim \|v_0\|_{H^1} + \|v_1\|_{L^2} + \|b\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^1 L^2}, \end{cases}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi\|_{(L_T^q L^r)^2 \times (L_T^\infty L^2)^2} &= \|\varphi\|_{L_T^q L^r} + \|\varphi_1\|_{L_T^q L^r} + \|\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^\infty L^2} + \|\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^\infty L^2}, \\ &\lesssim \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^\infty L^2} + \|\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^\infty L^2} + \|b\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|b\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^1 L^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that  $b \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{cases} \|b\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \lesssim T\|\partial_t\varphi\|_{L_T^\infty L^2}, \\ \|b\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \lesssim T\|\partial_t\varphi_1\|_{L_T^\infty L^2}, \end{cases}$$

thus

$$\|\psi\|_{(L_T^q L^r)^2 \times (L_T^\infty L^2)^2} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\psi\|_{L_T^\infty(\mathcal{H})}. \quad (2.15)$$

Finally, from (2.14) and (2.15) we obtain

$$\|\mathcal{S}(\cdot)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{X_T} = \|\psi\|_{X_T} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}. \quad (2.16)$$

Recalling the definition of  $\mathcal{W}$  in (2.12), we denote  $\mathcal{W} = (w, w_1, \partial_t w, \partial_t w_1)$ . On the other hand, due to Duhamel's formula,  $(w, w_1)$  is the solution of problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}w - \Delta w + a\partial_t w + b\partial_t w_1 + f_1(u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_{tt}w_1 - \Delta w_1 - b\partial_t w + f_2(v) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ w = w_1 = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ (w, w_1, \partial_t w, \partial_t w_1)(0) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

We denote  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \in X_T$ , where  $(u, v)$  are the first components of  $\mathcal{U}$ . Then, we have

$$\|\mathcal{W}\|_{X_T} = \|(w, w_1)\|_{(L_T^\infty H_0^1)^2} + \|(w, w_1)\|_{(L_T^q L^r)^2} + \|(\partial_t w, \partial_t w_1)\|_{(L_T^\infty L^2)^2}.$$

Using the Strichartz estimate given in Theorem 2.2, we get

$$\|(w, w_1)\|_{(L_T^q L^r)^2} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4},$$

then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{W}\|_{X_T} &\lesssim \|(w, w_1)\|_{(L_T^\infty H_0^1)^2} + \|(\partial_t w, \partial_t w_1)\|_{(L_T^\infty L^2)^2} + \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}, \\ &\lesssim \|\mathcal{W}\|_{L_T^\infty(\mathcal{H})} + \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

From Lemma 2.3, we have for all  $t \geq 0$

$$\|\mathcal{W}(t, \cdot)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4},$$

so

$$\|\mathcal{W}\|_{L_T^\infty(\mathcal{H})} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}. \quad (2.18)$$

Consequently, injecting (2.18) in (2.17) we get

$$\|\mathcal{W}\|_{X_T} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}. \quad (2.19)$$

Substituting (2.16) and (2.19) in (2.13), we get the estimate (2.10). Indeed, (2.11) is obtained similarly.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{U} \in X_T$ , then we have the following estimate:*

$$\|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1}), \quad (2.20)$$

where  $\theta = \frac{5-p}{2} > 0$ . Similar to the proof of (2.20) we can show that for every  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} \in X_T$  we have

$$\|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta (\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})). \quad (2.21)$$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, u_1, v_1) \in X_T$ . We have

$$\|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4} = \|f_1(u)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|f_2(v)\|_{L_T^1 L^2}. \quad (2.22)$$

Using the fact that  $f_i(0) = 0$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , we have for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |f_i(s)| &= |f_i(s) - f_i(0)| \lesssim |s| \sup_{t \in [0,1]} |f_i'(ts)| \lesssim |s| \sup_{t \in [0,1]} (1 + |ts|)^{p-1}, \\ &\lesssim |s| (1 + |s|)^{p-1} \lesssim |s| (1 + |s|^{p-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

Then, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_1(u)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} &\lesssim \|u(1 + |u|^{p-1})\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \leq \|u\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|u|u|^{p-1}\|_{L_T^1 L^2}, \\ &\lesssim T \|u\|_{L_T^\infty L^2} + \|u|u|^{p-1}\|_{L_T^1 L^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

We have for all  $t \in [0, T]$

$$\|u|u|^{p-1}\|_{L_T^1 L^2} = \int_0^T \|u|u|^{p-1}\|_{L^2} ds = \int_0^T \|u\|_{L^{2p}}^p ds = \|u\|_{L_T^p L^{2p}}^p.$$

Since  $3 < p < 5$ , we use the fact that  $\frac{p-3}{2} + \frac{5-p}{2} = 1$ ; and applying the Hölder inequality for the couple  $(\frac{2}{p-3}, \frac{2}{5-p})$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{L_T^p L^{2p}} &= \left( \int_0^T 1 \cdot \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^{2p}}^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}, \\ &\lesssim \left( \int_0^T 1^{\frac{2}{5-p}} dt \right)^{\frac{5-p}{2p}} \left( \int_0^T \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^{2p}}^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} dt \right)^{\frac{p-3}{2p}}, \\ &\lesssim T^{\frac{\theta}{p}} \|u\|_{L_T^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} L^{2p}}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

where  $\theta = \frac{5-p}{2} > 0$ . Then, from (2.24) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_1(u)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} &\lesssim T\|u\|_{L_T^\infty L^2} + T^\theta \|u\|_{L_T^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} L^{2p}}^p, \\ &\lesssim T\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} + T^\theta \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^p, \\ &\lesssim \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

In addition,

$$\|f_2(v)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1}). \quad (2.27)$$

Finally, injecting (2.26) and (2.27) in (2.22), we get estimate (2.20).

Let  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, u_1, v_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{V} = (w, y, w_1, y_1)$  in  $X_T$ . We have

$$\|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4} = \|f_1(w) - f_1(u)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + \|f_2(y) - f_2(v)\|_{L_T^1 L^2}. \quad (2.28)$$

For  $i = 1, 2$ , we have for all  $s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} |f_i(s_1) - f_i(s_2)| &\lesssim \int_0^1 |f_i'(ts_1 + (1-t)s_2)| |s_1 - s_2| dt, \\ &\lesssim \int_0^1 (1 + |ts_1 + (1-t)s_2|)^{p-1} |s_1 - s_2| dt, \\ &\lesssim |s_1 - s_2| (1 + |s_1|^{p-1} + |s_2|^{p-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Then, using similar computation as before and Hölder estimates, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_1(y) - f_1(v)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} &\lesssim \|y - v\|_{L_T^1 L^2} + T^\theta \|y - v\|_{L_T^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} L^{2p}} \left( \|y\|_{L_T^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} L^{2p}}^{p-1} + \|v\|_{L_T^{\frac{2p}{p-3}} L^{2p}}^{p-1} \right), \\ &\lesssim \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta (\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})). \end{aligned} \quad (2.29)$$

Furthermore,

$$\|f_2(w) - f_2(u)\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \lesssim \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta (\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})). \quad (2.30)$$

Finally, injecting (2.29) and (2.30) in (2.28), we get estimate (2.21).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.4.* Let  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $T > 0$  and  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, u_1, v_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{V} = (w, y, w_1, y_1)$  in  $X_T$ . We assume  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  in  $B_{X_T}(0, R)$  with  $R$  to be chosen large.

We have for all  $t \in [0, T]$

$$\phi(\mathcal{U})(t) - \phi(\mathcal{V})(t) = \int_0^t \mathcal{S}(t-s) (\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}))(s) ds.$$

Using (2.11) then

$$\|\phi(\mathcal{U}) - \phi(\mathcal{V})\|_{X_T} \lesssim \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V})\|_{(L_T^1 L^2)^4}.$$

Now, using Lemma 2.6, we conclude that there exists  $C > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\phi(\mathcal{U}) - \phi(\mathcal{V})\|_{X_T} &\leq C\|\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta (\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})), \\ &\leq C\|\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta 2R^{p-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.31)$$

By Lemma 2.5 and (2.20), we obtain

$$\|\phi(\mathcal{U})\|_{X_T} \leq C\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + CR(T + T^\theta 2R^{p-1}). \quad (2.32)$$

We choose  $R > 2C\|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}$  and  $T$  such that

$$T + 2T^\theta R^{p-1} < \frac{1}{2C}. \quad (2.33)$$

We deduce that  $\phi : B_{X_T}(0, R) \subset X_T \longrightarrow B_{X_T}(0, R)$  and  $\phi$  is a contraction. Then by the fixed point theorem there is a unique  $\mathcal{U} \in B_{X_T}(0, R) \subset X_T$  such that  $\phi(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{U}$ , where  $\mathcal{U}$  is a solution of system (1.1), Which completes the proof of Theorem 2.4.

**Uniqueness.** We prove now the uniqueness of the solution. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  be two solutions of (2.1) in  $X_T$ . We note  $M = \max(\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}, \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T})$ .

Using the Duhamel formula, we have  $\mathcal{U} = \phi(\mathcal{U})$  et  $\mathcal{V} = \phi(\mathcal{V})$ . Moreover for all  $T_0 \in [0, T]$ , using (2.31) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} &= \|\phi(\mathcal{U}) - \phi(\mathcal{V})\|_{X_T}, \\ &\leq C\|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} (T_0 + T_0^\theta (\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})), \\ &\leq C\|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} (T_0 + T_0^\theta 2M^{p-1}). \end{aligned}$$

If  $T_0 \leq T$  and  $T_0 + T_0^\theta 2M^{p-1} \leq \frac{1}{2C}$ , then  $\|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} \leq \frac{1}{2}\|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{V}$  on  $[0, T_0]$ . We iterate the same process on  $[T_0, 2T_0]$ , and we obtain  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{V}$  on  $[T_0, 2T_0]$ .

By iteration we can show that  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{V}$  on  $[0, T]$ . Finally, we deduce that system (2.1) has a unique solution in  $X_T$ .

**Strichartz estimate.** Let  $\mathcal{U} = (u, v, u', v')$  be the solution of system (2.1). Then lemma 2.6 assures that  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}) \in L_T^1 L^2$ . Furthermore, using the classical energy estimate (1.5) and (2.20), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{L_T^1 L^2} &\lesssim T\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} + T^\theta \|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^p, \\ &\lesssim TE_{u,v}(t) + T^\theta E_{u,v}(t)^p, \\ &\lesssim TE_0 + T^\theta E_0^p, \\ &\leq C(T, E_0). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, since we know now that equation (2.1) is satisfied, we get from Theorem 2.2 that for all  $(q, r)$  satisfying (2.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(u, v)\|_{(L^q([0, T], L^r(\Omega)))^2} &\leq C \left( \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U})\|_{L_T^1 L^2} \right), \\ &\leq C(T, E_0, \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.34)$$

**Stability estimates.** To get the stability, we write again the Duhamel formula for the difference of the solutions to get as in (2.31)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{V}\|_{X_T} &\leq C\|\mathcal{U}_0 - \mathcal{V}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + C\|\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta(\|\mathcal{U}\|_{X_T}^{p-1} + \|\mathcal{V}\|_{X_T}^{p-1})), \\ &\leq C\|\mathcal{U}_0 - \mathcal{V}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} + C\|\mathcal{V} - \mathcal{U}\|_{X_T} (T + T^\theta 2R^{p-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

It gives the expected estimate when  $T$  is small enough. □

**2.2. Global existence.** The proof of the global existence is mainly of the type: "energy decay" + "explosion criterion" implies "global existence". The local wellposedness theory obtained in Theorem 2.4 classically implies the existence of a unique maximal solution with a prescribed initial condition. Hence, to get a global solution, we need the following lemma

**Lemma 2.7.** (*explosion criterion*) *Let  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ . We denote by  $T^*$  the supremum of all  $T > 0$  for which there exists a solution  $\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{C}([0, T^*[ , \mathcal{H})$  of (2.1). Then we have:*

$$T^* < +\infty \implies \lim_{t \rightarrow T^*} \|\mathcal{U}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}} = +\infty. \quad (2.36)$$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{C}([0, T^*[ , \mathcal{H})$  be a maximal solution of system (2.1) such that  $T^* < \infty$ . We argue by contradiction and assume that  $\|\mathcal{U}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}$  does not converge to  $+\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow T^*$ . In particular, there exists  $M > 0$  and a sequence of time  $(t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset [0, T^*[ ,$  converging to  $T^*$  such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\|\mathcal{U}(t_n)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq M. \quad (2.37)$$

Let  $T_0 = \min(D, D^{1/\theta})$  with  $D = \frac{1}{C_1(1+2M^{p-1})}$ ,  $C_1 > C$  and  $C$  be the constant given in (2.31), which is the condition that ensures the well posed in time  $T$  in Theorem 2.4. We choose  $t_N$ , for some  $N$  in  $\mathbb{N}$ , such that  $t_N + T_0 > T^*$ .

We will study the following problem :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathcal{V}(t) = \mathcal{A}\mathcal{V}(t) + \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}), \\ \mathcal{V}(0) = \mathcal{U}(t_N), \end{cases} \quad (2.38)$$

where  $\mathcal{V}(t) = \mathcal{U}(t + t_N)$ .

With the previous choice of  $T_0$  and  $M$ , Theorem 2.4 ( precisely (2.34) in the proof of Theorem 2.4) allows to build a solution of system (2.38) on a time interval of length  $T_0$  because

$$T_0 + 2T_0^\theta \|\mathcal{U}(t_0)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^{p-1} \leq D + 2D \|\mathcal{U}(t_0)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^{p-1} = \frac{1}{C_1} < \frac{1}{C}.$$

We consider the function  $\mathcal{W}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{W}(t) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{U}(t) & \text{on } [0, t_N[, \\ \mathcal{V}(t - t_N) & \text{on } [t_N, t_N + T_0[. \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{W}$  is well defined and indeed constitutes a solution of system (2.1) on  $[0, t_N + t_0[$ , which contradicts the maximality of  $\mathcal{U}$ . Then (2.37) is false and we have

$$\|\mathcal{U}(t_n)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty.$$

□

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then, the system (2.1) has a unique solution  $\mathcal{U}$  on  $[0, +\infty)$ . Moreover, for any  $T > 0$ , we have*

$$\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathcal{H}) \cap \left( (L_T^q L^r)^2 \times \mathcal{C}([0, T], L^2(\Omega))^2 \right) \text{ for } (q, r) = \left( \frac{2p}{p-3}, 2p \right).$$

*Proof.* As before, let  $T^* \in (0, +\infty]$  be the maximal time existence. Using the fact that the energy is a decreasing function in time and estimate (1.5), for all  $t \in [0, T^*)$  we get  $\|\mathcal{U}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq CE(\mathcal{U}(t)) \leq E(\mathcal{U}_0)$ . In particular, the explosion criteria of Lemma 2.7 gives  $T^* = +\infty$  and then the unique solution given by Theorem 2.4 is a global solution. □

### 3. STABILIZATION

This section is addressed to prove the uniform stability given in Theorem 1.1. Due to [29, Proposition 2.5], this proof follows from the well-known criterion for exponential decay. Our estimate is the following.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $f_i \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , satisfy (1.2) and let  $E_0 > 0$ . We assume that  $f_i$  is analytic,  $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition and  $\text{supp}(b) \subset \omega_a$ , then there exist  $T > 0$  and  $C > 0$  such that for  $(u, v)$  solution of (1.1) where  $E_{u,v}(0) \leq E_0$ , satisfies*

$$E_{u,v}(0) \leq C \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} a(x) |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 dx dt. \quad (3.1)$$

In order to prove the previous result, we will strongly use the exponential decay for the linear semigroup.

**3.1. Exponential decay of linear semigroup.** In this paper, we will use the exponential decay for the linear semigroup  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  when the coupling region satisfies the geometric control condition and is contained in the damping region given in [9] (see also [18]).

**Theorem 3.2.** *We assume that  $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition and  $\text{supp}(b) \subset \omega_a$ . Then, there exists  $C > 0$  so that for all initial data  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}$  we have*

$$\|\mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq Ce^{-\beta t} \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad (3.2)$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ , where  $\beta$  is a positive constant.

For  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ , we note  $\mathcal{H}^\epsilon = \mathcal{D}\left((-\Delta_D)^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}\right)^2 \times \mathcal{D}\left((-\Delta_D)^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}\right)^2$  where  $\Delta_D$  is the Dirichlet Laplacian. We notice that for  $\epsilon \in [0, 1] \setminus \{1/2\}$ , which will always be the case in later

use, we have  $\mathcal{H}^\epsilon = (H^{1+\epsilon}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))^2 \times (H_0^\epsilon(\Omega))^2$ , see for instance [27]. Noticing that  $\mathcal{D}((-\Delta_D)^\theta) = [\mathcal{D}(-\Delta_D), L^2(\Omega)]_\theta$  for  $\theta \in [0, 1]$ , that is are interpolation spaces.

**Corollary 3.3.** *We assume that  $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition and  $\text{supp}(b) \subset \omega_a$ . For all initial data  $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{H}_\epsilon$  we have*

$$\forall t \geq 0, \|\mathcal{S}(t)\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} \leq Ce^{-\beta t} \|\mathcal{U}_0\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon}, \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\beta$  is a positive constant, and  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ .

The corollary can be proved for  $\epsilon = 1$  by noticing that  $\mathcal{H}^1 = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A})$  with equivalent norm as long as  $a$  and  $b$  are in  $L^\infty$  and the fact that  $\mathcal{A}$  commutes with  $\mathcal{S}(t)$ . An interpolation argument allows us to conclude for  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ . We refer for instance to [29, Proposition 2.3] for a similar proof in the scalar case.

**Remark 3.4.** *Note that following the results of [18] in the case of a manifold without boundary, the weak observability (that is the observability up to a weaker norm, corresponding to high frequency, see Definition 1.2 in [18]) of our system is equivalent to the observability of the ODE systems*

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(s) + \frac{1}{2}a(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))x(s) + \frac{1}{2}b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))y(s) & = 0, \\ \dot{y}(s) - \frac{1}{2}b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))x(s) & = 0, \\ (x(0), y(0)) & = (x_0, y_0), \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

where  $s \mapsto \gamma_{\rho_0}(s)$  is the geodesic flow starting at point  $\rho_0 \in T^*M$ . The observation is made by  $\frac{1}{4} \int_0^T |a(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))x(s)|^2 ds$ . It is well known that it is equivalent to the observation of the undamped system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(s) + \frac{1}{2}b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))y(s) & = 0, \\ \dot{y}(s) - \frac{1}{2}b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))x(s) & = 0, \\ (x(0), y(0)) & = (x_0, y_0). \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

With  $X(s) = (x(s), y(s))$  and  $b(s) = b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(s))$  for simplicity, it can be written  $\dot{X}(s) = -\frac{1}{2}b(s)MX(s)$  with  $M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . The solution is then  $X(s) = e^{-B(s)M}X_0$  with  $B(s) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^s b(\tau)d\tau$ . It is easy to solve and we can prove (see Section 5.2 of the arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.00512 which is an expanded version of [18]) that the observability is equivalent to the following assumption.

For any  $\gamma_0 \in T^*M$ , there exists  $0 < t_1 < t_2 < T$ , such that

$$a(\gamma_{\rho_0}(t_1)) \neq 0, a(\gamma_{\rho_0}(t_2)) \neq 0, \int_{t_1}^{t_2} b(\gamma_{\rho_0}(\tau))d\tau \notin 2\pi\mathbb{Z}.$$

---

<sup>2</sup>We denote by  $H_0^s$  the completion of  $C_c^\infty(\Omega)$  for the norm of  $H^s(\Omega)$ .  $H_0^s = H^s(\Omega)$  is the usual Sobolev space for  $s \in [0, 1/2)$  and  $H_0^s = \{u \in H^s, u = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma\}$  for  $s \in (1/2, 1]$ .

Our assumption trivially implies this fact. Note that in the case of a domain with boundary, the geodesic flow should be replaced by the generalized broken bicharacteristic flow of Melrose-Sjöstrand, see [36].

**3.2. Exponential decay of semilinear coupled wave system.** In this section, we need the following results. It is written this way in [29, Corollary 4.2], but it is a straightforward corollary of [24, Theorem 8].

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $R > 0$  and  $T > 0$ . Let  $s \in [0, 1[$  and let  $\epsilon = \min(1 - s, (5 - p)/2, (17 - 3p)/14) > 0$ . There exist  $(q, r)$  satisfying (2.2) and  $C > 0$  such that the following property holds. If  $v \in L^\infty([0, T], H^{1+s}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega))$  is a function with finite Strichartz norms  $\|v\|_{L_T^q L^r} \leq R$ , then for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $f_i(v) \in L^1([0, T], H_0^{s+\epsilon}(\Omega))$  and moreover*

$$\|f_i(v)\|_{L_T^1 H_0^{s+\epsilon}(\Omega)} \leq C \|v\|_{L_T^\infty H^{1+s}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)}. \quad (3.6)$$

The constant  $C$  depends only on  $\Omega$ ,  $(q, r)$ ,  $R$  and the constant in estimate (1.5).

**Proposition 3.6.** *(asymptotic compactness property [29])*

Let  $f_i \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , satisfy (1.2), let  $(\mathcal{U}_{n,0})_{n \geq 0}$  be a sequence of initial data which is bounded in  $\mathcal{H}$  and let  $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be the corresponding solutions of the semilinear coupled wave system (1.1). Let  $(t_n) \in \mathbb{R}_+$  be a sequence of times such that  $t_n \rightarrow +\infty$  when  $n$  goes to  $+\infty$ .

Then there exist subsequences  $(\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)})$  and  $(t_{\phi(n)})$  and a global solution  $\mathcal{U}_\infty$  of (1.1) such that

$$\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)}(t_{\phi(n)} + \cdot) \longrightarrow \mathcal{U}_\infty(\cdot) \text{ in } C^0([0, T[, \mathcal{H}) \text{ for all } T > 0.$$

*Proof.* Due to the equivalence between the norm of  $\mathcal{H}$  and the energy given in (1.5) and since the energy is decreasing in time, we know that  $\mathcal{U}_n(t)$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{H}$  uniformly with respect to  $n$  and  $t \geq 0$ . In particular, the sequence  $(\mathcal{U}_n(t_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a bounded sequence with value in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  from which we can extract a subsequence, so we can assume



that it weakly converges to a limit called  $\mathcal{U}_{\infty,0} \in \mathcal{H}$ . Using the Duhamel formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{U}_n(t_n) &= \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) + \int_0^{t_n} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds, \\
&= \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) + \int_0^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds + \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds, \\
&= \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) + \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} \int_k^{k+1} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds + \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds, \\
&= \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) + \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} \mathcal{S}(k) \int_0^1 \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s - k)ds + \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds, \\
&= \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) + \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} \mathcal{S}(k)I_{n,k} + I_n. \tag{3.7}
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $\epsilon \in (0, \min(1 - s, (5 - p)/2, (17 - 3p)/14, 1/2))$ . Since  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a semi-group in  $\mathcal{H}^\epsilon$ , then there exists  $C > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|I_n\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} &= \left\| \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)ds \right\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon}, \\
&\leq \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \|\mathcal{S}(s)\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} ds, \\
&\leq C \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} \|\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_n)(t_n - s)\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} ds, \\
&\leq C \int_{\lfloor t_n \rfloor}^{t_n} (\|f_1(u_n)(t_n - s)\|_{H_0^\epsilon} + \|f_2(v_n)(t_n - s)\|_{H_0^\epsilon}) ds. \tag{3.8}
\end{aligned}$$

We can obtain similar bounds for  $I_{n,k}$  with different sets of integration. Using Lemma 3.5, and since the energy of  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is uniformly bounded, then terms  $I_n$ , as well as  $I_{n,k}$ , are bounded by the same constant  $M$  in  $\mathcal{H}^\epsilon$  uniformly in  $n$  and  $k$ . Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\mathcal{U}_n(t_n) - \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0)\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} &\leq \left\| \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} \mathcal{S}(k)I_{n,k} + I_n \right\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon}, \\
&\leq \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} \|\mathcal{S}(k)I_{n,k}\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} + \|I_n\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon}.
\end{aligned}$$

Using Corollary 3.3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{U}_n(t_n) - \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0)\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} e^{-\beta k} M + M, \\ &\leq M \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor t_n \rfloor - 1} e^{-\beta k} + 1 \right), \\ &\leq M \left( 1 + \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

In particular, denoting  $R_n = \mathcal{U}_n(t_n) - \mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) \in \mathcal{H}$ , we prove that  $\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|R_n\|_{\mathcal{H}^\epsilon} < +\infty$ . Using the Rellich theorem, we can extract a subsequence so that  $R_{\varphi(n)} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{} R_\infty$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  for some  $R_\infty \in \mathcal{H}$ . Moreover, since  $(\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)})_{n \geq 0}$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $t_n \rightarrow +\infty$ , Theorem 3.2 shows that  $\mathcal{S}(t_n)\mathcal{U}_n(0) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{} 0$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{U}_{\varphi(n)}(t_{\varphi(n)}) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{} R_\infty$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $R_\infty = \mathcal{U}_{\infty,0}$  by uniqueness of the weak limit.

$\mathcal{U}_\infty$  is defined as the solution of (1.1) on  $[0, +\infty)$  with an initial datum  $\mathcal{U}_\infty(0) = \mathcal{U}_{\infty,0}$  while  $\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)}(t_{\phi(n)} + \cdot)$  is the unique solution of (1.1) on  $[0, +\infty)$  with an initial datum  $\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)}(t_{\phi(n)})$ . Then, since  $\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)}(t_{\phi(n)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_\infty(0)$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ , the local uniform continuity of the flow map gives that for all  $T > 0$ , we have  $\mathcal{U}_{\phi(n)}(t_{\phi(n)} + \cdot) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_\infty(\cdot)$  in  $\mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathcal{H})$ . It is worth mentioning that the local uniform continuity of the flow map is proved in Theorem 2.4 for small  $T$  depending on the norm in  $\mathcal{H}$ , but it is easy to iterate it on any interval  $[0, T]$  since we have a priori bounds on the energy.  $\square$

Note that it could seem surprising in the previous proof that the Duhamel term is more regular, that is in  $\mathcal{H}^\epsilon$ . It is a consequence of the fact that the nonlinearity is subcritical which was crucial in Lemma 3.5.

**Proposition 3.7.** (*Unique continuation*)

Let  $f_i \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , satisfy (1.2). We assume that  $f_i$  is analytic,  $\omega_b$  satisfies the geometric control condition and  $\text{supp}(b) \subset \omega_a$ . The unique solution  $(u, v)$  in  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}_+, (H_0^1(\Omega))^2) \cap \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}_+, (L^2(\Omega))^2)$  for the system

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}u - \Delta u + b(x)\partial_t v + f_1(u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_{tt}v - \Delta v - b(x)\partial_t u + f_2(v) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u = v = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ a(x)\partial_t u = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ (u_0, v_0, u_1, v_1) \in \mathcal{H}, \end{cases} \quad (3.9)$$

is the trivial one  $(u, v) = (0, 0)$ .

*Proof.* The fourth equation of (3.9) gives  $a(x)\partial_t u = 0$  a.e in  $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$ . Then  $\partial_t u = 0$  a.e. in  $\omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$ .

$$u(x, t) = u(x) \quad \text{a.e. for } (x, t) \in \omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*. \quad (3.10)$$

We derive in the sense of distributions the first equation of the system (3.9) relative to the variable time, and we get

$$\partial_{ttt}u - \Delta\partial_t u + b(x)\partial_{tt}v + \partial_t u f_1'(u) = 0.$$

Thus, we have  $b(x)\partial_{tt}v = \partial_{tt}(bv) = 0$  a.e. in  $\omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$  in the distributional sense. Consequently, there exists  $g$  and  $h \in L^2(\omega_a)$  so that

$$bv(x, t) = g(x)t + h(x) \quad \text{a.e. for } (x, t) \in \omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*.$$

Using (1.5), Poincaré inequality and the boundedness of  $b$ , we obtain for all  $t \geq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_t^{t+1} E_{u,v}(\tau) d\tau &\geq C \|(u, v, u', v')\|_{L^2_{[t,t+1]}\mathcal{H}}^2 \geq C \|\nabla v\|_{L^2_{[t,t+1]}L^2(\Omega)}^2 \geq C \|v\|_{L^2_{[t,t+1]}L^2(\Omega)}^2 \geq C \|bv\|_{L^2_{[t,t+1]}L^2(\omega_a)}^2 \\ &\geq C \int_t^{t+1} \int_{\omega_a} |g(x)\tau + h(x)|^2 dx d\tau \geq Ct^2 \|g\|_{L^2(\omega_a)}^2 - C \|h\|_{L^2(\omega_a)}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

Since  $\int_t^{t+1} E_{u,v}(\tau) d\tau$  is bounded uniformly for  $t > 0$ , we get  $g = 0$ . In particular, we have in the sense of distribution in  $\omega_a$

$$b\partial_t v(x, t) = 0, \quad \forall (x, t) \in \omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*.$$

Since  $\text{supp}(b) \subset \omega_a$ , we get the same result on  $\Omega$ .

Finally, we get the two following non coupled systems

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}u - \Delta u + f_1(u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_t u = 0 & \text{in } \omega_a \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ (u_0, u_1) \in (H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)), \end{cases} \quad (3.12)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}v - \Delta v + f_2(v) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_t v = 0 & \text{in } \omega_b \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ v = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ (v_0, v_1) \in (H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)). \end{cases} \quad (3.13)$$

Using the result of unique continuation given in [29, Corollary 6.2] (with suitable translation in time) and the fact that both  $\omega_a$  and  $\omega_b$  satisfy the geometric control condition, (3.12) gives that  $u = 0$  and (3.13) gives that  $v = 0$ . Consequently, we have  $(u, v) = (0, 0)$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 3.1.* We argue by contradiction. We suppose that inequality (3.1) is false for all  $T > 0$ . Then, there exists  $\mathcal{U}_n = (u_n, v_n, \partial_t u_n, \partial_t v_n)$  which represents a sequence of solution of (1.1) and a sequence of time, where  $T_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \infty$  such that

$$\begin{cases} E_{u_n, v_n}(0) \leq E_0, \\ \int_0^{T_n} \int_{\Omega} a(x) |\partial_t u_n|^2 dx dt \leq \frac{1}{n} E_{u_n, v_n}(0). \end{cases} \quad (3.14)$$

We note  $\alpha_n = (E_{u_n, v_n}(0))^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Since  $\alpha_n \in [0, \sqrt{E_0}]$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then we can extract a subsequence that will also be noted by  $\alpha_n$ , which converges. We note its limit  $\alpha$ , then we have  $\alpha \in [0, \sqrt{E_0}]$ .

Here, we distinguish two cases:

(1) **Case  $\alpha \neq 0$**

Using (1.5), we obtain for all  $t > 0$

$$\|\mathcal{U}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq C E_{u_n, v_n}(t) \lesssim E_0. \quad (3.15)$$

Then, sequence  $(\|\mathcal{U}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is uniformly bounded for  $t > 0$ .

We set  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2})(\cdot) = (u_n, v_n)(T_n/2 + \cdot)$ . Proposition 3.6 ensures the existence of a subsequence of  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2})_{n \geq 0}$ , which will be denoted also  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2})$ , and a global solution  $(w_1, w_2)$  on  $[0, +\infty)$  of system (1.1) such that for all  $T > 0$  we have

$$\mathcal{W}_n = (w_{n,1}, w_{n,2}, \partial_t w_{n,1}, \partial_t w_{n,2}) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} (w_1, w_2, \partial_t w_1, \partial_t w_2) = \mathcal{W} \text{ in } C^0([0, T], \mathcal{H}).$$

We have

$$E_{w_{n,1}, w_{n,2}}(0) = E_{u_n, v_n}(T_n/2) \leq E_{u_n, v_n}(0), \quad (3.16)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} E_{u_n, v_n}(T_n/2) &= E_{u_n, v_n}(0) - \int_0^{T_n/2} \int_{\Omega} a(x) |\partial_t u_n(x, t)|^2 dx dt, \\ &\geq E_{u_n, v_n}(0) - \frac{1}{n} E_{u_n, v_n}(0), \\ &\geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) E_{u_n, v_n}(0). \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

We pass to the limit in equations (3.16) and (3.17), we obtain  $E_{\mathcal{W}} = \alpha^2 > 0$ .

On the other hand, (3.14) ensures that  $a \partial_t w_{n,1}$  converges to 0 in  $L^2\left(\left[-\frac{T_n}{2}, \frac{T_n}{2}\right], L^2(\Omega)\right)$  and therefore on each  $L^2([0, T], L^2(\Omega))$ . This implies that  $a \partial_t w_1 \equiv 0$  on  $[0, T] \times \Omega$  for any  $T > 0$  and thus  $\mathcal{W}$  is a global solution of system (3.9). Consequently, from Proposition 3.7, we obtain  $\mathcal{W} \equiv 0$ , and then  $E_{w_1, w_2}(0) = 0$ , which contradicts  $E_{w_1, w_2}(0) = \alpha^2 > 0$ .

(2) **Case  $\alpha = 0$**

The assumptions on  $f_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , allow to write  $f_i(s) = f'_i(0)s + R_i(s)$  with

$$|R_i(s)| \leq C(|s|^2 + |s|^p) \quad \text{and} \quad |R'_i(s)| \leq C(|s| + |s|^{p-1}). \quad (3.18)$$

We pose  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2}) = (u_n/\alpha_n, v_n/\alpha_n)$ . Then  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2})$  is the solution of system

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt}w_{n,1} - \Delta w_{n,1} + a(x)\partial_t w_{n,1} + b(x)\partial_t w_{n,2} + f'_1(0)w_{n,1} + \frac{1}{\alpha_n}R_1(\alpha_n w_{n,1}) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \\ \partial_{tt}w_{n,2} - \Delta w_{n,2} - b(x)\partial_t w_{n,1} + f'_2(0)w_{n,1} + \frac{1}{\alpha_n}R_2(\alpha_n w_{n,2}) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \end{cases} \quad (3.19)$$

we also have

$$\int_0^{T_n} \int_{\Omega} a(x)|\partial_t w_{n,1}(x, t)|^2 dx dt \leq \frac{C}{\alpha_n^2 n} E_{u_n, v_n}(0) \leq \frac{C}{n}. \quad (3.20)$$

Then (1.5) ensures that the sequence  $(\mathcal{W}_n(t) = (w_{n,1}, w_{n,2}, \partial_t w_{n,1}, \partial_t w_{n,2})(t))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded uniformly in  $\mathcal{H}$ . More precisely, we have for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $t \in [0, T_n]$

$$\|\mathcal{W}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = \frac{\|\mathcal{U}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2}{\alpha_n^2} \leq C \frac{E_{u_n, v_n}(t)}{\alpha_n^2} \leq C \frac{E_{u_n, v_n}(0)}{\alpha_n^2} = C, \quad (3.21)$$

and the lower bounds,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{W}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = \frac{\|\mathcal{U}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2}{\alpha_n^2} &\geq \frac{E_{u_n, v_n}(t)}{C\alpha_n^2} \geq \frac{E_{u_n, v_n}(T_n)}{C\alpha_n^2}, \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C\alpha_n^2} \left( E_{u_n, v_n}(0) - \int_0^{T_n} \int_{\Omega} a(x)|\partial_t u_n(x, s)|^2 dx ds \right), \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C\alpha_n^2} \left( E_{u_n, v_n}(0) - \frac{1}{n} E_{u_n, v_n}(0) \right), \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C\alpha_n^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) E_{u_n, v_n}(0) = \frac{1}{C} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then for large  $n$  and all  $t \in [0, T_n]$ , we obtain

$$\|\mathcal{W}_n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \geq \frac{1}{2C} > 0. \quad (3.22)$$

On the other hand, we have  $(w_{n,1}, w_{n,2})$  is the solution of system (3.19) with a nonlinearity satisfying

$$\left| \frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_i(\alpha_n s) \right| \leq C(\alpha_n |s|^2 + \alpha_n^{p-1} |s|^p) \quad (3.23)$$

thanks to (3.18). In particular, combined with (2.25), this gives, recalling  $3 < p < 5$

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\| \frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_1(\alpha_n w_{n,1}) \right\|_{L^1((k,k+1),L^2)} &\leq \int_k^{k+1} \left\| \frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_1(\alpha_n w_{n,i}) \right\|_{L^2} ds \\
&\leq C \int_k^{k+1} (\alpha_n \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^4}^2 + \alpha_n^{p-1} \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^{2p}}^p) ds \\
&\leq C \int_k^{k+1} (\alpha_n \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^{2p}}^p + \alpha_n^{p-1} \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^{2p}}^p) ds \quad (p > 2) \\
&\leq C \alpha_n \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,k+1),L^{2p})}^2 + C \alpha_n^{p-1} \|w_{n,1}\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,k+1),L^{2p})}^p
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $w_n$  is a solution of (3.19) and applying the Strichartz estimate (still valid with the additional linear term), we get for  $t \in [k, k+1]$ , uniformly in  $k$ , with  $n$  so that  $T_n \geq k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,t),L^{2p})} &\leq \|\mathcal{W}_n(k)\|_{\mathcal{H}} + C \alpha_n \|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,t),L^{2p})}^2 + C \alpha_n^{p-1} \|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,k+1),L^{2p})}^p \\
&\leq C + C \alpha_n \|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,t),L^{2p})}^2 + C \alpha_n^{p-1} \|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,t),L^{2p})}^p, \quad (3.24)
\end{aligned}$$

where (3.21) is used and  $\|w_n\|_{L^q((k,t),L^r)}$  is conventionally the sum of the norms of  $w_{n,1}$  and  $w_{n,2}$ . A bootstrap argument states that for  $\alpha_n$  that is small enough,  $\|w_n\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{p-3}}((k,k+1),L^{2p})} \leq C$ , with  $n$  large enough and uniformly in  $k \leq T_n - 1$ . Applying again Strichartz estimates (estimate (2.3)), we obtain

$$\|w_{n,1}\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)} + \|w_{n,2}\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)} \leq C,$$

for any admissible couple  $(q, r)$ . Thus, we have

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_n} (\|u_n\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)} + \|v_n\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)}) \leq C.$$

Consequently,  $\|u_n\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)} + \|v_n\|_{L^q((k,k+1),L^r)} \leq C \alpha_n$  uniformly for  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Getting back to (3.24), and using our bound, we have now for  $n$  that is large enough and  $k \leq T_n$

$$\left\| \frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_1(\alpha_n w_{n,1}) \right\|_{L^1((k,k+1),L^2)} \leq C \alpha_n + C \alpha_n^{p-1} \leq 2C \alpha_n.$$

and the same holds for  $w_{n,2}$  and  $R_2$ .

Furthermore, using the Duhamel formula, we get for all  $t > 0$

$$\mathcal{W}_n(t) = \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(t) \mathcal{W}_n(0) + \int_0^t \mathcal{S}(t-s) G(\mathcal{W}_n)(s) ds,$$

where  $G(\mathcal{W}_n) = \left( 0, 0, -\frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_1(\alpha_n w_{n,1}), -\frac{1}{\alpha_n} R_2(\alpha_n w_{n,2}) \right)$  and  $(\tilde{\mathcal{S}}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is the semigroup generated by the operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  given by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I \\ \Delta - f_1(0) & 0 & -a(x) & -b(x) \\ 0 & \Delta - f_2(0) & b(x) & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can argue as in Proposition 3.6 and write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_n(T_n) &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(T_n)W_n(0) + \int_0^{T_n} \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(T_n - s)G(\mathcal{W}_n)(s)ds, \\ &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(T_n)\mathcal{W}_n(0) + \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor T_n \rfloor - 1} \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(T_n - k) \int_0^1 \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(-y)G(\mathcal{W}_n)(y + k)dy, \\ &\quad + \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(T_n - \lfloor T_n \rfloor) \int_0^{T_n - \lfloor T_n \rfloor} \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(-y)G(\mathcal{W}_n)(y + \lfloor T_n \rfloor)ds. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain,  $f'_i(0) \geq 0$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , and due to the exponential stability of the semi-group  $(\mathcal{S}(t))_{t \geq 0}$ , the semi-group  $(\tilde{\mathcal{S}}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is also exponentially stable. Furthermore, we get

$$\|\mathcal{W}_n(T_n)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq Ce^{-\beta t} + C\alpha_n.$$

Finally, we obtain

$$\|\mathcal{W}_n(T_n)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow 0,$$

which is in contradiction with (3.22).

This concludes the proof of Theorem 3.1 and therefore of Theorem 1.1.  $\square$

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