

# DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVES AND CHANGING DIRECTION OF EVOLUTION

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*We study the fractional diffusion equation with changing direction of evolution. We consider the boundary value problem for this equation and prove the existence of a generalized solution. Bibliography: 10 titles.*

## 1 Introduction

Introduce the notation:  $T > 0$ ,  $\Omega \subset R^m$  is a bounded domain with smooth boundary  $\Gamma = \partial\Omega$ ,  $Q = (0, T) \times \Omega$ ,  $S = (0, T) \times \Gamma$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ . In the cylinder  $Q$ , we consider the following mixed problem for the model equation with the Gerasimov–Caputo fractional derivative:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t^\nu(k(t, x)u(t, x)) - \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma u(t, x) &= f(t, x), \\ u(t, x)|_S &= 0, \quad u(0, x) = u_0(x). \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

The case  $k(t, x) \geq k_0 > 0$  has been well studied.

In the case of a constant coefficient  $k(x, t) \equiv k_0$ , the study of this problem is based on the separation of variables or the use of the Laplace transform.

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In the case of variable coefficients, integral inequalities of the form

$$\int_0^T \psi(t, u) D^\nu(ku) dt \geq C(\|u\|_B),$$

where  $B$  is a Banach space, are usually used. Based on these inequalities, it is possible to obtain necessary a priori estimates. Some general inequalities of this kind can be found in [1]. We also mention the related works [2]–[6].

In this paper, we are interested in setting a well-posed problem in the case of an arbitrary behavior of the coefficient  $k(t, x)$ . It is clear that the Cauchy initial condition in (1.1) should be replaced in this case. For example, if  $k(t, x) \geq 0$ , a part of the set  $\Omega$  is free from the initial data (see [6]). In the case of ordinary derivatives, the problem

$$\begin{aligned} k(t, x)u_t(t, x) - \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma u(t, x) &= f(t, x), \\ u(t, x)|_S &= 0, \\ u(0, x) &= u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega_0^+ = \{x | k(0, x) > 0\}, \\ u(T, x) &= u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega_T^- = \{x | k(T, x) < 0\} \end{aligned}$$

is well posed under certain conditions (for more details we refer to [7], where the uniqueness of a generalized solution was studied). In the case of fractional derivatives, a similar problem is also well posed.

We reduce the problem to solving an equation of the form

$$(k(t, x)u(t, x))_t - D^\mu \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma D^\mu u(t, x) = D^\mu f(t, x).$$

Such equations (without degeneracy and sign change) were considered, for example, in [8] (see also the references therein).

## 2 Notation. Auxiliary Estimates

For  $0 < \nu < 1$  and  $t > 0$  we introduce the fractional integral of order  $\nu$  with origin at a point  $a$

$$J_a^\nu y(t) = \frac{\operatorname{sgn}(t-a)}{\Gamma(\nu)} \int_a^t \frac{y(s)}{|t-s|^{1-\nu}} ds,$$

the Riemann–Liouville fractional derivative of order  $\nu$

$$D_a^\nu y(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\nu)} \frac{d}{dt} \int_a^t \frac{y(s)}{|t-s|^\nu} ds,$$

and the Gerasimov–Caputo fractional derivative

$$\partial_a^\nu y(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\nu)} \int_a^t \frac{y'(s)}{|t-s|^\nu} ds.$$

In the case  $a = 0$ , we write  $J^\nu y(t)$ ,  $D^\nu y(t)$ ,  $\partial^\nu y(t)$ .

Let  $y(t) \in C^1(0, T)$ . Then for some constant  $C > 0$  we have (see [1, 6])

$$\int_0^T y(t) D^\nu y(t) dt \geq C \int_0^T y^2(t) \left( \frac{1}{t^\nu} + \frac{1}{(T-t)^\nu} \right) dt + C \|y(t)\|_{W_2^{\nu/2}(0, T)}^2. \quad (2.1)$$

Using the equality

$$D^\nu y(t) = \frac{y(t)}{t^\nu \Gamma(1-\nu)} + \frac{\nu}{\Gamma(1-\nu)} \int_0^t \frac{y(t) - y(s)}{(t-s)^{1+\nu}} ds,$$

it is easy to get

$$2y D^\nu y(t) = D^\nu y^2(t) + \frac{y^2(t)}{t^\nu \Gamma(1-\nu)} + \frac{\nu}{\Gamma(1-\nu)} \int_0^t \frac{(y(t) - y(s))^2}{(t-s)^{1+\nu}} ds. \quad (2.2)$$

Then the estimate (2.1) immediately follows from (2.2).

Further, a direct calculation shows that  $D^\nu J^\nu y(t) = J^\nu D^\nu y(t) = y(t)$ . Moreover, for  $0 < \mu \leq \nu < 1$

$$\begin{aligned} D^\mu J^\nu y(t) &= J^{\nu-\mu} y(t) = J^{\nu-\mu} J^\mu D^\mu y(t) = J^\nu D^\mu y(t), \\ J^\mu D^\nu y(t) &= D^{\nu-\mu} J^{\nu-\mu} J^\mu D^\nu y(t) = D^{\nu-\mu} y(t) = D^\nu J^\mu y(t). \end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that the same equalities hold for operators with the origin at the point  $T$ .

For any smooth functions  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  we denote

$$J(f, g) = \int_0^T f(t) g(t) dt.$$

Then

$$J(f, g) = \int_0^T f(t) J_T^\nu D_T^\nu g(t) dt = \int_0^T J^\nu f(t) D_T^\nu g(t) dt.$$

For  $0 < \mu < 1/2$  we have the estimates (see [9])

$$C_1 \|D^\mu g(t)\|_{L_2(0, T)} \leq \|D^\mu g(t)\|_{L_2(0, T)} \leq C_2 \|D^\mu g(t)\|_{L_2(0, T)}$$

which imply

$$|J(f, g)| \leq C_3 \|J^\mu f(t)\|_{L_2(0, T)} \|D^\mu g(t)\|_{L_2(0, T)}, \quad (2.3)$$

where the constant  $C_3$  depends on  $\mu$  and  $T$ .

In what follows, we need to regularize fractional differentiation operators. For  $0 < \mu < 1$  and  $0 < \theta < 1$  we put

$$\begin{aligned} J_{\mu, \theta} y(t) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \int_0^t \frac{y(s)}{(t-s+\theta)^{1-\mu}} ds, \\ K_{\mu, \theta} y(t) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\mu)} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t \frac{y(s)}{(t-s+\theta)^\mu} ds. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that  $K_{\mu,\theta}v(t, x) = \frac{d}{dt}J_{1-\mu,\theta}$ . As in the case (2.1), for some constant  $C_K = C_K(\mu, T) > 0$  independent of  $\theta$  the following inequality holds:

$$\int_0^T y(t)K_{\mu,\theta}y(t) dt \geq C_K \|y(t)\|_{L_2(0,T)}. \quad (2.4)$$

Moreover,

$$\int_0^T y(t)K_{\mu,\theta}y(t) dt \geq C_1 \|y(t)\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T)}^2 - C_2 \theta^{(1-\mu)/2} \|y(t)\|_{W_2^1(0,T)}^2. \quad (2.5)$$

Indeed, to prove this we need to estimate the term  $D^\mu y(t) - K_{\mu,\theta}y(t)$ . Denote

$$D(y(t), z(t)) = \int_0^T (D^\mu y(t) - K_{\mu,\theta}y(t))z(t) dt.$$

**Lemma 2.1.** *There exists a constant  $C(\mu, T) > 0$  independent of  $\theta$  and such that for any smooth functions  $y(t), z(t)$*

$$|D(y(t), z(t))| \leq C(\mu, T)\theta^{(1-\mu)/2} \|y(t)\|_{W_2^1(0,T)} \|z(t)\|_{W_2^1(0,T)}. \quad (2.6)$$

**Proof.** Denote

$$\rho_\theta(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\mu)} \left( \frac{1}{t^\mu} - \frac{1}{(t+\theta)^\mu} \right).$$

Then

$$D^\mu y(t) - K_{\mu,\theta}y(t) = y(0)\rho_\theta(t) + \int_0^t y'(s)\rho_\theta(t-s) ds.$$

It is easy to see that

$$\int_0^T \rho_\theta(t) dt \leq C(T^{1-\mu} + \theta^{1-\mu} - (T+\theta)^{1-\mu}) \leq C\theta^{1-\mu}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$0 < \rho_\theta(t) = C \frac{t+\theta - t^\mu(t+\theta)^{1-\mu}}{t^\mu(t+\theta)} \leq C \frac{\theta}{t^\mu(t+\theta)}. \quad (2.8)$$

Denote

$$w(t) = \int_0^t y'(s)\rho_\theta(t-s) ds.$$

Using (2.7) and the Hausdorff–Young inequality, we get

$$\|w(t)\|_{L_2(0,T)} \leq C\theta^{1-\mu} \|y(t)\|_{W_2^1(0,T)}.$$

Thus, with the help of (2.8), we obtain the inequality

$$|D(y(t), z(t))| \leq C\theta^{1-\mu} \|y(t)\|_{W_2^1(0,T)} \|z(t)\|_{L_2(0,T)} + C|y(0)|I_z, \quad (2.9)$$

where

$$I_z = \int_0^T \frac{|z(t)|\theta}{t^\mu(t+\theta)} dt.$$

It is obvious that

$$I_z \leq \left( \int_0^T \frac{z^2(t)}{t^\mu} dt \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^T \frac{\theta^2}{t^\mu(t+\theta)^2} dt \right)^{1/2}.$$

To estimate the last integral, we divide the interval  $(0, T)$  into two subintervals and write

$$\int_0^T \frac{\theta^2}{t^\mu(t+\theta)^2} dt \leq \int_0^\theta \frac{dt}{t^\mu} + \int_\theta^T \frac{\theta^2 dt}{t^{2+\mu}} \leq C\theta^{1-\mu}. \quad (2.10)$$

Combining (2.9) with (2.10) and using the embedding theorems, we obtain (2.6).  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** *For any smooth function  $y(t)$  the estimate (2.5) holds with some constants  $C_1(\mu, T) > 0$  and  $C_2(\mu, T) > 0$ .*

**Proof.** It suffices to note that

$$\int_0^T K_{\mu, \theta} y(t) y(t) dt = \int_0^T D^\mu y(t) y(t) dt - \int_0^T (D^\mu y(t) - K_{\mu, \theta} y(t)) y(t) dt$$

and use the inequality (2.1) and Lemma 2.1.  $\square$

### 3 Statement of the Problem. Existence Theorem

Consider the problem

$$\partial^\nu(k(t, x)u(t, x)) - \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma u(t, x) = f(t, x), \quad (3.1)$$

$$u(t, x)|_S = 0, \quad (3.2)$$

$$u(0, x) = 0, \quad x \in \Omega_0^+ = \{x | k(0, x) > 0\}, \quad (3.3)$$

$$u(T, x) = 0, \quad x \in \Omega_T^- = \{x | k(T, x) < 0\}. \quad (3.4)$$

We set  $\chi_0(x) = k(0, x)u(0, x)$  and  $\chi_T(x) = k(T, x)u(T, x)$ . Formally applying the operator  $J^\nu$  to Equation (3.1), we arrive at the equality

$$k(t, x)u(t, x) - J^\nu \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma J^\nu u(t, x) = J^\nu f(t, x) + \chi_0(x), \quad t \in [0, T]. \quad (3.5)$$

In particular, for  $t = T$  we have

$$\chi_T(x) - \chi_0(x) - J^\nu \Delta u(T, x) + \gamma J^\nu u(T, x) = J^\nu f(T, x). \quad (3.6)$$

Taking into account (3.3) and (3.4), we get

$$\text{supp } \chi_0(x) \subseteq \Omega_0^-, \quad \text{supp } \chi_T(x) \subseteq \Omega_T^+, \quad (3.7)$$

where  $\Omega_0^-$  and  $\Omega_T^+$  are introduced in the same way as (3.3) and (3.4). Respectively, a function  $u(t, x) \in L_2(0, T; \dot{W}_2^1(\Omega))$  is referred to as a *generalized solution* to the problem (3.1)–(3.4) if

$$J^\nu u(t, x) \in C([0, T]; \dot{W}_2^1(\Omega)), \quad k(t, x)u(t, x) \in C([0, T], W_2^{-1}(\Omega)),$$

and (3.5)–(3.7) hold for some functions  $\chi_0(x), \chi_T(x) \in L_1(\Omega)$ .

Everywhere below, we set  $\mu = 1 - \nu$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $k(t, x), k_t(t, x) \in L_\infty(Q)$ ,  $D^{\mu/2}f(t, x) \in L_2(0, T; W_2^{-1}(\Omega))$ , and for some  $\gamma_0 > 0$*

$$2C_K\gamma + k_t(t, x) \geq \gamma_0, \quad (t, x) \in Q, \quad (3.8)$$

where the constant  $C_K$  is taken from (2.4). Then the problem (3.1)–(3.4) has a generalized solution such that

$$\|\chi_0\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\chi_T\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0, T; W_2^1(\Omega))}^2 \leq C\|f\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0, T; W_2^{-1}(\Omega))}^2.$$

**Proof.** As in [6], we use the regularization method proposed in [10]. However, we first formally apply the operator  $D^\mu$  to Equation (3.1)

$$(k(t, x)u(t, x))_t - D^\mu \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma D^\mu u(t, x) = D^\mu f(t, x).$$

Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . We introduce a family of smooth functions  $f_\varepsilon(t, x)$  such that

$$f_\varepsilon(0, x) = 0, \quad (3.9)$$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|f_\varepsilon(t, x) - f(t, x)\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0, T; W_2^{-1}(\Omega))} = 0, \quad (3.10)$$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon \|f_\varepsilon(t, x)\|_{W_2^1(0, T; L_2(\Omega))}^2 = 0. \quad (3.11)$$

We note that the condition (3.9) is compatible with (3.10) since  $\mu < 1$ . Then we consider the problem (see [10])

$$-\varepsilon u_{tt} + (k(t, x)u(t, x))_t - D^\mu \Delta u(t, x) + \gamma D^\mu u(t, x) = D^\mu f_\varepsilon(t, x), \quad (3.12)$$

$$u(t, x)|_S = 0,$$

$$-\varepsilon u_t(0, x) + k^+(0, x)u(0, x) = 0, \quad (3.13)$$

$$-\varepsilon u_t(T, x) + k^-(T, x)u(T, x) = 0, \quad (3.14)$$

where we use the conventional notation

$$\eta^+ = \begin{cases} \eta, & \eta > 0, \\ 0, & \eta \leq 0, \end{cases} \quad \eta^- = \begin{cases} \eta, & \eta < 0, \\ 0, & \eta \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

In turn, the solvability of the problem (3.12)–(3.14) is proved by a modified Galerkin method. Let  $\{w_k(x)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  be the system of  $L_2(\Omega)$ -orthonormal eigenfunctions of the problem

$$-\Delta w_k = \lambda_k w_k, \quad w_k(x)|_\Gamma = 0.$$

For any  $n > 0$  we denote by  $E_n \subset L_2(\Omega)$  the subspace of functions spanned by the vectors  $w_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . Denote by  $P_n$  the orthogonal projection in  $L_2(\Omega)$  onto the space  $E_n$ . Assuming that  $\theta = \theta(\varepsilon, n)$  (we specify this value below), we consider the following problem in  $E_n$ :

$$-\varepsilon v_{ntt}(t, x) + P_n(k(t, x)v_n(t, x))_t - K_{\mu, \theta} \Delta v_n(t, x) + \gamma K_{\mu, \theta} v_n(t, x) = K_{\mu, \theta} f_{n\varepsilon}(t, x), \quad (3.15)$$

$$v_n(t, x)|_S = 0, \quad (3.16)$$

$$-\varepsilon v_{nt}(x, 0) + P_n(k^+(0, x)v_n(0, x)) = 0, \quad (3.17)$$

$$-\varepsilon v_{nt}(T, x) + P_n(k^-(T, x)v_n(T, x)) = 0. \quad (3.18)$$

Here,

$$v_n(t, x) = \sum_{k=1}^n V_k(t)w_k(x), \quad f_{n\varepsilon}(t, x) = P_n f_\varepsilon(t, x) = \sum_{k=1}^n F_{k\varepsilon}(t)w_k(x).$$

We will omit the superscript  $n$  if this does not cause confusion. We note that the kernel  $K_{\mu, \theta}$  has no singularity and can be integrated by parts. Therefore, we obtain a system of ordinary integro-differential equations with respect to the coefficients  $V_k(t)$  the solvability of which follows from the uniqueness theorem. Hence it suffices to derive a suitable a priori estimate for the solution.

We multiply Equation (3.15) by  $2v(t, x)$  and integrate over the cylinder  $Q$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} (k(0, x)v^2(0, x) + k(T, x)v(T, x)) + 2\varepsilon \int_Q v_t^2 dQ + \int_Q k_t v^2 dQ \\ & + 2 \int_Q ((K_{\mu, \theta} \nabla v, \nabla v) + \gamma v K_{\mu, \theta} v) dQ = 2 \int_Q v K_{\mu, \theta} f_\varepsilon dQ. \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

By (2.4), the operator  $K_{\mu, \theta}$  is positive and the inequality (3.8) is satisfied. By (3.19), for some sufficiently large constant  $C$  (independent of  $\theta$ ) the following estimate holds (see also (3.9)):

$$\varepsilon \|v_t\|_{L_2(Q)}^2 + \gamma_0 \|v\|_{L_2(Q)}^2 \leq C \|K_{\mu, \theta} f\|_{L_2(Q)}^2 \leq C \|f\|_{W_2^1(0, T; L_2(\Omega))}^2. \quad (3.20)$$

Using (2.5), we obtain the lower estimate

$$2 \int_Q ((K_{\mu, \theta} \nabla v, \nabla v) + \gamma v K_{\mu, \theta} v) dQ \geq C \|v\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0, T; W_2^1(\Omega))}^2 - C\theta^{(1-\mu)/2} \|v\|_{W_2^1(0, T; W_2^1(\Omega))}^2.$$

Since the space  $E_n$  is finite-dimensional, for some constant  $C(n)$  we have

$$\|h\|_{W_2^1(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(n) \|h\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \quad \forall h \in E_n.$$

By the estimate (3.20), for a sufficiently small  $\theta$

$$2 \int_Q ((K_{\mu, \theta} \nabla v, \nabla v) + \gamma v K_{\mu, \theta} v) dQ \geq C \|v\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0, T; W_2^1(\Omega))}^2 - \varepsilon \|f\|_{W_2^1(0, T; L_2(\Omega))}^2. \quad (3.21)$$

The right-hand side of (3.19) can be estimated with the help of (2.3) and Lemma 2.1 as

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_Q v K_{\mu,\theta} f_\varepsilon dQ &= \int_Q v D^\mu f_\varepsilon dQ + \int_Q v (K_{\mu,\theta} f_\varepsilon - D^\mu f_\varepsilon) dQ \\
&= \int_0^T \sum_k V_k(t) D^\mu F_{k\varepsilon}(t) dt + \int_0^T \sum_k V_k(t) (K_{\mu,\theta} F_{k\varepsilon}(t) - D^\mu F_{k\varepsilon}(t)) dt \\
&\leq C \|f\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T;W_2^{-1}(\Omega))} \|v\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T;W_2^1(\Omega))} + C \theta^{(1-\mu)/2} \|f\|_{W_2^1(0,T;W_2^{-1}(\Omega))} \|v\|_{W_2^1(0,T;W_2^1(\Omega))}.
\end{aligned}$$

As above, choosing  $\theta$  sufficiently small and taking into account the condition (3.11), we obtain the estimate

$$\int_Q v K_{\mu,\theta} f_\varepsilon dQ \leq C \|f\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T;W_2^{-1}(\Omega))} \|v\|_{W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T;W_2^1(\Omega))} + \varepsilon \|f\|_{W_2^1(0,T;L_2(\Omega))}^2. \quad (3.22)$$

Combining the estimates (3.19), (3.21), (3.22), we finally obtain the estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_\Omega (|k(0,x)|v^2(0,x) + |k(T,x)|v^2(T,x)) dx + \varepsilon \int_Q v_t^2 dQ + \int_Q v^2 dQ \\
&+ \int_Q (|D^{\mu/2} \nabla v|^2 + |D^{\mu/2} v|^2) dQ \leq C \|D^{\mu/2} f_\varepsilon\|_{L_2(0,T;W_2^{-1}(\Omega))}^2 + C \varepsilon \|f\|_{W_2^1(0,T;L_2(\Omega))}^2. \quad (3.23)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have established the desired estimate, which means that the system (3.15)–(3.18) is uniquely solvable. We note that for all  $(t,x) \in Q$

$$(-\varepsilon v_{nt} + P_n(kv_n))|_0^t = J_{\nu,\theta}(P_n f_\varepsilon + \Delta v_n - \gamma v_n).$$

By (3.17) and (3.18),

$$P_n(k^+ v_n(T,x)) - P_n(k^- v_n(0,x)) = J_{\nu,\theta}(P_n f_\varepsilon(T,x) + \Delta v_n(T,x) - \gamma v_n(T,x)).$$

Now, we can pass to the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Taking, if necessary, a subsequence, we can assume that for some functions  $z_{\varepsilon 0}(x)$ ,  $z_{\varepsilon T}(x)$ ,  $u_\varepsilon(t,x)$  the following convergences hold:

$$\sqrt{|k(0,x)|} v_n(0,x) \rightharpoonup z_{\varepsilon 0}(x) \quad \text{weakly in } L_2(\Omega), \quad (3.24)$$

$$\sqrt{|k(T,x)|} v_n(T,x) \rightharpoonup z_{\varepsilon T}(x) \quad \text{weakly in } L_2(\Omega), \quad (3.25)$$

$$v_n(t,x) \rightharpoonup u_\varepsilon(t,x) \quad \text{weakly in } W_2^{\mu/2}(0,T;W_2^1(\Omega)), \quad (3.26)$$

$$v_{nt}(t,x) \rightharpoonup u_{\varepsilon t}(t,x) \quad \text{weakly in } L_2(Q) \quad (3.27)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . By (3.23),

$$\varepsilon \|u_{\varepsilon t}\|_{L_2(Q)}^2 + \|J^\nu u_\varepsilon\|_{W_2^{\frac{1+\nu}{2}}(0,T;W_2^1(\Omega))} \leq C. \quad (3.28)$$

In particular,  $J^\nu u_\varepsilon(t,x) \in C([0,T];W_2^1(\Omega))$  and  $J^\nu u_\varepsilon(0,x) = 0$ . The functions

$$\chi_{0\varepsilon}(x) = -\sqrt{|k^-(0,x)|} z_{\varepsilon 0}(x), \quad \chi_{T\varepsilon}(x) = \sqrt{|k^+(T,x)|} z_{\varepsilon T}(x)$$



satisfy (3.7), and, by the conditions (3.17) and (3.18), the following equalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon u_{\varepsilon t} + k u_{\varepsilon} - \chi_{0\varepsilon} &= J_{\nu}(f_{\varepsilon} + \Delta u_{\varepsilon} - \gamma u_{\varepsilon}), \\ \chi_{T\varepsilon}(x) - \chi_{0\varepsilon}(x) &= J_{\nu}(f_{\varepsilon}(T, x) + \Delta u_{\varepsilon}(T, x) - \gamma u_{\varepsilon}(T, x)). \end{aligned}$$

Now, we can pass to the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  and then argue in a standard way. We only emphasize that, by the estimate (3.28), we can assume that  $\varepsilon u_{\varepsilon t}(t, x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  in  $L_2(Q)$ .  $\square$

## Declarations

**Data availability** This manuscript has no associated data.

**Ethical Conduct** Not applicable.

**Conflicts of interest** The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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