# Bounded Solutions of a Time-Varying Benjamin-Bona-Mahony Equation

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#### Abstract

In this note we study the existence, the stability and the smoothness of bounded solutions of the following time-varying BBM equation with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} u_t - a\Delta u_t - b\Delta u = f(t, u), & t \ge 0, \ x \in \Omega, \\ u(t, x) = 0, \ t \ge 0, \ x \in \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

where a and b are positive numbers,  $f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous and globally Lipschitz function with a Lipschitz constant l > 0.  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N (N \ge 1)$ . This equation is a a form of Generalized Benjamin-Bona-Mahony equation. Under these conditions we shall prove the following statement: If  $\lambda_1$  is the first eigenvalue of  $-\Delta$  and  $b\lambda_1 > l$ , then the equation admits only one bounded solution on  $\mathbb{R}$  which is exponentially stable. Also, we prove for a large class of functions f that this bounded solution is almost periodic.

Key words. bounded solutions, exponential stability, smoothness.

AMS(MOS) subject classifications. primary: 35B65; secondary: 35B41.

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### 1 Introduction

In this note we shall study the existence, the stability and the smoothness of a bounded solution for the following BBM equation with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} u_t - a\Delta u_t - b\Delta u = f(t, u), & t \ge 0, \quad x \in \Omega, \\ u(t, x) = 0, \quad t \ge 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$
(1.1)

where a and b are positive numbers,  $f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous and globally Lipschitz function with a Lipschitz constant l > 0. i.e.,

$$|f(t,u) - f(t,v)| \le l|u - v|, \quad t, u, v \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(1.2)

 $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N (N \ge 1)$ . We shall assume the following hypothesis: there exists  $l_f > 0$  such that

$$\|f(t,0)\| \le l_f, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$(1.3)$$

Under this assumption, we prove the following statements: If  $b\lambda_1 > l$  (where  $\lambda_1$  is the first eigenvalue of  $-\Delta$ ), then the equation admits only one bounded solution which is exponentially stable. Also, we prove for a large class of functions f that this bounded solution is almost periodic. Some notation for this work can be found in [?], [?], [?] and [?].

The original Benjamin-Bona-Mahony equation was proposed in [?] for the case n = 1 as a model for the propagation of long waves. This equation and related types of Pseudo-Parabolic equations have been studied by many authors. Results about existence and uniqueness of solutions can be found in [?] and [?]. The long time behavior of solutions and the existence of attractors were studied by many authors to mention [?], [?] and [?].

## 2 Abstract Formulation of the Problem

In this section we choose the space in which this problem will be set as an abstract ordinary differential equation.

Let  $X = L^2(\Omega) = L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$  and consider the linear unbounded operator  $A: D(A) \subset X \to X$  defined by  $A\phi = -\Delta\phi$ , where

$$D(A) = H^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}) \cap H^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}).$$
(2.1)

The operator A has the following very well known properties: the spectrum of A consists of only eigenvalues

$$0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \cdots < \lambda_n \to \infty$$

each one with finite multiplicity  $\gamma_n$  equal to the dimension of the corresponding eigenspace. Therefore,

- a) there exists a complete orthonormal set  $\{\phi_{n,k}\}$  of eigenvectors of A.
- b) for all  $x \in D(A)$  we have

$$Ax = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \sum_{k=1}^{\gamma_n} \langle x, \phi_{n,k} \rangle \phi_{n,k} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n E_n x, \qquad (2.2)$$

where  $<\cdot,\cdot>$  is the inner product in X and

$$E_n x = \sum_{k=1}^{\gamma_n} \langle x, \phi_{n,k} \rangle \phi_{n,k}.$$
 (2.3)

So,  $\{E_n\}$  is a family of complete orthogonal projections in X and

$$x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n x, \quad x \in X.$$

c) -A generates an analytic semigroup  $\{e^{-At}\}$  given by

$$e^{-At}x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda_n t} E_n x.$$
(2.4)

Hence, the equation (??) can be written as an abstract ordinary differential equation in X as follows

$$u' + aAu' + bAu = f^{e}(t, u), \quad t \ge 0,$$
(2.5)

where  $f^e : I\!\!R \times X \to X$  is given by:

$$f^e(t,u)(x) = f(t,u(x)), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad u \in X.$$

The function  $f^e$  possess the following properties:

$$\|f^{e}(t,u) - f^{e}(t,v)\| \leq L \|u - v\|, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad u,v \in X,$$
(2.6)

$$\|f^e(t,0)\| \leq L_f, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \tag{2.7}$$

where

$$L = \frac{l}{1 + a\lambda_1} \quad \text{and} \quad L_f = \mu(\Omega)^{1/2} l_f,$$

and  $\mu(\Omega)$  is the Lebesgue measure of  $\Omega$ .

Since  $(I + aA) = a(A - (-\frac{1}{a})I)$  and  $-\frac{1}{a} \in \rho(A)$ , then the operator  $I + aA : D(A) \to X$  is invertible with bounded inverse  $(I + aA)^{-1} : X \to D(A)$ . Therefore, the equation (??) also can be written as follows

$$u' + b(I + aA)^{-1}Au = (I + aA)^{-1}f^{e}(t, u), \quad t \ge 0.$$
 (2.8)

Moreover, (I + aA) and  $(I + aA)^{-1}$  can be written in terms of the eigenvalues of A:

$$I + aAx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + \lambda_n) E_n x \tag{2.9}$$

$$(I + aA)^{-1}x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + a\lambda_n} E_n x.$$
 (2.10)

Therefore, if we put  $B = (I + aA)^{-1}$ , the equation (??) can be written as follows

$$u' + bBAu = Bf^e(t, u), \quad t \ge 0,$$
 (2.11)

**Remark 2.1** The operator  $bAB : X \to D(A) \subset X$  is bounded and for  $x \in D(A)$  we have that ABx = BAx. Therefore, we shall study the existence of a bounded solution  $u_b(t)$  of the equation

$$u' + bABu = Bf^e(t, u), \quad t \ge 0,$$
 (2.12)

and prove that  $u_b(t) \in D(A)$ .

Now, we formulate a simple proposition.

**Proposition 2.1** The operators bAB and  $T(t) = e^{-bABt}$  are given by the following expression

$$bABx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b\lambda_n}{1+a\lambda_n} E_n x \qquad (2.13)$$

$$T(t)x = e^{-bABt}x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{\frac{-b\lambda_n}{1+a\lambda_n}t} E_n x, \qquad (2.14)$$

and

$$||T(t)|| \le e^{-\beta t}, \quad t \ge 0,$$
 (2.15)

where

$$\beta = \inf_{n \ge 1} \left\{ \frac{b\lambda_n}{1 + a\lambda_n} \right\} = \frac{b\lambda_1}{1 + a\lambda_1}$$

#### 3 Existence of the Bounded Solution

In this section we shall prove the existence and stability of unique bounded solutions of the equation (??). Since bBA is a bounded operator, u(t) is a solution of the

equation (??) if and only if

$$u(t) = T(t - t_0)u(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t T(t - s)Bf^e(s, u(s))ds$$
(3.1)

We shall consider  $X_b = C_b(\mathbb{R}, X)$  the space of bounded and continuous functions defined in  $\mathbb{R}$  taking values in X.  $X_b$  is a Banach space with supremum norm

$$||u||_b = \sup\{||u(t)|| : t \in \mathbb{R}\}, \ u \in X_b.$$

A ball of radius  $\rho > 0$  and center zero in this space is given by

$$B_{\rho}^{b} = \{ u \in X_{b} : \|u(t)\|_{b} \le \rho, \ t \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

**Lemma 3.1** Let u be in  $X_b = C_b(R, X)$ . Then u is a solution of (??) if and only if u is a solution of the following integral equation

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t} T(t-s)Bf^{e}(s, u(s))ds, \quad t \in R.$$
 (3.2)

**Proof** Suppose that u is a solution of (??). Then, from variation of constants formula (??) and uniqueness of the solution of (??) we obtain that

$$u(t) = T(t - t_0)u(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t T(t - s)Bf(s, u(s))ds, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(3.3)

On the other hand, from (??) we obtain that

$$||T(t-t_0)u(t_0)|| \le e^{-\beta(t-t_0)}||u(t_0)||, \quad t \ge t_0,$$

and since  $||u(t)|| \le m$ ,  $t \in R$ , we get the following estimate

$$||T(t-t_0)u(t_0)|| \le me^{-\beta(t-t_0)}, \quad t \ge t_0.$$

Now, we shall prove that the improper integral  $\int_{-\infty}^{t} T(t-s)Bf^{e}(s,u(s))ds$  exists. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\int_{-\infty}^{t} T(t-s)Bf^{e}(s,u(s))ds\| &\leq \int_{-\infty}^{t} e^{-\beta(t-s)} \|B\| \{l\|u(s)\| + L_{f} \} ds \\ &\leq \frac{L\|u\|_{b} + \|B\|L_{f}}{\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, passing to the limit in (??) as  $t_0$  goes to  $-\infty$  we get

$$\lim_{t \to -\infty} \|T(t - t_0)u(t_0)\| = 0.$$

and

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t} T(t-s)Bf^{e}(s, u(s))ds, \quad t \in R.$$

Suppose that u is a solution of integral equation (??). Then, for all  $t_0 \in R$  we get that

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t_o} T(t-t_0) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds + \int_{t_0}^t T(t-t_0) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds.$$

Hence, for  $t \ge t_0$  we get

$$u(t) = T(t - t_0) \int_{-\infty}^{t_0} T(t_0 - s) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds$$
  
+  $\int_{t_0}^t T(t - s) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds$   
=  $T(t - t_0)u(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t T(t - s) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds,$ 

where

$$u(t_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{t_0} T(t_0 - s) Bf^e(s, u(s)) ds.$$

Therefore, u(t) is a solution of (??) on R.

**Theorem 3.1** If  $b\lambda_1 > l$ , then equation (??) has an unique bounded solution which is exponentially stable.

**Proof** Since  $b\lambda_1 > l$ , then  $\frac{b\lambda_1}{1+a\lambda_1} > \frac{l}{1+a\lambda_1}$  and  $\beta > L$ . Then, for  $\rho$  big enough we have the following inequality

$$\rho(\beta - L) > \|B\|L_f. \tag{3.4}$$

For the existence of such a solution, we shall prove that the mapping

$$(Tu)(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t} T(t-s)Bf^{e}(s, u(s))ds$$

is a contraction mapping from  $B_{\rho}$  into itself. In fact, for  $u \in B_{\rho}$  we have

$$||Tu(t)|| \le \int_{-\infty}^{t} e^{-\beta(t-s)} (L||u(s)|| + ||B||L_f) ds \le \frac{L\rho + ||B||L_f}{\beta}.$$

The condition (??) implies that

$$L\rho + \|B\|L_f < \beta\rho \iff \frac{L\rho + \|B\|L_f}{\beta} < \rho.$$

Therefore,  $Tu \in B^b_\rho$  for all  $u \in B^b_\rho$ .

Now, we shall see that T is a contraction mapping. In fact, for all  $u_1, u_2 \in B^b_\rho$  we have that

$$||Tu_1(t) - Tu_2(t)|| \le \int_{-\infty}^t e^{-\beta(t-s)} L ||u_1(s) - u_2(s)|| ds \le \frac{L}{\beta} ||u_1 - u_2||_b, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Hence,

$$||Tu_1 - Tu_2||_b \le \frac{L}{\beta} ||u_1 - u_2||_b, \quad u_1, u_2 \in B^b_{\rho}.$$

The condition (??) implies that

$$0 < \beta - L \iff L < \beta \iff \frac{L}{\beta} < 1.$$

Therefore, T has a unique fixed point  $u_b$  in  $B^b_\rho$  given by

$$u_b(t) = (Tu_b)(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t T(t-s)Bf(s, u_b(s))ds, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

From Lemma ??,  $u_b$  is a bounded solution of the equation (??). Since condition (??) holds for any  $\rho > 0$  big enough independent of  $L < \beta$ , then  $u_b$  is the unique bounded solution of the equation (??).

To prove that  $u_b(t)$  is exponentially stable in the large, we shall consider any other solution u(t) of (??) and consider the following estimate for  $t_0 \ge 0$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \|u(t) - u_b(t)\| &\leq \|T(t - t_0)(u(t_0) - u_b(t_0))\| \\ &+ \|\int_{t_0}^t T(t - s) \{Bf^e(s, u(s)) - Bf^e(s, u_b(s))\} \, ds\| \\ &\leq e^{-\beta(t - t_0)} \|(u(t_0) - u_b(t_0))\| + \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\beta(t - s)} L \|u(s) - u_b(s)\| ds. \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$e^{\beta(t-t_0)} \|u(t) - u_b(t)\| \le \|(u(t_0) - u_b(t_0))\| + \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\beta(t_0-s)} L \|u(s) - u_b(s)\| ds.$$

Hence, applying the Gronwall's inequality we obtain

$$||u(t) - u_b(t)|| \le e^{(L-\beta)(t-t_0)} ||(u(t_0) - u_b(t_0))||, \quad t \ge t_0.$$

From (??) we get that  $L - \beta < 0$  and therefore  $u_b(t)$  is exponentially stable in the large. 

**Proposition 3.1** If  $f(t, u) = f(t + \tau, u)$ , then the unique bounded solution given by Theorem ?? is also periodic.

**Proof** Let  $u_b$  be the bounded solution of the equation (??) given by Theorem ??. Then, for  $u(t) = u_b(t + \tau)$  we have that

$$u''(t) + bABu(t) + Bf(t + \tau, u(t)) = 0.$$

Since  $Bf(t + \tau, u(t)) = Bf(t, u(t))$ , then u(t) is a solution of (??) with  $||u(t)|| \le \rho$ for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Therefore, by the uniqueness of the fix point of T in  $B_{\rho}$  we get that  $u(t) = u_b(t) = u_b(t + \tau)$ , for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Proposition 3.2** If f(t, u) = g(u) + p(t) with g(u) a Lipschitz function and  $p \in C_b(R)$ is almost periodic, then the bounded solution  $u_b(t)$  is also almost periodic.

**Proof** The proof follows using the same idea from [?]

#### 4 Smoothness of the Bounded Solution

In this section we shall prove that the bounded solution of the equation (??) given by Theorem ?? is also solution of the original equation (??). That is to say, this bounded solution is a classic solution of the equation (??). To this end, we will use the following Theorem from [?].

**Theorem 4.1** Let A on D(A) be a closed operator in the Banach space X and  $x \in C([a,b);X)$  with  $b \leq \infty$ . Suppose that  $x(t) \in D(A)$ , Ax(t) is continuous on [a,b) and that the improper integrals

$$\int_{a}^{b} x(s) ds$$
 and  $\int_{a}^{b} Ax(s) ds$ 

exist. Then

$$\int_{a}^{b} x(s)ds \in D(A) \quad and \quad A \int_{a}^{b} x(s)ds = \int_{a}^{b} Ax(s)ds.$$

**Theorem 4.2** The bounded solution of the equation (??) given by Theorem ?? is also solution of the equation (??).

**Proof** From remark (??) it is enough to prove that  $u_b(t) \in D(A)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . From Lemma ?? we know that

$$u_b(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t T(t-s)Bf^e(s, u_b(s))ds = \int_{-\infty}^t T(t-s)Bg(s)ds$$
$$= \int_0^\infty T(s)Bg(t-s)ds = \int_0^\infty x(s)ds$$

where  $g(s) = f^e(s, u_b(s))$  and x(s) = T(s)Bg(t-s). From condition (??) we obtain that

$$||g(s)|| \le l ||u_b(s)|| + L_f \le l ||u_b||_b + L_f, \ s \in \mathbb{R}.$$

In order to apply Theorem ?? we need to prove the following claim:

#### Claim :

(a)  $x \in C([0,\infty); X)$ , (b)  $x(s) \in D(A)$ ,  $s \in [0,\infty)$ (c)  $Ax \in C([0,\infty); X)$ , (d) the improper integral

$$\int_0^\infty Ax(s)ds,$$

exists, where  $A = -\Delta$ .

**Proof of part (a)**: Since bAB is bounded, then the semigroup  $\{T(t)\}_{t\geq 0}$  is uniformly continuous. i.e.,

$$\lim_{s \to s_0} \|T(s) - T(s_0)\| = 0, \quad s, s_0 \in [0, \infty).$$

Then

$$\lim_{s \to s_0} \|x(s) - x(s_0)\| \leq \lim_{s \to s_0} e^{-\beta s} \|B\| \|g(t-s) - g(t-s_0)\| \\ + \lim_{s \to s_0} \|B\| \|g\|_b \|T(s) - T(s_0)\| = 0.$$

**Proof of part (b)**: Since  $B: X \to D(A)$  and A(bAB)x = (bAB)Ax for  $x \in D(A)$ , then T(s)Ax = AT(s)x for  $x \in D(A)$  and  $x(s) = T(s)Bg(t-s) \in D(A)$ .

**Proof of part (c)**: Since Ax(s) = AT(s)Bg(t - s) = T(s)ABg(t - s), AB is bounded and  $\{T(t)\}_{t\geq 0}$  is uniformly continuous, the proof follows as in part (a).

**Proof of part (d)**: It follows from the commutativity of T(s) and A, the boundedness of AB and the following estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_{0}^{\infty} Ax(s) ds \right\| &\leq \int_{0}^{\infty} \|AT(s)Bg(t-s)\| ds = \int_{0}^{\infty} \|T(s)ABg(t-s)\| ds \\ &\leq \|AB\| \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta s} \|g(t-s)\| ds \leq \frac{\|AB\| \|g\|_{b}}{\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, applying Theorem ??, we obtain that

$$\int_0^\infty x(s)ds \in D(A)$$
 and  $A \int_0^\infty x(s)ds = \int_0^\infty Ax(s)ds$ .

Hence,

$$u_b(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t T(t-s)Bf^e(s, u_b(s))ds \in D(A), \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

and

$$u_b(t)' + bBAu_b(t) = Bf^e(t, u_b(t)), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then, applying the inverse of B in both sides of this equation we get

$$u_b(t)' + aAu_b(t)' + bAu_b(t) = f^e(t, u_b(t)), \ t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} (u_b)_t - a\Delta(u_b)_t - b\Delta u_b = f(t, u_b), & t \ge 0, \ x \in \Omega, \\ u(t, x) = 0, \ t \ge 0, \ x \in \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

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