

Exponential stability of a Von Karman model with thermal effects *

Assia Benabdallah & Djamel Teniou

Abstract

A one-dimensional Von Karman model with thermal effects is studied. We derive the equations that constitute the mathematical model, and prove existence and uniqueness of a global solution. Then using Lyapunov functions, we show that solutions decay exponentially.

1 Introduction

In the last few years, the asymptotic behaviour of the coupling between elastic and heat phenomena has been studied by several authors. Most of their results concern the linear case, see for example [5, 17, 6, 1, 13] and references therein. Analysis of these articles shows that the linear thermoelastic plate models (coupling of plate and heat) and the standard linear thermoelastic system (coupling between the wave and heat equations) have different properties. The first model is always exponentially stable (namely the energy approaches zero exponentially when time approaches infinity), while the second model has this property only in certain domains. The second model consists of the system

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{tt}u - \Delta u - \beta \operatorname{grad}(\operatorname{div} u) + m \operatorname{grad} \theta &= 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \partial_t \theta - k \Delta \theta + m \operatorname{div} \partial_t u &= 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = \theta = 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega,\end{aligned}$$

where β, m, k are positive constants, u is the displacement and θ the temperature. For this model, D. B. Henry, A. Perissinotto and O. Lopes [7] proved that the exponential stability is equivalent to that of the decoupled system

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{tt}u - \Delta u - \beta \operatorname{grad}(\operatorname{div} u) + (m^2/k) \operatorname{grad} \Delta^{-1} \operatorname{div} \partial_t u &= 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \partial_t \theta - k \Delta \theta + m \operatorname{div} \partial_t u &= 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = \theta = 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega.\end{aligned}$$

* 1991 *Mathematics Subject Classifications*: 35M10, 73B30.

Key words and phrases: Thermoelastic systems, Von Karman, asymptotic behaviour, exponential stability, semigroup, Lyapunov function.

©1998 Southwest Texas State University and University of North Texas.

Submitted December 29, 1997. Published February 27, 1998.

Research partially supported by the French-Algerian agreement No. 96 MDU 378.

Here the operator $\text{grad } \Delta^{-1} \text{div}$ is a projection whose range is the irrotational part of the velocity field. The question is whether the control of this part of the velocity field is sufficient to ensure uniform stability. In the one-dimensional model, in higher dimensions in the presence of symmetry properties, and in very special domains (excluding convex domains) the answer is positive. See [7, 14] for the one-dimensional case, [3, 17] for the presence of symmetry, and [8, 11] for special domains.

Results for various nonlinear models have been obtained in [2, 15, 17] and their references. In particular, [2, 15] concern Von Karman models with thermal effects. In [1], the authors construct simple Lyapunov functions for a different thermoelastic plate model. In this paper, we use these functions to prove stability results for a Von Karman model with thermal effects.

The plan of this paper is to derive the equations, then prove existence and uniqueness of a global weak solution, and finally demonstrate exponential stability of the model.

Our proof of existence and uniqueness of weak solutions is directly inspired by the techniques used in [9], where uniform stabilization of a nonlinear beam by a nonlinear boundary feedback is obtained.

We restrict our work to the one-dimensional problem, for the following two reasons. The first one is the difficulty in obtaining uniqueness for the multi-dimensional Von Karman models in the energy space we consider. To our knowledge, there exist only partial results in this case, [16, 18]. In [16], existence and uniqueness of a global strong solution in two dimensional bounded domains is proven, but without uniqueness for finite energy solutions. In [18], the authors prove existence and uniqueness for finite energy solutions in \mathbb{R}^2 , in rectangular domains, and outside a convex obstacle. These difficulties also appear in the thermal case. In fact, for (1) with $\gamma > 0$, it is known that the linear part has no regularization property. The second reason is the presence of planar strain in the coupling (see the first and third equation in (1)). Recall that exponential stability for the thermoelastic system has been proved in the one-dimensional case, and only for special domains in higher dimensions.

2 Derivation of the model

Consider the planar motion of a beam that occupies, in the reference position, the region

$$U = \{(x, y, z); \quad 0 \leq x \leq L, \quad -1 \leq y \leq 1, \quad \frac{-h}{2} \leq z \leq \frac{h}{2}\}.$$

In this setting, L is the length of the beam, and the segment $\{0 \leq x \leq L, y = z = 0\}$ is called the medium line of the beam.

The fact that the beam is stretchable implies the existence of nonlinear terms in the equations describing the motion. In addition to the mechanical load, we assume that the body is subjected to an unknown heat distribution, τ , that vanishes at the boundary of the beam.

Let the displacement be denoted by $(u, w) = ((u_1, u_2), w)$, and the domain by

$$\Omega = \{(x, y, 0), 0 < x < L, -1 < y < 1\}.$$

It is known [9, 10] that, up to a normalization of both the physical constants and h , the mechanical energy of the system is given by

$$\begin{aligned} K(t) = & \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |\partial_t u|^2 dx dy + \int_{\Omega} |\partial_t w|^2 dx dy + \gamma^2 \int_{\Omega} |\partial_t \nabla w|^2 dx dy \right. \\ & + (C(\varepsilon(u(t)) + f(\nabla w(t)), \varepsilon(u(t)) + f(\nabla w(t)))_0 \\ & \left. + \int_{\Omega} |\Delta w|^2 dx - \int_{\Omega} \alpha(\tilde{\theta} \operatorname{div} u + \theta \Delta w) dx dy \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where $C(\varepsilon(u(t)) + f(\nabla w(t)))$ is the strain tensor in the plane (x, y) , ε is the tensor of deformations, α a positive constant, and $\tilde{\theta}$ and θ are thermal strain resultants with

$$f(\nabla w) = \frac{1}{2} \nabla w \otimes \nabla w, \quad \tilde{\theta} = \frac{1}{h} \int \int_{-\frac{h}{2}}^{\frac{h}{2}} \tau dz, \quad \theta = \frac{12}{h^3} \int \int_{-\frac{h}{2}}^{\frac{h}{2}} z \tau dz.$$

We also assume that the motion occurs in the xz -plane, in which case the energy becomes

$$\begin{aligned} K(t) = & \int_0^L \left(|\partial_t u_1(t)|^2 + |\partial_t w(t)|^2 + \gamma^2 |\partial_t \partial_x w(t)|^2 \right) dx \\ & + \int_0^L \left[|\partial_{xx} w|^2 + |\partial_x u_1 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2|^2 \right] dx - \int_0^L \alpha(\varphi \partial_x u_1 + \psi \partial_{xx} w) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\varphi = \int_{-1}^1 \tilde{\theta} dy, \quad \psi = \int_{-1}^1 \theta dy.$$

Finally, we suppose that on the boundary, the displacement is only horizontal, which implies

$$w(x, \cdot) = \partial_x w(x, \cdot) = 0, \quad \text{for } x = 0, x = L.$$

Then the dynamical variation δ satisfies

$$\delta K = 0,$$

and we deduce the following equations (where u_1 is denoted by u).

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt} u - \partial_x (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) = \partial_x \varphi, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_{tt} (I - \gamma^2 \partial_{xx}) w + \partial_{xxxx} w \\ - \partial_x [(\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x w] = -\alpha \partial_{xx} \psi, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_x u(0, t) = \partial_x u(L, t) = w(0, t) = w(L, t) = \partial_x w(0, t) = \alpha \partial_x w(L, t) = 0. \end{cases}$$

The two heat equations have the following form. (see [10])

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \varphi - \partial_{xx} \varphi = \alpha \partial_x \partial_t u, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_t \psi - \partial_{xx} \psi = \alpha \partial_{xx} \partial_t w, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \varphi(0, t) = \varphi(L, t) = \psi(0, t) = \psi(L, t) = 0, & t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \end{cases}$$

So that for $\alpha = 1$, we obtain

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt} u - \partial_x (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2) = \partial_x \varphi, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_{tt} (I - \gamma^2 \partial_{xx}) w + \partial_{xxxx} w \\ - \partial_x [(\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x w] = -\partial_{xx} \psi, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_t \varphi - \partial_{xx} \varphi = \partial_x \partial_t u, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_t \psi - \partial_{xx} \psi = \partial_{xx} \partial_t w, & (x, t) \in]0, L[\times \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \partial_x u(0, t) = \partial_x u(L, t) = 0 \\ w(0, t) = w(L, t) = \partial_x w(0, t) = \partial_x w(L, t) = 0, & t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \varphi(0, t) = \varphi(L, t) = \psi(0, t) = \psi(L, t) = 0, & t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \partial_t u(x, 0) = u_1(x), & x \in]0, L[\\ w(x, 0) = w(x), \partial_t w(x, 0) = w_1(x), & x \in]0, L[\\ \varphi(x, 0) = \varphi(x), \psi(x, 0) = \psi_0(x), & x \in]0, L[\end{cases} \quad (1)$$

3 Existence and uniqueness of a solution

Existence follows from the argument in the paper by J. Lagnese and G. Leugering [9]. Nevertheless, we provide all the details for the coupled equation. Let $\Omega = (0, L)$, and rewrite the system above in the form

$$\begin{aligned} CY' &= AY + F(Y) \\ Y(0) &= Y_0, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ \varphi \\ w \\ z \\ \psi \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (I - \gamma^2 \partial_{xx}) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \partial_{xx} & 0 & \partial_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \partial_x & \partial_{xx} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\partial_{xxxx} & 0 & -\partial_{xx} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \partial_{xx} & \partial_{xx} \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$F(Y) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}\partial_x((\partial_x w)^2) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \partial_x[(\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2)\partial_x w] \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let the energy space be

$$H = \tilde{H}^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega) \times H_0^2(\Omega) \times H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega),$$

where $\tilde{H}^1(\Omega)$ is the Sobolev space $H^1(\Omega)$ with null average,

$$\tilde{H}^1(\Omega) = \{u \in H^1(\Omega); \int_{\Omega} u(x) dx = 0\}.$$

Let $|\cdot|$ denote the norm in $L^2(\Omega)$, and $\|\cdot\|$ denote the norm in H ,

$$\|Y\|^2 = |\nabla u|^2 + |v|^2 + |\varphi|^2 + |\Delta w|^2 + |L_{\gamma}^{1/2}z|^2 + |\psi|^2.$$

with $L_{\gamma} = (I - \gamma^2\Delta)$ and Δ being the Dirichlet-Laplace operator.

Theorem 1 *For all $Y_0 \in H$ there exists a unique weak solution Y of (2) such that*

$$Y \in C(\mathbb{R}^+, H).$$

We prove this theorem as follows: First it is shown that the linear part defines a semigroup of solutions, and the nonlinear part is Lipschitz. From these two facts, we conclude the existence of a local solution. The proof is then completed by establishing estimates, on the local solution, that avoid blowup in finite time; hence, ensuring global existence.

Lemma 2 *$C^{-1}A$ is a generator of a semigroup of contractions in H .*

Proof. One has

$$D(C^{-1}A) = \{Y \in H : \Delta u \in L^2(\Omega), v \in \tilde{H}^1(\Omega), \varphi \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \\ w \in H^4(\Omega) \cap H_0^2(\Omega) z \in H_0^1(\Omega), \psi \in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)\}.$$

The operator $C^{-1}A$ is a generator of a semigroup of contractions, because it is the diagonal matrix of two operators that are generators of semigroups of contractions. Those two operators are: the thermoelasticity

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I & 0 \\ \partial_{xx} & 0 & \partial_x \\ 0 & \partial_x & \partial_{xx} \end{pmatrix},$$

and the thermoplates

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I & 0 \\ -L_{\gamma}^{-1}\partial_{xxxx} & 0 & -L_{\gamma}^{-1}\partial_{xx} \\ 0 & \partial_{xx} & \partial_{xx} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Existence and uniqueness of a local solution

The nonlinear part $C^{-1}F$ of (2) can be considered as a perturbation of the operator $C^{-1}A$. So, to prove local existence and uniqueness of a solution, we have to verify that $C^{-1}F$ is locally Lipschitz continuous in H . (See Theorem 4.3.4. p. 57 in [4])

Lemma 3 *The function F is locally Lipschitz continuous in H*

Proof. For $Y \in H$, define the energy

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left| \partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 + |v|^2 + |\varphi|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w|^2 + \left| L_\gamma^{1/2} z \right|^2 + |\psi|^2 \right\}.$$

For $Y_1, Y_2 \in B(0, R)$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} & \|F(Y_1) - F(Y_2)\| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| \partial_x ((\partial_x w_1)^2) - \partial_x ((\partial_x w_2)^2) \right| \\ &+ \left| L_\gamma^{-1/2} \left(\partial_x \left[(\partial_x u_1 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_1)^2) \partial_x w_1 \right] - \partial_x \left[(\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2) \partial_x w_2 \right] \right) \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The first term on the right is estimated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \partial_x ((\partial_x w_1)^2) - \partial_x ((\partial_x w_2)^2) \right| \\ &= \left| \partial_x ((\partial_x w_1 - \partial_x w_2)(\partial_x w_1 + \partial_x w_2)) \right| \\ &\leq \left| \partial_{xx} (w_1 - w_2) \right| (\|\partial_x w_1\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} + \|\partial_x w_2\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}) \\ &\quad + \|\partial_x w_1 - \partial_x w_2\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} (|\partial_{xx} w_1| + |\partial_{xx} w_2|). \end{aligned}$$

As the space has dimension one, we have the embedding

$$H^1(\Omega) \subset L^\infty(\Omega).$$

Therefore, there exist positive constants denoted by C such that

$$\begin{aligned} (\|\partial_x w_1\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} + \|\partial_x w_2\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}) &\leq C (\|Y_1\| + \|Y_2\|), \\ \|\partial_x w_1 - \partial_x w_2\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} &\leq C \|Y_1 - Y_2\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $(\|Y_1\| + \|Y_2\|) \leq 2R$, the first term on the right-hand side of (3) is bounded by

$$K(R) \|Y_1 - Y_2\|.$$

Let's estimate the second term in the right-hand side of (3).

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| L_\gamma^{-1/2} \left(\partial_x \left[(\partial_x u_1 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_1)^2) \partial_x w_1 \right] - \partial_x \left[(\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2) \partial_x w_2 \right] \right) \right| \\ &\leq \left| (\partial_x u_1 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_1)^2) - (\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2) \right| \|\partial_x w_1\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \\ &\quad + \left| (\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2) \right| \|\partial_x w_1 - \partial_x w_2\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}. \end{aligned}$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| L_\gamma^{-1/2} (\partial_x [(\partial_x u_1 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_1)^2) \partial_x w_1] - \partial_x [(\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2) \partial_x w_2]) \right| \\ & \leq E(Y_1 - Y_2) (\|\partial_x w_1\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} + |(\partial_x u_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w_2)^2)|), \end{aligned}$$

where once again we have used the embedding of $H^1(\Omega)$ into $L^\infty(\Omega)$.

Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|Y\|^2 \\ & = \left| \partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 + |v|^2 + |\varphi|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w|^2 + \left| L_\gamma^{1/2} z \right|^2 + |\psi|^2 \quad (4) \\ & \leq 2 \left| \partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 + |v|^2 + |\varphi|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w|^2 + \left| L_\gamma^{1/2} z \right|^2 + |\psi|^2 + 2 \left| \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 \\ & \leq 2\sqrt{E(Y(t))} E(Y(t)), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$E(Y(t)) \leq 2\|Y(t)\|^2 \|Y(t)\|. \quad (5)$$

Since for all $Y \in B(0, R)$, there exist constants $C_1(R), C_2(R)$ such that

$$C_1 \|Y\|^2 \leq E(Y) \leq C_2 \|Y\|^2.$$

From the previous estimates, we deduce

$$\|F(Y_1) - F(Y_2)\| \leq C_3 \|Y_1 - Y_2\|,$$

where C_3 is a constant depending on R . This proves the existence of a local solution to (2).

Existence of a global solution

Existence of a global solution follows from the decay of the energy $E(Y)$. First, we notice that for initial data in the domain of $C^{-1}A$, the local solution of (2) remains in the same domain. To see this, we have to verify only that

$$C^{-1}F(D(C^{-1}A) \cap B(O, R)) \subset D(C^{-1}A),$$

which is obtained from calculations similar to the ones above, and by the embedding of $H^1(\Omega)$ into $L^\infty(\Omega)$.

For $Y_0 \in D(C^{-1}A)$, the corresponding solution of (2) satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} E(Y) = -|\partial_x \varphi|^2 - |\partial_x \psi|^2. \quad (6)$$

So that

$$E(Y(t)) \leq E(Y(0)),$$

and using (5) and (6), one gets

$$\|Y(t)\|^2 \leq 2E(Y(0))^{3/2}.$$

Which proves boundedness of Y in the H -norm, and therefore, global existence is proven. (see Theorem 4.3.4 page 57 in [4])

4 Exponential decay

Theorem 4 For all $R > 0$ and all $Y_0 \in B(0, R)$ there exist positive constants $M(R)$ and $\omega(R)$ such that solutions to (2) satisfy

$$E(Y(t)) \leq M(R)e^{-\omega(R)t}E(Y_0).$$

Proof. Our argument is based on the choice of a suitable Lyapunov function,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_\varepsilon(t) = & E(Y(t)) + \varepsilon \left(\int_{\Omega} \psi(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_\gamma z dx + \frac{1}{2} \left(\int_{\Omega} v u dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} L_\gamma z w dx \right) \right) \\ & - \varepsilon \left(\alpha \int_{\Omega} L_\gamma z (h(x)\partial_x w) dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \varphi q dx \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} : L^2(\Omega) \rightarrow H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), \quad h(x) = \frac{2}{L}x - 1, \quad q(x) = \int_0^x v(y, t) dy,$$

and ε and α are positive constants which will be chosen later.

This Lyapunov function consists of two parts: One concerns the thermoelastic equations and the other the thermoplates. For the thermoelasticity, J.S. Gibson, G.Rosen and Tao [6] have constructed the same multiplier, but it does not work for the thermoplates equations. For this system, we use the multiplier introduced by F.Ammar Khodja and A.Benabdallah [1] and prove that it works for the nonlinear term.

Our purpose is to show that

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_\varepsilon(t) \leq -c\sigma_\varepsilon(t), \quad c > 0,$$

from which we will deduce that

$$\sigma_\varepsilon(t) \leq \sigma_\varepsilon(0)e^{-ct}. \tag{7}$$

Then, noticing that there exist two positive constants a_1, a_2 such that

$$a_1 E(Y(t)) \leq \sigma_\varepsilon(t) \leq a_2 E(Y(t))$$

we conclude the theorem. Inequality (7) is obtained in the following 5 steps.

1.) Estimate for $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \psi(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_\gamma z dx$:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \psi(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_\gamma z dx = \int_{\Omega} \psi_t(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_\gamma z dx + \int_{\Omega} \psi(-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_\gamma z_t dx.$$

But

$$\psi_t = \partial_{xx}\psi - \partial_{xx}z.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \psi_t (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_{\gamma} z \, dx &= \int_{\Omega} \psi L_{\gamma} z \, dx - \int_{\Omega} z L_{\gamma} z \, dx \\ &\leq -|L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z|^2 + |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} \psi| |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z| \\ &\leq -(1 - \delta_1) |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z|^2 + \frac{1}{4\delta_1} |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} \psi|^2 \\ &\leq -(1 - \delta_1) |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z|^2 + \frac{c_1}{\delta_1} |\partial_x \psi|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where δ_1 is an arbitrary positive constant which will be chosen later.

On the other hand

$$\int_{\Omega} \psi (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_{\gamma} z_t \, dx = \int_{\Omega} (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi L_{\gamma} z_t \, dx,$$

but

$$L_{\gamma} z_t = -\partial_{xxxx} w + \partial_x [(\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x w] - \partial_{xx} \psi \tag{8}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{\Omega} (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi \partial_{xxxx} w \, dx &= \int_{\Omega} \psi \partial_{xx} w \, dx - \partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(L) (\partial_{xx} w)(L) \\ &\quad + \partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(0) (\partial_{xx} w)(0). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{\Omega} (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi \partial_{xxxx} w \, dx &\leq |\psi| |\partial_{xx} w| + |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(L)| |\partial_{xx} w(L)| \\ &\quad + |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(0)| |\partial_{xx} w(0)|. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_{\Omega} \partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi [(\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x w] \, dx \right| \\ &\leq \|\partial_x w\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} |\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2| |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi| \\ &\leq \delta_2 R^2 |\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2|^2 + \frac{1}{4\delta_2} |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi|^2. \end{aligned}$$

So, it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \psi (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} L_{\gamma} z \, dx &\leq -(1 - \delta_1) |L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z|^2 + (\frac{c_1}{\delta_1} + \frac{c_2}{\delta_2}) |\partial_x \psi|^2 \\ &\quad + \delta_2 R^2 |\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2|^2 + |\psi| |\partial_{xx} w| \\ &\quad + |\psi| |\partial_{xx} w| + |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(L)| |\partial_{xx} w(L)| \\ &\quad + |\partial_x (-\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(0)| |\partial_{xx} w(0)| + |\psi|^2. \end{aligned}$$

2.) **Estimate for** $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v u \, dx$:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v u \, dx = |v|^2 + \int_{\Omega} v_t u \, dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} v_t u \, dx &= \int_{\Omega} \partial_x (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) u \, dx - \int_{\Omega} \partial_x \varphi u \, dx \\ &\leq - \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x u \, dx + |\partial_x \varphi| |u|. \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used the boundary condition on u , $\partial_x u(L) = \partial_x u(0) = 0$. So

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v u \, dx \leq |v|^2 - \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x u \, dx + |\partial_x \varphi| |u|.$$

3.) **Estimate for** $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} w \, dx$: One has

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z w \, dx = \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z z \, dx + \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z_t w = \left| L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z \right|^2 + \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z_t w \, dx.$$

Using (8) we obtain

$$\int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z_t w \, dx = - |\partial_{xx} w|^2 - \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) (\partial_x w)^2 \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \partial_x \psi \partial_x w \, dx.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z w \, dx &= - |\partial_{xx} w|^2 - \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) (\partial_x w)^2 \, dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \partial_x \psi \partial_x w \, dx + \left| L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z \right|^2. \end{aligned}$$

4.) **Estimate for** $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z h(x) \partial_x w \, dx$:

$$- \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z (h(x) \partial_x w) \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z_t h(x) \partial_x w \, dx - \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z h(x) \partial_{xx} z \, dx.$$

An integration by parts of the second term of the right member of the previous equality gives

$$\int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z (h(x) \partial_{xx} z) \, dx \leq c \left| L_{\gamma}^{1/2} z \right|^2.$$

Furthermore, (8) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} L_{\gamma} z_t h(x) \partial_x w \, dx &\leq c \left| (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x w)^2) \right| \|\partial_{xx} w\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \\ &\quad + (\delta_3 - \frac{3}{L}) |\partial_{xx} w|^2 + c(\delta_3) |\partial_x \psi|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \left(|\partial_{xx} w(0)|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w(L)|^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

5.) Estimate for $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \varphi q \, dx$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \varphi q \, dx &= |v|^2 - \int_{\Omega} \partial_x \varphi v \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \varphi q_t \, dx \\ &\leq |v|^2 + |\partial_x \varphi| |v| + \int_{\Omega} \varphi q_t \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

To simplify notation, let

$$k(x, t) = \int_0^x \varphi(y, t) \, dy.$$

So that

$$\int_{\Omega} \varphi q_t \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} k \partial_x q_t \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} k v_t \, dx.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} k v_t \, dx &= \int_{\Omega} \partial_x (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2) k \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \partial_x \varphi k \, dx \\ &= - \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2) \partial_x k \, dx - \int_{\Omega} \varphi \partial_x k \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \varphi q \, dx &\leq -(1 - 2\delta_4) |v|^2 + \delta_5 \left| \partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{1}{4\delta_4} + \frac{1}{4\delta_5} + c_0 \right) |\partial_x \varphi|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion

Gathering all the above calculations and using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_{\varepsilon}(t) &\leq - [1 - \varepsilon(c(\delta_1) + c(\delta_2) + c_1 + c(\delta_3))] |\partial_x \psi|^2 \\ &\quad - [1 - \varepsilon(c(\delta_4) + c(\delta_5) + c_2)] |\partial_x \varphi|^2 \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{3}{4} - \delta_1 \right) \left| L_{\gamma}^{\frac{1}{2}} z \right|^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \delta_4 \right) |v|^2 \right] \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \left[\left(1 - \delta_2 R^2 - \frac{4}{L^2} \alpha \right) \left| \partial_x u + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x w)^2 \right|^2 \right] \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{1}{4} - \left(\frac{3}{L} + R^2 \right) \alpha - \delta_3 \right) |\partial_{xx} w|^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \frac{\alpha}{2} [|\partial_{xx} w(0)|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w(L)|^2] \\ &\quad + \frac{\varepsilon}{2\alpha} [|\partial_x (\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(0)|^2 + |\partial_x (\partial_{xx})^{-1} \psi(L)|^2] \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \delta_6 |u|^2 + \frac{\varepsilon}{4\delta_6} |\partial_x \varphi|^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{\varepsilon \alpha}{2} (|\partial_{xx} w(0)|^2 + |\partial_{xx} w(L)|^2). \end{aligned}$$

It remains to choose, in the above steps, the constants δ_i , α , ε sufficiently small to make negative the constants before the energy. This is always possible, and then we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_\varepsilon(t) \leq -cE(Y(t)).$$

This gives (7) and the theorem is proved. Notice that the previous constant c depends explicitly on R .

Acknowledgment The authors are indebted to the referee for all the comments, remarks, and bibliographical suggestions.

References

- [1] Ammar Khodja F. & Benabdallah A.; Conditions suffisantes pour la stabilisation uniforme d'équations du second ordre par des contrôleurs dynamiques, *C.R. Acad.Sci.* t.**323**, Série I, 615-620, 1996.
- [2] Bisognin E., Bisognin V., Perla Menzala G. & Zuazua E.; On exponential stability for Von Karman equations in the presence of thermal effects. Preprint 1996.
- [3] Benabdallah A. et Soufyane A., Stabilization and stability for thermoelastic systems, *Prépublications de l'équipe de mathématiques de Besançon*, **97/43**, 1997.
- [4] Cazenave T. & Haraux A.; *Introduction aux problèmes d'évolution semi-linéaires*, Mathématiques et applications, S.M.A.I., Ellipses, 1990.
- [5] Dafermos C.; On the existence and the asymptotic stability of solutions to the equations of linear thermoelasticity, *Arch. Rational Mech. Anal.*, **29**, 241-271, (1968).
- [6] Gibson J.S., Rosen G. & Tao G.; Approximation in control of thermoelasticity systems, *SIAM J. Control and Optimization*, vol. **30**, No 4, 1163-1189 (1992).
- [7] Henry D.B., Perissinotto A.Jr. & Lopes. O.; On the essential spectrum of a semigroup of thermoelasticity. *Nonlinear Anal. Theory Methods Appl.*, **21**, **1**, 65-75 (1993).
- [8] Koch H., Slow decay in linear thermo-elasticity, *preprint 97-47* (SFB 359), Universität Heidelberg.
- [9] Lagnese J.E. & Leugering G.; Uniform stabilization of a nonlinear beam by nonlinear boundary feedback, *J. Diff. Eq.*, **91**, **2**, 355-388 (1991).
- [10] Lagnese J.E. & Lions J.L.; *Modelling analysis and control of thin plates*, R.M.A., **6**, Masson (1988).

- [11] Lebeau G. & Zuazua E.; Sur la décroissance non uniforme de l'énergie dans le système de la thermoélasticité linéaire, *C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris*, **I**, **324**, 4 (1997) 409-415.
- [12] Lions J.L.; *Contrôlabilité exacte, Perturbations et Stabilisation de Systèmes Distribués*, **1** et **2**, R.M.A. **8** et **9**, Masson (1988).
- [13] K. Liu and Z. Liu, Exponential stability and analyticity of abstract linear thermoelastic systems, *Z. Angew. Math. Phys.*, **48** (1997) 6, pp. 885-904
- [14] Liu Z. and Zheng S., Exponential stability of the semigroup associated with a thermoelastic system, *Quarterly of Applied Mathematics*, **II**, **3**, 535-545, (1993).
- [15] Perla Menzala G & Zuazua E.; Explicit Decay Rates for Solutions of Von Karman's System of Thermoelastic Plates, *C.R.Acad.Sci. Paris*, **I**, **324**, (1997).
- [16] Puel J.P. & Tucsnak M.; Global existence for the full Von Karman system, to appear in *Appl. Math. and Opt.*
- [17] Racke. R.; *Existence and regularity of solutions to nonlinear thermoelastic systems*. Proceedings of the Workshop on qualitative aspects and applications of nonlinear evolution eqns. Trieste, May 1996.
- [18] Tataru D. & Tucsnak M.; On the Cauchy problem for the full von Karman system, preprint 1996.

ASSIA BENABDALLAH

Laboratoire de Calcul Scientifique, 16 route de Gray, 25000, Besançon, France.
e-mail address: assia@math.univ-fcomte.fr

DJAMEL TENIOU

Institut de Mathématiques, Université Houari Boumediene, B.P.32.
El Alia 16111. Algérie