

# A PARABOLIC EQUATION WITH RAPIDLY OSCILLATING COEFFICIENTS

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Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 33-39, 1980

UDC 517.946

The aim of this paper is the construction of an asymptotic expansion for the solution of the Cauchy problem for the parabolic equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_\varepsilon(x, t) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_{ij} \left( \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} u_\varepsilon(x, t) = f(x, t), \quad (1)$$

$$u_\varepsilon(x, t)|_{t=0} = f_1(x)$$

with coefficients periodic in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$   $a_{ij}(y, \tau)$ ,  $y = \frac{x}{\varepsilon}$ ,  $\tau = \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2}$ .

We note that the formal expansion constructed by the method in [1] does not satisfy the initial conditions in this case; therefore for the construction of the asymptotic  $u_\varepsilon(x, t)$  it is necessary to introduce a correction of boundary layer type. The asymptotic expansion takes the form

$$u_\varepsilon(x, t) \sim u_0(x, t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon^k \left( \tilde{w}_k \left( x, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, t, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right) + \tilde{z}_k \left( x, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, t, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right) \right);$$

here the functions  $\tilde{z}_k(x, y, t, \tau)$  decay exponentially as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$  and are periodic in  $y$ ; the functions  $\tilde{w}_k(x, y, t, \tau)$  are periodic in  $\tau$  and  $y$ .

In the problem under consideration corrections of boundary layer cause undamped terms for  $t \sim 1$  in the higher terms of the expansion. Therefore for  $k > 1$  the functions  $\tilde{w}_k$  differ from approximations obtained in [1,2].

The boundary-value problem in a layer for an elliptic equation was solved in [3].

1. Notation and Definitions. Denote by  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $\|\cdot\|_1$  the norms in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , respectively. Later the spaces  $L^2(0, T; H^1(\mathbb{R}^n))$  and  $L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$  and their norms  $\|\cdot\|_2$  and  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  are defined in the usual manner. Suppose  $\Pi^n = [0, 1]^n$ . The mean of the  $\Pi^n$ -periodic function over a period we denote by  $M\{f\}$ ;  $H^1(\Pi^n)$  is the space of  $\Pi^n$ -periodic functions lying in  $H^1_\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . As usual,  $S(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is the Schwartz space;  $S_\tau(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is the space of smooth functions in  $(\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T])$  lying in  $S(\mathbb{R}^n)$  uniformly with respect to  $t \in [0, T]$ .

2. Construction of the asymptotic expansion. Consider problem (1). The coefficients  $a_{ij}(y, \tau)$  are  $\Pi^{n+1}$ -periodic and satisfy the condition of uniform ellipticity

$$c_1 |\xi|^2 \leq a_{ij}(y, \tau) \xi_i \xi_j \leq c_2 |\xi|^2,$$

where  $0 < c_1 < c_2$ ,  $\xi \in R^n$ . Here and later we omit the summation sign for repeating indices.

For convenience we consider the case when the coefficients  $a_{ij}$  are symmetric and do not depend on  $t$ . We introduce a rapidly oscillating variable  $y = \frac{x}{\varepsilon}$  and we seek the solution of the original problem in the form of a function  $u_\varepsilon(x, y, t)$  of  $(2n + 1)$  variables. In this connection the relation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u \left( x, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} \right) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \varepsilon^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) u(x, y) \Big|_{y = \frac{x}{\varepsilon}}$$

holds. Using this relation, we write  $A_\varepsilon$  in the following form:

$$A_\varepsilon \varphi \left( x, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, t \right) = (\varepsilon^{-2} A_2 + \varepsilon^{-1} A_1 + A_0) \varphi(x, y, t) \Big|_{y = \frac{x}{\varepsilon}}$$

where  $A_2, A_1, A_0$  denote the operators

$$A_2 = - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j}, \quad A_1 = - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} - a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial y_j},$$

$$A_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}.$$

We seek the solution of (1) in the form of a series

$$u_\varepsilon(x, y, t) = u_0(x, t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon^k (u_k(x, t) + v_k(x, y, t)).$$

Substituting this series into (1) and equating coefficients of like powers of  $\varepsilon$  we obtain the system of equations

$$\begin{array}{l|l} \varepsilon^{-2} & A_2 u_0 = 0 \\ \varepsilon^{-1} & A_2 w_1 + A_1 u_0 = 0 \\ \varepsilon^0 & A_2 w_2 + A_1 w_1 + A_0 u_0 = f \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon^1 \\ \dots \\ \varepsilon^k \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} A_2 w_3 + A_1 w_2 + A_0 w_1 = 0 \\ \dots \\ A_2 w_{k+2} + A_1 w_{k+1} + A_0 w_k = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (2)$$

Here  $w_k$  is  $(u_k + v_k)$ . We seek the function  $v_k(x, y, t)$  in the space  $\dot{H}^1(\Pi^n)$  with respect to  $y$ . We solve (2) with the following initial conditions:

$$u_0(x, t)|_{t=0} = f_1(x); \quad u_k(x, t)|_{t=0} = 0, \quad k \geq 1. \quad (3)$$

Theorem 1. Suppose  $f_1(x) \in S(R^n)$ ,  $f(x, t) \in S_T(R^n)$ . Then the system of equations (2), (3) is successively solvable. The function  $u_0(x, t)$  satisfies the parabolic equation with constant coefficients

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_0(x, t) - Q u_0(x, t) = f(x, t),$$

$$u_0|_{t=0} = f_1(x),$$

where the operator  $Q$  has the form

$$Qu(x, t) = q_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} u(x, t) = \left( M\{a_{ij}(y)\} - M\left\{a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial \chi_j(y)}{\partial y_l}\right\} \right) \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x_i \partial x_j},$$

and the vector-function  $\chi(y)$  of class  $\dot{H}^1(\Pi^n)$  is a solution of the equation

$$A_2(\chi(y) - y) = 0, \quad y = (y_1, \dots, y_n).$$

Proof. The approximations  $w_k$  are constructed by standard methods [1, 2].

Remark. The  $v_k(x, y, t)$  obtained are of the following form:

$$v_1(x, y, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} u_0(x, t) \chi_k(y), \quad v_r(x, y, t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N(r)} \chi_k^r(y) \mu_k^r(x, t).$$

Denote by  $u_\varepsilon^k(x, t)$  and  $r_\varepsilon^k(x, t)$  the expressions  $\sum_{i=1}^k e^t w_i$  and  $(u_\varepsilon - u_\varepsilon^k)$  respectively. By Theorem 1, it is easy to prove the following theorem.

Theorem 2. The functions  $u_\varepsilon^{k+2}(x, t)$  satisfy (1) with accuracy  $O(\varepsilon^k)$ :

$$A_\varepsilon r_\varepsilon^{k+2} = \varepsilon^k g_\varepsilon(x, t),$$

where  $\|g_\varepsilon(x, t)\|_{L^1(0, T; H^{-1}(R^n))} = O(1)$ .

Corollary. The error in the first approximation  $r_\varepsilon^1(x, t)$  satisfies the estimate

$$\|r_\varepsilon^1\|_\infty < c\varepsilon, \quad \|r_\varepsilon^1\|_h < c\varepsilon.$$

The formal expansion constructed above does not satisfy the initial conditions, therefore we add a correction of boundary layer type to all terms of the asymptotic  $u_\varepsilon(x, t)$ , which decays exponentially as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$  and corrects the initial condition:

$$\bar{u}_\varepsilon(x, y, t, \tau) = u_0(x, t) + \varepsilon(w_1(x, y, t) + z_1(x, y, t, \tau)) + \dots$$

Substituting this series into (1), with regard to (2) we find equations for  $z_k(x, y, t, \tau)$

$$\begin{array}{l} e^{-1} \left| \begin{array}{l} A_3 z_1 = 0 \\ A_3 z_2 + A_1 z_1 = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad e^1 \left| \begin{array}{l} A_3 z_3 + A_1 z_2 + A_0 z_1 = 0 \\ \dots \\ A_3 z_{k+2} + A_1 z_{k+1} + A_0 z_k = 0 \end{array} \right. \end{array} \quad (4)$$

$$z_k(x, y, t, \tau)|_{\tau=0} = -v_k(x, y, t)|_{t=0},$$

where  $A_3$  denotes the operator  $\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + A_2\right)$ . We will seek the solution of the system (4) in the following form:

$$z_k(x, y, t, \tau) = \sum_{m=1}^{N(k)} a_m^k(y, \tau) \varphi_m^k(x, t).$$

Theorem 3. The system of equations (4) is successively solvable.

Proof. Consider equation (4) for  $k = -1$  (4.-1):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} z_1(x, y, t, \tau) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} z_1(x, y, t, \tau) = 0,$$

$$z_1(x, y, t, \tau)|_{\tau=0} = -u_1(x, y, 0).$$

Having written  $z_1(x, y, t, \tau)$  in the form  $\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \varphi^1(x, t)\right)$ , we obtain a system of equations for  $\alpha_k^1(y, \tau)$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) = 0,$$

$$\alpha_k^1|_{\tau=0} = -\chi_k^1(y).$$

The solutions  $\alpha_k^1(y, \tau)$  are continuous as functions  $[0, \infty) \rightarrow \hat{H}^1(\Pi^n)$  and satisfy the estimate

$$\|\alpha_k^1\|_{\hat{H}^1(\Pi^n)} \leq ce^{-\lambda_1 \tau}, \quad (5)$$

where  $\lambda_1$  is the first nonzero eigenvalue of  $A_2$ . For  $\varphi_k^1(x, t)$  we set the initial condition

$$\varphi_k^1(x, t)|_{t=0} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} f_1(x).$$

In equation (4.0) we take the mean of both sides with respect to  $y$ :

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} M\{z_2\} = \left(M \left\{ a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) \right\}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \varphi_k^1(x, t). \quad (6)$$

From (6) we determine  $M\{z_2\}$ . In view of (5)

$$M\{z_2\} = (\beta_{km}^2 + \gamma_{km}^2(\tau)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \varphi_k^1(x, t),$$

where  $\beta_{km}^2$  are constants,  $\gamma_{km}^2(\tau)$  decay exponentially:

$$|\gamma_{km}^2(\tau)| < ce^{-\lambda_1 \tau}.$$

In order to find the oscillating part of  $z_2$  we examine the equation

$$A_3 \alpha_{km}^2(y, \tau) = \left( a_{mj}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) - M \left\{ a_{mj}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \alpha_k^1(y, \tau) \right\} \right) +$$

$$+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} a_{mj}(y) \alpha_k^1(y, \tau), \quad (7)$$

$$\alpha_{km}^2(y, \tau)|_{\tau=0} = -\chi_{km}^2(y).$$

Lemma 1. The solution of (7) is continuous as a function  $[0, \infty) \rightarrow L^2(\Pi^n)$  and satisfies the estimate

$$\|\alpha_{km}^2(y, \tau)\|_{L^2(\Pi^n)} \leq ce^{-\frac{\lambda_1}{2} \tau}, \quad \|\alpha_{km}^2(y, \tau)\|_{L^2(\tau, \infty; \hat{H}^1(\Pi^n))} \leq ce^{-\frac{\lambda_1}{2} \tau}.$$

Proof. Since the operator  $A_2$  does not depend on  $\tau$ , there exists a basis in  $H^1(\Pi^n)$  of eigenfunctions of  $A_2$ . Expanding the solution in a series in this basis we obtain the needed estimate from the exponential decay of the right side of (7).

We proceed to equation (4.1):

$$A_3 z_3(x, y, t, \tau) = -A_1 z_2(x, y, t, \tau) - A_0 z_1(x, y, t, \tau).$$

The term

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y) \beta_{km}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \varphi_k^1(x, t)$$

on the right side of this equation does not depend on  $\tau$ , and the remaining terms decay exponentially; therefore

$$z_3 = (\theta_{krm}^3(y) \div \beta_{krm}^3 \div \gamma_{krm}^3(\tau) \div \alpha_{krm}^3(y, \tau)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \varphi_k^1(x, t) + g^3(x, t),$$

where  $\theta_{krm}^3(y) = \beta_{kr}^2 \gamma_m(y)$ , and  $\alpha_{krm}^3(y, \tau)$ ,  $\beta_{krm}^3$  and  $\gamma_{krm}^3(\tau)$  we seek as in (4.0). The function  $g^3(x, t)$  of class  $S_{\Gamma}(R^n)$  will be found later.

In (4.2) we select the terms on the right side which do not decay exponentially in  $\tau$  and which have nonzero mean with respect to  $y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & -\beta_{kr}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_r} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi_k^1(x, t) - a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \varphi_k^1(x, t) + \right. \\ & \left. \div a_{ij}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \gamma_m(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \varphi_k^1(x, t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

For the solvability of (4.2) it is necessary that the mean with respect to  $y$  of this expression be equal to zero. Taking into account that  $\varphi_k^1(x, t)|_{|x|=\infty} = 0$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi_k^1(x, t) - Q \varphi_k^1(x, t) &= 0, \\ \varphi_k^1(x, t)|_{t=0} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} f_1(x). \end{aligned}$$

In the sum  $z_4(x, y, t, \tau)$  may be written in the same form as  $z_3$ .

On a  $k$ -dimensional sphere the mean with respect to  $y$  in the right side of (4.k) is

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g^{k-2}(x, t) - Q g^{k-2}(x, t) + v^k(x, t),$$

where  $v^k(x, t)$  is a known function of class  $S_{\Gamma}(R^n)$ . The condition of solvability of (4.k) gives an equation for  $g^{k-2}(x, t)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g^{k-2}(x, t) - Q g^{k-2}(x, t) &= -v^k(x, t), \\ g^{k-2}(x, t)|_{t=0} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Continuing the process we obtain a solution to the system (4). The theorem is shown.

From this theorem it is easy to obtain the estimates

$$\|\bar{r}_k^k(x, t)\|_\infty \leq c\epsilon^k, \quad \|\bar{r}_k^k\|_2 \leq c\epsilon^k.$$

3. The General Case. In this section the coefficients  $a_{ij}$  depend on  $t$ . We construct an asymptotic expansion as in the preceding section.

Lemma 2. The equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \chi_k(y, \tau) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y, \tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \chi_k(y, \tau) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ik}(y, \tau)$$

has a unique  $\Pi^{n+1}$ -periodic solution which lies in  $L^2(0, 1; \dot{H}^1(\Pi^n))$ .

The proof of this lemma is given in [4, ch. 3].

Lemma 3. Consider the Cauchy problem

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \alpha(y, \tau) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} a_{ij}(y, \tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} \alpha(y, \tau) &= g(y, \tau), \\ \alpha(y, \tau)|_{\tau=0} &= g_1(y). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $g_1(y) \in \dot{L}^2(\Pi^n)$ , and suppose for  $g(y, \tau)$  the estimate

$$\|g(y, \tau)\|_{L^2(\tau, \infty; \dot{H}^1(\Pi^n))} \leq ce^{-\lambda\tau}$$

is true. Then there exists a  $\lambda_0 > 0$ , such that

$$\|\alpha(y, \tau)\|_{L^2(\Pi^n)} \leq c_3 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau}, \quad \|\alpha(y, \tau)\|_{L^2(\tau, \infty; \dot{H}^1(\Pi^n))} \leq c_3 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau}.$$

Proof. From [4] the solution  $\alpha(y, \tau)$  is a continuous function  $[0, \infty) \rightarrow L^2(\Pi^n)$ . In view of the well-known relation  $\|\alpha(y)\|_{L^2(\Pi^n)}^2 \leq \delta_0 \|\alpha(y)\|_{\dot{H}^1(\Pi^n)}^2$  it is sufficient to show the following statement: the solution  $f^2(\tau)$  of the equation

$$\int_{\tau}^{\infty} \delta(t) f^2(t) dt - f^2(\tau) = \varphi(\tau) \quad (8)$$

decays exponentially as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ , if

$$\delta(\tau) \geq \delta_0 > 0; \quad |\varphi(\tau)| < ce^{-\lambda\tau}, \quad \lambda > 0;$$

$f^2(\tau)$  and  $\varphi(\tau)$  are continuous.

We shall show that for  $\lambda_0$  it is possible to take the number

$$\lambda_0 = \min\left(\frac{\lambda}{2}, \ln\left(1 + \frac{\delta_0}{2}\right)\right).$$

For this we shall prove the inequality  $f^2(\tau) \leq c_4 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau}$ . Pick  $\tau_0$  such that for every  $\tau > \tau_0$  the inequality

$$|\varphi(\tau)| \leq ce^{-\lambda\tau} \leq \frac{1}{10} e^{-\lambda} e^{-\lambda_0 \tau} \quad (9)$$

holds. By the continuity of  $c_4 > 1$ ; there exists a  $f^2(\tau)$  such that  $|f^2(\tau)| < c_4 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau}$  for  $\tau < \tau_0$ . We shall show that this inequality is true for all  $\tau$ . Assume that there exists a  $\tau_1 > \tau_0$ , for which  $f^2(\tau_1) = c_4 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau_1}$ ;  $f^2(\tau) < c_4 e^{-\lambda_0 \tau}$  for  $\tau < \tau_1$ . From (8) it follows that

$$f^2(\tau_1 - 1) - f^2(\tau_1) = \int_{\tau_1 - 1}^{\tau_1} \delta(t) f^2(t) dt + \varphi(\tau_1) - \varphi(\tau_1 - 1).$$

But  $f^2(\tau)$  is the sum of monotonically decreasing functions and of functions not greater than  $ce^{-\lambda\tau}$ ; therefore

$$f^2(\tau_1 - 1) - f^2(\tau_1) \geq \delta_0 f^2(\tau_1) - 2(\delta_0 + 1) e^{-\lambda(\tau_1 - 1)}.$$

Taking advantage of (9) we obtain

$$f^2(\tau_1 - 1) - f^2(\tau_1) \geq \delta_0 f^2(\tau_1) - 2(\delta_0 + 1) \frac{1}{10} e^{-\lambda\tau_1}.$$

In view of the choice of  $\tau_1$ ,

$$f^2(\tau_1 - 1) > (1 + \delta_0) f^2(\tau_1) - \frac{1}{5} (1 + \delta_0) f^2(\tau_1).$$

Assuming  $\delta_0 \geq 1$ , we have

$$f^2(\tau_1 - 1) > \left(1 + \frac{3}{5} \delta_0\right) f^2(\tau_1) > \left(1 + \frac{\delta_0}{2}\right) f^2(\tau_1),$$

which contradicts the choice of  $\tau_1$ . The lemma is shown.

Theorem 4. For the remaining terms of the expansion the following estimates holds:

$$\|\bar{r}_\varepsilon^k(x, t)\|_2 < ce^t, \quad \|\bar{r}_\varepsilon^k(x, t)\|_\infty < ce^t.$$

If  $a_{ij}(y, \tau)$  are smooth functions, then

$$\|\bar{r}_\varepsilon^k\|_{C^m} \leq ce^{k-2m}.$$

Remark. Analogous results may be obtained for the equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_\varepsilon(x, t) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_{ij} \left( \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} u_\varepsilon(x, t) + c \left( \frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^2} \right) u_\varepsilon(x, t) = f(x, t),$$

$$u_\varepsilon|_{t=0} = f_1(x),$$

where the functions  $c(y, \tau)$  is bounded and  $\Pi^{n+1}$ -periodic, and the  $a_{ij}$  are the same as in (1).

The author thanks M. I. Vishik and S. M. Kozlov for their discussion of the results of this paper.

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10 October 1978