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Global Existence and Intrinsic Decay Rates for the Energy of a Kirchhoff Type in a Nonlinear Viscoelastic Equation

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this works, we study the global existence and intrinsic decay rates for the energy of a kirchhoff type in a nonlinear viscoelastic equation

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt}(x, t) - \Phi(x) \left[\mu \left(\|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right) \Delta u(x, t) - \int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(x, s) ds \right] \\ + bu_t(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

with initial data

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad (1.2)$$

and boundary conditions

$$u(x, t) = 0, \quad (x, t) \in \partial\Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+, \quad (1.3)$$

where Ω is a bounded domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$, $h(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ are given functions which will be spaced later and $u_0(x)$, $u_1(x)$ are given initial data belonging to appropriate space. All the parameter b are assumed to be positive constants. The function $\Phi(x)$ is the density, $(\rho(x))^{-1} = \Phi(x)$, $\Phi(x) > 0$, for all $x \in \Omega$, and

$$\mu(s) := \xi_0 + \xi_1 s^\gamma,$$

where $s > 0$, $\xi_0 > 0$, $\xi_1 > 0$ and $\gamma \geq 1$. For more information on using Kirchhoff type, see [4 – 6].

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Also, a result of local existence for problem (1.1) – (1.3) for $\xi_1 = 0$ has been proved in [1], for $\xi_1 \neq 0$, in the same way as [1], we get the same basic results for the local existence of problem (1.1) – (1.3) with a slight change in some calculations that do not affect the basic results.

The motivation of our work is due to some results regarding the following research papers: Boumaza, N and Boulaaras, S. [2] studied the general decay for Kirchhoff type in viscoelasticity with not necessarily decreasing kernel of (1.1)–(1.3). Marcelo M. Irena Lasiecka and Claudete M. Webler. [3] studied the intrinsic decay rates for the energy of a nonlinear viscoelastic equation modeling the vibrations of thin rods with variable density. M. M. Cavalcanti, V. N. Domingos Cavalcanti, I. Lasiecka and F. A. Falcao Nascimento. [7] studied the intrinsic decay rate estimates for the wave equation with competing viscoelastic and frictional dissipative effects. I. Lasiecka, S. A. Messaoudi and M. I. Mustafa. [8] studied the note on intrinsic decay rates for abstract wave equations with memory. I. Lasiecka and X. Wang. [9] studied the intrinsic decay rate estimates for semilinear abstract second order equations with memory. Cavalcanti M. Filho VND. Cavalcanti JSP. Soriano JA. [10] studied the existence and uniform decay rates for viscoelastic problems with nonlinear boundary damping. For more results in this direction, see [11 – 15].

However, [1 – 3], [4 – 6] and [11 – 15] did not study the intrinsic decay rates for the energy of problem (1.1) – (1.3) of relaxation kernels described by the inequality $h'(t) \leq -H(h(t))$ for all $t \geq 0$, with H convex. Motivated by the above research, we will consider the intrinsic decay rates for the energy of relaxation kernels described by the inequality $h'(t) \leq -H(h(t))$ for all $t \geq 0$ of the model (1.1) – (1.3) in this paper.

The outline of the paper is as follows. In the second section we define the energy $E(t)$ associated to (1.1) – (1.3) and show that it is a non-increasing function of t . In section 3, we prove global existence of solution of (1.1) – (1.3). Finally, in section 4, we prove the intrinsic decay rates for the energy of the posed problem.

II. ASSUMPTIONS AND MAIN RESULTS

In this section, we define the energy $E(t)$ associated to (1.1)–(1.3) and show that it is a non-increasing function of t . We suppose that the kernel $h(t)$ is a function satisfying

Assumptions 1

The relaxation function $h : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is a $C^1 \cap L^1$ decreasing function and satisfies

$$h(0) > 0 \text{ and } \int_0^t h(s) ds < \xi_0.$$

Assumptions 2

(i) In addition to **Assumption 1**, we require

$$h'(t) \leq -H(h(t)) \text{ for all } t \geq 0,$$

where $H \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ which $H(0) = 0$ is a given strictly increasing and convex function. Moreover,

$$H \in C^2(0, \infty) \text{ and } \liminf_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \{x^2 H''(x) - xH'(x) + H(x)\} \geq 0.$$

(ii) With reference to the function H introduced above, let $y(t)$ be the solution of the ODE

$$y'(t) + H(y(t)) = 0, \quad y(0) = h(0) > 0.$$

Ref

1. Medjden, M.M., Tatar, N.: Asymptotic behavior for a viscoelastic problem with not necessarily decreasing kernel. Appl. Math. Comput. 67; 1221 - 1235(2005).

(iii) We assume that there exists $\alpha_0 \in [0, 1)$ such that $y^{1-\alpha_0} \in L_1(1, \infty)$.

In order to formulate the long-time behavior results, we recall the binary notation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (h * w)(t) := \int_0^t h(t-s) w(s) ds, \\ \int_{\Omega} (h \circ w)(t) dx := \int_0^t h(t-s) \|w(x, s) - w(x, t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds, \\ (h \diamond w)(t) := \rho(x) \int_0^t h(t-s) (w(t) - w(s)) ds. \end{array} \right. \quad (2.1)$$

We define the corresponding energy functional by

$$\begin{aligned} E(t) : &= \frac{1}{2} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_p(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi_0 - \int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ &+ \frac{\xi_1}{2(\gamma+1)} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Note that, in view of (2.1), we have that

$$0 < l := \left(\xi_0 - \int_0^{\infty} h(s) ds \right) \leq \xi_0 \quad \text{for all } (x, t) \in \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+. \quad (2.3)$$

The energy satisfies the following identity

Lemma 1. *We have the identity*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \{E(t)\} &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx - \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 - b \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_p(\Omega)}^2 \\ &\leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Proof. Multiplying (1.1) by $\rho(x) u_t$ and integration over Ω , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega} \rho(x) u_{tt} u_t dx - \int_{\Omega} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(x, t) u_t(x, t) dx \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} u_t(x, t) \left[\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(x, s) ds \right] dx + b \int_{\Omega} \rho(x) u_t^2(x, t) dx \\ &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

We have

$$\int_{\Omega} \rho(x) u_{tt} u_t dx = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_p(\Omega)}^2 \right\}. \quad (2.6)$$

And by using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_{\Omega} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(x, t) u_t(x, t) dx \\
 &= - \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(x, t) u_t(x, t) dx \\
 &= \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u(x, t) \cdot \nabla u_t(x, t) dx \\
 &= \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 dx \right\} \\
 &= \frac{\xi_0}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \frac{\xi_1}{2} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\
 &= \frac{\xi_0}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \frac{\xi_1}{2(\gamma+1)} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} \right\} \\
 &= \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi_0 + \frac{\xi_1}{(\gamma+1)} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\}. \quad (2.7)
 \end{aligned}$$

And by using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\Omega} u_t(x, t) \left[\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(x, s) ds \right] dx \\
 &= - \int_0^t h(t-s) \left[\int_{\Omega} \nabla u(x, s) \cdot \nabla u_t(x, t) dx \right] ds,
 \end{aligned}$$

and using

$$-\nabla u(x, s) \cdot \nabla u_t(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ |\nabla u(x, s) - \nabla u(x, t)|^2 \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 \right\},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\Omega} u_t(x, t) \left[\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(x, s) ds \right] dx \\
 &= \int_0^t h(t-s) \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ |\nabla u(x, s) - \nabla u(x, t)|^2 \right\} \right) dx ds \\
 &\quad - \int_0^t h(t-s) \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 \right\} \right) dx ds \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h(t-s) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x, s) - \nabla u(x, t)|^2 dx \right\} \right) ds \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h(t-s) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \right) ds, \quad (2.8)
 \end{aligned}$$

by using (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h(t-s) \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x,s) - \nabla u(x,t)|^2 dx \right\} ds \\
 = & \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ h(t-s) \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x,s) - \nabla u(x,t)|^2 dx \right) \right\} ds \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h'(t-s) \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x,s) - \nabla u(x,t)|^2 dx \right) ds \\
 = & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_0^t h(t-s) \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x,s) - \nabla u(x,t)|^2 dx ds \right\} \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h'(t-s) \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x,s) - \nabla u(x,t)|^2 dx \right) ds \\
 = & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx, \quad (2.9)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t h(t-s) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \right) ds \\
 = & -\frac{1}{2} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) ds \right) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \right) \\
 = & -\frac{1}{2} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \right) \\
 = & -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2. \quad (2.10)
 \end{aligned}$$

By replacement (2.9) and (2.10) into (2.8), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\Omega} u_t(x,t) \left[\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(x,s) ds \right] dx \\
 = & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\
 = & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx - \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx + \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2. \quad (2.11)
 \end{aligned}$$

By combining (2.6), (2.7) and (2.11) into (2.5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\ & + \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi_0 + \frac{\xi_1}{(\gamma+1)} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx - \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx + \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + b \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \\ & = 0, \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi_0 - \int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\xi_1}{2(\gamma+1)} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \right\} \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx - \frac{1}{2} h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 - b \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2, \quad (2.12) \end{aligned}$$

by using (2.2) into (2.12), we get (2.4).

The proof of **Lemma 1** is completes.

III. GLOBAL EXISTENCE

In this section we show that any solution of (1.1) – (1.3) is bounded and global, provided that $E(0)$ is positive and small enough.

Theorem 1. Assume that (2.3) holds. Then the solution to problem (1.1) – (1.3) is bounded and global.

Proof. It suffices to show that $\|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$ is bounded independently of t .

By using (2.3) and (A1) into (2.12), we get

$$\omega_1 \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \omega_2 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq E(t) \leq E(0),$$

where $\omega_1 > 0$ and $\omega_2 > 0$, then

$$\|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq \omega_3 E(0),$$

where $\omega_3 > 0$.

Then the solution to problem (1.1) – (1.3) is bounded and global.

The proof of **Theorem 1** is completes.

IV. DECAY OF SOLUTIONS

Now, we are in a position to state our main result.

Lemma 2. Let us assume that **Assumption 1** and **Assumption 2** are the place. Then, there exists a positive constant $T_0 > 0$ such that

$$E((n+1)T) + \tilde{H}(C_9^{-1}E((n+1)T)) \leq E(nT), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

for all $T > T_0$ and all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where $\tilde{H}$ is given in (4.49) and C_9 is given in (4.52).

Proof. For this purpose, a by now standard procedure is to multiply (1.1) by the viscoelastic multiplier

$$(h \diamond u)(t) = \rho(x) \int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds,$$

and integrating over $\Omega \times (nT, (n+1)T)$, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_{tt}(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\Phi(x) \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(t), (h \diamond u)(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\Phi(x) \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(s) ds \right), (h \diamond u)(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & + b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

We shall analyze the above terms separately.
Direct calculation give

$$\begin{aligned} & (u_{tt}(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} \\ & = \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} \right\} \\ & \quad - \left(u_t(t), \frac{d}{dt} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right) \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} \\ & = \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} \right\} \\ & \quad - \left(u_t(t), \left(\int_0^t h'(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right) \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} \\ & \quad - \left(u_t(t), \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) u_t(s) ds \right) \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)}, \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_{tt}(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & = \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \\ & \quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h'(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & \quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L_\rho^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

For the second term, by using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\Phi(x) \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(t), (h \diamond u)(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \left(\Delta u(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \left(\nabla u(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt. \\
 & \quad (4.3)
 \end{aligned}$$

For the third term, by using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\Phi(x) \int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(s) ds, (h \diamond u)(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(s) ds, \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & \quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(t) ds, \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt. \quad (4.4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining (4.2) – (4.4) into (4.1), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \\
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h'(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \left(\nabla u(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(t) ds, \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 & + b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

then (4.5) is equivalent

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &= \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \\
 &\quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h'(t-s)(u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\
 &\quad + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \left(\nabla u(t), \int_0^t h(t-s)(\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &\quad + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s)(\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(t) ds, \int_0^t h(t-s)(\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &\quad + b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= J_1 + J_2 + J_3 + J_4 + J_5 + J_6.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

Estimate for $|J_1|$, where

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_1 : &= u_t((n+1)T), \int_0^{(n+1)T} h((n+1)T-s)(u((n+1)T) - u(s)) ds \Big)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \\
 &\quad - u_t(nT), \int_0^{nT} h(nT-s)(u(nT) - u(s)) ds \Big)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, let $m \in N$ be an arbitrary, natural number.

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = 1$), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & u_t(mT), \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s)(u(mT) - u(s)) ds \Big)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \\
 &= \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) (u_t(mT), (u(mT) - u(s)))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} ds \\
 &\leq \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) \left[\frac{1}{2} \|u_t(mT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u(mT) - u(s)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right] ds \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) ds \Big) \|u_t(mT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) \|u(mT) - u(s)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 ds,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

by using

$$\|u(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \leq \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2, \tag{4.8}$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) \|u(mT) - u(s)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 ds \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) \|\nabla u(mT) - \nabla u(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(mT) dx, \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

by replacement (4.9) into (4.7) and using $\int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) ds = \int_0^{mT} h(s) ds$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & u_t(mT), \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) (u(mT) - u(s)) ds \Big)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{mT} h(s) ds \Big) \|u_t(mT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(mT) dx, \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

by using (2.2), we get

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{2} \|u_t(mT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \leq E(mT), \\ \text{and} \\ \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(mT) dx \leq E(mT), \end{array} \right. \quad (4.11)$$

then, by combining (4.11) into (4.10), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & u_t(mT), \int_0^{mT} h(mT-s) (u(mT) - u(s)) ds \Big)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \\ & \leq \int_0^{mT} h(s) ds \Big) E(mT) + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 E(mT) \\ & \leq \left\{ \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} E(mT), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$|J_1| \leq C_1 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)], \quad (4.12)$$

where

$$C_1 := \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

Estimate for $|J_2|$, where

$$J_2 := - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h'(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt.$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}$), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_2| &\leq \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h'(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

By using (4.8), Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h'(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\leq \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h'(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\leq -\|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h'(t-s) \|\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds dt \\ &= -\|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_\Omega (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

By replacement (4.14) into (4.13), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_2| &\leq \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_\Omega (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

Estimate $|J_3|$, where

$$J_3 := \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \left(\nabla u(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt.$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = \frac{\varepsilon_2}{2}$), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_3| &\leq \varepsilon_2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right)^2 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt, \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

by using $\|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \leq \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\varepsilon_2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right)^2 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ &\leq \varepsilon_2 \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt, \end{aligned} \quad (4.17)$$

by using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \leq \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) ds \right) \int_0^t h(t-s) \|\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds \\ & \leq \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx, \end{aligned} \quad (4.18)$$

by replacement (4.17) and (4.18) into (4.16), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_3| & \leq \varepsilon_2 \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ & + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

Estimate $|J_4|$, where

$$J_4 := \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt.$$

By using (4.18), we get

$$|J_4| \leq \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \quad (4.20)$$

Now, estimate $|J_5|$, where

$$J_5 := - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(t) ds, \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt.$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = \frac{\varepsilon_3}{2}$), Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (4.18), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_5| & \leq \varepsilon_3 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) \nabla u(t) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ & + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \varepsilon_3 \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 &= \varepsilon_3 \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \tag{4.21}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, estimate $|J_6|$, where

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_6 &: = b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(t), (h \diamond u)(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\
 &: = b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(u_t(t), \int_0^t h(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right)_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)} dt.
 \end{aligned}$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}$), (4.8) and (4.18), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 |J_6| &\leq b^2 \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (u(t) - u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\leq b^2 \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\| \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)) ds \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\leq b^2 \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \tag{4.22}
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining (4.12), (4.15) and (4.19)–(4.22) into (4.6), and recalling that $\|h\|_{L^1(0,\infty)} < \xi_0$, we write

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &\leq C_1 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & +\varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & -\frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +\varepsilon_2 \quad \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & +\frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +\xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +\varepsilon_3 \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & +\frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +b^2 \varepsilon_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & +\frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \xi_0 \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \tag{4.23}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $h(0) > 0$, we can select a points $t_1 < T$ with t_1 close to zero such that for all $t \geq t_1$

$$\int_0^t h(s) ds \geq t_1 h(t_1) := c_0.$$

Then (4.23) is equivalent

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \{t_1 h(t_1) - \varepsilon_1 (1 + b^2)\} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & \leq C_1 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\
 & -\frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +\varepsilon_2 \quad \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & +\xi_0 \left\{ \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} + 1 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & +\varepsilon_3 \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \tag{4.24}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, multiplying (1.1) by $\rho(x) u(x, t)$ and integrating over $\Omega \times (nT, (n+1)T)$, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_{tt}(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\ & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(t), u(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(s) ds, u(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & + b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(x, t), u(x, t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\ & = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

By using

$$u_{tt}(t) u(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \{u_t(t) u(t)\} - u_t^2(t),$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_{tt}(x, t), u(x, t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\ & = (u_t(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.26)$$

By using integration by parts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \Delta u(t), u(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) (\nabla u(t), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

By using integration by parts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(t-s) \Delta u(s) ds, u(t) \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} dt \\ & = - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\ & = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\ & \quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\ & = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\ & \quad - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

And

$$\begin{aligned}
 & b \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} (u_t(x, t), u(x, t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} dt \\
 &= \frac{b}{2} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \|u(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\} dt \\
 &= \frac{b}{2} \left\{ \|u((n+1)T)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 - \|u(nT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\}. \tag{4.29}
 \end{aligned}$$

By combining (4.26) – (4.29) into (4.25), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (u_t(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &+ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &+ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\
 &- \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &+ \frac{b}{2} \left\{ \|u((n+1)T)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 - \|u(nT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\
 &= 0. \tag{4.30}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then (4.30) is equivalent

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &+ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &= - (u_t(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \\
 &- \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt \\
 &+ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 &- \frac{b}{2} \left\{ \|u((n+1)T)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 - \|u(nT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\}. \tag{4.31}
 \end{aligned}$$

To estimate the term

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_1 & : = - (u_t(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \Big|_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \\
 & : = - (u_t((n+1)T), u((n+1)T))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} + (u_t(nT), u(nT))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = 1$), (4.8), $\frac{1}{2} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \leq E(t)$ and $\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq l^{-1} E(t)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (u_t(t), u(t))_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \leq E(t) + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 l^{-1} E(t) \\ & = \left\{1 + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 l^{-1}\right\} E(t), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$|I_1| \leq C_2 \{E((n+1)T) + E(nT)\}, \quad (4.32)$$

where

$$C_2 := 1 + \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 l^{-1}.$$

To estimate the term

$$I_2 := - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) (\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s), \nabla u(t))_{L^2(\Omega)} ds dt.$$

By using Young's inequality (for $\varepsilon = \frac{\varepsilon_4}{2}$) and (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |I_2| & \leq \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) \|\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds dt \\ & \quad + \varepsilon_4 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_0^t h(t-s) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds dt \\ & = \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_\Omega (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\ & \quad + \varepsilon_4 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.33)$$

By using (4.8) and $\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq l^{-1} E(t)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -\frac{b}{2} \left\{ \|u((n+1)T)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 - \|u(nT)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\ & \leq \frac{b}{2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \left\{ \|\nabla u((n+1)T)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(nT)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} \\ & \leq b \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 l^{-1} \{E((n+1)T) + E(nT)\} \\ & = C'_2 \{E((n+1)T) + E(nT)\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.34)$$

where

$$C'_2 := b \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 l^{-1} > 0.$$

By combining (4.32) – (4.34) into (4.31), we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2\gamma} \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 \leq & [C_2 + C'_2] \{E((n+1)T) + E(nT)\} \\
 & + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & + (\varepsilon_4 + 1) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \quad (4.35)
 \end{aligned}$$

On multiplied (4.24) by γ_1 and multiplied (4.35) by γ_2 and combining suitably, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & [\gamma_1 \{t_1 h(t_1) - \varepsilon_1 (1 + b^2)\} - \gamma_2] \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & + \gamma_2 \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt + \gamma_2 \xi_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} dt \\
 \leq & \{\gamma_1 C_1 + \gamma_2 [C_2 + C'_2]\} [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\
 & - \gamma_1 \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & + \gamma_1 \varepsilon_2 \left\{ \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \right\}^2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & + \left\{ \gamma_1 \xi_0 \left\{ \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_2} + 1 + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_3} + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_1} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \gamma_2 \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_4} \right\} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & + \{\gamma_1 \varepsilon_3 \xi_0 + \gamma_2 (\varepsilon_4 + 1)\} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt. \quad (4.36)
 \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon_1 := \frac{t_1 h(t_1)}{2(1+b^2)}, \\ \varepsilon_2 := \frac{3\varepsilon \xi_0}{\gamma_1 \left(\xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)}{\xi_1} E(0) \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}} \right)^2}, \\ \varepsilon_3 := \frac{\varepsilon}{\gamma_1 \xi_0}, \\ \varepsilon_4 := 2\varepsilon, \end{array} \right. \quad (4.37)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_1 := \frac{4}{t_1 h(t_1)}, \\ \gamma_2 := 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.38)$$

by using (4.37) and (4.38) into (4.36), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ & + \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt + \xi_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} dt \\ & \leq C_3 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\ & - C_4 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\ & + 3\varepsilon \xi_0 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ & + C_5 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\ & + (3\varepsilon + 1) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 dt, \end{aligned} \quad (4.39)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} C_3 := \gamma_1 C_1 + C_2 + C'_2, \\ C_4 := \gamma_1 \frac{(1+b^2)}{2t_1 h(t_1)} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 h(0), \\ C_5 := \frac{4\xi_0}{t_1 h(t_1)} \left\{ \frac{\gamma_1 \xi_0 + \xi_1 \left(\frac{2(\gamma+1)E(0)}{\xi_1} \right)^{\frac{2\gamma}{2(\gamma+1)}}}{12\varepsilon \xi_0} + 1 + \frac{\gamma_1 \xi_0}{4\varepsilon} + \frac{(1+b^2)}{2t_1 h(t_1)} \|\rho\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon}. \end{cases}$$

Adding and subtracting in (4.39) the term

$$- \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} \left(\int_0^t h(s) ds \right) |\nabla u|^2 dx dt \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} a(x) (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt,$$

in order to recover the energy $E(t)$, we obtain

$$(1 - 3\varepsilon) \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} \left(\xi_0 - \int_0^t h(s) ds \right) |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|u_t(x, t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 dt \\
 & + \xi_1 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} dt + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & \leq C_3 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\
 & + C_5 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} k_1 (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & + C_5 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt, \tag{4.40}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$k_1 := \frac{C_4}{C_5}.$$

From (4.40), choosing ε sufficiently small, $k_1 > 0$ and T large enough and using

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha_1 \left\{ \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} + \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \right\} \\
 & \leq E(t) \leq \alpha_2 \left\{ \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^{2(\gamma+1)} + \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_1 := \frac{1}{2} \min \left\{ 1, l, \frac{\xi_1}{(\gamma+1)} \right\}, \\ \text{and} \\ \alpha_2 := \frac{1}{2} \max \left\{ 1, \xi_0, \frac{\xi_1}{(\gamma+1)} \right\}, \end{cases}$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E(t) dt & \leq C_6 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\
 & + C_7 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (h \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\
 & + C_7 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} k_1 (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt, \tag{4.41}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} C_6 := \frac{\alpha_2 C_3}{\min \{(1-3\varepsilon)l, 1, \xi_1\}}, \\ \text{and} \\ C_7 := \frac{\alpha_2 C_5}{\min \{(1-3\varepsilon)l, 1, \xi_1\}}. \end{cases}$$

In the last step, we need to relate the viscoelastic energy to the viscoelastic damping. In the case when the relaxation function obeys a linear equation, this relation is straightforward and is expressed by a suitable multiplication. However, in the case of general decays, additional arguments are used. Here, we follow [17]. From the **assumption 2** made on the viscoelastic kernel h and from [17, **Lemma 4**] we obtain

$$(h \circ \nabla u)(t) \leq \hat{H}_\alpha^{-1}(-h' \circ \nabla u)(t), \quad t \in [nT, (n+1)T], \quad (4.42)$$

where $\hat{H}_\alpha$ is a rescaling of H_α with

$$H_\alpha(s) = \alpha s^{1-\frac{1}{\alpha}} H\left(\frac{1}{s^\alpha}\right),$$

and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is such that

$$\sup_{t>0} \int_0^t h^{1-\alpha}(t-s) \|\nabla u(t) - \nabla u(s)\|^2 ds < \infty.$$

From **Assumption 2** it is clear that $\alpha \geq \alpha_0$. The main point, however, is that the argument can be reiterated (based on [16, **Lemma 8**] leading to $\alpha = 1$). This allows us to replace H_α , the function in (4.42), by the original function $\hat{H}$ which is a rescaling of $H(s)$. This means that $\hat{H} = cH\left(\frac{C}{s}\right)$ for some $c, C > 0$. Now, from (4.42) and taking (4.41) into account, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E(t) dt &\leq C_6 [E((n+1)T) + E(nT)] \\ &+ C_7 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} [\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1] (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.43)$$

Next, we shall employ the following version of **Jensen's inequality** applied to measures and convex functions F . Let F be a convex increasing function on $[\alpha, b]$, let $f : \Omega \longrightarrow [\alpha, b]$, and let h be an integrable function such that $h(x) \geq 0$ and

$$\int_{\Omega} h(x) dx = h_0 > 0.$$

Then, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} F^{-1}(f(x)) h(x) dx \leq h_0 F^{-1} \left[h_0^{-1} \int_{\Omega} f(x) h(x) dx \right]. \quad (4.44)$$

We shall use (4.44) in order to bring the functions H in front of the integrals. Let us denote

$$\alpha_0 := \text{meas}(\Omega).$$

We note that the function $\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1$ is concave.
Let

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} F^{-1} = \hat{H}^{-1} + k_1, \\ f(x) = (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t), \\ h(x) = T, \\ h_0 = T\alpha_0, \\ h_0^{-1} = \alpha_0^{-1}T^{-1}, \end{array} \right.$$

thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} [\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1] (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \\ & \leq \alpha_0 T [\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1] \left[\alpha_0^{-1} T^{-1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.45)$$

On the other hand, from the identity (2.4) for the energy, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} & E((n+1)T) - E(nT) \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx - h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 - 2b \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 \right\} dt \\ & = - \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$D(t) := \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx + h(t) \|\nabla u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + 2b \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2_{\rho}(\Omega)}^2 \right\}. \quad (4.46)$$

En replacement (4.45) into (4.43) and using

$$E(nT) = E((n+1)T) + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt, \quad (4.47)$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E(t) dt \\ & \leq C_6 \left\{ 2E((n+1)T) + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right\} \\ & + C_7 \alpha_0 T [\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1] \left[\alpha_0^{-1} T^{-1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \right], \end{aligned}$$

and using (4.46) we get

$$\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} \int_{\Omega} (-h' \circ \nabla u)(t) dx dt \leq 2 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt,$$

thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E(t) dt \\
 \leq & C_6 \left\{ 2E((n+1)T) + \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right\} \\
 & + 2C_7\alpha_0 T \left[\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1 \right] \left[\alpha_0^{-1} T^{-1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right] \\
 = & 2C_6 E((n+1)T) + C_6 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \\
 & + 2C_7\alpha_0 T \left[\hat{H}^{-1} + k_1 \right] \left[\alpha_0^{-1} T^{-1} \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right] \\
 \leq & 2C_6 E((n+1)T) + C_8 \left[\hat{H}^{-1} + k_2 \right] \left[\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right] \\
 = & 2C_6 E((n+1)T) + C_8 \tilde{H}^{-1} \left[\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right], \tag{4.48}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} C_8 := \max\{2C_7, 1\}, \\ \tilde{H} := \left[\hat{H}^{-1} + k_2 \right]^{-1}, \\ k_2 := (C_6 + 2C_7 k_1). \end{cases} \tag{4.49}$$

By integrating t to $(n+1)T$ on both sides of the inequality $\frac{d}{dt} \{E(t)\} \leq 0$ yields

$$E((n+1)T) \leq E(t) \quad \text{for all } (n+1)T \geq t, \tag{4.50}$$

integrating (4.50) from nT to $(n+1)T$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E(t) dt & \geq \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} E((n+1)T) dt \\
 & = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} dt E((n+1)T) \\
 & = TE((n+1)T), \tag{4.51}
 \end{aligned}$$

by replacement (4.51) into (4.48), we get

$$TE((n+1)T) \leq 2C_6 E((n+1)T) + C_8 \tilde{H}^{-1} \left[\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right],$$

then

$$(T - 2C_6) E((n+1)T) \leq C_8 \tilde{H}^{-1} \left[\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right].$$

For T large enough, where C_6 is a positive constant, which implies that

$$E((n+1)T) \leq C_9 \tilde{H}^{-1} \left[\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt \right],$$

where

$$C_9 := \frac{C_8}{(T - 2C_6)}, \quad (4.52)$$

which gives that

$$\tilde{H}(C_9^{-1}E((n+1)T)) \leq \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} D(t) dt, \quad (4.53)$$

by using (4.47) into (4.53), we get

$$\tilde{H}(C_9^{-1}E((n+1)T)) \leq E(nT) - E((n+1)T),$$

from the above we have

$$E((n+1)T) + \tilde{H}(C_9^{-1}E((n+1)T)) \leq E(nT), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Then the Proof of **Lemma 2** is complete.

Lemma 3. Let p be a positive, increasing function such that $p(0) = 0$. Since p is increasing, we can define an increasing function q , $q(x) \equiv x - (I + p)^{-1}(x)$. Consider a sequence F_n of positive numbers which satisfies

$$F_{m+1} + p(F_{m+1}) \leq F_m. \quad (4.54)$$

Then $F_m \leq S(m)$ where $S(t)$ is a solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \{S(t)\} + q(S(t)) = 0, \quad S(0) = F_0. \quad (4.55)$$

Moreover, if $p(x) > 0$ for $x > 0$ then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} S(t) = 0$.

Proof. Proof of the Lemma use the proof retraction. Assume $F_m \leq S(m)$ and prove that $F_{m+1} \leq S(m+1)$.

Inequality (4.54) is equivalent to

$$(I + p)F_{m+1} \leq F_m,$$

and since $(I + p)^{-1}$ is monotone increasing, $F_{m+1} \leq (I + p)^{-1}F_m$, and using

$$(I + p)^{-1}F_m = (I - q)F_m,$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} F_{m+1} &\leq (I - q)F_m \\ &= F_m - q(F_m). \end{aligned} \quad (4.56)$$

On the other hand, since q is an increasing function, the solution $S(t)$ of equation (4.55) is described by a nonlinear contraction.

In particular integrating $\frac{d}{dt} \{S(t)\} \leq 0$ from m to τ yields

$$S(\tau) \leq S(m) \quad \text{for all } t \geq \tau. \quad (4.57)$$

Integrating equation (4.55) from m to $(m+1)$ yields

$$S(m+1) - S(m) + \int_m^{m+1} q(S(\tau)) d\tau = 0. \quad (4.58)$$

Since q is increasing, by using (4.57) we obtain for all $m \leq \tau \leq m+1$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_m^{m+1} q(S(\tau)) d\tau &\leq \int_m^{m+1} q(S(m)) d\tau \\ &= q(S(m)) \int_m^{m+1} d\tau \\ &= q(S(m)), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$-\int_m^{m+1} q(S(\tau)) d\tau \geq -q(S(m)), \quad \text{for all } m \leq \tau \leq m+1, \quad (4.59)$$

by replacement (4.59) into (4.58) and using the inductive assumption $F_m \leq S(m)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} S(m+1) &\geq S(m) - q(S(m)) \\ &= (I - q) S(m) \\ &\geq (I - q) F_m \\ &= F_m - q(F(m)), \end{aligned} \quad (4.60)$$

comparing (4.60) with (4.56) yields

$$S(m+1) \geq F_{m+1}.$$

Then the Proof of **Lemma 3** is complete.

Theorem 2. Let us assume that **Assumption 1** and **Assumption 2** are the place. Then there exist positive constants c_1, c_2 and T_0 such that the solution of problem (1.1) – (1.3) satisfies $E(t) \leq s(t)$, where $s(t)$ verifies the ODE

$$s_t + \hat{H}(s) = 0, \quad s(0) = E(0), \quad t \geq T_0 > 0,$$

with $\hat{H}(s) = c_1 H(c_2 s)$.

Proof. Thus, we are in a position to apply the result of **Lemma 2** with

$$F_m \equiv E(mt), \quad F_0 \equiv E(0).$$

This yields

$$E(mT) \leq S(m), \quad m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Setting $t = mT + \tau$ and recalling the evolution property gives

$$E(t) \leq E(mT) \leq S(m) \leq S\left(\frac{t-\tau}{T}\right) \leq S\left(\frac{t}{T} - 1\right),$$

which completes the proof of **Theorem 2**.

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