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## ON A BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM FOR A HIGH ORDER MIXED TYPE EQUATION

B.YU. IRGASHEV

**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we study a Dirichlet type problem for a Lavrentiev–Bitsadze type equation of high order type in a rectangular domain. The necessary and sufficient conditions for the uniqueness of the problem solution are obtained by using the spectral method. The solution is constructed in the form of a series of eigenfunctions. When substantiating the convergence of a series, the problem of «small» denominators arises. Sufficient conditions are obtained for the separability of the «small» denominator from zero.

**Keywords:** Differential equation, mixed type, boundary value problem, eigenvalue, eigenfunction, determinant, uniqueness, existence, «small» denominators, series, convergence.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In the rectangular region  $\Omega = \{(x, y) : 0 < x < l, -a < y < a\}$ , where  $l$  and  $a$  are given positive real numbers,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , consider the partial differential equation

$$Lu \equiv D_x^{2n} u(x, y) + (\operatorname{sgn} y) D_y^{2n} u(x, y) = 0. \quad (1)$$

Suppose that  $\Omega_+ = \Omega \cap (y > 0)$ ,  $\Omega_- = \Omega \cap (y < 0)$ . We study the following problem for the equation [1], similar to the Dirichlet problem.

**Problem D.** Given the region  $\Omega$ , find a function  $u(x, y)$ , satisfying the conditions

$$u \in C^{2n-1}(\overline{\Omega}) \cap C^{2n}(\Omega_+ \cup \Omega_-), \quad (2)$$

$$Lu(x, y) \equiv 0, \quad (x, y) \in \Omega_+ \cup \Omega_-, \quad (3)$$

$$D_x^{2(s-1)} u(0, y) = D_x^{2(s-1)} u(l, y) = 0, \quad -a \leq y \leq a, \quad (4)$$

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$$D_y^{2(s-1)}u(x, -a) = \varphi_s(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq l, \quad (5)$$

$$l_s(u(a)) = \sum_{j=1}^{2n} b_{sj} D_y^{j-1}u(x, a) = \psi_s(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq l, \quad (6)$$

where  $\varphi_s(x), \psi_s(x)$  are fairly smooth functions for which the corresponding conditions are satisfied,  $s = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $b_{sj} \in R$ . The following condition also holds:

$$rg B = rg \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1,2n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2,2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \dots & b_{n,2n} \end{pmatrix} = n.$$

The equation (1) is insufficiently explored. For  $n = 1$ , the equation (1) is the well-known Lavrentiev–Bitsadze equation, for which A.V. Bitsadze showed the incorrectness of the Dirichlet problem [1]. Later, the application of various methods helped to find the conditions for the uniqueness of the solution of the Dirichlet problem, including mixed-order second-order equations and high-order equations with smooth coefficients like in [2]–[4]. Note that the monograph of B.I. Ptashnik [4] contains extensive materials regarding the mentioned subject. A.V. Bitsadze pointed out the importance of studying the equations of mixed type of high order [5]. Among the recent results related to the topic under study, we should mention the works [6]–[10].

## 2. UNIQUENESS OF SOLUTION

Let  $u(x, y)$  be a solution of the equation (1) with the conditions (2)–(6). Consider its Fourier coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} u_k(y) &= \int_0^l u(x, y) X_k(x) dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \\ X_k(x) &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \sin \frac{\pi k}{l} x. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Based on (7), we introduce the functions

$$u_{k,\varepsilon}(y) = \int_{\varepsilon}^{l-\varepsilon} u(x, y) X_k(x) dx, \quad (8)$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a fairly small number. Differentiating the equality (8) with respect to  $y$  under the integral sign  $2n$  times and taking into account the equation (1), for  $y > 0$  and  $y < 0$  we obtain

$$u_{k,\varepsilon}^{(2n)}(y) = \int_{\varepsilon}^{l-\varepsilon} D_y^{2n} u(x, y) X_k(x) dx = - \int_{\varepsilon}^{l-\varepsilon} D_x^{2n} u(x, y) X_k(x) dx, \quad (y > 0), \quad (9)$$

$$u_{k,\varepsilon}^{(2n)}(y) = \int_{\varepsilon}^{l-\varepsilon} D_y^{2n} u(x, y) X_k(x) dx = \int_{\varepsilon}^{l-\varepsilon} D_x^{2n} u(x, y) X_k(x) dx, \quad (y < 0). \quad (10)$$

In the integrals on the right-hand sides of the equalities (9) and (10), integrating by parts  $2n$  times, passing to the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow +0$ , and taking the boundary conditions

(4) into account, we obtain the following ordinary differential equation:

$$u_k^{(2n)}(y) + (-1)^n (\operatorname{sgn} y) \left(\frac{\pi k}{l}\right)^{2n} u_k(y) = 0.$$

We consider separately the cases of even and odd  $n$ . Let the order of the equation be  $4m$  (the case when the order of the equation is  $4m + 2$  is considered similarly). Given the continuity of the function  $u(x, y)$  and its derivatives, on the line  $y = 0$  we obtain the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} u_k^{(4m)}(y) + \operatorname{sgn} y \left(\frac{\pi k}{l}\right)^{4m} u_k(y) = 0, \\ u_k^{(2s-2)}(-a) = \varphi_{sk}, \\ l_s(u_k(a)) = \psi_{sk}, \\ u_k^{(p)}(+0) = u_k^{(p)}(-0), \quad s = \overline{1, 2m}, \quad p = \overline{0, (4m-1)}, \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

where

$$\varphi_{sk} = \int_0^l \varphi_s(x) X_k(x) dx, \quad \psi_{sk} = \int_0^l \psi_s(x) X_k(x) dx.$$

For  $y > 0$ , the general solution of the equation (11) has the form

$$u_k(y) = \sum_{p=0}^{2m-1} (c_p^1 Y_{1p}^+(y) + c_p^2 Y_{2p}^+(y)),$$

where

$$Y_{1p}^+(y) = e^{\alpha_p y} \cos \beta_p y, \quad Y_{2p}^+(y) = e^{\alpha_p y} \sin \beta_p y,$$

$$\begin{aligned} (Y_{1p}^+(y))^{(q)} &= \left(\frac{\pi k}{l}\right)^q e^{\alpha_p y} \cos(\beta_p y + q\theta_p), \\ (Y_{2p}^+(y))^{(q)} &= \left(\frac{\pi k}{l}\right)^q e^{\alpha_p y} \sin(\beta_p y + q\theta_p), \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha_p = \frac{\pi k}{l} \cos \theta_p, \beta_p = \frac{\pi k}{l} \sin \theta_p, \theta_p = \frac{\pi}{4m} (1 + 2p), \\ p = \overline{0, (2m-1)}, q = \overline{0, 4m-1}, \alpha_p > 0, p = \overline{0, (m-1)}.$$

For  $y < 0$ ,

$$u_k(y) = d_0 e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} y} + \sum_{s=1}^{2m-1} e^{\mu_s y} (d_s^1 \cos \nu_s y + d_s^2 \sin \nu_s y) + d_{2m} e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} y},$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_k^{(j)}(y) &= \left(\frac{\pi k}{l}\right)^j \left( d_0 e^{\frac{\pi k y}{l}} + \sum_{s=1}^{2m-1} e^{\mu_s y} (d_s^1 \cos(\nu_s y + j\sigma_s) + d_s^2 \sin(\nu_s y + j\sigma_s)) \right) \\ &+ (-1)^j d_{2m} e^{-\frac{\pi k y}{l}}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mu_s = \frac{\pi k}{l} \cos \sigma_s, \nu_s = \frac{\pi k}{l} \sin \sigma_s, \sigma_s = \frac{\pi s}{2m}, \\ s = \overline{0, (2m-1)}, \mu_s > 0, s = \overline{0, (m-1)}, \mu_m = 0.$$

With the boundary conditions for the problem (11), we obtain a system of algebraic equations, as follows:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} e^{-a\mu_s} (d_s^1 \cos(-\nu_s a + 2j\sigma_s) + d_s^2 \sin(-\nu_s a + 2j\sigma_s)) = \\ & = \left(\frac{l}{\pi k}\right)^{2j} \varphi_{jk}, \\ & \sum_{p=0}^{2m-1} (c_p^1 l_j (Y_{1p}^+(a)) + c_p^2 l_j (Y_{2p}^+(a))) = \psi_{jk}, \\ & \sum_{p=0}^{2m-1} (c_p^1 \cos(t\theta_p) + c_p^2 \sin(t\theta_p)) = \\ & = d_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{2m-1} (d_p^1 \cos(t\sigma_p) + d_p^2 \sin(t\sigma_p)) + (-1)^t d_{2m}, \\ & j = \overline{1, 2m}, \quad t = \overline{0, (4m-1)}. \end{aligned} \right. \tag{12}$$

We introduce the following notation:

$$\tau_{j,s} = -\nu_s a + 2j\sigma_s,$$

$$A_{2m,2m}^+ = \begin{pmatrix} l_1^2 (Y_{10}^+(a)) & l_1^2 (Y_{20}^+(a)) & \dots & l_1^2 (Y_{2(n-1)}^+(a)) \\ l_2^2 (Y_{10}^+(a)) & l_2^2 (Y_{20}^+(a)) & \dots & l_2^2 (Y_{2(n-1)}^+(a)) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ l_{2m}^2 (Y_{10}^+(a)) & l_{2m}^2 (Y_{20}^+(a)) & \dots & l_{2m}^2 (Y_{2(n-1)}^+(a)) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A_{2m,2m}^- = \begin{pmatrix} l_1^2 (Y_{1m}^+(a)) & l_1^2 (Y_{2m}^+(a)) & \dots & l_1^2 (Y_{2(2m-1)}^+(a)) \\ l_2^2 (Y_{1m}^+(a)) & l_2^2 (Y_{2m}^+(a)) & \dots & l_2^2 (Y_{2(2m-1)}^+(a)) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ l_{2m}^2 (Y_{1m}^+(a)) & l_{2m}^2 (Y_{2m}^+(a)) & \dots & l_{2m}^2 (Y_{2(2m-1)}^+(a)) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$B_{2m,2m-1}^+ = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\mu_{m+1}a} \cos \tau_{0,m+1} & \dots & e^{-\mu_{2m-1}a} \sin \tau_{0,2m-1} & e^{\frac{\pi k}{l}a} \\ e^{-\mu_{m+1}a} \cos \tau_{1,m+1} & \dots & e^{-\mu_{2m-1}a} \sin \tau_{1,2m-1} & e^{\frac{\pi k}{l}a} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ e^{-\mu_{m+1}a} \cos \tau_{2m-1,m+1} & \dots & e^{-\mu_{2m-1}a} \sin \tau_{2m-1,2m-1} & e^{\frac{\pi k}{l}a} \end{pmatrix},$$

or

$$B_{2m,2m-1}^+ = \left( e^{-\mu_s a} \cos \tau_{j,s}, e^{-\mu_s a} \sin \tau_{j,s}, e^{\frac{\pi k}{l}a} \right)_{s=\overline{m+1, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 2m-1}},$$

$$B_{2m,2m-1}^- = \left( e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l}a}, e^{-\mu_s a} \cos \tau_{j,s}, e^{-\mu_s a} \sin \tau_{j,s} \right)_{s=\overline{1, m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 2m-1}},$$

$$C_{4m,2m}^+ = (\cos j\theta_s, \sin j\theta_s)_{s=\overline{0, m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}},$$

$$C_{4m,2m}^- = (\cos j\theta_s, \sin j\theta_s)_{s=\overline{m, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}},$$

$$D_{4m,2m-1}^+ = \left( -\cos j\sigma_s, -\sin j\sigma_s, (-1)^j \right)_{s=\overline{m+1, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}},$$

$$D_{4m,2m-1}^- = (1, -\cos j\sigma_s, -\sin j\sigma_s)_{s=\overline{1, m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}},$$

formally

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{2m,2}^0 &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \tau_{0,m} & \sin \tau_{0,m} \\ \cos \tau_{1,m} & \sin \tau_{1,m} \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cos \tau_{2m-1,m} & \sin \tau_{2m-1,m} \end{pmatrix} = \\
 &= \frac{i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\tau_{0,m}} & e^{-i\tau_{0,m}} \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ e^{i\tau_{2m-1,m}} & e^{-i\tau_{2m-1,m}} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{i}{2} ( B_{2m,1}^+ \quad B_{2m,1}^- ), \\
 D_{4m,2}^0 &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos 0 & \sin 0 \\ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} & \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cos (4m-1) \frac{\pi}{2} & \sin (4m-1) \frac{\pi}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \\
 &= \frac{i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i0 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}} & e^{-i0 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}} \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ e^{i(4m-1) \frac{\pi}{2}} & e^{-i(4m-1) \frac{\pi}{2}} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{i}{2} ( D_{4m,1}^+ \quad D_{4m,1}^- ).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then the main determinant of the system (12) has the form

$$\Delta = \frac{i}{2} \det \begin{pmatrix} A_{2m,2m}^+ & A_{2m,2m}^- & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & B_{2m,2m-1}^- & B_{2m,2m-1}^+ & B_{2m,1}^+ & B_{2m,1}^- \\ C_{4m,2m}^+ & C_{4m,2m}^- & D_{4m,2m-1}^- & D_{4m,2m-1}^+ & D_{4m,1}^+ & D_{4m,1}^- \end{pmatrix}.$$

When calculating the determinant  $\Delta$ , we obtain the sum in which each term contains a coefficient multiplied by an exponential with some exponent. We find the asymptotic behavior of the determinant  $\Delta$  for large values of  $k$ , calculating the term which includes the exponent with the largest positive exponent. Up to a sign, it has the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{i}{2} |A_{2m,2m}^+| ( |B_{2m,2m-1}^- B_{2m,1}^+| \cdot |C_{4m,2m}^- D_{4m,2m-1}^- D_{4m,1}^-| - \\
 &- |B_{2m,2m-1}^+ B_{2m,1}^-| \cdot |C_{4m,2m}^+ D_{4m,2m-1}^+ D_{4m,1}^+| ).
 \end{aligned}$$

Next, we calculate each factor in the last expression

$$|A_{2m,2m}^+| = \left( \frac{i}{2} \right)^m e^{2\alpha a} \begin{vmatrix} \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{1j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{1j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \\ \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2mj+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2mj+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \end{vmatrix},$$

here

$$\alpha = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1}.$$

Notice that the following holds:

$$T_{2m \times 2m} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{1j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{1j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \\ \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2j+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2mj+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0} \right)^j & \cdot & \cdot & \sum_{j=0}^{4m-1} b_{2mj+1} \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}} \right)^j \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{14m} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{24m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{2m1} & b_{2m2} & \dots & b_{2m4m} \end{pmatrix}_{2m \times 4m} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & \dots & 1 \\ (\frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0}) & \dots & \dots & (\frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (\frac{\pi k}{l} e^{i\theta_0})^{4m-1} & \dots & \dots & (\frac{\pi k}{l} e^{-i\theta_{m-1}})^{4m-1} \end{pmatrix}_{4m \times 2m}.$$

Designating the first matrix by  $B$ , and the second one by  $L$ , we have

$$T = BL.$$

It is known that

$$\text{rang}T \leq \min(\text{rang}B, \text{rang}L) = 2m,$$

thus, further we assume that we have the condition

$$\text{rang}T = \min(\text{rang}B, \text{rang}L) = 2m. \tag{13}$$

For example, we can take a diagonal matrix with a rank of  $2m$  as a matrix  $B$ , hence, when (13) holds, the following is true:

$$|A_{2m,2m}^+| \neq 0.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & \det(B_{2m,2m-1}^+, B_{2m,1}^+) = \\ & = \det \left( e^{-\mu_s a} \cos \tau_{j,s}, e^{-\mu_s a} \sin \tau_{j,s}, e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} a}, e^{i(-\frac{\pi k}{l} a + j\pi)} \right)_{s=\overline{m+1, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 2m-1}} = \\ & = e^{-2a \sum_{s=n+1}^{2m-1} \mu_s + \frac{\pi k}{l} a} e^{-i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \det \left( \cos \tau_{j,s}, \sin \tau_{j,s}, 1, e^{ij\pi} \right)_{s=\overline{m+1, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 2m-1}} = \\ & = e^{-2a \sum_{s=n+1}^{2m-1} \mu_s + \frac{\pi k}{l} a} e^{-i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{n-1} \cdot \det \left( e^{i(2j\sigma_s)}, e^{-i(2j\sigma_s)}, 1, e^{ij\pi} \right)_{s=\overline{m+1, 2m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 2m-1}} = \\ & = M_2 e^{-2a \sum_{j=n+1}^{2n-1} \mu_j} \cdot e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} a} e^{-i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \neq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$M_2 = -2 \prod_{j=m+1}^{2m-1} 4\sin^3 2\sigma_j \prod_{j=m+2}^{2m-1} \prod_{k=m+1}^{j-1} 16\sin^2(\sigma_j + \sigma_k) \sin^2(\sigma_j - \sigma_k) \neq 0.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \det(C_{4m,2m}^-, D_{4m,2m-1}^-, D_{4m,1}^-) = \\ & = \det \left( \cos j\theta_s, \sin j\theta_s, 1, -\cos j\sigma_k, -\sin j\sigma_k, e^{-ij\frac{\pi}{2}} \right)_{s=\overline{m, 2m-1}; k=\overline{1, m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}} = \\ & = \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} \det \left( e^{ij\theta_s}, e^{-ij\theta_s}, 1, e^{ij\sigma_k}, e^{-ij\sigma_k}, (-i)^j \right)_{s=\overline{m, 2m-1}; k=\overline{1, m-1}}^{j=\overline{0, 4m-1}} = \\ & = \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} M_3 (-i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} (-i - e^{i\sigma_k}) (-i - e^{-i\sigma_k}) \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} (-i - e^{i\theta_s}) (-i - e^{-i\theta_s}) = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} M_3 (-i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} 2i \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} 2i \sin \theta_s = \\ &= \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} (2i)^{2m-1} M_3 (-i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \sin \theta_s = \\ &= M_3 (1+i) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \cos \theta_s. \end{aligned}$$

We calculate  $M_3$  the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} M_3 &= (-2i)^m \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \sin \theta_s \\ &\cdot \prod_{s=m+1}^{2m-1} \prod_{k=m}^{s-1} (2 - 2 \cos(\theta_k - \theta_s)) (2 - 2 \cos(\theta_k + \theta_s)) \cdot \\ &\cdot \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} (2 - 2 \cos \theta_s) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} (2 - 2 \cos \sigma_k) (-2i)^{m-1} \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \sin \sigma_k \cdot \\ &\cdot \prod_{k=2}^{m-1} \prod_{s=1}^{k-1} (2 - 2 \cos(\sigma_k + \sigma_s)) (2 - 2 \cos(\sigma_k - \sigma_s)) \cdot \\ &\cdot \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} (2 - 2 \cos(\sigma_k + \theta_s)) (2 - 2 \cos(\sigma_k - \theta_s)) = iM_4, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$0 \neq M_4 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Consequently,

$$\det(C_{4m,2m}^- D_{4m,2m-1}^- D_{4m,1}^-) = M_4 (i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \cos \theta_s = M_5 (i-1).$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \det(B_{2m,2m-1}^+ B_{2m,1}^-) &= M_2 e^{a \left( \frac{\pi k}{l} - 2 \sum_{j=m+1}^{2m-1} \mu_j \right)} e^{i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \neq 0, \\ \det(C_{4m,2m}^- D_{4m,2m-1}^- D_{4m,1}^+) &= M_3 \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} (i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} (i - e^{i\sigma_k}) (i - e^{-i\sigma_k}) \cdot \\ &\prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} (i - e^{i\theta_s}) (i - e^{-i\theta_s}) = M_3 \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{2m-1} \\ &\cdot (-2i)^{2m-1} (i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \cos \theta_s = \\ &= M_3 (i-1) \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \cos \sigma_k \prod_{s=m}^{2m-1} \cos \theta_s = M_5 (-1-i). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= iM_6 e^{2b \sum_{s=0}^{m-1} \alpha_s - 2a \sum_{s=m+1}^{2m} \mu_s + \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \\ &\cdot \left( (i-1) e^{-i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} + (1+i) e^{i \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \right) + \Delta_{1k} = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= M_7 e^{2b \sum_{s=0}^{m-1} \alpha_s - 2a \sum_{s=m+1}^{2m} \mu_s + \frac{\pi k a}{l}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \Delta_{1k} = \\
 &= M_7 e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \left( \sin\left(\frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \Delta_{2k} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$A = \left( 2b \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \cos \theta_j + 2a \sum_{j=m+1}^{2m-1} (-\cos \sigma_j) + a \right) > 0,$$

$$\Delta_{2k} = B \Delta_{1k} e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} A}, \quad M_7, B - \text{const},$$

and, moreover,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta_{2k} = 0.$$

**Theorem 1.** *If a solution to Problem D exists, then it is unique only if the main determinant  $\Delta$  of the system (12) is nonzero for all  $k \in N$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Delta \neq 0$  and the boundary conditions (4)–(6) are homogeneous, then the system (11) only has a trivial solution  $u_k(y) \equiv 0$ , for all  $k \in N$ . Then, the function  $u(x, y) = 0$  almost everywhere, and  $u(x, y)$  is continuous in  $\bar{\Omega}$ , and therefore  $u(x, y) \equiv 0$  in  $\bar{\Omega}$ .

Now, suppose that for some values of  $a, l, k$  we have  $\Delta = 0$ , which is possible if we change the sign of the sine. Then the homogeneous problem (11) has a nonzero solution, which contradicts the uniqueness of solution of Problem D. The theorem is proved.  $\square$

### 3. SOLUTION EXISTENCE

First, we obtain some estimates for the functions  $u_k(y)$ . In what follows, in order to decrease the number of notations, all positive constants independent of  $k$  will be designated by a single letter  $T$ .

**Lemma 1.** *If the condition (13) is satisfied, then for the function  $u_k(y)$  and its derivatives, for sufficiently large numbers  $k$ , the following estimates are valid (for  $y \neq 0$ ):*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| u_k^{(t)}(y) \right| &\leq T \frac{k^t \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \sin \pi \left( \frac{ka}{l} + \frac{1}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right|}, \\
 t &= 0, 1, \dots, 2n - 1, T > 0 \text{ is a constant.}
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* It is easy to show that

$$\left| u_k^{(t)}(y) \right| \leq T k^t |u_k(y)|.$$

Therefore, it suffices to prove the estimate for  $t = 0$ . We will prove the lemma, considering that the order of the equation is  $4m$  and  $y < 0$  (other cases are treated similarly). Then we have

$$|u_k(y)| \leq |d_0| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} y} + \sum_{s=1}^{2m-1} e^{\mu_s y} (|d_s^1| + |d_s^2|) + |d_{2n}| e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} y}.$$

Solving the system (12) using the Cramer method, we obtain the following estimates:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| d_0 e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \right| &= \left| \frac{\Delta(d_0)}{\Delta} \right| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \leq T \frac{e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\} \cdot \left| O\left( e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \right) \right|}{\left| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|}, \\ \left| d_{2m} e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \right| &= \left| \frac{\Delta(d_{2m})}{\Delta} \right| e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{e^{-\frac{\pi k}{l} y} \sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\} \cdot \left| O\left( e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} (A-a)} \right) \right|}{\left| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mu_s > 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| d_s^1 e^{\mu_s y} \right| &= \left| \frac{\Delta(d_s^1)}{\Delta} \right| e^{\mu_s y} \leq T \frac{e^{\mu_s y} \sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\} \cdot \left| O\left( e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \right) \right|}{\left| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mu_s < 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| d_s^1 e^{\mu_s y} \right| &= \left| \frac{\Delta(d_s^1)}{\Delta} \right| e^{\mu_s y} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{e^{\mu_s y} \sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{sk}| + |\psi_{sk}|\} \cdot \left| O\left( e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A + \mu_s a} \right) \right|}{\left| e^{\frac{\pi k}{l} A} \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|} \leq \\ &\leq T \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{2m-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|}. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\Delta(d_0), \Delta(d_{2m}), \Delta(d_s^1)$  are the identifiers obtained from the determinant  $\Delta$  by replacing the corresponding columns with the right-hand side of the system (12). The lemma is proved.  $\square$

Next, we need to find the conditions under which the expression

$$\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right|$$

is separated from zero, i.e. starting from some number  $k \geq k_1 \geq 1$  the following estimate holds:

$$\left| \left( \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right) \right| > \delta > 0.$$

Because  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta_{2k} = 0$ , it is enough to find the conditions under which

$$\left| \sin\left( \frac{\pi k a}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| > \delta_1 > 0$$

for any values of  $k$ . The following lemma is true.

**Lemma 2.** *Assume that one of the following conditions is satisfied: either  $\frac{a}{l} \in N$ , or  $\frac{a}{l} = \frac{s}{t}$  ( $\frac{a}{l} \notin N$ ),  $s, t \in N$ ,  $(s, t) = 1$ ,  $(t, 4) = 1$ . Then for every number  $k$ , the following inequality holds:*

$$\left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi ka}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| > \delta_1 > 0. \tag{14}$$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\frac{a}{l} \in N$ , then  $\left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi ka}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ , and everything is proved. Now assume that  $\frac{a}{l} = \frac{s}{t}$  ( $\frac{a}{l} \notin N$ ),  $s, t \in N$ ,  $(s, t) = 1$ ,  $(t, 4) = 1$ , then  $\frac{ka}{l} = \frac{ks}{t} = k_1 + \frac{k_2}{t}$ , where  $k_1, k_2 \in N$ ,  $1 \leq k_2 \leq t - 1$ . We have  $\left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi ka}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| = \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k_2}{t} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| \neq 0$  (because  $(t, 4) = 1$ ), and for every number  $k$  the following inequality is true:

$$\left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi ka}{l} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| \geq \delta_1 = \min_{1 \leq k_2 \leq t-1} \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k_2}{t} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| > 0.$$

This implies the estimate (14). The lemma is proved. □

Note that if  $\tau = \frac{a}{l}$  is an irrational number, it is not always possible to separate the denominator of the expression  $\Delta$  from zero. But in some cases one can find the dependence of the “smallness” of the denominator on the number  $k$ . The following lemma is true.

**Lemma 3.** *If  $\tau = \frac{a}{l} > 0$  is an irrational algebraic number of a degree  $p \geq 2$ , then there exists a number  $T > 0$ , such that for all  $p \in N$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  the following estimate holds:*

$$\left| \sin \left( \pi k \tau + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| \geq \frac{T}{k^{1+\varepsilon}}. \tag{15}$$

*Proof.* Following the reasoning in [8], we get

$$\left| \sin \left( \tau \pi k + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| = \left| \sin \left( \pi k \left( \tau - \frac{m - \frac{1}{4}}{k} \right) \right) \right|,$$

where  $m \in N$  is arbitrary. Now we choose  $m$ , so that the inequality

$$\left| \tau - \frac{m - \frac{1}{4}}{k} \right| < \frac{1}{2k} \tag{16}$$

is true. Set

$$m = \begin{cases} [\tau k], & \{\tau k\} < \frac{1}{4}, \\ [\tau k] + 1, & \{\tau k\} \geq \frac{1}{4}, \end{cases}$$

where  $[\tau k]$ ,  $\{\tau k\}$  are, respectively, the integer and fractional parts of the irrational number  $\tau k$ . Using the convexity of the function  $y = \sin x$  on the interval  $(0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , we get the inequality

$$|\sin x| > \frac{2|x|}{\pi}, \quad 0 < |x| < \frac{\pi}{2}. \tag{17}$$

Now let  $m \in N$  be such that (16) holds, then using (17), we get

$$\left| \sin \left( \pi k \left( \tau - \frac{m - \frac{1}{4}}{k} \right) \right) \right| \geq 2k \left| \tau - \frac{m - \frac{1}{4}}{k} \right| = 2k \left| \tau - \frac{4m - 1}{4k} \right|. \tag{18}$$

It is known from [8] that for any algebraic number  $\tau$  of degree  $p \geq 2$  and an arbitrary  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$ , such that for all integers  $s, q$ ,  $q > 0$ , we have the inequality

$$\left| \tau - \frac{s}{q} \right| \geq \frac{\delta_2}{q^{2+\varepsilon}}. \tag{19}$$

Using (18) and (19), we get

$$\left| \sin \left( \pi k \tau + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right| \geq 2k \left| \tau - \frac{4m-1}{4k} \right| \geq 2k \frac{\delta_2}{(4k)^{2+\varepsilon}} = \frac{T}{k^{1+\varepsilon}},$$

which is the estimate (15). □

It should be noted that the resulting estimate (14) coincides with the estimate obtained in [11], where the inverse problem for the equation (1) was considered in the cases  $n = 1$ , while the estimate (15) coincides with the estimate obtained in [8], where the Dirichlet problem for the equation (1) with smooth coefficients was considered.

Given the above, we obtain the conditions under which the series

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} u_k(y) X_k(x) \tag{20}$$

is a classic solution to the problem. Formally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |D_x^{2n} u(x, y)| &= \left( \frac{\pi}{l} \right)^{2n} \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n k^{2n} u_k(y) X_k(x) \right| \leq \\ &\leq T \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{2n} \frac{\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}}{\left| \sin \pi \left( \frac{ka}{l} + \frac{1}{4} \right) + \Delta_{2k} \right|}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, if  $\Delta \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{a}{l}$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2 and (13) holds, therefore we have the estimate

$$|D_x^{2n} u(x, y)| \leq T \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{2n} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}. \tag{21}$$

If  $\Delta \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{a}{l}$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 3 and (13) holds, therefore

$$|D_x^{2n} u(x, y)| \leq T \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{2n+1+\varepsilon} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\}, \quad 0 < \varepsilon < 1.$$

It remains to impose the conditions on the boundary functions.

**Theorem 2.** *Suppose the following:*

1. *the condition (13) is satisfied;*
2. *the conditions of Lemma 2 are satisfied;*
3.  $\varphi_s(x), \psi_s(x) \in C^{2n+1}[0; l], \varphi_s^{2m}(0) = \varphi_s^{2m}(l) = \psi_s^{2m}(0) = \psi_s^{2m}(l) = 0, s = 0, 1, \dots, n-1, m = 0, 1, \dots, n-1.$

*Then the series (20) is a classical solution to the problem D.*

*Proof.* Consider the following two cases:

Case 1. Let the determinant  $\Delta$  of the system (12) be nonzero. Then the solution of the problem  $D$  is unique. We seek a solution in the form of a series (20). Taking into consideration the above reasoning, we show the convergence of the series (21). We study the convergence for  $s = 0$ , and the convergence of the remaining terms is shown similarly. We have

$$\sum_{k=k_0}^{\infty} k^{2n} |\varphi_{k0}| = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} k^{2n+1} |\varphi_{k0}| \leq \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}} \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k^{2n+1} \varphi_{k0})^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6}} \left\| \varphi_0^{(2n+1)}(x) \right\|_{L_2}.$$

Case 2. Now let  $\Delta = 0$ . Because  $\Delta_{2k}$ , taking into account that the estimate in Lemma 1 tends to zero (for  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ ) exponentially and the estimate (14) holds, we conclude that  $\Delta$  can vanish only for some finite values of  $k = k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p < k_0$ , where  $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_p, i = \overline{1, p}, k_0$  and  $p$  are given natural numbers. Then, for the solvability of problem (1)–(6), we only need to satisfy the conditions  $\varphi_{sk} = \int_0^l \varphi_s(x) X_k dx = 0, \psi_{sk} = \int_0^l \psi_s(x) X_k(x) dx, s = \overline{0, (n-1)}, k = k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p$ . Then, the solution itself (not necessarily unique) has the form

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k \neq k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p) u_k(y) X_k(x) + \sum_m \widetilde{u}_m(y) X_k(x),$$

where in the last sum  $m$  takes values  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p$ , and the function  $\widetilde{u}_m(y)$  is a nonzero solution (not necessarily unique) of the homogeneous system (12).  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Suppose the following:*

1. *the condition (13) is satisfied;*
2. *the conditions of Lemma 3 are satisfied;*
3.  $\varphi_s(x), \psi_s(x) \in C^{2n+3}[0; l], \varphi_s^{2m}(0) = \varphi_s^{2m}(l) = \psi_s^{2m}(0) = \psi_s^{2m}(l) = 0, s = 0, 1, \dots, n-1, m = 0, 1, \dots, n+1$ .

*Then the series (20) is a classical solution to the problem D.*

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.  $\square$

#### 4. STABILITY OF SOLUTIONS

Suppose that

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{L_2} = \left( \int_0^l |u(x, y)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2},$$

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{C(\overline{D})} = \max_{\overline{D}} |u(x, y)|,$$

$$\|f(x)\|_{W_2^n} = \left( \int_0^l \sum_{k=0}^n (f^{(k)}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2}, n \in N \cup \{0\}.$$

**Theorem 4.** *Suppose that the conditions of Theorem 2 are fulfilled. Then, for a unique solution to the problem D, we have the following estimates*

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{L_2} \leq T \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (\|\varphi_s\|_{L_2} + \|\psi_s\|_{L_2}),$$

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{C(\overline{D})} \leq T \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (\|\varphi_s\|_{W_2^1} + \|\psi_s\|_{W_2^1}),$$

where the constant  $T > 0$  is independent of  $\varphi_s, \psi_s, s = \overline{0, n-1}$ .

*Proof.* All constants will be designated by one letter  $T$  as has been mentioned above. Because the function system  $\left\{\sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \sin \frac{\pi k}{l} x\right\}$  is orthonormal and full in the space  $L_2[0, l]$ , the equality

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{L_2}^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} u_k^2(y)$$

is true. From Lemma 1 we have

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{L_2}^2 \leq T \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\} \right)^2 \leq T \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \left\{ \|\varphi_s(x)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|\psi_s(x)\|_{L_2}^2 \right\}.$$

Consequently,

$$\|u(x, y)\|_{L_2} \leq T \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (\|\varphi_s\|_{L_2} + \|\psi_s\|_{L_2}).$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u(x, y)\|_{C(\overline{D})} &\leq T \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \{|\varphi_{ks}| + |\psi_{ks}|\} \leq \\ &\leq T \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}} \left( \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \left( \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k\varphi_{ks})^2} + \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k\psi_{ks})^2} \right) \right) \leq \\ &\leq T \left( \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \sqrt{\int_0^l (\varphi'_s(x))^2 dx} + \sqrt{\int_0^l (\psi'_s(x))^2 dx} \right) \leq \\ &\leq T \left( \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} \sqrt{\int_0^l (\varphi_s(x))^2 + (\varphi'_s(x))^2 dx} + \sqrt{\int_0^l (\psi_s(x))^2 + (\psi'_s(x))^2 dx} \right) = \\ &= T \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (\|\varphi_s\|_{W_2^1} + \|\psi_s\|_{W_2^1}). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4 is proved.  $\square$

Similar results can be obtained if the conditions of Theorem 3 are satisfied.

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BAHROM YUSUPHANOVICH IRGASHEV  
NAMANGAN ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION INSTITUTE, UZBEKISTAN  
12, I.KARIMOV AVE.,  
NAMANGAN, 160103, UZBEKISTAN  
*E-mail address:* bahromirgasev@gmail.com