

GENERAL DECAY ESTIMATES FOR SECOND ORDER EVOLUTION EQUATIONS

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Abstract. This paper deals with a general decay estimates for a nonlinear second order integrodifferential. We establish a general decay result, from which the usual exponential and polynomial decay rates are only special cases. Our work allows certain relaxation functions which are not necessarily of exponential or polynomial decay and, therefore, generalizes and improves earlier results in the literature.

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1 Introduction

In this paper we consider the following abstract integro-differential equation

$$u_{tt} + Au - \int_0^t \beta(t-s)Au(s)ds = \nabla F(u(t)), \quad t \in]0, \infty[\quad (1)$$

in a Hilbert space X , where $A : D(A) \subset X \rightarrow X$ is an accretive self-adjoint linear operator with dense domain, and ∇F denotes the gradient of a Gâteaux differentiable functional $F : D(\sqrt{A}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

This type of equations arise in viscoelasticity for example (see [7], [8]). The general decay of solutions for the viscoelasticity problems have attracted the attention of many mathematicians see for example ([9], [10]).

In [16], a class of abstract viscoelastic system of the form

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} + Au + \delta u - \int_0^t g(t-s)A^\alpha u(s)ds = 0, & t \in]0, \infty[\\ u(0) = u_0, \quad u_t(0) = u_1. \end{cases}$$

for $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$, $\delta \geq 0$, were investigated. When $0 < \alpha < 1$, Rivera et al. established that solutions for the abstract system decay polynomially even if g decay exponentially.