



Research Article

## BLOW UP OF SOLUTIONS FOR A NONLINEAR VISCOELASTIC WAVE EQUATIONS WITH VARIABLE EXPONENTS

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**Abstract:** *The main purpose of this work is to study the blow up of solutions for the viscoelastic wave equation with variable exponents in a bounded domain. Our result extends the one in [11] to problems with variable exponent nonlinearities.*

**Keywords:** *Viscoelastic wave equation; Blow up; Variable exponent.*

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### 1. Introduction

In this work, we investigate the nonlinear viscoelastic wave equation

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau + |u_t|^{p(x)-2} u_t = |u|^{q(x)-2} u, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T), \quad (1)$$

with the initial-boundary conditions

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = u_1(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad (2)$$

and

$$u(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \quad (3)$$

here  $\Omega$  is a regular and bounded domain in  $R^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

The variable exponents  $p(\cdot)$  and  $q(\cdot)$  are given as measurable functions on  $\Omega$  satisfying

$$2 \leq p^- \leq p(x) \leq p^+ < q^- \leq q(x) \leq q^+ \leq q^* \quad (4)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} p^- &= \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{x \in \Omega} p(x), & p^+ &= \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \Omega} p(x), \\ q^- &= \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{x \in \Omega} q(x), & q^+ &= \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \Omega} q(x), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$q^* = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } n = 1, 2, \\ \frac{2n}{n-2}, & \text{if } n \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

We make some assumptions on  $g$  :

(A1) Let  $g \in C^1$  and

$$1 - \int_0^\infty g(\tau) d\tau = l > 0.$$

(A2)  $g(\tau) \geq 0$ ,  $g'(\tau) \leq 0$  and

$$\int_0^\infty g(\tau) d\tau < \frac{q^-(1-\xi) - 2}{q^-(1-\xi) - 2 + \frac{1}{4q^-(1-\xi)}}, \quad 0 < \xi < 1.$$

**Remark 1** There are some functions  $g(\tau)$  satisfying (A1) and (A2). An example is

$$g(\tau) = e^{-(\tau+1)}.$$

When  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are constants, (1) become the following the viscoelastic wave equation

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \Delta u(\tau) d\tau + |u_t|^{p-2} u_t = |u|^{q-2} u. \quad (5)$$

In [11], the author proved nonexistence of global solutions, for the equation (5). In [12], the same author extended this result in the case of positive initial energy. Later, some authors studied nonexistence of solutions of the equation (5) (see [17, 18]).

Without the viscoelastic term ( $g = 0$ ) the problem (1) reduces to the following form

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u + |u_t|^{p(x)-2} u_t = |u|^{q(x)-2} u. \quad (6)$$

Messaoudi et al. [13] studied the local existence and nonexistence of the solutions of the equation (6). For more results concerning nonexistence of global solutions, see [2, 7, 8, 10]. For more results about the variable exponent spaces we refer the readers to [1, 14].

Motivated by the above results, in this work, we prove the blow up of solutions (1) under some conditions.

The outline of this work is as follows: In section 2, we state some results about the variable exponent Lebesgue spaces  $L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$  and Sobolev spaces  $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ . In section 3, the blow up results will be proved.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this part, we state some results about the variable exponent Lebesgue spaces  $L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$  and Sobolev spaces  $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$  (see [5, 6, 9, 15]).

Let  $p : \Omega \rightarrow [1, \infty]$  be a measurable function, here  $\Omega$  is a domain of  $R^n$ . We define the Lebesgue space with a variable exponent  $p(\cdot)$  by

$$L^{p(x)}(\Omega) = \left\{ u : \Omega \rightarrow R, \text{ measurable and } \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx < \infty \right\},$$

endowed with the Luxemburg norm

$$\|u\|_{p(x)} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_{\Omega} \left| \frac{u}{\lambda} \right|^{p(x)} dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

$L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$  is a Banach space.

The Sobolev space with a variable exponent is defined by

$$W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega) : \nabla u \text{ exists and } |\nabla u| \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega) \right\}.$$

Variable exponent Sobolev space is a Banach space with the following the norm

$$\|u\|_{1,p(x)} = \|u\|_{p(x)} + \|\nabla u\|_{p(x)}.$$

The space  $W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$  is defined as the closure of  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  in  $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$  with respect to the norm  $\|u\|_{1,p(x)}$ . For  $u \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ , we can define an equivalent norm

$$\|u\|_{1,p(x)} = \|\nabla u\|_{p(x)}.$$

Let the variable exponent  $p(\cdot)$  satisfy the log-Hölder continuity condition:

$$|p(x) - p(y)| \leq \frac{A}{\log \frac{1}{|x-y|}}, \text{ for all } x, y \in \Omega \text{ with } |x - y| < \delta, \tag{7}$$

where  $A > 0$  and  $0 < \delta < 1$ .

**Lemma 2** [5] (Poincare inequality) *Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain of  $R^n$  and  $p(\cdot)$  satisfies log-Hölder condition, then*

$$\|u\|_{p(\cdot)} \leq c \|\nabla u\|_{p(\cdot)}, \text{ for all } u \in W_0^{1,p(\cdot)}(\Omega),$$

where  $c = c(p^-, p^+, |\Omega|) > 0$ .

**Lemma 3** [5] *Let  $p(\cdot) \in C(\overline{\Omega})$  and  $q : \Omega \rightarrow [1, \infty)$  be a measurable function and satisfy*

$$\operatorname{ess\,inf}_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} (p^*(x) - q(x)) > 0.$$

*Then the Sobolev embedding  $W_0^{1,p(\cdot)}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^{q(\cdot)}(\Omega)$  is continuous and compact. Where*

$$p^*(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{np(x)}{\operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in \overline{\Omega}}(n-p(x))}, & \text{if } p^- < n \\ \infty, & \text{if } p^- \geq n. \end{cases}$$

The local existence of solutions for the problem (1) that can be established by combining arguments of [3, 7, 13].

**Theorem 4** (Local existence and uniqueness). Assume that (A1), (A2), (4) and (7) holds, and that  $(u_0, u_1) \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times L^2(\Omega)$ . Then problem (1) has a unique local solution

$$u \in C([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega)), \quad u_t \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)) \cap L^{p(\cdot)}(\Omega \times (0, T)).$$

### 3. Blow up

In this part, we prove that the blow up of the solution for problem (1). Firstly, we give following lemmas:

**Lemma 5** [13] If  $q : \Omega \rightarrow [1, \infty)$  is a measurable function and

$$2 \leq q^- \leq q(x) \leq q^+ < \frac{2n}{n-2}; \quad n \geq 3 \tag{8}$$

holds. Then, we have following inequalities:

i) 
$$\rho_{q(\cdot)}^{\frac{s}{q^-}}(u) \leq c \left( \|\nabla u\|^2 + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right), \tag{9}$$

ii) 
$$\|u\|_{q^-}^s \leq c \left( \|\nabla u\|^2 + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} \right), \tag{10}$$

iii) 
$$\rho_{q(\cdot)}^{\frac{s}{q^-}}(u) \leq c \left( |H(t)| + \|u_t\|^2 + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right), \tag{11}$$

iv) 
$$\|u\|_{q^-}^s \leq c \left( |H(t)| + \|u_t\|^2 + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} \right), \tag{12}$$

v) 
$$c \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} \leq \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \tag{13}$$

for any  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $2 \leq s \leq q^-$ . Where  $\rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) = \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx$ , and  $c > 1$  a positive constant and

$$H(t) = -\frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \right) \|\nabla u\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx.$$

**Lemma 6** Suppose that (A1), (A2), (4) and (7) hold. Then

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \right) \|\nabla u\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx \tag{14}$$

is a nonincreasing function and

$$\begin{aligned} E'(t) &= - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{p(x)} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx - \frac{1}{2} g(t) \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g'(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Multiplying  $u_t$  on two sides of the problem (1), and integrating by part, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla u\|^2 - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx \right] \\ & - \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(t-\tau) \nabla u(\tau) \nabla u_t(t) dx d\tau \\ & = - \int_{\Omega} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx. \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Now, we estimate last term in the left hand side of (15), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} g(t-\tau) \nabla u(\tau) \nabla u_t(t) dx d\tau \\ & = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_t(t) [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t) + \nabla u(t)] dx d\tau \\ & = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_t(t) [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)] dx d\tau + \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_t(t) \nabla u(t) dx d\tau \\ & = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx \right] d\tau \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g(\tau) \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx \right] d\tau \\ & = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx d\tau \right] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g'(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx d\tau \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_0^t g(\tau) \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx d\tau \right] - \frac{1}{2} g(\tau) \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx d\tau. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Finally, inserting (16) into (15), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \right) \|\nabla u\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx \right] \\ & = - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{p(x)} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx - \frac{1}{2} g(\tau) \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(t)|^2 dx d\tau + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g'(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx d\tau \\ & \leq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

where

$$(g \circ \nabla u)(t) = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)]^2 dx d\tau.$$

■

Now, we state and prove our blow up result.

**Theorem 7** *Under the assumptions of Theorem 4, and*

$$E(0) < 0.$$

*Then the solution of the problem (1) blow up in finite time.*

**Proof.** Let

$$H(t) = -E(t).$$

We see from (17) that  $H(t) \geq 0$ . Also, by the definition  $H(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} H(t) &= -\frac{1}{2} \|u_t\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau\right) \|\nabla u\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(x)} dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{q^-} \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u). \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Now, we define  $\Psi(t)$  as follows

$$\Psi(t) = H^{1-\sigma}(t) + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx, \tag{19}$$

for  $\varepsilon$  small to be chosen later and

$$0 < \sigma \leq \min \left\{ \frac{q^- - p^+}{(p^+ - 1)q^-}, \frac{q^- - 2}{2q^-} \right\}. \tag{20}$$

The time derivative of (19) and using Eq. (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) &= (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} (u_t^2 + uu_{tt}) dx \\ &= (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) + \varepsilon \|u_t\|^2 - \varepsilon \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u(t) \nabla u(\tau) dx d\tau \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx - \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-2} dx \\ &= (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) + \varepsilon \|u_t\|^2 - \varepsilon \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx - \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-2} dx \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \|\nabla u\|^2 + \varepsilon \int_0^t g(t - \tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u(t) [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)] dx d\tau. \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

By using Cauchy-Schwarz and Young's inequalities, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \int_{\Omega} \nabla u(t) [\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)] dx d\tau \\ & \leq \int_0^t g(t-\tau) \|\nabla u(t)\| \|\nabla u(\tau) - \nabla u(t)\| d\tau \\ & \leq \lambda (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \frac{1}{4\lambda} \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \|\nabla u\|^2, \quad \lambda > 0. \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

Substituting (22) into (21), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) & \geq (1-\sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) + \varepsilon \|u_t\|^2 - \varepsilon \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ & \quad + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx - \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-2} dx + \varepsilon \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ & \quad - \varepsilon \lambda (g \circ \nabla u)(t) - \frac{\varepsilon}{4\lambda} \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \|\nabla u\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

By using the definition of the  $H(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon q^-(1-\xi) H(t) & = \frac{\varepsilon q^-(1-\xi)}{2} \|u_t\|^2 + \frac{\varepsilon q^-(1-\xi)}{2} \left(1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau\right) \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{\varepsilon q^-(1-\xi)}{2} (g \circ \nabla u)(t) - \varepsilon q^-(1-\xi) \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{q(x)} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx, \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

where  $0 < \xi < 1$ .

Subtracting and adding (23) on the right hand side of (21), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) & \geq (1-\sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) + \varepsilon q^-(1-\xi) H(t) + \varepsilon \left(\frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} + 1\right) \|u_t\|^2 \\ & \quad + \varepsilon \left[\frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} \left(1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau\right) - 1 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{4\lambda}\right) \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau\right] \|\nabla u\|^2 \\ & \quad + \varepsilon \left(\frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} - \lambda\right) (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \varepsilon \xi \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx - \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-2} dx. \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

Then, for  $\xi$  small enough, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) & \geq \varepsilon \beta \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\ & \quad + (1-\sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) - \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-2} dx \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \beta & = \min \left\{ q^-(1-\xi), \frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} - \lambda, \frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} + 1, \varepsilon \xi, \right. \\ & \quad \left. \frac{q^-(1-\xi)}{2} \left(1 - \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau\right) - 1 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{4\lambda}\right) \int_0^t g(\tau) d\tau \right\} \\ & > 0 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) = \int_{\Omega} |u|^{q(\cdot)} dx.$$

By using the following Young's inequality

$$XY \leq \frac{\delta^k X^k}{k} + \frac{\delta^{-l} Y^l}{l},$$

where  $X, Y \geq 0, \delta > 0, k, l \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{l} = 1$ . As a result, applying the previous we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u |u_t|^{p(\cdot)-1} dx &\leq \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{p(x)} \delta^{p(x)} |u|^{p(x)} dx + \int_{\Omega} \frac{p(x)-1}{p(x)} \delta^{-\frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{p^-} \int_{\Omega} \delta^{p(x)} |u|^{p(x)} dx + \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \int_{\Omega} \delta^{-\frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx, \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

where  $\delta$  is constant depending on the time  $t$  and specified later. Inserting estimate (26) into (25), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) &\geq \varepsilon\beta \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\ &\quad + (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \frac{1}{p^-} \int_{\Omega} \delta^{p(x)} |u|^{p(x)} dx - \varepsilon \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \int_{\Omega} \delta^{-\frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx. \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Let us choose  $\delta$ , so that  $\delta^{-\frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}} = k_1 H^{-\sigma}(t)$ , where  $k_1 > 0$  is specified later, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi'(t) &\geq \varepsilon\beta \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\ &\quad + (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \frac{1}{p^-} \int_{\Omega} k^{1-p(x)} H^{\sigma(p(x)-1)}(t) |u|^{p(x)} dx - \varepsilon \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \int_{\Omega} k H^{-\sigma}(t) |u_t|^{p(x)} dx \\ &\geq \varepsilon\beta \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\ &\quad + (1 - \sigma) H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \frac{k^{1-p^-}}{p^-} H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx - \varepsilon \left( \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \right) k H^{-\sigma}(t) \int_{\Omega} |u_t|^{p(x)} dx \\ &\geq \varepsilon\beta \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\ &\quad + \left[ (1 - \sigma) - \varepsilon \left( \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \right) k \right] H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t) - \varepsilon \frac{k^{1-p^-}}{p^-} H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx. \end{aligned}$$



By using (13) and (18), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx &\leq H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) \left[ \int_{\Omega_-} |u|^{p^-} dx + \int_{\Omega_+} |u|^{p^+} dx \right] \\
 &\leq H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) c \left[ \left( \int_{\Omega_-} |u|^{q^-} dx \right)^{\frac{p^-}{q^-}} + \left( \int_{\Omega_+} |u|^{q^+} dx \right)^{\frac{p^+}{q^+}} \right] \\
 &= H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) c \left[ \|u\|_{q^-}^{p^-} + \|u\|_{q^+}^{p^+} \right] \\
 &\leq c \left( \frac{1}{q^-} \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right)^{\sigma(p^+-1)} \left[ \left( \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right)^{\frac{p^-}{q^-}} + \left( \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right)^{\frac{p^+}{q^+}} \right] \\
 &= c_1 \left[ \left( \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right)^{\frac{p^-}{q^-} + \sigma(p^+-1)} + \left( \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right)^{\frac{p^+}{q^+} + \sigma(p^+-1)} \right] \tag{28}
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Omega_- = \{x \in \Omega : |u| < 1\}$  and  $\Omega_+ = \{x \in \Omega : |u| \geq 1\}$ .

We then use Lemma 5 and (20), for

$$s = p^- + \sigma q^- (p^+ - 1) \leq q^-$$

and

$$s = p^+ + \sigma q^- (p^+ - 1) \leq q^-,$$

to deduce, from (28),

$$H^{\sigma(p^+-1)}(t) \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx \leq c_1 \left[ \|\nabla u\|^2 + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right]. \tag{29}$$

Thus, inserting estimate (29) into (25), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi'(t) &\geq \varepsilon \left( \beta - \frac{k^{1-p^-}}{p^-} c_1 \right) \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\
 &\quad + \left[ (1 - \sigma) - \varepsilon \left( \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \right) k \right] H^{-\sigma}(t) H'(t). \tag{30}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us choose  $k$  large enough so that  $\gamma = \beta - \frac{k^{1-p^-}}{p^-} c_1 > 0$ , and picking  $\varepsilon$  small enough such that  $(1 - \sigma) - \varepsilon \left( \frac{p^+ - 1}{p^+} \right) k \geq 0$  and

$$\Psi(t) \geq \Psi(0) = H^{1-\sigma}(0) + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} u_0 u_1 dx > 0, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \tag{31}$$

Consequently, (30) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi'(t) &\geq \varepsilon \gamma \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \rho_{q(\cdot)}(u) \right] \\
 &\geq \varepsilon \gamma \left[ H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} \right], \tag{32}
 \end{aligned}$$

due to (13). Therefore we get

$$\Psi(t) \geq \Psi(0) > 0, \text{ for all } t \geq 0.$$

On the other hand, exploiting Hölder’s inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} &\leq \|u\|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \|u_t\|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \\ &\leq C \left( \|u\|^{\frac{1}{q^-}} \|u_t\|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Young inequality gives

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \leq C \left( \|u\|^{\frac{\mu}{q^-}} + \|u_t\|^{\frac{\theta}{1-\sigma}} \right), \tag{33}$$

for  $\frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{\theta} = 1$ . We take  $\theta = 2(1 - \sigma)$ , to obtain  $\frac{\mu}{1-\sigma} = \frac{2}{1-2\sigma} \leq q^-$  by (20). Therefore, (33) becomes

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \leq C \left( \|u_t\|^2 + \|u\|_{q^-}^s \right),$$

where  $\frac{2}{1-2\sigma} \leq q^-$ . By using (12), we get

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \leq C \left( \|u_t\|^2 + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} + H(t) \right).$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}(t) &= \left[ H^{1-\sigma}(t) + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{\sigma}{1-\sigma}} \left( H(t) + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \left| \int_{\Omega} uu_t dx \right|^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \right) \\ &\leq C \left( \|u_t\|^2 + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} + H(t) \right) \\ &\leq C \left( H(t) + \|u_t\|^2 + \|\nabla u\|^2 + (g \circ \nabla u)(t) + \|u\|_{q^-}^{q^-} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

where

$$(a + b)^p \leq 2^{p-1} (a^p + b^p)$$

is used. Consequently a combining of (32) and (34), for some  $\xi > 0$ , we have

$$\Psi'(t) \geq \xi \Psi^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}(t). \tag{35}$$

Integration of (35) over  $(0, t)$  yield

$$\Psi^{\frac{\sigma}{1-\sigma}}(t) \geq \frac{1}{\Psi^{-\frac{\sigma}{1-\sigma}}(0) - \frac{\xi\sigma t}{1-\sigma}}.$$

Therefore  $\Psi(t)$  blow up in a finite time

$$T^* \leq \frac{1 - \sigma}{\xi\sigma\Psi^{\frac{\sigma}{1-\sigma}}(0)}.$$

Then, the proof is complete. ■

#### 4. Conclusion

In this work, we obtained the blow up for a nonlinear viscoelastic wave equations with variable exponents in a bounded domain. This improves and extends many results in the literature.

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