

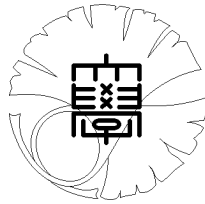
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**Inverse problem for a parabolic  
system with two components by  
measurements of one component**

by

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### Abstract

We consider a  $2 \times 2$  system of parabolic equations with first and zeroth coupling and establish a Carleman estimate by extra data of only one component without data of initial values. Then we apply the Carleman estimate to inverse problems of determining some or all of the coefficients by observations in an arbitrary subdomain over a time interval of only one component and data of two components at a fixed positive time  $\theta$  over the whole spatial domain. The main results are Lipschitz stability estimates for the inverse problems. For the Lipschitz stability, we have to assume some non-degeneracy condition at  $\theta$  for the two components and for it, we can approximately control the two components of the  $2 \times 2$  system by inputs to only one component. Such approximate controllability is proved also by our new Carleman estimate. Finally we establish a Carleman estimate for a  $3 \times 3$  system for parabolic equations with coupling of zeroth-order terms by one component to show the corresponding approximate controllability with a control to one component.

## 1 Introduction and notations

This article is devoted to the question of the identification of coefficients for a reaction diffusion convection system of two equations in a bounded domain, with the main particularity that we observe *only one component of the system*. Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  be a bounded connected open set with  $C^2$ -boundary  $\partial\Omega$ , and we set  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\partial_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $\partial_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ ,  $\nabla = (\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n)$ ,  $\Delta = \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j^2$ . For any fixed  $T > 0$ , we set  $\Omega_T = \Omega \times (0, T)$ ,  $\Sigma_T = \partial\Omega \times (0, T)$  and we consider the

following  $2 \times 2$  reaction-diffusion-convection system :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t U = \Delta U + aU + bV + A \cdot \nabla U + B \cdot \nabla V + f & \text{in } \Omega_T, \\ \partial_t V = \Delta V + cU + dV + C \cdot \nabla U + D \cdot \nabla V + g & \text{in } \Omega_T, \\ U = h_1, V = h_2 & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ U(\cdot, 0) = U_0, V(\cdot, 0) = V_0 & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $a, b, c, d$  are scalar functions and  $A, B, C, D$  vectorial fields both defined on  $\Omega$ . The boundary condition  $h_i$  as well as  $f, g$  shall be kept fixed. If we change the reaction coefficients  $b, c$  into  $\tilde{b}, \tilde{c}$ , we let  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})$  be the solution of (1.1) associated to  $\tilde{b}, \tilde{c}$  and  $(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0)$  for the initial condition. Let  $\omega \subset \Omega$  be a non-empty subdomain and  $T > 0$ . We assume that we can measure both

$$U|_{\omega \times (0, T)} \quad \text{and} \quad (U, V)|_{\Omega \times \{\theta\}}.$$

at a time  $\theta \in (0, T)$ .

We set  $\omega_T = \omega \times (0, T)$ . For  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , by  $W^{m,p}(\Omega)$  and  $L^p(0, T; X)$  we denote the classical Sobolev space with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{W^{m,p}(\Omega)}$ , and the space of  $X$ -valued  $p$ -Bochner integrable functions respectively (e.g., [1]). As usual we write  $W^{0,p}(\Omega) = L^p(\Omega)$  and  $H^m(\Omega) = W^{m,2}(\Omega)$  for  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ . We define a Banach space

$$W_2^{m, \frac{m}{2}}(\Omega_T) = \{u : \Omega \times (0, T) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}; \partial_x^\alpha \partial_t^{\alpha_{n+1}} u \in L^2(\Omega_T), \text{ for } |\alpha| + 2\alpha_{n+1} \leq m\},$$

with the norm

$$\|u\|_{W_2^{m, \frac{m}{2}}(\Omega_T)} = \sum_{|\alpha| + 2\alpha_{n+1} \leq m} \|\partial_x^\alpha \partial_t^{\alpha_{n+1}} u\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}.$$

Here  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is a multi-index,  $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$ ,  $\partial_x^\alpha = \partial_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial_n^{\alpha_n}$ , and the differentiation is to be understood in the weak sense. Let  $M$  be an arbitrary positive constant. We denote by  $\nu$

the outward unit normal to  $\Omega$  and by  $\overline{B}_X(0, r)$  the closed ball of a metric space  $X$  centered on 0 of radius  $r$ .

We pose the following assumptions.

**Assumption 1.1** (a)  $a, b, \tilde{b}, c, \tilde{c}, d \in \overline{B}_{L^\infty(\Omega)}(0, M)$ ,

(b)  $A, B, C, D \in \overline{B}_{L^\infty(\Omega)^n}(0, M)$ ,

(c)  $\omega \subset \Omega$  satisfies  $\partial\omega \cap \partial\Omega = \gamma$  and  $|\gamma| \neq 0$ , and  $\omega$  is of class  $C^2$ ,

(d)  $|B(x) \cdot \nu(x)| \neq 0, \quad x \in \gamma$ ,

(e)  $B \in C^2(\overline{\omega})^n, A \in C^1(\overline{\omega})^n$  and  $b \in C^2(\overline{\omega})$ ,

(f)  $|\tilde{U}(\cdot, \theta)|, |\tilde{V}(\cdot, \theta)| > \delta_0$  on  $\overline{\Omega_T}$  with some constant  $\delta_0 > 0$ ,

(g)  $\|\tilde{U}\|_{C(\overline{\Omega_T})}, \|\tilde{V}\|_{C(\overline{\Omega_T})} \leq M$ ,

(h)  $\|\tilde{U}\|_{C^3(\omega_T)}, \|\tilde{V}\|_{C^3(\omega_T)} \leq M$ .

If the functions and the coefficients appearing in (1.1) satisfy sufficient smoothness and compatibility conditions, then Assumption 1.1 (g) and (h) are satisfied. By Ladyzenskaja, Solonnikov and Ural'ceva [27] for example, we can describe such conditions, but we are interested mainly in the inverse problem and we will not exploit these conditions.

Our first main result is the stability in determining the reaction coefficients  $b, c$  :

**Theorem 1.2** *Let  $\theta \in (0, T)$  be fixed. We suppose that Assumption 1.1 is satisfied and that  $(U, V)(\cdot, \theta) = (\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(\cdot, \theta)$  in  $\Omega$ . Then there exists a constant  $\kappa > 0$  such that*

$$\|b - \tilde{b}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|c - \tilde{c}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \kappa \left( \|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)} + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)} \right) \quad (1.2)$$

The key ingredient to these stability results is a *global* Carleman estimate for system (1.1).

Since the pioneer work of Bukhgeim-Klibanov [7], Carleman estimates have been successfully used for the following problems:

(i) the uniqueness and the stability in determining coefficients: Especially for parabolic equations, see Benabdallah, Dermenjian and Le Rousseau [5], Benabdallah, Gaitan and Le Rousseau [6], Imanuvilov and Yamamoto [15], [17], Imanuvilov, Puel and Yamamoto [19], Isakov [21], Klibanov [23], [24] Klibanov and Timonov [26], Yuan and Yamamoto [32] and the references therein. For hyperbolic problems, among many works, we restrict ourselves to a few works such as Imanuvilov and Yamamoto [16], Isakov [20], [21], Klibanov [23], Klibanov and Timonov [26] and see the references also in Isakov [21] and Klibanov and Timonov [26].

(ii) observability inequalities and related estimates: see Fursikov and Imanuvilov [9], Imanuvilov [14], Isakov [20], [21], Kazemi and Klibanov [22], Klibanov and Malinsky [25]. Furthermore the exact controllability of linear systems is equivalent to the observability of the corresponding adjoint system and we can refer to [9], [14]. Imanuvilov and Yamamoto [17] discuss the global exact zero controllability for a semilinear parabolic equation. Also see Ammar-Khodja, Benabdallah and Dupaix [2], and Ammar-Khodja, Benabdallah, Dupaix and Kostine [3], [4], González-Burgos and Pérez-García [12] for semilinear parabolic systems.

Apart from the last previous works quoted, the existing Carleman estimates require observations of all the components when we will discuss inverse problems for a system such as (1.1). It is very desirable to establish the stability for inverse problems for a  $2 \times 2$  parabolic system by means of only one component, because for a reaction-diffusion system and a prey-predator system, it may be frequently difficult to observe the both components. There are not many papers devoted to such

inverse problems for  $2 \times 2$  parabolic systems, and we can refer, for instance, to Cristofol, Gaitan and Ramoul [8].

The article is organized as follows. In Section 2 we derive a new Carleman estimate for system (1.1). In Section 3 we prove the stability result. In Section 4 we will remove Assumption 1.1 (f) on positivity of  $U, V$  at a time  $\theta > 0$ . Section 5 is devoted to some comments and open problems. The appendices provide technical proofs of lemmata stated in Sections 2 and 4. We want to point that the Carleman estimate proved in Section 2 implies a *new approximate controllability result* for a  $2 \times 2$  reaction-diffusion-convection system with *one localized control*. As it will be seen in Section 5, this result can be extended to a  $3 \times 3$  *reaction-diffusion system*.

## 2 Carleman estimate

### 2.1 A Carleman estimate for a $2 \times 2$ system by extra data of one component

Let  $(a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq 2} \in L^\infty(\Omega_T)$  and  $(A_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq 2} \in L^\infty(\Omega_T)^n$ . Let  $u_0, v_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$  and  $f, g \in L^2(\Omega_T)$ .

Consider the following reaction-diffusion system with convection terms :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \partial_t u = \Delta u + a_{11} u + a_{12} v + A_{11} \cdot \nabla u + A_{12} \cdot \nabla v + f & \text{in } \Omega_T, \\ \partial_t v = \Delta v + a_{21} u + a_{22} v + A_{21} \cdot \nabla u + A_{22} \cdot \nabla v + g & \text{in } \Omega_T, \\ u = v = 0 & \text{on } \Sigma_T, \\ u(\cdot, 0) = u_0, v(\cdot, 0) = v_0 & \text{in } \Omega. \end{array} \right. \quad (2.1)$$

Uniqueness existence and stability results in solving an initial value-boundary value problem (2.1) can be proved by the semigroup theory for example (e.g., [27], Pazy [30], Tanabe [31]). In particular it admits a unique solution  $(u, v) \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))^2 \cap L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega))^2$ .

Our main interest is to derive a Carleman estimate of  $(u, v)$  solution of (2.1) by *solely* observing  $u$  in  $\omega \times (0, T)$ . We make the following main assumptions :

**Assumption 2.1** (a) Let  $\omega \subset \Omega$  with  $\partial\omega \cap \partial\Omega = \gamma$  and  $|\gamma| \neq 0$ .

(b)  $|A_{12}(x, t) \cdot \nu(x)| \neq 0$ ,  $(x, t) \in \gamma_T$ , with  $\gamma_T = \gamma \times (0, T)$ ,

(c)  $\|A_{12}\|_{(C^2(\overline{\omega_T}))^n}$ ,  $\|a_{12}\|_{C^2(\overline{\omega_T})}$ ,  $\|A_{11}\|_{(C^1(\overline{\omega_T}))^n} \leq M$ , where  $M > 0$  is an arbitrarily fixed constant.

In the sequel  $\kappa$  will denote a generic constant and their values may change from a line to others.

The dependence of  $\kappa$  on  $s$  will be specified.

In this section, we prove:

**Theorem 2.2** Let  $\tau \geq 1$  and  $\omega \subset \Omega$  be a subdomain such that  $\overline{\omega} \subset \Omega$ . Under Assumption 2.1, there exist  $\alpha_\omega \in C^2(\overline{\Omega})$  with  $\alpha_\omega > 0$  on  $\overline{\Omega}$  and two positive constants  $s_0$  and  $\kappa$  which depend on  $T, M, \Omega, \omega, \tau$  and the  $L^\infty$ -norms of  $a_{ij}, A_{ij}$ , such that there exist positive constants  $\kappa_1(s, \tau)$  and  $\kappa$  such that the following Carleman estimate holds

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{\tau-1} e^{-2s\eta_\omega} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\partial_t v|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |u|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |v|^2) \\ \leq \kappa_1(s, \tau) (\|u\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(\omega_T)}^2) + \kappa \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^\tau e^{-2s\eta_\omega} (|f|^2 + |g|^2) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $s \geq s_0$  and any solution  $(u, v)$  to (2.1). Here we set

$$\eta_\omega(x, t) = \frac{\alpha_\omega(x)}{t(T-t)}, \quad \rho(t) = \frac{1}{t(T-t)}. \quad (2.2)$$

This is a Carleman estimate for a  $2 \times 2$  system with extra data in  $\omega_T$  of only one component. In [2] and [8], it is assumed that  $A_{11} = A_{12} = 0$ . In that case, the proof can be completed by directly substituting  $v$  by means of  $u$  in  $\omega_T$ . By the first-order coupling, we extra need Assumption 2.1 (a) and (b).



**Proof of Theorem 2.2** First we prove

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $\omega \subset \Omega$  be a subdomain and  $\partial\omega \cap \partial\Omega = \gamma$ . We consider*

$$\sum_{j=1}^n p_j(x, t) \partial_j u(x, t) + q(x, t) u(x, t) = f(x, t), \quad x \in \omega \subset \Omega, \quad 0 < t < T. \quad (2.3)$$

Here  $p_j, q \in L^\infty(0, T; C^1(\bar{\Omega}))$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . We set  $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$  and let  $\nu(x) = (\nu_1(x), \dots, \nu_n(x))$

be the unit outward normal vector to  $\partial\omega$  at  $x$ . We assume that

$$|p(x, t) \cdot \nu(x)| \neq 0, \quad x \in \bar{\gamma}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T. \quad (2.4)$$

Let  $u = u(x, t)$  satisfy (2.3) and  $u|_{\gamma \times (0, T)} = 0$ . Then there exist a subdomain  $\omega' \subset \omega$  and a constant  $\kappa > 0$ , which is dependent on  $p$  and  $q$  and independent of  $f$ , such that

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)} \leq \kappa \|f\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}.$$

**Proof of Lemma 2.3.** We set  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x', x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) = (y', y_n)$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that

$$\omega = \{(x', x_n); h(x') < x_n < h_1(x'), |x'| < \rho\}$$

and  $\gamma = \{(x', x_n); x_n = h_1(x'), |x'| < \rho\}$ . Here  $\rho > 0$  is sufficiently small and  $h, h_1 \in C^2(\{|x'| \leq \rho\})$  satisfy  $h = h_1$  on  $\{|x'| = \rho\}$ . We change independent variables  $y' = x'$  and  $y_n = x_n - h(x')$ . Then  $\omega$  is transformed to

$$\tilde{\omega} = \{(y', y_n); 0 < y_n < (h_1 - h)(y'), |y'| < \rho\}.$$

Set  $\tilde{u}(y, t) = u(x, t)$ ,  $\tilde{p}(y, t) = p(x, t)$ ,  $\tilde{q}(y, t) = q(x, t)$ ,  $\tilde{f}(y, t) = f(x, t)$ ,  $\tilde{\Gamma}_1 = \{(y', 0); |y'| < \rho\}$  and  $\tilde{\Gamma}_2 = \{(y', y_n); y_n = (h_1 - h)(y'), |y'| < \rho\}$ . Then  $\partial\tilde{\omega} = \tilde{\Gamma}_1 \cup \tilde{\Gamma}_2$ ,

$$(\tilde{P}\tilde{u})(y, t) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j(y, t) \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y_j}(y, t)$$

$$+\tilde{r}(y, t)\frac{\partial\tilde{u}}{\partial y_n}(y, t) + \tilde{q}(y, t)\tilde{u}(y, t) = \tilde{f}(y, t), \quad y \in \tilde{\omega}, \quad 0 < t < T \quad (2.5)$$

where

$$\tilde{r}(y, t) = \tilde{p}_n(y, t) - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j(y, t) \frac{\partial h}{\partial y_j}(y, t),$$

and

$$\tilde{u}(y', y_n, t) = 0, \quad y_n = (h_1 - h)(y'), \quad |y'| < \rho, \quad 0 < t < T. \quad (2.6)$$

Moreover  $\nu(x)$  is parallel to  $(\partial_1 h(x'), \dots, \partial_{n-1} h(x'), -1)$  on  $\{(x', x_n); x_n = h(x'), |x'| < \rho\}$ . Therefore, in terms of (2.4), without loss of generality, we can assume that there exists a constant  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\tilde{r}(y', 0, t) > 2\delta$  for  $|y'| < \rho$  and  $0 < t < T$ . We choose  $\rho > 0$  sufficiently small, so that

$$\tilde{r}(y, t) > \delta, \quad y \in \tilde{\omega}, \quad 0 < t < T. \quad (2.7)$$

Let  $\tilde{\nu}(y) = (\tilde{\nu}_1(y), \dots, \tilde{\nu}_n(y))$  be the unit outward normal vector to  $\partial\tilde{\omega}$  at  $y$ . Then  $\tilde{\nu}(y)$  is parallel to  $(0, \dots, 0, -1)$  for  $y \in \tilde{\Gamma}_1$  and to  $(-\frac{\partial(h_1-h)}{\partial y_1}(y'), \dots, -\frac{\partial(h_1-h)}{\partial y_{n-1}}(y'), 1)$  for  $y \in \tilde{\Gamma}_2$ .

Hence, by choosing  $h_1, h$  such that  $\|h_1 - h\|_{C^1(\{|y'| \leq \rho\})}$  is sufficiently small if necessary, by (2.7) we have

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_1 \subset \left\{ y \in \partial\tilde{\omega}; \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j(y, t) \tilde{\nu}_j(y) + \tilde{r}(y, t) \tilde{\nu}_n(y) \leq 0 \right\} \quad (2.8)$$

and

$$\tilde{u}(\cdot, t) = 0 \quad \text{on } \tilde{\Gamma}_2, \quad \tilde{\Gamma}_2 \subset \left\{ y \in \partial\tilde{\omega}; \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j(y, t) \tilde{\nu}_j(y) + \tilde{r}(y, t) \tilde{\nu}_n(y) > 0 \right\}. \quad (2.9)$$

For the proof of the lemma, it suffices to prove a Carleman estimate for (2.3), whose proof is similar for example to Lemma 3.2 in [18]. We set

$$\tilde{P}_0 \tilde{u} = \tilde{P} \tilde{u} - \tilde{q} \tilde{u} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j(y, t) \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y_j}(y, t) + \tilde{r}(y, t) \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial y_n}(y, t),$$

$w = w(\cdot, t) = \tilde{u}(\cdot, t)e^{sy_n}$  and  $Qw = e^{sy_n}\tilde{P}_0(e^{-sy_n}w)$ . Then

$$Qw = \tilde{P}_0w - s\tilde{r}(y, t)w.$$

We arbitrarily fix  $t \in [0, T]$ . Hence by integration by parts and (2.6) - (2.9) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{P}_0\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy = \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |Qw|^2 dy \\ = & \|\tilde{P}_0w\|_{L^2(\tilde{\omega})}^2 + s^2 \|\tilde{r}(\cdot, t)w\|_{L^2(\tilde{\omega})}^2 - 2s \int_{\tilde{\omega}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j \frac{\partial w}{\partial y_j}(y, t) + \tilde{r} \frac{\partial w}{\partial y_n} \right) \tilde{r} w dy \\ \geq & s^2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} \tilde{r}^2 w^2 dy - s \int_{\tilde{\omega}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j \tilde{r} \frac{\partial w^2}{\partial y_j} + \tilde{r}^2 \frac{\partial w^2}{\partial y_n} \right) dy \\ \geq & s^2 \delta \int_{\tilde{\omega}} w^2 dy + s \int_{\tilde{\omega}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{\partial(\tilde{p}_j \tilde{r})}{\partial y_j} + \frac{\partial \tilde{r}^2}{\partial y_n} \right) w^2 dy - s \left( \int_{\tilde{\Gamma}_1} + \int_{\tilde{\Gamma}_2} \right) \tilde{r} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{p}_j \tilde{\nu}_j + \tilde{r} \tilde{\nu}_n \right) w^2 dS \\ \geq & s^2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} \left( \delta - \frac{\kappa_1}{s} \right) w^2 dy. \end{aligned}$$

Henceforth  $\kappa_j > 0$  depends on  $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \|p_j\|_{C^1(\overline{\Omega_T})}$  and  $\omega$ . Hence we have

$$s^2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy \leq \kappa_2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{P}_0\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{P}_0\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy \leq 2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{P}\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy + 2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{q}\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy \\ \leq & 2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{f}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy + 2 \|q\|_{C(\overline{\Omega_T})}^2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy, \end{aligned}$$

by choosing  $s$  large such that  $\frac{s^2}{\kappa_2} - 2 \|q\|_{C(\overline{\Omega_T})}^2 \geq \frac{s^2}{2}$ , we have

$$s^2 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{u}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy \leq \kappa_3 \int_{\tilde{\omega}} |\tilde{f}|^2 e^{2sy_n} dy$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Since  $1 \leq e^{2sy_n} \leq e^{2s\kappa_4}$  for  $y \in \tilde{\omega}$  where  $\kappa_4 = \|h_1 - h\|_{C(\{|y'| \leq \rho\})}$ , for all large  $s > 0$ , we fix  $s > 0$  large and we have  $\|\tilde{u}(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\tilde{\omega})} \leq \kappa_5 \|\tilde{f}(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\tilde{\omega})}$ . By integrating over  $t \in (0, T)$ , the proof of Lemma 2.3 is completed.

By (2.1), we have

$$A_{14} \cdot \nabla v + a_{12}v = \partial_t u - \Delta u + a_{11} u + A_{13} \cdot \nabla u + f \text{ in } \omega_T$$

and

$$v = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T).$$

In terms of Assumption 2.1 (b), we apply Lemma 2.3 so that we can choose a subdomain  $\omega' \subset \Omega$  such that

$$\|v\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)} \leq \kappa \|u\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)} + \|f\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}. \quad (2.10)$$

By [9] and [14], for  $\omega'$ , there exist  $\beta_{\omega'} \in C^2(\bar{\Omega})$  with  $\beta_{\omega'} > 0$  on  $\bar{\Omega}$  and two positive constants  $s_0$  and  $\kappa$ , which depend on  $T, \Omega, \omega', \tau$  and  $L^\infty$  norms of  $a_{ij}, A_{ij}$ , such that for all  $s \geq s_0$ , there exist positive constants  $\kappa_1(s, \tau)$  and  $\kappa$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{\tau-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |u|^2) \\ & \leq \kappa \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^\tau e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} |a_{12}v + A_{12} \cdot \nabla v + f|^2 + \kappa \int_{\omega'_T} (s\rho)^{\tau+3} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} |u|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{\tau-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t v|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |v|^2) \\ & \leq \kappa \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^\tau e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} |a_{21}u + A_{21} \cdot \nabla u + g|^2 + \kappa \int_{\omega'_T} (s\rho)^{\tau+3} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} |v|^2 \end{aligned}$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Here and henceforth we set  $\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}(x, t) = \frac{\beta_{\omega'}(x)}{t(T-t)}$ . Adding them and choosing  $s > 0$  sufficiently large to absorb the terms of  $u, v, \nabla u, \nabla v$  on the right hand side into the left hand side.

Hence

$$\int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{\tau-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\partial_t v|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |u|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |v|^2)$$

$$\leq \kappa \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^\tau e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|f|^2 + |g|^2) + \kappa \int_{\omega'_T} (s\rho)^{\tau+3} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|u|^2 + |v|^2)$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Moreover we have  $|(s\rho)^{\tau+3} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}}| \leq \kappa_2(s, \tau)$  on  $\overline{\Omega_T}$  by  $\beta_{\omega'} > 0$  on  $\overline{\Omega}$ . Hence

$$\int_{\omega'_T} (s\rho)^{\tau+3} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|u|^2 + |v|^2) \leq \kappa_2(s, \tau) (\|u\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|v\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2).$$

Apply Lemma 2.3, set  $\alpha_\omega = \beta_{\omega'}$  and note by  $\omega' \subset \omega$  that  $\|u\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}^2 \leq \|u\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2$ . Then the proof of Theorem 2.2 is completed.

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.2

Let us recall that  $(U, V)$  satisfies (1.1) and  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})$  satisfies system (1.1) where  $b, c, U_0, V_0$  are replaced by  $\tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0$  respectively.

We set

$$u = U - \tilde{U}, \quad v = V - \tilde{V}.$$

Then  $(u, v)$  satisfies

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + au + bv + A \cdot \nabla u + B \cdot \nabla v + (b - \tilde{b})\tilde{V},$$

$$\partial_t v = \Delta v + cu + dv + C \cdot \nabla u + D \cdot \nabla v + (c - \tilde{c})\tilde{U} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$u = v = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T$$

and

$$u(\cdot, \theta) = v(\cdot, \theta) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega.$$

By Assumption 1.1, we can assume that  $|\tilde{U}(x, t)|, |\tilde{V}(x, t)| \neq 0$  for all  $(x, t) \in \overline{\Omega_T}$  by taking  $T > 0$  sufficiently small if necessary. Moreover we can assume that  $\theta = \frac{T}{2}$ . Because we take small  $\delta > 0$

such that  $0 \leq \theta - \delta < \theta < \theta + \delta \leq T$  and we can replace  $\omega \times (0, T)$  by  $\omega \times (\theta - \delta, \theta + \delta)$ . Shifting  $t$  by  $t - (\theta - \delta)$ , we can set  $\theta = \delta$  and  $T = 2\delta$ .

Setting

$$\tilde{u} = \frac{u}{\tilde{V}}, \quad \tilde{v} = \frac{v}{\tilde{U}}, \quad f = b - \tilde{b}, \quad g = c - \tilde{c},$$

we have

$$\partial_t \tilde{u} = \Delta \tilde{u} + a_{11} \tilde{u} + a_{12} \tilde{v} + A_{13} \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + A_{14} \cdot \nabla \tilde{v} + f \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\partial_t \tilde{v} = \Delta \tilde{v} + a_{21} \tilde{u} + a_{22} \tilde{v} + A_{23} \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + A_{24} \cdot \nabla \tilde{v} + g \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$a_{11} = a - \frac{\partial_t \tilde{V}}{\tilde{V}} + \frac{\Delta \tilde{V}}{\tilde{V}} + A \cdot \frac{\nabla \tilde{V}}{\tilde{V}}, \quad a_{12} = b \frac{\tilde{U}}{\tilde{V}} + B \cdot \frac{\nabla \tilde{U}}{\tilde{V}},$$

$$A_{13} = A + \frac{2\nabla \tilde{V}}{\tilde{V}},$$

$$A_{14}(x, t) = B \frac{\tilde{U}}{\tilde{V}} \equiv B(x)W(x, t),$$

$$a_{21} = c \frac{\tilde{V}}{\tilde{U}} + C \frac{\nabla \tilde{V}}{\tilde{U}}, \quad a_{22} = d - \frac{\partial_t \tilde{U}}{\tilde{U}} + \frac{\Delta \tilde{U}}{\tilde{U}} + D \cdot \frac{\nabla \tilde{U}}{\tilde{U}}$$

and

$$A_{23} = C \frac{\tilde{V}}{\tilde{U}}, \quad A_{24} = D + \frac{2\nabla \tilde{U}}{\tilde{U}}.$$

Let

$$y = \partial_t \tilde{u}, \quad z = \partial_t \tilde{v}.$$

Since  $b, c, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}$  are independent of  $t$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t y &= \Delta y + a_{11} y + a_{12} z + A_{13} \cdot \nabla y + A_{14} \cdot \nabla z \\ &+ (\partial_t a_{11}) \tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{12}) \tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{13}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{14}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_t z &= \Delta z + a_{21}y + a_{22}z + A_{23} \cdot \nabla y + A_{24} \cdot \nabla z \\
&+ (\partial_t a_{21})\tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{22})\tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

$$y = z = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T.$$

**First Step.** In terms of  $y$ , we estimate an  $L^2$ -norm of  $z$  in a subdomain of  $\Omega$ . Since  $\tilde{u}(x, t) = \int_\theta^t y(x, \xi) d\xi$  and  $\tilde{v}(x, t) = \int_\theta^t z(x, \xi) d\xi$  by  $\tilde{u}(\cdot, \theta) = \tilde{v}(\cdot, \theta) = 0$ , we rewrite (3.3) as

$$\begin{aligned}
& B(x) \cdot \nabla z(x, t) + b_1(x)z(x, t) + W_1(x, t)B(x) \cdot \int_\theta^t \nabla z(x, \xi) d\xi + b_2(x, t) \int_\theta^t z(x, \xi) d\xi \\
&= \frac{1}{W(x, t)} \left( \partial_t y(x, t) - \Delta y(x, t) - a_{11}y(x, t) - A_{13} \cdot \nabla y - (\partial_t a_{11}) \int_\theta^t y(x, \xi) d\xi - (\partial_t A_{13}) \cdot \int_\theta^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right) \\
&\equiv Q(y)(x, t) \quad x \in \omega, 0 < t < T.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Here we set

$$b_1(x, t) = \frac{a_{12}(x, t)}{W(x, t)}, \quad b_2(x, t) = \frac{\partial_t a_{12}(x, t)}{W(x, t)}, \quad W_1(x, t) = \frac{\partial_t W(x, t)}{W(x, t)}.$$

We will estimate  $z$  in a subdomain  $\omega'$  of  $\omega$  by means of (3.5), and the argument is similar to Lemma 2.3 but we need a special weight function for treating the integral terms  $\int_\theta^t \nabla z(x, \xi) d\xi$  and  $\int_\theta^t z(x, \xi) d\xi$ . First we show

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $T = 2\theta$  and let  $\tilde{\varphi} \in C^1[0, T^2]$  and let us assume that there exists a constant  $\kappa_0 > 0$  such that  $\frac{d\tilde{\varphi}}{dt}(t) \leq -\kappa_0$  for  $t \in [0, T^2]$ . Then*

$$\int_0^T \left| \int_\theta^t g(\xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{2s\tilde{\varphi}((t-\theta)^2)} dt \leq \frac{1}{4s\kappa_0} \int_0^T |g(t)|^2 e^{2s\tilde{\varphi}((t-\theta)^2)} dt.$$

The proof is given by Klivanov and Timonov p.78, [26].

Henceforth we choose  $\tilde{\varphi}(t) = -t$  and we set  $\varphi_1(t) = \tilde{\varphi}((t - \theta)^2) = -(t - \theta)^2$ . Then the conclusion of Lemma 3.1 holds true.

We set

$$w(x, t) = z(x, t) + W_1(x, t) \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad 0 < t < T. \quad (3.6)$$

Then direct calculations yield

$$B(x) \cdot \nabla w(x, t) = Q(y)(x, t) - b_1 z - b_2 \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi + (B \cdot \nabla W_1) \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi \quad \text{in } \omega_T. \quad (3.7)$$

Henceforth  $\kappa_j > 0$  denote generic constants which are dependent on  $M, \delta_0$  in Assumption 1.1 and independent of  $s > 0$ . In terms of Assumption 1.1 (d), we can apply Lemma 2.3 to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 \int_{\omega'} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s\varphi_0(x)} dx &\leq \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'} |Q(y)(x, t)|^2 e^{2s\varphi_0(x)} dx \\ + \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s\varphi_0(x)} dx &+ \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'} \left| \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{2s\varphi_0(x)} dx \end{aligned}$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Here and henceforth we set  $\varphi_0(x) = x_n - \gamma(x')$ .

Hence by Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt &\leq \kappa_1 \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |Q(y)(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \\ + \kappa_1 \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt &+ \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'} \left( \int_0^T \left| \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{2s\varphi_1(t)} dt \right) e^{2s\varphi_0(x)} dx \\ \leq \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'_T} |Q(y)(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt &+ \kappa_1 \int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \\ + \frac{\kappa_1}{s} \int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 \int_{\omega'_T} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt &\leq \kappa_2 e^{2s\kappa_3} \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}^2 \\ + \kappa_2 \int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$



for all large  $s > 0$ . On the other hand, (3.6) and Lemma 3.1 yield

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt = \int_{\omega'_T} \left| w(x, t) - W_1(x, t) \int_{\theta}^t z(x, t) d\xi \right|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \\
& \leq \kappa_4 \int_{\omega'_T} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt + \kappa_4 \int_{\omega'_T} \left| \int_{\theta}^t z(x, t) d\xi \right|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \\
& \leq \kappa_5 \int_{\omega'_T} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt + \frac{\kappa_5}{s} \int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt
\end{aligned}$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Hence choosing  $s > 0$  sufficiently large, we have

$$\int_{\omega'_T} |z(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \leq \kappa_6 \int_{\omega'_T} |w(x, t)|^2 e^{2s(\varphi_0(x) + \varphi_1(t))} dx dt \quad (3.9)$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Substituting (3.9) into (3.8) and fixing  $s > 0$  sufficiently large, we obtain

$$\|w\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)} \leq \kappa_7 e^{\kappa_7 s} \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}.$$

Hence by (3.9) we have

$$\|z\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)} \leq \kappa_8 e^{\kappa_7 s} \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}. \quad (3.10)$$

**Second Step.** We will estimate  $\|\nabla z\|_{L^2(\omega_1 \times (\delta, T-\delta))}$  where  $\omega_1 \subset \omega$  and  $\delta > 0$ . For it, we use the interior regularity estimate for a heat equation (3.4) in  $z$ . Let us recall that  $\rho(t) = \frac{1}{t(T-t)}$ . Setting  $\tilde{z}(x, t) = e^{-\rho(t)} z(x, t)$ , we rewrite (3.4) as

$$\begin{aligned}
& \partial_t \tilde{z}(x, t) = \Delta \tilde{z}(x, t) - \rho'(t) \tilde{z}(x, t) + a_{22} \tilde{z} + A_{24} \cdot \nabla \tilde{z} \\
& + (\partial_t a_{22}) \int_{\theta}^t e^{\rho(\xi) - \rho(t)} \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t e^{\rho(\xi) - \rho(t)} \nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \\
& + e^{-\rho(t)} \left( a_{21} y + A_{23} \cdot \nabla y + (\partial_t a_{21}) \int_{\theta}^t y(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right). \quad (3.11)
\end{aligned}$$

We choose subdomains  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  of  $C^\infty$  class such that  $\omega_1 \subset \bar{\omega}_1 \subset \omega_2 \subset \bar{\omega}_2 \subset \omega'$  and choose  $\chi \in C^1(\bar{\omega}')$ ,

$\geq 0$  such that

$$\chi(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in \omega_1, \\ 0, & x \in \omega' \setminus \bar{\omega}_2. \end{cases}$$

Moreover we can take  $\chi$  satisfying

$$\frac{|\nabla\chi(x)|^2}{\chi(x)} \leq \kappa_9 \quad x \in \bar{\omega}' \quad (3.12)$$

(e.g., p.414 in Lions [29]). Multiplying (3.11) with  $\chi\tilde{z}$  and integrating over  $\omega' \times (0, T)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi(x) \partial_t(\tilde{z}^2) dx dt = - \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\nabla\tilde{z}|^2 dx dt - \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \nabla\chi \cdot \tilde{z} \nabla\tilde{z} dx dt - \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi \rho'(t) e^{-2\rho(t)} |z|^2 dx dt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (a_{22} |\tilde{z}|^2 \chi + A_{24} \cdot \nabla\tilde{z} \chi \tilde{z}) dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (\partial_t a_{22}) \chi \tilde{z} \left( \int_\theta^t e^{\rho(\xi) - \rho(t)} \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \right) dx dt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \chi \tilde{z} \left( \int_\theta^t e^{\rho(\xi) - \rho(t)} \nabla\tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \right) dx dt \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} e^{-\rho(t)} \chi \tilde{z} \left( a_{21} y + A_{23} \nabla y + (\partial_t a_{21}) \int_\theta^t y(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \int_\theta^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right) dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (3.12), we have

$$|\nabla\chi \cdot \tilde{z} \nabla\tilde{z}| = \left| \frac{\nabla\chi}{\sqrt{\chi}} \tilde{z} \cdot \sqrt{\chi} \nabla\tilde{z} \right| \leq \frac{1}{8} \chi |\nabla\tilde{z}|^2 + \frac{2|\nabla\chi|^2}{\chi} |\tilde{z}|^2$$

and

$$|A_{24} \cdot \chi \tilde{z} \nabla\tilde{z}| = |\sqrt{\chi} \nabla\tilde{z} \cdot A_{24} \sqrt{\chi} \tilde{z}| \leq \frac{1}{8} \chi |\nabla\tilde{z}|^2 + 2|A_{24}|^2 \chi |\tilde{z}|^2.$$

Hence, since  $\tilde{z}(\cdot, 0) = \tilde{z}(\cdot, T) = 0$ ,

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |\rho'(t) e^{-2\rho(t)}| < \infty$$

and  $\rho(\xi) - \rho(t) \leq 0$  if  $\xi$  is between  $\theta$  and  $t$ , we have

$$\int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\nabla\tilde{z}|^2 dx dt \leq \frac{1}{4} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\nabla\tilde{z}|^2 dx dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \kappa_{10} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (|\tilde{z}|^2 + |z|^2) dxdt + \kappa_{10} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |\tilde{z}| \left| \int_{\theta}^t \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \right| dxdt \\
& + \kappa_{10} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\tilde{z}| \left| \int_{\theta}^t \nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \right| dxdt \\
& + \kappa_{10} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \left\{ |\tilde{z}|(|y| + |\nabla y|) + |\tilde{z}| \left( \left| \int_{\theta}^t y(x, \xi) d\xi \right| + \left| \int_{\theta}^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right| \right) \right\} dxdt.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality yields

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\tilde{z}(x, t)| \left| \int_{\theta}^t \nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi) d\xi \right| dxdt \\
& \leq \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \sqrt{\chi} |\tilde{z}(x, t)| \left( \int_0^T \sqrt{\chi(x)} |\nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi)| d\xi \right) dxdt \\
& \leq \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \left( \frac{1}{8T^2} \left| \int_0^T \sqrt{\chi} |\nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi)| d\xi \right|^2 + 2T^2 \chi |\tilde{z}(x, \xi)|^2 \right) dxdt \\
& \leq 2T^2 \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |\tilde{z}(x, t)|^2 dxdt + \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \frac{1}{8T} \int_0^T \chi |\nabla \tilde{z}(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi dxdt \\
& \leq 2T^2 \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} |\tilde{z}(x, t)|^2 dxdt + \frac{1}{8} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\nabla \tilde{z}(x, t)|^2 dxdt.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{5}{8} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} \chi |\nabla \tilde{z}(x, t)|^2 dxdt \\
& \leq \kappa_{11} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (|\tilde{z}|^2 + |z|^2) dxdt + \kappa_{11} \int_0^T \int_{\omega'} (|y|^2 + |\nabla y|^2) dxdt.
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta > 0$  be fixed sufficiently small. Then  $|\nabla \tilde{z}(x, t)| \geq \kappa_{12}(\delta) |\nabla z(x, t)|$  for  $\delta \leq t \leq T - \delta$ . Since  $\chi = 1$  in  $\omega_1$ , we have

$$\int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\omega_1} |\nabla z|^2 dxdt \leq \kappa_{13}(\delta) (\|z\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|y\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1(\omega'))}^2).$$

By means of (3.10), we obtain

$$\|z\|_{L^2(\delta, T-\delta; H^1(\omega_1))} \leq \kappa_{14}(\delta) \|y\|_{W^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}. \tag{3.13}$$

**Third Step.** We apply Theorem 2.2 to (3.3) and (3.4) for  $\omega' \subset \Omega$  and  $(\delta, T - \delta)$ . We set

$$\eta(x, t) = \frac{\alpha_{\omega'}(x)}{(t - \delta)(T - \delta - t)}.$$

Using also (3.13), we obtain that there exist two positive constants  $s_0$  and  $\kappa$  such that for all  $s \geq s_0$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\eta} (|\partial_t y|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\Delta y|^2 + |\Delta z|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla y|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla z|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |y|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |z|^2) dx dt \\
& \leq \kappa_{15} \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} |(\partial_t a_{11})\tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{12})\tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{13}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{14}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\
& + \kappa_{15} \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} |(\partial_t a_{21})\tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{22})\tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\
& \quad + \kappa_{16}(s) \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega' \times (\delta, T-\delta))}^2 \\
& + \kappa_{16}(s) \left\| (\partial_t a_{11}) \int_{\theta}^t y(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t a_{12}) \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t A_{13}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (\partial_t A_{14}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t \nabla z(x, \xi) d\xi \right\|_{L^2(\omega' \times (\delta, T-\delta))}^2 \\
& + \kappa_{16}(s) \left\| (\partial_t a_{21}) \int_{\theta}^t y(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t a_{22}) \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t \nabla y(x, \xi) d\xi \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \int_{\theta}^t \nabla z(x, \xi) d\xi \right\|_{L^2(\omega' \times (\delta, T-\delta))}^2 \\
& \leq \kappa_{15} \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} |(\partial_t a_{11})\tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{12})\tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{13}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{14}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\
& + \kappa_{15} \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} |(\partial_t a_{21})\tilde{u} + (\partial_t a_{22})\tilde{v} + (\partial_t A_{23}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} + (\partial_t A_{24}) \cdot \nabla \tilde{v}|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\
& \quad + \kappa_{16}(s) \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2. \tag{3.14}
\end{aligned}$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . In order to improve inequality (3.14), we use the following lemma. ([24], Lemma 3.1.1 in [26]).

**Lemma 3.2** *Let  $\theta = \frac{T}{2}$ . There exists a positive constant  $\kappa_{17}$  such that*

$$\int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} \left| \int_{\theta}^t q(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \leq \frac{\kappa_{17}}{s} \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} |q(x, t)|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt$$

for  $s > 0$ .

**Proof of Lemma 3.2** The proof is similar to [24], Lemma 3.1.1 in [26]. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} \left| \int_{\theta}^t q(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \int_{\delta}^{\theta} \left| \int_t^{\theta} q(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt + \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \left| \int_{\theta}^t q(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

It is sufficient to estimate the second term because the estimation of the first term is similar. By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \left| \int_{\theta}^t q(x, \xi) d\xi \right|^2 e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \leq \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} (t - \theta) \left( \int_{\theta}^t |q(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi \right) e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \frac{(t - \delta)^2 (T - \delta - t)^2}{2\alpha_{\omega'}(x)} \partial_t \eta(x, t) \left( \int_{\theta}^t |q(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi \right) e^{-2s\eta} dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

Here we used

$$\partial_t \eta(x, t) = \frac{2(t - \theta)\alpha_{\omega'}(x)}{(t - \delta)^2 (T - \delta - t)^2}.$$

Noting that  $\alpha_{\omega'}(x) > 0$  and  $\partial_t \eta(x, t) \geq 0$  for  $x \in \bar{\Omega}$  and  $\theta \leq t \leq T - \delta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \left( \int_{\theta}^t |q(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi \right) e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \leq \kappa'_{17} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \left( \int_{\theta}^t |q(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi \right) (\partial_t \eta(x, t)) e^{-2s\eta(x, t)} dx dt \\ & = -\frac{\kappa'_{17}}{2s} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} \left( \int_{\theta}^t |q(x, \xi)|^2 d\xi \right) \partial_t (e^{-2s\eta(x, t)}) dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

By noting that  $e^{-2s\eta(x, T-\delta)} = 0$ , the integration by parts implies that the right hand side is equal to

$$\frac{\kappa'_{17}}{2s} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\theta}^{T-\delta} |q(x, t)|^2 \partial_t (e^{-2s\eta(x, t)}) dx dt.$$

Thus the proof of Lemma 3.2 is completed.

Since  $\tilde{u}(x, t) = \int_{\theta}^t y(x, \xi) d\xi$  and  $\tilde{v}(x, t) = \int_{\theta}^t z(x, \xi) d\xi$ , by a direct application of this lemma, the first integral on the right hand side of (3.14) can be absorbed into the left hand side. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\delta}^{T-\delta} \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{s\rho} (|\partial_t y|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\Delta y|^2 + |\Delta z|^2) + s\rho (|\nabla y|^2 + |\nabla z|^2) + s^3 \rho^3 (|y|^2 + |z|^2) \right\} e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\ & \leq \kappa_{16}(s) (\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2) \end{aligned}$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . We choose  $t_0 > 0$  sufficiently small such that  $\delta < t_0 < \theta < T - t_0 < T - \delta$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{t_0}^{T-t_0} \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{s\rho} (|\partial_t y|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\Delta y|^2 + |\Delta z|^2) + s\rho (|\nabla y|^2 + |\nabla z|^2) + s^3 \rho^3 (|y|^2 + |z|^2) \right\} e^{-2s\eta} dx dt \\ & \leq \kappa_{16}(s) (\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{1}{\rho} e^{-2s\eta}$ ,  $\rho e^{-2s\eta} \geq \kappa_0(t_0, s)$  on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [t_0, T - t_0]$ , we fix  $s > 0$  sufficiently large, so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{u}\|_{H^1(t_0, T-t_0; H^2(\Omega))}^2 + \|\tilde{u}\|_{H^2(t_0, T-t_0; L^2(\Omega))}^2 + \|\tilde{v}\|_{H^1(t_0, T-t_0; H^2(\Omega))}^2 + \|\tilde{v}\|_{H^2(t_0, T-t_0; L^2(\Omega))}^2 \\ & \leq \kappa_{16}(s) (\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

By the trace theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\partial_t \tilde{u}(\cdot, \theta)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\partial_t \tilde{v}(\cdot, \theta)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\tilde{u}(\cdot, \theta)\|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|\tilde{v}(\cdot, \theta)\|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \leq \kappa_{16}(s) (\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f$  and  $g$  satisfy (3.1) and (3.2) at  $t = \theta$ , we see that

$$\|b - \tilde{b}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|c - \tilde{c}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq \kappa (\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2).$$

Thus the proof of Theorem 1.2 is completed.

## 4 Removing the positivity assumption

For the stability in our inverse problem, the non-vanishing condition Assumption 1.1 (f) is crucial and does not hold automatically. We are going to prove that one can realize this assumption by a suitable control.

Let  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  be fixed such that

$$\frac{m}{4} > n. \quad (4.1)$$

We assume that

$$a, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, d, A, B, C, D \in W^{2m-2, \infty}(\Omega). \quad (4.2)$$

We set

$$\begin{aligned} L(u, v) &= L(a, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, d, A, B, C, D)(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} L_1(u, v) \\ L_2(u, v) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= - \begin{pmatrix} \Delta u + au + \tilde{b}v + A \cdot \nabla u + B \cdot \nabla v \\ \Delta v + \tilde{c}u + dv + C \cdot \nabla v + D \cdot \nabla u \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

and

$$D(L) = \left( H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega) \right)^2.$$

For  $h \in L^2(\omega_T)$ , let  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) := (\tilde{U}(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0, h)(\cdot, \cdot), \tilde{V}(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0, h)(\cdot, \cdot))$  satisfy

$$\partial_t(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) = -L(a, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, d, A, B, C, D)(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) + (\chi_\omega h, 0) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) = (0, 0) \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T, \quad (\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(\cdot, 0) = (\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0) \quad \text{in } \Omega. \quad (4.4)$$

By  $(U, V)$  we denote the solution to (4.4) with  $b, c$  replacing  $\tilde{b}, \tilde{c}$ . Our main result in this section is the following :

**Theorem 4.1** *Suppose Assumption 1.1 except for (f). Let  $\omega_1$  be a neighbourhood of  $\partial\Omega$  such that  $\bar{\omega} \subset \omega_1$  and let  $b = \tilde{b}$  and  $c = \tilde{c}$  in  $\omega_1$ . Let  $(U, V)(\cdot, \theta) = (\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(\cdot, \theta)$ . Then there exists  $h \in L^2(\omega_T)$  depending on  $a, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, d, A, B, C, D, \tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0$  and  $\omega$ , such that there exists a constant  $\kappa > 0$  such that*

$$\|b - \tilde{b}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|c - \tilde{c}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \kappa(\|\partial_t(U - \tilde{U})\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)} + \|U - \tilde{U}\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}) \quad (4.5)$$

for arbitrary  $b, c, U, V$  satisfying Assumption 1.1 (a), (e), (h).

The rest of this section is devoted to the proof of Theorem 4.1.

**First Step.** First we prove

**Lemma 4.2** *Let Assumption 1.1 except for (f) hold and let  $b = \tilde{b}$ ,  $c = \tilde{c}$  in  $\omega_1$ . Then there exists  $h \in L^2(\omega_T)$  such that*

$$|\tilde{U}(\cdot, \theta)|, |\tilde{V}(\cdot, \theta)| \neq 0 \quad \text{on } \overline{\Omega \setminus \omega_1}. \quad (4.6)$$

In this step, we will give the proof of Lemma 4.2, which is based on the approximate controllability and our Carleman estimate Theorem 2.2.

Taking  $M > 0$  for  $a, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, d, A, B, C, D$ , and setting  $U_1 = e^{-Mt}\tilde{U}$  and  $V_1 = e^{-Mt}\tilde{V}$ , we have

$$\partial_t U_1 = \Delta U_1 + (a - M)U_1 + \tilde{b}V_1 + A \cdot \nabla U_1 + B \cdot \nabla V_1 + e^{-Mt}\chi_\omega h$$

and

$$\partial_t V_1 = \Delta V_1 + \tilde{c}U_1 + (d - M)V_1 + C \cdot \nabla U_1 + D \cdot \nabla V_1.$$

Consequently, by choosing  $M > 0$  sufficiently large, the integration by parts yields

$$((L + MI)(u, v), (u, v))_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \geq \kappa_1 \|(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2}^2, \quad (u, v) \in \mathcal{D}(L).$$



Therefore with fear of confusion, we may denote  $a - M$  and  $d - M$  by  $a$  and  $d$  respectively. Then

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_1 \|L(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}, \quad (u, v) \in \mathcal{D}(L). \quad (4.7)$$

Here and henceforth  $\kappa_j > 0$  denote generic constants which depend on  $\Omega$ ,  $M$ ,  $\|a\|_{W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega)}$ ,  $\|\tilde{b}\|_{W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega)}$ ,  $\|\tilde{c}\|_{W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega)}$ ,  $\|d\|_{W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega)}$ ,  $\|A\|_{(W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega))^n}$ ,  $\|B\|_{(W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega))^n}$ ,  $\|C\|_{(W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega))^n}$ ,  $\|D\|_{(W^{2m-2,\infty}(\Omega))^n}$ . We can prove

**Lemma 4.3** *Under assumption (4.2), there exists a constant  $\kappa_2 > 0$  such that*

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(H^{2m}(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_2 \|L^m(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}, \quad (u, v) \in \mathcal{D}(L^m).$$

**Proof of Lemma 4.3** The proof is done by the classical regularity property for the Dirichlet problem for the Poisson equation (e.g., Theorem 8.13 in Gilbarg and Trudinger [10]) and given here for completeness.

We recall (4.3) and we set  $Q(u, v) = (Q_1(u, v), Q_2(u, v))$ ,  $Q_1(u, v) = au + \tilde{b}v + A \cdot \nabla u + B \cdot \nabla v$  and  $Q_2(u, v) = \tilde{c}u + dv + C \cdot \nabla u + D \cdot \nabla v$ . Let  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{D}(L^m)$ . By the elliptic regularity (e.g., Theorem 8.13 in [10]) in the Dirichlet problem for  $\Delta u = f$ , we have

$$\|u\|_{H^2(\Omega)} \leq \kappa_1 \|(-L_1 - Q_1)(u, v)\|_{L^2(\Omega)},$$

and

$$\|v\|_{H^2(\Omega)} \leq \kappa_1 \|(-L_2 - Q_2)(u, v)\|_{L^2(\Omega)},$$

so that

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(H^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_2 \|L(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} + \kappa_2 \|(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2}.$$

Hence by (4.7), we have

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(H^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_3 \|L(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}. \quad (4.8)$$

Again the elliptic regularity yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\|(u, v)\|_{(H^3(\Omega))^2} &\leq \kappa_1 \|(\Delta u, \Delta v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2} + \kappa_1 \|(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \\
&\leq \kappa_1 \|(-L - Q)(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2} + \kappa_1 \|(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \\
&\leq \kappa_1 \|L(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2} + \kappa_1 \|(u, v)\|_{(H^2(\Omega))^2}.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

On the other hand, we have  $L(u, v) \in \mathcal{D}(L)$  and apply (4.7) to  $L(u, v)$  to have

$$\|L(u, v)\|_{(H^1(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_1 \|L^2(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}.$$

Applying this and (4.8) to (4.9), we obtain

$$\|(u, v)\|_{(H^3(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_4 \|L^2(u, v)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}.$$

Repeating these arguments, we can complete the proof of Lemma 4.3.

Moreover by [30] and [31] for example, we see:

**Lemma 4.4** *The operator  $-L$  generates an analytic semigroup in  $(L^2(\Omega))^2$ .*

There are no general result on the approximate controllability for parabolic systems with controls of a restricted number of components and see e.g., [2] and [28] as related works. For controllability for systems, see [2] - [4], [11] - [13]. Next we will prove the approximate controllability with control  $\chi_\omega h$  to only one component. This is the approximate controllability for a  $2 \times 2$  system by only one component control.

**Lemma 4.5** *For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0) \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ ,  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ , and any  $t_0 \in (0, \delta)$ , there exists  $h_\varepsilon \in L^2(\omega_T)$  such that*

$$\|\tilde{U}(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0, h)(\cdot, t_0) - \tilde{U}_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|\tilde{V}(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0, h)(\cdot, t_0) - \tilde{V}_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} < \varepsilon.$$

**Proof.** Consider the following reaction-diffusion-convection system :

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + au + \tilde{b}v - \nabla \cdot (Au) - \nabla \cdot (Bv) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t v = \Delta v + \tilde{c}u + dv - \nabla \cdot (Cu) - \nabla \cdot (Dv) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$u = v = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T. \tag{4.10}$$

The approximate controllability is equivalent to the uniqueness: Let  $u, v$  satisfy (4.10). Then  $u = 0$  in  $\omega_T$  implies  $u = v = 0$  in  $\Omega_T$  (e.g., Zabczyk [33]). This uniqueness follows from Theorem 2.2 by replacing the coefficients in (2.1) suitably and verifying Assumption 1.1 (d).

Now we will complete

**Proof of Lemma 4.2** The proof is be done in three steps. Henceforth for fixed  $(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0)$ , by  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h)$  we denote  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(\tilde{U}_0, \tilde{V}_0, h)$ .

**Existence of a control in  $L^2(\omega_T)$**

Let us arbitrarily fix  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \in (H_0^{2m+2}(\Omega))^2$  satisfying  $|\tilde{U}_1|, |\tilde{V}_1| \neq 0$  on  $\overline{\Omega \setminus \omega_1}$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and any  $T_1 \in (0, \theta)$ , there exists  $h_\varepsilon \in L^2(\omega_{T_1})$  such that

$$\|(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_\varepsilon)(\cdot, T_1) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \varepsilon. \tag{4.11}$$

**A more regular control**

By the density of  $C^\infty(\omega_{T_1})$  in  $L^2(\omega_{T_1})$ , for any  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $h_{\varepsilon, \delta} \in C^\infty(\omega_{T_1})$  such that

$$\|h_\varepsilon - h_{\varepsilon, \delta}\|_{L^2(\omega_{T_1})} \leq \delta. \tag{4.12}$$

Therefore

$$\|(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_\varepsilon)(\cdot, T_1) - (\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} = \left\| \int_0^{T_1} e^{-(T_1-s)L} \chi_\omega(h_\varepsilon - h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(s) ds \right\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_5 \delta.$$

### Use of the time regularizing effect

By (4.11) and (4.12), we obtain

$$\|(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \varepsilon + \kappa_5 \delta. \quad (4.13)$$

Since  $-L$  generates an analytic semigroup in  $(L^2(\Omega))^2$ , by e.g., [30], [31], we see that

$$e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1) \in D(L^m)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \|L^m[e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1) - e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)]\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \\ & \leq \kappa_6(\theta - T_1)^{-m} \|(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_6(\theta - T_1)^{-m}(\varepsilon + \kappa_5 \delta). \end{aligned}$$

Extending  $h_{\varepsilon, \delta}(\cdot, t) = 0$  for  $t > T_1$ , we have

$$e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, T_1) = (\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, \theta),$$

and so

$$\|L^m[(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, \theta) - e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)]\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_6(\theta - T_1)^{-m}(\varepsilon + \kappa_5 \delta). \quad (4.14)$$

Moreover as  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \in D(L^{m+1})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|L^m[e^{-(\theta-T_1)L}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)]\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_6 \| (e^{-(\theta-T_1)L} - I)L^m(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \\ & \leq \kappa_6 \left\| \int_0^{\theta-T_1} \frac{d}{d\eta} (e^{-\eta L}) L^m(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) d\eta \right\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_6 \left\| \int_0^{\theta-T_1} e^{-\eta L} L^{m+1}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) d\eta \right\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \\ & \leq \kappa_6(\theta - T_1) \|L^{m+1}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}. \end{aligned}$$

In terms of (4.14), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|L^m[(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, \theta) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)]\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} \leq \kappa_6(\theta - T_1)^{-m}(\varepsilon + \kappa_5\delta) \\ & + \kappa_6(\theta - T_1)\|L^{m+1}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

For any  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$  and  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \in D(L^{m+1})$ , we choose  $T_1 \in (0, \theta)$  such that

$$\kappa_6(\theta - T_1)\|L^{m+1}(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^2} < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{3}.$$

Then, with this  $T_1$ , we choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$\kappa_6(\theta - T_1)^{-m}\varepsilon < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{3}.$$

Finally with this  $h_\varepsilon$ , we choose  $\delta > 0$  sufficiently small such that

$$\kappa_6\delta \leq \frac{\varepsilon_1}{3}.$$

Therefore (4.15) yields

$$\|L^m[(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})(h_{\varepsilon, \delta})(\cdot, \theta) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)]\|_{L^2(\Omega)^2} \leq \varepsilon_1. \quad (4.16)$$

In terms of Lemma 4.3 and (4.1), by choosing  $\varepsilon > 0$  sufficiently small for  $\inf_{x \in \Omega \setminus \omega_1} |\tilde{U}_1(x)|$  and  $\inf_{x \in \Omega \setminus \omega_1} |\tilde{V}_1(x)|$ , the proof of Lemma 4.2 is completed.

**Second Step** We will complete the proof of Theorem 4.1. Let  $h \in L^2(\omega_T)$  be chosen in Lemma 4.2. We set

$$u = U - \tilde{U}, \quad v = V - \tilde{V}.$$

Then  $(u, v)$  satisfies

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + au + bv + A \cdot \nabla u + B \cdot \nabla v + f\tilde{V},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_t v &= \Delta v + cu + dv + C \cdot \nabla u + D \cdot \nabla v + g\tilde{U} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \\
u = v &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T,
\end{aligned} \tag{4.17}$$

where

$$f = b - \tilde{b}, \quad g = c - \tilde{c}.$$

We consider the time derivative of system (4.17). Setting  $y = \partial_t u$  and  $z = \partial_t v$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_t y &= \Delta y + a(x)y + b(x)z + A \cdot \nabla y + B \cdot \nabla z + f\partial_t \tilde{V} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \\
\partial_t z &= \Delta z + c(x)y + d(x)z + C \cdot \nabla y + D \cdot \nabla z + g\partial_t \tilde{U} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T, \\
y = z &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.18}$$

Applying the Carleman estimate Theorem 2.2 to system (4.17) and using  $f = 0$  in  $\omega_1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\eta_\omega} (|\partial_t y|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\Delta y|^2 + |\Delta z|^2 \\
&\quad + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla y|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla z|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |y|^2 + (s\rho)^4 |z|^2) dx dt \\
&\leq \kappa_7(s) \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \kappa \iint_{\Omega_T} e^{-2s\eta_\omega} (|f\partial_t \tilde{V}|^2 + |g\partial_t \tilde{U}|^2) dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.19}$$

Furthermore, for large  $s > 0$ , we can prove that

$$\int_{\Omega_T} |f(x)|^2 e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x,t)} dx dt \leq o(1) \int_{\Omega} |f(x)|^2 e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x,\theta)} dx \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \infty. \tag{4.20}$$

In fact, we can prove similarly to [15]. Recall that  $T = 2\theta$ . Setting  $\ell(t) = t(T - t)$ , by (2.2) we have  $\frac{\partial(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t}(x, \theta) = 0$ ,  $x \in \Omega$  and

$$\frac{\partial^2(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^2}(x, t) = -\alpha_\omega(x) \frac{2\ell'(t)^2 - \ell(t)\ell''(t)}{\ell(t)^3}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^3(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^3}(x, t) = -\alpha_\omega(x) \frac{6\ell'(t)(\ell(t)\ell''(t) - \ell'(t)^2)}{\ell(t)^4}, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega_T.$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\partial^2(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^2}(x, t) \leq -\frac{\kappa_8}{\ell(t)^3}, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega_T$$

with a positive constant  $\kappa_8$  and

$$\frac{\partial^3(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^3}(x, t) \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \theta, \quad x \in \Omega,$$

$$\frac{\partial^3(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^3}(x, t) \leq 0, \quad \theta \leq t \leq T, \quad x \in \Omega.$$

Consequently by the mean value theorem, we can take  $t_1$  such that  $t_1$  is between  $t$  and  $\theta$  and

$$\begin{aligned} -\eta_\omega(x, t) &= -\eta_\omega(x, \theta) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^2}(x, t)(t - \theta)^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3(-\eta_\omega)}{\partial t^3}(x, t_1)(t - \theta)^3 \\ &\leq -\eta_\omega(x, \theta) - \frac{\kappa_8}{2t^3(T - t)^3}(t - \theta)^2, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega_T. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, noting that  $\kappa_8 > 0$  and  $-\frac{1}{t(T-t)} \leq -\frac{4}{T^2}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, t)} dt &\leq e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, \theta)} \int_0^T \exp\left(-\frac{s\kappa_8}{t^3(T-t)^3}(t - \theta)^2\right) dt \\ &\leq e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, \theta)} \int_0^T \exp\left(-\frac{s\kappa_9}{T^2}(t - \theta)^2\right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

The Lebesgue theorem yields (4.20).

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\Omega (|y(x, \theta)|^2 + |z(x, \theta)|^2) e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, \theta)} dx &= \int_\Omega \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_0^\theta (|y(x, t)|^2 + |z(x, t)|^2) e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, t)} dt dx \\ &= \int_\Omega \int_0^\theta \{2s\alpha_\omega(x)\rho(t)^2(T - 2t)(|y(x, t)|^2 + |z(x, t)|^2) + 2(y\partial_t y + z\partial_t z)\} e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, t)} dt dx \\ &\leq \kappa_{10} \int_{\Omega_T} \{(s\rho)^3(|y(x, t)|^2 + |z(x, t)|^2) + (s\rho)^{-1}(|\partial_t y(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t z(x, t)|^2)\} e^{-2s\eta_\omega(x, t)} dt dx. \end{aligned}$$

At the last inequality, we used

$$\begin{aligned} |y\partial_t y| &= |(s\rho)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\partial_t y(s\rho)^{\frac{1}{2}}y| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}(s\rho)^{-1}|\partial_t y|^2 + \frac{1}{2}(s\rho)|y|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}(s\rho)^{-1}|\partial_t y|^2 + \kappa'_{10}(s\rho)^3|y|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by (4.19) and (4.20), noting that  $f = g = 0$  in  $\omega_1$ , we have

$$\int_{\Omega} (|y(x, \theta)|^2 + |z(x, \theta)|^2) e^{-2s\eta\omega(x, \theta)} dx \leq \kappa_7(s) \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + o(1) \int_{\Omega \setminus \omega_1} (|f(x)|^2 + |g(x)|^2) e^{-2s\eta\omega(x, \theta)} dx \quad (4.21)$$

for all large  $s > 0$ .

On the other hand, since  $u(\cdot, \theta) = v(\cdot, \theta) = 0$ , we have  $y(x, \theta) = f(x)\tilde{V}(x, \theta)$  and  $z(x, \theta) = g(x)\tilde{U}(x, \theta)$  for  $x \in \Omega$ . Therefore, by (4.6) and (4.21) we obtain

$$\kappa_{11} \int_{\Omega} (|f(x)|^2 + |g(x)|^2) e^{-2s\eta\omega(x, \theta)} dx \leq \kappa_7(s) \|y\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + o(1) \int_{\Omega \setminus \omega_1} (|f(x)|^2 + |g(x)|^2) e^{-2s\eta\omega(x, \theta)} dx$$

as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ . Taking  $s > 0$  large and fixing, we absorb the second term on the right hand side into the left hand side and the proof of Theorem 4.1 is completed.

## 5 Some generalization and comments

### 5.1 Identification of all the coefficients

Indeed we can determine all the coefficients of (1.1). For it, we need repeats of measurements by choosing suitable interior controls. We choose  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  such that

$$m > \frac{n}{4} + \frac{1}{2}.$$

We recall that  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) = (\tilde{U}(h)(\cdot, \cdot), \tilde{V}(h)(\cdot, \cdot))$  satisfies (4.3) and that  $(U, V) = (U(h)(\cdot, \cdot), V(h)(\cdot, \cdot))$  satisfies (4.3) where  $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}, \tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}, \tilde{D}$  are replaced by  $a, b, c, d, A, B, C, D$  respectively. Then, with



$m > \frac{n}{4} + \frac{1}{2}$ , under assumption (4.2) we can prove (4.16). Moreover, noting that  $H^{2m}(\Omega) \subset C^1(\bar{\Omega})$  by  $m > \frac{n}{4} + \frac{1}{2}$ , we can see that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) \in (H_0^{2m+2}(\Omega))^2$ , there exists  $h \in L^2(\omega_T)$  such that

$$\|(\tilde{U}(h), \tilde{V}(h))(\cdot, \theta) - (\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1)\|_{(C^1(\bar{\Omega}))^2} \leq \varepsilon. \quad (5.1)$$

Therefore

**Theorem 5.1** *Let  $\omega$ ,  $a, \tilde{a}, b, \tilde{b}, c, \tilde{c}, d, \tilde{d}, A, \tilde{A}, B, \tilde{B}, C, \tilde{C}, D, \tilde{D}$  satisfy Assumption 1.1 and  $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}, \tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}, \tilde{D} \in W^{2m, \infty}(\Omega)$ . Let  $\omega_1$  be a neighbourhood of  $\partial\Omega$  such that  $\bar{\omega} \subset \omega_1$  and let the coefficients  $(a, b, c, d, A, B, C, D)$  and  $(\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}, \tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}, \tilde{D})$  coincide in  $\omega_1$ . Then there exist  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{2n+2} \in L^2(\omega_T)$  such that*

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{U}(h_1) & \tilde{V}(h_1) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_1) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_1) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{U}(h_1) & \tilde{V}(h_1) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_1) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_1) \\ \tilde{U}(h_2) & \tilde{V}(h_2) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_2) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_2) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{U}(h_2) & \tilde{V}(h_2) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_2) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \tilde{U}(h_{2n+2}) & \tilde{V}(h_{2n+2}) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_{2n+2}) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_{2n+2}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{U}(h_{2n+2}) & \tilde{V}(h_{2n+2}) & 0 & 0 & \nabla \tilde{U}(h_{2n+2}) & \nabla \tilde{V}(h_{2n+2}) \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad x \in \overline{\Omega \setminus \omega_1}, \quad t = \theta \quad (5.2)$$

and we choose a constant  $\kappa > 0$  depending on  $M, m, \gamma, s, \Omega, \omega, T$  and  $h_1, \dots, h_{2n+2}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|a - \tilde{a}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|b - \tilde{b}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|c - \tilde{c}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|d - \tilde{d}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \\ & + \|A - \tilde{A}\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^n} + \|B - \tilde{B}\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^n} + \|C - \tilde{C}\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^n} + \|D - \tilde{D}\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^n} \\ & \leq \kappa \sum_{j=1}^{2n+2} (\|\partial_t(U(h_j) - \tilde{U}(h_j))\|_{W^{2,1}(\omega_T)} + \|U(h_j) - \tilde{U}(h_j)\|_{W^{2,1}(\omega_T)}) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $(a, b, c, d, A, B, C, D)$  satisfying Assumption 1.1.

**Example for Theorem 5.1:**

Let  $n = 1$  and let  $p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2, q_3$  be constants such that  $p_1q_2 - p_2q_1 \neq 0$  and  $p_3(x_1), q_4(x_1)$  satisfy  $(\partial_1 p_3)(x_1) \neq 0$  and  $\partial_1 q_4(x_1) \neq 0$  for  $x_1 \in \overline{\Omega \setminus \omega_1}$ , and let  $q_3$  be an arbitrarily smooth function.

Then for  $x = x_1 \in \overline{\Omega \setminus \omega_1}$ , we can verify that

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & q_1 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_1 & \partial_1 q_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p_1 & q_1 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_1 & \partial_1 q_1 \\ p_2 & q_2 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_2 & \partial_1 q_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p_2 & q_2 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_2 & \partial_1 q_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ p_4 & q_4 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_4 & \partial_1 q_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p_4 & q_4 & 0 & 0 & \partial_1 p_4 & \partial_1 q_4 \end{pmatrix} (x) = |\partial_1 p_3(x_1)|^2 |\partial_1 q_4(x_1)|^2 (p_1q_2 - p_2q_1)^2 \neq 0.$$

Therefore in (5.1), we can choose  $(\tilde{U}_1, \tilde{V}_1) = (p_j, q_j)$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 4$  to construct  $h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4$  satisfying (5.2).

## 5.2 Carleman estimate for a $3 \times 3$ reaction-diffusion system with one observation

We consider now a  $3 \times 3$  reaction-diffusion system

$$\partial_t u(x, t) = \Delta u(x, t) + a_{11}(x, t)u(x, t) + a_{12}(x, t)v(x, t) + a_{13}(x, t)w(x, t) + f(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t v(x, t) = \Delta v(x, t) + a_{21}(x, t)u(x, t) + a_{22}(x, t)v(x, t) + a_{23}(x, t)w(x, t) + g(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t w(x, t) = \Delta w(x, t) + a_{31}(x, t)u(x, t) + a_{32}(x, t)v(x, t) + a_{33}(x, t)w(x, t) + h(x, t) \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$u = v = w = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T. \tag{5.3}$$

We will assume

### Assumption 5.2

- (a)  $(a_{ij})_{i,j=1,3} \in W^{2,\infty}(\Omega_T)$ ,  $\|a_{ij}\|_{W^{2,\infty}(\Omega_T)} \leq M$ .
- (b)  $\omega$  of class  $C^2$ ,  $\partial\omega \cap \partial\Omega = \gamma$  and  $|\gamma| \neq 0$ .
- (c)  $\left|(\nabla a_{12} - \frac{a_{12}}{a_{13}} \nabla a_{13}) \cdot \nu\right| \neq 0$  on  $\gamma \times (0, T)$ .
- (d)  $a_{12}, a_{13} \in W^{3,\infty}(\omega_T)$ ,  $\|a_{12}\|_{W^{3,\infty}(\omega_T)}, \|a_{13}\|_{W^{3,\infty}(\omega_T)} \leq M$ .
- (e)  $a_{13} \neq 0$  on  $\overline{\Omega_T}$ .

We show a Carleman estimate with extra data of one component.

**Theorem 5.3** *Under Assumption 5.2, there exist  $\alpha_\omega \in C^2(\overline{\Omega})$  with  $\alpha_\omega > 0$  on  $\overline{\Omega}$  and a constant  $s_0 > 0$  which depends on  $T, M, \Omega, \omega, \tau$  and the  $L^\infty(\Omega)$ -norms of  $a_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$  such that we can choose positive constants  $\kappa_1(s)$  and  $\kappa$  satisfying:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\eta_\omega} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\partial_t v|^2 + |\partial_t w|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 + |\Delta w|^2 \\ & + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla w|^2 + (s\rho)^4 u^2 + (s\rho)^4 v^2 + (s\rho)^4 w^2) dxdt \\ & \leq \kappa_1(s) (\|u\|_{W_2^{4,2}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|f\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega_T)}^2 + \|g\|_{L^2(\omega_T)}^2 + \|h\|_{L^2(\omega_T)}^2) \\ & \quad + \kappa \int_{\Omega_T} (|f|^2 + |g|^2 + |h|^2) e^{-2s\eta_\omega} dxdt \end{aligned}$$

for all  $s \geq s_0$  and  $(u, v, w)$  satisfying (5.3). Here we set

$$\eta_\omega(x, t) = \frac{\alpha_\omega(x)}{t(T-t)}.$$

**Proof** Setting  $z = a_{12}v + a_{13}w$ , we rewrite (5.3) as

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + a_{11}u + z + f \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t z = \Delta z + A \cdot \nabla z + az + eu + B \cdot \nabla v + bv + G \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t v = \Delta v + a_{21}u + dv + cz + g \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$u = v = z = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T, \quad (5.4)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= -2\frac{\nabla a_{13}}{a_{13}}, \quad B = -2\nabla a_{12} + 2\frac{a_{12}}{a_{13}}\nabla a_{13}, \\ a &= 2\frac{|\nabla a_{13}|^2}{a_{13}^2} + a_{33} + \frac{a_{12}a_{23} + \partial_t a_{13} - \Delta a_{13}}{a_{13}}, \\ b &= a_{12}a_{22} + a_{13}a_{32} + \partial_t a_{12} - \Delta a_{12} + 2\nabla a_{13} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{a_{12}}{a_{13}} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{a_{12}}{a_{13}}(a_{12}a_{23} + a_{13}a_{33} + \partial_t a_{13} - \Delta a_{13}), \\ c &= \frac{a_{23}}{a_{13}}, \quad d = a_{22} - \frac{a_{12}a_{23}}{a_{13}}, \quad e = a_{21}a_{12} + a_{31}a_{13} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$G = a_{12}g + a_{13}h.$$

By [9], [14] and the proof of Theorem 2.2, we see that there exist a subdomain  $\omega' \subset \omega$  and  $\beta_{\omega'} \in C^2(\bar{\Omega})$  with  $\beta_{\omega'} > 0$  on  $\bar{\Omega}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + |\Delta z|^2 \\ &\quad + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla z|^2 + (s\rho)^4 u^2 + (s\rho)^4 z^2) dxdt \\ &\leq \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} (z^2 + |eu|^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt + \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} (f^2 + G^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt \\ &+ \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} |B \cdot \nabla b + bv|^2 e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt + \kappa_2 \int_{\omega'_T} (s\rho)^{-1} (u^2 + z^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t z|^2 + |\partial_t v|^2 + |\Delta z|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 \\ &\quad + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla z|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^4 z^2 + (s\rho)^4 v^2) dxdt \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \kappa_3(s)(\|z\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|eu + G\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2) + \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} (|eu + G|^2 + |a_{21}u + g|^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt \quad (5.6)$$

for all  $s \geq s_0$ , where we set  $\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}(x, t) = \frac{\beta_{\omega'}(x)}{t(T-t)}$ . Here (5.5) is obtained by applying the Carleman estimate in [9] or [14] to the first and the second equations in (5.4), while (5.6) is seen by applying Theorem 2.2 to the second and the third equations in (5.4) and noting Assumption 5.2 (c). We further notice that the weight function  $\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}$  can be taken the same, which can be seen from the proof of Theorem 2.2. By (5.5) and (5.6), in terms of Assumption 5.2 (a), (d) and (e), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_T} (s\rho)^{-1} e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} (|\partial_t u|^2 + |\partial_t z|^2 + |\partial_t v|^2 + |\Delta u|^2 + |\Delta z|^2 + |\Delta v|^2 \\ & + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla u|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla z|^2 + (s\rho)^2 |\nabla v|^2 + (s\rho)^4 u^2 + (s\rho)^4 z^2 + (s\rho)^4 v^2) dxdt \\ & \leq \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} (z^2 + u^2 + v^2 + |\nabla v|^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt + \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega_T} (f^2 + g^2 + h^2) e^{-2s\tilde{\eta}_{\omega'}} dxdt \\ & \quad + \kappa_3(s)(\|z\|_{W_2^{2,1}(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|g\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2 + \|h\|_{L^2(\omega'_T)}^2) \end{aligned} \quad (5.7)$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . We can absorb the first terms on the right hand side into the left hand side by choosing  $s > 0$  large, and we use  $z = \partial_t u - \Delta u - a_{11}u - f$  by the first equation in (5.4), so that the proof of Theorem 5.3 is completed.

The approximate controllability is a direct consequence of Theorem 5.3. That is, we consider

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u + a_{11}(x)u + a_{21}(x)v + a_{31}(x)w + \chi_{\omega} f \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t v = \Delta v + a_{12}(x)u + a_{22}(x)v + a_{32}(x)w \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$\partial_t w = \Delta w + a_{13}(x)u + a_{23}(x)v + a_{33}(x)w \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$u = v = w = 0 \quad \text{on } \Sigma_T,$$

$$u(\cdot, 0) = u_0, \quad v(\cdot, 0) = v_0, \quad w(\cdot, 0) = w_0 \quad \text{in } \Omega. \quad (5.8)$$

Here we assume that all the coefficients are independent of  $t$ .

Then

**Theorem 5.4** *Under Assumption 5.2, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $T > 0$ ,  $(u_0, v_0, w_0) \in (L^2(\Omega))^3$  and  $(u_1, v_1, w_1) \in (L^2(\Omega))^3$ , there exists  $f \in L^2(\omega_T)$  such that the corresponding solution of (5.8) satisfies*

$$\|(u, v, w)(\cdot, T) - (u_1, v_1, w_1)\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^3} \leq \varepsilon.$$

Similarly to section 4, we can apply the Carleman estimate of Theorem 5.3 for determining the nine coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$  by suitably repeated observations of only one component  $u$  and we will here omit further details.

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