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## OPTIMAL CONTROL OF STATE CONSTRAINED AGE-STRUCTURED PROBLEMS

#### J. FRÉDÉRIC BONNANS AND JUSTINA GIANATTI

ABSTRACT. The aim of this work is to study an optimal control problem with state constraints where the state is given by an age-structured, abstract parabolic differential equation. We prove the existence and uniqueness of solution for the state equation and provide first and second parabolic estimates. We analyze the differentiability of the cost function and, based on the general theory of Lagrange multipliers, we give a first order optimality condition. We also define and analyze the regularity of the costate.

 $\textbf{Keywords.} \ \ \textbf{Age-structured systems, optimal control, abstract parabolic equations, state constraints}$ 

**AMS subject classifications.** 49K20, 49K27, 48N60, 92D25, 35K90

#### 1. Introduction

In the last decades, there were many contributions on the study of age-structured systems. They appear naturally in several applications, in particular to model population dynamics, like it was introduced in [14, 13]. The existence, uniqueness, regularity and stability of solution for different age-structured systems with and without diffusion have been extensively studied, see for instance [17, 16, 12, 7, 22] and the references therein.

There are also several works on optimal control of age-structured systems. Optimality conditions of Pontryagin maximum type are given in [6] and [11], where they consider dynamics without diffusion. For a particular biological application, optimality conditions and numerical results are given in [9]. In the case of dynamics with diffusion, optimality conditions as well as existence of optimal controls are studied in [1, 2, 20], where the control has different meanings depending on the model. The bibliography is vast and we only mention some works, where interested references can be founded.

However, in the case of optimal control problems with age-structured dynamics and state constraints, there are only a few works. In [10] the author deals with a Hamilton Jacobi equation with state constraints and an economical application with an age-structured equation is presented. In [15] the authors study the Pontryagin Maximum Principle for a particular kind of problems and as an illustrative example, they present an optimal control problem for an age-structured system with pointwise terminal state constraints. Finally, in [19] the authors consider mixed state-control constraints, and derive optimality conditions based on the Lagrange multipliers theory.

In this work we address an optimal control problem of partial differential equations, where the state equation is age-structured, and is driven by a general abstract parabolic operator. Most of the population dynamic models considered in the above mentioned works, are particular cases of our formulation. We also deal with a finite number of linear state constraints, and to the best of our knowledge, this was not considered in the literature but seems to arise naturally in some applications.

Throughout this work we consider different types of initial conditions with respect to the age variable. We start by considering a given initial condition, as might occur in a fishery or harvesting problem, and then we study an initial condition given by a fecundity rate, which is a natural birth condition for many population dynamics. Furthermore, we assume

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that the cost function includes final costs with respect the final time and final age. This kind of cost again makes sense for the problems mentioned above.

Finally, we tackle the problem of existence of optimal controls. Unfortunately, for this general framework is not easy to obtain such results. In [1] the authors prove the existence of optimal solutions but under a restrictive assumption about the state and the control spaces. For this reason, in the last part of this work we introduce a modified optimal control problem, which is related to the original one, and for which we can prove the existence of optimal controls.

This paper is organized as follows: in Section 2 we present the optimal control problem. We start studying the existence and uniqueness of solution for the state equation in Section 3 and we provide first and second parabolic estimates for this equation. In Section 4 we analyze the differentiability of the cost function and the state constraints, and provide optimality conditions based on the Lagrange multipliers theory. We define the costate and study its regularity. In Section 5 we study a modified optimal control problem where the existence of optimal solutions can be proven.

#### 2. Optimal control problem

Let  $(V, H, V^*)$  be a separable Gelfand triple. We denote by  $(\cdot, \cdot)_H$  the scalar product in H and by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$  the duality product between  $V^*$  and V.

Let  $0 < A < T < \infty$  and  $D := (0,T) \times (0,A)$ . Given a Banach space U, we define the set of controls as

$$\mathcal{U} := L^{\infty}(D; U).$$

In this section we introduce the optimal control problem considered in this work:

(2) 
$$\min J(u,y) := \int_0^T \int_0^A \ell(u,y) da dt + \int_0^A h_0(y(T,a)) da + \int_0^T h_1(y(t,A)) dt$$

s.t.

(3) 
$$\begin{cases} (y_t + y_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a, u(t, a))y(t, a) = f(t, a), & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ y(0, a) - y_0(a) = 0, & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ y(t, 0) - y_1(t) = 0, & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H), \\ \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t, a))_H da - M_i \le 0, & t \in [0, T], \quad i = 1, \dots, r, \end{cases}$$

where  $y(t,a) \in V$  denotes the state function and  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  the control. We assume  $\ell$ :  $U \times H \to \mathbb{R}, \ h_0, h_1 : H \to \mathbb{R}, \ f \in L^2(D; V^*), \ \mathcal{A} : D \times U \to L(V, V^*), \ y_0 \in L^2(0, A; H),$  $y_1 \in L^2(0,T;H)$  and  $\xi_i \in L^2(0,A;H)$ ,  $i=1,\ldots,r$ . Additional assumptions over the data will be provided in the next sections.

Throughout this work we will also consider age-structured state systems where the birth process is depending on a fecundity rate, i.e.

(4) 
$$y(t,0) = \int_0^A c(t,a)y(t,a)da,$$

where  $c: D \to \mathbb{R}^+$  is a given function.

#### 3. Age-structured state system

In this section we study the uncontrolled state equation. We introduce the state space and prove the existence and uniqueness of solution. Under additional assumptions we provide a second parabolic estimate for this case. Finally, we show how our approach can cover the case when the birth process  $y(\cdot,0)$  depends on a fecundity rate of the population.

We begin by studying the following abstract parabolic age-structured system.

(5) 
$$\begin{cases} (y_t + y_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a)y(t, a) = f(t, a) & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ y(0, a) = y_0(a) & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ y(t, 0) = y_1(t) & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H), \end{cases}$$

where  $A:D\to L(V,V^*)$  is a measurable map,  $f\in L^2(D;V^*),\ y_0\in L^2(0,A;H)$  and  $y_1\in L^2(0,T;H).$ 

We make the following assumptions for A of uniform continuity and semicoercivity:

- (H1) There exists C > 0 such that  $\|\mathcal{A}(t,a)v\|_{V^*} \leq C\|v\|_V$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $(t,a) \in D$ .
- (H2) There exist  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{A}(t,a)v,v\rangle_V \geq \alpha \|v\|_V^2 \lambda \|v\|_H^2$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $(t,a) \in D$ .
- 3.1. **Space** W(D). In this section we introduce the state space.

We recall that if  $y \in H$  and  $v \in V$  then  $\langle y, v \rangle_V = (y, v)_H$ , when y is considered as an element of  $V^*$ .

We denote by  $C_0^{\infty}(D; V)$  the space of infinitely differentiable functions with compact supports in D and image in V. In particular when the image space is  $\mathbb{R}$  we write  $C_0^{\infty}(D)$ . Given  $y \in L^2(D; V)$ , if there exists  $w \in L^2(D; V^*)$  such that

(6) 
$$-\int_0^T \int_0^A (y, \varphi_t + \varphi_a)_H \, dadt = \int_0^T \int_0^A \langle w, \varphi \rangle_V \, dadt, \quad \forall \varphi \in C_0^\infty(D; V),$$

we say that  $w = y_t + y_a$  in a weak sense (which does not imply that  $y_t$  and  $y_a$  exist in  $L^2(D; V^*)$ ). Since the space V is separable, there exists a countable Hilbert basis, and we can conclude that (6) is equivalent to

(7) 
$$-\int_0^T \int_0^A (\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(y, v)_H \, dadt = \int_0^T \int_0^A \varphi(w, v)_V \, dadt, \quad \forall (\varphi, v) \in C_0^{\infty}(D) \times V.$$

The last condition is also equivalent to the following equality in  $V^*$ ,

(8) 
$$-\int_0^T \int_0^A (\varphi_t + \varphi_a) y \, da dt = \int_0^T \int_0^A \varphi w \, da dt, \quad \forall \varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(D).$$

Definition 3.1. Given a separable Gelfand triple  $(V, H, V^*)$ , we define the space

(9) 
$$W(D) := \{ y \in L^2(D; V) : y_t + y_a \in L^2(D; V^*) \},$$

endowed with the norm

(10) 
$$||y||_{W(D)} := \left( \int_0^T \int_0^A ||y(t,a)||_V^2 + ||(y_t + y_a)(t,a)||_{V^*}^2 \, \mathrm{d}a \mathrm{d}t \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

The next result is easy to obtain by following the lines of [18].

**Proposition 3.2.** The space  $C^{\infty}(D;V)$  is a dense subset of W(D).

By the previous proposition and [18], we obtain the following result that appears in [12, Lemma 0] and [16, Section 4].

**Lemma 3.3.** Let  $y \in W(D)$ , then for all  $\bar{t} \in [0,T]$  and  $\bar{a} \in [0,A]$  there exist the traces

(11) 
$$y(\bar{t}, \cdot) \in L^2(0, A; H) \text{ and } y(\cdot, \bar{a}) \in L^2(0, T; H),$$

and the maps  $\bar{t}\mapsto y(\bar{t},\cdot)$  and  $\bar{a}\mapsto y(\cdot,\bar{a})$  are continuous. Also, the maps  $W(D)\to C(0,T;L^2(0,A;H))$  and  $W(D)\to C(0,A;L^2(0,T;H))$  are continuous.

In addition, the following integration by parts formula holds, for all  $0 \le t_1 \le t_2 \le T$ ,  $0 \le a_1 \le a_2 \le A$  and  $y, v \in W(D)$ ,

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \langle y_t + y_a, v \rangle_V + \langle v_t + v_a, y \rangle_V \, dadt$$

$$= \int_{a_1}^{a_2} (y(t_2, a), v(t_2, a))_H - (y(t_1, a), v(t_1, a))_H \, da$$

$$+ \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (y(t, a_2), v(t, a_2))_H - (y(t, a_1), v(t, a_1))_H \, dt.$$

3.2. Existence and uniqueness of solution. The aim of this section is to prove the existence of a solution of the state equation (5) in the following sense.

Definition 3.4. A function  $y \in W(D)$  is a solution of (5) if

(13) 
$$\begin{cases} \int_{D} \langle y_{t} + y_{a}, v \rangle_{V} \operatorname{d}a \operatorname{d}t + \int_{D} \langle Ay, v \rangle_{V} \operatorname{d}a \operatorname{d}t = \int_{D} \langle f, v \rangle_{V} \operatorname{d}a \operatorname{d}t, & \forall v \in L^{2}(D; V), \\ y(0, a) = y_{0}(a), & \text{a.e. in } [0, A], \\ y(t, 0) = y_{1}(t), & \text{a.e. in } [0, T]. \end{cases}$$

The main idea to construct solutions of the state equation is to solve a family of parabolic differential equations over the characteristic curves where t-a is constant. In the Appendix we recall some useful results for the standard parabolic case.

3.2.1. Existence. In this section we will construct a function given by the characteristic method and then we will prove that it is a solution of (5) in the sense of Definition 3.4. The idea is to solve an abstract parabolic differential equation over each characteristic curve, that depends only on time or age. We consider two regions  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  defined as

(14) 
$$D_1 := \{(t, a) \in D : 0 \le t \le a \le A\}, \quad D_2 := D \setminus D_1.$$

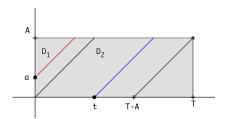


Figure 1. Partition of D

In the region  $D_1$  we consider the curves that start in points with t = 0, i.e., for each  $a \in [0, A]$  we define the characteristic curve as

$$(15) D_1^a := \{(t, a+t) : 0 < t < A-a\}.$$

In the region  $D_2$  we consider the curves defined as

(16) 
$$D_2^t := \begin{cases} \{(t+a,a) : 0 \le a \le A\}, & \text{if } t \in (0,T-A], \\ \{(t+a,a) : 0 \le a \le T-t\}, & \text{if } t \in (T-A,T). \end{cases}$$

We start by solving the system (5) in the region  $D_1$ . For  $0 \le a \le A$ , we denote by  $Y^a(\cdot) \in W(0, A - a)$  the solution of the following system, which exists by Proposition A.1 for a.a.  $a \in [0, A]$ ,

(17) 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{Y}^{a}(t) + \mathcal{A}^{a}(t)Y^{a}(t) = f^{a}(t), & \text{in } L^{2}(0, A - a; V^{*}), \\ Y^{a}(0) = y_{0}(a), & \text{in } H, \end{cases}$$

where  $\mathcal{A}^a(t) := \mathcal{A}(t, t+a)$ ,  $f^a(t) := f(t, t+a)$ , and, as usual, we denote  $\dot{Y}^a(t)$  the time derivative of  $Y^a$ . By our assumptions, for almost all  $a \in [0, A]$ , we have  $f^a \in L^2(0, A-a; V^*)$  and  $y_0(a) \in H$ , then Proposition A.1 applies. In particular,  $Y^a \in W(0, A-a)$  satisfies

(18) 
$$\int_0^{A-a} \langle \dot{Y}^a(t), v(t) \rangle_V dt + \int_0^{A-a} \langle \mathcal{A}^a(t) Y^a(t), v(t) \rangle_V dt = \int_0^{A-a} \langle f^a(t), v(t) \rangle_V dt,$$

for all  $v \in L^2(0, A - a; V)$  and there exists C > 0 independent of a such that,

(19) 
$$||Y^a||_{W(0,A-a)} \le C \left[ ||y_0(a)||_H + ||f^a||_{L^2(0,A-a;V^*)} \right].$$

Now, we define  $D_1^* := \{(t, a) : 0 \le a \le A, 0 \le t \le A - a\}$ . Based on [8, Lemma 1.8.2, p. 36] we obtain the following result:

**Lemma 3.5.** The map  $(t, a) \in D_1^* \mapsto Y^a(t)$  belongs to  $L^2(D_1^*; V)$ .

*Proof.* We define the Banach space  $E := H \times L^2(0, A; V^*)$ . Given  $(w, g) \in E$ , by Proposition A.1 there exists a unique solution of the parabolic equation:

(20) 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}(t) + \mathcal{A}^{a}(t)z(t) = g(t), & \text{in } L^{2}(0, A; V^{*}), \\ z(0) = w, & \text{in } H, \end{cases}$$

where the map  $\mathcal{A}$  is extended by zero out of D. Also, by Proposition A.1, the map  $(w,g) \mapsto z$  is continuous and satisfies

(21) 
$$||z||_{L^2(0,A;V)} \le C[||w||_H + ||g||_{L^2(0,A;V^*)}].$$

Since  $y_0 \in L^2(0, A; H)$  and  $f \in L^2(D; V^*)$ , the map defined as

(22) 
$$a \in [0, A] \mapsto (y_0(a), f^a),$$

belongs to  $L^2(0, A; E)$  (we extend by zero the function  $f^a$  in [A - a, A]).

Therefore, by [8, Lemma 1.8.2, p. 36] the function  $(t, a) \mapsto Y^a(t)$  belongs to  $L^2(0, A; L^2(0, A; V))$ , and by [8, Proposition 1.8.1, p. 28] the result follows.

Now, in region  $D_2$  for  $t \in (0, T - A]$  we consider the function  $\tilde{Y}^t$  solution of

(23) 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{\tilde{Y}}^{t}(a) + \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{t}(a)\tilde{Y}^{t}(a) = \tilde{f}^{t}(a), & \text{in } L^{2}(0, A; V^{*}), \\ \tilde{Y}^{t}(0) = y_{1}(t) & \text{in } H, \end{cases}$$

where  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^t(a) := \mathcal{A}(t+a,a)$ ,  $\tilde{f}^t(a) := f(t+a,a)$  and  $\dot{\tilde{Y}}^t(a) = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}a}\tilde{Y}^t(a)$ . Again, by Proposition A.1, for a.a.  $t \in (0,T-A]$  there exists  $\tilde{Y}^t \in W(0,A)$  such that for all  $v \in L^2(0,A;V)$ ,

(24) 
$$\int_0^A \langle \dot{\tilde{Y}}^t(a), v(a) \rangle_V da + \int_0^A \langle \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^t(a) \tilde{Y}^t(a), v(a) \rangle_V da = \int_0^A \langle \tilde{f}^t(a), v(a) \rangle_V da,$$

and there exists C > 0, independent of t, such that

(25) 
$$\|\tilde{Y}^t\|_{W(0,A)} \le C \left[ \|y_1(t)\|_H + \|\tilde{f}^t\|_{L^2(0,A;V^*)} \right].$$

We proceed analogously for  $t \in (T - A, T]$  obtaining  $\tilde{Y}^t \in W(0, T - t)$ . Now we define the function y as

(26) 
$$y(t,a) := \begin{cases} Y^{a-t}(t) & (t,a) \in D_1, \\ \tilde{Y}^{t-a}(a) & (t,a) \in D_2. \end{cases}$$

We can extend the results of Lemma 3.5 to the region  $D_2$ , and conclude that y belongs to  $L^2(D; V)$ . In addition, we have

(27) 
$$\int_{D} \|y(t,a)\|_{V}^{2} dadt = \int_{D_{1}} \|y(t,a)\|_{V}^{2} dadt + \int_{D_{2}} \|y(t,a)\|_{V}^{2} dadt.$$

By (26) and (19) we obtain

(28) 
$$\int_{D_{1}} \|y(t,a)\|_{V}^{2} dadt = \int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} \|y(t,t+a)\|_{V}^{2} dt da 
= \int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} \|Y^{a}(t)\|_{V}^{2} dt da 
\leq C \int_{0}^{A} [\|y_{0}(a)\|_{H}^{2} + \|f^{a}\|_{L^{2}(0,A-a;V^{*})}^{2}] da.$$

Analogously we can proceed in region  $D_2$  and finally obtain

(29) 
$$||y||_{L^2(D;V)}^2 \le \bar{C} \left[ ||y_0||_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + ||y_1||_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + ||f||_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right].$$

In order to prove that y defined by (26) is a solution of the system (5) we need to prove that  $y_t + y_a$  exists in the sense of (8), and belongs to  $L^2(D; V^*)$ . Let  $\varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(D)$ , then

(30) 
$$\int_0^A \int_0^T y(t,a)(\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(t,a) dt da = \int_{D_1} y(t,a)(\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(t,a) dt da + \int_{D_2} y(t,a)(\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(t,a) dt da.$$

Again, we start by  $D_1$ . For all  $a \in [0, A]$ , the function  $\varphi^a(t) := \varphi(t, t + a)$  belongs to  $C_0^{\infty}(0, A - a)$ , and  $\dot{\varphi}^a(t) = \varphi_t(t, t + a) + \varphi_a(t, t + a)$ . Since  $Y^a \in W(0, A - a)$  we have

(31) 
$$\int_0^{A-a} \dot{Y}^a(t)\varphi^a(t)dt = -\int_0^{A-a} Y^a(t)\dot{\varphi}^a(t)dt, \quad \text{in } V^*.$$

We can conclude that

(32) 
$$\int_{D_1} y(t,a)(\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(t,a) dt da = \int_0^A \int_0^{A-a} y(t,t+a)(\varphi_t + \varphi_a)(t,t+a) dt da \\
= \int_0^A \int_0^{A-a} Y^a(t) \dot{\varphi}^a(t) dt da \\
= -\int_0^A \int_0^{A-a} \dot{Y}^a(t) \varphi^a(t) dt da \\
= \int_{D_1} \dot{Y}^{a-t}(t) \varphi(t,a) da dt.$$

We can proceed analogously in  $D_2$  and conclude that  $y_t + y_a$  exists in a weak sense in D and satisfies

(33) 
$$(y_t + y_a)(t, a) = \begin{cases} \dot{Y}^{a-t}(t), & \text{if } (t, a) \in D_1, \\ \dot{\tilde{Y}}^{t-a}(a), & \text{if } (t, a) \in D_2. \end{cases}$$

In this case, the well posedness of  $y_t + y_a$  is also guaranteed by Lemma 3.5, obtaining  $y_t + y_a \in L^2(D; V^*)$ . We can conclude that the function defined by (26) belongs to W(D). Finally, by (18), (24), (26) and (33), integrating over the characteristic curves in D, we can conclude that the function y is a solution of (5) in the sense of Definition 3.4.

3.2.2. Uniqueness. We start by giving an a priori estimate.

**Proposition 3.6.** Let  $y \in W(D)$  be a solution of (5), then there exists C > 0 such that

(34) 
$$\sup_{t \in [0,T]} \|y(t,\cdot)\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 \le C \left[ \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right],$$

(35) 
$$\sup_{a \in [0,A]} \|y(\cdot,a)\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 \le C \left[ \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right],$$

and

(36) 
$$||y||_{W(D)}^2 \le C \left[ ||y_0||_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + ||y_1||_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + ||f||_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right].$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.3, taking y = v in (13), for all  $\bar{t} \in [0, T]$  and  $\bar{a} \in [0, A]$  we have,

(37) 
$$\int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} \langle y_{t} + y_{a}, y \rangle_{V} \, dadt = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} (\|y(\bar{t}, a)\|_{H}^{2} - \|y_{0}(a)\|_{H}^{2}) \, da + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} (\|y(t, \bar{a})\|_{H}^{2} - \|y_{1}(t)\|_{H}^{2}) \, dt.$$

Since  $y \in L^2(D; V)$ , by (13) we obtain

(38) 
$$\frac{\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} \|y(\bar{t}, a)\|_{H}^{2} da + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \|y(t, \bar{a})\|_{H}^{2} dt + \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} \langle \mathcal{A}(t, a) y(t, a), y(t, a) \rangle_{V} da dt}{= \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} \langle f, y \rangle_{V} da dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{a}} \|y_{0}\|_{H}^{2} da + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \|y_{1}\|_{H}^{2} dt}.$$

We take  $\bar{a} = A$  in (38), then by the Cauchy-Schwarz and Young inequalities, and the semicoercivity assumption for A(t, a) we obtain for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\int_{0}^{A} \|y(\bar{t}, a)\|_{H}^{2} da \leq -2 \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \langle \mathcal{A}(t, a) y(t, a), y(t, a) \rangle_{V} da dt + \|y_{0}\|_{L^{2}(0, A; H)}^{2} 
+ \|y_{1}\|_{L^{2}(0, T; H)}^{2} + 2 \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|f\|_{V^{*}} \|y\|_{V} da dt 
\leq 2\lambda \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|y\|_{H}^{2} da dt - 2\alpha \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|y\|_{V}^{2} da dt + \|y_{0}\|_{L^{2}(0, A; H)}^{2} 
+ \|y_{1}\|_{L^{2}(0, T; H)}^{2} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^{2}(D; V^{*})}^{2} + \varepsilon \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|y\|_{V}^{2} da dt 
= 2\lambda \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|y\|_{H}^{2} da dt + (\varepsilon - 2\alpha) \int_{0}^{\bar{t}} \int_{0}^{A} \|y\|_{V}^{2} da dt 
+ \|y_{0}\|_{L^{2}(0, A; H)}^{2} + \|y_{1}\|_{L^{2}(0, T; H)}^{2} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^{2}(D; V^{*})}^{2}.$$

Taking  $\varepsilon = \alpha$ , and defining the function  $\beta(s) := \int_0^A \|y(s,a)\|_H^2 da$ , we have

(40) 
$$\beta(\bar{t}) \leq 2\lambda \int_0^{\bar{t}} \beta(t) dt + \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \|f\|_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2.$$

By Grönwall's Lemma, there exists C > 0 such that

(41) 
$$\sup_{s \in [0,T]} \int_0^A \|y(s,a)\|_H^2 da \le C e^{2\lambda T} \left[ \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right].$$

Analogously we obtain

(42) 
$$\sup_{b \in [0,A]} \int_0^T \|y(t,b)\|_H^2 dt \le C e^{2\lambda A} \left[ \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;H)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(D;V^*)}^2 \right].$$

We conclude that (34) and (35) hold.

Then, by (34) or (35) there exists C > 0 such that

(43) 
$$||y||_{L^{2}(D;H)}^{2} \leq C \left[ ||y_{0}||_{L^{2}(0,A;H)}^{2} + ||y_{1}||_{L^{2}(0,T;H)}^{2} + ||f||_{L^{2}(D;V^{*})}^{2} \right].$$

Now, going back to (39), and taking  $\bar{t} = T$ , we have

$$(44) \quad \alpha \int_{D} \|y\|_{V}^{2} da dt \leq 2\lambda \int_{D} \|y\|_{H}^{2} da dt + \|y_{0}\|_{L^{2}(0,A;H)}^{2} + \|y_{1}\|_{L^{2}(0,T;H)}^{2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} \|f\|_{L^{2}(D;V^{*})}^{2}.$$

And by (43) and the previous inequality there exists C > 0 such that

Now, since y is solution of (5), we have

$$(46) ||y_t + y_a||_{L^2(D;V^*)} \le ||\mathcal{A}y||_{L^2(D;V^*)} + ||f||_{L^2(D;V^*)}.$$

By (H1) and (45), there exists C > 0 such that

If we assume that there exist two solutions y and z of (13), then their difference y-z is solution of the same equation with zero r.h.s. and zero initial conditions, by the previous proposition we conclude y=z in W(D). To summarize, we have

**Theorem 3.7.** Under assumptions (H1) and (H2), there exists a unique solution of (5) in W(D) which is given by (26).

Remark 3.8. By the previous theorem we conclude that the map

$$(48) y \mapsto (y_t + y_a + \mathcal{A}y, y(0, \cdot), y(\cdot, 0)),$$

defines an isomorphism between W(D) and  $L^2(D; V^*) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H)$ .

Furthermore, we deduce that for any  $z \in W(D)$ , the function defined as  $z^a(t) := z(t, t+a)$  belongs to W(0, A-a) for a.a.  $a \in [0, A]$  and  $\tilde{z}^t(a) := z(t+a, a)$  belongs to  $W(0, A \wedge (T-t))$  for a.a.  $t \in [0, T]$ .

- 3.2.3. Second parabolic estimates. The estimates studied in Proposition 3.6 are usually called the first parabolic estimates. Now, under additional assumptions we show the second parabolic estimate for the age-structured case. We make the following assumptions:  $A(t, a) = A_0(t, a) + A_1(t, a)$  where
  - (H3)  $\mathcal{A}_0(t,a): V \to V^*$  is symmetric and uniformly continuously differentiable over almost all characteristic curves, i.e., defining for a.a.  $a \in [0,A]$ , the function  $\mathcal{A}^a(t) := \mathcal{A}(t,t+a)$  and for a.a.  $t \in [0,T]$ , the function  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^t(a) := \mathcal{A}(t+a,a)$ , there exists a modulus of continuity for  $\mathcal{A}^a$ ,  $\dot{\mathcal{A}}^a$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^t$  and  $\dot{\tilde{\mathcal{A}}}^t$ , independent of t and a. In addition, there exists  $\alpha_0 > 0$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{A}_0(t,a)v,v \rangle \geq \alpha_0 \|v\|_V^2$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $(t,a) \in D$ .
  - (H4)  $\mathcal{A}_1(t,a): V \to V^*$  is measurable with range in H and there exists  $c_1 > 0$  such that  $\|\mathcal{A}_1(t,a)v\|_H \le c_1\|v\|_V$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $(t,a) \in D$ .

**Theorem 3.9.** Assume  $f \in L^2(D; H)$ ,  $y_0 \in L^2(0, A; V)$ ,  $y_1 \in L^2(0, T; V)$  and the assumptions (H1)-(H4) hold. Then, the solution y of the system (5) satisfies

$$(49) y \in L^{\infty}(0,T;L^{2}(0,A;V)) \cap L^{\infty}(0,A;L^{2}(0,T;V)), y_{t} + y_{a} \in L^{2}(D;H),$$

and there exists C > 0 such that

(50) 
$$||y||_{L^{\infty}(0,T;L^{2}(0,A;V))} + ||y||_{L^{\infty}(0,A;L^{2}(0,T;V))} + ||y_{t} + y_{a}||_{L^{2}(D;H)}$$

$$\leq C \left[ ||y_{0}||_{L^{2}(0,A;V)} + ||y_{1}||_{L^{2}(0,T;V)} + ||f||_{L^{2}(D;H)} \right].$$

*Proof.* We know that the solution y is defined over the characteristic curves. In particular, for almost all characteristic Remark A.3 applies.

Consider  $\bar{a} \in [0, A]$ . We want to prove that  $y(\cdot, \bar{a}) \in L^2(0, T; V)$ . For every  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $(t, \bar{a})$  belongs to a characteristic curve. In particular, if  $t \leq \bar{a}$ , then  $(t, \bar{a}) \in D_1$ , and the value of  $y(t, \bar{a})$  is given by the function  $Y^{\bar{a}-t}(t)$ . By Remark A.3, we have

(51) 
$$||y(t,\bar{a})||_{V} \le C \left[ ||y_{0}(\bar{a}-t)||_{V} + ||f^{\bar{a}-t}||_{L^{2}(0,A-(\bar{a}-t);H)} \right], \text{ a.e. } t \in [0,\bar{a}],$$

where C > 0 is independent of  $y_0$  and f.

On the other hand, if  $T - A \ge t > \bar{a}$ , the value of  $y(t, \bar{a})$  is given by  $\tilde{Y}^{t-\bar{a}}(\bar{a})$ . Again, by Remark A.3 for a.e.  $t \in [\bar{a}, T]$  we obtain

(52) 
$$||y(t,\bar{a})||_{V} \le C \left[ ||y_{1}(t-\bar{a})||_{V} + ||\tilde{f}^{t-\bar{a}}||_{L^{2}(0,A;H)} \right].$$

When  $T - A < t \le T$ , we obtain similar estimates, where the last term in the r.h.s. of the previous inequality has to be understand in  $L^2(0, T - t; H)$ .

By (51) and (52) there exists  $\bar{C} > 0$ , independent of  $\bar{a}$ , such that

(53) 
$$\int_0^T \|y(t,\bar{a})\|_V^2 dt \le \bar{C} \left[ \|y_0\|_{L^2(0,A;V)}^2 + \|y_1\|_{L^2(0,T;V)}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2(D;H)}^2 \right].$$

Analogously we can prove that for all  $\bar{t} \in [0,T], y(\bar{t},\cdot) \in L^2(0,A;V)$  and we obtain

(54) 
$$||y||_{L^{\infty}(0,T;L^{2}(0,A;V))} + ||y||_{L^{\infty}(0,A;L^{2}(0,T;V))}$$

$$\leq C \left[ ||y_{0}||_{L^{2}(0,A;V)} + ||y_{1}||_{L^{2}(0,T;V)} + ||f||_{L^{2}(D;H)} \right].$$

Following similar arguments, by (32), for almost all  $(t, a) \in D$  the value of  $y_t + y_a$  is given by  $\dot{Y}^{a-t}$  in  $D_1$  or by  $\dot{Y}^{t-a}$  in  $D_2$ . Then, by Theorem A.2 we obtain  $(y_t + y_a)(t, a) \in H$  a.e. and also there exists C > 0 such that

$$(55) ||y_t + y_a||_{L^2(D;H)} \le C \left[ ||y_0||_{L^2(0,A;V)} + ||y_1||_{L^2(0,T;V)} + ||f||_{L^2(D;H)} \right].$$

By (54) and (55) the result follows.

3.3. Birth process depending on a fecundity rate. It is natural in many applications to consider that the birth process  $y(\cdot,0)$  depends on a fecundity rate. We notice that we can also prove the existence and uniqueness of solution for the following system that takes this into account,

(56) 
$$\begin{cases} (y_t + y_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a)y(t, a) = f(t, a) & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ y(0, a) = y_0(a) & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ y(t, 0) = \int_0^A c(t, a)y(t, a) da & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H). \end{cases}$$

In this case  $c: D \to \mathbb{R}^+$  is a measurable function that represents the fecundity rate, and we assume that there exists  $\bar{C} > 0$  such that

$$\sup_{t \in [0,T]} \int_0^A c(a,t)^2 \mathrm{d}a \le \bar{C}.$$

Let  $\gamma > 0$ , and define  $w(t, a) := e^{-\gamma t} y(t, a)$ . It is easy to observe that if y satisfies the first equation in (56), then w satisfies

(58) 
$$(w_t + w_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a)w(t, a) + \gamma w = \bar{f}(t, a) \text{ in } L^2(D; V^*),$$

where  $\bar{f}(t,a) := e^{-\gamma t} f(t,a)$ . So, in the sequel we consider the above dynamics. Now, we define the map  $\mathcal{T}: L^2(D;H) \to L^2(D;H)$ , such that  $\mathcal{T}z = w$ , where w solves the system

(59) 
$$\begin{cases} (w_t + w_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a)w(t, a) + \gamma w = \bar{f}(t, a) & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ w(0, a) = w_0(a) & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ w(t, 0) = \int_0^A c(t, a)z(t, a)da & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H). \end{cases}$$

We observe that by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and our assumptions we have

(60) 
$$\int_0^T \left\| \int_0^A c(t,a) z(t,a) da \right\|_H^2 dt \le \int_0^T \left( \int_0^A c(t,a)^2 da \right) \left( \int_0^A \| z(t,a) \|_H^2 da \right) dt$$
 
$$\le \bar{C} \|z\|_{L^2(D;H)}^2.$$

Then, the map  $t \mapsto \int_0^A c(t,a)z(t,a)da$  belongs to  $L^2(0,T;H)$  and by Theorem 3.7, there exists a unique solution of (59). We conclude that the map  $\mathcal{T}$  is well-posed. Now we want to prove that it is a contractive map in  $L^2(D;H)$ . Let  $z_1, z_2 \in L^2(D;H)$ , we denote  $\bar{z} := z_1 - z_2$  and  $\bar{w} := \mathcal{T}z_1 - \mathcal{T}z_2$ , we have that  $\bar{w}$  solves the system (59) with  $\bar{f} \equiv 0$ ,  $w_0 \equiv 0$  and  $\bar{z}$  instead of z.

By Lemma 3.3 and assumption (H2), we obtain

$$(61) \quad 0 = \int_{D} \left[ \langle \bar{w}_{t} + \bar{w}_{a}, \bar{w} \rangle_{V} + \langle \mathcal{A}\bar{w}, \bar{w} \rangle_{V} + \gamma \langle \bar{w}, \bar{w} \rangle_{V} \right] dadt 
= \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{A} \left[ \|\bar{w}(T, a)\|_{H}^{2} - \|\bar{w}(0, a)\|_{H}^{2} \right] da + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{T} \left[ \|\bar{w}(t, A)\|_{H}^{2} - \|\bar{w}(t, 0)\|_{H}^{2} \right] dt 
+ \int_{D} \left[ \langle \mathcal{A}\bar{w}, \bar{w} \rangle_{V} + \gamma \langle \bar{w}, \bar{w} \rangle_{V} \right] dadt, 
\geq -\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{T} \|\bar{w}(t, 0)\|_{H}^{2} dt + \int_{D} \left[ \alpha \|\bar{w}\|_{V}^{2} - \lambda \|\bar{w}\|_{H}^{2} + \gamma \|\bar{w}\|_{H}^{2} \right] dadt.$$

We deduce with (60) that

(62) 
$$(\gamma - \lambda) \|\bar{w}\|_{L^2(D;H)}^2 \le \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|w(t,0)\|_H^2 dt \le \frac{\bar{C}}{2} \|\bar{z}\|_{L^2(D;H)}^2.$$

We can choose  $\gamma > 0$  large enough in order to obtain that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a contraction, and therefore we have a unique fixed point. In addition, by Theorem 3.7, we have that  $\mathcal{T}(L^2(D;H)) \subset W(D)$ , then, the system (56) has a unique solution in W(D).

If in addition we assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies (H1)-(H4),  $f \in L^2(D; H)$  and  $y_0 \in L^2(0, A; V)$ , since the solution of (56) belongs to W(D), we have  $y(\cdot, 0) \in L^2(D; V)$ , and then Theorem 3.9 applies.

#### 4. Optimality condition

The aim of this section is provide optimality conditions for the optimal control problem described in Section 2. In order to analyze the differentiability of the cost function, we study the regularity of the map  $u \mapsto y[u]$ , by the Implicit Function Theorem. We also set the space for the state constraints and the associated multipliers.

We recall the optimal control problem that we consider

(63) 
$$\min J(u,y) := \int_0^T \int_0^A \ell(u,y) da dt + \int_0^A h_0(y(T,a)) da + \int_0^T h_1(y(t,A)) dt$$

s.t.

(64) 
$$[p] (y_t + y_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a, u(t, a))y(t, a) = f(t, a), \text{ in } L^2(D; V^*),$$

(65) 
$$[\psi_0] y(0,a) - y_0(a) = 0, \text{ in } L^2(0,A;H),$$

(66) 
$$[\psi_1] y(t,0) - y_1(t) = 0, \text{ in } L^2(0,T;H),$$

(67) 
$$[\mu_i] \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t, a))_H da - M_i \le 0, \quad t \in [0, T], \quad i = 1, \dots, r,$$

and

$$(68) u \in K_{\mathcal{U}},$$

where  $K_{\mathcal{U}}$  is a nonempty, closed and convex subset of  $\mathcal{U}$ . In the brackets in the column on the left we write the multipliers associated to each constraint, that will be used in the definition of the Lagrangian function.

In order to apply the results of Section 3 to the state equation (64)-(66), along this section we consider the following assumptions:

- (H5) The map  $\mathcal{A}: D \times U \to L(V, V^*)$  is measurable w.r.t. (t, a) for all  $u \in U$ , and is  $C^1$  w.r.t. u for a.a.  $(t, a) \in D$ .
- (H6) For  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_u$  there exists a modulus of continuity w.r.t. u, on bounded sets of U, which is independent of (t, a).
- (H7) The assumptions (H1) and (H2) are satisfied by  $\mathcal{A}(t, a, u)$ , for a.a.  $(t, a) \in D$ , with uniform coefficients C in (H1) and  $\alpha$  and  $\lambda$  in (H2), over bounded sets of U.
- (H8)  $\xi_i \in W(0, A)$ , for i = 1, ..., r.

Remark 4.1. By the assumption (H5), for any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  we can define the following measurable map,

(69) 
$$\mathcal{A}[u]: \quad D \rightarrow L(V, V^*)$$
$$(t, a) \mapsto \mathcal{A}(t, a, u(t, a)).$$

By assumptions (H5)-(H7), we can define the Nemitskii map  $u \in \mathcal{U} \mapsto \mathcal{A}[u] \in L^{\infty}(D; L(V, V^*))$ , which is  $C^1$  and satisfies

(70) 
$$(D_u \mathcal{A}[u]v)(t,a) = D_u \mathcal{A}(t,a,u(t,a))v(t,a).$$

In fact, by (H7) since  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , we can deduce that  $\mathcal{A}[u] \in L^{\infty}(D; L(V, V^*))$ . By (H6),

(71) 
$$\|\mathcal{A}[u+v] - \mathcal{A}[u] - D_u \mathcal{A}(u)v\|_{L^{\infty}(D;L(V,V^*))} = o(\|v\|_{\mathcal{U}}).$$

#### 4.1. Preliminary results.

**Lemma 4.2.** Under the above assumptions, the map  $y[u, y_0, y_1, f]$  is  $C^1$ , where  $y[u, y_0, y_1, f] \in W(D)$  solves the system (64)-(66) with  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $y_0 \in L^2(0, A; H)$ ,  $y_1 \in L^2(0, T; H)$  and  $f \in L^2(D; V^*)$ .

*Proof.* We define the function  $\Psi: W(D) \times \mathcal{U} \times L^2(0,A;H) \times L^2(0,T;H) \times L^2(D;V^*) \rightarrow L^2(D;V^*) \times L^2(0,A;H) \times L^2(0,T;H)$  as

(72) 
$$\Psi(y, u, y_0, y_1, f) := \begin{pmatrix} f - (y_t + y_a + \mathcal{A}(u)y) \\ y_0 - y(0, \cdot) \\ y_1 - y(\cdot, 0) \end{pmatrix}.$$

By Remark 4.1, we obtain that the map  $\Psi$  is  $C^1$  w.r.t. all the variables. In addition, by (H7) and the results of Section 3, for all  $(g, x_0, x_1) \in L^2(D; V^*) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H)$ , there exists a unique solution of

(73) 
$$\begin{cases} z_t + z_a + \mathcal{A}(u)z = g & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ z(0, \cdot) = x_0, & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ z(\cdot, 0) = x_1, & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H). \end{cases}$$

And that implies that  $D_y\Psi$  is invertible. Then, by the Implicit Function Theorem, the result follows.

In order to define the Lagrangian of the problem, we need to specify in which space we consider the state constraints. The following lemma proves that we can take the space C([0,T]) of continuous functions on [0,T].

**Lemma 4.3.** Let  $\xi \in W(0,A)$  and  $y \in W(D)$ , then  $\int_0^A (\xi(a), y(t,a))_H da$  is continuous with respect to  $t \in [0,T]$ .

*Proof.* By Remark 3.8, we can define  $(f, y_0, y_1) \in L^2(D; V^*) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H)$  as

(74) 
$$f(t,a) := (y_t + y_a)(t,a) + \mathcal{A}(t,a)y(t,a), \quad y_0(a) := y(0,a), \text{ and } y_1(t) := y(t,0),$$

where  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies (H1)-(H2) (for instance we can take  $\langle \mathcal{A}y, v \rangle := (y, v)_V$ , the scalar product in V).

Since  $y \in W(D)$  we know that for all  $t \in [0,T]$ ,  $y(t,\cdot) \in L^2(0,A;H)$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and  $t \in [0,T-\varepsilon]$  then

$$\left| \int_{0}^{A} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right| \leq \left| \int_{0}^{\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right| 
+ \left| \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right| 
+ \left| \int_{A-\varepsilon}^{A} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right|.$$

For the first term, by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Proposition 3.6, we have

(76) 
$$\left( \int_{0}^{\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right)^{2}$$

$$\leq \int_{0}^{\varepsilon} \|\xi(a)\|_{H}^{2} da \int_{0}^{A} \|y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a)\|_{H}^{2} da$$

$$\leq 2C \left[ \|y_{0}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + \|y_{1}\|_{L^{2}}^{2} + \|f\|_{L^{2}}^{2} \right] \int_{0}^{\varepsilon} \|\xi(a)\|_{H}^{2} da.$$

And by the Dominated Convergence Theorem we have

(77) 
$$\int_0^\varepsilon \|\xi(a)\|_H^2 da \to 0, \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \to 0.$$

For the last term in (75), similar estimates holds. Now, for the second term we obtain

(78) 
$$\left| \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right|$$

$$\leq \left| \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon))_{H} da \right|$$

$$+ \left| \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right| .$$

We have

(79) 
$$\int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a) - y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon))_{H} da = \int_{\varepsilon}^{2\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a))_{H} da - \int_{A-\varepsilon}^{A} (\xi(a-\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon, a))_{H} da + \int_{2\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a) - \xi(a-\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon, a)) da.$$

The first two terms can be estimated as before and for the last one, by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we obtain

(80) 
$$\left| \int_{2\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a) - \xi(a-\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon, a))_{H} da \right|^{2} \\ \leq \|y(t+\varepsilon, \cdot)\|_{L^{2}(0, A; H)}^{2} \int_{2\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} \|\xi(a) - \xi(a-\varepsilon)\|_{H}^{2} da.$$

Since  $\xi \in W(0, A)$ , the integral in the r.h.s. converges to zero and by Proposition 3.6, the first term is bounded, independently of  $\varepsilon$ , then the above term tends to zero when  $\varepsilon \to 0$ .

Now, by the Dominated Convergence Theorem we prove that the last term in (78) converges to zero. In fact, we have

(81) 
$$\left| \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} (\xi(a), y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon) - y(t, a))_{H} da \right|^{2} \\ \leq \|\xi\|_{L^{2}(0, A+H)}^{2} \int_{\varepsilon}^{A-\varepsilon} \|y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon) - y(t, a)\|_{H}^{2} da.$$

And for all  $a \in [\varepsilon, A - \varepsilon]$ , the points (t, a) and  $(t + \varepsilon, a + \varepsilon)$  belong to the same characteristic curve. Since the solutions of the parabolic equations along the characteristic curves are continuous with images in H, we can conclude that, for a.a.  $a \in [\varepsilon, A - \varepsilon]$ , we have

(82) 
$$||y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon) - y(t,a)||_H^2 \to 0, \text{ as } \varepsilon \to 0.$$

In addition, by the first parabolic estimate (Proposition A.1) we have (assuming  $f \equiv 0$  out of D),

(83) 
$$||y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon) - y(t, a)||_{H}^{2}$$

$$\leq 2 \left[ ||y(t+\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon)||_{H}^{2} + ||y(t, a)||_{H}^{2} \right]$$

$$\leq C \left\{ \chi_{[a>t]} \left[ ||y_{0}(a-t)||_{H}^{2} + \int_{0}^{A} ||f(s, a-t+s)||_{V^{*}}^{2} ds \right]$$

$$+ \chi_{[a\leq t]} \left[ ||y_{1}(t-a)||_{H}^{2} + \int_{0}^{A} ||f(t-a+s, s)||_{V^{*}}^{2} ds \right] \right\}.$$

By our assumptions, the r.h.s. belongs to  $L^1(0, A; H)$ . We can proceed analogously for  $\varepsilon < 0$  and  $t \in [-\varepsilon, T]$ , which completes the proof.

Since the space of the state constraints is C([0,T]), the associated multiplier will belong to the dual space, which is the set of Borel measure M(0,T). It is known that every element in this space can be identified with  $d\eta$  for some  $\eta \in BV_T(0,T)$ , where BV(0,T) denote the space of bounded variation functions on [0,T] and

(84) 
$$BV_T(0,T) := \{ \eta \in BV(0,T) : \eta(T) = 0 \}.$$

For any  $\eta \in BV_T(0,T)$  and  $\varphi \in C([0,T])$  we have

(85) 
$$\langle \eta, \varphi \rangle_{C([0,T])} := \int_0^T \varphi(t) d\eta(t).$$

In what follows we need the following result.

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $\xi \in W(0, A)$ ,  $\mu \in BV(0, T)$ , and  $z \in W(D)$ . Then, the following integration by parts formula holds

$$\int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \langle z_{t} + z_{a}, \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) da dt + \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \langle \dot{\xi}(a), z \rangle_{V} \mu(t) da dt$$
(86)
$$= \int_{0}^{A} (z(T, a), \xi(a)) \mu(T) da - \int_{0}^{A} (z(0, a), \xi(a)) \mu(0) da$$

$$+ \int_{0}^{T} (z(t, A), \xi(A)) \mu(t) dt - \int_{0}^{T} (z(t, 0), \xi(0)) \mu(t) dt - \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} (\xi(a), z)_{H} da d\mu(t).$$

*Proof.* Defining  $z^a(t) := z(t, t + a)$  and  $\tilde{z}^t(a) := z(t + a, a)$ , and integrating over the characteristic curves, we obtain

(87) 
$$\int_{D} \langle (z_{t} + z_{a})(t, a), \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) da dt = \int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} \langle \dot{z}^{a}(t), \xi(t+a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) dt da + \int_{0}^{T-A} \int_{0}^{A} \langle \dot{\bar{z}}^{t}(a), \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) da dt + \int_{T-A}^{T} \int_{0}^{T-t} \langle \dot{\bar{z}}^{t}(a), \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) da dt.$$

By Remark 3.8,  $z^a \in W(0, A-a) \subset C(0, A-a; H)$ . Then, for a.a.  $a \in [0, A]$  the map  $t \mapsto (z^a(t), \xi(t+a))_H$  is continuous and also we have

(88) 
$$\langle \dot{z}^a(t), \xi(t+a) \rangle_V + \langle \dot{\xi}(t+a), z^a(t) \rangle_V \in L^1(0, A-a).$$

Since  $\mu \in BV_T(0,T)$ , by [4, Lemma 3.6] over each characteristic curve holds

(89) 
$$\int_{0}^{A-a} \langle \dot{z}^{a}(t), \xi(t+a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) dt = -\int_{0}^{A-a} \langle \dot{\xi}(t+a), z^{a}(t) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) dt - \int_{0}^{A-a} (z^{a}(t), \xi(t+a))_{H} d\mu(t) + (z^{a}(A-a), \xi(A))_{H} \mu(A-a) - (z^{a}(0), \xi(a))_{H} \mu(0).$$

Then, since  $z^a(A-a)=z(A-a,A)$  and  $z^a(0)=z(0,a)$  we have

(90) 
$$\int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} \langle \dot{z}^{a}(t), \xi(t+a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) dt da = -\int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} \langle \dot{\xi}(t+a), z^{a}(t) \rangle_{V} \mu(t) dt da 
-\int_{0}^{A} \int_{0}^{A-a} (z^{a}(t), \xi(t+a))_{H} d\mu(t) da 
+\int_{0}^{A} (z(t, A), \xi(A))_{H} \mu(t) dt 
-\int_{0}^{A} (z(0, a), \xi(a))_{H} \mu(0) da.$$

In a similar way, since  $\tilde{z}^t(a) = z(t+A,A)$  and  $\tilde{z}^t(0) = z(t,0)$  we obtain

(91) 
$$\int_{0}^{T-A} \int_{0}^{A} \langle \dot{\tilde{z}}^{t}(a), \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) dadt = -\int_{0}^{T-A} \int_{0}^{A} \langle \dot{\xi}(a), \tilde{z}^{t}(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) dadt 
- \int_{0}^{T-A} \int_{0}^{A} (\tilde{z}^{t}(a), \xi(a))_{H} d\mu(t+a) dt 
+ \int_{A}^{T} (z(t,A), \xi(A))_{H} \mu(t) dt 
- \int_{0}^{T-A} (z(t,0), \xi(0)_{H} \mu(0) dt.$$

And finally, since  $\tilde{z}^t(T-t) = z(T,T-t)$  we have

$$\int_{T-A}^{T} \int_{0}^{T-t} \langle \dot{\tilde{z}}^{t}(a), \xi(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) dadt = -\int_{T-A}^{T} \int_{0}^{T-t} \langle \dot{\xi}(a), \tilde{z}^{t}(a) \rangle_{V} \mu(t+a) dadt 
-\int_{T-A}^{T} \int_{0}^{T-t} (\tilde{z}^{t}(a), \xi(a))_{H} d\mu(t+a) dt 
+\int_{0}^{A} (z(T,a), \xi(a))_{H} \mu(T) da 
-\int_{T-A}^{T} (z(t,0), \xi(0)_{H} \mu(0) dt.$$
(92)

By adding the last three equations the result follows.

- 4.2. **Optimality conditions.** In order to analyze the differentiability of the cost function, we add the following assumptions:
  - (H9) The function  $\ell: D \times U \times H \to \mathbb{R}$  is measurable w.r.t.  $(t,a) \in D$  for all  $u \in U$  and  $y \in H$ . For a.a.  $(t,a) \in D$ ,  $\ell$  is  $C^1$  w.r.t. u and y, and there exists a modulus of continuity for  $\ell$ ,  $\ell_y$  and  $\ell_u$ , on bounded sets of U and the whole space H, independent of (t,a).
- (H10) The functions  $h_0, h_1: H \to \mathbb{R}$  are  $C^1$ .

By Lemma 4.2 and the assumptions (H9)-(H10), we can consider the *reduced cost* defined by

(93) 
$$J_R(u, y_0, y_1, f) := J(u, y[u, y_0, y_1, f]),$$

and conclude that  $J_R$  is  $C^1$ . In addition, for all  $(v, z_0, z_1, h) \in \mathcal{U} \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H) \times L^2(D; V^*)$  we have

(94) 
$$DJ_{R}(u, y_{0}, y_{1}, f)(v, z_{0}, z_{1}, h) = \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \ell_{y}(u, y)z + \ell_{u}(u, y)v \, dadt + \int_{0}^{A} h'_{0}(y(T, a))z(T, a)da + \int_{0}^{T} h'_{1}(y(t, A))z(t, A)dt,$$

where z is the unique solution of the following system, whose existence is guaranteed by Section 3,

(95) 
$$\begin{cases} z_t + z_a + \mathcal{A}(u)z + (D_u\mathcal{A}(u)v)y = h & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ z(0, \cdot) = z_0 & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H), \\ z(\cdot, 0) = z_1 & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H). \end{cases}$$

Now, assuming  $y_0$ ,  $y_1$  and f to be given, we consider the following reduced optimal control problem

(96) 
$$\min_{u \in K_{\mathcal{U}}} J_{R}(u), \quad \text{s.t. } G_{i}(u) \in K_{y}, \ i = 1, \dots, r,$$

where

(97) 
$$G_i(u)(t) := \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y[u](t, a))_H da - M_i, \quad t \in [0, T], \quad i = 1, \dots, r,$$

and  $K_y := \{ \varphi \in C([0,T]) : \varphi(t) \leq 0, \ \forall t \in [0,T] \}$ . In this case, we have

(98) 
$$DG_i(u)v = \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), z[v](\cdot, a))_H da,$$

where z[v] solves the system (95) with zero initial conditions and zero r.h.s.

We can define the reduced Lagrangian as

(99) 
$$L_R(u,\beta,\mu) := \beta J_R(u) + \sum_{i=1}^r \langle \mu_i, G_i(u) \rangle = \beta J_R(u) + \sum_{i=1}^r \int_0^T G_i(u)(t) d\mu_i(t),$$

where  $\beta \in \{0,1\}$  and  $\mu = (\mu_i)_{i=1}^r \in (BV_T(0,T))^r$ .

Let  $G(u) := (G_1(u), \ldots, G_r(u)) \in K_y^r$ . The constraints are said to be qualified at  $u \in K_{\mathcal{U}}$  if there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that, B denoting the unit ball of  $C([0,T])^r$ , and e.g.  $R_{K_{\mathcal{U}}}(u)$  denoting the radial cone to  $K_{\mathcal{U}}$  at u:

(100) 
$$\varepsilon B \subset DG(u)[R_{K_{\mathcal{U}}}(u)] - R_{K_{\overline{u}}^{r}}(G(u)).$$

Since  $K_y^r$  is a convex cone with nonempty interior, it is known [5, Chapter 3] that this holds if and only if there exists  $v \in K_{\mathcal{U}}$  such that

(101) 
$$G(u) + DG(u)(v - u) \in \operatorname{int} K_u^r.$$

In (102) below, N denote the normal cone, see [5, Chapter 2]. By [5, Theorem 3.18, p. 155], we obtain the following optimality condition.

**Theorem 4.5.** Given  $y_0$ ,  $y_1$  and f, if  $u \in K_{\mathcal{U}}$  is a local solution of the reduced problem, then there exists  $\beta \in \{0,1\}$  and  $\mu = (\mu_i) \in (BV_T(0,T))^r$ , with  $\beta + \|\mu\| > 0$ , such that

(102) 
$$0 \in \beta DJ_R(u) + \sum_{i=1}^r DG_i(u)^* \mu_i + N_{K_U}(u),$$

and

(103) 
$$\mu_i \ge 0, \quad \langle \mu_i, G_i(u) \rangle_{C([0,T])} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, r.$$

In addition  $\beta = 1$  if the qualification condition (100) is satisfied.

Definition 4.6. We define the Lagrangian L of the optimal control problem (63)-(67) as

$$L(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) = \beta J(u, y) + \langle f - (y_t + y_a) - \mathcal{A}(u)y, p \rangle_{L^2(D;V)}$$

$$+ (\psi_0, y_0 - y(0, \cdot))_{L^2(0,A;H)} + (\psi_1, y_1 - y(\cdot, 0))_{L^2(0,T;H)}$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^r \langle \mu_i, \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t, a))_H da - M_i \rangle_{C([0,T])},$$

where  $\beta \in \{0,1\}, p \in L^2(D;V), \psi_0 \in L^2(0,A;H), \psi_1 \in L^2(0,T;H) \text{ and } \mu \in (BV_T(0,T))^r$ .

As usual, the *costate* equation is derived by computing  $L_y z = 0$ . Given  $z \in W(D)$  the directional derivative of L with respect to y in the direction of z is

$$L_{y}z = \beta \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \ell_{y}z \, dadt - \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \langle z_{t} + z_{a} + \mathcal{A}(u)z, p \rangle_{V} dadt + \beta \int_{0}^{A} h'_{0}(y(T, a))z(T, a)da + \beta \int_{0}^{T} h'_{1}(y(t, A))z(t, A)dt - (\psi_{0}, z(0, \cdot))_{L^{2}(0, A; H)} - (\psi_{1}, z(\cdot, 0))_{L^{2}(0, T; H)} + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \langle \mu_{i}, \int (\xi_{i}(a), z(t, a))_{H} da \rangle_{C([0, T])}.$$

In order to analyze the regularity of the costate p, assume that there exists  $(\beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) \in \{0, 1\} \times L^2(D; V) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H) \times (BV_T)^r$  such that  $L_y(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu)z = 0$  is satisfied for all  $z \in W(D)$ . We define the alternative costate as

(106) 
$$p^{1}(t,a) := p(t,a) + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \mu_{i}(t)\xi_{i}(a).$$

By (105) and our assumption that  $L_yz=0$  for all  $z\in W(D)$ , we obtain for all  $z\in C_0^\infty(D;V)$ ,

$$0 = \beta \int_{D} \ell_{y} z \operatorname{d}a dt - \int_{D} \langle z_{t} + z_{a} + \mathcal{A}(u)z, p^{1} \rangle_{V} \operatorname{d}a dt + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{D} \langle z_{t} + z_{a}, \xi_{i}(a) \rangle_{V} \mu_{i}(t) \operatorname{d}a dt + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}^{*}(u)\xi_{i}(a), z \rangle_{V} \mu_{i}(t) \operatorname{d}a dt + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} (\xi_{i}(a), z(t, a))_{H} \operatorname{d}a d\mu_{i}(t).$$

By the integration by parts formula (86), we obtain

(108) 
$$0 = \beta \int_{D} \ell_{y} z \, dadt - \int_{D} \langle z_{t} + z_{a}, p^{1} \rangle_{V} dadt - \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}^{*}(u) p^{1}, z \rangle_{V} dadt - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{D} \langle \dot{\xi}_{i}(a), z \rangle_{V} \mu_{i}(t) dadt + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}^{*}(u) \xi_{i}(a), z \rangle_{V} \mu_{i}(t) dadt.$$

So in a weak sense  $p^1$  satisfies, (109)

$$-(p_t^1 + p_a^1) + \mathcal{A}^*(u)p^1 - \beta \ell_y + \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t)\dot{\xi}_i(a) - \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t)\mathcal{A}^*(u)\xi_i(a) = 0, \quad \text{in } L^2(D; V^*).$$

By our assumptions, we deduce that  $p^1 \in W(D)$ . Then, in particular the traces  $p^1(\cdot, a) \in L^2(0, T; H)$  for  $a \in [0, A]$  and  $p^1(t, \cdot) \in L^2(0, A; H)$  for  $t \in [0, T]$  make sense. Since  $L_y z = 0$ , returning to (105) and replacing p by  $p^1 - \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i \xi_i$ , by Lemma 3.3 we obtain the costate equation in transposed form,

$$0 = \int_{0}^{T} \left( z(t,0), p^{1}(t,0) - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \xi_{i}(0)\mu_{i}(t) \right)_{H} dt - \int_{0}^{T} \left( z(t,A), p^{1}(t,A) - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \xi_{i}(A)\mu_{i}(t) \right)_{H} dt + \int_{0}^{A} \left( z(0,a), p^{1}(0,a) - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \xi_{i}(a)\mu_{i}(0) \right)_{H} da - \int_{0}^{A} \left( z(T,a), p^{1}(T,a) - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \xi_{i}(a)\mu_{i}(T) \right)_{H} da + \beta \int_{0}^{A} h'_{0}(y(T,a))z(T,a)da + \beta \int_{0}^{T} h'_{1}(y(t,A))z(t,A)dt - \int_{0}^{A} (\psi_{0}(a), z(0,a))_{H} da - \int_{0}^{T} (\psi_{1}(t), z(t,0))_{H} dt.$$

Then, since z is arbitrary, we deduce that  $p^1$  satisfies the following age-structured system

(111) 
$$\begin{cases} -(p_t^1 + p_a^1) + \mathcal{A}^*(u)p^1 - \beta \ell_y + \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t)\dot{\xi}_i(a) - \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t)\mathcal{A}^*(u)\xi_i(a) = 0, \\ & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*), \\ p^1(T, a) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(a)\mu_i(T) = \beta h_0'(y(T, a)), & \text{a.e. } a \in [0, A], \\ p^1(t, A) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(A)\mu_i(t) = \beta h_1'(y(t, A)), & \text{a.e. } t \in [0, T], \end{cases}$$

and the following relations hold

(112) 
$$\begin{cases} \psi_0(a) = p^1(0, a) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(a)\mu_i(0), & \text{a.e. } a \in [0, A], \\ \psi_1(t) = p^1(t, 0) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(0)\mu_i(t), & \text{a.e. } t \in [0, T]. \end{cases}$$

We can conclude that given  $\beta \in \{0,1\}$  and  $\mu \in (BV_T)^r$ , by Section 3 there exists a unique solution  $p^1 \in W(D)$  of (111). Then, we obtain that  $p, \psi_0$  and  $\psi_1$  giving by

(113) 
$$\begin{cases} p(t,a) = p^{1}(t,a) - \sum_{i=1}^{r} \mu_{i}(t)\xi_{i}(a), \\ p(T,a) = \beta h'_{0}(y(T,a)), \\ p(t,A) = \beta h'_{1}(y(t,A)), \\ \psi_{0}(a) = p(0,a), \\ \psi_{1}(t) = p(t,0). \end{cases}$$

satisfy the condition  $L_y(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu)z = 0$ .

Definition 4.7. We define the Hamiltonian H as

(114) 
$$H: U \times V \times \mathbb{R} \times V \to \mathbb{R}$$
$$(u, y, \beta, p) \mapsto H(u, y, \beta, p) := \beta \ell(u, y) + \langle \mathcal{A}(u)y, p \rangle.$$

By the above definition and our assumptions, we can conclude that

(115) 
$$H_u(t, a, u, y, \beta, p)v = \beta \ell_u(t, a, u, y)v + \langle (\mathcal{A}_u(t, a, u)v)y, p \rangle.$$

By (94) and (98), we have

$$D_{u}L_{R}(u,\beta,\mu)v = \beta DJ_{R}(u)v + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \langle \mu_{i}, DG_{i}(u)v \rangle_{C([0,T])}$$

$$= \beta \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} \ell_{y}(u,y)z[v] + \ell_{u}(u,y)v \, dadt$$

$$+\beta \int_{0}^{A} h'_{0}(y(T,a))z[v](T,a)da + \beta \int_{0}^{T} h'_{1}(y(t,A))z[v](t,A)dt$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{r} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} (\xi_{i}(a), z[v](t,a))_{H} dad\mu_{i}(t),$$
(116)

where z[v] solves (95) with zero r.h.s. If p satisfies (113), we obtain

(117) 
$$D_u L(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) v = \int_0^T \int_0^A H_u(t, a, u(t, a), y(t, a), \beta, p(t, a)) v(t, a) da dt.$$

Therefore, we obtain the following optimality condition:

**Theorem 4.8.** Given  $y_0, y_1$  and f, let u be a local solution of the optimal control problem. Then, there exists  $\beta \in \{0,1\}$ ,  $p \in L^2(D;V)$ ,  $\psi_0 \in L^2(0,A;H)$ ,  $\psi_1 \in L^2(0,T;H)$  and  $\mu \in (BV_T(0,T))^r$ , with  $\mu \geq 0$ ,  $\beta + \|\mu\| > 0$ , and

(118) 
$$\int_0^T \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t, a))_H dad\mu_i(t) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, r,$$

such that p,  $\psi_0$  and  $\psi_1$  satisfy (113) and

(119) 
$$\int_0^T \int_0^A H_u(t, a, u(t, a), y(t, a), \beta, p(t, a)) (\hat{u}(t, a) - u(t, a)) da dt \ge 0, \quad \forall \hat{u} \in K_{\mathcal{U}}.$$

4.3. Adding birth processes. As in the previous section, we also analyze optimality conditions for an optimal control problem in which the state has a birth process depending on a fecundity rate. We consider the state system studied in Subsection 3.3:

(120) 
$$\begin{cases} (y_t + y_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}(t, a)y(t, a) = f(t, a) & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*) \\ y(0, a) = y_0(a) & \text{in } L^2(0, A; H) \\ y(t, 0) = \int_0^A c(t, a)y(t, a) da & \text{in } L^2(0, T; H). \end{cases}$$

Following the lines of the above subsection, given  $(\beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) \in \{0, 1\} \times L^2(D, V) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H) \times (BV_T)^r$  such that,  $L_y(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu)z = 0$  for all  $z \in W(D)$ , we can define the alternative costate  $p^1$  as in (106). We deduce in this case that the alternative costate  $p^1$  satisfies the following system:

(121) 
$$\begin{cases} -(p_t^1 + p_a^1) + \mathcal{A}^*(u)p^1 - \beta \ell_y + \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t) \left[ \dot{\xi}_i(a) - \mathcal{A}^*(u)\xi_i(a) \right] = \psi_1(t)c(t, a) \\ & \text{in } L^2(D; V^*) \end{cases} \\ p^1(T, a) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(a)\mu_i(T) = \beta h'_0(y(T, a)), \qquad \text{a.e. } a \in [0, A] \\ p^1(t, A) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(A)\mu_i(t) = \beta h'_1(y(t, A)), \qquad \text{a.e. } t \in [0, T] \\ \psi_1(t) = p^1(t, 0) - \sum_i^r \xi_i(0)\mu_i(t). \end{cases}$$

In order to prove that the above system has a unique solution  $(\psi, w) \in L^2(0, T; H) \times W(D)$ , it is enough to study the following system

(122) 
$$\begin{cases} -(w_t + w_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}^*(t, a)w(t, a) = \psi(t)c(t, a) \\ w(T, a) = 0, \\ w(t, A) = 0, \\ \psi(t) = w(t, 0). \end{cases}$$

We define the map  $\Phi: L^2(0,T;H) \to L^2(0,T;H)$ , as  $\Phi(\psi) := w(\cdot,0)$ , where  $w \in W(D)$  is the solution of the following system, whose existence is guaranteed by Section 3,

(123) 
$$\begin{cases} -(w_t + w_a)(t, a) + \mathcal{A}^*(t, a)w(t, a) = \psi(t)c(t, a) \\ w(T, a) = 0, \\ w(t, A) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\gamma > 0$ , we define the auxiliary map  $\bar{w}(t, a) := e^{-\gamma t} w(T - t, A - a)$  which solves the following system

(124) 
$$\begin{cases} (\bar{w}_t + \bar{w}_a)(t, a) + \gamma \bar{w} + \mathcal{A}^*(T - t, A - a)\bar{w}(t, a) = e^{-\gamma t}\psi(T - t)c(T - t, A - a) \\ \bar{w}(0, a) = 0, \\ \bar{w}(t, 0) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Then, applying the first equation to  $\bar{w}$ , by Lemma 3.3 we obtain

(125) 
$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{T} (\|\bar{w}(t,A)\|_{H}^{2} - \|\bar{w}(t,0)\|_{H}^{2}) dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{A} (\|\bar{w}(0,a)\|_{H}^{2} - \|\bar{w}(T,a)\|_{H}^{2}) da 
-\gamma \int_{D} \|\bar{w}(t,a)\|_{H}^{2} da dt - \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}(T-t,A-a)\bar{w}(t,a), \bar{w}(t,a) \rangle da dt 
+ \int_{D} (e^{-\gamma t} \Psi(T-t)c(T-t,A-a), \bar{w}(t,a))_{H} da dt.$$

By our assumption (57), Cauchy-Schwarz and Young's inequalities we have

(126) 
$$\frac{1}{2} \|\bar{w}(\cdot, A)\|_{L^{2}(0,T;H)}^{2} \leq (\lambda - \gamma) \|\bar{w}\|_{L^{2}(D;H)}^{2} - \alpha \|\bar{w}\|_{L^{2}(D;V)}^{2} \\
+ \|e^{-\gamma t} \Psi(t) c(t, a)\|_{L^{2}(D;H)} \|\bar{w}\|_{L^{2}(D;H)}^{2} \\
\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \bar{C} \|\Psi\|_{L^{2}(0,T;H)}^{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2\varepsilon} + \lambda - \gamma\right) \|\bar{w}\|_{L^{2}(D;H)}^{2}.$$

Taking  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\varepsilon \bar{C} < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$  such that  $\frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 2\gamma + 2\lambda < 0$ , by a fixed-point argument we can conclude that there exists a unique solution  $(\psi, w) \in L^2(0, T; H) \times W(D)$  of (122).

Finally, we conclude that if we consider a birth condition given by (120), we obtain an optimality condition as in Theorem 4.8 where  $p^1$  and  $\psi_1$  satisfy system (122) instead of (111)-(112).

4.4. Fokker Planck type formulation. In order to give an example of application, in this section we explain how our framework includes the most usual formulation considered in the literature for dynamics of populations.

We consider a bounded domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  with smooth enough boundary  $\Gamma$ . We set  $V := H^1(\Omega)$  and  $H := L^2(\Omega)$ . Let  $b : D \times \Omega \times U \to \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\hat{a} : D \times \Omega \to \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be given maps. We consider the following model, that can be though as a Fokker-Planck type equation for age-dependent dynamics.

equation for age-dependent dynamics. 
$$\begin{cases} (y_t + y_a)(t, a, x) + \operatorname{div}\left(\Phi(t, a, x, u(t, a))\right) = f(t, a, x), & \text{in } D \times \Omega \\ \Phi(t, a, x, u(t, a)) \cdot n(x) = 0, & \text{in } D \times \Gamma, \\ y(0, a, x) = y_0(a, x), & \text{in } [0, A] \times \Omega \\ y(t, 0, x) = y_1(t, x), & \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega \end{cases}$$

where

(128) 
$$\Phi_{i}(t, a, x, u) := y(t, a, x)b_{i}(t, a, x, u) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial(\hat{a}_{ij}(t, a, x)y(t, a, x))}{\partial x_{j}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

The zero normal flux boundary condition can be stated as

(129) 
$$y(t,a,x)b(t,a,x,u(t,a)) \cdot n(x) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial (\hat{a}_{ij}(t,a,x)y(t,a,x))}{\partial x_j} n_i(x), \quad x \in \Gamma.$$

Then, the variational formulation for this equation can be written as

(130) 
$$\int_{D} \int_{\Omega} (y_t + y_a) v - \Phi \cdot \nabla v \, dx da dt = \int_{D} \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx da dt, \quad \forall v \in L^2(D; V).$$

We make the following assumptions:

- (1) The functions  $\hat{a}_{ij}$  are measurable w.r.t. (t,a,x) and  $C^1$  w.r.t. x, for all i,j=1

(131) 
$$\sum_{i,j} \hat{a}_{ij} \text{ are essentially bounded for all } i, j, k = 1, \dots, n, \text{ and for some } \alpha_0 > 0$$

$$\sum_{i,j} \hat{a}_{ij}(t, a, x) \zeta_i \zeta_j \ge \alpha_0 |\zeta|^2, \quad \forall \zeta \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ (t, a, x) \in D \times \Omega.$$

- (3) b is measurable w.r.t. (t,a,x) for all  $u\in U$ , and is  $C^1$  w.r.t.  $u\in U$  for a.a.  $(t, a, x) \in D \times \Omega$ .
- (4) For b and  $b_u$  there exists a modulus of continuity w.r.t. u, on bounded sets of U, which is independent of (t, a).
- (5) b and  $b_u$  are bounded on bounded sets of U.

Under the above assumptions, we define A(t, a, x, u) by

(132) 
$$\langle \mathcal{A}(t, a, u)y, v \rangle := \int_{\Omega} y(x)b(t, a, x, u) \cdot \nabla v(x) dx + \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial (\hat{a}_{ij}(t, a, x)y(x))}{\partial x_{j}} \frac{\partial v(x)}{\partial x_{i}} dx,$$

for  $y, v \in V$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies (H5)-(H7).

In addition, we consider state constraints given by

(133) 
$$\int_0^A \int_{\Omega} \xi_i(a, x) \cdot y(t, a, x) \, dx da \le M_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, r, \quad \forall t \in [0, T],$$

where  $\xi_i(a,x) := \xi_i(a)(x)$ . In conclusion, all the results of this section apply for this formulation.

For the sake of simplicity, we derive the adjoint equation for the case of a linear cost

(134) 
$$J(u,y) := \int_{D} \int_{\Omega} \ell(t,a,x)y(t,a,x) dx da dt + \int_{D} \int_{\Gamma} g(t,a,x)y(t,a,x) dx da dt.$$

Computing the derivative of the Lagrangian function with respect to the state variable, as in the above subsection, we obtain the following equation for the alternative costate  $p^1$ :

(135) 
$$\begin{cases} -(p_t^1 + p_a^1) + b(u) \cdot \nabla_x p^1 + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \hat{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 p^1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} - \beta \ell + \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i(t) \dot{\xi}_i(a), \\ -\sum_{k=1}^r \mu_k(t) \left[ b(u) \cdot \nabla_x \xi_k + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \hat{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 \xi_k}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right] = 0, & \text{in } D \times \Omega \\ \sum_{i,j=1}^n \hat{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial p^1}{\partial x_i} n_j(x) = g, & \text{in } D \times \Gamma \\ p^1(T, a, x) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(a, x) \mu_i(T) = 0, & \text{in } [0, A] \times \Omega \\ p^1(t, A, x) - \sum_{i=1}^r \xi_i(A, x) \mu_i(t) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega. \end{cases}$$

In particular, if we take b(t, a, x, u) = u,  $\hat{a}_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$  ( $\delta_{ij} = 1$  if i = j and 0 otherwise) and  $\xi_i \equiv 1$ , we obtain the following controlled system

$$\begin{cases}
(y_t + y_a)(t, a, x) + \operatorname{div}_x(u(t, a)y(t, a, x)) - \Delta_x y(t, a, x) = f(t, a, x), & \text{in } D \times \Omega \\
u(t, a)y(t, a, x) \cdot n(x) = \nabla_x y(t, a, x) \cdot n(x), & \text{in } D \times \Gamma, \\
y(0, a, x) = y_0(a, x), & \text{in } [0, A] \times \Omega \\
y(t, 0, x) = y_1(t, x), & \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega \\
\int_0^A \int_{\Omega} y(t, a, x) \, dx da \leq M & \forall t \in [0, T].
\end{cases}$$

In this case the state constraint represents a bound for the total population at any time. Note that our general framework allows us to consider systems like (136). This is one of the main differences between our work and most of the literature, where the control only

appears as a source term or by multiplying the state function, but not within a divergence term as in this example.

For this particular example, the equation of the alternative costate is given by:

(137) 
$$\begin{cases} -(p_t^1 + p_a^1) + u \cdot \nabla_x p^1 + \Delta_x p^1 = \beta \ell, & \text{in } D \times \Omega \\ \nabla_x p^1(t, a, x) \cdot n(x) = g(t, a, x), & \text{in } D \times \Gamma \\ p^1(T, a) - \mu(T) = 0, & \text{in } [0, A] \times \Omega \\ p^1(t, A) - \mu(t) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega. \end{cases}$$

#### 5. Existence of optimal controls

In the general case it is not easy to obtain results about the existence of optimal controls. Due to the bilinearity in the state equation, with respect to state and control, passing to the limit in this equation when we only have weak convergence results is not obvious. However, under particular assumptions, such as that the image spaces of u and y are  $\mathbb{R}$ , in [1] the authors achieved to prove the existence of minimizers. It is not difficult to extend this kind of results to our framework.

Nevertheless, in this section we present a modified control problem, for which it is possible to show the existence of solutions.

We consider  $L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$  as the set of controls, i.e. the control functions only depend on t, transforming the control into a state. The map  $\mathcal{A}: D \times \mathbb{R} \to L(V,V^*)$  is defined as

(138) 
$$\mathcal{A}(t, a, u)y := \mathcal{A}_0(t, a)y + uy.$$

We assume  $f \equiv 0$  and  $\ell(u, y) := \ell_0(u) + ||y||_H^2$ , where  $\ell_0$  is uniformly continuous. We assume that (H5)-(H8) hold.

Now, we consider the following optimal control problem, where  $v \in L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$  is the control and (u,y) the state,

(139) 
$$\min_{v,y,u} \int_{D} [\ell_0(u) + ||y||_H^2] da dt$$

s.t.

$$[p] \quad y_{t} + y_{a} + \mathcal{A}(u)y = 0, \qquad \text{in } D,$$

$$[\psi_{0}] \quad y(0, a) = y_{0}(a), \qquad a \in [0, A],$$

$$[\psi_{1}] \quad y(t, 0) = y_{1}(t) \qquad t \in [0, T],$$

$$[\mu_{i}] \quad \int_{0}^{A} (\xi_{i}(a), y(t, a))_{H} da - M_{i} \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, r, \quad \forall t \in [0, T],$$

$$[q] \quad \dot{u}(t) = v(t), \qquad t \in [0, T],$$

$$[\psi] \quad u(0) = u_{0}$$

$$[\eta] \quad \frac{1}{2} |u(t)|^{2} \leq M_{u}, \qquad \forall t \in [0, T],$$

$$|v(t)| \leq M_{v}, \qquad \text{a.a. } t \in [0, T].$$

In this case we also write in the column on the left the associated multipliers.

#### 5.1. Existence of solution.

**Theorem 5.1.** Under the above assumptions, there exists an optimal control v in  $L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$ .

Proof. Let  $(v^n) \subset L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$  be a minimizing sequence. Since it is bounded by  $M_v$ , there exists a subsequence, still denoted  $(v^n)$  that converges to some  $\bar{v}$  in the \*-weak topology of  $L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$ . Let  $(u^n)$  and  $(y^n)$  be the associated states. The sequence  $(u^n)$  is uniformly bounded and equicontinuous on [0,T], then by the Ascoli-Arzelá theorem, there exists a subsequence, still denoted  $(u^n)$ , that converges uniformly to  $\bar{u} \in C([0,T])$ . Finally, since  $(y^n)$  is bounded in W(D), there exists a subsequence that weakly converges to some  $\bar{y} \in W(D)$ , and then  $y^n \to \bar{y}$  in  $L^2(D; V)$ .

Since the characteristic functions  $\chi_{[0,t]}$  belongs to  $L^1(0,T)$  for all  $t \in [0,T]$ , and  $(v^n)$  \*-weakly converges to  $\bar{v}$  in  $L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R})$ , we have

(141) 
$$u^{n}(t) = u_{0} + \int_{0}^{t} v^{n}(t) dt \to u_{0} + \int_{0}^{t} \bar{v}(t) dt, \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

We can conclude that  $\bar{u}$  is the state associated to  $\bar{v}$ . Now we want to prove that  $\bar{y}$  is the state associated to  $\bar{u}$ .

Let  $z \in W(D)$ , then by Lemma 3.3,

$$\Delta_{1} := \int_{D} \langle y_{t}^{n} + y_{a}^{n} + \mathcal{A}_{0} y^{n} + u^{n} y^{n}, z \rangle_{V} dadt 
= -\int_{D} \langle z_{t} + z_{a}, y^{n} \rangle_{V} dadt + \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}_{0} y^{n}, z \rangle_{V} dadt 
+ \int_{D} u^{n}(t) (y^{n}(t, a), z(t, a))_{H} dadt 
+ \int_{0}^{A} \left[ (y^{n}(T, a), z(T, a))_{H} - (y^{n}(0, a), z(0, a))_{H} \right] da 
+ \int_{0}^{T} \left[ (y^{n}(t, A), z(t, A))_{H} - (y^{n}(t, 0), z(t, 0))_{H} \right] dt.$$

We have

$$\int_{D} u^{n}(y^{n}, z)_{H} - \bar{u}(\bar{y}, z)_{H} dadt \leq \int_{D} \left[ (u^{n} - \bar{u})(y^{n}, z)_{H} dadt + \bar{u}(y^{n} - \bar{y}, z)_{H} \right] dadt 
\leq \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |u^{n}(t) - \bar{u}(t)| \int_{D} |(y^{n}, z)|_{H} dadt 
+ \int_{D} (y^{n} - \bar{y}, \bar{u}z)_{H} dadt.$$

Since  $(u^n)$  converges uniformly to  $\bar{u}$  and  $(y^n)$  converges weakly in  $L^2(D; H)$  to  $\bar{y}$ , we obtain that the r.h.s. of the above equation converges to zero.

On the other hand, since  $y^n \rightharpoonup \bar{y}$  in  $L^2(D; V)$ , we have

(144) 
$$\int_{D} \langle z_t + z_a, y^n - \bar{y} \rangle_V da dt \to 0$$

and

(145) 
$$\int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}_{0}(y^{n} - \bar{y}), z \rangle_{V} dadt = \int_{D} \langle \mathcal{A}_{0}^{*}z, y^{n} - \bar{y} \rangle_{V} dadt \to 0.$$

Finally, by Lemma 3.3, the trace maps are continuous in the weak topology, then by (142)-(144) we can conclude that  $\bar{y}$  is the state associated to  $\bar{u}$ .

Now we have to prove that the state constraints are satisfied. For all i = 1, ..., r and  $y \in W(D)$ , we know that the map

(146) 
$$t \in [0,T] \mapsto \int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t,a))_H da - M_i,$$

is continuous. Then, in order to obtain for all  $t \in [0, T]$ 

(147) 
$$\int_0^A (\xi_i(a), y(t, a))_H da - M_i \le 0,$$

it is enough to prove the above inequality for a.a.  $t \in [0,T]$ . Assume there exists a measurable set  $E \subset [0,T]$  with positive measure such that

(148) 
$$\int_0^A (\xi_i(a), \bar{y}(t, a))_H da - M_i > \varepsilon, \quad \forall t \in E.$$

Let  $\varphi := \chi_E$ , it is clear that  $\varphi \xi_i \in L^2(D; H)$ , then

(149) 
$$\int_{D} (\varphi(t)\xi_{i}(a), \bar{y})_{H} dadt - M_{i} > \varepsilon |E|.$$

Since  $y^n \rightharpoonup \bar{y}$  in  $L^2(D; H)$  we obtain

(150) 
$$\int_{D} (\varphi(t)\xi_{i}(a), \bar{y} - y^{n})_{H} dadt \to 0.$$

The state constraints are satisfied by  $y^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then we obtain a contradiction with (149). We can conclude that  $\bar{y}$  is the state associated with  $\bar{u}$  and satisfies the state constraints.

By the definition of the cost function, and the uniform convergence of  $(u^n)$  to  $\bar{u}$  and the weak convergence of  $(y^n)$  to  $\bar{y}$ , we can conclude that  $\bar{v}$  is an optimal control with associated states  $(\bar{u}, \bar{y})$ .

5.2. Relationship with the original problem. The idea of this section is to show the relationship between the above optimal control problem and the original problem (63)-(68), described in Section 4, when we consider controls only depending on time. The intuition tells us that when the constraint for v is not active, the optimality condition for this problem is similar to the optimality condition obtained in Theorem 4.8.

We denote  $\tilde{L}$  the Lagrangian defined as:

(151) 
$$\tilde{L}(v, u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu, q, \psi, \eta) = L(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) + \langle q, v - \dot{u} \rangle + \psi(u_0 - u(0)) + \int_0^T \left[\frac{1}{2}|u(t)|^2 - M_u\right] d\eta(t),$$

where L is the Lagrangian of the original problem defined in (104). We define the Hamiltonian of this problem as

(152) 
$$\tilde{H}(t, v, u, y, \beta, p, q) := \int_{0}^{A} H(t, a, u, y(a), \beta, p(a)) da + qv,$$

for  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $\beta \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $v, u, q \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y, p \in L^2(0, A; H)$ . It is clear that for  $(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu) \in \mathcal{U} \times L^2(D; V) \times \{0, 1\} \times L^2(D; V) \times L^2(0, A; H) \times L^2(0, T; H) \times (BV_T)^r$  we have

(153) 
$$L_{u}(u, y, \beta, p, \psi_{0}, \psi_{1}, \mu)\hat{u} = \int_{0}^{T} \tilde{H}_{u}(t, v(t), u(t), y(t, \cdot), \beta, p(t, \cdot), q(t))\hat{u}(t)dt.$$

Then, the costate q satisfies

(154) 
$$q = \tilde{L}_v$$
, and  $dq = -\tilde{H}_u dt - u d\eta$ .

Assume that  $(\bar{v}, \bar{u}, \bar{y})$  is a solution of the problem (139)-(140). Then, there exists  $(\beta, p, \psi_0, \psi_1, \mu, q, \psi, \eta)$  such that p is solution of the costate equation (113), q satisfies the above equation,  $\mu \geq 0$ ,  $\eta \geq 0$  and  $\beta + \|\mu\| + \|\eta\| > 0$ . In addition,

(155) 
$$\operatorname{supp}(d\eta) \subset \{t \in [0, T] : |u(t)|^2 = 2M_u\},\$$

and

(156) 
$$\int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{A} (\xi_{i}(a), y(t, a))_{H} da d\mu_{i}(t) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, r.$$

Finally, we have

(157) 
$$q(v-\bar{v}) \ge 0, \quad \forall v \in L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R}): |v(t)| \le M_v.$$

Now, assume that there exists an interval  $(t_1,t_2) \subset (0,T)$  where the constraint for  $\bar{v}$  is not active, i.e.  $|\bar{v}(t)| < M_v$ , for  $t \in (t_1,t_2)$ . Then, in this interval we obtain  $q \equiv 0$ , which implies  $dq \equiv 0$  in  $(t_1,t_2)$ . We have for all  $\hat{u} \in W^{1,\infty}(t_1,t_2;\mathbb{R})$ ,

(158) 
$$0 = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \tilde{H}_u(t, v(t), u(t), y(t, \cdot), \beta, p(t, \cdot), q(t)) \hat{u}(t) dt + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \bar{u}(t) \hat{u}(t) d\eta(t).$$

If we define the following set

(159) 
$$\tilde{K}_{\mathcal{U}} := \{ u \in W^{1,\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R}) : u(t)^2 \le 2M_u, \ t \in [0,T] \},$$

since (155) is satisfied, we can conclude that

(160) 
$$\int_0^T \bar{u}(t)(u(t) - \bar{u}(t)) d\eta(t) \le 0, \quad \forall u \in \tilde{K}_{\mathcal{U}}.$$

Combining the above equation and taking  $\hat{u} := u - \bar{u}$  in (158), we conclude that

(161) 
$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \tilde{H}_u(t, v(t), u(t), y(t, \cdot), \beta, p(t, \cdot), q(t))(u(t) - \bar{u}(t)) dt \ge 0, \quad \forall u \in \tilde{K}_{\mathcal{U}},$$

which is related to the optimality condition (119) obtained in Theorem 4.8, taking into account (117) and (153).

#### Appendix A. Standard parabolic case

In this section we present classical results about the standard parabolic equation. See for instance [21, Chapter 3] and [18, Chapter 3].

Let  $f \in L^2(0,T;V^*)$  and  $z_0 \in H$ , we consider the following system

(162) 
$$\dot{z}(t) + \mathcal{A}(t)z(t) = f(t) \text{ in } L^2(0,T;V^*), \quad z(0) = z_0 \text{ in } H,$$

where  $\mathcal{A}:[0,T]\to L(V,V^*)$  is a measurable function such that:

- (1) There exists c > 0 such that  $\|\mathcal{A}(t)v\|_{V^*} \leq c\|v\|_V$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- (2) Semicoercivity: There exist  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$  such that for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $t \in [0, T], \langle \mathcal{A}(t)v, v \rangle_V \ge \alpha ||v||_V^2 - \lambda ||v||_H^2.$

**Proposition A.1.** Under the above assumptions, there exists a unique solution  $z \in W(0,T)$ of (162). In addition, there exists C > 0 such that

(163) 
$$\max_{t \in [0,T]} ||z(t)||_{H} \leq Ce^{2\lambda T} \left[ ||z_{0}||_{H} + ||f||_{L^{2}(0,T;V^{*})} \right],$$
$$||z||_{W(0,T)} \leq C \left[ ||z_{0}||_{H} + ||f||_{L^{2}(0,T;V^{*})} \right].$$

Now, we add the following assumptions:  $A(t) = A_0(t) + A_1(t)$  where

- (3)  $A_0(t): V \to V^*$  symmetric and continuously differentiable w.r.t. t, and there exists  $\alpha_0 > 0$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{A}_0(t)v, v \rangle \geq \alpha_0 ||v||_V^2$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- (4)  $\mathcal{A}_1(t): V \to V^*$  measurable with range in H and there exists  $c_1 > 0$  such that  $\|A_1(t)v\|_H \le c_1\|v\|_V$ , for all  $v \in V$  and a.a.  $t \in [0,T]$ .

The following theorem is known as the second parabolic estimates. We note that under different assumption, in [3] the author obtain a more general result.

**Theorem A.2.** Assume  $f \in L^2(0,T;H)$ ,  $z_0 \in V$ , and the assumptions (1)-(4) hold. Then, the solution z of the system (162) satisfies  $z \in L^{\infty}(0,T;V)$ ,  $\dot{z} \in L^{2}(0,T;H)$  and there exists C > 0 such that

(164) 
$$||z||_{L^{\infty}(0,T;V)} + ||\dot{z}||_{L^{2}(0,T;H)} \le C \left[ ||z_{0}||_{V} + ||f||_{L^{2}(0,T;H)} \right].$$

Remark A.3. We can prove that  $z(t) \in V$  for all  $t \in [0,T]$  and  $\sup_{t \in [0,T]} \|z(t)\|_{V} \leq$  $C[\|z_0\|_V + \|f\|_{L^2(0,T;H)}]$ . In fact,  $z \in W(0,T) \subset C(0,T;H)$  and  $z(t) \in V$  for a.a.  $t \in [0,T]$ . Consider  $\varepsilon > 0$  and define  $z^{\varepsilon} := \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{T-\varepsilon}^{T} z(t) dt$ . By the previous proposition, since  $z \in L^{\infty}(0,T;V)$  we obtain that  $z^{\varepsilon} \in V$  and

(165) 
$$||z^{\varepsilon}||_{V} \leq C \left[ ||z_{0}||_{V} + ||f||_{L^{2}(0,T;H)} \right].$$

Since V is a Hilbert space, considering a sequence of  $\varepsilon_n \downarrow 0$ , we can take a subsequence, still denoted  $(z^{\varepsilon_n})$ , that weakly converges to  $\bar{z} \in V$ . On the other hand, since  $z \in C(0,T;H)$  we have that  $||z^{\varepsilon_n} - z(T)||_H \to 0$ . We then obtain that for all  $w \in H$ ,  $\langle w, z^{\varepsilon_n} \rangle_V \to \langle w, \bar{z} \rangle_V =$  $(w,\bar{z})_H$ , and also  $(w,z^{\varepsilon_n})_H \to (w,z(T))_H$ . We deduce  $\bar{z}=z(T)\in V$ . The same arguments prove that  $z(t) \in V$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

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