

1. The mathematical formulation of the problem of the motion of a drop of viscous liquid under the action of thermocapillary forces consists of the following [1]. It is necessary to find a surface  $\Gamma_t$ , separating the space  $R^3$  into a bounded singly connected region  $\Omega_t^+$  and its complement  $\Omega_t^- = R^3 \setminus \Omega_t^+$ , and the velocity field  $v$ , the pressure field  $p$ , and the temperature field  $T$ , which depend on the time  $t$  and the spatial coordinates  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and satisfy the differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} \partial v / \partial t + v \cdot \nabla v &= -\rho^{-1} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 v + g, \quad \nabla \cdot v = 0, \\ \partial T / \partial t + v \cdot \nabla T &= \chi \nabla^2 T \text{ in } R^3 \setminus \Gamma_t, \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

and the joining conditions

$$\begin{aligned} [P \cdot n]_{\pm}^{\pm} &= \sigma K n + \nabla_{\Gamma} \sigma, \quad V_n = v \cdot n, \quad [v]_{\pm}^{\pm} = 0, \\ [\chi \partial T / \partial n]_{\pm}^{\pm} &= 0, \quad [T]_{\pm}^{\pm} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_t, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

the conditions on infinity

$$v \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty \quad (1.3)$$

and the initial conditions

$$v = v_0, \quad T = T_0, \quad \Gamma_t = \Gamma_0 \quad \text{at } t = 0. \quad (1.4)$$

Here the density  $\rho$ , the kinematic coefficient of viscosity  $\nu$ , the coefficient of thermal diffusivity  $\chi$ , and the coefficient of thermal conductivity  $\kappa$  are piecewise-constant with a surface of discontinuity  $\Gamma_t$ ; the coefficient of surface tension  $\sigma$  is a known function of the temperature;  $P = -pI + 2\mu D(v)$ , stress tensor;  $\mu = \rho\nu$ , dynamic coefficient of viscosity;  $I$ , unit tensor;  $D(v)$ , tensor of the deformation velocities, equal to the symmetric part of the tensor  $\nabla v$ ;  $V_n$ , velocity of  $\Gamma_t$  along the outer normal  $n$ , to  $\Omega_t^+$ ;  $K$ , sum of the principal curvatures  $\Gamma_t$  (the trace of the curvature tensor);  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla_{\Gamma}$ , gradient operator in  $R^3$  and gradient operator on  $\Gamma_t$ , respectively. The symbol  $[\cdot]_{\pm}^{\pm}$  denotes a jump, i.e.,  $[f]_{\pm}^{\pm} = f^+ - f^-$ , where  $f^{\pm}$  are the limiting values of the function  $f(x, t)$  as  $x$  approaches a point on the surface  $\Gamma_t$  from  $\Omega_t^{\pm}$ . The mass-force density  $g(x, t)$ , the functions  $v_0(x)$ ,  $T_0(x)$ , and the surface  $\Gamma_0$  are given.

It is evident from the boundary conditions (1.2) that the velocity and temperature fields are continuous across  $\Gamma_t$ , while the pressure field and tangential stresses undergo a jump. As a result, in the presence of a temperature gradient there arise thermocapillary forces which, together with the buoyancy forces, cause the drop to drift. For simplicity, here we study the particular variant of the initial conditions  $v_0 = 0$ ,  $T_0 = A \cdot x$ ,  $\Gamma_0 = \{|x| = a\}$ . In addition, it is assumed that  $A = (0, 0, A)$  and  $g = (0, 0, g(t))$ . This problem describes the acceleration of a drop by thermocapillary and buoyancy forces. The case of constant  $\sigma$  and  $g$  is studied in [2, 3].

2. We transform now to a noninertial coordinate system, fixed to the center of mass of the drop, moving in the starting system with the velocity  $u(t) = (0, 0, u(t))$ , i.e.,

$$x' = x - \int_0^t u(t) dt, \quad t' = t.$$

We introduce the new functions sought:

$$v' = v - u, \quad p' = p + \rho x [g - du/dt], \quad T' = T,$$

in the primed variables the system of equations (1.1) and (1.2) then transforms into a system of the same form with  $\mathbf{g}' = 0$ ,  $V'_n = V_n - \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}$ ,  $P' = -[p' + \rho \mathbf{x}' \cdot (d\mathbf{u}/dt - \mathbf{g})]I + 2\mu D(\mathbf{v}')$ .

Suppose that  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_0 - \sigma_1 T$ , where  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$  are positive numbers. We select as the length, time, velocity, pressure, and temperature scales the quantities  $a$ ,  $a^2/v^-$ ,  $\sigma_1 A a/\mu^-$ ,  $\sigma_1 A$ , and  $Aa$ . Then the equations of motion after dropping the primes assume the form

$$\partial \mathbf{v} / \partial t + \text{Ma} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p / \rho^0 + v^0 \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

$$\text{Pr} [\partial T / \partial t + \text{Ma} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla T] = \chi^0 \nabla^2 T \text{ in } \Omega_t^+,$$

$$\partial \mathbf{v} / \partial t + \text{Ma} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p + \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0,$$

$$\text{Pr} [\partial T / \partial t + \text{Ma} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla T] = \nabla^2 T \text{ in } \Omega_t^-;$$

$$\{-p^+ + p^- + (\rho^0 - 1)(du/dt - \eta)x_3\} \mathbf{n} + 2\mu^0 D(\mathbf{v}^+) \cdot \mathbf{n} - 2D(\mathbf{v}^-) \cdot \mathbf{n} = (\text{We}^{-1} - T)K\mathbf{n} - \nabla_{\Gamma} T, \quad (2.2)$$

$$V_n = \mathbf{v}^+ \cdot \mathbf{n}, \quad V_n = \mathbf{v}^- \cdot \mathbf{n}, \quad \mathbf{v}^+ \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{v}^- \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau},$$

$$\kappa^0 \partial T^+ / \partial n = \partial T^- / \partial n, \quad T^+ = T^- \text{ on } \Gamma_t;$$

$$\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty;$$

$$(2.3)$$

$$\mathbf{v} = 0, \quad \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad T = x_3, \quad \Gamma_t = \{|\mathbf{x}| = 1\} \text{ at } t = 0. \quad (2.4)$$

Here  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is the vector tangent to  $\Gamma_t$ ;  $\rho^0 = \rho^+/\rho^-$ ;  $v^0 = v^+/v^-$ ;  $\mu^0 = \rho^0 v^0$ ;  $\chi^0 = \chi^+/\chi^-$ ;  $\kappa^0 = \kappa^+/\kappa^-$ ;  $\text{Ma} = (\mu^- v^-)^{-1} \sigma_1 A a^2$ , Marangoni number;  $\text{We} = \sigma_1 A a / \sigma_0$ , modified Weber number;  $\text{Pr} = v^- / \chi^-$ , Prandtl number; and  $\eta(t) = (\sigma_1 A)^{-1} \rho^- a g \left( \frac{a^2}{v^-} t \right)$ , dimensionless mass-force density;

3. Let us assumed that  $\text{Ma}$  and  $\text{Bo} = \sup |(\rho^0 - 1)\eta(t)|$  (analog of Bond's number) are much less than 1. For fixed physical parameters of liquids these conditions are realized if the quantities  $a^2 A$  and  $A^{-1} \sup |g(t)|$  are sufficiently small.\* Expanding formally the functions  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $p$ ,  $T$  in a series in  $\text{Ma}$ , we obtain for the first approximation the problem (2.1)-(2.4) with  $\text{Ma} = 0$ , which has an exact solution with a spherical interface  $\Gamma_t \equiv \{|\mathbf{x}| = 1\}$ . In this case,  $V_n = 0$  and  $K = -2$ .

Let  $(r, \varphi, \theta)$  be spherical coordinates, i.e.,

$$x_1 = r \cos \varphi \sin \theta, \quad x_2 = r \sin \varphi \sin \theta, \quad x_3 = r \cos \theta.$$

We shall seek a solution under the assumption of axial symmetry. We introduce the stream function  $\psi(r, \theta, t)$  by the equations

$$v_r = -\frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}, \quad v_\theta = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r},$$

Stokes' system

$$\partial \mathbf{v} / \partial t = -\rho^{-1} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$$

then assumes the form

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \left\{ \nu E^2 \psi - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \right\},$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \xi} = -\frac{1}{1-\xi^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left\{ \nu E^2 \psi - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \right\},$$

where  $E^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1-\xi^2}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2}$ ;  $\xi = \cos \theta$ . Correspondingly, the components of the stress tensor

have the following form in terms of  $\psi$ :

$$P_{r\theta} = -\frac{\mu}{(1-\xi^2)^{1/2}} \left\{ E^2 \psi - 2r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) \right\},$$

\*For example, for an air bubble in silicone oil at 1410°C and in pure water at 15°C,  $\text{Ma}$  and  $\text{Bo}$  are less than 1, if  $a^2 A$  does not exceed  $7.2 \cdot 10^{-6}$  and  $8.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$  deg·cm, respectively, while  $a A^{-1} \sup |g(t)|$  does not exceed 0.17 and 0.15 cm<sup>3</sup>·sec<sup>-2</sup>·deg<sup>-1</sup>.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} P_{rr} = \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left\{ \frac{1}{1-\xi^2} \left[ E^2 \psi - \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \right] + \frac{2}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \xi^2} \right\}.$$

As a result there arises the problem for the functions  $\psi$ ,  $T$ , and  $u$ :

$$E^2[v^0 E^2 \psi - \psi_t] = 0, \text{Pr} T_t = \chi^0 \Delta T \text{ for } r < 1, \quad (3.1)$$

$$E^2[E^2 \psi - \psi_t] = 0, \text{Pr} T_t = \Delta T \text{ for } r > 1;$$

$$\psi^+ = 0, \psi^- = 0, \psi_r^+ = \psi_r^-, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\mu^0(\psi_{rr} - 2\psi_r)^+ - (\psi_{rr} - 2\psi_r)^- = (1 - \xi^2) T_{\xi\xi},$$

$$\kappa^0 T_r^+ = T_r^-, T^+ = T^- \text{ at } r = 1;$$

$$\psi_r/r \rightarrow u(1 - \xi^2), \psi_{\xi\xi}/r^2 \rightarrow -u\xi \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty; \quad (3.3)$$

$$\psi = 0, T = r\xi, u = 0 \text{ at } t = 0; \quad (3.4)$$

$$(\rho^0 - 1)(u_t - \eta) + \mu^0 \left\{ \frac{E^2 \psi - v^0 \psi_t}{1 - \xi^2} + \frac{2}{r^2} \psi_{\xi\xi} \right\}_r^+ - \left\{ \frac{E^2 \psi - \psi_t}{1 - \xi^2} + \frac{2}{r^2} \psi_{\xi\xi} \right\}_r^- = 2T_{\xi\xi} \text{ at } r = 1. \quad (3.5)$$

Here  $\Delta = \frac{1}{r^2} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \left[ (1 - \xi^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \right] \right\}$ ; the subscripts  $r, \xi, t$  denote partial derivatives with respect to the corresponding variables. Equation (3.5) arose after differentiation of the normal component of the dynamic condition with respect to  $\xi$ .

4. The solution of the problem (3.1)-(3.5) is given by

$$\psi(r, \xi, t) = rf(r, t)(1 - \xi^2), T(r, \xi, t) = \Theta(r, t)\xi.$$

Let  $u^*(s), f^*(r, s), \Theta^*(r, s)$  be the Laplace transforms of the functions  $u(t), f(r, t), \Theta(r, t)$ . Then, taking into account the initial conditions (3.4), we obtained a problem for  $u^*, f^*, \Theta^*$ :

$$L^2[v^0 L^2 f^* - s f^*] = 0, \chi^0 L^2 \Theta^* = \text{Pr}[s \Theta^* - r] \text{ for } r < 1, \quad (4.1)$$

$$L^2[L^2 f^* - s f^*] = 0, L^2 \Theta^* = \text{Pr}[s \Theta^* - r] \text{ for } r > 1;$$

$$f^{*+} = 0, f^{*-} = 0, f_r^{*+} = f_r^{*-}, \mu^0 f_{rr}^{*+} - f_{rr}^{*-} = \Theta^*, \quad (4.2)$$

$$\kappa^0 \Theta_r^{*+} = \Theta_r^{*-}, \Theta^{*+} = \Theta^{*-} \text{ at } r = 1;$$

$$f_r^* \rightarrow u^*/2, f^*/r \rightarrow u^*/2 \text{ at } r \rightarrow \infty; \quad (4.3)$$

$$(1 - \rho^0)(s u^* - \eta^*) + \{f_{rrr}^* + f_{rr}^* - (s + 6)f_r^*\}^- = \mu^0 \{f_{rrr}^* + f_{rr}^* - (s/v^0 + 6)f_r^*\}^+ \text{ at } r = 1, \quad (4.4)$$

where  $L^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{2}{r^2}$ . From the integral identity

$$\int_0^1 (L^2 \omega) r^3 dr = r^2 (r \omega_r + \omega)_0^1$$

with the function  $\omega = L^2 f^* - (s/v^0) f^*$  it is easily established that the right side of Eq. (4.4) is equal to zero. Thus the condition (4.4) simplifies to the following:

$$(1 - \rho^0)(s u^* - \eta^*) + \{f_{rrr}^* + f_{rr}^* - (s + 6)f_r^*\}^- = 0 \text{ at } r = 1. \quad (4.5)$$

5. Equations (4.1), taking into account the conditions that the velocity and temperature fields are bounded at  $r = 0$  and the conditions (4.3), assume the following solution:

$$f^*(r, s) = C_1 F(\sqrt{s/v^0} r) + C_2 r,$$

$$\Theta^*(r, s) = r/s + C_3 F(\sqrt{s \text{Pr}/\chi^0} r) \text{ for } r < 1,$$

$$f^*(r, s) = u^*(s)r/2 + C_4 G(\sqrt{sr}) + C_5/r^2,$$

$$\Theta^*(r, s) = r/s + C_6 G(\sqrt{s \text{Pr} r}) \text{ for } r > 1,$$

where  $F(z) = (\text{sh } z/z)'$ ;  $G(z) = (e^{-z}/z)'$ ;  $(\cdot)'$  =  $d/dz$ . The functions  $C_1(s), \dots, C_6(s)$  are determined from the six equations (4.2), while  $u^*(s)$  is determined from Eq. (4.5). As a result we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 f^*(r, s) &= \frac{\Theta^*(1, s) + 3(1 + \sqrt{s}) u^*(s)/2}{3 + \sqrt{s} + \mu^0 H(\alpha)} \frac{F(\alpha r) - F(\alpha) r}{\alpha F'(\alpha) - F(\alpha)}, \quad r < 1, \\
 f^*(r, s) &= \frac{\Theta^*(1, s) - 3[2 + \mu^0 H(\alpha)] u^*(s)/2}{3 + \sqrt{s} + \mu^0 H(\alpha)} e^{\sqrt{s}} \times \\
 &\times \left[ G(\sqrt{s}r) - \frac{G(\sqrt{s})}{r^2} \right] + \frac{1}{2} u^*(s) \left( r - \frac{1}{r^2} \right), \quad r > 1, \\
 \Theta^*(1, s) &= \frac{1}{s} \left\{ 1 + (1 - \kappa^0) \left[ \kappa^0 \frac{\beta F'(\beta)}{F(\beta)} - \frac{\gamma G'(\gamma)}{G(\gamma)} \right]^{-1} \right\}; \\
 u^*(s) &= \frac{C^*(s) \Theta^*(1, s) + (\rho^0 - 1) \eta^*(s)}{(1/2 + \rho^0) s + B^*(s)}. \tag{5.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(z) &= \frac{z^2 F''(z)}{z F'(z) - F(z)} = \frac{z(z^2 + 6) - 3(z^2 + 2) \text{th } z}{(z^2 + 3) \text{th } z - 3z}; \\
 B^*(s) &= \frac{3}{2} [2 + \mu^0 H(\alpha)] C^*(s); \quad C^*(s) = \frac{3(1 + \sqrt{s})}{3 + \sqrt{s} + \mu^0 H(\alpha)}; \\
 \alpha &= \sqrt{s/\nu^0}; \quad \beta = \sqrt{s \text{Pr}/\chi^0}; \quad \gamma = \sqrt{s \text{Pr}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The following asymptotic formulas hold:

$$H(z) = 3 + O(z^2), \quad z \rightarrow 0; \quad H(z) = z + O(1/z), \quad z \rightarrow +\infty.$$

From the asymptotic forms of  $B^*(s)$ ,  $C^*(s)$  in the limit  $s \rightarrow +\infty$  it follows that the original functions  $B(t)$  and  $C(t)$  are generalized functions at  $t = 0$ . The transforms are therefore naturally represented as

$$B^*(s) = B^*(0) + sb^*(s), \quad C^*(s) = C^*(\infty) + c^*(s),$$

where  $B^*(0) = 3(2 + 3\mu^0)/[2(1 + \mu^0)]$ ;  $C^*(\infty) = 3/(1 + \rho^0 \sqrt{\nu^0})$ , and the original functions  $b(t)$  and  $c(t)$  are ordinary functions with the following asymptotic forms in the limit  $t \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b(t) &= \frac{9\rho^0 \sqrt{\nu^0}}{2(1 + \rho^0 \sqrt{\nu^0})} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} + O(1), \\
 c(t) &= -\frac{3(2 - \rho^0 \sqrt{\nu^0})}{(1 + \rho^0 \sqrt{\nu^0})^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} + O(1),
 \end{aligned}$$

while in the limit  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2 + 3\mu^0}{1 + \mu^0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} + O(t^{-3/2}), \\
 c(t) &= -\frac{2 + 3\mu^0}{6(1 + \mu^0)^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t^3}} + O(t^{-5/2}).
 \end{aligned}$$

As a result, the formula (5.1) leads to the following integrodifferential equation for  $u(t)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1/2 + \rho^0) u'(t) + \int_0^t b(t-t_1) u'(t_1) dt_1 + \\
 + \frac{3(2 + 3\mu^0)}{2(1 + \mu^0)} u(t) = Z(t) + (\rho^0 - 1) \eta(t), \tag{5.2}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Z(t) = \frac{3\Theta(1, t)}{1 + \rho^0 \sqrt{v^0}} + \int_0^t c(t - t_1) \Theta(1, t_1) dt_1.$$

6. Suppose that the function  $\eta(t)$  has a limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Then, because of the equalities

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Theta(1, t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s\Theta^*(1, s) = \frac{3}{2 + \kappa^0}$$

from (5.1) or (5.2) we find a formula for the limiting velocity

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(t) = \frac{2}{(2 + \kappa^0)(2 + 3\mu^0)} + \frac{2(1 + \mu^0)}{3(2 + 3\mu^0)} (\rho^0 - 1) \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \eta(t).$$

The first term coincides with the thermocapillary drift velocity of the drop in the stationary case, obtained in [4]; the second term coincides with the rise velocity of the drop under the action of buoyancy force: represented by the Hadamard-Rybchinskii formula.

In an analogous manner we determine from (5.1) or (5.2) the initial acceleration of the drop:

$$(1/2 + \rho^0) u'(0) = \frac{3}{1 + \rho^0 \sqrt{v^0}} + (\rho^0 - 1) \eta(0).$$

In addition, these equations enable finding the asymptotic expansion of  $u(t)$  with integer powers of  $\sqrt{t}$  in the limits  $t \rightarrow 0$  and  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

In dimensional variables Eq. (5.2) can be put into the form of Newton's equation for the drop

$$(4/3)\pi a^3 \rho^+ u'(t) = F_M + F_B + F_S + F_T + F_A,$$

where  $F_M$  is the force generated by the effect of augmented masses;  $F_B$  is the analog of Bass's force;  $F_S$  is Stokes's force;  $F_T$  is the thermocapillary force; and  $F_A$  is the buoyancy force:

$$\begin{aligned} F_M &= -\frac{2}{3} \pi a^3 \rho^- u'(t), \quad F_B = -\frac{4}{3} \pi a \mu^- \int_0^t b\left(\frac{t-t_1}{a^2/v^-}\right) u'(t_1) dt_1, \\ F_S &= -2\pi a \mu^- \frac{3\mu^+ + 2\mu^-}{\mu^+ + \mu^-} u(t), \quad F_T = -\frac{4}{3} \pi a^2 \frac{d\sigma}{dT} Z\left(\frac{v^-}{a^2} t\right) A, \\ F_A &= \frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 (\rho^+ - \rho^-) g(t). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mu^0 \rightarrow \infty$ , then the thermocapillary force vanishes, and  $F_B$  transforms into the Bass force, arising when a solid sphere moves in the liquid; here

$$b^*(s) = 9/(2\sqrt{s}), \quad b(t) = 9/(2\sqrt{\pi t}).$$

In the other limiting case  $\mu^0 = 0$  (drift of a gas bubble)

$$\begin{aligned} b^*(s) &= \frac{6}{\sqrt{s}(3 + \sqrt{s})}, \quad b(t) = 6e^{9t} \operatorname{erfc}(3\sqrt{t}), \\ c^*(s) &= -\frac{6}{3 + \sqrt{s}}, \quad c(t) = 6\left\{3e^{9t} \operatorname{erfc}(3\sqrt{t}) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}}\right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\operatorname{erfc} z = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_z^\infty e^{-z^2} dz$  is the complementary probability integral. Since the derivative

$b'(t) = 3c(t)$  is integrable on  $(0, \infty)$ , after integration by parts Eq. (5.2) assumes the form

$$(1/2 + \rho^0) u'(t) + 9u(t) + 3 \int_0^t c(t-t_1) u(t_1) dt_1 = 3\Theta(1, t) + \int_0^t c(t-t_1) \Theta(1, t_1) dt_1 + (\rho^0 - 1) \eta(t).$$

The last equation can be reduced to a third-order differential equation for  $u(t)$ . Indeed, the formula (5.1) with  $\mu^0 = 0$  can be written as

$$[(1/2 + \rho^0)s(\sqrt{s} + 3) + 9(\sqrt{s} + 1)]u^*(s) = 3(\sqrt{s} + 1)\Theta^*(1, s) + (\rho^0 - 1)(\sqrt{s} + 3)\eta^*(s) \equiv h^*(s).$$

Multiplying the left and right sides of this equality by

$$R^*(s) = (1/2 + \rho^0)s(\sqrt{s} - 3) + 9(\sqrt{s} - 1)$$

and introducing a notation for the cubic polynomial

$$Q(s) = (1/2 + \rho^0)^2 s^2 (s - 9) + 18(1/2 + \rho^0)s(s - 3) + 81(s - 1),$$

we obtain the differential equation

$$Q(d/dt)u(t) = f(t),$$

where  $f(t)$  is a generalized function with the transform  $f^*(s) = R^*(s)h^*(s)$ .

We can now separate the regular part in  $f(t)$  and the singular part at  $t = 0$ , which contains information on the boundary conditions for  $u(t)$ . As a result, the transition from the generalized Cauchy problem to the classical problem is made in a standard manner.

When  $\mu^0 = \infty$  the corresponding reduction proceeds to a second-order differential equation (see [5]). The formula (5.1) assumes the form

$$[(1/2 + \rho^0)s + (9/2)(\sqrt{s} + 1)]u^*(s) = (\rho^0 - 1)\eta^*(s)$$

and is regularized by the symbol

$$R^*(s) = (1/2 + \rho^0)s - (9/2)(\sqrt{s} - 1).$$

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