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Existence and Uniqueness Theorems for the Two-Dimensional Ericksen–Leslie System

Gregory A. Chechkin, Tudor S. Ratiu, Maxim S. Romanov and Vyacheslav N. Samokhin

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Abstract. In this paper we study the two dimensional Ericksen–Leslie equations for the nematodynamics of liquid crystals if the moment of inertia of the molecules does not vanish. We prove short time existence and uniqueness of strong solutions for the initial value problem in two situations: the space-periodic problem and the case of a bounded domain with spatial Dirichlet boundary conditions on the Eulerian velocity and the cross product of the director field with its time derivative. We also show that the speed of propagation of the director field is finite and give an upper bound for it.

Keywords. Liquid crystals, Ericksen–Leslie equations, nematodynamics, existence and uniqueness, director field, speed of propagation.

1. Introduction

Liquid crystals, a state of matter exhibiting properties between those of a liquid and a solid crystal, were discovered by the botanical physiologist Friedrich Reinitzer in 1888. They were first studied by the physicist Otto Lehman around 1900 and the chemist Daniel Vorländer who, at the beginning of the 20th century, synthesized most of the liquid crystals known at the time. The mineralogist and crystallographer George Friedel gave a first classification of the liquid crystals around the same time. The first modern physical theory of liquid crystals, due to the physicist Carl Wilhelm Oseen, was formulated during the 1930s. In the same period, the physicist Victor N. Tsvetkov used viscosity, dielectric, and diamagnetic anisotropy of liquid crystals to create a general theory of the mesomorphic state. He invented methods that led to the understanding of the dynamic properties of the mesophases. In 1963, James Ferguson used liquid crystals in practical applications, such as detecting thermal fields. After that, interest in liquid crystals has increased dramatically.

The microscopic theoretical treatment of fluids is very complicated, since interactions between molecules should be taken into account. In the case of liquid crystals, which are anisotropic in all of these interactions, the analysis is another order of magnitude more complicated. However, there are a number of microscopic theories that can at least predict the general behavior of the phase transitions in liquid crystal systems (see, for instance [1]).

There are two broad kinds of liquid crystals: thermotropic (formed by heating a solid) and lyotropic (formed in mixtures of solids with solvents). The thermotropic liquid crystals may be nematic, smectic, cholesteric (see Fig. 1^1), chiral, discotic, or in the blue phase. In all these types of liquid crystals, the orientation of the molecular dipole is defined by a unit vector, called "director".

¹ From Wikipedia article http://www.russika.ru/t.php?t=4305 and a google search for images of liquid crystals, where many more pictures of various phases of liquid crystals can be found.



FIG. 1. The structure of smectic (left), nematic (center) and cholesteric (right) liquid crystals

In this paper, we study liquid crystal nematodynamics (i.e., the hydrodynamics of nematic liquid crystals). In previous work, we investigated periodic mesomorphic media [2] and homogenization of micro inhomogeneous nematic liquid crystals (periodic in [3] and random in [4]).

The hydrodynamic theory of liquid crystals, due to Ericksen and Leslie, was developed in the 1960's [5–8]; see also [9,10]. The subject of our research is the Ericksen–Leslie system describing the dynamics of nematic liquid crystals

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}_{x_j}} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{n}) \right) + \mathbf{F} + f, & \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0, \\ J \ddot{\mathbf{n}} - 2q\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} = g + \mathbf{G}, & \|\mathbf{n}\| = 1, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where summation on repeated indices is understood, $\mathbf{n}_{x_j} := \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \mathbf{n}$, and

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}_{x_j}} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{n}) := \frac{\partial F}{\partial n_{k,x_j}} \nabla n_k$$

(see also [1, formulas (3.90), (3.99), (3.100), (5.2)], [11, page 90], or [12]). Here, **u** is the Eulerian, or spatial velocity vector field, $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2, n_3)$ is the director field, the constant $\mu > 0$ is the viscosity coefficient, the constant J > 0 is the moment of inertia of the molecule, $\mathbf{F}(x, t)$ and $\mathbf{G}(x, t)$ are given external forces, and $\dot{\cdot} := \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla$ is the material derivative. The terms f and g correspond to the dissipative part of the stress tensor and the dissipative part of the intrinsic body force, respectively, and they depend on \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n} , and their derivatives. The function $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{n}, \nabla \mathbf{n})$ is the Oseen-Zöcher-Frank free energy and is defined by

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{n}, \nabla \mathbf{n}) := K_1 \mathbf{n} \cdot \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{n} + \frac{1}{2} \left(K_{11} (\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})^2 + K_{22} (\mathbf{n} \cdot \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{n})^2 + K_{33} \|\mathbf{n} \times \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{n}\|^2 \right).$$
(2)

The *molecular field* \mathbf{h} is defined by

$$\mathbf{h} := \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}_{x_j}} \right). \tag{3}$$

The pressure p and the Lagrange multiplier 2q are determined, respectively, by the conditions div $\mathbf{u} = 0$ and $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$.

We are interested in the non-dissipative case, i.e., g = 0, f = 0. Since the liquid crystal is nematic, we necessarily have $K_1 = 0$. For simplicity, we study the one-constant approximation, i.e., we assume

$$K_{11} = K_{22} = K_{33} =: K > 0.$$

Thus, using $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$, the Oseen-Zöcher-Frank free energy (2) becomes

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{K_{11}}{2} (\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{K_{22} - K_{33}}{2} (\mathbf{n} \cdot \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{K_{33}}{2} \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \|\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{n}\|^2$$
$$= \frac{K}{2} (\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{K}{2} (n_{j,x_i} n_{j,x_i} - n_{i,x_j} n_{j,x_i}), \qquad (4)$$

where the subscript x_j means partial derivative relative to the spatial coordinate x_j and summation on repeated indices is understood, irrespective of their position. Hence,

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial n_{i,x_j}} = K(\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})\delta_{ij} + Kn_{i,x_j} - Kn_{j,x_i}.$$
(5)

Lemma 1.1. The non-dissipative (i.e., f = 0, g = 0) nematic (i.e., $K_1 = 0$) Ericksen–Leslie equations in the one constant approximation (i.e., $K := K_{11} = K_{22} = K_{33} > 0$) are

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p' - K \left(\mathbf{n}_{x_j} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{n}) \right)_{x_j} + \mathbf{F}, & \text{div } \mathbf{u} = 0, \\ J \ddot{\mathbf{n}} + \left(J \| \dot{\mathbf{n}} \|^2 - \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{n} \right) \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{G}, & \| \mathbf{n} \| = 1, \end{cases}$$
(6)

where the molecular field has the expression

$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}_{x_j}} \right) = -K\Delta \mathbf{n}.$$
(7)

and $p' := p + \frac{K}{2} \left((\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})^2 - n_{i,x_j} n_{j,x_i} \right).$

Proof. Formula (5) implies

$$\frac{1}{K} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \mathbf{n}_{x_j}} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{n}) \right) = \left(\left((\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n}) \delta_{ij} + n_{i,x_j} - n_{j,x_i} \right) \nabla n_i \right)_{x_j} \\
= \left(n_{k,x_k x_j} \nabla n_j + n_{k,x_k} \nabla n_{j,x_j} + \left(n_{i,x_j} \nabla n_i \right)_{x_j} - n_{j,x_j x_i} \nabla n_i - n_{j,x_i} \nabla n_{i,x_j} \right) \\
= \left(n_{i,x_j} \nabla n_i \right)_{x_j} + \frac{1}{2} \nabla \left((\operatorname{div} \mathbf{n})^2 - n_{i,x_j} n_{j,x_i} \right)$$

and hence the first equation in (1) becomes the first equation in (6). In addition, (3) and (5) yield

$$h_i = -K(n_{k,x_kx_j}\delta_{ij} + n_{i,x_jx_j} - n_{j,x_ix_j}) = -K\Delta n_i.$$

which is (7).

Next, taking the dot product of the second equation in (1) with **n** yields

$$2q = J\ddot{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{n} = -J \|\dot{\mathbf{n}}\|^2 + \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$
(8)

since $\mathbf{n} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{n}} = 0$. Therefore, the second equation in (1) becomes

$$0 = J\ddot{\mathbf{n}} - 2q\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} - \mathbf{G} = J\ddot{\mathbf{n}} + (J\|\dot{\mathbf{n}}\|^2 - \mathbf{h}\cdot\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n})\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} - \mathbf{G}$$

which is the second equation in (6).

We rewrite the Ericksen–Leslie equations (6) as a system of three equations of first order by introducing a new vector field $\boldsymbol{\nu}$. This vector field appeared for the first time in [13], motivated by the geometric and variational structure of the conservative version of the Ericksen–Leslie equations (i.e., $\mu = 0$, f = g = 0, $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{0}$).

Theorem 1.1. If (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}) is a solution of Ericksen–Leslie equations (6), $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$, define the vector field $\boldsymbol{\nu} := \mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}$. Then, $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ is a solution of the system

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p' - (K n_{k,x_j} \nabla n_k)_{x_j} + \mathbf{F}, \quad \text{div} \, \mathbf{u} = 0, \tag{9}$$

$$J\dot{\boldsymbol{\nu}} = -K(\Delta \mathbf{n}) \times \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{G},\tag{10}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{n}} = \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n},\tag{11}$$

with initial conditions \mathbf{n}_0 and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_0$ satisfying $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$.

Conversely, if $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ is a solution of the system (9)–(11) with initial conditions \mathbf{n}_0 and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_0$ satisfying $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$, then (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}) is a solution of the Ericksen–Leslie equations (6).

Proof. Suppose that (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}) is a solution of Ericksen–Leslie equations (6) and define the vector field $\boldsymbol{\nu} := \mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}$. Then, $\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n} = (\mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}) \times \mathbf{n} = \dot{\mathbf{n}}$ since $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{n}} = 0$, which gives (11). The first equation in (6) coincides with (9). Finally,

$$J\dot{\boldsymbol{\nu}} = J(\mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}) = \mathbf{n} \times J\ddot{\mathbf{n}} \stackrel{(6)}{=} -\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{G} \stackrel{(7)}{=} -K(\Delta \mathbf{n}) \times \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{G}$$

which is (10).

Since (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}) is a solution of (6), we have $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$. In addition, $\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} = \mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}) = 0$. Therefore, the initial conditions of the system (9)–(11) necessarily satisfy $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$, as stated.

Conversely, suppose that $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ is a solution of the system (9)–(11) with initial conditions satisfying $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$. Then $(\|\mathbf{n}\|^2) = 2\mathbf{n} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{n}} \stackrel{(11)}{=} 2\mathbf{n} \cdot (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) = 0$ and

$$(\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu})^{\dot{}} = \dot{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} + \mathbf{n} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\nu}} = (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \cdot \frac{1}{J} (-K\Delta \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{G}) = 0$$

by (10) and (11), which implies $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} = 0$.

We have $\mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}} \stackrel{(11)}{=} \mathbf{n} \times (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) = \boldsymbol{\nu}$ since $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} = 0$. Conversely, if $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}$, then $\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n} = (\mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{n}}) \times \mathbf{n} = \dot{\mathbf{n}}$, since $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$.

The first equation in (6) coincides with (9). Finally, by (7), (11), $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$, and $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} J\ddot{\mathbf{n}} + \left(J\|\dot{\mathbf{n}}\|^2 - \mathbf{h}\cdot\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n}\right)\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{h} &= J\dot{\boldsymbol{\nu}}\times\mathbf{n} + J\boldsymbol{\nu}\times\dot{\mathbf{n}} + \left(J\|\dot{\mathbf{n}}\|^2 + K\Delta\mathbf{n}\cdot\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n}\right)\mathbf{n} - K\Delta\mathbf{n} \\ \stackrel{(10)}{=} -K((\Delta\mathbf{n})\times\mathbf{n})\times\mathbf{n} + (\mathbf{n}\times\mathbf{G})\times\mathbf{n} + J\boldsymbol{\nu}\times(\boldsymbol{\nu}\times\mathbf{n}) \\ &+ \left(J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + K\Delta\mathbf{n}\cdot\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n}\right)\mathbf{n} - K\Delta\mathbf{n} \\ &= K\Delta\mathbf{n} - K(\mathbf{n}\cdot\Delta\mathbf{n})\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{G} - (\mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n})\mathbf{n} - J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2\mathbf{n} \\ &+ J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2\mathbf{n} + K(\Delta\mathbf{n}\cdot\mathbf{n})\mathbf{n} + (\mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{n})\mathbf{n} - K\Delta\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{G} \end{aligned}$$

which is the second equation in (6).

In terms of $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, by (8) and (11), we have $2q = \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n} - J \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 - \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{n}$.

Because of Theorem 1.1, we work in the rest of the paper exclusively with the Ericksen–Leslie equations expressed as (9)–(11) with initial conditions $(\mathbf{u}_0, \boldsymbol{\nu}_0, \mathbf{n}_0)$ satisfying $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$.

Since the structure of the full Ericksen–Leslie system is sufficiently complicated, simplified models have been introduced in order to get some reasonable results. Most of the known results are obtained under the assumption J = 0. For the incompressible model in [14], Lin introduced a simplification of the general Ericksen–Leslie system that keeps many of the mathematical difficulties of the original system by using a Ginzburg-Landau approximation to relax the nonlinear constraint. Namely, instead of the restriction $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$, the penalty term $\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} (\|\mathbf{n}\|^2 - 1)^2$ was added to the free energy functional. In [15], Lin and Liu showed the global existence of weak solutions and smooth solutions for that approximation. In [16], a very simple proof of local well-posedness for this coupled system was provided using a contraction mapping argument. It was proved that this system is globally well-posed and has compact global attractors in 2D. Recently, Hong [17] and Lin–Liu–Wang [18] showed, independently, the global existence of weak solutions of an incompressible model in two dimensional space. Moreover, in [18], the regularity of solutions, except for a countable set of singularities whose projection on the time axis is a finite set, has been obtained (see also [19]). In [20], Wang established a global well-posedness theory for the incompressible liquid crystals for rough initial data. A simplified Ericksen–Leslie system for two-dimensional compressible flow was considered in [21]. Hieber, Nesensohn, Prüss, and Schade analyzed in [22] the simplified system as a parabolic evolutional equation in an L_p-L_q -setting and studied the system near an equilibrium.

In the present paper we focus on the system (9)-(11) in the hyperbolic case J > 0 and prove an existence and uniqueness theorem for two-dimensional periodic media as well as for the problem in a bounded domain of the plane. We also prove the finite propagation speed of waves in such media.

Some results in this paper were announced in [23].

2. Two-Dimensional Solution in a Periodic Domain

Consider a liquid crystal flow in \mathbb{R}^3 . The flow is called *two-dimensional* if all unknowns in the Ericksen– Leslie system are independent of the third coordinate x_3 ; so we can suppose that they are all defined on a plane (x_1, x_2) .

Let $Q_T := (0,T) \times \mathbb{T}$, where $\mathbb{T} := \mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2$ is the two-dimensional flat torus. We study the system (9)–(11) in Q_T with initial conditions

$$\mathbf{u}(0,x) = \mathbf{u}_0, \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}(0,x) = \boldsymbol{\nu}_0, \quad \mathbf{n}(0,x) = \mathbf{n}_0,$$
 (12)

satisfying $\|\mathbf{n}_0\| = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}_0 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 = 0$. Here $\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n}$ are unknown vector fields, p' is an unknown scalar function, and J, K, μ are fixed strictly positive numbers. The material derivative $f_t + \sum_{i=1}^3 u^i f_{x_i}$ turns into $f_t + \sum_{i=1}^2 u^i f_{x_i}$.

It is natural to consider a flat motion, i.e., $\mathbf{u} : \mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{u^3 = 0\}$. Note that the vector fields \mathbf{n}, ν are always three-dimensional, even if they are defined on a flat two-dimensional domain; in particular the director field is not necessarily tangential to the plane $\{x_3 = 0\}$.

2.1. Notations and Definitions

Throughout the paper we use the following notations:

- $\dot{f} := \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla f = f_t + u^j f_{x_j}$ is the material time derivative of f;
- a bold letter **b** denotes a 3-dimensional vector $\mathbf{b} = (b^1, b^2, b^3)$, or a vector field with values in \mathbb{R}^3 ;
- standard summation convention is used on repeated indices, independent on their position, e.g., $a_i b_i := \sum_i a_i b_i;$
- $L_2(\mathbb{T}) := \{ \mathbf{v} : \mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 d^2 x < \infty \};$
- $W_2^m(\mathbb{T})$ is the Sobolev space of functions on \mathbb{T} having *m* distributional derivatives in $L_2(\mathbb{T})$;
- $Sol(\mathbb{T}) := \{ \mathbf{v} : \mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \mathbf{v} \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}), \text{ div } \mathbf{v} = 0 \};$
- $Sol(Q_T) := \{ \mathbf{v} \in C^{\infty}(Q_T) \mid \mathbf{v}(t, \cdot) \in Sol(\mathbb{T}), \forall t \in (0, T) \};$
- $Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ is the closure of $Sol(\mathbb{T})$ in the norm $L_2(\mathbb{T})$;
- $Sol_2^m(\mathbb{T})$ is the closure of $Sol(\mathbb{T})$ in the norm $W_2^m(\mathbb{T})$.

Definition 2.1. A quadruple $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n}, \nabla p')$ is a strong solution of problem (9)–(12) in the domain Q_T if

- (i) **u** is a time-dependent vector field in $L_2((0,T); Sol_2^3(\mathbb{T})), \mathbf{u}_t \in L_2(Q_T);$
- (ii) $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ is a vector field in $L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^2(\mathbb{T})), \, \boldsymbol{\nu}_t \in L_{\infty}((0,T); L_2(\mathbb{T}));$
- (iii) **n** is a vector field in $L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^3(\mathbb{T})), \mathbf{n}_t \in L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\mathbb{T}));$

(iv)
$$\nabla p' \in L_2(Q_T)$$

- (v) **u**, **n**, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ satisfy the initial conditions (12), i.e., $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{u}_0, \mathbf{n}_0, \boldsymbol{\nu}_0)$ in $L_2(\mathbb{T})$ as $t \rightarrow 0$;
- (vi) Equations (9)–(11) hold almost everywhere.

The first goal of the paper is to prove existence of strong solutions to the problem (9)-(12).

Theorem 2.1. Let $\mathbf{F} = 0$, $\mathbf{G} = 0$. Suppose $\mathbf{u}_0 \in Sol_2^2(\mathbb{T})$, $\Delta \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 \in L_2(\mathbb{T})$, $\Delta \mathbf{n}_0 \in W_2^1(\mathbb{T})$. Then there is a T > 0 such that the solution to problem (9)–(12) (as given in Definition 2.1) does exist.

The proof of this theorem is given in the next subsections.

2.2. Galerkin-Type Approximations

We begin the proof with a classical approximation method.

Select two sequences of subspaces $E^1 \subset E^2 \subset \cdots$ and $F^1 \subset F^2 \subset \cdots$ such that $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E^k$ is dense in $Sol_2^2(\mathbb{T})$ and $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} F^k$ is dense in $W_2^2(\mathbb{T})$ (and, consequently, in $W_2^1(\mathbb{T})$).

Since the inclusions $W_2^1(\mathbb{T}) \hookrightarrow L_2(\mathbb{T})$ and $Sol_2^1(\mathbb{T}) \hookrightarrow Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ are both compact, the operator Δ : $Sol(\mathbb{T}) \to Sol(\mathbb{T})$ is a symmetric operator that extends to a self-adjoint operator on $Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ and $L_2(\mathbb{T})$. Fix bases of eigenfunctions of Δ in $Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ and $L_2(\mathbb{T})$ and denote by E^k and F^k the linear span of the first k eigenfunctions in $Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ and $L_2(\mathbb{T})$, respectively. The subspaces E^k and F^k consist of smooth functions and thus $\cup_{k\in\mathbb{N}}E^k$ and $\cup_{k\in\mathbb{N}}F^k$ are dense in $Sol_2^2(\mathbb{T})$ and $W_2^2(\mathbb{T})$, respectively.

Proposition 2.1. Let $(\mathbf{u}_{0k}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{0,k}, \mathbf{n}_{0,k}) \in E^k \times F^k \times F^k$ be an approximation of the initial data $(\mathbf{u}_0, \boldsymbol{\nu}_0, \mathbf{n}_0)$ for fixed k.

Then, for some T > 0, there exists a solution $(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k) \subset C^0((0, T); E^k \times F^k \times F^k)$ of the problem

$$(\mathbf{u}_{k,t},\boldsymbol{\omega}) = -(u_k^l \mathbf{u}_{k,x_l},\boldsymbol{\omega}) + \mu(\Delta \mathbf{u}_k,\boldsymbol{\omega}) - K(\Delta \mathbf{n}_k \cdot \nabla \mathbf{n}_k,\boldsymbol{\omega}),$$
(13)

$$J(\boldsymbol{\nu}_{k,t},\boldsymbol{\zeta}) + (Ju_k^l \boldsymbol{\nu}_{k,x_l},\boldsymbol{\zeta}) + K(\Delta \mathbf{n}_k \times \mathbf{n}_k,\boldsymbol{\zeta}) = 0,$$
(14)

$$(\mathbf{n}_{k,t}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) + (u_k^l \mathbf{n}_{k,x_l}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) - (\boldsymbol{\nu}_k \times \mathbf{n}_k, \boldsymbol{\psi}) = 0,$$
(15)

$$(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k)|_{t=0} = (\mathbf{u}_{0k}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{0k}, \mathbf{n}_{0k}),$$
(16)

where the identities above hold for all $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in E^k$, $\boldsymbol{\zeta}, \boldsymbol{\psi} \in F^k$, and $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \, dx_1 dx_2$ is the $L_2(\mathbb{T})$ -inner product.

Indeed, the system (13)–(16) could be regarded as a Cauchy problem for the ordinary differential equation $X_t = f(X)$ in 3k-dimensional space with continuous right-hand side. Due to the Cauchy-Peano theorem, there exists some small $T_0 > 0$ such that this problem has a solution for $|t| < T_0 =: T$.

Remark 2.1. If $u_{0k}^3 = 0$, then for any $t < T_0$, we have $u_k^3(t) = 0$.

The next step is to get a uniform estimate on $(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k)$ in some appropriate norm.

2.3. Energy Conservation

We need the following identity.

Lemma 2.1. For all $t \in (0,T)$ we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(\|\mathbf{u}_{k}(t)\|^{2} + J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{k}(t)\|^{2} + K\|\nabla\mathbf{n}_{k}(t)\|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} + 2\mu \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla\mathbf{u}_{k}\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt$$
$$= \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(\|\mathbf{u}_{0k}\|^{2} + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{0k}\|^{2} + \|\nabla\mathbf{n}_{0k}\|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2}.$$

Proof. In this proof we use $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ instead of $(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k)$, in order to simplify notation.

In Eqs. (13)–(15) we substitute $(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) = (\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, -K\Delta \mathbf{n})$. Since $\Delta : F^k \to F^k$, this substitution is allowed. Taking the integral over the interval (0, t) in (13) and using periodicity of all functions, we obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 \Big|_0^t dx_1 dx_2 = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(-\mu \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 + K n_{x_j}^s n_{x_i}^s u_{x_j}^i \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$
(17)

The sum of the integrals over the interval (0, t) of the relations (14) and (15) reads

$$0 = \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{T}} J(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_{t} + u^{l} \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{l}}^{i} \boldsymbol{\nu}^{i}) + K \Big((\Delta \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} + (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} - n_{t}^{i} n_{x_{s}x_{s}}^{i} - u^{j} n_{x_{j}}^{i} n_{x_{s}x_{s}}^{i} \Big) dx_{1} dx_{2} dt = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{1}{2} \left(J \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^{2} + K n_{x_{s}}^{i} n_{x_{s}}^{i} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} \Big|_{0}^{t} + \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{T}} K u_{x_{s}}^{j} n_{x_{s}}^{i} n_{x_{j}}^{i} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt.$$
(18)

Taking the sum of (17) and (18) we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(\|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + K\|\nabla\mathbf{n}\|^2 \right) dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t + \mu \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla\mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 dt = 0,$$

which proves the stated identity.

Corollary 1. Problem (13)–(16) has a solution for every T > 0.

Proof. Reconsider our problem as an ordinary differential equation $X_t = f(X)$ with continuous right hand side.

The value T_0 obtained from the Cauchy-Peano theorem depends only on the function f and on the norm of the initial data. Since f doesn't depend on t and for any $t \in (0, T_0)$ the solution X(t) = $(\mathbf{u}_k(t), \boldsymbol{\nu}_k(t), \mathbf{n}_k(t))$ is bounded with $X(0) = (\mathbf{u}_k(0), \boldsymbol{\nu}_k(0), \mathbf{n}_k(0))$, the Cauchy-Peano theorem guarantees the existence of the solution on the interval $(t, t + T_0)$ for any $t < T_0$, and, consequently, on the interval $(0, 2T_0)$. Repeating the procedure, this proves the existence of the solution for any $t \in (0, NT_0)$, where N is an arbitrary natural number.

2.4. Estimates on Higher Derivatives

Unfortunately, the results of Lemma 2.1 are not sufficient to prove the convergence of $(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k)$ to the solution of (9)–(12). We need more precise estimates.

Theorem 2.2. There exists T > 0 and C > 0, depending only on the initial data, and constants J, K, $\mu > 0$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{u}_{k}\|_{L_{2}((0,T);W_{2}^{3})}, \ \|\mathbf{u}_{k}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{2})}, \ \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{k}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{2})}, \ \|\mathbf{n}_{k}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{3})} \leq C, \\ \|\mathbf{u}_{k,t}\|_{L_{2}(Q_{T})}, \ \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{k,t}\|_{L_{2}(Q_{T})}, \ \|\nabla\mathbf{n}_{k,t}\|_{L_{2}(Q_{T})} \leq C. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We begin by proving the first set of inequalities. In equation (14), set $\zeta = -\Delta \nu$ and integrate over the domain (0, T) using Green's identities. We have

$$\frac{J}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla \boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^T = \int_{Q_T} \left(-\frac{J}{2} u_{x_k}^j \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_j}^i \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k}^i - K(\Delta \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_k}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} - K(\Delta \mathbf{n}_{x_k} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$
(19)

The integral of (15) with $\psi = K\Delta^2 \mathbf{n}$ can be written as

$$\frac{K}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbf{n}_{x_k x_j} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_k x_j} dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_{0}^{T} = K \int_{Q_T} \left(u^j n^i_{x_k x_j} \Delta n^i_{x_k} + u^j_{x_k} n^i_{x_j} \Delta n^i_{x_k} - (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_k} + \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n}_{x_k} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt = K \int_{Q_T} \left(-2u^j_{x_k} \mathbf{n}_{x_j x_k} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} - \Delta u^j \mathbf{n}_{x_j} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} + (\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_k}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} + (\mathbf{n} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n}_{x_k} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$
(20)

To estimate the second derivatives of \mathbf{u} , we set $\boldsymbol{\omega} = -\Delta \mathbf{u}$ in (13) and integrate over (0, T):

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^T + \mu \int_{Q_T} \|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 dt$$

$$\stackrel{(13)}{=} \int_{Q_T} \left(-u_{x_k}^j \mathbf{u}_{x_j} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{x_k} + K \mathbf{n}_{x_i} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} \Delta u^i \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt. \tag{21}$$

The sum of (19)-(21) is

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(J \|\nabla \boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + K \sum_{j,k=1}^2 \|\mathbf{n}_{x_j x_k}\|^2 + \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 \right) dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^T + \mu \int_{Q_T} \|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 dt \\ &= \int_{Q_T} \left(-J u_{x_k}^j \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_j} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} - 2K u_{x_k}^j \mathbf{n}_{x_j x_k} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} + K(\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_k} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_k}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} \right. \\ &\left. - u_{x_k}^j \mathbf{u}_{x_j} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{x_k} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt. \end{split}$$

We estimate the integral on the right-hand side:

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(J \| \nabla \boldsymbol{\nu} \|^{2} + K \sum_{j,k=1}^{2} \| \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \|^{2} + \| \nabla \mathbf{u} \|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} \Big|_{0}^{T} + \mu \int_{Q_{T}} \| \Delta \mathbf{u} \|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt
\leq C_{1} \int_{0}^{T} \left(\text{esssup } \| \nabla \mathbf{u}(t) \| \left(\| \nabla \boldsymbol{\nu}(t) \|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \| \mathbf{n}_{x_{i}x_{j}}(t) \|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \| \nabla \mathbf{u} \|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} \right)
+ \text{esssup } \| \nabla \mathbf{n}(t) \| \left(\| \nabla \boldsymbol{\nu}(t) \|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \| \Delta \mathbf{n}(t) \|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \right) dt.$$
(22)

Since $\sum_{ij} \|\mathbf{u}_{x_i x_j}\|_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}^2 = \|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}^2$ (see [24, III, §8]), we have estimated \mathbf{u} in the $L_2((0,T); W_2^2(\mathbb{T}))$ -norm.

We need to estimate esssup $\|\nabla \mathbf{u}(t)\|$ and esssup $\|\nabla \mathbf{n}(t)\|$ in terms of higher derivatives. Unfortunately, the W_2^2 -norm is not enough, so we repeat the previous procedure for $(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) = (\Delta^2 \mathbf{u}, \Delta^2 \boldsymbol{\nu}, -K\Delta^3 \mathbf{n})$. We use below the identity $\|\nabla(\Delta \mathbf{u})\|^2 := \Delta \mathbf{u}_{x_k} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{u}_{x_k}$. From (13)–(15), we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(J \|\Delta\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^{2} + \|\Delta\mathbf{u}\|^{2} + K \|\nabla(\Delta\mathbf{n})\|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} \Big|_{0}^{t} + \int_{Q_{t}} \mu \|\nabla(\Delta\mathbf{u})\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt$$

$$\leq - \int_{Q_{t}} \left(u_{x_{k}}^{j} (2J\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\boldsymbol{\nu} + 2\mathbf{u}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{u} + K\Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{j}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} + 2K\mathbf{n}_{x_{i}x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{i}} \right)$$

$$+ \Delta u^{j} (J\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{j}} \cdot \Delta\boldsymbol{\nu} + \mathbf{u}_{x_{j}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{u} + K\mathbf{n}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} + Ku_{x_{k}x_{i}}^{j} \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{i}}$$

$$+ K\Delta u_{x_{k}}^{j} \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} - K(\Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}} + \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n})\Delta u_{x_{k}}^{j}$$

$$+ K(\Delta^{2}\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n} + 2(\Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_{k}})) \cdot \Delta\boldsymbol{\nu} + K(\Delta\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \Delta^{2}\mathbf{n}$$

$$- K(2\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{j}x_{k}} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}} + 2\boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{j}} \times \mathbf{n}_{x_{j}x_{k}} + \boldsymbol{\nu}_{x_{k}} \times \Delta\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}}) \cdot \Delta\mathbf{n}_{x_{k}} \right) dx_{1}dx_{2}dt$$

$$\leq C \int_{0}^{T} \left(\text{essup } \|\nabla\mathbf{u}(t)\| \left(\|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \|\mathbf{u}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})} \right)$$

$$+ \left(\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_{4}^{2}(\mathbb{T})} + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_{W_{1}^{1}(\mathbb{T})} \right) \left(\|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})} + \|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})} \right)$$

$$+ \|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})} \|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{4}^{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \text{essup } \|\nabla\mathbf{n}(t)\| \left(\|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} \|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})} \right)$$

$$+ \text{essup } \|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|\|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} dt.$$
(23)

Since for any periodic $f \in W_2^1([0,1]^2)$, we have

$$\|f\|_{L_p} \le C(\|\nabla f\|_{L_2} + \|f\|_{L_2}) \quad \text{for any } p < \infty,$$
(24)

and any periodic $g \in W_p^1([0,1]^2)$,

$$\max \|g\| \le C(\|\nabla g\|_{L_p} + \|g\|_{L_2}) \quad \text{for } p > 2,$$
(25)

we conclude from Lemma 2.1, (22), (21), and (23) that

$$\mathscr{I}(t) \le \mathscr{I}(0) + C_4 \int_0^t \mathscr{I}(t)^2 dt, \quad \text{as } t < T_1,$$
(26)

where

$$\mathscr{I}(t) := \|\mathbf{u}(t)\|_{W_2^2(\mathbb{T})}^2 + J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|_{W_2^2(\mathbb{T})}^2 + K\|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_2^3(\mathbb{T})}^2 + 1,$$

and the time T_1 depends only on initial data, and the positive constants J, K, μ . Indeed, due to the Cauchy inequality and (24), (25)

$$\int_0^T \text{esssup } \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\| (\mathscr{I}(t) - 1) dt \le \varepsilon \int_0^T \|\nabla (\Delta \mathbf{u}(t))\|_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}^2 dt + C_\varepsilon \int_0^T \mathscr{I}^2(t) dt$$

for any $\varepsilon > 0$ and some $C_{\varepsilon} > 0$. The same inequality holds for the terms containing $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_4^2(\mathbb{T})}$ or $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_2^3(\mathbb{T})}$. The rest of the terms can be estimated with $C \int_0^t \mathscr{I}^{\frac{3}{2}} dt \leq C \int_0^t \mathscr{I}^2 dt$. If ε is sufficiently small, we get (26).

Next, we need the following simple lemma, a kind of Gronwall-Bellman inequality.

Lemma 2.2. Let Y be a measurable function on \mathbb{R} . Suppose that for almost all t we have

$$0 \le Y(t) \le Y(0) + k \int_0^t Y(s)^2 ds$$

Then

$$Y(t) \le \frac{Y(0)}{1 - ktY(0)}.$$

Proof. Define the function X(t) by the integral equation

$$\begin{split} X(t) &= Y(0) + \varepsilon + k \int_0^t X(s)^2 ds \Longleftrightarrow X' = kX^2, \quad X(0) = Y(0) + \varepsilon, \\ \text{i.e.,} \quad X(t) &= \frac{Y(0) + \varepsilon}{1 - kt(Y(0) + \varepsilon)}. \end{split}$$

The difference W = Y - X satisfies the inequality

$$W(t) \le -\varepsilon + k \int_0^t (X(s) + Y(s))W(s)ds$$

Since Y and X are measurable, the function

$$f(t) = -\varepsilon + \int_0^t (X(s) + Y(s))W(s)ds$$

is continuous. Suppose t_0 is the least zero of f. Since X + Y > 0, the condition $f(t_0) = 0$ means that W is non-negative on a positive measure subset of $(0, t_0)$. But this is in contradiction with f(t) < 0 as $t < t_0$; consequently f(t) < 0 for all t > 0.

Letting $\varepsilon \to 0$, yields the statement in the lemma.

We continue the proof of the theorem. From (26), we conclude that for any $t < \min\{T_1, (C_4 \mathscr{I}(0))^{-1}/2\}$ =: T_2 we have

$$\mathscr{I}(t) \le C_5,\tag{27}$$

where C_5 depends only on K, μ , J, $\mathscr{I}(0)$. This proves the first set of three inequalities in the statement of the theorem.

Using Lemma 2.2 we can now estimate the time-derivative \mathbf{u}_t . Set $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \mathbf{u}_t$ in (13) and rewrite the resulting identity as

$$\int_{Q_{T_2}} \|\mathbf{u}_t\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 dt + \frac{1}{2} \mu \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t$$
$$= \int_{Q_{T_2}} \left(-u^j \mathbf{u}_{x_j} \cdot \mathbf{u}_t + \Delta \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_j} u_t^j \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$

Since $u^j \mathbf{u}_{x_j}$ and $\Delta \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_j}$ are uniformly bounded in $L_2(Q_t)$ [which follows from (27) and standard embedding theorems], we conclude

$$\int_{Q_t} \|\mathbf{u}_t\|^2 + \mu \int_{Q_t} \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t \le \|u^j \mathbf{u}_{x_j}\|_{L_2(Q_t)}^2 + \|\Delta \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{n}\|_{L_2(Q_t)}^2 \le C_6.$$

The same type of inequalities can be obtained in a similar fashion for ν_t and $\nabla \mathbf{n}_t$. This proves the second set of inequalities in the statement of the theorem.

2.5. Convergence of the Approximations

In this subsection we finish the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Theorem 2.2 provides the existence of measurable functions \mathbf{u} , $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, \mathbf{n} and a subsequence of $(\mathbf{u}_k, \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{n}_k)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_{k} &\rightharpoonup \mathbf{u} \quad \text{weakly in } L_{2}((0,T); Sol_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})), \quad \mathbf{u}_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \mathbf{u}_{t} \quad \text{weakly in } Sol_{2}(Q_{T}), \\ \boldsymbol{\nu}_{k} \stackrel{*}{\rightharpoonup} \boldsymbol{\nu} \quad \text{*-weakly in } L_{\infty}((0,T); W_{2}^{2}(\mathbb{T})), \\ \mathbf{n}_{k} \stackrel{*}{\rightharpoonup} \mathbf{n} \quad \text{*-weakly in } L_{\infty}((0,T); W_{2}^{3}(\mathbb{T})), \\ \mathbf{u}_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \mathbf{u}_{t}, \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \boldsymbol{\nu}_{t}, \quad \nabla \mathbf{n}_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \nabla \mathbf{n}_{t} \quad \text{weakly in } L_{2}(Q_{T}). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, due to standard embedding theorems,

$$\mathbf{u}_k \to \mathbf{u}$$
 strongly in $Sol_2(Q_T), \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}_k \to \boldsymbol{\nu}$ strongly in $L_2(Q_T)$

and

 $\nabla \mathbf{n}_k \to \nabla \mathbf{n}$ strongly in $L_2(Q_T)$.

Fix $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \bigcup_k C^1(0,T; E^k)$, $\boldsymbol{\zeta}(\boldsymbol{t}), \ \boldsymbol{\psi}(\boldsymbol{t}) \in \bigcup_k C^1(0,T; F^k)$ and integrate (13)–(15) over (0,T). Passing to the limits as $k \to \infty$ we have

$$\begin{cases} \int_{Q_T} (\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} - K \Delta n^i \nabla n^i) \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega} dx_1 dx_2 dt = 0, \\ \int_{Q_T} \left(\frac{J}{K} \dot{\boldsymbol{\nu}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\zeta} + (\Delta \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\zeta} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt = 0, \\ \int_{Q_T} (\dot{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi} - (\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}) dx_1 dx_2 dt = 0. \end{cases}$$
(28)

Since $\cup_k C^1((0,T); E^k)$ is dense in $L_2((0,T); Sol_2(\mathbb{T}))$ and $\cup_k C^1((0,T); F^k)$ is dense in $L_2(Q_T)$, these equations imply (9)–(11).

If $\nabla p'$ is the Hodge projection of $\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} - \Delta \mathbf{n} \nabla \mathbf{n} \in L_2(Q_T)$ on the orthogonal complement of $L_2((0,T); Sol_2(\mathbb{T}))$, then $\nabla p' \in L_2(Q_T)$.

Finally, we check the initial conditions (12).

Fix $\phi \in Sol_2(\mathbb{T})$ and consider the family of functions $f_k(t) = (\mathbf{u}_k(t), \phi)_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}$. Since $f'_k(t) = (\mathbf{u}_{k,t}(t), \phi)_{L_2(\mathbb{T})} \rightharpoonup (\mathbf{u}_t, \phi)_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}$ weakly in $L_2(0, T)$, it follows that f_k tends to $(\mathbf{u}, \phi)_{L_2(\mathbb{T})}$ in C(0, T). Thus, $\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$ tends to $\lim_k \mathbf{u}_{0k} = \mathbf{u}_0$ weakly in $L_2(\mathbb{T})$. Also

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} (\mathbf{u}(t, \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{u}(0, \mathbf{x}))^2 dx_1 dx_2 = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(\int_0^t \mathbf{u}_t dt \right)^2 dx_1 dx_2 \le t \int_{\mathbb{T}} \int_0^t \mathbf{u}_t^2 dt dx_1 dx_2$$

Since $\mathbf{u}_t \in L_2(Q_t)$, the function u(t, x) is continuous in $L_2(\mathbb{T})$ -norm with respect to t. Consequently, \mathbf{u}_0 is both a weak and a strong limit.

The weak limits of the other variables to their respective initial conditions are checked in the same way. This proves Theorem 2.1.

2.6. Uniqueness

Theorem 2.3. Suppose that $(\mathbf{u}_1, \boldsymbol{\nu}_1, \mathbf{n}_1, p'_1)$ and $(\mathbf{u}_2, \boldsymbol{\nu}_2, \mathbf{n}_2, p'_2)$ are solutions of the problem (9)–(12) in the domain Q_T . Then, for some $0 < T_0 \leq T$

$$(\mathbf{u}_2, \boldsymbol{
u}_2, \mathbf{n}_2,
abla p_2') = (\mathbf{u}_1, \boldsymbol{
u}_1, \mathbf{n}_1,
abla p_1')$$

almost everywhere in Q_{T_0} .

Proof. First of all, every solution of the problem satisfies identities (28) for all $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in W_2^1(Q_T), \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in W_2^1(Q_t), \boldsymbol{\psi} \in L_2(0,T; W_2^2).$

Denote $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2$, $\mathbf{f} = \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\nu}_2$, $\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{n}_1 - \mathbf{n}_2$ and set $(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) = (\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{f}, -K\Delta \mathbf{g})$ in (28). With this substitution, for any $\tau < T$, the identities (28) give

$$\int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(\mathbf{w}_{t} \cdot \mathbf{w} + u_{2}^{i} \mathbf{w}_{x_{i}} \cdot \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{w}^{i} \mathbf{u}_{1,x_{i}} \cdot \mathbf{w} + \mu \|\nabla \mathbf{w}\|^{2} + K\Delta \mathbf{n}_{1} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_{j}} \mathbf{w}^{i} + K\Delta \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{2,x_{j}} \mathbf{w}^{j} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} dt = 0,$$
(29)

$$\int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(J(\mathbf{f}_{t} \cdot \mathbf{f} + u_{2}^{i} \mathbf{f}_{x_{i}} \cdot \mathbf{f} + w^{i} \boldsymbol{\nu}_{1, x_{i}} \cdot \mathbf{f} \right) + K(\Delta \mathbf{g} \times \mathbf{n}_{1} + \Delta \mathbf{n}_{2} \times \mathbf{g}) \cdot \mathbf{f} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt = 0,$$

$$- K \int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(\mathbf{g}_{t} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} + u_{1}^{i} \mathbf{g}_{x_{i}} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} + w^{i} \mathbf{n}_{2, x_{i}} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} \right)$$

$$(30)$$

$$-\left(\boldsymbol{\nu}_{1} \times \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{f} \times \mathbf{n}_{2}\right) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt = 0.$$
(31)

Next, we rewrite these identities as

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}(\tau)\|^2 d^2 x + \int_{Q_{\tau}} \mu \|\nabla \mathbf{w}\|^2 d^2 x dt$$

=
$$\int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(-\mathbf{w}^i \mathbf{u}_{1,x_i} \cdot \mathbf{w} - K(\Delta \mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_j} \mathbf{w}^i + \Delta \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{2,x_j} \mathbf{w}^j \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt,$$
(32)

$$\frac{J}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\mathbf{f}(\tau)\|^2 dx_1 dx_2
= -\int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(J \mathbf{w}^i \boldsymbol{\nu}_{1,x_i} \cdot \mathbf{f} + K(\Delta \mathbf{g} \times \mathbf{n}_2 + \Delta \mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{g}) \cdot \mathbf{f} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt,$$

$$\frac{K}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|\nabla \mathbf{g}(\tau)\|^2 dx_1 dx_2$$

$$= K \int_{\mathbb{T}} (-i \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{h}_1 \cdot \mathbf{$$

$$= K \int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(\mathbf{w}^{i} \mathbf{n}_{2,x_{i}} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} - u_{1,x_{k}}^{i} \mathbf{g}_{x_{i}} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_{k}} + (\boldsymbol{\nu}_{1,x_{k}} \times \mathbf{g}) \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_{k}} - (\mathbf{f} \times \mathbf{n}_{2}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{g} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} dt.$$
(34)

Adding the identities (32)-(34), we get

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} (\|\mathbf{w}(\tau)\|^2 + J\|\mathbf{f}(\tau)\|^2 + K\|\nabla\mathbf{g}(\tau)\|^2) \, dx_1 dx_2 + \mu \int_{Q_{\tau}} \|\nabla\mathbf{w}(t)\|^2 dx_1 dx_2 dt \\ &= -\int_{Q_{\tau}} \left(\mathbf{w}^j u_{1,x_j}^i \mathbf{w}^i + K\Delta \mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_j} \mathbf{w}^i + J \mathbf{w}^i \boldsymbol{\nu}_{1,x_i} \cdot \mathbf{f} + K(\Delta \mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{g}) \cdot \mathbf{f} \\ &+ K u_{1,x_k}^i \mathbf{g}_{x_i} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_k} - K(\boldsymbol{\nu}_{1,x_k} \times \mathbf{g}) \cdot \mathbf{g}_{x_k} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt. \end{split}$$

Due to the embedding theorems and the Hölder inequalities we get

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} (\|\mathbf{w}(\tau)\|^{2} + J\|\mathbf{f}(\tau)\|^{2} + K\|\nabla\mathbf{g}(\tau)\|^{2}) \, dx_{1} dx_{2} + \mu \int_{Q_{\tau}} \|\nabla\mathbf{w}(t)\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt \\ &\leq C \int_{0}^{\tau} \left[\left(\|\mathbf{f}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \|\nabla\nu_{1}\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} + \|\nabla\mathbf{g}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \|\Delta\mathbf{n}_{1}\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} \right) \|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_{p}(\mathbb{T})} \\ &+ \left(\|\mathbf{g}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \|\nabla\nu_{1}\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} + \|\nabla\mathbf{f}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})} \|\Delta\mathbf{n}_{1}\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} \right) \|\mathbf{g}\|_{L_{p}(\mathbb{T})} \\ &+ \|\nabla\mathbf{u}_{1}\|_{L_{\infty}(\mathbb{T})} \left(\|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \|\nabla\mathbf{g}\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} \right) \right] dt \\ &\leq C(\delta) \tau^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\operatorname{essup}_{t} \left(\|\Delta\mathbf{n}_{1}(t)\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} + \|\nabla\nu_{1}(t)\|_{L_{q}(\mathbb{T})} \right) \\ &+ \|\nabla\mathbf{u}_{1}(t)\|_{L_{2}((0,T);L_{\infty}(\mathbb{T}))} \right] \left(\operatorname{essup}_{t} \left(\|\mathbf{w}(t)\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} \\ &+ \|\mathbf{f}(t)\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} + \|\nabla\mathbf{g}(t)\|_{L_{2}(\mathbb{T})}^{2} \right) + \|\nabla\mathbf{w}(t)\|_{L_{2}(Q_{\tau})}^{2} \right) \end{split}$$

for some q > 2, $p^{-1} = 1/2 - q^{-1}$.

Taking the τ -esssup of the left hand side and comparing it to the second factor on the right hand side, shows that for τ sufficiently small we have

$$(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{f}, \nabla \mathbf{g}) = (0, 0, 0).$$

Consequently, $(\mathbf{u}_1, \boldsymbol{\nu}_1) = (\mathbf{u}_2, \boldsymbol{\nu}_2)$. However, $\dot{\mathbf{g}} = -\mathbf{w}^i \mathbf{n}_{2,x_i} + \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 \times \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{f} \times \mathbf{n}_2$. Since $\mathbf{f} = 0$ and $\mathbf{w} = 0$, we have $\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{g}(t) = \boldsymbol{\nu}_1(t) \times \mathbf{g}(t)$ with initial condition $\mathbf{g}(0) = 0$. This implies that $\mathbf{g} = 0$, i.e., $\mathbf{n}_1 = \mathbf{n}_2$. Since ∇p_i is the projection of $\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} - \Delta \mathbf{n} \nabla \mathbf{n}$, we have $\nabla p_1 = \nabla p_2$.

Theorem 2.3 is proved.

2.7. Liquid Crystal in the Presence of External Forces

Theorem 2.1 can be easily extended if $\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G} \neq 0$.

Theorem 2.4. Suppose $\mathbf{u}_0 \in Sol_2^2(\mathbb{T}), \ \boldsymbol{\nu}_0 \in W_2^2(\mathbb{T}), \mathbf{n}_0 \in W_2^3(\mathbb{T}) \ and \ \mathbf{F} \in L_2((0,T); W_2^1(\mathbb{T})), \ \mathbf{G} \in L_1((0,T); W_2^2(\mathbb{T})); \ F^3 = 0.$

Then there exists some $0 < T_0 < T$ such that the solution (as in Definition 2.1) of problem (9)–(11) exists and is unique in Q_{T_0} .

3. Liquid Crystal Flow in Bounded Domains

Let Ω be a bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^2 and consider nematic liquid crystal flow in the cylinder $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}$ which does not depend on the third coordinate.

Since all functions in the Ericksen–Leslie system depend only on the points $(x_1, x_2) \in \Omega$, we are studying Eqs. (9)–(11) in domain $(0, T) \times \Omega$ with initial conditions (12) and additional boundary conditions

$$\mathbf{u}\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \quad \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{n}_1\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \quad \text{for any } t > 0,$$
 (35)

where \mathbf{n}_1 is a given vector field on $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}$.

Condition $\mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ means that the domain has impenetrable boundary and that the fluid moves without slipping; $\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{n}_1|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ describes the director position at the boundary. The third condition comes from the original Ericksen–Leslie system and means that $\dot{\mathbf{n}} = 0$ at the boundary.

3.1. The Definition of the Solution and the Existence Theorem

We begin by introducing some notations.

In this section we let $Q_T := (0, T) \times \Omega$,

 $W_2^m(\Omega)$ is the subspace of $W_2^m(\Omega)$ with zero trace (see, for instance [25,26]).

The definition of a solution of the Ericksen–Leslie equations is quite similar to the one in Definition 2.1, with some changes because of the boundary.

Definition 3.1. The quadruple $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n}, \nabla p')$ is a *strong solution* of problem (9)–(12), (35) in domain Q_T if

- **u** is a vector field in $L_2((0,T); \overset{\circ}{Sol_2^1}(\Omega)) \cap L_2((0,T); W_2^2(\Omega)), \mathbf{u}_t \in L_2(Q_T);$
- $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ is a vector field in $L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega)), \, \boldsymbol{\nu}_t \in L_{\infty}((0,T); L_2(\Omega));$
- $\mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}_1$ is a vector field in $L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega)) \cap L_2((0,T); W_2^2(\Omega))$, where \mathbf{n}_1 is a given constant vector field in (x,t), $\mathbf{n}_t \in L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega))$;
- $\nabla p' \in L_2(Q_T);$
- **u**, **n**, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ satisfy initial conditions (12), i.e., $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{n}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{u}_0, \mathbf{n}_0, \boldsymbol{\nu}_0)$ in $L_2(\Omega)$ as $t \rightarrow 0$;
- Equations (9)–(11) hold almost everywhere.

In this section we suppose the third component of the director to be equal to zero. Then we have

$$\mathbf{n} = (\cos\theta, \sin\theta, 0), \quad \boldsymbol{\nu} = (0, 0, \nu),$$

where θ is a new unknown function. The Ericksen–Leslie system becomes

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} = -\nabla \left(p' + \frac{K}{2} \|\nabla \theta\|^2 \right) - K \Delta \theta \nabla \theta, \quad \text{div } \mathbf{u} = 0,$$
(36)

$$J\dot{\nu} = -K\Delta\theta,\tag{37}$$

$$\dot{\theta} = \nu \tag{38}$$

with boundary and initial conditions

$$\mathbf{u}\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \quad \theta - \theta_1\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \quad \nu|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \quad \text{for any } t > 0, \tag{39}$$

$$\mathbf{u}(0,x) = \mathbf{u}_0(x), \quad \nu(0,x) = \nu_0(x), \quad \theta(0,x) = \theta_0(x).$$
(40)

Theorem 3.1. Assume that Ω is a domain with C^2 -boundary. Let $\theta_0 \in W_2^3(\Omega)$, $\nu_0 \in W_2^2(\Omega)$, $\mathbf{u}_0 \in Sol_2^1(\Omega) \cap W_2^2(\Omega)$; $\Delta \mathbf{u}_0|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ and assume that for some d > 0 we have

$$\theta_0(x) = \theta_1 \equiv const, \quad \nu_0(x) = 0 \quad if \, dist(x, \partial \Omega) < d.$$

Then the solution of (36)–(40) exists for some T > 0 and is unique.

The proof proceeds along the same lines as that of Theorem 2.1. We point out the necessary modifications.

Instead of (36)-(38) we consider the regularized system, where equation (36) is replaced with

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} + \varepsilon \Delta^2 \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P - \Delta \theta \nabla \theta \tag{41}$$

with additional boundary conditions $\Delta u \Big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$; where ε is a small parameter, $P = p' + \frac{K}{2} \|\nabla \theta\|^2$.

Also, we replace θ with $\theta_1 + \tilde{\theta}$, where $\tilde{\theta}$ is a new unknown function.

As in the proof of Theorem 2.1, select two sequences of subspaces $E^1 \subset E^2 \subset \cdots$ and $F^1 \subset F^2 \subset \cdots$ such that $\bigcup_k E^k$ is dense in $Sol_2^1(\Omega) \cap W_2^2(\Omega)$ and $\bigcup_k F^k$ is dense in $W_2^2(\Omega) \cap W_2^1(\Omega)$. It is still useful to choose E^k and F^k to be the linear span of the first k eigenfunctions of the Laplacian in the corresponding spaces.

Define the finite-dimensional solution $(\mathbf{u}_k, \nu_k, \tilde{\theta}_k) \subset C^0((0, T); E^k \times F^k \times F^k)$ by the system of ordinary differential equations

$$(\mathbf{u}_{k,t},\boldsymbol{\omega}) = -(u_k^l \mathbf{u}_{k,x_l},\boldsymbol{\omega}) + (\mu \Delta \mathbf{u}_k - \varepsilon \Delta^2 \mathbf{u}_k,\boldsymbol{\omega}) - K(\Delta(\tilde{\theta}_k + \theta_1) \cdot \nabla(\tilde{\theta}_k + \theta_1),\boldsymbol{\omega}),$$
(42)

$$J(\nu_{k,t},\zeta) = -(Ju_k^l \nu_{k,x_l} k,\zeta) - K(\Delta(\tilde{\theta}_k + \theta_1),\zeta),$$
(43)

$$(\tilde{\theta}_{k,t},\psi) = -(u_k^l(\tilde{\theta}_k + \theta_1)_{x_l},\psi) + (\nu_k,\psi), \tag{44}$$

$$(\mathbf{u}_k, \nu_k, \theta_k)|_{t=0} = (\mathbf{u}_{0k}, \nu_{0k}, \theta_{0k}).$$

$$(45)$$

The identities (42)–(45) hold for all $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in E^k$, $\zeta, \psi \in F^k$. (For simplicity we use the notation $\theta_k = \tilde{\theta}_k + \theta_1$).

The solution of this finite-dimensional problem, obviously, exists for some T > 0.

The result of Sect. 2.3 still holds.

Lemma 3.1. For all t > 0 we have

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\|\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{k}}(t)\|^{2} + J\|\nu_{k}(t)\|^{2} + K\|\nabla\theta_{k}(t)\|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} \Big|_{0}^{t} + 2\mu \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\Omega} \|\nabla\mathbf{u}_{k}(s)\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} ds + 2\varepsilon \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\Omega} \|\Delta\mathbf{u}_{k}(s)\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} ds = 0.$$

Proof. Repeat the procedure used in Lemma 2.1.

We need to check that the boundary integrals are equal to zero. Due to the condition $\mathbf{u}_k|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$, all terms containing u_k^i vanish. The only term not containing \mathbf{u}_k is

$$\int_0^T \int_{\partial\Omega} \theta_{k,t} \theta_{k,x_i} N_i dS$$

derived from (44), where (N_1, N_2) is an exterior normal vector field. Since $\tilde{\theta}$ is a smooth vector field and θ_1 does not depend on t, $\theta_t|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$, it follows that this term vanishes. The Lemma is proved.

As in section 2.3, Lemma 3.1 guarantees that the solution of the problem (42)–(45) exists for all T > 0. Next, we estimate higher derivatives.

Lemma 3.2. There exists T > 0 and C > 0 depending on ε , the initial and boundary data, but not depending on k, such that

$$\|\mathbf{u}_k\|_{L_2((0,T);W_2^3(\Omega))}, \|\nabla\nu_k\|_{L_\infty((0,T);L_2(\Omega))}, \|\theta_k\|_{L_\infty((0,T);W_2^2(\Omega))} \le C.$$

Note that T > 0 and C > 0 depend on ε , which won't be sufficient to prove Theorem 3.1. Lemma 3.3 below gives the necessary uniform estimates.

Proof. In this proof we use $(\mathbf{u}, \nu, \tilde{\theta})$ instead of $(\mathbf{u}_k, \nu_k, \tilde{\theta}_k)$.

Consider Eqs. (42)–(44) and substitute $(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \zeta, \psi) = (\Delta \mathbf{u}, \Delta \nu, \Delta^2 \tilde{\theta})$. First, we note that (44) could be rewritten as

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\Delta \tilde{\theta})^2 dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^T = \int_0^T \int_{\partial \Omega} \left((\dot{\theta} - \nu) \Delta \theta_{x_k} N_k - \Delta \theta (\dot{\theta} - \nu)_{x_k} N_k \right) dS dt \\ + \int_{Q_T} \left(-2u_{x_k}^j \theta_{x_j x_k} \Delta \theta - \Delta u^j \theta_{x_j} \Delta \theta + \Delta \nu \Delta \theta \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt$$

The first term of the boundary integral is equal to zero, since $\dot{\theta}(t, x) = 0$ and $\nu(t, x) = 0$ if $x \in \partial \Omega$.

Recall that F^k is defined to be the linear span of the first k eigenfunctions $\{v_m \mid m = 0, ..., k\}$ of the Laplacian, i.e.,

$$\Delta v_m = \lambda v_m, \quad v_m|_{\partial\Omega} = 0,$$

 $v_m \in \overset{\circ}{W_2^1}(\Omega)$; then $\Delta v_m \in \overset{\circ}{W_2^1}(\Omega)$ and thus $\Delta \tilde{\theta} \in \overset{\circ}{W_2^1}(\Omega)$. This shows that the second term in the boundary integral also vanishes.

Since $\Delta \theta = \Delta \hat{\theta}$, we have an equation similar to (20).

The analogues of (19) and (21) are obtained in the same way and, consequently, we can prove an analogue of inequality (22):

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \left(J \|\nabla\nu\|^{2} + K \sum_{j,k=1}^{2} \|\theta_{x_{j}x_{k}}\|^{2} + \|\nabla\mathbf{u}\|^{2} \right) dx_{1} dx_{2} \Big|_{0}^{T} \\
+ \mu \int_{Q_{T}} \|\Delta\mathbf{u}\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt + \varepsilon \int_{Q_{T}} \|\nabla(\Delta\mathbf{u})\|^{2} dx_{1} dx_{2} dt \\
\leq C_{1} \int_{0}^{T} \left(\text{esssup } \|\nabla\mathbf{u}(t)\| \left(\|\nabla\nu(t)\|^{2}_{L_{2}(\Omega)} + \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \|\theta_{x_{i}x_{j}}(t)\|^{2}_{L_{2}(\Omega)} + \|\nabla\mathbf{u}\|^{2}_{L_{2}(\Omega)} \right) \\
+ \|\nabla\theta(t)\|_{L_{4}(\Omega)} \left(\|\Delta\mathbf{u}(t)\|_{L_{4}(\Omega)} \|\Delta\theta(t)\|_{L_{2}(\Omega)} \right) dt.$$
(46)

Next, we need Lemma 8.1 of [24, Chapter III] to estimate $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_2^2(\Omega)}$ in terms of $\|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|_{L_2(\Omega)}$ and $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L_2(\Omega)}$, namely,

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\Omega)} \leq C(\|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|_{L_{2}(\Omega)} + \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L_{2}(\Omega)}).$$

We also need inequality (11.8) from [24, Chapter III]

$$\forall p > 1 \; \exists C \; \forall v \in W_p^2(\Omega), \; v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \quad \|v\|_{W_p^2(\Omega)} \le C(\|\Delta v\|_{L_p(\Omega)} + \|v\|_{L_2(\Omega)})$$

and the Sobolev embedding theorems to estimate $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W_p^2(\Omega)}$ (and, consequently, max $\|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|$) in terms of $\|\Delta \mathbf{u}\|_{W_p^1(\Omega)}$ and lower derivatives.

Finally, we can obtain an inequality similar to (26) for

$$\mathscr{I}(t) := \|\mathbf{u}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{1}(\Omega)}^{2} + J\|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{1}(\Omega)}^{2} + K\|\mathbf{n}(t)\|_{W_{2}^{2}(\Omega)}^{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L_{2}((0,t);W_{2}^{3}(\Omega))}^{2} + 1,$$

and, consequently, (27). This proves Lemma 3.2.

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Due to Lemma 3.2, the sequences $\mathbf{u}_k, \nu_k, \theta_k$ are weakly-precompact in $L_2((0,T); \overset{\circ}{Sol_2^2}(\Omega)), L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega)), \text{ and } L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^2(\Omega))$. From the embedding theorems,

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{u}_{k} &\rightharpoonup \mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon} \quad \text{weakly in } L_{2}((0,T); Sol_{2}^{2}(\Omega)), \quad \mathbf{u}_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \mathbf{u}_{t}^{\varepsilon} \quad \text{weakly in } Sol_{2}(Q_{T}) \\ \nu_{k} \stackrel{*}{\to} \nu^{\varepsilon} \quad ^{*}\text{-weakly in } L_{\infty}((0,T); \overset{\circ}{W_{2}^{2}}(\Omega)), \\ \theta_{k} \stackrel{*}{\rightharpoonup} \theta^{\varepsilon} \quad ^{*}\text{-weakly in } L_{\infty}((0,T); \overset{\circ}{W_{2}^{2}}(\Omega)), \\ \nu_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \nu_{t}^{\varepsilon}, \quad \nabla \theta_{k,t} \rightharpoonup \nabla \theta_{t}^{\varepsilon} \quad \text{weakly in } L_{2}(Q_{T}). \\ \mathbf{u}_{k}^{\varepsilon} \rightarrow \mathbf{u} \quad \text{strongly in } Sol_{2}(Q_{T}), \quad \nu_{k} \rightarrow \nu^{\varepsilon} \quad \text{strongly in } L_{2}(Q_{T}), \end{split}$$

and

$$\nabla \theta_k \to \nabla \theta^{\varepsilon}$$
 strongly in $L_2(Q_T)$

for some subsequence of $(\mathbf{u}_k, \nu_k, \theta_k)$.

This proves existence of solutions of the regularized problem (37), (38), (41) for any $\varepsilon > 0$. To prove Theorem 3.1, it is sufficient to obtain uniform estimates for higher derivatives of $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$.

Lemma 3.3. For sufficiently small $T_1 > 0$, not depending on ε , there is a constant C > 0, also not depending on ε , such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_{2}((0,T);W_{2}^{3}(\Omega))}, \|\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{2}(\Omega))}, \|\nu^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{3}(\Omega))}, \\ \|\theta^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_{\infty}((0,T);W_{2}^{3}(\Omega))} \leq C, \end{aligned}$$
(47)

$$\|\mathbf{u}_t^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_2(Q_T)}, \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_t^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_2(Q_T)}, \|\nabla \theta_t^{\varepsilon}\|_{L_2(Q_T)} \le C.$$

$$(48)$$

Proof. Consider, instead of (37) and (38), the equations

$$J\nu_t + \chi(x)u^i\nu_{x_i} = -K\Delta\theta, \tag{49}$$

$$\theta_t + \chi(x)u^i \theta_{x_i} = \nu, \tag{50}$$

where $\chi(x)$ is a smooth function,

$$\chi(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & dist(x, \partial \Omega) < \frac{d}{4} \\ 1, & dist(x, \partial \Omega) > \frac{d}{3} \end{cases}$$

Repeat the Galerkin procedure for the problem (39), (40), (41), (49), (50) as presented in Sect. 2. Since all nonlinear terms in (49), (50) vanish on the boundary, we can prove the analogue of Theorem 2.2.

Proposition 3.1. There exists a strong solution $(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})$ of the problem (39), (40), (41), (49), (50). The solution is unique and satisfies inequalities (47), (48), where the constants C and T depend on d and don't depend on ε .

The proof is identical to that of Theorem 2.2 and the argument in Sect. 2.6, so it won't be repeated here.

Let us prove that, for some $T_1 < T$ not depending on ε , the two solutions coincide, i.e.

$$\forall t \in [0, T_1] \quad (\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})(t) = (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \theta)(t).$$

Define constant $T_1 > 0$ by

$$T_1 := \min\{T, \operatorname{essup}_{x \in \Omega; i, j} \|\tilde{u}_{x_j}^i + \tilde{u}_{x_i}^j\|_{L_2(0, T)}^2, d(2 \operatorname{essup}_{x, t} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\| + 2 \max\{1, K/J\})^{-1}\}$$

and let $\mathscr{K} := \{t \leq T_1 \mid (\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})(\tau) = (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})(\tau), \forall \tau \in [0, t]\}$. It is obvious that $\mathscr{K} \ni 0$. We prove that \mathscr{K} is both open and closed in $[0, T_1]$, which then implies that $\mathscr{K} = [0, T_1]$.

Suppose $t_0 \in \mathscr{K}$. Then the solution $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$ of the regularized problem exists in some interval $(0, t_0 + \delta)$. Indeed, let us consider the Eqs. (37), (38), (41) with standard boundary conditions and initial

conditions $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})(t_0) = (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})(t_0)$. Thus, in the open interval $(t_0, t_0 + \delta)$ the new problem has a solution that is a continuation of $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$.

Next, we show that $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$ and $(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})$ coincide on some open interval. Consider Eqs. (37), (38) in the domain Q_{t_0} . Since $\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon} \in L_2((0, t_0); W^1_{\infty}(\Omega))$, we can apply Theorem 4.1 (all we need from this theorem is the existence of the triple $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ satisfying Eqs. (10), (11) and this fact does not depend on any statement below); thus $\theta^{\varepsilon} = \theta_1, \nu^{\varepsilon} = 0$ in an α -neighborhood of $\partial\Omega$ if 0 < t < T' for some constant $T' \leq t_0$. This constant does not depend on ε since $\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon} = \tilde{\mathbf{u}}$ for any $t < t_0$ and $\|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L_2((0,t_0);W^1_{\infty}(\Omega))}$ is also ε -independent by Proposition 3.1. Due to the definition of T_1 , we have $\alpha > \frac{d}{3}$ and $T' = t_0$.

Moreover, since $\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon} \in L_2((0, t_0 + \delta); W^1_{\infty}(\Omega))$ and $\theta^{\varepsilon}\big|_{t=t_0} = \theta_1, \nu^{\varepsilon}\big|_{t=t_0} = 0$ in the α -neighborhood of $\partial\Omega$, there exists a constant δ_{ε} depending on ε such that $\theta^{\varepsilon} = \theta_1, \nu^{\varepsilon} = 0$ in the $\frac{d}{3}$ -neighborhood of $\partial\Omega$ if $0 < t < t_0 + \delta_{\varepsilon}$.

Now it is easy to check that the solution $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$ satisfies the Eqs. (41), (49), (50) in Q_{T_1} , and hence coincides with $(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})$ in some neighborhood of $t = t_0$. Consequently, \mathcal{K} is open.

We now show that \mathscr{K} is closed, i.e., if $t_n \in \mathscr{K}$ and $t_n \to t_0$ then $t_0 \in \mathscr{K}$. Indeed, $t_0 \notin \mathscr{K}$ only if the $W_2^2 \times W_2^2 \times W_2^3$ -norm of the solution $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon}, \nu^{\varepsilon}, \theta^{\varepsilon})$ at the point t_n tends to ∞ . This is impossible since we have inequalities (47), (48) for the solution $(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\theta})$. Hence $t_0 \in \mathscr{K}$.

Therefore, \mathscr{K} is both open and closed in $[0, T_1]$ which implies that $\mathscr{K} = [0, T_1]$ and concludes the proof of the lemma.

Continuing the proof of Theorem 3.1, select a subsequence ε_k such that $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ is a weak limit of $(\mathbf{u}^{\varepsilon_k}, \boldsymbol{\nu}^{\varepsilon_k}, \mathbf{n}^{\varepsilon_k})$ in the spaces $L_2((0,T); Sol_2^2(\Omega)), L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega))$, and $L_{\infty}((0,T); W_2^2(\Omega))$. The vector fields $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ are the first three terms of the solution. The term $\nabla p'$ is the Hodge projection of $\dot{\mathbf{u}} - \mu \Delta \mathbf{u} - \Delta \mathbf{n} \nabla \mathbf{n} \in L_2(Q_T)$ on the orthogonal complement of $L_2(0,T; Sol_2(\Omega))$.

As in Sect. 2.5, one checks that the initial conditions hold.

The proof of uniqueness is identical to that in Sect. 2.6.

Remark 3.1. As can be seen from the proof, all that is needed is that \mathbf{n}_1 is piecewise constant on the boundary $\partial\Omega$.

The same result holds if external forces are present.

Theorem 3.2. Suppose Ω , \mathbf{n}_0 , $\boldsymbol{\nu}_0$, \mathbf{u}_0 , \mathbf{n}_1 satisfy the conditions of Theorem 3.1. Assume also that $\mathbf{F} \in L_2((0,T); W_2^1(\Omega))$, $\mathbf{G} = (G_1, G_2, 0) \in L_1((0,T); W_2^2(\Omega))$, $F^3 = 0$. Then the solution exists and is unique for some T > 0.

Remark 3.2. If $\mathbf{G} \neq (G_1, G_2, 0)$, the director field cannot be represented as $\mathbf{n} = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0)$.

Remark 3.3. The analogues of the Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 hold also in the case of the director field

 $\mathbf{n} = (\cos\theta\sin\phi_0, \sin\theta\sin\phi_0, \cos\phi_0), \quad \boldsymbol{\nu} = (0, 0, \nu_3),$

where ϕ_0 is a constant angle and θ , ν_3 are new unknown functions.

4. Finite Propagation Speed

In this section we consider the strong solutions of the Ericksen–Leslie equation both in the periodic (see Definition 2.1) and the bounded domain case (see Definition 3.1). For simplicity in this section we will use

$$\int f dx_1 dx_2 \quad \text{instead of} \quad \int_{\mathbb{T}} f dx_1 dx_2 \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{\Omega} f dx_1 dx_2$$

depending on the nature of the domain.

Theorem 4.1. Consider the Eqs. (10), (11), suppose that $w^{ij} := u^j_{x_i} + u^i_{x_j}$ satisfy $\| \operatorname{essup}_{x} \| w^{ij}(x,t) \| \|_{L_{\alpha}(0,T)} \leq M/2$

for some $1 < \alpha \leq \infty$, and that $\|\mathbf{u}\|$ is bounded by a constant m > 0. Assume also that $\nabla \mathbf{n}_0$ and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_0$ vanish for $\|x - x_0\| < r$. Then $\nabla \mathbf{n}$ and $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ are equal to zero for

$$||x - x_0|| < r - (m + \max\{1, K/J\})t, \quad Mt^{\frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha}} < \frac{1}{2}.$$

In the case of a bounded domain Ω , we impose the additional assumption $u\big|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$, $\nu(x,t) = 0$, $\mathbf{n}(x,t)_t = 0$ if $(x,t) \in \{x \in \partial\Omega \mid ||x - x_0|| < r - t(m + \max\{1, K/J\})\}.$

Proof. Let $x_0 = 0$. Taking $\boldsymbol{\zeta} = \boldsymbol{\nu} \varphi$ and $\boldsymbol{\psi} = -K \Delta \mathbf{n} \varphi$ in (28) we get

$$\frac{J}{2} \int \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 \varphi dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t = \int \left(\frac{J}{2} (\varphi_t + u^j \varphi_{x_j}) \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 - K(\Delta \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} \varphi \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt_2$$
$$\int \frac{K}{2} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2 \varphi dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t = \int \left(\frac{K}{2} (\varphi_t + u^j \varphi_{x_j}) \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2 - K(\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \mathbf{n}) \cdot \Delta \mathbf{n} \varphi$$
$$-K u_{x_k}^j \mathbf{n}_{x_j} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_k} \varphi - K \dot{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{x_j} \varphi_{x_j} \right) dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$

Add the previous two identities and rewrite the result as

$$\frac{J}{2} \int \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 \varphi dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t + \int \frac{K}{2} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2 \varphi dx_1 dx_2 \Big|_0^t \leq \int \dot{\varphi} \left(\frac{J}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + \frac{K}{2} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2 \right) \\ + K \max_{i,j,x} w^{ij} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2 \varphi + K \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\| \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\| \|\nabla \varphi\| dx_1 dx_2 dt.$$

Denote $\varphi = \phi(\|x\| + m't)$, where $\phi(x) \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$, $\phi = 0$ for $\|x\| > r$, $\phi' \le 0$. Let $m' := m + \max\{1, K/J\}$ and estimate

$$\begin{split} &\int \left(\dot{\varphi}\left(\frac{J}{2K} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2\right) + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\| \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\| \|\nabla \varphi\|\right) dx_1 dx_2 dt \\ &\leq \int \phi'(\|x\| + m't) \left(m' + \frac{u^i x_i}{\|x\|}\right) \left(\frac{J}{2K} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{|\phi'(\|x\| + m't)|}{2} \left(\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 + \|\nabla \mathbf{n}\|^2\right) dx_1 dx_2 dt \leq 0. \end{split}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{J}{2K} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)\phi^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_{2}^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \|\phi^{\frac{1}{2}}\nabla\mathbf{n}(t)\|^{2} &\leq \int \max_{i,j,x} w^{ij} \|\nabla\mathbf{n}\|^{2} \varphi dx_{1} dx_{2} dt \\ &\leq M t^{\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}} \operatorname{esssup}_{t} \|\phi^{\frac{1}{2}}\nabla\mathbf{n}\|_{2}^{2}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the statement.

Remark 4.1. The proof of Theorem 4.1 is independent of the existence and uniqueness proof and result. Moreover, in the proof we can suppose $(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{n})$ to satisfy only (10) and (11) but not (9).

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