

A regularity criterion for a density-dependent incompressible liquid crystals model with vacuum

Jishan FAN, Bessem SAMET and Yong ZHOU

(Received December 11, 2017)

(Revised October 31, 2018)

ABSTRACT. This paper proves a new regularity criterion for a density-dependent incompressible liquid crystals model with vacuum but without any compatibility condition.

1. Introduction

In this paper, we consider the regularity criterion for the density-dependent incompressible nematic liquid crystals model [2, 3, 14, 18]:

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho u) = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

$$\partial_t(\rho u) + \operatorname{div}(\rho u \otimes u) + \nabla \pi - \Delta u = -\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d), \quad (1.2)$$

$$\partial_t d + u \cdot \nabla d - \Delta d = d|\nabla d|^2, \quad |d| = 1, \quad (1.3)$$

$$\operatorname{div} u = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

$$(\rho, u, d)(\cdot, 0) = (\rho_0, u_0, d_0), \quad |d_0| = 1 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3, \quad (1.5)$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (\rho, u, d) = (\tilde{\rho}_0, 0, \tilde{d}_0), \quad \tilde{\rho}_0 = \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \rho_0, \quad \tilde{d}_0 = \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} d_0, \quad (1.6)$$

where ρ denotes the density, u the velocity, π the pressure, and d represents the macroscopic molecular orientations. $(\nabla d \odot \nabla d)_{i,j} := \sum_k \partial_i d_k \partial_j d_k$, and hence

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d) = \sum_k \Delta d_k \nabla d_k + \frac{1}{2} \nabla |\nabla d|^2.$$

When d is a constant vector with $|d| = 1$, then (1.1), (1.2) and (1.4) represent the well-known density-dependent Navier-Stokes system, which has been an object of many studies [7, 1, 12, 15]. Fan-Ozawa [7] proved the

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 35Q35, 76D03; Secondary 76A15.

Key words and phrases. Regularity criterion, liquid crystals model, incompressible, vacuum.

following regularity criterion

$$u \in L^{2/(1-r)}(0, T; \dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}) \quad \text{with } 0 < r < 1. \quad (1.7)$$

Very recently, Li [15] shows the local well-posedness of strong solutions to the problem (1.1)–(1.6) with vacuum but without the following compatibility condition

$$\nabla \pi_0 - \Delta u_0 + \nabla \cdot (\nabla d_0 \odot \nabla d_0) = \sqrt{\rho_0} g$$

for some $(\pi_0, g) \in H^1 \times L^2$, which was used in [1, 12].

When $u = 0$, (1.3) is the well-known harmonic heat flow.

Li-Wang [16] have proved that the problem (1.1)–(1.6) has a unique local strong solution. Fan-Gao-Guo [5] and Fan-Li [6] showed some blow-up criteria. The aim of this paper is to prove a new regularity criterion

$$u, \nabla d \in L^{2/(1-r)}(0, T; \dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}) \quad \text{with } 0 < r < 1 \quad (1.8)$$

for the problem (1.1)–(1.6) in the framework of [15]. We will prove

THEOREM 1.1. *Let $0 \leq \rho_0 \leq \sup \rho_0 < \infty$, $\nabla \rho_0 \in L^2 \cap L^p$ ($2 < p \leq 6$), $u_0 \in H^1$, $\nabla d_0 \in H^1$, $\operatorname{div} u_0 = 0$ and $|d_0| = 1$ in \mathbb{R}^3 . Let (ρ, u, d) be a local strong solution to the problem (1.1)–(1.6). If (1.8) holds true with $0 < T < \infty$, then the solution (ρ, u, d) can be extended beyond $T > 0$.*

REMARK 1.1. *For the case that $\inf \rho_0 > 0$, Theorem 1.1 is proved recently in [8]. Concerning related studies, we refer to [4, 9, 10, 20] and references therein.*

REMARK 1.2. *We can prove a similar regularity criterion*

$$u, \nabla d \in L^2(0, T; \dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^0).$$

REMARK 1.3. *We can prove some similar regularity criteria in a bounded and smooth domain.*

In the proofs, we will use the following Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequality

$$\|\nabla d\|_{L^{4p/(p-2)}}^2 \leq C \|d\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}}, \quad (1.9)$$

and the following interpolation inequalities [11, 17, 19]:

$$\|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \leq C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{1-\theta} \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{r+2}}^\theta, \quad (1.10)$$

$$\|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} \leq C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^\theta \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{r+2}}^{1-\theta} \quad (1.11)$$

with $0 < r < 1$ and $\theta := \frac{2}{p}$, and $p = \frac{2(1+2r)}{r}$.

We will also use the following bilinear estimates [13]:

$$\|u \cdot \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}, \quad (1.12)$$

$$\|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2} \leq C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}} + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}} \quad (1.13)$$

with $0 < r < 1$.

2. Proof of Theorem 1.1

Due to the aforementioned existence and uniqueness theorem for local strong solutions, by using a standard continuation argument, we only need to establish a priori estimates on smooth enough local solutions. Hence, by using a standard argument we assume the existence of strong solutions in the maximal interval $(0, T)$, and all the calculations we are going to perform are completely justified. By proving uniform bounds for all $t \in [0, T)$, for appropriate norms of the unknowns, we will show that the solution can be continued beyond T , which is in contradiction to its maximality.

First, observe that, thanks to the maximum principle, it follows from (1.1) and (1.4) that

$$0 \leq \rho \leq C. \quad (2.1)$$

Testing (1.2) by u and using (1.1) and (1.4), we see that

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int \rho |u|^2 dx + \int |\nabla u|^2 dx = - \int (u \cdot \nabla) d \cdot \Delta d dx. \quad (2.2)$$

Testing (1.3) by $-\Delta d$ and using $d \cdot \Delta d = -|\nabla d|^2$ and $|d| = 1$, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\nabla d|^2 dx + \int |\Delta d|^2 dx \\ &= \int (u \cdot \nabla) d \cdot \Delta d dx + \int (d \cdot \Delta d)^2 dx \\ &\leq \int (u \cdot \nabla) d \cdot \Delta d dx + \int |\Delta d|^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Summing up (2.2) and (2.3), we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \int (\rho |u|^2 + |\nabla d|^2)(t) dx + \int_0^T \int |\nabla u|^2 dx dt \leq \frac{1}{2} \int (\rho_0 |u_0|^2 + |\nabla d_0|^2) dx. \quad (2.4)$$

Testing (1.2) by $\partial_t u$ and using (1.1) and (1.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\nabla u|^2 dx + \int \rho |\partial_t u|^2 dx \\
&= - \int \rho u \cdot \nabla u \cdot \partial_t u dx + \int \nabla \partial_t u : \nabla d \odot \nabla d dx \\
&=: I_1 + I_2.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

Using (1.12) and (2.1), we bound I_1 as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
I_1 &\leq \|\sqrt{\rho}\|_{L^\infty} \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \|u \cdot \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}} \\
&\leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{1-r} \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^r \\
&\leq \varepsilon \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2}^2 + \varepsilon \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2/(1-r)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2
\end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

for any $0 < \varepsilon < 1$.

On the other hand, because (u, π) is a solution of the Stokes system,

$$-\Delta u + \nabla \pi = f := -\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d) - \rho \partial_t u - \rho u \cdot \nabla u. \tag{2.7}$$

It follows from the \dot{H}^2 -theory of the Stokes system and (1.12) that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} &\leq C \|f\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C \|\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d)\|_{L^2} + C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C \|u \cdot \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}} + C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}} \\
&\leq C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2}^{1-r} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^r + C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{1-r} \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^r \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} + C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{1/(1-r)} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{1/(1-r)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}
\end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} &\leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{1/(1-r)} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2} + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{1/(1-r)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

Here we used the following bilinear estimate [13]:

$$\|\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d)\|_{L^2} \leq C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}} \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}} \quad \text{with } 0 < r < 1. \quad (2.9)$$

By integration by parts, the term I_2 can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \frac{d}{dt} \int \nabla u : \nabla d \odot \nabla d \, dx - 2 \int \nabla u : \nabla d \odot \partial_t \nabla d \, dx \\ &=: \frac{d}{dt} \int \nabla u : \nabla d \odot \nabla d \, dx + I_3. \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

Using (1.3), (1.9), (1.10), (1.11) and (1.13), we bound I_3 as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla \partial_t d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla u\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} (\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} + \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} \\ &\quad + \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla d\|_{L^{4p/(p-2)}}^2 + \|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2}) \\ &\leq C \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla u\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} (\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} + \|\nabla d\|_{L^p} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} + \|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2}) \\ &\leq \varepsilon \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{L^p}^2 \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}}^2 + C \|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\quad + C \|\nabla d\|_{L^p}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}}^2 \\ &\leq \varepsilon \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2 \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^2 + C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2 \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^2 \\ &\quad + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2 \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2(1-\theta)} \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^{2\theta} \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2\theta} \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}^{2(1-\theta)} \\ &\leq \varepsilon \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C (\|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2 + \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2) (\|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}^2 + \|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^2) \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + \varepsilon \|\Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\quad + C (\|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2/(1-r)} + \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2/(1-r)}) (\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2) \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

for any $0 < \varepsilon < 1$. Here we used the interpolation inequality [11, 17, 19]:

$$\|\nabla u\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}} \leq C \|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^\theta \|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}^{1-\theta} \quad \text{with } 0 < r < 1. \quad (2.12)$$

Applying Δ to (1.3), testing by Δd and using (1.9), (1.10), (1.11) and (1.13), we reach

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\Delta d|^2 \, dx + \int |\nabla \Delta d|^2 \, dx \\ &= - \int \nabla(d|\nabla d|^2) \nabla \Delta d \, dx + \int \nabla(u \cdot \nabla d) \nabla \Delta d \, dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq C\|\nabla d\|_{L^p}(\|\nabla d\|_{L^{4p/(p-2)}}^2 + \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}})\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C\|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2}\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C\|\nabla d\|_{L^p}\|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^{2p/(p-2)}}\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} + C\|\nabla(u \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2}\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \varepsilon\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2\|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^2 + C\|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2\|d\|_{\dot{H}^{2+r}}^2 + C\|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^2\|u\|_{\dot{H}^{1+r}}^2 \\
&\leq 2\varepsilon\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + \varepsilon\|\Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\
&\quad + C(\|u\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2/(1-r)} + \|\nabla d\|_{\dot{B}_{\infty, \infty}^{-r}}^{2/(1-r)})(\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2}^2) \tag{2.13}
\end{aligned}$$

for any $0 < \varepsilon < 1$.

Combining (2.5), (2.6), (2.8), (2.10), (2.11) and (2.13), taking ε suitably small, noting that

$$\left| \int \nabla u : \nabla d \odot \nabla d \, dx \right| \leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}\|\nabla d\|_{L^4}^2 \leq C\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}\|\Delta d\|_{L^2},$$

and using the Gronwall inequality, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty(0, T; L^2)} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} + \|\sqrt{\rho}u_t\|_{L^2(0, T; L^2)} \\
&\quad + \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty(0, T; H^1)} + \|\nabla d\|_{L^2(0, T; H^2)} \leq C. \tag{2.14}
\end{aligned}$$

Testing (1.3) by d_t and using $d \cdot d_t = 0$ and (2.14), we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\nabla d|^2 \, dx + \int |d_t|^2 \, dx &= - \int u \cdot \nabla d \cdot d_t \, dx \\
&\leq \|u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla d\|_{L^3}\|d_t\|_{L^2} \leq C\|d_t\|_{L^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}\|d_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C,
\end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\|d_t\|_{L^2(0, T; L^2)} \leq C. \tag{2.15}$$

Testing (1.3) by $-\Delta d_t$ and using (2.14), we derive

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\Delta d|^2 \, dx + \int |\nabla d_t|^2 \, dx &= \int \nabla(d|\nabla d|^2 - u \cdot \nabla d) \cdot \nabla d_t \, dx \\
&\leq C(\|\nabla d\|_{L^6}^3 + \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}\|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^3} \\
&\quad + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}\|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty})\|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C(1 + \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty} + \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^3})\|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2}\|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C(1 + \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}^2 + \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^3}^2),
\end{aligned}$$

which leads to

$$\|d_t\|_{L^2(0,T;H^1)} \leq C. \quad (2.16)$$

Taking ∂_t to (1.2), testing by u_t and using (1.1) and (1.4), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int \rho |u_t|^2 dx + \int |\nabla u_t|^2 dx &= \int \operatorname{div}(\rho u) u_t^2 dx + \int \operatorname{div}(\rho u) (u \cdot \nabla) u \cdot u_t dx \\ &\quad - \int \rho (u_t \cdot \nabla u) \cdot u_t dx + \int \partial_t (\nabla d \odot \nabla d) : \nabla u_t dx \\ &=: I_4 + I_5 + I_6 + I_7. \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

Using (2.1) and (2.14), we bound I_i ($i = 4, 5, 6, 7$) as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} I_4 &= - \int \rho u \nabla u_t^2 dx \leq 2 \|\sqrt{\rho}\|_{L^\infty} \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^3} \|u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^{1/2} \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^6}^{1/2} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^{1/2} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^{3/2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{16} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_5 &= - \int \rho u \nabla [(u \cdot \nabla) u \cdot u_t] dx \\ &\leq \|\rho\|_{L^\infty} \|u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u\|_{L^6} \|u_t\|_{L^6} + \|\rho\|_{L^\infty} \|u\|_{L^6}^2 \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} \|u_t\|_{L^6} \\ &\quad + \|\rho\|_{L^\infty} \|u\|_{L^6}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \leq \frac{1}{16} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_6 &\leq \|\sqrt{\rho}\|_{L^\infty} \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^3} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|u_t\|_{L^6} \\ &\leq C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^3} \|u_t\|_{L^6} \leq \frac{1}{16} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$I_7 \leq C \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \leq \frac{1}{16} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2.$$

Inserting the above estimates into (2.17), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int \rho |u_t|^2 dx + \int |\nabla u_t|^2 dx \\ \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

Applying ∂_t to (1.3), testing by $-\Delta d_t$ and using $|d| = 1$ and (2.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\nabla d_t|^2 dx + \int |\Delta d_t|^2 dx \\
&= - \int (d_t |\nabla d|^2 + d \partial_t |\nabla d|^2 - u \cdot \nabla d_t) \Delta d_t dx + \int \nabla (u_t \cdot \nabla d) : \nabla d_t dx \\
&\leq C(\|d_t\|_{L^6} \|\nabla d\|_{L^6}^2 + \|\nabla d\|_{L^6} \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^3} + \|u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^3}) \|\Delta d_t\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C(\|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \|\nabla d\|_{L^6} + \|u_t\|_{L^6} \|\nabla^2 d\|_{L^2}) \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^3} \\
&\leq C(\|d_t\|_{L^6} + \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^3}) \|\Delta d_t\|_{L^2} + C\|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2} \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^3} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{8} \|\Delta d_t\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2. \tag{2.19}
\end{aligned}$$

Summing up (2.18) and (2.19), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{d}{dt} \int (\rho |u_t|^2 + |\nabla d_t|^2) dx + \int (|\nabla u_t|^2 + |\Delta d_t|^2) dx \\
&\leq C\|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2. \tag{2.20}
\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying (2.20) by t ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{d}{dt} \left(t \int (\rho |u_t|^2 + |\nabla d_t|^2) dx \right) + t \int (|\nabla u_t|^2 + |\Delta d_t|^2) dx \\
&\leq C \int (\rho |u_t|^2 + |\nabla d_t|^2) dx + C(1 + \|\nabla d\|_{L^\infty}^2) t (\|\sqrt{\rho} u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla d_t\|_{L^2}^2) \\
&\quad + Ct \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2, \tag{2.21}
\end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} t \int (\rho |u_t|^2 + |\nabla d_t|^2) dx + \int_0^T t (\|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d_t\|_{L^2}^2) dt \leq C. \tag{2.22}$$

Now it is easy to verify that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} t (\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla d\|_{H^2}^2) + \int_0^T t \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^6}^2 dt \leq C. \tag{2.23}$$

It is standard to find that

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^T \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} dt &\leq C \int_0^T \|\nabla u\|_{L^6}^{1/2} \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^6}^{1/2} dt \\
&\leq C \int_0^T \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^{1/2} (t \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^6}^2)^{1/4} t^{-1/4} dt
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq C \left(\int_0^T \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 dt \right)^{1/4} \left(\int_0^T t \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^6}^2 dt \right)^{1/4} \left(\int_0^T t^{-1/2} dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

Taking ∇ to (1.1), testing by $|\nabla \rho|^{q-2} \nabla \rho$ ($2 < q < \infty$) and using (1.4) and (2.24), we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^q}^q \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^q}^q,$$

which implies

$$\|\nabla \rho\|_{L^\infty(0, T; L^q)} \leq C \quad (2 \leq q < \infty). \quad (2.25)$$

Similarly to (2.24), we have

$$\int_0^T \|u\|_{L^\infty}^4 dt \leq C \int_0^T \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2 dt \leq C,$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \|\rho_t\|_{L^q}^4 dt &= \int_0^T \|u \nabla \rho\|_{L^q}^4 dt \leq \int_0^T \|u\|_{L^\infty}^4 \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^q}^4 dt \\ &\leq C \int_0^T \|u\|_{L^\infty}^4 dt \leq C. \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

This completes the proof. \square

Acknowledgement

B. Samet extends his appreciation to Distinguished Scientist Fellowship Program (DSFP) at King Saud University (Saudi Arabia).

References

- [1] L. C. Berselli and J. S. Fan, Logarithmic and improved regularity criteria for the 3D nematic liquid crystals models, Boussinesq system, and MHD equations in a bounded domain, *Commun. Pure Appl. Anal.* **14** (2015), 637–655.
- [2] S. Chandrasekhar, *Liquid Crystals*, Cambridge University Press, 2nd edition, 1992.
- [3] J. L. Ericksen, Hydrostatic theory of liquid crystals, *Arch. Ration. Mech. Anal.* **9** (1962), 371–378.
- [4] J. Fan, F. Alzahrani, T. Hayat, G. Nakamura and Y. Zhou, Global regularity for the 2D liquid crystal model with mixed partial viscosity, *Anal. Appl. (Singap.)* **13** (2015), 185–200.
- [5] J. Fan, H. Gao and B. Guo, Regularity criteria for the Navier-Stokes-Landau-Lifshitz system, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **363** (2010), 29–37.
- [6] J. Fan and F. Li, Uniform local well-posedness and regularity criterion for the density-dependent incompressible flow of liquid crystals, *Commun. Math. Sci.* **12** (2014), 1185–1197.
- [7] J. Fan and T. Ozawa, Regularity criteria for the 3D density-dependent Boussinesq equations, *Nonlinearity* **22** (2009), 553–568.

- [8] J. Fan and Y. Zhou, A regularity criterion for a 3D density-dependent incompressible liquid crystals model, *Appl. Math. Lett.* **58** (2016), 119–124.
- [9] J. Fan and Y. Zhou, Uniform local well-posedness for an Ericksen-Leslie’s density-dependent parabolic-hyperbolic liquid crystals model, *Appl. Math. Lett.* **74** (2017), 79–84.
- [10] W. Gu, J. Fan and Y. Zhou, Regularity criteria for some simplified non-isothermal models for nematic liquid crystals, *Comput. Math. Appl.* **72** (2016), 2839–2853.
- [11] H. Hajaiej, L. Molinet, T. Ozawa and B. Wang, Necessary and sufficient conditions for the fractional Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequalities and applications to Navier-Stokes and generalized Boson equations, *RIMS Kokyuroku Bessatsu* **26** (2011), 159–175.
- [12] H. Kim, A blow-up criterion for the nonhomogeneous incompressible Navier-Stokes equations, *SIAM J. Math. Anal.* **37** (2006), 1417–1434.
- [13] H. Kozono and Y. Shimada, Bilinear estimates in homogeneous Triebel-Lizorkin spaces and the Navier-Stokes equations, *Math. Nachr.* **276** (2004), 63–74.
- [14] F. M. Leslie, Some constitutive equations for liquid crystals, *Arch. Ration. Mech. Anal.* **28** (1968), 265–283.
- [15] J. Li, Local existence and uniqueness of strong solutions to the Navier-Stokes equations with nonnegative density, arXiv: 1605.01782 v1.
- [16] X. Li and D. Wang, Global strong solution to the density-dependent incompressible flow of liquid crystals, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **367** (2015), 2301–2338.
- [17] S. Machihara and T. Ozawa, Interpolation inequalities in Besov spaces, *Proc. Am. Math. Soc.* **131** (2002), 1553–1556.
- [18] F.-H. Lin and C. Liu, Nonparabolic dissipative systems modeling the flow of liquid crystals, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.* **48** (1995), 501–537.
- [19] Y. Meyer, Oscillating patterns in some nonlinear evolution equations, in: *Mathematical Foundation of Turbulent Viscous Flows, Lecture Notes in Mathematics Vol. 1871*, edited by M. Cannone and T. Miyakawa (Springer-Verlag, 2006), pp. 101–187.
- [20] Y. Zhou and J. Fan, A regularity criterion for the nematic liquid crystal flows, *J. Inequal. Appl.* 2010, Art. ID 589697, 9 pp.

Jishan Fan

*Department of Applied Mathematics
Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing 210037, China
E-mail: fanjishan@njfu.edu.cn*

Bessem Samet

*Department of Mathematics, College of Science
King Saud University, P.O. Box 2455, Riyadh 11451, Saudi Arabia
E-mail: bessem.samet@gmail.com*

Yong Zhou

*School of Mathematics (Zhuhai)
Sun Yat-sen University, Zhuhai, Guangdong 519082, China
and
Department of Mathematics
Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua 321004, Zhejiang, China
E-mail: zhoyong3@mail.sysu.edu.cn*