

On the blow up criterion for the 3D nematic liquid crystal flows involving the second eigenvalue of the deformation tensor

Ines Ben Omrane

Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Science, Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University (IMSIU), P. O.Box 90950, Riyadh 11623, Saudi Arabia

Received: 13 Feb. 2023, Revised: 25 Apr. 2023, Accepted: 29 Apr. 2023

Published online: 1 Jul. 2023

Abstract: In this paper, we study the blow up criterion of the smooth solutions to the three-dimensional incompressible nematic liquid crystal flows in terms of λ_2^+ in the multiplier space \dot{X}_1 and ∇d in BMO . It is shown that the solution (u, d) can be extended beyond $t = T$ if

$$\int_0^T \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO})} \right) dt < \infty.$$

Keywords: the 3D nematic liquid crystal flows, regularity criterion, BMO, the multiplier space \dot{X}_1 .

1 Introduction

In this paper, we consider the initial value problem of incompressible nematic liquid crystals in \mathbb{R}^3 (see [1]):

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u + (u \cdot \nabla) u + \nabla \pi = -\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d), \\ d_t + (u \cdot \nabla) d = \Delta d + |\nabla d|^2 d \\ \nabla \cdot u = 0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

with initial data

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad d(x, 0) = d_0(x), \quad (2)$$

where $u = u(x, t)$ is the velocity field of the flow, $d = d(x, t)$ represents the macroscopic molecular orientation and π is the pressure.

Here the 3×3 matrix $\nabla d \odot \nabla d$ is given by $(\nabla d \odot \nabla d)_{ij} = \partial_i d \cdot \partial_j d$ (for $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$) and hence

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d) = \nabla \left(\frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2} \right) + \Delta d \nabla d \quad (3)$$

using the formula $a \times (b \times c) = (a \cdot c)b - (a \cdot b)c$, and the fact that $|d| = 1$ implies that $d \Delta d = -|\nabla d|^2$, where “ \times ” denotes the vector cross product in \mathbb{R}^3 .

In [1], Huang and Wang proved that if $u_0 \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^3)$ with $\nabla \cdot u_0 = 0$ and $d_0 \in H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{S}^2)$ for $s \geq 3$, then there is $T_0 > 0$ which depends only on $\|u_0\|_{H^s}$ and $\|d_0\|_{H^{s+1}}$ such that (1)-(2) has a unique smooth solution (u, d) in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times [0, T_0]$ with

$$\begin{cases} u \in C^1([0, T]; H^{s-1}(\mathbb{R}^3)) \cap C([0, T]; H^s(\mathbb{R}^3)), \\ d \in C^1([0, T]; H^s(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{S}^2)) \cap C([0, T]; H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{S}^2)), \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

for $0 < T < T_0$. But, it is still open to prove whether the local solution is global or not.

In a series of works [2, 3, 4, 5, 6], Neustupa-Penel obtained regularity criteria via only the middle eigenvalue λ_2 of the strain (deformation) tensor

$$\lambda_2^+ = \max \{0, \lambda_2\} \in L^p(0, T; L^q(\mathbb{R}^3)) \quad q > \frac{3}{2}, \quad \frac{3}{q} + \frac{2}{p} = 2 \quad (5)$$

while the deformation tensor $\text{def } u$ has components

$$(\text{def } u)_{ij} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} S_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right), \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq 3,$$

where for $S \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$

$$|S| = \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^3 S_{ij}^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

* Corresponding author e-mail: imbenomrane@imamu.edu.sa

Recently, Miller [7] obtained another proof of (5). Later, Wu [8,9] extended (5) to the anisotropic Lebesgue spaces in the 3D double-diffusive convection equations.

Inspired by [7,2], we establish a blow-up criterion which impose conditions only on λ_2^+ in terms of the norm in multiplier \dot{X}_1 space and ∇d in terms of the *BMO*-norm. We will prove the following.

Theorem 1. Assume that $(u_0, d_0) \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \times H^3(\mathbb{R}^3)$ with $\nabla \cdot u_0 = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^3 in the sense of distribution. Let (u, d) be a local smooth solution to (1)-(2) on $[0, T)$. If

$$\int_0^T \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO})} \right) dt < \infty,$$

then (u, d) remains smooth on $[0, T]$. In other words, if the solution blows up at $t = T$, then

$$\int_0^T \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{\dot{X}_1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO})} \right) dt = \infty,$$

where the space \dot{X}_1 is the multiplier space.

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Definitions of BMO and \dot{X}_r

Let $e^{t\Delta}$ denotes the standard heat semigroup defined by

$$e^{t\Delta} f = G_t * f, \quad G_t(x) = (4\pi t)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{|x|^2}{4t}\right), \quad t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

where the symbol $*$ is the convolution. Let $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ denotes the Schwartz class. The divergence is denoted also by $\nabla \cdot$, for example, $\nabla \cdot F$ for a tensor $F = (F_{ij})_{i,j=1,2,3}$ is $(\sum_j \partial_j F_{ij})_{i=1,2,3}$, where $\partial_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$.

A measurable function f is in *BMO* if

$$\|f\|_{BMO} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sup_{R > 0} \frac{1}{|B(x, R)|} \int_{B(x, R)} |f(y) - f_{B(x, R)}| dy,$$

where $f_{B(x, R)} = \frac{1}{|B(x, R)|} \int_{B(x, R)} f(z) dz$. Here $B(x, R)$ denotes the ball in \mathbb{R}^3 of radius R and centered at $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$. By the Carleson measure characterization of *BMO*, a tempered distribution f is in *BMO* if

$$\|f\|_{BMO} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sup_{R > 0} \left(\frac{1}{|B(x, R)|} \int_{B(x, R)} \int_0^{R^2} |\nabla e^{\Delta t} f(y)|^2 dt dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \infty.$$

The Carleson measure characterization due to Strichartz [13] leads us the equivalent norms:

$$\|f\|_{BMO} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sup_{R > 0} \left(\frac{1}{|B(x, R)|} \int_{B(x, R)} \int_0^{R^2} |e^{\Delta t} f(y)|^2 \frac{dt}{t} dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \infty.$$

This is equivalent to the standard definition (see [10]).

The multiplier space \dot{X}_r [11,12] for $0 \leq r < 3/2$ is

$$\dot{X}_r = \{f \in L^2_{loc} : \forall g \in \dot{H}^r \quad fg \in L^2\}$$

where \dot{H}^r is the completion of the space $D(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with respect to the norm

$$\|g\|_{\dot{H}^r} = \|(-\Delta)^{r/2} g\|_{L^2} = \||\xi|^r \hat{g}(\xi)\|_{L^2}.$$

The norm of \dot{X}_r is given by

$$\|f\|_{\dot{X}_r} = \sup_{\|g\|_{\dot{H}^r} \leq 1} \|fg\|_{L^2}.$$

2.2 Some Lemmas

We need also the following lemmas established in [7].

Lemma 1. For all $\alpha \in [-\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}]$ and for all u divergence free in the sense that $\xi \cdot \widehat{u}(\xi) = 0$ almost everywhere,

$$\|S\|_{H^\alpha}^2 = \|A\|_{H^\alpha}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|\omega\|_{H^\alpha}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{H^{\alpha+1}}^2. \quad (6)$$

Lemma 2. Suppose

$S \in L^2([0, T]; H^1(\mathbb{R}^3)) \cap L^\infty([0, T]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^3))$ be a strong solution of (1) on $\mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, T)$ and let $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3$ be the eigenvalues of the strain tensor S associated to the classical solution u . Letting

$$\lambda_2^+ = \max \{\lambda_2, 0\}.$$

Then, the following inequality holds

$$-\det(S) \leq \frac{1}{2} |S|^2 \lambda_2^+.$$

2.3 Reformulation of the original equation (1)₁

We first define some matrices. The gradient tensor is given by

$$(\nabla \otimes u)_{ij} = \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i},$$

where $i, j = 1, 2, 3$. The vorticity is given by $\omega = \nabla \times u$, which is related to

$$A_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right),$$

by

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega_3 & -\omega_2 \\ -\omega_3 & 0 & \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 & -\omega_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

Then, obviously we have $\nabla \otimes u = S + A$.

Thanks to (3) and $\nabla \times \nabla \left(\frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2} \right) = 0$, the evolution equation for vorticity is

$$\partial_t \omega - \Delta \omega + (u \cdot \nabla) \omega = S\omega - \nabla \times (\Delta d \cdot \nabla d). \quad (8)$$

Now we define a differential operator that maps a vector to the symmetric part of its gradient tensor :

$$\nabla_{\text{sym}}(v)_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \right).$$

Note that $S = \nabla_{\text{sym}} u = \nabla_{\text{sym}} (-\Delta)^{-1} \nabla \times \omega$. We apply ∇_{sym} to (1)₁, we find

$$\partial_t S - \Delta S + \nabla_{\text{sym}}((u \cdot \nabla) u) + \text{Hess}(p + \frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2}) = \nabla_{\text{sym}}(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d). \quad (9)$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\text{sym}}((u \cdot \nabla) u)_{ij} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\sum_{k=1}^3 u_k \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\sum_{k=1}^3 u_k \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^3 u_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \right). \end{aligned}$$

We see from our definitions of S and A that

$$\begin{aligned} S_{ij}^2 &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \right) \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} \right) \quad (10) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} A_{ij}^2 &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \right) \left(\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \quad (11) \end{aligned}$$

By combining (10) with (11), we obtain

$$S_{ij}^2 + A_{ij}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} \right).$$

Therefore

$$\nabla_{\text{sym}}((u \cdot \nabla) u) = (u \cdot \nabla) S + S^2 + A^2.$$

We have

$$A^2 = \frac{1}{4} (\omega \otimes \omega) - \frac{1}{4} |\omega|^2 I_3.$$

Hence

$$\partial_t S - \Delta S + (u \cdot \nabla) S + S^2 + \frac{1}{4} (\omega \otimes \omega) - \frac{1}{4} |\omega|^2 I_3 \quad (12)$$

$$+ \text{Hess}(p + \frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2}) = \nabla_{\text{sym}}(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d). \quad (13)$$

From (5), $A\omega = 0$, therefore

$$S\omega = (S + A)\omega = (\omega \cdot \nabla) u.$$

3 Proof of Theorem 1

Suppose that $[0, T^*)$ is the maximal interval on which the local smooth solution exists. For $T^* < T$, we will show that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow T^*} \left(\|\Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \right) < \infty,$$

under the assumption (22). Thus, $[0, T^*)$ cannot be maximal, which conflicts with the definition of T^* .

Step 1. We multiply (1)₁ by u and integrate by parts, we use (3) and $\nabla \cdot u = 0$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla d \cdot \Delta d \cdot u dx, \quad (14)$$

We multiply (1)₂ by $-\Delta d$ and integrate, we use $|d| = 1$, $\Delta(|d|^2) = 0$ and $|\nabla d|^2 = -d \cdot \Delta d$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla) d \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla d|^2 d \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |d \cdot \Delta d|^2 dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\Delta d|^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Summing up (14) and (15)

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2) + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq 0. \quad (16)$$

Integrating (16) in time gives

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &+ \int_0^t \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2 d\tau \leq \|\nabla d_0\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u_0\|_{L^2}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

for all $0 < t < \infty$.

Taking the L^2 inner product of (8) with ω , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &-\langle \Delta \omega, \omega \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\omega(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \langle (u \cdot \nabla) \omega, \omega \rangle \\ &= \langle \nabla d \cdot \Delta d, \nabla \times \omega \rangle + \langle S\omega, \omega \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

We integrate by parts, we get

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\omega(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \|\nabla \omega(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 = 2 \langle S, \omega \otimes \omega \rangle + 2 \langle \nabla d \cdot \Delta d, \Delta u \rangle, \quad (19)$$

using $\nabla \times \omega = \nabla \times (\nabla \times u) = -\Delta u + \nabla \nabla \cdot u = -\Delta u$ and the divergence free condition.

From Lemma 1 with $\alpha = 0$ and (19), it follows that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 = \langle S, \omega \otimes \omega \rangle + \langle \nabla d \cdot \Delta d, \Delta u \rangle,$$

which yields

$$\frac{1}{3} \frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{2}{3} \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 = \frac{1}{3} \langle S, \omega \otimes \omega \rangle + \frac{1}{3} \langle \nabla d \cdot \Delta d, \Delta u \rangle. \quad (20)$$

Now, taking the L^2 inner product of (13) with S , we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \langle -\Delta S, S \rangle + \langle S^2, S \rangle + \frac{1}{4} \langle (\omega \otimes \omega), S \rangle \\ &= -\langle (u \cdot \nabla) S, S \rangle + \frac{1}{4} \langle |\omega|^2 I_3, S \rangle \\ &\quad - \left\langle \text{Hess}(p + \frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2}), S \right\rangle + \langle \nabla_{\text{sym}}(\nabla d \cdot \Delta d), S \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By using the following identities

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle |\omega|^2 I_3, S \right\rangle \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\omega|^2 \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^3 S_{ij} I_{ij} \right) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\omega|^2 \text{tr}(S) dx = 0, \\ & \langle S^2, S \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(S^3) dx, \quad \langle (u \cdot \nabla) S, S \rangle = 0, \\ & \left\langle \text{Hess}(p + \frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2}), S \right\rangle = \left\langle \widehat{\text{Hess}(p + \frac{|\nabla d|^2}{2})}, \widehat{S} \right\rangle \\ &= -4\pi^2 \int \widehat{p}(\xi) \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^3 \xi_i \xi_j \widehat{S}_{ij}(\xi) \right) d\xi \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \langle \nabla_{\text{sym}}(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d), S \rangle &= 2 \langle \nabla \otimes (\Delta d \cdot \nabla d), S \rangle \\ &= \langle \Delta d \cdot \nabla d, -2\text{div}(S) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Delta d \cdot \nabla d, -2\text{div}(\nabla_{\text{sym}} u) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Delta d \cdot \nabla d, -\Delta u - \nabla \text{div}(u) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Delta d \cdot \nabla d, -\Delta u \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \int \text{tr}(S^3) dx \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int (\omega \otimes \omega) \cdot S dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta d \cdot \nabla d \cdot \Delta u dx, \end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2}{3} \frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{4}{3} \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(S^3) dx - \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\omega \otimes \omega) \cdot S dx \\ &+ \frac{2}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta d \cdot \nabla d \cdot \Delta u dx. \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

From (20) and (21)

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(S^3) dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta d \cdot \nabla d \cdot \Delta u dx. \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

We apply Δ to (12), we do the resulting equation with Δd , we integrate by parts and use the divergence free property, we use

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla \Delta d) \cdot \Delta d dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla)(|\Delta d|^2) dx = 0,$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \Delta d dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla)d) \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &= -2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla u \cdot \nabla \nabla d \cdot \Delta d dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta u \cdot \nabla d \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \Delta d dx, \end{aligned}$$

By adding (22) and (21), we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} (\|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2) + 2(\|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2) \\ &= -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(S^3) dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\nabla d \cdot \Delta d) \cdot \Delta u dx \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \Delta d dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla)d) \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &= \mathcal{J}_1 + \mathcal{J}_2 + \mathcal{J}_3 + \mathcal{J}_4. \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

Moreover, we use $\text{tr}(S) = \nabla \cdot u = 0$ and the fact $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 0$, Lemma 2 and Young's inequality yield

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_1 &= -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(S^3) dx = -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\lambda_1^3 + \lambda_2^3 + \lambda_3^3) dx \\ &= -\frac{4}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\lambda_1^3 + \lambda_2^3 + (-\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^3) dx \\ &= 4 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \lambda_1 \lambda_2 (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) dx = -4 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 dx \\ &= -4 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \det(S) dx \leq 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |S|^2 \lambda_2^+ dx \\ &\leq C \|\lambda_2^+\|_{X_1} \|S\|_{L^2} \|\nabla S\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla S\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\lambda_2^+\|_{X_1}^2 \|S\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

with the aid of the following inequality

$$\|\nabla f\|_{L^4}^2 \leq C \|f\|_{BMO} \|\Delta f\|_{L^2},$$

Owing to Young's inequality, \mathcal{J}_2 can be estimated as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_2 + \mathcal{J}_3 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\Delta d \cdot \nabla d) \cdot \Delta u dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla)d) \cdot \Delta d dx \\ &= - \sum_{i,k=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (2\nabla u_i \partial_i \nabla d_k \Delta d_k + u_i \partial_i \Delta d_k \Delta d_k) dx \\ &= -2 \sum_{i,k=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla u_i \partial_i \nabla d_k \Delta d_k dx \\ &\leq C \|\Delta d\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \|\nabla d\|_{BMO} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{BMO}^2 \|S\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

By using $|d| = 1$ and $|\nabla d|^2 = -d \cdot \Delta d$, after integration by parts, by using the Hölder inequality, the Young inequality, \mathcal{J}_4 can be estimated as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_4 &\leq \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \Delta d dx \right| = \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla d|^2 \nabla d \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx \right| + \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d \nabla(|\nabla d|^2) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla d|^2 \nabla d (\nabla \Delta d) dx \right| + \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\nabla d) \Delta d \cdot d \nabla \Delta d dx \right| \\ &\leq C \|d \Delta d \nabla d\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla d\|_{L^4} \|\Delta d\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla d\|_{L^4}^2 \|\Delta d\|_{L^4}^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|d\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2} \|\nabla d\|_{BMO} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla d\|_{BMO}^2, \end{aligned}$$

using

$$\|\nabla f\|_{L^4}^2 \leq C \|\Delta f\|_{L^2} \|f\|_{L^\infty}.$$

By substituting the above estimates into (24), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (\|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2) + \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ \leq C (\|S\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2) (\|\lambda_2^+\|_{X_1}^2 + \|\nabla d\|_{BMO}^2). \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Due to (22), one concludes that for $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $T^* < T$ such that

$$\int_{T^*}^T \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, t)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, t)\|_{H^1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, t)\|_{H^2})} \right) dt \leq \varepsilon. \quad (27)$$

For any $t \in (T^*, T]$, we denote

$$\mathcal{Z}(t) = \sup_{\tau \in [T^*, t]} \left(\|d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^3}^2 + \|u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}^2 \right).$$

It should be noted that the function $\mathcal{Z}(t)$ is nondecreasing. Applying the logarithmic Sobolev inequality, we get that

for any $t \in [T^*, T)$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_{T^*}^t (\|\nabla S(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2) d\tau \\ &\leq (\|S(\cdot, T^*)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d(\cdot, T^*)\|_{L^2}^2) \\ &\quad \times \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1})} \right) \ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}) d\tau \right) \\ &\quad \times \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO})} \ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}) d\tau \right) \\ &\leq C(T^*) \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1})} \right) \ln(e + \|u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}) d\tau \right) \\ &\quad \times \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO})} \ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}) d\tau \right) \\ &\leq C(T^*) \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1})} \right) \ln(e + \|u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}) d\tau \right) \\ &\quad \times \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO})} \ln(e + \|d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^3}) d\tau \right) \\ &\leq C(T^*) \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO})} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \ln(e + \|u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}^2 + \|d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^3}^2) d\tau \right) \\ &\leq C(T^*) \exp \left(C \int_{T^*}^t \left(\frac{\|\lambda_2^+(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{X_1})} + \frac{\|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO}^2}{\ln(e + \|\nabla d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{BMO})} \right) d\tau \right) \\ &\leq C(T^*) \exp \left\{ C\varepsilon \ln(e + \mathcal{Z}(t)) \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

where $C(T^*)$ depends on $\|S(\cdot, T^*)\|_{L^2}$ and $\|\Delta d(\cdot, T^*)\|_{L^2}$.

We apply Gronwall's inequality on (28) for $[T^*, t]$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|S(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &+ \int_{T^*}^t (\|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla S(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2) d\tau \\ &\leq C(T^*) (e + \mathcal{Z}(t))^{C\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2.

We apply Δ in (1)₁, then multiply the resulting equation by u , and integrate by parts

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\nabla \Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} [\Delta \nabla \cdot (\nabla d \odot \nabla d)] \cdot \Delta u dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla) u) \cdot \Delta u dx \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d) \cdot \Delta u dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla) u) \cdot \Delta u dx, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Take $\nabla \Delta$ in (1)₂, then multiply by $\nabla \Delta d$, and integrate

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta^2 d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= \int \nabla \Delta (|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx - \int \nabla \Delta ((u \cdot \nabla) d) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Summing up (29) and (30), we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|\Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2) \quad (31)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \|\Delta^2 d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d) \cdot \Delta u dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla) u) \cdot \Delta u dx \\ &+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla \Delta((u \cdot \nabla) d) \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx \\ &= \mathcal{J}_1 + \mathcal{J}_2 + \mathcal{J}_3 + \mathcal{J}_4. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Use $\nabla \cdot u = 0$ and integrate by parts, we bound J_1 as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_1 &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta((u \cdot \nabla) u) \cdot \Delta u dx \\ &= -2 \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial_j u_i \partial_i \partial_j u \cdot \Delta u dx - \sum_{i=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta u_i \partial_i u \cdot \Delta u dx \\ &\leq C \|\Delta u\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{4}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{6} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^8 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

where the identity $\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u_i \partial_i \Delta u \cdot \Delta u dx = 0$ and the following Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequality are used

$$\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^4} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{8}}.$$

It follows from Young inequality that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d) \cdot \nabla \Delta u dx \\ &\leq \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla(\Delta d \cdot \nabla d)\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla \Delta d \cdot \nabla d + \Delta d \cdot \nabla^2 d\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla \Delta d \cdot \nabla d\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d \cdot \nabla^2 d\|_{L^2}^2) + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq C \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla d\|_{L^4}^2 + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^4}^4 + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq C \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{4}} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{4}} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2} \|d\|_{L^\infty} \\ &\quad + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{5}{2}} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{10} + \frac{1}{8} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we have applied the following Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequality

$$\|\nabla f\|_{L^{2q}} \leq C \|f\|_{L^\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta f\|_{L^q}^{\frac{1}{2}}, \text{ for } q > \frac{3}{2}.$$

In order to estimate the term \mathcal{J}_3 , recall that

$$\|\Lambda^s(fg) - f\Lambda^s g\|_{L^p} \leq C (\|\nabla f\|_{L^q} \|\Lambda^{s-1} g\|_{L^r} + \|\Lambda^s f\|_{L^r} \|g\|_{L^q}),$$

for $f, g \in W^{k,p}$ with $1 < p < \infty$ and $1 \leq s \leq k$ such that

$$\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{r}, \quad 1 < q \leq \infty, \quad 1 < r < \infty,$$

where $[\Lambda^s, f]g = \Lambda^s(fg) - f\Lambda^s g$ and $\Lambda = (-\Delta)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Using the cancelation property $(u \cdot \nabla) \nabla \Delta d \cdot \nabla \Delta d = 0$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_3 &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} [\nabla \Delta(u \cdot \nabla d) - u \cdot \nabla \Delta(\nabla d)] \cdot \nabla \Delta d dx \\ &\leq \|\nabla \Delta(u \cdot \nabla d) - u \cdot \nabla \Delta(\nabla d)\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^4} \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^4} + \|\nabla d\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}) \|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^4} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{4}} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{4}} \\ &\quad + C \|d\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2} \left\| \Delta^2 d \right\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{4}} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{4}} + \frac{1}{6} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^8 \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{6} \left\| \Delta^2 d \right\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{10} + \frac{1}{6} \|\nabla \Delta u\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{J}_4 is simply bounded as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_4 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(|\nabla d|^2 d) \cdot \nabla^2 \Delta d dx \\ &= \int [2\nabla(|\nabla d|^2) \nabla d + \Delta(|\nabla d|^2) d + |\nabla d|^2 \Delta d] \cdot \nabla^2 \Delta d dx \\ &= \int [2\nabla^2 d \nabla d \nabla d + \nabla(2\nabla^2 d \nabla d) d - d \Delta d \Delta d] \cdot \nabla^2 \Delta d dx \\ &= \int [2(\nabla^2 d \nabla^2 d + \nabla^3 d \nabla d) d - 2\nabla^2 d(d \Delta d) - d |\Delta d|^2] \cdot \nabla^2 \Delta d dx \\ &\leq \int [2(|\nabla^2 d|^2 + |\nabla^3 d| |\nabla d|) |d| + 2 |\nabla^2 d| |\Delta d| + |d| |\Delta d|^2] \cdot \nabla^2 \Delta d dx \\ &\leq C(\left\| |\nabla^3 d| |\nabla d| \right\|_{L^2} + \left\| |\nabla^2 d|^2 \right\|_{L^2}) \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla \Delta d\|_{L^4} \|\nabla d\|_{L^4} + \left\| |\nabla^2 d|^2 \right\|_{L^4}) \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{8}} \|\Delta^2 u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{7}{8}} \|d\|_{L^\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2} \\ &\quad + C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{5}{2}} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2}^{\frac{3}{2}} \|\Delta^2 d\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^{10} + \frac{1}{6} \left\| \Delta^2 d \right\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Insert the above estimates into (32) and absorb the dissipative terms,

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{d}{dt} (\|\Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \Delta d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2) + \|\nabla \Delta u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\quad + \|\Delta^2 d(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^8 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2) (\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2), \end{aligned}$$

which together with basic energy (17) yields

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{d}{dt} (\|u(\cdot, t)\|_{H^2}^2 + \|d(\cdot, t)\|_{H^3}^2) + \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{H^3}^2 + \|d(\cdot, t)\|_{H^4}^2 \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^8 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^8) (\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d\|_{L^2}^2). \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Integrating the inequality (33) over (T^*, t) , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{H^2}^2 + \|d(\cdot, t)\|_{H^3}^2 - \|u(\cdot, T^*)\|_{H^2}^2 + \|d(\cdot, T^*)\|_{H^3}^2 \\ & \leq C \int_{T^*}^t (\|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_2^8 + \|\Delta d(\cdot, \tau)\|_2^8) (\|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_2^2 \\ & \quad + \|\Delta d(\cdot, \tau)\|_2^2) d\tau \\ & \leq C (e + \mathcal{Z}(\tau))^{4C\varepsilon} (\|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\Delta d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2) d\tau \\ & \leq C (e + \mathcal{Z}(t))^{4C\varepsilon} \int_{T^*}^t (\|\nabla u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|v(\cdot, \tau)\|_{L^2}^2) d\tau \\ & \leq C (e + \mathcal{Z}(t))^{5C\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it follows that

$$\mathcal{Z}(t) - \mathcal{Z}(T^*) \leq C (e + \mathcal{Z}(t))^{5C\varepsilon}.$$

Now we choose ε small enough such that $5C\varepsilon < 1$ to deduce that

$$e + \mathcal{Z}(t) \leq C(T^*) < \infty,$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\tau \in [0, T]} \left(\|u(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^2}^2 + \|d(\cdot, \tau)\|_{H^3}^2 \right) \\ & \leq C(u_0, d_0, u(T^*), d(T^*), T^*, T) < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we get the boundedness of $H^2 \times H^3$ -norm of (u, d) for all $t \in [0, T]$. The local existence results allow us to extend (u, d) past time T . This achieves the proof of Theorem 1.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict regarding the publication of this paper.

Acknowledgments

The author thanks Prof. Sadek Gala for stimulating discussions.

References

- [1] T. Huang and C. Y. Wang, Blow up criterion for nematic liquid crystal flows, *Comm. Partial Differential Equations*, **37** (2012), 875-884.
- [2] J. Neustupa and P. Penel, *Anisotropic and geometric criteria for interior regularity of weak solutions to the 3D Navier-Stokes equations. (English summary)* Mathematical Fluid Mechanics, Advances Mathematics Fluid Mechanics, pp. 237–265, Birkhäuser, Basel (2001).
- [3] J. Neustupa and P. Penel, The role of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the symmetrized gradient of velocity in the theory of the Navier-Stokes equations, *C. R. Math. Acad. Sci. Paris*, **336** (2003), 805-810.
- [4] J. Neustupa and P. Penel, *Regularity of a weak solution to the Navier-Stokes equation in dependence on eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the rate of deformation tensor*. In: Trends in Partial Differential Equations of Mathematical Physics, pp. 197-212, Progress in Nonlinear Differential Equations and Applications, 61, Birkhäuser, Basel (2005).
- [5] J. Neustupa and P. Penel, On regularity of a weak solution to the Navier-Stokes equation with generalized impermeability boundary conditions, *Nonlinear Anal. Theory Methods Appl.*, **66** (2007), 1753-1769.
- [6] J. Neustupa and P. Penel, On regularity of a weak solution to the Navier-Stokes equations with the generalized Navier Slip boundary conditions, *Adv. Math. Phys.*, **2018** (2018), 1-7.
- [7] E. Miller, A regularity criterion for the Navier-Stokes equation involving only the middle eigenvalue of the strain tensor, *Arch. Ration. Mech. Anal.*, **235** (2020), 99-139.
- [8] F. Wu, Blowup criterion via only the middle eigenvalue of the strain tensor in anisotropic Lebesgue spaces to the 3D double-diffusive convection equations, *J. Math. Fluid Mech.*, **22** (2020), 9.
- [9] F. Wu, Conditional Regularity for the 3D Navier-Stokes equations in terms of the middle eigenvalue of the strain tensor, *Evolution Equations and Control Theory*, **10** (2021), 511-518.
- [10] E. M. Stein, *Harmonic Analysis: Real-variable Methods, Orthogonality, and Oscillatory Integrals*, Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, USA, (1993).
- [11] P.G. Lemarié-Rieusset, *Recent Developments in the Navier-Stokes Problem*. Chapman and Hall/CRC Research Notes in Mathematics, vol. 431. Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, USA, (2002).
- [12] P.G. Lemarié-Rieusset, S. Gala, Multipliers between Sobolev spaces and fractional differentiation, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, **322** (2006) 1030—1054.
- [13] R. S. Strichartz, Boundard mean oscillations and Sobolev spaces, *Indiana Univ. Math. J.*, **29** (1980), 539-558.