ON THE INITIAL-BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM FOR A BINGHAM FLUID IN A THREE DIMENSIONAL DOMAIN

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ABSTRACT. The initial-boundary value problem associated with the motion of a Bingham fluid is considered. The existence and uniqueness of strong solution is proved under a certain assumption on the data. It is also shown that the solution exists globally in time when the data are small and that the solution converges to a periodic solution if the external force is time-periodic.

0. Introduction. The purpose of this paper is to establish the existence of strong solutions to a variational inequality which describes the motion of a Bingham fluid in a bounded three dimensional domain. A Bingham fluid is a rigid viscoplastic fluid which is governed by a special constitutive law such that it moves like a rigid body if a certain function of the stresses does not reach the yield limit and it behaves like a viscous fluid when the yield limit is reached. Since the motion is governed by two entirely different stress-strain relations depending on the state of stresses, the conservation of momentum is expressed in terms of a variational inequality so that one can avoid the difficulty of separating the fluid zone and the rigid zone.

The initial-boundary value problem we shall study is formulated as

(0-1)
$$\left\langle \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, w - u \right\rangle + a(u, w - u) + b(u, u, w) + J(w) - J(u)$$

$$\geq \langle f, w - u \rangle \quad \text{in } (0, T),$$

for each test function w such that $\nabla \cdot w = 0$ in Ω and w = 0 on $\partial \Omega$,

$$(0-2) \nabla \cdot u = 0 \text{in } \Omega \times (0,T),$$

$$(0-3) u = 0 on \partial \Omega \times [0, T],$$

(0-4)
$$u(x,0) = u_0(x)$$
 in Ω .

Here, Ω is a bounded domain in R^3 with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$, u(x,t) denotes the velocity of the fluid and f(x,t) stands for external force. We assume that the density, the yield limit and the viscosity are positive constants. In particular, the

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density is taken to be one. We employ the notation

$$a(u,w) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} 2\mu \int_{\Omega} D_{ij}(u) D_{ij}(w) \, dx, \qquad \mu = \text{viscosity},$$

$$D_{ij}(u) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right),$$

$$J(u) = 2g \int_{0} D_{\Pi}(u)^{1/2} \, dx, \qquad g = \text{ yield limit},$$

$$D_{\Pi}(u) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} D_{ij}(u)^{2},$$

$$b(u,v,w) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} \int_{\Omega} u_j \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} w_i \, dx,$$

$$\langle f, h \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{3} \int_{\Omega} f_i h_i \, dx.$$

Duvaut and Lions [3] gave a detailed derivation of (0-1) and proved the existence of weak solutions of (0-1) to (0-4). They [2, 3] also obtained more regular solutions in a two dimensional domain. For a variant of Bingham fluid, Naumann and Wulst [9] established the existence of the same kind of regular solutions in a three dimensional domain through a different method. They [9] assumed that the initial data belong to a special class of stationary states and essentially used the assumption of "averaged nonlinear viscosity." Our model described by (0-1) does not satisfy this assumption and the result of [9] cannot be applied.

In this paper we prove the existence of local solutions of (0-1) to (0-4) which are similarly regular under the same assumptions on the data as in [9]. Since (0-1) reduces to the Navier-Stokes equations when q=0, we are tempted to utilize the known techniques of analysis for the Navier-Stokes equations. The main task is to deal with the functional $J(\cdot)$ properly. When the space domain has a boundary, the Laplacian does not commute with the projection operator (onto the divergence free vector fields) and this is a major obstacle to taking advantage of the convexity of $J(\cdot)$ in obtaining the regularity in the space variable. For a domain without boundary, some known results for the Navier-Stokes equations have been shown to be valid for (0-1) (see Kim [7] and Renardy [10]). The method in [7] obviously fails in the present problem for the reason mentioned above. A different idea is to express the regularity in the space variable in terms of the time derivative with the crucial help of the L^p -theory of the Stokes operator due to Cattabriga [1] and Giga [5, 6]. Then the basic energy inequality used by Duvaut and Lions [3] for a two dimensional domain can be still used for a three dimensional domain to derive useful estimates. For this procedure, we have to analyze a certain class of stationary states in detail and also have to regularize the original problem so that the manipulation to get estimates can be justified. Finally, we also obtain global solutions and time-periodic solutions under the assumption of small data. This can be done fairly easily once we establish the basic estimates for the local solution.

1. Notations and preliminaries. Throughout this paper, t is the time variable, $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ is the space variable and we employ the notation

$$\partial_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \qquad \partial_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, \qquad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

For $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$, $\partial^{\alpha} = \partial_1^{\alpha_1} \partial_2^{\alpha_2} \partial_3^{\alpha_3}$, $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$, $\Delta = \sum_{i=1}^3 \partial_i^2$, $\nabla = (\partial_1, \partial_2, \partial_3)$.

For $v \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$, $||v|| = \langle v, v \rangle^{1/2}$.

When E is a Banach space other than $[L^2(\Omega)]^3$, its norm is denoted by $\|\cdot\|_E$. We shall use a regularized version of $J(\cdot)$:

$$J_{\varepsilon}(v) = 2g \int_{\Omega} (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(v))^{1/2} dx, \qquad \varepsilon > 0.$$

We introduce the function spaces

$$S = \{\phi \in [C_0^{\infty}(\Omega)]^3 : \nabla \cdot \phi = 0\},$$

$$W^{m,r}(\Omega) = \{v \in L^r(\Omega) : \partial^{\alpha}v \in L^r(\Omega), 1 \leq |\alpha| \leq m\},$$

$$W_0^{m,r}(\Omega) = \text{ the completion of } C_0^{\infty}(\Omega) \text{ in } W^{m,r}(\Omega),$$

$$W^{-m,r'}(\Omega) = \text{ the dual of } W_0^{m,r}, \quad \text{where } \frac{1}{r'} + \frac{1}{r} = 1, \ 1 \leq r < \infty,$$

$$X_r = \text{ completion of } S \text{ in } [L^r(\Omega)]^3.$$

We let P_r denote the projection from $[L^r(\Omega)]^3$ onto X_r and write the Stokes operator as $A_r = -P_r\Delta$ with the domain

$$\mathcal{D}(A_r) = [W^{2,r}(\Omega)]^3 \cap [W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3 \cap X_r.$$

When r=2, we also write $P=P_2$, $A=A_2$. Giga [5] proved that $-A_r$ generates a bounded analytic semigroup in X_r , $1 < r < \infty$. For $0 < \Theta < 1$ and $1 < r < \infty$, A_r^{Θ} is well defined and its domain $\mathcal{D}(A_r^{\Theta})$ is equipped with the graph norm. Giga [6] also showed that for $0 < \Theta < 1$, $1 < r < \infty$,

$$\mathcal{D}(A_r^{\Theta}) = \mathcal{D}((-\Delta_r)^{\Theta}) \cap X_r$$

where $\Delta_r = \Delta$ with the domain

(1-2)
$$\mathcal{D}(-\Delta_r) = [W^{2,r}(\Omega)]^3 \cap [W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3.$$

Fujiwara [4] showed that for $1/2r < \Theta \le 1$,

(1-3)
$$\mathcal{D}((-\Delta_r)^{\Theta}) = \{ v \in [\mathcal{H}^{2\Theta,r}(\Omega)]^3 : v = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \}$$

where $\mathcal{H}^{2\Theta,r}(\Omega)$ is the space of restrictions to Ω of the Bessel potential $\mathcal{H}^{2\Theta,r}(R^3)$. Since $\mathcal{H}^{1,r}(\Omega) = W^{1,r}(\Omega)$, $1 < r < \infty$,

(1-4)
$$\mathcal{D}(A_r^{1/2}) = [W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3 \cap X_r.$$

As a simple consequence of Theorem 1 of Giga [5], we can derive

LEMMA 1.1. Let $1 < r < \infty$ and $0 < \Theta < 1$. Then, for every $v \in \mathcal{D}(A_r^{\Theta})$ and $\lambda > 0$,

where C is a positive constant independent of λ .

In fact, this will be used in the following special version.

LEMMA 1.2. Suppose that v and h belong to $[W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3 \cap X_r$ and that for some scalar function p and positive constant ε ,

$$(1-6) v - \varepsilon \Delta v + \nabla p = h$$

holds in the sense of distribution in Ω . Then we have

$$||v||_{[W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3} \le C||h||_{[W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3}$$

for some positive constant C independent of ε and h.

We shall also need a theorem of Cattabriga [1] in the following form (see Temam [12]).

LEMMA 1.3. Let $h \in [W^{-1,r}(\Omega)]^3$, $1 < r < \infty$. Then, there are unique functions v and p (unique up to a constant) which are solutions of

$$(1-8) -\Delta v + \nabla p = h in \Omega,$$

$$(1-9) \nabla \cdot v = 0 in \Omega,$$

$$(1-10) v = 0 on \partial \Omega,$$

such that $v \in [W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3$, $p \in L^r(\Omega)$ and

(1-11)
$$||v||_{[W_0^{1,r}(\Omega)]^3} \le C||h||_{[W^{-1,r}(\Omega)]^3}.$$

We shall employ the eigenfunctions of A;

$$(1-12) A\varphi_n = \lambda_n \varphi_n in X_2,$$

where $0 < \lambda_1 \le \lambda_2 \le \cdots$, $\lambda_n \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$, and

$$(1-13) \langle \varphi_n, \varphi_m \rangle = \delta_{nm}.$$

Using these eigenfunctions, we define for $s \in R$,

$$(1-14) V_s = \left\{ v = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \varphi_n \colon a_n \in R, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 \lambda_n^s < \infty \right\}$$

equipped with the norm

(1-15)
$$||v||_{V_s} = \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 \lambda_n^s\right)^{1/2}.$$

It is known that $V_0=X_2,\ V_1=[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3\cap X_2,\ V_2=[W^{2,2}(\Omega)]^3\cap [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3\cap X_2,\ V_4=\{v\in V_2\colon Av\in V_2\},\ \text{and, for each }s>0,\ V_s\subset V_0\subset V_{-s}\ \text{and}\ [V_s,V_{-s}]_{1/2}=V_0.$

Finally we list some properties of $J_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$. The Gateaux differential of $J_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$ is given by

(1-16)
$$(J'_{\varepsilon}(u), w) = g \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(u))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(u) D_{ij}(w) dx$$

for each $u, w \in [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$, where (,) is the duality pairing between $[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ and $[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3$. This can also be interpreted as the duality pairing between V_1 and V_{-1} when u and w belong to V_1 . It is easily seen that $J'_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$ is hemicontinuous

and bounded as a mapping from $[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ into $[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ and also as a mapping from V_1 into V_{-1} . Since $J_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$ is convex, $J'_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$ is monotone and consequently, for every $u \in L^2(0,T;[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3)$ such that $\partial_t u \in L^2(0,T;[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3)$,

$$(1-17) (\partial_t J_\varepsilon'(u), \partial_t u) \ge 0$$

holds for almost all $t \in [0, T]$.

2. Stationary states. We shall consider a special class of stationary states of (0-1), (0-2) and (0-3): \mathcal{G} is the set of all $v \in V_1$ such that for some $h \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$,

$$(2-1) a(v, w-v) + b(v, v, w) + J(w) - J(v) \ge \langle h, w-v \rangle$$

holds for every $w \in V_1$.

PROPOSITION 2.1. $\mathcal{G} \subset [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3$ and for each $v \in \mathcal{G}$,

$$||v||_{[W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \le C||h||^4 + C$$

where h is a function corresponding to v in (2-1) and C denotes positive constants independent of h.

PROOF. Choose any $v \in \mathcal{G}$ and let h correspond to v in (2-1). Setting $w \equiv 0$ in (2-1), we obtain

(2-3)
$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} \|\partial_i v\|^2 \le C \|h\|^2$$

where C is a positive constant independent of h. Next we define $q = h - \sum_{j=1}^{3} v_j \partial_j v$. Then, $q \in [W^{-1,3}(\Omega)]^3$ since $L^2(\Omega) \subset W^{-1,3}(\Omega)$ and $W^{1,2}(\Omega) \subset L^6(\Omega)$. Furthermore, by (2-3),

$$||q||_{[W^{-1,3}(\Omega)]^3} \le C(||h|| + ||h||^2)$$

for some positive constant C. We also define the operator \bigwedge_{ε} from V_1 into V_{-1} such that for each $u, w \in V_1$,

(2-5)
$$\left(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} u, w\right) = a(u, w) + (J'_{\varepsilon}(u), w),$$

where (,) is the duality pairing between V_1 and V_{-1} . It is easy to see that for $u, w \in V_1$,

$$a(u, w) = \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \langle \partial_j u, \partial_j w \rangle.$$

Since $J_{\varepsilon}'(\cdot)$ is monotone, bounded and hemicontinuous, so is \bigwedge_{ε} . Moreover,

$$\frac{(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} u, u)}{\|u\|_{V_{\varepsilon}}} \to \infty \quad \text{as } \|u\|_{V_{1}} \to \infty.$$

Hence, according to Theorem 2.1 of Lions [8], there is a functions $v_{\varepsilon} \in V_1$, such that

(2-7)
$$\left(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} v_{\varepsilon}, w\right) = (i^*q, w) \text{ for all } w \in V_1,$$

where i^* is the adjoint of the continuous embedding i from V_1 into $[W_0^{1,3/2}(\Omega)]^3$. Now (2-7) implies that for some scalar function p_{ε} ,

$$(2-8) -\mu \Delta v_{\varepsilon} - g \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(v_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(v_{\varepsilon}) \} + \nabla p_{\varepsilon} = q$$

holds in the sense of distribution in Ω . The second term represents a R^3 -valued function in terms of its *i*th component. By virtue of (2-9)

$$\|(\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(w))^{-1/2}D_{ij}(w)\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \le \sqrt{2}, \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, \text{ for all } w \in [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3,$$

we can use Lemma 1.3 to derive

where C denotes positive constants independent of ε . In the meantime, (2-7) also implies that for every $w \in V_1$,

$$(2-11) a(v_{\varepsilon}, w - v_{\varepsilon}) + J_{\varepsilon}(w) - J_{\varepsilon}(v_{\varepsilon}) \ge (i^*q, w - v_{\varepsilon}).$$

We can extract a subsequence still denoted by $\{v_{\varepsilon}\}$ such that $v_{\varepsilon} \to u$ weakly in V_1 and $[W_0^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3$ for some $u \in V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3$, which also satisfies

$$(2-12) a(u, w - u) + J(w) - J(u) \ge (i^*q, w - u)$$

for every $w \in V_1$. By the uniqueness of solution of (2-12), $u \equiv v$ and, by (2-4) and (2-10),

$$||v||_{[W_{\alpha}^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3} \le C\{||h|| + ||h||^2\} + C$$

where C denotes positive constants. Now we find that $q \in [W^{-1,6}(\Omega)]^3$ since $L^2(\Omega) \subset W^{-1,6}(\Omega)$ and $W_0^{1,3}(\Omega) \subset L^r(\Omega)$, for any $1 \le r < \infty$.

Furthermore, (2-13) yields

$$||Q||_{[W^{-1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \le C||h||^4 + C$$

where C denotes positive constants. With the aid of (2-9), we can repeat the above argument to arrive at $v \in [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3$ and (2-2).

REMARK 2.2. Even if $v \in S$, v may not belong to \mathcal{G} . An example in a two dimensional domain was given in [7].

PROPOSITION 2.3. \mathcal{G} is dense in V_1 .

PROOF. Since $J(\cdot)$ is a continuous convex functional in $[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$, its sub-differential $\partial J(u)$ is not empty for each $u \in [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$. Choose any $u \in V_1$ and $\delta > 0$. Then, there is $\psi \in \partial J(u)$ in $[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ such that

$$(2-15) J(w) - J(u) \ge (\psi, w - u)$$

for every $w\in [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ where $(\ ,\)$ is the duality pairing between $[W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ and $[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3$. Thus

(2-16)
$$\mu \sum_{i=1}^{3} \langle \partial_{i} u, \partial_{i} w - \partial_{i} u \rangle + J(w) - J(u) \ge (q, w - u)$$

holds for every $w \in [W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)]^3$ where $q = \psi - \mu \Delta u \in [W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3 \subset V_{-1}$. In particular, (2-16) holds for every $w \in V_1$ and (,) can be interpreted as the duality pairing between V_1 and V_{-1} . Now we can find $q^* \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$ such that

$$||q - q^*||_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3} < \delta.$$

By the same argument as in the proof of Proposition 2.1, it can be shown that there is $v \in V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3$ satisfying

(2-18)
$$\mu \sum_{i=1}^{3} \langle \partial_{i} v, \partial_{i} w - \partial_{i} v \rangle + J(w) - J(v) \ge \langle q^{*}, w - v \rangle$$

for all $w \in V_1$. Now it follows from (2-16), (2-17) and (2-18) that

$$||u - v||_{V_1} \le C||q - q^*||_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3} < C\delta$$

for some positive constant C independent of δ . Since $\sum_{j=1}^{3} v_j \partial_j v \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$, v satisfies (2-1) with $h = q^* + \sum_{j=1}^{3} v_j \partial_j v \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$.

PROPOSITION 2.4. Let $v \in \mathcal{G}$ be given with the corresponding $h \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$. Then, for each $\varepsilon > 0$, there are $v_{\varepsilon} \in V_4$ and $h_{\varepsilon} \in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$ such that

(2-20)
$$\mu A v_{\varepsilon} + \mu \varepsilon A^{2} v_{\varepsilon} - Pg \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(v_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(v_{\varepsilon}) \}$$
$$+ P \sum_{j=1}^{3} v_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} v_{\varepsilon} = Ph_{\varepsilon}$$

holds in V_0 and such that $v_{\varepsilon} \to v$ weakly in V_1 , $h_{\varepsilon} \to h$ weakly in $[L^2(\Omega)]^3$ as $\varepsilon \to 0$ and

$$||h_{\varepsilon}|| \le C(||h|| + ||h||^2)(||h||^4 + C)$$

where C denotes positive constants independent of ε and h.

(In the third term of (2-20), the projection operator is applied to a R^3 -valued function which is expressed in terms of its *i*th component.)

PROOF. Define $q=h-\sum_{j=1}^3 v_j\partial_j v$. Then, $q\in [L^2(\Omega)]^3$ by Proposition 2.1. We then consider a mapping \bigwedge_{ε} from V_2 into V_{-2} such that for each $u,w\in V_2$

(2-22)
$$\left(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} u, w\right) = \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \langle \partial_{j} u, \partial_{j} w \rangle + \mu \varepsilon \langle Au, Aw \rangle$$

$$+ g \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} \int (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(u))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(u) D_{ij}(w) dx$$

where (,) is the duality pairing between V_2 and V_{-2} . As in the proof of Proposition 2.1, \bigwedge_{ε} is hemicontinuous, monotone and bounded such that

(2-23)
$$\frac{(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} u, u)}{\|u\|_{V_2}} \to \infty \quad \text{as } \|u\|_{V_2} \to \infty.$$

Thus, there is $v_{\varepsilon} \in V_2$ such that

$$\left(\bigwedge_{\varepsilon} v_{\varepsilon}, w\right) = \langle q, w \rangle$$

for every $w \in V_2$. It follows from (2-22) that

(2-25)
$$\mu \varepsilon \langle A v_{\varepsilon}, A \phi_n \rangle = \langle \Phi_{\varepsilon}, \phi_n \rangle \quad \text{for each } n,$$

where

$$\Phi_{\varepsilon} = \mu \Delta v_{\varepsilon} + g \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(v_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(v_{\varepsilon}) \} + q \in [L^{2}(\Omega)]^{3}.$$

If $a_n = \langle v_{\varepsilon}, \phi_n \rangle$ and $b_n = \langle \Phi_{\varepsilon}, \phi_n \rangle$, (2-25) yields

$$(2-26) \qquad \qquad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 \lambda_n^4 < \infty,$$

since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n^2 < \infty$. Hence $v_{\varepsilon} \in V_4$, which implies $Av_{\varepsilon} \in V_2$. In the meantime, we derive from (2.24)

(2-27)
$$||v_{\varepsilon}||_{V_{1}} \leq C||q||_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^{3}} \leq C||q||_{[W^{-1,3}(\Omega)]^{3}}$$
$$\leq C(||h|| + ||h||^{2}), \quad \text{by (2-4)},$$

where C stands for positive constants independent of ε . It also follows from (2-24) that there is a scalar function p_{ε} such that

$$(2-28) -\mu \Delta(v_{\varepsilon} + \varepsilon A v_{\varepsilon}) - g \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(v_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(v_{\varepsilon}) \} + \nabla p_{\varepsilon} = q$$

holds in the sense of distribution in Ω . Let us write $G_{\varepsilon} = v_{\varepsilon} + \varepsilon A v_{\varepsilon}$. Then $G_{\varepsilon} \in V_2$ and, by Lemma 1.3,

(2-29)
$$||G_{\varepsilon}||_{[W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \le C||q||_{[W^{-1,6}(\Omega)]^3} + C$$

$$\le C||h||^4 + C,$$

where (2-9) and (2-14) have been used and C denotes positive constants independent of ε . Now, for some scalar function \tilde{p}_{ε} ,

$$(2-30) v_{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon \Delta v_{\varepsilon} + \nabla \tilde{p}_{\varepsilon} = G_{\varepsilon}$$

holds in the sense of distribution in Ω . With the aid of (1-7) and (2-29), we derive

where C denotes positive constants independent of ε . It follows from (2-27) and (2-31) that

$$(2-32) \left\| \sum_{j=1}^{3} v_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} v_{\varepsilon} \right\| \leq C(\|h\| + \|h\|^{2})(C\|h\|^{4} + C) \leq C(\|h\| + \|h\|^{2})(\|h\|^{4} + C),$$

where C denotes positive constants independent of ε . Meanwhile, we can extract a subsequence such that $v_{\varepsilon_k} \to u$ weakly in V_1 and strongly in $[L^2(\Omega)]^3$ as $\varepsilon_k \to 0$ for some function $u \in V_1$, which satisfies

(2-33)
$$\mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \langle \partial_{j} u, \partial_{j} w - \partial_{j} u \rangle + J(w) - J(u) \ge \langle q, w - u \rangle$$

for every $w \in V_1$. By the uniqueness of solution of (2-33), $u \equiv v$. Consequently, $v_{\varepsilon} \to v$ weakly in V_1 and strongly in $[L^2(\Omega)]^3$ as $\varepsilon \to 0$. We next write

$$(2-34) h_{\varepsilon} = q + \sum_{j=1}^{3} v_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} v_{\varepsilon}.$$

Then it is evident that $h_{\varepsilon} \to h$ weakly in $[L^2(\Omega)]^3$ and (2-21) holds.

3. Local existence. Our definition of solution is

DEFINITION 3.1. A function u(x,t) is called a solution of (0-1) to (0-4) if for some T > 0, $u \in L^2(0,T;V_1)$, $\partial_t u \in L^2(0,T;V_{-1})$, $u(x,0) = u_0(x)$ and for almost all $t \in [0,T]$, (0-1) is satisfied for all $w \in V_1$.

The main result is

THEOREM 3.2. If

$$u_0(x) \in \mathcal{G}, \quad f \in C([0,T]; [L^2(\Omega)]^3) \quad and \quad \partial_t f \in L^2(0,T; [W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3),$$

then there is a unique solution u(x,t) of (0-1) to (0-4) on an interval $[0,T^*]$, $0 < T^* \le T$. Furthermore,

(3-1)
$$u \in L^{\infty}(0, T^*; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3),$$

(3-2)
$$\partial_t u \in L^2(0, T^*; V_1) \cap L^\infty(0, T^*; V_0).$$

We shall outline the strategy of proof. We first set up a regularized problem with parameter $\varepsilon > 0$ associated with (0-1) to (0-4), and obtain solutions which are so regular that the manipulation to obtain energy estimates can be justified. We then obtain sufficient energy estimates independent of $\varepsilon > 0$, for which the results of Cattabriga [1] and Giga [5] are crucially used. Finally we pass $\varepsilon \to 0$ so that the limit provides a solution of (0-1) to (0-4).

3.1. Regularized problem. As above, we suppose that

$$u_0(x) \in \mathcal{G}, \quad f \in C([0,T]; [L^2(\Omega)]^3) \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_t f \in L^2(0,T; [W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3).$$

Using $u_0(x)$ and its corresponding function h(x), we can construct $u_{0\varepsilon}(x)$ and $h_{\varepsilon}(x)$ for each $\varepsilon > 0$ according to Proposition 2.4. The assertion for the regularized problem is

PROPOSITION 3.3. For each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a scalar function $p_{\varepsilon}(x,t)$ and a unique function $u_{\varepsilon}(x,t)$ such that

(3-3)
$$\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} = \mu \Delta u_{\varepsilon} + \mu \varepsilon \Delta A u_{\varepsilon} + g \sum_{j=1}^3 \partial_j \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(u_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(u_{\varepsilon}) \}$$
$$- \sum_{j=1}^3 u_{\varepsilon j} \partial_j u_{\varepsilon} + \nabla p_{\varepsilon} + f, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T),$$

(3-4)
$$u_{\varepsilon}(x,0) = u_{0\varepsilon}(x) \quad in \ \Omega,$$

(3-5)
$$u_{\varepsilon} \in L^{2}(0,T;V_{4}) \cap C([0,T];V_{3}),$$

(3-6)
$$\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} \in L^2(0,T;V_2) \cap C([0,T];V_0).$$

PROOF. Fix any $\varepsilon > 0$. Let us write by using the eigenfunctions in (1-12),

(3-7)
$$u_m(x,t) = \sum_{k=1}^m a_{mk}(t)\varphi_k(x),$$

and consider

(3-8)
$$\frac{\langle \partial_t u_m, \varphi_k \rangle + \mu \langle A u_m, \varphi_k \rangle + \mu \varepsilon \langle A^2 u_m, \varphi_k \rangle}{+ b(u_m, u_m, \varphi_k) + (J'_{\varepsilon}(u_m), \varphi_k) = \langle f, \varphi_k \rangle, \qquad k = 1, \dots, m. }$$

(3-9)
$$u_m(x,0) = \sum_{k=1}^m \langle u_{0\varepsilon}(x), \varphi_k \rangle \varphi_k.$$

We can find $a_{mk}(t) \in C^1([0,T_m])$ such that $\partial_t^2 a_{mk} \in L^2(0,T_m)$, $k=1,\ldots,m$, for some $0 < T_m \le T$ as solutions of (3-8) and (3-9). By virtue of the inequality

(3-10)
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u_m\|^2 + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j u_m\|^2 + \mu \varepsilon \|Au_m\|^2 \\ \leq \|f\| \|u_m\| \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T_m],$$

which follows from (3-8), we can set $T_m = T$ and derive, by (3-9) and (2-27),

(3-11)
$$||u_m|| \le M$$
 for all $t \in [0, T]$,

(3-12)
$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \|\partial_{j} u_{m}\|^{2} dt \leq M,$$

$$(3-13) \qquad \int_0^T \|Au_m\|^2 dt \le M_{\varepsilon}.$$

Here and below, M and M_{ε} denote positive constants independent of m, and M is also independent of ε . Next we substitute Au_m for φ_k in (3-8):

(3-14)
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} u_{m}\|^{2} + \mu \|A u_{m}\|^{2} + \mu \varepsilon \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} A u_{m}\|^{2}$$

$$\leq |b(u_{m}, u_{m}, A u_{m})| + |(J'_{\varepsilon}(u_{m}), A u_{m})| + |\langle f, A u_{m} \rangle|$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. The right-hand side can be estimated as

$$(3-15) |b(u_m, u_m, Au_m)| \le M ||u_m|| ||Au_m|| \sum_{j=1}^{3} ||\partial_j Au_m|| \text{ for all } t \in [0, T],$$

$$(3-16) |(J'_{\varepsilon}(u_m), Au_m)| \le M \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_j Au_m\| \text{for all } t \in [0, T], \text{ by } (2-9).$$

Combining (3-11), (3-13) through (3-16), we obtain

(3-17)
$$\sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} u_{m}\| \leq M_{\varepsilon} \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T],$$

(3-18)
$$\sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \|\partial_{j} A u_{m}\|^{2} dt \leq M_{\varepsilon}.$$

We then substitute A^2u_m for φ_k in (3-8): (3-19)

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\|Au_{m}\|^{2} + \mu\sum_{j=1}^{3}\|\partial_{j}Au_{m}\|^{2} + \mu\varepsilon\|A^{2}u_{m}\|^{2} \\ &\leq |b(u_{m},u_{m},A^{2}u_{m})| + |(J_{\varepsilon}'(u_{m}),A^{2}u_{m})| + |\langle f,A^{2}u_{m}\rangle| \\ &\leq M\|Au_{m}\|\|A^{2}u_{m}\|\sum_{j=1}^{3}\|\partial_{j}u_{m}\| + M_{\varepsilon}\|A^{2}u_{m}\|\|Au_{m}\| + \|f\|\|A^{2}u_{m}\| \end{split}$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$, which, combined with (3-17), yields

$$(3-20) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|Au_m\|^2 + 2\mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j Au_m\|^2 + \mu \varepsilon \|A^2 u_m\|^2 \le M_\varepsilon \|Au_m\|^2 + M_\varepsilon \|f\|^2,$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. By virtue of (3-9) and the fact that $u_{0\varepsilon}(x) \in V_4$,

$$(3-21) ||Au_m(x,0)|| \le M_{\varepsilon}.$$

Consequently, we infer from (3-13) and (3-20) that

$$(3-22) ||Au_m|| \le M_{\varepsilon} \text{for all } t \in [0, T],$$

$$(3-23) \qquad \int_0^T \|A^2 u_m\|^2 dt \le M_{\varepsilon}.$$

We next differentiate (3-8) with respect to t and substitute $\partial_t u_m$ for φ_k to derive

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\partial_{t} u_{m}\|^{2} + \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} \partial_{t} u_{m}\|^{2} + \mu \varepsilon \|\partial_{t} A u_{m}\|^{2}
\leq |b(\partial_{t} u_{m}, u_{m}, \partial_{t} u_{m})| + |(\partial_{t} f, \partial_{t} u_{m})|
\leq M_{\varepsilon} \|\partial_{t} u_{m}\| \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} \partial_{t} u_{m}\| + M \|\partial_{t} f\|_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^{3}} \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} \partial_{t} u_{m}\|$$

for almost all $t \in [0, T]$, where (1-17) and (3-22) have been used. Now let us consider (3-8) at t = 0 after φ_k is replaced by $\partial_t u_m(x, 0)$ to estimate $\|\partial_t u_m(x, 0)\|$: (3-25)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\partial_t u_m(x,0)\|^2 &\leq \mu |\langle Au_m(x,0), \partial_t u_m(x,0)\rangle| + \mu \varepsilon |\langle A^2 u_m(x,0), \partial_t u_m(x,0)\rangle| \\ &+ |b(u_m(x,0), u_m(x,0), \partial_t u_m(x,0))| \\ &+ |\langle J'_{\varepsilon}(u_m(x,0)), \partial_t u_m(x,0)\rangle| \\ &+ |\langle f(x,0), \partial_t u_m(x,0)\rangle|. \end{aligned}$$

Again by (3-9) and the fact that $u_{0\varepsilon}(x) \in V_4$, we have

$$||A^2 u_m(x,0)|| \le M_{\varepsilon},$$

and consequently,

$$|b(u_m(x,0), u_m(x,0), \partial_t u_m(x,0))| \le M_{\varepsilon} ||\partial_t u_m(x,0)||,$$

$$|(3-28) \qquad |(J'_{\varepsilon}(u_m(x,0)), \partial_t u_m(x,0))| \leq M_{\varepsilon} ||\partial_t u_m(x,0)||.$$

Now it follows from (3-25) that

which together with (3-24), gives

(3-30)
$$\|\partial_t u_m\| \le M_{\varepsilon} for all t \in [0, T],$$

$$(3-31) \qquad \int_0^T \|\partial_t A u_m\|^2 dt \le M_{\varepsilon}.$$

By virtue of (3-23), (3-30) and (3-31), we can extract a subsequence still denoted by $\{u_m\}$ such that for some function u, as $m \to \infty$.

$$(3-32) u_m \to u \text{weakly in } L^2(0,T;V_4),$$

(3-33)
$$\partial_t u_m \to \partial_t u$$
 weakly in $L^2(0,T;V_2)$,

(3-34)
$$\partial_t u_m \to \partial_t u \text{ weak* in } L^{\infty}(0,T;V_0),$$

form which it follows that

(3-35)
$$u_m \to u \text{ strongly in } L^2(0,T;V_3)$$

and hence, by further extracting subsequence if necessary,

(3-36)
$$u_m \to u$$
 strongly in V_3 , for almost all $t \in [0, T]$.

Now it is easily seen that for almost all $t \in [0, T]$,

$$(3-37) (J'_{\varepsilon}(u_m), \varphi) \to (J'_{\varepsilon}(u), \varphi)$$

for all $\varphi \in V_1$. For the convergence of other terms in (3-8), we can proceed as in the case of the Navier-Stokes equations (see Temam [12]) to deduce that for almost all $t \in [0,T]$,

$$(3-38) \qquad \langle \partial_t u, \varphi \rangle + \mu \langle Au, \varphi \rangle + \mu \varepsilon \langle A^2 u, \varphi \rangle + b(u, u, \varphi) + (J'_{\varepsilon}(u), \varphi) = \langle f, \varphi \rangle$$

holds for all $\varphi \in V_1$, and

$$(3-39) u(x,0) = u_{0\varepsilon}(x).$$

Now (3-3) follows from (3-38). In the meantime, (3-32) and (3-33) imply $u \in C([0,T];V_3)$ possiby after a modification on a set of measure zero on [0,T]. We next choose any $\psi \in C_0^{\infty}((0,T);V_2)$. It follows from (3-38) that

$$\int_{0}^{T} \langle \partial_{t} u, \partial_{t} \psi \rangle dt = -\mu \int_{0}^{T} \langle A u, \partial_{t} \psi \rangle dt
-\mu \varepsilon \int_{0}^{T} \langle A u, \partial_{t} A \psi \rangle dt - \int_{0}^{T} b(u, u, \partial_{t} \psi) dt
-\int_{0}^{T} (J'_{\varepsilon}(u), \partial_{t} \psi) dt + \int_{0}^{T} \langle f, \partial_{t} \psi \rangle dt.$$

Since $\partial_t u \in L^2(0,T;V_2) \cap L^\infty(0,T;V_0)$ and $\partial_t f \in L^2(0,T;[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3)$, we have

$$\left| \int_0^T \langle \partial_t u, \partial_t \psi \rangle \, dt \right| \le M_{\varepsilon} \left(\int_0^T \|\psi\|_{V_2}^2 \, dt \right)^{1/2},$$

where M_{ε} is a positive constant independent of ψ . Hence, we conclude

$$\partial_t^2 u \in L^2(0, T; V_{-2}),$$

from which it follows that $\partial_t u \in C([0,T];V_0)$ possibly after a modification on a set of measure zero on [0,T]. Under the regularity condition (3-5) and (3-6), one can easily show the uniqueness of u by using the monotonicity of $J'_{\varepsilon}(\cdot)$.

3.2. New estimates and the proof of Theorem 3.2. Let u_{ε} be the solution in Proposition 3.3. We write

$$\mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon} = u_{\varepsilon} + \varepsilon A u_{\varepsilon}.$$

Then, (3-3) can be written as

(3-44)
$$\mu \Delta \mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon} + \nabla p_{\varepsilon} = \partial_{t} u_{\varepsilon} - g \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(u_{\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(u_{\varepsilon}) \}$$
$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{3} u_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon} - f \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T).$$

Since u_{ε} satisfies (3-5) and (3-6), we find that each term of the right-hand side belongs to $C([0,T];[L^2(\Omega)]^3)$ and $\mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon} \in C([0,T];V_1)$, which implies

(3-45)
$$p_{\varepsilon} \in C([0,T]; W^{1,2}(\Omega)),$$

$$(3-46) \mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon} \in C([0,T]; V_2).$$

From (3-44), we can derive

(3-47)
$$\sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} \leq C(\|\partial_{t} u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} + \|f\|^{2}) \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T].$$

Here and below, C denotes positive constants independent of ε . By (3-47), we have

(3-48)
$$\left\| \sum_{j=1}^{3} u_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon} \right\|_{[W^{-1,3}(\Omega)]^{3}} \leq C \|u_{\varepsilon}\|_{[L^{6}(\Omega)]^{3}}^{2} \leq C (\|\partial_{t} u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} + \|f\|^{2})$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. With the aid of Lemma 1.3, we obtain from (3-44)

for all $t \in [0,T]$. Here, we again used (2-9) and the fact $L^2(\Omega) \subset W^{-1,3}(\Omega)$. Now (3-43) implies that

$$(3-50) u_{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon \Delta u_{\varepsilon} + \nabla \tilde{p}_{\varepsilon} = \mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon}$$

holds for some scalar function \tilde{p}_{ε} . Since u_{ε} and $\mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon}$ belong to $[W_0^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3 \cap X_3$ for each $t \in [0,T]$, we can apply (1-7) to obtain

(3-51)
$$\begin{aligned} \|u_{\varepsilon}\|_{[W_0^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3} &\leq C \|\mathcal{F}_{\varepsilon}\|_{[W_0^{1,3}(\Omega)]^3} \\ &\leq C(\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 + \|f\|^2) + C \quad \text{for all } t \in [0,T], \text{ by } (3-49). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we also obtain

(3-52)
$$\left\| \sum_{j=1}^{3} u_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon} \right\| \leq C \|u_{\varepsilon}\|_{[W_{0}^{1,3}(\Omega)]^{3}}^{2}$$
$$\leq C (\|\partial_{t} u_{\varepsilon}\|^{4} + \|f\|^{4}) + C$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. By using (2-9) and the fact $L^2(\Omega) \subset W^{-1,6}(\Omega)$, we can repeat the above argument to arrive at

(3-53)
$$||u_{\varepsilon}||_{[W_{\varepsilon}^{1,6}(\Omega)]^{3}} \leq C(||\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}||^{4} + ||f||^{4}) + C$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. Recalling that $\partial_t^2 u_{\varepsilon} \in L^2(0, T; V_{-2})$ and $\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} \in L^2(0, T; V_2)$, we can borrow Lemma 1.2 of Temam [12, p. 260] to assert

(3-54)
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 = (\partial_t^2 u_{\varepsilon}, \partial_t u_{\varepsilon})$$

in the sense of distribution in (0,T), where $(\ ,\)$ is the duality pairing between V_2 and V_{-2} . Since the right-hand side belongs to $L^1(0,T), \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2$ is absolutely continuous on [0,T]. We now combine (3-44) and (3-54) to deduce

$$(3-55)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\|\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} + \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3}\|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2}$$

$$\leq C\|\partial_{t}f\|_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^{3}} \sum_{j=1}^{3}\|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\| + |b(\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}, u_{\varepsilon}, \partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon})|$$

for almost all $t \in [0, T]$.

By virtue of (3-53), we have

$$|b(\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}, u_{\varepsilon}, \partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon})| \leq C \|\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\| \|u_{\varepsilon}\|_{[L^{\infty}(\Omega)]^{3}} \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|$$

$$\leq C \|\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\| \|u_{\varepsilon}\|_{[W_{0}^{1,6}(\Omega)]^{3}} \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|$$

$$\leq \frac{\mu}{4} \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} + C \|\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} (\|\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{8} + \|f\|^{8} + C)$$

for all $t \in [0, T]$. Therefore, (3-55) can be written as

(3-57)
$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j \partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 \\ \leq C \|\partial_t f\|_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3}^2 + C \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 (\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^8 + \|f\|^8 + C)$$

for almost all $t \in [0,T]$. Next we proceed to estimate $\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}(x,0)\|$ by making use of (3-44). Since each term of (3-44) belongs to $C([0,T];[L^2(\Omega)]^3)$ and, in particular, $\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} \in C([0,T];V_0)$, we have

(3-58)
$$\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}(x,0)\| \le \|Pf(x,0)\| + \|H_{\varepsilon}\|,$$

where

$$H_{\varepsilon} = \mu A u_{0\varepsilon} + \mu \varepsilon A^{2} u_{0\varepsilon} - Pg \sum_{j=1}^{3} \partial_{j} \{ (\varepsilon + D_{\Pi}(u_{0\varepsilon}))^{-1/2} D_{ij}(u_{0\varepsilon}) \}$$
$$+ P \sum_{j=1}^{3} u_{0\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} u_{0\varepsilon}.$$

Since $u_{0\epsilon}$ was chosen according to Proposition 2.4, we find

(3-59)
$$||H_{\varepsilon}|| \le C \quad \text{for all } \varepsilon > 0.$$

Let us write $z_{\varepsilon}(t) = \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2$ so that (3-57) reduces to

(3-60)
$$\frac{d}{dt}z_{\varepsilon} \leq \beta(t) + C_1 z_{\varepsilon}^5 + C_2 z_{\varepsilon} \quad \text{for almost all } t \in [0, T],$$

where $\beta(t) \in L^1(0,T)$ and C_1 , C_2 are positive constants independent of ε . It is obvious that $z_{\varepsilon}(t)$ is nonnegative and that the right-hand side of (3-60) satisfies the Carathéodory condition. Thus, we can apply Theorem 16.2 of Szarski [11] to conclude that there is $0 < T^* \le T$ independent of ε such that

(3-61)
$$|z_{\varepsilon}(t)| \leq C \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T^*],$$

which, combined with (3-57), yields

(3-62)
$$\int_0^{T^*} \sum_{i=1}^3 \|\partial_j \partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 dt \le C.$$

It also follows from (3-53) and (3-61)

(3-63)
$$||u_{\varepsilon}||_{[W_{0}^{1,6}(\Omega)]^{3}} \leq C \text{ for all } t \in [0, T^{*}].$$

Now we can extract a subsequence still denoted by $\{u_{\varepsilon}\}$ such that for some function u, as $\varepsilon \to 0$,

(3-64)
$$u_{\varepsilon} \to u \text{ weak* in } L^{\infty}(0, T^*; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3),$$

(3-65)
$$\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} \to \partial_t u \text{ weak* in } L^{\infty}(0, T^*; V_0),$$

(3-66)
$$\partial_t u_{\varepsilon} \to \partial_t u$$
 weakly in $L^2(0, T^*; V_1)$,

which implies

(3-67)
$$u_{\varepsilon} \to u \text{ strongly in } L^2(0, T^*; V_0).$$

To proceed further, we observe that each u_{ε} satisfies

$$\int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle \partial_{t} u_{\varepsilon}, \psi - u_{\varepsilon} \rangle dt + \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon}, \partial_{j} \psi - \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon} \rangle dt
+ \varepsilon \mu \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle u_{\varepsilon}, A^{2} \psi - A^{2} u_{\varepsilon} \rangle dt + \sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle u_{\varepsilon j} \partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon}, \psi \rangle dt
+ \int_{0}^{T^{*}} (J_{\varepsilon}(\psi) - J_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon})) dt \ge \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle f, \psi - u_{\varepsilon} \rangle dt$$

for every $\psi \in L^2(0, T^*; V_4)$. In the meantime, we note that

$$(3-69) \qquad \qquad \underline{\lim}_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_0^{T^*} J_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon}) \, dt \ge \underline{\lim}_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_0^{T^*} J(u_{\varepsilon}) \, dt \ge \int_0^{T^*} J(u) \, dt.$$

Now we find upon passing $\varepsilon \to 0$ in (3-68),

$$(3-70) \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle \partial_{t}u, \psi - u \rangle dt + \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle \partial_{j}u, \partial_{j}\psi - \partial_{j}u \rangle dt$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle u_{j}\partial_{j}u, \psi \rangle dt + \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle J(\psi) - J(u) \rangle dt \ge \int_{0}^{T^{*}} \langle f, \psi - u \rangle dt$$

for every $\psi \in L^2(0, T^*; V_4)$. Using the fact that V_4 is separable and dense in V_1 , we borrow an argument from Duvaut and Lions [3] to conclude that for almost all $t \in [0, T^*]$,

(3-71)
$$\langle \partial_t u, w - u \rangle + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \langle \partial_j u, \partial_j w - \partial_j u \rangle$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^3 \langle u_j \partial_j u, w \rangle + J(w) - J(u) \ge \langle f, w - u \rangle$$

holds for all $w \in V_1$. By making use of (3-64), (3-65) and the fact that $u_{\varepsilon}(x,0) = u_{0\varepsilon}(x)$ and $u_{0\varepsilon} \to u_0$ weakly in V_1 , we can easily derive that $u(x,0) = u_0(x)$. Hence u(x,t) is a solution of (0-1) to (0-4). To prove the uniqueness, let v(x,t) be a solution according to Definition 3.1. Then, we have the inequality

(3-72)
$$\langle \partial_t(u-v), u-v \rangle + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \langle \partial_j(u-v), \partial_j(u-v) \rangle$$

$$\leq |b(u-v, u, u-v)| \quad \text{for almost all } t \in [0, T^*],$$

where we have assumed that $[0, T^*]$ is the common interval. But, by virtue of the fact $u \in L^{\infty}(0, T^*; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3)$, we have

(3-73)
$$|b(u-v,u,u-v)| \le C||u-v|| \sum_{j=1}^{3} ||\partial_{j}(u-v)||$$

for almost all $t \in [0, T^*]$. We now use the Gronwall inequality to derive from (3-72) that $u \equiv v$.

4. Existence of global solutions and time-periodic solutions. Our assertion is

THEOREM 4.1. Suppose that $u_0(x) \in \mathcal{G}$, $f \in C([0,\infty); [L^2(\Omega)]^3)$ and $\partial_t f \in L^{\infty}(0,\infty; [W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3)$. Then there is $\delta > 0$ such that if

$$||f|| \le \delta \quad \text{for all } t \ge 0,$$

$$(4-3) ||h|| \le \delta,$$

where h is a function corresponding to u_0 in (2-1). Then there is a unique global solution u(x,t) of (0-1) to (0-4) such that

$$(4-4) u \in L^{\infty}(0, \infty; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3),$$

$$(4-5) \partial_t u \in L^{\infty}(0,\infty;V_0) \cap L^2_{\text{loc}}([0,\infty);V_1).$$

THEOREM 4.2. In addition to the above assumptions possibly with smaller $\delta > 0$, we also assume that f is η -periodic in time. Then, there is an η -periodic solution $u_{\eta}(x,t)$ of (0-1), (0-2) and (0-3) such that

$$(4-6) u_n(x,t+\eta) = u_n(x,t) for all t \in (-\infty,\infty),$$

(4-7)
$$u_{\eta} \in L^{\infty}(0, \eta; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3),$$

(4-8)
$$\partial_t u_\eta \in L^\infty(0, \eta; V_0) \cap L^2(0, \eta; V_1).$$

Furthermore, the solution u(x,t) of Theorem 4.1 converges to $u_n(x,t)$ in the manner

(4-9)
$$\sup_{s\geq t} \|u(x,s) - u_{\eta}(x,s)\| \leq Me^{-\lambda t} \quad \text{for all } t\geq 0,$$

where M and λ are positive constants.

As a preparatory step, we present

LEMMA 4.3. Suppose E(t) is nonnegative, locally absolutely continuous on [0,T) and

(4-10)
$$\frac{d}{dt}E + \nu E \le C_1 E^5 + C_2 \quad \text{for almost all } t \in [0, T),$$

where ν , C_1 and C_2 are positive constants. Let $0 < \xi < (\nu/32C_1)^{1/4}$. If $C_2 < \nu \xi/2$ and $E(0) \le \xi$, then $E(t) < 2\xi$ for all $t \in [0,T)$.

PROOF. Suppose that the assertion is false. Then, there is $t^* \in (0,T)$ such that $E(t) < 2\xi$ for all $t \in [0,t^*)$ and $E(t^*) = 2\xi$. Consequently, we find that

(4-11)
$$E(t^*) \le \xi e^{-\nu t^*/2} + \xi (1 - e^{-\nu t^*/2}) < 2\xi$$

which is a contradiction.

PROOF OF THEOREM 4.1. We first note that the solutions in Propostion 3.3 are defined on $[0,\infty)$ under the assumption that $f\in C([0,\infty);[L^2(\Omega)]^3)$ and $\partial_t f\in L^2_{\mathrm{loc}}([0,\infty);[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3)$. To see this, we rewrite (3-23), (3-30) and (3-31) as

$$(4-12) \qquad \int_0^T \|A^2 u_m\|^2 dt \le M(\varepsilon, T),$$

(4-13)
$$\|\partial_t u_m\| \le M(\varepsilon, T) \quad \text{ for all } t \in [0, T],$$

(4-14)
$$\int_0^T \|\partial_t A u_m\|^2 dt \le M(\varepsilon, T),$$

where $M(\varepsilon,T)$ denotes positive constants independent of m which are defined for all $0 < T < \infty$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. On each finite time interval, we obtain a solution by letting $m \to \infty$. By the uniqueness of solution, we can define a solution on $[0,\infty)$. We next recall a special case of the Nirenberg-Galiardo inequality: for $0 \le \alpha < 1/4$,

$$(4-15) ||w||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \le C||w||_{W^{1,6}(\Omega)}^{1-\alpha} ||w||_{L^{2}(\Omega)}^{\alpha} for all w \in W^{1,6}(\Omega).$$

Let us fix $0 < \alpha < 1/4$ and rewrite (3-56) as (4-16)

$$|b(\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}, u_{\varepsilon}, \partial_t u_{\varepsilon})| \leq C \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\| \|u_{\varepsilon}\|^{\alpha} \|u_{\varepsilon}\|^{1-\alpha}_{[W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j \partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|$$

$$\leq \frac{\mu}{4} \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j \partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 + C \|u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2\alpha} \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 (\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^8 + \|f\|^8 + C),$$

where C still stands for positive constants independent of ε . Then, (3-55) can be written as

(4-17)
$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j \partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 \\ \leq C \|\partial_t f\|_{[W^{-1,2}(\Omega)]^3}^2 + C \|u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2\alpha} \|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^2 (\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\|^8 + \|f\|^8 + C)$$

for almost all $t \in [0, \infty)$. In the meantime, it follows from (3-44) that

(4-18)
$$\frac{d}{dt} \|u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} + \mu \sum_{j=1}^{3} \|\partial_{j} u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} \le C \|f\|^{2} \quad \text{for all } t \ge 0.$$

Consequently, for all $t \geq 0$,

(4-19)
$$||u_{\varepsilon}||^{2} \leq ||u_{0\varepsilon}||^{2} + C \sup_{t \geq 0} ||f||^{2}.$$

Now let $0 < \delta < 1$. If $||h|| \le \delta$, then (2-21) yields

which implies, by (3-58),

and, by (2-27),

$$(4-22) ||u_{0\varepsilon}|| \le C\delta,$$

where C denotes positive constants independent of ε and δ . Hence, by assuming (4-1) and (4-2) with δ which is sufficiently small, but independent of ε , (4-17) can be put in the framework of Lemma 4.3 so that we arrive at the estimates:

(4-23)
$$\|\partial_t u_{\varepsilon}\| \le C$$
 for all $t \ge 0$ and all $\varepsilon > 0$,

(4-24)
$$\sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} dt \leq C(T) \quad \text{for all } T > 0 \text{ and all } \varepsilon > 0,$$

where C and C(T) denote positive constants. It then follows from (3-53) and (4-23) that

$$(4-25) ||u_{\varepsilon}||_{[W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \leq C \text{for all } t \geq 0 \text{ and all } \varepsilon > 0.$$

Next we choose any finite time interval and find a solution of (0-1) to (0-4) through the same procedure as in the previous section. Finally, we can extend the time interval to $[0, \infty)$ by using the uniqueness of solution.

PROOF OF THEOREM 4.2. We shall obtain a periodic solution through a well-known procedure. Let u(x,t) be the global solution in Theorem 4.1 and define

$$(4-26) v_k(x,t) = u(x,t+k\eta), k=1,2,....$$

Then, v_k is a solution of (0-1), (0-2) and (0-3) on the interval $(-k\eta, \infty)$ since f is η -periodic in t. Similarly to (3-72), we have for each k

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|v_k - v_0\|^2 + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j (v_k - v_0)\|^2$$

$$\leq |b(v_k - v_0, v_0, v_k - v_0)| \leq C \|v_0\|_{[L^{\infty}(\Omega)]^3} \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j (v_k - v_0)\|^2$$

$$\leq C \|u\|^{\alpha} \|u\|_{[W_0^{1.6}(\Omega)]^3}^{1-\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j (v_k - v_0)\|^2$$

for almost all $t \geq 0$, where $0 < \alpha < 1/4$ and C denotes positive constants independent of k. By choosing δ sufficiently small in (4-1), (4-2) and (4-3), (4-27) can reduce to, for each k,

(4-28)
$$\frac{d}{dt} \|v_k - v_0\|^2 + \mu \sum_{j=1}^3 \|\partial_j (v_k - v_0)\|^2 \le 0$$

for almost all $t \geq 0$. Therefore, for each k

(4-29)
$$||v_k - v_0|| \le Me^{-\tilde{\mu}t}$$
 for all $t \ge 0$,

where $M=2\sup_{t\geq 0}\|u(x,t)\|$ and $\tilde{\mu}$ is a positive constant. Now (4-29) yields

$$(4-30) ||v_{k+k_1} - v_{k_1}|| \le M e^{-\tilde{\mu}k_1\eta} \text{for all } t \ge 0 \text{ and all } k.$$

Hence $\{v_k\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C([0,\infty);V_0)$ and let $u_{\eta}(x,t)$ stand for its limit. It is apparent that

$$\sup_{s \geq t} \|u_{\eta}(x,s) - u(x,s)\| \leq M e^{\tilde{\mu}\eta} e^{-\tilde{\mu}t} \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0,$$

which proves (4-9). Next we observe that

(4-32)
$$u_{\eta}(x,t+\eta) = \lim_{k \to \infty} v_k(x,t+\eta) = \lim_{k \to \infty} v_{k+1}(x,t) = u_{\eta}(x,t),$$

which shows that u_{η} is η -periodic. Meanwhile, we note that

(4-33)
$$||v_k||_{[W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3} \le M$$
 for almost all $t \ge 0$,

$$\|\partial_t v_k\| \le M \quad \text{for almost all } t \ge 0,$$

$$(4-35) \qquad \sum_{i=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}v_{k}\|^{2} dt \leq M(T) \quad \text{for each } 0 < T < \infty,$$

where M and M(T) stand for positive constants independent of k. In fact, (4-33) and (4-34) follow immediately from (4-4) and (4-5). To see (4-35), we need to improve (4-24) by means of (4-17) and (4-23):

(4-36)
$$\sum_{j=1}^{3} \int_{s}^{s+T} \|\partial_{j}\partial_{t}u_{\varepsilon}\|^{2} dt \leq C(T) \quad \text{for all } s \geq 0,$$

where C(T) is a positive constant indpendent of ε . It is evident that (4-36) is equally true for u, and (4-35) follows. By virtue of (4-33), (4-34) and (4-35), we find that

(4-37)
$$v_k \to u_n \text{ weak* in } L^{\infty}(0, \infty; V_1 \cap [W_0^{1,6}(\Omega)]^3),$$

$$(4-38) \partial_t v_k \to \partial_t u_\eta \text{weak* in } L^{\infty}(0,\infty;V_0),$$

(4-39)
$$\partial_t v_k \to \partial_t u_n$$
 weakly in $L^2(0,T;V_1)$ for each $0 < T < \infty$,

from which (4-6), (4-7) and (4-8) follow. Since each v_k is a solution of (0-1), (0-2) and (0-3) in $\Omega \times (0, \infty)$, we can show by an argument similar to that in the previous section that u_{η} is also a solution in $\Omega \times (0, \infty)$, in fact in $\Omega \times (-\infty, \infty)$ by extending u_{η} to the interval $(-\infty, 0)$ by the η -periodic condition.

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