

# DYNAMICAL SYSTEM FOR COMPETITIVE SYSTEM WITH CROSS-DIFFUSIONS

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## 1. COMPETITIVE SYSTEM WITH CROSS-DIFFUSION

We consider the initial-boundary value problem for a competitive system

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta(au + \alpha_{11}u^2 + \alpha_{12}uv) + cu - \gamma_{11}u^2 - \gamma_{12}uv & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \Delta(bv + \alpha_{21}uv + \alpha_{22}v^2) + dv - \gamma_{21}uv - \gamma_{22}v^2 & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad v(x, 0) = v_0(x) & \text{in } \Omega \end{cases}$$

in a two-dimensional bounded  $\mathcal{C}^3$  domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Here,  $a, b > 0$ ,  $\alpha_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $c, d > 0$  and  $\gamma_{ij} > 0$  are given constants.

As well known, this system has been introduced by Shigesada-Kawasaki-Teramoto [2] to describe the segregation process for two competitive species in a two-dimensional domain  $\Omega$  by cross-diffusion. The unknown functions  $u = u(x, t)$  and  $v = v(x, t)$  denote the densities of species in  $\Omega$  at time  $t \geq 0$ . The term  $\alpha_{ij}\Delta uv$  ( $i \neq j$ ) denotes the cross-diffusion of each species. On the other hand, the terms  $\alpha_{11}\Delta u^2$  and  $\alpha_{22}\Delta v^2$  denote the self-diffusions of species. The competitions of species are described by the kinetic functions  $(c - \gamma_{11}u - \gamma_{12}v)u$  and  $(d - \gamma_{21}u - \gamma_{22}v)v$ .

We assume that the cross-diffusion constants  $\alpha_{12}$  and  $\alpha_{21}$  are smaller than the self-diffusion constants  $\alpha_{11}$  and  $\alpha_{22}$  in the following specific sense

$$(2) \quad 0 \leq \alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} \leq 64\alpha_{11}\alpha_{22}.$$

We may notice however that, when one of the cross-diffusion constants vanishes, i.e.,  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 0$ , it is allowed that the two self-diffusion constants vanish all together,  $\alpha_{11} = \alpha_{22} = 0$ .

The space of initial values is given by

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{K} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} u_0 \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix}; 0 \leq u_0 \in H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq v_0 \in H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega) \right\},$$

where  $\varepsilon$  denotes an arbitrarily fixed exponent in such a way that  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ .

*Remark 1.* We need the condition (2) only for establishing a priori estimates for local solutions. Therefore we can always construct local solutions without assuming this kind of relations among self and cross diffusion coefficients.  $\square$

*Remark 2.* The  $\mathcal{C}^3$  regularity of the boundary  $\partial\Omega$  ensures the shift property that  $\Delta u \in H^1(\Omega)$  with  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0$  implies  $u \in H^3(\Omega)$ . Such a shift property is necessary in the proof of a priori estimates in the case when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 0$  only. As a matter of fact, when

$0 < \alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} \leq 64\alpha_{11}\alpha_{22}$ , the *a priori* estimate can be carried out under the assumption that  $\Omega$  is a convex domain or its boundary has  $\mathcal{C}^2$  regularity.  $\square$

## 2. LOCAL SOLUTIONS

We have already constructed non negative local solution to (1) by applying the theory of abstract nonlinear parabolic evolution equations, see [3, Theorem 3.5]. Indeed, for any  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ , Problem (1) possesses a unique local solution in the function space

$$(4) \quad \begin{cases} 0 \leq u \in \mathcal{C}((0, T_{U_0}); H_N^2(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}([0, T_{U_0}]; H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^1((0, T_{U_0}); L_2(\Omega)), \\ 0 \leq v \in \mathcal{C}((0, T_{U_0}); H_N^2(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}([0, T_{U_0}]; H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^1((0, T_{U_0}); L_2(\Omega)), \end{cases}$$

where  $T_{U_0} > 0$  is determined by the norm  $\|U_0\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}}$ . Here,

$$H_N^2 = \{u \in H^2(\Omega); \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\}.$$

Furthermore, by using the maximal regularity of abstract linear parabolic evolution equations, see [3, Theorem 3.6], we can show the regularity

$$(5) \quad \begin{cases} u, v \in \mathcal{C}^1((0, T_{U_0}); H^{2\theta}(\Omega)), & 0 \leq \theta < 1, \\ u, v \in \mathcal{C}^2((0, T_{U_0}); H^1(\Omega)^*). \end{cases}$$

We conclude this section by announcing the Lipschitz continuity of local solutions with respect to the initial values. This result can also be obtained as a consequence of the general results concerning the abstract parabolic evolution equations, see Theorem 2 of [1]. For  $0 < R < \infty$ , put

$$\mathcal{K}_R = \{U_0 \in \mathcal{K}; \|U\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}} < R\}.$$

Then, for any  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}_R$ , there exists a nonnegative local solution of (1) on an interval  $[0, T_R]$ , where  $T_R > 0$  is dependent on  $R$  but uniform for  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}_R$ . Then, we can indeed show that

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} t^{\frac{1+\varepsilon}{2}} \|U(t) - \tilde{U}(t)\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}} + \|U(t) - \tilde{U}(t)\|_{L_2} \\ \leq L_R \|U_0 - \tilde{U}_0\|_{L_2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_R; U_0, \tilde{U}_0 \in \mathcal{K}_R, \end{aligned}$$

where  $U(t) = {}^t(u(t), v(t))$  and  $\tilde{U}(t) = {}^t(\tilde{u}(t), \tilde{v}(t))$  are local solutions of (1) for initial values  $U_0$  and  $\tilde{U}_0$ , respectively.

## 3. A PRIORI ESTIMATES

We shall establish a priori estimates for local solutions with initial values from  $\mathcal{K}$ . Let  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$  and let  $U$  denote any nonnegative local solution to Problem (1) in the function space

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \leq u, v \in \mathcal{C}((0, T_U]; H_N^2(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}([0, T_U]; H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega)) \\ \cap \mathcal{C}^1((0, T_U]; H^1(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^2((0, T_U]; H^1(\Omega)^*), \end{aligned}$$

where  $[0, T_U]$  denotes the interval on which  $U$  is defined. As shown in the preceding sections, such a local solution exists at least on some interval  $[0, T_{U_0}]$ .

In this section the assumption (2) will essentially be used. But the techniques of proof are quite different by the cases when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} > 0$  and when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 0$ .

**3.1. Case when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} > 0$ .** Let us begin with noticing some scalling property. Let  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\mu > 0$  be two parameters and multiply the equations on  $u$  and  $v$  by  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ , respectively. Then we obtain an equivalent problem to (1):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u_\lambda}{\partial t} = \Delta(au_\lambda + \alpha_{11}\lambda^{-1}u_\lambda^2 + \alpha_{12}\mu^{-1}u_\lambda v_\mu) \\ \quad + cu_\lambda - \gamma_{11}\lambda^{-1}u_\lambda^2 - \gamma_{12}\mu^{-1}u_\lambda v_\mu \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ \frac{\partial v_\mu}{\partial t} = \Delta(bv_\mu + \alpha_{21}\lambda^{-1}u_\lambda v_\mu + \alpha_{22}\mu^{-1}v_\mu^2) \\ \quad + dv_\mu - \gamma_{21}\lambda^{-1}u_\lambda v_\mu - \gamma_{22}\mu^{-1}v_\mu^2 \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ \frac{\partial u_\lambda}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial v_\mu}{\partial n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, \infty), \\ u_\lambda(x, 0) = \lambda u_0(x), \quad v_\mu(x, 0) = \mu v_0(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $u_\lambda(x, t) = \lambda u(x, t)$  and  $v_\mu(x, t) = \mu v(x, t)$ . It is clear that the condition (2) is invariant under such scaling.

If we choose  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  so that the relation  $\alpha_{12}\lambda = \sqrt{8\alpha_{11}\alpha_{21}}\mu$  is valid, then it is observed that

$$(\alpha_{12}\mu^{-1})^2 = 8(\alpha_{11}\lambda^{-1})(\alpha_{21}\lambda^{-1}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\alpha_{21}\lambda^{-1})^2 \leq 8(\alpha_{22}\mu^{-1})(\alpha_{12}\mu^{-1}).$$

So we verify that (2) is essentially equivalent to the stronger conditions

$$(8) \quad 0 < \alpha_{12}^2 \leq 8\alpha_{11}\alpha_{21} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < \alpha_{21}^2 \leq 8\alpha_{22}\alpha_{12}.$$

As a matter of fact, in this subsection, we will assume these relations.

**Proposition 1.** *There exists a continuous increasing function  $p(\cdot)$  such that, for any local solution  $U$  in the space (7) with initial value  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K} \cap H^2(\Omega)$ , it holds that*

$$\|U(t)\|_{H^2} \leq p(\|U_0\|_{H^2}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

We can carry out the proof of this proposition without any change as that of Proposition 4.2 in [3]. So, we will omit the proof.

**3.2. Case when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 0$ .** Let us assume that one of  $\alpha_{12}$  and  $\alpha_{21}$  vanishes, say,  $\alpha_{21} = 0$  and so  $Q(u, v) = Q(v) = bv + \alpha_{22}v^2$ .

**Proposition 2.** *Under the same situation as in Proposition 1, for any local solution  $U$  belonging to the space (7), it holds that*

$$(9) \quad \|U(t)\|_{H^2} \leq p(\|U_0\|_{H^2}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U$$

with some suitable continuous increasing function  $p(\cdot)$ .

*Proof. Step 1.* Integrate the first equation of (1) in  $\Omega$ . Then,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f(u, v) \, dx \leq \int_{\Omega} (cu - \gamma_{11}u^2) \, dx.$$

Since

$$cu - \gamma_{11}u^2 \leq -u + \frac{(c+1)^2}{4\gamma_{11}} \quad \text{for all } u \geq 0,$$

we conclude that

$$(10) \quad \|u(t)\|_{L_1} \leq e^{-t}\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \frac{(c+1)^2}{4\gamma_{11}}|\Omega|, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

In addition, from

$$\|u(t)\|_{L_1} - \|u_0\|_{L_1} = \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} f(u, v) dx ds,$$

it follows that

$$(11) \quad \left| \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} f(u, v) dx ds \right| \leq \|u_0\|_{L_1} + \frac{(c+1)^2}{4\gamma_{11}}|\Omega|, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 2.* Let  $2 < q < \infty$ . Multiply the second equation of (1) by  $qv^{q-1}$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v^q dx = -q(q-1) \int_{\Omega} Q_v v^{q-2} |\nabla v|^2 dx + q \int_{\Omega} g v^{q-1} dx \leq q \int_{\Omega} (d - \gamma_{22}v) v^q dx.$$

Noting that, for example,

$$(d - \gamma_{22}v)v^q \leq -dv^q + \gamma_{22}(2d/\gamma_{22})^{q+1} \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq v < \infty$$

(divide the proof into two cases  $0 \leq v \leq 2d/\gamma_{22}$  and  $2d/\gamma_{22} < v < \infty$ ), we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v^q dx \leq -dq \int_{\Omega} v^q dx + \gamma_{22}q(2d/\gamma_{22})^{q+1}|\Omega|.$$

Therefore,

$$\|v(t)\|_{L_q}^q \leq e^{-dqt} \|v_0\|_{L_q}^q + 2(2d/\gamma_{22})^q |\Omega|$$

and

$$\|v(t)\|_{L_q} \leq 2^{\frac{1}{q}} \{e^{-dt} \|v_0\|_{L_q} + (2d/\gamma_{22})(2|\Omega|)^{\frac{1}{q}}\}.$$

Since  $\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} \|v\|_{L_q} = \|v\|_{L_\infty}$ , we obtain that

$$(12) \quad \|v(t)\|_{L_\infty} \leq e^{-dt} \|v_0\|_{L_\infty} + \frac{2d}{\gamma_{22}}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

As well, since

$$(13) \quad u^2 = \gamma_{11}^{-1} \{cu - \gamma_{12}uv - f(u, v)\},$$

(12) jointed with (10) and (11) yields that

$$(14) \quad \int_0^t \|u(s)\|_{L_2}^2 ds \leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L_\infty})(t+1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 3.* Next, multiply the second equation of (1) by  $\frac{dQ}{dt}$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then, in view of (12),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla Q|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} Q_v v_t^2 dx &= \int_{\Omega} g Q_v v_t dx \leq p(\|v_0\|_{L_\infty}) \int_{\Omega} (u+v+1) |v_t| dx \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2} \int_{\Omega} v_t^2 dx + p(\|v_0\|_{L_\infty}) \int_{\Omega} (u+v+1)^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$(15) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla Q|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} b v_t^2 dx \leq p(\|v_0\|_{L_\infty}) \int_{\Omega} (u^2 + 1) dx.$$

In the meantime, multiply the second equation by  $Q$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then, in view of (10),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \Xi(v(t)) dx + \int_{\Omega} |\nabla Q|^2 dx &= \int_{\Omega} gQ dx \leq p(\|v_0\|_{L^\infty}) \int_{\Omega} (u+1) dx \\ &\leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Xi(v) = \int_0^v Q(v) dv = \frac{b}{2}v^2 + \frac{\alpha_{22}}{3}v^3$ . This differential inequality together with (15) then yields that

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\Xi + |\nabla Q|^2) dx + \int_{\Omega} (\Xi + |\nabla Q|^2) dx + \int_{\Omega} bv_t^2 dx \\ \leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}) \int_{\Omega} (u^2 + 1) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Xi(v(t))\|_{L_1} + \|\nabla Q(v(t))\|_{L_2}^2 &\leq e^{-t} (\|\Xi(v_0)\|_{L_1} + \|\nabla Q(v_0)\|_{H^1}^2) \\ &\quad + p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}) \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} \{\|u(s)\|_{L_2}^2 + 1\} ds. \end{aligned}$$

In view of (11), we can here repeat the same argument as for Lemma ref9:L1 to conclude that

$$(17) \quad \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)} \|u(s)\|_{L_2}^2 ds \leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

Indeed, we verify from (13) that

$$\|u(t)\|_{L_2}^2 \leq -\frac{1}{\gamma_{11}} \int_{\Omega} f(u(t), v(t)) dx + p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

So, the desired estimate (17) is obtained.

In this way, we have concluded that

$$(18) \quad \|Q(v(t))\|_{H^1} \leq C e^{-t} \|Q(v_0)\|_{H^1} + p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U,$$

as well as

$$(19) \quad \int_0^t \|v_t\|_{L_2}^2 ds \leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty})(t+1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

Since  $\nabla v = Q_v^{-1} \nabla Q$ , it follows from (18) that

$$(20) \quad \|v(t)\|_{H^1} \leq C e^{-t} \|Q(v_0)\|_{H^1} + p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 4.* In this Step, we shall use an abbreviated notaion

$$p_1(U_0) = p(\|u_0\|_{L_1} + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty} + \|Q(v_0)\|_{H^1}),$$

where  $p(\cdot)$  is a continuous increasing functions which varies in each occurrence. Introducing a quantity

$$N_{1,\log}(u) = \int_{\Omega} u \log(u+1) dx, \quad 0 \leq u \in L_2(\Omega),$$

we intend to estimate  $N_{1,\log}(u(t))$  for the local solution.

Multiply the first equation of (1) by  $\log(u+1)$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u\} dx + 4 \int_{\Omega} P_u |\nabla \sqrt{u+1}|^2 dx \\ = -\alpha_{12} \int_{\Omega} \{\log(u+1) - u\} \Delta v dx + \int_{\Omega} f \log(u+1) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$-\alpha_{12} \int_{\Omega} \{\log(u+1) - u\} \Delta v dx \leq \zeta \|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^2 + C_{\zeta} \|u\|_{L_2}^2$$

with any  $\zeta > 0$ . Since

$$\Delta v = \frac{\Delta Q - 2\alpha_{22} |\nabla v|^2}{b + 2\alpha_{22} v} = \frac{\Delta Q - 2\alpha_{22} Q_v^{-2} |\nabla Q|^2}{b + 2\alpha_{22} v}, \quad 0 \leq v \in H^2(\Omega),$$

it follows by  $\|u\|_{H^2} \leq C(\|\Delta u\|_{L_2} + \|u\|_{L_2})$ ,  $u \in H_N^2(\Omega)$ , that

$$(21) \quad \|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^2 \leq C(\|\Delta Q\|_{L_2}^2 + \|Q\|_{H^1}^4) \\ \leq C\{\|\Delta Q\|_{L_2}^2(1 + \|Q\|_{H^1}^2) + \|Q\|_{H^1}^4\}, \quad 0 \leq v \in H^2(\Omega).$$

Meanwhile, we have

$$C_{\zeta} \|u\|_{L_2}^2 \leq -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (cu - \gamma_{11} u^2) \log(u+1) dx + \tilde{C}_{\zeta} \|u\|_{L_1}, \quad 0 \leq u \in L_2(\Omega),$$

whatever the parameter  $\zeta$  is, but  $\tilde{C}_{\zeta}$  denotes some constant determined from  $C_{\zeta}$  (and hence from  $\zeta$ ). Hence, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u\} dx + \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u\} dx \\ \leq \zeta C\{\|\Delta Q\|_{L_2}^2(1 + \|Q\|_{H^1}^2) + \|Q\|_{H^1}^4\} + \tilde{C}_{\zeta} \|u\|_{L_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, in view of (10) and (18),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u\} dx + \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u\} dx \\ \leq p_1(U_0)(\zeta \|v_t - g\|_{L_2}^2 + \tilde{C}_{\zeta}). \end{aligned}$$

We then add this to the differential inequality (16) and take  $\zeta$  sufficiently small. Then, it follows that

$$\frac{d\psi_1}{dt} + \psi_1(t) + \frac{b}{2} \int_{\Omega} v_t^2 dx \leq p_1(U_0)(\|u\|_{L_2}^2 + 1),$$

where  $\psi_1(t) = \int_{\Omega} \{(u+1) \log(u+1) - u + \Xi + |\nabla Q|^2\} dx$ . Noting (17), we conclude that

$$\psi_1(t) \leq e^{-t} \psi_1(0) + p_1(U_0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

In particular,

$$(22) \quad N_{1,\log}(u(t)) \leq e^{-t} N_{1,\log}(u_0) + p_1(U_0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 5.* In this Step again, we shall use an abbreviated notaion

$$p_2(U_0) = p(N_{1,\log}(u_0) + \|v_0\|_{L^\infty} + \|Q(v_0)\|_{H^1}),$$

where  $p(\cdot)$  is a continuous increasing function which varies in each occurrence.

Multiply the first equation of (1) by  $u$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} P_u |\nabla u|^2 dx &= - \int_{\Omega} P_v \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} f u dx \\ &= -\alpha_{12} \int_{\Omega} u \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} f u dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here,

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{\Omega} u \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \nabla u^2 \cdot \nabla v dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} u^2 \Delta v dx \\ &\leq C \|u\|_{L^3}^2 \|\Delta v\|_{L^3} \leq \zeta_1 \|\Delta v\|_{L^3}^3 + C_{\zeta_1} \|u\|_{L^3}^3 \end{aligned}$$

with any  $\zeta_1 > 0$ . Furthermore, by (20),

$$\|\Delta v\|_{L^3}^3 \leq C \|\Delta v\|_{H^1} \|\Delta v\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C \|v\|_{H^3}^2 \|v\|_{H^1} \leq p_2(U_0) \|v\|_{H^3}^2.$$

In addition, by eqref0:, (10) and (22),

$$\|u\|_{L^3}^3 \leq \zeta_2 \|u\|_{H^1}^2 N_{1,\log}(u) + C_{\zeta_2} \|u\|_{L^1} \leq p_2(U_0) \{\zeta_2 \|u\|_{H^1}^2 + C_{\zeta_2}\}$$

with any  $\zeta_2 > 0$ . Therefore, it follows that

$$\zeta_1 \|\Delta v\|_{L^3}^3 + C_{\zeta_1} \|u\|_{L^3}^3 \leq p_2(U_0) \{\zeta_1 \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} \zeta_2 \|u\|_{H^1}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} C_{\zeta_2}\}.$$

We hence obtain that

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx + \gamma_{22} \int_{\Omega} u^3 dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} P_u |\nabla u|^2 dx \\ \leq p_2(U_0) \{\zeta_1 \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} \zeta_2 \|u\|_{H^1}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} C_{\zeta_2}\}. \end{aligned}$$

In the meantime, we prepare another differential inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta v|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} Q_v |\nabla \Delta v|^2 dx \\ = -\alpha_{22} \int_{\Omega} (\Delta v \nabla v + \nabla |\nabla v|^2) \cdot \nabla \Delta v dx - \int_{\Omega} \nabla g \cdot \nabla \Delta v dx \\ \leq p_2(U_0) \|v\|_{H^3} \{ \|v\|_{H^3} \|v\|_{H^3} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} + 1 \}. \end{aligned}$$

This equation is indeed obtained by considering the scalar product of the second equation of (1) with  $\Delta^2 v$  in  $H^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega)^*$ . Note that, since  $\Omega$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^3$ ,  $\Delta Q \in H^1(\Omega)$  with  $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial n} = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$  implies  $Q \in H^3(\Omega)$  with the estimate  $\|Q\|_{H^3} \leq C \{ \|\nabla \Delta Q\|_{L^2} + \|Q\|_{H^1} \}$ . Therefore, we have  $v \in \mathcal{C}^1((0, \infty); H^3(\Omega))$ . Note also that  $\Delta^2$  is a bounded operator from  $H^3(\Omega)$  into  $H^1(\Omega)^*$ .

Here,

$$\|v\|_{H^3} \|v\|_{H^3} \|v\|_{H^3} \leq C \|v\|_{H^3}^{\frac{4}{3}} \|v\|_{H^2}^{\frac{4}{3}} \|v\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq \zeta_3 \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta_3} p_2(U_0) \|v\|_{H^2}^4$$

with any  $\zeta_3 > 0$ . And,

$$\|v\|_{H^3} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \zeta_4 \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta_4} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2$$

with any  $\zeta_4 > 0$ . So, taking  $\zeta_3$  and  $\zeta_4$  sufficiently small, we obtain that

$$(24) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta v|^2 dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} Q_v |\nabla \Delta v|^2 dx \leq p_2(U_0) \{ \|\nabla u\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v\|_{H^2}^4 + 1 \}.$$

We multiply a parameter  $\eta > 0$  to the inequality (23) and add the multiplied inequality to (24). Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\eta u^2 + |\Delta v|^2) dx + \gamma_{22} \eta \int_{\Omega} u^3 dx + \int_{\Omega} \{ 2a\eta - p_2(U_0) \} |\nabla u|^2 \\ + 2b |\nabla \Delta v|^2 dx \leq \eta p_2(U_0) \{ \zeta_1 \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} \zeta_2 \|u\|_{H^1}^2 + C_{\zeta_1} C_{\zeta_2} \} + p_2(U_0) \|v\|_{H^2}^4. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\eta$  is fixed in such a way that  $a\eta \geq p_2(U_0)$  and if  $\zeta_1$  and then  $\zeta_2$  are taken sufficiently small, then it is verified that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\eta u^2 + |\Delta v|^2) dx + \gamma_{22} \eta \int_{\Omega} u^3 dx + \int_{\Omega} (a\eta |\nabla u|^2 + b |\nabla \Delta v|^2) dx \\ \leq p_2(U_0) (\|v\|_{H^2}^4 + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, in view of (21),

$$\begin{aligned} \|v\|_{H^2}^4 \leq C (\|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^4 + \|v\|_{L_2}^4) \leq p_2(U_0) (\|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L_2}^2 + 1) \\ \leq p_2(U_0) \{ \|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^2 (\|v_t\|_{L_2}^2 + \|u\|_{L_2}^2 + 1) + 1 \}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (\eta u^2 + |\Delta v|^2) dx + \gamma_{22} \eta \int_{\Omega} u^3 dx + \int_{\Omega} (a\eta |\nabla u|^2 + b |\nabla \Delta v|^2) dx \\ \leq p_2(U_0) \{ \|\Delta v\|_{L_2}^2 (\|u\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_t\|_{L_2}^2 + 1) + 1 \}. \end{aligned}$$

We add this inequality to the following one

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \xi |\nabla Q|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} \xi p(U_0)^{-1} |\Delta v|^2 dx \leq p_2(U_0) \xi (\|u\|_{L_2}^2 + 1)$$

which is obtained from (15) (due to (21)) after some calculations and multiplication of a parameter  $\xi > 0$ . Then,

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \psi_2(t) + \xi p_2(U_0)^{-1} \psi_2(t) + \int_{\Omega} (a\eta |\nabla u|^2 + b |\nabla \Delta v|^2) dx \\ \leq p_2(U_0) \{ \|\Delta v(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_t(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + 1 \} \psi_2(t) + C_{\xi}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi_2(t) = \eta \|u(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + \xi \|\nabla Q(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|\Delta v(t)\|_{L_2}^2$ . Here, we used a fact that the estimate

$$\{ p_2(U_0) + p_2(U_0)^{-1} \} \xi u^2 \leq \gamma_{22} \eta u^3 + C_{\xi} p_2(U_0) \quad \text{for all } u \geq 0$$

holds, whatever the parameter  $\xi > 0$  is, with some constant  $C_{\xi} > 0$ .

Solving (25), we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_2(t) \leq e^{\int_0^t [p_2(U_0) \{ \|u(s)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_s(s)\|_{L_2}^2 + 1 \} - p_2(U_0)^{-1} \xi] ds} \psi_2(0) \\ + C_{\xi} p_2(U_0) \int_0^t e^{\int_s^t [p_2(U_0) \{ \|u(\tau)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_{\tau}(\tau)\|_{L_2}^2 + 1 \} - p_2(U_0)^{-1} \xi] d\tau} ds. \end{aligned}$$



Moreover, by (14) and (19) (especially applying these estimates by substituting  $s$  for 0 and substituting  $u(s)$  and  $v(s)$  for  $u_0$  and  $v_0$ , respectively),

$$\psi_2(t) \leq p_2(U_0)e^{(p_2(U_0)-p_2(U_0)^{-1}\xi)t}\psi(0) + C_\xi p_2(U_0) \int_0^t e^{\{p_2(U_0)-p_2(U_0)^{-1}\xi\}(t-s)} ds.$$

It is here possible to fix the parameter  $\xi$  in such a way that  $p_2(U_0) - p_2(U_0)^{-1}\xi \leq -1$ . It then follows that  $\psi_2(t) \leq p_2(U_0)\{e^{-t}\psi_2(0) + 1\}$ . In particular,

$$\|u(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|\Delta v(t)\|_{L_2}^2 \leq p_2(U_0)\{e^{-t}(\|u_0\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_0\|_{H^2}^2) + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

In view of (20),

$$(26) \quad \|u(t)\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v(t)\|_{H^2}^2 \leq p_2(U_0)\{e^{-t}(\|u_0\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_0\|_{H^2}^2) + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

It is as well obtained from (25) that

$$(27) \quad \int_0^t \{\|u(s)\|_{H^1}^2 + \|v(s)\|_{H^3}^2\} ds \leq p(\|u_0\|_{L_2} + \|v_0\|_{H^2})(t+1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 6.* In this Step, we shall use a notation

$$p_3(U_0) = p(\|u_0\|_{L_2} + \|v_0\|_{H^2}),$$

where  $p(\cdot)$  is a similar continuous increasing function as before.

Multiply the first equation of (1) by  $u^3$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then,

$$\frac{1}{4} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u^4 dx + \int_{\Omega} 3P_u u^2 |\nabla u|^2 dx = - \int_{\Omega} 3u^2 P_v \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\Omega} f u^3 dx.$$

Here,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u^3 \|\nabla u\| \|\nabla v\| dx &\leq \int_{\Omega} u^2 |u \nabla u| \|\nabla v\|_{L^\infty} dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} (\zeta u^2 |\nabla u|^2 + C_\zeta \zeta' \|\nabla v\|_{L^\infty}^{12} + C_\zeta C_{\zeta'} u^{\frac{24}{5}}) dx \end{aligned}$$

with any  $\zeta > 0$  and  $\zeta' > 0$ . In addition,  $\|\nabla v\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|\nabla v\|_{H^{13/12}} \leq C\|v\|_{H^3}^{1/12} \|v\|_{H^2}^{11/12}$ . Therefore, if the parameter  $\zeta$  is fixed sufficiently small, then

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u^4 dx + \int_{\Omega} u^4 dx + \int_{\Omega} a u^2 |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq p_3(U_0)\{\zeta' \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + \tilde{C}_{\zeta'}\}.$$

We here used a fact that

$$C_{\zeta'} u^{\frac{24}{5}} + u^4 + cu \leq \gamma_{11} u^5 + \tilde{C}_{\zeta'}, \quad u \geq 0,$$

whatever the parameter  $\zeta' > 0$  is, where  $\tilde{C}_{\zeta'} > 0$  is another constant depending on  $\zeta'$ .

We add this differential inequality to (25). Taking  $\zeta'$  sufficiently small, we obtain that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \psi_3(t) + \delta_1 \psi_3(t) + \int_{\Omega} a u^2 |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq p_3(U_0),$$

where  $\psi_3(t) = \psi_2(t) + \|u(t)\|_{L_4}^4$ , with some positive exponent  $\delta_1 > 0$ . Hence,

$$\psi_3(t) \leq p_3(U_0)\{e^{-\delta_1 t} \psi_3(0) + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

In particular,

$$(28) \quad \|u(t)\|_{L_4}^4 \leq p_3(U_0)\{e^{-\delta_1 t} \|u_0\|_{L_4}^4 + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

Step 7. We shall use the following notation

$$p_4(U_0) = p(\|u_0\|_{L_4} + \|v_0\|_{H^2}).$$

Our goal of the present step is to estimate the norm  $\|u(t)\|_{H^1}$  for the local solution.

Multiply the first equation of (1) by  $\frac{d}{dt}P(u, v) = P_u u_t + P_v v_t$  and integrate the product in  $\Omega$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla P|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} P_u u_t^2 dx &= - \int_{\Omega} P_v u_t v_t dx \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} f \{P_u u_t + P_v v_t\} dx \leq C \int_{\Omega} \{u|u_t||v_t| + (u^3 + v^3)(|u_t| + |v_t|)\} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here, in view of (28),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u|u_t||v_t| dx &\leq \|u\|_{L_4} \|u_t\|_{L_2} \|v_t\|_{L_4} \leq C \|u\|_{L_4} \|u_t\|_{L_2} \|v_t\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq p_4(U_0) \|u_t\|_{L_2} \|\Delta Q + g\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq p_4(U_0) \|u_t\|_{L_2} (\|v\|_{H^3} + \|u\|_{H^1} + 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \frac{a}{8} \|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + p_4(U_0) (\|u\|_{H^1} + \|v\|_{H^3} + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u^3 |u_t| dx &\leq \|u\|_{L_6}^3 \|u_t\|_{L_2} \leq \|u\|_{H^1} \|u\|_{L_4}^2 \|u_t\|_{L_2} \\ &\leq p_4(U_0) \|u\|_{H^1} \|u_t\|_{L_2} \leq \frac{a}{8} \|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + p_4(U_0) \|u\|_{H^1}^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\int_{\Omega} u^3 |v_t| dx \leq \|u\|_{L_6}^3 \|v_t\|_{L_2} \leq p_4(U_0) \|u\|_{H^1}.$$

Furthermore, it is immediate from  $\nabla P(u, v) = P_u \nabla u + P_v \nabla v$  to see that

$$(29) \quad \|\nabla u\|_{L_2} \leq C \{ \|\nabla P\|_{L_2} + \|u\|_{L_4} \|v\|_{H^2} \}, \quad 0 \leq u, v \in H^2(\Omega).$$

In addition,

$$\|\nabla P\|_{L_2}^2 \leq \zeta \|\Delta P\|_{L_2}^2 + C_{\zeta} \|P\|_{L_2}^2, \quad P \in H_N^2(\Omega),$$

with any  $\zeta > 0$ . Hence, it is obtained that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla P|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} |\nabla P|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} a |\Delta P|^2 dx &\leq p_4(U_0) (\|v\|_{H^3} + 1) \\ &\leq \zeta' \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + C_{\zeta'} p_4(U_0) \end{aligned}$$

with any  $\zeta' > 0$ .

We add this differential inequality to (25). If the parameter  $\zeta'$  is fixed sufficiently small, then

$$(30) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \psi_4(t) + \delta_2 \psi_4(t) + \int_{\Omega} a |\Delta P|^2 dx \leq p_4(U_0),$$

where  $\psi_4(t) = \psi_2(t) + \|\nabla P(t)\|_{L_2}^2$ , with some positive exponent  $\delta_2 > 0$ . Hence,

$$(31) \quad \|P(u(t), v(t))\|_{H^1}^2 \leq p_4(U_0) \{e^{-\delta_2 t} \|P(u_0, v_0)\|_{H^1}^2 + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

By (29),

$$(32) \quad \|u(t)\|_{H^1}^2 \leq p_4(U_0) \{e^{-\delta_2 t} \|P(u_0, v_0)\|_{H^1}^2 + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

It is as well obtained that

$$(33) \quad \int_0^t \|P\|_{H^2}^2 ds \leq p(\|P(u_0, v_0)\|_{H^1} + \|v_0\|_{H^2})(t+1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

*Step 8.* We shall use the following notation

$$p_5(U_0) = p(\|P(u_0, v_0)\|_{H^1} + \|v_0\|_{H^2}).$$

We will use (5). Namely, differentiate the first equation of (1) in  $t$  and consider the scalar product with  $u_t$  in  $H^1(\Omega)^* \times H^1(\Omega)$ . From (5) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} P_u |\nabla u_t|^2 &\leq \alpha_{12} \int_{\Omega} u |\nabla u_t| |\nabla v_t| dx + C \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u| + |\nabla v|) \\ &\quad \times (|u_t| + |v_t|) |\nabla u_t| dx + C \int_{\Omega} (u + v + 1)(u_t^2 + v_t^2) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here,

$$\int_{\Omega} u |\nabla u_t| |\nabla v_t| dx \leq \|u\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2} \|\nabla v_t\|_{L_2} \leq \zeta \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + C_\zeta \|u\|_{H^2}^2 \|\nabla v_t\|_{L_2}^2$$

with any  $\zeta > 0$ . In addition, by Lemma 1 which is presented below,

$$\|u\|_{H^2} \leq p_5(U_0) (\|\Delta P\|_{L_2} + 1) \leq p_5(U_0) (\|u_t\|_{L_2} + 1)$$

and, by a direct calculation,

$$\|\nabla v_t\|_{L_2} \leq \|\nabla(\Delta Q + g)\|_{L_2} \leq p_5(U_0) (\|v\|_{H^3} + 1).$$

Similarly, by Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u| + |\nabla v|) (|u_t| + |v_t|) |\nabla u_t| dx &\leq (\|\nabla u\|_{L_4} + \|\nabla v\|_{L_4}) (\|u_t\|_{L_4} + \|v_t\|_{L_4}) \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2} \\ &\leq (\|u\|_{H^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|v\|_{H^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}}) (\|u_t\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|v_t\|_{H^1}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|v_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}}) \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2} \\ &\leq p_5(U_0) (\|u_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1) (\|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u_t\|_{L_2}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|u_t\|_{L_2} + \|v\|_{H^3}^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1) \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2} \\ &\leq \zeta \|\nabla u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + C_\zeta p_5(U_0) \|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 (\|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + 1) \end{aligned}$$

with any  $\zeta > 0$ . Finally,

$$\int_{\Omega} (u + v + 1)(u_t^2 + v_t^2) dx \leq \|u + v + 1\|_{L^\infty} (\|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + \|v_t\|_{L_2}^2) \leq p_5(U_0) (\|u_t\|_{L_2}^3 + 1).$$

Hence, it is verified that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u_t^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} a |\nabla u_t|^2 dx \leq p_5(U_0) (\|u_t\|_{L_2}^2 + 1) (\|P\|_{H^2}^2 + \|v\|_{H^3}^2 + 1).$$

We add this differential inequality to (30) after multiplying both sides of (30) by a parameter  $\xi > 0$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\psi_5(t) + a\xi\psi_5(t) + \int_{\Omega} a|\nabla u_t|^2 dx \\ \leq p_5(U_0)\{(\|P(u(t), v(t))\|_{H^2}^2 + \|v(t)\|_{H^3}^2 + 1)\psi_5(t) + C_{\xi}\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi_5(t) = \|u_t(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 1 + \xi\psi_4(t)$ . Solving this differential inequality, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_5(t) \leq e^{\int_0^t [p_5(U_0)\{\|P(u(s), v(s))\|_{H^2}^2 + \|v(s)\|_{H^3}^2 + 1\} - a\xi] ds} \psi_5(0) \\ + C_{\xi} p_5(U_0) \int_0^t e^{\int_s^t [p_5(U_0)\{\|P(u(\tau), v(\tau))\|_{H^2}^2 + \|v(\tau)\|_{H^3}^2 + 1\} - a\xi] d\tau} ds. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by (27) and (33) (which are used by substituting  $s$  for 0 and substituting  $u(s)$  and  $v(s)$  for  $u_0$  and  $v_0$ , respectively),

$$\psi_5(t) \leq p_5(U_0) e^{\{p_5(U_0) - a\xi\}t} \psi_5(0) + C_{\xi} p_5(U_0) \int_0^t e^{\{p_5(U_0) - a\xi\}(t-\tau)} ds.$$

If the parameter  $\xi$  is fixed in such a way that  $p_5(U_0) - a\xi \leq -1$ , then

$$\psi_5(t) \leq p_5(U_0)\{e^{-t}\|u_0\|_{H^2}^2 + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

Hence, by Lemma 1 again, we conclude that

$$(34) \quad \|u(t)\|_{H^2}^2 \leq p_5(U_0)\{e^{-t}\|u_0\|_{H^2}^2 + 1\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

It is as well obtained that

$$\int_0^t \|\nabla u_t\|_{L^2}^2 ds \leq p(\|u_0\|_{H^2} + \|v_0\|_{H^2})(t+1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U.$$

Thus, we have established the desired estimate (9).  $\square$

**Lemma 1.** For  $0 \leq u, v \in H^2(\Omega)$  with  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , it holds that

$$(35) \quad \|u\|_{H^2} \leq C(\|P\|_{H^1}^2 + \|v\|_{H^2}^2 + 1)(\|\Delta P\|_{L^2} + \|P\|_{L^2}).$$

*Proof of Lemma.* We know that  $\|u\|_{H^2} \leq C(\|\Delta u\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{L^2})$ . By a direct calculation, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u = P_u^{-1}[\Delta P - P_{uu}P_u^{-2}|\nabla P|^2 + 2P_u^{-1}\{P_{uv}P_vP_u^{-1} - P_{vv}\}\nabla P \cdot \nabla v \\ + P_vP_u^{-1}\{2P_{uv} - P_{uu}P_vP_u^{-1}\}|\nabla v|^2]. \end{aligned}$$

Then the desired estimate (35) is verified by the similar arguments as in the proof of Lemma 4.3 in [3].  $\square$

Let us apply (10) and (12) in  $[0, \frac{t}{7}]$ , (18) in  $[\frac{t}{7}, \frac{2t}{7}]$ , (22) in  $[\frac{2t}{7}, \frac{3t}{7}]$ , (26) in  $[\frac{3t}{7}, \frac{4t}{7}]$ , (28) in  $[\frac{4t}{7}, \frac{5t}{7}]$ , (32) in  $[\frac{5t}{7}, \frac{6t}{7}]$  and (34) in  $[\frac{6t}{7}, t]$ , respectively. Then we verify that

$$(36) \quad \|U(t)\|_{H^2} \leq p(e^{-\delta t}p(\|U_0\|_{H^2}) + 1), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T_U$$

choosing some continuous increasing functions  $p(\cdot)$ 's and an exponent  $\delta > 0$  suitably.

#### 4. GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

By Proposition 1 and Proposition 2, the global existence of solution is deduced. Indeed, we know that, for any initial value  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ , there exists a nonnegative local solution at least on some interval  $[0, T_U]$ . Let  $0 < t_1 < T_U$ . Then,  $U_1 \in [H_N^2(\Omega)]^2$ . We next consider the problem (1) but with the initial value  $U_1$  in the ball  $K_R$  of  $Z$ , where  $R = p(\|U_1\|_{H^2})$ . Proposition 1 when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} > 0$  and Proposition 2 when  $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 0$  ensure that any local solution starting from  $U_1$  stays at any time in  $K_R$ . In addition, any local solution  $U$  on  $[0, T_U]$  starting from  $U_1$  can be extended over an interval  $[0, T_U + \tau]$  as local solution,  $\tau > 0$  being dependent only on  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_U} \|U(t)\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}}$  and hence being independent of the extreme time  $T_U$ . This means that the problem (1) with the initial value  $U_1$  possesses a unique global solution on the whole interval  $[0, \infty)$ .

We have thus deduced that, for any initial value  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ , there exists a unique global solution to (1) in the function space

$$(37) \quad 0 \leq u, v \in \mathcal{C}((0, \infty); H_N^2(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}([0, \infty); H^{1+\varepsilon}(\Omega)) \\ \cap \mathcal{C}^1((0, \infty); H^{2\theta}(\Omega)) \cap \mathcal{C}^2((0, \infty); H^1(\Omega)^*), \quad 0 \leq \theta < 1.$$

It is as well obtained that, there exist continuous increasing functions  $p(\cdot)$ 's and a positive exponent  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$(38) \quad \|U(t)\|_{H^2} \leq p\left(t^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{2}} e^{-\delta t} p(\|U_0\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}}) + 1\right), \quad 0 < t < \infty; U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$$

are valid for all global solutions. As well,

$$(39) \quad \|U(t)\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}} \leq p(\|U_0\|_{H^{1+\varepsilon}}), \quad 0 < t < \infty; U_0 \in \mathcal{K}.$$

#### 5. DYNAMICAL SYSTEM

**5.1. Construction of dynamical system.** Let us construct a dynamical system from the problem (1) on  $\mathcal{K}$  in the universal space  $L_2(\Omega)$ . We already know that, for any  $U_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ , (1) possesses a unique global solution  $U(t; U_0)$  in the function space (37). By  $S(t)U_0 = U(t; U_0)$ , we define a nonlinear semigroup  $S(t)$  acting on  $\mathcal{K}$ .

As for the continuity of  $S(t)$ , we only know that  $S(t)$  is continuous with respect to the  $L_2$  topology in each bounded subset of  $\mathcal{K}$ , namely, by (6),

$$(40) \quad \|S(t)U_0 - S(t)V_0\|_{L_2} \leq L_{p(\tilde{R})}^{n+1} \|U_0 - V_0\|_{L_2}, \\ t \in [n\tau_{p(\tilde{R})}, (n+1)\tau_{p(\tilde{R})}); U_0, V_0 \in \mathcal{K}_{\tilde{R}}; n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Indeed, when  $n = 0$ , this is observed directly from (6). For general  $n$ , this is proved by induction on  $n$  in view of the fact (39).

We are then led to introduce a subset

$$\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}} = \bigcup_{U_0 \in \mathcal{K}_{\tilde{R}}} \{S(t)U_0; 0 \leq t < \infty\}, \quad 0 < \tilde{R} < \infty.$$

Obviously,  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}}$  is an invariant set of  $S(t)$  and  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}} \subset \mathcal{K}_{p(\tilde{R})}$  due to (39). By the same reason as for (40), we have

$$\|S(t)U_0 - S(t)V_0\|_{L_2} \leq L_{p(\tilde{R})}^{n+1} \|U_0 - V_0\|_{L_2},$$

$$t \in [n\tau_{p(\tilde{R})}, (n+1)\tau_{p(\tilde{R})}); U_0, V_0 \in \mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}}; n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

This together with the fact that  $S(\cdot)U_0 \in \mathcal{C}([0, \infty); X)$  yields that  $S(t)$  is a continuous semigroup on  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}}$  in the topology of  $L_2(\Omega)$ .

Thus, Problem (1) determines a dynamical system  $(S(t), \mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}}, L_2(\Omega))$  for each  $0 < \tilde{R} < \infty$ .

**5.2. Compact absorbing set.** We shall show existence of a compact absorbing set for the semigroup  $S(t)$ .

We notice that (38) implies the following fact. For any  $0 < r < \infty$ , there exists a time  $t_r > 0$  such that

$$S(t)(\mathcal{K} \cap \overline{B}^{H^{1+\varepsilon}}(0; r)) \subset \mathcal{K} \cap \overline{B}^{H^2}(0; p(1) + 1) \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_r.$$

These in fact show that the set  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{K} \cap \overline{B}^{H^2}(0; p(1) + 1)$  is an absorbing set of  $S(t)$ , namely, for any bounded subset  $B$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ , there exists a time  $t_B$  such that  $S(t)B \subset \mathcal{B}$  for all  $t \geq t_B$ . Obviously,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a bounded subset of  $H^2(\Omega)$  and is a compact subset of  $L_2(\Omega)$ .

**5.3. Exponential attractors.** We set

$$\mathcal{X} = \overline{\bigcup_{t_B \leq t < \infty} S(t)\mathcal{B}} \subset \mathcal{B} \quad (\text{closure in the space } L_2(\Omega)),$$

where  $t_B > 0$  is a time on which  $\mathcal{B}$  is absorbed into itself. Then,  $\mathcal{X}$  is seen to be an absorbing and invariant set of  $S(t)$ . Therefore, the asymptotic behavior of any dynamical system  $(S(t), \mathcal{X}_{\tilde{R}}, L_2(\Omega))$  is reduced to that of the smaller dynamical system  $(S(t), \mathcal{X}, L_2(\Omega))$  in which  $\mathcal{X}$  is a compact subset of  $L_2(\Omega)$  and is a bounded subset of  $H^2(\Omega)$ .

In order to construct exponential attractors for  $(S(t), \mathcal{X}, L_2(\Omega))$ , it is now ready to follow the general procedure which has been described in Section 5 of [1]. Hence, we can construct a family of exponential attractors.

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