

GEVREY REGULARITY OF CERTAIN SOLUTIONS TO THE CAHN-HILLIARD EQUATION WITH ROUGH INITIAL DATA*

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Abstract. In this article we consider the problem of local Gevrey regularity of periodic solutions to the Cahn-Hilliard equation with initial data in a space of distributions. The method presented in this paper is based on the analysis of the Navier-Stokes system presented in [2] and makes use of a convolution inequality due to Kerman [3].

Key words. Cahn-Hilliard equation, Gevrey regularity.

AMS subject classifications. 35Q35, 35B65, 35K35.

1. Introduction. The Cahn-Hilliard equation we shall study is

$$(1.1) \quad u_t = -\Delta^2 u - \alpha \Delta u + \beta \Delta(u^3), \quad x \in \Omega = [0, L]^n, \quad t > 0,$$

$$(1.2) \quad u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega,$$

where $\alpha \geq 0$, and $\beta > 0$ and u satisfies a periodic boundary condition on $\partial\Omega$. We assume for simplicity that $L = 2\pi$.

We let $\phi_k, k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, denote the k^{th} Fourier mode of a space periodic function ϕ , so that ϕ may be identified with its Fourier series

$$\phi \sim \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \phi_k e^{ikx}.$$

The sequence of Fourier coefficients of ϕ is denoted by $\vec{\phi} = \{\phi_k\}$. Equation (1.1) may be cast as an infinite dimensional complex-valued dynamical system taking the form

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_k = -|k|^4 u_k + \alpha |k|^2 u_k - \beta B[\vec{u}]_k, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}^n,$$

where $B[\vec{u}] = B[\vec{u}, \vec{u}, \vec{u}]$ is a trilinear term satisfying

$$(1.4) \quad B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]_k = |k|^2 \sum_j \sum_h u_j v_h w_{k-j-h}.$$

We denote by A the operator $\vec{v} \mapsto A\vec{v}$ given by $(A\vec{v})_k = |k|^2 v_k$, so that the system (1.1)–(1.2) takes the form

$$(1.5) \quad \vec{u}_t = -A^2 \vec{u} + \alpha A \vec{u} - \beta B[\vec{u}].$$

$$(1.6) \quad \vec{u}(0) = \vec{u}_0.$$

2. Main result.

DEFINITION 2.1. We denote by V the vector space of all complex valued sequences $\vec{v} = \{v_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^n}$ defined on \mathbb{Z}^n . Given $\vec{v} \in V, \lambda \geq 0, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$, and $1 \leq p < \infty$ we define

$$\|\vec{v}\|_{\lambda, \theta, p} = \left(\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{\lambda p |k|} (1 + |k|)^{\theta p} |v_k|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

*Received January 19, 2012; accepted for publication June 11, 2012.

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and

$$V_{\lambda,\theta,p} = V \cap \{\vec{v} : \|\vec{v}\|_{\lambda,\theta,p} < \infty\}.$$

In case $\lambda = 0$ we write $\|\vec{v}\|_{\theta,p}$ and $V_{\theta,p}$ in place of $\|\vec{v}\|_{0,\theta,p}$ and $V_{0,\theta,p}$, respectively. $V_{\lambda,\theta,p}$ is a Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|_{\lambda,\theta,p}$. We denote by \dot{V} the vector space

$$\dot{V} = V \cap \{\vec{v} : v_0 = 0\}$$

and define

$$\dot{V}_{\lambda,\theta,p} = \dot{V} \cap V_{\lambda,\theta,p}.$$

For any $\vec{v} \in \dot{V}_{\lambda,\theta,p}$ the norms

$$\|\vec{v}\|_{\lambda,\theta,p} \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{\lambda p|k|} |k|^{\theta p} |v_k|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

are equivalent.

DEFINITION 2.2. A **mild solution** to equation (1.1) with initial data in $\dot{V}_{\theta,p}$ is a map $\vec{u}(\cdot) \in C([0, T]; \dot{V}_{\theta,p})$ satisfying

$$(2.1) \quad \vec{u}(t) = e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{u}_0 - \beta \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)(A^2 - \alpha A)} B[\vec{u}(s)] ds, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

for some $T > 0$. A mild solution \vec{u} is said to be **Gevrey regular** if, in addition to satisfying (2.1), there exists $\lambda > 0$ with the property that

$$(2.2) \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta, p} < \infty.$$

THEOREM 2.3. *Let $1 < p < \infty$, let $\theta = \frac{n}{p'} - 1$ where $p' = p/(p-1)$, and let $\lambda > 0$. Then*

1. *For any $T > 0$ there exists a solution $\vec{u} \in C([0, T]; V_{\theta,p})$ to (2.1) satisfying (2.2) provided that $\beta > 0$ is sufficiently small.*
2. *For any $\beta > 0$ there exist $T > 0$ and a solution $\vec{u} \in C([0, T]; V_{\theta,p})$ to (2.1) satisfying (2.2).*

It is well-known that weak solutions to (1.1) exist for all times $T > 0$ provided that the initial data belongs to $L^2(\Omega)$, cf. [5, Ch. III, Theorem 4.2]. Solutions in the sense of (2.1) are known to exist for initial data in $V_{2,2}$, cf. [4, Lemma 55.3]. In case $n = 1, 2, 3$ the initial data spaces allowed in Theorem 2.3 allow for rougher initial data than the classical existence theory. Recently Biswas and Bae [1] obtained general estimates which when $p = 2$ yield Theorem 2.3 as a special case. The result presented in this paper is valid for general p and is based on the analysis of convolution inequalities rather than methods of harmonic analysis.

To prove Theorem 2.3 we let $T > 0$ and fix a parameter $\gamma > 0$ satisfying

$$(2.3) \quad \min \left\{ 1 - \frac{2n}{3p'}, 1 - \frac{n}{3p'} - \frac{n}{3p} \right\} < \gamma < 1$$

where p' denotes the Hölder conjugate of p . We employ the path space

$$E = C([0, T]; \dot{V}_{\theta,p}) \cap \left\{ \vec{u} : \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta, p} < \infty \right\} \cap \left\{ \vec{u} : \sup_{0 < t \leq T} t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta + \gamma, p} < \infty \right\}$$

with norm

$$\|\vec{u}(\cdot)\|_E = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta, p} + \sup_{0 < t \leq T} t^{\frac{1}{4}} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta + 1, p}.$$

We will obtain a solution to (2.1), (2.2) by showing that for $\vec{u}_0 \in V_{\theta,p}$ the map $t \mapsto e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{u}_0$ belongs to E and that the trilinear functional S on $E \times E \times E$ defined by

$$(2.4) \quad S(\vec{u}(t), \vec{v}(t), \vec{w}(t)) = \beta \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)(A^2 - \alpha A)} B[\vec{u}(s), \vec{v}(s), \vec{w}(s)] ds$$

is bounded from $E \times E \times E$ to E .

3. Estimate on the linear term. Define

$$(3.1) \quad \kappa = \kappa_{\alpha, \lambda} = - \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}x^4 - \alpha x^2 - \lambda x : x \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

We will show that for $\vec{u}_0 \in \dot{V}_{\theta,p}$ the map $t \mapsto e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{u}_0$ belongs to E . We make repeated use of the elementary inequality

$$(3.2) \quad e^{-atx^4} x^b \leq C_{a,b} t^{-\frac{b}{4}}, \quad a, b, t, x > 0.$$

PROPOSITION 3.1. *If $\vec{v} \in \dot{V}_{\theta,p}$, then $t \mapsto e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}$ belongs to E .*

Proof. Let $\vec{v} \in \dot{V}_{\theta,p}$. Equation (3.1) implies

$$\|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}\|_{\lambda t, \theta, p}^p = \sum_k e^{\lambda p t |k|} e^{-p t (|k|^4 - \alpha |k|^2)} |k|^{\theta p} |v_k|^p \leq e^{p \kappa t} \sum_k e^{-\frac{p}{2} t |k|^4} |k|^{\theta p} |v_k|^p$$

so that

$$(3.3) \quad \|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}\|_{\theta, p} \leq e^{\kappa t} \|\vec{v}\|_{\theta, p}$$

for all $0 \leq t \leq T$. Similarly, equations (3.1) and (3.2) imply

$$\|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}\|_{\lambda t, \theta + \gamma, p}^p \leq e^{p \kappa t} \sum_k e^{-\frac{p}{2} t |k|^4} |k|^{\theta + \gamma} |v_k|^p \leq C_{\gamma, p} e^{p \kappa t} t^{-\frac{p \gamma}{4}} \sum_k |k|^{\theta p} |v_k|^p$$

so that

$$(3.4) \quad t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}\|_{\theta + \gamma, p} \leq C_{\gamma, p} e^{\kappa t} \|\vec{v}\|_{\theta, p}$$

for all $0 < t \leq T$. Finally we may combine the estimates (3.3) and (3.4) to obtain $\|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{v}\|_E < \infty$. \square

4. Weighted convolution inequalities. The analysis of the nonlinear term will be based on the following convolution theorem due to Kerman [3].

THEOREM 4.1. *Assume that $1 < p, q, r < \infty$ and that the following eight conditions hold:*

1. $\gamma = \alpha + \beta + n \left(\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{r} - 1 \right)$,
2. $\frac{1}{r} \leq \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q}$,
3. $\alpha < \frac{n}{p'}$
4. $\beta < \frac{n}{q'}$
5. $\gamma > -\frac{n}{r}$,
6. $\alpha + \beta \geq 0$,
7. $\alpha \geq \gamma$,
8. $\beta \geq \gamma$.

Then

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f * g(x)|^r |x|^{\gamma r} dx \right)^{1/r} \leq C \left(\int |f(x)|^p |x|^{\alpha p} \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |g(x)|^q |x|^{\beta q} dx \right)^{1/q}$$

for all measurable f and g , where C does not depend on either f or g .

Our primary interest is in the case $p = q = r$ and the corresponding inequality

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f * g(x)|^p |x|^{\gamma p} dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C \left(\int |f(x)|^p |x|^{\alpha p} \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |g(x)|^p |x|^{\beta p} dx \right)^{1/p}.$$

In this case, condition (2) is superfluous and conditions (7) and (8) are implied by conditions (1), (3), and (4). From now on we denote by $C_{a,b,\dots}$ a constant whose precise value depends only on a, b, \dots . The preceding remarks are summarized in the following theorem:

THEOREM 4.2. *Let $1 < p < \infty$. If $\alpha, \beta < \frac{n}{p'}$, $\alpha + \beta \geq 0$, and $\alpha + \beta > \frac{n}{p'} - \frac{n}{p}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f * g(x)|^p |x|^{(\alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p'})p} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ \leq C_{\alpha, \beta, n, p} \left(\int |f(x)|^p |x|^{\alpha p} \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |g(x)|^p |x|^{\beta p} dx \right)^{1/p} \end{aligned}$$

for all measurable functions f and g .

The convolution of two sequences $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ is given by

$$(\vec{u} * \vec{v})_k = \sum_h u_{k-h} v_h$$

whenever the sum is convergent. Theorem 4.2 will be used to prove the following inequality in weighted sequence spaces.

THEOREM 4.3. *Under the same hypotheses as Theorem 4.2 we have that*

$$\|\vec{u} * \vec{v}\|_{\alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p'}, p} \leq C_{\alpha, \beta, n, p} \|\vec{u}\|_{\alpha, p} \|\vec{v}\|_{\beta, p}$$

for all $\vec{u} \in V_{\alpha,p}$ and $\vec{v} \in V_{\beta,p}$.

Proof. For each $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ we denote by Q_k the open n -cube in \mathbb{R}^n with edges parallel to the coordinate axes, sidelength one, and center k . Two cubes Q_k and Q_l are said to be adjacent if $|k - l|_\infty = 1$. First we observe that if $t > -n$ then

$$(4.1) \quad \int_{Q_k} |x|^t dx \approx (1 + |k|)^t.$$

If $k \neq 0$, then $|x| \geq C_n$ for all $x \in Q_k$. In this instance we have

$$|x| \leq |x - k| + |k| \leq C_n(1 + |k|)$$

and

$$|k| \leq |x - k| + |x| \leq C_n|x|,$$

hence

$$1 + |k| \leq C_n|x|.$$

Since

$$\int_{Q_k} (1 + |k|)^t dx = (1 + |k|)^t$$

the equivalence (4.1) is valid for any real t . On the other hand, if $k = 0$, then

$$\int_{Q_0} |x|^t dx = C_{n,t}$$

provided that $t > -n$, establishing (4.1). Now let us examine the structure of the convolution. Let $\gamma = \alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p}$. Since $\gamma p > -n$ we have

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\vec{u} * \vec{v}\|_{\gamma,p}^p &= \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\gamma p} |(\vec{u} * \vec{v})_k|^p \\ &\leq \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\gamma p} \left(\sum_h |u_h| |v_{k-h}| \right)^p \\ &\lesssim \sum_k \int_{Q_k} |x|^{\gamma p} \left(\sum_h |u_h| |v_{k-h}| \right)^p dx. \end{aligned}$$

Define functions $f, g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$f(x) = |u_x|, \quad g(x) = |v_x|, \quad x \in Q_k.$$

Fix $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. Then

$$\sum_h |u_h| |v_{k-h}| = \sum_h \int_{Q_h} f(y) |v_{k-h}| dy.$$

Note that $y \in Q_h$ if and only if $k - y \in Q_{k-h}$. Therefore $g(k - y) = |v_{k-h}|$ for all $y \in Q_h$ and

$$\sum_h \int_{Q_h} f(y) |v_{k-h}| dy = \sum_h \int_{Q_h} f(y) g(k - y) dy.$$

Now let $x \in Q_k$. If $y \in Q_h$, then $k - y$ and $x - y$ belong to adjacent n -cubes. Thus there exists $j \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ with $|j|_\infty \leq 1$ such that $g(k - y) = g(x + j - y)$. It follows that

$$g(k - y) \leq \sum_{|j|_\infty \leq 1} g(x + j - y)$$

and consequently

$$(4.3) \quad \sum_h |u_h| |v_{k-h}| \leq \sum_{|j| \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) g(x + j - y) dy, \quad x \in Q_k.$$

Denote by τ_z the translation operator given by $(\tau_z \psi)(y) = \psi(y - z)$, and define

$$G = \sum_{|j|_\infty \leq 1} \tau_{-j} g.$$

Then (4.3) may be written as

$$\sum_h |u_h| |v_{k-h}| \leq \sum_{|j| \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) \tau_{-j} g(x - y) dy = f * G(x).$$

Inequality (4.2), Theorem 4.2, and Minkowski's inequality imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u} * \vec{v}\|_{\gamma,p} &\lesssim \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\gamma p} (f * G(x))^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\lesssim \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\alpha p} f(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\beta p} G(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\lesssim \sum_{|j| \leq 1} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\alpha p} f(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\beta p} \tau_{-j} g(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

If $|j|_\infty \leq 1$, (4.1) and the definition of g imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\beta p} (\tau_{-j} g)(x)^p dx &\lesssim \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\beta p} \int_{Q_k} (\tau_{-j} g)(x)^p dx \\ &= \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\beta p} \int_{Q_{k-j}} g(x)^p dx \\ &= \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\beta p} |v_{k-j}|^p \\ &\lesssim \sum_k (1 + |k|)^{\beta p} |v_k|^p \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\beta p} \tau_{-j} g(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \lesssim \|\vec{v}\|_{\beta,p}.$$

Likewise we have that

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{\alpha p} f(x)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \lesssim \|\vec{u}\|_{\alpha,p},$$

which yields the desired result. \square

The following corollary extends Theorem 4.3 to three-term convolutions.

COROLLARY 4.4. *If $\alpha, \beta, \gamma < \frac{n}{p'}$, $\alpha + \beta + \gamma \geq \frac{n}{p'}$, and $\alpha + \beta + \gamma > \frac{2n}{p'} - \frac{n}{p}$, then*

$$\|\vec{u} * \vec{v} * \vec{w}\|_{\alpha+\beta+\gamma-\frac{2n}{p'}, p} \leq C_{\alpha, \beta, n, p} \|\vec{u}\|_{\alpha, p} \|\vec{v}\|_{\beta, p} \|\vec{w}\|_{\gamma, p}.$$

Proof. The stated assumptions imply that

$$(\alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p'}), \gamma < \frac{n}{p'}, (\alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p'}) + \gamma \geq 0, \text{ and } (\alpha + \beta - \frac{n}{p'}) + \gamma > \frac{n}{p'} - \frac{n}{p}$$

so that Theorem 4.3 implies

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u} * \vec{v} * \vec{w}\|_{\alpha+\beta+\gamma-\frac{2n}{p'}, p} &= \|(\vec{u} * \vec{v}) * \vec{w}\|_{(\alpha+\beta-\frac{n}{p'})+\gamma-\frac{n}{p'}, p} \\ &\leq C_{\alpha, \beta, n, p} \|\vec{u} * \vec{v}\|_{\alpha+\beta-\frac{n}{p'}, p} \|\vec{w}\|_{\gamma, p}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally note that the hypotheses imply $\alpha + \beta \geq 0$ and $\alpha + \beta > \frac{n}{p'} - \frac{n}{p}$ and apply Theorem 4.3 again. \square

The following simplification to Corollary 4.4 will be used in the sequel.

COROLLARY 4.5. *If $\frac{n}{3p'} < \alpha < \frac{n}{p'}$ and $\alpha > \frac{2n}{3p'} - \frac{n}{3p}$, then*

$$\|\vec{u} * \vec{v} * \vec{w}\|_{3\alpha-\frac{2n}{p'}, p} \leq C_{\alpha, \beta, n, p} \|\vec{u}\|_{\alpha, p} \|\vec{v}\|_{\alpha, p} \|\vec{w}\|_{\alpha, p}.$$

5. Estimate on the nonlinear term.

PROPOSITION 5.1. *The mapping S defined by (2.4) is a bounded mapping from $E \times E \times E$ to E .*

Proof. We will make a general estimate of the term $\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})\|_{\delta, p}$ for $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfying

$$(5.1) \quad 0 < \delta + 2 - 3\theta - 3\gamma + \frac{2n}{p'} < 4.$$

The restrictions placed on γ in (2.3) imply that both $\theta, \theta + \gamma$ are admissible values of δ satisfying (5.1). Let $\vec{u}(\cdot), \vec{v}(\cdot), \vec{w}(\cdot) \in E$. The triangle inequality implies

$$\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\lambda t, \delta, p} \leq \beta \int_0^t \|e^{-(t-s)(A^2 - \alpha A)} B[\vec{u}(s), \vec{v}(s), \vec{w}(s)]\|_{\lambda t, \delta, p} ds.$$

For simplicity of notation we will suppress the variable s from the trilinear term. Let $0 < s < t$. Employing (3.1) above we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|e^{-(t-s)(A^2 - \alpha A)} B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]\|_{\lambda t, \delta, p}^p &\leq \sum_k e^{\lambda p t |k|} e^{-p(t-s)(|k|^4 - \alpha |k|^2)} |k|^{\delta p} |B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]_k|^p \\ &= \sum_k e^{\lambda p s |k|} e^{-p(t-s)(|k|^4 - \alpha |k|^2 - \lambda |k|)} |k|^{\delta p} |B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]_k|^p \\ &\leq e^{p\kappa(t-s)} \sum_k e^{\lambda p s |k|} e^{-\frac{1}{2} p(t-s) |k|^4} |k|^{\delta p} |B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]_k|^p \\ &\leq e^{p\kappa(t-s)} \sum_k e^{\lambda p s |k|} e^{-\frac{1}{2} p(t-s) |k|^4} |k|^{(\delta+2)p} (|\vec{u}| * |\vec{v}| * |\vec{w}|)_k^p \end{aligned}$$

where we used (1.4) on the last line. An application of (3.2) and (5.1) yields

$$e^{-\frac{1}{2}p(t-s)|k|^4} |k|^{(\delta+2)p} \leq C_{\delta,\gamma,\theta,n,p} (t-s)^{-\frac{p}{4}(\delta+2-3\theta-3\gamma+\frac{2n}{p'})} |k|^{(3\theta+3\gamma-\frac{2n}{p'})p}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|e^{-(t-s)(A^2-\alpha A)} B[\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}]\|_{\lambda t, \delta, p} \\ & \leq C_{\delta,\gamma,\theta,n,p} e^{\kappa(t-s)} (t-s)^{-\frac{1}{4}(\delta+2-3\theta-3\gamma+\frac{2n}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\| * \|\vec{v}\| * \|\vec{w}\|_{\lambda s, 3\theta+3\gamma-\frac{2n}{p'}, p}. \end{aligned}$$

The definition $\theta = \frac{n}{p} - 1$ and assumption (2.3) imply

$$(5.2) \quad \frac{n}{3p'} < \theta + \gamma < \frac{n}{p'} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta + \gamma > \frac{2n}{3p'} - \frac{n}{3p}.$$

Since

$$e^{\lambda s|k|} (|\vec{u}| * |\vec{v}| * |\vec{w}|)_k \leq \sum_h \sum_j e^{\lambda s|k-h-j|} |u_{k-h-j}| e^{\lambda s h} |v_h| e^{\lambda s j} |w_j|,$$

we may apply Corollary 4.5 to obtain

$$\|\vec{u}\| * \|\vec{v}\| * \|\vec{w}\|_{\lambda s, 3\theta+3\gamma-\frac{2n}{p'}, p} \leq C_{\gamma,\theta,n,p} \|\vec{u}\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p} \|\vec{v}\|_{\theta+\gamma, p} \|\vec{w}\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p}.$$

We arrive at the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\delta, p} \\ & \leq C_{\delta,\gamma,\theta,n,p} e^{\kappa t} \beta \int_0^t (t-s)^{-\frac{1}{4}(\delta+2-3\theta-3\gamma+\frac{2n}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p} \|\vec{v}\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p} \|\vec{w}\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p} ds. \end{aligned}$$

At this point it is convenient to denote, for $\vec{u}(\cdot) \in E$,

$$\|\vec{u}(\cdot)\|_{E'} = \sup_{0 < t \leq T} \|\vec{u}(t)\|_{\lambda t, \theta+\gamma, p}$$

so that $s^{\frac{3}{4}} \|\vec{u}(s)\|_{\lambda s, \theta+\gamma, p} \leq \|\vec{u}(\cdot)\|_{E'}$ for all $0 < s \leq T$. This leads to the estimate

$$\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\delta, p} \leq C_{\delta,\gamma,\theta,n,p} e^{\kappa t} \beta \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'} \int_0^t (t-s)^{-\frac{1}{4}(\delta+2-3\theta-3\gamma+\frac{2n}{p'})} s^{-\frac{3\gamma}{4}} ds.$$

Since

$$\frac{1}{4} \left(\delta + 2 - 3\theta - 3\gamma + \frac{2n}{p'} \right) < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{3\gamma}{4} < 1$$

this integral equals a constant $C_{\delta,\theta,\gamma,n,p}$ times

$$t^{1-\frac{1}{4}(\delta+2-3\theta-3\gamma+\frac{2n}{p'})-\frac{3\gamma}{4}} = t^{\frac{1}{4}(2-\delta+3\theta-\frac{2n}{p'})}.$$

We conclude there exists a constant $C = C_{\delta,\gamma,\theta,n,p}$ with the property that

$$\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\delta, p} \leq C e^{\kappa T} \beta t^{\frac{1}{4}(2-\delta+3\theta-\frac{2n}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'}$$

for all $0 < t \leq T$. When $\delta = \theta$ this gives

$$\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\theta, p} \leq C \beta t^{\frac{1}{4}(2+2\theta-\frac{2n}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'}$$

and when $\delta = \theta + \gamma$ this gives

$$\|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\theta+\gamma,p} \leq C\beta t^{\frac{1}{4}(2+2\theta-\gamma-\frac{2p}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'}$$

so that

$$t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(t)\|_{\theta+\gamma,p} \leq C\beta t^{\frac{1}{4}(2+2\theta-\frac{2p}{p'})} \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'}.$$

Since $\theta = \frac{n}{p'} - 1$ we conclude

$$(5.3) \quad \|S(\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w})(\cdot)\|_E \leq C_{\alpha,n,p}\beta \|\vec{u}\|_{E'} \|\vec{v}\|_{E'} \|\vec{w}\|_{E'}.$$

It follows that S is a bounded mapping from $E \times E \times E$ to E . \square

6. Construction of the local solution. Write $E = E_T$ to emphasize the dependence of the space E on T . Let $u_0 \in \dot{V}_{\theta,p}$ and write $\vec{v}(t) = e^{-t(A^2-\alpha A)}\vec{u}_0$. Define

$$B = \{\vec{u}(\cdot) \in E : \|\vec{u}(\cdot) - \vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T} \leq \|\vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T}\}$$

and define $L : E \rightarrow E$ by

$$L\vec{u}(t) = \vec{v}(t) + S(\vec{u}, \vec{u}, \vec{u})(t).$$

Let C be the constant from (5.3). It follows that

$$(6.1) \quad \|L\vec{u}(\cdot) - \vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T} \leq C\beta \|\vec{u}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T}^3 \leq 8C\beta \|\vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T}^3$$

for all $\vec{u}(\cdot) \in B$. The trilinearity of S implies

$$S(\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1) - S(\vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_2) = S(\vec{u}_1 - \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_2) + S(\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1 - \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_2) + S(\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1 - \vec{u}_2)$$

so that

$$(6.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \|L\vec{u}_1(\cdot) - L\vec{u}_2(\cdot)\|_{E'_T} &\leq \|S(\vec{u}_1(\cdot), \vec{u}_1(\cdot), \vec{u}_1(\cdot)) - S(\vec{u}_2(\cdot), \vec{u}_2(\cdot), \vec{u}_2(\cdot))\|_{E'_T} \\ &\leq 12C\beta \|\vec{u}_1(\cdot) - \vec{u}_2(\cdot)\|_{E'_T} \|\vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Equations (6.1) and (6.2) show that $L : B \rightarrow B$ is a contraction provided that β is sufficiently small. The Banach fixed point theorem provides a solution $\vec{u}(\cdot) \in B$ to the equation

$$\vec{u}(\cdot) = L\vec{u}(\cdot).$$

This fixed point satisfies

$$(6.3) \quad \vec{u}(t) = \vec{v}(t) + S(\vec{u}, \vec{u}, \vec{u})(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

which is precisely a solution to (2.1).

On the other hand, for any $\vec{w} \in \dot{V}$ having most finitely many nonzero terms we have $\vec{w} \in \dot{V}_{\theta+\gamma,p}$ and thus

$$\begin{aligned} t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|e^{-t(A^2-\alpha A)}\vec{u}_0\|_{\lambda t, \theta+\gamma,p} &\leq t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|e^{-t(A^2-\alpha A)}(\vec{u}_0 - \vec{w})\|_{\lambda t, \theta+\gamma,p} + t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|e^{-t(A^2-\alpha A)}\vec{w}\|_{\lambda t, \theta+\gamma,p} \\ &\leq C e^{\kappa T} \|\vec{u}_0 - \vec{w}\|_{\theta,p} + t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} e^{\kappa T} \|\vec{w}\|_{\theta+\gamma,p} \end{aligned}$$

for all $0 < t \leq T$. Since $\|\vec{v} - \vec{w}\|_{\theta,p}$ can be made arbitrarily small we conclude that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^{\frac{\gamma}{4}} \|e^{-t(A^2 - \alpha A)} \vec{u}_0\|_{\lambda t, \theta + \gamma, p} = 0.$$

This implies

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0^+} \|\vec{v}(\cdot)\|_{E'_T} = 0,$$

so for arbitrary $\beta > 0$ equations (6.1) and (6.2) show that $L : B \rightarrow B$ is a contraction provided that T is sufficiently small. As above we obtain a fixed point of L satisfying (6.3), completing the argument.

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