Flow and Orientation of Nematic Liquid Crystals

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Overview

1. Introduction

2. Equations for Flow and Orientation

3. Numerical Method

3. Proof of Concept: Lid Driven Cavity

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Nematic Order Parameters



• $\langle f \rangle = \oint_{S^2} f \varrho(\boldsymbol{u}) d^2 \boldsymbol{u}$

•
$$\varrho(\boldsymbol{u}) = \varrho(-\boldsymbol{u})$$

• $\varrho(\boldsymbol{u}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(1 + \sum Q_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_l} \phi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_l} \right)$ with

$$Q_{\mu_1\dots\mu_l} = \langle \phi_{\mu_1\dots\mu_l} \rangle \propto \langle u_{\mu_1} \cdots u_{\mu_l} \rangle$$

•
$$\mathbf{Q} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \langle \boldsymbol{u} \otimes \boldsymbol{u} - \frac{1}{3} \delta \rangle$$

•
$$\epsilon = \epsilon^{iso} \, \delta + \Delta \epsilon \, \mathbf{Q}$$

Alignment Tensor and Relatives



A recipe for . . .

• Find the *entropy production* in terms of your main players

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- Find the *entropy production* in terms of your main players
- Write the entropy production as a product of generalised *fluxes and forces*
- Assume that the fluxes are *linear* functions of the forces
- If required, assume that these linear relationships are *symmetric* (Onsager relations)



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$$\tau_a \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{Q}}{\mathrm{d}t} - 2\,\overline{\mathbf{W}\mathbf{Q}} - 2\sigma\,\overline{\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}}\right) = \xi^2 \Delta \mathbf{Q} - \Phi - \tau_{ap}\sqrt{2}\,\mathbf{D}$$

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- P. D. Olmsted and P. Goldbart, *Phys. Rev. A* 41 (1990) and T. Qian and P. Sheng, *Phys. Rev. E* 58 (1998)

Lagrange Equations with Frictional Forces

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial \dot{q}} = 0 \qquad L = T(q, \dot{q}) - V(q)$$

$$T \text{ quadratic in } \dot{q} \qquad R \text{ quadratic in } \dot{q}$$

$$\frac{\dot{\mathcal{F}} = \dot{T} + \dot{V} = \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q}\right) \cdot \dot{q}}{\dot{\mathcal{F}} + 2R = 0}$$

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial \dot{q}} \cdot \dot{q} = 2R$$

Balance of Forces



Variational principle

In a given configuration the velocities are such that the dissipation R is at a minimum when both the forces X and the power input W are fixed:

$$\delta \mathcal{R} + \lambda \delta \mathcal{W} = \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial \dot{q}} + \lambda X\right) \cdot \delta \dot{q} = 0$$

arbitrary $\delta \dot{q}$
$$\lambda X + \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial \dot{q}} = 0$$

gives $\lambda \mathcal{W} + 2\mathcal{R} = 0$
$$X + \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial \dot{q}} = 0$$

Material Frame Indifference

- Material properties must not depend on the observer: Elastic energy and dissipation have to be invariant under Euclidean transformations $\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{\Omega}(t)\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}(t)$
- It is convenient to build the dissipation function from indifferent tensors only. For a velocity field *v* and an order tensor \mathbb{O} these are, e.g.,

D =
$$\frac{1}{2}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v} + (\nabla \boldsymbol{v})^T)$$

D

The *corotational* time derivative $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{O}}$ or a *codeformational* time derivative $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{O}}$ of \mathbb{O}

Time derivatives . . .

• Material time derivative:

$$\dot{\mathbb{O}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbb{O} + (\nabla \mathbb{O}) \boldsymbol{v}$$

• Corotational time derivative (JAUMANN):

$$\mathring{O}_I = \dot{O}_I - \sum_{k=1}^n W_{I_k j} O_{I_k^j}$$

$$\mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \boldsymbol{v} - (\nabla \boldsymbol{v})^T),$$

- $I = (I_1, \cdots, I_n), I_k^j = (I_1, \cdots, I_{k-1}, j, I_{k+1}, \cdots, I_n)$
- Codeformational time derivative (OLDROYD):

$$\hat{O}_I = \mathring{O}_I + \sum_{k=1}^n a_k D_{I_k j} O_{I_k^j}$$

... of the Alignment Tensor

- Material time derivative $\dot{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial t} + (\nabla \mathbf{Q}) \boldsymbol{v}$
- ... of the gradient $(\nabla \mathbf{Q})^{\cdot} = \nabla \dot{\mathbf{Q}} (\nabla \mathbf{Q}) \nabla \boldsymbol{v}$
- Frame indifferent time derivatives:
 - Co-rotational: $\mathbf{\hat{Q}} = \mathbf{\dot{Q}} 2\mathbf{W}\mathbf{Q}$
 - Co-deformational: $\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \dot{\mathbf{Q}} 2 \overline{\mathbf{WQ}} 2\sigma \overline{\mathbf{DQ}}$

with
$$\mathbf{D} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \boldsymbol{v} + (\nabla \boldsymbol{v})^T)$$
 and $\mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \boldsymbol{v} - (\nabla \boldsymbol{v})^T)$

Free Energy

$$\mathcal{F} = \int \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \rho \boldsymbol{v}^2 + \chi(\mathbf{Q}) + W(\mathbf{Q}, \nabla \mathbf{Q}) \right\} dV$$

- *ρ*: mass density
- χ : potential energy for external actions on \mathbf{Q}
- W: elastic free energy of the alignment
- NOT here:
 - potential energy of the compressibility (div v = 0)
 - body force
 - microinertia

Power Input

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathcal{F}} &= \int \left\{ \rho \dot{\boldsymbol{v}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v} + \left(\frac{\partial \chi}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} \right) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{Q})^{\cdot} \right\} dV \\ &= \int \left\{ \left[\rho \dot{\boldsymbol{v}} + \operatorname{div} \left(p \mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{Q} \odot \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}} \right) \right] \cdot \boldsymbol{v} \right. \\ &+ \left[\frac{\partial \chi}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} - \operatorname{div} \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}} \right] \cdot \dot{\mathbf{Q}} \right\} dV + \text{s.t.} \end{aligned}$$

•
$$\left(\nabla \mathbf{Q} \odot \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}}\right)_{ij} := Q_{kl,i} \frac{\partial W}{\partial Q_{kl,j}}$$

Fluxes and Forces



Dissipation

$$\mathcal{R} = \int R(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{\dot{Q}}, \mathbf{D}) dV$$
$$\delta(\nabla \boldsymbol{v}) = \nabla(\delta \boldsymbol{v})$$
$$\delta\mathcal{R} = \int \left\{ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{\dot{Q}}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{\dot{Q}} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial \nabla \boldsymbol{v}} \cdot \nabla(\delta \boldsymbol{v}) \right\} dV$$
integration by parts
$$\delta\mathcal{R} = \int \left\{ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{\dot{Q}}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{\dot{Q}} - \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\partial R}{\partial \nabla \boldsymbol{v}} \right) \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{v} \right\} dV + \text{s.t.}$$

Chain Rule

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial \nabla \boldsymbol{v}} = \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{Q} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}}} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}}} \mathbf{Q}$$

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial \dot{\mathbf{Q}}} = \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathring{\mathbf{Q}}}$$

Equations of Motion

$$\rho \dot{\boldsymbol{v}} = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{T}$$
$$\frac{\partial \chi}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} - \operatorname{div} \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}}} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{T} = -p\mathbf{I} - \nabla\mathbf{Q} \odot \frac{\partial W}{\partial \nabla \mathbf{Q}} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{Q} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}}} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}}} \mathbf{Q}$$

15 Invariants Bilinear in $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$ and \mathbf{D}



The Director: $\mathbf{Q} = S \mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{n}$

8 Terms up to Second Order in S

$$R = \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{1} \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} + \zeta_{2} \mathbf{D} \cdot \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{3} \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{D} + \zeta_{21} \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot (\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{Q}) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{31} \mathbf{D} \cdot (\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{32} (\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{Q})^{2} + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{33} (\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}) \cdot (\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{34} (\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{Q})(\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{D})$$

Comparison to ELP theory

$$R = \frac{1}{2}\gamma_1 \mathring{\boldsymbol{n}}^2 + \gamma_2 \mathring{\boldsymbol{n}} \cdot \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{n} + \frac{1}{2}\gamma_3 (\mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{n})^2 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_1 (\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{n})^2 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_4 \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{D}$$

with $\gamma_1 = \alpha_3 - \alpha_2$, $\gamma_2 = \alpha_5 - \alpha_6$, $\gamma_3 = \alpha_5 + \alpha_6$.



Further Simplification

 $\zeta_{21} = \zeta_{33} = \zeta_{34} = 0$: neglect *corrections* of order S^2 :

$$R = \frac{1}{2}\zeta_1 \mathring{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot \mathring{\mathbf{Q}} + \zeta_2 \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathring{\mathbf{Q}} + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_3 \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{D} + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{31} \mathbf{D} \cdot (\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{32} (\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{Q})^2.$$

$$W = \phi + \frac{1}{2}L_1 \|\nabla \mathbf{Q}\|^2,$$

where $\phi = \frac{1}{2}A(T) \operatorname{tr} \mathbf{Q}^2 - \frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}B \operatorname{tr} \mathbf{Q}^3 + \frac{1}{4}C(\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{Q}^2)^2$ is the Landau-deGennes potential and L_1 is an elastic modulus.

Equations

$$\zeta_1 \mathring{\mathbf{Q}} = -\mathbf{\Phi} - \zeta_2 \mathbf{D} + L_1 \Delta \mathbf{Q},$$

and the skew-symmetric part of the stress tensor is

$$\mathbf{T}^{\text{skew}} = \zeta_1 (\mathbf{Q} \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} - \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{Q}) + \zeta_2 (\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Q})$$

The symmetric traceless part of the viscous stress is given by

$$\mathbf{T}^{(v)} = \zeta_2 \mathring{\mathbf{Q}} + \zeta_3 \mathbf{D} + \zeta_{31} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Q} + \zeta_{32} (\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{D}) \mathbf{Q},$$

and the elastic contribution to the stress, which here is symmetric, reads as

$$\mathbf{T}^{(\mathrm{e})} = -L_1 \, \nabla \mathbf{Q} \odot \nabla \mathbf{Q}.$$

Separating the Time Dependencies

On a solution

$$\mathring{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{1}{\zeta_1} \left(-\mathbf{\Phi} - \zeta_2 \mathbf{D} + L_1 \Delta \mathbf{Q} \right)$$

and so

$$\mathbf{T}^{\text{skew}} = \zeta_1 (\mathbf{Q} \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} - \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{Q}) + \zeta_2 (\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Q})$$
$$= \mathbf{\Phi} \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{\Phi} + L_1 [\mathbf{Q} (\Delta \mathbf{Q}) - (\Delta \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{Q}]$$
$$= L_1 [\mathbf{Q} (\Delta \mathbf{Q}) - (\Delta \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{Q}]$$

and

$$\overline{\mathbf{T}^{(v)}} = \frac{\zeta_2}{\zeta_1} \left(L_1 \Delta \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{\Phi} \right) + \zeta_4 \mathbf{D} + \zeta_{31} \overline{\mathbf{D}} \mathbf{Q} + \zeta_{32} (\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{D}) \mathbf{Q}$$

with
$$\zeta_4 := \zeta_3 - \frac{\zeta_2^2}{\zeta_1}$$

Viscosities

With (\approx MBBA)

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_3 = 0$$

$$\alpha_4 = -\alpha_2 = \alpha$$

$$\alpha_5 = -\alpha_6 = \alpha/2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_1 &= \alpha/2S^2\\ \zeta_2 &= \alpha/2S\\ \zeta_3 &= \alpha\\ \zeta_4 &= 3\alpha/2\\ \zeta_{31} &= \zeta_{32} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\zeta_{31} = \zeta_{32} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow$$

$$\nabla p - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_4 \Delta \boldsymbol{v} = \boldsymbol{f}$$

$$oldsymbol{f} = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}$$

 $\mathbf{F} = L_1 \left(\mathbf{Q}(\Delta \mathbf{Q}) - (\Delta \mathbf{Q})\mathbf{Q} + rac{\zeta_2}{\zeta_1}\Delta \mathbf{Q} - \nabla \mathbf{Q} \odot \nabla \mathbf{Q}
ight) - rac{\zeta_2}{\zeta_1} \mathbf{\Phi}$

Strategy

- 1. For a given orientation field Q, solve Stokes equation with *f* as a body force
- 2. Use the obtained flow field to compute one time step in a discretised version of the orientation equation
- 3. With the new orientation field, go back to 1.

Dimensionless Quantities

•
$$\tilde{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{3C}{2B}\mathbf{Q}$$

•
$$\tau_1 = \frac{9C\zeta_1}{2B^2}$$

•
$$\xi = \sqrt{\frac{9CL_1}{2B^2}}$$

• Tu =
$$\frac{3C\zeta_2}{2B\zeta_1}$$

• Bf =
$$\frac{4B\zeta_2}{3C\zeta_4}$$

•
$$\tilde{\Phi} = (\vartheta + 2 \operatorname{tr} \tilde{\mathbf{Q}}^2) \tilde{\mathbf{Q}} + 3\sqrt{6} \tilde{\mathbf{Q}} \tilde{\mathbf{Q}}$$

• $\vartheta = \frac{9C}{2B^2} A(T)$
• $\tilde{p} = \dots$

Dimensionless Equations

$$\mathring{\mathbf{Q}} = \Delta \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{\Phi} - \mathrm{Tu}\,\mathbf{D}$$

$$\nabla p - \Delta \boldsymbol{v} = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}$$
$$\mathbf{F} = \operatorname{Bf} \left\{ \frac{1}{\operatorname{Tu}} \left[\mathbf{Q}(\Delta \mathbf{Q}) - (\Delta \mathbf{Q})\mathbf{Q} - \nabla \mathbf{Q} \odot \nabla \mathbf{Q} \right] + \Delta \mathbf{Q} - \boldsymbol{\Phi} \right\}$$

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Solving the Equations

- Orientation equation: finite difference scheme with explicit euler time discretisation (leaves a lot of room for improvement . . .)
- Stokes equation: finite element iterative solver. Matlab package using MINRES solver with multigrid preconditioning (this should really be coded using an efficient programming language ...).
 http://www.cs.umd.edu/~elman/ifiss.html (Incompressible Flow & Iterative Solver Software Version 2.2)

Lid Driven Cavity



Lid Driven Cavity

 $\mathbf{v} = 10 \, \mathbf{e}_x$ Re = $\frac{VL\rho}{\zeta_4} = 8 \times 10^{-6}$ De $\approx \frac{V}{L} = 1.2$ Er $\approx \frac{\zeta_1 VL}{L_1} = 80$ LL = 8

Biaxiality Measure

$$eta^2 = 1 - rac{6(\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{Q}^3)^2}{(\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{Q}^2)^3} \in [0, 1]$$

Initial Orientation

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Initial Flow Field



Later Orientation



Later Flow Field



Flow Field Difference



Out of Plane Orientation

 $\mathbf{v} = 15 \, \mathbf{e}_r$



Initial Orientation

Later Orientation

Out of Plane Force



Out of Plane Force



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- Even for 'linear' flow at low Reynolds numbers, an anisotropic fluid can show nonlinear flow effects
- Out of plane orientation such as kayaking makes 2d-flow impossible
- A lot of work still needs to be done . . .