

Calculating anisotropic elastic terms

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1 Discretization of Q -tensor equation

To begin, we need to discretize the Q -tensor equation in time, and then in space. The equation without hydrodynamics reads:

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} = H \quad (1)$$

with H given by:

$$\begin{aligned} H = & 2\alpha Q - nk_B T \Lambda + 2L_1 \nabla^2 Q \\ & + L_2 \left(\nabla (\nabla \cdot Q) + [\nabla (\nabla \cdot Q)]^T - \frac{2}{3} (\nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot Q)) I \right) \\ & + L_3 \left(2\nabla \cdot (Q \cdot \nabla Q) - (\nabla Q) : (\nabla Q)^T + \frac{1}{3} |\nabla Q|^2 I \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

To discretize in time, we use a semi-implicit method:

$$\frac{Q - Q_0}{\delta t} = 2\alpha Q_0 - nk_B T \Lambda(Q) + L_1 E^{(1)}(Q, \nabla Q) + L_2 E^{(2)}(Q, \nabla Q) + L_3 E^{(3)}(Q, \nabla Q) \quad (3)$$

where we have defined each of the elastic terms E_i as functions of Q and its gradients. To discretize in space, we define a residual which we would like to find the zeros of:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(Q) = & \langle \phi, Q \rangle - (1 + 2\alpha\delta t) \langle \phi, Q_0 \rangle - \delta t (nk_B T \langle \phi, \Lambda(Q) \rangle + L_1 \langle \phi, E^{(1)}(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle \\ & + L_2 \langle \phi, E^{(2)}(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle + L_3 \langle \phi, E^{(3)}(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

We may make this a vector by specifying the test functions which we would like to integrate against:

$$\phi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \phi_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \phi_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \phi_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

so that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_i(Q) = & \langle \phi_i, Q \rangle - (1 + 2\alpha\delta t) \langle \phi_i, Q_0 \rangle - \delta t (nk_B T \langle \phi_i, \Lambda(Q) \rangle + L_1 \mathcal{E}_i^{(1)}(Q, \nabla Q) \\ & + L_2 \mathcal{E}_i^{(2)}(Q, \nabla Q) + L_3 \mathcal{E}_i^{(3)}(Q, \nabla Q)) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where we have that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_i^{(1)} = & \langle \phi_i, E^{(1)} \rangle \\ = & 2 \left\langle \phi_i, \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right\rangle_{\partial \Omega} - 2 \langle \nabla \phi_i, \nabla Q \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}_i^{(2)} &= \left\langle \phi_i, E^{(2)} \right\rangle \\
&= 2 \left\langle \mathbf{n} \cdot \phi_i, \nabla \cdot Q \right\rangle_{\partial\Omega} - 2 \left\langle \nabla \cdot \phi_i, \nabla \cdot Q \right\rangle \\
&\quad + \frac{2}{3} \left\langle \nabla \text{tr}(\phi_i), \nabla \cdot Q \right\rangle - \frac{2}{3} \left\langle \text{tr}(\phi_i) \mathbf{n}, (\nabla \cdot Q) \right\rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}_i^{(3)} &= \left\langle \phi_i, E^{(3)} \right\rangle \\
&= 2 \left\langle \mathbf{n} \otimes \phi_i, Q \cdot \nabla Q \right\rangle_{\partial\Omega} - \left\langle \nabla \phi_i, Q \cdot \nabla Q \right\rangle \\
&\quad - \left\langle \phi_i, (\nabla Q) : (\nabla Q)^T \right\rangle + \frac{1}{3} \left\langle \text{tr}(\phi_i), |\nabla Q|^2 \right\rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Further, we may write Q in terms of the basis functions:

$$Q = \sum_j Q_k \phi_k \tag{10}$$

Then we may differentiate each term with respect to Q_j to find the corresponding Jacobian of the residual:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{R}'_{ij}(Q) &= \langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle - (1 + 2\alpha\delta t) \langle \phi_i, Q_0 \rangle - \delta t (nk_B T \left\langle \phi_i, \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial Q_j} \right\rangle + L_1 \langle \phi_i, E_1(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle \\
&\quad + L_2 \langle \phi_i, E_2(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle + L_3 \langle \phi_i, E_3(Q, \nabla Q) \rangle)
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$