

VORTEX MOTION LAW OF AN EVOLUTIONARY GINZBURG-LANDAU EQUATION IN 2 DIMENSIONS*

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(Received Mar. 30, 2000; revised Sept. 11, 2000)

Abstract We study the asymptotic behavior of solutions to an evolutionary Ginzburg-Landau equation. We also study the dynamical law of Ginzburg-Landau vortices of this equation under the Neuman boundary conditions. Away from the vortices, we use some measure theoretic arguments used by F.H.Lin in [1] to show the strong convergence of solutions. This is a continuation of our earlier work [2].

Key Words Ginzburg-Landau equations; vortex motion; asymptotic behavior; ϵ -regularity.

1991 MR Subject Classification 35J55, 35Q40.

Chinese Library Classification O175.29, O175.26.

1. Introduction

We consider the following problem:

$$\frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial t} = \Delta u_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}(\beta^2(x) - |u_\epsilon|^2)u_\epsilon, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times R_+ \quad (1.1)$$

$$u_\epsilon(x, 0) = \beta u_\epsilon^0(x), \quad x \in \Omega \quad (1.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial u_\epsilon}{\partial \nu}(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega, \quad t \geq 0 \quad (1.3)$$

where Ω is a smooth bounded domain in R^2 , ν the exterior unit normal vector along $\partial\Omega$. $\beta(x) : \Omega \rightarrow R$ is a smooth function (say C^3) with positive lower bound. $u_\epsilon : \Omega \times R_+ \rightarrow R^2$.

The initial datum $\beta u_\epsilon^0(x)$ is smooth and satisfies (1.3). In addition, it also satisfies the following assumptions:

$$\|u_\epsilon^0(x)\|_{C(\bar{\Omega})} \leq K \quad (1.4)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \rho^2(x) [|\nabla u_\epsilon^0(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \beta^2(1 - |u_\epsilon^0|^2)^2] dx \leq K \quad (1.5)$$

* This work supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China.

for a constant K and some m distinct points b_1, \dots, b_m in Ω , where $\rho(x) = \min\{|x - b_j| : j = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} E(u_\varepsilon^0) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} [|\nabla u_\varepsilon^0|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2(x) (|u_\varepsilon^0(x)|^2 - 1)^2] dx \\ &\leq K[|\ln \varepsilon| + 1] \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

The system (1.1)–(1.3) can be viewed as a simplified evolutionary Ginzburg-Landau equation in the theory superconductivity of inhomogeneity ([3]).

The aim of this article is to understand the dynamics of vortices, or zeros, of solutions u of (1.1)–(1.3). Its importance to the theory of superconductivity and applications is addressed in many earlier work ([3–7]).

Now we briefly describe some mathematical advances concerning this problem. In $\beta = 1$, the dynamical law for vortices was formally derived in [4,8]. The first rigorous mathematical proof of this dynamical law, which is of form $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} a(t) = -\nabla w(a(t))$, was given by F.H.Lin in [5,9]. See also [10, Lecture 3]. In [5,9], one allows the vortices of degree ± 1 and assumes that they have the same sign. For the vortices of degree ± 1 (possibly of different signs), the same dynamical law was shown later in [11]. We refer to [1] for vortex dynamics under the Neumann boundary conditions or pinning conditions. In the 3-dimensional case, $\beta = 1$, a similar dynamical law was also established in [1] for nearly parallel filaments. The short-time dynamical law for codimension 2 interfaces in higher dimensions was shown in [1]. When $\beta \neq 1$, in the 2-dimensional case, the dynamical law was established in [12] under the first boundary condition. But, here one proves only that u_ε converges weakly to the limit function in H_{loc}^1 as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$.

The main goal of the present paper is to examine the vortex dynamics without topological constraints, and proves that u_ε converges strongly to the limit function in H_{loc}^1 as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$.

To understand the behavior of u of (1.1)–(1.3) as $t \rightarrow \infty$, one has to look at steady state solutions u_ε , that is, the minimizer of the energy functional

$$E_\varepsilon(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left[|\nabla u|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} (\beta^2 - |u|^2)^2 \right] dx$$

A complete characterization of asymptotic behavior (as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$) of vortices of u_ε is given in the recent work [2].

Now we claim our main theorem.

Theorem 1.1 *Assume that $\beta \in C^3(\bar{\Omega})$ and $\beta_0 = \min_{\bar{\Omega}} \beta(x) > 0$. Under the assumptions (1.4)–(1.6), one has, for any $0 \leq t \leq T$, that*

$$u_\varepsilon(x, t) \rightarrow u_*(x, t) \quad (1.7)$$

strongly in $H_{loc}^1(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T] \setminus \{(a_j(t), t) : t \in [0, T], j = 1, 2, \dots, m\})$. Here the convergence is understood in the sense that for any sequence of ε' going to zero, there is a subsequence

for which (1.7) is true. Moreover, u_* satisfies

$$\frac{\partial u_*}{\partial t} - \Delta u_* = \beta^{-2} \left(|\nabla u_*|^2 - \Delta \left(\frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \right) \right) u_* \tag{1.8}$$

in $\Omega \times (0, T) \setminus \{(a_j(t), t) : t \in [0, T], j = 1, \dots, m\} \bigcup_{i=1}^m \{a_i(t)\} \times (0, T)$.

The functions $a_j(t) \in \Omega, j = 1, \dots, m$ satisfy the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} a_j(t) = -2 \frac{\nabla \beta(a_j(t))}{\beta(a_j(t))} \\ a_j(0) = b_j \end{cases} \tag{1.9}$$

for $j = 1, \dots, m$, and $0 \leq t \leq T$. Here T is chosen so that $a_j(t)$ will stay inside Ω and $a_l(t) \neq a_j(t)$, for all $0 \leq t \leq T$ and for $l, j = 1, \dots, m$.

Under some additional technical hypothesis on β , one may take $T = \infty$ in the above theorem ([12]).

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we prove the weak convergence. In Section 3, we study strong convergence.

2. Weak Convergence

Let $u = \beta v$, then u satisfies

$$v_t = \Delta v + \frac{2}{\beta} \nabla \beta \nabla v + \frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} v + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2) v, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times R^+ \tag{2.1}$$

$$v(x, 0) = u_\epsilon^0, \quad x \in \Omega \tag{2.2}$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial \nu}(x, t) + \left(\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} \right) v = 0, \quad x \in \partial \Omega, \quad t > 0 \tag{2.3}$$

Lemma 2.1 Let $M = \max_{\Omega} |\beta(x)|$, then

$$|u_\epsilon(x, t)| \leq M(1 + K), \quad \text{in } \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$$

Proof Let $\bar{u} = u_\epsilon/M$, then

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} = \Delta \bar{u} + \frac{M^2}{\epsilon^2} ((\beta/M)^2 - |\bar{u}|^2) \bar{u}, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times R^+$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \nu}(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \partial \Omega, t > 0$$

$$\bar{u}(x, 0) = \frac{\beta}{M} u_\epsilon^0(x), \quad x \in \Omega$$

Set $w = |\bar{u}|^2 - (1 + K)^2$, one has

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} - \Delta w + 2M^2 \epsilon^{-2} |\bar{u}|^2 w \leq 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times R^+$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} = 0, \quad x \in \partial \Omega, t > 0$$

$$w(x, 0) \leq 0, \quad x \in \Omega$$

Thus, by maximum principle, we have

$$w \leq 0 \text{ in } \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$$

Hence

$$|u_\varepsilon(x, t)| \leq M(1 + K) \text{ in } \bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$$

Define $\phi_\sigma : R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ be a smooth monotone function such that

$$\phi_\sigma(r) = \begin{cases} r^2, & r \leq \sigma, \sigma > 0 \\ 4\sigma^2, & r \geq 2\sigma \end{cases}$$

Lemma 2.2 Suppose that, for $0 \leq t \leq T$, $\min\{|a_j(t) - a_l(t)|, \text{dist}(a_j(t), \partial\Omega), \text{ for } j, l = 1, \dots, m \text{ and } j \neq l\} \geq 4\sigma$, $\min(\beta/(2|\nabla\beta| + 1)) \geq \sigma$. Then, with the above notations, one has

$$\|u_\varepsilon\|_{H^1(\Omega \times [0, T] \setminus \cup_{j=1}^m \Gamma_\sigma^j)} \leq C(\sigma, T, \beta)$$

where $\Gamma_\sigma^j = \{(x, t) : |x - a_j(t)| \leq \sigma, 0 \leq t \leq T\}$. $a_j(t)$ is the solution of (1.9).

Proof Using integration by parts, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_\Omega \frac{1}{2} \phi_\sigma(\rho(x, t)) \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] dx \\ &= \int_\Omega \frac{d\phi_\sigma}{dt} \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] dx + \int_\Omega -\phi_\sigma \beta^2 \left| \frac{dv}{dt} \right|^2 \\ & \quad + \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} v \frac{dv}{dt} - \int_{\partial\Omega} \phi_\sigma \beta \frac{\partial\beta}{\partial\nu} v \frac{dv}{dt} - \int_\Omega \beta^2 \nabla\phi_\sigma \nabla v \frac{dv}{dt} \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\left| \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} v \frac{dv}{dt} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \left| \frac{dv}{dt} \right|^2 + C \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma \beta^2 |v|^2$$

Now we calculate the expression $\beta^2 \nabla\phi_\sigma \nabla v \frac{dv}{dt}$. We shall use the summation convention, and simplify notation. We shall also set $\phi_\sigma = \phi$, $v_\varepsilon = v$, $e_\varepsilon(v) = \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right]$.

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^2 \nabla\phi_\sigma \cdot \nabla v \frac{dv}{dt} &= (\nabla\phi_\sigma \cdot \nabla v) \left[\text{div}(\beta^2 \nabla v) + (\beta\Delta\beta)v + \frac{\beta^4}{\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)v \right] \\ &= \phi_i (\beta^2 v_i v_j)_j + (\beta\Delta\beta) \phi_i \left(\frac{|v|^2}{2} \right)_i \\ & \quad - \left[\beta^4 \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right]_i \phi_i + (\beta^4)_i \frac{(1 - |v|^2)^2}{4\varepsilon^2} \phi_i \\ & \quad - \left(\beta^2 \frac{|v_j|^2}{2} \right)_i \phi_i + (\beta^2)_i \phi_i \left(\frac{|v_j|^2}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi = \phi_\sigma$, $v_i = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i}$, $(\beta^2)_i = \frac{\partial \beta^2}{\partial x_i}$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \beta^2 \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla v \cdot \frac{dv}{dt} \\ &= \int_{\Omega} -\beta^2 \phi_{ij} v_i v_j + \int_{\Omega} \Delta \phi \cdot \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} \frac{\nabla \beta^2}{\beta^2} \nabla \phi \cdot \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\epsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} \beta \nabla \beta \nabla \phi \cdot \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 + \int_{\Omega} (\beta \Delta \beta) \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla \left(\frac{|v|^2}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \left(\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} \right) v \frac{dv}{dt} = 2\sigma^2 \int_{\partial\Omega} \beta \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} \frac{d|v|^2}{dt} = 2\sigma^2 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\partial\Omega} \beta \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} |v|^2$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \phi_\sigma \cdot \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\epsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] dx \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{d\phi}{dt} - \frac{\nabla \beta^2}{\beta^2} \nabla \phi \right) \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\epsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \beta^2 \phi_{ij} v_i v_j - \Delta \phi \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\epsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \right\} \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \beta \nabla \beta \nabla \phi \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 - \int_{\Omega} (\beta \Delta \beta) v \nabla \phi \nabla v \\ & + C \int_{\Omega} \phi \beta^2 |v|^2 - \int_{\Omega} \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \left| \frac{dv}{dt} \right|^2 - 2\sigma^2 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\partial\Omega} \beta \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} |v|^2 \end{aligned}$$

One observes that on each $B_\sigma(a_l(t))$, $l = 1, \dots, m$, $\Delta \phi = 4$, $\phi_{ij} = 2\delta_{ij}$. By the above observation, one has

$$\beta^2 \phi_{ij} v_i v_j - \Delta \phi \cdot \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 |\nabla v|^2 \leq 0 \quad \text{if } x \in \bigcup_{l=1}^m B_\sigma(a_l(t))$$

Moreover, if $\sigma \leq \min(\beta/(2|\nabla \beta| + 1))$, one also has

$$\left[\beta \nabla \beta \nabla \phi - \frac{1}{2} \Delta \phi \beta^2 \right] \frac{\beta^2}{2\epsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \leq 0 \quad \text{in } x \in \bigcup_{l=1}^m B_\sigma(a_l(t))$$

On the other hand, if $\rho(x, t) \geq \sigma$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \beta^2 \phi_{ij} v_i v_j - \frac{1}{2} \Delta \phi \beta^2 |\nabla v|^2 \right| \leq C_0(\sigma) \phi e_\epsilon(v) \\ & \left| \left[-\frac{1}{2} \Delta \phi \beta^2 + \beta \nabla \beta \nabla \phi \right] \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right| \leq C_0(\sigma) \phi e_\epsilon(v) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\left| \phi_t - \frac{\nabla \beta^2}{\beta^2} \nabla \phi \right| \leq C_0(\sigma) \sigma \quad \text{if } \rho(x, t) \geq \sigma$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \phi_t - \frac{\nabla \beta^2}{\beta^2} \nabla \phi \right| (x, t) &= \left| 2(x - a_j(t)) \frac{d}{dt} a_j(t) - 2(x - a_j(t)) \frac{\nabla \beta^2(x)}{\beta^2(x)} \right| \\ &\leq 2|x - a_j(t)| \left| \frac{\nabla \beta^2(x)}{\beta^2(x)} - \frac{\nabla \beta^2(a_j(t))}{\beta^2(a_j(t))} \right| \\ &\leq C_\sigma |x - a_j(t)|^2 \leq C_\sigma \phi^2 \end{aligned}$$

for $j = 1, \dots, m$ and for all $x \in B_\sigma(a_j(t))$. Hence

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) dx \leq C_\sigma \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) dx - 2\sigma^2 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\partial\Omega} \beta \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} |v|^2 - \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma \beta^2 \left| \frac{dv}{dt} \right|^2 + C$$

So

$$\int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) \Big|_{t=0}^{t=T} dx \leq C_\sigma \int_0^T \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) dx dt + Ct + C \quad (2.4)$$

where we have used the fact that $|v| \leq 1 + K$ in $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]$. Finally we have, by Gronwall's inequality, that

$$\int_0^t \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) dx dt \leq C(\sigma, T, \beta), \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq t \leq T \quad (2.5)$$

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_\Omega \phi_\sigma e_\varepsilon(v) \leq C(\sigma, T, \beta) \quad (2.6)$$

On the other hand, by calculating the expressions of form:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_\Omega \phi^2(x) e_\varepsilon(v) \leq -\frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega \phi^2 \beta^2 \left| \frac{dv}{dt} \right|^2 + C \int_{\Omega \cap \text{spt}(\phi)} e_\varepsilon(v) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\partial\Omega} \phi \beta \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} |v|^2 + C$$

here $\phi(x)$ is a smooth cut-off function which is supported in $\Omega \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^m B_\sigma(a_j(t))$, one deduces that

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^m B_\sigma(a_j(t))} \left| \frac{dv_\varepsilon}{dt} \right|^2 (x, t) dx dt \leq C(\sigma, T, \beta) \quad (2.7)$$

Combining (2.4) with (2.7), and noting $v = \beta u$, we get the conclusion of Lemma 2.2.

It is then easy to see that, for any sequence of $\varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0$, there is a subsequence $\{u_{\varepsilon'_n}\}$ of $\{u_{\varepsilon_n}\}$ so that

$$u_{\varepsilon'_n}(x, t) \rightharpoonup u_*(x, t)$$

weakly in $H_{loc}^1(\bar{\Omega} \times (0, T] \setminus \{(a_j(t), t) : t \in (0, T], j = 1, \dots, m\})$, and $|u_*(x, t)| = |\beta(x)|$,

$$\frac{\partial u_*}{\partial t} = \Delta u_* + \beta^{-2} \left(|\nabla u_*|^2 - \Delta \left(\frac{1}{2} \beta^2 \right) \right) u_* \quad (2.8)$$

in $\Omega \times (0, T] \setminus \{(a_j(t), t) : t \in (0, T], j = 1, \dots, m\}$.

3. Strong Convergence

In order to prove that u_ε converges strongly, we only need to prove that v_ε converges strongly. The proof of this conclusion is based on the fact that the solutions v_ε to (3.1) satisfy a monotonicity inequality from which the ε -regularity can be proved. Then, it implies the strong convergence of the sequence of $\{v_\varepsilon\}$. Theorem 3.1 is an extension of Theorem 2.1 in [13]. The main task is to find a monotonicity formula and a small energy regularity theorem.

Theorem 3.1 *Let v_ε be a solution of*

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \Delta v_\varepsilon + \frac{2\nabla\beta}{\beta} \nabla v_\varepsilon + \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} v_\varepsilon + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v_\varepsilon|^2) v_\varepsilon \quad \text{in } B_1 \times [-1, 0] \quad (3.1)$$

with

$$\int_{-1}^0 \int_{B_1} e_\varepsilon(v) dx dt + \int_{-1}^0 \int_{B_1} \left| \frac{\partial v_\varepsilon}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx dt \leq M$$

for $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$. Here $v_\varepsilon \in C$,

$$B_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2; |x| < 1\}, e_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \left[|\nabla v_\varepsilon|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v_\varepsilon|^2)^2 \right].$$

Suppose also that $\{v_\varepsilon\}$ converges weakly to a map v_* as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ in $H^1(Q_1)$. Then $\{v_\varepsilon\}$ converges strongly to v_* in $H_{loc}^1(Q_1)$, where $Q_1 = B_1 \times (-1, 0]$.

In order to prove the above theorem, we need several lemmas.

Lemma 3.2 *Suppose v satisfies*

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \Delta v + \frac{2\nabla\beta}{\beta} \nabla v + \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} v + \frac{1}{\beta^2} (\beta \Delta\beta - \beta^2 |\nabla v|^2) v \quad \text{in } Q_1 \quad (3.2)$$

with

$$\int_{Q_1} \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 \right] dx dt \leq M$$

Then, for $0 < \alpha < 1$, one has

$$v \in C_{loc}^{2+\alpha, 1+\frac{\alpha}{2}}(Q_1)$$

Proof Let $v = e^{i\psi}$. Then $\psi \in H^1(Q_1)$ and

$$\int_{Q_1} |\nabla\psi|^2 dx dt \leq C$$

$$\psi_t = \Delta\psi + \frac{2\nabla\beta}{\beta} \cdot \nabla\psi \quad \text{in } Q_1$$

One has

$$\psi \in W_2^{2,1}(Q_1)$$

So, by a bootstrap argument, we have

$$\psi \in C_{\text{loc}}^{2+\alpha, 1+\frac{\alpha}{2}}(Q_1)$$

Hence

$$v \in C_{\text{loc}}^{2+\alpha, 1+\frac{\alpha}{2}}(Q_1)$$

In the sequel, for convenience, we denote v_ε by v .

Lemma 3.3 (Energy inequality)

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \left[\int_0^t \int_\Omega |v_t|^2 + E(v(\cdot, t)) \right] \leq C(E_0 + 1) \quad (3.3)$$

where $E(v(\cdot, t)) = \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] dx$, $E_0 = E(v(\cdot, 0))$, C depends only on β, Ω .

Proof First

$$|v_t|^2 = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \operatorname{div}(\beta^2 \nabla v) v_t + \frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} v v_t + \frac{\beta^2}{\varepsilon} (1 - |v|^2) v v_t$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\Omega |v_t|^2 &= \int_\Omega \frac{1}{\beta^2} \operatorname{div}(\beta^2 \nabla v) v_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} |v|^2 \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\beta^2}{4\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \\ \int_0^t \int_\Omega |v_t|^2 &= \int_0^t \int_\Omega \operatorname{div}(\beta^2 \nabla v) \left(\frac{1}{\beta^2} \right) v_t + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_\Omega \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} |v|^2 - \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \\ &= - \int_0^t \int_\Omega \frac{d}{dt} |\nabla v|^2 + \beta^2 v_t \nabla v \nabla \left(\frac{1}{\beta^2} \right) \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \int_{\partial \Omega} v_t \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial \nu} v + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_\Omega \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} |v|^2 - \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} \beta^2 (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.1, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_\Omega |v_t|^2 + \int_\Omega \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \Big|_{t=0}^{t=t} \\ \leq C \int_\Omega \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] \Big|_{t=0}^{t=t} + C \int_0^t \int_\Omega |\nabla v|^2 + C \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

where C depends only on β, Ω . From (3.4), one has

$$\int_\Omega |\nabla v|^2|_{t=t} dx \leq C \int_0^t \int_\Omega |\nabla v|^2 dx dt + C(E_0 + 1)$$

By Gronwall's inequality, one has

$$\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2 dxdt \leq C(E_0 + 1) \tag{3.5}$$

From (3.4), (3.5), we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \left[\int_0^t \int_{\Omega} |v_t|^2 + E(v(\cdot, t)) \right] \leq C(E_0 + 1)$$

The proof of Lemma 3.3 is completed.

Define

$$e_{\varepsilon}(v) = \frac{1}{2} \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2} (1 - |v|^2)^2 \right]$$

$$G_{z_0}(x, t) = [4\pi(t_0 - t)]^{-1} \exp \left[-\frac{|x - x_0|^2}{4(t_0 - t)} \right]$$

where $t < t_0, z_0 = (x_0, t_0)$,

$$G(x, t) = G_0(x_0, t_0)$$

$$S_R(z_0) = \{z = (x, t) : t = t_0 - R^2\}$$

$$P_R(z_0) = \{z = (x, t) : |x - x_0| < R, |t - t_0| < R^2\}$$

$$T_R(z_0) = \{z = (x, t) : x \in R^2, t_0 - 4R^2 \leq t \leq t_0 - R^2\}$$

$$T_1 = T_1(0)$$

$$\Psi(R) = \int_{T_R(z_0)} e_{\varepsilon}(v) G_{z_0} \phi^2 dxdt$$

$$\Phi(R) = R^2 \int_{S_R(z_0)} e_{\varepsilon}(v) G_{z_0} \phi^2 dxdt$$

where

$$\phi \in C_0^{\infty}(B_{\rho_0}(x_0)), 0 \leq \phi \leq 1, \phi \equiv 1, \text{ for } |x - x_0| \leq \frac{\rho_0}{2}$$

and

$$|\nabla \phi| \leq C_0/\rho_0, x_0 \in Q_1, 0 < \rho_0 < \text{dist}(x_0, \partial Q_1)$$

Lemma 3.4 (Monotonicity formula)

$$\Phi(R) \leq \exp(C(R_0 - R))\Phi(R_0) + C(E_0 + 1)(R_0 - R) \tag{3.6}$$

$$\Psi(R) \leq \exp(C(R_0 - R))\Psi(R_0) + C(E_0 + 1)(R_0 - R) \tag{3.7}$$

where $E_0 = E(v(\cdot, 0))$.

Proof Let

$$w(x, t) = v(x + x_0, t + t_0)$$

$$\alpha(x) = \beta(x + x_0)$$

$$\varphi(x) = \phi(x + x_0)$$

$$v_R(x, t) = w(Rx, R^2t)$$

$$\alpha_R(x) = \alpha(Rx)$$

$$\varphi_R(x) = \varphi(Rx)$$

then

$$w_t = \Delta w + \frac{2\nabla\alpha}{\alpha}\nabla w + \frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha}w + \frac{\alpha^2}{\varepsilon^2}(1 - |w|^2)w$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{T_R(0)} \frac{1}{2} \left[|\nabla w|^2 + \frac{\alpha^2}{2\varepsilon^2}(1 - |w|^2)^2 \right] G\varphi^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{T_R(z_0)} \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] G_{z_0}\phi^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Psi(R) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{T_1} \left[|\nabla v_R|^2 + \frac{R^2}{2\varepsilon^2}\alpha_R^2(1 - |v_R|^2)^2 \right] G\varphi_R^2 dx dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dR}\Psi(R)|_{R=1} &= \int_{T_1} \left\{ \left[-\frac{1}{2t}(x \cdot \nabla v_1) - \Delta v_1 - \frac{\alpha_1^2}{\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_1|^2)v_1 \right] (x \cdot \nabla v_1 + 2t\partial_t v_1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\alpha_1^2}{\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_1|^2)^2 + \frac{\alpha_1}{\varepsilon^2}(x \cdot \nabla \alpha_1)(1 - |v_1|^2)^2 \right\} G\varphi_1^2 \\ &\quad - 2 \int_{T_1} G\varphi_1 \nabla v_1 \nabla \varphi (x \cdot \nabla v_1 + 2t\partial_t v_1) \\ &\quad + \int_{T_1} \left[|\nabla v_1|^2 + \frac{\alpha_1^2}{2\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_1|^2)^2 \right] G\varphi_1 (x \cdot \nabla \varphi_1) \\ &=: I + II + III \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that $\frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} = \frac{x_i}{2t}G$. We also denote $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, (\nabla\varphi_R)|_{R=1}$ by $\partial_t, \nabla\varphi_1$, respectively, etc.

The first term may be estimated

$$\begin{aligned} I &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_{T_1} \left\{ \frac{1}{2|t|} (x \cdot \nabla v_1 + 2t\partial_t v_1)^2 + \frac{\alpha_1^2}{\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_1|^2)^2 \right\} G\varphi_1^2 - C\Psi(1) - C \\ |II| &\leq \frac{1}{8} \int_{T_1} \frac{1}{|t|} |x \cdot \nabla v_1 + 2t\partial_t v_1|^2 G\varphi_1^2 + C \int_{T_1} |\nabla v_1|^2 G|\nabla\varphi_1|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}|I| + C\Psi(1) + C(E_0 + 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |III| &\leq \frac{1}{2}\Psi(1) + \int_{T_1} \frac{1}{2} \left[|\nabla v_1|^2 + \frac{\alpha_1^2}{2\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_1|^2)^2 \right] G|x \cdot \nabla \varphi_1|^2 \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2}\Psi(1) + C(E_0 + 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $E_0 = E(v(\cdot, 0))$. From the differential inequality

$$\frac{d}{dR}\Psi(R) \geq \frac{1}{8R} \int_{T_R} \frac{|x \cdot \nabla v_1 + 2t\partial_t v_1|^2}{|t|} G\varphi_1^2 - C\Psi(R) - C(E_0 + 1)$$

now (3.7) follows.

The proof of (3.6) is similar to (3.7).

Lemma 3.5 (Small energy regularity theorem) *There exists a constant $\theta_0 \in (0, 1/2)$ depending only on β , such that if for some $0 < R < \sqrt{t_0}/2$, $z_0 = (x_0, t_0)$, $v = v_\varepsilon$ satisfies*

$$\Psi(R) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{T_R(z_0)} \left[|\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}\beta^2(1 - |v|^2)^2 \right] G_{z_0} dxdt < \theta_0 \quad (3.8)$$

then

$$\sup_{P_{\delta R}(z_0)} \left\{ |\nabla v|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}\beta^2(1 - |v|^2)^2 \right\} \leq C(\delta R)^{-2} \quad (3.9)$$

with a constant $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ depending only on E_0 and $\inf\{R, 1\}$ and an absolute constant C .

Proof The proof of Lemma 3.5 is identical to [Lemma 2.1, 14]. For convenience of readers, we sketch it here. Without loss of generality, one considers the case that $z_0 = (0, 0)$. Set $r_1 = \delta R$, $0 < \delta < 1/2$ to be determined later. For $r, \sigma \in (0, r_1)$, $r + \sigma < r_1$, and $z_0 = (x_0, t_0) \in P_r$, let $e_\varepsilon(v) = e(v)$ in the proof of Lemma 3.5, by using monotonicity inequality, we get ([14])

$$\sigma^{-2} \leq \int_{P_\sigma(z_0)} e(v) \leq C \int_{T_R} e(v)(G + \theta R^{-2}) dxdt + CR(E_0 + 1)$$

for any given $\theta > 0$, if $\delta > 0$ is small enough (For small R , $\delta = O(|\log R|^{-1/2})$). Therefore, from (3.8) it follows that

$$\sigma^{-2} \int_{P_\sigma(z_0)} e(v) dxdt \leq C\theta_0 + C(\theta + \theta_0)E_0 \quad (3.10)$$

Since v is regular, there exists $\sigma_0 \in (0, r_1)$, such that

$$(r_1 - \sigma_0)^2 \sup_{P_{\sigma_0}} e(v) = \max_{0 \leq \sigma \leq r_1} (r_1 - \sigma)^2 \sup_{P_\sigma} e(v)$$

and there exists $(x_0, t_0) \in \bar{P}_{\sigma_0}$ such that

$$\sup_{P_{\sigma_0}} e(v) = e(v)(x_0, t_0) = e_0$$

Set $\rho_0 = (r_1 - \sigma_0)/2$ and $r_0 = \rho_0 \sqrt[3]{e_0}$. By the choice of σ_0 , we have

$$\sup_{P_{\rho_0}(x_0, t_0)} e(v) \leq \sup_{P_{\sigma_0 + \rho_0}} e(v) \leq 4e_0$$

We introduce

$$w(x, t) = v \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} + x_0, \frac{t}{e_0} + t_0 \right)$$

Thus

(i)

$$w_t - \Delta w + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} \left(\frac{2}{\beta} \nabla \beta \right) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} + x_0 \right) \nabla w + \frac{1}{e_0} \left(\frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} \right) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} + x_0 \right) w + \frac{1}{e_0 \varepsilon^2} \beta^2 \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} \right) (1 - |w|^2) w = 0 \text{ in } P_{r_0}$$

(ii)

$$e(w)(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} |\nabla w|^2 + \frac{1}{4e_0 \varepsilon^2} \beta^2 \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[3]{e_0}} + x_0 \right) (1 - |w|^2)^2 \text{ for } (x, t) \in P_{r_0}$$

(iii)

$$e(w)(0, 0) = 1$$

Now we claim that there exists a constant $C > 0$, such that $r_0 \leq C$. In fact, if the constant C does not exist, then we may assume that there is a sequence of solutions $\{w_i\}$ of (i) in P_1 with the following properties:

(iv)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_i - \Delta w_i + \delta_i a_i \nabla w_i + \delta_i^2 b_i w_i + \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 (1 - |w_i|^2) w_i = 0 \text{ in } P_1$$

$$\text{with } \delta_i \rightarrow 0 \text{ (as } i \rightarrow \infty)$$

(v)

$$e(w_i) = \frac{1}{2} |\nabla w_i|^2 + \frac{\delta_i^2}{4\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 (1 - |w_i|^2)^2 \leq 4 \text{ in } P_1$$

(vi)

$$e(w_i)(0, 0) = 1$$

where $a_i = \left(\frac{2\nabla \beta}{\beta} \right) (\delta_i x + x_0)$, $b_i = \frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta} (\delta_i x + x_0)$, $|a_i| \leq C$, $|b_i| \leq C$. Moreover, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_t - \Delta) \left(\frac{1}{2} |\nabla w_i|^2 \right) &= \nabla (\partial_t w_i - \Delta w_i) \cdot \nabla w_i - |\nabla^2 w_i|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 (1 - |w_i|^2)^2 \right]^2 |w_i|^2 + C |\nabla w_i|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 (1 - |w_i|^2) |\nabla w_i|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla^2 w_i|^2 + \delta_i^2 |w_i|^2 - |\nabla^2 w_i|^2 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\delta_i^2}{4\varepsilon_i^2}(\partial_t - \Delta)(\beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2)^2) \\ &= - \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 - \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) w_i \cdot [\delta_i a_i \nabla w_i + \delta_i^2 b_i w_i] \\ &+ \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 + C |\nabla w_i|^2 - 2 \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 |w_i|^2 |\nabla w_i|^2 \\ &- \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) |\nabla w_i|^2 \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} & (\partial_t - \Delta)e(w_i) + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla^2 v_i|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 \\ & \leq C |\nabla w_i|^2 + \delta_i^2 |w_i|^2 + 2 \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) |\nabla w_i|^2 \\ & - \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) w_i \delta_i a_i \nabla w_i - \frac{\delta_i^4}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 b_i(1 - |w_i|^2) |w_i|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

Note that

$$e(w_i) \leq 4 \text{ in } P_1$$

one has

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq |w_i| \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

once ε_i/δ_i is small enough. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \left| 2 \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) |\nabla w_i|^2 \right| &= \left| \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) |w_i| \frac{|\nabla w_i|^2}{|w_i|} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 + C |\nabla w_i|^4 \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

By Young's inequality, one has

$$\left| \frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) w_i \delta_i (a_i \cdot \nabla) w_i \right| \leq \frac{1}{8} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 + C |\nabla w_i|^2 \quad (3.13)$$

$$\left| \frac{\delta_i^4}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2 b_i(1 - |w_i|^2) |w_i|^2 \right| \leq \frac{1}{8} \left[\frac{\delta_i^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \beta_i^2(1 - |w_i|^2) \right]^2 |w_i|^2 + C \delta_i^4 |w_i|^2 \quad (3.14)$$

Combining (3.11), (3.12), (3.13), with (3.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_t - \Delta)e(w_i) &\leq Ce(w_i) + Ce^2(w_i) + C(\delta_i^4 + \delta_i^2) \\ &\leq Ce(w_i) + C\delta_i \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

where we have used the fact that $|w_i| \leq 3/2$, $\delta_i \ll 1$. Let $\bar{e} = e(w_i) + C\delta_i$, then (3.15) implies that

$$\partial_t \bar{e} - \Delta \bar{e} \leq C\bar{e} \text{ in } P_1$$

Thus the Moser's estimate for the linear heat equations implies that

$$\sup_{P_{1/2}} \bar{e} \leq C \int_{P_1} \bar{e} \leq C \int_{P_1} e(w_i) + C\delta_i \quad (3.16)$$

Again, by (3.10), one has

$$\int_{P_1} e(w_i) dx dt = \left(\frac{1}{\delta_i}\right)^2 \int_{P_{\delta_i}(x_0, t_0)} e(v_i) \leq C\theta_0 + C(\theta + \theta_0)E_0$$

Hence

$$\sup_{P_{1/2}} \bar{e} \leq C\theta_0 + C(\theta + \theta_0) + C\delta_i \quad (3.17)$$

(3.17) is an obvious contradiction to (vi) if θ_0 and θ are small enough, and i is large enough. Thus we complete the proof of Lemma 3.5.

Proof of Theorem 3.1 The proof of [1; Theorem 5.2] carries over almost literally. For the sake of completeness, we sketch it here. We suppose v_ε weakly converges as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ to v in $H^1(Q_1)$. Hence v is smooth inside Q_1 by Lemma 3.2.

Denote by Σ the set of points (x_0, t_0) such that $|x_0| < 1$, $t_0 \in (-1, 0]$, and such that $e_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon)(x, t) dx dt$ does not converge weakly to $\frac{1}{2}|\nabla v|^2(x, t) dx dt$ as Radon measures on $P_r(x_0, t_0)$ for any $r \in (0, r_0)$. Here $r_0 = \min\{1 - |x_0|, \sqrt[3]{1 + t_0}\}$ and

$$P_r(x_0, t_0) = \{(x, t) : |x - x_0| < r_0, t_0 - r_0^2 \leq t \leq t_0\}$$

Suppose $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$, and let $(x_0, t_0) \in \Sigma$. After a translation and a scaling, we may assume $r_0 = 1$, $(x_0, t_0) = (0, 0)$. For the scaled sequence

$$w_\varepsilon(x, t) = v_\varepsilon\left(\frac{r_0}{2}x + x_0, \frac{r_0^2}{4}t + t_0\right)$$

one has

$$\begin{aligned} e_\varepsilon(w_\varepsilon) &= \frac{1}{2}|\nabla w_\varepsilon|^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon}\beta^2\left(\frac{2}{r_0}(x - x_0)\right)(1 - |w_\varepsilon|^2)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}|\nabla v_\varepsilon|^2\left(\frac{r_0}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}\beta^2\left(\frac{2}{r_0}(x - x_0)\right)(1 - |v_\varepsilon|^2)^2 \\ \partial_t w_\varepsilon &= \frac{r_0^2}{4}\partial_t v_\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{-1}^0 \int_{B_1} e_\epsilon(w_\epsilon) dx dt = \frac{r_0^2}{4} \int_{-\frac{1}{4}r_0^2+t_0}^{t_0} \int_{B(x_0, \frac{r_0}{2})}^{16/r_0^4} \frac{1}{2} [|\nabla v_\epsilon|^2 + \frac{\beta^2(1-|v_\epsilon|^2)^2}{2(r_0\epsilon/2)^2}] dx dt \leq C(r_0)$$

$$\int_{-1}^0 \int_{B_1} |\partial_t w_\epsilon|^2 dx dt = \frac{r_0^2}{4} \int_{-1}^0 \int_{B_1} |\partial_t v_\epsilon|^2 dx dt \leq C(r_0)$$

So $w_\epsilon(x, t)$ satisfies the same hypothesis as v_ϵ on Q_1 with ϵ replaced by $2\epsilon/r_0$.

Since

$$w_\epsilon(x, t) \rightarrow v\left(x_0 + \frac{r_0}{2}x, t_0 + \frac{r_0^2}{2}t\right) = w(x, t)$$

and $w(x, t) : Q_1 \rightarrow S^1$ satisfies

$$\partial_t w = \Delta w + \frac{2\nabla\alpha}{\alpha} \nabla w + \frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha} w + \frac{1}{\alpha^2} (\alpha\Delta\alpha - \alpha^2|\nabla w|^2)w$$

with

$$\int_{Q_1} [|\nabla w|^2 + |\partial_t w|^2] dx dt \leq C_0$$

where $\alpha(x) = \beta\left(x_0 + \frac{r_0}{2}x\right)$, we have, for any $\rho_0 \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $-\frac{1}{4} \leq -T_0 = -\rho_0^2 \leq 0$, that

$$\int_{B_{\rho_0}^2(0)} |\nabla w|^2(x, T_0) dx \leq C_1 \rho_0^2$$

for some constant depending only on C_0 .

We shall choose ρ_0 so small that if

$$\int_{B_{\rho_0}^2(0)} e_\epsilon(w_\epsilon)(x, T_0) dx \leq 2C\rho_0^2$$

then

$$e_\epsilon(w_\epsilon) dx dt \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} |\nabla w|^2(x, t) dx dt \text{ in } P_{\rho_0/2}(0, 0)$$

The last statement follows from the small energy regularity theorem and Lemma 3.5.

Since $(0, 0) \in \Sigma$, we see that for a.e. $\rho \in (0, \rho_0)$, $e_\epsilon(w_\epsilon)(x, -\rho^2) dx$ does not converge weakly to

$$\frac{1}{2} |\nabla w|^2(x, -\rho^2) dx$$

as Radon measures on $B_{2\rho}(0)$. Since $\int_{Q_1} |\partial_t w_\epsilon|^2 dx dt \leq C_0$, we may find a $\rho \in (0, \rho_0)$ such that

$$\int_{B_1} |\partial_t w_\epsilon|^2(x, -\rho^2) dx \leq \frac{2C_0}{\rho_0}$$

Now we look at the sequence $w_\epsilon(x, -\rho^2)$ that satisfies all the hypotheses of the following lemma ([1, Lemma 5.4]).

Lemma 3.6 *Let $\{v_\varepsilon\}$ be the solutions of*

$$\Delta v_\varepsilon + \frac{\beta^2}{2\varepsilon^2}(1 - |v_\varepsilon|^2)v_\varepsilon = f_\varepsilon$$

with $\|\nabla v_\varepsilon\|_{L^\infty(B_1)} \leq \frac{M}{\varepsilon}$, $\int_{B_1} e_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon) dx \leq M$, $\|f_\varepsilon\|_{L^2(B_1)} \leq M$. Suppose $v_\varepsilon \rightharpoonup v_$ converges weakly in $H^1(B_1)$, then*

$$v_\varepsilon \rightarrow v_* \text{ strongly in } H_{loc}^1(B_1)$$

Since $e_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon)(x, -\rho^2) dx$ does not converge weakly to $\frac{1}{2}|\nabla w|^2(x, -\rho^2) dx$, we obtain a contradiction. This proves the theorem.

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