

## EXISTENCE OF GLOBAL SOLUTIONS FOR A PREDATOR-PREY MODEL WITH CROSS-DIFFUSION

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ABSTRACT. In this article, we prove the existence of global classical solutions for a prey-predator model when the space dimension  $n < 10$ . Under certain conditions on the coefficients of the reaction functions, the convergence of solutions is established for the system with large diffusion by constructing a Lyapunov function.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

To investigate the spatial segregation under the self and cross population pressure, Shigesada, Kawasaki and Teramoto [1] proposed a competition model in 1979. Then there have been established many results in the literatures; see for example [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]. For the cross-diffusion systems with prey-predator type reaction functions, there are a few results mainly on the steady-state problems with the elliptic systems, see [10, 11, 12, 13, 14].

In this paper, we study the following cross-diffusion system, with prey-predator type reactions,

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - \Delta[(d_1 + \alpha_{11}u + \alpha_{12}v)u] &= u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, \infty), \\v_t - \Delta[(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + \alpha_{22}v)v] &= v(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, \infty), \\ \partial_\eta u &= \partial_\eta v = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, \infty), \\ u(x, 0) &= u_0(x) \geq 0, \quad v(x, 0) = v_0(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega,\end{aligned}\tag{1.1}$$

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) is a bounded domain with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $\eta$  is the outward unit normal vector of the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ , and  $\partial_\eta = \partial/\partial\eta$ .  $\alpha_{ij}$  are given nonnegative constants for  $i, j = 1, 2$ . And  $d_i, b_i, c_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $a_1$  are positive constants only  $a_2$  may be non-positive.

In system (1.1),  $u$  and  $v$  are nonnegative functions which represent the population densities of the prey and predator species, respectively,  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  are the random diffusion rates of the two species,  $\alpha_{11}$  and  $\alpha_{22}$  are self-diffusion rates, and  $\alpha_{12}$  and  $\alpha_{21}$  are the so-called cross-diffusion rates. When  $\alpha_{ij} = 0$  ( $i, j = 1, 2$ ), the system is the well-known Lotka-Volterra prey-predator model. For more details on the biological background, see references [1, 18].

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Local existence (in time) of solutions to (1.1) was established by Amann in a series of important papers [15, 16, 17]. His result can be summarized as follows:

**Theorem 1.1.** *Suppose that  $u_0, v_0$  are in  $W_p^1(\Omega)$  for some  $p > n$ . Then (1.1) has a unique non-negative smooth solution  $u(x, t), v(x, t)$  in*

$$C([0, T], W_p^1(\Omega)) \cap C^\infty((0, T), C^\infty(\Omega))$$

with maximal existence time  $T$ . Moreover, if the solution  $(u, v)$  satisfies the estimate

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{W_p^1(\Omega)} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{W_p^1(\Omega)} < \infty,$$

then  $T = \infty$ .

However, little is known about global existence of solutions to (1.1). In 2006, Shim [18] proved the existence of global solutions to (1.1) in two cases: Case(A)  $n = 1$ ,  $d_1 = d_2$  and  $\alpha_{11} = \alpha_{22} = 0$ ; Case(B)  $n = 1$ ,  $0 < \alpha_{21} < 8\alpha_{11}$  and  $0 < \alpha_{12} < 8\alpha_{22}$ .

In [19] the author considered the case when  $\alpha_{11}, \alpha_{12}, \alpha_{22} > 0$  and  $\alpha_{21} = 0$  for the system (1.1), and established the existence of global solutions with  $n = 1$ .

We shall prove the existence of global solutions to the following system (namely, the system (1.1) for  $\alpha_{12} = 0$ )

$$\begin{aligned} u_t - \Delta[(d_1 + \alpha_{11}u)u] &= u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, \infty), \\ v_t - \Delta[(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + \alpha_{22}v)v] &= v(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, \infty), \\ \partial_\eta u = \partial_\eta v &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, \infty), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \geq 0, \quad v(x, 0) &= v_0(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega. \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

This paper draws on ideas from two papers [6] and [9] which deal with cross-diffusion system with competition type reactions. Duo to the difference in the reaction functions. Therefore, in order to obtain the  $L^p$ -estimate of  $v$ , we have to estimate the term  $uv^p$ . We also obtain result on the asymptotic stability of the global solution to (1.2) if the diffusion coefficients are large enough by an important Lemma 5.1 from [21]. We summarize our results in the following theorems:

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\alpha_{22} > 0$  and assume that  $u_0 \geq 0, v_0 \geq 0$  satisfy zero Neumann boundary condition and belong to  $C^{2+\lambda}(\bar{\Omega})$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ . Then (1.2) possesses a unique non-negative solution  $u, v \in C^{2+\lambda, \frac{2+\lambda}{2}}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, \infty))$  if either (i)  $\alpha_{11} = 0$  or (ii)  $\alpha_{11} > 0$  and  $n < 10$ .*

**Theorem 1.3.** *Assume that all conditions in Theorem 1.2 are satisfied. Assume further that*

$$-\frac{a_1 b_2}{b_1 c_2} < \frac{a_2}{c_2} < \frac{a_1}{c_1}, \tag{1.3}$$

$$4\rho\bar{u}\bar{v}d_1d_2 > m^2(\bar{v}\alpha_{21})^2. \tag{1.4}$$

Then (1.2) has the unique positive equilibrium point  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$  which is global asymptotic stable, where  $m$  is the positive constant in Lemma 2.1 (independent of  $d_1, d_2$ ),  $\rho = (b_2c_1 + 2b_1c_2)b_2^{-2}$  and

$$(\bar{u}, \bar{v}) = \left( \frac{a_1c_2 - a_2c_1}{b_1c_2 + b_2c_1}, \frac{a_2b_1 + a_1b_2}{b_1c_2 + b_2c_1} \right).$$

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we collect some well known results and prove three new lemmas that are needed in section 3 and section 4. In section 3, we establish  $L^r$ -estimates of the solution  $v$  of (1.2) and in section 4 we give a proof of Theorem 1.2. In section 5, we give a proof of Theorem 1.3.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

We list here some notation.

$$\begin{aligned} Q_T &= \Omega \times [0, T], \\ \|u\|_{L^{p,q}(Q_T)} &= \left( \int_0^T \left( \int_{\Omega} |u(x,t)|^p dx \right)^{\frac{q}{p}} dt \right)^{1/q}, \quad L^p(Q_T) := L^{p,p}(Q_T), \\ \|u\|_{W_P^{2,1}(Q_T)} &:= \|u\|_{L^p(Q_T)} + \|u_t\|_{L^p(Q_T)} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(Q_T)} + \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^p(Q_T)}, \\ \|u\|_{V_2(Q_T)} &:= \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|\nabla u(x, t)\|_{L^2(Q_T)}. \end{aligned}$$

Firstly, we present some useful lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $u, v$  be a solution of (1.2) in  $[0, T]$ . Then  $0 \leq u \leq m$  and  $v \geq 0$  in  $Q_T$ , where  $m = \max\{\frac{a_1}{b_1}, \|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}\}$ .*

*Proof.* The first equation in (1.2) is expressed as

$$u_t = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\Delta u + 2\alpha_{11}\nabla u \cdot \nabla u + u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v), \quad (2.1)$$

and the second equation is written as

$$v_t = (d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\Delta v + 2(\alpha_{21}\nabla u + \alpha_{22}\nabla v)\nabla v + v(\alpha_{21}\Delta u + a_2 + b_2u - c_2v). \quad (2.2)$$

Then application of the maximum principle for (2.1) and (2.2) yields the nonnegativity of  $u$  and  $v$ . Applying the maximum principle to (2.1) again one can also show the boundedness of  $u$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *There exists a positive  $C_1(T)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} &< C_1(T), \quad \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} < C_1(T), \\ \|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)} &< C_1(T), \quad \|v\|_{L^2(Q_T)} < C_1(T). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Integrating the first equation in (1.2) over the domain  $\Omega$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u dx &= a_1 \int_{\Omega} u dx - b_1 \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx - c_1 \int_{\Omega} uv dx \\ &\leq a_1 \int_{\Omega} u dx - b_1 \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx \\ &\leq a_1 \int_{\Omega} u dx - \frac{b_1}{|\Omega|} \left( \int_{\Omega} u dx \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

where we used Hölder's inequality. Then we have  $\|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq M'_1$ , where  $M'_1 = \max\{\|u_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)}, \frac{a_1}{b_1}|\Omega|\}$ . Furthermore,

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} < C_1(T). \quad (2.4)$$

Since

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u dx \leq a_1 \int_{\Omega} u dx - b_1 \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx. \quad (2.5)$$

Integrating (2.5) from 0 to  $T$ , we have

$$\|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq \frac{a_1}{b_1} M'_1 |Q_T| + \|u_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\|u\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq C_1(T). \quad (2.6)$$

Now, integrating the second equation in the system (1.2) over the domain  $\Omega$  we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} v dx = a_2 \int_{\Omega} v dx + b_2 \int_{\Omega} u v dx - c_2 \int_{\Omega} v^2 dx. \quad (2.7)$$

Multiplying (2.3) by  $\frac{b_2}{c_1}$  and adding it to (2.7), we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{b_2}{c_1} u + v \right) dx \leq \frac{a_1 b_2}{c_1} \int_{\Omega} u dx + |a_2| \int_{\Omega} v dx - \frac{b_1 b_2}{c_1} \int_{\Omega} u^2 dx - c_2 \int_{\Omega} v^2 dx. \quad (2.8)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \min\left\{1, \frac{b_2}{c_1}\right\} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} (u + v) dx \\ & \leq \max\left\{\frac{a_1 b_2}{c_1}, |a_2|\right\} \int_{\Omega} (u + v) dx - \min\left\{\frac{b_1 b_2}{c_1}, c_2\right\} \int_{\Omega} (u^2 + v^2) dx \\ & \leq \max\left\{\frac{a_1 b_2}{c_1}, |a_2|\right\} \int_{\Omega} (u + v) dx - \frac{1}{2} \min\left\{\frac{b_1 b_2}{c_1}, c_2\right\} \left[ \int_{\Omega} (u + v) dx \right]^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq M'_2$ , where  $M'_2 = \max\left\{\frac{A_1}{A_2}, \|u_0 + v_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)}\right\}$ ,

$$A_1 = \frac{\max\left\{\frac{a_1 b_2}{c_1}, |a_2|\right\}}{\min\left\{1, \frac{b_2}{c_1}\right\}}, \quad A_2 = \frac{\min\left\{\frac{b_1 b_2}{c_1}, c_2\right\}}{2 \min\left\{1, \frac{b_2}{c_1}\right\}}.$$

Then

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} < C_1(T). \quad (2.9)$$

Integrating (2.8) from 0 to  $T$ , we have

$$c_2 \int_{Q_T} v^2 dx dt \leq \frac{a_1 b_2}{c_1} \int_0^T M'_1 dt + |a_2| \int_0^T M'_2 dt + \frac{b_2}{c_1} \|u_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)} + \|v_0\|_{L^1(\Omega)},$$

which implies  $\|v\|_{L^2(Q_T)} \leq C_1(T)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $w_1 = (d_1 + \alpha_{11}u)u$ . Then there exists a constant  $C_2(T)$ , depending on  $\|u_0\|_{W_2^1(\Omega)}$  and  $\|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}$  such that*

$$\|w_1\|_{W_2^{2,1}(Q_T)} \leq C_2(T). \quad (2.10)$$

Furthermore,  $\nabla w_1 \in V_2(Q_T)$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $w_1$  satisfies the equation

$$w_{1t} = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\Delta w_1 + n_1 + n_2 v, \quad (2.11)$$

where  $n_1 = u(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)(a_1 - b_1u)$ ,  $n_2 = -c_1(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)u$  depend on  $u$  and are bounded functions because of Lemma 2.1. Multiplying the above equation by  $-\Delta w_1$  and integration by parts over  $\Omega$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1|^2 dx = - \int_{\Omega} (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)(\Delta w_1)^2 dx - \int_{\Omega} (n_1 + n_2 v)\Delta w_1 dx. \quad (2.12)$$

Integrating (2.12) from 0 to  $t$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, t)|^2 dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, 0)|^2 dx \\ &= - \int_{Q_t} (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)(\Delta w_1)^2 dx dt - \int_{Q_t} (n_1 + n_2v)\Delta w_1 dx dt \\ &\leq -d_1 \int_{Q_t} |\Delta w_1|^2 dx dt + \int_{Q_t} (n_1 + n_2v) \cdot |\Delta w_1| dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

By Young's inequality and Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, t)|^2 dx + d_1 \int_{Q_T} |\Delta w_1|^2 dx dt \\ &\leq (\|n_1\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \|n_2v\|_{L^2(Q_T)}) \cdot \|\Delta w_1\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, 0)|^2 dx \\ &\leq m_1(1 + \|v\|_{L^2(Q_T)}) \cdot \|\Delta w_1\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, 0)|^2 dx \\ &\leq m_1(1 + C_1(T)) \cdot \|\Delta w_1\|_{L^2(Q_T)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, 0)|^2 dx \\ &\leq \frac{d_1}{2} \|\Delta w_1\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 + \frac{m_1^2(1 + C_1(T))^2}{2d_1} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1(x, 0)|^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla w_1|^2(x, t) dx + d_1 \int_{Q_T} |\Delta w_1|^2 dx dt \leq m_2,$$

where  $m_2$  depends on  $\|u_0\|_{W_2^1(\Omega)}$  and  $\|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}$ . This implies  $\nabla w_1 \in V_2(Q_T)$ . Since  $w_1 \in L^2(Q_T)$  we have from the elliptic regularity estimate [2, Lemma 2.3]

$$\int_{Q_T} \|(w_1)_{x_i x_j}\|^2 dx dt \leq m_3 \quad \text{for } i, j = 1, \dots, n.$$

From (2.11), since  $n_1, n_2$  and  $u$  are bounded and  $v \in L^2(Q_T)$ , we have  $w_{1t} \in L^2(Q_T)$ . Hence,  $w_1 \in W_2^{2,1}(Q_T)$ .  $\square$

Let  $a(x, t, \xi)$  be continuous and  $(x, \xi)$ -differentiable for  $(x, t, \xi) \in Q_T \times \mathbb{R}$ . Assume also that  $a(x, t, \xi)$  satisfies the following conditions

- (i) There is  $d > 0$  such that  $a(x, t, \xi) \geq d$  and  $a_\xi(x, t, \xi) \geq 0$  for all  $(x, t) \in Q_T$  and  $\xi$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- (ii) There is a continuous function  $M$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $a(x, t, \xi) \leq M(\xi)$  for all  $(x, t) \in Q_T$ .
- (iii) For any bounded measurable function  $g$  on  $Q_T$ ,  $|\nabla_x a(\cdot, \cdot, g(\cdot, \cdot))|$  is in the space  $L^{2p}(Q_T)$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Assume that  $w \in W_p^{2,1}(Q_T) \cap C^{2,1}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T])$  is a bounded function satisfying*

$$w_t \leq a(x, t, w)\Delta w + f(x, t) \quad \text{in } Q_T$$

*with boundary condition  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \leq 0$  on  $\partial_{Q_T}$ , where  $f \in L^p(Q_T)$ . Then,  $\nabla w$  is in  $L^{2p}(Q_T)$ .*

The proof of the above lemma can be found in [9, Proposition 2.1].

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $q > 1$ ,  $\tilde{q} = 2 + \frac{4q}{n(q+1)}$ ,  $\tilde{\beta}$  in  $(0, 1)$  and let  $C_T > 0$  be any number which may depend on  $T$ . Then there is a constant  $M_1$  depending on  $q, n, \Omega, \tilde{\beta}$  and  $C_T$  such that for any  $g$  in  $C([0, T], W_2^1(\Omega))$  with  $(\int_{\Omega} |g(\cdot, t)|^{\tilde{\beta}} dx)^{1/\tilde{\beta}} \leq C_T$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ , we have the inequality*

$$\|g\|_{L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)} \leq M_1 \left\{ 1 + \left( \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|g(\cdot, t)\|_{L^{2q/q+1}(\Omega)} \right)^{4q/n(q+1)\tilde{q}} \|\nabla g\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^{2/\tilde{q}} \right\}.$$

The proof of the above lemma can be found in [6, Lemmas 2.3, 2.4].

### 3. $L^r$ -ESTIMATES FOR $v$

**Lemma 3.1.** *There exists a constant  $C_3(T)$  such that  $\|\nabla u\|_{L^4(Q_T)} \leq C_3(T)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\delta = \alpha_{11}/d_1$ ,  $w_1 = (1 + \delta u)u$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $u$  is bounded. Therefore,  $w_1$  is also bounded. By Lemma 2.3, we have  $w_1 \in W_2^{2,1}(Q_T)$ . Moreover,  $w_1$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} w_{1t} &\leq d_1(1 + 2\delta u)\Delta w_1 + a_1 u(1 + 2\delta u) \\ &= \sqrt{d_1^2 + 4\delta d_1 w_1} \Delta w_1 + a_1 u(1 + 2\delta u). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.4 with  $p = 2$ ,  $a(x, t, \xi) = \sqrt{d_1^2 + 4\delta d_1 \xi}$ ,  $f(x, t) = a_1 u(x, t)(1 + 2\delta u(x, t))$ , we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $r > 2$  and  $p_r = \frac{2r}{r-2}$  be two positive numbers. Assume that  $\alpha_{22} > 0$  and assume also that there is a constant  $M_{r,T} > 0$  depending only on  $r, T, \Omega$  and the coefficients of (1.2) such that*

$$\|\nabla u\|_{L^r(Q_T)} \leq M_{r,T}.$$

*Then for any  $q > 1$ , there exists a constant  $C(r, q, T) > 0$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} &\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^q(\Omega)}^q + \|\nabla(v^{q/2})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}^2 + \|\nabla(v^{(q+1)/2})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}^2 \\ &\leq C(r, q, T) \left( 1 + \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{q-1} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

*Proof.* For any constant  $q > 1$ , multiplying the second equation of (1.2) by  $qv^{q-1}$  and using the integration by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\Omega} v^q dx \\ &= q \int_{\Omega} v^{q-1} \nabla \cdot [(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\nabla v + \alpha_{21}v\nabla u] dx + q \int_{\Omega} v^q (a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) dx \\ &= -q(q-1) \int_{\Omega} v^{q-2} (d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v) |\nabla v|^2 dx - \alpha_{21}(q-1) \int_{\Omega} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u dx \\ &\quad + q \int_{\Omega} v^q (a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) dx \\ &\leq -q(q-1)d_2 \int_{\Omega} v^{q-2} |\nabla v|^2 dx - 2\alpha_{22}q(q-1) \int_{\Omega} v^{q-1} |\nabla v|^2 dx \\ &\quad - \alpha_{21}(q-1) \int_{\Omega} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u dx + q \int_{\Omega} v^q (a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) dx \\ &= -\frac{4(q-1)d_2}{q} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q}{2}})|^2 dx - \frac{8\alpha_{22}q(q-1)}{(q+1)^2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})|^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

$$- \alpha_{21}(q-1) \int_{\Omega} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u \, dx + q \int_{\Omega} v^q(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \, dx.$$

Integrating the above inequality from 0 to  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} v^q(x, t) \, dx + \frac{4(q-1)d_2}{q} \int_{Q_t} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q}{2}})|^2 \, dx \, dt + \frac{8\alpha_{22}q(q-1)}{(q+1)^2} \int_{Q_t} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})|^2 \, dx \, dt \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega} v^q(x, 0) \, dx - \alpha_{21}(q-1) \int_{Q_t} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u \, dx \, dt + q \int_{Q_t} v^q(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \, dx \, dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

By Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & q \int_{Q_t} v^q(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \, dx \, dt \\ & = a_2q \int_{Q_t} v^q \, dx \, dt - c_2q \int_{Q_t} v^{q+1} \, dx \, dt + b_2q \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt \\ & \leq -c_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + |a_2|q |Q_T|^{\frac{1}{q+1}} \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^q + b_2q \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt \\ & \leq -c_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + |a_2|q [\varepsilon \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + \varepsilon^{-q} |Q_T|^{\frac{q}{q+1}}] + b_2q \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt \\ & \leq B_1 + b_2q \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt, \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\varepsilon = \frac{c_2}{|a_2|}$ ,  $B_1$  depends on  $T, q, |\Omega|$  and the coefficients of (1.2).

On the other hand, since that  $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_r} = 1$ , using the Hölder's inequality and Poincaré inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt & = \int_{Q_t} u \cdot v^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \cdot v^{\frac{q+1}{2}} \, dx \, dt \\ & \leq \|v^{\frac{q-1}{2}}\|_{L^{p_r}(Q_t)} \cdot \|v^{\frac{q+1}{2}}\|_{L^2(Q_t)} \cdot \|u\|_{L^r(Q_t)} \\ & \leq C_4 m \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{(q-1)/2} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

The substitution (3.4) into (3.3) leads to

$$q \int_{Q_t} v^q(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \, dx \, dt \leq B_1 + C_5 \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{(q-1)/2} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}. \quad (3.5)$$

Since that  $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_r} = 1$  and  $\nabla u$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$ , using the Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| - \int_{Q_t} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u \, dx \, dt \right| & = \frac{2q}{q+1} \left| \int_{Q_t} v^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \cdot \nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}}) \cdot \nabla u \, dx \, dt \right| \\ & \leq \frac{2q}{q+1} \|v^{\frac{q-1}{2}}\|_{L^{p_r}(Q_t)} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)} \cdot \|\nabla u\|_{L^r(Q_t)} \\ & \leq \frac{2q}{q+1} \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)} \cdot \|\nabla u\|_{L^r(Q_t)} \\ & \leq \frac{2q}{q+1} M_{r,T} \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}. \end{aligned}$$

The substitution (3.5) and the above inequality into (3.2) leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} v^q(x, t) dx + \frac{4(q-1)d_2}{q} \int_{Q_t} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q}{2}})|^2 dx dt + \frac{8\alpha_{22}q(q-1)}{(q+1)^2} \int_{Q_t} |\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})|^2 dx dt \\ & \leq B_2 + C_6 \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \cdot \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)} \\ & \leq B_2 + \frac{C_6}{4\varepsilon} \|v\|_{L^{\frac{p_r(q-1)}{2}}(Q_t)}^{q-1} + C_6\varepsilon \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q+1}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_t)}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

where  $B_2 > 0$  depending on  $q, T, \Omega$  coefficients of (1.2) and initial data  $v_0$ . For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , from (3.6) and by choosing a sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ , such that  $C_6\varepsilon < \frac{8\alpha_{22}q(q-1)}{(q+1)^2}$ , we get (3.1). This completes the proof of the lemma.  $\square$

For any number  $a$ , we denote  $a_+ = \max\{a, 0\}$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $\alpha_{22} > 0$ .*

(i) *If  $\alpha_{11} > 0$ , then there is a constant  $C_7(T) > 0$  such that*

$$\|v\|_{V_2(Q_T)} \leq C_7(T).$$

*Moreover, for any constant  $r < \frac{4(n+1)}{(n-2)_+}$ , there exists a positive constant  $C_T$  such that*

$$\|v\|_{L^r(Q_T)} \leq C_T.$$

(ii) *If  $\alpha_{11} = 0$ , then*

$$\|v\|_{L^r(Q_T)} \leq C_T \quad \text{for any } r > 1.$$

*Proof.* (i) Set  $w = v^{(q+1)/2}$  so that  $v^q = w^{2q/(q+1)}$  and  $v^{q+1} = w^2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} E & \equiv \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_{\Omega} v^q(x, t) dx + \int_{Q_T} |\nabla(v^{(q+1)/2})|^2 dx dt \\ & = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_{\Omega} w^{2q/q+1} dx + \int_{Q_T} |\nabla w|^2 dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $r_0 = 4$ ,  $p_0 = \frac{2r_0}{r_0-2}$ . By Lemma 3.1, we see that  $\nabla u$  is in  $L^{r_0}(Q_T)$ . So, from Lemma 3.2, we have

$$E + \|\nabla(v^{\frac{q}{2}})\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq C(r_0, q, T) \left( 1 + \|w\|_{L^{\frac{p_0(q-1)}{q+1}}(Q_T)}^{\frac{2(q-1)}{q+1}} \right), \quad (3.7)$$

where  $C(r_0, q, T) > 0$  depending only  $T, \Omega$ , initial data  $u_0, v_0$  and the coefficients of (1.2). Since  $q > 1$ , if we restrict our  $q$  so that

$$(np_0 - 2n - 4)q \leq 2n + np_0. \quad (3.8)$$

Then,  $\frac{p_0(q-1)}{q+1} \leq \tilde{q}$ , where  $\tilde{q} = 2 + \frac{4q}{n(q+1)}$ . Therefore, by Hölder's inequality

$$\|w\|_{L^{\frac{p_0(q-1)}{q+1}}(Q_T)} \leq C_8(q, T) \|w\|_{L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)}, \quad (3.9)$$

where  $C_8(q, T) = |Q_T|^{\frac{q+1}{p_0(q-1)} - \frac{1}{\tilde{q}}}$ . Setting  $\tilde{\beta} = 2/(q+1) \in (0, 1)$ , by Lemma 2.2 we have

$$\|w(\cdot, t)\|_{L^{\tilde{\beta}}(\Omega)} = \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{\tilde{\beta}}} \leq (C_1(T))^{\frac{1}{\tilde{\beta}}}, \quad \forall t \in [0, T]. \quad (3.10)$$



Hence, by Lemma 2.5 and the definition of  $E$ , (3.10) yields

$$\|w\|_{L^{p_0(q-1)/q+1}(Q_T)} \leq C_8(q, T)\|w\|_{L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)} \leq C_8(q, T)M_1\{1 + E^{2/n\tilde{q}}E^{\frac{1}{\tilde{q}}}\}. \quad (3.11)$$

Then (3.7) together with the above inequality, we can find a constant  $C_9(q, T) > 0$  such that

$$E \leq C_9(q, T)(1 + E^\mu E^\nu) \quad (3.12)$$

with

$$\mu = \frac{4(q-1)}{n\tilde{q}(q+1)}, \quad \nu = \frac{2(q-1)}{\tilde{q}(q+1)}.$$

Since

$$\mu + \nu = \frac{2(q-1)}{\tilde{q}(q+1)}\left[\frac{2}{n} + 1\right] < \frac{1}{\tilde{q}}\left[\frac{4q}{n(q+2)} + 2\right] = 1,$$

it is easy to see from (3.12) that  $E$  is bounded. Therefore, from (3.11) and (3.12) we get  $w \in L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)$  which in turn implies that  $v \in L^r(Q_T)$  with  $r = \frac{\tilde{q}(q+1)}{2}$  for any  $q$  satisfying (3.8). Now, looking at (3.8), if  $n \leq 2$ , we have

$$np_0 - 2n - 4 = 2(n-2) \leq 0, \quad (3.13)$$

then (3.8) holds for all  $q$ . so for  $n \leq 2$ ,  $v \in L^r(Q_T)$  for all  $r > 1$ . Now, suppose that  $n > 2$ , we see (3.8) is equivalent to

$$1 < q < q_0 := \frac{2n + np_0}{(np_0 - 2n - 4)} = \frac{3n}{n-2}.$$

Then, we have

$$\frac{\tilde{q}(q+1)}{2} = q + 1 + \frac{2q}{n} \leq \bar{r}_1 := q_0 + 1 + \frac{2q_0}{n} = \frac{4(n+1)}{n-2}.$$

So, we see that  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for all  $1 < r \leq \bar{r}_1$ . Since (3.8) holds true for  $q = 2$ . So when  $q = 2$ , we have  $E$  is finite. Therefore, from (3.7) and (3.11), we see that  $\|v\|_{V_2(Q_T)}$  is bounded for any  $n$ , this completes the proof of Proposition 3.3 when  $\alpha_{11} > 0$  and  $r < \frac{4(n+2)}{(n-2)_+}$ .

Next, we consider the case  $\alpha_{11} = 0$ . By Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & q \int_{Q_t} v^q (a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \, dx \, dt \\ &= a_2q \int_{Q_t} v^q \, dx \, dt - c_2q \int_{Q_t} v^{q+1} \, dx \, dt + b_2q \int_{Q_t} uv^q \, dx \, dt \\ &\leq -c_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + |a_2|q|Q_T|^{\frac{1}{q+1}} \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^q \\ &\quad + b_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^q \cdot \|u\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)} \\ &\leq -c_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + |a_2|q|Q_T|^{\frac{1}{q+1}} \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^q + b_2qm \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^q \\ &\leq -c_2q \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + q\varepsilon \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_t)}^{q+1} + B_3 \\ &\leq B_3, \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

where  $\varepsilon = c_2$  and  $B_3 > 0$  which depends only on  $T, q, |\Omega|, \|u_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}$  and the coefficients of (1.2).

We can integrate by parts once to obtain from Lemma 2.1 and analogue of [20, Theorem 9.1, p. 341-342] for Neumann boundary condition [20, p.351]

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| - \int_{Q_t} \nabla(v^q) \cdot \nabla u \, dx \, dt \right| \\
&= \left| - \int_{Q_t} v^q \Delta u \, dx \, dt \right| \\
&\leq \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)}^q \cdot \|\Delta u\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)} \\
&\leq C_{10} \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)}^q \left( \|u(a_1 - b_1 u - c_1 v)\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)} + \|u_0\|_{W_{q+1}^{2-\frac{2}{q+1}}(\Omega)} \right) \\
&\leq C_{11} \left( 1 + \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)}^{q+1} \right).
\end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

The substitution of (3.14) and (3.15) into (3.2) leads to

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|v^q(t)\|_{L^q(\Omega)}^q + \|\nabla(v^{(q+1)/2})\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq C_{12} (1 + \|v\|_{L^{q+1}(Q_T)}^{q+1}). \tag{3.16}$$

We introduce  $w = v^{\frac{q+1}{2}}$ , then (3.16) leads to

$$E \equiv \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|w(t)\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q+1}}(\Omega)}^{\frac{2q}{q+1}} + \|\nabla w\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq C_{12} (1 + \|w\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2). \tag{3.17}$$

Recall that Lemma 2.2 implies  $v \in L^2(Q_T)$ , so  $\|w\|_{L^{\frac{4}{q+1}}(Q_T)} \leq C_{13}$ . Since  $\frac{4}{q+1} < 2 \leq \tilde{q}$ . Then we see from Hölder's inequality

$$\|w\|_{L^2(Q_T)}^2 \leq \|w\|_{L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)}^{2(1-\lambda)} \|w\|_{L^{\frac{4}{q+1}}(Q_T)}^{2\lambda} \leq C_{13}^{2\lambda} \|w\|_{L^{\tilde{q}}(Q_T)}^{2(1-\lambda)}, \tag{3.18}$$

where  $\lambda = (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\tilde{q}}) / (\frac{q+1}{4} - \frac{1}{\tilde{q}})$ . Setting  $\tilde{\beta} = 2/(q+1) \in (0, 1)$ , we have  $\|w(\cdot, t)\|_{L^{\tilde{\beta}}(\Omega)} = \|v(\cdot, t)\|_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{\tilde{\beta}}} \leq C_1(T)^{\frac{1}{\tilde{\beta}}}$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$  by Lemma 2.2. Then it follow from (3.17), (3.18) and Lemma 2.5 that

$$E \leq C_{14} (1 + E^\alpha) \tag{3.19}$$

with

$$\alpha = \frac{2(1-\lambda)}{\tilde{q}} \left( \frac{2}{n} + 1 \right) < 1.$$

Thus (3.19) implies

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|w(t)\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q+1}}(\Omega)}^{\frac{2q}{q+1}} \leq E \leq C_{15}$$

with some  $C_{15} > 0$ , let  $r = q > 1$ , so that  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|v(t)\|_{L^r(\Omega)} \leq C_T$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

#### 4. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

The first step of the proof is to show  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for any  $r > 1$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $\alpha_{11} > 0$  and suppose that there are  $r_1 > \max\{\frac{n+2}{2}, 3\}$  and a positive constant  $C_{r_1, T}$  such that*

$$\|v\|_{L^{r_1}(Q_T)} \leq C_{r_1, T}.$$

*Then,  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for any  $r > 1$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is almost identical to [9, Lemma 4.1], but for completeness we repeat it here. First, the equation for  $u$  can be written in the divergence form as

$$u_t = \nabla \cdot [(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\nabla u] + u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v), \quad (4.1)$$

where  $d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u$  is bounded in  $\overline{Q}_T$  by Lemma 2.1 and  $u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v)$  is in  $L^{r_1}$  with  $r_1 > \frac{n+2}{2}$ . Application of the Hölder continuity result in [20, Theorem 10.1, p. 204] to (4.1) yields

$$u \in C^{\beta, \frac{\beta}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T) \quad \text{with some } \beta > 0. \quad (4.2)$$

Moreover, we have

$$w_{1t} = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\Delta w_1 + f_1, \quad (4.3)$$

where  $w_1 = (d_1 + \alpha_{11}u)u$  is as in the proof of Lemma 2.3,  $f_1 = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v)$ . Since  $u$  is bounded and by the assumption of this Lemma, we see that  $f_1$  is in  $L^{r_1}(Q_T)$ . From (4.2), Lemma 2.1 and Proposition 3.3, applying [20, Theorem 9.1, pp. 341-342] and its remark [20, P. 351], we have

$$w_1 \in W_{r_1}^{2,1}(Q_T). \quad (4.4)$$

This implies  $\nabla u = \frac{1}{d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u}\nabla w_1$  in  $L^{r_1}(Q_T)$ . Now, following the proof of Proposition 3.3 with  $r_1$  instead of  $r_0$  and  $p_1 = \frac{2r_1}{r_1-2}$  instead of  $p_0$ , we see that either  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for any  $r > 1$  or else  $v$  is in  $L^{r_2}(Q_T)$  with

$$r_2 := \frac{(n+1)r_1}{n+2-r_1}.$$

The later case happens if and only if  $n+2-r_1 > 0$ .

If  $v$  is in  $L^{r_2}(Q_T)$ , we see that  $f_1$  is in  $L^{r_2}(Q_T)$ . Therefore, applying [20, Theorem 9.1, p. 341-342] and its remark [20, p. 351] again, we have  $\nabla u$  in  $L^{r_2}(Q_T)$ . Then we go back and do the same argument again. Keep doing likes this we will get a sequence of numbers

$$r_{k+1} := \frac{(n+1)r_k}{n+2-r_k}. \quad (4.5)$$

We stop and get the conclusion that  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for any  $r > 1$  when

$$n+2-r_k \leq 0. \quad (4.6)$$

Since  $r_1 > 3$ , from (4.5) we can prove by induction that  $r_k > 3, k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then, we have

$$\frac{r_{k+1}}{r_k} = \frac{n+1}{n+2-r_k} \geq \frac{n+1}{n-1} > 1. \quad (4.7)$$

Thus, the sequence  $r_k$  is strictly increasing. Therefore, there must be some  $k$  such that (4.6) holds. we stop at this  $k$  and conclude that  $v$  is in  $L^r(Q_T)$  for any  $r > 1$ , namely, there is a positive constant  $C_{16}$  such that  $\|v\|_{L^r(Q_T)} \leq C_{16}$ , where  $C_{16} > 0$  depending on  $q, T, \Omega$  and the coefficients of the system (1.2) but not on  $r$ .  $\square$

So, from Proposition 3.3 and Lemma 4.1, we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $\alpha_{22} > 0$  and suppose (i)  $\alpha_{11} = 0$  or (ii)  $\alpha_{11} > 0$  and  $n < 10$ . Then there exists  $M_2$  such that*

$$\|v\|_{L^r(Q_T)} \leq M_2 \quad \text{for any } r > 1.$$

Moreover, for any  $r > 1$ ,  $v$  is in  $V_2(Q_T)$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* We give the proof only in case  $\alpha_{11} > 0$  because the proof for  $\alpha_{11} = 0$  is essentially the same. By Lemma 4.2,  $v$  is bounded in  $\overline{Q}_T$ . From (4.3), we have

$$w_{1t} = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\Delta w_1 + f_1,$$

where  $f_1 = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v)$  is bounded in  $\overline{Q}_T$  by Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 4.2,  $(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u) \in C^{\beta, \frac{\beta}{2}}(Q_T)$  by (4.2). By [20, Theorem 9.1, p.341-342], we have

$$\|w_1\|_{W_r^{2,1}}(Q_T) < M_3 \quad \text{for } \frac{n+2}{2} < r < \frac{4(n+1)}{(n-2)_+}.$$

Hence it follows from [20, Lemma 3.3, p.80] that

$$w_1 \in C^{1+\beta^*, \frac{(1+\beta^*)}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T), \quad \forall 0 < \beta^* < 1. \quad (4.8)$$

Since  $u = \frac{-d_1 + \sqrt{d_1^2 + 4w_1\alpha_{11}}}{2\alpha_{11}}$ , it follows from (4.8) that

$$u \in C^{1+\beta^*, \frac{(1+\beta^*)}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T), \quad \forall 0 < \beta^* < 1. \quad (4.9)$$

Next, we rewrite the equation for  $v$  in divergence form as

$$v_t = \nabla \cdot [(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\nabla v + \alpha_{21}v\nabla u] + f_2(x, t),$$

where  $f_2(x, t) = v(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v)$ ,  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $\nabla u$  are all bounded functions because of Lemma 2.1, Lemma 4.2 and (4.9). By [20, Theorem 10.1, p.204], we have

$$v \in C^{\sigma, \frac{\sigma}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T) \text{ with some } 0 < \sigma < 1. \quad (4.10)$$

Now, we then return to the equation for  $u$  and write it as

$$u_t = (d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\Delta u + f_3(x, t), \quad (4.11)$$

where  $f_3(x, t) = 2\alpha_{11}|\nabla u|^2 + u(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v) \in C^{\sigma, \frac{\sigma}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T)$  by (4.9) and (4.10). Then the Schuader estimate in [20, Theorem 5.3, p.320-321] applied to (4.11) yields

$$u \in C^{2+\sigma^*, \frac{2+\sigma^*}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T) \quad \text{with } \sigma^* = \min\{\lambda, \sigma\}. \quad (4.12)$$

Let  $w_2 = (d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + \alpha_{22}v)v$ . Then  $w_2$  satisfies

$$w_{2t} = (d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\Delta w_2 + f_4(x, t), \quad (4.13)$$

where  $f_4(x, t) = (d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)v(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) + \alpha_{21}vu_t \in C^{\sigma^*, \frac{\sigma^*}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T)$  by (4.11) and (4.12),  $d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v \in C^{\sigma, \frac{\sigma}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T)$  by (4.9) and (4.10), by applying the Schuader estimate to the equation (4.13), we have

$$w_2 \in C^{2+\sigma^*, \frac{2+\sigma^*}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T). \quad (4.14)$$

Then

$$v = \frac{-(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u) + \sqrt{(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u)^2 + 4w_2\alpha_{22}}}{2\alpha_{22}} \in C^{2+\sigma^*, \frac{2+\sigma^*}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T). \quad (4.15)$$

Now repeat the procedure by making use of (4.12) and (4.15) in place of (4.9) and (4.10), we have

$$u, v \in C^{2+\lambda, \frac{2+\lambda}{2}}(\overline{Q}_T). \quad (4.16)$$

Finally, the estimates (4.12) and (4.15) imply that the hypotheses of Theorem 1.1 are satisfied. So that  $(u, v)$  exists globally in time. The proof of Theorem 1.2 is now complete.  $\square$

## 5. STABILITY

In this section, we discuss global asymptotic stability of positive equilibrium point  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$  for (1.2), namely to prove Theorem 1.3.

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* Define the Lyapunov function:

$$H(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \left[ (u - \bar{u} - \bar{u} \ln \frac{u}{\bar{u}}) + \rho(v - \bar{v} - \bar{v} \ln \frac{v}{\bar{v}}) \right] dx,$$

where  $\rho = (b_2 c_1 + 2b_1 c_2) b_2^{-2}$ . Obviously,  $H(u, v)$  is nonnegative and  $H(u, v) = 0$  if and only if  $(u, v) = (\bar{u}, \bar{v})$ . By Theorem 1.2,  $H(u, v)$  is well-posed for  $t \geq 0$  if  $(u, v)$  is positive solution to system (1.2). The time derivative of  $H(u, v)$  for system (1.2) satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{dH(u, v)}{dt} \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{u - \bar{u}}{u} u_t + \rho \frac{v - \bar{v}}{v} v_t \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{u - \bar{u}}{u} \nabla \cdot [(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\nabla u] + (u - \bar{u})(a_1 - b_1u - c_1v) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \rho \frac{v - \bar{v}}{v} \nabla \cdot [(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\nabla v + \alpha_{21}v\nabla u] + \rho(v - \bar{v})(a_2 + b_2u - c_2v) \right\} dx \\ &= - \int_{\Omega} \left[ \frac{(d_1 + 2\alpha_{11}u)\bar{u}}{u^2} |\nabla u|^2 + \frac{\rho\alpha_{21}\bar{v}}{v} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + \frac{\rho(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v)\bar{v}}{v^2} |\nabla v|^2 \right] dx \\ & \quad - \int_{\Omega} [b_1(u - \bar{u})^2 + (c_1 - \rho b_2)(u - \bar{u})(v - \bar{v}) + c_2\rho(v - \bar{v})^2] dx. \end{aligned}$$

The second integrand in the above equality is positive definite by the choice of  $\rho$ . Meanwhile the first integrand is positive semi-definite if

$$4\rho\bar{u}\bar{v}(d_1 + 2\alpha_{22}u)(d_2 + \alpha_{21}u + 2\alpha_{22}v) > u^2(\alpha_{21}\bar{v})^2. \quad (5.1)$$

By the Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 1.2, the condition (1.4) implies (5.1). Therefore, when all conditions in Theorem 1.3 hold, there exists positive constant  $\delta$  depending on  $b_1, b_2, c_1$  and  $c_2$  such that

$$\frac{dH(u, v)}{dt} \leq -\delta \int_{\Omega} [(u - \bar{u})^2 + (v - \bar{v})^2] dx. \quad (5.2)$$

To obtain the uniform convergence of the solution to (1.2), we recall the following result which can be find in [21].

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $a$  and  $b$  positive constant. Assume that  $\varphi, \psi \in C^1[a, +\infty)$ ,  $\psi(t) \geq 0$ ,  $\varphi$  is bounded. If  $\varphi'(t) \leq -b\psi(t)$  and  $\psi'(t)$  is bounded in  $[a, +\infty)$ , then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \psi(t) = 0$ .*

Using integration by parts, Hölder's inequality, Lemma 2.1, and Lemma 4.2, one can easily verify that  $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} [(u - \bar{u})^2 + (v - \bar{v})^2] dx$  is bounded from above. Then from Lemma 5.1 and (5.2), we have

$$\|u(\cdot, t) - \bar{u}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \rightarrow 0, \quad \|v(\cdot, t) - \bar{v}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \rightarrow 0 \quad (t \rightarrow \infty).$$

Namely,  $(u, v)$  converges uniformly to  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$ . By the fact that  $H(u, v)$  is decreasing for  $t \geq 0$ , it is obvious that  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$  is global asymptotic stable, and the proof of Theorem 1.3 is complete.  $\square$

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