

A Regularity Criterion for the Density-Dependent Hall-Magnetohydrodynamics

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Abstract. This paper proves a regularity criterion for the density-dependent Hall-magnetohydrodynamics with positive density.

Keywords. Hall-MHD, regularity criterion, positive density

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1. Introduction

In this paper, we consider the density-dependent incompressible Hall-magnetohydrodynamics system:

$$\partial_t(\rho u) + \operatorname{div}(\rho u \otimes u) + \nabla \left(\pi + \frac{1}{2}|b|^2 \right) - \Delta u = b \cdot \nabla b, \quad (1.1)$$

$$\partial_t b + u \cdot \nabla b - b \cdot \nabla u + \operatorname{curl} \left(\frac{\operatorname{curl} b \times b}{\rho} \right) = \Delta b, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho u) = 0, \quad (1.3)$$

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$$\operatorname{div} u = \operatorname{div} b = 0, \tag{1.4}$$

$$(\rho, u, b)|_{t=0} = (\rho_0, u_0, b_0), \tag{1.5}$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \rho = \tilde{\rho}, \quad \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (u, b) = (0, 0). \tag{1.6}$$

Here ρ is the density of the fluid, u is the fluid velocity field, π is the pressure and b is the magnetic field. $\tilde{\rho}$ is a positive constant.

The applications of the Hall-MHD system cover a very wide range of physical objects, for example, magnetic reconnection in space plasmas, star formation, neutron stars, and geo-dynamo. The baroclinic creation of vorticity by density stratification and interaction of the vorticity and magnetic field play an important role, for example, in a series of processes of a supernova explosion followed by scattering supernova remnants. For the compressible model corresponding to (1.1)–(1.6), we refer to [2].

When $\rho = 1$, the density-dependent Hall-MHD system reduces to the standard Hall-MHD system, which has received many studies [2–8, 10, 12]. [2] gave a derivation of Hall-MHD system from a two-fluid Euler-Maxwell system. In [3], Chae-Degond-Liu proved the local existence of smooth solutions. Chae-Lee [4] and Fan-Ozawa [12] proved some regularity criteria.

When the Hall effect term $\operatorname{curl} \left(\frac{\operatorname{curl} b \times b}{\rho} \right)$ is neglected, the density-dependent Hall-MHD system reduces to the well-known density-dependent MHD system. Abidi-Hmidi [1] and Wu [13] proved the local existence of strong solutions. Fan-Li-Nakamura-Tan [11] proved some regularity criteria.

The aim of this paper is to prove a regularity criterion of the system (1.1)–(1.6). We will prove

Theorem 1.1. *Let $0 < \frac{1}{C} \leq \tilde{\rho}$, $\rho_0 \leq C$, $\nabla \rho_0 \in H^1$ and $u_0, b_0 \in H^2$ with $\operatorname{div} u_0 = \operatorname{div} b_0 = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^3 . Let (ρ, u, b) be a local strong solution to the problem (1.1)–(1.6). If*

$$u \in L^2(0, T; L^\infty), \quad \nabla u \in L^1(0, T; L^\infty) \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla b \in L^{\frac{2q}{q-3}}(0, T; L^q) \tag{1.7}$$

with $3 < q \leq \infty$, holds true, then the solution (ρ, u, b) can be extended beyond $T > 0$.

Remark 1.2. When $b = 0$, we are unable to prove the following regularity criterion

$$\nabla u \in L^1(0, T; L^\infty), \tag{1.8}$$

while it is easy to prove the following regularity criterion

$$u \in L^2(0, T; L^\infty). \tag{1.9}$$

However, (1.9) is not enough for the Hall-MHD system, because we must bound the gradient of the density due to the Hall effect. Thus we need assume both (1.8) and (1.9).

2. Proof of Theorem 1.1

By similar calculations as that in [9] (also see [13]), we can prove the local existence of strong solutions to the problem (1.1)–(1.6) and thus we omit the details here. We only need to establish a priori estimates.

First, thanks to the maximum principle, we have

$$0 < \frac{1}{C} \leq \rho \leq C < \infty. \tag{2.1}$$

Multiplying (1.1) by u and integrating over the whole space, thanks to (1.3) and (1.4), after integration by parts, we find that

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho |u|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla u|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) b \cdot u dx. \tag{2.2}$$

Similarly, by using energy method, we infer that

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla b|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) u \cdot b dx. \tag{2.3}$$

Summing up (2.2) and (2.3) and using $\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) b \cdot u dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) u \cdot b dx = 0$, we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\rho |u|^2 + |b|^2) dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (|\nabla u|^2 + |\nabla b|^2) dx = 0.$$

This proves

$$\|(u, b)\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^2)} + \|(u, b)\|_{L^2(0,T;H^1)} \leq C.$$

Multiplying (1.2) by $|b|^{p-2}b$ ($2 < p < \infty$) and integrating over \mathbb{R}^3 , using (1.4) and (2.1) and denoting $\phi := |b|^{\frac{p}{2}}$, after integration by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{p} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^p dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^{p-2} |\nabla b|^2 dx + 4 \frac{p-2}{p^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla |b|^{\frac{p}{2}}|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) u \cdot |b|^{p-2} b dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{b \times \operatorname{curl} b}{\rho} \cdot \operatorname{curl} (|b|^{p-2} b) dx \\ &\leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \phi^2 dx + C \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla b|^2 |b|^{p-1} dx \\ &= \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \phi^2 dx + C \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla b| \cdot |b|^{\frac{p}{2}} \cdot |b|^{\frac{p}{2}-1} |\nabla b| dx \\ &\leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \phi^2 dx + C \|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^2 \|\phi\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q-2}}}^2 + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^{p-2} |\nabla b|^2 dx \\ &\leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \phi^2 dx + C \|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^2 \|\phi\|_{L^2}^{2(1-\frac{3}{q})} \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2}^{\frac{6}{q}} + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^{p-2} |\nabla b|^2 dx \\ &\leq 2 \frac{p-2}{p^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla |b|^{\frac{p}{2}}|^2 dx + \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \phi^2 dx + C \|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^{\frac{2q}{q-3}} \|\phi\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b|^{p-2} |\nabla b|^2 dx, \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\|b\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^p)} \leq C \text{ with } 2 < p < \infty, \tag{2.4}$$

$$\|b \cdot \nabla b\|_{L^2(0,T;L^2)} \leq C \text{ as } p = 4. \tag{2.5}$$

Multiplying (1.1) by $\partial_t u$ and doing integration on \mathbb{R}^3 , using (1.3), (1.4), (2.1) and (2.5), after integration by parts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla u|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho |\partial_t u|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (b \cdot \nabla) b \cdot \partial_t u dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho u \cdot \nabla u \cdot \partial_t u dx \\ &\leq \|b \cdot \nabla b\|_{L^2} \|\partial_t u\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \|\sqrt{\rho}\|_{L^\infty} \|u\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho |\partial_t u|^2 dx + C \|b \cdot \nabla b\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|u\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty(0,T;H^1)} \leq C, \tag{2.6}$$

$$\|\partial_t u\|_{L^2(0,T;L^2)} \leq C. \tag{2.7}$$

On the other hand, since (u, π) is a solution of the Stokes system:

$$-\Delta u + \nabla \left(\pi + \frac{1}{2} |b|^2 \right) = f := b \cdot \nabla b - \rho \partial_t u - \rho u \cdot \nabla u, \tag{2.8}$$

thanks to the \dot{H}^2 -theory of the Stokes system, we have

$$\|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2} \leq C \|f\|_{L^2} \leq C \|b \cdot \nabla b\|_{L^2} + C \|\sqrt{\rho} \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C \|u\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2},$$

which yields

$$\|u\|_{L^2(0,T;H^2)} \leq C. \tag{2.9}$$

Taking ∇ to (1.3), then multiplying it by $|\nabla \rho|^{m-2} \nabla \rho$ ($2 \leq m < \infty$), after integration, we find that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla \rho|^m dx \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla \rho|^m dx,$$

which leads to

$$\|\nabla \rho\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^m)} \leq C \text{ } (2 \leq m < \infty). \tag{2.10}$$

Multiplying (1.2) by $-\Delta b$ and integrating over the whole space, after integration by parts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla b|^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\Delta b|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla b - b \cdot \nabla u) \Delta b dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{\rho} (\text{curl } b \times b) \text{curl } \Delta b dx \\ &=: I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Using (2.6) and (2.4), we bound I_1 as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &\leq (\|u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla b\|_{L^3} + \|b\|_{L^6}\|\nabla u\|_{L^3})\|\Delta b\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C(\|\nabla b\|_{L^3} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^3})\|\Delta b\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\Delta u\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using (2.1), (2.4) and (2.10), I_2 can be estimated as:

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= -\sum_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{\rho} (\operatorname{curl} b \times \partial_i b) \partial_i \operatorname{curl} b dx + \sum_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\partial_i \rho}{\rho^2} (\operatorname{curl} b \times b) \partial_i \operatorname{curl} b dx \\ &\leq C\|\nabla b\|_{L^q}\|\nabla b\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q-2}}}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2} + C\|\nabla \rho\|_{L^{12}}\|b\|_{L^{12}}\|\nabla b\|_{L^3}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C\|\nabla b\|_{L^q}\|\nabla b\|_{L^2}^{1-\frac{3}{q}}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^{1+\frac{3}{q}} + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^3}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^{\frac{2q}{q-3}}\|\nabla b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Inserting the above estimates into (2.11) and using the Gronwall inequality, due to condition (1.7), we have

$$\|b\|_{L^\infty(0,T;H^1)} + \|b\|_{L^2(0,T;H^2)} \leq C. \quad (2.12)$$

Applying the operator ∂_t to (1.1), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho \partial_t^2 u + \rho u \cdot \nabla \partial_t u - \Delta \partial_t u + \nabla \partial_t \left(\pi + \frac{1}{2}|b|^2 \right) \\ &= \operatorname{div} \partial_t (b \otimes b) - \partial_t \rho (\partial_t u + u \cdot \nabla u) - \rho \partial_t u \cdot \nabla u. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the above equation by $\partial_t u$ and using (1.3), (1.4), (2.1), (2.6) and (2.7), after integration by parts, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho |\partial_t u|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla \partial_t u|^2 dx \\ &\leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |b| |\partial_t b| |\nabla \partial_t u| dx + \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \rho u \cdot \nabla [(\partial_t u + u \cdot \nabla u) \partial_t u] dx \right| \\ &\quad + C\|\nabla u\|_{L^2}\|\partial_t u\|_{L^4}^2 \\ &\leq C\|b\|_{L^\infty}\|\partial_t b\|_{L^2}\|\nabla \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C\|u_t\|_{L^3}\|u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla \partial_t u\|_{L^2} \\ &\quad + C\|u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla u\|_{L^6}^2\|\partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C\|u\|_{L^6}^2\|\Delta u\|\|\partial_t u\|_{L^6} \\ &\quad + C\|u\|_{L^6}^2\|\nabla u\|_{L^6}\|\nabla \partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C\|\partial_t u\|_{L^4}^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}\|\nabla \partial_t u\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|b\|_{L^\infty}^2\|\partial_t b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\partial_t u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ &\quad + C\|\Delta u\|_{L^2}^2\|\partial_t u\|_{L^2} + C\|\Delta u\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Applying the operator ∂_t to (1.2), then multiplying it by $\partial_t b$, and using (1.3), (1.4), (2.1), (2.4), (2.6), (2.7), (2.10) and (2.12), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\partial_t b|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla \partial_t b|^2 dx \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial_t(u \times b) \cdot \operatorname{curl} \partial_t b dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_t(\operatorname{curl} b \times b) \cdot \partial_t \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 & \quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{\rho^2} \partial_t \rho(\operatorname{curl} b \times b) \cdot \partial_t \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 & \leq C(\|\partial_t u\|_{L^2} \|b\|_{L^\infty} + \|u\|_{L^6} \|\partial_t b\|_{L^3}) \|\nabla \partial_t b\|_{L^2} \\
 & \quad + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^q} \|\partial_t b\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q-2}}} \|\nabla \partial_t b\|_{L^2} \\
 & \quad + C\|u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^{12}} \|\operatorname{curl} b\|_{L^6} \|b\|_{L^{12}} \|\nabla \partial_t b\|_{L^2} \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\nabla \partial_t b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\partial_t b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|b\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\partial_t u\|_{L^2}^2 \\
 & \quad + C\|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^{\frac{2q}{q-3}} \|\partial_t b\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^2.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

Combining (2.13) and (2.14) and using (2.9), (2.12), and the Gronwall inequality, we have

$$\|\partial_t u\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^2)} + \|\partial_t u\|_{L^2(0,T;H^1)} \leq C. \tag{2.15}$$

and

$$\|\partial_t b\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^2)} + \|\partial_t b\|_{L^2(0,T;H^1)} \leq C.$$

It follows from (2.4), (2.8), (2.9), (2.12) and (2.15) that

$$\|\Delta u\|_{L^2(0,T;L^3)} \leq C. \tag{2.16}$$

Applying Δ to (1.3), then multiplying it by $\Delta \rho$ and integrating on \mathbb{R}^3 , using (1.4), (2.10) and (2.16), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\Delta \rho|^2 dx & \leq C\|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\Delta \rho|^2 dx + C\|\Delta u\|_{L^3} \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^6} \|\Delta \rho\|_{L^2} \\
 & \leq C\|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta \rho\|_{L^2}^2 + C\|\Delta u\|_{L^3} \|\Delta \rho\|_{L^2},
 \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\|\nabla \rho\|_{L^\infty(0,T;H^1)} \leq C. \tag{2.17}$$

Taking Δ to (1.2), then multiplying it by Δb , using (2.1), (2.4), (2.10) and (2.17), after integration by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\Delta b|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla \Delta b|^2 dx \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta \frac{b \times \operatorname{curl} b}{\rho} \cdot \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(u \times b) \cdot \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{\rho} (\Delta b \times \operatorname{curl} b + 2 \sum_i \partial_i b \times \partial_i \operatorname{curl} b) \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot (b \times \operatorname{curl} b) \cdot \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx + 2 \sum_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial_i \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \partial_i (b \times \operatorname{curl} b) \cdot \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \Delta(u \times b) \cdot \Delta \operatorname{curl} b dx \\
 &\leq C \|\nabla b\|_{L^q} \|\Delta b\|_{L^{\frac{2q}{q-2}}} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} + C \|\Delta \rho\|_{L^2} \|b\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla b\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} \\
 &\quad + C \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^4}^2 \|b\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla b\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} + C \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^{12}} \|b\|_{L^{12}} \|\Delta b\|_{L^3} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} \\
 &\quad + C \|\nabla \rho\|_{L^6} \|\nabla b\|_{L^6}^2 \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} \\
 &\quad + C (\|\Delta u\|_{L^2} \|b\|_{L^\infty} + \|u\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta b\|_{L^2} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^6} \|\nabla b\|_{L^3}) \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla b\|_{L^q}^{\frac{2q}{q-3}} \|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|u\|_{H^2}^2 \|b\|_{H^2}^2 + C \|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^4 + C \|\Delta b\|_{L^2}^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

which leads to

$$\|b\|_{L^\infty(0,T;H^2)} + \|b\|_{L^2(0,T;H^3)} \leq C. \tag{2.18}$$

Here we used the Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequalities:

$$\|b\|_{L^\infty}^2 \leq C \|b\|_{L^6} \|\Delta b\|_{L^2}, \quad \|\nabla b\|_{L^\infty}^2 \leq C \|\Delta b\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \Delta b\|_{L^2}.$$

It follows from (2.8), (2.15) and (2.18) that

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty(0,T;H^2)} + \|u\|_{L^2(0,T;W^{2,6})} \leq C.$$

This completes the proof. □

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