Numerical Simulation of Flow in Smectic Liquid Crystals

Merlin Fallahpour^a, Sean McKee^b, and Ewa B. Weinmüller^a

^aDepartment of Analysis and Scientific Computing, Vienna University of Technology, Wiedner Hauptstraße 8-10, A-1040 Wien, Austria e-mail: merlin.fallahpour@gmail.com e.weinmueller@tuwien.ac.at

^bDepartment of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Strathclyde, Livingstone Tower, 26 Richmond Street, Glasgow, G1 1XH, United Kingdom e-mail: sean.mckee@strath.ac.uk

Abstract

Our aim is to simulate a nonlinear system of ODEs describing the flow in smectic liquid crystals. The nonlinear system is first linearized. We present a direct approach to compute the exact analytic solution of this linear system and use this solution as a starting profile in the MATLAB package bvpsuite2.0 to obtain the approximate solution to the nonlinear system. Although, the solution of the nonlinear system has steep boundary layers and therefore is difficult to resolve, we demonstrate that bvpsuite2.0 can cope with the problem and provide an approximation with reasonable accuracy.

References

- W. Auzinger, G. Kitzhofer, O. Koch, G. Pulverer, M. Schöbinger, E.B. Weinmüller, S. Wurm, bvpsuite2.0 - A new version of a MATLAB solver for singular implicit BVPs, in preparation.
- [2] M. Fallahpour, S. McKee, and E.B. Weinmüller, Numerical Simulation of Flow in Smectic Liquid Crystals, accepted for APNUM.
- [3] G. Kitzhofer, G. Pulverer, C. Simon, O. Koch, and E.B. Weinmüller, *The new* MATLAB solver bypsuite for the solution of singular implicit BVPs, JNAIAM J. Numer. Anal. Ind. Appl. Math., 5, 113-134 (2010). The code and the manual are available from http://www.math.tuwien.ac.at/~ewa.
- [4] W. Stewart, M. Vynnycky, S. McKee and M.F. Tomé, Boundary Layers in Pressuredriven Flow in Smectic A Liquid Crystals, SIAM J. Appl. Math., 75, 1817-1851 (2015). http://dx.doi.org/10.1137/140983483
- [5] E.B. Weinmüller, Collocation for singular boundary value problems of second order, SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 23, 1062-1095 (1986).