

The Equations of Incompressible Fluid
Dynamics I
The Navier-Stokes Equations

Xinwei Yu

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- The Navier-Stokes equations

- Derivation.

- * $\nabla \cdot u = 0$: Incompressibility (Conservation of mass).

- * $u_t + u \cdot \nabla u = -\nabla p + \nu \Delta u$: Newton's second law. (Conservation of momentum).

- Vorticity.

$$\omega \equiv \nabla \times u$$

Describes rotation in the flow. Example: $u = \frac{1}{2}\Omega \times x$, Ω constant vector, then $\omega = \Omega$.

- Energy conservation.

- * Kinetic energy $\int |u|^2 dx$. Since density $\rho \equiv 1$.

- * $\frac{d}{dt} \int |u|^2 dx + \nu \int |\nabla u|^2 dx = 0$. Or

$$\left(\int |u|^2 dx \right) (t) + \nu \int_0^t \int |\nabla u|^2 dx = \left(\int |u|^2 dx \right) (0).$$

- Rescaling. Make $\nu = 1$ through rescaling in x and t .

- Function Analysis approach.

- The linearized Navier-Stokes

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= \Delta u - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot u &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Projection to divergence-free vector field.

$$u_t = (P\Delta) u \equiv Au$$

A : Stokes operator. Properties of A depend on the domain (e.g., regularity of the domain).

- Solution to the linearized system:

$$u(t) = e^{tA} u(0).$$

- For the original NSE:

$$u(t) = e^{tA} u(0) - \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A} (u \cdot \nabla u) (s) ds.$$

So the key issue is to study $e^{(t-s)A} (u \cdot \nabla u)$ and try to invoke some fixed point theorem.

- Leray weak solutions.

- Defined after energy conservation.

$$u \in L^\infty([0, T], L^2), \quad \nabla u \in L^2([0, T], L^2).$$

Notation: $u \in L^p([0, T], L^q)$: L^q norm of u as a function of t is L^p in $[0, T]$.

- Existence for all time T : proved by Leray in the 1930s.
- Why study regularity then?

- * To prove uniqueness, need

$$\nabla u \in L^{\frac{n}{4-n}}([0, T], L^2).$$

OK for 2D, i.e. $n = 2$ by definition.

- * Related to the correctness of the NSE itself. Since the derivation of the NSE requires some regularity in u .

- Regularity results.

- Small initial value/large viscosity.

- * Why such conditions work. Example: $R_{j+1} \leq R_j^2$. Generally cannot bound R_j . But if $R_0 \leq 1$, then by induction $R_{j+1} \leq R_j \leq R_0$, uniformly bounded.

- * Question. What is the weakest norm one can find such that $\|u_0\|$ small \Rightarrow regularity? Koch-Tataru 2001.

- Small scaling in one dimension for the region.

- * Example. $\Omega : (x_1, x_2, x_3) \mid |x_3| < \varepsilon$.

- * Flow is almost 2D.

- Serrin type results.

$$u \in L^p([0, T], L^q), \quad \frac{2}{p} + \frac{n}{q} \leq 1.$$

then the weak solution u is regular.

- * For Leray weak solutions, only have

$$\frac{2}{p} + \frac{n}{q} \leq \frac{3}{2}.$$

A big gap.

- * Similar conditions on ∇u or $\omega = \nabla \times u$. Basically

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{n}{q} \leq 1$$

would be OK.

- Novotny & Penel type results.
 - * e is any direction, fixed. $u \cdot e \in L^p([0, T], L^q)$ for $\frac{4}{p} + \frac{n}{q} \leq 1$, then u is regular.
 - * Similar results for ∇u . e.g. $\nabla u_3 \in L^p(L^q)$, $\frac{2}{p} + \frac{3}{q} \leq \frac{3}{2}$. Pokorný 2003.
 - * Similar results for ω . e.g. $\omega \in L^1(L^\infty)$. Beale-Kato-Majda 1984.
- CKN type results.
 - * Also called “partial regularity” results.
 - * Hausdorff dimension of the points where u is not bounded ≤ 1 in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ (space-time). Caffarelli-Kohn-Nirenberg 1982.
 - * Replace Δu by $-(-\Delta)^\alpha u$. Then the Hausdorff dimension $\leq 5 - 4\alpha$. Katz-Pavlovic 2001.
- CF type results.
 - * $\xi \equiv \frac{\omega}{|\omega|}$. If $\nabla \xi$ is bounded where $|\omega| \geq K$ for some K . Then no finite time singularity. Constantin-Fefferman 1996.
 - * Improved to $\xi \in C^{1/2}$. da Veiga 2002.
- Large initial vorticity.
 - * $u_0 = \tilde{u}_0 + \Omega \times x$. Ω large enough, then solution regular for all time. Babin-Mahalov-Nicolaenko 2001.
- Further reference (Review articles).
 - M. Wiegner, The Navier-Stokes Equations - A Neverending Challenge? Jber. d. Dt. Math. - Verein. 101 (1999), 1-25.
 - C. Bardos, A Basic Example of Nonlinear Equations: The Navier-Stokes Equations.