

# The Stokes flow in exterior domains with non-decaying initial velocity

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We consider

$$(S) \begin{cases} v_t - \Delta v + \nabla q = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T) \\ \operatorname{div} v = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T) \\ \text{B. C.} \quad v = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \\ \text{I. C.} \quad v(x, 0) = v_0 & \text{on } \{t = 0\} \end{cases}$$

in a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  with  $n \geq 2$ .

$v(x, t)$  : unknown velocity field

$q(x, t)$  : unknown pressure field

$v_0$  : a given initial data

$S(t) : v_0 \mapsto v(\cdot, t) (t \geq 0)$  Stokes semigroup

## Definition (Analytic semigroup)

$X$ : Banach space,  $\{T(t)\}_{t \geq 0} \subset \mathcal{L}(X)$ : semigroup,  
We say  $T(t)$  is **analytic** if  $\exists C > 0$  s.t.

$$\left\| \frac{dT(t)}{dt} \right\|_{\mathcal{L}(X)} \leq \frac{C}{t} \quad \text{for } t \in (0, 1].$$

Ex.

- $S(t)$  is analytic in  $L^r_\sigma \dots$  e.g. bounded and exterior domains
- $e^{t\Delta}$  is analytic in  $L^\infty \dots$  Masuda '72, Stewart '74

# Analyticity of $S(t)$ in $L^\infty$

$$\underline{\Omega = \mathbf{R}_+^n}$$

- Desch-Hieber-Prüss '01  
Resolvent approach  $\cdots C_{0,\sigma}, L_\sigma^\infty$
- Solonnikov '03, Maremonti-Starita '03  
Explicit formula for  $S(t)$

$\Omega =$  admissible (e.g. bdd)

$S(t)$  is analytic in  $C_{0,\sigma}$  [A-Giga, preprint]

$L^\infty$ -type spaces

$C_{0,\sigma} = L^\infty$ -closure of  $C_{c,\sigma}^\infty$

$L_\sigma^\infty = \{v \in L^\infty \mid \int_\Omega v \nabla \varphi = 0, \nabla \varphi \in L^1\}$ : non-decaying

# A typical result

## Theorem 1

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain with  $C^3$  boundary. Then there exists  $T_0 > 0$  and  $C > 0$  s.t. a priori estimate

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_0} \|N(v, q)\|_{\infty}(t) \leq C \|v_0\|_{\infty}$$

holds for all  $(v, q)$  with  $v_0 \in C_{c,\sigma}^{\infty}(\Omega)$ .

Here

$$\begin{aligned} N(v, q)(x, t) = & |v(x, t)| + t^{\frac{1}{2}} |\nabla v(x, t)| + t |\nabla^2 v(x, t)| \\ & + t |\partial_t v(x, t)| + t |\nabla q(x, t)|. \end{aligned}$$

# Strictly admissible domain

To establish a priori estimate, a key is the estimate

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} d_{\Omega}(x) |\nabla q(x, t)| \leq C_{\Omega} \|\nabla v\|_{L^{\infty}(\partial\Omega)}(t). \quad (\text{P})$$

(P) follows from the strict estimate

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} d_{\Omega}(x) |\nabla P(x)| \leq C_{\Omega} \|W\|_{L^{\infty}(\partial\Omega)}$$

of the problem:

$$\Delta P = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad \partial P / \partial n_{\Omega} = \text{div}_{\partial\Omega} W \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (\text{NP})$$

## Definition

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n (n \geq 2)$  be a domain with  $C^1$  boundary. We call  $\Omega$  **strictly admissible** if  $\exists C_\Omega > 0$  s.t. a priori estimate

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} d_\Omega(x) |\nabla P(x)| \leq C_\Omega \|W\|_{L^\infty(\partial\Omega)}$$

holds for all sol. of (NP) with  $W \in L^\infty_{\text{tan}}(\partial\Omega)$ .

## RK

- Strictly admissible  $\dots \mathbf{R}_+^n$ ,  $C^3$ -bounded domain
- Not strictly admissible  $\dots$  Layer domains

# More general result

## Theorem 2

Let  $\Omega$  be a strictly admissible, uniformly  $C^3$  domain. Then for any  $T_0$  there exists  $C = C(T_0, \Omega)$  a priori estimate

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_0} \|N(v, q)\|_{\infty}(t) \leq C \|v_0\|_{\infty}$$

holds for all  $(v, q)$  with  $v_0 \in L_{\sigma}^{\infty}(\Omega)$ .

## RK

For a general unbounded domain, the existence is unknown.



Goal:  $\Omega = \text{exterior}$

Extend  $S(t) : v_0 \mapsto v(\cdot, t) (t \geq 0)$

to an analytic semigroup in  $L^\infty_\sigma(\Omega)$

# Uniqueness in $L_\sigma^\infty$

$\Omega = \mathbf{R}_+^n$  Solution formula for  $(v, q)$  with  $v_0 \in L_\sigma^\infty$

$$\Rightarrow \sup_{\substack{x \in \Omega \\ t \in (0, T)}} t^{1/2} d_\Omega(x) |\nabla q(x, t)| \leq C \|v_0\|_\infty,$$

where  $\Omega = \mathbf{R}_+^n$  with  $d_{\mathbf{R}_+^n}(x) = x_n$ .

## Note

$\nabla q \rightarrow 0$  as  $x_n \rightarrow \infty$  is necessary for the uniqueness.  
(e.g. Poiseuille flows)

# Non-decaying solutions

## Definition

Let  $(v, q)$  solve (S) in the classical sense with  $v_0 \in L^\infty_\sigma(\Omega)$  in the sense that

$$v(\cdot, t) \rightarrow v_0 \quad * \text{-weakly in } L^\infty \text{ as } t \downarrow 0.$$

We call  $(v, q)$   **$L^\infty$ -solution** if  $N(v, q)(x, t)$  and

$$t^{1/2} d_\Omega(x) |\nabla q(x, t)|$$

are bounded in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$ .

# Main results

## Theorem 3

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n (n \geq 2)$  be an exterior domain with  $C^3$  boundary.

(i) For  $v_0 \in L^\infty_\sigma$  there exists a unique  $L^\infty$ -solution  $(v, q)$  satisfying

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_0} \|N(v, q)\|_\infty(t) \leq C \|v_0\|_\infty$$

for any  $T_0$  with  $C = C(T_0, \Omega)$ .

(ii)  $S(t) : v_0 \mapsto v(\cdot, t)$  is uniquely extendable to a (non  $C_0$ -) analytic semigroup in  $L^\infty_\sigma(\Omega)$ .

## RK

- $S(t)$  is  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $BUC_\sigma(\subset L_\sigma^\infty)$
- Maximum modulus, i.e.  $\exists C_\Omega > 0$  s.t.

$$\|S(t)v_0\|_\infty \leq C_\Omega \|v_0\|_\infty \quad t > 0$$

for  $v_0 \in L_\sigma^\infty$  is proved by Maremonti '12

- $S(t)$  is bounded analytic in  $X = L_\sigma^r$  for  $r \in (1, \infty)$  in the sense that both

$$\|S(t)\|_{\mathcal{L}(X)} \text{ and } t\|dS(t)/dt\|_{\mathcal{L}(X)}$$

are bounded in  $[0, \infty)$  [Borchers- Sohr '87],  
[Borchers-Varnhorn '93]

# Ideas: Extension to $L_\sigma^\infty$

Prove the existence for  $v_0 \in L_\sigma^\infty$

## 1 Admissibility

If an exterior domain is strictly admissible,

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|N(v, q)\|_\infty(t) \leq C_T \|v_0\|_\infty$$

is available for  $v_0 \in C_{c,\sigma}^\infty$ .

## 2 Approximation

If  $\exists C_\Omega > 0$  s.t.  $\forall v_0 \in L_\sigma^\infty, \exists \{v_{0,m}\}_{m \geq 1} \subset C_{c,\sigma}^\infty$  s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} \|v_{0,m}\|_\infty &\leq C_\Omega \|v_0\|_\infty \\ v_{0,m} &\rightarrow v_0 \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega \end{aligned}$$

By setting  $(v_m, q_m)$  as a solution for  $v_{0,m}$ , we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|N(v_m, q_m)\|_{\infty}(t) \leq C \|v_0\|_{\infty}.$$

From a compactness result, we find

$$(v_m, q_m) \rightarrow \exists(v, q)$$

We then define

$$S(t)v_0 := v(\cdot, t) \quad \text{for } v_0 \in L_{\sigma}^{\infty}$$

**Note:** Approximation topology is not uniform.

However, uniqueness automatically follows from a priori estimate

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|N(v, q)\|_{\infty}(t) \leq C_T \|v_0\|_{\infty}$$

with  $v_0 = 0$ .



# Sketch of the proof: Exterior is "admissible"

## Argument by contradiction

Suppose that a priori estimate were false, then  $\exists \{P_m\}_{m \geq 1}$   
and  $\{x_m\}_{m \geq 1} \subset \Omega$  s.t.

$$d_{\Omega}(x_m) |\nabla P_m(x_m)| \geq m \|W_m\|_{L^{\infty}(\partial\Omega)}$$

By normalizing  $P_m$  (still denoted by  $P_m$ ),

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq d_{\Omega}(x_m) |\nabla P_m(x_m)| \leq \sup_{x \in \Omega} d_{\Omega}(x) |\nabla P_m(x)| = 1$$

and  $W_m \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $\partial\Omega$ .

Case 1  $\overline{\lim}_{m \rightarrow \infty} d_{\Omega}(x_m) < \infty \implies$  reduced to  $\mathbf{R}_+^n$  and  $\Omega$

Case 2  $\overline{\lim}_{m \rightarrow \infty} d_{\Omega}(x_m) = \infty \implies$  reduced to  $\mathbf{R}^n$

# Blow-up sequence

$$Q_m(x) = P_m(x_m + d_m^{1/2}x), \quad d_m = d_\Omega(x_m) \uparrow \infty$$

$\Omega_m = (\Omega - \{x_m\})/d_m$  : downscaled domain

$\Omega$ : exterior  $\Rightarrow \Omega_m^c \rightarrow \{a\} (a \neq 0)$

The estimates for  $P_m$  are inherited to

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega_m} d_{\Omega_m}(x) |\nabla Q_m(x)| \leq 1$$

$$|\nabla Q_m(0)| \geq 1/2$$

Since  $Q_m$  is harmonic,  $Q_m \rightarrow Q$  locally uniformly in  $\mathbf{R}^n \setminus \{a\}$ , so

$$\underline{|\nabla Q(0)|} \geq 1/2.$$

$\Delta Q = 0$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n \setminus \{a\}$  under the bound

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} |x - a| |\nabla Q(x)| \leq 1$$

When  $n \geq 3$ ,  $x = a$  is removable so  $\nabla Q \equiv 0$ .

When  $n = 2$ , with the help of mean value, i.e.

$$\int_{\partial B_a(r)} Q d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

which is independent of  $r > 0$ ,  $x = a$  is still removable.