

# Concentration-cancellation and Hardy spaces

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Research Report No. 91-03  
March 1991

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## Abstract

Let  $v^\varepsilon$  a sequence of DiPerna-Majda approximate solutions to the 2-D incompressible Euler equations. We prove that if the vorticity sequence is weakly compact in the Hardy space  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  then a subsequence of  $v^\varepsilon$  converges strongly in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$  to a solution of the Euler equations. This phenomenon is directly related to the cancellation effects exhibited by “phantom vortices”.

**Keywords:** Riesz transform, equibounded, Dunford-Pettis theorem

**Subject Classification:** 35Q10 (76D05)

In their fundamental paper [4] DiPerna and Majda study the convergence of approximate solutions  $v^\epsilon$  of the 2-D inviscid Euler equations as the regularization parameter  $\epsilon$  goes to zero. They give several examples of sequences of compactly supported approximate solutions  $v^\epsilon$  (as defined in Definition 1.1, [4]) whose vorticity  $\omega^\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^1$  which fail to be compact in  $L^2$  so that in the limit concentration phenomena occur. Moreover in Th. 1.3 of [4] a criterion which rules concentrations out is proposed: it is shown that a uniform bound on a logarithmic Morrey norm of  $\omega^\epsilon$  yields strong  $L^2$ -convergence of the velocity field. In this note another criterion for compactness is introduced: we show that strong  $L^2$ -compactness of  $v^\epsilon$  follows from weak compactness of  $\omega^\epsilon$  in the Hardy space  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Since  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is not rearrangement invariant the fine structure of the vorticity plays a crucial role in getting strong  $L^2$ -convergence. We recall that by Dunford-Pettis theorem (see [5], VIII, Th.1.3) a necessary and sufficient condition for a subset  $\Lambda$  of  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  to be weakly pre-compact in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is that there exist a positive function  $G(s) : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$(1) \quad \lim_{s \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{G(s)}{s} = +\infty$$

and

$$(2) \quad \sup_{f \in \Lambda} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} G(|f|) dx < +\infty$$

Let  $R_i$   $i = 1, 2$ , denote the Riesz transforms:

$$R_j f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{x_j - y_j}{|x - y|^3} f(y) dx$$

We formulate our result as follows. **Theorem 1.** *Let  $v^\epsilon$  be a sequence of approximate solutions such that for every  $t \geq 0$*

$$(3) \quad \|\omega^\epsilon(\cdot, t)\|_{H^1} < C \quad 0 < \epsilon \leq \epsilon_0$$

*and  $\omega^\epsilon$  satisfies weak uniform control at infinity (cfr. [4], (3.5)). Moreover let there be a function  $G(s) : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that (1) and (2) hold for  $\Lambda = \{\omega^\epsilon\}, \{R_i \omega^\epsilon\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Then there is a subsequence of  $v^\epsilon$  which converges strongly in  $L^2$  to a weak classical solution  $v$  of the Euler equations. Moreover  $v \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . We recall (see [6]) that a function  $f$  belongs to the Hardy space  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  iff there is a sequence of numbers  $\lambda_j$  satisfying  $\sum_1^\infty |\lambda_j| < \infty$  and a series of functions (atoms)  $a_j$  such that*

$$(4) \quad f = \sum_1^\infty \lambda_j a_j$$

where the  $a_j$ 's have the following properties a)  $a_j$  is supported on a ball  $B_j$  and  $\|a_j\|_\infty < \frac{1}{|B_j|}$  b)  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} a_j(x) dx = 0$  The  $H^1$ -norm of  $f$  can be defined as the infimum of the expressions  $\sum_1^\infty |\lambda_j|$  on all possible representations of  $f$  as in (4). If condition b) were dropped the resulting space would be  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . It is the subtle cancellation

effect due to b) (cfr. "phantom vortices" in [4], 1.A) together with (2) which yields strong  $L^2$ -compactness. *Proof of Theorem 1.* To prove the theorem we introduce the stream function  $\psi^\epsilon$  such that

$$(5) \quad \Delta \psi^\epsilon = \omega^\epsilon$$

and we proceed as in the proof of Th. 3.1 in [4]. It is known that for every  $f$  in  $BMO(\mathbb{R}^2)$  there are  $g_i$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2$ , such that

$$f = g_0 + \sum_{i=1,2} R_i g_i$$

Hence

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f \omega^\epsilon dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \omega^\epsilon (g_0 + \sum_{i=1,2} R_i g_i) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \omega^\epsilon g_0 - \sum_{i=1,2} g_i R_i \omega^\epsilon dx$$

By our assumption (2) the sequence  $\{\omega^\epsilon\}$  and its Riesz transforms admit a weakly convergent subsequence in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Therefore there is a subsequence such that

$$(6) \quad \omega^\epsilon \rightharpoonup \omega \quad \text{weakly in } H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

The statement of Th.1 is guaranteed by showing that for all  $\rho \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$

$$(7) \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho |v^\epsilon|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho |v|^2 dx$$

Indeed after integrating by parts (7) is seen to hold iff (see [4], (3.7)-(3.10))

$$(8) \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho \psi^\epsilon \omega^\epsilon dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho \psi d\omega$$

where  $\psi$  is the stream function corresponding to  $\omega$  in (5). We recall that

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} f = -R_j R_k \Delta f$$

Hence

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon = -R_j R_k \omega^\epsilon$$

Since the Riesz transform maps  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  continuously into itself we get that

$$(9) \quad \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon \right\|_{L^1} \leq \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon \right\|_{H^1} \leq C \|\omega^\epsilon\|_{H^1}$$

and  $\psi^\epsilon$  stays bounded in  $W^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . We recall that for any bounded domain  $\Omega$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by the Gagliardo-Sobolev imbedding theorem  $W^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is continuously imbedded in  $C(\bar{\Omega})$ . Therefore

$$(10) \quad \|\psi^\epsilon\|_{C(\bar{\Omega})} \leq C \|\omega^\epsilon\|_{H^1}$$

Moreover (see [1], Lemma 5.8) if  $u \in W^{2,1}(R^2)$  for any  $P_o \in R^2$  we have that for  $\delta > 0$  if  $|\Delta P| < \frac{\delta}{2}$

$$(11) \quad |u(P_o + \Delta P) - u(P_o)| \leq C \left( \frac{1}{\delta^2} \|u(P + \Delta P) - u(P)\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P_o))} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{\delta} \sum_i \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} u(P + \Delta P) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} u(P) \right\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P_o))} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{i,j} \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} u(P + \Delta P) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} u(P) \right\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P_o))} \right)$$

By (weak) continuity of the Riesz transforms from  $H^1(R^2)$  into itself there is a subsequence of  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon$ , that converges weakly in  $H^1(R^2)$  to a  $\phi_{i,j} \in H^1(R^2)$ . On the other hand weak convergence in  $H^1(R^2)$  implies weak convergence in  $L^1(R^2)$  (indeed  $L^\infty \subset BMO$ ) so that we have

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon \rightharpoonup \phi_{i,j} \quad \text{weakly in } L^1(R^2)$$

By the full version of Dunford-Pettis theorem for every  $\kappa > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that for any  $P \in \Omega$

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon \right\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P))} < \kappa$$

uniformly in  $\epsilon$ . We observe that if  $|\Delta P| < \delta$

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} [\psi^\epsilon(P + \Delta P) - \psi^\epsilon(P)] \right\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P_o))} < C \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \psi^\epsilon \right\|_{L^1(B_{2\delta}(P_o))}$$

Therefore for every  $P_o$  given  $\kappa_o > 0$  we can find a  $\delta_o > 0$  such that if  $|\Delta P| < \frac{\delta_o}{2}$

$$\sum_{i,j} \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} [\psi^\epsilon(P + \Delta P) - \psi^\epsilon(P)] \right\|_{L^1(B_{\delta_o}(P_o))} < \frac{\kappa_o}{3}$$

uniformly in  $\epsilon$ . Moreover since  $W^{1,1}(\Omega)$  is compactly imbedded in  $L^p$  for any  $p < 2$  both  $\{\psi^\epsilon\}$  and  $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \psi^\epsilon\}$  are compact in  $L^1$ . Hence by Kondratchev compactness criterion (see [1]) there is a  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that if  $|\Delta P| < \delta_1$

$$\frac{1}{\delta_o^2} \|u(P + \Delta P) - u(P)\|_{L^1(B_{\delta_o}(P_o))} < \frac{\kappa_o}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{\delta_o} \sum_i \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} u(P + \Delta P) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} u(P) \right\|_{L^1(B_\delta(P_o))} < \frac{\kappa_o}{3}$$

and by (11)

$$(12) \quad |\psi^\epsilon(P_o + \Delta P) - u(P_o)| < \kappa_o$$

uniformly in  $\epsilon$ . The sequence  $\psi^\epsilon$  is equibounded by (10) and equicontinuous by (12) and by Ascoli theorem we can extract a subsequence such that

$$(13) \quad \psi^\epsilon \rightarrow \psi \quad \text{strongly in } C(\Omega)$$

By (6) we have that  $\omega^\epsilon \rightharpoonup \omega$  weakly in  $M(\Omega)$  so that (8) holds and the same argument as in Th. 1.3 of [4] yields the statement of the theorem. *Remark.* The first example in (1, §A) in [4] (phantom vortices) shows a sequence of vorticities which stays bounded in  $H^1(R^2)$  whose velocity field fails to converge strongly in  $L^2$ ; in the second example one has strong  $L^1(R^2)$  convergence of the vorticity but the sequence does not lie in  $H^1(R^2)$  and again concentrations occur. By looking at the proof of Delort's recent deep result ([3]), weak convergence of  $\omega^\epsilon$  in  $L^1(R^2)$  is sufficient to pass to the limit in the quadratic terms of the Euler equations, due to their special structure. It is interesting that every bounded sequence in  $H^1(R^2)$  admits a weakly(\*) convergent subsequence whose limit stays in  $H^1(R^2)$  (see [2], Lemma (4.2)). However, since  $(VMO)^* = H^1(R^2)$  and  $L^\infty \not\subset VMO$ , this does not yield weak  $L^1$ -convergence. It is worth observing that condition (2) for  $\omega^\epsilon$  is rearrangement invariant and so in the time dependent case it is conserved by the particle trajectory map. On the other hand, as for the bounds (3.4) of Th. 3.1 in [4], it is not clear what happens to the  $H^1$ -norm as time goes by, since  $H^1(R^2)$  is not rearrangement invariant.

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