

# Absence of the Local Existence Theorem in the Critical Space for the 3D-Navier-Stokes System

Yakov Sinai\*

Dedicated to: L. P. Shilnikov on the occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday

## Abstract

We consider the 3D-Navier-Stokes system (NSS) on  $R^3$  without external forcing. After Fourier transform it becomes the system of non-linear integral equations. For one-parameter families of initial conditions  $\frac{A \cdot c^{(0)}(k)}{|k|^2}$  it is known that if  $|A|$  is sufficiently small then NSS has global solution. We show that if  $c^{(0)}$  satisfies some natural conditions at infinity then for sufficiently large  $A$  NSS has no local solutions with this initial condition.

Keywords: Navier-Stokes system, Fourier transform, critical space.

---

\*Mathematics Department of Princeton University & Landau Institute of Theoretical Physics

Consider the 3D-Navier-Stokes System on  $R^3$  without external forcing and viscosity  $\nu = 1$ . After Fourier transform it can be written as

$$v(k, t) = e^{-|k|^2 t} v^{(0)}(k) + i \int_0^t e^{-|k|^2(t-s)} ds \cdot \int_{R^3} \langle k, v(k-k', s) \rangle P_k v(k', s) dk'. \quad (1)$$

Here  $k \in R^3$ ,  $v(k, t) \perp k$  for any  $k$  and  $P_k$  is the orthogonal projection to the subspace orthogonal to  $k$ .

In [1], see also [2], the subspaces  $\Phi(\alpha, \omega)$  were introduced. By definition,  $v(k) \in \Phi(\alpha, \omega)$  iff

- 1)  $v(k) = \frac{c(k)}{|k|^\alpha}$ ,  $c(k) \in R^3$ ,  $c(k) \perp k$  for  $|k| \leq 1$  where  $c(k)$  is continuous outside  $k = 0$ ,  
 $\sup_{|k| \leq 1, k \neq 0} |c(k)| = c < \infty$ ;
- 2)  $v(k) = \frac{d(k)}{|k|^\omega}$ ,  $d(k) \in R^3$ ,  $d(k) \perp k$  for  $|k| \geq 1$  and  $d(k)$  is continuous,  
 $\sup_{|k| \geq 1} |d(k)| = d < \infty$ .

We put  $\|v\| = c + d$ . With this norm the curve  $e^{-t|k|^2} v^{(0)}(k), v^{(0)}(k) \in \Phi(\alpha, \omega)$  may not be continuous at  $t = 0$  in the sense that  $\|v^{(0)}(k)e^{-t|k|^2} - v^{(0)}(k)\|$  may not tend to zero as  $t \rightarrow 0$ . In the spaces  $\Phi(\alpha, \omega)$ ,  $0 \leq \alpha < 3$ ,  $\omega > 2$  the local existence theorem is valid (see [1]). More precisely (see [1]),

**Theorem 1** *Let  $v^{(0)} \in \Phi(\alpha, \omega)$ . Then for some  $t_0 > 0$  depending on  $\alpha, \omega$  and  $v^{(0)}$  there exists  $v(k, t) = e^{-t|k|^2} v^{(0)}(k) + v^{(1)}(k, t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq t_0$  where  $v^{(1)}(k, t) \in \Phi(\alpha, \omega)$  and the family  $\{v^{(1)}(k, t), 0 \leq t \leq t_0\}$  is continuous in  $\Phi(\alpha, \omega)$  including  $t = 0$ .*

This means that  $\|v^{(1)}(k, t)\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$ . In the so-called critical case  $\alpha = \omega = 2$  where  $v(k, t) = \frac{c(k, t)}{|k|^2}$ , Le Jan and Sznitman (see [3]) and later Cannone and Planchon (see [4]) proved that if  $\|v^{(0)}\|$  is sufficiently small then there exists global solution of (1) defined for all  $t > 0$ .

In this paper we consider  $v^{(0)}(k)$  satisfying some regularity condition at  $\infty$ . Namely, for each  $r > 0$  consider the sphere  $S_r = \{k : |k| = r\}$ . The condition  $v(k) \perp k$  implies that for each  $r$  we have the vector field on  $S_r$  consisting of vectors  $v(k), |k| = r$ .

**Basic Assumption:** There exist a continuous vector field  $w = \{w(k), |k| = 1\}$  on the unit sphere such that

$$\max_{k \in S_r} \left| c^{(0)}(k) - w \left( \frac{k}{|k|} \right) \right| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |k| \rightarrow \infty.$$

This assumption implies the existence of the limits of  $c^{(0)}(k)$  when  $k \rightarrow \infty$  along any direction.

Having  $c^{(0)}(k)$  satisfying the basic assumption take a one-parameter family of initial conditions  $v_A^{(0)}(k) = \frac{A}{|k|^2} \cdot c^{(0)}(k)$ ,  $A > 0$ . For sufficiently small  $A$  the result by Le Jan and Sznitman and Cannone and Planchon can be applied and it gives the existence of global solution  $v_A(k, t)$ . The purpose of this paper is to prove the following theorem.

**Main Theorem:** *Let  $c^{(0)}(k)$  satisfy the basic assumption and some non-degeneracy condition (see below). For all sufficiently large  $A$ ,  $A \geq A_1$  there does not exist a solution of (1)  $v(k, t) = \frac{c(k, t)}{|k|^2} = \frac{Ae^{-t|k|^2} c^{(0)}(k)}{|k|^2} + \frac{c^{(1)}(k, t)}{|k|^2}$  where  $\sup_{k \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus 0} |c^{(1)}(k, t)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$ .*

Certainly,  $c^{(1)}(k, t)$  may depend on  $A$ . To prove the theorem we show that for any  $t > 0$  and  $k \sim O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\right)$  the solution  $c(k, t)$  takes values of order  $A^2$  and hence cannot be small, i.e.  $\|v(k, t) - v^{(0)}(k)\| \sim O(A^2)$  for all sufficiently small  $t$ , where  $O$  does not depend on  $t$ .

**Proof:** We write  $v(k, t) = \frac{Ae^{-t|k|^2} c^{(0)}(k)}{|k|^2} + \frac{c^{(1)}(k, t)}{|k|^2}$ .

From (1)

$$\begin{aligned}
c^{(1)}(k, t) &= i \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \cdot \\
&\left[ A^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(0)}(k - k') \rangle P_k \cdot c^{(0)}(k') e^{-s|k-k'|^2 - s|k'|^2} dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} \right. \\
&\quad + A \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(0)}(k - k') \rangle e^{-s|k-k'|^2} P_k c^{(1)}(k', s) dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} + \\
&\quad + A \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(1)}(k - k', s) \rangle P_k c^{(0)}(k') e^{-s|k'|^2} dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} \\
&\quad \left. + A \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(1)}(k - k', s) \rangle P_k c^{(1)}(k', s) dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} = \right. \\
&\underline{\text{def}} i \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 [I_1(k, s) + I_2(k, s) + I_3(k, s) + I_4(k, s)] . \tag{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Take  $t > 0$  and make the rescaling:  $s = \xi \cdot t$ ,  $k = xt^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Using the formula

$$a_1|k - k'|^2 + a_2|k'|^2 = \frac{1}{a_1^{-1} + a_2^{-1}}|k|^2 + a_2|k' - \frac{a_1}{a_1 + a_2}k|^2$$

we can write

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \cdot A^2 \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(0)}(k - k') \rangle P_k c^{(0)}(k') e^{-s|k-k'|^2 - s|k'|^2} dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} \\ &= \int_0^1 e^{-(1-\xi)|x|^2} d\xi \cdot x^2 \cdot A^2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\xi}{2}|x|^2} \cdot \\ & \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle x, c^{(0)}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} - \frac{x'}{\sqrt{t}}\right) \rangle P_x \cdot c^{(0)}\left(\frac{x'}{\sqrt{t}}\right) e^{-\xi|x' - \frac{x}{2}|^2} dx'}{|x - x'|^2 \cdot |x'|^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

It follows from the Basic Assumption that

$$c^{(0)}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} - \frac{x'}{\sqrt{t}}\right) - w\left(\frac{x - x'}{|x - x'|}\right) \rightarrow 0, c^{(0)}\left(\frac{x'}{\sqrt{t}}\right) - w\left(\frac{x'}{|x'|}\right) \rightarrow 0$$

as  $t \rightarrow 0$ . Therefore (3) converges to the limit

$$A^2 \int_{0^1} e^{-(1-\xi)|x|^2} d\xi \cdot |x|^2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\xi}{2}|x|^2} \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle x, w\left(\frac{x-x'}{|x-x'|}\right) \rangle P_x w\left(\frac{x'}{|x'|}\right) e^{-\xi|x' - \frac{x}{2}|^2}}{|x - x'|^2 \cdot |x'|^2} \quad (4)$$

Non-degeneracy condition which we meant in the formulation of the theorem just says that the integral in (1) is non-zero. Thus we have that the first term in (2) for  $x \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$  is proportional to  $A^2$  and in the main order of magnitude the coefficient near  $A^2$  does not depend on  $t$ . In the Appendix 1 we estimate the other terms in (2). The estimates show that they tend to zero as  $t \rightarrow 0$  and this gives the statement of the theorem.

## Comments.

1. Critical case  $\alpha = \omega = 2$  is remarkable because after rescaling main terms do not depend on  $t$  explicitly.
2. For the main theorem only the behavior of  $c^{(0)}(k)$  at infinity is important. Therefore  $c^{(0)}(k)$  can tend to zero as  $k \rightarrow 0$  so that  $v^{(0)}(k)$  has the finite energy. But the enstrophy  $\Omega = \int |v^{(0)}(k)| |k|^2 dk = \infty$ .
3. The main theorem gives the precise meaning to the intuitive feeling that for sufficiently large  $A$  the iteration scheme corresponding to (1) diverges.

I thank V. Yakhot for valuable and fruitful discussions.

The financial support from NSF grant ( $\mathcal{DMS}$ -970694) is highly appreciated.

### Appendix 1. Estimates of $I_2, I_3, I_4$

We shall estimate

$$\mathcal{E}_2 = \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \cdot \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(0)}(k - k') \rangle e^{-s|k-k'|^2} P_k c^{(1)}(k', s) dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2}$$

The functions  $c^{(0)}, c^{(1)}$  satisfy the inequalities:

1.  $|c^{(0)}(k)| \leq c^{(0)}$
2.  $|c^{(1)}(k', s)| \leq \epsilon(s)$

where  $\epsilon(s)$  is continuous function on  $[0, t_0]$  and  $\epsilon(s) \rightarrow 0$  as  $s \rightarrow 0$ ; by this reason we may assume that  $\epsilon(s) \leq \epsilon$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq t_0$  for any given  $\epsilon$  and appropriate  $t_0$ .

We have

$$|\mathcal{E}_2| \leq \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^3 \cdot c^{(0)} \cdot \epsilon \cdot \int_{R^3} \frac{dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2}. \quad (5)$$

It is easy to check that for some constant  $B_1$

$$\int_{R^3} \frac{dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2} \leq \frac{B_1}{|k|}.$$

Therefore, the right-hand side of (5) is not more than

$$\int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \cdot c^{(0)} \cdot \epsilon \cdot B_1 \leq (1 - e^{-t|k|^2}) \cdot c^{(0)} \cdot \epsilon \cdot B_1 \leq c^{(0)} \cdot \epsilon B_1.$$

This is the estimate which we need. The estimation of  $\mathcal{E}_3$ ,

$$\mathcal{E}_3 = \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \cdot \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(1)}(k - k', s) \rangle e^{-s|k'|^2} P_k c^{(0)}(k') dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2}$$

is done in a similar way. The estimate of  $\mathcal{E}_4$ ,

$$\mathcal{E}_4 = \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)|k|^2} ds \cdot |k|^2 \int_{R^3} \frac{\langle k, c^{(1)}(k - k', s) \rangle P_k c^{(1)}(k', s) dk'}{|k - k'|^2 \cdot |k'|^2}$$

is also simple and  $|\mathcal{E}_4| \leq \epsilon^2 \cdot B_1$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.