

Stokes Waves (in 2-dimension)

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{curl } \vec{v} = \nabla \times \vec{v} = 0 \quad \text{incompressible} \Leftrightarrow \text{div } \vec{v} = \nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

A steady periodic irrotational water wave of infinite depth, with a free surface under gravity and without surface tension, is called a Stokes wave.
"zero viscosity"

Euler Equations

The Navier-Stokes equations describe the motion of fluid substances, (arising from applying Newton's 2nd law to fluid motion)

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} \right) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \Pi + \vec{f}, \quad \text{conservation of momentum (N-S)}$$

$\vec{v}$ — the flow velocity (depending both on space and time)

ρ — the fluid density

p — the pressure

Π — the stress tensor, $\Pi = A(\nabla \vec{v})$, for A being the viscosity

$\vec{f}$ — the body forces such as the gravity, acting on the fluid.

Under the assumption of incompressible flow and constant viscosity,

$$(N-S) \Rightarrow \underbrace{\rho}_{\text{i.e. inertia (per volume)}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t}}_{\text{unsteady acceleration}} + \underbrace{\vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v}}_{\text{convective acceleration}} \right) = \underbrace{-\nabla p}_{\text{pressure gradient}} + \underbrace{\mu \nabla^2 \vec{v}}_{\text{viscosity}} + \underbrace{\vec{f}}_{\text{body forces}}$$

$$(N-S) \xrightarrow{\text{0 viscosity}} \underbrace{\rho}_{\text{water}} \left(\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} \right) = -\nabla p + \vec{f} \quad \text{"Euler equations"}$$

1. Model for Stokes Waves

$$\vec{U}_t + (\vec{U} \cdot \nabla) \vec{U} = \nabla P + \vec{F} \quad (\text{Euler eq.})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{U} = 0 \quad (\text{S-W})$$

(incompressible)

$$\nabla \times \vec{U} = 0$$

(irrotational)

periodic

• Steady water waves

traveling with a constant speed and unchanged shape.

Def. A 2π -periodic function $u: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Hölder continuous with exponent $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, written as $u \in C^\alpha$, if

$$\|u\|_{C^\alpha} = \sup_{x \in [-\pi, \pi]} |u(x)| + \sup_{x, y \in [-\pi, \pi]} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|}{|x - y|^\alpha} < \infty$$

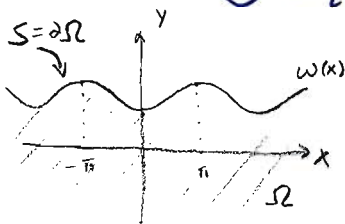
If u is k -times cont. diff. on $(-\pi, \pi)$ and the k -th derivative has cont. ext. to $[-\pi, \pi]$ which is in C^α , then we write $u \in C^{k, \alpha}$. In particular, a Lipschitz cont. function $u \in C^{0, 1}$ needs not to be in C^1 .

* by Arzeli-Ascoli theorem, $C^{k, \alpha} \hookrightarrow C^k$ is a compact embedding.

* the notation $C^{k, \alpha}$ has an obvious extension to functions u defined on subsets $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$.

Let ω be a real-valued, 2π -periodic, even, $C^{2, \alpha}$ function and

$$S := \{(x, \omega(x)) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}, \quad \Omega = \{(x, y) : y < \omega(x)\}.$$



Consider a boundary-value problem (for a parameter $c \in \mathbb{R}$)

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \hat{\psi} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \hat{\psi} = 0 & \text{on } S \\ \hat{\psi} \text{ is } 2\pi\text{-per. even in } x, \\ \nabla \hat{\psi}(x, y) - (0, c) \rightarrow 0 & \text{as } y \rightarrow -\infty. \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{harmonic function} \\ (*) \end{matrix}$$

For any $c > 0$, (*) has a unique solution which is real-analytic in Ω and in $C^{2, \alpha}(\bar{\Omega})$, meaning all its derivatives and second derivatives have cont. ext. to $\bar{\Omega}$ from Ω , which are C^α . $\hat{\psi} = \text{minimiser of } \int_{\Omega \cap (-\pi, \pi) \times \mathbb{R}} |\nabla \hat{\psi}(x, y) - (0, c)|^2 dy dx$ in $W_{loc}^{1, 2}(\Omega)$ which are 2π -per, even, zero on S .

(a subharmonic)
CIR^m open

Maximum principle : suppose ψ to be a harmonic function $\psi: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,
for any compact subset $K \subset U$, ψ , restricted to K ,
attains its maximum and minimum on ∂K .

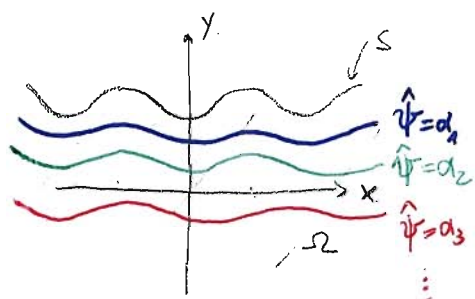
$$\textcircled{1} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{\psi} = 0 \text{ on } S \\ \nabla \hat{\psi}(x, y) \rightarrow (0, c) \text{ as } y \rightarrow -\infty \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial y} \rightarrow c > 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\psi} \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } y \rightarrow -\infty \end{array} \right\} \text{max. p.} \Rightarrow \hat{\psi} < 0 \text{ in } \Omega.$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{\psi} = 0 \text{ on } S \\ \hat{\psi} < 0 \text{ in } \Omega \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial y} > 0 \text{ on } S$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial y} \text{ is harmonic in } \Omega \\ \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial y} \rightarrow c \text{ as } y \rightarrow -\infty \end{array} \right\} \text{max. p.} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial y} > 0 \text{ on } \bar{\Omega}.$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \hat{\psi} \text{ is } 2\pi\text{-per, even in } x \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial x} = 0 \text{ at } x = 0, \pm\pi.$$

Implicit function theorem $\textcircled{1-4} \Rightarrow \forall_{\alpha < 0}$ the level set $\{(x, y) \in \Omega : \hat{\psi}(x, y) = \alpha\}$



is the graph of a smooth (in fact real-analytic since all harmonic functions are analytic) function Y_α which gives y as a function of x , i.e.

$$\{(x, y) \in \Omega : \hat{\psi}(x, y) = \alpha\} = \{(x, Y_\alpha(x)) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Define a velocity field

$$\vec{U}(x, y, t) := (u(x, y, t), v(x, y, t)) = (\hat{\psi}_y, -\hat{\psi}_x)$$

Note $\vec{U}$ is independent of time t ; $\vec{U}$ is irrotational, i.e. $\text{curl } \vec{U} = \nabla \times \vec{U} = 0$

Let $\vec{F}_g := (0, -g)$ be the constant gravity field (acting downwards) and

$$P(x, y) := \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \hat{\psi}(x, y)|^2 + gy.$$

Then $\vec{U}$ satisfies (S-W) for the $\vec{F} = \vec{F}_g$, and $\vec{P}$ given above.

Moreover, $\hat{\psi} = 0$ on $S \Rightarrow \nabla \hat{\psi}$ is perpendicular to S , on S
 (since there is no change in $\hat{\psi}$ along S)
 " $\hat{\psi} = 0$ on S " $\Rightarrow$



$\vec{U} \perp \nabla \hat{\psi}$
 by def. $\vec{U}$ is tangent to S , on S .

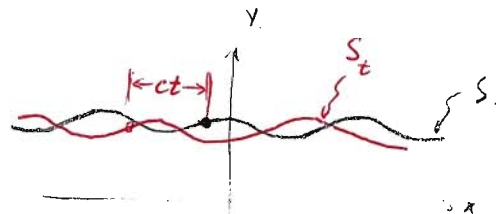
Now define time-dependant domains Ω_t with S_t , a velocity $\vec{V}$ and $\vec{P}$:

$$\Omega_t = \{ (x, y) : (x+ct, y) \in \Omega \}, \quad \eta(x, t) = \omega(x+ct)$$

$$S_t = \{ (x, y) : (x+ct, y) \in \partial\Omega \} = \{ (x, y) : y = \eta(x, t) \}$$

$$\vec{V}(x, y, t) = \vec{U}(x+ct, y, t) - (c, 0),$$

$$P(x, y, t) = P(x+ct, y)$$



Then $\vec{V}$ and $\vec{P}$ (together with $\vec{F} = \vec{F}_g$) define
 a steady solution of (S-W) and

" S_t drifting to the left
 with const. speed c ."

In summary, given S (the profil of the wave) and c (the horizontal speed at the bottom), (*) has a unique solution $\vec{U} = (\hat{u}, -\hat{v})$ which solves (S-W) for $P = \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \hat{\psi}|^2 + gy$ and $\vec{F} = (0, -g)$. Moreover, translating S_t with constant speed c gives arise to solution $\vec{V}$ of (S-W) for translated $P_t = P(x+ct, y)$. Now, if we assume that S and c are such that $P \equiv \text{constant}$ on S , then $P_t \equiv P$ for all translated pressure and consequently, the translated solution

a steady water wave $\rightarrow \vec{V}$ solves (S-W) for the same pressure P (and $\vec{F}$ of course) which describes a water wave, which travels with a constant speed c and unchanged shape S_t .

So the question of steady water waves reduces to finding appropriate S (resp. Ω resp. $\omega = \omega(x)$) and $c > 0$ such that the solution of (*) gives a constant pressure on S , i.e. solving

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta \hat{\psi} = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \\ \hat{\psi}(x, \omega(x)) = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \\ \nabla \hat{\psi}(x, y) \rightarrow (0, c) \text{ as } y \rightarrow -\infty \\ \hat{\psi}(-x, y) = \hat{\psi}(x, y) = \hat{\psi}(x + 2\pi, y), \quad \forall (x, y) \in \Omega \\ \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \hat{\psi}(x, \omega(x))|^2 + g \omega(x) \equiv \text{constant}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right.$$

• Dimensionless variables

Let $\hat{\psi} = c\psi$. Then

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} \Delta \psi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \\ \textcircled{2} \psi(x, \omega(x)) = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \\ \textcircled{3} \nabla \psi(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 1) \text{ as } y \rightarrow -\infty \\ \textcircled{4} \psi(-x, y) = \psi(x, y) = \psi(x + 2\pi, y), \quad \forall (x, y) \in \Omega \\ \textcircled{5} \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \psi(x, \omega(x))|^2 + \lambda \omega(x) \equiv \frac{1}{2}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \lambda = \frac{g}{c^2} \end{array} \right. \quad (*)_s$$

Note the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on the right hand side of the last equation is taken w.l.o.g (without loss of generality), since one can always relocate the origin in the y -direction, i.e. $(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y + d)$, for some $d \in \mathbb{R}$, which has no effect on other equations.

- Slight generalization

Write the profile S (2π -per & even in x) as

$$S = \{ (X(t), Y(t)) : t \in \mathbb{R} \},$$

where $t \mapsto (X(t), Y(t))$ is a globally injective and $C^{2,\alpha}$ function.

Then, ② & ⑤ of $(*)_s \Rightarrow$

$$\textcircled{2}' \quad \psi(X(t), Y(t)) = 0 \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R} \quad \textcircled{5}' \quad \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \psi(X(t), Y(t))|^2 + \lambda Y(t) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

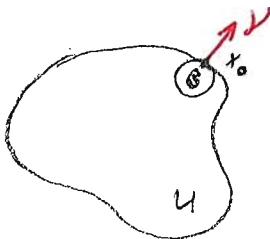
$$\Leftrightarrow \Delta \psi \geq 0 \text{ in } U$$

Hopf boundary-point lemma: suppose φ to be a subharmonic function

$\varphi: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is $C^2(U) \cap C^1(\bar{U})$. Assume $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open

$\exists x_0 \in \partial U$ s.t. $\varphi(x_0) > \varphi(x) \quad \forall x \in U$ and U satisfies

the interior ball condition at x_0 , i.e. $\exists B \subset U$ s.t. $x_0 \in \partial B$
open ball



Then $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \nu}(x_0) > 0$.

$\nwarrow$ normal direction of ∂U

Lemma ^{10.1.2} Suppose (X, Y) is a $C^{2,\alpha}$ -function of t with $X'(t)^2 + Y'(t)^2 > 0$ and $X'(t) \geq 0$ on $\mathbb{R}$. Then $X'(t) > 0$ on $\mathbb{R}$.

pf: (X, Y) is $C^{2,\alpha} \Rightarrow \psi$ and all its 1st and 2nd derivatives are continuous on $\bar{\Omega}$.

Assume that $X'(t_0) = 0$ for some $t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. Then,

$$\textcircled{2}' \Rightarrow \psi_y(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) = 0$$

$$\hookrightarrow \psi(X(t), Y(t)) = 0 \quad \forall t \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \psi(X(t), Y(t)) = 0 \Rightarrow \psi_x X'(t) + \psi_y Y'(t) = 0 \quad \forall t$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} X'(t_0) = 0 \\ X'(t_0) = 0, X'(t_0)^2 + Y'(t_0)^2 > 0 \Rightarrow Y'(t_0) \neq 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \psi_y(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Y'(t_0) \psi_{xx}(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) = \psi_x(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) X''(t_0) \quad (e_1)$$

$$\hookrightarrow \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \psi(X(t), Y(t)) = 0 \Rightarrow \dots$$

On the other hand, $P = \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\psi|^2 + \psi$ (together with every point $x_0 \in S$) satisfies the condition for Hopf b.p. lemma,

more precisely, P is a subharmonic function which is constant on S and tends to $-\infty$ as $y \rightarrow -\infty$.
 $\Delta P \geq 0$ (check directly)

Thus, $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \vec{\nu}}(x_0) > 0 \quad \forall x_0 \in S$, written in other way, $\nabla P(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \cdot \vec{\nu} > 0$

 upwards normal direction at $(X(t_0), Y(t_0))$

Since we know $\nabla\psi$ is perpendicular to S everywhere on S ,

$\nabla\psi$ is parallel to the direction $\vec{\nu}$, also pointing outwards ($\psi_y > 0$ on S).

$$\Rightarrow \nabla P(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \cdot \nabla\psi(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) > 0,$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\psi_y=0}{=} P_x(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \psi_x(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \\ P_x = \psi_x \psi_{xx} + \psi_y \psi_{xy} & \stackrel{\psi_y=0}{=} \psi_x(X(t_0), Y(t_0))^2 \psi_{xx}(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} & \Rightarrow \psi_{xx}(X(t_0), Y(t_0)) \neq 0 \\ & \left. \begin{aligned} X'(t_0) &= 0 \\ X'(t_0)^2 + Y'(t_0)^2 &> 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow Y'(t_0) \neq 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \xRightarrow{(\text{e}_1)} X''(t_0) \neq 0. \quad \} \text{contradiction.}$$

$$\text{But } X'(t_0) > 0 \text{ and } X'(t_0) = 0 \Rightarrow X''(t_0) = 0$$

$\alpha(t) = X(t)$ achieves minimum at $t_0 \Rightarrow \alpha'(t_0) = 0$
 $\alpha''(t_0) > 0$

Lemma.

• Trivial solution

for all $\lambda > 0$, $(*_S)$ has a solution,

$$\omega = 0, \quad \psi(x, y) = y, \quad S = \{(x, 0) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}, \quad \Omega = \mathbb{R} \times (-\infty, 0),$$

which corresponds to the constant solution

$$\vec{U} = (\hat{\psi}_y, -\hat{\psi}_x) = (c\psi_y, -c\psi_x) = (c, 0)$$

of the Euler equation (S-W) and a uniform parallel flow in a horizontal direction. This is a trivial solution.