



# Complex Singularities Tracking Method for PDEs

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University of Palermo

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Tracking a . . .

Zero viscosity . . .

Pade . . .

Home Page

Title Page



Page 1 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Plan:



- PART I: A review of the tracking singularities method.

*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 2 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

## Plan:



- PART I: A review of the tracking singularities method.
- PART II: Applications to  $1D$  equations:
  - Camassa–Holm equation.
  - De Gasperi–Procesi equation.
  - b–family equations.

*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 2 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

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- PART I: A review of the tracking singularities method.
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- PART III: Zero Viscosity Limit of Navier–Stokes:
  - Prandtl’s equations.
  - The Van Dommelen and Shen’s singularity.
  - Navier Stokes results.
  - The Comparison between NS and Prandtl’s solutions.

*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 2 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

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  - Navier Stokes results.
  - The Comparison between NS and Prandtl’s solutions.
- PART IV: Conclusions

*Tracking a ...*

*Zero viscosity ...*

*Pade ...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 2 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

# A Review: Burger's equation

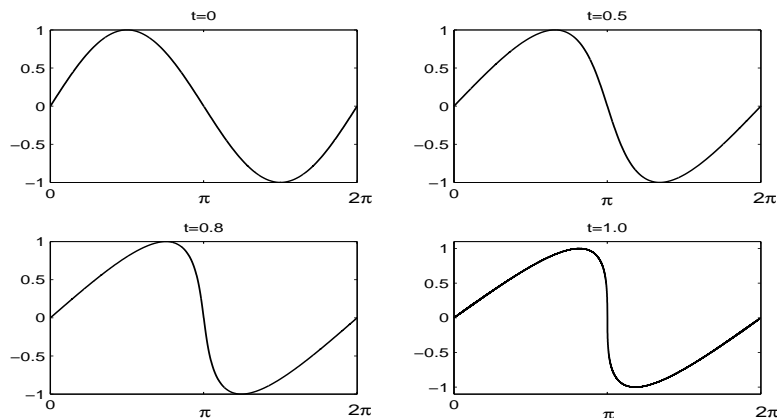


$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x &= 0, & x \in [0, 2\pi], & \quad t \in [0, 1[ \\ u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\ u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...



Home Page

Title Page

◀◀ ▶▶

◀ ▶

Page 3 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# What does the Fourier-spectrum say?



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



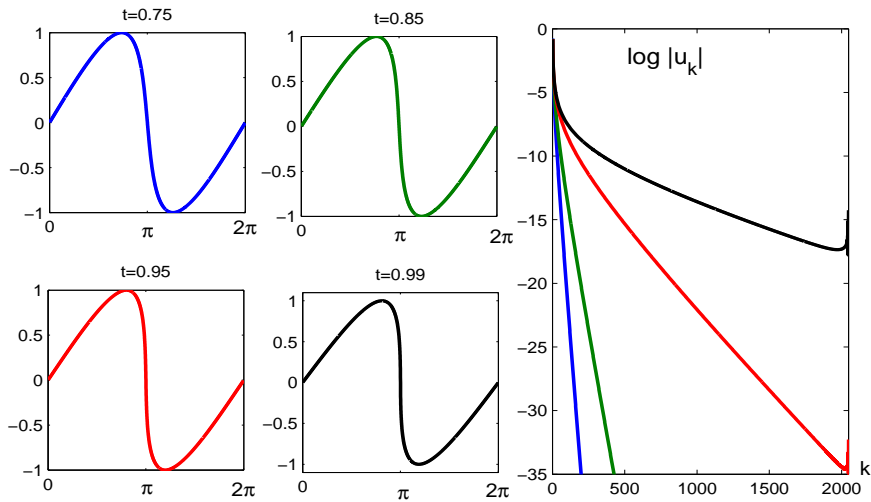
Page 4 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# 1. Tracking a singularity in the complex plane



If an analytic function

$$u(Z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k Z^k = (1 - Z/Z_*)^{\alpha} r(Z) + a(Z)$$

has an algebraic singularity of type  $\alpha$  at the complex location  $Z_*$ , with

$$r(Z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (1 - Z/Z_*)^n$$

then the asymptotic behavior of its Taylor coefficients is given by (**Darboux Theorem**):

$$a_k \sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n b_n Z_*^{n-k} \Gamma(k - \alpha - n)}{k! \Gamma(-\alpha - n)}$$

The leading term is simply

$$a_k \sim b_0 k^{-(1+\alpha)} Z_*^{-k}.$$

If  $Z = \exp(-iz)$ ,  $Z_* = \exp(-i(x^* + i\delta))$  and  $a_k = \hat{u}_k$ , then the spectrum has the following (**Laplace formula**) asymptotic (in  $k$ ) behavior:

$$\hat{u}_k \sim C |k|^{-(1+\alpha)} \exp(-\delta k) \exp(ix^* k).$$

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 5 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



The rate of the exponential decay of the spectrum  $\delta$  gives the distance of the singularity from the real axes.

The time  $t_s$  at which  $\delta(t_s) = 0$  gives the exact time of the development of the singularity.

The estimate of  $x^*$  and  $\alpha$  gives, respectively, the real location  $x^*$  and the algebraic type of the singularity.



*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 6 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

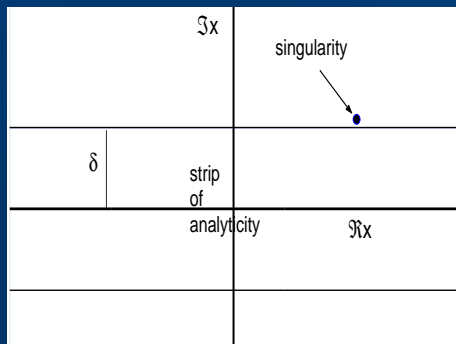
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The estimate of  $x^*$  and  $\alpha$  gives, respectively, the real location  $x^*$  and the algebraic type of the singularity.

The picture behind the idea of the singularity tracking method is to complexify the spatial variable



i.e. a singularity does not comes out of the blue, but sits in the complex plane, maybe headed to hit the real axis. When the singularity hits the real axis the singularity shows up in the real world as a blow up (of the solution or of the derivative depends on the algebraic character of the complex singularity).

Evaluating the exponential rate of decay of the spectrum of the solution one knows the distance  $\delta$  of the singularity from the real axis.

$$\log |\hat{u}_k| \sim C - (1 + \alpha) \log(k) - \delta k$$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 6 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The method was introduced in '83 by Sulem, Sulem and H.Frisch. Their goal was the issue of the global in time regularity of the Euler equations.

Lack of computational power postponed for decades the possibility of tackling such a problem.

A more subtle issue is the fact that when the singularity approaches the real axis exponentially slow then the method **can run out of steam**.

However if there is a reasonable confidence that an equation develop a singularity, tracing the complex singularity has become a powerful method to follow and characterize the whole process.

- Vortex sheets:  
Shelley **J. Fluid. Mech., 1992**  
Cowley, Baker, and Tanveer **J. Fluid. Mech., 1999**
- Hele–Shaw flows:  
Goldstein, Pesci, and Shelley, **Physics of Fluids, 1998**
- Thin–Jets:  
Pugh and Shelley, **Comm. Pure Appl. Math.1998**



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 7 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 7 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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- Thin-Jets:  
Pugh and Shelley, **Comm. Pure Appl. Math.** 1998
- Complex 3D Euler with swirl:  
Caflisch **Physica D**, 1993  
Caflisch and Siegel, **Methods Appl. Anal.** 2004
- Formation of a complex singularity in 2D Euler:  
Matsumoto, Bec, U.Frisch **Fluid. Dynam. Res.** 2005  
Pauls, Matsumoto, Bec, U.Frisch **Physica D** 2006
- For a review and perspectives see:  
U.Frisch, Matsumoto and Bec, **J. Statist. Phys.** 2003  
Pauls and Frisch **J. Statist. Phys.** 2007.

# Tracking complex singularity: Burger's equation



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



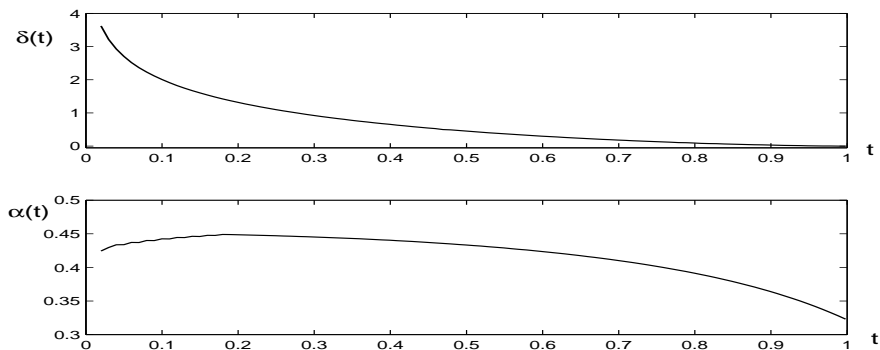
Page 8 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## Tracking complex singularity: analytic result

In the sequel we shall be dealing with functions that are analytic in the complex variable  $x$ . We hence introduce the strip in the complex plane.

$$D(\rho) = \{x \in \mathbb{C} : \Im x \in (-\rho, \rho)\} .$$

The  $L^2$  integration is performed along the following path:

$$\Gamma(b) = \{x \in \mathbb{C} : \Im x = b\} .$$

- $H^{0,\rho}$  is the set of all complex functions  $f(x)$  such that
  - $f$  is analytic in  $D(\rho)$  ;
  - $f \in L^2(\Gamma(\Im x))$  for  $\Im x \in (-\rho, \rho)$ ,; i.e. if  $\Im x$  is inside  $(-\rho, \rho)$ , then  $f(\Re x + i\Im x)$  is a square integrable function of  $\Re x$  ;
  - $\|f\|_\rho = \sup_{\Im x \in (-\rho, \rho)} \|f(\cdot + i\Im x)\|_{L^2(\Gamma(\Im x))} < \infty$ .
- $H^{k,\rho}$  is the set of all complex functions  $f(x)$  such that
  - $\partial_x^j f \in H^{0,\rho}$  for  $0 \leq j \leq k$ ;
  - $\|f\|_{k,\rho} \equiv \sum_{0 \leq j \leq k} |\partial_x^j f|_\rho < \infty$ .

This norm is equivalent to:

$$\|f\|_{k,\rho} = \left[ \int e^{2\rho|\xi|} (1 + |\xi|^2)^k |\hat{f}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \right]^{1/2} .$$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀◀

▶▶

◀

▶

Page 9 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

We now state the ACK Theorem in the form given by Safonov.  
Consider the problem:

$$u + F(t, u). \quad (1)$$

### Theorem[ACK]

Suppose that  $\exists R > 0$ ,  $\rho_0 > 0$ , and  $\beta_0 > 0$  such that if  $0 < t \leq \rho_0/\beta_0$ , the following properties hold:

$$(a) \forall 0 < \rho' < \rho \leq \rho_0 \text{ and } \forall u \text{ s.t. } \{u \in X_{\rho} : \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |u(t)|_{\rho} \leq$$

$R\}$  the map

$F(t, u) : [0, T] \mapsto X_{\rho'}$  is continuous.

$$(b) \forall 0 < \rho < \rho_0 \text{ the function } F(t, 0) : [0, \rho_0/\beta_0] \mapsto \{u \in X_{\rho} : \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |u(t)|_{\rho} \leq R\} \text{ is continuous and}$$

$$|F(t, 0)|_{\rho} \leq R_0 < R.$$

$$(c) \forall 0 < \rho' < \rho(s) < \rho_0 \text{ and } \forall u \text{ and } w \in \{u \in X_{\rho} : \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |u(t)|_{\rho - \beta_0 t} \leq R\},$$

$$|F(t, u) - F(t, w)|_{\rho'} \leq C \int_0^t ds \left( \frac{|u - w|_{\rho(s)}}{\rho(s) - \rho'} \right).$$

Then  $\exists \beta > \beta_0$  such that  $\forall 0 < \rho < \rho_0$  Eq. (1) has a unique solution  $u(t) \in X_{\rho}$  with  $t \in [0, (\rho_0 - \rho)/\beta]$ ; moreover  $\sup_{\rho < \rho_0 - \beta t} |u(t)|_{\rho} \leq R$ .

Under this point of view the ACK is just an analytic tool that allows to bound the speed at which the singularity travels in the complex plane.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 10 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Camassa–Holm equation: analytic results



$$u_t - u_{xxt} + 3uu_x = 2u_x u_{xx} + uu_{xxx}$$

We write the Camassa–Holm in a form suitable for the application of the ACK Theorem:

$$u_t + uu_x = -\frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2 \right),$$

where  $k$  is the dual Fourier variable of  $x$ .  
With an integration in time one gets  $u = F(t, u)$  where:

$$F(t, u) \equiv u_0 - \int_0^t dt' \left[ uu_x + \frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u_x^2 \right) \right]$$

**Theorem**[Lombardo, Sammartino and S. 04]

Let  $u_0 \in H^{1, \rho_0}$  be the initial datum of the Camassa–Holm equation. Then there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that for any  $\rho$  with  $0 < \rho < \rho_0$  there exists a unique continuously differentiable (w.r.t. time) solution  $u$  of the Camassa–Holm equation with the following property:

- $u(\cdot, t) \in H^{1, \rho}$  and  $\partial_t u(\cdot, t) \in H^{1, \rho}$  when  $t \in \left[ 0, \frac{\rho_0 - \rho}{\beta} \right]$ .

**Theorem**[Lombardo, Sammartino and S. 04]

Suppose the initial datum of the Camassa–Holm equation satisfy  $u_0 \in H^{r, \rho}$  with  $r > 3/2$ ,  $|u_0|_{L^1} < \infty$ ,  $u_0 - \partial_{xx} u_0 \geq 0$  (or  $\leq 0$ ). Then the unique solution  $u(x, t)$  belongs to the Gevrey class of index 1 globally in time.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀◀

▶▶

◀

▶

Page 11 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## Camassa–Holm equation: numerical results



$$u_t + uu_x = -\frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( u^2 + \frac{u_x^2}{2} \right),$$

This means that, if one defines:

$$F_k(u) = - \left[ \widehat{(uu_x)}_k + \frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( \widehat{u^2}_k + \frac{1}{2} \widehat{u_x^2}_k \right) \right],$$

the dynamics of the  $k$ -th Fourier mode of  $u$  is ruled by:  $\partial_t u_k = F_k(u)$ . Dividing the time interval  $[0, T]$  in  $N$  sub-intervals of size  $\Delta t = T/N$ , we write the approximation:

$$u(x, n\Delta t) \approx \sum_{k=-K/2}^{k=K/2} u_k^n e^{ikx}.$$

We solve the ODE's system using an explicit Runge–Kutta method of the 4-th order. The numerical scheme therefore is:

$$u_k^{n+1} = u_k^n + \frac{\Delta t}{6} \left( \Gamma_k^1 + 2\Gamma_k^2 + 2\Gamma_k^3 + \Gamma_k^4 \right),$$

where  $\Gamma_k^i = F_k(V^i)$   $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , with:

$$V_k^1 = u_k^n, \quad V_k^2 = V_k^1 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \Gamma_k^1, \quad V_k^3 = V_k^2 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \Gamma_k^2, \quad V_k^4 = V_k^3 + \Delta t \Gamma_k^3.$$

The scheme is initialized by  $u_k^0 = h_k$ , where  $h_k$  being the coefficients in the Fourier expansion of the initial data  $h(x)$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 12 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

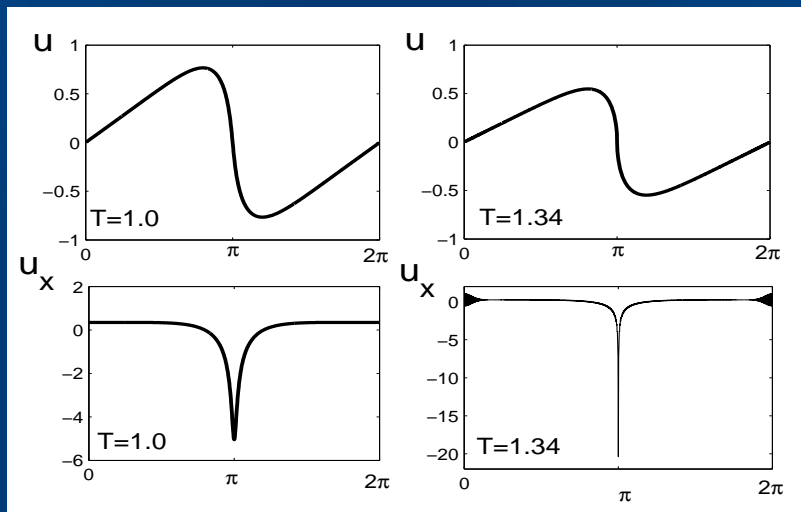
Close

Quit

## Camassa–Holm equation I: $h(x) = \sin(x)$



We first consider the initial datum  $h(x) = \sin(x)$ . Given that the integral of the datum on  $[0, 2\pi]$  is zero, this datum develops singularity in finite time.



The CH solution with  $h(x) = \sin(x)$ . In the top two figures the solution before the singularity and at the singularity time. In the bottom figures we show the derivative of the solution.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 13 of 58

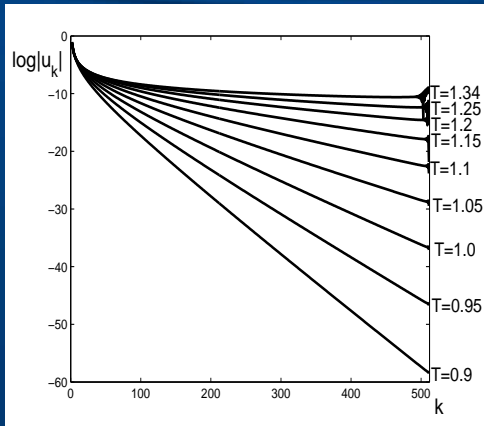
Go Back

Full Screen

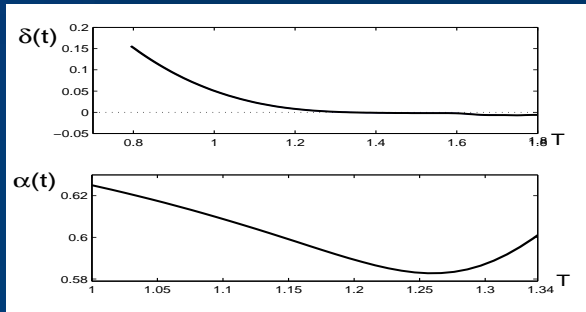
Close

Quit

# The exponential and the algebraic decay of the spectrum.



The behavior of  $\log |u_k|$  at different times.



The width of the analyticity strip shrinks to zero at  $t \approx 1.34$ . At the singularity the solution behaves like  $(x - x^*)^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \approx 0.58$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 14 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Camassa–Holm equation II: $h(x) = 1 + \sin(x)$

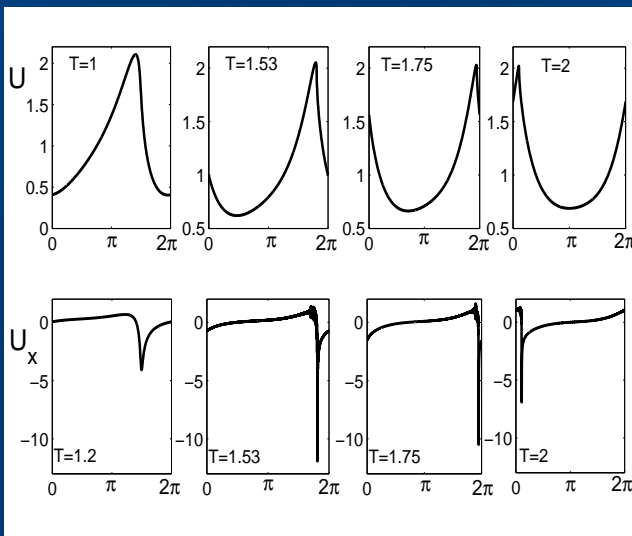
The condition on the initial datum  $(1 - \partial_{xx})h > 0$ , together with the regularity condition  $h \in H^s$   $s > 3/2$ , ensures the long time regularity of the solution. The initial datum  $h(x) = 1 + \sin(x)$  violates this condition and it is a candidate to singularity formation.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...



The formation of a peaked singularity. The solution seems to have a blow-up in the derivative. We have tried to follow the solution after the singularity time: the “peak” seems to move at speed approximately equal to its height  $c \approx 2$ .

Home Page

Title Page



Page 15 of 58

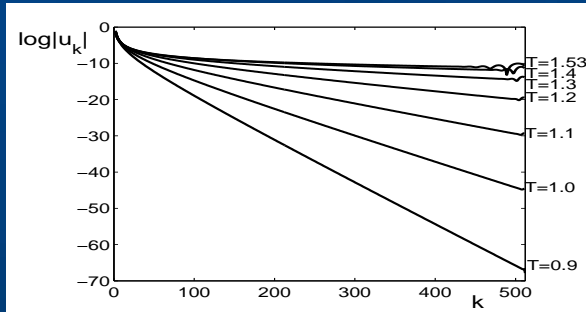
Go Back

Full Screen

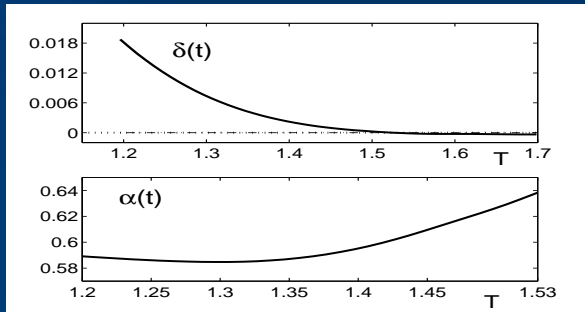
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Quit

# The exponential and the algebraic decay of the spectrum.



In the above figures one can follow the formation of the singularity as the shrinking to zero of the strip of analyticity.



The singularity time is therefore estimated as  $t_c \approx 1.53$ . At the singularity time the solution behaves like  $(x - x^*)^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \approx 2/3$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 16 of 58

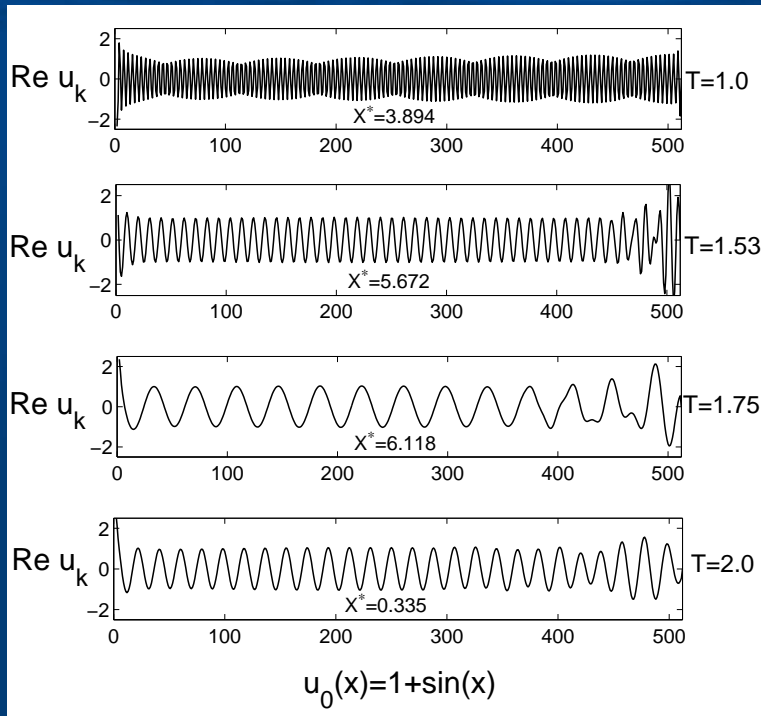
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## The oscillatory behavior of the spectrum.



We show the behavior of the real part of the spectrum (cleared up from both the exponential and algebraic decay) at different times. The imaginary part has the same character.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 17 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## b-family equations: analytic results

We apply the ACK theorem to the b-family equations (Holm & Stanley 01) to prove the short time existence of analytic solution. First of all we write the b-family equation in a form suitable for the application of the ACK theorem. It is easy to see that the b-family equation can be written in the following form:

$$(1 - \partial_x^2)(u_t + uu_x) = (b-3)u_x u_{xx} - buu_x = -\partial_x \left( \frac{b}{2}u^2 + \frac{3-b}{2}u_x^2 \right)_x,$$

and finally in the pseudodifferential form

$$u_t + uu_x = -A^{-2} \left( \frac{b}{2}u^2 + \frac{3-b}{2}u_x^2 \right)_x,$$

where we denote by  $A^2 = (1 - \partial_x^2)$ . Finally, with an integration in time one obtain

$$u = F(u, t), \quad \text{with} \\ F(u, t) = u_0 - \int_0^t \left[ uu_x + A^{-2} \left( \frac{b}{2}u^2 + \frac{3-b}{2}u_x^2 \right)_x \right] dt'.$$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 18 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

### Theorem[Coclite and S. 09]

Let  $1 \leq b \leq 3$  and let the initial data for the  $b$ -family  $u_0 \in H^{1,\rho_0}$ . Then there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that for any  $\rho$ , with  $0 < \rho < \rho_0$ , there exists a unique continuously differentiable w.r.t. time solution  $u$  of the  $b$ -family equation with the following property:

- $u(\cdot, t) \in H^{1,\rho}$  and  $\partial_t u(\cdot, t) \in H^{1,\rho}$ , when  $t \in \left[0, \frac{\rho_0 - \rho}{\beta}\right]$ .

### Theorem[Coclite and S. 09]

Let  $1 \leq b \leq 3$  and  $A^2 = (1 - \partial_x^2)$ . Let  $u_0 \in D(A^r e^{\rho_0 A})$ , with  $r > 3/2$ ,  $\rho_0 > 0$  and  $m_0 = u_0 - u_{0xx}$  does not change sign. Then the unique solution  $u$  of the  $b$ -family equation lies in Gevrey class of index 1 globally in time.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀◀

▶▶

◀

▶

Page 19 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## b-family equations: numerical results

Let us consider in this section the b-family equation in the spatial domain  $[0, 2\pi]$ , with periodic boundary conditions, and we solve this equation using Fourier spectral method. We use the b-family equation written in pseudodifferential form

$$u_t + uu_x = -\frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( \frac{b}{2}u^2 + \frac{3-b}{2}u_x^2 \right),$$

where now  $k$  is the dual Fourier variable of  $x$ . Then the dynamics of the  $k$ th Fourier mode of  $u$  is described by the following ODE

$$\partial_t \hat{u}_k = - \left[ \widehat{(uu_x)}_k + \frac{ik}{1+k^2} \left( \frac{b}{2} \widehat{(u^2)}_k + \frac{3-b}{2} \widehat{(u_x^2)}_k \right) \right].$$

Dividing the time interval  $[0, T]$  in  $N$  sub-intervals of size  $\Delta t = T/N$ , we approximate the solution  $u$  as

$$u(x, n\Delta t) \approx \sum_{k=-K/2}^{K/2} \hat{u}_k^n e^{ikx};$$

and we solve the system of ODE using explicit Runge–Kutta method of the 4th order with initial conditions given by

$$\hat{u}_k^0 = \hat{h}_k,$$

with  $\hat{h}_k$  the Fourier coefficients of the initial data  $u(x, 0) = h(x)$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 20 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# b-family equations I: $h(x) = \sin(x)$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



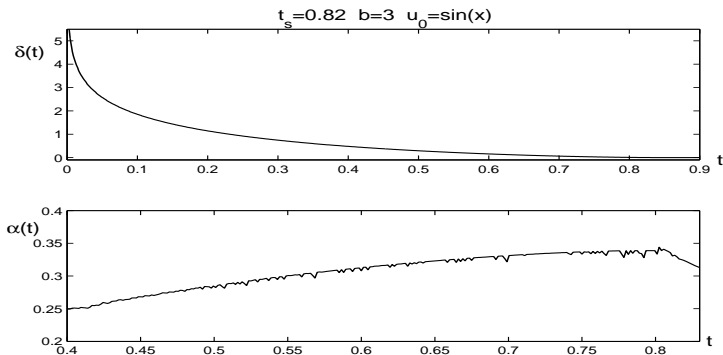
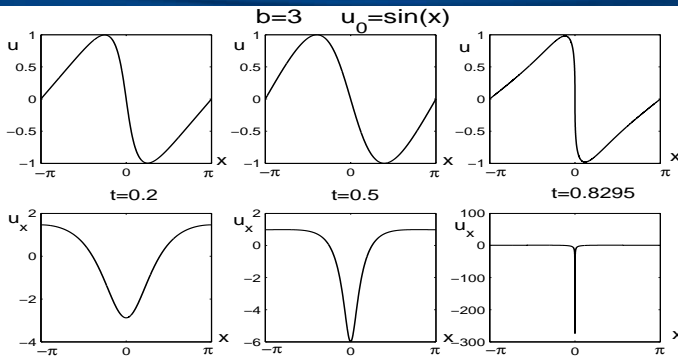
Page 21 of 58

Go Back

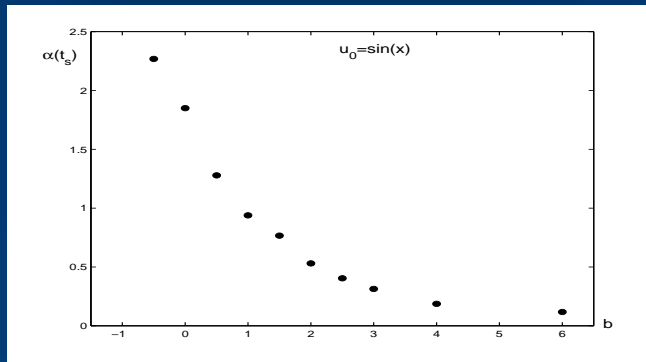
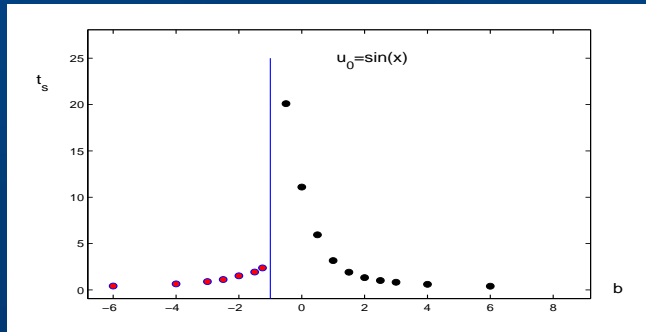
Full Screen

Close

Quit



The singularity times and the type of singularities for different values of  $b$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 22 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# b-family equations I: $h(x) = 1 + \sin(x)$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



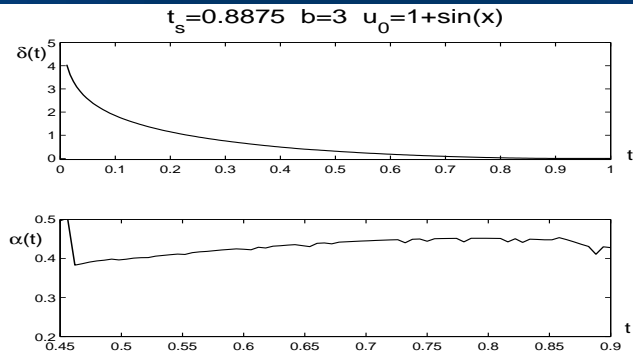
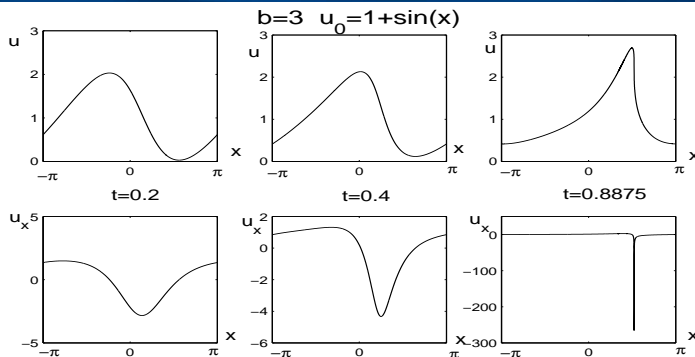
Page 23 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



The singularity times and the type of singularities for different values of  $b$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



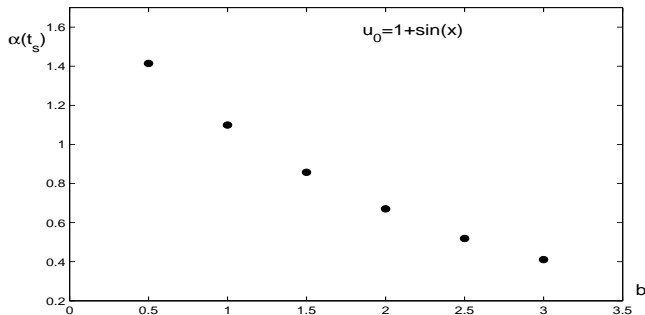
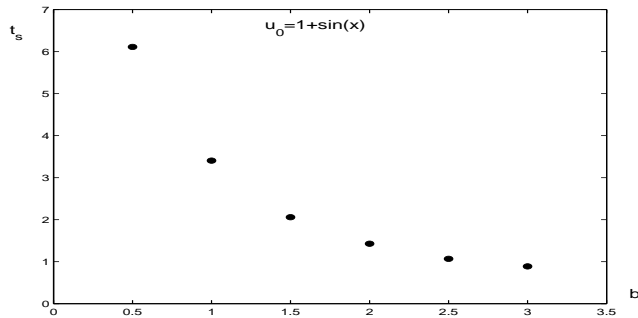
Page 24 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## 2. Zero viscosity limit for NS equations

Consider the Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p &= \nu \Delta \mathbf{u} , \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0 , \\ \mathbf{u}(t=0) &= \mathbf{u}_0 ,\end{aligned}$$

We want to consider the situation when the viscosity  $\nu \rightarrow 0$ .

Formally one has that the solution should behave as prescribed by Euler equations.

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla p &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

This was proved by Swann **Trans AMS** 1971 in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (no boundaries) and by Constantin and Wu **Nonlinearity** 1995 for vortex patches in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , i.e. when the initial vorticity is the characteristic function of a domain. The rate of convergence was  $O(\nu)$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 25 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## 2. Zero viscosity limit for NS equations



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We want to discuss a different situation:

- Fluids with boundaries, e.g. half-plane, half-space, exterior of a disk.

Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 25 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Fluids in presence of a boundary

The discrepancy between the boundary conditions  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$  for NS and  $u_n = 0$  for Euler, makes it clear that one cannot hope:

$$\left\| \mathbf{u}^{NS} - \mathbf{u}^E \right\| \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{when} \quad \sqrt{\nu} = \varepsilon \rightarrow 0 ,$$

at least close to the boundary.



*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 26 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

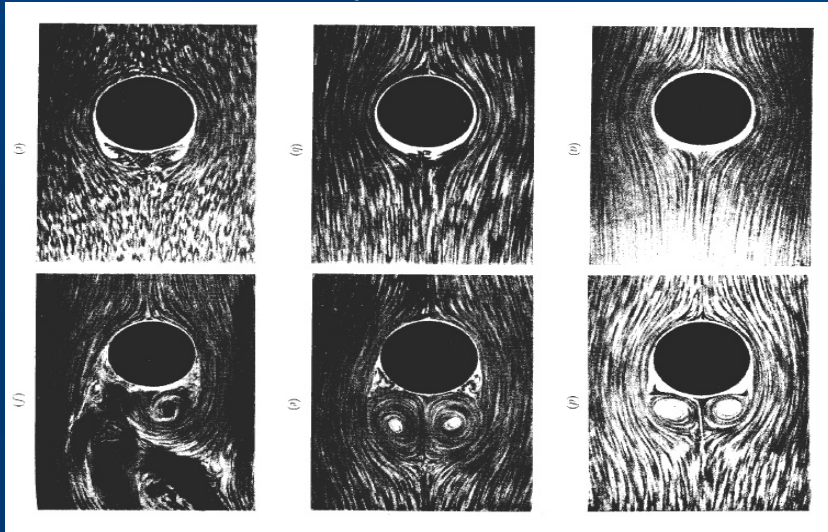


## Fluids in presence of a boundary

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The above picture is in contrast with conservation of vorticity unless a huge amount of vorticity is created at the boundary.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀◀

▶▶

◀

▶

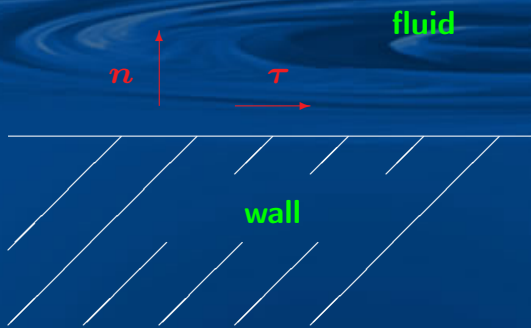
Page 26 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



When  $\nu \rightarrow 0$   
one gets a singular  
limit.

The fluid shows  
two different  
regimes.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

- **Far away from the boundary:**  
*viscous forces*  $\ll$  *inertial forces*  $\Rightarrow$  Euler equations  
might be OK
- **Close to the boundary:**  
*viscous forces are NOT negligible*  $\Rightarrow$  ?? equations?  
Something wild is going on close to the boundary: high  
generation of vorticity.

Home Page

Title Page



Page 27 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The desire to get a simplification led Prandtl to use asymptotics.

His procedure is based on the following ideas:



- Away from the boundary viscous forces ( $\varepsilon^2 \Delta u$ ) can be neglected wrt convective forces ( $u \cdot \nabla u$ ). **Euler OK.**
- Close to the boundary viscous forces stop the fluid. They cannot be neglected.
- The transition between the two regimes is rapid.

This is implemented through the scaling, valid close to the boundary:

$$Y = y/\varepsilon \quad \text{and hypothesis} \quad \partial_Y u = O(1) .$$

- Moreover  $\partial_x u = O(1)$ .

This implies:  $\varepsilon^2 \partial_{yy} u = \partial_{YY} u = O(1) = u \partial_x u$ .

Tracking a . . .

Zero viscosity . . .

Pade . . .

Home Page

Title Page



Page 28 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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Introducing the above scaling in the NS equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u + u \partial_x u + v \partial_Y u + \partial_x p &= \partial_{YY} u \\ \partial_Y p &= 0 \\ \partial_x u + \partial_Y v &= 0 \\ u(x, Y=0) = v(x, Y=0) &= 0 \\ u(x, Y \rightarrow \infty) &\longrightarrow u^E(x, y=0) \\ u(x, y, t=0) &= u_{in} . \end{aligned}$$

The procedure is therefore:

First solve Euler equations. Get the boundary data  $u^E(y=0)$   
Then solve Prandtl with the matching condition.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 28 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Relevance of Prandtl's equations



- Prandtl's equations, in their essence, look particularly simple: they just are one equation for the tangential velocity  $u$ :

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u + v \partial_Y u + \partial_x p^E = \partial_{YY} u$$

Therefore they are a good toy model to mimic the particularly complicated behavior (generation of vorticity) of the NS solutions near the boundary.

They have been successfully used to calculate quantities of practical importance like drag coefficient, or shear stress.

- A fundamental problem in fluid dynamics is to prove that  $u^{NS} \rightarrow u^E$  away from boundaries.

Kato in 1984 proved his famous criterion:

### Theorem

The following conditions are equivalent:

$$\|u^{NS} - u^E\|_{L^2} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{uniformly in } t \in [0, T] \quad (2)$$

$$\nu \int_0^T \|\nabla u^{NS}\|_{\Gamma_\nu}^2 dt \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3)$$

Where  $\|\cdot\|_{\Gamma_\nu}$  denotes the  $L^2$ -norm restricted to a strip of width  $O(\nu)$  close to the boundary.

If one wants to solve the zero viscosity problem of the NS equations one has to face the boundary layer:  
i.e. control or improve (or disprove) Prandtl's equations.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 29 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Well posedness results



- Short time existence if the initial data are monotonous (no initial shear layer).  
This is the Oleinik '67 result.
- Long time existence if one adds the hypothesis that the outer pressure gradient is favourable, i.e.  $\partial_x p = -U \partial_x U \leq 0$ . This means that no mechanism that can produce shear layer is present.  
This is Xin and Zhang '03 result.
- Short time existence for analytic data (without assuming monotonicity). This means that the data are highly non turbulent. Higher Fourier modes are almost non-existent.  
Sammartino and Caflisch '98  
Lombardo Cannone and Sammartino '03.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 30 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# THE DARK SIDE OF PRANDTL's EQUATIONS

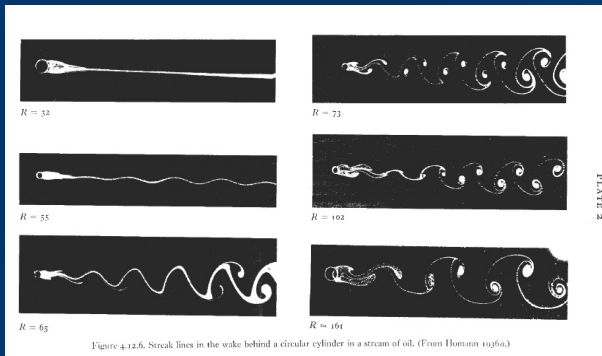
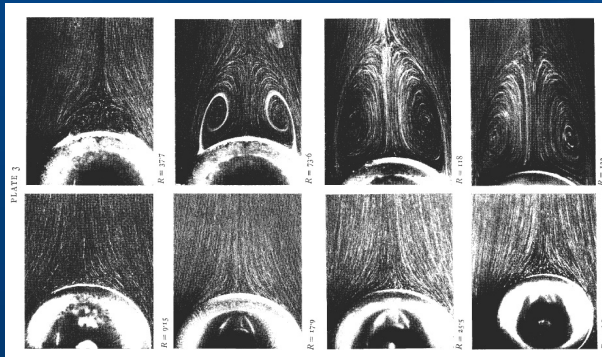


Figure 4.12.6. Streak lines in the wake behind a circular cylinder in a stream of oil. (From Homann 1936a.)

Vorticity is generated at the boundary.  
The mechanism through this vorticity is shed into the main  
flow is separation, i.e. the detachment of the boundary layer.  
**SINGULARITY OF PRANDTL'S EQUATIONS.**

Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 31 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The possibility that the unsteady Prandtl's equations developed singularity was:



- conjectured in the '60s.
- First disproved (numerically with low resolution) in the '70s.
- Found numerically in the '80s by Van Dommelen and Shen in the case of the impulsively started disk.

The Van Dommelen and Shen's singularity is a shock and is ubiquitous.

In fact was also found for other boundary layer flows, like cavity flow (E and Liu '96) and thick core vortex flow Cassel '00, Obabko and Cassel '02,'05.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀◀

▶▶

◀

▶

Page 32 of 58

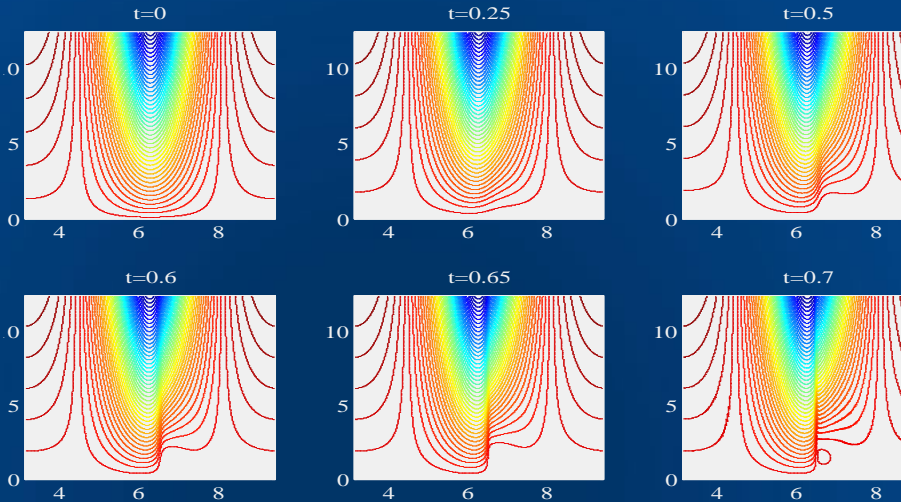
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit





The physical mechanisms that lead to the VDS singularity is recirculation:

- It forms back-flow, and a stagnation point, as the result of adverse pressure gradient;
- Then two counter rotating vortices appear;
- Growth of these vortices;
- Finally, a singularity with eruption of fluid from within the boundary layer: separation.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 33 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



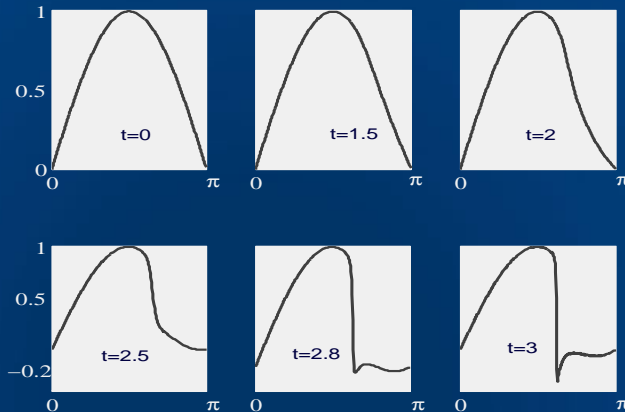
Page 34 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



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# Complex Singularity Tracking and Separation Singularity

In Della Rocca, Lombardo, Sammartino, S.'05 it is studied the VDS singularity using the singularity tracking method. It is possible to extend the technique of tracking singularity for bi-dimensional functions.



*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Pade...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 35 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

# Complex Singularity Tracking and Separation Singularity



In Della Rocca, Lombardo, Sammartino, S.'05 it is studied the VDS singularity using the singularity tracking method. It is possible to extend the technique of tracking singularity for bi-dimensional functions.

A first way (Frisch et al. '05) consists to applying the technique of tracking singularity to the shell-summed amplitude of the Fourier expansion. Given a function  $u(z, w)$ , with  $z$  and  $w$  complex variables, with

$$u(z, w) = \sum_{h,k} a_{hk} e^{ihz} e^{ikw},$$

the corresponding shell-summed Fourier amplitude is defined by

$$A_K \equiv \sum_{K \leq |\kappa| < K+1} a_{hk},$$

where  $|\kappa| = |(h, k)|$ . At this point one can evaluate by Laplace asymptotic formula with the behavior of  $A_K$  determining the distance  $\delta$  of the singularity and its algebraic characterization, like in the one dimensional case.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 35 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

Another possible extension (Poincaré 1899, Tsikh 1993) consists to evaluate the Laplace asymptotic formula for each direction of the fourier spectrum and the distance  $\delta$  is the minimum over all directions.



*Tracking a . . .*

*Zero viscosity . . .*

*Pade . . .*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 36 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

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Consider  $\vec{k} = (k \cos(\theta), k \sin(\theta))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{u}_{\vec{k}} &= \int \int u(x, y) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} d\vec{x} \\ &= \int \left( \int u(x_{\parallel} \widehat{k} + x_{\perp} \widehat{k}_{\perp}) dx_{\perp} \right) e^{-ikx_{\parallel}} dx_{\parallel} \\ &= \int g(x_{\parallel}) e^{-ikx_{\parallel}} dx_{\parallel}.\end{aligned}$$

It follows from Laplace asymptotic formula that, for  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\widehat{u}_{\vec{k}} \sim e^{-ikx_{\parallel}^*}$ , where  $x_{\parallel}^*$  is the singularity of  $g(x_{\parallel})$  in the complex  $x_{\parallel}$  plane nearest to the real domain. Hence  $|\widehat{u}_{\vec{k}}| \sim e^{-\delta(\theta)}$  where  $\delta(\theta) = -\Im x_{\parallel}^*$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 36 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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To solve numerically Prandtl's equations we use the mixed spectral Fourier-Chebyshev numerical scheme

$$u(x, Y, \Delta t) \approx \sum_{k=-K/2}^{K/2} \sum_{j=0}^M u_{k,j}^n e^{ikx} T_j(Y)$$

The temporal scheme used is the two step RK–CN to treat implicitly the diffusive term.

The normal velocity component is recovered by numerical integration through the incompressibility condition.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 36 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The profile of the distance  $\delta$  at the singularity time w.r.t. the angle  $\theta$  for the solution of Prandtl's equation in the VDS case. The distance  $\delta$  is an increase function of  $\theta$ , with  $\approx 10^{-4}$  when  $\theta \approx 0.035\pi$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



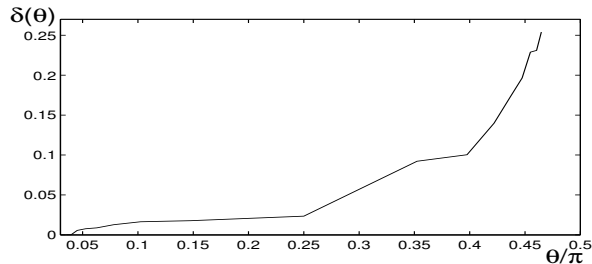
Page 37 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

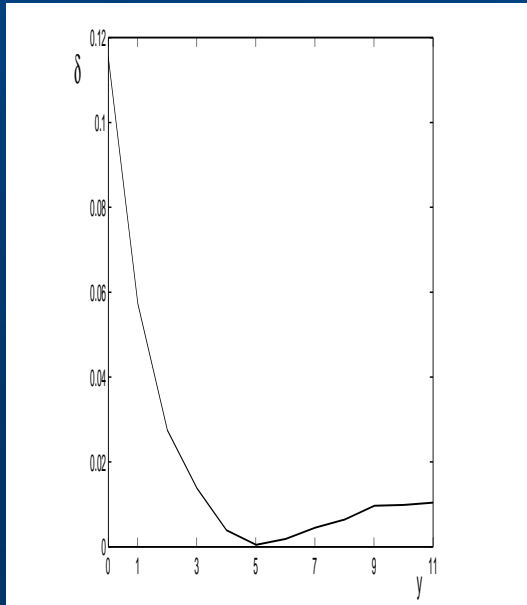
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Quit





Thus for the VDS initial condition, one can studies the singularity formation of Prandtl applying the singularity tracking method to the  $x$  variable at different values of the normal  $Y$  variable. The distance reaches its minimum at location  $Y \approx 5$ .



Therefore, an estimation on the rate of the exponential decay  $\delta$  of the spectrum in the streamwise variable at location  $Y = 5$ , gives the distance of the VDS singularity from the real axes, and the first time  $t_s$  at which  $\delta(t_s) = 0$  gives the exact time of the development of the singularity.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

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◀

▶

Page 38 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

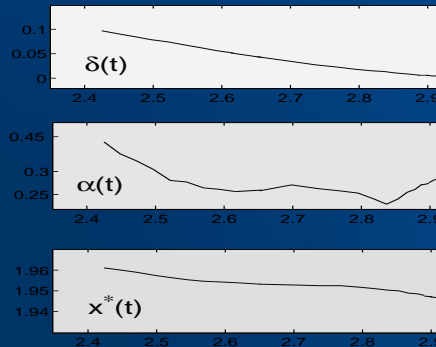
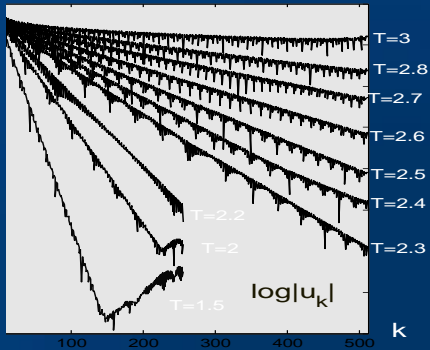
A shock type singularity  $\alpha \approx 1/3$  forms at time  $t_s \approx 3$  at location  $x^* \approx 1.95$  and  $Y \approx 5$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...



Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 39 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

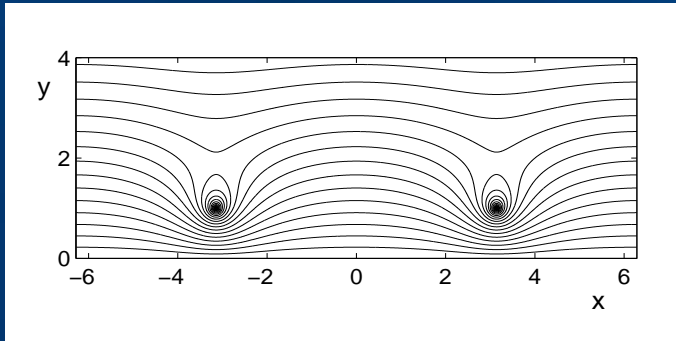
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Quit

## Prandtl and NS: Row of equidistant point vortices

In a cartesian frame, the vortices are centered in  $(ma + \pi, b)_{m \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , where  $b$  is the distance of the row from the wall and  $a$  is the distance of two consecutive vortices. Each vortex moves with uniform velocity  $U = \frac{k}{2a} \coth(\frac{2\pi b}{a})$  parallel to the wall.

$$\Psi(x, y) = Uy - \frac{k}{4\pi} \log \frac{\cosh(\frac{2\pi}{a}(y - b)) - \cos(\frac{2\pi}{a}(x - \pi))}{\cosh(\frac{2\pi}{a}(y + b)) - \cos(\frac{2\pi}{a}(x - \pi))}.$$



This is an  $a$ -periodic datum, and the velocity components obtained are such that  $u = k/a$ ,  $v = 0$  for  $y = 0$ , and  $u, v \rightarrow 0$  for  $y \rightarrow \pm\infty$ .

The initial vorticity is singular  $w_0 = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{ma, b}$ , where  $\delta_{x, y}$  is

Dirac's mass.

For NS, we approximate the initial vorticity with a finite sum of vortex blobs.



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 40 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## Prandtl's results

We use the singularity tracking method to trace the singularity in complex plane, obtaining that singularity forms at time  $t_s \approx 0.74$  at location  $x^* \approx 3.15$  and  $Y \approx 2$ . In (a) the time evolution of exponential decay of Fourier modes is shown. At  $t \approx 0.74$ ,  $\delta$  vanishes and a blow up for the first streamwise derivative occurs (b) in the profile of velocity  $u$  at  $Y = 2$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



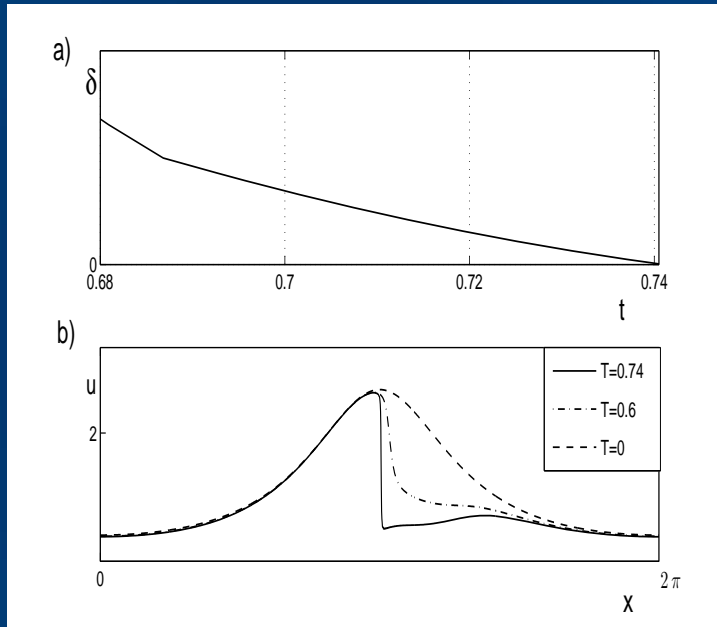
Page 41 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



Streamline from Prandtl's calculations are shown. In Fig.(a) a recirculating eddy is formed and is grown in both stream-wise and normal length (Fig.(b)). At  $t = 0.67$  a kink seems to be formed in streamlines (Fig.(c)) and thickens in stream-wise direction, evolving in a sharp spike at singularity time (Fig.(d)).



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



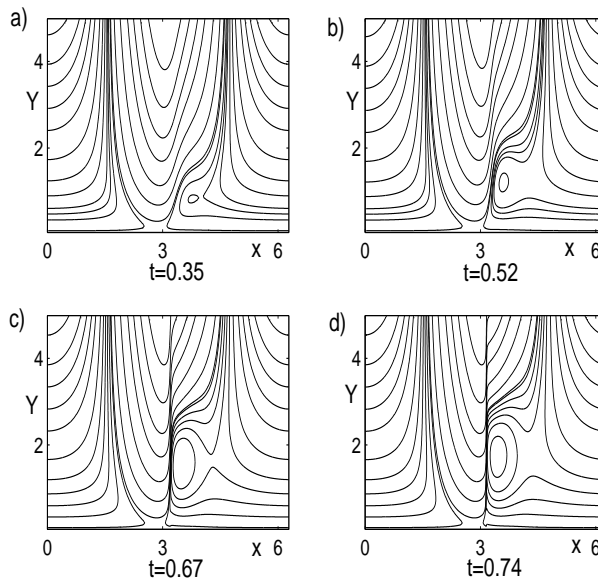
Page 42 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# Navier Stokes results $Re=10^4$



a) and b) the streamlines, c) and d) the streamwise pressure gradient along the surface

$$\partial_x p_w = -\frac{1}{Re} \Gamma_y(\bar{y}) \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=0},$$

and the scaled skin friction coefficient (dashed)  $C_f = -2\omega_{y=0}/Re$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



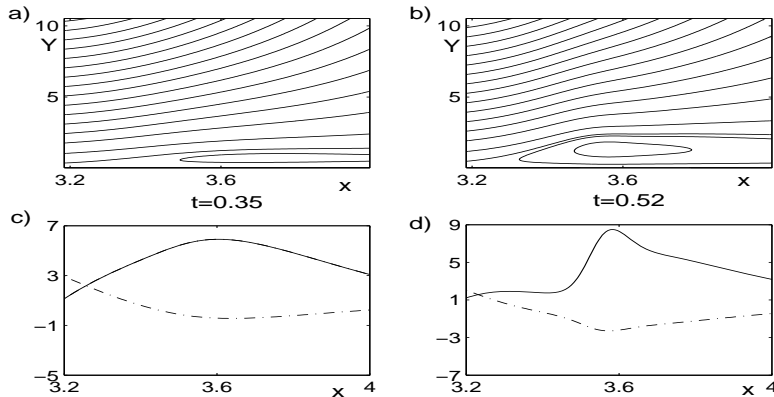
Page 43 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



At time  $t = 0.35$  the recirculation region is formed.  
At time  $t = 0.52$  it is visible the formation of a local minimum in the  $\partial_x p_w$  in correspondence to the formation of a small spike in the recirculation region.

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Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



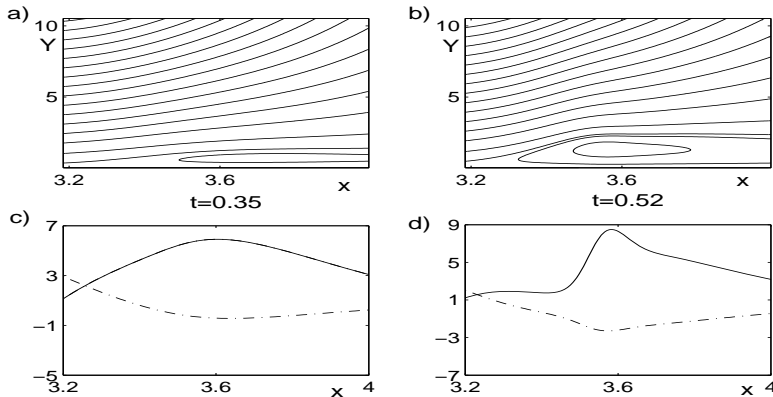
Page 43 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

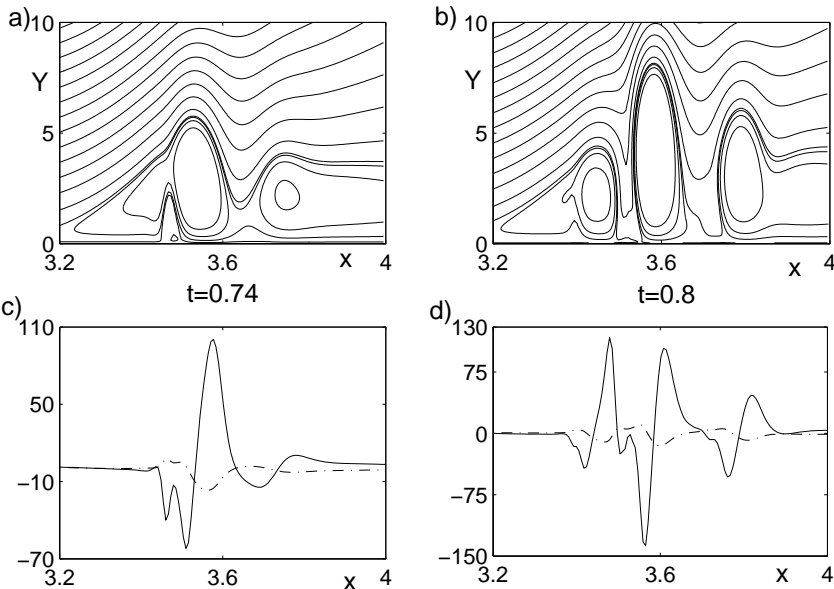
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At time  $t = 0.35$  the recirculation region is formed.  
At time  $t = 0.52$  it is visible the formation of a local minimum in the  $\partial_x p_w$  in correspondence to the formation of a small spike in the recirculation region.

The formation of a minimum after the maximum position in  $\partial_x p_w$  accelerates the formation of the spike: the flow across the boundary is compressed in the streamwise direction and this compression leads the recirculation region growth in the normal direction.

a) and b) The streamlines, c) and d) the streamwise pressure gradient at the wall and the skin friction coefficient (dashed) for Navier Stokes solution with  $Re = 10^4$ .



At time  $t = 0.74$ , the recirculation region has split into a series of corotating eddies in correspondence to the local maxima of streamwise pressure gradient. The presence of more recirculating regions becomes more evident at time  $t = 0.8$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 44 of 58

Go Back

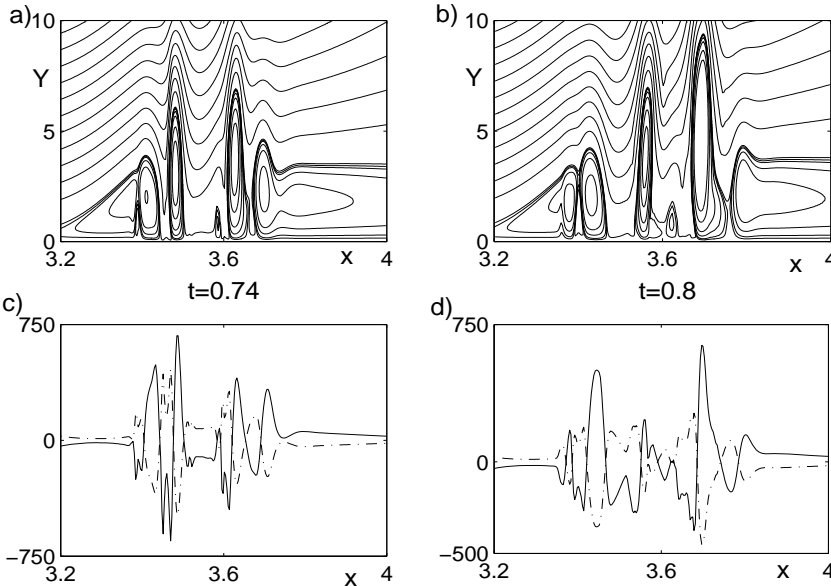
Full Screen

Close

Quit



a) and b) The streamlines, c) and d) the streamwise pressure gradient at the wall and the scaled skin friction coefficient  $10 \cdot C_f$  (dashed) for Navier Stokes solution at times  $t = 0.74$  and  $t = 0.8$ .



One can see the presence of a series (more) of corotating eddies as in the case of  $Re = 5 \cdot 10^4$ . The streamwise pressure gradient at the wall shows a more dramatic behavior with the presence of more pronounced spikes.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 45 of 58

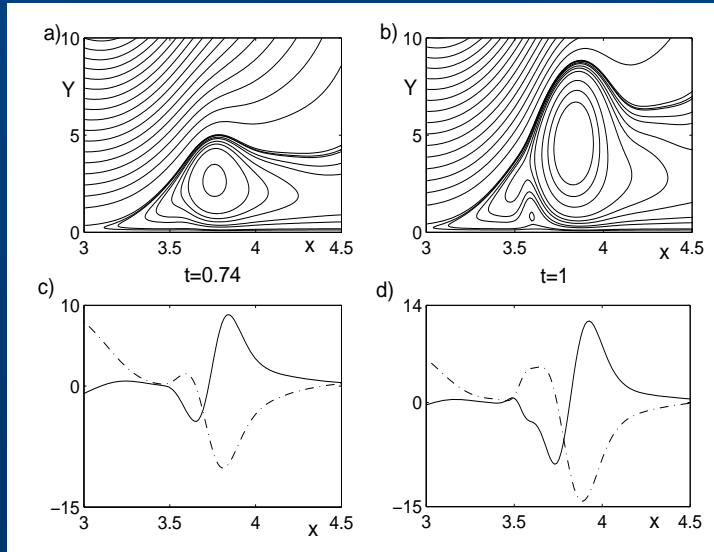
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

There is no spike formation on the upstream side of the recirculation region. Moreover the recirculation region does not split, and no other recirculation region exists close to the singularity time ( $Re=10^3$ ).



In (a) it is visible only one large recirculating eddy which splits at later time  $t = 1$ , where a second recirculating region is visible (b).

In (c)-(d) there is no evidence of forming spike as in the case of the moderate-high  $Re$  numbers.

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 46 of 58

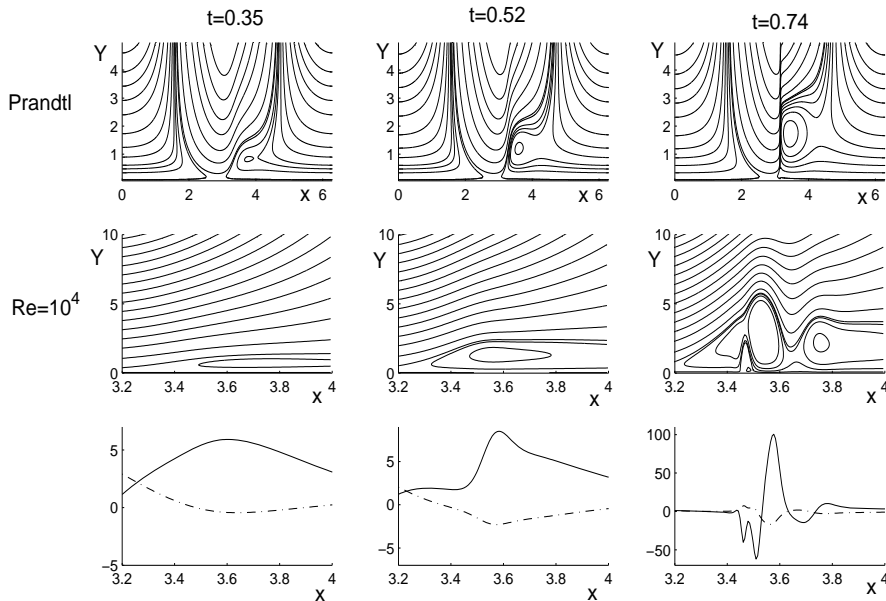
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# Comparison



Viscous–inviscid (**large-scale**) interaction is quite early with respect to theoretical prediction of boundary layer. A kink is visible at  $t \approx 0.52$ , with increasing streamwise thickness as  $Re$  decreases. This evolves in a spike for  $Re = 10^4 - 5 \cdot 10^4$  as in the boundary layer results.

At this stage a new type of (**small-scale**) interaction is visible. For  $Re = 10^4 - Re = 5 \cdot 10^4$  the recirculation region is splitting and one can see the formation of a secondary spikes at  $t \approx 0.74$ .

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 47 of 58

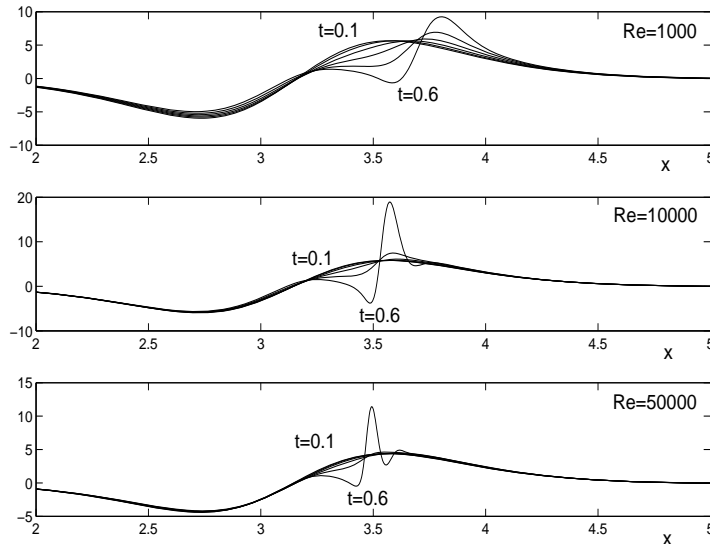
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The evolution in time of  $\partial_x p_w$ , starting at  $t = 0.1$  with increments of 0.1.



For  $Re = 10^3$  the streamwise pressure gradient remains the same essentially up to  $t \approx 0.2$  while for  $Re = 10^4 - 5 \cdot 10^4$  the interaction seems to start later at  $t \approx 0.3$ .  $Re$  number increases the interaction begins later.

Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 48 of 58

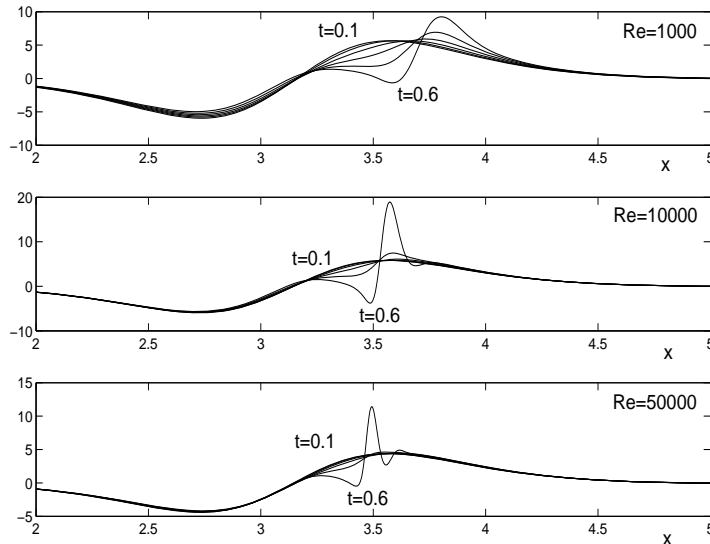
Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The evolution in time of  $\partial_x p_w$ , starting at  $t = 0.1$  with increments of 0.1.



For  $Re = 10^3$  the streamwise pressure gradient remains the same essentially up to  $t \approx 0.2$  while for  $Re = 10^4 - 5 \cdot 10^4$  the interaction seems to start later at  $t \approx 0.3$ .  $Re$  number increases the interaction begins later.

For  $Re = 10^3$  there is only one recirculation region close to singularity time, as in boundary layer solution, but in this case no spike and no small-scale interaction exists.

Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 48 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

The evolution in time of  $L_\infty$  norm of the normal pressure gradient at the wall for Navier Stokes solutions with different  $Re$  numbers. For  $Re = 10^3$  the variation is more pronounced at early time cause the viscous-inviscid interaction. At later time a rapidly growth occurs cause the formation of a small-scale interaction for  $Re = 10^4, 5 \cdot 10^5$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



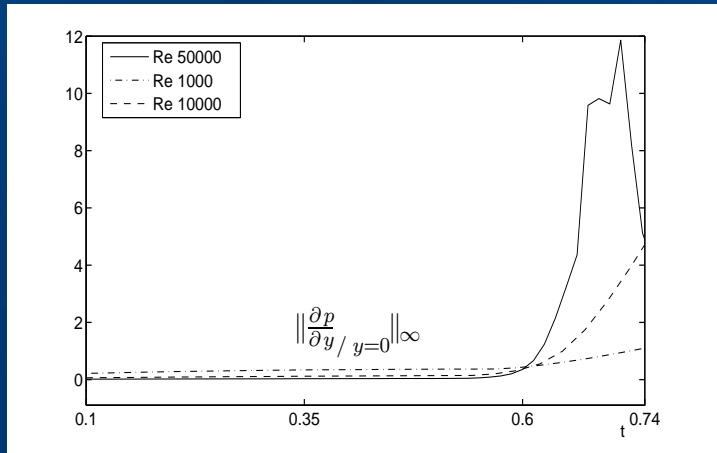
Page 49 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



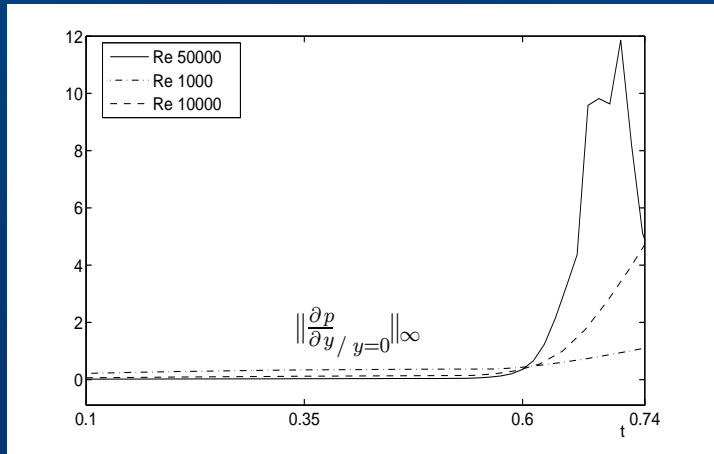
The evolution in time of  $L_\infty$  norm of the normal pressure gradient at the wall for Navier Stokes solutions with different  $Re$  numbers. For  $Re = 10^3$  the variation is more pronounced at early time cause the viscous-inviscid interaction. At later time a rapidly growth occurs cause the formation of a small-scale interaction for  $Re = 10^4, 5 \cdot 10^5$ .



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...



Home Page

Title Page

◀

▶

◀

▶

Page 49 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

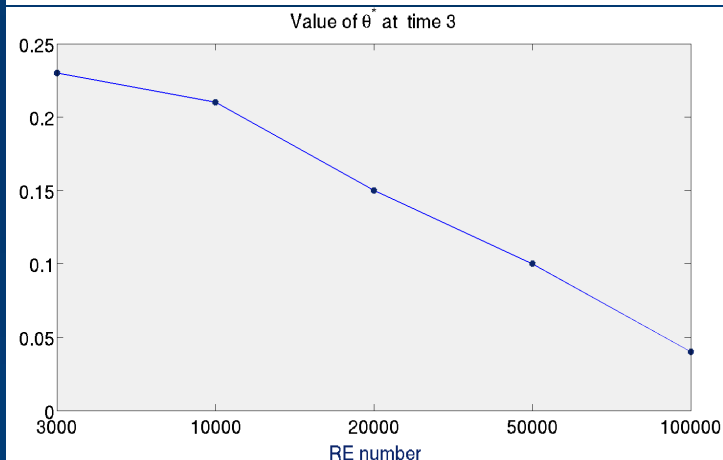
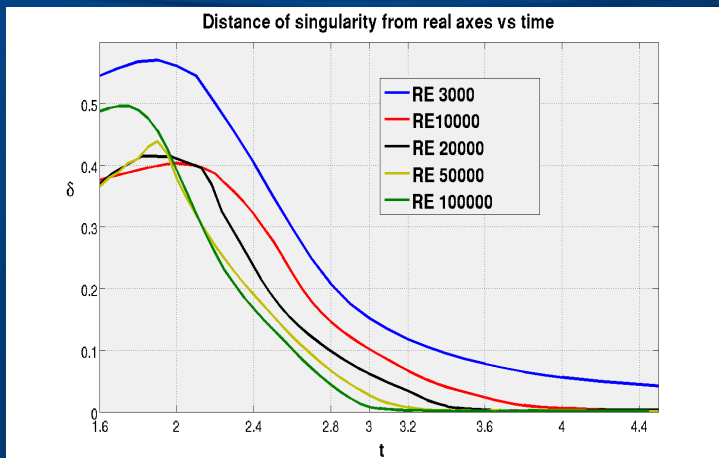
Quit

**Lower  $Re$  numbers** (as  $10^3$ ) characterized by a large-scale interaction acting over the flow: no spike-like behavior in the solution.

**Moderate-high  $Re$**  ( $10^4, 5 \cdot 10^4$ ) with a small-scale interaction at a time preceding the formation of singularity in boundary layer solution.

**High  $Re$ :** no large-scale interaction and the small-scale interaction acts at a time close to singularity time.

# Analysis of singularities for NS (VDS initial datum)



Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 50 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## Padé Approximant

Consider the power series  $f(Z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k Z^k$ , the  $[L,M]$  Padé Approximant to this series is defined as the rational function

$$P_{[L,M]} = \frac{a_0 + a_1 Z + \cdots + a_L Z^L}{1 + b_1 Z + \cdots + b_M Z^M},$$

with the property that:

$$f(Z) - P_{[L,M]} = O\left(Z^{L+M+1}\right).$$

Here we shall use only approximants with  $L = M$ .



*Tracking a...*

*Zero viscosity...*

*Padé...*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 51 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

## Padé Approximant

Consider the power series  $f(Z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k Z^k$ , the  $[L,M]$  Padé Approximant to this series is defined as the rational function

$$P_{[L,M]} = \frac{a_0 + a_1 Z + \cdots + a_L Z^L}{1 + b_1 Z + \cdots + b_M Z^M},$$

with the property that:

$$f(Z) - P_{[L,M]} = O\left(Z^{L+M+1}\right).$$

Here we shall use only approximants with  $L = M$ .

The same idea may be applied to Fourier series with  $Z = e^{-ix}$ :

$$u(x) \simeq \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k e^{-ikx} = P_{[L,M]} + Q_{[L,M]} - \hat{u}_0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^N \hat{u}_k e^{-ikx} &= P_{[\frac{1}{2}N, \frac{1}{2}N]} + O\left(Z^{N+1}\right) \\ \sum_{k=-N}^0 \hat{u}_k e^{-ikx} &= Q_{[\frac{1}{2}N, \frac{1}{2}N]} + O\left(Z^{N+1}\right). \end{aligned}$$



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Padé...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 51 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# Analysis of singularities for NS (VDS initial datum)



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



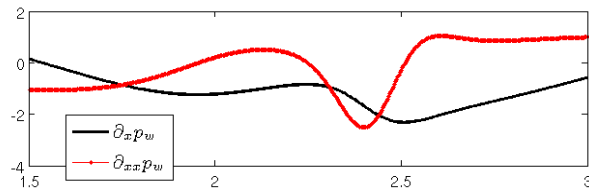
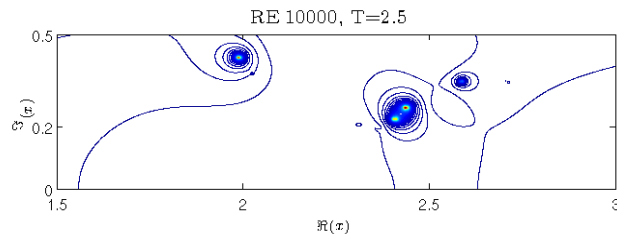
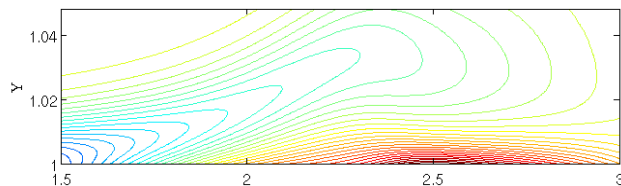
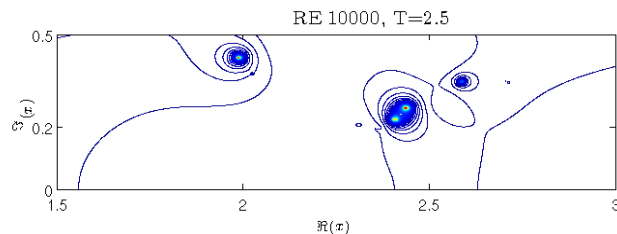
Page 52 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# Analysis of singularities for NS (VDS initial datum)



Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



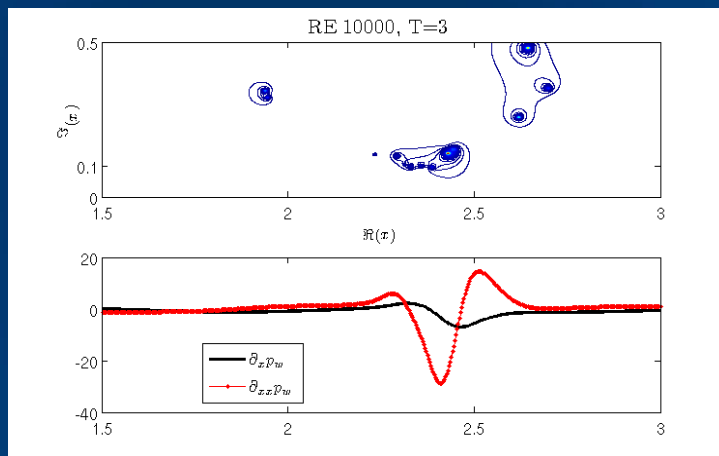
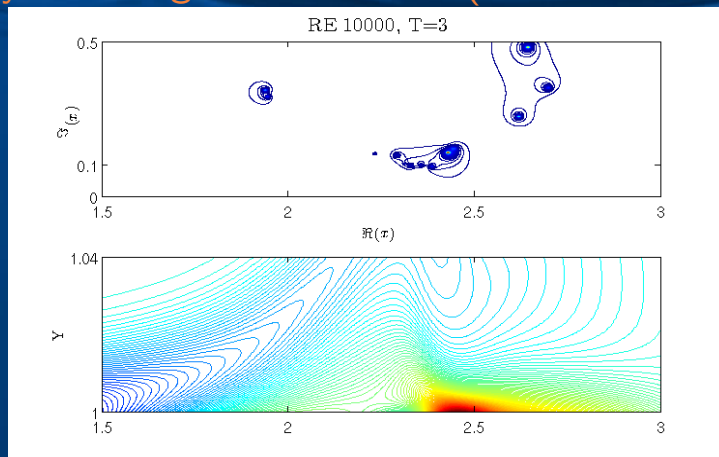
Page 53 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# Analysis of singularities for NS (VDS initial datum)



Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page



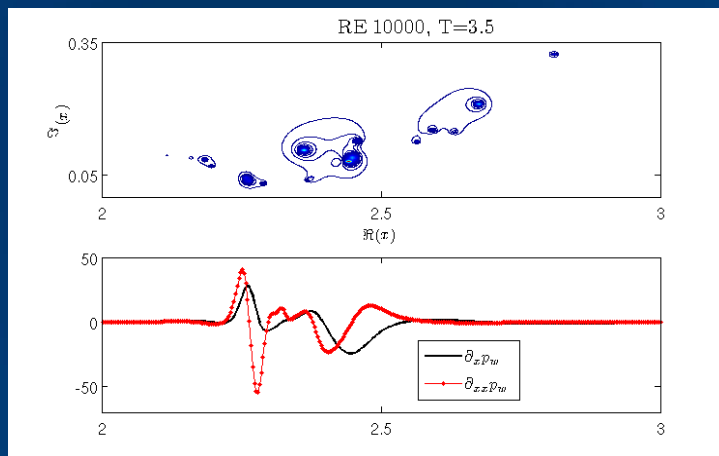
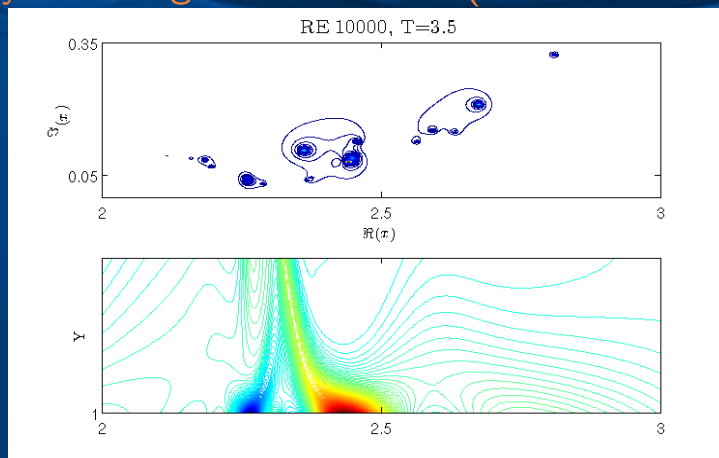
Page 54 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



### 3. Pade Approximant: Viscous Burger's Equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x &= \nu u_{xx}, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

*Tracking a . . .*

*Zero viscosity . . .*

*Pade . . .*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 55 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

### 3. Pade Approximant: Viscous Burger's Equation

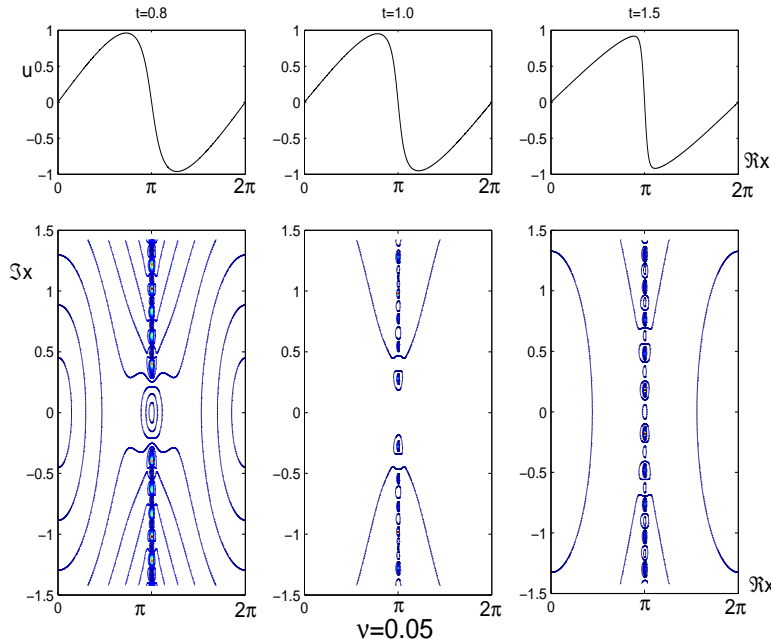


$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x &= \nu u_{xx}, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

Tracking a . . .

Zero viscosity . . .

Pade . . .



Home Page

Title Page



Page 55 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# Pade Approximant: 'Dispersion' Burger's Equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x &= \epsilon e^{i\theta} u_{xx}, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

(Dobrokhotov et al 92 – Senouf, Caflisch and Ercolani 96)

Tracking a ...

Zero viscosity ...

Pade ...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 56 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# Pade Approximant: 'Dispersion' Burger's Equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x &= \epsilon e^{i\theta} u_{xx}, \quad x \in [0, 2\pi] \\u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

(Dobrokhotov et al 92 – Senouf, Caflisch and Ercolani 96)

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



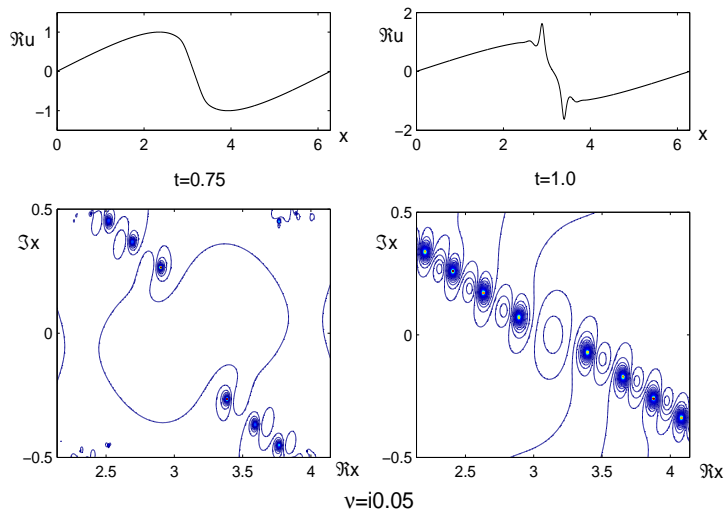
Page 56 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



## Pade Approximant: KdV equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x + \epsilon u_{xxx} &= 0, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

*Tracking a . . .*

*Zero viscosity . . .*

*Pade . . .*

*Home Page*

*Title Page*



*Page 57 of 58*

*Go Back*

*Full Screen*

*Close*

*Quit*

# Pade Approximant: KdV equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x + \epsilon u_{xxx} &= 0, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\ u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\ u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



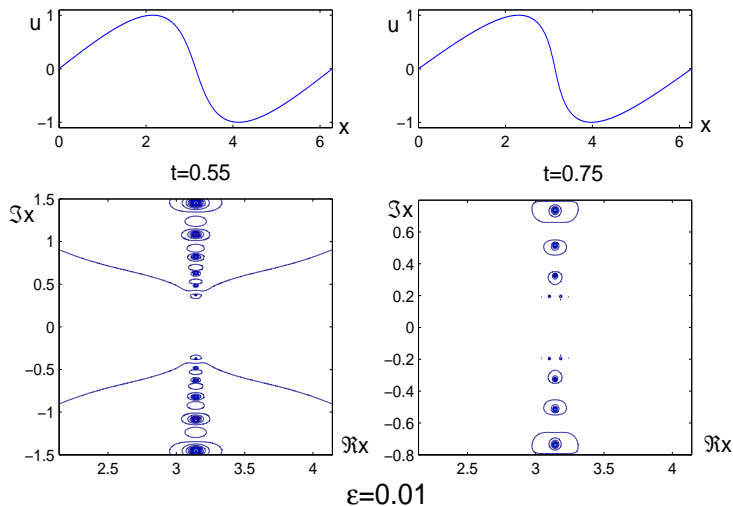
Page 57 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



# Pade Approximant: KdV equation



$$\begin{aligned}u_t + uu_x + \epsilon u_{xxx} &= 0, & x \in [0, 2\pi] \\ u(x, t = 0) &= u_0(x) = \sin(x), \\ u(0, t) &= u(2\pi, t).\end{aligned}$$

Tracking a...

Zero viscosity...

Pade...

Home Page

Title Page



Page 58 of 58

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

