

# Onsager's Conjecture and Turbulent dissipation.

## Susan Friedlander

Alexey Peter Natasa Roman  
Cheskidov Constantin Pavlovic Shvydkoy

Nonlinearity, vol 21 no 6, 2008  
Physica D, 2009.

## Euler (Navier-Stokes)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla P + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{F}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \text{ or } \mathbf{u} \in L^2(\mathbb{T}^3)$$

Energy Balance

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |\mathbf{u}|^2 dx &= - \int (\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}), \mathbf{u}) dx \\ &\quad - \nu \int |\operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u}|^2 dx \\ &\quad + \int \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{u} dx \end{aligned}$$

When  $u$  is "sufficiently" smooth

$$\int (P(u \cdot \nabla u), u) dx = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} E = 0 \quad (\text{Euler})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dE}{dt} &= -\nu \int |\operatorname{grad} u|^2 dx \\ &\quad + \int F \cdot u dx \quad (\text{NSE}) \end{aligned}$$

## Weak Solutions - Onsager's Conjecture

Onsager conjectured that in 3 D

- i) Weak Solutions of Euler with Hölder Continuity  $h > \frac{1}{3}$  conserve energy
  - 2) Solutions with  $h \leq \frac{1}{3}$  could dissipate energy
- i.e. For 3-D turbulent flow dissipation of energy persists without viscosity  
"turbulent" or "anomalous dissipation"  
(1949)

(NSE) Kolmogorov's Law (1941)

The energy spectrum  $E(|k|)$  for turbulent flow in the "inertial" range is

$$E(|k|) = c \bar{\epsilon}^{2/3} |k|^{-5/3}$$

$\bar{\epsilon}$  is the average dissipation rate  
 $k$  is the wave number vector

Stated in physical space: Hölder exponent  
 $h$  is  $1/3$  in a statistically averaged sense.

Note:  $\bar{\epsilon}$  does not vanish as  $r \rightarrow 0$ .

Conjecture underlying turbulence  
supported by experiments + numerics

average dissipation rate for NSE

Converges to the average  
anomalous dissipation rate for  
Euler in the limit  $\nu \rightarrow 0$ .

For turbulent flows this rate  
is positive.

So far there is no proof.

# "Scale Locality"

Euler equ's in Fourier Space  $\mathbb{T}^3$

$$u = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} a(\mathbf{k}), \quad a \cdot k = 0$$

$$\frac{da(\mathbf{k})}{dt} = -2\pi i \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} [a(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}') \cdot \mathbf{k}'] \left[ a(\mathbf{k}') - \frac{\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{k}') \cdot \mathbf{k})}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} a^2(\mathbf{k}) = -2\pi i \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} [a(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}') \cdot \mathbf{k}'] [a(\mathbf{k}') \cdot a(\mathbf{k})]$$

Essential interactions in the energy cascade are between wave numbers of similar magnitude.

i.e. the "flux" is controlled by local interactions.

## Onsager's Conjecture (one direction)

Eyink (1994): Conservation of energy  
Stronger assumption  $\alpha > \frac{1}{3}$

Constantin, E, Titi (1994).

Conservation of energy in  $B_{3,\infty}^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha > \frac{1}{3}$ .

Duchon + Robert (2000)

Slightly weaker condition.

Cheskidov, Constantin, Friedlander, Shvydkoy.  
Conservation of energy in  $B_{3,\infty, \text{van}}^{\frac{1}{3}}$ . (2008).

# Euler Equations

Weak Solution

$u_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$  : test fn  $\varphi \in C^\infty([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^3)$

$$\nabla \cdot u = 0$$

$$u(t) \varphi(t) - u(0) \varphi(0) - \int_0^t u(s) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial s} ds = \int_0^t b(u, \varphi, u)(s) ds$$

and  $\nabla \cdot u = 0$  in the sense of distributions  $t \in [0, T]$

$$b(u, v, w) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla v) \cdot w dx$$

Existence of a weak solution  
to Euler with positive smoothness  
that does not conserve energy  
remains open.

recall examples of Scheffer,  
Shnirelman of weak solutions in  $L^2$   
non uniqueness  
non conservation of energy  
but no smoothness.  
DeLellis & Székelyhidi.

Th (Cheskidov, Constantin, F., Shvydkoy 07)

Every weak solution to the Euler equations conserves energy for

$$u \in L^3([0, T]; B_{3, \text{van}}^{1/3})$$

This theorem strengthens the earlier results of Constantin et al and Duchon-Robert. We conjecture the result is sharp.  
i.e. the precise borderline space for Onsager's conjecture.

Def<sup>n</sup>  $B_{3,\text{van}}^{1/3}$  is the space of tempered distributions  $u \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_j^{1/3} \| \Delta_j u \|_3 = 0, \quad j \geq -1$$

Here  $\lambda_j = 2^j$  and  $\Delta_j u$  is the  $j$ -th piece of the Littlewood-Paley decomposition.

$$H^{5/6} \hookrightarrow B_{3,p}^{1/3} \hookrightarrow B_{3,\text{van}}^{1/3} \hookrightarrow B_{3,\infty}^{1/3}$$

$p \geq 2$

We define the energy flux through  
a sphere of radius  $2^j$  as follows:

let  $S_j u = F^{-1}(\chi(2^{-j}\xi) Fu)$

where  $\chi(\xi)$  is a cutoff function  
Supported in the ball radius 1 and  
 $\chi(\xi) = 1$  for  $0 \leq \xi \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

The Littlewood - Paley piece of  $u$  is

$$\Delta_j u = S_{j+1} u - S_j u$$

The energy flux is defined as

$$\Pi_j = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u \cdot \nabla S_j^2 u, u) dx$$

Using the test function  $\psi = S_j^2 u$   
in the weak formulation of Euler  $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|S_j u\|_2^2 = -\Pi_j(t)$$

The total flux  $\Pi = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_j$

Note When  $\Pi = 0$  we have

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{dt} \|S_j u\|_2^2 = \frac{d}{dt} E(t) = 0.$$

$$\underline{\text{Th}} \quad (\text{C-C-F-S})$$

$$|\Pi_j| \leq c \left( \sum_{i=-1}^{\infty} 2^{-\frac{2}{3}|j-i|} 2^{\frac{2i}{3}} \|\Delta_i u\|_3^2 \right)^{3/2}$$

## Conclusions

- 1)  $\Pi = 0$  when  $\limsup_{i \rightarrow \infty} 2^{i/3} \|\Delta_i u\|_3 \rightarrow 0$   
 i.e.  $u \in B_{3, \infty, \text{van}}^{y_3}$ ,  $\nabla \cdot u = 0$
- 2) The theorem gives a precise description of Locality.  
 It demonstrates the decay of non local interactions postulated by Kraichnan.

Th: The total energy flux  
of any div. free vector field  
in  $B_{3,\text{van}}^{1/3} \cap L^2$  vanishes.

In particular, every weak sol<sup>n</sup> to  
Euler that belongs to

$$L^3([0,T]; B_{3,\text{van}}^{1/3}) \cap C_w([0,T]; L^2)$$

Conserves energy.

Example (following Eyink) is presented  
of a div free vector field in  $B_{3,\infty}^{1/3}$   
that gives a positive transfer of  
energy in frequency space as  $J \rightarrow \infty$

i.e  $\liminf_{J \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_J > +\text{ve constant}$ .

Note: existence of a weak solution to  
Euler in  $B_{3,\infty}^{1/3}$  that exhibits  
anomalous dissipation is still open.

1/ Conservation of helicity  $\int (u \cdot \nabla \times u) dV$

for  $u \in B_{3,\infty}^{2/3}$ ,  $\text{div } u = 0$

2/ In 2D conservation of enstrophy  $\int |\text{curl } u|^2 dV$

for  $\text{curl } u \in L^3([0,T]; L^3)$

3/ For 3D Navier-Stokes weak solutions

$u \in L^3([0,T); B_{3,\infty}^{1/3})$  satisfy the  
energy balance eqn.

# Dyadic Model (F-Cheskidov-Pavlovic)

Decompose Fourier Space into shells

$$2^j \leq |k| < 2^{j+1}$$

Define  $a_j^2 \simeq \|\Delta_j u\|_2^2$ , energy in  $j$ -th shell

Recall  $|\Pi_j| \leq C \left( \sum_{i=-1}^{\infty} 2^{-\frac{2}{3}|j-i|} 2^{2i/3} \|\Delta_i u\|_3^2 \right)^{3/2}$

Define model flux  $\Pi_j = 2^{c_j} a_j^2 a_{j+1}$

where the scaling parameter  $c \in [1, 5/2]$

Definition of Norms for  $\{\alpha_j\}$ :

$$\| \alpha \|_{L^2}^2 = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha_j^2.$$

$$\| \alpha \|_{H^s}^2 = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{2sj} \alpha_j^2$$

Note: 3D  $\| u \cdot \nabla u + \nabla P \|_{L^2} \leq \| u \|_{L^2} \| u \|_{H^s}$   
 $s > 5/2$

Note  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \Pi_j = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} 2^{sj} \alpha_j^2 \alpha_{j+1}$

Regular Solutions have bounded  $H^{s/3}$  norm.

Model Energy Flux Equation:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_{i=0}^j a_i \right)^2 = -\Pi_j - r \sum_{i=0}^j 2^{2i} a_i^2 + \sum_{i=0}^j f_i a_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} a_j^2 = 2^{c(j-1)} a_{j-1}^2 a_j - 2^{c_j} a_j a_{j+1} \\ - r 2^{2j} a_j^2 + f_j a_j$$

The ODE system corresponding to this

$$\frac{d}{dt} a_j = 2^{c(j-1)} a_{j-1}^2 - 2^{c_j} a_j a_{j+1} + f_j \\ - r 2^{2j} a_j$$

Oceanographic turbulence - Desnyanski  
Novikov, 1974.

# Results for the Inviscid Model ( $f_0 \neq 0$ , $f_j = 0$ for $j > 0$ )

Th 1 There exists a unique fixed point

$$\alpha_j = 2^{-c_j/3} 2^{c/6} f_0^{1/2}$$

Th 2 Every solution blows up in finite time  $T$  in the  $H^{\frac{c}{3}}$  norm.

Th 3 The  $H^s$  norms for  $s < c/3$  are locally square integrable in time.

Note  $\|u\|_{H^s} = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{2sj} a_j^2 \right)^{1/2}$

Th 4 "Anomalous" dissipation occurs  
for  $t > T$

Th 5 The fixed point is a global  
attractor.

The inviscid Model satisfies  
Onsager's conjecture on both  
sides of the "critical" regularity

## "Turbulent" Energy dissipation:

Since the support of any time averaged measure belongs to the global attractor, the average dissipation rate of the system equals the dissipation rate of the fixed point

at the fixed point  $\varepsilon_d = f_0 d_0$

(i.e. dissipation rate = energy input rate)

hence  $\varepsilon_d = f_0^{3/2} 2^{c/6}$

and the energy density  $E(k) = 2^{c/3} f_0 k^{-\frac{2c}{3}-1}$

$$\Rightarrow E(k) = C \varepsilon_d^{2/3} k^{-\frac{2c}{3}-1}$$

Case  $c=1$ :  $E(k) \sim \varepsilon_d^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$

## "Navier-Stokes Model"

Th 1 There exists a unique fixed point  
 $\{\alpha_j\}$  where

- i) for  $r > 0$ ,  $\alpha \in H^s$  for all  $s$
- ii)  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \alpha_j = 2^{-c_j/3} 2^{c/6} f_0^{1/2}$ . (i.e.  
inviscid  
fixed point)

Th 2 The fixed point is a global  
attractor.

## Dissipation anomaly (Kolmogorov's Law)

Th 3: Let  $\tilde{a}^v$  be a solution to the  
viscous model then

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \nu \| \tilde{a}^v(t) \|_{H^1}^2$$

$\rightarrow \bar{\epsilon}_d$  average inviscid dissipation rate.  
 $= 2^{c/6} f_0^{3/2} > 0.$

Energy density  $E(k) \sim \bar{\epsilon}_d^{2/3} k^{-\frac{2c}{3}-1}$ .  
as  $\nu \rightarrow 0$

## Inertial range for the viscous model

The dissipation wave number  $k_d$  for the fixed point

$$k_d = \left( \frac{f_0^{3/2}}{r^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{4} \frac{2}{3-c}} \sim \left( \frac{\varepsilon_d}{r^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{4} \frac{2}{3-c}}$$

Thus for  $c=1$  we recover "Kolmogorov"

$$E(k) \sim \varepsilon_d^{2/3} k^{-5/3}, \quad k_d \sim \left( \frac{\varepsilon_d}{r^3} \right)^{1/4}$$

for  $c=5/2$

$$E(k) \sim \varepsilon_d^{2/3} k^{-8/3}, \quad k_d \sim \frac{\varepsilon_d}{r^3}$$