

# Stokes-Dirichlet/Neuman problems and complex analysis

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## EINDHOVEN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Stokes-Dirichlet/Neuman problems and complex analysis

by

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# Stokes-Dirichlet/Neuman Problems and Complex Analysis

## J. de GRAAF

#### Abstract

On a bounded and simply connected open set  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \cong \mathbb{C}$ , with a sufficiently smooth boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ , the following boundary value problem for a pair  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  of *analytic* functions is studied:

$$\begin{cases} \varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}, & \text{both analytic,} \\ \left[ z\overline{\varphi'} \pm \varphi + \overline{\chi'} \right] \Big|_{\partial \mathbb{G}} = G \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G}), \end{cases}$$
(0.1)

Multiplication by i transforms the +version into the -version.

Necessary and sufficient conditions on G for solvability and also results on the behaviour of the solution near  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  are found.

The original motivation for this study is to provide a sound mathematical link between 2D Stokes boundary value problems and 2D free boundary evolution equations of Hopper type, cf. **[H]**, with 'arbitrary Hamiltonian', cf. **[G]**. During this, the interesting (and for the author unexpected) fact came up that both the Dirichlet and the Neumann Problem for the 2D-Stokes equations can be reduced to the problem (0.1). Full details of all this are in the underlying note. A brief overview now follows.

On  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \cong \mathbb{C}$ , the stationary behaviour of a *pressure-velocity flow pair*  $\{p, \underline{v}\}$ , where  $p : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{R}$  and  $\underline{v} : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{R}^2$ , can often be modelled by Stokes' equations

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \mathcal{T} = \underline{0} \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{v} = 0 \end{cases}, \quad \text{with stress matrix} \quad \mathcal{T} = -p\mathcal{I} + \left[\frac{\mathrm{d}\underline{v}}{\mathrm{d}\underline{x}}\right] + \left[\frac{\mathrm{d}\underline{v}}{\mathrm{d}\underline{x}}\right]^{\top}. \quad (0.2)$$

Only Cartesian coordinates will be employed!

It is classical folklore, scattered in the litterature, that there exists a *bi-harmonic potential pair*  $\psi, \phi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{R}$ , (the stream function and Airy function, respectively), such that, cf. (1.3),

$$\underline{v} = \nabla \times (\psi \underline{e}_3), \qquad \mathcal{T} = 2 \Big[ (\mathbf{D}^2 \phi) - (\Delta \phi) \mathcal{I} \Big]. \tag{0.3}$$

Consistency in  $\mathcal{T}$  requires that  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are related: For  $z = x + iy \in \mathbb{G}$  one necessarily has, cf. Appendix B,

$$\phi(\underline{x}) + i\psi(\underline{x}) = \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z), \quad \text{with analytic} \quad \varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}.$$
 (0.4)

Also this is classical folklore. For a strongly related approach in the field of 'elasticity' cf. **[E]** and **[M]** Ch 4. In the Appendices to this note full details are presented on  $\psi, \phi, \varphi, \chi$  and on the kinematic expressions derived from them. For a *full set* of the latter see (1.5).

By means of the *analytic potentials*  $\varphi, \chi$  we investigate boundary value problems for Stokes' equations with respective boundary conditions:

Stokes-Dirichlet: 
$$\underline{v}\Big|_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G}),$$
 Stokes-Neumann:  $\mathcal{T}\underline{n}\Big|_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \in \mathbb{H}^{-1}(\partial \mathbb{G}).$ 
(0.5)

As it turns out *both problems* can be reduced to (0.1). By means of a conformal mapping the problem (0.1) is then transformed to an integral operator equation on the unit circle.

#### Contents

- 1. Generalities on Stokes' Equations in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : Gives an overview of solutions of Stokes' equations in terms of potentials. Without taking boundary conditions into consideration.
- 2. Boundary Value Problems and their Uniqueness : Formulation of the Dirichlet and Neumann problem for Stokes' equations. The consistency of the boundary conditions get a physical interpretation. Reformulation as (0.1), together with uniqueness conditions.
- **3.** A Basic Existence Result: By means of a conformal mapping (0.1) is transformed to a problem on the unit disk. The previous uniqueness result together wit a version of the 'Fredholm Alternative' leads to unique solvability. Some properties of the solution near the boundary are studied.
- 4. Results on Stokes Boundary Value Problems: The obtained results are transformed back from the unit disk to the original domain. A special class of solutions related to **[H]**,**[G]** is introduced. Finally, some 'non-physical' boundary value problems are considered.
- **A.** APPENDIX. Complex Analysis revisited: Contains all results on analytic functions formulated in the way we need them.
- **B.** APPENDIX. Details on Stokes' equations: Contains full proofs of all results with potentials as presented in section 1.
  - Acknowledgements
  - References

For convenience nothing new is claimed here!

JdG November 2010

# **1** Generalities on Stokes' Equations in $\mathbb{R}^2$

On a bounded simply connected open domain  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\underline{0} \in \mathbb{G}$ , we consider the set of Stokes equations

$$\frac{\partial^2 v_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_1}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 v_2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_2}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial y} = 0$$
(1.1)

Alternative formulations are

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \underline{v} - \nabla p = \underline{0} \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{v} = 0 \end{cases} \qquad \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \mathcal{T} = \underline{0} \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{v} = 0 \end{cases} \qquad \begin{cases} \partial_i \mathcal{T}_{ij} = 0 \\ \partial_i v_i = 0 \end{cases}, \tag{1.2}$$

with

$$\mathcal{T} = -p \mathcal{I} + \left[\frac{\mathrm{d}\underline{v}}{\mathrm{d}\underline{x}}\right] + \left[\frac{\mathrm{d}\underline{v}}{\mathrm{d}\underline{x}}\right]^{\top} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{T}_{ij} = -p \,\delta_{ij} + \partial_j v_i + \partial_i v_j \;.$$

The boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  of  $\mathbb{G}$  is supposed to admit a positively oriented arclength parametrization  $s \mapsto \underline{x}(s), \ 0 \leq s < L$  with bounded (generalized) derivative  $s \mapsto \underline{\dot{x}}(s)$ . Besides the unit tangent vector  $s \mapsto \underline{t}(\underline{x}(s)) = \underline{\dot{x}}(s) = \operatorname{kol}[\dot{x}(s), \dot{y}(s)]$  we also need the outside normal  $s \mapsto \underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) = \operatorname{kol}[\dot{y}(s), -\dot{x}(s)].$ 

The next theorem contains some classical results regarding the general solution of Stokes' equations without regarding boundary conditions.

#### Theorem 1.1 (Classical results)

• If  $\underline{x} \mapsto p(\underline{x})$ ,  $\underline{v}(\underline{x})$  solves (1.1), (1.2) on  $\mathbb{G}$ , then there exist a 'stream function'  $\underline{x} \mapsto \psi(\underline{x})$  and an 'Airy function'  $\underline{x} \mapsto \phi(\underline{x})$  on  $\mathbb{G}$ , with  $\Delta \Delta \phi = 0$ ,  $\Delta \Delta \psi = 0$ , such that

$$\underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_y \psi \\ -\partial_x \psi \end{bmatrix}, \quad p = \Delta \phi, \quad \mathcal{T} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} -\partial_y \partial_y \phi & \partial_x \partial_y \phi \\ \partial_x \partial_y \phi & -\partial_x \partial_x \phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.3)$$

and the function  $z = x + iy \mapsto \Delta \phi(\underline{x}) + i\Delta \psi(\underline{x})$  being analytic.

Here  $\psi$  is unique up to a constant and  $\phi$  is unique up to a polynomial of 1st degree.

• The pair of biharmonic functions  $\phi, \psi$  cannot be chosen arbitrarily. There has to exist a pair of analytic functions  $z \mapsto \varphi(z), \chi(z)$  on  $\mathbb{G}$ , such that

$$\phi(\underline{x}) + i\psi(\underline{x}) = \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z), \qquad z = x + iy \in \mathbb{G}, \qquad (1.4)$$

• All solutions of Stokes' equations have such holomorphic representation.

• Let  $s \mapsto z(s) \in \overline{G}$  be a curve with arclength parametrization s. Differentiation along such a curve is denoted  $\frac{d}{ds}$ . We write  $\frac{dz}{ds} = \dot{z}$ . The ordered pair  $\{\underline{n}, \underline{\dot{x}}\} = \{-i\dot{z}, \dot{z}\}$  is meant to be a positively oriented orthonormal system in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We have

$$v_{1} + iv_{2} = -\varphi + z\overline{\varphi'} + \overline{\lambda'} \qquad p = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{T}_{11} + \mathcal{T}_{22}) = 4 \operatorname{Re} \varphi'$$

$$\underline{v} \cdot \underline{n} = \frac{d}{ds} \operatorname{Im} (\overline{z}\varphi + \chi) \qquad \operatorname{rot} \underline{v} = \partial_{x}v_{2} - \partial_{y}v_{1} = -4 \operatorname{Im} \varphi'$$

$$\underline{v} \cdot \underline{\dot{x}} = \frac{d}{ds} \operatorname{Re} (\overline{z}\varphi + \chi) - 2 \operatorname{Re} (\overline{\varphi}\dot{z}) \qquad \mathcal{T}_{22} - \mathcal{T}_{11} + 2 i\mathcal{T}_{12} = -4(\overline{z}\varphi'' + \chi'')$$

$$\mathcal{T} \cdot \underline{n} = 2 i \frac{d}{ds} (\varphi + z\overline{\varphi'} + \overline{\chi'}) \qquad \mathcal{T} \cdot \underline{\dot{x}} = 2 \frac{d}{ds} \{ z\overline{\varphi'} + \overline{\chi'} - 4 \operatorname{Re} \varphi \}$$

$$(1.5)$$

• If the pair  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  is replaced by the pair  $\{\varphi + \alpha, \chi + \overline{\alpha}z + \beta\}$ , with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ , the same solution is represented.

The holomorphic representation of a solution by  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  is unique if one additionally requires that for some fixed  $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{G}$  one has  $\varphi(\underline{a}) = \chi(\underline{a}) = 0$ . We usually take  $\underline{a} = \underline{0}$ • In this way the 'Euclidean motion' solution

$$p(\underline{x}) = E, \qquad \underline{v}(\underline{x}) = A \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1 \end{bmatrix} + C \begin{bmatrix} -y\\x \end{bmatrix}, \qquad A, B, C, E \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(1.6)

has the unique holomorphic representation

$$\varphi(z) = \frac{1}{4}(E - 2iC)z$$
  $\chi(z) = (A - iB)z$ . (1.7)

**Proof** For a detailed mathematical proof of those classical results + some addenda see Appendix B.

## 2 Boundary Value Problems and their Uniqueness

The **Stokes-Dirichlet problem** is formulated as follows

$$\begin{cases}
\Delta \underline{v} - \nabla p = \underline{0} , & \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G} \\
\nabla \cdot \underline{v}(\underline{x}) = 0 , & \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G} \\
\underline{v}(\underline{x}) = \underline{g}(\underline{x}) , & \underline{x} \in \partial \mathbb{G} \\
p(\underline{0}) = B , & B \in \mathbb{R}.
\end{cases}$$
(2.1)

On the prescribed boundary velocity field  $s \mapsto \underline{g}(\underline{x}(s)) = V_1(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + V_2(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s)) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ we put

Condition on 
$$\underline{g}$$
: •  $\int_0^L V_1(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = 0$  (2.2)

This condition is necessary in order to be consistent with  $\nabla \cdot \underline{v}(\underline{x}) = 0$ ,  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{G}$ . Keep in mind that  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$  are *not* the cartesian components of  $\underline{g}$ .

#### Theorem 2.1 (Uniqueness of the Stokes-Dirichlet problem)

Consider the Stokes-Dirichlet problem (2.1). Suppose  $\underline{0} \in \mathbb{G}$ .

• If  $g = \underline{0}$ , B = 0, then  $\underline{v}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}$ ,  $p(\underline{x}) = 0$ ,  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{G}$ .

• For given  $\underline{g} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G}; \mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}$  there is at most one solution pair  $\{\underline{v}, p\}$  with (unique) holomorphic representation  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$ , if one, in addition to  $\varphi(0) = \chi(0) = 0$ , requires.

$$\operatorname{Re}\varphi'(0) = \frac{1}{4}B \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(2.3)

#### Proof

• On  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  we suppose

$$\underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_y \psi \\ -\partial_x \psi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So we have to investigate the set of solutions of

$$\Delta \Delta \psi(\underline{x}) = 0, \quad \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G}, \qquad \nabla \psi(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}, \quad \underline{x} \in \partial \mathbb{G}.$$

It follows that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{n}}\psi = \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{t}}\psi = 0$  at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ . So  $\psi = C \in \mathbb{R}$  is constant at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ . We take  $\psi = 0$  at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ .

With Green II

$$0 = \int_{\mathbb{G}} \psi(\underline{x}) \Delta \Delta \psi(\underline{x}) \, \mathrm{d}\underline{x} = \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \psi \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{n}} \Delta \psi \, \mathrm{d}s - \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} (\frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{n}} \psi) \Delta \psi \, \mathrm{d}s + \int_{\mathbb{G}} |\Delta \psi|^2 \, \mathrm{d}\underline{x} =$$
$$= C \int_{G} \Delta \Delta \psi \, \mathrm{d}\underline{x} + \int_{\mathbb{G}} |\Delta \psi|^2 \, \mathrm{d}\underline{x} \,.$$

it now follows that  $\Delta \psi = 0$ . Hence, the stream function  $\psi = C$ . So the velocity  $\underline{v} = \underline{0}$ . The 'consistency conditions' (B.2) tell us that the Airy function  $\phi$  has to satisfy  $\partial_x \partial_y \phi = 0$  and  $\partial_x \partial_x \phi - \partial_y \partial_y \phi = 0$ . Therefore it has the form  $\phi(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{2}B\underline{x}^\top \underline{x} + \underline{b}^\top \underline{x} + c$ . So the pressure  $p = \Delta \phi$  can only be a constant. The condition  $p(\underline{0}) = 0$  forces this constant to be 0. • If there are 2 solutions they differ by the zero solution just found.

Now we come to the **Stokes-Neumann problem**, which is formulated as follows

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \mathcal{T}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0} & , \ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G} \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{v}(\underline{x}) = 0 & , \ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G} \\ \mathcal{T}(\underline{x}) \cdot \underline{n}(\underline{x}) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}) & , \ \underline{x} \in \partial \mathbb{G} \end{cases}$$
(2.4)

On the prescribed boundary stress field  $\underline{x} \mapsto \underline{f}(\underline{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  we put

Conditions on 
$$\underline{f}$$
:  
•  $\underline{f}(\underline{x}(s)) = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \{K_1(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + K_2(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s))\},$   
•  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} K_1(s) \,\mathrm{d}s = \underline{0},$ 
(2.5)

These nicely correspond to equilibrium of forces and momenta, respectively,

$$\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \underline{f}(\underline{x}(s)) \, \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0} \,, \qquad \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \underline{x}(s) \times \underline{f}(\underline{x}(s)) \, \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0}.$$

Indeed, if we denote the force at  $\underline{x}(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}$  by  $\alpha(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + \beta(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s))$ , the condition of equilibrium of forces says  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \alpha \underline{n} + \beta \underline{t} \, \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0}$ . Therefore we can write

$$\alpha(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + \beta(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s)) = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \{K_1(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + K_2(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s))\}$$

Further, the condition of equilibrium of momenta says  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \underline{x} \times \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \{K_1\underline{n} + K_2\underline{t}\} \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0}$ . This means

$$\underline{0} = \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \{ \underline{x} \times (K_1 \underline{n} + K_2 \underline{t}) \} \, \mathrm{d}s = \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \underline{t} \times \{ K_1 \underline{n} + K_2 \underline{t} \} \, \mathrm{d}s.$$

Which says  $\underline{e}_3 \int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} K_1 \, \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0}$ .<sup>1</sup>

To (2.5) we could add the **optional condition** 

• 
$$\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \{ K_1(s)\underline{n}(s) + K_2(s)\underline{t}(s) \} \, \mathrm{d}s = \underline{0} \,, \qquad (2.6)$$

because adding a constant vectorfield to  $K_1\underline{n} + K_2\underline{t}$  does not alter  $\underline{f}$ . We don't. For subtleties regarding this possibility, see the end of this section.

**Example:** The special choice  $K_1 = 0$ ,  $K_2 = \kappa = \text{constant}$ , models surface tension at the boundary. Then  $f = -\kappa \underline{n}$ . Keep in mind that  $\underline{n}$  is the outside normal!

#### Theorem 2.2 (Uniqueness of the Stokes-Neumann problem)

Consider the Stokes-Neumann problem (2.4). Suppose  $\underline{0} \in \mathbb{G}$ .

• If  $f = \underline{0}$ , the set of solutions is given by the Euclidean motions (1.6) with p = E = 0.

• For any given  $\underline{f} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G}; \mathbb{R}^2)$  and any given  $\underline{v}(\underline{0}) = \underline{v}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , there is at most one solution with (unique) holomorphic representation  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  if one, in addition to  $\varphi(0) = \chi(0) = 0$ , requires

$$\operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = \mu \in \mathbb{R} , \qquad \chi'(0) = v_0 \in \mathbb{C}.$$

$$(2.7)$$

#### Proof

• On  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  we suppose

$$\mathcal{T} \cdot \underline{n} = -2 \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \begin{bmatrix} \partial_y \phi \\ -\partial_x \phi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So we have to investigate the set of solutions of

 $\Delta\Delta\phi(\underline{x})=0\,,\ \underline{x}\in\mathbb{G},\qquad \nabla\phi(\underline{x})=\underline{a}=\text{constant},\ \underline{x}\in\partial\mathbb{G}.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>JdG thanks Dr. A.A.F. van de Ven for clearing up this point

Consider  $\tilde{\phi}(\underline{x}) = \phi(\underline{x}) - \underline{a}^{\top} \underline{x}$ , which satisfies

$$\Delta \Delta \tilde{\phi}(\underline{x}) = 0 \,, \quad \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G}, \qquad \nabla \tilde{\phi}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}, \quad \underline{x} \in \partial \mathbb{G}$$

This implies  $\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\tilde{\phi}(\underline{x}(s)) = 0$ , at  $\underline{x}(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}$ . Hence  $\tilde{\phi}(\underline{x}) = \alpha = \text{constant}$ , at  $\underline{x}(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}$ . Introduce  $\hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) = \phi(\underline{x}) - \underline{a}^{\mathsf{T}}\underline{x} - \alpha$ , which satisfies

$$\Delta \Delta \hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) = 0, \quad \underline{x} \in \mathbb{G}, \qquad \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{n}} \hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}, \quad \hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) = 0, \quad \underline{x} \in \partial \mathbb{G}.$$

From  $0 = \int_{\mathbb{G}} \hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) \Delta \Delta \hat{\phi}(\underline{x}) \, d\underline{x}$  and Green II it now follows that  $\hat{\phi} = 0$  and therefore the Airy function is of the form  $\phi(\underline{x}) = \underline{a}^{\top} \underline{x} + \alpha$ . The 'consistency conditions' (B.2) tell us that the stream function  $\psi$  has to satisfy  $\partial_x \partial_y \psi = 0$  and  $\partial_x \partial_x \psi - \partial_y \partial_y \psi = 0$ . Therefore it has the form  $\psi(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{2}C\underline{x}^{\top}\underline{x} + \underline{b}^{\top}\underline{x} + c$ .

As a consequence the homogeneous Stokes-Neumann problem is solved by all Euclidean motion solutions (1.6), represented by (1.7) with E = 0.

• If there are 2 solutions they differ by a solution represented by (2.7) which is reduced to 0 because of  $\operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0, \chi'(0) = 0$ .

#### Lemma 2.3

Let  $\varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$  be analytic with  $\varphi(0) = \chi(0) = 0$ . Suppose that  $z \mapsto \varphi(z)$  and  $z \mapsto \overline{z}\varphi'(z) + \chi'(z)$  both extend to a continuous function on  $\overline{\mathbb{G}}$ . • If  $\operatorname{Re} \varphi'(0) = 0$  and for all s

$$z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} - \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = C, \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G},$$
(2.8)

with  $C \in \mathbb{C}$  a constant. Then  $\varphi(z) = 0$ , identically on  $\mathbb{G}$  and  $\chi(z) = \overline{C}z$ . • If  $\operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0$  and for all s

$$z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = D, \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G},$$
(2.9)

with  $D \in \mathbb{C}$  a constant. Then  $\varphi(z) = 0$ , identically on  $\mathbb{G}$ , and  $\chi(z) = \overline{D}z$ .

#### Proof

• First suppose C=0 and consider the pair  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  as a holomorphic representation of the solution of Stokes' equations. Then, according to Theorem 2.1,  $v_1 + iv_2$  and p vanish identically on  $\mathbb{G}$ . Therefore  $z\overline{\varphi'} - \varphi + \overline{\chi'} = 0$ , identically on  $\mathbb{G}$ . Taking the derivative  $\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$  leads to  $\operatorname{Im} \varphi' = 0$  on  $\mathbb{G}$ . So  $\varphi(z) = Az$ , with  $A \in \mathbb{R}$ . Because  $\operatorname{Re} \varphi'(0) = 0$  we necessarily have A = 0. Then from (2.8) also  $\chi'$  has to be 0. Hence  $\chi$  is constant. With the condition  $\chi(0) = 0$  it follows that  $\chi = 0$  on  $\mathbb{G}$ .

Finally, if  $C \neq 0$ , the only solution pair can be  $\varphi(z) = 0$ ,  $\chi(z) = \overline{C}z$  on G. • Two proofs are presented.

First take C = iD in (2.8) and multiply both sides by -i. We get back (2.9), with  $\varphi$ ,  $\chi$  replaced by  $i\varphi$ ,  $i\chi$ . Now the first result can be applied.

For the second proof consider the pair  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  as a holomorphic representation of the solution of Stokes' equations. We find at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ 

$$\mathcal{T}\underline{n}(s) = 2i\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\left(z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))}\right) = 2i\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}D = 0.$$

According to the uniqueness result in Theorem (2.2) we necessarily have  $\varphi(z) = -\frac{1}{2}Cz$ ,  $\chi(z) = (A - iB)z$ ,  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0$  implies C = 0. Finally, with (2.9), A - iB = E.

Concluding this section we look at the Stokes-Neumann problem in terms of  $\varphi, \chi$ . So we want to find analytic  $\varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$ , such that at the boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ 

$$\mathcal{T}\underline{n}(s) = 2i\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\Big(z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))}\Big) = -i\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\{K(s)\dot{z}(s)\}.$$
 (2.10)

Here  $K(s) = K_1(s) + iK_2(s)$ , cf. (2.5).

Note that (2.10) does not alter if  $\varphi$  is replaced by  $\varphi - \frac{i}{2}Cz + C_1$  and  $\chi$  by  $\chi + (A - iB)z + C_2$ , with constants  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Now in identity (2.10) we 'cancel' the  $i\frac{d}{ds}$  and with Lemma 2.10 we acquire uniqueness for the system

$$\begin{cases} z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = -\frac{1}{2}K(s)\dot{z}(s), \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}, \\ \varphi(0) = \chi(0) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$
(2.11)

There is a subtlety here! <sup>2</sup> If we add a constant  $E \in \mathbb{C}$  to the right hand side in (2.11) the (unique if it exists) solution  $\chi(z)$  becomes  $\chi(z) + \overline{E}z$ , a uniform rectilinear motion is added to the solution of Stokes' equations. It we kept to the 'optional' condition (2.6), it would forbid adding such E and leads us into consistency troubles. A requirement of type  $\chi'(a) = 0$  at a suitable point  $a \in \mathbb{G}$  could possibly 'save' the optional condition. At this point however we are quite content with the achieved uniqueness for problem (2.11).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This sublety arose and was cleared up in a 'discussion on the *constants*' with Nasrin Arab.

#### 3 A Basic Existence Result

On a simply connected open domain  $\mathbb{G}$ ,  $0 \in \mathbb{G}$  with 'sufficiently smooth' boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  and prescribed  $F = F_1 + iF_2 : \partial \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$  we want to show the existence of analytic  $\varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$ 

$$\begin{cases} z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = F(s)\dot{z}(s), \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}, \\ \varphi(0) = \chi(0) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$
(3.1)

In this equation, instead of  $+\varphi(z(s))$  also  $-\varphi(z(s))$  can be taken. As we have seen, this is just a matter of redefining the unknown functions by a factor i. We keep to the +sign in this section.

Multiply both sides of (3.1) by  $\dot{\overline{z}}$ , then

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \left( z(s)\overline{\varphi(z(s))} + \overline{\chi(z(s))} \right) + 2\mathrm{i}\operatorname{Im}\left\{ (\varphi(z(s))\dot{\overline{z}}(s)\right\} = F(s).$$
(3.2)

Integration along  $\partial G$  of the real part of this identity leads to the necessary condition  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} F_1(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = 0$ , for solvability. This nicely corresponds to the conditions (2.5), casu quo (2.2).

At this point the unique **conformal bijection** 

$$\Omega : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{G}, \quad \zeta \mapsto \Omega(\zeta), \qquad \Omega(0) = 0, \ \Omega'(0) > 0, \tag{3.3}$$

is introduced from the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  in the  $\zeta$ -plane into the complex z = x + iy-plane. Note that, if  $\partial G$  happens to be a Jordan curve with a Hölder continuous derivative, then  $\Omega$  extends to a bijective  $\mathscr{C}^{1;\alpha}$ -map  $\Omega : \overline{\mathbb{D}} \to \overline{\mathbb{G}}$ , cf. [**P**] Thm 3.6, p49.

Corresponding to the usual parametrisation  $\theta \to e^{i\theta}$ ,  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$  of  $\partial \mathbb{D} = \mathbb{S}^1$  we define  $\theta \mapsto s(\theta)$  by  $z(s(\theta)) = \Omega(e^{i\theta})$ .

Finally the new unknown functions

$$\Phi(\zeta) = \varphi(\Omega(\zeta)), \quad \mathcal{X}(\zeta) = \chi(\Omega(\zeta)), \quad (3.4)$$

are introduced. Then, with

$$\partial_{\theta} \Phi(e^{i\theta}) = \Phi'(e^{i\theta}) i e^{i\theta} = \varphi'(\Omega(e^{i\theta})) \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) = \varphi'(\Omega(e^{i\theta})) \Omega'(e^{i\theta}) i e^{i\theta},$$

(3.1) can be rewritten, along  $\partial \mathbb{D}$ , as

$$\begin{cases} \Omega(\zeta)(\partial_{\theta}\overline{\Phi(\zeta)} + (\partial_{\theta}\overline{\Omega(\zeta)}\Phi(\zeta) + \partial_{\theta}\overline{\mathcal{X}(\zeta)} = |\partial_{\theta}\Omega(\zeta)|F(s(\theta)), \quad \zeta = e^{i\theta}, \\ \Phi(0) = \mathcal{X}(0) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Im} \Phi'(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$
(3.5)

The first line can be rewritten

$$\partial_{\theta} \left[ \Omega(\zeta) \overline{\Phi(\zeta)} + \overline{\mathcal{X}(\zeta)} \right] + 2 \mathrm{i} \operatorname{Im} \left[ \left( \partial_{\theta} \overline{\Omega(\zeta)} \right) \Phi(\zeta) \right] = \left| \partial_{\theta} \Omega(\zeta) \right| F(s(\theta)), \quad \zeta = e^{\mathrm{i}\theta}. \tag{3.6}$$

Integration of the real part of this identity leads once more to the necessary condition  $\int_0^{2\pi} F_1(s(\theta)) \frac{\mathrm{d}s(\theta)}{\mathrm{d}\theta} \,\mathrm{d}\theta = 0, \text{ for solvability.}$ 

We start the investigation of (3.5) with a Lemma

#### Lemma 3.1

Let  $f : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{C}$  be analytic with f(0) = 0. Split in real and imaginary parts  $f(\zeta) = f_1(\zeta) + if_2(\zeta)$ . We have 1.  $\theta \mapsto f_1(e^{i\theta}) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R})$  if and only if  $\theta \mapsto f_2(e^{i\theta}) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R})$ . 2. The mapping  $J : \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1\}^{\perp}) \to \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1\}^{\perp}), \quad f_1 \mapsto Jf_1 = f_2$ , is orthogonal and  $JJ^* = -J = J^{-1}, \ J^2 = -I$ ,  $J \cos n\theta = \sin n\theta$ ,  $J \sin n\theta = -\cos n\theta$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . 3. The operator J is represented by the principal value integral

$$Jf_{1}(\theta) = f_{2}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cot\left(\frac{1}{2}(\theta - \theta_{1})\right) f_{1}(\theta_{1}) d\theta_{1}.$$
 (3.7)

**4.**  $\partial_{\theta} J = J \partial_{\theta}$ ,  $\partial_{\theta} f_1(e^{i\theta}) + i \partial_{\theta} f_2(e^{i\theta}) = i(\zeta \partial_{\zeta} f)(e^{i\theta})$ . **5.** Product formula for  $f, g : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{C}$ , both  $\mathbb{C}$ -analytic

 $\mathsf{J}(f_1g_1) = \mathsf{J}\big((\mathsf{J}f_1)(\mathsf{J}g_1)\big) + (\mathsf{J}f_1)g_1 + f_1(\mathsf{J}g_1).$ 

**Proof** See Appendix A sub 11.

We now come to the main theorem of this section

#### Theorem 3.2 (Basic Existence Result)

Let  $F_1, F_2 : \partial \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{R}$  be given. Suppose the conformal mapping  $\Omega : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{C}$  to be such that

**a.**  $\theta \mapsto \left| \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \right| F_1(s(\theta)) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1\}^{\perp}).$ 

**b.** 
$$\theta \mapsto \left| \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \right| F_2(s(\theta)) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}).$$

- **c.**  $\theta \mapsto \left| \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \right|$  and  $\theta \mapsto \left| \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{-1}$  are bounded on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ .
- **d.**  $\theta \mapsto \left| \partial_{\theta} \partial_{\theta} \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \right|$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ .

Then there exist unique  $\Phi, \mathcal{X} : \partial \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{C}$ , with properties

• 
$$\theta \mapsto \Phi(e^{i\theta}) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C}), \quad \theta \mapsto \mathcal{X}(e^{i\theta}) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C}),$$
  
•  $\Phi \, \mathcal{X} \text{ extend to } \Phi \, \mathcal{X} : \overline{\mathbb{D}} \to \mathbb{C}, \text{ which are analytic on } \mathbb{D}.$ 

$$(3.8)$$

and which satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \Omega(\zeta)(\partial_{\theta}\overline{\Phi(\zeta)} + (\partial_{\theta}\overline{\Omega(\zeta)}\Phi(\zeta) + \partial_{\theta}\overline{\mathcal{X}(\zeta)} = |\partial_{\theta}\Omega(\zeta)|F(s(\theta)), \quad \zeta = e^{i\theta}, \\ \Phi(0) = \mathcal{X}(0) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Im} \Phi'(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$
(3.9)

If, instead of condition **d.**, we require the Hölder condition

e.  $\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta}) \in \mathscr{C}^{1;\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1)$ , for some  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,

the theorem holds as well.

**Proof** We proceed in 6 steps.

**I.** Split (3.5), (3.6) in real and imaginary parts at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ 

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{\theta} \operatorname{Re} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi \right] + \partial_{\theta} \mathcal{X}_{1} = |\Omega'| F_{1} \\ -\partial_{\theta} \operatorname{Im} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi \right] + 2 \operatorname{Im} \left[ \left( \partial_{\theta} \overline{\Omega} \right) \Phi \right] - \partial_{\theta} \mathcal{X}_{2} = |\Omega'| F_{2} \end{cases}$$
(3.10)

By the way, note that the pair  $\mathcal{X} = 0$ ,  $\Phi = -i\Omega$  satisfies this set of equations if  $F_1 = F_2 = 0$ . However it does NOT satisfy our condition  $\operatorname{Im} \Phi'(0) = 0$ .

We now eliminate  $\mathcal{X}_2$  by applying J to the 1st line and add it to the 2nd.

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{\theta} \operatorname{Re}\left[\overline{\Omega} \Phi\right] + \partial_{\theta} \mathcal{X}_{1} = |\Omega'|F_{1} \\ \partial_{\theta} \left\{ \operatorname{J} \operatorname{Re}\left[\overline{\Omega} \Phi\right] - \operatorname{Im}\left[\overline{\Omega} \Phi\right] \right\} + 2\operatorname{Im}\left[\left(\partial_{\theta}\overline{\Omega}\right) \Phi\right] = \left\{ \operatorname{J}\left(|\Omega'|F_{1}\right) + |\Omega'|F_{2} \right\} \end{cases}$$
(3.11)

From now on the factors  $\Omega_1$ ,  $\Omega_2$ ,  $\partial_{\theta}\Omega_1 = \Omega_1$ ,  $\partial_{\theta}\Omega_2 = \Omega_2$ , are to be considered as multiplication operators. Because of the analyticic extendibility requirement we put, cf. Lemma  $3.1, \Phi = \Phi_1 + iJ\Phi_1$ , etc. Thus the 2nd equation becomes an operator equation for  $\Phi_1$  only. Using the product formula of Lemma 3.1, which gives us

$$\mathsf{J}((\mathsf{J}\Omega_1)(\mathsf{J}\Phi_1)) = \mathsf{J}(\Omega_1\Phi_1) - (\mathsf{J}\Omega_1)\Phi_1 - \Omega_1(\mathsf{J}\Phi_1), \qquad (3.12)$$

combined with the 2nd line of (3.11), we find the operator equation

$$\partial_{\theta} \Big( \big[ \mathsf{J}\Omega_1 - \Omega_1 \mathsf{J} \big] \Phi_1 \Big) + \big[ \dot{\Omega}_1 \mathsf{J} - \dot{\Omega}_2 \big] \Phi_1 = \frac{1}{2} \Big[ \mathsf{J} \big( |\Omega'|F_1 \big) + |\Omega'|F_2 \Big].$$
(3.13)

So we have to study the operators on the left hand side of (3.13).

**II.** First notice that the operator

$$\mathsf{L}: \ \mathbb{L}_2\big(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1, \sin\theta\}^{\perp}\big) \to \mathbb{L}_2\big(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}\big) : \ \Phi_1 \ \mapsto \ \mathsf{L}\Phi_1 = \big[\dot{\Omega}_1 \mathsf{J} - \dot{\Omega}_2\big]\Phi_1,$$

is a bijection. Indeed, on  $\mathbb{S}^1$  investigate

$$\left[\dot{\Omega}_{1}\mathsf{J}-\dot{\Omega}_{2}\right]\Phi_{1} = \operatorname{Im}\left\{\dot{\overline{\Omega}}\Phi\right\} = \operatorname{Re}\left\{-\mathrm{i}\dot{\overline{\Omega}}\Phi\right\} = R \in \mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}^{1}).$$

Divide by  $|\dot{\Omega}|^2$ , then on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ ,

$$\operatorname{Re}\frac{\Phi}{\mathrm{i}\Omega} = \frac{R}{|\Omega|^2} = S(\theta) + \overline{S(\theta)},$$

where S is uniquely written as the *complex* Fourier expansion (of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued function)

$$S(\theta) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} s_{\ell} e^{i\ell\theta}, \quad \text{with} \ s_{\ell} \in \mathbb{C}, \ s_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

After analytic extension into D we write

$$-\operatorname{Re}\frac{\Phi(\zeta)}{\zeta\Omega'(\zeta)} = S(\zeta) + S^{\dagger}(\zeta), \quad \text{for } \zeta = e^{i\theta},$$

from which  $\Phi(\zeta) = -2\zeta \Omega'(\zeta)S(\zeta) + i\alpha\zeta \Omega'(\zeta)$  for  $|\zeta| < 1$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , follows. Since  $\Phi'(0) \in \mathbb{R}$  is required, only  $\alpha = 0$  is acceptible. The  $\mathbb{L}_2$ -properties follow from the (supposed) boundedness of  $\Omega'$  and  $(\Omega')^{-1}$  on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ .

**III.** Together with (3.7) the operator

$$\mathsf{K}: \ \mathbb{L}_2\big(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1, \sin\theta\}^{\perp}\big) \to \mathbb{L}_2\big(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}\big) : \ \Phi_1 \ \mapsto \ \mathsf{K}\Phi_1 = \partial_\theta\Big(\big[J\Omega_1 - \Omega_1 J\big]\Phi_1\Big),$$

can be written, with some trigonometry,

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{K}\Phi_{1}(\theta) &= -\frac{1}{2\pi} \,\partial_{\theta} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cot\left(\frac{\theta - \theta_{1}}{2}\right) \left\{ \Omega_{1}(e^{\,\mathrm{i}\theta}) - \Omega_{1}(e^{\,\mathrm{i}\theta_{1}}) \right\} \Phi_{1}(\theta_{1}) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_{1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\sin(\theta - \theta_{1})}{1 - \cos(\theta - \theta_{1})} \left[ \frac{\Omega_{1}(e^{\,\mathrm{i}\theta}) - \Omega_{1}(e^{\,\mathrm{i}\theta_{1}})}{\sin(\theta - \theta_{1})} - \partial_{\theta}\Omega_{1}(e^{\,\mathrm{i}\theta}) \right] \Phi_{1}(\theta_{1}) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_{1} \end{split}$$
(3.14)

Then condition **d**., together with L'Hôpital's rule, imply that K is Hilbert-Schmidt. If there were  $\Phi_1 \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \{1, \sin \theta\}^{\perp})$ ,  $\Phi_1 \neq 0$ , with  $(\mathsf{K} + \mathsf{L})\Phi_1 = 0$ , we could introduce  $\mathcal{X}_1 = -\operatorname{Re}\left[\overline{\Omega} \Phi\right] + \gamma$ , with constant  $\gamma = \operatorname{Re} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left[\overline{\Omega}(e^{i\theta}) \Phi(e^{i\theta})\right] d\theta$ . Note that such  $\Phi_1$  is necessarily continuous !!

The nonzero pair {  $\Phi_1$  + iJ $\Phi_1$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_1$  + iJ $\mathcal{X}_1$  } then leads to a non-zero solution pair { $\varphi, \chi$ } of (2.11), with K = 0, which contradicts the uniqueness result of Lemma 2.3. So K + L is injective.

Since  $\mathsf{K} + \mathsf{L}$  is a compact perturbation of the bijection  $\mathsf{L}$ , which has index 0, the problem  $(\mathsf{K} + \mathsf{L})\Phi_1 = R$  is uniquely solvable for any  $R \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R})$ . For the 'index theory' see, e.g., **[GGK]**.

**IV.** Substitute the found  $\Phi_1$  with  $J\Phi_1$  in the first equation of (3.11). Its righthand side  $-\frac{1}{2}|\partial_{\theta}\Omega|K_1$  can be written as a derivative. With the requirement  $\mathcal{X}(0) = 0$ , it leads to a unique  $\mathcal{X}$ .

**V.** Split the operator  $\mathsf{K} = \mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon} + \mathsf{K}_{\pi-\varepsilon}$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \pi$ . On the square  $[-\pi, \pi] \times [-\pi, \pi]$ , and inside the strip  $|\theta - \theta_1| < \varepsilon$ , the kernel of  $\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon}$  takes the values of the kernel of  $\mathsf{K}$ . Outside this strip it is taken to be 0. So

$$\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon}\Phi_{1}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\max\{-\pi, \theta-\varepsilon\}}^{\min\{\pi, \theta+\varepsilon\}} \mathcal{K}(\theta, \theta_{1}) \Phi_{1}(\theta_{1}) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_{1},$$

with  $\mathcal{K}$  the kernel of (3.14).

Note that the 'remains'  $K_{\pi-\varepsilon}$  is Hilbert-Schmidt.

We now show that for some C > 0 we have  $\|\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon}\| \leq C\varepsilon^{\min\{\alpha_{\frac{1}{2}}\}}$ . The Mean Value Theorem applied to

$$x \mapsto \Omega_1(e^{ix}) + \frac{\Omega_1(e^{i\theta_1}) - \Omega_1(e^{i\theta})}{\sin(\theta - \theta_1)} \sin(x - \theta_1), \text{ on interval } [\theta_1, \theta] \text{ or } [\theta, \theta_1],$$

provides us with

$$\frac{\Omega_1(e^{i\theta}) - \Omega_1(e^{i\theta_1})}{\sin(\theta - \theta_1)} = \frac{\partial_\theta \Omega_1(e^{i\xi})}{\cos(\xi - \theta_1)}, \quad \text{for some } \xi \text{ in between } \theta, \theta_1.$$

We now split  $K_{\varepsilon}$  in a 'bounded kernel part' and a 'singular kernel part'

$$\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon} = \mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,B} + \mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S}.$$

For some  $\xi$  in between  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_1$ ,

$$\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,B}\Phi_1(\theta) = \int_{\max\{-\pi,\theta-\varepsilon\}}^{\min\{\pi,\theta+\varepsilon\}} \frac{\sin(\theta-\theta_1)}{1-\cos(\theta-\theta_1)} \frac{1-\cos(\xi-\theta_1)}{\cos(\xi-\theta_1)} \,\partial_\theta\Omega_1(e^{i\xi}) \,\Phi_1(\theta_1) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_1 \,\mathrm{d}\theta_1 \,\mathrm{d}\theta_2$$

and

$$\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S}\Phi_1(\theta) = \int_{\max\{-\pi,\theta-\varepsilon\}}^{\min\{\pi,\theta+\varepsilon\}} \frac{\sin(\theta-\theta_1)}{1-\cos(\theta-\theta_1)} \Big[\partial_\theta\Omega_1(e^{i\xi}) - \partial_\theta\Omega_1(e^{i\theta})\Big] \Phi_1(\theta_1) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_1 \,.$$

Since the kernel of  $\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,B}$  is bounded we find  $\|\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,B}\| < C_1\sqrt{\varepsilon}$ , for some  $C_1 > 0$ . Next, by means of the required Hölder condition the kernel of  $\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S}$  is estimated

$$\frac{|\sin(\theta - \theta_1)|}{1 - \cos(\theta - \theta_1)} \Big| \partial_{\theta} \Omega_1(e^{i\xi}) - \partial_{\theta} \Omega_1(e^{i\theta}) \Big| \le C_2 \frac{|\xi - \theta|^{\alpha}}{|\theta_1 - \theta|} \le C_2 |\theta_1 - \theta|^{\alpha - 1},$$

on  $[-\pi,\pi]$ . It now follows

$$|\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S}\Phi_1(\theta)|^2 \le C_3 \int_{\max\{-\pi,\theta-\varepsilon\}}^{\min\{\pi,\theta+\varepsilon\}} |\theta-\theta_2|^{\alpha-1} \mathrm{d}\theta_2 \cdot \int_{\max\{-\pi,\theta-\varepsilon\}}^{\min\{\pi,\theta+\varepsilon\}} |\theta-\theta_1|^{\alpha-1} |\Phi_1(\theta_1)|^2 \mathrm{d}\theta_1 \cdot |\Phi_1(\theta_1)|^2 \mathrm{d}\theta_1$$

The first integral is is a function of  $\theta$  bounded by  $\leq \frac{2}{\alpha} \varepsilon^{\alpha}$ . Finally, after a change of variables,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S} \Phi_1(\theta)|^2 \,\mathrm{d}\theta \leq C_3 (\frac{2}{\alpha} \varepsilon^{\alpha})^2 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\Phi_1(\theta)|^2 \,\mathrm{d}\theta \,,$$

which says

$$\|\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon,S}\| \leq \sqrt{C_3} \frac{2}{\alpha} \varepsilon^{\alpha}.$$

**VI.** (3.13) can now be written

$$\mathsf{K}_{\pi-\varepsilon}\Phi_1 + \big(\mathsf{K}_{\varepsilon} + \mathsf{L}\big)\Phi_1 = \frac{1}{2}\Big[\mathsf{J}\big(|\Omega'|F_1\big) + |\Omega'|F_2\Big]. \tag{3.15}$$

For  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small the second operator is still a bijection. The operator K + L is a compact perturbation of this bijection. Therefore the argument of **III.** applies again.

#### Notation

• For given  $\Theta$  :  $\overline{\mathbb{D}} \to \mathbb{C}$  we introduce the restriction to a circle

$$\Theta \Big|_r : \partial \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{C} : \theta \mapsto \Theta(re^{i\theta}), \quad 0 < r \le 1.$$

• For  $g \in L_2(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C})$  the (complex) Fourier expansion  $g(\theta) = \sum_{\ell=-\infty}^{\infty} g_{\ell} e^{i\ell\theta}$  is split in a positive and negative part, respectively,

$$g^+(\theta) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} g_\ell e^{i\ell\theta}$$
 and  $g^-(\theta) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_{-k} e^{-ik\theta}$ .

The previous Theorem implies  $\Phi\Big|_r \to \Phi\Big|_1$ ,  $\mathcal{X}\Big|_r \to \mathcal{X}\Big|_1$  in  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C})$  as  $r \uparrow 1$ . It follows, since  $\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta})$  is supposed to be continuously differentiable,

• 
$$\left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi + \mathcal{X}\right]\Big|_{r} \longrightarrow \left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi + \mathcal{X}\right]\Big|_{1}$$
, in  $\mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S};\mathbb{C})$ , as  $r \uparrow 1$ ,  
•  $\partial_{\theta}\left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi + \mathcal{X}\right]\Big|_{r} \longrightarrow \partial_{\theta}\left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi + \mathcal{X}\right]\Big|_{1}$ , in  $\mathbb{H}^{-1}(\mathbb{S};\mathbb{C})$ , as  $r \uparrow 1$ , (3.16)

However, since  $\partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right] \Big|_{1} \in \mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C})$ , cf. (3.10), we expect the latter convergence also to be in  $\mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C})$ . There is a simple proof for this if we assume some extra smoothness on  $\Omega$ .

#### Theorem 3.3 (Behaviour near the Boundary 1)

**a.** Assume that the sequence of Fourier coefficients  $\{n \mapsto 2n\Omega_n\} \in \ell_1(\mathbb{N})$ , then the solution  $\Phi, \mathcal{X}$  of Theorem 3.2 enjoys the properties

$$\partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right] \Big|_{r} \longrightarrow \partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right] \Big|_{1}, \quad in \quad \mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C}), \quad as \quad r \uparrow 1, \tag{3.17}$$

$$\partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi \right]^{-} \Big|_{r} \longrightarrow \partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi \right]^{-} \Big|_{1}, \quad in \quad \mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C}), \quad as \quad r \uparrow 1.$$
(3.18)

**b.** Condition **a.** is satisfied if  $\{\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta})\} \in \mathbb{H}^{\frac{3}{2}+\alpha}(\mathbb{S};\mathbb{C}) \cap \mathscr{C}^{1;\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1)$ , with  $\alpha > 0$ . E.g. if  $\{\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta})\} \in \mathscr{C}^2(\mathbb{S}^1)$ .

## Proof

• The Fourier expansion of  $-i\partial_{\theta} \left[\overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X}\right]\Big|_{r} \quad 0 < r \leq 1$ , reads

$$-\mathrm{i}\partial_{\theta}\left[\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}r^{n}\overline{\Omega}_{n}\,\mathrm{e}^{-\,\mathrm{i}n\theta}\right)\left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty}r^{m}\Phi_{m}\,\mathrm{e}^{\,\mathrm{i}m\theta}\right)+\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}r^{k}\mathcal{X}_{k}\,\mathrm{e}^{\,\mathrm{i}k\theta}\right)\right]=$$

$$=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \left\{ r^{k} \mathcal{X}_{k} + \sum_{m-n=k, n \ge 1, m \ge 1} r^{n+m} \overline{\Omega}_{n} \Phi_{m} \right\} e^{ik\theta} - \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \ell \left\{ \sum_{n-m=\ell, n \ge 1, m \ge 1} r^{n+m} \overline{\Omega}_{n} \Phi_{m} \right\} e^{-i\ell\theta} =$$
$$=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \left\{ r^{k} \mathcal{X}_{k} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^{2n+k} \overline{\Omega}_{n} \Phi_{n+k} \right\} e^{ik\theta} - \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \ell \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} r^{2m+\ell} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \Phi_{m} \right\} e^{-i\ell\theta}.$$

From the previous we know that, for r = 1, the coefficient sequences  $k\{\cdot\}$  and  $\ell\{\cdot\}$  are both in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{N})$ . Because of analyticity this is also true for 0 < r < 1. We have to show that no 'discontinuity' occurs at r = 1.

The positive and negative parts of the coefficient sequences of

$$-\mathrm{i}\partial_{\theta}\Big\{\left.\left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi+\mathcal{X}\right]\right|_{1}-\left.\left[\overline{\Omega}\Phi+\mathcal{X}\right]\right|_{r}\Big\}$$

are, respectively,

$$k \mapsto k\left\{(1-r^k)\mathcal{X}_k + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-r^{2n+k})\overline{\Omega}_n \Phi_{n+k}\right\}, \quad \ell \mapsto -\ell\left\{\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1-r^{2m+\ell})\overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \Phi_m\right\}.$$

We have to show that both tend to 0 in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{N})$ , as  $r \uparrow 1$ . We use the identity

$$(1-r^k)\frac{1-r^{2n+k}}{1-r^k} = (1-r^k)\left\{1 + \frac{r^k}{1+r+\dots+r^{k-1}}(1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\right\},\$$

and the fact that

$$\frac{r^k}{1+r+\dots+r^{k-1}} \uparrow \frac{1}{k} \quad \text{as} \quad r \uparrow 1.$$

• The 'positive' sequence can be split

$$k \mapsto (1 - r^{k}) \Big\{ k \Big\{ \mathcal{X}_{k} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{n} \Phi_{n+k} \Big\} + k \frac{r^{k}}{1 + r + \dots + r^{k-1}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + r + \dots + r^{2n-1}) \overline{\Omega}_{n} \Phi_{n+k} \Big\}.$$
(3.19)

The sequence  $k \mapsto k \{ \mathcal{X}_k + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_n \Phi_{n+k} \}$  is  $\ell_2$  because of (3.10). We are ready if we can show that the operators

$$\{\Phi_k\} \quad \mapsto \quad \{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\overline{\Omega}_n \Phi_{n+k}\}, \qquad (3.20)$$

are uniformly bounded (as  $\ell_2$ -operators) on the interval  $0 < r \leq 1$ . If it happens that  $\{n \mapsto 2n\Omega_n\} \in \ell_1(\mathbb{N})$  we estimate

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2n\overline{\Omega}_n \Phi_{n+k} \right|^2 \le \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \left| \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2m |\Omega_m| \right\} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2n |\Omega_n| |\Phi_{n+k}|^2 \right\} \le \left( \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2m |\Omega_m| \right)^2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |\Phi_k|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2m |\Omega_m| \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2m |\Omega_m| + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2m |\Omega_m|$$

It follows that the 'positive' sequence tends to 0 if  $r \uparrow 1$ .

• The 'negative' sequence  $\ell \mapsto -\ell \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - r^{2m+\ell}) \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \Phi_m \right\}$  can be written

$$\ell \mapsto -(1-r^{\ell}) \left\{ \ell \{ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \Phi_m \} + \ell \frac{r^{\ell}}{1+r+\dots+r^{\ell-1}} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2m-1}) \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \Phi_m \right\}.$$

$$(3.21)$$

With a similar estimate as before it turns out that also this  $\ell_2(\mathbb{I})$  sequence tends to 0 if  $r \uparrow 1$ .

• For the last statement in the theorem note that the coefficients  $\mathcal{X}_k$  do not occur in the 'negative' sequence.

The natural question arises whether the results of the previous theorem could also be obtained if only  $\{\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta})\} \in \mathscr{C}^{1;\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1)$ , with  $\alpha > 0$ , is assumed. I got half way by invoking a theorem on Fourier multipliers which map periodic Hölder spaces into themselves.<sup>3</sup>

## Theorem 3.4 (Behaviour near the Boundary 2)

Assume that  $\{\theta \mapsto \Omega(e^{i\theta})\} \in \mathscr{C}^{1;\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1)$ , with  $\alpha > 0$ , then

$$\partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right]^{+} \Big|_{r} \longrightarrow \partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right]^{+} \Big|_{1}, \quad in \quad \mathbb{L}_{2}(\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{C}), \quad as \quad r \uparrow 1,$$
(3.22)

## Proof

We 'only' have to show that the the operators (3.20) are still uniformly bounded (as  $\ell_2$ -operators) on the interval  $0 < r \leq 1$  under the weaker condition. Consider the 'multiplication operator expression'

$$\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\overline{\Omega}_n e^{-in\theta}\right) \left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \Phi_m e^{im\theta}\right) =$$
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{\sum_{m-n=k, n \ge 1, m \ge 1} (1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\overline{\Omega}_n \Phi_m\right\} e^{ik\theta} +$$

<sup>3</sup>JdG thanks Dr. G. Prokert for advice and references.

$$+\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{n-m=\ell, n\geq 1, m\geq 1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\overline{\Omega}_{n}\Phi_{m} \right\} e^{-i\ell\theta} =$$

$$=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2n-1})\overline{\Omega}_{n}\Phi_{n+k} \right\} e^{ik\theta} + \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2(m+\ell)-1})\overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell}\Phi_{m} \right\} e^{-i\ell\theta}$$

If the very first sum in this expression represents a bounded function, uniformly in  $0 < r \leq 1$ , we are ready. According to our assumption, the function

$$\left\{ \theta \mapsto \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \overline{\Omega}_n e^{-in\theta} \right\} \in \mathscr{C}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1).$$

This remains so if the respective Fourier coefficients are multiplied by  $\frac{1+r+\cdots+r^{2n-1}}{n}$ , because they satisfy the conditions (1.2)-(1.3) in **[AB]**.

**Additional Remark** As for the 'negative' part  $\partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi + \mathcal{X} \right]^{-} \Big|_{r} = \partial_{\theta} \left[ \overline{\Omega} \Phi \right]^{-} \Big|_{r}$ , we should be able to prove, cf. (3.21), that from  $\{\ell \to \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} m \Phi_m\} \in \ell_2$  it follows that also  $\{\ell \to \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} (1+r+\cdots+r^{2m-1})\Phi_m\} \in \ell_2$ , and uniformly bounded, for  $0 < r \leq 1$ . Let us see how far we get. The second sum in (3.21) can be split

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1+r+\dots+r^{2(m+\ell)-1})\overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell}\Phi_m - (1+r+\dots+r^{2\ell-1})\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} r^{2m}\Phi_m.$$
(3.23)

The first term presents no trouble. It is 'multiplication by a bounded function', as in the previous proof. For the second term we would like to show uniform boundedness for

$$\ell \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} r^{2m} \Phi_m = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (m+\ell) \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} r^{2m} \Phi_m - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} r^{2m} m \Phi_m.$$

Here the first term comes from multiplication by  $\overline{\Omega'}$ , which is supposed to be continuous on  $\overline{D}$ . The second term finally confronts us with the question whether from  $\{\ell \rightarrow \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} m \Phi_m\} \in \ell_2$  it follows that

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \; \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \; \forall \; 0 < r \le 1 \; : \; \sum_{\ell=N}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \overline{\Omega}_{m+\ell} \, r^{2m} m \Phi_m \right|^2 < \varepsilon \; . \tag{3.24}$$

I could not prove this!

## 4 Results on Stokes Boundary Value Problems

In this section we formulate our results for simply connected domains  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \sim \mathbb{C}$  with boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  and  $0 \in \mathbb{G}$ . The boundary is supposed to be an arclength parametrized Jordan curve with a Hölder continuous and positively oriented tangent vector  $s \mapsto \underline{\dot{x}}(s) = \dot{z}(s)$ . Let, as before,  $\Omega : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{G}$  denote the unique conformal mapping with  $\Omega(0) = 0$  and  $\Omega'(0) > 0$ . Again  $\theta \mapsto s(\theta)$  is defined by  $\Omega(e^{i\theta}) = s(\theta), 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ .

The following two theorems are immediate consequences of the preceding sections. Looking at the smoothness assumptions of the preceding theorems, it is clear that the  $\mathbb{H}^2$ -condition on the boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  in the next theorem can be somewhat relaxed.

#### Theorem 4.1 (Stokes-Dirichlet)

Consider the Stokes-Dirichlet problem (2.1) with boundary  $\{s \mapsto \underline{x}(s)\} \in \mathbb{H}^2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ . The prescribed boundary velocity field is given by

$$s \mapsto \underline{g}(\underline{x}(s)) = V_1(s)\underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) + V_2(s)\underline{t}(\underline{x}(s)) = -\mathrm{i}(V_1(s) + \mathrm{i}V_2(s))\dot{z}(s) = -\mathrm{i}V(s)\dot{z}(s) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial\mathbb{G}).$$

where  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} V_1(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = 0$ .

There exist unique **analytic**  $\varphi, \chi$  :  $\mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$ , with  $\varphi(0) = \chi(0) = \operatorname{Re} \varphi'(0) = 0$ , and  $\varphi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}, \chi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ , such that

$$z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} - \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = -iV(s)\dot{z}(s), \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}.$$

We have

• 
$$\varphi(\Omega(re^{i\theta})) \to \varphi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}(s(\theta)) \text{ and } \chi(\Omega(re^{i\theta})) \to \chi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}(s(\theta)),$$
  
in  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S})$ -sense, as  $r \uparrow 1$ .

• 
$$\left[v_1(z) + iv_2(z)\right]\Big|_{z=\Omega(re^{i\theta})} = \left[z\overline{\varphi'(z)} - \varphi(z) + \overline{\chi'(z)}\right]\Big|_{z=\Omega(re^{i\theta})} \rightarrow \underline{g}(\underline{x}(s(\theta))),$$
  
in  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S})$ -sense, as  $r \uparrow 1$ .

• The normal stress at  $\partial G$  is well defined (as a  $\mathbb{H}^{-1}$ -limit) and given by

$$(\mathcal{T} \cdot \underline{n})(\underline{x}(s)) = 2i \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \underline{g}(\underline{x}(s) + 4i \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \varphi(z(s)) \in \mathbb{H}^{-1}(\partial \mathbb{G}).$$

#### Theorem 4.2 (Stokes-Neumann)

Consider the Stokes-Neumann problem (2.4) with boundary  $\{s \mapsto \underline{x}(s)\} \in \mathbb{H}^2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ . The prescribed boundary stress field

$$\begin{split} s \mapsto \underline{f}(\underline{x}(s)) &= \mathcal{T}(\underline{x}(s)) \cdot \underline{n}(\underline{x}(s)) = 2\,\mathrm{i}\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\Big(z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))}\Big) = \\ &= -\,\mathrm{i}\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\{K(s)\dot{z}(s)\} \,\in \mathbb{H}^{-1}(\partial\mathbb{G}), \end{split}$$

which  $s \mapsto K(s) = K_1(s) + iK_2(s) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ , and  $\int_{\partial \mathbb{G}} K_1(s) ds = 0$ . There exist unique **analytic**  $\varphi, \chi$  :  $\mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$ , with  $\varphi(0) = \chi(0) = \operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0$ , and  $\varphi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}, \chi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ , such that

$$z(s)\overline{\varphi'(z(s))} + \varphi(z(s)) + \overline{\chi'(z(s))} = -\frac{1}{2}K(s)\dot{z}(s), \quad z(s) \in \partial \mathbb{G}$$

We have

• 
$$\varphi(\Omega(re^{i\theta})) \to \varphi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}(s(\theta))$$
 and  $\chi(\Omega(re^{i\theta})) \to \chi|_{\partial \mathbb{G}}(s(\theta)),$   
in  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S})$ -sense, as  $r \uparrow 1$ .

• 
$$\left[ z \overline{\varphi'(z)} + \varphi(z) + \overline{\chi'(z)} \right] \Big|_{z = \Omega(re^{i\theta})} \rightarrow \underline{g}(\underline{x}(s(\theta))), \quad in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}) \text{-sense, as } r \uparrow 1.$$

• 
$$\left(\mathcal{T} \cdot \underline{n}(z)\right)\Big|_{z=\Omega(re^{i\theta})} \to -i\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}\{K(s)\dot{z}(s)\}\Big|_{s=s(\theta)} \text{ in } \mathbb{H}^{-1}(\mathbb{S})\text{-sense, as } r \uparrow 1.$$

• The velocity field at  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  is well defined (as a  $\mathbb{L}_2$ -limit) and given by  $v_1(z(s)) + iv_2(z(s)) = -\frac{1}{2}K(s)\dot{z}(s) - 2\varphi(z(s)) \in \mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G}).$ 

Of special interest in the context of free boundary value problems are solutions of the Stokes-Neumann problems with  $K_1 = 0$ . In **[H]**, taking  $K_1 = 0$ ,  $K_2 = \kappa = \text{constant}$ , (surface tension), Hopper derives an ingenious equation for the time evolution of the domain  $\mathbb{G}$ . This *Hopper equation* is a non-linear time evolution equation for the conformal map  $\Omega(\cdot t) : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{G}$ . In a series of papers, following **[H]**, Hopper shows that his equation has several classes of exact solutions  $\zeta \mapsto \Omega(\zeta, t)$ , which are polynomial or rational in  $\zeta$ . For more of those see also **[K]**.

In **[G]** it has been shown that already  $K_1 = 0$ ,  $K_2 = K_2(\Omega, t)$  is enough for this phenomenon to happen. Reason enough for looking at the structure of the solution if  $K_1 = 0$ . Then the analytic  $\varphi$  and  $\chi$  are in a special relation to each other: • Suppose  $\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z(s)}\,\varphi(z(s)) + \chi(z(s))\right|_{z(s)\in\partial\mathbb{G}} = 0 \text{ and } \chi: \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C} \text{ being given, then}$  $\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\varphi}{z}\right\}\Big|_{\partial\mathbb{G}} = \frac{C - \operatorname{Re}\chi}{\overline{z}z}\Big|_{\partial\mathbb{G}}$ , with  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  any constant. Hence, cf. (A.9),

$$\varphi(\Omega(\zeta)) = \frac{\Omega(\zeta)}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{C - \operatorname{Re}\chi(\Omega(e^{i\theta}))}{|\Omega(e^{i\theta})|^2} \frac{e^{i\theta} + \zeta}{e^{i\theta} - \zeta} d\theta, \quad |\zeta| < 1.$$
(4.1)

It is straightforward that  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $\operatorname{Im} \varphi'(0) = 0$ , in this case.

• Suppose  $\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s} \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z(s)}\,\varphi(z(s)) + \chi(z(s))\right|_{z(s)\in\partial\mathbb{G}} = 0 \text{ and } \varphi: \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C} \text{ being given, then}$   $\operatorname{Re}\left\{\chi\right\}\Big|_{\partial\mathbb{G}} = C - \operatorname{Re}\left[\overline{z}\varphi\right]\Big|_{\partial\mathbb{G}} \text{, with } C \in \mathbb{R} \text{. Hence, cf. (A.9),}$   $\chi(\Omega(\zeta)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \operatorname{Re}\left[C - \overline{\Omega(e^{\mathrm{i}\theta})}\varphi(\Omega(e^{\mathrm{i}\theta}))\right] \frac{e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} + \zeta}{e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} - \zeta} \,\mathrm{d}\theta, \quad |\zeta| < 1.$  (4.2) Take  $C = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \left[\overline{\Omega(e^{\mathrm{i}\theta})}\varphi(\Omega(e^{\mathrm{i}\theta}))\right] \,\mathrm{d}\theta, \text{ then } \chi(0) = 0.$ 

We conclude with a theorem on some unusual (non physical?) boundary value problems for Stokes' equations. The proof is based on the fact that an analytic function om  $\mathbb{G}$  is, up to a constant, fixed by its real (or imaginary) part at the boundary  $\partial \mathbb{G}$ , on the simple connectedness assumption on  $\mathbb{G}$  and on table (1.5).

#### Theorem 4.3

Let  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be bounded and simply connected.

Suppose  $\partial \mathbb{G}$  has a  $\mathbb{H}^1$  arclength parametrization.

For any of the function pairs  $\{p, \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n}\}, \{p, \underline{v} \cdot \underline{x}\}, \{\operatorname{rot} \underline{v}, \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n}\}, \{\operatorname{rot} \underline{v}, \underline{v} \cdot \underline{x}\},$ prescribed at the boundary and all in  $\mathbb{L}_2(\partial \mathbb{G})$ , there is a unique pressure-velocity flow pair  $\{p, \underline{v}\}$ , which solves Stokes' equations. From within, the boundary values are approached in  $\mathbb{L}_2$ -sense in the way described before.

# A APPENDIX: Complex Analysis revisited

**1.** We identify  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  by means of the bijection

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \mapsto z = x + \mathrm{i}y.$$

2. Multiplication by i, or by any fixed complex number, complex conjugation, taking real or imaginary parts

$$z \mapsto iz, \quad z \mapsto \overline{z}, \quad , z \mapsto \operatorname{Re} z, \quad z \mapsto \operatorname{Im} z,$$

will often be considered as  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mappings in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**3.** Functions

$$F: \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}: z = x + iy \mapsto F(z) = F(x + iy) = \operatorname{Re} F(z) + i\operatorname{Im} F(z),$$

possibly local and not necessarily analytic, are identified with, or correspond to

$$\underline{F}: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2: \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} F_1(x,y) \\ F_2(x,y) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Re} F(x+\mathrm{i}y) \\ \operatorname{Im} F(x+\mathrm{i}y) \end{bmatrix},$$

and vice versa. Such functions will sometimes be considered as vector fields. In a context of cartesian coordinates no confusion arises.

4. We have the usual (commuting) vector partial differentiation operators

$$\partial_z = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x - i\partial_y), \quad \partial_{\overline{z}} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x + i\partial_y), \quad \text{hence} \quad \partial_x = \partial_z + \partial_{\overline{z}}, \quad \partial_y = i(\partial_z - \partial_{\overline{z}}) \quad (A.1)$$

Note that for the componentwise Laplacian acting on  $\underline{F}$ , we have

$$\Delta \underline{F} = 4\partial_{\overline{z}} \,\partial_z \,\underline{F}.\tag{A.2}$$

It follows that if one has  $\partial_{\overline{z}} \underline{F} = \underline{0}$  or/and  $\partial_{z} \underline{F} = \underline{0}$ , then, componentwise,  $\Delta \underline{F} = \underline{0}$ . Which says that  $\underline{F}$  is a *stack of 2 harmonic functions*.

Of importance is also the complex representation of *Euler operator* 

$$x\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = z\frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \overline{z}\frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}}.$$
 (A.3)

**5.** If  $\partial_{\overline{z}} \underline{F} = \underline{0}$  we say that  $\underline{F} (= F)$  is analytic. If  $\partial_{z} \underline{F} = \underline{0}$  we say that  $\underline{F} (= F)$  is anti-analytic.

This nicely corresponds to the respective *Cauchy-Riemann* and *anti-Cauchy-Riemann* relations

$$C.R.: \begin{cases} \partial_x \operatorname{Re} F - \partial_y \operatorname{Im} F = 0\\ \partial_y \operatorname{Re} F + \partial_x \operatorname{Im} F = 0 \end{cases}, \quad a.C.R.: \begin{cases} \partial_x \operatorname{Re} F + \partial_y \operatorname{Im} F = 0\\ \partial_y \operatorname{Re} F - \partial_x \operatorname{Im} F = 0 \end{cases}. (A.4)$$

Note that analyticity of  $z \mapsto F(z)$  implies anti-analyticity of  $z \mapsto \overline{F(z)}$  and vice versa.

6. If a stack  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} F_1(x,y) \\ F_2(x,y) \end{bmatrix}$  of two harmonic functions corresponds to an analytic function  $z \mapsto F(z)$ , we say that  $F_2$  is a *harmonic conjugate* of  $F_1$ . From (A.4) it is clear that a harmonic conjugate is unique up to a constant.

If on a simply connected domain  $G \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , with  $\underline{0} \in G$ , a harmonic function  $\underline{x} \mapsto F_1(\underline{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$  is given, a harmonic conjugate is constructed by

$$\underline{x} \mapsto F_2(\underline{x}) = \int_{\underline{0}}^{\underline{x}} \{ -\partial_y F_1(\underline{x}(s)) \dot{x} + \partial_x F_1(\underline{x}(s)) \dot{y} \} \, \mathrm{d}s. \tag{A.5}$$

The result does not depend on the path of integration  $s \mapsto \underline{x}(s)$ , since the vectorfield  $\underline{x} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} -\partial_y F_1(\underline{x}) \\ \partial_x F_1(\underline{x}) \end{bmatrix}$  is obviously *conservative*.

7. If on a connected domain  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , with  $\underline{0} \in \mathbb{G}$ , a stack  $\underline{x} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} F_1(\underline{x}) \\ F_2(\underline{x}) \end{bmatrix}$  is harmonic, i.e.  $\Delta \underline{F} = 0$ , it corresponds to an analytic function  $z \mapsto F(z)$  on  $\mathbb{G}$  if one of the C.R.-relations is satisfied all over  $\mathbb{G}$  and the other C.R.-relation is satisfied at one point, say z = 0. Indeed, suppose the second C.R.-relation is satisfied all over  $\mathbb{G}$ . Then

 $\partial_x(\partial_x F_1 - \partial_y F_2) = -\partial_y(\partial_y F_1 + \partial_x F_2) = 0$  and  $\partial_y(\partial_x F_1 - \partial_y F_2) = \partial_x(\partial_y F_1 + \partial_x F_2) = 0$ . Therefore  $\partial_x F_1 - \partial_y F_2 = \text{constant} = 0$ .

8. Next we gather some useful expressions for the commutation relations between  $\partial_x$ ,  $\partial_y$ ,  $\Delta$  and the projections Re, Im. All to be applied to smooth  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued functions on domains in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

$$\partial_x \operatorname{Re} = \operatorname{Re} \partial_x = \operatorname{Re} (\partial_z + \partial_{\overline{z}}) \qquad \qquad \partial_x \operatorname{Im} = \operatorname{Im} \partial_x = \operatorname{Im} (\partial_z + \partial_{\overline{z}}) \\ \partial_y \operatorname{Re} = \operatorname{Re} \partial_y = -\operatorname{Im} (\partial_z - \partial_{\overline{z}}) \qquad \qquad \partial_y \operatorname{Im} = \operatorname{Im} \partial_y = \operatorname{Re} (\partial_z - \partial_{\overline{z}}) \qquad (A.6) \\ \Delta \operatorname{Re} = \operatorname{Re} \Delta = 4 \operatorname{Re} \partial_z \partial_{\overline{z}} \qquad \qquad \Delta \operatorname{Im} = \operatorname{Im} \Delta = 4 \operatorname{Im} \partial_z \partial_{\overline{z}}$$

**9.** On a simply connected domain  $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , with  $\underline{0} \in \mathbb{G}$  we consider a *biharmonic* function  $\underline{x} \mapsto \phi(\underline{x})$ . This means  $\Delta \Delta \phi = 0$ . The claim is that there exist analytic  $\varphi, \chi : \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{C}$ , such that

$$\phi(\underline{x}) = \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z)\right), \quad z = x + \mathrm{i}y.$$
(A.7)

To show this, note first that  $\Delta \phi$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{G}$ . So there is an analytic  $\psi$  on  $\mathbb{G}$  such that  $\Delta \phi = \operatorname{Re} \psi$ . Introduce the analytic function  $z \mapsto \varphi(z) = \frac{1}{4} \int_0^z \psi(\zeta) d\zeta$ . Then  $4\varphi'(z) = \psi(z)$ .

We now have  $\Delta(\phi(\underline{x}) - \operatorname{Re}(\overline{z}\varphi(z))) = 0$ . So  $\phi - \operatorname{Re}(\overline{z}\varphi)$  is harmonic on G and there exists analytic  $\chi$  on  $\mathbb{G}$  such that

$$\phi(\underline{x}) - \operatorname{Re}(\overline{z}\varphi(z)) = \operatorname{Re}\chi(z), \quad z = x + iy.$$

This proves the claim.

**11.** Let  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1)$  denote the standard real Hilbert space on the unit circle  $\mathbb{S}^1 \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\tilde{f}_1 \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1)$ . For  $\tilde{f}_1$  we will employ the Fourier expansion convention

$$\tilde{f}_1(\theta) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \{a_n \cos(n\theta) - b_n \sin(n\theta)\}.$$

Extend  $\tilde{f}_1$  to a harmonic function  $f_1$  on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{C}$  by solving the Dirichlet problem. Let  $f_2$ , the harmonic conjugate of  $f_1$ , be fixed by taking  $f_2(\underline{0}) = 0$ . Let  $\tilde{f}_2$  denote the limit to the boundary  $\mathbb{S}^1$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then

$$\tilde{f}_2(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \{ b_n \cos(n\theta) + a_n \sin(n\theta) \}.$$

All this can be seen by taking real and imaginary parts from the power series expansion of  $f_1 + if_2$  up to the boundary  $\mathbb{S}^1$ 

$$\tilde{f}_1(\theta) + i\tilde{f}_2(\theta) = f_1(e^{i\theta}) + if_2(e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n + ib_n)e^{in\theta}, \quad b_0 = 0.$$

Let further  $\mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \bot \{1\})$  denote the linear subspace of all  $\tilde{g} \in \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1)$  with  $\int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{g}(\theta) d\theta = 0$ .

The operator

$$\mathsf{J}: \mathbb{L}_2\big(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \bot\{1\}\big) : \quad \tilde{f}_1 \mapsto \mathsf{J}\tilde{f}_1 = \tilde{f}_2,$$

is orthogonal and skew-symmetric:

$$J^{\star} = -J = J^{-1}, \ J^2 = -I.$$
 (A.8)

Note that  $J\{\operatorname{Re}(a_n + ib_n)e^{in\theta}\} = \operatorname{Re}\{-i(a_n + ib_n)e^{in\theta}\}.$ 

• The operator  $N : \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \bot\{1\}) \to \mathbb{L}_2(\mathbb{S}^1; \mathbb{R}; \bot\{1\})$  is defined by

$$\mathsf{N}f_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n\{b_n \cos(n\theta) + a_n \sin(n\theta)\}.$$

We have  $N^* = N$ ,  $J\partial_{\theta} = \partial_{\theta}J = N$  and therefore  $\partial_{\theta} = -NJ$ .

• For analytic functions  $z \mapsto f(z)$  on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  we will consider a splitting in real Fourier series on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ . We put

$$f(e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n + ib_n)e^{in\theta} = f_1(e^{i\theta}) + if_2(e^{i\theta}) = f_1(e^{i\theta}) + iJf_1(e^{i\theta}).$$

## • Proof of Lemma 1.4

The operator J defined by

$$\mathsf{J}\{a_n\cos(n\theta) - b_n\sin(n\theta)\} = b_n\cos(n\theta) + a_n\sin(n\theta), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

can be represented as

$$\mathsf{J}f_1(\theta) = \lim_{r \uparrow 1} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n \sin\left(n(\theta - \theta_1)\right) f(\theta_1) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_1,$$

as can easily be checked term by term. Calculate

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n \sin(n\alpha) = \operatorname{Im} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (re^{i\alpha})^n = \frac{r\sin(\alpha)}{1 + r^2 - 2r\cos(\alpha)} = \frac{2r\sin(\frac{1}{2}\alpha)\cos(\frac{1}{2}\alpha)}{(1 - r)^2 + 4r\sin^2(\frac{1}{2}\alpha)} \xrightarrow{r\uparrow 1} \frac{1}{2}\cot(\frac{1}{2}\alpha).$$

Therefore

$$\mathsf{J}f_1(\theta) = \lim_{r \uparrow 1} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{2r \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}(\theta - \theta_1)\right) \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}(\theta - \theta_1)\right)}{(1 - r)^2 + 4r \sin^2\left(\frac{1}{2}(\theta - \theta_1)\right)} f_1(\theta_1) \,\mathrm{d}\theta_1$$

Since the kernel is  $2\pi$ -periodic and odd in  $(\theta - \theta_1)$ , the result follows.

12. Corollary For analytic  $F : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im} F'(0) = 0$ , we have the presentation

$$F(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \operatorname{Re} F(e^{i\theta}) \frac{e^{i\theta} + \zeta}{e^{i\theta} - \zeta} d\theta, \quad |\zeta| < 1.$$
(A.9)

Note that taking the real part leads to the Poisson formula.

## **B** APPENDIX: Details on Stokes' equations

#### Proof of Theorem 1.1

• Suppose that the pair  $\underline{v}, p$  is a solution on some domain  $\mathbb{G}$ . Since  $\nabla \cdot \underline{v} = 0$ , there exists a 'stream function'  $\psi$  such that  $\underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_y \psi \\ -\partial_x \psi \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\psi$  is fixed up to a constant. Similarly, since  $\nabla \cdot \mathcal{T} = \underline{0}$ , it follow that, for suitable functions f, g we are allowed to write  $\mathcal{T} = 2\begin{bmatrix} \partial_y f & \partial_y g \\ -\partial_x f & -\partial_x g \end{bmatrix}$ . Because of symmetry  $\partial_x f + \partial_y g = 0$ . Hence  $\begin{bmatrix} f \\ g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\partial_y \phi \\ \partial_x \phi \end{bmatrix}$ , for suitable  $\phi$ , the 'Airy function'. It follows that we are allowed to write

$$\mathcal{T} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} -\partial_y \partial_y \phi & \partial_x \partial_y \phi \\ \partial_x \partial_y \phi & -\partial_x \partial_x \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that  $\phi$  is fixed up to a polynomial of 1st degree.

In order to show analyticity of  $x + iy \mapsto \Delta \phi(\underline{x}) + i\Delta \psi(\underline{x})$  calculate and find equal to 0

$$(\partial_x + i\partial_y)(\Delta\phi + i\Delta\psi) = \{\partial_x(\Delta\phi) - \partial_y\Delta\psi\} + i\{\partial_y(\Delta\phi) + \partial_x\Delta\psi\} = \{\partial_xp - \Delta v_1\} + i\{\partial_yp - \Delta v_2\} = 0,$$

because of Stokes' equations. As a consequence  $\phi, \psi$  are bi-harmonic.

• Because of bi-harmonicity there are analytic functions  $f_1, f_2, g_1, g_2$  on  $\mathbb{G}$  such that, cf. (A.7),

$$\phi = \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f_1 + g_1\right) \qquad \qquad \psi = \operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f_2 + g_2\right),$$

From the C.R.-relations and (A.6) we get

$$\begin{array}{ll} \partial_x \Delta \phi = \partial_y \Delta \psi & \Rightarrow & \operatorname{Re} f_1'' = \operatorname{Re} f_2'', \\ \partial_y \Delta \phi = -\partial_x \Delta \psi & \Rightarrow & -\operatorname{Im} f_1'' = -\operatorname{Im} f_2'' \end{array} \right\} \quad \Rightarrow f_1'' = f_2''.$$
 (B.1)

Next, consistency of the stress matrix requires

$$\mathcal{T} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} -\partial_y \partial_y \phi & \partial_x \partial_y \phi \\ \partial_x \partial_y \phi & -\partial_x \partial_x \phi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\Delta \phi + 2\partial_x \partial_y \psi & -\partial_x \partial_x \psi + \partial_y \partial_y \psi \\ -\partial_x \partial_x \psi + \partial_y \partial_y \psi & -\Delta \phi - 2\partial_x \partial_y \psi \end{bmatrix}.$$

This requires

$$\partial_x \partial_x \phi - \partial_y \partial_y \phi = 2 \partial_x \partial_y \psi, \qquad 2 \partial_x \partial_y \phi = -\partial_x \partial_x \psi + \partial_y \partial_y \psi. \tag{B.2}$$

Calculate, cf. (A.6),

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\partial_x \phi &=& \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f'_1 + g'_1 + f_1\right) & & \partial_x \psi &=& \operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f'_2 + g'_2 + f_2\right) \\
\partial_y \phi &=& -\operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f'_1 + g'_1 - f_1\right) & & \partial_y \psi &=& \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f'_2 + g'_2 - f_2\right) \\
\partial_x \partial_y \phi &=& -\operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f''_1 + g''_1 - f'_1 + f'_1\right) & & \partial_x \partial_y \psi &=& \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f''_2 + g''_2 + f'_2 - f'_2\right) \\
\partial_x \partial_x \phi &=& \operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f''_1 + g''_1 + f'_1 + f'_1\right) & & \partial_x \partial_x \psi &=& \operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f''_2 + g''_2 + f'_2 + f'_2\right) \\
\partial_y \partial_y \phi &=& -\operatorname{Re}\left(\overline{z}f''_1 + g''_1 - f'_1 - f'_1\right) & & \partial_y \partial_y \psi &=& -\operatorname{Im}\left(\overline{z}f''_2 + g''_2 - f'_2 - f'_2\right) \\
\end{array}$$
(B.3)

Substitution of (B.3) in (B.2) leads, together with (B.1) to  $g_1'' = g_2''$ . We find

$$\psi(x,y) = \operatorname{Im} \{\overline{z}f_2(z) + g_2(z)\}, \quad \phi(x,y) = \operatorname{Re} \{\overline{z}(f_2(z) + \alpha z + \beta) + g_2(z) + \gamma z + \delta\}, \quad \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{C}.$$
  
Define  $\varphi(z) = f_2(z) + (\operatorname{Re} \alpha)z$  and  $\chi(z) = g_2(z)$ , then

$$\psi(x,y) = \operatorname{Im} \left\{ \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z) \right\}, \qquad \phi(x,y) = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z) \right\} + \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \beta \overline{z} + \gamma z + \gamma z + \gamma z \right\}$$

• If we just throw away the second term in the expression for  $\phi$ , the stress matrix  $\mathcal{T}$  is not altered. The only freedom left is a constant added to  $\varphi$ . We are left with

$$\psi(x,y) = \operatorname{Im} \{ \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z) \}, \qquad \phi(x,y) = \operatorname{Re} \{ \overline{z}\varphi(z) + \chi(z) \}.$$
(B.4)

 $\delta$ .

• Finally we check the formulae for the kinematic and dynamic quantities, cf. (B.3),

$$\begin{array}{rcl} v_1 + \mathrm{i} v_2 &=& \partial_y \psi - \mathrm{i} \partial_x \psi = \partial_y \operatorname{Im} \left( \overline{z} \varphi + \chi \right) - \mathrm{i} \operatorname{Im} \left( \overline{z} \varphi + \chi \right) = \\ &=& \operatorname{Re} \left( \partial_z - \partial_{\overline{z}} \right) \overline{z} \varphi + \chi' - \varphi \right) - \operatorname{i} \operatorname{Im} \left( \partial_z + \partial_{\overline{z}} \right) \overline{z} \varphi + \chi' \right) = \\ &=& \operatorname{Re} \left( \overline{z} \varphi' + \chi' - \varphi \right) - \operatorname{i} \operatorname{Im} \left( \overline{z} \varphi' + \chi' + \varphi \right) = \\ &=& \overline{z} \varphi' + \chi' - \varphi = -\varphi + z \overline{\varphi'} + \overline{\chi'} . \end{array}$$

• If we put  $\varphi_1(z) = \varphi(z) + A$  and  $\chi_1(z) = \chi(z) + \overline{A}z + C$ , with  $A, C \in \mathbb{C}$  we still find the same expressions for  $v_1, v_2, p$ . Note also that the corresponding altered stream function  $\psi_1(\underline{x}) = \psi(\underline{x}) + \operatorname{Im}(\overline{z}A + \overline{A}z + B) = \psi(\underline{x}) + \operatorname{Im} B$  and the Airy function  $\phi_1(\underline{x}) = \phi(\underline{x}) + \operatorname{Re}(\overline{z}A + \overline{A}z + B)$  show, respectively, an added constant and an added 1st degree polynomial which don't alter the velocity and the stress tensor.

**Conclusion** If for some fixed  $\underline{a}$  in the fluid domain we additionally require  $\varphi(\underline{a}) = \chi(\underline{a}) = 0$ , there is precisely one pair  $\{\varphi, \chi\}$  that describes a solution of the Stokes equations.

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