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**A FAMILY OF APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS AND EXPLICIT ERROR ESTIMATES
FOR THE NONLINEAR STATIONARY NAVIER-STOKES PROBLEM**

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A FAMILY OF APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS AND EXPLICIT ERROR ESTIMATES FOR THE
NONLINEAR STATIONARY NAVIER-STOKES PROBLEM

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Abstract. An algorithm for solving the nonlinear stationary Navier-Stokes problem is developed. Explicit error estimates are given.

1. Introduction. Since the separation problem of aerodynamics is at present intractable, it has been decided to undertake a closely related problem via a mathematical technique that is potentially adaptable to the separation problem. Specifically, the problem under consideration is the "nonlinear stationary Navier-Stokes problem" of fluid dynamics. The generalized Newton's method, as developed by Kantorovich [5, 7] is used. Its application to this problem is of definite value for those seeking practical solutions of related fluid flow problems. The following questions are considered:

(i) Under what conditions does the sequence of functions obtained by Newton's method converge to the solution?

(ii) How should the initial guess be made, as a function of v , so as to guarantee convergence?

(iii) At what rate does the sequence of approximate solutions converge?

Given S , a two-dimensional Green's domain, and $f_1(x,y) \in C^1(S)$, $f_2(x,y) \in C^1(S)$, the nonlinear stationary Navier-Stokes problem is:

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$$(1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} uu_x + vu_y + q_x - v \Delta u + f_1(x,y) = 0, \\ uv_x + vv_y + q_y - v \Delta v + f_2(x,y) = 0, \\ u_x + v_y = 0, \\ \text{with boundary conditions} \\ u(\partial S) = -b_2(\partial S), \quad v(\partial S) = b_1(\partial S). \end{array} \right.$$

An equivalent expression is

$$(2) \quad P(\psi) \equiv v \Delta \Delta \psi + \psi_y \Delta \psi_x - \psi_x \Delta \psi_y + f_{1y} - f_{2x} = 0$$

$$\psi_x(\partial S) = b_1(\partial S), \quad \psi_y(\partial S) = b_2(\partial S),$$

where

$$\psi_x = v, \quad \psi_y = -u,$$

and P is a mapping from $C^4(S)$ into $C^0(S)$ with norm

$$\|\psi\|_{C^N} = \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=0}^n \max \left| \frac{\partial^n \psi}{\partial x^m \partial y^{n-m}} \right|.$$

For clarity, the equivalence of (1) and (2) is now shown.

LEMMA (1) \leftrightarrow (2).

Proof.

(1) \rightarrow (2) directly follows from [6, Theorem 6, p. 131].

(2) \rightarrow (1): (2) can be readily rearranged into the form

$$(-v \Delta u + uu_x + vu_y + f_1)_y = (-v \Delta v + uv_x + vv_y + f_2)_x,$$

with

$$u = \psi_y, \quad v = -\psi_x.$$

Let

$$\vec{Z} = (-v \Delta u + uu_x + vu_y + f_1) \vec{i} + (-v \Delta v + uv_x + vv_y + f_2) \vec{j}.$$

Note the fact: if $\vec{V} = a \vec{i} + b \vec{j} \in C^1(S)$, then

$$\vec{j} \cdot \nabla \vec{V} = \nabla F \leftrightarrow a_y = b_x.$$

Hence, $\vec{q} \rightarrow \vec{Z} = \nabla q$.

Therefore, (2) \rightarrow (1).

2. Main Results. We seek a solution to (2) by the generalized Newton's method. Consider the equation

$$P(\psi_0) + P'(\psi_0)(\psi - \psi_0) = 0 .$$

If ψ_1 is a solution of this equation, we can write a new equation

$$P(\psi_1) + P'(\psi_1)(\psi - \psi_1) = 0 .$$

Assume that for each $n \geq 0$ $\vec{\psi}_{n+1} \rightarrow$

$$P(\psi_n) + P'(\psi_n)(\psi_{n+1} - \psi_n) = 0 ,$$

(3)

$$\psi_{n_x}(\partial S) = b_1 , \quad \psi_{n_y}(\partial S) = b_2 .$$

(See LEMMA 1 for explicit expression for P' .)

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi_n$ exists, let ψ^* be the limit. Then

$$P(\psi^*) + P'(\psi^*)(\psi^* - \psi^*) = 0$$

$$P(\psi^*) = 0 .$$

Thus ψ^* is the desired solution. This is Newton's method.

Define

$$H_N = \max_{x', y' \in S} \int \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=0}^n \left| \frac{\partial^n G(x', y', x, y)}{\partial x'^n \partial y'^{n-m}} \right| dx dy$$

where G is the Green's function of the problem

$$\Delta \tilde{\psi} = 0 \text{ in } S , \quad \tilde{\psi}(\partial S) = 0 , \quad \tilde{\psi}_n(\partial S) = 0 .$$

[1], [2], [3], [4], [8].

Let $M_{\psi_0} = \max(\max|\Delta\psi_{0_y}|, \max|\Delta\psi_{0_x}|, \max|\psi_{0_x}|, \max|\psi_{0_y}|)$.

Therefore, based on the remarkable theory developed by Kantorovich, we obtain the following result:

THEOREM 1. If the initial ψ_0 is \neq

$$\psi_{0x} \Big|_{\partial S} = b_1, \quad \psi_{0y} \Big|_{\partial S} = b_2, \quad M_{\psi_0} H_3 < \nu,$$

and

$$\|P(\psi_0)\|_{C^0} \leq \frac{\nu^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{\nu} M_{\psi_0} H_3\right)^2}{2H_4^2},$$

then the Newton-Kantorovich sequence $\{\psi_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$ does in fact converge to the unique solution of (2).

Proof. By the theorem of Kantorovich [5, p. 708], it is sufficient to show that

$$\|P(\psi_0)\| \leq \frac{1}{2\|P'(\psi_0)^{-1}\|^2 \|P''\|};$$

this is shown by the following lemmas.

LEMMA 1. $P'(\psi)$, the Frechet derivative exists at all points ψ_0 in the domain, and

$$P'(\psi_0)g = \nu \Delta \Delta g + \psi_{0y} \Delta g_x + \Delta \psi_{0x} g_y - \Delta \psi_{0y} g_x - \psi_{0x} \Delta g_y.$$

Proof:

$$P(\psi) = \nu \Delta \Delta \psi + \psi_y \Delta \psi_x - \psi_x \Delta \psi_y + f_{1y} - f_{2x}.$$

If

$$\lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|P(\psi+a) - P(\psi) - La\|}{\|a\|} = 0,$$

for some linear operator L , then define $P'(\psi_0) = L$.

$$P(\psi_0+a) - P(\psi_0) = \nu \Delta \Delta a + \psi_{0y} \Delta a_x + a_y \Delta \psi_{0x} + a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta \psi_{0y} - \psi_{0x} \Delta a_y - a_x \Delta a_y.$$

Let

$$L(\psi_0)(a) = \nu \Delta \Delta a + \psi_{0y} \Delta a_x + a_y \Delta \psi_{0x} - a_x \Delta \psi_{0y} - \psi_{0x} \Delta a_y.$$

Then $L(\psi_0)$ is a linear operator. Therefore, $L(\psi) = P'(\psi)$ if

$$\lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|P(\psi_0+a) - P(\psi_0) - La\|}{\|a\|} = \lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y\|}{\|a\|} = 0.$$

$$a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y \in C^0.$$

Therefore,

$$\|a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y\| = \max_S |a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y|.$$

$$a \in C^4.$$

Therefore,

$$\|a\| = \sum_{n=0}^4 \sum_{m=0}^n \max \left| \frac{\partial^n a}{\partial x^m \partial y^{n-m}} \right|.$$

$$|a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y| \leq |a_y| (|a_{xxx}| + |a_{xyy}|) + |a_x| (|a_{xxy}| + |a_{yyy}|).$$

Therefore,

$$\max_S |a_y \Delta a_x - a_x \Delta a_y| \leq \max_S |a_y| \left(\max_S |a_{xxx}| + \max_S |a_{xyy}| \right) + \max_S |a_x| \left(\max_S |a_{xxy}| + \max_S |a_{yyy}| \right).$$

So:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|P(\psi_0 + a) - P(\psi_0) - La\|}{\|a\|} \\ &\leq \lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\max_S |a_y| \left(\max_S |a_{xxx}| + \max_S |a_{xyy}| \right) + \max_S |a_x| \left(\max_S |a_{xxy}| + \max_S |a_{yyy}| \right)}{a} \\ &\leq \lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|a\| (\|a\| + \|a\|) + \|a\| (\|a\| + \|a\|)}{\|a\|}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{\|a\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|P(\psi_0 + a) - P(\psi_0) - La\|}{\|a\|} = 0. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

LEMMA 2. $P''(\psi)$ exists at all points ψ_0 in $C^4(S)$ and

$$P''(\psi_0)\psi\phi = \psi_y \Delta \phi_x + \phi_y \Delta \psi_x - \phi_x \Delta \psi_y - \psi_x \Delta \phi_y.$$

Proof. By definition, $P''(\psi_0)$ exists if there is a bilinear operator $B \rightarrow$

$$\lim_{\|\phi\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0) - B\phi\|}{\|\phi\|} = 0.$$

If so, $P''(\psi_0)$ is defined to be B.

$$P'(\psi_0 + \phi)g = v\Delta\Delta g + (\psi_0 + \phi)_y \Delta g_x + g_y \Delta(\psi_0 + \phi)_x - g_x \Delta(\psi_0 + \phi)_y - (\psi_0 + \phi)_x \Delta g_y .$$

$$[P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)]g = \phi_y \Delta g_x + g_y \Delta \phi_x - g_x \Delta \phi_y - \phi_x \Delta g_y .$$

Now,

$$[P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)](g_1 + g_2) = [P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)]g_1 + [P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)]g_2 ,$$

and

$$[P'(\psi_0 + \phi_1 + \phi_2) - P'(\psi_0)]g = [P'(\psi_0 + \phi_1) - P'(\psi_0)]g + [P'(\psi_0 + \phi_2) - P'(\psi_0)]g .$$

Therefore, $[P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)]g$ is a bilinear operator of ϕ and g . Let

$B\phi = P'(\psi_0 + \phi) - P'(\psi_0)$. Then it follows that

$$P''(\psi_0)\phi\theta = \phi_y \Delta \theta_x + \theta_y \Delta \phi_x - \theta_x \Delta \phi_y - \phi_x \Delta \theta_y .$$

LEMMA 3. $P'(\psi_0)^{-1}$ exists.

Proof. Given $P(\psi_0) + P'(\psi_0)(\psi - \psi_0) = 0$, let $\tilde{\psi} = \psi - \psi_0$, then

$$P'(\psi_0)\tilde{\psi} = -P(\psi_0) .$$

Equivalently, $v\Delta\Delta\tilde{\psi} + \Delta\psi_{0x}\tilde{\psi}_y + \psi_{0y}\Delta\tilde{\psi}_x - \psi_{0x}\Delta\tilde{\psi}_y - \Delta\psi_{0y}\tilde{\psi}_x = -P(\psi_0)$. This equation can be abbreviated as $v\Delta\Delta\tilde{\psi} = \tilde{F}(\tilde{\psi}) + F$. Let G be the Green's function for $\tilde{\psi}$ (see Theorem 1), then

$$\tilde{\psi} = \frac{1}{v} \int G\tilde{F} + \frac{1}{v} \int GF .$$

Define the linear operators

$$A\tilde{\psi} = \frac{1}{v} \int G\tilde{F}(\tilde{\psi}) .$$

$$B[-P(\psi_0)] = \frac{1}{v} \int GF .$$

Then

$$\left(I - \frac{1}{v} A\right)\tilde{\psi} = B[-P(\psi_0)] .$$

Under proper conditions, as shown later in the proof, $\left(I - \frac{1}{v} A\right)^{-1}$ exists. Then

$$\tilde{\psi} = \left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B[-P(\psi_0)] .$$

Therefore,

$$P'(\psi_0) \left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B[-P(\psi_0)] = -P(\psi_0) ;$$

$$P'(\psi_0) \left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B = I ,$$

and $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B$ is a right inverse. Also, $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B P'(\psi_0) \tilde{\psi} = \tilde{\psi}$;
 $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B P'(\psi_0) = I$, and $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B$ is a left inverse. Therefore,

$$\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} B = [P'(\psi_0)]^{-1} .$$

We now show the conditions under which $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1}$ exists.

$$A\psi = \int_S G(\psi_x \Delta \psi_{0y} - \psi_y \Delta \psi_{0x} + \psi_{0x} \Delta \psi_y - \psi_{0y} \Delta \psi_x) dS$$

$$\|A\| = \sup_{\|\psi\| \leq 1} \|A\psi\|$$

so

$$\|A\|_C = \sup_{\|\psi\| \leq 1} \left[\max_{x', y' \in S} \left| \int_S G(\psi_x \Delta \psi_{0y} - \psi_y \Delta \psi_{0x} + \psi_{0x} \Delta \psi_y - \psi_{0y} \Delta \psi_x) dS \right| + \max ()_{x'} + \dots \right]$$

$$\|A\|_C \leq \sup_{\|\psi\| \leq 1} \left[\max_{x', y' \in S} \int [|G| + |G_{x'}| + |G_{y'}| + \dots] \cdot [|\psi_x| |\Delta \psi_{0y}| + \dots] \right]$$

$$\|A\|_C \leq \max_{\|\psi\| \leq 1} \left(\max_{x', y' \in S} M_{\psi_0} \int [|G| + |G_{x'}| + |G_{y'}| + \dots] \cdot [|\psi_x| + |\psi_y| + \dots] \right) .$$

Therefore,

$$\|A\|_{C^4} \leq M_{\psi_0} \left(\max \int [|G| + |G_{x'}| + |G_{y'}| + \dots] dx dy \right) .$$

$$\|A\|_{C^4} \leq M_{\psi_0} H_3 .$$

Therefore, $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1}$ exists if $M_{\psi_0} H_3 < \nu$. $\left(I - \frac{1}{\nu} A \right)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^n} A^n$ exists.

LEMMA 4. $\|P''(\psi_0)\| \leq 1$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \|P''(\psi_0)\| &= \max_{\substack{\|\phi\| \leq 1 \\ \|\theta\| \leq 1}} |\phi_y \Delta \theta_x + \theta_y \Delta \phi_x - \phi_x \Delta \theta_y - \theta_x \Delta \phi_y| \\ &\leq \max(|\phi_y| + |\phi_{xxx}| + |\phi_{xyy}| + |\phi_x| + |\phi_{xxy}| + |\phi_{yyy}|) \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

THEOREM 2. *Under the hypothesis of Theorem 1, the error estimate for the m th approximate solution is expressed by*

$$\|\psi - \psi_m\| \leq (2^{2m-m}) \left[\frac{H_4}{v(1 - \frac{1}{v} M_{\psi_0} H_3)} \right]^{2^{m+1}-1} \|P(\psi_0)\|^{2^m}.$$

Proof. By the Kantorovich theory, this result follows from the hypothesis of Theorem 1.

COROLLARY 1. *As a function of v , for fixed m ,*

$$\|\psi - \psi_m\| = O\left(\frac{1}{v^{2^{m+1}+1}}\right).$$

COROLLARY 2. *If the hypothesis of Theorem 1 is satisfied, then for a given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a denumerably infinite number of linear equations and solutions ψ_m as specified by (3) such that the entire family of ψ_m 's are within the ϵ -neighborhood of the exact solution ψ of (2), i.e.,*

$$\|\psi - \psi_m\|_{C^4} < \epsilon.$$

Proof. Follows directly from Theorem 2.

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