Regularity of optimal ship forms based on Michell's wave resistance

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joint work with J. Dambrine

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We use a simplified approach, where the resistance of water to the motion of a ship is represented as

$$R_{water} = R_{viscous} + R_{wave},$$

and *R_{wave}* is given by **Michell's formula (1898)**.



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The domain of parameters (x, z)



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Consider a ship moving with constant velocity U on the surface of an unbounded fluid.

- coordinates xyz are fixed to the ship
- the *xy*-plane is the (undisturbed) water surface, *z* is vertically upward

The (half-)immerged hull surface is represented by a continuous nonnegative function

$$y = f(x,z) \ge 0, \quad (x,z) \in \omega,$$

with f(x, z) = 0 on Γ^- (= the boundary of ω under the surface)

- The fluid is incompressible, inviscid, the flow is irrotational
- A steady state has been reached
- Linearized theory (flow potential with linearized boundary conditions)
- Thin ship assumptions: $|\partial_x f| \ll 1$, $|\partial_z f| \ll 1$.

Michell's wave resistance is the **drag force** in this linearized model (recall d'Alembert's paradox !).

Experiments starting in the 1920's (Wigley, Weinblum): reasonable good agreement between Michell's theory and experiment (Gotman'02).

About the optimization problem for ω fixed

1st idea: finding a ship of minimal wave resistance among admissible functions $f : \omega \to \mathbf{R}_+$, for a constant speed U and a given volume V of the hull.

 $f \mapsto R_{Michell}(f)$ is a positive semi-definite quadratic functional, but the problem above is **ill-posed** (Sretensky'35, Krein'52).

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Many authors proposed to add conditions and/or to work in finite dimension (Weinblum'56, Kostyukov'68,...) Another approach, that we chose: add the viscous resistance which can be interpreted as a regularization (Krein & Sizov'60 and '00, Lian-en'84, Michalski et al'87, Dambrine, P. & Rousseaux'15)



Figure: Symmetrization $z \mapsto -z$ and a possible bounding box

 $f: \omega \to \mathbf{R}$ becomes $u: D \to \mathbf{R}$ with support Ω

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The normalized total resistance is

$$J(u) = J_0(u) + J_{wave}(u), \qquad (1)$$

where

$$J_0(u) = \int_D |\nabla u(x,z)|^2 dx dz$$
(2)

is the normalized viscous resistance, and

$$J_{wave}(u) = \int_{D} \int_{D} k(x, z, x', z') u(x, z) u(x', z') dx dz dx' dz' \ge 0$$
(3)

is the **normalized wave resistance** functional. Here, $k: D \times D \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ belongs to $L^q(D \times D)$ for some $q \in (1, +\infty]$ and satisfies the following symmetry assumptions:

$$k(x, z, x', z') = k(x', z', x, z) \quad (x, z, x', z') \in D \times D,$$

$$k(x, -z, x', z') = k(x, z, x', z') \quad (x, z, x', z') \in D \times D.$$

Formulation of the optimization problem

Let V > 0 (the volume of the hull) and 0 < a < |D| (the area of Ω).

Find an open and symmetric set Ω^\star such that

$$J(u_{\Omega^{\star}}) = \inf \left\{ J(u_{\Omega}), \ \Omega \subset D \text{ open and symmetric}, \ |\Omega| = a \right\}, \ (4)$$

where u_{Ω} is uniquely defined by

$$J(u_{\Omega}) = \min\left\{J(v), v \in H_0^1(\Omega), \check{v} = v, \int_{\Omega} v = V\right\}.$$
 (5)

(We denote $\check{v}(x, z) = v(x, -z)$, $\forall (x, z) \in D$). **Two questions:** existence of Ω^* and regularity of u_{Ω^*} Following a standard approach, we work with the space

$$\check{H} = \{ u \in H^1_0(D), \ \check{u} = u \text{ a.e. in } D \},$$

which is a closed subspace of $H^1_0(D)$. For a function $u \in \check{H}$, we denote

$$\Omega_u = \{(x,z) \in D : u(x,z) \neq 0\}.$$

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We also set $|\Omega_u|$ the area of Ω_u .

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We also set $|\Omega_u|$ the area of Ω_u . We define

$$C_V^a = \{ v \in \check{H} : \int_D v dx dz = V, \ |\Omega_v| \le a \},$$

and we reformulate the previous problem as follows:

$$(\mathcal{P}_V^a) igg\{ egin{array}{l} \mathsf{Find} \ u \in C_V^a \ \mathsf{such} \ \mathsf{that} \ J(u) \leq J(v), \ orall v \in C_V^a. \end{array} igg]$$

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Theorem (Dambrine & P.)

Problem (\mathcal{P}_V^a) has a solution u such that $J(u) < +\infty$.

Existence by considering a minimizing sequence in C_V^a .

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Theorem (Dambrine & P.)

Let u solve problem (\mathcal{P}_V^a) with $k \in L^q(D \times D)$, q > 1, and assume that u is nonnegative.

- 1. If $q \in (1,2)$, then u is locally α -Hölder continuous on D with $\alpha = 2/q'$.
- 2. If q = 2, then u is locally α -Hölder continuous on D for all $\alpha < 1$.
- 3. If q > 2, then u is locally Lipschitz continuous on D.

Method of Alt & Caffarelli'81, and adaptations to the Dirichlet energy (+ symmetry + integral kernel k):

- Penalized version of the problem (isoperimetric inequality used)
- elliptic estimates and measure-theoretic arguments

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Michell's wave resistance kernel reads

$$k_{\nu}(x,z,x',z') = \frac{4\nu^4}{\pi C_F(\nu)} \mathcal{K}(\nu(x-x'),\nu(|z|+|z'|)), \qquad (6)$$

with $\nu=g/\mathit{U}^2$ (g=gravity and U=speed of ship), and

$$K(X,Z) = \int_{1}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda^{2}Z} \cos(\lambda X) \frac{\lambda^{4}}{\sqrt{\lambda^{2} - 1}} d\lambda.$$
(7)

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Proposition

Michell's normalized wave resistance kernel k_{ν} (6) belongs to $L^q(D \times D)$ for all $1 \le q < 5/4$. Moreover, if D contains an open disc centered on the x-axis, then k_{ν} does not belong to $L^{5/4}(D \times D)$.

Theorem

Let u be a solution of problem (\mathcal{P}_V^a) . If u is nonnegative, then u is locally α -Hölder continuous on D for all $\alpha \in (0, 2/5)$.

Theorem (Improved regularity below the water/air interface)

Let the assumptions of Theorem 3.2 be satisfied. Then u is locally Lipschitz continous on $D^* = \{(x, z) \in D : z \neq 0\} = D \cap (\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^*)$ (where $\mathbf{R}^* = \mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}$).

Using analycity, we also proved

Theorem

Let u solve problem (\mathcal{P}_V^a) . If $D^+ = \{(x, z) \in D : z > 0\}$ is connected, then the constraint $|\Omega_u| \leq a$ is saturated, and so $|\Omega_u| = a$.

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An optimized form for a variable domain (algorithm from Allaire's book)

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The bulbous bow of "Harmony of the Seas" (2015)

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A minimizing sequence for Fr = 0.75

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Work in progress

- More robust numerical simulations
- Dependence with respect to the speed U

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Some open questions

• Study regularity of *u* with the positivity condition, i.e. consider problem

$$(\mathcal{P}_V^{a,+}) egin{cases} \mathsf{Find} & u \in \mathcal{C}_V^{a,+} \text{ such that} \\ J(u) \leq J(v), \ \forall v \in \mathcal{C}_V^{a,+}, \end{cases}$$

where

$$C_V^{a,+} = \{ v \in \check{H} : v \ge 0 \text{ a. e. in } D, \int_D v dx dz = V, |\Omega_v| \le a \};$$

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• Prove existence without the bounding box *D* ? (at least for some values of *U*).

Some open questions (continued)

• Study regularity of $u \in H^1(\mathbf{R}^d)$ which solves

$$\begin{cases} u \in K^{a,+} \\ \mathcal{F}(u) \leq \mathcal{F}(v), \ \forall v \in K^{a,+}, \end{cases}$$

where

$$\mathcal{F}(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |\nabla v|^2 dx - \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} f v dx$$

and

$$\mathcal{K}^{a,+}=\{v\in \mathcal{H}^1(\mathbf{R}^d)\ :\ v\geq 0 \text{ a.e. in } \mathbf{R}^d,\ |\Omega_v|\leq a\}.$$

Here, $f \in C_c^0(\mathbf{R}^d)$ (for instance).

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Here, $f \in C_c^0(\mathbf{R}^d)$ (for instance).

Thank you for your attention !