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**Uniqueness theorems for steady, compressible,  
heat-conducting fluids: exterior domains**

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**Fisica matematica.** — *Uniqueness theorems for steady, compressible, heat-conducting fluids: exterior domains* (\*). Nota II di MARIA-ROSARIA PADULA (\*\*), presentata (\*\*\*) dal Socio D. GRAFFI.

RIASSUNTO. — Si fornisce un teorema di unicità per moti stazionari regolari di fluidi compressibili, viscosi, termicamente conduttori, svolgentisi in regioni esterne a domini compatti della spazio fisico.

§ 1. This note continues the problem stated in note I concerning uniqueness of steady, compressible, heat-conducting, ideal polytropic fluid flows. Precisely, whereas in note I we considered motions occurring in a bounded region, here we prove a uniqueness theorem for regular motions occurring in a domain  $\Omega$  exterior to a compact region  $\Omega_0$  of the physical three dimensional space  $\mathbf{R}^3$  (the case  $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^3$  is allowed). The boundary  $\partial\Omega$  is assumed rigid and of infinite thermal conductivity (velocity and temperature ascribed). The smoothness assumptions on solutions are the usual ones [1, 2] and include suitable differentiability and summability hypotheses on the solutions together with the existence of a strict positive lower bound for the density on each compact sub-region of  $\Omega$  and for the temperature on the whole of  $\Omega$ . Moreover, we shall make the following assumptions on the density  $\rho$ : either i)  $\rho(x) = 0$  ( $|x|^{-2}$ ); or ii)  $\rho \in L^3(\Omega)$ . It is worth remarking explicitly that assumptions i) or ii) on  $\rho$  allow the finiteness of the total mass of the fluid, unlike the case of the uniqueness for *unsteady* motions where, up to data, the total mass *must* be infinite just as a consequence of the behaviour assumed at infinity on  $\rho$  [3, 4]. Finally, as observed also in note I the hypotheses on the fluid to be ideal and polytropic are by no means restrictive.

The plan of the work is the following. In section 2 we give some preliminary lemmas and define the regularity classes  $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2$  where uniqueness is proved. In section 3, we prove the uniqueness theorem which is stated in terms of suitable nondimensional parameters.

We end by noticing that, though the classes  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  are non empty, as shown in section 2, it would be desirable to provide existence in it. However, unlike the case of a bounded domain, this question appears more difficult in this case because one has to prove suitable decay to zero at infinity for the solutions.

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The uniqueness problem has already been stated in note I and therefore it will be omitted here. Furthermore, if no explicit mention is made, we shall use the same notation.

§ 2. We begin this section by introducing some notation. We set

$$g(r) = \begin{cases} 3 & |x| \equiv r \leq 1 \\ r^{-2} & |x| \equiv r > 1. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,  $H$  denotes the Hilbert space of functions  $w : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  vanishing on the boundary such that

$$\|w\|^2 = \int_{\Omega} g(r) w^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} (\nabla w)^2 dx.$$

As can easily be verified [5] the space  $H$  coincides with the completion of the set of indefinitely differentiable functions in  $\Omega$  with support compact ( $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ ) with respect to the norm  $\int_{\Omega} (\nabla w)^2 dx$ . Concerning the space  $H$  we have the following embeddings.

LEMMA 1.  $H \subset L^6(\Omega)$ , i.e. there exists a constant  $c_0$  such that

$$\|w\|_6 \leq c_0 \|\nabla w\|_2$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_p$  denotes the usual  $L^p$ -norm.

LEMMA 2. For any  $w \in H$  it holds

$$\int_{\Omega} g w^2 dx \leq 4 \int_{\Omega} (\nabla w)^2 dx.$$

The proof of such lemmas can be found in [6].

*Remark 1.* If  $\Omega_0$  is star-shaped lemma 2 is a particular case of [7], lemma 1.

LEMMA 3. For any  $\phi \in L^2(\Omega)$  such that  $\int_{\Omega} \phi dx = 0$ , there exists at least one function  $\varphi \in H$  verifying

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \varphi = \phi & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \|\nabla \varphi\|_2 \leq c \|\phi\|_2 \end{cases}$$

with  $c$  positive constant depending only on the regularity of  $\partial\Omega$ .

The proof of such a lemma is given in [8].

Let us introduce, now, the two regularity classes where uniqueness will be proved.

$$\mathcal{J}_1 = \{(\rho, \mathbf{v}, \theta) \in [C_p^1(\bar{\Omega})]^6 \text{ and } (\rho, \mathbf{v}, \theta) \in L^2(\Omega) \times \mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{H} \text{ such that } m_0 < \theta < k' \\ |-\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}/2\rho) + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \rho^{-1}| < k' k'_1, |\mathbf{v}| < k'; \quad |\nabla \log \rho|_3 < k'_1, \\ \max \{|\rho|_3, |\mathbf{v}|_6, |\rho \mathbf{v}|_3, |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}|_{3/2}, |\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}|_{3/2}\} < k'\}$$

$$\mathcal{J}_2 = \{(\rho, \mathbf{v}, \theta) \in [C_p^1(\bar{\Omega})]^6 \text{ and } (\rho, \mathbf{v}, \theta) \in L^2(\Omega) \times \mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{H} \text{ such that} \\ m_0 \leq \theta \leq k'', |-\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}/2\rho) + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \rho^{-1}| < k'' k''_1; \text{ for } r = |x| > 1: \\ |\mathbf{v}/\rho|(x) < k'' r, 0 < \rho(x) \leq k'' r^{-2}, |\nabla \log \rho(x)| < k''_1 r^{-1}, \\ |\mathbf{v}(x)| < k'' r^{-1}, |\nabla \mathbf{v}(x)| < k'' r^{-1}\}.$$

§ 3. By  $a'_i, i=1, \dots, 4$ ,  $b'_i, i=1, 2, 3$ , and  $\gamma'$  (resp.  $a''_i, b''_i, \gamma''$ ) we denote the constants  $a_i, b_i, \gamma$  introduced in section 2 of note I when we replace  $k, k'_1, \nu, b$  with the quantities  $k', k'_1, c_0, b' = |f|_3$  (resp.  $k'', k''_1, 2, b'' = \sup(|f|r)$ ) respectively. We are, now, in a position to state the main theorem.

UNIQUENESS THEOREM. Let  $f \in C^0(\bar{\Omega}) \cap L^3(\Omega)$  (resp.  $f \in C^0(\bar{\Omega})$  and  $\sup(|f|r) < +\infty$ ) and the numbers  $a'_i, b'_i, R, M, Pr, k'_1, \gamma'$  (resp.  $a''_i, b''_i, R, M, Pr, k''_1, \gamma''$ ) verify the following relations

$$(2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma' M^2/m_0 < \min \{1/8c, 1/6a'_1\} \\ R < \min \{1/6c_0 k'^2, 1/[a'_3 + 8(2a'_4 + a'_3)(2b'_2 + b'_3)]\} \\ Pr < \min \{1/2Rb'_1, 1/8b'_3\} \\ k'_1/m_0 < 1/6(a'_1 + a'_2). \end{array} \right.$$

(resp. the analogue of (2) when the substitution  $a'_i \rightarrow a''_i, b'_i \rightarrow b''_i, k' \rightarrow k'', k'_1 \rightarrow k''_1, c_0 \rightarrow 2$  is made). Then there exists at most one solution  $(\rho, \mathbf{v}, \theta) \in \mathcal{J}_1$  (resp.  $\mathcal{J}_2$ ) to the problem  $\mathcal{P}$  (cf. Note I).

Remark 2. It is interesting to note that, unlike the unsteady case [3, 4], where uniqueness is achieved provided the density is bounded below by a decreasing function of  $r$ , here we must require that  $\rho$  is bounded above by an analogous function of  $r$ .

*Proof.* The proof will be given *per absurdum*. The starting point is again equation (6) of Note I, namely

$$(3) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} R \hat{\rho} \hat{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + R[\rho \mathbf{u} + \rho'(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u})] \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} - \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\vartheta - 1) \nabla \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = R M^{-2} \nabla p' + R \rho' \mathbf{f} \\ R P r (c_V / c_p) \{ \hat{\rho} \hat{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \nabla \theta' + [\rho \mathbf{u} + \rho' \hat{\mathbf{v}}] \cdot \nabla \theta \} - \Delta \theta' = - R P r (R^* / c_p) \cdot \\ \quad \cdot (\hat{p} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} + p' \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + P r (\vartheta - 1) [(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})^2 + 2 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} + \\ \quad + 2 P r [\mathbf{D}' : \mathbf{D}' + 2 \mathbf{D} : \mathbf{D}']] \\ \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} + \rho' \hat{\mathbf{v}}) = 0 \\ \mathbf{u} |_{\partial \Omega} = \theta' |_{\partial \Omega} = 0 \\ \int_{\Omega} \rho' dx = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

Let us multiply relations (3)<sub>1,2</sub> by  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\theta'$ , respectively. Integrating by parts over  $\Omega$  and taking into account (3)<sub>3,4</sub>, we deduce

$$(4) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2^2 + (\vartheta - 1) |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|_2^2 = (R/M^2) \int_{\Omega} \theta \rho' \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} dx + F_1 \\ |\nabla \theta'|_2^2 = F_2 \end{array} \right.$$

where  $F_i, i = 1, 2$ , are given in Note I. Notice that the summability hypothesis made on elements of  $\mathcal{S}_1$  (resp.  $\mathcal{S}_2$ ) is sufficient to ensure the finiteness of all integrals above. Multiplying by  $\varphi \in \mathbf{H}$  equation (3)<sub>1</sub> and integrating over  $\Omega$  we have

$$(5) \quad (R/M^2) \int_{\Omega} \theta \rho' \nabla \cdot \varphi dx = - (R/M^2) \int_{\Omega} \hat{\rho} \theta' \nabla \cdot \varphi dx - R \int_{\Omega} \rho' \mathbf{f} \cdot \varphi dx + \\ + \int_{\Omega} \nabla \mathbf{u} : \nabla \varphi dx + (\vartheta - 1) \int_{\Omega} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \nabla \cdot \varphi dx + R \int_{\Omega} \{ (\hat{\rho} \mathbf{u} + \rho' \mathbf{v}) \cdot \nabla \varphi \cdot \mathbf{v} + \\ + \hat{\rho} \hat{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \nabla \varphi \cdot \mathbf{u} \} dx.$$

Now, we let  $\nabla \cdot \varphi$  varying in  $L^2(\Omega)$  with  $|\nabla \cdot \varphi|_2 = 1$ , by lemma 3 and lemma 1 (resp. lemma 2) and hypothesis (2)<sub>1</sub> we deduce as in Note I.

$$(6) \quad |\rho'|_2 \leq (8 k' c_0 / 7 m_0) |\nabla \theta'|_2 + (8 M^2 / 7 R m_0) (\vartheta - 1) |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|_2 + \\ + (8 M^2 c / 7 R m_0) [1 + 2 R c_0 k'^2] |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2$$

(resp. an analogous relation is valid in  $\mathcal{S}_2$  when we make the replacement  $k' \rightarrow k'', c_0 \rightarrow 2$ ). Let us study, now, equations (4). To this end, employing

(3)<sub>3</sub>, Holder (resp. Schwarz) inequality and lemma 1 (resp. lemma 2), we deduce the following relations

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_{\Omega} \theta \rho' \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \, dx \leq k' k'_1 |\rho'|_2 (c_0 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2 + |\rho'|_2) \\ F_1 \leq R(4b' + k'^2) |\rho'|_2 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2 + Rk'^2 c_0 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2^2 + \frac{Rk'}{M^2/c_0} |\nabla \theta'|_2 |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|_2 \\ F_2 \leq Pr \left( \frac{Rk'^2}{c_p/c_V} + 4k' \right) c_0 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2 |\nabla \theta'|_2 + Pr c_0 \left( \frac{Rk'^2}{c_p/R^*} + 2k'(\vartheta - 1) \right) \cdot \\ \cdot |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|_2 |\nabla \theta'|_2 + RPr k'^2 \left( \frac{c_V + R^* c_0}{c_p} \right) |\rho'|_2 |\nabla \theta'|_2 + RPr k'^2 c_0^2 R^* \cdot \\ \cdot |\nabla \theta'|_2^2 / c_p + Pr 2k' |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2^2 + Pr k'(\vartheta - 1) |\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|_2^2. \end{array} \right.$$

Substituting these relations in (4), using inequality  $|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}|^2 \leq 3 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2$ , and employing (6) and (2) we deduce (as in Note I)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left( \frac{5}{6} - \frac{M^2 a'_1}{m_0} - \frac{k'_1 a'_2}{m_0} \right) |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2^2 \leq Ra'_3 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2 |\nabla \theta'|_2 + Ra'_4 |\nabla \theta'|_2^2 \\ (1 - RPr b'_1) |\nabla \theta'|_2^2 \leq Pr b'_2 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2^2 + Pr b'_3 |\nabla \mathbf{u}|_2 |\nabla \theta'|_2. \end{array} \right.$$

Such latter inequalities are just the analogue of (14) in Note I, when substitutions  $a_i \rightarrow a'_i$ ,  $b_i \rightarrow b'_i$  are made. Consequently, we obtain uniqueness in the same way as in Note I, in the case of a bounded domain.

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