

Gluing methods in the water wave problem

Manuel del Pino

University of Bath

**International meetings in differential equations
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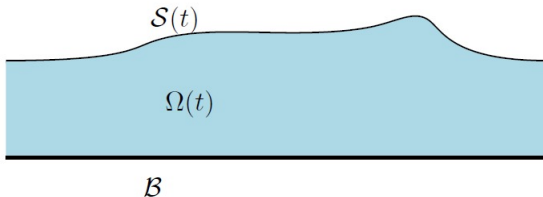
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In collaboration with Juan Dávila, Monica Musso and Miles Wheeler

The water wave problem

Incompressible fluid occupying a region $\Omega(t)$ with constant pressure $= P_{atm}$ on the free boundary $S(t)$ under the action of gravity $-g\hat{j}$

$$\partial\Omega(t) = \mathcal{B} \cup S(t)$$



$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} = -g\hat{j} - \nabla P & \text{in } \Omega(t), \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega(t), \\ P = p_{atm} & \text{on } S(t), \end{cases}$$

A classical problem: travelling water waves. For a $c > 0$,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{u}(x, y, t) = \vec{u}(x - ct, y) \\ P(x, y, t) = p(x - ct, y) \\ \mathcal{S}(t) = \mathcal{S} + \{ct\hat{i}\} \\ \Omega(t) = \Omega + \{ct\hat{i}\} \end{array} \right.$$

Euler equation for $\vec{u}(x, y) = u(x, y)\hat{i} + v(x, y)\hat{j}$ becomes

$$\begin{cases} (\vec{u} - c\hat{i}) \cdot \nabla \vec{u} = -g\hat{j} - \nabla p & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \operatorname{div} \vec{u} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ p = p_{atm} & \text{on } \mathcal{S}. \end{cases}$$

$\vec{u} - c\hat{i}$ is the steady velocity of the fluid relative to the moving frame.

- Bernoulli's law: $(\vec{u} - c\hat{i}) \cdot \nabla (\frac{1}{2}|\vec{u} - c\hat{i}|^2 + p + gy) = 0.$

This means energy of fluid particles is preserved along stream lines.

Incompressibility implies existence of *stream function*.

$$\operatorname{div} \vec{u} = 0 \implies \exists \psi : \nabla^\perp \psi = \vec{u} - c\hat{i}.$$

Streamlines: level curves of stream function $\psi(x, y)$.

- No flux boundary conditions

$$\nabla^\perp \psi \cdot \nu = 0 \quad \text{on } \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{B}$$

This implies that for constants A, B

$$\psi = A \quad \text{on } \mathcal{S},$$

$$\psi = B \quad \text{on } \mathcal{B}.$$

We normalize $A = 0$ and choose B later.

$$(\vec{u} - c\hat{i}) \cdot \nabla \vec{u} = -g\hat{j} - \nabla p$$

$$\vec{u} - c\hat{i} = (u - c)\hat{i} + v\hat{j} = \psi_y\hat{i} - \psi_x\hat{j}.$$

- Vorticity is, by definition, the scalar

$$\omega = \nabla \times \vec{u} = v_x - u_y.$$

We have that

$$\omega = -(\psi_{xx} + \psi_{yy}) = -\Delta\psi.$$

$$(\nabla^\perp \psi \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} = -\nabla p - gy\hat{j} \implies \nabla^\perp \psi \cdot \nabla \omega = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

This equation is satisfied if $-\Delta\psi(x, y) = \gamma(\psi(x, y))$.

We consider the **constant vorticity case**. We fix $\omega = \gamma$ with $\gamma > 0$ a given constant.

- Bernoulli's law becomes

$$\nabla^\perp \psi \cdot \nabla \left(\frac{1}{2} |\nabla \psi|^2 + p + gy \right) = 0.$$

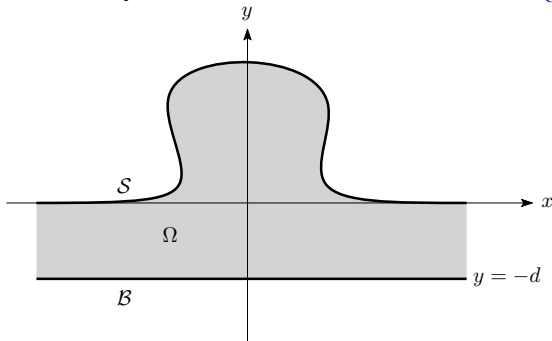
Since $p = p_A$ on S we get

$$\frac{1}{2} |\nabla \psi|^2 + gy = C = \text{constant} \quad \text{on } S.$$

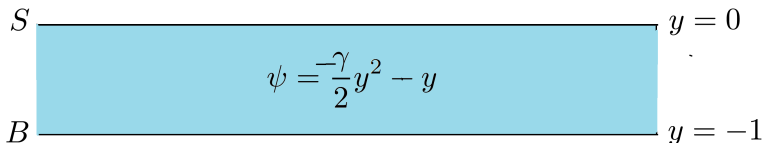
Complete formulation of the water wave problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\psi|^2 = C - gy & \\ \psi = B & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \end{array} \right.$$

A constant boundary condition B at the bottom $\mathcal{B} = \{y = -d\}$



A trivial solution: Strip $S = \{(x, y) / -d < y < 0\}$



$\psi = -\frac{\gamma}{2}y^2 - y$

$$\psi^S(y) = -\gamma \frac{y^2}{2} - y, \quad B = -\gamma \frac{d^2}{2} - d.$$

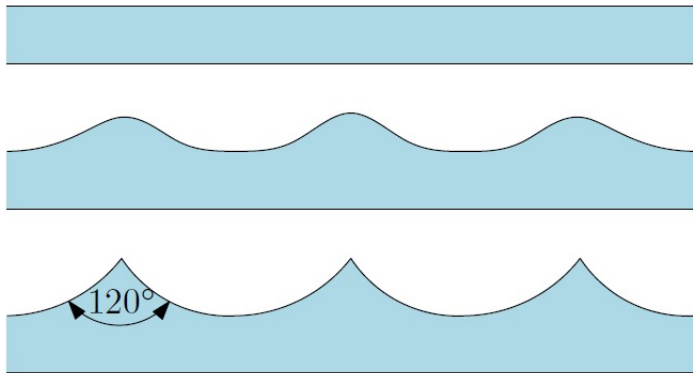
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta \psi^S = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi^S = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} = \partial S \\ |\nabla \psi^S|^2 = 1 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} = \partial S \\ \psi^S = B & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \end{array} \right.$$

The irrotational case $\gamma = 0$: ψ is harmonic and the problem can be formulated in terms of holomorphic functions.

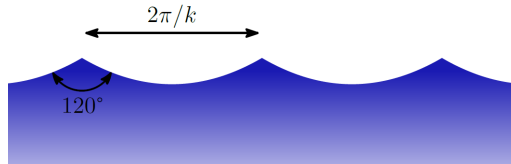
- Studied for more than 2 centuries. Including Lagrange, Cauchy, Poisson, Stokes.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\psi|^2 = C - gy & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ \psi = B & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \end{array} \right.$$

- It is known that a continuum of periodic solutions in the x variables emerges from the strip. (Stokes waves) \mathcal{S} is a curve, it must typically be a graph



- Formulation integral equation on curves Nekrasov 1921, Solutions with large amplitude: Krasovskii 1961, Levi-Civita (1925) Keady-Norbury 1978.
- Maximal height wave, conjectured by Stokes (1847) with a cusp 120-degree angle. Construction of wave with greatest height Toland (1978): Complete proof Amick-Fraenkel-Toland, Acta Math. 1982.

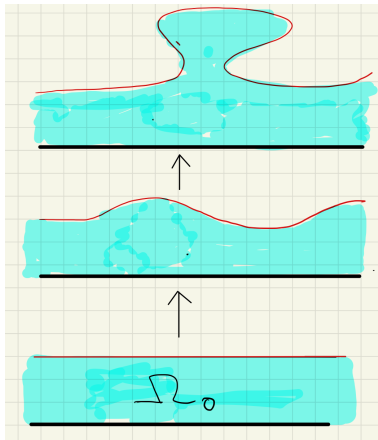


- The wave profile must be the graph of a function: Spielvogel (1970), Toland (1996). Similar for solitary waves: Amick, Toland (1981), Plotnikov (1982), McLeod (1997), Kozlov, Lokharu (2020).
- Similar results for *solitary waves*.

Constant vorticity $\gamma > 0$.

- Small amplitude solutions using local bifurcation Wahlen, JDE 2009, Constantin-Varvaruca ARMA 2011
- Large amplitude solutions: Global bifurcation by Constantin-Strauss-Varvaruca Acta Math. 2016, possibly giving rise to non-graphical solutions (overhanging waves).
- Explicit example of a large amplitude solitary wave Haziot-Wheeler, ARMA 2023.

Idealized bifurcation picture $\gamma = 0$ vs $\gamma \neq 0$

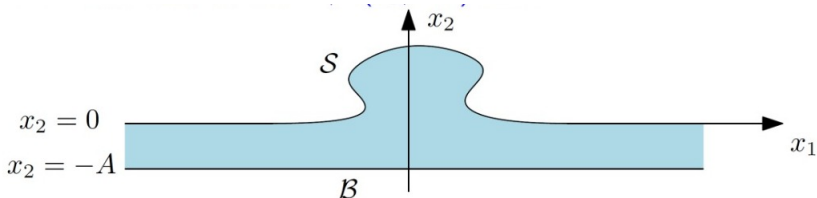


Irrotational case $\gamma = 0$ vs. constant vorticity $\gamma > 0$

The universe $\gamma > 0$ seems to be much richer but little is known

Our goal: to find **overhanging solitary waves** assuming that gravity g is a small positive parameter.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ \psi = B & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \\ \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\psi|^2 + gy = \frac{1}{2} & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ \psi(x, y) \rightarrow \psi_S(y) & \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right.$$



Numerically observed overhanging waves:

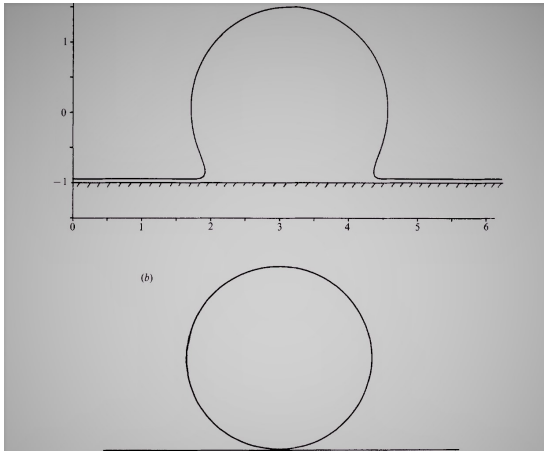
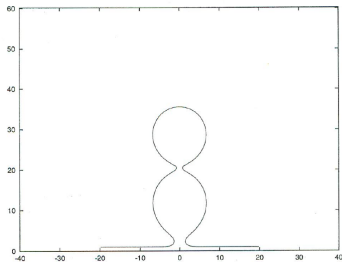
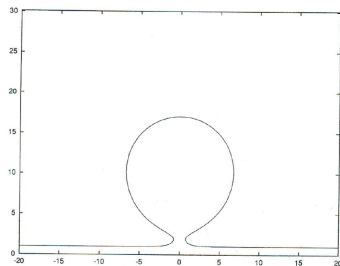
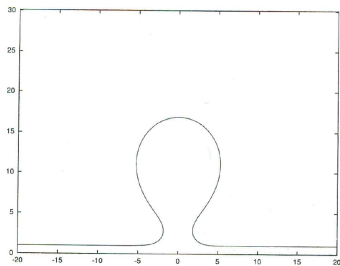


FIGURE 7. (a) Profile of a pure rotational wave ($g = 0$), with $\zeta = 1$, $H = 2.45$ and $c = 1.153$.
(b) Sketch of a possible limiting wave, for zero gravity.

energy spectra from measurements of surface elevation. In strong winds the vorticity near the surface, may often be strong enough to make a suitable correction significant for the shorter waves. The dimensionless parameter λ defined in (4.2)

Teles da Silva-Peregrine, 1988

Vanden Broeck (1994,1995): overhanging solitary waves



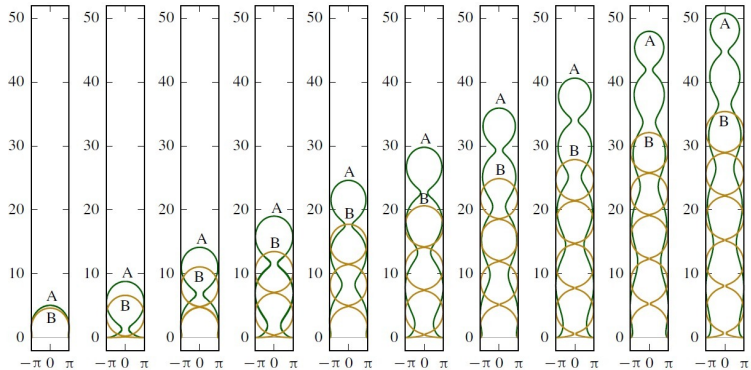


FIGURE 9. (Colour online) The profiles of almost touching waves at the beginnings and ends of the five gaps for $\omega = 4.0$ (A, green) and $\omega = 14$ (B, yellow), in the (x, y)

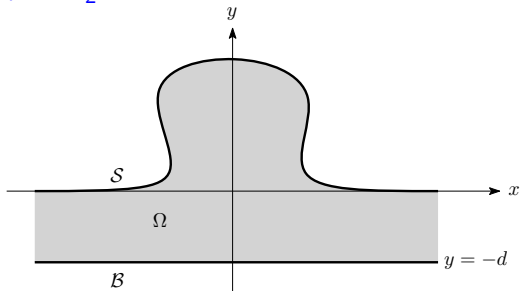
Dyachenko-Hur 2019, Vanden-Broeck 1996.

We want to find these patterns when vorticity is large

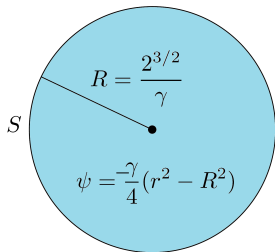
We are interested in **solitary waves**, asymptotic to the strip Ω^S . If vorticity is large and comparable to wave speed, we can scale into a regime in which $0 < g \ll 1$ is a small parameter and $c = 1$.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ |\nabla\psi|^2 = 1 - 2gy & \text{on } \mathcal{S}, \\ \psi(x, y) \rightarrow \psi_S(y) & \text{as } x \rightarrow \pm\infty \\ \psi = \text{constant} & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \end{array} \right.$$

where $\psi_S(y) = -\frac{\gamma}{2}y^2 - y$.



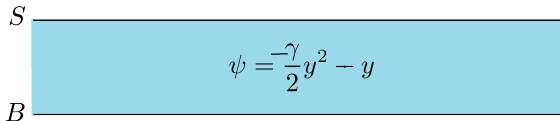
A solution with $g = 0$ and $\gamma \neq 0$: A disk Ω^D .



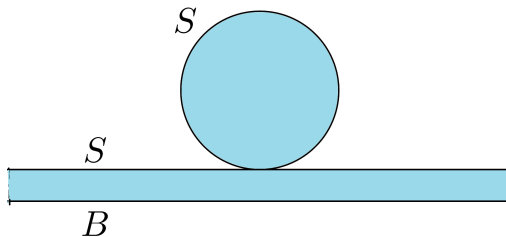
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta \psi^D = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega^D \\ \psi^D = 0 & \text{on } S \\ |\nabla \psi^D|^2 = 1 & \text{on } S \end{array} \right.$$

$$\psi^D = \frac{\gamma}{4}(R^2 - r^2), \quad R = \frac{2^{3/2}}{\gamma}$$

$$\psi^S = -\frac{\gamma}{2}y^2 - y.$$



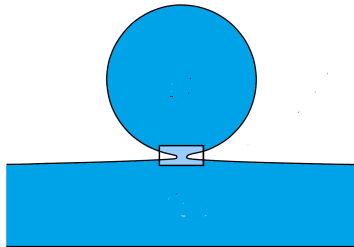
We want to find a solution that in the **singular limit** $g \rightarrow 0$ looks like

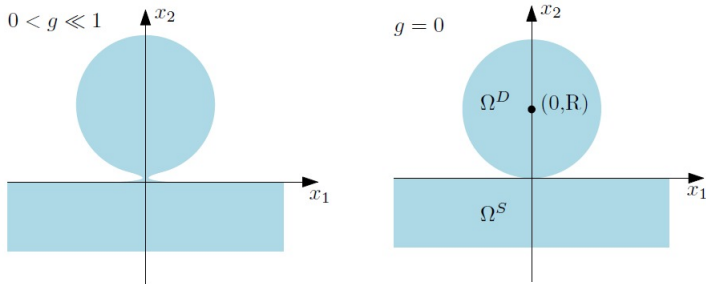


$$\psi^D = \frac{\gamma}{4}(R^2 - r^2),$$

$$\psi^S = -\frac{\gamma}{2}y^2 - y.$$

How to desingularize into a small $g > 0$? Gluing by small neck





As $g \rightarrow 0$, we look for a solution (ψ_g, Ω_g) with

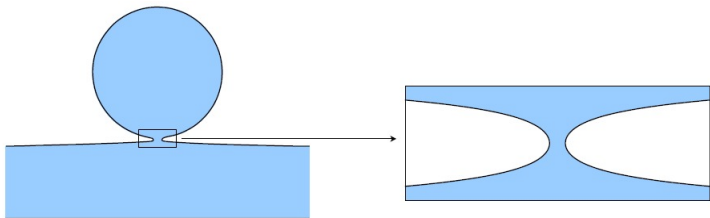
$$(\psi_g, \Omega_g) \rightarrow (\psi_S, \Omega_S) \cup (\psi_D, \Omega_D)$$

Profile near the neck?

For $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(g) \rightarrow 0$ we postulate that on the neck

$$\psi_\varepsilon(y) = \varepsilon^{-1} \psi_g(\varepsilon y) \rightarrow \psi_H(y), \quad \Omega_\varepsilon = \varepsilon^{-1} \Omega_g \rightarrow H$$

$$|\nabla \psi_\varepsilon(y)|^2 \rightarrow 1 = |\nabla \psi_H(y)|^2, \quad -\Delta_y \psi_\varepsilon(y) = \omega \varepsilon \rightarrow 0 = -\Delta_y \psi_H(y)$$

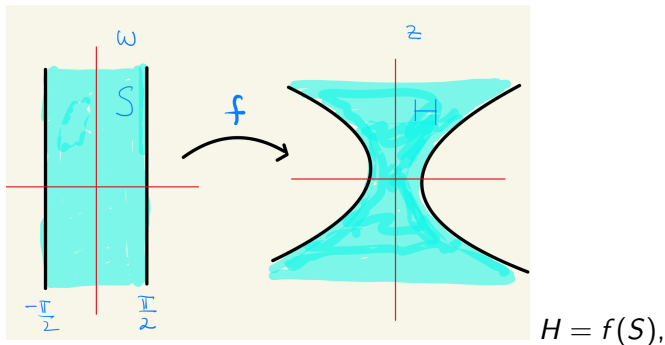


$$\Delta \psi_H = 0 \quad \text{in } H, \quad \psi_H = 0, \quad |\nabla \psi_H| = 1 \quad \text{on } \partial H.$$

H = “exceptional domain”.

The double hairpin domain (Hauswirth-Pacard, 1995)

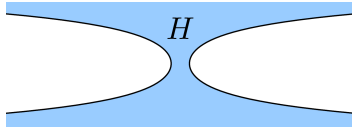
$$\Delta\psi_H = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_H, \quad \psi_H = 0, \quad |\nabla\psi_H| = 1 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_H.$$



$$z = f(w) = w + \sin(w)$$

$$H = \{(z_1, z_2) \mid |z_1| < \frac{\pi}{2} + \cosh(z_2)\}$$

$$\psi^H(z) = \operatorname{Re}(\cos w) = \cosh w_2 \cos w_1, \quad z = w + \sin w$$



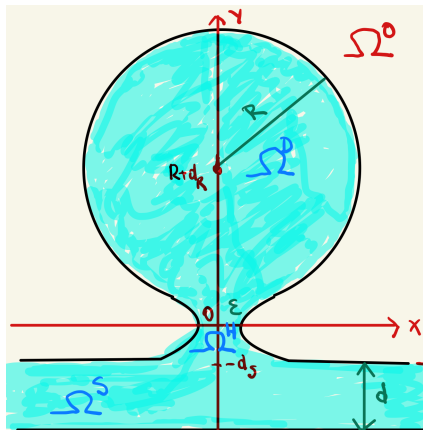
$$\psi^H(z) = \operatorname{Re}(\cos w) = \cosh w_2 \cos w_1, \quad z = w + \sin w$$

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \psi^H = 0 & \text{in } H \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \partial H \\ |\nabla \psi^H|^2 = 1 & \text{on } \partial H \end{cases}$$

Given $\varepsilon > 0$ we join the disk and the strip by a tiny neck

$$\Omega^H = \varepsilon H, \quad \psi_\varepsilon^H(z) = \varepsilon \psi^H(z/\varepsilon)$$

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \psi_\varepsilon^H = 0 & \text{in } \Omega^H \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega^H \\ |\nabla \psi_\varepsilon^H|^2 = 1 & \text{on } \partial\Omega^H \end{cases}$$



- We construct a first approximation Ω_0, ψ_0 by interpolations & small modifications of the domains and stream functions $\psi_\varepsilon^H, \psi^D, \psi^S$. Shifts $d_R, d_S \approx \varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|$ are needed.

- An important subtle fact:

$$\psi_\varepsilon^H(x, y) = |y| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \log(x^2 + y^2) - \varepsilon \log \varepsilon + o(\varepsilon), \quad |y| \gg \varepsilon$$

That brings a term $\varepsilon\pi\delta_0$ to the linearized equation of the disk that has to be taken care of by a first adjustment of g in the linearized equation around ψ^D . The term $\varepsilon \log \varepsilon$ needs to be matched with the shifts d_S and d_R .

Theorem (Dávila, del Pino, Musso, Wheeler (2023))

For any $g > 0$ sufficiently small there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that there exists a solution Ω, ψ of the problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi = \gamma & \text{in } \Omega \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S} \\ |\nabla\psi|^2 = 1 - 2gy & \text{on } \mathcal{S}, \\ \psi(x, y) \rightarrow \psi_{\mathcal{S}}(y) & \text{as } x \rightarrow \pm\infty \\ \psi = \text{constant} & \text{on } \mathcal{B} \end{array} \right.$$

where Ω is a g -small perturbation of Ω_0

Linearization around $\Omega_0, \psi_0, \mathcal{S}_0 = \partial\Omega_0$.

- \mathcal{S}_0 parametrized by arclength by $\Gamma(s)$.
- \mathcal{S} parametrized as $\Gamma(s) + h(s, \delta)\nu(s)$, $\psi = \psi(x, y, \delta)$, $g = g(\delta)$.
for a small parameter δ • $\psi(\cdot, 0) = \psi_0$, $h(\cdot, 0) = 0$, $g(0) = 0$

Write

$$\psi_1 = \left. \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \delta} \right|_{\delta=0}, \quad h_1 = \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial \delta} \right|_{\delta=0}, \quad g_1 = \left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \delta} \right|_{\delta=0}$$

Differentiating in δ

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \psi = \gamma + f_a(\cdot, \delta) & \text{in } \Omega_h \\ \psi = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{S}_h \\ |\nabla \psi|^2 = 1 - 2gy + f_b(\cdot, \delta) & \text{on } \mathcal{S}_h, \end{cases}$$

From $\psi(\Gamma(s) + h(s)\nu(s), \delta) = 0$ we get

$$\nabla \psi(\Gamma(s)) \cdot h_1 \nu + \psi_1 = 0 \implies h_1 = \psi_1 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_0.$$

Now, from $|\nabla\psi(\Gamma(s) + h\nu(s))|^2 = 1 - 2gy + f_b$ we get

$$\nabla\psi_0(\Gamma(s)) \cdot (\nabla\psi_1 + h_1 D^2\psi_0(\Gamma(s))\nu) =$$

$$\partial_\nu\psi_1 + h_1 D^2\psi_0\nu \cdot \nu = -g_1y + f_{b,1}(\cdot, 0)$$

$$D^2\psi_0\nu \cdot \nu + D^2\psi_0 T \cdot T = \Delta\psi_0 = -\gamma$$

Finally,

$$\psi_0(\Gamma(s)) = 0 \implies \nabla\psi_0(\Gamma(s)) \cdot \dot{\Gamma} = 0 \implies$$

$$D^2\psi_0 T \cdot T + \nabla\psi_0 \cdot \ddot{\Gamma} = 0 \implies D^2\psi_0(\gamma(s))[T]^2 = \kappa(s)$$

$$\dot{\Gamma}(s) = T(s), \quad \ddot{\Gamma}(s) = -\kappa(s)\nu(s).$$

Hence the boundary condition on ψ_1 becomes

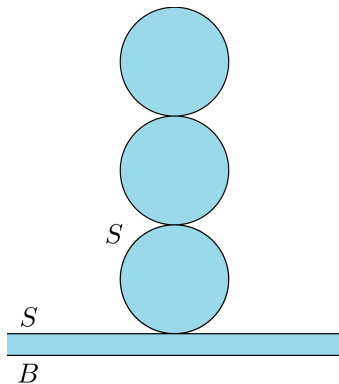
$$\partial_\nu\psi_1 + (\kappa(s) - \gamma)\psi_1 = f_{b,1}$$

The linearized equation is the Robin problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta\psi_1 = f_{a,1} & \text{in } \Omega_0 \\ \frac{\partial\psi_1}{\partial\nu} + (\kappa - \gamma)\psi_1 = -g_1 y + f_{b,1} & \text{on } \mathcal{S}_0, \\ \psi_1 = 0 & \text{on } \mathcal{B}_0. \end{array} \right.$$

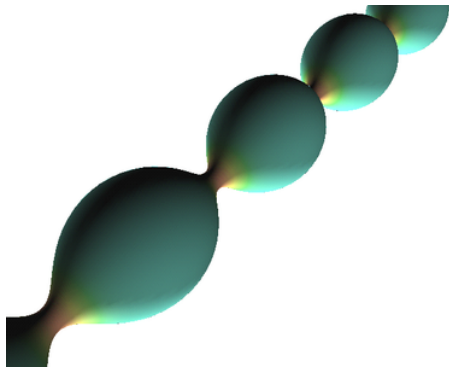
- We devise an invertibility theory for this problem, by gluing a coupled system made out of the three individual linearized equations.
- Inverting the problem in the hairpin Ω^H is obtained using a suitable complex formula. Inverting on the strip Ω^S needs $\gamma d < 1$.
- Since the linearized problem in Ω_D has a nontrivial kernel $\partial_y \psi^D$, one needs to adjust the parameter g_1 to obtain solvability.

- The full nonlinear problem is solved by a fixed point of the inverse of the linearized equation.
- Similar arguments yield a desingularization of



- We need slightly different ε 's for different necks.

- The method resembles gluing by desingularization of tangent spheres by small catenoidal necks in various constructions of CMC or minimal surfaces: Kapouleas 1990's, Mazzeo-Pacard 2001.



Thanks for your attention