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# Weighted energy estimates for the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations and applications to axisymmetric solutions without swirl

Pedro Gabriel Fernández-Dalgo<sup>\*†</sup>, Pierre Gilles Lemarié-Rieusset<sup>‡§</sup>

## Abstract

We consider a family of weights which permit to generalize the Leray procedure to obtain weak suitable solutions of the 3D incompressible Navier–Stokes equations with initial data in weighted  $L^2$  spaces. Our principal result concerns the existence of regular global solutions when the initial velocity is an axisymmetric vector field without swirl such that both the initial velocity and its vorticity belong to  $L^2((1+r^2)^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}}dx)$ , with  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$  and  $\gamma \in (0, 2)$ .

**Keywords :** Navier–Stokes equations, axisymmetric vector fields, swirl, Muckenhoupt weights, energy balance

**AMS classification :** 35Q30, 76D05.

## 1 Introduction

In 1934, Leray [7] proved global existence of weak solutions for the 3D incompressible Navier–Stokes equations

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

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in the case of a fluid filling the whole space whose initial velocity  $\mathbf{u}_0$  is in  $L^2$ . Leray's strategy is to regularize the initial value and to mollify the non-linearity through convolution with a bump function : let  $\theta_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\epsilon^3}\theta(\frac{x}{\epsilon})$ , where  $\theta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ ,  $\theta$  is non-negative and radially decreasing and  $\int \theta dx = 1$ ; the mollified equations are then

$$(NS_\epsilon) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - ((\theta_\epsilon * \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \nabla p_\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = 0, & \mathbf{u}_\epsilon, (0, \cdot) = \theta_\epsilon * \mathbf{u}_0. \end{cases}$$

Standard methods give existence of a smooth solution on an interval  $[0, T_\epsilon]$  where  $T_\epsilon \approx \epsilon^3 \|\theta_\epsilon * \mathbf{u}_0\|_2^{-2}$ . Then, the energy equality

$$\|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t, \cdot)\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^2 ds = \|\theta_\epsilon * \mathbf{u}_0\|_2^2$$

allows one to extend the existence time and to get a global solution  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$ ; moreover, the same energy equality allows one to use a compactness argument and to get a subsequence  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  that converges to a solution  $\mathbf{u}$  of the Navier–Stokes equations (NS) which satisfies the energy *inequality*

$$\|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}\|_2^2 ds \leq \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_2^2.$$

Weak solutions of equations (NS) that satisfy this energy inequality are called Leray solutions.

Recently, Bradshaw, Kukavica and Tsai [2] and Fernández-Dalgo and Lemarié-Rieusset [3] used Leray's procedure to find a global weak solution to the equations (NS) when  $\mathbf{u}_0$  is no longer assumed to have finite energy but only to satisfy the weaker assumption

$$\int |\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2 \frac{dx}{1 + |x|^2} < +\infty.$$

The solutions then satisfy, for every finite positive  $T$ ,

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int |\mathbf{u}(t, x)|^2 \frac{dx}{1 + |x|^2} + \int_0^T \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(t, x)|^2 \frac{dx}{1 + |x|^2} < +\infty.$$

Whereas the cases of finite energy and of infinite energy sound very similar, this similarity breaks down when we consider higher regularity. Indeed, if we assume that both the initial velocity  $\mathbf{u}_0$  and the initial vorticity  $\omega_0 = \nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}_0$  are in  $L^2$  (so that the divergence-free  $\mathbf{u}_0$  belongs to  $H^1$ ), we find

that the Leray solution is unique on some interval  $[0, T]$  and remains in  $H^1$ . This is based on the energy equality for the vorticity  $\omega$  :

$$\|\omega(t, \cdot)\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^2 ds = \|\omega_0\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \int \omega \cdot (\omega \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} dx ds.$$

The key point is the interpolation inequality

$$\left| \int \omega \cdot (\omega \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} dx \right| \leq C \|\omega\|_3^3 \leq C' \|\omega\|_2^{3/2} \|\nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^{3/2}.$$

Then the Young inequality gives

$$\|\omega(t, \cdot)\|_2^2 + \int_0^t \|\nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^2 ds \leq \|\omega_0\|_2^2 + C'' \int_0^t \|\omega\|_2^6 ds.$$

We find that for some positive  $T \approx \|\omega_0\|_2^{-4}$  we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\omega\|_2^2 + \int_0^T \|\nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^2 ds < +\infty.$$

This strategy fails if we only assume that

$$\int |\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2 \frac{dx}{1+|x|^2} + \int |\omega_0(x)|^2 \frac{dx}{1+|x|^2} < +\infty.$$

Indeed, the energy estimate one might hope would be

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \omega(t, \cdot) \right\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \nabla \otimes \omega \right\|_2^2 ds \\ & \leq \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \omega_0 \right\|_2^2 + 4 \left( \int_0^t \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \omega \right\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^t \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \nabla \otimes \omega \right\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \\ & \quad + C \int_0^t \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \omega \right\|_3^2 \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}} \mathbf{u} \right\|_3 ds \\ & \quad + C \int_0^t \int \frac{1}{1+|x|^2} |\omega|^2 |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}| dx ds. \end{aligned}$$

We cannot control the last term due to the lack of integrability : if we want to use interpolation inequalities, we should deal with  $\int \frac{1}{(1+|x|^2)^{3/2}} |\omega|^2 |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}| dx$  instead of  $\int \frac{1}{1+|x|^2} |\omega|^2 |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}| dx$ .

In this paper, we show that this strategy may work in the case of an axisymmetric flow with no swirl when we consider an axisymmetric weight  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+r)^\gamma}$  (with  $0 \leq \gamma < 2$ ) where  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ . If,

in cylindrical coordinates,  $\mathbf{u}_0 = u_{0,r}(r, z) \mathbf{e}_r + u_{0,z}(r, z) \mathbf{e}_z$  and if we assume that  $\mathbf{u}_0$  is in  $H^1(\Phi dx)$ , i.e.

$$\int |\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx + \int |\omega_0(x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx < +\infty,$$

we shall obtain the energy estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega(t, \cdot)\|_2^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^2 ds \\ & \leq \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_0\|_2^2 + 2 \left( \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \omega\|_2^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \\ & \quad + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega\|_3^2 \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}\|_3 ds \\ & \quad + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega\|_3^3 ds. \end{aligned}$$

This will allow us to find a local-in-time solution in  $H^1(\Phi dx)$ . Moreover, we shall easily adapt Ladyzhenskaya's result [5] on global existence of axisymmetric solutions in  $H^1$  and find a global solution in  $H^1(\Phi dx)$ . Remark that, in contrast with the case of  $H^1$ , we cannot prove uniqueness of these regular solutions.

## 2 Main results.

We shall first prove global existence in the weighted  $L^2$  setting, in dimension  $d$  with  $2 \leq d \leq 4$  when the weight  $\Phi$  satisfies some basic assumptions that allow the use of Leray's projection operator and of energy estimates :

**Definition 2.1** *An adapted weight function  $\Phi$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  ( $2 \leq d \leq 4$ ) is a continuous Lipschitz function  $\Phi$  such that :*

- **(H1)**  $0 < \Phi \leq 1$ .
- **(H2)** *There exists  $C_1 > 0$  such that  $|\nabla \Phi| \leq C_1 \Phi^{\frac{3}{2}}$*
- **(H3)** *There exists  $r \in (1, 2]$  such that  $\Phi^r \in \mathcal{A}_r$  (where  $\mathcal{A}_r$  is the Muckenhoupt class of weights). In the case  $d = 4$ , we require  $r < 2$  as well.*
- **(H4)** *There exists  $C_2 > 0$  such that  $\Phi(x) \leq \Phi(\frac{x}{\lambda}) \leq C_2 \lambda^2 \Phi(x)$ , for all  $\lambda \geq 1$ .*

Examples of adapted weights can easily be given by radial slowly decaying functions :

- $d = 2$ ,  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+|x|)^\gamma}$  where  $0 \leq \gamma < 2$
- $d = 3$  or  $d = 4$ ,  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+|x|)^\gamma}$  where  $0 \leq \gamma \leq 2$
- $d = 3$ ,  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+r)^\gamma}$  where  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$  and  $0 \leq \gamma < 2$ .

The following result concerns the existence of weak suitable solutions belonging to a weighted  $L^2$  space, where the weight permits to consider initial data with a weak decay at infinity.

**Theorem 1** *Let  $d \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ . Consider a weight  $\Phi$  satisfying **(H1)** – **(H4)**. Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free vector field, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0$  belongs to  $L^2(\Phi dx, \mathbb{R}^d)$ . Then, there exists a global solution  $\mathbf{u}$  of the problem*

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

such that

- $\mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$  and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^2((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$ , for all  $T > 0$ ,
- $p = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} \mathcal{R}_i \mathcal{R}_j (u_i u_j)$ ,
- the map  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  is weakly continuous from  $[0, +\infty)$  to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ , and is strongly continuous at  $t = 0$ ,
- $\mathbf{u}$  satisfies the local energy inequality : there exists a locally finite non-negative measure  $\mu$  such that

$$\partial_t \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \right) = \Delta \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \right) - |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}|^2 - \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \mathbf{u} \right) - \nabla \cdot (p \mathbf{u}) - \mu,$$

(remark :  $\mu = 0$  when  $d = 2$ ).

If we consider the problem of higher regularity, the case of dimension  $d = 2$  is easy, while, in the case  $d = 3$ , one must restrict the study to the case of axisymmetric flows with no swirl (to circumvent the stretching effect in the evolution of the vorticity).

**Theorem 2 (Case  $d = 2$ .)** Let  $\Phi$  be a weight satisfying **(H1)** – **(H4)**. Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free vector field, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0, \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_0$  belong to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ . Then there exists a global solution  $\mathbf{u}$  of the problem

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

such that

- $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^2((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$ , for all  $T > 0$ ,
- the maps  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  and  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  are weakly continuous from  $[0, +\infty)$  to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ , and are strongly continuous at  $t = 0$ ,

**Theorem 3 (Case  $d = 3$ .)** Let  $\Phi$  be a weight satisfying **(H1)** – **(H4)**. Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free axisymmetric vector field without swirl, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0, \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_0$  belong to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ . Assume moreover that  $\Phi$  depends only on  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ . Then there exists a time  $T > 0$ , and a local solution  $\mathbf{u}$  on  $(0, T)$  of the problem

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

such that

- $\mathbf{u}$  is axisymmetric without swirl,  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^2((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$ ,
- the maps  $t \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  and  $t \mapsto \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  are weakly continuous from  $[0, T)$  to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ , and are strongly continuous at  $t = 0$ ,

An extra condition on the weight permits to obtain a global existence result. Moreover, if the vorticity is more integrable at time  $t = 0$ , it will remain so in positive times. The next theorem precise these conditions on the weight.

**Theorem 4 (Case  $d = 3$ .)** Let  $\Phi$  be a weight satisfying **(H1)** – **(H4)**. Assume moreover that  $\Phi$  depends only on  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ . Let  $\Psi$  be another continuous weight (that depends only on  $r$ ) such that  $\Phi \leq \Psi \leq 1$ ,  $\Psi \in \mathcal{A}_2$  and there exists  $C_1 > 0$  such that

$$|\nabla \Psi| \leq C_1 \sqrt{\Phi} \Psi \text{ and } |\Delta \Psi| \leq C_1 \Phi \Psi.$$

Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free axisymmetric vector field without swirl, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0$ , belongs to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$  and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_0$  belongs to  $L^2(\Psi dx)$ . Then there exists a global solution  $\mathbf{u}$  of the problem

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

such that

- $\mathbf{u}$  is axisymmetric without swirl,  $\mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$ ,  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Psi dx))$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^2((0, T), L^2(\Psi dx))$ , for all  $T > 0$ ,
- the maps  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  and  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  are weakly continuous from  $[0, +\infty)$  to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$  and to  $L^2(\Psi dx)$  respectively, and are strongly continuous at  $t = 0$ ,

Example : we can take  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+r)^\gamma}$  and  $\Psi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+r^2)^{\delta/2}}$  with  $0 \leq \delta \leq \gamma < 2$ .

### 3 Some lemmas on weights.

Let us first recall the definition of Muckenhoupt weights : for  $1 < q < +\infty$ , a positive weight  $w$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}_q(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if and only if

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \rho > 0} \left( \frac{1}{|B(x, \rho)|} \int_{B(x, \rho)} \Phi dx \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \left( \frac{1}{|B(x, \rho)|} \int_{B(x, \rho)} \Phi^{-\frac{1}{q-1}} dx \right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} < +\infty. \quad (1)$$

Due to the Hölder inequality, we have  $\mathcal{A}_q(\mathbb{R}^d) \subset \mathcal{A}_r(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if  $q \leq r$ .

One easily checks that  $w_\gamma = \frac{1}{(1+|x|)^\gamma}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}_q(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if and only if

$$-d(q-1) < \gamma < d.$$

Thus,  $\Phi = w_\gamma$  is an adapted weight if and only if  $0 \leq \gamma \leq 2$  and  $\gamma < d$ .

One may of course replace in inequality (1) the balls  $B(x, \rho)$  by the cubes  $Q(x, \rho) = ]x_1 - \rho, x_1 + \rho[ \times \cdots \times ]x_d - \rho, x_d + \rho[$ . Thus, we can see that, if  $\Phi(x) = \Psi(x_1, x_2)$  and  $1 < q < +\infty$ , then  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_q(\mathbb{R}^3)$  if and only if  $\Psi \in \mathcal{A}_q(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . In particular,  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{(1+r)^\gamma}$  is an adapted weight on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  if and only if  $0 \leq \gamma < 2$ .



**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $\Phi$  satisfy (H1) and (H2) and let  $1 \leq r < +\infty$ . Then :*

a)  $\sqrt{\Phi}f \in H^1$  if and only if  $f \in L^2(\Phi dx)$  and  $\nabla f \in L^2(\Phi dx)$ ; moreover we have

$$\|\sqrt{\Phi}f\|_{H^1} \approx \left( \int \Phi(|f|^2 + |\nabla f|^2) dx \right)^{1/2}$$

b)  $\Phi f \in W^{1,r}$  if and only if  $f \in L^r(\Phi^r dx)$  and  $\nabla f \in L^r(\Phi^r dx)$ ; moreover we have

$$\|\Phi f\|_{W^{1,r}} \approx \left( \int \Phi^r(|f|^r + |\nabla f|^r) dx \right)^{1/r}$$

**Proof.** This is obvious since  $|\nabla\Phi| \leq C_1\Phi^{3/2} \leq C_1\Phi$  and  $|\nabla(\sqrt{\Phi})| = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|\nabla\Phi|}{\Phi} \sqrt{\Phi} \leq \frac{1}{2}C_1\sqrt{\Phi}$ .  $\diamond$

**Lemma 3.2** *If  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_s$  then we have for all  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\Phi^\theta \in \mathcal{A}_p$  with  $\theta = \frac{p-1}{s-1}$ . In particular, if a weight  $\Phi$  satisfies (H3), we obtain  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_p$  with  $p = 1 + \frac{r-1}{r} = 2 - \frac{1}{r} < 2$ , and so  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_2$ .*

**Proof.** As  $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{s-p}{ps}$ , we find by the Hölder inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \int_Q \Phi^{\frac{p-1}{s-1}} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left( \int_Q \Phi^{-\frac{(p-1)}{(s-1)}\frac{1}{p-1}} dx \right)^{1-\frac{1}{p}} \\ &= \left( \int_Q \left( \Phi^{\frac{1}{s}} \left( \Phi^{-\frac{1}{s-1}} \right)^{\frac{s-p}{ps}} \right)^p dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left( \int_Q \Phi^{-\frac{(p-1)}{(s-1)}\frac{1}{p-1}} dx \right)^{1-\frac{1}{p}} \\ &\leq \left( \int_Q \Phi dx \right)^{\frac{1}{s}} \left( \int_Q \Phi^{-\frac{1}{s-1}} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s} + 1 - \frac{1}{p}} \end{aligned}$$

$\diamond$

Let us recall that for a weight  $w \in \mathcal{A}_q$  ( $1 < q < +\infty$ ), the Riesz transforms and the Hardy–Littlewood maximal function are bounded on  $L^q(w dx)$ . We thus have the following inequalities :

**Lemma 3.3** *Let  $\Phi$  satisfy (H1), (H2) and (H3). Then :*

a) for  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , the Riesz transforms  $R_j$  satisfy that  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}R_j f\|_2 \leq C\|\sqrt{\Phi}f\|_2$  and  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}R_j f\|_{H^1} \leq C\|\sqrt{\Phi}f\|_{H^1}$ ;

b) for  $j = 1, \dots, d$ , the Riesz transforms  $R_j$  satisfy that  $\|\Phi R_j f\|_r \leq C\|\Phi f\|_r$  and  $\|\Phi R_j f\|_{W^{1,r}} \leq C\|\Phi f\|_{W^{1,r}}$ ;

c) if  $\mathbb{P}$  is the Leray projection operator on divergence-free vector fields, then for a vector field  $\mathbf{u}$  we have  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbb{P}\mathbf{u}\|_2 \leq C\|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}\|_2$  and  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbb{P}\mathbf{u}\|_{H^1} \leq C\|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}\|_{H^1}$ ;

d) if  $d \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ , then for a vector field  $\mathbf{u}$  we have

$$\|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}\|_{H^1} \approx \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}\|_2.$$

e) Let  $\theta_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\epsilon^d} \theta(\frac{x}{\epsilon})$ , where  $\theta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\theta$  is non-negative and radially decreasing and  $\int \theta dx = 1$ . Then we have  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}(\theta_\epsilon * f)\|_2 \leq C\|\sqrt{\Phi}f\|_2$  and  $\|\sqrt{\Phi}(\theta_\epsilon * f)\|_{H^1} \leq C(\|\sqrt{\Phi}f\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\nabla f\|_{L^2})$  (where the constant  $C$  does not depend on  $\epsilon$  nor  $f$ ).

**Proof.** a) is a consequence of  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_2$  and of Lemma 3.1 (since  $\partial_k(R_j f) = R_j(\partial_k f)$ ). Similarly, b) is a consequence of  $\Phi^r \in \mathcal{A}_r$  and of Lemma 3.1.

c) is a consequence of a) : if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbb{P}\mathbf{u}$ , then  $v_j = \sum_{k=1}^d R_j R_k(u_k)$ .

d) is a consequence of a) : if  $\mathcal{R} = (R_1, \dots, R_d)$ , we have the identity

$$-\Delta \mathbf{u} = \nabla \wedge (\nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}) - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

so that

$$\partial_k \mathbf{u} = R_k \mathcal{R} \wedge (\nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}) - R_k \mathcal{R}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}).$$

e) is a consequence of  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_2$  and of Lemma 3.1 : a classical inequality [4] states that we have  $|\theta_\epsilon * f| \leq \mathcal{M}_f$  (where  $\mathcal{M}_f$  is the Hardy–Littlewood maximal function of  $f$ ) and, similarly,  $|\partial_k(\theta_\epsilon * f)| \leq \mathcal{M}_{\partial_k f}$ .  $\diamond$

A final lemma states that  $\Phi$  is slowly decaying at infinity :

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $\Phi$  satisfy (H1) and (H2). Then there exists a constant  $C_3$  such that*

$$\frac{1}{(1 + |x|)^2} \leq C_3 \Phi.$$

If  $d = 3$  and  $\Phi$  depends only on  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{(1 + |r|)^2} \leq C_3 \Phi.$$

**Proof.** We define  $x_0 = \frac{1}{|x|}x$  and  $g(\lambda) = \Phi(\lambda x_0)$ . We have

$$g'(\lambda) = x_0 \cdot \nabla \Phi(\lambda x_0) \geq -C_1(\Phi(\lambda x_0))^{3/2} = -C_1 g(\lambda)^{3/2}.$$

Thus

$$C_1 \lambda \geq - \int_0^\lambda g'(\mu) g(\mu)^{-3/2} d\mu = 2(g(\lambda)^{-1/2} - g(0)^{-1/2})$$

and we get

$$\Phi(x)^{-1/2} \leq \Phi(0) + \frac{C_1}{2}|x| \leq \sqrt{C_3}(1 + |x|).$$

If  $\Phi$  depends only on  $r$ , we find that

$$\frac{1}{(1 + |r|)^2} \leq C_3 \Phi(x_1, x_2, 0) = C_3 \Phi(x).$$

$\diamond$

## 4 Proof of Theorem 1 (the case of $L^2(\Phi dx)$ )

### 4.1 A priori controls

Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be a real-valued test function which is equal to 1 in a neighborhood of 0 and let  $\phi_\epsilon(x) = \phi(\epsilon x)$ . Let

$$\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} = \mathbb{P}(\phi_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_0).$$

Thus,  $\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}$  is divergence free and converges to  $\mathbf{u}_0$  in  $L^2(\Phi dx)$  since  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}^2$ .

Let  $\theta_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\epsilon^d} \theta(\frac{x}{\epsilon})$ , where  $\theta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\theta$  is non-negative and radially decreasing and  $\int \theta dx = 1$ . We denote  $\mathbf{b}_\epsilon = \mathbf{u}_\epsilon * \theta_\epsilon$ . Let  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  be the unique global solution of the problem

$$(NS_\epsilon) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - (\mathbf{b}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \nabla p_\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = 0, & \mathbf{u}_\epsilon, (0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} \end{cases}$$

which belongs to  $\mathcal{C}([0, +\infty), L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)) \cap L^2((0, +\infty), \dot{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d))$ .

We want to demonstrate that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 ds \\ \leq \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^{2d} ds, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $C_\Phi$  does not depend on  $\epsilon$  nor on  $\mathbf{u}_0$ . (When  $d = 4$ , the inequality will hold only if  $\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}$  remains small enough).

Since  $\sqrt{\Phi}, \nabla \sqrt{\Phi} \in L^\infty$ , pointwise multiplication by  $\sqrt{\Phi}$  maps boundedly  $H^1$  to  $H^1$  and  $H^{-1}$  to  $H^{-1}$ . Thus,  $\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \in L^2 H^1$  and  $\sqrt{\Phi} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \in L^2 H^{-1}$ , we can calculate  $\int \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Phi dx$  and obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t, x)|^2}{2} \Phi dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 \Phi dx ds \\ = \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Phi dx - \int_0^t \int (\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \cdot (\nabla \Phi \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) dx ds \\ + \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon + p \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \right) \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

We use the fact that  $|\nabla \Phi| \leq C_0 \Phi^{\frac{3}{2}} \leq C_0 \Phi$ , in order to control the following term

$$\left| - \int_0^t \int (\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \cdot (\nabla \Phi \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) dx ds \right| \leq \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2.$$

Now, we analyze the integrals containing the pressure term. We distinguish two cases :

- **Case 1:**  $d = 2$  and  $r \in (1, 2]$ , or  $d = 3$  and  $r \in [\frac{6}{5}, 2]$ , or  $d = 4$  and  $r \in [\frac{4}{3}, 2)$ . For those values of  $d$  and  $r$  we have

$$0 \leq \frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r} \leq 1 \text{ and } \dot{H}^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}} \subset L^{2r}$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2} \leq 1 \text{ and } \dot{H}^{\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2}} \subset L^{\frac{r}{r-1}}.$$

Using the continuity of the Riesz transforms on  $L^r(\Phi^r dx)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \right) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds &\leq \int_0^t \|\Phi(|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon| + |p|)\|_r \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{r}{r-1}} \\ &\leq C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{2r} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{2r} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{r}{r-1}} ds \end{aligned}$$

Using the Sobolev embedding  $\dot{H}^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}} \subset L^{2r}$ , the fact that  $|\nabla \sqrt{\Phi}| \leq C \sqrt{\Phi}$ , and the continuity of the maximal function operator on  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{2r} \\ &\leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r})} \|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon)\|_2^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}} \\ &\leq C' \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2)^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}} \\ &\leq C'' \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2)^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{2r} \leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2)^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r}}.$$

Using the embedding  $\dot{H}^{\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2}} \subset L^{\frac{r}{r-1}}$ , we also have

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{r}{r-1}} \\ &\leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2})} \|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon)\|_{L^2}^{\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2}} \\ &\leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1 - (\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \right) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\ & \leq C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{3-\frac{d}{2}} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{d}{2}} ds. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Young inequality, we then find for  $d = 2$  or  $d = 3$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \right) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 ds + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2}^{\frac{12-2d}{4-d}} ds, \end{aligned}$$

where, as  $d \in \{2, 3\}$ , we have  $\frac{12-2d}{4-d} = 2d$ .

When  $d = 4$ , provided that  $\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 < \epsilon_0$  with  $C\epsilon_0 < \frac{1}{8}$  we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \right) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 ds + \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2}^2 ds, \end{aligned}$$

- **Case 2:**  $d = 3$  and  $r \in (1, \frac{6}{5})$ , or  $d = 4$  and  $r \in (1, \frac{4}{3})$ . Let  $q = \frac{dr}{d-r}$ ; for those values of  $d, r$  and  $q$ , we have

$$W^{1,r} \subset L^q$$

$$0 \leq \frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2r} \leq 1 \text{ and } \dot{H}^{d(1-\frac{1}{r})} \subset L^{\frac{2r}{2-r}}.$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2} - 1 \leq 1 \text{ and } \dot{H}^{\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2} - 1} \subset L^{\frac{q}{q-1}}.$$

Using the continuity of the Riesz transforms on  $L^r(\Phi^r dx)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \right) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\ & \leq \int_0^t \|\Phi |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2\|_q \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{q}{q-1}} ds + \int_0^t \|\Phi p\|_q \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{q}{q-1}} ds \\ & \leq C \int_0^t \|\Phi |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2\|_{W^{1,r}} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{q}{q-1}} ds + \sum_{ij} \int_0^t \|\Phi b_{\epsilon,i} u_{\epsilon,j}\|_{W^{1,r}} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{q}{q-1}} ds. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\Phi b_{\epsilon,i} u_{\epsilon,j}\|_{W^{1,r}} \\
& \leq \|\Phi b_{\epsilon,i} u_{\epsilon,j}\|_r + \sum_k (\|b_{\epsilon,i} u_{\epsilon,j} \partial_k \Phi\|_{L^r} + \|\Phi b_{\epsilon,i} \partial_k u_{\epsilon,j}\|_{L^r} + \|\Phi u_{\epsilon,i} \partial_k b_{\epsilon,j}\|_{L^r}) \\
& \leq C(\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{2r}{2-r}} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{2r}{2-r}} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{2r}{2-r}} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2), \\
& \leq C'(\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})(\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{\dot{H}^{d(1-\frac{1}{r})}} + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\dot{H}^{d(1-\frac{1}{r})}}).
\end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\dot{H}^{d(1-\frac{1}{r})}} \\
& \leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2^{1-(d-\frac{d}{r})} \|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon)\|_2^{d-\frac{d}{r}} \\
& \leq C' \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2^{1-(d-\frac{d}{r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2)^{d-\frac{d}{r}} \\
& \leq C'' \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1-(d-\frac{d}{r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{d-\frac{d}{r}},
\end{aligned}$$

and finally we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{i,j} \|\Phi b_{\epsilon,i} u_{\epsilon,j}\|_{W^{1,r}} + \|\Phi |u_\epsilon|^2\|_{W^{1,r}} \\
& \leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{1-(d-\frac{d}{r})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{1+d-\frac{d}{r}}.
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_{\frac{q}{q-1}} \\
& \leq C \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon\|_2^{2-(\frac{d}{r}-\frac{d}{2})} \|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{b}_\epsilon)\|_2^{\frac{d}{r}-\frac{d}{2}-1} \\
& \leq C' \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{2-(\frac{d}{r}-\frac{d}{2})} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{d}{r}-\frac{d}{2}-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we find again

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^t \int (\frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\
& \leq C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{3-\frac{d}{2}} (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{d}{2}} ds.
\end{aligned}$$

and we conclude in the same way as for the first case.

In the Case 1 and Case 2, we have found

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^t \int (\frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{b}_\epsilon|}{2} + |p| |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|) |\nabla \Phi| dx ds \\
& \leq \frac{1}{8} \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2}^{2d} ds.
\end{aligned}$$

From these controls, we get inequality (3), and thus inequality (2). Inequality (2) gives us a control on the size of  $\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2$  on an interval of time that does not depend on  $\epsilon$  :

**Lemma 4.1** *If  $\alpha$  is a continuous non-negative function on  $[0, T]$  which satisfies, for three constants  $A, B \in (0, +\infty)$  and  $b \in [1, \infty)$ ,*

$$\alpha(t) \leq A + B \int_0^t \alpha(s) + \alpha(s)^b ds.$$

*Let  $0 < T_1 < T$  and  $T_0 = \min(T_1, \frac{1}{3^b(A^{b-1} + (BT_1)^{b-1})})$ . We have, for every  $t \in [0, T_0]$ ,  $\alpha(t) \leq 3A$ .*

**Proof.** We try to estimate the first time  $T^* < T_1$  (if it exists) for which we have

$$\alpha(T^*) = 3A.$$

We have

$$\alpha \leq \frac{A}{BT_1} + \left(\frac{BT_1}{A}\right)^{b-1} \alpha^b.$$

We thus find

$$\alpha(T^*) \leq 2A + T^*(3A)^b \left(1 + \left(\frac{BT_1}{A}\right)^{b-1}\right)$$

and thus

$$T^* 3^b (A^{b-1} + (BT_1)^{b-1}) \geq 1.$$

◇

By Lemma 4.1 and (2), we thus find that there exists a constant  $C_\Phi \geq 1$  such that if  $T_0$  satisfies

- if  $d = 2$ ,  $C_\Phi \left(1 + \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2\right) T_0 \leq 1$
- if  $d = 3$ ,  $C_\Phi \left(1 + \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2\right)^2 T_0 \leq 1$
- if  $d = 4$  and  $\|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} \leq \frac{1}{C_\Phi}$ ,  $C_\Phi T_0 \leq 1$

then

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_0} \|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 + \int_0^{T_0} \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 ds \leq C_\Phi (1 + \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2). \quad (4)$$

## 4.2 Passage to the limit and local existence

We know that  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^\infty((0, T_0), L^2(\Phi dx))$  and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^2((0, T_0), L^2(\Phi dx))$ . This will allow us to use a simple variant of the Aubin–Lions theorem :

**Lemma 4.2 (Aubin–Lions theorem)** *Let  $s > 0$ ,  $1 < q$  and  $\sigma < 0$ . Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions on  $(0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^d$  such that, for all  $T_0 \in (0, T)$  and all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,*

- $\varphi f_n$  is bounded in  $L^2((0, T_0), H^s)$
- $\varphi \partial_t f_n$  is bounded in  $L^q((0, T_0), H^\sigma)$ .

*Then, there exists a subsequence  $(f_{n_k})$  such that  $f_{n_k}$  is strongly convergent in  $L^2_{\text{loc}}([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d)$ . More precisely : if we denote  $f_\infty$  the limit, then for all  $T_0 \in (0, T)$  and all  $R_0 > 0$ ,*

$$\lim_{n_k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{T_0} \int_{|x| \leq R_0} |f_{n_k} - f_\infty|^2 dx dt = 0.$$

For a proof of the Lemma, see [1, 6].

We want to verify that  $\varphi \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^\alpha((0, T_0), H^{-s})$  for some  $s \in (-\infty, 0)$  and some  $\alpha > 1$ .

In Case 1, we have that  $\Phi \mathbf{b}_\epsilon \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  and  $\Phi p_\epsilon = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 R_i R_j (b_{\epsilon, i} u_{\epsilon, j})$  are bounded in  $L^{\alpha_1}((0, T_0), L^r)$ , where  $\alpha_1 = \frac{2r}{dr-d}$ , so that  $\alpha_1 \in [2, \infty)$  if  $d = 2$ ,  $\alpha_1 \in [\frac{4}{3}, 4]$  if  $d = 3$  and  $\alpha_1 \in (1, 2]$  if  $d = 4$ .

In Case 2, we have that  $\Phi \mathbf{b}_\epsilon \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  and  $\Phi p_\epsilon$  are bounded in  $L^{\alpha_2}((0, T_0), W^{1, r})$ , where  $\alpha_2 = \frac{2r}{r+dr-d}$  and thus it is bounded in  $L^{\alpha_2} L^q$ , with  $q = \frac{dr}{d-r}$ . We have  $\alpha_2 \in (\frac{4}{3}, 2)$  if  $d = 3$  and  $\alpha_2 \in (1, 2)$  if  $d = 4$ .

Let  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . We have that  $\varphi \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^2((0, T_0), H^1)$ ; moreover, writing

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \left( \sum_{j=1}^3 \partial_j (b_{\epsilon, j} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) + \nabla p_\epsilon \right)$$

and using the embeddings  $L^r \subset \dot{H}^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{r}} \subset H^{-1}$  (in Case 1) or  $L^{\frac{dr}{d-r}} \subset H^{-(\frac{d}{r} - \frac{d}{2} - 1)} \subset H^{-1}$  (in Case 2) we see that  $\varphi \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^{\alpha_i}((0, T_0), H^{-2})$ .

Thus, by the Aubin–Lions theorem, there exist  $\mathbf{u}$  and a sequence  $(\epsilon_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  converging to 0 such that  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converges strongly to  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $L^2_{\text{loc}}([0, T_0] \times \mathbb{R}^3)$ :



for every  $\tilde{T} \in (0, T_0)$  and every  $R > 0$ , we have

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{\tilde{T}} \int_{|y| < R} |\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} - \mathbf{u}|^2 dx ds = 0.$$

Then, we have that  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converge \*-weakly to  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $L^\infty((0, T_0), L^2(\Phi dx))$ ,  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converges weakly to  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  in  $L^2((0, T_0), L^2(\Phi dx))$ , and  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converges weakly to  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $L^3((0, T_0), L^3(\Phi^{\frac{3}{2}} dx))$ . We deduce that  $\mathbf{b}_{\epsilon_k} \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is weakly convergent in  $(L^{6/5} L^{6/5})_{\text{loc}}$  to  $\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u}$  and thus in  $\mathcal{D}'((0, T_0) \times \mathbb{R}^d)$ ; as in Case 1, it is bounded in  $L^{\alpha_1}((0, T_0), L^r)$ , and in Case 2 it is bounded in  $L^{\alpha_2}((0, T_0), W^{1,r})$ , it is weakly convergent in these spaces respectively (as  $\mathcal{D}$  is dense in their dual spaces).

By the continuity of the Riesz transforms on  $L^r(\Phi^r dx)$  and on  $W^{1,r}(\Phi^r dx)$ , we find that in the Case 1 and Case 2,  $p_{\epsilon_k}$  is convergent to the distribution  $p = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 R_i R_j (u_i u_j)$ . We have obtained

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p.$$

Moreover, we have seen that  $\partial_t \mathbf{u}$  is locally in  $L^1 H^{-2}$ , and thus  $\mathbf{u}$  has representative such that  $t \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  is continuous from  $[0, T_0)$  to  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and coincides with  $\mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) + \int_0^t \partial_t \mathbf{u} ds$ .

In the sense of distributions, we have

$$\mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) + \int_0^t \partial_t \mathbf{u} ds = \mathbf{u} = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{u}_{0, \epsilon_k} + \int_0^t \partial_t \mathbf{u}_{n_k} ds = \mathbf{u}_0 + \int_0^t \partial_t \mathbf{u} ds,$$

hence,  $\mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0$ , and  $\mathbf{u}$  is a solution of  $(NS)$ .

Now, we want to prove the energy balance. In the case of dimension 2, we remark that, since  $\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u} \in L^\infty L^2 \cap L^2 H^1$ , we have by interpolation that  $\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u} \in L^4 L^4$ , and then we can define  $((\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{u}$ . The equality

$$\partial_t \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \right) = \Delta \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \right) - |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2 - \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \mathbf{u} \right) - \nabla \cdot (p \mathbf{u})$$

is then easy to prove.

Let us consider the case  $d \geq 3$ . We define

$$A_\epsilon = -\partial_t \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2}{2} \right) + \Delta \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2}{2} \right) - \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \right) - \nabla \cdot (p_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) = |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon|^2.$$

As  $u_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally strongly convergent in  $L^2 L^2$ ; and locally bounded in  $L^\infty L^2$ , it is then locally strongly convergent in  $L^{p'} L^2$ , with  $p' < \infty$ . Then, as  $\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^2((0, T), L^2)$ , by the Gagliardo-Nirenberg interpolation

inequalities we obtain  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally strongly convergent in  $L^{p'}L^{q'}$  with  $\frac{2}{p'} + \frac{3}{q'} > \frac{d}{2}$ .

In Case 1, we know that  $p_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally weakly convergent in  $L^\alpha L^r$  and we know that  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally strongly convergent in  $L^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}L^{\frac{r}{r-1}}$ , and hence  $p_{\epsilon_k}\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converges in the sense of distributions.

In Case 2, we know that  $p_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally weakly convergent in  $L^\beta L^q$  and we know that  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is locally strongly convergent in  $L^{\frac{\beta}{\beta-1}}L^{\frac{q}{q-1}}$ , and hence  $p_{\epsilon_k}\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  converges in the sense of distributions.

Thus,  $A_{\epsilon_k}$  is convergent in  $\mathcal{D}'((0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^d)$  to

$$A = -\partial_t\left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\right) + \Delta\left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\right) - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\mathbf{u}\right) - \nabla \cdot (p\mathbf{u}),$$

and  $A = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2$ . If  $\theta \in \mathcal{D}((0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^d)$  is non-negative, we have that  $\sqrt{\theta}\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is weakly convergent in  $L^2L^2$  to  $\sqrt{\theta}\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$ , so that

$$\iint A\theta \, dx \, ds = \lim_{\epsilon_k \rightarrow +\infty} \iint A_{\epsilon_k}\theta \, dx \, ds = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \iint |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2\theta \, dx \, ds \geq \iint |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}|^2\theta \, dx \, ds.$$

Hence, there exists a non-negative locally finite measure  $\mu$  on  $(0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^3$  such that  $A = |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2 + \mu$ , i.e. such that

$$\partial_t\left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\right) = \Delta\left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\right) - |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2 - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2}\mathbf{u}\right) - \nabla \cdot (p\mathbf{u}) - \mu.$$

### 4.3 Convergence to the initial data

In order to take the limit to  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , first we introduce a test function  $0 \leq \varphi \leq 1$  which is equal to 1 in a neighborhood of 0 and we let  $\varphi_R(x) = \varphi\left(\frac{x}{R}\right)$ . We have,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}(t, x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi \, dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2 \varphi_R \Phi \, dx \, ds \\ &= \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi \, dx - \sum_{1 \leq i \leq d} \int_0^t \int \partial_i \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} (\partial_i \varphi_R \Phi + \partial_i \Phi \varphi_R) \, dx \, ds \\ &+ \sum_i \int_0^t \int \left(\frac{|\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2}{2} \mathbf{b}_{\epsilon_k,i} + p_{\epsilon} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k,i}\right) (\partial_i \varphi_R \Phi + \partial_i \Phi \varphi_R) \, dx \, ds \end{aligned}$$

and then we find

$$\begin{aligned}
& \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}(t, x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2 \varphi_R \Phi dx ds \\
&= \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx - \sum_{1 \leq i \leq d} \int_0^t \int \partial_i \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} (\partial_i \varphi_R \Phi + \partial_i \Phi \varphi_R) dx ds \\
&+ \sum_i \int_0^t \int \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} + p \right) \mathbf{u}_i (\partial_i \varphi_R \Phi + \partial_i \Phi \varphi_R) dx ds.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} = \mathbf{u}_{0, \epsilon_k} + \int_0^t \partial_t \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k} ds$ , we see that  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}(t, \cdot)$  is convergent to  $\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , hence is weakly convergent in  $L^2_{\text{loc}}$  (as it is bounded in  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ ), so that :

$$\int \frac{|\mathbf{u}(t, x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int \frac{|\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}(t, x)|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx.$$

On the other hand, as  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$  is weakly convergent in  $L^2 L^2(\Phi dx)$ , we have

$$\int_0^t \int \frac{|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx ds \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t \int \frac{|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}|^2}{2} \varphi_R \Phi dx ds.$$

Thus, letting  $R$  go to  $+\infty$ , we find by dominated convergence for every  $t \in (0, T_0)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(s, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 ds \\
& \leq \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 - \int_0^t \int \nabla(|\mathbf{u}|^2) \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds + \int_0^t \int (|\mathbf{u}|^2 \mathbf{u} + 2p\mathbf{u}) \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds
\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $t$  go to 0, we find

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 \leq \|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2.$$

As  $\mathbf{u}$  is weakly continuous in  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ , we also have

$$\|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 \leq \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2.$$

This gives  $\|\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2$ , which allows to turn the weak convergence into a strong convergence.  $\diamond$

#### 4.4 Global existence using a scaling argument

Let  $\lambda > 0$ , then  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  is a solution of the Cauchy initial value problem for the approximated Navier–Stokes equations ( $NS_\epsilon$ ) on  $(0, T)$  with initial value  $\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t, x) = \lambda \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(\lambda^2 t, \lambda x)$  is a solution for the approximated Navier–Stokes equations ( $NS_{\lambda\epsilon}$ ) on  $(0, T/\lambda^2)$  with initial value  $\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon,\lambda}(x) = \lambda \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}(\lambda x)$ . We shall write  $\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda} = \lambda \mathbf{u}_0(\lambda x)$ .

We have seen that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \leq \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon,\lambda}\|_{L^2}^2 + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}\|_{L^2}^{2d} ds \end{aligned}$$

(under the extra condition, when  $d = 4$ , that  $\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t)\|_{L^2}$  remains smaller than  $\epsilon_0$ ).

By Lemma 4.1, we thus found that there exists a constant  $C_\Phi \geq 1$  such that if  $T_\lambda$  satisfies

- if  $d = 2$ ,  $C_\Phi \left(1 + \|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2\right) T_\lambda = 1$
- if  $d = 3$ ,  $C_\Phi \left(1 + \|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2\right)^2 T_\lambda = 1$
- if  $d = 4$  and  $\|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} \leq \frac{1}{C_\Phi}$ ,  $C_\Phi T_\lambda = 1$

then

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_\lambda} \|\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 + \int_0^{T_\lambda} \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 ds \leq C_\Phi (1 + \|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2). \quad (5)$$

It gives that the solutions  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  are controlled, uniformly in  $\epsilon$ , on  $(0, \lambda^2 T_\lambda)$  since for  $t \in (0, T_\lambda)$ ,

$$\int |\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t, x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx = \int |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon(\lambda^2 t, y)|^2 \Phi\left(\frac{y}{\lambda}\right) \lambda^{2-d} dy \geq \lambda^{2-d} \int |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon(\lambda^2 t, x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{T_\lambda} \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t, x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx dt &= \int_0^{\lambda^2 T_\lambda} \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(s, y)|^2 \Phi\left(\frac{y}{\lambda}\right) \lambda^{2-d} dy ds \\ &\geq \lambda^{2-d} \int_0^{\lambda^2 T_\lambda} \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t, x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^{T_\lambda} \int |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}(t, x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx dt \geq C_\lambda \int_0^{\lambda^2 T_\lambda} \|\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)}^2 ds.$$

Moreover, we have  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} = 0$  when  $d = 4$  and  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda^2 T_\lambda = +\infty$  when  $2 \leq d \leq 4$ . Indeed, we have

$$\int \lambda^2 |\mathbf{u}_0(\lambda x)|^2 \Phi(x) dx = \lambda^{2-d} \int |\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2 \Phi\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right) dx = \lambda^{4-d} \int |\mathbf{u}_0(x)|^2 \frac{\Phi\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)}{\lambda^2 \Phi(x)} \Phi(x) dx$$

Since  $\frac{\Phi\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)}{\lambda^2 \Phi(x)} \leq \min\{C_2, \frac{1}{\lambda^2 \Phi(x)}\}$  by hypothesis **(H4)**, we find by dominated convergence that  $\|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} = o(\lambda^{\frac{4-d}{2}})$  and thus  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda^2 T_\lambda = +\infty$ .

Thus, if we consider a finite time  $T$  and a sequence  $\epsilon_k$ , we may choose  $\lambda$  such that  $\lambda^2 T_\lambda > T$  (and such that  $\|\mathbf{u}_{0,\lambda}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} < \epsilon_0$  if  $d = 4$ ); we have a uniform control of  $\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}$  and of  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,\lambda}$  on  $(0, T_\lambda)$ , hence a uniform control of  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  and of  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  on  $(0, T)$ . We may exhibit a solution on  $(0, T)$  using the Rellich–Lions theorem by extracting a subsequence  $\epsilon_{k_n}$ . A diagonal argument permits then to obtain a global solution.

Theorem 1 is proved.  $\diamond$

## 5 Proof of Theorem 2 (the case $d = 2$ ).

In the case of dimension  $d = 2$ , the Navier–Stokes equations are well-posed in  $H^1$  and we don't need to mollify the equations. Thus, we may approximate the Navier–Stokes equations with

$$(NS_\epsilon) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \nabla p_\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = 0, & \mathbf{u}_\epsilon, (0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} \end{cases}$$

with

$$\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} = \mathbb{P}(\phi_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_0).$$

Then the vorticity  $\omega_\epsilon$  is solution of

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \omega_\epsilon = \Delta \omega_\epsilon - (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \omega_\epsilon = 0, & \omega_\epsilon, (0, \cdot) = \omega_{0,\epsilon} \end{cases}$$

with

$$\omega_{0,\epsilon} = \nabla \wedge (\phi_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_0).$$

$\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}$  belongs to  $H^1$ , so we know that we have a global solution  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$ . We then just have to prove that, for every finite time  $T_0$ , we have a uniform control of the norms  $\|\omega_\epsilon\|_{L^\infty((0,T_0),L^2(\Phi dx))}$  and  $\|\nabla \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2((0,T_0),L^2(\Phi dx))}$ .

We can calculate  $\int \partial_t \omega_\epsilon \cdot \omega_\epsilon \Phi dx$  so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon(t, x)|^2}{2} \Phi dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \omega_\epsilon|^2 \Phi dx ds \\ &= \int \frac{|\omega_{0, \epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Phi dx - \int_0^t \int \nabla \left( \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \right) \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds. \end{aligned}$$

As

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Phi dx ds &\leq \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}}^2 \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^4} \\ &\leq \int_0^t (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^{3/4} \|\nabla(\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon)\|_{L^2}^{1/4})^2 \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^4} ds \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$\|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_{0, \epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 (1 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^4}^{\frac{4}{3}}) ds$$

We can conclude that, for all  $T > 0$  and for all  $t \in (0, T)$ ,

$$\|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \nabla \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \|\sqrt{\Phi} \omega_{0, \epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 e^{C_\Phi \sup_{\epsilon > 0} \int_0^t (1 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^4})^{\frac{4}{3}} ds}$$

Thus, we have uniform controls on  $(0, T)$ .  $\diamond$

## 6 Proof of Theorems 3 and 4 (the axisymmetric case)

### 6.1 Axisymmetry.

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , we consider the usual coordinates  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and the cylindrical coordinates  $(r, \theta, z)$  given by the formulas  $x_1 = r \cos \theta$ ,  $x_2 = r \sin \theta$  and  $x_3 = z$ .

We denote  $(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3)$  the usual canonical basis

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, 0, 0), \quad \mathbf{e}_2 = (0, 1, 0), \quad \mathbf{e}_3 = (0, 0, 1).$$

We attach to the point  $x$  (with  $r \neq 0$ ) another orthonormal basis

$$\mathbf{e}_r = \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} = \cos \theta \mathbf{e}_1 + \sin \theta \mathbf{e}_2, \quad \mathbf{e}_\theta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} = -\sin \theta \mathbf{e}_1 + \cos \theta \mathbf{e}_2, \quad \mathbf{e}_z = \frac{\partial x}{\partial z} = \mathbf{e}_3.$$

For a vector field  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3) = u_1\mathbf{e}_1 + u_2\mathbf{e}_2 + u_3\mathbf{e}_3$ , we can see that

$$\mathbf{u} = (u_1 \cos \theta + u_2 \sin \theta) \mathbf{e}_r + (-u_1 \sin \theta + u_2 \cos \theta) \mathbf{e}_\theta + u_3 \mathbf{e}_z.$$

We will denote  $(u_r, u_\theta, u_z)_p$  the coordinates of  $\mathbf{u}$  in the basis  $(\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta, \mathbf{e}_z)$ . We will consider axially symmetric (axisymmetric) vector fields  $\mathbf{u}$  without swirl and axisymmetric scalar functions  $a$ , which means that

$$\mathbf{u} = u_r(r, z) \mathbf{e}_r + u_z(r, z) \mathbf{e}_z \quad \text{and} \quad a = a(r, z).$$

## 6.2 The $H^1$ case.

We will use the following well known results of Ladyzhenskaya [5, 6].

**Proposition 6.1** *Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free axisymmetric vector field without swirl, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0$  belongs to  $H^1$ . Then, the following problem*

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{C}([0, +\infty), H^1)$ . This solution is axisymmetric without swirl. Moreover,  $\mathbf{u}, \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^\infty((0, +\infty), L^2)$ , and  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}, \Delta \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^2((0, +\infty), L^2)$ .

If  $\mathbf{u}_0 \in H^2$ , we have the inequality

$$\int \frac{|\omega(t)|^2}{r^2} dx \leq \int \frac{|\omega_0|^2}{r^2} \leq \|\nabla \otimes \omega_0\|_2^2.$$

## 6.3 A priori controls

Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be a real-valued radial function which is equal to 1 in a neighborhood of 0 and let  $\phi_\epsilon(x) = \phi(\epsilon(x_1, x_2))$ . For  $\epsilon \in (0, 1]$ , let

$$\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} = \mathbb{P}(\phi_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_0).$$

Thus,  $\mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}$  is a divergence free axisymmetric without swirl vector field which belongs to  $H^1$ . As we have

$$\omega_{0,\epsilon} = \nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} = \nabla \wedge (\phi_\epsilon \mathbf{u}_0) = \phi_\epsilon \omega_0 + \epsilon (\nabla \phi)(\epsilon x) \wedge \mathbf{u}_0,$$

using  $\Phi \in \mathcal{A}_2$  and  $|\epsilon \nabla \phi(\epsilon x)| \leq C \frac{1}{r} \mathbf{1}_{r \geq \frac{1}{C\epsilon}} \leq C' \mathbf{1}_{r \geq \frac{1}{C\epsilon}} \sqrt{\Phi}$ , we can see that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2(\Phi dx)} + \|\omega_0 - \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2(\Psi dx)} = 0.$$

Let  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon$  be the global solution of the problem

$$(NS_\epsilon) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \nabla p_\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = 0, & \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_{0,\epsilon} \end{cases}$$

given by the Proposition 6.1. We denote  $\omega_\epsilon = \nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}_\epsilon$ , then

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u}_\epsilon = \Delta \mathbf{u}_\epsilon + (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - \nabla p_\epsilon \quad (6)$$

and

$$\partial_t \omega_\epsilon = \Delta \omega_\epsilon + (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon - (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon \quad (7)$$

As  $\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon \in L^2 H^1$  (because  $\sqrt{\Psi}, \nabla \sqrt{\Psi} \in L^\infty$ ) and  $\sqrt{\Psi} \partial_t \omega_\epsilon \in L^2 H^{-1}$ , we can calculate  $\int \partial_t \omega_\epsilon \cdot \omega_\epsilon \Psi dx$  using (7) so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon(t, x)|^2}{2} \Psi dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi dx ds \\ &= \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Psi dx - \int_0^t \int \nabla \left( \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \right) \cdot \nabla \Psi dx ds \\ & \quad + \int_0^t \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Psi - (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Psi dx \\ & \quad - \int_0^t \int ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon) \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Psi dx ds \\ & \leq \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Psi dx + \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi dx ds + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 ds \\ & \quad + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2 \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_6 \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_3 ds \\ & \quad - \int_0^t \int ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon) \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Psi dx ds \\ & \leq \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Psi dx + \frac{1}{4} \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi dx ds + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 ds \\ & \quad + C' \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_3 + (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_3^{4/3})) ds \\ & \quad - \int_0^t \int ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon) \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Psi dx ds \end{aligned}$$

As  $\omega_\epsilon = \omega_{\epsilon,\theta} \mathbf{e}_\theta$ , we have

$$\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \omega_\epsilon = -\frac{\omega_{\epsilon,\theta}^2}{r} \mathbf{e}_r.$$



In order to control  $\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \omega_\epsilon)$ , we split the domain of integration in a domain where  $r$  is small and a domain where  $r$  is large. The support of  $\phi_1$  is contained in  $\{x / r < R\}$  for some  $R > 0\}$ , and the support of  $1 - \phi_1$  is contained in  $\{x / r > R_0\}$  for some  $R_0 > 0\}$ . We have

$$\inf_{r < R} \Phi(x) = \inf_{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} < R} \Phi(x_1, x_2, 0) > 0$$

and similarly

$$\inf_{r < R} \Psi(x) = \inf_{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} < R} \Psi(x_1, x_2, 0) > 0.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\inf_{r > R_0} r^2 \Phi(x) = \inf_{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} > R_0} (x_1^2 + x_2^2)^2 \Phi(x_1, x_2, 0) \geq \inf_{|x| > R_0} |x|^2 \Phi(x) > 0.$$

We then write :

$$\begin{aligned} & - \int_0^t \int ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon) \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Psi \, dx \, ds \\ & = \int_0^t \int \phi_1 ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \cdot \omega_\epsilon \Psi \, dx \, ds + \int_0^t \int (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \phi_1) \Psi \, dx \, ds \\ & \quad + \int_0^t \int \phi_1 (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Psi \, dx \, ds \\ & \quad - \int_0^t \int (1 - \phi_1) (\mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \omega_\epsilon)) \Psi \, dx \, ds \\ & \leq C \int_0^t \int |\omega_\epsilon|^2 |\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \Psi^{3/2} \, dx \, ds + C \int_0^t \int |\omega_\epsilon|^2 |\mathbf{u}_\epsilon| \sqrt{\Phi} \Psi \, dx \, ds. \end{aligned}$$

As  $\Psi \in \mathcal{A}_2$ , we have  $\|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 \approx \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2$ ; moreover,

$$\|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon)\|_2 \leq C (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2)$$

and

$$\|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon)\|_2 \leq C (\|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_2),$$

and thus we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \int_0^t \int ((\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla) \omega_\epsilon) \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \Psi \, dx \, ds \\
& \leq C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^3} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^6} \, ds + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^6} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^3} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} \, ds \\
& \leq C' \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^{\frac{3}{2}} (\|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{3}{2}} \, ds \\
& \quad + C' \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^{\frac{3}{2}} (\|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}} \, ds \\
& \leq C'' \int_0^t (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{4/3}) \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^3 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^6 \, ds \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{8} \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 \, ds
\end{aligned}$$

We finally find that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \, ds \\
& \leq \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + C \int (1 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_3 + (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_3^{4/3}) \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 \, ds \\
& \quad + C \int_0^t (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{4/3}) \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^3 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^6 \, ds \quad (8) \\
& \leq \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 \\
& \quad + C' \int_0^t (1 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_2^{4/3}) \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^2 + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_2^6 \, ds
\end{aligned}$$

We already know that  $\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}$  remains bounded (independently of  $\epsilon$ ) on every bounded interval, so that we may again use Lemma 4.1 and control  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T_0} \|\omega_\epsilon(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\Psi dx)}^2 + \int_0^{T_0} \|\nabla \omega\|_{L^2(\Psi dx)}^2 \, ds$  for some  $T_0$ , where both  $T_0$  and the control don't depend on  $\epsilon$ . The control is then transferred to the limit  $\omega$  since  $\omega = \lim \omega_{\epsilon_k} = \lim \nabla \wedge \mathbf{u}_{\epsilon_k}$ . This proves local existence of a regular solution and Theorem 3 is proved.

## 6.4 The case of a very regular initial value.

We present a result apparently more restrictive than our main Theorem (Theorem 4), but we will see that it implies almost directly our main Theorem.

**Proposition 6.2** *Let  $\Phi$  be a weight satisfying (H1) – (H4). Assume moreover that  $\Phi$  depends only on  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ . Let  $\Psi$  be another continuous weight (that depends only on  $r$ ) such that  $\Phi \leq \Psi \leq 1$ ,  $\Psi \in \mathcal{A}_2$  and there exists  $C_1 > 0$  such that*

$$|\nabla\Psi| \leq C_1\sqrt{\Phi}\Psi \text{ and } |\Delta\Psi| \leq C_1\Phi\Psi.$$

*Let  $\mathbf{u}_0$  be a divergence free axisymmetric vector field without swirl, such that  $\mathbf{u}_0$ , belongs to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$ ,  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}_0$  and  $\Delta\mathbf{u}_0$  belong to  $L^2(\Psi dx)$ . Then there exists a global solution  $\mathbf{u}$  of the problem*

$$(NS) \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = \Delta \mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, & \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

such that

- $\mathbf{u}$  is axisymmetric without swirl,  $\mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Phi dx))$ ,  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}$  belong to  $L^\infty((0, T), L^2(\Psi dx))$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{u}$  belongs to  $L^2((0, T), L^2(\Psi dx))$ , for all  $T > 0$ ,
- the maps  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  and  $t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)$  are weakly continuous from  $[0, +\infty)$  to  $L^2(\Phi dx)$  and to  $L^2(\Psi dx)$  respectively, and are strongly continuous at  $t = 0$ ,

**Proof.**

Ladyzenskaya's inequality for axisymmetric fields with no swirl (Proposition 6.1) gives

$$\int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon(t)|^2}{r^2} dx \leq \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon}|^2}{r^2} dx. \quad (9)$$

As we have

$$\partial_i \omega_{0,\epsilon} = \phi_\epsilon \partial_i \omega_0 + \epsilon \partial_i \phi(\epsilon x) \omega_0 + \epsilon (\nabla \phi)(\epsilon x) \wedge \partial_i \mathbf{u}_0 + \epsilon^2 (\nabla \partial_i \phi)(\epsilon x) \wedge \mathbf{u}_0,$$

we can see that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\nabla \otimes \omega_{0,\epsilon} - \nabla \otimes \omega_0\|_{L^2(\Psi dx)} = 0.$$

As

$$\int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon} - \omega_0|^2}{r^2} dx \leq C \left( \int_{0 < r < 1} |\nabla \otimes \omega_{0,\epsilon} - \nabla \otimes \omega_0|^2 \Psi dx + \int_{1 < r < +\infty} |\omega_{0,\epsilon} - \omega_0|^2 \Psi dx \right),$$

we also have

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon} - \omega_0|^2}{r^2} dx = 0.$$

We know that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon(t, x)|^2}{2} \Psi \, dx + \int_0^t \int |\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi \, dx \, ds \\
&= \int \frac{|\omega_{0,\epsilon}(x)|^2}{2} \Psi \, dx - \int_0^t \int \nabla \left( \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \right) \cdot \nabla \Psi \, dx \, ds \\
&+ \int_0^t \int \frac{|\omega_\epsilon|^2}{2} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Psi \, dx \, ds \\
&- \int_0^t \int (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{u}_\epsilon) \omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \Psi \, dx \, ds - \int_0^t \int \mathbf{u}_\epsilon (\omega_\epsilon \cdot \nabla \omega_\epsilon) \Psi \, dx \, ds
\end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \\
&\leq \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + 2 \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} \\
&+ \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^3}^2 \\
&+ \int_0^t \frac{1}{r} |\mathbf{u}_{r,\epsilon}| |\omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi \, dx \, ds
\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we have

$$\int_0^t \int \frac{1 - \phi_1(x)}{r} |\mathbf{u}_{r,\epsilon}| |\omega_\epsilon|^2 \Psi \, dx \, ds \leq \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^3}^2$$

and

$$\int_0^t \int \frac{\phi_1(x)}{r} |\mathbf{u}_{\epsilon,r}| |\omega_\epsilon|^2 \, dx \, ds \leq C \int_0^t \left\| \frac{\omega_\epsilon}{r} \right\|_{L^2} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^\infty} \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\| \frac{\omega_\epsilon}{r} \right\|_{L^2} &\leq C \left\| \frac{\omega_{0,\epsilon}}{r} \right\|_{L^2} \leq C (\|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}) \\
&\leq C' (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_0\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_0\|_{L^2})
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\|\sqrt{\Psi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^\infty}^2 \leq C \|\nabla \otimes (\sqrt{\Psi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon)\|_2 \|\Delta (\sqrt{\Psi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon)\|_2 \leq C' (\|\sqrt{\Phi} \mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi} \nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2})^2.$$

Then, if we denote  $A_0 = \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_0\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_0\|_{L^2} + \|\sqrt{\Psi}\nabla \otimes \omega_0\|_{L^2}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi}\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \leq \|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + C \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \quad + C_\Phi \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 (1 + A_0 + A_0^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3} + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3}^2) ds \end{aligned}$$

We can then conclude that, for all  $T > 0$  and for all  $t \in (0, T)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_\epsilon(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int_0^t \|\sqrt{\Psi}\nabla \otimes \omega_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \leq (\|\sqrt{\Psi}\omega_{0,\epsilon}\|_{L^2}^2 + C_\Phi \sup_{\epsilon>0} \int_0^T \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^2}^2) e^{C_\Phi \sup_{\epsilon>0} \int_0^t (1 + A_0^2 + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3} + \|\sqrt{\Phi}\mathbf{u}_\epsilon\|_{L^3}^2) ds} \end{aligned}$$

Then, we can obtain a solution on  $(0, T)$  using the Aubin–Lions Theorem and finish with a diagonal argument to get a global solution.  $\diamond$

## 6.5 End of the proof.

We begin by consider a local solution  $\mathbf{v}$  on  $(0, T_0)$  with initial value  $\mathbf{u}_0$  given by Theorem 3, which is continuous from  $(0, T_0)$  to  $\mathcal{D}'$ . We take  $T_1 \in (0, T_0)$  such that  $\nabla \otimes (\nabla \wedge \mathbf{v})(T_1, \cdot) \in L^2(\Phi dx)$ . We consider a solution  $\mathbf{w}$  on  $(T_1, +\infty)$  and initial value  $\mathbf{v}(T_1)$  given by Proposition 6.2. Our global solution is defined as  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$  on  $(0, T_1)$  and  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w}$  on  $(T_1, +\infty)$ .  $\diamond$

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