

**This is an electronic reprint of the original article.  
This reprint *may differ* from the original in pagination and typographic detail.**

**Author(s):** Křížek, Michal; Neittaanmäki, Pekka

**Title:** Solvability of a first order system in three-dimensional non-smooth domains

**Year:** 1985

**Version:**

**Please cite the original version:**

Křížek, M. & Neittaanmäki, P. (2085). Solvability of a first order system in three-dimensional non-smooth domains. *Aplikace matematiky*, 30 (4), 307-315. Retrieved from [http://dml.cz/bitstream/handle/10338.dmlcz/104154/AplMat\\_30-1985-4\\_8.pdf](http://dml.cz/bitstream/handle/10338.dmlcz/104154/AplMat_30-1985-4_8.pdf)

All material supplied via JYX is protected by copyright and other intellectual property rights, and duplication or sale of all or part of any of the repository collections is not permitted, except that material may be duplicated by you for your research use or educational purposes in electronic or print form. You must obtain permission for any other use. Electronic or print copies may not be offered, whether for sale or otherwise to anyone who is not an authorised user.

Michal Křížek; Pekka Neittaanmäki

Solvability of a first order system in three-dimensional non-smooth domains

*Aplikace matematiky*, Vol. 30 (1985), No. 4, 307--315

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/104154>

## Terms of use:

© Institute of Mathematics AS CR, 1985

Institute of Mathematics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic provides access to digitized documents strictly for personal use. Each copy of any part of this document must contain these *Terms of use*.



This paper has been digitized, optimized for electronic delivery and stamped with digital signature within the project *DML-CZ: The Czech Digital Mathematics Library* <http://project.dml.cz>

SOLVABILITY OF A FIRST ORDER SYSTEM  
IN THREE-DIMENSIONAL NON-SMOOTH DOMAINS

MICHAL KRÍŽEK, PEKKA NEITTAANMÄKI

(Received September 24, 1984)

1. INTRODUCTION

In this article we first deal with the validity of the inequality

$$(1.1) \quad \|v\|_0 \leq C(\|\operatorname{div} v\|_0 + \|\operatorname{rot} v\|_0),$$

where  $v$  is a vector function defined on a bounded and generally non-smooth domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ , and the vanishing normal component  $n \cdot v$  on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$  is assumed. Following some preliminary lemmas in the next section, we show that (1.1) holds if and only if  $\Omega$  is simply connected (Section 3). The inequality (1.1) was established earlier for a smooth domain which is homeomorphic to a ball even for the  $\|\cdot\|_1$ -norm on the left-hand side (see [3]). Other proofs are given in [8, 18–21]; they are mainly based on contradiction arguments. Estimates analogous to (1.1) for plane non-smooth domains are treated in [10] and in [11], where also mixed boundary conditions are prescribed. We also recall [15] that in the case of vanishing tangential components of  $v$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , the inequality (1.1) is valid iff  $\partial\Omega$  is connected (in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ).

In Section 4 we apply (1.1) to the problem of solvability of the first order system of four partial differential equations

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} u &= f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \operatorname{rot} u &= g & \text{in } \Omega, \\ n \cdot u &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{aligned}$$

which play an important role in fluid flow and magnetostatic problems [4, 5, 16–22].

2. SOME FUNCTION SPACES

Throughout the paper,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  will always be a bounded domain with a Lipschitz boundary  $\partial\Omega$  (see [14], p. 17) and with the outward unit normal  $n$ . Notations  $H^k(\Omega)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , are used for the (real valued) Sobolev spaces. The usual norm in  $H^k(\Omega)$

and also in  $(H^k(\Omega))^3$  will be denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_k$ . The scalar product on  $(L^2(\Omega))^m, m = 1, 3$ , will be written as  $(\cdot, \cdot)_0$  and we set

$$L^2_0(\Omega) = \{\chi \in L^2(\Omega) \mid (\chi, 1)_0 = 0\}.$$

Further,  $H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)$  is the space of traces of functions from  $H^1(\Omega)$ , and  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  is the space of infinitely differentiable functions with a compact support in  $\Omega$ .

We note (see [9], p. 16) that the functional  $v \mapsto n \cdot v|_{\partial\Omega}$  defined on  $(C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}))^3$  can be extended by continuity to a linear continuous mapping from the space

$$H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) = \{v \in (L^2(\Omega))^3 \mid \exists F \in L^2(\Omega) : (v, \operatorname{grad} z)_0 + (F, z)_0 = 0 \forall z \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)\}$$

into  $H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega)$ , the latter being the dual space to  $H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)$ . The function  $F$  is called the divergence of  $v$  (in the sense of distributions) and the Green formula can be rewritten as

$$(2.1) \quad (\operatorname{div} v, z)_0 + (v, \operatorname{grad} z)_0 = \langle n \cdot v, z \rangle_{\partial\Omega} \quad \forall v \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega), \quad \forall z \in H^1(\Omega).$$

Here  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\partial\Omega}$  denotes the duality pairing between  $H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega)$  and  $H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)$ .

Let  $\partial\Omega_1, \dots, \partial\Omega_r$  be the components of  $\partial\Omega$ . For  $v \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega)$  we define the functional  $n \cdot v \in H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega_i)$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ , by

$$(2.2) \quad \langle n \cdot v, z \rangle_{\partial\Omega_i} = (\operatorname{div} v, z)_0 + (v, \operatorname{grad} z)_0, \quad z \in Z_i,$$

where

$$Z_i = \{z \in H^1(\Omega) \mid z = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega_j \forall j \in \{1, \dots, r\} - \{i\}\}$$

and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\partial\Omega_i}$  is the duality pairing between  $H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega_i)$  and  $H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega_i)$ .

Let us further introduce the space

$$H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega) = \{v \in (L^2(\Omega))^3 \mid \exists G \in (L^2(\Omega))^3 : (v, \operatorname{rot} z)_0 = (G, z)_0 \quad \forall z \in (\mathcal{D}(\Omega))^3\}$$

endowed with the norm

$$\|\cdot\|_{H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)} = (\|\cdot\|_0^2 + \|\operatorname{rot} \cdot\|_0^2)^{1/2}.$$

The function  $G$  introduced above is called the rotation of  $v$  (in the sense of distributions) and the following Green formula holds:

$$(2.3) \quad (\operatorname{rot} v, z)_0 - (v, \operatorname{rot} z)_0 = \langle n \times v, z \rangle_{\partial\Omega} \quad \forall v \in H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega) \quad \forall z \in (H^1(\Omega))^3.$$

Here the vector product  $n \times v$  is from  $(H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega))^3$  (see [9], p. 21) and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\partial\Omega}$  denotes the duality pairing between  $(H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega))^3$  and  $(H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega))^3$ .

Now, we define several subspaces of  $H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega)$  and  $H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) &= \{v \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \mid n \cdot v = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\}, \\ H(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega) &= \{v \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \mid \operatorname{div} v = 0 \text{ in } \Omega\}, \\ H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega) &= H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \cap H(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega), \\ H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega) &= \{v \in H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega) \mid n \times v = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
H(\text{rot}^0; \Omega) &= \{v \in H(\text{rot}; \Omega) \mid \text{rot } v = 0 \text{ in } \Omega\}, \\
H_0(\text{rot}^0; \Omega) &= H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega) \cap H(\text{rot}^0; \Omega), \\
\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{D}} &= H_0(\text{div}^0; \Omega) \cap H(\text{rot}^0; \Omega), \\
\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{A}} &= H(\text{div}^0; \Omega) \cap H_0(\text{rot}^0; \Omega), \\
V &= H_0(\text{div}; \Omega) \cap H(\text{rot}; \Omega), \\
D &= \{v \in H(\text{div}^0; \Omega) \mid \langle n \cdot v, 1 \rangle_{\partial\Omega_i} = 0, i = 1, \dots, r\}.
\end{aligned}$$

From (2.1) we can easily derive

$$(2.4) \quad \text{grad } z \in H(\text{rot}^0; \Omega) \quad \text{for } z \in H^1(\Omega).$$

Henceforth, we shall present some other properties of the above spaces.

**Lemma 2.1.** *The following inclusions hold:*

$$(2.5) \quad \text{rot } v \in D \quad \text{for } v \in H(\text{rot}; \Omega),$$

and

$$(2.6) \quad \text{rot } v \in H_0(\text{div}^0; \Omega) \quad \text{for } v \in H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega).$$

*Proof.* Let  $v \in H(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  and  $z \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  be given. Then by (2.3) we obtain

$$(2.7) \quad (\text{rot } v, \text{grad } z)_0 = (v, \text{rot grad } z)_0 + \langle n \times v, \text{grad } z \rangle_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

Hence, (2.1) yields

$$(2.8) \quad \text{rot } v \in H(\text{div}^0; \Omega).$$

Let us choose  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$  arbitrarily and let  $\eta \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$  be such that  $\eta = 1$  in a neighbourhood of  $\partial\Omega_i$  and  $\eta = 0$  in some neighbourhoods of the other components  $\partial\Omega_j$ ,  $j \neq i$ , that is  $\eta \in Z_i$ . Thus (2.2), (2.8) and (2.3) imply

$$\langle n \cdot \text{rot } v, 1 \rangle_{\partial\Omega_i} = (\text{rot } v, \text{grad } \eta)_0 = \langle n \times \text{grad } \eta, v \rangle_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$$

Consequently, (2.5) is valid. The relation (2.7) holds for any  $v \in H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  and  $z \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$  as well. Therefore,  $\text{rot } v \in H_0(\text{div}^0; \Omega)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *The identity*

$$(\text{rot } \varphi, \text{rot } \varphi)_0 = (\varphi, \text{rot rot } \varphi)_0$$

*holds for all  $\varphi \in H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  such that  $\text{rot } \varphi \in H(\text{rot}; \Omega)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi \in H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  with  $\text{rot } \varphi \in H(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  be given. As  $(C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}))^3$  is dense in  $H(\text{rot}; \Omega)$  (see [6, 9]), there exists a sequence  $\psi_j \in (C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}))^3$  such that

$$(2.9) \quad \|\text{rot } \varphi - \psi_j\|_{H(\text{rot}; \Omega)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty.$$

Applying the Green formula (2.3), we get

$$(\text{rot } \varphi, \psi_j)_0 - (\varphi, \text{rot } \psi_j)_0 = \langle n \times \varphi, \psi_j \rangle_{\partial\Omega} = 0,$$

since  $\varphi \in H_0(\text{rot}; \Omega)$ . From (2.9) we conclude that

$$(\text{rot } \varphi, \psi_j)_0 \rightarrow (\text{rot } \varphi, \text{rot } \varphi)_0$$

and

$$(\varphi, \operatorname{rot} \psi_j)_0 \rightarrow (\varphi, \operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \varphi)_0$$

for  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , which yields the result as required.  $\square$

### 3. STUDY OF THE INEQUALITY (1.1)

First, let us recall the definition of a simply connected domain (see e.g. [2, 7, 12, 14]).

**Definition 3.1.** A domain  $\Omega$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is said to be simply connected if it has the following property: Given any simple closed curve  $\gamma: x = h(t)$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$ , with range in  $\Omega$ , there is a continuous function  $x = F(s, t)$  defined for  $s \in [0, 1]$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$  such that:

- (i)  $F(0, t) = h(t)$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$ ;
- (ii)  $F(1, t) = P$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$ , where  $P$  is some point in  $\Omega$ ;
- (iii)  $F(s, t)$  lies in  $\Omega$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$ .
- (iv)  $F(s, a) = F(s, b)$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

Defining (closed) curves  $\gamma_s$  by  $x = F(s, t)$ ,  $t \in [a, b]$ , we say that the family  $\{\gamma_s\}$  represents a continuous deformation of  $\gamma$  into a point  $P$ .

Domains which are not simply connected are called multiply connected.

The main task of this section will be to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be a bounded domain with a Lipschitz boundary. Then

$$(3.1) \quad \|v\|_0 \leq C(\|\operatorname{div} v\|_0 + \|\operatorname{rot} v\|_0) \quad \forall v \in V = H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \cap H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$$

if and only if  $\Omega$  is simply connected.

The proof is based on an auxiliary lemma:

**Lemma 3.3.** Let  $\Omega$  be a simply connected domain with a Lipschitz boundary and let  $\psi \in H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega)$ . Then there exists exactly one stream function  $\varphi \in D \cap H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$  such that

$$\psi = \operatorname{rot} \varphi.$$

Moreover,

$$(3.2) \quad \|\varphi\|_0 \leq C\|\operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0,$$

where  $C > 0$  does not depend on  $\varphi$  (and  $\psi$ ).

*Proof.* For the existence of precisely one divergence-free stream function  $\varphi \in D \cap H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$  corresponding to  $\psi \in H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega)$  see e.g. [1, 24]. We only prove the inequality (3.2).

From the unicity of  $\varphi$  and (2.6), the linear operator

$$(3.3) \quad \operatorname{rot}: D \cap H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega) \rightarrow H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega)$$

is bijective. The space  $H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega)$  equipped with the  $\|\cdot\|_0$ -norm is a Banach space. One can easily find that the space  $D \cap H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$  with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)}$  is a Banach space as well. As the operator (3.3) is continuous, i.e.

$$\|\operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0 \leq C' \|\varphi\|_{H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)},$$

by the closed graph theorem the inverse (closed) operator is continuous as well. Thus (3.2) holds.  $\square$

Proof of Theorem 3.2.  $\Rightarrow$ : It is known (see e.g. [1], p. 153) that  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is simply connected if and only if the components of  $\mathbb{R}^3 - \bar{\Omega}$  are simply connected. Suppose that  $\Omega$  is multiply connected. Then there exists a component  $\omega$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3 - \bar{\Omega}$  which is also multiply connected, and we show that (3.1) does not hold.

In accordance with Definition 3.1 there exists a simple closed curve  $\gamma \subset \omega$  which cannot be continuously deformed into a point without leaving the domain  $\omega$ . Clearly,  $\gamma$  can be chosen in such a way that it is smooth enough. Let  $\tilde{\Gamma}$  be a sufficiently smooth orientable surface bounded by  $\gamma$  (see Fig. 1) and let

$$\Gamma = \tilde{\Gamma} \cap \Omega.$$

By a regularization technique (see e.g. [13], p. 58), it is easy to construct a function  $q \in C^\infty(\Omega - \Gamma)$  with bounded derivatives such that  $q = 1$  in an exterior neighbourhood of  $\Gamma$  (with respect to a given orientation of  $\tilde{\Gamma}$ ), and  $q = 0$  in an interior neighbourhood of  $\Gamma$ . Setting

$$w = \begin{cases} \operatorname{grad} q & \text{in } \Omega - \Gamma, \\ 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$

we see that  $w \in (C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}))^3$  and that  $w$  is not a potential field globally on  $\Omega$ .

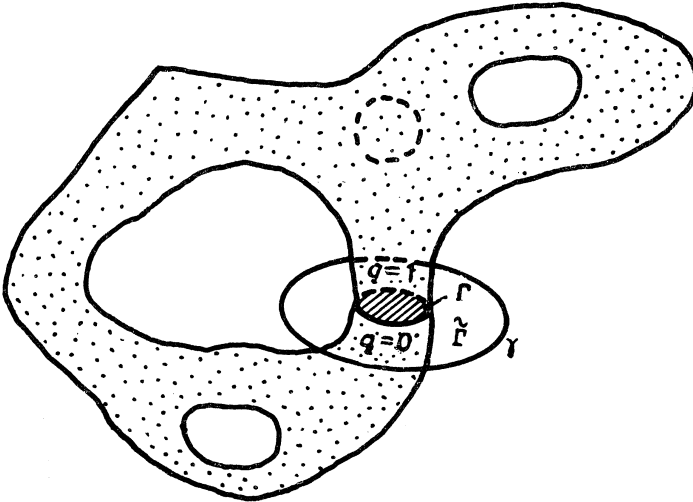


Fig. 1.

Consider the Neumann problem: Find  $p \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta p &= \operatorname{div} w \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n p &= n \cdot w \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{aligned}$$

( $\partial_n$  being the normal derivative), which is solvable because by (2.1)

$$(\operatorname{div} w, 1)_0 = \langle n \cdot w, 1 \rangle_{\partial\Omega}.$$

Now, let us define

$$(3.5) \quad v = \operatorname{grad} p - w.$$

Making use of (2.4) and (3.4), we arrive at

$$(v, \operatorname{grad} z)_0 = (\operatorname{grad} p - w, \operatorname{grad} z)_0 = \langle \partial_n p - n \cdot w, z \rangle_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \quad \forall z \in H^1(\Omega),$$

that is  $v \in H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega)$ .

Furthermore,  $v \in H(\operatorname{rot}^0; \Omega)$  which follows from (3.5), (2.4) and the fact that  $w \in (C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}))^3$  vanishes in some neighbourhood of  $\Gamma$ . Consequently,  $v$  satisfies (1.2) with zero right-hand sides. On the other hand  $v \neq 0$ , since it is not a potential field by (3.5). So the inequality (3.1) is not valid for multiply connected domains.

$\Leftarrow$ : Let  $\Omega$  be simply connected and let  $v \in V$  be given. Consider the problem

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta z &= \operatorname{div} v \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n z &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{aligned}$$

which has exactly one weak solution  $z$  in  $L_0^2(\Omega) \cap H^1(\Omega)$ , because  $\operatorname{div} v \in L_0^2(\Omega)$  by (2.1), and it holds that

$$(3.7) \quad \|z\|_1 \leq C_1 \|\operatorname{div} v\|_0.$$

The relations (2.1), (2.4) and (3.6) give  $\operatorname{grad} z \in H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \cap H(\operatorname{rot}^0; \Omega)$ , i.e. again by (3.6)

$$(3.8) \quad \psi = v - \operatorname{grad} z \in H_0(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega) \cap H(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega).$$

In accordance with Lemma 3.3 there exists exactly one stream function  $\varphi \in D \cap H_0(\operatorname{rot}; \Omega)$  such that

$$(3.9) \quad \psi = \operatorname{rot} \varphi.$$

Applying now Lemma 2.2 and (3.2), we come to

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0^2 &= (\operatorname{rot} \varphi, \operatorname{rot} \varphi)_0 = (\varphi, \operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \varphi)_0 \leq \\ &\leq \|\varphi\|_0 \|\operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0 \leq C_2 \|\operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0 \|\operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0. \end{aligned}$$

So by (3.8), (3.9), (3.10), (3.7) and (2.4) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|v\|_0 &\leq \|\operatorname{grad} z\|_0 + \|\operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0 \leq \|z\|_1 + C_2 \|\operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \varphi\|_0 \leq \\ &\leq C_1 \|\operatorname{div} v\|_0 + C_2 \|\operatorname{rot} \psi\|_0 \leq C(\|\operatorname{div} v\|_0 + \|\operatorname{rot} v\|_0). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$



Remark 3.4. The spaces  $\mathcal{H}_\Omega$  and  $\mathcal{H}_\mathbb{R}$  are finite-dimensional (cf. [18, 19, 22, 23]). From Theorem 3.2 we see that  $\mathcal{H}_\Omega$  is trivial iff  $\Omega$  is simply connected; (note that  $\mathcal{H}_\mathbb{R}$  is trivial iff  $\partial\Omega$  is connected [15]). The proof of the inequality (3.1) can be modified for  $v \in V \cap (\mathcal{H}_\Omega)^\perp$  without any assumptions on the connectivity of  $\Omega$  (the symbol  $\perp$  denotes the orthocomplement in  $(L^2(\Omega))^3$ ). This was proved e.g. in [21] for smooth domains.

#### 4. APPLICATION TO A VARIATIONAL PROBLEM

In this section we shall deal with a variational formulation of the problem (1.2).

For  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$  and  $g \in (L^2(\Omega))^3$  we define the linear form

$$(4.1) \quad b(v) = (f, \operatorname{div} v)_0 + (g, \operatorname{rot} v)_0, \quad v \in V,$$

and the bilinear form

$$(4.2) \quad a(w, v) = (\operatorname{div} w, \operatorname{div} v)_0 + (\operatorname{rot} w, \operatorname{rot} v)_0, \quad w, v \in V.$$

Assume that a sufficiently smooth  $u$  satisfies (1.2) in the classical sense. Then we immediately see that  $u \in V$  and

$$\begin{aligned} (\operatorname{div} u, \operatorname{div} v)_0 &= (f, \operatorname{div} v)_0, \\ (\operatorname{rot} u, \operatorname{rot} v)_0 &= (g, \operatorname{rot} v)_0 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $v \in V$ . Consequently,

$$(4.3) \quad a(u, v) = b(v) \quad \forall v \in V,$$

and moreover, by (2.1) and (2.5) we have

$$(4.4) \quad f \in L^2_0(\Omega), \quad g \in D.$$

Conversely, let (4.4) hold and let (4.3) be satisfied for a sufficiently smooth  $u \in V$ . Assuming that  $\Omega$  is simply connected, we show that  $u$  fulfils (1.2).

So let  $\chi \in L^2_0(\Omega)$  be arbitrary and let  $z \in L^2_0(\Omega) \cap H^1(\Omega)$  be the weak solution of the problem

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta z &= \chi \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega, \\ \partial_n z &= 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $v = \operatorname{grad} z \in H_0(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \cap H(\operatorname{rot}^0; \Omega) \subset V$  and from (4.5), (4.2), (4.3) and (4.1) we get

$$(\operatorname{div} u, \chi)_0 = (\operatorname{div} u, \operatorname{div} v)_0 = a(u, v) = b(v) = (f, \operatorname{div} v)_0 = (f, \chi)_0.$$

Hence,  $\operatorname{div} u = f$  in  $L^2_0(\Omega)$ .

Furthermore, let  $\psi \in D$  be arbitrary. Then by [9], p. 28, there exists a divergence-free stream function  $v' \in H(\operatorname{div}^0; \Omega) \cap (H^1(\Omega))^3$  (not uniquely determined) such

that  $\psi = \text{rot } v'$ . As  $\langle n \cdot v', 1 \rangle_{\partial\Omega} = 0$  due to (2.1), the following problem is solvable:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\eta &= 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n\eta &= n \cdot v' & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Then clearly the function  $v = v'$ -grad  $\eta$  is from  $H_0(\text{div}^0; \Omega) \cap H(\text{rot}; \Omega) \subset V$  and  $v$  is also a divergence-free stream function to  $\psi$ , that is

$$\psi = \text{rot } v$$

(cf. [1, 15, 24]). Using (4.2), (4.3) and (4.1), we arrive at

$$(\text{rot } u, \psi)_0 = (\text{rot } u, \text{rot } v)_0 = a(u, v) = b(v) = (g, \text{rot } v)_0 = (g, \psi)_0,$$

i.e.  $\text{rot } u = g$  in  $D$ .

Thus we have justified the following definition.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $\Omega$  be simply connected. The problem of finding  $u \in V$  which satisfies (4.3) is called the variational formulation of the problem (1.2).

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $\Omega$  be simply connected. Then the variational formulation of the problem (1.2) has precisely one solution.

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.2 the bilinear form (4.2) is a scalar product on  $V$ . It is easy to show that  $V$  is a Hilbert space and that the linear form (4.1) is continuous on  $V$ . Now the assertion follows from the Riesz theorem.  $\square$

**Remark 4.3.** When  $\Omega$  is multiply connected the bilinear form (4.2) is a scalar product on  $V \cap (\mathcal{H}_\varnothing)^\perp$  (cf. Remark 3.4), i.e. the solution of (1.2) exists and is unique apart from a function of  $\mathcal{H}_\varnothing$ .

#### References

- [1] C. Bernardi: Formulation variationnelle mixte des equations de Navier-Stokes en dimension 3. Thèse de 3ème cycle (deuxième partie), Paris VI (1979), 146–176.
- [2] B. M. Budak, S. V. Fomin: Multiple integrals, field theory and series. Mir Publishers, 1975.
- [3] E. B. Byhovskiy: Solution of a mixed problem for the system of Maxwell equations in case of ideally conductive boundary. Vestnik Leningrad. Univ. Mat. Meh. Astronom. 12 (1957), 50–66.
- [4] M. Crouzeix: Résolution numérique des équations de Stokes stationnaires. Approximation et méthodes itératives de résolution d'inéquations variationnelles et de problèmes non linéaires, IRIA, 1974, 139–211.
- [5] M. Crouzeix, A. Y. Le Roux: Ecoulement d'une fluide irrotationnel. Journées Eléments Finis, Univ. de Rennes, 1976, 1–8.
- [6] G. Duvaut, J. L. Lions: Inequalities in mechanics and physics. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1976.
- [7] A. Friedman: Advanced calculus. Reinhart and Winston, Holt, New York, 1971.
- [8] K. O. Friedrichs: Differential forms on Riemannian manifolds. Comm. Pure Appl. Math. 8 (1955), 551–590.

- [9] *V. Girault, P. A. Raviart*: Finite element approximation of the Navier-Stokes equation. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 1979.
- [10] *M. Křížek, P. Neittaanmäki*: On the validity of Friedrichs' inequalities. *Math. Scand.* 54 (1984), 17–26.
- [11] *M. Křížek, P. Neittaanmäki*: Finite element approximation for a div-rot system with mixed boundary conditions in non-smooth plane domains. *Apl. Mat.* 29 (1984), 272–285.
- [12] *E. Moise*: Geometrical topology in dimension 2 and 3. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 1977.
- [13] *J. Nečas*: Les méthodes directes en théorie des équations elliptiques. Academia, Prague, 1967.
- [14] *J. Nečas, I. Hlaváček*: Mathematical theory of elastic and elasto-plastic bodies: an introduction. Elsevier, Amsterdam, Oxford, New York, 1981.
- [15] *P. Neittaanmäki, M. Křížek*: Conforming FE-method for obtaining the gradient of a solution to the Poisson equation. *Efficient Solvers for Elliptic Systems* (Ed. W. Hackbush), Numerical Methods in Fluid Mechanics, Vieweg, 1984, 73–86.
- [16] *P. Neittaanmäki, J. Saranen*: Finite element approximation of electromagnetic fields in the three dimensional case. *Numer. Funct. Anal. Optim.* 2 (1981), 487–506.
- [17] *Neittaanmäki, J. Saranen*: A modified least squares FE-method for ideal fluid flow problems. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* 8 (1982), 165–169.
- [18] *R. Picard*: Randwertaufgaben in der verallgemeinerten Potentialtheorie. *Math. Methods Appl. Sci.* 3 (1981), 218–228.
- [19] *R. Picard*: On the boundary value problems of electro- and magnetostatics. SFB 72, preprint 442 (1981), Bonn.
- [20] *R. Picard*: An elementary proof for a compact imbedding result in the generalized electromagnetic theory. SFB 72, preprint 624 (1984), Bonn.
- [21] *J. Saranen*: On generalized harmonic fields in domains with anisotropic nonhomogeneous media. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 88 (1982), 104–115.
- [22] *J. Saranen*: On electric and magnetic fields in anisotropic nonhomogeneous media. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 91 (1983), 254–275.
- [23] *R. Temam*: Navier-Stokes Equations. North-Holland, Amsterdam 1977.
- [24] *Ch. Weber*: A local compactness theorem for Maxwell's equations. *Math. Methods Appl. Sci.* 2 (1980), 12–25.

Souhrn

## ŘEŠITELNOST JISTÉHO SYSTÉMU PRVNÍHO ŘÁDU NA TROJROZMĚRNÝCH NEHLADKÝCH OBLASTECH

MICHAL KRÍŽEK, PEKKA NEITTAANMÄKI

Je studován systém parciálních diferenciálních rovnic prvního řádu, který je definován pomocí operátorů divergence a rotace na ohraničené oblasti  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  s nehladkou hranicí. Na hranici  $\partial\Omega$  je předepsána nulová normálová složka řešení. Je podána variační formulace a vyšetřována její řešitelnost.

*Authors' addresses:* RNDr. *Michal Křížek*, CSc., Matematický ústav ČSAV, Žitná 25, 115 67 Praha 1; Assoc. Prof. *Pekka Neittaanmäki*, University of Jyväskylä, Department of Mathematics, Seminaarinkatu 15, SF — 40100 Jyväskylä 10, Finland.