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Research Article

## **Duality approach to regularity problems for the Navier-Stokes equations**

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**Abstract:** In this note, we describe a way to study local regularity of a weak solution to the Navier-Stokes equations, satisfying the simplest scale-invariant restriction, with the help of zooming and duality approach to the corresponding mild bounded ancient solution.

**Key words:** Navier-Stokes equations, regularity of solutions

#### **1. Introduction**

One of the simplest but not yet solved problem of local regularity of weak solutions to the Navier-Stokes equations is as follows. Consider the so-called suitable weak solution  $w \in L_\infty(-1,0; L_2(B)) \cap L_2(-1,0; W_2^1(B))$ and  $r \in L_{\frac{3}{2}}(Q)$  to the classical Navier-Stokes equations:

$$
\partial_t w + w \cdot \nabla w - \Delta w = -\nabla r, \qquad \text{div } w = 0
$$

in the unit parabolic space-time ball  $Q = B \times ]-1,0[ \subset \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ . For a definition of suitable weak solutions, we refer to the paper [\[1](#page-12-0)]. Let us assume that function *w* satisfies the additional restriction

$$
|w(x,t)| \le \frac{c_d}{|x| + \sqrt{-t}}, \quad \forall (x,t) \in Q,
$$
\n
$$
(1.1)
$$

where  $c_d > 0$  is a given constant. The question is whether or not the origin  $z = (0,0)$  is a regular point of *w*, i.e. there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that *w* is essentially bounded in the parabolic ball  $Q(\delta) = B(\delta) \times ] - \delta^2$ , 0[. Here, as usual,  $B(\delta)$  stands for the ball of radius  $\delta$  centred at the origin. With a minor modification of what has been done in the paper  $[4]$  $[4]$ , one can show that if the origin  $z = 0$  is a singular point of w then there exists the so-called mild bounded ancient solution  $\tilde{u}$  with the following properties:

 $|\tilde{u}| \leq 1$ 

 $in Q_-=\mathbb{R}^3\times]-\infty, 0[$ ;

$$
|\tilde{u}(0)|=1;
$$

there is a pressure field  $\tilde{p} \in L_{\infty}(-\infty, 0; BMO(\mathbb{R}^3))$  so that  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{p}$  obey the Navier-Stokes equations

$$
\partial_t \tilde{u} + \tilde{u} \cdot \nabla \tilde{u} - \Delta \tilde{u} = -\nabla \tilde{p}, \quad \text{div } \tilde{u} = 0
$$

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in *Q<sup>−</sup>* ; and in addition

$$
|\tilde{u}(x,t)| \le \frac{c_d}{|x| + \sqrt{-t}}
$$

for all  $z = (x, t) \in Q_-\$ . In our further considerations, we shall work with positive time  $t$ , setting  $u(x,t) = \tilde{u}(x,-t)$  for  $t \geq 0$ . Therefore, the velocity field *u* satisfies:

<span id="page-2-3"></span>
$$
|u| \le 1\tag{1.2}
$$

<span id="page-2-4"></span>in  $Q_+ = \mathbb{R}^3 \times ]0, \infty[$ ;

$$
|u(0)| = 1;
$$
\n(1.3)

there is a pressure field  $p \in L_\infty(0, \infty; BMO(\mathbb{R}^3))$  so that *u* and *p* obey the backward Navier-Stokes equations

<span id="page-2-2"></span>
$$
-\partial_t u + u \cdot \nabla u - \Delta u = -\nabla p, \quad \text{div } u = 0
$$

in  $Q_+$ ; and in addition

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
|u(x,t)| \le \frac{c_d}{|x| + \sqrt{t}}\tag{1.4}
$$

for all  $z = (x, t) \in Q_+$ .

To study the Liouville type statement about the above mild bounded ancient solutions, the duality method has been exploited in the paper [\[3](#page-12-2)]. In particular, the following Cauchy problem has been considered:

<span id="page-2-1"></span>
$$
\partial_t v - u \cdot \nabla v - \Delta v - \nabla q = -\text{div}\, F, \qquad \text{div}\, v = 0 \tag{1.5}
$$

in  $Q_+ = \mathbb{R}^3 \times ]0, \infty[$  and

$$
v(x,0) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^3. \tag{1.6}
$$

It has been supposed that a tensor-valued field *F* is smooth and compactly supported in *Q*<sup>+</sup> . In addition, it has been assumed that  $F$  is skew symmetric, and therefore

$$
\operatorname{div} \operatorname{div} F = F_{ij,ji} = 0. \tag{1.7}
$$

Under the above assumptions, the long time behavior of solutions to  $(1.5)$ ,  $(1.6)$  $(1.6)$  $(1.6)$  has been studied in [\[3](#page-12-2)].

As to the drift *u*, one may assume that *u* is a bounded divergence free field in  $Q_+$ , say  $|u| \leq 1$ , whose derivatives of any order exist and are bounded in *Q*<sup>+</sup> . It is not so difficult to check that the following identity takes place:

$$
\int_{Q_{+}} u \cdot \operatorname{div} F dx dt = - \lim_{T \to \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}} u(x, T) \cdot v(x, T) dx.
$$
\n(1.8)

Therefore, if, for any skew symmetric tensor field  $F$ , the solution  $v$  to the dual problem  $(1.5)$  $(1.5)$ ,  $(1.6)$  has a certain decay, then *u* must be identically equal to zero. It, in turns, says that the origin is a regular point of *w*.

<span id="page-2-5"></span>With regards to the long time behavior of  $v$ , it has been proved the following.

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**Theorem 1.1** Let *v* be a solution *v* to ([1.5\)](#page-2-0) and ([1.6](#page-2-1)) and let *u* be divergence free and satisfy ([1.4](#page-2-2)). Then *for any*  $m = 0, 1, \ldots$ , *two decay estimates are valid:* 

$$
||v(\cdot,t)||_1 \le c(m,c_d,F)\sqrt{t^{\frac{3}{2}}} \frac{1}{\ln^m(t+e)}
$$
\n(1.9)

*and*

$$
||v(\cdot,t)||_2 \le \frac{c(m,c_d,F)}{\ln^m(t+e)}
$$
\n(1.10)

*for all*  $t \geq 0$ *.* 

Unfortunately, the above statement does not allow us to conclude that the mild bounded ancient solution *u* is equal to zero.

In this paper, we would like to examine a certain modification of duality method letting  $F = 0$  but taking nonzero initial data. To be precise, let us consider the following Cauchy problem

<span id="page-3-1"></span>
$$
\partial_t v - u \cdot \nabla v - \Delta v - \nabla q = 0, \qquad \text{div } v = 0 \tag{1.11}
$$

in  $Q_+ = \mathbb{R}^3 \times ]0, \infty[$  and

<span id="page-3-0"></span>
$$
v(x,0) = v_0(x) \tag{1.12}
$$

for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Here,  $v_0$  belongs to the space *J* which is  $L_2$ -closure of the set

$$
C_{0,0}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{3}) = \{v \in C_{0}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{3}) : \operatorname{div} v = 0\}.
$$

Formal calculations show that

Z *T* Z

0  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, t) \cdot v(\cdot, t) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, 0) \cdot v(\cdot, 0) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, 0) \cdot v_0(\cdot) dx \tag{1.13}
$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . Indeed,

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, T) \cdot v(\cdot, T) dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, 0) \cdot v_0(\cdot) dx =
$$
\n
$$
\int_{0}^{T} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (v \cdot \partial_t + u \cdot \partial_t v) dz +
$$
\n
$$
(v \cdot (u \cdot \nabla u - \Delta u + \nabla p) + u \cdot (u \cdot \nabla v + \Delta v + \nabla q)) dz = 0
$$

It is also easy to see that equations  $(1.11)$  $(1.11)$  can be replaced with more symmetric ones:

$$
\partial_t v - u \cdot \nabla v + u \cdot \nabla v - \Delta v - \nabla q = 0, \qquad \text{div } v = 0 \tag{1.14}
$$

in  $Q_+ = \mathbb{R}^3 \times ]0, \infty[$  as the following identity is valid:

$$
\int_{0}^{T} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u \cdot (v \cdot \nabla u) dz = 0.
$$

If we assume that

<span id="page-4-0"></span>
$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, T) \cdot v(\cdot, T) dx \to 0 \tag{1.15}
$$

as  $T \to \infty$  for all  $v_0 \in C_{0,0}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ , then

$$
\int\limits_{\mathbb R^3} u(\cdot,0)\cdot v_0(\cdot)dx=0
$$

for all  $v_0 \in C^{\infty}_{0,0}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ . The latter, together with  $(1.2)$  $(1.2)$  and  $(1.4)$  $(1.4)$ , implies that  $u(x,0) = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , which contradicts to  $(1.3)$  $(1.3)$ . It would be a proof of the fact that  $z = 0$  is a regular point *w*. Therefore, we need to prove a certain time decay of  $v$  that would provide ([1.15\)](#page-4-0). To this end, let us represent  $v$  as a sum of solutions to two Cauchy problems so that

$$
v = v^1 + v^2; \tag{1.16}
$$

$$
\partial_t v^1 - \Delta v^1 = 0 \text{ in } Q_+, \quad v^1(\cdot, 0) = v_0(\cdot) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3; \tag{1.17}
$$

$$
\partial_t v^2 - \Delta v^2 + \nabla q = -\text{div}\, v \otimes u, \ \text{div}\, v^2 = 0 \tag{1.18}
$$

<span id="page-4-2"></span>in  $Q_+$  with  $v^2(\cdot, 0) = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

With regard to  $v^1$ , we have the estimates

$$
||v^1(\cdot, t)||_s \le ||v_0||_s \tag{1.19}
$$

for all  $t \geq 0$  and all  $1 \leq s \leq \infty$ , and thus

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u(\cdot, T) \cdot v^1(\cdot, T) dx \to 0
$$

as  $T \to \infty$  for all  $v_0 \in C_{0,0}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ .

Our aim is to prove results similar to what has been stated in the paper [[3\]](#page-12-2). In particular, we are going to show that Theorem [1.1](#page-2-5) remains to be true in the following reduction.

<span id="page-4-1"></span>**Theorem 1.2** Let *v* be a solution to ([1.11](#page-3-0)) and ([1.12](#page-3-1)) and let *u* be divergence free and satisfy [\(1.4](#page-2-2)). Then, *for any*  $m = 0, 1, \ldots$ , *two decay estimates are valid:* 

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{1} \le c(m,c_{d},v_{0})\sqrt{t}^{\frac{3}{2}}\frac{1}{\ln^{m}(t+e)}
$$
\n(1.20)

*and*

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{2} \le \frac{c(m,c_{d},v_{0})}{\ln^{m}(t+e)}
$$
\n(1.21)

*for all*  $t \geq 1$ *.* 

Unfortunately, decay bounds in Theorem [1.2](#page-4-1) do not provide the above scenario. One needs to improve decay estimates in it.

#### **2. Comments on Proof of Theorem [1.2](#page-4-1)**

Let

$$
\mathcal{F}=-v\otimes u.
$$

The solution to the problem  $(1.18)$ ,  $(1.6)$  $(1.6)$  $(1.6)$  has the form, see for instance  $[2]$  $[2]$ ,

$$
v^{2}(x,t) = \int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}} K(x-y,t-s) \mathcal{F}(y,s) dy ds,
$$
\n(2.1)

where the potential  $K = (K_{ijl})$  defined with the help of the standard heat kernel  $\Gamma$  in the following way

$$
\Delta \Phi(x, t) = \Gamma(x, t)
$$

and

$$
K_{ijl} = \Phi_{,ijl} - \delta_{il}\Phi_{,kkj}.
$$

It is easy to check that the following bound is valid:

$$
|K(x,t)| \le \frac{c}{(t+|x|^2)^2},\tag{2.2}
$$

and therefore

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |K(x,t)| dx \le \frac{c}{\sqrt{t}}.
$$
\n(2.3)

Assuming that

$$
p \in ]6/5, 2[, \tag{2.4}
$$

and repeating the same arguments as in the paper [[3\]](#page-12-2), we arrive at a similar estimate

$$
\|v^2(\cdot,t)\|_p \leq C(p) \int\limits_0^t \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} \Big( \int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\mathcal{F}(y,s)|^2 (\sqrt{s} + |y|)^2 dy \Big)^{\frac{1}{2}},
$$

where, by  $(1.4)$ ,

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\mathcal{F}(y,s)|^2 (\sqrt{s} + |y|)^2 dy \le c(c_d \|v(\cdot,s)\|_2)^2,
$$
\n(2.5)

and thus

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{p} \leq C(p) \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} c_{d} ||v(\cdot,s)||_{2} ds
$$

$$
\leq C(p) \int\limits_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} c_d (\|v^1(\cdot,s)\|_2 + \|v^2(\cdot,s)\|_2) ds.
$$

<span id="page-6-0"></span>Here, we would like to use the following facts about time decay of solutions to the heat equations, see for example [[5\]](#page-12-4):

**Lemma 2.1** *Let*  $v_0 \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^3)$  *and*  $M = \int$  $\mathbb{R}^3$ *v*0*dx. Then*

$$
t^{\frac{3}{2}\frac{p-1}{p}} \|v_i^1(\cdot,t) - M_i \Gamma(\cdot,t)\|_p \to 0
$$

*as*  $t \to \infty$  *for each*  $i = 1, 2, 3$  *and for all*  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ *.* 

From the above lemma, it follows that for any  $v_0 \in C_{0,0}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ , we have

$$
||v^1(\cdot,t)||_p \le c(v_0,p)f^{\frac{3(1-p)}{p}}(t)
$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and for any  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , where  $f(t) := \max\{1, \sqrt{t}\}.$ 

Therefore,

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{p} \leq C(p) \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} c_{d}(c(v_{0}) f^{-\frac{3}{2}}(s) + ||v^{2}(\cdot,s)||_{2}) ds,
$$

where we need to evaluate the term

$$
I = \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} f^{-\frac{3}{2}}(s) ds.
$$

To this end, consider two cases. In the first one,  $0 \le t \le 1$ . Then

$$
I = \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} ds \le ct^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{5p-6}{4p}} = ct^{\frac{3(2-p)}{4p}} \le c(p).
$$

If  $t > 1$ , then

$$
I = \int_{0}^{1} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} ds + \int_{1}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{3}{2}} ds = B_1 + B_2.
$$

Obviously,  $B_1 \leq c(p)$ . As  $B_2$ , we have

$$
B_2=\int\limits_{\frac{t+1}{2}}^{t}\frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}}\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{3}{2}}ds+\int\limits_{1}^{\frac{t+1}{2}}\frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}}\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{3}{2}}ds\leq
$$

$$
\leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{t-1}}\int\limits_{1}^{\frac{t+1}{2}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}-\frac{3}{2}}ds+\sqrt{\frac{t-1}{2}}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}-\frac{3}{2}}\int\limits_{\frac{t+1}{2}}^{t}\frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}.
$$

Assuming further that

$$
p \le 3/2,\tag{2.6}
$$

we arrive at:

$$
B_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{t-1}}\frac{6-4p}{4p}s^{\frac{6-4p}{4p}}\Big|_1^{\frac{t+1}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{t-1}{2}}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}-\frac{3}{2}} 2\sqrt{\frac{t-1}{2}} \leq c(p)f^{\frac{3(1-p)}{p}}(t).
$$

Therefore, letting

$$
A_p(t) := \int_0^t \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} c_d \|v^2(\cdot, s)\|_2 ds, \tag{2.7}
$$

we can rewrite the previous estimate

<span id="page-7-0"></span>
$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{p} \le C(p)(c(c_{d},v_{0},p)f^{\frac{3(1-p)}{p}}(t) + A_{p}(t)).
$$
\n(2.8)

Now, one can repeat the above arguments for  $p = 1$  and find

$$
||v^2(\cdot,t)||_1 \leq \int\limits_0^t\frac{c}{\sqrt{t-s}}\int\limits_{\mathbb R^3} |\mathcal F(y,s)|dyds.
$$

Since

$$
|\mathcal{F}(y,s)| \le \frac{c_d |v(y,s)|}{\sqrt{s} + |y|},
$$

the latter estimate can be transformed as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned} \|v^2(\cdot,t)\|_1 &\leq c\int\limits_0^t\frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\frac{c_d|v(y,s)|}{\sqrt{s}+|y|}dy \\ &\leq c\int\limits_0^t\frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\Big(\frac{1}{\sqrt{s}+|y|}\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}}dy\Big)^{\frac{1+5\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Big)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big)dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3}\big(c_d|v(y,s)|\Big)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}dy\Bigg)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}\Big(\int\limits_{\mathbb{
$$

for some positive  $0 < \varepsilon < 3/10$ . Hence,

$$
||v^2(\cdot,t)||_1 \leq C_1(\varepsilon) \int\limits_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{\frac{3\frac{1+5\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}-1}{8}} \Big( \int\limits_{\mathbb{R}^3} (c_d |v(y,s)|)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}} dy \Big)^{\frac{5}{6+5\varepsilon}}
$$

with

$$
C_1(\varepsilon):=\Bigl(\int\limits_{\mathbb R^3}\Bigl(\frac{1}{1+|z|}\Bigr)^{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{1+5\varepsilon}}dz\Bigr)^{\frac{1+5\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}}.
$$

Simplifying slightly the previous bound, we have

$$
||v^2(\cdot,t)||_1 \leq C_2(\varepsilon,c_d) \int_0^t \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{\frac{-3+10\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}} (||v^1(\cdot,s)||_{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}} + ||v^2(\cdot,s)||_{\frac{6+5\varepsilon}{5}}) ds.
$$

To estimate terms with  $v^1$  and  $v^2$ , we are going to use Lemma [2.1](#page-6-0) and [\(2.8\)](#page-7-0) with  $p = 6/5 + \varepsilon$ , respectively:

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{1} \leq C_{2}(\varepsilon,c_{d}) \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{\frac{-3+10\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}} (c(c_{d},v_{0},\varepsilon)(\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{3(1+5\varepsilon)}{6+5\varepsilon}} + f^{-\frac{3(1+5\varepsilon)}{6+5\varepsilon}}(s)) + A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(s)))ds \leq \leq C_{2}(\varepsilon,c_{d}) \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{\frac{-3+10\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}} (c(c_{d},v_{0},\varepsilon)\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{3(1+5\varepsilon)}{6+5\varepsilon}} + A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(s)))ds \leq C_{3}(\varepsilon,c_{d},v_{0}) + C_{4}(\varepsilon,c_{d}) \int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{\frac{-3+10\varepsilon}{6+5\varepsilon}} A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(s)ds.
$$

On the other hand,

$$
A(p)(t) \leq c_d \|v\|_{2,\infty} \int\limits_0^t \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}} \sqrt{s}^{-\frac{5p-6}{2p}} ds \leq c_d \|v_0\|_2 C_2(p) \sqrt{t}^{\frac{3}{2}\frac{2-p}{p}}.
$$

Therefore, we have

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{1} \leq C_{4}(\varepsilon, c_{d}, v_{0})(1+||v_{0}||_{2}\sqrt{t}^{\frac{3}{2}}) \leq c(\varepsilon, c_{d}, v_{0})f^{\frac{3}{2}}(t).
$$

#### **3. Improvement for** *L*<sup>2</sup> **-norm**

Following [\[3](#page-12-2)], we have the energy inequality

$$
\partial_t y(t) + \|\nabla v(\cdot, t)\|_2^2 \le 0 \tag{3.1}
$$

with  $y(t) = ||v(\cdot, t)||_2^2$ .

The Fourier transform and Plancherel identity give us

$$
\partial_t y(t) \leq -\int\limits_{\mathbb R^3} |\xi|^2 |\widehat v(\xi,t)|^2 d\xi = -\int\limits_{|\xi| > g(t)} |\xi|^2 |\widehat v(\xi,t)|^2 d\xi - \int\limits_{|\xi| \leq g(t)} |\xi|^2 |\widehat v(\xi,t)|^2 d\xi,
$$

where  $g(t)$  is a given function which will be specified later on. The latter implies

$$
y'(t) + g^{2}(t)y(t) \leq \int_{|\xi| \leq g(t)} (g^{2}(t) - |\xi|^{2}) |\widehat{v}(\xi, t)|^{2} d\xi.
$$

Taking the Fourier transform of the Navier-Stokes equation, we find

$$
\partial_t \widehat{v} + |\xi|^2 \widehat{v} = -\widehat{H},
$$

where  $H = -\text{div}(v \otimes u + \mathbb{I}q)$ . Clearly,

$$
\widehat{v}(\xi, t) = -\int_0^t \exp\{-|\xi|^2(t-s)\}\widehat{H}(\xi, s)ds + \widehat{v}_0(\xi) \exp\{-|\xi|^2t\}
$$

and

$$
|\hat{H}(\xi, s)| \leq |\xi| |||v(\cdot, s)||u(\cdot, s)|||_1.
$$

Denoting

$$
a(s) = |||v(\cdot, s)||u(\cdot, s)||_1,
$$

we find

$$
|\widehat{v}(\xi,t)| \le c \int_0^t \exp\{-|\xi|^2(t-s)\} |\xi| a(s) ds + |\widehat{v}_0(\xi)| \exp\{-|\xi|^2 t\}.
$$

Applying the Hölder inequality, we get

$$
y'(t) + g^{2}(t)y(t) \le
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq c \int_{|\xi| \leq g(t)} (g^{2}(t) - |\xi|^{2}) \Big( \int_{0}^{t} \exp\{-|\xi|^{2}(t-s)\} |\xi| a(s) ds + |\widehat{v}_{0}(\xi)| \exp\{-|\xi|^{2}t\} \Big)^{2} d\xi \le
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq c \int_{|\xi| \leq g(t)} (g^{2}(t) - |\xi|^{2}) \Big[ \int_{0}^{t} a^{2}(s) ds \int_{0}^{t} \exp\{-2|\xi|^{2}(t-s_{1})\} |\xi|^{2} ds_{1} +
$$
  
\n
$$
+ |\widehat{v}_{0}(\xi)|^{2} \exp\{-2|\xi|^{2}t\} \Big] d\xi \leq I_{1} + I_{2}.
$$

For the first term, we have

$$
I_1 \le c \int_0^t a^2(s)ds \int_0^t \int_{|\xi| \le g(t)} (g^2(t) - |\xi|^2) \exp\{-|\xi|^2(t - s_1)\} |\xi|^2 ds_1 d\xi.
$$

It can be estimated in the same way as in [\[3](#page-12-2)]:

$$
I_1 \le cg^6(t)\sqrt{t} \int_0^t a^2(s)ds.
$$

As to the second term, we proceed as follows:

$$
I_2 \le c \|v_0\|_1^2 \int\limits_{|\xi| \le g(t)} (g^2(t) - |\xi|^2) \exp\{-|\xi|^2 t\} d\xi \le
$$

$$
\leq c||v_0||_1^2 \int\limits_{0}^{g(t)} (g^2(t) - r^2) \exp\{-r^2t\} r^2 dr \leq c||v_0||_1^2 g^5(t).
$$

Therefore, we find

$$
K(t) := I_1 + I_2 \le cg^6(t)\sqrt{t} \int_0^t a^2(s)ds + c(v_0)g^5(t),
$$

<span id="page-10-0"></span>and thus solution to our inequality has the form:

$$
y(t) \le c \int_{0}^{t} \exp\left\{-\int_{s}^{t} g^{2}(\tau)d\tau\right\} K(s)ds + y(0)\exp\{-\int_{0}^{t} g^{2}(\tau)d\tau\}.
$$
 (3.2)

#### **4. Proof of Theorem [1.2](#page-4-1)**

As in the paper [\[3](#page-12-2)], we use the induction in *m*. The basis of induction has been already established in Section 2. Let us assume that our statement is true for *m* and show that it is true for *m* + 1.

We can present the right hand side of  $(3.2)$  $(3.2)$  $(3.2)$  as a sum so that

$$
y(t) \le y_1(t) + y_2(t).
$$

Then we select our function  $g(t) = h'(t)/h(t)$  with  $h(t) = \ln^k(t+e)$  and  $k > 2m+2$ , for example,  $k = 2m+3$ . Next, we observe that

$$
a(t) \leq |||v^1(\cdot,t)||u(\cdot,t)||_1 + |||v^2(\cdot,t)||u(\cdot,t)||_1 \leq ||v_0||_1 + |||v^2(\cdot,t)||u(\cdot,t)||_1
$$

and, for  $t > 1$ , by induction,

$$
\int_{0}^{t} a^{2}(s)ds \le 2 \int_{0}^{t} \|v_{0}\|_{1}^{2} + 2 \int_{0}^{t} \|v^{2}(\cdot, s)\|u(\cdot, s)\|_{1}^{2} ds \le
$$
\n
$$
\le c(v_{0})t + 2 \int_{0}^{1} \|v^{2}(\cdot, s)\|_{1}^{2} ds + 2 \int_{1}^{t} \frac{c_{d}^{2} \|v^{2}(\cdot, s)\|_{1}^{2}}{s} ds \le
$$
\n
$$
\le c(v_{0}, c_{d})t + c(v_{0}, c_{d}, m) \int_{1}^{t} \sqrt{s} \ln^{-2m}(s + e) ds.
$$

The function  $y_1(t)$  is estimated in a similar same way as it has been done in [[3\]](#page-12-2). Indeed, we are going to use the following simple statements.

**Lemma 4.1** *Let l be a real number and*  $\gamma > -1$ *.* 

*(i)* There exists a positive constant  $c(\gamma, l)$  such that

<span id="page-10-1"></span>
$$
\int_{1}^{t} s^{\gamma} \ln^{-l} (s+e) ds \le c(\gamma, l) t^{\gamma+1} \ln^{-l} (t+e)
$$

*for all*  $t \geq 1$ *;* 

*(ii) There exists a positive constant*  $c(\gamma, l)$  *such that* 

$$
\int_{1}^{t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t-s}} s^{\gamma} \ln^{-l} (s+e) ds \le c(\gamma, l) t^{\gamma+1/2} \ln^{-l} (t+e), \quad \forall t \ge 1.
$$

Therefore, by Lemma [4.1](#page-10-1), we have

$$
\int_{0}^{t} a^{2}(s)ds \le c(v_{0})t + c(v_{0}, c_{d}, m)t^{\frac{3}{2}} \ln^{-2m}(t + e) \le c(v_{0}, c_{d}, m)t^{\frac{3}{2}} \ln^{-2m}(t + e)
$$

for all  $t \geq 1$ .

Now, we can estimate  $K(t)$  for  $t \geq 1$ . Indeed,

$$
K(t) \le c(v_0, c_d, m)g^6(t)t^2 \ln^{2m}(t+e) + c(v_0)g^5(t) \le c(v_0, c_d, m)g^6(t)t^2 \ln^{2m}(t+e)
$$

for all  $t \geq 1$ .

For  $0 < t \leq 1$ , we have

$$
\int\limits_0^t a^2(s)ds \le c(v_0)
$$

, and thus

$$
K(t) \le c(v_0, c_d, m)g^5(t).
$$

Now, we can find estimates  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ . Let us start with  $y_2$ :

$$
y_2(t) \le y_0 \int_0^t \frac{h'(s)}{h(s)} ds = y(0) \frac{h(0)}{h(t)} \le c(v_0, m) \min \left\{ \frac{1}{\ln^{2m+2}(1+e)}, \frac{1}{\ln^{2m+2}(t+e)} \right\}.
$$

Now, we shall treat  $y_1$ . For  $0 < t \le 1$ , it can be done easily. So that, we get  $y_1(t) \le c(v_0, m)$  for this time interval.

What happens if  $t \geq 1$ ? By the choice of the function  $g$ , we have

$$
y_1(t) \le \frac{1}{h(t)} \int_0^t h(s)K(s)ds \le \frac{1}{h(t)} \Big[ \int_0^1 h(s)K(s)ds + \int_1^t h(s)K(s)ds \Big]
$$
  

$$
\le \frac{c(v_0, c_d, m)}{h(t)} \Big[ 1 + \int_0^t h(s)g^6(s)s^2 \ln^{-2m}(s + e)ds \Big].
$$

The second term has been evaluated in the paper [[3\]](#page-12-2). Therefore, finally, we find

$$
y_1(t) \le c(v_0, c_d, m) \ln^{-2m-2}(t+2)
$$

for all  $t \geq 1$ . So, induction for  $L_2$ -norm is proved.

Now, we need to prove our statement for  $L_1$ -norm. To this end, we need to consider  $A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(t)$ . For  $0 < t \leq 1$ , the estimate is simple:  $A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(t) \leq c(v_0, c_d, m)$ .

In the case  $t \geq 1$ , we can use Lemma [4.1](#page-10-1). Indeed,

$$
A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(t) \le c(v_0, c_d, m)(1+\int_1^t \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}\sqrt{s}^{-\frac{25\varepsilon}{2(6+5\varepsilon)}}\frac{1}{\ln^{m+1}(s+e)} \le c(v_0, c_d, m)t^{\frac{12-15\varepsilon}{4(6+5\varepsilon)}}\frac{1}{\ln^{m+1}(t+e)}.
$$

Then, for  $t \geq 1$ , by Lemma [4.1](#page-10-1),

$$
||v^{2}(\cdot,t)||_{1} \leq c(v_{0},c_{d},m)\left(1+\int_{0}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}s^{\frac{-3+10\varepsilon}{2(6+5\varepsilon)}}A_{\frac{6}{5}+\varepsilon}(s)\right)
$$
  

$$
\leq c(v_{0},c_{d},m)\left(1+\int_{1}^{t} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{t-s}}s^{\frac{1}{4}}\frac{1}{\ln^{m+1}(t+\varepsilon)}\right)leqc(v_{0},c_{d},m)\frac{t^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\ln^{m+1}(t+\varepsilon)}
$$

for  $t \geq 1$ . Theorem [1.2](#page-4-1) is proven.

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