# Remarks on Liouville type theorems for the 3D steady axially symmetric Navier-Stokes equations

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#### Abstract

In this note, we investigate the 3D steady axially symmetric Navier-Stokes equations, and obtained Liouville type theorems if the velocity or the vorticity satisfies some a priori decay assumptions.

**Keywords:** Liouville type theorem, Navier-Stokes equations, axially symmetric Navier-Stokes equations

### 1 Introduction

An interesting question about Liouville type theorem of the 3D stationary Navier-Stokes equations in  $R^3$  is as follows: whether the solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u \cdot \nabla u = -\nabla p, \\ \nabla \cdot u = 0, \end{cases}$$
(1)

satisfying the vanishing property at infinity

$$\lim_{|x| \to \infty} u(x) = 0, \tag{2}$$

and the bounded Dirichlet energy

$$D(u) = \int_{R^3} |\nabla u|^2 dx < \infty \tag{3}$$

implies  $u \equiv 0$  is still an open problem, which is related to J. Leray (see also P12. Galdi [7]).

Many conditional criteria have been obtained for this issue. For example, Galdi proved the above Liouville type theorem by assuming  $u \in L^{\frac{9}{2}}(R^3)$  in [7]. Chae in [2] showed the condition  $\Delta u \in L^{\frac{6}{5}}(R^3)$  is sufficient for the vanishing property of u. Also, Chae-Wolf gave an improvement of logarithmic form for Galdi's result in [4] by assuming that  $\int_{R^3} |u|^{\frac{9}{2}} \{\ln(2 + \frac{1}{|u|})\}^{-1} dx < \infty$ . Seregin obtained the conditional criterion  $u \in BMO^{-1}(R^3)$  in [12]. Moreover, Kozonoa-Terasawab-Wakasugib proved  $u \equiv 0$  if the vorticity  $w = o(|x|^{-\frac{5}{3}})$  or  $||u||_{L^{\frac{9}{2},\infty}(R^3)} \leq \delta D(u)^{1/3}$  for a small constant  $\delta$  in [10]. It is shown that all the above norms  $u \in L^{\frac{9}{2}}(R^3)$ , the log form of  $u \in L^{\frac{9}{2}}(R^3)$  or  $u \in L^{\frac{9}{2},\infty}(R^3)$ can be replaced by the norms in the annular domain  $B_R \setminus B_{R/2}$  in [16] by Seregin and the author, where the following energy description was stated:

$$\int_{B_{R/2}} |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq CR^{-2} \left( \int_{B_R \setminus B_{R/2}} |u|^2 dx \right) + C(q) R^{2-\frac{9}{q}} ||u||^3_{L^{q,\infty}(B_R \setminus B_{R/2})}$$

where  $B_R = B_R(0)$  is a ball centered at 0 and q > 3. Note that the conditions (2) and (3) are not used in [16] as in [4]. More references, we refer to [3, 13, 14] and the references therein.

Moreover, the problem is not solved, even for the case of axially symmetric Navier-Stokes equations, to the best of the author's knowledge. Motivated by the result Seregin in [14], where he proved that the condition  $|u| \leq \frac{1}{|x'|^{\mu}}$  with  $x' = (x_1, x_2)$  and  $\mu \approx 0.77$  implies  $u \equiv 0$ , we are aimed to improve the decay assumption. At first, let us introduce the axially symmetric Navier-Stokes equations. Let  $u(x) = u_r(t, r, z)e_r + u_{\theta}(t, r, z)e_{\theta} + u_z(t, r, z)e_z$ , where

$$e_r = (\frac{x_1}{r}, \frac{x_2}{r}, 0) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0),$$
  

$$e_\theta = (-\frac{x_2}{r}, \frac{x_1}{r}, 0) = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta, 0)$$
  

$$e_z = (0, 0, 1)$$

and (1) becomes

$$\begin{cases} b \cdot \nabla u_r - \Delta_0 u_r + \frac{u_r}{r^2} - \frac{u_\theta^2}{r} + \partial_r p = 0, \\ b \cdot \nabla u_\theta - \Delta_0 u_\theta + \frac{u_\theta}{r^2} + \frac{u_r u_\theta}{r} = 0, \\ b \cdot \nabla u_z - \Delta_0 u_z + \partial_z p = 0, \\ \partial_r (ru_r) + \partial_z (ru_z) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(4)

where

$$b = u_r e_r + u_z e_z, \quad \Delta_0 = \partial_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} \partial_r + \partial_{zz}.$$

The vorticity is represented as

$$w = w_r e_r + w_\theta e_\theta + w_z e_z = (-\partial_z u_\theta) e_r + (\partial_z u_r - \partial_r u_z) e_\theta + \frac{\partial_r (r u_\theta)}{r} e_z.$$

There are also many developments on the Liouville type theorems of axi-symmetric case. For example, Liouville type theorem was proved by assuming no swirl (i.e.  $u_{\theta} = 0$ ), see Koch-Nadirashvili-Seregin-Sverak [9] or Korobkov-Pileckas-Russo[11]. The condition  $ru_{\theta} \in L^q$  with some  $q \geq 1$  or  $b \in L^3$  is enough, see Chae-Weng in [5]. Specially, for the axially symmetric case, the decay of the velocity or the vorticity can be obtained: Choe-Jin [6], Weng [17] proved that

$$|u_r(r,z)| + |u_z(r,z)| + |u_\theta(r,z)| \lesssim \sqrt{\frac{\ln r}{r}},$$
  
$$|w_\theta(r,z)| \lesssim r^{-(\frac{19}{16})^-}, \quad |w_r(r,z)| + |w_z(r,z)| \lesssim r^{-(\frac{17}{16})^-},$$

Recently, Carrillo-Pan-Zhang in [1] gave an alternative method for the decay of u and an improvement for the decay bound of the vorticity

$$|w_{\theta}(r,z)| \lesssim r^{-\frac{5}{4}} (\ln r)^{\frac{3}{4}}, \quad |w_{r}(r,z)| + |w_{z}(r,z)| \lesssim r^{-\frac{9}{8}} (\ln r)^{\frac{11}{8}}$$

by using Brezis-Gallouet inequality.

It's a natural question: whether there exist the sharp constants  $\mu_1, \mu_2$  such that  $|(u_r(r, z), u_z(r, z), u_\theta(r, z))| \leq \frac{1}{r^{\mu_1}}$  or  $|(w_r(r, z), w_z(r, z), w_\theta(r, z))| \leq \frac{1}{r^{\mu_2}}$  implies that  $u \equiv 0$  for the axially symmetric case?

With the help of energy estimates in [16] we can improve the result in [14] to  $\mu > \frac{2}{3}$ , which is almost a equivalent form of  $u \in L^{\frac{9}{2},\infty}$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** Suppose that u is axially symmetric smooth solution of the equation (4) and for some  $\mu > \frac{2}{3}$ ,

$$|u| \le \frac{C}{(1+r)^{\mu}}.$$

Then  $u \equiv 0$ .

Note that  $\Gamma = ru_{\theta}$  satisfies the special structure

$$b \cdot \nabla \Gamma - \triangle_0 \Gamma + \frac{2}{r} \partial_r \Gamma = 0$$

and Maximum principle can be applied, thus the condition  $u_{\theta} = o(\frac{1}{r})$  as  $|x| \to \infty$  implies u is trivial. However, it's still known that whether  $u_{\theta} = o(\frac{1}{r})$  can be replaced by  $u_{\theta} = O(\frac{1}{r})$ . But we show that the condition  $|b| = O(\frac{1}{r})$  or  $b \in BMO^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^3)$  is sufficient, which improved the assumption  $b \in L^3(\mathbb{R}^3)$  in [5]. Here we say a function  $f \in BMO^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^3)$  if there exists a vector-value function  $d \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and  $d_j \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^3)$  such that  $f = div \ d = d_{j,j}$ . It's well-known that for the BMO space, we have

$$\Gamma(s) = \sup_{x_0 \in R^3, R > 0} \left( \frac{1}{|B_R(x_0)|} \int_{B_R(x_0)} |d - d_{x_0, R}|^s dx \right)^{\frac{1}{s}} < \infty$$

for any  $s \in [1, \infty)$ .

In details, we obtained the following result.

**Theorem 1.2.** Suppose that u is axially symmetric smooth solution of the equation (4) satisfying (2) and (3). Then  $u \equiv 0$  if one of the following conditions is satisfied

(i) 
$$b = (u_r, u_z) \in BMO^{-1}(R^3);$$
  
(ii)  $|b| \le \frac{C}{r}$ 

For the decay of the vorticity, we also state the following corresponding result.

**Theorem 1.3.** Suppose that u is axially symmetric smooth solution of the equation (4) satisfying (2) and (3). Moreover,

$$|(w_r, w_\theta, w_z)| \le \frac{C}{r^\beta}, \quad \beta > \frac{5}{3}.$$

Then  $u \equiv 0$ .

**Remark 1.** This conclusion generalized the result of [10] to the axially symmetric case, where the condition  $|w| = o(|x|^{-\frac{5}{3}})$  was put.

Throughout this article, C denotes a constant, which may be different from line to line.

### 2 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Recall a Caccioppoli inequality in [16], which is stated as follows.

**Proposition 2.1.** Let (u, p) be the smooth solution of (1). Then for  $0 < \delta \leq 1$  and  $\frac{6(3-\delta)}{6-\delta} < q < 3$ , we have

$$\int_{B_{R/2}} |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq \frac{C}{R^2} \left( \int_{B_R \setminus B_{R/2}} |u|^2 dx \right) + C(\delta) \left( \|u\|_{L^{q,\infty}(B_R \setminus B_{R/2})}^{3-\delta} R^{2-\frac{9-3\delta}{q}-\frac{\delta}{2}} \right)^{\frac{2}{2-\delta}}$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Let  $C_R$  denote the cylindrical region  $\{x; |x'| \leq R, |z| \leq R\}$ , then it's easy to check that

$$B_R \subset C_R \subset B_{\sqrt{2}R}.$$

Hence, it follows from Proposition 2.1 that

$$\int_{C_{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}R}} |\nabla u|^2 dx \leq \frac{C}{R^2} \left( \int_{C_R \setminus C_{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}R}} |u|^2 dx \right) \\
+ C(\delta) \left( \|u\|_{L^{q,\infty}(C_R \setminus C_{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}R})}^{3-\delta} R^{2-\frac{9-3\delta}{q}-\frac{\delta}{2}} \right)^{\frac{2}{2-\delta}} \\
\leq C \|u\|_{L^q(C_R)}^2 R^{1-\frac{6}{q}} + C(\delta,q) \left( \|u\|_{L^q(C_R)}^{3-\delta} R^{2-\frac{9-3\delta}{q}-\frac{\delta}{2}} \right)^{\frac{2}{2-\delta}} \tag{5}$$

for q > 2, where we used the property of Lorentz space

$$||u||_{L^{q,\infty}(\Omega)} \le C(q,\ell) ||u||_{L^{q,\ell}(\Omega)}$$

(for example, see Proposition 1.4.10 in [8]).

For  $\mu q > 2$ , we have

$$||u||_{L^q(C_R)} \le C \left( R \int_0^R (1+r)^{1-\mu q} dr \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \le C(\mu, q) R^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

Then the terms of the right hand side of (5) is controlled by

$$\int_{C_{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}R}} |\nabla u|^2 dx \le C(\mu, q) R^{1 - \frac{4}{q}} + C(\delta, \mu, q) \left( R^{2 - \frac{\delta}{2} - \frac{6 - 2\delta}{q}} \right)^{\frac{2}{2 - \delta}} \tag{6}$$

**Claim that:** for fixed  $\mu > \frac{2}{3}$ , there exist constants  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  and q such that

$$\max\{6\frac{3-\delta}{6-\delta}, \frac{2}{\mu}\} < q < 3, \quad \text{and} \quad 2-\frac{\delta}{2} - \frac{6-2\delta}{q} < 0 \tag{7}$$

hence letting  $R \to \infty$ , by (6) we have

$$\int_{R^3} |\nabla u|^2 dx = 0,$$

which implies  $u \equiv 0$ .

**Proof of (7).** First for fixed  $\mu > \frac{2}{3}$ , we choose  $\delta_0 \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$\frac{2}{\mu} < 4\frac{3-\delta_0}{4-\delta_0}$$

Since  $0 < \delta_0 < 1$ , we have

$$1 - \frac{\delta_0}{4} < 1 - \frac{\delta_0}{6},$$

and

$$6\frac{3-\delta_0}{6-\delta_0} < 4\frac{3-\delta_0}{4-\delta_0}$$

so we take

$$q = \frac{1}{2} \left( \max\{6\frac{3-\delta_0}{6-\delta_0}, \frac{2}{\mu}\} + 4\frac{3-\delta_0}{4-\delta_0} \right)$$

Then we have

$$\max\{6\frac{3-\delta_0}{6-\delta_0}, \frac{2}{\mu}\} < q < 4\frac{3-\delta_0}{4-\delta_0} < 3,$$

which implies (7).

Hence the proof of Theorem 1.1 is complete.

## 3 Proof of Theorem 1.2

Let  $\phi(x) = \phi(r, z) \in C_0^{\infty}(C_R)$  and  $0 \le \phi \le 1$  satisfying

$$\phi(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in C_{R/2}, \\ 0, & x \in C_R^c \end{cases}$$

and

$$|\nabla \phi| \le \frac{C}{R}, \quad |\nabla^2 \phi| \le \frac{C}{R^2}.$$

Without loss of generality, by Theorem X.5.1 in [7] we can assume that

$$\lim_{|x| \to \infty} |p| + |u| = 0.$$

Note that  $\Delta p = -\partial_i \partial_j (u_i u_j)$ , then using Calderón-Zygmund estimates and gradient estimates of harmonic function, we have

$$\int_{R^3} |p|^3 + |u|^6 dx < CD(u)^3,$$

and

$$\|\nabla p\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(R^{3})} < CD(u),$$

since  $\||\nabla u|u\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(R^3)} \le CD(u).$ 

Multiplying  $\phi u$  on both sides of (1), integration by parts yields that

$$\int_{C_R} \phi \left( |\nabla u_r|^2 + |\nabla u_\theta|^2 + |\nabla u_z|^2 + \frac{u_r^2}{r^2} + \frac{u_\theta^2}{r^2} \right) dx$$
  

$$\leq \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + p \right) (u_r \partial_r + u_z \partial_z) \phi dx + C ||u||_{L^6(C_R \setminus C_{R/2})}^2$$
  

$$= I + C ||u||_{L^6(C_R \setminus C_{R/2})}^2$$

**Case (i).** Due to  $u_r, u_z \in BMO^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ , we write

$$u_r = \partial_j d_{1,j}, \quad u_z = \partial_j d_{2,j}, \quad j = 1, 2, 3,$$

where  $d_{1,j}, d_{2,j} \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^3)$ . Also, denote  $\overline{f}$  as the mean value of f on the domain  $C_R$ . Then we have

$$I = \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + p \right) \left[ \partial_j (d_{1,j} - \bar{d}_{1,j}) \partial_r + \partial_j (d_{2,j} - \bar{d}_{2,j}) \partial_z \right] \phi dx$$
  
$$= -\int_{C_R} \partial_j \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + p \right) \left[ (d_{1,j} - \bar{d}_{1,j}) \partial_r \phi + (d_{2,j} - \bar{d}_{2,j}) \partial_z \phi \right] dx$$
  
$$- \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + p \right) \left[ (d_{1,j} - \bar{d}_{1,j}) \partial_j (\partial_r \phi) + (d_{2,j} - \bar{d}_{2,j}) \partial_j (\partial_z \phi) \right] dx$$

Recall that  $\phi(x) = \phi(r, z)$  and

$$\partial_j \partial_z \phi = \partial_z \partial_j \phi, \quad \text{for} \quad j = 1, 2, 3,$$
  
$$\partial_j \partial_r \phi = \partial_z \partial_j \phi, \quad \text{for} \quad j = 3,$$
  
$$\partial_1 \partial_r \phi = \cos \theta \partial_r^2 \phi, \quad \partial_2 \partial_r \phi = \sin \theta \partial_r^2 \phi,$$

which and the property of BMO function yield that

$$I \leq CR^{-1} \||\nabla(|u|^{2})| + |\nabla p|\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})} (\|d_{1,j} - \bar{d}_{1,j}\|_{L^{3}(C_{R})} + \|d_{2,j} - \bar{d}_{2,j}\|_{L^{3}(C_{R})}) + CR^{-2} (\|u\|_{L^{6}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}^{2} + \|p\|_{L^{3}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}) (\|d_{1,j} - \bar{d}_{1,j}\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(C_{R})} + \|d_{2,j} - \bar{d}_{2,j}\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(C_{R})}) \leq C \||\nabla(|u|^{2})| + |\nabla p|\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})} + C (\|u\|_{L^{6}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}^{2} + \|p\|_{L^{3}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}) \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{as } R \to \infty)$$

Hence, the proof of case (i) is complete. **Case (ii).** When  $|(u_r, u_z)| \leq \frac{C}{r}$  for r > 0,

$$I = \int_{C_R} \left(\frac{1}{2}|u|^2 + p\right) (u_r \partial_r + u_z \partial_z) \phi dx$$

$$\leq C \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + |p| \right) \left( \partial_r \ln(r) |\partial_r \phi| + \partial_r \ln(r) |\partial_z \phi| \right) dx.$$

Let  $g(r) = \ln(r)$  and  $\bar{g}$  be the mean value of g on  $\{x'; |x'| \leq R\}$ . Then we have

$$I \leq -C \int_{C_R} \partial_r (\frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + |p|) (g - \bar{g}) (|\partial_r \phi| + |\partial_z \phi|) dx$$
  
$$-C \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + |p| \right) (g - \bar{g}) \partial_r (|\partial_r \phi| + |\partial_z \phi|) dx$$
  
$$-C \int_{C_R} \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 + |p| \right) (g - \bar{g}) \frac{1}{r} (|\partial_r \phi| + |\partial_z \phi|) dx$$
  
$$\doteq I_1 + I_2 + I_3$$

Note that  $g \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^2)$  (see, for example, Chapter IV [15]), and we have

$$R^{-1} \left( \int_{C_R} |g - \bar{g}|^3 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \le C \left( R^{-2} \int_{|x'| \le R} |g - \bar{g}|^3 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \le C$$

and

$$R^{-2} \left( \int_{C_R} |g - \bar{g}|^{\frac{2}{3}} dx \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \le C, \quad R^{-3} \left( \int_{C_R} |g - \bar{g}|^{12} dx \right) \le C$$

Hence as the arguments of (i), we have

$$I_1 + I_2 \le C \||\nabla(|u|^2)| + |\nabla p|\|_{L^{\frac{3}{2}}(C_R \setminus C_{R/2})} + C(\|u\|_{L^6(C_R \setminus C_{R/2})}^2 + \|p\|_{L^3(C_R \setminus C_{R/2})})$$

For the term of  $I_3$ , we get

$$I_{3} \leq CR^{-1}(\|u\|_{L^{6}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}^{2} + \|p\|_{L^{3}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})})\|g - \bar{g}\|_{L^{12}(C_{R})}\|\frac{1}{r}\|_{L^{\frac{12}{7}}(C_{R})}$$

$$\leq CR^{-\frac{1}{4}}(\|u\|_{L^{6}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}^{2} + \|p\|_{L^{3}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})})\|g - \bar{g}\|_{L^{12}(C_{R})}$$

$$\leq C(\|u\|_{L^{6}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})}^{2} + \|p\|_{L^{3}(C_{R}\setminus C_{R/2})})$$

Hence, we can conclude that

 $I \to 0 \quad (\text{as } \mathbb{R} \to \infty)$ 

The proof of Theorem 1.2 is complete.

# 4 Proof of Theorem 1.3

We are going to prove that

**Proposition 4.1.** Assume that the conditions of Theorem 1.3 hold. (1) Let  $w_{\theta} \leq Cr^{-\beta}$  with  $\beta > 1$ . Then we get for r > 1

$$|u_r(r,z)| + |u_z(r,z)| \le C \begin{cases} (1+r)^{-\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2(\beta-1)}}, & \beta > 2, \\ (1+r)^{1-\beta}, & 1 < \beta < 2, \\ (1+r)^{-1}\ln(r+1), & \beta = 2. \end{cases}$$

(2) Let  $|w_r| + |w_z| \le Cr^{-\beta}$  with  $\beta > 1$ . Then we get for r > 1

$$|u_{\theta}(r,z)| \le C \begin{cases} (1+r)^{-\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2(\beta-1)}}, & \beta > 2, \\ (1+r)^{1-\beta}, & 1 < \beta < 2, \\ (1+r)^{-1}\ln(r+1), & \beta = 2. \end{cases}$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.3.** It follows from Proposition 4.1 and Theorem 1.1 directly.

Next we are aimed to prove Proposition 4.1. Firstly, we introduce a representation formula of  $u_r$ ,  $u_z$  and  $u_\theta$  with the help of the vorticity. Since  $b = u_r e_r + u_z e_z$  and

$$\nabla \times b = w_{\theta}e_{\theta}, \quad \nabla \times (u_{\theta}e_{\theta}) = w_re_r + w_ze_z$$

by Biot-Savart law, we can get the integral representation of the velocity as follows (for example, see Lemma 2.2 for a local version by Choe-Jin [6], also see Lemma 3.10 by Weng [17]).

**Lemma 4.2.** Like the vorticity at the point  $(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, z)$  denoted by  $(w_r, w_\theta, w_z)(r, z)$ , we write the vorticity at the point  $(\rho \cos \phi, \rho \sin \phi, k)$  as  $(w_\rho, w_\phi, w_k)(\rho, k)$ . Then we have

$$u_r(r,z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k) w_{\phi}(\rho,k) \rho d\rho dk, \qquad (8)$$

$$u_z(r,z) = -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \Gamma_2(r,\rho,z-k) w_\phi(\rho,k) \rho d\rho dk$$
(9)

$$u_{\theta}(r,z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} \Gamma_{3}(r,\rho,z-k)w_{k}(\rho,k)\rho d\rho dk -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} \Gamma_{1}(r,\rho,z-k)w_{\rho}(\rho,k)\rho d\rho dk$$
(10)

where

$$\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{z-k}{[r^2+\rho^2-2r\rho\cos\phi+(z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cos\phi d\phi$$
  

$$\Gamma_2(r,\rho,z-k) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho-r\cos\phi}{[r^2+\rho^2-2r\rho\cos\phi+(z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} d\phi,$$
  

$$\Gamma_3(r,\rho,z-k) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho-r\cos\phi}{[r^2+\rho^2-2r\rho\cos\phi+(z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cos\phi d\phi.$$

Secondly, we give the bounds of estimate of  $\Gamma_2$ ,  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_1$ , which will be used in the proof. This is similar to that in [6], where  $\rho \approx r$  was assumed. Here we consider all  $\rho > 0$  and large r > 0. In details, we have the following estimates.

**Lemma 4.3** (Estimate of  $\Gamma_2$ ,  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_1$ ).

$$|\Gamma_2(r,\rho,z-k)| + |\Gamma_3(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{C}{(\max\{\rho,r\})^{\alpha}[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{2-\alpha}{2}}},$$
 (11)

for r > 1 and  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ ;

$$|\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{C|z-k|}{(\max\{\rho,r\})^{\alpha}[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}},\tag{12}$$

where r > 1,  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$  for  $\frac{r}{4} \le \rho \le 4r$ , and  $0 \le \alpha \le 3$  for  $\rho < \frac{r}{4}$  or  $\rho \ge 4r$ .

Thirdly, we assume Lemma 4.3 holds and complete the proof of Proposition 4.1 and Lemma 4.3 is proved later.

**Proof of Proposition 4.1:** At first, we estimate the term of  $u_r(r, z)$ . Let

$$\begin{split} I &= u_r(r,z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{r^{\gamma/8}} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r^{\gamma/8}}^{r/4} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r/4}^{r-r^{\delta/2}} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk \\ &+ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r-r^{\delta/2}}^{r+r^{\delta/2}} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r+r^{\delta/2}}^{4r} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{4r}^{\infty} \Gamma_1 w_{\phi} \rho d\rho dk \\ &= I_1 + \dots + I_6, \end{split}$$

where  $0 \leq \gamma, \delta \leq 1$ , to be decided.

For the term  $I_1$ , by (12) and  $||w_{\phi}||^2_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)} \leq CD(u) < \infty$  we get

$$I_{1} \leq C \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{r^{\gamma}/8} |\Gamma_{1}(r,\rho,z-k)|^{2} \rho d\rho dk \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
  
$$\leq C \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{r^{\gamma}/8} \frac{|z-k|^{2}}{r^{2\alpha} [r^{2} + (z-k)^{2}]^{3-\alpha}} \rho d\rho dk \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
  
$$\leq Cr^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{r^{\gamma}/8} \frac{r^{-2} |z-k|^{2}}{[1+r^{-2}(z-k)^{2}]^{3-\alpha}} r^{-1} dk \rho d\rho \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq Cr^{-\frac{3}{2}+\gamma}$$

where  $0 \le \alpha < \frac{3}{2}$ .

For the term  $I_2$ , using r > 1, (12) and  $w_{\theta} \leq Cr^{-\beta}$ 

$$I_2 \leq C \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r^{\gamma}/8}^{r/4} \Gamma_1 \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk$$

$$\leq C \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r^{\gamma}/8}^{r/4} \frac{|z-k|}{r^{\alpha} [r^{2} + (z-k)^{2}]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk \right)$$

$$\leq C \begin{cases} r^{-1+\gamma(2-\beta)} & (\beta > 2) \\ r^{-1} \ln r & (\beta = 2) \\ r^{1-\beta} & (1 < \beta < 2) \end{cases}$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ .

Moreover, for the term  $I_3$ , by (12) and  $w_{\theta} \leq Cr^{-\beta}$ 

$$I_{3} \leq C \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r/4}^{r-r^{\delta/2}} \Gamma_{1} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk$$
  

$$\leq C \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r/4}^{r-r^{\delta/2}} \frac{|z-k|}{r^{\alpha} [(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk \right)$$
  

$$\leq Cr^{-\alpha-\delta+\alpha\delta} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r/4}^{r-r^{\delta/2}} \frac{r^{-\delta} |z-k|}{[\frac{1}{4} + r^{-2\delta}(z-k)^{2}]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}} r^{-\delta} dk \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho \right)$$
  

$$\leq C \begin{cases} r^{2-\beta-\alpha-\delta+\delta\alpha} & (\beta < 2 \text{ or } \beta > 2) \\ r^{-\alpha-\delta+\alpha\delta} \ln r & (\beta = 2) \end{cases}$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ .

Similarly, for  $I_5$  we have

$$I_5 \leq C \begin{cases} r^{2-\beta-\alpha-\delta+\delta\alpha} & (\beta<2 \text{ or } \beta>2)\\ r^{-\alpha-\delta+\alpha\delta}\ln r & (\beta=2) \end{cases}$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ .

Furthermore, for  $0 \le \alpha < 1$  by (12) and  $w_{\theta} \le Cr^{-\beta}$  we have

$$I_{4} \leq C \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r-r^{\delta/2}}^{r+r^{\delta/2}} \Gamma_{1} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk$$

$$\leq C \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{r-r^{\delta/2}}^{r+r^{\delta/2}} \frac{|z-k|}{r^{\alpha} [(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk \right)$$

$$\leq C \left( \int_{r-r^{\delta/2}}^{r+r^{\delta/2}} r^{-\alpha} (r-\rho)^{-1+\alpha} \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho \right)$$

$$\leq Cr^{1-\beta-\alpha} \left( \int_{r-r^{\delta/2}}^{r+r^{\delta/2}} (r-\rho)^{-1+\alpha} d\rho \right)$$

$$\leq Cr^{1-\beta-\alpha+\delta\alpha} \quad (\beta > 1)$$

Finally, (12) and  $w_{\theta} \leq Cr^{-\beta}$  yield that

$$I_6 \leq C \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{4r}^{\infty} \Gamma_1 \rho^{1-\beta} d\rho dk$$

$$\leq C\left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{4r}^{\infty}\frac{|z-k|}{\rho^{\alpha}[\rho^{2}+(z-k)^{2}]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}}\rho^{1-\beta}d\rho dk\right)$$
  
 
$$\leq Cr^{1-\beta} \quad (\beta > 1)$$

Hence, concluding the estimates of  $I_1, \dots, I_6$ , we have the following arguments. Case a.  $\beta > 2$ . At this time, we have

$$I \le C \left[ r^{-\frac{3}{2}+\gamma} + r^{-1+\gamma(2-\beta)} + r^{2-\beta-\alpha-\delta+\delta\alpha} + r^{1-\beta-\alpha+\delta\alpha} + r^{1-\beta} \right]$$

where  $0 \le \alpha < 1$  and  $0 \le \gamma, \delta \le 1$ .

First, we choose  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2(\beta-1)}$  such that  $-\frac{3}{2} + \gamma = -1 + \gamma(2-\beta)$ . Furthermore, we take  $\alpha \uparrow 1, \delta \uparrow 1$  such that

$$(1-\delta)(1-\alpha) \le \beta - \frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2(\beta-1)}$$

which implies

$$-1 + \gamma(2 - \beta) \ge 2 - \beta - \alpha - \delta + \delta \alpha$$

Moreover, note that

$$2-\beta-\alpha-\delta+\delta\alpha\geq 1-\beta\geq 1-\beta-\alpha+\delta\alpha$$

Then, we get for r > 1

$$|u_r(r,z)| \le Cr^{-\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2(\beta-1)}}.$$

**Case b.**  $\beta < 2$ . At this time, we have

$$I \le C \left[ r^{-\frac{3}{2} + \gamma} + r^{2-\beta-\alpha-\delta+\delta\alpha} + r^{1-\beta-\alpha+\delta\alpha} + r^{1-\beta} \right]$$

where  $0 \le \alpha < 1$  and  $0 \le \gamma, \delta \le 1$ . We choose  $\gamma = 0$  and  $\delta = 1$ , then we get

$$|u_r(r,z)| \le Cr^{1-\beta}$$

**Case c.**  $\beta = 2$ . At this time, we have

$$I \le C \left[ r^{-\frac{3}{2}+\gamma} + r^{-1}\ln r + r^{-\alpha-\delta+\alpha\delta}\ln r + r^{1-\beta-\alpha+\delta\alpha} + r^{1-\beta} \right]$$

where  $0 \le \alpha < 1$  and  $0 \le \gamma, \delta \le 1$ . We choose  $\gamma = 0$  and  $\delta = 1$ , then we get

$$|u_r(r,z)| \le Cr^{-1}\ln r.$$

Hence we complete the estimate of  $u_r(r, z)$ .

Note that the bound of  $\Gamma_1$  used as above is similar to the estimates of  $\Gamma_2$  and  $\Gamma_3$ . Hence similar arguments hold for  $u_z$  and  $u_{\theta}$ . The proof of Proposition 4.1 is complete.

**Proof of Lemma 4.3.** The remaining part is devoted to proving Lemma 4.3, which is similar to that of [6], where the case  $\frac{r}{4} < \rho < 4r$  is discussed. Here we consider all the value  $\rho > 0$  and sketch the proof. First, for k > 0 and  $\beta \ge 1$  we find

$$I = \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{d\phi}{(\sqrt{1+k\sin^{2}\phi})^{\beta}} \le \begin{cases} C(\delta)\min\{1,k^{-\frac{\delta}{2}}\}, & \beta = 1\\ C(\beta)\min\{1,k^{-\frac{1}{2}}\}, & \beta > 1 \end{cases}$$
(13)

for any  $0 \le \delta < 1$ . Obviously,  $k \le C$  holds, and next we assume that k is large enough. Then for  $0 < \ell < 1$ 

$$I \le \ell + \int_{\ell}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{d\phi}{(k\sin^2\phi)^{\beta/2}}$$

Due to  $\phi \leq 2 \sin \phi$  for  $\phi \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , we have

$$I \le \ell + 2k^{-\beta/2} (\ln(\frac{\pi}{2}) - \ln \ell), \quad \beta = 1$$

and

$$I \le \ell + 2^{\beta} k^{-\beta/2} \frac{(\frac{\pi}{2})^{1-\beta} - \ell^{1-\beta}}{1-\beta}, \quad \beta > 1,$$

which yield the required bound (13) by choosing a suitable  $\ell$ .

Obviously, from the formulas of  $\Gamma_2, \Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_1$ , we have

$$|\Gamma_i(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{\rho+r}{[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}}, \quad i=2,3;$$
(14)

$$|\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{|z-k|}{[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$
(15)

for all  $\rho > 0$  and r > 0.

Next we go on estimating  $\Gamma_2$ ,  $\Gamma_3$ , and  $\Gamma_1$  carefully, respectively.

**Step I.** Noting the periodic and even property and variable transform for  $\phi$ , we also have

$$\Gamma_2 = -\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\rho - r\cos\phi}{[r^2 + \rho^2 - 2r\rho\cos\phi + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} d\phi$$
$$= -\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\rho - r\cos 2\phi}{[r^2 + \rho^2 - 2r\rho\cos 2\phi + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} d\phi$$

and

$$\Gamma_2 = -\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\rho^2 - 2r\rho\cos 2\phi + r^2 + \rho^2 - r^2}{\rho[(r-\rho)^2 + 4r\rho\sin^2\phi + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} d\phi$$

$$\leq C \frac{1}{\rho \sqrt{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1+K\sin^2\phi}} \\ -\frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\rho[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{(\sqrt{1+K\sin^2\phi})^3} d\phi \\ \doteq I_1 + I_2$$

where

$$K = \frac{4r\rho}{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2}$$

When  $K \leq 1$ , that is  $4r\rho \leq (r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2$ , we have  $(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}r^2$  for  $\rho \leq \frac{r}{2}$  and  $(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \geq 2r^2$  for  $\frac{r}{2} \leq \rho \leq 4r$ . Moreover, for  $\rho \geq 4r$  we have

$$(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \ge (\frac{3}{4}\rho)^2 \ge (\frac{3}{5}(\rho+r))^2 \ge \frac{9}{25}(\rho+r)^2$$

Hence for  $K \leq 1$  we have

$$\Gamma_2 \le C \frac{1}{\rho \sqrt{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2}}$$
(16)

When K > 1, by (13) we have

$$\Gamma_{2} \leq C(\delta) \frac{1}{\rho \sqrt{(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}}} \\ \cdot \left[ \left( \frac{(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}}{4r\rho} \right)^{\frac{\delta}{2}} + \frac{|\rho^{2} - r^{2}|}{(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}} \left( \frac{(r-\rho)^{2} + (z-k)^{2}}{4r\rho} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] (17)$$

where  $0 \leq \delta < 1$ .

**Case a.** For r > 1 and  $\rho \le \frac{r}{4}$  or  $\rho > 4r$ , by (14) we know the estimate (11) holds.

**Case b.** For r > 1 and  $\frac{r}{4} \le \rho \le 4r$  with  $K \le 1$ , by (14) and (16) we know the estimate (11) holds.

**Case c.** For r > 1 and  $\frac{r}{4} \le \rho \le 4r$  with K >> 1, by (14) and (17) we know the estimate (11) holds by noting that  $(r - \rho)^2 + (z - k)^2 \le 16r^2$  and

$$\frac{|\rho^2 - r^2|}{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2} \left(\frac{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2}{4r\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \le \frac{\rho+r}{\sqrt{4r\rho}} \le 5.$$

Hence the proof of  $\Gamma_2$  is complete.

**Step II.** The term  $\Gamma_2$  is similar and we omitted the details.

**Step III.** The term  $\Gamma_1$  is estimated as follows.

$$\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{z-k}{[r^2+\rho^2-2r\rho\cos\phi+(z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cos\phi d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{z-k}{\left[(r-\rho)^2 + 4r\rho\sin^2\phi + (z-k)^2\right]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cos 2\phi d\phi$$
  
$$\leq C \frac{|z-k|}{\left[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2\right]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{1+K\sin^2\phi})^3} d\phi$$
  
$$\doteq I'$$

where

$$K = \frac{4r\rho}{(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2}$$

When  $K \leq 1$ , i.e.  $4r\rho \leq (r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2$ , we have  $(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}r^2$  for  $\rho \leq \frac{r}{2}$  and  $(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \geq 2r^2$  for  $\frac{r}{2} \leq \rho \leq 4r$ . Moreover, for  $\rho \geq 4r$  we have

$$(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \ge (\frac{3}{4}\rho)^2$$

Hence for  $K \leq 1$  we have

$$(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2 \ge \frac{1}{2} (\max\{r,\rho\})^2$$

Using (15), for  $K \leq 1$  we get

$$|\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{C|z-k|}{(\max\{\rho,r\})^{\alpha}[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}},$$
(18)

where  $0 \le \alpha \le 3$ .

When K > 1, i.e.  $4r\rho \ge (r - \rho)^2 + (z - k)^2$ , which implies  $\rho > \frac{1}{8}r$ , by (13) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| &\leq \frac{C|z-k|}{[(r-\rho)^2+(z-k)^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\frac{(r-\rho)^2+(z-k)^2}{4r\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \frac{C|z-k|}{\sqrt{r\rho}[(r-\rho)^2+(z-k)^2]} \end{aligned}$$

Thus for  $\frac{1}{8}r < \rho < 4r$ , we have

$$|\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{C|z-k|}{(\max\{\rho,r\})^{\alpha}[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}}$$
(19)

where  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ . For  $\rho \geq 4r$ , by (15) we also derive that

$$|\Gamma_1(r,\rho,z-k)| \le \frac{C|z-k|}{(\max\{\rho,r\})^{\alpha}[(r-\rho)^2 + (z-k)^2]^{\frac{3-\alpha}{2}}}$$
(20)

where  $0 \le \alpha \le 3$ .

Concluding the estimates (18), (19) and (20), we complete the proof of the inequality (12).

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