

Wellposedness of the two- and three-dimensional full water wave problem

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1. Introduction

The mathematical problem of n -dimensional water wave concerns the motion of the interface separating an inviscid, incompressible, irrotational fluid, under the influence of gravity, from a region of zero density (i.e. air) in n -dimensional space. It is assumed that the fluid region is below the air region. Assume that the density of the fluid is 1, the gravitational field is $-\mathbf{k}$, where \mathbf{k} is the unit vector pointing in the upward vertical direction, and at time $t \geq 0$, the free interface is $\Sigma(t)$, and the fluid occupies region $\Omega(t)$. When surface tension is zero, the motion of the fluid is described by

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\mathbf{k} - \nabla P & \text{on } \Omega(t), t \geq 0, \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{v} = 0, & \text{on } \Omega(t), t \geq 0, \\ P = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma(t) \\ (1, \mathbf{v}) \text{ is tangent to the free surface } (t, \Sigma(t)), \end{cases}$$

where \mathbf{v} is the fluid velocity, P is the fluid pressure. It is well-known that when surface tension is neglected, the water wave motion can be subject to the Taylor instability [30, 3, 2]. Assume that the free interface $\Sigma(t)$ is described by $\xi = \xi(\alpha, t)$, where $\alpha \in R^{n-1}$ is the Lagrangian coordinate, i.e. $\xi_t(\alpha, t) = \mathbf{v}(\xi(\alpha, t), t)$ is the fluid velocity on the interface, $\xi_{tt}(\alpha, t) = (\mathbf{v}_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v})(\xi(\alpha, t), t)$ is the acceleration. Let \mathbf{n} be the unit normal pointing out of $\Omega(t)$. The Taylor sign condition relating to Taylor instability is

$$(1.2) \quad -\frac{\partial P}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = (\xi_{tt} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathbf{n} \geq c_0 > 0,$$

point-wisely on the interface for some positive constant c_0 . In [32, 33], we showed that the Taylor sign condition (1.2) always holds for the n -dimensional infinite depth water wave problem (1.1), $n \geq 2$, as long as the interface is non-self-intersecting; and the initial value problem of the

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