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## Introduction

The present paper is related to the problem of approximating the exact solution to the magnetohydrodynamic equations (MHD). The behaviour of a viscous, incompressible and resistive fluid is examined for a long period of time.

We follow the strategy introduced by several authors to approximate the solutions of the Navier-Stokes-Equations (NSE). The existence of a finite dimensional global attractor and a finite number of determining modes of the two-dimensional NSE ( cf.[4],[5] ) shows that the long time behaviour of these equations is determined by a finite number of parameters.

This justifies the approximation of the solutions by the linear Galerkin approximation associated to the eigenvectors of the Stokes operator.(cf.[4]) In order to obtain a better approximation it was pointed out that the long time behaviour of two-dimensional turbulent flows is mainly controlled by a finite number of modes related to the Stokes operator and that the higher modes remain small for a large time. ( cf.[6] )

Let  $u$  be the solution to the abstract evolution equation in an appropriate Hilbertspace

$$\frac{du}{dt} + Au + B(u) = f , \quad (0.1)$$

where  $A$  is the Stokes operator and  $B$  is a nonlinear quadratic operator. (0.1) can be written as a coupled system of equations for  $p$  and  $q$ , where  $p$  denotes the projection of  $u$  onto the finite dimensional space, spanned by the

first  $m$  eigenvectors of  $A$  ( lower modes ) and  $q$  the projection of  $u$  onto the infinite dimensional space spanned by the remaining eigenvectors ( higher modes ),

$$\frac{dp}{dt} + Ap + PB(p+q) = Pf , \quad (0.2)$$

$$\frac{dq}{dt} + Aq + QB(p+q) = Qf . \quad (0.3)$$

$P$  and  $Q$  are the projectors onto the finite and infinite dimensional spaces. The results of Foias, Manley and Temam ( cf.[6] ) show that a reasonable approximation of (0.3) is given by

$$Aq + QB(p) = Qf . \quad (0.4)$$

This led them to introduce the finite dimensional manifold  $M_0$  by :

$$q = \Phi_0(p) = A^{-1}(Qf - QB(p)) . \quad (0.5)$$

Another type of approximate inertial manifolds for two-dimensional turbulent flows containing all stationary solutions has been examined by Titi. ( cf.[12] )

The fact that the two-dimensional MHD-equations have finite dimensional global, universal attractors and a finite number of determining parameters (cf.[1],[8],[9]), inspires us to justify the definition of an approximate inertial manifold similar to (0.5) for two-dimensional MHD-equations.

The main purpose of this paper is to show that this manifold yields a better approximation than the linear Galerkin approximation.

The plan for our paper is the following.

In section 1 we describe the problem under consideration whereas in section 2 we give a precise functional setting of the problem. Section 3 is related to a few existence and uniqueness results. In section 4 and 5 the main results are presented: norm-estimates for higher modes of the solutions to the MHD-equations and estimates of the distance between the attractor and the approximate inertial manifold.

# 1 The magnetohydrodynamic equations

The equations, we are interested in, are given in a bounded domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , occupied by the viscous, incompressible and resistive fluid. The unknown functions  $u, B$  and  $p$  denote the velocity of the fluid, the magnetic field and the pressure of the fluid, respectively.

We shall suppose that the density  $\rho$  at time  $t = 0$  is equal to a prescribed constant  $\rho_0$ . The incompressibility yields that the fluid is homogenous at time  $t \geq 0$ . For the sake of simplicity we set  $\rho_0 \equiv 1$ .

The nondimensional form of the MHD-equations for viscous, incompressible flows is the following ( cf.[2],[8] ):

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (u \cdot \nabla)u - \frac{1}{Re} \Delta u + \nabla p + S \nabla \left( \frac{1}{2} B^2 \right) - S(B \cdot \nabla)B = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (1.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} + (u \cdot \nabla)B - (B \cdot \nabla)u - \frac{1}{Rm} \Delta B = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (1.2)$$

$$\operatorname{div} u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad , \quad \operatorname{div} B = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (1.3)$$

$p, u, B$  are nondimensional quantities,  $f$  represents a nondimensional volume density force. The nondimensional numbers are:

- the Reynolds number  $Re$ ,
- the magnetic Reynolds number  $Rm$ ,
- the number  $S = M^2/Re \cdot Rm$ , where  $M$  is the Hartman number.

We complete (1.1) - (1.3) by initial and boundary conditions upon  $u$  and  $B$ . Let  $\partial\Omega$  denote the boundary of  $\Omega$  and  $\eta$  the unit outward normal along  $\partial\Omega$ .

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \quad , \quad B(x, 0) = B_0(x) \quad x \in \Omega \quad (1.4)$$

$$u = 0 \quad , \quad B \cdot \eta = 0 \quad , \quad \operatorname{curl} B = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (1.5)$$

Remark:

Since we consider the space dimension  $N = 2$ , we define the operator curl for every vector function  $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2)$  as follows:

$$\operatorname{curl} \varphi = \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial x_2} .$$

The two dimensional case means that the region is a cylinder  $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , and all quantities are independent of  $x_3$ ,  $u$  and  $B$  being parallel to the  $x_1, x_2$ -plane.

## 2 Notations and precise functional setting of the problem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be a bounded domain with Lipschitz-boundary  $\partial\Omega \in C^{0,1}$ . By  $L^p(\Omega)$ ,  $L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ;  $W^{k,p}(\Omega)$ ,  $W^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ; we denote the usual spaces of real valued or  $\mathbb{R}^2$ -valued functions defined on  $\Omega$ .

$W_0^{k,p}(\Omega)$  and  $W_0^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  are subspaces of  $W^{k,p}(\Omega)$  and  $W^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$ , respectively, consisting of functions vanishing on  $\partial\Omega$ .

If there is no danger of misunderstanding we shall write shortly  $L^p$  for  $L^p(\Omega)$  as well as for  $L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  and  $W^{k,p}$  for  $W^{k,p}(\Omega)$  as well as for  $W^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$ . If  $E$  is any Banach space and  $(0, T)$  an interval of the real axis we denote by  $L^p(0, T; E)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , the usual space of functions defined on  $(0, T)$  with values in  $E$ . As usual let  $E^*$  be the dual space of the Banach space  $E$ .

Let

$$(\varphi, \psi) := \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) \cdot \psi(x) dx$$

denote the usual scalar product in  $L^2(\Omega)$ .

Next we introduce the spaces, used in the theory of MHD-equations ( cf.[6],[9] ). They are :

$$\mathcal{V}_1 = \{ \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) ; \operatorname{div} \varphi = 0 \},$$

$$V_1 = \{ \varphi \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) ; \operatorname{div} \varphi = 0 \} \text{ ( the closure of } \mathcal{V}_1 \text{ in } W^{1,2} \text{ ) ,}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_2 = \{ \Phi \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^2) ; \operatorname{div} \Phi = 0 ; \Phi \cdot \eta = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \},$$

$$V_2 = \{ \Phi \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) ; \operatorname{div} \Phi = 0 ; \Phi \cdot \eta = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \},$$

( the closure of  $\mathcal{V}_2$  in  $W^{1,2}$  )

$$H := \text{the closure of } \mathcal{V}_1 \text{ in } L^2 = \text{the closure of } \mathcal{V}_2 \text{ in } L^2.$$

These spaces are equipped with the following scalar products. We define for all  $\varphi, \psi \in V_1$ :

$$((\varphi, \psi))_1 := \sum_{i=1}^2 \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i}; \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_i} \right) ,$$

which is a scalar product in  $V_1$  and thanks to Friedrich's inequality in  $W^{1,2}$ . Further we define (cf.[8] ) for all  $\Phi, \Psi \in V_2$

$$((\Phi, \Psi))_2 := (\operatorname{curl} \Phi, \operatorname{curl} \Psi) ,$$

which is a scalar product in  $V_2$ . The norms  $\| \cdot \|_{V_i} := \sqrt{((\cdot, \cdot))_i}$  in  $V_i$  ( $i=1,2$ ) are equivalent to the norm of  $W^{1,2}$ . So we have :

$$\begin{aligned} \| \varphi \|_{W^{1,2}} &\leq \alpha_1 \cdot \| \varphi \|_{V_1} , \quad \| \varphi \|_{V_1} \leq \alpha_2 \cdot \| \varphi \|_{W^{1,2}} \quad \forall \varphi \in V_1 , \\ \| \varphi \|_{W^{1,2}} &\leq \beta_1 \cdot \| \varphi \|_{V_2} , \quad \| \varphi \|_{V_2} \leq \beta_2 \cdot \| \varphi \|_{W^{1,2}} \quad \forall \varphi \in V_2 , \\ \alpha_1 = \alpha_1(\Omega) , \quad \alpha_2 = \alpha_2(\Omega) , \quad \beta_1 = \beta_1(\Omega) , \quad \beta_2 = \beta_2(\Omega) &= \text{const} > 0 . \end{aligned}$$

Finally we mention that the injections

$$V_1 \subset H \subset V_1^* \quad , \quad V_2 \subset H \subset V_2^*$$

are compact and continuous and each space is dense in the following.

Let us introduce the operators related to the MHD-equations.

We define two linear continuous operators  $\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{L}(V_1, V_1^*)$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2 \in \mathcal{L}(V_2, V_2^*)$  by setting

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{A}_1 \varphi, \psi \rangle &:= ((\varphi, \psi))_1 \quad \text{for all } \varphi, \psi \in V_1 , \\ \langle \mathcal{A}_2 \Phi, \Psi \rangle &:= ((\Phi, \Psi))_2 \quad \text{for all } \Phi, \Psi \in V_2 . \end{aligned}$$

We can also consider  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  as unbounded operators on  $H$  whose domains are :

$$\begin{aligned} D(\mathcal{A}_1) &:= \{ \varphi \in V_1 , \mathcal{A}_1\varphi \in H \} , \\ D(\mathcal{A}_2) &:= \{ \Phi \in V_2 , \mathcal{A}_2\Phi \in H \} . \end{aligned}$$

In order to characterize  $D(\mathcal{A}_1)$  and  $D(\mathcal{A}_2)$  we state the following well-known results :

**Lemma 2.1:**

Let  $g \in V_1^*$  be given. Then  $\varphi \in V_1$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{A}_1\varphi = g$  if and only if there exists a function  $p \in L^2(\Omega)$  such that:

$$-\Delta\varphi + \text{grad } p = g \quad , \quad \text{div } \varphi = 0 \quad .$$

Furthermore if  $g \in H$  then there hold  $\varphi \in V_1 \cap W^{2,2}$ ,  $p \in W^{1,2}$  and there exists a constant  $c_1 = c_1(\Omega)$  such that:

$$\| \varphi \|_{W^{2,2}} + \| p \|_{W^{1,2}} \leq c_1 \| g \|_{L^2} .$$

Thus we have  $D(\mathcal{A}_1) = W^{2,2} \cap V_1$  ( cf. [8] ).

**Lemma 2.2:**

Let  $g \in H$  be given. Then  $\Phi \in V_2$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{A}_2\Phi = g$  if and only if  $\Phi$  satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta\Phi &= g && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \text{div } \Phi &= 0 && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \Phi \cdot \eta &= 0 && \text{on } \partial\Omega, \\ \text{curl } \Phi &= 0 && \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore there exists a constant  $c_2 = c_2(\Omega)$  such that :

$$\| \Phi \|_{W^{2,2}} \leq c_2 \| g \|_{L^2} .$$

Thus we have  $D(\mathcal{A}_2) = W^{2,2} \cap V_2$  ( cf.[8] ).

The linear operators  $\mathcal{A}_i : D(\mathcal{A}_i) \subset H \longrightarrow H$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are symmetric on the real Hilbertspace  $H$  with  $cl(D(\mathcal{A}_i)) = H$  and  $\mathcal{A}_i$  are strongly monotone, i.e:

$$(\mathcal{A}_i \varphi, \varphi) \geq c \|\varphi\|^2 \quad \forall \varphi \in D(\mathcal{A}_i) \text{ and fixed } c > 0.$$

Since the operators  $\mathcal{A}_i^{-1} : H \longrightarrow H$  are linear, compact and self-adjoint, there exist complete families of eigenvectors  $v_j$  of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $w_j$  of  $\mathcal{A}_2$ , which are orthonormal in  $H$  ( cf. [13] ):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1 v_j &= \lambda_j v_j & j &= 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 < \lambda_1 &\leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots & \lambda_j &\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } j \rightarrow \infty, \\ \mathcal{A}_2 w_j &= \mu_j w_j & j &= 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 < \mu_1 &\leq \mu_2 \leq \dots & \mu_j &\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } j \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $P_m^1$  and  $P_m^2$  denote the projector in  $H$  onto the subspace of  $H$  spanned by the first  $m$  eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  of  $\mathcal{A}_2$ , respectively. We write  $Q_m^1 = I - P_m^1$  and  $Q_m^2 = I - P_m^2$ .

There hold the following well-known estimates:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\|_{L^2} &\leq \lambda_1^{-1/2} \|\varphi\|_{V_1} \quad , \quad \|\Phi\|_{L^2} \leq \mu_1^{-1/2} \|\Phi\|_{V_2} \\ &\forall \varphi \in V_1 \quad , \quad \Phi \in V_2 \quad ; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\|_{V_1} &\leq \lambda_1^{-1/2} \|\mathcal{A}_1 \varphi\|_{L^2} \quad , \quad \|\Phi\|_{V_2} \leq \mu_1^{-1/2} \|\mathcal{A}_2 \Phi\|_{L^2} \\ &\forall \varphi \in D(\mathcal{A}_1) \quad , \quad \Phi \in D(\mathcal{A}_2) \quad ; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\|_{L^2} &\leq \lambda_{m+1}^{-1/2} \|\varphi\|_{V_1} \quad , \quad \|\Phi\|_{L^2} \leq \mu_{m+1}^{-1/2} \|\Phi\|_{V_2} \\ &\forall \varphi \in Q_m^1 H \quad , \quad \Phi \in Q_m^2 H \quad ; \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\|_{V_1} &\leq \lambda_{m+1}^{-1/2} \|\mathcal{A}_1\varphi\|_{L^2} \quad , \quad \|\Phi\|_{V_2} \leq \mu_{m+1}^{-1/2} \|\mathcal{A}_2\Phi\|_{L^2} \\ \forall \varphi &\in Q_m^1 H \quad , \quad \Phi \in Q_m^2 H \quad . \end{aligned}$$

We define now a trilinear continuous mapping  $b$  on  $L^4(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \times W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \times L^4(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  by setting:

$$b(\varphi, \psi, \xi) := \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i \cdot \frac{\partial \psi_j}{\partial x_i} \cdot \xi_j \, dx \quad . \quad (2.1)$$

Due to Hölders inequality this integral makes sense. We have ( cf.[6],[8] ):

$$b(\varphi, \psi, \psi) = 0 \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in V_2 \quad \psi \in W^{1,2}, \quad (2.2)$$

$$b(\varphi, \psi, \xi) = -b(\varphi, \xi, \psi) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in V_2 \quad \psi, \xi \in W^{1,2}. \quad (2.3)$$

Thanks to (2.1) we can define a continuous bilinear operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  from  $V_i \times V_i$  into  $V_i^*$  ( $i=1,2$ ) by

$$\langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(\varphi, \psi), \xi \rangle := b(\varphi, \psi, \xi),$$

which satisfies :

$$|\langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(\varphi, \psi), \xi \rangle| \leq d_1 \cdot \|\varphi\|_{L^4} \cdot \|\psi\|_{V_i} \cdot \|\xi\|_{L^4} \quad (2.4)$$

$$\forall \varphi \in L^4, \quad \psi \in V_i, \quad \xi \in L^4, \quad d_1 = d_1(\Omega),$$

$$|\langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(\varphi, \psi), \xi \rangle| \leq d_2 \cdot \|\varphi\|_{L^\infty} \cdot \|\psi\|_{V_i} \cdot \|\xi\|_{L^2} \quad (2.5)$$

$$\forall \varphi \in L^\infty, \quad \psi \in V_i, \quad \xi \in L^2, \quad d_2 = d_2(\Omega).$$

This is a simple consequence of Hölders inequality.

**Definition:**

Let  $Re, Rm, S, T$  be positive real numbers and  $(0, T)$  an open interval of the real axis.

Let  $f \in L^2(0, T; V_1^*)$  and  $u_0, B_0 \in H$  be given. A tuple  $(u, B)$   $u \in W^{1,2}(0, T; V_1^*) \cap L^2(0, T; V_1)$ ,  $B \in W^{1,2}(0, T; V_2^*) \cap L^2(0, T; V_2)$  is called weak solution of (1.1) - (1.5) if:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(u(\tau), \varphi) + \frac{1}{Re} \langle \mathcal{A}_1 u(\tau), \varphi \rangle + \langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(u(\tau), u(\tau)), \varphi \rangle - \dots \quad (2.6)$$

$$\dots - S \langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(B(\tau), B(\tau)), \varphi \rangle = (f(\tau), \varphi) \quad \forall \varphi \in V_1, \text{ f.a.a. } \tau \in (0, T)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(B(\tau), \Phi) + \frac{1}{Rm} \langle \mathcal{A}_2 B(\tau), \Phi \rangle + \dots \quad (2.7)$$

$$\dots + \langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(u(\tau), B(\tau)), \Phi \rangle - \langle \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(B(\tau), u(\tau)), \Phi \rangle = 0$$

$$\forall \Phi \in V_2, \text{ f.a.a. } \tau \in (0, T)$$

$$u(0) = u_0 \quad , \quad B(0) = B_0 \quad . \quad (2.8)$$

( f.a.a. stands for " for almost all " )

Remark:

Every function in  $L^2(0, T; V_i) \cap W^{1,2}(0, T; V_i^*)$   $i = 1, 2$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[0, T]$  with values in  $H$ . Therefore (2.8) is meaningful.

### 3 Existence, uniqueness and regularity results

In this section we state an existence result of Temam and Sermange which we need in the following. Furthermore some useful estimates are given.

**Theorem 3.1:** ( Temam , Sermange cf. [8] )

(i) For  $f, u_0, B_0$  given with  $f \in L^2(0, T; V_1^*)$  ,  $u_0, B_0 \in H$  there exists a unique weak solution  $(u, B)$  of (1.1) - (1.5).

Furthermore  $u$  and  $B$  are analytic in  $t$  with values in  $D(\mathcal{A}_1)$  and  $D(\mathcal{A}_2)$ , respectively ( $t > 0$ ) and the mapping  $u_0, B_0 \mapsto u(t), B(t)$  is continuous from  $H \times H$  into  $D(\mathcal{A}_1) \times D(\mathcal{A}_2)$  ,  $\forall t \in (0, T)$ .

(ii) If  $f \in L^\infty(0, T; H)$  is defined by

$$f(t) := \tilde{f} \quad , \quad \tilde{f} \in H \quad \text{f.a.a. } t \in (0, T), \quad (3.1)$$

$u_0 \in V_1, B_0 \in V_2$  , then the weak solution  $(u, B)$  satisfies:

$$\| u(t) \|_{V_1} \leq M_1 \quad , \quad \| B(t) \|_{V_2} \leq M_2 \quad \text{f.a.a. } t \in (0, T) \quad ,$$

where  $M_1, M_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  ,  $M_1, M_2 = \text{const} > 0$  ;  $M_1, M_2$  are independent of  $T$ .

(iii) Let  $u_0 \in V_1$  ,  $B_0 \in V_2$  be given and let  $f$  be defined as in (3.1) for  $0 < T \leq \infty$ . Then the weak solution to (1.1) - (1.5) satisfies, for every  $\alpha_0 > 0$  :  $u \in L^\infty(\alpha_0, T; D(\mathcal{A}_1))$  ,  $B \in L^\infty(\alpha_0, T; D(\mathcal{A}_2))$  and :

$$\| u(t) \|_{W^{2,2}} \leq M_3 \quad , \quad \| B(t) \|_{W^{2,2}} \leq M_4 \quad \forall t \in (\alpha_0, T) \quad ,$$

where  $M_3, M_4 \in \mathbb{R}$  ;  $M_3, M_4 = \text{const} > 0$  ;  $M_3, M_4$  are independent of  $T$  .

Before turning to the main theorem we note some a-priori estimates.

**Lemma 3.2:**

(i) The embedding  $W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  into  $L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  is continuous for  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and

$$\| \varphi \|_{L^p} \leq \gamma_1 \| \varphi \|_{W^{1,2}} \quad \forall \varphi \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \quad ,$$

(  $\gamma_1$  does not depend on  $\varphi$  ).

(ii) The embedding  $W^{2,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  into  $L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$  is continuous and

$$\| \varphi \|_{L^\infty} \leq \gamma_2 \| \varphi \|_{W^{2,2}} \quad \forall \varphi \in W^{2,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) ,$$

(  $\gamma_2$  does not depend on  $\varphi$  ).

**Lemma 3.3:** (Gronwall's Lemma)

Let  $y$  be a positive locally integrable function on  $(0, \infty)$  such that  $dy/dt$  is locally integrable on  $(0, \infty)$  , and wich satisfy:

$$\frac{dy}{dt}(\tau) \leq a \cdot y(\tau) + b \quad \forall \tau \geq 0 \quad ; \quad a, b = \text{const} > 0$$

$$\text{then :} \quad y(\tau) \leq y(0) \cdot \exp(a \cdot \tau) + \frac{b}{a} \quad \forall \tau \geq 0 .$$

**Lemma 3.4:** (Young's inequality )

$$a \cdot b \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{p} a^p + \frac{1}{q \cdot \varepsilon^{q/p}} b^q , \quad \forall a, b, \varepsilon > 0, \quad 1 < p, q < \infty, \quad q = \frac{p}{p-1} .$$

## 4 Statement and Proof of the main theorem

From now on we assume  $f$  to be defined as in (3.1),  $u_0 \in V_1$  and  $B_0 \in V_2$ . To state the main theorem we fix an integer  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and set for every solution  $(u, B)$  to (1.1) - (1.5)

$$\begin{aligned} u &= p + q & p &= P_m^1 u & q &= Q_m^1 u , \\ B &= P + Q & P &= P_m^2 B & Q &= Q_m^2 B , \end{aligned}$$

and we show that after a transient period  $q$  is small in comparison with  $u$  and  $Q$  is small in comparison with  $B$ , supposing that  $m$  is sufficiently large.

**Theorem 4.1:**

If  $m$  is sufficiently large then for any solution to (1.1) - (1.5) there hold the estimate:

$$\begin{aligned} \|q(t)\|_{L^2} + \|Q(t)\|_{L^2} &\leq \left( \|q(0)\|_{L^2} + \|Q(0)\|_{L^2}^2 \right) \exp(-k_0 t) + \dots \\ &\dots + L_0(\lambda_{m+1}, \mu_{m+1}) \quad \forall t \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } k_0 = \mu_{m+1} \cdot \min\left(\frac{1}{Re} \cdot \frac{\beta_1}{\alpha_1 \beta_2}, \frac{1}{Rm}\right) \text{ and } L_0 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } m \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proof:

We consider (2.6) and (2.7) with test functions  $\varphi = q(t)$  and  $\Phi = Q(t)$   $\forall t \in (0, T)$  and obtain because of the symmetrie of the projectors:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|q\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{Re} \|q\|_{V_1}^2 = \dots \quad (4.1)$$

$$\dots = - \langle \tilde{B}(u, u), q \rangle + S \langle \tilde{B}(B, B), q \rangle + \langle Q_m^1 f, q \rangle,$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{Rm} \|Q\|_{V_2}^2 = \dots \quad (4.2)$$

$$\dots = - \langle \tilde{B}(u, B), Q \rangle + \langle \tilde{B}(B, u), Q \rangle.$$

Next we add (4.1) and (4.2) and by virtue of (2.4) and Lemma 3.2 we estimate the right hand side :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \| q \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{Re} \| q \|_{V_1}^2 + \frac{1}{Rm} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 \leq \dots \\
& \dots \leq d_1 (\| u \|_{L^4} \cdot \| u \|_{W^{1,2}} + S \cdot \| B \|_{L^4} \cdot \| B \|_{W^{1,2}}) \cdot \| q \|_{L^4} + \dots \\
& \dots + d_1 (\| u \|_{L^4} \cdot \| B \|_{W^{1,2}} + \| B \|_{L^4} \cdot \| u \|_{W^{1,2}}) \cdot \| Q \|_{L^4} + \dots \\
& \dots + \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2} \cdot \| q \|_{L^2} \leq \dots \\
& \dots \leq D_1 \| q \|_{W^{1,2}} + D_2 \| Q \|_{W^{1,2}} + \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2} \cdot \| q \|_{W^{1,2}} \leq \dots \\
& \dots \leq D_1 \cdot \alpha_1 \cdot \| q \|_{V_1} + D_2 \cdot \beta_1 \cdot \| Q \|_{V_2} + \alpha_1 \cdot \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2} \cdot \| q \|_{V_1} \leq \dots
\end{aligned}$$

(Young's inequality )

$$\begin{aligned}
& \dots \leq \frac{1}{2} \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re \cdot D_1^2 \cdot \alpha_1^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot Re \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \| q \|_{V_1}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Rm \cdot D_2^2 \cdot \beta_1^2 + \dots \\
& \dots + \frac{1}{2 \cdot Rm \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re \cdot \alpha_1^2 \cdot \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot Re \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \| q \|_{V_1}^2 ,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$D_1 = 2 \cdot d_1 \cdot \gamma_1^2 \cdot \left( M_1^2 + S \cdot M_1 \cdot M_2 \right) ,$$

$$D_2 = 4 \cdot d_1 \cdot S \cdot \gamma_1^2 \cdot M_1 \cdot M_2 .$$

From (4.1) and (4.2) we conclude:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \| q \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{L^2}^2 + \dots$$

$$\dots + \| q \|_{V_1}^2 \left( \frac{2}{Re} - \frac{2}{Re} \mu_{m+1}^{-1/2} \right) + \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 \left( \frac{2}{Rm} - \frac{1}{Rm} \mu_{m+1}^{-1/2} \right) \leq \dots$$

$$\dots \leq \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \left( \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot D_1^2 + \beta_1^2 \cdot Rm \cdot D_2^2 + \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2}^2 \right) .$$

Hence, assuming that  $m$  is sufficiently large the last inequality yields:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \| q \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{L^2}^2 + \dots$$

$$\dots + \mu_{m+1} \cdot \min \left( \frac{1}{Re} \cdot \frac{\beta_1}{\alpha_1 \cdot \beta_2} , \frac{1}{Rm} \right) \left( \| q \|_{L^2}^2 + \| Q \|_{L^2}^2 \right) \leq \dots$$

$$\dots \leq \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \left( \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot D_1^2 + \beta_1^2 \cdot Rm \cdot D_2^2 + \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2}^2 \right) .$$

Applying Gronwall's Lemma we obtain:

$$\| q(t) \|_{L^2}^2 + \| Q(t) \|_{L^2}^2 \leq \left( \| q(0) \|_{L^2}^2 + \| Q(0) \|_{L^2}^2 \right) \exp(-k_0 t) + \dots$$

$$\dots + \frac{1}{k_0} \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \left( \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot D_1^2 + \beta_1^2 \cdot Rm \cdot D_2^2 + \alpha_1^2 \cdot Re \cdot \| Q_m^1 f \|_{L^2}^2 \right)$$

$$\forall t \geq \alpha_0 > 0, \text{ where } k_0 = \mu_{m+1} \cdot \min \left( \frac{1}{Re} \cdot \frac{\beta_1}{\alpha_1 \cdot \beta_2}, \frac{1}{Rm} \right).$$

□

**Theorem 4.2 :**

If  $m$  is sufficiently large then for any weak solution to (1.1) - (1.5) there hold the estimates:

(i)

$$\| q(t) \|_{V_1}^2 \leq M_1^2 \cdot \exp(-t \cdot \lambda_{m+1}) + \frac{1}{k_1} \cdot L_1(\lambda_{m+1})$$

$\forall t \geq \alpha_0 > 0$ , where  $L_1 \rightarrow 0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

(ii)

$$\| Q(t) \|_{V_2}^2 \leq M_2^2 \cdot \exp(-t \cdot \mu_{m+1}) + \frac{1}{k_2} \cdot L_2(\mu_{m+1})$$

$\forall t \geq \alpha_0 > 0$ , where  $L_2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof:

ad (i) : Since  $u$  ( and so  $q$  ) are analytic in  $t$  with values in  $D(\mathcal{A}_1)$  (2.6) yields :

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(t) + \frac{1}{Re} \mathcal{A}_1 u(t) + \hat{\mathcal{B}}(u(t), u(t)) - S \cdot \hat{\mathcal{B}}(B(t), B(t)) = f \text{ in } L^2. \quad (4.3)$$

Taking the scalar product of (4.3) with  $\mathcal{A}_1 q(t)$  in  $L^2$  for all  $t \in (\alpha_0, T)$  we



find:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|q\|_{V_1}^2 + \frac{1}{Re} \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2}^2 = \dots \quad (4.4)$$

$$\dots = - (\hat{\mathcal{B}}(u, u), \mathcal{A}_1 q) + S \cdot (\hat{\mathcal{B}}(B, B), \mathcal{A}_1 q) + (Q_m^1 f, \mathcal{A}_1 q) .$$

By virtue of (2.4), (2.5) we obtain :

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|q\|_{V_1}^2 + \frac{1}{Re} \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2}^2 \leq \dots$$

$$\dots \leq d_1 \cdot \|u\|_{L^\infty} \cdot \|u\|_{V_1} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2} + \dots$$

$$\dots + d_1 \cdot S \cdot \|u\|_{L^\infty} \cdot \|B\|_{V_2} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2} + \|Q_m^1 f\|_{L^2} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2} \leq \dots$$

( Young's inequality )

$$\dots \leq \frac{1}{2} D_3^2 \cdot \lambda_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re + \frac{1}{2 \cdot \lambda_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re} \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2}^2 ,$$

where

$$D_3 = d_1 \cdot \gamma_2(M_3 \cdot M_1 + S \cdot M_3 \cdot M_2) + \|Q_m^1 f\|_{L^2} .$$

We conclude now :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|q\|_{V_1}^2 + \| \mathcal{A}_1 q \|_{L^2}^2 \cdot \left( \frac{2}{Re} - \frac{1}{Re} \cdot \lambda_{m+1}^{-1/2} \right) \leq D_3^2 \cdot \lambda_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re ,$$

and if m is sufficiently large :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|q\|_{V_1}^2 + \lambda_{m+1} \cdot \|q\|_{V_1}^2 \cdot \frac{1}{Re} \leq D_3^2 \cdot \lambda_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re .$$

Applying Gronwalls Lemma we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} \| q(t) \|_{V_1}^2 &\leq \| q(\alpha_0) \|_{V_1}^2 \cdot \exp(-t \cdot \lambda_{m+1}) + \frac{D_3^2 \cdot Re}{\lambda_{m+1}^{1/2}} \leq \dots \\ \dots &\leq M_1^2 \exp(-t \cdot \lambda_{m+1}) + \frac{D_3^2 \cdot Re}{\lambda_{m+1}^{1/2}} \quad \forall t \geq \alpha_0 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

ad (ii) : Since  $B$  ( and so  $Q$  ) are analytic in  $t$  with values in  $D(\mathcal{A}_2)$  we infer from (2.7) :

$$\frac{d}{dt} B(t) + \frac{1}{Rm} \mathcal{A}_2 B(t) + \hat{B}(u(t), B(t)) - \hat{B}(B(t), u(t)) = 0 \quad \text{in } L^2. \quad (4.5)$$

Taking the scalar product of (4.5) with  $\mathcal{A}_2 Q(t)$  for all  $t \in (\alpha_0, T)$  we find :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 + \frac{1}{Rm} \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2}^2 &= \dots \\ \dots - (\hat{B}(u, B), \mathcal{A}_2 Q) + (\hat{B}(B, u), \mathcal{A}_2 Q) &. \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of (2.5) Lemma 3.2 we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 + \frac{1}{Rm} \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2}^2 &\leq d_2 \cdot \| u \|_{L^\infty} \cdot \| B \|_{V_2} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2} + \dots \\ \dots + d_2 \cdot \| B \|_{L^\infty} \cdot \| u \|_{V_1} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2} &\leq \dots \end{aligned}$$

(Young's inequality )

$$\dots \leq \frac{1}{2} \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Rm \cdot D_4^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Rm} \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2}^2 ,$$

where  $D_4 = d_2 \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot (M_3 \cdot M_2 + M_4 \cdot M_1)$  .

Therefore :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 + \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q \|_{L^2}^2 \cdot \left( \frac{2}{Rm} - \frac{1}{Rm \cdot \mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \right) \leq \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re \cdot D_4^2$$

and if m is sufficiently large :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 + \mu_{m+1} \| Q \|_{V_2}^2 \cdot \frac{1}{Rm} \leq \mu_{m+1}^{1/2} \cdot Re \cdot D_4^2$$

Applying Gronwalls Lemma we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} \| Q(t) \|_{V_2}^2 &\leq \| Q(\alpha_0) \|_{V_2}^2 \cdot \exp(-t \cdot \mu_{m+1}) + \frac{Re \cdot D_4^2}{\mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \leq \dots \\ &\dots \leq M_2^2 \cdot \exp(-t \cdot \mu_{m+1}) + \frac{Re \cdot D_4^2}{\mu_{m+1}^{1/2}} \quad \forall t \geq \alpha_0 > 0 . \end{aligned}$$

□

## 5 The approximate inertial manifold

As mentioned in the introduction we are going to improve the linear Galerkin-approximation from section 4 by definition of a finite dimensional manifold  $\mathcal{M}_0$ .

We consider the projection  $u = p + q$  and  $B = P + Q$  for any solution to (1.1) - (1.5) and write these equations equivalently as a coupled system of equations for  $p, q$  and  $P, Q$  :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} p(t) + \frac{1}{Re} \mathcal{A}_1 p(t) + P_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t) + q(t), p(t) + q(t)) - \dots & \quad (5.1) \\ \dots - S \cdot P_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t) + Q(t), P(t) + Q(t)) = P_m^1 f & \quad \text{in } L^2 \quad \forall t \in (0, T) , \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} q(t) + \frac{1}{Re} \mathcal{A}_1 q(t) + Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t) + q(t), p(t) + q(t)) - \dots \quad (5.2)$$

$$\dots - S \cdot Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t) + Q(t), P(t) + Q(t)) = Q_m^1 f \quad \text{in } L^2 \quad \forall t \in (0, T) ,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} P(t) + \frac{1}{Rm} \mathcal{A}_2 P(t) + P_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t) + q(t), P(t) + Q(t)) + \dots \quad (5.3) \\ \dots + P_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t) + Q(t), p(t) + q(t)) = 0 \quad \text{in } L^2 \quad \forall t \in (0, T) , \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} Q(t) + \frac{1}{Rm} \mathcal{A}_2 Q(t) + Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t) + q(t), P(t) + Q(t)) + \dots \quad (5.4) \\ \dots + Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t) + Q(t), p(t) + q(t)) = 0 \quad \text{in } L^2 \quad \forall t \in (0, T) . \end{aligned}$$

The results of chapter 4 show that an acceptable approximation to (5.2) and (5.4) is given by :

$$\frac{1}{Re} \mathcal{A}_1 q(t) + Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t), p(t)) - S \cdot Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t), P(t)) = Q_m^1 f , \quad (5.5)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{Rm} \mathcal{A}_2 Q(t) + Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t), P(t)) + Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t), p(t)) = 0 . \quad (5.6)$$

So we are able to introduce in  $H \times H$  the finite dimensional manifold  $\mathcal{M}_0$ . We define a mapping  $\Phi_0 : P_m^1 H \times P_m^2 H \longrightarrow Q_m^1 H \times Q_m^2 H$  by setting :

$$(q_m, Q_m) = \Phi_0(p, P) := \dots$$

$$\dots = \mathcal{A}_1^{-1} \left( Re[Q_m^1 f + S \cdot Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P, P) - Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p, p)] \right) ,$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2^{-1} \left( Rm[-Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P, p) - Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p, P)] \right) .$$

The manifold  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is defined by :

$$\mathcal{M}_0 := \{ (p, P) + \Phi_0(p, P) ; \quad p \in P_m^1 H , \quad P \in P_m^2 H \}.$$

From (5.2) and (5.4) we infer :

$$\left\| \frac{d}{dt} q(t) \right\|_{L^2} \leq M_5 \quad \forall t \in [0, T] ,$$

$$\left\| \frac{d}{dt} Q(t) \right\|_{L^2} \leq M_6 \quad \forall t \in [0, T] .$$

$M_5, M_6 = \text{const} > 0$  ;  $M_5$  and  $M_6$  are independent of  $T$  .

Estimating the distance of  $(u(t), B(t))$  to  $\mathcal{M}_o$  means to estimate the distance of  $(q, Q)$  to  $(q_m, Q_m)$  . To end this we subtract  $(q, Q)$  from  $(q_m, Q_m)$ , using (5.2) , (5.4) and the definition of  $\Phi_0$  and obtain:

$$\frac{1}{Re} \cdot \lambda_{m+1} \cdot \| q_m(t) - q(t) \|_{L^2} \leq \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{Re} \cdot \lambda_{m+1} \cdot \| q_m(t) - q(t) \|_{V_1} \leq \frac{1}{Re} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_1 q_m(t) - \mathcal{A}_1 q(t) \|_{L^2} = \dots$$

$$\dots = S \cdot \| Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t), P(t)) - Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(B(t), B(t)) \|_{L^2} + \dots$$

$$\| Q_m^1 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(p(t), p(t)) - Q_m^1 \mathcal{B}(u(t), u(t)) \|_{L^2} + \left\| \frac{d}{dt} q(t) \right\|_{L^2} \leq \dots$$

$$\dots \leq S \cdot d_1 \cdot \gamma_1 \cdot 2M_2^2 + d_1 \cdot \gamma_1 \cdot 2M_1^2 + M_5 =: D_5 ;$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{Rm} \cdot \mu_{m+1} \cdot \| Q_m(t) - Q(t) \|_{L^2} \leq \\
\leq & \frac{1}{Rm} \cdot \mu_{m+1} \cdot \| Q_m(t) - Q(t) \|_{V_2} \leq \frac{1}{Rm} \cdot \| \mathcal{A}_2 Q_m(t) - \mathcal{A}_2 Q(t) \|_{L^2} = \dots \\
& \dots = \| Q_m^2 \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(P(t), p(t)) - Q_m^2 \mathcal{B}(B(t), u(t)) \|_{L^2} + \dots \\
& \dots + \| Q_m^2 \mathcal{B}(p(t), P(t)) - Q_m^2 \mathcal{B}(u(t), B(t)) \|_{L^2} + \left\| \frac{d}{dt} Q(t) \right\|_{L^2} \leq \\
& \dots \leq d_1 \gamma_1 2M_2 \cdot M_1 + d_1 \cdot \gamma_1 2M_1 \cdot M_2 + M_6 =: D_6 .
\end{aligned}$$

So we have :

$$\| q_m(t) - q(t) \|_{L^2} \leq \lambda_{m+1}^{-1} \cdot Re \cdot D_5 ,$$

and

$$\| Q_m(t) - Q(t) \|_{L^2} \leq \mu_{m+1}^{-1} \cdot Rm \cdot D_6 .$$

## 6 Summary

A new method of approximating the solutions of the magnetohydrodynamic-equations for a long time by means of approximate inertial manifolds has been proposed.

This approximation scheme has been derived directly from the MHD-equations without any phenomenological considerations.

The last two inequalities of section 5 show that the distance between any solution to the MHD-equations and the approximate inertial manifold is smaller than the distance to the flat space  $q = 0$  by a factor  $\lambda_{m+1}^{-1/2}$  for the

velocity and  $\mu_{m+1}^{-1/2}$  for the magnetic field.

Our arguments have yielded an improvement of the distance to the manifold  $\mathcal{M}_0$  in the  $L^2$ -norm. The estimates in the  $W^{1,2}$ -norm will be one of our subjects for further investigation.

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