

Annual reportUniv. of ChicagoProgress Report for Grant: DE-FG02-92ER25119**Numerical Methods**

Numerical methods for fluid flow are an important part of Dupont's work. The results with Keenan provide an improved method for constructing velocities in the context of so-called mixed-methods for partial differential equations. The work of Blaine Johnston has been directed at simulation of axisymmetric free surface flows. Some of his work is available on the WWW.

Together with a number of collaborators (Fefferman, Majda, Procaccia, Segel), Constantin has extended his previous results concerning geometric-analytic and physical criteria for blow-up in incompressible 3D fluid equations.

Sonoluminescence

The work of Brenner, Lohse, Oxtoby and Dupont on sonoluminescence is focused on understanding the hydrodynamic and diffusion processes involved in stable single bubble sonoluminescence. This remarkable phenomenon concentrates energy by twelve orders of magnitude, and improving our theoretical basis for predictions about it will make it more likely that we will be able to control it in valuable ways.

The patterns that develop in colloidal mixtures were studied by Anette Hosoi and Dupont. A simple reduced-dimensional model of the shocks that can develop in these mixtures sheds new light on the mechanism involved. Several movies of the results of this work are available on the WWW.

Convection and Turbulence

Together with Ch. Doering, Constantin has studied bulk transport (of mass, momentum or heat) in driven dissipative systems. Their most recent success has been a derivation based on the Boussinesq equations of exponents ($1/3$ and $2/7$) in the scaling law for Nusselt number in Rayleigh-Benard convection.

Together with student Wu, Constantin has obtained strong convergence results for the inviscid limit for non-smooth vorticities in 2D. The main point of the research is that it illustrates the non-universal and non-uniform character of the limit.

There has been considerable effort on phenomenological and model studies of turbulence. These included an extensive analyses of experiment. In addition, there was a theoretical analysis of a simple model which attempted to capture some of the most important aspects of turbulence. The model shows some of the multifractal properties seen in real turbulence and has a phase transition in its stability matrix.

Singularities in Droplet Snapoff

Dupont, Kadanoff and Nagel studied singularity formation in partial differential equations. The major point of this work is that one can find singularities in physical situations and that one can predict what the singularities will look like. Then, one can see whether the singularity formation is in fact stable. They found that there is linear stability, but non-linear instability, in certain physical systems such as the breakoff of a liquid drop. Under DOE sponsorship, they studied the process of how a liquid breaks into two or more pieces.

Their studies have focused on a fundamental idea about how liquid drops break, originally introduced by Keller and Miksis, about the dynamics of a droplet close to the point of rupture: Arbitrarily close to breaking there are no extended length scales.

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describing the interface, so the dynamics should be *self similar*. Peregrine refined this idea and applied it to their experiments on falling water drops: They point out that for low viscosity fluids there is a range of scales where the thickness of the fluid neck is much larger than the viscous length scale, but much smaller than the length scale where energy is fed into the system. Over this range of scales, the self-similarity hypothesis might be expected to hold.

These considerations suggest that a breaking fluid interface should be described by a similarity solution to the governing hydrodynamic equations. Under the auspices of the DOE Kadanoff et al. performed the first study that succeeded in constructing a similarity solution for a breaking fluid thread in the rupture of a drop in the two dimensional Heleshaw cell. This initial success was followed up with the identification of further similarity solutions for the Heleshaw cell as well as the discovery of a similarity solution for three dimensional droplet fission for fluid threads. In this case the similarity solution is unstable to finite amplitude perturbations, with the critical amplitude for instability approaching zero at the singularity. At the high viscosities where this similarity solution is relevant, the droplet shape is long and slender.

Nagel and collaborators have also studied the question whether similar scaling ideas can explain the interfacial shapes occurring during the breakup of low viscosity fluids, such as a water drop. Based on the above discussion, this translates into the question of whether the self similar singularities in the equations of *inviscid* hydrodynamics describe experiments when the thread thickness is larger than the viscous length scale? To answer this question, we have studied in detail the characteristics of a water drop falling from a nozzle both before and after a fission event. Through a combination of experiments, numerical simulations and theory we argued that the scaling hypothesis fails for this problem. In the absence of viscosity, this instability actually causes a singularity in the curvature of the interface before rupture occurs .

Sedimentation at Contact Lines

When a spilled drop of coffee dries on a solid surface, it leaves a dense, ring-like stain along the perimeter. The coffee---initially dispersed over the entire drop---becomes concentrated into a tiny fraction of it. Such ring deposits are commonplace wherever drops containing dispersed solids evaporate on a surface. Thus ring deposits influence printing, washing and coating processes. They provide a potential means to write or deposit a fine pattern onto a surface. Dupont, Nagel and collaborators have investigated the causes of such deposits. We ascribe the deposition to a previously unexplored form of capillary flow: the contact line of the drying drop is pinned so that liquid evaporating from the edge must be replenished by liquid from the interior. The resulting outward flow can carry virtually all the dispersed material to the edge. This mechanism predicts a distinctive power-law growth of the ring mass with time---a law independent of the particular substrate, carrier fluid or deposited solids. We have verified this law by microscopic observations of colloidal fluids.

Our initial observations show that rings form for a wide variety of substrates, dispersed materials (solutes), and carrier liquids (solvents), as long as (1) the solvent meets the surface at a nonzero contact angle, (2) the contact line is pinned to its initial position, and (3) the solvent evaporates. In addition, we found that mechanisms

typically responsible for solute transport---surface tension gradients, solute diffusion, electrostatic, and gravity effects---are negligible in ring formation. Based on these findings, we have identified the minimal ingredients for a quantitative theory. The phenomenon is due to a geometrical constraint: the free surface, constrained by a pinned contact line, squeezes the fluid outward to compensate for evaporative losses.

River Networks

The patterns created by river drainage basins has also been the subject of DOE research at Chicago. A simulation model was proposed by Nagel and Leheny for drainage basin evolution which includes both erosion from precipitation and avalanching on hillslopes. Despite the simplicity of the model, the simulated landscapes evolve in a realistic manner which shares many qualitative features with Glock's model for natural river network evolution. In addition, throughout the evolutionary cycle the model maintains many statistical properties that characterize real river networks.

Granular Dynamics

Constantin, Jaeger, Kadanoff, and Nagel have studied the flow properties of granular media. A detailed understanding of the mechanisms involved in dense granular flows is presently not available despite many years of active research in the engineering and, more recently, condensed matter physics communities. The reasons for this lack of knowledge can be traced to the complexities that derive from the inhomogeneous ("granular") nature of the material and from the nonlinear, dissipative interactions between its constituents, the individual grains.

Using simulations, Kadanoff and his co-workers model granular materials by looking at the dynamics of inelastic collisions. Under the right conditions the particles can slow down very considerably. This simple system can serve as an 'Ising model' for dynamics. Understanding the way forces are distributed in stationary granular materials is important for insight into failure modes among other reasons. Jaeger and Nagel collaborated on experiments, simulation, and theory that characterizes the large force inhomogeneities observed in stationary packs of spherical particles.

Jaeger and Nagel studied convection in granular materials culminating in a measurement using MRI to follow the motion of particles being vibrated. They have characterized both the depth and radial dependence of the vertical velocity. This motion was driven by the shaking of the container. They have shown that convective motion in agitated granular materials gives rise to size separation in mixtures of granular particles. Clearly, control over such unmixing is highly desired in all applications that require a uniform, homogeneous shape or size distribution.

As part of the response to that shaking, the material compacts--but very, very slowly. This slow rate of compression is a technological problem in situations in which high compaction is required. They have also quantified this effect experimentally and have constructed several competing theories to model this behavior.

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