Convergence of a finite volume scheme for the compressible Navier–Stokes system

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Abstract

We study convergence of a finite volume scheme for the compressible (barotropic) Navier–Stokes system. First we prove the energy stability and consistency of the scheme and show that the numerical solutions generate a dissipative measure-valued solution of the system. Then by the weak-strong uniqueness principle, we conclude the convergence of the numerical solution to the strong solution as long as the latter exists. Numerical experiments for standard benchmark tests support our theoretical results.

Keywords: compressible Navier–Stokes system, convergence, dissipative measure–valued solution, finite volume method

AMS classification: 35Q30, 65N12, 76M12, 76NXX

1 Introduction

We study the flow of a viscous fluid governed by the compressible Navier–Stokes system:

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial_t \rho + \text{div}_x (\rho u) &= 0, \\
\partial_t (\rho u) + \text{div}_x (\rho u \otimes u) + \nabla_x p &= \mu \Delta_x u + (\mu + \lambda) \nabla_x \text{div}_x u
\end{align*}
\] (1.1)

in the time–space domain \((0, T) \times \Omega\). Here \(\rho = \rho(t,x)\), and \(u = u(t,x)\) are the fluid density and velocity, constants \(\mu > 0\), \(\lambda \geq -\mu\) are the viscosity coefficients. The pressure \(p\) is assumed to satisfy the isentropic state equation

\[
p(\rho) = a \rho^\gamma, \quad a > 0, \quad \gamma > 1.
\] (1.2)

For the sake of simplicity we impose the periodic boundary conditions, meaning that the domain \(\Omega\) can be identified by the flat torus \(\Omega = ([0,1]^d, d = 1, 2, 3)\). The problem is (formally) closed by prescribing the initial conditions

\[
\rho(0) = \rho_0 \in L^\gamma(\Omega), \quad \rho_0 > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0 \in L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d).
\] (1.3)

In the literature we can find a variety of numerical schemes for viscous compressible flows starting from the finite difference methods, such as the MAC scheme, e.g. [18] [19] [21], the finite element schemes, e.g. [11]

*E.F. and H.M. have received funding from the Czech Sciences Foundation (GAČR), Grant Agreement 18–05974S. B.S. has received funding from the Czech Sciences Foundation (GAČR), Grant Agreement 16–03230S. The Mathematical Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences is supported by RVO:67985840.

†M.L. has been partially supported by the German Science Foundation under the grants TRR 146 Multiscale simulation methods for soft matter systems and TRR 165 Waves to weather.
the finite volume schemes, e.g. [7, 10, 20, 26] or the discontinuous Galerkin schemes, e.g. [6, 9, 22].
In this paper we want to concentrate on the finite volume methods that are standardly used for physical
or engineering applications, see, e.g. [17, 25, 26, 29, 32, 33] and the references therein. In the cell-centered
finite volumes the unknown quantities (numerical solution) are located at the centers of mass of the mesh
cells (finite volume cells). This is very typical for the compressible inviscid flows governed by the Euler
equations. By means of the Gauss theorem the inviscid fluxes at cell interfaces are approximated by suitable
numerical flux functions. The latter are based on the flux-vector splitting or upwinding strategy as we will
explain below.

For the compressible Navier-Stokes equations in addition the viscous fluxes need to be approximated,
which means that the gradients of the numerical solution are to be represented at the cell interfaces. Having
piecewise discontinuous approximate functions this requires and additional reconstruction step, which is
usually realized by introducing the so-called dual grid around the cell interfaces of a primary grid. We
refer a reader to Kozel et al. [17, 25, 29], where the viscous terms are approximated by the second order
central differences using a dual finite volume grid of octahedrons constructed over each face of the primary
hexagonal finite volume grid. In [20] and [8] the barycentric subdivision is used to define dual finite volumes,
in [31, 32] a special reconstruction satisfying maximum principle is developed for the viscous fluxes. A nice
overview of various finite volume methods with the gradient approximations at cell interfaces can be found
in [3].

Despite high frequently used in practical simulations, the convergence of finite volume methods for
multi-dimensional viscous compressible flows still remains open in general. For a mixed finite element–
discontinuous Galerkin method, the convergence to a weak solution has been shown by Karper in his pi-
oneering work [24] under the assumption that the adiabatic coefficient \( \gamma > 3 \). It should be pointed out
that the generalization of the proof of Karper [24] for other numerical schemes is highly non-trivial and still
open. In [26] Jovanović obtained the error estimate for the isentropic Navier–Stokes equations for entropy
dissipative finite volume–finite difference methods under some rather restrictive assumptions on the global
smooth solution. In [13] Feireisl and Lukáčová proposed a new way of the convergence proof via the dissipative
measure-valued (DMV) solutions. They improved the result of [24] and showed the convergence of the
mixed finite element–finite volume method for the isentropic Navier–Stokes equations for physically relevant
range of adiabatic coefficient \( \gamma \in (1, 2) \).

The main aim of this paper is to demonstrate that the strategy proposed in [13] can be adapted to
investigate the convergence of finite volume methods. More precisely, we consider the first order cell-centered
finite volume method, where the inviscid fluxes are approximated by the upwinding and the viscous fluxes
by the central differences. See also our recent works [14], [15] where analogous finite volume schemes have
been applied to show the convergence for the complete Euler system. We adapt this approach to a time-
implicit finite volume method for the barotropic Navier–Stokes system and show the stability as well as the
convergence of numerical solutions to the (unique) strong solution of (1.1). To the best of our knowledge,
there is no convergence proof of a finite volume method for the multi-dimensional Navier–Stokes system (1.1)
available in literature assuming only the existence of the strong solution.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we introduce the mesh, basic notations, the
numerical method, and some preliminary (in)equalities. Next, in Section 3 we show the energy stability of
the scheme and derive all necessary a priori bounds. Then we establish the consistency formulation of the
scheme in Section 4. Further, we address the convergence of approximate solutions in Section 5. Finally, we
present some numerical experiments in Section 6.

2 Numerical scheme

We introduce the basic notations, mesh, space and time discretizations, and, finally, we define the numerical
scheme along with some useful (in)equalities.

2.1 Space discretization

Mesh. A discretization of \( \Omega \) is given by \( M = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{E}) \), where:
• The primary grid \( \mathcal{T} \) is the set of all compact regular quadrilateral elements \( K \) such that

\[
\Omega = \bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{T}} K.
\]
Let $h_i$ be the mesh size in the $i$-th Cartesian direction, and $h = \max_{i=1,\ldots,d} h_i$ be the mesh size. The mesh is regular in the sense that there exists a positive $\eta_h$ such that $\eta_h = \max_{i=1,\ldots,d} \left\{ \frac{h_i}{h} \right\}$.

- We denote by $E$ the set of all faces, and by $E_i$ the set of all faces that are orthogonal to the standard basis vector $e_i$, $i=1,\ldots,d$, of the Cartesian coordinate system. By $E(K)$ we denote the set of faces of an element $K$, and define $E_i(K) = E(K) \cap E_i$. Each face $\sigma \in E$ is associated with a normal vector $n$. The points $x_K$ and $x_r$ stand for the centers of mass of an element $K \in T$ and a face $\sigma \in E$, respectively.

- The intersection $K \cap L$, for $K, L \in T$, $K \neq L$, is either a vertex, or an edge, or a face $\sigma \in E$. For any $\sigma \in E$ we write $\sigma = K|L$ if $E = E(K) \cap E(L)$, and further write $\sigma = K|L_i$ if $x_{L_i} = x_K + h_i e_i$ or $x_L = x_K + (h_1 - 1) e_1$, for any $\sigma \in E_i$. Similarly, we write $K = [\overrightarrow{\sigma\sigma'}]$ for $\sigma, \sigma' \in E_i(K)$ if $x_{\sigma'} = x_\sigma + h_i e_i$. For any $\sigma = K|L \in E_i$, $i=1,\ldots,d$, we also denote by $d_\sigma = h_i$ the periodic distance between the points $x_K$ and $x_L$.

- By $|K|$ and $|\sigma|$ we denote the $(d-1)$ and $(d-1)$-dimensional Lebesgue measure of an element $K$, and a face $\sigma$, respectively. Obviously, $|K| = h_i |\sigma|$ for any $\sigma \in E_i(K)$. In what follows, we shall suppose $|K| \approx h^d$, $|\sigma| \approx h^{d-1}$ for any $K \in T$, $\sigma \in E$.

**Function space.** In order to define a finite volume scheme we introduce the space of piecewise constant functions $Q_h$ defined on the primary grid $T$. We also introduce a standard projection operator

$$
\Pi_T : L^1(\Omega) \to Q_h. \quad \Pi_T \phi = \sum_{K \in T} 1_K \frac{1}{|K|} \int_K \phi \, dx.
$$

For a piecewise (elementwise) continuous function $v$ we define

$$
v^{\text{out}}(x) = \lim_{\delta \to 0^+} v(x + \delta n), \quad v^{\text{in}}(x) = \lim_{\delta \to 0^+} v(x - \delta n), \quad v^{\text{in}}(x) = \frac{v^{\text{in}}(x) + v^{\text{out}}(x)}{2}, \quad [v] = v^{\text{out}}(x) - v^{\text{in}}(x)
$$

whenever $x \in \sigma \in E$. Hereafter we mean by $v \in Q_h$ that $v \in Q_h(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$, i.e., $v_i \in Q_h$, for all $i = 1,\ldots,d$.

**Diffusive upwind flux.** Given a velocity filed $v \in Q_h$, the upwind flux for any function $r \in Q_h$ is defined at each face $\sigma \in E$ by

$$
Up[r, v] = r^{\text{up}} v \cdot n = r^{\text{in}} [\nabla \cdot n]^+ + r^{\text{out}} [\nabla \cdot n]^-. = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot n - \frac{1}{2} [\nabla \cdot n][r]),
$$

where

$$
[f] = \frac{f^+ - f^-}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad r^{\text{up}} = \begin{cases} r^{\text{in}} & \text{if } \bar{u} \cdot n \geq 0, \\ r^{\text{out}} & \text{if } \bar{u} \cdot n < 0.
\end{cases}
$$

Furthermore, we consider a diffusive numerical flux function of the following form

$$
F_h(r, v) = Up[r, v] - h^\varepsilon \, [r], \quad \varepsilon > 0.
$$

**Discrete divergence.** We define the discrete divergence operator as

$$
\text{div}_h u_i(x) := \sum_{K \in T} (\text{div}_h u_i)_K 1_K, \quad (\text{div}_h u_i)_K := \sum_{\sigma \in E(K)} |\sigma| \left[ u_i \right] n, \quad \text{for all } u_i \in Q_h.
$$

**2.2 Time discretization.** For a given time step $\Delta t \approx h > 0$, we denote the approximation of a function $v_h$ at time $t^k = k\Delta t$ by $v_h^k$ for $k = 1,\ldots,N_T$ ($= T/\Delta t$). The time derivative is discretized by the backward Euler method,

$$
D_t v_h^k = \frac{v_h^k - v_h^{k-1}}{\Delta t}, \quad \text{for } k = 1,2,\ldots,N_T.
$$
Furthermore, we introduce the piecewise constant extension of discrete values,
\[
\varphi_h(t, \cdot) = \varphi_h^0 \quad \text{for} \quad t < \Delta t, \quad \varphi_h(t, \cdot) = \varphi_h^k \quad \text{for} \quad t \in [k \Delta t, (k+1) \Delta t), \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, N_T,
\]
\[
u_h(t, \cdot) = \nu_h^0 \quad \text{for} \quad t < \Delta t, \quad \nu_h(t, \cdot) = \nu_h^k \quad \text{for} \quad t \in [k \Delta t, (k+1) \Delta t), \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, N_T,
\]
and \( p_h = p(\varphi_h) \), for which the discrete time derivative then reads
\[
D_t \nu_h = \frac{v_h(t, \cdot) - v_h(t - \Delta t, \cdot)}{\Delta t}.
\]
We shall write \( A \lesssim B \) if \( A \leq c B \) for a generic positive constant \( c \) independent of \( h \).

### 2.3 Numerical scheme

Using the above notation we introduce the implicit finite volume scheme to approximate system (1.1).

**Definition 2.1** (Numerical scheme). Given the initial values \((\varphi_h^0, \nu_h^0) = (\Pi_T \varphi_0, \Pi_T \nu_0)\), find \((\varphi_h, \nu_h)\) \in \(Q_h \times Q_h\) satisfying for \(k = 1, \ldots, N_T\) the following equations

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t \varphi_h^k \varphi_h dx \left. - \right|_{\sigma \in E, \sigma} \int_{\sigma} F_h(\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k) \parallel \varphi_h \parallel dS x = 0, \quad \text{for all } \varphi_h \in Q_h, \quad (2.3a)
\]

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t (\varphi_h^k \nu_h^k) \cdot \varphi_h dx \left. - \right|_{\sigma \in E, \sigma} \int_{\sigma} F_h(\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k) \parallel \varphi_h \parallel dS x \left. - \right|_{\sigma \in E, \sigma} \int_{\sigma} \overline{F}_h^k \nu \cdot \parallel \varphi_h \parallel dS x
\]

\[
= -\mu \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} \left. \frac{1}{d_{\sigma}} \parallel \nu_h^k \parallel dS x - (\mu + \lambda) \int_{\Omega} \text{div}_h \nu_h^k \text{div}_h \varphi_h dx, \quad \text{for all } \varphi_h \in Q_h. \quad (2.3b)
\]

The weak formulation (2.3) of the scheme can be rewritten in the standard per cell finite volume formulation for all \(K \in \mathcal{T}\),

\[
D_t (\varphi_h^k)_{\sigma \in E(K)} + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \frac{|\sigma|}{|K|} F_h(\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k) = 0, \forall \varphi_h \in Q_h,
\]

\[
D_t (\varphi_h^k \nu_h^k)_{\sigma \in E(K)} + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \frac{|\sigma|}{|K|} \left( F_h(\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k) + \overline{F}_h^k \nu - \mu \frac{\nu_h^k}{d_{\sigma}} - (\mu + \lambda) \text{div}_h \nu_h^k \text{div}_h \varphi_h \right) = 0. \quad (2.4)
\]

Approximate solutions resulting from scheme (2.3) enjoy the following properties:

1. **Conservation of mass.**
   Taking \( \varphi_h \equiv 1 \) in the equation of continuity (2.3) yields the total mass conservation
   \[
   \int_{\Omega} \varphi_h(t, \cdot) dx = \int_{\Omega} \varphi_h^0 dx = M_0 > 0, \quad t \geq 0.
   \]

2. **Existence of numerical solution.**
   The discrete problem (2.3) admits a solution \((\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k)\) for any \(k = 1, \ldots, N_T\). We refer a reader to [21, Theorem 3.5] for the proof, as it can be done exactly in the same way.

3. **Positivity of numerical density.**
   Any solution \((\varphi_h^k, \nu_h^k)\) to (2.3) satisfies \(\varphi_h^k > 0\) provided \(\varphi_h^{k-1} > 0, k = 1, \ldots, N_T\), see [21, Lemma 3.2] for the proof.

### 2.4 Preliminaries

To investigate theoretical properties of our finite volume method it is convenient to define a dual grid. We emphasize that the dual grid is not needed for the implementation of the scheme.

**Dual grid.** A dual element \(D_\sigma\) is associated to a generic face \(\sigma = K \ni L \in E\), where \(D_\sigma = D_{\sigma,K} \cup D_{\sigma,L}\), and \(D_{\sigma,K}\) (resp. \(D_{\sigma,L}\)) is built by half of \(K\) (resp. \(L\)), see Figure [1] for an example of such cell. We denote the set of all dual cells as \(\mathcal{D}\). Furthermore, we define \(D_i = \{D_\sigma\}_{\sigma \in E, i = 1, \ldots, d}\). Note that the dual grid verifies for each fixed \(i\) the equality and \(\Omega = \bigcup_{\sigma \in E_i} D_\sigma\).
Let $W_h^{(i)}$, $i = 1, \ldots, d$, be the space of piecewise constant functions defined on the dual grid $\mathcal{D}_i$. By $q = (q_1, \ldots, q_d) \in W_h := (W_h^{(1)}, \ldots, W_h^{(d)})$ we mean that $q_i \in W_h^{(i)}$, for all $i = 1, \ldots, d$. We define the standard projection of $\phi \in L^1(\Omega)$ into the discrete functional spaces $W_h$,

$$
\Pi_D : L^1(\Omega) \rightarrow W_h, \quad \Pi_D = (\Pi_D^{(1)}, \ldots, \Pi_D^{(d)}), \quad \Pi_D^{(i)} \phi = \frac{1}{|D_\sigma|} \int_{D_\sigma} \phi \, dx.
$$

**Discrete differential operators.** We need some discrete operators that are not directly used to discretize the Navier-Stokes system, but are essential to establish the consistency formulation in Section 4. For any $r_h \in Q_h$ and $q_h = (q_{1,h}, \ldots, q_{d,h}) \in W_h$, we define the difference operators based on the dual grid

$$
\partial^{(i)}_\sigma r_h(x) := \sum_{\sigma \in E_i} 1_{D_\sigma} \left( \partial^{(i)}_\sigma r_h \right)_{D_\sigma}, \quad \left( \partial^{(i)}_\sigma r_h \right)_{D_\sigma} := \frac{r_h - r_K}{d_\sigma}, \quad \text{for all } \sigma = K \vert L \in E_i,
$$

and the primary grid

$$
\partial^{(i)}_T q_{i,h}(x) := \sum_{K \in T} \left( \partial^{(i)}_T q_{i,h} \right)_K 1_K, \quad i = 1, \ldots, d,
$$

where

$$
\left( \partial^{(i)}_T q_{i,h} \right)_K := \frac{q_{i,h}|_{\sigma'} - q_{i,h}|_{\sigma}}{\frac{1}{d_\sigma}}, \quad \text{for all } \sigma, \sigma' \in E_i \text{ and } K = \overline{\sigma \sigma'}.
$$

Using the above notations we define the gradient operators for $r_h \in Q_h$ and $q_h \in W_h$ by

$$
\nabla \! \cdot \! r_h(x) := (\partial^{(1)}_T r_h, \ldots, \partial^{(d)}_T r_h)(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla \! \cdot \! q_h := (\partial^{(1)}_T q_{1,h}, \ldots, \partial^{(d)}_T q_{d,h})(x),
$$

respectively. Note that the divergence operator $\text{div}_h$ defined in (2.2) can be rewritten for all $u_h \in Q_h$

$$
\text{div}_h u_h = \sum_{i=1}^d \partial^{(i)}_T u_{i,h}, \quad (2.5)
$$

which for a regular rectangular grid is equivalent to

$$
\text{div}_h u_h = \sum_{i=1}^d \partial^{(i)}_T \left( \Pi_D^{(i)} u_h \right).
$$

Moreover, we define the Laplace operator for $r_h \in Q_h$ on the primary grid

$$
\Delta_h r_h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d \Delta^{(i)}_h r_h(x) = \sum_{K \in T} (\Delta_h r_h)_K 1_K, \quad \Delta^{(i)}_h r_h(x) = \sum_{K \in T} (\Delta^{(i)}_h r_h)_K 1_K,
$$

where $i = 1, \ldots, d$, and

$$
(\Delta^{(i)}_h r_h)_K := \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\sigma \in E_i(K)} |\sigma| \left( \frac{r_h}{d_\sigma} \right), \quad (\Delta_h r_h)_K := \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\sigma \in E(K)} |\sigma| \left( \frac{r_h}{d_\sigma} \right), \quad \text{for all } K \in T.
$$

In addition, it is worth mentioning that

$$
\Delta^{(i)}_h r_h = \partial^{(i)}_T (\partial^{(i)}_T r_h), \quad i = 1, \ldots, d.
$$
Integration by parts. Let us start with recalling the algebraic identity
\[
\overline{u_h} \overline{v_h} - \overline{u_h} \overline{v_h} = \frac{1}{4} \| u_h \| [v_h]
\]
(2.6)

together with the product rule
\[
\| u_h v_h \| = \overline{u_h} \| v_h \| + \| u_h \| \overline{v_h} ,
\]
(2.7)
which are valid for any \( u_h, v_h \in Q_h \). A direct application of the product rule [2.7] further implies
\[
\| \phi_h v_h \| [v_h] - \frac{1}{2} \| \phi_h \| [\phi_h^2] = \overline{\phi_h} \| v_h \|^2
\]
(2.8)
and the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** For any \( r_h \in Q_h \) and \( v_h \in Q_h \) it holds
\[
\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}^h} \int (\overline{\phi_h} \| v_h \| + \overline{v_h} |r_h|) \cdot n \, dS = 0.
\]
(2.9)

**Proof.** For the functions \( r_h, v_h \) constant on each element \( K \in \mathcal{T} \) it holds that
\[
\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}^h} \int (\overline{\phi_h} \| v_h \| + \overline{v_h} |r_h|) \cdot n \, dS = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}^h} \int [r_h v_h] \cdot n \, dS = - \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} r_K v_K \cdot \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}(K)} \int n \, dS = 0.
\]

Consequently, for any \( r_h, \phi_h \in Q_h \) and \( Q_h \in W_h \), it is easy to observe the following discrete integration by parts formula for any \( \phi_h \in Q_h \)
\[
\int_{\Omega} \Delta_h r_h \phi_h \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi_h \cdot \nabla \phi_h \, dx = \int_{\Omega} \phi_h \Delta_h \phi_h \, dx,
\]
(2.10a)
\[
\int_{\Omega} q_{i,h} \mathcal{D}_{j}^{(i)} r_h \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} r_h \mathcal{D}_{j}^{(i)} q_{i,h} \, dx, \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \ldots, d.
\]
(2.10b)

**Useful estimates.** Next, we list some basic inequalities used in the numerical analysis. We assume the reader is fairly familiar with this matter, for which we refer to the monograph [10], and the article paper [19]. If \( \phi \in C^1(\Omega) \) we have
\[
\| [\Pi_T \phi] \| \lesssim h \| \phi \|_{C^1}, \quad \text{for any } x \in \sigma \in \mathcal{E}, \quad \text{and } \| \phi - \Pi_T \phi \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim h \| \phi \|_{C^1}.
\]
(2.11)

Furthermore, if \( \phi \in C^2(\Omega) \) we have for all \( 1 < p \leq \infty \)
\[
\| \nabla \phi - \nabla \Pi_T \phi \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim h, \quad \| \nabla \Pi_T \phi \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim \| \phi \|_{C^1} + h,
\]
(2.12)
\[
\| \nabla \phi - \nabla T D(\Pi_T \phi) \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim h, \quad \| \text{div } \phi - \text{div}_h(\Pi_T \phi) \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim h.
\]
(2.13)

If in addition, \( \phi \in C^3(\Omega) \) we get
\[
\| \Delta_h \Pi_T \phi - \Delta_h \phi \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim h \| \phi \|_{C^3}, \quad \| \Delta_h \Pi_T \phi \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \lesssim \| \phi \|_{C^2} + h \| \phi \|_{C^3}, \quad \text{for all } 1 < p \leq \infty.
\]
(2.14)

The inverse estimates [4] for \( r_h \in Q_h \) read
\[
\| r_h \|_{L^q(\Omega)} \lesssim h^{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{q}} \| r_h \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \quad \text{for any } 1 \leq q \leq p \leq \infty.
\]
(2.15)

Finally, we need a discrete analogous of the Sobolev-type inequality that can be proved exactly as [16, Theorem 11.23].

**Lemma 2.3** (Sobolev inequality). Let the function \( r \geq 0 \) be such that
\[
0 < \int_{\Omega} r \, dx = c_M, \quad \text{and } \int_{\Omega} r^\gamma \, dx \leq c_E \quad \text{for } \gamma > 1.
\]
Then the following Poincaré-Sobolev type inequality holds true
\[
\| v \|_{L^q(\Omega)} \lesssim c \| \nabla \phi \|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + c \left( \int_{\Omega} r |v| \, dx \right) \lesssim c \| \nabla \phi \|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + c_M + c \int_{\Omega} r |v|^2 \, dx
\]
(2.16)
for any \( v \in Q_h \), where the constant \( c \) depends on \( c_M \) and \( c_E \) but not on the mesh parameter.
The following lemma shall be useful for analysing the error between the continuous convective term and its numerical analogue.

**Lemma 2.4.** For any \( r_h, v_h \in Q_h \), and \( \phi \in C^1(\Omega) \), it holds

\[
\int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot \nabla \phi \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} F_h[r_h, v_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS \nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi) \, dx.
\]

\[
= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} |v_h| + h^\varepsilon + \frac{1}{4} |v_h| \cdot n \right) [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS + \int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx.
\]

**Proof.** Using the basic equalities (2.6)–(2.9), we have

\[
\int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot \nabla x \phi \, dx = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_{K} r_h v_h \cdot \nabla x \phi \, dx
\]

\[
= \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_{K} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx - \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_{\partial K} r_h v_h \cdot n \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi) \, dS
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS \right)
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS \right)
\]

\[
\begin{aligned}
&= \int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} |v_h| \cdot n \right) [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS \\
&\quad + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} r_h v_h \cdot n \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi) \, dS + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} |v_h| \cdot n \right) [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS.
\end{aligned}
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} r_h v_h \cdot (\nabla x \phi - \nabla \Pi \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi)) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} |v_h| \cdot n \right) [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS
\]

\[
+ \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} F_h[r_h, v_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{2} |v_h| \cdot n \right) [r_h] \, [\Pi_T \phi] \, dS.
\]

\[
\square
\]

## 3 Stability

In this section we show the stability of the scheme and derive the energy estimates that will be necessary for the consistency formulation in Section 4. For simplicity, we will hereafter denote the norms \( \| \cdot \|_{L^2(\Omega)} \) and \( \| \cdot \|_{L^p(\Omega)} \) by \( \| \cdot \|_{L^2} \) and \( \| \cdot \|_{L^p} \), respectively.

To begin, we recall the discrete internal energy balance, which is a result of the renormalization of the continuity equation, see, e.g. [12] Section 4.1 or [21] Lemma 3.1. Indeed, multiplying (2.3a) by \( \mathcal{H}'(q_h^k) \) gives rise to the result of the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.1 (Discrete internal energy balance).** Let \( (q_h, v_h) \in Q_h \times Q_h \) satisfy the discrete continuity equation (2.3a). Then there exists \( \xi \in \text{co}\{q_h^{k-1}, q_h^k\} \) and \( \zeta \in \text{co}\{v_h^k, v_h^{k+1}\} \) for any \( \sigma = K \in \mathcal{T} \) such that

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t \mathcal{H}(q_h^k) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \bar{u}_h^k \cdot n \left[ p(q_h^k) \right] \, dS
\]

\[
= -\frac{\Delta t}{2} \int_{\Omega} H''(\xi) D_t q_h^k \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} H''(\xi) \left[ q_h^k \right]^2 \, dx,
\]

where \( H(\phi) = \frac{p(\phi)}{2} \).

Next, we recall the renormalization of the transport equation, see [12] Lemma A.1, Section A.2.
Lemma 3.2 (Discrete renormalized transport equation). Suppose that $b_h^k \in Q_h$, $\chi \in C^2(R)$. Then there exists $\xi \in \text{co}\{b_h^{-1}, b_h^k\}$, $\zeta \in \text{co}\{b_h^k, (b_h^k)^{\text{out}}\}$ for any $\phi_h \in Q_h$, such that

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t (\phi_h^k b_h^k) \chi'(b_h^k) \phi_h \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} U p[\phi_h^k b_h^k, u_h^k] \left[ \chi'(b_h^k) \phi_h \right] \, dS_x
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} D_t \left( \phi_h^k \chi(b_h^k) \right) \phi_h \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} U p[\phi_h^k \chi(b_h^k), u_h^k] \phi_h \, dS_x + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \int_{\Omega} \chi''(\xi) \phi_h^k |D_t b_h^k|^2 \phi_h \, dx
\]

\[
+ \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} h^\eps \left[ \phi_h^k \right] \left[ \left( \chi(b_h^k) - \chi'(b_h^k) b_h^k \right) \phi_h \right] \, dS_x
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{K \in T} \sum_{\sigma \in \partial K} \int_{\sigma} \phi_h \chi'(\zeta) \left[ b_h^k \right]^2 (\phi_h^{\text{out}}) \left[ \overline{u_h^k} \cdot n \right] - \left[ u_h^k \right]^2 \, dS_x.
\]

3.1 Total energy balance

Now, we are ready to derive the discrete counterpart of the total energy balance.

Theorem 3.3 (Discrete energy balance). Let $(\phi_h, u_h)$ be a numerical solution obtained from scheme [2,3]. Then, for any $k = 1, \ldots, N_T$, there exists $\xi \in \text{co}\{\phi_h^{-1}, \phi_h^k\}$ and $\zeta \in \text{co}\{\phi_h^k, \phi_h^{\text{out}}\}$ such that, for any $\sigma = K|L \in \mathcal{E}$,

\[
D_t \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \phi_h^k |u_h^k| ^2 + H(\phi_h^k) \right) \, dx + h^\eps \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \phi_h^k \left[ u_h^k \right]^2 \, dS_x + \mu \left\| \nabla_{\xi} u_h^k \right\|^2_{L^2} + \left( \mu + \lambda \right) \int_{\Omega} |\text{div}_h u_h^k|^2 \, dx
\]

\[
= -\frac{\Delta t}{2} \int_{\Omega} H''(\xi) |D_t \phi_h^k|^2 \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} H''(\zeta) \left[ \phi_h^k \right]^2 \left( h^\eps + \left| \overline{u_h^k} \cdot n \right| \right) \, dS_x
\]

\[
- \frac{\Delta t}{2} \sum_{K \in T} \int_{\sigma} \phi_h^k |D_t u_h^k|^2 \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \sum_{\sigma \in \partial K} \int_{\sigma} (\phi_h^{\text{out}}) \left[ \overline{u_h^k} \cdot n \right] \left[ u_h^k \right]^2 \, dS_x.
\]

Proof. First, taking $\phi_h = u_h^k$ in (2.3b) we get

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t (b_h^k u_h^k) \cdot u_h^k \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \mathbf{F}_h(b_h^k u_h^k, u_h^k) \cdot \left[ u_h^k \right] \, dS_x - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} p_h^k \cdot \left[ u_h^k \right] \, dS_x
\]

\[
= -\mu \left\| \nabla_{\xi} u_h^k \right\|^2_{L^2} + \left( \mu + \lambda \right) \int_{\Omega} |\text{div}_h u_h^k|^2 \, dx
\]

Next, we use relation (3.2) for $b_h = u_h^k$, $\chi(|u_h^k|) = \frac{1}{2} |u_h^k|^2$, and $\phi_h = 1$ to compute

\[
\int_{\Omega} D_t (b_h^k u_h^k) \cdot u_h^k \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} U p[b_h^k u_h^k, u_h^k] \cdot \left[ u_h^k \right] \, dS_x
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} D_t \left( \frac{1}{2} \phi_h^k |u_h^k|^2 \right) \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} U p \left[ \frac{1}{2} \phi_h^k |u_h^k|^2, u_h^k \right] \left[ 1 \right] \, dS_x + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \int_{\Omega} \phi_h^k |D_t u_h^k|^2 \, dx
\]

\[
- \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} h^\eps \left[ \phi_h^k \right] \left[ \frac{1}{2} |u_h^k|^2 \right] \, dS_x - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{K \in T} \sum_{\sigma \in \partial K} \int_{\sigma} (\phi_h^{\text{out}}) \left[ \overline{u_h^k} \cdot n \right] - \left[ u_h^k \right]^2 \, dS_x
\]

\[
= \int_{\Omega} D_t \left( \frac{1}{2} \phi_h^k |u_h^k|^2 \right) \, dx + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \int_{\Omega} \phi_h^k |D_t u_h^k|^2 \, dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} h^\eps \left[ \phi_h^k \right] \left[ \frac{1}{2} |u_h^k|^2 \right] \, dS_x
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} (\phi_h^{\text{out}}) \left[ \overline{u_h^k} \cdot n \right] - \left[ u_h^k \right]^2 \, dS_x.
\]
Further, summing up the previous two observations we infer that

\begin{equation}
D_t \int _\Omega \left( \frac{1}{2} \theta_h |u_h|^2 + \mu \left\| \nabla \varphi u_h \right\|_{L^2} + (\mu + \lambda) \int _\Omega |\text{div}_h u_h|^2 \right) \, dx \\
= \sum _{\sigma \in E} t_h n \cdot \left[ \left. u_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx - \sum _{\sigma \in E} h^\varepsilon \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx + \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma h^\varepsilon \left[ \theta_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |u_h|^2 \right] \, dSx \tag{3.4}
\end{equation}

Finally, combining (3.4) with (3.1) and using the equalities (2.8)–(2.9) we get

\begin{equation}
D_t \int _\Omega \left( \frac{1}{2} \theta_h |u_h|^2 + \mathcal{H}(\theta_h) \right) \, dx + h^\varepsilon \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \theta_h \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx + \mu \left\| \nabla \varphi u_h \right\|_{L^2} + (\mu + \lambda) \int _\Omega |\text{div}_h u_h|^2 \, dx \\
= -\frac{\Delta t}{2} \int _\Omega \mathcal{H}(\theta_h) \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \mathcal{H}(\varphi) \left[ \theta_h \right|_{\sigma} \left( h^\varepsilon + \left| \bar{u}_h \cdot n \right| \right) \, dSx \\
- \frac{\Delta t}{2} \int _\Omega \left( \theta_h - 1 \right) |\varphi u_h|^2 \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \left( \theta_h \right|_{\sigma} \left| \bar{u}_h \cdot n \right| \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx,
\end{equation}

which completes the proof.

\[ \square \]

### 3.2 Uniform bounds

Having established all necessary ingredients, we are ready to discuss the available a priori bounds for solutions of scheme (2.3). From the total energy balance (3.3) and the Sobolev inequality (2.16), we directly get the estimates comprised in the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.4.** Let \((\theta_h, u_h)\) satisfy scheme (2.3) for \(\gamma > 1\). Then the following estimates hold

\begin{align}
\left\| \theta_h u_h \right\| _{L^\infty L^1} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5a} \\
\left\| \theta_h \right\| _{L^\infty L^\gamma} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5b} \\
\left\| \theta_h u_h \right\| _{L^\infty L^{\frac{2\gamma}{\gamma+1}}} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5c} \\
\left\| \nabla \varphi u_h \right\| _{L^2 L^2} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5d} \\
\left\| \text{div}_h u_h \right\| _{L^2 L^2} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5e} \\
\left\| u_h \right\| _{L^2 L^6} & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5f} \\
\frac{h^\varepsilon}{2} \int _0 ^T \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \theta_h \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ u_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx \, dt & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5g} \\
\int _0 ^T \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \mathcal{H}(\varphi) \left[ \theta_h \right|_{\sigma} \left( h^\varepsilon + \left| \bar{u}_h \cdot n \right| \right) \, dSx \, dt & \lesssim 1, \tag{3.5h}
\end{align}

where \(\zeta \in \text{co}\{\theta_K, \theta_L\}\) for any \(\sigma = K|L \in E\).

To show the consistency of the numerical scheme we shall need further bounds on the numerical solution, which can be derived provided the adiabatic coefficient in (1.2) lies in the physically realistic range \(\gamma \in (1, 2)\).

**Lemma 3.5.** Let \((\theta_h, u_h)\) satisfy scheme (2.3), \(h \in (0, 1)\) and \(\gamma \in (1, 2)\). Then there hold

\begin{align}
\left\| \theta_h \right\| _{L^2 L^2} & \lesssim h^{-\frac{\gamma+1}{2}}, \tag{3.6a} \\
\left\| \theta_h u_h \right\| _{L^2 L^2} & \lesssim h^{-\frac{\gamma+1}{2}}. \tag{3.6b}
\end{align}

**Proof.** We start the proof by recalling the Sobolev inequality for the broken norm

\begin{equation}
\left\| f_h \right\| _{L^k} \lesssim \left\| f_h \right\| _{L^2} + \sum _{\sigma \in E} \int _\sigma \left[ f_h \right|_{\sigma} \left[ f_h \right|_{\sigma} \right] \, dSx = \left\| f_h \right\| _{L^2} + \left\| \nabla \varphi f_h \right\| _{L^2}, \quad \forall f_h \in Q_h,
\end{equation}
and the algebraic inequality
\[ a_2(g_K^{\gamma/2} - g_L^{\gamma/2})^2 \leq \frac{\partial^2 H(z)}{\partial g^2} (g_L - g_K)^2, \quad \forall \ z \in \text{co}\{g_L, g_K\}, \ g_L, g_K > 0 \text{ if } \gamma \in (1, 2). \]

Then we indicate from the estimate of the density jumps (3.5b) that
\[ \| \nabla \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^2}^2 = \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \frac{1}{\gamma} \| \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^2}^2 \ dx \, dS \sim h^{-(\varepsilon + 1)}. \]

Applying the above inequalities, the inverse estimate and the estimate (3.5b) we derive
\[ \| \varphi h \|_{L^1 L^\infty} = \int_0^T \| \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^\infty}^{2/\gamma} \ dt \leq \int_0^T \left( h^{-1/2} \| \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^2}^{2/\gamma} \right) \ dt \
\leq h^{-1/\gamma} \int_0^T \left( \| \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^2}^{2/\gamma} + \| \nabla \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^2}^{2/\gamma} \right) \ dt \leq h^{-1/\gamma} \left( \| \varphi h \|_{L^1 L^\gamma} + \| \nabla \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^1 L^\gamma L^2} \right) \
\leq h^{-1/\gamma} \left( \| \varphi h \|_{L^1 L^\gamma} + \| \nabla \varphi h^{\gamma/2} \|_{L^1 L^\gamma L^2} \right) \leq h^{-\frac{\varepsilon + 2}{2\gamma}}. \]

Further application of the above inequality together with the Gagliardo-Nirenberg interpolation inequality, Hölder’s inequality, and the density estimate (3.6a) immediately yield (3.6b), i.e.,
\[ \| \varphi h \|_{L^2 L^2} = \left( \int_0^T \| \varphi h \|_{L^2}^2 \ dt \right)^{1/2} \leq \left( \int_0^T \| \varphi h \|_{L^2} \ | \varphi h \|_{L^\infty} \ dt \right)^{1/2} \leq \| \varphi h \|_{L^2 L^2}^{1/2} \| \varphi h \|_{L^1 L^\infty}^{1/2} \approx h^{-\frac{\varepsilon + 2}{2\gamma}}. \]

Finally, the estimate (3.6b) can be shown in the following way
\[ \| \varphi h u_h \|_{L^2 L^2} \approx \| \nabla \varphi h \|_{L^2 L^\infty} \| \nabla \varphi h u_h \|_{L^\infty L^2} = \| \varphi h \|_{L^2 L^2}^{1/2} \| \varphi h u_h \|_{L^\infty L^2}^{1/2} \approx h^{-\frac{\varepsilon + 2}{2\gamma}}. \]

\[ \square \]

4 Consistency

Next step towards the convergence of the approximate solutions is the consistency of the numerical scheme. In particular, we require the numerical solution to satisfy the weak formulation of the continuous problem up to a residual term vanishing for \( h \to 0 \).

**Theorem 4.1.** Let \((\varphi h, u_h)\) be a solution of the approximate problem \((2.3)\) on the time interval \([0, T]\) with \( 1 < \gamma < 2 \) and \( 0 < \varepsilon < \min \{1, 2(\gamma - 1)\} \). Then
\[ -\int_0^T \int_\Omega \partial_\tau \varphi h \phi \ dx \, dt = \int_0^T \int_\Omega [g_h \partial_\phi \phi + g_h u_h \cdot \nabla x] \phi \ dx \, dt + \int_0^T \epsilon_{1,h}(t, \phi) \ dt, \quad (4.1) \]
for any \( \phi \in C^0_c([0, T] \times \overline{\Omega}); \)
\[ -\int_0^T \int_\Omega \partial_\tau u_h \phi \ dx \, dt = \int_0^T \int_\Omega [g_h u_h \cdot \partial_\phi \phi + g_h u_h \otimes u_h : \nabla x \phi + p_h \nabla x \phi] \ dx \, dt, \]
\[ -\mu \int_0^T \int_\Omega \nabla \varphi \ u_h : \nabla x \phi \ dx \, dt - (\mu + \lambda) \int_0^T \int_\Omega \nabla h \ u_h \ nabla x \phi \ dx \, dt + \int_0^T \epsilon_{2,h}(t, \phi) \ dt \]
for any \( \phi \in C^0_c([0, T] \times \Omega; R^d) \);
\[ \| e_{j,h}(\cdot, \phi) \|_{L^1(0,T)} \lesssim h^{\beta} ( \| \phi \|_{C^2} + h \| \phi \|_{C^1}), \ j = 1, 2, \text{ for some } \beta > 0. \]

**Proof.** Let \( \phi \in C^\infty_c((0, T] \times \overline{\Omega}) \) and \( \varphi \in C^\infty_c((0, T] \times \Omega; R^d) \). We test the equations \((2.3a)\) and \((2.3b)\) with \( \Pi_T \phi \) and \( \Pi_T \phi \), respectively, and deal with each term separately.
Step 1 – time derivative terms:

\[ \int_0^T \int_\Omega D_t r_h \Pi_T \phi \, dx \, dt \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_0^T \int_\Omega r_h(t)\phi(t) \, dx \, dt - \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_{-\Delta t}^0 \int_\Omega r_h(t + \Delta t) \, dx \, dt \]
\[ = - \int_0^T \int_\Omega r_h(t) D_t \phi(t) \, dx \, dt + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_{-\Delta t}^T \int_\Omega r_h(t)\phi(t + \Delta t) \, dx \, dt - \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_{-\Delta t}^0 \int_\Omega r_h(t)\phi(t + \Delta t) \, dx \, dt \]
\[ = - \int_0^T \int_\Omega r_h(t) D_t \phi(t) \, dx \, dt - \int_\Omega r_h^0 \phi(0) \, dx, \]

where \( r_h \) stands for \( g_h \) or \( g_h u_{i,h} \), \( i = 1, \ldots, d \). Thus, we have

\[ \int_0^T \int_\Omega D_t g_h \Pi_T \phi \, dx \, dt = - \int_0^T \int_\Omega g_h(t) D_t \phi(t) \, dx \, dt - \int_\Omega g_h^0 \phi(0) \, dx, \tag{4.3a} \]
\[ \int_0^T \int_\Omega D_t (g_h u_h) \Pi_T \phi \, dx \, dt = - \int_0^T \int_\Omega g_h(t) u_h(t) D_t \phi(t) \, dx \, dt - \int_\Omega g_h^0 u_h^0 \phi(0) \, dx, \tag{4.3b} \]

for the continuity and the momentum equations, respectively.

Step 2 – convective terms:

To deal with the convective terms, it is convenient to recall Lemma 2.4

\[ \int_0^T \int_\Omega r_h u_h \cdot \nabla x \phi \, dx \, dt - \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} F[r_h, u_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt = \sum_{j=1}^4 E_j(r_h), \]

where

\[ E_1(r_h) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} [\nabla_{\sigma} \cdot n] [r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt, \]
\[ E_2(r_h) = \frac{1}{4} \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} [u_h] \cdot n [r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt, \]
\[ E_3(r_h) = \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} h^{\varepsilon} [r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt, \]
\[ E_4(r_h) = \int_0^T \int_\Omega r_h u_h \cdot \left( \nabla x \phi - \nabla T \Pi_D(\Pi_T \phi) \right) \, dx \, dt, \]

are the error terms to be estimated. Again, \( r_h \) is either \( g_h \) or \( g_h u_{i,h} \), \( i = 1, \ldots, d \).

- Firstly, for the error term \( E_1 \) we can write

\[ E_1(r_h) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} [\nabla_{\sigma} \cdot n] [r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_{\sigma} [\nabla_{\sigma} / r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dSx \, dt \]
\[ = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^d \int_{\Omega} h_i [\nabla_{\sigma} \cdot n] [r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \, dx \, dt \]
\[ = - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_K h_i r_h \partial_T^{(i)} \left( [\nabla_{\sigma} / r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \right) \, dx \, dt \]
\[ = - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_K r_K h_i \left( [\Pi_T / r_h] [\partial_T^{(i)} \phi] + \left( [\partial_T^{(i)} / r_h] [\Pi_T \phi] \right) \phi \right) \, dx \, dt, \]

where we have used the integration by parts formula 2.10b, the product rule

\[ r_2 q_2 - r_1 q_1 = \frac{r_1 + r_2}{2} (q_2 - q_1) + \frac{q_1 + q_2}{2} (r_2 - r_1). \]
Further, employing the inequality \((a+b)^2 \leq 2a^2 + 2b^2\) twice, we claim \(\|\Pi_T [u_{i,h}]\|_{L^2} \lesssim \|u_{i,h}\|_{L^2}\). Similarly, we claim \(\|\partial_T^{(i)} u_{i,h}\|_{L^2} \lesssim \|\partial_T^{(i)} u_{i,h}\|_{L^2}\) and \(\|\Pi_T \left( \partial_T^{(i)} u_{i,h} \right) \|_{K} = \Pi_T \left( \partial_T^{(i)} u_{i,h} \right)\). Then applying Hölder’s inequality, interpolation error estimates (2.12), (2.14), the velocity estimates (3.5d), (3.5f), the fact \(\partial_x u_i \geq \partial_x |u_i|\), and noticing \(\Delta_h r := \partial_T^{(i)} \partial_T^{(i)} r\), we derive

\[
E_1(r_h) = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{K \in T} \int_K r_K h_i \left( \Pi_T [u_{i,h}] \partial_T^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi + \left( \partial_T^{(i)} [u_{i,h}] \right) \Pi_T \left( \partial_T^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi \right) \right) dx dt
\]

\[
\lesssim \frac{1}{h} \sum_{i=1}^d h_i \left( \int_0^T \sum_{K \in T} \int_K r_K^2 \right)^{1/2} \left[ \left( \int_0^T \sum_{K \in T} \int_K \left( \Pi_T [u_{i,h}] \right)^2 \right)^{1/2} \left\| \Delta_h^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi \right\|_{L^2 L^2} + \left( \int_0^T \sum_{K \in T} \int_K \partial_T^{(i)} [u_{i,h}]^2 \right)^{1/2} \left\| \Pi_T \left( \partial_T^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi \right) \right\|_{L^2 L^2} \right]
\]

\[
\lesssim h \sum_{i=1}^d \|r_h\|_{L^2 L^2} \left( \left\| \Delta_h^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi \right\|_{L^2 L^2} + \left\| \partial_T^{(i)} \Pi_T \phi \right\|_{L^2 L^2} \right)
\]

Consequently, applying the density estimate (3.6a), and the momentum estimate (3.6b) indicates

\[
E_1(r_h) \lesssim h^\beta, \quad \beta = 1 - \frac{\varepsilon + 2}{2\gamma} > 0, \text{ provided } \varepsilon < 2(\gamma - 1),
\]

for \(r_h\) being \(g_h\) or \(g_h u_{i,h}, i = 1, \ldots, d\).

- Secondly, we deal with the error term \(E_2\). In accordance with (2.11), we have

\[
E_2(r_h) \lesssim h \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma \left( \left\| [u_h] \cdot n \right\| r_h \right) dSx dt.
\]

For \(r_h\) being \(g_h\), we further write

\[
E_2(g_h) \lesssim h \left( \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma [u_h]^2 dSx dt \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma [g_h]^2 dSx dt \right)^{1/2}
\]

\[
\lesssim h^1_{1/2} \left( \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma [g_h]^2 dSx dt \right)^{1/2}
\]

\[
\lesssim h^{3/2 - 1/2} \|g_h\|_{L^2 L^2} \lesssim h^\beta, \quad \beta = 1 - \frac{\varepsilon + 2}{2\gamma} > 0, \text{ as soon as } \varepsilon < 2(\gamma - 1).
\]

Here we have used Hölder’s inequality, (3.5d), (3.6a), and the fact \(\|g_h\| < 2\gamma h\).

For \(r_h\) being \(g_h u_{i,h}\), we get

\[
E_2(g_h u_{i,h}) \lesssim h \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma \left( \left\| [u_h] \cdot n \right\| \|g_h\| u_h + \left\| u_h \right\| \right) dSx dt := T_1 + T_2.
\]

To control the residual term \(T_1\) we apply Hölder’s inequality, (3.5a), (3.5g), inverse estimate (2.15) and the inequality \(\|g_h\| < 2\gamma h\) to obtain

\[
T_1 \lesssim h \left( \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma \left[ [u_h]^2 \right] dSx dt \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in E} \int_\sigma \|g_h\|^2 dSx dt \right)^{1/2}
\]

\[
\lesssim h^{1-\varepsilon}/2.
\]
Further, applying (3.5g) we can control the residual term $T_2$ as

$$T_2 = h \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_h}{\partial x} \cdot \mathbf{n} \right] \mathbf{n} \cdot dS \ dt \lesssim h^{1-\varepsilon}.$$  

Therefore, we claim that provided $\varepsilon < 2(\gamma - 1)$ we have

$$E_2(r_h) \lesssim h^\beta, \quad \beta > 0$$

for $r_h$ being $\varrho_h$ or $\varrho_h u_{i,h}$, $i = 1, \ldots, d$.

- Next, we consider the error term $E_3$. Analogously as above, the integration by parts formula (2.10a), Hölder’s inequality, and the interpolation error (2.14) yield

$$E_3(r_h) = \int_0^T r_h \mathbf{u}_h \cdot (\nabla \phi - \nabla \Pi \phi) \ dx \ dt \lesssim h \| \phi \|_{C^2} \| r_h \mathbf{u}_h \|_{L^1 L^1} \lesssim h \| r_h \mathbf{u}_h \|_{L_\infty L^1} \lesssim h.$$  

Consequently, we conclude the consistency formulation of the convective terms in both equations (2.3a) and (2.3b), by collecting the above estimates of the four terms $E_j$, $j = 1, \ldots, 4$,

$$\int_\Omega \varrho_h \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla \phi \ dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} F[\varrho_h, \mathbf{u}_h] \Pi \phi \ dx \lesssim h^{\beta_1}, \quad (4.4a)$$

$$\int_\Omega \varrho_h \mathbf{u}_h \otimes \mathbf{u}_h : \nabla \phi \ dx - \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} F[\varrho_h \mathbf{u}_h, \mathbf{u}_h] \Pi \phi \ dx \lesssim h^{\beta_2}, \quad (4.4b)$$

for some $\beta_1, \beta_2 > 0$ provided $\varepsilon < \min\{1, 2(\gamma - 1)\}$.

**Step 3 – viscosity terms:**

In accordance with (2.12) and (3.5d) we can control the viscosity terms. Indeed, we have

$$\int_\Omega \int_0^T \nabla \mathbf{u}_h : \nabla \phi \ dx \ dt - \int_\Omega \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \frac{1}{d_{\sigma}} \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \Pi \phi \ dx \ dt$$

$$= \int_\Omega \int_0^T \nabla \mathbf{u}_h : (\nabla \phi - \nabla \Pi \phi) \ dx \ dt \lesssim \| \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \|_{L^2 \infty} \| \phi \|_{C^2} \lesssim h,$$  

and for the divergence term we get

$$\int_0^T \int_\Omega \text{div}_h \mathbf{u}_h \text{div}_h (\Pi \phi) \ dx \ dt - \int_\Omega \int_0^T \text{div}_h \mathbf{u}_h \text{div}_x \phi \ dx \ dt$$

$$= \int_0^T \int_\Omega \text{div}_h \mathbf{u}_h \left( \text{div}_h (\Pi \phi) - \text{div}_x \phi \right) \ dx \ dt \lesssim \| \text{div}_h \mathbf{u}_h \|_{L^2 \infty} \| \phi \|_{C^2} \lesssim h,$$  

by using (3.5e) and (2.13).
Step 4 – pressure term:
The pressure term can be controlled by using the integration by parts formula \((2.9)\), the interpolation error \((2.13)\), and the estimate \((3.5b)\), i.e.,

\[
\int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} p_h \mathbf{n} \cdot \left[ \Pi_T \phi \right] dS x dt - \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} p_h \text{div}_x \phi dx dt
\]

\[
= - \int_0^T \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}} \int_{\sigma} \Pi_T \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} [p_h] dS x dt - \int_0^T \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_K p_h \text{div}_x \phi dx dt
\]

\[
= \int_0^T \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} p_K \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}(K)} \int_{\sigma} \Pi_T \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} dS x dt - \int_0^T \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_K p_h \text{div}_x \phi dx dt
\]

\[
= \int_0^T \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} \int_K p_h \left( \text{div}_h(\Pi_T \phi) - \text{div}_x \phi \right) dx dt \lesssim \|p_h\|_{L^\infty(0,T)} h \|\phi\|_{C^2} \lesssim h.
\]

Collecting the inequalities \((4.3)\)–\((4.6)\) we complete the proof of Theorem \(4.1\)

\[
5 \text{ Convergence}
\]

In this section, we show the main result, the convergence of the numerical solution to the strong solution of the system \((1.1)\) on the lifespan of the latter. To this end we start by introducing the concept of the dissipative measure-valued (DMV) solutions to \((1.1)\). The interested reader may consult [11] for the discussion about the concept of DMV solutions and the DMV–strong uniqueness principle that will be used later in this section.

**Definition 5.1 (DMV solution).** We say that a parametrized family of probability measures \(\{V_{t,x}\}_{(t,x) \in (0,T) \times \Omega}\):

\[V_{t,x} \in L^\infty_{\text{weak}}(0,T) \times \Omega; \quad Q = \left\{ [\varrho, u] \mid \varrho \in [0, \infty), \ u \in R^N \right\},\]

is a dissipative measure-valued (DMV) solution of the Navier–Stokes system in \((0,T) \times \Omega\), with the initial condition \(V_{0,x} \in \mathcal{P}(Q)\) and dissipative defect \(D \in L^\infty(0,T)\), \(D \geq 0\), if the following holds:

- for any \(0 \leq \tau \leq T\) and \(\phi \in C^1([0,T] \times \Omega)\):

\[
\left[ \int_{\Omega} (V_{t,x}; \varrho(t, \cdot)) \phi(t, \cdot) dx \right]_{t=0}^{t=\tau} = \int_0^\tau \int_{\Omega} \left[ (V_{t,x}; \varrho) \partial_t \phi + (V_{t,x}; \varrho u) \cdot \nabla_x \phi \right] dx dt
\]

for any \(0 \leq \tau \leq T\) and \(\phi \in C^1_c([0,T] \times \Omega; R^d)\), where

\[
\begin{align*}
u_{t,x} & = (V_{t,x}; u), \quad u \in L^2(0,T; W^{1,2}(\Omega; R^d)), \\
S(\nabla_x u) & = \mu(\nabla_x u + \nabla_x ^T u) + \lambda \text{div}_x u I, \quad \text{and} \quad r^M \in L^1(0,T; M(\Omega)); \\
\begin{align*}
\int_{\Omega} (V_{t,x}; \frac{1}{2} \varrho u^2 + H(\varrho)) dx & \leq \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} S(\nabla_x u) : \nabla_x u dx dt + \mathcal{D}(\tau) \leq 0,
\end{align*}
\end{align*}
\]

for a.a. \(0 \leq \tau \leq T\). The dissipation defect \(D\) dominates the concentration measure \(r^M\), specifically,

\[
|\langle r^M(\tau); \phi \rangle| \lesssim \xi(\tau)\mathcal{D}(\tau) \|\phi\|_{C(\Omega)}, \quad \text{for some} \ \xi \in L^1(0,T).
\]
5.1 Convergence to dissipative measure-valued solution

In this subsection, we show that any Young measure generated by a family of numerical solutions is a DMV solution in the sense of Definition 5.1.

**Theorem 5.2.** Let \( \{ (g_h^k, u_h^k) \}_{k=1}^{N_T} \) be a family of solutions that satisfy the energy stability (3.3) and the consistency formulation (4.1)- (4.2), with \( \Delta t \approx h, \ 1 < \gamma < 2, \ 0 < \varepsilon < \min \{ 1, 2(\gamma - 1) \} \), and the initial data satisfying

\[
g_0 \in L^\gamma(\Omega), \ g_0 > 0, \ u_0 \in L^2(\Omega; R^d).
\]

Then any Young measure \( \{ V_{t,x} \}_{(t,x) \in [0,T) \times \Omega} \) generated by \( (g_h^k, u_h^k) \) for \( h \to 0 \) represents a dissipative measure-valued solution of the Navier–Stokes system (1.1) in the sense of Definition 5.1.

**Proof.** We may use the energy estimates (3.3) to deduce that, at least for suitable subsequences,

\[
g_h \to g \text{ weakly-*(*) in } L^\infty(0,T; L^\gamma(\Omega)), \ g \geq 0
\]

\[
u_h \to u \text{ weakly in } L^2((0,T) \times \Omega; R^d),
\]

where \( u \in L^2(0,T; W^{1,2}(\Omega)), \nabla x u_h \to \nabla x u \text{ weakly in } L^2((0,T) \times \Omega; R^{d \times d}),
\]

\[
g_h u_h \to \tilde{g}u \text{ weakly-*(*) in } L^\infty(0,T; L^\frac{2\gamma}{\gamma-1}(\Omega; R^d)).
\]

where the superscript ‘~’ denotes the \( L^1 \)-weak limit.

Note that, the limit functions satisfy the equation of continuity in the form

\[
- \int_\Omega g(t, x) \cdot \partial_t \phi \, dx = \int_0^T \int_\Omega [g \partial_t \phi + \tilde{g} u \cdot \nabla x \phi] \, dx \, dt, \quad \text{for all } \phi \in C_c^\infty([0, \infty) \times \Omega),
\]

which can be further rewritten as

\[
\left[ \int_\Omega g(t, x) \cdot \phi \, dx \right]_{t=0}^{t=\tau} = \int_0^\tau \int_\Omega [g \partial_t \phi + \tilde{g} u \cdot \nabla x \phi] \, dx \, dt
\]

for any \( 0 \leq \tau \leq T \) and any \( \phi \in C_c^\infty([0,T) \times \Omega) \).

In accordance with the weak convergence statement derived in the preceding part, the family \( \{ g_h, u_h \} \) generates a Young measure - a parameterized measure [2, 28]

\[
V_{t,x} \in L^\infty((0,T) \times \Omega; \mathcal{P}([0,\infty) \times R^d)) \text{ for a.e. } (t,x) \in (0,T) \times \Omega, \quad \text{with} \quad \nu_{0,x} = \delta_{[g_0(x), u_0(x)]},
\]

such that

\[
\langle V_{t,x}, g(u,u) \rangle = \langle g(h), u(t,x) \rangle \text{ for a.e. } (t,x) \in (0,T) \times \Omega,
\]

for any \( g \in C([0,\infty) \times R^d) \) such that

\[
g(g_h, u_h) \to \tilde{g}(g, u) \text{ weakly in } L^1((0,T) \times \Omega).
\]

Accordingly, the equation of continuity (5.1) can be written as

\[
\left[ \int_\Omega g(t, x) \cdot \phi \, dx \right]_{t=0}^{t=\tau} = \int_0^\tau \int_\Omega [g \partial_t \phi + V_{t,x} \cdot \nabla x \phi] \, dx \, dt
\]

(5.2)

For the consistency formulation of the momentum equation (4.2), we apply a similar treatment. Whence letting \( h \to 0 \) in (4.2) gives rise to

\[
\left[ \int_\Omega \langle V_{t,x}; g(u) \rangle \cdot \phi \, dx \right]_{t=0}^{t=\tau} = \int_0^\tau \int_\Omega \left[ \langle V_{t,x}; g(u) \rangle \cdot \partial_t \phi + \langle V_{t,x}; g(u) \otimes u + p(g) \rangle : \nabla x \phi \right] \, dx \, dt
\]

(5.3)

\[
- \int_0^\tau \int_\Omega \left[ \mu \nabla x u \cdot \nabla x \phi + (\mu + \lambda) \text{div}_x u \cdot \text{div}_x \phi \right] \, dx \, dt + \int_0^\tau \int_\Omega r^M : \nabla x \phi \, dx \, dt
\]

for any \( 0 \leq \tau \leq T, \phi \in C_c^\infty([0,T] \times \Omega; R^d) \) where the concentration remainder reads

\[
r^M = \{ g(u) \otimes u + p(g) \} - \langle V_{t,x}; g(u) \otimes u + p(g) \rangle \in [L^\infty(0,T; \mathcal{M}(\Omega))]^{d \times d}.
\]
Similarly, the energy inequality \[3.3\] can be written as
\[
\left[\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \langle V_{t,x}; \varphi \rangle |u|^2 + \mathcal{H}(\varphi) \, dx \right]_{t=0}^{t=\tau} + \int_0^\tau \int_{\Omega} (\mu |\nabla_x u|^2 + (\mu + \lambda) |\text{div}_x u|^2) \, dx \, dt + \mathcal{D}(\tau) \leq 0
\] (5.4)
for a.e. \( \tau \in [0, T] \), with the dissipation defect \( \mathcal{D} \) satisfying
\[
\int_0^\tau |r^M|_{\mathcal{A}(\Omega)} \, dt \leq \int_0^\tau \mathcal{D}(t) \, dt, \quad \mathcal{D}(\tau) \geq \liminf_{h \to 0} \int_0^\tau \|\nabla_x u_h\|_{L^2}^2 \, dt - \int_0^\tau \int_{\Omega} |\nabla_x u|^2 \, dx \, dt, \quad (5.5)
\]
cf. [11, Lemma 2.1].

Collecting (5.2), (5.3) and (5.5) implies that the Young measure \( \{V_{t,x}\}_{t,x \in (0,T) \times \Omega} \) represents a dissipative measure-valued solution of the Navier–Stokes system \((1.1)\) in the sense of Definition 5.1. Seeing that validity of (5.2) and (5.3) can be extended to the class of test functions from \( C^1([0,T] \times \Omega; R^d) \), we have proved Theorem 5.2.

\[\square\]

5.2 Convergence to strong solution

In the previous subsection, we have shown that the numerical solution generates the dissipative measure-valued solution. We admit that the conclusion of Theorem 5.2 is rather weak, also due to the non-uniqueness of Young measure. However, we may directly use the DMV-strong uniqueness principle established in [11, Theorem 4.1] to obtain convergence to the strong solution as long as it exists.

**Theorem 5.3** (Convergence to strong solution). In addition to the hypotheses of Theorem 5.2, suppose that the Navier–Stokes system \((1.1)\) endowed with the initial data \((\varrho_0, u_0)\) admits a regular solution \((\varrho, u)\) belonging to the class

\[\varrho, \nabla_x \varrho, u, \nabla_x u \in C([0,T] \times \Omega), \quad \partial_t u \in L^2 \left(0, T; C(\Omega; R^d)\right), \quad \varrho > 0.\]

Then

\[\varrho_h \to \varrho \text{ (strongly) in } L^1((0,T) \times \Omega), \quad u_h \to u \text{ (strongly) in } L^2 \left(0, T; \Omega\times R^d\right).\]

Indeed, the DMV–strong uniqueness implies that the Young measure generated by the family of numerical solutions coincides at a.a. point \((t, x)\) with the Dirac mass supported by the smooth solution of the problem. In particular, the numerical solutions converge strongly and no oscillations occur.

**Remark 5.4.** We have constructed solution on a space-periodic domain \( \Omega \). When considering a polyhedral domain, the existence of smooth solutions remains open and may be a delicate task. To avoid this problem, one has to approximate a smooth domain by a family of polyhedral domains analogously as in [13]. Note, however, this problem does not occur in the case of periodic domain.

If, in addition, we assume the density is uniformly bounded, meaning independently of the numerical step, the results of Theorems 5.2 and 5.3 remain valid on an unstructured grid as well. Indeed, the only difference of the proof would be in showing the consistency of the convective terms in (4.4). The estimate of the error terms \( E_1(\varrho_h) \) and \( E_1(\varrho_h u_h) \) could be done without the discrete integration by parts thanks to \( L^\infty \)-bound on the density. Another way would be to introduce new discrete operators \( \partial_x^{(i)} r_h, \partial_T^{(i)} q_{t,h} \) between the dual and the unstructured primary grid, such that the discrete integration by parts holds. Moreover, in view of the conditional regularity result [30], we obtain the unconditional convergence to the strong solution since the DMV solution with bounded density is regular.

**Theorem 5.5** (Convergence with bounded density). Let \( d = 3 \). In addition to the hypotheses of Theorem 5.2, suppose that

- the initial data belong to the class
  \[\varrho_0 \in W^{3,2}(\Omega), \quad u_0 \in W^{3,2}(\Omega; R^d);\]
- bulk viscosity vanishes, meaning
  \[\lambda + \frac{2}{3} \mu = 0;\]

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\[ \| \varphi_h \|_{L^\infty((0,T) \times \Omega)} \leq c \]

uniformly for \( h \to 0 \).

Then
\[ \varphi_h \to \varphi \text{ (strongly) in } L^q((0,T) \times \Omega), \quad q \geq 1, \quad \mathbf{u}_h \to \mathbf{u} \text{ (strongly) in } L^2((0,T) \times \Omega; R^d), \]

\((\varphi, \mathbf{u})\) is the strong solution to the Navier–Stokes system \((1.1)\) with the initial data \((\varphi_0, \mathbf{u}_0)\).

The condition on vanishing bulk viscosity is technical and we refer to [30] for the discussion of its necessity. We point out that Theorem 5.5 guarantees unconditional convergence of the scheme without the a priori hypothesis of the existence of smooth solution. In other words, uniform boundedness of the numerical densities implies the existence of global smooth solution as long as the initial data are sufficiently regular. It is also worth noting that boundedness of the numerical densities is still a considerably weaker assumptions than the hypothesis made by Jovanović [23].

6 Numerical experiment

In this section we show the numerical performance of scheme \((2.3)\) in two space dimensions. Note that scheme \((2.3)\) is nonlinear, thus we solve it numerically by a fix-point iteration. For each sub-iteration, we set the time step as \( \Delta t = \text{CFL} \frac{h}{(|\mathbf{u}| + c)_{\max}} \), where \( \text{CFL} = 0.3, \ c = \sqrt{ho/\rho_0} \). We set the viscosity coefficients \( \mu = \lambda = 0.01 \) and the adiabatic coefficient \( \gamma = 1.4 \) in all experiments. Moreover, we choose the artificial diffusion \( \varepsilon = 0.6 \) which satisfies the assumption of \( 0 < \varepsilon < \min\{1, 2(\gamma - 1)\} \).

**Experiment 1.** First we validate the accuracy of the scheme by a smooth solution
\[
\rho_{\text{ref}} = \cos(2\pi(x + y)), \quad \mathbf{u}_{\text{ref}} = \left( \frac{\sin(2\pi t)}{\cos(2\pi(x + y))}, -\frac{\sin(2\pi t)}{\cos(2\pi(x + y))} \right)^T.
\]

We compute the relative error \( e_{\phi_h} \) for \( \phi \in \{ \varphi, \mathbf{u}, \nabla \mathbf{u} \} \) in the corresponding norms, and the experimental order of convergence (EOC), where
\[
e_{\phi_h} = \frac{\| \phi_h - \phi_{\text{ref}} \|}{\| \phi_{\text{ref}} \|}, \quad \text{EOC} = \log_2 \frac{e_{\phi_{2h}}}{e_{\phi_h}},
\]

and \( \phi_{\text{ref}} \) denotes the reference solution. From the numerical results, we observe the first order of convergence of the scheme, see Table 1.

| \( h \) | \( \| \nabla_x \mathbf{u} \|_{L^2(L^2)} \) | EOC | \( \| \mathbf{u} \|_{L^2(L^2)} \) | EOC | \( \| \varphi_h \|_{L^1(L^1)} \) | EOC | \( \| \varphi \|_{L^\infty(L^1)} \) | EOC |
|------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| 1/32 | 4.21e-02       | –   | 3.43e-03       | –   | 1.24e-03       | –   | 4.28e-02       | –   |
| 1/64 | 1.78e-02       | 1.24| 1.39e-03       | 1.30| 4.95e-04       | 1.32| 1.81e-02       | 1.24|
| 1/128| 7.75e-03       | 1.20| 5.88e-04       | 1.24| 2.04e-04       | 1.28| 7.86e-03       | 1.21|
| 1/256| 5.16e-03       | 1.14| 2.59e-04       | 1.18| 8.69e-05       | 1.23| 3.50e-03       | 1.17|

**Experiment 2.** In this experiment, we simulate the Gresho–vortex flow [5, 27, 21]. The initial state is the vortex of radius \( r_0 = 0.2 \) located at \((0.5, 0.5)\) with
\[
\varphi(0, \mathbf{x}) = 1, \quad \mathbf{u}(0, \mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \frac{y - 0.5}{0.5 - x} \frac{u_r(r)}{r}, & \text{with } u_r(r) = \sqrt{r} \begin{cases} 2r/r_0 & \text{if } 0 \leq r < r_0/2, \\ 2(1 - r/r_0) & \text{if } r_0/2 \leq r < r_0, \\ 0 & \text{if } r \geq r_0, \end{cases} \end{cases}
\]

where \( r = \sqrt{(x - 0.5)^2 + (y - 0.5)^2} \). We present the evolution of the flow in Figure 2 for the mesh size \( h = 1/128 \). We can clearly recognize that the solution is in a good agreement with those presented in the literature, see [21]. To further invest the numerical convergence, we present in Table 2 the errors for different mesh parameters and the reference solution is computed at a fine mesh \( h = 1/1024 \). We observe again the first order of convergence as expected.
Figure 2: Time evolution of the Gresho–vortex: solution at $t = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2$ from top to bottom, solution of density and velocity components from left to right

Conclusion

We have studied a finite volume method for the multi–dimensional compressible isentropic Navier–Stokes equations on regular quadrilateral mesh in a periodic domain. Due to the artificial diffusion in the numerical flux function (2.1) we have slightly better a priori estimate for the discrete density. The solutions of the
scheme were shown to exist while preserving the positivity of the discrete density. Moreover, we have shown the stability of the scheme by deriving the unconditional balance of the discrete total energy in Theorem 3.3. Furthermore, we have established the consistency formulation provided the artificial diffusion coefficient is large enough, see Theorem 4.1. In addition, we have shown in Theorem 5.2 that the numerical solutions of scheme (2.3) generate a DMV solution of the Navier–Stokes system (1.1). Finally, using the recent result on the DMV–strong uniqueness principle and the conditional regularity result [30], we have proven the convergence to the strong solution on its lifespan and unconditional convergence to regular solution, cf. Theorem 5.3 and Theorem 5.5 respectively. Numerical experiments are also presented to support the theoretical results. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first rigorous result concerning convergence of a finite volume method for the compressible isentropic Navier–Stokes equations in the multi–dimensional setting.

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