

Abstract Submitted
for the DFD06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Maxial Enstrophy Generation in the 3D Navier-Stokes Equations¹ CHARLES R. DOERING, LU LU², University of Michigan — We address the following question for the 3D incompressible Navier-Stokes equations in a periodic domain: given an enstrophy budget, what incompressible flow field with that amount of enstrophy instantaneously maximizes the enstrophy generation rate? By solving the associated variational problem we have found flows that saturate the functional-analytic estimates (bounds) for the maximal rate of enstrophy production. We discuss implications of these results for the open question of existence and uniqueness of smooth solutions of the 3D Navier-Stokes equations.

¹Supported by NSF-PHY0244859 and PHY0555324.

²Now at Wachovia Investments.

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Date submitted: 07 Aug 2006

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