



Nonlinear stability of rarefaction waves for the compressible Navier–Stokes equations with zero heat conductivity

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ABSTRACT

This paper is concerned with the time-asymptotic nonlinear stability of rarefaction waves to the Cauchy problem of the one-dimensional compressible Navier–Stokes equations with zero heat conductivity. Under the assumption that the unique global entropy solution to the resulting Riemann problem of the corresponding compressible Euler equations consists of rarefaction waves only, then if both the initial perturbation and the strengths of rarefaction waves are assumed to be suitably small, we show that its Cauchy problem admits a unique global solution which tends time-asymptotically toward the rarefaction waves. This result is proved by using the elementary energy method and the argument developed by Kawashima and Okada (1982).

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1. Introduction and main results

Consider the one-dimensional compressible Navier–Stokes equations in the Lagrangian coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} v_t - u_x &= 0, \\ u_t + p_x &= \left(\frac{\mu u_x}{v} \right)_x, \\ \left(e + \frac{u^2}{2} \right)_t + (up)_x &= \left(\frac{\kappa \theta_x}{v} + \frac{\mu u u_x}{v} \right)_x, \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where the unknowns $v > 0$, u , $\theta > 0$, $p > 0$, e , and s represent the specific volume, the velocity, the absolute temperature, the pressure, the internal energy, and the entropy of the gas, respectively. The coefficients of

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viscosity and heat-conductivity, μ and κ , are positive constants or identically zero. We assume, as usual in thermodynamics, that by using any given two of the five thermodynamical variables, $v, \theta, p, e,$ and $s,$ the remaining three variables are their functions.

The second law of thermodynamics asserts that

$$\theta ds = de + pdv.$$

From which, if we choose $(v, \theta), (v, s),$ or (v, e) as independent variables and write $(p, e, s) = (p(v, \theta), e(v, \theta), s(v, \theta)),$ or $(p, e, \theta) = (\tilde{p}(v, s), \tilde{e}(v, s), \tilde{\theta}(v, s)),$ or $(p, s, \theta) = (\hat{p}(v, e), \hat{s}(v, e), \hat{\theta}(v, e))$ respectively, then we can deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} s_v(v, \theta) &= p_\theta(v, \theta), \\ s_\theta(v, \theta) &= \frac{e_\theta(v, \theta)}{\theta}, \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e_v(v, \theta) &= \theta p_\theta(v, \theta) - p(v, \theta), \\ \tilde{e}_v(v, s) &= -p(v, \theta), \\ \tilde{e}_s(v, s) &= \theta, \\ \tilde{p}_v(v, s) &= p_v(v, \theta) - \frac{\theta(p_\theta(v, \theta))^2}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \end{aligned} \tag{1.3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{p}_s(v, s) &= \frac{\theta p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \tilde{\theta}_v(v, s) &= -\frac{\theta p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \tilde{\theta}_s(v, s) &= \frac{\theta}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{s}_e(v, e) &= \frac{1}{\theta}, \\ \hat{s}_v(v, e) &= \frac{p(v, \theta)}{\theta}, \\ \hat{p}_e(v, e) &= \frac{p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \hat{p}_v(v, e) &= \left(p_v(v, \theta) - \frac{\theta(p_\theta(v, \theta))^2}{e_\theta(v, \theta)} \right) + \frac{p(v, \theta)p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \hat{\theta}_e(v, e) &= \frac{1}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \hat{\theta}_v(v, e) &= \frac{p(v, \theta) - \theta p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.4}$$

Throughout this paper, the pressure function $p(v, \theta)$ and the internal energy $e(v, \theta)$ are assumed to satisfy

$$(H_1) \quad p_v(v, \theta) = \frac{\partial p(v, \theta)}{\partial v} < 0, \quad e_\theta(v, \theta) = \frac{\partial e(v, \theta)}{\partial \theta} > 0$$

and

$$(H_2) \quad \tilde{p}_{vv}(v, s) = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{p}(v, s)}{\partial v^2} > 0 \text{ and } \tilde{p}(v, s) \text{ is convex with respect to } (v, s).$$

From (1.3)₂ and (H₁), we have

$$\tilde{p}_v(v, s) = p_v(v, \theta) - \frac{\theta(p_\theta(v, \theta))^2}{e_\theta(v, \theta)} < 0, \tag{1.5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{e}_{ss}(v, s) &= \frac{\theta}{e_\theta(v, \theta)} > 0, \\ \tilde{e}_{vs}(v, s) &= -\frac{\theta p_\theta(v, \theta)}{e_\theta(v, \theta)}, \\ \tilde{e}_{vv}(v, s) &= -p_v(v, \theta) + \frac{\theta(p_\theta(v, \theta))^2}{e_\theta(v, \theta)} > 0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

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