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**Zhiwu Lin** and **Chongchun Zeng\*** (zengch@math.gatech.edu). *Unstable manifolds and  $L^2$  nonlinear instability of Euler equations.*

We consider a steady state  $v_0$  of the Euler equation in a fixed bounded domain in  $R^n$ . Suppose the linearized equation has an exponential dichotomy with a finite dimensional unstable subspace. By rewriting the Euler equation as an ODE on an infinite dimensional manifold in  $H^k$ ,  $k > \frac{n}{2} + 1$ , the unstable manifold of  $v_0$  is constructed under certain conditions on the Lyapunov exponents of the vector field  $v_0$ . This in turn shows the nonlinear instability of  $v_0$  in the sense that small  $H^k$  perturbations can lead to  $L^2$  deviation of the solutions. (Received September 14, 2011)