

Here's how equation (D-2) (the momentum equation for lossless fluids) is linearized into equation (D-4):

$$\rho(\vec{u}_t + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{u} + \vec{\nabla}P) = 0 \quad (\text{D-2})$$

$$\rho_0\vec{u}_t + \vec{p} = 0 \quad (\text{D-4})$$

Using the relations

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\rho &\equiv \rho - \rho_0 \\ p &\equiv P - p_0 \end{aligned}$$

We can write (D-2) as

$$\begin{aligned} (\delta\rho + \rho_0)(\vec{u}_t + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{u}) + \vec{\nabla}(p + p_0) &= 0 \\ \delta\rho\vec{u}_t + \delta\rho(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{u} + \rho_0\vec{u}_t + \rho_0(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{u} + \vec{\nabla}p &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The first term is second order, the second term is third order, and the third term is second order. These can all be dropped, leaving you with equation (D-4).