

ME 57200 Aerodynamic Design

Lecture #10: Elemental Flows

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Midterm Exam

- Tuesday, 3/12, from 09:30 to 10:45 am at Shepard S-308.
- The exam is open-book and open-notes.
- 5 True/False Questions: 10 pt
- 4 Math-based Problems: 40 pt
- Total: 50 pt

Laplace's Equation

The principle of mass conservation for an incompressible flow

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V} = 0$$

For an irrotational flow

$$\mathbf{V} = \nabla \phi$$

For an incompressible and irrotational flow $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi) = 0$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \phi = 0}$$

- Laplace's equation: a second-order linear partial differential equation
- One of the most famous and extensively studied equations in mathematical physics.
- Solutions of Laplace's equation are called *harmonic functions*

Laplace's Equation

Cartesian coordinates: $\phi = \phi(x, y, z)$

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Cylindrical coordinates: $\phi = \phi(r, \theta, z)$

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Spherical coordinates: $\phi = \phi(r, \theta, \Phi)$

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \Phi} \right) \right] = 0$$

Laplace's Equation

For a two-dimensional incompressible flow

$$u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \quad v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(-\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y \partial x} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{Continuity Equation}$$

- Stream function automatically satisfies the continuity equation.

Laplace's Equation

For a two-dimensional incompressible irrotational flow

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(-\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \right) = 0$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = 0}$$

- The stream function also satisfies Laplace's equation

Laplace's Equation

- Any irrotational, incompressible flow has a velocity potential and stream function (for two-dimensional flow) that both satisfy Laplace's equation.
- Conversely, any solution of Laplace's equation represents the velocity potential or stream function (two-dimensional) for an irrotational, incompressible flow.
- Note: the sum of any particular solutions of a linear differential equation is also a solution of the equation.

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \phi = 0}$$

$\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4, \dots, \phi_n$ represent n separate solutions

$\phi = \phi_1 + \phi_2 \dots + \phi_n$ is also a solution

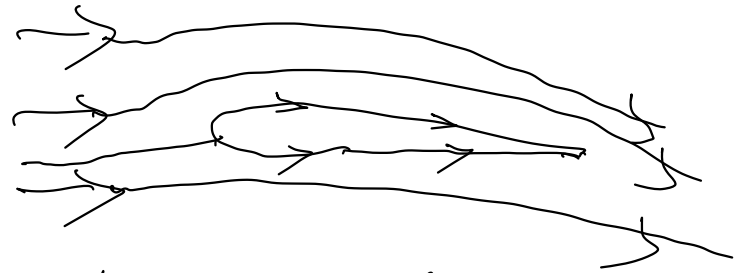
A complicated flow pattern for an irrotational, incompressible flow can be synthesized by adding together a number of elementary flows that are also irrotational and incompressible.

Laplace's Equation

How do we obtain different flows (solutions) for different bodies?

Boundary conditions:

Consider the flow over an airfoil



The flow is bounded by

- ① the freestream flow that occurs an infinite distance away from the body.
- ② The surface of the body itself.

1. Infinity Boundary Condition

Far away from the body in all directions, the flow approaches the uniform freestream condition

Let V_∞ be aligned with x direction, at infinity

$$\begin{cases} u = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = V_\infty \\ v = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Laplace's Equation

2 Wall Boundary Condition

Because the flow cannot penetrate the surface, velocity at the surface is always tangent to the body surface.



$$\underline{\vec{v}} \cdot \underline{\vec{n}} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla \phi) \cdot \underline{\vec{n}} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} = 0$$

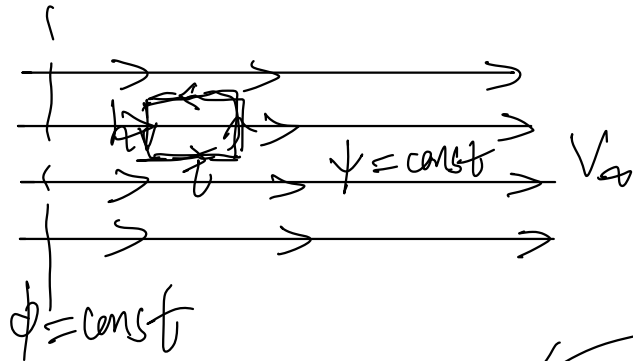
The body contour is a streamline:

$$\psi = \text{constant}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{v}{u}\right)_{\text{surface}}}$$

Elementary Flows

Uniform flow



$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \vec{V} = 0 & \text{incompressible} \\ \nabla \times \vec{V} = 0 & \text{irrotational} \end{cases}$$

$$u = V_\infty, \quad v = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = V_\infty, \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \phi = V_\infty x + f(y) \\ \phi = \text{const} + g(x) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} g(x) = V_\infty x \\ f(y) = \text{const} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = V_\infty x + \text{const} =$$

For stream function, ψ :

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = u = V_\infty, \quad \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = -v = 0$$

Elementary Flows

$$\Rightarrow \psi = V_{\infty} y + \text{const}$$

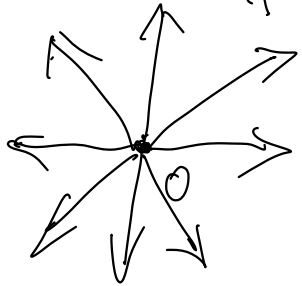
Circulation: Consider a rectangular $l \times h$ a "Circ"

$$\Gamma = - \oint_C \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{s} = -V_{\infty} l - 0 \cdot h + V_{\infty} l + 0 \cdot h = 0$$

$$\text{For arbitrary "C": } \Gamma = - \oint_C \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{s} = -V_{\infty} \oint_C d\vec{s} = 0$$

Elementary Flows

Source Flow : A two-dimensional incompressible flow where all the streamlines are straight lines from a central point "O". The velocity along each of the streamlines vary inversely with distance from point "O".



Polar coordinates : V_r, V_θ ($V_\theta = 0$)

(1) Source flow is physically possible incompressible flow

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{V} = 0 \quad \text{Continuity Equation.}$$

(2) Source flow is irrotational at every point.

By definition: Source flow velocity is inversely proportional to radial distance.

$$\begin{cases} V_r = \frac{C}{r} & (C \text{ is a constant}) \\ V_\theta = 0 \end{cases}$$

Elementary Flows

Now extend to 3-dimensional



Consider the mass flow rate across the elementary surface of the cylinder

$$dS = (r \cdot d\theta) \cdot l$$

$$dm = \rho \cdot V_r \cdot dS = \rho V_r (r d\theta) \cdot l$$

$$\text{Total mass flow rate: } \dot{m} = \int_0^{2\pi} \rho V_r (r d\theta) l = \rho r l V_r \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta = \underline{2\pi r l V_r}$$

$$\text{Total volumetric flow rate: } \dot{V} = \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho} = 2\pi r l V_r$$

$$\text{Volume flow rate per unit length: } \underline{\Lambda = \frac{\dot{V}}{l} = 2\pi r V_r \text{ (source strength)}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} V_r = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi r} \\ V_r = \frac{C}{r} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi}$$

Elementary Flows

The velocity potential for a source flow:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = V_r = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi r} \\ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = V_\theta = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \phi = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \ln r + f(\theta) \\ \phi = \text{const} + f(r) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} f(r) = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \ln r \\ f(\theta) = \text{const} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{\phi = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \ln r + \text{const}}$$

Stream function

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = V_r = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi r} \\ -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = V_\theta = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \psi = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \theta + f(r) \\ \psi = \text{const} + f(\theta) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\psi = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \theta + \text{const}}$$

In-Class Quiz