

Elementary potential flows

Uniform flow

Uniform flow with velocity V_∞ oriented in positive x -direction

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

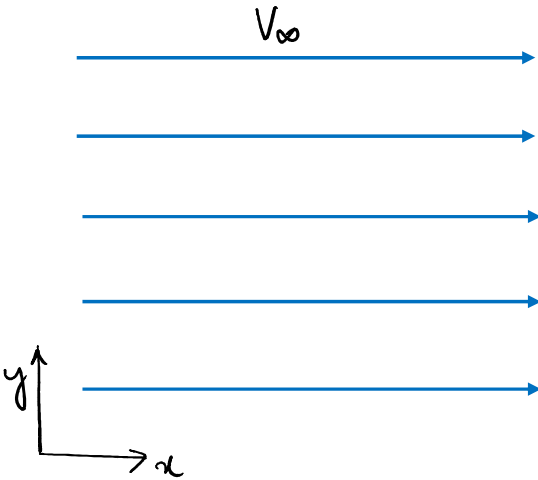
Check: This flow satisfies $\nabla \cdot \vec{V} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$ ✓✓ satisfy
 $\nabla \times \vec{V} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$ ✓✓ satisfy

Thus flow satisfies both incompressible flow and irrotational flow condition \Rightarrow so, it is a potential flow.

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{\underline{\phi}}: \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = u \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = V_\infty \\ \Rightarrow \phi = V_\infty x + f(y) \end{array} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = v \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 0 \\ \phi = f(y) \end{array} \right.$$

on comparison, $f(y) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\phi = V_\infty x}$

$$x = \frac{\phi}{V_\infty} = \text{const}$$



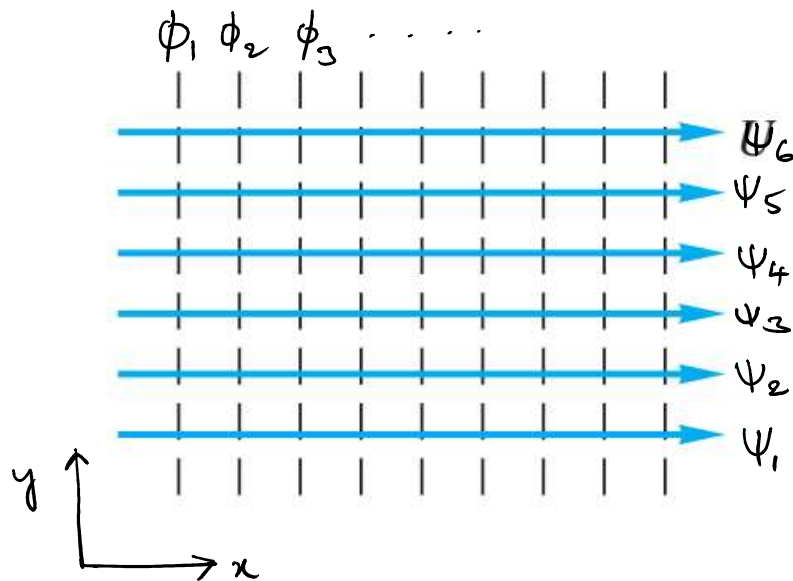
ψ :

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = u \quad \left| \quad \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = -v \right.$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = v_{\infty} \quad \left| \quad \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0 \right.$$

$$\psi = v_{\infty} y + f(x) \quad \left| \quad \psi = f(y) \right.$$

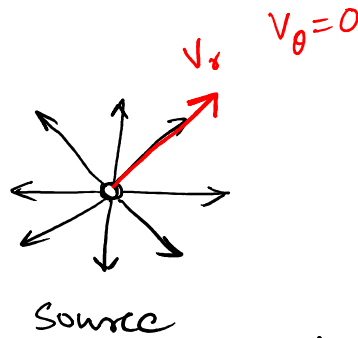
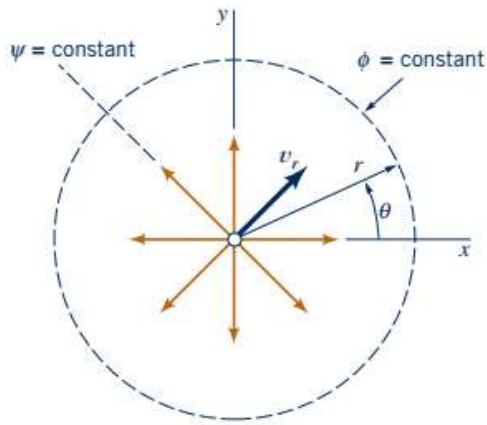
on comparison $f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\psi = v_{\infty} y}$ $y = \frac{\psi}{v_{\infty}} \quad y = \underline{\underline{\text{Constant}}}$



$y = \text{Constant}$ lines are the
Streamlines

$x = \text{Constant}$ lines are the
equipotential lines.

Source flow and Sink flow



V_r - Radial velocity

V_θ - Tangential velocity

Source flow:

$$V_r \propto \frac{1}{r}, \quad V_\theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow V_r = \frac{C}{r}, \quad V_\theta = 0 \quad C - \text{Constant}$$

To find C , consider volume flow rate at any distance r .

Volume flow rate $Q = \text{Area} \times \text{Velocity}$

$$Q = 2\pi r l \times V_r$$

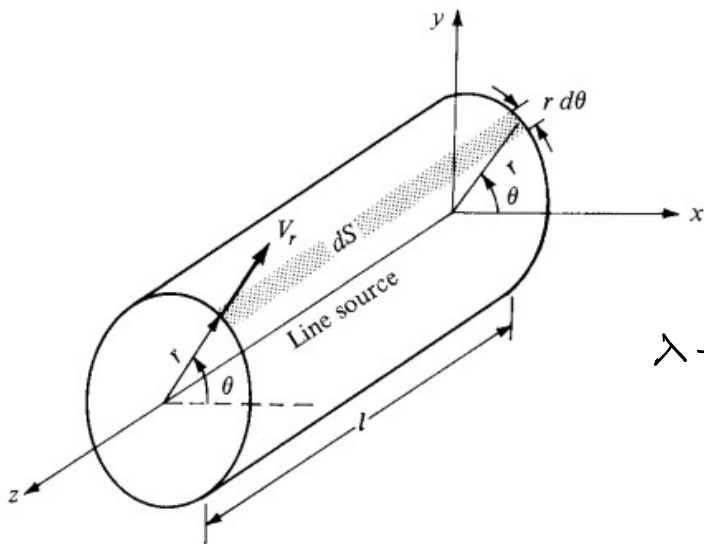
$$\Rightarrow \frac{Q}{l} = 2\pi r V_r$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 2\pi r V_r$$

λ - Volume flow rate at any radius r per unit length.

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{V_r = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi r}} \Rightarrow C = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi}$$

λ is called the SOURCE STRENGTH



ϕ :

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = V_r$$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = V_\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi r}$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln r + f(\theta)$$

$$\phi = f(r)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\phi = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln r}$$

Equipotential lines correspond to lines of
 $\ln r = \text{constant}$
 $\Rightarrow r = C_1$

ψ :

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = V_r$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = -V_\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi r}$$

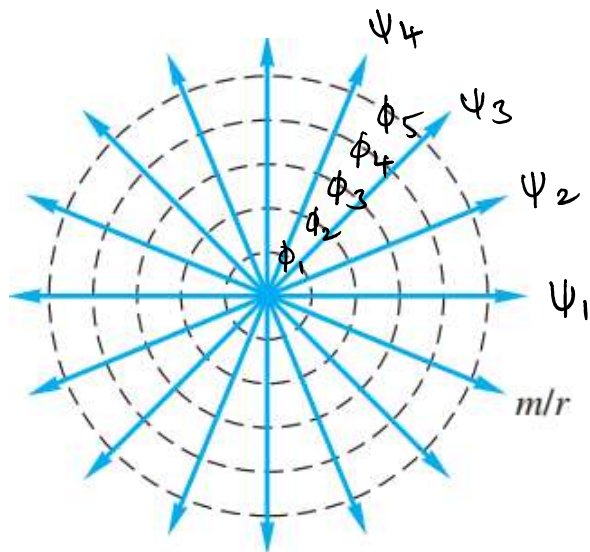
$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta + f(r)$$

$$\psi = f(\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\psi = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta}$$

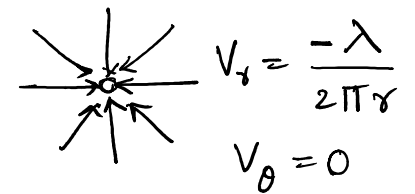
Streamlines corresponds to the lines of
 $\theta = \text{constant}$



Sink strength = $-\lambda$

Sink:

opposite of source.

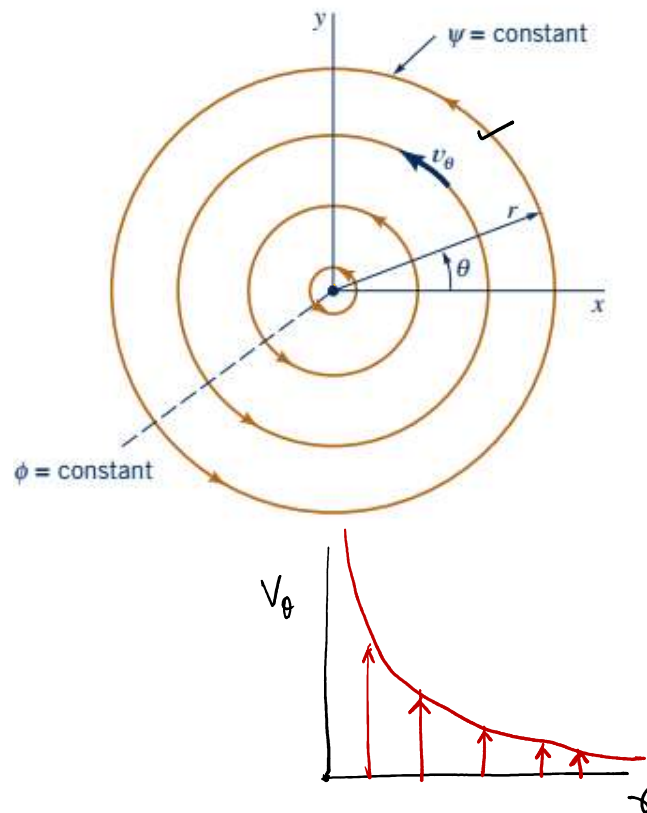


$$\phi = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi} \ln r$$

$$\psi = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi} \theta$$

Free Vortex flow

— Flow in closed circular streamlines is called a vortex flow



$$V_r = 0 \quad V_\theta \propto \frac{1}{r}$$

$$V_r = 0 \text{ and } V_\theta = \frac{C}{r}$$

C-Constant

satisfies

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

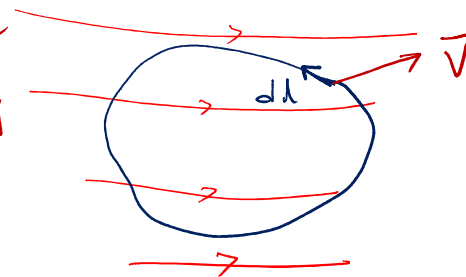
$$\bar{\nabla} \times \bar{V} = 0$$

\Rightarrow potential flow

Circulation:

$$\Gamma = - \oint \bar{V} \cdot d\bar{l}$$

— It is defined as the negative of line integral of velocity along the closed curve



$$\Gamma = - \oint \bar{V} \cdot d\bar{l} = - V_\theta \oint dl = - V_\theta 2\pi r$$

$$\Gamma - \text{Circulation} \Rightarrow \boxed{V_\theta = \frac{-\Gamma}{2\pi r}} \Rightarrow C = \frac{-\Gamma}{2\pi}$$

Γ is called VORTEX STRENGTH

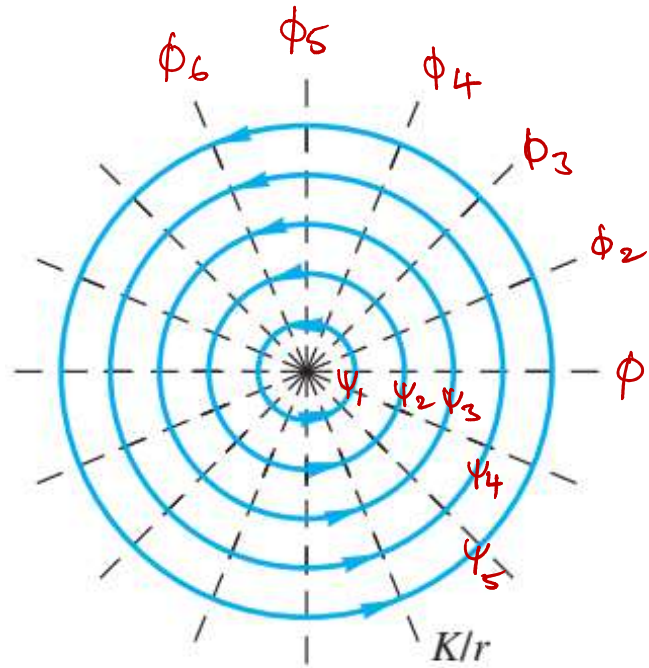
* Irrotational Vortex

$$\underline{\phi:} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = V_r \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = 0 \\ \phi = f(\theta) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = V_\theta \\ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = -\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r} \\ \phi = -\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \theta + f(r) \end{array}$$

on comparison $\boxed{\phi = -\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \theta}$ $\Rightarrow \theta = \text{constant}$ are the equipotential lines

$$\underline{\psi:} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = V_r \\ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = 0 \\ \psi = f(r) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = V_\theta \\ -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r} \\ \psi = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \ln r + f(\theta) \end{array}$$

on comparison, $\boxed{\psi = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \ln r}$ $\Rightarrow \underbrace{r = \text{constant}}_{\text{circles}}$ are the streamlines

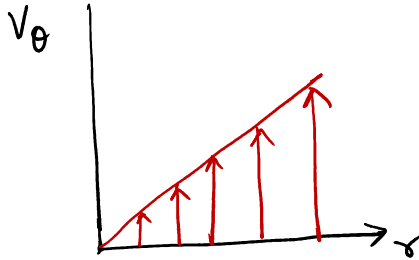
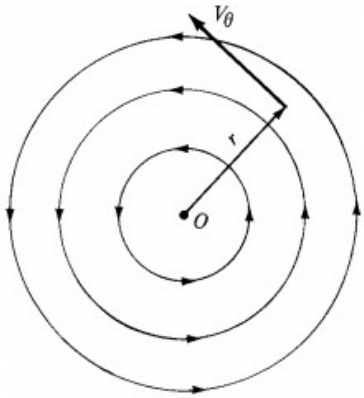


Note: $\Pi = - \oint \bar{V} \cdot d\bar{\ell}$

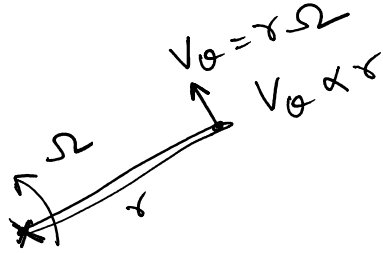
why there is a -ve sign?

θ and V_θ are positive in counter clock-wise direction, whereas Π is taken to be +ve in clock-wise direction.

Forced Vortex flow



* Rotational vortex



$$V_r = 0$$

$$V_\theta \propto r$$

$$V_\theta = \Omega r$$

Ω - Angular Velocity in the flow

- Not a potential flow
- Does not satisfy the irrotational flow condition

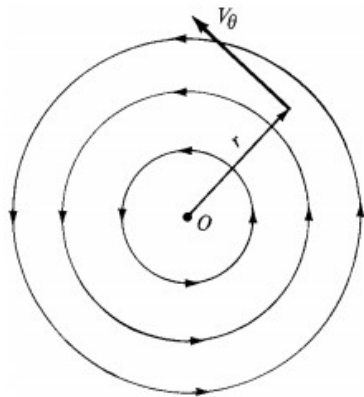
$$\nabla \times \vec{V} \neq 0$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{V} = \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial(rV_\theta)}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \theta} \right]$$

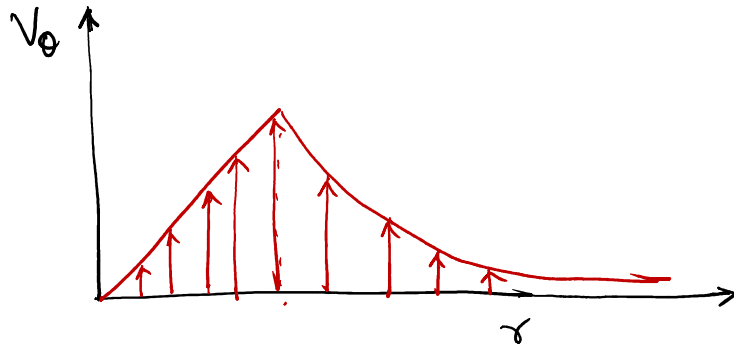
$$= \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \Omega) = \frac{1}{r} 2r \Omega = 2\Omega \neq 0$$

\Rightarrow forced vortex is rotational

Real Vortex:



Rankine Vortex



* All real vortices will be a combination of both forced vortex and a free vortex.



Eg: whirlpools
Tornadoes
Cyclones

Combination of elementary flows

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{2nd order linear equations}^*$$

ψ
 ϕ

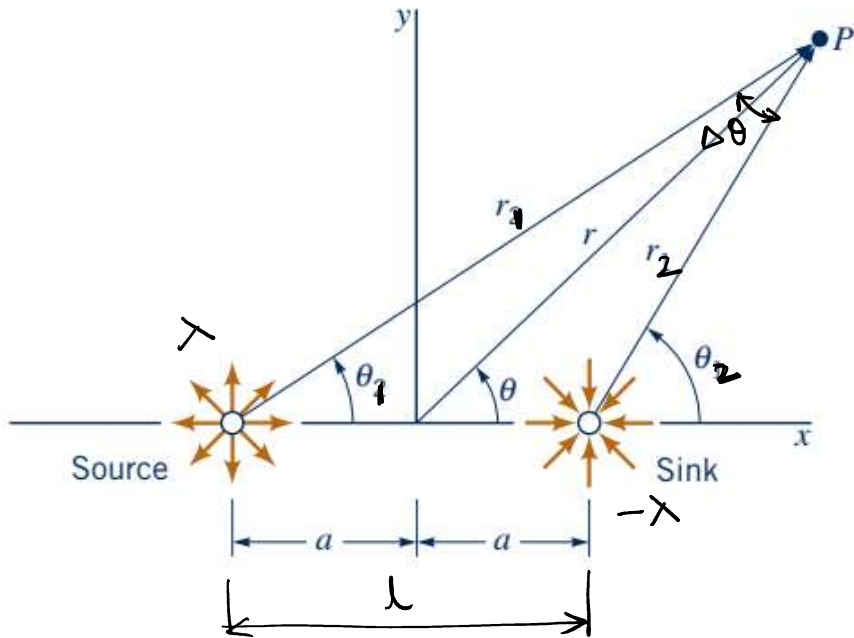
ψ_1 is a solution

ψ_2 is a solution

then $\underbrace{\psi_1 + \psi_2}$ is also a solution of this eqn
physically possible potential flow

Doublet flow

Source and Sink pair



$$l \rightarrow 0 \quad \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\underline{\underline{l\lambda = \text{constant}}}$$

$$\psi_{\text{source}} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta$$

$$\psi_{\text{sink}} = -\frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta$$

At a point P in the flow,

$$\psi = \psi_{\text{source}} + \psi_{\text{sink}}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta_1 - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \theta_2$$

$$\psi = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} (\theta_1 - \theta_2) = -\frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \Delta\theta$$

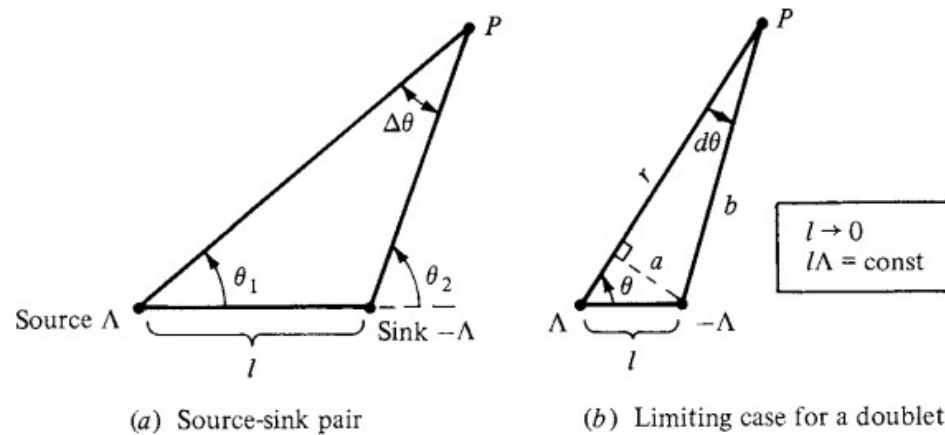


Figure 3.24 How a source-sink pair approaches a doublet in the limiting case.

- let the distance l approach zero while the absolute magnitudes of the strengths of the source and sink increase in such a fashion that the product $l\Lambda$ remains constant.
- In the limit, as $l \rightarrow 0$ while $l\Lambda$ remains constant, we obtain a special flow pattern defined as a *doublet*.
- The *strength* of the doublet is denoted by κ and is defined as $\kappa \equiv l\Lambda$.

Streamfunction of a doublet is

$$\psi = \lim_{\substack{l \rightarrow 0 \\ K = l\lambda = \text{constant}}} \left(\frac{-\lambda}{2\pi} d\theta \right) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

From the diagram,

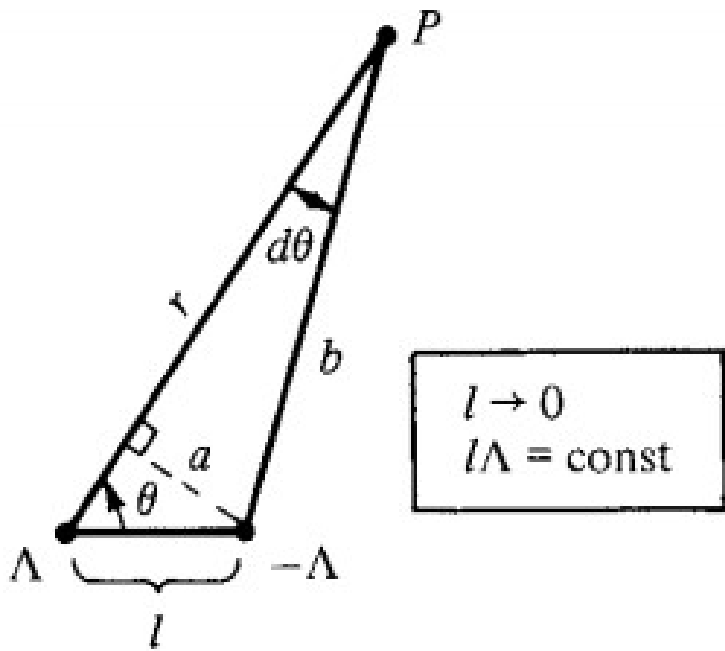
$$a = l \sin \theta$$

$$\cos d\theta = \frac{r - l \cos \theta}{b} \Rightarrow b = \frac{r - l \cos \theta}{\cos d\theta}$$

$$\text{As } l \rightarrow 0, d\theta \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \cos d\theta \approx 1, \tan d\theta \approx d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow b = r - l \cos \theta$$

$$\tan d\theta = \frac{a}{b} \Rightarrow d\theta = \frac{a}{b} = \frac{l \sin \theta}{r - l \cos \theta} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$



Substituting (2) in (1)

$$\Rightarrow \psi = \lim_{\substack{l \rightarrow 0 \\ K = l\lambda = \text{const}}} \left[\frac{-\lambda}{2\pi} \frac{l \sin \theta}{r - l \cos \theta} \right] = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-K}{2\pi} \frac{\sin \theta}{r - l \cos \theta} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\psi = \frac{-K}{2\pi} \frac{\sin \theta}{r}} \quad \text{Stream function for a Doublet flow.}$$

ϕ :

$$\phi = \phi_{\text{source}} + \phi_{\text{sink}} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln r_1 - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln r_2$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right) = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi} \ln \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1} \right)$$

From the diagram $r_1 = r$ and $r_2 = b = r - l \cos \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{r_2}{r_1} = \frac{r - l \cos \theta}{r} = 1 - \frac{l}{r} \cos \theta$$

Velocity potential ϕ for a doublet is

$$\phi = \lim_{\substack{\lambda \rightarrow 0 \\ K = \lambda \lambda = \text{const}}} \left[-\frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln \frac{r_2}{r_1} \right] = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \ln \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{r} \cos \theta \right) \right]$$

Use series expansion to simplify

Series expansion for $\ln(1-x)$ is

$$\ln(1-x) = -x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} - \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \lim_{\substack{\lambda \rightarrow 0 \\ K = \lambda \lambda = \text{const}}} \left[-\frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \left(-\frac{\lambda}{r} \cos \theta - \frac{\lambda^2}{2r^2} \cos^2 \theta - \frac{\lambda^3}{3r^3} \cos^3 \theta - \dots \right) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\phi = \frac{K}{2\pi} \frac{\cos \theta}{r}} \quad \text{velocity potential for a Doublet flow}$$

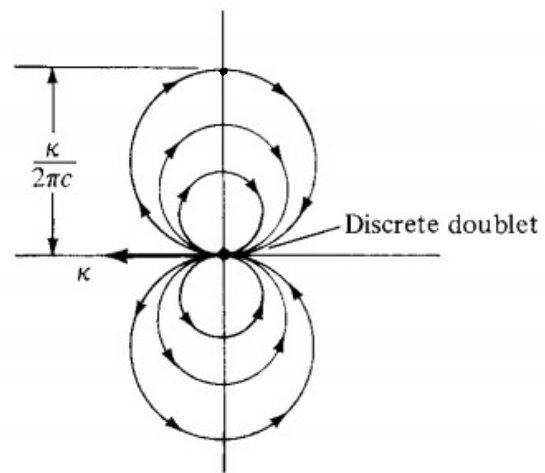
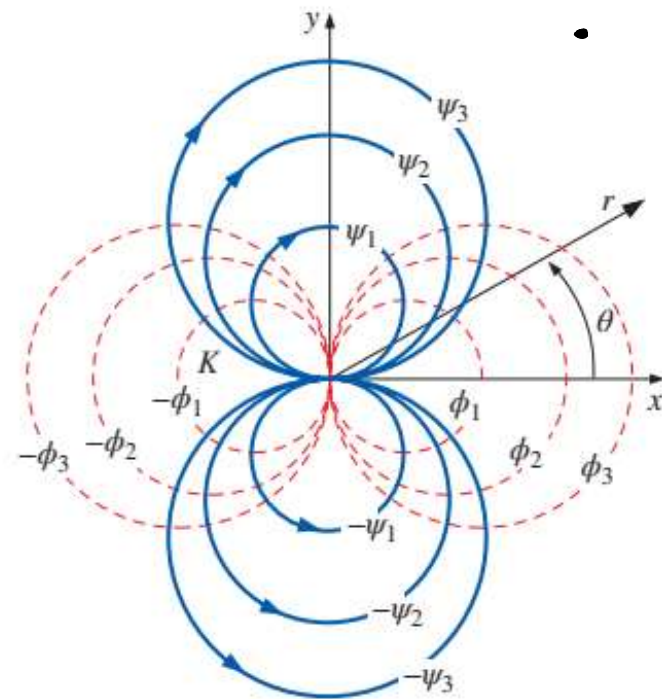


Figure 3.25 Doublet flow with strength κ .



SUMMARY

| Type of flow | Velocity | ϕ | ψ |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Uniform flow in x direction | $u = V_{\infty}$ | $V_{\infty}x$ | $V_{\infty}y$ |
| Source | $V_r = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi r}$ | $\frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \ln r$ | $\frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \theta$ |
| Vortex | $V_{\theta} = -\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r}$ | $-\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \theta$ | $\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \ln r$ |
| Doublet | $V_r = -\frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2}$ | $\frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \frac{\cos \theta}{r}$ | $-\frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \frac{\sin \theta}{r}$ |
| | $V_{\theta} = -\frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \frac{\sin \theta}{r^2}$ | | |