

Fluid Mechanics: Assignment #4

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Acknowledgements -

Problem 1

In ideal 2D flow, $\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0$. This means,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \implies u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \quad \text{and} \quad v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$$

Hence, $\nabla \psi = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \hat{y} = -v \hat{x} + u \hat{y}$. By definition $\vec{u} = \nabla \phi = u \hat{x} + v \hat{y}$. Now we can do the calculations required in the problem,

- $\nabla \psi \cdot \nabla \phi = (-v \hat{x} + u \hat{y}) \cdot (u \hat{x} + v \hat{y}) = -vu + uv = 0$.
- $-\nabla \psi \times \nabla \phi = -(-v \hat{x} + u \hat{y}) \times (u \hat{x} + v \hat{y}) = -(-v^2 - u^2) \hat{z} = |\vec{u}|^2 \hat{z}$
- $|\nabla \psi|^2 = u^2 + v^2 \quad \text{and} \quad |\nabla \phi|^2 = u^2 + v^2 \implies |\nabla \psi|^2 = |\nabla \phi|^2$
- $-\hat{z} \times \nabla \psi = -\hat{z} \times (-v \hat{x} + u \hat{y}) = u \hat{x} + v \hat{y} = \nabla \phi$

Problem 2

- For point source, $\vec{u} = \frac{q_s}{2\pi r} \hat{r}$, where q_s is the source strength. In spherical polar coordinates, $\vec{u} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta}$. This means

$$\phi = \int \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} dr + \int \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} d\theta = \frac{q_s}{2\pi} \ln r + \text{constant}$$

For lines of constant ϕ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{q_s}{2\pi} \ln r &= C \\ \implies \frac{q_s}{2\pi r} \frac{dr}{dx} &= 0 \\ \implies \frac{q_s}{2\pi r^2} \left(2x + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} \right) &= 0 \implies \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y} = m \end{aligned}$$

As velocity is radial, the streamlines are also radial straight lines passing through the origin. The slope of such straight lines is $\frac{y}{x} = -\frac{1}{m}$. Hence the streamlines and lines of constant ψ are perpendicular.

- For point vortex, $\vec{u} = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r} \hat{\theta}$. This means,

$$\phi = \int \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} dr + \int \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} d\theta = \frac{\Gamma \theta}{2\pi r} + \text{constant}$$

For lines of constant ϕ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma \theta}{2\pi r} &= C_1 \\ \Rightarrow r \frac{d\theta}{dx} - \theta \frac{dr}{dx} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \left(x \frac{dy}{dx} - y \right) - \frac{\theta}{r} \left(x + y \frac{dy}{dx} \right) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{y + \theta x}{x - \theta y} \end{aligned}$$

where $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$

Problem 3

Given $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & p \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$. The eigenvalues of A are $\lambda_1 = -1$ and $\lambda_2 = -2$ with corresponding (normalized)

eigenvectors are $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$ and $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} \end{bmatrix}^T$. So, the resultant vector is,

$$\begin{aligned} v &= v_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + v_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} \begin{bmatrix} -p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} e^{-2t} \\ v &= \begin{bmatrix} e^{-t} - \frac{p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-2t} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-2t} \end{bmatrix} \\ |v|^2 &= \left(e^{-t} - \frac{p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-2t} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-2t} \right)^2 \\ &= e^{-2t} + e^{-4t} - \frac{2p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-3t} \\ \frac{d|v|^2}{dt} &= -2e^{-2t} - 4e^{-4t} + \frac{6p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-3t} \end{aligned}$$

For the resultant to grow, $\frac{d|v|^2}{dt} > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow -2e^{-2t} - 4e^{-4t} + \frac{6p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} e^{-3t} &> 0 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} &> \frac{e^t + 2e^{-t}}{3} \end{aligned}$$

The function $\frac{e^t + 2e^{-t}}{3}$ has a minimum value of $\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$. Hence, for the resultant to grow for some finite time,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{p}{\sqrt{1+p^2}} &> \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{p^2}{1+p^2} &> \frac{8}{9} \\ \Rightarrow p^2 &> 8 \\ \Rightarrow p &> 2\sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the resultant will grow for some finite time if $p > 2\sqrt{2}$.

Problem 4