

Applied Maths III Lecture 8

Applications of Conformal Mapping / Complex Analysis in Physics

Two dimensional Fluid Flow

Perhaps one of the simplest applications of complex analysis in physics is study of fluid flow. Let us consider a domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ and a point $(x, y) \in \Omega$



\hookrightarrow We consider the motion of "a sheet of fluid" in xy plane $\vec{V}(\vec{x}) = (u(x, y), v(x, y))$
Velocity Profile as function of \vec{x}

The fluid is said to be "incompressible" if and only if

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{V} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (\text{Volume invariant})$$

Also it is "irrotational" if only if

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (\text{No vorticity})$$

Stoke's Thrm

A fluid is both incompressible and irrotational is an **ideal fluid flow**

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{V} = 0$ & $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V} = 0$ are "almost" Cauchy-Riemann equations

$(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = - \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}) \leadsto$ We can fix this by taking $v \rightarrow -v$ in $f = u + iv$

Implication The velocity vector field $\vec{V} = (u(x, y), v(x, y))$ induces an ideal fluid flow if and only if

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + i(-v(x, y)) = u(x, y) - i v(x, y), \quad z = x + iy$$

\hookrightarrow Initial conditions $t = t_0, x = x_0, y = y_0$

is a **Complex analytic function** of z $f(z)$ is **Complex Velocity**

$$\text{If } \frac{dx}{dt} = u, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = v \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = u + iv = \bar{f}(x, y)$$

ODEs $(x(t), y(t), z = x(t) + iy(t))$

$u(x, y)$ & $v(x, y)$ are harmonic functions

- The curves parametrized by $z(t)$ are called "Streamlines"

- If $f(z(t_0)) = u(x(t_0), y(t_0)) - i v(x(t_0), y(t_0)) = 0$

$$= \frac{dx(t)}{dt} - i \frac{dy(t)}{dt}$$

Explicit Examples to follow

$\leadsto z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$ is a Stagnation point If at some initial t_0 is a stagnation point, it remains so in later time

Some simple Examples

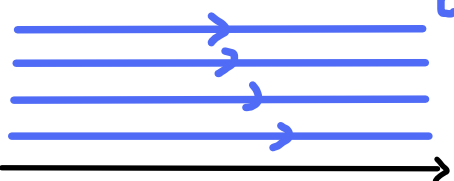
① $f(z) = 1 = x - iy \Rightarrow x = 1, y = 0 \Rightarrow z(t) = t + z_0$
 $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$

$z(t) = (x_0 + t) + iy_0 \Rightarrow$ given (x_0, y_0) can obtain streamlines

Streamlines

ideal Fluid Flow / Fluid "Particle" trajectory

choose y_0 , x grows linearly in time



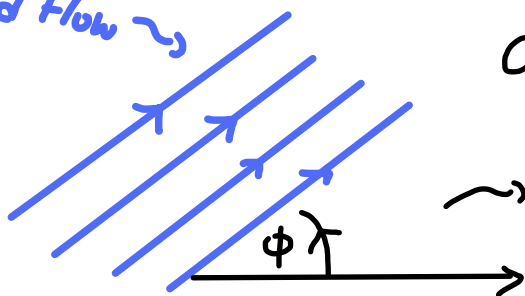
①-A $f(z) = C = a + ib \Rightarrow z = \bar{C} = a - ib \Rightarrow z(t) = (at + x_0) - i(bt + y_0)$
 $\Rightarrow z(t) = \bar{C}t + \bar{z}_0$

Streamlines

Fluid Flow \leadsto

Constant Speed $|C|$

$\leadsto \phi = \text{Arg } \bar{C}$

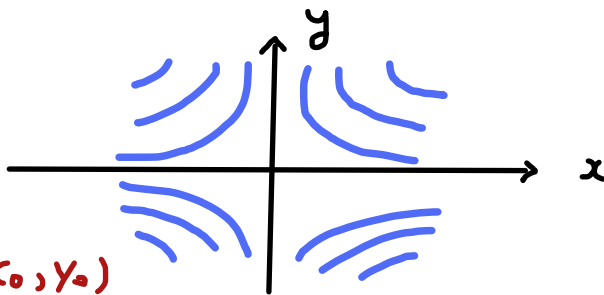


② $f(z) = z = x + iy \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = x, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = -y$

$\Rightarrow x = x_0 e^t, y = y_0 e^{-t} \Rightarrow xy = x_0 y_0 = C \sim \text{hyperbola}$

fixed by $t=0, x=x_0, y=y_0$ even as t varies, the streamline remain the same
 $z(t) = x_0 e^t + iy_0 e^{-t}$

Exact constant C_0 is fixed by the initial position of the fluid particle (x_0, y_0)



stream line rotates $\pi/4$

Ex

If we now "exchange x & y ", i.e. $f(z) = -iz = y - ix$

Now suppose there exists another complex analytic function $\chi(z)$ with

$$\chi(z) = \varphi(x, y) + i\psi(x, y) \text{ satisfying } \frac{d\chi(z)}{dz} = f(z)$$

(Sometimes $\chi(z)$ is referred as "Anti-derivative" of $f(z)$)

$$\text{Using } \frac{d\chi}{dz} = \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y} = u - iv = f(z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{We have } \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial x} = u(x, y) \quad , \quad \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y} = v(x, y)$$

$$\text{or } \vec{\nabla}\varphi = u(x, y)\underline{e}_1 + v(x, y)\underline{e}_2 = \vec{V}$$

\leadsto Real part $\varphi(x, y)$ of $\chi(x, y)$ is "Velocity Potential" for \vec{V}

Since $\varphi(x, y)$ is also harmonic, $\Delta^2\varphi = 0$, we can always

regard a harmonic function as a Velocity Potential for some flow (or flux lines)

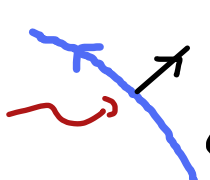
The imaginary part of $\chi(x, y)$, $\psi(x, y)$, is called "Stream Function" and it is related to $\varphi(x, y)$ via

$$\frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y} = u \quad , \quad \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x} = v \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla}\varphi \perp \vec{\nabla}\psi$$

$$\text{or } \vec{\nabla}\varphi \cdot \vec{\nabla}\psi = 0$$

- In x - y plane, the curves $\varphi(x, y) = C$, $C \in \mathbb{R}$ are known as "Equipotential lines". Since $\vec{V} = \vec{\nabla}\varphi$, it is orthogonal to $\varphi(x, y) = C$

Equipotential lines $\leadsto \varphi(x, y) = C$



While the curves $\psi(x,y) = d$ are called "Streamlines" (Definition)

Since $\vec{\nabla}\phi \perp \vec{\nabla}\psi$ and $\vec{\nabla}\psi$ is also orthogonal to $\psi(x,y) = C$,
 $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla}\phi = \vec{V}$ is tangential to $\psi(x,y) = C \leadsto$ "Level curves of ψ are tangential curves of fluid velocity $\vec{V} \leadsto$ streamlines"
 "Hence the name 'Stream function'"

Summary - $\vec{V} = \vec{\nabla}\phi \perp$ to $\phi = c$ and \parallel $\psi = d$

$\vec{\nabla}\psi \perp$ to $\psi = d$ and \parallel $\phi = c$

$\phi = c \sim$ equipotential, $\psi = d \sim$ Streamlines

$\chi(x,y) = \phi(x,y) + i\psi(x,y) \sim$ complex potential function

Examples

① $\chi(z) = cz = |c|e^{i\text{Arg } c}(x+iy) \Rightarrow \frac{d\chi}{dz} = c = f(z)$

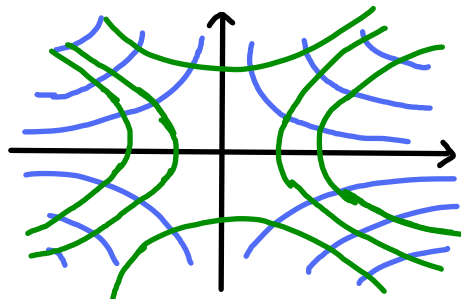
\Rightarrow Equipotential $|c|e^{i\text{Arg } c}x = c'$
 Streamline $|c|e^{i\text{Arg } c}y = d'$ } $c, d' \in \mathbb{R}$ rotated by $-i\text{Arg } c = \text{Arg } \bar{c}$

② $\chi(z) = \frac{1}{2}z^2 = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - y^2) + ixy, \Rightarrow f(z) = z = x + iy$

\Rightarrow Streamline $xy = d' \leadsto$ hyperbola as before

Equipotential $\frac{1}{2}(x^2 - y^2) = c' \leadsto$ orthogonal hyperbola

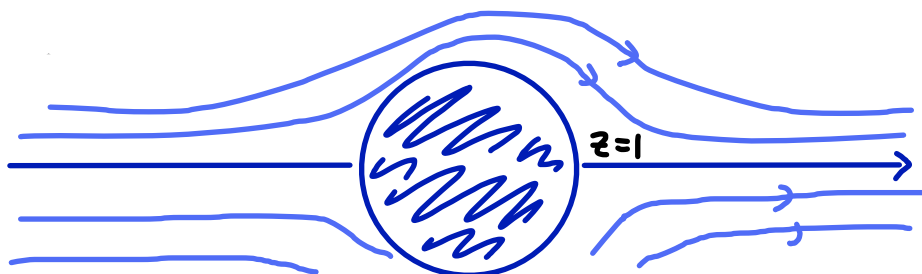
\uparrow
 They form an
 orthogonal
 coordinate
 system



(Can also be metal disk
 in electric field)


③ Flow around disk / cylinder How to determine it?



We have a
 unit solid
 disk at
 origin



\leadsto What is
 the flow
 around the
 disk??

We can try determining it by the following steps

1 By symmetry about the x -axis, we only need to consider the region  $y \geq 0$

2 Recall the "Jukowski Map" $f(z) = z + \frac{1}{z}$, this maps  L^z $w = f(z) = z + \frac{1}{z}$  L^w \sim Into upper-half plane

3 But we know the complex potential for ideal flow in w -plane it is $\chi(w) = A w$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^+$ \sim Harmonic function in w

\Rightarrow The complex potential for flow in z -plane is simply

$$\chi(z) = A \left(z + \frac{1}{z} \right) = A \left(x + \frac{x}{r^2} \right) + i \left(y - \frac{y}{r^2} \right)$$

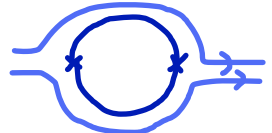
$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \sim$ can extend to entire z plane by varying (x_0, y_0)

$$\frac{d\chi(z)}{dz} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{z^2} \right) = f(z) = 1 - \frac{(x^2 - y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} + i \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

(Setting $A=1$)

Equipotential lines $x + \frac{x}{r^2} = \left(r + \frac{1}{r} \right) \cos \phi = c' \quad (z = r e^{i\phi})$

Stream-lines $y - \frac{y}{r^2} = \left(r - \frac{1}{r} \right) \sin \phi = d'$

Stagnation Pts $f(z) = 0 \Rightarrow z = \pm 1 \sim$ Flow Stops 

In the asymptotic limit, $r \rightarrow \infty$, Streamlines $\rightarrow y = d'$
Equipotential $\rightarrow x = c'$

A particular Stream line is $\psi(x, y) = 0 = y \left(1 - \frac{1}{r^2} \right) \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 1$

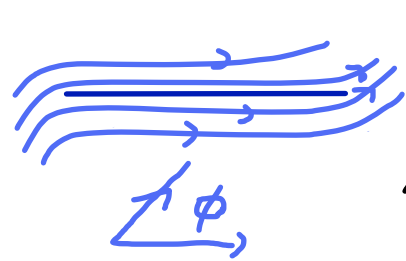
\nearrow along unit disk

along this, the flow velocity $\vec{\nabla} \phi$ remains tangential

\sim No fluid flux going through boundary Only streamline/stagnation pts at boundary

- From the previous lecture we also learnt how to relate circular disk to finite segment (thin plate) and airfoils
 \leadsto Conformal mapping $f(z) = z + \frac{A^2}{z} + \text{shifts}$ can help us

Tilted flow



Now if we have the asymptotic flow tilted at angle ϕ with horizontal axis

The horizontal plate can be described by

$$Z(t) = t, \quad -1 < t < 1$$

Useful
Information

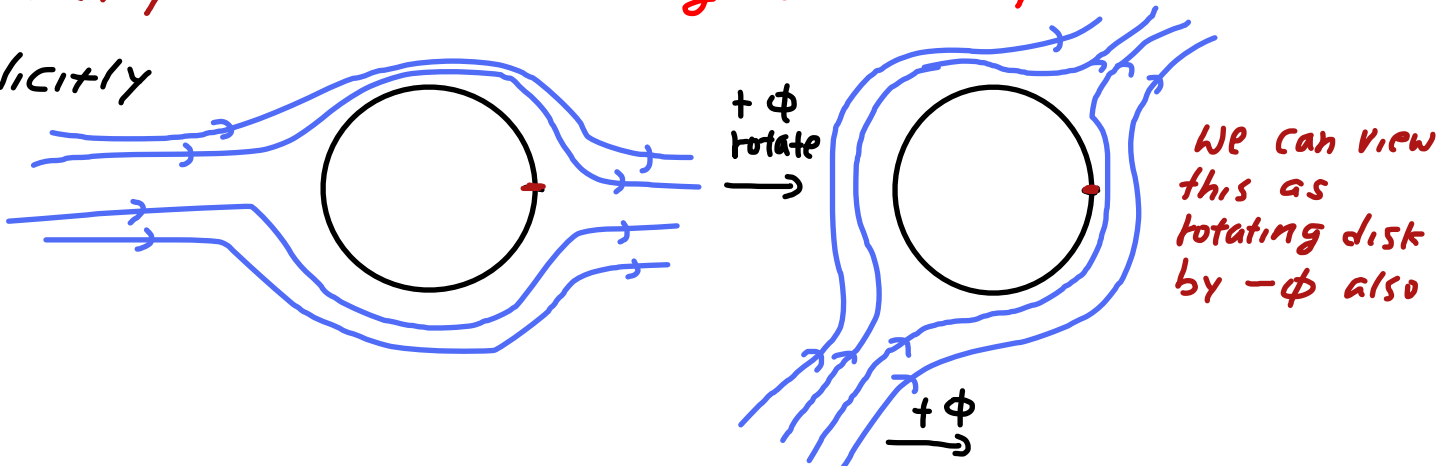
1) Flow through uniform horizontal plate

2) Flow around a uniform circular disk

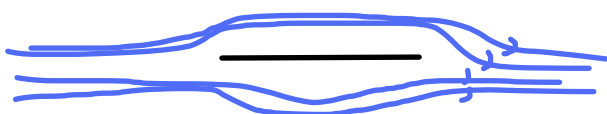
Both in horizontal flow, along x -axis

Now take 2), and if we now "rotate" the asymptotic flow the "Pattern" around the circular disk does not change by symmetry (This is like rotating coordinate system)

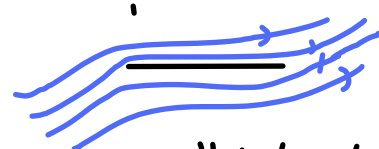
Explicitly



Jukowski \downarrow



horizontal Flow



"tilted flow"

Our problem

Kinda inverse of previous case

Turning the diagrams into equations

- First we take a circular disk in horizontal flow in S -plane, the complex potential is

$$\Phi(S) = \left(S + \frac{1}{S}\right) \frac{1}{2} \quad S \in \mathbb{C}$$

→ We rotate the flow by $+\phi$ (or disk by $-\phi$), this corresponds to $S \rightarrow e^{-i\phi} S$, this gives the complex potential

~ Rotated coordinates

$$\Phi(e^{-i\phi} S) = \frac{1}{2} (e^{-i\phi} S + \frac{e^{i\phi}}{S}) \sim \text{rotated complex potential}$$

→ Now we want to map the disk into thin plate

"inverse Jukowski map" for outside unit disk (Since the Jukowski maps disk to plate)

$$S = z + \sqrt{z^2 - 1}, \quad \frac{1}{S} = z - \sqrt{z^2 - 1}$$

⇒ The required complex potential is

~ Map to a horizontal plate then tilted

$$\Phi(e^{-i\phi} S(z)) = \frac{1}{2} [e^{-i\phi} S(z) + e^{i\phi} / S(z)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ z(e^{-i\phi} + e^{i\phi}) + (e^{-i\phi} - e^{i\phi}) \sqrt{z^2 - 1} \right\}$$

$$= \cos\phi z - i \sin\phi \sqrt{z^2 - 1}$$



Airfoil

We also encountered that by mapping off-centered disk to an airfoil via Jukowski Map, we therefore use our previous analysis to study the ideal flow around such airfoil

First we can act on unit disk with an affine map

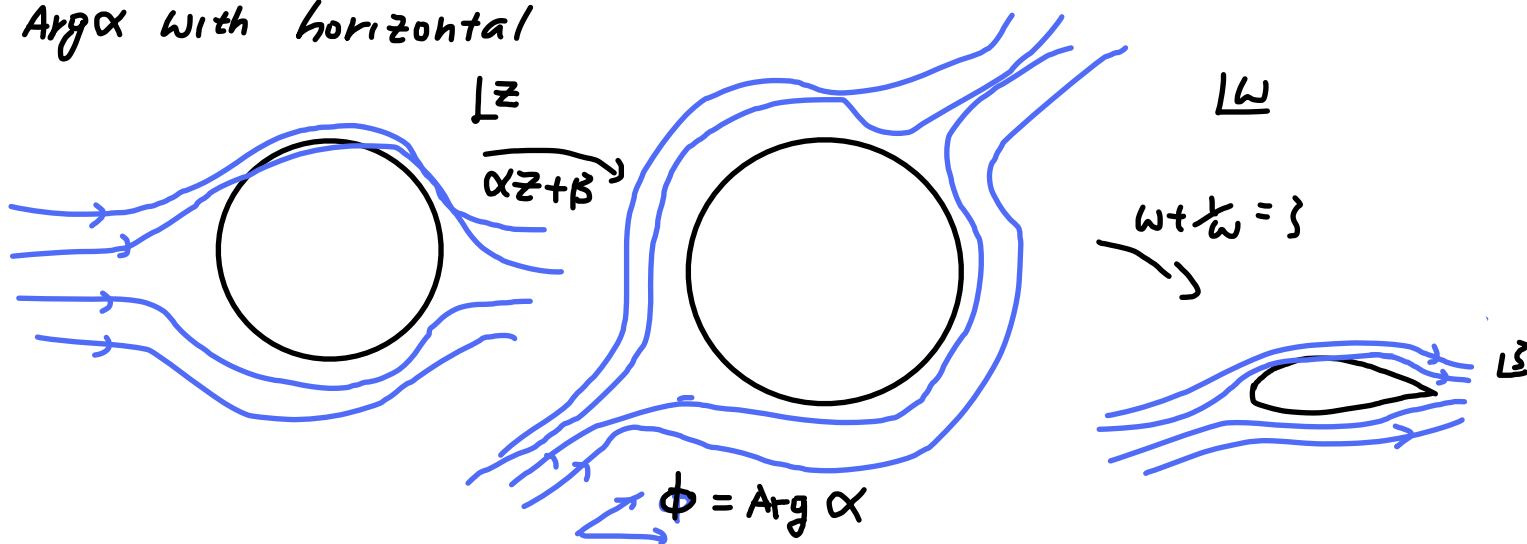
$$w = \alpha z + \beta \Rightarrow \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$$

The effect of this is to move and scale the unit disk to

$$|z| \leq 1 \rightarrow |w(z) - \beta| \leq |\alpha|$$

i.e. a disk in w -plane with center at β and radius α , this disk still goes through $w=1$ if $|1-\beta| = |\alpha|$

- Furthermore, since under such map the coordinates are **rotated** by $\text{Arg } \alpha$, **the flow around new disk** also makes an angle $\text{Arg } \alpha$ with horizontal



Now if we apply Joukowski transformation on new disk, we get

$$\zeta = \frac{1}{2} \left(w + \frac{1}{w} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\alpha z + \beta + \frac{1}{\alpha z + \beta} \right) \leadsto \text{Mapping disk into air foil}$$

To obtain the complex potentials, we again construct inverse map

$$w = \zeta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} \Rightarrow z = \frac{w - \beta}{\alpha} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left(\zeta - \beta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} \right) = z(\zeta)$$

The desired complex potential

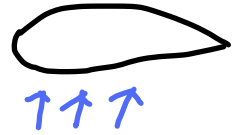
$$\Phi(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2} \left(z(\zeta) + \frac{1}{z(\zeta)} \right) = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left(\zeta - \beta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} + \frac{\alpha^2 (\zeta - \beta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1})}{\beta^2 + 1 - 2\beta\zeta} \right)$$

- We can further multiply the answer by $e^{i\phi}$, so now the flow is horizontal and the airfoil is **tilted** by ϕ

- This is all very nice, **Except Your Airplane WILL NOT FLY!**

Since the airfoil does not experience any **Lift!**

To really get lift, we need to have non-trivial **"circulation"**

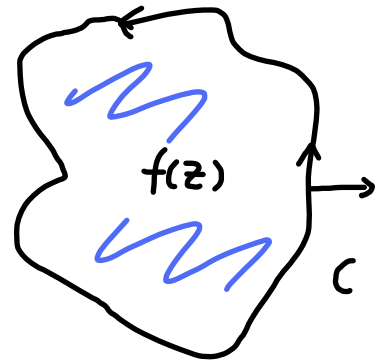


Let us get back to our complex velocity

$$f(x,y) = u(x,y) - i v(x,y)$$

If we now integrate this along a closed contour

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C f(z) dz &= \oint_C (u - i v)(dx + i dy) \\ &= \underbrace{\oint_C (u dx + v dy)}_{\text{"Circulation"}} - i \underbrace{\oint_C (v dx - u dy)}_{\text{"Flux"}} \end{aligned}$$



Clearly if $f(z)$ is **analytic everywhere inside** $f(z)$

$$\Rightarrow \oint_C f(z) dz = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \text{No Circulation / Flux}$$

$f(z)$ has complex Potential $\chi(z)$ such that $\frac{d\chi(z)}{dz} = f(z)$
(definition)

$$\int_{C_{\alpha\beta}} dz f(z) = \int_{C_{\alpha\beta}} dz \frac{d\chi(z)}{dz} = \chi(\beta) - \chi(\alpha) \quad (C_{\alpha\beta} \sim \text{Curve connecting } \alpha \text{ \& \; } \beta)$$

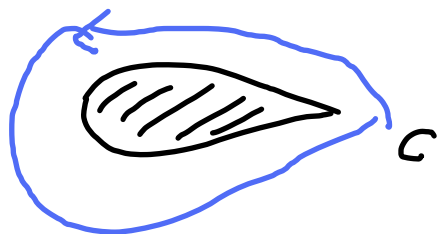
Now if $\chi = \phi + i\psi$ as before

$$\text{we have} \quad \int_{C_{\alpha\beta}} \vec{\nabla} \phi d\vec{x} = \phi(\beta) - \phi(\alpha), \quad \int_{C_{\alpha\beta}} \vec{\nabla} \psi d\vec{x} = \psi(\beta) - \psi(\alpha)$$

"Physics" tells us that to have non-trivial "Lift", we need non-vanishing Circulation around the airfoil

1. P

$$\oint_C \vec{\nabla} \phi \cdot d\vec{x} \neq 0$$



A simplest possibility
 $\chi(x,y) \sim$ Multi-Valued
 while velocity $f(x,y)$
 Single valued away from
 possible singularities

\leadsto Natural choice introducing

Multi-valued

$\leadsto \log z$ into $\chi(z)$, $\frac{d \log z}{dz} = \frac{1}{z}$
 (single valued)

(or more generally $\log(az+b)$ say)

Let us consider an example

We have a flow around circular disk + non-vanishing Circulation, the complex potential can be given by

$$\chi_r(z) = \frac{1}{2}(z + \frac{1}{z}) + i\gamma \log z$$

$$\frac{d\chi_r(z)}{dz} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \frac{1}{z^2}) + \frac{i\gamma}{z} = f(z) \Rightarrow \oint_C f(z) dz = -2\pi\gamma$$

Cauchy's Thm

non-vanishing circulation (zero flux)

In fact from fluid mechanic, one can define "Complex force"

$$F_x - iF_y = +i\rho \oint_C \left(\frac{d\chi(z)}{dz} \right)^2 dz \quad (\text{cf } \vec{F} = -\oint_C p \vec{n} ds)$$

$\rho \sim$ air density

$p \sim$ pressure

Bernoulli Thm $\leadsto p = p_0 - \frac{1}{2}\rho |f|^2$

(\Rightarrow can show in this case F_y is +ve if $\gamma < 0$)

We can then solve other airfoils via Jukowski!