

AM 275 - Magnetohydrodynamics: Lecture Notes

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Lecture 2: Hydrodynamics Review

What is a fluid?

- Its flows!
- it deforms continuously

Categorization of fluids:

- Compressible v. incompressible
- viscous v. inviscid
- + many more

Eularian

Rate of change at a given point, no bother for where the fluid goes.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\cdot)$$

Lagrangian

Follows the particle, introduces the advection term

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla(\cdot)$$

Mass Conservation

In order to conserve mass we consider an arbitrary eularian volume (i.e. the volume doesn't move with the flow). We then find the total mass which is equal to the integral of the density over the volume, and then consider the flux of mass through the boundary (change in mass over time). Using the divergence theorem, we then have a conservation equation for mass.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_D \rho dV &= \int_{\partial D} \rho \mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta} dA \\ \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \rho + \rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0 \\ \frac{D\rho}{Dt} &= -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$

More importantly, if we consider an incompressible fluid, i.e. $\rho = \rho_0$, we have very specifically,

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \tag{1}$$

Stresses

Stresses can be divided into two categories, body forces and surface forces. Body forces are forces such as gravity and the electric force, which surface forces are forces such as normal force and friction.

Newton's Second Law

Newton's second law

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = \sum_i F_i$$

where p here is the momentum of a fluid parcel. In actuality, the momentum can be written as $p = \int_D \rho \mathbf{u} dV$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{D}{Dt} \int_D \rho \mathbf{u} dV &= \int_D \rho \mathbf{g} dV + (\text{other body forces}) + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \\ \rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} &= \rho \mathbf{F} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \end{aligned}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is the stress tensor acting on the fluid parcel. Surface forces are then introduced into this stress tensor. First and foremost, surface pressure is introduced along the stress tensor.

$$\tau_{ij} = -p\delta_{ij} + \sigma_{ij}$$

where σ_{ij} is the deviatoric stress tensor and is responsible for the off-diagonal components of the stress tensor. Some components are the velocity gradient tensors, $\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j}$ and $\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i}$. Each of these has a symmetric component and an antisymmetric component.

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

The first term is labeled symmetric and denoted e_{ij} while the second component is the rotation component.

Lecture 3: Continuing Review of the Kinematic Equations

3.1 Obtaining the Navier-Stokes equation

Decomposition of the deviatoric stress tensor reveals a 4th order tensor with 81 components.

$$\sigma_{ij} = A_{ijkl} e_{kl}$$

In order to reduce the complexity of the system, we make some assumptions about the tensor A_{ijkl} . First, we state that this tensor must be isotropic, i.e. that it doesn't care about the direction of the stress with respect to the coordinate system it is in. We have,

$$A_{ijkl} = \mu \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \mu' \delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} + \mu'' \delta_{il} \delta_{jk}$$

Next, we assume that this tensor must be symmetric. This reduces the complexity down to two coefficients, μ , the viscosity, and μ' which is the bulk viscosity.

In order to obtain the Navier-Stokes equation, we require the Stokes assumption which postulates that the diagonal components of the deviatoric stress tensor are zero, i.e. $\sigma_{ii} = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{ij} &= 2\mu \left(e_{ij} - \frac{1}{3} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \delta_{ij} \right) \\ \tau_{ij} &= -p\delta_{ij} + 2\mu \left(e_{ij} - \frac{1}{3} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \delta_{ij} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, when we take the divergence of this stress tensor we obtain the Navier-Stokes equation:

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \rho \mathbf{F} - \nabla p + \mu \left[\nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{1}{3} \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \right]$$

Of course, when working in an incompressible framework (i.e. $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$), we have that part of the diffusive term disappears from the equation, resulting in the commonly used equation:

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \mathbf{F} - \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} \quad (2)$$

Additional terms are included in this equation as necessary to model relevant physics of various fluid systems. For example, if in a rotating frame we include the coriolis force $2\Omega(\mathbf{e}_\Omega \times \mathbf{u})$, if some component of the fluid is stratified we need some buoyancy forcing $T/N^2 \mathbf{e}_z$. And most relevant, there might be magnetic forces which affect the fluid, in which case we obtain the MHD equations.

3.2 Vorticity equation

Vorticity is a quantity related to the fluid field which can be very important to the scientific study of fluid dynamics. The vorticity is obtained by taking the curl of the velocity field.

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \nabla \times \mathbf{u}$$

The vorticity has an evolution-advection equation just as the velocity field does, and in fact the vorticity equation is obtained by taking the curl of the Navier-Stokes equations.

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla \times (2) \\ \frac{D\boldsymbol{\omega}}{Dt} &= (\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \boldsymbol{\omega} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \nabla \times \mathbf{F} - \frac{1}{\rho^2} \nabla \rho \times \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \boldsymbol{\omega} \end{aligned}$$

If the flow is incompressible, one of the vortex stretching terms disappears. Generally, the first two right hand terms are vortex stretching/tilting/speed-up terms. Then the pressure and density gradient cross product is the baroclinicity term, the curl of \mathbf{F} is the forcing of vorticity, and finally, we have a viscous diffusion of vorticity which behaves similarly to the diffusion of velocity.

Baroclinicity is perhaps the most unintuitive term in this equation, and it simply represents the creation of rotation in the fluid when there is a disalignment between the pressure and density gradients in the fluid. Some fluid dynamicists prefer to study the vorticity equation, especially for rotating flows where vortices and cyclones are common phenomenon in the flow field.

3.3 Rotation

In the presence of rotation, the coriolis force becomes relevant as the motion of a fluid particle is deflected due to the rotation of the coordinate frame. That is, our equations are modified such that,

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial t_F} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial t_R} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{q} - \boldsymbol{\Omega}^2 \mathbf{R}$$

This also introduces an additional term to the vorticity equation which looks like, $+(2\boldsymbol{\Omega} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}$.