

Problem #2

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W #2

The vorticity comes from taking the curl of the MHD fluid momentum equation.

$$\text{MHD mom: } \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} + (\bar{u} \cdot \nabla) \bar{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \bar{u} + \frac{1}{\rho} (\bar{J} \times \bar{B})$$

This is essentially the Navier-Stokes equation with an extra term for the Lorentz force caused by the induced electric current.
 Lorentz body force from

Taking the curl:

$$\nabla \times \text{NS} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\nabla \times \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t}}_{(1)} + \underbrace{\nabla \times [(\bar{u} \cdot \nabla) \bar{u}]}_{(2)} = \underbrace{\nabla \times [-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p]}_{(3)} + \underbrace{\nabla \times [\nu \nabla^2 \bar{u}]}_{(4)} + \underbrace{\nabla \times [\frac{1}{\rho} (\bar{J} \times \bar{B})]}_{(5)}$$

(1) $= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \bar{u})$, which, using the definition $\bar{\omega} \equiv \nabla \times \bar{u}$ gives $\frac{\partial \bar{\omega}}{\partial t}$ ✓

(2) $(\bar{u} \cdot \nabla) \bar{u} = \nabla (\frac{1}{2} \bar{u} \cdot \bar{u}) - \bar{u} \times (\nabla \times \bar{u}) = \nabla (\frac{1}{2} \bar{u}^2) - \bar{u} \times \bar{\omega}$

Taking curl $\Rightarrow \nabla \times [\nabla (\frac{1}{2} \bar{u}^2)] - \nabla \times (\bar{u} \times \bar{\omega})$
 $\nabla \times (\text{grad of scalar}) = 0$
 $= -\nabla \times (\bar{u} \times \bar{\omega})$

= 0 for uniform density, but ok

(3) $\nabla \times (-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p) = -\frac{1}{\rho} (\nabla \times \nabla p) + \nabla (\frac{1}{\rho}) \times \nabla p = \frac{\nabla \rho \times \nabla p}{\rho^2}$
 $\text{curl (grad)} = 0$

Simplifications can be made in general. And assuming low Rem, which was mostly emphasized in class, it can be shown that $\text{curl}(\bar{J} \times \bar{B}) = 0$. Therefore the Lorentz force has no impact on the vorticity of this 2D flow.

~~Assume $\nu = \text{const}$~~ $\rightarrow \nu [\nabla \times \nabla^2 \bar{u}]$

can put this in terms of vorticity

~~$\nabla \times \frac{1}{\rho} (\bar{J} \times \bar{B})$~~

\Rightarrow full vorticity eq:

$$\therefore \frac{\partial \bar{\omega}}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\nabla \times (\bar{u} \times \bar{\omega})}_{\text{ok}} + \underbrace{\frac{\nabla \rho \times \nabla p}{\rho^2}}_{\text{ok}} + \cancel{\nu (\nabla \times \nabla^2 \bar{u})} + \cancel{\nabla \times (\frac{\bar{J} \times \bar{B}}{\rho})}$$

MHD effects: Vortices will form and diffuse throughout the domain. Ignoring viscosity, assuming incompressible, and treating steady state gives:

$$\nabla \times (\bar{u} \times \bar{\omega}) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \times (\bar{J} \times \bar{B}) \rightarrow \bar{u} \times \bar{\omega} = -\frac{\bar{J} \times \bar{B}}{\rho}$$

\rightarrow Lorentz body force causes "swirling".

Lorentz force