Homework #2

Sam Fleischer

April 15, 2016

Problem 1

Compute the swimming speed of an undulating sheet moving at zero Reynolds number between two walls on which the velocity is zero (in lab frame) located at $y = \pm L$ in the limit of low amplitude. In the reference frame moving with the swimming, the shape of the swimmer is $y = A\sin(kx - \omega t)$.

Stokes Equations are

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\underline{u} - \nabla p &= 0\\ \nabla\cdot y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Assume the height of the undulating sheet is given by $y = y(x,t)$

$$y(x,t) = A\sin(kx - \omega t)$$

Since the reference frame moves with the swimmer, the x component of the velocity vector is 0 at any given point, and the y component of the velocity vector is $y_t(x,t)$, so the velocity vector v is

$$v(x, y(x,t)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\omega A\cos(kx - \omega t)\end{bmatrix}$$

Since we assume the flow is two-dimensional and incompressible, then there is a stream function ψ such that

$$\underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_y \\ -\psi_x\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\omega A\cos(kx - \omega t)\end{bmatrix}$$

The two-dimensional Laplacian $\Delta = \left(\partial_{xx} + \partial_{yy}\right)$ can then be applied:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left(\partial_{xx} + \partial_{yy}\right)\begin{bmatrix} \psi_y \\ -\psi_x\end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0\end{bmatrix}\\
\implies &\begin{bmatrix} \psi_{yxx} + \psi_{yyy} \\ -\psi_{xxx} - \psi_{xyy}\end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0\end{bmatrix}\\
\implies &\begin{cases}\psi_{yxxy} + \psi_{yyyy} - p_{xy} &= 0\\ \psi_{xxxx} + \psi_{xyyx} + p_{yx} &= 0\end{cases}\\
\implies &\psi_{xxxx} + 2\psi_{xxyy} + \psi_{yyyy} = 0\\
\implies &\Delta^2\psi = \left(\partial_{xx} + \partial_{yy}\right)^2\psi = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Next we express ψ_x and ψ_y as Taylor Series', taken as $A \to 0$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega A\cos(kx - \omega t) &= \psi_x(x, A\sin(kx - \omega t))\\
&= \psi_x(x,0) + A\sin(kx - \omega t)\psi_{xy}(x,0) + \frac{A^2\sin^2(kx - \omega t)}{2}\psi_{xyy}(x,0) + O(A^3)\\
0 &= \psi_y(x, A\sin(kx - \omega t))\\
&= \psi_y(x,0) + A\sin(kx - \omega t)\psi_{yy}(x,0) + \frac{A^2\sin^2(kx - \omega t)}{2}\psi_{yyy}(x,0) + O(A^3)
\end{aligned}$$

Next we assume ψ can be expanded in the asymptotic basis $\{1, A, A^2, \dots\}$:

$$\psi(x,y) = \psi_0(x,y) + A\psi_1(x,y) + A^2\psi_2(x,y) + A^3\psi_3(x,y) + O(A^4)$$

Assuming the swimmer is moving at a constant speed S, we can express S in the asymptotic basis $\{1, A, A^2, \dots\}$:

$$S = s_0 + As_1 + A^2 s_2 + \dots$$

and this is the constant speed at which the walls move through the moving reference frame. Thus the other boundary conditions of the PDE given above are

$$\psi_x(x, \pm L) = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \psi_y(x, \pm L) = S$$

Thus the differential equation we are trying to solve, along with boundary conditions, is

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^2\psi &=& 0 \\ \psi_x(x, A\sin(kx-\omega t)) &=& \omega A\cos(kx-\omega t) \\ \psi_y(x, A\sin(kx-\omega t)) &=& 0 \\ \psi_x(x, \pm L) &=& 0 \\ \psi_y(x, \pm L) &=& S \end{cases}$$

Next we utilize the asymptotic expansion of ψ (using the basis $\{1, A, A^2, \dots\}$) to solve for its first few components. First, the $O(1)$ components:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^2\psi_0 &=& 0 \\ \psi_{0_x}(x,0) &=& 0 \\ \psi_{0_y}(x,0) &=& 0 \\ \psi_{0_x}(x,\pm L) &=& 0 \\ \psi_{0_y}(x,\pm L) &=& s_0 \end{cases}$$

This implies $\psi_1 \equiv 0$. Next, the $O(A)$ components:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^2\psi_1 &=& 0 \\ \psi_{1_x}(x,0) &=& \omega\cos(kx-\omega t) \\ \psi_{1_y}(x,0) &=& 0 \\ \psi_{1_x}(x,\pm L) &=& 0 \\ \psi_{1_y}(x,\pm L) &=& s_1 \end{cases}$$

To solve this, assume the solution has the Fourier form

$$\psi_1(x,y) = \sum_{\substack{n\in\mathbb{N} \\ n\neq 0}} \Big(\big(A_1 + B_1 y\big)\sinh\big(nky\big) + \big(C_1 + D_1 y\big)\cosh\big(nky\big)\Big)\sin(kx-\omega t) + E_1 + F_1 y + G_1 y^2 + H_1 y^3$$

Because the flow must be bounded, $G_1 = H_1 = 0$. Since all of the boundary conditions are derivatives, we can disregard the constant term E_1, i.e. without loss of generality, we can assume $E_1 = 0$. Also, since the only nonzero Fourier mode in the x-derivative has $n = 1$, then

$$\psi_1(x,y) = \Big(\big(A_1 + B_1 y\big)\sinh\big(ky\big) + \big(C_1 + D_1 y\big)\cosh\big(ky\big)\Big)\sin(kx-\omega t) + F_1 y$$

Now we consider the boundary conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{1_x}(x,y) &= k\Big(\big(A_1 + B_1 y\big)\sinh\big(ky\big) + \big(C_1 + D_1 y\big)\cosh\big(ky\big)\Big)\cos(kx-\omega t) \\ \implies \omega\cos(kx-\omega t) = \psi_{1_x}(x,0) &= kC_1\cos(kx-\omega t) \\ \implies C_1 &= \frac{\omega}{k} \\ \implies \psi_1(x,y) &= \left(\big(A_1 + B_1 y\big)\sinh\big(ky\big) + \left(\frac{\omega}{k} + D_1 y\right)\cosh\big(ky\big)\right)\sin(kx-\omega t) + F_1 y \end{aligned}$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{1_y}(x,y) &= \Big(\big(D_1 + k(A_1 + B_1 y)\big)\cosh\big(ky\big) + \big(B_1 + \omega + kD_1 y\big)\sinh\big(ky\big)\Big)\sin(kx-\omega t) + F_1 \\ \implies 0 = \psi_{1_y}(x,0) &= (D_1 + kA_1)\sin(kx-\omega t) + F_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies F_1 = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad D_1 + kA_1 = 0$$
$$\implies \psi_1(x,y) = \Big(\big(A_1 + B_1 y\big)\sinh\big(ky\big) + \Big(\frac{\omega}{k} - kA_1 y\Big)\cosh\big(ky\big)\Big)\sin(kx - \omega t)$$

Using Maple, we can use the two boundary conditions $\psi_{1_x}(x, \pm L) = 0$ to solve for A_1 and B_1:

$$A_1 = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad B_1 = -\frac{\omega\cosh(kL)}{kL\sinh(kL)}$$
$$\implies \psi_1(x,y) = \Big(-\frac{\omega\cosh(kL)}{kL\sinh(kL)} y\sinh\big(ky\big) + \frac{\omega}{k}\cosh\big(ky\big)\Big)\sin(kx - \omega t)$$

We can then use the boundary conditions $\psi_{1_y}(x, \pm L) = s_1$ to solve for s_1:

$$\psi_{1_y}(x,y) = \Big(-\frac{\omega\cosh(kL)}{kL\sinh(kL)}\omega - \frac{\cosh(kL)}{L\sinh(kL)}\omega y\cosh\big(ky\big) + \omega\sinh\big(ky\big)\Big)\sin(kx - \omega t)$$
$$\implies s_1 = \psi_{1_y}(x, L) = -\frac{\omega(kL + \cosh(kL)\sinh(kL))\sin(kx - \omega t)}{kL\sinh(kL)}$$
$$\text{and } s_1 = \psi_{1_y}(x, -L) = \frac{\omega(kL + \cosh(kL)\sinh(kL))\sin(kx - \omega t)}{kL\sinh(kL)} = -s_1$$

Thus $s_1 = 0$. However, since $kL > 0$ and $\omega > 0$, this is an apparent contradiction.

Problem 2

Suppose the position of a mass on a damped linear spring obeys the following equation

$$m\ddot{x} + b\dot{x} + kx = 0,$$

where m, b, and k are constants representing the mass, damping coefficient, and spring constant, respectively.

(a) Each term in the above equation has dimensions of force. Identify the dimensions of b and k in terms of mass, length, and time.

(b) Identify the three time scales in the problem and discuss their physical meaning.

(c) Present two different nondimensionalizations: one appropriate for the limit of vanishing friction and the other appropriate for the limit of vanishing mass. Identify the small nondimensional parameter in each case.

(a) Since the dimensions of force are $\dfrac{\text{mass}\cdot\text{length}}{\text{time}^2}$, the dimensions of x are length, and the dimensions of $\dot{x}$ are $\dfrac{\text{length}}{\text{time}}$, then the dimensions of b are $\dfrac{\text{mass}}{\text{time}}$ and the dimensions of k are $\dfrac{\text{mass}}{\text{time}^2}$.

(b) Let $L(T) = \dfrac{x(t)}{X}$ and $T = \dfrac{t}{\tau}$. Then

$$\dot{L} = \frac{\mathrm{d}L}{\mathrm{d}T} = \frac{\mathrm{d}L}{\mathrm{d}x}\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t}\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}T} = \frac{\tau}{X}\dot{x} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \ddot{L} = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}T}\dot{L} = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}T}\Big[\frac{\tau}{X}\dot{x}\Big] = \frac{\tau}{X}\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}T}\dot{x} = \frac{\tau}{X}\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}T}\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\dot{x} = \frac{\tau^2}{X}\ddot{x}$$

Thus,

$$m\ddot{L} + b\tau\dot{L} + k\tau^2 L = 0.$$

There are three timescales:

(i) Let $\tau = \frac{m}{b}$. Then

$$\ddot{L} + \dot{L} + \varepsilon L = 0$$

where $\varepsilon = \frac{km}{b^2}$.

(ii) Let $\tau = \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$. Then

$$\ddot{L} + \varepsilon \dot{L} + L = 0$$

where $\varepsilon = \frac{b}{\sqrt{km}}$.

(iii) Let $\tau = \frac{b}{k}$. Then

$$\varepsilon \ddot{L} + \dot{L} + L = 0$$

where $\varepsilon = \frac{km}{b^2}$.

(c) The nondimensionalization appropriate for the limit of vanishing friction is the second of the three given above:

$$\ddot{L} + \varepsilon \dot{L} + L = 0$$

where $\varepsilon = \frac{b}{\sqrt{km}}$.

The nondimensionalization appropriate for the limit of vanishing mass is the third of the three given above:

$$\varepsilon \ddot{L} + \dot{L} + L = 0$$

where $\varepsilon = \frac{km}{b^2}$.