

Double layer formulation for solid particles in Stokes flow

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Consider the Stokes flow with a single solid particle suspended in the fluid. Let p denote the particle, Γ the boundary of the particle, F_p and T_p the net force and torque exerted on the particle, and c_p the center of mass of the particle. For a force and torque free particle we have

$$-\mu\Delta u + \nabla p = 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus p, \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot u = 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus p, \quad (2)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u = u^\infty, \quad (3)$$

$$F_p = 0, \quad (4)$$

$$T_p = 0. \quad (5)$$

Following the formulation of Power [1] one can write $u(x) = u^\infty + \mathcal{D}[\eta](x)$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus P$. Taking the limit to the surface of the particle we have

$$U_p + (x - c_p)\omega_p = u^\infty - \frac{1}{2}\eta + \mathcal{D}[\eta](x) \quad \text{for } x \in \Gamma, \quad (6a)$$

$$\int_{\Gamma} \eta \, ds(y) = 0 \quad \text{(force free constraint),} \quad (6b)$$

$$\int_{\Gamma} (y - c_p)^\perp \cdot \eta \, ds(y) = 0 \quad \text{(torque free constraint),} \quad (6c)$$

where U_p is the particle velocity, Ω_p is the particle angular velocity, \mathcal{D} is the double layer operator and η is a density. Eq. Set (6) is a complete system for η , U_p and ω_p .

The difference of Eq. Set (6) with that of fixed boundaries is the absence of Stokeslet and Rotlet terms because of zero force and torque. The discrete mobility matrix is

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc|cc} -D + \frac{1}{2}I & & 1 & 0 & y_1 - c_1 & \\ & & 0 & 1 & y_2 - c_2 & \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ \hline y_2 - c_2 & -(y_1 - c_1) & 0 & 0 & 0 & \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \eta \\ U_p \\ \omega_p \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} u^\infty \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{array} \right], \quad (7)$$

which can be inverted and stored. One only need to track the center of mass and an orientation vector o_p (rotated by ω_p). It is easy to extend this to a suspension of multiple particles.

References

- [1] H Power. The completed double layer boundary integral equation method for two-dimensional Stokes flow. *IMA Journal of Applied Mathematics*, 1993. URL <http://imamat.oxfordjournals.org/content/51/2/123.short>.