

1. This problem will study flow past a slender axisymmetric body whose surface is given (in cylindrical polar coordinates), by $r = R(z), 0 \leq z \leq L$. Here $R(z)$ is continuous, and positive except at $0, L$ where it vanishes. By “slender” we mean that $\max_{0 \leq x \leq L} R \ll L$. The body is placed in the uniform flow $(u_z, u_r, u_\theta) = (U, 0, 0)$. We are interested in the steady, axisymmetric potential flow past the body. It can be shown that such a body perturbs the free stream by only a small amount, so that in particular, $u_z \approx U$ everywhere. On the other hand the flow must be tangent at the body, which implies $\phi_r(z, R(z)) \approx U dR/dz, 0 < z < L$.

We look for a representation of ϕ as a distribution of sources with strength $f(z)$. Thus

$$\phi(z, r) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^L \frac{f(\zeta)}{\sqrt{(z - \zeta)^2 + r^2}} d\zeta.$$

(a) Compute $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}$, and investigate the resulting integral as $r \rightarrow 0, 0 < z < L$. Argue that the dominant contribution comes near $\zeta = z$, and hence show that $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{f(z)}{r} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (1 + s^2)^{-3/2} ds$ for $r \ll L$.

(b) From the above tangency condition, deduce that $f(z) \approx dA/dz$ where $A(z) = \pi R^2$ is the cross-sectional area of the body.

(c) By expanding the above expression for ϕ for large z, r , show that in the neighborhood of infinity

$$\phi \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{z}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}} \int_0^L A(\zeta) d\zeta, z^2 + r^2 \rightarrow \infty.$$

2. Compute, using the Blasius formula, the force exerted by a simple source at a point $c = be^{i\theta}$ on a circular cylinder of radius $a < b$. Recall that the complex potential for a simple source at c is $w = (Q/2\pi) \log(z - c)$. (Hint: Use the circle theorem, then compute the force from the residue at c .) Verify that the cylinder is pulled toward the source.

3. Using the method of Blasius for obtaining moment, as outlined in class, show that the moment of a cylinder in 2D potential flow is given by

$$M = -\frac{1}{2} \rho \Re \left[\int_C z (dw/dz)^2 dz \right]$$

where \Re denotes the real part and C is any simple contour about the body. Using this, verify that the circular cylinder flow with vortex of strength Γ at its center experiences zero moment. (Use the residue method.)

4. Investigate the pressure distribution on a lifting flat plate with circulation Γ . Give an expression for the pressure as a function of position, for both top and bottom surfaces, with arbitrary Γ . Describe the singularities in pressure at the two end-points of the plate, $(x, y) = (\pm 2l, 0)$. Apply the Kutta condition, and show that in this case the rear singularity disappears and

$$p(x, 0) = p(2l, 0) - \frac{1}{2} \rho U^2 \left[\left(\frac{2l - x}{2l + x} \right) \sin^2(\alpha) \pm 2 \left(\frac{2l - x}{2l + x} \right)^{1/2} \sin \alpha \cos \alpha \right],$$

where the upper/lower sign refers to the upper/lower side of the plate. (Note that l in this problem is the same as the parameter a in the lecture notes, i.e. the cylinder radius.)