

Inviscid, Incompressible, Irrotational flows

0. Reading: Acheson, sections 1.3, 1.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3.

1. Consider each two-dimensional steady flow:

- $u(x, y) = 2x - 6x^2 + y$, $v(x, y) = x + 3y^2$. Determine the velocity potential. Show that a streamfunction does not exist.
- $u(x, y) = x^2 - 9y^2 + 5$, $v(x, y) = -2xy - 2x$. Determine the streamfunction. Show that a velocity potential does not exist.
- Determine $u(x, y)$ and the complex potential $w(z)$ for the incompressible, irrotational flow with $v(x, y) = 4x - 6y - 6xy - 8$.
- Some of the previous parts asked about examples with failures to be incompressible or irrotational, but there wasn't one for not being inviscid. Consider smooth steady 2D flow $\vec{\mathbf{u}} = (u(x, y), v(x, y), 0)$:
 - For incompressible flows, explain which form of the Euler momentum balance shows all $\vec{\mathbf{u}}$ are acceptable without the need for any calculations.
 - For steady compressible flows, find the conditions that ρ, p must satisfy so that any smooth $\vec{\mathbf{u}}$ can work.

2. Consider the real velocity potential $\phi(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2)^{1/4} \cos\left(\frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1}(y/x)\right)$.

Show that the streamlines are a one-parameter family of parabolas.

Hint: Show that the streamlines satisfy a nonlinear homogeneous-type first order ODE, $dy/dx = F(y/x)$ (see summary sheet). Use of computer-aided algebra programs is allowed.

3. Consider the 2D unsteady flow for a moving irrotational vortex, $\vec{\mathbf{u}}(x, y, t) = \left(\frac{-y}{(x-at)^2 + y^2}, \frac{x-at}{(x-at)^2 + y^2} \right)$

- Determine the pressure $p(x, y, t)$.
- Show that this flow satisfies the 2D unsteady Euler equations (use of computer algebra is encouraged, provide complete printouts).

4. Show that any (non-degenerate) stagnation point¹ of a steady two-dimensional incompressible irrotational flow, $\left\{ \frac{dx}{dt} = u(x, y) \text{ and } \frac{dy}{dt} = v(x, y) \right\}$, must be a hyperbolic saddle point, with $\lambda_+ = -\lambda_-$ in its linearized stability (phase plane) analysis.

5. About streamfunctions $\psi(x, y, t)$ for two-dimensional incompressible flows:

- Show that the velocity field automatically satisfies the incompressibility condition, for any ψ .
- Determine the scalar vorticity in terms of the streamfunction.
- Show that the 2D inviscid scalar vorticity equation can be written as $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} = 0$
- Show that all steady solutions from (c) satisfy $\nabla^2 \psi = q(\psi)$ for some function q .
 - What choice of q corresponds to irrotational flow?
 - Solve $\nabla^2 \psi = -\psi$ for axisymmetric solutions, $\psi = \psi(r)$.
 - Solve $\nabla^2 \psi = e^\psi$ in one-dimension, $\psi = \psi(x)$.

Hints: $ab - cd = \det(\mathbf{A})$ and the determinant of a 2×2 matrix is zero if the rows are proportional to each other.

- Extend your result from (c) to the viscous case to write the “vorticity-streamfunction” form of the 2-D Navier-Stokes equations.

Describe how you might apply no-slip and no-flux boundary conditions if you were to use only ω, ψ .

¹a non-degenerate stagnation point has the velocity vector being zero (as usual), but also has that the gradient of the velocity is not zero.