

VORTICITY GENERATION & CONFINEMENT

- back to high Re = $\frac{\text{"inertia"}}{\text{"viscosity"}}$
- inertia dominated, but viscosity has a role to play in thin layers close to boundaries (boundary layers)

Vorticity is the local angular velocity of the fluid

Def. $\underline{\omega} = \underline{\nabla} \times \underline{u}$

Consider the flow field:



$$u_i(\underline{x}) = u_i(0) + x_j \left. \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right|_0 + \frac{1}{2} x_j x_k \left. \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \right|_0 + \dots$$

we write

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)}_{e_{ij}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)}_{\Omega_{ij}}$$

symmetric
strain-rate tensor

antisymmetric
vorticity tensor

$$\underline{\omega} = \underline{\nabla} \times \underline{u} = \left(\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \underline{e}_i = -2 \underline{\Omega}$$

$$u_i(\underline{x}) = u_i(0) + \underbrace{e_{ij} x_j}_{\text{strain (flow, line deformation)}} + \frac{1}{2} (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{x})_i$$

local solid body rotation

We want to know how $\underline{\omega}$ evolves in a fluid?

Take N-S eqs. for constant ρ, μ

$$\rho \frac{D\underline{u}}{Dt} = \underbrace{\underline{f}}_{\text{ext forces}} - \underbrace{\nabla p}_{\text{pressure}} + \underbrace{\mu \nabla^2 \underline{u}}_{\text{viscous forces}}$$

- we assume the force to be conservative $\underline{f} = -\nabla\psi$

$$\frac{D\underline{u}}{Dt} = \frac{\partial \underline{u}}{\partial t} + (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} = \frac{\partial \underline{u}}{\partial t} + \nabla \left[\frac{1}{2} u^2 \right] - \underline{u} \times \underline{\omega}$$

$$\text{LHS} = (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} = u_j \partial_j u_i$$

$$\text{RHS} = \partial_i \left(\frac{1}{2} u_j u_j \right) - \epsilon_{ijk} u_j \omega_k = \left\{ \underline{\omega} = \nabla \times \underline{u} \right\}$$

$$= u_j \partial_i u_j - \epsilon_{ijk} u_j \epsilon_{kpg} \partial_p u_g =$$

$$= u_j \partial_i u_j - \epsilon_{kij} \epsilon_{kpg} u_j \partial_p u_g =$$

$$= u_j \partial_i u_j - (\delta_{ip} \delta_{jq} - \delta_{iq} \delta_{jp}) u_j \partial_p u_q =$$

$$= \cancel{u_j \partial_i u_j} - \cancel{u_j \partial_i u_j} + u_j \partial_j u_i = u_j \partial_j u_i = \text{LHS}$$

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

We have

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \underline{u}}{\partial t} + \nabla \left[\frac{1}{2} u^2 \right] - \underline{u} \times \underline{\omega} \right) = -\nabla\psi - \nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \underline{u} \quad (*)$$

Take $\nabla \times (*)$

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \cancel{\nabla \left(\frac{1}{2} u^2 \right)} - \nabla \times (\underline{u} \times \underline{\omega}) \right) =$$

$$= - \cancel{\nabla \times \nabla \phi} - \cancel{\nabla \times \nabla p} + \mu \nabla^2 \underline{\omega}$$

$$(\nabla \times \nabla f)_i = \underbrace{\epsilon_{ijk}}_{=0} \underbrace{\partial_j \partial_k f}_{=0} = 0$$

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} - \nabla \times (\underline{u} \times \underline{\omega}) \right) = \mu \nabla^2 \underline{\omega}$$

$$\nabla \times (\underline{u} \times \underline{\omega}) = \underline{A}$$

Now $A_i = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j (\underline{u} \times \underline{\omega})_k = \underbrace{\epsilon_{kij}}_{= \epsilon_{kij}} \partial_j \underbrace{\epsilon_{kpq}}_{= \epsilon_{kpq}} u_p \omega_q =$

$$= (\delta_{ip} \delta_{jq} - \delta_{iq} \delta_{jp}) \partial_j (u_p \omega_q) =$$

$$= \partial_j (u_i \omega_j) - \partial_j (u_j \omega_i) =$$

$$= \omega_j (\partial_j u_i) + u_i (\partial_j \omega_j) - u_j (\partial_j \omega_i) - \omega_i (\partial_j u_j)$$

$$\underline{A} = (\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} + \underline{u} (\cancel{\nabla \cdot \underline{\omega}}) - (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{\omega} - \underline{\omega} (\cancel{\nabla \cdot \underline{u}})$$

kinematic viscosity $\nu = \frac{\mu}{\rho}$

$$\frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} + (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{\omega}$$

Finally, we get the vorticity equation

$$\frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} + (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{\omega} = (\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \underline{\omega}$$

\uparrow vorticity changing in time
 \uparrow vorticity advection by the flow
 \uparrow stretching (amplification) of vorticity
 \uparrow diffusion of vorticity with diffusivity ν

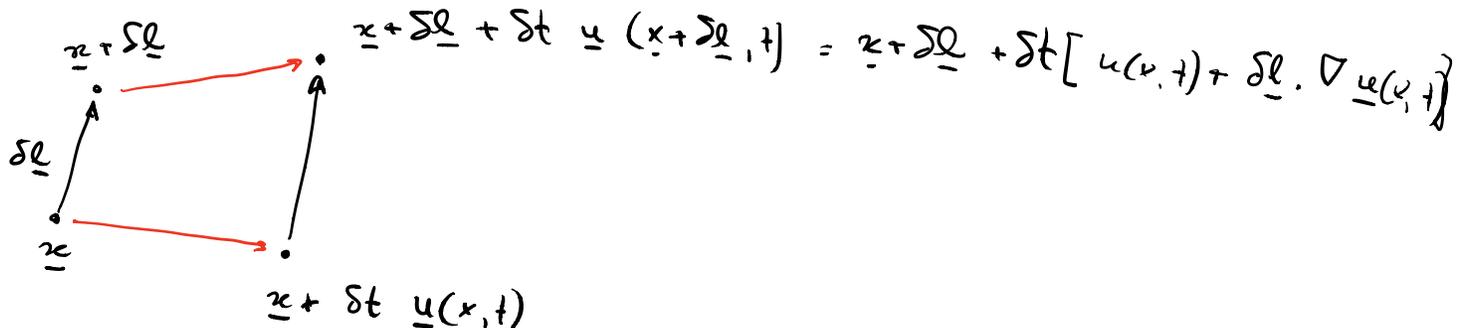
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{diffusion equation}$$

- 1) No source of vorticity in the interior of the fluid if $\rho, \nu = \text{const.}$ and \underline{f} conservative. Vorticity can only be generated at the boundaries.
- 2) In 2D flow $(u_x(x, y), u_y(x, y)) \Rightarrow \underline{\omega} = \omega \hat{e}_z$
 $\Rightarrow (\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} \equiv 0$ no stretching in 2D.

Vorticity stretching (ballerina effect)

What is the meaning of $(\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u}$ term?

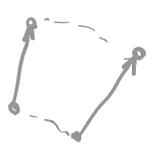
Consider a line element $\delta \underline{l}$ moving with the fluid



for small $\delta \underline{l}$, $\delta \underline{l} \rightarrow \delta \underline{l} + \delta t (\delta \underline{l} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \delta \underline{l} = (\delta \underline{l} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u}$$

rotation



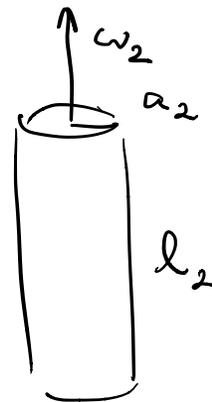
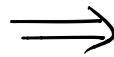
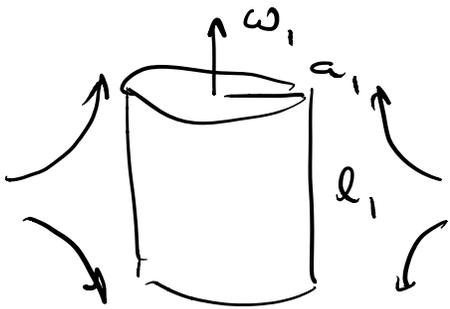
stretched



$(\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u}$ is analogous

- 1) Vorticity can be rotated or stretched just like a material line element.
- 2) Stretching is a result of conservation of angular momentum.

consider a rotating cylinder



Mass conservation $\rho a_1^2 l_1 = \rho a_2^2 l_2$

Angular momentum conservation "m" "r" "v"

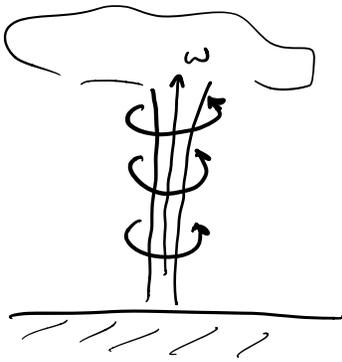
$$\rho a_1^2 l_1 \cdot a_1^2 \omega_1 = \rho a_2^2 l_2 \cdot a_2^2 \omega_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\omega_2 = \frac{l_2}{l_1} \omega_1}$$

ω varies linearly with l .

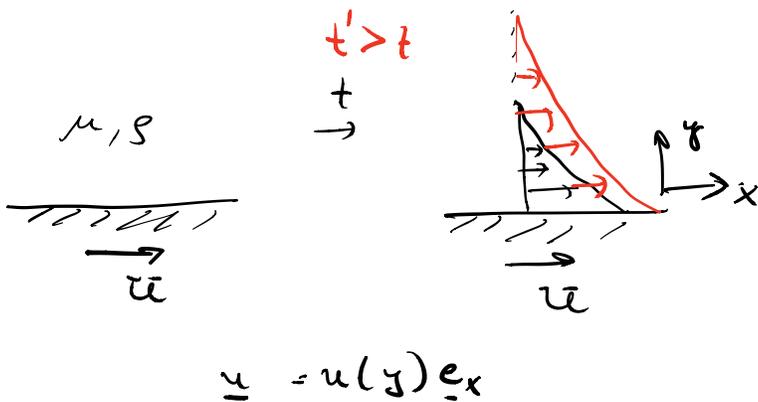
- Stretching vortex tubes intensifies the local vorticity

Ex 1 Torus



strong thermal updrafts in the thunderclouds stretch the vortex tube, enhancing rotational motion.

Diffusion of vorticity



When we consider a plate impulsively moving in a viscous fluid, the velocity in the N-S eqs. satisfies the diffusion eq.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$

so momentum diffuses from the plate influencing ($u \gtrsim \frac{1}{5} u$) a region next to the plate $y \lesssim \sqrt{\nu t}$

$$\omega = - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

One can view this problem alternatively:

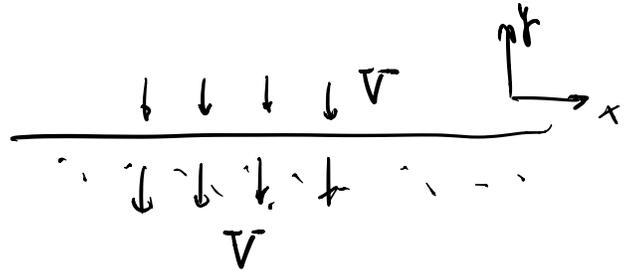
- $u(y)$ discontinuous at $y=0$
- \Rightarrow the flow has $\omega \approx \delta(0)$

So vorticity was generated at the boundary at $t=0^+$ and then diffused into the interior of the fluid

$$\partial_t \omega = \nu \partial_y^2 \omega$$

Confinement of vorticity (wall with suction)

- porous boundary
- cross-flow u
- suction flow V
- 2D flow (no stretching)
- steady



- Far away, only suction V and cross-flow U
- take $\nabla p = 0$

Try a solution $\underline{u} = (u(y), -V, 0)$

with b.c. as $y \rightarrow \infty$ $u \rightarrow U$

as $y = 0$ $u = 0$

- mass conservation automatically satisfied
- momentum eq. (N-S) in the x -direction

$$-\rho V \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \mu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$

solution

$$u(y) = U \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{Vy}{\nu}\right) \right]$$

$$\nu = \frac{\mu}{\rho}$$

vorticity $\omega = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{UV}{\nu} e^{-\frac{Vy}{\nu}}$

is confined to a region next to the wall of thickness

$$\delta = \frac{\nu}{V}$$

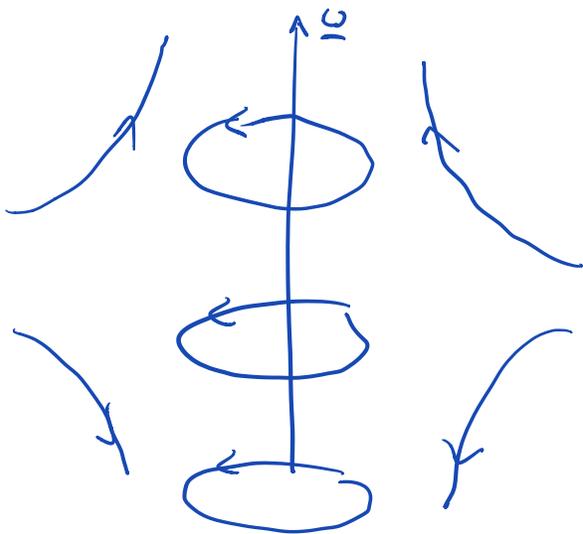
- Vorticity diffuses away in time t to a distance $\sqrt{\nu t}$ but it is advected back by the suction flow, moving a distance Vt .

Balancing these, we get $\delta = \frac{\nu}{V}$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} -\rho V \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &\sim \frac{\rho V u}{\delta} \\ \mu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} &\sim \mu \frac{u}{\delta^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \delta \sim \frac{\nu}{V} \text{ then the terms are comparable (diffusion balances advection)}$$

Burgers vortex

- exact solution of N-S eqs.
- steady flow
- balance of advection, diffusion & stretching



combination of:

- axisymmetric swirl

$$\underline{u} = v(r) \underline{e}_\theta$$

- axisymmetric stretching

$$\underline{u} = -\alpha r \hat{e}_r + 2\alpha z \hat{e}_z$$

This flow field satisfies mass conservation:

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{u} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r u_r) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial z} = -2\alpha + 0 + 2\alpha = 0$$

Vorticity comes only from swirling motion:

$$\underline{\omega} = \nabla \times \underline{u} = (0, 0, \omega(r)) \quad \omega(r) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v)$$

Now we take the vorticity eq.

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \omega = (\omega \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

0 only non-zero component in the z-direction:

$$(\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \omega = -\alpha r \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial r}$$

$$(\omega \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} = \omega(r) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2\alpha z)$$

$$\nu \nabla^2 \omega = \nu \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial r} \right)$$

So

$$\boxed{-\alpha r \frac{d\omega}{dr} = \omega \frac{d}{dt} (2\alpha z) + \frac{\nu}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (r \omega')}$$

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left(\alpha r^2 \omega + \nu r \frac{d\omega}{dr} \right) = 0$$

Integrate: with $\omega \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

$$\omega = \omega_0 e^{-\frac{\alpha r^2}{2\nu}} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (\theta(r))$$

we find

$$v(r) = \frac{\nu \omega_0}{\alpha r} \left[1 - e^{-\frac{\alpha r^2}{2\nu}} \right]$$

Near the axis $r \ll \delta = \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\alpha}}$

$$v(r) \sim \frac{1}{2} \omega_0 r \quad (\text{solid body rotation})$$

Far away

$$v(r) \sim \frac{1}{r} \frac{\nu \omega_0}{\alpha} \quad (\text{line vortex})$$