

Kinematics of fluid motion

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Kinematics - analysis of fluid motion, that is description of motion in terms of displacement, velocity and acceleration but without regard to the forces causing it.

1 Kinematical preliminaries

Fluid flow is a intuitive physical motion which is represented mathematically by continues transformation of three-dimensional Euclidean space into itself $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. Parameter t describing the transformation is identified with the time and we may suppose its range to be $-\infty < t < \infty$. Each particle of fluid flows follows a certain *trajectory* (see fig.1). Thus

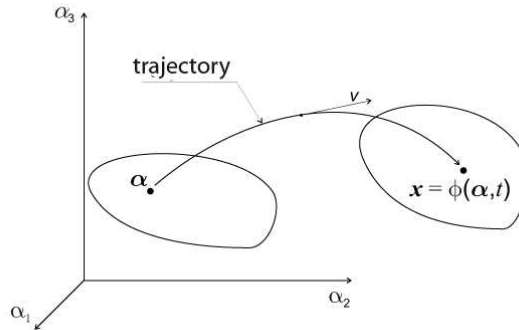


Figure 1: Motion of fluid particles

for each $\alpha \in \Omega(t = 0)$ there is a path $\mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi(\alpha, t)$ representing the trajectory of α .

In order to label the different trajectories, let us write $\Phi(\alpha, t)$ for the path followed by α with the initial condition $\Phi(\alpha, 0) = \alpha$

$$\mathbf{x} = \Phi(\alpha, t). \quad (1)$$

The mapping equation (1) specifies the *path* of particle P initially at α ; on the other hand, for fixed t equation (1) determines a transformation of the region initially occupied by the fluid into its position at time t .

We assume that initially distinct points remains distinct throughout the entire motion, or, in the other words, the transformation (1) possesses an inverse.

$$\alpha = \Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x}). \quad (2)$$

The Jacobian of the transformation (1)

$$J = \det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \Phi_1(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_1} & \frac{\partial \Phi_1(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_2} & \frac{\partial \Phi_1(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_3} \\ \frac{\partial \Phi_2(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_1} & \frac{\partial \Phi_2(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_2} & \frac{\partial \Phi_2(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_3} \\ \frac{\partial \Phi_3(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_1} & \frac{\partial \Phi_3(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_2} & \frac{\partial \Phi_3(\alpha, t)}{\partial \alpha_3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

must be different from zero:

$$0 < J < \infty. \quad (4)$$

1.1 Lagrangian variables for the description of the motion

The variable (α, t) which single out individual particles is called *material variables* or *Lagrangian variables*. The *velocity* of particle (in Lagrangian variable) and *acceleration* is given by the definition:

$$V_L = \frac{\partial \Phi(\alpha, t)}{\partial t}, \quad a_L = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi(\alpha, t)}{\partial t^2} \quad (5)$$

1.2 Eulerian variables for the description of the motion

Although a flow is completely determined by the transformation(1), it is also important to consider the state of motion at a given point during the course of time. This is described by functions

$$\rho = \rho(\mathbf{x}, t), \quad \mathbf{v} = v(\mathbf{x}, t) \quad (6)$$

which give the density and velocity, etc., of particle which happens to be at the position \mathbf{x} at time t . The variables (\mathbf{x}, t) used in the field description of the flow is called *spacial*

variables or *Eulerian variables*. By means of equation (1) any quantity f which is a function of spatial variable (\mathbf{x}, t) is also a function of the material variables $(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, t)$, and conversely.

$$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(\boldsymbol{\Phi}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, t), t) \quad (7)$$

Time derivative of $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is express by the formula

$$\frac{df(\mathbf{x}, t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \frac{d x_i}{d t} \right) \quad (8)$$

The expression (8) is called *substantial derivative* ($\frac{d}{dt}$ is called as a local, and $\mathbf{v}\nabla f$ as a convective). Acceleration of fluid particle expressed in Eulerian variables:

$$\frac{dv_i(\mathbf{x}, t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} v_j \quad (9)$$

2 Fundamentals of flow visualization

Definition 1 A *pathline* is the actual path traveled by an individual fluid particle over some time period

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, t) \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{v} \quad (11)$$

Definition 2 A *streamline* is a curve that is everywhere tangent to the instantaneous local velocity vector $\mathbf{v} = (u, v, w)$

$$\frac{dx}{u} = \frac{dy}{v} = \frac{dz}{w}$$

Definition 3 A *streakline* is the locus of fluid particles that have passed sequentially through a prescribed point in the flow

During this course I will be used the following books:

References

- [1] F. M. White, 1999. *Fluid Mechanics*, McGraw-Hill.
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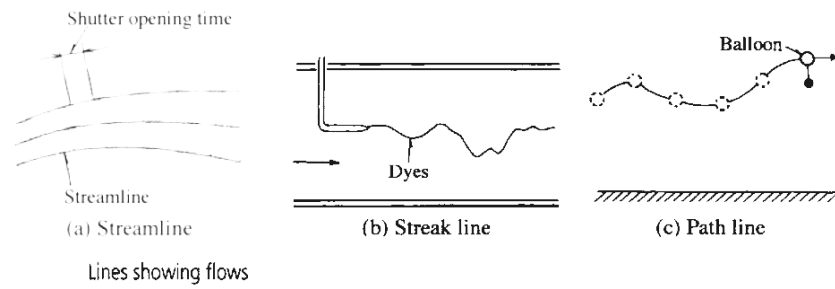


Figure 2: Pathline, streamline, streakline