

Lecture 16 - unidirectional Flow

I. why unidirectional?

* When trying to solve the Navier-Stokes equation, we have two problems:

(1) It is non-linear, i.e. we have $\underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v}$ inside $\frac{D\underline{v}}{Dt}$.

(2) we don't have an explicit equation for pressure, only the continuity equation.

* Flows that are parallel, i.e. unidirectional solve this problem.

- directions = # of non-zero velocity components: v_x, v_y, v_z
- dimensions = # of coordinates: x, y, z
- unidirectional means only 1 non-zero v_x, v_y, v_z .

(1) $\underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v} = 0$ for unidirectional flows

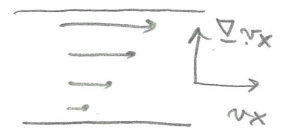
- to satisfy conservation of mass, $\underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v}$ must be in different directions, e.g.

$$v_x \neq 0, \quad v_y = v_z = 0$$

$$\underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v} = v_x \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x}$$

$$\underline{v} \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow v_x = v_x(y, z)$$



$$\text{so, } \underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v} = 0$$

(2) Pressure is usually greatly simplified. For example

in cartesian: $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = 0 \Rightarrow P = P(x)$ only

when $v_x \neq 0$
& $v_y = v_z = 0$

(Navier Stokes simplifies to)

* Unidirectional flows cannot help in some cases. These include:

(1) Problems where the geometry doesn't allow it.

For example, a lid driven cavity:

There are some cases called

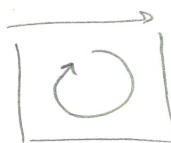
"nearly unidirectional flows" where

we can make progress, e.g.: nearly parallel plates

we don't have time

to cover the

"lubrication approximation" in § 7.6 for these.



(2) Entrance / Edge Effects.

These effects occur for 2D or 3D cases, and involve flow in more than one direction,

e.g.



development of laminar flow in a tube.

↑ need v_z in order for v_r to change.

(3) Flow instabilities

Because our PDE is non-linear, there can be more than one solution. The solution from unidirectional flow may not be stable to a small disturbance. For example:

laminar pipe flow at high Re becomes turbulent



→



⊕ instabilities often, but don't always trigger turbulence.

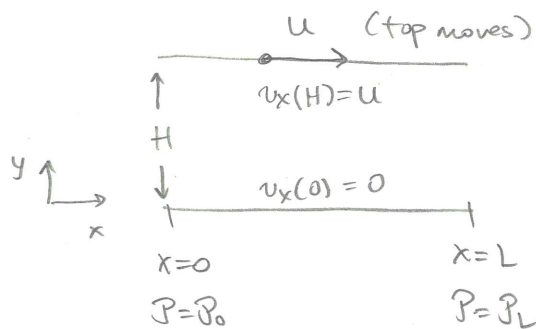
We could say much more about this subject, too, but we won't. Another study of a lifetime.

* what can we solve with unidirectional flow?

- pressure-driven flows (Poiseuille)
 - steady in a channel or tube
 - unsteady in a channel or tube
- bandary-driven flows (Couette)
 - steady in a channel or circle/annulus
 - unsteady near a plate or circle/annulus
- gravity-driven flow

II. Examples

A. Plane Couette & Poiseuille Flow (both together!)



- let $P_0 > P_L$, pressure-driven flow, too
- assume unidirectional, $u_x = u_x(y)$
- assume steady

Navier Stokes:
$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \underline{v}}{\partial t} + \underline{v} \cdot \nabla \underline{v} \right) = -\nabla P + \mu \nabla^2 \underline{v}$$

Simplifies to: (i) $0 = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial y^2}$ (x-momentum)

(see table b-7 for Cartesian) (ii) $0 = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$ (y-momentum)

(iii) $0 = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial z}$ (z-momentum)

- (ii) & (iii) imply that $P = P(x)$ only

- using (i):
$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial y^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \text{constant} \rightarrow \text{why?}$$

$$= \frac{P_L - P_0}{L} = \frac{\Delta P}{L}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \right) = 0$$

← only depends on x

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} \right) \neq 0 \text{ in general unless ...}$$

only way they are both equal then is if equal to a constant

• Now, solve for v_x

total derivative
b/c $v_x = v_x(y)$

$$\mu \frac{d^2 v_x}{dy^2} = \frac{\Delta P}{L} \rightarrow \text{integrate } 2x$$

$$v_x = \frac{\Delta P}{2\mu L} y^2 + c_1 y + c_2$$

• Apply BC's:

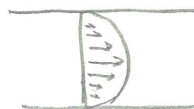
$$v_x(0) = c_2 = 0$$

$$v_x(H) = \frac{\Delta P}{2\mu L} H^2 + c_1 H = U \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{U}{H} - \frac{\Delta P H}{2\mu L}$$

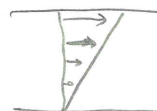
• Put all together:

$$v_x = \frac{\Delta P}{2\mu L} y^2 + \frac{U}{H} y - \frac{\Delta P H y}{2\mu L}$$

$$v_x = -\frac{\Delta P}{L} \frac{H^2}{2\mu} \left(\frac{y}{H} - \frac{y^2}{H^2} \right) + \frac{Uy}{H}$$

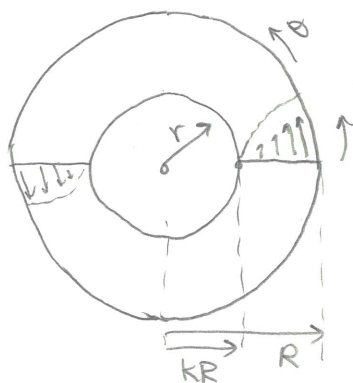


Poiseuille
contribution



Couette
contribution

B. Couette flow in an Annulus (Couette viscometer)



angular
velocity, Ω_0

• assume unidirectional

$$v_\theta = v_\theta(r) \text{ only}$$

• assume steady

$$v_\theta(R) = \Omega_0 R$$

$$v_\theta(KR) = 0$$

→ no slip on inside & outside of annulus.

Navier-Stokes in
cylindrical coords :

(table 6-8 on
p. 240)

(θ -momentum only)

$$\rho \left[\frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_r v_\theta}{r} + v_z \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial z} \right] = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta} + \mu \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\theta) \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 v_\theta}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{2}{r^2} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial^2 v_\theta}{\partial z^2} \right]$$

• with $v_\theta = v_\theta(r)$ only

and $v_r = v_z = 0$, this simplifies to:

$$0 = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta} + \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\theta) \right)$$

This must be zero, because $P \neq P(\theta)$.

It goes around in a circle. So no gradients possible in θ .

• Our PDE becomes the ODE:

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (r v_\theta) \right) = 0 \quad v_\theta(R) = \Omega_0 R$$

$$v_\theta(KR) = 0$$

• Now, integrate:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (r v_\theta) = c_1 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dr} (r v_\theta) = c_1 r$$

$$r v_\theta = \frac{1}{2} c_1 r^2 + c_2 \Rightarrow v_\theta = \frac{1}{2} c_1 r + c_2/r$$

• Apply BC's:

$$v_\theta(R) = \frac{c_1 R}{2} + \frac{c_2}{R} = \Omega_0 R \quad (a)$$

$$v_\theta(KR) = \frac{c_1 KR}{2} + \frac{c_2}{KR} = 0 \quad (b)$$

(A bit of algebra)

- multiply (b) by K & subtract (a) - (b):

$$\frac{c_1 R}{2} + \cancel{\frac{c_2}{R}} - \frac{c_1 K^2 R}{2} - \cancel{\frac{c_2}{R}} = \Omega_0 R$$

$$\frac{c_1 R}{2} (1 - k^2) = \Omega_0 R \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{2\Omega_0}{1 - k^2}$$

- multiply (b) by $1/k$ and subtract (a)-(b):

$$\frac{c_1 R}{2} + \frac{c_2}{R} - \frac{c_1 R}{2} - \frac{c_2}{k^2 R} = \Omega_0 R$$

$$\frac{c_2}{R} \left(1 - \frac{1}{k^2}\right) = \Omega_0 R \Rightarrow c_2 = \frac{\Omega_0 R^2}{1 - 1/k^2}$$

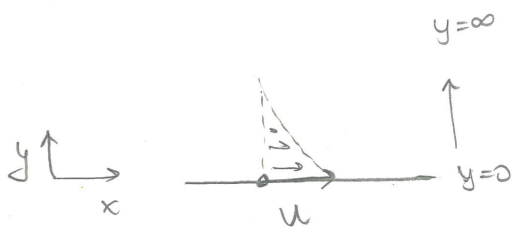
$$c_2 = \frac{\Omega_0 R^2 k^2}{k^2 - 1}$$

• Substitute into $v_\theta(r)$:

$$v_\theta = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2\Omega_0}{1 - k^2} r + \frac{\Omega_0 R^2}{k^2 - 1} \frac{1}{r}$$

$$v_\theta = \frac{\Omega_0 k R}{1 - k^2} \left(\frac{r}{kR} - \frac{kR}{r} \right)$$

C. Startup of Couette Flow (If time)



$y = \infty$ • Fluid at rest before $t=0$

• Plate on bottom starts to move at U at $t=0$

• Assume unidirectional $u_x = v_x(y, t)$ only

• Unsteady

BC's $\begin{cases} u_x(0, t) = U \\ u_x(\infty, t) = 0 \end{cases}$

IC $u_x(y, 0) = 0$

* Navier Stokes in Cartesian coords is:

(table 6-7
x-momentum only)

$$\rho \left[\frac{\partial u_x}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} + v_z \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial z} \right] = - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \mu \left[\frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial z^2} \right]$$

• $u_x = v_x(y, t)$, $v_y = v_z = 0$

• $\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = 0$, no change along x -dir for P .

$$\rho \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} = \mu \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} \quad \nu = \frac{\mu}{\rho}$$

* This is exactly the same as the transient diffusion problem we did with the similarity method!

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} \quad \begin{aligned} c(0, t) &= c_0 \\ c(\infty, t) &= 0 \\ c(x, 0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

• In this case, we found that

$$\eta = \frac{x}{2\sqrt{Dt}} \quad \& \quad \frac{c}{c_0} = 1 - \operatorname{erf}(\eta)$$

* By analogy :

$$\boxed{\eta = \frac{y}{2\sqrt{\nu t}}} \quad \boxed{\frac{v_x}{u} = 1 - \operatorname{erf}(\eta)}$$

• ν , the kinematic viscosity is the momentum diffusivity.