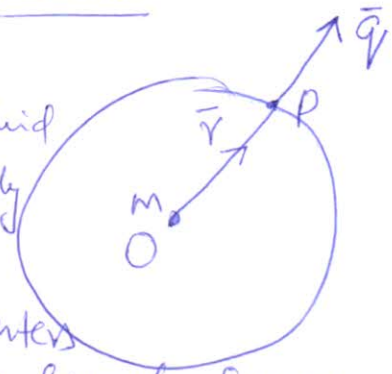


SOME THREE-DIMENSIONAL FLOWS

1. Sources, Sinks and Doublets

(a) Source: Suppose at a point  $O$  in a fluid the flow is such that it is directed radially outwards from  $O$  in all directions and in a symmetrical manner. Then fluid enters the system through  $O$  which is termed a simple source.



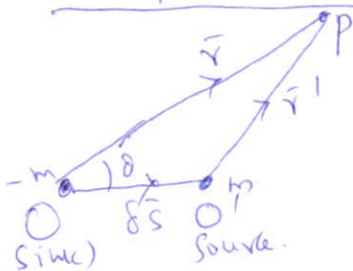
Defn: Strength of the Source: If at  $O$ , the volume entering per unit time is  $4\pi m$ , where  $m$  is a constant, then  $m$  is defined to be the strength of the source.

b) Sink: Suppose that the flow is such that fluid is directed radially inwards to  $O$  from all directions in a symmetrical manner, then fluid leaves the system at  $O$  which is termed a simple sink.

Rmk: A sink of strength  $m$  is a source of strength  $-m$  ( $\therefore$  due to directions of source & sink).

(c) Doublet: A doublet is a combination of a source of strength  $m$  and a sink of strength  $-m$  at a small distance  $\delta s$  apart, where in the limit  $m$  is taken infinitely great and  $\delta s$  infinitely small, but so that the product  $m\delta s$  remains finite and equal to  $\mu$ , is called a doublet strength.

Axis of a doublet: The line  $\delta s$  taken from  $-m$  to  $m$  (Sink to Source) is called the axis of a doublet.



2. Relations between the Strength of Source, Sink and Velocity

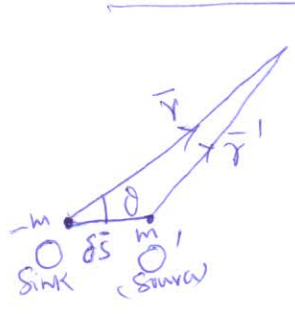
$q = \frac{m}{r^2}$  ( $\therefore$  By continuity equation  $4\pi r^2 q = 4\pi m$ )

$\vec{q} = \frac{m}{r^2} \hat{r}$ . Similarly, for the case of Sink, we find that  $\vec{q} = -\frac{m}{r^2} \hat{r}$  (1)

Rmk: It is easy to check that  $\text{Curl } \vec{q} = 0$  (except at  $r=0$ ; By using the curl in cylindrical coordinates)

So, the flow is of the potential kind. Let  $\phi = \phi(r)$  be the velocity potential at  $P$  due to symmetry, we can see that  $\nabla\phi = \phi'(r) \hat{r}$  and  $\phi'(r) = -\frac{m}{r^2}$  (2)

3. To Find the velocity potential at P due to a doublet at O.



From this configuration shown here, assuming the flow to be entirely due to  $-m$  at  $O$  and  $m$  at  $O'$ , the velocity potential at  $P$  is  $\phi = \phi_{(at O')} + \phi_{(at O)}$

$$= \frac{m}{r'} - \frac{m}{r} \quad (\text{by using Eqn (2)})$$

$$\phi = \frac{m(r - r')}{r r'}$$

(in Rationalizing numerator)

$$\phi = \frac{m(r - r')(r + r')}{r r' (r + r')} = \frac{m(r^2 - r'^2)}{r r' (r + r')} = \frac{m(\bar{r} - \bar{r}')(\bar{r} + \bar{r}')}{r r' (r + r')} = \frac{m \delta s \cdot (\bar{r} + \bar{r}')}{r r' (r + r')} \quad \left( \because \frac{\bar{r} - \bar{r}'}{\delta s} = \bar{\mu} \right)$$

$$\phi = \frac{\bar{\mu} \cdot (\bar{r} + \bar{r}')}{r r' (r + r')}$$

Now keep  $O$  fixed and let  $O' \rightarrow O$ , so let  $\bar{r}' \rightarrow \bar{r}$ ,  $M$  staying constant. Then in the limit we have  $\phi = \frac{\bar{\mu} \cdot 2\bar{r}}{2r^3} = (\bar{\mu} \cdot \bar{r}) \bar{r}^{-3}$  (3)

With  $\angle POO' = \theta$ , Equation (3) reduces to  $\phi = (\bar{\mu} \cdot \bar{r}) \bar{r}^{-2} = \bar{\mu} \cdot \left( \frac{\bar{r}}{r} \right) \bar{r}^{-2}$

$$\therefore \boxed{\phi = (\bar{\mu} \cdot \bar{r}) \bar{r}^{-2} = \mu \bar{r}^{-2} \cos \theta} \quad \left( \because \bar{\mu} = \mu \delta s \right)$$

Components of velocity can be found to be:  $v_r = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = +2 \frac{\mu \cos \theta}{r^3}$

$$v_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\mu \sin \theta}{r^3}$$

$$v_\varphi = -\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \varphi} = 0$$

Streamlines are given by  $r = C \cos \theta$ ,  $r = A \sin^2 \theta$ .



Geometrically, these streamlines lie in planes passing through the x-axis of the doublet.

They are symmetrical not only with respect to  $Ox$  but also about the plane  $\theta = \pi/2$ .

RMK: The function  $\phi(r, \theta) = \frac{\mu \cos \theta}{r^2}$  shows that at points other than  $O$  must satisfy the Laplace Eqn in axisymmetric flow case.

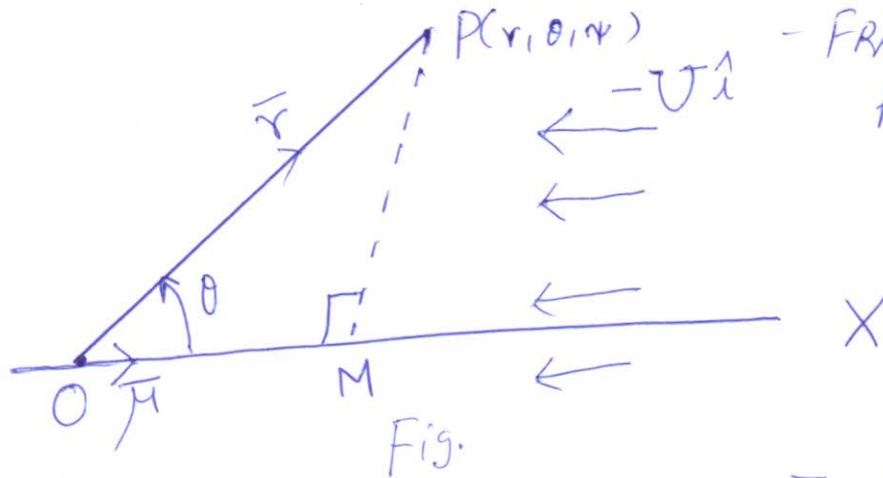


Example 1  
Doublet in a uniform stream

Ref: A Text Book of FLUID DYNAMICS

- FRANK CHORLTON,

Pages: 140  
and  
139



This Fig. Shows a doublet of vector moment  $\vec{M} = M \hat{i}$  at O in a uniform stream whose velocity, in the absence of the doublet, would be  $-U \hat{i}$ . We first find the velocity potential  $\phi(r, \theta)$  at the field point P in the fluid having spherical polar co-ordinates  $(r, \theta, \phi)$ . PM is the  $\perp$ r from P on OX and if  $OM = x$ , then the velocity potential at P due to the streamline is  $Ux = Ur \cos \theta$ . That due to the doublet at O is  $\frac{M \cos \theta}{r^2}$  so that the total velocity potential at P is  $\phi(r, \theta) = (Ur + \frac{M}{r^2}) \cos \theta \rightarrow (1)$

The velocity components at P are  $q_r = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = -(U - \frac{2M}{r^3}) \cos \theta \rightarrow (2)$

$$q_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = (U + \frac{M}{r^3}) \sin \theta; \quad q_\phi = -\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \phi} = 0$$

We see that  $q_r = 0$ , whenever (i)  $\cos \theta = 0$  i.e.,  $\theta = \pi/2$

and  $(ii) \quad r = (\frac{2M}{U})^{1/3}$   
write  $a = (\frac{2M}{U})^{1/3}$ , so that  $M = \frac{1}{2} U a^3$ . Then it follows that there is no flow over the surface of the sphere  $r = a$ .

In fact for  $r \geq a$ , with  $M = \frac{1}{2} U a^3$  in eqn (2), we obtain precisely the same velocity potential as was obtained for uniform flow past a stationary sphere of radius  $a$ . Thus, for the region  $r \geq a$ , the analysis of this sphere problem is the same as that of the dipole of strength  $\frac{1}{2} U a^3$  in the uniform stream of velocity  $-U \hat{i}$ , the axis of the dipole being the direction of  $\hat{i}$ .