

## EXAMPLES OF SUPERPOSITION IN POTENTIAL FLOW

In this lesson, we will:

- Show some examples and applications of **Superposition in Potential (Irrotational) Flow**
- Introduce the **Method of Images** and how to apply it to potential flows

### The Rankine Half-Body

**Superpose**

• Uniform stream  $V$

• Line source @ origin  $\dot{V}/L$

→ add component flows to generate a new, more involved flow

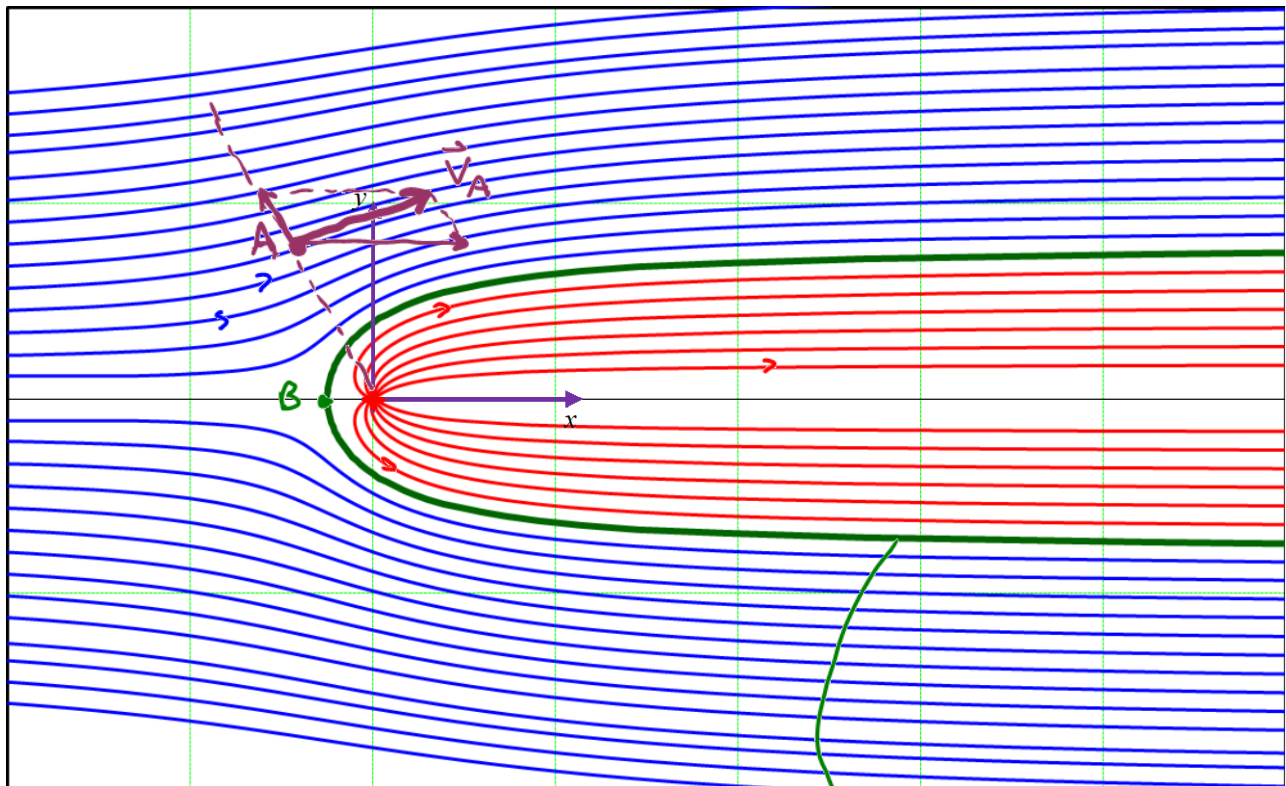
• Let's add **stream functions**

$$\Psi = Vy + \frac{\dot{V}/L}{2\pi} \theta \quad (y = r \sin \theta)$$

$$\Psi = Vr \sin \theta + \frac{\dot{V}/L}{2\pi} \theta \quad *$$

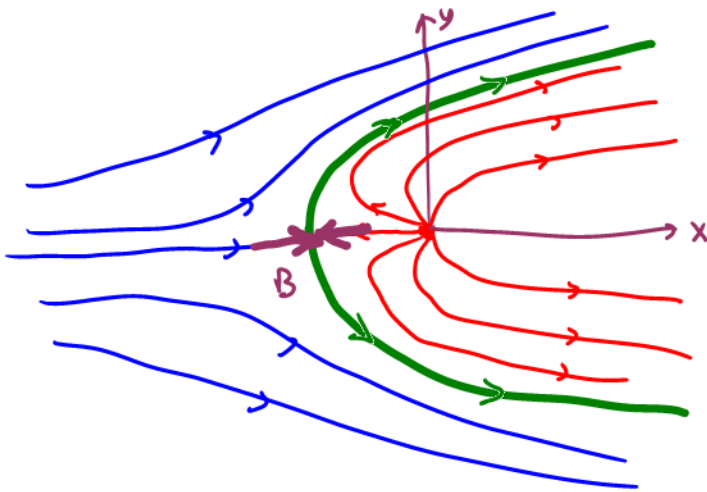
From this eq. for  $\Psi$ , we can

- Plot streamlines ( $\Psi = \text{const}$ )
- Calculate velocity field
- Then calculate pressure field

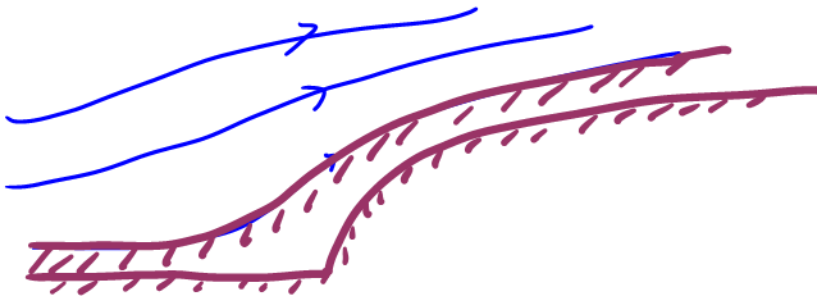
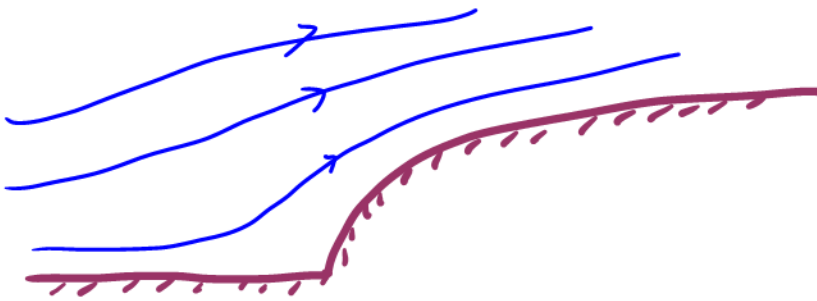


At B,  $\vec{V} = 0$  B is a **stagnation point**

**Dividing streamline**



ANY STREAMLINE IN A POTENTIAL FLOW CAN BE THOUGHT OF AS A WALL



ANALYSIS:

$$\psi = V r \sin \theta + \frac{\dot{\Psi}/L}{2\pi} \theta$$

$$u_r = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{1}{r} V \cancel{r} \cos \theta + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\dot{\Psi}/L}{2\pi} \Rightarrow u_r = V \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2\pi r} \frac{\dot{\Psi}}{L}$$

$$u_\theta = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = -V \sin \theta \Rightarrow u_\theta = -V \sin \theta$$

★ STAGNATION PT  $\rightarrow$  set  $\vec{V} = 0 \Rightarrow u_r = 0 \quad u_\theta = 0$

Here  $u_\theta = 0$  when  $\theta = \pi$

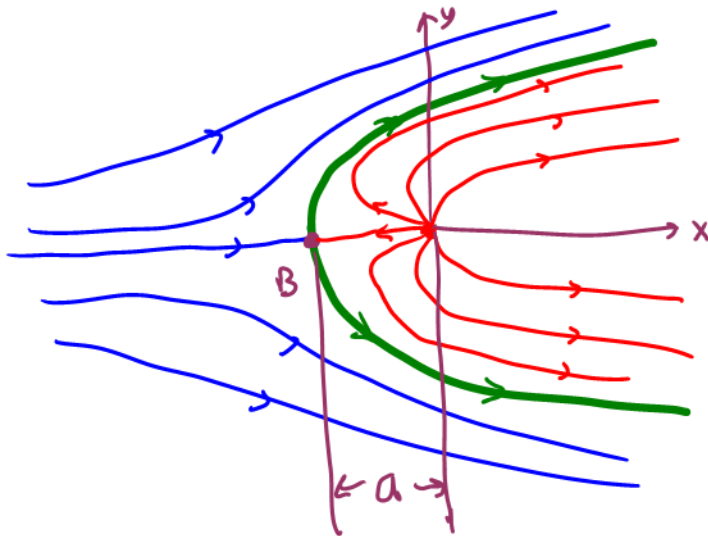
$u_\theta = 0$  when  $\theta = 0, \pi, 2\pi, \dots$

$$u_r = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad -V \cos \theta = \frac{1}{2\pi r} \frac{\dot{V}}{L}$$

( $\cos \pi = -1$ )

$$V = \frac{1}{2\pi r} \frac{\dot{V}}{L}$$

let this  $r = a$  @ stagnation pt



$$a = \frac{\dot{V}/L}{2\pi V} \quad \star$$

## Flow Over a Circular Cylinder

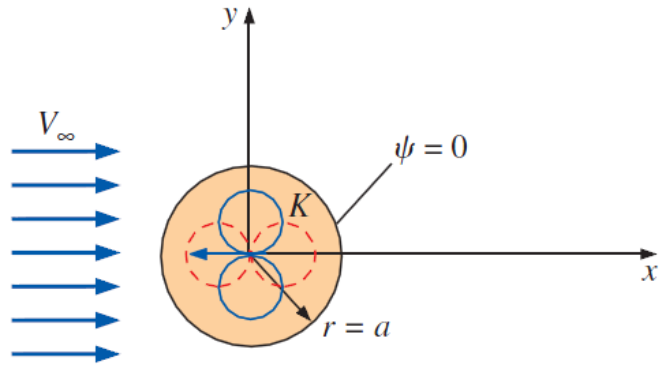
**Given:** Superpose a uniform stream of velocity  $V_\infty$  and a doublet of strength  $K$  at the origin.

**To do:** Plot streamlines, and discuss the flow that results from this superposition.

**Solution:**

- We simply add up the stream functions for the two building block flows:

$$\psi = \psi_{\text{freestream}} + \psi_{\text{doublet}} = V_\infty y - K \frac{\sin \theta}{r}$$



Figures from Çengel and Cimbala, Ed. 4.

- But we know that  $y = r \sin \theta$ , thus,  $\psi = V_\infty r \sin \theta - K \frac{\sin \theta}{r}$  ★
- For “convenience”, and with hindsight, we choose to set  $\psi = 0$  at  $r = a$   
[It turns out that radius  $a$  is a special radius that becomes the radius of the circle.]
- Set  $r = a$  in our equation for the stream function:

$$0 = V_\infty a \sin \theta - K \frac{\sin \theta}{a} \rightarrow K = V_\infty a^2$$

- Then our final expression for  $\psi$  becomes

$$\psi = V_\infty \sin \theta \left( r - \frac{a^2}{r} \right)$$

- Plot streamlines: [we plot nondimensionally, setting  $x^* = x/a$  and  $y^* = y/a$ ]
- From our equation for  $\psi$  above, we can calculate the velocity field from the definition

of  $\psi$ , i.e.,  $u_r = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$ ,  $u_\theta = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$ . See text for details. On the cylinder ( $r^* = 1$ ),

$$u_r = 0 \quad u_\theta = -2V_\infty \sin \theta$$

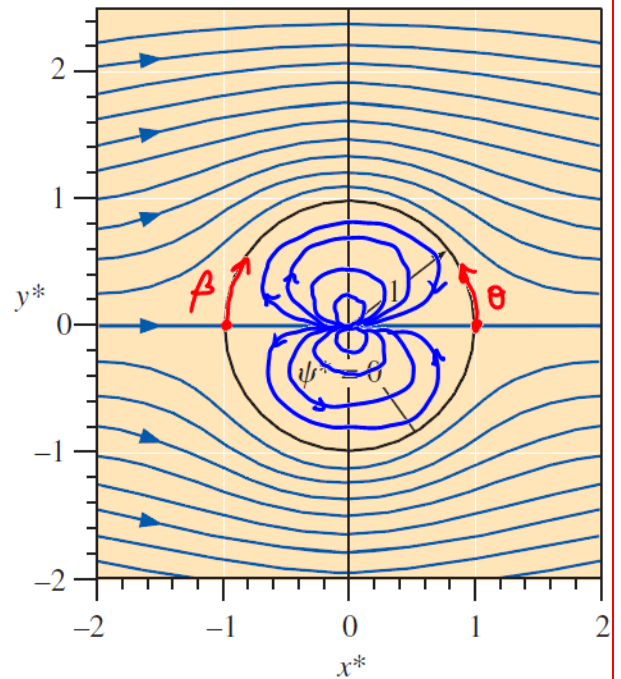
VELOCITY COMPONENTS ON THE “WALL” OF THE CYLINDER

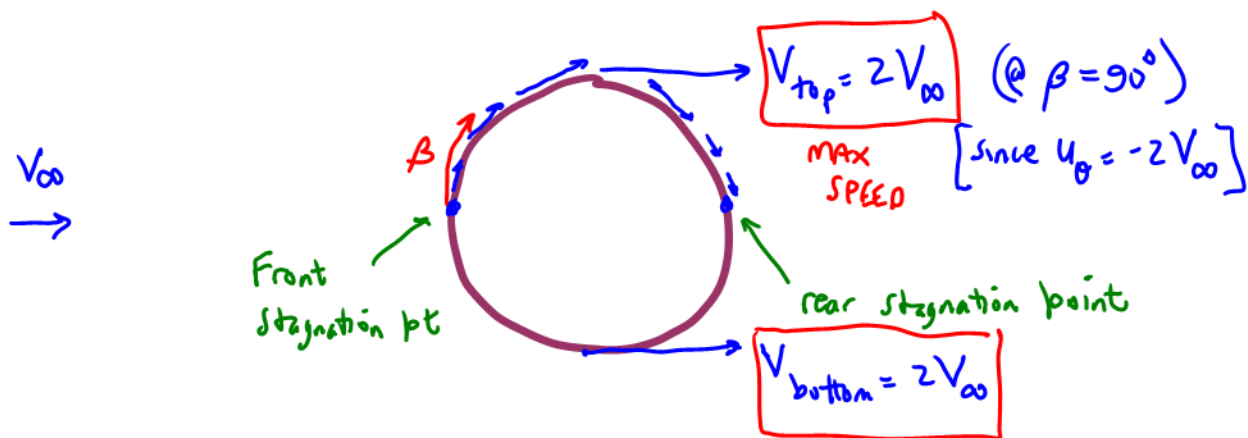
- We then apply the Most Beloved Bernoulli Equation to generate an expression for the pressure field  $P + \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 = P_\infty + \frac{1}{2} \rho V_\infty^2$

- We define the **pressure coefficient**,  $C_p = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V_\infty^2} = 1 - \frac{V^2}{V_\infty^2}$

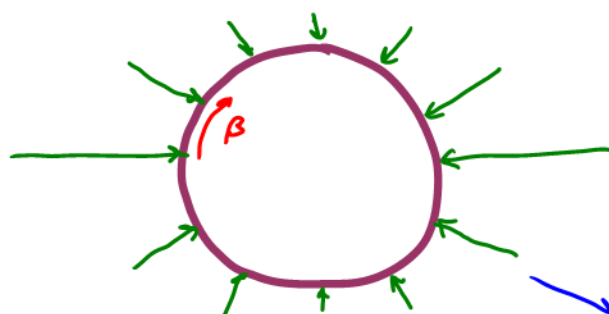
- On the cylinder, it turns out that  $C_p = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \beta$ , where  $\beta$  is the angle from the nose.

$$V^2 = 4V_\infty^2 \sin^2 \theta$$



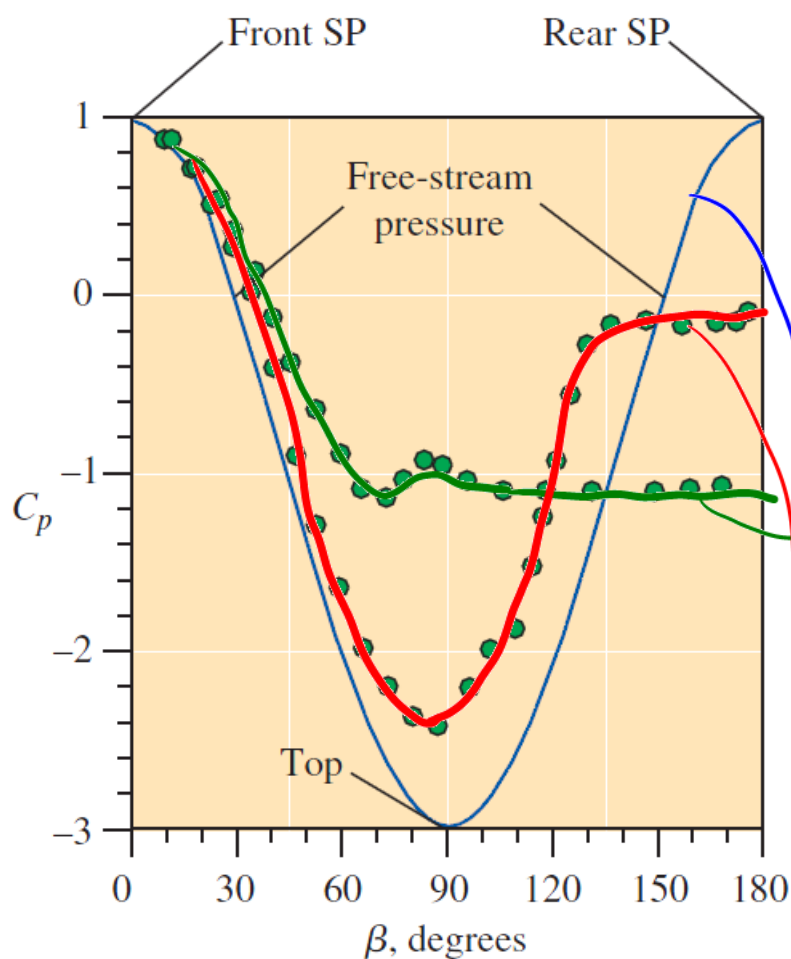


$P = P_\infty$



MAX  $P$  @ the two stagnation points

NOTICE:  $P$  = symmetric both front & back & top & bottom



★ DRAG = 0 ON ANY NON-LIFTING BODY IN IRROTATIONAL FLOW

D'Alembert's Paradox

OUR POTENTIAL FLOW ANALYSIS

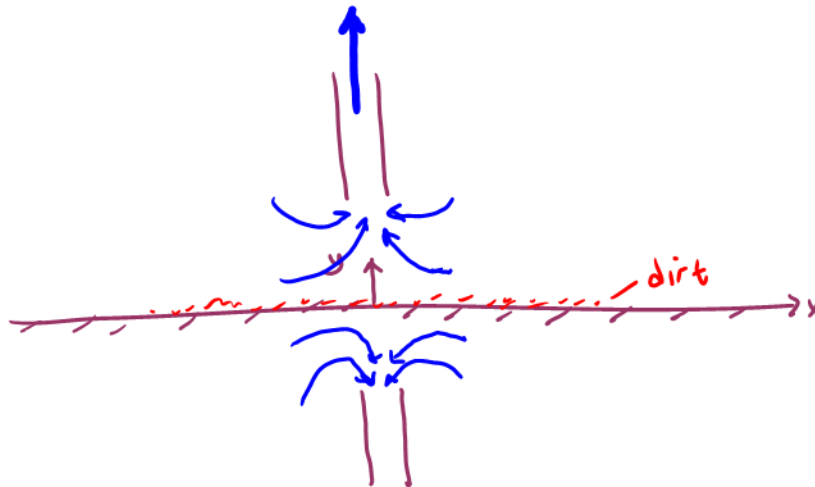
LAMINAR BL ON THE CYLINDER WALLS

TURBULENT BL ON THE CYLINDER WALLS

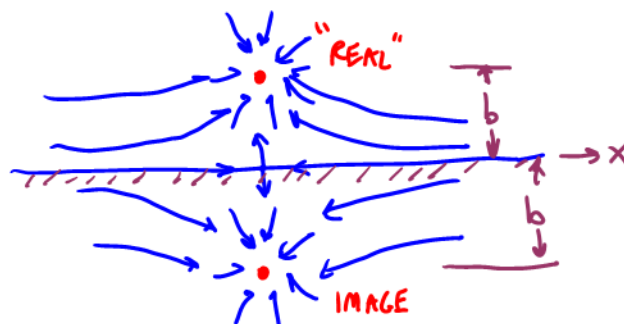


## The Method of Images

EXAMPLE: FLOW INTO THE 2-D ATTACHMENT OF A VACUUM CLEANER



WE MODEL THIS FLOW BY TWO SINKS



## Results:

