

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS

DECEMBER 2002 EXAMINATION

SMA : 4103 INTRODUCTION TO FLUID MECHANICS

TIME 3 HOURS

Answer ALL questions in Part A and any THREE questions in Part B.

PART A : Answer ALL questions. [40 marks]

1. The velocity field for a two-dimensional incompressible flow is given in polar coordinates by

$$v_r = r \cos \frac{\theta}{2}, v_\theta = r \sin \frac{\theta}{2}, 0 < \theta < 2\pi.$$

Find the corresponding stream function for this flow. Hence sketch the streamlines.

[4: 3]

2. The differential form of the equation of continuity can be used to evaluate the relative rate of change of density of a fluid particle as it moves through a flow. Show that

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}.$$

What is the physical significance of  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$ .

[4:2]

3. a) Determine whether the flow given by  $\mathbf{v} = (4x^2 + 3y)\mathbf{i} + (3x - y)\mathbf{j} + 30\mathbf{k}$  is  
(i) incompressible [3]  
(ii) irrotational [3]  
b) Find the expression for vorticity for the following flows in the  $r\theta$ -plane:  
(i) a forced vortex [4]  
(ii) a free vortex. [4]

4. Consider a frictionless, incompressible flow described by velocity field

$$\mathbf{v} = Ax\mathbf{i} - Ay\mathbf{j}.$$

Let the only body force involved in the flow be the gravitational force and  $p = p_0$  at  $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0)$ . Determine an expression for the pressure field,  $p(x, y, z)$ . [7]

5. Determine the scalar potential function of the vector field  
 $\mathbf{a} = 2xy\mathbf{i} + x^2\mathbf{j} + 3z^2\mathbf{k}$ .

[6]

**PART B :** Answer any **THREE** questions. Each question carries 20 marks.

6. a) A velocity field in cylindrical coordinates is given by

$$\mathbf{v} = \left(\frac{q}{2\pi r} + U \cos \theta\right) \mathbf{e}_r - U \sin \theta \mathbf{e}_\theta,$$

where  $q = 200\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  and  $U = 10\text{m}/\text{s}$ . Show that this is a possible incompressible flow. Locate the stagnation points in the flow. [5:3]

- b) Consider the velocity field for steady inviscid flow from left to right over a circular cylinder, of radius  $a$ , given by

$$\mathbf{v} = U \cos \theta \left[1 - \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^2\right] \mathbf{e}_r - U \sin \theta \left[1 + \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^2\right] \mathbf{e}_\theta.$$

Determine the expressions for the acceleration of a fluid particle moving along the stagnation streamline,  $\theta = \pi$ , and that along the cylinder surface,  $r = a$ . Find the points where these accelerations reach maximum and minimum values. [12]

7. a) In attempting to solve the Navier-Stokes equations, it is necessary to impose appropriate physical conditions on the boundaries of the fluid domain. The boundary conditions imposed on a solid boundary and free surface are some of them. Describe these briefly giving appropriate examples. [4]

- b) Consider a steady, frictionless and incompressible flow over a stationary circular cylinder of radius  $a$  given by

$$\mathbf{v} = U \left\{ \left[ \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^2 - 1 \right] \cos \theta \mathbf{e}_r + \left[ \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^2 + 1 \right] \sin \theta \mathbf{e}_\theta \right\}.$$

- (i) What is the physical significance of the difference between this formula and the one in 6b). [3]

- (ii) For the flow along the streamline forming the cylinder surface,  $r = a$ , express the components of the pressure gradient in terms of the angle  $\theta$ .

Plot speed,  $v$ , as a function of  $r$  along the radial line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $r > a$ . [8:5]

8. a) (i) A steady laminar flow exists in a conduit, with all the streamlines parallel to the walls. Using the momentum equations, determine the simplified differential equations which describe the flow. [8]

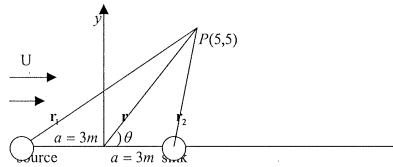
- (ii) If the conduit is horizontal, and the pressure variation normal to the walls is neglected write down the resulting equation governing the flow. [4]

- b) The flow field in a forced vortex is given by  $\mathbf{v} = \omega r \mathbf{e}_\theta$ , where  $\omega = 10/\text{s}$  and  $r$  is in meters. Assume a frictionless fluid with  $\rho = 1000\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ . Express the radial pressure gradient,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial r}$ , as a function of  $r$ . Hence evaluate the pressure change between  $r_1 = 1\text{m}$  and  $r_2 = 2\text{m}$ . [8]

9. a) A two-dimensional incompressible flow is described by  $\mathbf{v} = v_\theta \mathbf{e}_\theta = \omega r \mathbf{e}_\theta$ ;  $v_r = 0$ , in which  $\omega$  is a constant. Sketch this flow and show that it satisfies the continuity equation. Also, evaluate the vorticity of the flow. [7]

b) Let  $\phi = \ln(x^2 + y^2)^{1/2}$  be the velocity potential of a two-dimensional irrotational incompressible flow defined everywhere except at the origin. Find the stream function for this flow. [6]

c) A diagram of the source and sink of equal strength of  $Q = 0.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  is shown below. What is the value of the stream function at  $(x, y) = (5, 5)$  for the combined flows, that is, the source, sink and the uniform flow parallel to the line joining the source and the sink. [7]



10. a) Consider an incompressible flow described by the velocity field  $\mathbf{v} = (u, v, w) = [a(x^2 - y^2), v(\text{unknown}), b]$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. Determine the form of the velocity component  $v$ . [5]

b) Determine under what conditions the flow described by

$$\mathbf{v} = (a(x^2 - y^2), -2axy, 0)$$

is a solution to the Navier-Stokes momentum equation. Assuming that these conditions are met, find the pressure distribution produced when  $z$  is defined vertically upwards. [10]

c) Does a stream function exist for the velocity field of part b). If it does, find it and plot and interpret it. [5]