

## TURBULENCE AND VORTEX DYNAMICS

- ① (a) For a steady, high-Re, 2D flow with closed streamlines,  $\omega = \text{constant}$  outside the boundary layers.

(b) (i)  $\underline{u} \cdot \nabla T = \alpha \nabla^2 T$

If  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\underline{u} \cdot \nabla T = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{u} \perp \nabla T$

Thus  $T$  constant along the streamlines

$$\Rightarrow T = T(\psi)$$

- (ii) If  $\alpha$  small,  $T = T(\psi) + (\text{small correction})$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \underline{u} \cdot \nabla T &= \alpha \nabla \cdot [\nabla T] \\ &= \alpha \nabla \cdot [\nabla T(\psi) + (\text{small correction})] \\ &= \alpha \nabla \cdot [T'(\psi) \nabla \psi + (\text{small correction})] \end{aligned}$$

- (iii) Ignoring small correction

$$\int \underline{u} \cdot \nabla T \, dA = \alpha \int \nabla \cdot [T'(\psi) \nabla \psi] \, dA$$

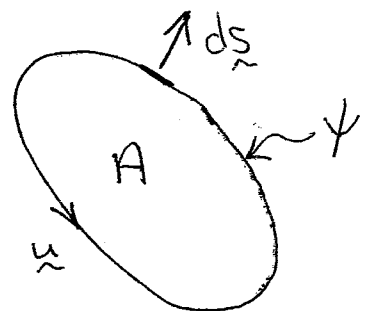
Apply Gauss:

$$\int \underline{u} \cdot \nabla T \, dA = \int \nabla \cdot [T'(\psi) \nabla \psi] \, dA = \int T'(\psi) \nabla \psi \cdot d\underline{s} = 0$$

$$\int \nabla \cdot [T'(\psi) \nabla \psi] \, dA = \int T'(\psi) \nabla \psi \cdot d\underline{s} = T'(\psi) \int \nabla \psi \cdot d\underline{s}$$

( $T'$  is constant on surface)

Thus  $\alpha T'(\psi) \int \nabla \psi \cdot d\underline{s} = 0$



(2)

$$(b) (iv) \quad \int \nabla \psi \cdot d\mathbf{s} = - \oint \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{r} \Rightarrow \alpha T'(\psi) \oint \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0$$

$$\text{But } \alpha \neq 0, \oint \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{r} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \underline{T'(\psi) = 0}$$

Physical interpretation:  $T$  eventually evens out to a constant value by slow cross-stream diffusion.

(c) In a similar way,

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \omega = \nu \nabla^2 \omega \Rightarrow \omega = \omega(\psi) \text{ 'if } \nu \text{ small}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \omega \approx \nu \nabla \cdot [\omega'(\psi) \nabla \psi]$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot [\omega \mathbf{u}] \approx \nu \nabla \cdot [\omega'(\psi) \nabla \psi]$$

$$\text{Integrate: } \int \omega \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \nu \omega'(\psi) \int \nabla \psi \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\nu \omega'(\psi) \oint \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nu \omega'(\psi) \oint \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{\omega'(\psi) = 0}$$

Thus  $\omega$  uniform over the flow.

(d) As for  $T$ , slow cross-stream diffusion

eradicates any gradients in  $\omega$ .

### Examiner's comment:

Q1. A very popular question on the Prandtl-Batchelor theorem with 43 attempts out of 44. The answers were very good by and large, but one or two students seemed quite lost.

② (a) Kelvin: for inviscid fluid  $\frac{D}{Dt} \oint \underline{u} \cdot d\underline{r} = 0$

Helmholtz # 1: Vortex lines frozen into an inviscid fluid, like dye lines

Helmholtz # 2: In an inviscid fluid the flux  $\Phi = \int \underline{\omega} \cdot d\underline{S}$  is constant along a vortex tube and independent of time.

(b) (i)  $d\underline{r} = \lambda \underline{\omega}(x_A, t=0), \quad \frac{D\lambda}{Dt} = 0$

$$\frac{D\underline{c}}{Dt} = \frac{D}{Dt} d\underline{r} - \frac{D}{Dt}(\lambda \underline{\omega}) = \frac{D}{Dt} d\underline{r} - \lambda \frac{D\underline{\omega}}{Dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{D\underline{c}}{Dt} = (d\underline{r} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} - \lambda (\underline{\omega} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} = (d\underline{r} - \lambda \underline{\omega}) \cdot \nabla \underline{u}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\frac{D\underline{c}}{Dt} = \underline{c} \cdot \nabla \underline{u}}}}$$

(ii)  $\underline{c}(t=0) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{D}{Dt} \underline{c} = 0$  at  $t=0$

$\Rightarrow \underline{c}$  remains zero,

$$\Rightarrow d\underline{r} = \lambda \underline{\omega} \text{ at all times}$$

$$\Rightarrow d\underline{r} = \frac{|d\underline{r}(t=0)|}{|\underline{\omega}(t=0)|} \underline{\omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\frac{d\underline{r}}{|d\underline{r}(t=0)|} = \frac{\underline{\omega}}{|\underline{\omega}(t=0)|}}}}$$

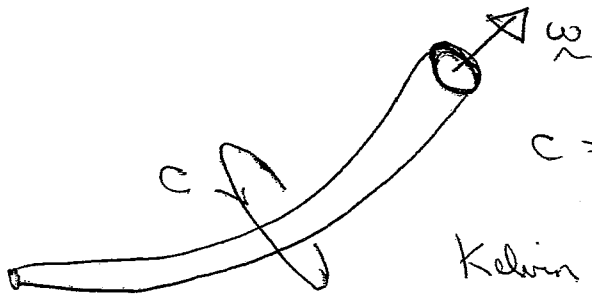
$\Rightarrow d\underline{r}$  always remains  $\parallel^R$  to  $\underline{\omega}$

(4)

(b) (iii) Since  $d\vec{r}$  remains  $\parallel$  to  $\vec{\omega}(\vec{x}_A)$ , the two vectors  $d\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{\omega}$  must stay coincident

[Alternatively,  $d\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{\omega}$  evolve according to the same evolution equations, so if they start coincident they must stay coincident.]

(c)



$C =$  material line

$$\text{Kelvin} \Rightarrow \frac{D}{Dt} \oint_C \vec{u} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \oint_C \vec{u} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_C \vec{\omega} \cdot d\vec{S} = \text{constant}$$

Thus flux through  $C$  does not change so  $C$  always encloses the vortex tube. This is true of any

material line which encircles the tube at  $t=0$ ,

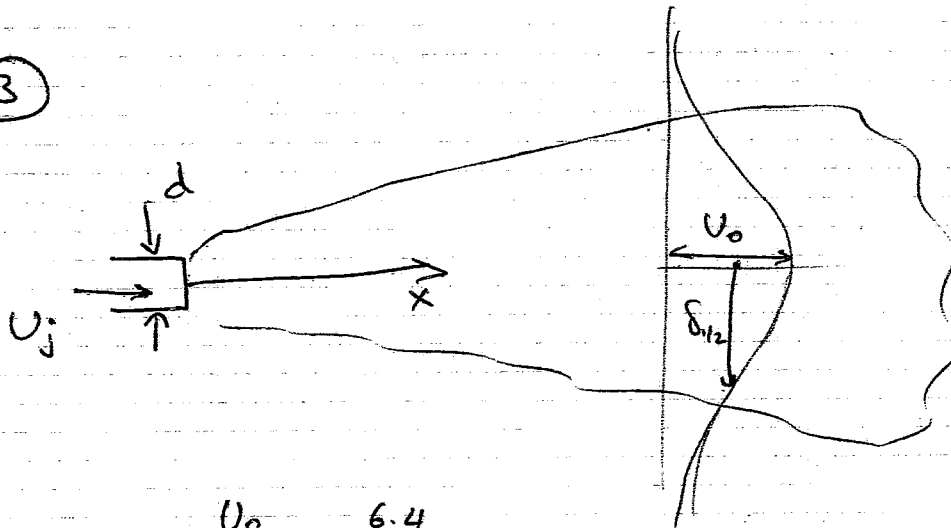
Thus  $\vec{\omega}$ -tube must also move with the fluid.

### Examiner's comments:

Q2. A very popular question on Helmholtz's laws of vortex dynamics, with 43 attempts out of 44.

The answers were uniformly good.

(3)



$$\frac{U_0}{U_j} = \frac{6.4}{x/d}$$

(a) The half-width of the jet  $\delta_{1/2}$  can be used to estimate the integral lengthscale  $L$ . For a jet,  $\delta_{1/2} \approx 0.1 x$  (NOTE: the thickness of all thin shear flows  $\ll x$ , so  $0.10x$  is a good estimate for all such flows).

The self-preserving jet has  $\frac{u}{U_0} = \text{constant}$

( $u$ : turbulent velocity) and we know that

$$\frac{u}{U_0} \approx 25\% \text{ for a jet.}$$

Therefore, the various turbulence scales are:

$$T = \frac{L}{u} = \frac{0.1 x}{0.25 U_0} = \frac{0.1}{0.25 \cdot 6.4} \frac{x}{U_j (x/d)^{-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{0.1}{0.25 \cdot 6.4} \frac{d}{U_j} \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^2 \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{eddy turnover} \\ \text{integral time} \end{array} \right)$$

$$T' = \frac{L}{U_0} = \frac{0.1 x}{6.4 U_j (x/d)^{-1}} = \frac{0.1}{6.4} \frac{d}{U_j} \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^2$$

(integral timescale)

3 contd

The Kolmogorov lengthscale  $\eta_k$  is  $\eta_k = L Re_t^{-3/4}$  (6)

The turbulent Reynolds number is  $Re_t = \frac{uL}{\nu}$

$$Re_t = \frac{uL}{\nu} = \frac{(0.25 U_0)(0.1 \text{ m})}{\nu} = (0.25 \cdot 6.4 \cdot 0.1) \frac{U_j d}{\nu} \\ = 0.16 \frac{U_j d}{\nu}$$

The fastest frequency that the hot wire must follow is given by the need to resolve the smallest eddy ( $\eta_k$ ) as it is convected by the mean flow past the probe. Therefore, the fastest frequency is

$$\frac{U_0}{\eta_k} = \frac{6.4 U_j \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^{-1}}{(0.1 \text{ m}) (0.16 U_j d / \nu)^{-3/4}}$$

Putting numbers, for  $d = 10 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$ ,  $U_j = 50 \text{ m/s}$ ,  $\nu$  for air at 1 bar & 300K  $\approx 1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ , we get:

$$Re_t = 35333, \quad L = 0.05 \text{ m}, \quad U_0 = 6.4 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\eta_k = 0.08 \text{ mm} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{U_0}{\eta_k} \approx 80 \text{ kHz}}$$

(b) The statistical convergence of our measured mean follows

(relative error)  $\sim \frac{u}{U_0} \left(\frac{T'}{T_{\text{samp}}}\right)^{1/2}$ . Therefore, the sampling

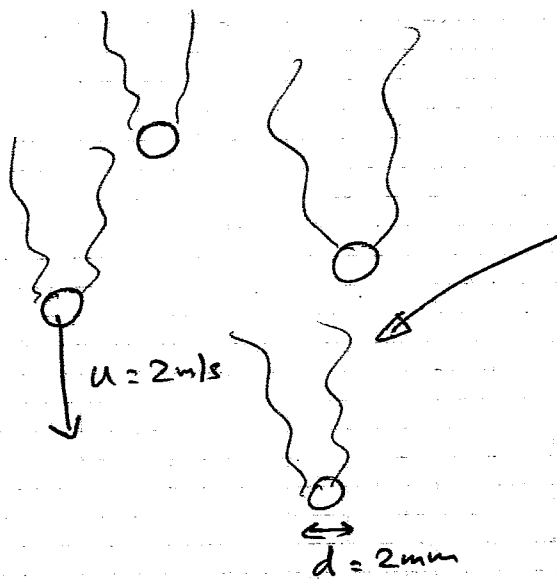
time  $T_{\text{samp}}$  must be  $625 T'$  for 1% relative error,  $\left(\frac{0.25}{0.01}\right)^2$

$\Rightarrow \underline{4.9 \text{ s}}$ , NOTE the use of  $T'$ , not the eddy turnover time  $T$ , due

## Examiner's comment:

Q3. A straight forward question on turbulent jets which was avoided by almost everyone, with only 7 attempts out of 44. This is the second year running that the question on turbulent jets was avoided by nearly all candidates

4



turbulence with integral  
lengthscale  $L \propto$  kinetic  
energy  $k$ .

8

Average distance between drops:  $u^{-1/3} = 0.046m$

(a) We may expect the lengthscale of the turbulence to be larger than  $d$ , since the scale of the turbulence inside the wake (which scales with  $d$ ) will grow as the wakes evolve.

We may expect the growth mechanism to stop when the wake is intercepted by a second drop, which will happen at the average distance between the drops ( $u^{-1/3}$ ).

(b) From the  $k$ -equation (data card) for stationary homogeneous systems, the body force is the only production mechanism.

$$g_i k_i = \epsilon$$

For our problem ~~the~~ the body force on the fluid per unit mass is needed. Since the drops fall at their terminal velocity, the drag =  $m \cdot g$  ( $m$  = mass of drop).

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\left( \rho_L \frac{\pi}{6} d^3 \right) \cdot g \cdot \eta / \rho}_{\substack{\text{force per unit} \\ \text{fluid volume} \\ \text{force per unit}}} \cdot \underbrace{u}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{terminal} \\ \text{velocity}}} = \text{power in per unit mass}$$



4 cont'd

(9)

$$\therefore \frac{\rho_L}{\rho} \frac{\pi}{6} d^3 g h u = \varepsilon = \frac{k^{3/2}}{L} \quad (\text{using the usual model for } \varepsilon)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho_L}{\rho} \frac{\pi}{6} d^3 g h u L = k^{3/2}$$

So, for  $L = d$ ,  $k^{1/2} = 0.13 \text{ m/s}$

and for  $L = h^{-1/3}$ ,  $k^{1/2} = 0.33 \text{ m/s}$

For  $k^{1/2} = u$ ,  $L = \frac{u^2}{\left(\frac{\rho_L}{\rho} \frac{\pi}{6} d^3 g h\right)}$

$= 10.71 \text{ m}$  huge!

$\rho_L = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
 $\rho = 1.1 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
 $g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$   
 $d = 2 \text{ mm}$   
 $h = 10^4 \text{ m}^3$   
 $u = 2 \text{ m/s}$

Clearly,  $k^{1/2} \sim u$  is an overestimate.

(c) The wake's growth will be disrupted at an average distance  $x \sim h^{1/3} = 0.046 \text{ m}$  i.e. 23d from the drop. At  $\frac{x}{d} = 23$ , the wake thickness will be  $\delta_{1/2} = d \cdot 0.6 (23)^{1/3} = 3.41 \text{ mm}$ .

This actually begins to make sense: greater than d, not as large as  $h^{-1/3}$ . The truth is probably somewhere around here.

The turbulence inside the wake will be a fraction of the outer velocity u, so our estimates - (b) make some sense too.

Examiner's comment:

Q4. A popular question on turbulent energy dissipation with 39 attempts out of 44. The attempts were reasonably satisfactory, but very few candidates could estimate the energy input to the turbulence.