

# VORTEX IN HYDRODYNAMICS : DEFINITIONS

Vorticity is defined as

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \nabla \times \mathbf{U}$$

$$\omega_x = \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}$$

$$\omega_y = \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$$

$$\omega_z = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

$$\omega_r = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial u_\theta}{\partial z}$$

$$\omega_\theta = \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r}$$

$$\omega_z = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r u_\theta)}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial r}$$

Vorticity is measured in SI units: 1/sec

## Vortex versus Vorticity

Vortex is a Coherent Flow Structure :  
a geometrical or practical object difficult to formalize

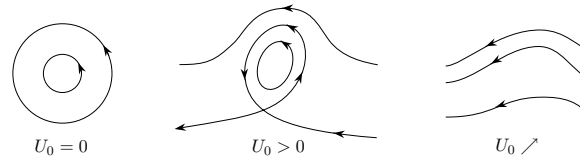
Vorticity  $\omega$  is a mathematical concept.

Spatial coherence  $\longrightarrow$  Compact field

Time coherence  $\longrightarrow$  Conservation Law

## Why one chooses vorticity to identify structures

Dependence upon the chosen referential of the observer of patterns based on streamlines



Versus

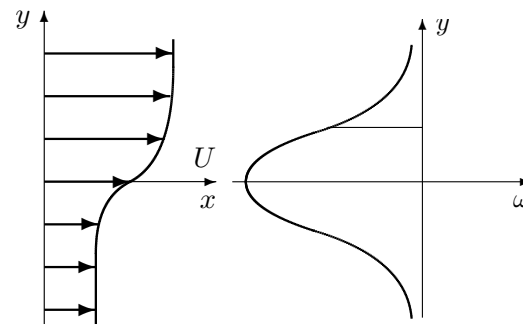
Galilean invariance of patterns based on vorticity

## Vorticity Solutions with symmetry

### The Solid body rotation

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{2} \omega \times \vec{r} \quad \text{an exact Navier-Stokes solution in which vorticity is a constant.}$$

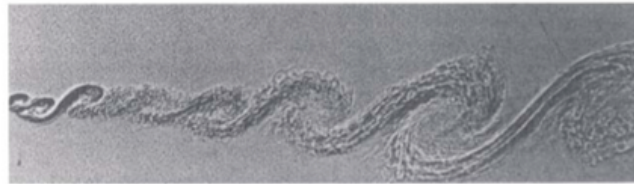
### The plane mixing layer



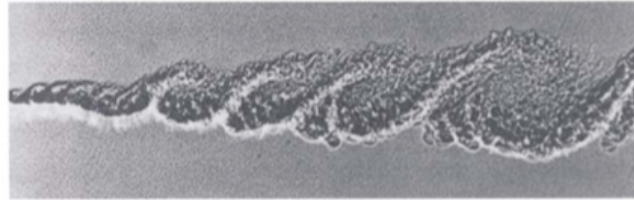
$$\vec{u} = U(y) \vec{e}_x$$

$$\omega = \left( -\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \right) \vec{e}_z$$

## Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability



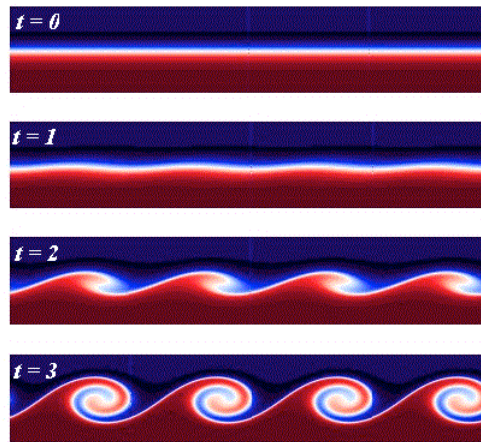
(a)



(b)

Fig. 2.7. Large scale structures in mixing layers at high Reynolds numbers.  $Re$  in (b) is doubled with respect to  $Re$  in (a). After Van Dyke (1982).

## Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability



Temporal problem : DNS



Inflexion point for velocity field

Maximum of  $|\omega|$

Shear Instability

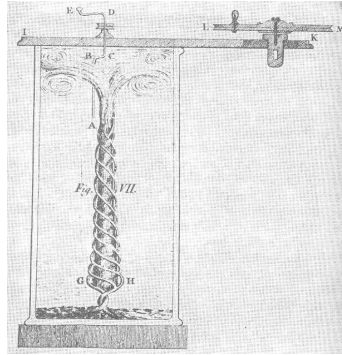


## A Columnar Vortex

$$\begin{aligned} u_\theta(r) \\ u_z(r) \\ u_r = 0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_\theta &= -\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r} \\ \omega_z &= \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r u_\theta)}{\partial r} \end{aligned}$$

Vortex + Jet



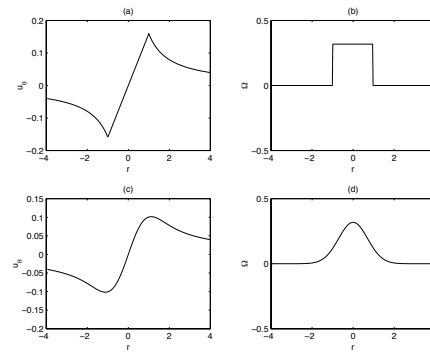
Wilcke, Stockholm 1780



Tip vortices

## Rankine Vortex

## Lamb-Oseen Vortex



## Rankine Vortex

$$U_\theta(r, t) = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi a^2} r, \Omega(r, t) = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi a^2}, r < a$$

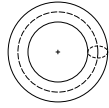
$$U_\theta(r, t) = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r}, \Omega(r, t) = 0, r > a$$

## Lamb-Oseen Vortex

$$U_\theta(r, t) = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r} [1 - \exp(-\frac{r^2}{a^2})]$$

$$\Omega(r, t) = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi a^2} \exp(-\frac{r^2}{a^2})$$

## A Vortex Ring



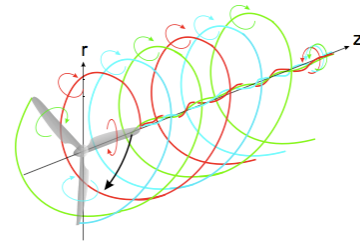
$$\vec{u} = u_r(r, z, t) \vec{e}_r + u_z(r, z, t) \vec{e}_z$$

$$\omega = \omega_\theta(r, z, t) \vec{e}_\theta \quad \omega_\theta(r, z, t) = \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r}$$



Vortex due to a Volcano

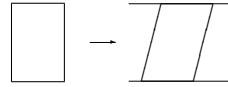
## A helical Vortex



## Kinematical interpretation of Vorticity

### Following a Fluid Particle

$$\vec{u} = U(y) \vec{e}_x$$



Global Displacement

Rotation

Deformation

It is a measure of the rate of rotation of a fluid element

The relative fluid motion nearby a point A  
moving with the fluid particle.

Let B be a point in the vicinity of A.

$$(\vec{u}(B) - \vec{u}(A))_i \equiv \delta u_i = \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right) \delta x_j \quad \text{Taylor expansion}$$

$$\delta u_i = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)}_{\equiv e_{ij}} \delta x_j + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)}_{\equiv \Omega_{ij}} \delta x_j \quad \text{Decomposition}$$

$$\delta u_i = e_{ij} \delta x_j + \Omega_{ij} \delta x_j$$

$e_{ij}$  Deformation rate tensor (symmetric)

$\Omega_{ij}$  Rotation tensor (antisymmetric)

$$\Omega_{ij} \delta x_j = \left( \left( \frac{\omega}{2} \right) \times \delta x \right)_i \quad \omega_k = \epsilon_{kmn} \partial_m U_n$$

$$\delta u_i = e_{ij} \delta x_j + \left( \left( \frac{\omega}{2} \right) \times \delta x \right)_i$$

The second term expresses a solid body rotation along an axis parallel to the vorticity vector.

$$e_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i U_j + \partial_j U_i) \quad \text{Symmetric Tensor}$$

$$\frac{D}{Dt}((d\vec{x})^2) = 2(d\vec{x}) \cdot \frac{D}{Dt}(d\vec{x}) = 2 d\vec{x} \cdot \vec{e} \cdot d\vec{x} \quad \text{expresses the deformation}$$

## Dynamical interpretation of Vorticity

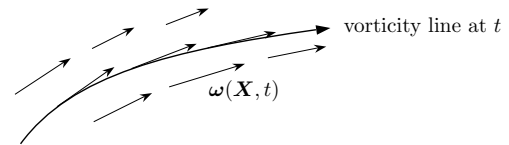
If the fluid particle possesses spherical symmetry,  
its angular momentum in the barycentric referential frame is

$$(\delta \vec{\sigma})_i = I \omega_i$$

$$I_{jl} = I \delta_{jl} \quad \text{is the inertia tensor}$$

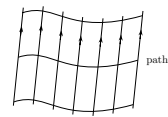


## Vorticity lines



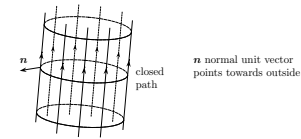
Oriented lines whose tangents are in the same direction as  $\vec{\omega}(\vec{X})$

## Vorticity surfaces



A set of vorticity lines passing through a given path

## Vorticity tube



path is closed

## Topology of Vorticity Lines

$$\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} A \sin[\alpha z] + C \cos[\alpha y] \\ B \sin[\alpha x] + A \cos[\alpha z] \\ C \sin[\alpha y] + B \cos[\alpha x] \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{ABC Flow:} \\ \text{Steady Euler solution} \end{array}$$

This a Beltrami flow  $\vec{\omega} = \alpha \vec{u}$

Vorticity lines= streamlines = Particle trajectories

They follows the ODE equation  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \vec{u}(\vec{x})$

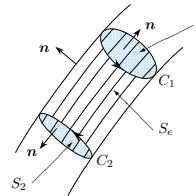
$A = B = 0$  Vorticity lines are straight lines

For some values of A, B, C, the system is chaotic

Vorticity lines can have a very complicated pattern

## Vortex tubes: Kinematics

Vorticity is a divergenceless quantity  $\frac{\partial \omega_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$



$$0 = \iint_{S_1} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{n} dS + \iint_{S_2} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{n} dS + \iint_{S_e} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{n} dS$$

$$\Gamma \equiv \oint_{C_1} \vec{U} \cdot d\vec{X} = \iint_{S_1} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{n} dS = \oint_{C_2} \vec{U} \cdot d\vec{X} = - \iint_{S_2} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{n} dS$$

Characteristic of the vortex tube: its circulation

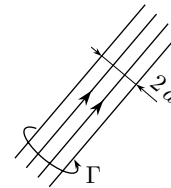
## Vorticity tube surrounded by an irrotational fluid: a vortex

$\Gamma$  **circulation** giving its strength or intensity.

$$[\Gamma] = L^2 T^{-1} \quad \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$Re = \frac{\Gamma}{\nu} \quad \text{Reynolds of a Vortex}$$

$a$  **core size**



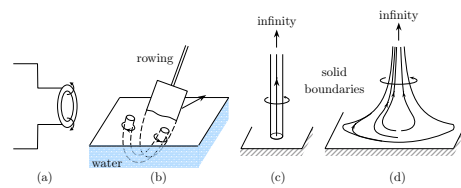
## Topology of Vortex tubes

Vorticity tubes are either

A) closed,

B) go to infinity,

C) end on surface boundaries

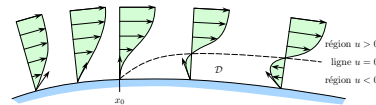


## Walls and Vorticity

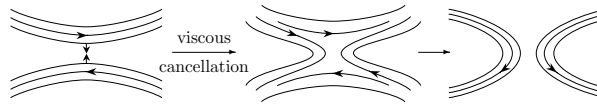
On no-slip Boundaries

$$\oint_{C_s} \vec{U} \cdot d\vec{X} = 0 \quad \forall C_s \quad \vec{\omega} \parallel \text{ to a no-slip surface}$$

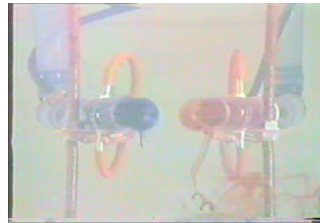
Vorticity at a separation point on a no-slip wall



$$\omega_z = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$



Topological changes : reconnections



From Lim's website