
Fundamentals of Inviscid, Incompressible Flow

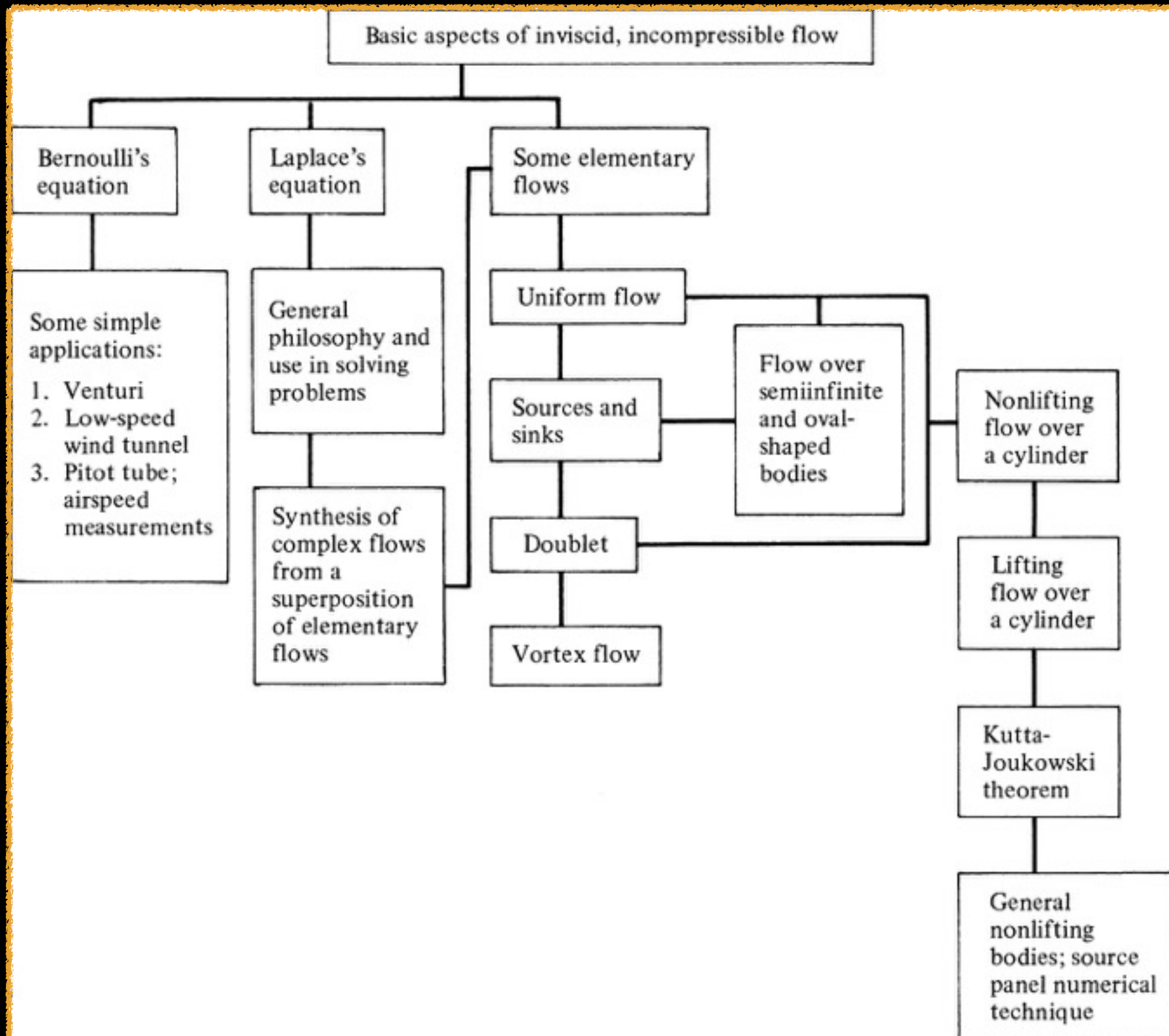
Isaac Choutapalli

*Department of Mechanical Engineering
The University of Texas - Pan American
Edinburg, TX*

● *We will focus on fundamentals of inviscid, incompressible flow.*

- ✱ How low-speed tunnels work
- ✱ Low-speed velocity measurement
- ✱ Flow over streamlined bodies

Roadmap



Introduction



$V_{\text{aircraft}} \approx 30 \text{ mi/hr}$

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Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force
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Bernoulli's Equation

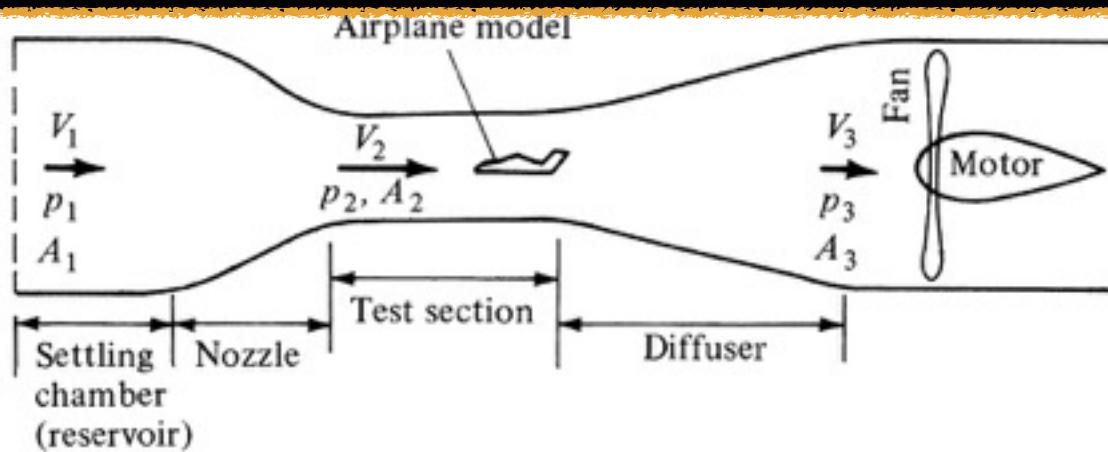
- *Relates pressure and velocity in inviscid and incompressible flow.*

$$\rho \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right] = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$$

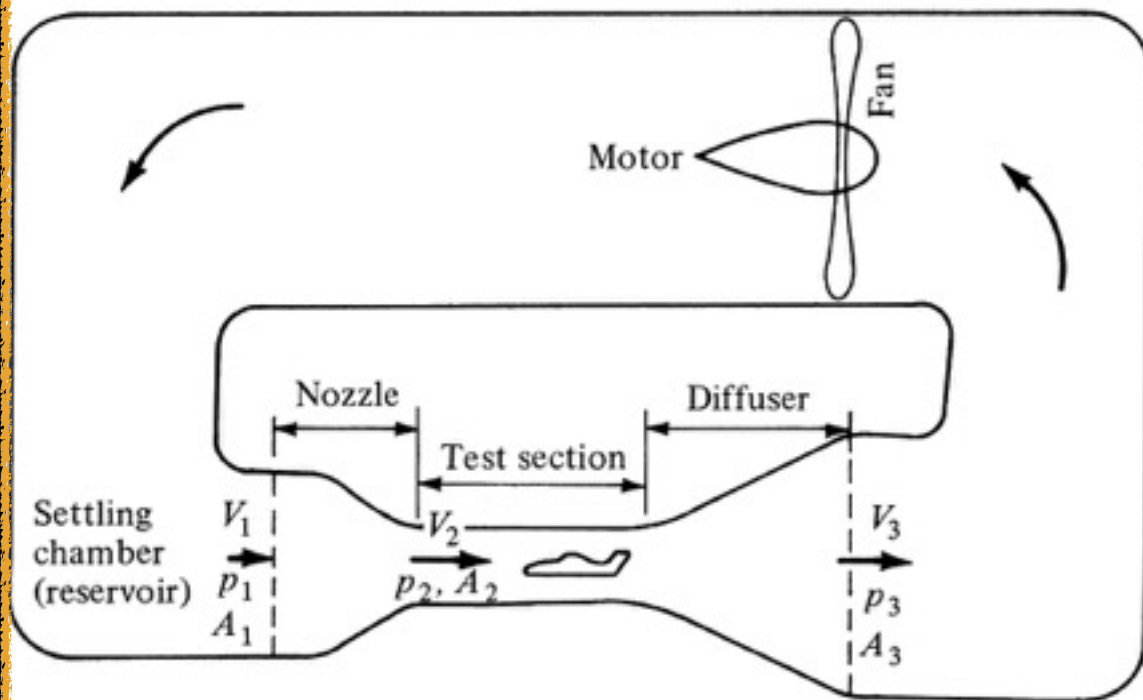
$$\text{Euler's Equation: } dp = -\rho V dV$$

$$p + \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 = \text{constant}$$

Incompressible Flow in a Duct



(a) Open-circuit tunnel



(b) Closed-circuit tunnel

(b) Closed-circuit tunnel

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V + \int_S \rho V \cdot dS = 0$$

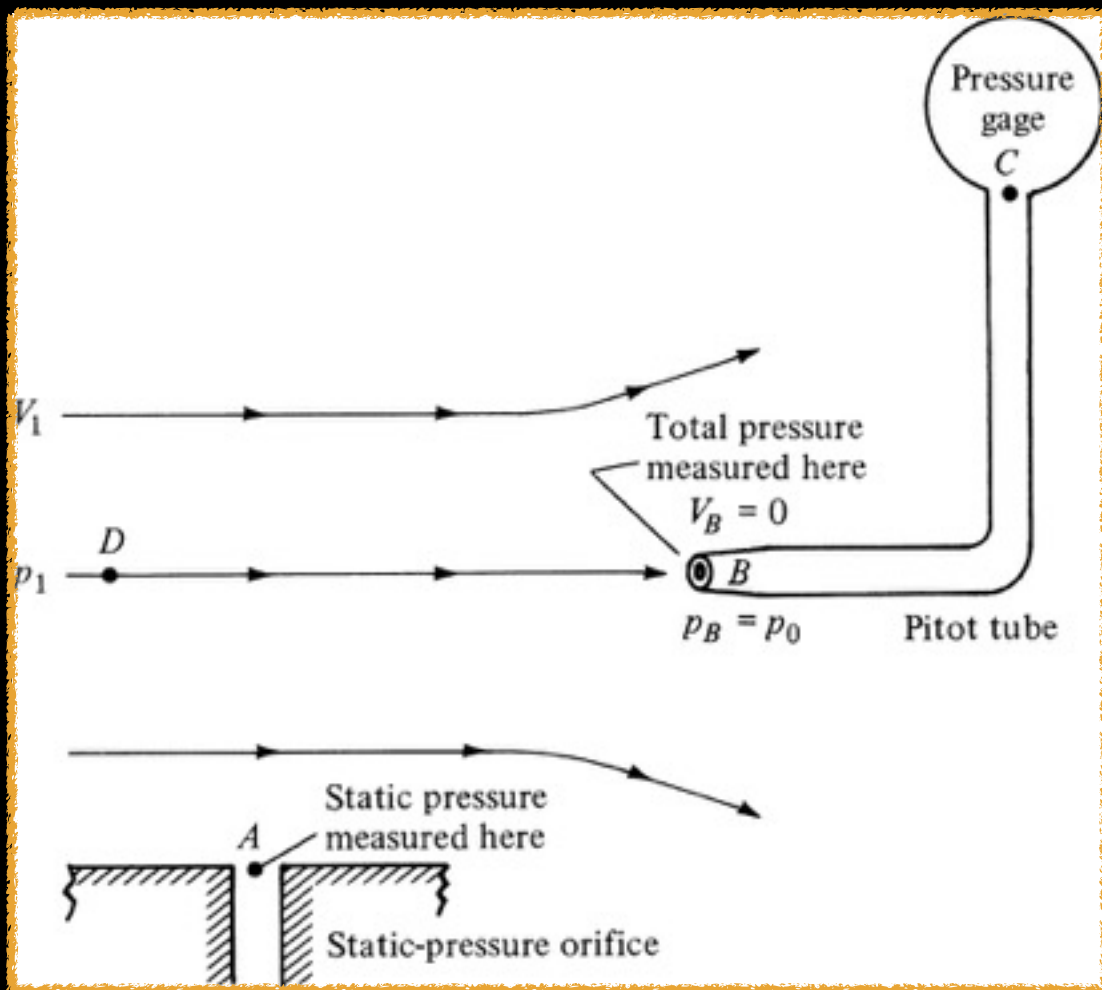
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \rho d\nu + \int_S \rho V \cdot dS = 0$$

$$V_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2(p_1 - p_2)}{\rho[1 - (A_2/A_1)^2]}}$$

$$V_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2\rho g \Delta h}{\rho[1 - (A_2/A_1)^2]}}$$

Measurement of Airspeed

- The most common device for measuring airspeed is the *pitot tube*.

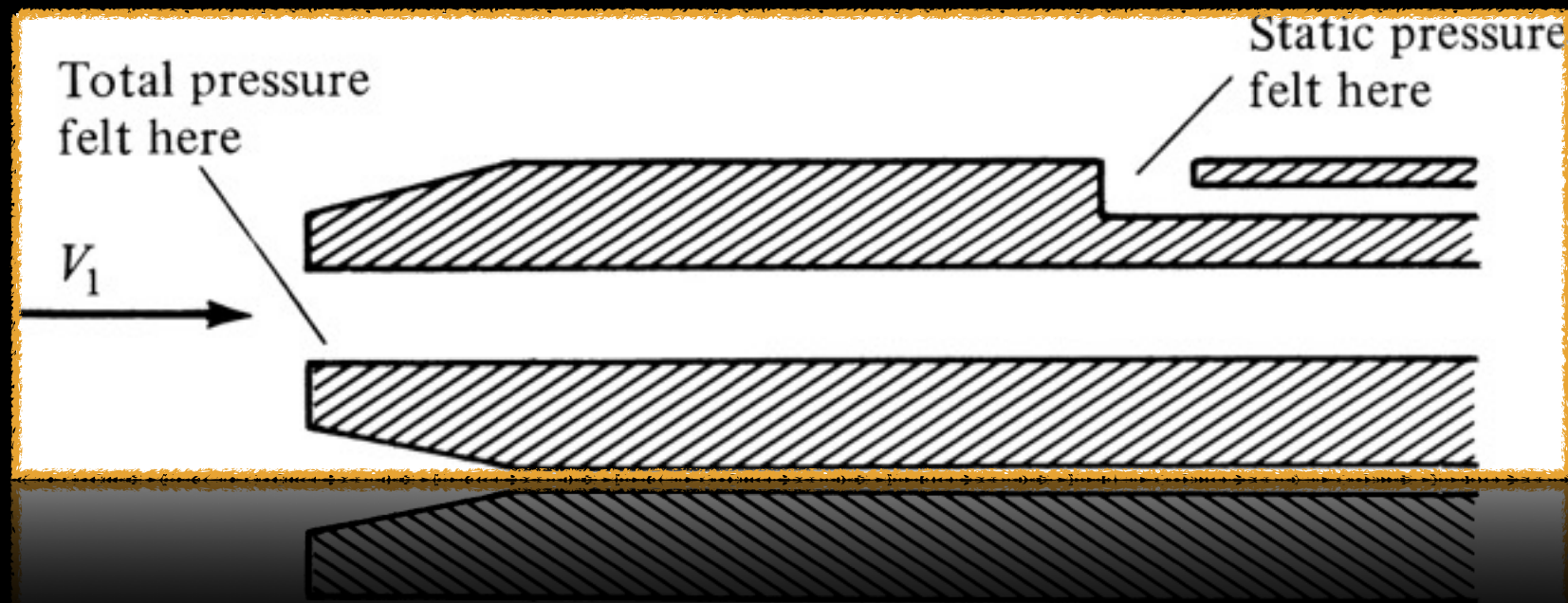


- ## Static Pressure

- Pressure is associated with rate of change of momentum of gas molecules impacting/crossing a surface.
- Pressure clearly related to the random motion of the molecules.
- Static pressure is a measure of the purely random motion of molecules in a Lagrangian frame of reference*

- When flow moves over point A, the pressure felt is due only to the random motion of the particles - *Static pressure*.

The Pitot-Static Probe

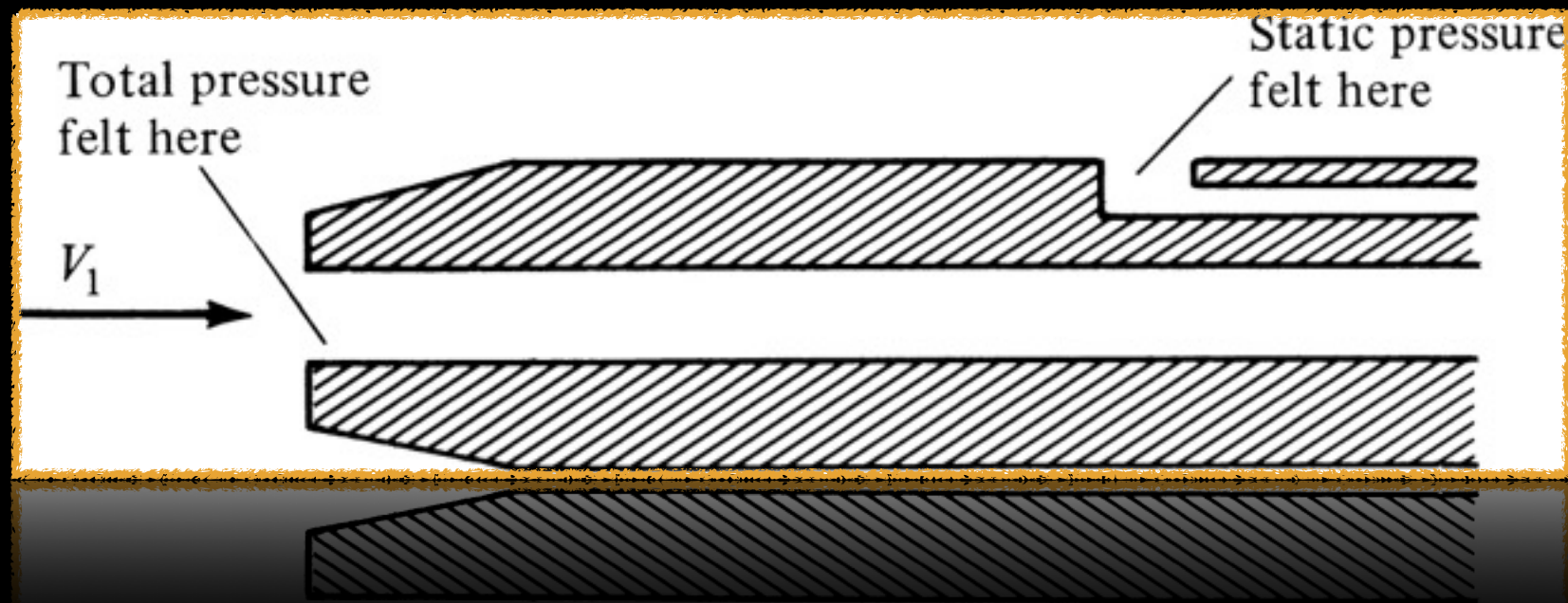


$$V_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2(p_0 - p_1)}{\rho}}$$

$$p_1 + \frac{1}{2}\rho V_1^2 = p_0$$

Static pressure *Dynamic pressure* *Total pressure*

The Pitot-Static Probe

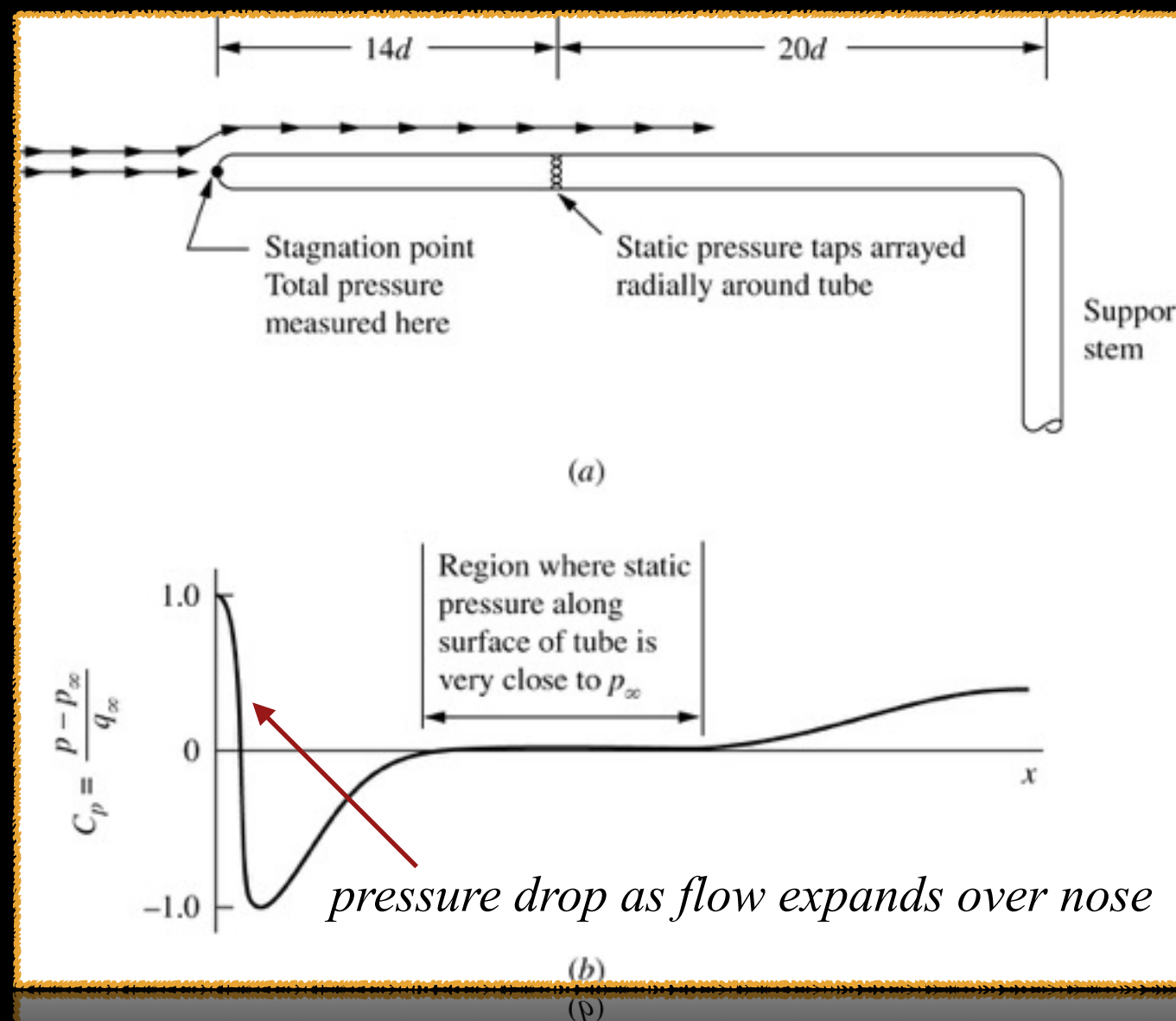


$$V_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2(p_0 - p_1)}{\rho}}$$

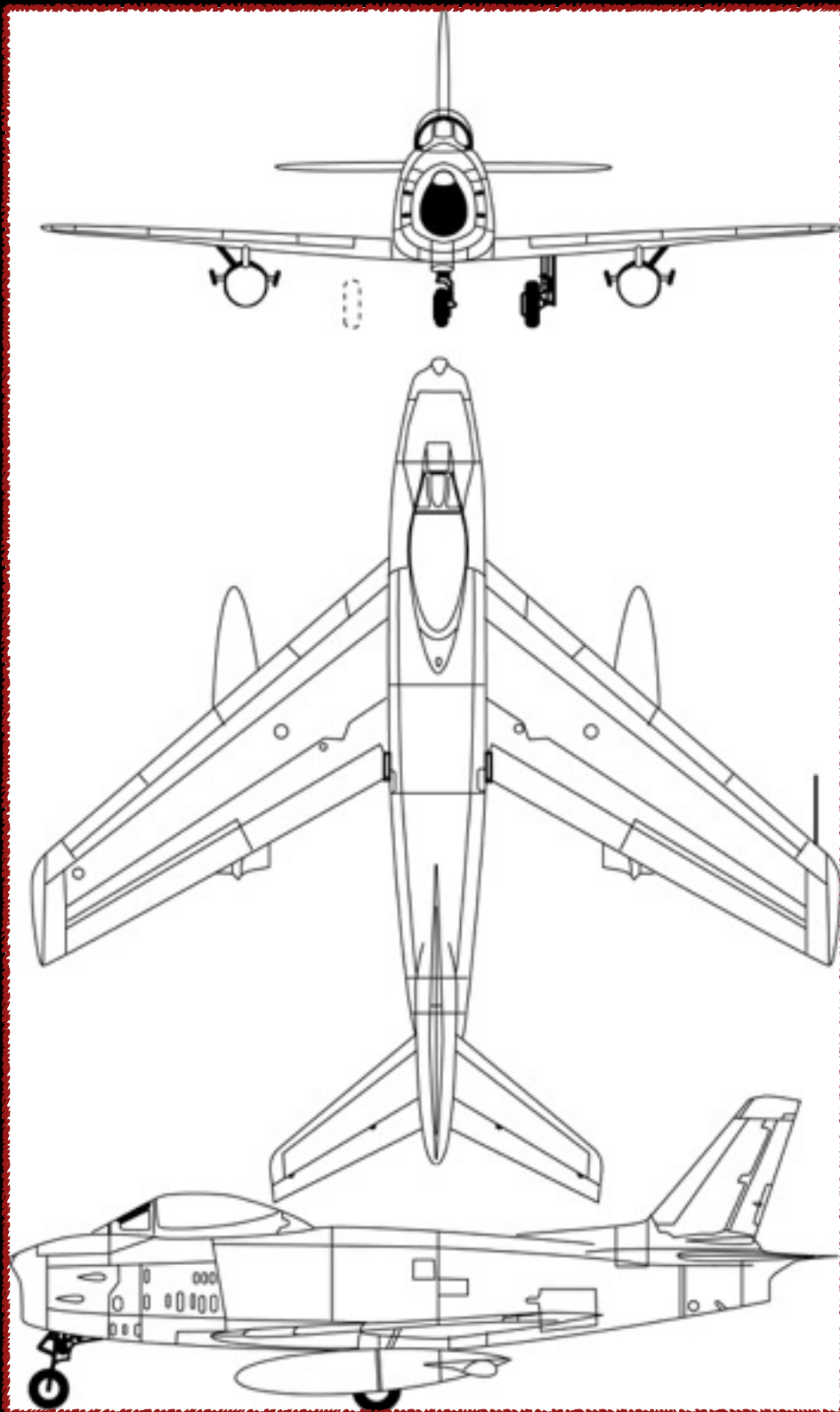
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} p_1 & + & \frac{1}{2}\rho V_1^2 & = & p_0 \\ \swarrow & & \uparrow & & \nwarrow \\ \text{Static pressure} & & \text{Dynamic pressure} & & \text{Total pressure} \end{array}$$

Pitot-Static Probe Design

- *The probe should be long, streamlined such that the static pressure over a substantial portion of the probe is equal to free stream static pressure*



Pitot-Static Probe Design



- *Pitot-static probes should be located in a position away from influences of local flow field.*
- *On aircraft, static pressure is generally obtained by a properly placed static pressure tap on the fuselage.*

Pressure Coefficient

- Pressure coefficient C_p - *a similarity parameter* used through out aerodynamics, from incompressible to hypersonic flow.

$$C_p = \frac{p - p_\infty}{q_\infty} \qquad q_\infty = \frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty V_\infty^2$$

$$\text{For incompressible flow, } C_p = 1 - \left(\frac{V}{V_\infty} \right)^2$$

- For incompressible flow, *pressure coefficient at stagnation point is always 1.0* (can be greater than 1.0 for compressible flow).
- In regions of flow where local velocity is less than freestream velocity, pressure coefficient will be negative (local pressure is less than freestream pressure).

Pressure Coefficient contd.

- *From the worked out example C_p is obviously unchanged as the velocity is increased.*
- ✱ *From dimensional analysis, C_p depends on Mach number, Reynolds number, shape, orientation of body and location on body..*
- ✱ *In this example, M and Re are not in picture (why?). C_p only depends on location, shape and orientation of the body.*
- ✱ *Hence, C_p will not change with free stream velocity or density as long as the flow is incompressible and inviscid.*
- *For such flows, if C_p distribution can be determined by some means beforehand, it will remain the same for all freestream values of velocity and density.*

Pressure Coefficient contd.

- *The velocity when $C_p = -5.3$ was calculated to be 753ft/s. Is this correct?*

$$M = \frac{753}{1117} \approx 0.7$$

- *Here, the flow has expanded locally into the compressible flow regime.*
- *Therefore, use of incompressible Bernoulli's equation to calculate C_p is incorrect.*
- *Even if the model is being tested in a low-speed wind tunnel, the flow can some times accelerate to achieve high Mach numbers that it must be considered compressible.*

Governing Equations

Incompressible flow: $\nabla \cdot V = 0$

$$V = \nabla \Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot (\nabla \Phi) = 0$$

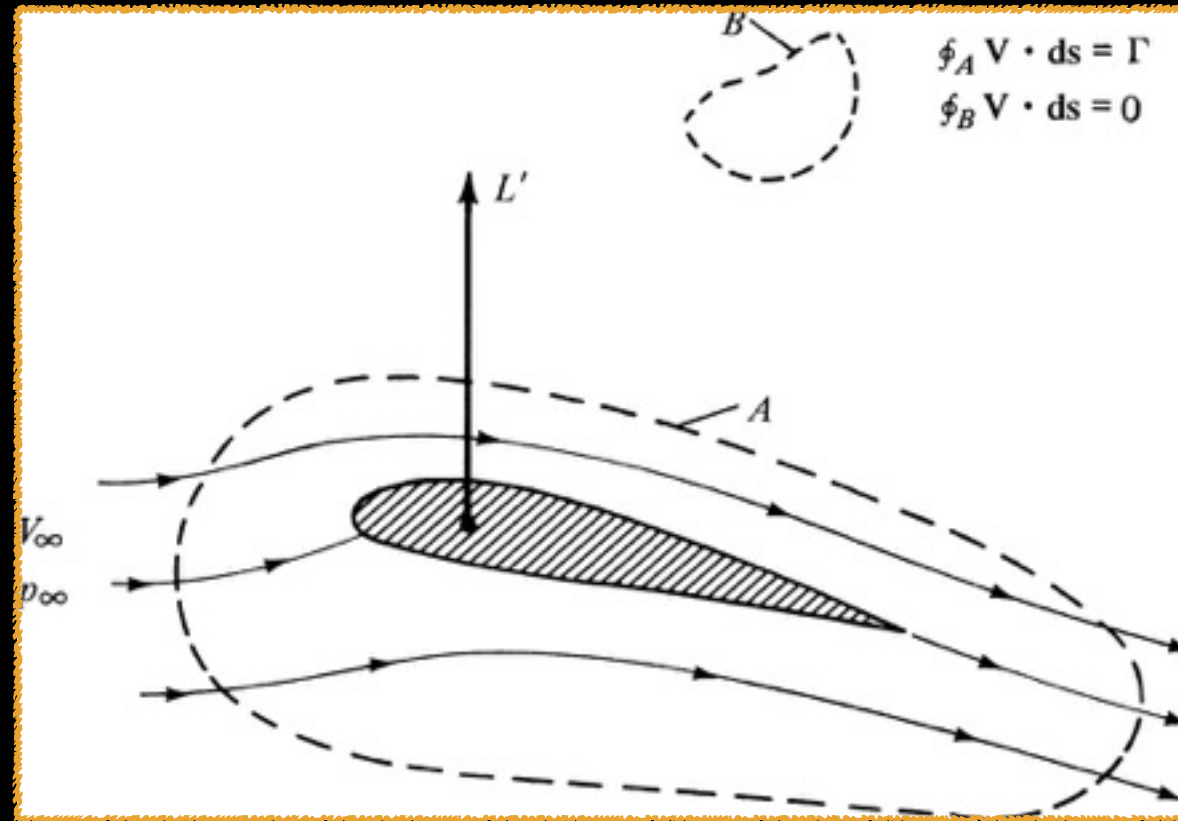
$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \Phi = 0 \text{ and } \nabla^2 \psi = 0$$

- *The above equation is the Laplace equation, the solutions of which are called the harmonic functions.*
- *Incompressible flows can be described by the solutions of the Laplace equation.*

Governing Equations

- *Irrotational, incompressible flows are governed by Laplace equation which is linear.*
- *Linearity implies, a complicated flow pattern can be constructed by adding together various elementary flows which also are linear.*
- *Different elementary flows*
 - * Uniform flow
 - * Source/Sink flow
 - * Doublet
 - * Vortex flow
 - * Combination of the above

The Kutta-Joukowski Theorem



$$\Gamma = \oint_A \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

$$L' = \rho_\infty V_\infty \Gamma$$

The Kutta-Joukowski Theorem

- *Lifting flow over a cylinder = uniform flow + doublet + vortex*
 - ✱ All three are irrotational except for vortex
 - ✱ Vortex has infinite vorticity at the origin
 - ✱ So, lifting flow over the cylinder is irrotational at every point except origin.

$$\Gamma = \oint V \cdot ds = 0 \quad \text{not including origin}$$

- *Similar arguments for flow over airfoil*
 - ✱ Flow outside the airfoil is irrotational
 - ✱ Circulation by not including the airfoil is zero
 - ✱ Kutta-Joukowski theorem requires inclusion of airfoil body to obtain finite circulation (*sum of all vortex's strengths that constitute the airfoil*)

Real Flow over a Circular Cylinder

