

*** Vorticity Equation Derivation ***

U-component

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - f v \right) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + v \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + w \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} v - f \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) \\ & (1a) \quad (2a) \quad (3a) \quad (4a) \quad (5a) \quad (6a) \quad (7a) \quad (8a) \quad (9a) \quad (10a) \quad (11a) \end{aligned}$$

V-component

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + f u \right) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + v \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + w \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} f = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) \\ & (1b) \quad (2b) \quad (3b) \quad (4b) \quad (5b) \quad (6b) \quad (7b) \quad (8b) \quad (9b) \quad (10b) \quad (11b) \end{aligned}$$

* Subtract the U-component from the V-component

* Recall, $\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \zeta$

* Also, remember that for partial derivatives we can switch order of differentials!!

→ taking (1b) - (1a) yields $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t}$ ①

→ taking (3b) - (3a) yields $u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) - u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) = u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = u \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x}$ ②

→ taking (5b) - (5a) yields $v \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) - v \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) = v \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = v \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y}$ ③

→ taking (7b) - (7a) yields $w \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) - w \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) = w \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = w \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z}$ ④

→ taking (2b) - (2a) yields $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \zeta$

→ taking (4b) - (4a) yields $\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \zeta$

→ taking (9b) - (9a) yields $f \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - f \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = f \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right]$

→ taking (6b) - (6a) yields $\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)$ ⑥

→ taking (8b) - (8a) yields $u \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ ⑦

→ taking (11b) - (11a) yields $-\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) = 0$

→ taking (10b) - (10a) yields $\frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} - \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right)$ ⑧

combine → $\zeta \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right]$ ⑤

combine → $(\zeta + f) \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right]$

* We are left with ----

$$\frac{d\zeta}{dt} + u \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} + (\zeta + f) \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right] + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + v \frac{df}{dy} = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \right)$$

→ Recall, $\frac{d\zeta}{dt} + u \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} = \frac{d}{dt}(\zeta)$

→ Also, $\frac{df}{dt} = \frac{df}{dt} + u \frac{df}{dx} + v \frac{df}{dy} + w \frac{df}{dz}$

thus, $v \frac{df}{dy} = \frac{d}{dt}(f)$

COMBINE THESE
TERMS AND REWRITE
EQUATION ABOVE

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\zeta + f) = -(\zeta + f) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) - \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \right)$$

Rate of change in the
absolute vorticity
following the
motion

divergence
term

tilting or
twisting
term

Solenoidal
term