



*MEC516/BME516:  
Fluid Mechanics I*

*Chapter 3: Control Volume Analysis  
Part 8*

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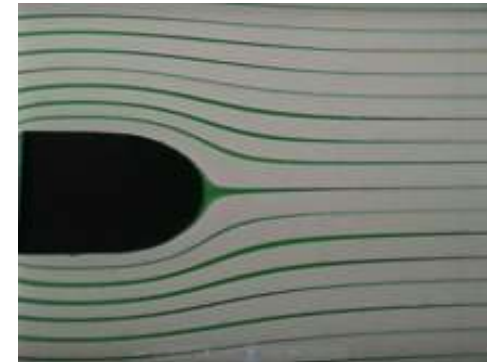
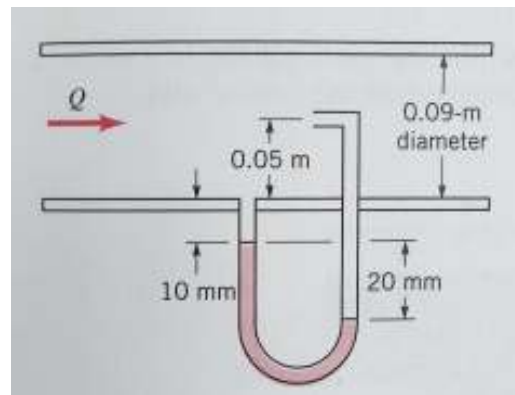
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## Overview

Applications of the Bernoulli equation

- Static pressure and dynamic pressure
- Stagnation Point and Stagnation Pressure
- The Pitot Tube: An instrument for measuring local fluid velocity.
- Numerical Example: Air speed measurement in a wind tunnel using a Pitot Tube.



## The Bernoulli Equation

- In the last video, we showed:

$$\frac{p}{\rho} + \frac{v^2}{2} + gz = \text{const}$$

(on a streamline)

- Multiplying by density,  $\rho$ :

$$p + \rho \frac{v^2}{2} + \rho gz = \text{const}$$

- Now all the terms have the units of pressure, N/m<sup>2</sup> or lb/ft<sup>2</sup>. In this form:

$p$  is called the *static pressure*

$\rho \frac{v^2}{2}$  is called the *dynamic pressure*

$\rho gz$  is the *hydrostatic pressure gradient* (recall Chapter 2)

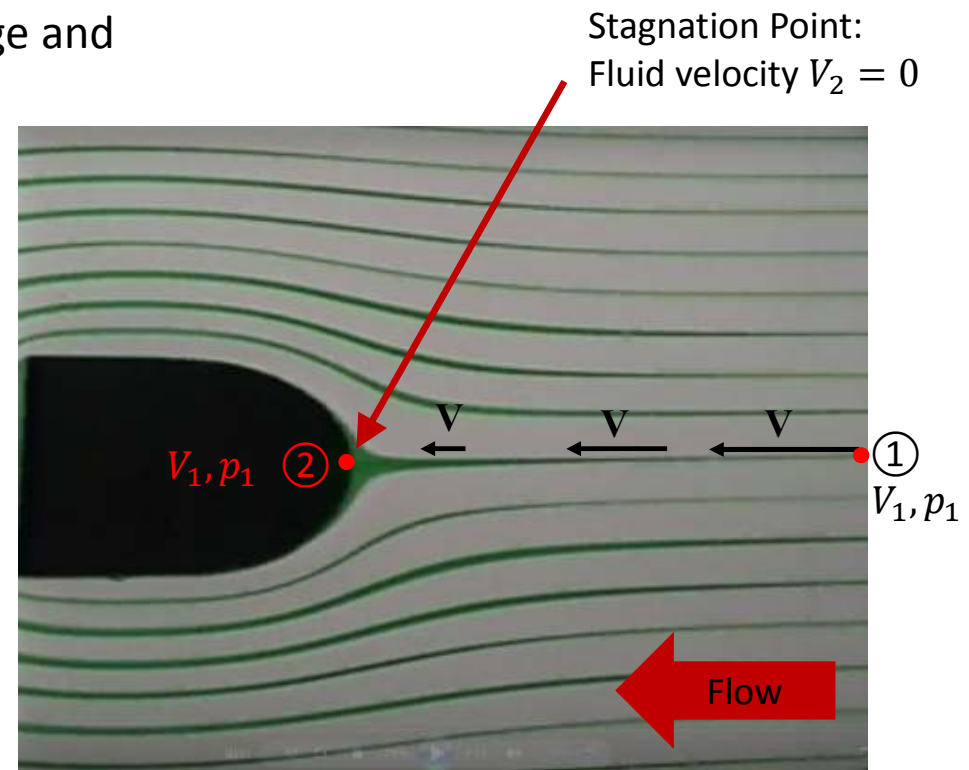
## The Stagnation Point & Stagnation Pressure

- Consider the streamlines in a steady horizontal flow, shown below.
- The centre streamline impinges on the leading edge and the fluid decelerates to zero velocity at point (2).
- Applying B.E. between (1) and (2):

$$\frac{1}{2}\rho V_1^2 + p_1 = \frac{1}{2}\rho \cancel{V_2^2} + p_2$$

$$\text{So, } p_2 = \frac{1}{2}\rho V_1^2 + p_1$$

- kinetic energy is converted to pressure energy
- $p_2$  is called the *stagnation pressure*;  $p_2 > p_1$ .



## The Stagnation Point & Stagnation Pressure

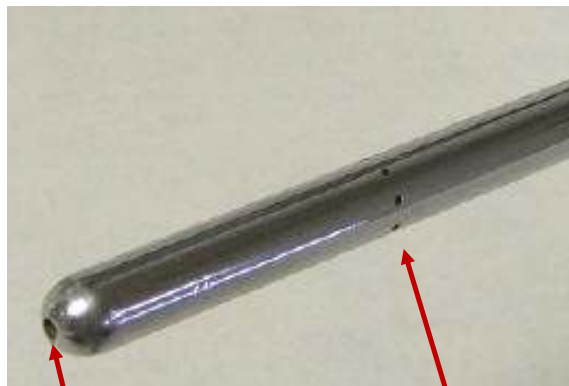
- In part, flow stagnation is the source of the force on your hand, out the window of a moving car.
- A cause of aerodynamic drag, sometimes called “pressure drag”.



Source: [1000awesomethings.com](http://1000awesomethings.com)

# The Pitot Tube

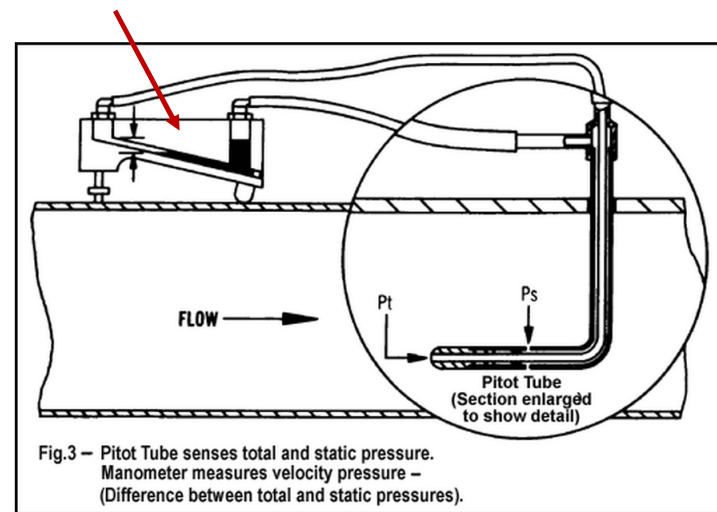
- The Pitot Tube uses the difference between the stagnation and static pressure to measure the local fluid speed.
  - used by aircraft to measure airspeed.
  - used in wind tunnels



stagnation pressure port (at nose)

static pressure ports

inclined manometer



## Example

A Pitot Tube is connected to a manometer to measure the air velocity in a wind tunnel. If the specific gravity of the manometer fluid is  $SG=0.85$ , what is the air speed?

