

SELECTED TOPICS In Aerospace Engineering

EDITOR

ERWIN SULAEMAN



IIUM Press

INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

ISBN: 978-967-418-145-1

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :
IIUM PRINTING SDN.BHD.
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves
Batu Caves Centre Point
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Tel: **+603-6188 1542 / 44 / 45** Fax: **+603-6188 1543**
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CHAPTER THREE

THREE-DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF COMPRESSORS

In the previous chapter, it was assumed that the flow is two-dimensional and the radial velocity was neglected. This assumption is valid only for small blade heights. For high tip to hub ratio compressors, three dimensional flow must be considered. The radial flow results from the imbalance between the centrifugal forces and the restoring radial pressures. If the flow is under radial equilibrium, the streamlines lie in a circular, cylindrical surfaces and the flow is axisymmetric (neglecting the effect of the existence of the blades).

3.1 Theory of radial equilibrium

As shown in Figure 8, a small element of fluid of unit depth and an angle $d\theta$ is rotating about the axis with tangential velocity, c_θ . The element has a mass dm .

Under radial equilibrium condition, the pressure forces balance the centrifugal forces:

$$(p + dp)(r + dr) d\theta - p r d\theta - (p + \frac{1}{2} dp) dr d\theta = dm c_\theta^2 / r \quad (3.1)$$

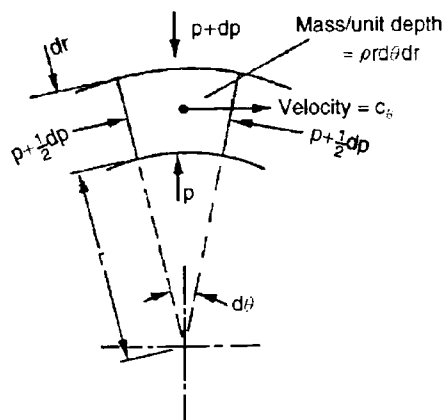


Figure 8 A fluid element in radial equilibrium ($c_r = 0$).