New Conserved Vorticity Integrals for Moving Surfaces in Multi-Dimensional Fluid Flow

Stephen C. Anco

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Abstract. For inviscid fluid flow in any n-dimensional Riemannian manifold, new conserved vorticity integrals generalizing helicity, enstrophy, and entropy circulation are derived for lower-dimensional surfaces that move along fluid streamlines. Conditions are determined for which the integrals yield constants of motion for the fluid. In the case when an inviscid fluid is isentropic, these new constants of motion generalize Kelvin’s circulation theorem from closed loops to closed surfaces of any dimension.

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1. Introduction

Vorticity conservation laws have long been of interest in the study of inviscid fluid flow (e.g. [1–3]). Their mathematical formulation in multi-dimensions is given by an integral continuity equation

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}(t)} T \, dV = - \int_{\partial \mathcal{V}(t)} \vec{X} \cdot d\vec{A}
\]

for a conserved density \( T \) and a spatial flux \( \vec{X} \) that have an essential dependence on the curl of the fluid velocity, as defined on domains \( \mathcal{V}(t) \) that are transported along the streamlines of the fluid governed by Euler's equations. Physically speaking, such conservation laws express basic rotational properties of the fluid in a reference frame that moves with the fluid flow [4]. To-date the only known vorticity conservation laws consist of the general enstrophy integral [5–7] which exists in two (and higher-even) spatial dimensions, the helicity integral [6–8] which exists in three (and higher-odd) spatial dimensions, and the entropy circulation integrals [9,10] which exist in two as well as three (and higher) spatial dimensions. A general formulation of these conservation laws, applicable to incompressible as well as compressible inviscid fluids, is hard to find in the literature.

The Eulerian fluid equations in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) are given in terms of the velocity \( \vec{u} \), the mass density \( \rho \), the entropy density \( S \), and the pressure \( p \) by

\[
\begin{align*}
\vec{u}_t + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \vec{u} &= -\rho^{-1} \nabla p, \\
\rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) &= 0, \\
S_t + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla S &= 0.
\end{align*}
\]

In the case of compressible fluid flow, \( p \) is specified by an equation of state in terms of a function \( p = P(\rho, S) \), whereas in the case of incompressible fluid flow, \( \rho \) and \( S \) are constant while \( p \) satisfies the Laplacian equation \(-\rho^{-1} \Delta p = (\nabla \vec{u}) \cdot (\nabla \vec{u})\).

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For inviscid fluid flow in $\mathbb{R}^2$, enstrophy and entropy circulation are defined by the respective two-dimensional integrals

\[
\int_\Omega(t) \rho^{-1} \varpi^2 \, d^2 x
\]  
and

\[
\int_\Omega(t) S \varpi \, d^2 x = \oint_{\partial \Omega(t)} S \bar{u} \cdot d \bar{s} + \int_\Omega(t) \bar{u} \cdot \bar{\nabla} S \, d^2 x
\]  

where $\varpi = \bar{\nabla} \cdot * \bar{u}$ is the vorticity scalar, given in terms of the infinitesimal rotation operator $*$. Enstrophy physically measures the bulk rotation of the fluid, while entropy circulation measures the flux of entropy around closed loops when the streamlines are aligned with the entropy gradient in the fluid. The more general enstrophy integral

\[
\int_\Omega(t) f(\varpi/\rho) \rho \, d^2 x = \int_\Omega(t) \tilde{f}(\varpi/\rho) \varpi \, d^2 x
\]

is connected with circulation properties of the fluid, when the function $f$ is odd ($\tilde{f}$ is even), and with bulk rotation moments of the fluid, when the function $f$ is even ($\tilde{f}$ is odd).

In contrast, for inviscid fluid flow in $\mathbb{R}^3$, helicity and entropy circulation are respectively defined by the three-dimensional integrals

\[
\int_\Omega(t) \bar{u} \cdot \bar{\vartheta} \, d^3 x
\]  
and

\[
\int_\Omega(t) \bar{\nabla} S \cdot \bar{\vartheta} \, d^3 x = \oint_{\partial \Omega(t)} S \bar{\vartheta} \cdot d \bar{A} = \oint_{\partial \Omega(t)} (\bar{u} \times \bar{\nabla} S) \cdot d \bar{A}
\]

involving the vorticity vector $\bar{\vartheta} = \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{u}$, given in terms of the cross-product operator. Physically, helicity measures the net rotation of the fluid around the directions of streamlines, while entropy circulation detects the net alignment between the streamlines and the entropy gradient. A more general integral

\[
\int_\Omega(t) f(\bar{\nabla} S \cdot \bar{\vartheta} / \rho) \rho \, d^3 x = \int_\Omega(t) \tilde{f}(\bar{\nabla} S \cdot \bar{\vartheta} / \rho) \bar{\nabla} S \cdot \bar{\vartheta} \, d^3 x
\]

measures entropy circulation properties of the fluid, when the function $f$ is odd ($\tilde{f}$ is even), and bulk alignment between the streamlines and the entropy gradient in the fluid, when the function $f$ is even ($\tilde{f}$ is odd).

The helicity integral (1.8) and the general enstrophy integral (1.7) are conserved whenever the fluid flow is isentropic (i.e. $S$ is constant throughout the fluid domain) and either incompressible (i.e. $\rho$ is constant throughout the fluid domain) or compressible with a barotropic equation of state in which the pressure $p$ is a function only of the density $\rho$, whereas the entropy circulation integrals (1.6) and (1.10) are non-trivially conserved when the fluid flow is non-isentropic (i.e. $S$ is constant only along streamlines) as well as compressible (so that $\rho$ is non-constant in the fluid domain). All of these conserved vorticity integrals have a mathematical origin as Casimir invariants of the Hamiltonian formulation [9,11–14] for the underlying fluid equations (1.2)–(1.4).

In the present paper, new conserved vorticity integrals generalizing helicity, enstrophy, and entropy circulation are derived for $p$-dimensional surfaces that move along streamlines of inviscid fluid flow in any $n$-dimensional Riemannian manifold with $n > p > 1$. In the case of odd-dimensional surfaces, the helicity integral yields a constant of motion if the surface is boundaryless or satisfies a zero-vorticity boundary
condition, while the entropy circulation integral yields a constant of motion whether the surface is boundaryless or has a boundary. Similarly, in the case of even-dimensional surfaces, the entropy circulation integral yields a constant of motion if the surface is boundaryless or satisfies a vorticity boundary condition involving the entropy gradient vector, while the enstrophy integral yields a constant of motion whether the surface is boundaryless or has a boundary. As a by-product of these results, a simple proof of Kelvin’s circulation theorem is obtained for isentropic fluid flow in all dimensions \( n > 1 \), and its relationship to the new helicity and enstrophy integrals for two-dimensional moving surfaces is explained.

2. Inviscid Fluid Equations in Riemannian Manifolds

Consider an \( n \)-dimensional manifold \( M \) with a Riemannian metric \( g \). Let \( \nabla \) be the metric-compatible covariant derivative determined by \( \nabla g = 0 \), and let \( \epsilon_g \) be the metric-normalized volume tensor determined by \( \nabla \epsilon_g = 0 \) and \( g(\epsilon_g, \epsilon_g) = n! \). Write \( g \nabla \) and \( \text{div} \) for the vector derivative operator and the covariant divergence operator defined by \( \xi|\nabla = g(\xi, g \nabla) \) and \( g(g \nabla, \xi) = \text{div} \xi \) holding for an arbitrary vector field \( \xi \) on \( M \). These operators are the natural covariant counterparts of the gradient \( \nabla \) and divergence \( \nabla \cdot \) operators in \( \mathbb{R}^n \).

In this tensorial notation, the covariant generalization of Euler’s equation (1.2) from \( \mathbb{R}^n \) to \( M \) is given by

\[
u_t + (u|\nabla)u = -\rho^{-1} g \nabla p
\]  

(2.1)

where \( u \) is the fluid velocity vector on \( M \). Similarly the covariant equations for the fluid pressure \( p \), mass density \( \rho \), and entropy density \( S \) on \( M \) are given by

\[
p = P(\rho, S),
\]

(2.2)

\[
\rho_t + \text{div}(\rho u) = 0,
\]

(2.3)

\[
S_t + u|\nabla S = 0,
\]

(2.4)

in the case of compressible fluid flow, or by

\[
\rho = \text{const.}, \quad S = \text{const.},
\]

(2.5)

\[
-\rho^{-1} \Delta_g p = g(g \nabla u, g \nabla u) + R(u, u)
\]

(2.6)

in the case of incompressible fluid flow, where \( \Delta_g = g(g \nabla, g \nabla) = g \nabla |\nabla \) denotes the scalar Laplacian, and \( R \) denotes the Ricci tensor of \( g \). In both cases, the curl of the velocity is an antisymmetric tensor on \( M \)

\[
\omega = g \nabla \wedge u
\]

(2.7)

obeying the transport equation

\[
\omega_t + g \nabla \wedge g(u, \omega) = \rho^{-2} g \nabla \rho \wedge g \nabla p, \quad g \nabla \wedge \omega = 0.
\]

(2.8)

It will be very advantageous to rewrite the fluid equations (2.1)–(2.8) by means of differential forms combined with the material (advective) derivative

\[
\mathcal{D}_t = D_t + \mathcal{L}_u.
\]

(2.9)

Here \( D_t \) denotes \( \partial_t \) acting as a total time derivative, and \( \mathcal{L}_u \) denotes the Lie derivative acting on \( p \)-forms \( \alpha \) on \( M \) by \( \mathcal{L}_u \alpha = u|d\alpha + d(u|\alpha) \). Note that the exterior derivative \( d \) commutes with the Lie derivative \( \mathcal{L}_u \) and acts as a total spatial derivative. Now let \( u \) be the velocity 1-form and let \( \omega \) be the curl 2-form defined by the respective duals of \( u \) and \( \omega \) with respect to the metric \( g \) on \( M \), namely \( \xi|u = g(\xi, u) \) and \( \zeta|\omega = g(\zeta, \omega) \) for an arbitrary vector field \( \xi \) and an arbitrary antisymmetric tensor field \( \zeta \) on \( M \). The Lie derivatives of \( u \) and \( \omega \) along streamlines are, respectively,

\[
\mathcal{L}_u u = u|\omega + d(u|u), \quad \mathcal{L}_u \omega = d(u|\omega)
\]

(2.10)
where
\[ u \ | \omega = (u \nabla)u - d(\frac{1}{2} u \ | u) \]  
(2.11)

Then the equations for \( S, \rho, u, \) and \( \omega \) have the elegant transport formulation
\[ \mathcal{D}_t S = 0, \]  
(2.12)
\[ \mathcal{D}_t \rho = - \rho \text{div}_g u, \]  
(2.13)
\[ \mathcal{D}_t u = d \left( \frac{1}{2} |u|^2 - e - \rho^{-1} p \right) + e_S dS, \quad du = \omega, \]  
(2.14)
\[ \mathcal{D}_t \omega = d e_S \wedge dS, \quad d \omega = 0, \]  
(2.15)
with \( \text{div}_g u = g \nabla \ | u = \text{div} u \) and \( |u|^2_g = u \ | u = g(u, u) \), where
\[ e = \int \rho^{-2} p d\rho \]  
(2.16)
is the thermodynamic energy of the fluid. In particular, note \( e = \int \rho^{-2} P(\rho, S) d\rho \) is a specified function of \( \rho \) and \( S \) for compressible flow, whereas \( e = 0 \) (since \( d\rho = 0 \)) vanishes for incompressible flow.

3. Moving Surfaces and Conserved Integrals

Now consider any smooth orientable \( p \)-dimensional submanifold \( S(t) \subset M \) that is transported along streamlines in the fluid. In particular, in local coordinates, each point \( x^i \in S(t) \) obeys \( dx^i / dt = \mathcal{L}_u x^i = u \nabla x^i \) \((i = 1, \ldots, n)\). A conserved integral on the moving surface \( S(t) \) consists of an integral continuity equation given by
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} \alpha = \int_{\partial S(t)} \beta \]  
(3.1)
for a \( p \)-form density \( \alpha \) and a \( p-1 \)-form flux \( \beta \) that are functions of the space and time coordinates \( x^i, t, \) and the fluid variables \( S, \rho, u, \omega \) (and possibly their spatial derivatives) subject to the fluid equations (2.12)–(2.14).

Integrals of this form (3.1) will define a constant of motion on the moving surface \( S(t) \) for all formal solutions of the fluid equations provided that the flux integral on \( \partial S(t) \) vanishes identically. If \( S(t) \) is boundaryless then every conserved integral (3.1) yields a constant of motion. Alternatively, if \( S(t) \) has a boundary then a conserved integral (3.1) yields a constant of motion only when \( \beta \) is an exact \( p-1 \) form. Note that \( S(t) \) will be a moving domain \( \mathcal{V}(t) \) if \( p = n \), in which case the conserved integral (3.1) coincides with the continuity equation
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}(t)} T dV = - \int_{\partial \mathcal{V}(t)} g(X, \hat{\nu}) dA \]  
(3.2)
given by
\[ \alpha = \epsilon T, \quad \beta = - X | \epsilon \]  
(3.3)
where \( dV = \epsilon_g \) is the volume \( n \)-form dual to the tensor \( \epsilon_g \), and \( dA = \hat{\nu} | \epsilon_g \) is the hypersurface area \( n-1 \)-form in terms of the unit-normal vector \( \hat{\nu} \). In this situation the conservation law (3.4) reduces to a space-time divergence \( \mathcal{D}_t T + \text{Div} X = 0 \) where \( \text{Div} \) denotes \( \text{div} \) acting as a total derivative.

**Proposition 1.** A \( p \)-form density \( \alpha \) and a \( p-1 \)-form flux \( \beta \) yield a conserved integral (3.1) on all \( p \)-dimensional moving surfaces \( S(t) \subset M \) iff
\[ \mathcal{D}_t \alpha = d \beta \]  
(3.4)
holds for all formal solutions of the fluid equations.
Proof. Let $\phi_t$ be the diffeomorphism of $M$ defined by the streamlines of the vector field $u|_t$ with $\phi_0 = \text{id}$. The moving surface $S(t)$ can then be viewed as the flow of a fixed surface $S(0)$ in $M$. Under this flow, the pullback of $\alpha|_{S(t)}$ is given by $\phi_t^*\alpha|_{S(0)}$, where $\frac{d}{dt}(\phi_t^*\alpha) = D_t\alpha + \mathcal{L}_u\alpha = \mathcal{D}_t\alpha$. Hence we have
\[
\left. \left( \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} \alpha \right) \right|_{t=0} = \int_{S(0)} \frac{d}{dt}(\phi_t^*\alpha) = \int_{S(0)} \mathcal{D}_t\alpha
\]
and thus the integral continuity equation (3.1) becomes
\[
0 = \int_{S(0)} \mathcal{D}_t\alpha - \int_{\partial S(0)} \beta = \int_{S(0)} (\mathcal{D}_t\alpha - d\beta).
\]
The vanishing of this integral for an arbitrary $p$-dimensional surface $S(0)$ is equivalent to the conservation law (3.4).

Conserved vorticity integrals in which the density $\alpha$ and the flux $\beta$ have an essential dependence on the curl 2-form $\omega$ will now be derived from the transport equations (2.12)–(2.15), first for isentropic fluid flow and then for non-entropic fluid flow.

4. Helicity on Moving Surfaces

Three-dimensional helicity (1.8) can be naturally generalized to all odd dimensions $n > 3$ in terms of the vorticity vector $[3,7]$
\[
\vartheta = *(\omega \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega) = \epsilon_g |\omega|^{(n-1)/2}
\]
defined on the $n$-dimensional Riemannian manifold $M$. Here $*$ denotes the Hodge dual operator, acting by contraction with respect to the volume tensor $\epsilon_g$, and powers of $\omega$ denote exterior products. For a moving domain $V(t) \subset M$, the $n$-dimensional helicity integral for isentropic fluid flow in $M$ is given by a continuity equation (3.2) holding for the conserved density $T = \vartheta|u$ and the spatial flux $X = -\sigma \vartheta$ with $\sigma = \frac{1}{2}|u|^2_g - e - p/\rho$, where $e$ is the thermodynamic energy of the fluid. A simpler formulation is obtained by using the corresponding differential forms (3.3): $\alpha = u \wedge (\omega |^{(n-1)/2}$ and $\beta = \sigma \omega |^{(n-1)/2}$. The resulting conserved helicity integral (3.1) has a natural extension from moving domains in $M$ to odd-dimensional moving surfaces in $M$, whether $n$ is odd or even.

Theorem 2. For isentropic inviscid fluid flow in any Riemannian manifold $M$ with dimension $n \geq 1$, the $2q + 1$-form density $\alpha = u \wedge \omega^q$ and the $2q$-form flux $\beta = (\frac{1}{2}|u|^2_g + e - p/\rho)\omega^q$ satisfy the continuity equation
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} u \wedge \omega^q = \int_{\partial S(t)} \left( \frac{1}{2}|u|^2_g + e - p/\rho \right) \omega^q, \quad 0 \leq q \leq (n-1)/2
\]
yielding a conserved helicity integral on any smooth orientable submanifold $S(t)$, with odd dimension $2q + 1$, transported along streamlines in the fluid.

Proof of conservation. Isentropic fluid flow has $dS = 0$ in $M$, so thus the velocity and curl equations (2.14)–(2.15) reduce to
\[
\mathcal{D}_t\omega = 0, \quad \mathcal{D}_t u = d\sigma, \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{2}|u|^2_g - e - \rho^{-1}p
\]
with
\[
d\omega = 0, \quad du = \omega.
\]
Since $\mathcal{D}_t \mathbf{u}$ is an exact 1-form and $\omega$ is a closed 2-form annihilated by $\mathcal{D}_t$, we have $\mathcal{D}_t (\mathbf{u} \wedge \omega^q) = d\sigma \wedge \omega^q = d(\sigma \omega^q)$, which establishes (4.2).

When the surface $S$ is a closed curve $C$, the helicity integral (4.2) with $q = 0$ and $\partial S = 0$ reduces to the circulation integral
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_C \mathbf{u} = 0 \tag{4.5}
\]
providing a generalization of Kelvin’s circulation theorem to isentropic fluid flow (compressible or incompressible) in Riemannian manifolds of any dimension $n > 1$.

5. Enstrophy on Moving Surfaces

Two-dimensional enstrophy (1.7) has a natural extension to all even dimensions $n > 2$ in terms of the vorticity scalar \[3,7\]
\[
\varpi = * (\omega \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega) = \epsilon_g \omega^{n/2} \tag{5.1}
\]
defined on the $n$-dimensional Riemannian manifold $M$ in terms of the Hodge dual operator $*$. Here powers of $\omega$ again denote exterior products. For a moving domain $\mathcal{V}(t) \subset M$ in isentropic fluid flow, the $n$-dimensional enstrophy integral is given by a continuity equation (3.2) holding for the conserved density $T = f(\varpi/\rho) \omega$ with no spatial flux $X = 0$, where $f$ is an arbitrary non-constant function.

An equivalent formulation uses the corresponding differential forms (3.3): $\alpha = f(\varpi/\rho) \omega^{n/2}$ and $\beta = 0$. The resulting conserved enstrophy integral (3.1) can be generalized from moving domains in $M$ to even-dimensional moving surfaces in $M$.

Theorem 3. For isentropic inviscid fluid flow in any Riemannian manifold $M$ with even dimension $n \geq 2$, the $2q$-form density $\alpha = f \omega^q$ depending on an arbitrary non-constant function $f(\varpi/\rho)$ satisfies the continuity equation
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f \omega^q = 0, \quad 1 \leq q \leq n/2 \tag{5.2}
\]
yielding a conserved enstrophy integral on any smooth orientable submanifold $S(t)$, with even dimension $2q$, transported along streamlines in the fluid.

Proof of conservation. The curl equation (4.3) holding for isentropic fluid flow implies that $\mathcal{D}_t (f \omega^q) = \mathcal{D}_t (\varpi/\rho) f' \omega^q$, where $\varpi = \epsilon_g \omega^{n/2}$. Then using
\[
\mathcal{D}_t \varpi = (\mathcal{D}_t \epsilon_g) \omega^{n/2}, \quad \mathcal{D}_t \epsilon_g = L_u \epsilon_g = -(\text{div} \, u) \epsilon_g, \quad \mathcal{D}_t \rho = -(\text{div} \, u) \rho, \tag{5.3}
\]
we have
\[
\mathcal{D}_t (\rho^{-1} \epsilon_g) = 0 \tag{5.4}
\]
whence $\mathcal{D}_t (\varpi/\rho) = 0$. This implies $\mathcal{D}_t (f \omega^q) = 0$, establishing (5.2).

The enstrophy integral (5.2) can be alternatively expressed as
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f \omega^q = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f' (\varpi/\rho) \wedge \omega^{q-1} + \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\partial S(t)} f \mathbf{u} \wedge \omega^{q-1} = 0 \tag{5.5}
\]
through the properties (4.4) of $\omega$, whether the surface $S$ has a boundary or is boundaryless. Consequently, if the function $f$ is constant, then the enstrophy will reduce to the helicity on the boundary of $S$ or will otherwise vanish when $S$ has no boundary.
6. Entropy Circulation on Moving Surfaces

Similarly to enstrophy and helicity, two-dimensional entropy circulation (1.6) and three-dimensional entropy circulation (1.10) have a straightforward extension respectively to all even dimensions \( n \geq 2 \) and all odd dimensions \( n > 3 \). The entropy circulation integral for a moving domain \( V(t) \subset M \) in non-isentropic fluid flow is given by a continuity equation (3.2) that holds in the even-dimensional case for the conserved density \( T = f(S)\pi \) and the spatial flux \( X = -f(S) \varpi_f \varphi(\partial \pi/\partial \omega) \) \( dS \), where \( e \) is the thermodynamic energy of the fluid, and that holds in the odd-dimensional case for the conserved density \( T = f(\Gamma/\rho)\Gamma \) with vanishing spatial flux \( X = 0 \), where

\[
\Gamma = * (dS \wedge \omega^{(n-1)/2}) = \vartheta |dS
\]

defines the entropy circulation scalar on the Riemannian manifold \( M \) in terms of the vorticity vector \( \vartheta \). The corresponding differential forms (3.3) are given by \( \alpha = f(S)\omega^{n/2} \) and \( \beta = \frac{1}{2}nf(S)\varpi_S dS \wedge \omega^{(n-2)/2} \) when the dimension \( n \) is even, and by \( \alpha = f(\Gamma/\rho)\omega^{(n-1)/2} \) and \( \beta = 0 \) when the dimension \( n \) is odd. In each case, there is a natural generalization of the resulting conserved entropy circulation integral (3.1) to moving surfaces in \( M \).

The generalization is presented first for even-dimensional surfaces.

**Theorem 4.** For non-isentropic inviscid fluid flow in any Riemannian manifold \( M \) with even or odd dimension \( n \geq 2 \), the \( 2q \)-form density \( \alpha = f\omega^q \) and the \( 2q - 1 \)-form flux \( \beta = qe_S f dS \wedge \omega^{q-1} \) depending on an arbitrary non-constant function \( f(S) \) satisfy the continuity equation

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f \omega^q = q \int_{S(t)} e_S f dS \wedge \omega^{q-1}, \quad 1 \leq q \leq n/2
\]

yielding a conserved entropy circulation integral on any smooth orientable submanifold \( S(t) \), with even dimension \( 2q \), transported along streamlines in the fluid.

**Proof of Conservation.** From the entropy equation (2.12) and the curl equation (2.15) holding for non-isentropic fluid flow, we have \( \mathcal{D}_t(f\omega^q) = qf \varpi_S \wedge dS \wedge \omega^{q-1} = qd(e_S f dS \wedge \omega^{q-1}) \) since the 2-form \( \omega \) is closed. This establishes (6.2). \( \square \)

When the surface \( S \) is boundaryless, the entropy circulation integral (6.2) becomes

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f \omega^q = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f' dS \wedge u \wedge \omega^{q-1} = 0
\]

from the properties (4.4) of \( \omega \). As a consequence, if the gradient of the entropy \( S \) is aligned with the fluid streamlines on the surface \( S \) (which will occur whenever the fluid flow is isentropic in \( S \subset M \)), then the entropy circulation (6.3) will vanish due to \( dS \wedge u = 0 \).

The analogous generalization for odd-dimensional surfaces is presented next.

**Theorem 5.** For non-isentropic inviscid fluid flow in any Riemannian manifold \( M \) with odd dimension \( n \geq 3 \), the \( 2q + 1 \)-form density \( \alpha = f dS \wedge \omega^q \) depending on an arbitrary non-constant function \( f(\Gamma/\rho) \) satisfies the continuity equation

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f dS \wedge \omega^q = 0, \quad 1 \leq q \leq (n-1)/2
\]

yielding a conserved entropy circulation integral on any smooth orientable submanifold \( S(t) \), with odd dimension \( 2q + 1 \), transported along streamlines in the fluid. This integral remains conserved if \( f \) is generalized to be a function of both \( \Gamma/\rho \) and \( S \).
Proof of conservation. The curl equation (2.15) combined with the entropy equation (2.12) yield $D_t(dS \wedge \omega^q) = 0$ and $D_t f = f_\rho D_t \Gamma = f_\rho D_t(\rho^{-1} \epsilon_g) |(dS \wedge \omega^{(n-1)/2})$ with $\Gamma = \epsilon_g |(dS \wedge \omega^{(n-1)/2})$. Then Eq. (5.4) implies $D_t f = 0$ and hence $D_t(f dS \wedge \omega^q) = 0$, which establishes (6.4).

In contrast to the even-dimensional integral (6.2), here the odd-dimensional entropy circulation integral (6.4) can be expressed as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f dS \wedge \omega^q = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f' S d(\Gamma/\rho) \wedge \omega^q + \frac{d}{dt} \oint_{\partial S(t)} f S \omega^q = 0 \quad (6.5)$$

whether the surface $S$ has a boundary or is boundaryless. If the function $f$ is constant, then this integral (6.5) will reduce to the entropy circulation on the boundary of $S$ or will otherwise vanish when $S$ has no boundary.

7. New Constants of Motion

As a preliminary step, for any $s$-dimensional smooth orientable surface $S \subset M$, let $\{\hat{e}_\mu\}_{\mu=1,...,n-s}$ be an arbitrary orthonormal basis for the normal space of $S$ in $T_x M$ at each point of $S$. Then the volume forms of the surface $S$ and its boundary $\partial S$ can be defined by the projections

$$dV_S = \epsilon(S) = (\hat{e}_{(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge \hat{e}_{(n-s)}) |\epsilon_g \quad (7.1)$$

and

$$dA_S = \nu_S |\epsilon(S) = \epsilon(\partial S) = (\hat{e}_{(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge \hat{e}_{(n-s)} \wedge \nu_S) |\epsilon_g \quad (7.2)$$

where $\nu_S$ denotes the unit normal of $\partial S$ in $S$ and $\epsilon_g$ is the volume $n$-form of $M$. Additionally, the dual volume tensors $\epsilon(S)$ for $S$ and $\epsilon(\partial S)$ for $\partial S$ can be defined in terms of the volume tensor $\epsilon_g$ for $M$ by

$$\hat{e}_{(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge \hat{e}_{(n-s)} \wedge \epsilon(S) = \epsilon_g, \quad \nu_S \wedge \epsilon(\partial S) = \epsilon(S). \quad (7.3)$$

Now, if $S(t)$ is an odd-dimensional surface transported along fluid streamlines in $M$, the helicity integral (4.2) for isentropic fluid flow and the entropy circulation integral (6.4) for non-isentropic fluid flow can be formulated respectively as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} \hat{\partial}_S |u_S \ dV_S = \oint_{\partial S(t)} (\frac{1}{2} |u_S|^2 - e - p/\rho) g(\hat{\partial}_S, \nu_S) \ dA_S \quad (7.4)$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(S, \Gamma/\rho) \hat{\partial}_S |dS \ dV_S = 0. \quad (7.5)$$

Here

$$\hat{\partial}_S = \epsilon(S) |(\omega|_S)^q \quad (7.6)$$

defines the vorticity vector of the surface $S$ with $q = \frac{1}{2}(\dim(S) - 1)$, while $u_S$ and $d_S S$ denote the respective projections of the velocity 1-form $u$ and the gradient 1-form $dS$ into the cotangent space of $S$, and $\Gamma$ is the entropy circulation scalar (6.1) of the manifold $M$ when the dimension $n$ is odd.

Similarly, if $S(t)$ is an even-dimensional surface transported along fluid streamlines in $M$, the enstrophy integral (5.2) for isentropic fluid flow and the entropy circulation integral (6.2) for non-isentropic fluid flow have the respective formulations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(\varpi/\rho) \varpi_S \ dV_S = 0 \quad (7.7)$$
and
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(S) \omega_S \, dV_S = q \int_{\partial S(t)} \epsilon(S) g(\partial \omega_S, \nabla \partial S) \, dA_S \quad (7.8) \]

where
\[ \omega_S = \epsilon(S) |(\omega)|^q \quad (7.9) \]
defines the vorticity scalar of the surface \( S \) with \( q = \frac{1}{2} \dim(S) \), while \( \nabla \partial S \) denotes the projection of the gradient \( \nabla \) into the tangent space of \( \partial S \), and \( \omega \) is the vorticity scalar (5.1) of the manifold \( M \) when the dimension \( n \) is even.

These formulations (7.4)–(7.9) are useful for investigating the constants of motion that arise under various conditions for moving surfaces \( S(t) \) in isentropic and non-isentropic fluid flow in \( M \) as follows.

### 7.1. Closed Moving Surfaces Spanned by a Moving Hypersurface

Consider any even-dimensional surface \( \Sigma(t) \) spanning a closed orientable surface \( S(t) \) transported along the fluid streamlines in \( M \), with \( \dim S = \dim \Sigma - 1 \), \( \partial \Sigma = S \) and \( \partial S = 0 \). Then Stokes’ theorem can be applied to convert the conserved helicity integral (7.4) into the equivalent form
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} \omega_S \, dV_S = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma(t)} \omega_{\Sigma} \, dV_{\Sigma} = 0 \quad (7.10) \]
yielding a scalar vorticity constant of motion on \( \Sigma(t) \) for \( n \)-dimensional isentropic (compressible or incompressible) fluid flow. This new constant of motion (7.10) provides a higher-dimensional version of Kelvin’s circulation (4.5), which has the analogous formulation as a vorticity constant of motion
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{C(t)} u_S \, ds = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma(t)} \omega_{\Sigma} \, dV_{\Sigma} = 0 \quad (7.11) \]
on \( 2 \)-surfaces \( \Sigma(t) \) that span a closed curve \( C(t) \) transported along the fluid streamlines in any even or odd dimension \( n \geq 2 \). (Note here \( u_S = \epsilon(C) |u| \) denotes the scalar projection of \( u \) along the curve \( C \), and \( ds = \epsilon(C) \) is the arclength 1-form of \( C \).) When the dimension \( n \) is even, these constants of motion (7.10) and (7.11) are special cases of the enstrophy constant of motion (7.7) on \( \Sigma(t) \). Therefore, the helicity and enstrophy integrals can be unified in the form of a generalized scalar vorticity constant of motion
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma(t)} f(\omega/\rho) \omega_{\Sigma} \, dV_{\Sigma} = 0 \quad (7.12) \]
in which \( f \) is a function of \( \omega/\rho \) when \( n \) is even or \( f \) is a constant when \( n \) is odd.

In contrast, for \( n \)-dimensional non-isentropic (compressible) fluid flow, the scalar vorticity integral (7.12) is no longer conserved but instead is replaced by the conserved entropy circulation integrals (7.5) and (7.8). Given any odd-dimensional surface \( \Sigma(t) \) spanning a closed orientable surface \( S(t) \) transported along the fluid streamlines in \( M \), with \( \dim S = \dim \Sigma - 1 \), \( \partial \Sigma = S \) and \( \partial S = 0 \), the integral (7.8) can be converted through Stokes’ theorem into a special case of the integral (7.5) on \( \Sigma(t) \) when the dimension \( n \) is odd,
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(S) \omega_S \, dV_S = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma(t)} f(S) \partial_{\Sigma} \, dS \, dV_{\Sigma} = 0. \quad (7.13) \]
As a result, both entropy circulation integrals (7.5) and (7.8) have a unified formulation
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma(t)} f(S, \Gamma/\rho) \partial_{\Sigma} \, dS \, dV_{\Sigma} = 0 \quad (7.14) \]
yielding a new vorticity constant of motion on \( \Sigma(t) \) for \( n \)-dimensional non-isentropic (compressible) fluid flow. This constant of motion (7.14) measures the alignment between the entropy gradient and the vorticity vector of the fluid on \( \Sigma(t) \), weighted by a function \( f \) of \( S \) when \( n \) is even or a function \( f \) of both \( S \) and \( \Gamma/\rho \) when \( n \) is odd.

### 7.2. Non-Closed Moving Surfaces and Vorticity Boundary Conditions

Consider an orientable non-closed, but otherwise arbitrary, surface \( S(t) \) transported along the fluid streamlines in \( M \). Then the entropy circulation integral (7.5) when \( S \) is odd-dimensional and the entropy integral (7.7) when \( S \) is even-dimensional are constants of motion respectively for non-isentropic fluid flow and isentropic fluid flow in \( M \). In contrast, the helicity integral (7.4) when \( S \) is odd-dimensional and the entropy circulation integral (7.8) when \( S \) is even-dimensional are constants of motion if and only if the flux integrals on the boundary \( \partial S(t) \) vanish respectively for isentropic fluid flow and non-isentropic fluid flow in \( M \).

The helicity flux integral (7.4) clearly vanishes if \( g(\partial S, \dot{\nu}_S)|_{\partial S} = 0 \) holds on the boundary surface \( \partial S(t) \). This condition states that the vorticity vector \( \dot{\nu}_S \) at \( \partial S(t) \) must lie in the tangent space of \( \partial S(t) \).

A useful equivalent formulation is that the vorticity scalar of the boundary surface \( \partial S(t) \) must vanish everywhere on \( \partial S(t) \),

\[
\varpi_{\partial S} = 0
\]

(7.15)

since \( g(\partial S, \dot{\nu}_S)|_{\partial S} = \varpi_{\partial S} \) holds due to the identity (7.3) relating the volume tensors of \( S(t) \) and \( \partial S(t) \).

Likewise, the entropy circulation flux integral (7.8) vanishes whenever \( g(\partial S, \nabla_{\partial S} S)|_{\partial S} = 0 \), so that the vorticity vector \( \dot{\nu}_{\partial S} \) must be orthogonal to the entropy gradient at the boundary surface \( \partial S(t) \). This condition has the equivalent formulation

\[
(\dot{\nu}_{\partial S}) d_{\partial S} S = 0
\]

(7.16)

where \( d_{\partial S} \) denotes the projection of the exterior derivative into the cotangent space of \( \partial S \).

As a consequence of the following result, these two flux conditions (7.15) and (7.16) are readily seen to be preserved under transport along fluid streamlines.

**Lemma 6.** For isentropic fluid flow in \( M \),

\[
\mathcal{D}_t \varpi_{\partial S} = -\varpi_{\partial S} \text{div}_{\partial S} u,
\]

(7.17)

and for non-isentropic fluid flow in \( M \),

\[
\mathcal{D}_t (\dot{\nu}_{\partial S}) d_{\partial S} S = -(\dot{\nu}_{\partial S}) (d_{\partial S} S) \text{div}_{\partial S} u,
\]

(7.18)

where \( \text{div}_{\partial S} \) denotes the divergence operator projected into the boundary surface \( \partial S \).

**Proof.** View \( S(t) \) as the flow of a fixed surface \( S(0) \) under the diffeomorphism \( \phi_t \) of \( M \) generated by the streamlines \( u \) with \( \phi_0 = \text{id} \). The pullback of the boundary volume form \( dA_S = \epsilon(\partial S(t)) \) of \( \partial S(t) \) yields \( \frac{d}{dt} \phi_t^* dA_S|_{t=0} = \mathcal{L}_u dA_S|_{t=0} = (\text{div}_{\partial S} u) dA_S \) on the boundary surface \( \partial S(0) \). This implies \( \mathcal{L}_u \epsilon(\partial S) = (\text{div}_{\partial S} u) \epsilon(\partial S) \) on \( \partial S \), and hence the dual volume tensor \( \epsilon(\partial S) \) obeys \( \mathcal{L}_u \epsilon(\partial S) = -(\text{div}_{\partial S} u) \epsilon(\partial S) \). Now let \( q = \dim \partial S \). From \( \varpi_{\partial S} = \epsilon(\partial S) \omega^{q/2} \), we have \( \mathcal{D}_t \varpi_{\partial S} = \mathcal{L}_u \epsilon(\partial S) \omega^{q/2} = -(\text{div}_{\partial S} u) \epsilon(\partial S) \omega^{q/2} \) since \( \mathcal{D}_t \omega = 0 \) holds for isentropic (compressible or incompressible) fluid flow. Similarly, from \( \dot{\nu}_{\partial S} (d_{\partial S} S = \epsilon(\partial S) \text{div}_{\partial S} (dS \wedge \omega^{q-1}/2) \), we get \( \mathcal{D}_t (\dot{\nu}_{\partial S}) d_{\partial S} S = \mathcal{L}_u \epsilon(\partial S) \text{div}_{\partial S} (dS \wedge \omega^{q-1}/2) = -(\text{div}_{\partial S} u) \epsilon(\partial S) \text{div}_{\partial S} (dS \wedge \omega^{q-1}/2) \) since \( \mathcal{D}_t (\omega \wedge dS) = 0 \) holds for non-isentropic fluid flow. □

Therefore, when an orientable non-closed odd-dimensional surface \( S(t) \) satisfies the vorticity boundary condition (7.15) transported along fluid streamlines in \( M \), the helicity integral (7.4) yields a constant of motion.
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} \vartheta \left| u_S \right| dV_S = 0 \quad (7.19)
\]

for isentropic fluid flow in \( M \). Similarly, when an orientable non-closed even-dimensional surface \( S(t) \) satisfies the vorticity boundary condition \((7.16)\) transported along fluid streamlines in \( M \), the entropy circulation integral \((7.8)\) yields a constant of motion

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(S) \varpi_S dV_S = 0 \quad (7.20)
\]

for non-isentropic fluid flow in \( M \).

8. Concluding Remarks

There are several interesting directions for future work.

First, the physical meanings of helicity, enstrophy, circulation and entropy circulation are fairly well understood when \( M = \mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^2 \). In higher dimensions, what is the precise physical content of the new constants of motion? This could be elucidated by evaluating the integrals \((7.10)\) and \((7.14)\) in \( M = \mathbb{R}^n \) for some physically relevant fluid configurations as well as for analytically interesting exact solutions of the fluid equations.

Second, the helicity integral for a moving domain \( \mathcal{V}(t) \) in \( M = \mathbb{R}^3 \) is well-known to equal the average linking number of the integral curves of the vorticity vector \( \vartheta \) \([3]\). What is the relation between the new helicity/circulation constants of motion \((7.10)\) and \((7.19)\) for moving surfaces in \( M = \mathbb{R}^n \) with \( n > 3 \) and the topological linking of vorticity-lines? Likewise, is there an interpretation of the new entropy circulation constants of motion \((7.14)\) and \((7.20)\) in terms of the topological structure of vorticity-lines and entropy gradient-lines for moving surfaces in \( M = \mathbb{R}^n \)?

Third, what information do these new constants of motion contain when the manifold \( M \) or the moving surface have nontrivial homology?

Finally, another interesting open question is whether the fluid equations \((2.1)-(2.8)\) admit any additional conserved integrals that yield constants of motion on moving surfaces in \( n > 1 \) dimensions, other than the conserved mass integral

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}(t)} \rho dV = 0 \quad (8.1)
\]

for \( n \)-dimensional domains \( \mathcal{V}(t) \) transported along fluid streamlines in a Riemannian manifold \( M \).

Appendix A. Coordinate Formulation

It is worthwhile to write the new conserved integrals \((4.2), (5.2), (6.2)\) and \((6.4)\) in terms of the physical fluid variables \( u^i \) and \( \omega^{ij} = 2\nabla^{[i}u^{j]} \) given by local coordinates \( x^i \) on \( M \). Note the coordinate formulation of the transport equations \((2.14)\) and \((2.15)\) for these variables is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{d}{dt} u_i + u_j \nabla_j u^i &= -\rho^{-1} \nabla^i p \quad (A.1) \\
\omega_i^{ij} + u^k \nabla_k \omega^{ij} - 2\omega^{[i} \sigma^{j]} &= \rho^{-2} \left[ \nabla^{ij} \rho \nabla^i p \right]\nabla^{[k} \omega^{j]} &= 0 \quad (A.2)
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \sigma^{ij} = 2\nabla^{(i}u^{j)} \) is the symmetric derivative of \( u^i \).

Now consider isentropic fluid flow, i.e. \( S = \text{const.} \) in \( M \), with

\[
p = P(\rho), \quad \rho_t + \nabla_i (\rho u^i) = 0 \quad (A.3)
\]
when the fluid is compressible, or
\[ \rho = \text{const.}, \quad -\rho^{-1} \nabla^i \nabla_i p = \nabla_i u^l \nabla_j u^j + R_{ij} u^l u^j \tag{A.4} \]
when the fluid is incompressible, where \( R_{ij} \) is the Ricci tensor and \( \nabla_i u^l \nabla_j u^j = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{ij} \sigma^{ij} - \omega_{ij} \omega^{ij}) \) is the difference of the norms of the symmetric derivative \( \sigma^{ij} = 2 \nabla^l (u^j) \) and the curl \( \omega^{ij} \) of \( u^l \). Then the helicity integral (4.2) for any orientable odd-dimensional surface \( S(t) \) transported along fluid streamlines in \( M \) is given by
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_S g_{ij} u_S^i \vartheta_S^j \, dV_S = \int_{\partial S(t)} (\frac{1}{2} g_{kl} u^k u^l - e - p/\rho) g_{ij} \vartheta_S^i \vartheta_S^j \, dA_S \tag{A.5} \]
in terms of the vorticity vector \( \vartheta_S^i \) of the surface \( S \) and the projection \( u_S^i \) of the velocity vector \( u^i \) into the tangent space of \( S \). Similarly, for any orientable even-dimensional surface \( S(t) \) transported along fluid streamlines in \( M \), the enstrophy integral (5.2) is given by
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(\varpi/\rho) \varpi_S \, dV_S = 0 \tag{A.6} \]
in terms of the vorticity scalar \( \varpi_S \) of the surface \( S \), where \( \varpi \) is the vorticity scalar (5.1) of the manifold \( M \) when the dimension \( n \) is even.

Next consider non-isentropic fluid flow, i.e. \( S \neq \text{const.} \) in \( M \), with
\[ p = P(\rho, S), \quad \rho_t + \nabla_i (\rho u^i) = 0, \quad S_t + u^i \nabla_i S = 0. \tag{A.7} \]
Then for any orientable odd-dimensional surface \( S(t) \) transported along fluid streamlines in \( M \), the entropy circulation integral (6.4) is given by
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(\Gamma/\rho) g_{ij} \vartheta_S^i \nabla_S^j S \, dV_S = 0, \tag{A.8} \]
where \( \Gamma \) is the entropy circulation scalar (6.1) of the manifold \( M \) when the dimension \( n \) is odd, while for any orientable even-dimensional surface \( S(t) \), the entropy circulation integral (6.2) is given by
\[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_{S(t)} f(S) \varpi_S \, dV_S = q \int_{\partial S(t)} e_S f(S) g_{ij} \vartheta_S^i \nabla_S^j S \, dA_S \tag{A.9} \]
in terms of the projections of the gradient \( \nabla^i \) into the tangent spaces of \( S \) and \( \partial S \).

In all of these integrals,
\[ dV_S = \epsilon_{j_1 \cdots j_s}(S) dx^{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{j_s} \tag{A.10} \]
is the volume element of the surface \( S \), and
\[ dA_S = \hat{n}^i \epsilon_{j_1 \cdots j_{s-1}}(S) dx^{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{j_{s-1}} \tag{A.11} \]
is the volume element of the boundary \( \partial S \), with \( s = \dim S \), where \( \epsilon_{j_1 \cdots j_s}(S) \) denotes the metric-normalized volume form of \( S \) and \( \hat{n}^i \) denotes the unit normal of \( \partial S \) in \( S \).

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Stephen C. Anco
Department of Mathematics
Brock University
St. Catharines, ON, Canada
e-mail: sanco@brocku.ca

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