

$$V = (x^2 - y^2) dx - 2xy dy$$

Check $\operatorname{div} V = \frac{d}{dx}(x^2 - y^2) + \frac{d}{dy}(-2xy) = 2x - 2x = 0 \quad \checkmark$

Check $\nabla^2 V_x = \nabla^2(x^2 - y^2) = 2 - 2 = 0$

$$\nabla^2 V_y = \nabla^2(-2xy) = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 V_z = 0$$

That is $dP = 0$ so $P = \text{constant}$. \checkmark

All together this checks that V is a Stokes flow.

Now take V as a tangent vector, $(x^2 - y^2) \frac{d}{dx} - 2xy \frac{d}{dy}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_V g \left(\frac{d}{dx}, \frac{d}{dx} \right) = g \left(\left[\frac{d}{dx}, V \right], \frac{d}{dx} \right) = g \left(2x \frac{d}{dx} - 2y \frac{d}{dy}, \frac{d}{dx} \right) = 2x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_V g \left(\frac{d}{dx}, \frac{d}{dy} \right) &= \frac{1}{2} g \left(\left[\frac{d}{dx}, V \right], \frac{d}{dy} \right) + \frac{1}{2} g \left(\frac{d}{dx}, \left[\frac{d}{dy}, V \right] \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} g \left(2x \frac{d}{dx} - 2y \frac{d}{dy}, \frac{d}{dy} \right) + \frac{1}{2} g \left(\frac{d}{dx}, -2y \frac{d}{dx} - 2x \frac{d}{dy} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= -y - y = -2y$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_V g \left(\frac{d}{dy}, \frac{d}{dy} \right) = g \left(\left[\frac{d}{dy}, V \right], \frac{d}{dy} \right) = g \left(-2y \frac{d}{dx} - 2x \frac{d}{dy}, \frac{d}{dy} \right) = -2x$$

Thus the rate of strain tensor is

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 2x & -2y & 0 \\ -2y & -2x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

It clearly has zero trace: $2x - 2x = 0$.