## An Internet Book on Fluid Dynamics

## Problem 290B

Suppose that the lift force experienced by a spinning baseball is to be estimated by $\rho U \Gamma a$ where $\rho$ is the air density $\left(1 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}\right)$, $U$ is its forward velocity (say $40 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$ ), $a$ is its radius $\left(0.03 \mathrm{~m}\right.$ ) and $\Gamma$ is a circulation which is estimated as $2 \pi a^{2} \omega$ where $\omega$ is the velocity of spin (take $\omega=200 \mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$ ). If the path of the baseball between the pitcher's mound and home plate (distance $\approx 20 \mathrm{~m}$ ) is modelled as part of a circle, estimate the distance (in $m$ ) between the home plate arrival locations with and without the spin, in other words estimate the distance, $H$ :


Neglect gravity. My estimate(?) of the mass of the baseball is 0.2 kg .

