## An Internet Book on Fluid Dynamics

## Problem 120K

This question is concerned with planar, incompressible, inviscid potential flow. The velocity potential, $\phi$, and streamfunction, $\psi$, for a planar doublet oriented in the x -direction and located at the origin of an $x, y$ coordinate system are given by $\phi=B x /\left(x^{2}+y^{2}\right)$ and $\psi=-B y /\left(x^{2}+y^{2}\right)$ where $B$ is the strength of the doublet.

The flow of a uniform stream (velocity, $U$ ) in the $x$ direction around an elongated body is to be constructed by placing a planar doublet at $x=a, y=0$ and another one at $x=-a, y=0$. They both have the same orientation and strength, $B$. For small values of $B$ below some critical value the result is the flow around two bodies:


For values of $B$ larger than the critical value the result is the flow around a single body:


Determine the critical value of $B$. Hint: at the critical value the two bodies touch at the origin.

