

# Chapter 3 Boundary layer



- An understanding of external flows is important for aerospace engineers:
  - To understand airflows around different components of an aircraft.
- Also for flow of fluids around turbines, buildings, automobiles, etc.
- Need to concentrate on high-Reynolds-number flows (Re > 1000).
  - 1. Incompressible immersed flows (automobiles, low-speed aircraft, turbines)
  - 2. Flows of liquids with a free surface (ship or bridge abutments)
  - 3. Compressible flows with high-speed objects
- Flow is influenced by the presence of a boundary or another object.



- High-Reynolds-number incompressible immersed flows can be either:
  - Flows around blunt bodies.
  - Flows around streamlined bodies.





Figure 8.3 Flow around a blunt body and a streamlined body.



**Figure 8.1** Flow past a circular cylinder at Re = 0.16. The flow is from left to right. It resembles superficially the pattern of potential flow. The flow of water is shown by aluminum dust. (Photograph by Sadatoshi Taneda. From *Album of Fluid Motion*, 1982, The Parabolic Press, Stanford, California.)

- Boundary layer near a stagnation point is a laminar boundary layer.
- For a high enough Reynolds number, there is a laminar-turbulent transition downstream:
  - Flow may separate from the body, forming a separated region [region of recirculating flow].
  - The wake is a region of velocity defect that grows because of diffusion.
  - These boundaries are time-dependent.







- For the figure above, the drag and the lift is found as below:
  - Drag: Force the flow exerts on a body in the direction of the flow.
  - Lift: Force the flow exerts normal to the direction of flow.

$$C_D = \frac{F_D}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 A} \qquad C_L = \frac{F_L}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 A}$$

• The lift and drag coefficients are seen above, with A as the projected area.



### 8.2 Separation



**Chord**: Line connecting the trailing edge with the nose **Angle of attack**: Angle the flow makes with the chord



- A separated flow occurs when the main stream flow leaves the body.
- When separation occurs with a high angle of attack near the forward portion of the airfoil, the flow is "stalled."
- Stall is undesirable in aircrafts while cruising, but provides high drag when landing.



#### 8.2 Separation



Figure 8.5 Separation due to abrupt geometry changes.

Figure 8.6 Flow separation on a flat surface due to an adverse pressure gradient.

- If a body has an abrupt change in profile, separation occurs near this change.
- It will also occur upstream of the flat surface, and will reattach at some point downstream.





Figure 8.6 Flow separation on a flat surface due to an adverse pressure gradient.

- The y-coordinate is normal to the wall. The x-coordinate is measured along the wall.
- Downstream of the separation point, the x-component velocity near the wall is in the negative x-direction. Upstream of the separation point, the x-component of the velocity is in the positive x-direction.
  - Separation point is at the point where  $(\partial u/\partial y)_{wall} = 0$
- Separation occurs when the flow approaches a stagnation region:
  - Velocity is low and pressure is high (positive pressure gradient).
  - As separation is undesirable, a positive pressure gradient is an adverse pressure gradient. A negative gradient is a favorable pressure gradient.



## 8.2 Separation



- Separation is influenced by:
  - Geometry
  - Pressure gradient
  - Reynolds number
  - Wall roughness
  - Free-stream fluctuation intensity (intensity of the disturbances that exist away from the boundary)
  - Wall temperature
- The last three have less but sometimes significant influences.

Figure 8.6 Flow separation on a flat surface due to an adverse pressure gradient.

#### 8.3.1 Drag Coefficients

- The primary flow parameter that influences flow is the Reynolds number.
  - Neglecting gravity, thermal, and surface tension effects.
- For a sphere, at Re < 1, there is creeping flow with no separation.

$$C_D = \frac{24}{\text{Re}} \qquad \text{Re} < 1$$



Drag coefficients for flow around a long cylinder and a sphere

#### 8.3.1 Drag Coefficients

**Table 8.1** Drag Coefficients of Finite-Length Circular Cylinders<sup>a</sup> with Free Ends<sup>b</sup> and of Infinite-Length Elliptic Cylinders

Circular cylinder			Elliptic cylinder <sup>c</sup>			
Length Diameter	$\frac{C_D}{C_{D\infty}}$	Major axis Minor axis	Re	$C_D$		
00	1	2	$4  imes 10^4$	0.6		
40	0.82	4	10 <sup>5</sup>	0.46		
20	0.76	4	$2.5 \times 10^4$ to $10^5$	0.32		
10	0.68	8	$2.5 \times 10^{4}$	0.29		
5	0.62	8	$2 \times 10^{5}$	0.20		
3	0.62					
2	0.57					
1	0.53					

 ${}^{*}C_{p*}$  is the drag coefficient for the infinite-length circular cylinder obtained in Figure 8.9.

b If one end is fixed to a solid surface, double the length of the cylinder.

° Flow is in the direction of the major axis.

#### 8.3.1 Drag Coefficients

Object		Re	$C_D$
Square cylinder $\rightarrow \underset{w}{\overset{L}{\mapsto}} \overset{w}{w}$	$L/w = \begin{cases} \infty \\ 1 \text{ (cube)} \end{cases}$	$> 10^4$ > 10^4 10^5	2.0 1.1 1.2
rounded corners $(r = 0.2w)$	$L/w = \infty$		
Rectangular plates $\rightarrow w$	$L/w = \begin{cases} \infty \\ 20 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{cases}$	$> 10^{3}$ > 10^{3} > 10^{3} > 10^{3}	2.0 1.5 1.2 1.1
Circular cylinder $\rightarrow \Box^L D$	$L/D = \begin{cases} 0.1 \text{ (disk)} \\ 4 \\ 7 \end{cases}$	$> 10^{3}$ > 10^{3} > 10^{3}	1.1 0.9 1.0
Semicircular $\rightarrow D$		$> 10^{4}$	2.2
cylinder $\rightarrow 0$		$> 10^{4}$	1.2
Semicircular $\rightarrow$ )		$2  imes 10^4$	2.3
shell $\rightarrow \zeta$		$2 \times 10^4$	1.1
Equilateral cylinders $\stackrel{\rightarrow}{\rightarrow} \bigcirc$	2.0	$> 10^4$ $> 10^4$	2.0 1.4

Drag Coefficients for various blunt objects

#### 8.3.1 Drag Coefficients (contd)

Object		Re	$C_D$
	30°	$> 10^4$	0.6
$Cone \rightarrow \checkmark$	$\alpha = \begin{cases} 60^{\circ} \end{cases}$	$> 10^4$	0.8
م <u>ر</u>	90°	$> 10^{4}$	1.2
Solid homisphane →		$> 10^{4}$	1.2
sond nennsphere →		$> 10^{4}$	0.4
		$> 10^4$	1.4
Hollow hemisphere $\rightarrow 0$		$> 10^4$	0.4
Parachute		> 107	1.4
Automobile			
1920	_	> 10 <sup>5</sup>	0.80
Modern, with square corners	_	$> 10^{5}$	0.30
Modern, with rounded corners	—	> 10 <sup>5</sup>	0.29
Van		> 10 <sup>5</sup>	0.42
Bicycle, upright rider			1.1
racing, bent over			0.9
racing, drafting			0.5
Semitruck, standard			0.96
with streamlined deflector			0.76
with deflector and gap seal			0.70

Drag Coefficients for various blunt objects

A square sign,  $3 \text{ m} \times 3$  m, is attached to the top of a 18-m-high pole which is 30 cm in diameter (Figure E8.1). Approximate the maximum moment that must be resisted by the base for a wind speed of 30 m/s.



Solution

The maximum force  $F_1$  acting on the sign occurs when the wind is normal to the sign; it is

$$F_{1} = C_{D} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^{2} A$$
  
= 1.1 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1.2 × 30<sup>2</sup> × 3<sup>2</sup> = 5346 N

where  $C_D$  is found in Table 8.2 and we use the standard value  $\rho = 1.2$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> since it was not given. The force  $F_2$  acting on the cylindrical pole is (using the projected area as  $A = 18 \times 0.3$  m<sup>2</sup>)

$$F_2 = C_D \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 A$$
  
= 0.8 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1.2 × 30<sup>2</sup> × 5.4 = 2332.8 N

where  $C_D$  is found from Figure 8.9 with Re =  $30 \times 0.3/1.46 \times 10^{-5} = 6.2 \times 10^{5}$ , assuming a high-intensity fluctuation level (i.e., a rough cylinder); since neither end is free, we do not use the multiplication factor of Table 8.1.

The resisting moment that must be supplied by the supporting base is

$$M = d_1F_1 + d_2F_2$$
  
= 19.5 × 5346 + 9 × 2332.8 = 125 kN · m

assuming that the forces act at the centers of their respective areas.

Determine the terminal velocity of a 300-mm-diameter smooth sphere (S = 1.02) if it is released from rest in (a) air at 20°C and (b) water at 20°C.

#### Solution

(a) When terminal velocity is reached by a falling object, the weight of the object is balanced by the drag force acting on the object. Using  $\Sigma F = 0$  and Eq. 8.1.1, we have

$$W = F_D$$
  
$$\therefore \gamma_{\text{sphere}} \times \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 = C_D \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 A$$

Using  $\gamma_{\text{sphere}} = S \gamma_{\text{water}}$  and projected area  $A = \pi R^2$ , this becomes

$$S\gamma_{\text{water}} \times \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 = C_D \times \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 \pi R$$

The velocity can now be expressed as

$$V = \left(\frac{8RS\gamma_{\text{water}}}{3\rho C_D}\right)^{1/2} = \left(\frac{8 \times 0.15 \text{ m} \times 1.02 \times 9800 \text{ N/m}^3}{3 \times 1.20 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times C_D}\right)^{1/2} = \frac{57.7}{\sqrt{C_D}}$$

The Reynolds number should be quite large so  $C_p = 0.2$  from Figure 8.9. Then

$$V = \frac{57.7}{\sqrt{0.2}} = \frac{129 \text{ m/s}}{129 \text{ m/s}}$$

We must check the Reynolds number to verify the  $C_p$  value assumed. It is

$$\operatorname{Re} = \frac{VD}{v} = \frac{129 \times 0.3}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}} = 2.42 \times 10^{6}$$

This is beyond the end of the curve where data are unavailable; we will assume that the drag coefficient is unchanged at 0.2, so the terminal velocity is 129 m/s.

(b) For the sphere falling in water, we must include the buoyancy force B acting in the same direction as the drag force  $F_D$ . Hence the summation of forces yields

$$W = F_D + B$$
  
$$\therefore \gamma_{\text{sphere}} \times \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 = C_D \times \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 A + \gamma_{\text{water}} \times \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3$$

This gives

$$(S-1)\gamma_{\text{water}} \times \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 = C_D \times \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 \pi R^2$$

Using  $\rho = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , there results

$$V = \left(\frac{8R(S-1)\gamma_{\text{water}}}{3\rho C_D}\right)^{1/2} = \left(\frac{8 \times 0.15 \times 0.02 \times 9800}{3 \times 1000 \times C_D}\right)^{1/2} = \frac{0.28}{\sqrt{C_D}}$$

We anticipate the Reynolds number being lower than in part (a), so let's assume that it is in the range  $2 \times 10^4 < \text{Re} < 2 \times 10^5$ . Then  $C_D = 0.5$  and there results

$$V = 0.40 \text{ m/s}$$

This gives a Reynolds number of

$$\operatorname{Re} = \frac{VD}{V} = \frac{0.40 \times 0.3}{10^{-6}} = 1.2 \times 10^{5}$$

This is in the required range, so the terminal velocity is expected to be 0.40 m/s. Of course, if the sphere were roughened (sand glued to the surface), the  $C_D$  value would be less and the velocity would be greater.

#### 8.3.2 Vortex Shedding

- When long, blunt objects (such as circular cylinders) are placed normal to a fluid flow:
  - Vortices/eddies are shed regularly and alternately from opposite sides.
  - The flow downstream is called a Kármán vortex street. (40 < Re < 10000, with turbulence above Re = 300)</li>



#### 8.3.2 Vortex Shedding

- Dimensional analysis is applied to find this shedding frequency.
  - For high Re (negligible viscous effects), shedding frequency depends on velocity and diameter f = f(V, D).
  - This is the dimensionless Strouhal number.

$$St = \frac{fD}{V}$$

- The Strouhal number is constant (0.21) over 300 < Re < 10000.
  - Frequency is directly proportional to the velocity over a large Re range.



#### 8.3.2 Vortex Shedding



- Vortex shedding is considered when designing towers/bridges.
  - When a vortex is shed, a small force is applied to the structure.
  - If the shedding frequency is close to the natural frequency  $\rightarrow$  **Resonance**

The velocity of a slow-moving, 30°C air stream is to be measured using a cylinder and a pressure tap located between points A and B on the cylinder in Figure 8.10a. The velocity range is expected to be 0.1 < V < 1 m/s. What size cylinder should be selected and what frequency would be observed by the pressure-measuring device for V = 1 m/s?

#### Solution

The Reynolds number should be in the vortex shedding range, say 4000. For the maximum velocity the diameter would be found as follows:

$$4000 = \frac{VD}{v}$$
$$= \frac{1.0 \text{ m/s} \times D}{1.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}}$$
$$\therefore D = 0.064 \text{ m} \text{ Select } D = 60 \text{ mm}$$

At V = 0.1 m/s the Reynolds number is  $0.1 \times 0.06/1.6 \times 10^{-5} = 375$ . Vortex shedding would occur, so this is acceptable. The expected vortex shedding frequency at V = 1.0 m/s is found using a Strouhal number from Figure 8.10b of 0.21. Hence

$$0.21 = \frac{fD}{V}$$
$$= \frac{f \times 0.06}{1.0}$$
$$\therefore f = \underline{3.5 \text{ hertz}}$$

#### 8.3.3 Streamlining

- If a flow must remain attached to the surface of a blunt object (cylinder/ sphere):
  - It must move into areas of higher pressure as it goes into the rear stagnation point.
  - At high Reynolds numbers (Re > 10), the slow-moving boundary layer flow cannot make it to the high-pressure area near the rear stagnation point (separation occurs).
- Streamlining: Reduces the high pressure at the rear of the object so the slow-moving surface flow can move rearward (into a slightly high-pressure region).
  - Separation region will be reduced to a small percentage of the initial separated region on the blunt object.
  - For effective streamlining trailing edge angle < 20 degrees.

#### 8.3.3 Streamlining

- For a streamlined body:
  - Surface area is greatly increased.
  - Reduces most of the pressure drag, but increases the shear drag on the surface.
  - Usually eliminates periodic shedding of vortices.
- The streamlined body cannot be so long that the shear drag is larger than the pressure drag plus shear drag for a short body.
  - Needs to be optimized.

A strut on a stunt plane traveling at 60 m/s is 40 mm in diameter and 240 mm long. Calculate the drag force acting on the strut as a circular cylinder, and as a streamlined strut, as shown in Figure E8.4. Neglect any viscous drag. Would you expect vortex shedding from the circular cylinder?



#### Solution

The Reynolds number associated with the cylinder and the streamlined strut is, assuming air at  $T = 20^{\circ}$ C,

$$Re = \frac{VD}{v} = \frac{60 \times 0.04}{1.5 \times 10^{-5}} = 1.6 \times 10^{5}$$

Assuming a smooth surface as in Figure E8.4a, the drag coefficient is  $C_D = 1.2$  from Figure 8.9. The drag force is then

$$F_{D} = C_{D} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^{2} A$$
  
= 1.2 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1.20 kg/m<sup>3</sup> × 60<sup>2</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup> × (0.24 × 0.04) m<sup>2</sup> = 24.9 N

For the streamlined strut of Figure E8.4b, Figure 8.9 yields  $C_D = 0.04$ . The drag force is

$$F_D = C_D \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 A$$
  
= 0.04 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1.20 × 60<sup>2</sup> × (0.24 × 0.04) = 0.82 N

This is a reduction of 97% in the drag, a rather substantial reduction.

Vortex shedding is not to be expected on the circular cylinder; the Reynolds number is too high. (See Figure 8.10.)



#### 8.3.4 Cavitation

• This is the rapid change of phase from liquid to vapor that occurs when the local pressure is equal to or less than the vapor pressure.

#### 8.3.4 Cavitation

- There are four types of cavitation:
  - 1. Traveling cavitation: Exists when vapor bubbles/cavities are formed, are swept downstream, and then collapse.
  - 2. Fixed cavitation: Exists when a fixed cavity of vapor exists as a separated region.
  - 3. Vortex cavitation: Found in the high-velocity (low pressure) core of a vortex (e.g., tip vortex leaving a propeller).
  - 4. Vibratory cavitation: *Exists when a pressure wave moves in a liquid (pressure pulse of high pressure followed by a low pressure).* 
    - The low-pressure part of the wave causes cavitation.
- The first type of cavitation causes a lot of damage.
  - Instantaneous pressures caused from the collapse are very high (~1400 MPa).

#### 8.3.4 Cavitation

- Cavitation occurs when the cavitation number (σ) is less than the *critical* cavitation number (σ<sub>crit</sub>).
  - Depends on the body geometry and Reynolds number.

$$\sigma = \frac{p_{\infty} - p_v}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2}$$

 $p_{\rm \infty}\!\!:\! Absolute \ pressure \ of the free stream <math display="inline">p_v\!\!:\! Vapor \ pressure$ 

 As σ keeps decreasing, the cavitation increases in intensity (moving from traveling cavitation to fixed cavitation to supercavitation).



8.3.4 Cavitation

$$\sigma = \frac{p_{\infty} - p_v}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2}$$

• The drag coefficient for small numbers is:  $C_D(\sigma) = C_D(0)(1 + \sigma)$ 

Two-dimensional body			Axisymmetric body			
Geometry		$\theta$	$C_D(0)$	Geometry	θ	$C_D(0)$
Flat plate			0.88	Disk	—	0.8
Circular cylinder			0.50	Sphere		0.30
		120	0.74	Cone	120	0.64
Wedge		90	0.64		90	0.52
	$\equiv \triangleleft$	60	0.49	$= <_{\theta}$	60	0.38
		30	0.28		30	0.20

Table 8.3 Drag Coefficients for Zero Cavitation Number for Blunt Objects for  $Re \approx 10^{5}$ 

# 0.0 Elever error d'Immediate

## 8.3 Flow around Immersed Bodies

#### 8.3.4 Cavitation

- The hydrofoil (airfoil-type body) is a shape that is associated with cavitation.
  - Used to lift bodies out of water.

**Table 8.4** Drag and Lift Coefficients and Critical Cavitation Number

 for a Typical Hydrofoil

Angle (°)	Lift coefficient $C_L$	Drag coefficient $C_D$	Critical cavitation number o <sub>cett</sub>
-2	0.2	0.014	0.5
0	0.4	0.014	0.6
2	0.6	0.015	0.7
4	0.8	0.018	0.8
6	0.95	0.022	1.2
8	1.10	0.03	1.8
10	1.22	0.04	2.5

A hydrofoil is to operate 50 cm below the surface of 15°C water at an angle of attack of 8° and travel at 14 m/s. If its chord length is 60 cm and it is 1.8 m long, calculate its lift and drag. Is cavitation present?

#### Solution

The absolute pressure  $p_{\infty}$  is

$$p_{\infty} = \gamma h + p_{stm}$$
  
= 9810 × 0.5 + 1.01 × 10<sup>5</sup> = 105.9 kPa absolute

The vapor pressure is  $p_v = 1.765$  kPa, so

$$\sigma = \frac{p_{\infty} - p_{v}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^{2}}$$
$$= \frac{(105.9 - 1.765) \times 10^{3}}{\frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 14^{2}} = 1.06$$

Answering the last question first, we see that this is less than 1.8; hence cavitation exists. The lift force is, finding  $C_L$  in Table 8.4,

$$F_L = C_L \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 A$$
  
= 1.1 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1000 kg/m<sup>3</sup> × 14<sup>2</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup> × (0.6 × 1.8) m<sup>2</sup> = 116.4 kN

The drag force is, finding  $C_D$  in Table 8.4,

$$F_D = C_D \times \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 A$$
  
= 0.03 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  × 1000 × 14<sup>2</sup>(0.6 × 1.8) = 3180 N

#### 8.3.5 Added Mass

- If a body accelerates in a fluid, some of the fluid surrounding the body also accelerates.
  - This can be accounted for by adding a small mass m<sub>a</sub>, to the mass of the body.
  - Hence, summing forces for a symmetrical body:

$$F - F_D = (m + m_a) \frac{dV_B}{dt}$$

• The added mass can be related to the fluid mass (m<sub>f</sub>) by:

$$m_a = km_f$$

k: Added mass coefficient Sphere k = 0.5Ellipsoid k = 0.2Long cylinder k = 1.0

A sphere with specific gravity 2.5 is released from rest in water. Calculate its initial acceleration. What is the percentage error if the added mass is ignored?

#### Solution

The summation of forces in the vertical direction, with zero drag, is

$$W - B = (m + m_a) \frac{dV_B}{dt}$$

where B is the buoyant force. Substituting in the appropriate quantities gives, letting  $\mathcal{V} =$  sphere volume,

$$S\gamma_{\text{water}}\mathcal{V} - \gamma_{\text{water}}\mathcal{V} = (\rho_{\text{water}}S\mathcal{V} + 0.5\rho_{\text{water}}\mathcal{V})\frac{dV_B}{dt}$$

This gives

$$g(S-1) = (S+0.5)\frac{dV_B}{dt}$$

Hence

$$\frac{dV_B}{dt} = \frac{g(S-1)}{S+0.5} = \frac{9.8(2.5-1)}{2.5+0.5} = \frac{4.90 \text{ m/s}^2}{4.90 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

If we ignored the added mass, the acceleration would be

$$\frac{dV_B}{dt} = \frac{g(S-1)}{S} = \frac{9.8(2.5-1)}{2.5} = 5.88 \text{ m/s}^2$$

This is an error of 20%.



## 8.4 Lift and Drag on Airfoils

- An airfoil is a streamlined body that reduces adverse pressure gradient.
  - Hence separation doesn't occur (at small angles of attack).
  - Drag is mainly due to wall shear stress (viscous effects in the boundary layer).


- For this thin boundary layer, lift can be approximated by integrating the pressure distribution.
- Drag is found by solving the boundary layer equations (Navier-Stokes equations) for shear stress:
  - Then integrate.







Figure 8.13 Lift and drag coefficients for airfoils with  $\text{Re} = Vc/v \simeq 9 \times 10^6$  (c is the chord length).

- Maximum lift coefficients can be around 1.5
- Minimum drag coefficients for some particular airfoils can be as low as 0.0035
- The cruise condition (design lift coefficient) is around 0.3, which is near the minimum drag coefficient condition.
  - Around an angle of attack of 2° (maximum stall condition of 16°)
- Conventional airfoils aren't symmetric.
  - Will have a positive lift coefficient at zero angle of attack.
- Lift is proportional to AOA, but deviates from a linear function just before stall.
- Drag is proportional to AOA (upto 5°), then changes in a nonlinear relation.



• The total lift on an aircraft is supplied primarily by the airfoil.

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- The effective length of the airfoil in this calculation is taken from the tip-to-tip distance.
- This is the **wingspan**.



Figure 8.15 Drag coefficient as a function of Mach number (speed) for a typical unswept airfoil.

- The drag coefficient is constant until around M = 0.75
- Then there is an increase until the Mach number reaches unity.
- After this, the drag coefficient drops.
- Hence, to avoid high drag coefficients M = 1 should be avoided.
  - At M = 1, there are regions of flow that oscillate from subsonic to supersonic. These forces need to be avoided.

### 8.6.1 General Background

- For high Re flows:
  - Viscous effects are confined to the thin layer of fluid (boundary layer) next to the body and to the wake downstream of the body.
- The edge of the boundary layer is arbitrarily defined as:
  - The locus of points where the velocity equals 99% of the free-stream velocity.



For a thin boundary layer, the pressure in the boundary layer is the pressure at the wall [inviscid flow solution].

Figure 8.21 Boundary layer on a curved surface.

### 8.6.1 General Background



Figure 8.22 Boundary layer with transition.

- The boundary layer begins as a laminar flow (with zero thickness) at the leading edge of a flat plate.
- After a distance  $x_T$ , laminar-to-turbulent transition.  $x_T$  depends on:
  - Free-stream velocity
  - Viscosity
  - Pressure gradient
  - Wall roughness
  - Free-stream fluctuation level
  - Wall rigidity



### 8.6.1 General Background





- For a flat plate with zero pressure gradient, the transition occurs:
  - Flow on rough plates or with high free-stream fluctuation intensity →
  - $U_{\infty}x_{T}/v = 3 \times 10^{5}$
  - Flow on smooth rigid plates with low free-stream fluctuation intensity →
  - $U_{\infty}x_{T}/v = 5 \times 10^{5}$
- The quantity  $[U_{\infty}x/v]$  is the **local Reynolds number**.
  - Hence  $U_{\infty}x_{T}/v$  is the critical Reynolds number.



### 8.6.1 General Background





- Assume flow is laminar up to  $x_T$  and turbulent afterwards.
- The turbulent boundary layer thickens much more rapidly than the laminar layer.
  - Has greater wall shear and a greater slope at the wall.

### 8.6.2 Von Kármán Integral Equation



Figure 8.24 Boundary layer in air with  $Re_{crit} = 3 \times 10^5$  (approximately to scale).

- As seen from the velocity profile:
  - Velocity goes from u = 0.99U<sub>∞</sub> at y = δ to u = 0 at y = 0 over a small distance (boundary layer thickness).
  - Hence the velocity profile for laminar and turbulent flow can be predicted well.

### 8.6.2 Von Kármán Integral Equation



Figure 8.25 Control volume for a boundary layer with variable U(x).

 For an infinitesimal control volume, the integral continuity equation is:

$$\dot{m}_{top} = \dot{m}_{out} - \dot{m}_{in}$$
$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^\delta \rho u \, dy \, dx$$

• The integral momentum equation then becomes:

$$\sum F_x = m \dot{o} m_{out} - m \dot{o} m_{in} - m \dot{o} m_{top}$$

Hence, from momentum flux, the von Kármán integral equation is:

$$\tau_0 + \delta \frac{dp}{dx} = U(x) \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta \rho u \, dy - \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta \rho u^2 \, dy$$



#### 8.6.2 Von Kármán Integral Equation



Figure 8.25 Control volume for a boundary layer with variable U(x).

 For flow over a flat plate with zero pressure gradient, the simplified equation is:

$$\tau_{0} = \frac{d}{dx} \int_{0}^{\delta} \rho u U_{\infty} dy - \frac{d}{dx} \int_{0}^{\delta} \rho u^{2} dy$$
$$= \frac{d}{dx} \int_{0}^{\delta} \rho u (U_{\infty} - u) dy$$
Constant density
$$\tau_{0} = \rho U_{\infty}^{2} \frac{d\theta}{dx}$$

#### 8.6.2 Von Kármán Integral Equation

- **Displacement thickness**  $\delta_d$ : The displacement of the streamlines in the free stream as a result of velocity deficits in the boundary layer.
- **Momentum thickness**  $\theta$ : The equivalent thickness of a fluid layer (velocity U) with momentum equal to the momentum lost from friction.
  - Used as a characteristic length in turbulent boundary-layer analysis.

$$\delta_d = \frac{1}{U} \int_0^\delta (U - u) \, dy$$
$$\theta = \frac{1}{U^2} \int_0^\delta u(U - u) \, dy$$

### 8.6.3 Approximate Solution to the Laminar Boundary Layer

- The von Kármán integral equation can be used to obtain an approximation to the laminar boundary layer on a flat plate with zero pressure gradient.
- Propose a velocity profile with the below conditions.
  - From the velocity profile sketch and the x-component of the Navier-Stokes equation.

$$u = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad y = 0$$
  

$$u = U_{\infty} \quad \text{at} \quad y = \delta$$
  

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad y = \delta$$
  

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad y = 0$$
  
The velocity profile  
for a laminar flow is  
then:  

$$\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{y}{\delta} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^3$$

### 8.6.3 Approximate Solution to the Laminar Boundary Layer

- From the velocity profile in a laminar flow:  $\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{y}{\delta} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^3$
- δ(x) and τ<sub>0</sub>(x) are found to be as follows from von Kármán's integral equation:

$$\tau_0 = \mu \left( U_\infty \frac{3}{2\delta} \right) \qquad \tau_0 = 0.323 \rho U_\infty^2 \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{x U_\infty}} \\ = \frac{0.323 \rho U_\infty^2}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_x}} \\ \delta = 4.65 \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}} = 4.65 \frac{x}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_x}}$$

### 8.6.3 Approximate Solution to the Laminar Boundary Layer

- Using the cubic velocity profile and the shearing stress, the local skin friction coefficient c<sub>f</sub> can be defined:
  - This is a dimensionless wall shearing stress.

$$e_{f} = \frac{\tau_{0}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U_{\infty}^{2}}$$

$$Re_{L}: Reynolds number at the end of the flat plate
$$= \frac{0.646}{\sqrt{U_{\infty} x/v}} = \frac{0.646}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$$

$$Re = \frac{U_{\infty}x}{v}$$$$

$$C_f = \frac{F_D}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U_{\infty}^2 L}$$
$$= \frac{1.29}{\sqrt{U_{\infty} L/\nu}} = \frac{1.29}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_L}}$$

Assume that the velocity profile in a boundary-layer flow can be approximated by a parabolic velocity profile. Calculate the boundary-layer thickness and the wall shear. Compare with those calculated above for the cubic profile.

#### Solution

The parabolic velocity profile is assumed to be

$$\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} = A + By + Cy^2$$

The fourth condition, which would be impossible to satisfy, of (8.6.9) is omitted; this leaves

$$0 = A$$
  

$$1 = A + B\delta + C\delta^{2}$$
  

$$0 = B + 2C\delta$$

A simultaneous solution provides

$$A = 0$$
  $B = \frac{2}{\delta}$   $C = -\frac{1}{\delta^2}$ 

The velocity profile is then

$$\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} = 2\frac{y}{\delta} - \frac{y}{\delta^2}$$

This is substituted into von Kármán's integral equation (8.6.5) to obtain

$$\tau_0 = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta \rho U_\infty^2 \left( 2\frac{y}{\delta} - \frac{y^2}{\delta^2} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{2y}{\delta} + \frac{y^2}{\delta^2} \right) dy$$
$$= \frac{2}{15} \rho U_\infty^2 \frac{d\delta}{dx}$$

We also use  $\tau_0 = \mu \partial u / \partial y |_{y=0}$ ; that is,

$$\tau_0 = \mu U_\infty \frac{2}{\delta}$$

Equating the two expressions above, we obtain

$$\delta d\delta = 15 \frac{v}{U_{\infty}} dx$$

Using  $\delta = 0$  at x = 0, this is integrated to

$$\delta = 5.48 \sqrt{\frac{Vx}{U_{\infty}}}$$

This is 18% higher than the value using the cubic but only 10% higher than the more accurate result of  $5\sqrt{vx/U_{\infty}}$ .

The wall shear is found to be

$$\tau_0 = \frac{2\mu U_{\infty}}{\delta}$$
$$= 0.365\rho U_{\infty}^2 \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{xU}}$$

This is 13% higher than the value using the cubic and 10% higher than the more accurate value of  $0.332 \rho U_{\infty}^2 \sqrt{v/x U_{\infty}}$ . Because the boundary layer is so thin, there is little difference between a cubic and a parabola or the actual profile; refer to the profile in Figure 8.24.

#### 8.6.4 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Power-Law Form

• One of two methods used for turbulent boundary-layer flow involves fitting the data for the velocity profile using a *power-law equation*.

$$\frac{\overline{u}}{U_{\infty}} = \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{1/n} \quad n = \begin{cases} 7 & \text{Re}_{x} < 10^{7} \\ 8 & 10^{7} < \text{Re}_{x} < 10^{8} \\ 9 & 10^{8} < \text{Re}_{x} < 10^{9} \end{cases}$$

 Following the previous methodology (von Kármán), the local skin friction coefficients and the shear stress relations can be found.

### 8.6.4 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Power-Law Form

• Two forms of shear stress relationships:

$$\tau_0 = 0.023 \rho U_{\infty}^2 \left(\frac{v}{U_{\infty}\delta}\right)^{1/4} \qquad \qquad \tau_0 = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^{\infty} \rho U_{\infty}^2 \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{1/2} \left[1 - \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{1/2}\right] dy \\ = \frac{7}{72} \rho U_{\infty}^2 \frac{d\delta}{dx}$$

 The local skin friction coefficient can be related to the boundary-layer thickness and local Reynolds numbers as:

$$c_{f} = 0.046 \left(\frac{v}{U_{\omega}\delta}\right)^{1/4}$$
  

$$\delta = 0.38x \left(\frac{v}{U_{\omega}x}\right)^{1/5}$$
  

$$= 0.38x \operatorname{Re}_{x}^{-1/5} \qquad \operatorname{Re}_{x} < 10^{7}$$

Assuming turbulent flow from the leading edge



### 8.6.4 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Power-Law Form

• The skin friction coefficient can then be found as:

$$C_f = 0.073 \,\mathrm{Re}_L^{-1/5}$$
  $\mathrm{Re}_L < 10^7$   
 $C_f = 0.073 \,\mathrm{Re}_L^{-1/5} - 1700 \,\mathrm{Re}_L^{-1}$   $\mathrm{Re}_L < 10^7$ 

 If L is around 3x<sub>T</sub> or less, then there is a significant laminar section on the leading edge. Equation is modified as such

• Used for a 
$$\text{Re}_{\text{crit}} = 5 \times 10^5$$

• Finally, the displacement and momentum thicknesses can be found as:

$$\delta_d = 0.048 x \operatorname{Re}_x^{-1/5}$$
  
 $\theta = 0.037 x \operatorname{Re}_x^{-1/5}$ 

Estimate the boundary-layer thickness at the end of a 4-m-long flat surface if the freestream velocity is  $U_{\infty} = 5$  m/s. Use atmospheric air at 30°C. Also, predict the drag force if the surface is 5 m wide. (a) Neglect the laminar portion of the flow and (b) account for the laminar portion using Re<sub>ent</sub> =  $5 \times 10^5$ .





#### Solution

(a) Let us first assume turbulent flow from the leading edge. The boundary-layer thickness is given by Eq. 8.6.27. It is

$$\delta = 0.38x \operatorname{Re}_{x}^{-1/5}$$
  
= 0.38 × 4 ×  $\left(\frac{5 \times 4}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}}\right)^{-1/5} = \underline{0.0917} \operatorname{m}$ 

The drag force is, using Eq. 8.6.29,

$$F_{D} = C_{f} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\omega}^{2} L w$$
  
= 0.073  $\left(\frac{5 \times 4}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}}\right)^{-1/5} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1.16 \text{ kg/m}^{3} \times 5^{2} \text{ m}^{2}/\text{s}^{2} \times 4 \text{ m} \times 5 \text{ m} = \underline{1.28 \text{ N}}$ 

The predictions above assume that  $\text{Re}_L < 10^7$ . The Reynolds number is

$$\operatorname{Re}_{L} = \frac{5 \times 4}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}} = 1.25 \times 10$$

Hence the calculations are acceptable.

(b) Now let us account for the laminar portion of the boundary layer. Referring to Figure E8.14, the distance  $x_T$  is found as follows:

$$\operatorname{Re}_{\operatorname{cdt}} = 5 \times 10^{5} = \frac{U \propto x_{T}}{v}$$
$$\therefore x_{T} = 5 \times 10^{5} \times 1.6 \times \frac{10^{-5}}{5} = 1.6 \,\mathrm{m}$$

The boundary-layer thickness at  $x_T$  is, replacing the constant of 4.65 in Eq. 8.6.16 with the more accurate value of 5,

$$\delta = 5\sqrt{\frac{xv}{U_{\infty}}}$$
  
=  $5\sqrt{\frac{1.6 \text{ m} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}}{5 \text{ m/s}}} = 0.0113 \text{ m}$ 

The location of the fictitious origin of the turbulent flow (see Figure E8.14) is found using Eq. 8.6.27 to be

$$x^{\prime 4/5} = \frac{\delta}{0.38} \left(\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu}\right)^{1/5}$$
  
$$\therefore x^{\prime} = \left(\frac{0.0113}{0.38}\right)^{5/4} \left(\frac{5}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}}\right)^{1/4} = 0.292 \,\mathrm{m}$$

The distance  $x_{\text{turb}}$  is then  $x_{\text{turb}} = 4 - 1.6 + 0.292 = 2.69$  m. Using Eq. 8.6.27, the thickness at the end of the surface is

$$\delta = 0.38 x \left(\frac{v}{U_{\infty} x}\right)^{\nu_5}$$
  
= 0.38 × 2.69 ×  $\left(\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-5}}{5 \times 2.69}\right)^{\nu_5} = 0.067 \text{ m}$ 

The value of part (a) is 37% too high when compared with this more accurate value.

The more accurate drag force is found using Eq. 8.6.30 to be

$$F_{D} = C_{f} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^{2} L w$$
  
=  $[0.073 \,\mathrm{Re}_{L}^{-1/5} - 1700 \,\mathrm{Re}_{L}^{-1}] \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^{2} L w$   
=  $\left[ 0.073 \left( \frac{5 \times 4}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}} \right)^{-1/5} - 1700 \left( \frac{5 \times 4}{1.6 \times 10^{-5}} \right)^{-1} \right] \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1.16 \times 5^{2} \times 4 \times 5^{2}$   
=  $0.88 \,\mathrm{N}$ 

The prediction of part (a) is 45% too high. For relatively short surfaces it is obvious that significant errors result if the thinner laminar portion with its smaller shear stress is neglected.

### 8.6.5 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Empirical Form

- This method of understanding turbulent flow (flat plate, zero pressure gradient) uses obtained data.
  - More accurate that the power-law form but is harder to use.
- The time-average turbulent velocity profile can be divided into the *inner* and *outer* regions.
  - The inner region is defined as:

$$\frac{\overline{u}}{u_{\tau}} = f\left(\frac{u_{\tau}y}{v}\right) \qquad u_{\tau} = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_0}{\rho}} \qquad u_{\tau}: \text{ shear velocity}$$

• The outer region is defined as:

$$\frac{U_{\infty} - \overline{u}}{u_{\tau}} = f\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right) \qquad \qquad \mathsf{U}_{\infty} - \overline{\mathsf{u}}: \text{ Velocity defect}$$

### 8.6.5 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Empirical Form

• The inner region has three regions: viscous wall layer, buffer zone, and turbulent zone.



### 8.6.5 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Empirical Form

- The viscous wall layer (fluctuates constantly):
  - Defined as a linear time-average profile.
  - Very thin, extends to y\* ≈ 5



v/u<sub>T</sub> is the characteristic length in the turbulent inner region → The dimensionless distance from the wall is hence:

$$y^* = \frac{u_\tau y}{v}$$

- The *turbulent zone*:
  - Defined by a logarithmic profile.
  - From y\* ≈ 50 to y/δ ≈ 0.15
  - Location of the outer edge depends on the Reynolds number
- The *buffer zone* connects the viscous wall layer and the turbulent zone.

#### 8.6.5 Turbulent Boundary Layer: Empirical Form

- The outer region relates the velocity defect to y/δ:
  - The turbulent zone is from  $50 < \frac{u_r y}{v} = \frac{y}{\delta} < 0.15$
  - Above this range  $[y/\delta > 0.15]$  a data fit is used.



- These equations involve shear velocity  $u_T$  which depends on wall shear  $\tau_0$ .
  - To find the wall shear  $(\tau_0)$ , the local skin-friction coefficient equation is needed as seen:

 $c_f = \frac{0.455}{(\ln 0.06 \,\mathrm{Re}_x)^2}$ 



- For turbulent flow from the leading edge, the shear stress can be integrated to find the drag.
  - The skin friction coefficient is then:

$$C_f = \frac{0.523}{(\ln 0.06 \, \mathrm{Re}_L)^2}$$
 Accurate up to  $\mathrm{Re}_L = 10^9$ 

- For the common turbulent region, the two logarithmic profiles are combined as shown below:
  - Can easily find  $\delta$  from  $u_T$

$$\frac{U_{\infty}}{u_{\tau}} = 2.44 \ln \frac{u_{\tau} \delta}{v} + 7.4$$

Estimate the thickness  $\delta_v$  of the viscous wall layer and the boundary-layer thickness at the end of a 4.5 m-long flat plate if  $U_{\infty} = 30$  m/s in 20°C-atmospheric air. Also, calculate the drag force on one side if the plate is 3 m wide. Use the empirical data.

#### Solution

To find the viscous wall layer thickness we must know the shear velocity and hence the wall shear. The wall shear, using Eq. 8.6.40, and the shear velocity at x = 4.5 m are

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_0 &= \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^2 c_f \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^2 \frac{0.455}{(\ln 0.06 \,\mathrm{Re}_x)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \times 1.2 \,\mathrm{kg/m^3} \times 30^2 \,\mathrm{m^2/s^2} \frac{0.455}{\left(\ln 0.06 \frac{30 \times 4.5}{1.46 \times 10^{-5}}\right)^2} = 1.404 \,\mathrm{Pa} \\ u_r &= \sqrt{\frac{\tau_0}{\rho}} = \sqrt{\frac{1.404 \,\mathrm{Pa}}{1.2 \,\mathrm{kg/m^3}}} = 1.082 \,\mathrm{m/s} \end{aligned}$$

The viscous wall-layer thickness is determined using Eq. 8.6.36 with  $y^* = 5$  as follows:

$$\frac{u_r \delta_v}{v} = 5$$
  
$$\delta_v = \frac{5v}{u_r} = \frac{5 \times 1.46 \times 10^{-5}}{1.082} = \underline{6.75 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}}$$

The boundary-layer thickness is found using Eq. 8.6.42:

$$\frac{U_{\infty}}{u_{r}} = 2.44 \ln \frac{u_{r}\delta}{v} + 7.4$$
$$\frac{30}{1.082} = 2.44 \ln \frac{1.082 \times \delta}{1.46 \times 10^{-5}} + 7.4 \qquad \therefore \delta = 0.056 \text{ m}$$

The drag force is calculated using Eq. 8.6.41 to be

$$F_{D} = C_{f} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty} L w$$
  
=  $\frac{0.523}{(\ln 0.06 \text{Re}_{L})^{2}} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^{2} L w$   
=  $\frac{0.523}{(\ln 0.06 \frac{30 \times 4.5}{1.46 \times 10^{-5}})^{2}} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1.2 \text{ kg/m}^{3} \times 30^{2} \text{ m}^{2}/\text{s}^{2} (4.5 \times 3) \text{ m}^{2} = \underline{21.8 \text{ N}}$ 

The laminar portion of the boundary layer has been neglected.

Estimate the maximum boundary-layer thickness and the drag due to friction on the side of a ship that measures 40 m long with a submerged depth of 8 m assuming the side of the ship is approximated as a flat plate. The ship travels at 10 m/s. (a) Use the empirical methods and (b) compare with the results using the power-law model.

#### Solution

(a) The boundary-layer thickness is found from Eq. 8.6.42. First we must find  $\tau_0$  from Eq. 8.6.40 and then  $u_r$  as follows:

$$\tau_0 = \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^2 \frac{0.455}{(\ln 0.06 \operatorname{Re}_L)^2}$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \operatorname{kg/m^3} \times 10^2 \operatorname{m^2/s^2} \frac{0.455}{\left(\ln 0.06 \frac{10 \times 40}{10^{-6}}\right)^2} = 78.8 \operatorname{Pa}$   
 $\therefore u_r = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_0}{\rho}}$   
=  $\sqrt{\frac{78.8 \operatorname{N/m^2}}{1000 \operatorname{kg/m^3}}} = 0.28 \operatorname{m/s}$ 

The maximum boundary-layer thickness is found using Eq. 8.6.42:

$$\frac{U_{\infty}}{u_{\tau}} = 2.44 \ln \frac{u_{\tau} \delta}{v} + 7.4$$
$$\frac{10}{0.28} = 2.44 \ln \frac{0.28 \delta}{10^{-6}} + 7.4 \qquad \therefore \delta = \underline{0.39 \text{ m}}$$

The drag is

$$F_{D} = C_{f} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\alpha}^{2} L w$$
  
=  $\frac{0.523}{\left(\ln 0.06 \frac{10 \times 40}{10^{-6}}\right)^{2}} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 10^{2} \times 40 \times 8 = \underline{29000 \text{ N}}$ 

(b) First, calculate the Reynolds number:  $\text{Re} = 10 \times 40/10^{-6} = 4 \times 10^8$ . We select n = 9. Equation (8.6.25) becomes

$$\tau_0 = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta \rho U_\infty^2 \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{\nu_0} \left[1 - \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{\nu_0}\right] dy$$
$$= \frac{9}{110} \rho U_\infty^2 \frac{d\delta}{dx}$$

Equating this to the  $\tau_0$  of Eq. 8.6.24, we find that

$$\delta^{1/4} d\delta = 0.281 (v/U_{\infty})^{1/4} dx$$

Assume  $\delta = 0$  at x = 0 and integrate. This provides

$$\delta = 0.433x \operatorname{Re}_{x}^{-1/5}$$
$$= 0.433(40) \left(\frac{10 \times 40}{10^{-6}}\right)^{-1/5} = \underline{0.33} \operatorname{m}$$

This value is 15% too low.

The drag force is found to be

$$F_{D} = 0.071 \operatorname{Re}_{L}^{-1/5} \times \frac{1}{2} \rho U_{\infty}^{2} Lw$$
  
= 0.071  $\left(\frac{10 \times 40}{10^{-6}}\right)^{-1/5} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 10^{2} \times 40 \times 8 = \underline{21600 \text{ N}}$ 

This value is 25% too low. Obviously, the power-law equations are in significant error.

#### 8.6.6 Laminar Boundary-Layer Equations

- The solution presented in Section 8.6.3 for the laminar boundary layer was an approximate solution using a cubic polynomial to approximate the velocity profile.
  - The Navier-Stokes equations can be simplified to find a better solution.
- Assuming steady, incompressible, plane flow, the Navier-Stokes equation and continuity equation become:

$$u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + v\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) \longrightarrow u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{dp}{dx} + v\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$
Prandtl Boundary-  
Layer Equation

### 8.6.6 Laminar Boundary-Layer Equations

•

• The solution for the laminar boundary layer with dp/dx = 0 is:

	$\eta = y \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{vx}}$	F	$F' = u/U_{\infty}$	$\frac{1}{2}(\eta F'-F)$	F''
	0	0	0	0	0.3321
	1	0.1656	0.3298	0.0821	0.3230
	2	0.6500	0.6298	0.3005	0.2668
	3	1.397	0.8461	0.5708	0.1614
	4	2.306	0.9555	0.7581	0.0642
	5	3.283	0.9916	0.8379	0.0159
	6	4.280	0.9990	0.8572	0.0024
	7	5.279	0.9999	0.8604	0.0002
	8	6.279	1.0000	0.8605	0.0000
With: $\delta = 5\sqrt{\frac{vx}{U_{\infty}}}$ and: $\tau_0 = \mu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\Big _{y=0} = 0.332\rho U_{\infty}^2 \sqrt{\frac{v}{xU_{\infty}}}$					

### 8.6.6 Laminar Boundary-Layer Equations

• The local and general skin friction coefficients are then found to be:

$$c_f = \frac{0.664}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_x}}$$
$$C_f = \frac{1.33}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_L}}$$

• The displacement and momentum thicknesses are:

$$\delta_d = 1.72 \sqrt{\frac{vx}{U_{\infty}}}$$
  $\theta = 0.644 \sqrt{\frac{vx}{U_{\infty}}}$ 

Atmospheric air at 30°C flows over a 8-m-long, 2-m-wide flat plate at 2 m/s. Assume that laminar flow exists in the boundary layer over the entire length. At x = 8 m, calculate (a) the maximum value of v, (b) the wall shear, and (c) the flow rate through the layer. (d) Also, calculate the drag force on the plate.

#### Solution

(a) The y-component of velocity has been assumed to be small in boundary-layer theory. Its maximum value at x = 8 m is found, using 8.6.51, to be

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{vU_{\infty}}{x}} \times \frac{1}{2}(\eta F' - F)$$
$$= \sqrt{\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-5} \times 2}{8}} \times 0.86 = \underline{0.00172 \text{ m/s}}$$

where 0.86 comes from Table 8.5. Compare v with  $U_{\infty} = 2$  m/s.

(b) The wall shear at x = 8 m is found using Eq. 8.6.56 to be

$$\tau_0 = 0.332 \rho U_{\infty}^2 \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{U_{\infty} x}}$$
  
= 0.332 × 1.16 kg/m<sup>3</sup> × 2<sup>2</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup>  $\sqrt{\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}}{2 \text{ m}^2/\text{s} \times 8 \text{ m}}}$   
= 0.00154 Pa
## 8.6 Boundary-Layer Theory

(c) The flow rate through the boundary layer at x = 8 m is given by

$$Q = \int_0^{\delta} u \times w dy = w \sqrt{\frac{vx}{U_{\infty}}} \int_0^{\delta} U_{\infty} F' d\eta$$

where we have substituted for *u* and *y* from Eqs. 8.6.51 and 8.6.48. Recognizing that  $\int F' d\eta = F$ , the flow rate is

$$Q = w U_{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{v x}{U_{\infty}}} [F(5) - F(\phi)]$$
  
= 2m×2m/s  $\sqrt{\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s} \times 8\text{m}}{2 \text{ m/s}}} \times 3.28 = 0.105 \text{m}^3 \cdot \text{s}$ 

(d) The drag force is determined to be

$$F_{D} = \frac{1}{2}\rho U_{\infty}^{2} Lw C_{f}$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{2} \times 1.16 \text{ kg/m}^{3} \times 2^{2} \text{ m}^{2}/\text{s}^{2} \times 8 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m} \times \frac{1.33}{\sqrt{2 \times 8/1.6 \times 10^{-5}}}$   
=  $0.049 \text{ N}$ 

# 8.6 Boundary-Layer Theory

### **8.6.7 Pressure-Gradient Effects**

- If a pressure gradient is applied, the boundary-layer flow is affected.
  - A large, negative pressure gradient can relaminarize a turbulent boundary layer.
  - A positive pressure gradient causes the boundary layer to thicken and separate.





Figure 8.28 Influence of the pressure gradient.

# 8.7 Summary

- Drag and Lift coefficients are:  $C_D = \frac{\text{Drag}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 A}$   $C_L = \frac{\text{Lift}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 A}$
- Vortex shedding occurs from a cylinder when 300 < Re < 10,000</li>
  - The frequency of shedding is found from the Strouhal number.  $St = \frac{fD}{V}$
- Plane potential flows can be found by superimposing simple flows below.

Uniform flow:  $\psi = U_{\infty}y$   $\phi = U_{\infty}x$ Line source:  $\psi = \frac{q}{2\pi\theta}$   $\phi = \frac{q}{2\pi}\ln r$ Irrotational vortex:  $\psi = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi}\ln r$   $\phi = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi}\theta$ Doublet:  $\psi = -\frac{\mu}{r}\sin\theta$   $\phi = -\frac{\mu}{r}\cos\theta$ 

- The stream function for a rotating cylinder is:  $\psi_{\text{cylinder}} = U_{\infty}y \frac{\mu}{r}\sin\theta + \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi}\ln r$ 
  - With the cylinder radius:

$$c_{c} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{U_{\infty}}}$$



## 8.7 Summary

• The velocity components are:

$$u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \qquad v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$$
$$v_r = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \qquad v_\theta = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$$

• For a laminar boundary layer on a flat plate (zero pressure gradient), the exact solution is:

$$\delta = 5\sqrt{\frac{vx}{U_{\infty}}} \quad c_f = 0.664\sqrt{\frac{v}{xU_{\infty}}} \quad C_f = 1.33\sqrt{\frac{v}{LU_{\infty}}}$$

• For a turbulent flow, the power-law profile ( $\eta = 7$ ):

$$\delta = 0.38x \left(\frac{v}{xU_{\infty}}\right)^{1/5} \qquad c_f = 0.059 \left(\frac{xU_{\infty}}{v}\right)^{1/5} \qquad C_f = 0.073 \left(\frac{v}{LU_{\infty}}\right)^{1/5}$$

• The wall shear and drag force per unit width are:

$$\tau_0 = \frac{1}{2} c_f \rho U_{\infty}^2 \qquad F_D = \frac{1}{2} C_f \rho U_{\infty}^2 L$$