

Niklas Andersson

Chalmers University of Technology Department of Mechanics and Maritime Sciences Division of Fluid Mechanics Gothenburg, Sweden

niklas.andersson@chalmers.se





Learning Outcomes

- 4 Be **able to categorize** a flow and **have knowledge about** how to select applicable methods for the analysis of a specific flow based on category
- 6 Explain what a boundary layer is and when/where/why it appears
- 21 **Explain** how the flat plate boundary layer is developed (transition from laminar to turbulent flow)
- 22 **Explain** and use the Blasius equation
- 23 **Define** the Reynolds number for a flat plate boundary layer
- 24 **Explain** what is characteristic for a turbulent flow
- 29 Explain flow separation (separated cylinder flow)
- 30 **Explain** how to delay or avoid separation
- 31 **Derive** the boundary layer formulation of the Navier-Stokes equations
- 32 Understand and explain displacement thickness and momentum thickness
- 33 **Understand**, **explain** and **use** the concepts drag, friction drag, pressure drag, and lift

Let's take a deep dive into boundary-layer theory

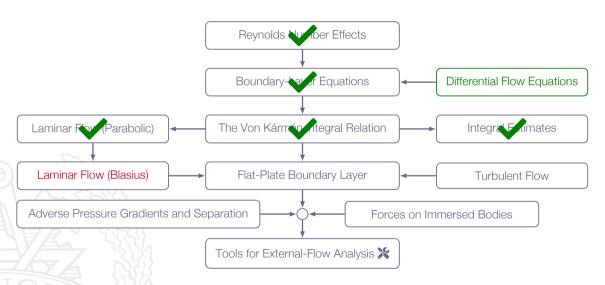
Complementary Course Material

These lecture notes covers chapter 7 in the course book and additional course material that you can find in the following documents

MTF053_Equation-for-Boundary-Layer-Flows.pdf

MTF053_Turbulence.pdf

Roadmap - Flow Past Immersed Bodies



For laminar flow, the boundary layer equations can be solved for u and v

Blasius presented a solution 1908 where he had used a coordinate transformation and showed that $\frac{u}{U_{\infty}}$ is a function of a single dimensionless variable $\eta = y \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu_X}}$

The coordinate transformation corresponds to a scaling of the y coordinate with the boundary layer thickness δ

$$\frac{\delta}{x} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_x}} \Rightarrow \frac{y}{\delta} \propto \frac{y}{x/\sqrt{\text{Re}_x}} = \frac{y}{x} \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}x}{\nu}} = y \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} = \eta$$

- 1. Rewrite the boundary layer equations using the stream function (Chapter 4)
- 2. Rewrite the equation again $\Psi = f(\eta)\sqrt{\nu U_{\infty}x}$ where η is the scaled wall-normal coordinate and $f(\eta)$ is a non-dimensional stream function
- 3. Lots of math

The Navier-Stokes equations are reduced to an ordinary differential equation (ODE)

$$f''' + \frac{1}{2}ff'' = 0$$

with the boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} f(0) = f'(0) = 0 \\ f'_{\eta \to \infty} \to 1.0 \end{cases}$$

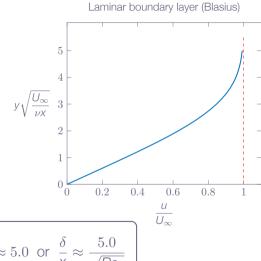
$$\frac{U}{U_{\infty}} = f'(\eta)$$

Note! $u/U_{\infty} \to 1$ as $y \to \infty$ and therefore δ is usually defined as the distance from the wall where $u/U_{\infty} = 0.99$

$$\frac{U}{U_{\infty}} = f'(\eta)$$

$$\eta = y\sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu X}}$$

$$\delta_{99\%} \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu^{\chi}}} \approx 5.0$$



$$\delta_{99\%} \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} \approx 5.0 \text{ or } \frac{\delta}{x} \approx \frac{5.0}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$$

$$\tau_{W} = \mu \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = \mu \left[\frac{du}{d\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right]_{n=0} = \mu U_{\infty} \left[\frac{d}{d\eta} \left(\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} \right) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right]_{n=0}$$

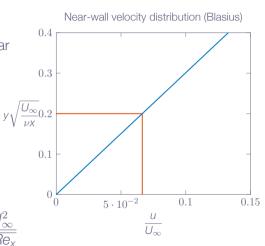
$$\eta = y\sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} \Rightarrow \tau_{w} = \mu U_{\infty}\sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} \frac{d}{d\eta} \left(\frac{u}{U_{\infty}}\right)_{\eta=0} = \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^{2}}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}} \frac{d}{d\eta} \left(\frac{u}{U_{\infty}}\right)_{\eta=0}$$

close the the wall the velocity profile is linear

$$\eta = 0.2 \Rightarrow \frac{U}{U_{\infty}} \approx 0.0664$$

$$\frac{d}{d\eta} \left(\frac{U}{U_{\infty}}\right)_{\eta=0} \approx \frac{0.0664}{0.2} = 0.332$$

$$\tau_{\rm W} = \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^2}{\sqrt{\rm Re_{\rm X}}} \frac{\rm d}{\rm d\eta} \left(\frac{\rm u}{\rm U_{\infty}}\right)_{\eta=0} \approx 0.332 \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^2}{\sqrt{\rm Re_{\rm X}}}$$



$$au_W(x) pprox rac{0.332
ho^{1/2} \mu^{1/2} U_{\infty}^{3/2}}{x^{1/2}}$$

Note! the wall shear stress drops off with increasing distance due to the boundary layer growth

Recall for pipe flow, the wall shear stress is independent of x – pipe flow is confined and the boundary layer height is restricted

wall shear stress:

$$\tau_W(x) \approx \frac{0.332 \rho^{1/2} \mu^{1/2} U_{\infty}^{3/2}}{x^{1/2}}$$

drag force:

$$D(x) = b \int_0^x \tau_w(x) dx \approx 0.664 b \rho^{1/2} \mu^{1/2} U_\infty^{3/2} x^{1/2}$$

drag coefficient:

$$C_D = rac{2D(L)}{
ho U_{\infty}^2 bL} pprox rac{1.328}{\sqrt{Re_D}}$$

From before we have
$$D(x) = \rho b \int_0^{\delta(x)} u(U_{\infty} - u) dy$$

$$D(x) = \rho b U_{\infty}^{2} \underbrace{\int_{0}^{\delta(x)} \frac{u}{U_{\infty}} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_{\infty}}\right) dy}_{\theta(x)} = \rho b U_{\infty}^{2} \theta(x)$$

$$b \int_0^x \tau_W(x) dx = \rho b U_\infty^2 \theta(x) \approx 0.664 b \rho^{1/2} \mu^{1/2} U_\infty^{3/2} x^{1/2} \Rightarrow \theta(x) \approx \frac{0.664 \mu^{1/2} x^{1/2}}{\rho^{1/2} U_\infty^{1/2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta(x) pprox rac{0.664 \mu^{1/2} x}{
ho^{1/2} U_{\infty}^{1/2} \chi^{1/2}}$$
 and thus $rac{\theta(x)}{x} pprox rac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$

Niklae Andareean - Chalmare

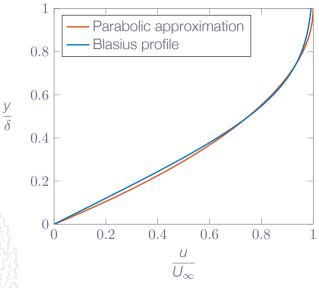
Displacement thickness:

$$\delta^* = \int_0^\delta \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_\infty} \right) dy$$

$$\frac{\delta^*}{\mathrm{X}} \approx \frac{1.721}{\mathrm{Re}_{\mathrm{x}}^{1/2}}$$

Note! since δ^* is much smaller than x for large values of Re_x, the velocity component in the wall-normal direction will be much smaller than the velocity parallel to the plate

Laminar Boundary Layer



Laminar Boundary Layer

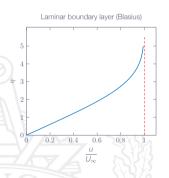
description	variable	laminar flow (Blasius)	turbulent flow (Prandtl)
boundary layer thickness	$\frac{\delta}{x}$	$\frac{5.0}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	
displacement thickness	$\frac{\delta^*}{x}$	$\frac{1.721}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	
momentum thickness	$\frac{\theta}{x}$	$\frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	
shape factor	$H = \frac{\delta^*}{\theta}$	2.59	
wall shear stress	$ au_W$	$0.332 \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^2}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_{\text{X}}}}$	
local skin friction coefficient	$c_f = \frac{2\tau_W}{\rho U_\infty^2}$	$\frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	
drag coefficient	C_D	$\frac{1.328}{\sqrt{Re_L}}$	

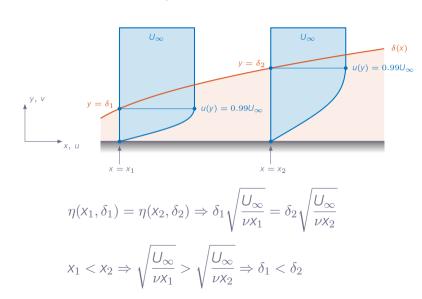
The Blasius Velocity Profile - Self Similarity

From before:

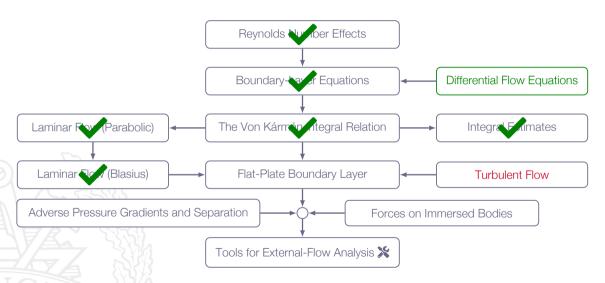
$$\eta(x,y) = y\sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}}$$

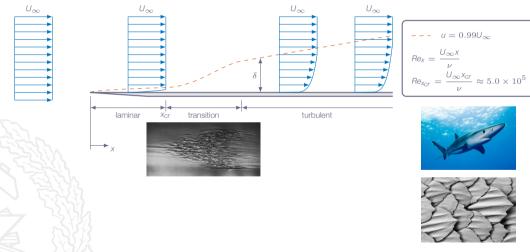
$$\frac{U}{U_{\infty}} = 0.99 \Rightarrow \eta \approx 5.0$$





Roadmap - Flow Past Immersed Bodies





For low Rex, disturbances in the flow are damped out by viscous forces

For somewhat higher Reynolds numbers, friction forces are less important and the flow becomes unstable

The transition region is short - can be treated as a point (the transition point)

The onset of transition from laminar to turbulent is affected by a number of factors such as:

Turbulence in the freestream

Surface roughness

Pressure gradient

With a smooth surface, no turbulence in the freestream, and zero pressure gradient, the onset of transition can be pushed up to $Re_{x}\approx 3.0\times 10^{6}$

As a **rule of thumb**, we can assume $Re_{x_{cr}} \approx 5.0 \times 10^5$

Freestream turbulence:

frestream turbulence reduces the critical Reynolds number

with high turbulence intensity in the freestream, the transition can start already at $Re_x \approx 3.0 \times 10^5$ or lower

Surface roughness:

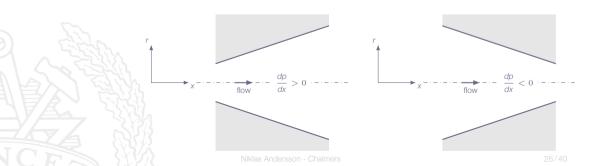
surface roughness does not affect transition significantly if $Re_\epsilon = \frac{U_\infty \epsilon}{\nu} < 680$

if $Re_{\epsilon} > 680$, the extent of the laminar region can be shortened significantly $(Re_{x} \approx 3.0 \times 10^{5})$

Note! rule of thumb

Negative pressure gradient:

decreasing pressure in the flow direction has a **stabilizing** effect on the flow and can delay transition from laminar to turbulent flow



Forced transition:

a **trip wire** or **added surface roughness** can make the transition to turbulence really fast

the critical Reynolds number is not meaningful if the boundary layer is forced to transition

A turbulent boundary layer grows faster than a laminar boundary layer

the velocity fluctuations (u', v', w') leads to **increased exchange of** momentum

increased shear stress compared to the laminar case where we only have forces related to molecular viscosity

larger portion of the fluid will be decelerated close to the wall

The Von Kármán integral relation and the integral estimates are valid for both laminar and turbulent boundary layers

$$\frac{\tau_W}{\rho} = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta u (U_\infty - u) dy$$

$$\theta = \int_0^\delta \frac{u}{U_\infty} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_\infty} \right) dy$$

$$\delta^* = \int_0^\delta \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_\infty} \right) dy$$

We need a velocity profile u(y) for turbulent boundary layers to be able to calculate $\tau_{\rm W}$, θ , and δ^*

Approach 1: the log law

Approach 2: Prandtl's power law approximation



Approach 1: the log law

$$\frac{u}{u^*} \approx \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln \left(\frac{yu^*}{\nu} \right) + B$$
 where $\kappa = 0.41$ and $B = 5.0$

$$u^*$$
 is the **friction velocity** defined as $u^* = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_w}{\rho}}$

at the edge of the boundary layer $u=U_{\infty}$ and $y=\delta$ and thus

$$\frac{U_{\infty}}{u^*} \approx \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln \left(\frac{\delta u^*}{\nu} \right) + B$$



Approach 1: the log law

The **skin friction coefficient** c_f is defined as $c_f = \frac{2\tau_W}{\rho U_\infty^2} \Rightarrow \tau_W = c_f \frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2$

the **friction velocity** can be expressed as $u^* = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_W}{\rho}} = U_{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}$

insert in the log-law and we get

$$\sqrt{\frac{2}{C_f}} pprox \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln \left(\text{Re}_{\delta} \sqrt{\frac{C_f}{2}} \right) + B$$

rather difficult to work with ...

Approach 2: Prandtl's power law approximation

Prandtl suggested the following relations:

$$c_f \approx 0.02 \text{Re}_{\delta}^{-1/6}$$

$$\frac{u}{U_{\infty}} \approx \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{1/7}$$

from before we have the following relation: $\tau_W = \rho U_{\infty}^2 \frac{d\theta}{dx} \Rightarrow c_f = 2 \frac{d\theta}{dx}$

calculate the **momentum thickness**
$$\theta = \int_0^\delta \frac{u}{U_\infty} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_\infty}\right) dy = \frac{7}{72} \delta$$

Approach 2: Prandtl's power law approximation

Now, combining the two skin friction coefficient relations we see that

$$0.02 \text{Re}_{\delta}^{-1/6} = 2 \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{7}{72} \delta \right)$$

and thus
$$Re_{\delta}^{-1/6} \approx 9.72 \frac{d\delta}{dx} = 9.72 \frac{d(Re_{\delta})}{d(Re_{\chi})}$$

integration gives
$$Re_\delta \approx 0.16 Re_x^{6/7}$$
 or $\frac{\delta}{\chi} \approx \frac{0.16}{Re_x^{1/7}}$

Note! the turbulent boundary layer grows significantly faster than the laminar $\delta_{turb} \propto x^{6/7}$ vs $\delta_{lam} \propto x^{1/2}$

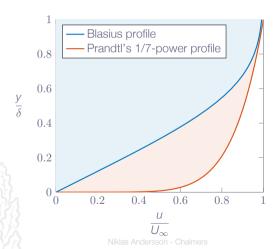
Approach 2: Prandtl's power law approximation

$$c_fpprox rac{0.027}{Re_{_X}^{1/7}}$$
 $au_{_{turb}}pprox rac{0.0135 \mu^{1/7}
ho^{6/7} U_{\infty}^{13/7}}{\chi^{1/7}}$

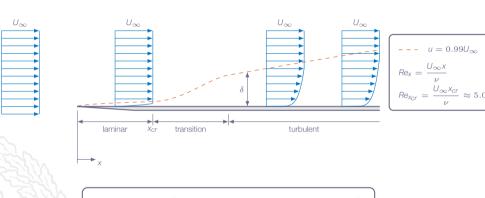
Note! friction drops slowly with x, increases nearly as ρ and U_{∞}^2 , and is rather insensitive to viscosity

description	variable	laminar flow (Blasius)	turbulent flow (Prandtl)
boundary layer thickness	$\frac{\delta}{x}$	$\frac{5.0}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	$\frac{0.16}{Re_{\rm x}^{1/7}}$
displacement thickness	$\frac{\delta^*}{x}$	$\frac{1.721}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	$\frac{0.02}{Re_x^{1/7}}$
momentum thickness	$\frac{\theta}{x}$	$\frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	$\frac{0.016}{Re_x^{1/7}}$
shape factor	$H = \frac{\delta^*}{\theta}$	2.59	1.29
wall shear stress	$ au_W$	$0.332 \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^2}{\sqrt{\text{Re}_{\text{X}}}}$	$0.0135 \frac{\rho U_{\infty}^2}{Re_x^{1/7}}$
local skin friction coefficient	$c_f = \frac{2\tau_W}{\rho U_\infty^2}$	$\frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_{x}}}$	$\frac{0.027}{Re_x^{1/7}}$
drag coefficient	C_D	$\frac{1.328}{\sqrt{Re_L}}$	$\frac{0.031}{Re_l^{1/7}}$

The velocity profile in a turbulent boundary layer is quite far from the Blasius profile used for laminar boundary layers

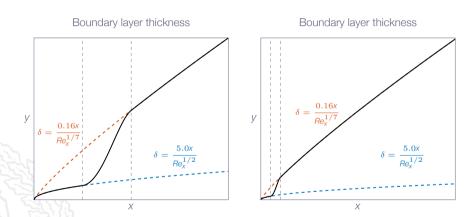


Flat Plate Boundary Layer



$$D = b \frac{1}{2} \rho U^{2} \left[\int_{>0}^{x_{cr}} \frac{0.664}{Re_{x}^{1/2}} dx + \int_{x_{cr}}^{L} \frac{0.027}{Re_{x}^{1/7}} dx \right]$$

Flat Plate Boundary Layer



For a long boundary layer the length of the laminar region becomes relatively short in comparison with the length of the turbulent region

Wall Roughness

laminar:

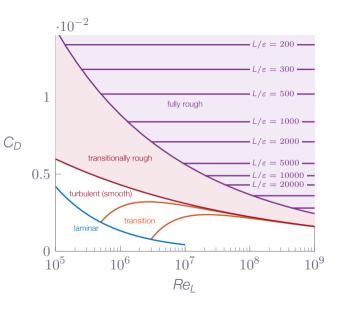
$$C_D = rac{1.328}{Re_L^{1/2}}$$

turbulent (smooth):

$$C_D = \frac{0.031}{Re_L^{1/7}}$$

turbulent (fully rough):

$$C_D = (1.89 + 1.62 \log(L/\varepsilon))^{-2.5}$$



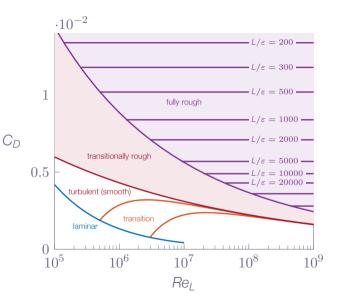
Wall Roughness

transition ($Re_{trans} = 5.0 \times 10^5$):

$$C_D = \frac{0.031}{Re_L^{1/7}} - \frac{1440}{Re_L}$$

transition ($Re_{trans} = 3.0 \times 10^6$):

$$C_D = \frac{0.031}{Re_L^{1/7}} - \frac{8700}{Re_L}$$



Wall Roughness

Recall: smooth surface:

Surface roughness (ϵ) within the viscous sublayer

